



MAKE A PLAN: Check out store inserts inside today's paper for holiday shopping.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS: Roundup of area activities. B6

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Sheldon Road resurfacing finished

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Residents pardoned its dust during the late summer and early fall, but now Sheldon Road is completely open for business in Plymouth Township.

A \$1.4 million project to resurface a nearly mile-long

span of Sheldon between M-14 and Five Mile was completed last week, just ahead of the onset of colder weather. The work was begun in mid-September.

The price of the road work was covered by Wayne County, which is getting federal reimbursement for more than 80 percent of it.

"It's a huge project for Plymouth Township and western Wayne (County)," said Commissioner Shannon Price, R-Canton Township, who represents Plymouth and Plymouth Township on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners. "You've got a lot of high-tech, high-paying jobs over there that were

impacted," plus retail workers at shops along the strip that were also affected, he said.

New sidewalk

The project included the construction of a new sidewalk on the west side of Sheldon between M-14 and Helm, for which the town-

ship paid \$70,150. That work extended a sidewalk that already ran between Five Mile and Helm.

Price said workers were out on Sheldon around the clock during the project's last weekend, in order to get it done before colder temper-

See SHELDON, Page A2

CONSUMERS' CHOICE

Retail expert: Buyers want early shopping frenzy

By Jill Halpin
Correspondent

Love it or hate it, Black Friday — that hallowed day of shopping slowly threatening to usurp Thanksgiving gatherings everywhere — is here to stay.

Retailers seeking to boost their end of the year sales, combined with shoppers eager to kick off the holiday season with good bargains and deeply discounted finds, makes for an incredible event — one that seems to be growing in enormity every year with retailers opening their doors earlier and earlier.

And despite the displeasure of some consumers over the stores' early-bird attitude, the enticements of slashed prices and one-time-only buys are hard to resist for many.

Mike Bernacchi, professor of marketing at the University of Detroit Mercy, explains it "takes two to tango. You can blame it in the retailers, but no one is pushing me out the door," to shop Black Friday.

"It's not just the merchandisers clamoring for early shopping," he said. "There is a reason the stores are opening early — they know people will be in line to buy. Americans like the feel of getting a good deal."

But for some, Black Friday is not just about the deals.

"The Black Friday shopping bonanza has become a social activity, with gen-

See SHOPPING, Page A5



The "big box" stores aren't the only ones that benefit from Black Friday shopping, as some downtown Plymouth stores inevitably find out the day after Thanksgiving every year. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

City to take up train 'quiet zones'

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A Plymouth man's attempt to hush freight train horns in a city known for its railroad crossings is gathering steam with residents and city officials.

Neil Lobron will bring his pitch for railroad no-horn zones, called quiet zones, to the Plymouth City Commission during a budget study session beginning at 6:30 p.m. Monday on the second floor of city hall.

Lobron has extensively researched quiet zones, areas in which train operators are prohibited from sounding train horns except in emergencies, and says Plymouth would be a good candidate for such a regulation.

"It's only two square miles and one of those square miles is covered by train noise," Lobron, an eight-year resident, said Monday.

Eliminating horn noise, Lobron said, would improve the quality of life in the city and boost property values, particularly for homeowners who live near crossings. He cited a real estate study that said Plymouth would realize a \$36 million increase in property values with quiet zones.

Crossing safety

Safety regulations normally require railroad engineers to sound train horns as their trains approach railroad crossings, in order to warn drivers who might be nearing the crossings. Quiet zones, made possible under a 2006 Federal Railroad Administration rules change, require alternative safety measures for motorists.

Such alternative measures could include extra crossing gate arms, concrete median barriers in the roadway to keep motorists from driving around gates or trackside warning horns that would alert drivers without the sound carrying into neighborhoods.

Lobron has a website, sites.google.com/site/plymouthquietzone/, and a Facebook page, www.facebook.com/plymouthquietzones, with information about quiet zones, including a detailed proposal for quiet zones in Plymouth that he says would cost the city a net of \$47,000. Federal grant funding is available for quiet-zone measures, he said.

See TRAIN, Page A2

Family, friends, health: Lots to be thankful for

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Eva Davis, Canton Public Library director, didn't have to think long about what she's thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday.

"We here at the Canton library are most thankful for our supportive community and our excellent staff and our Friends of the Library," she said, adding the Library Board. "We would not be here without them."

Davis, who lives in Plymouth Township, also has gratitude for her family, extended family, "family that we choose. Friends are family that we choose," she said.

Americans will sit down to Thanksgiving dinner Thursday, giving thanks for blessings between eating turkey and watching the parade and Detroit Lions football. A quick survey of area residents revealed many sources of gratitude.

"Thankful for friends and family,"

See THANKFUL, Page A2



Canton Library Director Eva Davis, a Plymouth Township resident, is thankful for a supportive community.



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SHELDON

Continued from Page A1

atures made working with asphalt impossible.

"It was important we got that done before the cold weather set in," Price said. "We couldn't have that torn up all winter."

The repaving required temporary lane closures on Sheldon, but the road was never completely closed.

The project includes a traffic light at Sheldon and Plymouth Oaks Boulevard, which is just south of M-14, but county spokesman Patrick Dostine the light has yet to be installed.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
313-222-2405
Twitter: @mattjachman



Paul Sincock, who grew up in Plymouth and now manages it, is thankful for his community.

THANKFUL

Continued from Page A1

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock said. "And for living in a great town," the Plymouth resident added, visiting with friends over coffee at the Plymouth Panera.

Said Jim Jabara of Plymouth Township, a longtime local businessman, "I'm thankful for the friends and family I have. I'm thankful for everything this community offers in the form of fellowship, the friendliness of the people in the community."

Jabara, who lived in the city of Plymouth 33 years, now calls Plymouth Township home. "It's a great community," he said of its people. "That's what makes a community."

State Rep. Kurt Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican who represents Plymouth, Northville and part of Canton, said, "My family and friends and good health. Good health for all." Heise had stopped in at the Plymouth Panera later that same morning.

"I'm thankful for a great team to work with to turn Michigan around," he added.

Over a Thursday Westland Rotary lunch at Joy Manor - turkey with all the trimmings - Judge



Jim Jabara of Plymouth Township is "thankful for the friends and family I have."



Mark McConnell, a Westland district court judge, is thankful for his "great wife and two beautiful, happy, healthy daughters."

Mark McConnell of the 18th District Court in Westland said, "Great wife, two beautiful, happy, healthy daughters. And a great staff, too." McConnell is a Westland resident.

At McConnell's lunch table was Jeff Juene-

mann of Northville Township, owner of Juene-mann Insurance in Westland. "Good health, dear friends," Juene-mann said, including his Rotary friends. "I like 'em on Facebook," he said with a smile.

Westland's Gina Toarmina said, "I am thankful for my family, of course. I'm thankful that I have employment." She's an overload aide at Wayne-Westland's Wildwood Elementary.

"I'm actually thankful for the people I work with, because they're all really friendly and want to help the kids," she said. "I am thankful I have a home because some people don't."

She's grateful in general: "They're the common things, I guess. I'm thankful for life." She's also happy to hear the Christmas carols starting, even before Thanksgiving.

Diana Wilcox of Livonia, a retired Garden City schools educator, said, "I think I'm pretty thankful for my family. I still have surviving parents," both 91, said Wilcox, now teaching early childhood curriculum at Madonna University in Livonia. She also has one child along with husband Joe and three grandchildren.

"They're all happy and healthy and this is good," she said.

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TRAIN

Continued from Page A1

Lobron also has a non-binding petition, both online and on paper, encouraging city officials to consider quiet zones. The petition has more than 400 signatures, Lobron said.

Lobron said that because of the way Plymouth's seven railroad crossings are grouped, the city could designate three quiet zones - one for the crossings at Ann Arbor Trail and South Mill, another for the

crossings at Main and Farmer and a third that would include three crossings: at Starkweather, North Mill and Holbrook. Crossings within a quarter-mile of each other would be in the same zone, he said.

Budget competition

Nearly 600 communities across the country have adopted quiet zones, Lobron said. He sponsored a meeting on quiet zones in September at the Plymouth District Library that was attended by about 50 people.

Mayor Dan Dwyer, who is among the com-

mission members who've met individually with Lobron, said that while he endorses the quiet-zone idea, it will be one of many initiatives competing for city funding.

The possibility of grant money will be examined closely, Dwyer said.

"I think everybody would love to have a quieter hometown," Dwyer said. "The question is, where does it fall amongst all the ideas out there?"

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Craig withdraws from the 20th District House race

Northville school board member Scott Craig announced Tuesday that he has reconsidered his candidacy for the Michigan House of Representatives 20th District seat and is withdrawing his name from the race.

The seat is currently held by Kurt Heise, a Plymouth Township Republican.

"After further consideration and lengthy discussions with my wife, we've decided that we cannot take the financial risk at this time that a campaign would repre-

sent. I am nearing retirement as a teacher, but can't afford to retire yet. The time necessary to be a viable candidate would take away from my work as a teacher and possibly jeopardize my employment," Craig said.

He also reported receiving new information that even winning the election would force him to retire early, as taking a leave of absence is not a

legal option.

He said he would like to thank all of those who have stepped forward and offered their support in the past two weeks.

"I've been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of so many people. I do believe that citizens of Northville, Plymouth and Canton are hungry for a representative who cares about education and an economy that works for all. I am sorry that my personal circumstances prevent me from being that candidate at this time," he said.



Craig

Holiday delays township waste pickup

The curbside pickup of trash, recyclables and yard waste in Plymouth Township will be delayed by one day this week because of Thursday's Thanksgiving holiday.

Residents who nor-

mally have a Thursday pickup will have a Friday pickup this week, while those who normally have a Friday pickup will have garbage, yard waste and recyclables picked up Saturday.

The holiday does not affect the pickup schedule in the city of Plymouth, where residents have normal pickups only each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Plymouth-Canton seeks bus drivers

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

The pool of bus drivers for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is getting low and district officials are struggling to fill it.

The district put out a call this week for more substitute drivers to help when regular drivers can't drive. While all of the district's routes are currently being covered, officials point to a "critically low" number of subs, creating the potential for leaving bus routes uncovered.

The district has exactly 125 drivers to cov-

er its 125 routes, leaving officials scrambling to find subs.

"We're not there yet, but we're at the point where we can't lose any of our drivers," said Kate Dietrich, director of communications, community engagement and marketing. "We're at a critical shortage. We need to make sure we have enough drivers. The routes are covered, but we don't have any cushion."

Dietrich said the district is "in the same boat" as other surrounding districts, in that many are hiring substitute drivers.

Substitute bus driv-

ers are currently being hired. No experience is needed and training is provided to qualified candidates. Applicants should drop off a resume at the Transportation Department, 1024 S. Mill in Plymouth, or email METS, the district's bus driver employer, at recruiting@contractbusdrivers.com. Applicants can get more information by calling 734-582-6780.

"We're looking for substitute drivers who are familiar with the area," Dietrich said. "They tend to be better drivers for us and they're more likely to stay."

Teddy Bear Toss salutes heroes at Whalers game

Plymouth Community United Way and the Plymouth Whalers are hoping it will rain a torrent of teddy bears after the team scores its first goal Saturday, Dec. 7, against Guelph at Compuware Arena.

The 14th annual Ted-

dy Bear Toss will not only provide toys to brighten the holidays of needy children, but pay tribute to the different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces with a Salute to Our Heroes on Pearl Harbor Day.

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soldiers with ID will be admitted to the game free. Discounted \$10 tickets are available for their family members.

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Santa set for annual arrival

Santa's arrival in Kellogg Park is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 29. Visitors are invited to bundle up and help welcome Santa back to Plymouth with Santa, Mrs. Claus and Christmas Carol arriving by fire truck.

The Salvation Army will be in full force for collections and sharing some hot chocolate. The event kicks off at 5:15 p.m. with the Plymouth-Canton High School Choir on the Kellogg Park stage. At 5:30 p.m., the Joel Tacey "Let it Snow Santa Show" will entertain.

Santa and friends will arrive on a fire engine at 6 p.m. He will be welcomed by city officials and will pull the lever to light all of the Christmas trees in Kellogg Park.

Once the ceremony is



Santa Claus arrives in downtown Plymouth at 6 p.m. Friday. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

finished, Santa will be welcoming children to his house in Kellogg Park until 8:30 p.m.

Restaurants will be open for dinner and many shops will be open until 9 p.m. with holiday specials. The Plymouth Historical Museum will be free to all to see the "A Red Ryder Christmas Story" exhibit, with a Santa's Workshop for all

kids.

Santa will then be available in his house the following dates/times: noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30; noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15; noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21; noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22; and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23.

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SHOPPING

Continued from Page A1

erations coordinating and collaborating and shopping together," Bernacchi said.

For the past five years, Kellie Bugajski and her daughter Megan, 21, have joined the throngs of holiday shoppers hitting the stores early Black Friday in hopes of finding the perfect gift at an even-more perfect price.

And bargains they have found, Bugajski admits, recalling a past Black Friday purchase of an elegant coat for the rock-bottom price of \$16.

However, for Bugajski and her daughter, the Black Friday event is about much more than just shopping: it is about spending time together.

"We both love to shop and it has become something we look forward to every year. It's a great way to carve out some time for the two of us to spend together," said Bugajski, a Plymouth resident, "We really enjoy it."

Responding to demand?

Although Black Friday has served as an official start to the holiday season for many years, it was not until the advent of the 2010 Cyber Monday – a creation of the National Retail Federation – that retailers began pushing back opening hours.

As consumers discovered they could shop online "anytime, anywhere," retailers felt forced to move their early openings back, Bernacchi said, even into Thanksgiving, as some retailers have done this year.

Some local malls have responded to the demand from consumers as well.

Livonia's Laurel Park Place is opening four hours earlier this Thanksgiving, at 8 p.m. instead of midnight as in years past. It is not mandatory for all stores to be open, so only stores electing to do so will be open.

"I think we're just following the retail industry," said Claudia J. Frederick, the mall's group marketing director, explaining the decision to open four hours earlier. "We're just trying to meet the convenience of the shopper."

Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall, as well as Fairlane Town Center in Dearborn, both owned by Taubman Centers, Inc., will also open early this year.

"We're responding to requests from both our customers and our retailers to open earlier, especially since the holiday season is six days shorter this year," said Karen MacDonald, Taubman director of communications.

Although some large retailers, including Costco, Nordstrom, REI, Home Depot, T.J. Maxx, Marshall's and Burlington Coat Factory, are bucking the trend by not opening Thanksgiving, Black Friday is a retail phenomenon that is not likely to change anytime soon.

A recent study by Accenture indicates that the lure of Black Friday as a major shopping event is at its highest level in five years, with 55 percent of shoppers saying they are likely to take part in shopping at some point that day.

Big day for auto dealers

The reality is that Black Friday shoppers really are likely to find some good deals – and not just in the malls, said Greg Brown, general manager of Serra Chevrolet in Southfield.

"This year is going to be bigger than ever and buyers have a huge advantage: Black Friday coincides with the end of the month," Brown said. "We'll stretch and do what we can to work with every customer to help them find a deal."

Sales for automobiles are traditionally strong



IKEA in Canton generally draws some happy shoppers for Black Friday.

THANKSGIVING, BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING HOURS EXPAND

The race to win your holiday shopping dollars is heating up this year and that means expanded Black Friday shopping hours.

This year, many retailers have elected to follow the lead of Meijer – since the 1980s, the retailer has been open 364 days a year (including Thanksgiving), closing only Christmas Day.

If you take part in the shopping frenzy, plan ahead to make your shopping trip a bit easier. Be sure to check advertising fliers inside this newspaper as well as retailer's websites to identify the sale items. Use them as a guide to map out your best bargain hunting strategy. Area malls, as well as local stores, are taking part in Black Friday with expanded shopping hours listed below.

MALLS

Briarwood Mall – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 9 p.m. Friday.
Fairlane Shopping Center – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 9 p.m. Friday.

Laurel Park Place – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 10 p.m. Friday.
Somerset Collection in Troy – closed Thanksgiving and open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday.

All Macy's (including Somerset) – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 10 p.m. Friday.
Twelve Oaks Mall – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 9 p.m. Friday.
Westland Shopping Center – open 8 p.m. Thanksgiving and close 9 p.m. Friday.

MAJOR RETAILERS

ABC Warehouse – 8-11 p.m. Thanksgiving; 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday.
Sears – 8 p.m. Thanksgiving to 10 p.m. Friday.
Kmart – 6 a.m. Thanksgiving to 11 p.m. Friday.
Kohl's – 8 p.m. Thanksgiving to midnight Friday.

Macy's – 8 p.m. Thanksgiving to 10 p.m. Friday.
Target – 8 p.m. Thanksgiving to 11 p.m. Friday.
Toys R Us – 5 p.m. Thanksgiving to 10 p.m. Friday.
JC Penney – 8 p.m. Thanksgiving to 11 p.m. Friday.

Best Buy – 6 p.m. Thanksgiving to 10 p.m. Friday.
Nordstrom – closed Thanksgiving; 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday.
Lord & Taylor – closed Thanksgiving; 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday.
Walmart – 6 p.m. Thanksgiving to midnight Friday.

Black Friday, Brown said. "People are out shop-



Dale and Becky Deloy of Plymouth, with their children Maggie, Zach and Sam, helped fill the Salvation Army Kettle at Main Street and Penniman during Black Friday shopping last year. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"We're just trying to meet the convenience of the shopper."

CLAUDIA J. FREDERICK
Laurel Park Place marketing director

ing in a buying mood – it is a big day. Although we usually close around 6 p.m. on most Fridays, last year we were here until 10 p.m. People were looking for – and finding – good deals," he said, adding that he expects it will be the same again this year.

At least one locally owned appliance store is getting in on the Black Friday action as well. Livonia's Bill and Rod's Appliances will take part in Black Friday for the first time ever, opening at 7 a.m. Not only is it offering deals that include price matching, it will also cook you breakfast, store manager Joe Legato said.

"We are cooking custom omelets, waffles and pancakes for shoppers who bring in a new wrapped toy for the Livonia Goodfellows," he said.

The newly opened storefront offers an expanded showroom – a perfect opportunity for the independent retailer to showcase its goods and show "we can go toe-to-toe with the big dogs," Legato said.

"We are committed to doing what we need to do to make sure customers get the best deals," he added.

ABC Warehouse (www.ABCWarehouse.com) announced that for the first time in its 50-year history, it will have Thanksgiving Day hours, opening all 43 of its stores in Michigan, Indiana and Ohio 8-11 p.m.

The next day, ABC Warehouse's traditional "Doorbuster Deals" return with stores open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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Police: Always be a safe shopper

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Chief Chuck Nebus of the Farmington Hills Police Department will do his holiday shopping this year and offers advice: "I would shop early. I would try to go when it's light."

He urges women never to leave a purse visible in a car while inside shopping and that all shoppers carry only what they need. "You don't want to get out of your car and let someone see you put it in the trunk," he said of a purse being targeted by a criminal.

This is a joyous time of year, but unfortunately police departments and security officers must deal with crimes. Shoppers can help by following basic advice.

Officer Tony Angelosanto of the city of Plymouth Police Department said, "You should be alert to your surroundings. You should always shop with a friend. There's safety in numbers."

Angelosanto, his department's crime prevention officer, noted some stores can hold purchased merchandise until you're ready to go home.

"You want to avoid carrying large amounts of cash," he said, adding paying by check or credit card is often better.

Angelosanto recommends women carry a smaller purse under the arm, or if carrying one with a longer strap to hold onto the straps. Men are advised to keep their wallet in their front pocket.

"It's safer than most," Angelosanto said of shopping in Plymouth. "It's well-lit. It's more of an affluent community. We don't have a gang element or a drug element. You want to keep the opportunities (for crime) down."

He added key fobs now often have a horn component to summon help and that your biggest key held between your fingers can be an emergency weapon.

"ID theft is the fastest



IPC International Security guard Philip Calleja patrols the upper level of Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall. The 200-store mall, at Novi Road and I-96, has more than one million square feet of retail space and sees thousands of visitors a day around the holidays. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

growing crime in the world," Angelosanto said. "That's because of the Internet." You should only shop on secure websites, "things that have a reputation of being safe. You want to be leery of purchasing things overseas."

"Most of it's just common sense," he added. "Just be aware of your surroundings. Criminals are opportunistic."

Canton police offer these additional shopping safety tips:

» Extra cash, credit cards, checks, jewelry and other items should be left at home. If it is necessary to carry a purse, keep it in front and close to your body. Men should keep wallets out of back pockets, where they are easily stolen. Carry wallets in front coat pockets or use a money clip as an alternative.

» Be prepared. Have your keys in hand when walking to your vehicle. The keys can be used as a defensive weapon and you will not waste time trying to find them when standing outside your vehicle. Carry a whistle or personal alarm. These devices will alert those around you something is wrong

» Plan ahead. Choose areas to park where lighting is good and activity is high. Be sure to lock the car at all times. Most auto burglaries occur on cars that are left unlocked.

Farmington Hills crime prevention technician Kristin Bixman said it's best to enter a mall with other people. "There will be people there that can see what's going on," she said, adding packages should always go in a trunk - or even be taken home before you come back to finish shopping.

"We always recommend not carrying a lot of packages," Nebus said, adding you are advised to move your car to another parking space after stowing packages.

"If you look aware and alert and confident, you'll less likely be a victim," Nebus said of studies showing some criminals do profile victims. Carrying just one or two credit cards you need will be helpful if they are stolen.

Stolen credit cards should be reported immediately. "Their first objective is to use them immediately," usually at a gas station, Nebus said of credit card thieves.

CANTON CRIME WATCH

Sexting complaint

Canton police have warned a 17-year-old male after he was accused of sending sexually explicit messages to a 36-year-old woman's cellphone, a police report said.

The victim told police she preferred not to pursue charges for now, in hopes the teen would stop contacting her after receiving the warning from police.

Police were notified Sunday afternoon by the woman, who said the suspect called, sent texts, identified himself and told her that she had a nice voice. He then is accused of sending sexually explicit messages, prompting her to tell him to stop communicating with her, the police report said.

Police went to the woman's house. While an officer was there, the suspect called the woman, and police advised him to cease all communications. Police also sent the teen a text from the woman's phone advising him to leave her alone, the police report said.

Harassing case

A man who lives in a mobile home on Citadel, southeast of Michigan Avenue and Haggerty, notified police Friday afternoon to report a woman who had been damaging his home while looking for a friend of his that she had been dating, a police report said.

The victim said the woman had gone to his house on two separate occasions. On Friday, he said she broke a window out of his home and kicked in a door, entering without permission. He said she was drunk and looking for the man she had been dating.

The victim said the woman gave him \$210 to pay for the damage to the home. He said he bandaged up her hand, which had been injured when she was damaging his house.

The next day, however, he said she came back, again kicking in a door and causing more damage, then entering without permission. She

See CRIME, Page A16

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

Wheel theft

The wheels and tires were stolen from a Cadillac Escalade the night of Nov. 12 while the vehicle was parked outside a house on Edinburgh Drive.

The complainant reported the crime just after 6 a.m. Nov. 13, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said. He said the Escalade had been seen intact at about 9 p.m. the night before.

Fraud discovered

A Plymouth Township woman reported this month that two credit cards had been opened in her name, but without her knowledge, and more than \$1,600 total had been charged to them.

The woman told police she received a credit card bill for \$516.28 from a bank through which she hadn't opened an account, a police report said. The bank told her the account had been opened in August, she

said.

Upon checking her credit report, the woman told police, she discovered another card she hadn't been aware of, this one with charges totaling \$1,119. That account had been opened in July, she learned.

Property damage

A man reported accidental hood and windshield damage to his 2007 Jeep after a stray ball from Hilltop Golf Course struck it Nov. 16.

The man told police he was driving southbound on Beck Road near the course, between North Territorial and Ann Arbor Trail, shortly after noon when the ball struck the Jeep's hood and then the windshield, shattering it.

The complainant said he stopped and spoke with the man he believes hit the golf ball and that the golfer provided his information.

- By Matt Jachman

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Families share their Thanksgiving traditions and remembrances

Each Thanksgiving, the Granowicz and Smykowski families work up an appetite by participating in the Canton Turkey Trot for a Cause.

Family members who run wait patiently at the finish line to cheer on the walkers.

Family, friends and even the family dog join in. Family members said they "can't think of a better way to start our Thanksgiving celebration."

Homemade stockings

After Canton resident Bonnie Meyerand's family has Thanksgiving dinner, family members decorate homemade stockings. As she tells the *Observer*:

"We do a project called 'The Holiday Stockings for Chemo-



The Meyerand family with their homemade stockings.

therapy Patients Project' that I joined in 2009. We do this in memory of my husband, Robert Mey-

erand, who passed away in 2009 of cancer and was a patient at the U-M Cancer Center. This brings such joy happiness to my family, when everyone is done decorating we have a contest for whose is the best.

"I take the decorated stockings to the U-M Hospital, where the staff fills the stockings with goodies. The staff then delivers the stockings to the chemotherapy patients at the hospital around the middle of December."

The 'biggest turkey'

Allen Paul Marquette's favorite Thanksgiving tradition started when he was 3 years old. He tells the *Observer*: "I would go the week before with my grandmother and great-grandmother shopping for the biggest turkey, usually around 20 pounds in the early years. But as I grew the turkey got big-

ger, too, up to 24 pounds. As the years went by, my grandmother said the turkey could only be as big as I could hold and put into the stove.

"I would go down Thanksgiving eve and have pizza with her and spend the night. We would get up early to get the turkey on as our dinner was at 12:30 to 1 p.m.

"We would get the turkey cooking and sit down in front of the fireplace and watch the Thanksgiving Day parade. Grandma would say we have the best seat to watch the parade with me sitting on her lap all snuggled up together.

"After the parade, we would set the table with the fine china and the turkey centerpiece I made her in preschool would be right in the center of table every year.

"I would say the Thanksgiving prayers;

when I was younger the prayers were long, but the older I got the shorter they got. We would all

toast for the blessing Thanksgiving brought us and that we would find ourselves next year back at grandma's.

"After dinner, we would all play some kind of game my grandma would have thought up, then the pumpkin pie my great-grandma made from scratch. I had 21 of those Thanksgivings. I enjoyed every one of them.

"This Thanksgiving, I will find myself starting a new tradition. I will watch the parade and make the turkey with my mom and dad, as I lost both my grandma and great-grandma this year.

"My mother said she has the same rule as grandma: I have to be able to lift the turkey in the oven all by myself. I'm going for the biggest one I can find."



Turkey Trot participants include (from left) Kara Bureau, Don Granowicz, Brooke Granowicz, Riley Granowicz, Mike Smykowski, Mary Beth Smykowski, Brittany Granowicz and Lexi Granowicz. Also included is Sandy Granowicz. SANDY GRANOWICZ

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Toys for tots

Date/Times: Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to noon and 2-4 p.m.
Locations: Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road in Belleville (10-noon) and then Canton Public Library, 1200 S. Canton Center (2-4).
Details: Bob and Natalie Mosher of Canton are organizing a toy drive to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. All proceeds go to the Toys for Tots program. Donors are asked to bring a new or unopened toy or book.
Contact: Call Natalie Mosher at 734-502-7422.

Newcomers meet

Date/Time: Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.
Location: Sunflower Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford, in Canton
Details: Canton residents interested in socializing with neighbors are invited to the annual Canton Newcomers and Neighbors Adult Holiday Party. The evenings agenda includes: a white elephant gift exchange (bring something from your basement beautifully wrapped). There will also be an optional \$5 worth of lottery scratch off ticket(s) exchange. A holiday dinner from club member Everyday Edibles, dessert and beverages. Club sponsor will be Christa Bekker of Clearly You. For more club info, visit www.CantonNewcomersAnd-Neighbors.org
Contact: RSVP to Noreen at nrybar@yahoo.com or (734) 981-0486

Vendor fair

Date/Time: Thursday, Dec. 5, 4-8 p.m.
Location: Farrand Elementary School, 41400 Greenbriar Lane
Details: Farrand Elementary School's annual Vendor/Craft Fair will feature more than 25 vendors and crafters. It will feature purses, jewelry, health, beauty and fitness items, and more. Admission is free.

Holiday Evening of Elegance

Date: Friday, Dec. 6
Location: 6739 Fleming Creek, Superior Township (near Ford Road and M-14)
Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts its annual Holiday Evening of Elegance. Attendees will enjoy desserts, hors d'oeuvres from area restaurants as well as wine, beer and soft drinks. Baskets will be raffled off that hold gift certificates for massages, restaurants, golf and other items. There will also be a special raffle for a 50-inch TV, large wine holder with table and chairs and a painting from a gallery. Cost is \$45 per person. Register by Monday, Dec. 2.
Contact: Call 248-348-0115.

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Community breakfast

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Economic Forecast Breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Hilton Garden Inn on Sheldon Road.

Keynote speakers will be Bill Lawton, president of Community Financial, and state Rep. Kurt Heise.

Lawton will provide an overview of where the economy is likely headed next year and how to take advantage of future trends. Heise will provide a perspective on potential state legislation that will affect businesses and a preview of the 2014 election. Next year, chamber officials said, one of the biggest issues for business will be a ballot proposal to eliminate personal property tax and provide replacement revenue for local governments.

There will also be a short preview of the 2014 Plymouth Winter Fest,

set for Jan. 10-12. There is a new producer for the show and renewed focus on creating high-quality ice sculptures.

To RSVP, email terri@plymouthmich.org or call 734-453-1540 by Dec. 16. Cost is \$12.

Holiday luncheon

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its December Holiday Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Fellows Creek Golf Club, 2936 Lotz. The cost for lunch is \$25 (advance member registration) or \$30 for non-members and includes a full buffet lunch, beverages and dessert. This luncheon is open to the public.

December's Holiday Luncheon will feature holiday music performed by GEQ Jazz Entertainment. Toys and gifts will be collected for Canton Goodfellows "No Child without a Christmas" program. Each guest is asked to bring an unwrapped toy or gift.

December's Holiday

Luncheon is hosted by the Canton Chamber of Commerce and is sponsored by Saint Joseph Mercy Health Systems. Seating is limited and reservations are needed. To make a reservation, contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at 734-453-4040.

Technical partnership

Representatives from Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, Schoolcraft College and the Plymouth Canton Community Schools have been meeting to discuss opportunities to encourage and teach students needed technical skills as part of their high school education.

Local manufacturing companies have identified the acute need for more workers in fields like CNC operators, welders and other technically related fields that provide good wages and have a strong demand for the foreseeable future.

Honeytree Grille expands to Northville Township

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

The Honeytree Grille is a new restaurant in Northville Township, but it's not new to those who have come to know its tasty food selections at other locations in metro Detroit.

Located at Five Mile and Sheldon roads, this new family restaurant is owned by longtime restaurateur Tom Goulas, who wants the Northville community to know the Honeytree offers a new spot to have some breakfast, a quick lunch or nice, sit-down dinner.

"This location is beautiful and we're really happy to be here in Northville," Goulas said. "This is a great community and we're looking forward to making this a place people will enjoy for a long time to come."

The restaurant opened in late October and things are still a bit slow, but it should be filling up as time goes on and word of mouth of the menu gets out.

Goulas has eight other locations in the area, including Novi and Farmington Hills. He brings a ton of experience to this new venture. He started out as a Greek immigrant who, in 1971, helped as a cook to establish Olga Louison's now famous Olga's Kitchen. From there, he became his own boss and hasn't looked back as he went on to successfully operate multiple locations at the same time.

He's always stood on some basic values, one being the good staff that works for him.



Tom Goulas pauses a moment during his busy day at his new Honeytree Grille restaurant. Goulas manages a number of Honeytree restaurants around southeast Michigan. The Northville Township eatery is located at 15440 Sheldon Road. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Good people have made all the difference for me over the years," he said.

Good food hasn't hurt, either.

Using the best quality ingredients with the goal of having the food taste like it's home-cooked is the goal in Honeytree's kitchen, according to Goulas.

"We are high class at reasonable prices," he said. "There's a lot of pride in what we do, so we aim to please the customer."

It starts with breakfast and it's great at Honeytree, from the daily specials to classic plates like eggs with a meat and toast to skillets and omelets, of which there are at least 12, ranging from three-cheese and vegetarian to meat lovers. But the breakfast menu has even more, from its very berry crepes, French toast to its breakfast wraps, which

feature a Tex-Mex option that is filling as well as good.

The lunch and dinner menu is not just the typical diner fare. It's filled with a variety of soups, ciabattas, gyros, burgers, lawash wraps and deli sandwiches. That alone could be enough, but it's not.

Honeytree has Greek specialties like mousaka and lamb and rice, which with Goulas' background you know will taste authentic. There's also fish and seafood selections like perch and salmon, as well as shrimp. To round out the menu is the favorite's part, with dishes like fajitas and pasta featuring penne from heaven and classic spaghetti.

For more information, visit www.honeytreerestaurant.com.

lhuhman@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 255,
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Sollars and Associates held a ribbon cutting recently for their new Plymouth office at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail. It provides integrative and counseling and psychological services for adults, children and adolescents, couples and families. Cutting the ribbon is Shelley Sollars, wife of Dr. Franklin Sollars. She is joined by her husband and other members of their team. Their practice also has locations in Birmingham and Commerce Township.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Red Ryder

Visitors can celebrate the holidays at the Plymouth Historical Museum with the new exhibit "A Red Ryder Christmas Story." The exhibit is based on the Christmas movie, *A Christmas Story*, as well as the original story by Jean Shepherd from which the movie is based.

The museum will be filled with vignettes of scenes from the movie, including the infamous leg lamp and Flick's tongue getting stuck to the lamp pole. The movie and stories are nostalgic of the late depression era and early years of World War II, which the exhibit seeks to capture by incorporating items from the time period.

Since Red Ryder BB guns were originally sold by Daisy Manufacturing Co. of Plymouth, the story of Ralphie's quest for this particular BB gun is significant to Plymouth's history. "A Red Ryder Christmas Story" runs through Jan. 19.

Also, Santa Claus will be present at the museum for visiting children every Saturday before Christmas beginning Nov. 30. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students 6-17. The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, one block north of downtown Plymouth. Visit its website or call 734-455-8940 for more information.

New bistro

The Post Local Bistro will soon make its debut in downtown Plymouth on Penniman Avenue. The state of Michigan recently approved the liquor license transfer and the new owners will soon be making some renovations before opening in the former Rock Bar location.

Toys for Tots

» Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel announce its annual Toys for Tots collection drive has begun. Each of the 16 Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel offices, including the Plymouth-Canton branch, will be a local toy drop-off location.

The Plymouth/Canton branch is located at 177 N. Main in Plymouth. Call 888-819-0691.

The U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program collects new, unwrapped toys during November and December each year and distributes these toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children within the community. Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel has a long history of being involved with this program and as the company grows through the years, it is able to provide more physical locations as official drop-off sites.

» Victory Lane Quick Oil Change of Plymouth is supporting the local Toys for Tots chapter this holiday season. Donations will be accepted until Dec. 18, when all will be collected. Victory Lane has consistently been a supporter of local organizations that help strengthen the community.

As a part of the program, Toys for Tots collects new, unwrapped toys during the months of November and December in collection bins throughout the community. Around Christmas, the toys are then delivered to local children.

Anyone wishing to support Victory Lane can stop in and drop off an unwrapped toy in the collection bin. Those who would rather support Toys for Tots financially can do so by visiting www.toysfortots.org. For more information on store locations and hours,

please visit www.victorylane.net or call 734-667-4304.

Victory Lane Quick Oil Change is located at 903 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

Goodfellows partners

Showroom of Elegance, a fine jewelry store located at 6018 Canton Center Road, is joining with the Canton Goodfellows to host a canned food drive for Canton families this holiday season. Through Dec. 11, guests who visit Showroom of Elegance and donate either a \$10 non-perishable food item or a \$10 monetary donation receive one of three free gifts. The free gifts with \$10 donation are sterling silver ball earrings, sterling silver hoop earrings or a \$25 gift card for a repair service. These gifts are available while supplies last.

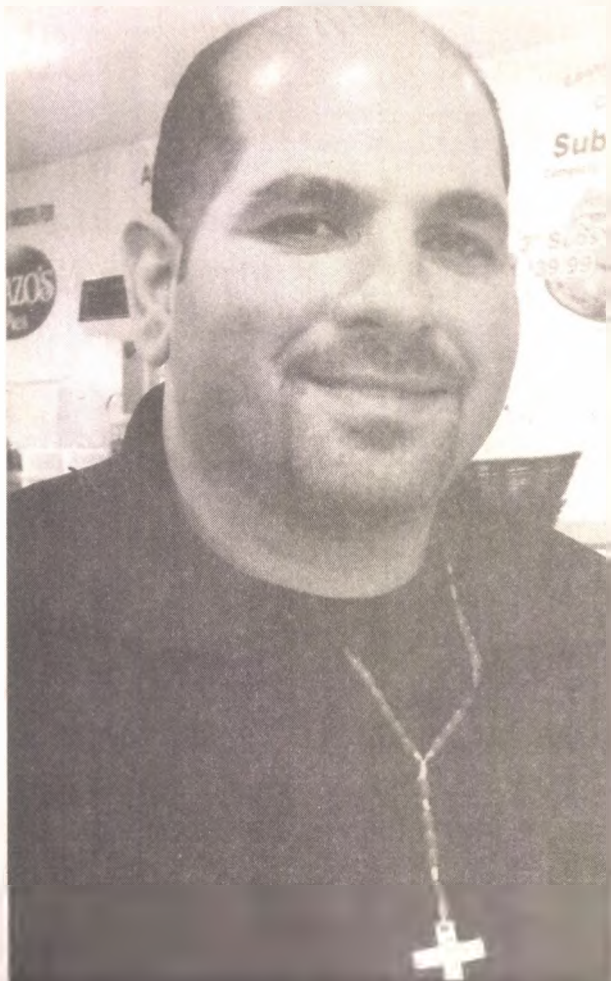
"Being a partner once again for this important cause is so incredibly important to the Showroom staff and the patrons who make the drive possible," said Linda Robin, owner of Showroom of Elegance. "Past years have been successful, but we are hoping to always top our previous level of donations collected."

The Canton Goodfellows was formed in the 1940s by Edward Hauk and Robert Waldecker, Canton residents. To learn about volunteer opportunities with the local charitable organization, contact the Canton Goodfellows at canton-goodfellows@gmail.com

Questions about the food drive can be directed to the Showroom staff at 734-207-1906. Regular store hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

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Marvin Jarbo, Owner of Eastern Market of Canton speaking about advertising success in Observer & Eccentric Media



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Where to find a helping hand

Food banks see increased demand during holidays

By Lonnie Huhman
Staff Writer

Hunger doesn't take a vacation nor a holiday.

Local food banks and those in need know this all too well, but this challenge is overcome by remembering what matters most.

This time of year has many saying thank you and for those who receive help from places like Northville Civic Concern, Redford Interfaith Relief, the Connection Church in Canton's Open Door Ministry, South Lyon's Active Faith Community Service and Livonia's Holy Cross Lutheran, the feeling of gratitude is truly heartfelt.

"It means a lot to me that people in the community want to help," said Sarah, a 26-year-old single mother from Canton who, through Michigan Works, receives help from Northville Civic Concern.

Her last name has been omitted to protect her identity.

For those giving of their time and help, this time of year is a reminder that their mission is an ongoing one.

"There's a tremendous need in many communities, even here in Canton," said Steve Darr, director of the food pantry at Connection Church.

"We're not only here to help them in difficult times, but to help them also find out why they are in a tough situation and how they can get out of it."

Volunteers and donations

It's the people who donate time, food, clothing and money to help families and individuals in need that make a food bank truly successful.

"We owe a lot to those who donate so much time and help," said Maryanne Mihalic, of South Lyon's Active Faith. "We are very blessed to have so many in the community that care."

She said the group's Thanksgiving distribution day was expected to bring in 180 families, which is above the typical 160 or so families it sees throughout the year. Help for this came from groups like St. Joseph Parish's catechism class and the local high school student council, which literally donated tons of food to help make the holiday a good one.

At Redford's Interfaith Relief, which is a coalition of member churches within the community, each month is busy. It helps provide essentials like food and clothing for at least 500 families. So it was huge when it was recently given 8,000 pounds of food by local Boy Scouts.

In Canton, 600 turkeys were donated. Open Ministry had its biggest Thanksgiving distribution day yet with more than 560 families showing up.

"Neighbors helping neighbors," Interfaith Relief administrative assistant Jane Cameron said of members' motivation.

At Civic Concern, 20 turkeys were donated by Our Lady of Victory, while the Main Street League – a local charitable organization – recently raised more than \$11,000 to help out. These are just two examples of the variety of places Civic Concern from which receives help.

"These are the spokes that make the wheel go," Civic Concern Director Marlene Kunz said of its volunteer and donation help.

Those in need

The clients of these organizations have a variety of reasons why they need help in one form or another. There may be one income in the home that can only cover so many things, a layoff or medical issues.

Food bank directors say it's not just a simple handout; clients have to go through an approval process at each organization to verify their needs and challenges.

Another single mother from Canton, who didn't want to be named, also found Civic Concern through Michigan Works. She said her eyes opened up to the different challenges people have to confront.

"There are so many people going through so many things that it's important that organizations like this exist," the 41-year-old mother said. "What I love about this place is how it



Barbara and her grandson Malcom visit Northville's Civic Concern on Nov. 22 for its Thanksgiving distribution day. JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

AREA FOOD BANKS

Northville Civic Concern:
248-344-1033, 43261 Seven Mile Road, P.O. Box 323, Northville, MI 48167

Plymouth Salvation Army Corps: 734-453-5464, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth, MI 48170

Holy Cross: 734-427-1414, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152; www.holycrosslivonia.org/

Active Faith Community Service: 248-437-9790, 401 Washington Street, South Lyon, MI 48178; www.activefaithcs.org

Connection Church: 734-397-1777, 3855 S. Sheldon Road, Canton, MI 48188; http://connectionchurch

Faith Community Presbyterian: 248-349-2345, 44400 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375; www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Redford Interfaith Relief: 313-387-9802 8499, Beech Daly Road, Redford, MI; email: sue@redfordinterfaithrelief.org

Community Sharing: 248-889-0347, 1550 N. Milford Road, Highland Township, MI 48357; www.community-sharing.org

receives people with open arms."

Proof of residency, identity and federal assistance are just a few of the things that need to be verified when a client is vetted. At Holy Cross, which provides non-food essential items, clients must go through the city of Livonia to verify their status.

Each organization has its own mission specific to its community. However, they all ultimately have the same goal in mind.

"It's about caring for each other," Kunz said. "This is an effort that will always be needed as long as there are people in need."

lhuhman@hometownlife.com
248-437-2011, ext. 255
Twitter: @lhuhman



Before she retired earlier this year, Tammy Moyer managed the food pantry for the Plymouth Salvation Army Corps. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Doug Finan moves pallets of food for Open Door Ministry, which distributed a record-shattering 1.61 million pounds of food in 2012. BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Mary Motsinger, surrounded by her friends from Plymouth Church of Christ. TOM BEAUDOIN



Mary Motsinger of Livonia at her 108th birthday party. TOM BEAUDOIN

Local woman survives fall, celebrates 108th birthday

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

When she was 105, Mary Motsinger of Livonia took a bad fall, hit her head hard and got a big blood clot on the brain. Doctors gave her 24 hours to live. One doctor refused to operate on her because of her age, but another doctor said he would.

"That was over two and a half years ago and we still have her," said her daughter Nancy Banks, 78, of Ashville, Ala.

On Saturday, Motsinger celebrated her 108th birthday at a party organized by Banks and her sisters, Polly Bradley, 85, of Plymouth and Martha Bouman, 75, of Canton. It was held at Marywood Nursing Care Center in Livonia, where Motsinger has lived since the fall.

"She loves to go to bingo and we sit in the hall (to watch the people go by)," Banks said. "She gets a twinkle in her eye when she sees children." Up until the fall, Motsinger was knitting and crocheting, making winter scarves. Prior to moving to Marywood, she lived with Bradley in Plymouth and then Bouman in Canton.

Motsinger was born Nov. 16, 1905, in Dickson, Tenn. She was the oldest of three children born to Thomas Dallas, a farmer, and his wife Jessie Belle. She married Harold Motsinger in about 1925. He had lived across the

pasture from her childhood home in Lewisburg, Ky., where she moved when she was 6.

The Motsingers were married in Detroit, where Harold had moved to find work. They returned to Kentucky during the Depression, but then moved back again in 1935 to Detroit, where Harold was able to find work as a postman and a salesman selling everything from insurance and cars to real estate.

They raised three daughters. Motsinger worked twice outside the home, in a plant making parts for the military during World War II and later on as a seasonal employee for a department store in Northville.

Harold died in 1964 and Motsinger went to live with her daughters three years later.

She has seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren. She has outlived both her younger sister and her younger brother, who lived to be 96 and about 78, respectively.

Banks said her mother, who is somewhat hard of hearing, attributes her long life to "clean living" — literally.

"She always told us to wash our pretty little hands," Banks said, commenting that frequent hand washing is what health professionals advocate today to keep illness at bay. "She was way ahead of her time."

She never drank alcohol nor smoked and kept

her weight in check. But "she loved her onions and corn bread and dried beans. She loved all that country food," Banks said.

Banks said her mother was in the hospital for a urinary tract infection last Thursday, but was

released Tuesday and "she was in activities" (at Marywood) Wednesday.

"Some call her the Energizer Bunny," Banks said. "She keeps bouncing back."

ksmith@hometownlife.com
313-222-2098



Mary Motsinger's grandchildren: (back row, from left) Leanne Kennedy, Kris Pickney and Jeff Bradley; (front row, from left) Cindy Gould, Debbie Krajewski and Judy Facine. Another grandchild is Scott Bouman. Motsinger also has 15 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren. TOM BEAUDOIN



Mary Motsinger, 108, surrounded by her daughters, Poly Bradley, 85, of Plymouth; Nancy Banks, 78, of Ashville, Ala.; and Martha Bouman, 75 of Canton. TOM BEAUDOIN

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OUR VIEWS

Giving thanks should be year-round

In an age when social media is a preferred means of communication, an activity flooding Facebook pages is actually bringing to the forefront, in its own slightly cheesy way, the whole idea behind Thanksgiving.

The activity is done in two fashions. In one, the person takes a letter of the alphabet and each day, starting Nov. 1, points out something starting with that letter for which he or she was thankful. The other one is simpler: The person just picks one thing each day to be thankful for.

While simple in its execution, the idea is replete with meaning, if done sincerely. It shows Thanksgiving isn't just a one-day event, that its purpose should be a 365-day, 24/7 way of life.

How much is thankfulness taken for granted?

There are as many ways to give thanks as there are reasons to do so and they don't have to stop when the table is cleared ...

How perfidious does saying "thank you" become?

How long will you bite your tongue, after a Thanksgiving dinner guest tries to compliment you by saying that the mashed potatoes had fewer lumps than the gravy this year, before you say, "Gee, thanks?"

When you stumble into a coffee shop

before dawn Black Friday for some liquid gold before a shopping foray, what do you say as you finger the change the barista hands you? It may be almost subconscious, but likely as not, you'll mumble a "thanks."

We say it all the time (or we should), not just Thanksgiving. Whether it's because the notion of politeness was drilled into us by our parents or because we bought into the "please and thank you" lessons of *Sesame Street* and *Captain Kangaroo*, saying thanks or thank you is arguably one of the most used phrases in the English language.

Maybe we use it too much. Consider that, when our children return to school in the fall, our thanks are better directed to their teachers than spoken as our sense of relief. And face it, there is no way you mean anything close to "thanks" when you get a back-handed compliment on your Thanksgiving dinner cooking skills, nor is there really any meaning in that exchange at the coffee shop.

This holiday is a clue as to what the problem is: For 364 days a year, we say thank you. Only one day each year, the fourth Thursday in November, we give thanks. Talk, it seems, really is cheap.

We all have to make our own list of what to be thankful for, but giving thanks means more than lip service, even if it is on Facebook. It means pausing to look straight in someone's eye and smile, letting that person know you value them and the service they have performed. Isn't that what we do Thanksgiving, by pausing to gather with family, letting them know we count them among our blessings?

There are as many ways to give thanks as there are reasons to do so and they don't have to stop when the table is cleared after dinner and dessert.

Are you just saying "Thank you" to be polite, or are you truly "thankful"?

It is something to ponder and maybe not just each Thanksgiving.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is your favorite Thanksgiving tradition?

We asked this question at the Plymouth District Library.



"Food. It's one of those things that can really bring everyone together."

Nate 'The Great' Smith
Plymouth



"The turkey and stuffing. It just tastes so delicious."

Tammy Nulty
Plymouth



"Spending time with my family. I don't get to see that often enough."

Tea Shkemi
Livonia



"Being with my family."

Kim Gurny
South Lyon

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The third side

I fear that your letter perpetuates a dangerous misunderstanding about research methods in the arena of same-sex couples.

You speak of the "snowballing" method used and you're correct. Many of the research samples include snowballing to an extent. In psychology and sociology, snowballing is used to gain access to otherwise inaccessible subjects. This method is used to gain the trust of a very sensitive population. This is a common method used with samples that include: drug user, sex workers, the LGBT community, etc. The advantages are uncovering a hidden population and locating a specific population. Bias occurs in every study, including the ones you cite.

You talk about hearing an editor of a management journal state "he was surprised people would even submit studies based on such samples since his journal would not publish him." You heard this from an editor of a management journal and he may not have been speaking particularly of psychology or sociology based journal articles. Most in these fields consider the earlier studies to be exploratory in nature. These articles find issues one may not expect and provoke further research to find the causes of the information that was unexpectedly found.

I am currently involved in an exploratory study and am using the "snowball" recruiting method to access a very sensitive population. However, I am doing this research, like research done before me, to find specific issues that need to be studied further.

Dr. Julian, you're right. You must listen to both sides of this crucial argument, but it is the utmost of importance to vet those whom you quote.

Although most of the articles written prior to Allen and Regnerus, both authors whom you quoted, have qualitative data,

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there are 11 others who have been stated to use "hard" methods, or methods that have potentially quantifiable data. To the lay person, quantifiable data are numbers and hard facts. Qualitative data pertain to the subject's feelings or views of a certain topic.

After vetting Douglas Allen, I have found that he has been called the "Defender of the Faith" by some and has been discredited by Dr. Philip Cohen, a sociologist from the University of Maryland. Most of the articles written defending him or interviewing him are those of religious-based groups. I am not saying this is a negative finding, but is a strong source of bias even if he didn't mean to insert his bias in his findings.

I am aware of the latest and highest quality research; unfortunately Allen and Regnerus are not it. I have to respectfully disagree with your comments.

Jill Mosher
Canton

Thanks to Price

I wanted to extend my thanks to Wayne County Commissioner Shannon Price, for marshaling through the budgetary process

the funding for two more years of the area-wide Therapeutic Recreation program.

This program is funded with a \$75,000 grant from the Wayne County Parks millage and is managed by Canton, in partnership with seven other communities in western Wayne County to benefit all of our citizens who have physical and mental challenges.

The "Leisure Club," was especially designed for the 15-and-older crowd, providing them social opportunities they otherwise might not have.

You might think that funding \$75,000, split between seven communities to serve this vastly underserved population would be a "no brainer," but it wasn't. Earlier this year during Canton budget discussions, I learned the \$75,000 had been cut from the multimillion-dollar budget of the Wayne County Parks budget.

Canton alone contributes more than \$750,000 to the Wayne County Parks budget and, historically, gets just a smidgen back. I got on the phone with Commissioner Price and expressed how disappointed I was that this very special program had been slashed from the budget. Frankly, I was prepared to go to war to get this important program funding reinstated but, thankfully, Commissioner Price was able to work it back into the budget and the program was preserved.

This population of people with disabilities and challenges deserves to have a piece of the pie, to enjoy the same "quality of life" benefits we all share in western Wayne County. This program, so modestly funded, has been a wonderful blessing to the many teens and adults in our area, to have fun, experiences and social interaction they otherwise might not have. From my heart, thank you Commissioner Price, for helping to sustain a worthwhile program.

Melissa McLaughlin
Canton treasurer

GUEST COLUMN

A time to reflect, remember 50 years ago

Thanksgiving week is a time to remember, to reflect, to give thanks. Last Friday marked the 50th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's assassination. When it happened, I was a student at Oxford University in England. For me and for many, many others, the events of that day are frozen in my memory: cold, still horrible.

The local time at Oxford was seven hours ahead of Dallas, meaning those fatal shots were fired at 7:30 that Friday evening.

I — with around 25 others — was seated at a formal black tie dinner in a beautiful candle-lit, oak-paneled room at University College. The main course had just been served when the



Phil Power

college's master, Sir John Redcliffe-Maud, stood up at the end of the table.

His face was white and his hands trembled as he said: "I am very deeply sorry to announce that President Kennedy has been shot while on a visit to Dallas, Texas. He is not expected to survive."

I was the only American in the room and I wasn't ashamed to hold my head in my hands while the tears came. The master came over and kindly said, "I am terribly sorry for you to hear this awful news in

this way. Of course, if you wish to leave the dinner, you are excused."

I stayed for a while and tried to maintain a certain level of conversation, trying to remember Ernest Hemingway's definition of courage — which was also JFK's — "grace under pressure."

Supportive friends

But as dessert was served, I couldn't bear it anymore and went back to my room. As I opened the door, I was astonished to find all the lights on, the room filled with my English friends, gathered there to be with their American chum in a desolate hour.

Someone turned on the radio and picked up the bulletin from the BBC: the president was dead. I don't remember the rest of the evening very well, other than that it turned into a kind of wake, with much whiskey being drunk and hugs exchanged with the normally reserved English.

I had met John F. Kennedy once, in an

elevator, before he had announced his candidacy for president. He had bright blue-gray eyes and a magnetic air that filled that tiny space.

I saw him again at a distance at 2 a.m. Oct. 14, 1960, standing on the steps of the Michigan Union in Ann Arbor, urging young Americans to volunteer to serve abroad.

Like the thousands who had waited for hours to hear him, I was thrilled and motivated at his speech — in part because I had a very indirect role in it.

While an undergraduate at the university, I had been a member of a student group, Americans Committed to World Responsibility. Organized by two sociology graduate students, Al and Judy Guskin, the group met from time to time to discuss the world situation. We stayed up too late and drank far too much coffee and beer.

Eventually, we wrote a manifesto (of course) calling on American youth to take up our responsibility to help the world.

That manifesto was reported in the student newspaper, the *Michigan Daily*, and was warmly received on campus and around the country.

Eventually, it wound up in the hands of Theodore Sorenson, Kennedy's speech writer.

Although Kennedy did not use the phrase "Peace Corps" until several weeks later, his speech in Ann Arbor is widely recognized as the first expression of the idea.

All those memories came flickering through my mind last Friday as I journeyed back through that dark night half a century ago, an American far away from home grieving for my assassinated president.

And I always will give thanks for the English students who, unbidden, came to my room to comfort their American friend.

It's truly said that you are very, very lucky if you have 10 real friends over a lifetime. In that room that night were young Englishmen who became my true friends.

And I will always give thanks for the gifts

of grace and intelligence of John F. Kennedy. Over the years since his death, history has revised its opinion of his short presidency.

It was not a particularly successful one and it was only the shock of his death and the legislative mastery of the new president, Lyndon Johnson, that led to the Civil Rights Act, among other achievements.

But to people of my age, Kennedy's presidency was a bright flame that has stayed alight in our hearts for the last 50 years.

Like the Bible's Job, I am learning in my old age that it is only out of profound sadness that it is possible truly to give thanks.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of Michigan politics and economics. He is founder and chairman of the Center for Michigan, a nonprofit, bipartisan centrist think tank. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of the center. He welcomes comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

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Lights, parades, exhibits will fill Thanksgiving weekend

Thanksgiving is a time for families near and far and to get together for a festive meal, a bit of shopping, maybe a movie or a holiday parade.

For those so inclined, start Thanksgiving Day with a parade. One of the country's oldest and most celebrated parades happens right here in Detroit. Presented by Art

Van Furniture, America's Thanksgiving Parade will step off at 8:45 a.m. on Woodward Avenue and Kirby and end at Woodward Avenue and Congress in downtown Detroit.

Hundreds of thousands of parade-goers will be watching as the parade makes its way down the avenue. But if you're not into crowds, you can take the little ones to see a western Wayne County tradition — the 53rd annual Downtown Garden City Santa-land Parade on Saturday, Nov. 30. Floats, marching bands, balloons and, of course, Santa Claus will be a part of the parade that starts at 10 a.m. at Garden City High School on Middlebelt north of Ford Road.

The parade will travel south on Middlebelt, turn east on Ford Road and end at the site of the farmers market in the Garden City Town Center parking lot, where the Downtown Development Authority holds its highly attended post-parade event. There will be entertainment, hot chocolate and other goodies and kids will have the opportunity to spend time with Santa and give him their Christmas lists.

Bundle up the kids and head for Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, where Santa, Mrs. Claus and Christmas Carol will arrive by fire truck at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29. The Salvation Army



Santa and Mrs. Claus are leaving the sleigh at the North Pole and arriving Friday evening at Plymouth's Kellogg Park in a fire truck.

will be out in full force for collections and sharing some hot chocolate. Santa will be welcomed by city officials and will pull the lever to light the Christmas trees in Kellogg Park. Once the ceremony is finished, he will hold a meet and greet with children at his house in the park until 8:30 p.m.

For those who can't make it there Friday to see Santa, have no fear. Santa will be at his house from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30, and from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1.

If it's lights you like, head for Hines Parks for the 20th annual Lightfest, the largest and longest drive-through holiday light show in the Midwest. It's going on in the park now through Dec. 31, except for Christmas Day.

The 4½-mile long light show stretches from Merriman Hollow at Warren Road in Westland to the Warrendale area at

Telegraph in Dearborn Heights. It's open 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

And families can stop by Santa's Workshop at Warrendale Park at the end of the Lightfest drive. Santa will be there during Lightfest hours. There also is a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa.

Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle. For more information on Lightfest or any other Wayne County Parks event, call 734-261-1990 or visit www.parks.waynecounty.com.

Thinking more like "adventure?" The Livonia Community Recreation Center is having a Rock Wall Homecoming, featuring food, dancing and climbing fun 6-11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29. Pizza and pop will be provided, but attendees may bring a dish to pass.

The cost is \$5 for members, \$6 for Livonia residents, \$7 for non-residents. Registration is open now as well as the day of the event. The Livonia Community Center is at 15100 Hubbard at Mile. For more information, call 734-466-2900.

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CRIME

Continued from Page A6

dropped her car keys and the homeowner kept them from her because she was intoxicated, the police report said. She left.

Later, the victim accused the woman of calling and saying she would break his windows if he didn't return the money she had given him along with her car keys. He told police he had returned the unused portion of the money and told her that he would arrange to get the keys to her.

The investigation was continuing.

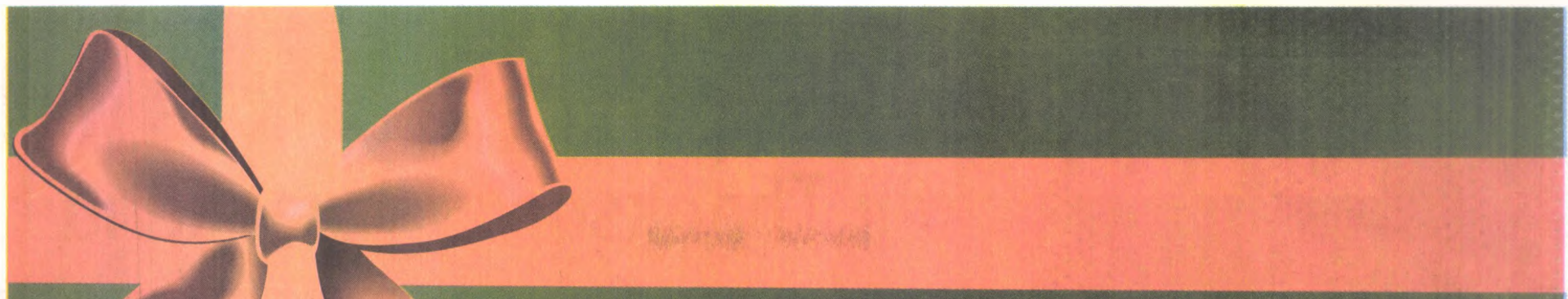
Seeking refuge

Canton police took a 23-year-old Ypsilanti man into custody following a series of events that began about 4:30 a.m. Saturday, when the suspect allegedly began trying to gain entry into a home and a business because he was allegedly cold, a police report said.

A woman reported seeing the suspect acting suspicious behind the Canton Urgent Care center on Ford Road west of Lilley. The caller said the white male suspect initially pounded on the door of her home asking to be let inside. She then saw him run toward the urgent care center, where he began pounding on the windows of the center after it had closed, a police report said.

Police arrived and found a window had been shattered with bricks, though no entry had been made. Police located the suspect a short distance away near Canton Cinema. He reportedly told police he was trying to get inside because he was cold, the police report said.

— By Darrell Clem



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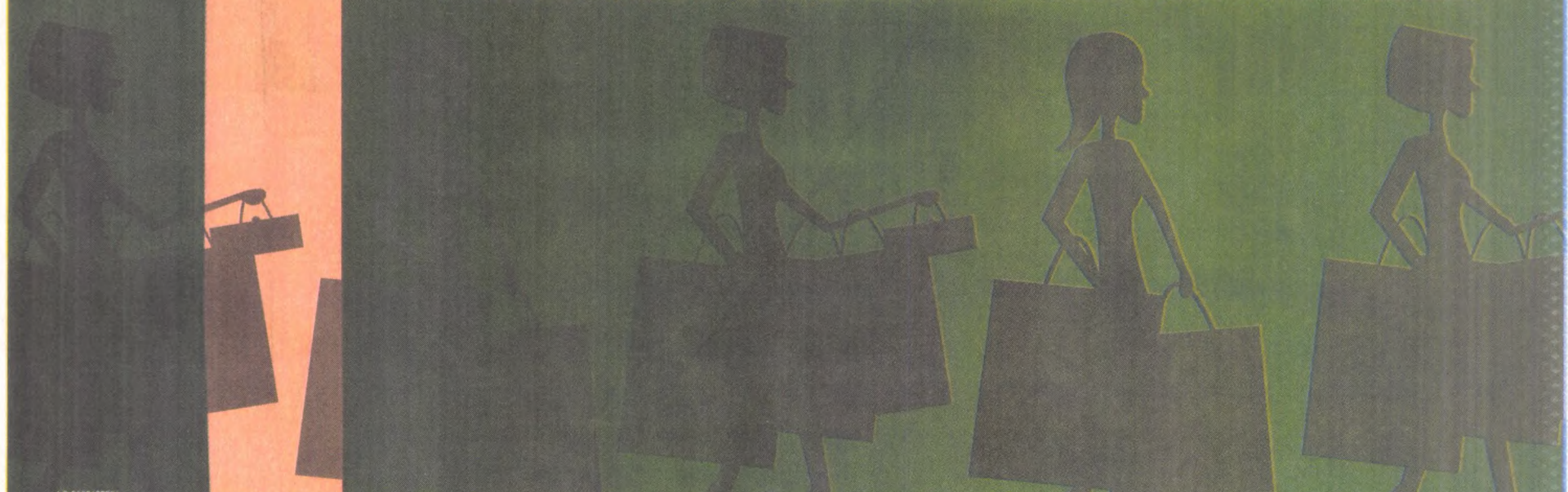
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GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Wildcats' new coach to lean on veterans

Plymouth to put premium on creative play-making

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There's a new coach and new way of doing things for Plymouth's varsity girls basketball team.

But it will be up to the veterans of the squad just how much of an impact all of that will have on the team's fortunes this season.

"We will go as far as our seniors are willing and able to take us," said Nick Brandon, who is beginning his first season at the helm. "Our goal this season is to make sure that everyone remembers the 2013-

14 Plymouth Wildcats."

The key quartet includes point guard Kylie Robb, wing guard Jada Woody, center Shelby Cheston and wing guard Brooke Senkbeil.

Robb, one of the captains, has kicked her all-around game up a notch as far as Brandon is concerned.

"Kylie has the strength to make our team go," said Brandon, last season's junior varsity head coach and a varsity assistant for Bob de Bear. "I have tremendous confidence in her ability to quarterback our team to be an explosive and hard-to-guard offense."

"Kylie is the most versatile point guard I've ever coached and she can attack teams in a variety of ways."

That versatility and creativity will be a plus as Brandon employs a new system, "which aims to allow playmakers to make plays in space."

Also sure to benefit from the new playbook is Woody, the other co-captain. She recently signed her national letter of intent to play Division I women's basketball at the University of Toledo.

"She has a wide range of skills with the ball and I am confident that her entire arsenal will be on display every time we play," he noted. "Her improvement on the defensive end of the court, becoming more of a playmaking defender, will help us to get into our



Dribbling against a defender during a 2012-13 game is Plymouth point guard Kylie Robb. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

See WILDCATS, Page B3

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW



Canton's stellar senior class includes (from left) co-captains Rachel Winters, Taylor Hunley, Shannon Perry and Paige Aresco. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

'CAN-DO' CANTON

Chiefs' strong work ethic, camaraderie make them tough year after year

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Kensington Lakes Activities Association rivals already know what to expect when facing the Canton Chiefs.

Namely, a varsity girls basketball team that knows how to play the fundamentals and never give up on defense.

Those teams will find more of the same from the 2013-14 Chiefs, a team that finished 16-7 overall last season and captured a district title.

"Just like any other year if we want to be successful and compete for championships we must defend and rebound," Canton head coach

Brian Samulski said. "Offensively we must take advantage of what other teams give us and make open shots."

"Our No. 1 goal is to improve and get better every day. If we do that, our record will take care of itself."

Samulski added that a number of tough nonconference games await the Chiefs as they get the new season going (beginning Dec. 3 at Bloomfield Hills Marian).

"We will find out a lot about our team in the first six games," Samulski said. "Marian, Mercy, Divine Child, Novi, Livonia Stevenson and Grosse Pointe South."

"Which is probably one of the toughest schedules in the state."



Canton's Paige Aresco will be a key to the Chiefs' success in 2013-14. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton, second last season in the KLAAs South Division, should be battle-tested when the Chiefs open the division schedule Jan. 7 against Westland John Glenn.

In the know

It helps to have a nucleus of players who already know the drill. Those include four senior co-captains — Paige Aresco, Taylor Hunley, Shannon Perry, Rachel Winters — along with junior Alanna Brown and sophomore Natalie Winters.

They bring plenty of talent and experience; all but fourth-year varsity player Perry started last season.

See CHIEFS, Page B3

D1 GIRLS SWIM FINALS

Zhang twins lift Rocks to 10th

Salem, Canton swimmers earn all-state honors at Oakland

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Farmington Hills Mercy dominated Saturday's Division 1 varsity girls swimming and diving finals at Oakland University.

But the Zhang twins from Salem ensured the Rocks made plenty of noise, too. Sparked by sophomores Linda and Lisa Zhang, Salem tallied 95 points to finish 10th out of 32 teams.

Linda Zhang earned all-state honors for finishing within the top eight in the 200 IM (third, 2:04.17) and 100 breaststroke (third, 1:03.82) while Lisa Zhang finished fifth in the 100 butterfly with a time of 57.41.

Both Zhangs helped comprise Salem's all-state entry in the 200 medley relay. Joining them were freshmen Molly Rowe and Katie Xu as they placed eighth with a time of 1:48.05.

"The whole team swam well," Salem head coach Chuck Olson said. "We swam OK on Friday and then we came back and swam even faster on Saturday, which is always good to see."

"All in all, I'm pretty happy with everything, the way it worked out."

The champion Marlins ran away from the field with 271 points; in second was Ann Arbor Skyline (177).

Canton finished 23rd with 24 points, with junior Claire Green earning all-state honors in the 500 freestyle.

Green finished in seventh place with a time of 5:01.23; she came close in the 200 IM (14th, 2:09.37).

Even closer to all-state honors for the Chiefs was senior Hannah Jenkins in the 100 breaststroke. Jenkins registered a time of 1:06.41 to place ninth.

Senior Destinee Barmore-Hicks nearly qualified for the championship heat in the 50 free, just missing the cut (top 16) at Friday's prelims with an 18th-place time of 24.88.

See SWIM, Page B4

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW



Salem's Kayla Kavulich (No. 3) tries to stop a Farmington Hills Mercy player during a 2012-13 game. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Rocks look to pick up where they left off

Salem ready to fire up offense, contend in KLAAs Central race

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

There were too many times last season where "the first team to 30 wins," recalled longtime Salem varsity girls basketball coach Fred Thomann with a chuckle.

Thomann does not envision the same trend unfolding for the Rocks in the 2013-14 season, which tips off on Dec. 3 against Farmington Hills Mercy at Salem.

"We're going to score more than that this year," he said.

For starters, the nucleus is back from a team that overcame a slow

start (1-6) to finish with nine victories in their final 14 contests to finish 10-11 overall.

"We have some kids that really like to compete," Thomann said. "We have some skill, we have a little bit of size."

"If we can score the ball a little bit, more than we did last year, I think we're going to have a very successful season."

Thomann added that he defines a successful year as contending in the KLAAs Central Division and beyond.

"The goal of this year is to take the experiences we had last year and we're going to take the next step," he said. "Compete for our division championship and hopefully be a force in the league crossover championships."

"And then, obviously, we want to be

able to compete in the districts."

Spearheading the Rocks will be senior co-captains Kayla Kavulich (guard) and Kelly Whalen (forward) along with junior guard Jamyra Wilson and junior forward Shara Long.

"Both of them handle the basketball very well," said Thomann about guards Kavulich and Wilson. "Both of them have a really good take to the rim. Both of them have worked really hard on their shot and both of them are excellent passers."

"The strength of our team is our defense and they provide the defensive pressure ... they're excellent."

Thomann emphasized that he doesn't designate any player as the team's point guard.

See ROCKS, Page B3

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BOYS HOCKEY

Wildcats drop home opener

Defenseman Dominic Horvath's power-play goal 4:16 into the third period broke a 1-1 tie for Toledo St. John Jesuit High School, which held on for a 3-1 win over Plymouth in Saturday's varsity boys hockey game at Arctic Edge Arena.

The Wildcats (0-2) had their time with the power play, but failed to convert on seven chances with the extra man.

"We came out flat in the first period, but I think we had our best period in the second, but we just couldn't capitalize on power play chances," said Plymouth head coach Gerry Vento.

Nick Baumgartner fired in a rebound to open the scoring for the Titans

11:15 into the first period.

The Wildcats tied the game in the second period with a short-handed tally. Junior Mitchell Langell tipped in a pass from junior defenseman Ben Chafin at 2:48.

Plymouth outshot the Titans 13-8 in the second period, but St. John rebounded to outshoot the Wildcats 12-7 in the final period, and 35-34 for the game. St. John's Nate Miller scored into an empty net with 12 seconds remaining.

Junior goalie Erik VandenBosch made 33 saves for Plymouth.

"They were ranked No. 1 in Ohio for a reason," Vento added, "but I thought we played a really solid hockey game."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Crusader cagers deck Concordia

The 17th-ranked Madonna University men's basketball team led from start to finish Saturday en route to an 85-61 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory over visiting Concordia University.

The Crusaders, 4-3 overall and 3-0 in the WHAC, got 17 points apiece from

senior guards Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) and Travis Schuba.

Naubert also dished out seven assists, while Schuba hit 5-of-8 shots from three-point range.

Senior Fred Williams chipped in with 13 points and eight rebounds.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Rockets, Blazers to undergo a makeover this year

By Brad Emons
Staff Writer

The area's two most successful girls basketball teams from a year ago – Westonia John Glenn and Livonia Ladywood – will be undergoing a total makeover for the 2013-14 season.

And it may require breaking out the name tags for everybody to get acquainted with each other.

Glenn is coming off its most successful season in school

history after going 24-2 and reaching the state Class A semifinals before losing to eventual state champion Grand Haven.

Slipping into the night after an abbreviated stint as varsity coach of the Rockets was Eric Kovatch, who went 44-5 in his only two seasons.

Glenn, which built its program on transfers, lost four of its five starters including the Bankston twins, Raven and Raine, both starting for Delaware State, along with Sha-

Keya Graves, now at DePaul University.

Starting forward Kierra Jordan (Marygrove College) also graduated, but her father Derrick, who served as a Glenn's freshman coach and varsity assistant last season, takes over the reins for Kovatch.

The only remaining remnant of that 2012-13 team was starting guard Kaira Barnes, now a 5-foot-5 senior who missed the tail-end of Glenn's state tourney run with a knee

injury.

But unlike Glenn's situation, there is some continuity that remains at Ladywood despite the loss of all five starters, including first-team All-Observer point guard Andre Anastos and second-teamer Shelby Walsh (guard).

Coach Anthony Coratti, who guided Ladywood to a 17-8 record and its first Class B regional crown in 20 years, stepped down after three seasons.

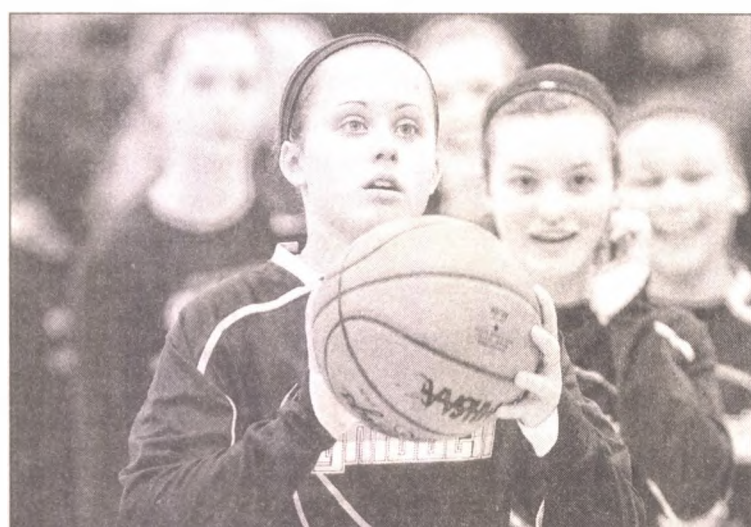
Assistant coach Amber

Culloty, a 2004 Ladywood grad, takes over the job.

The Blazers do not have a senior on their varsity roster and Culloty is learning on the fly as a new head coach.

"It's completely different and obviously there's a lot more on my plate," Culloty said.

The former Amber Willoughby played at Ladywood under Andrea Gorski, now an assistant coach at Southern Illinois. Gorski coached at Ladywood for 11 years.



Senior Brooke Senkbeil, shown during pre-game warmups last season, is one of the key returnees for Plymouth. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



Canton's defensive catalyst is senior guard Rachel Winters (No. 10). JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

running game — which is the true staple of this offense."

Anchoring the low post for the Wildcats will be 6-4 Cheston, who also is athletic enough to improvise offensively.

"She will give us a great complement to our talented guards," Brandon said. "Shelb's true gift is her control of the offensive glass and her shot blocking knack. We're looking for her to dominate the paint on both sides of the floor at every opportunity."

Another savvy senior expected to play a key role this season is Senkbeil, who Brandon said is "playing the best basketball of her life" as the official '13-14 tip-off draws near.

"She's persevered through some challenging times in basketball," the coach emphasized. "And I believe (she) is really ready to shine during her senior year."

Deep rotation

Augmenting the seniors are junior returnees Paige Slominski, Leah Kliczinski and six players who are moving up from Plymouth's JV (coached by Brandon last season). With a deep rotation, there will be a mix-and-match element to the fifth spot in the lineup.

Slominski "will give us an outstanding alternative at point guard and her supreme ball-handling skills will help our team to stay under control against pressure."

A contender to play up front is the 6-0 Kliczinski, who the coach said is playing with enough confidence and toughness to "provide some matchup nightmares for opposing teams. Leave and Shelb (Cheston) have both shown me a lot during the first few weeks of practice. They are battling hard every day, pushing each other."

Brandon called it "an incredible privilege" to have six of his former JV players move up with him as he takes over the varsity team.

Those include junior wings Kendall Rose, Te'Ahn Horton; LaVallee; junior post player Patti Begoske and sophomore

utility player Cassidy Lewis.

"She (Rose) is ready, and a big reason why is her ability to stretch a defense with her outside shooting touch," Brandon stated. "I expect Kendall to make an immediate impact this season."

LaVallee is smart, poised and decisive in the backcourt, which point to her being an important contributor. "She knows this offense frontwards and backwards."

Another post option is Begoske, a hard-nosed player who "always makes an immediate impact when she checks into the game," he said. "She will likely be our sparkplug player that will always give us a boost when she hits the floor."

The lone sophomore is Lewis, who Brandon will be available to play almost any position on the court as needed.

"Cass is clearly very talented and has taken a big jump between her freshman and sophomore years," he said.

Brandon's coaching staff includes Nancy Blaylock (defensive coordinator, post position coach) and James Jones (offensive coordinator, wing position coach).

"Both Nancy and James will bring a tremendous amount of basketball IQ to our staff," Brandon noted. "... I am very fortunate to have them on board for this new direction of our program."

And soon, the coaches and players all will find out whether all the hard work and preparation will pay off as the Wildcats look to improve upon last season's 10-11 record.

"Obviously, we're all very excited about this new era for our program," Brandon said. "And I think the new style that this team will be playing will be fun to watch and play in."

"I'm excited for our players to be able to compete together and earn the respect of everyone who watches and supports us this season."

Meanwhile, Brandon isn't alone in his optimism about the 2013-14 season, which begins Dec. 3 at Dexter.

"I think we're looking pretty good," Woody said. "We had a scrimmage on Salem and it was good as any Park game would be. I think we did really well and things are looking up."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

Perry, meanwhile, is recovering from a torn ACL sustained in the district finals against Northville.

Aresco led the Chiefs in scoring last season. And Samulski said the forward recently sharpened up her 15-foot jumper, which will make it even tougher for opponents to defend her.

"I'm really excited for this upcoming season," said Aresco, starting her fourth year on varsity. "We have a core group of girls coming back, and we have some promising new players."

"We are a hardworking group, and we are looking forward to a fun and successful season."

Returning at center is last year's top rebounder, third-year varsity player Hunley.

"(Taylor) gives us a great presence inside on offense and defense," Samulski said.

Perry is hopeful to get back to action quickly. She will see significant playing time at forward as soon as she is healthy.

"With a very experienced team and four of us going into our last season of high school basketball I am expecting great results," Perry said. "But as Brian has always taught us we take it one game at a time."

Guard Rachel Winters is another outstanding, fourth-year varsity player who is

looking to become more of an all-around threat, Samulski noted.

"Rach was our defensive catalyst last year," he said "She really worked hard this past spring, summer and fall to become a better offensive player."

Her younger sister, Natalie Winters, will likewise be a sparkplug out of the backcourt.

"Nat as a ninth-grader did an outstanding job for us last year," Samulski noted. "She is a great athlete that can really get after people."

Canton's backcourt also features Brown, beginning her second varsity season.

"Lan has had an outstanding offseason," the coach said. "She has always defended and we look for her to be more aggressive offensively this year."

Promise abounds

By no means will those top six have to carry the entire load, not with several other promising players pushing for minutes.

Newcomers include junior guard Alexa Lagola, junior forward Jordan Church, sophomore guard Madison Archibald and freshman forward Erin Hult.

Lagola could be another defensive pest. "She has the ability to get after the ball and really disrupt things," Samulski said.

Church could be a potential scorer around the rim while Archibald is "very athletic and is a solid player on both

ends of the floor."

Hult already is showing she has lights-out scoring potential.

"Erin can really shoot the ball and she looks to score," Samulski said. "She gives us an other shooter from the perimeter."

Veteran perspective

Meanwhile, beyond who plays where and what each brings to the table is the undeniable strong bond between the players and coach.

The 2013-14 group looks to continue that trend.

"I love being with my team," Rachel Winters said. "We get along great, we push each other to be our best and we have fun."

"... I'm looking forward to my senior year. I really enjoy playing for Brian and being a part of the Canton basketball program."

Perry has witnessed that camaraderie both on the floor and from the sideline, the latter during her months recovering from knee surgery.

"It has been a long summer of watching them play from the bench but it has been really interesting gaining a coaching point of view," Perry explained. "Watching our young girls learn from our seniors' experience has been really fun to watch."

"We are a tight-knit group who love to laugh and have fun but always know when Brian starts practice it is time to get to work."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

"Whoever's got the ball is the one that's bringing it and the other one's got to get to a wing and play," Thomann said. "It doesn't matter which one is there (at point guard)."

Backing them up will be junior guard Kelly Latack, who Thomann said "has played for two years at the varsity level. She'll be a real good guard also."

Post potential

A question needing to be answered is how much the team will miss forward Breanne Beaver, a double-double threat who graduated in 2013.

Thomann is confident the answer will come from Whalen and Long, with a couple

others ready to make an impact front.

"We're very sure that both Kelly Whalen and Shara Long are going to do just fine inside," he said.

"They're both veteran players and they've both had pretty good games over the last year. Both of them are ready to step in and be elite players up front."

"Both of them are good shooters, both of them have a nice take to the rim, they rebound the ball very well and they defend very well, so they're good basketball players."

Likely contending for the starting spot will be senior forward and co-captain Ashley Baker along with junior forwards Haley Rogers and Maranda Armstead.

Baker and Armstead could be pleasant surprises, simply because both players missed

chunks of last year due to injuries.

"Baker got injured early and didn't play the rest of the year," Thomann said.

"She's just now coming into shape."

"Maranda was hurt early and was just getting back into shape at the end of the season, and Haley has the most experience coming off last year. She played significant minutes for us."

Returning out the roster are senior guard Aly Mann and junior guard Allison First. "Both of those kids will contribute a little bit."

"We have, in my opinion, a very good nucleus of players that can intertwine a little bit and interchange without hurting the team."

tsmith@hometownlife.com



Kelly Whalen (left) of Salem and Shelby Cheston of Plymouth are ready to renew acquaintances with the start of the 2013-14 girls basketball season. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

Plymouth Whalers fall to swarming Storm

Guelph firepower too much for Whalers

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers found out for themselves why the Guelph Storm rolled into Compuware Arena Saturday night as the highest scoring team in the Ontario Hockey League.

Guelph launched 53 shots on goal and scored four goals over the final 20:15 en route to a 6-2 victory over the Whalers before a disappointed turnout of 2,264. That gave the Storm (18-4-2-1) a total of 131 goals, far ahead of any other OHL squad.

Spearheading the win was Guelph defenseman Zac Leslie, who scored four goals (including one into an empty net at 19:38 of the third.

"They had 53 shots, we had 44," said Plymouth head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci, whose team played better than the final score indicated. "I thought it was a good game. They played hard, so we matched their intensity for the most part."

Both netminders were bombarded with quality shots and — for the most part — were up to the task. Guelph's Matthew Mancina was a bit better, stopping 42 of 44 shots fired his way.

Plymouth goalie Alex Nedeljkovic tallied 47 saves on 52 shots, although he had to deal with congestion and contact in and around the blue paint.

Falling behind

With the game deadlocked 2-2 in the final minute of the



Plymouth's Victor Crus Rydberg (No. 16) controls the puck against Guelph Saturday night at Compuware Arena. RENA LAVERTY | EXPRESS PHOTO

second period, Guelph went ahead to stay on a knuckleball shot off the stick of Leslie from the right circle.

On the play, Plymouth defenseman Nick Malysa and a Guelph player were jousting in front of Nedeljkovic.

The goalie wasn't quite set when Leslie teed up his shot and the puck floated over Nedeljkovic inside the left post with just 15.2 seconds left.

"That was a back-breaker for sure, no doubt about it," Vellucci said. "There were two goals where I don't want to say our goalie got interfered with, ... but maybe a little bit. Yeah, he got knocked out of position."

Plymouth (10-14-0-1) ran into penalty trouble in the third period, facing a 5-on-3 short-handed situation that Guelph capitalized on with 7:39 to go in the third period.

Forward Zack Mitchell (two assists) centered a pass to Leslie who blasted a high shot from between the circles that sailed over Nedeljkovic's trapper.

With 4:39 left, Guelph upped that lead to 5-2 on a marker by winger Jason Dickinson (goal, assist).

Guelph got off to a quick start, going up 2-0 with goals by Leslie and winger Brock McGinn just 1:11 apart early in the first period.

It took the resilient Whalers just 2:05 to get one of those back when winger Carter Sandlak hammered a drive from the right circle that hit the inside back bar of the Guelph cage. Assisting on the power play goal was defenseman Mathieu Henderson.

The Whalers had an apparent tying goal waved off with 14:16 to play in the middle frame, due to what was ruled a high stick.

But with a penalty assessed to Guelph on that play, Plymouth enjoyed a lengthy two-man advantage and knotted the game at 2-2 just as the second penalty expired.

Teaming up on the play were forwards Victor Crus Rydberg and Matt Mistele, with the latter one-timing a cross-crease feed past Mancina. Starting the play from the left point was forward Zach Lorentz.

Just when it looked as though the teams would enter the second intermission in a 2-2 game, Leslie scored the eventual game winner.

Key injury

Perhaps one reason for the barrage of Guelph shots was the loss of Whalers defenseman Alex Peters to a thigh injury that will sideline him for at least a month.

Peters was injured Friday at Saginaw and replaced in the lineup by Yannick Rathgeb.

However, the Whalers as of Friday did get Sandlak, Crus Rydberg and Mistele back from their own injuries and all looked strong against the Storm. The team remains without high-powered center Ryan Hartman for another week or two.

"All three were involved in the scoring tonight, so you got to have those guys to score goals," Vellucci said.

After playing Windsor on Sunday, the Whalers will play home games on Thanksgiving Eve against Owen Sound and Friday against Oshawa (both games begin at 7 p.m.).

"We've been on on the road so much," Vellucci noted. "We had a big win last night (against Saginaw) and we're in Windsor tomorrow (Sunday)."

"Then we have those two big home games Thanksgiving time that will be big for us."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

DIVISION 1 GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING FINALS

Marlins capture D-1 crown

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Swimming becomes a team sport when all the parts are added together, and nobody in recent years has been better at the team aspect than Farmington Hills Mercy.

The Marlins reclaimed the Division 1 girls swimming and diving crown with another quality, team effort Saturday at Oakland University, outscoring Saline by a 20-point margin, 271-251.

It's the second time in three years Mercy has won the D1 state championship, and it's the sixth such title in seven years for the Marlins, who won the first four in Division 2.

Coach Shannon Dunworth said the Marlins respond well to the high level of competition in a state meet.

"You love when kids are a bit under fire and they truly feel every point counts," he said. "That's the best way to be

successful, when you beat someone who is as dedicated and works as hard as you do. You have tremendous respect for them. That's when it's truly fun."

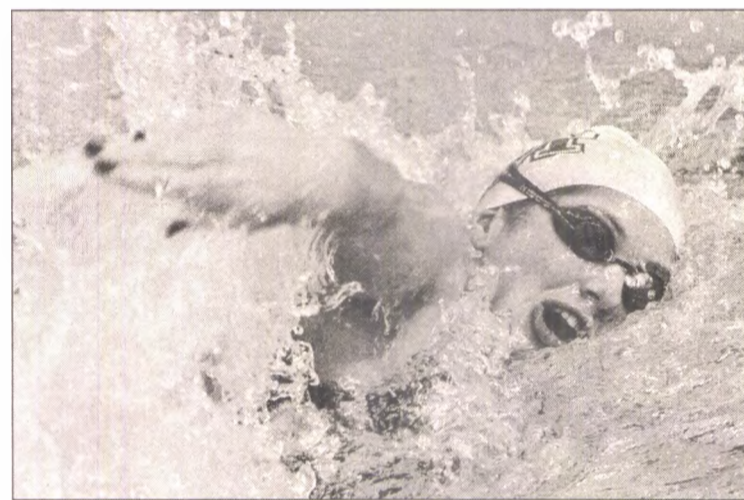
Mercy had 10 girls who scored in individual events, seven of whom scored in two. The Marlins also fared well in relays, winning the 200-yard freestyle and taking second place in the 200 medley.

State champion

Mercy junior Roxanne Griffore won the 50 freestyle championship, moving up from eighth place a year ago.

Griffore was second in the Friday prelims (23.98) behind Rockford junior Erin Hudson (23.94), but they switched places in the final with Griffore swimming 23.57 and Hudson 23.73.

Junior Maddy Loniewski and senior Elliot Schinella were unable to duplicate their victories in the 200 IM and 100 backstroke from a year ago.



Senior Jordan Ewald was one of 10 swimmers and one diver who scored points for Mercy in the state meet. JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

However, both still scored major individual points and contributed greatly to the success of the relays.

Loniewski was fourth in the IM and sixth in the 100 free. Schinella was the runner-up in the backstroke and also had a

sixth place in the 50 free.

Schinella swam her best time (55.63) in the backstroke final, but South Lyon senior Chanel Bonin dropped her prelim time by nearly a full second to 54.16.

"Both of those girls have

been standouts," Dunworth said of Loniewski and Schinella. "Elli was terrific and the (South Lyon) girl beat her on that particular day. Maddy was a much better swimmer this year than she was a year ago, but the depth was a little greater."

Top-eight placers

Junior Kathleen McGee placed fourth in the 500 free and eighth in the 200 free. Junior Ellyse Conn finished seventh in the butterfly and freshman Elaina Skellett sixth in the backstroke. Both were 11th in the IM and fly, respectively.

The Marlins also had key points from junior Michaela Bargardi, who was 15th in the fly and 12th in the back, and seniors Christine Peterson, Emma Michalczuk and Jordan Ewald.

Ewald finished 14th in the backstroke; Peterson and Michalczuk were 16th in diving and the 500 free, respectively.

SWIM

Continued from Page B1

One event where there were several near-misses among Plymouth-Canton Educational Park performers was the 100 backstroke.

Salem's Rowe finished 11th with a time of 58.78.

Five others from P-CEP made a bid in the 100 back during preliminaries, but came up short.

Salem's Xu and junior Stephanie Solterman placed 17th and 18th, respectively, with times of 59.34 and 59.35 (making the final cut was Northville's Nicki Pumper, 16th with a mark of 59.11).

Plymouth junior Alexa Earls (also 18th in prelims in the 200 IM, 2:12.38) came in tied for 19th with Salem sophomore Patricia Freitag (59.38).

In 24th place was Salem senior Julia Suriano, with a time of 1:00.39.

The Rocks nearly tallied an all-state medal for the 400-free relay. The quartet of Lisa Zhang, Freitag, Suriano and Linda Zhang clocked in at 3:35.57 for 11th place.

Canton's Green, sophomore Emily Osika, seniors Mackenzie Dugas and Madeline Madison made a bid during prelims in the 400 relay but finished 24th (3:43.41).

And in the 200-free relay, Jenkins, Osika, Madison and Barmore-Hicks placed 19th at prelims with a time of 1:41.67 — not too far behind 16th-place Troy's 1:41.22.

Ladywood all-stater

Livonia Ladywood sophomore Morgan Jones accounted for all 14 of her team's points in the MHSAA Division 3 finals held Saturday at the Hol-



Salem's state qualifiers for the Division 1 girls swimming and diving meet are (from left) Katie Xu, Lisa Zhang, Stephanie Solterman, Julia Suriano, Patricia Freitag, Linda Zhang and Molly Rowe.

land Aquatics Center. Jones earned All-State honors in the 500 freestyle with a seventh-place clocking of

5:15.38 after going 5:14.5 in Friday's prelims.

She also added a 15th in the 200 freestyle (2:02.45) after

posting a time of 2:00.64 in the prelims.

Other individual state qualifiers for the Blazers included senior Alanna Tarnacki, who took 32nd in the 50 freestyle (26.68), and senior Abby Pelon, who placed 41st in the 100 freestyle (1:07.14).

Ladywood's 200 freestyle relay team of Tarnacki, junior Tiffany Pijor, Pelon and Jones wound up 25th in 1:48.91.

The Blazers' 200 medley relay team of Tarnacki, freshman Monica Rzepka, Pelon and Pijor finished 32d (2:03.49), while the foursome of Tarnacki, senior Katie Franczak, Pelon and Jones placed 32d in the 400 freestyle relay (4:03.2).

East Grand Rapids captured the team title with 362 points, followed by Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (second, 220) and Beverly Hills Detroit Country Day (third, 162).

STATE MEET RESULTS

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING DIV. 1 STATE MEET RESULTS Nov. 23 at Oakland University
Top five teams: 1. Farmington Hills Mercy, 271 points; 2. Saline, 251; 3. Ann Arbor Skyline, 177; 4. South Lyon, 161; 5. Rockford, 127.
200-yard medley relay: 1. Skyline, 1:44.45; 2. Mercy (Elliot Schinella, Hannah Knopp, Ellyse Conn, Roxanne Griffore), 1:45.51; 3. Salem (Molly Rowe, Linda Zhang, Katie Xu, Lisa Zhang), 1:48.05; prelims: 22. Canton, 1:53.35; 27. Livonia Stevenson, 1:57.18.
200 freestyle: 1. Maddie Wright, Waterford United, 1:47.61; 8. Kathleen McGee, Mercy, 1:53.70; 14. Rachael Arceri, Stevenson, 1:55.51; prelims: 19. Julia Suriano, Salem, 1:57.10; 23. Madeline Madison, Canton, 1:57.46; 24. Amanda Washko, Livonia Churchill, 1:57.49; 28. Patricia Freitag, Salem, 1:58.88; 37. Allison Lanning, Plymouth, 2:01.28.
200 IM: 1. Miranda Tucker, Waterford, 2:01.17; 3. Linda Zhang, 2:04.52; 4. Maddy Loniewski, Mercy, 2:06.18; 9. Lisa Zhang, 2:08.04; 11. Conn, 2:08.45; 12. Rebecca Arakelian, Stevenson, 2:09.78; 14. Claire Green, Canton, 2:09.22; prelims: 18. Alexa Earls, Plymouth, 2:12.38; 20. Jordan Ewald, Mercy, 2:12.94.

25. Stephanie Solterman, Salem, 2:18.33; 26. Katie Xu, Salem, 2:14.40.
50 freestyle: 1. Griffore, 23.98; 6. Schinella, 24.25; prelims: 18. Destinee Barmore-Hicks, Canton, 24.88; 26. Rachel Morrow, Stevenson, 25.24; 30. Brenna Erickson, Stevenson, 25.38.
One-meter diving: 1. Amy Stevens, Saline, 336.25; 16. Christine Peterson, Mercy, 237.80; prelims: 22. Erica Allor, Mercy, 150.05.
100 butterfly: 1. Wright, Waterford, 54.72; 5. Lisa Zhang, 57.43; 7. Conn, 57.72; 11. Alaina Skellett, Mercy, 57.87; 15. Michaela Bargardi, Mercy, 58.08; prelims: 19. Katy Kouvanis, Mercy, 58.95; 21. Hannah Knopp, Mercy, 59.11; 21. Emma Noonan, Mercy, 1:00.49.
100 freestyle: 1. Katie Portz, Skyline, 50.23; 4. Griffore, 52.59; 6. Loniewski, 52.48; 11. Washko, 53.98; prelims: 27. Erickson, 55.04; 30. Christine Edwards, Mercy, 55.53.
500 freestyle: 1. Laura Westphal, Northville, 5:00.44; 4. McGee, 5:02.82; 7. Green, 5:01.23; 9. Arakelian, 5:10.49; 12. Arceri, 5:09.46; 16. Emma Michalczuk, Mercy, 5:13.38; prelims: 20. Merril Froyne, Stevenson, 5:15.25.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Mercy (Griffore, Loniewski, Skellett, McGee), 1:35.31; 11. Stevenson (Erickson, Arceri, Froyne, Arakelian), 1:39.58; prelims: 19. Canton (Hannah Jenkins, Emily Osika, Madison, Barmore-Hicks), 1:41.67.
100 backstroke: 1. Chanel Bonin, South Lyon, 54.16; 2. Schinella, 55.63; 6. Skellett, 56.83; 11. Rowe, 58.78; 13. Bargardi, 59.00; 14. Ewald, 59.17; prelims: 17. Xu, 59.34; 18. Solterman, 59.35; 18. Earls, 59.38; 19. Freitag, 59.38; 22. Morrow, 59.76; 23. Jackie Baldus, Mercy, 59.98; 23. Suriano, 1:00.39; 28. Edwards, 1:00.80.
100 breaststroke: 1. Tucker, Waterford, 1:02.06; 3. Linda Zhang, Salem, 1:03.82; 9. Jenkins, 1:06.41; prelims: 21. Knopp, 1:08.73.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Skyline, 3:27.52; 4. Mercy (Loniewski, McGee, Skellett, Schinella), 3:32.56; 11. Salem (Lisa Zhang, Freitag, Suriano, Linda Zhang), 3:35.57; 13. Stevenson (Arceri, Erickson, Froyne, Arakelian), 3:36.51; 24. Canton (Green, Osika, Mackenzie Dugas, Madison), 3:43.41.
DIV. 2 STATE MEET RESULTS Nov. 23 at Eastern Michigan U.
Team scoring: 1. Holland, 287 points; 2. Portage

Central, 235; 3. Bloomfield Hills Marian, 190; 4. Birmingham Groves, 176; 5. Rochester Adams, 143; 11. Farmington Harrison, 92; 17. North Farmington, 46.
200-yard medley relay: 1. Holland, 1:46.24; 11. North (Hannah Chao, Emma Gell, Annika Gidley, Emma Bradley), 1:50.74; prelim: 32. Harrison (Grace Xu, Julia Borri, Maggie Loefer, Joanna Ciatti), 2:01.32.
200 IM: 1. Madison Umberger, Portage, 2:03.79; prelim: 29. Mikayla Doepler, Harrison, 2:17.55.
50 freestyle: 1. Molly Morren, Holland, 23.59; 11. Katie Romero, Harrison, 24.78; 13. Chao, North, 24.89. Holland, 1:01.42.
100 butterfly: 1. Taylor Garcia, Holland, 54.01; 7. Emily Brunett, Harrison, 58.57; prelims: 23. Gidley, North, 1:01.42.
100 freestyle: 1. Mollie Pulte, Marian, 49.87; prelim: 17. Romero, Harrison, 54.44.
500 freestyle: 1. Krissy Harmon, Bay City Western, 4:59.42; 4. Brunett, Harrison, 5:04.71; 8. Bradley, North, 5:11.25.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Marian, 1:35.24; 4. Harrison (Romero, Doepler, Loefer, Brunett), 1:38.85; 15. North (Gell, Gidley, Summer Edwards, Bradley),

1:41.66.
100 backstroke: 1. Garcia, Holland, 52.95; 7. Chao, North, 59.43.
100 breaststroke: 1. Brooke Rowe, Battle Creek Lakeview, 1:04.53; prelim: 17. Doepler, Harrison, 1:09.54.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Holland, 3:27.79; 11. Harrison (Romero, Doepler, Loefer, Brunett), 3:39.47; 15. North (Gidley, Chao, Edwards, Bradley), 3:44.53.
DIV. 3 STATE MEET RESULTS Nov. 23 at Holland Aquatics
Team scoring: 1. East Grand Rapids, 362; 2. Cranbrook Kingswood, 220; 3. Country Day, 162; 4. Holland Christian, 153; 5. Adrian, 145; 26. Livonia Ladywood, 14.
200 medley relay: 32. Ladywood (Alanna Tarnacki, Monica Rzepka, Abby Pelon, Tiffany Pijor), 2:03.49; **200 free:** 15. Morgan Jones, Ladywood, 2:02.45; **500 free:** prelim: 32. Tarnacki, 26.68; **100 fly:** prelim: 41. Pelon, 1:07.14; **500 free:** 7. Jones, 5:15.38; **200 free relay:** prelim: 25. Ladywood (Tarnacki, Pijor, Pelon, Jones), 1:48.91; **400 free relay:** prelim: 32. Ladywood (Tarnacki, Katie Franczak, Pelon, Jones), 4:03.20.

RELIGION CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

ST. NICHOLAS PARTY

Time/Date: 1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30

Location: Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Fourth annual "St. Nicholas Is Santa Claus" children's party will feature St. Nicholas telling his story, a craft project, carol sing-along, refreshments and a gift for each child. Parents will get a chance to take a photograph of their child with a live reindeer from noon to 1 p.m. and with St. Nicholas during the party

Contact: Richard Shebib at 248-345-9346

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

DECEMBER

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5

Location: St. Michael School cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: St. Michael the Archangel's Women's Guild invites women to an evening of fellowship, music, and reflection on the Advent season. Tickets are \$5 each and tables of 10 are \$30. The guild asks each guest to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Reservations are required

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 207; swilliams@livoniastmichael.org

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 and 18

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The theme for meditations is "Waiting for the Savior."

Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

CANDLELIGHT NIGHT

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Location: Zhong Shu Temple, 23845 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Details: Reception starts at 5 p.m., followed by evening ceremony at 6 p.m. Potluck dinner after the ceremony. Candlelight event from 30-9 p.m. Bring a vegetarian dish with no garlic and no onions to share.

Contact: RSVP to michigan-temple@yahoo.com

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Time/Date: 12:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Location: St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1309 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Children, 3-10, can celebrate Christmas, make projects, prepare and eat snacks, play games and sing songs

Contact: 734-453-0460

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday,

Dec. 7

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: "Ringing Carols Through the Night" will feature the church's choirs, including bells. The concert concludes with a sing-along

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200; www.livoniastmichael.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: During 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services, Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

Details: The Advent/Christmas Cantata will include music by the adult and children's choirs, handbells, brass and string instruments, as well as scripture appropriate for the season

Contact: 734-522-6830; christoursavior.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

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

Details: "The Glorious Impossible" a free choir concert, will feature contemporary and classical sacred music

Contact: 734-455-2300; www.pbplymouth.org

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The 32nd annual Christmas concert will feature St. Aidan's Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation is \$5 along with two nonperishable food items.

Contact: 734-425-5950

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10

Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 35300 W. Eight Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Finnish American Singers of Michigan performs a free, faith-based Christmas concert called Pikkujoulu, which means "Little Christmas" in Finnish. The church is barrier free.

Contact: 248-478-6520

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14

Location: St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Christmas Cantata will include secular and religious music and will include handbells. Free-will offering

Contact: 734-464-8844; sttimothyusa.org

CRAFT SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Buyers will find various crafters and product vendors, a bake sale and raffle. Admission

is \$1 or the donation of one nonperishable food item for the Good Hope Food Pantry. Spaces are still available for sellers. Contact Bobbe Dauer at 313-570-5970 (evenings) or jbkj11@aol.com. Emmanuel Lutheran Church is a "nut-free zone." No nuts or nut products are allowed in the church, including at the craft sale

Contact: 249-442-8822

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT FOR ADVENT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Advent speaker Mary McKeon, a graduate of Marquette University, has been an inner city school teacher, worked for the United States Senate in Washington, D.C., worked in adult and religious education, youth ministry, and currently is a commissioned intern of Manresa's Ignatian Spirituality Program and trained spiritual director. She will guide the group in pondering "Journeying with Mary." Includes a chili dinner. RSVP attendance and child care needs. Last-minute walk-ins permitted

Contact: 734-455-5910

GUY'S NIGHT OUT FOR ADVENT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4

Location: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Guest speaker, the Rev. Joe Krupp, is a University of Michigan graduate and a former comedy writer who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Lansing, in 1998. Embracing his inner "Spartan" he is the director of campus ministry at Michigan State University, a regular on Catholic television and monthly writer for *Faith Magazine*. The event is free. RSVP attendance and child care needed. Last minute walk-ins are welcome.

Contact: 734-455-5910

JEWISH NEW TESTAMENT

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10

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

Details: Amy Jill Levine will present "The Jewish Annotated New Testament: Why Jews (and Christians) Should Read this Book." Levine is a professor of New Testament and Jewish studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. Book signing and dessert reception follows the presentation. \$10 for JCC members, \$12 for nonmembers. Registration deadline is Dec. 6

Contact: 248-441-1900; theberman.org

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11

Location: Corsi's Italian Restaurant, 27910 W. Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Cost is \$15 and includes buffet, 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.. RSVP by Dec. 8. Widowed Friends is a peer group of the Archdiocese

of Detroit.

Coming up: Christmas dinner, 5:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, at Red Olive Banquet Center, 1059 W. Ann Arbor Road, east of Sheldon, Plymouth. Dinner served at 6 p.m. followed by special entertainment, and

Christmas carols. Cost is \$30 and includes choice of menu items, tax and tip. RSVP by Dec. 10 to Carol at 734-464-7836 or Gerry at 734-259-5024.

Contact: Cookie at 248-357-2183, Pat at 248-545-8348 or Carol at 248-924-3677

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

ATTWOOD, WARREN R.

November 17, 2013. Age 82 of Canton. Beloved husband of Virginia. Dear father of Scott (Linda), Greg (Kimberly), Jodi (Pastor Dave) Vercellino, Sandy (Gary) Gerlach, and Kimberly (Andrew) Ingram. Brother of Marion (Leonard) Downs and the late Willard and James. Also caring grandfather of twenty-two grandchildren. Funeral services were from the First Congregational Church of Wayne, Thursday November 21, 2013 at 10 a.m. Family requests memorials to Open Door Ministries 4301 S. Lilly Rd. Canton, MI. 48188 or to the church. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhfh.com



COLBY, CARL FREDERICK

Age 69. Carl passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on November 23, 2013 at MidMichigan Medical Center - Midland after a valiant fight against acute leukemia. Carl, currently of Jackson, Michigan, was born and raised in Midland, Michigan. He graduated from Midland High School, Class of '62. He married his wife Leean June Silberstein on October 30, 1964. Carl served in the Air Force stationed at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. After his return stateside, they lived in San Jose, CA until the birth of his oldest daughter, when they moved to Westland, MI. Carl worked as a computer technician and IT support for IBM and Consumers Energy. Carl enjoyed spending time with his 3 children and 5 grandchildren at the family cabin fishing, water skiing and relaxing. His hobbies include genealogy research. He served on the board of the Jackson County Genealogy Society and as a delegate to the Michigan Genealogical Council. Carl had a love for life, travel, family and work. He is preceded in death by his parents, Amerst Everett Colby & Mary Elizabeth Conrad Colby of Midland, MI. He is survived by his wife Leean, brothers Dale and Roger, sister Martha Colby Geary, daughters Gail and Debra, son Mark, 5 grandchildren and many cousins, nieces and nephews. Funeral service will take place at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 26, 2013 from the First United Methodist Church, Rev. Dr. Charles Keyworth officiating. Carl's family will receive friends at the Ware-Smith-Woolver Funeral Home, 1200 West Wheeler Street, Midland on Monday from 6-9 p.m. and at the church on Tuesday from 12:00 noon until the time of service at 2 p.m. Full Military honors will be presented at Fort Custer National Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider the American Cancer Society or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. www.waresmithwoolver.com

LAWSON, BARBARA A.

Nov. 22, 2013 Age 70, Beloved wife of Dwight D. Loving mother of Tracey (Fred) Banker, Brad (Michelle), and Nicole (Darryl) Janik. Dear grandmother of Anthony, Ashley, Darryl, Dale, and Hailey and great-grandmother of Sean and Emma. Also survived by her sister, Kay (Robert) Potter. The family has entrusted care and services to L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Canton.



SCHARCHBURG, ELEANOR (Shuman)

Age 98, November 22, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Loving mother of Martha (Bruce Beyer) Scharchburg. Dearest grandmother of Cameron Scharchburg Beyer. Dear Aunt of John Reich. Eleanor was a proud 1933 Graduate of Highland Park High School. She was a piano teacher in the Livonia area for many years and was Senior Partner of E&M Properties in Plymouth. A Funeral Service was held for Eleanor on Tuesday, November 26th, at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia. Memorial Contributions may be directed to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice. Please share a memory at www.rgrharris.com.



BOTA, ROBERT ANTHONY, M.D.

Age 82, passed away August 30, 2013. Beloved husband of Lu for 59 years. Dear father of Karen, Rick, Wayne and Mary Helen, and the late Brian. Loving poppy of Ainsley Swed (Joe), Christopher, Michael, Daniel and Charlotte. Big brother of Elizabeth Danowski (the late Ed). Also will be missed by loving nieces, nephews, other family and friends. A Celebration of His Life/Open House will be held Saturday, November 30, 2-7 p.m., at the Bota residence, 825 N. Valley Chase, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to Lewy Body Dementia Association. View obituary and share memories at: www.robertbota.com

May you find comfort in family and friends

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When you have lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages", a directory located in every edition of your Observer or Eccentric newspaper.

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THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 28, 2013

Plymouth theater asks audience members to tell their stories

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Audience members will become the stars of Barefoot Productions next show, Holiday Memories, An Evening of Open Mic Holiday Storytelling.

"This is an event built on audience participation. This will be the third time we've done this. This time around we wanted to add a holiday feeling to it," said Craig Hane, artistic director.

Audience members who want to tell a personal holiday story simply sign up at the show. Holiday Memories is set for 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at Barefoot Productions, 240 N. Main, Plymouth. Admission is \$15 and is available at the door, online at www.justgobarefoot.com or by calling the box office at 734-560-1493.

Barefoot Productions held its first storytelling open mic night more than a year ago

and brought the concept back to its stage in August. Hane said he hopes to continue the open mic events — dubbed The FlutterBy Hour storytelling series — every few months.

Similar concept

He likens the show to National Public Radio's (NPR) *The Moth Radio Hour*, during which audience members tell a personal story based on a theme. *Moth* storytellers are not allowed to use notes and a five-minute time limit is set for *Moth* storySLAMS.

Hane said there are no guidelines or time limits for Barefoot Production's storytelling open mic shows, other than the holiday theme for the Dec. 7 event.

"If someone wants to talk for 20 minutes, they can. We never stop a person in the middle of a story," he said. "Some of the stories that come from people are just amazing.



Audience members get animated as they share personal stories at a Barefoot Production's open mic storytelling event in August.

At the last show I had a 22-year-old tell a story about being diabetic and a 65-year-old tell about being in China during 9/11.

"It's infectious once people see how much fun it is. Some

stories are poignant, some are funny and silly. They can be three minutes or 30 minutes."

Seems like home

Storytellers will share their holiday memories on a set

made to resemble a cozy living, with a Christmas tree, fireplace and chairs. Hane hopes it will put first-time storytellers at ease, making them feel like they're telling stories to friends or family members at a holiday party.

Vintner's Canton Winery will offer samples of hot mulled wine at the show. Coffee and Christmas cookies also will be served.

"We want to make it as warm and intimate as possible," Hane said. "We live in a society in which it's so common for people to hide behind texting, emails, blogging. We are losing the art of intimate social conversation. Storytelling is bringing back humanity to conversation and emotions that aren't there in an email. It's about sharing and being intimate and being people and not machines on a keyboard."

For more information about Barefoot Productions, visit www.justgobarefoot.com.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Send holiday entertainment items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Send photos as jpg attachments.

CHRISTMAS TREES FESTIVAL OF TREES

Time/Date: 2-7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Nov. 25-26; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 29-30 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1

Location: Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave., west of Greenfield, Dearborn

Details: The 29th annual festival displays individually designed -foot, 4-foot and 3-foot trees, wreaths, gingerbread houses and other holiday gift shop items for purchase. The event will feature an elaborate holiday Lego display sponsored by the Michigan Lego Users Group, a train display from Glangy Modular Railroad Club, children's activities and photo opportunities with Santa. The event benefits the Evergreen Endowment Fund at Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation. Tickets for adults are \$5, for children 2 and up, \$3. Available at the door or in advance at

fot.org

Contact: Theresa Diefenbach at 248-336-2331; Fotmichigan@hotmail.com

COMEDY GO! COMEDY

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, through Dec. 21

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale

Details: *The Worst Noel*, the fifth annual holiday sketch revue. Tickets are \$15 Thursday, \$20 Friday and Saturday, available at gocomedy.net

Also playing: *Frosty*, 10 p.m. Dec. 5, 12 and 19, is an original late night show about Frosty the Snowman who returns to the town of Armonk from the North Pole to find the children he once knew have grown up and are home from college. Tickets are \$10.

Contact: 428-327-0575

DANCE DETROIT OPERA HOUSE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 29-30 and 2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 30-Dec. 1

Location: 1526 Broadway, Detroit

Details: Balletmet Columbus performs.

Family matinees include live reindeer, photos with Santa and the Nutcracker, a Sugar Plum parade, holiday-themed crafts, samples of Nutcracker ice cream and a family-friendly buffet. The buffet costs \$10. Performances cost \$25-\$80

Contact: michiganopera.org

EISENHOWER DANCE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 6

Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day, 22305 W. 13 Mile at Lahser, in Beverly Hills

Details: December Dances features the premiere of the full performance of *Begin with the End in Mind* by Ron de Jesus; and *The Light Show*, a collection of five dances created by five different pairs of choreographers and lighting designers. \$18 for regular admission, \$14 for seniors and \$10 for students

Contact: 248-559-2095; eisenhower-dance.org

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BALLET CO.

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 and 2 p.m. Dec. 8

Location: Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium, 48181 Joy, Canton



Nancy Cooper (left), Jonathan Jones, and Pete Podolski, in *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, Dec. 6-22 at Two Muses Theatre.

Details: The Michigan Philharmonic will perform the music for the ballet. A Sugar Plum parade will be held following the performance. The audience will be invited to meet the dancers. WDIV Channel 4's Ashlee Baracy will open each performance with a reading of *The Night Before Christmas*. The P-CEP Madrigal Choir will perform choral work during the ballet. Tickets at the door are \$25 for adults and teens and \$18 for children. Sugar Plum Parade tickets are \$3 each. Advance tickets are discounted \$2.

Contact: 734-676-7233; www.plymouthcantonballet.org

mouthcantonballet.org

FILM PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5; 7 p.m. and 9:25 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 6-7; and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: *It's a Wonderful Life*, admission \$3

Coming up: *Elf*, 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 14-15; *A Christmas Story*, 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19, and 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; *The Polar Express*, 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 21-22

Contact: 734-453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Dec. 6 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 7

Location: 17360 Lahser, north of Grand River Avenue, Detroit

Details: *Home Alone* starring Macaulay

See HOLIDAY, Page B7

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HOLIDAY

Continued from Page B6

Caulkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Catherine O'Hara and John Herd. Santa will be on hand for photos, bring a camera; \$5

Coming up: *White Christmas* starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney, 8 p.m. Dec. 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 21. Tickets are \$5. Bring your camera to get a photo with Santa. Donations of nonperishable food items will be accepted for St. Christine Food Pantry.
Contact: 313-537-2560

HISTORICAL GARDEN CITY MUSEUM

Time/Date: Noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday, Dec. 7-28

Location: 6221 Merriman, Garden City

Details: View a collection of more than 200 Santa Claus figures. Dan Dare, the collection owner, will be on hand to talk about the items on Dec. 7

Contact: 734-838-0650

GREENMEAD

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, 15 and 22

Location: At Eight Mile and Newburgh in Livonia
Details: A visit with Santa, Dec. 8 and tours of the village buildings, which will be decorated for the holidays, Dec. 8, 15 and 22

Contact: 248-477-8568

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday-Sunday,

through Jan. 19, 2014

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: A Red Ryder Christmas Story is an exhibit based on the film, *A Christmas Story*. The museum is filled with vignettes of scenes from the movie, including the infamous leg lamp and Flick's tongue getting stuck to the lamp pole. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for ages 6-17

Contact: 734-455-8940

LIGHTS

LIGHTSFEST

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. nightly through Dec. 31, excluding Dec. 25

Location: Along Hines Drive. Enter at 7651 Merriman, in Westland

Details: See 45 giant animated light displays along more than four miles of Hines Drive. \$5 per vehicle

Contact: 734-261-1990

WILD LIGHTS

Time/Date: 5:30-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and Sunday, and 5:30-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 24, 29-30; Dec. 1, 6-8, 13-15, 20-23, 26-30; and Jan. 2-5, 2014

Location: Detroit Zoo, Woodward Ave., at the 1-696 service drive, Royal Oak

Details: More than two million twinkling LED lights adorn buildings, animal sculptures and trees on a half-mile trail through the front of the zoo. Tickets are \$8 per person in advance and \$10 at the gate for ages 2 and up (under 2 free); parking is \$5 per car. Buy tickets at the Detroit Zoo main admissions or online at <http://www.detroit-zoo.org/events/wild-lights>. They also are available at Kroger stores

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Try new twists on traditional holiday recipes

When the holidays roll around, everyone wants to get their hands on seasonal goodies adorned with the usual ingredients of chocolate, powdered sugar, hard candy and other traditional confections. But this year, along with your holiday favorites, why not serve up some unexpected recipes?

Bake up a unique take on shortbread cookies that will have everyone asking for the recipe. Chocolate-Dipped Olive Sables offer a salty-sweet flavor contrast, with an unusual savory addition of Kalamata olives, pistachios and dark chocolate chips. The result is mind-blowing, melt-in-your mouth goodness.

Or put a modern spin on a holiday classic. Updates to some of your favorite holiday classics help keep family traditions alive while incorporating creative and on-trend ingredients. Everyone knows fruitcakes have long been a holiday tradition, and new and improved versions of this timeless treat are making a festive comeback, causing many holiday guests to go back for seconds. A modern take on a holiday classic, Upside-Down Apple Cake with Whiskey-Soaked Fruit, is filled with sweetened mascarpone.

To add a spark of creativity to your kitchen, check out Betty Crocker's Red Hot Holiday Trends. With exciting flavor innovations that range from sweet and savory cookies to caramel popcorn adorned with dulce de leche, the list includes global culinary trends that will liven up any holiday spread; www.BettyCrocker.com/redhot.

Courtesy of Family Features

CHOCOLATE-DIPPED OLIVE SABLES

Prep Time: 45 Minutes
Start to Finish: 1 Hour 15 Minutes
Yield: 4 dozen cookies

Cookies:

¾ cup plus 2 tablespoons butter, softened
¼ cup sugar
2 cups all-purpose flour
½ cup finely chopped Kalamata olives, drained, patted dry with a paper towel
½ cup finely chopped pistachio nuts
½ cup finely chopped dark chocolate chips

Topping:

1 cup dark chocolate chips
1 teaspoon vegetable oil
½ cup finely chopped pistachio nuts

Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, stir ¾ cup of the butter and the sugar until well mixed. Stir in flour (if dough is crumbly, mix in up to 2 additional tablespoons softened butter). Stir in remaining cookie ingredients.

On work surface, lightly sprinkled with flour, roll dough ¼ inch thick. Cut with 2-inch round cutter. On ungreased cookie sheets, place ½ inch apart.

Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until set. Immediately remove from cookie sheets to cooling racks.

In small microwavable bowl, microwave 1 cup chocolate chips and the oil uncovered on High 1 minute 30 seconds, stirring every 30 seconds or until mixture can be stirred smooth. Dip half of each cookie into chocolate; wipe excess on edge of bowl. Sprinkle edge of dipped half with finely chopped pistachio nuts. Place on waxed paper to set, about 1 hour.

1 Cookie: Calories 100 (calories from fat 60); total fat 6g (saturated fat 3.5g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 10mg; sodium 40mg; potassium 60mg; total carbohydrate 9g (dietary fiber 0g); protein 1g

Percentage daily value: vitamin A 2 percent; vitamin C 0 percent; calcium 0 percent; iron 4 percent

Exchanges: ½ starch, 1 fat

Carbohydrate choices: ½

Kitchen tips:

- » Dipping the cookie in chocolate gives it a finished look, but if you're short on time, simply drizzle the melted chocolate over the cooled cookies.
- » Make ahead by stirring up the batter, wrapping it tightly in plastic wrap and refrigerating for up to 2 days before baking. Allow the dough to come to room temperature before rolling it out.

UPSIDE-DOWN APPLE CAKE WITH WHISKEY-SOAKED FRUIT

Prep Time: 1 Hour 45 Minutes
Start to Finish: 4 Hours
Yield: 16 servings

Fruit Cake:

½ cup sweetened dried cranberries
½ cup chopped dried apricots
2 teaspoons grated orange peel
3 tablespoons whiskey or bourbon
3 red apples, unpeeled, quartered, cored, very thinly (¼ inch) sliced
1 box Betty Crocker SuperMoist yellow cake mix
1 cup water
¾ cup slivered almonds, finely ground
½ cup vegetable oil
4 eggs
3 tablespoons chopped crystallized ginger

Toppings:

¼ cup apple jelly
2 ounces (from 8-ounce container) mascarpone cheese, softened
½ cup whipping cream
1 tablespoon sugar
Fresh cranberries and orange slices, if desired

In medium bowl, mix dried cranberries, apricots, orange peel and bourbon. Let stand at room temperature 1 hour or overnight.

Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pan). Generously grease bottom and sides of two 8-inch round cake pans with shortening. Line bottom of each pan with cooking parchment paper. Grease parchment paper with shortening. Line bottom and side of each pan with overlapping apple slices, cutting slices as necessary to line side of each pan.

In large bowl, beat cake mix, water, ground almonds, oil and eggs with electric mixer on low speed until moistened, then on medium speed 2 minutes, scraping bowl occasionally. Stir in soaked dried fruit and ginger. Gently pour into pans over apple slices.

Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Immediately turn pans upside down to release cakes onto cooling racks.

In small microwavable bowl, microwave apple jelly uncovered on high 15 to 30 seconds, stirring every 15 seconds, until hot. Brush over apples on top and side of each cake to make shiny. Cool completely, about 1 hour.

Meanwhile, in medium bowl, beat mascarpone cheese, whipping cream and sugar with electric mixer on high speed until stiff peaks form. On serving plate, place one cake, apple side up. Top with whipped cream mixture. Gently place remaining cake layer on top of cream, apple side up. Garnish with fresh cranberries and orange slices. Cut into slices with serrated knife. Cover and refrigerate any remaining cake.

1 Serving: Calories 300 (calories from fat 120); total fat 14g (saturated fat 4.5g, trans fat 0g); cholesterol 60mg; sodium 220mg; potassium 150mg; total carbohydrate 39g (dietary fiber 2g); protein 3g

Percentage of daily value: vitamin A 8 percent; vitamin C 0 percent; Calcium 8 percent; Iron 6 percent

Exchanges: 1 starch, 1 ½ other carbohydrate, 2 ½ fat

Carbohydrate choices: 2 ½

Kitchen tips:

- » Grind the slivered almonds in small food processor, or very finely chop with knife.
- » Garnish with toasted, sliced almonds, if desired.
- » Make it ahead and save some time. Prepare the dried fruit the night before, or bake the cake layers, and whip up (and refrigerate) the topping a day early. Put the cake together the day you serve it for best results.
- » This layered cake can also be made as two single layer cakes for smaller gatherings. Skip the stacking of the layers and place a single cake layer, apple side up, on a cake stand. Top the cake with a dollop of the sweet cream topping, and garnish with cranberries and orange slices.



Yule trees can dry out, pose fire hazard

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Capt. Ken Hamilton of the Wayne-Westland Fire Department hasn't seen a huge number of Christmas tree fires.

"We don't seem to have that issue," Hamilton said during a break at the fire station by Westland City Hall on Ford Road. "The new lights are not as hot."

Many people use the LEDs now, which helps keep trees safer, he added.

"It's really important," Hamilton said of holiday fire safety. At home, he gets a surge protector for the tree: "Then it shuts off the power so it doesn't overload the circuit," Hamilton said.

While the winter months are the leading time of year for home fires, the National Fire Protection Association says the post-holiday season presents its own set of fire hazards. Dried out Christmas trees and holiday lighting are among the leading culprits.

"As time goes by, Christmas trees continue to dry out and become increasingly flammable," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Communications for NFPA. "For trees decorated with holiday lights, the risk increases because they're in direct contact with an electrical source."

Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they have a higher chance of being deadly. On average, one of every 66 reported home structure Christmas tree fires resulted in a death compared to an average of one death per 144 total home structure fires.

According to Carli, you can tell when the tree is drying out by the number of



needles that drop each day. "Once you start to see more fall, the tree is no longer fresh, and it's time to get rid of it."

Hamilton and Wayne-Westland firefighter colleagues emphasize never having a heat source by the tree, or leaving a candle unattended. The Yankee Candles are better, they noted, more bottom heavy and with the wax heavy in the jar, but caution's still called for.

Dried trees should not be kept in the home, garage, or placed outside against the home. Check with your local community to find a recycling program. You need to

wrap for gift wrapping piles igniting, Hamilton agreed.

"Keep it hydrated," he said of the tree.

People get together to celebrate at the holidays. "We see a lot of cooking fires all the time. I wouldn't say the holidays are any more," Hamilton said. He and colleagues said you should heed all regular cooking safety tips.

In 2006 to 2010, holiday lights and other decorative lighting were involved in an annual average of 160 home fires, nine civilian deaths, 13 related injuries, and \$9 million in direct property damage. To reduce the risk of

holiday light fires and keep equipment in good condition for next year, follow these storage suggestions:

» To unplug electric decorations, use the gripping area provided on the plugs. Never pull the cord to unplug a device from electrical outlets. Doing so can harm the cord's wire and insulation and even lead to an electrical shock or fire.

» As you're putting away electrical light strings, take time to inspect each for damage. Throw out light sets if they have loose connections, broken sockets or cracked or bare wires.

» Do not place a damaged set of lights back into the storage box for next year's use.

» Wrap each set of lights and put them in individual plastic bags, or wrap the lights around a piece of cardboard.

Store electrical decorations in a dry place where they cannot be damaged by water or dampness. Also, keep them away from children and pets.

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA develops more than 300 codes and standards to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed at no cost at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

The NFPA website contributed to this report.

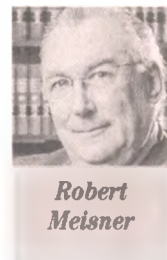
Negotiate, find good professionals overseas

Q: I am with an insurance company that is transferring me to Zurich or Lucerne, Switzerland. Can you give me some idea what it is going to cost to have an apartment with a view of a lake, the river and/or the mountains?

A: Zurich is a beautiful city, but you will pay the price, as with most anything else in Switzerland. You can expect to pay \$15,000 per month for an apartment with a view of the lake and mountains. If you want to buy a house there, you are going to have to pay at least one million, but most of the financial service people rent their apartments in Zurich, particularly for a short period. Don't count on using your euros as the Swiss franc is the currency which is frequently traded worldwide on exchanges as a commodity. Lucerne is much smaller and even more expensive, especially on the lake, but it is less expensive in the mountain regions around the city. Check with several local brokers before picking one to help you.

Q: I know that Cologne is a beautiful European city with many parks. Do you have any idea what it would cost to buy a whole house near a park in Cologne?

A: Based on my observations and discussions with locals, it would cost approximately Two Million Euros to buy a whole house as opposed to a flat in a two unit house near one of the many parks in Cologne, which is close to \$2.5 million. If you want to rent a house for a month, that can range from \$700 to \$800 a month to rent a flat, but if you want to live on the Rhine or near the famous Cathedral, you will, obviously, pay more. Again, it is also always important to negotiate, if possible, and find a good Realtor and local lawyer to assist you in the purchase.



Robert Meisner

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling, and Operating a Condominium." It is available for \$24.95 plus \$5.55 for tax, shipping and handling. "Condo Living 2" is available in both print and e-book editions. The e-book is available for download through iTunes, Amazon.com, and barnesandnoble.com. He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$2.20 for tax, shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of July 22-26, 2013, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
20025 Cabbage Ln	\$335,000
20147 Cobblestone Ct	\$455,000
31935 Cross Bow Ct	\$340,000
30810 Embassy St	\$380,000
31615 Waltham Dr	\$429,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
32967 Bingham Ln	\$555,000
BIRMINGHAM	
1611 Banbury St	\$560,000
412 Berwyn St	\$575,000
536 Chesterfield Ave	\$1,300,000
1432 Cole St	\$465,000
543 E Lincoln St	\$228,000
795 Fairfax St	\$1,575,000
1400 Holland St	\$540,000
644 Kennesaw St	\$360,000
1087 Knox St	\$350,000
552 Mohegan St	\$835,000
790 Mohegan St	\$415,000
927 Purdy St	\$384,000
602 W Brown St # 306	\$152,000
680 Westwood Dr	\$1,049,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
5210 Kings Gate Way	\$375,000
1568 S Hill Blvd	\$135,000
976 S Reading Rd	\$255,000
6936 Windham Ln	\$316,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
1652 Apple Ln	\$480,000
6856 Cathedral Dr	\$360,000
3232 E Breckenridge Ln	\$360,000
2424 Loch Creek Way	\$499,000

1187 N Cranbrook Rd	\$655,000
23400 W 14 Mile Rd	\$450,000
2870 W Hickory Grove Rd	\$475,000
534 Wooddale Rd	\$625,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
6091 Birchcrest Ln	\$468,000
4955 Comstock Ct	\$7,000
4908 Greenview Dr	\$243,000
6065 Lochmore Dr	\$210,000
1660 Salishan Ln	\$340,000
2615 Trillium Hills Dr	\$55,000
4530 Vandalia St	\$140,000
8208 Woodspur Dr	\$262,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
23550 Bicking Ct	\$90,000
23103 Lilac St	\$66,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
32237 Baintree Rd	\$181,000
30329 Castleford Ct	\$345,000
25811 Chapelweigh Dr	\$246,000
36768 Chesapeake Rd	\$284,000
35675 Congress Rd	\$240,000
23097 Cora Ave	\$116,000
29875 Cromby Ct	\$315,000
31860 Franklin Fairway St	\$590,000
21769 Hancock Ct	\$80,000
12129 Juniper St	\$135,000
27875 Larson Ln	\$380,000
29414 Laurel Dr	\$116,000
36542 Martel Ct	\$175,000
24066 Middlebelt Rd	\$32,000
Unit 36	
31812 Nottingham St	\$179,000
29624 Pendleton Club Dr	\$64,000
26345 Pillsbury St	\$55,000
21836 Rensselaer Dr	\$68,000
21313 Sheffield St	\$304,000

29565 Sylvan	\$155,000
23110 Tuck Rd	\$123,000
29800 W 12 Mile Rd	\$75,000
29827 W 13 Mile Rd	\$275,000
26824 Wembley Ct	\$890,000
24507 Wistaria Dr	\$32,000
FRANKLIN	
30815 Hickory Ln	\$494,000
MILFORD	
54351 Belcrest Dr	\$250,000
1785 Bristol Dr	\$535,000
118 General Motors	\$600,000
1660 Indian Garden Ln	\$205,000
2741 Wixom Rd	\$204,000
NORTHVILLE	
1035 Andover Dr	\$465,000
41464 Broquet Dr	\$289,000
211 Ely Road	\$182,000
22243 Lujon Dr	\$354,000
51131 Park Place Dr	\$530,000
1021 Portsmere Ct	\$460,000
535 Reed Ct	\$194,000
20826 Richmond Dr	\$175,000
1072 Washington Cir	\$132,000
NOVI	
27646 Albert St	\$276,000
25670 Beck Rd	\$145,000
45839 Bristol Cir	\$406,000
30859 Centennial Dr	\$170,000
25888 Cheyenne Dr	\$485,000
28036 Declaration Rd	\$150,000
45369 Dunbarton Dr	\$313,000
44635 Ellery Ln	\$211,000
44637 Ellery Ln	\$207,000
27648 Harrington Way	\$242,000
28807 Hearthstone Dr	\$263,000
40851 Lenox Park Dr	\$274,000
51195 Luke Ln	\$302,000
23833 Meadowbrook Rd	\$113,000

23241 Mystic Forest Dr	\$428,000
23709 N Rockledge	\$77,000
24626 Olde Orchard St	\$104,000
24829 Reeds Pointe Dr	\$505,000
48246 Rushwood	\$180,000
22644 Shadowpine Way	\$231,000
22918 Talford St	\$63,000
48855 W 10 Mile Rd	\$450,000
SOUTH LYON	
1029 Arabian Ct	\$228,000
23814 Bayberry Ct	\$321,000
1017 Birchway Ct	\$315,000
61430 Creekview Dr	\$151,000
26541 Daria Cir E	\$350,000
26023 Daria Cir W	\$315,000
26520 Daria Cir W	\$345,000
26523 Daria Cir W	\$285,000
24264 Heatherwood Dr	\$240,000
25500 Meadow Ct	\$351,000
59187 Peters Barn Dr	\$83,000
59301 Peters Barn Dr	\$18,000
854 Westbrooke Dr	\$200,000
SOUTHFIELD	
17633 Ardian Rd	\$195,000
29619 Antique Ct	\$90,000
20909 Brentwood St	\$79,000
28564 Everett St	\$62,000
18161 Filmore St	\$72,000
22910 Kenwyck Dr	\$180,000
28770 Marshall St	\$63,000
30737 Marshall St	\$70,000
17219 Redwood Ave	\$55,000
17584 Roxbury Ave	\$65,000
WOMEGA LAKE	
604 E Oxblick Dr	\$120,000
961 Sloane Ct	\$190,000
8021 Wildwood Ln	\$221,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE COUNTY

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Aug. 12-16, 2013, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
2394 Arcadia Dr	\$137,000
4001 Berkeley Ave	\$120,000
39786 Cheviot Rd	\$193,000
44122 Duchess Dr	\$180,000
4070 Elizabeth Ave	\$113,000
532 Filmore St	\$425,000
49588 Flushing Ave	\$471,000
483 Highlunds Dr	\$405,000
1855 Knollwood Dr	\$123,000
43932 Leeann Ln	\$145,000
2118 S Cavalier Dr	\$180,000
3764 Shepherd Ct	\$197,000
41603 Strawberry Ct	\$209,000
42321 Trent Dr	\$244,000
GARDEN CITY	
32451 Alvin St	\$72,000
29630 Balmoral St	\$38,000
6042 Deering St	\$70,000

31729 Dover St	\$45,000
660 Lathers St	\$86,000
LIVONIA	
14358 Alexander St	\$100,000
38224 Ann Arbor Trl	\$50,000
9605 Arden St	\$165,000
14820 Auburndale St	\$105,000
15051 Bainbridge St	\$141,000
9625 Blackburn St	\$186,000
11396 Cardwell St	\$74,000
11547 Cardwell St	\$125,000
38448 Elsie St	\$169,000
16718 Fairway St	\$224,000
18901 Flamingo Blvd	\$86,000
31330 Grandon St	\$138,000
9031 Harrison St	\$135,000
14095 Houghton St	\$165,000
16279 Huff St	\$194,000
35247 Orangelawn St	\$156,000
34108 Parkdale St	\$219,000
30877 Robert Dr	\$118,000
8947 Russell St	\$128,000
9900 Seltzer St	\$115,000
20046 Southampton Dr	\$310,000
17356 Starnwich St	\$201,000
18635 Susanna Dr	\$170,000

20252 Weyher St	\$67,000
NORTHVILLE	
42995 Ambridge Ct	\$340,000
19646 Bloomcrest Ct	\$94,000
46187 Bloomcrest Dr	\$440,000
600 High St	\$590,000
47504 Manorwood Dr	\$745,000
725 Randolph St	\$99,000
48739 Running Trout Ln	\$500,000
48619 Stoneridge Dr	\$620,000
537 W Main St	\$485,000
PLYMOUTH	
11891 Fox Ridge Dr	\$370,000
1464 Hartsough St	\$255,000
618 Kellogg St	\$135,000
12900 Naples Dr	\$470,000
40808 Newport Dr	\$95,000
11732 Priscilla Ln	\$180,000
1083 Starkweather St #	\$148,000
1085	
1083 Starkweather St #	\$148,000
1085	
641 Wing St	\$269,000
REDFORD	
13540 Farley	\$50,000
17240 Inkster Rd	\$65,000

26740 Joy Rd	\$22,000
17706 Norborne	\$58,000
9085 San Jose	\$77,000
14885 Seminole	\$80,000
WAYNE	
31422 Annapolis St	\$32,000
37037 Bendix St	\$17,000
3312 Clark St	\$90,000
4324 Newberry St	\$80,000
4826 Niagara St	\$38,000
3022 Rivers Edge Dr	\$105,000
WESTLAND	
29235 Badelt St	\$96,000
7464 Carrousel Blvd	\$170,000
7400 Central St	\$29,000
108 Daniel Ave	\$90,000
35214 John Hawk St	\$90,000
30128 Julius Blvd	\$47,000
32840 Merritt Dr	\$73,000
5817 N Parent St	\$45,000
35082 Nancy St	\$90,000
1286 S Carlson St	\$86,000
1515 S Schuman St	\$75,000
31105 Stephen Ave	\$102,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures. Many sellers are misinformed or not sure about how the procedures work. Organizers will also discuss the internal workings of short sales and the different steps involved.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. Thursdays at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Additional parking across the street in back. Please call the office at 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com for your reservation or additional information.

Seminar on Tuesdays, Thursdays

A free seminar on government-insured reverse mortgages is offered by Colonial Mortgage Corp. on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 2 p.m., held at various locations. RSVP with Colonial Mortgage at 800-260-5484.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. each first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler at 313-277-4168.

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Sports Utility

CHEVY EQUINOX LTZ 2012 Leather, full power, alloys, 20,000 1 owner miles, factory warranty applies. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9660

FORD '06 ESCAPE LTO, blk. lthr, moonroof, v6, 100k mi. \$6,900 obo. 734-476-1896

FORD EXPLORER XLT 2008 4.0 V6, moon roof, 4x4, Clean Car Fax. Reduced \$11,995. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Sports & Imported

JAGUAR XJ6 2004 Loaded! Moon Roof, Clean Car Fax. Only 54k miles. \$12,927. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i 2008 All Wheel Drive, auto, a/c, moon roof, Only 53k miles. Sale Price \$11,994. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

AUDI A 4 1.8T 2003 AWD, moonroof, heated leather Clean Car Fax. \$7,378. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

BUICK

BUICK CENTURY 2003 Auto, a/c, full power. 80k one owner miles! Call for price. DEALER 855-314-6440

EXCLAVE 2010 CXL Excellent condition. Gold Mist Metallic, 48,600 miles. Loaded: leather, Bose sound system, premium chrome wheels, towing pkg, heated memory seats, 4 captain chairs, roof rack, sunroof, remote start & auto lift gate, rear view camera, new brakes. 5 yr/100K mile power train warranty, quiet interior & smooth ride, etc. \$22,990. Call: 734-748-6477.

FORD F-350 SUPER CAB 2009 4x4, full power, Boss Y-Blade plow. Only 43K 1 owner miles. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9660

Mini-Vans

CHEVY ASTRO VAN AWD 2003: 95,000 mi, fully loaded, well maintained. Call: 734 905 4542

CHEVY UPLANDER 2005 Ext. Full power, handicapped equipped 73k, \$9,988. 855-314-6440

DODGE '06 CARAVAN 89k mi. Show n Go. DVD w/screen display \$6,900. 734-476-1896

Ford

FORD Transit Connect 2012 Auto, a/c, full power. Ford Certified, \$19,868. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9660

Honda

HONDA INSIGHT EX 2010 Hybrid, 40 city/43 hwy, only 23,000 miles. A or hatchback, Clean Car Fax. \$13,940. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Hyundai

HYUNDAI ENTOURAGE 2007 GLS, 7 passenger, only 66k miles. Clean Car Fax. Reduced \$8994. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Kia

KIA SEDONA LX 2005 7 passenger van, only 67,000 miles! V-6, auto, Clean Car Fax. Reduced \$5922. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

KIA SORENTO EX 2008 V-6, 4x4, SUV, leather moon roof, Clean Car Fax. \$8,953. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

KIA SPORTAGE LX 2007 Auto, a/c, full power. spotless condition. Priced to sell. \$9988. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9660

LEXUS 2007 - ES 350, Low miles only 39,000 miles. Florida car, \$16,700. Karen. 248-939-3290

Lincoln

LINCOLN LS 2002 LSE Pkg., V8, moon, show room New! Call for details. DEALER 855-314-6440

Mazda

MAZDA 2011 SPEED 3 5 Speed manual, 263 hp, 4 cyl turbo, heated seats. Certified Base System WOW!!! Reduced \$19,199. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

MAZDA 2 SPORT 2012 Auto, a/c, Clean Car Fax. Certified Warranty. Reduced \$11,987. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

MAZDA TRIBUTE LX 2003 SUV - 4x4, moon roof, one owner, 98k miles, extra clean. Reduced \$6668. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Mercury

MERCURY Grand Marquis 2005 - Leather, LS Trim, Clean Car Fax. \$5,994. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

MERCURY MARINER 2009 Premier, V6, auto, moonroof, leather. Black on Black. EXTRA CLEAN! \$12,962. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Nissan

NISSAN XTERRA XE 2003 94,000 miles, 5 spd manual, 4 door, RWD, one owner. Clean Car Fax. \$5,994. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Pontiac

PONTIAC G6 SE 2008, white, \$9,900. 0801/4, 57,372 MILES, Sport Package, 17" Custom Alloy Wheels, Clean & Maintained. No Accidents. 1 Owner, Non-Smoking. Good Carfax, 2013-New Hankook Optimo Tires, 2012-New Brakes. (248)807-0309

PONTIAC VIBE 2009 Auto, a/c, alloy wheels, new tires, Clean Car Fax. \$10,994. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Saturn

SATURN ION 3 2003 4 door Sedan, only 71k miles, auto, a/c, pwr windows/locks. Clean Car Fax. \$5,946. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Toyota

YARIS 2007 34 City, 38 Hwy, auto, a/c, alloy wheel, power windows & locks. Only 43K miles. \$9,995. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Volkswagen

JETTA 2.5 2008 Only 77k, moon roof, auto heated leather seats. Clean Car Fax. \$10,896. Call Kevin at 248-982-4892

Manufactured Homes

\$649/Month* 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home For Sale •Newly Remodelled •New Roof Academy/Westpoint Canton, MI

SUN HOMES

888-658-5659

Own this home for only \$649 per month in 5 years. Includes site rent \$14,385.70...10% down, 5 yr. Expires 11/27/13 Financing arranged through Sun Home Services. NMLS #333875 EHO

Apartment For Rent

PLYMOUTH: Downtown, quiet, 1 bdrm, C/A storage, carport, laundry facilities, walk-in closet. \$625. 231-645-7222

Condos & Townhouses

Southfield 11 Mile-2 Bedroom Townhouse. Spacious. Living room with fireplace, Dinette, Kitchen. 2 1/2 baths, full basement! 2nd floor laundry room, carport. New flooring. Must see! \$1000/mo. (248) 563-985 4

Homes For Rent

FARMINGTON HILLS 3 br 2 ba, crpt, remod, appl, a/c, 2 car gar, deck, fenced, no pets. \$1050 + sec. 248.685.8138

Rooms For Rent

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen privileges, cable, washer & dryer, all utilities. Retired male preferred. \$360/mo + \$100 deposit. 313-885-3766

Electrical

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV. Plaster Repair. All jobs welcomed! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 30 yrs. exp. Mark. 313-363-8738

Family Electrical

Service changes or any small job. Free est. 734-422-8080

Hauling - Clean Up

A-1 HAULING Move scrap metal, clean basements, garages, stores, etc. Lowest prices in town! Oakland, Central location. 248-547-2764, 248-559-8138

Housecleaning

QUALITY CLEANING SVC. Commercial & Residential 20 yrs. exp. insured. Call Peggy: 734-751-2330

Paint Decorating Paper

COMPLETE PAINTING SRVS •All Home Repairs •Paper Removal •Drywall •Plaster 27 yrs. John's Cell: 313-587-7836

Antiques & Collectibles

ANTIQUE Round Dining Room Table: Tiger oak, 4' diameter, 4 oak chairs, good cond. \$245. 517-456-4800

Garage/Moving Sales

Generations of Treasures Sale: Sunday Dec. 1st 1:00-5:00pm. Small antiques, collectibles, baskets, Christmas, Vintage, Home & Garden, Pottery, Glassware Artist Supplies and Much More, no early sales, cash only. Colonial Area 25152 Jefferson Court, S. Lyon, MI

Household Goods

Crate & Barrel King Size Suede Bench Headboard Matching bench w/dark wood legs \$350. 248-202-5191

Elect guitar, Randy Jackson Roads \$150/meg. 2-DOD Tec 8 Multi effect Pedals, new \$50/ea. Reclining sofa, \$95. Tan sofa. Tufted Pillows \$125. 5000 BTU air cond. \$40. 2 Med. speakers \$30. (Livonia) 734-367-0556 734-744-5313

Kenmore Washer & Dryer \$100, Sony TV 54" lrg screen \$200, Oak Entertainment Center \$350, Emgjo Air compressor \$100. Lrg executive desk. Free. 734-276-6123

KITCHEN/DINETTE TABLE 55"long x 40" wide w/rounded corners. Also 18" leaf, oak turned legs & oak apron. Oak pattern formica top/trim. Good cond. \$125. 517-456-4800

PETS

hometownlife.com

MALTESE - Adorable AKC pups male/female. Ready for the holiday 248.342.4731

SHIH TZU, AKC, PUPPIES Vet Checked, shots, cute, highly socialized. Ready to go \$450. 734-699-9825

Trucks for Sale

FORD F-150 S/CREW 2004 XLT, full power, cloth, fully inspected & warranted! \$10,988. 855-314-6440

FORD F-150 SUPER CREW 2004 Lariat 4x4, cap, full power. Fully inspected & warranted. \$11,999. 855-667-9660

FORD F-350 SUPER CAB 2009 4x4, full power, Boss Y-Blade plow. Only 43K 1 owner miles. NORTH BROS. 855-667-9660

Mini-Vans

CHEVY ASTRO VAN AWD 2003: 95,000 mi, fully loaded, well maintained. Call: 734 905 4542

CHEVY UPLANDER 2005 Ext. Full power, handicapped equipped 73k, \$9,988. 855-314-6440

DODGE '06 CARAVAN 89k mi. Show n Go. DVD w/screen display \$6,900. 734-476-1896

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Thanksgiving Day CLASSIFIED HOURS

Publication: Hometown Weekly, Thursday, Nov. 28th (South Lyon Herald, Milford Times, Novi News and Northville Record) Observer & Eccentric, Thursday, Nov. 28th (Wayne County Publications) Observer & Eccentric, Sunday, Dec. 1st

Deadline: Monday, Nov. 25th, 10am Tuesday, Nov. 26th, 10am Friday, Nov. 29th, 4:30pm

To place your ad, call: 1-800-579-7355

Observer & Eccentric MEDIA COMPANY

Antiques & Collectibles

ANTIQUE Round Dining Room Table: Tiger oak, 4' diameter, 4 oak chairs, good cond. \$245. 517-456-4800

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\$398 MOVES YOU IN! Free Rent until Nov. 1st, 2013*

BRAND NEW HOMES IN CANTON Beautiful 3 Bed/2 Baths Homes with All Appliances Starting at \$629

Call us today! (888) 272-3099 Academy/Westpoint 42021 Old Michigan Ave. • Canton *Offer valid on select homes only. Expires 11/27/13 WAC www.academywestpoint.com

Brand New Homes!! \$699 a month *\$398 will move you in

Home comes With All Black Appliances Including Washer/Dryer and dishwasher! All Homes come with A/C! Shed included for additional storage space!

College Park Estates 51074 Mott Rd. #243 Canton, MI 48128 (888) 284-9760 www.collegepark.com

*Some restrictions apply, call for details. Expires 11/27/2013. WAC. EHO. SUN HOMES

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THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1SPMortgage	138501	(313) 215-1766	4.125	0.625	3.125	0.75
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	4.25	0	3.25	0
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(734) 673-2008	4.25	0	3.25	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	4.25	0	3.25	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	4.25	0	3.25	0
Co-op Services Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.25	0.25	3.25	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.25	0	3.5	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.375	0	3.375	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.25	0	3.25	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.125	0.75	3.125	0.875
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.5	0	3.5	0

Above Information available as of 11/22/13 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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NOTICE TO BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS CABLE CUSTOMERS

This notice is to inform our Bright House Networks customers of upcoming changes to their cable programming lineup.

From time to time our agreements with cable channels and television stations come up for renewal. While we do not anticipate any loss of or disruption of service, regulations require us to notify you of the possibility of losing programming. Therefore, please advise that our agreements with Go! TV, MLB Extra Innings, MLB Strike Zone, Music Choice (MC), NHL Center Ice, NHL Network and YouToo remain in effect on a month-to-month basis, but we may have to cease carriage in all formats if your authority to continue is withheld. Also, our agreements with BET, Centric, Comedy Central, Logo, MLB Network, MTV, MTV2, Nick Jr., Nickelodeon, Nicktoons, Palladia, Spike, TeenNick, TV Land, VH-1, and VH-1 Classic expire on December 31, 2013 and we may have to cease carriage in all formats if your authority to continue is withheld. Bright House Networks may cease carriage of WGN America on or after January 1, 2014. Additionally, our agreement with YES Network expires on January 1, 2014 and we may have to cease carriage in all formats if your authority to continue is withheld. All formats if your authority to continue is withheld.

We are working diligently at this time to come to acceptable and fair terms with all these channels.

Effective December 31, 2013, Soapnet, channel 105 will be removed from the channel lineup.

On or after January 1, 2014, SoapNet and SoapNOC will be rebrand to SoapHQ and SoapHQ HD. On or after January 1, 2014, the following services will be made available to Standard Tier subscribers with a digital device:

- Investigation Discovery Channel 138
- Investigation Discovery HD Channel 338

On or after January 1, 2014, the following channels will be added to the SDV system:

- RTM from 143 to 158
- MGM HD from 69

BLACK FRIDAY

SALES EVENT

Lease a 2014 Ford Focus SE FWD for

\$159
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$869 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
26 city / 36 highway MPG²



PLUS
RECEIVE A SYNC
AND SOUND PACKAGE
WITH LEATHER
WORTH \$1,190 AT
NO CHARGE!⁴

This Vehicle Features:

- 2.0L Ti-VCT Direct-Injection Flex-Fuel I-4 Engine • Ambient Lighting
- Leather-Wrapped Steering Wheel & Shifter
- Leather-Trimmed Seats with Six-Way Power Driver's Seat
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio with Six-Month Subscription
- SelectShift® Six-Speed Automatic Transmission

Lease a 2014 Ford Fusion SE FWD for

\$199
PER MONTH

For 24 months
FOR EVERYONE!⁵
\$2,538 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
22 city / 34 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

- 2.5L Duratec® I-4 engine
- AdvanceTrac® with Electronic Stability Control
- SYNC® with MyFord® Voice-Activated Communications and Entertainment System³
- SecuriCode™ Keyless-Entry Keypad
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio
- Upgraded Heated Exterior Mirrors with Signal Indicator and Puddle Lamps

Lease a 2014 Ford Escape SE FWD for

\$199
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$1,012 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
23 city / 32 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

- 1.6L GTDI EcoBoost® Engine
- 6-Speed SelectShift® Automatic Transmission
- SecuriCode™ Keyless-Entry Keypad
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio with 6-month Prepaid Subscription • SYNC® with MyFord® Voice-Activated Communications & Entertainment System³
- SecuriLock® Passive Anti-Theft System

Lease a 2013 Ford Edge SE FWD for

\$209
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$3,329 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
19 city / 27 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

- 3.5L Ti-VCT V-6 Engine
- Reverse Sensing System
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
- SecuriCode™ Keyless Entry Keypad
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio
- Voice-Activated SYNC®³

Lease a 2013 Ford FLEX SEL FWD for

\$249
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$1,139 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
18 city / 25 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

- 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 Engine
- 6-Speed SelectShift® Automatic Transmission with Shifter Button Activation
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control®
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio
- Power Liftgate • Rear View Camera
- SYNC® with MyFord Touch®³

Lease a 2014 Ford Taurus SEL FWD for

\$259
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$1,084 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
19 city / 29 highway MPG²



This Vehicle Features:

- 3.5L 24-valve DOHC Ti-VCT V6 Engine
- SYNC® with MyFord Touch®³
- AdvanceTrac® Electronic Stability Control (ESC)
- Reverse Sensing System • Rear view camera
- SecuriCode™ Invisible Keyless Entry Keypad
- SecuriLock® Passive Anti-Theft System (PATS)

Lease a 2013 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4

\$279
PER MONTH

For 24 months for current
A/Z plan lessees¹
\$919 Cash Due at Signing

EPA-estimated rating of
14 city / 19 highway MPG²



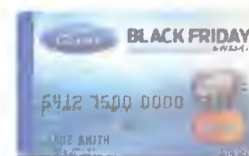
This Vehicle Features:

- 5.0L V8 Ti-VCT V-8 Engine
- 6-speed SelectShift® Automatic Transmission
- AdvanceTrac® with Roll Stability Control™
- Reverse Sensing System
- Trailer Hitch and 7-Pin Wiring Harness
- SiriusXM Satellite Radio
- Sync® with MyFord®³

OR IF YOU WANT TO BUY A SELECT NEW FORD VEHICLE, RECEIVE A FORD BLACK FRIDAY AWARD PRE-PAID MASTERCARD® WORTH UP TO \$1,000⁶ ONLY AT YOUR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN FORD DEALERS NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 2ND!



Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers



(1) Not all customers qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low-mileage lease. Some payments higher; some lower. Residency restrictions apply. Payment includes \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash for RCL/RCO customers who currently lease a Ford product and lease again through Ford Credit. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 12/2/13 on the Focus, Edge, Taurus, Explorer, F-150 and Flex and 1/2/14 on the Escape. See dealer for details. (2) EPA-estimate based on 2014 Focus SE FWD 2.0L Ti-VCT direct-injection I-4 engine 26 city/36 hwy/30 combined MPG; 2014 Fusion SE FWD 2.5L Duratec I-4 engine 22 city/34 highway/26 combined MPG; 2014 Escape SE FWD 1.6L EcoBoost® I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 23 city/32 hwy/26 combined MPG; 2013 Edge SE FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine 19 city/27 hwy/22 combined MPG; 2013 Flex SEL FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine EPA estimated rating of 18 city/25 highway/20 combined MPG; 2014 Taurus SEL FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V6 engine 19 city/29 hwy/23 combined MPG and 2013 F-150 XLT 5.0L Ti-VCT V8 FFV engine EPA estimated rating of 14 city/19 hwy/16 combined MPG. Actual mileages will vary. (3) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. (4) Sound and Sync Package with leather seating valued at \$1,190 on package 201A. Sound & Sync discount excludes "S" model. See dealer for details. (5) Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low-mileage lease. Must lease through Ford Credit. Some payments higher; some lower. Residency restrictions apply. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/2/14. See dealer for details. (6) Customer can elect to apply award amount to transaction or receive cash in lieu of the Ford Black Friday Award prepaid MasterCard®. \$500 on '13 Escape, '14 Fusion Energi and Hybrid, '14 F-150 Regular Cab and '14 Transit Connect. Not available on '13 Fiesta S, '13/14 Focus Electric, C-MAX Energi and '14 C-MAX Hybrid. The Ford Black Friday Award Prepaid MasterCard® card is issued by Comerica Bank pursuant to a license by MasterCard® International Incorporated. MasterCard® is a registered trademark of MasterCard® International Incorporated. Card will be mailed after purchase of the vehicle and can be used to make purchases through June 30, 2014. There is no cash or ATM access with this card. Award amount will vary based on vehicle selected. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 12/2/13. See dealer for complete details.