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Award winner

The City of Plymouth has been recognized for its work to foster entrepreneurial growth and economic development in a study by researchers at iLabs, University of Michigan-Dearborn's Center for Innovation Research. Plymouth was honored as a four-star community, along with 44 other communities across the state.

Santa letters

While Christmas is a very busy time of year for Santa Claus, he always makes time to read letters from children. Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa. Santa Claus has given the Observer permission to print some of those letters in our Thursday, Dec. 22, issue. But to do that, we need letters. So youngsters, get out some paper and a pen or pencil or a computer and start writing. Letters should be e-mailed to bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Parents, be sure to include a JPEG photo of your child, with their name, age, address and phone number. Only your child's name and age will be published. Letters can also be mailed to Letters to Santa, c/o Brad Kadrich, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. The deadline for all Santa letters is Monday, Dec. 12.

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Ice Fest organizer settling 2011, planning for 2012

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

As planning ramps up for the 30th annual Plymouth Ice Festival, scheduled for January, the bill from this year's festival remains unpaid. But not to worry, said organizer Sam Walton, who produces the festival through his company, Signature Profession-

al Group: The bill from the city, over \$19,000, will be paid within a couple of weeks, when the application for the next festival is submitted. "We want to get this thing cleaned up and move forward," said Walton on Monday. Next year's festival, Walton's third as organizer, is Friday through Sunday, Jan. 20-22, in Kellogg Park and downtown

Plymouth. This year's bill from the city, for services such as police protection and Department of Municipal Services work, plus the use of Kellogg Park, had jumped considerably, from just over \$11,000 in 2010 to just over \$19,000, Walton said in explaining the delay. "It's a pretty big jump, and of course we have to ask why," he

said. Walton said he owed it to sponsors to make sure they were getting their money's worth. The last festival had expanded hours, and that meant a greater need for city services and, thus, a higher price tag, said Walton and City Manager Paul Sincock. "I know it was initially a shock, it was such a big jump," said

Please see ICE FEST, A2



Isabella Noble, sitting on dad Luke Noble's shoulders, has a high five for Santa Claus after his arrival in Kellogg Park Friday.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth makes Santa feel welcome

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Macey Fulkerson seemed to think the question was a little silly, but she answered it anyway. "Santa Claus is coming!" she said, then smiled and added, "I'm excited!" Macey was one of hundreds

of youngsters who crowded into downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park Friday to welcome the Jolly Ol' Elf, who was making his annual appearance in the park. Santa, escorted in aboard a truck manned by firefighters from the Plymouth Community Fire Department, He

rode into town to help the children light the official Christmas tree. He was welcomed to town by Plymouth City Commissioner Ed Hingelberg, who handed Santa the key to the children's hearts.

Please see SANTA, A5

New comment system requires real names of users

By Larry Ruehlen
Observer Staff Writer

It's the end of the anonymous era. Hometownlife.com, the website for the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Weekly* Newspapers, now requires posters to sign on by using their real names. Company officials believe the move will result in a "higher-quality discussion" on story chats. "We ask those submitting letters to the editor to sign their name to printed material and this is no different. I believe this new policy is a start in raising the level of quality discussion and engagement on

our website," said Susan Rosiek, executive editor and publisher of the *O&E* and *Hometown Weeklies* and hometownlife.com. Readers are required to log into a registered Facebook account to comment on *Plymouth Observer* stories at Hometownlife.com. Gannett Co. Inc. announced in October it will make that change for all of its U.S. community publishing and broadcast sites. Other Gannett-owned sites affected in Michigan are the *Lansing State Journal*, *Detroit Free Press*, *The Livingston Daily Press* & *Argus*, *Battle Creek Enquirer* and *WZZM-TV*. The official Gannett-wide

Facebook comments deployment began last week and is scheduled to finish in January. News organizations that implement Facebook commenting abilities on their sites say they are seeing "higher-quality" discussion and a "significant increase in referral traffic," according to a report by Jeff Sonderman, a digital media fellow at The Poynter Institute. Poynter is a school in St. Petersburg, Fla., that advocates for journalistic excellence. The Gannett changes to the new commenting system weren't reckless, said Luz

Please see COMMENT, A6

Some go slow in Black Friday rush

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

The crowds were out at Canton Township strip malls on the day after Thanksgiving to snatch up Black Friday deals, but Noreen Faulkner decided to sleep in a bit. "I have to be up at 5:45 every day. I don't want to do that on my day off," said Faulkner, who lives in Canton. Instead, on the day that officially launches the Christmas shopping season, Faulkner headed out for a 10 a.m. slot as a Plymouth Salvation Army bell-ringer; she was stationed in front of the Hobby Lobby on Ford Road near Lilley, joined by daughter Shannon and niece Molly Ambroiggio, both teenagers. Shoppers were being generous, more so than on the four previous Black Fridays she's worked the Red Kettle Drive, Faulkner said. "It's just been really busy. I'm surprised," she said. "It's fun, but some people ignore us," said Molly, who was visiting from Plainfield, Ill. "They take their cell phones out when they see us," Shannon said. Faulkner was planning to work in some shopping later, "when the crowds die down," she said.

No early birds
Hobby Lobby manager Kacey Jansma said the store had opened

Please see FRIDAY, A3



Arlene Thornton enjoys the sun in downtown Plymouth. She did complain that it was "a little warm" for her. Arlene is from Minneapolis, and she's in town visiting her daughter, Margaret Kable, who is from Clawson. On Black Friday Margaret and friends choose a small town to shop in. This year it's Plymouth.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

INDEX
Community Life..... B5
Crossword Puzzle..... C2
Education..... A4
Health..... B9
Homes..... C2
Jobs..... C1
Obituaries..... B8
Services..... C2
Sports..... B1
Wheels..... C4

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Band 'nails it' in Macy's parade

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

By 2 o'clock in the afternoon Thanksgiving Day, some 180 members of the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band and their directors were trying to catch a much-needed nap.

The rest was well-deserved.

The band, a perennial contender for the national championship, had just performed on its biggest stage ever, wowing a New York crowd of some three million people, plus a worldwide television audience, with its performance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

Not only did the band excel during its 75-second televised performance, they got a rush all the way up and down the parade route, waving, shaking hands and star-gazing during the annual event.

"It was a whirlwind," director of bands David Armbruster said Thursday afternoon. "The kids had a blast down the street ... they were performing, they were waving, they were shaking hands with people. The kids were having fun."

It got started early, with the band meeting NBC officials around 3:30 a.m. to step off their marks and get their bearings.



MACY'S, INC.

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band struts its stuff along the parade route during Thursday's Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade.

After hitting their mark, they were able to get back to their buses for a little rest, and then they were back on the route.

As they geared up for the walk, they watched a variety of Hollywood celebrities go by, saw singer Neil Dia-

mond, watch a lot of other floats make their way — "We were at the back end, so we got to see a lot of the parade go by," Armbruster said — before starting off themselves.

It wasn't easy, at first.

"It took the kids a little bit to get their bearings, because they weren't used to it, but by the end, they were having a blast," Armbruster said.

How big was the stage? Some three million people along the parade route, people watching out windows all the way, a huge television audience. None of it swayed the marchers.

"The kids nailed it on national television," Armbruster said. "They had a fantastic performance ... I couldn't be happier."

The performance — the televised portion included a couple of songs from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* — capped a surreal day.

"It was what everybody talks about," Armbruster said. "Everybody's there, Hollywood stars all over the place, all the balloons and floats. You're wishing everyone Happy Thanksgiving, everybody's happy. It's a feeling you can't explain."

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Teddy bears hit the ice in Whalers game

The Plymouth Whalers and Plymouth Community United Way are hoping it will rain a torrent of teddy bears after the hockey team scores its first goal against the Guelph Storm at Compuware Arena Saturday, Dec. 3.

The annual Teddy Bear Toss provides toys to brighten the holidays of needy children.

Last year, nearly 900 ted-

dy bears were thrown onto the ice creating an avalanche of stuffed animals.

This year, fans are being asked to bring a bevy of bears to top that total. The fun begins at 7:05 p.m.

For more information, call Linda Chomin at (734) 453-8679, Ext. 5.

Visit www.plymouthunitedway.org to learn about a variety of ways to give and volunteer.

ICE FEST

Continued from page A1

City Commissioner Ron Loiselle, president of the festival committee.

Sincock, however, said organizers had been aware of the added costs when last January's festival was being planned. "There were no surprises on the bill," he said.

However, he said, the festival has a "long history" of settling up late in the year, a practice that predates Walton's tenure

as producer.

"They have a history of paying in December," he said.

Loiselle, who has served several terms on the City Commission, said the commission isn't likely to approve the application for the next festival if the bill for the last one hasn't been paid, but also said he couldn't recall a time when that happened for the ice festival or any other downtown event.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
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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

FARRAND FAIR

Date/Time: Thursday, Dec. 8, 4-8 p.m.

Location: Farrand Elementary School, 41400 Greenbriar Lane

Details: Farrand Elementary School hosts its annual vendor/craft fair. Visitors can join organizers for a night of shopping, with lots of vendor items and crafts to choose from. Admission is free.

NEW HOPE OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Friday, Dec. 2, 7-10 p.m.

Location: New Hope Center for Grief Support, 17174 Crestbrook, Northville (north of 6 Mile, west of Ridge)

Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support, in cooperation with Toll Brothers Inc., will be hosting a Holiday Open House at Steeplechase of Northville. Visitors can tour the luxurious Harding Country Manor model home. The evening also includes raffles, appetizers from local restaurants, a chocolate fountain and musical entertainment. Cost is \$40 per adult (21 and over only) prior to event; \$45 per person at the door (\$30 is tax deductible). New Hope Center for Grief Support reaches out to those grieving the death of a loved one.



Salute for suits

Members of Plymouth's Fred Hill Briefcase Drill Team whip up the crowd along Woodward near Grand Circus Park during America's Thanksgiving Parade along Woodward in Detroit on Thursday. The team, a longtime parade favorite, had broken ranks during a lull in the parade to orchestrate a cheering contest that pitted parade-watchers on the west side of Woodward with those on the east side.

PCAC EXHIBIT

Date/Time: Dec. 6-22; artist reception Dec. 17, 1-3 p.m.

Location: PCAC, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
The Plymouth Community Arts Council will feature the members of Pam Grossmann's Adult Drop-in Drawing Classes in an exhibit of winter and holiday art. Joining the group will also be members of Kay Rowe's Village Artists Studio. The work will be in various media, including watercolor, colored pencil, pen and ink, pastel and mixed media. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Contact: Call (734) 416-4278 for additional information.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Date/Time: Friday, Dec. 2, 7-10 p.m.

Location: Steeplechase of Northville, 17174 Crestbrook Drive in Northville
Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support, in cooperation with Toll Brothers Inc., hosts a Holiday Open House at their spectacular community, Steeplechase of Northville. You are invited to leisurely tour the luxurious Harding Country Manor model home. The evening also includes raffles, appetizers from local restaurants, a chocolate fountain and musical entertainment. Valet service provided and sponsored by Toll Brothers. Cost is \$40 per adult prior, \$45 at the door.

Contact: Call New Hope Center at (248) 348-0115 by Nov. 30 or register online at www.newhopecenter.net

GRIEF SUPPORT

Date/Time: Sunday, Dec. 4, 2-3:30 p.m.

Location: Arbor Hospice, 40500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: "Grief Matters for the Holidays" will give participants helpful tips for coping with the loss of a loved one during the upcoming holidays, and offer comfort in sharing with others during this time.

Contact: For more information or to RSVP, call (734) 656-0031 or email vcampbell@arborhospice.org.

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

Date/Time: Monday, Dec. 12, 6-8:30 p.m.


Location: Red Olive restaurant, 1051 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: Canton Women's Connection (formerly known as the Canton Business & Professional Women), a social group dedicated to giving back to the community through charitable works and empowering women through human interest guest speakers and networking connections, hosts its holiday celebration. Guest is Judy Ellis, director of First Step, who will be presented with the group's donations from their Wish List. RSVP by Dec. 8.

Contact: For more information contact June Nicholas, junenicholas@comcast.net or (313) 610-2561.

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Stuart Nathan, Physician Assistant, cares for CHF patients and those recovering from heart surgeries.



Stuart Nathan, PA
Working under the supervision of attending physicians at Four Seasons, Stuart Nathan, a physician assistant with IPC (InPatient Consultants), cares for congestive heart failure patients as well as those recovering from valve replacement and bypass surgery, and heart attacks.

"Most people with cardiac problems are able to rehabilitate and return home," said Stuart. "That's our goal — when somebody needs more care than what is able to be delivered at home."

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FRIDAY

Continued from page A1

just an hour earlier than normal, rather than at 4 a.m., and was doing a steady business. All Christmas decorations were 50 percent off and will be indefinitely, she said.

Jansma said she was optimistic about this year's holiday season.

"We've had a really good season already," she said. "We get into the Christmas aspect early."

The nearby Game Stop, across the parking lot from Hobby Lobby, had opened at midnight Friday; just before noon, the lines were long and sales personnel were busy.

Customer David Kavelage of Westland took advantage of a sale, but not the early hours at Game Stop — or any other store.

"I don't get up that early," Kavelage said as he left the store. Besides, he's not a regular Black Friday shopper. "This is the first time I've done it in about four years," he said.

At Game Stop, Kavelage found what he was looking for — two video games for his brother. He took advantage of a buy-two-get-one-free offer by picking out one for himself.

'Avoiding Black Friday'

In downtown Plymouth, shoppers told stories similar to Faulkner's and Kavelage's.

"I'm avoiding the Black Friday," said Liz Licata, who was browsing with her twin toddler sons, Michael and Chandler, at



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Andy Randall of Novi hangs roping at Candy Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Genuine Toy Co. on Forest.

"We're staying away from the mall, but we decided to come downtown," said Julie Adloch, shopping with daughter Lindsay, 10, at Sun & Snow, on Main and Ann Arbor Trail.

Licata, from Wellesley, Mass. — the family was visiting her in-laws here — said they had enjoyed the Walk of Trees at Kellogg Park and were planning to see Santa Claus arrive there later Friday. "We'll probably take a nap in the middle," she said with a glance at her sons.

Adloch picked up a balaclava — a sort of hood that partially covers the face — for Lindsay, who said she needs it during wintertime school recess. A reach into a grab bag when they entered the store gave them a 25-percent off

coupon.

"We were just browsing around. The deal's a bonus," Adloch said.

Store manager Emily Kenny said Black Friday traffic had been steady at Sun & Snow.

"I think we're busier this year than we were last year," Kenny said. "People are buying more things, too."

Charles Dare, who co-owns Genuine Toy with wife Elle, also said store traffic was good early Friday — and expected it to pick up later, when shoppers get their second wind.

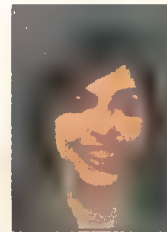
Neither Genuine Toy nor Sun & Snow offered early hours Friday.

"That's more of a big-box kind of thing," Dare said.

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

Leaving lawyer draws praise for her work

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer



Robinson

the work, but they believe Robinson's legal expertise was essentially paid for her \$86,000

said Robinson has been "a great help" to local officials who don't have her expertise in legal matters.

Robinson has been involved in drafting local ordinances such as prohibiting commercial vehicles from parking in residential neighborhoods and giving local authorities a tool to prosecute offenders who threaten others with fake guns during incidents such as road rage.

Robinson also had the difficult task of helping to negotiate employee concessions as Canton adopted a series of cost-cutting measures to fend off a budget deficit that had once threatened to mushroom to \$15 million. She said it has been gratifying to win the respect of union leaders who sat on the opposite side of the table during those negotiations.

Local leaders said Robinson had not only the legal expertise the township sought, but also the demeanor to succeed on the job.

As Tuesday's township board meeting ended, Trustee John Anthony was among those who told Robinson she has left her mark on Canton.

"You made a tremendous difference in the community," township Trustee John Anthony said.

Canton Township Attorney Audrey Robinson stint amid sweeping praise from local officials who say their decision to hire an in-house law expert has streamlined Canton's approach to legal issues, saving time and money.

"She's going to be very tough to replace," township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

Robinson, a Plymouth resident, marked her last day on the job Wednesday after she accepted a new job as vice president of government relations for Southfield-based R.L. Polk, an automotive data and marketing solutions company.

"It's bittersweet," Robinson said Tuesday evening, attending her last township board meeting.

"I have loved my time in Canton," Robinson said she will miss the camaraderie of her Canton colleagues, the township's solid leadership and her efforts to rein in legal spending through measures such as fighting lawsuits and fine-tuning contractual issues, among other measures, to save money.

Tough to tell

Local officials say it's difficult to gauge just how much money Canton has saved by having an in-house attorney rather than parceling out

"I do believe that we've saved money by having her on board," LaJoy said.

Accordingly, Canton has decided to replace Robinson. LaJoy said 25 people have applied for the job, and an interview panel has begun meeting with as many as 18 candidates amid hopes of hiring a new attorney in coming weeks.

"There's no question in my mind it's the right decision to replace her," LaJoy said.

Human Resources Manager Dave Medley will certify the top three applicants from which Robinson's successor will be chosen.

Canton hired Robinson two years ago, moving to streamline legal services and give township departments a highly accessible go-to attorney. She had previously traveled the country as a state lobbyist for a major provider of science, medical and legal information.

Fond farewell

Local officials gave her a warm send-off Tuesday evening.

Trustee Dr. Syed Taj

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EEF surprises teachers with grants

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Carole Kody knows how much fun surprising teachers with grant funding can be.

And this past week, Kody and other members of the Educational Excellence Foundation had tons of fun, handing out thousands of dollars worth of Classroom Enhancement Grants to teachers from all over the district.

The teachers didn't know the grants were coming; Kody and other EEF representatives surprised them Monday and Tuesday.

"It's a lot of fun," said Kody, EEF's executive director. "The teachers are surprised and the students really enjoy it, as well."

Grants handed out included:

- EEF board representative John Jackson and trustee Judy Morgan presented Pioneer Middle School science teacher Chris Moore with a check for \$2,580. Moore told his eighth-grade students he and his colleagues at the other four middle schools like to do more than teach from a book. They feel that the students will learn better if they can do some hands-on activities.

- Moore applied for an EEF grant to purchase physics modules to help the students learn about the physics portion of



Discovery Middle School teacher Rob McClaren accepts a grant from Educational Excellence Foundation representatives John Jackson and Judy Morgan.

the eighth-grade curriculum through hands-on activities. He applied for enough funding for all five middle schools, not just Pioneer.

- Rob McClaren, Social Studies and Current Events teacher at Discovery Middle School, was awarded a grant that would take the images from an iPad (received from a Bosch grant) and mirror the image on a projector for the entire class to see.

- Michelle Ekonen, Language Arts teacher at Discovery Middle School, received a grant to purchase 10 hand-held spellers/dictionaries to be used by students.

- Margaret Johnson and Kristin Bertoia, first-grade teachers at Miller Elementary School, got a \$290.85 grant to purchase non-fiction books students can take home to read overnight.

- Kristine Oke, Media Specialist at Tonda Ele-

mentary School, got a \$500 grant to purchase a listening center for the Tonda media center. The center will allow five children to listen to a book at the same time.

EEF helps students achieve their highest potential through strong community partnerships that enhance the P-CCS educational experience. For questions or to make a donation, contact Kody at (734) 416-2718 or carole.kody@pccsmail.net.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-8899



Nia Ballah, Lena Schroeder, Anika Verma and Alina Hashem taste some of the Thanksgiving treats after the first Turkey Trot at Schoolhouse Montessori in Canton.

Montessori 'Turkey Trot' a success

Organizers at Schoolhouse Montessori Academy hosted their first Turkey Trot, and promptly called it a "great success."

Students, they said, enjoyed the jogging experience. Each class earned laps by the number of Canton Goodfellow donations brought in by the families in their classroom and every class earned at least four laps around the small section of the parking lot.

"We will continue to take donations for Can-

ton Goodfellows through Dec. 2 as we've had many parents ask if we could extend the donation time so they could shop for gifts," said Anjilla Young, family concierge for Schoolhouse.

The event also featured a "taste" feast, sampling Thanksgiving treats such as pumpkin pie pudding, potato casserole, cornbread and more.

Schoolhouse Montessori is located at 1669 Haggerty in Canton. For more information, call (734) 405-2345.

National Day of Listening honors teachers

Michigan Radio took part in the fourth annual National Day of Listening, a holiday tradition started by the acclaimed oral history nonprofit organization StoryCorps.

The National Day of Listening, which took place Friday, Nov. 25, is an effort to encourage all Americans to honor a friend, a loved one, or a member of their community by interviewing them about their lives.

This year, StoryCorps suggested everyone reach out to a favorite teacher or mentor to say "Thank you for

changing my life." Whether posting a memory to Facebook (@storycorps), thanking them on Twitter (@storycorps, #thankateacher), taping a tribute on YouTube or sending a thank you card, the 2011 National Day of Listening sent a powerful and necessary message to teachers across the nation that they matter.

Michigan Radio created a special National Day of Listening website, which can be accessed at www.michiganradio.org. For more information, or to listen to stories online, visit www.storycorps.org.

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SANTA

Continued from page A1

"This is just another one of those feel-good events that make Plymouth what it is," Hingelberg said. "I really enjoy all of our bigger festivals — ice fest, Art in the Park, fall festival — but this is just a home-spun, wonderful event."

Santa's arrival provided one a part of Friday night's excitement.

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park Choir will led a sing-along, followed by magician Alan Smola, who drew warm applause after his performance.

It's all part of the joint effort of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority to provide a well-rounded evening of entertainment for what is always a large crowd.

"It's about making sure everyone's entertained," said Tony Bruscatto, operations director for the DDA. "In the past, the crowds would show up early and not have much to do. We want to make sure they enjoy the event."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, as he does



Mike "Papa" Lupinski helps granddaughter Isabella Drummond, 3, get a better view.

every year, made an appearance to help welcome Santa to town. On a mild November night that drew hundreds of people, Reaume said it's the kind of event that helps give Plymouth its hometown feeling.

"It's a great way to kick off the holiday season," Reaume said. "It's yet another Norman Rockwell moment for Plymouth."

Macey's dad, Mike

Fulkerson, moved to Plymouth in 2007 and has enjoyed all the festivals the community has to offer. He agreed with Reaume's assessment.

"We love coming down and being a part of what goes on downtown," Fulkerson said. "There's always a lot going on down here. It's a great community for families."

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Santa heads for his house, but not before greeting a few customers.



The P-CEP Choir was on hand to sing carols. Corey Watkins, Paul DiNicola, Jessica Stevenson and Clare Shortal make a joyful noise.

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COMMENT

Continued from page A1

Long, Gannett Digital project coordinator.

"We understand that many users will not be able to use Facebook or are not interested in using Facebook to comment," the Gannett e-mail announcement sent by Long reads. "However, our aim is not to shut out participants from the conversation, but rather to provide a welcoming environment that encourages high-quality and relevant contributions.

"By holding commenters accountable for their actions through Facebook, the hope is that this will help keep the conversation interesting and stimulating for the rest of us."

Pilot study

Gannett selected five sites of varying audience sizes to pilot the change

es over the course of a few months, Long said. The pilot sites were ksdk.com, 13wmaz.com, travel.usatoday.com, news-press.com and desmoinesregister.com.

The changes were prompted in an effort to keep up with digital media trends, Long said.

Gannett will continue using Pluck, the company's current application programming interface for commenting, to power other website components, such as reader blogs. Alternatives to the Pluck API system, however, will be "explored in the coming months," according to Gannett's announcement.

The new system prohibits pornography, hate speech, threatening language, graphic violence, bullying, and spam, aligning with current Gannett moderation guidelines. Current Gannett moderation policies ban abuse, harassment, threats, vulgarity and spam.

Frequently asked questions

Q: Why the switch?

A: The decision to change our commenting tool was not made lightly. We understand that many users will not be able to use Facebook or are not interested in using Facebook to comment. However, our aim is not to shut out participants from the conversation, but rather to provide a welcoming environment that encourages high-quality and relevant contributions. By holding commenters accountable for their actions through Facebook, the hope is that this will help keep the conversation interesting and stimulating for the rest of us.

Q: What are the benefits of using my Facebook account on www.hometownlife.com?

A: Once you log into your Facebook account and start commenting, there will be no need to maintain a separate log-

in on the site. Plus, you will be able to use the Facebook grammar filter; 'Like' and follow other readers' posts; include your friends in the conversation; get instant notifications when someone responds to your comment; view the most relevant comments from friends, friends of friends and the most active threads; and hide spam.

Q: I'm logged into my Facebook account, but unable to comment.

A: If you are signing up for Facebook just to post a comment keep in mind that new accounts will have to make a few friends and upload an avatar before becoming "active" and participating on the site. This helps to establish your identity as well as the identities of others using Facebook. For issues concerning Facebook we encourage you to check with their Help Center, <http://www.facebook.com/help/>

issues/.

Q: Can I leave a comment if I don't have a Facebook account?

A: After the switch is made to the entire site, anyone wishing to post a comment will need an active Facebook account. If you don't have one, don't worry. It's easy to sign up at www.facebook.com <http://www.facebook.com>.

Q: Why does my Facebook photo and user name appear on the page when I haven't posted a comment?

A: If you're signed into Facebook, you will be able to see your information, but it will not be visible to anyone else until the comment publishes.

Q: If I post a comment will other people be able to see my information or photos?

A: What others see when they click on your information is determined by your Facebook privacy settings. For assistance in updating your settings please visit the Facebook Help Center <http://www.facebook.com/help/>

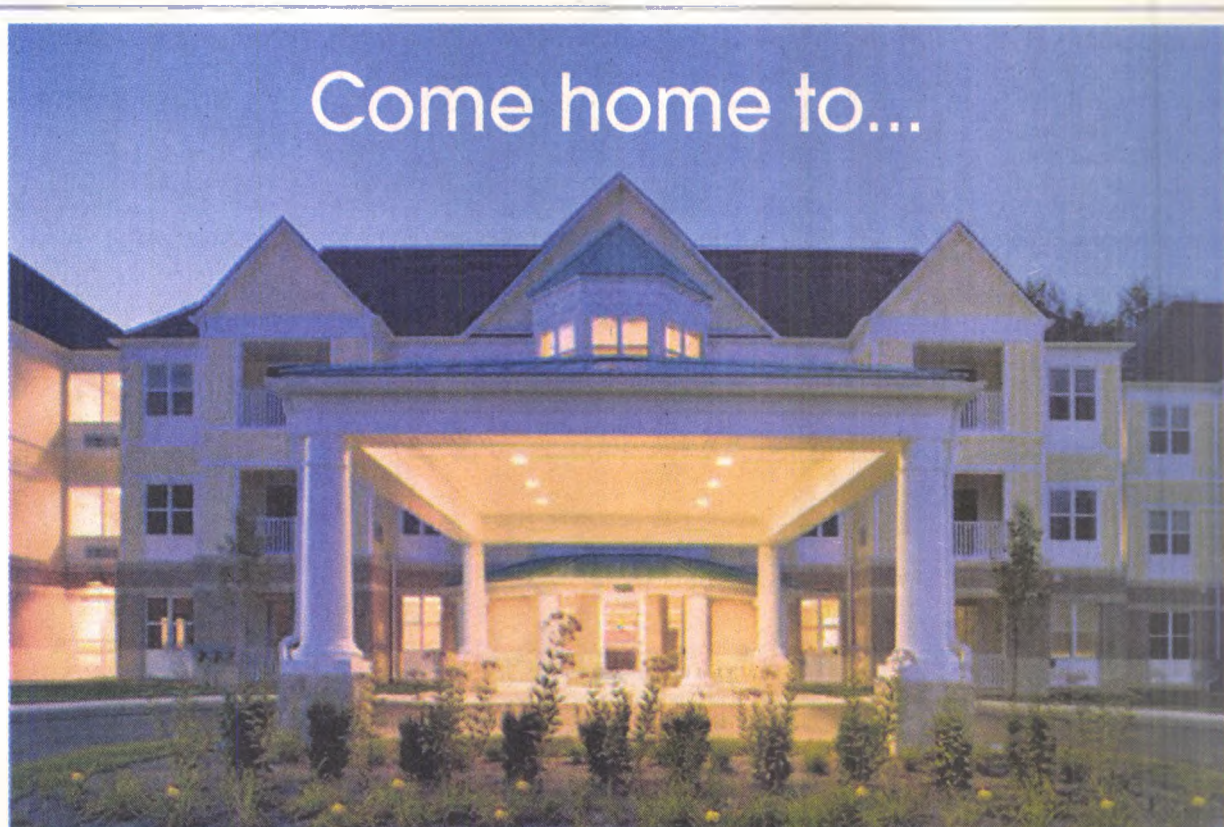
[com/help/privacy](http://www.facebook.com/help/privacy).

Q: Do the site's Conversation Guidelines still apply?

A: Yes, you make a difference in the community when you add civil and respectful contributions to the conversation and report abusive comments and identities. If you suspect someone is using a fake or abusive account, report them directly to Facebook by clicking on the user's profile, then clicking "Report/block this person" at the bottom left of the page. For abusive or inappropriate comments, click the "X" in the upper right corner of the comment and report it as spam or abuse.

Q: Why can't I see the comments?

A: Comments on www.hometownlife.com are public, which means anyone logged in or out of Facebook should be able to view them. If you cannot see the comments, check with your IT department.



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Legal Aid initiative addresses reduced funding

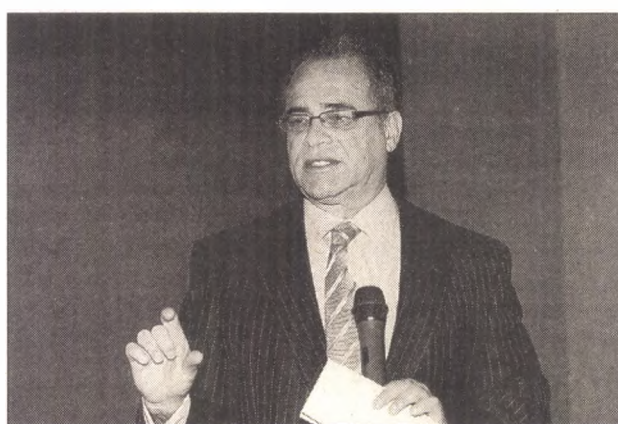
Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc. has launched its Advancing Justice initiative to introduce itself to federal, state and county government officials with a breakfast for officials in Wayne County at LAD headquarters Nov. 14.

LAD is Michigan's largest provider of free civil legal services to low-income residents, serving metropolitan Detroit through its offices in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. LAD also represents criminal defendants in Wayne County and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. Including brief consultations and comprehensive legal services, the public law firm handles some 15,000 legal matters yearly.

LAD developed the AJI following a reduction in funding by the Federal Legal Services Group, that forced it to lay off 13 attorneys from the staff of its Civil Law Group.

"We're always there for the community," Deirdre L. Weir, president and CEO of LAD, told the breakfast audience. "We're looking for new funding and partnerships."

LAD is an important partner of Wayne Coun-



Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano praises Legal Aid and Defenders for "making a difference."

ty, according to County Executive Robert A. Ficano, keynote speaker at the breakfast. He cited LAD's involvement in the county's STEP (Second Chance Through Expungement) and mortgage foreclosure programs.

"It's making a difference," he said, adding that Legal Aid and Defender is a key part of the nation's unique legal system.

LAD's three senior attorneys - Donald Johnson, chief counsel of the State Defender Office, Miriam Siefert, chief counsel of the Federal Defender Office, and Joan Glanton Howard, chief counsel of the Civil Law Group - described the roles of their practice groups and the clients they serve.

In her talk, Howard cited the importance of the help LAD receives from pro bono attorneys from the private bar and corporate practice.

Two LAD clients, one a single mother with a mortgage foreclosure problem, the other a restaurateur with serious health problems, also gave testimonials to the value of the help they received from LAD.

"We work with clients in a comprehensive manner, so that as we solve their legal problems, we help solve other problems as well," Weir said. "We help people rebuild their lives and help families stay together."

People seeking legal services can call (877) 964-4700 or visit www.ladetroit.org.

Grief center offers holiday card sales

New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville offers Christmas cards for sale, with the proceeds benefitting the center's programs.

Cards are available in 20-card packages for \$25 (\$16 of which is tax deductible; receipt included with each package of cards).

Proceeds from the sale of the cards will benefit the New Hope Center for Grief Support, a non-profit, Christian-based

bereavement outreach center that assists adults, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan who are grieving after the death of a loved one. New Hope's services include free-of-charge support groups, seminars, workshops, and other bereavement resources.

Due to postage, staff, and volunteer time requirements, New Hope will be unable to mail/deliver cards.

Cards may be purchased at New Hope Center for Grief Support, 315 Griswold, Northville, MI 48167. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays. Payment options include cash, check (made out to New Hope Center), and charge.

Call New Hope Center at (248) 348-0115 and visit the website at www.newhopecenter.net for more information.

S'craft Spirit Night benefits Big Brothers Big Sisters

The Student Activities Office and the Athletics Department of Schoolcraft College will sponsor a very special Spirit Night on Wednesday, Nov. 30.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams will take on Kellogg Community College in the doubleheader in the Physical Education Building on the college's main campus in Livonia. Admission is \$5 and special commemorative T-shirts will also be available for an additional \$5. All proceeds will benefit Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit.

The Ocelot basketball teams are starting off the season strong and are looking forward to another season of many successes both on and off the court. The women will tip-off at 5:30 p.m. with guest coach Colleen Case, associate professor in the college's Computer Graphics Technology program calling the plays. The men will play at 7:30 p.m. with Chief Shawn Loving, executive chef and department chair of the Culinary Arts Department, serving as guest coach.

In addition, Ocelot fans in attendance will enjoy music by deejay Jason

George of United Productions, half-time performances by the college's Dance Team and the Beat Boys Break Dance Team, and a number of other surprises. Free tickets to L'Phenix Theatres at Laurel Park Theatre will also be given away, while supplies last.

The games will be broadcast live on Bright House Network's Channel 13 in Livonia by Schoolcraft College Media Services Department and members of the college's Video Production Club.

The Livonia campus is off Haggerty Road between Seven and Eight Mile roads.

Schoolcraft hosts sale, lunch to benefit food pantry

Schoolcraft College's annual Empty Bowl Project sale and luncheon will be 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, in the VisTaTech Center on the college's main campus in Livonia.

Ceramic pieces and other ceramic bowls created and donated by students enrolled in ceramics classes at the college will be available to purchase. Items range in price from \$10-\$35. The purchase of a bowl includes a bowl of soup, a piece of bread and a glass of water provided by the college's Culinary Arts and Food Services departments. The simplicity of the meal reminds us of those in our community who need our help during the holiday season and throughout the entire year.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Schoolcraft College Student Food Pantry, which provides food for needy students and families. The food pantry opened in

April and operates on donations from students, staff, faculty and the community. To date, the pantry has received nearly 5,000 pounds of donated goods and is currently serving 38 families.

In addition to helping the hungry, the ceramic pieces make great holiday gifts - something to consider as the holiday season draws near, said Todd Stowell, student activities coordinator. The items for sale include a wide array of stylings, from the very simple to more intricate pieces of art.

"This is a great event for the local community and students to come together for a cause that knows no boundaries," Stowell said. "We are hoping that people can find the time, make the commitment and get involved with this singular effort that can make such a profound local impact."

The VisTaTech Center is at 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia.

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Girl, 11, wins prestigious philanthropy award

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

An 11-year-old Livonia student shared the stage in Detroit recently with A. Alfred Taubman, Phillip Wm. Fisher and Anthony and Catherine Viviano.

Shirley Brown, a sixth-grader at Johnson Upper Elementary School, joined the others in receiving a 2011 Philanthropy Award from the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals during a dinner at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center.

The former foster child was presented with the Sparky Anderson Award for Youth in Philanthropy for collecting a classroom of clothing for other foster children. The only youth to receive an award, she received a standing ovation from the



A former foster child, Shirley Brown received the Sparky Anderson Award for Youth in Philanthropy for collecting a classroom of clothing for other foster children.

700-some attendees.

"I just wanted to help some children," she said, adding she didn't collect

the clothes to receive an award. She said if she were still an orphan, she would appreciate the clothing.

Shirley came up with the idea for the clothing drive earlier this year after her teachers urged

her and her classmates to think of a project for Livonia Public Schools' Youth Making a Difference program.

When the Wyandotte police took Shirley and her younger brother from their parents almost nine years ago, they were naked, sick and lying in their own vomit. The officers had to put adult-sized T-shirts on the then toddlers just to remove them from their home because they couldn't find any children's clothing to dress them in.

"I knew how it was when I was little," she said in a previous interview, explaining why she held the clothing drive. "I didn't have any clothes."

Shirley, a Westland resident, got her entire school involved, sending a letter home to every one of the 600-plus students.

She and four classmates

spent their recesses and lunch periods for several weeks sorting the clothing by sex, size and season — with help from two teachers.

The clothing was donated to Orchards Children's Services, the agency through which Shirley was adopted.

Shirley was nominated for the award by Gilda Hauser, campaign director for Orchards Children's Services, based in Southfield. She included with the nomination form a copy of an article the *Livonia Observer* published April 24 about Shirley's clothing drive.

Her adoptive parents, Tim and Mia Brown, are understandably proud. Mia said she's always told Shirley that "if everybody did a little bit, it would make a whole world of difference."

Shirley has also participated in fundraising for the Kids Helping Kids Walk, part of the Children's Charity Coalition, and speaks to potential donors at Orchards Children's Services about her experiences and desire to help other kids.

After the dinner, where she heard about the contributions of the Vivianos, Fisher, Taubman and other notable Detroit-area philanthropists to organizations like the Henry Ford Health System, Starfish Family Services and Lawrence Technological University, Shirley said she was inspired to do more.

"I want to go farther," she said. "I'm going to change the world."

John Jacobi, O.D., F.C.O.V.D.* has been serving patients in the Livonia and surrounding communities for the past 20 years.



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...there may be cause for concern. This may be the most important article you will ever read about your injuries.



Don't let pain caused by a crash affect you for years. Discover this drug-free, natural way to be pain free.

It's amazing how different life can be after a split second collision.

One minute everything is fine, the next you are hurting for days and uncertain if life will ever get back to normal. Tasks you used to perform with ease, like reading, concentrating or even sleeping, now take more energy and cause annoying pain.

If you feel like this, or have any of the symptoms listed above, you could be suffering from whiplash. Whiplash is an injury to the spine caused by a jerking motion, either backward, forward or from the side.

Whiplash can severely damage your ligaments, even if you feel just a little sore after the accident. If not healed properly, painful scar tissue will develop, causing misery in your neck joints for decades.

One medical study concluded 43% of patients "will suffer long-term symptoms following 'whiplash' injury, for which no conventional treatment has proven to be effective."

This means that almost half the people who have neck trauma from a car wreck will suffer for years. Plus the traditional methods of treatment like neck collars, "wait-and-see", and pain pills are not working.

Could This Non-Invasive, Natural Treatment Be The Answer To Your Pain?

My name is Dr. Greg Kramer, clinic director at Livonia Spine and Injury Center. I've been helping people heal and be pain free after car wrecks for over 20 years. Chiropractic treatment has proven to be a very effective method of healing whiplash injuries. Here's the results of one chiropractic study...

"The results of this retrospective study would suggest that benefits can occur in over 90% of patients undergoing chiropractic treatment for chronic whiplash injury." -- European Spine Journal

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For 14 days only, I'm running a very special offer where you can find out how bad your injuries are and if I can help you.

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- A thorough analysis of your exam and x-ray findings so we can start mapping out your plan to being pain free.
- You'll see everything first hand and find out if this amazing treatment will be your pain solution, like it has been for so many other patients.

Until December 14, 2011 you can get everything I've listed here for **only \$35**. The normal price for this type of evaluation including x-rays is \$250 -- you're saving a considerable amount on this offer.

Now you may be wondering why as a doctor, I would practically give away my services. It's simple really. I've seen too many people come in years after their car accident, and have nasty, degenerative arthritis, most of which could have been prevented with the right care early on. I'm tired of seeing this scenario over and over, so I wanted to offer this special evaluation to help make a difference.

Here's How To Get Rid Of Your Pain

With my Evaluation we'll be able find the problem and then correct it. Think of how you'll feel in just a few short weeks. You'll be feeling your life change for the better. Starting your body on the way

to a pain-free, normal living. Feeling tight joints rest, relax, free up. Feeling muscles tied in knots become more supple.

As you begin to see motion returning to your joints, you're preventing and reducing chances of disability and a crippling future. You're playing golf again, doing yard work or playing with the kids without pain.

Here's What To Do About Your Pain

Call **248-615-1533** between the hours of 9:30 am and 6:30 pm Monday through Thursday and tell the receptionist you'd like to come in for the Special Car Wreck Evaluation **before December 14, 2011**.

Call today and we can get started with your consultation, exam and x-rays as soon as there's an opening in the schedule. Our office is called Livonia Spine and Injury and you can find us at **3444 Eight Mile Rd., Suite 116 Livonia in the Charles Town Office Center (southwest corner of Eight Mile and Gill)**.

Sincerely,
Greg Kramer, D.C., DAAML P

P.S. What will your pain feel like months, even years, from today?

A study published in the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* looked at people who had been in a car accident 15 years ago. They found that 70% of the whiplash injured patients continued to complain of problems related to the original accident.

With women it was even higher -- 80% still had symptoms after 15 years!

Don't let scar tissue build up and be painful for life. Take me up on my offer and call today **248-615-1533**.

Dr. Kramer is a Diplomate American Academy of Medical Legal Professionals. This is a national medical research organization that provides the latest research on the diagnosis and treatment of spinal trauma related conditions.

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THE MUPPETS (PG) 11:15, 12:00, 1:45, 2:25, 4:15, 5:00, 6:40, 7:20, 9:00, 9:50 FRI/SAT LS 11:25

TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN PART 1 (PG-13) 11:00, 11:20, 1:35, 1:55, 4:10, 4:30, 6:45, 7:05, 9:20, 9:40 FRI/SAT LS 11:55, 12:15

3D HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) \$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 11:35, 4:40, 6:55

HAPPY FEET TWO (PG) 2:05, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:30

IMMORTALS (R) FRI-TUE, TH 11:25, 7:10 FRI/SAT LS 12:00

WED 11:25

TOWER HEIST (PG-13) FRI-TUE, TH 2:00, 4:20, 9:45

WED 2:00

PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) 11:45, 4:20, 6:35

3D PUSS IN BOOTS (PG) \$2.50 PREMIUM PER 3D TICKET 2:15, 9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:35

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Annual market features Plymouth potters

The 36th annual Potters Market, the largest potter sale of its kind in the country, takes place Dec. 2-4 in Madison Heights, and will feature a pair of Plymouth artists.

The highly anticipated event is known as a Mecca for potters lovers who come from across the state and sometimes the country to shop. It's known as the perfect place to buy the perfect gifts and get top quality, handmade, ceramic art at reasonable prices.

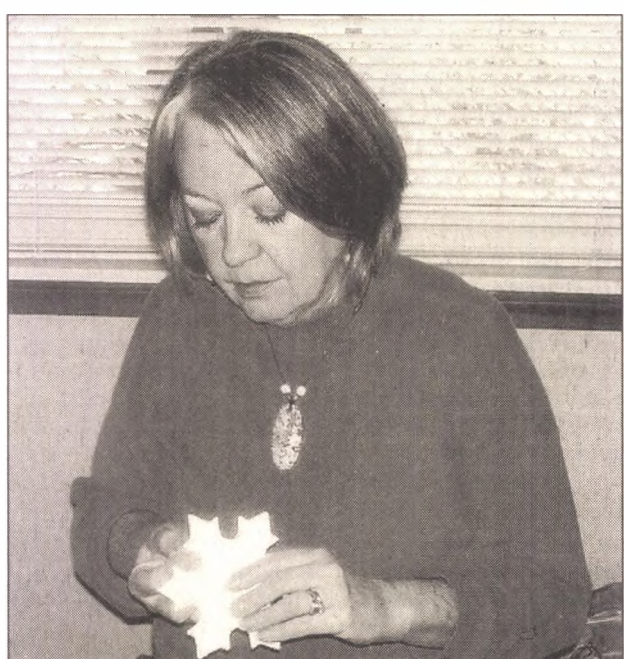
It features Plymouth potters Kathy Sandberg and Donna Williams.

Sandberg was one of the founders of the Plymouth Potters Guild and took classes there. Through this work she became well known in the pottery community and thus she was invited to participate as a guest potter in this important Michigan show.

"There's absolutely nothing like The Potters Market," Sandberg said. "It really is a must do for pottery lovers and I just love to be part of it. There is such a wonderful sense of sharing and camaraderie. I feel honored to be part of the whole scene."

Williams is a well-regarded potter in the area and is also delighted to be featured in this year's Potters Market for the first time.

The event, a showcase for the finest potters in Michigan including talented new potters making their debut, sets up at the UF & CW (United Food and Commercial Workers') Union Hall at 876 Horace Brown Drive, one block south of Thirteen



Plymouth potter Kathy Sandberg puts the finishing touches on a ceramic ornament.



The potters market will feature the work of Plymouth artist Donna Williams, a first-time participant in the 36-year event.

Mile, between I-75 and John R. Admission is free and parking is free.

The pottery sale features 135 potters offering nearly 40,000 pieces of pottery ranging from pots, vases, platters, tiles and mugs to bird baths, jewelry, ceramic framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps, tile-topped tables and just about every product possible in clay.

This year's many art-

ists who have regularly offered their wares at the Potters Market as well as additional artists from pottery labs across the area.

"The Potters Market is a unique opportunity for young artists to be introduced to the public and learn about marketing their wares," said Alan Paulson, chief organizer of the event. "It is also a top notch showcase for the most creative and popular potters in the state who are well established. It is a great opportunity for pottery lovers to buy work from these artists at good prices."

More than 9,000 customers shop in the 12,600 square foot facility, over the three-day weekend.

Hours for the Potters Market are Friday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friends of the Rouge host Schoolyard Habitat Forum

The Friends of the Rouge will host a Schoolyard Habitat Forum 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

The forum will feature a panel of experienced teachers, volunteers and school administrators who have been working with outdoor classrooms for years. They will share stories of their successes, failures and solutions when maintaining their schoolyard habitats.

Anyone who current-

ly has a schoolyard habitat or is looking to install one is welcome to attend. The first 30 people to register for the event will receive a free copy of the Midwest Invasive Plant Species guide. A book signing and selling will also be held, featuring her book *Butterflies in the Garden*.

Pre-registration for this event is recommended. The fee to attend is \$10. To register, email Emily Hughes at repmanager@therouge.org

call (313) 792-9626 by Jan. 13. (There is a \$3 fee for processing each registration online). Light refreshments will be served.

The workshop is funded by the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project and all of the Project Education Project 25th Anniversary sponsors: The Erb Foundation, Denso International, America, The MASCO Foundation, Marathon Petroleum, ARCH Environmental Group, Health Alliance Plan and Henniges Automotive.

Canton sponsors home decorating contest

Residents who think they've got the most festive home on the block are invited to enter Canton Leisure Services' first Holiday Home Decorating Contest.

Entries should be submitted Dec. 1-15. This contest is free to enter and is open to all Canton residents who submit an entry by the Dec. 15 deadline. Winners will receive a Canton Leisure Services gift certificate in their name that can be used for

any Leisure Services program or activity at the Summit on the Park.

To enter, just post a photo on Canton Leisure Services' Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cantonfun or call (734) 394-5474 to make arrangements for us to take a photo by appointment. Winners will be announced Friday, Dec. 16.

For more information, visit www.cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.



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Snowbird should mull more than taxes before flying south for good

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

Q: Dear Rick: I read that the Michigan Supreme Court has upheld the law that will allow pensions to be taxed here in Michigan. I spend about six months of the year in Michigan and the other half of the year in Florida. I have always been a Michigan resident, but now I am thinking about making Florida my permanent residence. As you know, Florida doesn't have an income tax. I have done some rough calculations and it appears to me that by moving my residence to Florida, it will save me a few thousand dollars a year in taxes. I still plan to keep a home in Michigan but I figure why pay more in taxes than I have to. My questions for you are, do you think I'm making the right decision and is there anything else that I should be considering?

A: You are correct, the Michigan Supreme Court has upheld the provision in Gov. Rick Snyder's tax plan that would tax pensions here in Michigan. In the past, the great majority of pensions in Michigan were tax-free, but beginning in 2012 they will be taxed like other forms of income, such as wages. However, there are some exceptions to the law that I think apply to your particular situation. For people born before 1946 the law does not change. People born between 1946-1952 will be able to exclude \$20,000 in pension and retirement benefits if they are single or \$40,000 if married. Based upon these exceptions, in your case there should be no changes to your tax situation.

Many Michiganders who spend a considerable amount of time outside the state are, for many

reasons, contemplating changing their legal residence. Changing your residence is more than just saying "I'm a resident of Florida or I'm a resident of Michigan. First, to be a resident of a state you have to spend the majority of your time there. It's not unusual for many of our fellow Michiganders to spend six months in Florida. Therefore, they meet the basic requirement to change their residence. However, to make it official and to formalize your citizenship, you must also do things such as change your voter's registration, the registration on your car and your driver's license. These types of things are more of a nuisance to change; but, they demonstrate that you are making a change in your legal residence.

In addition to the income tax issues, one other thing to factor into the equation is what happens with your property taxes. Most of us have a homestead exemption on our homes which limits property tax increases. This homestead designation is only available for our primary residence. If your primary residence is no longer in Michigan, you technically would not be eligible for the homestead exemption. The one caveat of course, is that with plummeting real estate values, I'm not sure how much the homestead exemption is worth in certain situations. How-

ever, it is something to factor into the equation.

Before the new tax on pensions went into affect, I did numerous calculations for clients and the savings of moving their residence to Michigan was not material in most cases. With the new tax, it may make sense for a few Michigan residents to consider changing their residence; however, this is not a good option for everyone. The key fact to keep in mind is that Michigan taxes are a fraction of what federal taxes are. For most people your federal income tax rate is 28 percent. However, there are people that are taxed at a much lower rate, as well as people who are taxed at a higher rate. That's not how it works in the State of Michigan. By constitution, the State of Michigan basically has a flat tax. That rate is 4.35 percent. Thus, if you received a \$20,000 a year pension and you did not qualify for one of the exemptions, your tax on that amount would be (\$20,000 x 4.35 = \$870). That is the amount in taxes you will pay on that pension in Michigan.

If you do spend the majority of your time outside Michigan in a low-tax state such as Florida, in certain situations it may make sense to change your residency. However, it is important that you look at all the financial considerations and not just the tax issue. Good luck!

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

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Hospice opens annual 'Tree of Light'

Angela Hospice in Livonia is helping people honor the memory of someone special by hanging an angel ornament bearing their name on the "Tree of Life."

"This is one of our most wonderful projects because it gives people the opportunity to honor and remember their loved ones in a beautiful setting during the holiday season," said Rebecca DeRaud, bereavement and social work manager for Angela Hospice. "I've seen how meaningful the experience can be for those who participate, whether it is something they do year after year or if it's the first time they've hung an ornament for a loved one. It really touches them."

Individuals and families are invited to place golden angel ornaments provided by Angela Hospice on one of several Christmas trees on site adorned with the names of their loved ones to memorialize their lives. Thousands of angel ornaments are decorated each year during the "Tree of Life" event, which continues through Dec. 27 during normal store hours.

The opening ceremony takes place at Westland Mall Wednesday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the east court near Macy's. The event will feature a performance by the Angela Hospice choir.

It's a special time for Angela Hospice volun-



Vallandingham

teers like MaryAnn Desjarlais of Plymouth, who has donated more than five years to Angela

Hospice's "Tree of Life" events. Desjarlais has returned year after year because she's "seen the comfort 'Tree of Life' provides to everyone who's been touched by the loss of a loved one."

After retiring, Desjarlais enjoys being involved in the "Tree of Life" because she's "able to help others remember their loved ones" and knows "every story is important." Desjarlais has also helped with other hospice fundraisers, delivered supplies to patients, worked at the AH Care Center and currently scoops ice cream during the Ice Cream Socials every Friday.

Debbie Vallandingham, also of Plymouth, started volunteering with Angela Hospice in its bereavement program, but this is not the first time she's been touched by hospice care. She's seen both sides of losing a loved one - one without hospice care and one with - when her mother succumbed to cancer 20 years ago and with her sister's recent passing in the care of Angela Hospice.

After surviving a recent battle with cancer herself, Vallandingham decided to go back to

school to get a masters in Social Work, so she could "better educate people about hospice in order to give people more time with their loved ones."

The "Tree of Life" first began in 1988, as a small fundraiser held in the house from which Angela Hospice then operated. Just as the "Tree of Life" event has grown into two events, Angela Hospice has expanded its facility by providing premium hospice services to more patients each year. More than 1,700 patients received care in the past year, with countless family members and community members participating in the hospice's free grief support programs.

To make a donation, visit the trees during mall hours or call Angela Hospice at (734) 464-7810. For more information about Angela Hospice, visit www.AskForAngela.com.



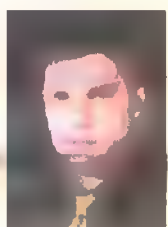
The hospice choir will perform at the Tree of Life ceremony Nov. 30 at Westland Mall.

'City of Champions' author stops for local visit

With the big gift-giving season in full swing, a popular local author will be making a stop at the 32nd annual Handcrafters Tinsel & Treasures Holiday Market in Northville.

Charles Avison, author of "Detroit City of Champions - The story of the most important season in Detroit sports history" will be exhibiting as well as selling and signing books exclusively in Northville Dec. 9-11 at the this holiday event. The event takes place at the Northville Community Senior Center at 303 W. Main Street.

"Did you know that in 1935, the Tigers, Lions and Red Wings won their championships in the same season to become known as the City of Champions?" This is the premise for Avison's popular book, which tells the story of Detroit's widely unknown sports history. With the recent success of Detroit's professional teams, "Detroit City of Champions" has become a must have for any die-hard Detroit sports fan. Avison complements his



Avison

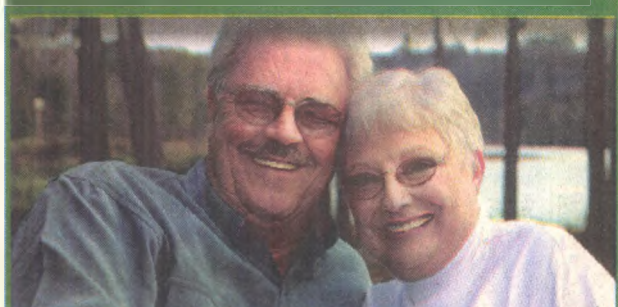
book with coordinating memorabilia and other great gifts.

Avison is one of more than 75 hand-selected, juried artists and craftspeople who will be showcasing their work at the Handcrafter's Tinsel & Treasures Holiday Market. Artists from glass design, gourmet foods, jewelry, original fashions, home decor, personal care and many more will all be exhibiting at the event.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11.

For more information, or pictures from one of Handcrafter's events please e-mail Stephanie Jones at hcshows@yahoo.com. You can also find pictures on our website: www.hcshows.com. Handcrafters Unlimited, P.O. Box 55, Goodrich, MI 48438. For more information, call (734) 459-0050.

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Ballet group, orchestra team for 'Nutcracker'

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company and the Michigan Philharmonic will present two performances, including a Sunday matinee, of the Nutcracker Ballet.

Performances take place 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, in the Salem High School auditorium.

The audience can follow Clara as she journeys with the Nutcracker Prince from her home through the Land of Snow. The Snow Queen and the Snow Flakes send them to the Magic Kingdom, where she is entertained by a vast array of dancers and honored by the Sugar Plum Fairy.

A Sugar Plum Parade follows the performances; audience members are invited to meet the dancers on stage. Parade Tickets are \$3.

The Sunday performance will feature Canton native Dawnell Dryja dancing with Leonid Flegmatov. Dryja grew up in Canton and danced in the Plymouth-Canton Ballet. She is now in her 10th season with the Grand Rapids Ballet after previously dancing with Tulsa Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Dayton Ballet, and Metropolitan Ballet Theatre of Detroit.

Dryja trained under her mother, Dawn Greene, artistic director for the Plymouth-Canton Ballet



The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company performance of 'The Nutcracker' will feature Canton native Dawnell Dryja (right), dancing with Leonid Flegmatov.

and the Grosse Ile Academy of Dance. She has danced a variety of roles including Titania from A Midsummer Night's Dream, Odette/Odile from Swan Lake and numerous Balanchine ballets.

Dryja has worked with esteemed choreographers and teachers such as Nils Christe, Frederick Franklin, Kirk Peterson, Val Caniporoli, Suzanne Farrell, and Raymond Lukens.

Flegmatov was born

into a dance family in Siktivkar, Komi, USSR. In 2001 he graduated from the Moscow State Choreography Academy of Bolshoi Theater and was soon invited to join the Russian Academy of Theatrical Arts (GITIS) as a soloist.

Flegmatov came to the United States in 2005 and has been a principal dancer with Pennsylvania Ballet, Columbia Classical Ballet, New Jersey Ballet, Miami Ballet and the International

Ballet Company.

Reid Conlon, Dance Masters' Teen Mr. Dance of America, will be performing the role of the Nutcracker Prince, dancing with Lauren Hansen of Canton in the Snow Pas de Deux.

Tickets — \$20 for adults, \$15 children 12 and younger — are available by calling (734) 676-7233, on the website at www.plymouthcantonballet.org or by e-mailing pcbc@comcast.net.

Canton woman named top fundraiser

Canton resident Carla O'Malley was honored recently for her long philanthropic career.

O'Malley, executive director and president of the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation, received the John S. Lore Outstanding Fundraising Executive Award from The Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Detroit Chapter. She received the award at the 20th annual National Philanthropy Day Dinner.

Each year, the Dr. John S. Lore Award for Outstanding Fundraising Executive is presented to a fundraising executive who practices his/her profession in an exemplary manner. The recipient must have 10 years of professional fundraising experience, evidence of quality of leadership, and a commitment to fundraising and philanthropy through volunteer service and financial support of non-profit organizations.

Renee J. Lewis, executive director of the AFP, said O'Malley is all that, and more.

"Her unique blend of business, clinical, and fundraising experience gives her a broad-based perspective and




O'Malley

has helped her to successfully build a culture of philan-

thropy throughout Oakwood's Foundation and the Oakwood Healthcare System," she said.

O'Malley has worked for the Oakwood Healthcare System for more than 30 years. She's served as president and executive director of the Oakwood Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the healthcare stem, for 13 years. During that time, she has successfully engaged and inspired Oakwood's executives, physicians, employees and volunteer teams to work together and generate nearly \$100 million for capital projects, vital programs, community outreach initiatives and endowment funds.

She also mentors graduates from the University of Michigan and has created an internship program at the Foundation with the purpose of introducing highly skilled recent graduates to the development profession.



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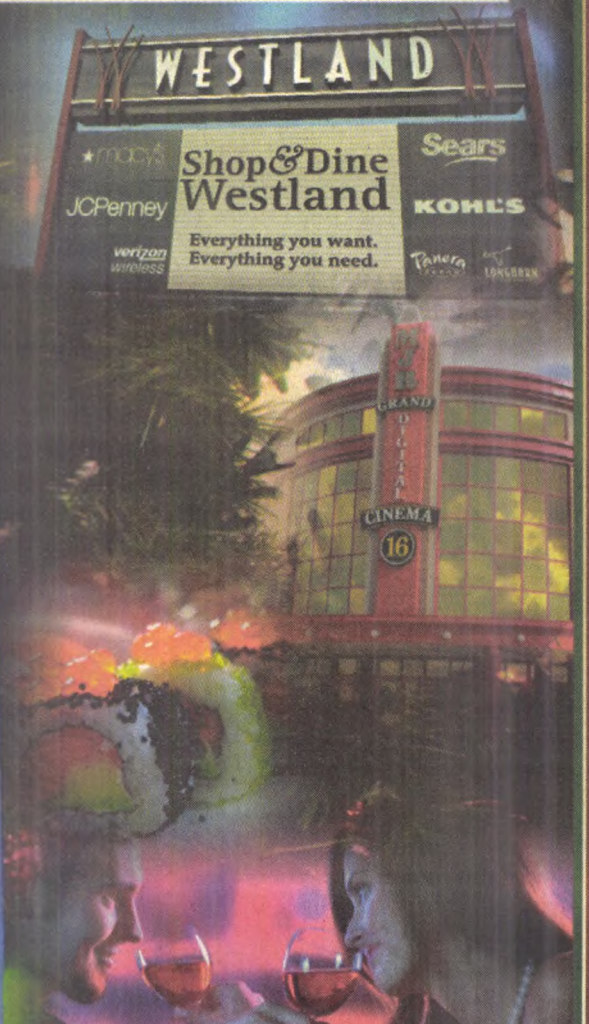
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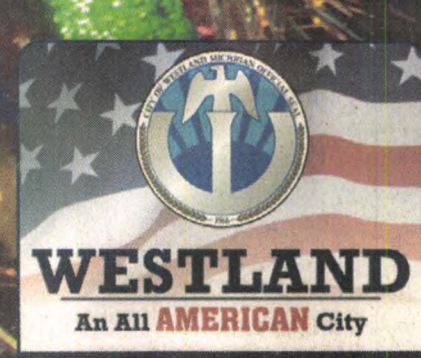
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State reps remind shoppers of new scanner law

As shoppers flood local stores and malls, a group of state representatives want consumers to be aware of the item pricing law changes on Sept. 1.

State Representatives Douglas Geiss (D-Taylor), Andrew Kandrevas (D-Southgate), Vicki Barnett (D-Farmington Hills), Dian Slavens (D-Canton) Bob Constan (D-Dearborn Heights) and George Darany (D-Dearborn) held a press conference recently to highlight the modified consumer rights under the new item pricing law.

The 2011 Shopping Reform and Modernization Act or "Scanner Law" made changes to how item prices had to be displayed. The new Scanner Law permits the price to be displayed by signage, electronic reader, or any other method that clearly conveys the price to a consumer when in the store at the place where the item is located.

The most fundamental change is that retailers are no longer required

to individually mark the price first-hand itself.

"I saw firsthand what can happen when an item's price is merely shown in the vicinity of the product and not on the product itself," said Rep. Geiss. "I was overcharged on an item at the Taylor Wal-Mart, had to document the difference, and prove that I was misled by the signage."

He went on to say, "There is a 'Scanner Error Bill of Rights' and the public deserves to be educated on their rights. The attorney general was appropriated \$100,000 to develop and implement a public consumer education program to provide general information and advice regarding the advertising and pricing requirements of this act and the remedies available to consumers. Thus far, the attorney general has established and maintained a website however, not only have there been no other efforts to educate the public, but there has been no effort we are aware of to edu-



House Democrats gathered recently for a press conference, to remind consumers about the new item pricing law in Michigan. Joining them, State Rep. Vicki Barnett, D-Farmington Hills, on left.

cate the retailers."

Also tied to the legislation was an appropriation that makes the law referendum-proof, meaning the voters cannot vote to have the law changed.

"Voters had twice before vetoed to the item pricing law but with this measure they will unfortunately have to live with the changes without proper recourse or information," said Rep. Barnett. "If those

that passed this legislation do not want to educate the public then we are more than happy to do it for them."

The law

According to the State of Michigan Attorney General Web site, if an automatic checkout system charges you more than the displayed price of an item, and the transaction has been completed and you have a receipt indicating the item pur-

chased and the price charged for it, you must notify the seller that you were overcharged within 30 days of the transaction, either in person or in writing.

Within two days of receiving your notice, the seller may choose to refund you the difference between the amount charged and the price displayed plus a "bonus" of 10 times the difference, with a minimum of \$1.00 and a maximum of \$5. If the seller refuses to give you both the refund and the bonus, you may bring a lawsuit to recover your actual damages or \$250, whichever is greater, plus reasonable attorney fees up to \$300.

"We are out here today, not to let consumers and retailers alike know that we see the lack of education in the implementation phase of this legislation," said Rep. Slavens. "We really just want consumers to be armed with information and recourse if they feel

their rights as consumers have been violated."

"Our hard working Michigan residents are watching their money carefully these days and should not run the risk of being overcharged, especially this time of year," said Rep. Kandrevas. "We want to stress this issue, as many people are busy holiday shopping. We came here today to explain the changes in the law, urge consumers to be vigilant when shopping and provide a contact if they feel they are duped or overcharged or frustrated when shopping."

Complaints regarding a store's failure to properly display the price of consumer items offered for sale should be directed to the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Weights & Measures Section in the E.C. Heffron Laboratory, by calling (517) 655-8202 or toll-free (877) 765-8388, in writing addressed to 940 Venture Lane, Williamston, MI 48895 or online at www.michigan.gov/ag.



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Tartan registered with Scottish authority

The Scottish American Society of Michigan announced it now has an official Society Tartan that is registered with the Scottish Tartan Authority in Scotland.

The Tartan, designed by Society member and membership director Jean Dohanyos, was one of eight different designs she created and was chosen by the Society members for its representation of Michigan's autumn colors and countryside.

- Scarlet for the cherry trees and apples, and brilliant autumn leaves
- Balmoral blue for the crisp blue skies and chilly waters
- Gold for wheat fields and corn stalks
- Bottle green for the majestic pines
- White for fluffy clouds and whispers of winter fun
- Brown for back roads and brown fields.

The Tartan was presented for the first time in public at the annual Scottish Sunday Kirking of the Tartan Celebration at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church in Detroit Nov. 20.

"The final vote was very close of the three that were in the running," said Jean Dohanyos. "But in the end it was the beau-



The Scottish American Society of Michigan's Tartan was designed by membership director Jean Dohanyos.

tiful red that won out over the rest. It's a beautiful Tartan that reflects all that our Great Lakes State has to offer in the fall."

For more information

about the Scottish American Society of Michigan Tartan and interviews with Jean Dohanyos, call (248) 399-1101 or visit www.scotsofmichigan.com.

NEWS BRIEF

Tax preparers

The Accounting Aid Society seeks volunteers for the upcoming tax season to learn to prepare taxes and file credits for middle- to low-income families in southeast Michigan.

Accounting Aid Society estimates that it will need 674 volunteers who will help 20,613 families receive \$24.4 million in

refunds and credits. Tax sites will be in community centers, libraries and other locations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston counties from January through mid-April. Training includes tax law and tax computer software and is available at local colleges and universities, plus online.

For more information and to register, go to www.accountingaidsociety.org.

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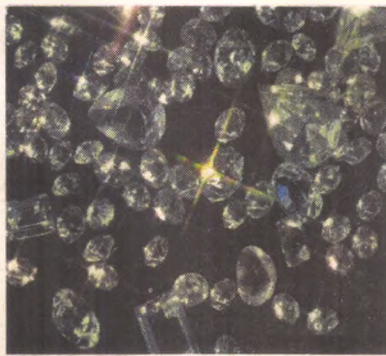
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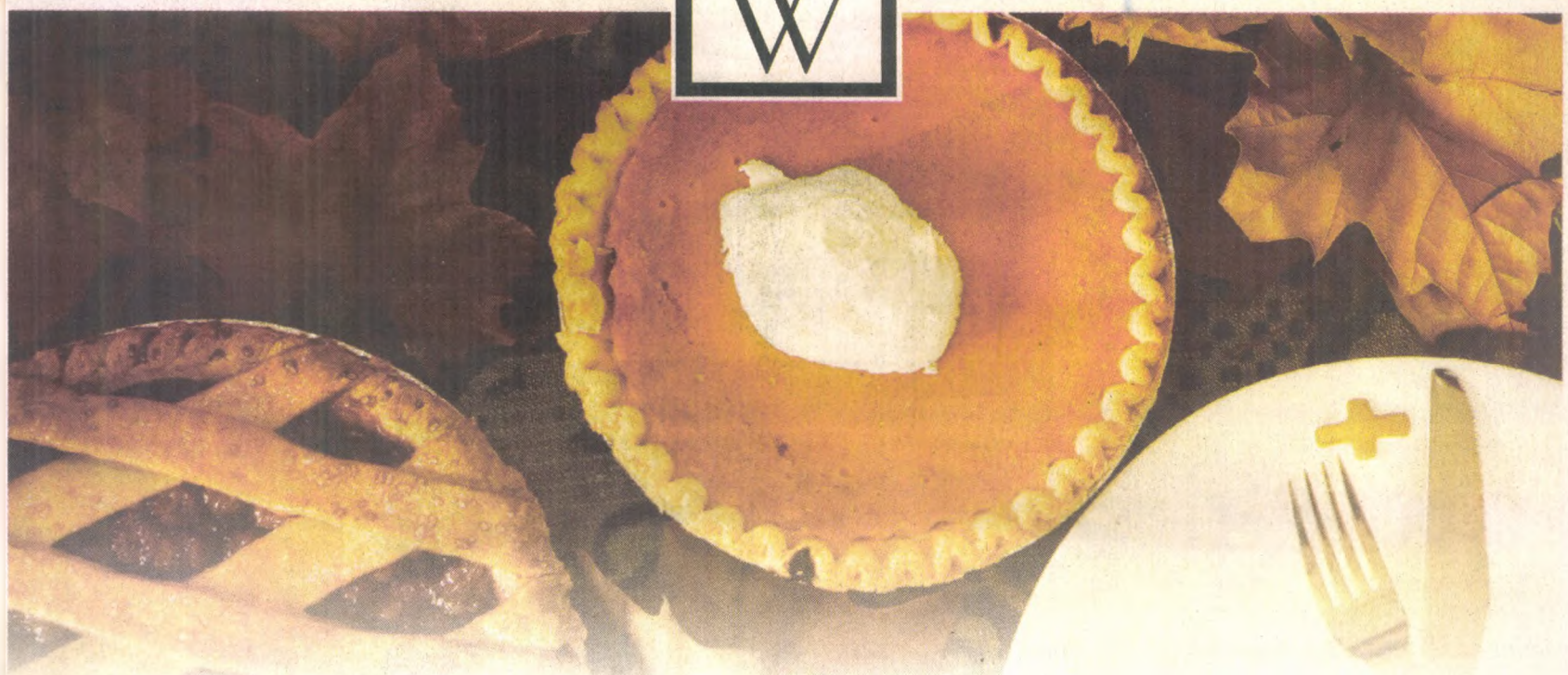


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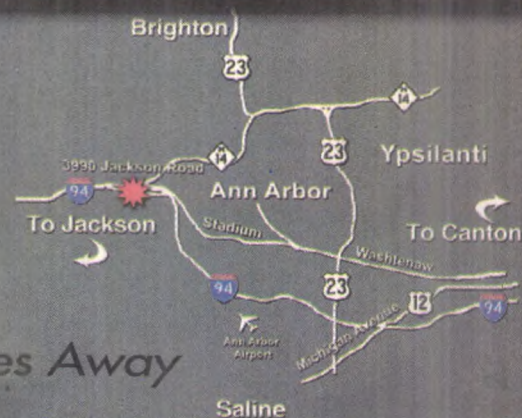
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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Whalers' hot streak ends

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

After feasting on Ontario Hockey League opponents to the tune of eight straight wins, the Plymouth Whalers didn't have room for one more on the night after Thanksgiving.

Despite a spectacular penalty shot goal by forward and Farmington Hills native Alex Aleardi, the Whalers gave up a late goal Friday night to fall 4-3 to the visiting Peterborough Petes in a non-conference tilt.

That stopped the Plymouth hot streak, but not before it propelled the Whalers to the top of the OHL West Division with a record of 17-7-2-1 (two points up on idle Sarnia).

"Playing better defensively, that was the key (to the winning streak)," Whalers head coach Mike Vellucci said following the game. "And competing hard every shift and winning loose pucks. But defensively we weren't very good tonight and it caught up to us."

The Petes were outshot 47-31, yet came away with the win when center Alan Quine chipped the puck past Whalers goalie Scott Wedgewood with 1:49 to go.

Winger Matt Puempel outworked the Plymouth 'D' behind the net and centered the disc to Quine right on the doorstep.

Vellucci said it was "brutal" to have a defensive letdown so late in a tie game. But he credited Petes netminder Andrew D'Agostini (44 saves) for giving his team a chance.

Goal of the night

The highlight for the crowd of just under 2,900 at Compuware Arena was Aleardi's penalty shot goal with 10:29 left in the second period to make it a 3-3 game.

Aleardi had been tripped up as he dashed to the net on a partial breakaway. On the ensuing penalty shot, he veered to the left, cut inside and back out again before lifting a backhand under the crossbar for his 15th goal of the season.

Please see WHALERS, B4



MICHELLE BAUER

Canton defenseman Brandon Schlieger (No. 20) shadows Plymouth forward John VanDenBeurgery (No. 26) in front of Chiefs goaltender Spencer Craig during Wednesday night's varsity boys hockey game.

Chiefs nip 'Cats in thriller

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Canton-Plymouth hockey rivalry continued Wednesday night with a hard-hitting but clean contest at Arctic Edge.

Before a packed house featuring plenty of students either wearing red or black varsity letter jackets, the Chiefs edged the Wildcats 2-1. In February, the last time the campus rivals met, an ugly, bench-clearing brawl marred the game.

"It was a fun game to be a part of," said Gerry Vento, the new Plymouth coach. "Came out on the wrong end, but I liked what I saw and we're going to be fine."

Scoring the winning goal with just 13 seconds to go in the second period was Chiefs senior forward Brandon Grillo and that tally held up over the

final frame.

"It was a really good play because we kept the puck in the zone," Grillo said. "We had a nice tic-tac-toe from Christian (Flack) to (Taylor) Baker and I just happened to be in the right spot at the right time."

Baker sent the puck over to Grillo, stationed about six feet to the left of the Plymouth goal.

Grillo's backhander found twine inside the far post, getting past Wildcats senior goaltender Rich Guglielmi — who kept his team in the game with several aggressive, sprawling saves.

Guglielmi stopped 25 of 27 shots while his Canton counterpart, senior Spencer Craig, was good when he had to be (16 saves).

"He stopped a breakaway, a couple point-blank chances," said Vento, about Guglielmi.

"He's just a battler, he sticks it out there for us and he gave us a chance to win tonight."

Getting it back

According to Canton coach Jeremy Majszak, whose team is 1-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAA South Division, the Grillo marker was key because it came just 3:27 after Plymouth senior forward Matt Goertz tied the game.

"It was good to see that, we really bounced back," Majszak said. "It was an opportune time to get that goal."

Goertz had evened the score at 1-1 when he jammed a rebound under Craig from close range. Assisting on the marker was senior forward Sean Smiatacz, whose long wrist shot got away from Craig.

That was all the Wildcats (0-2,

Please see CHIEFS, B3

Kubicki 77th in NAIA meet

Freshman Bianca Kubicki (Canton) made Madonna University cross country history again Nov. 19 by placing 77th at the 2011 NAIA Women's Cross Country National Championships held at the Fort Vancouver (Wash.) Historical Site.

Kubicki covered the 5-kilometer course in 19 minutes, 14 seconds, good for the best finish in MU cross country history at the nationals.

Kubicki placed in the top third of the 323 runner field and was the fourth fastest runner to come from the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Wildcats girls lacrosse meeting

For anyone interested in playing on the Plymouth Wildcats girls lacrosse team next spring, there will be a mandatory parent and player meeting 7 p.m. Tuesday. That meeting will take place in room 223B at Plymouth High School.

Moose to play Wing alums

The Detroit Moose hockey team and Detroit Red Wings Alumni Association will face off at 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, at Canton Arctic Edge in a charity hockey game.

Tickets are \$10. All proceeds benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. For more information, visit www.detroitmoose.org.

Winter hoops

The Plymouth Family YMCA announced that winter basketball leagues are forming for ages 4-11.

Programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The annual registration fee is \$91 or \$123 for community participants. Registration continues until Jan. 2, 2012.

After teams are formed, they will practice once a week and play Friday evenings from Jan. 16 through March 23.

For more information, visit www.ymcadetroit.org or call (734) 453-2904.

MU harriers All-Academic

The NAIA announced its 2011 Cross Country Scholar-Athletes and three Madonna University runners were honored. Junior Tim Boes (Westland John Glenn), Kari Saarela (Livonia Franklin) and Cassie Yarnall (Auburn Hills Oakland Christian) were among the 455 student-athletes honored by the NAIA.

2011-12 GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW — PART 1

Young Wildcats looking to make impact in KLAA South

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Last season ended for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team just as it was starting to hit its stride.

The Wildcats finished 9-13 overall and went 5-5 in the KLAA South Division, but reeled off a handful of wins down the stretch and won their district opener against Salem.

Returning head coach Bob de Bear is enthusiastic that good things will continue in the 2011-12 season, which opens with a game at 7 p.m. Tuesday against visiting Farmington Hills Harrison.

Senior co-captains Alyssa Burris, Kate Watson and Chyna Williams will spearhead the Wildcats as they look to make a move in the KLAA South. They are the only seniors on a young team.

Burris and Watson can excel either inside or out, with the former "like a coach on the floor" with a nice shooting touch from the outside, de Bear noted.

As for Watson, she was Plymouth's leading scorer in 2010-11, but can also get to the rim and do the job in the rebounding department. "She brings enthusiasm to each practice," the coach said.

In the paint, de Bear likes the potential for 5-10 Williams and 5-11 sophomore Jada Woody to complement the outside shooters.

Williams is "ready to pick up where she left off" as an inside scorer and rebounder, the coach said.

Stepping up

And Woody is three inches taller than last season and geared up following stellar workout sessions during the spring and summer.

"She's an excellent rebounder and finisher at the rim," de Bear said. "She will be a major contributor this season."

Another key returning player is sophomore guard Kylie Robb, who trailed only Watson in the scoring department last year.

"She's faster and more skilled this year (and) can score in a variety of ways," de Bear said, adding that Robb is "very good in transition."

When the Wildcats need to put defensive pressure on an opponent, look for 5-4 sophomore guard Alyssa Dillon to get that job done. The coach also likes that the versatile Dillon can hit long jumpers and "get down the

Please see WILDCATS, B2



One of the top nominees for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team is senior co-captain Kate Watson (No. 35), who was the team's leading scorer in 2010-11.

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Hard work pays off for Baumgart

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

A full-fledged gym rat since he was a kid, Paul Baumgart's idea of a good time is playing to his heart's content on the basketball court.

And ever since he was a youngster, Baumgart envisioned someday playing his favorite sport at the collegiate level.

That dream is coming true for the 17-year-old Canton High School senior forward, after recently signing his letter of intent with Lewis University in Illinois.

"It means a lot, I worked hard to get it," said the 6-7 Baumgart, discussing the full-ride scholarship with the Chicago-area college. "... I'm always in the gym to get better every day. This has been my goal and dream to play college basketball and get a full ride somewhere."

His mom, Donna Baumgart, is just as enthusiastic about it.

"I'm very excited for him," she said. "I think it's a good fit, academically and sports-wise. It's a nice-sized school, in a beautiful location."

"Paul's worked real hard. Starting with when he was six years old playing basketball. He's gone



Canton senior Paul Baumgart (center) is all smiles after signing to play college basketball at Lewis University. At left is his mom, Donna, and at right is Chiefs coach Jimmy Reddy.

to a lot of camps, really devoted himself to it."

Good fit

Canton varsity boys basketball head coach Jimmy Reddy said the Lewis coaching staff, led by Scott Trost, saw that Baumgart has the potential to be a productive post player in the Division 2 Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"They really liked how

skilled he was for a big man," Reddy said. "He's 6-7. He can do a lot of different things, play inside-outside, can handle the ball, pass and shoot it."

"... They're losing a lot of their big guys, they're seniors this year, so they're looking to fill some voids."

According to Paul Baumgart, signing before his final high school season is something that he

wanted to do since talking with former teammate Dietrich Lever II, a 2011 Canton grad who signed last fall with Ferris State University.

"What I wanted to do was sign before the season so I didn't have to worry about it," Baumgart noted. "That's what Dietrich (Lever) did. And talking to him, he said it was a lot easier and it's a lot of weight off

BIG MAN ON CAMPUS

Who: Paul Baumgart, Canton High School senior.
What: Recently signed letter of intent with Lewis University in Illinois to play college basketball. He received a full-ride scholarship for four years.

About Lewis: The private Catholic university has about 6,000 students. It is located about 30 miles outside Chicago.

Upside: The 6-7 Baumgart, 17, has a chance to see playing time as a freshman because of his ability to shoot, pass and rebound. He averaged 14 points and seven rebounds in 2010-11 for the Chiefs, earning first-team All-KLAA honors.



my shoulders.

"I can just play, and focus on what we're going to do here at Canton to be successful."

Both players opted to get their college signings out of the way early. But Reddy said he has "no preference" whether a player takes care of business before, during or after the season.

"If kids wanted to wait until the end and see how they do that's fine," Reddy stressed. "But he got a great situation, he got a great offer and he seems to really like it."

"So I think it's a good fit and I think it's the right thing to do for him."

Transformation

Reddy started his job as Canton's varsity coach in 2009-10, the

same year Baumgart made the squad as a sophomore.

In those years, Baumgart has gone from a player who stayed in the paint and didn't say much to a multi-faceted force who gives as good as he gets in the vocal department.

"He used to be strictly a low-post guy for us when he was a sophomore," Reddy said. "He's a really good passer, he's become a really good ball-handler. His shooting's improved."

"... And when I first met Paul he didn't really say much. Now he's talking all the time. He's really matured into a fine young man."

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WILDCATS

Continued from page B1

floor and finish" around the rim.

The only junior on the roster is 5-5 wing guard Lexie McGhee, described by de Bear as "a very intriguing player with great court vision." McGhee, who played on last year's junior varsity, is quickly making an adjustment to the quicker-paced varsity level and should contribute.

Sophomores and freshmen make up the rest of the squad, led by sophomore forwards Shelby Cheston (6-4) and Tionne Johnson (5-8).

Cheston is showing that she can score, rebound and block shots down low. "I'm looking for her to be a key player this year," de Bear said.

Also on de Bear's radar is Johnson, moving up from freshman thanks to a very good midrange shoot and ability to play inside or out.

Sophomore Brooke Senkbeil is a player who has court savvy and a nifty outside shoot, the coach continued.

Another sophomore who could do some damage to opponents is Maria Farmer, described as "an extremely athletic player who can get to the rim."

Rounding out the roster are freshman point guard Paige Slominski and 6-1 forward Leah Kliczinski, also a ninth-grader.



Jada Woody (No. 20), shown from a 2010-11 contest, is a player who could be a key presence in the low post for Plymouth this season.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Coach working to build new Lawrence Tech soccer team

By Dan O'Meara
Eccentric Staff Writer

Jamie Scott is busy getting the word out these days about the new Lawrence Tech University women's soccer team.

Scott was hired last summer to coach the start-up program, and she's been working to build a recruiting base and promote a school noted for its academics and not athletics.

Women's soccer is part of an expanded sports program at Southfield-based LTU, which begins competition in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference next year.

Scott has no players at present, but she hopes to have her first commitments in the coming weeks. She has the better part of a year to put together a team before the first game next Sept. 29 at LTU.

"We're looking for local talent as well as Michigan-based talent," Scott said, adding she used the occasion of a recent California trip for a wedding to do some recruiting.

"We have really shown our face in multiple tournaments in Illinois and Indiana, trying to get our name out there. A lot of people are not aware of Lawrence Tech and, if they are, they're not aware we have a soccer team."

"It's almost like marketing when you start something new — how do you market your product or project? People know Lawrence Tech for its strong name in academics, and what we have to do is put together a really strong soccer program. I'm confident we can do that."

Scott, who was raised in Livonia and has coached more than 10 years for the Canton Soccer Club,



Former Livonia Churchill and Madonna University soccer player Jamie Scott is coach of the new women's team at Lawrence Tech University.

has previous experience with new programs.

After playing prep soccer at Livonia Churchill, she played for coach Rick Larson at Madonna University.

Up for challenge

In the third year, Scott helped the Crusaders reach the semifinals of the NAIA national tournament in 2000. LTU also will be an NAIA member, and Scott hopes for quick success with the Blue Devils, too.

"I know the challenges of a new program, but I also know the potential," she said. "Who isn't going to want to go for an NAIA championship? We'll be doing the same."

Scott plans to build a roster of 20-25 players, and she has compiled a list of 35 prospects that she's working to recruit. Scholarship money will be available on a case-by-case basis. A tryout session for enrolled students is planned for a future date. "We did reach out to existing Lawrence Tech students, and we have a good handful of girls who are interested," Scott said. "They'd just been waiting for Lawrence Tech to establish a soccer program. Other than that,

recruiting is just a huge thing for us right now."

Needless to say, Scott is looking for players for all positions and a variety of abilities.

"Offense, defense, attackers, midfielders, players who can possess the ball, players who are crafty and creative, fast players," she said. "It runs the whole gamut. We have to have all different dynamics, that's what makes your team strong."

Scott thought it might be difficult finding players at LTU and attracting others because of its academic emphasis and no history in the sport, but that hasn't been the case.

"From the amount of responses we've gotten from players online, I think there's a huge talent pool that we'll be able to tap into," she said.

"Initially, I thought that would be a challenge, but I don't find that at all."

The metro-Detroit area has become a hotbed for soccer over two decades, and it will Scott's prime recruiting territory.

"It was popular when I was playing," she said. "Now, it's amazing how many soccer players there are in the area."

Scott, who had been a social worker until the coaching gig came along, is grateful for the opportunity to work full time in her chosen sport.

"I love learning about the different facets of what it takes to be a college coach," she said. "I love being out on the soccer field, coaching players and giving back to the game. "I'm very excited for this season. I look forward to building a team that can endure the challenges and collectively see the possibilities as I can."

Scott just needs some players now and time to get ready for that first game.

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PHOTOS BY MICHELLE BAUER

Watching a play develop in the corner Wednesday are (from left) Plymouth forward Matt Goertz (No. 12), Canton goalie Spencer Craig and Canton defenseman Zack McArdle (No. 13).

CHIEFS

Continued from page B1

0-1) could muster, although they came close to drawing even again in the final minute of the game. A slap shot by junior defenseman Cam Nadell had Craig beaten only to sail over the crossbar.

"We're a little bit snake-bit right now," Vento said. "It's tough to try to win games with just one goal. But I'd be more worried if we weren't getting chances."

"Guys are working hard, we're creating turnovers. It'll come."

Just over a minute after the Goertz goal, the Chiefs nearly broke the tie only to be stoned by Guglielmi.

Goaltender Craig sent an outlet pass from his own zone right on the stick of senior forward Shawn May near center ice and May broke in on the Plymouth netminder.

May tried a forehand-backhand fake, but Guglielmi flashed his left pad to deny the attempt.

It looked like the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park rivals would take a 1-1 game into their respective locker rooms following two periods.

Then came the late goal by Grillo.

"That was a back-break-



Plymouth's Sean Smiatacz (No. 23) gears up to pass the puck during Wednesday's game. Canton's Michael Conklin (No. 9) tries to check Smiatacz while the Wildcats' Mitch Claggett (No. 10) is ready just in case the puck comes his way.

er," Vento said. "But I tell you what, I thought we responded well. We had a lot of chances in the third period and their goalie came up big."

On the board

Opening the game's scoring at 12:06 of the first period was Canton senior forward Duggan Tear on a short backhand.

Earning assists on the goal were junior forward Ian Fagan and senior forward Shawn May.

"It was good to get him (Tear) on the board and hopefully he can keep rolling," Majszak said.

"He did what we expected, he found a way to score a goal."

Majszak said he thought his team "played three solid periods, we worked hard. We weren't as over-aggressive when it came to the body tonight and a lot of kids stepped up."

Two players he named were junior forward Matt Cox and senior forward Michael Conklin.

"It was good to get the first victory, good to be against Plymouth, good for their confidence," the Canton coach added.

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Rematch is physical — not ugly

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The previous time Canton and Plymouth played hockey against each other there was a nasty brawl that yielded a number of suspensions.

There wasn't a bit of nastiness between the rival teams Wednesday night at Canton Arctic Edge, with the Chiefs nipping the Wildcats 2-1.

"Last year's in the past," said Canton head coach Jeremy Majszak, following the KLAA South Division tilt. "Even if we were to play each other the next night (following last season's fight) it would have been the same thing as tonight, shaking hands afterwards."

Two of the goal scorers Wednesday were part of last February's fight

night. "They're our friends, but when we're out there on the ice they're not our friends," Canton senior Brandon Grillo said. "But after the game, we can say 'Good game, see you in school.'"

Plymouth senior Matt Goertz said the team was reminded to stick to hockey this time around.

"It came up, just to keep our focus and not worry about stuff like that," Goertz said. "Our team's better than that. We don't do that anymore."

New Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento said he thought the game was great to watch — for all the right reasons.

"I'm sure the fans enjoyed it," Vento said. "It was clean, it was physical. It's what we were hoping for."

The game was so clean that the first time players got their sticks up in a scrum was with just 1:38 to play in the contest.

Meanwhile, there was another new twist on the rivalry game — the Wildcats and Chiefs now share Arctic Edge as their home arena.

In recent seasons, Plymouth played at Compuware Arena, the cavernous venue where last year's fight took place.

That's a positive change as far as Goertz is concerned.

"It's a little nicer atmosphere," Goertz said. "It's a little more homey here. It's a little more packed here, too. It really brings up everyone's morale and attitude."

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New Penguins goalie could be X-factor

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer



GIRLS HOCKEY PREVIEW

Standout goalkeeping by senior newcomer Kaitlyn Allard and two third period goals lifted the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins to a 2-0 victory Tuesday night over the Livonia Knights 16U travel team in a scrimmage at Canton Arctic Edge.

The game won't count in the Penguins won-lost ledger in Division 2 of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League. Officially, PCS is 1-0 thanks to an 8-0 rout of Detroit Country Day on Nov. 15.

But Penguins head coach Mary Beth Johnson said she expects a lot of league opponents will face the quality of netminding that Allard provided against the Knights.

Her 35 saves included a number of confident stops from point-blank range in the second and third periods.

Coming up big

"She's been playing (against) AAA boys and girls her whole life," Johnson said. "So she decided to come over and play high school this year. "She'll definitely win games for us and be the deciding factor, like she was today."

The former Victory Honda AAA goalie kept her team from falling behind.

And then the Penguins broke a scoreless tie against the Knights on the power play with 10:26

remaining in the game.

Senior defender and team captain Emily Bullock skated into the right circle and ripped a wrist shot high over the glove hand of the Livonia goalie.

Assisting were forwards Jenna Carter and Mariah Tucker.

Carter and senior forward Jackie Lough collected helpers on the second goal, scored by Elizabeth O'Donohue with 8:47 to go.

As far as the 2011-12 season is concerned, Johnson expects Allard (one of three assistant captains) to carry the load in net.

But she will be ably backed up by sophomore Becky Lough (the pair divided last week's shut-out of Country Day).

Two solid lines

In case of emergency, the Penguins can turn to diminutive junior Cortny McAdoo.

The 2010-11 D2 All-State goalie decided to play forward this season, and she already has three goals (including scrimmages).

McAdoo will be part of the second forward line which also includes

O'Donohue and Carter. The top line features senior assistant captains Lough and Nicole Natelborg and Tucker.

"They will be very hard to play against," Johnson said. "They have the bulk of our goals but we are getting a lot of goals from our second line, too."

Johnson said there will be two centers and three sets of wingers, with Emily King and Sydney Smith included in the mix.

Leading the D

Bullock, in her fourth season with the Penguins, is the seasoned vet of the defense.

Also on the blueline will be Alexis O'Flynn, CeCe Hitch and Beth Johnson.

"We'll definitely look to Emily Bullock for guidance," coach Johnson said. "All the other defencemen are freshmen or sophomores."

"... Beth is actually a junior but she played forward the first two years and would like to try defense this year."

The Penguins are hoping that the added experience in net and on defense will help the team improve on last year's 10-9-0 record.

Next up is a league game set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday against the Walled Lake Wild at Arctic Edge.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Nov. 29
Harrison at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Luth. NW at Luth. W'sld, 7 p.m.
Nouvel at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 2
Plymouth at Mercy, 7 p.m.
Ladywood at Powers, 7 p.m.
Luth. W'sld at Annapolis, 7 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Tuesday, Nov. 29
Ladywood at Liggitt, 5:45 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 30
Franklin vs. Plymouth at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 2
Ladywood vs. Port Huron at McMorrin Arena, 8 p.m.

Stevenson vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3
Canton at Farmington, 5:15 p.m.
South Lyon vs. Plymouth at Arctic Edge, 6 p.m.
Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 7:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Wednesday, Nov. 30
MU at Indiana Tech, 7:30 p.m.
Kellogg at S'craft, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 2
S'craft at Lorain (Ohio), 1 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3
S'craft at Lakeland 1 p.m.
Cornerstone at MU, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS
Wednesday, Nov. 30
Kellogg at S'craft, 5:30 p.m.
Indiana Tech at MU, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 2
(Gillette Inv. at K'zoo Valley) S'craft vs. Sinclair, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3
MU at Cornerstone, 1 p.m.
Gillette Invitational, 1 or 3 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Dec. 2
Sault Ste. Marie vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3
Guelph vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.



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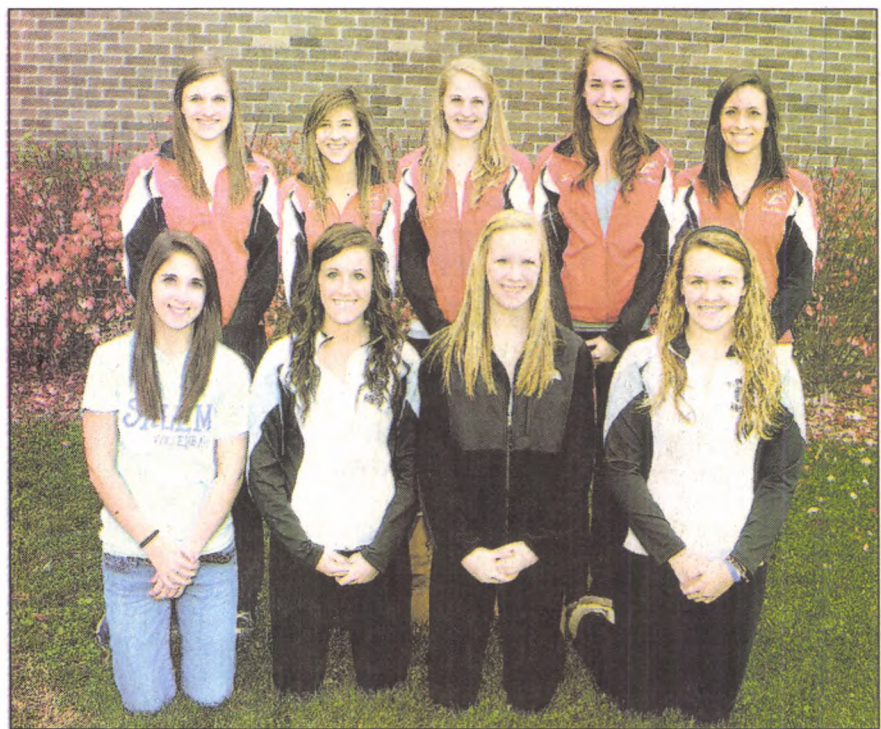
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All-Region recipients



JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's three high school volleyball teams are well-represented in the 2011 Division 1 All-Region Team. Nine players (combined) from Canton, Plymouth and Salem illustrates the high level of volleyball played by the PCEP squads. In the back row (from left) are Canton's Erica den Boer, Lauren Martin, Maggie Deloy, Alaina Turner and Kristen Muir. In the front row (from left) are Salem's Katie Vincent and Plymouth's Lindsay Stemberger, Madelyn Betts and Jessica Scott.

WHALERS

Continued from page B1

"That was a great goal, a great move," Vellucci said. "He had four or five chances to score and probably should have (drawn) a few more penalties."

According to Aleari, it was his first penalty shot goal in two tries with the Whalers (having missed one against Sarnia).

"I was trying to go (with) speed and do a move I'm comfortable with," Aleari said. "Which is making a hard leg kick and going to the backhand and trying to get it up. And it ended up working out."

Aleari's goal momentarily stopped Peterborough's momentum, following two Petes goals scored just 54 seconds apart by forwards Andrew Yogan and Austin Watson.

Yogan finished Watson's perfect pass from the right half-wall, snapping a high shot past Wedgewood to make it a 2-2 game.

Then, with 12:17 to go in the period, Watson had a gaping net to tap the puck into after a tic-tac-toe play frustrated Plymouth's defense.

"It was just bad defensive zone coverage," Vellucci said. "We were with the guy both times and didn't tie up the stick, got outworked."

In the first period, the Petes (14-7-2-1 in the Eastern Conference) started the scoring on the power play with 12:07 to go. Winger Lino Martschini tallied the marker.

Plymouth appeared to tie the game up a minute



Celebrating with teammate Mitchell Heard after scoring on a penalty shot is Whalers forward and Farmington Hills native Alex Aleari (left).

later when center Mitchell Heard — parked in front of D'Agostini — redirected a point blast by defenseman Nick Malysa. But officials waved the goal off, ruling Heard hit the puck in with a high stick.

The Whalers finally got on the scoreboard with 3:09 remaining in the period.

Right wing Garrett Meurs forced a turnover in the Peterborough end, then ripped a shot from between the circles high into the net past D'Agostini. Credited with an assist on the tally was center Rickard Rakell.

With 14:52 left in the second period, the Whalers briefly took a 2-1 lead.

The work of forwards Andy Bathgate and Aleari deep in the Petes' zone resulted in the goal by linemate Jamie Devane (his eighth).

Aleari dished the puck across the crease to Devane, who made no mistake with his shot taken near the left post.

PLYMOUTH 7, SAGINAW 3: On Wednesday at Compuware Arena, the division-leading Plym-

outh Whalers kept on rolling with this Ontario Hockey League victory.

Plymouth's eighth straight victory featured two goals by forward and Farmington Hills native Alex Aleari, giving him 14 on the season. Also slipping two pucks behind Saginaw goalie Jake Paterson (45 shots, 38 saves) was forward Stefan Noesen (goals 7-8).

Other goals for Plymouth (17-6-2-1) were netted by Rickard Rakell (15), Mitchell Heard (12) and Garrett Meurs (9).

Stopping 30 of 33 shots was Whalers netminder Scott Wedgewood.

The Whalers fell behind 2-0 early in the game but roared back to take a 3-2 lead after the first period thanks to Noesen's two goals, sandwiched around Rakell's marker.

Aleari made it 4-2 in the second period and Plymouth took a 5-3 edge into the third period following the goal by Heard.

Meurs and Aleari finished the scoring in the third period.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

YMCA winter hoops

The Plymouth Family YMCA announced that winter basketball leagues are forming for ages 4-11.

Programs are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The annual registration fee is \$91 or \$123 for community participants. Registration continues until Jan. 2, 2012.

After teams are formed, they will practice once a week and play on Friday evenings from Jan. 16 through March 23.

For more information, visit www.ymcaadetroit.org or call (734) 453-2904.

Ocelot spikers earn plaudits

Several players from the Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team earned postseason honors led by sophomore defensive specialist Lauren Macuga (Canton), who made first-team All-NJCAA Region 12, All-MCCAA and All-Eastern Conference.

Macuga also earned All-District E Tournament honors as the sixth-seeded Lady Ocelots (29-14) reached the semifinals before losing to second-seed Owens Tech (Ohio), 3-0.

Sophomore outside hitter Amber Aldrich (Fowlerville) was named second-team All-Eastern Conference, while setter Nicole Kempinski (Livonia Churchill) earned third-team All-Eastern Conference and was also selected to the All-Conference Freshman team.

All-Eastern Conference honorable mention selections included sophomore outside hitter Chrissy Maleske (Churchill) and sophomore setter Kelly MacDonald (Salem).

MSU harriers make NCAAs

Michigan State, bolstered by Livonia Churchill grads Sara Kroll and Rachel McFarlane, qualified for the NCAA Division 1 Women's Cross Country Nationals Nov. 21, in Terre Haute, Ind., with a runner-up finish in Saturday's Great Lakes Regional in Toledo, Ohio.

Michigan (55 points), MSU (77) and host University of Toledo (84) all earned team berths.

Kroll, a sophomore, placed fourth overall with a 6-kilometer time of 20 minutes, 37.3 seconds, while McFarlane, a redshirt senior, placed 27th in 21:20.6.

Michigan's Danielle Tauro and Rebecca Addison finished one-two in 20:27.9 and 20:34.8, respectively. Eastern Michigan University junior Courtney Calka (Livonia Stevenson) finished 74th in 22:08.3.

Holiday soccer

The Michigan Bucks will stage its third annual holiday soccer tournament, Thursday-Friday, Dec. 29-30, at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The 8 vs. 8 format will guarantee all age boys and girls teams a minimum of three 50 minute games, with a championship final to be played for the top two teams in each group.

Team registration is \$395 (until Dec. 26), but all teams registering by Dec. 10 will receive a \$45 early registration discount (\$350 team fee).

For more information, visit www.bucksoccer.com or call tournament director Brandon Sizemore at (248) 977-9133.



PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERTY

Alex Aleari (No. 40) of the Plymouth Whalers scores on his penalty shot Friday night against Peterborough goalie Andrew D'Agostini during Friday night action.

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Pines and poinsettias

Growers promote buying local, live

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

Cash Tryban hopes to sell 400-500 Christmas trees this year from a lot in Farmington Hills.

The Cheboygan tree farmer — a former resident of both Livonia and Farmington Hills — set up shop last Sunday at 10 Mile and Orchard Lake Road and will show and sell pines, firs and spruces to customers through Dec. 24.

"Last year we left at 2 p.m. Christmas Eve," said Tryban, who has sold at the location for 20 years and grown trees since the 1960s, when he and his wife, Pat, bought the farm from his parents. "We like to stay to the end, unless we happen to sell out.

Being that we do stay to the end, we pick up customers where other lots are closed. There could be 10-15 people that come in the last day. We don't make a ton of money that day, but we're not looking for top price. All we want to do is pay our expenses for staying that additional day. The next year, those people who came in late will come back.

"We always stay right to the very end. It's hard, but you get one shot (to sell) each year."

Tryban is in a race against the calendar to



Cash Tryban (left) and his grandson, Jake Tryban, 19, set fresh trees into place on their lot in Farmington Hills.



Cash Tryban places netting on a Christmas tree.

unload his fresh trees in little more than a month. He's among 700 Christmas tree growers in Michigan, a state that ranks third nationwide in the number of trees harvested each year.

Live vs. artificial

This year he and his fellow tree farmers, as well as poinsettia growers, will get some help convincing Michiganders to buy locally-produced Christmas trees and plants through a state-wide promotional campaign called "Make it a Real Michigan Christmas."

The Michigan Christmas Tree Association, Michigan Floriculture Growers Council and Michigan Floral Association, in cooperation with Michigan State University's Department of Horticulture, AgBioResearch received a \$75,000 USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant to spread the word about the benefits of buying live trees and poinsettias from Michigan producers.

The campaign makes the case that live trees benefited the environment, can

be recycled, bring fragrance into the home and help fuel the state's economy. It points out that artificial trees are made of plastics and metals, and that a majority of them are imported from China.

"Why not support Michigan-grown trees?" Tryban said. "Trees are good for the environment. When we cut one we replace it with two."

Lengthy grow time

It takes approximately eight years to grow a Christmas tree. Some varieties stay in the ground for 9-12 years before harvest.

Mike Dinser of Dinser's Greenhouse in Novi, begins growing poinsettia plants about seven months before they are ready for sale. He buys poinsettia cuttings from a plant breeder and begins growing stock plants in the spring.



Son-in-law, Wayne Silchrist, places a tree on a device that shakes needles loose.



Fraser fir

"We'll start in the middle of July pulling cuttings of the plants and propagating them. They'll grow through the summer and as we get into September, starts the process of initiating flowers."

The center of the plant is the flower. The colorful, showy "blooms" are modified leaves called bracts.

Dinser's, a third generation family business, sells

poinsettias to retail customers, as well as wholesale clients, such as churches, flower shops and stores that use live seasonal plants for decoration.

"I see early sales are good. We've already brought in some extra plants," Dinser said. "Our sales are up over last year. That's a good sign for

Please see LIVE, B7

Holiday Shopping and Dining Starts at Novi Town Center

Stores open 7AM • Friday, November 25

Novi Town Center invites you to come shop our many stores and dine at one of our great restaurants this holiday season!

<p><i>Shops</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casual Male XL Christopher & Banks Lane Bryant Men's Wearhouse The Children's Place TJ Maxx Bath & Body Works Charisma Salon Massage LuXe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sally Beauty Supply Archiver's AT&T Store Banks Vacuum Oreck Floor Care Performance Bicycle Mattress & Futon Shoppe Bally Total Fitness Bodies in Motion Running Fit Edward Jones
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Restaurants

- Athenian Coney Island
- Bagger Dave's Legendary Burgers
- Diamond Jim Brady's
- Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza
- Biggby Coffee
- Bonefish Grill
- Pei Wei Asian Diner
- Potbelly's Sandwich Works

The possibilities are endless...

Restaurants open 7 days a week in Novi Town Center.

Santa is Coming to Our Livonia Branch

Saturday, Dec. 3rd!

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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(Corner of Newburgh)

- ❄️ Free Pictures With Santa
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- ❄️ Free Snacks & Refreshments
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- ❄️ To open an account, bring in the child's Social Security card.

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Holiday movie, Santa visit benefits needy

See *Miracle on 34th Street*, meet Santa Claus and get in the running to win a gift basket when you bring a food donation or personal hygiene item to the 8 p.m. show, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 2-3 or 2 p.m. matinee, Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser, at Grand River, in Detroit. Donations will go to St. Christine's Soup Kitchen and Pantry. Patrons will receive one raffle ticket for each donated item for chances to win a gift basket. Santa also will be on hand at each show to greet attendees and pose for photos — bring your camera. Doors will open one hour before each show. Donations will be collected as patrons enter the theater. All tickets are \$4

and parking is free and supervised. For more information call (313) 333-0080; www.redfordtheatre.com Santa will visit other locations around metro Detroit over the next few weeks. Here's a sampling: • Canton Santa brunch — Ticket deadline is Monday, Nov. 28 for brunch, Sunday, Dec. 4, at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Cost is \$16 for ages 13 and older; \$12 for ages 4-12; and children, 3 and under are \$4. Doors will open at 11 a.m. and Santa arrives at 11:30 a.m. Following the brunch, the kids can pose for photos with Santa. Parents may bring cameras and video equipment to capture the moment. Children also will receive a holiday souvenir, crayons, and a placemat to color. • Detroit Zoo — Breakfast

with Santa, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 and 17 in the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, located at the zoo, Woodward Ave., and Ten Mile (I-696 service drive) in Royal Oak; (248) 541-5717. • Downtown Plymouth — See Santa noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, 10, and 17 and Sunday, Dec. 18; 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9; and 4:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 23, at his house in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth; www.plymouthmich.org • Historic Greenmead — See Santa at the historic village's Quaker Meeting House — it will be decorated in a "Holy Dolly Christmas" theme — 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at Greenmead, located on Newburgh at Eight Mile, in Livonia. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and includes cocoa and cookies, candy canes and a craft activity. In addition to

meeting Santa, participants can tour the village and hear a free concert by the Schoolcraft College Choir, at 3 p.m. in the village church. • Laurel Park Place — Santa photo hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon-6 p.m. Sunday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 24. Santa poses with pet cats and dogs 6-9 p.m. Monday through Dec. 12. • Old Village Plymouth — Santa will be on hand 4-6 p.m. Dec. 7 in Cannon Park, on Farmer near Starkweather, in Plymouth. • Redford Santa brunch — Get refreshments, make crafts and pose for a photo with Santa, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Dec. 10, at the Redford Township Community Center, 12121 Hemingway. Tickets are \$6 and must be purchased in advance. Call Leisure Services at (313) 387-2650. • Twelve Oaks Mall, Breakfast with Santa Claus at Ma-



The Redford Theatre will show "Miracle on 34th Street," Dec. 2-3.

cy's, 9 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 10 and 17, Sunday, Dec. 11 and 18. Includes entertainment, breakfast and a visit from Santa; \$16.95 per person and \$12.95 for children under 10. Reserve at (877) 556-2297. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Summit Front Desk, located at, during normal business hours. Online registration is not available. For more information about the Santa Brunch, please call 734/394-

5460 or visit Cantonfun.org • Westland Shopping Center — Santa greets children 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday through Dec. 9; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2; 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, 17 and Monday-Friday, Dec. 19-23; 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Friday, Dec. 12-16; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11 and 18 and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 24.

Annual luncheon spotlights centenarians

The Senior Alliance (TSA) honored clients who are 100 years or older during a special luncheon earlier this month at Andiamo's Restaurant in Dearborn.

Bob Brown, executive director at The Senior Alliance stated, "Our seniors have given 100 years plus to the community and the luncheon provided us an opportunity to show appreciation and grat-

itude." TSA and some community officials wanted to let the honorees know their lives have not gone unnoticed.


The honorees were Beatrice Archibald, 103 of Canton; Ida Paglialungo, 101 and Susan Swoish, 102, both from Allen Park; Janie Lewis, 105, of Redford; and Dorothy Thomas, 103, of Dearborn

Heights. Felice "Tony" Lalli, the mayor of Allen Park, Dan Paletko, the mayor of Dearborn Heights, and Phil LaJoy, Canton supervisor, also were on hand.

Other participants were Swoish's niece, Katherine Stasevich; Thomas' daughter, Delores Munoz and her daughter-in-law, Millie Socull.

Arthritis Today

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



DIET AND GOUT

The popular view is that a person with gout must watch his diet. That means stop beer, wine, or scotch and substitute water, lots of it. Lobster, shrimp, steak, liver, sardines, asparagus, mushrooms are out of the diet. If the person is overweight then weight loss is a must.

For the most part the medical community thinks otherwise. Of course eating to excess is unhealthy. Being overweight is not good, and urging a person to achieve a reasonable weight is an appropriate medical recommendation whether the patient does or does not have gout. The same can be said for drinking wine; each individual has a capacity that is appropriate for that person, beyond that amount do not go.

In addition, gout and alcohol share a special relationship. Alcohol interferes with the kidney's normal excretion of uric acid, the cause of gout. In England in the 18th century, popular Portuguese wines were imported in lead lined casks. The lead leached into the wine; the combination of lead and wine proved lethal to the kidney's capacity to rid the body of uric acid. As a result, England experienced a near epidemic of gout with wine taking on the role as the cause. The idea that wine causes gout carries on to this day even though lead lined wine casks were left behind 200 years ago.

Patients are disappointed that physicians don't spend time giving instructions on diet. But doctors feel, correctly, that a reasonable diet combined with the medications available to treat gout, suffice to control the condition. The patient can live without restrictions.

Indian spiritual teacher visits Michigan

Mata Amritanandamayi, a mystic and philanthropist, also known as "Amma" the "hugging saint" from Kerala, India, will present spiritual teachings and blessings beginning Sunday, Nov. 28, at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn.

For the past 35 years, Amma has blessed and consoled individuals

throughout the world with hugs.

Her visit to southeastern Michigan will begin with a free program at 8 p.m. Sunday. The evening will include spiritual discourse by Amma, followed by inspired devotional music, meditation and Amma's personal blessing.

A free program will run

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28 and will include a short meditation followed by Amma's blessing.

The free program will start at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1. The evening will include a spiritual discourse, followed by a ceremony to promote peace and well being. Amma will give personal blessings to individuals begin-

ning at approximately 9 p.m. and continuing into the next morning.

A three day retreat, from Tuesday-Thursday, Nov. 29-Dec. 1 also is available. Pre-registration is required at Amma.org.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel is located at 600 Town Center Drive, Dearborn.



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Advertising

Best Ad Idea: 1st Place Livonia Observer, 3rd Place Livonia Observer

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JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cash Tryban sells fresh wreaths in addition to Christmas trees on his lot in Farmington Hills.

LIVE

Continued from page B5 growers."

Customer service

Tryban said sales lagged "a bit" two years ago and went up "a couple of percentages" last year.

"I believe this year we'll stay at a steady pace. Eighty to 90 percent of our clientele come back every year. We've had people who moved to Fowlerville and Brighton, who come back

to our lot to buy a tree," Tryban said.

"The biggest thing I think we do that big box stores don't do is we answer questions. The second thing is we service the tree. We shake the tree, cut it, make sure they get what they want. We try to set up every tree individually so people can walk around and take a look and go from there."

Tryban's offers fresh wreaths in addition to a variety of trees, includ-

ing balsam, scotch pine, concolor, fraser fir, blue spruce, white spruce, white pine and more. Prices range from \$18-60.

Dinser's sells a variety of poinsettias, ranging from four inches to "bushel basket" size, in colors including creamy white, vivid white, red, pink and marble.

For more about the Make it a Real Christmas campaign visit www.RealMichigan-Christmas.com.

Bowl sale includes lunch, benefits pantry

Schoolcraft College's annual Empty Bowl Project sale and luncheon will run 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, in the VisTaTech Center on the college's main campus, located on Haggery between Seven Mile and Six Mile, in Livonia.

Ceramic bowls and other ceramic pieces created and donated by the students enrolled in ceramics classes at the college will be sold. Items range in price from \$10-35.

Each bowl includes a bowl of soup, a piece of bread and a glass of water provided by the college's Culinary Arts and Food Services departments. The simplicity of the meal is meant as a reminder that needy residents need help year-round.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Schoolcraft College Student Food Pantry, which provides food for students and families who need assis-

tance. The food pantry opened in April 2011 and operates on donations from students, staff, faculty, and the community. To date, the pantry has received nearly 5,000 pounds of donated goods and serves 38 families.

In addition to helping the hungry, the ceramic pieces can be used as holiday gifts. The items for sale include a wide array of stylings, from the very simple to more intricate pieces of art.

"This is a great event for the local community and students to come together for a cause that knows no boundaries. We are hoping that people can find the time, make the commitment, and get involved with this singular effort that can make such a profound local impact," stated Todd Stowell, Student Activities coordinator.

For more about Schoolcraft College, visit www.schoolcraft.edu.

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TIPS FOR A 'REAL' MICHIGAN CHRISTMAS

- For trees:
- When shopping, give the tree a little shake. A few falling brown needles are common; a shower of green needles indicates dryness
 - Gently grasp a branch and pull it toward you. Just a few needles should come off if the tree is fresh
 - Avoid trees with stiff needles that are losing color
 - When you get the tree home, cut a 1/2 inch off the end and put the tree into water immediately. If you're not putting it up right away, put it in a cool, shaded area such as a garage or porch.
 - Keep your tree fresh by watering. Make sure there is plenty of water in the tree stand
 - Display the tree away from heat sources such as registers, radiators and fireplaces
- For poinsettias:
- Look for fresh leaves and full plants
 - Choose bracts (modified leaves) that have no green on them
 - Avoid plants with fallen or yellowed leaves
 - The poinsettia should look balanced and attractive from all sides
 - Remove the foil covering the drain holes. Water when the plant feels light. Water in a sink. Allow to drain and water again. Don't let the poinsettia wilt and don't let it sit in water. Empty the pot's saucer
 - Place the poinsettia in indirect light. Six hours of light is ideal. Don't let the plant touch a cold window pane
 - Ideal indoor temperature is from 60-70 degrees. Keep poinsettias away from warm or cold drafts from radiators, air registers, doors or windows
 - Placing a poinsettia in a cool room, 55-60 degrees at night will extend blooming time
 - Don't fertilize when the plant is in bloom

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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Give gifts from Nov. 6 to Dec. 9.

Bring a new unwrapped gift to one of the office locations below and as our way of saying thank you, receive a coupon for a free Buddy's 4 square cheese pizza.*

All gifts will be given to Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford and Orchards Children Services in Southfield.

Methodist Children's Home Society is a 94-year old agency that responds to the needs of abused and neglected children by providing residential, adoption and foster care services.

Orchards Children's Services is a 50-year old agency that helps local troubled, abused and neglected children specializing in foster care and adoption.

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Scoop will personally give each child who donates a gift a Scoop t-shirt in addition to the pizza coupon*

From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. ONLY! at these two locations

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 101 N. Lafayette
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Friday, December 9, 2011
 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.
 41304 Concept Drive
 Plymouth, MI 48170

All unwrapped gifts will be accepted Nov. 6 through Dec. 9. at the addresses listed above. *while supply lasts

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CAPRARO, HEIDI LOUISE (NEE BRANDT)

Heidi was born Oct. 30, 1966 in Mt. Clemens, MI. She has surrendered herself from this earthly home November 22, 2011 after having a rare clear cell cervical cancer for nearly three years. Heidi was the Assistant Principal for Northville Hillside Middle School. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1989 with a BS. Received a MA later and took education leadership at Concordia. She began teaching in Northville in 1990 at Meade's Mill, Cooke and Hillside. She taught 6th grade science. Heidi received the "National Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching" in 2002 for Northville Schools, and went to Washington D.C. to the White House to meet President and Mrs. Bush. In 2004-5, Heidi was awarded the outstanding Educators award "Michigan Teacher of the Year." Heidi wanted to make a difference, she so loved what she did. She was the beloved wife of Riccardo Capraro, a wild life artist, a most devoted mother to her precious and beloved children Ariana and Corey of Howell, MI. She was a beloved dedicated daughter to Richard Brandt, Aus Gres, formerly of Mt. Clemens, MI, her mother and step father Astrid nee Meller, and Abe Payapilly, Plymouth, MI, and FT. Myers, FL. Heidi was a loving and adored sister to George Payapilly, Berkeley, CA, and Ann Arbor, MI, and to Jennifer Case, her husband Jason, and nieces Madeline and Olivia of Northville, MI, and nephew Jimmy Kremer, Kalamazoo, MI. Heidi will be missed by her beloved classical music teacher, Mrs. Kan, as she now teaches her children. How very much we love you, Heidi, we will miss you, and our tears will flow, till we meet again. We wish to thank everyone for Prayers sent in Heidi's name. In lieu of flowers, donations could be made to: Ariana & Corey Capraro Education Fund, 1st National Bank, 101 E. Grand River, P.O. Box 800, Howell, MI 48844-0800; 517-545-2227. A memorial service will be held at a later date.



HOOVER, FRANCES

November 19, 2011 Age 87 of Plymouth and formerly of the Wayne/Westland area. Born and raised in Wabash, IN. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Dear mother of Lesia (Kenneth John) McQuade, and the late Daniel and Clay. Sister to Kathryn (Raymond) Dillman, and the late Robert (Lois), Marland, and Byron (Anne) Halderman. Grandmother to Gregory Hoover McQuade and Jamie Lynn (Alan) Lewis. Great Grandmother to Braden and Garret Lewis. Funeral services were held at The Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 10 am. Interment took place at Glenwood Cemetery, Wayne. Family requests memorials to Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (COPS) PO Box 3199, Camdenton, MO 65020. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com



MULDOON, SARAH A.

Age 84, November 18, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Jerome Muldoon. Loving mother of Jack (the late Sue), Timothy (Fiancee Tina), Barbara (John) Salvadore, Kathleen (Dave) Nakonecny and the late Norman and Douglas Muldoon. Dear grandmother of 9 and great grandmother of 2. Dear sister of Joan Connor and the late Tom, Harry, Joe and Norm. A Memorial Mass will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 440 E. Washington, Howell, MI 48843, Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 10 AM. In lieu of flowers contributions may be directed to the Muldoon family. Please share a memory of Sarah at www.rgrgharris.com.



LEGG, (nee LUCAS), MARY ELIZABETH

Passed from this life to her eternal reward on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 2011. She shared joy for 86 years, and left peacefully. Born in Harrodsburg, Kentucky on January 30, 1925 to Paul Givens Lucas, Sr. and Tillie Clarence Lucas, who predeceased her. Mary was married for 52 years to the only man she loved, Howard Wesley Legg (1919-1999). Mary was the devoted and loving mother to Charlotte Anne (David Edward) Olson, of Oswego, Illinois; Suellen Newsom, of Farmington Hills and Michael William Legg, of Farmington. Mary shared immense joy with her grandsons Gregg (Angela) Newsom II, David Henry (Julia) Olson, Steven Olson, and William Legg III. She also loved her great-grandchildren Ashley, Brian, Ava and Henry. Also surviving are her nephew Paul (Ilene) Merrihew, and niece Lori Lucas Schultz, and great nieces and nephews Kristen, Katie & Karen Schultz and Robyn and Paul (Michaela) Lucas IV. Mary was predeceased by her sister Nora Merrihew, brother Paul Lucas Jr., brother-in-law Eugene Merrihew, sister-in-law Marlene Lucas, and nephew Paul Lucas III. Mary was a Christian, not just in name but deed. She found ways every day to bring comfort to those around her, be they family, friends or strangers. She was care giver to literally dozens of family members, church members or friends. Her memory will be treasured, and her loss will be felt by many. Visitation Sunday 1-9 p.m. at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington (West of Farmington Road). Funeral Service Monday 10 a.m. (in state 9 a.m.) at First United Methodist Church of Farmington 33112 Grand River Ave., Farmington. (East of Farmington Road) Memorials to the Salvation Army. www.thayer-rock.com



POGUE, JAMES E.

84, of Farmington, November 22, 2011. Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Jo; loving children, Ellen (Ronald Greiner) Pogue-Greiner, Cindy (Dan) Aepelbacher, James Houston (Sandra) Pogue and Kimberly (David) Krause; his brother, Fred (Hazel) Pogue; and 10 cherished grandchildren, David and Kaitlyn, Tim, Kirsten and Bryan, Ashley and Connor, and Jamie, Quinn and Jaden. Memorial Service Friday, Dec. 2, 11:00 AM (gathering after 10 AM) at the First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Rd., (at 11 Mile Rd.), Farmington Hills. Memorial tributes suggested to Karmanos Cancer Inst., karmanos.org, or the Arthritis Foundation, Michigan, 1050 Wilshire Dr., #302, Troy, MI 48064. Arrangements entrusted to the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, downtown Farmington (248-474-5200).

ROBERTO, DAVID SCOTT

Age 22, of Farmington Hills, MI. Passed away November 19, 2011. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home.



SARNS, RUSSELL

Passed away on November 11, 2011 at age 69. Resident of Livonia for 43 years. Beloved and thoughtful husband for 47 years to Judy (Mackinder) Sarns. Devoted father to David (Bianca) Sarns and proud "Papa" to 19-month old, Colin. Russ leaves behind his mother-in-law, Mariam Mackinder, brother-in-law, Frederick Mackinder (Kristina), sister-in-law, Peggy Jenkins, nephews, Christopher (Nicole) and Nicholas Mackinder and Jeffrey, Gregory, Steven Jenkins, niece, Mackenzie, great-nephew, Liam Mackinder, cousins, Eleanor, Bob, Terri and Laura. Russ worked for GM for 37 years. He was the proud owner of a 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air which was seen in the movie "Flipped" and was a member of the Eastern Michigan Camaro Club. Russ will be missed by his loving family and many friends as well. Funeral services were held on Monday, November 14, at the Fred Wood Funeral Home. To leave a condolence or share a special memory, go to Fredwoodfuneralhome.com

MOFFAT, DONALD ARTHUR

Of Ann Arbor died at home on Saturday, November 19, 2011, surrounded by family and friends. Don is survived by his loving wife, Paula (Richardson) Moffat; his son, Douglas Arthur (Jennifer) Moffat; two granddaughters, Audrey and Josie Moffat; sister, Janet Moffat (the late Rev. Barton W.) DeMerchant; nephews Robert (Susan) Tomsett, Jr. and Duncan (Wendy) Tomsett; two nieces, Beth (Eric) Diaddorio and Susan (Richard) Beck; four cousins, and a host of friends. He was predeceased by his beloved daughter, Elizabeth S. Moffat, in 1992. Don was born in Windsor, Ontario on May 2, 1947, the son of Arthur William Moffat and Jean Lee Moffat. He was raised in Detroit, graduated from Mumford High School in 1965, and received his B.S. degree from Wayne State University. He spent most of his professional life in the financial services area. He was a past-president of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. His passion was amateur athletics. His game was hockey, which he played and coached. He derived great satisfaction from serving as a volunteer for the USA Hockey Coaching Program. Don enthusiastically supported Compuware teams and the University of Michigan sports. A gathering celebrating Don's life, "Skate and Celebrate, Part II", will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 2, 2011 at the Compuware Sports Arena, 14900 Beck Road, Plymouth, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the Beth Moffat Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, 301 North Main Street, Suite 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Please visit www.muehligannarbor.com to leave the family your thoughts and condolences



Moore-Freeman

Ryan Moore and Jamie Freeman were married Nov. 12, 2011, in Grosse Pointe Farms.

The bride, daughter of Wayne and Carol Freeman of Sterling Heights, graduated from Adlai Stevenson High School in 2003 and received a master's degree from Oakland University in 2007. She works for the Charter Township of Oakland.

The groom, son of Annette and Fred Kirschweg of Westland and Tom and Dana Moore of Pinckney, graduated from Livonia Churchill in 2004. He recently graduated Warrant Officer Candidate School and flight school in Fort Rucker, Ala. He is a Chinook helicopter pilot with the National Guard.

The newlyweds reside in Rochester Hills.

Milestones



Ed and Rita Fenwick of Westland

50th anniversary

Edward and Rita (Oliver) Fenwick of Westland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 11. The couple married in 1961 in Detroit.

Their children are Karen and Harvey Frederick of Fenton and Mark and Peggy Fenwick of Canton. Grandchildren are Nicole and Ryan Fenwick.

Edward was employed by Detroit Diesel/Penske, for more than 30 years and retired 12 years ago. Rita is a homemaker.

The couple enjoy traveling and are members of Livonia Elks and St. Mary's Catholic Church of Wayne.



The Fenwicks in 1961, the year they married

Plans for celebration included a trip to Las Vegas, Nev. and a family gathering at the Tipping Point Theatre in Northville and dinner at La Bistecca in Plymouth.

Page-McMullen

Tracy Leigh McMullen and Bernard Joseph Page were married Aug. 20, 2011, alongside the Shiawassee River at the DeVries Nature Conservancy in Owosso. Pastor Michael Bennett officiated the outdoor ceremony that was punctuated with claps of thunder.

The bride is the daughter of Michael and Janet McMullen of Perry. The groom is the son of Arthur and Eileen Page of Canton.

Presented in marriage by her parents, the bride was attended by Heidi Frei as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Michelle McMullen and Jessica McMullen, the bride's sisters.

Jeffrey Degenhardt was the best man.

Groomsmen were Joseph Porubsky and Timothy Magers. Ushers were Jonathan Page, Brian Page and Kenneth Page, the groom's brothers.

Emma Badgley, the bride's goddaughter was the flower girl. Evan Badgley, the bride's godson, was the ring bearer. Junior ring bearer was the groom's godson, Owen Magers.

Michele Johns accompanied the outdoor ceremony on organ and Katie Greenough accompanied on flute.

The reception was held at Our Lady of Good Council in Plymouth and was catered by the



groom's company, A Family Affair Catering.

The bride is a graduate of the University of Hawaii-Hilo with a bachelor's degree in marine science. She is also a graduate of Michigan State University with a professional masters degree in zoo and aquarium management. She is currently the environmental education coordinator for the DeVries Nature Conservancy in Owosso where the ceremony was held.

The groom is a graduate of Schoolcraft College with a degree in culinary arts. He is also a graduate of the State University of New York-Delhi with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management. He currently runs a family catering business, A Family Affair Catering of Plymouth.

The couple resides in Owosso.

Carter-Grant

Marianne Carter and Brian Grant announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Floyd and Nancy Carter of Ponce Inlet, Fla., earned a BA degree in education from Madonna University and teaches fifth grade in Southfield. She's working on a master's degree in education at Madonna.

Her fiancé, son of Ken and Roxanne Grant of Livonia, is finishing up his last year at Walsh Col-



lege, pursuing a degree in business.

A June 2012 wedding is planned at Crystal Gardens in Howell.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Or mail items to Dargay, Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226.

Nov. 27-30

HEALING SERVICE
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Nov. 30
Location: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia
Details: The Rev. Jennie Clark will preach at a special service of Hope and Healing Contact: (734) 422-0494

PRAYER OPEN HOUSE
Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28
Location: Harvest Bible Chapel, 6420 N. Newburgh, Westland
Details: Open to all who want to drop in and pray or be prayed with
Contact: (734) 895-3280; www.harvestdetroitwest.org

Dec. 1-7

CAROLFEST
Time/Date: 10:15 a.m. church service, 11:45 a.m. brunch, 12:45 p.m. CarolFest, Sunday, Dec. 4
Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: St. Paul's Singers, children, instrumentalists and congregation, will present a plethora of carols — traditional, folk and contemporary — in the church sanctuary; RSVP for the brunch
Contact: (734) 422-1470

CONCERT
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3; seating begins at 7:30 p.m.
Location: Old St. Mary's Church, 646 Monroe, at St. Antoine, in Greektown, Detroit
Details: The Madrigal Chorus of Southfield presents its 2011 Holiday Concert. Advance tickets are \$18 for adults and \$12 for students. Cost at the door is \$20
Contact: (248) 804-1377, e-mail yourmcs@yahoo.com

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Learn the signs of COPD, lung cancer

Lung cancer and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are two of the deadliest diseases in the country, yet they remain largely unnoticed, according to the American Lung Association.

"Lung cancer and COPD are two of the most life-changing and life-threatening diseases in the country," said Dr. Norman H. Edelman, chief medical officer of the American Lung Association. "There is no better time than now to learn about these diseases and support patients and loved ones who are affected by them."

As part of the Lung Associations' commitment to lung health, COPD and lung cancer are featured on its Web site throughout the year to raise awareness and provide lung health resources. The Lung Association has also partnered with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and others on NHLBI's COPD Learn More Breathe Better campaign to educate the public about the early symptoms and signs of COPD.

Lung cancer is the leading cancer killer in the country, while COPD, which includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis, is the third leading cause of death in the U.S.

Approximately 373,500 Americans are living with lung cancer. In 2011, more than 221,000 new cases were diagnosed and about 157,000 Amer-



Snuff out that cigarette. The American Lung Association says smoking, including secondhand smoke, is a major cause of both lung cancer and COPD.

icans were expected to die from lung cancer.

The leading cause of lung cancer is the inhalation of cigarette smoke, both firsthand and secondhand. Other causes include radon exposure and industrial exposures to hazardous materials like asbestos and arsenic; even some genetic factors pose a lung cancer risk.

"Lung cancer is responsible for nearly 30 percent of all cancer deaths in America — more than any other cancer," said

Dr. Edelman. "That startling reality must change. No one deserves to bear the burden of lung cancer. We need all Americans to understand the severity of lung cancer and do what they can to help prevent it and support the fight for a cure."

COPD is a lung disease characterized by an obstruction to airflow that interferes with normal breathing and over time makes it very difficult to breathe. Although more than 12 million Americans are known to

have COPD, up to 24 million may have the disease because it often goes undiagnosed. COPD is not curable, but it is preventable, and can be treated and managed on a daily basis. People at risk of COPD, especially current and former smokers with COPD symptoms, should consult their physicians about a spirometry test in order to diagnose the disease as early as possible and begin treatment.

As with lung cancer, the primary cause of COPD is the inhalation of cigarette smoke. Other causes include exposure to occupational dust particles and chemicals, as well as a rare genetic mutation called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency.

"COPD can be treated and managed effectively, particularly when the disease is diagnosed early," Edelman said. "Treatments and comprehensive care can decrease COPD symptoms, reduce hospitalizations and enhance overall quality of life. Patients should confer with their physicians for ways to reduce symptoms and diminish further serious damage to their lungs."

The American Lung Association funds research that focuses on preventing lung cancer, increasing the survival rate and reducing its effects on patients' quality of life.

To learn more about these diseases or to take action, visit www.midlandlung.org.

Area Run/Walk benefits Arthritis Foundation

Juvenile rheumatoid arthritis patient Taylor Gray of Farmington Hills is this year's honoree of the annual Arthritis Foundation Jingle Bell Run/Walk. She'll be among hundreds of runners and walkers who will raise awareness and funds through the event, which will start at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at Northville Downs Race Track. Participants wear holiday costumes and tie jingle bells to their shoe laces for the 5K run/walk.



Taylor Gray of Farmington Hills will participate in the Jingle Bell Run Dec. 3 in Northville.

Gray is an active 13-year-old girl who loves basketball and softball. She was diagnosed with juvenile arthritis when she was 16 months old. The disease has affected her wrists, ankles, knees toes and fingers. She also has endured joint pain, injections and

infusions.

"I have been weaned off of my medications twice in the past 11 years and we hoped, and thought, my arthritis was in remission. Both times it came back with a vengeance and it took longer each time to get my pain and swelling under control," she stated.

Taylor has participated in Camp Dakota, a camp for children with arthritis and related diseases, and she is captain of Team Determination for the Jingle Bell Run/Walk.

"At times, I am extremely frustrated and angry that I have this disease. I have moments where I feel sorry for myself and wonder why I have to suffer from this. But then I remember what my Mom says... that God has chosen me to stand up and educate people and let them know that kids get arthritis too," she stated.

The Jingle Bell Walk/Run will offer competitive timing, awards in 14 different age categories and a post-race party sponsored by Qdoba, Busch's, Biggby, Powerade. There will be a "Snowman Shuffle," a quarter mile fun-run for kids under 12, as well as prizes for the biggest team, biggest fundraiser and most inventive costume.

Register by Monday, Nov. 28 to be guaranteed an official long-sleeve cotton Jingle Bell Run/Walk shirt.

The last day to register online is Nov. 30. Visit www.arthritis.org and click on Jingle Bell Run/Walk to register. Proceeds will help fund research at Michigan universities, heighten arthritis awareness, and grow and expand services programs the Arthritis Foundation offers.

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Guest speaker Jeffrey Mendelson, MD
Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.
- **Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, December 1, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- **Fall Prevention**
Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, MSA, WCC
Wednesday, December 7, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.
- **Michigan Bariatric Institute Seminar**
Guest speaker Tallal Zeni, MD
Thursday, January 5, 6 p.m.
Call 877-WHY-WEIGHT to register or for more information.
- **Keeping Your New Year's Resolution**
Be successful at keeping your exercise and nutrition goals.
Guest speaker Kevin Moore, OTR, MSA, WCC
Thursday, January 19, 7 p.m.
Call 734-655-8950 to register or for more information.
Location: Bailey Center in Westland
- **Center for Joint Replacement Seminar**
Guest speaker David Mendelson, MD
Thursday, January 26, 6 p.m.
Call 734-655-2345 to register or for more information.

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The Elements Of Résumé Style

Writing wisdom from
Strunk and White
Beth Braccio Hering,
Special to CareerBuilder

The classic "The Elements of Style" by William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White is not just for term papers. If your copy has been buried in a box since graduation, dust it off and polish your resume with its timeless advice.

Elementary rules of usage and composition

- "Use the active voice."
- "Put statements in positive form."
- "Use definite, specific, concrete language."

As the book's introduction states, the authors are all for "cleanliness, accuracy and brevity." They want writers to select words that convey exact meaning -- an excellent idea on

resumes when you want to make a big impression in a small space.

"I often see dry, passive language that makes the job seeker appear as a follower or simple doer rather than a leader or someone who drives results," says Abby M. Locke, master resume writer and personal brand strategist for Premier Writing Solutions in Washington, D.C. "For example, 'Responsible for the development of new programs and services' works better when rewritten with active, engaging language like 'Conceptualized and created revenue-generating programs and services that increased the company's bottom line by 20 percent.'"

Locke also reports that candidates get stuck in a rut of using the same verb over and over again, such as "developed new brochures," "developed

marketing materials" and "developed a system." "When bullets like these are read very quickly, the only words that the reader remembers are 'developed, developed, developed.'"

Another elementary rule to remember: Watch tenses. Strunk and White note that "shifting from one tense to another gives the appearance of uncertainty and irresolution." Tiffani Murray, a resume writer and career consultant for PersonalityOnaPage.com, says that she's seen gaffes where the applicant has used two different tenses in the same sentence.

"For past roles, you should use past tense," Murray says. "For the current job that you are working in, present tense works unless you are referring to a project that is completed. You want to be consistent and accurate with your tense in

portraying what you have done in the past for an employer and what you are doing now."

Words and expressions commonly misused

Many a candidate writes that he "lead a team" when he meant "led." Another common dilemma: "effect" versus "affect." (The former can be a noun meaning "result" or a verb meaning "to accomplish" or "to bring about." The latter is a verb meaning "to influence.")

Carolyn Yenchis Corcoran, assistant director of the Insalaco Center for Career Development at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa., reports that job seekers often confuse:

- "to" and "too"
- "your" and "you're"
- "there" and "their"
- "then" and "than"
- "wonder" and "wander"
- "its" and "it's"
- "a" and "an" before a word that begins with a vowel (as in "an excellent opportunity" when it should be "an excellent opportunity")

An approach to style

• "Avoid fancy words." "Using language that is too formal or too academic can make an applicant's resume and/or cover letter sound derogatory or speechlike, which may appear like you are trying to fool the employer about your qualifications," Corcoran says. "The best way to set yourself apart is with examples that use industry-relevant words from your experience, not formal words that may make the reviewer feel stupid or -- if used incorrectly -- laugh at your application."

"Do not take shortcuts at the cost of clarity."

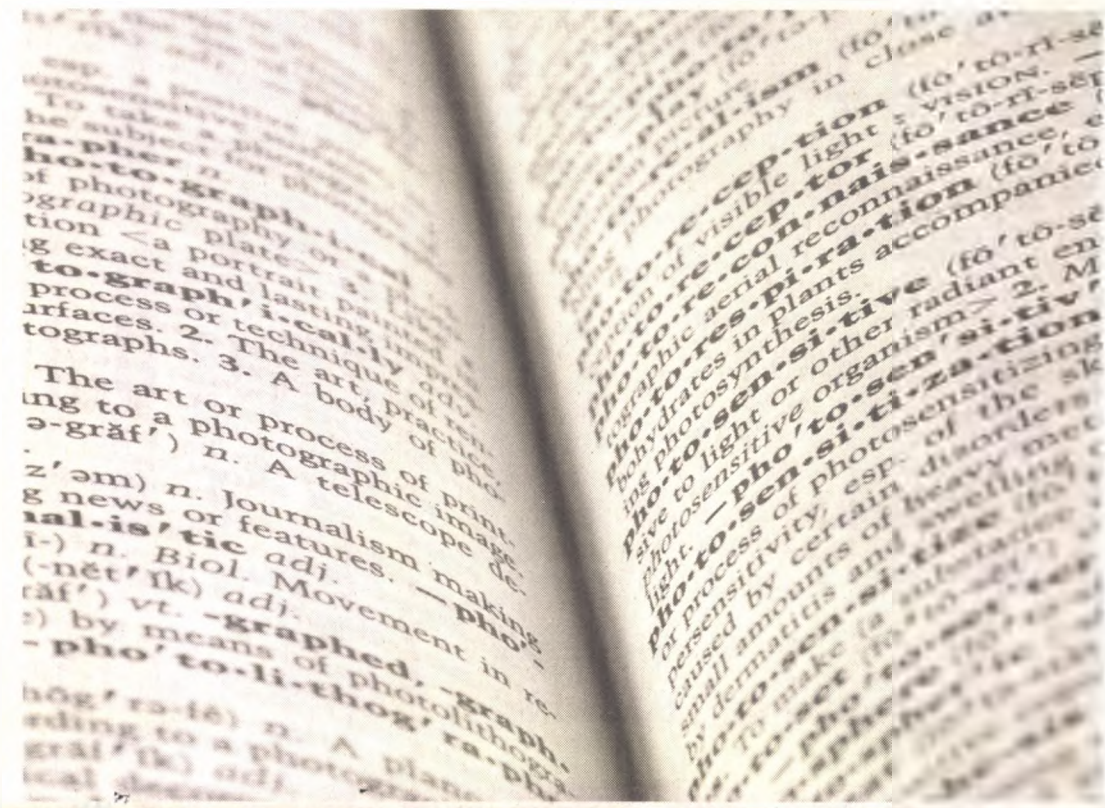
"Most people write about their titles and functions in terms they understand, instead of taking into account if it will be understood by a hiring authority," says Tony Beshara, author of "Unbeatable Resumes: America's Top Recruiter Reveals What Really Gets You Hired." "Likewise, most people write the names of the companies they have worked for with no explanation about what the companies do. There are 7.5 million companies in the United States ... most of us don't know what any of them do. It needs to be explained in detail."

"Do not overstate."

Finally, heed Strunk and White's warning, "When you overstate, the reader will be instantly on guard, and everything that has preceded your overstatement as well as everything that follows it will be suspect in his mind."

"I advise students not to say they are 'excellent speakers who have extensively ...' or other similar phrases," says Cynthia Favre, director of career services at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. "Comparative words like 'excellent' raise the question: Compared to whom? And most hiring managers will have a hard time believing a 21-year-old new graduate has done anything 'extensively' anyway. Instead, give evidence, and let the reader decide if it is excellent or extensive."

Beth Braccio Hering researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues for CareerBuilder. Follow @Careerbuilder on Twitter.



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Help Wanted-General

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Immediate Opportunity for 24/26 box truck owner operators in the Pittsburgh area. Home Every night! Candidate must have a professional "can do" attitude and appearance. All contract opportunities are pending criminal background, MVR, and drug test results that satisfy our customer requirements. For more information in regards to this opportunity, call: 404-557-0840

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FT immediate opening in Southfield MI. 5 yrs. exp. with HP boilers and auxiliaries, MAUs, pumps etc. Must have strong mechanical/trouble shooting skills motivated & willing to learn. Competitive wage and compensation package send resume to: jobs11@bctenair.com

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Help Wanted-General

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Barnhart Crane and Rigging, a leader in engineered rigging and heavy transport service - is seeking a experienced financial and operational leader. Must have experience in formulating, presenting and executing a detailed business plan to include financial and operational objectives & able to interpret and disseminate technical information orally and written form. Experience needed in business development and managing a sales team to attain specified goals. Background working with job cost, CRM and MS Office platforms. Should have strong understanding of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and how they relate to business results and operational transactions. Additional exposure to regulatory compliance and contracts helpful. Ability to embrace and effectively communicate company values to team and articulate to business and civic leaders when necessary. Must be a hands-on leader willing to build and maintain strong team while maintaining budgetary controls during operating cycle.

BARNHART

For info or to submit resume, send email to: hr@barnhartcrane.com
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PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION

Enrolling for Winter & Spring Classes! Garden City, Wyandotte & Southgate. \$950 Credit Card Accepted. 313-382-3857 phlebotomyeducation.org

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

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Help Wanted-Medical

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN

Experienced, full/part-time. Fax resume: 734-326-3234 healthy pawsvet@gmail.com

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For assisted living facility. Apply in person: 8121 Lilley, Canton, MI (btwn Joy & Warren)

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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	4.25	0	3.5	0	A
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First State Bank	(800) 372-2205	4.25	0	3.75	0	J/V/F
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Mortgages by Golden Rule	(800) 991-9922	3.625	2	3.25	0	J/A/V/F
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15 Prepared fish
17 Shape or form
18 Vapilates (hyph.)
19 Ricky Ricardo
21 Blonde shade
23 Artichoke morsel
27 Stiff pleated collar
30 Idaho neighbor
33 Pooh-
34 Psyche components
35 Young chap
36 Salad veggie
37 Frazier foe of yore
38 Spicy stew

DOWN
1 Doubtful
2 Use of history
3 Grail descriptor
4 Conjecture
5 Louvre display
6 Kind of pearl
7 Jekyll's other half

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
15			16					17			
18				19		20					
			21		22		23		24	25	26
27	28	29		30	31	32		33			
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51	52	53			54		55				
56					57				58		
59					60				61		

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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

almond chocolate gingerbread molasses pecan
bran cinnamon macaroons oatmeal peppermint
butterscotch coconut meringue peanut pumpkin

Word Search

almond chocolate gingerbread molasses pecan
bran cinnamon macaroons oatmeal peppermint
butterscotch coconut meringue peanut pumpkin

Sudoku

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

Word Search

almond chocolate gingerbread molasses pecan
bran cinnamon macaroons oatmeal peppermint
butterscotch coconut meringue peanut pumpkin

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

VERY CUTE SBF, 58, 5'7", 125lb. Interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 46-60, NS, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. #113198

SEEKS HONEST RELATIONSHIP SWF, 45, very petite, blonde hair, hazel eyes, smoker, down-to-earth, kind, sweet, loves antique, plays nice dinners, beaches, nature, outdoor activities, seeks a caring and honest man, 43-64, NS, for serious LTR. Please no games. #1337228

LET'S MEET! SWF, 44, NS, pre-op TS, blonde, seeks WM, 30-65, NS, who is clean, sophisticated, dresses nice, for friendship and more. #1339125

INDEPENDENT LADY SBF, 38, smoker, curvy, kind, loving, honest, seeks WM, 39-50, with kids, smoker, to enjoy traveling, fishing, boating, carnivals, road trips, concerts, dancing for friendship, possible romance. #1339891

SEEKS RESPONSIBLE MAN Pretty SBF, 40, NS, 5'3", 140lbs, very attractive, has own place, seeks a handsome, respectful, honest man, 38-50, NS, to enjoy dancing, bowling, shoot pool, jazz concerts, boat cruises, gospel plays, fine foods, action movies and more. Please no games or drama. Please be educated, employed and emotionally stable. #133925

NO GAMES PLEASE SBF, 52, 125lb, average build, retired chef, smoker, likes action movies, seeks honest BM, 25-48, smoker, for friendship, possible LTR. #1339714

SEEKS MAN WITH MORALS SBF, 38, smoker, curvy, kind, loving, honest, seeks WM, 39-50, with kids, smoker, to enjoy traveling, fishing, boating, carnivals, road trips, concerts, dancing for friendship, possible romance. #1339891

PLAIN JANE SWF, 62, 5'4", average build, NS, likes gardening, dinners together, pets, quiet times, biking, seeks WM, 63-70, NS, for friendship, possible LTR. #1341701

SEARCHING FOR A MAN... SBF, 52, NS, 5'5", thick shoulder length hair, likes walks on the country side, seeks kind, caring BM, 45-60, NS, for friendship, travel, going out, adventures, bowling, dancing, possible LTR. #1340942

ILL BE WAITING Very gorgeous SF, multi-racial, 31, 5'7", medium build, in search of a man, non-important, 40-65, kids ok, who is living his life to the fullest, financially secure, someone who likes concerts, cooking and traveling, for friendship first leading to possible relationship. #1332438

PEOPLE PERSON DWF, 65, 5'2", 107lbs, two grown sons and one granddaughter, looking for a man, 58-66, NS, who is family-oriented, easy to communicate with, and fun to be with. I love concerts, dining out, taking walks. #1334842

PRETTY ENTREPRENEUR WF, 64, loving, giving, fun to be with, looking for her soulmate. Any sincere WM, 60-85, who's ambitious, successful, spiritual and fun. Please reply. I like movies, plays, concerts, ballet, boating, swimming, traveling. No games. #1329274

FORMER FLIGHT ATTENDANT Recently widowed former flight attendant ISO a meaningful relationship with a Jewish man who is mensch. I'm 63, 100lbs, and look like I'm in my 40s. I'm fun, spiritual, youthful and hope to hear from you soon! #1337886

I LIKE TO LAUGH

SWM, 38, 6'3", NS, dark hair, green eyes, likes concerts, movies and going out. Seeks woman, 18-50, who is attractive, kind, honest, for serious LTR. Please no games. #1341702

A SPECIAL GUY DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest SOWF, w/ sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. #1269646

LET'S GO FOR A WALK SWM, 61, NS, tall, slim, don't look my age, seeks WF, 45-70, NS, who is sweet, kind, sexy, for possible LTR. #1341584

I WILL TREAT YOU RIGHT SWM, 72, NS, likes traveling, dining out, movies, art shows, seeks WF, 50-73, NS, for dating, friendship and maybe more. #1341637

REAL NICE GUY SBF, 44, 6'1", slim build, NS, short hair, trim facial hair, easygoing, nice, handsome, likes pizza, seeks attractive HF, 35-45, affectionate, sweet, outgoing, NS, for friendship, possible LTR. #1339230

SEEKS WF ONLY SBF, 47, smoker, seeks WF, 35-48, smoker, to go out roller skating, fishing, dine out, parties and more. #1341372

SEEKING A LATINA WOMAN SWM, 48, 6'3", NS, dark hair, blue eyes, easygoing, down-to-earth, likes traveling, dining out, sports, movies, concerts, seeks HF, 18+, for dating, possible LTR. #1338915

OAKLAND COUNTY AREA Nice-looking SWM, 45, 6'1", 190lbs, average build, NS, independent, owns home/car, seeks a kind, honest woman, 39-50, with a heart of gold, for serious LTR. Please no games. #1339295

LET'S KICK IT! SBF, 34, 5'7", 155lb, smoker, lives alone, owns car, seeks a sexy, outgoing woman, 26-30, to have fun, friendship, possible LTR. #1335442

LET'S HAVE FUN SWM, 43, 5'8", athletic build, smoker, likes lasagna, walks on the beach, fishing, dine out, parties and more. Friendship, possible LTR. #1338520

CUTE FELLOW SBF, 47, 5'7", 170lb, athletic build, smoker, seeks woman, 18-50, for friendship, having fun, leading to possible LTR. #1338650

LET'S CHILL TOGETHER SBF, 34, 6'1", 225lb, smoker, self-employed, seeks WF, 28-54, smoker, for friendship, going out, dancing, dine out, possible serious LTR. #1338730

SEEKS A REAL LADY SBF, 35, 5'6", 160lb, NS, seeks woman, 22-45, sexy, down-to-earth, curvy, for friendship and more. Westside Detroit. #1338759

MOVED TO THE WEST SIDE SBF, 41, 5'8", slim build, smoker, likes movies, and enjoying good food, seeks a beautiful BF, 21-56, for friendship, hanging out and maybe LTR. #1339183

FRIENDS FIRST OK? SWM, 47, 6' average build, business owner, liberal-minded, NS, likes traveling, beach, staying active, seeks a kind, honest woman, 25-38, for friendship first. #1338200

SEEKS A FUN LADY SWM, 35, 6'7", very honest, kind, clean, independent, NS, seeks BF, 23-45, to enjoy sports, movies, concerts, outdoor activities and more. #1339552

LOVE DOES NOT GIVE UP Handicapped SBF, 44, NS, 6'2", 260lb, muscular, HIV positive, seeks woman, 25-60, NS, with same condition, for friendship first and maybe leading to love. #1337889

LOOKING FOR MY DREAM SM, 45, Christian, American, medium build, NS, seeks an honest woman, 30-47, nice not important, for friendship, going out camping, long walks, leading to possible love. #1339186

HONESTY FIRST

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SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL...

...for good time and quiet moments. This white male, widower, 46, 5'11", 220lb, enjoys a variety of interests and activities indoors and out. Looking for LTR with right woman. #1265340

NICE-LOOKING MAN Handsome SBF, 48, 5'10", 193lb, shaved face, brown skin, NS, has one kid, seeks a special caring BF, 33-50, who has a good heart, good mind, good soul for serious LTR. Please no games. #1340996

LOOK NO FURTHER SM, 47, 5'10", 210lb, smoker, seeks a beautiful woman, 35-65, smoker, to go bowling, walks, movies and possibly LTR down the road. #1341114

WEDDING BELLS? SBF, 44, 6'1", average build, bald head, goatee, kind, marriage-minded, smoker, hard-working man, seeks WF, 35-55, to spend time with and see where it goes. #1341142

HANDSOME TEDDY BEAR SBF, 53, 5'11", 160lb, big arms, dark brown complexion, open-minded, romantic, hard-working, NS, likes sports, music, going out, swimming, shooting pool, seeks BF, 25-50, for friendship first leading to possible LTR. Please no drama. #1341326

I WILL RESPECT YOU SBF, 51, 5'11", slim build, bald head, clean shaven, NS, likes running, basketball, football, shows, hiking, outdoor fun, Seeking a caring, sincere, sweet woman, 40-50, for serious LTR. Kids ok. #1341890

LOVELY AND READY SWM, 55, average build, Italian, Virgo, NS, looking for a SWF with similar qualities and who's ready for a serious relationship. Call me if interested. Radford. #1340305

LET'S MEET FOR COFFEE SM, 72, 5'8", 180lb, NS, works out often. Seeking SWF, 64-68, for friendship, possible LTR. Let's get together and talk over a cup of coffee. #1334529

TALL ATHLETIC FELLOW Good looks, good personality, muscular, 50, 6'2", 205lb, brown hair, blue eyes, degreed, easygoing, I enjoy exercising, the park, road trips and trying new activities. Seeking single female for fun, friendship and more. Age and area open. #1331308

VERY NICE GUY! SWM, 66, 6' 190lb, retired, well groomed, abstract/modern artist, NS, seeks a nice, sweet WF, 50-75, NS, for dating, friendship, maybe LTR. #1336059

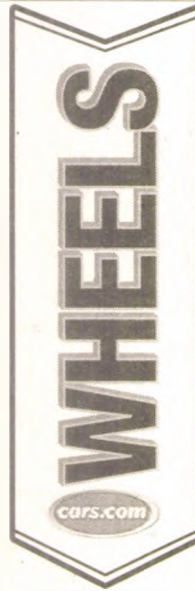
SEEKS ATTRACTIVE LADY SWM, 48, 6'2", NS, drives a truck, seeks a good-hearted woman, 38-56, to share movies, romance, cuddling, dining out, possible LTR. #1338964

LET'S HANG OUT SBF, 24, 5'5", 165lb, has my own place, smoker, seeks a kind, sweet woman, 20-50, to hang out, have fun, maybe serious LTR. #1338221

ORIGINALLY FROM NY SWM, 30, 5'8", average build, smoker, seeks BF, 18+, for friendship, good conversations, hanging out, possible LTR. #1340383

ROMANTIC, HANDSOME WM, 63, 5'11", 185lb, seeks attractive queen to share companionship, dining, travel, the arts, holding hands. #1332214

I'LL TREAT YOU RIGHT SWM, 57, smoker, slightly shaved head, goatee, seeks an understanding, loving WF, 50-60, smoker, to go walking, see markets, racing cars and more. #1341166



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Car Report

Advertising Feature

NEW CARS HAVE DETROIT MORE THAN DREAMING OF CALIFORNIA

By Dale Buss

It's been a long time since the Beach Boys sang about Chevroleets, since the free-wheeling image of big-finned domestic automobiles fit perfectly with the carefree, larger-than-life-style embodied by California, and the combination resonated with American culture at large. Then for 30 years, wave after wave of Japanese and then Korean imports landed on America's nearest shore and punneled General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, making U.S.-based brands essentially irrelevant in the state that was always defining and redefining the nation. But Detroit's Big Three never let go of the dream of re-establishing themselves far away on a West

Coast that used to be so friendly to their products -- even after decades as an also-ran in the California market. And now, one of the surprising factors that is helping to strengthen General Motors and Ford for the coming battle to re-dominate the U.S. auto industry is their new success way out there. Finally, they have been able to faintly smell the jasmine, hear the surf and sense that they might be latching on to fresh, long-term success in America's most important -- and the world's most beguiling -- new-car market; and even Chrysler is talking about renewed hope there. Indeed, the bellwether state has emerged as a top destination for some of the newest and most important vehicles in the Big Three's product portfolio these days, and domestic marketers are trying to make sure that the Golden State indeed proves golden for them in the years to come. "We've been looking for that



Fiesta is one model that is helping Ford grab California gold.

year, by 1.0 percent of market share over the year to date for 2010. But Chrysler is starting its California revival efforts at a different point: the dealership. The company has been taking advantage of the bursting of the commercial real-estate bubble on the West Coast to pick up a handful of properties and move toward establishing new dealerships or re-establishing outlets in metro areas that seem newly promising or where Chrysler regretted having to wash out underperforming dealers during the purge of 2008 and 2009. "What's been different and new is the focus and intensity we have put on getting more solid representation in California," said Peter Grady, Chrysler's vice president of network development. These Big Three executives are talking up their California hopes because they realize they can't keep underperforming there and have any real chance of significantly reversing their decades-long loss of U.S. market share. "Though the California market has been down lately more than the rest of the country," Grady said, "it still will end up [2011] being the largest car market in the country. "We can't go without it." Said Batey: "For Chevrolet to be strong and take effective leadership, we need to do better in the biggest market in the country. There's no rocket science to that; we must have vehicles that are relevant to consumers in that market."

sweet spot in California for a long time," said Lew Echlin, Ford's marketing manager for global cars and crossovers. "As with anything, it has taken a great deal of perseverance and consistency in California. We've had a cohesive California strategy that's gone back for years ... But it's taken us a long time to get in perfect harmony with the California market. We've found a sweet spot that we had found [only] in spurts before, but now we've consistently hammered on it." Ford's overall market share in California has risen to 11.6 percent for 2011 to date compared with just 10.0 percent for all of 2008, thanks largely to the popularity there of its newest small cars, Focus and Fiesta, according to Polk data. Similarly, General Motors sees new hope in its rising results in California. GM's California market share through September was 12.2 percent compared with its national average of 19.8 percent, with sales in the state up by 1.5

percent for the year to date compared with a 0.8 percent increase for the nation as a whole over 2010, according to Polk data. And like Ford, GM has been predicating its turnaround there largely on small cars -- in this case, great acceptance for its new Chevrolet Cruze compact, which is widely considered a vast improvement over the Cobalt subcompact that it replaced. "With the launch of the Cruze, we've gone from zero to hero in California pretty quickly," said Alan Batey, vice president of the Chevrolet division. The launch of the cutting-edge Chevrolet Volt extended-range hybrid also has given GM a new-age panache in California, he said. Even Chrysler, which remains "flipping terrible" in California in the words of one of its executives, sees some very new reasons to hope that it can turn around its long-term irrelevance in the state. Chrysler sales in California have ticked up this



Dale Buss

on America's nearest shore and punneled General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, making U.S.-based brands essentially irrelevant in the state that was always defining and redefining the nation. But Detroit's Big Three never let go of the dream of re-establishing themselves far away on a West



Chevrolet Cruze is spearheading GM's gains in the Golden State.

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