



### On the prowl

New Year's Eve proved to be a pretty busy night for Plymouth city police patrols. According to Detective Lt. Jamie Grabowski, police responded to 22 calls for service, conducted 18 traffic stops and made two arrests, all between 6:30 p.m. Dec. 31 and 6:30 a.m. Jan. 1.

The two arrests came out of the same incident. Police were investigating a fight in the 500 block of West Ann Arbor Trail, Grabowski said, and two subjects lied about their names when questioned by police.

Officers also responded to another fight at a residence in the 1300 block of West Ann Arbor Trail, and a warrant was denied for a fight between roommates, he said.



Elizabeth Kerstens (from left), Jim Burroughs and Jim Jabara.

### Museum grant

The Community Foundation of Plymouth awarded an \$800 grant to the Plymouth Historical Museum just before the holidays.

The grant is a matching grant to replace the panic bar on the main entrance door to the Museum, to enhance security. The check was presented by Jim Jabara, representing the Community Foundation of Plymouth, and was received by Elizabeth Kerstens, museum executive director, and Jim Burroughs, museum treasurer.

### Board election

Residents wondering who's going to lead the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education for the next 12 months need to be at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center Tuesday at 7 p.m.

That's when the board conducts its annual organizational meeting. Leadership positions up for grabs include president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Those positions are held currently by John Barrett, Adrienne Davis, Judy Mardigan and Barry Simescu, respectively.

There could be some changes. Trustees Mark Horvath and Mike Maloney, elected in November 2011, have served as board president in previous stints as board members.

The E.J. McClendon Center is located at 454 S. Harvey in Plymouth.

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## Plymouth District Library First ticket free under new parking plan

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

Visitors to downtown Plymouth who inadvertently park in a wrong spot or leave their car too long in one parking space get a pass, rather than a ticket, starting this week under a new parking fine structure unveiled by city officials.

Violators will still receive a ticket — it just won't cost them anything under the new system. Where the old schedule had first-timers getting a \$15 ticket, now it's just an "informational" ticket that carries no fine.

The new schedule was developed, according to city manager Paul Sincoc,

to deal with ongoing complaints from visitors about parking.

Visitors — read "shoppers" — aren't always aware of the limitations, and the city has for years heard complaints about the availability of parking.

"Parking is something, as it is in any small town, that's an ongoing subject of discussion," Sincoc said. "We heard the comments, and we listened. It's a good way to deal with the situation. We don't want to be in a situation where a customer might get a ticket when they didn't really understand the rules."

Please see PARKING, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

City officials are restructuring the fine schedule for parking tickets. The first ticket is now more of an informational ticket that carries no fine.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nick McMahon of Plymouth, the operations director at McMahon Helicopters in Canton Township, flew during filming for the new Tom Cruise movie 'Jack Reacher,' and this year landed work in music videos for two rap stars, Big Sean and 50 Cent.

## Flying high

### Creative work offers lift as local helicopter business changes

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

A Plymouth helicopter pilot whose company is rooted in Detroit's automobile industry is making a mark in Hollywood and in the popular music world.

Nick McMahon, operations director at McMahon Helicopters in Canton Township, flew for the new Tom Cruise movie *Jack Reacher* and this year landed work in music videos for two major rap stars. His company has an impressive list of aerial camera-work

experience — from live Super Bowl stadium flyovers to aerial shots for television commercials — and that list that has grown rapidly in recent years.

It's all part of McMahon Helicopters' evolution as the nature of its business mainstay — the parts-hauler of last resort for automakers — changes, and as Michigan and the Detroit area continue to attract filmmakers.

"We basically reinvented ourselves all over in the last 10 years," said McMahon recently at his company's headquarters.

The business was founded by his father, Brian, in 1980, and it was the elder McMahon's experience in television news and his pioneering of aerial camera systems and helicopter camera mounts, that lifted the company's creative work to its current level.

"When I started doing it there were not too many people specializing in it," said Brian McMahon, who is still active with the company, by phone. He had to design specialized camera systems and

Please see HELICOPTER, A2

## Area retailers happy with holiday results

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

While various businesses experienced a variety of levels of success, there's a general feeling among Plymouth retailers that the 2012 holiday shopping season was a success.

Many of the area retailers either matched or exceeded the sales levels they reached in 2011, according to Plymouth Downtown Development Authority officials.

Tony Bruscato, the DDA's director of operations, said during his travels around the shopping district over the holiday, shopkeepers seemed to be pleased.

"I spent most of three days talking to merchants, and most of them said they were happy with what occurred," Bruscato said. "Some were way above (last year), some were just a little above. Any time you can be above in this economy, even if it's only by a little bit, that's pretty impressive."

It was a case of good news-better news for George Dare at Genuine Toy Company. Dare, who owns the store with his wife, Elle, said the Christmas holiday revenues were "probably about the same," which would be the good news. The better news, at least for Genuine Toy, is that year-to-date totals were above 2011.

"We've done as well as I could have hoped for," Dare said. "We've got a loyal customer base, we're sort of a niche market, and we try to offer different things than what most other places have."

Dare said his "retro" toys, things like game boards and puzzles, have been a big hit. He said there's been a "resurgence of interest" among families in sitting down and playing a game together, or putting together a puzzle.

Please see RETAILERS, A3

### YEAR IN REVIEW

## Fire department issue dominated 2012

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Fire department issues, a fight over a special assessment district in Plymouth Township, a contentious election campaign and a battle over the banning of books dominated the landscape in the Plymouths in 2012.

Here's a look at some of the more interesting stories that took place throughout the year:

### Hot-button topic

The story that dominated Plym-

outh Township in 2012 was the fire department issue. Once city of Plymouth officials pulled out of the local agreement with the township to provide fire protection with the Plymouth Community Fire Department, a decision that cut nearly \$1 million from the department's budget, township officials announced their plan to lay off several firefighters.

The Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township immediately put together a plan to ask the

Please see REVIEW, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The fight over staffing levels and quality of service for the Plymouth Community Fire Department dominated the headlines in 2012, even influencing the Plymouth Township election.

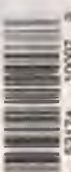
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# Numbers down, need up for local families

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

When taken individually, most of the numbers tracked by the Plymouth Salvation Army indicate assistance to local families may have been down over the holiday season.

But Army officials are quick to point out that doesn't mean the need for help among needy families in Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Belleville is diminishing.

The Plymouth Salvation Army provided assistance to 424 families for Christmas, down 76 from the same time last year. However, a total of more than 1,000 families actually got assistance from the

collaboration affectionately dubbed "The Collective," a network composed of the Salvation Army, local Goodfellows groups and area churches.

"Our numbers have been trending very slightly down the last couple of years," said Laurie Aren, the Plymouth Salvation Army's director of community and family outreach.

"But the need is still there, as is demonstrated by the total numbers of families the Collective is helping."

The Salvation Army took some 500 applications for holiday assistance this year, and assisted on 424 of them, down 22 from the number of applications facilitated a year ago. The Salvation Army's assistance numbers

include some 1,481 people, down from more than 1,800 in 2011.

## Dual help

Aren said those numbers can be attributed to a better job of eliminating duplicate applications — families who apply to more than one member of the Collective.

"This year we avoided making appointments for people who were getting help from other organizations," Aren said.

The rest of the Collective assisted 579 families, bringing the total to more than 1,000. Among the busiest: Canton Goodfellows (175), Van Buren Goodfellows (117) and the Plymouth Goodfellows (85).

Our Lady of Good Coun-

sel Catholic Church in Plymouth helped 56 families, and St. Thomas a'Becket Church in Canton assisted 34.

## Kettle campaign

Meanwhile, the 2012 Red Kettle fundraising campaign topped its goal. Volunteer coordinator Sandy Kollinger said Friday the campaign drew some \$253,000.

She attributed the success to three new kettle locations — at Greek Islands Coney in downtown Plymouth, at the Old Navy store in Canton and at the Belleville Kmart — plus strong performances at two Hiller's Market locations and Busch's.

Some 300 volunteers put in more than 4,700 hours ring-

ing bells for the campaign. The volunteers included Rotarians, Kiwanis Club members, Boy Scouts, Optimists and Civitans.

"It was a good year, a successful campaign," Kollinger said.

Officials had an inkling it would be a good kettle year at the kickoff in November, which drew a good crowd and great community support right from the beginning.

"I was surprised to see the number of people at the kettle kickoff," said Maj. Keith Bailey, who worked his first Christmas season in Plymouth after moving from Owosso. "I've never seen that many people. It was a very pleasant surprise."

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## HELICOPTER

Continued from page A1

mounts for the work, he added. "There just weren't any."

Another son, Nate McMahon, also works for the company; he is a pilot but concentrates on Internet and marketing work, his father said.

## Business evolution

McMahon, the company, runs four helicopters, three Bells and a giant Sikorsky that's mainly used for carrying freight, out of a hangar near Mettetal Airport.

Nick McMahon describes the company as the emergency parts-shipper for automobile factories facing an assembly-line shutdown because of a supply truck breakdown or a batch of bad parts.

"We're the emergency service that gets them by," said McMahon; the choppers can fly directly from components suppliers in the Great Lakes



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Nick McMahon closes the engine bay doors on their large Sikorsky helicopter, located in the maintenance hangar.

area to the factories in need of the parts, he said.

It's an expensive way to deliver a small amount of freight, but less costly than an unscheduled shutdown, McMahon added.

That work was keeping the company busy for much of the 1990s and the early 2000s, but the downturn in the industry during the Great Recession

changed that picture.

"It's been a rough ride," McMahon said of auto parts delivery. "The last 10 years have been tough." The company also flies passengers — usually top-level executives — but that part of the business has been reduced too, he said.

But film, television and video work, projects the company would



Nick McMahon provides complete services to the film industry.

turn down years ago in favor of the more steady freight business, has picked up, McMahon said. "We've evolved and changed our business accordingly," he said.

## Creative experience

Companies that do similar creative work are more common in New York and Hollywood, he said, but few and far between further inland.

"It's a specialized field," he said. "It's not something that just anyone can

go out and do."

McMahon said he and his father have learned what directors are looking for in a given scene or aerial shot and are able to translate the creative ideas of directors who don't have flying experience into a finished product.

"You get to know what look they want, what looks good and what looks bad and how to line it up," he said.

For *Jack Reacher*, McMahon played a police helicopter pilot for a chase scene filmed in Pittsburgh in late 2011; his on-screen partner was also an experienced flier. Another pilot flew the copter with the camera filming McMahon and his co-pilot.

The scene involved a lot of low-level flying, and McMahon isn't sure what made it into the movie.

In October, McMahon worked for three days with rapper 50 Cent on a video for his single *My Life*, which was released in late November. Featur-

ing Eminem and Adam Levine (from the TV talent show *The Voice*), the locally made video depicts the singers on the run from a low-flying helicopter that's trying to put a searchlight on them.

"That was definitely a highlight," McMahon said of his work on the video.

"I like that there's a lot of helicopter in it." Usually, he said, his flying work is behind the camera, not on it. McMahon also worked on another video last year with rapper Big Sean.

Brian McMahon said Nick is a "natural pilot" who flew with him often as a boy and seemed to pick up the skill by osmosis. He was flying before he was licensed to drive, he said.

"Neither one of my sons were steered by me at all" into the helicopter business, he said. "If I had tried to steer them in that direction they probably wouldn't have done it."

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## REVIEW

Continued from page A1

township to put a 1-mill, five-year special assessment district on the ballot to make up the funding difference and allow the department to keep everyone on staff.

But township officials, acting on the advice of their attorney, instead put wording on the ballot to levy an SAD of up to 10 mills for department capital expenses, plus a millage with no ceiling for maintenance and operations — with the amount to be levied decided annually by the board.

The fight, which caused a great deal of animosity between the township board and CAG supporters, ended up in a variety of courts until last month, when the Michigan Court of Appeals sided with Plymouth Township. A three-judge appeals panel denied a CAG request that township officials be ordered to put to voters a plan for a 1-mill, five-year tax to be levied through a special assessment district, or SAD, to support the fire department.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume said the board and its legal counsel had been confident in its interpretation of the law.

"Now this has been confirmed by not only the circuit court, but by the state of Michigan Court of Appeals," Reaume said.

In an email, CAG member Tom Kelly said the group was disappointed in the decision, and noted that about 4,000 people had signed its petitions for a SAD vote with the 1-mill, five-year limitations on the tax.

"We are disappointed that six township board members can negate the petition signatures of 4,000 people," Kelly wrote, referring to the 6-0 vote in December 2011 that put the issue on the ballot.

### Rough campaign

The fight over the fire department led to what most observers say is a record field of candidates in the 2012 Plymouth Township election. Hoping to unseat six incumbents (Trustee Steven Mann didn't seek

re-election), CAG supporters piled onto the ballot for the supervisor, treasurer and trustee races.

A total of 19 candidates, including 13 for the four trustee seats, appeared on the August primary ballot. In addition, Supervisor Richard Reaume and Treasurer Ron Edwards faced opposition. Clerk Joe Bridgman, who expressed support for the firefighters, was also challenged.

Nearly all of the challengers, particularly for the trustee positions, expressed dissatisfaction in the handling of the fire department.

The attempt to unseat incumbents didn't work; five of the six were re-elected, and a former trustee, Charles Curmi, joined the board. Ironically, Bridgman — the only trustee to show support for the CAG — was the only incumbent beaten.

### Books banned

Early last year, a complaint by parents prompted Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Jeremy Hughes to pull Graham Swift's *Waterland* from shelves, sparking weeks of debate about whether the book should be allowed.

A similar fight also developed over Toni Morrison's *Beloved* due to what some considered obscene language.

After weeks of public comment at board meetings, and separate meetings convened specifically to deal with the issue, review committees

allowed *Waterland* back in, and quashed the effort to remove *Beloved*.

Hughes, who made the initial decision to remove *Waterland* from the curriculum without consulting the Board of Education, eventually called that decision a mistake, and said he would, in hindsight, allow the review process to take place.

### Destination place

Judging by attendance at the various events, festivals and gatherings in Plymouth, the city continues to be a popular destination for visitors.

The city once again played host to the annual stalwarts — Plymouth Ice Festival, the Green Street Fair, Art in the Park and the Plymouth Fall Festival — which drew tens of thousands of visitors to downtown Plymouth streets.

In addition to the festivals, city organizations sponsor a variety of popular concert series in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's weekly kid-themed series, Music in the Park, draws hundreds of music lovers to Kellogg Park on Wednesday afternoon.

On Thursday evenings for much of the summer, the Plymouth Community Band entertains visitors with its blend of music.

And the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority's Music in the Air series is a huge draw on Friday nights.

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## RETAILERS

Continued from page A1

Genuine Toy has capitalized on that with its unique inventory.

"There aren't a lot of toy stores out there," Dare said. "We're fairly unique in who we are, with a sort of quirky personality. We have a lot of retro things that are big, toys people recognize from when they were growing up."

At Basket Kreations, owner Stella Delap noticed her shop was busy from the day after Thanksgiving right up through Christmas Eve. The 23-year-old business always counts on a good holiday, but Delap said holiday shopping had been down the last few years.

This year, though, it picked up.

"It was definitely much



BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Betty Lockwood, a friend of Basket Kreations owner Stella Delap, displays a basket of Michigan-made products, one of the store's specialties. Delap said the store enjoyed a robust holiday shopping season.

better," Delap said. "I think maybe the economy is on its way back. We saw a lot of people who were downtown shopping and buying, more than we've

seen in the (recent) past."

Delap said her shop's "Made in Michigan" line was really a big attraction for shoppers looking to send such gifts to friends and relatives. Basket Kreations, she said, has been specializing in Made in Michigan products the last three years, and saw many customers picking up those items this year.

Delap said she also believes the store's variety of price points also contributed to the rise in shoppers. She said the holidays are "very big for us anyway," but that this year it seemed like shoppers were "just letting go more than usual."

"We saw very excited people this year," Delap said. "It was almost magical for us. Our store was so full at times you could hardly move. That's a shopkeeper's dream."

## PARKING

Continued from page A1

On-street parking carries a two-hour time limit, while parking in the lower level of the parking garage is limited to three hours.

Violators will now get the free ticket on their first infraction. A second ticket carries a \$25 fine, a third infraction costs \$50, and fourth and subsequent infractions carry a \$75 fine.

The clock starts over one year from the date of the first infraction.

Violators get a \$15 reduction in the fine if they pay the ticket within 48 hours. Conversely, all tickets carry a \$10

late fee if not paid within 14 days.

Part of the problem, for a long time, has been employees of downtown stores parking in the short-term spots, then moving their cars around to avoid the time limit. Officials hope the new ticket structure, along with the purchase of property to be used for more long-term parking spaces, may "gently encourage" employees to use the unlimited-time spots behind the Penn or in the upper deck of the parking structure.

"I think it's a way for us to keep the rotation of open spaces in the lower part of the parking deck," said Tony Bruscatto, direc-

tor of operations for the Downtown Development Authority. "Unfortunately, we do have some (employees) who park there and move their cars around. That doesn't leave a lot of space for visitors who come to town."

Eight-hour parking spaces are available behind the Penn Theatre, at the corner of Harvey and Wing and on the upper level of the parking deck.

The city is currently negotiating to purchase the parking lot adjacent to the Christian Science Church on Ann Arbor Trail west of Harvey. Once the purchase is complete, there will be an additional 100 all-day parking spaces available.

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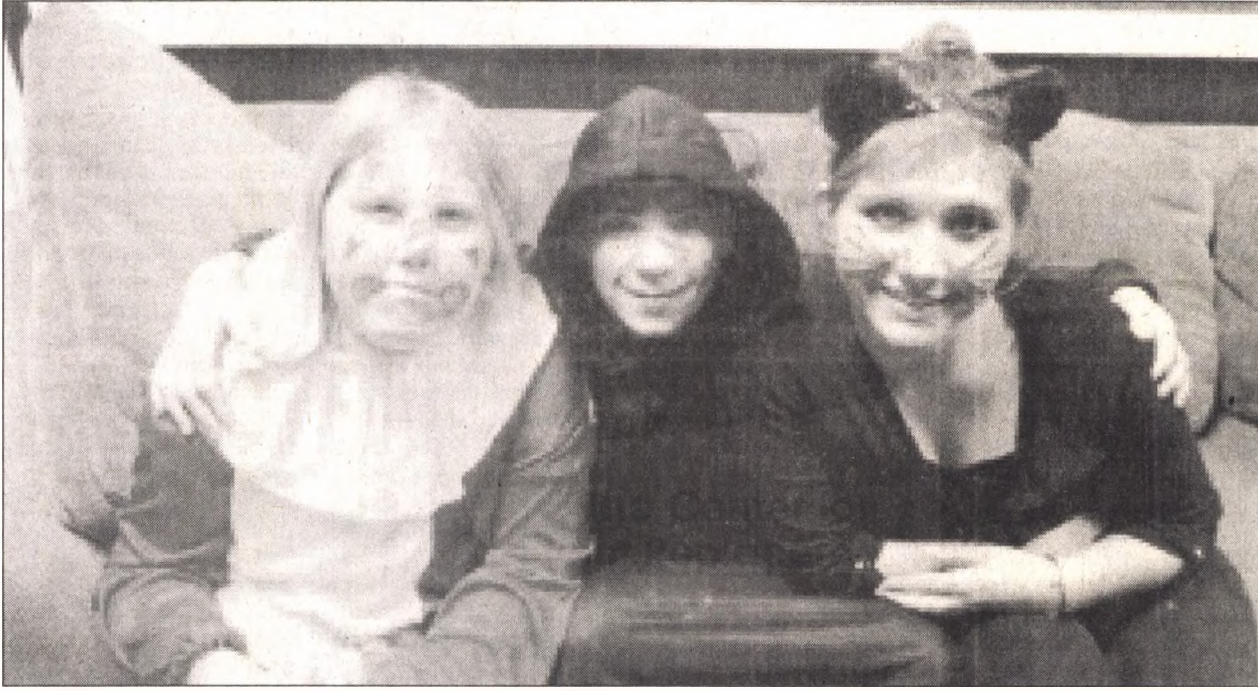
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Youth Advisory Council member Danielle Bushaw, poses for a fun photo with two BLOCK kids during the Halloween Teen Night Out event at the BLOCK last fall. The YAC hosts a pancake fundraiser Jan. 26 to raise money for its grant fund.

## W-W board ready to elect new officers

By Sue Mason  
Staff Writer

When the Wayne-Westland school board meets next week, one of the items on the agenda will be the election of officers.

With the moving of school elections from May to the November election in even numbered years, the school board is holding its organizational meeting in January. That's when trustees will decide who will hold the four board offices — president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

And as part of its operational procedures regarding board officer transitions, trustees made it known which spots they were seeking. The procedure requires polling of trustees about what positions they're interested in during in open session in December prior to the January organizational meeting.

Outgoing Secretary Cindy Schofield did the polling, asking each which positions he or she seeking. The board's newest members, Charles "Trav" Griffin, who was appointed to the board in September, and Sally Madison, who was elected to the board in November, declined.

"I contacted Mrs. Madison and she said she would not have the experience to serve in a board position," said Schofield. "She wants to focus on learning the position of trustee."

Griffin likewise stressed his "short time on the board" in bowing out.

Board President Carol Middel let her colleagues that if they see

fit, she would like to keep the position.

"It's been an honor to serve as president," she said. "It is a position I have not taken lightly. I would like to serve again, if my fellow trustees wish me to serve."

She also indicated she would be interested in any other position

While Trustee Frederick Weaver expressed interest in serving in any one of the four positions, Shawna Walker indicated she was interested in the president and vice-president posts, as well as her current job as treasurer.

John Goci, current vice-president, favored the president and secretary positions.

And Thomas Buckalew who was elected to the board in 2011, said he was ready to do more on the board. Referencing Schofield's 12½ years on the board, Buckalew said his 18 months on the board "pale in comparison, but I think I have learned enough during that time to increase my service to the board." He added that his interest was in serving as vice-president, secretary or treasurer.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the board room of the district's administrative offices at 36745 Marquette, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, in Westland. It will follow a 6 p.m. work study session which will include a board policy update and a review of the 2012-2013 budget amendment.

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Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

## YAC hopes to bolster grant funds

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

When Canton's Youth Advisory Council was trying a year ago to find a way to raise money for its grant fund, someone floated the idea of a pancake fundraiser, but the notion couldn't gain any traction.

In the same situation this year, needing to boost the group's grant fund, the pancake idea popped up again. The difference this time? There's plenty of support for it on the YAC board.

That's why the pancakes will be on the grid- dle in the Salem High School cafeteria from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, with proceeds going to benefit the YAC.

"Everyone agreed it was a good idea last year, but it just never got done," said Alex Paz, a Salem High School senior who serves as advisor to the YAC's Junior Adviso-

ry Council. "Our (grant) funds are gone, so we decided this year we're going to get some money back, and get enough for future years."

Canton's Youth Advisory Council, formed 10 years ago as a way to advocate for kids in the community, did just that with its grant fund last year, giving some \$1,600 to Pioneer Middle School in Plymouth to help buy a "Smart" board and help the school's special education program.

That's the focus of the grant program — helping students. Applications are passed out in each of the Plymouth-Canton schools, and other organizations can get grant applications at the YAC's headquarters in Canton's BLOCK (Building Leaders Out of Kids) building.

While the grants aren't limited to schools, projects being funded by them do have to have an educational component.

"It has to be beneficial to kids," said Abigail Robichaud, a Canton High School senior who serves as YAC's historian.

The YAC is funded by fundraisers and donations, according to Paz. Working with Chris Cakes of Michigan, YAC members used a "profit calculator" to figure out how much they might reap from the fundraiser. They're eyeing a goal of some \$2,000.

The proceeds from the pancake breakfast are being used for the grant fund for a reason.

"We put it toward our grant fund because it helps the kids the most," she said.

The YAC is open to students in grades 8-12 interested in making a difference in their community by taking part in community service projects, special events and local decision-making.

Among its civic activities, the group hosts hol-

iday parties and holiday projects for various groups. It has also volunteered for things like Christmas in Action.

Paz, who joined YAC her freshman year, had a cousin involved in the YAC and "I admired her." While she got involved in a lot of activities, Paz found it daunting.

"I did all the activities, but it was pretty overwhelming," Paz said. "I think the organization has definitely improved, and I've come to know how to handle the overwhelmingness of it. I've learned how to keep my head on straight."

Robichaud, who joined YAC as a sophomore, stumbled across the organization while doing a job search on the Internet.

"I thought (YAC) would be fun even though I didn't know anyone on the council," Robichaud said. "I really enjoy it. It's fun being involved and being able to see children happy."

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PUBLIC NOTICE**

To all residents and other interested parties: Agendas and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: [www.plymouthtwp.org](http://www.plymouthtwp.org). They are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road Plymouth, Michigan for public perusal.

Meeting dates in 2013: January 8, February 12, March 12 & 26, April 9, May 14 & 28, June 25, July 23, August 20, September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22, November 12 and December 10.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Nancy Conzelman  
Township Clerk

Special meetings should be scheduled for Tuesdays, unless otherwise posted.

Publish: January 6, 2013 AT8792764 3x3.5

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**CITY OF PLYMOUTH  
ORDINANCE #2012-05**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PLYMOUTH CITY CODE BY AMENDING CHAPTER 70, ARTICLE II, SEC. 70.26.

THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

**SECTION 1.** An Ordinance to amend Chapter 70, Article II, Section 70.26 of the Code of the City of Plymouth by adding the following language:

(b) **MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE.** The Michigan Vehicle Code, 1949 PAA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923 and as Subsequently amended, is adopted by reference.

(1) **REFERENCE TO CODE.** References in the Michigan Vehicle Code to "local authorities" shall mean the City of Plymouth.

(2) **PENALTIES.** The penalties provided by the Michigan Vehicle Code are adopted by reference, provided, however, that the City May not enforce any provision of the Michigan Vehicle Code For which the maximum period of imprisonment is greater than 93 days, **with the exception of subsection 2(a) below as Permitted by Public Act 7 of 2012.**

(a) **A violation of Section 625(1)(c) of the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code (being MCL 257.625) shall be a misdemeanor. And shall be punishable by one or more of the following:**

1. **Community Service for not more than 360 hours.**

2. **Imprisonment of not more than 180 days.**

3. **A fine of not less than \$200.00 or more than \$700.00.**

**SECTION 2.** Made, passed and adopted by the City Commission of the City of Plymouth, Michigan, this 17th, day of December, 2012.

DANIEL DWYER, MAYOR

LINDA LANGMESSER, CITY CLERK

Introduced: December 3, 2012  
Enacted: December 17, 2012  
Effective: December 28, 2012

Publish: January 6, 2013 AT8792744 3x8



"Around Town" 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.

**SENIORS HELPING SENIORS**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Jan. 19, 1-4 p.m.

**Location:** Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland (between Newburgh and Wayne Road)

**Details:** Seniors Helping Seniors hosts a grand-opening open house featuring food and drink and drawings for free gifts. Learn about services, providing in-home care and support for seniors by seniors. Learn about flexible job opportunities for caring, active seniors over 50 years young.

**Contact:** For more information, call (734) 996-9570 or email seniorshelpingse-niors14@gmail.com

**FREE THROW CONTEST**

**Date/Time:** Jan. 19, 10 a.m.

**Location:** St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton

**Details:** Knights of Columbus, Father Victor J. Renaud Council #3292 of Plymouth, hosts a free-throw shooting contest. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of state competition for 2013 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and state competitions. International champions are announced by the K of C international headquarters based on scores from the state level competitions. Last year more than 120,000 sharpshooters participated in over 3,600 local competitions. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

**Contact:** For entry forms or additional information contact Andrew Bishop at ajbishop1@comcast.net.

**EUCHRE TOURNAY**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Feb. 2, 6 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth Elks Club, 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth

**Details:** Canton Lions Club members will be holding a Euchre tournament. An ante of \$25 (payable with cash or check at the door) without pre-registration. Save \$5 at the door by paying \$20 with pre-registration. Cash awards to the top three players! 50% of \$20 entry paid out. Raffle 50/50 and great prizes, pizza and snacks. Cash Bar available at phenomenal Elks Club prices. According to Larry Wegrzyn, Club President, money raised from the tournament will allow Lions to meet pressing needs in the community including those who need assistance during the slowing economy.

**Contact:** Pre-register your first and last name by calling (734) 358-4280 or email CantonLionsEuchre@yahoo.com by Jan. 30.

**NEWCOMER LUAU**

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, Jan. 9, 7:15 p.m.

**Location:** Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford in Canton.

**Details:** Canton area residents interested in escaping the cold for the warm vibe of Hawaii are encouraged to attend an adult Luau hosted by the Canton Newcomers and Neighbors club. The evenings' agenda includes: tons of socializing, Hawaiian music and themed games, a best-dressed for the island contest, a raffle to benefit St. Christine's Soup Kitchen, a tasty treat from Shish House and more.



**Two-wheel fun**

In the spirit of Christmas, working together gave 24 community children a very Merry Christmas. When Joe Grima of Freudenberg-Nok contacted Cindy Morency at the Plymouth YMCA with the news that they had 24 bikes to be given out for Christmas, things went into motion. The bikes, put together at St John's by employees, were transported to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce office, where Plymouth YMCA staffers distributed the bikes to 24 families.

**Contact:** RSVP to Noreen at nrybar@yahoo.com or (734) 981-0486. To order a complimentary January newsletter, and/or learn more about the club's upcoming events of interest, visit [www.cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org](http://www.cantonnewcomersandneighbors.org).

**WOMEN'S CONNECTION**

**Date/Time:** Monday, Jan. 14, 6-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Canton Coney Island, 8533 N. Lilley Road, in a strip mall across the street from Mettetal Airport next to the Secretary of State office, south of Joy Rod on the west side of Lilley.

**Details:** Canton Women's Connection hosts their meeting featuring guest speaker Margaret

O'Rourke-Kelly, PhD and author of "Phenomenal Woman: The Dora Stockman Story." Dora Stockman was the first woman to win a statewide election to public office in Michigan. She was an incredible woman and Margaret will take us on a journey through her amazing life. Please RSVP by Friday, January 11, 2013.

**Contact:** June Nicholas, (313) 610-2561 or [junenicholas@comcast.net](mailto:junenicholas@comcast.net)

**MEDICARE COUNSELING**

**Date/Time:** Feb. 6

**Location:** United Home Health Services, 2200 Canton Center in Canton.

**Details:** United Home Health Services offers the

community free counseling with a certified MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) counselor. The MMAP counselor can help review Medicare and Medicaid eligibility and the various plans, apply for Medicaid, research and enroll in Medicare Part D drug insurance, assist with Medicare supplemental plans, find pharmaceutical assistance programs, identify & report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse issues, and explore long term care insurance options. No reservations necessary.

**Contact:** If you have any questions please contact United Home Health Services at (734) 981-8820. You may also access the MMAP

website at [www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html](http://www.mmapinc.org/pages/about.html)

**SEWING GUILD**

**Date/Time:** First Thursday, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church, Plymouth

**Details:** Meetings are open to sewists of all levels. The Nov. 1 meeting features "Purse/Tote challenge" judging and holiday gift ideas; The Dec. 6 meeting features "Holiday potluck luncheon."

**Contact:** For more information, e-mail ASGPC@comcast.net

**HOSPICE SUPPORT**

**Date/Time:** Third Saturday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

**Contact:** To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050, or email [achristensen@cchnet.net](mailto:achristensen@cchnet.net).

**DIABETES SUPPORT**

**Date/Time:** 2nd Thursday of the month, 2-3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main

**Details:** The Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring a new Adult Diabetes Support Group. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion, will be the group facilitator. There is no charge to attend. Topics for discussion will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies.

**Contact:** Call Fern Vining at (734) 454-0859.

**MOPS MEETINGS**

**Date/Time:** First-third Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

**Details:** The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

**Contact:** Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail [stekmops@gmail.com](mailto:stekmops@gmail.com), or visit [www.stekmops.org](http://www.stekmops.org).



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## Canton kicks off 100 days of health

Canton Leisure Services will once again partner with Oakwood Healthcare System to promote healthy living and community wellness in the Canton community by offering its "100 Days to Health" program, starting in January.

This popular fitness program will officially kickoff on Saturday, Jan. 12, at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Oakwood Healthcare System staff will be on hand during the kickoff providing health screenings. Other activities planned during the kick-off include Summit tours, Family Zumba and

snacks. Participants can also enjoy a special open swim starting at 1:30 p.m.

This year's program offers everything you need to build a healthier lifestyle for you and your family. Register now for Canton's 100 Days to Health 2013 online at Cantonfun.org, at the Summit front desk, or at the 100 Days Kickoff Event on Jan. 12.

Registration fees for Canton residents are: \$15 for adults ages 12 and up and \$5 for youth ages 11 and under. Non-resident fees are \$25 for adults 12 and up and \$5 for youth ages 11 and under. Youth and children must register with an adult.

This year's participants will also receive a punch-card for five free visits to the Summit on the Park during the program; classes and events offered at a variety of convenient times to accommodate your busy schedules; innovative new classes; and the return of some of our most popular events including Zumba, Boot Camps, and Healthy Cooking with Chef Paul. Be sure to check out these healthy offerings throughout this program, which ends in April 2013.

To learn more about 100 Days to Health program, visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

## Seven-week Congressman ends stint with historic vote

By Ken Abramczyk  
Staff Writer

David Curson ended his seven-week stint in U.S. Congress with an historic vote on Jan. 1.

His vote to prevent the so-called "fiscal cliff" was one of seven by Democrats and five by Republicans from Michigan supporting the extension of tax cuts for middle-income Americans, but the action also ended a tax cut of 2 percent on Social Security, which will impact paychecks for Americans.

The fiscal cliff was the primary order of business for the Democrat during his Congressional term.

"I'm done as of noon tomorrow," Curson said Wednesday.

Curson, 64, a UAW activist who has spent several years in contract negotiations as an executive assistant to two UAW presidents and worked with the auto task force representing the UAW on the GM and Chrysler bailouts, won the special election Nov. 6 to finish the unexpired term of



Curson

Thaddeus McCotter. McCotter resigned after petition signatures were

deemed to be photocopies by the Secretary of State's office. Attorney General Bill Schuette's investigation eventually led to charges against four McCotter staffers, alleging that they were involved in a deliberate fraud involving a pattern of copying and altering petitions in order to qualify the five-term congressman for the 2012 primary ballot.

Gov. Rick Snyder's office scheduled a special primary election on Sept. 5, followed by a spot on the Nov. 6 general election ballot, to complete McCotter's unexpired term.

Curson served from Nov. 8 until Thursday. On Thursday, Republican Kerry Bentivolio, who won election on Nov. 6 to a two-year term in the redistricted 11th Congressional District, began

his term.

Curson returned to his Belleville home Wednesday and, as his term ended, expected to make sure his district office was closed that afternoon.

"I loved the experience. It was seven weeks of non-stop, very hard work," Curson said. "I had to do a lot of preparation."

"You realize that there are truly a lot of people on both sides who believe in this country. It's kind of the same thing that I'm doing for the UAW, working for the things I believe in," Curson said.

Curson said he will return to his job with the UAW.

Curson does not see himself running for elective office again.

"The constant campaigning and always asking for money, I just don't think I could stomach that," Curson said. "I will probably not run in any election in my future, but I think I will be helping out someone else down the road."

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## Citizens for Peace to show documentary 'I AM'

The public is invited to view the 2011 documentary "I AM" at the Citizens for Peace meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia.

The film asks two central questions: "What's wrong with the world?" and "What can we do to fix it?"

Hollywood director Tom Shadyac wrote, directed and narrat-

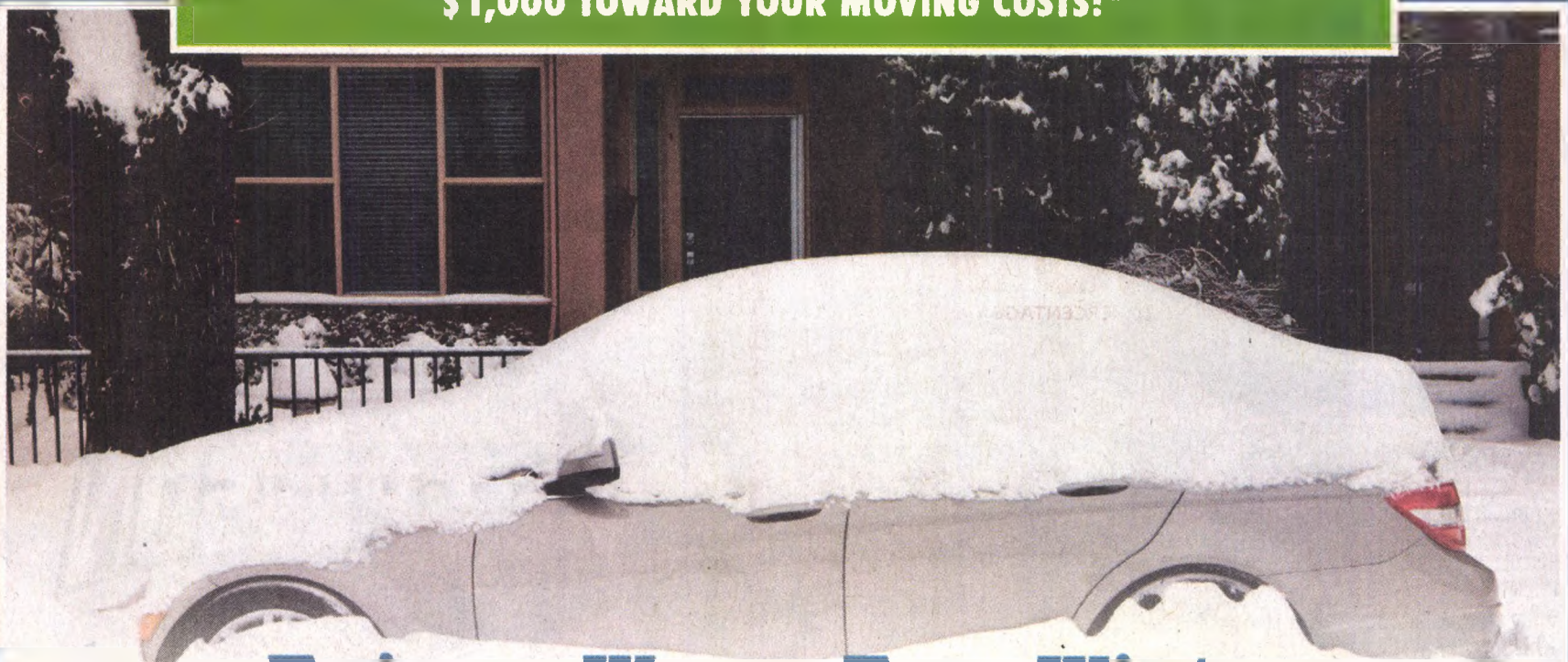
ed the film after a bicycle accident changed his life. His journey from materialism to purpose took him from living in a 17,000-square-foot mansion to happily living in a trailer.

On his quest for answers to the root causes of the problems in our world, Shadyac interviews scientists, psychologists, authors, philosophers and others, includ-

ing Desmond Tutu, Howard Zinn, Lynne McTaggart, Thom Hartman and Noam Chomsky. He discovers scientific evidence that we are hard wired for connection and compassion, and that our power comes by being able to cooperate rather than compete.

For more information, go to [www.citizensforpeace11.blogspot.com](http://www.citizensforpeace11.blogspot.com) or call (734) 425-0079.

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A cultural concert helped mark the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Day last year.

## Event celebrates King legacy

The Canton community will once again honor the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a special tribute, "Building Bridges: Canton Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," on Monday, Jan. 21, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

The public is invited to attend a pre-event reception starting at 5:30 p.m. featuring light refreshments, followed by the main program at 6 p.m. This annual event is presented by the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts, and Heritage, members of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Subcommittee, and the Canton Community.

In addition, the reception is generously sponsored by Darian and Ralynnda Moore of Keller Williams Realty of Plymouth. Admission to this special presentation is a \$2 donation at the door.

A biography of Dr. King's life will also be presented in dramatic form; "Spirit of the Man - Martin Luther King, Jr." was written and produced by ReGina Shamberger, a member of the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, as well as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. subcommittee.

Musical performances will be provided by the New Hope Music Academy Choir, under the direction of Isaac Pippen. This year a special pan-

el of Morehouse College Alumni will be hosted by Anthony Davis, a member of the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage, as well as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Subcommittee. The panel will feature distinguished members of the community, include Judge William McConico, Michigan's 36th District Court; Karl Robinson, President, Detroit Morehouse Alumni Association; Curtis Johnson; and Reverend Nelson A. Henry.

For more information about this special performance and the latest exhibition in the Gallery@VT, please call (734) 394-5300 or visit cantonvillage.theater.org.

## Walsh arson bill signed into law

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley has signed legislation introduced by state Rep. John Walsh (R-Livonia) that stiffens penalties for arson-related crimes.

House Bill 5692 — now Public Act 531 — is part of a four-bill package that provides law enforcement, prosecutors and judges with more tools to fight arson crimes. It also establishes degrees of arson crimes with varying penalties, which range from 93 days in jail for a misdemeanor to life in prison for the deliberate burning of a multi-unit dwelling or a fire that results in physical injury to a person. "The intent of these new laws is to send a



Walsh

said Walsh. "We are confident this will deter arsonists from targeting the many empty houses that have resulted from foreclosures, and we further hope it will have an impact on the number of fires that occur every year near Halloween."

Under the legislation, penalties for arson would be:

- First-degree arson involves willful damage by a fire or explosive to

message that arson crimes will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted to the fullest,"

a multi-unit dwelling, a mine or any building if the fire results in physical injury. This carries a penalty of life in prison and a fine of not more than \$20,000;

- Second-degree arson would result in a 20-year, \$20,000 fine for someone who willfully or maliciously burns or damages a dwelling by fire; and

- Third-degree arson involves a prison term of 10 years and \$20,000 fine for anyone who burns or destroys personal property with a value of \$20,000 or more, or a value of \$1,000 if the arsonist is a repeat offender.

Lighter sentences would apply to lesser degrees of arson.



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<sup>2</sup> Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 1/5/2013. See branch for details.

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# West Nile virus turns woman's life upside down

By Sue Buck  
Observer Staff Writer

A small winged creature turned Fran Smith's life upside down on Aug. 15 and left her unable to walk after she contracted the West Nile virus from an infected mosquito.

Smith, 86, a Garden City resident and former nurse, is making small strides to recovery following time spent at Garden City Hospital and in rehabilitation. She now uses a wheelchair to get around.

She came home Friday, Dec. 28. She continues to receive therapy at home in southwest Garden City where her frustrated but supportive family tries to learn the medical facts about her severe worst case scenario.

But Smith considers herself lucky to be a statistic because she could have died.

Grandson Dan Smith has arrived from Arizona to help care for his grandmother with his grandfather, John Smith. The couple has been married since 1945 and were the first to move into their subdivision on Michelle Court about 55 years ago.

"I have a long battle," Smith said. "I have been in the hospital 4½ months."

She recalled getting up Aug. 15 and "dropping like a bag of potatoes." She thought that she had a spontaneous break.

"I remember EMS coming and not remembering anything else for three weeks," she said. "I was in a coma in ICU. I was



STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden City resident Fran Smith is enduring a long recovery since being bit by a mosquito infected with the West Nile virus last summer. She said that her supportive family which includes grandson, Dan Smith (left) and husband John (right), is helping her gain recovery. She also credits the prayers of all her friends.

so near death, they didn't think that I was going to make it."

She doesn't understand why she was bit. She called her husband

id was tested.

"The CDC contacted us and told us that she was positive for West Nile," he said. "Prior to this, she could run up and down those stairs. It would wear you out watching her because she was so active. There was absolutely nothing that she didn't do prior to this. It has crippled her feet. We have had to train her again to stand and walk. She has always been the glue in this family."

Smith has also lost some of her vision and hearing. Smith was especially complimentary of the care she received at Garden City Hospital and Four Chaplains in Westland.

The family has rallied around her. The couple has three sons, Wayne, Greg and Keith, as well as six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Son Keith and his wife, Sue, have especially helped out locally.

Fran and John Smith have roots in the community, helping to start Cub Scout Troop 744 at Memorial Elementary School in Garden City.

## Medical view

Laura Kehler, a registered nurse and an infection prevention coordinator, said that in 2012, Garden City Hospital had nine cases of West Nile virus with Wayne County registering 105 cases and the state of Michigan 507 cases.

Kehler said previous to 2012, she had not recorded a case of West Nile virus since 2005. The outbreak in 2012 can be attributed to the unseasonably warm winter, early spring and hot summer.

"The average temperature in 2012 was 54 degrees," she said, add-

ing that there was an overall increase in cases nationally in almost all of the states.

The first case at Garden City Hospital showed itself in August. No deaths were recorded among those patients.

Kehler said that Smith's case was more severe than others.

"For many people the symptoms are mild and they don't even know they have the virus," Kehler said. "All it takes is one mosquito. There is no treatment for the virus and patients are given supportive care."

Dr. Donald Cox, chief of infectious diseases at Garden City Hospital, said that it is unusual for someone to have such a severe reaction to the virus. A lumbar tap, a spinal tap, is used to detect the antibodies.

Cox stresses that preventive vigilance is the key.

"Don't get bit by a mosquito," Cox said.

He advises residents to take care to keep their bodies covered with long-sleeved shirts and slacks. When wearing short-sleeved shirts, for example, repellent should be applied to the neck and arms.

"There is no treatment," Cox said. "It runs its course."

Garden City Hospital was notified in advance through medical alerts that the virus was recorded in Michigan and in the United States.

For more information about West Nile virus, visit the Michigan West Nile site at [www.michigan.gov/westnile](http://www.michigan.gov/westnile) or the Centers for Disease Control site at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile).

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# Cleaning up financial mess starts with balance sheet

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

**Q:** Dear Rick: My personal financial affairs are a mess. I've not done anything with them in at least five years. I have let my investments stay in cash. I don't have a will. The bottom line is I need help. My New Year's resolution is to get my financial house in order but I have no idea where to start. I'm married and I have two adult children. I would like to retire five to seven years from now, but I have no idea if I have enough money to retire or not. Where do I start?

**A:** I can't think of a better New Year's resolution than to get your financial house in order. I recognize that most people don't like to deal with their personal financial affairs, but there is no alternative. Unfortunately, in today's world, you cannot afford to put things on automatic pilot. Too many things change and we must learn to change with the times.



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

In my column last week, I discussed the importance of preparing a personal balance sheet. This should be your first step. By preparing a personal balance sheet, you know your assets and liabilities. In addition, it lets you see the amount of debt that you are carrying and which you need to accelerate for payment.

The next thing that you need to do is prepare a cash flow statement. A cash flow statement shows what it costs you to live each month. A cash flow statement is a listing of what comes in and where the money is going. This serves two purposes. The first is that you can actually see where

your money is going. In addition, the benefit of doing a cash flow statement is you can look for ways to become more efficient. After all, if you can cut your monthly living expenses it will help you reach your goal of being able to retire in a short period of time.

Once you have a cash flow statement and personal balance sheet, you have a great springboard to getting your financial house in order.

No matter where you are with personal financial affairs, don't beat yourself up or be paralyzed by analysis. Every journey starts with the first step. I can't think of a better time of year than now to take that first step. Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like Bloom to respond to your questions, please e-mail him at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).



The BeckRidge Chorale performs its 2012 Christmas concert. The choir begins its spring season in April.

# Choirs kick off spring season

The BeckRidge Chorale and Cherry Hill Singers are kicking off their 40th season of music making next week.

The BeckRidge Chorale will begin their season on Tuesday, Jan. 8. The chorale rehearses at Plymouth First United Methodist Church on North Territorial in Plymouth.

Members of the BeckRidge Chorale are required to audition for placement within the organization. Their upcoming spring concert titled "Crayons" will be held April 27-28 at Northville High School in Northville.

Artistic Director Michael Gross said, "This will be another fun evening of great music," said artistic director Michael Gross. "I borrowed a line from Forrest Gump when

I put this program together and began to explore why life is like a box of crayons. I was surprised in the number of songs that include colors. It's going to be a blast."

Cherry Hill Singers begins rehearsals on Monday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church on Ridge Road in Canton.

Cherry Hill Singers is a non-auditioned choir designed for people who have not been part of a choir before or have been away from singing for a while.

"I've enjoyed making music all my life and want people to know that singing is something you can do throughout your entire life," Gross said. "Cherry Hill Singers is a fun group and eliminates

any audition fear. We welcome everyone from all ages to join. I really work at bringing out the best in all my singers."

Cherry Hill Singers will present "Love Stories," a concert centered on the ups and downs of relationships on Friday, May 3, 2013 at the Village Theater in Canton.

For more information about the BeckRidge Chorale or Cherry Hill Singers you can visit their website at [www.beckridgechorale.org](http://www.beckridgechorale.org) or call (888) 459-4887. The BeckRidge Chorale and Cherry Hill Singers are a non-profit organization and are not affiliated with any specific religious organization.

Cherry Hill Singers is sponsored in part by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities in Canton.

# Hospitals announce first babies of 2013



Nicole and Steve Scheich hold baby Nox at St. Mary Mercy's Miracle of Life Birthing Center.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia and Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital have announced the first babies of 2013.

Nox Junior Scheich was the first baby born at the St. Mary Mercy Miracle of Life Birthing Center. The proud parents are Steve and Nicole Scheich of Garden City.

Nox was born at 3:47 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 1. Nox weighed in at 8 pounds, 9 ounces and was 21 inches long. He is Steve and Nicole's first baby.

Alexander Weber was the first baby born at Henry Ford West Bloom-

field Hospital. The proud parents are Amy and Justin Weber of Livonia.

Alexander was born at 8:28 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 1. He weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and is 19.3 inches long. He has a big brother named Jacob.



Amy and Justin Weber of Livonia with son Alexander, the first baby born at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital in 2013.

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The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

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# Little Stars perform for seniors

The Little Stars Foundation, a non-profit youth organization based in Canton, performed nine Christmas concerts for local seniors in the 2012 Christmas season.

It's the seventh consecutive year putting on free concerts for local nursing homes and senior communities, and giving the seniors Christmas presents.

This year, Little Stars went to Hope Nursing Care in Westland, Four Season Nursing Center in Westland, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill in Canton, Waltonwood at Carriage Park Assisted Living in Canton, Waltonwood at Carriage Park Independent Living in Canton and Independence Village of Plymouth.

As this year's Christmas present, TLSF members brought 200 fleece scarves to the seniors, paid for by money members raised from their



Little Stars member Anna Sun shows off 200 fleece scarves the foundation purchased to pass out to seniors as Christmas presents.

birthday parties.

"The performances were well received," said Yihong Tong, president of The Little Stars Foundation. "Many seniors sang along to the music, and the TLSF visits brought joy to hundreds of local senior during the holiday season."

The Little Stars Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization started in 2006 by a group of children. The founda-

tion consists of members from Canton, Plymouth, Novi, Livonia, Farmington Hills, and Westland, and currently has over 30 active members. While they play music and spread joy primary over the holidays, they also perform for local seniors periodically throughout the years.

For more information, visit [www.thelittlestars.org](http://www.thelittlestars.org) or email [tlsf@thelittlestars.org](mailto:tlsf@thelittlestars.org).



The Little Stars Foundation brought scarves and Christmas music to Four Season Nursing Center in Westland.



Little Stars members brought scarves and Christmas music to Waltonwood at Carriage Park in Canton.



TLSF members happily smile for the camera after performing for Waltonwood at Cherry Hill, including (front, from left) Alan Sun, Elbert Yi, Anna Sun, Carolyn Xue, and second row, from left) Olivia Qiu, Daniel Li, (last row) Edward Lin, Paul Shen, Marlowe Susselman, Howard Zhang, Amy Sun.



TLSF members with seniors from Waltonwood at Carriage Park after performance include (from left) Marlowe Susselman, Paul Shen, Alan Sun, Carolyn Xue, Anna Sun, Amy Sun, Elbert Yi, Edward Lin, Howard Zhang and Daniel Li.

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# Hope dims for Awrey as equipment up for auction

By Ken Abramczyk  
Staff Writer

Awrey Bakeries appears to be preparing to sell its assets in an online auction Feb. 20-21, but sources familiar with the company are indicating that the company is still talking with potential buyers or investors to keep the century-old business operating.

But hope is fading fast. Employees were notified in late November that Awrey could lay off about 150 workers — and possibly shut down — due to economic conditions unless a buyer or investor is found. A letter was delivered to United Distributive Workers, Council 30, by certified mail giving written notice. By federal law, Awrey must give workers — or their union representatives — at least 60 days' notice.

The company also filed a federally required



FILE PHOTO

Awrey Bakeries is a familiar Livonia landmark on Farmington Road.

notice to the state confirming it plans to shutter its facility and lay off 203 employees in 60 days. That notice stated the company "will be forced to close its entire Livonia, Michigan facility ... as the result of economic conditions."

The company has 157 union employees and 46 non-union workers, according to the notice signed by Awrey CEO

Bob Wallace, and will "fully and permanently close" during a 14-day period between Jan. 27 and Feb. 9 unless a buyer or investor is found.

Wallace would not return a phone call for comment on the items listed for auction or whether the company had any buyers or investors interested in purchasing or investing in it. Other non-company sources

have indicated that they have heard that there are interested buyers in the company, even as the assets are listed on the auction site.

Workers remain in limbo this week.

Brian Corrigan, who works in general utility and is a union steward with Council 30, said he was laid off through this weekend and next week. Corrigan said he will have worked at the bakery for 35 years in June 2013.

"They haven't told us anything," Corrigan said. "The majority of the plant has been shut down since the last Tuesday before Christmas, which was the last production we had. They're not bringing in supplies for us to make product."

He said a supervisor had told him that another company was interested in purchasing Awrey, but that he had not heard that from his union or the

company's top brass.

Corrigan learned of the items listed for auction over the weekend from friends. "I was trying to keep my hopes up that somebody would buy or invest in the company, but it's hard to stay positive right now," Corrigan said.

Corrigan said his next scheduled day of work is Jan. 14. "But I was told that they may want us to come back a couple of days next week," Corrigan said.

Council 30 agreed to a wage cut in late May to help keep the company from closing its doors. The union voted to accept a \$1 cut in members' hourly wage at that time and a second 85-cent cut in September. The 160-member union voted to accept the wage cuts in a 97-38 vote.

The Website rabin.com lists the auction items, describing Awrey's as "one of the largest pri-

vately owned bakeries that produced fresh and frozen pastries, breads, cakes, donuts, biscuits and muffins."

The list reflects the production end of Awrey's, which just celebrated its 100-year anniversary two years ago. Six 120,000-pound flour and sugar silos, 7,500 to 15,000 cone bottomed flour hoppers, mixers, kettles, cooling pans, chocolate melters and filling pumps are all listed.

Mayor Jack Kirksey said he was told that Wallace was still negotiating with potential buyers and hoped Wallace could complete some transaction to keep Awrey's doors open.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, hasn't lost hope about the company. "While news of scheduled Awrey's liquidation auction is sobering, the company continues talks with potential buyers," West said.

## 'Les Mis' comes to Village Theater stage

"Les Miserables" has been seen by more than 60 million people in 42 countries, has been presented in 21 languages, and is still breaking box-office records everywhere in its 28th year.

Now, it's coming to Canton, as Forever After Productions presents "Les Miserables" at the Cherry Hill Theater in Canton from Feb. 1-10.

Show times are Feb. 1, 2, 8, and 9 at 7 p.m., Feb. 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 2 p.m.; and Feb. 4-5 at 9:30 a.m.

Theater-goers can follow the life of Jon Valjean in 19th-century France as he turns from ex-prisoner to philanthropist all the while being relentlessly hunted by the ruthless lawman Javert after he breaks parole.

This enthralling story of "Les Miserables" (original work by Victor Hugo) encompasses broken dreams, unrequited love, passion, sacrifice, and redemption as it portrays a timeless testament to the endurance of the human spirit.

Young lives become entwined as Jon Valjean agrees to care for factory worker Fantine's daughter Cosette, who subsequently falls in love with Marius, a member of the student ABC Society lead by Enjolras who incites an uprising against the French monarchy. The complex story unfolds

through musical selections that include "One Day More," "I Dreamed a Dream," "God On High" and "Do You Hear the People Sing."

"Les Miserables" is produced through arrangements with Musical Theater International. The book, music and lyrics for the musical are written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. This author approved abridged edition (rated PG) maintains the integrity of the original work in two acts with a running time of just over two hours.

Forever After Productions is a community theater company for children and young adults ages 6-21. Upcoming shows include Disney's Little Mermaid Jr. on stage March 21-26 and Disney's Tarzan (regional premiere) running May 10-19. Log on to [www.ForeverAfterProductions.com](http://www.ForeverAfterProductions.com) for more information about auditions and performance schedules.

Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 50400 Cherry Hill Rd. at the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge in Canton.

Purchase tickets at [www.foreverafternow.com](http://www.foreverafternow.com), or call (734) 547-5156. Available tickets will also be sold at the box office one hour before show time. All tickets are \$15.



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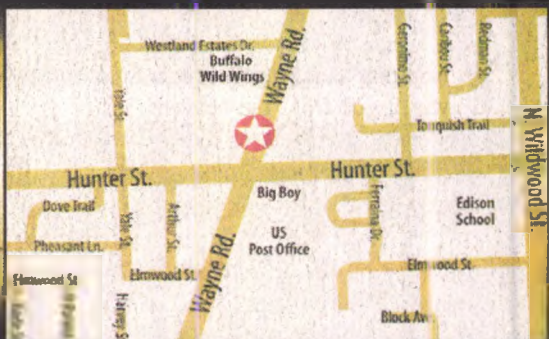
Deserts...well we have a dessert bar with many choices and even an ice cream buffet.

While Hibachi Grill is family oriented with many of the younger crowds favorites like pizza, mashed potatoes & pasta. We also are a great place to bring or meet business associates for lunch.

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## Free throws lift Rockets



DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

John Glenn's Isaac Everette (4) takes the ball to the basket over Canton's 6-foot-8 junior center Jordan Nobles in Friday's KLAA South Division opener.

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

You could call it a philanthropic win Friday night for the Westland John Glenn boys basketball team.

The Rockets opened defense of their KLAA South Division championship by making 9-of-10 from the charity stripe in the decisive fourth quarter Friday to beat host Canton, 53-48.

Glenn improves to 5-1 overall, while the Chiefs slip to 2-5.

Canton trailed 16-11 after one quarter, 27-23 at intermission and fell behind by as many as 10 points in the third before rallying to take the lead on a short banker by 6-foot-8 junior Jordan Nobles, who scored eight of his 11 in the final quarter.

But Glenn got a big 3-pointer from 6-6 junior forward Isaac Everette (17 points) from the right wing with exactly a minute left to break a 46-46 deadlock and got four straight free throws from Nick Daniels (11 points) and Richard Roberts (12 points) in the final 27 seconds to seal the victory.

"Well, it was worth it to get up and shoot this morning for an hour," said Glenn coach Dan Young, whose team went 15-of-20 from the foul line for the game. "We shot a lot of free throws. We shot a lot — period — mainly because we didn't want them to sleep in all day. So that stuff pays off."

Glenn won despite hitting only 17-of-48 shots from the

floor (35.4 percent). Canton, however, also struggled from the field, making just 18-of-61 (29.5 percent).

"(Jim) Reddy and their coaching staff do a great job," Young said. "Their players are tough. They're scrappy and that's the way he was as a player (under Young when he was coach at Canton). He never gave in and that's how his guys are."

"We're very fortunate — on the road, coming off (holiday break). They (Canton) are very good. They just spread you out and have so many guys that can shoot it. And not having our two 'biggs,' they went into (Jordan) Nobles and really hurt us inside. I said, 'Do we double off shooters?' We got into a real bind there."

Nobles certainly gave Canton a lift offensively after senior guard Josh Mayberry carried the Chiefs offensively for three quarters, scoring 17 of his game-high 21.

"Brandon did a great job tonight," Reddy said. "I thought he competed and brought us some energy that we needed to beat Glenn. He struggled early, but I thought we found something in the third quarter. We were throwing inside and even though he wasn't scoring, we were getting better shots and better looks off of them. So we decided to go to him and he had a great fourth quarter for us."

Canton was able to contain

Please see **ROCKETS, B3**

## Waza Flo game Jan. 6

Now that college football bowl games are dwindling to a precious few, there's indoor soccer on the horizon.

Detroit Waza Flo, of the Professional Arena Soccer League, will face the Cincinnati Kings at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Taylor Sportsplex.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids; no admission fee for children age 2 and under.

To order online, visit [www.detroitwaza.com](http://www.detroitwaza.com) or contact Kate Avery at [kate@wazafc.com](mailto:kate@wazafc.com).

Taylor Sportsplex is located at 13333 Telegraph Road. Call (734) 374-8900 for more information.

## Vellucci to tweak roster

Plymouth Whalers coach and general manager Mike Vellucci told George Sipple of the *Detroit Free Press* that teams are calling about a trade for forward Matt Mistele — but he's telling them Mistele's not on the block.

Meanwhile, with the recent return to the Whalers of forward Matthew Heard from Lake Erie of the AHL, Plymouth has four overage players (age 20). The team can carry only three as of Wednesday, the OHL deadline for overage players.

Other overage players on the roster as of now are forwards Alex Aleardi (Farmington Hills) and defenseman Colin MacDonald and Austin Levi. One of those players must be moved.

"We never expected to get Mitchell Heard back," Vellucci said. "We've been fortunate enough to get him sent back, so now we have to make an adjustment. 'I haven't decided what I'm going to do.'" The trade deadline for all other players is Thursday.

## Spiker Taylor shows skills

Detroit Country Day volleyball standout Taylor Alexander of Farmington Hills was one of 18 Michigan residents who participated in the inaugural 2012 AVCA Phenom College Preparatory Program.

The event, held late last month in Lexington, Ky., included 300 select high school and two-year college volleyball players who engaged in physical assessments, skills testing and educational sessions.

## Just like old times

Game brings out the best in former and current Cougars

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Just three weeks removed from delivering a baby girl, Vonne Jenks was dribbling a basketball up and down the Garden City High School court Thursday night and delivering assists.

Jenks was one of 15 former Cougar girls basketball players who returned to their old hoops home to participate in the annual alumnae basketball event, which pits former players against current ones.

"I try to show up for this game every year," said the new mom, a member of the

Class of '95. "It's fun, there's a lot of camaraderie and it's nice to see all the old coaches who come back, and to hang out with everybody."

The alumnae game tradition was started in the 1980s by former GC girls basketball

Please see **ALUMNAE, B4**



Garden City alumni player Alisha June (left) grabs a rebound in front of current junior varsity players Amber Swisher and Ashlynn Caviness.

ED WRIGHT



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Valentino Kalaj (35) and Harrison's Calvin Butler scored 19 points apiece. Kalaj is guarded by Steven Frederick.

## Hawks off to good start in '13

By Dan O'Meara  
Observer Staff Writer

Not having played a basketball game in nearly two weeks, the Farmington Harrison boys team was a little rusty when it resumed competition following the holiday recess Thursday.

The Hawks fell behind early against crosstown rival Farmington, but they soon got it together and earned their fourth straight victory, 65-57, on their home court.

"I said to the guys, 'You only get one shot to start 2013. It's either 1-0 or 0-1,'" Harrison coach Jason Pickett said. "The fact we were able to do that, that was great."

"We haven't played in a while. At the start, we were rushing some shots that we don't normally rush. When we started to settle down, better things happened."

Farmington took an 11-5 lead, but Harrison quickly turned the situation around, shutting down the Falcons with its defense and going on a 21-2 run.

The Hawks, who are 1-0 in the OAA Blue Division and 5-2 overall, scored the final six points of the first quarter to tie the game at

11-11, and followed with the first four of the second.

After a layup by Justin Banks that put Farmington within two, 15-13, Harrison posted 11 unanswered points to double the size of its lead.

Craig Wilson and Quinton Carter each scored twice in transition, while Dorian Fields and Wilson made some sharp passes for nice assists during the run.

"Again, it's the guys playing defense," Pickett said. "If we play team defense, that starts a lot of stuff for us. If we're able to do that, good things will happen to us overall."

"It starts with us playing defense as a group and, when we do that, we get our hands in the passing lanes and we start getting some buckets."

The Falcons (0-1, 2-5) closed the margin to six at halftime, 29-23, and Valentino Kalaj, who tallied 19 points and shared game-high scoring honors with Harrison's Calvin Butler, made a three to start the second half.

But the Hawks kicked their game into high gear and surged again, netting the

Please see **RIVALRY, B3**



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Putting the defensive clamps on Canton's Alanna Brown (left) Friday night are Westland John Glenn twins Raine Bankston (No. 1) and Raven Bankston (right).



# Bankstons wreak havoc on Chiefs

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

For a while Friday night, Canton hung in there against Westland John Glenn and the Bankston twins.

The visiting Chiefs trailed 23-19 at halftime but could not stem the Rockets in the second half — dropping a 59-38 decision in the KLAAs South Division opener for both teams.

Leading John Glenn, as usual, were talented guards Raven Bankston (20 points) and her twin sister, Raine (eight points).

Also a catalyst for the Rockets (6-1, 1-0) was Kaira Barnes, with 18 points. "They're a real athletic, quick group," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "I thought in the first half we handled their speed and their athletic ability pretty solid."

"In the third quarter we played their style. ... They want to get after you, they want you to turn it over and they want to get layups."

The relentless defensive pressure by the Rockets also led to 24 Canton turnovers, many on intercepted passes.

"That's something we've

definitely been working on the last week," John Glenn head coach Eric Kovatch said. "We really want to apply more pressure on teams as we enter the KLAAs."

"This was by far the best we've done so far this year as far as applying pressure."

He added that it's becoming almost routine to watch the Bankston's work their magic.

"There's something telepathic going on with them because they've been playing together for so long and they know exactly where each other is going to be," Kovatch said.

Leading the Chiefs (4-3, 0-1) with 19 points was Paige Aresco, who in the first half made all eight of her free throws.

Chipping in with five points was Alanna Brown while Shannon Perry tallied six rebounds after taking over from starter Taylor Hunley (injured ankle in the first quarter).

"Taylor got hurt, so the rest of us got to step up and make plays," Samulski said. "That wasn't the biggest issue here."

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
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# Hawks keeping up pace; Marlins, Blazers also win

Farmington Harrison remained a game behind Oxford in the OAA White Division girls basketball standings Friday with its 37-28 victory at Rochester Adams.

"Tonight's game was going to affect the league standings pretty big," said Harrison coach Tim Micklash, whose team is 8-1 overall and 5-1 in the OAA White Division. "For us to get another road win was huge."

"To be where we are after nine games with so many (seven) away games, I'm very, very pleased with the girls and how they've responded to that challenge."

The Hawks played good defense and held the Highlanders to single-digit scoring in three quarters.

Harrison led 20-12 at halftime, and each team had 11 points in the third period.

"We made some adjustments at halftime, and our girls did a great job coming out to start the second half and executing," Micklash said. "Our guards did an excellent job at the end of the game of taking care of the ball and controlling the tempo."

Stephens scored 13 points, Cotton 10 and Kyla Roland six for the Hawks.

The Highlanders (4-4, 3-2) got 10 from Raiven Owusu and eight from Lauren Fukelstine.

**MERCY 60, RICHARD 28:** Farmington

Hills Mercy (6-1) rolled over host Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (1-6) in a Catholic League crossover game Friday.

Sam Bauer and Candice Leatherwood scored 10 points apiece for the Marlins, who led 22-9 after one quarter and 39-19 at halftime. Allie Goryca added eight, Sierra LaGrande seven and Paige Roberts six.

Eleven of 12 players scored for Mercy, which won its first five games.

Lindsay Rhodes had eight points and Kora Dreffs six for the Fighting Irish. "It was nice to get back in the win column, and it's a good way to start the new year," Mercy coach Gary Morris said. "It's nice to get everybody some playing time as we start the Catholic League (Central Division) phase of our schedule Tuesday night at Livonia Ladywood."

**LADYWOOD 53, REGINA 50:** Senior point-guard Andie Anastos had 17 points and 15 rebounds to power Livonia Ladywood (5-2, 1-0) to a Catholic League Central Division win Friday at Warren Regina (4-3, 0-1).

The Blazers, who were tied 28-all at intermission, also got 12 points and eight rebounds from senior forward Sara Even, while senior guard Shelby Walsh also added 12 points.

Becca Sabol paced the Saddlelites with a game-high 23 points.

Regina made 13-of-24 free throws, while Ladywood hit 14-of-24.

"Our seniors found a way to win," said Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti, whose team lost starting senior forward Kiley Gorski in last week's Motor City Roundall Classic to a season-ending knee injury.

**PLYMOUTH 42, CHURCHILL 18:** The visiting Plymouth Wildcats (2-5, 1-0) outscored Livonia Churchill (4-2, 0-1) by a 15-0 margin in the second quarter and rolled to this KLAAs South Division win.

Jada Woody led the Wildcats with 12 points, while Leah Klizinski and Paige Slominski each scored six. Leading Plym-

outh with seven rebounds was Shelby Cheston.

"It was a really nice way to start 2013 and division play," Plymouth coach Bob de Bear said. "Everyone contributed."

Plymouth's spurt in the second turned an 8-4 deficit into a 19-8 halftime edge. The Wildcats then held a 12-4 scoring edge in the third to turn the game into a rout.

Slominski also chipped in with four assists and four steals in what de Bear called her best varsity effort so far.

**LAKE ORION 42, FARMINGTON 33:** The host Dragons turned an 18-17, half-time lead into a nine-point victory with a 24-16 margin in the second half Thursday to beat the Falcons (1-8, 1-5).

Aaron Howell had 15 points, five rebounds and three steals for Farmington.

Taylor Suurmeyer added eight points and Mya Douse five. Maria Peurach grabbed a dozen rebounds and Suurmeyer four.

"The biggest problem for Farmington tonight was a lack of energy on the floor," coach Dave Browne said. "In games we've played well, we played with a lot of speed, and tonight we didn't have any."

**SOUTH LYON 44, STEVENSON 37:** Jessica Mehr scored 18 of her game-high 20 points in the final period to propel the Lions (6-1, 1-0) to a KLAAs South Division win Friday over visiting Livonia Stevenson (3-3, 0-1).

Mehr helped break a 26-all deadlock after three quarters by outscoring Stevenson herself in the final period, 18-9, including 10-of-10 from the foul line to go along with a pair of 'threes.'

"She's a workhorse inside, a very strong girl who works hard down low," Stevenson coach Jen Knoph said of Mehr. "She put the team on her back."

Rachel Wilkinson and Rosemary Morse led the Spartans with 11 and seven points, respectively.

Stevenson made only 10-of-21 foul shots, while South Lyon was 17-of-29.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
**Monday, Jan. 7**  
Westside at N. Farm., 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Jan. 8**  
Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Salem at S.L. East, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Northville, 7 p.m.  
Thurston at C'ville, 7 p.m.  
Franklin Road at HVL, 7 p.m.  
Harrison at Univ. High, 7 p.m.  
PCA at Liggett, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Jan. 10**  
Hazel Park at Harrison, 7 p.m.  
S-Lathrup at N. Farm., 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Jan. 11**  
HVL at Luth. W'sld, 5:30 p.m.  
Groves at C'ville, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Churchill, 7 p.m.  
Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.

Wayne at Glenn, 7 p.m.  
PCA at Parkway, 7 p.m.  
Plymouth at Canton, 7:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
**Monday, Jan. 7**  
Inkster at C'ville, 7 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Jan. 8**  
Churchill at Glenn, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at Plymouth, 7 p.m.  
Wayne at Canton, 7 p.m.  
S.L. East at Salem, 7 p.m.  
Northville at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
Luth. N'west at L. W'sld, 7 p.m.  
Liggett at PCA, 7 p.m.  
HVL at Franklin Road, 7 p.m.  
Adams at Farmington, 7 p.m.  
Andover at Harrison, 7 p.m.  
N. Farm. at Clarkston, 7 p.m.  
Mercy at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Jan. 9**  
C'ville at Thurston, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, Jan. 10**  
HVL at Parkway, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Jan. 11**  
Glenn at Wayne, 5:30 p.m.  
Plymouth at Canton, 6 p.m.  
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.  
Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
HVL at Luth. W'sld, 7 p.m.  
Oxford at Farmington, 7 p.m.  
Lake Orion at Harrison, 7 p.m.  
N. Farmington at Troy, 7 p.m.  
Mercy at Marian, 7:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, Jan. 12**  
Lady. at Divine Child, 7 p.m.  
**PREP HOCKEY**  
**Tuesday, Jan. 8**  
Regina vs. PCS Penguins at Arctic Edge, 8 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Jan. 9**  
Churchill vs. Franklin at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.

Ladywood vs. A.A. Pioneer at Veterans Arena, 7 p.m.  
Farmington vs. Stoney Creek, Onyx Ice Arena, 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Jan. 10**  
NF-Harrison vs. Birm. Unified Birm. Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m.  
**Friday, Jan. 11**  
Franklin vs. South Lyon at Edgar Arena, 6 p.m.  
Stevenson vs. Trav. City West at Howe Arena, 8 p.m.  
Mona Shores vs. Salem at Ply. Cultural Ctr., 8:30 p.m.  
Forest Hills N. vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m.  
Plymouth at Soo Invite, TBA  
**Saturday, Jan. 12**  
Stevenson vs. Trav. City Central at Howe Arena, 1 p.m.  
Roch. Unified vs. Farmington,

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# Quick start sparks Wildcats

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

The holiday hiatus did not create any rust for Plymouth's varsity boys basketball team, as the host Wildcats defeated Livonia Churchill 45-36.

Plymouth charged out to a 9-4 lead after one quarter of the KLAA South Division opener for both teams.

"We did some really good things defensively in the first quarter," Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup said. "I was really happy with our first quarter effort. "Being out of school, the kids were a team and brought it in the first quarter and that was key to us going forward."

Leading the way with 13 points and seven rebounds was Josh Priebe, with Sid Acharya (10 points) and Brendan Swanson (eight

points, 11 rebounds) chipping in.

For the Chargers (2-4, 0-1), Brian Alsobrooks scored eight points while Robert Foster and Dwayne Scott each tallied seven.

"They (Plymouth) did everything harder than we did," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "They out-rebounded us and every one of their players contributed. We got to find a way to play harder and finish around the basket."

Plymouth took an 18-12 lead into halftime and really took control in the third, thanks to a 12-7 edge in scoring.

The Wildcats helped themselves by making 16 of 19 free-throw attempts — while Churchill made just two of four foul shots.

Churchill also had trouble hitting field goals, making just 14 of 51 (27.4 percent).



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Plymouth's Sid Acharya (No. 22) goes up over Livonia Churchill's Jaylen Davis for a basket Friday night.

## RIVALS

Continued from page B1

next 10 points and out-scoring Farmington in the third quarter, 20-7.

"We just didn't do a good job defensively from midway in the second quarter and the third," Farmington coach Terrance Porter said.

"We have to take more pride defensively. That's the only way we're going to be able to compete against teams, because we're not the most talented team offensively.

"We were horrible at keeping their guys in front of us; we were horrible at defensive rebounding. That's just toughness. Our toughness was poor tonight, and they exploited that."

The Falcons rallied in the fourth quarter and outscored Harrison, 27-16. A steal and layup by Brad Harris put them within seven late, 57-50.

Harrison's Fields answered with a three-point play, and the Hawks made five of six free throws in the final minute to clinch the win.

"I thought we did an excellent job of making a comeback," Porter said. "As I told the guys, we have to play with a sense of urgency for four quarters. We can't wait until we get down 18, 19 points to start playing."

"I commend us for coming back the way we did, but it shouldn't take that — for us to be down 19 or 20 points — before we start playing."

Steven Frederick, Wilson and AJ Freeman



JOHN STORMZAND  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steven Frederick (seven points) was one of 11 players who scored for Harrison.

scored seven points apiece for the Hawks, who sank 12 of 15 free throws. Carter and Fields added six points each. Eleven players scored for Harrison, which sank nine of 11 shots in the third quarter and was 25-of-46 overall.

"It was a great first game back," Pickett said. "Coach Porter does a great job with his kids; you can see they never stop. It's a good win for us. Hopefully, it pushes us to keep working hard."

Ameer Ali scored all 10 of his points in the fourth quarter and helped fuel the Farmington rally.

Tyler Knox added seven, Kenneth Hammond and Harris six each.

Kalaj made five of the team's eight threes. The Falcons sank five of 11 foul shots and were 22-of-51 from the field.

## ROCKETS

Continued from page B1

Glenn's senior point guard Nick Daniels, an Oakland University signee, holding him to six points through three quarters.

But it was Everette's shot which proved to be the game-changer.

"Isaac's big 'three' to put us up three gave us a chance to say, 'Hey, we got the lead, let's clamp down on defense and stay with shooters,'" Young said. "He (Daniels) is a marked man

and people put so much pressure on him that sometimes it's hard on him. But he's got to continue to learn maybe a good play is kicking it to the next guy. He used to have to carry us before, but he doesn't have to carry us now. We have enough guys."

For Reddy, it was another frustrating early-season loss.

"We've struggled scoring around the rim all year," the Canton coach said.

"We've struggled finishing games all year. Four of our five losses are by five (points) or less. In three of

those games, we had double-digit leads.

"Am I proud of the way we competed and fought back — because we were down 10 late in the third? Absolutely, but we've got to find a way to finish games. We're up 46-44 with under two (minutes) — we foul Daniels, we come down and miss and lose Everette in transition and he knocks down a 'three.' It's not winning basketball, what we're doing down the stretch."

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DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK  
John Glenn's Dre Black (11) tries the scoop shot around Canton's Scott Gring (10) during Friday's KLAA South Division opener.

## Raiders prevail

### Big 1st-half surge staves off Pontiac

North Farmington built a 20-point halftime lead and survived a second-half rally by visiting Pontiac to win by eight in boys basketball Friday, 64-56.

The Raiders (2-0 OAA Red, 5-2) had their best quarter of scoring in the first and led 19-5 at the end. They expanded their lead to 37-17 at halftime and overcame a 39-27 advantage for the Phoenix in the second half.

"Pontiac kept coming at us with their pressure, and we didn't handle it well in spurts," North assistant coach Pete Mantyla said. "They did a good job of attacking the basket while we settled for jump shots too much of the second half."

Caleb Hogans was North's high scorer with 16 points, which included four triples. Jeron Rogers had 15, Sterling Sharp and Cameron Darden 11 apiece and Jacob Joubert seven.

Senior guards Jarod Jones and Dijon Kogdell scored 24 and 14 points for the Phoenix (0-2, 4-2), respectively. Jones had 22 in the second half and Kogdell 10 in the fourth quarter.

Sharp scored 26 points and tied a school record with eight threes in a 62-43 win over Detroit Henry Ford on Dec. 29 in a tournament at Ecorse.

Sharp tied the record set by Hogans on Dec. 21 against Farmington.

Rogers scored 16 points, Hogans 11 and Joubert five. The Raiders led 18-3 after one quarter and 31-13 at halftime.

Sophomore guards Justin Davis and James Townes had 13 and 10 points for the Trojans, respectively.

**FRANKLIN 52, WAYNE 47:** Tyrone Rayford scored 16 points and 6-foot-7 Michael Gluth

Please see WRAPS, B4

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## Canton grapplers strong at invite

By Tim Smith  
Observer Staff Writer

For Canton varsity wrestling coach Cory Mancuso, competition isn't only about wins and losses. It's also about finding how his team stacks up against some of the top squads in the state.

Such was the case on Dec. 29 at the annual Canton Invitational, where the Chiefs went 4-1 and finished third overall.

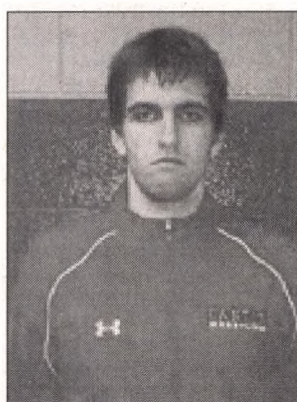
Defending Division 4 champion Hudson defeated Brighton (currently No. 7 in D1) while the Chiefs (12-4) got by Woodhaven, 44-35, in the third-place matchup.

The Chiefs' lone loss was a 45-22 decision against Hudson.

"We knew realistically that we were going to have a hard time beating Hudson," Mancuso stressed. "But our goal was to finish in the top-3 and that's exactly what we were able to do."

"I really wanted our team to have a chance to wrestle a quality team like Hudson so that they could see how a championship team goes about their business on the wrestling mat."

The Chiefs (12-4) featured undefeated showings by seniors Richard DeMarois, Allan Beckman, Marc Przyblyski, juniors Ben Griffin and Alec Pantaleo and sophomore Ty Jasmann.



Allan Beckman of the Canton Chiefs went undefeated at the recent Canton Invitational.

DeMarois, Griffin and Pantaleo have yet to be defeated this season.

According to Mancuso, the key performer for the Chiefs was Beckman.

"Allan is a senior who has really stepped up of late," Mancuso said. "All the hard work he puts in every practice is really starting to pay off."

Other teams on hand for the invite were Monroe, Chippewa Valley, Dearborn, Dearborn Fordson, Adrian and Wyandotte Roosevelt.

Those squads were divided into two pools of five teams, with the winner of each facing each other in the championship round (Hudson and Brighton) while the second-place teams in each pool going for third place.

Canton also rolled to a 78-3 win over Dearborn and a 49-18 triumph over Chippewa Valley.

### Elks tourney

Despite finishing in the middle of the pack at the Dec. 29 Salem Elks Tournament, Rocks head coach Pete Israel saw positive signs for his team (1-3 overall).

The top three teams were first-place Saline, Yale and Belleville.

Earning an Elks championship at 171 pounds was Tyler Gross, pinning Lincoln Park's Christiana Villareal in the finals.

Another strong performer was Alex Arble, losing 10-4 to Belleville's Calvin Jackson in the 112 championship bout to finish second.

"Alex wrestled tough the whole day with pins until he reached the finals," Israel said. "Alex has really picked it up and I see good things ahead as he continues to work hard."

Although Mitchell Gross lost to Garden City's Adam Druz in the 189 semifinals, he came back to post a 9-5 win over Saline's Brandon Helle for third place.

"Both Gross brothers continue to work hard and are improving as the season goes on," Israel noted.

Placing fourth at 215 for Salem was Tony Agostini, dropping the third-place bout to Saline's Jason Anthony by a 3-0 score.

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Members of the alumni team and current varsity team pose for a photo following Thursday night's annual Garden City girls basketball alumnae game.

## ALUMNAE

Continued from page B1

coach Marshall Henry — who still shows up to help coach many of his former players — and continued by Barry Patterson, who stepped down as head coach this past March.

Thursday night's action featured two 40-minute, running-clock games. The opener pitted the alumnae team against the Cougars' current junior varsity squad. The nightcap showcased the former players against the current varsity contingent.

The more-seasoned Cougars defeated the JV team a lot to a little, which has been a standard result over the years, according to Sherry (Harper) Long (Class of '92).

"Back when I played in this game when I was a

player, I remember it as being one of the scrappiest games I played in all year," said Long, smiling. "The alumnae want to prove that they still have it. We also want to help the younger girls get better, so, yeah, we're playing to win."

"The turnout we get every year shows how much respect the former players have for the program. I don't think you'd get this many people out here for many other sports."

Current GC girls basketball coach Michele Tyree has played in the game — for one side or the other — since she was a player in the early '90s.

"Back in the old days, we'd make a lot of phone calls to get everybody together," Tyree said. "Now, we still makes calls, but we also use Facebook and texting to

let everybody know about it. It's a really neat tradition."

A paramedic by trade, Andrea Dunn has been a regular in the alumni games since graduating in 2003.

"It's a great opportunity to see old friends and to see the team's new talent," said Dunn. "Coach Henry helped me develop a love for the game when I started playing in sixth grade, so being able to come back here and see everybody again for one night, well, it's something special that is hard to put into words."

On Thursday, Patterson coached the alumni to a sweep of the current Cougars, whose time will eventually come to taste redemption once their alumnae days arrive.

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## RU wrestlers finish year strong

By Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Redford Union's steadily-emerging wrestling team put a head-lock on a successful 2012 campaign by finishing strong in a pair of December tournaments.

On Dec. 29, the Panthers placed fifth in the inaugural 12-team Ovid-Elsie Marauder Invitational.

"There were a lot of state- and regional-qualifying competitors there, so I was happy with the way we wrestled," said RU head coach Rob Rankin. "We were right in the thick of most of the matches."

Rankin's son, Collin, continued to mow down his competition as he improved his season mark to 18-0 by winning the 171-pound weight bracket. Rankin pinned a state-qualifier from Gladwin in the semifinal round before out-pointing a highly-touted Durand wrestler, 3-1, in the final. "Collin took a lot of voids last year, which hindered his progress a little," said Rob Rankin. "This year he's running into some tougher competition, so he's a lot sharper."

Collin Rankin led the title tilt 1-0 before the Durand wrestler was awarded a question-

able stalling point with less than 10 seconds left in regulation. Rankin took gold by registering a take-down 15 seconds into overtime.

RU senior 152-pounder Jayson Walton continued to shine when he earned a silver medal in Ovid-Elsie.

"The kid he wrestled in the final was seventh in the state last year, but Jayson battled him hard," Rankin said. "He ended up losing by two or three points, but it was anybody's match right down to the end."

Senior 160-pounder Roderick Howard brought home a bronze medal.

"Roderick made a couple mistakes in the quarterfinal match that kept him out of the finals, but other than that he wrestled really well," Rankin said. "He was focused all day."

Sophomore Dominic Adams lost to Howard in an all-RU third-fourth-place match at 160.

"Obviously, it's bitter-sweet when you have two of your own guys going for a medal," Rankin said. "When that happens, I don't coach either one of them; I let them make their own decisions. I will say that they went after each other hard; it was a battle."

Damien Mikulski (152)

and Kevin Danna (112) just missed medaling for the Panthers, but they impressed Rankin all the same.

On Dec. 15, the Panthers secured a solid third-place finish in the first Redford Union Team Invitational.

"We finished right about where I expected us to," said Rankin. "I thought going in that Melvindale and Lutheran Westland would be really tough to beat, and I was right."

Melvindale won the tournament by going 5-0. The Cardinals ousted the Warriors in the day's final match.

RU defeated Garden City, Lutheran Northwest and Harper Woods to finish 3-2.

"I like how composed our veterans wrestled performed," said Rankin. "Our seniors kept everybody focused."

Rankin gave some big-time props to his assistants, Wade Natho and Chris Colon, who helped manage the team while he was overseeing the tournament.

"Overall, it went really well and we're definitely going to do it again next year," Rankin said. "We were able to bring in some very respectable programs."

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## Churchill icers extend hot streak

Brad Milks tallied a pair of goals Friday leading host Livonia Churchill to a 6-2 non-conference boys hockey victory over Grand Rapids Catholic Central at Edgar Arena.

The Chargers, unbeaten in their last six games, improved to 6-4-1 overall. Riley Brown, Luke Otto

and Tommy Carey each added a goal and assist for the Chargers, who led 2-1 after one period and 5-1 after two.

Dylan Smith also contributed a goal and Drew Puishes collected an assist as Churchill outshot the Cougars, 28-16. Churchill freshman

goaltender Alec Calvaruso made 14 saves.

Jacob Klapko and Tyler Kersjes tallied goals for the Cougars (3-6-1).

**MIDLAND 6, CANTON 5:** After going up 4-1 midway through the second period, the Chiefs (2-10) gave up five goals before the end of the frame and lost Friday night at Arctic Edge.

Noel and Alex Huber each scored 23 points Friday as visiting Plymouth Christian (5-0) beat Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest. Daniel Jipping contributed 16 points and nine rebounds for the Eagles.

**SOUTH LYON 56, STEVENSON 48:** Connor Weidmann led the way with 20 points carrying the Lions (5-1, 1-0) to a KLAAs Central Division victory Friday over host Livonia Stevenson (3-2, 0-1). Stevenson, 11-of-15 from the foul stripe, got 10 points from Chris Haldane.

## Whalers score late for win

A power play goal by defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto with 13 seconds to play in the third period lifted the Plymouth Whalers to a 4-3 OHL win over Owen Sound in front of about 2,800 fans at Compuware Arena.

Curcuruto's game winner saved the day for the Whalers (18-12-5-3), who led 3-0 after two periods but gave up three markers in the third to make it 3-3.

On the winner, Plymouth, Alex Aleardi and Garrett Meurs collect-

ed assists. It was Curcuruto's second power play goal of the game.

Other goals for Plymouth were tallied by Matt Misteale and Cody Payne.

Making 26 saves in goal for the victory was Alex Nedeljkovic.

Sparking the rally for Owen Sound (25-10-1-2) in the third was Kyle Hope, with two goals.

**PLYMOUTH 6, GUELPH 2:** Danny Vanderwiell — who hadn't scored a goal all season — registered a three-goal hat trick Wednesday night as the visiting Whalers (17-12-5-3) rolled to this OHL victory against the Guelph Storm (21-12-0-4).

Also lighting the lamp for Plymouth were Alex Aleardi of Farmington Hills (his 15th), Matt Misteale (16) and Tom Wilson (11).

Collecting two assists each for the Whalers were Cody Payne and Mitchell Heard while goalie Alex Nedeljkovic stopped 38 of 40 shots for the victory.

Vanderwiell got things going at 6:18 of the opening period, with his first goal of the night and season. He finished a play started by Payne.

Less than two minutes later, Vanderwiell made it 2-0 with assists to Connor Sills and Connor Carrick.

His third of the night came at 7:40 of the third, from Mitchell Heard and Gianluca Curcuruto.

## Net gains

### Livonian Moldovan eyes more in 2013 after winning bronze ball in USTA event

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

2012 was a breakout year on the national junior tennis circuit for Bianca Moldovan.

And the best could be yet to come in 2013 for the 16-year-old sophomore from Livonia Stevenson High School.

Moldovan, rated a five-star blue chip recruit by TennisRecruiting.net and ranked as the nation's sixth-best tenth-grader, just returned from Scottsdale, Ariz. where she won six-of-seven matches en route to a third-place finish in the Girls 16 USTA Winter National Championships.

For the calendar year, Moldovan posted an impressive 88-16 record in singles.

"I think I played pretty well, but I was a little disappointed that I lost in the semifinals to a girl that I already beat," Moldovan said of her 6-2, 1-6, 6-4 setback to Ena Shibahara of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. "But I was pretty happy with what I did overall and to get a bronze ball."

"I think I had a really good year for me. I think it's my best year yet. On a scale of one-to-ten I'd grade it like an eight."

The Romanian-born Moldovan captured her first five matches in straight sets including wins over Kelly Shaffer (Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.), 6-0, 7-6 (11-9); Alexandra Bear (Virginia Beach, Va.), 6-1, 6-1; Emma Davis (Cohasset, Mass.), 6-3, 7-5; Rebekah Anderson



BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia's Bianca Moldovan took the bronze ball this week at the Girls 16s USTA Winter Nationals in Scottsdale, Ariz.

(La Mirada, Calif.), 6-2, 6-2; and Rebecca Weissmann (Loveland, Colo.), 6-2, 6-2.

After losing to Shibahara, Moldovan won on an injury walkover over Angela Kulikov of Sun Valley, Calif. in consolation final.

Shibahara, Kulikov, Weissman, Anderson and Davis are all ranked in the top 35 nationally in their freshman or sophomore class years by TennisRecruiting.net, so it was a another step in the right direction for Moldovan.

Prior to the Scottsdale event, Moldovan played in the prestigious Eddie Herr International junior event (Nov. 22-Dec. 2) at the IMG Academy-Bolletieri in Bradenton, Fla.

Moldovan won her first two matches over Zhang Zing of China, 7-6 (7-3), 6-2, and Bear, 6-3, 6-4, before losing to Maddie Pothoff of

Tucson, Ariz. in the round of 16 in straight sets, 6-1, 6-3.

"I didn't play that well, not even the first match I didn't play that well," Moldovan said. "As I said, I just need experience because I was very nervous. I was like shaking on the court. I don't know, I was just out of it that day. Before that tournament I was going through a rough time. I was very mad at myself and I just didn't know what was happening on the court and why I was so nervous. So I'm glad I got over that and did well this (Scottsdale) tournament."

Moldovan has more goals and expectations entering 2013.

"Winning a National Level 1 (tournament) is one of them — hopefully if not more — and just keep winning against the girls I've been winning against and probably play more pro events," said Moldovan, who will play a Girls 18s USTA regional tournament later this month in Grand Rapids. "After losing in the semifinals I've talked with my coach (Phil Eagleson) and I believe I have everything that I need right now. I just need more experience. Because without experience you just can't win matches. I think I'm going to travel more to a lot more tournaments, hopefully do well and get experience and see where that takes me."

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## WRAPS

Continued from page B3

added 11 points and eight rebounds Friday leading host Livonia Franklin (3-4, 1-0) to a KLAAs South Division victory over Wayne Memorial (2-4, 0-1).

The Patriots, who led 30-19 at halftime, also got nine points from Andrew Lebbo.

Rio Washington led Wayne and all scorers with 19 points

and 10 rebounds while Brian Williams scored 12.

**SALEM 51, NORTHVILLE 26:** Chris Dierker's 18 points and eight rebounds Friday spearheaded the host Rocks (5-2, 1-0 in the KLAAs Central) to this victory.

Augmenting Dierker's production was Nate Sass (11 points). Ahmad Khalid led the Rocks with 11 rebounds.

Salem led 24-12 at halftime and enjoyed a 17-6 scoring advantage in the third to go up 41-18.

**PCA 66, LUTH. NW 61:** Mick



## Get your fitness routine on track in 100 days

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Trying hard to keep your new year fitness resolutions? No sweat. The 100 Days to Health programs in Canton and Livonia aim to help you achieve your weight, nutrition and exercise goals by enabling you to sample a variety of fitness and nutrition classes over the next few months.

"It's a smorgasbord of classes taking place seven days a week," said Steve Spahr, fitness and wellness coordinator for the Livonia Community Recreation Center. "There's a full range of classes, a variety of different things you can participate in."

"This will be the seventh year we've offered it. It's very reasonably priced. We're giving you the kitchen sink, stove and refrigerator."

Livonia residents pay \$25 for youth, 4-18; \$35 for adults, 19-61; \$30 for seniors, 62 and over; and \$65 for families for the 100 Days program, which runs through April 14. Non-residents pay an additional \$5 for youth, adult and senior categories and an additional \$25 for family category.

Canon's 100 Days program, now in its 11th year, attracted more than 1,000 participants last year.

"We're happy to keep it growing. One of the hardest things to do is to keep a healthy habit going," said Jeanette Williams, recreation specialist. "We're offering way more classes than we have in the past. We'll offer roughly 15-20 classes on the schedule each month and throughout the session we'll add new classes."

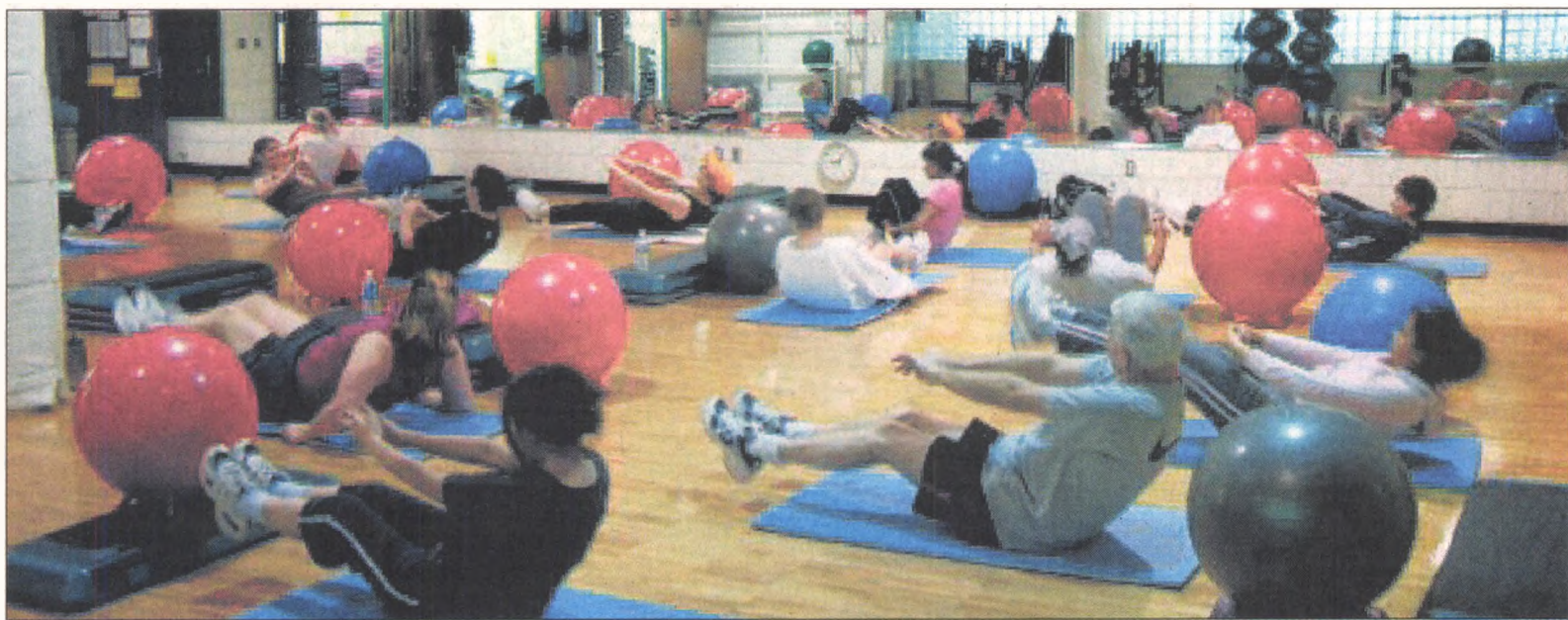
"We have cooking classes, yoga, lap swim, tai chi, dance classes, mediation. We're really big on the whole mind-body transformation," Williams said. "We've planned the January and February schedule, but we're letting the participants vote on March and April sessions."

It's really exciting." Program fees for Canton residents are \$15 for ages 12 and up and \$5 for ages 11 and under. Non-resident fees are \$25 for ages 12 and up and \$5 for ages 11 and under. Youth and children must register with an adult.

### Start now

Livonia kicks off its 100 Days to Health from 9-11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 6 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard, at Five Mile, Livonia. The kick off event will include giveaways raffled every half hour, tote bags and mugs given to the first 150 attendees and a chance to meet the program sponsors, including the DMC, Running Fit, Time Too Savor, Health Quest Back & Neck, Arden Courts, Alzheimer's Assisted Living, Dick's Sporting Goods, and Trader Joes. Free workout and open swim will be available and a family climb class will run from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (734) 466-2900 for more information.

Canton will begin its pro-



Sign up for the 100 Days to Health program in Canton, and you'll get a chance to try exercise classes, like this abs workout session, for free.

gram with a kick off, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Oakwood Healthcare System staff will be on hand to administer health screenings. They'll also offer screenings at the end of the 100 days, enabling participants to gauge their fitness transformation. Other activities planned during the kick-off include Summit tours, Family Zumba, and an open swim that will start at 1:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided. For more information visit Cantonfun.org or call (734) 394-5460.

### Weight loss challenge

Can't attend the kick off sessions? You can sign up at any time during the 100 Days of Health programs, but you might want to do it soon if you want to participate in Livonia's weight loss challenge, which runs in conjunction with the 100 Days program.

"The participant makes a monthly weigh in. The first weigh in is Jan. 6 or 7," Spahr said. "It's a challenge. Each month we're doing a raffle, we're raffling off \$50 Dicks gifts cards."

Other weigh in dates are Feb. 3 or 4, March 3 or 4

and April 13 or 14. A grand prize will go to the person who loses the most weight — figured by percent age of body weight — over the 100 Days program.

Other program features:

- Most areas of the Livonia recreation center, such as the rock climbing wall, will be open to 100 Days participants on "Free Fridays."

- Classes are available for youngsters and seniors in both Canton and Livonia.

- Participants in Canton get five free visits to the Summit, along with the 100 Days classes.

- The children's pass in Canton gives them access to day care.

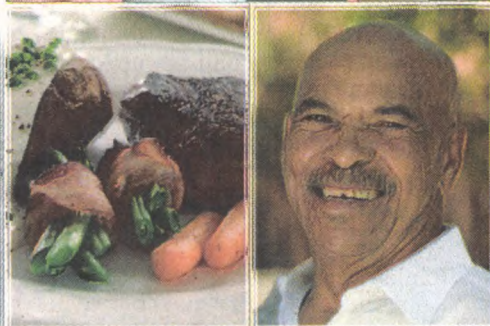


Fitness classes at the Livonia Community Recreation Center include cycling.

RETIREMENT COMMUNITY | INDEPENDENT AND ASSISTED LIVING



A New Year,  
*A New Chapter!*



**Bunyan & Banjos**  
Friday, January 18  
2:00 p.m.

Join us as we travel back through Michigan's history through songs, stories, and great food! Presented by Kitty Donohue.

RSVP by January 14.

**Expert Seminar for Seniors & Families**  
Wednesday, January 23  
6:00 p.m.

Try and stump the experts as we will have them here to give you expert advice on the challenging questions you may have!

RSVP by January 21.

**History of the Underground Railroads**  
Wednesday, January 30  
1:30 p.m.

Keep us on the track as we take a look at how the railroads came about! Presented by Author/Historian: Carol Mull.

RSVP by January 28.

**RSVP**  
Don't miss out on the fun!

*This might be the year that you simplify your life.*

A great start is at an Independence Village community, where luxury retirement housing is more affordable than you think. Plus, you'll enjoy our wonderful amenities and activities with others who, like you, want to make life easier, happier and healthier. Stop by and see what's in store for you in 2013 and beyond!



Participants in the 100 Days of Health program in Livonia can test out the rock climbing wall.

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### Four generations



Baby Kate Monroe Roeser, held by her mother, Lina Asquini Roeser of Royal Oak, meets her great-grandmother, Marjory Gade, (Center) of Livonia for the first time. That's Kate's grandmother, Lisa Asquini of Livonia at right. The photo was taken last year when the Roesers and Asquini visited Gade.

**Only 2 UNITS Remaining!**

## Join Our Marycrest Heights Family in 2013

Marycrest Heights is a newly constructed retirement community, with a commitment to quality construction, safety, and maintaining a faith-based community atmosphere. With Marycrest skilled nursing and rehabilitation services in your backyard, heated underground parking, and a range of community events and activities, Marycrest Heights provides independence, safety, and convenience.

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

## Nominate your favorite nurse

Do you know a nurse who made a difference in your life?

Here's your chance to nominate that special person for the People's Choice Award of the annual Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence.

The award, sponsored by *Hour Detroit Magazine*, is presented to a nurse who demonstrates exceptional practice and inspires others. Anyone can nominate a nurse, quickly and easily, by submitting a one-page form (available at [www.oakland.edu/nightingale](http://www.oakland.edu/nightingale)), now through Feb. 3. The winner of this award, as well as the other eight categories, will receive a solid bronze statue of nursing pioneer, Florence Nightingale and a check for \$1,000.

The winners and runners up in all categories will be honored at The Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence on May 9, at The Mirage in Clinton Township. All nominated nurses will receive a certificate of honor.

Last year's People's Choice category winner, Norma Spryszak, an oncology nurse, not only developed a comfort cart of CDs and DVDs for patients receiving chemotherapy treatments, but also demonstrated compassion as she held and read to a young child so her father could spend the last few minutes of his wife's life with her in her room.

Submit nominations via mail to the Oakland University School of Nursing, Nightingale Nominations, Attention: Cynthia Rutledge, 3057 Human Health Building, Rochester, MI, 48309 or via e-mail at [carutled@oakland.edu](mailto:carutled@oakland.edu).

## Registration open for Auto Show run/walk

Celebrate the opening of the North American International Auto Show and work off a little spare tire at the same time during "The Auto Show Shuffle," a 5K run/walk on Jan. 19 along the Detroit River. The event, sponsored by the Michigan Fitness Foundation and the Parade Company, will start at 8 a.m. on the Riverwalk just east of the Port Authority.

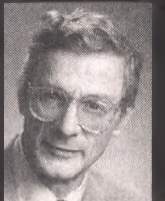
5K run awards will go to overall male and female winners, overall male and female "masters," first through third place in age divisions from 5-70-plus.

Participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt and a special, discount rate for public tickets to the Auto Show.

Registration is \$25 before Jan. 19 and \$30 on the day of the race. Registration information, course map and additional information is available at [www.autoshow-shuffle.com](http://www.autoshow-shuffle.com)

### Arthritis Today

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RHEUMATOLOGY  
18829 Farmington Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48152  
Phone: (248) 478-7860



### WHEN KNEE SWELLING RETURNS

Experiencing an accident or twist to your knee and needing the fluid on the knee drained is a common occurrence. But what if in two or three days or a week, the swelling and fluid return?

The problem of diagnosis and treatment becomes much harder for your physician. The obvious reason for the re-occurrence is that you sustained an injury to your knee, and that injury remains. Your doctor can remove the fluid again and to hasten recovery, inject a steroid. He has another choice: obtain an MRI, a form of imaging the knee that shows the areas of the joint most likely to have sustained a tear or dislocation. Those areas include the menisci and a number of ligaments.

Often the MRI reveals a tear in one or more of these structures, and also the extent of the tear. With this information, your physician or an orthopedist can decide if the best course is to intervene with arthroscopy or give time a chance to heal the tear.

What happens if the MRI is unremarkable, that is, shows no tear, injury to the bone, or displacement of the knee's anatomy?

Then your doctor looks deeper into the results of knee fluid analysis. In most instances when a physician drains the knee, he will send a portion of the fluid for analysis. This evaluation includes determining the white cell count of the fluid and seeing if crystals or bacteria are present in the sample. If bacteria are present, the physician treats the infection. If the white count is high, analysis finds no evidence for gout or bacteria, and the MRI is normal, then the physician knows the problem comes from an inflammatory arthritis. In these cases, specific therapy exists which over time, will resolve the knee swelling.



RELIGION CALENDAR

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

January

**BIBLE STUDY**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Monday, starting Jan. 14 and 9:30 a.m. Friday, starting Jan. 18

**Location:** Praise Baptist Church, 45000 N. Territorial, Plymouth,

**Details:** Beth Moore's 10-week Bible study for women will explore the account of the building of the Old Testament tabernacle, the significance of its intricate design, the pivotal role in God's eternal plan, the grand fulfillment of its purpose by Jesus Christ, and its variety of meanings for a woman's walk with God today. Participants will be challenged to prepare their hearts to become a home for God's love and glory. Cost is \$15 for a workbook. All women are welcome

**Contact:** (734) 542-9816 or irenejim1@hotmail.com

**DUELING PIANOS**

**Time/Date:** Doors open 7 p.m., show starts 8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 12

**Location:** St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road, Westland

**Details:** Light refreshments, 50/50 raffle and cash bar. Tickets are \$20 and available at the church office

**Contact:** (734) 421-6130

**FILM**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Jan. 16

**Location:** Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

**Details:** The church shows the film, "The Freedom Riders," which looks at Americans who deliberately violated Jim Crow laws in southern states in 1961. Admission is free

**Contact:** (248) 354-4488; www.northwestuu.org

**GREEN FILM SERIES**

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17

**Location:** Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Birmingham

**Details:** PRI's John Hockenberry goes inside the organizations that fought the scientific establishment to shift the direction of the climate debate. Film is followed by a discussion with Kathryn L. Savoie, Ph.D., an authorized presenter of the Climate Reality Project, trained directly by former Vice President Al Gore. Free admission. Sponsored by the church's Green Ministry

**Contact:** www.ccbucc.org

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Time/Date:** 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31

**Location:** St. Genevieve Catholic School, 28933 Jamison, Livonia

**Details:** Tour the school, talk to other parents and staff during this open house for the school, which in-

cludes classes for preschool through middle school, CYO sports, bus transportation for Livonia residents, and flexible payment plans. Registration packets will be available at the open house

**Contact:** www.saintgenevieve.org or call (734) 425-4420

**POMEGRANATE GUILD**

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13

**Location:** Prentis Apartments community room, 10 Mile east of Greenfield in Oak Park

**Details:** The Pomegranate Guild of Southeastern Michigan is a group that studies and creates Judaic needlework. It will hold a "Stitch and Kvell," with members showing off recent projects

**Contact:** Judy Galperin at (248) 661-5337

**SPECIAL SERVICE**

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6

**Location:** Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

**Details:** In the midst of dealing with the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, economic hardships, a broken relationship, or a grim medical prognosis, the holiday season can be filled with sadness, rather than joy. When the hustle and bustle of Christmas is through, January can feel bleak. "Light in Our Darkness," will be an evening of

prayer and song. Participants may acknowledge the hurts in their lives and pray for God's light to enter into their darkness.

**Contact:** (248) 553-7170

**WIDOWED FRIENDS**

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. cash bar, 6 p.m. dinner, Wednesday, Jan. 16

**Location:** G. Subu's, 20300 Farmington Road, one block south of Eight Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Cost is \$18 and includes meal, beverage, dessert, tax and tip. Pay at the door (cash only) with the exact amount. Stay for cards, games, and conversation until 9 p.m. Reservations by Jan. 11, 2013

**Other activities:** Celebrate Mass at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, 2013 at St. Kenneth Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth; stay after for fellowship and refreshments

**Contact:** Carol at (313) 562-3080 for dinner; Pat at (734) 895-6246 for Mass

February

**LECTURE**

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 11

**Location:** The Berman Center for Performing Arts, on the campus of the Jewish Community Center of Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, columnist and author of "The Fed-up Man of Faith," argues against Rabbi Harold Kushner's

best-selling "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People" and boldly guides listeners to the conclusion that challenging God and his actions is not just a right but also a foremost obligation for human beings. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$25 at the door

**Contact:** (248) 661-1900 or www.theberman.org

**SOLANUS CASEY CENTER**

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9

**Location:** Met Hotel, 5500 Crooks, Troy

**Details:** The Capuchin ministry will hold its ninth annual wine, dinner, and auction featuring a cocktail hour with appetizers, a sit down dinner, exquisite wines from around the world along with a silent auction and live auction. Tickets are \$75 per person

**Contact:** www.Solanus-Center.org or (313) 579-2100, Ext. 153

Ongoing

**CLASSES/STUDY**

**Men's Bible study**

**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.

**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

**Contact:** John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

**New Life Community Church**

**Time/Date:** Jobs seminar, 8-9 am. Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m. Sundays.

**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville

**Contact:** (734) 846-4615

**Nicole's Revival**

**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday

**Location:** YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

**Details:** KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

**Contact:** (313) 531-1234

**Our Lady of Loretto**

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** (313) 534-9000

**St. Michael the Archangel**

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday.

**Location:** School library, 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

**Details:** Catholic author and bible scholar, Gary Michuta, leads a study of the Gospel of St. Luke. The sessions are open to all, regardless of their faith or parish affiliation

**Contact:** (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or www.livoniast-michael.org

GARDEN & NATURE

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

**Butterflies**

Watch a film about the beauty and design of butterflies at the next meeting of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association (SEMBA), 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at Nankin Mills Nature Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland. The film includes a visit to the monarch butterfly overwintering grounds in Mexico. Parking is available on Hines Drive or Ann Arbor Trail. Cost is \$3 for non-members. Questions? Call (734) 326-0578 or visit www.sembabutterfly.com.

**Stonefly search**

Friends of the Rouge (FOTR) seeks volunteers to help with the 12th annual search for stoneflies on Saturday, Jan. 26. Finding a stonefly living in the river is a good indication that the river is healthy because these small insects require cold, clean water. Last year, 73 volunteers found these "nuggets of gold" at 14 of 32 sites. This year's search will begin at 9 a.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. No searching is done in Dearborn; volunteers carpool out in 10-12 teams to Rouge streams located around metropolitan Detroit. Volunteers must dress for the weather and be prepared to be out in the cold for several hours. Only trained team leaders go in the water; volunteers search through samples on the bank. Children five years and older are welcome when accompanied by a participating adult; groups of up to 6 people can be accommodated. Volunteers must pre-register by Jan. 11, on the FOTR website, www.therouge.org or by calling (313) 792-9621.

**Livonia Garden Club**

Vince Kogo, an urban chicken farmer, will talk about raising chickens,

7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. For more information visit www.orgsites.com/mi/livoniagardenclub/.

**English Gardens**

- Learn what it takes to start seeds indoors at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12.
- A free presentation on fresh flower arranging is planned for 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19.
- Make a Spring floral arrangement, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19. Cost is \$29.99. Sign up at www.englishgardens.com.
- Get tips on attracting birds to the garden in a free presentation, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26.
- Youngsters, 3-12, can make a pine cone bird feeder for \$5 at a workshop, 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26. Register at www.englishgardens.com.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; 4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, (248) 280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506.

**60-minute classes**

Master Gardeners Western Wayne County (MGWCC) will offer a series of hour-long seminars in February at the Wayne County Extension Office, 5454 Venoy, a quarter mile north of Van Born, in Wayne. Classes start at 7:30 p.m. and cost \$10 each or \$30 for all four classes if registered in advance. All proceeds fund gardening grants and scholarships. To register, e-mail to mgwccorg@gmail.com.

• Pat Mann of Greenfield Village Herb Associates will talk about fairy gardens, including history and popularity, Tuesday, Feb. 5. Learn how to create your own fairy garden.

Winter art classes forming via Visual Arts Association

The Visual Arts Association of Livonia (VAAL) is accepting enrollment for winter classes.

Classes include watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, print making and drawing. They're taught by art professionals and are geared to all levels of ability.

The VAAL classroom is located at 37653 Five Mile Road at Newburgh in

Livonia. For more information about classes or to receive a free catalog call (734) 838-1204 or visit the VAAL website at www.vaalart.org.

VAAL is dedicated to advancing knowledge and appreciation of the creative arts by offering classes and twice yearly exhibits, all open to the public.

Ford Pension BUY-OUT OPTIONS SEMINAR

Featuring Observer & Eccentric Media Financial Columnist Rick Bloom

Laurel Manor Conference & Banquet Center Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 10 a.m

Continental Breakfast served at 9:30 a.m.



Rick Bloom

Rick Bloom has served clients in the area of financial planning since 1984. He gives numerous seminars and speeches on financial planning and investments for a variety of professional, civic and business organizations. Rick has been selected as one of the Top 250 Financial Planners by Worth Magazine, and currently writes a financial column each Thursday and Sunday in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Rick has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal and other national publications on financial planning and the Stock Market. He is also a frequent spokesperson on financial matters on local TV and radio shows.



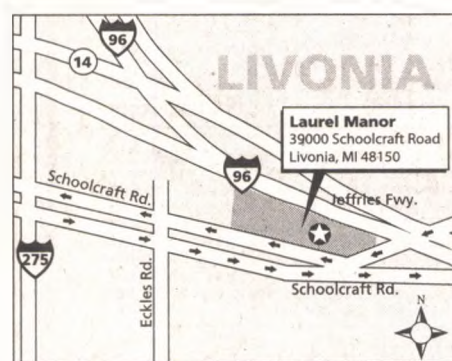
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SOCIAL SECURITY

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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.

www.ssdfighter.com





Farmington Hills residents Hannan and Lisa Lis enjoy the opening night festivities of the renovated and expanded Detroit Historical Museum.

# Detroit Historical Museum unveils exhibits

By Julie Yolles  
Social Scene columnist

Motown's own Contours kicked off the Detroit Historical Museum grand re-opening at its festive gala that was a perfect start to the holidays. Patrons were able to stroll through the



Social Scene  
Julie Yolles

Detroit Historical Museum, which is supported by the Detroit Historical Society, enjoy popular Detroit fare by Forte-Belanger and view five new permanent exhibits: the Gallery of Innovation, the Allee Gallery of Culture, the interactive Kid Rock Music Lab and the Legends Plaza. Also expanded were the Detroit Arsenal of Democracy and the underground railroad exhibition. Twelve million dollars from the \$20.1 million current capital cam-

The event will feature poetry readings by authors from Detroit-based Broadside Press; storytellers; readings of the Emancipation Proclamation by local ministers, including the Rev. Dr. Kevin M. Turman of Second Baptist; and tours of the new Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad exhibition.

paign was raised for the renovation.

The Museum celebrates the 150th anniversary of the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at the historic Second Baptist Church in 1863, from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6. The event will feature poetry readings by authors from Detroit-based Broadside Press; storytellers; readings of the Emancipation Proclamation by local ministers, including the Rev. Dr. Kevin M. Turman of Second Baptist; and tours of the new Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad exhibi-

tion. Because of anticipated demand and limited seating in the Booth Auditorium, this hour-long program will be offered twice, once at 1 p.m. and again at 3 p.m.

The Detroit Historical Museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave., in Detroit.

For consideration of coverage in this column, send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 371 Greenwood, Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at jyolles@comcast.net or (248) 642-9465.

## Youth choir seeks members

The Farmington Youth Choir will hold open auditions for students in grades 6-12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Heritage Park Visitors Center, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills.

The Youth Choir offers beginners to advanced students an opportunity to perform a wide variety of music, from pop to classics. Auditions are friendly and easy, and nothing needs to be prepared in advance. Appointments for a specific audition time, between 5:30-6:30 p.m. are available by calling the Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1859. Students need not be residents of Farmington or Farmington Hills to audition.

In addition to rehearsing and performing, other activities have included a professional photo shoot and a flash mob performance.

"Youth choir is a great way to meet new friends and be with old friends," said Madi Abel, a past member, in a press release. "One of my favorite things that we do is laugh!"

Dennis Ryans II, a music teacher at Detroit Community



Ryans II

High School, directs the choir. Ryans also has served as assistant music director at Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, co-manager of the Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association and minister of music at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Detroit.

Since 2007, the Farmington Hills Youth Choir has offered youth the opportunity to learn about choral technique, sight reading, and performance. The Choir has opened for a Michigan Opera Theatre Ensemble performance and in Lansing, in addition, to its own public concerts. It also has shared the stage for selected numbers with the Farmington Community Chorus. For more information, call (248) 473-1859.

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**Administrative Assistant Immediate Opening**

We are looking for a receptionist/admin. assistant to support our accounting & sales departments. Do you have excellent organization, communication and clerical skills? Join our growing graphics company located in Farmington Hills. Full-time, great benefits, nice working environment. Send us your resume and wage history to: CG Admin, P.O. Box 2117, Farmington Hills, MI, 48333

**DIRECT CARE:** Make a difference! Support people with disabilities living their life the way they want to! Assist with personal care, meals, taking care of their homes, getting places etc. Many locations & shifts! Must be at least 18 yrs old, have valid MI Driver's License & are CLS, Inc. trained, call our Job Line 734-728-4201, 0#

**AUTO DEALER**

Has a entry level position to handle a small fleet of loaner vehicles & assist service advisors with greeting & setting service appointments. Must have good people skills.

Apply within to: Mercedes Benz of Novi 39500 Grand River Ave. or email resume to: lony@novibenz.com

**Building Inspector**

Canton Township is now accepting applications for Building Inspector. Application Deadline: 4P.m. Friday, January 11, 2013. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: www.canton-mi.org EOE

**CABINET MAKER & GENERAL LABOR**

Full-Time Exp'd. Call: 734-722-8501

**CAREGIVER:** Southfield area, Mon-Fri, 3:30-7:30pm, for Developmentally Disabled Children. Afternoons, Part-time. \$8.50/hr. 248-636-2461

**DRIVERS:** Start up to \$40/mi. Home Weekly. CDL-A 6 mos. OTR exp. Req. 50 Brand New Coronado's you'll be proud to drive! 888-406-9046

**CLEANING CONTRACTOR**

Now hiring Part-Time OFFICE CLEANERS to work in Brighton & South Lyon. Work Mon-Fri. 2.25 hours per night. Work after 6pm. \$10/hr. Ideal for someone looking to supplement their income. Duties: Pulling trash, vacuuming, dusting, mopping, cleaning restrooms. Must be responsible & have a good work ethic. For more information please call: 800-434-4120 Ext 304 or email a resume to: hr@newimagebidg.com

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

**Cut-N-Care** is looking for snow removal workers this season

- **CDL Drivers**
- **Loader Operators**
- **Plow Truck Drivers**

Call: 248-668-0070

**DIRECT CARE STAFF**

Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland. (734) 722-4580 x9

**DIRECT CARE WORKER**

PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting \$7.61/hr. (734) 524-1361

**DIRECT CARE WORKER, PT**

Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Start at \$7.61/hr. 734-394-5620

**ENGINE ASSEMBLY**

Plymouth Location

High performance engine manufacturer has an opening in their Marine engine department. Applicants should have a minimum of 2 years recent assembly experience with V8 engines. Duties include preparation of engine components and assembly of same to complete engine builds. Must be fully capable to hand assemble engines and be experienced in measurement of all critical features. A high level of attention to detail along with basic PC skills is a requirement. This is a fulltime competitive hourly paid position with good benefits in a great work environment, uniforms and all tools are provided.

Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume: 734-729-9640 E.O.E.

Send resume to hr@ilmor.com

**LEASING CONSULTANT**

For retirement community in Westland. Enthusiastic, pleasant, energetic, a real go-getter. Training provided. Full-time with Sat's. Compensation includes benefits and 401K. Fax resume: 734-729-9640 E.O.E.

**Graphic Arts/Production Position**

Proficient in Corel Draw a must. Exc. comp & benefits.

**Crane Operator**

Electro-Chem Processing. Will train, basic math skills needed. Excellent comp & benefits. Fax: 313-535-3220 Or email: resume48228@gmail.com

**Heavy Truck Mechanic**

FT, weekdays with health benefits, paid vacation & incentive bonuses. Candidates must be proficient in drivetrain work. 734-423-3140

**Mechanical Inspector**

Canton Township is now accepting applications for Mechanical Inspector. Application Deadline: 4P.m. Friday, January 11, 2013. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website. www.canton-mi.org EOE

**MACHINE SHOP/ JOB SHOP MANAGER**

Plymouth, MI CNC Machine Shop

Competitive Salary and benefits-Uniforms and tools provided. Successful candidate must possess all of the following qualifications for consideration:

- Have a clear understanding of CNC machine tool set up and operation
- Have a minimum of 15 years of machine tool manufacturing experience
- Have at least 5 years in a leadership role - candidate will lead a team of 10 highly skilled people
- Be experienced in cost and time estimating (routing) for manufacturing tasks and in capacity planning
- Demonstrate a strong understanding of all aspects of machine tool operation including tooling, fixturing and cutting operations
- Be able to communicate effectively with different engineering departments to improve design for manufacture
- Be familiar with and ready to implement industry appropriate quality standards
- Be personable with a passionate "can do" attitude

Send Resumes to: PO BOX 700706 Plymouth, MI 48170

**MACHINE TOOL ELECTRICIAN**

The Gasbarre Furnace Group is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Machine Tool Electrician at their J.L. Becker facility in Plymouth, MI. Successful candidate will have knowledge & experience reading blueprints, machine wiring, and panel building. Previous experience working in a manufacturing environment is a must. The Gasbarre Furnace Group offers a competitive benefits package that includes 401(k), profit sharing, vacation and Company Paid health insurance.

Interested candidates should email resumes to: hr@gasbarre.com or mail them to: Gasbarre Products, Inc. Attn: Human Resources 590 Division Street DuBois, PA 15801

For more information, please visit: www.gasbarrefurnacegroup.com

**MAINTENANCE**

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

**Help Wanted - General**

**MAINTENANCE PERSON**

For Westland apt. community. Some benefits available. Exp. preferred. Must possess a valid driver's lic. Apply at: Wayne Wood Apts. 6737 N. Wayne Rd.

**Medlodge of Plymouth**

is now accepting applications for Full-Time Midnight NURSE with experience, Part-Time Afternoon shift CNA and Part-Time Afternoon shift JANITOR. Apply within: 395 W Ann Arbor Trail email: jpmberlon@medlodge.com

**PAINTERS NEEDED**

Looking for exp'd painters, benefits avail. Driver's license & own transportation required. Please send resumes to: gkoinis724@aol.com or call Greg: 248-684-8592

**TAX PREPARER**

Seasonal for Northville CPA firm. Email resume: mike@tkmcpa.com

**Computer - Info Systems**

**Appliance Mover/ Installer/ Route Driver**

Commercial Laundry Equipment Company requires heavy lifting up & down stairs, excellent driving record, pass background and drug screens. Up to \$11/hr to start. Apply in person Mon. 1/7 or Tues 1/8 only at 30685 W 8 Mile, Livonia.

**Help Wanted - Dental**

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**

Exp'd for Madison Hts. dental office, a temporary part-time position Jan. 14-April 15, 2013 Fax to Brenda at: 248-583-1135 or email: applyreddwood@amdpc.com

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**

Experienced, needed for full time position in a private, fast-paced group practice located in Livonia. Our ideal candidate must be able to work in a team-oriented approach, be highly self-motivated and have mastered all necessary dental assisting skills. Must have superior patient service skills, demonstrate a hard-working, focused attitude with great attention to detail. Orthodontic experience a plus. Must be available to work evenings and Saturday rotations. Please submit resume to moreinfo@preferredentalgroup.com

**Help Wanted - Medical**

**DIRECT CARE WORKERS**

Wayne & Oakland County Full-time w/benefits Requires CDW Training: CLS/MCRC/Hazy, etc. Valid MI DL (No suspension history). Email resume: jobs@enhance-inc.com 248-919-4287

**Medical Assistant**

30 hrs/week Benefits. Troy. tdm@comcast.net

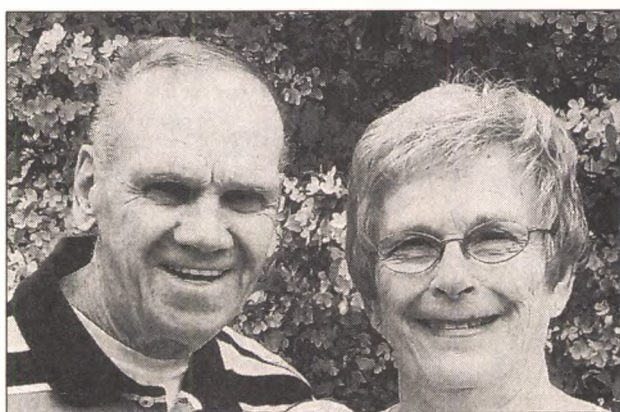
**Help Wanted - Domestic**

**DIRECT CARE STAFF**

Novi area. Full time w/benefits. Exp req'd. Afternoons, Midsnights. 248-636-2461



# Milestones



Floyd and Patricia Kanny

## 60th wedding anniversary

Floyd M. and Patricia A. (Ruffing) Kanny will mark their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 10. The St. Mary's of Redford High School sweethearts were married in 1953 at St. Mary's of Redford Catholic Church. Farmington residents for 58 years, they raised six children, Patti (Gary) Hardy of Midland; Michael (Karen) Kanny of Dexter; Mark (Leslie) Kanny of High-

land Township; Gerrienne (Newton) Hurst of Milford; Lori (Scott) Hay of South Lyon; and Matthew (Kim Mandell) of Agoura Hills, Calif. They have 15 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Bud retired after 43 years as a tool and die maker from General Motors Corporation and Pat is a homemaker. The couple, their family and members of their wedding party will celebrate with Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and an anniversary dinner.



Howard-Miller

Jamie Louise Howard and Andrew William Miller announce their engagement. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Konrad Lyngvar and Jennie Howard of Livonia. Her fiancé is the son of George Miller and Charlene Tennant of Canton. An October 2013 wedding is planned at Wellers Carriage House in Saline.



Stawasz-Donovan

Bethany Grace Stawasz and Andrew Karl Donovan announce their engagement. The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Deborah Stawasz of Westland, is associate attorney with Clark Hill PLC in Detroit. Her practice is focused in commercial litigation. She is a graduate of Wayne State University Law School and holds a B.S. degree from Eastern Michigan University. Bethany attended Divine Child High School in Dearborn. Her fiancé, son of Jeffrey and Margorie Donovan of Livonia, is a member of the Kensington MetroPark interpretive staff in Milford. He designs and conducts educational programming for children, adults, and families. Andrew expects to receive a M.A. in American history from Eastern Michigan University in spring 2013. He holds a B.A. from Lake Superior State University and attended Farmington High School. A June 2013 wedding is planned in Dearborn.



Van Dusen-Sielaff

Jessica Van Dusen and Jason Sielaff became engaged on Dec. 21, 2012. The bride-to-be, daughter of Henry and Missy Van Dusen of Jackson, graduated in 2007 from Michigan Center High School, earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology in 2011 from the University of Michigan and plans to earn a degree in elementary education in 2014 at Eastern Michigan University. Her fiancé, son of Kurt and Jean Sielaff of Livonia, graduated in 2009 from Farmington High School and plans to earn a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 2013 from the University of Michigan. A December 2013 wedding is planned.

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • oeobits@hometownlife.com

Deadlines: Friday, 4:15 p.m. for Sunday paper • Wednesday, 9:45 a.m. for Thursday paper

View Online  
www.hometownlife.com



**BILLOCK, ROSE THERESA**  
Age 95, December 28, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Anthony. Cherished mother of Rosemary (Charles) Martin and the late Theresa. Dear grandmother of 12. Also survived by her sister Frances Kryston, many nieces and nephews and her special friend Ruth McCarthy. Special thanks to Compassionate Care Hospice and the staff of Berkeley Court. Visitation at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia, Thursday from 9 a.m. until Funeral Mass at 9:30 a.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Jude Research Hospital for children. Please share a memory at: www.rgrgharris.com



**GALPIN, HELEN MARIE (STEVENSON)**  
Oct. 17, 1915 - Dec. 16, 2012. Helen passed away quietly at her home. An amazing woman, a role model to her family and friends, and a life well lived. Born and raised in Vancouver, B.C., daughter of Bertram and Maryanne Stevenson (Cook), and younger sister of Douglas Coney Stevenson. After college, she married Richard Galpin and after World War II they moved to Detroit so Richard could complete his Pediatric training. A devoted mother, she raised four children: Kenneth, Peter, Lindley and Sheila. She was a graduate of UBC (Vancouver, British Columbia) in Social Work. After raising her family, she returned to graduate school and received her Masters Degree in Social Work from Wayne State University (Detroit, Michigan). After divorce, she returned to B.C., had a full career as a medical social worker at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, BC and retired to Comox on Vancouver Island. A woman of incredible spirit, an avid traveler and sailor her adventures were legendary: solo-trekking the Hindu Kush mountains of Afghanistan, sailing to the Queen Charlotte Islands, road trips to Mexico were but a very few of these. Her love of art and music and a compulsion for community service led her to found art centers, jazz festivals and kite festivals in the Detroit area as she raised her family. She is survived by her children: Peter, Lindley, and Sheila. Her grandchildren: Karen and Amy Wilmot, Thyra Carnes and Nedra Meredith, Akira and Mikiko Galpin. Her great-grandchildren: Walter, Ella, Daniel and Samuel. A devoted lover of animals she was companion to furry-feathered-family to her last days. A perpetual prize has been established in her name at UBC. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made at: http://memorial.supporting.ubc.ca/helen-stevenson-galpin/. As her family, we thank you. A celebration of her life will take place in Comox on January 26th, please contact the family for further information (808-877-7710). Helen was an amazing influence on all who knew her. A calm, steady, strong, gentle hand on the helm. Omnia Vincit Assiduitas

**BOURNE, BETTY JEAN**  
Of Webberville, Michigan. Age 85, passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 2013 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born on January 1, 1928 in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Walter and Ada (Dodd) Selleck. On November 19, 1949 she married Stanley V. Bourne. He preceded her in death on May 12, 2008. Betty had lived in the area for the past ten years, coming from Redford Twp., and she was a member of the Gregory Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses. In addition to spending time with her family, she enjoyed making wedding cakes and camping. Surviving are three children: Bonnie Santoro of Redford Twp., Bradley (Dianne) Bourne of Webberville, and Lorrie (Michael) Roberts of Hawks, MI; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her brother Richard Selleck and sister Francis Andrew. Services will be held on Friday, January 4, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at the Gregory Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 15800 Graves Rd., Gregory, MI 48137. Arrangements by Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea.

**DITTMAR, VIOLET 'DEE DEE'**  
September 13, 1930 - December 27, 2012. Dee Dee was an active community volunteer until her last days. She lent her talents to such groups as Livonia Town Hall, Greenmead, and Friends of the Livonia Library. She was a loving mother to four children, Wendi Stull, Perri Frost, Dani-Sue, and John. A grandmother to nine and a great-grandmother to three. Her husband of more than 50 years, Dr. Norbert Dittmar, passed away in 2004. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Seedlings Braille Books for Children. Services will be held Thurs, January 3, 2013 at 4pm at Neely Turowski Funeral Home.



**WHITE, ROBERT CARROLL "BOB"**  
75. Bob passed away January 1, 2013 at home with his family, as he would have wanted. He is survived by his childhood sweetheart and wife of over 55 years, Joanie. His mother-in-law Mary (the late Joseph) Kilner. His three children Linda (the late Yanni) Antoniadis, Sherri (John) Giacinto and Bob (Lucy) White. His grandchildren Kristy (Eric) Murphy, Christopher Giacinto and Alison (Mark) Cellars, and great-grandchildren Alyssa, Alexis and Alana Murphy. His family is coming together to celebrate his life privately, but would be honored to hear your memories of him in the weeks and months to come. In lieu of flowers, Bob would have loved for donations in his name to the Plymouth Miracle League.

**GREENE, PAMELA S.**  
62, died December 29, 2012. Pamela is survived by her father, Everett (Ed) Greene; sister, Linda (Tim) Barkume; brother, Ronald (Kim) Greene; nieces, Shanna and Jessica. Sadly, Pamela was preceded in death by her mother, Lois. A Memorial Service is being planned for 12 pm on Saturday, January 19th at Robinwood Community Center, 7550 Beech Daly, Taylor. Memorial donations suggested to Girl Scouts of Southeast Michigan, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., #500, Detroit, MI 48202. heeneysundquist.com



**MAYHEW, CATHERINE B. "KAYE"**  
Kaye passed away peacefully on December 29th in the arms of her family. She was 81 years old. Beloved wife of C. Walker Mayhew and devoted daughter of J. Healan and Elsie Baker. Loving mother of Douglas (Robert) and Stephen (Nancy) Mayhew and Ann (Richard) Bobo and grandmother of Colleen, William, Peter, and Patrick, Grace and Jenny. A Memorial Service will be held at Lark in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, on Wednesday, January 9th at 11:00am. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or the charity of your choice.

**McGRATH, EDWARD J.**  
January 3, 2012 Age 69 of Westland. Beloved husband of the late Eileen Nee. Shvinn. Dear father of John, Brian (Kristin), and Patrick (Lisa). Brother of Betty (the late Don) Kubiak, Terrance (Stephanie), Debbie (Jim) Garrett, Kevin, (Donna) and the late Gerard "Mic" and James (Barbara). Caring grandfather of Six. Memorial mass to be held at Ss. Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 32500 Palmer Rd., Westland, Tuesday 10am. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhthf.com



**RIDINGS, ETTIE E.**  
Age 98, January 27, 1914 - January 1, 2012, a Farmington Hills resident for over 73 years and member of Clarenceville United Methodist Church in Livonia. Ettie married Virchow Ridings on June 24, 1939, in Farmington, and together they owned and operated Ridings Lawnmower Service from 1946-1996. Sadly, Virchow preceded Ettie in death on December 2, 1997. She leaves two children, son, Ben Ridings, DDS, and daughter, Ann (Joseph) Sutschek; sister Lorraine Hewitt (Andy), Milford, Michigan; Alice Morris (Dutch), Van Wert, Ohio; and one brother George Fawcett (Dorothy), Toledo, Ohio; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held Saturday, January 5th, at the Heeneysundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Visitation was Friday. Memorial gifts suggested to Clarenceville United Methodist Church or West Bloomfield United Methodist Church. heeneysundquist.com

**ROAN, ANNA**  
May 29, 1924 - December 29, 2012. As old as the Mountains, younger than the Seas. We observe her passing and celebrate her life. Devoted wife to Pete Roan, loving mother to Andy and Bill. Anna volunteered at Stottlemeyer School library in 1963. She was then hired permanently in 1968. Over the years, with school cut backs, she became the District's traveling librarian. Years after her retirement, former students would recognize her and thank her for her help, story readings and her many kindnesses. There will be no public service, but Anna asks that you hug a child and read them a story.



**ROLICK, JOAN RUBEN**  
Age 90, passed away on December 28, 2012 at Brookdale Place in Ann Arbor, MI. Joan was born June 18, 1922, in Rochester, NY. She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Samuel. Surviving relatives are Joan's two daughters, Wendy Rolick Busch, son-in-law, Stevan Albert Oswill, Allison (Liz) Hartley, son-in-law, Charles Hartley, son, John, and grandchildren, Michael and Rachel Hartley. Aside from being a devoted mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother, Joan served on many advocacy committees for the mentally ill in Oakland County. She was a member of the OCAP board, Oakland County's CMH housing task force, and the advisory committee for the Alliance for the Mentally Ill, among others. She will be missed by all that knew her. Donations on behalf of Joan should be sent to: Dreams Unlimited Clubhouse, 1222 Catalpa Dr., Royal Oak, MI 48067. Arrangements, Muehlig Chapel, Ann Arbor. www.muehligannarb.or.com

**SANTURE, ELISABETH ANN**  
Age 82, December 25, 2012. Beloved wife of the late Donald; dear mother of Mary (Bill) Carney, David (Christie), and Lynn; dearest grandmother of 8 and great-grandmother of 10. A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational Church of Wayne on Saturday, January 5th at 11 am. Arrangements entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials made to Gift of Life or the First Congregational Church of Wayne.



**STEINHAUER, PHILIP FILHART ("BUB")**  
Of Royal Oak, Michigan, age 52, died suddenly on Friday, December 28, 2012. He was born in Detroit on August 8, 1960, the son of Judith (nee Bogetta) and Gerald. Phil spent his early years in Wayne and his high school years in Chelsea, Michigan. He attended Ferris State University, where he studied business, enjoyed fraternity life, and made life-long friends. On May 15, 1993, he married Kirstin Filhart and she survives along with their beautiful sons, Tyler and Troy. Phil began his career in Chicago and later moved back to Michigan to join his father in his business, Professional Insurance Associates, eventually becoming a partner. This family business has grown with Phil, two brothers and his wife all playing integral roles. Phil loved sports both as a player and a spectator. He was an avid and loyal fan of UM and Detroit teams, but most of all he loved watching his boys play. He and his family treasured their time at their second home in Petoskey, where they spent summer days boating and winter days skiing, often with friends who were always welcome to join them "Up North." If you met Phil, you knew that he had a marvelous and enviable ability to promptly draw you in as a friend. Just a month before his own death, Philip eulogized his father, Jerry, to the theme, "Just Me and My Dad." In addition to Kirstin, Tyler and Troy, Phil is survived by his mother Judy, grandmother Hilda, sister Krystn (Robert) Stephens, brothers Martin (Nancy), David (Kelly) and Matthew (Anne); parents-in-law, Lynn and Joanne Filhart and sisters-in-law, Marsha (Dave) Livingston, Julie (Peter) Francis and Denise Johnson, as well as many nieces and nephews. Services were held at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, 248-541-7000. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to the American Heart/American Stroke Association are appreciated. Share your memories at: sullivanfuneraldirectors.com

**WELLMAN, JENNIE**  
December 29, 2012, age 91. Beloved wife of James. Dear mother of Timothy (Terri) Tallmadge, Tamara (Richard) Smith, Bob (Nola) Wellman, Alice (Don) Jordan, Arthur Wellman, Dan (Jennifer) Wellman, Amy (Glenn) Goodsmith and Jack Wellman. Also leaves 13 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and siblings Earle Bassett, June (Harold) Hansor, Ardith Drury and nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday 3pm until 8pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth, where the funeral services will be held on Saturday 11am. Contributions suggested to the Plymouth Historical Museum. Share your memories at: www.schrader-howell.com

**PAQUETTE, BERNADINE T.**  
You've been gone almost a year. We miss you. We hope you are still tap dancing. Love the family.





## Stepparents can find support in monthly meetings

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

When Jessica Duffey became a step-mom to her boyfriend's son two years ago, she searched for guidance to help her fulfill her new role.

"Every avenue I searched I exhausted. I couldn't find anything," said the Farmington woman. "I'm with a wonderful man but there are difficult circumstances and there are a lot of people and their well-being to factor in. It's not just you and your partner."

"When you talk to someone about family (stepparent) dynamic, they say, oh, that's

so common these days. But it doesn't feel like it. I think there are some areas that you just don't understand how it feels unless you're in that position."

Duffey hopes her new organization, Southeast MI Step Parent Support Group, will encourage step-parents to help each other by sharing their experiences and offering tips. She views its monthly meetings as an ideal time for step-parents to relieve stress and regain control of emotions through discussion.

The group will meet from 7-8 p.m. the first Monday of the month at

the Farmington Community Library, 32737 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. Its first meeting is Monday, Jan. 7.

Defining boundaries, improving communication with ex-wives and ex-husbands, and coordinating a stepchild's activities between families are among the challenges that stepparents and their spouses face.

"I went into it so innocently — it's going to be great because we're in love. But it's like anything else. It's like unfolding an onion. There are so many layers and it's all new to us."

### Coordinating activities

The five-year-old stepson lives with her and his father for half of each week. He's with his mother the other half.

"You try not to let anything slip through the cracks, but there are a lot of people to talk to just to coordinate every day life."

A recent family get together at Duffey's sister's home is just one example. Duffey wanted to include her stepson, but wasn't sure if she or her boyfriend should approach the ex-wife about making sure the stepson would arrive on time for the gathering.

Denise Evans, Duffey's cousin, has been there. She became a stepmom 15 years ago and has had plenty of experience dealing with her husband's two children and his ex-wife. Her step-daughter, now 17, lives with the couple. A 20-year-old stepson lives in the area. Their mom lives in northern Michigan.

"I did deal with their parent-teacher meetings, their sports and cheerleading," Evans said. "We split taking them to practices. But it's hard because you still feel like an outsider."

"And you have jealousy moments, especially when they (stepchildren) are younger, moments when they want mommy or daddy. Being a step-parent



is a thankless job. You'll never be number one or two. You'll always be three."

### Getting help

Evans met with a counselor to work out her step-parenting issues. She also sought support from friends, but most at the time either were single or married with their own children. None could relate to her experiences as a step-parent.

Now she's eager to share what she has

learned with other stepparents at the support group meetings.

"I've dealt with every kind of issue you could imagine," she said. "One of the biggest things will be to vent and share experiences."

Duffey, who works as an administrative assistant for an advertising firm, said she hopes to make the monthly meetings a positive experience.

For more information e-mail to [group\\_stepparents@yahoo.com](mailto:group_stepparents@yahoo.com).

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Sunday, January 6, 2013

## Is Your New Year's Resolution Right For You?

### Ask A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Lemon  
Internal Medicine

The award winning staff at Garden City Hospital has over 350 of the area's top physicians in nearly every specialty, and now those doctors are available to answer your questions. Each week, we will feature a different GCH physician, covering a wide range of topics.

**This Week:**  
Zachary Lemon, D.O., Internal Medicine Physician at GCH, gives us a healthy take on "New Year's Resolutions".

**Q:** It seems every year I make a handful of "New Year's Resolutions" to get healthier, and while my intentions are good, and I start out with much enthusiasm, by the end of March my efforts have all but stalled. What can I do differently this year to ensure better results?

**A:** For a resolution to stick, the first thing you need to do is make a plan. Having a plan and keeping a record or journal of your progress, will help you stay on track.

It takes approximately 21 days to get into a routine, so it's important not to skip workouts. But, if you do, don't get upset. After missing a workout, it becomes easier to skip the next, and before you know it, you're off your plan. Find a group of people to work out with so they can help keep you motivated. Eat healthy and don't overdo your workout in the beginning. A hard work out is great, but if you get really sore you might not want to go back. Also change it up, don't just do the same workout everyday. This will help you get into better shape and not become bored.

Remember, you're not an Olympic athlete, so have fun, eat something decadent once in awhile and don't get so wrapped up in your routine that it becomes stressful.

**Q:** I am a 52-year old male who has always been fairly fit. In the last few years I have really noticed a difference in my stamina and a drop in energy. I've never been a big fitness buff, and luckily just had good genes, but now I need to start doing more. What are the most important health goals I should set for myself this year, and where do I start?

**A:** Before you begin setting goals or increasing your activity level, you should know exactly where you are now. Start, by seeing your doctor and getting a physical exam. Your physician may even want you to take a Stress Test. Once you know where you're at, it's easier to determine where you should be, and your doctor can help you get there safely.

**Q:** This year I want to quit smoking for good. I was a pack a day smoker for 20 years and have cut back to only 5 or 6 a day, but just can't seem to get over the hump. My husband and children have never smoked and have been asking me to kick the habit for years! I was recently blessed with my first grandchild and have decided this must be a priority. What should I do and can you help offer guidance for my success?

**A:** There is no "one size fits all" solution to quit smoking, but the first and most important thing is YOU WANT TO QUIT. Kicking the smoking habit requires willpower — but that's only part of the equation. Cigarettes are manufactured to be addictive, and there are a number of prescription and over-the-counter products that can reduce your cravings. Talk to your physician or consider counseling. A doctor can help determine what the best plan and products are for your success. Much like a good workout plan, a journal is a great tool in conquering any addiction. Take notes of when and where you typically smoke and why. Now think how you will overcome your urge to smoke in each situation. Good luck and remember you are not alone. Look to your family for support and seek out a reputable expert in smoking cessation.

If you have a health or medical question for one of the GCH Health Experts, or need a physician, visit [GCH.org](http://GCH.org) or call 877.717.WELL.

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# JOBS

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## Three myths about hiring older job seekers

Susan Ricker,  
CareerBuilder Writer

Big Foot roams the woods of North America. The Loch Ness Monster lurks below the water's surface in Scotland. Hiring younger workers makes more sense than hiring mature ones. Which one of these myths is most widely believed?

Big Foot and "Nessie" may be out in the wild somewhere, but mature job seekers are just as attractive job candidates as their younger counterparts. More experienced, more mature, more reliable — mature job seekers are the total package when it comes to hiring. So why do employers buy into the notion that their age is a drawback? Learn how to bust three common myths about older workers and get hired.

### Myth No. 1: You're out of touch

Perhaps the most common myth is that mature job seekers struggle to keep up with technology and industry trends. The truth is that it's every job seeker's responsibility, regardless of age, to ensure he has the experience and skills needed for the job he wants.

While younger job seekers may receive the most current education, mature job seekers can take advantage of this opportunity, too. If your job search isn't yielding much interest, it may be time to consider attending a workshop or seminar in your field. Tailor your résumé to the job posting's re-



quirements. Research the company and mention specifics in your cover letter. Also note your skills and experience, including your technology capabilities. You can beat this myth and market yourself as the total package. You have experience, judgment and dependability on your side.

### Myth No. 2: You'll expect a leadership position

The experience, judgment and dependability that make you the total package may also make you appear to be a high-maintenance job seeker or somebody who expects a leadership position.

Combat this assumption in your cover letter by explaining that you're interested in the specific position and that you look forward to joining the team. You may be moved into a leadership position soon after starting, but don't expect a warm reception if you mention a leadership position as a requirement to being hired. Instead, explain your leadership qualities and how they apply to the job for which you're interviewing, as well as how you'll fit into the company culture.

### Myth No. 3: You'll retire soon anyway

The classic "Where do you see yourself in five years?" ques-

tion makes an appearance at most job interviews, though for mature job seekers, this question may sound loaded. Will you still want to work in five years?

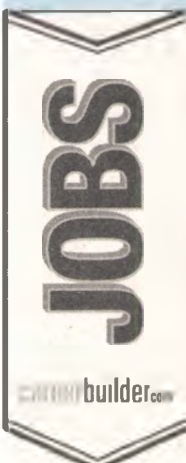
While younger job seekers may respond with a positive answer about how they hope to still be working with their team, mature job seekers may need a more specific answer. Hiring managers may worry that more mature job seekers are looking for a pastime before retiring. Make it clear that the age of retirement is rising and you're looking at this position as an important part of your career. Share how you've previously met your professional goals

and how this job will contribute to your other goals. Then, transition to the company's goals and how you're a great match.

No matter your age, you can bust these three myths and present yourself as the total package. Prove that you're keeping up with industry trends, make it clear that you want to be a part of the team, and share your career goals to show your workplace commitment.

Susan Ricker is a writer and blogger for CareerBuilder.com and its job blog, *The Work Buzz*. She researches and writes about job search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

OE2304201



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### Accounting Information Systems Specialist

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Jewish Family Service is seeking a full-time Accounting Supervisor. Assist CFO with long and short range financial planning to establish financial and administrative objectives. Writing accounting policies and procedures and strengthening internal control practices. Maintenance of the accounting system, preparation of journal entries and account reconciliations fixed asset accounting and assisting in the coordination of the annual external audit. Managing accounts payable, accounts receivable and billing personnel. Assisting department directors/managers with financial questions and requests and distribution of monthly financial reports to departments. BS in Accounting or related field, CPA Preferred. Please send Resume to [cjenings@jfsdetroit.org](mailto:cjenings@jfsdetroit.org)

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### Building Inspector

Canton Township is now accepting applications for Building Inspector. Application Deadline: 4P.m. Friday, January 11, 2013. Job description with complete qualifications and hiring process is available on the Canton Township website: [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org) EOE

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carpeted, fenced. \$650/mo.  
(313) 418-9905

**WESTLAND: Livonia Schools.**  
3 bdrm brick ranch, 1.5 bath,  
bsmt. painted, fenced yd \$825  
No Sect. 8. 248-661-9622

**Rooms For Rent**

**CANTON:** Looking for profes-  
sional, non-smoking female to  
so share condo in South Can-  
ton, \$600+. 734-716-7771

**REDFORD:** Private Entrance.  
Share kitchen, bath, laundry.  
Furnished. Utilities. Cable.  
\$115/wk. Male. 313-213-8637

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**BUY & SELL**

**Services**

**Services**

**Services**

**Services**

**Services**

**Services**

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**Services**

**Services**

**Services**

**Electrical**

**FAMILY ELECTRICAL**  
City cert. Violations corrected.  
Service changes or any small  
job. Free est. 734-422-8080

**Hauling - Clean Up**

**A-1 HAULING**  
Move scrap metal, clean base-  
ments, garages, stores, etc.  
Lowest prices in town. Quick  
service. Free est. Wayne/ Oak-  
land. Central location.  
248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

**Paint Decorating Paper**

**PAINTING BY ROBERT**  
•Wallpaper Removal •Int  
•Ext •Plaster/Drywall Repair  
•Staining. 25 yrs exp. Free est.  
248-349-7499, 734-464-8147

**Roofing**

•Leaks •Roof Repairs  
•Flashings •Valleys •Hail  
•Wind Damage •Ins Claims  
Member BBB. 30 yrs exp.  
Lic/Ins. Call: (248) 346-4321

**Snow Removal**

**SNOW REMOVAL RESIDENTIAL**  
Reasonable Rates. Senior Dis-  
counts. 734-444-4795

**Misc. For Sale**

**TRADE CENTER**  
Shop at  
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8 Mile east  
of Van Dyke  
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New Vendors  
Always Welcome!

**Musical Instruments**

ESTATE Instrument Collection  
Vintage Guitars, Amps, Sax's,  
Cello, Violins and More!  
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(800)801-6452  
DougDalton@comcast.net

**PETS**

**Cats**

**CAT:** Fixed female, long hair,  
black. No young children.  
Needs loving home.  
248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

**Dogs**

**SHIN TZU PUPS, AKC**  
Vet checked, shots, highly  
socialized, males. Ready to go  
& Priced to go. 734-699-9525

**Found - Pets**

**FOUND CATS:**  
Black and white, near Palmer  
and Wildwood in Westland  
Call: (734) 397-8187

**FOUND KITTY:** Very sweet,  
White with black markings.  
Very tame. Beech & 5 Mile.  
Call 248-767-7945

**Auction Sales**

**MIDWEST AUTO AUCTION**  
Public Auto Auction  
10am Friday 1/11/13  
14666 Telegraph Rd.  
Redford MI being auctioned  
Pawn-Municipality-  
Repo vehicles  
Akan vehicles 97 Corolla  
1WXBRY2E0X273127  
03 Rendezvous  
3G5DADQ3E8S556745  
97 Grand AM  
1G2NW52T1VC774504

**Appliances**

**REFRIGERATORS \$150 & up!**  
Range, washer/dryer \$100 &  
up! 60 day warranty/delivery!  
Call: (734) 796-3472

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**RIDING LAWN MOWER -  
OLDER JOHN DEER**  
As is, \$150.  
Call: 248-347-9664

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**Legal & Accepting**

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**Legal & Accepting**

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**Legal & Accepting**

**WHEELS**

**Auto Misc.**

**WE PAY TOP DOLLAR For Clean USED CARS**  
AVIS FORD  
Ford  
(248) 355-7500

**Autos Wanted**

**FINAL JOURNEY**  
We buy running and  
junk cars, etc. We  
pay \$50-\$5000  
cash on spot. Get more cash  
than dealer trade in or dona-  
tion. 313-320-1829

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**CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2010**  
Sateen Silver, pl, pw, and 4WD  
Ready to work hard for you!  
Reduced to \$18,920!  
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**DODGE RAM 3500 2012**  
13C8012B - Diesel, "Longhorn  
Pick" 4x4, Navigation, only  
6,700 miles. Showroom New.  
North Brothers Ford  
800-586-7931

**FORD F-150 S/CAB 2005**  
12T6069A- 4x4, V8, 4WD, full  
power, alloys, fully inspected &  
warranty. Showroom New.  
North Bros. Value Lot  
800-586-7931

**FORD F350 1979**  
w/snow plow, V blade, strong  
400, V-8, 56,000 miles, no  
rust. \$2500/ best offer.  
734-353-9593

**GMC YUKON XL 2008**  
Gray, 85k 4x4, only \$23,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
BUICK, GMC  
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**Mini-Vans**

**HANDICAP VANS - USED.**  
BOUGHT & SOLD. Mini & full  
size. I come to you. Call Date  
anyday, 517-882-7299.

**Vans**

**BUICK TERRAZA 2005**  
Red, loaded, 87k. Only \$8,995.  
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BUICK, GMC  
(734) 453-2500

**CALIBER 2011**  
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**BOB JEANNOTTE**  
BUICK, GMC  
(734) 453-2500

**RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER**

Challenging fun for ALL ages

# Sunday PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- Carpet nail
  - Rough shelter
  - Identical
  - Prefix for dynamic
  - Sea eagle
  - Holly shrub
  - Symbol of goodness
  - Do not bother (2 wds.)
  - Mannequin
  - Pond blossom
  - Coral islands
  - Relief from the sun
  - Kind of system
  - Noisy bird
  - Klutz's exclamation
  - Put two and two together
  - Gutter locale
  - Hive occupant
  - Summer hrs.
  - Puts a crowbar to use
  - Farthest point
- DOWN**
- "humbug"
  - Widen a hole
  - The younger Guthrie
  - Baubles
  - Conversation starter
  - Late actress Mary —
  - Dynamite kin
  - Round building
  - Oodles (2 wds.)

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

H	O	O	D	I	S	A	K	S	A	D
A	U	R	A	F	A	C	E	O	H	O
G	R	O	S	S	L	E	A	C	H	E
A	B	B	E	O	M	E	G	A		
L	O	A	D	E	D	R	E	G	A	L
U	R	L	L	G	A	R	C	I	A	
M	E	D	D	L	E	S	M	A	L	L
I	S	S	U	E						
C	H	I	N	P	R	O	P			
B	E	D	S	I	D	E	Z	E	B	R
E	R	E	C	I	N	E	R	O	I	L
R	E	M	U	S	D	A	E	B	B	S

11-8-11 © 2011 UFS, Dist. by Univ. Uclick for UFS

- 10** Pop-up computer list
- 11** Ballot marks
- 17** Part of aka
- 19** Summer in France
- 22** Resulted in (2 wds.)
- 23** Arith. term
- 24** Brokenhearted sound
- 25** Garden tool
- 26** Do a takeoff
- 28** — alai
- 29** Blvd.
- 30** Toady's reply
- 32** Deadly snake
- 33** Built
- 35** Limp-watch painter
- 36** Famed architect
- 38** Ms. Garbo
- 39** Ore hauler
- 40** Bigfoot's kin
- 41** Road map nos.
- 42** Two-color cookie
- 44** Bamboo stalk
- 45** Desktop picture
- 47** Stat for Schilling or Koufax
- 48** Delivery truck
- 50** Started cries

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		
34					35				36		
				37			38				
39	40	41	42			43			44	45	
46					47	48			49		50
51					52				53		
54					55				56		

Want more puzzles?  
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books  
at QuillDriverBooks.com

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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

## FINANCIAL WORD SEARCH

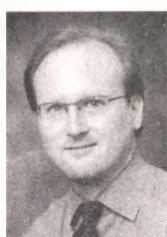
S	P	R	X	W	D	H	N	B	U	D	G	E	T	B	A	N	K	I	N	G
A	R	V	L	A	N	A	R	D	H	T	I	W	X	B	D	W	A	I		
A	E	Y	E	B	P	R	T	I	S	O	P	E	D	I	V	N	C	C	U	
V	D	M	W	V	B	R	P	O	O	G	S	N	A	M	P	C	L	U	T	
I	I	O	T	A	L	F	U	N	D	S	S	E	P	L	O	R	O	P	I	
N	C	N	K	N	L	I	L	G	G	K	T	N	S	U	N	M	A	V	C	
G	T	O	W	C	E	L	S	A	N	V	H	I	N	D	R	N	D	I		
I	I	C	C	R	A	M	E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



# Car Report

Advertising Feature

## Fiat begins showing their brand's feisty side to the U.S. market



By Dale Buss

Forget the traditional peaceable sensibilities of the holiday season. Fiat has been going to war, on a number of market fronts.

In the U.S. market, there has been Fiat's new initiative, shared with Chrysler brands, to specifically target Volkswagen owners with special sales incentives to switch brands. Fiat recently went further than any other car brand in utilizing the unique location-based capabilities of gas-pump-side TV advertising. Fiat executives also have gloated over the fact that their all-electric vehicle is a version of the classically designed 500 — and have taken many shots at the prosaic design of the all-electric Nissan Leaf.

And, of course, these things have unfolded even before Fiat gets to Super Bowl XLVII in New Orleans. It's expected to shine there once again, with a racy TV ad chosen from among several that brand executives have been teasing — including one involving a supermodel, her bikini top and the pincers of a scorpion. Expect a rapt audience for the likely Fiat ad in this Super Bowl, on CBS on February 3, after the brand ran a seductive spot for the Abarth version of its 500 during the last Big Game.

For now, Fiat has been getting chippy in a new arena for the brand: the high-profile, low-sales world of electric vehicles, where it is launching the 500e all-electric vehicle.

Apparently unprovoked, a Fiat execu-

tive took a none-too-veiled shot at Nissan for the styling of its Leaf. And with the Los Angeles Auto Show as a backdrop, Nissan quickly shot right back at some of Fiat's own design executions.

The spat began unfolding at the show's media preview when Matt Davis, head of Fiat product marketing in the United States, was talking about the coming all-electric version of the Fiat 500 and told Bloomberg News, "Let's be honest, ugliness is probably one of the worst forms of pollution. The Fiat 500e proves that you do not have to give up on good looks to deliver an electric car."

Perhaps stepping up a bit too quickly to confirm its identity as the offending brand — Nissan shot right back. Unlike the Fiat EV, said Simon Sproule, head of Nissan's global marketing communications, to Automotive News, "Leaf is a 'fully functioning' car for families and daily use. And he called the Fiat 500e a me-too car to appease regulators, as contrasted with Leaf, which was designed as an all-electric from the ground up and has bravely led the EV charge.

Sproule also made an addendum that some might view as gratuitous, but without which this tussle wouldn't be as



Fiat wants to create a better-looking EV market with its 500e.

much fun. "Let's face it, Fiat has not shied away from controversial styling themselves," Sproule told the magazine. "Many viewers would describe many of their products as visual pollution. Take a long, hard look at the Fiat Doblo."

If you do, you'll note that the Doblo, for the European market, indeed looks like the unfortunate result of a mating of a compact pickup truck, a shrunken Chevrolet Suburban and some sort of contractor's panel van.

Fiat's director of brand communications, Casey Hurbis, was happy to continue the dust-up, at a low level, in his conversation with me. "Doblo," he snorted, "isn't even in the U.S. market."

Meanwhile, Fiat has come up with an advertisement that is specific only to Gas Station TV, a Birmingham-based company that operates pump-top screens at nearly 1,900 gas stations across the country. The ad for the 2013 Fiat 500 features a character who literally appears to be abiding in the gas pump just so he can get a peek at the 40-mpg Fiat 500.

The ad — initially running only on GSTV at California gas stations — is the most "environmentally relevant" ad yet created for the network by any automaker, GSTV CEO David Leider told me. It ends with a listing of the three Fiat dealers closest to each particular gas station.



The man "inside the gas pump" is starring in a Fiat ad on GSTV.

"We like to do fun, innovative, breakthrough creative, and this provided a unique venue," Hurbis told me. The ad on GSTV "certainly provides a captive audience" while they fill their cars, he said. "I'm a little surprised that more advertisers haven't used this space already to create contextually relevant marketing."

In his most aggressive move, CEO Sergio Marchionne lately has been offering \$1,000 rebates to current VW owners in the U.S. to buy a Fiat or Chrysler vehicle. The offer was only for buyers who currently owned or leased a VW vehicle, and customers didn't have to give up their VW to qualify.

The Volkswagen Conquest Bonus Cash incentive was announced December 4 and expired on January 2, available on all 2012 and 2013 models except the Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT, the SRT Viper, and non-Aero Dodge Dart SE models. Chrysler similarly targeted Toyota models in 2010, a Chrysler spokeswoman noted, and does this "on occasion," she said.

OE02307793

# WHEELS

cars.com

**Sports Utility**

**FORD ESCAPE 2010 XLT** 12T3159A- Ford Certified, FWD, moon, chromes, only 19,000 miles. Rates as low as 1.9%. \$17,988  
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**FORD ESCAPE 2013** 13T6022A, Titanium, 2.0 Ecoboost, 4WD, Navigation, Only 5000 Miles. Save thousands over new! North Brothers Main 800-586-7931

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**GMC ENVOY XL 2006** Silver Shine, SLT, leather, and remote start! Room for 7! Reduced to \$12,995!  
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**BMW X5 2007** Galaxy Gray, 3.0si, AWD, chrome! Luxury meets durability! Reduced to \$24,717!  
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**CHEVY TAHOE 2007 LTZ** White, Loaded, Only \$18,995  
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**FORD EDGE SPORT 2011** 13T5064A - Leather, Full Pwr, only 16,000 1 owner miles. Rates as low as 0.9% \$31,888  
North Brothers Certified 800-586-7931

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888-372-9836  
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888-372-9836  
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**Lou LaRiche**

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888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

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**Chevrolet**

**CHEVROLET CRUZE 2011** Jet Black, 13K, LS and auto! Many safety features! Reduced to \$16,871!  
888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

**CHEVY TRAVERSE 2010** AWD, 32K, \$22,995  
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**HHR 2008** Harvest Orange, remote start, & power options! Happy Cruisin! Reduced to \$9,918!  
888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

**MALIBU 2006** Light Metallic \$7995  
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**MALIBU 2009** Black Knight, LT, leather & remote start! Feeling good...looking good! Reduced to \$14,919!  
888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

**Chrysler-Plymouth**

**CHRYSLER 300 2006** Blue Sky, leather, and heated seats! Very luxurious ride! Reduced to \$10,995!  
888-372-9836  
**Lou LaRiche**

**MALIBU MAX 2005** Tan, 75K, \$7,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**PT CRUISER 2001** Red, great shape, touring, Only \$4,995  
**BOB JEANNOTTE BUICK, GMC** (734) 453-2500

**Dodge**

**CHALLENGER 2009** Blue Streak, Hemi, and R/T! Get in, hold on! Reduced to \$21,979!  
888-372-9836  
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**CHARGER 2009 SXT** White, \$11,995.  
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**Ford**

**EDGE 2008 LIMITED** 13T1128A- Ford Certified, Leather, chromes, heated seats, 38,000 miles, rates as low as 1.9%. \$21,988  
North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

**FIESTA 2011** 12C8667B, Ford Certified, 5 Spd, A/C, Only 27K miles. Rates as low as 1.9% \$12,988  
North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

**FOCUS FLEX SEL 2009** 13T1114A, leather, alloys, full power, rates as low as 0.9% \$22,988  
North Brothers Certified 800-586-7931

**FOCUS SES 2008** 13C1054A, fully inspected & warranted. Priced to sell! \$9,988  
North Brothers Value Lot 800-586-7931

**FUSION SEL 2009** 13T3101A - Auto, A/C, full power, alloys, Rates as low as 0.9% \$12,988  
North Brothers Ford 800-586-7931

**FUSION SPORT 2011** P21555, auto, a/c, full pwr., alloys, only 13K, Rates as low as 0.9% \$22,988  
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**MUSTANG GT 2002** Auto, leather, only 35,000 careful owner miles. \$11,998.  
\$121533A  
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**Recycle This Newspaper**

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**GMC**

**TERRAIN 2011 - SLT1** Silver, FWD, 22K, \$25,995  
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**Honda**

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