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COMMUNITY LIFE, B5

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Panic party

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce sponsors downtown Plymouth's first Men's Panic Party 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15.

Nearly a dozen downtown shops will be waiting to "take the panic out" of shopping for men who take part in the four-hour event.

Participating shops include Agio Spa, Basket Kreations, Bed & Boutique/Little Black Heart, Bohemian Home, Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth, Gigi's Mode, Hands on Leather, Kilwin's, Razzamatazz, sideways, Sun & Snow and Sunny J's Lingerie.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-1540.

Santa letters

While Christmas is a very busy time of year for Santa Claus, he always makes time to read letters from children.

Youngsters can be sure Santa knows what they want by writing a letter to Santa. Santa Claus has given the Observer permission to print some of those letters in our Thursday, Dec. 22, issue.

Letters should be e-mailed to bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Parents, be sure to include a JPEG photo of your child, with their name, age, address and phone number. Only your child's name and age will be published.

Letters can also be mailed to Letters to Santa, c/o Brad Kadrich, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

The deadline for all Santa letters is Friday, Dec. 16.

Holiday need

The Plymouth Salvation Army, which serves Canton, Plymouth, Belleville and Northville, is running short on food to feed the needy during its Christmas service period.

Salvation Army officials say they need some 400 turkeys and/or hams to be able to meet the growing need of people in need of help this holiday season.

For more information, call the Salvation Army at (734) 453-5464.

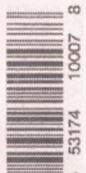
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Volume 125 • Number 34

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PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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Kettle giving off compared to last year

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Christmastime donations to the Salvation Army's Plymouth Corps are down this year compared to 2010, and the leader of the charitable organization is pointing to a lack of bell-ringers as the main cause.

As of Tuesday, the Plymouth Corps had collected about \$66,000 through its Red Kettle campaign, about 29 percent of its \$225,000 goal for the season, according to Maj. Dan Hull. That's off about \$4,700 from what was collected at this time last year, Hull said.

"That's just due to not having ringers out there," Hull said Friday. "We're highly dependant on the volunteers to help us get those dollars."

Would-be donors hesitate to put money in unattended kettles, Hull said, offering an example to illustrate the difference: A bell-ringer at local Walmart recently raised hundreds of dollars while, outside another door at the same store, an unattended kettle brought in only \$2 during the same time.

Plus, Hull said, oftentimes "if there's no ringer, we usually don't have that kettle there."

The Plymouth Corps' overall seasonal fundraising is also off from last year, with \$87,510 raised as of Tuesday, Hull said.

Please see KETTLE, A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bell ringers Carol Renner and Jody Smith consider this part of their holiday season. Carol has 10 years and Jody has seven years experience volunteering for the Salvation Army's kettle campaign. Both are from Plymouth.

Young Santa volunteers for Red Kettle drive

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

With his new Santa Claus suit, the generosity he exhibited last year during the holiday season, and a growing awareness that not all boys and girls are as lucky at Christmas as he is, Max Baker spent a couple of hours ringing a bell for the Salvation Army on a recent Tuesday.

Max is 3. "I don't know how much we collected but people were very generous," said his mother, Julie Baker, on Friday. The two stood at the Hiller's Market on Haggerty just north of Five Mile on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. It was a life lesson for



Three-year-old Max Baker and his mom, Julie, ring bells for the Plymouth Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign outside the Hiller's Market in Plymouth.

Max, his mother added, that Christmas is about giving to others.

"It's not about toys and all the getting, getting, getting," said Baker, who lives with husband Mark and their son in Northville Township. "It's about helping others and the birth of Christ."

Max was down for a nap Friday afternoon and wasn't available for comment.

The idea was planted last year, Julie Baker said, when Max enjoyed dropping dollars in the kettles when they encountered other Salvation Army bell-ringers while out shopping.

"Every time we went shopping, we always gave money," she said. "He just loved putting money in the kettle." But he got to wondering why they were donating, his mother said, and she explained to him that some boys and girls in the area don't have as full a Christmas as he does.

"Sometimes kids just assume that everyone has it like they have it," Julie Baker said.

Then Max's maternal grandfather, Butch Ayers, had a Santa suit made for Max for his third birthday in September, and suggested Max take up the bell-ringing at Christmas-time.

Please see SANTA, A4

Tax backers: Borrow cash for fire costs

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

As Plymouth Township moves toward a February vote on a special assessment district that could raise money for the Plymouth Community Fire Department, officials are pointing out that any revenue generated wouldn't be available for another year.

No problem, say proponents of the special assessment district, or SAD: Just bond for the money — borrow it — until the taxes start coming in.

"Municipal governments borrow against anticipated tax collections all the time," said Marvin Stempien, a township resident and lawyer for the Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township, which sponsored the petition drive to get the SAD question before voters. "It's just like any other business. It's a cash-flow situation."

"Once the ballot passes, they will be allowed to borrow against revenue increases," said Tom Kelly, an active CAG member.

CAG's aim is a 1-mill (\$1 for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable value) tax for five years that would help make up for the budget shortfall expected when the city of Plymouth leaves the PCFD beginning in January. The city typically provided about a quarter of the fire department's annual budget; the loss is estimated at more than \$900,000 for next year.

The township's answer? Not so fast.

"Is that putting the cart before the horse?" Richard Reaume, the township supervisor, said Friday of CAG's suggestion that the township borrow the money. "Let's see the results of the election first."

If the question passes, Reaume added, "we would look at" borrowing the money. "That would be an option," he said.

Please see FIRE, A4



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Signs along a stretch of Haggerty Road south of Ann Arbor Trail show neighborhood support for firefighters.

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House approves judicial reforms

The Michigan House Friday approved legislation expected to save millions in taxpayer dollars by eliminating 35 trial court judgeships throughout the state. Additional bills will be voted on in the coming days to increase the number of eliminated judgeships to 44.

The bipartisan legislation makes changes statewide, including in Southeast Michigan and Wayne County, and is the result of the 2011 Judicial Resources Recommendation report, compiled by the State Court



Heise

presented by Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, eliminates two judges from Wayne County, reducing the total number from 61 to 59.

As vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee, Heise worked with state representatives from Wayne to St. Ignace

Administrative Offices.

A successful amendment to the original legislation,

Statewide savings are estimated at \$7 million. The process will take time and happen by attrition -- judges who retire or pass away will not be replaced in counties where the number of bench positions is being reduced.

The package now goes to the Senate for consideration.

to fine-tune the legislation.

CORRECTION

A story in the Dec. 4 sports section of the *Plymouth and Canton Observers* incorrectly stated that Said Youssef was the first Plymouth Wildcats wrestler

to reach the state meet. In 2006, Plymouth's Ali Youssef and Steven Korpus also made the state finals and Ben Kosmalski did the same in 2007.

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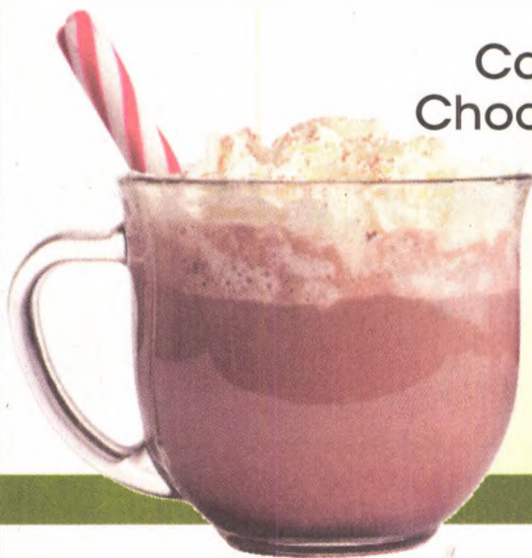
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KETTLE

Continued from page A1

That's just under 29 percent of the overall goal of \$315,000, and nearly \$7,700 less than had been raised by the same point last year.

The overall fundraising campaign includes the Red Kettle drive as well as donations mailed to or dropped off at the Plymouth Corps' office on Main Street south of Ann Arbor Road.

The holiday campaign is the Plymouth Corps' biggest fundraiser of the year, and the money collected goes toward providing needy local families with Christmas basics: food and cloth-

ing and presents for children. It also goes toward general Plymouth Corps programs: preschool and summer day camp, rent and utility bill assistance for families in need and the emergency food pantry. The organization has an annual budget of about \$1 million.

"We are greatly appreciative of all those who have contributed and have volunteered," Hull said. "We live in a great community and we're really an army of volunteers."

Hull expects the Plymouth Corps will assist between 470 and 500 families, with about 1,000 children among them, during this holiday season. The group works with other local charita-

ble organizations, such as the Plymouth Goodfellows, to avoid duplications.

Michigan's continued slow economy, and what until recently was relatively warm weather, may also have contributed to the fundraising slowdown, Hull said. "People weren't thinking

Christmas," he said.

Hull said the Plymouth Corps is getting a good response from its Adopt-an-Angel program, which collects gifts of clothing and toys for children for distribution at Christmas. "Angel Trees" with gift tags with the age and gender of children in need, are available at Walmart

stores in the Plymouth Corps' service area, at the Cracker Barrel in Belleville, or donors can register for the program through the corps' website www.misalplymouth.org.

Hull said the Red Kettle drive is expected to continue through Saturday, Dec. 24, although it may

be continued briefly after Christmas. The overall holiday campaign lasts through January.

The Plymouth Corps' service area includes Plymouth and Plymouth Township, Canton Township and Belleville.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2405

Here's how you can help

The Plymouth Corps of the Salvation Army is looking to make up a shortfall in its Red Kettle drive, and its overall Christmas fundraising campaign, and those who want to help can take the following steps:

- Sign up to be a bell-ringer for the Red Kettle campaign at the website www.ringbell.org, or by calling Sandy Kollinger, volunteer and special events coordinator, at the Plymouth Corps at (734) 453-5464, Ext. 24.

- Donate a toy and an item of clothing for a child through the Adopt-an-Angel program. Visit the Plymouth Corps' website, www.misalplymouth.org, for a signup form. The Plymouth Corps is asking that donations

be dropped off by Monday. For more information on Adopt-an-Angel, call Cassie Hull, program ministries director, at (734) 453-5464, Ext. 29.

- Donate to the Red Kettle drive by dropping cash in the kettles set up at local shopping centers and in downtown Plymouth, or through a credit card by visiting the Plymouth Corps site, www.misalplymouth.org, and clicking on the on-line Red Kettle link.

- Drop off a donation at the Plymouth Corps headquarters, 9451 South Main, south of Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township. Mailed donations are welcomed, too; the ZIP code is 48170 and checks should be made payable to The Salvation Army.



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SANTA

Continued from page A1

"My dad loves Christmas and thought this would be a good thing to have Max do," Julie Baker said. The Salvation Army's Plymouth Corps welcomed the idea, too.

Passersby took to the pint-sized fundraiser.

"People would talk to him and he would tell them, 'Merry Christmas,'" Julie Baker said. "It seemed like he enjoyed it."

And thus was born, for the Bakers, a new holiday tradition.

"We're going to plan on doing this every year," she said.



Max Baker's mom said Max loved putting money in the kettles, and now he's one of the volunteers ringing bells for the Red Kettle Campaign.

FIRE

Continued from page A1

Township officials are looking toward a Tuesday, Feb. 28, vote — during the state Republican primary — on establishing an SAD out of the taxable property in the township. A 1-mill tax, the amount specified on CAG petitions, would raise an estimated \$1.6 million a year.

But CAG and township officials disagree on specific ballot language, with township officials saying a SAD millage for public safety purposes can only be limited to 10 mills for equipment, and has no limit for maintenance and operations, and cannot have a time limit either.

CAG members say they want ballot language to ask for the tax that was outlined on their petitions.

"Our petitions that the electors signed asked for one mill for five years, and we want them to put that on the ballot," Kelly said.

CAG members also take issue with the Monday, Dec. 19, public hearing on the ballot question; the hearing, along with a budget for the proposed SAD and the amount to be raised through it, is a step required before the issue can go on the ballot, but the deadline for ballot language is the next day, Tuesday, Dec. 20.

"They're pushing the envelope right up for us to file (ballot language)

with the Wayne County Board of Electors," Kelly said. "I see this as another one of their stalling, delaying tactics."

Not so, Reaume said. The board, voting Tuesday, needed to give five days' notice of the public hearing, and couldn't get a required legal notice in the *Observer* until Sunday, meaning Friday, Dec. 16, was the earliest the hearing could be held. As the hearing is required to take place during an official meeting of the board, a quorum is also required, and couldn't be achieved until the Dec. 19 date, he said.

"I think it's much ado about nothing on their part. It's going to be on the ballot," Reaume said.

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"Around Plymouth" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Guest speaker
Date/Time: Tuesday, Jan. 17, 1:30-3 p.m.
Location: Plymouth District Library

Details: The PCCA Writing Club will host guest speaker Jeff Jahn, owner of Keepsake Family Tree Video, who will present a documentary that he produced and other mixed media. He describes his business as "Telling the Stories of the Not So Rich and Not So Famous on Modern Media." He will demonstrate what can be done with old photos, 8mm film and videotapes to build a family history to put on DVD for preservation, restoration and narration of memorable events that families want to share.

Contact: RSVP by calling 453-1234 x236

HEALTH HOURS

Date/Time: Monday, Dec. 12

Location: 10 to 11 a.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., Northville; 1 to 2 p.m., Wayne Com-

munity Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne; and 3 to 4 p.m., Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Details: State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him locally during district office hours. Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

Contact: Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

PCAC EXHIBIT

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

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

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

DAR TEA

Date/Time: Monday, Dec. 19, 11 a.m.

Location: Greenmead, Al-

exander Blue House, Livonia

Details: The Daughters of the American Revolution hold a Christmas tea, featuring the "Five Faves of Christmas" activity, "Teddy Roosevelt Christmas" and a singing group, with guest speaker Sue Daniel.

Contact: (248)-477-7375

WOMEN'S CONNECTION

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

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

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

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

CHEER CLINIC

Date/Time: Saturday, Dec. 17, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Location: In the cafeteria at Plymouth High school.

Details: The Plymouth High School competitive cheer teams will be sponsoring a Kids Cheer Clinic for first grade through eighth grade girls. All Clinic participants will receive a T-shirt and snacks. The Clinic will end with a performance for family and friends. Cost is \$30 per child.

Contact: Visit www.plymouthcheer.com for a registration form.



Successful book drive

Salem High School junior Emma Barterian recently wrapped up her elementary school book drive. After collecting more than 3,000 books, Barterian delivered them to Jane Addams Elementary School in Redford, supporting reading efforts for that school's 400 students.

Location: The St. Edith/St. Kenneth Catholic Parish Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing,

and support of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

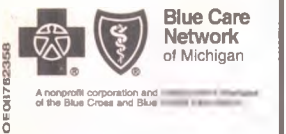
Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Meeting dates: July 12, August 9, September 13 & 27, October 11 & 25, November 15, and December 13

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

Joe Bridgman, MMC
 Township Clerk

Publish: September 11, September 25, October 9, October 23, November 13 & December 11, 2011
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The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting December 20, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

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

Sandy Young, Library Secretary
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 Plymouth, MI 48170
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Popular Tonda staffer loses cancer battle

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Kenda Jones was part of a group of staffers at Tonda Elementary School who always gathered around the water cooler — and sometimes in front of each other's television sets — to keep up with the hit ABC show, "Lost."
Now, after Jones lost her battle with cancer last week, staff, students, friends and family feel a little lost without her. Jones, the popular long-time



Jones

media center paraprofessional at Tonda Elementary School, died Dec. 3, losing a three-year fight with the disease.
"She was truly a Tonda treasure," said Tonda Principal Tara Botosan. "She worked right up until she passed. That's how much she loved the school."
Jones, a Fort Knox, Ky., native, lived with her husband,

Steven, in the neighborhood surrounding her school. As the media center paraprofessional, Jones was often the person called upon when teachers had technical problems with equipment, even if she didn't know, at first, what the problem was or how to fix it.
Fourth-grade teacher Becky Leitig, hired in 12 years ago along with Jones, said that was part of Jones' willingness to help.
"As frustrating as technology can be, Kenda would always just say, 'Let me take a look,'" Leit-

ing said. "She was so caring and giving. She was always willing to help anyone. She had just a great sense of humor. The staff and the kids just loved her."
Jones' devotion to the job extended to both the school and the students, so much so that she kept working, although she did cut her hours down, right up until her death.
And she did it with a smile on her face, despite the devastating illness that was sapping the life out of her.
"She never let you know what

she was going through, Botosan said. "Her attitude through the whole illness was amazing. She was so optimistic."
Jones, 57, is survived by her husband, Stephen; daughter Kerri Jones; son Marcus Jones; her mother, Marcellain Boyer; and her sister, Tamara (Randy) Rehmer.
Services for Jones are set for 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, at St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 Sheldon, in Canton.

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

Bosch grants 'energize' district's teachers

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Despite the fact that an estimated 300,000 plastic bottles were bought and sold at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park last year, there is no concerted, organized recycling effort on the three-high-school campus.
Many teachers and students do their part to recycle that much plastic, but no designated program exists — for the moment.
That's about to change now that Bosch Corp., the automotive supplier based in Plymouth Township, has handed Beth Savalox \$3,000 in grants as part of their Bosch Energy, Science and Technology program.
Savalox and Becky Kraft, the faculty advisors for the district's National Honor Society, will use the grants to develop a six-week pilot program to establish recycling at the 6,000-student park.
"One of our goals is to improve the environment," said Savalox, who



PHOTOS BY KEITH TOLMAN | KGT PHOTOGRAPHIC INC.

Bosch handed out \$25,000 worth of grants for programs dealing with sustainability and recycling to the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teachers during a ceremony Thursday.

received three \$1,000 grants — one for each of the district's high schools — as part of the program. "Those goals are driven by the students. (The lack of recycling) has been bothering them their entire high school careers, so they decided to give it a shot."
Savalox, Kraft and the NHS students will develop a program to recycle

in a six-week window starting Jan. 30, mirroring a nationwide competition the district missed out on this year. The program will focus solely on plastic bottles, none of which were recycled as part of any sort of comprehensive program.
"Lots of teachers and students are (recycling)," Kraft said. "It's just not systemic yet."

The grants awarded to Savalox were among 15 handed out to individual teachers in Bosch's BEST program. In addition, Bosch handed the district another \$10,000 grant, which will be used to develop an energy curriculum for ninth-graders at the Park.
The grants, part of Bosch's celebration of the company's 125-year anniversary, are part of Bosch's focus on recycling and the environment.
"Education and sustainability are key for the company," said Maximiliane Straub, chief finan-



National Honor Society adviser Beth Savalox (center) will start a pilot recycling program with the \$3,000 in grants she got from the Bosch Corp. Congratulating Savalox are Plymouth-Canton Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes (left) and Maximiliane Straub, Bosch's chief financial officer.

cial officer and executive vice president, controlling, finance and administration for Bosch. "This is a focus of the company. We are part of the community, and of course we get our talent from the community. We want to give back."
More than 40 teachers applied for the program, and the selection team took nearly three hours to delve through the quality ideas put forth by teachers, according to Plymouth-Canton Supt. Dr. Jeremy Hughes. Ideas range from a recycling program with the potential to eliminate 6.5 tons of landfill waste to an indoor lighting system for soil compost-based garden-

ing.
Bosch handed out grants to seven elementary school projects, two middle school ideas and six to the high school level. In tough economic times, the grants are important to the district's mission, according to Hughes.
"To me the energizing part of it is what it gives to teachers," Hughes said. "Budgets are limited, and there's not a lot of money. It's great to see the teachers have the money to be able to do the kinds of creative things they're going to be able to do now."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY SEMINAR



Dr. Greg Kramer, DC is holding a Peripheral Neuropathy Seminar at the Livonia Charlestown Office Center 34441 Eight Mile Rd. • Suite 116

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LEGAL NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH 2011 WINTER TAXES

Winter Taxes are due December 1, 2011 and payable through February 14, 2012 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's Office. After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr WHITE DROP BOX located along the circular drive. The Treasurer's Office will be open December 30, 2011 from 8:00am to 2:00pm.

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

Publish: December 15, 2011

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Canton dad charged with abusing baby

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Canton father accused of fracturing his 4-month-old son's skull admitted he "messed up" as he was arraigned Friday afternoon in 35th District Court on a charge of first-degree child abuse.

Anthony Lawrence Sewejkis, 25, broke into tears during his video arraignment by 35th District Judge James Plakas following allegations he pushed his son's head against the floor of a residence on Michigan Avenue near Sheldon.

Canton Detective Tim Wright, responding to questions from Plakas, said Friday afternoon the boy was in critical condition at the University of Michigan Hospital. Police had received a phone call around 11 p.m. Wednesday from a different hos-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

When Judge James Plakas asked Anthony Sewejkis if he wanted to say anything during video arraignment, the suspect broke down and said, "I messed up."

pital where the boy had initially been taken. "It has been alleged that (Sewejkis) caused a fracture to the skull of his son by pushing his head to the floor," Wright said during the arraignment.

The boy had undergone surgery to alleviate swelling, Wright told Plakas. The child's mother wasn't at home when the incident occurred. Sewejkis briefly cried during his arraignment.

"I messed up bad," he told Plakas. Plakas ordered Sewejkis jailed with a \$500,000 cash bond and warned him not to have contact with his son if he should somehow be released.

Plakas denied the father's request to be freed and placed on a tether.

Plakas entered a not-guilty plea for Sewejkis and ordered him back in court Dec. 19 for a preliminary examination to determine whether he should face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

If convicted, the father could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison. Should the child's condition deteriorate, Sewejkis could face more serious charges.

Plakas set the \$500,000 cash bond after Wright indicated during the arraignment that a prior referral had been made to Child Protective Services.

Moreover, Sewejkis implied he couldn't say where he would stay if he managed to be released from custody.

"As of right now I don't

know for sure," he told Plakas.

Sewejkis' arraignment came just one day after a Westland couple was arraigned in 18th District Court on charges of abusing and killing their 2-month-old son and abusing his surviving twin brother.

The father, 22-year-old Antonio Pepalonia Brandon, was charged with first-degree murder, which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison if he is convicted, and two counts of first-degree child abuse.

The mother, 18-year-old Nicole Susanne Roberts, was charged with involuntary manslaughter/failure to perform legal duty, a 15-year felony, and two counts of second-degree child abuse.

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Dr. Cassius Drake

Dr. Cassius Drake, ER Medical Director, Henry Ford Center for Health Services, recently spoke with staff about compassion as the core of service.

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Ex-staffers recall glory days of Wayne County General

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Kim Keener remembers precisely what she was doing when her mother Barbara called and asked her to come to work. She was watching TV.

"My mother calls and tells me to put a uniform on and get over here, we need help," Keener said. "At the end of the shift, the supervisor asked if I could come back and work the next night. After the second night, she asked if I wanted a job. After the third night, I filled out the paperwork. I'd only been a nurse a year."

Here was the former Wayne County General Hospital, where Barbara Keener, a Garden City resident, was charge nurse in the emergency room. Her daughter worked as a floater at Sinai Hospital.

Kim Keener said she "backed into that job" at the hospital in March 1983, just a year before the county closed the hospital.

"For a brief time, it was the best job I ever had. I learned so much," she said.

The two women were at Cafe Marquette in the William D. Ford Career Technical Center last week to visit with former WCGH employees who gather every December for a reunion. The event was started by Dennis Abraham, Calvin Sailor and Nancy Rowles shortly after Wayne County sold the hospital to South-



Nancy Roggero of Westland visits with Pat Ibbotson, also of Westland. Ibbotson and Dennis Abraham help organize the annual reunion.

west General Hospital in 1984.

Abraham started with the hospital in 1968 and was working in inpatient billing. When it closed, he went to work in the county treasurer's office. He supervised the mail department and finished with accounts receivable when he retired.

"I'd get the documents and proof so patients could be discharged," the Westland resident said. "I had a degree in marketing and I'd look at my (county) pin and my ring and tried to figure out what the most important thing was ... the ring won. I retired with 24 years."

"Dennis would take his time while the family was breathing down our necks," added Beth McClure, who started at the hospital right out of nursing school that same year. She started working on 4 North, the medical/surgical floor, and floated between the emergen-



Russell Forbush and Josephine Montgomery of Westland were among those attending the Wayne County General Hospital employees reunion. She was a triage clerk in the hospital's emergency room.

cy room, intensive care and nursery before finally landing in pediatrics.

"We were all family, everybody helped everybody," she said. "We didn't need a reason to party, we didn't need a holiday."

The Milford resident was among the staff that stayed on to work for the hospital, renamed the Westland Medical Center after the sale in 1984,

but left a few months later to work for the Visiting Nurses Association.

"You'd open the curtains and see people in line outside waiting for your job," she said. "It was so disheartening because we'd done such a good job."

Other jobs

Many of the nurses went on to other jobs with the county. Those with

degrees could work in the health department. Some went to work at the jails like Barbara Keener, who after 20 years as the charge nurse in the ER moved over to the "junior jail," the county youth home.

"Fran O'Neill talked me into going to the county," Barbara Keener said. "I was working at Garden City Hospital at the time. I signed on for the newborn nursery and ended up in the ER."

Her daughter stayed with Southwestern General and was there when Oakwood bought the hospital. She was there when it closed the medical facility on October 1990 and turned it into a mental health facility.

"I worked in the ER until it closed," said the Inkster resident, who now works at Heritage Hospital in Taylor. "When it closed, I packed up the supplies and turned out the lights and went upstairs to work in mental health."

At the time Kim Keener started at WCGH, she was married, which was a good thing. She wasn't permitted to tell anyone they were related.

"My name was Clark and I called her Keener," she said. "Arlene Betki said it was a waste of time working in the ER. She said she'd have in ICU, you have to work ICU to be a good nurse."

"She couldn't because I already had my hooks in her," her mother said.

Having a mother who worked in the ER at the county hospital made

"growing up hard," according to Kim Keener.

"My mom knew every police officer, every sheriff and ambulance driver in the county, you got away with zip," she said. "They all went to the ER and they all knew her."

Sharing stories

The group shared stories and caught up on former colleagues. There was also talk about the time Pauline Hampton's husband walked into the overflow room for the ER and found that "there was still some life in one of the bodies."

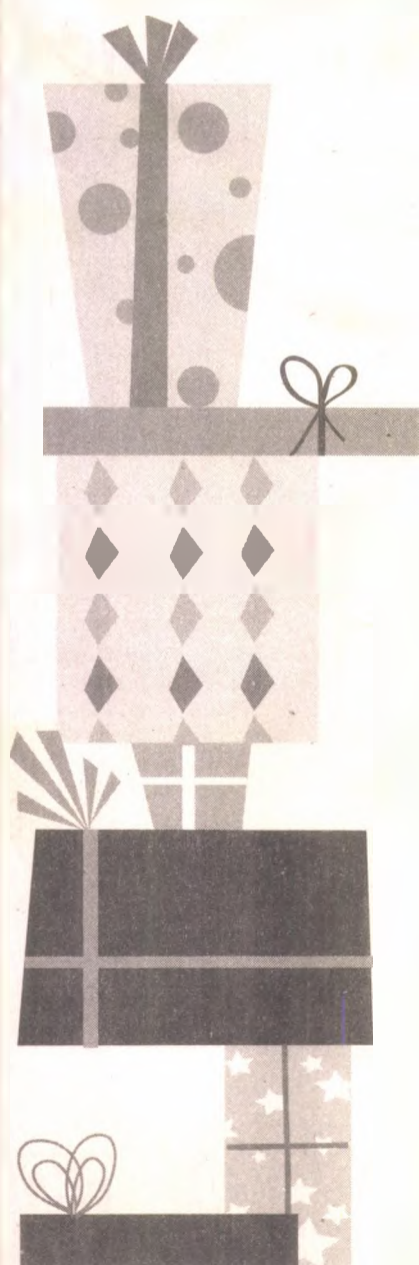
"He came out and said someone's alive in there," she said. "They'd already pronounced him (dead). They had to call the doctor back."

Hampton, a Wayne resident, started at the hospital when it opened in 1962 and "worked there until Mr. Lucas (County Executive William Lucas) closed it." She worked in pediatrics and the ICU nursery and her last two years in endoscopy. It was the ICU nursery she loved the most "because they were sick babies and I wanted to help them get well."

"I went from birth to death at that hospital," she said. "It was nice to work there because everyone seemed like family."

Jane Vinson agreed. "I was there 22 years, I came with the hospital and when it closed, I left," the Garden City resident said. "I would have worked there forever. It was a good place to work."

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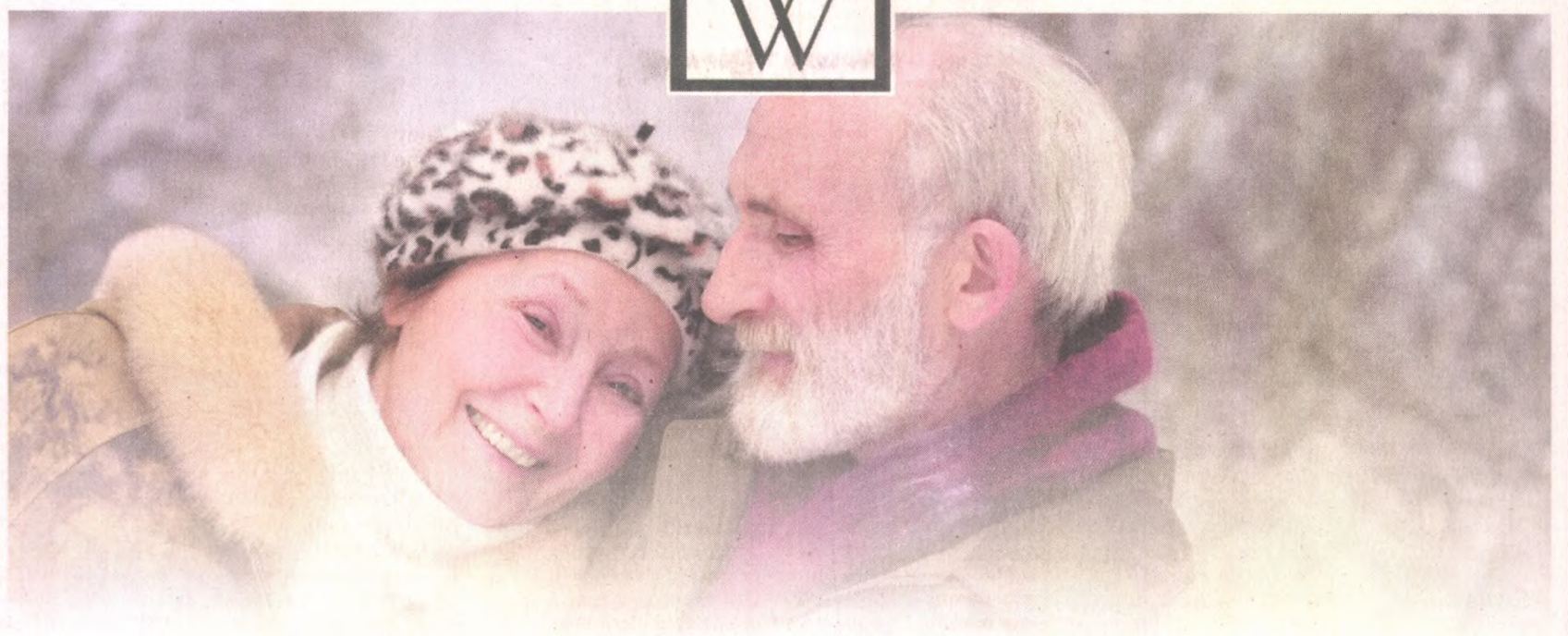
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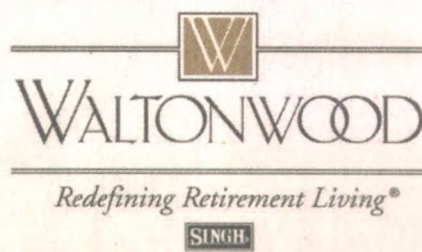


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CDs make sense to park investment money short term

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: After being married for 12 years, I recently became divorced. In addition to the house, which is paid off, I received about \$150,000 in cash. My divorce attorney, who I'm not thrilled with, recommended that I talk to his friend, a financial adviser. He was very aggressive and recommended that I put the entire amount into a variable annuity. I have read your columns enough to know that this is not the way to go. However, I'm not sure how I should invest this money. At this point I'm more focused on trying to get my life together, so I'm not sure what I should do. I work, have a 401(k) plan



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

What would you suggest?
A: I've always been a believer that when it comes to investing, you need to focus on your goals and objectives. In other words, what are you looking for from the money? Is this money for your retirement, which may be years down the

and my salary more than covers my living expenses. To be honest, I just don't want to think about the money at this point in time.

road, or is it something shorter term?
Since you don't know what you want from this money and you do not have the energy to deal with it, my recommendation would be to invest the money short term, such as in a CD. I recognize that CDs aren't paying that much, however, the key is not the return, but rather that you are buying time until you can think clearly and define your goals with this money. After all, since you were married for a considerable amount of time, it does take some time to adjust to your new life and get your thoughts together. Therefore, I believe a CD makes sense

for you.
In today's world, certificates of deposits that you get through banks or credit unions are not paying great rates of return. However, there are ways to at least get a little better rate of return. Most people are under the misconception that all CDs pay the same — that is not true. You can shop CDs around the country in order to get better rates of return. One caveat to be considered is that whenever you invest in CDs, you must always make sure they are federally insured. No matter what the return is, it is not worth it to invest in a non-federally insured CD. In addition, with interest rates as low as they are, it doesn't make sense to invest in long-term CDs. In your particular situation, I recommend either a three-month or

six-month CD. This will allow you to have some time to get your thoughts together so you can re-invest the money wisely.
When shopping for CDs, in addition to contacting your local bank, you should also consider credit unions. Credit unions tend to have more competitive rates than local banks. Credit unions are owned and operated for the benefit of their members. You should also consider out-of-state banks. A website I've recommended in the past to help shop CD rates around the country is www.bankrate.com.
One of the biggest mistakes investors make is that they invest before they've had time to think about what they want from their money. When investors are either pressured to make a decision or make a decision before they

are ready, inevitably they make the wrong decision. Good investors take their time, don't get pressured into anything and only invest when they are ready.
Good financial advisers are more concerned with making sure an investor has a portfolio that not only fits their needs, but one that they are comfortable with. Taking your time and investing when you're ready is always a smart move. Rushing into an investment or being pressured into doing something that you're not comfortable with will always lead to bad results. Good luck!

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

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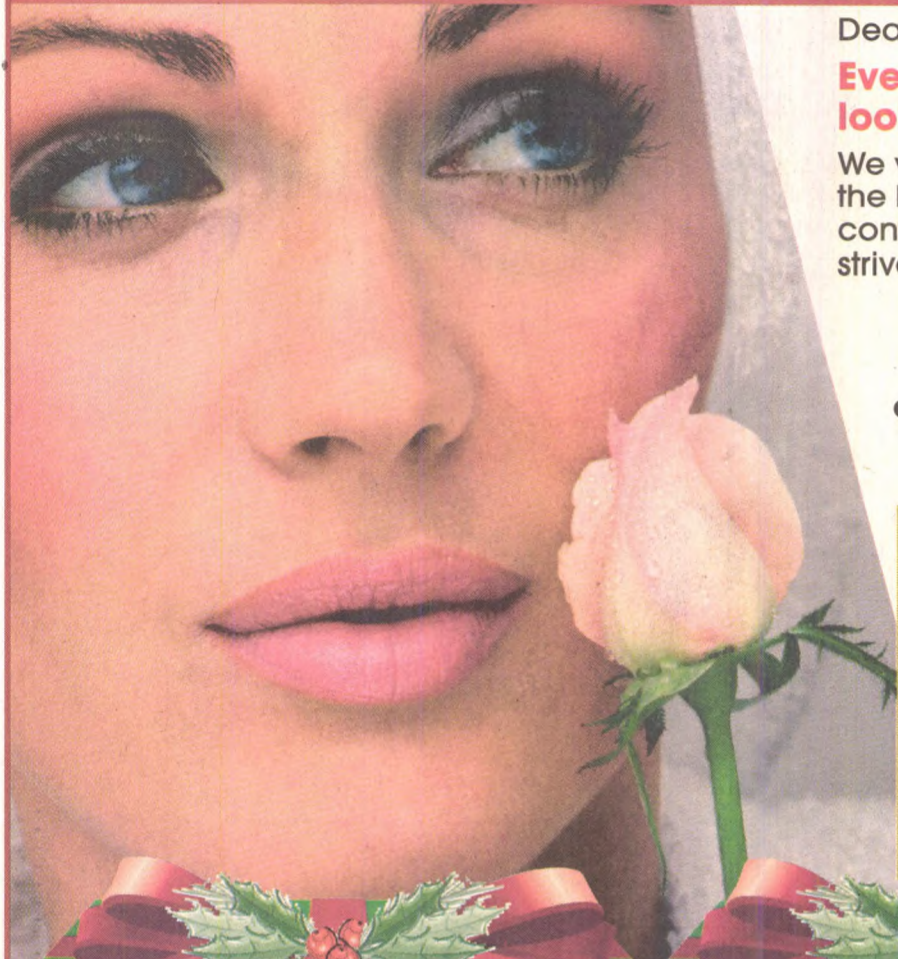


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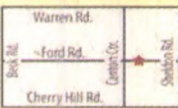
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Chiefs look to stay on roll

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Nothing seems to get John Cunningham down, especially when gymnastics seasons rolls around. The 2010-11 Chiefs cruised to the KLAA Kensington Division title and went on to postseason glory, finishing second in the state finals to perennial powerhouse Grand Ledge.

Gone from that team are Robyn Piowar, Kali Pierce, Brooke Granowicz (who all graduated) and Alex Fideler (a former state champion who opted not to return in her junior year).

But the new season is here and Cunningham is hopeful. There is good reason for that. Freshman Jocelyn Moraw and German exchange student Pia Simon show promise.

Plus, Division 2 vault champion and senior co-captain Ayana Lewis leads a group of excellent returnees.

Won't miss a beat

"We're going to be a 140 team, that's one of the watermarks that you say 'Is it a good team or not?'" Cunningham said. "Ayana Lewis is going to be our leader coming back. She was state champion on vault and second at states all-around (D2). Obviously that's a lot of power coming back."

An indicator the Chiefs will be OK was a 138.85 score at the recent Red-White-Black scrimmage, despite not having Lewis in the lineup.

"We ended up with a 138.85 with-

Please see GYMNASTICS, B3



One of the expected leaders of the 2011-12 Canton gymnastics team is Ayana Lewis, shown from a dual meet last season.



Salem guard Katelynn Krause (No. 5) sends a pass to a teammate during Friday's non-conference girls basketball game against Farmington Hills Mercy.

Salem sizzles, then fizzles

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

"In the second quarter we didn't do a good job of taking care of the basketball. That was the bottom line."

FRED THOMANN
Salem coach

A promising start faded fast Friday night for Salem, as the host Rocks lost 42-26 to Farmington Hills Mercy in a non-conference varsity girls basketball game.

The Rocks (0-2) came out on all cylinders and led 11-6 after eight minutes of play.

But the Marlins started to take over in the second quarter, with defensive pressure turning up the heat in Salem's kitchen — resulting in numerous turnovers that led to transition buckets.

"In the second quarter, we didn't do a good job of taking care of the basketball," Salem head coach Fred Thomann said. "That was the bottom line."

Salem turned it over 20 times en route to a second straight loss to open the season.

"They (Marlins) were in their press, we turned it over and they were able to convert," he said. "We played better in this game than the oth-

er game (a loss to Ann Arbor Huron). Our first quarter was excellent."

Mercy took control with a 13-3 edge in the second quarter, to build a 19-14 halftime lead. Then it was more of the same in the third, as the Marlins outscored Salem 10-4 to build an insurmountable 29-18 advantage after three.

All of the Rocks' points in the third quarter were scored from the free-throw line.

The squads each scored seven points in the fourth quarter.

The leading scorer for Salem was Bri Berberet, with 13 points, with Katelynn Krause chipping in with six. Breanne Beaver was the top rebounder for the Rocks with seven.

Leading all scorers with 18 points was Mercy's Sarah Benson.

Salem will next visit Dearborn Divine Child on Tuesday.

Wildcats romp

Plymouth improved to 2-2 on the season thanks to Friday night's 48-30 victory over visiting Ann Arbor Skyline.

The Wildcats' defense was the catalyst, with 20 steals — led by Jada Woody and Shelby Cheston (four each).

"I think our defense triggered most of our offense tonight," Plymouth head coach Bob de Bear said. "We scored the first 11 points of the game off turnovers."

Plymouth led 15-6 after the first quarter and 26-11 at halftime before really putting a vice grip on the win with a 20-5 advantage in the third.

Please see HOOPS, B3

OT loss for Wildcats

After storming back to send Friday night's into overtime thanks to a trey by Brendan Swanson in the closing moments of regulation, host Plymouth's boys basketball team could not carry that momentum into the extra session.

Ann Arbor Skyline's 11-8 edge in OT gave the visitors a 66-63 win, but Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup couldn't blame his team for giving an all-out effort.

"I'm real proud of my guys," Soukup said. "We were down 10 midway through the fourth and came clawing back to force overtime. I'm so proud of their effort."

The Wildcats (1-1) outscored Skyline 16-11 in the fourth to keep the game going.

Josh Priebe led Plymouth with 24 points, with Sid Acharya adding 12 points and nine rebounds.

Chipping in with nine points and five boards was Jake Divens, while Swanson's triple gave him eight points.

Soukup also cited the strong defense played by senior guard Donte Fox, among others.

The win gave Skyline a 1-0 mark on the young season.

Chiefs fall short by 5

Despite 12 points each by Josh Mayberry and Paul Baumgart, visiting Canton dropped Friday night's non-conference boys basketball contest by a 44-39 score to host Dexter.

Baumgart also led the Chiefs (1-1) with nine rebounds, with Terrell Sewell adding seven points and six rebounds.

Penguins down Mercy

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins girls hockey team defeated Farmington Hills Mercy 6-3 on Tuesday, but the win came at a price.

High-scoring forward Nicole Natelborg was lost for 7-to-10 days due to a concussion sustained midway during the second period, after she had scored twice and assisted on two others.

Natelborg will definitely miss Tuesday's 6:30 p.m. game against Regina at Canton Arctic Edge Arena.

Adding two goals and an assist was Jackie Lough, with Jenna Carter finishing the scoring from Cortny McAdoo.

Mariah Tucker chipped in with three assists.

The Penguins improved to 3-1 overall.

Five Whalers ready to take aim at World Juniors

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Ask any member of the Plymouth Whalers what their two top hockey missions are and they'd probably say representing their country and playing in the National Hockey League.

A handful of players from the OHL West Division leaders have a great chance to put a check mark past the former when they attend tryout camps for the International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championships.

Goalie Scott Wedgewood left Saturday to try out for the Cana-

dian World Junior squad. Defenseman and Farmington Hills native

Austin Levi later this week will leave to attend tryouts for Team USA, as will forward J.T. Miller.

Other Whalers going to camps include forward Rickard Rakell (Sweden) and defenseman Dario Trutmann (Swiss).

"It's a big honor for me," Wedgewood said. "Last year I



Levi



Miller



Wedgewood

didn't go, this year it was kind of a goal of mine to start out strong and

hopefully get invited and I did. "Now, it's a matter of going there and showing what I've got and hopefully making it."

Wedgewood is one of four goaltenders going to Calgary, Alberta, trying to earn two spots, with a third available on an as-needed basis.

He can't wait

Both Levi and Miller will leave for Team USA tryouts on Friday.

"This is going to be my first year attempting to make the team and I'm going to give it everything I have," Levi said. "I was in the first (Team USA) camp in August and it was a great experience for me and it's really exciting to be able to represent your country."

Levi said he is looking forward to going to the camp with a Plymouth teammate (Miller) and would relish having a chance to fire pucks at Wedgewood should

Please see WHALERS, B2

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Salem Rockettes rock!



Bringing home two first-place trophies after competing at the Chippewa Valley Dance Invitational was the Salem Varsity Rockettes. The team won the varsity pom and small varsity jazz divisions at Chippewa Valley High School. Members of the team include (front row, from left) assistant coach Jen Leight and head coach Kaithlin Fettes; (middle row, from left) captain Mary Colon, captain Mary-Liz Benintende, captain Stephanie Fogoros and Jessica VanOoyen; (back row, from left) Anna Cratty, Vanessa Bank, Jenna Newman, Mary Zelmanski, Kayla Stokfisz, Mianna Krause, Rachel Duprey, Nina Cilia, Taylor Harvath and Olivia Ozeranic.

Razor-sharp Sharks



Going undefeated at the recent Rock n' Roll Cup in Cleveland, Ohio lifted the Plymouth Razor Sharks' pee-wee hockey team to the tournament championship in late November. Head coach Eric Jackson's Sharks — who gave up just five goals all weekend — defeated the Geauga Maple Leafs 4-3 in the title game, played Nov. 27 at Lakefront Arena. Goalie Robert Leny earned tourney MVP honors. Pictured are the Razor Sharks following the championship win. They are as follows: (back row, from left) coaches Rob Willacker, Chris Posa, Eric Jackson, Ron Leny, Greg West and Carol O'Donohue; (third row, from left) Ben Rapai, Ben Posa, Brett Cygan, Garrett Willacker, Matthew Homrich, Brock West and Patrick Leny; (second row, from left) Alex Welch, Dakota Greener, Justin Perry, Matthew Asher, Nick O'Donohue, Marcus Jackson and Jason Moran; (front row) goaltender Leny.

Rocks set sights on return to state meet

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer



Jacobs

Buoyed by last season's success of making the Division 2 state meet as a team, Salem varsity girls gymnastics head coach Dana Driscoll would like nothing more than an encore performance. "We'll be at least as good, I say better than last year," Driscoll said. "That's their goal, that's my goal."

The path back to the state meet begins with a dual meet Monday at Walled Lake.

"I'm very optimistic," Driscoll said. "Last year, it was like four or five years since we went to the state meet as a team. Being able to do that last year was great."

"The kids who were here worked hard all summer and fall. I lost some leadership, but everybody who competed, for the most part most of my scorers (are back)."

There's an intriguing

blend of top returners and newbies as the Rocks hope to improve on last season's

fourth-place finish in the KLA Lakes Division.

"It's a mixture, but pretty young, a lot of freshmen and sophomores," Driscoll said. "We had 40 girls on the team last year and had nine graduate. We had a handful move in here."

Returning soon

Of course, the ultra-talented Nicole Jacobs will soon return from an injury rehab and make a bid at being a top all-arounder.

Jacobs, entering her senior year, tore her ACL at the 2011 Division 2 state meet, but is "doing as much as she can" to get the medical clearance she needs, Driscoll said.

Another key returnee and all-around talent

is junior Ade Jepperson, who finished 25th in all-around at the D2 meet (even with her injury, Jacobs placed 16th).

Sophomores Brooke Allgeyer and Morgan Soper and Brooke Allgeyer showed plenty of talent in their rookie seasons, finishing 25th and 36th on vault, respectively, at the D2 meet.

Salem's chances also are bolstered by returning sophomores Laura Akcasu, Maddie Burt and Paulette Martini.

Among newcomers are freshman Brittany Ramirez and junior Andrea Mellotti.

"Brittany Ramirez is a freshman who is going to be a very strong all-arounder," the coach noted. "She's going to contribute everywhere right away."

Mellotti brings club experience to the team and should also contribute in several events.

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WHALERS

Continued from page B1

the U.S. and Canadian teams square off.

"That'd be great, that'd definitely be a story to tell and an experience to carry with us for the rest of our lives," said Levi, about potentially facing Wedgewood. "It'd be fun to shoot against Scott, (friendship's) out the window for that game."

"There are no friends on the ice as it pertains to the other team."

With a grin, he added that, "If I see him, I'm not letting up at all."

U.S. tryouts continue until Dec. 22, when the team will be selected.

Players making the cut begin the tournament on Dec. 26, with games involving the top 18- and 19-year-old players from around the world continuing until Jan. 5.

Whalers head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci said all of the players would be missed for a couple weeks should they make rosters for

their respective countries.

But he will be rooting for them, just the same.

"I think it's great for them to make it, and that's what they're trying to do, play for their country," Vellucci said. "It will give us more opportunity to play our young guys and see what we have going in to the trade deadline."

"It's just a big opportunity for our young guys to step up."

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Plymouth victimized by defending champs

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

In a somewhat lackadaisical performance by both squads, a close hockey game burst wide open in a four-minute span Wednesday as Novi defeated Plymouth 6-2 at Novi Ice Arena.

Defending Division 1 state champion Novi scored three goals in a span of 3:46 late in the second period to turn a 2-2 tie into a decisive victory over Plymouth.

The game-winning goal came with 6:47 remaining in the second period when a play from behind the net led to a goal by Novi junior Luke Bageris, with sophomore Chris Kennedy and junior Wes Guenther assisting.

After a give-and-go with senior Kent Burnett, Novi senior Curtis Herzog curved inward toward the goal from the right side and notched a goal just 1:36 later. Herzog scored again 2:10 later when he found the



Plymouth sophomore Mitch Claggett (center) pressures Novi junior Jon Mencer behind the net as Plymouth goalkeeper Richard Guglielmi prepares for a centering pass Wednesday.

CHRIS JACKETT

puck in the left circle and buried it in the net.

The three-goal burst was too much for Plymouth (3-3-0, 2-2-0 Kensington), who was unable to counter.

The black and silver Wildcats had brief

momentum just before the burst when senior Zach Gambrell stole the puck from two Novi defenders behind the goal and came around the right side and to the top of the crease for a shot into the roof of the net to

tie it 2-2 at the 9:21 mark.

Good early

"Early in the game we were working hard," Plymouth coach Gerry Vento said. "We were creating our opportunities and things were going well. Then for

whatever reason, I don't know if we got too complacent after we scored two goals. We stopped moving our feet and good things aren't going to happen if you do that."

The game had started off as a close contest. Despite being outshot 10-4, Novi (3-2-1, 2-1-1 KLAAs Kensington) took a lead on a wristshot by senior Ryan Kobylarek 7:05 into the game before Plymouth senior Jeremy Cigile tied it up during a scramble in front of the net with 3:04 remaining in the first period.

Both netminders, Novi senior Spencer Peterson and Plymouth senior Richard Guglielmi, came up with a few point-blank saves. Each team had 23 shots on the night, with Peterson making 21 saves and Guglielmi making 17 saves.

"He kept us in there," Vento said of Guglielmi. "He's been a warrior for us all year and goaltending wasn't the reason we lost this game. We

weren't nearly as physical and against a team like Novi you just can't do that.

"You've got to take away their time and space and we didn't do that. We either were taking penalties or we're giving up goals. They've got a great power play, they're skilled and well coached and they capitalized."

Junior Mark Baker gave Novi a 2-1 lead off a rebound 2:14 into the second period before the host Wildcats' string of goals.

Kobylarek put the icing on the cake with 7:15 left in the game, netting his second of the night with a power play tap in from the right post after Guglielmi attempted to make a save on the far side.

"I thought both teams were just not playing as hard as I would've expected," Novi head coach Todd Krygier said. "And that happens some nights, but if that happens against a Canton or a Brighton, we're in trouble."

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

Top scorers for the Wildcats were Kate Watson, Woody and Cheston with eight each.

Contributing seven points was Alyssa Dillon, with Kylie Robb and Chyna Williams each tallying six.

The Wildcats will host Northville on Tuesday.

LUTH. N'WEST 53, CVILLE 20: Kim Lepor popped in 18 points Thursday to spark Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (3-1) past visiting Livonia Clarenceville (0-4).

Abbey Looker added 12 points for the Crusaders, who led 7-6 after one quarter before outscoring the Trojans 17-7 in the second period and 20-8 in the third to take a commanding 44-21 advantage.

Sophomore Ayanna Buckley tallied 11 points for the Trojans, who hit 11-of-22 free throws.

Northwest made only 6-of-17.

LADYWOOD 40, G.P. NORTH 29: Junior guards Andie Anastos and Shelby Walsh each tallied 11



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pulling down a rebound Friday is Salem's Breanne Beaver (No. 20), despite defensive pressure from Mercy players Tyler Parlor (No. 24) and Sierra LaGrande (No. 10).

points to lead Livonia Ladywood (2-2) to a victory Wednesday night at Grosse Pointe North (1-2).

The Blazers also got eight points and six rebounds from Sara Even along with seven points and six boards from Morgan Chops.

"It was a hard-fought, scrappy game and our defense put us over the top," said Ladywood coach Anthony Coratti, whose team led 27-15 at halftime. "We made them work defensively."

Ladywood was 7-of-12

from the foul line, while the Norsemen were only 2-of-6.

ARBOR PREP 45, HVL 37: Freshman guard Zakiya Wells poured in 20 points Tuesday as host Ypsilanti Arbor Prep (1-0) downed Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (0-1) in a non-conference game.

Junior forward Megan Prieskorn led the Hawks with 12 points, while freshman forward Madison Dest added 11 points and six rebounds. Dayna Schroeder also chipped in with 10 points and seven boards.

RU drought helps Salem

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The midway point of the third quarter is quickly turning into the Bermuda Triangle for the Redford Union boys basketball team.

On Thursday against visiting Salem, the Panthers' offensive rhythm disappeared for a long stretch not long after the second half started and the Rocks took advantage, pulling away for a 61-46 victory.

A nine-minute end-of-third-beginning-of-fourth-quarter scoreless drought Tuesday also

proved costly to the Panthers in their 40-32 loss to Plymouth.

"It seemed like we were stuck on 44 (points) forever in the second half," RU head coach Randall Taylor said. "We came out and played well at both ends of the court tonight and it was a back-and-forth game until we went cold late in the third."

Senior swingman Tyler Stewart led the Rocks with 16 points, 12 of which came in the first 16 minutes. Junior Chris Dierker also had a nice season debut for Salem, netting 12 points.

The main man for RU

was senior point guard Dwight Pooler, who put up Chris Paul-like numbers: 10 points, eight steals and six assists while turning the ball over just once.

Tré Goynes notched a hard-earned double-double for the Panthers, registering 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Salem led 29-25 at the break, but RU came out of the gate rolling at the outset of the third quarter when it reeled off a 6-0 run to take a 31-29 lead. Stewart stuck a long three, however, to shift the momentum quickly back to the Rocks.

Whalers nip Belleville, 4-3

In a battle of first place teams, the Plymouth Whalers built a 4-1 lead after one period of play and withstood a late Belleville rally to beat the Bulls, 4-3, in an Ontario Hockey League game played Friday night at Compuware Arena.

The Whalers improve to 20-8-2-1, good for 43 points and first place in the OHL's West Division. Plymouth picked up

ground on second-place Sarnia (now 17-8-1-4, 39 points), who lost 7-3 to the Erie Otters on Friday. The Otters won just their fourth game of the season and are now 4-24-0-1.

Scoring single goals for the Whalers were Dario Trutmann, Stefan Noesen, Mitchell Heard and J.T. Miller while goalie Scott Wedgewood played his 100th game for the OHL club — the seventh in

franchise history to do so. Wedgewood, who Saturday was scheduled to leave for the Canadian World Juniors tryout camp, stopped 31 of 34 Belleville shots for the victory.

Plymouth will next play road games against Oshawa and Belleville Friday and Saturday, respectively, before the holiday break. The next game at Compuware is 2 p.m. Dec. 28 against London.

Canton icers look like contender

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Canton has thrown its hat into the ring as a serious contender in the KLAAs South Division hockey race following a 5-3 win Wednesday night over previously unbeaten Livonia Churchill at Edgar Arena.

Taylor Baker's hat trick and Spencer Craig's solid goaltending enabled the Chiefs to improve to 4-1 overall and 3-0 in the South.

Meanwhile, second-ranked Churchill falls to 4-1 and 2-1.

"We stepped up when we wanted to," said Canton coach Jeremy Majszak, whose team is ranked No. 10 in Division 1. "We knew tonight was going to be a big game and Churchill would be a test for us. Everybody has been talking about Churchill all year long and our guys believed they could be the team that nobody is talking about that could really do some major things."

Baker scored the first of his three goals just 2:48 into the first period on a power-play effort from Zack McArdle.

But Churchill's Brad Milks answered just 2.8 seconds before the same

period ended with a goal from Jake Otto and Mike Rybinski to make it 1-1.

Chiefs respond

After a scoreless second period, Canton responded with three straight goals — Collin Smith from Duggan Tear just 20 seconds into the third and Baker's unassisted goal just 40 seconds later to make it a two-goal cushion.

Baker then scored again with 7:25 remaining to make it 4-1 off assists from Tear and Brad Ceci, but the Canton forward got sent off for a 10-minute misconduct for excessive celebration.

"Taylor Baker played the best game he's ever played in the three years he's been in that jersey by scoring three of the five goals for us," Majszak said. "I would have liked him to finish the game, but that's not the first time the kids celebrated on the ice, so I can't really get too mad about it. That's really a big thing to take on a team like that and score three goals."

Holding the fort

Churchill made things interesting with a pair of goals in the final 4:38 with Riley Brown scoring short-handed from

Chris Mireles followed by Devin Smythe's goal with just under a minute remaining from Mike Gambino and Milks after the Chargers pulled goalie Alex Estes (16 saves) for the extra attacker.

But an unassisted empty-netter by Matt Cox from Brandon Grillo with 42 seconds to go sealed the win for the Chiefs, who got 33 saves from Craig.

"He really kept us going and kept us in there," Majszak said of his netminder. "It was a shame they (Churchill) got those last two (goals) at the end there, but that's what happens when you're playing a good team and the pressure is on."

Churchill rang two shots off the goalpost and outshot the Chiefs 37-20 on the night.

"We were very undisciplined at times tonight," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "I thought we were our worst enemy. Spencer Craig is one of the best goalies in the state, but when you outshoot two-to-one and on the wrong side ... at times I thought we played very well, but we made some big, big mental mistakes what we hadn't done up until this point and time."

GYMNASTICS

Continued from page B1

out Ayana and you're talking about somebody that scored 37 all-around," Cunningham said. "We're a 140 team and we could easily be back at 145, where we were last year."

Of course, the Chiefs will miss the girls who moved on. Piwowar was honored last season by the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association as Senior Gymnast of the Year.

Cunningham, however, puts a positive spin on things.

"Robyn pushed the all-around record at the school several times," Cunningham said. "Ayana can be Robyn. Because she can score 36-37."

Other returners with the chance to again play key roles are "prime contributors" such as sophomores Melissa Green, Erica Lucas, senior co-

captain Marina Milad and junior Nicole Lasecki. All are all-arounders.

Plenty of potential

Pushing them for spots on the so-called "A-team" are promising all-arounders Moraw and Simon.

"Jocelyn will be in contention for being the No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 girl on the team," Cunningham said. "She comes with quite a bit of club experience." Also "very good" with club experience is Simon, who looks particularly strong on vault (8.95 at the scrimmage).

The influx of new talent doesn't stop there.

"I've got half a dozen new kids coming to me with experience," he added. "Not all of them are what I call A-team right now. They are going to be helping out."

"Give me half a season to work with these kids, then I'll have a better handle on how much they are going to contribute."

Among those he mentioned in that group are freshmen Katie Kleabir,

Katie Lawera and sophomore Shannon Kozlowski.

"She (Kozlowski) will be a good vaulter, (as well as) good beam and good floor," Cunningham said. "She should be an all-arounder. The two Katies are going to be in a similar fashion, where they're going to contribute all-around."

Beyond that group are "some kids who are going to contribute individually," Cunningham stressed. "(Junior) Katie Adams is going to be one of my beam contributors. (Junior) Emily Lang on vault and beam, maybe bars."

Sophomore Jessica Siegler improved enough last year to be at the regional qualifying level in all-around and continues to make strides. "She's going to be good."

Canton opened the regular season Saturday in a tri-dual meet and are now idle until Jan. 3 against Northville.

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Quad meet good way for young teams to learn

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The long-term benefits of competing in Wednesday's season-opening quad meet outweigh immediate results, according to Plymouth and Salem wrestling coaches whose teams participated.

At the four-team meet hosted by Plymouth High School, the Wildcats lost 45-34 and 44-31 to Dearborn Fordson and Belleville, respectively.

Salem's wrestling squad also dropped both matches, losing 50-9 to Belleville and 41-27 to Fordson.

"I tell my guys that these first four competitions are pretty much scrimmages that count," Wildcats head coach Quinn Guernsey said. "We do these first two weeks, we figure out all the stuff we need to work on, and then we take a nice long break over Christmas break and work on it."

"The team we have coming out of Christmas break is going to be a lot different than the team we had going in — hopefully."

Guernsey noted that the Wildcats are a "work in progress," and that the quad meet gave youngsters a double dose of mat time.

Salem assistant coach Jeremy Henderson said the quad meet accelerates the learning curve for the young Rocks.

"Two matches is better than one if you're going to a random dual, especially these two teams (Fordson, Belleville) that we don't get to see too often," Henderson said. "Wrestling against them gives us some experience and lets us see them before we see them later in the season."

al highlights. Plymouth's Trey Berry (119), Jon Conn (130) and Said Youssef (140) each won both of their matches, with Conn and Berry twice pinning opponents.

"That's going to happen a lot, hopefully," Guernsey said. "All three of those guys have pretty high expectations for the year and definitely have the ability to fulfill those expectations, too."

Salem's Jake McCabe took down his two opponents, also both via the pin route.

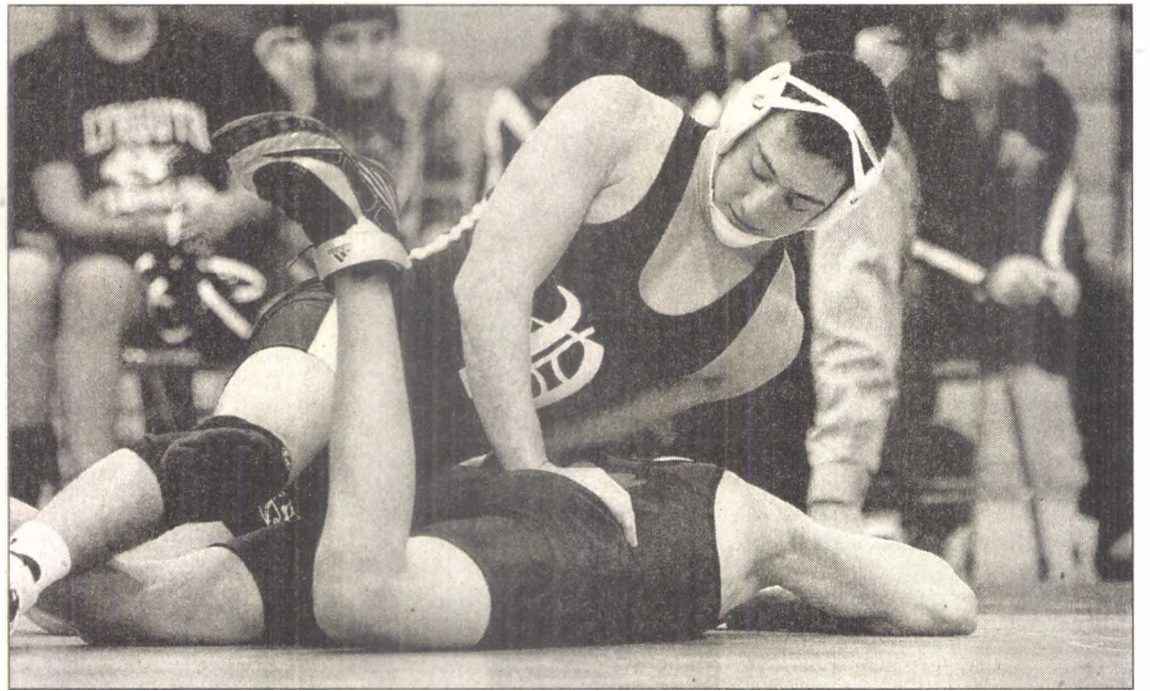
"He's going to be a key for us this season," Henderson said. "He's going to get a lot of pins, he's just got to work on some standard technique and we should see him in March (at the Division 1 state meet)."

Other Wildcats posting wins against Fordson included Mohammed Youssef at 103 (by fall) and Brendon Davis at 145 (16-6) while Hussein Youssef won the 135-pound bout against Belleville by a 10-6 score.

In addition to McCabe, Tony Agohiad was victorious for Salem against Belleville at 215 (7-4). In the loss to Fordson, other Rocks with victories were Ali Ajami (285, pin), Mitchell Marshall (140, pin) and Tyler Gross (160, 6-2).

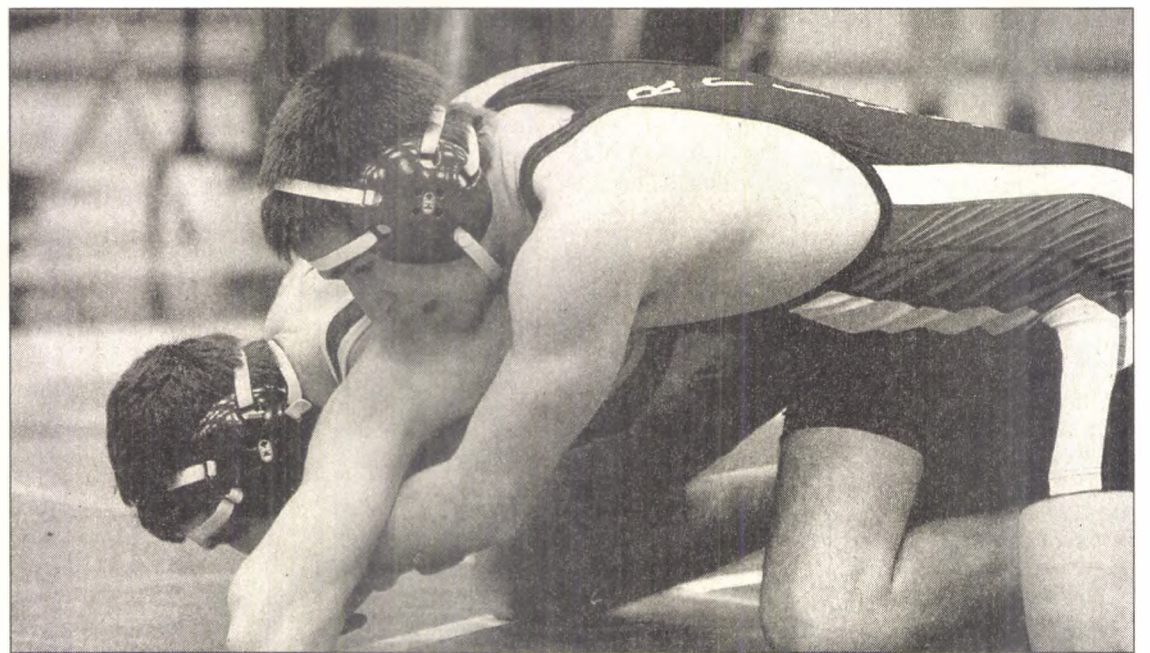
The quad meet also gave newcomers such as Plymouth's Mitchell Lamarand to show their stuff.

"We're missing our usual 125-pounder, Chase Kallil, who's one of our team captains," Guernsey noted. "That hurt. We had a freshman (Lamarand) step in out of nowhere and did what we ask freshmen to do. Come in and do your best. He lost both of his matches but he was still going hard."



PHOTOS BY JOHN KEMSKI

Plymouth's Said Youssef gets the upper hand on Belleville's Will Herring during Wednesday's varsity wrestling quad meet. Youssef won the bout, 11-2.



Winning his second bout of the night during Wednesday's quad meet is Salem 160-pounder Tyler Gross (right), shown taking control over his Dearborn Fordson opponent.

Double winners

There were some individu-

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Overcoming holiday blues

Focus on good memories, delegate duties

By Sharon Dargay
 O&E Staff Writer

The Rev. Joan Christoffers identifies with parishioners who feel more tearful than cheerful at the holidays.

Years before her ordination, she attended her first Christmas Eve worship service as a newly-divorced mom. There was music, pageantry, people and decorations, but none of the merriment could overcome her feelings of sadness at the time.

"I was divorced after 22 years and was devastated. The children were with their father that night. I didn't think twice about going to Christmas Eve service. I sat next to a gal who had recently lost her husband. The two of us cried through the whole service," she said, suspecting they had rained on the feel-good vibe shared by others in the pew that night.

Years later as a minister, she introduced a quieter, low-key alternative to traditional Christmas services at her former church in Capac. Now the pastor at Good Hope Lutheran Church in Garden City, Christoffers will bring that same "Blue Christmas" service to her new flock this year.

"It's a service of hope and healing. The first step is in recognizing that some of us are not happy at Christmas and the holidays are not a happy time



because of illness, loss of family, financial woes. People come to this service because they want a quiet, meditative type of celebration of the birth of Christ rather than the craziness of Christmas Eve services."

Stress or depression?

Dr. Theodore Ruza, D.O., a psychiatrist and medical director of Botsford Hospital's Geriatric Psychiatry Program in Farmington, says the notion of holiday "depression" is "a little exaggerated" for most individuals simply trying to "fit 25 hours into a 24-hour day" as they strive to meet holiday demands.

"It's not so much depression as it is anxiety and stress, which is a



Ruza

huge difference. People get angry, irritable, frustrated, hostile," he said. "Financial issues can be a huge concern.

"I see people get clinically depressed after the holidays. During the holidays, even if you don't have family, there are a lot of things going on ... shopping, a lot of hustle and bustle, anticipation,

things on the radio, movies. On Jan. 1 it's all over and loved ones go back to work and the bills start coming in, it's cold here."

But Ruza acknowledges that the holidays can evoke feelings of sadness and depression over the loss of a loved one, even if they are no longer mourning.

"People can feel sad and depressed even if their mother passed away three years ago because they are remembering Christmases of the past. That is a normal response."

Grieving

Vicki Campbell, Grief Support Services Coordinator for Arbor Hospice, presents workshops in Plymouth, Ann Arbor and Woodhaven to help individuals deal with their

feelings of loss at the holidays. During sessions this year, participants learned to make memory boxes and memory stockings to honor their loved one's life. An art therapist worked with children to help their grief through drawings.

"The grief process is so unique. No two people grieve the same way. Not everyone has a Courier and Ives family," Campbell said. "We tell them that it's good to plan for the holidays. They may not feel as if they have control over their emotions. At least having a plan in place can calm anxiety. They do have some control with whom they spend the holidays. If they are going to get together with family, they may want to compromise, maybe cut back on decorating, place the tree in another location this year, include children in the decorating process.

"It's all about honoring that person's life," she added.

Lighting a candle for the deceased, honoring them with a memorial Mass or making a donation to a charity in their memory can become a part of holiday tradition.

Ruza suggests that families focus on "good memories" of deceased loved ones.

"Talk about the foods they made, what stories they told. If you look at it in a positive way, that can be reassuring and make you feel better," he said. He said delegating



Campbell

tasks and compromising can go a long way toward alleviating stress in families at the holidays.

Both Campbell and Christoffers say reaching out to others by volunteering also can lessen the blues.

Visiting a nursing home, taking cookies to a shut-in, simply "looking outside yourself," can change your outlook while helping someone else, Christoffers said.

Quiet service

Good Hope Lutheran Church's "Blue Christmas" service is 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, at the church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City.

It will include quiet Christmas songs and will focus on message of hope rather than the Christmas story. Participants will get a chance to light votive candles and the service will include a laying on of hands for healing.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia also offers a Blue Christmas service at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the service. The church is located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road.

For more about Arbor Hospice's upcoming grief seminars, visit www.arborhospice.org or call (734) 656-0031.

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Jewish Vocational Services will offer its Women to Work program in January 2012.

Women to Work is designed to help women and men, who have been out of the paid workforce because of family responsibilities, re-enter the work world.

An informational meeting will be held 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, 2012 at 29699 Southfield Road, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Southfield.

The 10-session program will begin Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012. Sessions will run 9 a.m.-noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Participants will receive help with resumes, interviewing and job search skills, and networking.

Advance registration is required. Call (248) 233-4232.



Reunion

The Bishop Borgess High School annual reunion planning committee, Beth (McInchak) Gardner, (left) Mary Beth (Carpenter) Bazner, Brian Kerr, Mary (McCarty) Peters and Jane (McCarty) Browne is all smiles after collecting \$575 in donations to help Monaghan's K of C to help feed the needy this holiday season. They collected the donations at the school's annual reunion on Nov. 26 at Monaghan's K of C. Bishop Borgess was a Catholic high school in Redford. It closed in 2005.

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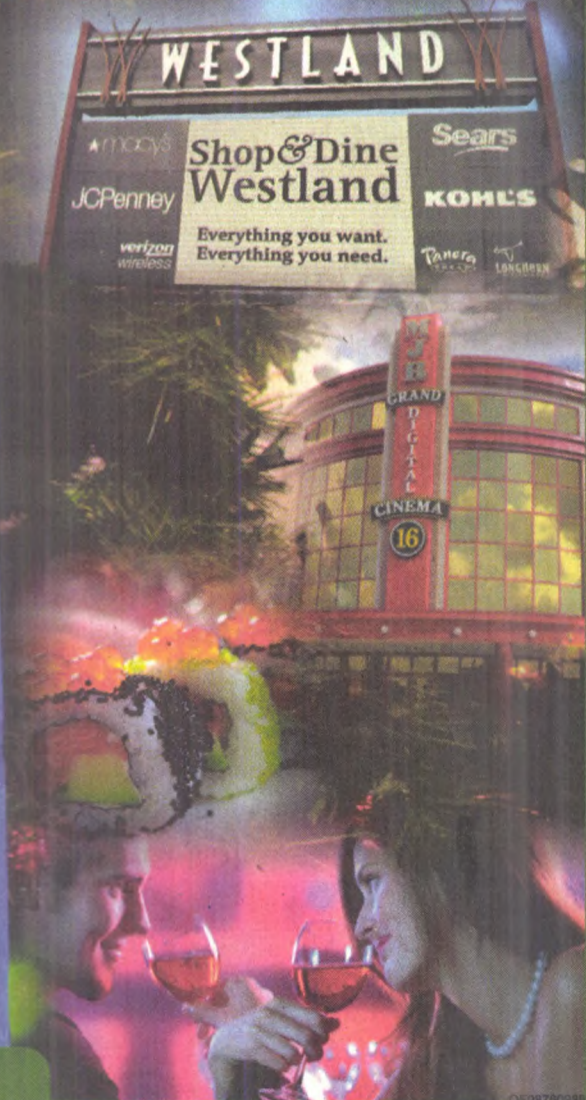
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Rescues seek donations for medical costs

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Sandra Mezza of Guardian Angels Animal Rescue in Livonia had been aware of Abby, a stray dog running the streets of Detroit, for nearly seven years.

One of her Detroit-based volunteers had tried trapping, chasing and following the dog that lived on scraps of food and slept in abandoned buildings.

"She was always too smart and even got out of a live trap they set for her," Mezza wrote in an e-mail. "Who knows how

she survived so many winters, she must have been so cold and so hungry."

Mezza and her volunteers gave a collective sigh of relief recently when they managed to capture the dog. But their celebration was tempered by the dog's medical needs.

"She has a very large tumor under her chest and will need it removed asap," Mezza wrote. "The tumor seems to be just a fatty tumor, which is good. The sad news is, she was tested positive for heartworm."

The group seeks dona-

tions for her treatment and surgery which will cost approximately \$1,000. Mezza also hopes to find a quiet foster home for her recovery. She said Abby is well behaved, quiet and has had no "potty accidents" in the house.

"She is so happy just to have a warm loving place to sleep."

To donate, write to Guardian Angel Animal Rescue, PO Box 511309, Livonia, MI 48151. Or pay online at www.gaarmichigan.org.

More rescues in need

Tail Wagger's 1990, the Livonia organization that helps pet owners who are in need of assistance and provides funding for animals in emergency situations, set a fundraising goal of \$8,000 by Dec. 31 for prevention, treatment, and support programs. Laura Zain, Tail Wagger's founder, has plenty of rescue stories with happy endings this season, but also many cats and dogs that require veterinary care.

"Yesterday, I received an early morning call from the frantic owner

of two Himalayan cats named Bailey and Bentley," Zain wrote. "They had bought the cats for their daughter, but soon after, lost their jobs. Subsequently, they could not afford a trip to the veterinarian for vaccinations, spaying and neutering or food."

"Later the same night, I received a phone call about a puppy that had been found in an abandoned Westland home. Gullivar appeared to be in good spirits but had one of the worse skin conditions I'd ever seen. From head to tail, he was nothing but scabs with hardly any fur on his body. He had been

attacked by fleas for many months, causing a severe reaction."

Zain accepts donations of any amount at Tail Wagger's 1990, 28402 Five Mile, Livonia, MI 48154. Or pay on line through her Web site at www.tailwaggers1990.org.

Better Life Canine Center, headed by Brenda Woody of Westland, also accepts donations to help defray veterinary and dog training costs. The organization socializes and obedience trains all rescues before they are placed in permanent homes. Contribute at www.betterlifecanine-center.org.

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 Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967
 Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21, 2012 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at S_whit-

taker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1971-75
 The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4, 2012. Reunion organizers are searching for classmates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.

com. Spread the word to other classmates, too. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962
 Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19, 2012. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com.

Urologists share data to improve care, treatment of patients

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and 21 urology practices work to improve care of patients with prostate cancer across state

Physicians share data and best practices to improve quality, reduce unnecessary procedures

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and 21 doctor offices throughout the state have launched a new initiative aimed at improving the quality of care for patients with prostate cancer.

The Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative will look at how to reduce unnecessary testing in men with low-risk cancers, and how to provide more appropriate treatment for men with high-risk cancers. Urologists across Michigan also will share data and information to develop guidelines for the use of certain therapies. Standards are designed to reduce variation in practice patterns, which can in turn improve the quality and cost-efficiency of care provided to men with prostate cancer.

"Our initial efforts will focus on improving pat-

terns of care in the staging of men with newly diagnosed prostate cancer," stated Dr. James Montie, professor of urology at the University of Michigan Health Center, (UMHC) the initiative's coordinating center. "We will use clearly defined evidence to guide us in staging bone and CT scans."

Montie will lead the initiative along with Dr. David Miller, an assistant professor of urology at UMC.

Montie and Miller worked with colleagues in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Virginia to establish the Urological Surgery Quality Collaborative in 2009. That project has successfully reduced variations in practice patterns and improved adherence to recommended staging practices within participating urology groups. The Michigan initiative is based on the principles of the successful multi-state collaborative.

The new Michigan Urological Surgery Quality Collaborative joins 30 other collaborations among primary care and specialty physicians par-

icipating in BCBSM's Physician Group Incentive Program.

The program connects physician organizations across Michigan, supporting them in their efforts to collect data, share information and collaborate on initiatives that improve the way health care is delivered in Michigan.

Local urology practices that are participating in the Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative include Affiliates in Urology in Westland, Dearborn, and Taylor; Huron Valley Urology Associates in Brighton, Canton, and Ypsilanti; Oakland County Urologists, in Waterford, Milford, and Novi; University of Michigan Department of Urology, Ann Arbor; and Wayne State University Physicians Group - Urology in Detroit, Farmington Hills, Dearborn, and Southfield.

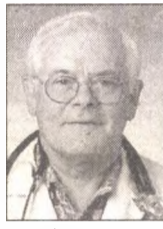
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan is a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. For more information, visit bcbsm.com.

Appliance repairs can be tricky, may be best to go with a pro

This e-mail from Bob has a story to it that I'm sure will interest all you do-it-yourselfers.

Bob writes: "My 8-year-old Whirlpool washer makes a retching noise when it is selected to spin. I took it into the garage and I had it on a dolly and laid it on its front. I rotated the joint between the motor and the transmission and heard one click. I thought maybe that it was in between spin and agitate. Now it will not run at all. Does it need water pressure to run? Does a tip switch need to be reset? I worked on these years ago."

Well, folks, I called Bob because I'm sure he needed a little help.



Appliance Doctor
 Joe Gagnon

Come to find out that Bob during the 1960s had a part-time job after high school classes. He worked in a laundromat in Milford maintaining commercial washers and dryers and just loved the man he worked for. This man taught Bob the inner workings of a washer and dryer but those lessons were not doing him much good on his current 8-year-old washer. He didn't know how to take this machine apart.

With a little help, Bob was able to remove the cabinet from this washer and determined that he needed a new coupler which cost him \$25 and he completed the repairs himself. Once he was told how the cabinet came off he was amazed at how easy it was to repair the product. Once again, knowledge became power.

The fact of the matter is that manufacturers do not want homeowners to repair their own major home appliances. The have made entry into the components of these products a sometimes very tricky thing and many times the do-it-yourselfer will cause more damage than good. Now ask yourself why a

manufacturer would do this to someone who they wish to become a loyal customer. It doesn't make sense to me but it does to them because service profits make the bottom line look good. The more service calls available for their own technicians the more revenue realized by the company. It's almost as if they want to force you to call for a technician, but remember that many independent service companies will gladly explain how you can take things apart.

Another e-mail from Ed tells a story hardly ever told. He writes: "Last night we had an unusual event. Barb was baking cookies and was approaching the oven when the glass from the door exploded all over the floor. She didn't get that close, so she wasn't injured. She went on the Internet to find out if this was something that just happened to her. It was not, it has happened numerous times and it seems by other makers of ovens with glass doors. Ours is a Kenmore purchased September 2010. Lucky for us it came with a three-year warranty."

Now Ed and Barb are going to have their oven door glass repaired and I'll bet that when Barb is baking something and has to open the door you will hear her call for Ed, to "open the door."

Not so long ago I had a lady tell me that she wasn't using her kitchen range, walked by it and the glass blew out of the door and cut her legs. Another lady I met once had a big scar over her right eyebrow and told me that the top burner on her electric range blew up and a piece of hot metal caused a severe burn where the scar is today. It just goes to show that not only are appliance repairs tricky, so are the appliances themselves. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

VOICES & VIEWS: COMMENT ONLINE

hometownlife.com

Blue Care Network of Michigan announces open enrollment for its Personal Plus product:

PERSONAL PLUS

Open enrollment dates are January 1 - January 31, 2012 for a March 1, 2012 effective date.

Please contact Blue Care Network's Customer Service department at 1-800-662-6667 for additional information.

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

WINTER AND ARTHRITIS

We enjoyed a slow onset of winter, but it was arrived. For anyone with arthritis, winter represents a time for caution and planning.

The first winter rule is: Do not hurry.

Allot ample time to dress warmly and to put on boots. Muscles, tendons and joints stiffen quickly when cold; for a person with arthritis, that stiffness adds on to the hazards of winter walking. Any amount of snow or the possibility of ice necessitates wearing boots; putting them on is a nuisance for everyone. For a person with arthritis of the hands, hips or knees, the process is even more annoying.

The only way around the aggravation is to give ample time to the job.

The second winter rule is: Keep moving.

Winter in Michigan raises obstacles to hiking, biking, or walking malls with friends. No ready answer exists to what to substitute in winter for the outdoor facilities offered by Nature in spring and summer. Treadmill equipment is not always available or practical, pool facilities are scarce and getting to an enclosed mall if the weather turns nasty, may prove impossible.

Winter weather not only keeps the person with arthritis a prisoner in his or her home, but turns the car into a straightjacket on wheels. I refer to the prolonged time on the road because of traffic jams, poor road conditions or the limited visibility that accompanies snow storms. While anyone who must stay for a prolonged period in a cramped position feel joint aches, the individual with arthritis suffers infinitely more.

No ready answer exists to overcome these winter circumstances, we must do whatever possible to keep moving.

CE08762720

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and have given speeches to many groups.

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

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Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

**ALLSHOUSE,
NANCY DOROTHY**

December 3, 2011. Age 90 of Birmingham. Beloved wife of the late G.W. "Bill" Allshouse. Dear mother of Mark (Vaughn Babcock), Margaret Allshouse Suter (the late H.W. Suter II), Jeff (Nancy) and Steve (Lori). Grandmother of Amanda Jones (Eric), Lauren Allshouse and Courtney Allshouse Corbin (James). Great grandmother of Leila Jones. Also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services were held Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham. Memorial tributes to the church or Western Michigan University.

View obituary and share memories at
www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

**BEDELL,
DR. WILLIAM**

Age 77, of Chelsea. Survived by Marilyn and his children Brian, Brad (Norma), Barry, and Beth (Dave) Sheffey. Proud grandfather of Austin (Holly), Evan, and Rachel, and great-grandfather of Harris. Visitation was held at Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel, 36100 5 Mile Rd. Livonia (E. of Levan). Friday from 3 PM until 9 PM. A funeral service is planned for 11PM Saturday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the leukemia and lymphoma society 1421 E. 12 Mile Rd. Madison Heights, Michigan 48071 and the Alzheimer's Association 20300 Civic Center Dr., Ste 100. Southfield, MI 48076. Please visit online guest book fredwoodfuneralhome.com



BURRESS, J.W.

Age 89, Dec 4, 2011 of Westland, formerly of Canton. Beloved husband of Nadene. Dear father of Jan Munday, Peg McElroy, and the late Michael, Ronnie and Barbara Kay Burress. Loving grandfather of Julie Kelley and the late Jimmy and David Owens. Proud great-grandfather of Jordan and Brendan Kelley. Dear brother of the late Clarice Bruce and Frankie Walker. Visitation Thursday, 2-8pm and Friday 2-8pm at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N Newburgh Rd., (btwn Ford & Cherry Hill), Westland. Funeral Service Saturday 10am at the funeral home. Interment Washtenog Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association or to Merriman Road Baptist Church. To share a memory, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com



**DOLMETSCH,
MARY LOU (DEACY)**

Age 80, December 8, 2011. Born in Chicago, resident of Livonia for 44 years. Beloved wife of Bob. Loving mother of Bob (Sharon) & Jim (Lisa) Dolmetsch, Mary Jo (Mark) Westbrook, Patti (Rick) Galli. Dear grandmother of Edward, Kristin, Mike, Anthony, Sara, Gina, Jeanette, Jackie, Troy. Visitation at Harry J. Will in Livonia Sunday, December 11 from 2-9 Rosary at 8:00pm. Funeral service on Monday, December 12 at 10:00am at St. Colette Church in Livonia. In lieu of flowers, donations directed to Angela Hospice or Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Please visit memorial tributes at www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

**DUPRIE,
BETTY HARDY**

Age 86 December 5, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Albert Hardy, Jr. Dear mother of Thomas Hardy, Donald Hardy and Gerald (Barbara) Hardy. Grandmother of 6. Great grandmother of 4. Sister of Russell Johnson. A Memorial gathering was held at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. www.santeiufuneralhome.com

**FINN,
PETER GREGORY**

88, of Hudson, FL, passed away Dec. 4, 2011. Born July 23, 1923 in Detroit to Grace Johnson Finn and Russell Finn, he lived in Birmingham, MI until 1972. He is survived by his loving family, his wife, Joan Campbell Finn; daughters, Cindy Apter (Lewis), Carolyn Seckinger, Patty Lift (predeceased him), son John Finn; mother of the four, Joan Dodge Finn; five grandchildren, one great grandson, nephew, Paul LeClair (Beth).



GALE, NANCY J.

Age 66, passed away December 8, 2011. She was born on April 20, 1945, in Ionia, daughter of the late Harry and Helen Martin. Nancy grew up on her parent's dairy farm, in Ionia, giving her a love of cows and livestock. She traveled extensively throughout the country with her family and the NSDCA. She was the past president of the local chapter of NSDCA named the "Traveling Squares". She loved doing crafts and quilting. Nancy was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother and will be sorely missed by all who knew her. She is survived by her beloved husband Walter; her loving children: Tina Marie Gale Bailey, Beverly Jean (Justin) Marlow, and Walter Edwin Gale; 9 grandchildren and her foster children: Jahmeh and Ahmenah. She is also survived by her sister Lucille Bates and her brother James Martin. She was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings: Joane, Gerald and Donald. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 11 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Funeral services will be held on Monday, December 12, at 11:00 a.m. at the Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 22200 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to the Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church or to the Arbor Hospice Foundation. She will be laid to rest in Almer Township Cemetery. Online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com



**GUETHING,
THEODORE HERVEY**

Age 92, born February 16, 1919, Ted passed away peacefully and went Home on November 16, 2011. Ted grew up in New England, graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and MIT. An accomplished athlete, he played tennis, golf, squash and skied. His passion, however, was sailing and he won many championships, both locally and on the national level. Ted served in WWII as a Lt. Commander in the US Navy. While stationed on the USS Ticonderoga in the Pacific, he lost many friends and colleagues when two kamikaze almost destroyed the ship. While in the service, he met and married Camille Guyton, his loving wife of almost 68 years. They resided in Birmingham, Michigan while Ted worked with his father, holding the patent on machine tools needed in the automobile industry. Ted went on to become President of Mackinac College, a liberal arts school. Ted and Camille moved to Key Biscayne, Florida in the early 70's and he established an irrigation company. Upon retiring, Ted's routine was simple. He read the Bible every morning, walked the beach and swam in the ocean. He loved his wife Camille, his children, Theodore Hervey Guething III, Avery Ann Guething, both of whom predeceased him and his younger children Stephanie Giering and Carl Thomas Guething. He is also survived by four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was a member of Biscayne Bay Yacht Club, Riviera Country Club, Key Biscayne Yacht Club and Old Cutler Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Miami Rescue Mission as Ted was passionate about providing for the poor. Interment has taken place at Greenwood Cemetery, Birmingham. Offer condolences at: lynchfuneraldirectors.com



**JENDER, MD
JOSEPH GUNTHER**

Ann Arbor, MI. Age 81, died Monday, December 5, 2011, peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. He was born December 22, 1929 in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, the son of Joseph G. and Martha (Kolakowski) Jender. Joseph completed his undergraduate, medical school and residency at the University of Michigan. He served in the US Army Medical Corp from 1955-64, earning the rank of Major. Joseph was a pediatrician serving the Plymouth-Canton areas from 1964-1998, and was on staff at U of M and St. Joseph Mercy Hospitals. He enjoyed classical music, reading, and spending summers at his cottage on Beaver Island. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Sue; his son, Joe (Maureen) Jender of Herndon, VA; four daughters, Kathleen (Bill) Moran, Laura Jender, Nancy Jender and Alice Young, all of Ann Arbor; a brother-in-law, Nick Grandy; a sister-in-law, Anne (Paul) Ducey; five grandchildren, Katie Moran, Madeleine and Zachary Young, Mallari and Colleen Jender; a niece, Paula (Tevfik) Nas; a niece, Diana Emmou; and close friends, the Anderson family. A private family service was held. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Arbor Hospice or Mott Children's Hospital. Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea (www.colefuneralchapel.com).



**LAINE,
ARMAS ARTHUR**

On December 1, 2011, Armas Arthur Laine entered eternal life at Portage View Hospital in Hancock, Michigan. Armas was born on August 14, 1922 in Oskar, Michigan to John & Fannie (Solomonson) Laine. He is survived by his wife Norma, son Dr. Edward Laine, and granddaughter Reagan Victoria Laine. Also surviving are his sisters Ruth (George) Manninen, Marjorie (late Edward) Zollinger, Catherine (Paul) Leach, and Betty (Dr. Hal) Williams. In addition he is survived by multiple nephews, great nephews, and great great nephews; multiple nieces, great nieces and great great nieces; and cousins including Milly Pekkala. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers (John (Marie) and Reino (Katri)) and sisters (Helen, Viola (Philip) LeLievre, and Gertrude). Armas spent his early years including the Great Depression assisting his parents care for younger siblings and herding the dairy cows. He attended the Hancock Schools graduating from Hancock High School in 1942. After working briefly in Detroit he entered World War II for service to his country in the US Army from 1943-46. He was stationed on the Alaskan Aleutian Islands suppressing Japanese invasion until the end of the war. During his lifetime he worked at a bakery, on an iron ore freighter, and in the automotive industry. From 1950 until 1989 he was employed at Detroit Diamond retiring as Director of Shipping & Receiving from the Wyandotte, Michigan Site. He met Norma Leppanen originally from Bruce Crossing, Michigan at Dexter Dairy in Detroit in the early 1950's and married her on May 9, 1953. This year they celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary defining what marriage was intended to be. They lived briefly in Detroit and then moved to Garden City, Michigan in 1956 where they raised their family. Armas returned to Hancock in 2006 living out his golden years in a local nursing home. Armas enjoyed spending time with his family, friends, and neighbors, working, playing cards & pool, Kaleva Park, vacationing in Michigans UP (especially Otter Lake and Bruce Crossing), fishing, bowling, taking care of his dogs, lawn and garden, bike riding, attending neighborhood and school functions, and Detroit Tiger and Red Wings games. He will be remembered for his dedication to his family and work (missing only one day of work while employed for 39.5 years at Detroit Diamond), honesty, helping others, sense of humor, and always telling people like it was. Springtime burial with a private graveside service will occur in Bruce Crossing, Michigan. The date will be announced via personal invitation. The family requests that any donations be made to your local Humane Society or the Ernie Harwell Foundation in memory of Armas Arthur Laine. The Memorial Chapel Funeral Home of Hancock, Michigan has been assisting the family with the arrangements.

**MAKEPEACE,
NANCY L.**

Age 81, of Hendersonville, NC, formerly of Plymouth, former resident of Tonquish Creek Manor, Plymouth. Loving sister of Phyllis (George) Maddox and Ruby (Ray) Lawrence. Beloved aunt of Terry Wasalawski, Linda Wall, Larry Wasalawski, Penny Wasalawski, Dennis Lawrence, Deborah Price, Merle Maddox and Laurie Maddox. Dear friend of Betty Brink, Clara Cervelli, and Karen Dingley. Visitation Saturday (12/10) 11 AM until 1PM, funeral service at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (Btwn Sheldon & Beck), Plymouth. Interment Parkview Memorial Cemetery. To share memories please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

**MASHNI,
NABIH BOULUS**

Of Ann Arbor, Michigan, died peacefully on December 7, 2011. Nabih was born on February 8, 1929 in Ramallah, Palestine. He came to the U.S. to attend college in the early 1950's and met and married Barbara Jean Jones, his wife of 57 years. Nabih graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in business and moved to southeast Michigan to take a job with the Ford Motor Company. He later received an MBA from the University of Michigan and continued working as a financial analyst at Ford until his retirement. Nabih was instrumental in helping his family from Ramallah—his parents, siblings and grown nephews—immigrate to the United States and establish lives and community here. He is survived by Barbara and their six children, Laila (Donn) Shull, Lisa (Eric) Olson, David Mashni, Carol (David) Simmons, Janet Mashni-Seeburger and Kathie Mashni. Also surviving are 9 grandchildren, Christine, Ryan and Madeline Olson, Stephen, Elizabeth and Erin Simmons, and Job, Mara and Violet Seeburger. Nabih was predeceased by his parents, Boulus and Jalileh Mashni, a sister, Rose (Fuad) Haddad and a brother, Wadia (Aneesa) Mashni. He leaves behind three brothers, Naim (Mary) Mashni, Fuad (Lucy) Mashni and David (Nohad) Mashni, four sisters, Waddad (Herbert) Faïman, Laila (George) Mashni, and Aneesa (Najeeb) Nakhle, and many nieces and nephews. Visitation will be Sunday December 11th from 3-8 p.m. at Metropolitan Seventh Day Adventist Church in Plymouth, MI. Funeral service Monday December 12th at 11 a.m. at church, followed by interment at Parkview Cemetery in Livonia. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



POTOCZAK, JAMES J.

December 2, 2011. Beloved husband of 44 years to Loretta. Loving father of Todd and the late Terri. Loving brother of Rose (Lawrence) Kulik, Monica (William) Reinhold, and the late Leonard. Dearest brother-in-law of JoAnn Potoczak, Dolores Cwik, Henry (Karen) Kopicko and Elaine (Henry) Micallef, and many nieces, nephews and beloved friends. Memorial services were held Friday, December 9 at 1pm at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 31551 Ford Rd., Garden City. Visitation from 10am until time of service at 1pm. Memorial contributions may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (www.pancan.org). Please sign the on-line guestbook at www.rggharris.com

**REINHARDT (BOYER)
AUDREY HELEN**

Age 87, of Redford Township, MI, died Tuesday morning, December 6, 2011, at Borgess Medical Center, Kalamazoo, MI, following a three week illness. Audrey, the daughter of Stephen Boyer and Marie (Herb) Boyer (Ostlund), was born on February 4, 1924 in Detroit, MI. Her only brother, Harold, died in infancy. She was raised in Lincoln Park, MI and graduated from high school there. On September 4, 1948, she married to Robert W. Reinhardt in Detroit. They lived in Redford Township for many years and he died in 1996. Surviving are her sons, Robert W. (& Cheryl) Reinhardt, Jr. of Ross Township, MI and Mark E. Reinhardt of Clinton Township, MI. Audrey had five grandchildren, Kristy, Kara (& Taylor Henshaw), Matthew (& Adrien), Eric and Ross Reinhardt at Audrey's request, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held on Wednesday, December 28th at 1:00 PM at St. James Presbyterian Church, of which she was a member, 25350 West 6 Mile Road, Redford, MI. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Chapter, 100 Mack Avenue, Detroit, MI, 48201, where she was a blood drive volunteer for many years. Arrangements by Farley-Estes & Dowdle Funeral Home, Richland (MI) Chapel, (269-629-6022). Personal messages for the family and/or favorite memories of Audrey may be placed at www.farleyestesdowdle.com

Milestones

Siecinski-Convery

Maggie Siecinski and Michael Convery announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Polly Siecinski of Livonia and Doug Siecinski of Brighton, graduated in 2011 from Central Michigan University with a teaching degree. She currently works as a substitute teacher in the Clarenceville and Livonia school districts.

Her fiancé, son of Don and Karen Convery of Livonia, is finishing his last year at Ferris State University and plans to



graduate in May 2012. He is earning a degree in heating, cooling, air conditioning and refrigeration engineering technology.

A July 2012 wedding is planned at St. Robert Belarmine in Redford.

Ret-Domzalski

Nicole Kathryn Ret and Raymond Thomas Domzalski, Jr., announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Daniel Ret of Plymouth and the late Diane Ret, graduated from Michigan State University in 2010 with a B.A. degree in family community services. She is employed as a foster care and adoption specialist in Southfield.

Her fiancé, son of Raymond and Jane Domzalski of Northville, graduated from College for



Creative Studies in 2011 with a B.F.A. in Illustration. He's employed as a graphic designer in Detroit.

A May 2012 wedding is planned at St. James Catholic Church in Novi.

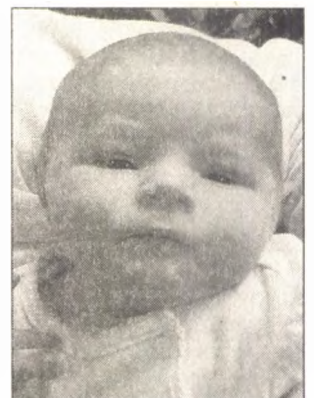
Sheryl Ann Sarafian

Sheryl Ann Sarafian and James C. Karo of Royal Oak are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Christina Sarafian Karo.

Christina was born at 8:12 a.m., Jan. 4, 2011 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. She weighed 7 pounds 13 1/2 ounces and measured 20 3/4 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Eddie and Carolyn Sarafian of Northville, and Dr. James J. and Lucretia Karo of West Bloomfield.

Great-grandparents are the late Joseph and Louise Carson, the late



Edward and Helen Sarafian, the late Robert and Catherine Koss and the late Leo and Helen Karo. The Carsons lived in Canton and the Sarafians and Karos both were from Livonia.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Dec. 11-14

ADVENT SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Dec. 21
Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market Road, Farmington Hills
Details: Special worship services
Contact: (248) 553-3380

SPECTACULAR

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14
Location: NorthRidge Church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth
Details: An all-star cast of Christian artists, along with special guest authors/speakers Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, perform favorite Christmas carols. Tickets are \$30-\$75. Order at www.tickets.com or (800) 965-9324
Contact: www.rushconcerts.com or (734) 414-7777

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11
Location: St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills
Details: Christmas Music featuring the Madonna University Chorale directed by David Wagner. Admission free
Contact: (248) 474-0584

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11
Location: Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601

Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Advent Collage Concert will include the adult Chancel Choir; the Rosedale Praise Team; the adult Carillon Handbell Choir; the instrumental group, Grace Notes; youth ensembles including the Cherub Choir, Chapel Singers, Chapel Bells, Chime Choir and Cathedral Bells. Free
Contact: (734) 422-0494

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11
Location: Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 4000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Christmas concert with chancel choir, children's choir, teen choir, handbells and orchestra. Free
Contact: (248) 374-4740

CONCERT

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11
Location: Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia
Details: "A Trinity Family Christmas." Admission is free
Contact: (734) 425-2800

CONCERT

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11
Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: 30th Christmas Concert, featuring Adult and Children's Choirs, and the St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble. Minimum donation of \$5 per person, along with two non-perishable food items.
Contact: (734) 425-9333

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May you find comfort in Family and Friends

Give the gift of good health

This holiday season, help your loved ones start their New Year's resolutions a little early with gifts that encourage eating better and moving more.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a national non-profit founded by the American Heart Association and the William J. Clinton Foundation to combat childhood obesity, offers 10 healthy holiday gift ideas:

Exercise class gift cards

Inspire a little gym motivation by giving your friends exercise class gift cards. Whether it's yoga, spinning, Zumba or their personal favorite, you can help them stay physically active this winter. Bonus points if you offer to be their buddy and join.

Local options might include a punch card for Summit on the Park in Canton, (\$55 residents, \$130 nonresidents) offering 10 visits to use the facility and attend fitness classes; www.leisure.canton-mi.org/summit/. Or a gift certificate to classes at the Michigan Tai Chi Association in Livonia. Classes start the week of Jan. 2 and are taught at the Association, 38121 Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275, at the Plymouth Council on Aging Friendship Station and at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Call (734) 591-3530 or visit www.taotachi.org

Race Registration

Racing is a great way to work towards an objective. Whether it's a local 5K or a full marathon, giving the gift of a goal will provide an important



PATRICIA A. ELLIS

Breast cancer survivors walk, roll and even dance on the pink carpet with loved ones during the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

benchmark on the path to a healthier lifestyle.

Locally, the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute has begun registration for the 21st Annual Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure on May 26, 2012, at Comerica Park in Detroit. Sign up by Jan. 1, 2012 for the early bird price of \$25 for adults and \$15 for youths, 6-17 and seniors, 65 and older. After Jan. 1, prices jump \$10 for adults and \$2 for youths and seniors. Race day cost is \$50 for adults and \$25 for youths. Visit www.karmanos.org/detroitracefortheure to register.

Water Bottles

Staying hydrated is essential during physical activity. Show your family and friends you support their commitment to fitness and exercise with this personal gift they will bring on every work out.

Add a green twist to the gift by including a hand-

made certificate promising to accompany the recipient to the 5th Annual Green Street Fair in downtown Plymouth. Be sure to take your water bottles to the fair, which runs May 4-6, 2012.

Homemade granola

Granola can be a healthier alternative than pre-packaged breakfast foods. By making your own granola you can customize your gift to someone's tastes while also ensuring only wholesome ingredients make it into their morning meals.

Here's a recipe from Sun-Maid to get you started:

Granola Fruit Cups

- 1 1/2 cups old-fashioned oats
- 1/4 cup wheat germ (or oats)
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans or walnuts
- 1/4 cup chopped almonds
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds or sunflower seeds
- 2 tablespoons sesame seeds
- 1/2 cup maple syrup or honey
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 large egg white

- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup Sun-Maid Fruit Bits

Preheat oven to 350 F. Coat a 12-cup muffin tin with cooking spray, or line with muffin papers. (A dark metal non-stick pan produces best results). Spread oats, nuts and seeds on a rimmed baking sheet. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until fragrant and lightly toasted. Reduce oven temperature to 300 F. Combine syrup or honey, butter, egg white and vanilla in a large bowl. Add Fruit Bits and toasted oats mixture; stir well. Spoon 1/3 cup mixture into each muffin cup and pack firmly using the bottom of a flat measuring cup. Bake at 300 F for 35-40 minutes for dark pan, or 40-45 minutes for regular pan, until well browned. Cool completely in pan, preferably several hours. Gently release by running a blunt knife around edges. Store in an airtight container.

Bike tune-up

Are there bikes gathering dust in the garage? Get them working good as new with a professional tune-up and inspire your family to start riding.

Want to try a winter ride? The Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society offers daily treks including routes through Kensington Metropark, along Hines Drive, and starting in downtown Plymouth. Visit www.aabs.org for an events calendar and membership information.

Cooking gear

A portable grill top or a steamer for a stove is an

easy way to prepare vegetables and meats in a nutritious, delicious fashion.

Fresh Fruit

This holiday season, hold the cake and give sweet, healthy fresh fruit. Order in a store, online or express yourself by purchasing and arranging the fruit on your own.

Jump ropes

Jumping rope is a great workout and is the perfect indoor activity during inclement winter weather. Make your gift extra special with a jump rope technique video.

Sports balls

Soccer balls, kick balls, basketballs and other sports balls are fun ways to cut down on screen time and encourage kids to get active.

Local Produce Membership

Fresh produce is a healthy and delicious addition to any household. Many neighborhoods offer community-supported agriculture programs that are open for membership. Give the gift that keeps your pantry and your family full of seasonal, local vegetables.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation aims to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity by 2015, and to empower kids nationwide to make healthy lifestyle choices. For more tips on ways you can cultivate a healthy lifestyle and help reverse the trend of childhood obesity visit: www.HealthierGeneration.org.

— Sharon Dargay

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

December

ST. MARY MERCY

• Dr. Harmesh R. Naik, an oncologist at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, will give a presentation, "Nutrition, Medication and Treatment of Breast Cancer," from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, in the Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center Atrium at the hospital, located at Five Mile and Levan, in Livonia. Call St. Mary Mercy Hospital's Marian Women's Center at (734) 655-1162 for more information or visit stmarymercy.org.

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL

• Get up and Move exercise program runs 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, 20, 27, and Thursday, Dec. 15, 22, 29. Cost is \$30 monthly. Call (734) 458-3242.

• Yoga class meets at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the hospital, located at Maplewood and Inkster Road; (734) 458-3242

• Eating Disorders Support Group meets 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, 21 and 28; (734) 458-4330 for information

• Hearing Loss Association of America Support Group, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14; (734) 458-3381 for more information.

• Alzheimer's Support meets 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15, in the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building, lower level classrooms, 6255 N. Inkster Road, Garden City; (734) 458-4330.

• Cerebral Aneurysm and Stroke Club meets 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, in the hospital's Rehabilitation Unit dining room; (734) 458-4392.

• Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 20, at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway and 10:15 a.m. Dec. 21 at the Maplewood Community Center, located on Maplewood just west of Merriman in Garden City; (734) 458-4330.

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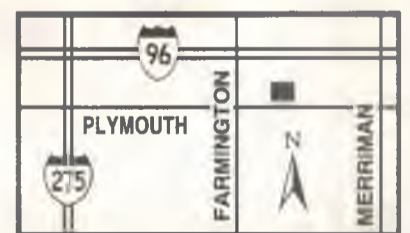
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Is Your Major Marketable?

Careers for popular college majors
Rachel Farrell,
Special to CareerBuilder

College majors are a funny thing. Some students know exactly what they want to major in before they even start the school year. Others don't declare until a year or so down the road. Some choose one knowing they could potentially earn a lot of money. Others follow in their parents' footsteps. The list goes on.

Our advice has always been to earn a degree in something that will lend itself to a career path that you can be passionate about. It can be uncommon, broad, challenging. As long as you love it, and can find some type of career doing it, go for it.

We took a look at the most popular college degrees, defined here as the number of degrees conferred in any given major.

Business was the most popular degree in 2007-2008, according to the 2010 Digest of Education Statistics from the U.S. Department of Education. Of the 1,601,368 bachelor's degrees awarded by degree-granting institutions, 346,972 were for degree in business, management, marketing and related support services. Here's how other popular degrees broke down:

Social sciences: 133,789
Health professions and related clinical sciences: 120,488
Education: 101,708
Visual and performing arts: 89,140
Engineering and engineering technologies: 84,636
Communication and communication technologies: 83,109
Biological and biomedical sciences: 80,956

If you're thinking about earning your bachelor's degree in any of the above fields, here are some possible careers that line up with market demands:

Business
Career: Market researcher

A bachelor's degree is often adequate for entry-level jobs, but you may need a higher degree for advancement and more technical positions.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 28 percent from 2008-2018
Career: Human resources analyst

A lot of schools don't offer specific programs for human resources, so many employers look for college graduates with a technical or business background or a well-rounded liberal arts education.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 22 percent from 2008-2018.
Biology

Career: Forester
A bachelor's degree in forestry, biology, natural resource management, environmental sciences, or a related field is the minimum educational requirement for a forestry career.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 12 percent from 2008-2018.

Career: Zoologist
A bachelor's degree in biology is generally sufficient for a career in zoology.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 13 percent from 2008-2018.

Social Science
Career: Social worker
A bachelor's degree in social work is most common to get a job in social work, but majors in psychology, sociology or a related social science may qualify for some entry-level jobs.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 16 percent from 2008-2018.

Career: Urban and regional planner
Graduates with a bachelor's

degree in urban planning qualify for some entry-level positions, but they will most likely need a higher degree to advance.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 19 percent from 2008-2018.

Visual and Performing Arts
Career: Graphic designer
An associate or bachelor's degree is needed for entry-level positions in interior design.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 19 percent from 2008-2018.

Career: Interior designer
A bachelor's degree in graphic design is often required for most graphic design positions. Bachelor's degree programs in fine arts or graphic design are offered at many colleges, universities and private design schools.

Job prospects: Employment is expected to increase approximately 13 percent from 2008-2018.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (2010) Digest of Education Statistics, 2009 (NCES 2010-013).



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Must have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree, 5+ years experience in development with fundraising, and/or grant writing skills required. Proven track record of raising over \$3 million per year through direct mail, foundations, corporations and planned giving (no government money) and 5 years experience supervising development team/department and PC/Computer literacy with working knowledge of Microsoft Office and Raiser's Edge required.

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Or fax resumes to: 734-710-3223 or email to sthomson@die-namic.com
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1 owner, non-smoker,
garaged, stored in winter
under 72,000 miles, full
power, alarm, light blue/dark
blue leather seats. Runs &
looks like new inside & out.
All records & maintenance
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