

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

**THURSDAY**  
December 9, 2010

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# CANTON OBSERVER

hometownlife  .com

## CONNECTION Holiday photos could win prizes

Send us your favorite holiday photos for a chance to win a prize.

Go to hometownlife.com (Get Published) and post your favorite holiday photo (or photos) with a short caption, then encourage friends and family to vote by clicking recommend under the photo. The top vote-getter will receive tickets for two to Imagine Theater (Canton or Novi). The second- and third-place winners will receive a coupon for a free four-square cheese and one-topping Buddy's pizza.

Contest ends midnight Dec. 31. Share your holiday spirit with others! Go to hometownlife.com.

## Dress request

The Plymouth/Canton branch of American Association of University Women is requesting donations of gently used prom and party dresses.

AAUW officials note, "The prom is a very important event in high school and many girls are finding it difficult to afford that special dress in our current economic climate." AAUW will be having a special sale in April where suitable dresses can be purchased for minimal or no cost. Any profit will go to the group's scholarship fund.

AAUW volunteers will pick up contributions, or donors can bring it to any meeting. To arrange for pickup, contact S. Zaetta at (734) 455-6366 or szaetta@woway.com; K. Bellows at (734) 421-8807 or kigittykate83@aol.com; or E. Nelson at (734) 981-4938 or enelsonc@aatt.net.

## Ford Facebook

The first- and second-grade students at All Saints Catholic School in Canton were given the opportunity to take part as "actors" in

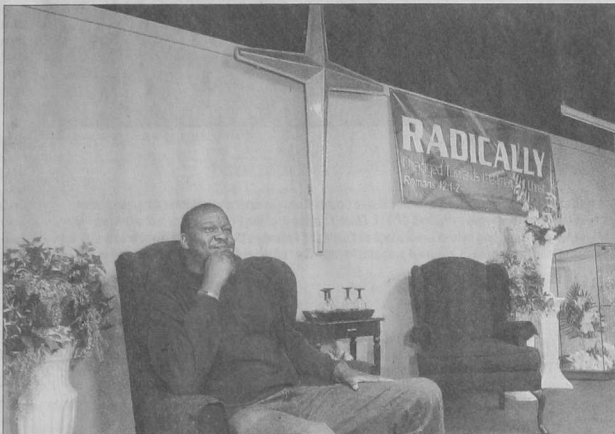


All Saints Catholic School second-graders Joe Nolan, Mia Zena and Isabelle Leagon ham it up for the camera with the Ford Explorer used to make the Ford Facebook commercial.

an upcoming Ford Explorer Facebook commercial.

School officials said staff and students "were very excited to participate in the filming, which took place in the ASCS parking lot for a greater part of the day."

A new 2011 Ford Explorer awaited the students in the parking lot, as they excitedly departed a school bus, cheering, shouting and "going bananas" as directed by the film crew. The students then took measurements of the new vehicle using their hands and arms, while another student recorded the results.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. David Washington Jr., pastor of the Canton Christian Fellowship Church in Canton, is proud of how the congregation has grown as it marks its 10th anniversary.

## Called to Canton

Still-growing ministry marks 10th anniversary

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

David Washington Jr. was only 6 years old when his father told him he had the athletic prowess to follow in the footsteps of baseball pioneer Jackie Robinson or basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Washington did become a standout athlete at Brother Rice High School in Birmingham and, after earning a full basketball scholarship, played a year at Iowa State University.

But his dream of becoming an NBA star never came true, because Washington said God had another game plan for him — the ministry. Yet he still has the talent to draw a crowd.

A decade after he and wife Errica — his childhood sweetheart — started an eight-member Bible study group in Canton, the Rev. Washington ministers to more than 400 people every Sunday at Canton Christian Fellowship, a church located in the old state unemployment office at Joy Road and Ronda Drive.

"We had a vision that we've never deviated from, and that vision is to have a real sense of community and authentic



The Rev. David Washington Jr. says his congregation has grown so much it needs a larger place to worship.

leadership," he said, sitting in the church sanctuary.

As the congregation celebrates its 10th anniversary, Washington, a 40-year-old father of five, said God's game plan for him continues to unfold. Canton Christian Fellowship has outgrown its 11,000-square-foot building, and within two years the pastor hopes to find a new place — perhaps five times larger, but still in Canton — for worshippers.

"I feel we've been called to Canton," Washington said.

## GROWING THE CHURCH

**Who:** Rev. David Washington Jr.  
**What:** Pastor, Canton Christian Fellowship

**Family:** Wife, Errica; children Gabriella, 15, Hannah, 13, Faith, 10, Joyelle, 8, and David Washington III, 5.

**Why:** The church, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary, is looking for a larger home

**More:** For more information, call the church at (734) 404-2480 or log on to www.CantonCF.org. For more on the Rev. Washington's radio ministry, visit www.TLMinistries.net.

He also has a radio ministry, Transformed Lives Ministries, that airs 11 a.m. Monday through Friday on WLQV-AM (1500). And he has a self-published book, *Storm Devotions: God's Word To Get You Through*, with WinePress Publishing.

## BUSINESS BACKGROUND

If it seems like Washington has a businesslike acumen, he should. After his basketball stint at Iowa State, he earned a business marketing degree

Please see **ANNIVERSARY, A3**

## Jobs the focus as Goodwill opens in Canton

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In its sole mission to create jobs, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit will return to the retail business for the first time in a decade when it opens the doors Saturday to its new Canton store.

"We're very excited," Jeffrey Ukraine, Goodwill director of donated goods, said Monday morning as employees bustled inside the store, 41937 Ford Road west of Haggerty, to prepare for customers.

Goodwill officials say the store, with 11,000 square feet of retail space, has been designed more like an upscale department store rather than a typical resale shop. It has been stocked with 18,000 pieces of clothing and hundreds of other items such as jewelry, purses, shoes, linens, furniture and electronics.

On every wall, customers can see images of once-unemployed people who received a new start after getting the training and jobs they needed through Goodwill, which has its headquarters in Detroit and has a nearly 90-year history in southeast Michigan.

Canton's store alone has created 25 jobs ranging from truck drivers to retail clerks to managers, and its hours will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day except Sunday,

when it's open from noon to 6 p.m.

Goodwill last had an area retail shop in 2000, but Ukraine said the agency revived the idea as another way to create jobs amid a tough economy and to provide quality merchandise for cash-strapped shoppers looking for good deals.

"It's all about creating jobs," Ukraine said.

Mark Lane, Goodwill director of public relations and special events, said the organization "touched about 28,000 lives" during the last year, whether by creating jobs, providing job retraining, helping with resumes or evaluating job skills.

"It could be someone with a disability or a displaced auto worker — anybody who has a barrier to employment," Lane said.

Goodwill hopes to expand its efforts with retail shops in a five-county area in southeast Michigan within a decade. It chose Canton to launch its retail effort due to the area's population density and because officials believe they can get top-quality donations of merchandise here.

They haven't been disappointed, and employees scrambled Monday morning to sort through donations and price them, amid plans to start making money

Please see **GOODWILL, A5**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Robert Hunter unloads furniture from a Goodwill truck.

## Groups work together for holidays

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Santa Claus isn't the only one who's making lists and checking them twice as Christmas approaches.

Members of a variety of charitable organizations in Plymouth and Canton, using what they've dubbed The Collaborative Effort, are working together to make sure every child (and family) in the local community has a good Christmas.

The Plymouth Goodfellows, Canton Goodfellows, local churches and groups like Open Door Ministry and the St. Vincent dePaul Society — with the Plymouth Salvation Army acting as a clearinghouse — are comparing the lists of the needy families in the area to make sure as many as possible are taken care

of for the holidays.

"It's tremendously important for a couple of reasons," Plymouth Goodfellows President Dave Corliss said of the Collaborative. "As a program that's involved in charitable giving, there are always two concerns, that someone could be missed and that families appear on more than one list."

"By cooperating (in the Collaborative), we're able to get the support they need. Having many sources of information gets us a long way toward making sure no one gets missed."

The Collaborative runs its various lists through the Plymouth Salvation Army, which services Canton, Plymouth, Belleville and Northville and acts as a sort of electronic clearinghouse for the information. And the lists figure to be fairly long

Please see **GROUPS, A5**

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"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](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

### Healing Hearts

Attorney Thomas Novak will speak about Corrections, Law and the Family in a program Monday, Dec. 13, sponsored by Hope 4 Healing Hearts Inc.

The program will be at Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland, and will include a question-and-answer session.

Novak first volunteered to work with offenders in 1984 as a college student. Since then he has continued to volunteer with offender-related organizations and has served on the board of two non-profit groups.

He also has worked for seven years as a parole/probation Officer for the Department of Corrections and earned a law degree in 2003. He has seen and felt the effects of his own brother-in-law's two prison terms. Questions for Novak, a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, can be submitted in advance so he can provide more complete answers.

Hope 4 Healing Hearts meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Kirk of Our Savior. For more information or to submit questions, call Bonnie Hlberer at (734) 734-646-2237 or by e-mail at [Bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com](mailto:Bonnie@hope4healinghearts.com).

### Events for kids

El Fuego Fresh Mexican Grill in Canton hosts a weekend of events aimed at youngsters in the community.

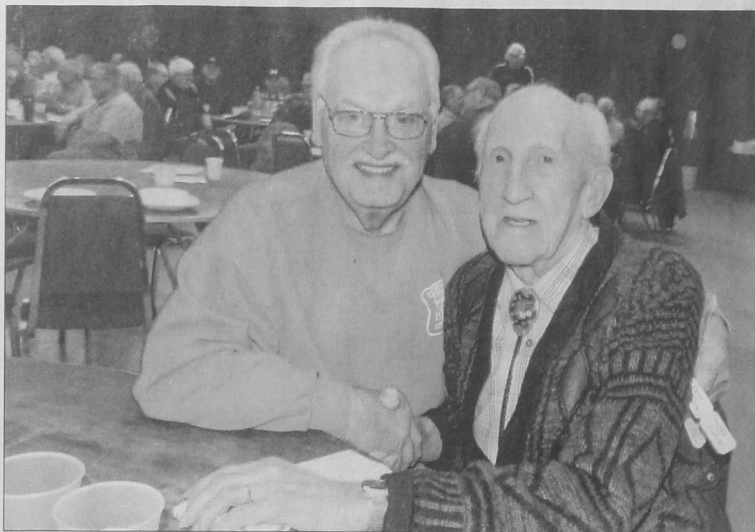
• On Friday, Dec. 17, at 9:30 p.m., the restaurant hosts "Navidad De Baile" teen dance party, featuring a live disc jockey, dancing, snack bar and refreshments. Advanced tickets are \$6, tickets the night of the event are \$7.50.

• From 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 18, the restaurant hosts "Breakfast with Santa." Kids who bring an unwrapped gift for a needy family get a free 4x6 photo with Santa.

El Fuego is located at 45380 Hanford in Canton (off Canton Center, one block north of Ford Road).

### Service of Lessons

St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon Road in Plymouth, announces its annual Service of Lessons and



DAVID L. MALHALAB / MNS SERVICE / MNS PHOTO

### Still helping

Clemens Bykowski of Canton (right), a retired Detroit Police Officer, a former Wayne County Commissioner and a former Michigan State Representative, who will be 87 on his next birthday, is greeted by retired DPD Lt. Frank Krzesowik of the DPD Choir Boys, at a Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association (RDPFFA) membership meeting held at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus Hall in Livonia. Bykowski is still active trying to help war veterans obtain assistance, and is opposed to a federal proposal to raise the retirement age for Social Security to 69.

Carols for Advent, to be held Sunday, Dec. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

The service, which follows a format popularized by King's College of the University of Cambridge, England, alternates readings from Scripture with the singing of songs and carols appropriate for the season of Advent. Members of the church's music ministry, including Children's and Youth choirs, Handbell Choir, Parish Choir, and contemporary group SonShine, will come together to present the music for the service, under the direction of Minister of Music Julie Ford.

Although the concert is free of charge, attendees are encouraged to give generously to a free-will offering. Benefits from the concert will be donated to the Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan. Gleaners, which was founded in Detroit in 1977, distributes more than 28 million pounds of food annually through its five Metro-Detroit distribution centers.

St. John's Service of Lessons and

Carols for Advent is part of the church's concert series, Resounding Art in a Sacred Space. For more information on this program, the concert series, or the parish, please telephone (734) 453-0190, Ext. 16, or visit the church website at [www.stjohnsplymouth.org](http://www.stjohnsplymouth.org)

### Holiday concerts

The Plymouth Symphony presents "Home for the Holidays" concerts at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth.

Concerts are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 16, at 6 and 8 p.m. For more information, visit [www.plymouthsymphony.com](http://www.plymouthsymphony.com) or call (734) 451-2112.

### Band auditions

Has it been a while since you dusted-off that musical instrument of yours? Anyone getting that urge to perhaps start playing that clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone or any other musical instrument has their chance.

The New Horizons Band of Musicians 18 years of age or older who would like to become a part of this unique music ensemble are invited to attend a "free" one-time rehearsal on Tuesday evenings.

For more information, call Evola Music at (743) 455-4677.

### Nuns in charge

"Put the Nuns in Charge," a long-running comedy from the author of "Late Night Catechism" is coming to St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Canton 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28.

Ticket prices range from \$20 for non-reserved seating and go up to \$75 for front row seats. All tickets include a dessert afterward. All proceeds will go to two great causes - St. Pat's Food Pantry in Detroit and World Youth Day.

Child care will be provided for a small donation. Tickets must be purchased in person with cash or check at St. Thomas a Becket, located at 555 S. Lilley Road in Canton, south

of Cherry Hill Road. Contact the church at (734) 981-1333 for further information.

### Holiday camp for kids

Join Bilingual Fun for an afternoon of fun, educational, and interactive learning. Children ages preschool-elementary are invited to attend Holiday Camp Dec. 21 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at Praise Baptist Church in Plymouth. Children will learn Spanish through winter-themed activities, music, games, crafts, food, and more.

For more info, contact [info@bilingualfun.com](mailto:info@bilingualfun.com) or 1-877-686-7399.

### Golf pass gifts

Amateur, recreational and avid golfers alike will find that an annual pass to Pheasant Run Golf Club is the perfect gift to give or receive. Sign up before Dec. 30, and save 10 percent off of the pass price.

Golf pass amenities include: unlimited golf and golf car fees; preferred tee time reservations; unlimited use of practice facility; 20% off non-sale Pro Shop merchandise; reduced guest fees; member appreciation days; one free 20-minute lesson with golf professional; grill discounts; and more.

Located at 46500 Summit Parkway in Canton, Pheasant Run Golf Course was designed by world renowned architect Arthur Hills. The 27-hole layout covers more than 300 acres of rolling terrain, and traverses over 10.5 miles from start to finish. The scenic course is inviting to the beginner and challenging to the scratch golfer.

For more information on the Pheasant Run Golf Club Annual Passes, visit [www.golfrpgc.org](http://www.golfrpgc.org) or call (734) 397-6460.

### Check out Canton

The Canton Economic Development office and the Canton Public Library have teamed up to help the community "check out" Canton businesses.

"Check Out Canton" works like the library's very popular Museum Adventure Pass program. Local businesses supply special offers that patrons can check out from the library with a library card. Use the passes to save on goods and services throughout Canton.

Want to know what's being offered? Simply search the library catalog for "Check Out Canton" and you'll find a list of the businesses and their offers.

Businesses interested in participating in this program can call Canton's Economic Development office at (734) 394-5182.

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# Living in infamy

## Vets remember attack that brought U.S. into World War II

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Military veterans from the local area paused Tuesday to remember the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 69 years ago.

It was Dec. 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy," as President Franklin D. Roosevelt called it in a speech the next day, when bomber and fighter planes of the Empire of Japan, launched from aircraft carriers, attacked the U.S. Navy's base at Pearl Harbor, destroying ships and planes and killing more than 2,000 U.S. servicemen and civilians and wounding more than 1,000 others.

With the attack, the U.S. entered World War II, which would last for nearly four more years.

"It pushed the U.S. public opinion from complacency and isolationism to acceptance. War was inevitable," said Steve Monaghan of Plymouth Township, the master of ceremonies at the veterans' Pearl Harbor remembrance.

Monaghan, an ex-Marine and a past commander of American Legion Post 112, spoke to about two dozen people who braved a biting mid-day wind to gather at the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park in Plymouth for prayers, the

presentation of wreaths at the park's Veterans Plaza, a rifle salute by an honor guard of veterans and a bugler's playing of *Taps*.

The event, Monaghan said, was dedicated to those who did their duty by following orders quietly.

Flags at the park — the U.S. flag, the Michigan flag and the familiar black-and-white flag dedicated to prisoners of war and the missing in action — were at half-staff in memory of the battle, and Monaghan noted an empty chair draped with the POW/MIA flag, which, he said, symbolized the missing from all wars.

"It's a constant physical symbol of the POW-MIAs, for their return or a full accounting," he said.

Monaghan also read the names of local men and women who served in World War II.

He noted the sacrifices of people in the military and asked the crowd to do its part to protect hard-won freedoms.

"Freedom comes at a tremendous price and it is for us the living to safeguard" it, he said.

The ceremony was sponsored by American Legion Posts 112 and 391, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6695 and Vietnam Veterans of American Post 528.

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



Don Green leads the pledge of allegiance with Steve Monaghan.



Bob White offers a salute in remembrance to those who died during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor during the ceremony Tuesday in Plymouth.



Ted Enright of Canton plays 'Taps' near the conclusion of Tuesday's Pearl Harbor ceremony in downtown Plymouth.



Gary Boucher lays a wreath honoring Veterans of Foreign Wars.

## ANNIVERSARY

FROM PAGE A1

from Grand Rapids Baptist College and worked in corporate America for Ford Motor Co. and Eli Lilly & Co., a pharmaceutical firm.

He also earned a master's degree in religion from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary in Lynchburg, Va., and he is now pursuing his doctorate of ministry from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Washington has blended his love of ministry and his business expertise to help his church flourish, and he has even tapped into social media Facebook and Twitter to engage young people.

DeMarcus Ducre, 25, and wife Shila had searched the Detroit area for a church before they landed at Canton Christian Fellowship two years ago. They saw a billboard at Westland Shopping Center, and they have been impressed by the church's fellowship.

"The people there care about you, and they ask about you all the time," Ducre said. "It's like a family. And it's the word of God that I'm being taught. You can hear it in Pastor Washington's speech, and it comes from his heart. And he keeps you engaged with jokes. One thing I always love is he uses props and church bodies for creative illustrations."

Washington also has helped his church flourish in other ways. It has two Sunday morning services, Wednesday family nights and age-appropriate Bible study groups for young children, students in grades 7-12 and adults. It also offers group ministries geared toward college students, recovering addicts, men, women

and those interested in performing arts.

### CLOTHING BANK

The church also has a clothing bank just down Joy Road in Plymouth that serves some 100 people a month, and though most receiving aid don't attend Canton Christian Fellowship, some have joined.

"The need has grown with this economy we're in," Washington said. "What good is it to sit here and not help the community? Christ didn't just stay in his comfort zone. He went out and helped others."

Washington likens the church to a lighthouse — a beacon of light where those in need, whether spiritually or otherwise, can find a friendly hand, a hug, help. As he sits in the sanctuary, a large poster near his chair reads, "Radically Changed Toward the Image of Christ."

He explains it this way: "We've got to radically be willing to let God transform us. We have to be willing to surrender ourselves."

He has been willing, and his leadership has drawn church members from across western Wayne County and cities such as Southfield and Detroit. Though most members are African American, he continually reaches out to all people.

"It's everybody's church," he said.

Even as Canton Christian Fellowship begins to consider its next move, Washington said his plan is to keep the church in Canton where he and Errica also live with their children.

"Canton is a diverse community," he said. "I pastor in Canton, and I want to live in Canton."

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# PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, December 9, 2010

hometownlife.com

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com

### CRIME WATCH

#### Van break-in

**1** Canton police were dispatched to the Lowe's Home Improvement store on Ford east of Sheldon after receiving a call about a suspect breaking into a van, a police report said.

The incident happened about 11:35 a.m. Friday.

The alleged victim said he was leaving the store with a co-worker and noticed a suspect had gone in the rear door of a work van.

The victim scuffled with the suspect, who eventually broke free, fled to a nearby vehicle and drove onto Ford Road.

The victim reported that some plumbing equipment had been stolen. He described the suspect as a black male in his 20s or 30s, 6-foot-1, 180-200 pounds and wearing a black hooded sweatshirt.

The incident was under investigation.

#### Purse missed

**2** A police officer driving by the Meijer store on Ford at Canton Center was flagged down by a woman who said her purse had been nearly stolen in the parking lot.

The incident happened just after 10 p.m. last Thursday.

The alleged victim said she was on the driver's side of her vehicle with a grocery cart, getting ready to load groceries into her car when she was approached by a female suspect who got out of what was described as a small, dark-colored sedan.

The victim said the suspect got out of the car, walked up to her, grabbed her black leather purse from a grocery cart and started to flee. The victim said she screamed and starting chasing the female suspect, who dropped the purse and got into a car driven by a male accomplice.

The suspect was described as a young

black female who wore a black hooded jacket over a red and gold jacket, along with blue jeans and dark-colored pants.

The incident was under investigation.

#### False report

**3** A man being jailed by Canton police was cited for providing false information to police after he lied for a second time about having spinal meningitis while he was being locked up, according to a police report.

The man, who was under arrest for an unrelated incident, told police around 1 p.m. Saturday he had spinal meningitis and needed to go to a hospital. Canton Fire Department paramedics came to the police station, and he gave them the same story.

The man was taken to an emergency room and admitted to a hospital, where tests showed he had no signs of the disease. He had been taken to a hospital by police in July for a similar complaint.

for intimidation.

The traffic stop and arrest were made around 3:15 p.m. Saturday.

The man also was cited for obstructing police and providing false information.

#### Felony arrest

**6** A woman inside the Styling Gallery Salon on Joy Road east of I-275 was arrested after police ran a background check on her license plate and learned she was wanted for a felony warrant out of Washtenaw County for making a false police report.

The arrest happened just before 11:30 a.m. Friday.

She was arrested at the salon, handcuffed and searched. Washtenaw County authorities made arrangements to pick her up at the Canton police station.

— Compiled by Darrell Clem from Canton Police Department reports.



#### Retail fraud

**4** Police arrested a retail fraud suspect after being dispatched to the Walmart store on Ford Road east of I-275 around 9 p.m. last Thursday.

An employee reported seeing a suspect get a large quantity of baseball cards and conceal them. He was ultimately confronted and arrested for retail fraud.

A police report estimated the worth of the baseball cards at \$386.

#### Warrant arrest

**5** Canton police on patrol on Michigan Avenue near Dewitt, west of Sheldon, arrested a passenger after stopping a vehicle for a seatbelt violation.

The suspect didn't have any identification, but police took his fingerprints and learned that he was wanted in Romulus

## Police warn neighbors about copper thieves

BY DARRELL CLEM  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Thieves searching for copper to steal and sell as scrap have been breaking into vacant houses across Canton, prompting police to ask neighbors to watch for suspicious behavior in local neighborhoods.

Several foreclosed homes now owned by Fannie Mae, a federal mortgage agency, have been rummaged for copper within the last few weeks, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said.

The theft of copper and other items from foreclosed homes has become a problem not just in Canton, but across the nation as thieves seek to make money off other people's hard luck.

Thieves — often driving what resembles a work van or pickup trucks — brazenly pull up, park outside the foreclosed houses, break in and steal copper from basement plumbing

and anywhere else they can find it, Gajeski said.

"They're scrapping it," he said.

All of the incidents in Canton have occurred in foreclosed homes now owned by Fannie Mae, though authorities say any vacant house could be particularly susceptible.

Canton police, who already have strong relations with community watch groups, are asking residents throughout the township to keep a watchful eye in their neighborhoods, especially on foreclosed homes.

"We're putting the word out for residents to keep an extra eye out for work vans or pickup trucks or anything parked in the driveway that looks out of place," Gajeski said.

Any suspicious behavior should be reported to the Canton Police Department by calling (734) 394-5400.

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

## Canton public safety phones get upgrade

The Canton Public Safety Department's phone system will be affected by an upgrade scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 14.

Though the 911 lines will not be affected by potential outages, the main non-emergency line of (734) 394-5400 is expected to be out of service

for about 15 minutes starting at 5:30 p.m.

Three to four hours later, a second outage is expected to occur on the same phone lines, lasting about 30 minutes.

During the times when the phone lines are down, non-emergency calls may be made to (734) 397-3350.

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# GROUPS

FROM PAGE A1

this year. According to Laurie Aren, director of family and community ministries for the PSA, the need is greater this year than last.

This year, The Collaborative figures to have some 600 families, including some 1,300 children, on the list. Last year's holiday effort helped 530 families and nearly 1,200 kids.

"More folks have been losing their jobs," Aren said. "There are a lot of (new) names I don't recognize (asking for help). School lunch participation is up, and some of those families are being referred to us."

Aren said she had 110 appointments pending as of Monday, and some 430 families had already signed up for holiday assistance. Those families, she said, will get a holiday "basket" consisting of food, clothing items and a trip to the Salvation Army's "Toy Towne," where they're allowed to shop for Christmas presents for their children.

Aren said the best thing donors could give would be gift cards for teenagers (13 and older), and suggested cards from places such as fast-food restaurants, movie theaters (Canton has the Emagine and Goodrich theaters, Plymouth has the Penn Theatre) or "box" stores such as Walmart, Target, Best Buy or the Game Stop.

They also need some 400 turkeys (frozen) or canned hams, and they're still collecting new toys and clothing items for boys and girls from infant through age 12.

Donors can "Adopt an Angel," through the Salvation Army, or adopt an entire family through groups such as the Goodfellows.

"Some people call us and are adamant they want to adopt a family, and I refer them to the Goodfellows," Aren said. "Others can't afford to do a whole family, so they help us."

The Goodfellows operate with the mantra, "No Child Without a Christmas," and their efforts focus on that idea. For instance, both the Plymouth and Canton Goodfellows had their annual newspaper sales over the week-end and, while final figures weren't available, both drives appeared to be successful.

"We put about half-again the number of volunteers out on the street, and that's what drives the money," said Corliss, who said some 50 volunteers manned the streets Saturday in Plymouth.

"That made it very successful." Christmas distribution takes place Dec. 18-22, and the PSA needs as much food as it can get by next week. Officials are hoping donations will pick up. The Salvation Army announced last week it's some 15 percent behind in its Red Kettle and other holiday giving campaigns.

"Donations are down this year," Aren said. "We had people who adopted last year who aren't adopting this year. I'm not sure why, but it's not far-fetched to think the economy still has a lot to do with that."

## WINGS RINGING

The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit and the Detroit Red Wings are joining forces in "Red Wings for Red Kettles" for the fifth consecutive year to help the non-profit meet a critical need and keep vital services operating.

Red kettles will be at all entrances of Joe Louis Arena for four home games one hour prior to game time Dec. 13, 15, 19 and 22. The team will also participate in a variety of activities to assist the Salvation Army.

Red Wings players and coaching staff will get competitive Dec. 9: Coach Mike Babcock, 4-6 p.m.; General Manager Ken Holland, 4-5:30 p.m.; and Red Wings players 4-6 p.m. as they serve as bell ringers at a handful of metro Detroit locations, including Hiller's Market in Northville, Kroger stores in Plymouth and Northville and Hockeytown Authentics in Troy.



The new Goodwill store, with 18,000 items of clothing and other merchandise, opens Saturday.

## GOODWILL

FROM PAGE A1

Saturday to boost its job-creating programs and services. Ukraineec said Goodwill hopes to earn \$1 million during the shop's first year.

"Without money, there's no mission," he said.

Goodwill helps a broad range of people, such as those with disabilities, those who have lost their jobs to an economic recession and those who are trying to rebuild their lives after their once-troubled behavior landed them in prison.

Goodwill chose the Ford Road location in Canton because it is located along

the township's busiest retail strip, not far from the IKEA store and other shops that draw customers not only from Michigan, but also other Midwest states and Canada.

The store has become well-stocked following donation drives at places such as Canton's Summit on the Park, and Ukraineec said donations



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeffrey Ukraineec, director of donated goods, talks about the area's first Goodwill retail store in a decade.

of quality items always are welcome at the store. Goodwill can arrange to pick up items such as furniture if donors call (313) 964-3900.

"We accept items that are gently used for resale," Ukraineec said, "and we don't accept broken furniture."

Noting that Goodwill will need to rely on a steady supply of donations, Ukraineec said he

hopes potential donors — and customers, too — will remember what they are accomplishing by helping the store.

"When they donate or when they shop here," he said, "they are creating jobs."

For more information or to donate online to Goodwill, go to [www.goodwilldetroit.org](http://www.goodwilldetroit.org).

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<sup>†</sup>Based on Medicare's Plan Quality and Performance Rating 2009 Survey conducted by the federal Medicare program (2008-2009).

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GETTY IMAGES

# THE LOGISTICS OF A hassle-free holiday

**T**he holidays are supposed to be filled with love and good cheer, but the logistics of shopping for gifts, sending out cards, taking family trips and shipping packages can leave even the jolliest of people in a Scrooge-like mood.

Fortunately, there are some ways you can take the hassle out of the holidays and make them a little brighter for yourself and those around you.

## SHOP SMART

Avoid long lines, crowded parking lots and out-of-stock items with these helpful hints:

**Get Ready** — Before you head out to the mall, make a list of the gifts you want to buy and do some online price comparison. Use sites like BizRate, DealTime or Shopzilla, as well as check local ads to find the best price. You may want to call your local store to see if they have your item in stock, saving yourself a trip if they don't have it.

**Shop Early** — Plan to shop early in the day, and early in the season. Morning crowds tend to be lighter and sales assistants tend to be more attentive first thing. And the earlier in the season you shop, the less you have to deal with long lines and frustrated shoppers. Plus, this year, while there are 29 shopping days between Thanksgiving and Christmas, there are only 20 shipping days.

**Wrap It Up** — Pay a little extra and let a charity group at the store wrap your gifts for you. This saves you time later and frees you up to get other things done — and you help a good cause.

If you do any online or catalogue shopping, avoid having packages left on your doorstep by getting a mailbox at The UPS Store. You get a mailbox with a real street address, which accepts packages from all carriers. And, you can choose to receive an e-mail or text when you have a package waiting, avoiding unnecessary trips.

## NO-HASSLE HOLIDAY PACKING

Make sure your carefully chosen gifts get to their destinations intact with these helpful tips:

### DO

- Check with experts before shipping fragile items (or items that might be considered hazardous or illegal to ship, such as perfume or cologne).
- Use materials the professionals use — foam packaging peanuts, bubble cushioning and packing tape — to protect your gifts.
- Include a label on the inside of the package with both the destination and return addresses.
- Use a shipping option which provides a package-tracking number.
- Take batteries out of toys, electronics, etc., before shipping.
- Ship wrapped presents ahead to your destination, especially if traveling by air.

### DON'T

- Wrap boxes in brown paper or tie with string.
- Use materials like newspaper or real popcorn to cushion items.
- Use old boxes or gift boxes for shipping items.
- Use duct tape, masking tape or cellophane tape to seal your boxes for shipping.

## DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS?

Participating The UPS Store locations offer holiday shippers the option to neutralize the climate impact of their packages for a small fee when shipping with UPS. And, many locations accept clean foam packaging peanuts for reuse.

## DON'T LUG YOUR LUGGAGE

Navigating airport security, crowded terminals and long check-in lines can be stressful enough. Add luggage and gifts into the holiday travel mix and things can get really unpleasant. One solution travelers are turning to is shipping luggage to their destinations.

"Traveling without a suitcase is a tremendous convenience, especially during the hectic holiday travel season. Having your luggage awaiting your arrival and tracking it along the way is even better," said Bryan Vial, The UPS Store franchisee from Phoenix, Ariz. "Ship your luggage as is or place it in a box for shipment. Or, at select locations, you can purchase a luggage box and avoid a suitcase altogether."

Some major airline baggage fees can add up to over \$100. Vial says that a luggage box of comparable size shipped via UPS Ground service is competitively priced and saves you time and hassle at the airport. If you are a member of the Automobile Association of America, you can receive a 15 percent discount off the full retail price of eligible products and services, and 5 percent off domestic U.S. shipping costs. Visit [www.theupsstore.com](http://www.theupsstore.com) for more information.

## LUGGAGE SHIPPING TIPS

- Because of the duties and taxes associated with international shipments, The UPS Store does not recommend shipping luggage internationally.
- Federal Aviation Administration restrictions prohibit shipping hazardous materials, including colognes and perfumes, aerosol sprays, nail polish and cigarette lighters via air.
- Include packaging tape and a return shipping label in the luggage box for use when returning home.

## KEY DATES FOR HOLIDAY SHIPPING

- Monday is the busiest shipping day of the week.
- The busiest shipping week of the 2010 season is expected to be December 13 to 17.
- If you are shipping international or to military personnel overseas, contact The UPS Store location nearest you to determine the best date to ensure on-time delivery.
- Most ground packages require five days or less to reach their destination, but if you're shipping coast-to-coast, it may take longer.
- Last-Minute Shipping Dates:
  - Tuesday, December 21 — Ship UPS 3 Day Select for delivery Friday, December 24.
  - Wednesday, December 22 — Ship UPS 2nd Day Air for delivery Friday, December 24.
  - Thursday, December 23 — Ship UPS Next Day Air for delivery Friday, December 24.



— Family Features



## HAPPY HOLIDAY PRINTING

Take the hassle out of printing holiday newsletters, programs and more. With online printing from The UPS Store, you can easily upload your documents, customize your printing and finishing options, preview the final project, and submit your project from the comfort of your home or office. Then, simply stop by to pick it up when you are shipping off holiday packages.

For even less hassle, let the certified packing experts at The UPS Store handle the logistics of getting your gifts safely to your loved ones for the holidays. Participating locations offer the Pack & Ship Promise, which will reimburse customers in the event a center-packed item shipped via UPS is lost or damaged. Details are available at [www.theupsstore.com](http://www.theupsstore.com).



# Great debate

## Faux or real – which tree is best?

BY MARY QUINLEY  
CORRESPONDENT

Each year, somewhere around Thanksgiving, Tom Diroff lugs a spruce-like tree out of a big box and sets it up in his living room.

With Christmas tunes as a backdrop, he decorates the tree with strands of multi-colored lights and an assortment of bulbs and ornaments. The finished product – full and festive – looks like the real thing.

For almost two decades, Diroff has enjoyed artificial trees.

"They're convenient; can be put up any time; and, I don't have to go out every year and shop for one," said Diroff of Livonia.

Real or real-like? When it comes to Christmas trees, everyone has an opinion. For some, tradition matters. If mom and dad had a real tree, their kids will often follow suit. Space and time restraints, as well as allergies, are other deciding factors.

Like Diroff, Jeanette Sullivan of Plymouth can't imagine dealing with the hassles of a live tree.

"I'm a diehard fake (tree) fan. I can put up my pre-lit tree in a half hour. I never have to water it; and, after three years, it was paid for," said Sullivan, who has been partial to faux Christmas trees for about 15 years.

Plymouth Nursery Home & Garden Showplace offers more than 30 styles of life-like trees. Most are pre-lit. Clear lights are a favorite with shoppers, however, multi-colored strings are gaining in popularity. Prices range from \$99 to \$1,000. According to Tim Parker, general manager, most tree needles at Plymouth Nursery are made of polyurethane. "It's a new technique that makes the trees look

### WHERE TO BUY ARTIFICIAL TREES

- Lowe's (Canton and Westland); [www.lowes.com](http://www.lowes.com)
- The Home Depot (Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth and two Canton locations); [www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com)
- Plymouth Nursery Home & Garden Showplace, 9900 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 453-5500; [www.plymouthnursery.net](http://www.plymouthnursery.net)
- Cornwell Christmas World, 874 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 459-7410; [www.cornwellpoolandpatio.tv](http://www.cornwellpoolandpatio.tv)

### WHERE TO BUY A REAL TREE

- Three Cedars Farm, 7897 Six Mile Road, Salem Township, (248) 437-8200, [www.threecedarsfarm.org](http://www.threecedarsfarm.org); (pre-cut)
- Waldock Tree Farm, 3090 Dutcher Road, Howell, (517) 546-3890, [www.waldocktreefarm.com](http://www.waldocktreefarm.com); (U-cut)
- Mutch's Hidden Pines, 303 W. Newark Road, Lapeer, (810) 667-2711, [www.mutchshiddenpines.com](http://www.mutchshiddenpines.com); (U-cut and pre-cut)

- Middle Road Tree Farm, 4235 Middle Road, Highland, (248) 887-1494, [www.middleoadtreefarm.com](http://www.middleoadtreefarm.com); (U-cut and pre-cut)
  - Braun's, 796 Warren Road, Ann Arbor, (734) 663-2717, [www.braun-strees.com](http://www.braun-strees.com); (U-cut and pre-cut)
  - Holtz Christmas Tree Plantation, 9381 Day Road, near Maybee, (734) 587-3155; (U-cut)
  - Barsons Greenhouse, 6414 Merriman, Westland, (734) 421-5959, [www.barsons.com](http://www.barsons.com); (pre-cut)
  - Steinkopf Nursery, 20815 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 474-2925; and, through Dec. 19, Riley Park, south side of Grand River Avenue, east of Farmington Road in Farmington; (pre-cut)
  - Plymouth Nursery Home & Garden Showplace, 9900 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 453-5500; [www.plymouthnursery.net](http://www.plymouthnursery.net) (pre-cut)
- For a list of all tree farms and retail lots in Michigan, contact the Michigan Christmas Tree Association at (800) 589-8733 or online at [www.mcta.org](http://www.mcta.org).

But if fresh and fragrant are more your style, consider a tree farm.

Ranking third in the nation in number of holiday trees harvested, Michigan produces more Christmas tree varieties than any other state. And that's a plus for "live" tree lovers like Julie Grau of Livonia and her family.

For almost 20 years, the Graus have trekked to a tree farm on the fringes of Saginaw. "We started cutting down our own Christmas tree because of the kids. And, now, it's a yearly tradition," said Grau, the mother of four.

With handsaw in tow, the band of tree cutters – often

real. We have a life-like tree that looks identical to a blue spruce."

The store also carries an extensive selection of fresh trees that cost from \$15 to \$250.

There are two important factors that customers consider when they shop for an artificial tree, said Jeff Drews, store manager at Cornwell Christmas World in Plymouth: tree size and most natural looking tree.

"We carry a little bit of everything from Fraser and Douglas firs, pine trees, and spruce, to blue needle, green needle and multi-tip trees (more than one type of needle)," Drews said.



MARY QUINLEY

Scarlett, 4, and Katie Flynn, 8, of Grosse Pointe Woods, pick out a Christmas tree with the assistance of Fred Stepmky of Cheboygan. The Fred Stepmky Nursery, located on the south side of Plymouth Road, one block west of Wayne Road in Livonia, offers nine varieties of fresh cut trees.

accompanied by cousins from the neighboring town – will meander out into the wintry woods to search for the best-looking 7- to 8-foot spruce. And they always find it.

Closer to home, the Middle Road Tree Farm in Highland and Braun's in Ann Arbor offer family-fun adventures where patrons can either choose-and-cut a tree or pick out a pre-cut tree.

U-cut trees are also available at Waldock Tree Farm

in Howell; Holtz Christmas Tree Plantation near Maybee; Mutch's Hidden Pines in Lapeer; and Three Cedars Farm in Salem Township.

Fraser firs are a crowd pleaser at Barson's Greenhouse in Westland. "They have short, soft needles that last," said Debbie Barson, co-owner. Ornaments don't sag on Fraser firs because the branches are nice and sturdy, she added. A 6- to 7-foot pre-cut tree costs \$29.99; a 7- to 8-foot

tree is \$55.

When choosing a fresh tree, most people are "looking for symmetry, shape and height," said Lisa Steinkopf, a sales manager at Steinkopf Nursery. All trees at this Farmington Hills nursery, except for one variety, were grown in Michigan. Prices range from \$24 to \$150.

New this year, through Sunday, Dec. 19, Steinkopf will be selling trees at Riley Park in downtown Farmington.

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# Ford volunteers help feed the hungry

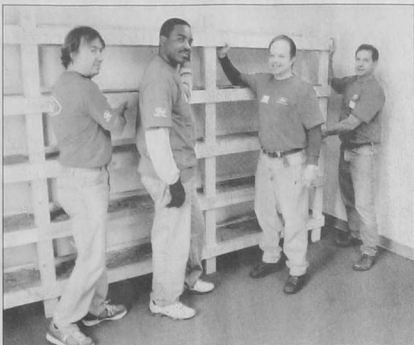
The Ford Volunteer Corps cooked, delivered and collected food last week throughout the metro area to help feed the hungry.

During Ford Accelerated Action Day, Dec. 3, hundreds of employee and retiree volunteers stocked shelves in food storage warehouses, packed holiday food boxes for families in need and served meals in soup kitchens.

Ford volunteers are answering an urgent call to help. Each day, hundreds of thousands of people in southeast Michigan struggle to find food. Ford employees — in partnership with local nonprofit hunger relief agencies — are helping to distribute food and feed people in shelters, missions and family centers.

"Hunger is a painful reality for many people in our local communities," said Jim Vella, president, Ford Motor Co. Fund and Community Services and a Canton resident. "We are thankful that we have the resources to share with our neighbors in need."

Many of the organizations participating in the Dec. 3 effort also received Ford mini-grants of up to \$5,000 to buy food and other items needed to complete their projects. More than \$50,000 in mini-grants has been awarded to partici-



Ford volunteers (from left) Mike Vandenberg of Farmington, Andrae Davis of Southfield, Scott Langley of Canton and Warren Stobbe of Plymouth were among those building food pantry shelves at the Go-Getters Drop-In Center in southwest Detroit, part of Southwest Solutions Human Services and Community Building program.

patting agencies, including:

- Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Detroit — assembled 750 food boxes that feed a family of four.

- Fish & Loaves Food Pantry, Taylor — sorted 168,000 pounds of food purchased with Ford grant.

- Focus HOPE, Detroit — assembled 4,000 food boxes for area seniors.

- Food Gatherers, Ann Arbor — packed 750 food boxes con-

taining 25 meals each.

- Gleaners Community Food Bank, Pontiac — filled 950 weekend meal backpacks for children.

- Ruth Ellis Center, Highland Park — stocked food pantry and packed meals for street outreach.

- St. Leo's Soup Kitchen, Detroit — prepared and served lunch for more than 200 people.

- Salvation Army-Harbor

Light, Detroit — served meals to 3,000 homeless people.

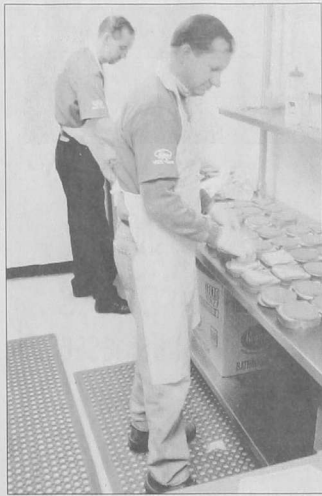
- Southwest Housing Solutions, Detroit — cooked and served holiday meals for residents.

- Veteran's Haven, Wayne — coat drive and food for distribution to 225 veterans and their families.

In addition to the Ford Accelerated Action Day, Ford is a sponsor of the holiday Meals on Wheels program for thousands of seniors in Michigan.

Nine specially equipped vehicles recently were added to a fleet of 98 refrigerated trucks that are being used to collect and distribute food in all 50 states. Part of a 10-year partnership with Newman's Own and Feeding America, the trucks have traveled more than 5.7 million miles and delivered more than 130 million meals.

Ford also created a fun way for high school students in southeast Michigan to get involved through Dec. 12. Students in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb county high schools can compete for a school-wide pizza party and school supplies by collecting canned goods and nonperishable packaged food items and using them to build a look-alike Ford Explorer. Contest details are available at [www.clickondetroit.com](http://www.clickondetroit.com). Pictures of school entries will be posted



PHOTOS BY ERIC MITCHELL/PUBLIC AFFAIRS, FORD/AUTOMOTIVE COMPONENTS HOLDINGS, LLC

on this site, where the public can vote on the three finalists Dec. 13-14. Tips for building the Explorer can be found on [facebook.com/pages/Ford-in-the-Community](http://facebook.com/pages/Ford-in-the-Community). After the contest, Gleaners Food Bank will pick up and distribute the donated food in the tri-county area.

"Ford is continuing a long tradition of caring and community service by addressing

one of the most basic of human needs," said Janet Lawson, director, Ford Volunteer Corps. "Collecting food and feeding people is an important step toward creating a better world."

In 2010, more than 20,000 Ford employees and retirees have volunteered to help people in local communities around the world. For more information, visit [www.community.ford.com](http://www.community.ford.com).

## Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students

Three seats are open to students entering 7th grade in winter 2011

Three seats are open to students entering 8th grade in winter 2011

Limited Registration window: Dec. 6, 2010 – Jan. 6, 2011

Livonia Public Schools is opening its Middle School Alternative Classrooms for the Academically Talented (MACAT) program to Limited Schools of Choice for the 2010-11 school year, second semester.

This program is geared toward academically talented students looking for a specialized learning experience.

Registration will open from Dec. 6, 2010 - Jan. 6, 2011 at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Rd, Livonia 48150 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

All candidates MUST meet the MACAT selection testing criteria.

For complete information on the application process,

Contact Doug Coates at Churchill High School at 734-744-2650 ext. 46132

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Mary Margaret Cheff  
Resident



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**CANTON OBSERVER**  
**Brad Kadrich,**  
 Community Editor  
**Susan Rosiek,**  
 Executive Editor  
**Grace Perry,**  
 Director of Advertising

## OUR VIEWS

# Shop locally

## Patronizing small businesses bolsters city's economy

Just 15 shopping days left until Christmas! If you haven't bought all of your holiday gifts yet, plan to shop locally and benefit the Canton economy.

When you shop at local small businesses, 68 percent of what you spend is reinvested in the community, according to Small Business Saturday.

Patronizing small local businesses helps to keep unemployment and property taxes low and property values high.

In light of the local and state budget shortfalls, strengthening the local economy is perhaps more important now than ever before.

Small Business Saturday is a new initiative established this year between Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

The idea is to promote a day to shop at home for people to realize how important local retailers are. Of course, you can shop locally any day of the year — not just on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

According to the Small Business Saturday website, there are four reasons to shop at small businesses:

- For every \$100 spent at local small businesses, \$68 returns to the community. The taxes local businesses pay help support the city's infrastructure and services, maintaining a safe and high-quality lifestyle for residents.
- Small businesses employ half of all private sector employees.
- Small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms.

- During every year of the last decade, 60-80 percent of new jobs were generated by small businesses.

If that isn't reason enough, consider that you're likely to receive more attentive, personal service. Small business owners get to know their customers by name and often stock merchandise according to their customers' preferences. They're also more likely to special order items for their customers.

In addition, you'll save time and money on gas shopping close to home.

Henry Ford had a saying about his fireplace: "Chop your own wood and it will warm you twice."

Shop locally and give twice — once to the intended beneficiary and again to your community.

## Heed MADD's message this holiday season

Whether it's intentional or not, there's a good chance that many of us have taken the risk once or twice, maybe even more of driving after drinking.

We're not talking about falling down drunk amounts, but maybe one or two drinks. Doesn't sound like much, but according to Michigan State Police Capt. Monica Yesh, commander of Traffic Safety, having one or two drinks, "does impair judgment."

Each year, during this holiday season, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) conducts the Tie One On for Safety public awareness initiative, to encourage us all to "Drive Safe, Sober and Buckled Up." Tie One On for Safety, originally named the Project Red Ribbon Campaign, was created in 1986 to help heighten public attention to drinking and driving during the holiday season.

The program was designed to encourage the public to become actively involved in the fight against drunk driving by tying a red ribbon to a visible place on their vehicle such as the antenna or side mirror. The campaign aims to raise awareness about the dangers of drunk driving, and promotes always wearing your seat belt, which remains the best defense against a drunken driver.

It is a campaign we urge our readers to join.

According to MADD, in 2008, an estimated 11,773 people died in alcohol-impaired traffic crashes across the U.S. The organization also reports that three of every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash in their lives and on average, someone is killed by an intoxicated driver every 45 minutes. Not a startling statistic, considering that more than 1.46 million impaired drivers were arrested in 2006 — an arrest rate of one for every 139 licensed drivers in the nation.

This is the season when we gather with family and friends to celebrate. It's a time when we ring in the New Year with a toast or two. We are not saying the drinking can't be a part of the revelry. What we are saying is that if you plan to share a bottle of wine over dinner or have a few drinks with a friend at the neighborhood bar, be responsible — not just for yourself, but for others on the road.

If you're holding the car keys after drinking, you're also holding a life in your hand. You may not reach the state's BAC level of .08 or above for driving while intoxicated, but you can be considered driving under the influence of alcohol-impaired driving — if your BAC is .07 and below. Either way, you shouldn't get in a vehicle and drive.

During this holiday season, one split-second decision can be fatal. Don't become a statistic. Put don't drink and drive at the top of your holiday wish list, not only for you but for your family and friends.

Go ahead: Tie One on for Safety this holiday season.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What do you think of airport security measures such as full body scans and extensive pat-downs?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



"I think it's good to a point, but I think it can get a little personal and embarrassing. I agree men should search men and women should search women, but they could provide a more personal setting for people who want it."

Julia Scott  
Canton



"I don't fly so it really doesn't affect me, but I think it's going a little too far."

Gary Rappana  
Canton



"I think it's going way overboard, and they are looking at the wrong people. Five-year-old children and 80-year-old women aren't the ones bringing bombs on planes."

Nancy Vivier  
Canton



"I think it's a bad idea. It's an invasion of privacy."

Adam Lewis  
Westland

## LETTERS

### Example set?

Four Plymouth-Canton school board members meet in private and then refuse to schedule a workshop to discuss as a group the change in duties for Dr. Fiegel and Mr. Jacobs?

How ironic coming from a board that determined one of Dr. Fiegel's weaknesses to be that he didn't collaborate with the board and his staff. Perhaps Dr. Fiegel has just been leading by the example set for him by his bosses?

Debbie Stefforia  
Canton

### Surrogate letter

In response to surrogate Wright's letter to the editor of Dec. 2, I should like to state for the record that I have no objection to any Canton Township board member voting yes, no or abstaining. I encourage a healthy debate.

However, I do take issue with board members who have a history of not showing up for board meetings or participating in study sessions, and then casting a no vote on important issues, without offering any explanation or alternative solution. I believe this is a disservice to the board and the community.

Prior to the board's vote on the 2011-12 budgets last month, I gave a detailed explanation as to why I was voting in favor of this two-year budget.

Canton Township trustees are considered part-time employees. They are paid \$12,000 per year and are expected to attend board meetings 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday. Most board members put in additional time serving on various boards, attending community meetings and events, to mention a few. For the last six years, one elected Canton Township official has missed more meetings than any two elected officials combined. This gives new meaning to the term "part-time trustee."

I am not so much interested in surrogate Wright's flippant comments about "growing up" as I am interested in board members showing up. As surrogate Wright has correctly pointed out, "it may be necessary to replace him."

John Anthony  
Canton Township trustee

### Deficit hawk?

Late last week, I sent an e-mail to Congressman McCotter in order to register my dissatisfaction with his "nay" vote on a bill passed by the House that would extend the so-called Bush tax cuts only to married taxpayers with taxable incomes less than \$250,000 and single taxpayers with taxable incomes less than \$200,000.

This bill would allow Clinton-era marginal income tax rates to return to all other taxpayers, resulting in an increase of 3.6 percent added tax on taxable income amounts over the threshold \$250,000 and \$200,000 levels.

McCotter, a self-described deficit hawk, has certainly missed a real opportunity to demonstrate his seriousness about cutting the deficit in that the CBO has stated that the extension of these cuts to high-income Americans would add \$730 billion to the deficit over the next 10 years.

Since only 26 percent of Americans think the tax cuts should be extended to the wealthy, according to a recent CBS poll, McCotter also seems to be missing an opportunity to be on the popular side of the issue rather than standing with a tiny minority, the wealthiest among us.

Critics of the selective extension of tax cuts, most of whom are Republican, claim that the cuts for the wealthy are stimulative in nature and would negatively impact the recovery if allowed to expire. Labor Department statistics just do not support this notion, crediting the Bush administration with creating barely over 1 million jobs even though these cuts were in force through much of the Bush presidency.

Critics also claim that you don't increase taxes during a recession under any circumstances. That may be true when all seem to be suffering equally, but statistics show that is not the case. The top 2 percent of income earners, on average, have experienced steady, strong increases in income even though median household incomes have declined over a decade for the first time since statistics have been kept.

To McCotter's credit, he responded quickly to my communication, indicating that he had two reservations about the middle-class tax cut extension that resulted in his "no" vote. First, according to McCotter, the bill did not address the imminent resumption of the estate tax on Jan. 1, claiming this failure would result in the loss of many family farms and businesses to the "dreaded taxman." Second, the bill would have an adverse tax impact on over half of all small businesses. These two claims by the good congressman were pulled directly out of the GOP book of well-worn scary talking points and are patently false.

Here is a representative sample quote echoed in dozens of credible publications, addressing the myth about the estate tax and family farms and businesses after the CBO studied the impact of the tax: "The numbers that owed estate tax, the CBO found, were paltry, and the number without enough cash on hand to pay the bill even punier."

Regarding the claim that in excess of 50 percent of small businesses would be impacted by the expiration of the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy, Politifact.com says, "the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) has projected that in 2011, only 3 percent of all taxpayers who reported having positive business income will see their taxes go up under the proposed Democratic initiative" of letting the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy expire."

It appears that Congressman McCotter is willing to employ whatever means necessary, principled or not, in order to usher in an extended round of Bush economics and unfortunately, so does a recalcitrant Republican minority in the Senate. That went so well the first time around, didn't it.

Mitch Smith  
Canton

### Where's the motivation?

Thank you for the great article "Fracture on board breaks wide open." I was wondering if this

situation was ever going to be openly discussed in the press and really appreciate the direct, honest assessment.

This situation and the behavior of "the big four" is very disturbing. One of the most disturbing things (beyond the damage they are doing to the district), as a parent in this school district, is that they are so secretive about their motives.

It appears in the absence of any information from them that, as you said, they hope to gain some political advantage. Maybe I am naive and unable to see some obvious motivation, but it appears all so mysterious.

Tim Roraback  
Plymouth

### Word of caution

This letter was meant to be read aloud as a citizen's comment at the recent (Nov. 29, 2010) school board meeting. I refrained from speaking at that meeting as there were no teachers in attendance. I am sending this letter to the paper as I now feel that it is the best way to reach the intended audience before some potentially rash decisions are made.

These words were written to address the PCCS teachers and their union. First of all, I want to thank you for all of the time, effort and work that you put forth for and with our children. My children attend your schools, and I genuinely appreciate all that you do. Thank you also for continuing to work despite the absence of a new contract. Your actions underscore your commitment, and I want you to know that parents in this district take notice of what you do for the students.

I believe that a new contract agreement will be reached soon. Unfortunately, I also believe that some board members will, or already have, offer their support to us in exchange for your support of them. I also believe that the settlement will be timed to generate some positive news stories to counteract the recent underhanded maneuvers of certain board members.

In this light, I offer a word of caution. Beware the person who offers to save you from a problem they themselves created. Don't forget who has controlled negotiations from the start, and who made "toughness with the union" a hiring criteria for the new superintendent. Don't allow yourselves to be pawns in someone else's game. It should now be quite obvious what happens to those that do not fully comply with the board's wishes.

I genuinely hope that you achieve a fair contract. I urge you not to make any promises that will hurt you in the long run. I, along with the not so silent majority, am deservedly concerned for the future of this district. We support you in ways you see every day, and we ask that you support us in return. Get the best contract you can, but get it because you deserve it — not because of pledged support to people who only work in your interest when it is to their advantage.

Allan Doute  
Plymouth



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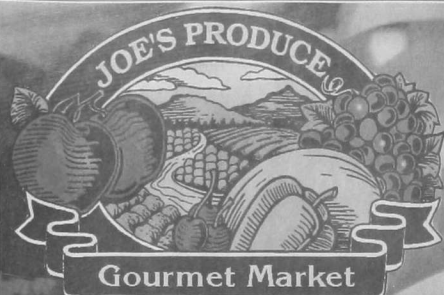
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# Home cooking

Bridges scores 26 in Canton's romp

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tuesday's home opener for Canton's girls basketball team featured senior power forward Kayla Bridges and a host of supporting performers as the Chiefs pummeled Bloomfield Hills Marian 65-36.

The 6-0 Bridges could not be stopped under the Mustangs' basket, especially in the first half when she scored 18 points to spark a 38-14 halftime edge.

Although the Mustangs (1-2) battled and actually won the third quarter by a 13-9 score, that was about it against the deep, talented Chiefs.

"The first half I thought we were a lot more sound offensively and I thought we were better defensively," Canton head coach Brian Samulski said. "In the third quarter, I didn't think we had great focus and concentration."

It didn't carry over into the fourth, however. The Chiefs (2-0) finished strong with an 18-9 final quarter.

"We don't have a lot of mental toughness," Marian head coach Mary Cicerone said. "Once we decided to get down and play dirty — but by then we're down by 20-some points — then we competed with them. I thought we played a great third quarter."

## HOT HAND

Bridges finished with 26 points for the second straight contest to open the 2010-11 season, and chipped in with six rebounds.

"They (Mustangs) were in a zone for the majority of the game and when you're in a zone, it makes it hard to block people out," said Bridges, who recently signed to play women's basketball at Wayne State University next year. "So I was always there to get the rebound. I had good position."

She added that it felt good to start strong in front of the home fans, which she did with a mix of layups, bank shots and jumpers.

"First home game, the nerves are there," Bridges said. "It's our court, but there's more pressure there because no one can beat us on our court."

"That's what our coach says all the time. So the pressure's there and to get that out of the way it feels good."

Samulski said the way Bridges has opened the season is no surprise considering her strong off-season work ethic.

"Kayla had a great spring, summer and fall," Samulski said. "She's put a lot of work in and she's reaping the benefits of that right now."

By no means was Bridges a one-person wrecking crew for Canton.

## ON THE BOARD

Eight other players hit the scoresheet, led by senior forward Kari Schmitt (11 points, five rebounds), junior guard Robyn Mack (eight points), senior guard CarolAnn Sexauer (six points) and freshman guard Paige Arresco (six points).

Please see **CANTON, B3**



BILL BRESLER / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Kari Schmitt (No. 25) battles for a loose ball with Bloomfield Hills Marian players Michelle Perkovic (No. 31) and Brittany Heffernan on Tuesday.

## SIDELINES

Moose to face DRW alums

Fans of the Detroit Red Wings Alumni Association hockey team will want to come out to Canton Arctic Edge at 4 p.m. Saturday as the alums face off against the community-minded, Canton-based Detroit Moose.

Proceeds from \$10 tickets and \$50 dinner/ticket packages will go to the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan.

For those choosing the dinner-with-a-game option, the dinner will be at Kickers, located across the parking lot from the rink.

Canton Arctic Edge is on the south side of Michigan Avenue near Canton Center Drive.

Who's your captain?

Hey prep varsity coaches, do you have a captain who deserves a special mention for his or her leadership skills?

The Observer is looking for candidates for the Captain's Corner feature. If you have a nomination, please send an e-mail to Tim Smith, sports editor of the Plymouth and Canton Observers, at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Altman All-America

Madonna University junior Karie Altman was named honorable mention on the 2010 Tachikara-NAIA Volleyball All-America Team.

The Taylor native, who was named to the ESPN Academic All-America Team last week, became the 45th MU volleyball student-athlete to earn the All-America honors.

An All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first-team and Academic All-WHAC selection, the 6-foot middle hitter from Allen Park St. Frances Cabrini led the WHAC with 488 kills this season while ranking second in the league with a 36.0 attack percentage.

Lady Ocelots fall

Host Kalamazoo Valley Community College used a 17-9 second-half run Saturday to upend the No. 12-ranked Schoolcraft College women's basketball team, 71-66, in the championship game of the Gillette Classic.

The loss drops Schoolcraft to 8-3 overall, while Kalamazoo Valley improves to 4-3.

Kendall Dow and Taylor Reed each scored 14 points for the victorious Cougars.

Shanequa Brags and Kimberly Bee each tallied 14 points for the Ocelots, who shot only 36.2 percent from the floor, including 3-of-15 from 3-point range.

Shawnicka Thomas contributed 13 points.

Schoolcraft was 13-of-22 from the foul line, while Kalamazoo Valley hit 20-of-33.

MU men edged

The third-ranked Cornerstone University men's basketball team sank five free throws down the stretch Saturday to escape with a 64-61 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory over visiting Madonna University.

The Golden Eagles (9-1, 2-0) led by as many as 10 points in the second half before Bryant Slaughter (Westland) tied the game for the eighth time at 57-57 with less than two minutes remaining.

Justin Yoder's layup with 50 seconds left gave Cornerstone the lead for keeps, 59-57.

Caleb Simons and Ronald Bates scored 14 and 11, respectively, for Cornerstone.

Freshman guard Bobby Naubert (Livonia Stevenson) finished with 14 points and four assists as the Crusaders fell to 1-9 and 0-2.

Josh Gay and Slaughter chipped in with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

## Zebari hat trick lifts 'Cats

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

### BOYS HOCKEY

When Plymouth senior forward Chase Zebari got a taste of finally scoring a varsity goal, he couldn't get enough.

In fact, Zebari scored a hat trick Saturday afternoon to pace the host Wildcats to a 6-1 victory over Livonia Franklin in a KLAAs South boys hockey matchup at Compuware Arena.

Other standouts for Plymouth (1-0-2, 1-0-1) included sophomore forward Nick Schultz (3 assists) and senior goalie Mike Justus, who stopped the first 26 shots he saw and lost his shutout with just one tenth of a second to go.

Franklin's Tyler Satkowiak threw a seemingly harmless shot from the right boards of Compuware's Olympic ice sheet that deflected over Justus' shoulder.

"I feel bad for Mike (Justus), he had a great game," said Plymouth head coach Paul Fassbender.

But Zebari was all smiles outside the Wildcats' locker room, talking about his scoring spurge. It started at the six-minute mark of the second period when a wrist shot from the right of the Pats' cage found the twine to give Plymouth a 2-0 lead.

### EFFORT PAYS OFF

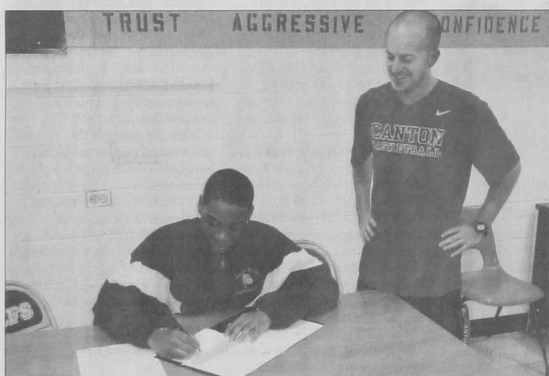
"Yeah, that was my first-ever high school goal and then I got three goals in that game," Zebari said. "That last goal was a perfect pass from (junior forward) Zach Gambrell."

Zebari jumped out of the penal-

Please see **WILDCATS, B2**



Plymouth winger Chase Zebari (No. 21), shown standing his ground against Livonia Franklin's Jerome Schiaff (No. 12) during Saturday afternoon's game, scored the first goals of his varsity career in a 6-1 Wildcats win.



Dietrich Lever II puts his name to the paperwork, finalizing his decision to play Division II basketball at Ferris State University. At right is his Canton coach, Jimmy Reddy.

## Ferris suits Lever just fine

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



JOHN STORMZAND / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dietrich Lever II, shown in this 2009-10 file photo, will play college basketball at Ferris State. But first, he has some business to attend to during his senior season at Canton.

Big talent comes in small packages, and Canton senior point guard Dietrich Lever II fits that description.

The 17-year-old Lever, who Tuesday scored 28 points in the Chiefs' 63-60 season-opening loss to West Bloomfield, signed to play Division II basketball at Ferris State University.

But Canton coach Jimmy Reddy still sees his offensive catalyst as a player who should have found a Division I program to come calling.

"If Dietrich was 5-11 or 6-0 he'd be a D-1 player," Reddy said. "I've actually had a couple college coaches tell me he's a D-1 player in a D-2 body."

According to the 5-10 Lever, who averaged 19.5 points, 7.5 assists and 3.5 steals in 2009-10, he waited until the last possible hour to commit to Ferris because of hopes for a bigger opportunity.

"I was waiting for a Division I look, because I was pretty sure I could play Division I, it was just my size," Lever said. "At first, I was going to risk it and just wait until after the season. But I didn't want to pass up an oppor-

**'I went over all the pros and cons and I decided it was a good fit.'**

DIETRICH LEVER II, Canton guard

Please see **LEVER, B3**

# Whalers make it two in a row

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Make it two wins in a row since Mike Vellucci tinkered with his lines.

The Plymouth Whalers' coach and GM put speedy Farmington Hills native Alex Aleardi on the top unit with left wing Tyler Brown and center Robbie Czarnik for two weekend games at Compuware Arena.

Although that combo didn't cause the red light to short-circuit in either game, the Whalers came out victorious both times — 3-2 Friday against Owen Sound and 4-1 Saturday against London.

And the Brown-Czarnik-Aleardi line clicked with top-drawer chances against the Knights, with Aleardi scoring two goals (although he jokingly said he didn't actually score the second tally).

"I think it's speed, that's what the key is," said Vellucci, talking about what the new line brought for the two games. "All three of those guys can fly."

"It's got to be the fastest line in the league. That was the key, I just think if they use their speed and get it behind the 'D' it's tough to contain them."

According to Aleardi, who leads the Whalers with 15 goals, the main thing was for the Whalers to win back-to-back games.

"It's a big weekend for us," Aleardi said. "We know we're kind of in the middle of the standings right now and we moved up with two huge wins."

Plymouth (15-10-1-1) briefly climbed to fourth spot in the Ontario Hockey League's Western Conference thanks to the win over London, before 2,812 fans and plenty of stuffed animals on the team's annual Teddy Bear Toss Night.



Tom Wilson of the Plymouth Whalers (No. 10) jostles with London defenseman Jarred Tinordi during Saturday night's game at Compuware Arena.

But Windsor regained that spot later on with a 7-1 rout over Peterborough.

Aleardi, meanwhile, noted that his new line can motor. "We've got good chemistry right off the bat and it seems like things are working," Aleardi noted. "We got two big wins so hopefully we can get her going."

Vellucci smiled when asked if the line was going to remain intact.

"If they keep scoring, sure, you always try different stuff," Vellucci said. "The (Rickard) Rakell's line been really good ... and (Mitchell) Heard's line has been doing great defensively in shutting down the top line, so it's been good."

The Whalers did struggle at times against the big, physical Knights, however.

"I didn't think we played very good in the first," Vellucci said. Plymouth netminder Scott Wedgewood (20 saves)

needed to come up big throughout the first period, stopping 10 of 11 shots while his teammates put two past London goalie Michael Houser (26 saves) to lead 2-1 after one stanza.

**CUE THE BEARS**

Aleardi put the Whalers on the board at 3:44, which triggered the launch of teddy bears over the glass. He dished a shot from the right side of the London net and the puck glanced in off a skate.

London (13-12-2-1) knotted the game up 1-1 at 7:48, just 38 seconds into a power play. Daniel Erlich walked the puck out of the right corner and shot it across the goalmouth where linemate Jared Knight slammed it in.

The Whalers regained the lead on an unassisted goal by defenseman Dario Trutmann at 17:57.

Switzerland-native

Trutmann checked a London player inside the Knights' blue line, then carried the puck into the high slot before ripping a high shot over Houser's glove hand.

"It was a great shot, it was top shelf and his mom was in town to see him play this week, so that was great for him," Vellucci said. "He's not flashy but he gets the job done."

Plymouth picked up the intensity in the second period, with waves of pressure on Houser.

The Whalers outshot the Knights 16-3 in the frame and padded their lead to 3-1 on Aleardi's second goal. It came as a London penalty was expiring.

A hard drive from defenseman and Farmington Hills native Austin Levi was turned aside by Houser, but the puck pinballed over to forward James Livingston. His backhandler from in front got past Houser, apparently tipped along the way by Aleardi.

"I took a whack at it, it hit my stick (and then) landed on Livvy's and he threw it into the empty net," Aleardi insisted. "They gave me the credit for it, but we were joking around in the room already and he definitely got it."

After killing off a London power play early in the third, the Whalers shut the door for the rest of the way — although Wedgewood had to come up big to stop dangerous scoring bids from Victor Terrieri and Stephan Sanza.

An empty netter in the final minute by forward Stefan Noesen from defenseman and captain Beau Schmitz capped the scoring.

The Whalers are idle until 7 p.m. Friday, when they host Sault Ste. Marie.

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# Rocks keep on rolling, winning

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Continuing to shrug off a tough one-goal loss to Canton, the Salem Rocks' varsity boys hockey team won back-to-back games behind a potent offense.

Salem (3-1) defeated Farmington Unified 6-4 on Saturday, following an 8-3 drubbing of Clarkston two nights earlier.

"For the fourth game in a row we won the third period," Salem head coach Ryan Ossennmacher said. "Which is one of our goals going into each game."

"We struggled again with our shift-to-shift consistency, but found a way to win against a very good team."

Goalie Brandon Price stopped 29 of 33 Farmington shots, and his teammates provided some late fireworks with goals in the final period by Matt Downey (shorthanded), Michael Manser and Connor Berlin.

Manser started the night's scoring for Salem, with a marker in the first period. Assisting were Mark McGee and Austin Sartorius.

Berlin then made it 2-0, converting a feed from Downey.

Salem's lone goal in the second period was scored by Nick Hayes, from Downey and Ryan Quigley (two assists).

Kyle Eggenberger and Garrett Berg also collected assists for the Rocks.

Against Clarkston on Dec. 2, Salem tallied three power-play goals in an offensive display.

Alek Zultowski's first varsity goal was a highlight for Salem. He was set up by Jake Fedel and Maxx Coral.

Also lighting the lamp were Manser, Matt Downey, McGee, Quigley, Berlin, Kyle Downey and Wes Carr.

Berlin, Sartorius, McGee and Manser each chipped in with two assists. Evan Patton drew the lone assist on Carr's goal while Downey and Hayes assisted on Berlin's marker. Carr also assisted on a goal.

"Clarkston is a good team, and this was a good win for us," Ossennmacher added.

**CANTON 4, CHURCHILL 2:** Canton kept its unbeaten boys hockey record intact Friday night with this KLAAs South triumph over visiting Livonia Churchill at the Arctic Edge.

The Chiefs improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the division, while Churchill falls to 2-2 and 0-2.

Canton led 1-0 after one period on A.J. Rosales' goal from Matt Rodgers and Jimmy Lafontaine.

The Chiefs led 3-2 after two periods as Rosales scored an unassisted short-handed goal followed by Matt Prasdorf's unassisted effort.

Mike Rybinski and Mike Kutek countered with goals for the Chargers in the middle period.

Parker Pakula then put it away for Canton with a third-period goal from Dugan Tear and Brandon Grillo.

Canton goalie Spencer Craig made 17 saves, while Alex Estes had 10 stops for Churchill.

## WILDCATS

FROM PAGE B1

ty box and joined a 2-on-1 rush with Gambrell in the final minute. His shot went top shelf past Franklin goaltender Travis Ferrier (30 saves).

Sandwiched between those goals was his second of the contest, with 11:21 left in the game to open up a 4-0 lead. He banked a shot in from the right post, with assists to Schultz and sophomore defenseman Cam Nadell.

"I focus a lot on working hard," Zebari said. "I know I don't have the most skill out of all the players on the team, but ... I've been known to have a pretty hard work ethic and I take pride in that."

The Wildcats overcame a slow start, with Justus shutting the door on several dangerous Franklin opportunities in the first. One of his best stops was on a backhandler in close from Mike Diaz.



Plymouth's Justin Bauer (No. 28) gets the jump on Livonia Franklin's Danny Donahue during Saturday's game at Compuware Arena. At left for the 'Cats is Zach Gambrell (No. 25).

But Plymouth got on the board with 3:58 to go and never looked back. Gambrell (one goal, one assist) tapped a rebound into the wide-open

net. Collecting the assists were senior forward Tyler Sanders and sophomore forward Mitch Claggett.

"The first part of the first period, and the first part of the second period, (the Wildcats) came out flat and probably played way overconfident," Fassbender said. "Once we finally established something going I think the majority of the game was in their zone."

"We had a lot of pressure, a lot of back-door chances," Zebari's first of the game, from Schultz and senior defenseman Justin Bauer (one goal, one assist), came shortly after the Wildcats killed off a two-man disadvantage.

During Franklin's 5-on-3, the Patriots did not even manage a single shot on goal and had trouble even keeping the puck in Plymouth's zone.

"And they scored right after that," Franklin head coach Scott Wirgao said.

It was a 3-0 lead before the end of the frame when junior forward Sean Smiatecz tipped in a low shot taken from the bottom of the right circle by junior forward Matt Goertz. Also assisting was junior forward Cody Staub.

But Wirgao said his team (2-2-0, 0-2-0) skated hard and stayed with the Wildcats for much of the game, enough for him to have a rally in mind.

"We came back into the locker room at the end of the second period," he said. "We still had 17 minutes (and) I thought we could put three or four in."

Besides Zebari's two goals in the third period, the Wildcats scored on a power-play marker by Bauer at 7:47 from Sanders (2 assists) and Schultz.

Franklin had another 5-on-3 power play late in the game, but could not solve Justus.

### ALL-OUT EFFORT

Plymouth senior blueliner Tyler Lazorka slid near the blue line to block a blast, epitomizing how hard the team wanted to protect Justus' shutout.

"Our whole team needs to give that attitude the whole game," Lazorka said. "Drop down and block shots, work hard, go to the corner, dump and chase."

"We're not the biggest hitting team. But we'll outwork a lot of teams that we play against."

Fassbender said it was a good win because of the contributions of many players, a list that began with Zebari and linemates Schultz and junior Richie Mitchell.

"Everyone played well," Fassbender said. "We just had a couple little lapses, not making simple plays and that gets us in trouble."

Plymouth has a big week ahead. After Wednesday night's game against Livonia Churchill (which took place after this issue went to press), the Wildcats will visit Arctic Edge at 8:30 p.m. Friday to battle campus rival Canton. They will then host Novi 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Compuware in a makeup game.

# Penguins hang tough against D-1 rivals

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

## GIRLS HOCKEY

The Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins split two games last week and nearly won again Tuesday, only to drop a 3-2 decision in overtime to host Grosse Pointe University Liggett.

Winning the game for the Division I Knights with an unassisted goal at 5:10 of sudden death OT was Aria Ganz-Waple.

The Penguins (3-2) took a 2-0 lead in the first period on tallies by Sarah Coleman (from Rhianna Fleisher and Beth Johnson) and Marissa Sullivan (from Rebecca Majszak and Johnson).

But the Knights rallied to tie the contest on markers by Haleigh Bolton and Ganz-Waple.

"The girls played a great game and the teams were very evenly matched," said PCS head coach Mary Beth Johnson, adding that the team again missed the services of forward Amanda Heisler "and

we could have used her aggressive style of play on the fore-check."

Meanwhile, the Penguins lost to another DI team Thursday at Detroit City Arena. Grosse Pointe South earned a 3-0 triumph despite a superb goaltending effort from sophomore Cortny McAdoo (32 saves).

"She (McAdoo) is the main reason we were able to hang with them for so long," Johnson said.

On Nov. 30, the Penguins earned a 4-3 victory over Farmington Hills Mercy at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia.

Alissa Novak's goal early in the third period, on an assist from Sullivan, provided the winner.

Other Penguins' goals were scored by Jenna Carter, Heisler and Sullivan.

For the Marlins, Anna Mondrusov scored a pair of markers with Madeline McClain also finding the mark.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>BOYS BASKETBALL</b> <b>Friday, Dec. 10</b> Det. King at Canton, 7 p.m. Plymouth at Ann Arbor Skyline, 7:30 p.m. Henry Ford at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m. <b>Saturday, Dec. 11</b> Our Lady of Lakes at Ply. Christian, 4:30 p.m. <b>GIRLS BASKETBALL</b> <b>Friday, Dec. 10</b> Plymouth at Ann Arbor Skyline, 6 p.m. Salem at Ann Arbor Huron, 7 p.m. Luth. Westland at Univ.-Liggett, 8:30 p.m. <b>Saturday, Dec. 11</b> Our Lady of Lakes at Ply. Christian, 3 p.m. <b>PREP HOCKEY</b> <b>Friday, Dec. 10</b> Salem at Liv. Stevenson, 6 p.m. Plymouth vs. Canton at Arctic Edge, 8:30 p.m. <b>PREP WRESTLING</b> <b>Thursday, Dec. 9</b> Luth. N.West at Luth. Westland, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Saturday, Dec. 11</b> Garden City Invitational, 9 a.m. Northville Varsity Involve, 9 a.m. Salem '10' Team Tourney, 9 a.m. <b>BOYS SWIMMING &amp; DIVING</b> <b>Saturday, Dec. 11</b> EMU Relays, TBA <b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b> <b>Friday, Dec. 10</b> (Kalamazoo Valley CC Tournament) Henry Ford vs. Grand Rapids, 5:30 p.m. Schoolcraft vs. Kalamazoo Valley, 7:30 p.m. <b>Saturday, Dec. 11</b> Siena Heights at Madonna, 3 p.m. (Kalamazoo Valley CC Tournament) Schoolcraft vs. Grand Rapids, 1 p.m. Henry Ford vs. Kalamazoo Valley, 3 p.m. <b>ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE</b> <b>Friday, Dec. 10</b> Soo Greyhounds vs. Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
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# Salem gets first win

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

After coming out cold for Tuesday's KLAA crossover girls basketball game at Brighton, the Salem Rocks turned up the offensive heat to open the second stanza.

The Rocks, trailing 7-3 after one, went on an 18-8 scoring binge and never trailed the rest of the way en route to a 45-32 victory.

"We settled down and finally got into a rhythm in the second quarter," said veteran Salem head coach Fred Thomann. "Then we controlled the rest of the game."

A key performer for the Rocks during the second frame was senior guard Heidi Schmidt, tallying eight of her team-leading 12 points.

Other key performers for Salem (1-1) included junior guards Bri Berberet (11 points), Katelynn Krause (eight points), junior forward Kate Heitmeier (six points) and sophomore forward Breanne Beaver, who only scored four points but chipped in elsewhere with nine rebounds and three blocked shots.

Salem freshman Kayla Kavulich also helped out with four points.

Sarah Goodwin scored seven points for 0-3 Brighton, who really couldn't get untracked offensively after the Rocks took over in the second quarter.

"Our defense was better than it was last Friday," said Thomann, referring to a 43-29 loss to Farmington Hills Mercy. "We battled a little better."

Salem trailed 17-1 after one frame to the Marlins, and that night there was no coming back despite 13 points and six boards from Schmidt.

"Obviously, we got a little better each quarter," Thomann said. "Mercy is a veteran club, with six seniors in their top eight. We have one, Heidi Schmidt. So we hung in there pretty good and we're going to continue to grow as a team."

Chipping in with four points and four boards each were Jennifer First and Beaver while Heitmeier pulled down four rebounds.

Next up for Salem is another road test, Friday at Ann Arbor Huron.

**WLC 31, PLYMOUTH 27:** The Wildcats had too much trouble at the free throw line Tuesday

night, and it cost them a chance to win the KLAA crossover girls basketball matchup.

Plymouth (0-3) made just three of 17 attempts from the charity stripe while Walled Lake Central made 14 of 16 tries. Junior guard Tori Duffey (19 points) was the biggest thorn in the Wildcats' side, making all 10 of her attempts.

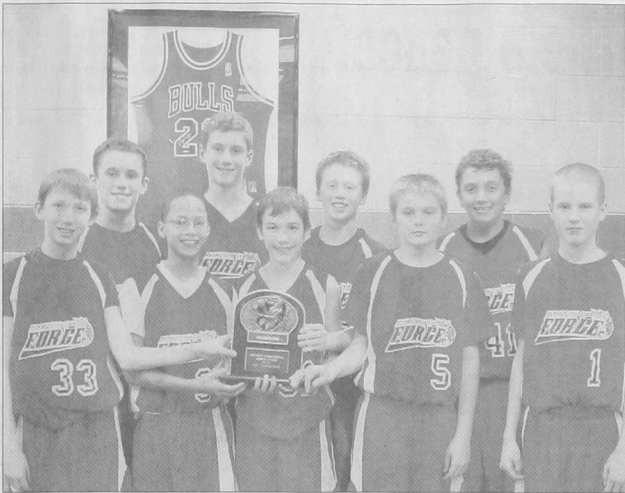
For Plymouth, Isis Haywood led in scoring with seven points.

**PCA 51, BUENA VISTA 24:** Plymouth Christian Academy rolled Friday night to a 51-24 victory over Saginaw Buena Vista, with a 24-6 first half setting the tone.

Karen Windle and Bethany Hale each scored 11 points for the Eagles (2-0) with Brianna Harris and Emily Gerulis adding eight points each.

Gerulis was outstanding on the glass, with 18 rebounds (13 on the offensive end) and also tallied four steals. Meanwhile, Jenna Abraham (five assists), Harris (four assists) and Windle (five steals) also provided more than scoring for PCA.

"Overall we played pretty consistent," said Eagles head coach Carol Gerulis. "We moved the ball well and everyone had scoring chances."



## What a Force!

Celebrating with their trophy after winning the Turkey Day Run Off Tournament are members of the Plymouth Canton Force sixth grade red basketball team. In the back row (from left) are Jason Arnold, Jack Smith, Justin Dolney and Blake Preston. In the front row (from left) are Zack Gruczelak, Camren Barden, Jake Cesar, Kyle Burnette and Jackson Sartain. The PC Force entered and won their first tournament of the year by going 3-0 and outscoring opponents by a total of 128-to-85. Meanwhile, the squad continues to parlay balanced scoring and tough defense, going 3-1 in league play. On Sunday, the squad will compete at a tournament in Saine.



## Celtic Green wins title

The 10U Celtic Green soccer team finished off their very successful season by going 3-0 in the playoffs to capture their tournament championship. They outscored their opponents by a score of 23-to-3 in the playoff games. The team, coached by Matt Smith, also placed first in their league play by compiling a record of 6-1-1, setting the tone for a first place seed for the playoff tournament. Pictured are the victorious 10U Celtic Green with their championship shirts: (back row, from left) Paul Schmidt, Ethan Touma, Brett Tolinski, Nathan Fronckowiak, Nicholas Ontko and Ryan Metz; (front row, from left) Nolan Walligora, Jake Arnold, Hudson Shields and Daniel Wang.

# Wildcats nipped in opener

## BOYS BASKETBALL

The hot shooting of Adam Coric in the second quarter Tuesday proved too much for visiting Plymouth, as the Wildcats dropped their season opener, 57-49 to Walled Lake Central.

Plymouth fell behind 33-23 at halftime because of Coric, who finished with 18 points.

"They were real tough, they played harder than us the first half and they beat us to some loose balls and effort plays," said Plymouth head coach Mike Soukup. "They had a kid (Coric) who hit four threes on us in the second quarter."

Although Plymouth whittled the deficit down to four points in the fourth quarter, the Wildcats could not make up the deficit.

Leading Plymouth with 20 points was Pat Salo, with other big contributions from Mike

Nadratowski (15 points) and Brennen Beyer (eight points, 15 rebounds).

"I can't fault the kids for their effort (it) was tremendous tonight," Soukup said. "I'm very pleased about that. So if you can take something away from a loss, that's what it would be."

**SALEM 62, RU 32:** Host Salem broke open a close game in the second half to hand Redford Union this lopsided defeat in the season opener for both teams.

Chris Dierker led the Rocks with 13 points and 11 rebounds while Tyler Stewart added 12 points.

"We pretty much led wire-to-wire," said Salem head coach Bob Brodie. "We came out with some intensity right

off the bat."

Junior Tre Goynes paced RU with 17 points and junior Dwight Pooler added eight, all in the first quarter.

The Rocks held a slim 17-15 lead after one period and were ahead 23-17 at halftime. They took control in the third period by playing solid defense and outscoring the Panthers 19-7 and put the game away in the final frame with a 20-8 scoring differential.

"They took it to us in the second half," RU head coach Brett Steele said. "They sped us up and we kind of collapsed. Their pressure caused us to make a lot of mistakes and turnovers."

Brodie added that it was a good sign to see "a lot of scoring from a lot of players and overall we had good intensity in the game. I'm looking forward to the next one."

## LEVER

FROM PAGE B1

tunity to go to Ferris State, because it was a good fit."

The decision was one his parents (Dietrich Sr. and Brenda) were thrilled with. Both were at Canton High School when the younger Dietrich signed his national letter of intent.

"That's what they wanted me to do," he said. "At first I wasn't for it, but I had to think about it. I went over all the pros and cons and I decided it was a good fit. So they're very proud of me for making that decision."

Besides playing college basketball, he will eye sports management as a potential career path.

But that won't begin until 2011-12. For now, Lever wants to be a catalyst for a big season at Canton.

"We've got a good chance of going far this year," Lever said.

## BRIGHT FUTURE

Meanwhile, Reddy said the ceiling is high for Lever when he joins the Bulldogs.

"I couldn't be happier for him. I think it's a real good situation," said Reddy, who



Canton senior point guard Dietrich Lever II, flanked by proud parents Dietrich Sr. and Brenda, flashes a happy grin after signing to play at Ferris State University.

has coached Lever throughout high school. "I've talked with a number of coaches and I think Dietrich can have a great career as a Division II player in that conference. The GLIAC is a super conference for men's basketball."

Reddy said Lever should be able to continue doing what he's done so well at Canton — where he has a solid chance to surpass the 1,000-point mark for his prep career.

"He's been able to attack the lane and create shots for other people ever since I've seen him play," Reddy said. "And I think at the next level he's going to be a great assist guy, somebody

that can score around the rim.

"His shooting has really improved, so he'll be able to make an open three as well. But I think the No. 1 thing he'll bring to Ferris is he'll be able to run a team."

Lever, however, has some unfinished business with the Chiefs. At the top of that list is getting some postseason revenge against Novi.

"That (2010) was the third time we played Novi in the districts and we lost every time," Lever said. "We're trying to get them back at least one time before I leave."

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# Salem tough at weekend tourney

## PREP WRESTLING

Salem's new wrestling coach, Pete Israel, liked what he saw out of his team at Saturday's Grover Memorial Tournament in Concord.

Freshman Peter Contos, for example, rallied to win a match at 152 — pinning Lumen Christian's Sean Leigh.

Another freshman, Conner Thornbury, pinned Lumen Christian's Wes Smith.

There were solid showings from Salem vets, too.

Nick Kim finished first

at 119 with a major decision (18-4) over Goble's Jamie Summerville.

Other top showings included a third-place finish by Tyler Gross (160) and fourths from Dylan Hatch (160) and Jake McCabe (189).

Israel said senior Jordan Zhou impressed with two pins at 189.

**CANTON 49, RIVERVIEW 18:**

The visiting Chiefs opened the season in fine fashion with this rout of Riverview on Dec. 1.

Canton victories were scored by Ben Griffin (103 by pin), Richard DeMarois (112, 12-3), Alec Pantaleo (119, 20-5), Keshav Patel (125, 18-0), Daniel Filippelli (140, by pin), Zach Marsh (152, 17-2), Jevon Hill (171, by pin), Anthony Abro (189, by pin in 34 seconds), and Ben Poirier (285, by pin).

## CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

"I thought (Aresco) had a solid game," Samulski said. "She did a nice job."

Although senior forward Sara Schmitt only scored two points — she tallied the first bucket of the non-conference tilt — she led the Chiefs with five steals and pulled down four boards.

For Marian (1-2), 6-0 senior center Mara Mulroy scored 10 points and grabbed eight rebounds. Guard Brittany Heffernan and senior forward Michelle Perkovic added eight and five points, respectively.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bloomfield Hills Marian senior center Mara Mulroy (No. 33) tries to dribble past Canton senior forward CarolAnn Sexauer during Tuesday's fourth quarter.

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### MU/Total Baseball camp

The Madonna University baseball program will stage a holiday baseball camp (session II) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, at Total Sports in Wixom.

The camp features instruction by the MU baseball coaching staff and players.

For more information, call (248) 668-0166; or visit TotalSportsComplex.com.

### MU softball camps

Madonna University women's softball coach Al White and his staff will hold two sessions of winter camps, specializing in individual instruction, including:

Fundamental Camp No. 1 — 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22 and 29, at the MU Activities Center, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia;

Fundamental Camp No. 2 — noon-2:30 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 6, 13, 22 and 27, at the MU Activities Center.

The cost is \$150 for each camp.

For more information, call White at (734) 432-5783; or assistant coach Steve Gentilia

at (734) 776-1716. You can also e-mail [awhite@madonna.edu](mailto:awhite@madonna.edu).

### MU men's honors

The 8-6 Madonna University men's soccer team landed three players on the All-Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference second team including senior midfielder-defender Ogbemudia Iyoha, sophomore defender Franco Giorgi and freshman striker Mustapha Olurunmba.

Named to the All-WHAC third team was sophomore goalkeeper Parker Laabs (Canton), who had three shut-outs and a 1.42 goals-against average, along with senior

midfielder Jacob Rosiek. Junior midfielder Mosato Morioka (Northville) earned the WHAC's Champions of Character team as the student-athlete who best displays the NAI's five core values of respect, responsibility, servant leadership and sportsmanship.

### Baseball coaches wanted

University of Detroit Jesuit High School needs a varsity baseball coach for the 2011

season.

If interested, fax or e-mail U-D High athletic director at (313) 862-3299; [mickey.barratt@uofdetjhsut.org](mailto:mickey.barratt@uofdetjhsut.org).

The 13-Under Great Lakes Cardinals (formerly the Canton Cardinals) are looking for an experienced travel baseball player for the 2011 season.

The team competes in seven tournaments as well as league play, totaling more than 60 games for the season.

Those interested in playing should contact head coach Dan Hejka, Sr. via e-mail at [cardsoach13@yahoo.com](mailto:cardsoach13@yahoo.com).

### Combine training

Combine training for high school football to prepare for the 2011 season will be Sundays, beginning Jan. 20, at the Auburn Hills Sports Dome.

Players will be taught drills and techniques used to prepare college seniors for the NFL Combine and use SPARQ, Michigan Preps and NUC testing protocols.

To register, visit [www.coach-jacksonspeed.com](http://www.coach-jacksonspeed.com); or call coach Jaime Jackson at (248) 535-7404.

# Take a peaceful, prayerful break from holiday shopping



The Parish Choir and other musical groups will sing at the Service of Lesson and Carols Sunday at St. John's Episcopal Church, in Plymouth.

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

You won't hear any popular Christmas carols Sunday, Dec. 12 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth.

But you will find a peaceful atmosphere, along with the sound of bells, beautiful music, uplifting voices and prophetic scripture readings.

"We're trying to remember it's not just about Christmas trees and Santa Claus," said Julie Ford, music minister. "It's easy to get caught up in that. How do we find a balance and remember Jesus is the point of this, and not get caught up in hectic gift-giving?"

"If someone does come to our service we hope they'll think of it as a chance to be quiet and pray and think about God. We want to provide an opportunity for people to reflect on their spiritual life and I think music is a great way to do that."

St. John's Children's and Youth Choirs, Handbell Choir, Parish Choir and SonShine contemporary music choir will perform at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the annual Service of Lessons and Carols. Admission is free, although donations will be accepted for Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

The service, which follows a format popularized by King's

College of the University of Cambridge, England, alternates readings from scripture with Advent songs.

"It's a very popular tradition in the Episcopal Church," Ford noted. She said many churches schedule an Advent Lessons and Carols service the Sunday before Christmas. Some offer a Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols instead of the Advent service. St. John's does both, in addition to offering a Blue Christmas service at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 19.

Ford said the Blue service is designed as an alternative "for those who aren't up for a big celebration."

"Maybe they have sorrow in their life or they can't deal with the crowd. It's a small group and it incorporates a lot of readings and prayer. It's very peaceful and we keep it low key."

## SINGING CAROLS

The church holds its Christmas Lessons and Carols service the Sunday after Christmas. This year it's at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 26.

"We found it's great to do the Sunday after Christmas when everyone is a little low on energy and everyone has had the great high of Christmas Eve. And it gives us an opportunity to sing Christmas carols."

Ford saves Christmas carols for Christmas Eve and then

tries to "fit in as many" as she can during the 4 p.m. family service and 11 p.m. traditional service. The family service includes a pageant with carols throughout. It will include a guitar ensemble and some contemporary music, including a piece by Christian pop artist Michael W. Smith.

## ORIGINAL MUSIC

The more traditional late service starts with carolling at 10:30 p.m., followed by worship. Ford plans to feature an original piece by a group of church musicians who recently moved from Minnesota to the Detroit area.

"They were at a Catholic Cathedral in Minneapolis. It's original music, a fabulous marriage of poetry and music," Ford said. "I try to include what is familiar and what's off the beaten path."

The Christmas Lessons and Carols service includes lots of familiar carols sung by both the choir and the congregation. Scripture readings focus on the birth of Jesus. The Advent service will include readings from Isaiah and Luke.

"I think people appreciate the two services for different reasons. I think they appreciate the Advent one as an opportunity to pray," she said. "I hope people will come out for prayer and reflection and to benefit Gleaners."

## RELIGION CALENDAR

Send calendar items to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com. Feel free to include relevant photos as attached jpgs. Or mail items to Sharon Dargay, The Observer, 615 Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. Submit items at least a week before expected publication date. Be sure to include a contact telephone number for readers, as well as any ticket prices for an event.

### DEC. 9-15

#### Blue Christmas service

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

**Location:** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile, one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

**Details:** This service is designed for people who struggle with the holidays, including those who may be grieving, dealing with the loss of a

loved one, loss of a job or struggle with the holidays in general. A coffee reception with care ministers will follow the service.

**Contact:** (734) 422-1470

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12

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

**Details:** The annual Christmas concert will feature the Festival Choir, Jubilation Handbell Choir,

children's choir, the Cantate Choir, the Brass Ensemble and solo and ensemble groups. The concert is free, but a free-will offering will be taken

**Contact:** (734) 522-6830

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11

**Location:** St. Hugo of the Hills, 2215 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills

**Details:** The Detroit Concert Choir presents "Sing We Now of Christmas" concert. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$10 for young adults. The choir also will sing at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12 at Old St. Mary's Church in Greektown, 646 Monroe, Detroit.

**Contact:** (313) 882-0118

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11

**Location:** Garden City Presbyterian Church, located on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Road, in Garden City

**Details:** "Men of Grace" from the Grace Center in Pontiac will perform Christmas favorites, gospel and other inspirational songs. Refreshments in the fellowship hall follow the free concert

**Contact:** (734) 421-7620

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Dec. 11

**Location:** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7575 N. Hix, between Warren Road and Joy, in Westland

**Details:** The Michigan Concert Choir performs its annual Christmas concert; free

**Contact:** (734) 266-0533

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12

**Location:** Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** "A Christmas Tapestry" concert will feature an eclectic blend of musicians and vocalists from the church with a variety of Christmas favorites, from standards to modern pieces. Tickets are a suggested \$10 at the door

**Contact:** (734) 425-2800

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Dec. 11

**Location:** Ward Presbyterian Evangelical Church, 40000 Six

Mile, Northville

**Details:** The Detroit Handbell Ensemble, along with area handbell choirs, will perform music of the Christmas season in this free concert

**Contact:** (248) 374-5969

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Dec. 11

**Location:** Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City

**Details:** Free concert by Robert Gary

**Contact:** (734) 524-0880

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Dec. 11

**Location:** Wayne Memorial High School, 3001 Fourth Street, Wayne

**Details:** Sounds of Life Benefit Concert, featuring Bishop RJ Shackelford; \$20 donation with proceeds benefiting Life Pointe Church

**Contact:** (734) 486-3210

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 4 p.m. Dec. 12

**Location:** 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** The St. Aidan Adult Choir, along with the St. Aidan Children's Choir, and St. Aidan Contemporary Ensemble, directed by Ray Schmidt, will present its 29th annual Christmas concert. Admission is \$5 and two non-perishable food items.

**Contact:** (734) 425-5950

#### Cookie walk

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 11

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden City

**Details:** Christmas cookies and crafts will be sold

**Contact:** (734) 421-8628

#### Cookie walk and bake

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. until sold out, Saturday, Dec. 11

**Location:** St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia

**Details:** Christmas cookies of all varieties will be sold by the pound along with bake sale items

**Contact:** (734) 427-2290

#### DEC. 16-22

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 19

**Location:** Mount Vernon Baptist Church, 8828 Wormer, Redford

**Details:** A Christmas cantata, "Silent, Holy Night"

**Contact:** (313) 537-7480

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19

**Location:** The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary, 18200 Merriman, between Six and Seven Mile Roads, Livonia

**Details:** Holy Land Christmas Concert features Diana Al Barchini with Arabic carols, Rassem El Massih with seminary choral, St. Mary's Choir with hymns of the Nativity, a violin trio and guest vocalists singing classical and traditional songs. A free-will offering will be accepted and will benefit the International Orthodox Christian Charities

**Contact:** (734) 422-0010; www.saintmarylivonia.com

#### Concert

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Dec. 16

**Location:** First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main in Northville

**Details:** Men of Grace from the Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac will sing original compositions as well as contemporary, spiritual and gospel and blues music. Dessert will be served after the concert. A \$5 donation is requested.

**Contact:** (248) 349-0911

#### Longest night

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Dec. 21

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham

**Details:** This worship service is a place to bring the grief, anxiety, and pain that often surfaces during the holidays. Worship is held on the longest night of the year in recognition that sometimes the holidays bring sadness in the midst of celebration because of missed loved ones, struggles with financial stress, and the thought of happier days. Child care will be available for children up to age 4

**Contact:** Call (248) 646-6407 Ext. 3141 by Dec. 18 to reserve child care; for more information about the service call (248) 646-1200

**Contact:** (248) 349-0911

#### Longest night

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Dec. 21

**Location:** First United Methodist Church, 1589 W. Maple, Birmingham

**Details:** This worship service is a place to bring the grief, anxiety, and pain that often surfaces during the holidays. Worship is held on the longest night of the year in recognition that sometimes the holidays bring sadness in the midst of celebration because of missed loved ones, struggles with financial stress, and the thought of happier days. Child care will be available for children up to age 4

**Contact:** Call (248) 646-6407 Ext. 3141 by Dec. 18 to reserve child care; for more information about the service call (248) 646-1200

**Contact:** (248) 349-0911

#### DEC. 23-29

#### Christmas Eve

**Time/Date:** Friday, Dec. 24

**Location:** Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills

**Details:** 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. family services; 10 p.m. traditional candlelight service

**Contact:** (248) 626-3620

Please see CALENDAR, B5

# Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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email: oeobits@hometownlife.com  
View Passages Online: www.hometownlife.com

**ROBERT "BOB" W. COX**

Age 91, passed away peacefully at home on December 5, 2010. He will be forever loved and remembered by his loving wife of 66 years, Elizabeth "Betty" (nee Mintz); his children, Lynn Cox of Del Mar, CA; Carol (Robert) Pearsall-Stietel of Milford; Nancy (Robert) Brown of Wilmington, NC; Larry Cox of Farmington; and Sally (Michael) Wujczyk of Farmington Hills; grandchildren, Bradford (Jeanne) Orr of Vista, CA; Christian (Ginger) Brown of South Bend, IN; Tim Brown and Lindsay Brown of Wilmington, NC; Carey Pearsall of Denver, CO; Chase Pearsall of Playa Del Rey, CA; and Alexandra Wujczyk of Farmington Hills; and two great grandsons, Robert and Wesley Orr of Vista, CA. Bob, a 50 year resident of Farmington, was born on March 27, 1919, in Detroit, to Frederick and Clara (Theel) Cox. He graduated from MacKenzie High School in 1937 and began working for the Jervis B. Webb Co. in Detroit in 1938. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1944 and served as a 1st lieutenant and navigator until the end of World War II. He then returned to the Webb Co., retiring after 40 years, in 1984, as an executive vice president. After retirement, he and Betty split their time between Farmington and Stuart, FL from 1984-2004. Bob was a life member of Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield and a longtime member of the Huron River Fishing and Hunt Club in Farmington. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and golfer and above all, a loving and caring family man. Memorials may be made to The Farmington Goodfellows or to Forgotten Harvest. Arrangements for a spring memorial, through Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, will be announced separately, and at a later date. www.thayer-rock.com

**ARTHUR GERISH**

Age 82 of Northville, December 4, 2010. Beloved husband of the Janet. Loving father of Bruce (Bridget), Susan, David and Amy (Steve) Katz. Dear brother of Evan C. (Susan). Dear brother-in-law of Edwin (Lena) Hancock and Joan (Donald) Clark. Proud grandfather of Kristin, Katelin, Evan, Kayla, Colin, Brianna and Beck. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Founder and President of Gerish Building Co. Mr. Gerish was awarded the 2004 Developer of the Year Award by the SE Michigan Builders Assn. Long time youth baseball and basketball coach in the Plymouth/Canton community. Member of the Alma College Board of Trustees. Visitation Tuesday 5-9 PM and Wednesday 2-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Thursday 10 AM until 11 AM Funeral at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (at Giffordson). Interment at Rural Hill Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Alma College Baseball Endowment Fund or the charity/charity of your choice. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

**MICHAEL "MIKE" MATTSO**

48, of Calumet, Mich., a former resident of Garden City, died Thursday, December 2, 2010, at his home. Mike worked as a cook, carpet installer and at Calumet Electronics. Mike loved his Rottweiler dogs, football, the seasons of fall and winter in the Upper Peninsula. Mike is survived by his mother, Laurel Johnson of Calumet; his four children, Michael, Jr. (April), Brandon, Dustin and Holly Noel; aunts, Carole (Lynn) Beerbower, Ella (Jim) Landini, Linda (Mike) Gosdzinski, and Kaye Mattson; uncles, Dennis (Sue) Mattson, Glen (Ann) Mattson, Clyde (Judy) Mattson, Dale (Linda) Mattson, and Chris Mattson; cousins, friends and Cassie Johnson. A private family service will be held at a later date for all those who loved Mike. Arrangements were handled by the Jukuri-Antila Funeral Home of Hancock. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at antiafuneral.com.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B4

**Christmas Eve**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. Dec. 24  
**Location:** Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9300 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Worship service  
**Contact:** (734) 421-0749

ONGOING

**AWANA**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays  
**Location:** Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** AWANA program for children from kindergarten-fifth grade  
**Contact:** (248) 426-0096

**Classes/study**  
**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month  
**Location:** 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia  
**Details:** Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.  
**Contact:** Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

**Livonia Unity**  
**Time/Date:** Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 28660 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine – rid the body of toxic pathogens and painful emotions  
**Contact:** (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

**Men's Bible study**  
**Time/Date:** Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 a.m.  
**Location:** Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township  
**Contact:** John Shulenberger at (734) 464-9491

**New Life Community Church**  
**Time/Date:** Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays  
**Location:** 42200 Tyler, Belleville  
**Contact:** (734) 846-4615 for information

**Nicole's Revival**  
**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m., Monday-Friday  
**Location:** YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford  
**Details:** KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer  
**Contact:** (313) 534-1234

**Our Lady of Loretto**  
**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m., Monday  
**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford  
**Details:** Scripture study  
**Contact:** (313) 534-9000

**Ward Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Mondays  
**Location:** Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Learner's Bible study is held  
**Contact:** (248) 374-5920

**Clothing bank**  
**Canton Christian Fellowship**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday  
**Location:** 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty  
**Details:** Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need  
**Contact:** (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

**Fellowship dinner**  
**St. James Presbyterian**  
**Time/Date:** 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month  
**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford  
**Details:** Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals  
**Contact:** (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

**Food Bank**  
**New Hope Church**  
**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only  
**Location:** is 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton  
**Contact:** Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528.

**Moms**  
**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday, MOPS; 7-8:30 p.m., first and third Thursday, MOPSNext. Both programs run through May  
**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners; MOPSNext supports mothers of school-aged children. The theme will be "Momology - The Art & Science of Mothering" for MOPS and "Boundaries" for MOPSNext  
**Contact:** Rebekah Creeden at (734) 524-0283 for MOPS and Susan Magner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPS

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

**Pet-friendly service**  
**Time/Date:** 1 p.m., Sunday  
**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service. All Creatures ULC describes the gathering as non-denominational and Christian. Water is available for dogs  
**Contact:** (313) 563-0162

**Prayer**  
**Nardin Park United Methodist Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Wednesday  
**Location:** 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests  
**Contact:** (248) 476-8860

**St. Edith Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., Thursday  
**Location:** 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church  
**Details:** Music, singing, prayer  
**Contact:** Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906

**Sunday, December 12, 2010**  
North Congregational Church  
36520 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

**10:30 a.m. Vivaldi's Gloria**  
performed in Worship by the Chancel Choir and soloists, with a Chamber Orchestra.

**4 p.m. "Blue Christmas" Service**  
A time to share our pain, receive comfort, and hear anew the message of love and hope that is at the center of the Christmas story. All are welcome.

**St. Michael's Church of Livonia**  
**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday  
**Location:** Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia  
**Details:** Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows. (734) 261-1455

**Senior citizens**  
**Riverside Park Church of God**  
**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m., third Thursdays  
**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia  
**Details:** Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food  
**Contact:** (734) 464-0990

**Singles**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program  
**Location:** 200 E. Main St., Northville  
**Details:** Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5  
**Contact:** (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

**Steve's Family Restaurant**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday  
**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.  
**Contact:** (313) 534-0399

**Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 11:30 a.m., Sunday  
**Location:** 40000 Six Mile, Northville  
**Details:** Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation  
**Contact:** (248) 374-5920

**Song Circle**  
**Congregation Beth Ahm**  
**Time/Date:** Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat  
**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West

**Bloomfield**  
**Details:** Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in translation as well as the original Hebrew.  
**Contact:** (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

**Support**  
**Detroit World Outreach**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday  
**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202  
**Details:** Addition No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling  
**Contact:** (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244

**Farmington Hills Baptist Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August  
**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile  
**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group  
**Contact:** (248) 433-1011

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CATHOLIC

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Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.  
Confessions: Heart Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.  
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Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
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\*\*\*\*\*  
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9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE  
10:15 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES  
11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
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**248-626-3620**  
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9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
**10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages**  
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**(734) 422-0494**  
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Traditional Service 10:30 am  
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Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  
Rev. Fr. Demetrios Sean Govostes.  
Parish Office 734-420-0131  
Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
[www.nativitygpcchurch.org](http://www.nativitygpcchurch.org)  
CE0871210

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Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • **Worship:** 10:30 a.m.  
Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
**Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire**  
Services held at Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road  
Nursery provided • [www.fellowship-presbyterian.org](http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org)  
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Northville, MI 48168  
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[www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)  
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at 9:30 & 11 a.m.  
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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, December 9, 2010

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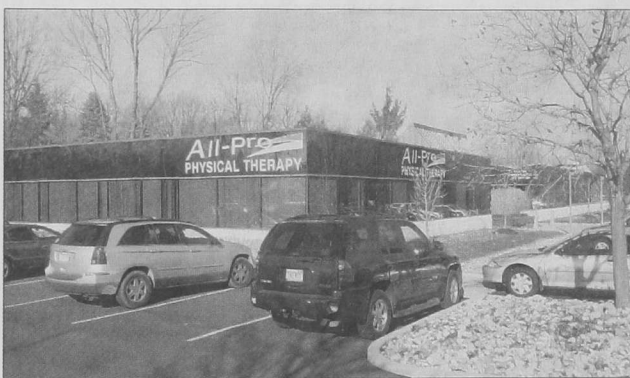
## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

Voice Mail: (313) 222-8899

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Comment online at hometownlife.com



Since they opened their new Ford Road location in August, All-Pro Physical Therapy has seen business more than double, the owners say.

## Clinic brings specialty care to Ford Road

Rajiv and Mital Amin are physical therapists who live in Canton.

So when they decided to expand their Livonia business, All-Pro Physical Therapy, an office closer to home was the natural choice. Since they opened the new Ford Road location in August, they realized just how needed their specialty services were in their hometown.

"Our business has more than doubled already," said Raj. "We're committed to providing comprehensive care to our patients exclusively from licensed physical therapists."

The philosophy of All-Pro is that patients receive better care when a licensed PT conducts their every visit. As Raj explained, when people in need of physical therapy see technicians or aids, they may continue down an imperfect treatment path for longer than necessary.

"Our care is very one-on-one, very comprehensive and our licensed physical thera-

### ALL-PRO PHYSICAL THERAPY

**Business Name and Address:**

All-Pro Physical Therapy, 43050 Ford Road, Canton

**Owners:** Rajiv and Mital Amin

**Business Specialty:** All-Pro Physical Therapy is about using the latest evidence-based practice, and following a higher standard of care. We assess and treat orthopedic and pain conditions based on the most current scientific evidence. This is instrumental to achieving optimum results.

**Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**Phone | Website:** (734) 844-9130 | www.allproptmi.com

pists can modify a treatment as often as needed, right on the spot," Raj said.

The method became so popular in Canton so quickly Rajiv and Mital Amin are already looking for a full-time licensed PT or full-time licensed PTA

to join their team. The right candidate requires an orthopedic background and be fully licensed in Michigan.

"They'll need to be comfortable with our one-on-one style and be a self-motivated leader," said Raj.

The new employee-to-be will certainly have a big job on his or her hands. All-Pro continues to grow quickly, especially with their offer of free screening for kids. Minors who are involved in sports often have injuries that go untreated, and quality physical therapy can help.

"A lot of coaches will say to students 'just ice it,' when there's really something more serious going on," Raj said. "We really encourage student athletes to take advantage of the free screenings to prevent more serious injury down the road."

All patients, including students interested in free screenings may call the new Canton office at (734) 844-9130 or visit All-Pro's website at: allproptmi.com.

## Global marketplace influences domestic employment picture

When the disappointing employment numbers were announced last week, many people were probably thinking the stock market would tank. After all, the jobs situation is the linchpin to growing the U.S. economy.

The general consensus was that the economy in November would have produced well over 100,000 new jobs. Unfortunately, that was not the case. Unemployment rose from 9.6 percent to 9.8 percent. So why didn't the stock market negatively react to the disappointing job numbers?

As I've always said about the market — good news is bad news, and bad news is good news. It is impossible to predict how certain events will affect the market.

The market is always looking forward, while economic numbers are looking in reverse. That explains some of the differences. However, when it comes to jobs there is more to consider.

In the past, U.S. companies depended upon the U.S. markets for the majority of revenue and profit. Think back 20-30 years, it was irrelevant what Ford and General Motors sold abroad. Today that is not the case. Companies like Ford and General Motors need, and depend upon, foreign markets. Ford now has more employees abroad than in the U.S. and GM sells more cars outside the United States than it does inside this country. Bottom line is that for many companies listed on the stock exchange, their revenues and



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

profits no longer solely depend upon just the U.S. markets. These companies are generating substantial revenues and profits from around the world. Therefore,

companies can show a profit and make money even though the U.S. economy continues to move along at an anemic pace.

Americans sometimes forget that U.S. companies are competing and doing business in many foreign markets. Whether it is China, India or Eastern Europe, these economies are growing and are providing opportunities to many U.S.-based companies. It is because of what has been happening in these foreign markets that our companies are no longer solely dependent upon the U.S. economy. Is this good or bad, I don't know but it is the reality.

The recent unemployment numbers certainly were dismal and it doesn't appear they will significantly improve anytime soon. There are many reasons why unemployment remains high and why it will remain high into the future.

The first is technology. There has been an explosion in technology over the last 10 years and American companies are taking advantage of it. American businesses need fewer employees because of technology.

Another reason for the high

unemployment rate is outsourcing. In the past, when we thought of outsourcing, we thought of factory jobs. However, that is no longer the case. Just about every type of job — including professional services — is being outsourced. The world is a much smaller place, and most corporations go across country borders like you and I go across city lines. Many U.S. corporations consider themselves multi-national and have no problem moving jobs around the world. This is a trend that will continue.

And finally, unemployment will remain high because of the atmosphere in Washington. Many businesses believe the current administration is anti-business and they are reluctant to increase payrolls in this uncertain environment.

Employers don't know the effect health care legislation will have or what additional tax burden they will encounter.

There is no doubt we've entered a new economic reality that will take some adjustment. It is important to remember that the stock market no longer solely reflects the U.S. economy. Therefore, it is possible that the U.S. economy will continue to struggle while the stock market continues to perform well.

Good luck!

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

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Ladies' nights

When Canton's new upscale resale shop, Green and Glamorous, opened in January they might have been wise to assume it would take awhile for their eco-chic concept to catch on with the locals.

They would also have been wrong. Just 11 months into the store's existence, they have already added special "Ladies Nights Out" monthly with expanded hours and specials — because the ladies just can't get enough of it.

"It's like, contagious," said store owner Elizabeth Hunt of her newly loyal customers. "They don't want to leave."

It's a problem many stores would fight to have, and to handle the store's sudden demand, Hunt and her team instituted a monthly "Ladies Night Out" event. On these fun evenings, the store's expanded hours allow women to get more of the high-fashion, low-cost shopping they love with some added perks.

"It's just fun, fun, fun," Hunt said. "We have food, refreshments, prizes, look-for-less models, giveaways and special sales. It's a great time for women who love to hang out, talk fashion, laugh and have fun."

The next Ladies Night will take place on Dec. 17 from 6-9 p.m. Women may come and go as they please throughout the night, though in their experience so far, the leaving usually happens reluctantly at the end of the night. Green and Glamorous is located at 42847 Ford Road in Canton.

To stay up on the latest news, deals and events from Green & Glamorous, follow the store at: facebook.com/greenglamorous, twitter.com/gg\_boutique or visit-greenglamorousboutique.vpweb.com.

### Celebrating excellence

It was a celebration of excellence, indeed. Wayne County honored exceptional employees last week at its annual Wayne County Employee



Canton's new upscale resale shop, Green and Glamorous, has added special "Ladies Nights Out" monthly with expanded hours and specials. The next one is 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17.

Achievement Awards held at the Guardian Building.

Employees were recognized for, among other things, excellence in leadership, humanitarian acts, community activism and excellence in performance. Some 279 awards were handed out.

"It is an honor and a pleasure to serve at the helm of an organization comprised of so many dedicated and determined employees," Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano said.

Among the award-winners were:

- 2010 Anthony C. Wayne Award winner — Tadarial Sturdivant of Plymouth, Director of Children and Family Services, Wayne County
- Anthony C. Wayne Award is given to only one person in the county each year. It is for excellence in leadership. The person nominated showed outstanding leadership qualities over a considerable period of time.
- 2010 Outstanding Award winners — Among the winners were Edward Pozan and Gurpreet Samra of Canton.

Wayne County Outstanding Award winners have shown sustained performance over a considerable period of time and/or participated in project of major significance to the county.

### Newest VP

SKF, the world's largest producer of bearings and seals, has appointed Jim Seta vice president of the newly formed Powertrain and Electrical Business Unit North America.

Seta is responsible for leading technical and commercial sales efforts for all powertrain and electric motor applications for the passenger car and light truck industry. The new

business unit is part of SKF's Automotive Division and is dedicated to addressing the current and long term needs of powertrain technologies as well as the



Seta

emerging global alternate drive systems vehicle market.

Targeted market segments include traditional powertrain and electric motor applications as well as battery electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and fuel cell vehicles.

Seta is based in SKF's North American Technical Center in Plymouth.

Seta joined SKF in 2000 and has over 19 years of automotive related experience.

Sara is 36 years old. She's at the top of her game at work and enjoys a little retail therapy on the weekends.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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# Country Christmas

## Singer hopes promo releases will attract record label

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Just in time for the holidays, Danielle Car is making a name for herself with a Christmas song, *Save Your Cookies For Me*, that's getting lots of regular air play.

It's the perfect gift for the 31-year-old Canton resident who has worked hard to establish herself as a country singer-songwriter the past decade.

"Trying to do country music in Detroit taught me no one is going to discover you. A lot of young performers see *American Idol* and they see success stories — 'I was in the mall and someone plucked me out' — that doesn't really happen. You have to carve your own path and work hard."

That's exactly what she has done since graduating from the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) program at Churchill High School in Livonia.

"CAPA gave me the courage and motivation to pursue performing in the Detroit area. It wasn't until after high school that I paid homage to my inner Dolly," she said. "I've been writing songs my whole life. I didn't set out to write country songs but looking back, most were a country music theme and the chord progression could be viewed as country."

### AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

She spent a year studying vocal music at Eastern Michigan University and then earned certification through Henry Ford Community College to work as a paraprofessional. Her day job, teaching developmentally delayed preschoolers, allowed her to spend time at night and on the weekends performing the music she loves.

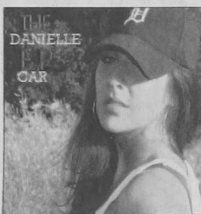
She's a veteran of the annual Hoedown at Hart Plaza in Detroit and developed a following at the Diamondback Saloon in Belleville, where she sang, played fiddle, guitar and banjo for four years — about 900 shows.

"I wouldn't trade those four years for anything. I got to play four and five nights a week. It taught me how to perform for a country music audience," she said, explaining that fans tend to become involved in the performance.

"They'll yell out their requests and they are ready for a good time. Rarely do you see a fair weather country music fan."



Danielle Car's Christmas song, "Save Your Cookies for Me" is getting in the holiday song rotation at WNIC.



"Walk of Shame," one of five songs on Danielle Car's extended-play recording, is included on a promo release of hot new country songs.

### RADIO AUDIENCE

*Save Your Cookies for Me* "went over well" with the audience when she performed it at the Diamondback four years ago. Today it's reaching radio listeners and has been included in WNIC's (100.3 FM) rotation of holiday tunes.

It's among six songs that she recorded for promotional purposes and one of two that have been picked up by Promo Only, a firm that distributes new music to subscribing radio stations and clubs. Promo Only included *Save Your Cookies for Me* on a compilation disc along with music by such artists as Mariah Carey, Brad Paisley, and the Christmas songs from the *Glee* soundtrack.

*Walk of Shame*, one of the other five songs on an extended play recording, is included in Promo Only's hottest new

country tunes for January 2011. Car is the only independent artist on the entire disc, which includes such performers as Kelly Clarkson, Sugarland, and Darius Rucker. Songs on the extended play recording range from rockabilly to ballad to blues to rock. She describes *Save Your Cookies for Me* as "not so much country as blues and rock." It's listed on CDBaby.com as one of the top five holiday songs.

### RECORD LABEL

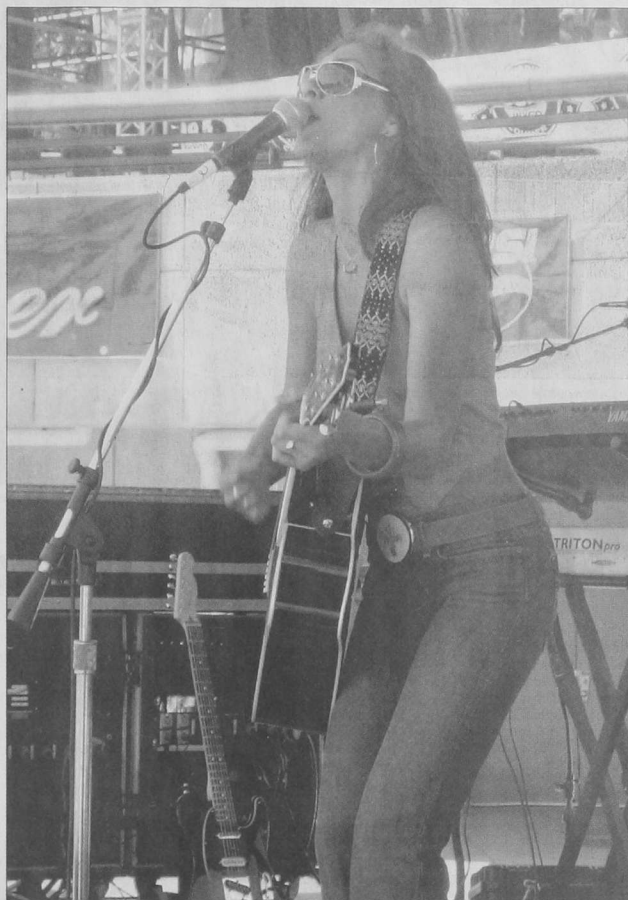
"I retired from Dearborn Public Schools after 10 years in September. I wanted to take time to promote the music. I knew it would pay off," Car said. "I wanted to record the five (extended play) songs as an appetizer — a little ham and cheese for everyone — to see if anyone was hungry for more."

"Ultimately I'm hoping for someone, some record label, to come and scoop me up."

In the meantime, she'll continue to promote her songs, along with the video she recorded for *Walk of Shame*.

Married to Bill McAllister, morning show host on 97.1 The Ticket, Car also has her own weekend shift on 106.7 The Beat. Listen to her from noon to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Visit Car's Web site at [www.daniellectarmusic.com](http://www.daniellectarmusic.com) or view her MySpace page at [www.myspace.com/daniellectar](http://www.myspace.com/daniellectar). Her music is available at CDBaby.com, iTunes.apple.com and Amazon.com.



Danielle Car is a veteran of the Hoedown at Hart Plaza in Detroit.

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Fiddler Mick Gavin of Redford and friends will perform A Celtic Christmas concert Saturday, Dec. 11, at Monaghan Knights of Columbus in Livonia.

# Celebrate Christmas the Celtic way

The Ardan Academy of Irish Dance, Crossroads Ceili and friends will present "A Celtic Christmas" celebration from 6 p.m.-midnight, Saturday, Dec. 11 at the Monaghan Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Road, between Seven and Eight Mile Roads, Livonia.

Admission is \$10. A cash bar and food will be available. Call Mick Gavin at (313) 537-3489 or John Heinzman at (734) 754-3404 for more information. Gavin, a fiddler from Redford, will be among the performers at Crossroads Ceili at the Ark, at 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec.

17-18 at The Ark, 316 Main, Ann Arbor. Admission is \$15 and will include special guest Brian Hart, along with Michael Gavin on banjo, fiddle, and guitar, Colleen Gavin on flute, whistle, and pipes, Kelsey Lutz on fiddle, Holland Raper on fiddle with

dance, Siobhan McKinney on harp, Ray Maguire on flute, whistle, and guitar, Tom MacNeil on piano) and the Dolowy Sisters on fiddle, piano, songs, and with step-dancing. For more information call Gavin or the Ark at (734) 761-1818.

## Put a museum or concert under the Christmas tree

Need a holiday gift idea? The Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan has posted more than 30 ideas for special presents through its online guide, "Give the Gift of Art and Culture."

Shoppers can find unique gift ideas and special performances that also support southeastern Michigan's arts and cultural institutions, at [www.culturalconcierge.com](http://www.culturalconcierge.com). The guide offers "Things to Do," "Gifts of Membership" and "Unique Gifts" and includes 31 of the region's museums, galleries and stores.

"Gifts of art and culture truly are special because they open new worlds to the receiver," stated Maud Lyon, executive director of the Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan. "The experience of a live event, a year-long membership at a museum, a unique work of art or a special book is not only a perfect gift, it can change the inner world of the recipient."

Performing arts and visits to museums are also a way for families and friends to spend time together, creating memories long that will last after other gifts may have been discarded or forgotten. A membership gives the recipient — a person or a family — an entire year of opportunities to pursue their personal interests and to explore new ideas.

Each organization features

a single item in the Gift Guide, a taste of many other options that they offer. For example, a theater may offer a season subscription, a museum may offer a family membership, and an art center may encourage shopping at its gift Shop. The Gift of Art and Culture features events that are available or take place through Dec. 31, 2010.

The "things to do" listing includes such local organizations as the Plymouth Historical Museum and University Musical Society. The "unique gifts" category suggests the Detroit Zoological Society and Huron Valley Council for the Arts, among other organizations. Gifts of membership lists such venues as the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum and Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills.

The Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan is a professional association comprised of more than 100 non-profit arts and culture organizations. In addition to advancing the programs and services of its member organizations, the Cultural Alliance connects audiences to new experiences, funders to organizations, and member organizations to new opportunities.

For more information about the Alliance, visit [www.culturalalliancesemi.org](http://www.culturalalliancesemi.org) or call (313) 831-1151.

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## Get into the holiday spirit at arts council lunch

Vocalist Noelle Jacquez will entertain at the Plymouth Community Arts Council's Holiday Art Luncheon 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15 at the Joanne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

Jacquez will sing carols and lead a sing-a-long to get everyone in the holiday spirit. She has a degree in voice from the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University. She currently teaches voice lessons in the Plymouth area as well as musical theater classes at the Council.

Tickets are \$15.00, advance purchase only, and include a

gourmet boxed lunch from Jeff Zak Catering as well as the entertainment.

Buy tickets at the Council office or by calling (734) 416-4278.

The next Art Luncheon is scheduled for March 15, 2011 and will feature a presentation by the Detroit-based Sphinx Organization, dedicated to increasing diversity in classical music.

The Council's mission is to develop and to promote the appreciation and accessibility of the Arts for everyone in the greater Plymouth community. Find out more at [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com).

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## FOOD

Thursday, December 9, 2010

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## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay

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## Scene-Stealing Holiday Stuffing

Roasted Vegetable &amp; Cornbread Stuffing

While turkey is in the spotlight at most holiday meals, the prize for best supporting dish definitely goes to stuffing. People often reach for the stuffing before any other side dish on the table. This season, why not serve more than one variety? In addition to a traditional favorite, try something new. According to the team at Campbell's Kitchen, who create and test recipes year-round, there are numerous combinations of flavors appropriate for a great stuffing recipe. Dress your table and your taste buds with a Roasted Vegetable and Cornbread Stuffing, which is made easy with a Pepperidge Farm Herb Seasoned stuffing base, fresh butternut squash, sweet onions, ground cumin and chopped cilantro. The secret ingredient is Swanson Chicken broth, which adds layers of flavor and keeps stuffing from drying out. Other delicious options include Caramelized Onion with Pancetta & Rosemary Stuffing and a Roasted Fennel with Lemon Stuffing. All are sure to delight holiday guests gathered around the dinner table. For more scene-stealing stuffing recipes visit [www.GreatStuffingDebate.com](http://www.GreatStuffingDebate.com). To find great holiday menu ideas and cooking tips visit [www.campbellskitchen.com/swansonbroth](http://www.campbellskitchen.com/swansonbroth).

## CARAMELIZED ONION WITH PANCETTA &amp; ROSEMARY STUFFING

Prep: 20 minutes

Cook: 30 minutes

Bake: 30 minutes

Makes: 12 servings (about ½ cup each)

6 tablespoons butter  
2 large sweet onions, diced (about 3 cups)  
1 package (4 ounces) cubed pancetta (about 1 cup)  
4 cloves garlic, chopped  
2 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary leaves  
3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic) ¼ cup sherry  
1 package (14 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Herb Seasoned stuffing

1. Heat the oven to 350°F.  
2. Heat the butter in a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the onions and cook for 15 minutes or until well browned, stirring occasionally.  
3. Stir the pancetta, garlic, celery and rosemary in the saucepan and cook until the pancetta is well browned, stirring occasionally. Stir in the broth and sherry and heat to a boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole. 4. Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.

## ROASTED FENNEL WITH LEMON STUFFING

Prep: 25 minutes

Roast: 30 minutes

Bake: 30 minutes

Makes: 12 servings (about ½ cup each)

2 medium fennel bulbs, trimmed and diced (about 3 cups)  
2 medium sweet onions, chopped (about 2 cups)  
4 cloves garlic, chopped  
¼ cup olive oil  
4 teaspoons grated lemon zest  
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley  
½ cup pine nuts, toasted  
3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)

1 package (14 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Herb Seasoned stuffing  
1. Heat the oven to 400°F. Place the fennel, onions and garlic into a large bowl. Add the oil and toss to coat. Spoon the fennel mixture onto 2 rimmed baking sheets.  
2. Roast for 30 minutes or until the fennel mixture is lightly browned, stirring occasionally.  
3. Reduce the oven temperature to 350°F. Stir the fennel mixture, lemon zest, parsley, pine nuts and broth in a large bowl. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.  
4. Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.

## ROASTED VEGETABLE &amp; CORNBREAD STUFFING

Prep: 30 minutes

Roast: 30 minutes

Bake: 30 minutes

Makes: 16 servings (about ½ cup each)

1 butternut squash, peeled, seeded and diced (about 6 cups)  
2 medium sweet onions, chopped (about 2 cups)  
4 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped  
2 teaspoons ground cumin  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
½ cup chopped fresh cilantro leaves  
2 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)  
3 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)

1 package (14 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Cornbread stuffing  
1 package (about 4 ounces) chorizo sausage, chopped (optional)

1. Heat the oven to 400°F. Place the squash, onions and garlic into a large bowl. Add the cumin and oil and toss to coat. Spoon the squash mixture onto 2 rimmed baking sheets.  
2. Roast for 30 minutes or until the squash mixture is lightly browned, stirring occasionally.  
3. Reduce the oven temperature to 350°F. Stir the squash mixture, cilantro, celery and broth in a large bowl. Add the stuffing and mix lightly. Stir in the sausage, if desired. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3½-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.  
4. Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot.

## CHESTNUT, FIG &amp; HONEY STUFFING

Prep: 20 minutes

Cook: 10 minutes

Bake: 30 minutes

Makes: 12 servings (about ½ cup each)

½ cup butter (1 stick)

1 cup thinly sliced shallots  
1 jar (7.4 ounces) roasted peeled chestnuts, coarsely chopped (about 1½ cups)  
6 dried figs, stems removed, cut in quarters (about 1 cup)  
2 stalks celery, diced (about 1 cup)  
2 tablespoons honey  
4 cups Swanson Chicken broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)  
½ cup chopped fresh parsley  
1 package (12 ounces) Pepperidge Farm Herb Seasoned Cubed stuffing

1. Heat the oven to 350°F.

2. Heat the butter in a 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add the shallots, chestnuts, figs and celery and cook until the celery is tender, stirring occasionally.  
3. Stir the honey and broth in the saucepan and heat to a boil. Remove the saucepan from the heat. Add the parsley and stuffing and mix lightly. Spoon the stuffing mixture into a greased 3-quart casserole. Cover the casserole.  
4. Bake for 30 minutes or until the stuffing mixture is hot. Easy Substitution: You can substitute ½ cup chopped walnuts for the chestnuts.

—Family Features

Remember walking into grandma's kitchen and smelling that first whiff of holiday dinner in the oven? You can recreate that same warm holiday feeling for your family with a mouthwatering, hickory smoked ham.

There are a surprising number of ham cuts — how do you know which one to choose? These tips from Cook's Ham will help you find just what you need:

## Spiral Sliced Hams

- Pre-sliced in a spiral fashion, so it's easy to serve
- Available as quarters, halves and wholes
- Quarter serves 7-10 people, half serves 15-20 people, whole serves 30-40 people

## Half Ham

- No center steaks removed for more premium lean meat
- Larger than a portion ham
- Serves 15-20 people

## Semi-Boneless Ham

- Fewer bones and less fat for more carvable lean meat
- Two of three bones removed so it's easier to carve
- Half serves 15-20 people, whole serves 30-40 people

## Skinless Shankless Ham

- Less fat, less bone and more lean meat
- One of three bones removed so carving is easier
- Half serves 15-20 people, whole serves 30-40 people

## Portioned Ham

- Best value for great bone-in ham flavor
- Since steaks have been removed, it is smaller than a half ham
- Serves 10-15 people

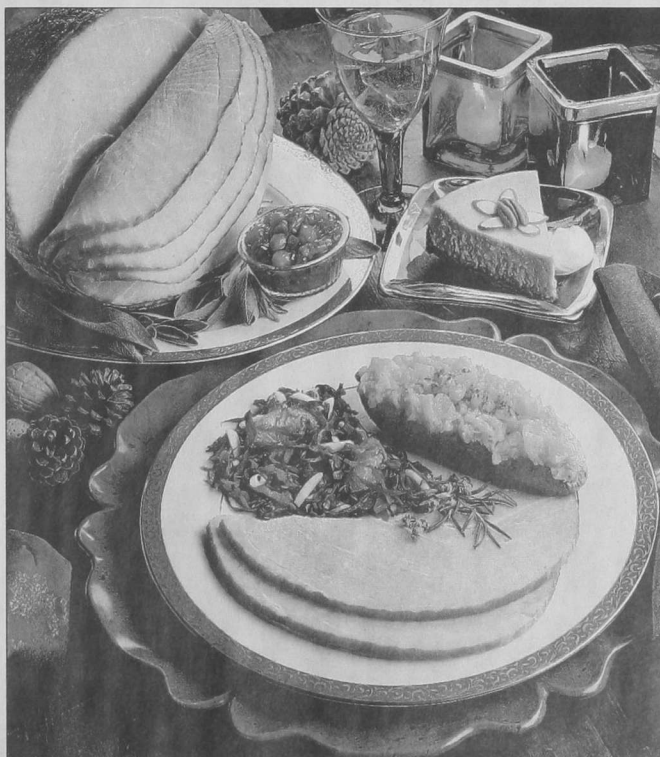
## Ham Steaks

- Premium center cut slices
- Heat up in minutes for a quick and tasty meal
- Approximately 1 pound
- Serves 3-4 people

## Thick Cut Ham Steaks

- Great for throwing on the grill
- Approximately 2 pounds
- Serves 6-8 people

## Old-fashioned holiday ham



Like a time machine that takes you back to the holidays of old, naturally hickory smoked Cook's hams have been the centerpiece of holiday meals for more than 65 years. When your kitchen fills with that sweet aroma, you'll think about holidays gone by and the memories about to be made.

For more quick and easy recipes, visit [www.CooksHam.com](http://www.CooksHam.com)

## HONEY-GLAZED HAM WITH CRANBERRY RELISH

1 Cook's Bone-In Spiral Sliced Half Ham (about 9 pounds)  
**Glaze**  
½ Cook's Sweet Ham Glaze and Dipping Sauce package, heated 20 seconds in microwave (reserve ½ package for dipping sauce if desired)  
1 teaspoon ground mustard (may add additional ground mustard for stronger flavor)  
½ teaspoon lemon juice

## Cranberry Relish

1 large Granny Smith apple, peeled, finely chopped (about 1½ cups)  
1 cup cranberry juice cocktail  
1 package (6 ounces) sweetened dried cranberries (about 1½ cups)  
2 tablespoons orange marmalade  
½ cup chopped pecans

Begin by preparing ham according to heating instructions on package label. Approximately 45 minutes before end of heating time, prepare glaze by mixing glaze and dipping sauce, mustard and lemon juice in small bowl until blended. Set aside until the last 10 minutes of heating time.

Make Cranberry Relish: Combine apples and juice in medium saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to medium-low; simmer 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add cranberries; simmer an additional 5 minutes, or until fruit is tender, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; stir in marmalade and pecans. Set aside until ready to eat. Or, if made in advance, cover and refrigerate until ready to use.

Uncover ham and brush with glaze for the last 10 minutes of the heating time. Let stand 10 minutes. Carve and serve with Cranberry Relish and reserved sauce.

—Family Features

# Add zing to holiday dishes with cranberries

Think cranberries are just for sauce?  
Think again with your taste buds.

Holiday favorites, cranberries are loaded with Vitamin C and make a perfect addition to side dishes, desserts, appetizers and drinks. They even hold their own in main dish recipes.

Here's a sampling of ways to use fresh and dried berries that will take you from appetizer to dessert:

## CRANBERRY BRIE APPETIZER BITES

Makes 24 appetizers

**Ingredients:**  
¾ cup Ocean Spray Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce  
1 teaspoon lemon juice  
½ teaspoon finely shredded lemon peel  
24 (3½- by 3½-inch) wonton wrappers  
1 (8-ounce) brie round  
**Directions:**  
Place ½ cup Ocean Spray Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce in a 1½-quart saucepan. Cook over medium heat until hot, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; stir in lemon juice and lemon peel.  
Meanwhile, heat oven to 350. Spray 24 miniature muffin cups with nonstick cooking spray.

Press one wonton wrapper gently into each sprayed cup, allowing ends to extend above cups. Spray edges of wonton wrappers with nonstick cooking spray. Bake for 12 to 14 minutes or until bottoms of cups are beginning to brown; remove from oven.

If desired, remove rind from brie. Cut brie into 24 cubes, about ½-inch each. Place one cube in each cup; place sheet of aluminum foil over each pan to prevent excessive browning. Return to oven. Bake 3 to 5 minutes longer or until brie is soft. Remove from oven; top each with about 1 teaspoon cranberry mixture.



Cranberry Brie Appetizer Bites

## CRANBERRY MARGARITA MOLDED SALAD

Makes 10 servings

**Ingredients:**  
1 (6-ounce) package wild strawberry-flavored gelatin dessert mix  
1½ cups boiling water  
1 (14-ounce) can Ocean Spray Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce  
1 (8-ounce) container frozen sliced sweetened strawberries, thawed slightly  
1 (10-ounce) can frozen margarita mix, thawed  
½ cup tequila, optional  
**Directions:**  
Spray 6-cup gelatin mold with nonstick cooking spray. Combine gelatin dessert mix and boiling water in a large bowl, stirring until gelatin has dissolved. Place cranberry sauce in a small bowl and beat with a fork until smooth. Stir into gelatin mixture. Add remaining ingredients, mixing well. Pour into mold. Cover with plastic

wrap and refrigerate for 4 hours or until serving time.

When ready to serve, dip mold into warm water for 7 to 10 seconds or until gelatin loosens. Place serving plate on top of mold, invert and remove mold.

**Serving Variation:** For individual servings, dip the rims of 10 margarita glasses in Cranberry Sugar 2 or 3 times or until rims are thickly coated with cranberry sugar. (No need to moisten rims first). Prepare molded salad recipe as directed, and divide salad mixture into glasses. Store in refrigerator. Just before serving, garnish each glass with a lime twist.

**Cranberry Sugar:**  
Place 1 cup sugar and 3 tablespoons fresh cranberries in a food processor. Process until smooth and evenly-colored. Spoon sugar into shallow dish.

## BRUSSELS SPROUTS SALAD WITH PANCETTA AND CRANBERRIES

Serves 4 to 6

**Ingredients:**  
6 ounces pancetta, cut into small dice (1½ cups)  
2 pounds baby brussels sprouts, leaves separated  
¼ cup Ocean Spray Craisins Original Dried Cranberries  
3 tablespoons shallots, finely chopped  
1 clove garlic, minced  
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
¾ cup chicken stock  
4 slices of white bread, cut into cubes and made into croutons  
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper  
**Directions:**  
In a large sauté pan over medium heat, add a 2 count of olive oil and add the pancetta. Cook until the fat renders, 2 to 3 minutes and the pancetta is nice and crispy. Add the garlic, shallots, cranberries and separated brussels sprout leaves. Toss well to combine all the ingredients. Add the balsamic and chicken stock and continue to cook until the brussels sprouts have just wilted, 3-4 minutes. Season to taste with salt and freshly ground black pepper then serve.

## HOLIDAY GLAZED HAM

Makes 2½ cups of glaze

**Ingredients:**  
1 (14-ounce) can Ocean Spray Whole Berry or Jelly Cranberry Sauce  
½ cup apricot preserves  
2 tablespoons sweet honey mustard  
1 (8-pound) fully-cooked whole boneless ham  
**Directions:**  
Combine all ingredients in a medium saucepan. Cook on medium heat, whisking occa-

sionally, until preserves are melted and sauce is smooth. Remove from heat. Set aside. Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Place ham on rack in a shallow roasting pan. Bake, uncovered, for 2 hours or until a meat thermometer registers 140 degrees. Liberally baste ham with glaze during the last 45 minutes of baking.

## GINGERBREAD WITH WARM CRANBERRY COMPOTE

Makes 9 servings

**Ingredients:**  
1 (14.5-ounce) package gingerbread cake mix  
2 cups Ocean Spray Fresh or Frozen Cranberries  
3 cups pineapple chunks, cut in half  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
¼ teaspoon nutmeg  
Whipped cream  
**Directions:**  
Prepare gingerbread as direct-

ed on package. Cool completely. Combine remaining ingredients, except whipped cream, in a medium saucepan. Bring mixture to a boil and cook just until the cranberries begin to pop, stirring frequently. Cool sauce slightly. Spoon warm compote over each serving of gingerbread. Top with whipped cream.

Recipes and photos courtesy of Ocean Spray

## Easy-to-make berry bowl dresses up dinner table

In addition to adding cranberries to your cooking, you can set the table with berries to create a festive mood.

Here's an easy way to add light and color to the dining room:



Floating cranberries, candles and flowers create an interesting centerpiece for the dining room table.

## CRANBERRY CANDLE FLOAT

**Supplies:**  
1 clear punch bowl or other wide-mouthed, low bowl  
2-3 12-oz. bags Ocean Spray Fresh Cranberries (depending on size of bowl)  
3-4 floating candles  
1 live flower, stem cut to 1-inch  
Water  
**Directions:**  
Fill bowl ¾-full with water. Add cranberries and floating candles. Arrange candles so they are evenly spaced amidst the berries. Add a single

spectacular bloom and light candles.

Replace berries when they become soft, which can range from a few days to about a week.

Caution: do not leave lit candles unattended.

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created by Congress to aid purchasers in acquiring homes by providing lenders with sufficient insurance to limit their risk. The FHA insures mortgage loans issued by certain federally qualified lenders against default. The FHA has developed a certification process in order to limit the risk associated with the insurance it issues. FHA certification ensures that condominium units are marketable to the largest pool of potential buyers. Lack of FHA certification means less financing options for prospective purchasers and may make it more difficult or even impossible for current co-owners to refinance existing loans to take advantage of historically low interest rates. You should consult with a knowledgeable condominium attorney with regard to whether FHA certification would benefit your condominium project.

A. A board of directors which refuses to or does not seek FHA certification could subject the association and possibly individual board members to liability unless the board can justify its inaction. An example of justification in not seeking FHA certification is that it may not be practical in an upscale condominium project where unit values far exceed FHA loan limits. The board should consult with an attorney with regard to specific FHA requirements.

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of *Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track*, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote *Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium*, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@meisner-associates.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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**REDFORD:** 3 bdrm 1500 sq. ft.  
bungalow Plymouth Rd &  
Irkster. Fin bsmt, 2.5 car gar.  
\$875. 734-645-6714

**REDFORD:** 3 bdrm bungalow,  
huge master bdrm, bsmt,  
great kitchen, option, \$750.  
(248) 788-1823

**Homes For Rent** **4050**

**WAYNE:** 4 bdrm, 2 bath, liv-  
ing rm, dining rm, 1 bath, 2.5 car  
gar. \$875/mo. or purchase for  
\$69,900. Land contract avail-  
able. 734-788-1642

**WAYNE:** Clean, updated bun-  
galow 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 2.5 car  
gar. \$875/mo. or purchase for  
\$69,900. Land contract avail-  
able. 734-788-1642

**WAYNE:** Remodeled 3 bdrm  
ranch, huge master bdrm,  
immed occup. sec. 8, option  
avail. \$650. (248) 788-1823

**WESTLAND:** 3 bdrm brick  
ranch 2 car. Livonia Schools.  
C/A, \$800, 2 bdrm ranch,  
\$550, option. (248) 788-1823

**WESTLAND:** 3 bdrm duplex  
with 1.5 bdrm or 2 bdrm ranch.  
New carpets, fresh paint, near  
schools. \$650. 313-418-9905

**WESTLAND:** Livonia Schools.  
3 bdrm ranch, huge backyard,  
utility rm, newly remodeled.  
\$875 + utilities. 734-453-4622

**WESTLAND:** Large/small room  
for rent - \$420/400. Close to  
colleges. Incl. utilities, 1st &  
2nd mo. rent. (734) 612-9600

**Office/Retail Space For Rent/Lease** **4220**

**Plymouth Downtown**  
Office suite, 930 sq. ft. Avail.  
Jan. 1st. newly decorated.  
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**REDFORD TWP.**  
OFFICE SUITES  
Small suites avail.  
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**Commercial/Industrial For Rent/Lease** **4230**

**WESTLAND/LIVONIA**  
2540 shop with 11x14  
office, security system,  
\$525/mo. + utilities  
1/2 mo. free. 313-304-6697

**Wanted To Rent** **4400**

Small Congregation  
is looking for church building  
in Canton to accommodate 50  
with room to expand.  
734-973-6302

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QUESTIONS & ECCE  
NEWSPAPERS

**Lease/Option To Buy** **4500**

**SOUTHFIELD CONDO:**  
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**ALL**  
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DECEMBER 9, 2010

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# NOVEMBER SALES UPTICK FEEDS INDUSTRY EXPECTATIONS

Advertising Feature

## CAReport



By Dale Buss



Holiday spirits are bright across most of the U.S. auto industry after carmakers posted November sales about 18 percent higher than a year earlier, and at a strengthening seasonally adjusted annual pace of about 12.2 million units for the second consecutive month.

Major automakers shared nearly equally in the good news. Even Chrysler's sales rose by 17 percent. But Toyota proved the notable exception, with a sales decline of 7 percent for the month.

U.S. auto sales totaled about 872,700 for the month. That was below the October 2010 total by about 7 percent, but the typical seasonal dropoff from each October to November is about 10 percent.

"So that's even a little stronger than the seasonal norm," said Jessica Caldwell, lead U.S. industry analyst for Edmunds.com. She noted that the increase occurred in the larger retail sector of the market rather than fleets, reflecting growing consumer demand, and that it came despite an overall flat level of incentive spending by automakers compared with October.

"There was some strength in the market this month," Caldwell concluded. "It's good news. We're not back to 16 million [sales a year], but it's better than we were."

Auto maker executives agreed. "The overall market shows signs of improvement with consumer confidence increasing slightly," said Jim O'Donnell, president and CEO of BMW of North America, whose sales rose 27 percent for the month.

OEM executives have been predicting nearly since the beginning of 2010 that full-year sales would come in around a total of 11.5 million to 12 million, or up 10 percent or more from a year ago. And with anything approaching a decent December, that expectation easily will be fulfilled.

More important, some of them on Wednesday dared to peak ahead to what they believe will be an even better 2011. None questioned the early consensus forecast that sales next year will total more than 13 million, representing a second consecutive year of double-digit increases.

"Without a doubt, this fourth quarter will be the fourth [period] in a row that the sales rate has increased substantially, sequentially," said George Pipas, Ford's head of U.S. industry analysis. "That's a good sign as we approach 2011."

"Consumers have a slightly more positive overall outlook," said Jim Bunnell, head of U.S. sales operations for General Motors, whose sales rose



Ford Fleets is off to a hot sales start, brightening Ford's performance in the small-car segment.

by 11 percent in the month. "Pent-up demand is still building."

In fact, one of the most promising signs for the industry is that U.S. economic fundamentals continue to pick up steam.

"Several economic indicators now support ongoing improvements in the pace of economic activity," said Ellen Hughes-Cromwick, Ford's chief economist, citing a decent increase in holiday-shopping activity compared with last year, an uptick in consumer confidence readings, continued expansion in manufacturing activity, and pieces of positive news on the jobs front.

True, the 9.6-percent unemployment rate and the continued vast weakness in the nation's housing markets are strong offsetting factors to the good economic news. But Hughes-Cromwick said that, "taken together, the latest batch of data suggest we have seen restructuring in household balance sheets ... and the fundamentals for the consumer continue to improve."

For example, she said, creditors have been more willing to grant consumer loans. "And we expect continued gains in business spending," she said.

Another positive factor in the November sales reports is that nearly

The Ford F-150 continues to be the nation's best-selling vehicle and to help propel Ford.



all segments of the market seem to be on the grow again.

"Consumers are coming back into some segments that were abandoned during the [economic] crisis due to sticker prices of gas," said Al Castignetti, vice president and general manager of the Nissan division of Nissan North America. "Body-on-frame vehicles across the industry have started to come back to life. Gas prices have stabilized and consumers have become accustomed to paying \$2.50 a gallon."

Indeed, pickup-truck sales have continued to build, and they should be helped by the imminent launch of the 2011 version of the Ford F-150, the nation's best-selling vehicle.

Cars and crossover vehicles starred for Ford and others. And luxury vehicles continued their sales comeback.

"Luxury buyers have more confidence and clarity on their situation," said Ben Poore, chief of Nissan's Infiniti brand. "The improving stock market has put real gains back in the pockets of the luxury customers and that makes them want to get back into the market. They now have a confidence in the future that is driving sales."

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