

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

> Volume 35 Number 41

**75 CENTS** 

## Holiday cards for a cause - B6



#### online at hometownlife.com



Local family makes Whaler feel right at home - Sports, B1

### CANTON CONNECTION

## 'Chasing Light'

Pulitzer Prize winning composer Joseph Schwantner is coming to lead educational workshops in conjunction with the Michigan premiere of his *Chasing Light* performed by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestra Nov. 21, at the Village Theatre of



Cherry Hill. Schwantner will give two workshops for fifth grade students at Farrand and Hulsing Elementary schools in the Plymouth-Canton School District and will

spend a day with graduate composition students at the University of Michigan School of Music in Ann Arbor.

The performance will include the *Lincoln Portrait* by Copland, Gershwin's *An American in Paris* and Ellington's *It Don't Mean a Thing.* The Plymouth Canton

Symphony Orchestras concert takes place 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 at Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill (at Ridge), Canton.

Tickets are \$25, adult; \$20, senior, \$10, student. Call (734) 451-2112 or visit www.plymouthsymphony.org.

## PCA auction

Officials at Plymouth Christian Academy host "MISSION POSSIBLE," the school's annual Fall Auction, Friday, Nov. 20, in the school building at 43065 Joy Road in Canton.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with a buffet pasta dinner and



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathleen Kasperek-Korelis, project leader for the Center for Advanced Medicine and Surgery, talks about the new operating rooms where equipment is suspended from the ceiling, eliminating cables and carts on the floor.

# Medical advances

### St. Joseph Mercy to open \$43 million investment

#### **BY DARRELL CLEM** OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In a move that puts Canton on the medical map, St. Joseph Mercy Health System has confirmed it will open its new Center for Advanced Medicine and Surgery in December after investing \$43 million in its township facility near Canton Center and Palmer roads.

Health officials say the 53,000square-foot, two-story addition makes St. Joseph the largest health



## Canton OKs \$40K for road service

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In a lopsided vote, Canton's elected officials have decided to spend \$40,000 to convince Wayne County to place a higher priority on snow-plowing efforts on certain stretches of roads, including Lilley, Sheldon, Lotz, Denton, Saltz, Warren and Joy.

The decision means the township will continue a 17-year tradition of splitting the county's costs along roads that, though heavily traveled, are ranked as secondary thoroughfares rather than primary.

In a 6-1 decision Tuesday, the Canton Township Board of Trustees agreed to continue the program, although officials here and elsewhere already fear snow-plowing efforts could suffer as counties across Michigan grapple with budget constraints.

For a second year, Trustee Pat Williams cast the lone dissenting vote against the plan and said the township shouldn't have to pay Wayne County to maintain county-owned roads.

"Who owns the roads in Canton, and who's responsible for the maintenance of those roads?" Williams asked during a telephone interview. "It's been 17 years that we have continued to subsidize the county for snow-plowing."

Though he said Canton and Wayne County have many joint projects that he supports, "this is one in which the service continues to deteriorate."

Township officials disagreed amicably on the issue. Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said she believes the \$40,000 is well-spent to protect the health, safety and welfare of local

silent auction. The live auction begins at 7 p.m. and will include such items as a ride on the Red Wings Zamboni complete with game tickets, fabulous sports and vacation packages, a ride on a B-17 Flying Fortress at the Yankee Air Museum and pearl sets made by women who have been rescued out of the human trafficking trade.

Proceeds from this event will go directly to support students in the pursuit of a college preparatory, Biblical worldview education.

For more information, contact PCA at 734-459-3505 or www. plymouthchristian.org.

### Reunion time

Plymouth Canton and Salem Class of 1994 is hosting its 15-year reunion 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27. at the Novi Sheraton. 21111 Haggerty in Novi. Cost is \$50. Details can be found and tickets purchased at www.pcep1994.com. For more information, contact Julie Burkett (Orleman) via e-mail at julieburkett@hotmail.com or call (734) 674-3478. care provider in Canton and marks the first time a facility in southeast Michigan will offer cancer patients a radiation therapy using RapidArc technology, a state-ofthe-art, tumor-fighting system that improves precision and speed.

"We are thrilled to bring advanced and life-changing technologies to the Canton area," said Kathy Kasperek-Korelis, St. Joseph director of oncology and project leader for the twofold cancer-treatment and outpatientsurgery facility at 1600 S. Canton Center Road.

The new addition marks a vast expansion of an 85,000-squarefoot facility that opened 11 years ago, and health officials plan to celebrate with an open house 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, just weeks before the center will start accepting cancer patients in early to mid-December. The surgery area is expected to open in late spring.

"We're very excited to show this to the community," Kasperek-Korelis said.

From the moment a visitor steps inside the main lobby, it becomes



The Center for Advanced Medicine and Surgery opens soon in Canton.

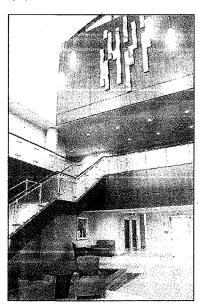
clear St. Joseph chose a design intended to create a relaxing, healing environment for patients, both on the first-floor cancer center and the second-story outpatient surgery and procedure area.

The decor includes soft colors, soothing artwork, an outdoor "healing garden," private chemotherapy infusion bays, flat-screen televisions and an American Cancer Society resource office, among other amenities. Three surgical suites — and space for a fourth — are spacious and designed with no electrical cords on the floor, providing a distraction-free environment for medical providers.

"We have created a healing environment within a high-tech building," Kasperek-Korelis said.

Please see ST. JOSEPH, A3

31 and done for reserve officer



The entrance to the new facility is designed to make patients feel relaxed and peaceful.

motorists who use the roads.

"I still think it's imperative that we plow the roads," she said.

The roads in question include Lotz south of Cherry Hill; Lilley south of Ford; Sheldon south of Ford; Denton south of Saltz; Warren west of Beck; Saltz west of Canton Center; and small stretches of Joy west of Beck, Lotz south of Warren and Cherry Hill west of Ridge.

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said that, unless the township splits the snow-plowing costs, county crews likely wouldn't begin clearing those roads until they're covered by 6 inches of snow. Local officials eventually hope to get the roads classified as a higher priority with the state of Michigan.

Trustee John Anthony reluctantly joined a board majority in approving the snow-plowing agreement with Wayne County.

"I don't like Wayne County dumping on us their responsibility," he said. "As long as we acquiesce, they will continue to do it."

Ultimately, Anthony said, "I think I'll vote for it, but hold my nose."

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#### BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Gregory Bretz, Canton's longest-serving reserve police officer, has spent thousands of hours during the last 31 years volunteering his time to help the township police department.

• He has assisted at countless community events such as Liberty Fest, directing traffic and tutoring festival-goers on the broad scope of police work.

• He has given his time during the Christmas season to take local children shopping at local stores during the Shop With A Cop program.

• He has led police department tours for Scouts and other children's groups.

• He has helped ensure orderly crowds at events like local high school football games.

• He has received much of the same schooling as regular police officers — everything from weapons training to administering CPR.

Bretz, a 63-year-old retired Ford Motor Co. senior research engineer, has decided to retire as a reserve police officer. And as his colleagues watched Tuesday evening, he received accolades as the Canton Township Board of Trustees honored



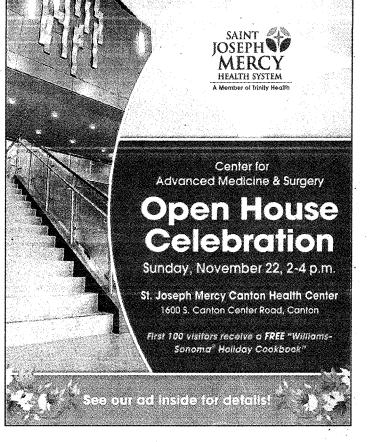
Gregory Bretz, a retiring Canton reserve police officer, stands with two children during one of the police department's past Shop With A Cop programs.

him for his service.

"These folks really help us out," said township Trustee Dr. Syed Taj, who read a resolution honoring Bretz, accompanied by wife Patricia.

During an earlier interview, Bretz said his decision to retire wasn't an easy one.

Please see OFFICER, A3



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#### LOCAL NEWS

#### online at hometownlife.com

#### Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 15, 2009

# Canton woman charged with embezzlement

#### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A former civilian employee in the Livonia Police Department was charged Thursday with embezzlement, following a police investigation in which more than \$20,000 was recovered from her residence, according to investigators.

Jane Anne Delaney, 62, of Canton, was arraigned Thursday on charges of embezzlement by a public official of over \$50, a 10-year felony. A plea of not guilty was entered for her before Magistrate <sup>§</sup> James Jolly in the 16th District Court in Livonia. Bond was set at \$20,000. A preliminary examination was scheduled for Nov. 19.

Delaney's job as clerk involved processing requests from the public for accident reports, copies of police reports, gun permits and notary duties, as she was a public notary, according to Police Chief Robert Stevenson.

Police investigators believe she took small amounts of cash for just a few dollars at a time, but the transactions were not always recorded on the register and a receipt printed. Some of the amounts were so small that members of the public may not have requested a receipt.

Delaney, who worked for the city for 21 years and for the

police department for at least 10, was terminated after her arrest Oct. 2. "We executed a search war-

**Delaney** rant on Oct. 2, and recovered

just over \$20,000, which we feel is the money stolen," said Lt. Greg Winn of the Livonia Police Department,

The investigation began when the department received an anonymous tip from someone in the records bureau on the suspicious activity. Detectives investigated the accused clerk over several weeks, Stevenson said.

"Obviously I'm disappointed," Stevenson said of the alleged activity. "When we put people in places of trust and when that trust is betrayed, I'm disappointed.

"On the other hand, I'm proud that 99 percent of the employees do the right thing, and they reported it. It shows the best and the worst of what you can have for employees."

The amounts taken by the suspect are believed to be in the range of \$5 to \$13 at a time.

"Usually there were not any big significant or large amounts," McDermott said. "We looked at the checks and balances currently in place and tightened things up." "Around Canton" 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

#### Passion for Fashion

Indigo Salon and Day Spa and the Village Theater present the first "Jingle Bell Benefit, Passion for Fashion" 7:30-9 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Cherry Hill Village Theater.

Passion for Fashion is dedicated to raising funds for the Canton Goodfellows Gifts for Kids program. With your help Indigo will be able to provide over 600 children in need with the Christmas of a lifetime. Half of all proceeds received from the

2009 Jingle Bell Benefit, Passion for Fashion will be used to purchase Christmas gifts for those in need.

Businesses interested in making a donation can contact Meghan Giersdorf, Indigo Salon and Day Spa, 50545 Cherry Hill in Canton by e-mail at marketing@indigosalonanddayspa.com or by calling (734) 961-3245.

#### Corriveau coffee

State Representative Marc Corriveau is hosting a coffee hour 5:30-6:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road, in Canton. For more information, call

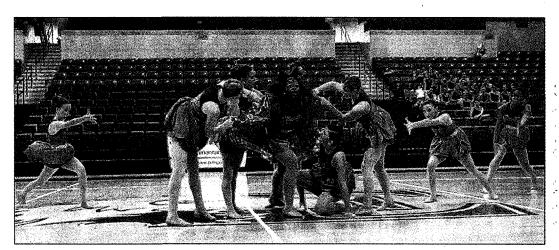
#### Craft show

(734) 981-0200.

St. Thomas a'Becket Church, located at 555 S. Lilley in Canton, is accepting applications for its annual Christmas Craft Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. All interested crafters should email stabcraftshow@yahoo.com or call (734) 981-1333.

#### Historical display

A new display for the Canton Historical Society honors local past and present troops. "Canton



**AROUND CANTON** 

### **Dance delights**

The Salem High School Junior Varsity Dance team earned first place in their division at the 2009 Mid American Pompon Dance and High Kick Championship Nov. 8 at Eastern Michigan University. The team placed first in the Junior Varsity Jazz category. Salem JV performed with a Jazz routine to the song 'Let Me Think About It' by Ida Corr. The 12-girl team coached by Liz Hynes is preparing for the Regional Competition at Churchill High School Saturday, Jan. 23, with hopes of qualifying for the State Competition at EMU Sunday, Feb. 13.

#### answers the call on the battle front and home front" featuring objects and photographs helps visitors examine the lives of Canton residents as they faced difficult and immense challenges.

The exhibit honors the commitment and sacrifice made in the past and continuing through the present.

The exhibit will run through Dec. 12 during museum hours Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For addition information, or for anyone who would like to loan items for the display, contact the museum at (734) 397-0088.

#### Holiday Arts & Crafts

The annual Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters Holiday Arts & Crafts Ensemble is a juried art and craft exhibition hosted by the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 at Plymouth High School. Exhibitors include makers of handcrafted jewelry, holiday gifts, floral arrangements, purses, wood crafts, glass works, clothing & linens, paintings, painted glass ornaments, and more. In addition to the 100-plus exhibits, there will be food, baked goods, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admission is \$2.

All the proceeds from this one day event go towards the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth Canton Educational Park, the campus of three high schools in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. For more information visit www.pcmb. net/artcraft

For more information, call (734) 414-7654.

#### Doctor documentary

Audiences across the country will get a rare inside look into the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Doctors Without Borders at the Goodrich Quality Theater-Canton Cinema, 43555 Ford Rd, Canton, 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14.

"Living in Emergency: Stories of Doctors Without Borders LIVE with Elizabeth Vargas" is an exclusive, one-night only event, which will be broadcast via satellite from New York University's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts to thousands of Americans seated in nearly 450 movie theaters across the country.

Doctors Without Borders gave a documentary crew unlimited and uncensored access to its field operations in war-torn Congo and post-conflict Liberia. The critically acclaimed documentary, "Living in Emergency," interweaves the stories of four doctors who are forced to confront the limits of their idealism in the face of overwhelming medical needs. Following the documentary, Elizabeth Vargas, anchor of ABC News 20/20, will moderate a LIVE town-hall discussion with frontline aid workers and awardwinning journalists, including

Sebastian Junger, best-selling author of *The Perfect Storm* and Vanity Fair contributing editor. To purchase tickets, visit www.

FathomEvents.com/doctorswithoutborders





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## Poignant ceremony honors Canton's veterans ST. JOSEPH

#### **BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

John Spencer has been part of putting together the Canton Township "Salute to Service" tribute to servicemen and women since the event started in the mid-1990s.

In Spencer's mind, this year's event, which took place Wednesday at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, was among the best ever.

"The speakers were very good, and (public safety director) John Santomauro's address was excellent and inspiring," said Spencer, a Vietnam veteran who also served as the keynote speaker at the Veterans Day tribute earlier in the day. "Throughout this nation's history, America's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and reserves have bravely answered the call to defend our freedom, to aid our friends and allies and to turn back aggressors.

"We can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to the more than 650,000 American service members who died in battle or the 1.4 million who were wounded,' he added. "We can, however, recognize and thank the 25 million veterans still living today."

Four World War II veterans - Russ Cullen, Melvin Litke, Stanley Sekovich and Richard Wise - were profiled in a video presentation, which drew "a rousing ovation" by the audience, Spencer said.

Members of the Canton Young Marines marched and read statements about why they became Young Marines and the Workman Elementary School choir performed. A second video pre-

FROM PAGE A1

"For me it was pretty hard to leave," he said. "The biggest part of it is the people. This is a terrific organization." Bretz has seen the Canton Police Department grow from

PHOTOS COURTESY CANTON COMMUNITY CABLE

Members of the Canton Young Marines took part in Wednesday's Salute to Service, explaining why they became Young Marines.



**Canton Township Trustee and U.S.** Marine Reservist Todd Caccamo speaks to the crowd at Wednesday's Salute to Service.

sentation listed the Canton servicemen and women currently serving in the U.S. armed forces.

"The focus was on our veterans and their families who supported them, and on

its former site near Geddes and Sheldon to a much larger organization now housed in the township administration building on Canton Center Road.

"Our job as reserve officers is to augment the regular police officers," he said. "No way in the world are we replacements. We're strictly our current servicemen and women and their families," Spencer said.

The event also served as a chance for Michigan Military Moms to collect items for servicemen and women serving overseas. Items such as hand/ foot warmers, peanut butter crackers, playing cards, small sports items such as softballs and frisbees and telephone calling cards.

"I think this is the best one they've ever done," said Nancy Spencer, president of the Canton Goodfellows and John Spencer's wife. "It was timely and personal and well done. It was very nice and necessary to remind people of all that veterans have given for this country."

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there to help."

Bretz said his position has allowed him to make longtime friends and serve his community, and his departure is bittersweet.

"This has been my way of volunteering in the community," he said.

dclem@hometownlife.com (313) 222-2238

FROM PAGE A1

Moreover, St. Joseph officials say the new facility will provide top-tier care close to home for patients who live in or near Canton.

"The Center for Advanced Medicine and Surgery will allow people in Canton and surrounding communities to receive advanced care right in their own back yards," said Rob Casalou, president and CEO of St. Joseph hospitals in Ann Arbor, Saline and Livingston County. "At St. Joe's, we are dedicated to healing body, mind and spirit; (the new center) goes a long way to support our mission.'

Health officials say the new center will complement an existing facility that offers primary and specialty care physician services; St. Joseph's busiest urgent care center; clinical lab; radiology; physical rehabilitation services; and an

interactive health education center popular among children.

Officials say expanded imaging services include:

• An advanced, 64-slice CT scanner that offers faster exams, "breathing lights" to coach patients on holding their breath, and a lower table height that improves access to patients.

 Digital mammography providing higher quality images.

 Renovated ultrasound and vascular lab suites. • The only fixed MRI in

Canton.

• New dressing rooms and waiting areas for patients.

The cancer center includes: Michigan's second

RapidArc technology for radiation therapy; the other is in Muskegon. • Thirteen chemotherapy

infusion bays with flat-screen TVs and views of the healing garden.

• Two private infusion rooms

for patients who may require longer treatment.

• Four radiation oncology and four medical oncology exam rooms.

The outpatient surgery and procedure center includes:

• Three minimally invasive surgery rooms equipped with

the latest technologies. • Three universal treatment rooms.

 Nineteen surgery pre-op and recovery bays.

• A large family waiting area with flat-screen TVs.

Moreover, Kasperek-Korelis said the waiting area will have what she called a patient "status board" - a wall-mounted tracking screen where family members can get information such as when a patient was taken into surgery and when the procedure is finished.

Kasperek-Korelis urged anyone interested in seeing the facility to attend the open house.

"It is a magnificent thing to see this technology," she said.





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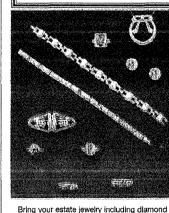
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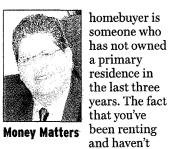
## Pick mortgage carefully, don't let house own you

Q: Dear Rick: My wife and I have lived in an apartment for the past few years and have decided to buy a home. Our original plan was to begin looking for a house in February or March. In one of your past columns, you wrote about the tax credit for first-time homebuyers, which we are. Your article said that the tax credit expired Nov. 30, 2009. Is it possible to get an extension and do you physically have to take control of the house before Nov. 30 or can you sign a purchase agreement by that date and close later?

A: President Barack Obama signed a bill Nov. 6 extending the federal tax credit for firsttime homebuyer. You must enter into a purchase agreement by April 30, 2010, close and take possession by June 30, 2010.

The first issue is to make sure you qualify for the credit. To qualify you must be a firsttime homebuyer. A first-time

ATIONWIDE WARRANT





owned a home means you meet this test. In addition, there is an

income limit. To qualify for the full credit, for purchases after Nov. 6, 2009, your adjusted gross income, if you are married, must be less than \$225,000. For a single individual, the income limit is \$125,000.

The credit is 10 percent of the purchase price, up to a maximum of \$8,000. Therefore, if you bought a home for \$100,000 and you meet the income test, you would qualify for an \$8,000 credit. At the end of the year, if you did not owe money in

-UP AND DROP OFF

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taxes, the government would send you a check for the amount of the credit.

Under the new law, the price of a home cannot exceed \$800,000. There was no price limit under the old law.

The new law also provides that current homeowners may purchase another home to live in and also receive a credit. If a person has owned the current home for at least five years as the primary residence, a \$6,500 tax credit is available. The credit is 10 percent of the purchase price, up to a maximum of \$6,500 in this instance.

The first-time homebuyer's credit is certainly an incentive for many people to purchase homes. For those who have not already found a house and started the mortgage process, with the extension of the law, you now have additional time to find a home.

Another benefit of the new law is to get the credit (or income tax refund) in the homeowner's possession as

soon as possible. If you purchase a home prior to the April 30, 2010, (and close by June 30, 2010) deadline you may treat it as purchased in 2009. The purpose of this is to report the purchase on your 2009 income tax return (or amended tax return for 2009 if purchased after filing your income tax return) even if you purchased the home in 2010. By treating it in this way you will receive the credit sooner. Otherwise, you would have to file your 2010 income tax return in 2011.

I strongly recommend that any prospective buyer take time and select a mortgage that fits his/her individual situation and not one that makes the mortgage company happy. Make sure you own the house and that the house doesn't own you. Good luck!

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



If so, email or call for a free DVD. djmaltese@gmail.com 734-737-0500

## Residents are invited to **Community Conversation**

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the Canton **Community Foundation** are joining with the Center for Michigan to host a **Community Conversation** - a bottom-up, commonground citizen agenda for Michigan's transformation and future prosperity.

The community conversation is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16 in The Canton Community Foundation Office, 50430 School House Road, Suite 200. The foundation offices are located in the Canton Human Services Building at the corner of Ridge and Cherry Hill roads.

The session is limited to 25 participants. To register, call the foundation office at (734) 495-1200 or e-mail info@ cantonfoundation.org or srosiek@hometownlife.com.

The Center is working on Michigan's Defining Moment project, which is seeking to engage 10,000 state residents in a three-year period to participate in the Community Conversation.

Participants will use interactive polling devices to record their opinions on issues such as the economy, education and good strategies for government.

Trained facilitators will conduct the conversations and written materials will guide the conversations. Videos and an interactive "Michigan Game," an icebreaker helps participants become engaged in the discussion process.

The Center for Michigan is a bipartisan, centrist think-and-do tank that is sponsoring Michigan's Defining Moment (MDM), a public engagement campaign designed to link Michigan citizens with the public policy choices that face our state.

"Citizen voices are even more important as Michigan braces for the most serious economic and political challenge of our times," said Philip Power, president of The Center for Michigan.

"In 2010, all of Michigan's the top elected positions and many of the seats in the Legislature will change hands due to term limits. MDM doesn't seek to elect candidates of any particular party. Instead, we work to heighten citizen dialogue and build a pragmatic, solutions-oriented agenda for the state's future – with action items that can be taken up by Democrats and Republicans alike."

#### :25 Mff Per Axle TRANSMISSIONS Lifetime wairanty on brake pads. ATL If of the second in annan sinaan aanah maanin mama amaa ahaan sinaa kaana sinaa siyaan sinaa I amaan tahun maanin sinaa sinaa sinaa sinaa sinaa sinaa sinaa siyaan tahun siyaan TOTAL CAR CARE FREE SHOCK & STRUT INSPECTION . Fromt-End Alignm with shock & strut replacement Lifetime warranty on shocks & struts. coupon per customer. Present at time of vehicle drop off. Not valid with any other offer or coupon. SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE 260 W. Ann Arbor Road Plymouth (Behind Greko Printing) -462-87 **COMPLETE CAR CARE EXPERTS** Check Engine Light On? Transmission Problems? Low Fluid Levels? Y REPAIR TO \$200 OFF **Brake Noise?** VALID AT THIS LOCATION ONLY. EXPIRE We can handle ALL of that! TRANSMISSIONS, BRAKES, POWER STEERING, EXHAUST, TUNE-UPS, SHOCKS, **COOLING SYSTEMS, ALTERNATORS, OIL/FLUID CHANGES & MORE** The leader in transmissions with 900-> Nationwide locations PICKEUP [0] $( \circ )$

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Agenda's and Minute's for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings scheduled for July 21, August 18, September 8 & 22, October 13 & 27, November 17, and December 15, 2009 are available for review under the Reference Desk Page of the Township Website: <u>www.plymouthtwp.org</u>

Agendas and minutes are also posted in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, for public perusal.

Dan

Joe Bridgman, CMC Clerk

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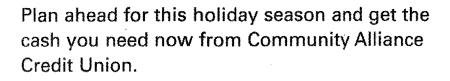
Publish: October 11 & 25 & November 15 & December 13, 2009

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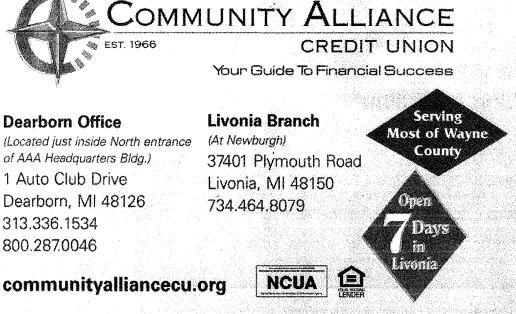
**A**4 (CP)



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A5

(CP)

#### Student 'inspired' by D.C. leadership forum

Gwendolyn Carey, a sixthgrader at Discovery Middle School, recently returned from Washington, D.C, where she attended a People to People World Leadership Forum.

Carey, along with fellow delegates from around the world, toured government and historic sites throughout the D.C. area, learned about international diplomacy while dining at the Ethiopian Embassy, and developed an understanding of our nation's history during visits to Jamestown Settlement and Colonial Williamsburg.

The delegates also learned about the inner workings of the U.S. government while exploring Capitol Hill, the Supreme Court, Library of Congress, and other sites on the Hill, and enjoyed a personal presentation about tools and techniques for personal success by Sean Covey, author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens.

One of the highlights for Carey was having the opportunity to meet and talk with a Vietnam Veteran who was at

out history have handled world events. Various hands-on activities, professional speakers, workshops, and visits to significant memorials, museums, and monuments gave Carey a new perspective on the importance and essential need for informed, passionate world leaders.

"I learned about the importance of setting personal goals and working hard to achieve them," Carey said. "It made me think about how world events affect all of us, and how it's important to understand what's going on in the world today so we can get involved and affect the future. And learning about our country's history really made me proud to live in the United States."

The People to People World Leadership Forum offers students a unique blend of specialized educational, leadership, and cultural exposure through a variety of programs, as well as an itinerary filled with the highlights of the hosting community.

While in D.C., Carey formed many lasting friendships with other Student Leaders from around the world. Participants in these programs often experience life-changing shifts in



home with enhanced skills and self-confidence.

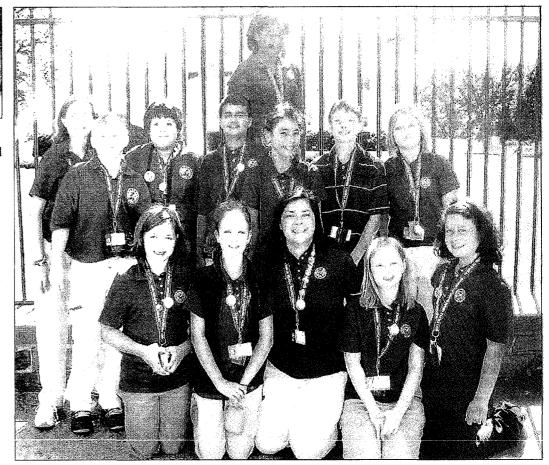
#### **Dinner** and song

Former Canton resident and mezzo Soprano Andrea Caruso and soprano Kojelyte Johnson headline an evening of dinnerand-song, "The Sopranos," 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, at Amantea Restaurant in Garden City.

The evening also features accordion players Andrew Caruso and John Shallock, Bass player John Dana and pianist Kon Gould.

Cost is \$25, and the Italian family style dinner includes pasta, chicken, meatballs, green beans, salad, breadsticks, coffee, tea or pop and dessert. Limited seating is available; tickets are available in advance only.

Amantea is located at 32777 W. Warren Road in Garden



Discovery Middle School student Gwendolyn Carey and a delegation of students from around the country converged on Washington, D.C., for a People to People World Leadership forum.



# EDUCATION

## Students big winners in fire poster contest

#### **BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

As smiling parents looked on and snapped pictures, six Plymouth-Canton area students Tuesday celebrated a crowning achievement of their fireprevention education by capturing top honors in a poster contest.

The upbeat ceremony inside Canton Township's administration building culminated earlier efforts by the Canton Fire Department to visit local classrooms and teach children fire-safety lessons they can take home to their parents.

"If we can prevent fires, we can also prevent the injuries and loss that go along with that," Canton Fire Marshal Frank Barrett told the crowd.

Poster contest winners stood out among hundreds of students who earlier this year entered a Fire Prevention Week competition sponsored by the fire department and the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Walker-Winter Elementary third-grader Carlie Borre took first place in grades one through three, followed by second-place winner Isabella DiCicco, also of Walker-Winter, and thirdplace finisher Pranav



Poster contest winners (from left) were Carlie Borre, Pranav Movva, Noma Farooqui, Isabella DiCicco, Claire Bergin and Lydia Chapel.

Movva of Achieve Charter Academy.

"I was pretty excited," Carlie, 8, said, saying she had learned from firefighters the importance of having fire extinguishers and smoke alarms in the home - and how to safely get out of a burning building.

Plymouth Christian Academy fifth-grader Lydia Chapel captured first place among students in grades four through six, followed by secondplace winner Claire Bergin of Tonda Elementary and third-place finisher Noma Farooqui of Canton

Charter Academy.

"It felt really good (to win)," Lydia said, saying one of her close friends won last year's contest and the two of them had joked that maybe Lydia would follow suit.

Like Carlie, Lydia said she learned valuable firesafety lessons in her classroom.

All six poster contest winners received a \$50 savings bond from local sponsors Admiral Cruise & Tour Center and National City Bank.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

from a Pulitzer Prize winner **BY MAGGIE WUNDERLICH** CORRESPONDENT

Excitement is building up for fifth-graders at Hulsing and Farrand Elementary Schools, who get a rare visit from Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, Joseph Schwantner Nov. 20.

The renowned American composer will lead educational workshops as part of the Ford Made in America program. The fifth graders can't wait to hear, firsthand, about his new work, Chasing Light.

Chasing Light is based on an original poem by the composer and inspired by a winter sunrise right outside his home in the southern New Hampshire hills. According to National Public Radio, Schwantner said it was a challenging piece and took eight months to compose.

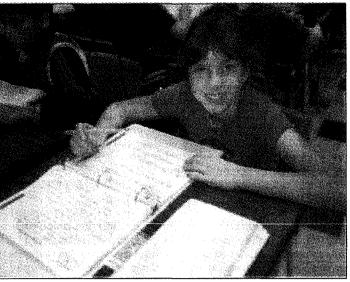
Chasing Light will make its Michigan premiere at the "Chasing Lincoln" concert on November 21, at 7:30 p.m. It will be performed by the Plymouth Canton Symphony Orchestra, as led by Music Director and Conductor, Nan Washburn.

This Americana concert will honor the Lincoln Bicentennial and will perform Copland's "Lincoln Portrait", along with narrator, Narendra Sheth. Other pieces include: Paine's "As you Like it Overture"; Gershwin's "An American in Paris Suite"; and Ellington's "It Don't Mean a Thing." During the workshop, the

fifth-graders hope to learn how Schwantner composed the music for Chasing Light.

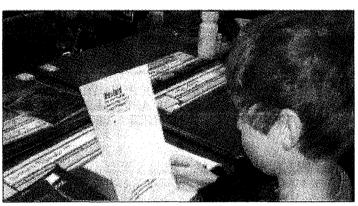
According to Hulsing Elementary School's music teacher, Lawrene Rocheleau, the fifth-graders are also composing music, based on their own poems, and hope to present it to Schwantner during the workshop. To prepare for this, the students were instructed on writ-

ing Haiku poetry, which origi-



Rebekah Carnes worked hard and still kept a smile on her face.

Hulsing fifth-graders get visit



Hulsing student Cannon Mishenko looks over his paper.

nated in Japanese culture. As the students wrote the Haiku poems in their classrooms, one enthusiastic boy was overheard saying, "I didn't realize I had poem writing in me."

Once the Haiku poems were completed, four were selected from each class and the students were taught how to compose music for each one. Rocheleau, who's known many of these fifth-graders since kindergarten, taught them the pentatonic scale, which uses five notes. She said she "loves to see students grow in their excitement over writing and music composition."

The students are currently working on the last steps, which are to play and record their new compositions. They will sing, play the piano or use basic unpitched instruments such as drums, bells, chimes or egg shakers.

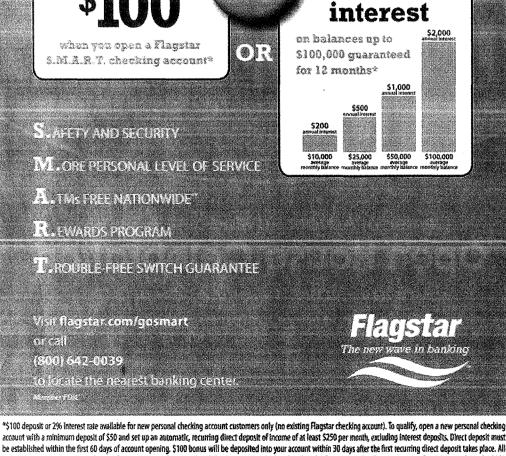
The "Chasing Lincoln" concert will be performed at the Village Theatre at Cherry Hill in Canton. Admission is \$25 for adults; \$20 for seniors; \$10 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the Plymouth **Community Arts Center, 774** N. Sheldon in Plymouth, or at www.plymouthsymphony.org For more information, contact (734) 451-2112.

The 2009 Schoolcraft College Culinary Extravaganza, celebrating the pleasures of the palate and the culinary talent of Metro Detroit, was a great success. We

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A6 (CP)





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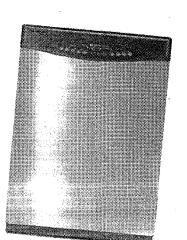
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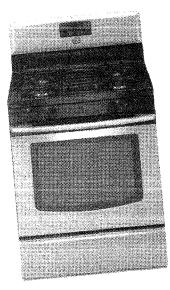
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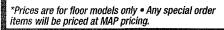
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GAS RANGE	AGR3311WAW*	\$351.00	\$299.00	WHITE
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(CP)



#### 35 giant animated displays and more than one million lights. It's the midwest's largest and longest light show. The complete Lightfest route is over four miles of Hines Drive.

The holiday light display is open 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Nov. 19 through Dec. 31. It will be closed Christmas Day. There is a \$5 donation per car.

Dec. 1, 8 and 15 will be Toy Nights. Wayne County will be lending a hand to provide toys to disadvantaged children in Wayne County. On those three nights, the community is invited to bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the suggested \$5 donation fee. Visitors also can make the donation. Wayne County considers the donations an opportunity for the people of the community to partner with the county in an effort to make a difference in children's lives.

At the walk-through display area, visitors can stop by Santa's Workshop at the Warrendale Area for refreshments and gift shopping. Santa will be there from Thanksgiving until Dec. 23. Don't forget to bring your letters to Santa. Outside of Santa's workshop there will be a giant mailbox where kids of all ages can drop off their letters to Santa.

Although Lightfest begins at 7 p.m., Hines Drive will be closed to traffic beginning at 5:45 p.m. nightly. Visitors enter Wayne County Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman in Westland.

Lightfest is provided in partnership with Fox 2 News, the Friends of Wayne County Parks, DTE Energy, DBT



Santa Claus will be at the Wayne County Lightfest both in person and in lights. The annual Hines Park display opens Nov. 19.

Marketing and Promotional Group, Garden City Hospital, ITC Holdings, McDonald Modular, Entertainment Express Luxury Limousine, Michigan Mountain Biking Association, Beatthetrain.com and Trails Edge store.

People also can sign up or the 13th Annual Wayne County Lightfest 8K Fun Run/Walk at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17. Participants will have an opportunity to travel the Lightfest display route on foot. For bike enthusiasts, there's the Bike Through the Lights at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18.

for both events, along with free long sleeve T-shirts and glow necklaces. Registration is \$20 in advance for adults and \$25 on race day. High school students and younger pay \$12. Both events will take place in Hines Park-Merriman Hollow area.

Registration forms can be downloaded from the parks' Web site at www.waynecountyparks.org or picked up at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland or Total Runner store in Southgate.

For more information on Wayne County Lightfest, call (734) 261-1990.

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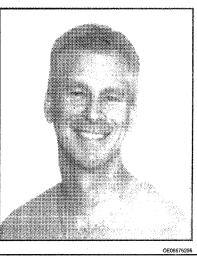
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## Up the wrong tree – cat rescued after overnight ordeal

#### **BY BRAD KADRICH OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Judd and Leslie Rowe of Canton did a favor for a friend of their daughter and took in her cat, Gelato, on what they thought was going to be a short-term basis.

Gelato may be staying a lot longer after surviving a harrowing experience earlier this week.

The Lowes let Gelato outside their Canton home, something they've been doing periodically, since Gelato has always returned home.

But Thursday was different. Gelato, whom Leslie Rowe believes got spooked by a neighbor's dog, ended up in neighbor Jill Engel's tree about 6 p.m. Thursday. By 9:30 Friday morning, the cat was still in the tree.

"It was frustrating," said Leslie Rowe, who was among those who had tried to coax the cat down. "She's small for her age, and I don't know that she would ever have figured out how to get down."

Leslie Rowe was worried, and her husband's attempt to comfort her - "He said, 'you don't ever see skeletons of cats in trees," she recalled with a laugh Friday afternoon - didn't get the job done.

But when the cat hadn't come down by Friday morning, the Rowes tried to find someone who could go up after her. Since the fire department no longer provides that kind of service, she called some tree services. One quoted her a \$400 price.

Luckily, Engel, whose tree Gelato chose to climb, is an animal lover who sits on the board of directors of Tail Waggers USA, a group dedicated to helping pet owners with a variety of services. Engle made a phone call, and got results.

"I told (Rowe) her cat couldn't have ended up in a better person's tree," said Engel, the special events coordinator at Parisian in Livonia. "I wasn't leaving my



Tony Parrelly of Michigan Tree & Stump Removal extended his bucket to its full 65 feet, then had to reach up another 4-5 feet to rescue Gelato, who'd been up in the tree overnight.

house until we got this cat saved."

Enter Tony Parrelly of Michigan Tree & Stump Removal in Livonia. Responding to the urgent call from Engel, Parrelly pushed back a paying job to take a look at Gelato's plight. By the time Parrelly got up into the tree in his bucket, the cat was about five feet beyond the truck's 65-foot reach and was frightened.

"It was a little out of reach, and it was crying like a baby," Parrelly said. "She clung to the branch for dear life. I had to peel her legs out from around it and tickle her a little to get her to let go.

"I thought for sure I was going to lose her," Parrelly added. "I didn't have a good hold on her, didn't have a good hold on myself, to be honest. It was just one of those situations where you came out of there luckily. I got a little help from beyond."

When he returned the frightened cat to its equally frightened owners, Parrelly wouldn't take any payment for the service. That, to Engel, was one of the best parts of the story.

"He was an hour late getting to the other job so he could help with this pet, and he wouldn't take any money," Engel said. "That, to me, is just amazing. It's fantastic that there are still businesses out there that have a heart."

Parrelly shrugged off the compliment. "It was instinct," Parrelly said. "You just do what comes natural sometimes. You don't really think about it. You just do it.'

The Rowes were happy to have Gelato back, and weren't too worried about another emergency - at least for awhile.

"Gelato has eaten and she is hiding in my closet on top of the heater," said Leslie Rowe, who noted it was "about 34 degrees this morning." "I think she may be there for quite some time."

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





## Griffin hosts memorial service

Griffin Funeral Home in Canton is inviting the Plymouth-Canton community to a holiday-season memorial service 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 19. The funeral home, 42600 Ford Road, offers the service every year for people who have lost loved ones

and who may need support. The program will include a grief counselor, a priest, a minister, a reading of names of family members who have died, a candle service and prayers. Refreshments will be served.

For reservations call (734) 981-1700.



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### LOCAL NEWS

A10

(CP)



**BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** 

Nancy Ziomek and her husband, Christopher, are headed to trial on embezzlement charges.

#### BY KEN ABRAMCZYK **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

The owners of a now-closed funeral home who are accused of embezzlement waived their rights to preliminary examinations Tuesday in 16th District Court, but witnesses testified against them anyway.

Christopher and Nancy Ziomek of Canton, former owners of the Ziomek Funeral

Home, face charges of two counts of embezzlement greater than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000, three counts of embezzlement by an agent or trustee greater than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000, and funeral contracts-conversion.

A pretrial court hearing is scheduled for Nov. 24 in Wayne County Circuit Court. Some of the witnesses are elderly and some have health

issues so they testified any-

way Tuesday to get their comments on the court record without further delay.

Nine witnesses testified that they signed prepaid contracts with Chris and Nancy Ziomek for funeral arrangements. Payments ranged between \$1,600 to \$13,000, according to testimony.

A 90-year-old woman told prosecutor Tom Wenzel that she wrote a check for \$5,070 in 2004. She was Up North

verizonwireless

when she heard the funeral home had a new name and that Ziomek was not in business any longer. She spoke with police about it.

Upon questioning from defense attorney Theodore Empson, who asked the woman if she had asked for her money back, she replied: "No, I didn't know anything about it until eight months ago.'

An 83-year-old woman testified that she paid Chris Ziomek \$8,200 in 2004. She didn't try to get a refund because she didn't believe she needed to at the time, she said.

An 89-year-old woman made her arrangements in 2004, paying \$7,820. "I gave them a check, and the rest I gave cash," she said.

She also testified that she sent two letters asking for a refund in 2008. She filed a police report in December 2008.

A 72-year-old man purchased a cremation agreement for \$1,636, giving a check to Chris Ziomek. He saw a sign at the funeral home that indicated that another funeral home would be in business at the site. He contacted Ziomek and requested a refund in May 2008.

He testified that he handed Ziomek a letter and that Ziomek said he would give money back to him, but that it took six months to pull the money from the trust. The man received \$816 back, but not the remaining \$800, he testified.

Another man testified that his wife wrote a check for \$13,000. He told the court ·that he didn't contact Ziomeks because he felt it would serve no purpose.

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Matrícula Consula



# HOCKEY HOSPITALITY

#### DAY IN THE LIFE

So you want to be a big-time hockey player?

Then prepare for having hectic schedules to deal with, which is what Tyler G. Brown of the Plymouth Whalers routinely encounters. Following is a peek at a recent "game day" for Brown, who during hockey season lives with a billet family in Canton.

Morning: Tyler goes to the Waffle & **Omelette Cafe in downtown Plymouth** with teammates and walks around the city to burn off those carbs. Noon: After driving back to the home of hosts Mark and Lindsay Hill, the player goes back out to a restaurant - a coney island - with Lindsay and her younger sister, Meghan - celebrating her 22nd birthday. 2-to-4 p.m.: He dons a suit and tie and tries to relax before doing a newspaper interview. There's time to play a video game with 5-year-old Trevor Hill.

4:15 p.m.: Tyler waves so long to the Hills and leaves to pick up a couple other players before going to Compuware Arena.

At the rink: He needs to get there by 5 p.m., after which he'll attend pregame meetings, tape sticks and gear up for the 7:05 p.m. puck drop.



PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERTY

For Tyler G. Brown of the Plymouth Whalers (top) and his billet family, the Hills of Canton, it's been a virtually perfect match since he started living there during hockey seasons in 2007. Sitting on the couch in front of Brown are (from left) Mark, Trevor and Lindsay Hill.

Looking for a linemate to pass the puck to during a recent game is Plymouth forward Tyler G. Brown.



### Canton family helps Whalers' Tyler G. Brown feel right at home

#### BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Tyler G. Brown knows it. And so do all the other Plymouth Whalers players who suddenly find themselves hundreds of miles away from their homes.

Just as important as training, coaching and ice time in the Ontario Hockey League in the development of these transplanted teens are

#### 'He's a good kid, he's thoughtful and he's part of our family. And, hey, he goes to my mom's for dinner.' LINDSAY HILL, Canton

The Hills are hosting the 19-yearold forward from Wasaga Beach, Ontario, for the third season.

"Coming here my first year, it was obviously hard being away from home for the first time," Brown said

for me to fit in with the family. They've taken me in like I'm one of their kids," he added. "It's been great living with these guys."

Mark, Lindsay and their 5-yearold son (Trevor) indeed have welcomed "Ty" into the fold.

"He's really fit in well with us," said Lindsay, 28. "He's a good kid, he's thoughtful and he's part of our family. And, hey, he goes to my mom's for dinner."

## SIDELINES

#### Weekend D-1 football Saturday's regional

Division 1 football game between Canton and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central took place after this issue of the Observer went to press.

Please go to www.hometownlife.com for the game story.

#### Steelers in Super Bowl

With a record of 11-0, it's on to the WSJFL Super Bowl for the Plymouth-**Canton Steelers freshman** football team, after its 26-6 win over the Rochester Redskins in the second round of the playoffs. The Steelers will face the Lakes Area Hawks at 11 a.m. Sunday, with the contest hosted by the Dearborn Redskins.

In the win over Rochester, the "Steelers Black" offense was anchored by Matthew Poet, who opened huge holes for the running backs, like Dylan Stackhouse (three TDs). Evan Good and Billy Flohr both did an excellent job blocking on the O-line.

Defensively, Vinny Convertino had great cornerback play, making numerous tackles and intercepting a pass. Aaron Garbarino did a fantastic job defensively all day long and recovered a fumble late in the game to secure the win.

#### Precision Baseball clinic

Baseball players take note: Precision Baseball in Canton recently announced an eight-week Progression Clinic on pitching, catching and hitting, to feature members of Eastern Michigan University's coaching staff.

Those coaches include assistant coach Aaron Hepner and assistant coach/recruiting coordinator Andrew Maki.

Areas where pitchers can expect improvement include

so-called "billet" families such as Canton's Mark and Lindsay Hill.

during a recent interview at the Hills' home. "But it didn't take long

#### Please see HOCKEY, B3

MATT ZANDEE

## Eagles' bid for D-4 regional title falls short

#### BY TIM SMITH **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Kristin Malcolm and her Plymouth Christian Academy volleyball teammates had no answer for a pumped up opponent trying to turn the tables on them.

On Thursday at the Division 4 regional final at Hillsdale High School, the Eagles were swept by the team that they knocked out of the 2008 regionals - Hillsdale Academy. The Colts won 25-18, 25-22, 25-21, led by the strong play of 5-foot-10 senior middle blocker Grace Leutheuser (18 kills).

"She (Leutheuser) was quick and she always knew where to put it where our defense wasn't," Malcolm said. "She never hit it to us, she hit it to the holes and around the blocks."

Leutheuser smiled when asked if the Colts (36-12-1) had extra incentive entering the match to get back at PCA for last year.

"Of course, that's a big motivation to know we lost it last year and this was the team we lost to," Leutheuser said. "Yeah, we definitely wanted to beat them."

#### THEY'LL BE BACK

According to Malcolm, a sophomore middle blocker who tallied 14 kills, losing in the regional final for a second straight

PREP VOLLEYBALL

#### 'We just needed to keep staying aggressive, stay focused in every game and make them make mistakes. We had to do that and we did it. They (Eagles) played really well, but we just staved on them.'

#### KATHERINE JONES, Hillsdale first-year coach

season left a bitter taste. But virtually the entire roster will return in 2010.

"We're really excited to have the whole team back and this makes us even more motivated to win next year," Malcolm said.

Eagles head coach Kelly Blackney concurred that there is some consolation in knowing most of her players (except for senior Ariel Rock) will have another chance to win a regional.

"But they really wanted it tonight," Blackney said.

The lack of consistency in all aspects hurt the Eagles, who finished with a 29-11-3 record.

"We made a lot of unforced errors, a lot of serving errors," Blackney said. "We weren't

as strong on serve-reception as we've been before. I wish we would have played our game and not given them so many points."

#### **NO ANSWER**

Leutheuser was a major reason why. 'We just couldn't put a block on her," Blackney said. "If we would have been smarter and put a block on her, we would have played better defense."

On the other hand, Leutheuser, senior Laura Wonders (nine kills) and sophomore Emily Pewe prevented PCA's front-row players from picking their spots.

"We just needed to keep staying aggressive, stay focused in every game and make them make mistakes," Hillsdale first-year coach Katherine Jones said. "We had to do that and we did it. They (Eagles) played really well, but we just stayed on them.'

Before Game 1 of the final, the PCA student section cheered boisterously from the bleachers, but it didn't take long for the Colts to quiet the group, building a 16-9 lead.

Junior Grae Barber (10 kills, 10 digs) registered three aces among a four-point run to get the Colts rolling.

Please see EAGLES, B4



Who: Matt Zandee, Plymouth Christian Academy senior, boys soccer co-captain. Miscellany: Zandee, 17, carries a 4.0 grade-point average. His parents are Jim and Joyce Zandee. He helped his team reach the Division 4 district finals this season.

Captain's job: "As captain, I lead the team in prayer before each game as well as being a vocal leader on and off the field. My role is to get the team fired up, giving it their all, as well as making sure we don't lose our cool."

Leadership style: "As a defenseman, I may not lead the team in points, but my job is to read the field and communicate with my teammates. I'm not usually a



loud person, but once the game starts, I'm yelling as well as encouraging the team." Why him?: "I think my team looks up to me as a leader and valuable component in our game style and it's my responsibility to keep my attitude and actions in check."



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## **Hot shots**

## All-Observer boys tennis team features PCEP contingent

#### FIRST-TEAM SINGLES

B2

(CP)

Aaron Zhang, Soph., Plymouth: The sophomore really burst onto the scene for the Wildcats, becoming the first boys tennis player from the school to make it to the Division 1 state meet. He finished 17-6 and qualified by upsetting Ann Arbor Pioneer's top player in straight sets at the regionals. At the state meet, he lost to Northville senior Melvin Joseph.

His season did not go unnoticed, as he was named the team MVP, Most Improved Player and KLAA Scholar Athlete.

"Aaron has become a highlevel player by combining incredible tennis skills and natural talent with mental toughness and an exemplary work ethic," said Plymouth head coach Tom Kimball.

John McDonald, Jr., F.H. Harrison: Playing No. 1 singles for the second year, McDonald compiled a 22-2 record and was a Division 2 state qualifier after a runner-up finish in the regional. He took first place at the Lakeland and OAA White Division tournaments. McDonald was a state quarterfinalist, losing to the No. 2 seed.

"John's game has improved tremendously," coach Joe Ludwig said. "He has much crisper shots and a more consistent serve, and he has incorporated a more versatile game plan. John is a pleasure to coach and will improve with time to become an even stronger player."

Stephen Payne, Soph., Liv. Franklin: The sophomore earned a trip to the Division 1 state finals after winning the regional.

Payne, 23-6 overall, also

2009 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS TENNIS TEAM **FIRST-TEAM SINGLES** Aaron Zhang, Soph., Plymouth John McDonald, Jr., Farm. Hills Harrison Harrison Stephen Payne, Soph., Liv. Franklin Walter Woods, Jr., Liv. Franklin Ryan Hansz, Jr., Canton Josh F<u>amie, Sr., Farm. Hills Ha</u>rrison FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES Brock Foster, Jr., Salem Josh Perrin, Jr., Salem Preston Strauch, Sr., N. Farmington Max Kohl, Soph., N. Farmington Max Kohl, Soph., N. Farmington Josh York, Jr., Liv. Stevenson Paul Franchina, Jr., Liv. Stevenson COACH OF THE YEAR Too Winkell Dura auth HONORABLE MENTION Canton: Adam Payne, Varun Bandri; Plymouth: Matt Dwan; Salem: Brett Foster, Jacob Scott, Mike Keum, Andy Steinman, Zenik Pelekh, Greg Selewski;

Steimian, Zenk Peleki, oleg Seleviski, Churchill: Eric Stromberg, Ryan McPherson, Ziwen Deng; Stevenson: Clayton Northey; North Farmington: Andre Dupret, Brook Heebner, Scott Kennedy; Farmington: Koushik Yadati, Joey Amis, Lokesh Pagadala; Harrison: Zach Wanner Zach Wagner.

captured Stevenson Quad and Warrior Classic. The Patriots' No. 1 singles player was also runner-up in the Monroe Classic and reached the quarterfinals of the KLAA **Kensington Conference** Tournament.

"Stephen was only one of four individual qualifiers to advance to 'state' on his own," Franklin coach Dawn Fallu said. "And that was all through an injury to his dominant arm after being hit by a car just prior to the season beginning."

Walter Woods, Jr., Liv. Franklin: Nobody had a better season than the junior, who finished a perfect 27-0 at the Patriots' No. 2 singles player.

Woods earned regional and conference titles, while taking both the Warrior and Monroe classics, along with the Stevenson Quad. "Walter's season this year

was exemplary to say the least," Fallu said. "Twelve of his 27

matches were won 6-0, 6-0. He elected captains by their teamwas never pushed to a third set - quiet impressive."

Ryan Hansz, Jr., Canton: The junior parlayed strength, poise and intensity into a 9-4 record, which could have been even better if not for missing part of the season due to injury. Another highlight was being champion in the back draw at the Plymouth Invitational.

Canton head coach Barb Lehmann said Hansz is a dedicated student-athlete who is well-respected by teammates, opposing players and coaches.

"Ryan is a strategist that sees the play and makes changes during and after the point.," Lehmann said. "Ryan maintains his determination throughout a match, never showing his frustration or excitement.'

Josh Famie, Sr., F.H. Harrison: A senior co-captain, Famie racked up 16 wins in 21 matches at No. 2 singles for the Hawks. He finished second in the OAA White Division tournament, and he was third at the Lakeland tournament.

"Josh had his best season this year," coach Joe Ludwig said. "He is a four-year varsity player who has matured as a person and a player each year. He has been a joy to coach and will be greatly missed."

#### **FIRST-TEAM DOUBLES**

Jr., Salem: The junior duo went 20-3 at No. 1 doubles and took first in all three of the team's invitationals.

"Both players play an aggressive style game and are quite comfortable controlling the net," said Rocks' head coach Bill Nelson. "Both players were mates and their leadership was proven as they are coming back next year as two-year captains.' Foster (a 3-time All-

Observer player) and Perrin (a 3-sport letter-winner) closed out the season with a regional semifinal loss to eventual state runner-up Ann Arbor Huron. Preston Strauch, Sr., Max Kohl, Soph., N. Farmington: Strauch and Kohl had a winning record at No. 1 doubles while competing in the rugged OAA Red Division. They also served as team co-captains.

"They were leaders on and off the court, and they did a nice job improving throughout the entire season, which is why they both received the Most Improved Player Award at our banquet," coach Whitney Wasielewski said. "They had some great wins against some very strong teams like Andover and Lahser. They also had some close, three-set losses to tough teams like Seaholm. In my opinion, Max and Preston were one of the toughest one doubles teams in the state and would have done very well at the state tournament if given the opportunity to compete." Josh York, Jr., Paul Franchina, Jr., Liv. Stevenson: This junior duo reached the semifinals at

the highly competitive Division 1 regional at Novi as well as the semifinals of the Kensington Conference tourney. The pair finished the season

with an 11-6 mark. "Paul and Josh had a great

season," Stevenson coach Don McCathney said. "The were both very focused competitors that played very well together. They were both regional and conference semifinalists losing to only to higher seeded play-



increasing velocity and arm strength; changing speeds; improving control; and learning proper warmup techniques. Batters can increase power, hit to all fields, reduce strikeouts. make good contact and recognize a fastball instead of a changeup or curve.





**Josh Famie** 

Harrison

Max Kohl North Farmington



**Preston Strauch** 

North

Farmington

Walter Woods Franklin



Josh York Stevenson

Aaron Zhang Plymouth

while finishing on top at the Dexter Invite and Canton JV Invitational.

Kimball also was named 2009 Michigan High School Tennis **Coaches Association Regional** Coach of the Year.

Another honor that Kimball is especially proud of is the 2009 All-State Academic Award that the Wildcats garnered.

"Perhaps the best accolades of this season are the comments I regularly received from opposing coaches and players about the exemplary sportsmanship and behavior of my players," Kimball said.

Finishing his 15th season as a tennis coach, which includes stints at Salem and Canton, Kimball also teaches business courses at PHS — which he emphasizes is his top job and top priority.

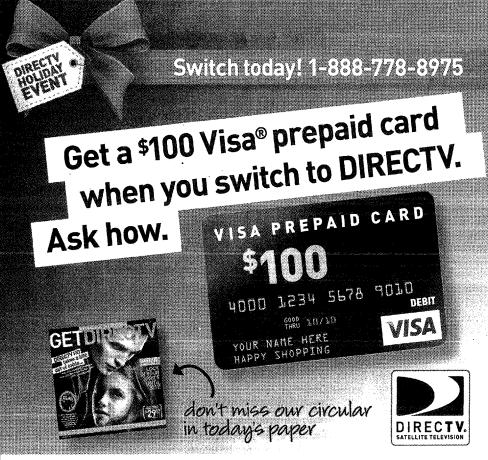
"(But) I have developed a passionate interest in playing and coaching tennis," he noted.

All-Aacdemic honors. Saint John also made the Champion of Character team as the student-athlete who best exemplifies qualities of respect, responsibility,

integrity, sportsmanship and leadership.

#### Give 'Pickleball' a try

Plymouth and Canton



Brock Foster, Jr., Josh Perrin,

Salem Franklin

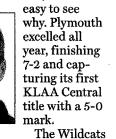
**Brock Foster** 

**John McDonald** Josh Perrin Harrison Salem

ers. Josh controlled the net and Paul was a consistent baseliner. They steadily improved during the season and played their best tennis at the end of they vear."

**COACH OF THE YEAR** Tom Kimball, Plymouth:

Accolades keep piling up for the Wildcats' coach, and it's



Tom Kimball Plymouth coach also placed fourth at the

regional tournament, third at the KLAA Kensington Conference tourney and second at the Plymouth Invite

Earning All-WHAC first-

(Livonia Franklin), who scored

11 goals, and senior Lia Melasi,

who added two goals and three

Senior midfielder Lauren

made the second team, while

Hess (Livonia Ladywood)

junior teammate Sarah

team honors for the women

were senior Jessica Austin

assists.





**Stephen Payne** 

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Meanwhile, in the catching department, instructors will focus on blocking, receiving, throwing, calling a game and being quick behind the dish.

All ages are welcome to sign up for the clinic, which begins Monday, Nov. 16 (4:30-6:30 p.m.) Sessions are every Monday and Friday and are \$15 per session, per player and \$225 for all 16 sessions if paid up front.

For more information, send an e-mail to info@precisionbaseballone.com or call (734) 459-5921. Precision Baseball is located at 7835 Market Street in Canton.

#### All-WHAC soccer

Individuals from both the Madonna University men's and women's soccer squads were well-represented on the All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference teams.

Rokuski, a defender, made third team and was named to the WHAC's Champions of Character teams for displaying the NAIA's five core values.

All-Academic choices, for those carrying a grade-point average of 3.25 or higher, included Austin (language arts), Hess (nursing), Rokuski (dietetics), Franklin's Diana Brda (psychology), Katie Kozlowski (clinical imaging services), Plymouth's Brittany Warner (marketing) and Jaclyn Ventimiglia (nursing).

Junior midfielder Jacob Rosiek was MU's lone firstteam men's selection, senior midfielder Emilio Giorgi and senior midfielder Eric Kiebert made the second team, while freshman forward Moses Otieno took third-team honors.

Seniors Isaaac Saint John (business) and Mark Pikula (cinema arts) both earned

residents are welcome to sign up for a unique recreational sport being offered by Northville Parks and Recreation - pickleball.

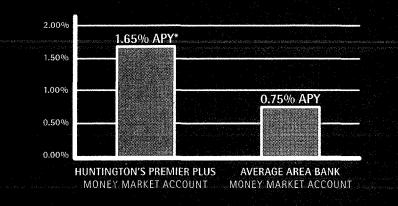
The sport combines ping pong and badminton, with a hard paddle used to send the ball over the net. Open pickleball sessions are held at the Northville Recreation Center based out of Hillside Middle School.

Beginner to intermediate play is 1-3 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays (\$2 per person) and 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and Thursdays (\$2). Three courts are available.

Intermediate to advanced play is noon to 3 p.m. Wednesdays (\$3) and 6-8 p.m. Saturdays (\$4).

Paddles and pickleballs are provided at the center. Call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

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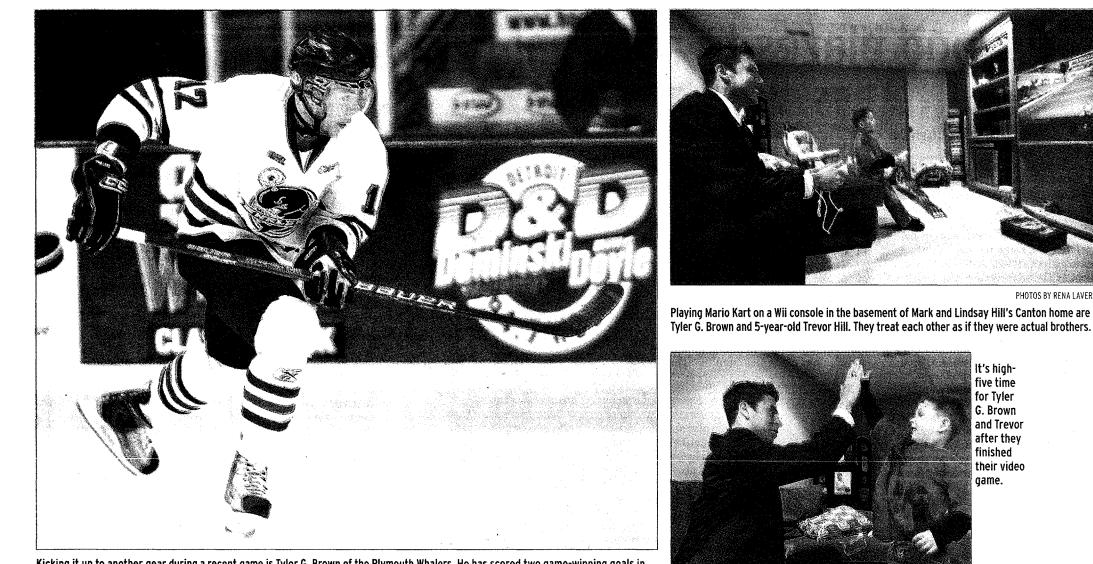


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#### LOCAL SPORTS



Kicking it up to another gear during a recent game is Tyler G. Brown of the Plymouth Whalers. He has scored two game-winning goals in overtime this season, including Nov. 7 against Sault Ste. Marie at Compuware Arena.

## FROM PAGE B1

#### **JUST LIKE BROTHERS**

Trevor also considers Brown an older brother. On this particular Saturday afternoon, they found the time to go downstairs and play the Wii video game "Mario Kart."

Other times, they'll play ball hockey. Or Brown might take the youngster over to Compuware for some open public skating. Trevor also is a hockey player, on a Mini Mite team at the Beck Road complex.

The relationship these days is more like an older brother or son coming home on weekends from college, because of the demanding game and practice schedule the Whalers have.

Make that a very hungry brother or son, because Brown eats, eats and eats.

For example, he and teammates might grab breakfast in downtown Plymouth at the Waffle & Omelette Cafe. After coming back to the Hill compound, it's time f



'If you're wearing anything with the Whalers symbol on it, the kids will notice.' TYLER G. BROWN, Plymouth Whalers

Since Brown arrived on the scene in 2007, he's a bit more picky.

"Before, he'd scarf it down because he thought he had to (to be polite)," Mark said. "Now, he won't eat something if he doesn't want to.'

#### TIME TO CHILL

Saturdays are when Brown actually has the chance to relax with the family for a while before game

around four."

Hackett is another Canadian living with a host family in Canton – not far from Compuware and **Plymouth-Canton Educational** Park, where younger Whalers attend high school.

There might be time to grab a takeout coffee at the Haggerty-Ford Tim Horton's on the way to the rink.

"Ty should have stock in Tim Horton's," joked 31-yearold Mark, a recreation league goaltender. "He's always there."

On game nights, the Hills often watch Brown (not to be confused with Westland native Tyler J. Brown of the Whalers) from seats at the top of Section 115 with other billets.

"We live at Compuware," Lindsay said.

What they're seeing from 115 is good stuff, since Brown is enjoying some on-ice success this season with the Whalers. After 19 games, he has tallied three goals (including the OT winner Nov. 7 against Sault Ste. Marie) and seven assists.

For part of the year he has skated on the top line with hot NHL prospect Tyler Seguin (one of the players who atten PCEP). "I can utilize my speed playing with him (Seguin) since he's quick, too," Brown said. "He'll hit you anywhere you're open" with a slick pass.

be happier with how hosting Brown has worked out, right from the beginning.

In 2007, they signed up with the Whalers to host a player after finding out from friends Christian and Bill Baker that the experience is a positive one for families and players alike as long as compatibility isn't

an issue. One thing the Whalers do is to make sure the players are matched well with billets, Mark and Lindsay emphasized. In Brown, they got a well-mannered, level-headed kid who is driven to succeed

in hockey and life. Meanwhile, Lindsay said the OHL team entrusts those players to their host families, even making curfew calls. "It's our responsibility to make sure he's home, fed and gets to

practice on time," she said. The transportation situation is a key component, although for the Hills and Brown it's changed since 2007.

"The first year Tyler was in high school (Plymouth High) and he didn't have a car," Mark said. "So I was pretty much picking him up for the Whalers, dropping him off at high school and then I'd go to work.

"Now, Tyler is out of high school and has his own car, so he's off taking the other guys places. Besides that, it's really neat. He comes and goes as he needs to, and has his own life."

#### **CRASH COURSE**

Mark shook his head when asked what players such as Brown would do without families to look after them.

"I don't know. They would have to find somewhere where there's supervision," he said. "But I don't know what they'd do without billets.

"A lot of the kids are still really young and they're away from home. They look to their billets to help them out

through school and personal things other than hockey."

PHOTOS BY RENA LAVERTY

Of course, playing for a high-profile team is like speed reading the manual on growing up.

Brown attends mandatory meetings, watches tape on upcoming opponents, helps out with community service endeavors (as do all Whalers) and even wears a suit and tie to games.

He also has to learn how to be a celebrity.

"If you're wearing anything with the Whalers symbol on it, the kids will notice," Brown said. "I've taken Trevor out to free skate, and I'll have my Whalers track suit on. One kid will come up to me and say, 'Do you play for the Whalers?'

"I'll say yeah and a bunch of kids come up to me. It's nice to have kids looking up to you." Grownups look up to him, too. Just ask the Hills.

tsmith@hometownlife.com.

hearty pregame meal, which usually features pasta and chicken (no veggies, please).

This time around, it was a big bowl of spaghetti.

Lindsay said it's not uncommon to have to double the amount of food she prepares when Brown is home: "I'll make two casseroles, one for Tyler and the other for the family."

"During the week, we'll go in

for (a morning) workout, ride the bike a little bit. But on the weekends, like today, we just sleep in a little bit, rest up and we have to be at the rink by (5 p.m.)," Tyler said. "I've got to go pick up some of the guys. (Goalie Matt) Hackett wants to go to the rink early all the time to prepare for the game, so I've got to pick him up

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#### **HOW IT STARTED**

Hockey itself isn't all that's going well where Brown is concerned. In fact, the Hills couldn't



## Guelph goalie frustrates Whalers

The brilliant goalkeeping of Guelph's Cody St. Jacques frustrated host Plymouth time and time again on Friday night as the Storm eked out a 2-1 Ontario Hockey League victory at Compuware Arena.

St. Jacques outdueled Plymouth's Matt Hackett, turning aside 46 shots - with 17 of his saves in the third period when the Whalers held an 18-4 shot advantage. It was 2-0 before Plymouth finally found the back of the goal as left wing Josh Brittain scored at 16:10 on assists from Tyler G. Brown and Garrett Meurs.

But despite furious pressure, the Whalers could not score the equalizer.

It was an evenly played opening period, with the Whalers outshooting Guelph 17-16. But the game remained scoreless entering the middle stanza.

Plymouth's Hackett (36 saves) thrilled the Compuware crowd by stopping a penalty shot by Cody McNaughton with 2:44 to play in the frame.

Finally scoring the game's first goal was Guelph's Carter Sandlak, at 15:38 in the second period. Setting up the goal was Conor O'Donnell.

## Ladywood blazes to regional title **EAGLES**

#### BY BRAD EMONS **OBSERVER STAFF WRITER**

Maybe only a trip to Cedar Point could have provided more thrills.

That's because it was a harrowing ride much of the night for the Livonia Ladywood girls vollevball team, but when the rollercoaster finally came to a halt, the Blazers emerged wearing all smiles.

Earning its first state Class B quarterfinal berth since 2004, Ladywood needed all five games to pull out a 23-25, 25-22, 25-17, 14-25, 15-6 victory Thursday over a scrappy and determined Riverview squad in the regional final hosted by Livonia Clarenceville.

The Blazers, 39-22 overall, with face DeWitt in the Elite Eight beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Williamston High School.

"It's not how we planned it," said a relieved Ladywood ninth-year coach Erin Craggs. "Even when it was 16-9 (the second game), our experience came through. We had to pick up our intensity. I think we timid at the beginning, but we started to come on. We have a couple of seniors who have played a lot of volleyball, along with some of those juniors. I think our strength of schedule helps. We lost in the district finals last year and this we huge for them."

Already down 1-0 in games, the Blazers found themselves trailing 16-9 in the second game and staring a potential 2-0 deficit in the face

"I think we had to get back to basics," Craggs said. "We were on our heels, we were pressing and feeling the pressure.

"We just had to do what we had done the last two weeks - serving well, playing defense and hit to transition."

Senior outside hitter Claire Dezelski had five of her team-high 15 kills during the second game rally, while sophomore McKenzie Kettner and senior Katy Rooney each added four.

well."

apiece.

game-high 21 kills.

aggressively."

the way with five kills.

Pirates roared out to a 7-0 lead and never

looked back to even the match at two games

Riverview was led by 5-10 senior outside

hitter Arianna Bazzarelle, who had six of her

"Riverview played great and number 13

"She hit a ton of balls that we didn't touch.

They kept us off our game and they served

In the decisive fifth game, it was all

Ladywood as the Blazers jumped out to an 8-1

lead with sophomore Jennifer Rhodes leading

(Bazzarelle) brought her 'A' game," Craggs said.

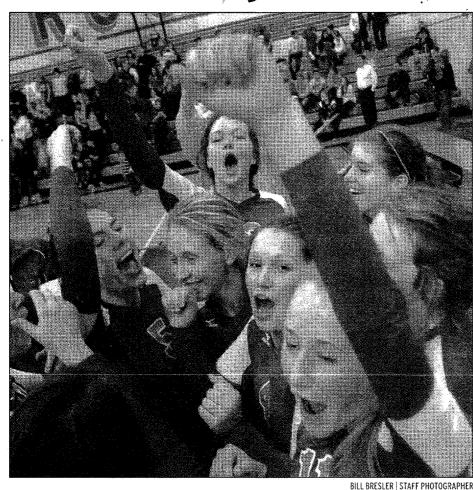
"I can't say enough about the way they played.

"We're up 16-9, they came back and that's what turned it around," Riverview coach Tony Budimerovich said. "If we finish that (second) game off, that match is ours.

"We got caught in one tough rotation and they had one tough server and we went out. Their first two servers are very good. If we get by them, we'd be O.K.'

Ladywood went ahead in games 2-1 with convincing 25-17 win in the third thanks to four blocks and a kill by 6-foot-2 junior middle blocker Caitlin McClorey and ace serves by Dezelski, senior libero Ashley Hines and Kristine Aurand.

"The third game we lost ball control,"



Triumphantly celebrating after capturing the regional volleyball crown are Livonia Ladywood players.

Budimerovich said. "And when our offense Rooney's block clinched the match. became predictable, they were able to block Alex Hines, a 5-9 sophomore setter, finished with 34 assist-to-kills, while Ashley Hines and But the momentum Ladywood had gained a team-high 28 digs. Rooney added 11 kills, was erased quickly in the fourth game as the

while Rhodes and Kettner, two sophomores, added eight and seven respectively. Dezelski also added 17 digs.

The Pirates, who bowed out with a 39-11-5 record, got 46 assists from Nicole Karaboyas and 31 from Vana Kotsogiannis.

Deanna Petkov finished with 21 digs, while Bazzarelle added 13. Melanie Petersen contributed eight kills, while Jordann Assed had five blocks.

"Once we got out on the court, we felt we could play with them," Budimerovich said. "We felt we should have won, but they (Ladywood) played a great match and you had to congratulate them."

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#### **UNABLE TO RALLY**

Early in the middle game, the Eagles briefly led by a point on several occasions. PCA's combo of junior setter Brianna Harris (23 assists) to Malcolm worked twice for kills to stop Hillsdale servers.

But the Colts pulled ahead 9-8 and never trailed again. Leutheuser accounted for another four points soon thereafter (two on tips, two on spikes) to make it 15-12.

Leutheuser went on a threepoint serving run early in Game 3, building a 7-3 edge for the Colts and the Eagles never caught them.

There were times when PCA got close and had serving honors (21-18, 22-19, 23-21) to try to finally get over the hump. But each time, booming spikes by Leutheuser (set up by junior setter Heather Lantis, 31 assists) made it all the more clear how the night was going to end.

Another key player for the Colts was senior libero Callie Watkins, with 22 digs.

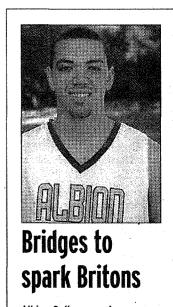
For PCA, junior middle blocker Folake Olojo collected seven kills, while sophomore outside hitter Amy Zinn chipped in with four kills and three aces.

"I don't know if we were ever leading by one or two points," Blackney said. "I just wish we could have scored more on the serving line. Not play to them, but have them play to us."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

**MICHIGAN VOLLEYBALL COACHES** ASSOCIATION **ALL-REGION 18 TEAMS** 

**CLASS A SELECTIONS** Livonia Churchill: Cory Urbats, Taylor Kerr, Kristi Walker, Kara Kempinski, Cierra Yetts: Canton: Jordan Kielty, Kristen Muir, Lauren Macuga: Salem: Nicole Merget, Kerry McDonald; Plymouth: Katie Salo; Livonia Stevenson: Kelly Vellucci, Reina Tyl: Westland John Glenn: Lauren Baker, Halie Baker: Northville: Kelly Maise: Garden City: Kellyn O'Brady, Stephanie Stevenson;



Albion College men's basketball coach Jody May has announced the 14 student-athletes that will start the 2009-10 season on the Britons' varsity roster. The roster includes Andre Bridges, the son of Denis Bridges and Linda Bridges of Canton and a graduate of Canton High School. A senior at Albion, Bridges is a guard/forward who averaged 8.4 points in 25 games last season. Albion begins the season with a home game Sunday against the College of Wooster of the North **Coast Athletic Conference.** The Britons will also host the Rotary Club of Albion's Tip-Off Tournament Nov. 20-21, as well as home games against **Ohio Wesleyan University on** Nov. 27 and North Central College on Dec. 2.

PREP VOLLEYBALL Grosse Pointe North: Ariel Braker, Maggie Tignanelli; Grosse Pointe South: Chloe

Srebernak **CLASS B SELECTIONS** Livonia Ladywood: Claire Dezelski, Katy Rooney, Ashley Hines, Jenny Rhodes, Kenzie Kettner

CLASS D SELECTIONS Lutheran High Westland: Emilie Freeman, Rachel Storck, Lauren Switzer; Plymouth Christian Academy: Kristin Malcolm **REGION 18 COACH OF THE YEAR** Mark Grenier, Churchill



B4 (CP)

## **MILESTONES**



Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton

#### **GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY**

Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 14.

The couple met at Scott High School in Toledo, Ohio, both graduating in 1956, and they were married on Nov. 14, 1959 at Glenwood Lutheran Church.

Larry went on to receive his degree from the University of Toledo. They moved to Michigan in 1970, living in Plymouth for six years, and then settling in Canton where they still reside.

The Arnolds have two children. Laura (Ed) Wright and Jeff (Kellie) Arnold, and six grandsons, Erik, Brandon and Ben Wright and Kyle, Jason and Jake Arnold. They celebrated their anniversary with family.

#### **KOZIK-TEMPLETON**

Kristin Nicole Kosik and Ryan Lee Templeton were married Aug. 15, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth. The Rev. Dr. James Skimins officiated. A reception followed at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.

The bride, daughter of Richard and Rosanne Kosik of Plymouth, graduated with an undergraduate and M.B.A. degree from University of Michigan in 2001 and 2007 respectively and works in Marketing for Ford Motor Company.

The groom, son of Darrell and Sandra Templeton of Middletown, Ohio, graduated

Larry and Joyce Arnold of Canton on their wedding day.

### Metroparks brighten holidays for children

Add a special meaning to your next visit to a Huron-Clinton Metropark - drop off a new, unwrapped toy to brighten a child's Christmas through the "Toys for Tots" program. Starting Saturday, Nov. 14, seven Metroparks and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Administrative Office will serve as collection sponsors for the "Toys for Tots" program. Toys will be collected through Sunday, Dec. 6, at Lake Erie, Kensington and Metro Beach Metroparks, and the Administrative Office; and through Sunday, Dec. 13, at Lower Huron, Hudson Mills, Indian Springs and Stony Creek Metroparks.

New, unwrapped toys that have no violent connotations may be dropped off at park offices or the HCMA Administrative Office for this program, conducted annually by the United States Marine Corps Reserve to serve needy children in local communities.

Donated toys will then be distributed to needy children in Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw and Macomb counties through local Marine distribution centers. Park visitors and employees typically donate more than 4,000 toys each year at the Metropark collection sites.

Metropark drop-off centers: Administrative Office near Brighton, (800) 477-2757, Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter/Ann Arbor, (800) 477-3191, Indian Springs Metropark near White Lake, (800) 477-3192, Kensington Metropark near Milford/ Brighton, (800) 477-3178, Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown, (800) 477-3189, Lower Huron Metropark near New Boston, (800) 477-3182, Metro Beach Metropark near Mount Clemens, (800) 477-3172, and Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester/ Washington Township, (800) 477-7756.

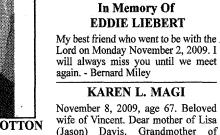
Beaumont launches H1N1 call



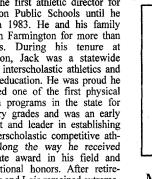


JOHN K. "JACK" COTTON

Kalamazoo from injuries suffered in a car crash on October 24th. Cotton was riding to the Wayne State University football game in Hillsdale when an approaching pickup truck crossed the centerline. The drivers of his car and the truck survived. Jack was born on October 17, 1923 in Penzance, Cornwall, England to John Kingsley Cotton, Sr. and Clara Cotton (nee Rowe). Jack came to Detroit as an infant and graduated from Northwestern High School in 1941, starring there in football and baseball. At Northwestern he met his future wife, Lois Urquhart. After spending two years enrolled at Wayne State, he joined the U.S. Army during WW II and saw action in the battles of Saipan and Okinawa in the central Pacific. He was wounded twice and received two Purple Hearts. While overseas Jack corresponded almost daily with Lois. In recent years he assembled those letters, which were solicited by, and recently accepted for, a Library of Congress project about WW II veterans. Following his service to his country, he returned to his education and graduated from Wayne State University. He was a football standout at Wayne before and after his army service and captain in 1946. He was named by Michigan State University to its all-opponent team. Jack and Lois married on September 21, 1946. Their wedding pictures show Jack with a swollen lip and black eye from that day's game. Following graduation from Wayne State he stayed on and was hired as a teacher and coach. He remained a lifelong supporter of Wayne State University. In 1956, Jack became the first athletic director for Farmington Public Schools until he retired in 1983. He and his family resided in Farmington for more than 50 years. During his tenure at Farmington, Jack was a statewide leader in interscholastic athletics and physical education. He was proud he established one of the first physical education programs in the state for elementary grades and was an early proponent and leader in establishing girls' interscholastic competitive ath-letics. Along the way he received every state award in his field and many national honors. After retirement Jack and Lois remained extremely active, acquiring a private business and serving in numerous capacities for their church, civic organizations and Wayne State activities. Jack was also elected twice and served eight years on the Board of Education for Farmington Public Schools. Along with his wife, he is survived by their four children, Kingsley (Beverly), Leslie Helwig (Rick), Mary Anne Cotton (Alan Koles), and Laurie Dalin (Mike). He was also a very special uncle to Kathleen Gallagher Lewis. He was a proud grandfather of seven: Anne Drolet (Michael Petruzzi), Jack Drolet (Kavita), Lauren Allswede (Rusty), Alexander Cotton, Kate Larcom (Chris), Elizabeth Cotton, and Chase Dalin, and great-grandfather of Sophie Drolet and Madeleine Petruzzi. He is also survived by two cousins in England, Jack Searle and Carlotta Fiskin. He was preceded in death by a brother, Alex Cotton and a sister, Megan Gallagher. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel) 32515 Woodward Ave. (between 13-14 Mile) Wednesday, November 11, 2009 from 2-8pm. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, 10:00 am on November 12, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to either the church or to Wayne State University Athletic Department 5101 John C. Lodge, Detroit, MI 48202.



Age 86 of Birmingham, and formerly of Farmington, passed away on Sunday, November 8, 2009. He died at Borgess Medical Center in



KAREN L. MAGI November 8, 2009, age 67. Beloved wife of Vincent. Dear mother of Lisa (Jason) Davis. Grandmother of Sydney and Hunter. Visitation was held Thursday and Friday. Services were held Friday at the Schrader-

Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. Share your special thoughts and memories at www.schrader-howell.com

#### WILLIAM L. MULLEN

Died peacefully on the evening of November 7th at the Jupiter Medical Center. "Bill" was born on August 7, 1915. He was raised in the southwest and educated at the University of Wichita. During World War II he was production manager of Woodward Company who manufactured precision airplane parts for fighter planes. After the war, Bill founded and was president of Industrial Fuel Corporation. Upon retirement he began a cattle breeding venture at "Sherwood", a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia. After a second retirement, he and Win" elected to spend their senior ears at Lost Tree Village in North Palm Beach, Florida. There he became interested in community activities at the Lost Tree Club and served a term as president. Bill Loved golf and played at every opportunity. Sailing was another activity he truly enjoyed, first racing then cruising with his wife "Win" on their boat "The Wilwin". He is survived by his wife Winifred Teare Mullen, and daughters Christine, Amy and Wendy. He will be sorely missed as a great contributor to the betterment of life for those around him and his beloved country. He was a man of great intelligence, integrity, and wit, much loved by all.

Arrangements entrusted to: Aycock Funeral Home 1112 Military Trail Jupiter, Florida



MCCLINTOCK NICOL passed away 11/5/09 in ze 90.

#### JOSEPH ROHATYNSKI

& Remembrances

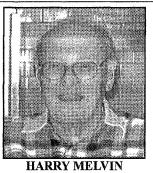
November 8, 2009, age 88. Member of the Company I, 123rd Infantry, 33rd Division of the U.S. Army,

serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Beloved husband of the late Gladys. Dear father of Linda J. Scussel, Joanne (Kurt) Seifert, Therese Eaves, Karen Ward and Joseph (Tammy) Rohatynski Jr. Also leaves 11 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren. Visitation was held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth. A Funeral Mass was held on Thursday morning at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, Plymouth.



#### CHESTER T. 'CHET SOLOWIEJ 85, long-time resident of

Age Plymouth, passed away November 8, 2009 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital with his family at his bedside. Beloved husband of 65 years to Irene. Loving father of Richard A. (Cheryl) , Glenn E. (Cheryl) and the late Daniel C. Proud grandfather of Scott (Anna), Sean, Eliza, Steven, Jordan Sarah) and Nicole. Great grandfather of Thomas, Benjamin and Lucia. Chet will always be remembered for his friendly spirit, his charming and gregarious nature, and his instantly recognizable baritone voice. Chet was a benevolent and trusted member of his family, his community and his neighborhood. Active for many years as a leader in the Boy Scouts of America, long-time volunteer at the Plymouth Library, and decades long member of the Plymouth Lions Club, Chet believed in and practiced "community service" and helping those in need Son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, uncle, student, veteran, humanitarian, friend, colleague, mentor and advisor, are all worthy titles earned by this lovable man of honor. Services were held on November 11, 2009 from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Lions Foundation P.O. Box 701159, Plymouth, MI 48170 or to the Charity of your choice. Share memories at schrader-howell.com





Templeton, and Laura McIntyre were bridesmaids.

from Ohio State University with a degree in electrical engineering in 2001 and works for automotive supplier, Vitec.

Dawn Giszewski served as the matron of honor and Jacqueline Kosik, Robin

#### SCHWAGLE-WAGNER

Barbara Weiss of Farmington Hills and Stephen Schwagle of Royal Oak are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Kellie Breanne, to Joseph Donald Wagner, son of Laurie Wagner of Plymouth and A. J. Wagner of Northville.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Mercy High School and the University of Michigan and is employed as a dental hygienist in Chicago, Ill. Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School and the University of Michigan, and is attending graduate school at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He is a vice

#### **OLIVIA GRACE HELMICK**

Olivia Grace Helmick was born Sept. 23, 2009, at Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak. She weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 22.5 inches.

Proud parents are Joseph and Erin Helmick of Farmington Hills.

Grandparents are Richard and Nina McEachin of Ann Arbor and Kenneth and Barb Helmick of Livonia.

Jason Templeton was best man. Jody Templeton, Justin Kosik and Shane Eversole served as groomsmen.

The couple took a honeymoon trip to Greece and resides in Canton.



#### Schwagle-Wagner

president at P&M Corporate Finance in Chicago, Ill. A September 2010 wedding is planned in Northville.



**Olivia Grace Helmick** 

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## center

Got a question about the H1N1 flu virus?

Beaumont Hospitals can help you identify flu symptoms and understand your treatment options through its toll-free, 24-hour-a-day call center. Beaumont registered nurses staff the center, which can be reached at (888) 375-H1N1 (4161)

Dr. Jedd Roe, chief of Emergency Medicine at Beaumont Hospital, also will respond to questions about H1N1 flu during a live Web chat, 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 18, at www.beuamonthospitals. com.

"The call center and Web chat will provide information to those who suspect that they or someone they care for have the flu," stated Roe. "We'll help them determine when home treatment is appropriate and when they should see a physician or come into the **Emergency Center for assess**ment and treatment."

Symptoms reported with this virus are similar to those experienced with the seasonal flu, such as fever, sore throat, cough, body aches, headaches, chills and fatigue. Most people who have H1N1 can recover without requiring medical treatment. However, certain people are at higher risk of developing severe symptoms that require . medical care and possibly hospitalization. According the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these people include those who are:

- age 25 or younger are pregnant
- have a chronic medical
- condition have suppressed immune
- systems

For more information about H1N1 and the seasonal flu, go to www.beaumonthospitals. com.

#### **ROBERT J.**

DEBENEDET, JR.

Age 44, passed away on October 21 2009. Robert was a man who lived his life to the fullest. A devoted husband, father, son, brother & uncle. Robert was working as Director of Southern Operations for the LaSalle Group in Buloxi Mississippi. Diagnosed with a rare form of cancer in late 2003, Robert never put his life on hold. After initial treatment, he continued to embrace the triumphs and the challenges that this world had to offer, living his life the way he always did. Continuing to be an example of the power of positve spir-it, for his family and his many friends. Donations should be directed to: The DeBenedet Family Memorial Fund, c/o Aleda DeBenedet, PO Box 87072, Canton, MI 48187.

> May peace be with you in this time of oorrow.

Sarasota, FL. She was born on 3/16/1919 in Detroit, and grew up in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She attended Brookside, Kingswood, Grier School, and Wellesley College, volunteered for many years at the Detroit League for the Handicapped, and was a longtime member of the Junior League of Sarasota. In 1955, she joined her parents, Frank & Elsie Nicol, on Longboat Key, FL, and cared for them until their passing. She is survived by her nephew, Dwight McClintock Moore and his wife Diana, of Spring, Texas, and is preceded in death by her parents, her sister Clara Childs Nicol Moore, and nephew Alfred Cleon Moore, Jr. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the charity of your choice. At her request, no services are planned.



MERCEDES HEINEN RAKESTRAW

Age 91, of Columbia, MO, formerly of Birmingham, November 9, 2009. Beloved wife of the late Dr. William Charles Rakestraw, DVM. Loving mother of Patricia Cowden (Dr. John Williams Cowden). Grandmother of Catherine Cowden Fox (Gregory), William (Tracy), Thomas (Elizabeth), John David (Suzanne), Michael (Nancy), Daniel (April), and Christine Cowden Collie (Brian). Great-grandmother of 34. Funeral Mass was held Saturday at St. Hugo of the Hills Stone Chapel, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1820 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, MI 48207 or Catholic Social Services of Oakland County, 1424 E. Eleven Mile Road, Royal Oak, MI 48067. A. J. Desmond & Sons (248) 362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

THOMPSON

Age 92 of Farmington Hills, Michigan formerly of Livonia, Michigan, passed away November 10, 2009. Born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, he graduated from the University of iskatchewan with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served as an officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force in World War II and then came home to marry his wife, Jean Elizabeth Edwards (deceased). He was the beloved father of Peggy (Norm) Schmidt of Farmington Hills, Michigan, and Bobbie (Gary) Steinke of Martin, Tennessee. and the loving grandfather of Geoffrey Schmidt (Hayley Weiss) of Cleveland, Ohio, and Megan Schmidt of Farmington Hills. Harry was a gregarious, loving man with a great sense of humor, an effective leader, and a strong believer in service to his community. He had a passion for hockey, curling, football, classical music, reading, current affairs, and traveling. A long-time resident of Livonia, Michigan, he was Livonia's Citizen of the Year in 1987 He coordinated the AARP tax center. volunteered at the senior citizen center. worked in the Cass Corridor on home rehabilitation, and was an active member of the Plymouth United Methodist Church. His memorial service will be Friday November 20, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at Plymouth United Methodist Church. Contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the American Heart Association. or the American Alzheimer's Association.

#### JUDITH M. WORKEY

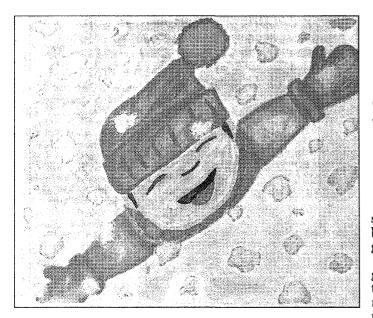
Of Warren, Mich. November 1, 2009, Age 66. Arrangements by Simple Funerals. Phone: 248-227-1954 or www.SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com



When you've lost a loved one, place your notice on our website and in "Passages"...a directory located in every edition of your hometown newspaper.

Observer & Accentric Call 1-800-579-7355

# NEIGHBORS



Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary offers this colorful holiday card with the greeting 'Capture the Joy this holiday season.'



Beaumont Hospital's Integrative Medicine program offers this card with art by a 17-year cancer survivor.



## Cards for a cause

Send holiday wishes and benefit a local charity

You can help spread the mission of your favorite charity by buying and sending holiday greeting cards this year.

The card designs run the gamut – from children's art to photography - and support missions that involve health, pets, food assistance, and more.

Here's a list of some of the organizations offering greetings this season:

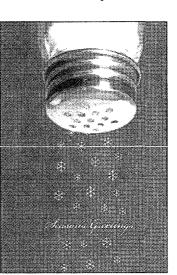
#### **ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION-GREATER MICHIGAN CHAPTER**

The organization has a variety of holiday card designs, with 45 percent of the proceeds benefitting Alzheimer's research and support. Most cards cost \$27 for a box of 25; some are \$31. Designs range from a whimsical polar bear clutching a candy cane to a manger scene. For all designs, you can select a verse, font and text color. To view all designs and order, visit www.alz.org/ gmc. For more information, call (248) 351-0280.

#### **BAND OF ANGELS**

A set of 12 holiday cards and envelopes cost \$12 and feature a photo of a girl planting a holiday kiss on a boy in front of a Christmas tree. The greeting reads "May your Holiday's be filled with life's simple gifts." Buy them through the organization's Web site, www. bandofangels.com. Band of Angels advocates and educates on behalf of people with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities. (248) 377-9308

#### **BEAUMONT HOSPITAL**

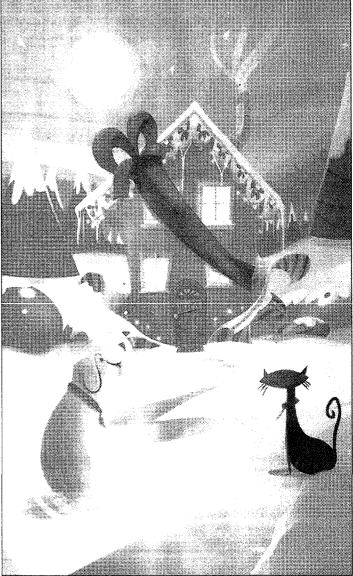


Spice up your holiday greetings with this card from the Forgotten Harvest collection.

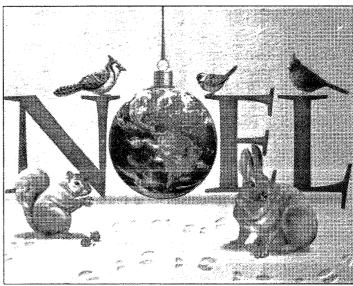
tax). All proceeds from the cards, minus printing costs, will benefit programs for Beaumont cancer patients. To order, call (248) 551-9990 or visit the Integrative Medicine program, suite 304 of the Beaumont Cancer Center, at Beaumont Hospital, in Royal Oak. Beaumont's Integrative Medicine program offers treatment to supplement standard therapy. Services include clinical massage, medical acupuncture, naturopathy, Reiki, healing touch, guided imagery, yoga and meditation.

#### **CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF** MICHIGAN

The Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary holiday card, featuring a colorful picture of a child with open arms in the snow, is available in packs of 20 for \$20. The greet-



The Michigan Humane Society card offers the greeting 'May all your wishes come true this holiday season.'



This is one of the 11 holiday card designs available through Seedlings Braille

· Margarette and and



acknowledging the gift. For more information, contact the Children's Hospital of Michigan Auxiliary at (313) 745-0962.

Founded in 1949, the Auxiliary raises funds to assist various departments and programs at the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

#### **FORGOTTEN HARVEST**

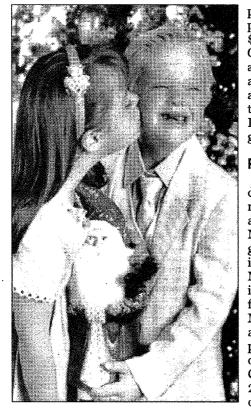
The organization's holiday cards feature whimsical food-related designs that help relate Forgotten Harvest's mission to collect and distribute prepared and perishable foods to emergency food providers in metro Detroit. In addition to its Season's Greetings design showing a salt shaker filled with snow flakes, Forgotten Harvest also is selling "Peas on Earth" and "Berry Christmas" cards. Cards and envelopes are sold in packs of 25 for \$23, with 100 percent of the purchase benefitting Forgotten Harvest. Single cards are available for \$1. Place orders at (248) 967-1500 or visit www.forgottenharvest.org.

#### LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

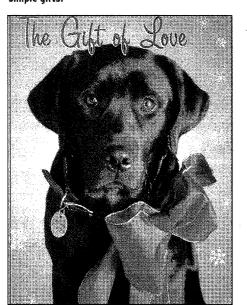
The cards, showing a photo of a Leader Dog pup, include greetings in print and Braille. They sell for \$20 for 20 cards/22 envelopes. Buy them with a credit card through the organization's Web site at www.leaderdog.org or in person from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Monday through Friday, in the lobby of Leader Dogs' administration building, located at Avon and Rochester Roads in Rochester Hills. Leader Dogs provides dog guides to people who are blind and visually impaired to enhance their mobility, independence and quality of life. Each year, more than 270 students attend a 26-day residential training program to be paired with a dog guide. It also offers Trekker training and orientation and mobility training. (248) 651-9011.

#### **MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY**

MHS 2009 holiday cards are available in one style. The cover illustration, donated by Skidmore Studio, features a dog and cat who excitedly receive the best holiday gift of all - a warm, safe, loving home. Each box of 15 cards and 16 envelopes costs \$12.95. Proceeds will benefit the more than 100,000 animals MHS cares for each year. Buy the cards through the MHS online store at www.shopmichiganhumane.org or by calling the MHS Shop Line at (800) 866-9189, 24 hours a day. The Michigan Humane Society (MHS) is a private, nonprofit organization that's working to end companion animal homelessness. For more information, call (866) MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org.



Band of Angels offers support for families of individuals with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities. Its 2009 holiday card offers the greeting 'May your holidays be filled with life's simple gifts.



Leader Dogs for the Blind is selling this holidav card with the photo of 'Blackjack,' taken by a Wisconsin woman who raised him through the organization's puppy program. The inside of the card includes a message about the dog, as well as a greeting in both print and Braille.

#### **NEW HOPE CENTER FOR GRIEF SUPPORT**

Two designs are available, both done by "artists" from the organization's KIDZ

program. The cards will be available in packages of 20 cards and envelopes for \$20 each and \$13 will be tax deductible. One is a manger scene and the other is a Christmas tree. Have them shipped at an additional charge or stop by the office at 315 Griswold, Northville and pick them up. To order, call (248) 348-0115. Proceeds to benefit grief support programs throughout southeast Michigan.

#### **RIGHT TO LIFE-LIFESPAN**

Christmas cards are available in two designs. The Baby King is a watercolor rendition of the first Christmas in blue and gold, showing the Infant Jesus, Mary, Joseph and the Three Kings. A gold foil-lined envelope is included. Cost is \$16 per box of 20. The other design, Mother and Child, depicts Mary holding the baby Jesus in her arms and is framed with an embossed foil border. Mary's robe and the background colors are shades of blue and beige. Cost is \$16 per box of 20. Other cards from previous years are available in packs of 10. Call (248) 478-8878 or visit the office at 29200 Vassar St., Suite 545, Livonia. The organization was established in 1970, and is the largest and oldest pro-life organization in southeastern Michigan, serving Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Livingston Counties.

#### SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS FOR **CHILDREN**

The Livonia-based nonprofit organization offers holiday greeting cards in 11 designs. New this year, Seedlings is offering two sizes of holiday cards - favorites from past years and a new smaller size. Once again, the holiday cards are created by Pumpernickel Press and priced at \$16 per box of 16 large cards and \$10 per box of 10 smaller cards. All designs are fine art embossed cards, made from premium grade, environment-friendly recycled paper, printed with soy inks and made in the USA - including the packing material. The cards are also packaged by occupational training workshop patrons. Buy cards from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Seedlings' office, 14151 Farmington Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-8552 for directions and more information. Visit its Web site, www. seedlings.org/donate.php, for a look at some of its new card designs. Seedlings Braille Books for Children is dedicated to increasing the opportunity for braille literacy by providing high quality, low cost children's literature in braille bringing the gift of literacy to blind children locally and around the world.

#### IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

**ADULT STORYTIME** 

Listen to a few good tales at TELLABRATION 2009, a world-wide storytelling event with a session Friday, Nov. 20, at the Livonia

Civic Center Library. Storytellers from all around the world across six continents. in 44 states and 14 foreign countries will get together on this same weekend and invite the public to listen to their tales. The Detroit

Story League Mary Masson is one of the featured and the Livonia storytellers at TELLEBRATION 2009. Civic Center

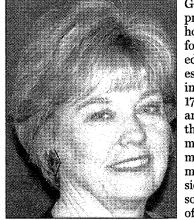
Library sponsor the Livonia TELLABRATION 2009 gathering from 7-9 p.m., at the library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Road.

This year's performers are **Detroit Story League members** Carolyn Graves, Margaret Lockard, Mary Masson and Barbara Shapiro. Dorenn Lawton is the Maestro and will introduce the storytellers.

Tickets are \$5.00 at the door and include storytelling, refreshments and door prizes.

#### **HONOR SOCIETY GATHERS** More than 130 Michigan

women educators of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International convened last month in Livonia for a fall conference. Delta Kappa



Gamma is a professional honor society for women educators. It's established in 50 states, 17 countries and has more than 110,000 members. Its mission is promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and

excellence in education. Members

participated in a variety of professional development and personal growth activities ranging from technology training at Schoolcraft College's state of the art computer lab to a neuroscience session designed to help teachers teach more effectively. Many sessions offered the women the opportunity to earn SB-CEUs (State Board of Education Continuing Education Units). Tom Grace, a former Livonia resident and author of five thrillers, including The Secret Cardinal, was the keynote speaker.

#### **GARDEN CALENDAR**

If you have an item for the garden calendar, submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife. com.

#### At English Gardens

Holiday "how to" weekends will be held noon to 4 p.m., Nov. 15 and Nov. 21-22. Experts will conduct 15 minute demonstrations on a variety of topics, includ-- Compiled by Sharon Dargay ing: Make a bow, magnificent mantles, holiday lights, holiday wreaths, top 10 tips for lifelike trees, decorating a Christmas tree, holiday light tips and decorating an entrance.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313) 278-4433; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

## **Expert Care Close to Home**

## Same or Next Day Appointments Available

#### Alberto Aviles, M.D. **Plastic Surgeon**

5641 W. Maple Road West Bloomfield 26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 250 Novi Phone: 248-538-3020 www.dralbertoaviles.com

Fellowship-trained hand and reconstructive plastic surgeon

experienced in a wide range of surgical and microsurgical services including: advanced techniques for breast reconstruction and enhancement, surgical correction for hand and wrist problems, body contouring procedures such as abdominoplasty and liposuction and procedures to rejuvenate and enhance facial appearance.

#### Robert Zaid, D.O. Family Medicine

PrimeCare of Novi 39555 W. 10 Mile Road Ste 302 Novi Phone: 248-426-7200 www.primecareofmi.com

Passionate about developing relationships with his patients and friendly, values open

communication. Dr. Zaid provides complete care for the entire family with special interest in childhood asthma, dermatology, diabetes and osteopathic manipulation.

#### Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.

Plastic, Cosmetic and **Reconstructive Surgeon** 

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 125 Novi 3270 W. Big Beaver Ste 415 Troy

Phone: 248-305-8400

Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specialty trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox and facial fillers.

#### Kelly Burke, M.D. Obstetrics & Gynecology

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 315 Novi Phone: 248-465-4340 www.yourobgyns.com

Committed to listening to patient concerns Dr. Burke provides the highest quality care for women of all generations. A background in

social work and medicine blends to provide compassionate obstetrical and gynecological care with a special focus on adolescent gynecology and minimally invasive surgery.



#### A. Damadi, M.D. **Colorectal Surgeon**

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 425 Novi 22250 Providence Dr. Ste 702 Southfield Phone: 248-557-9650

Specialized in colonoscopy, cancer screenings, minimally

invasive management of diverticulitis, colorectal cancer and treatment of hemorrhoids.



#### Todd Frush, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeon-

26750 Providence Pkwy Ste 200 Novi 22250 Providence Drive Ste 401 Southfield Phone: 248-349-7015 www.porrettacenter.com



Fellowship trained in sports

medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

#### Mubashir Sabir, M.D.

General and Bariatric Surgeon

26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 460 Novi Phone: 248-662-4272 27483 Dequindre Ste 204 **Madison Heights** Phone: 866-823-4458 www.stjohnweightloss.com



Fellowship trained in bariatric surgery at University Medical Center at Princeton and performing bariatric and general surgery since 2005, Dr. Sabir offers a full range of surgery services to his patients. His special interest is bariatric surgery which he offers as part of St. John Weight Loss, a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

#### Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D.

**Obstetrics and Gynecology** 

Ste 500 Novi Phone: 248-662-4388 www.womensdocs.com

Dedicated providing to comprehensive women's health

birth, menstrual problems and menopause management with an emphasis on wellness through annual physicals, pap smears, breast exams, and preventive medicine.



#### Susan Lyons, M.D., Ph.D.

**Oncology and Hematology** 47601 Grand River 2 South Novi Phone: 248-344-2000 22301 Foster Winter Drive Ste 200 Southfield Phone: 248-552-0620 www.newlandmedical.com



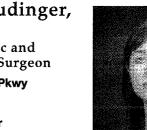
Dedicated to providing optimal, state of the art and progressive care for cancer and hematologic conditions. Combines vast research and clinical experience to provide maximal benefit for her patients while focusing on quality of



26850 Providence Pkwy

care including pregnancy, child

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#### online at hometownlife.com

#### (WGcReLCP) Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, November 15, 2009

#### **NEIGHBORS**

# Do your research

## before hiring air duct cleaners

he writing of this column is very dear to my heart and so are the questions I receive from the readers. The following is a very common one asked whenever I am in front of the public and it deserves a very candid response.



Appliance Doctor

**B**8

Joe Gagnon

ferences. I have researched two of them online and one company is saying \$250 for their premium service and the other is saying \$550 for their premium service. One is registered with the BBB and has not had a complaint ever. The other one I can't find anything on. Of course the lower price company is the one that has no information on them.

ing them and

am a bit con-

the price dif-

fused about all

"I am trying to make an educated decision on a good thorough cleaning of all my homes ducts. Our home was built in 2000 and we purchased it from the original owner in 2002. Since this is our seventh year in the home we have decided that it is about time to get a good duct cleaning. Do you have a company that you have worked with in the past that you can refer? Thank you, Larry. "

Well Larry, let me first off praise you for doing some very necessary research on an industry that employs some very unscrupulous characters. There are thousand of these companies across America that rip off consumers right and left and they prosper because not everyone goes to the trouble of checking them out like you're doing. You most likely get coupons in the mail or hear advertising and see the low bottom price which tends to capture most homeowners. The most common route for these companies is the phone call which touts their special low price — which I get every few weeks at my home. They're aggressive and they know just what to say to frighten most people. These sorts of air duct cleaning companies that I refer to will not do the job properly and may stir up some real problems in the quality of the

air you breathe. It takes three to four hours for a quality air duct company to do the job properly and the cost is usually from \$350-\$450 for the standard home. These companies can take a camera and send it down the air ducts to show you the before and after appearance and believe me, what you see will make you wonder why you didn't get it done sooner.

You should also go to the Internet and look up air duct cleaning associations such as nadca.com. Most of the good guys in this business are a member of such groups who monitor complaints very closely. As a member they must follow stringent policy to keep their membership and as for the crooks in this industry, they do nothing but tarnish the image of a great industry that does so much good for homeowners. As for whom I know and trust you can drop me a note at the e-mail address listed and I will be more than happy to give you a name that you can trust.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com.

## Pet lovers can help military, attend animal expo at the same time

Mutts & Mutts Rescue League of Redford is holding its third annual collection for military men and women who are serving oversees.

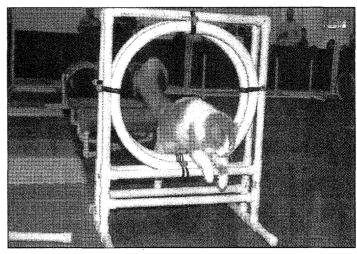
The organization also needs items for its K-9 Off Base Program that takes care of pets while their owners serve abroad.

The collection drive is continuing through December at Flagstar Bank, 3233 Fairlane Drive, Allen Park, (313) 271-6653; National Storage Center, 9120 N. Telegraph, Redford, (313) 537-5378; and Wheat and Rye Bar and Grill, 8120 N. Telegraph, Dearborn Heights, (313) 908-1424.

Donna Law, of Mutts and Mutts Rescue League, suggests these items for overseas military: travel size hand sanitizer, tissues, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, gum, deodorant for both men and women, pre-packaged vitamins, lip balm, baby wipes, playing cards, hard candy, AT&T calling cards, powdered drink mixes, Tums, sunscreen, eye drops, topical ointment, cough drops, zip-lock style baggies in medium and large sizes.

Law also welcomes handwritten letters and drawn pictures from youngsters for service men and women.

The K-9 Off Base Program needs 13-gallon garbage bags, paper towels, bleach, Pedigree small bites dog food, Pedigree chopped beef can food, Pro plan chicken & rice dog food, Pro plan lamb & rice dog food, used and new collars and leashes, blankets, sheets, rugs, squeaky toys for cats or dogs, dog and cat bowls, newspapers and dog pillows. The organization currently



Dogs aren't the only agility athletes. Cats compete in the sport, too. They'll demonstrate their abilities at the Michigan Family Pet Expo, Friday-Sunday, Nov. 20-22, at the Rock Financial Showplace.



has three dogs in its K-9 Off Base Program.

Mutts & Mutts Rescue League, founded in 1997, aims to provide a safe haven for unwanted animals, which are fostered in members' homes until they are adopted. It also has a wish list of items: blankets, rugs, towels, dog kennels, dog houses and hay for its outreach program, used wood privacy fence panels, dog and cat crates, dog and cat canned and dry food, leashes and collars of all sizes, a digital camera for taking photos of the animals, bleach, phone cards and Costco or Sam's Club gift certificates.

All donations are tax deductible. Monetary donations may be sent to Mutts & Mutts, P.O. Box 40386, Redford, MI 48240. For more information, call Law at (313) 778-2262 or e-mail dmuttsmuts@aol.com.

#### **TRAINED FELINES AND MORE**

Yes, cats can jump through hoops and walk over ladders just as easily as their canine counterparts. The Great Lakes Area Cat Enthusiasts (G.L.A.C.E.) will show off its trained feline athletes during the International Cat Agility tournament, Michigan Family Pet Expo, Friday-Sunday, Nov. 20-22 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

Expo visitors will see dozens felines finessing their way through an obstacle course of tunnels, fences, hoops and ladders as their owners encourage them on with toy birds and dragonflies dangling from the end of small wooden poles.

G.L.A.C.E., based in Okemos, awards cash prizes to owners of cats that demonstrate the fastest times with the least number of mistakes. Some cats may qualify for international agility titles and certificates. "People are always amazed when we talk about training cats," stated G.L.A.C.E. President Susan Lee. "Actually, cats are more like horses than dogs on the agility course. They look ahead to the next obstacle much like a horse will look ahead to the next jump."

In addition to cat agility, the Michigan Family Pet Expo will offer entertainment by Johnny Peers and his 14 trained dogs, demonstrations by the Rick-N-Roll K-9s Performance Team with Frisbee catching, doggie limbo and other athletic feats, dock jumping by Ultimate Air Dogs, pet adoptions, a farm animal petting zoo, Paws With a Cause demonstrations, and more.

Show hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Nov. 21, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., -Nov. 22. Admission is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children (ages 3-12). Parking is \$5. Get \$1 off regular adult admission by visiting www.PetMichigan.com or by bringing a can or bag of pet food to the show. Food donations benefit local shelters and rescue groups. (One discount offer per adult, offers cannot be combined.)

Rock Financial Showplace is at 46100 Grand River Ave., south of the I-696 Expressway, in Novi. For more information, go to www.petmichigan.com.

Discover A New You!

### Free Weight Loss Surgery Seminar



Dr. Mubashir Sabir of Providence Hospital and St. John Weight Loss presents the health benefits of bariatric surgery

#### Topics Include

- Are you a candidate for bariatric surgery?
- . How do the various types of bariatric surgery work?
- Benefits and risks of surgery.
- Diet and lifestyle changes as a result of bariatric surgery.
- What to expect from a physician consultation.
- · Question and answer session.



Tuesday, November 3, 2009 Providence Hospital – Southfield Medical Building Room 8C

Wednesday, November 18, 2009 Providence Park Outpatient Center (SE entrance) Room A

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 Farmington Hills Medical Center Conference Room

All seminars are from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

Pre-Registration is required. Call 1-866-823-4458 or go to www.stjohnweightloss.com to register

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#### online at hometownlife.com

Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@ hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226, Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events, Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. For a complete listing online, go to hometownlife.com.

#### NOV. 15-18

#### Concert

The preimiere of a new work, "Wild a Dream" is scheduled for 7 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 15, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. The music is by local composer Carmen Cavallero. The concert includes songs by Stephen Forster and other American composers. It is presented by the Birmingham-First Chamber Choir directed by Tom Trenney. There is no admission charge and child care is provided through age 4. For more information call Lillian Mobley at (248) 374-5928. Food drive

Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia, is taking reservations for its Thanksgiving food distribution. Interested parties should call the church (248) 476-8222) from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday to set up a reservation and time to pick up food on Nov. 21. The church is collecting food items from members and the community through Nov. 15. Items include instant potatoes, noodles, canned corn, peas, green beans, cranberry sauce, gravy, biscuit mix, jello, and boxed cookie mix. Community members can leave items at any time in the donation box under the canopy at the church's front entrance.

#### Mass for widowed

Widowed Friends invites widowed men and women to celebrate Mass together and stay for refreshments and fellowship on Sunday, Nov. 15, at St. Thomas a'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, just south of Cherry Hill, in Canton. Check in by 2:15 p.m.; Mass at 2:30, p.m. Meet new friends in a safe, friendly setting. Call Pat at (734) 459-5508 or Justine at (734) 455-6939 with any questions.

#### NOV. 19-25

#### Chili cook-off

11a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 21, at St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills. This is a fund-raiser to support the church's "Rebuilding Together Oakland County" effort, assist church youth in attending their statewide retreat and defray material costs for Lutheran World Relief Quilts. Participants may choose from a variety of chili dishes, take home items from the bake sale and bid on items in the silent auction. The silent auction will run though 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 22. \$5.00 per adult, \$1.50 age 10 and under. Price includes chili, salad and

advance; \$14 each at the door; \$10 each for groups of 10 or more. Go to SeatYourself.biz/stmatthewslivonia or call (734) 422-6038 to purchase tickets or for more information.

534-9000.

emotions - at Livonia Unity, 28660

Five Mile, Classes include: Monday

Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15

a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Oigong,

7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for

gary@energeticarts.org.

more information or send e-mail to

Bible talks, 4 p.m. Sundays at the

Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh,

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in

Livonia invites adults with devel-

opmental disabilities and special

needs to attend a new Open Arms

Bible class the second Monday of

the month at the church, 34567

Seven Mile, between Farmington

and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The

class, which runs from 7-8 p.m., will

include songs, Bible lessons, crafts

fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel,

(248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@

Tuesday Ladies Bible Study from

and activities, prayer, snacks and

att.net.

Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.;

#### Drop and shop

6-8 p.m., Dec. 8 and 15 at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff, Livonia. Mothers and Grandmothers will take care of children while their parents are out doing last minute errands for Christmas. No charge for the service. For more information call (734) 421-5406

#### **Swedish Christmas Shop**

5-8 p.m. Friday Dec. 4 and 8 a.m.-1p.m. Sat. Dec. 5 at Faith Covenant Church, 35415 W. 14 Mile, corner of Drake, in Farmington Hills. Swedish Christmas ornaments and decorations, along with homemade cardamom bread and crafts from Thailand and South Africa.

#### DEC. 10-16 Advent celebration

Traditions of Christmas will be presented at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church will present "Traditions of Christmas," 4:30-8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13, at the church, 9601 W. Hubbard, Livonia. The evening will be an all ages Advent celebration including family keepsake craft stations, Christmas and Dickens Village displays and formal family pictures by the family Christmas tree. There will be storytelling by members of the Detroit Storytelling League and the Northville High School Singers will perform. A family-style dinner will be served at 6 p.m. An Advent musical, "It's the Most Wönderful Time of the Year," will be presented by the RGPC Chancel Choir at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are on sale through Dec. 5. Adult tickets are \$7. children under 12 pay \$5. Advance tickets only. Call the church office at (734) 422-0494.

#### Christmas craft

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia will host a Kids Christmas Craft Day 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 12 for grades kindergarten through 6th. Kids will enjoy a morning of creating Christmas crafts to be used as gifts or decorations. The event is free. For more information or to sign-up, call the church office at (734) 422-1470 by Thursday, Dec.10. St. Paul's is located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road.

#### Christmas musical

"The Name Jesus," a Christmas musical, runs at 7 p.m., Dec. 11; 10:45 a.m., Dec. 13; 7 p.m., Dec. 18 and 6 p.m., Dec. 20. at First Baptist Church of Canton, 44500 Cherry Hill, Canton. (734)981-6460

#### **Cookie walk**

10 a.m. until sold out, Saturday, Dec. 15, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail, in Livonia. Christmas cookies of all varieties will be available for sale by the pound, along with various baked

ONGOING

Scripture studies, from 6:30-7:30 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit p.m. Mondays in the lower level of First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile, \$15 Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child Learner's Bible study, 7 p.m., care available for children through Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward age 5. Call (248) 348-7600. Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six A study/discussion group focuses Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920. on relationship with God and that Learn Qigong, the ancient form of of other religious groups and Chinese energetic medicine – a safe philosophical and scientific issues and effective way to rid the body of

that might impact faith, at 10:30 toxic pathogens and years of painful. a.m., Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions. extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820. Bible study, 7 p.m., every Friday at Seeds of Mercy Mission Home, 21819 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, Call ct: Nicole Christ at (313) 531-1234 for more information.

Celebrate Recovery Bible Study, noon and 7 p.m., Wednesday, at United Methodist Church of Wayne, at 3 Townsquare, Wayne. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered and Bible-based 12 Step Recovery Program. (734) 721-4801

#### **Clothing Bank**

The Clothing Bank has moved to a new location west of Canton Christian Fellowship. Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need is available 10 a.m. to noon the fourth Saturday of each month,

at 41711 Joy Rd. Call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org for information. Concerts

Rush Hour concert series continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www. metroumc.org.

#### Fellowship dinner

Dinners are at 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford, Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals. Questions? Call (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730. Films

10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222 Hall rental

Volkmar Hall located in Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-

#### 3660. St. James Presbyterian, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730

#### Moms

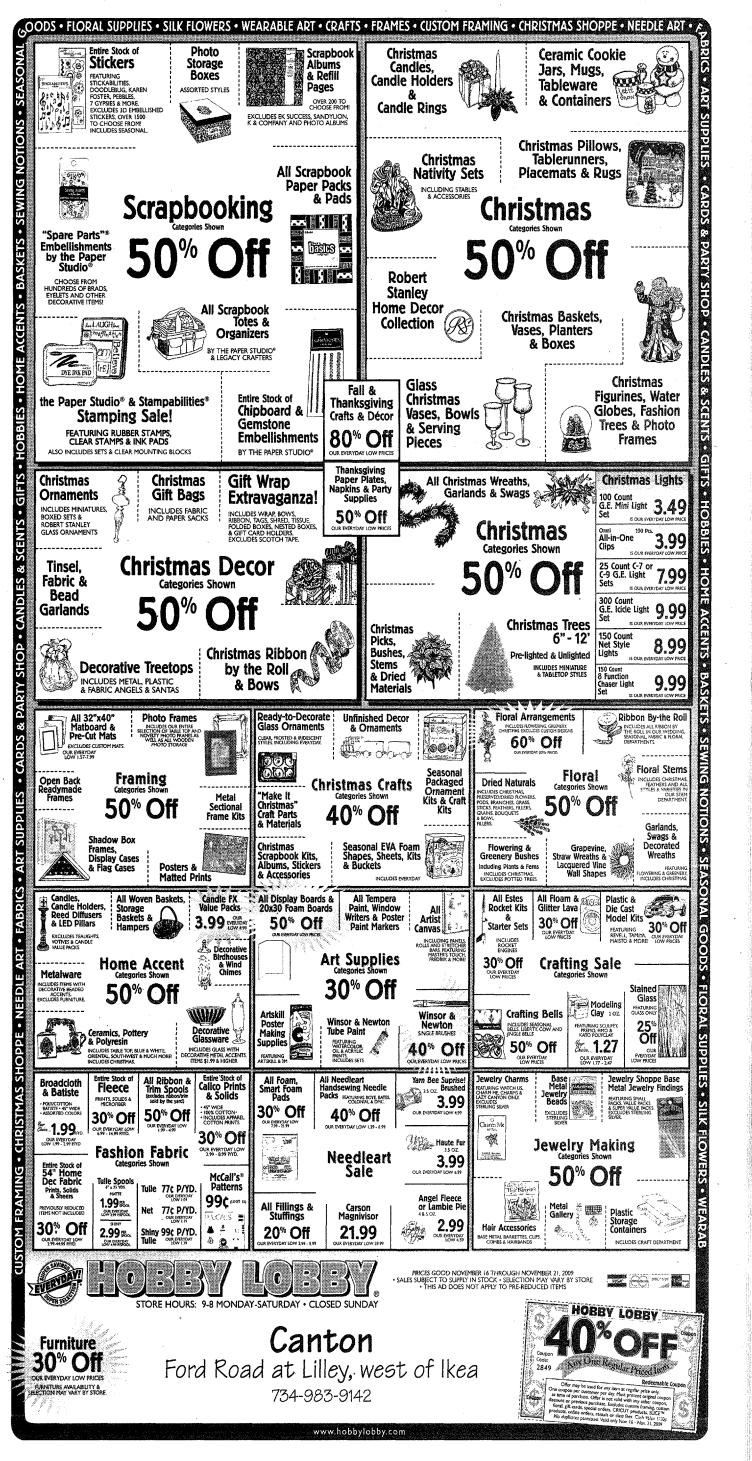
Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) meets 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners. For more-information call Angie at (248) 427-1020.

MOPS, 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays, Dunning Park Bible Chapel. 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford. MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope. For information call Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767.

#### Prayer

Music, singing, prayer at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

7 p.m. Wednesday, at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests. Call (248) 476-8860.



#### beverage. (248) 474-0584 Concert

2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 22, at Monastery of the Sacred Heart, 29575 Middlebelt, north of 13 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Hear sacred music featuring Lisa Agazzi, soprano, performing such favorites as "Pie Jesu." "The Lord's prayer," and "Ave Maria." Selections from Handel, Mozart. Beethoven, Bach and Gounod will be on the program. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information call Barb Glinski at (248) 553-0999 or e-mail to lglinski@aol.com.

#### **Dinner and auction**

6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 21, at Solid Rock Bible Church, 670 Church Street, . Plymouth. Silent Auction and Charity Dinner includes live, silent and raffle auctions with proceeds going to the Zambia Mission Trip for the church. Suggested \$10 donation for the dinner. Questions? E-mail to pamseymour@ameritech.net or call (734) 455-7711.

#### NOV. 26-DEC. 2

#### Lessons and Carols

Candlelight service, 7 p.m., Nov. 29, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Join the chancel choir, ensembles, instrumentalists for this time of calm reflection, of hearing and singing the carols of Advent. Childcare provided through age 4. For more information call Lillian Mobley at (248) 374-5928.

#### **Thanksgiving Day service**

10 a.m., Nov. 26 at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville.

This service will be a wonderful celebration of heritage of freedom. Dr. Jerry Smith, former Director of Music at Ward Church, will conduct the Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Teen Choir and guest musicians in "Battle Hymn of the Republic. Invite your family and friends to launch the holiday season in prayerful thanksgiving and song. Child care provided through age 4. For more information call Lillian Mobley at (248) 374-5928.

#### DEC. 3-9

#### Concert

Christmas concert featuring the Classical Bells handbell ensemble and the Livonia Civic Chorus, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6 at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. A reception will follow. Tickets \$12 each in

goods. (734) 427-2290

#### AWANA

Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096. Classes/study

Antioch Preschool, an academic program complemented by Christian education, is enrolling 3- and 4-year--old children for the 2009-2010 school year. A new toddler class is offered Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. Extended stay enrichment for 3's and 4's is offered Wednesdays - children bring their lunch and enjoy literacy activities until 3 p.m. Antioch Lutheran Church is located at 13 Mile and Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. For information contact Sharon Detter, preschool director, at (248) 626-7906, Ext. 28, or e-mail to antiochpreschool@sbcglobal.net. New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 am., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615 Orchard United Methodist Church. 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is designed to reduce stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www. orchardumc.org for updates. Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

## Young people come together to talk about epilepsy

#### **BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN** CORRESPONDENT

Kristen Pohutsky knew something was wrong when she started to black out a couple of years ago but didn't have health insurance to investigate the cause. Then the 25-yearold Farmington Hills woman wrote a paper on epilepsy for a class at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills. The pieces of the puzzle, the lost seconds of time, suddenly formed a clear picture. She was diagnosed with epilepsy in September 2009 after going to the emergency room in July.

Today, Pohutsky is among a growing number of young adults dedicated to spreading the word about the neurological disorder caused by a misfire in electrical functions of the brain. When uncontrolled epilepsy changes every aspect of a person's life from the ability to hold a job to driving a car.

"I was telling myself I was sleepy or tired," said Pohutsky, a graduate of Harrison High School. "I was doing research, seeing a lot of similarities. In the middle of all this I got married. My husband, Mike, noticed I'd stop talking and stare into space.

"Everyone knows about breast cancer but a lot of people don't understand what epilepsy is. That's why I want to create an awareness about epilepsy and the need for a cure."

Staff at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan in Southfield have been working for 61 years towards the same goal. President Arlene Gorelick's observed a lot of progress over the 20 years she's been there. On Friday, Nov. 20, the foundation presents its Epilepsy Today Conference 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. for individuals with the disorder, their families and profes-

#### sionals at Doubletree Hotel Detroit/Dearborn. For details, call (800) 377-6226 or (248) 351-7979.

#### AT THE CONFERENCE

Speakers include Dr. Brien Smith, a neurologist at Henry Ford Medical Center; Dr. Gregory Barclay, associate professor of neurology at Wayne State University and founding director of Henry Ford Hospital's Comprehensive Epilepsy Program; Dr. Michael Nigro, pediatric neurologist with Michigan Institute for Neurological Disorders (MIND); Charles Spinazola, a psychologist who's practiced biofeedback over 30 years; and registered dietitian Rebecca Sparks of Children's Hospital of Michigan. Sparks talks about the ketogenic diet as a viable option for seizure control.

Gorelick is especially excited about the performance of "In Their Own Words" during which individuals share their epilepsy stories.

"It was the Epilepsy Center of Michigan 61 years ago. There was a stigma of epilepsy, people were ashamed to talk



Kristen Pohutsky and her dog, Suzy. The lab/rottweiler mix helps Pohutsky get into a sitting position when she is about to experience a seizure.

about it and because they were ashamed always didn't get the best treatment," said Gorelick. "The Metro Conference is open for anybody. It's an opportunity to learn some of the latest facts about epilepsy and

meet people struggling with epilepsy, or parents of children with epilepsy, to know you're not alone.'

#### **REACHING YOUTH**

Tyler MacEachran, foundation vice president, believes it's essential to reach young people to get the word out about epilepsy. He's heading up a program that reaches onto college campuses and recruits students. The first was held Nov. 11 at Ferris State. In March, Eastern Michigan University focuses on women in history with epilepsy during Women's History Month. The programs came out of the foundation's Young Adult Leadership Council for those age 18-25 who have epilepsy or a passion for the cause.

We're working on improving employment prospects for young adults with epilepsy, making the college experience a lot more positive," said MacEachran. "We're trying to work with freshmen with a peer to peer packet that gives tips on getting the right amount of meds, taking meds, not mixing with alcohol, and they're also available as mentors. We educate campus safety personnel to recognize and respond to seizures. We're getting tailored to organize at each campus.

"I'm excited young adults are taking it upon themselves to change their campuses. We're going to start there and mover further into the community."

For information, call (248) 351-7979 option 1, Ext. 211, or look him up on Facebook www.facebook.com/tyler. maceachran.

Pohutsky is doing her part by studying molecular biotechnology. She hopes someday to help find a cure. In the meantime her lab/rottweiler mix, Suzy, is by her side providing an early warning.

"I'm struggling to find the medication that's right for me," said Pohutsky. "Thirty percent of people with epilepsy have depression. With medication I've been through every range of emotion and was definitely feeling depressed after taking medication. My dog's been the best help. She knows when they're about to happen. When it happens out on a walk, she helped get me into sitting position."

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#### **BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN** CORRESPONDENT

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan is asking for the public's help to help those struggling with the neurological disorder. Frequently individuals with epilepsy try medication after medication until finding the one that's right for them. Two years ago bills were introduced into the Michigan Senate and House by state Sen. John Gleason, D-Flushing, and state Rep. John Espinoza, D-Crosswell, to prevent pharmacists from

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

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Open enrollment dates are November 1 - December 15, 2009 for a January 1, 2010 effective date.

"It's very important in general because people struggle Michigan. "In 25 to 40 per-

Talk About It @ Dinner, are important to create an awareness about epilepsy. Anyone host a gathering to let others know about the disorder and raise money for the nonprofit.

SYMPHONY

ORCHESTRA

educational DVD and materials for the event.

We're hoping to have as many dinners as possible this month because it's Epilepsy Awareness Month," said Gorelick. "It doesn't have to be a dinner — have people over to watch the game, in the summer a barbecue. It can be anything you want. People can be creative, have a tea."

In the meantime, Gorelick wants to educate the public about First Aid for those having a seizure.

"If someone's having a seizure, lying on the ground, take everything out of the area that could harm them and do not put anything in their mouth. It's an old wives tale that people could swallow their tongue," she said.

"Instead, turn the person on their side, loosen their collar, wait for the seizure to run its course. If it looks like it's going around three minutes, call for help. Seizures usually only last a minute. Partial seizures, they may or may not lose consciousness. Just watch them so they don't wander into the street."

In Michigan, about 100,000 individuals, including 30,000 children, have epilepsy.

"We are about closing the gap to what can be done. Call us. There are a lot of new medications and surgeries, devices that work on the neuro system."

To contact the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, call (800) 377-6226, (248) 351-7979 or visit www.epilepsymichigan.org.

ORIGINAL

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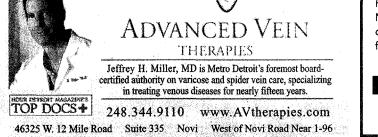
switching medications without The foundation supplies the the consent of the patient and physician. Today, the numbers have been changed on the bills and reintroduced (SB 318 and HB 4408) and the foundation

Join the fight to help individuals struggling with disorder

is still fighting to provide this protection for patients.

to get the medication that helps them. A change can lead to adverse events," said Arlene Gorelick, president of the Epilepsy Foundation of

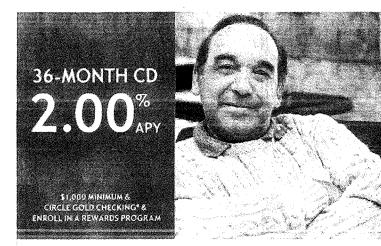
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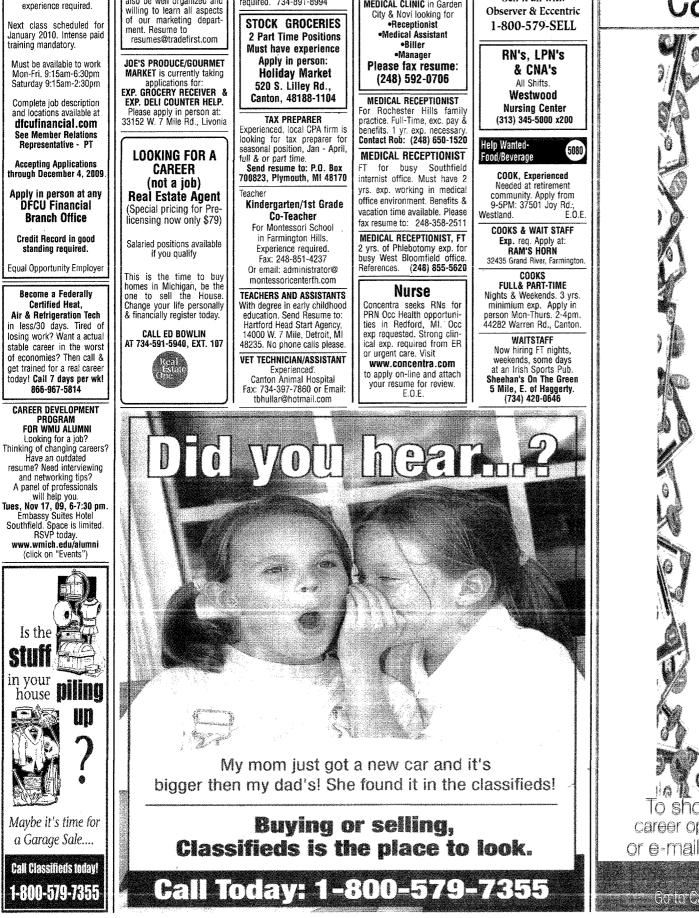
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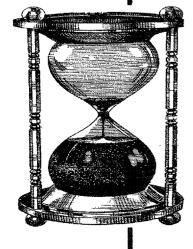








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## Lucerne Super A Good Buy For People Of All Ages

#### AdvertisingFeature





By Kevin Koloian For Avanti NewsFeatures and AllOpinionsAlltheTime.com

Buick has gone back to the past to mark the beginning of a new level of refinement: Super.

The name evokes Buick's most premium, powerful models and returned in 2008 after 50 years. It made its return that year on LaCrosse and Lucerne sedans.

The Lucerrie Super is an upgrade over the base Lucerne in that it has a more powerful version of the 4.6L Northstar V8 engine that is rated at 292 horsepower, an increase of more than 6 percent over base models. The V8 is mated to a four-speed automatic transmission.

This is the same engine as the Lucerne's more popular stable mate the Cadillac DTS.

The Super has fuel economy ratings of 17 miles per gallon in the city and 25 mpg on the highway.

Standing out with a new bright chrome waterfall grille, front and rear fascias, integrated dual exhaust tips and Super badge on the deck lid, there's no mistaking a Super from regular Lucernes.

It also has exclusive aluminum wheels and premium all-season tires to round out the look of luxury while hinting at the vehicle's sport-touring nature.

The Super's standard features include dual-zone automatic climate control, eight-way-power front seats, a nine-speaker 280-watt Harman Kardon audio system and OnStar's Directions & Connections with Turn-by-Turn voiceguided navigation.

The Lucerne Super's steering system combined with the StabiliTrak stability control system and specifically calibrated Magnetic Ride Control system enhance steering response and driver control.

Placing its occupants in the center of luxury, the Super's interior features a leather-wrapped upper instrument panel with French-seam stitching and unique finish on the instrument panel center stack.

And to keep people sitting pretty, the Super has leather seats with perforated suede fabric inserts for the outboard seating positions.

A heated, real wood steering wheel and shift knob finished in Walnut Burl, power tilt and telescoping steering column and Buick embroidered floor mats completes the Lucerne Super's goody list.

The vehicle isn't all about comfort it is a capable hauler as well. Its trunk



The Buick Lucerne Super is the highend Lucerne. It has a unique bright chrome waterfall grille and integrated dual exhaust tips.

holds up to 17 cubic feet of cargo and features a ski pass-through.

The Lucerne Super comes with three standard equipment packages, including the Luxury, Comfort & Convenience and the most important, the Driver Confidence package, which includes great safety technologies.

One is the lane-departure-warning system that detects lane markings with an illuminated green icon on the instrument cluster. To alert the driver to lane departures, the icon turns amber and is accompanied by an audio warning at speeds at or more than 35 mph.

Another great safety feature is the side blind-zone alert, which uses radar sensors behind the rear end to monitor blind spots. When a vehicle enters the area a warning lights up on the corresponding outer side mirror. If a turn signal is activated and a vehicle is detected in the blind spot, the image flashes.

Other safety features are anti-lock disc brakes, traction control, a tirepressure monitor, front side-impact airbags and full-length, head-protecting side curtain airbags.

In National Highway Traffic Safety Administration crash tests, the Lucerne earned a perfect five-star rating for its protection of the driver and front passenger in frontal impacts. A four-star rating was given for side-impact protection of front and rear occupants.

The Super, like all Buick models, come standard with the industry's best coverage, including a four-year/50,000mile vehicle warranty, and a five-year/ 100,000-mile powertrain warranty.

Buick may remind folks in their 70s of older vehicles by using the Super badge, but the Lucerne Super has something for young people, too.

Kevin Koloian covers General Motors for Avanti NewsFeatures. Distributed by Fracassa News Group. @2009, Fracassa Communications.

**Buick Lucerne Super** 

Vehicle class: Sedan. Power: V8 engine. Mileage: 17 city / 25 highway. Where built: Hamtramck, Mich. Price: Around \$38,000.



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