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PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

hometownlife .com

PIPELINE

Goodfellow papers

The Plymouth Goodfellows hit the streets Saturday with their annual newspaper sale fund-raiser.

The sale is performed every year, Goodfellows officials said, to "make sure every child in may feel the job of Christmas."

Plymouth Goodfellows and their volunteers will be visible throughout Plymouth with their annual custom-designed Goodfellows newspapers in hand.

"Times are difficult ... and we need all the help we can muster to help us meet our goal of 'No Child without a Christmas,'" Goodfellows spokesperson Penny Irwin said.

People can reach the Goodfellows at plymouth-goodfellows@yahoo.com or by calling (734) 453-4007.

Get hold of Heise

State Rep.-elect Kurt Heise, who won the race to replace outgoing Rep. Marc Corrivau in the state House 20th District, is starting to get the lay of the land and get his team in place.

In addition to beginning to fill out his Lansing staff, Heise, of Plymouth Township, Heise has announced his office will be located in Room N699 in the Anderson House Office Building. His main Lansing number will be (517) 373-3816 and his toll-free number will be (855) REP-KURT, (855) 737-5878. Constituents will also be available via e-mail at kurt-heise@house.mi.gov.

"As promised, our team will hit the ground running on Jan. 1," Heise said.

Farrand fun

Farrand Elementary School in Plymouth hosts its annual vendor and craft fair 4-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9.

The night of shopping will feature more than 30 vendors. Shoppers should be able to find any last-minute holiday gifts or stocking stuffers.

Farrand Elementary School is located at 41400 Greenbriar Lane (near the intersection of 5 Mile and Haggerty) in Plymouth Township. Admission is free.

Symphony programs

The Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras present two upcoming programs.

The first is a Backstage Pass 7 p.m. tonight (Thursday), 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.plymouthcantonsymphony.org>.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Plymouth students cheered their team Saturday during its 21-13 loss to Lake Orion.

'Cats' final loss can't diminish fans' pride

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

They stood and cheered boisterously when their Plymouth Wildcats stormed through the cheerleader-held banner and took the field Saturday for the Division 1 prep football state championship game against Lake Orion at Ford Field.

More than two hours later, when the Dragons had pinned a 21-13 defeat on the Wildcats, the couple of thousand Plymouth faithful stood and cheered just as loudly, an ovation tinged with sadness, but bursting with pride.

"I'm heartbroken, because they worked so hard and they made it so far," said Sandy Cartwright, a Wildcats fan and friend of the family of Plymouth's Nick Brindza, perhaps the best kicker in the state. "We're so proud they made it this far."

It was a day of pride for Wildcats fans, with their team finishing up perhaps one of the toughest runs in football memory. At one point during their five-game march to the state title game, the Wildcats beat three teams



Wildcat cheerleaders show their team spirit.

More coverage, sports, B1; photos online at hometownlife.com

either ranked No. 1 when they played them (fierce campus rival Canton) or had been ranked No. 1 at some point (Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Rockford).

Their fans showed the support of that drive Saturday, with several hundred spicing up a pregame sendoff at the school, then perhaps a few thousand making the trek down I-96 to Ford Field,

streaming into the stadium an hour or more before the game.

The Wildcats had lots of other support, too, with the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band on hand to provide a musical boost and their own cheerleaders leading the crowd in tumultuous cheers. Like their football brethren, the cheerleaders were making their first appearance at Ford Field.

Please see **FANS, A2**

Turnaround seen in township job base

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth Township's industrial areas, decimated by the national recession that officially began three years ago this month, are slowly building up their employment base.

The latest addition is Roush Performance, which on Nov. 23 moved about 200 workers to a 65,000-square-foot facility on Schoolcraft Road just east of I-275. The company, a division of Livonia-based Roush Enterprises, designs and installs high-performance parts for Ford Mustangs.

"We're still getting our

feet wet," said John Clark, a company spokesman, on Tuesday. The building is Roush Performance's first stand-alone headquarters, Clark said; the company had been sharing space at an industrial and warehouse complex on Plymouth Road in Livonia, where other Roush Enterprises divisions will continue to maintain a presence.

The new headquarters will make for greater efficiencies, Clark said. It houses engineers, mechanics, sales and marketing employees and support staff, he said.

"It was a good option for us to be able to consolidate down into a more efficient

space," Clark said. The building offers space for the expansion of Roush Performance's installation center, according to a company press release, where modifications are made to customers' vehicles. The company spent more than \$500,000 on building renovations, Clark said.

"Roush, it's a good addition to the community," said township Treasurer Ron Edwards. "Plymouth Township has a lot of automotive engineering facilities located here, and it's a great addition to have."

The building had housed a local courier company, City Transfer, which relocated to a

Please see **JOBS, A3**

Judge: Old hospital is not a place for 'harmless night out'

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Law enforcement officials have a message for ghost-hunters, history buffs and thrill-seekers who might be considering a trip to the Northville State Hospital: Don't go there.

An increase in trespassing at the 400-acre property in Northville Township, much of it by area teenagers and young adults, has alarmed Judge Michael Gerou at 35th District Court in Plymouth, who said he doesn't want to see young people get into legal trouble over what they might consider a harmless night out.

The hospital property is in a bad state of disrepair and is dangerous, the judge said, and township police make regular arrests there.

"It can be very, very expensive for them and it can also give them a criminal history," Gerou said of trespassing defendants, adding that the "vast majority" of people in his courtroom charged with hospital trespassing are young adults with no criminal history.

Gerou, one of three judges at the court, said he was given 10 or 12 hospital trespassing cases in a single day last week.

Northville Township Police Chief John E. Werth, who is also the director of public safety, said his officers arrested 78 people on

trespassing charges at the hospital in October and November.

The maximum penalty for trespassing is 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Gerou said those charged in district court can expect to be sentenced to several days on work detail and fines and costs of \$400 or more.

"The consequences are pretty significant, and it's a criminal offense, and you only have a clean record once," he said. The cases are usually decided through plea agreements, Gerou said; none of the hospital trespassing cases he's seen have gone to trial.

Werth and Gerou said there's typically an increase in trespassing by thrill-seekers around the time of Halloween. Aside from Halloween-season incidents, Werth said, hospital trespassing overall increases slightly from year to year.

The hospital on Seven Mile, formally known as the Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital, was closed by the state in 2003. The property, the target in 2008 of a failed annexation attempt by the city of Livonia, is owned by Northville Township, which is bound by a consent judgment to tear the buildings down within eight years, Werth said.

The property is also vis-

Please see **HOSPITAL, A2**



Judges at 35th District Court are discouraging people from trespassing on the grounds of the Northville State Hospital (on Seven Mile in Northville Township).

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HOSPITAL

FROM PAGE A1

ited by would-be thieves looking for scrap metal to sell, Werth said. Scrappers are also regularly arrested there, he said.

It's also been the site of more dangerous activity, the

chief said. An armed trespasser accidentally shot himself in a leg, and ended up losing it, a few years back, and a would-be scrapper was once wounded by a shotgun blast fired by a security guard working for the previous owner, a local developer.

Werth said the property is constantly monitored and that

police make extra patrols at times when trespassing activity is likely to increase.

"There's nothing on that property that is worth seeing," Werth said. "We have a zero-tolerance policy on anybody who is trespassing on that property."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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FANS

FROM PAGE A1

"This is the best time of high school, getting to cheer at Ford Field," Plymouth senior captain Anastasia Demopoulos said. "The crowd is huge, and all of our fans here are amazing."

That's what it's about for Ann Marie Sanmillan of Canton. She was among the fans — some wearing their Canton red or Salem blue/white — who made the trip. Sanmillan is a Salem graduate who cheered Canton High School during the Chiefs' Ford Field appearance a few years ago.

She's got a son who goes to

Salem High School now (and a daughter who attends Livonia Ladywood), and she knows it's all about community.

"It's a rare occurrence," she said Saturday. "It doesn't happen very often. When (your team) makes it, you lift the whole community up. It's very exciting."

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

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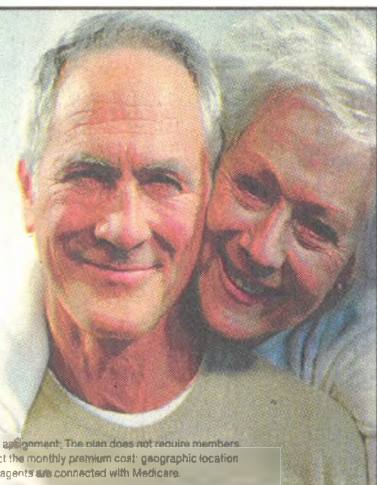
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AROUND PLYMOUTH

"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

Teddy Bear toss

The Plymouth Community United Way and the Plymouth Whalers hockey team will be hosting a "Teddy Bear Toss" on Dec. 4. The game will begin at 7:05 p.m. at Compuware.

Guests are asked to bring a new teddy bear to toss on the ice when the Whalers score their first goal. All teddy bears will be donated to various children's charities.

For additional questions, please contact Krista Strobel at kstrobel@ameritech.net or call (734) 453-6879, Ext. 6.

Note cards

The Friends of Miller Woods have produced beautiful note cards with the photography of Marcia Fowler for seasonal gift giving. The cards make perfect stocking stuffers or teachers gifts.

There are four note cards to a package, each with a different picture, for \$6. Or save money by purchasing three packs for only \$15.

The cards are available in three different groupings, including: 1) Winter Scenery, 2) Four Seasons or 3) Spring Wildflowers.

Contact Cheryl Bord at (734) 459-7666 to place an order before Dec. 15.

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

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 call Joe Burman at (734) 459-7324.

Museum bazaar

Crafters, bakers, and Santa Claus come together for the Annual Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Saturday, Dec. 4.

This Shop Michigan event features hand-made arts and crafts created by Michigan artisans and offers some of the most delicious baked goods imaginable. The event also fulfills your historical thirst with the Museum's current exhibit "Santa Magic" free of charge, featuring an appearance by the jolly old elf himself.

Beautiful and unique arts and crafts can be found at the Annual Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale. Attendees can also buy raffle tickets during the

bazaar to win items donated by craft vendors. Admission to the Plymouth Historical Museum is free to the public during the bazaar's hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Santa is also expected to visit the Museum during the open hours that day. Santa also promises to visit on the following Saturdays: November 27, December 11, and December 18, during the Museum's normal hours of 1-4 p.m.

The Santa Magic exhibit runs through Jan. 5. Exciting events for the community are an important aspect of the Plymouth Historical Museum. Future events are on the Museum's website at www.plymouthhistory.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.

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.

BeckRidge organizes Random Act of Culture

Shoppers at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi were surprised Sunday when nearly 500 singers from throughout southeastern lower Michigan gathered in front of Macy's for a Random Act of Culture.

"The idea was generated by the Knight Foundation. In Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Opera Society gathered 650 singers to sing the Hallelujah Chorus in Macy's," said Michael Gross, artistic director of the BeckRidge Chorale. "Nancy Whitecar, our Assistant Director sent me an internet link to watch the performance. I wrote her back and said let's do it."

The BeckRidge Chorale chose Silent Night as their song for a Random Act of Culture.

"We did this very quickly," Gross said. "We started contacting singers within our circle of friends and the ball began rolling."

A few of the organizations represented included BeckRidge Chorale, Cherry Hill Singers, Sounds of Canton, Belleville Community Chorus, Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, East, West and Central Middle Schools, Livonia Stevenson High School, University of Michigan Musical Society, Madonna University Choir, St. Aidan of Livonia, First United Methodist Church of Plymouth and Angela Hospice.

"It was a blast!" Gross said. "We sang Silent Night without any accompaniment, but during the last two verses, a piccolo player in the audience began playing along with us. I was touched by the age diversity in those who came out."

"I have never believed

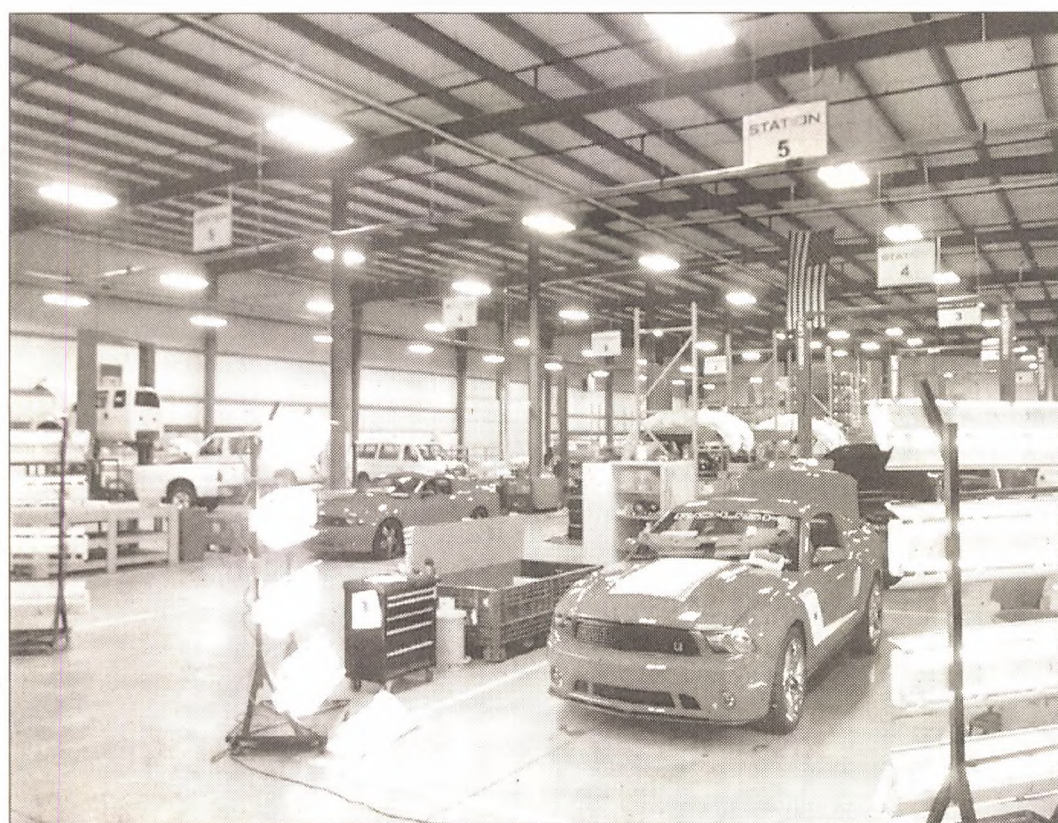


Kelly Fifield and Judy Spriggs from the BeckRidge Chorale pass out tags to singers involved in a Random Act of Culture.

the arts belong to a specific generation." Gross added. "The arts engage us throughout our lives." Gross said this is a very busy time for the BeckRidge Chorale as they put the final touches on their annual Christmas Concert, "Wrapped Up With Strings!" Tickets are still

available for performances on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4, at 4 p.m. at Northville High School in Northville.

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



Roush Performance moves into its new headquarters in a building on Schoolcraft in Plymouth Township.

JOBS
FROM PAGE A1

smaller location in the township, Edwards said.

Clark said Roush Performance is looking to expand its sales and marketing staff and could be hiring within the next 60 days. The company's clients are typically more affluent people who own a Mustang as a second or third

vehicle, he said.

Other recent corporate additions in Plymouth Township include Amtex Inc., which makes textiles and trim parts for cars and trucks and is a subsidiary of a Japanese company, and several life sciences companies, including at the Michigan Life Science and Innovation Center, which is located at a former pharmaceutical company facility.

The township, with assistance from state and Wayne

County officials, is also competing with locations in several other states for a research and design facility planned by the Chinese automaker ChangAn Automotive.

Edwards sees a turnaround in the township's industrial parks.

"Richard's working his butt off to get companies in here," he said, referring to Supervisor Richard Reaume.

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Police probe township vehicle burglaries

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Good detective work and a video security system led to the arrest of a suspect in the Nov. 14 break-in of a sport-utility vehicle at a Plymouth Township park, police say.

Demetrick A. Hicks, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., waived his preliminary hearing in 35th District Court on Monday and is to be arraigned in Wayne County Circuit Court on Monday, Dec. 13. He is charged with one count of breaking into a vehicle, which carries a sentence of up to five years in prison upon conviction, and is charged as a habitual offender, which could increase the length of any prison sentence.

Hicks, 21, was arrested Nov. 16 by an area law enforcement agency that had him and several other people under surveillance, said Sgt. Steve Rapson, who is in charge of Plymouth Township's police detective bureau. Items reported stolen in four recent township vehicle burglaries, including a cellular phone stolen in the Nov. 14 break-in at Lake Pointe Soccer Park, were recovered from a motel near Wayne County Metropolitan Airport where Hicks had been staying, and from a Cadillac sport-utility vehicle, Rapson said.

It was a video image of the Cadillac, with a New York license plate, that led detec-

tives to Hicks, Rapson said.

A security video at the soccer park had captured the vehicle stopping briefly near the Chevrolet Traverse that was broken into there on Nov. 14. A window on the Traverse had been smashed, and a phone and a wallet, with credit cards and identification in it, were reported stolen.

With the video, Officer Bill Fetner, a detective, was able to read the Cadillac's license plate, and found the Cadillac had been rented from an agency in Fort Lauderdale, and that the renter had reported loaning it to a friend who had not returned it, Rapson said.

Police also found another area police agency had inquired about the vehicle, the same agency that had Hicks and others under surveillance.

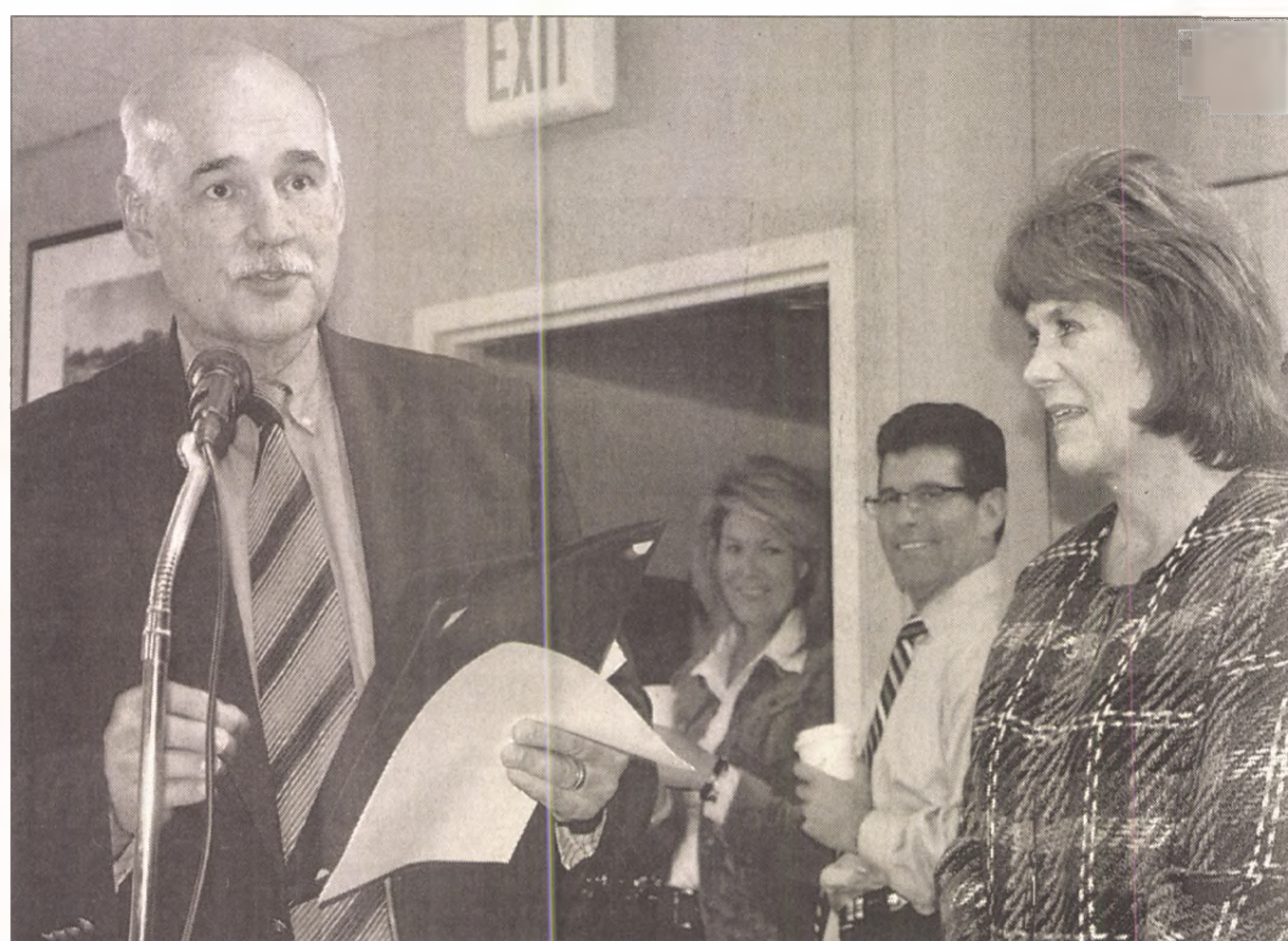
Upon questioning, Hicks admitted to the Nov. 14 vehicle burglary at the soccer park, Rapson said. He was charged and jailed on a \$7,000 bond, Rapson said, and later released after posting bail. A plea of not guilty had been entered for him at his Nov. 18 arraignment in district court.

Other recovered property included a camera, a watch, an i-Phone, personal checks and a navigation device, Rapson said. In addition to the cell phone reported stolen from the soccer park, the property recovered had been reported stolen in two vehicle break-ins at Plymouth Township Park and one at the U.S. Postal Service station in the township, as well as vehicle break-ins in Northville and Livonia, Rapson said.

Rapson said the video system at the soccer park was installed several years ago with the help of grant money.

The investigation continues, Rapson said, and more criminal charges could result.

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



Extra miler

Jan Wilbur, secretary in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools transportation department, accepts the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler award from Barry Simescu, vice president of the district's Board of Education. The award is handed out by the board to recognize those who have displayed "outstanding dedication to the students, parents and community throughout the year."

FIRE RUNS

The Plymouth Community Fire Department responded to the following runs during the period Nov. 24-30:

- Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Downed wires on Northville Road; carbon monoxide detector runs on Mill and on Huntington; rescue run on eastbound M-14 at Beck; commercial rescue runs on Ann Arbor Trail and on Schoolcraft; rescue runs at public buildings on Mill, on Holbrook and on Farmer; vehicle accident with wash-down at Mill and Burroughs;

residential rescue runs on Northville Road and on Jener; special run on Jib.

- Monday, Nov. 29 — Open burn violation on Irvin special extrication run on Ann Arbor Road; multiple-family fire on Sheldon; rescue runs on General Drive and on Sheldon; rescue run at a public building on Haggerty; residential rescue runs on Nanucket, on Karmada, on B Drive and on Starkweather; mutual-aid vehicle accident on Ann Arbor Road; vehicle accident at I-275 and Joy.

- Sunday, Nov. 28 — Mutual-aid-received vehicle accident run at Ann Arbor Road and McClumpha.
- Saturday, Nov. 27 — Rescue runs on Ann Arbor Road, on Northville Road, on Plymouth Road, on Haggerty, on Dunn, on Woodlore South and on Schoolcraft.
- Friday, Nov. 26 — Residential rescue runs on Apple Creek, on E Drive, on N. Territorial and on Newporte; rescue run at a public building on Haggerty.
- Thursday, Nov. 25

- Rescue runs on Hilltop and at Main and Ann Arbor Road; residential rescue runs on Aspen, on Cherrywood, on Bettyhill, on Glenview and on Ann Arbor Road; carbon monoxide detector run on Newport; mutual-aid-given run on Muirfield in Northville; commercial rescue run on Ann Arbor Road.
- Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Residential rescue runs on Haggerty, on Schoolcraft and on Hillcrest; vehicle accident on Forest; open burn violation on Robinwood.

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Hundreds of People Cash In at the Livonia Roadshow Yesterday!

By Jason Delong
Treasure Hunters Roadshow
STAFF WRITER

Gold and Silver pour into yesterdays Roadshow due to highest prices in 40 years.

Yesterday at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, hundreds lined up to cash antiques, collectibles, gold and jewelry in at the Roadshow. The free event is in Livonia all week buying gold, silver antiques and collectibles. One visitor I spoke with

"It is unbelievable, I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37."

yesterday said "It's unbelievable. I brought in some old coins that had been in a little cigar box for years and some old herringbone necklaces and in less than fifteen minutes I left with a check for \$712.37. That stuff has been in my jewelry box and dresser for at least 20 years." Another gentlemen brought an old Fender guitar his father bought years ago. "Dad had less than fifty bucks in that guitar." The Roadshow expert that assisted him, made a few phone calls and a Veterinarian in Seattle, Washington bought the guitar for \$5700.00. The seller continued, "I got another \$150.00 for a broken necklace and an old class ring, it's



Above • A couple waits with anticipation while Roadshow expert examines their antiques and gold items. The Roadshow is at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center this week.

not everyday someone brings six thousand dollars to town with your name on it."

Jeff Parsons, President of the Treasure Hunters Roadshow commented, "Lots of people have items that they know are valuable but just don't know where to sell them.

Old toys, trains, swords, guitars, pocket watches or just about anything old is valuable to collectors. These collectors are willing to pay big money for those items they are looking for." This week's Roadshow is the place to get connected with those collectors. The process is free and anyone can

bring items down to the event. If the Roadshow experts find items their collectors are interested in, offers will be made to purchase those items. About 80% of the guests that attend the show end up selling one or more items at the event.

Antiques and collectibles are

not the only items the Roadshow is buying. "Gold and silver markets are soaring," says Archie Davis, a Roadshow representative. "Broken jewelry and gold or silver coins add up very quickly. I just finished working with a gentleman that had an old class

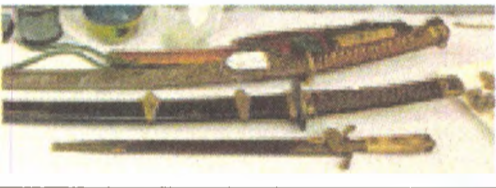
"If you go to the Roadshow, you can cash-in your items for top dollar. Roadshow representatives will be available to assess and purchase your items at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center through Saturday in Livonia."

ring, two bracelets, and handful of silver dollars,... his check was for over \$650.00. I would say that there were well over 100 people in here yesterday that sold their scrap gold."

One gentleman holding his check for over \$1250.00 in the lobby of the event yesterday had this comment, "I am so happy I decided to come to the Roadshow. I saw the newspaper ad for the event and brought in an old German sword I brought back from World War II and some old coins and here is my check. What a great thing for our community. I am heading home now to see what else I have they might be interested in."

The Roadshow continues today starting at 9am. The event is free and no appointment is needed.

Collectors desire vintage military items, Items from both U.S. and foreign origins from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Spanish-American War, Revolutionary War and Calvary times have great value. Items such as swords, daggers, medals, hardware bayonets, etc.



All sports memorabilia is in high demand including: Pre 1970's baseball cards; autographed baseballs, footballs & basketballs; jerseys; signed photos; etc...



Roadshow Coin and gold expert Paul Dichraff examines a large presentation of coins, gold and collectibles.



Here is how it works:

- Gather items of interest from your attic, garage, basement, etc There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
- No appointment necessary
- If interested in selling, we will consult our collector's database to see if a buyer exists. 90% of all items have offers in our database
- The offer is made on the spot on behalf of our collectors making the offer
- If you decide to accept the offer, we will pay you on the spot and ship the item to the collector. The collector pays all shipping and handling charges
- You get 100% of the offer with no hidden fees



The entire process only takes a few minutes

The Treasure Hunter's Roadshow event continues through Saturday in Livonia.

www.treasurehuntersroadshow.com

The Roadshow is featured this week:

Nov. 30th - Dec. 4th

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

FREE ADMISSION

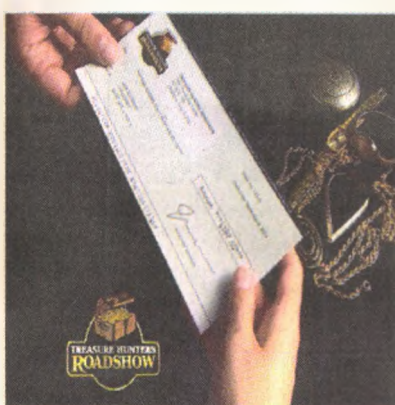
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Cash in with the power of the International Collectors Association
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- **JEWELRY** - Gold, Silver, Platinum, diamonds, rubies, sapphires and all types of stones, metals, etc. Rings, bracelets, necklaces, 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 & DOLLS** 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.



Silver and Gold Coin Prices Up During Poor Economy.

Collectors and Enthusiasts in Livonia with \$200,000 to Purchase Yours! Got Coin? It might be just the time to cash in. This week starting Tuesday and continuing through Saturday, the International Collectors Association in conjunction with Treasure Hunters Roadshow will be purchasing all types of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All are welcome and the event is free.



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From a single item to complete collections, the most sought after types of coins are:

- Any coins dated prior to 1820, especially those dated 1700's
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- Rare Dates
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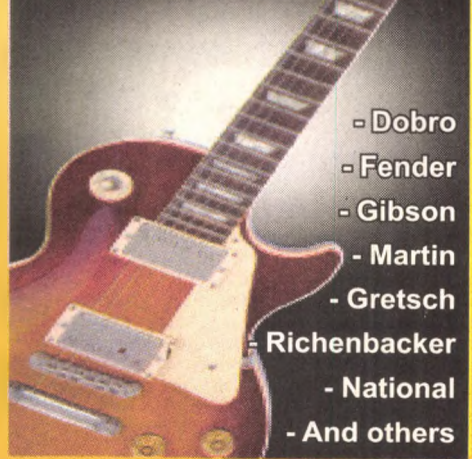


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Arts for the holidays

Partnership for the Arts & Humanities thinks tickets make good gifts

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jill Engel has conversations like this all the time, far more often than she'd like, actually.

Recently, she was talking to a friend who told her she was thinking about taking her children to see "Grease" at the Fox Theatre in downtown Detroit. Engel, the director of the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities in Canton, asked the friend if she'd ever been to a play at Canton's Village Theater.

The friend said, "No."

The veterinarian who treats Engel's family pets, told Engel she loves the symphony, but is hesitant to travel to downtown Detroit to hear the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Engel, knowing the Plymouth Symphony plays at the Village Theater, asked the vet if she'd ever been there.

The vet said, "No."

That surprised Engel, who has been beating the drum for the arts in the community since being hired last summer, because among the top cities from which patrons visit the theater are places like Northville, Ypsilanti, Dearborn, Belleville and Farmington Hills.

"It (Village Theater) has complimentary parking, there's an ice cream parlor right across the street, tickets are cheap (\$10-\$15) and there's not a bad seat in the house," an astounded Engel said. "We get (crowds) from all over southeast Michigan and there are people in Plymouth and Canton who don't know about it."

With the Partnership a little more than halfway (some \$13,000) to its \$25,000 fundraising goal for its annual appeal, Engel said she thinks the arts in Canton provide an easy solution to the question: What do I get (someone) for



Spotlight on Youth puts on 'In the Nick of Time: A Red Mistletoe Mystery,' Dec. 9-12 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill. Spotlight on Youth is an initiative of the Spotlight Players, one of the theater's resident groups supported by the Partnership for the Art & Humanities.

WAYS TO GIVE

There are a variety of ways to support the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities:

Donor Society: Opportunity for individuals and corporations to support the arts. Contributions start at \$25.

Program Sponsor: Some 15,000 programs are distributed during a season. Sponsorships range from \$300 to \$2,000.

Event, Group, Public Art and Seat sponsors: Packages can be tailored to suit funding needs.

Donations: Anyone interested in simply making a gift to the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities, can go to www.partnershipforarts.org to donate on line or send your donation to P.O. Box 871722, Canton, MI 48187-9998.

Christmas.

The Village Theater, Engel said, provides a variety of gift-giving opportunities for the holidays. A number of resident groups — Spotlight Players, Forever After Productions,

etc. — make the theater their home. The Plymouth Symphony, BeckRidge Chorale and Canton Concert Band host performances there. And other various acts — magicians, artists and musicians — stage

their shows at the Village Theater.

Tickets to shows like that, Engel believes, make for a much better experience than going to see a movie or out to eat.

"If you give a gift where a family sees a show, and that experience reaches out and touches them, you've given them so much more," Engel said. "It can be a gift that can last a lifetime."

That's the Partnership's position on the arts in general. That's why Engel and others are pushing the arts so hard — in addition to the chance to raise money. They believe the arts enhance community life. The Partnership is trying to make that happen in a variety of ways. For instance, the



An expanded display at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton gives the Partnership for the Arts & Humanities, and director Jill Engel, more visibility at the theater.

websites of the various residence groups are linked to the Partnership's website (www.partnershipforarts.org). That's also where potential donors can find information on how to help.

Engel also worked with Village Theater director Jennifer Tobin to expand the Partnership's presence at the theater. Where a single box with donation envelopes used to whisper the auspices of the Partnership, a much larger exhibit now shouts them, featuring a display with brochures, newspaper clippings, photos and, yes, the donation envelopes.

"I think people need to see a face, see what's available," Engel said of the new exhibit. "With the box, they didn't know what it was."

Tobin said the Partnership spent its formative years figuring out what it needed to be, and now those associated with it can do the work they want to do.

"When any organization starts out, you think you're

one thing, and then you find out things you should be doing," Tobin said. "You get pushed and pulled in a lot of directions. But I think (the Partnership) is coming into its own. The beauty is any money given to them, very little of it stays with them. Everything else is put back out to work in the community."

With the myriad of groups it supports, and the number of grants it hands out (some \$87,500 in 2009, another \$48,275 in 2010), Engel believes people should know what the Partnership is, and she wants to help them learn.

"I feel like I have this big secret, and when word gets out, people are going to know what the Partnership is, and what they Village Theater is, and they're going to want to go," Engel said. "We are making Canton such a better community. How many communities have a theater, or are making the arts this kind of a priority? This sets us apart."

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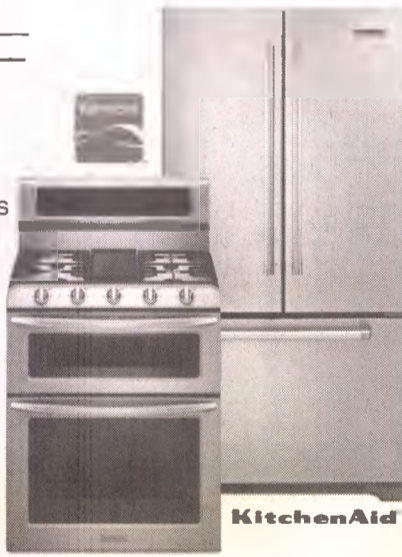
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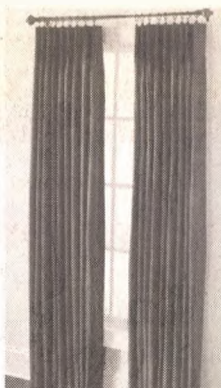
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The Rev. Leo Patalinghug, author of 'Grace Before Meals,' will cook and talk about the importance of family meals Friday at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth.

Priest feeds body, soul in cooking demo

BY SHARON DARGAY
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Catholic priest who bested the Food Channel's Bobby Flay in a fajita making contest last year will demonstrate how to feed the flock Friday at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth.

The Rev. Leo Patalinghug, author *Grace Before Meals*, a cookbook that combines recipes, spiritual thought and prayer, will present a cooking demonstration and serve samples at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, at the church, 47650 North Territorial. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. They're available by e-mailing to misiakc@olgparish.net or by calling (734) 435-0326, ext. 243.

His appearance will help raise funds to send a group from the parish to World Youth Day in Madrid, Spain next year.

"Every couple of years it's held in a different country. The Pope comes out and meets youth of the Catholic church. We have a group of 14 going. We've been fund-raising for a year," said youth minister Colleen Misiak. "We're really excited about this one. Fr. Leo talks about the importance of eating together and spending time with family and friends.

That is key to what we as Catholics are. Meal time is special."

Misiak saw Fr. Patalinghug for the first time on the Food Channel's *Throwdown with Bobby Flay*. The celebrity chef issued a cooking challenge to the priest, who has his own food Webisode series and a show on a Catholic television station. He's also a member of the faculty at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md.

"He was praying the rosary while awaiting the judging," Misiak recalled the *Throwdown* episode. "It was really great."

Since then Misiak has become a fan and many others in the parish share her enthusiasm. The church had sold 300 tickets by Monday.

"Half of the people calling are men. The guys are loving this. And some of the women are bringing their sons," she said. "It will be a warm environment, set up so that it's very hospitable."

Copies of Fr. Leo's book will be available for purchase at the demonstration.

For more information about Fr. Patalinghug, visit www.gracebeforemeals.com

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Friends to gather for candlelight vigil

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Members of the Compassionate Friends know the holidays are tough times for people who've lost loved ones, especially children.

In an effort to help with the grief, The Compassionate Friends, Western Wayne County (Livonia) Chapter, sponsor their 14th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting ceremony in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth Sunday, Dec. 12, in conjunction with Children's Memorial Day.

"The holidays are especially difficult for parents who have lost children," said committee member Gail Lafferty. "This candle-lighting ceremony honoring them helps their memory live on."

The ceremony will include the dedication of at least two trees decorated with ornaments featuring the children's names, a candle-light vigil, a reading of the children's names, poetry and songs.

The local ceremony includes the candle-lighting at 7 p.m. in conjunction with the world-wide

candle-lighting. The idea is that, as candles burn down in one time zone, they're lit in another, creating a 24-hour memorial.

Recognized in communities around the world, International Children's Memorial Day is already officially sanctioned by the U.S. Congress.

"Hundreds of families will gather near a tree specially decorated with the names of children who have died too soon," Lafferty said.

The vigil annually includes the reading the names of those lost too soon. Organizers are recommending people arrive by 6:30 p.m.

Friends and family are invited to the remembrance and candles will be provided. You do not have to attend to register your child. Anyone with a name they'd like read, or who wants more information about the event, can call or e-mail candle-lighting committee members Gail Lafferty or Rhonda Temple, tcf-candlelight@yahoo.com or (734) 778-0800.



The Compassionate Friends Candle Lighting ceremony is set for downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12.

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Check details on holiday 'bargains'

The holiday shopping season has arrived. Now that Black Friday and Cyber Monday have come and gone, consumers can expect to be inundated with all sorts of deals over the next month.

Some deals really can save money while others have the opposite effect — costing more money than intended. Therefore, consumers need to

be cautious before taking advantage of any so-called deals.

It seems that listening to radio or watching TV this time of year, advertisements claim consumers can buy now and pay in six months or even a year. Although that sounds great, the devil is in the detail. In some of these deals you may not have to make a payment for six months but that doesn't mean the interest does not accumulate. In many of these deals interest rates are very high. In the no-payment-now deals, even if there is no interest, be extremely cautious of the terms. Some of these offers are written in a way that if you are one day late when the money is due, substantial interest and penalties kick in. Therefore, before taking advantage of one of these deals, understand the terms, particularly how interest accrues and the consequences of being late on a payment.

This also is the time of year that many retailers offer special discounts if you sign up for their charge card. Taking advantage of discounts is something to consider.

Whenever signing up for a new charge card, the primary focus should not be on the rewards. Rewards, just like discounts, are nice, but they are not the primary focus. First focus on how interest is calculated. Some charge cards no longer have a grace period which means that you start paying interest from the date of purchase. Interest charged on charge cards averages in the 18 percent range. Therefore, the interest that you could be charged could offset any discount you receive. In addition, know the annual fees. Some charge cards will have no annual fees where others can be expensive. Always know what the membership fee is prior to signing up for a charge card.

Don't get persuaded to overspend or take advantage of something that sounds too good to be true.

The holidays are not about who spends more money but rather about truly appreciating and spending time with, those that we love.

Don't sign up for anything without reading the fine print. Good luck!

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

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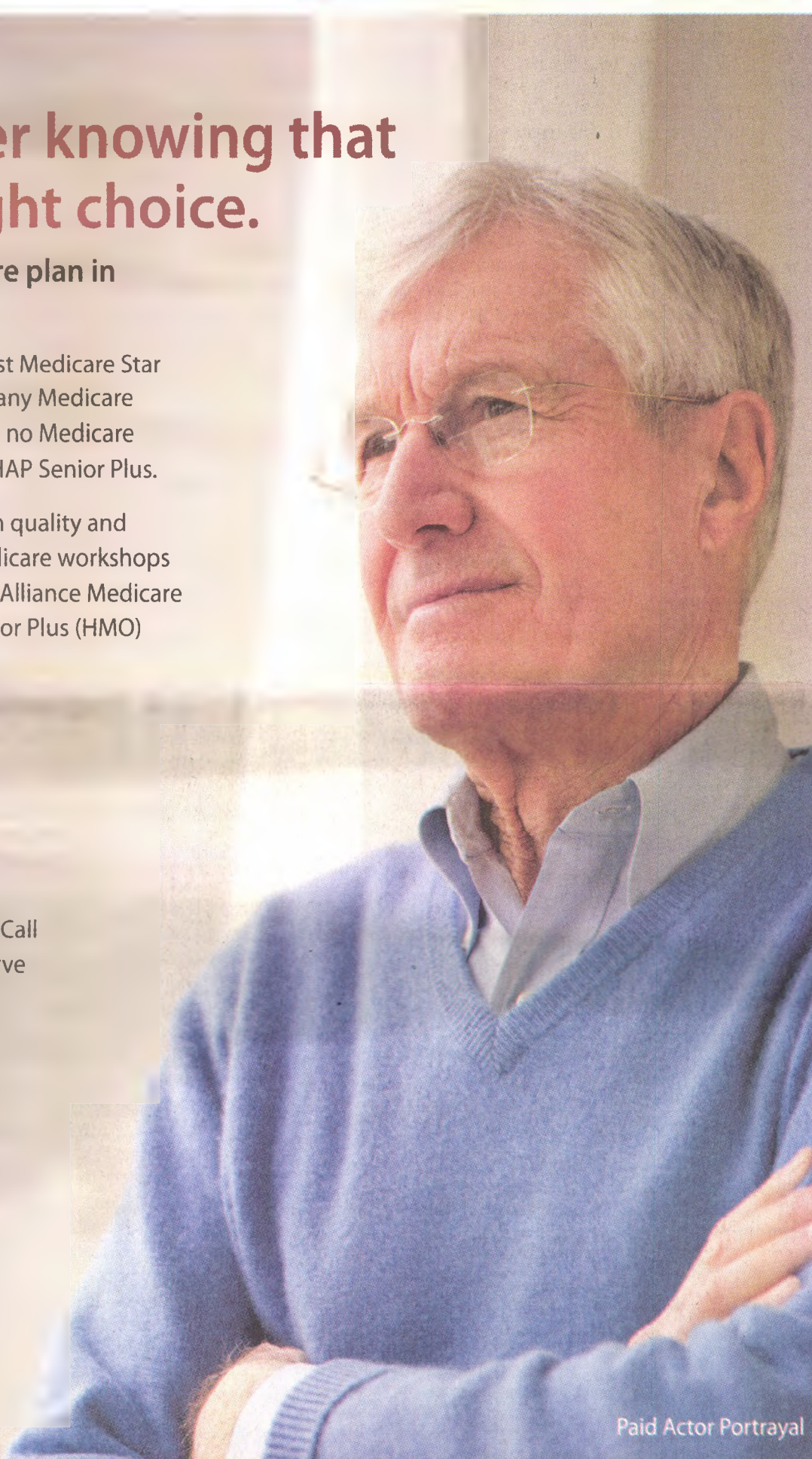
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†Based on Medicare's Plan Quality and Performance Rating 2009 Survey conducted by the federal Medicare program (2008-2009).

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OUR VIEWS

What's next? School board must come together on process

Now that the four Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education trustees have engineered the removal of school Supt. Craig Fiegel, they need to be ready to answer the next question.

What's next?

Judy Mardigian, John Jackson, Dianne Gonzalez and Adrienne Davis forced through a plan to strip Fiegel of most of his duties last week, and install Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs as the district's new chief operating officer. Why they didn't simply force Fiegel out, as the board did a few years ago with Kathleen Booher, is a question only the four of them can answer.

In setting up Jacobs, who has devoted nearly his entire adult life to the district and unquestionably loves it, the four got under way a transition period Mardigian, the treasurer and longest-serving trustee, called "inevitable." And like it or not — and several members of the community who still don't believe they've heard an acceptable reason for dumping Fiegel voiced loud displeasure with this latest move at last week's school board meeting — the move is made and the board must now find a way to make it work.

One has to question the manner in which the plan outlined by Jackson, in which Fiegel basically remains as a figurehead while Jacobs runs the day-to-day operations, was formulated. Jackson admitted a couple of board members met with corporate counsel Gary Collins, who provided a written opinion that was handed to the three dissenting board members — Secretary Nancy Eggenberger, President Steven Sneedman and Vice President Barry Simescu — on the day the plan was announced.

Such meetings may not technically violate the letter of the state's Open Meetings Act, but they certainly disrespect the spirit. Not including the other three board members smacks of divisiveness, and denying their request to delay the action until it could be discussed by the seven members as a whole was not only childish, it was obstructionist.

But that's not where people's efforts should lie now. What's done is done, and the seven board members — including Eggenberger, Simescu and Sneedman — must find a way to heal the fracture. They've got to find a way to solve the issue, once and for all, of finding a superintendent they can live with.

The board needs to decide what they want in their new leader. Jacobs is not a long-term solution; he's put in his retirement papers and is scheduled to depart shortly after the start of the 2011-12 school year. The rules say he can work for the district if he's willing to put off his pension (any extra time he puts in will not count toward his pension), but the board shouldn't put him in that position.

Board members need to come up with a process that lands them a top quality candidate to replace Fiegel. They need to hire the right firm that lands them a solid field from which to choose, a field that should include candidates who understand the complicated funding issues faced by schools in Michigan.

They need to do it in public, and allow the public some input into it. None of the four who engineered the stripping of Fiegel last week answered any questions about why the move was made, something that angered local residents who have the biggest stake in the process.

And they need to accomplish it by doing something they haven't been able to do much of lately.

COMMUNITY VOICE

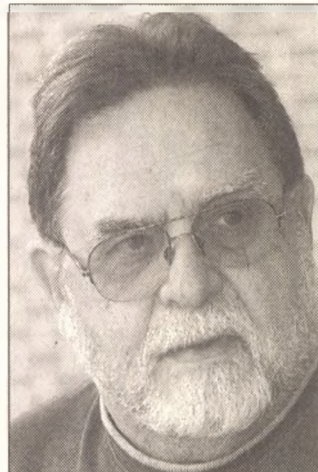
Are you ready for Christmas?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"No, I am not. 'Cause I haven't started shopping yet."

John Braaksma
Plymouth



"We're about halfway there. ... Shopping, getting Christmas cards ready."

Jim Anderson
Canton Township



"Yeah. I make my own gifts. ... I'm into card games, me and my friends, and I make card boxes for them."

Kim Byrne
Livonia



"No, not at all. I'm not done shopping."

Rebecca Wiedman
Ypsilanti

LETTERS

Unethical discussion

Near the end of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education special meeting Nov. 22, board member John Jackson spoke about a "critical point" that needed to be addressed quickly. He mentioned that a myriad of problems could occur and loom larger in 2011 if action was not immediately taken.

He also mentioned that meetings had taken place between two board members prior to this gathering and that these two members of the board wanted a swift solution. Three members of the board strongly suggested that the proposed changes be first discussed at a workshop on Dec. 7 to allow the excluded school board members an opportunity to engage in dialogue pertaining to this important change in the role of our current superintendent. The idea of further discussion was voted down and then a vote on this "critical point" was taken.

Dr. Fiegel's job description was reduced, a new COO position was created and Ken Jacobs was placed in that COO position. This monumental change took place in mere minutes, in spite of three board members expressing that they felt uncomfortable voting with only last-minute knowledge of the plan.

I believe this "critical point" was initially created by the vote that did not renew Dr. Fiegel's contract. Now, these two members want to appear as heroes by solving the problem they created. This new administrative structure would not have been necessary if, a month ago, the four board members would have voted to retain our current superintendent.

Will this change cost the district money? Did the four board members that voted for the changes have prior knowledge of this plan? If not, wouldn't they, too, be concerned about voting on something so important to our system without allowing for a thorough discussion? If these four members did have prior knowledge, is this an ethical way to work on the Plymouth-Canton school board?

We know the search for a new superintendent will cost, minimally, \$30,000. These so-called heroes must be held accountable for what their handling of such "critical points" will cost our children, our community and our district.

While I understand that this move was done legally, I feel that the way it was expedited was unethical. I can't imagine what these two or four members will do next. I will continue to attend meetings and I encourage others to do the same.

Kay Kane
Plymouth

Saddened and appalled

To say that I am disappointed and stunned by the actions of four of the seven PCCS board members at the Monday night meeting would be a gross understatement. More accurately I am saddened, appalled and, as a concerned parent, I refuse to remain silent any longer.

Initially I began to attend the board meetings due to my concern over the seemingly poor decision made by the four members in question not to extend Dr. Fiegel's contract. I was simply searching for valid and rational answers in regards to why they had chosen to vote against its extension.

My curiosity and concern quickly developed into disgust and outrage especially after Monday night's blatant ambush of the other three board members with yet another irrational and potentially harmful decision. Despite my indignation

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.

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Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

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

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

over the decision to now limit Dr. Fiegel's responsibilities and appoint Ken Jacobs as acting COO during the critical transition, I am most furious about how the four members have chosen to go about presenting and approving their proposal.

I could not state it more clearly other than to echo Nancy Eggenberger's powerful comment, "we are not a board of two, we are a board of seven." The fact that a couple of the board members along with the "school board's general counsel" met to discuss this option led this reader to believe that there is an underlying and possibly devious motivation behind the decision.

Is our community not already divided over the issue of Dr. Fiegel's pending departure? Now the division has dramatically developed in a sad and disheartening direction. Steven Sneedman, Barry Simescu and Nancy Eggenberger's pleas to the falsehearted four requesting a "workshop session" to further explore this decision fell on deaf and pompous ears. Am I mistaken or should assessments of this enormity get explored and discussed with the inclusion of all seven board members?

Transitions of this kind are difficult in any scenario. The refusal to answer questions regarding the decision against renewing Dr. Fiegel's contract coupled with the most recent unscrupulous performance at Monday night's board meeting has fertilized the growing division of our community.

How sad it is when people like Judy Mardigian, Dianne Gonzalez, John Jackson and Adrienne Davis are appointed as representatives to foster and care for the growth and well being of our children's educational futures and use that opportunity to manipulate, plot and design their own agendas. Perhaps Ms. Mardigian should heed her own advice and recommend to the other three that they all "keep focused on areas that are important to the district" and not their personal agendas.

A concerned and disappointed parent,
Carrie Madison
Plymouth

Salvation Army thanks

On behalf of Capt. Dan and Jolene Hull, I share our sincerest thanks to all who shared in our Thanksgiving food distribution. So many provided turkeys, food and monetary gifts. Others volunteered time to pack food boxes, sort food and assist with distribution. And still others prayed and encouraged us. This holiday season we are thankful to you for your continued support. We know it has been a difficult year in this commu-

nity — our statistical information supports this. We also know and see firsthand the generosity of this community (our statistical information supports that too).

During these difficult times, your gifts are so appreciated. We pledge to be good stewards of your continued giving throughout the holidays and in the coming year.

Again, on behalf of all of us at The Army, thank you and our best wishes for a blessed holiday season.

Laurie Aren
director, Family & Community Ministries
The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps

Remember these 10 things

When the great powers of the time were in the midst of World War I, a young man named William Boetcker published a paper called 10 Things You Cannot Do. He was a religious leader and influential public speaker of the time. Although his list is almost a century old, the message is timeless:

- You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
- You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
- You cannot help little men by tearing down big men.
- You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
- You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.
- You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money.
- You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
- You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn.
- You cannot build character and courage by destroying men's initiative and independence.
- You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they can and should do for themselves.

As the 112th Congress of the United States prepares to be sworn in, they would do well to look back 95 years into our history, and remember these 10 things you cannot do.

I'll add to that my list of "10 Things You Should Not Do":

- You should not put peers, PACs and special interest groups before your constituents.
- You should not declare something nonnegotiable while saying you are willing to compromise.
- You should not deny the other party a voice when demonstrating bipartisanship.
- You should not meet behind closed doors while touting transparency.
- You should not refer to a bill as insignificant because it will cost "only a few billion dollars."
- You should not promise lower health care costs without doing something to reduce the cost.
- You should not promise change while continuing to do "business as usual."
- You should not spend more than you take in, while promising to reduce the budget deficit.
- You should not promise smaller government while creating countless new public sector jobs.
- You should not put more effort into keeping your job than doing your job.

Voters delivered an unmistakable message on Nov. 2: Stop wasting money and work together for the good of the country.

Richard Lerner
Farmington Hills

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

• In response to "Fracture in school board breaks wide open,"

"The only thing "big" about these four individuals is their sense of ego, arrogance, hypocrisy, and entitlement ... time to send Mardigian and Davis packing ... how dare they commandeer our school board for their personal and political gain, good article, Mr. Kadrich, this group has crossed the line, this grand-standing distraction tactic is designed to divert attention away from their inability to secure a teachers contract, these four are union backed members that are ineffective as negotiators, what a terrible example they are setting for our kids ... let them answer the question of why Dr. Fiegel's contract was not renewed? it is time to put our student's interests first, enough of this self-centered power tripping!"

Noxema

"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."

Are there records of these "meetings"? How many board members were present at once. This appears to be a violation in spirit, if not in fact, of the Open Meetings Act.

While I have had my disagreements with Board members and administration on many topics, this whole situation has a very bad smell at a time when the teachers' contract is not settled, a significant portion of the administration is retiring and the funding cliff is just months away.

Can someone please explain to me how this mess is enhancing student achievement?

LarryMartin

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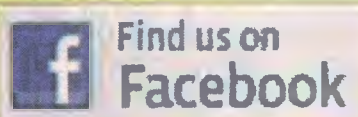
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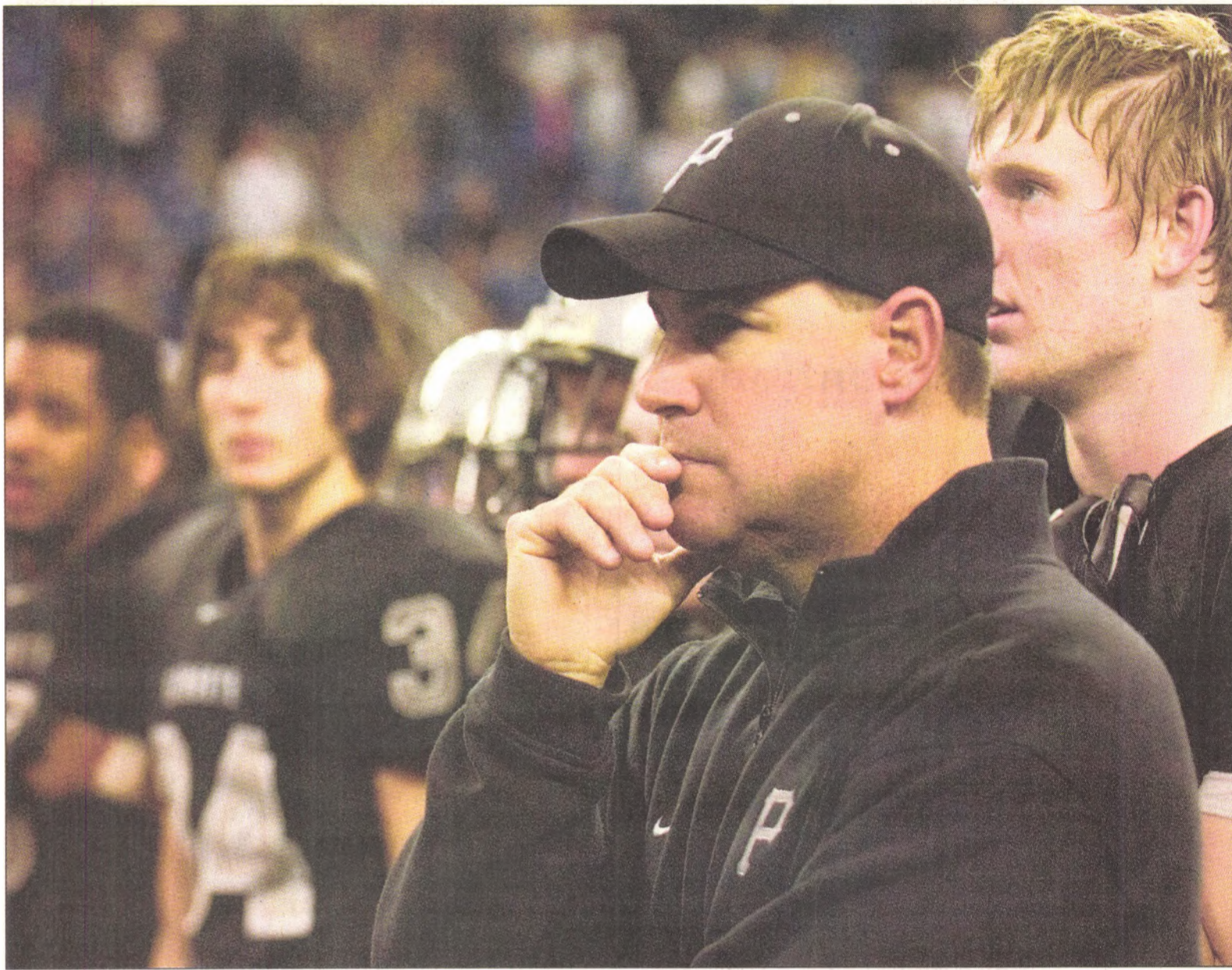
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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The season is over. Plymouth head coach Mike Sawchuk and the team watch as Lake Orion celebrates their win. Several Wildcats later called the defeat a painful ending to the best and most memorable season of their football careers.

Salem girls cagers to learn on the fly

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Call it trial by fire, if you will. Salem's varsity girls basketball team will feature plenty of newcomers as the 2010-11 season tips off Friday night at Farmington Hills Mercy.

"We'll roll kids in and out. We're a little bit on the young side," veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "We've got to find out how they're going to perform at the varsity level and we'll go from there."

Those youngsters — there are only three returning letter-winners — will quickly experience what the varsity level is all about.

Thomann, starting his 28th season, said his team's early season schedule is as tough as it gets.

PREVIEW – PART 2

Salem follows the Mercy game with contests at Brighton and Ann Arbor Huron and a home game against Dearborn Divine Child.

Playing stronger teams early is by design, because it tends to help the squad gird up for late-season challenges in the division, conference and state tournament.

"The last two years we haven't fared well with wins and losses in the front part of our season, but it's really helped us as we went through our division," Thomann said.

TRANSITION TIME

In the 2009-10 season, Salem finished 13-8 overall and second in the KLAA Central.

But Thomann lost a number of players from that squad, led by All-Observer standouts Sara Stone (now at Eastern Michigan) and Brett deBear (at Albion).

Other key players who graduated include Rachel Norman and Tabitha Mann.

"It's going to take a little bit of time for this team to evolve," Thomann said.

He has only one senior, guard Heidi Schmidt, and she'll be leaned on heavily. So will returning junior guard Katelynn Krause and returning sophomore forward/center Breanne Beaver.

"I expect both (Schmidt) and Kaitlynn to be the leaders on the floor, especially since they both play the guard position," Thomann said. "Both are excellent competitors. They really play hard and they play with a sense of purpose."

Schmidt will be called on to score some points, while Krause is described as a good ballhandler and playmaker.

Junior Bri Berberet, who led the Salem junior varsity in scoring in '09-10, also will start at guard.

DUO IN THE PAINT

In the low post, two players who Thomann will rely on for points and rebounds are 5-11 Beaver and 5-10 junior forward Jenny First (another top JV player last year).

He said Beaver already has shown plenty of progress from her freshman season.

"She's an excellent athlete and will be responsible for a lot of the inside work that needs to be done on our squad," Thomann stressed. "She's way ahead of last year. And she's only going to get better as the season goes on."

First is an inside player who can drain some jumpers, too.

"They complement themselves," Thomann

Please see **SALEM, B3**

FOILED IN FINALS

Plymouth's first title bid scorched by Ford-tested Dragons

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth Wildcats' magical postseason ride hit the Ford Field wall Saturday against Lake Orion and senior running back Marques Stevenson.

By the time the Wildcats discovered Ford Field is just another place to play football, and that playing for a Division I state championship game is just another game, they were too far behind to muster one more big comeback.

A 21-3 halftime deficit turned into a 21-13 defeat, with head coach Mike Sawchuk admitting that the Wildcats "came out a little awestruck in the first half."

"We were awestruck, like coach said," noted senior kicker Kyle Brindza. "And we needed to get that out of our system before the game ... it ended up not happening."

One big reason for that was the running of Stevenson, who broke several big runs after bouncing off Plymouth linemen. He scored

twice (once on a 36-yard run) and gained 186 yards.

"We had him wrapped up a few times and he wiggled away," Sawchuk lamented. "A lot of those runs were where we didn't squeeze the trap down."

"We got trap blocked and nobody touched him ... We didn't play fundamentally sound in the first half."

SOMETHING MISSING

Right from the outset, it didn't seem like the same confident bunch of Wildcats that scored with seconds left to knock off Rockford in the D1 semifinals.

The Dragons, a Ford Field finalist in 2008, played more at ease in the major league setting from the opening kickoff.

"That was probably to our advantage, having been here," said Lake Orion head coach Chris Bell. "Our goal was to start fast, then use the environment. That's what we did, and it was huge."

Concurring was Stevenson, who

Please see **FINALS, B2**



After scoring on a dazzling 46-yard punt return in the third quarter, Plymouth senior Victor Hicks celebrates. It would be the only time his team reached the end zone against Lake Orion.



The new Fab Five, perhaps? Canton varsity girls basketball players (from left) Sara Schmitt, Kari Schmitt, CarolAnn Sexauer, Kayla Bridges and Melanie Pickert show off future colors on National Signing Day.

They'll split up for college

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The team that wins together signs to play college sports together.

In what might be a unique situation, five seniors from Canton's girls basketball team came to the high school on National Signing Day last month and made their collegiate intentions known — with four members of the quintet signing necessary paperwork while the fifth came out as a show of support.

Another rarity is that the players on a very successful prep cage squad (Final Four in 2009-10) will be going to four universities on scholarships and playing four sports.

- Kari and Sara Schmitt wore Ohio State University red-and-gray, each inking a full-ride to play women's hockey for the Buckeyes.
- CarolAnn Sexauer's collegiate threads of choice included a purple-and-gold Central Michigan University sweat shirt. Once her

Please see **CANTON, B3**

Canton icers hang on, edge Rocks

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Salem and Canton renewed their hockey rivalry Saturday night at the Plymouth Cultural Center before a near-capacity crowd.

But for a while, the host Rocks didn't show up — ultimately costing the team as Canton earned a 3-2 KLAA South victory.

"We kind of waited until the second half of the game to really decide that we should start playing," said Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher. "Canton is a very good team so if you wait to start playing, unfortunately you have the result that we had tonight."

The Chiefs (2-0, 1-0) broke a 1-1 tie on an unassisted, shorthanded goal by forward Garrett Bryden and took a 3-1 lead into the final frame.

The third period belonged to the goalies, although the Rocks did get one past goalie Spencer Craig when forward

BOYS HOCKEY

Ryan Quigley scored his second of the game on the power play at 1:01 of the frame.

Forward Mark McGee (two assists) took a slap shot from the blue line that Craig turned aside. But Quigley knocked in the rebound.

Also assisting was forward Michael Manser.

Salem cranked up the heat to try for the tying goal. But Craig (25 saves) stymied an end-to-end rush by Quigley and sprawled to stop forward Matt Downey on the doorstep.

The Chiefs also tested Salem netminder Brandon Price (38 saves), but could not come up with an insurance goal.

Canton went in on a 2-on-1 rush, with Bryden setting up forward Matt Cox for a backhand. But Price somehow got in front of the shot.

Both goalies held serve the rest of the way, including late pressure by the Rocks.

Canton was called for a penalty with 2:17 left and Ossenmacher soon pulled Price to make it a two-man advantage. With about 20 seconds to go in regulation, McGee ripped a slapper from the left point that Craig got his left pad on.

GETTING THROUGH IT

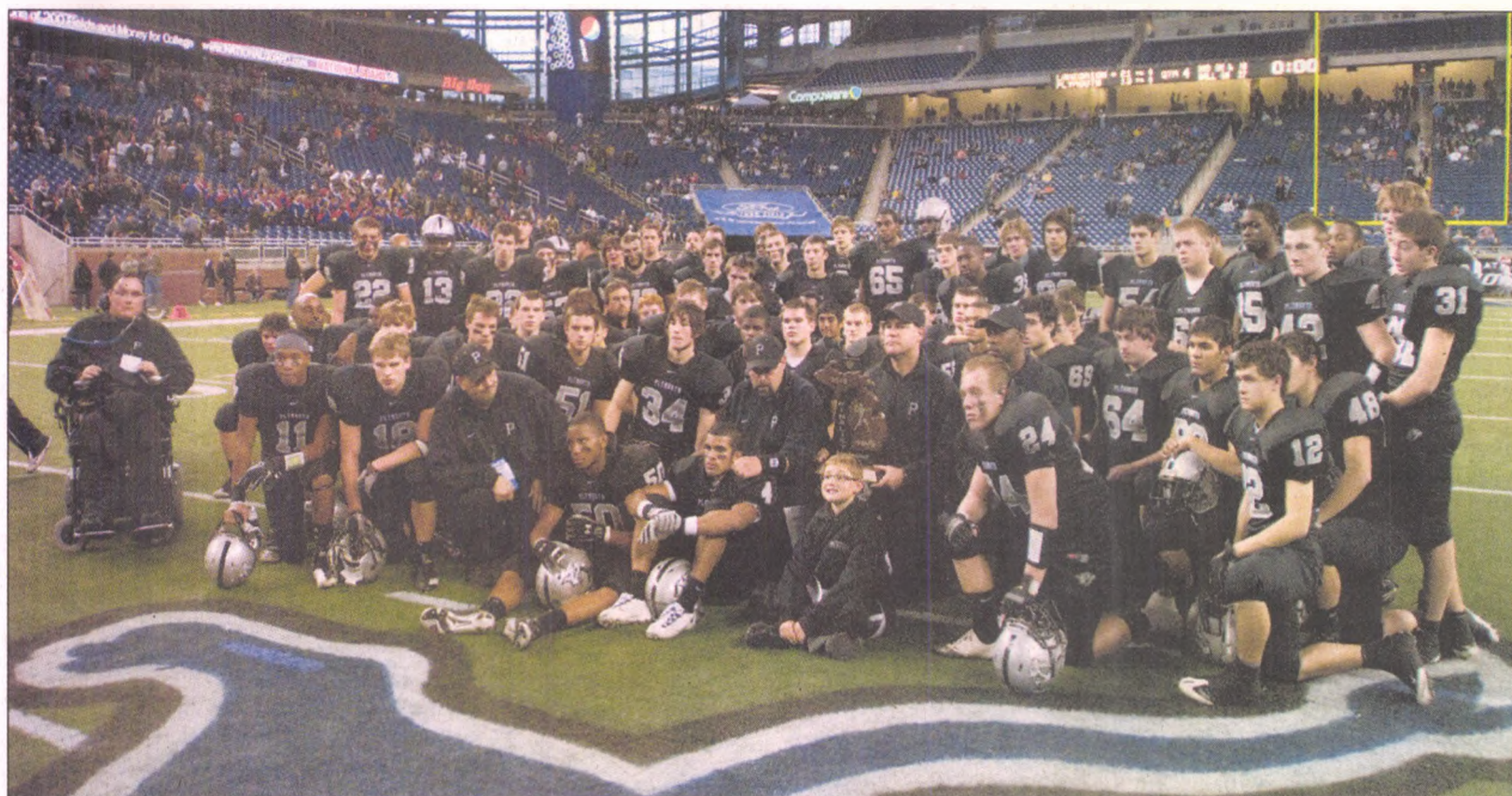
According to Majszak, grinding out a one-goal game and surviving such a rally will only help his team down the road.

"If we start doing that now," Majszak said, "if we're getting through games like that right now, toughening it out and getting the job done ... everything's only going to get better from here on out."

Ossenmacher said his team (1-1, 0-1) needs to work for 51 minutes the way it did in the final stages and on Wednesday, Nov. 24, in a big 5-4 win over Novi.

As for the way Price battled

Please see **HOCKEY, B3**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A last team photo for the 2010 Plymouth Wildcats, including the Division 1 finalist trophy (held by coach Mike Sawchuk). In spite of the 21-13 loss to Lake Orion, it was a great season.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth quarterback Shaun Austin launches a pass, despite pressure from Lake Orion's Andrew Shakkalis. Blocking for Austin is Michael Olevnik (right).

FINALS

FROM PAGE B1

stressed that the Dragons, in '08 (a loss to Rockford) "were so taken back by just being here" and the experience itself.

"Now we came here on a mission, just win the game," he said. "We just so happened to be playing at Ford Field, it's not that big of a deal."

Lake Orion's defense stopped the Wildcats cold in the first series of the afternoon.

The Dragons (13-1) then quickly scored to quiet the large throng of Wildcats fans. Senior quarterback Cole Schaezner scampered 23 yards around the left end for a touchdown just 3:27 into the game.

"We take pride in saying, we don't get trapped, we don't like to get trapped," Sawchuk said. "They took it to us. They were the aggressor in the first half."

Plymouth couldn't get its running game going (the Wildcats were outgained 186-to-19 in the first half) and that put more of the onus on junior quarterback Shaun Austin to move the team through the air.

Austin (17-of-28, 138 yards) did lead a drive that resulted in a 43-yard field goal by Brindza, with first-down tosses of eight and 24 yards to seniors Mike Olevnik and Brennen Beyer.

Brindza's three-pointer was the second longest in MHSAA history; he later boomed a 70-yard punt to come within one yard of tying the record in that category.

But Stevenson finished Lake Orion's next two series with touchdown runs, of three and 36 yards, respectively, to give Plymouth a huge mountain to climb after the intermission.

LET'S DO THIS

"We never quit," said Sawchuk, whose team finished 11-3. "We went into halftime saying hey, we got another half of football to play, shake off the cobwebs and let's go to work."

The Wildcats stonewalled Lake Orion's first drive of the second half and soon got the spark they needed.

Senior Victor Hicks, who missed almost the entire Rockford game due to an injury, short-hopped a bouncing punt from Kyle Searle near midfield.

Hicks then stutter-stepped until finding a seam and hit it hard, romping down the right sideline for the TD to make it a 21-10 game just 1:30 into the stanza.

"We knew they were going to get the football in the second

half (and) we knew we had to three-and-out them and we did," Sawchuk said. "And then for Vic to make that electrifying play it boosted up our confidence, definitely."

Plymouth started moving the ball again midway through the third and their fans sensed the "team of destiny" might yet be heard from.

But on fourth and four near midfield, Austin needed to move the sticks. He threw to senior receiver Jake Morris, but officials ruled he didn't get to the first-down marker and Lake Orion took over on downs.

SO CLOSE

"I was standing right there and I thought we were about a half-yard over, to tell you the truth," Sawchuk said. "Same thing when we went for fourth down the other time, I thought we got a couple bad spots. But that's football."

Plymouth still trailed 21-10 when senior Donte Fox recovered a Lake Orion fumble at the Dragons' 45, once again pumping up the Wildcats' hopes.

The offense couldn't reach the end zone, although Brindza did hit a 28-yard field goal with 9:54 remaining to potentially make it a one-score game.

"We made a couple adjustments in the second half, shut them out," Sawchuk said. "But I thought their defense played really well."

Unfortunately for Plymouth, the offense didn't get the ball back except for one successful series as Stevenson helped Lake Orion collect key first downs and start counting down to victory.

Brindza later said it stung to come so far and so close, only to not grab the prize.

"We just shot ourselves in the foot in the first half," Brindza said. "If we had two more minutes or three more minutes we had that game."

Still, after taking care of Canton, Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and Rockford, even a bitter loss in the finals won't minimize that Plymouth football now is a force to be reckoned with.

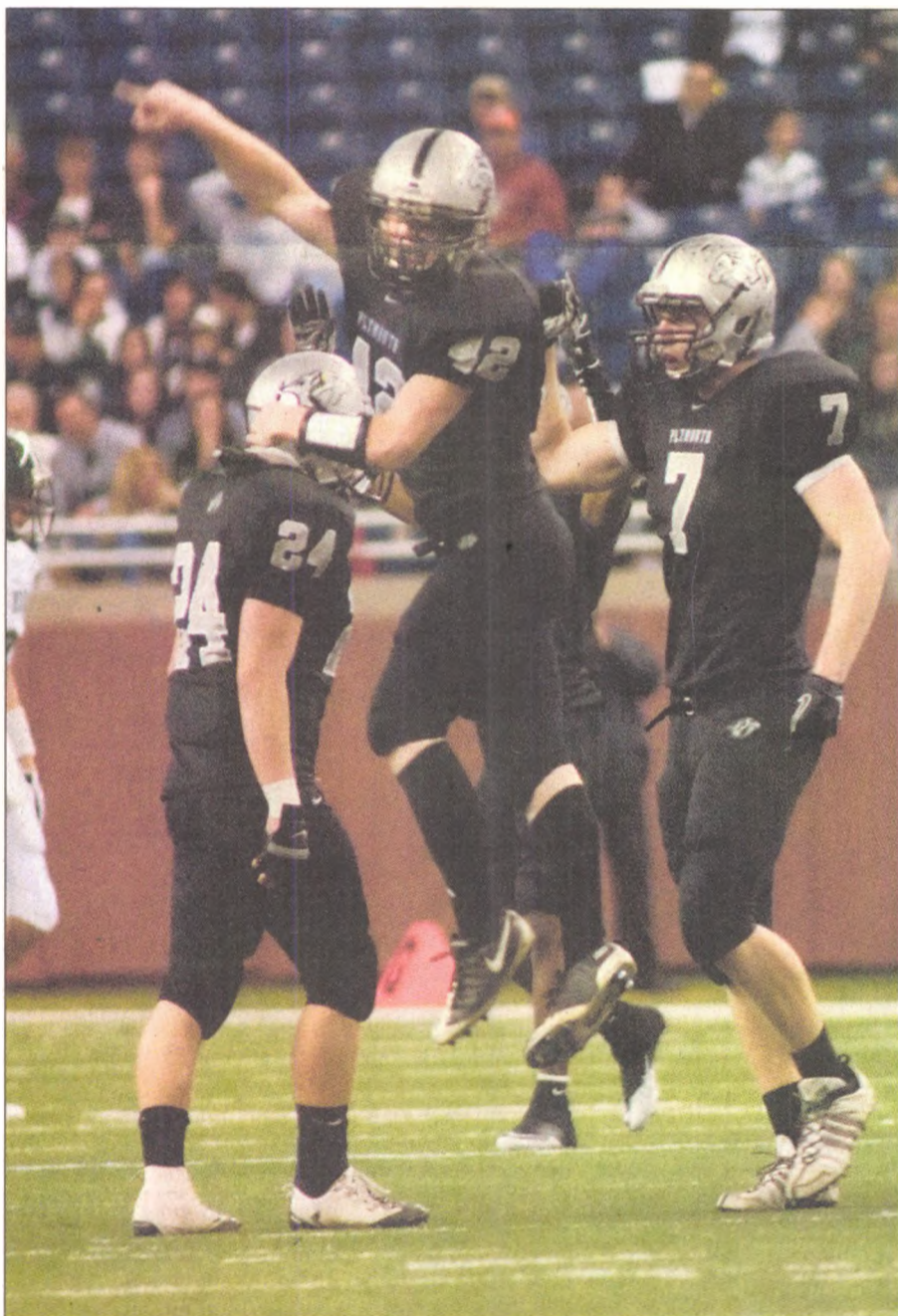
"I told the seniors and everybody else, hey, you got yourself in some trouble now because this is the expectation," Sawchuk said. "This is where we want to be every year, so now you're going to have to work harder and harder and harder."

They'll certainly do that, but the first title in school history will just have to wait.

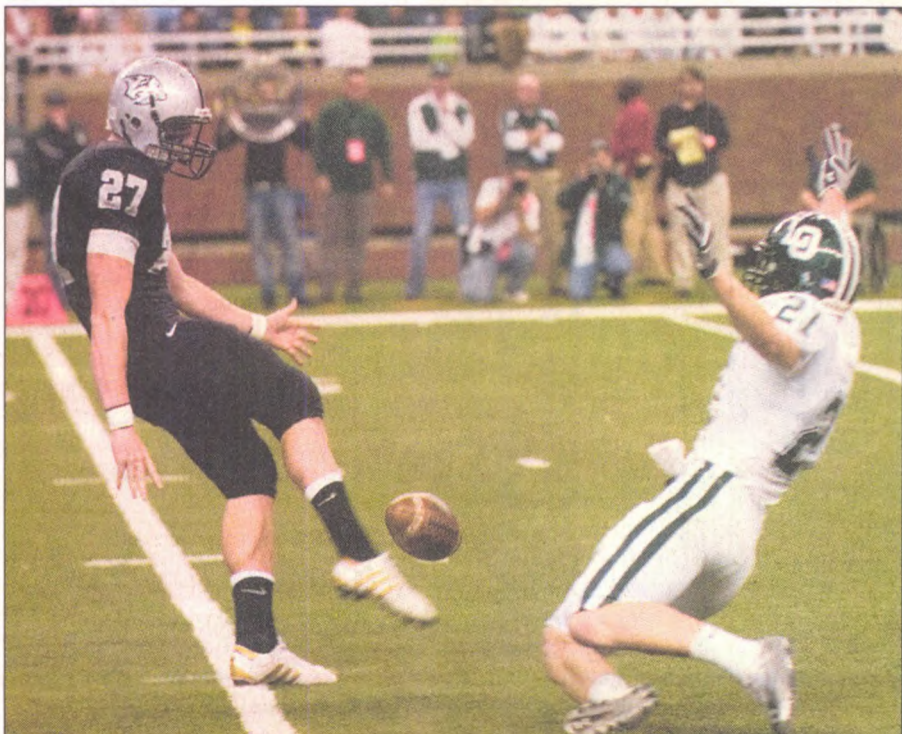
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Plymouth Wildcat senior Brennen Beyer twist and turns to escape Dragons Alex Fine and Adam Gros (right). Beyer was one of a number of standouts during Plymouth's epic postseason.



The entire Plymouth sideline and cheering section went wild after a fumble recovery in the third quarter — and so did these players, seniors Anthony Rhodes (No. 24), Brennen Beyer (No. 7) and Phillip Schultz (No. 42).



Senior Kyle Brindza's magic foot even works under pressure from Lake Orion's Shane Kelly. Brindza nearly tied records for the longest field goal and longest punt in the history of MHSAA's finals.

Painfully close

Crushing defeat hurts, but Wildcats will fight on

For years to come, Shaun Austin will look back with pride and joy on the 2010 football season.

But in the aftermath of Plymouth's crushing 21-13 loss to Lake Orion in the Division 1 state final at Ford Field, it might seem like years for the pain to subside — for junior quarterback Austin and the rest of the Wildcats.

The red-eyed Austin choked back emotion in his voice as he tried to answer a question in the corridor outside the room where the victorious Dragons were doing a press conference.

His anguish-laden words came slowly.

"The hardest thing in the world," Austin said, "is to look a senior in the eye and tell them your sorry. That you couldn't get it done. We were almost there."

Austin, who connected on 17 of 28 passes but could not complete another amazing rally, might have personally felt the undue amount of burden for the loss.

But he needn't have. He was a key factor in the team making it that far to begin with, for one thing.

ALL FOR ONE

And, as is the case with most winning high school football teams — and Plymouth definitely now joins rival Canton among the elite programs in the state — everybody is in it together no matter what.

"I love all my teammates, this is the best year I've had in football all my life," said standout senior receiver/defensive end Brennen Beyer. "We all play for each other, which is why I think we got to this point."

Beyer will carry Plymouth's incredible, inspirational run to the D1 finals with him as he goes to Ann Arbor, where he will play football for the University of Michigan. He might become a Wolverine, but he'll remain a Wildcat at heart.

Coach Mike Sawchuk, the head of Plymouth's football family, also spoke with emotion in his voice and he recalled his locker room postgame talk to the team.

"First of all I told them I love them," Sawchuk said. "And I do, I love each and every one of my players."

"I spend more time with them than I do my own family. I wouldn't have it any other way because I love what I do."

WHAT A RIDE

There was plenty to love about how Sawchuk's team took it up a notch as soon as the playoffs began.

Remember, nobody expected much out of Plymouth this postseason. Not with No. 1 ranked Canton in the way. This was supposed to be the Year of the Chiefs, who pretty much crushed every opponent on their schedule.

But the Wildcats knocked off Saline and then stunned Canton with a 17-7 victory in the second round.

"After we beat Canton, we thought we could play with anybody," said Sawchuk earlier, during the Plymouth press conference. "That's when the light kinda came on and we started believing in each other, and playing for each other and caring about each other."

Then came the upset victory over defending champion Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and a miraculous, last-second game-winning TD toss from Austin to Beyer in the state semis against Rockford.

That alone should help Austin cheer up as he gets ready for the 2011 season.

There's more work to do, one more step to take.

After having the victory cup within inches of their lips, the Wildcats won't give up the fight now.

Sawchuk won't let them.

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



Plymouth junior Faris Abraham reacts as the clock shows less than two minutes to play. The championship dream is about to come up short.



Running after making one of his five catches Saturday is Plymouth senior Michael Olevnik. He finished second in receptions to senior Thomas Afetian, who caught six.



2010 PeeWee AA Plymouth Stingrays

The benevolent '98 Plymouth Stingrays Pee Wee AA travel hockey team includes the following: front row (from left) Ted Austin, David Kiers, Brendan Guziak, Trevor McManus, Josh Wilk, Ryan Radwan, Joe Mancinelli and Max DiCicco; back row (from left) Carson Pakula, Zac Osaer, Grant Reszczyk, Riley Brass, Evan Newel, Alec Allen, Zack Finzel, Bailey Thompson and John Sladic.

Their biggest goal is to give

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When youth hockey coach and former U.S. Marine Dave Brass approached his players on the '98 Plymouth Stingrays about a community service project the team's enthusiasm was overwhelming.

And so the Stingrays are combining hockey and goodwill this Sunday, beginning with the 2:30 p.m. game at Plymouth Cultural Center.

After the Pee Wee AA travel team's game, the Stingrays and U.S. Marines will head over to Hermann's Olde Town Grille in Plymouth — a Toys for Tots drop-off location.

Players, coaches, families and friends will bring gifts to drop off at Hermann's (195 W. Liberty Street, near Mill Street) and then there will be a chance to meet U.S. Marines and get in on a Christmas auction. Proceeds from the latter will go to Toys for Tots.

According to Brass, the

team picks a charity to help out every holiday season. You might have seen some of the Stingrays recently ringing those Salvation Army bells at local Kroger stores, for example.

This season, the squad jumped at the chance to do even more to give back.

"These boys are given an awful lot in their lives, let alone hockey," said Brass, whose son Riley is on the team. "Which is a very expensive sport in and of itself (with) equipment, ice fees, travel expenses.

"So to see them rally around such a great cause with no prodding, knowing that they are so fortunate, makes everything we do as parents and coaches very rewarding."

TEAMING UP

Off-ice strength and conditioning coach Jim Radwan (his son Ryan is a Stingray) said doing such projects helps the team become more unified.

"Hockey is the ultimate

team game, assists are worth as many points as goals," Radwan said. "So a 'me-first' attitude doesn't breed success on the ice.

"The coaches and parents on this team have always taught this philosophy to the kids, beginning at a very young age."

Other coaches (and hockey dads) are assistants Rob Reilly, Mike Osaer, Paul Wilk, Joe Mancinelli and Dave Austin.

Radwan credited the players for doing for others while scoring on the ice with plenty of team success.

According to Radwan, working with the Marines, Toys for Tots, Hermann's and Salvation Army "are just a couple of ways for our boys to appreciate what they have and help others to experience the feeling that others care about them, too."

"It's these kind of things that will stick with all of us long after youth hockey is a memory," Brass noted.

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CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

Canton days are over, she will go to CMU and play softball for the Chippewas.

• Even though Melanie Pickert didn't sign that same day, she will do so in February to play soccer for the University of Iowa. That couldn't keep her from throwing on a blue-and-yellow Hawkeyes sweatshirt and taking part in the fun.

• And then there's the only one of the bunch who will play basketball in college. That would be Kayla Bridges, slated to go to Wayne State University and proudly wearing a green Warriors' hoodie.

"It's a credit to them and who they are, as people, competitors and athletes," said Chiefs' head coach Brian Samulski. "To have a group like the Schmitts, and Kayla, and Melanie and CarolAnn, I understand it's a once in a lifetime kind of thing.

"You may be involved in athletics your whole life and we may never see anything like that again, five athletes going Division 1 or 2 with different sports."

THEY'LL BE BUCKEYES

The Schmitts joked about playing for a program that is despised in University of Michigan territory.

"I know being in Michigan no one likes Ohio State, but I'm excited," said Kari Schmitt.

Twin sister Sara shrugged that off. "Most people don't like it (OSU), but hey, Michigan doesn't have one."

Although U-M does have a women's hockey team, it is a club program and not the serious kind of stuff the Schmitts will encounter with Ohio

SALEM

FROM PAGE B1

said. "Jenny is an excellent shooter and Breanna is an excellent finisher."

Also expected to see plenty of minutes are junior forward Kate Heitmeier (5-9) and junior guard Kynisha Dean (5-4).

Meanwhile, the coach is looking forward to how two promising freshmen adjust to the varsity. Those are 5-11 forward Hannah Nowaske and guard Kayla Kavulich.

"They both look good," Thomann said about Nowaske and Kavulich.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

to keep his team in the game, Ossenmacher said that kind of performance from his goalie is becoming the norm.

"He's played well in our last two games," Ossenmacher said. "We beat Novi, who is perennially a top team in the state. And he made some big saves in that game, he made some big saves tonight."

Canton took a 1-0 lead early in the first period on a tally by senior forward Matt Rodgers. Assisting were senior forwards Phil Baciak and AJ Rosales. McGee then set up Quigley to make it a 1-1 game entering the first intermission.

The Chiefs took a 2-1 edge on the goal by Bryden and it

was 3-1 after two thanks to a power-play goal by forward Taylor Baker (from defenseman Josh Dickson and forward Brandon Grillo).

CANTON WINS BIG: Canton's icers stayed on a roll Monday night, as the Chiefs routed South Lyon 8-3 to improve to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the KLAAs.

The Chiefs netted three goals in the first to offset an early 1-0 South Lyon lead. Parker Pakula found the back of the Lions net on a power play, with assists by Brandon Grillo and Duggan Tear.

Bradley Ceci then broke the 1-1 tie with his first goal as a member of the Canton varsity. Making it 3-1 was Taylor Baker, from Garrett Bryden and Jordan Smith (1 goal, 1 assist).

The onslaught continued in the second, with goal scorers

including AJ Rosales (from Matt Rodgers), Smith, Bryden and Pakula's second of the night to make it a 7-1 game. Phil Baciak then scored his first goal of the season, from Brandon Schlieger and Josh Dickson.

Goalie Spencer Craig made 19 saves and earned the win, although freshman Robbie Beydoun stepped in midway during the game and was stellar with 18 stops.

WILDCATS TIE: A power play goal early in the third period by Justin Bauer lifted Plymouth to a 1-1 tie with Brighton on Tuesday.

Linemates Zach Gambrell and Tyler Sanders assisted on the goal, which helped the Wildcats improve to 0-0-2. The Wildcats next host Livonia Franklin (3 p.m. Saturday at Compuware Arena).

State.

Sexauer's basketball swan song is now under way with Canton, but she has plenty of softball to look forward (including next spring with the Chiefs).

Central Michigan was "a perfect fit" and not too far from home, so she jumped at the chance.

Getting an opportunity to celebrate their futures together also made her smile. So does still having this season to help the Chiefs once again reach Breslin Center.

"It just shows the diversity and it's cool that everyone with all the different personalities and different talents can all come together and achieve one goal," Sexauer noted. "It's really fun to play with all of them."

CLOSE TO HOME

The lone collegiate cager, Bridges, said there were a couple other D2 schools interested in bringing her on board. But in the end, she picked Wayne State because of proximity to home and quality academic programs.

"They have a really nice program and it's close to family," Bridges said. "I'm a big family person, so that's important."

"... It's the complete package between the sports side and the academic side and where they were located. So, the decision was really easy."

Bridges said there was no way she would miss out on signing with her longtime friends and teammates.

"I've been with these girls since my freshman year, so to see each of grow and make

that decision to go on to college, being together that was really important because we started together," she said. "I think it's only right that we finish together, too."

Pickert, meanwhile, said the group signing shows how committed the players are about the future as well as committed to each other as friends and high school teammates.

THEY'RE UNITED

"We are all united under the fact that we love to compete and in a very competitive manner," Pickert said. "We all share that same goal and that's what brings us together."

"We play for each other and that's why we're so passionate."

She said she decided on Iowa because she wanted to go to a Big 10 school and because a couple of her club soccer teammates will be going there.

"Iowa stood out to me because how much interest they showed and how home-like it was for me," Pickert added. "The campus is awesome, I'm pumped to play there next year."

Kari Schmitt said gathering for National Signing Day "shows how much we work hard at what we do and how much we love what we do."

"It's fun that we're all together and all. It was a lot of fun signing all together."

"It's fun that we're all together and all going someplace different," summed up Sara Schmitt. "But we'll all keep in touch."

There's sure to be a lot of future road trips.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

AMENDMENT TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2010-14

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NUMBER C-2009-10, CODIFIED AS SECTIONS 73.040 A, C, AND H AND 73.050 A AND B OF ARTICLE I, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH; PROVIDING FOR WATER RATES; PROVIDING FOR SEWER SYSTEM RATES; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATION AND PENALTY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PRESERVATION OF EXISTING CHARGES, RATES AND ENFORCEMENT ACTION(S); PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Ordinance C-2009-10, codified as Sections 73.040 A, C and H and 73.050 A and B of Article I of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Plymouth are amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE.

73.040. Water Rates.

A. Consumption Rates. This section provides for the new Consumption Rates.

B. Unchanged.

C. Minimum Water Rates. This section provides for the new Minimum Water Rates

D. through G. Unchanged.

H. Other Charges. This section provides for the new Construction Water Rates.

73.050. Sewer System Rates.

A. Sewer Disposal Use Rates. This section provides for the new Sewer System Rates.

B. Minimum Sewage Rates. This section provides for the new Minimum Sewage Rates.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

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

SECTION 3. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY.

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

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

JOSEPH BRIDGMAN, MMC
CLERK
Introduced: September 28, 2010
Adopted: November 16, 2010
Effective: December 2, 2010
Publish: December 2, 2010

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, December 20th, 2010 TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd., Canton, MI 48187 @ 9:00 AM.

C82	Angela Kolhagen	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
C89	Thomas McLeod	Office goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
D111	Ryan Oddo	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
I338	LeeAnn Decker	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.
J347	Tracy Looper	Household goods, furniture, appliances, etc.

Publish: December 2 and 9, 2010

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LEGAL NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH 2010 WINTER TAXES

Winter Taxes are due **December 1, 2010** and payable through **February 14, 2011** without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the **Treasurer's Office.** After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr **WHITE DROP BOX** located along the circular drive. The **Treasurer's Office** will be open **December 31, 2010 from 8:00am to 2:00pm.**

RON EDWARDS, Treasurer
Charter Township of Plymouth
9955 Haggerty Rd
Plymouth, MI 481710

Publish: December 2 and 30, 2010

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Fibromyalgia?

"Free Report Reveals The Shocking Truth About the "secret" Treatment Your Doctor Probably Doesn't Know...And Likely Hopes You Never Learn..."

- A new, free report has recently been released that reveals the "untold story" behind fibromyalgia pain. Fibromyalgia misdiagnosis and mistreatment is rampant and leads to countless years of unnecessary suffering. This free DVD reveals a natural procedure that is giving fibromyalgia sufferers their "lives back." - with "miraculous" results for many. If you suffer from fibromyalgia you need this no B.S., no "gimmicks" free report that is giving hope to fibromyalgia sufferers everywhere. For your free copy, call toll-free 1-888-650-3033 or visit urfibro.com to register.

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WALTER CHARLES ARSNEAULT

Age 75, November 18, 2010. Walter is survived by his wife Margaret "Mickey" Arsneault and children Edward (Kelly) Arsneault, Cheryl Foreman, Susan Miles, Tim (Tina) Foreman and the late Gary Foreman. Grandfather of Aimee, Alex, Nicole, Sean, Tarrah, Megan, Kayleigh and Nicki. Please visit: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

IRIS JUNE CONNOLLY

Iris died at her home on Saturday, November 27th, 2010. She was born in Ray, Indiana to Effie Bell and Charlie French in 1924. She was always proud that her birthday fell on Halloween. She graduated from Montpelier, Ohio High School in 1943. During WWII she trained to be a nurse. She attended Bowling Green State University and graduated with her bachelor degree in education from Wayne State University and her masters in education from Eastern Michigan University. She was a natural teacher and taught in Zaragoza, Spain and in the Livonia, MI School System for over 30 years. Iris was instrumental in developing the program for gifted students in Livonia. She married her high school sweetheart, Val LaRue Connolly in 1946. They shared more than sixty years together pursuing their passion for education and love of travel. Iris was predeceased by her husband, Val in 2009. She is survived by her three children, Corrine Connolly, Kris Connolly (Sharon), and Kyle Connolly (Betsy). She adored her five grandchildren, Chris Meagher, Jennie (Meagher) Cotton, Lauren Connolly, Sean Connolly, and Sarah Connolly. Donations may be made in Iris' memory to the American Alzheimers Assoc. Calling hours will be Friday 4-8 pm, Saturday 2-8 pm and the memorial service will be held on Sunday at 2 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 W. Six Mile, Livonia, Michigan 48152. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com.

SHARON COTTON 1942 - 2010

Passed away suddenly of a massive coronary. She was a long time resident in the Redford/Farmington Hills area and for the past 10 years has resided in Sun Lakes, AZ. She was a teacher of Business Education and Vocational Director at Redford Union High School from 1965 through 1981. In the fall of '81 she started as an Associate Professor at Schoolcraft College where she taught in the Business Department. She retired in 2000 as a full Professor and was awarded Professor Emeritis status. Over the years she taught many students and made numerous friends, both on the high school level and at Schoolcraft College. She leaves a brother, Gordon, and a great number of friends who will miss her every day. Her body was willed to medical science for research on Diabetes. There will be a Memorial Service set at a later date in Sun Lakes, AZ.

HELEN J. KUBON

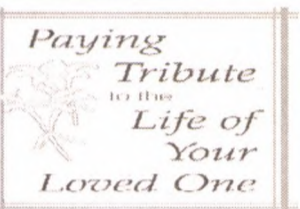
Of Westland, Michigan. Age 81, passed away November 29, 2010. Helen was born May 1, 1929 in Detroit, Michigan to Percy and Maleta (Forbes) Harris. Survivors include her children Daniel (Sharon), Mark, Anna (John) Stewart, Beverly Bellestri and Linda (Ray) Hess, 12 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. Helen is preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Victor and her daughter in law Kathy. A Traditional Farewell will be held Thursday December 2 at 11:00 AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Howell, with prayers at 10:00 AM at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel. Memorial contributions are suggested to Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Envelopes will be available at Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel where the family will gather with friends on December 1 from 2-8 PM. Please leave a Message of Comfort to Helen's family by calling 877-231-7900, or sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

MARLES C. LOMAS

November 30, 2010 Age 90 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late George Sr. Dear mother of George Jr. (Jane). Loving grandmother of George (Mina), and Sarah (Jeff) Perry. Gt. Grandmother of Patricia and Theodore Perry. Funeral services from the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd. Westland, Thursday 1pm. Visitation at the funeral home Wednesday 2-8pm. Burial will take place at Cadillac Memorial Cemetery. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.

LOIS M. MAKI

Age 82, of Livonia, MI, passed away November 29, 2010. Arrangements by: Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.



ELAINE ROSEMARY (HEITKAMP) GOLDEN

Age 59 (formerly of Coldwater) died November 22, 2010 at her home in Flower Mound, TX. She was born July 12, 1951 in Chickasaw, OH to Ernest Heitkamp who survives in Minster, Ohio and Rose (Prenger) Heitkamp who is deceased. Elaine worked as a Project Specialist for Xerox Corporation. Survivors include: Husband, Dan in Flower Mound, Texas; Sons, Corky (DeAnn) of Flower Mound, TX and Andy of Saipan; Grandsons, Jack and Nate of Flower Mound, TX; Sisters, Gayle (Don) Heitkamp of London, OH, Peg (Jim) Schmiesing of Minister, OH; Brother, Mark (Beth) Heitkamp of Cincinnati, OH along with 10 Nieces and Nephews. Friends may call at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home-Coldwater on Friday, December 3, 2010 from 5 to 8 pm. Burial will be in St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater. In Lieu of flowers donations may be made to the TGEN Cancer Foundation at <http://tgenfoundation.org/NetCommunity/>. Condolences may be left at hogenkampfh.com

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A menorah is aglow in Kellogg Park, in downtown Plymouth.

Candle lighting, latke dinners mark Jewish Festival of Lights

Jewish families throughout southeastern Michigan lit candles Wednesday in observance of the eight-day holiday of Hanukkah, which runs through sundown, Thursday, Dec. 9.

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, commemorates the victory of Judah Maccabee and his small band of followers over the Syrian army in 165 B.C. It also marks the rededication of the central Jewish Temple in Jerusalem. Tradition holds that at the time of the rededication, only one oil lamp — with just enough fuel for one day — was found for use near the Holy Ark that held the Torah scrolls, but miraculously the oil lasted for eight days.

In Jewish homes, families celebrate by lighting a candle in a Menorah — or candelabrum — each evening of the holiday until all eight are lit. Special foods prepared during Hanukkah include latkes — potato pancakes — and jelly-filled doughnuts. Youngsters receive "gelt," which consist of chocolate or real coins and gifts. A favorite game involves spinning a four-sided top called a dreidle.

Celebrating isn't limited to the home. Here's a sampling of local events:

- Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, plans a family latke dinner, 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8. Call (248) 851-5100.
- The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, offers a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., followed by a family service at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3. Participants bring the main dishes and the temple will provide latkes and fixings. After the dinner, Rabbi Tamara Kolton will lead youngsters in a special menorah lighting ceremony. Light will be the theme of the celebration that will include games and songs. (248) 477-1410
- Congregation Beit Kodesh, 31840 Seven Mile, Livonia, set its Hanukkah Party for 6 p.m. Dec. 7. Attendees bring their own menorahs and the synagogue will supply the candles. Includes food, games and prizes. The date for advance registration has passed. At the door price is \$10.
- Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, will start its "Bim Bam Shabbanukah" celebration at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, with a family-friendly Shabbat service, followed by a congregation-wide candle-lighting, latke nosh and songs. Cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. RSVP to the temple at (248) 661-0040 or e-mail to julie@tkolami.org.
- The Shul, 6890 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, offers a Hanukkah Concert, 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 5, featuring the Kosher Gravy Company — musicians who mix rock, blues, jazz and folk music. The event includes a pasta, soup and salad bar, menorah lighting ceremony, Moonbounce and other fun. Cost is \$18 per adult; kids under 13 are admitted free. RSVP to www.theshul.net or call (248) 788-4000.

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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, December 2, 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

CHAMBER CHAT

Holiday classics

The Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth will be showing a variety of holiday classics starting this weekend. The schedule:

- "It's a Wonderful Life," Dec. 2-5
 - "Holiday Inn," Dec. 9
 - "Polar Express," Dec. 17-19
 - "A Muppet Christmas Carol," Dec. 23, Dec. 26
- All tickets are \$3:00. Go to www.penntheatre.com for showtimes.

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 or call (734) 453-1540.

Organic meats

Natural Local Food Express brought organic meat to Plymouth.

Located at 1192 Ann Arbor Road, Natural Local Food



Dine-Out Delivery will deliver food from five local restaurants to your doorstep, and will expand to include more restaurants in the coming months.

Express specializes in providing high quality organic meats. They have bison, grass fed beef, poultry and other items, like organic milk.

For more information see their web site at www.natural-localfd.com.

Dine-Out Delivery

Looking for food from one of your favorite Plymouth restaurants? Dine-Out Delivery will deliver food from 5 local restaurants to your doorstep. They also will have an expanding selection of restaurants over the next few months. Additionally, the company has another branch of the company that provides marketing services.

For more information on their services call 734-709-7804 or check out their web site at www.dineoutdeliveryonline.com.

Great clips

George and Michele Lytle have opened the first Great Clips franchise in Plymouth.

Great Clips is a nationwide chain of reasonably priced barbershops. They are located at 15167 Sheldon in the shopping center at the corner of Five Mile and Sheldon. You can find out more about Great Clips at www.greatclips.com. There is also a YouTube clip on the Chamber Channel from their grand opening at www.youtube.com/watch.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Business mixer

The Inn at St. John's 5ive Restaurant hosts the next Plymouth Business-2-Business Mixer 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7.

There are no fees for the mixer, no groups to join. Participants should bring business cards for exchanging with fellow business owners in the Plymouth, Canton, Northville and surrounding areas.

The Inn at St. John's is located at 44045 Five Mile in Plymouth.

To RSVP or for more information, call (734) 455-8722.

Super lawyer

Mark W. Jane, a lawyer for Butzel Long, was 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.



Jane

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.

Singing for supper

Holiday music will ring out loud and clear for shoppers at Hiller's Markets on the first weekend in December. While they load their carts with groceries, they will be entertained by a host of singers hoping to raise money for their budget-

strapped school and community choirs.

The twenty choirs taking part have reserved 30-minute time slots between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to perform at five participating Hiller's locations, including the Plymouth store. Shoppers can make donations in \$1, \$5 and \$10 amounts to the participating choirs at Hiller's registers and Hiller's Markets has pledged to match the donations.

Justin Hiller, the vice-president of Hiller's Markets, explained that the program had been developed to help combat the massive budget cuts to music programs in schools.

"Music education in kids' lives has been shown to enhance learning - even in academic subjects like math and reading - and also to build self-confidence," he said. "It is essential to keep music programs strong. This is a way we can help, and at the same time entertain customers as they shop."

Choirs singing at Hiller's Plymouth store, located at 15455 N. Haggerty, include Madonna University (11 a.m.), St. Edith's (11:45 a.m.), Plymouth Christian Academy (12:30 p.m.), Cantata Academy (2 p.m.) and St. Edith's again (2:30 p.m.).

Loyalty rewards

Auto Maintenance Centers recently announced a new Loyalty Rewards Program. The program is intended to reward both new and repeat customers through value-added incentives that accumulate with each visit to the store.

Auto Maintenance Centers has five metro Detroit locations, including one in Plymouth. The company wanted to develop a program that would reward customers for their loyalty. What started out as a small idea has grown

into a huge program including a new website, designing the program from the ground up and writing the software for the program to function properly.

Membership is free. Customers who come into any of the centers will receive a free Loyalty Rewards card. They then follow these easy steps:

• Activate their card at www.teamcamc.com. Just for registering they receive a \$10 credit to their account.

• Along with their Loyalty Rewards card, customers receive Refer a Friend cards to distribute to their co-workers, friends and family. When the referred friend comes in for an oil change or any of the other preventative maintenance services available at the centers and show their Refer a Friend card, they instantly receive \$10 off of that service. The original referring customer also gets a \$10 bonus added to their Loyalty account. The more friends that are referred, the more bonuses are received - and Loyalty customers receive a \$10 credit to their account for each and every one of them. Through the Refer a Friend program, cardholders can quickly earn a free oil change or other preventative maintenance service.

• All future services that a Loyalty cardholder purchases earn a 15% credit bonus to their account.

Customers can redeem their credits at any time. They can apply any or all of the amount in their account. Customers are able to monitor their accounts themselves by logging onto the company website. Further details of the program can be found on the website at www.teamcamc.com or by calling the Plymouth center, located at 599 Ann Arbor Road, (734) 453-6919.

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Sugar plum fairies, mice, toys dance onto stage this weekend

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dawn Greene has taught and directed *The Nutcracker* for 26 seasons, but finds a fresh twist to the Tchaikovsky ballet every year.

"Sometimes we change according to the dancers we have," said Greene, artistic director for the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company. "The 'Flowers' and 'Snow' are usually all the same. The costumes we get might be different."

"We don't do Mother Ginger," she said, referring to the dancing gingerbread house in the ballet's second act. "Instead of doing Mother Ginger, we do a clown. And we don't do 'The Land of Sweets.' We do 'Magic Kingdom.'"

"My daughter used to be with the Cincinnati Ballet and when Clara leaves to go back home at the end of the ballet, they would have a hot air balloon they would get into and float up."

Although the music is the same from year to year, different dance and staging interpretations, as well as a changing cast keep *The Nutcracker* a fresh and favorite way to start the holidays.

"I think it is because it is the start of Christmas. There is a Christmas tree, the magic of toys coming to life," said Greene, explaining the ballet's popularity. "The neat thing about it is if you go with a child and see that child's face brighten, it brightens it for you, too."



Dancers from the Plymouth Canton Ballet Company perform "The Nutcracker" with live music by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras.

MEET THE DANCERS

Her company will dance to live music by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 2 p.m. Dec. 5 at Salem High School Auditorium, 46181 Joy, Canton. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$13 for children. Tickets for the "Sugar Plum Parade" are \$3 and allow youngsters to meet the approximately 70 dancers from age 8 and up who will be on stage after the performance. They're all available at www.plymouthcantonballet.org.

Dancers come from throughout southeastern Michigan, from a variety of studios. Greene holds rehearsals for *The Nutcracker* on Sundays only, so the work won't interfere with studio lessons.

"The children aren't just with their own (studio) dancers. They meet different dancers. That makes it a community project rather than a studio project."

Greene teamed with the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestras on *The Nutcracker* performance 13 years ago, a

benefit for the dancers who must train themselves to listen for subtle changes in tempo. "They have to be prepared. They have to listen. It's great," she said.

IN LIVONIA

Performers from Bunny Sanford's School of Dance in Livonia will get a taste of both recorded music and live sound when they perform the ballet this month.

They'll dance several excerpts from *The Nutcracker* during the Livonia Symphony

Orchestra's "Suites and Treats" concert at 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Clarenceville High School Auditorium located on Middlebelt, between Seven and Eight Mile Roads. Tickets are available at the door, at all Livonia libraries, Livonia Drugs and Love's Bakery. The cost is \$17 for adults and \$5 for children and students.

The dance studio will perform the entire ballet, with more than 70 dancers, to recorded music at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 18, at Stevenson High School,

33500 6 Mile, Livonia. Tickets are \$7. They will be available at the door or by calling Bunny Sanford's School of Dance at (734) 464-7440.

"We've done it a couple of years with the symphony. I think (the dancers) enjoy it. It adds a little something different for them to do, another experience," said Renee Liske, a member of the studio's parent organization.

"It's a kid-friendly performance," she added.

The production length has been shortened just enough to accommodate younger ballet buffs.

A sampling of other *Nutcracker* performances:

- The Michigan Classic Ballet Company, 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 3 p.m. Dec. 5 at Mercy Auditorium, 29300 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for senior citizens and children. A *Nutcracker* Tea runs 1:30-2:30 p.m. Dec. 5 and costs \$15 per person. Buy tickets at michiganclassicalballet.com.

- The Moscow Ballet presents the "Great Russian Nutcracker," 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets range from \$27.50 to \$350. They are available at OlympiaEntertainment.com, the Fox Theatre and Joe Louis Arena box offices, Hockleytown Authentics in Troy (without service charge) at all Ticketmaster locations and www.nutcracker.com. To charge tickets by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

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The Holiday Craft Extravaganza promises to be a shopping treasure trove of one-of-a-kind gifts, fine jewelry, gourmet treats, holiday décor and more. It takes place at the Rock Financial Showplace December 4 - 5, 2010. With tons of crafters under one roof, the Holiday Craft Extravaganza will bring a unique and festive shopping experience to the Metro Detroit area.

www.HolidayCraftExtravaganza.com



Dave Albrecht of Farmington Hills works in the Oakland Community College Potter's Lab.

See thousands of ceramic pieces at annual college show

Ceramics artists from Plymouth and Farmington Hills will be among the 135 potters who will show and sell their works at Oakland Community College's 35th annual Potter's Market, Dec. 3-5 in Madison Heights.

Advanced ceramic students at the college's Royal Oak campus and guest potters present the show, which will include more than 40,000 pieces of pottery this year.

Plymouth potter, Kathy Sandberg, has been an invited guest potter at The Potters Market for five years.

"There's absolutely nothing like The Potters Market," she said. "It really is a must do for pottery lovers and I just love to be part of it."

Sandberg, also one of the founders of the Plymouth Potters Guild, works hand in hand with the other potters in organizing and staffing the market. She said she feels "a wonderful sense of sharing and camaraderie" at the show.

"I feel honored to be part of the whole scene."

When Dave Albrecht came to the Potters Lab at the Royal Oak campus, it was to fulfill a dream deferred. Although he was a fine art major in college, he worked in the corporate world, finally returning to his college love of pottery and sculpture after retirement. When he first got to the Potter's lab about eight years ago, he served as a lab assistant/clay maker. Meanwhile he worked out his own pottery style of creating sculpted pagoda and lantern style outdoor sculptures and even organized a clay sculpting group. This group met on Fridays with a

live model. This is the fifth year that Albrecht will show his inspired "temples" as well as other pieces at the Potters Market.

Jack Adelman of Farmington Hills has shown his works at the Potter's Market for three years. Adelman, 86, developed an interest in pottery 16 years ago. He started taking classes at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center and began working in the Potters Lab at OCC seven years ago.

"I really enjoy the opportunity to work alongside other artists at OCC," Adelman said. "It's a very creative environment."

His pieces have striking, colorful high gloss glazes and forms that include fluting.

A cake decorator professionally, Robert Crisp of Farmington Hills creates dragons in clay at the Potters Lab. He applies detail to the sculptures that he hand builds by using a cake decorating tube.

Show hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4 and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at United Food and Commercial Workers Union Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of 13 Mile, between I-75 and John R. Admission is free and parking is free. Because of the crowds, no strollers are permitted.

A special preview sale of the Potters Market runs from 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2. Admission to the preview sale is \$10.

For information call (248) 246-2686 or visit www.thepottersmarket.com

ART

Art & Ideas

Time/Date: Saturdays, 1-7 p.m., through Jan. 29, 2011

Location: 15095 Northville Road, Plymouth Township, between eastbound 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

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 Jan. 2, 2011; artist reception is 6-8 p.m. Dec. 2

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton
Details: Photos, including black and white still life and flower images, by Jason Nichols
Contact: (734) 394-5300

BENEFIT

Karl's Cabin

Time/Date: 9:30 -10:30 p.m.,
Location: 6005 Gotfredson, Plymouth
Details: Tony Samuels and fellow musicians perform to raise funds for the University of

GET OUT!

Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center. The U of M Complementary Therapy Program was instrumental in helping Samuels achieve his life long dream of recording his music. All cover charge proceeds will go to the University of Michigan Cancer Research and proceeds from the sale of the CD "World Record" with his band TLM and "You Can Better know Me" which is a Contemporary Christian release with his band SonLight, will go to the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Music Therapy Program.
Contact: (734) -455-8450

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield
Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday
Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

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

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Details: Basile, through Dec. 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

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle

Time/Date: Paul Mecurio, Dec. 2-4; O'Brien & Valdez, Dec. 9-11; David Dyer, Dec. 16-18; Dan Grueter, Dec. 30-31

Electronic music groups combine sound, multi-media at summit

Schoolcraft College's Synthesizer Ensemble will perform in the Electronic Music Summit, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2, in the Schaver Music Recital Hall on the Wayne State University campus in Detroit.

The event will feature two other college ensembles, the University of Michigan's Digital Music Ensemble and Wayne State's Electronic Music Ensemble, that specialize in the growing genre of electronic music.

During the summit, audience members will experience a wide-ranging combination of dazzling sounds, lights, video, technology and 3D imagery along with a variety of styles and techniques during the concert. WSU's Electronic Music Ensemble tends to create long-form structures, using vintage synthesizers and modern sampling techniques. U-M's Digital Music Ensemble often creates interactive installations, such as its annual Gypsy Pond Music at the U-M School

of Music pond. The group's instruments can range from modified keyboards to amplified band saws. Schoolcraft's Synthesizer Ensemble is more repertoire-based, although its repertoire has ranged from Bach to Zappa, from Vietnamese folk music to video game music. Members perform on a wide range of current technology, including MIDI trumpets, saxophones and drums.

It's not just about unique music, however. WSU's group has created a piece based on the seasons and associated colors. The entire room will be color-saturated. U-M's group will create a performance artwork incorporating musical furniture. It also will perform a composition by Pauline Oliveras incorporating color wheels and Mylar. Schoolcraft's group will perform an original student compositions and holiday music with 3-D animation. Everyone in the audience will receive commemorative 3D glasses. Admission is \$5.



Holiday fashion

Bella Mia in downtown Plymouth will hold its annual holiday fashion show at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 4, at EG Nick's, 500 Forest, Plymouth. Guests will enjoy brunch, the show, and 25 percent off their purchase. Tickets are \$25. Call (734) 459-0057 for tickets or more information.

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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This melt-in-your-mouth Slow Cooker Pot Roast with Onions is a complete dinner with very little fuss. A bowl of Broccoli, Bacon and Cheddar Chowder makes a hearty lunch or simple dinner in no time. And this recipe for Quick and Healthy Potato Casserole serves up a creamy, comforting side dish from the microwave in minutes.

Onions and Wisconsin potatoes add a savory quality to these three recipes. Best of all, onions and potatoes are good sources of potassium, fiber and vitamin C, and cost only pennies a serving.

To find more recipes your family will savor, visit www.wisconsinpotatoes.com and www.onions-usa.org.



SLOW COOKER POT ROAST WITH ONIONS

Serves 4 to 6

- 1 (2½-pound) boneless beef sirloin tip or chuck roast
 - 1 tablespoon prepared horseradish
 - 1½ pounds yellow onions, trimmed and cut into ½-inch slices
 - 1 pound Wisconsin red potatoes, trimmed and halved
 - ½ pound carrots, trimmed, peeled and cut into 2 to 3-inch pieces
 - 2 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves, stripped from stems
 - 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary (stems removed)
 - 2 cups tomato juice
 - 1 cup low-sodium beef broth
 - ½ cup red wine (or additional beef broth)
 - 2 tablespoons flour
 - Pepper and salt to taste (optional)
- Trim fat from beef roast. Place roast in bottom of 5 to 6-quart slow cooker. Spread horseradish over surface of meat. Top and surround roast with onions, potatoes, and carrots. Sprinkle with thyme and rosemary and pour in tomato juice and beef broth. Cover and cook on high setting for 6 to 8 hours or until beef is fall apart tender.

Mix wine (or beef broth) with flour and pour mixture around meat in slow cooker. Gently stir flour mixture into existing sauce without disturbing the meat. Replace cover and cook on high setting for 15 minutes or until thickened. Before serving, season with pepper and salt to taste and garnish with sprigs of rosemary.

BROCCOLI, BACON AND CHEDDAR CHOWDER

Serves 6

- 8 slices bacon, chopped
 - 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
 - 1 onion, finely chopped
 - 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
 - ½ teaspoon salt Dash cayenne pepper
 - 3 cups milk
 - 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock
 - 12 ounces Wisconsin red skinned potatoes, cut into ½-inch dice
 - 2 cups cheddar cheese, shredded
 - 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
 - 1 teaspoon hot pepper sauce, if desired
 - 2 10-ounce boxes frozen chopped broccoli, thawed
- Heat large pot over medium heat. Add bacon and cook until crispy, about 5 minutes. Remove bacon with slotted spoon and transfer to paper towel lined plate and reserve. Pour off all but 2 tablespoons fat. Add butter and onion and cook for 6 minutes or until softened. Add flour and cook, stirring for another 2 minutes or until foamy.

Whisk in salt, cayenne pepper, milk and chicken stock and cook until it becomes smooth and creamy, about 3 minutes. Add potatoes and cook for 10 to 15 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

In bowl, toss cheddar with flour to coat. Stir in cheese, a handful at a time, whisking after each addition until smooth. Add in hot pepper sauce if using. Add thawed broccoli and stir to heat. Do not boil. Taste for seasoning and adjust if necessary.

Ladle soup into heated bowls and garnish with reserved bacon.

Recipe excerpt used with permission. Text copyright 300 Sensational Soups © Carla Snyder and Meredith Deeds 2008 Robert Rose Inc.

STORAGE TIPS

Onions and potatoes pair well together in lots of recipes. They also like similar storage conditions, but can spoil if stored in proximity to each other. Follow these quick tips for the best possible shelf-life.

- Store potatoes and onions separately. Store onions in cool, dry, well-ventilated places, optimally, at a temperature between 45°F and 55°F, but not in the refrigerator. Potatoes require similar storage conditions, but they also need darkness and should be kept at 50°F or less to avoid sprouting.
- Potatoes can be stored in perforated plastic bags or paper bags to extend their shelf-life.
- Onions should NOT be stored in plastic bags. Lack of air movement reduces storage life.
- Don't wash potatoes or onions (or any produce for that matter) before storing. Dampness will promote early spoilage.
- Chopped or sliced onions can be stored in a sealed container in your refrigerator for up to 7 days.

QUICK & HEALTHY POTATO CASSEROLE

Serves 6

- 1½ pounds Wisconsin Yukon Gold potatoes, very thinly sliced
- 1 cup shredded and thinly sliced onion
- 1 cup shredded reduced-fat sharp cheddar cheese
- ½ teaspoon Italian herb seasoning
- ½ cup stock or reduced-sodium broth
- 1½ teaspoons Dijon mustard
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt

Spray an 8-inch microwave-safe baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Place ½ of the potatoes and ½ of the onions on bottom of dish and sprinkle with ½ of the cheese and ½ of the herbs. Repeat layers, then top with the last ½ of the potatoes, layering potatoes so that there is a solid layer of potatoes with no gaps; sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Stir together stock, Dijon and garlic salt and pour over potatoes. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave on HIGH for 20 minutes. Use oven mitts to remove dish from microwave; carefully remove cover from dish (due to steam build-up) and serve.

Optional: Preheat oven to 400°F and place casserole in oven for 5 to 10 minutes or until casserole is golden brown before serving.



Canton cookie swap mixes competition, prizes, socializing

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

For its first four years, Diane Drouillard's annual Christmas cookie exchange was all about presentation.

"I asked the ladies to bring nine dozen cookies. It was pretty intense. It was pretty competitive in a fun way. They'd have displays set up to showcase their cookies," said the Canton resident. "The first year one of my friends won and she had a wine bottle display. The bottle had lights inside. There were different levels of shelving and fake grapes. One year someone came in with a large decorative mirror — 2 1/2- by 2-foot. That was the tray for the cookies."

Everyone voted on the best presentation and the winner received a professionally-made centerpiece by Drouillard's dad, a retired florist.

When the elaborate and large displays started to crowd the kitchen table and some guests began to stress over their art work, Drouillard lowered the cookie requirement to six dozen and switched the competition from style to taste.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, her husband and two other cookie judges will sample each entry, wash them down with milk and award the centerpiece to the "best cookie" baker during Drouillard's sixth annual cookie exchange, an event that draws together two dozen or so friends, neighbors, euchre club members and acquaintances.

"None of the judges had wives who had entered cookies to be judged," said Drouillard, who offers the good-natured competition as an optional activity during the seasonal event.



A Leaning Tower of Pisa display shows off cookies by Sue Speer of Livonia at one of Diane Drouillard's previous cookie exchanges.

STARTING A SWAP

Drouillard, a counselor at Northville High School, attended cookie swaps for several years before trying her own version "with a twist."

"As my kids were getting older I had more time. I thought, 'I'm going to do a cookie exchange and do it my way.' I love to entertain, too, so that's part of it," she said. "It's important for people to have a variety of cookies."

Last year she helped her daughter, Annalyse, 12, host a cookie exchange for her friends. Each girl brought two dozen homemade cookies to share.

"By the end of the evening they had a tray of assorted cookies to bring home to their families."

Drouillard, who also has two sons, age 16 and 14, loves to cook, a talent she acquired from her dad, who also enjoys creating in the kitchen.

"A couple of years ago we had a pierogi-making party. It was an all-day event."

She usually makes "kapusta" (a cabbage dish) and her father brings Polish sausage for Christmas dinner. Drouillard also makes her favorite cheese cake — from her grandmother's

recipe — for the holidays.

And, of course she'll serve lots of cookies collected from her annual exchange, which she hopes will inspire others.

Here are a few of her tips for creating a successful, fun cookie swap:

- Make sure each guest brings an empty tray to carry cookies home.

- Have foil or plastic wrap on hand to cover each tray.

- Play "good holiday music" to set the mood.

- Serve punch or some other kind of beverage and healthy appetizers. "People don't want to eat too much junk."

- Skip any appetizers that require last minute work or oven time. Spend the time instead with your guests.

- Competition can be fun. In addition to "best display" and "best cookie," Drouillard also asked guests the first few years to bring copies of their recipes to exchange. Those who remembered were entered into a drawing for a cookie recipe book.

- Random prizes can be fun, too. "I do things like 'look on the bottom of your glass for a number.' I always have a favor. For many years it was a small candle or bath salts."

CHOCOLATE MALLOW DROPS

1/2 cup butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1/2 cup of milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup baking cocoa
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
18 to 22 marshmallows, halved
Frosting:
1/4 cup butter, cubed
2 squares (1 ounce each) unsweetened chocolate
1 square (1 ounce) semisweet chocolate
2 cups confectioner's sugar
3 to 6 tablespoons brewed coffee

1. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, milk and vanilla. Combine the flour, cocoa, baking soda and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture and mix well.

2. Drop by slightly rounded tablespoons, 2 inches apart, onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 375 for 6 minutes. Press a marshmallow half, cut side down, onto each cookie. Bake 2 minutes longer or until marshmallow is softened. Remove to wire racks.

3. In a microwave-safe bowl, melt butter and chocolate until smooth. Beat in confectioner's sugar. Add enough coffee to achieve spreading consistency. Transfer frosting to plastic bag; cut small hole in corner of bag. Pipe over cookies.

DIPPED GINGERSNAPS

2 cups sugar
1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
2 eggs
1/2 cup molasses
4 cups flour
4 teaspoons baking soda
1 tablespoon ground ginger
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
Additional sugar for coating dough balls
White chocolate dip:
2 packages vanilla or white chocolate
1/4 cup of shortening

Preparing the dough:
In a mixing bowl combine sugar and oil, mix well. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in molasses. Combine dry ingredients. Gradually add creamed mixture and mix well. Shape into 3/4-inch balls and roll in sugar. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes or until cookies spring back when touched lightly. Remove to wire racks for cooling.

Preparing the dip:
Melt vanilla/white chocolate chips with shortening in a small saucepan over low heat. Dip the cookies half way and shake off the excess. Set on waxed paper to dry.

COOKIE WALKS

If you don't want to spend time in the kitchen but want home-baked treats, a cookie walk may be your best alternative to a cookie exchange. Here is a sampling of a few upcoming walks:

- Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church holds its 17th annual cookie walk beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at the church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia. Shoppers begin queuing up around 8 a.m. The church serves coffee for those waiting in line. Cookies are \$10 per pound. (248) 476-3432

- St. Timothy Lutheran Church, sells its cookies by the pound beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. Various bake sale items also will be available. (734) 427-2290

- The Lutheran Home Livonia, runs a cookie walk 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 15 at 28910 Plymouth Road, Livonia. (734) 425-4814
- Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45291 N. Territorial, Plymouth, runs a cookie walk, 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 12. (734) 453-5280

- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland, will hold a cookie walk in conjunction with its "A Living Nativity," 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12, in the parking lot at the church, (734) 722-1735.

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SECTION C (*) Thursday, December 2, 2010

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Play it cool with winter fire safety tips at home

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are working together to remind everyone that home fires are more prevalent in winter than in any other season. This is due in part to an increase in cooking and heating fires. Holiday decorations and winter storms that can interrupt electrical service and cause people to turn to alternative heating sources also contribute to the increased risk of fire in winter.

Winter residential building fires result in an estimated average of 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries, and \$1,708,000,000 in property loss each year.

Fires in one- and two-family dwellings account for 67 percent of all winter residential building fires.

Cooking is the leading cause of all winter residential building fires.

Winter residential building fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5-8 p.m.

"People get home, they start a little fire, settle down for the night. That's when we're going to get our fire starts," said Tom Kiurski, training coordinator for the Livonia Fire Department.

Although at its highest in December, residential building fire incidence is collectively highest in the three winter months of January, February, and March.

"A lot of that is obviously the cold months, the use of space heaters and fires in the fireplace," Kiurski said. He cited a lot of candles used in November and December.

"That becomes another issue so we have to be diligent around the use of candles." Adults should supervise candle use, he said, and be careful with pets and not put candles in walking paths.

The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire-safe home this winter season.

It's a recipe for serious injury or even death to wear loose clothing (especially hanging sleeves), walk away from a cooking pot on the stove, or leave flammable materials, such as potholders or paper towels, around the stove. Whether you are cooking the family holiday dinner or a snack for the children, practicing safe cooking behaviors will help keep you and your family safe.

•Always use cooking equipment tested



and approved by a recognized testing facility.

•Follow manufacturers' instructions and code requirements when installing and operating cooking equipment.

•Plug microwave ovens and other cooking appliances directly into an outlet. Never use an extension cord for a cooking appliance, as it can overload the circuit and cause a fire.

Kiurski warns against extension cords, noting it's best to talk to an electrician about wiring. "We definitely need to be aware we've got an increased demand on electricity," including home electronics.

"The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.

"That's big this time of year too with the holidays and family and friends. It's just very easy to get your attention diverted," Kiurski said.

•Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave

the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.

•If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.

•Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won't be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.

"Medicines and alcohol usually aren't a good mix," Kiurski said, noting a lot of warnings on prescription bottles. "That can just compound the problem as well. We need to be careful about alcohol and medicine."

•Keep anything that can catch fire — potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, towels, or curtains — away from your stovetop.

•Keep the stovetop, burners, and oven clean.

•Keep pets off cooking surfaces and

nearly countertops to prevent them from knocking things onto the burner.

•Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire if it comes into contact with a gas flame or electric burner.

If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll. Stop immediately, drop to the ground, and cover face with hands. Roll over and over or back and forth to put out the fire. Immediately cool the burn with cool water for three to five minutes and then seek emergency medical care.

•Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.

•Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters. Kiurski said kids shouldn't be near a stove; they can quietly color or be in another room to play. "The heat coming off of there can ignite nearby combustibles," he said, adding that's true of space heaters and combustibles like blankets.

•Never use your oven to heat your home. "Not too much of a problem around here, thankfully, but always a good reminder, not the purpose of that appliance,"

Kiurski said. •Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.

•Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.

•Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.

•Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.

•Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

•Test smoke alarms monthly. "Check smoke alarms and make sure they work," Kiurski said.

O&E staff writer Julie Brown contributed to this report.

Mortgage lender irked by complaints

Q: I am a mortgage lender and I am really getting fed up with the so-called poor borrowers who claim they were taken advantage of by the big bad lenders because they chose not to understand the documents they were given prior to closing. Nor did they hire someone competent to help them translate their loan commitment and review their preliminary TIL and estimated closing costs. Further, they chose not to hire an attorney or bring someone to attend the closing to make sure the closing proceeded in accordance with the loan commitment. What are your comments on that?

A: There is obviously some truth to your concerns because these people who plead

ignorance and claim to be taken advantage of because they chose not to read anything before they got to the closing and signed a

Promissory Note without the benefit of legal assistance are now crying about it. Obviously, there is much blame on both sides including lenders who have taken advantage of persons who are not in a position to get legal assistance and could not really afford the loan made, but also, of course, the persons who borrowed the money should also accept responsibility for not seeking good advice.

Q: I am thinking about moving to Santa Fe, N.M., and I am wondering if the real estate market has deteriorated there as it has in many other parts of the country.

A: In talking with persons who know the real estate market in Santa Fe, I learned that the market has gone down from approximately 25-30 percent of value. In effect, million dollar homes in Santa Fe are now selling for approximately \$700,000, although, a million dollar home in Santa Fe might well be a \$500,000 home in Michigan. However, the local business climate appears to be strong with very few vacancies in the retail establishments in the downtown area. Also, the restaurant business seems to be holding up reasonably well based upon my discussions with restaurateurs there. In any situation, however, you should retain the services of a knowledgeable real estate professional to assist you in gaining insight into the local market.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 16-20, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

City	Address	Sale Price
Canton	50688 Amberly Blvd	\$430,000
	7434 Andover Dr	\$336,000
	42420 Barchester Rd	\$23,000
	2426 Berwick Dr	\$109,000
	39669 Cather St	\$109,000
	50551 Coolidge St	\$250,000
	50566 Coolidge St	\$260,000
	39940 Coronation Rd	\$110,000
	45178 Forest Trail Dr	\$175,000
	47046 Glastonbury Dr	\$275,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Garden City	5794 Hathaway Rd	\$200,000
	643 Highlands Dr	\$300,000
	8526 Mannington Rd	\$165,000
	45483 Muirfield Dr	\$333,000
	47535 Pembroke Dr	\$385,000
	44596 Penny Ct	\$170,000
	45926 S Stonewood Rd	\$248,000
	955 Wellington Ct	\$250,000
	8598 Westchester Ln	\$166,000
	45124 Weymouth Dr	\$279,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Livonia	31422 Brown St	\$97,000
	30540 Dawson St	\$90,000
	6978 Whitby St	\$75,000
	9654 Arcola St	\$116,000
	27732 Bobrich Dr	\$110,000
	16854 Country Club Dr	\$209,000
	16982 Farmington Rd	\$100,000
	20621 Golf Ridge Cir	\$320,000
	36507 Grandon St	\$154,000
	33378 Kentucky St	\$70,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Northville	38990 Lapham Dr	\$170,000
	19048 Laurel Dr	\$250,000
	35612 Leon St	\$154,000
	11435 Mayfield St	\$130,000
	30931 Mayville St	\$172,000
	37454 W Laurel Park Dr	\$100,000
	14629 Newburgh Rd	\$95,000
	31560 Norfolk St	\$178,000
	34175 Oakdale St	\$138,000
	29670 Richland St	\$121,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Plymouth	19572 Northridge Dr	\$49,000
	19603 Northridge Dr	\$51,000
	540 Orchard Dr	\$125,000
	46625 Stratford Ct	\$150,000
	17766 Willowflower Dr	\$350,000
	16907 Yellowstone Dr	\$151,000
	331 Arthur St	\$310,000
	50580 Beechwood Ct	\$90,000
	50583 Beechwood Ct	\$105,000
	1133 Linden St	\$185,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Westland	12801 Nathaline	\$69,000
	11323 Riverdale	\$78,000
	14314 Winston	\$65,000
	15423 Winston	\$16,000
	35308 Avondale St	\$80,000
	37562 Barbridge Cir	\$35,000
	32645 Bertram Dr	\$106,000
	29184 Brody Ave	\$95,000
	38327 Greenwood St	\$25,000
	35881 Hunter Ave	\$50,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the weeks of Aug. 16-20, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

City	Address	Sale Price
Beverly Hills	31700 Bellvine Trl	\$262,000
	18201 Beverly Rd	\$320,000
	16908 Birwood Ave	\$100,000
	32950 Eastlady Dr	\$261,000
	1456 Cedar Dr	\$515,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Bloomfield Hills	890 Stanley Blvd	\$965,000
	1635 Terry St	\$183,000
	2055 W Bend Ct	\$380,000
	505 Cambridge Way	\$306,000
	2020 Dell Rose Dr	\$350,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Bloomfield Township	3281 E Bradford Dr	\$328,000
	1608 Mark Hopkins Rd	\$233,000
	628 Pine Valley Way	\$370,000
	4950 Susans Way	\$640,000
	283 Tilbury Rd	\$369,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Lathrup Village	18245 Roseland Blvd	\$72,000
	1732 Hidden Valley Ct	\$285,000
	1901 S Garner Rd	\$210,000
	43050 12 Oaks Crescent Dr	\$98,000
	50950 Chesapeake Dr	\$657,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Milford	26186 La Muera St	\$190,000
	21587 Manchester Ct	\$280,000
	32277 Old Forge Ln	\$171,000
	28515 Quail Hollow Rd	\$143,000
	1732 Hidden Valley Ct	\$285,000

City	Address	Sale Price
Novi	1347 Coach House Ln	\$296,000
	26060 Daria Cir W	\$80,000
	24700 Millford Rd	\$253,000
	136 N Hagadorn St	\$115,000
	54235 Villagewood Dr	\$30,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar

A Real Estate Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. To reserve a seat or for more information, call Lesley Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laiello@kw.com.

BIA

•Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will present three-hour Continuing Competency courses required by the state of Michigan for renewal of a Residential Builder's License or Maintenance & Alterations Contractor's License. One three-hour course is required per license cycle. The sessions will be:

- Thursday, Dec. 2, from 1-4 p.m. at The Pointe, 5085 Lakeshore Road in Fort Gratiot, MI
- Monday, Dec. 13, from 1-4 p.m. at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake

Road, West Bloomfield

Don Pratt, CGB, CGR, CAPS or Wake-Pratt Construction will present the courses. Each session will cover one hour in each of the three required areas: legal issues, codes and safety issues. Registration is \$55 per person for members of BIA and for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/events.php.

- Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan will present the three courses required for National Association of Home Builders Certified Aging-in-Place (CAPS) designation on Monday, Dec. 6; Tuesday, Dec. 7; and Wednesday, Dec. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at Association Offices, 2075 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield.
- Don Pratt, CAPS, CGB, CGR, of Wake-Pratt Construction, will present the technical, business management and customer service skills essential for competing in this fast growing segment of residential

construction. CAPS I, Marketing and Communication Strategies for Aging and Accessibility, focuses on techniques to use when marketing to those who need the remodeling services, how to recognize housing needs and how to communicate the best options. CAPS II, Design/Build Solutions for Aging and Accessibility, focuses on relevant codes and standards, common barriers and how to redesign living areas for safety and comfort.

The third required course is Business Management For Building Professionals. It offers a foundation in those best business practices valuable to smaller businesses. Holders of the following designations are exempt from having to take the Business Management course in order to attain the CAPS designation: CGR, CGB, CGA, CR, CKD, CBD, ASID, AIA and GRI. Registration for each course is \$160 for members of the NAHBR Professional Remodelers Council, \$195 for BIA members and \$225 for guests. For registration

information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at www.builders.org/events.php.

Investors

Speed Networking to meet new investors, suppliers and contractors. Bring business cards for exchanging. Presented by Real Estate Investors Associations of Oakland on Thursday, Dec. 9, 5:30-9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members, \$20 non-members. Call (800) 747-6742. (www.REIAofOakland.com)

Real Estate Sales and Appraising

Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Challenging fun for ALL ages
Thursday
PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 First Stoic
- 5 Swirling water
- 9 That woman
- 12 Holly shrub
- 13 Promontory
- 14 Gladiator's hello
- 15 Demonstrator's sign
- 17 Ancient harp
- 19 Tempe sch.
- 20 Paper holder
- 21 Missouri range
- 24 Inclined
- 27 Kind of certificate
- 28 Chew on
- 29 Society column word
- 30 Goblin
- 31 Bundles up
- 32 Cotton seeder
- 33 "The Name of the Rose" author
- 34 Macho motorcycles
- 35 Game played on horseback
- 36 Laughs hysterically
- 38 Brainy club
- 39 Sprinkles
- 40 Namath or Pesci
- 41 Butcher's cut
- 43 Snow —
- 47 Motor lodge
- 48 Congers
- 50 Alimony getters
- 51 Runway hazard
- 52 Credit card balance
- 53 Adroit

DOWN

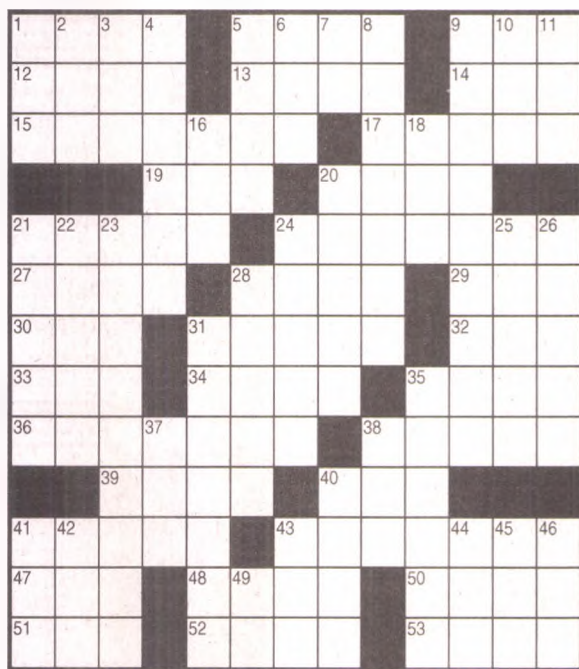
- 1 Mail code
- 2 House addition
- 3 PBS funder
- 4 Farm vehicle
- 5 Grayish-brown
- 6 Scout leader, often
- 7 Computer dept.
- 8 Cheerful colors

Answer to Previous Puzzle

SPA BOAR BLOW
 ARC AURA RUDE
 FORKLIFT RIGET
 EMEND SSTS
 ASH OKAYS
 DISC YOYO QUE
 ERIK DUE SURE
 SOD SERA TATS
 INEPT RTE
 LUCK AERIE
 DOTE HOTPLATE
 AHAB EPEE PEN
 MODE TSAR TRY

12-9 © 2010 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

- 9 Obsessed with (2 wds.)
- 10 Day before
- 11 Lo — graphics
- 16 Make inquiry
- 18 Kennel sound
- 20 Peals of thunder
- 21 Curved moldings
- 22 Not even one
- 23 Offering
- 24 Pitfalls
- 25 Armstrong and Simon
- 26 Columbus' port
- 28 Understands intuitively
- 31 Sharpened
- 35 Chirped
- 37 Solar wind component
- 38 Meadow plaint
- 40 Witty remark
- 41 Peter Pan rival
- 42 Yoko
- 43 Attorney's deg.
- 44 Logging tool
- 45 NBA official
- 46 Summer hrs.
- 49 MIT grad, perhaps



SUDOKU

			5	9				2	3
7		8						6	9
		9			7	8	1	4	
	2			7	4				
	4	5		1					
8			2		3	4			
	1	4							9
5	8	3	4						
			6		1	5			

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Word Search — Evergreen

N E E R G R E V E C A N P V R
 K S U L M F J K H R Y R R E F
 N E E D L E S C B D I P F K B
 Z E A B E J E O U D C I R U G
 W R F N H P R L G A N J S U G
 Y T I I M V Z M N O H H T Y S
 W P Y P I X L E C A E Q P I T
 L M C T K V J H R S L R J Y I
 K A A S Y R J S R E T N I W B
 A E H P E L H U W I P P R W N
 P I O R W L L H E N G I R T E
 N L E U X P P O P B Z F N Z R
 F S X C F I R U H P T P K U Q
 X K M E G W F A U X K V O K J
 V B N V F L E T R H Y M Q I L

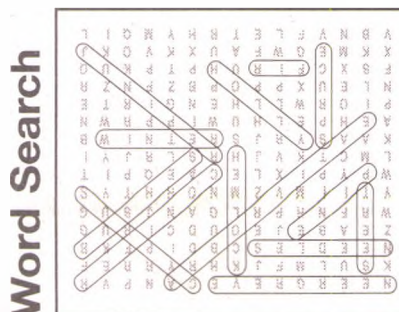
- arborvitae
- cyprus
- hemlock
- needles
- trees
- bushes
- evergreen
- holly
- pine
- winter
- conifer
- fir
- juniper
- spruce

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

8	7	5	1	6	9	2	7	6
9	7	1	6	2	7	6	8	9
2	6	8	9	8	7	4	1	9
1	9	4	6	5	2	7	6	8
7	8	2	9	1	6	9	4	8
5	8	6	4	7	8	9	2	1
4	1	8	7	9	6	8	9	2
6	9	9	2	4	1	8	6	7
8	2	7	8	6	5	1	9	4

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



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		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
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Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	4.375	0	3.625	0	J/A
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	4.375	0.25	3.75	0	J/A
BRINKS Financial Group	(800) 785-4755	4.125	1.375	3.5	0.5	J/A/V/F
Cason Home Loans of Grosse Pointe	(313) 794-9001	4.375	0	3.625	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.125	1.375	3.625	0.625	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4.625	0	4	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.375	0	3.75	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	4.625	0	4.125	0	J/V/F
First Michigan Bank	(248) 498-2824	4.625	0	3.875	0	J/V/F
First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.5	0	4	0	F
Gold Star Mortgage	(800) 784-1074	4.25	0.625	3.75	0	J/A/V/F
Golden Rule Mortgage	(800) 991-9922	4.375	0	3.75	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	4.625	0	4	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	4.25	0.625	3.75	0	J/A/V/F

Above information available as of 11/24/10 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculations & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com. Key to "Other" Column - J = Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported. All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032 / © 2010 Residential Mortgage Consultants, Inc., All Rights Reserved

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Employment
Business Services

Help Wanted-General 5000

ALARM TECHNICIAN
 A locally owned and operated Alarm company is seeking qualified individual to join our service and installation team. The candidate must have a minimum of 2-3 yrs. exp. in the installation and servicing of alarm, CCTV, and access control systems.
Fax or email resume: 734-421-0099 secdes@flash.net
 No direct calls please.

Observer & Eccentric Classifieds
 Just a quick call away.....
1-800-570-SELL

Help Wanted-General 5000

All Students/Others
Holiday Help
 \$16.25 base-appt, flex sched. Customer sales/service. Conditions apply, all ages 17+. **Call Now! 248-426-4405**

ANIMAL HOSPITAL
 In Westland area, seeks person to manage receptionist desk & assist Veterinarian. Send resume: pets1015@yahoo.com

APPLY NOW FACTORY OUTLET \$20.00 TO START
 National manufacturer has a locally owned factory outlet. No layoffs. **10 FT PERM. POSITIONS** No experience needed. People skills a plus! Training provided. If you are a hard worker, dependable, can start work immediately, and can follow specific directions, call **Monday 9am-5pm ONLY** for office location at 734-259-6640, ask for personnel dept. **All who apply must pass drug screening and background check!**

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Help Wanted-General 5000

Banking



needs friendly service oriented individuals to work Part-Time

Hiring for Detroit area branch locations. Job duties include: cash handling and product sales. Goal oriented sales experience required.

Plan now for the New Year!

Next class scheduled for January 2011
 Mandatory paid training.

Must be available to work Mon-Fri. 9:15am-6:30pm Saturday 9:15am-2:30pm

Complete job description and locations available at: **dfcufinancial.com**
 See Member Relations Representative-PT

Accepting applications through Friday, December 10, 2010

Apply in person at any DFCU Financial Branch Office

Credit record in good standing required

Equal Opportunity Employer



Help Wanted-General 5000

Business Development Assistant

Excellent written and telephone skills. Candidate will be responsible for extensive direct calling, setting appointments, supporting marketing campaigns, and performing marketing research. Part-time position; approximately 20 hrs. per week. Please fax resume to 248-848-1813, or e-mail to smz@structuretec.com

COLLECTOR

For Plymouth law firm. Legal collection experience preferred. **Fax or email resume: (734) 254-1025 mszuba@szubalaw.com**
 Attention: Hiring Partner

CONSTRUCTION (WILL TRAIN) \$16/hr >Call (313) 292-9300<
 Weatherize homes in foreclosure w/ doors & windows. E1 \$185 #108,121 LOCAL Co.

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Cooking experience plus 1 year minimum supervisory experience. Experience working with senior citizens preferred. Please email resume to: ahwestland1@comcast.net or fax to: 734-326-3802.

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Work with developmentally disabled adults. Western Wayne area. (734) 524-7731

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PT positions available. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. **Starting \$7.61/hr.**

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Train for high paying Aviation Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance (877) 891-2281.

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Help Wanted-General 5000

DRIVER/SALES

\$575-\$975/per wk. Training Provided. Valid Driver's License required. **Call between 10am-2pm. (248) 471-5200**

DRIVERS

Exp'd. for transportation co. Full/Part-Time. All Shifts. Will drive taxi cabs, sedans & vans. Good driving record, clean criminal history, professional attitude & appearance required. Apply in person. On the spot interviews: **13420 Wayne Rd., Livonia.**

DUNKIN DONUTS/BASKIN ROBBINS

Now Hiring-All Positions including cake decorators. Please send inquires to: ddbfrford@yahoo.com

ESTIMATOR For Demolition Co.

Min. of 5 yrs exp req'd. Email Resume to: katrena@farrowgroupinc.com
 No phone calls please!

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-\$13/hr Pd Vacation/Holidays **WILLING TO TRAIN**
Call (313)292-9300 Pack, tag, label, boxes on a fast paced line! Men Women Welcome Emp-1 \$185 Jt/78

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Full + Part-time + Seasonal Start up to \$14 Exp up to \$21 Benefits - Bonus - No Nights! **734-525-3200 Fax 525-1443 jobs@jewelryexchange.com**

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MISCELLANEOUS

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TO PLACE YOUR AD: 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-General 5000

Machine Shop Programmer

Engine Manufacturer is seeking a full time skilled Machine Shop Programmer for our Plymouth facility.

Successful applicant must have five years experience minimum in programming CNC machines for high speed 5 axis continual cutter contact machining. The five years experience to date from present day back to 2005 or beyond.

Applicant to be responsible for programming appropriate CNC machines for 2 thru 5 axis machining. This position to involve programming other limor machines.

Must master skill to operate CAMplete software, and be able to apply high level math skills to overcome difficult work off set variables.

Knowledgeable in work holding, jigg, fixturing, choices of avail tooling etc. Able to create Catia models, and write machine code programs from Catia models.

Possess a working knowledge of inspection requirements & guide projects through the CMM inspection dept.

Gain a deep knowledge of available cutting tools & how to apply them. Must be willing to make ones self available to "see projects through".

Must follow laid down guidelines of program structure. Must maintain records of programs & back them up on the server.

Tooning (cutting) lists (type of cutter) to be maintained. Tooning function (type & duty) & relative program association to be shown on list as stated above.

RECEPTIONIST

Needed full time, Seasonal. January thru April for Northville CPA firm. Must have exc communication & customer service skills. Please email resume to: Sheree@scottlowerycpa.com

SECRETARIAL PART-TIME

Typing, computer, math, spreadsheets. **Email resume: calawan@sbgglobal.net**

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Call our office! Challenging, stimulating position for intelligent, experienced assistant with take-charge personality. Excellent work environment and salary. **(248) 357-3100**

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Experience dental assistant, Northville office. Fax resume to: 248-349-4849

Help Wanted-General 5000

MECHANICS - IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

For Milford gravel train company. Day and afternoon shifts available. **Call: 248-332-5887 or email: dlaming@loustrucking.com**

PLUMBERS/ DRAIN CLEANERS

For service co. Fully exp'd. Good driving record. **Call: 248-557-7660 or Fax: 586-786-6200**

PROJECT ENGINEER

Southfield full-time Seeking engineer capable of following projects through all phases. BS in Mech or Elec Eng. with 2-4 years min. of hands-on engineering exp. in a manufacturing environment. Ideal person will be capable of basic to midlevel mech, elec, pneu, hyd design/develop. CAD exp necessary. **Please send resume and cover letter to: engposad@gmail.com**

WAREHOUSE \$14+/hr & Full Benefits & 401K

Pack catalog orders for shipments E1 \$185 J#T93 **CALL 313.292.9300**

Help Wanted-Office Clerical 5020

RECEPTIONIST

Needed full time, Seasonal. January thru April for Northville CPA firm. Must have exc communication & customer service skills. Please email resume to: Sheree@scottlowerycpa.com

SECRETARIAL PART-TIME

Typing, computer, math, spreadsheets. **Email resume: calawan@sbgglobal.net**

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Call our office! Challenging, stimulating position for intelligent, experienced assistant with take-charge personality. Excellent work environment and salary. **(248) 357-3100**

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Experience dental assistant, Northville office. Fax resume to: 248-349-4849

NEWSPAPER POLICY

All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department, Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc. 724983 3-31-72) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads) the first time it appears and reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

CE08649612

Help Wanted-Dental 5040

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Full-Time. Experienced. Needed for Southfield dental office. **Fax resume to: (248) 304-1387**

Help Wanted-Medical 5000

OFFICE MANAGER/ MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Family practice in Novi. Experience necessary. Part-time position. **Fax resume to: (248) 960-9145**

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NEW BEETLE IS NEXT STEP IN VOLKSWAGEN'S U.S. SURGE

Advertising Feature

CAReport



By Dale Buss

Volkswagen is up to something big. Executives of Europe's biggest automaker have been talking for several months, openly, about their intention to overtake Toyota as the world's largest carmaker by volume.

And they've been backing that up with move after move, ranging from their ongoing re-entry into automotive production in the United States to a recent decision to go all out on new capital spending to expand and upgrade their manufacturing base in Germany.

In this country, Volkswagen has said it intends to triple sales to 800,000 units by 2018 and this week started what Edmunds.com senior editor Bill Visnic said is "likely to be a concerted and ongoing assault into the heart of American mainstream marketing" via a promotional tie-in with The Oprah Winfrey Show.

On the broadcast November 22, Volkswagen offered the first company-sanctioned glimpse at the next-generation Beetle that launches next fall.

And typical for Oprah's annual "Favorite Things" episode, VW gave away a 2012 Beetle to each of the 275 audience members in attendance. The company also is picking up the tab for all applicable taxes and fees,

with audience members able to take delivery sometime around when the all-new 2012 Beetle hits U.S. showrooms next year.

Oprah's Favorite Things giveaway is a telling move into the mainstream of the nation's consumer marketing, Visnic said, a must-do if the company is to start selling in the kind of high volumes that bring it to parity with thesecond tier of the U.S. market's Big 7 players, including Honda, Nissan and Chrysler.

Becoming a consistent presence in the psyche of the American buyer is the same reason VW reputedly is considering a place in NASCAR, of all things.

"The U.S. is very much the focus of the next-generation Beetle," said Volkswagen of America President and CEO Jonathan Browning on a conference call with reporters

"Oprah Winfrey and the Volkswagen Beetle are two American icons, so when the 'Oprah' show approached us with this incredible opportunity to share her Beetle experience with deserving viewers, we instantly wanted to be a part of it," Browning added in a release.

The Volkswagen surely was a coup for Winfrey. As Winfrey's website noted, "For only the second time in



Oprah Winfrey "reveals" the 2012 New Beetle on her Favorite Things show before Thanksgiving.

Volkswagen history, the iconic Beetle has been totally redesigned for 2012, inside and out. The project is so top secret, the only prototype of its kind was flown to Harpo Studios from Germany. No one outside of VW has seen the new Beetle, but Oprah was given special permission."

She commented on-air: "This is one powerful, sophisticated, sexy Beetle. All of you in this audience will be the first people in the world to own one when it makes its debut next year!"

But the only thing Volkswagen showed on the Oprah telecast was a simple profile of the vehicle's roofline, one that indicates a Beetle that will become more elongated and lower, using a rear window and declinate more reminiscent of the earliest Type 1 models and with influences of the Karmann Ghia sports car.

It was Oprah's 25th and final season in syndication - she moves to her own Oprah Winfrey Network next year - and her annual Favorite Things giftathon is an almost automatic guarantee of a sales home run, as Visnic noted. However, sales later were underwhelming after General Motors Co.'s former Pontiac G6 was the subject of a giveaway to

all 276 audience members when Oprah launched a new season in September, 2004.

Volkswagen noted that Oprah currently owns a New Beetle (the first generation's been on sale now for 12 years) and "asked Volkswagen to help her recognize the time, talents and contributions of select viewers by giving them one of her favorite things, a Volkswagen Beetle."

Volkswagen officials wouldn't give much extra information except to say that the 2012 Beetle will be officially unveiled next spring, that U.S. models will "offer" the popular, performance-oriented 2-liter turbocharged 4-cylinder as well as the TDI direct-injection turbodiesel; and that the car's components will a dual exhaust, 19-inch wheels and a sport seats, plus the now-expected arsenal of tech features such as Bluetooth hands-free connectivity.

The car will be built in VW's Puebla, Mexico, assembly plant and sold globally under a "highly coordinated" launch that sees the U.S. get the car presumably before or at the same time as Europe and other major markets.

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hometown life

PERFECT PARTIES
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December 2010

woman

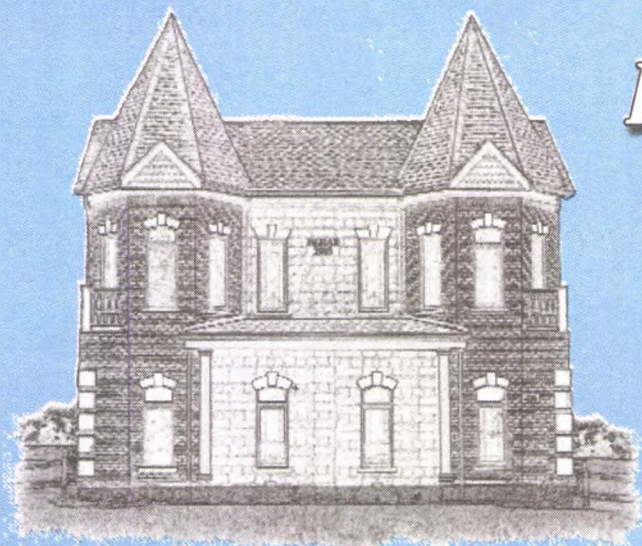
*Giftable
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Food gifts: Personal, fun, convenient, scrumptious, page 8

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Celebrate and enjoy this season of giving

The 'C' in celebrating has taken on a whole new meaning this holiday season. You've probably noticed a heightened interest, indeed passion, in attending to our local community, people up and down the street, who for years have sat in the next pew at church or the next



Susan Rosiek

table in the coffee shop. Small things like a smile or friendly nod of recognition while passing on the street have taken on a deeper significance in these troubled economic times.

But there is much more we can do to help others overcome the emotional rollercoaster that many go through during this season of joy.

Contributing writer Linda Chomin shows us how we can all make a difference in our communities in this edition of *Hometown Life Woman*.

Whether you know someone who is experiencing financial difficulties, lost a loved one, in a strained relationship or are just having a

tough time of personally coping, Chomin's story recommends groups and services we can use to transform that helpless feeling into constructive action. She talked with local groups and agencies that are ready to help and reach out to those in need. If you, or someone you know, needs help to handle the holidays, be sure to read this story.

We also urge you to celebrate the season by patronizing your community main street merchants. For most merchants, holiday sales make the difference between success or failure, between keeping their doors open to serve you in the future or going dark. We need our main street merchants to remain healthy and this is something over which we have a direct impact.

Another way to celebrate is making those holiday party preparations more fun and far less stressful. Contributing writer Sally Rummel offers up some local resources to help plan the perfect party the easy way.

And be sure to celebrate you by taking some to pamper yourself. Read our story on holiday nails. Local nail salon owners

offer advice on how to achieve a special look for holiday parties. Nothing completes a holiday outfit like perfectly polished nails. A manicure or pedicure are great gifts if you are someone's secret Santa.

This month's *Hometown Life Woman* is designed to help you enjoy and cope with the holidays. Look inside for gift ideas, fashion tips and tech gadgets for busy moms, grandparents and professionals, along with quick and easy holiday recipes.

Last, but not least, may this holiday season find you grateful for your many blessings and ready to share with others.

Come back in January, when *Hometown Life Woman* presents — A New Year, A New You. Read about diet, exercise and other health tips to make 2011 a year of rejuvenation and invigoration.

Until then, take time to enjoy family and friends this holiday season!

Susan Rosiek
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SHOP LOCAL



An eco-friendly tea set from Baby Bliss in Northville.

Gifts for the season

By Mary Quinley
 Contributing Writer

Santa's coming. And there's no better time than the present to venture out and finish shopping. Surely, you'll find a potpourri of gifts from Shop Local stores that will satisfy even the hardest-to-please person on your list. So what are you waiting for? Grab those wish lists — don't forget your own — and check out this sampling of shops.

Spontaneous sing-alongs and happy faces will light up any room when the Carols of Christmas clock (\$19.99 through Dec. 31), from **Northville Watch and Clock**, plays "Jingle Bells," "Joy to the World" and other holiday hits each hour. For the traditionalist on your list, wrap a big red ribbon around a grandfather clock (\$999 and up). It will certainly add a touch of warmth and character to any home. Choose from the store's two dozen or so mechanical wonders.



The Carols of Christmas clock is available at Northville Watch and Clock.

If you have a friend who is tired of squirrels messing with the bird feeders in her yard, surprise her with a Droll Yankee Whipper (\$110) from **Backyard Birds in downtown Plymouth**. The collapsible anti-squirrel feeder, made in the United States, safely discourages active critters while encouraging small songbirds and cardinals to feed. Bonus: the sleek clear tube, with royal blue trim, provides attractive garden art.



Baby Bliss in Northville carries a line of Green Toys — including fire trucks.

Think environment when you check out the line of Green Toys™ at **Baby Bliss in Northville**. The fire truck (\$25), sans metal axles and constructed from 100 percent recycled plastic milk containers, delights youngsters with its pivoting, 360-degree rotating ladder. Imagine sipping "pretend" tea from a pastel-colored tea cup with your pint-sized friends, and chatting about the eco-friendly materials that were used to make the 17-piece tea set (\$25).

Pick up Sweet Treats (\$25), a set of four dessert plates by Rebecca Moses, at **Macy's Gift Shop in Westland Shopping Center or Twelve Oaks in Novi**. These stylish black and white plates, adorned with a shadow motif, make a great gift for a special hostess in your life. Need a little something extra? Consider matching candlesticks with holders (\$25); a set of three olive dishes with tray (\$24); or, a snow globe (\$20).



Motawi Christmas tiles from the Red Twig Gallery in Plymouth.

They're fun, festive, can be worn with a T-shirt or dressy garb, and, seriously, you'll need to purchase one for yourself. Made from vintage and estate jewelry, the Peacock & Pearl necklaces (\$56 plus) from **Red Twig Gallery in Plymouth's Old Village**, appeal to all ages. Another hot seller: Motawi hand crafted art tiles (\$15 to \$100) with designs inspired by art, nature and architecture. All gallery merchandise is made in Michigan. And that's a good thing.

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SHOP LOCAL

Holiday fashion

By Mary Quinley
Contributing Writer

Not too sure “what’s hot” and “what’s not” to wear during the festive holiday season? No worries. Whether you’re off to savor lunch with your soul-mate, shop, swap Christmas cookies with friends, or, decide to laze around on the couch with a good book, you’ll feel glamorous with these Shop Local suggestions.

Any occasion is a good one to slip on a versatile faux fur vest from **Van Dam's boutique in downtown Northville**. This great alternative to a heavy coat keeps your core toasty warm and frees your arms. Light-weight zebra print vests (\$148), and, thick, rich-looking black or white vests (\$125), all with zippers and collars, look and feel like the real thing.

Hats are hot at **Eclectic Attic in downtown Plymouth**. There's the cool cabbie (\$15-\$18), a vintage '60s, wool cap with brim, that's available in a rainbow of bright reds, jeweled purples and neutral tones. The fun, haughty cloche, a '20s- inspired close-to-the-skull-low-on-the-brow knit hat (\$15-25), also comes in colorful hues and often with a pretty felt-like flower attached to the side. Be sure to browse the assortment of circular, thick knit head wraps (\$10-\$12) that measure three to four inches wide. Raspberry and lime are popular shades.

Sweet dreams begin with P.J. Salvage loungewear (\$37 to \$80 per item) at **Uptown Threads in Milford**. Pick up a pair of pretty-in-pink pajamas for yourself; a plaid nightshirt for your sis; or, a polka dot lush robe for a friend. Some gals don the fashionable trendy tops and, rather than hit the sack, they slip on a pair of jeans or leggings and head out to run errands. Tops and bottoms are interchangeable.

Diamonds encircle a center stone — topaz, garnet, sapphire or any other gem of your choice — on the popular halo rings at **Plymouth Jewelry & Gifts, Inc. in Plymouth's Old Village**. Bring in the rubies from your grandmother's broken ring or other family gems; select some from the store's vast inventory; or, combine the two options. A jeweler will create an exquisite halo ring (\$2,000 to \$20,000) customized to your own likeness and uniqueness.

Lugging a big purse around is just too much to handle some days. Solution: the wristlet. Check out a metallic Coach Madison Op Art Wristlet (\$48) at **Parisian in Livonia**. It's an ideal accessory to carry ID, credit cards and favorite lipstick. The versatile mini-bag, made of an intricately woven fabric with leather trim, also comes in khaki and black. Depending on your mood, the wristlet strap can be converted to a handle. Very cool indeed.



A zebra print, faux fur vest from Van Dam's boutique in Northville.



Cabbie hats are available at Eclectic Attic in downtown Plymouth.



Diamonds encircle a sapphire on the popular halo rings at Plymouth Jewelry & Gifts, Inc.



A metallic Coach Madison Op Art Wristlet available at Parisian in Livonia.

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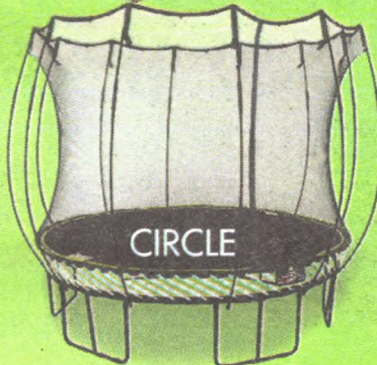
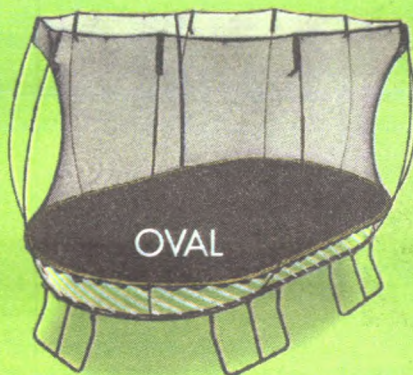
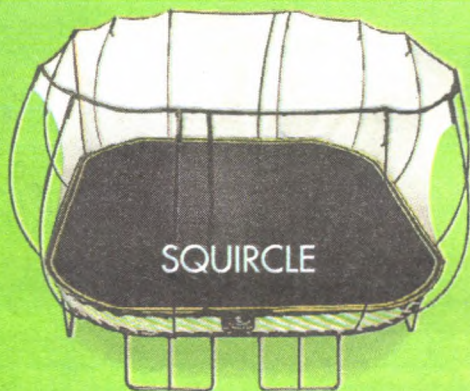


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SHOP LOCAL

Nothing says love better than a holiday food basket

By Sally Rummel
Contributing Writer

There's nothing more personal than a holiday gift basket of specialty foods given with love to a family member or close friend — filled with delicious tastes that have been hand-selected especially for them.

Whether your gift recipient has a "sweet tooth" for chocolates or baked goods, or you have more gourmet specialty food items in mind, there is a gift basket that can be custom made for him or her to fit any price range and to suit every taste.

The personalization and convenience of gift baskets make them a very popular gift for the holidays — eliminating all the "fuss" of wrapping and sending gifts, while presenting a gift that will be appreciated for its thoughtfulness.

Especially popular this year are baskets with Michigan-made products, according to Stella Delap of Basket Kreations, who has been custom creating gift baskets for 21 years — the last 11 in downtown Plymouth.

"We send Michigan-made baskets to people who have moved from the area, filled with foods that remind them of home," said Delap, whose business specializes in using 95 percent Michigan-made foods. Cherry Republic, Benjamin Twiggs, Brownwood Farms, Kowalski Sausages, Great American Pretzel Co., Sanders and Morley are just a few of the Michigan companies that are represented in her custom-made baskets.

Their most popular baskets are "snack baskets" in any price range, filled with upscale versions of everyday snacks — from tortilla chips and salsa to cookies, chocolates, cheese and crackers and sausage.

Other gift packages may actually create a food experience that can be sent with love. Jeff Zak Catering in Plymouth offers a small breakfast gift basket, one omelet chef, omelet "fixins" for 20 people starting at \$188, or a dinner box "from soup to nuts" and wine. A "chef's choice" appetizer, salad, entree, sides, dessert and a "special surprise" start at \$55 per person. "Add a chef for \$100 and be treated like royalty while they cook and serve you," said Zak.

For people who love sweets — and who



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE REYNOLDS PHOTOGRAPHY

Stella Delap of Basket Kreations in Plymouth is proud that about 95 percent of the food products that go into holiday gift baskets are made in Michigan.

doesn't? — the opportunities are practically endless for sending a "sweet treat" as a holiday gift. Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland offers gifts baskets of coffee-cakes, Texas-sized muffins, butter cookies, gourmet bars and fruit breads — all available by ordering online.

Another "sweet" holiday idea is a gift basket filled with old-fashioned candy, reminiscent of memorable Christmases gone-by. "Ribbon candy is really coming back in popularity," said Sandi McGrew, owner of the Candy Trail in Plymouth. "So is 'art candy,' remember the round candies that have a design of a Christmas tree in the middle?"

Her extensive candy selection also includes 21 colors of M&Ms and 24 assort-



Candy Trail in Plymouth offers a festive approach to sweet gift-giving during the holidays with red and green M&Ms that can easily be included into a gift basket.



Whether you're the giver or the lucky recipient, gift baskets stocked with food and wine are a safe bet — and always appreciated.

Please see FOOD GIFTS, 10

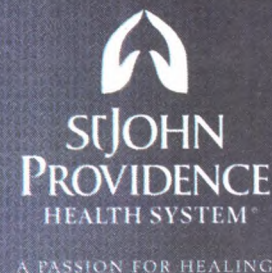


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The result is a new breast that may be similar in density and appearance to a natural breast.

The DIEP Flap procedure can be performed immediately at the time of mastectomy or three to six months following chemotherapy or radiation therapy. The best candidates for DIEP Flap reconstruction are patients who have sufficient fat tissue on the lower abdomen to reconstruct one or both breasts to the desired volume. Surgical time varies between four to 10 hours with a patient hospital stay of about four days. Patients can usually resume normal activities within six weeks.

Lymphedema and Lymph Node Transplantation

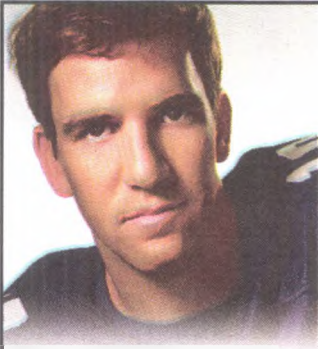
Lymphedema is the swelling of a portion of the body caused by the blockage or absence of lymphatic drainage. Some people are born with this condition and others acquire it from trauma, breast cancer, radiation or other diseases. In the U.S., lymphedema most commonly develops after the removal of the lymph node as part of breast cancer surgery.

Lymph node transplantation moves a small number of lymph nodes from a normal site to the area with lymphedema. This can help relieve symptoms of pain and tightness as well as some of the other problems associated with lymphedema.

Women with breast cancer can resume leading healthy, fulfilling lives after having a mastectomy. Speaking with a surgeon is the first step. For a consultation with Dr. Studinger, call 248-305-8400

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Candy Trail in Plymouth has lots of old-fashioned, sentimental candies, for making a festival holiday basket that will bring back memories of Christmases past.

FOOD GIFTS

FROM PAGE 8

ed flavors of Jelly Belly candies, making it easy to "personalize" a gift of sweets for a favorite friend or relative. "You can stop in and pick out all of your own candies, then we can either ship your basket or deliver it," said McGrew. "We also have baskets that are already made, perfect for a last-minute party gift."

For gift recipients who appreciate fine liquors, wines and beers, these can be appropriately made into baskets with crackers and cheese, sausage.

At Vintage Market in Westland, owner Mark Jarbo and staff will put together custom baskets with popular liquors like vodka and scotch, or wines to suit anyone's taste, then complement the selection with cheeses, salami and fruits. "We'll

ship or deliver baskets just about anywhere," said Jarbo. "We'll also make up turkey baskets for businesses to give out as gifts over the holidays."

Colasanti's Market in Milford has all the makings of a gourmet gift basket, whether you're looking for gourmet meats, cheeses, desserts, breads, specialty foods, or even small gifts to "tuck into" the basket.

As a destination for "foodies" from all over southeastern and mid-Michigan, Colasanti's provides a one-of-a-kind ambiance with a scenic pond on-site and a model train that zooms around the store while you're making your purchases — or you can call ahead and have a basket prepared and shipped for you.

Whether you make up your own basket or have one custom-made as a gift, your recipient will likely be thrilled with the basket that had his or her name all over it, sent with love over the holidays.

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HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

Planning the perfect party

For a listing of local businesses offering services that may help, see Page 38

By Sally Rummel
Contributing Writer

Any event planner or caterer will tell you that the key to hosting a party that people will talk about for weeks afterward is all in the planning.

Just ask Jeff Zak of Jeff Zak Catering in Plymouth and he will tell you that with more than 25 years of experience in planning special events, the No. 1 key to planning a successful party is planning ahead, and not allowing stress to get in the way.

"Don't stress out about the event," advised Zak. "Make foods that you are good at, then go to the grocery store and buy other things, or ask your favorite caterer," he added with a smile.

Zak shares a recipe here for a Decadent Chocolate Holiday Trifle, showing that it's perfectly acceptable to take baking "short-cuts," like using a brownie mix and packaged mousse mix.

"It's not going to make a bit of difference to the success of your party if you made every single thing totally from scratch and stress yourself out doing it," said Zak. "Your friends are going to have a lot more fun at a party when you are less stressed."

If you can envision your party and walk yourself through it in the eyes of a guest, then you can make that exciting party flawless. When the time for the actual party arrives, you and your guests will enjoy the party — and you won't have the stress that befalls many hosts on the day of the event.

Ideally, invitations should be sent out three weeks ahead of time because of the busyness of the season. But even two weeks ahead of time will "catch" most of your guests, especially if they are aware of the date in advance with a phone call or through casual conversation.

If there is a theme to your party, such as "It's a Wonderful Life" or "Winter Wonderland" or even "An Ugly Holiday Sweater Party" (see sidebar), you can use the invitation to set the theme and then coordinate all of your other party plans, decor and foods around this theme.

For a personal touch, use a photo from last year's holiday celebration as the front of the invitation, or send one with your family dressed in holiday garb or outfits that complement your party's theme.

To make an invitation really special, make a custom CD of holiday music or music that goes along with the party theme. Write the party details on the CD label and send in a bubble-wrap envelope.

Finally, stamp each invitation with a holiday

The key to planning a successful party is planning ahead, and not allowing stress to get in the way.



Please see **PARTIES, 15**

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Friday December 3 & Saturday December 4

Fenton Jinglefest 2010

2010 Schedule of Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

5pm **Jingle Jam – Talent Show**
 Middle School Show – Doors Open at 5:00pm. Starts at 5:30pm
 High School Show – Starts at 8:00pm at The Fenton Community Center

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

All Day **Holiday Shopping** Participating Local Businesses
 9am-? **Annual Cookie Walk** at Fenton United Methodist Church
 10am **Tree Decorating** at Bush Park
 10am-4pm **Santa Paw Pictures** Front of the Fenton Community Center (outside)
 10am-12 Noon **Letters to Santa** at Visions in Motion Dance Studio
 10am-9pm **10,000 Villages** at Presbyterian Church
 11am-2pm **Local Author Gary Finn** at Fenton's Open Book Store
 11am-5pm **Santa Cafe** Lunch prepared by Luigi's of Fenton at Fenton Community Center
 11am-5pm **Christmas Market** at Fenton Community Center
 12Noon-3pm **Kids' Activities** at Fenton United Methodist Church
 12Noon-3pm **Family Christmas Crafts** at Fenton United Methodist Church
 12Noon-9pm **Almond Roasting** in front of Fenton Museum
 1pm-4pm **Entertainment** at Fenton United Methodist Church
 1pm-4pm **Ice Sculptures** in front of the Fenton Community Center
 1pm-6pm **Shuttle Service** provided by Caretel Inns of Linden
 Stops: Fenton Community Center, Dibbleville, Ecelections, and Serendipity Day Spa
 3pm-6pm **Free Handwaxing** provided by Retreat Hair Salon at the Fenton Community Center
 5pm **JingleJog** Registration: 3:45pm-4:45pm at The Fenton Community Center,
 Race Starts at 5:00pm in front of City Hall
 4pm-9pm **S'mores** in front of the Fenton Community Center
 5pm-7:30pm **Popcorn over the Fire** in front of the Fenton Community Center
 6pm **Holiday Lighted Parade** Downtown Fenton
Santa Coming to Town at the end of the parade by Equine Sports
 6pm-9pm **Santa Pictures** After the parade at The Fenton Community Center
 7pm-8:30pm **Chautauqua Express Concert** at The Fenton Community Center
 7pm **Winter Beer Release** at Fenton Winery and Brewery
Concessions all day long outside provided by Snacks to Go and Mike's Concessions

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For more information go to
fentonchamber.org cityoffenton.org slpr.net



Decadent Chocolate Holiday Trifle

CHOCOLATE HOLIDAY TRIFLE

- Recipe courtesy of Jeff Zak Catering in Plymouth

Ingredients:

1 pkg. dark chocolate brownie mix (21-1/2 oz), plus ingredients needed to prepare brownies
 2 pkgs. dark chocolate mousse mix (2 oz each),
 plus ingredients needed to prepare chocolate mousse
 1 1/2 oz. pkg. of toffee pieces, or Heath Bars coarsely chopped
 1 1/2 oz. container whipped topping
 Strawberries or raspberries, optional
 Mint leaves, optional

Method:

Prepare the brownies according to package directions. Cool.
 Poke holes in brownies while still in pan. Brush brownies with chocolate or coffee liqueur as desired. Make sure brownies soak in flavor. Crumble brownies in coarse pieces.

Meanwhile, prepare chocolate mousse mixes together according to package directions, except do not chill. Divide the mousse in half. Place half of mousse in the bottom of a trifle bowl as the first layer of the chocolate trifle. Top chocolate mousse layer with half of the crumbled, soaked brownie pieces.

Spread half of the whipped topping on top of the brownie layer. Sprinkle whipped topping with toffee pieces.

Place the rest of the chocolate mousse on top of the toffee pieces. Add the rest of the brownie crumbles. Top off with the remaining whipped topping. Add a final sprinkling of toffee pieces, or top with sliced strawberries or raspberries.

Garnish with mint leaves if desired. Place the chocolate trifle in the refrigerator for several hours or overnight to chill.



Merry fun: Throw an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party

Throwing an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party is easy and fun. It's a theme that everyone can identify with and can provide a lot of merriment and laughter to the event.

Of course, it's easy to come up with an invitation for an Ugly Christmas Sweater Party — just take photos of people wearing a few “ugly” examples, or find some ugly mittens to use for invites.

And it's not hard to find an ugly sweater to wear to the party. Think Goodwill, Salvation Army or raid your mother or grandmother's closet (with her permission, of course!).

For easy food ideas, buy some pre-made

refrigerated sugar cookie dough and cut-out cookies in the shape of sweaters. Bake these cookies before guests arrive. Put out an assortment of cookie decorating materials and ask each guest to decorate an “ugly sweater” cookie for a contest. Whoever decorates the ugliest sweater cookie wins a prize.

Guests can vote for the ugliest sweater and that can be the “prize” that has to be worn by someone at the party next year. Taking photos can be a very fun element of the party, too.

Read more about Ugly Christmas Sweater Party: A Funky New Holiday Phenomenon at www.suite101.com.

PARTIES

FROM PAGE 12

stamp to coordinate with the invitation for a very “pulled together” custom look. Now back to the basics, the invitation should include:

- The starting and ending time of your party.
- Whether food being served is “light holiday fare” or a traditional sit-down dinner.
- Directions to the party.
- RSVP information, either for everyone to respond with a reply or “regrets only.”

As soon as the invitations are hand-addressed, stamped and mailed, it's time to choose a menu based on the type of party you have in mind. Is it a casual “appetizer and drinks” party or a more formal sit-down event?

Either way, it's wise to make as many menu items as you can ahead of time, freezing them up to several weeks in advance. Parties aren't the time to try new recipes — pull out some “tried and true” favorites that guests will be sure to enjoy and that you know how to make well.

If it's an informal affair, serving mostly “finger foods” will make a lot less work for the host. If dishes are being served that require

dinnerware, make sure there is seating for guests to sit down and enjoy them.

Another point to remember is the “traffic flow” in your home. The bar should be placed close to ice and water, and trays of appetizers can be placed on side tables and buffets throughout the entertainment area. Chairs should be available for at least half of the guests at one time, according to etiquette experts. Don't forget to place trash cans inconspicuously at places where guests will be doing most of the eating and drinking.

Your party date has finally arrived. Set holiday music on low as a pleasant backdrop to conversation and laughter. Light candles all around the house — in safe places, or use flameless candles — for ambiance and holiday fragrances. Make sure there are guest towels in the bathroom and use a candle to make even the bathroom appear festive.

Have a special place set aside for coats and purses. Be sure to introduce guests when they arrive so they can begin conversations on some common ground.

Make it a point to stay out of the kitchen as much as possible and enjoy your own party. Make sure and take pictures for a special invitation to be used for next year's event!

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Holidays can bring on the blues but there's help nearby

By Linda Ann Chomin
Contributing Writer

The holidays are a time for family and fun but sadness sometimes accompanies the memories.

Emotions associated with the death of a loved one, loss of a job, strained relationships, and financial difficulties intensify at this time of year.

The gaiety of the season can bring on momentary periods of sadness often eased with the help of families and friends. Lingering tears and changes in sleeping and eating patterns, however, can be symptoms of depression and require treatment from a professional.

For most of us, though, Dr. Debra Hollander says, it's time to stop and breathe. The holidays naturally evoke feelings of stress with all there is to do. Her advice is to "take time for your self. Make sure to eat, sleep, exercise, and avoid your shoulders," especially unrealistic expectations that call for "burning the candle at both ends. Be able to say no."

FEELING OVERWHELMED

"With holidays coming up people are feeling overwhelmed," said Hollander, a psychiatrist and medical director for Behavioral Medicine for St. John Health System and chair of Behavioral Medicine at Providence and Providence Park hospitals in Southfield and Novi.

"A number of my patients have relationship issues they can avoid, but the holidays come around and it's right in your face. Finance issues come up. We have made Christmas about purchasing gifts and lost the meaning of ritual behind what the holidays are about."

Hollander suggests being creative. Volunteer.

"Families go to soup kitchens," said Hollander of West Bloomfield. "Even if not employed, you can give to those less fortunate than you. Try to bring meaning back into the holiday."

If family is spread out across the country, use Skype to include them in the celebration.

"I like things quieter and more intimate. Part of it is knowing who

you are, knowing what honors your family and you," said Hollander, who plans to visit her daughter in California.

Memories of unpleasant childhood holidays stir up problems in some of her adult patients.

"Parents wind up getting stressed, get more irritable," said Hollander. "They may be grieving the loss of a parent, or are military families with family members overseas. It's important to acknowledge how we feel. If feeling lonely, reach out. Call a friend. Make plans with someone you like."

DEALING WITH LOSS

Loss is one of the biggest issues, someone who was really important to them, mom, dad, a loved one, child.

Loss of a loved one is never easy. Support groups, workshops, and a "Blues Christmas" prayer service are a few ways to ease the pain. Throughout the year Angela Hospice in Livonia and New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville offer ongoing support groups.

"All of our workshops include a night about holidays and special days and recognizes someone who is grieving will have a difficulty during these times," said John O'Shaughnessy, director of Fund Development. "Holidays represent fun times and happy memories. We give people tools to get through the holidays, give them permission to mourn. Holidays can be busy times. When you're grieving, take time to grieve. It's OK to mourn, OK to cry. You don't have to put on a happy face. That would be too much to ask. Choose to be you."

O'Shaughnessy suggests "doing things a little differently and communicating this to family and friends. Choose to honor a loved one. It can be as simple as lighting a candle each night. It's important to talk about your love one. When someone dies, it's the No. 1 stressor in life. Don't let other people tell you how to mourn."

When pastor Paul Stunkel's first wife died in December 1984 he had support from his family. On

Please see **BLUES**, 18



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BLUES

FROM PAGE 16

Wednesday, Dec. 15, a "Blue Christmas" service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia is meant for those struggling through the holidays whether grieving the loss of a loved one or job. Candles will be lit so every person who chooses can name the loss and reflect and hopefully have a sense that they're not alone.

"At Christmas things get hard on us especially if it's the first Christmas and you imagine the family dinner and the chair is going to be empty," said Stunkel, who lived in Pennsylvania at the time. "I had young children. They and I managed to get through Christmas. Not everybody has that support structure of family. Even if they do, it may not be enough."

PRAYER SERVICE

All are welcome to attend the prayer service regardless of denomination or beliefs.

"If you lost your job, life will not feel as celebrative as it might have. They're grieving but don't talk about job loss as grieving. It's about loss of any kind," said Stunkel. "It's for anyone who has the sense that joy has leaked out of their celebration even if they don't believe in God. It will be an opportunity to acknowledge to themselves that they're grieving. It gives us a place to remember them and be grateful. We have folks who have been trained to listen to sit and listen after the service."

That first Christmas, Stunkel bought plane tickets and flew the family to Oklahoma to be with his in-laws.

"Somehow we huddled together and muddled through, and there were tears," said Stunkel. "For adults, we figure out what we need to do, go to counseling, see a pastor. The children were different. Each of my children grieved in different ways."

Angela Hospice is presenting a Children's Workshop Sunday, Dec. 5, for ages 5-12 who experienced a loss in their life. Children are asked to bring special objects of their loved ones to decorate a wreath.

"We talk about the loss. It's a nice therapeutic activity," said Rebecca DeRaud, Social Work and Bereavement manager.

It's important for all ages to take the time to grieve.

"When people are grieving there is no timetable," said DeRaud. "For months, sometimes years, different events and times of year trigger grieving. We live in a death-denying culture. We're very well-intended, but it's hard for us to look at someone sad. We tell them they need to move on. That's not helpful at all for people who are grieving. They need to step back and make decisions healthy for them. It's time to nurture themselves."

For some, it means making changes, but not always.

"People who are grieving often times don't want to be around all the hoopla. They're in a very different place, different journey," said DeRaud. "Prioritize what is

LOCAL GROUPS OFFER HELP

Angela Hospice
www.angelahospice.org
(734) 464-7810

Children's Holiday Workshop 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia. Children (ages 5-12) create a wreath to honor the memory of a loved one. Pizza, punch, and cookies served to the children and parents/guardians.

Free, but reservations required as space is limited. Call Sally Loughrin at (734) 464-2683.

For information on bereavement programs offered free to the community, visit www.AskForAngela.com.

New Hope Center for Grief Support
www.newhopecenter.net
(248) 348-0115

Holiday Workshop Monday, Dec. 6, at Ward Church, Six Mile and Haggerty, Room C319, Northville. Sponsored by Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church and Single Point Ministries, (248) 374-5966. Registration for seminars not required.

Eight-week workshops on grief begin Feb. 28, at Ward Church, call Barb at (248) 374-5943 or register online starting in January at www.wardchurch.org/griefsupport, and 7 p.m. Feb. 10, at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 661-9191.

Blue Christmas Service

7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. All are welcome to attend. For information, call (734) 422-1470.

The service is designed for those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one, a job, or struggling with the holidays in general. A coffee reception with care ministers follows the service.

important to you. It's about changing your expectations, not lowering your expectations."

Grief support groups can help. Ongoing sessions run year round at Angela Hospice for losses including those of a spouse, child, family member, friend, or death from suicide. Individual and family counseling is also available. All are free.

"It's important to find at least one person they can turn to. That's one reason people love their animals. They're nonjudgmental," said DeRaud. "The main message is the importance of love and accepting yourself and giving yourself the time to grieve. People are creating a new identity, a new normalcy. They can't do in a few days or months."

"If you do feel the level of sadness is more intense, talk to your doctor. Grief and depression look alike but are different."

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Tech Savvy

Giftable gadgets to make your holiday happy!

COVER STORY

By Jon Gunnells
Contributing Writer

Gadgets aren't just for guys anymore. This holiday season, there are many new tech gifts on the shelves for women, including moms, wives, aunts and others.

Here are some tech toys for women:

GPS Men will never ask for directions and women won't need to if they have a new GPS unit. Local mobile audio and video retailers such as Car Tunes, Mickey Shorr, ABC Warehouse and Best Buy sell and install navigation systems in all price ranges.

"We have a few different in-dash units that have plenty of features that can be included from rear-view camera, DVD players, USB flash drive hookups and detachable face plates," Novi ABC Warehouse Installation Specialist Sam Hill said. "There are standalone units and in-dash units that provide lane guidance, weather updates and traffic information. They can even help re-route you to avoid traffic jams."

ABC Warehouse has navigation systems from \$89 to in-dash do-it-all systems on sale for \$899 this holiday season. For female golf fans, they even sell a golf GPS that tells golfers the location of the hole, how many putts they have taken and other notable information. The golf GPS unit is on sale for \$299.

ABC Warehouse sells and installs other mobile gadgets like remote starters. They have models starting at \$97 and other models with built-in alarms and sensors.

GPS If you haven't already, it's time to upgrade from the Polaroid. The Camera Connection in Redford can make that upgrade easy with cameras and accessories for photographers of all skill levels. The Camera Connection will even help you set up and troubleshoot your camera before taking it home.

"We take care of you from rookies to pros," Camera Connection Owner Jim Crosby said.

Crosby's store, a Redford mainstay for 28 years, will have cameras in-stock and on sale throughout the holiday season, including the Nikon D-1300 camera with an interchangeable lens and HD video capabilities.

The Camera Connection also sells point and shoot cameras like the Nikon Coolpix L110, a 12.1-megapixel camera for intermediate users, which is on sale for \$289.

"It's a nice quality bridge camera," Crosby said. "Higher-quality, longer lens and more features than a point and shoot camera for someone who wants really good images, but doesn't want to break the bank for a camera."

The Camera Connection also sells photography accessories from tripods and camera bags to lens cleaning kits, hoods, film for photography classes and even memory cards and memory card readers.



Coolpix

Stocking Stuffers for Under \$50

— Keep that iPod touch protected in style with an iPod touch case from Kate Spade New York. Molded from premium silicone, it protects from bumps and scratches while showing off a bright splash of trendy color (www.store.apple.com).

— Get moving with the lightweight Gosmart Pocket Pedometer from Omron. It counts strides, measures distance, estimates calories burned and can store up to a week's worth of information. It has an activity tracker that monitors specific exercises for a set time and comes in purple, yellow, pink and black (www.gosmartpedometers.com).

— Make your smart phone smarter with add-on lenses for the iPhone. USBFever sells a wide-angle lens, a 2X telephoto lens and a fish-eye lens that attach with a simple magnetic ring (www.usbfever.com).

— Family Features



iPad

Fitbit The newest in fitness technology that most people won't even know about. This portable fitness analyzer tracks everything from your sleep time to calories consumed and calories burned. It clips on to your pocket and tracks every bit of your lifestyle, so you don't have to. The hard part, however, will be finding it. Your best bet may be online. Visit fitbit.com for more information.

Kindle If you keep up with technology, you have likely heard of the Kindle, and the iPad — available at the Apple Store in Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. What you may not know is there are a slew of less expensive e-readers available at a variety of stores across the metro area.

Kohl's department stores have a Pandigital e-Novel 7 in 1 e-reader for \$199 and less expensive e-readers for kids.

Of course, with gadgets the possibilities are nearly limitless, and the gift idea may depend on a person's hobbies. A music fan may want a new MP3 player or karaoke machine, a movie connoisseur may like a new Blue-Ray DVD player. One thing is certain though, tech gifts are hot for the holidays this year.



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More gift ideas — to give or to get

Smarter sound: Have a quieter commute or just tune out the neighbors with Phiaton Noise Cancelling Earphones PS 20 NC. The in-ear headset has noise-blocking technology that maximizes the quality of music from MP3 players while minimizing outside interference. The lightweight earphones use one AAA battery and come with inline volume control and a choice of silicone earbuds (www.phiaton.com).

KEEPING THE GRANDPARENTS

Keep the grandparents up to speed with easy-to-use technology that keeps them connected to the family.

— **Picture this:** Upgrade their family photo collection with a Bluetooth Enabled Digital Picture Frame from Portable USA. It has a 10.4-inch LCD display with 640 x 480 resolution. You can upload new pictures from your phone. In addition to showing pictures, it will play videos, music and text. It has a USB connector and two memory card slots in addition to 256MB of internal memory, and comes with two wood frames (www.amazon.com).

— **Get face time:** If their computer doesn't have a built-in video camera, the compact Microsoft LifeCam VX-500 is ideal. It has a 1.3-megapixel sensor that shoots VGA video and captures twice as much light as other devices, for a much clearer picture. It has a flexible base that lets them adjust the angle, and a built-in mic. It's optimized for Windows Live Messenger, but also works with Skype, AIM and Yahoo Messenger. It comes in three fun colors (www.store.microsoft.com).

TIP THE-TOO IDEAS

Travel junkies and vacationing families need gadgets that will stand up to the rigors of being on the road.

— **Extreme video:** Whether it's on a bicycle's handlebars or strapped to a surfboard, the ATC9K All-Terrain Video Camera from Oregon Scientific can take a hit. It's a durable, shock-resistant unit that captures 5-megapixel stills as well as 1080p HD video. It also has a G-Sensor that tracks measurements for speed, hang time, angle of movement and other

motion stats, and a laser pointer that lets them line the camera up with whatever they want to shoot (www2.oregonscientific.com).

— **Waterproof reading:** Keep the Kindle dry with the M-Edge Guardian Waterproof Case. It will float on the water's surface for hands-free reading. Its custom-molded interior and mounting pads give cushioned support, and it also has flexible sealed cutouts so they can access the controls. As an extra security measure, there's a ring at the bottom of the case so it can be strapped to a lanyard or belt (www.medgestore.com).

WORKING

The number of people working from their homes seems to grow every day. Get your iWorker set up right with these gadgets.

— **Consistent coverage:** Cell phones are essential communication tools for teleworkers, and when they don't get signal, it makes work even more work. The zBoost-SOHO Dual Band Cell Phone Signal Booster supports multiple phones simultaneously and gives them the coverage they need to work through the whole house (up to 3,500 square feet; including air-cards, EDGE and 3G Technology) (www.wi-ex.com).

— **Charge it:** Keep all the essential office gadgets charged up with Energizer's Inductive Charging Station. With two large inductive charging zones that don't require locking the device into a particular position, your iWorker can just set their phone (and two other devices) down and it will get charged up. It has a USB port to allow users to charge additional devices such as cameras or GPS units (www.target.com).

— **Custom caffeine:** No office would be complete without a coffee-maker. The AeroPress Coffee and Espresso Maker from Aerobie lets anyone brew American-style or Espresso-style coffees for use in lattes or cappuccinos. It has a total-immersion system that mixes water and grounds at a moderate temperature, then gentle air pressure pushes the mix into a micro-filter, resulting in a smooth, rich brew in just 30 seconds. Visit www.aerobie.com to find a retailer near you.

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HOLIDAY FOOD



Brown butter sage shortbread

Sugar and spice

Scrumptious ways to make the holidays nice

Bring on the holiday "yum" by using favorite flavors in a whole new way. By combining ingredients that naturally complement each other, you can create dishes that will spice up the holidays for everyone on your guest list.

"As a chef, I always look for new ways to reinvent classic recipes," said Hollywood Chef Paul McCullough, owner of Paul's Kitchen Catering. "Starbucks did just that with their new flavored coffees, Starbucks Natural Fusions. These coffees provide a bright, bold finish to any holiday meal and can add a richness and depth of flavor to any dish that calls for coffee."

Chef McCullough reinvented holiday French toast, turning a more conventional recipe into a beautiful, brunch-worthy Cinnamon Croissant French Toast. To do so, he incorporated Starbucks Natural Fusions, the only coffee that uses natural ingredients such as vanilla, cinnamon and nutmeg, blended right in with the coffee, to create an entirely new experience.

Here are some other ways you can eas-

ily turn unexpected flavor and ingredient combinations into scrumptious ideas for enjoying the sugar and spice of the season:

• **Amazing appetizers:** Put some fun into your finger foods with a blue cheese cheesecake, crostinis with goat cheese and sweet caramelized pears, and brie topped with a warm fig and rosemary sauce.

• **Brighter brunches:** Wake up a tired brunch menu with pumpkin waffles, cappuccino doughnuts or chocolate hazelnut paninis — they'll surprise and satisfy your hungry brunch guests.

• **Savory sweets:** Adding herbs to a sweet dessert makes for a truly sophisticated taste. These Brown Butter Sage Shortbread cookies combine the rich flavor of browned butter with a hint of earthy sage for a uniquely delicious treat. Try other sweet and savory combinations like salted caramels, chili-flavored chocolates or sweet basil and olive oil cakes.

Find out more about Starbucks Natural Fusions at www.starbucks.com/natural-fusions.



Cinnamon Croissant French Toast

CINNAMON CROISSANT FRENCH TOAST

Serves 8

4 croissants cut in half

Egg Mixture:

4 eggs

1/2 cup half and half

1/2 cup Starbucks Natural Fusions Cinnamon brewed double-strength

4 tablespoons salted butter

Topping:

1 cup real maple syrup

1/4 cup brewed Starbucks

Natural Fusions Cinnamon (optional)

2 medium pears, sliced thin

In medium bowl, beat eggs with half and half and coffee. Heat large cast iron or non-stick pan over medium heat. Dip both sides of croissant in egg mixture.

When skillet is hot, add butter and allow to get a little bubbly. Add 4 croissant halves to skillet at a time. Cook about 2 to 2 1/2 minutes until crisp and golden. Flip and cook additional 1/2 minutes on other side. Remove from pan and top with freshly sliced pears.

To add a little kick to your maple syrup, just mix 1 part Starbucks Natural Fusions brewed coffee with 4 parts real maple syrup. Serve warm.

Serve with a cup of Starbucks Natural Fusions Vanilla.

NOTE: To prepare double-strength Starbucks Natural Fusions, brew using 4 tablespoons ground coffee per 6 ounces water.

Recipe courtesy of Chef Paul McCullough

BROWN BUTTER SAGE SHORTBREAD

Makes 20 cookies

8 ounces (2 sticks) unsalted butter

5 teaspoons dried sage leaves, divided

2 teaspoons orange zest

1/2 cup powdered sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

2 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

3 tablespoons sugar

20 small fresh sage leaves (optional)

Melt butter, 4 teaspoons dried sage and orange peel in small sauce pan over medium heat. Stirring, cook until butter begins to brown.

Strain into bowl of stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and allow to cool to room temperature.

Once cool, beat butter for about 1 minute. Add powdered sugar and continue to beat until fluffy and lemony yellow, about 2 minutes, occasionally scraping the sides of bowl. Beat in vanilla.

Whisk together flour and salt. Add flour mixture and mix on low speed, scraping sides if necessary, until flour is just incorporated and dough sticks together when squeezed with fingers.

Using your hands, roll cookie dough into a 10-inch-long log (about 3 inches in diameter). Wrap in plastic wrap and chill in refrigerator for at least one hour.

While dough chills, combine sugar and 1 teaspoon of dried sage leaves in a bowl and press through a strainer to break up the sage. Set aside.

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Once cold, cut the log into twenty 1/2-inch-thick disks. Place disks on parchment-lined cookie sheet. Sprinkle with Sage Sugar. If desired, press a small, fresh sage leaf onto the top of each cookie.

Bake for 15 minutes or until lightly browned around the edges.

Remove from pan and let cool completely on a wire rack. Cookies can be stored at room temperature in airtight container for up to one month.

Serve with Starbucks Natural Fusions Caramel.

Recipe courtesy of Starbucks Coffee

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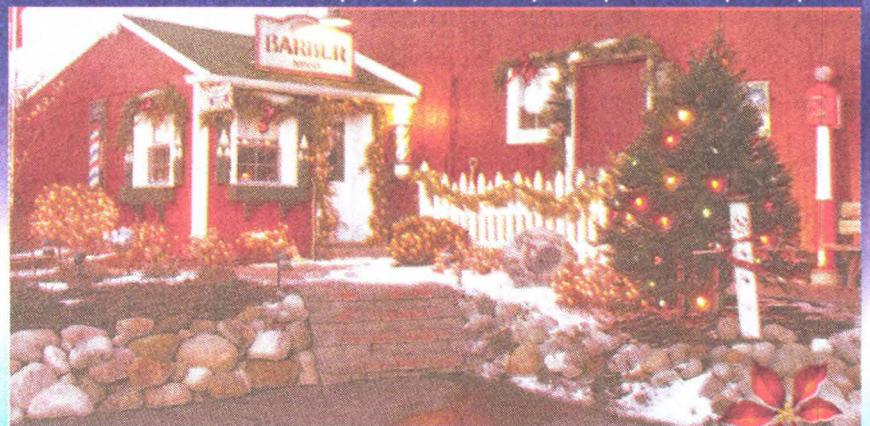
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HOLIDAY FOOD



Mini jarlsberg tarts mini empanadas and mini three cheese balls

Merry Making, Small Plate Style

Going to holiday parties is part of the fun of the season. Hosting a holiday soiree can be just as fun — if you're prepared with some helpful hints and a buffet of scrumptious small-plate appetizers.

SETTING THE SCENE

- Creating seasonal sparkle at the table is easy and it doesn't have to be expensive. Look around at what you already have — a pretty satin sheet can double as a tablecloth or be folded in thirds to become an elegant table runner. Add a few twists of gold or silver ribbon, some table glitter and greenery and you have a beautiful backdrop for your buffet.

- Small plates are a chic — and practical — way to serve appetizers. They're easy for guests to carry and hold just the right amount. If you don't have enough, borrow some from friends and create an eclectic collection.

- Tea lights, tapers, groups of pillars — candles are a great way to create big ambiance on a small budget. Just be sure to use unscented candles around the table so they don't compete with the aroma of your food.

CHOOSING THE MENU

Plan on a mix of hearty and light appetizers. These recipes take advantage of the versatile taste and texture of Jarlsberg cheese. A mild semi-soft cheese made from cow's milk, Jarlsberg has a buttery, rich texture with a mild, nutty flavor that lends itself to all kinds of flavorful bites.

Add in some spiced nuts, marinated olives, fruit and a decadent cheese plate, and you have a small-plate party with plenty of style.

For more recipes to make your holiday entertaining merry, visit www.norseland.com.

CHEESE PLATES 101

A good cheese plate is a simple, yet elegant addition to any party. Here are some tips to help you put together a terrific holiday cheese plate.

- For the best flavor, take cheeses out of the refrigerator 30 to 45 minutes beforehand, leaving them wrapped until you're ready to serve.

- Choose an interesting variety of cheeses. Pick 3 to 5 different cheeses with varied styles and different milks. Label each cheese by name, milk variety and country of origin.

- Fruit helps amplify a cheese's sweetness. Include dried fruits such as cranberries, dates or figs, and fresh fruits like apples, pears, apricots or melon.

- To pick up on cheese's salty notes, include olives, fruit chutneys, toasted nuts or cured meats such as salami or prosciutto.

- In choosing breads or crackers to go with your cheese, make sure the flavors won't overpower the flavors of the cheese.

Get Started: Jarlsberg pairs well with fresh fruit, such as grapes, apple and pears, savory jellies, and pumpernickel bread.

Please see **PLATES, 30**

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HOLIDAY FOOD

Simply delicious holiday

The holidays are filled with time-honored traditions — and none of them are sweeter than the celebratory memories you bake each year in your kitchen. Here are some foolproof tips to make sure this year's baking goes off without a hitch.

- Adding nuts to your baked desserts can take them from ordinary to extraordinary. Toasting the nuts first will intensify their flavors -- just spread chopped or whole nuts on a baking sheet and toast in the oven at 350° F for five to 10 minutes or until golden and fragrant; stir them once during cooking to ensure even toasting. As an added bonus, toasted nuts are less likely to sink to the bottom of your cakes or breads.

- If your recipe calls for "one cup chopped nuts," be sure to chop the nuts before measuring them. On the other hand, if it calls for "one cup nuts, chopped," measure first, then chop.

- Love a decadent chocolate cake, but hate the white residue left by the flour you dusted the pan with? Next time, use cocoa powder. Not only will it look beautiful, but it will add another layer of decadent chocolate flavor.

- Add some quick elegance to cookies, cakes or just about any other dessert with some chocolate morsels and a plastic bag,

Just melt the morsels, put them in the baggie and then snip off a corner of the bag. You can drizzle the chocolate directly onto your desserts, or create swirls and curlycues on wax paper, chill until solid, and then place wherever you want to add visual interest.

- Here's a foolproof method to avoid getting crumbs in the icing when you're decorating cakes: Once they've cooled, cover your cake layers in plastic wrap and refrigerate for half hour before icing.

- Making a pie or pastry? Add some extra flavor to your crust by very finely grinding up some nuts in your food processor and mixing them into your flour.

- Ensure your cupcakes or muffins are all uniform in size by scooping batter into prepared pans with an ice cream scoop.

These chocolate layer crumb bars are a must have during the holidays. They also make great gifts, either hand delivered or packaged creatively and shipped.

Need more holiday recipes and ideas? Step into our kitchen at diamondnuts.com, select your favorite ingredients and discover more recipes for a Simply Delicious Holiday and download a coupon for Diamond® Nuts.

- Family Features

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CHOCOLATE LAYER CRUMB BARS

Ingredients

- 1 cup Diamond® Chopped Walnuts
- 1/2 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/4 cups (11.5-oz. pkg.) Nestle® Toll House® Semi-Sweet Chocolate Chunks, divided
- 1 can (14 oz.) Nestle® Carnation® Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease 13 x 9-inch baking pan.

Beat butter in large mixer bowl until creamy. Beat in flour, sugar and salt until crumbly. With floured fingers, press 2 cups crumb mixture onto bottom of prepared baking pan; reserve remaining mixture.

Bake for 10 to 12 minutes or until edges are golden brown.

Combine 1 cup chunks and sweetened condensed milk in small, heavy-duty saucepan. Warm over low heat, stirring until smooth. Stir in vanilla extract. Spread over hot crust.

Stir in walnuts and remaining chunks into reserved crumb mixture; sprinkle over chocolate filling. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until center is set. Cool in pan on wire rack. Cut into bars.



BAKED EGG CASSEROLE

Makes 4 Servings (or double the recipe and freeze the rest for later)
Total Time 45 Minutes

- 6 ounces hot maple flavored pork sausage (Southern style), crumbled
- 3 cups water
- 1 cup half-and-half
- Kosher salt
- 1 cup stone-ground grits or course polenta
- Freshly cracked black pepper
- 4 ounces grated Gruyere
- 4 Eggland's Best eggs

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Cook the sausage in a skillet over medium-high heat until cooked through.

Remove the sausage to a paper towel to drain.

Use the rendered sausage fat to grease 4 large individual ramekins, (gratin dishes or individual cast iron pots work too) and

arrange them on a rimmed sheet tray.

In a large saucepan, over medium heat, bring the water and half-and-half to a boil and season with salt, to taste. Rapidly whisk in the grits. Continue whisking while returning to a boil, about 5 to 7 minutes. Reduce the heat to a simmer and cook until thick and creamy, stirring frequently, about 20 minutes. Season with pepper and more salt if needed.

Divide the cooked grits between the prepared baking dishes and top each with cooked sausage and grated cheese. Make a divot with the back of a spoon into the cheese and sausage topped grits.

Crack eggs, one at a time, into a small bowl and top the ramekins with the eggs. Bake until the egg whites are fully set, about 15 minutes.

Recipe Courtesy Food Network Chef and host of "Five Ingredient Fix," Claire Robinson, 2010

- Family Features

Five tips to simplify the season

Food Network celebrity chef, Claire Robinson, knows what it takes to make a great holiday meal, with just five ingredients or less. "When it comes to the holidays, no one wants to spend hours preparing meals when they can be with friends and family," says Robinson. "I think simple and delicious dishes are the best."

In keeping with that spirit, here are five easy things you can do to enjoy great food and a great holiday season:

1. Make a meal plan. When you plan out your meals, even the larger holiday ones, you can simplify the shopping and avoid the "what's for dinner tonight?" stress.

2. Stock the shelves. Make sure to keep your kitchen stocked with the basics like sugar, flour and eggs to avoid running back and forth between home and the grocery store multiple times. "In particular," says Robinson, "I like Eggland's Best eggs because they are nutritional all-stars with four times more vitamin D, 10 times more vitamin E and more than three times the omega 3 compared to ordinary eggs. Not to

mention, they taste great!"

3. Try batch cooking. Take a little extra time to cook a double batch of spaghetti or make a larger casserole, so you can freeze the rest for another meal later in the week. After a busy day of running holiday errands, simply take leftovers out of the freezer and re-heat for dinner.

4. Plan a potluck. Make holiday get-togethers easier by hosting a potluck dinner. Assign a different dish to each guest so that everyone can bring something they love to make. If you don't have enough plates or utensils, have guests bring those as well. When everybody helps, the party burden is lighter and the fun factor is higher.

5. Keep desserts easy. Holiday sweets are fun to have, but can be time-consuming. Make extra cookie dough and keep it in the freezer. When you need a few cookies – or a few dozen – you'll be ready to bake and enjoy with ease.

For more easy holiday recipes, like this delicious Baked Egg Casserole, please visit www.egglandsbest.com.

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PLATES

FROM PAGE 26

PLANNING PORTIONS

Appetizers

- Evening party with no dinner: 10 to 15 pieces per person. Make sure your appetizers are on the substantial side, to satisfy guests.

- Evening party with dinner following: 3 to 5 pieces per person, usually lighter fare such as cheese and vegetables.

Beverages

- About 3 beverages per person. Guests drink an average of two drinks during the first hour and one drink each hour after that.

- A 2-liter bottle of soda fills 10 8-ounce glasses.

- Count on getting about 5 glasses of wine per standard 750 ml bottle, and 6 glasses of champagne from a standard bottle.

BAKED ONION DIP

Makes: 2 cups

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup chopped onion
- Grated nutmeg, to taste
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Jarlsberg cheese

In a bowl, combine mayonnaise, onion and nutmeg; stir in cheese. Spoon into a 1 quart oven-proof dish and bake, uncovered, 325°F for 40 minutes or until lightly golden. Serve warm with flatbreads, cooked sausage, boiled mini potatoes and vegetable crudites.

TWO-CHEESE FINGERLING CROSTINI

Yield: 15 to 20 pieces

1 pound baked Fingerling potatoes (you can also use red or Yukon gold)

- 14-ounce log soft unripened goat cheese
- 1 cup coarsely grated Jarlsberg cheese
- 1 French baguette, 15 to 20 ½-inch slices brushed with olive oil and toasted (10 minutes, 350°F oven)
- Crumbled bacon bits and diced chives for garnish

Mash baked potato with fresh unripened goat cheese and grated Jarlsberg. Place on bread toasts and top with cooked crumbled bacon bits. Warm crostini and, before serving, top with diced chives.

MINI THREE-CHEESE BALLS

Yield: 24 to 30 balls

- 14-ounce log fresh goat cheese
- 6 ounces crumbled blue cheese
- 2 cups coarsely grated Jarlsberg cheese
- 2 tablespoons grated onion
- ¼ cup non fat plain yogurt
- ¼ cup finely diced fresh chives, plus extra for garnish
- Dash hot sauce (optional)
- 1 cup slivered almonds or chopped pecans

In a food processor, process cheeses with onion, yogurt and chives until well blended. If you'd like, add a dash of hot sauce. Shape into mini balls and roll in slivered almonds or chopped pecans and chives, or spread in serving dish and top with nuts/chives. Chill several hours or until ready to serve. Serve with flat breads, fresh vegetables, etc.

Tip: You can also mix nuts into cheese mixture and use to stuff cherry tomatoes and peppadews, sweet peppers or top cucumber rounds, mini party breads, etc. Chill several hours or until ready to serve.



Jarlsberg baked onion dip and two cheese fingerling crostini

PETITE CHEESE TARTS

Yield: 45 tarts

- 2 cups coarsely grated Jarlsberg cheese
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- Ground white pepper
- 45 small phyllo shells
- Cooked crumbled bacon

Heat oven to 350°F. Combine cheese, eggs and cream. Mix in mustard, paprika and pepper. Arrange phyllo shells on baking sheet. Use a small spoon to fill each cup three quarters full with mixture, top with crumbled bacon. Bake until mixture is golden brown in center, about 20 minutes.

MINI EMPANADAS

Yield: 20 empanadas

- 1 package refrigerated pie crust
- Fillings:
- Potato-Onion-Cheese
- ¼ cups mashed potato
- ½ teaspoon cumin powder
- 14-ounce can diced green chilies, not drained
- ½ teaspoon salt or to taste
- 3 to 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 cups finely chopped cooked green onions (white and green parts)

- 6 ounces Jarlsberg or Jarlsberg Lite cheese, diced
- Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Set aside.
- Chorizo-Chicken-Cheese
- ½ cups diced cooked chorizo
- ½ cups cooked chicken, shredded or diced
- ¾ cup mashed potatoes
- 6 ounces Jarlsberg or Jarlsberg Lite cheese, diced
- ½ cup packed chopped parsley (stems included)
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Set aside.

To make empanadas:

Preheat oven to 400°F. Unroll dough and cut out 20 4-inch rounds.

Place 2 tablespoons filling in center of each round. With wet fingers, moisten inside edges of dough and gently stretch over filling to make half moon shape. Using fork tines, crimp edges to seal. Bake empanadas on parchment-lined cookie sheet, about 14 to 16 minutes, or until light golden brown. Serve warm.

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Sudoku

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

3	5	2	9	1				7
		4	3					9
		8	2	7	5			4
				4	6		3	1
8		3						2
		5	7	3	2			
5	8		6		1	9		
	2			8	3		6	
	3					1		8

Level: Beginner

	1		9	2		3		
				8		2		
7		2						4
	3		6	5				
		6		9	1			
							6	
			5	3	8			7
	9							
	8	3	4			5		

Level: Intermediate

								4
9	1					8	6	3
				2	9	7		
	3	1	5		6			
	6	4						
8								7
					1			5
5	2	3						
					4	8		

Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 38

NAIL CHIC

Gel, glitter popular this holiday season

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Contributing Writer

When you're all dressed up with somewhere to go this holiday season, getting your nails done can complete the look.

There's so much more to choose from compared to just a few years ago. Hot polish and gel colors run the gamut from mint green to various shades of plums and cranberries and smoky browns that come in traditional, metallic, glitter and pearl essences. Glitter is especially popular this holiday season. Custom colors blended to perfection in the gels are available in some salons.

Today, nail art ranges from diamond-like studs to danglers that hang and stickers. Many salons have promotional binders filled with art designs that can be applied.

Before you start decorating, there has to be a foundation from which to start and that can be anything from a standard manicure to a French manicure. Or maybe add some length with acrylics or gel tips or full nails.

There's pros and cons with acrylic and gel. Acrylics come with strong smells caused by some of the chemicals in the process of applying and removing the nails. Some people believe gels are more natural looking, because they tend to be thinner. Others say gel nails don't last as long as acrylic.

"Gel has been around for years, but wasn't always as good as it has become," said Sue Thomas, owner of Simply Sue's Nail Spa in Plymouth's Old Village.

"The art of gel nails has been growing the past six years and is becoming quite the thing. Gel polish is on the rise also. One hundred percent of our clients choose gel polish over standard nail polish. It lasts for weeks with no chipping and, along with drying instantly, it is a woman's new-found love."

Gels don't peel or chip and they last two or three weeks, Thomas said. In fact, gel polish doesn't come off unless it's filed off or placed in a solution.

Walk into Simply Sue's and you won't smell strong chemical odors in the salon, because acrylics aren't offered at all.

A gel set at Simply Sue's is \$30 for fills and \$40 for a new set that includes any polish.

"Gel is more like a Tupperware bowl and acrylic is more like a glass bowl, so the gel is more forgiving," Thomas said.

The biggest nail trend this year is gel instead of polish, according to Meghan Giersdorf, marketing and public relations director for Indigo Salon, Spa and Boutique in Canton.

"Indigo's highly educated technicians have expanded their knowledge with the newest trend called Axxium Gel, which is designed to

Hot polish and gel colors run the gamut from mint green to various shades of plums and cranberries that come in traditional, metallic, glitter and pearl essences.

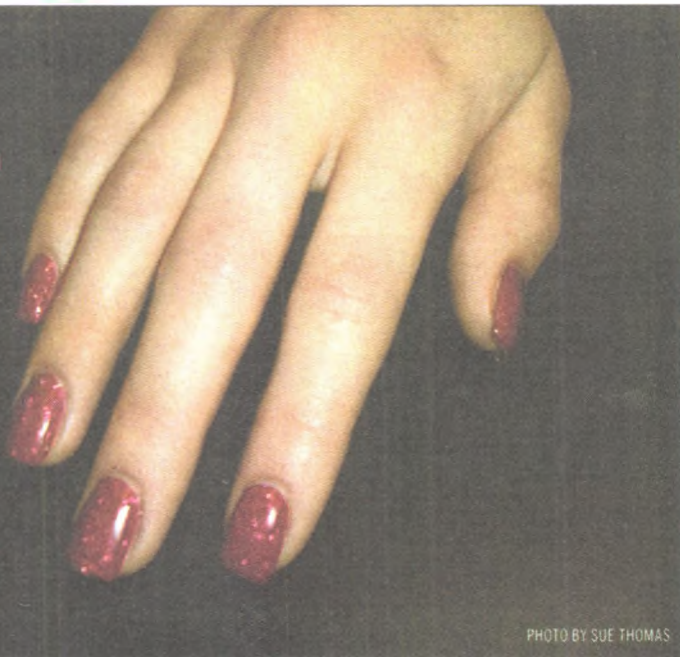


PHOTO BY SUE THOMAS



Celebrate the season with glittery, shimmery nails.

strengthen your nails and make them look shinier," Giersdorf said. "This holiday season, gel polish offers Christmas nail art along with style trend colors such as maroon, brown and purple.

"Another hot trend this season that has come into nail design is Shellac by CND (Creative Nail Designs), which is a hybrid between traditional nail polish and gel that dries underneath a UV lamp, doesn't smell and will stay on your nails for up to 14 days without chipping or smudging. Both of these latest nail trends are offered in vibrant stylish colors that will make you feel beautiful this holiday season."

If you're looking for a deal, Vogue Beauty & Nails in Novi is offering 20-percent discounts in recognition of the salon's grand opening until the end of December.

Whether you go with acrylics or gel is a matter of preference, according to Olga Tasselmyer of Salon Scappare in South Lyon.

In fact, a lot of people scratch both ideas and get a manicure, she added.

Her salon has seen a real spike in customers asking for shellac gels.

"It gets put on like a regular nail polish, but it has a quality of gel nails," Tasselmyer said. "It's popular for French manicures and for people who want to keep the natural look with manicures. It stays nice, like you just had a manicure, especially for those who want to keep their natural nails."

Polished Outlook in Milford focuses on natural approaches in all services, including nail care. With that in mind, they don't do acrylics, explained Alina Medyanikova, Polished Outlook salon director. She added, however, that using acrylics is a matter of preference.

"Right now, everyone is going for a natural solid color," Medyanikova said. "No one has ever asked us for nail art or nail jewelry. A lot of our clients are high-end and that doesn't look very professional. Usually our women ask for a nice solid professional look."

For the holidays, many of her clients are choosing a shimmery dark glitter or other darker colors, like cherry red and rich browns.

"My nails are stronger and healthier with the shellac, that is cured under a UV (ultra violet) light," she said.

Medyanikova stressed the importance of having nice nails all the time, not just during the holidays.

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Keys to thwarting online thieves this holiday season

(ARA) — Online shopping is about to reach epic proportions. The Internet will soon buzz with party invitations and holiday wishes sent from afar. Americans will go online to find ideas for their holiday shopping lists, directions to party sites, and deals on airfare, hotel rooms and rental cars for those who will travel between now and New Year's.

Identity thieves, spammers, hackers and other online evildoers will have a lot to be happy about — and plenty of opportunities — this holiday season. Protecting your PC — and all the personal information it either holds or transmits for you on a daily basis — is more important than ever during the holidays.

No one wants to give a holiday gift to online criminals. To avoid falling prey to online threats this holiday season, follow these simple steps:

1. Use security and anti-virus software.

Having Internet security software on your PC is a must. Without it, your computer is at risk from hackers, viruses, spyware and other



The American Bar Association recommends you always use a credit card for online purchases. Federal law limits your liability to just \$50 if an unauthorized charge shows up on your credit card statement.

programs, commonly called "malware" that are designed to steal your personal information or otherwise cause you problems. Many Internet security products, like AVG Internet Security, offer free versions that you can download online. If you like the product, you can pay to upgrade to a full version with additional protection features like anti-virus and anti-spyware, anti-spam, identity protection and a firewall. The cost of buying Internet security and anti-virus software pales compared with what you stand to lose if you don't have it.

Be sure to look for anti-virus software that also helps with online threats that can attack through social networking sites. With more people using social networking sites to stay in touch regarding holiday plans, and college students getting ready to head back to school after winter break, safe social networking is more important than ever. AVG offers Online Shield, which allows you to safely social network, chat, download and exchange files without risking virus infection. Log on to www.AVG to learn more.

2. Protect your privacy

Before you type any personal, identifying information into a website's form, read the site's privacy policy first — no matter how long and dull it seems. You may be surprised by what you find. If a site's privacy policy tells you the site will share your information with others, you may want to do business elsewhere.

Likewise, become informed on the privacy settings of your favorite social networking sites. Some major sites are notorious for

making changes, introducing upgrades or adding new services that affect your privacy. In essence, you may be required to reinforce your privacy settings every time the site makes a change, or risk discovering that information you thought was private is actually available for the whole Internet to see.

3. Be a savvy online shopper

The American Bar Association recommends you always use a credit card for online purchases, rather than a debit card, money order, cashier's check, certified check, direct bank withdrawal or C.O.D. (cash on delivery). Federal law limits your liability to just \$50 if an unauthorized charge shows up on your credit card statement. Some websites and card issuers will even pay that amount for you in the event your card number was used illegally.

Make sure the website is secure before you make a purchase. You should find an icon of an unbroken key or closed lock in the browser window.

A broken key or open lock may mean the site is not secure. Also, check the web address on the page where you are supposed to enter payment info. It should begin with "https" instead of just "http."

Always read the site's refund or returns policy. No law requires a merchant to accept a return and issue a refund unless the item is defective or has been misrepresented by the merchant. Finally, keep good records of all online purchases. Always print a receipt of the transaction and save e-mail receipts. If you ordered something based on an advertisement promising a specific deal or delivery time, keep copies of the ad.

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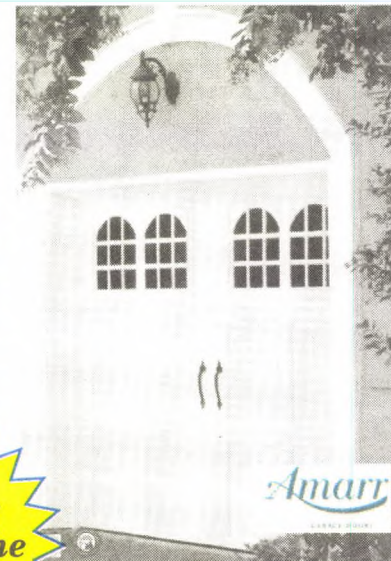
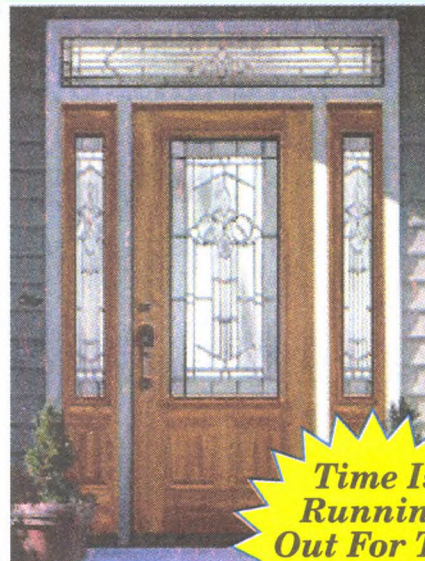
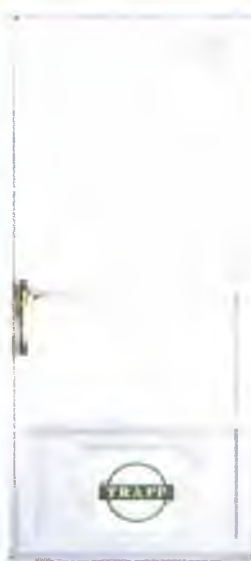
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Enjoying the company of loved ones is what's really at the heart of the season. So if you're planning on hosting, don't let kitchen duty keep you from catching up with family and friends.

Don't let hosting get in the way of holiday fun

(ARA) — The small talk leading up to the holidays might focus on food and presents, but enjoying the company of loved ones is what's really at the heart of the season. So if you're planning on hosting, don't let kitchen duty keep you from catching up with family and friends.

Hosting can be a rewarding experience, and you don't have to be absent for all the fun. Consider that the average American spends more than a half hour per day preparing food and cleaning up after a meal, according to the 2009 American Time Use Survey conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. That's a lot of time in the kitchen, and likely only a fraction of the time it takes to prepare for a big holiday meal. Before holiday hosting, learn a few time-saving tricks that you can carry into your daily life.

- Get organized. Do set up beforehand, so you don't have to work around your guests. This includes setting the table in advance. It's also a good idea to make sure all of your cooking equipment is well-organized. Don't waste time digging for that spatula — put it out on the counter with your serve ware. Make sure to empty the dishwasher prior to guests' arrival. You'll thank yourself later.

- Cut down on prep time. If you are cooking for a lot of people, it only makes sense to get out of the way everything that can be done before the day of the meal. Make and freeze casseroles in advance, or buy a few pre-made items for a holiday meal instead of

making everything from scratch. Outfitting your sink with an instant hot water dispenser is another way to speed up meal preparation. From getting a jump start on boiling water for pasta or potatoes to preparing a quick cup of tea, the near-boiling water streamlines kitchen chaos and eliminates the waiting game. The system also delivers cool, filtered water so whether you plan on hosting or are just looking for an extra hand in the kitchen, a system like this might make a good early holiday present to yourself.

- Don't turn down help. While you might feel obligated to do everything yourself your guests will be more than eager to help you out. Take all the help you can get — including offers to bring side dishes or desserts.

- Clean as you go. Saving a mountain of dishes until the end can clutter up your kitchen and allow food to solidify on them, adding to cleaning time. Try to clear dishes after each course and rinse them before dropping them in the dishwasher. Run silverware and candleholders under hot water to remove any residue. Don't forget that kitchen appliances like your garbage disposal are great for getting rid of food scraps and eliminating trash pileup. Again, don't shy away if your guests want to help put the kitchen back in order.

With a little planning and small strategic adjustments, you'll be able to dazzle your guests while also enjoying quality time with them, which is what the holidays are all about.

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You would've married her for 10 minutes together.

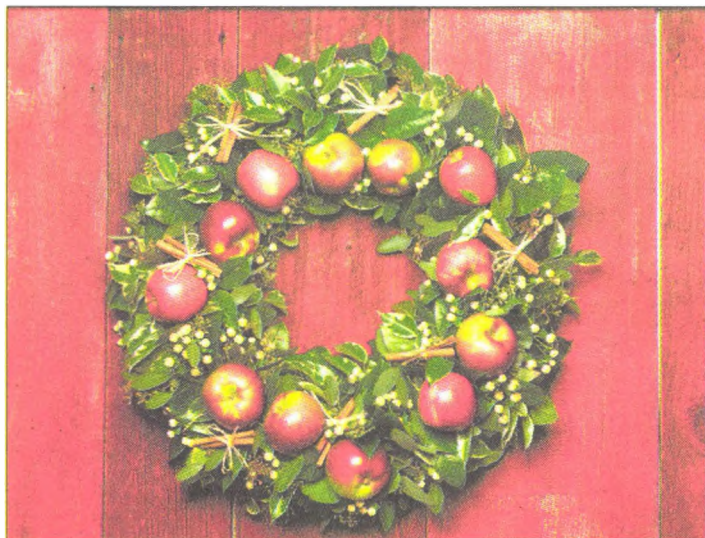
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Bringing back memories can be as simple as a holiday wreath.

Give the gift of holiday memories

(ARA) — Some say that the spirit of the holidays isn't what it used to be. The overwhelming task of buying gifts for everyone in the family can make you feel like it's all about what's under the tree. This year, when you're making your gift list, think of presents that inspire treasured memories and create new ones for the future. By giving the gift of memories, you'll be bringing the true spirit of the holidays back to your celebrations.

The holidays are a time of traditions, from the food that graces the tables to the movies you watch each year to the places you travel to meet family and friends. Rather than running from store to store picking up the latest gadgets and fads, take a few moments to plan out your list based on memories that you've shared with each person to whom you're giving a gift.

Use these ideas as inspiration for giving holiday gifts with a hint of nostalgia.

- Whether it's the smell of baking cookies that takes you back to wintry days spent in Grandma's kitchen or the spicy fragrance of cinnamon that brings to mind sipping spiced apple cider around the fireplace, at this time of year, it's no surprise that smell is the sense most closely tied to memories. Bringing back those memories can be as simple as lighting scented candles from the Yankee Candle Co. The true-to-life fragrance in classic candles like Balsam & Cedar, Christmas Cookie or Sparkling Cinnamon — or even new scents like Holiday Garland or Winter Wonderland — can transport you back to cherished experiences of the past. Whether you light them in your own home or give them as presents to friends and family, Yankee Candles are a great way to give a gift that inspires memories.

- Gathering together to watch holiday

movies is a cozy and festive way to celebrate the season, but it can be difficult to get everyone together at the exact time that a movie is going to be aired on television. And the true classics of the season aren't played in theaters. Give a gift of a group of holiday movie DVDs that have stood the test of time and you'll bring back memories of past holiday movie get-togethers as well as passing on the tradition to the next generation.

- Photos are one of the best ways to take a quick glimpse into the past. With digital photography's rise in popularity, the old photo prints of the past often languish in a closet, mostly forgotten. Give them new life by creating a scrapbook of holiday memories, incorporating old photos, holiday cards and letters. If your gift recipient is the crafty type, simply gather all the elements together in a kit and let her create a scrapbook that will be exactly what she wants.

- Everyone treasures the house they grew up in, even long after they've moved away. To bring back the memories of growing up and holidays in your first home, commission a portrait of the house you grew up in. It can be created from old photographs, and it makes a wonderful gift for siblings and parents. It'll be the perfect conversation piece at your holiday celebration — light scented candles that bring to mind the traditions you remember and take the time to let everyone talk about their favorite childhood reminiscences.

Evoking holidays gone by through the gifts you give is a simple way to make the season meaningful.

For more ways to bring fond memories of the holidays into your home and give memorable gifts like Yankee Candles, go to www.yankeecandle.com.

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Planning a holiday party?

Here are a few places to call for help

INVITATIONS:

Custom Creations & Invitations
- Canton, (734) 398-9795

Papyrus - Novi (Twelve Oaks Mall),
(248) 449-4882

RSVP - Plymouth, (734) 455-7229

SendOutCards.com/colleenk - Milford

SendOutCards.com/12051 - Westland

CLEANING SERVICES:

Carousel Cleaning Services - Garden City,
(734) 421-9291

The Cleaning Authority - Milford, Highland,
New Hudson, (810)-629-9251

Molly Maids - Livonia, (734) 338-3000

Maid Brigade of Southeast Michigan,
(248) 449-4493

CATERERS

Jeff Zak Catering - Plymouth, (734) 459-7125

Sweet & Savory Bakery
- Milford, (248) 685-9400

Kathy's Catering - Garden City, (734) 421-7861

Edward's Cafe & Caterer

- Northville, (248) 344-1550

Amantea - Garden City, (734) 421-1510

DESSERTS:

Sweets 21 - Plymouth, (734) 455-7144

Milford Bakery - Milford, (248) 685-2200

Sweets Retreat - Milford, (248) 685-9201

Le Cakery Bake Shoppe

- Westland, (734) 326-4151

Trifles - White Lake, (248) 698-1800



STORES

FROM PAGE 10

(734) 457-2398/www.godiva.com
Godiva Chocolatier at Twelve Oaks
27342 Novi Road, Novi

(248) 348-7680/www.godiva.com

Heritage Bakery

37458 Five Mile, Livonia

(734) 464-1855/www.heritage-bakery.com

Hiller's Market

425 N. Center St., Northville

(248) 344-1030/www.hillersmarket.com

Hiller's Market

3052 12 Mile, Berkley

(248) 546-6500/www.hillersmarket.com

Hiller's Market

15455 Haggerty, Plymouth Township

(734) 420-5555/www.hillersmarket.com

Jeff Zak Catering

448 Forest Ave., Plymouth

(734) 459-7125/www.jeffzakcatering.com

Joe's Produce Gourmet Market

33152 W. Seven Mile, Livonia

(734) 477-4333/www.joesproduce.com

Kroger Stores: see STORE LOCATOR

www.kroger.com

Marcos Fine Wine & Deli

7977 N. Wayne Road, Westland

(734) 421-0880

Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe

8036 N. Wayne Road, Westland

(734) 261-3680/www.marydenning.com.

Meijer Stores: see STORE LOCATOR

www.meijer.com

Sweets 21

386 S. Main St., Plymouth

(734) 455-7144/www.sweets21plymouth

Sweet Retreats

314 N. Main St., Milford

(248) 685-9201/www.sweetretreatscandy.com

TranquiliTea Fine Teas & Gifts

904 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth

(734) 459-9686/www.tranquilitetea.myshopify.com

Vintage Market

29501 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland

(734) 422-0160

Wayne Med Mart

417 S. Wayne Road, Westland

(734) 722-3017

Westborn Market

14925 Middlebelt, Livonia

(734) 524-1000/www.westbornmarket.com

Westborn Market

21755 Michigan Ave., Dearborn

(313) 274-6100/www.westbornmarket.com

Westborn Market

27659 Woodward Ave., Berkley

(248) 547-1000/www.westbornmarket.com

Zingerman's Mail Order

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Sudoku Answers

Beginner

3	5	2	9	1	4	6	8	7
7	1	4	3	6	8	2	5	9
6	9	8	2	7	5	3	1	4
2	7	9	8	4	6	5	3	1
8	6	3	1	5	9	4	7	2
1	4	5	7	3	2	8	9	6
5	8	7	6	2	1	9	4	3
9	2	1	4	8	3	7	6	5
4	3	6	5	9	7	1	2	8

Intermediate

4	1	8	9	2	6	3	5	7
3	5	9	7	8	4	2	1	6
7	6	2	3	1	5	9	4	8
2	3	1	6	5	7	8	9	4
8	4	6	2	9	1	7	3	5
9	7	5	8	4	3	1	6	2
1	2	4	5	3	8	6	7	9
5	9	7	1	6	2	4	8	3
6	8	3	4	7	9	5	2	1

Advanced

6	7	2	1	3	5	9	4	8
9	1	5	7	4	8	6	3	2
3	4	8	6	2	9	7	5	1
2	3	1	5	7	6	4	8	9
7	6	4	9	8	2	5	1	3
8	5	9	4	1	3	2	6	7
4	8	6	2	9	1	3	7	5
5	2	3	8	6	7	1	9	4
1	9	7	3	5	4	8	2	6



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Canton

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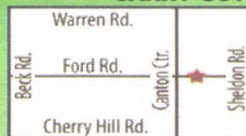
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