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LOCAL NEWS, A11

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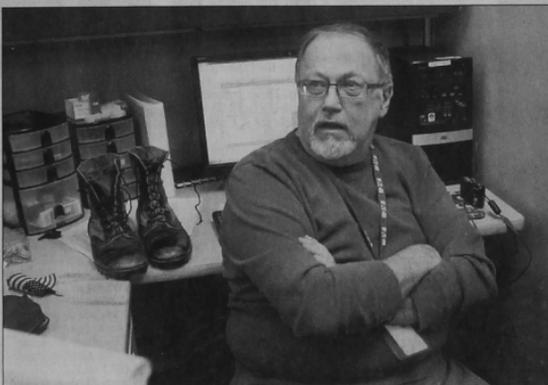
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Special edition

Your Observer newspaper today contains news from your hometown, plus news of the surrounding area. It is one of three special holiday editions published just this time of year. Special editions will continue through Thursday, Jan. 3. Happy holidays!



Unique clothing drive



Merv Wygant (above) of Plymouth is working on identifying a pair of combat boots that were donated to the Yankee Air Museum. Flight helmets (top) sit on a shelf in the collections room.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Air museum seeks uniforms from Iraq, Afghan veterans

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Personal info helps tell story, A12

You might think Scott Gerych is a greedy man. With a collection 300-400 vintage military uniforms, the Grass Lake resident wants more. He's looking for uniforms and personal effects from veterans of recent U.S. military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But he doesn't want the military clothing for himself. He's looking to add to the collection at the Yankee Air Museum where he has been working with his father, Merv Wygant of Plymouth, since February to organize and catalog donations.

"There's a huge need to have them in the collection," said Gerych. "This isn't just an air museum, it's about global warfare from the time of aviation."

The museum lost its entire collection of artifacts in a fire in 2004 and has been slowly rebuilding. Up until a few months ago, donations had been stored in boxes in the collections room in a hangar at the east end of Willow Run Airport.

More room
By moving the museum library to a nearby school-

house, the department has been able to expand and "almost all of the boxes" have been opened. The uniforms now hang on racks by the year they were received, starting with 2004.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to sort them further to identify even more," Gerych said. "The collection goes from World War I to current, but we want more World War I stuff to go with the Spad, which is almost done, and we need jungle fatigues from Vietnam. We have a lot of uniforms and some enemy uniforms, but we'd like the personal stuff, anything that will

Please see UNIFORMS, A12

Party at Post 32

Today is the last day to purchase tickets for the New Year's Eve party at American Legion Post 32 in Livonia. Cost of \$50 per person includes hors d'oeuvres, dinner, music, dancing, champagne at midnight, pizza and party favors.

The revelry starts at 6 p.m. and goes to 2 a.m. The public is invited. Tickets are available at the post, 9318 Newburgh Road. Call (734) 427-5630 for more information.

Ice skating

The Garden City Civic Arena offers glow skate 7-9 p.m. Saturdays and is expanding its public skating times during the holiday break.

Glow skate costs \$5 for adults and \$4 for children. Skate rental is \$2. Glow skate admission includes a free glow necklace.

Public skating will be offered 1:30-3 p.m. Dec. 27-28 and Jan. 2-4. The cost is reduced for those skating sessions only, and is \$2 per child age 5 and under, \$3 for adults age 16 and older and \$1 for rental skates. The arena is located in Garden City Park on Cherry Hill east of Merriman. For more information, call (734) 793-1882.

Chamber dinner

The annual Redford Chamber of Commerce dinner will take place Jan. 31 at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, 26335 W. Chicago. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Seats are \$40. To register, call the chamber office at (313) 535-0960.

One size doesn't fit all

Specialty courts create local solutions to local problems

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

Physically, your local court is housed in one building, but inside there are probably a wide variety of 'specialty courts' operating with jurisdiction over one specific area of criminal activity.

Michael Bryce, director of University of Detroit Mercy Law Clinic, says the movement is about 10 years old, and Michigan has been involved in it at least eight years if not more.

These courts include Drug Court, Juvenile Court, Elder Court, Domestic Court, Tribal Court, Homeless Court, Gun Court, Teen Court and others.

"The specialty court movement, to some degree, was the Renaissance Lawyers Society trying to figure out ways to resolve problems and issues that weren't necessarily litigation-based," said Bryce, director of University of Detroit Mercy Law Clinic. "It



Parker



we

Please see COURTS, A6

Parents charged in infant's death

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Two Westland parents are facing murder and child abuse charges in the death of their 3-month-old child.

Josh Wilson and Kelli Worth, both 21, are jailed on charges of felony murder and second-degree child abuse in the death of their son Joshua.

Paramedics and police were called to the Palmer Terrace Apartments on South Venoy near Palmer about 1:15 p.m. Dec. 19 about a baby not breathing.

"The baby had shallow breathing and died at 5:11 p.m. at the University of Michigan Hospital," Westland Police Sgt. David Dinsmore said. "The baby had been taken to Ann Arbor (Oakwood) Hospital, then a survival flight to the University of Michigan."



Wilson



Worth

Please see DEATH, A5

Divine Savior's poinsettia tree honors Sandy Hook victims

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Each year, when parishioners walk into Divine Savior Catholic Church for Christmas Mass, they first thing they see is a Christmas tree made of 70 red and white poinsettia plants.

It started out with the Westland church members purchasing the poinsettias to remember loved ones. Over the years, the focus shifted to a beautiful display of the holiday plants.

That changed this year. Troubled by the senseless massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., Donna Olmstead decided to add something to the dis-



Livonia residents Gina Newman (standing) and her sister Heather straighten poinsettias used to create a Christmas tree in the vestibule of Divine Savior Catholic Church in Westland.

Please see POINSETTIA, A2

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Heroes and helpers

Police officers hit the aisles to help kids shop for their families

By Joanne Maliszewski
Observer Staff Writer

The smiles said it all as children fulfilled their Christmas shopping lists with the help of Farmington Hills police officers early Saturday morning.

The officers — some just coming off their night shifts — gathered at Target on Grand River Ave. through their Heroes and Helpers program to help children with Farmington Youth Assistance finish their holiday shopping.

"I had always heard about the program throughout my career," said Farmington Hills Detective Tom Allen, who initiated the program a year ago. "I thought, 'I would like to do that,'



Heroes and Helpers includes Farmington Hills police officers (from left) Chris Steur, Marc Kielezowski, Ryan Yudi, a Target representative, Tom Allen, Virginia O'Neill, Sgt. Greg Hughes, Stacy Trott, Kevin Rowell and Nicole Morton.

Heroes and Helpers is funded with a grant from the Target Corp. The Grand River Ave. store opened its doors early

last Saturday to allow the officers and kids to have the place to themselves.

"We try to gear this to shop-

ping for non-essentials," Allen said.

Rhiannon, 11, shopped for her mom, two grandmothers and sisters. While her younger sister, Zoe, would pass with her shopping cart, Rhiannon had to quick cover the presents.

Joshua was in the home improvement aisles, looking for small tool set for his dad, while Morganne, had big decisions to make in the doll aisle.

Within an hour, shopping carts were full of toys, scarves for the moms and grandmothers, video games and some books.

Barb and Rick DuRei with the FYA were on hand to guide the process, as were parents. Barb DuRei is a member of the FYAs Camp Riley advisory board

and Rick DuRei is a FYA board member.

"This is awesome. It is one of my favorite things to do," said Rhiannon's mom, Rachelle Doughty, who is also a Camp Riley unit leader.

Camp Riley is a summer program in which children learn through imaginative and fun ways. For example, children learn geometry by using water blasters to show various angles and arcs, Barb DuRei said.

"Camp Riley teaches social skills and gives the kids an opportunity to play and learn," said camp volunteer Valerie Miller, mom of Kaila, 12, who was among the young shoppers.

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Rebecca Kilian of Livonia has been helping assemble the poinsettia tree for four years.

POINSETTIA

Continued from page A1

play — 26 plants bearing the name of a student or teacher who was killed and a small picture of something they liked.

"I couldn't sleep at night after it happened," the Westland resident said. "I read all the articles online. I read about all of the victims. That's when I decided to design a memorial to them."

Olmstead made the decision last Wednesday to turn the tree into "a memorial condolence offering from our church family to all the families that need comfort following this tragedy." She researched articles on each of the children and a small picture of one of their interests included on the tag that was attached to the containers. The church gets the

flowers from Graye's Greenhouse in Plymouth, where Alyce Humphrey "baby-sits" them.

"She takes good care of them for us," Olmstead said.

Those plants not used to create the Christmas tree are decorating the altar of the church that draws members from Westland, Livonia, Canton and Plymouth.

Work on the tree started just after the conclusion of the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass as volunteers readied the church for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. While Olmstead was affixing the cards to the plants, Gina and Heather Newman and Rebeca Kilian of Livonia were arranging them on a seven-tiered plant stand in the vestibule.

"We got them started and as I was putting the labels on plants, they were coming back for



A small teddy bear sits between plants honoring 6-year-olds Ana Marquez-Greene and Dylan Hockley.

more," Olmstead said. "We pushed them to get done. They're great kids, they've been doing this for four years."

The girls were moved by the display and its purpose this year.

"It really hit me a lot. Kids are an important part of our society," Heather Newman said. "We need to honor them."

Olmstead plans to send photographs of the poin-

settia tree to newspapers in Newtown in hopes they will publishing them to extend Divine Savior's condolences to the families.

"I love first-graders. I taught first grade in religious education," Olmstead said. "It's such a wonderful age. We hope this will bring peace to the parents."

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Winter fires are the deadliest

By Tom Kiurski
Guest Columnist

Winter residential fires account for an average of 945 deaths, nearly 4,000 injuries and \$1.7 billion in property loss each year, based on statistics compiled by the U.S. Fire Administration. Winter residential building fires are defined as those fires that occur in the months of January, February and March. Studying these reports can help keep you safer in the dangerous winter months.

These winter fires occur mainly in the early evening hours, peaking from 5 to 8 p.m., and then decline throughout the night. This three-hour period in the early evening accounts for 21 percent of winter residential build-



Tom Kiurski

ing fires. Being that this time period is peak for families coming home from work and school, cooking and warming up by the fire, we shouldn't be surprised by the timing.

Whenever you cook, keep children away from the cooking area, and keep the cooking attended. While you don't have to watch every minute of a simmering pot, you should turn a timer on, or bring a spatula with you, if you are planning to leave the room for any amount of time. This forces you to remember to check the cooking often. Cook on back burners so children can't pull pots down on

themselves and bumped pans don't spill down on the people passing by.

December is the highest month for fire incidents, followed by January and February. Again, with December being a busy time for visiting, celebrating, drinking and lighting candles for decoration and ceremony, it isn't too surprising. Candles should be kept out of the main pathways in the house, to avoid bumping and knocking them over. They should be 12 inches away from combustibles, or any items that can blow easily into them. Place candles on sturdy holders so that they will not easily tip over, and only light them when a responsible adult is in the room who can keep an eye on them.

Causes of winter fires are

many, but the leading cause of fires throughout the year is cooking-related. We tend to cook regularly, and sometimes take shortcuts when it comes to safety in the kitchen. Following cooking is heating fires, and fireplaces and space heaters are the main culprits. Regular annual fireplace cleanings and inspections are a must, and space heaters must be kept three feet away from combustibles and only be operated in the room that a responsible adult is in. Some of the newer space heaters have tip-over switches that turn the unit off if accidentally knocked over.

By far, the most important part of any home fire safety plan is to have plenty of working smoke alarms in the home, and carbon monoxide alarms as well. Smoke alarms should

be placed on every level of the home, and outside of any sleeping areas. They can easily be placed in bedrooms for maximum protection. Just as important as having them is making sure they work properly. Test the smoke alarms monthly, and change the batteries annually.

Carbon monoxide detectors pick up the unburned gases given off by fuel-burning appliances, such as stoves, dryers and furnaces. These unburned gases are hard to detect so the alarms are very important.

Take a few minutes and make sure your home is safe for the upcoming winter months ahead. Your family will be glad you did.

Tom Kiurski is training coordinator for the Livonia Fire Department.

AREA POLICE BRIEFS

Livonia

Truck strikes home on Inkster Road

A Chevy pickup drove off Inkster Road Christmas Eve and struck a home in the 19100 block of Inkster Road. The driver of the pickup truck was taken to an area hospital and tests were run on him, as he appeared incoherent, said Sgt. John Gibbs of the Livonia Police Department traffic bureau.

No drugs or alcohol are suspected in the case, and police believe the 54-year-old man may have suffered a medical emergency.

The truck struck the home and a Nissan Versa parked in the driveway. No one was injured inside the home when the incident took place at about 9:30 a.m. Monday. Police were still investigating the crash.

Canton

Home break-ins reported

Canton police confirmed two home

break-ins occurred Saturday — one on Haggerty between Ford and Cherry Hill roads and the other on Cranbrook, southwest of Palmer and Sheldon.

The incident on Haggerty occurred 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturday. Detective Sgt. Dave Schreiner said. A resident reported items missing such as a television, a laptop computer, an iPod and a cell phone.

In the other incident, a resident who lives on Cranbrook arrived home Saturday shortly after midnight to find her home had been broken into, with items such as televisions, a small amount of cash and jewelry taken, Schreiner said.

Redford

Crime Stoppers tips encouraged

Redford police are praising an area resident for leaving a tip with Crime Stoppers that led to the arrest of a woman wanted for a robbery in Redford that took place in 2003. The arrest is the second in a month prompted by a tip left with Crime Stoppers. Anyone with information regarding incidents in Red-

ford is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK-UP and leave an anonymous tip.

Indecent exposure on Schoolcraft

Police are searching for a man wanted in connection with an indecent exposure over the weekend on Schoolcraft east of Inkster.

The man, who police say is about 50 years old, heavyset and has a mustache and beard, was driving an old black minivan with silver running boards and rust. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Redford police at (313) 387-2500.

New school building vandalized

Redford police say it appeared juveniles broke into a building being transformed into a school Dec. 17 in the 25900 block of Grand River and vandalized it.

The building, which is being turned into Detroit West Academy, had a broken window where the suspect entered. The tennis court was ransacked and covered with streamers, file cabinets

were dumped out, light bulbs broken and curtains torn. It did not appear anything was taken from the building.

Attempted break-in at Redford business

An attempted break-in was reported Dec. 17 at a business in the 27200 block of Seven Mile in Redford.

The suspect attempted to enter the building sometime that day by pulling open a door on the side of the building. A bar was secured on the door, preventing entry. No other signs of attempted break-ins were listed.

Farmington

Driving while license suspended

At about 4:43 p.m. Dec. 13, an officer on patrol stopped a commercial motor vehicle in the area of Eight Mile and Farmington roads for not having a logo/identification on the vehicle as required. Further investigation revealed that the driver had a suspended license and two warrants for his arrest. The man was

Please see POLICE, A5

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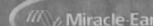
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POLICE

Continued from page A4

arrested for driving while license suspended.

Operating while intoxicated

On Dec. 15, an officer stopped a vehicle on Drake near Grand River for improper lane use. The driver was returning home to Muirwood Apartments in Farmington from a Christmas party in Dearborn Heights and admitted to consuming vodka at the party. A preliminary breath test registered 0.16 blood-alcohol content, and the driver was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

Farmington Hills

Smash and grab

No one was hurt Sunday afternoon when two unidentified men smashed a jewelry display case, grabbed what they could and ran out the door at Sam's Club, 32625 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills.

"No one actually saw them," Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus said.

But a videotape picked up the two men at the display case. The video shows one of the men pulling a hammer from

underneath his clothing and smashing the case. It shows the men grabbing jewelry and stuffing it into a bag that one pulled out of his pants, Nebus said.

Customers and employees chased the men into the parking lot. They got into a Chrysler Town & Country turquoise-colored minivan and took off. The minivan did not have a license plate.

Based on the speed in which the minivan left the parking lot, police suspect that a third person, who was driving, is involved.

The men are described as black males between the ages of 20-25. One is short at 5 feet, 4 inches, and slimly built. The second is described as medium height at 5 feet 6 inches to 6 feet tall.

"They may be responsible for other smash and grabs," Nebus said. "We are talking with other police departments."

Police are asking anyone who has seen a turquoise minivan without license plates to contact the Farmington Hills Police command desk at (248) 871-2600.

Gun shot

Farmington Hills police responded to the Hunters Ridge condominiums on Orchard Lake Road close to 10 p.m. Friday to a report of a gun shot. No one was injured, but

police found that a bullet hit a car windshield in the condo parking lot.

Stolen money

A 20-year-old Livonia man lost \$500 when he met a couple of men who had responded to a Craig's List ad to buy an iPhone 5 just after 6 p.m. Friday at the Citgo gas station at 10 Mile and Middlebelt roads.

The Livonia man placed an ad on Craig's List seeking to buy a phone. The texted response he received directed him to the gas station to meet the sellers.

At the gas station, the Livonia resident approached the newer model gray Pontiac Grand Prix with tinted windows and asked to see the phone. A man who remained in the car gave it to the Livonia man who, when he looked at it, said it needed a password. When he asked for the password, the unidentified man in the car asked to see the money. The Livonia man showed him the \$500, but the man in the car immediately drove away with the money and the phone.

The Livonia man reported to police that the men in the Grand Prix did not appear to have any weapons.

Police ask anyone who sees the Grand Prix, with the partial license plate

871, to contact the Farmington Hills command desk at (248) 871-2600.

Garden City

Vehicle vandalized

The Garden City police found no damage on a 2004 Dodge Durango vandalized Dec. 12 in the 32000 block of Bock.

The owner said that though the vehicle was locked, someone broke in and stole his DVD player. He was able to provide a serial number for the unit.

Police weren't able to process any evidence at the scene.

Plymouth Township

Vehicles egged

Several parked vehicles were egged during a vandalism spree on the township's south side Sunday night and early Monday. Police are investigating.

The vehicles were parked on Green Valley Road, west of Sheldon and north of Ann Arbor Road, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

The first incident was reported shortly before 1 a.m. Monday, and the responding officer noted all other vehicles parked

on the same street had also been egged, police said.

A witness told police the vandalism may have been done by three young women driving a dark Ford Motor Co. brand sport-utility vehicle. Police spotted several empty egg cartons littering the area, along with bags from a CVS drug store.

An officer contacted a 24-hour CVS store in Canton Township, and an employee reported selling nine cartons of eggs to three young women there about 11:30 p.m. Sunday, police said.

Fuel heist

An estimated 200 gal-

lons of diesel fuel were reportedly siphoned from nine delivery trucks at Imperial Beverage, on Plymouth Oaks Boulevard south of M-14 and east of Sheldon, on Dec. 16 or Dec. 17, police said.

The theft occurred between about 11:30 a.m. Dec. 16 and 5 a.m. Dec. 17, a manager told police. In addition, the padlocks on the box trucks had cut off, but no product had been left on the trucks, police said.

A window on one truck was smashed and a briefcase, with a driver's log and phone chargers in it, was stolen, along with a navigation device, police said.

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DEATH

Continued from page A1

The baby's parents were arrested at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital and arraigned Dec. 21 in Westland 18th District Court; not-guilty pleas were entered.

"The baby was bruised from head to toe — front, back, sides, arms, legs," Dinsmore said. "The

baby had a ruptured spleen. There was ongoing abuse."

A second Westland couple, Antonio Brandon, 23, and Nicole Roberts, 19, are scheduled for trial Jan. 30 in Wayne County Circuit Court charged with killing their 2½-month-old son Kayden Brandon, early Dec. 5, 2011. The pair are also charged with abusing Kayden's twin brother

er Cameron.

Brandon is charged with first-degree murder and child abuse. Roberts is charged with involuntary manslaughter and child abuse — that she was aware of the abuse and allowed it to continue. Both have been jailed since their arrest a year ago.

The death of Kayden, who weighed 10 pounds, was ruled a homicide

with asphyxiation and blunt force trauma as the causes. Testimony from the Wayne County medical examiner found the infant had a range of fresh and healing injuries, including deep tissue bleeding in his arms and neck muscles, broken ribs and bleeding in his chest cavity.

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Court offers second chance for veterans

By Cal Stone and David Veselenak
Staff Writers

The 17th District Court in Redford operates a variation on Sobriety Court with its Veterans Treatment Court, offering veterans who are involved in the criminal justice system a coordinated response to the unique problems they are facing.

Military personnel often face intense and traumatic war experiences while they fight for our country. Sadly, the trauma continues even after they return home as they relive the war-zone — fear, horror and feelings of helplessness persist. Anxiety, irritability and emotional numbness often experienced by veterans. As a result, problems with alcohol and drug use are common as a way of coping.

Dedicated in November 2011 by Judge Karen Khalil, became the fourth Veterans Court in the state and the first in Wayne County's suburbs. Khalil works closely with the VA and local veterans groups, prosecutors, veterans' defense counsel as well as probation staff and mentors to provide veterans with the tools they need to lead productive and law abiding lives.

"We're dealing with a class of defendants that are totally different," said attorney Richard Graham, who represents



Judge Karen Khalil meets with defense attorney Richard Graham, probation officers Michael Stetz and Muriel LaForge and Detroit Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator Nante Colling before going into the courtroom to discuss cases before the Veterans Court.

all defendants in the Redford-based Veterans Court. "They're coming back with post-traumatic stress disorder. They're using (drugs) to suppress memories rather than to get high.

Defendants in the court have the chance to meet with their probation officers, representatives from Veterans Affairs and other support groups before court. After they meet in the morning, they go to the courtroom and have their case reviewed by 17th District Court Judge Karen Khalil.

Eivrett Bowers, 62, of Detroit, came to the court in May after a judge in Detroit recommended — and he got into an argument with his wife, and was sent to veterans court.

After staying off of substances for 25 years, he found himself giving in and the end result landed him in front of Khalil.

"It gets your head straight," the Vietnam veteran said. "I highly recommend it."

The court brings veterans in with other former military members, giving a sense of camaraderie among peers. The 15 current veterans enrolled in the court vary in age and come from all branches of service, but they do have something in common — courage on each other to get through the system and move on with their lives.

"You feel odd talking to (other) people about it," Bowers said. "You feel comfortable here."

Khalil said it wasn't always that way. At the beginning, it was common for veterans to ignore each other. But it wasn't long before the dynamic changed. "Now, you see the foundation of the community," she said. "We've seen a community form."

Judge Brian MacKenzie, of the 52-1 District Court in Novi, says unlike Sobriety Court, Veterans Court is "not a pure addiction; it's a hybrid of addiction and mental health."

Like the Sobriety Court in Novi, Veterans Court operates on a team concept in the 52-1 and is also 18 months long. The probation officer is different, however. He's Mike Moshier, a former lieutenant in the Army.

The fees attached to all drunk driving cases in the 52-1 help cover the staffing of both its Sobriety and Veterans Court. An additional cost is an additional specialty court, such as the \$13 tests taking at facilities like Jail Alternatives for Michigan Services (AMS), as well as up to the offender to cover.

and we got him all balanced out now."

Every participant in Novi's program has to get a physical, which MacKenzie says has resulted in three lives being saved. The Veterans Administration is a big player in this specialty court, and a VA rep is at every meeting in Novi with a secure laptop containing the offender's records.

Farmingington Judge Marla Parker said the 47th District Court has an interest in the Veterans Court area but not enough volume to run a full program. They're keeping statistics on their veteran offenders, working with the VA, and will refer individuals to a Veterans Court if necessary.

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machine that registers alcohol. There's a home version, too, as well as tethers that test for alcohol and location.

The 52-1 Veterans Court was also the 18th in the country and formed in 2009.

"And no one has been re-arrested out of about 75," said MacKenzie. "Five washed out and went to jail, and they haven't been re-arrested either."

At the November 2011 graduation ceremony, Khalil and Moshier joined 10 other military veterans who successfully completed the program.

"If I had done this when I was 20, I would have been a lot smarter man," Moshier said in his experience. "It got me the help I needed."

Moshier went on to mentor kids and volunteer in the Veterans Court.

Dean Hayden, a former U.S. Marine who was arrested for drunken driving, said initially he was reluctant about the program, but found it has given him "the opportunity to get my life back."

Michelle Ramos and Joronta Hicks contributed to this story.

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Sobriety Courts lead movement

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

One of the most successful types of specialty courts is the Sobriety Court, and the 52-1 in Novi has one of the oldest in the country. When it was created in 2001, it was only the 18th in the U.S., now there are 16 in Michigan alone.

Harvey Hoffman in Eaton County is the longest serving Sobriety Court judge in Michigan, and the 52-1's Judge Brian MacKenzie is second. MacKenzie calls his Sobriety Court a "straight-up addiction program" for offenders with high blood alcohol content arrests and/or second-time offenders. And, simply put, the Sobriety Court's role is to make the community safe.

"Out here," explained MacKenzie, "drunk drivers are the most dangerous people in terms of who is most likely to kill your family."

Offenders can receive a regular sentence or volunteer to participate in

the 18-month program and sign an agreement and waiver of rights.



MacKenzie

Although the second nine months are more normal, those first nine months are an intense phase, said MacKenzie.

Participants are tested for alcohol every day; they attend a 12-step counseling program twice a week; and they meet with their probation officer once a month in a group setting.

"It's a challenge for them," he testified by 8 a.m., said MacKenzie.

Those who fail to are "sanctioned," which usually means jail time — and we will go through your house to check for alcohol," he said. "It hasn't been done a lot, but it's been done."

Those who succeed are given positive reinforcement — maybe tickets to a sporting event or movie passes.

"It may not be much, but it's something," said MacKenzie.

Parker. "Some of these people have never succeeded at anything."

The 52-1 District Sobriety Court operates under a team concept — the Sobriety Court Advisory Board — consisting of the judge, prosecutor, probation officers, defense attorney, coordinators, law enforcement officer, treatment counselors and a victim/community advocate.

This team communicates and tries to reach a consensus on the offenders. The judge leads the discussion and, if needed, it is the deciding vote.

"It's easy unless they're (probation) not doing well," said MacKenzie. "Our team is good, and there's always consensus."

Sobriety Court participants who successfully complete the pro-

MADCP

Karen MacKenzie, wife of 52-1 District Court Judge Brian MacKenzie, is the executive director of the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals. At the MADCP's website (<http://madcp.dreamhosters.com>) you can find an interactive map of all the Michigan Drug Courts.

35th District Court

Judge Michael J. Gerou handles the Sobriety Court in 35th District Court which serves Canton and the cities and townships of both Northville and Plymouth.

While the Sobriety Court staff in the 52-1 court is partially funded by grants, the 35th receives no grant funding. "And quite frankly, we don't want any," said Gerou. "We didn't want to

Please see SOBRIETY, A8

COURTS

Continued from page A1

was a different approach than the standard 18-month you-and-I approach. That movement grew and is also connected to therapeutic jurisprudence, which has a similar kind of ultimate goal.

The 52-1 District Court in Novi was one of the first on board, and 18th in the country.

"That really is remarkable," said Bryce. "If you look at Sobriety Courts, you'll see that the prosecutor, defense attorney and judge take a different approach and try to help people with these situations in a way that's different."

Veterans Court, Bryce said, deals with different issues. "We helped create the one in Ingham County, which I think is the first in the state that adopted that kind of approach," he said. "It receives no grant funding. And quite frankly, we don't want any," said Gerou. "We didn't want to

Ingham County's was formed in February 2010, according to Tammy Kudialis, director of Project Salute and the Veterans Appellate Clinic at UDMercy.

"Instead of punishment, you get treatment," she said.

The veterans get a mentor and access to Veterans Administration programs to help them deal with issues. They also get oversight, which means they could be referred to court at regular intervals to meet with the judge and make sure they're on the right track.

They also get connected to pension and disability benefits through Project Salute which provides outreach and assistance for veterans and trains attorneys to handle benefit claims pro bono. Now in its fifth year, Kudialis says Project Salute has helped more than 4,000 veterans, trained some 1,200 attorneys, and currently has 120 cases placed throughout the country.

Localized

"The concept behind specialty courts is that local courts should try

and come up with local solutions to local problems," said Judge Ronald Lowe, who has served

the 35th District Court for 20 years. "I think that you've seen with Sobriety Court is a variety of things — some use it primarily for alcohol, some use it for some type of drug."

He said the drug and alcohol courts are doing "remarkable things" and even noted a Meth Court to deal specifically with that drug.

The 47th District Court in Farmington operates a Sobriety Court, and Judge Marla Parker calls it one of the most rewarding aspects of her job. "People's lives change right in front of you," she said.

Parker noted that at a recent Sobriety Court graduation ceremony, the guest speaker was a graduate in 2007.

"He's still sober," she said. "He talked about how his life has changed, and it was pretty amazing."

But not every court can afford to offer a wide variety of specialty courts and may just have to focus on one. Judge Brian MacKenzie, of the 52-1 District Court, "Novi has a lot," he said. "The breadth of our programs is pretty unique."

52-1 District Court serves two communities of Novi, South Lyon, Wixom, Walled Lake, Milford, Highland, Commerce Township, Lyon Township, and Wolverine Lake.

Low noted that some courts have agreed on a system of "sharing" their specialty courts, sending offenders to a specialty court they might not operate in and return taking offenders from other courts to go through their specialty court.

"That is in infant stages and having a lot of growth problems," said Lowe. "If I send them to jail, who is paying? There are a lot of logistical problems. But it's demonstrative that District Courts are trying to find solutions."

"But," he added, "there is a story in each one of them."

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Teen Court lets offenders hear it from peers

By Cal Stone
Staff Writer

Northville's Brian Morrow, deputy chief of the juvenile division in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, has seen first-hand the positive effects of handling cases in different specialty court formats like Teen Court.

Teen Court is a juvenile diversion program in which trained, high school-age jurors sentence real delinquency cases that have been screened by the Prosecutors Office specifically for this program. In every case, the juvenile offenders that are selected to come before the Teen Court have no prior records of delinquency and have committed relatively minor misdemeanors.

Earlier this year, Morrow received the county's

Anthony C. Wayne Award for developing the award-winning juvenile program that has been having a positive effect on reducing recidivism among first-time offenders.

"Unfortunately in Wayne County, we have a lot of juveniles that are committing crimes on that high end of the spectrum," he said. "That program has taught me that alternative forms of restitution can work."

The teen jury is totally responsible for fashioning an appropriate sentence. It will typically include requirements such as the payment of any restitution, community service, letters of apology and individual and

substance abuse therapy when facts necessitate it. The offender cannot commit any new offenses while under the term of supervision dictated by the teen jury, which usually lasts three to six months. If the offender successfully complies with the jury's sentence, the case is dismissed without him/her having a juvenile record for the offense.

Under Morrow's supervision, the Prosecutors Office began the Teen Court program in 2006 and currently operates four teen courts — one in the 34th District Court in Romulus and three which are held in Detroit Public high schools (Denby,

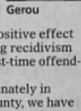
Southeastern and Central).

District Courts
Judge Ronald Lowe, of the 35th District Court (includes Plymouth, Canton and Northville), oversaw the creation of a Sobriety Court, but he also implemented the jurisdiction's Teen Court.

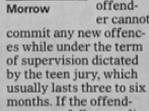
"The advantage is simple — it's a positive use of peer pressure." He said, "I tell them straight up that hearing it from their friends is far better than hearing from an old fart in a black robe."

Low, who is an empowerment of teens, who end up coming out stronger proponents of what the court is doing than someone who hasn't been through it.

Lowe, who is the president-elect to the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals, said he is proud to be part of the program. Please see TEEN, A8



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SOBRIETY

Continued from page A6

set up a program that's dependent on grant money. We've prioritized cases we think need more attention."

More resources are dedicated to repeat offenders, and there is an intensive probation fee. The 35th Sobriety Court, unlike the 52-1's, does not do home checks for alco-

hol either.

Again, participants volunteer for the Sobriety Court, and begin with suspended jail time. There are four stages, and as each is completed, the daily requirements and testing decrease.

"In the first stages, they get a grip on sobriety and testing," said Gerou, "and the latter parts they have to complete community service."

Likewise, participants

see the judge in the first two stages and then the court's probation officer, Jim Hand, in stages three and four.

"Our program was designed to take 15 at a time, but that has tripled and quadrupled in its nine years," said Gerou.

One of the reasons is that legislation that went into effect last year allows offenders to get a restricted driver's license.

"Before, we didn't have as many (participants) because it's a lot of work," said Gerou.

Like the 52-1, the 35th district court program utilizes the team concept and behavioral modification system.

"You control the keys to the jailhouse," said Gerou. "If you have a good report, you earn credit off your jail time. You come back and see me monthly and sign an agreement of what you'll do the following month. Then it's reviewed the following month with the probation officer."

Gerou said consequences for failure typically are predictable at first — jail for a few days and longer if it happens again. The third failure usually results in the participant being discharged from the Sobriety Court pro-

gram and serving whatever time is remaining on their initial sentence.

Gerou said the program is going "very well," especially considering the high-risk population it deals with. At last check, the success rate was over 70 percent. Compare that to a 55-percent success rate for all the offenders the 35th puts on probation.

"We have had some great success stories," said Gerou.

And those are noted at a monthly day-long event with a certificate, congratulations, sharing of stories, and passing of wisdom along to those entering the program and those who have slipped up and went to jail.

47th District Court

Farmington Judge Marla Parker's Sobriety Court has been operating since 2005 and has graduated 56 participants in twice-a-year ceremonies.

"The difference in ours is we have a two-year probation," said Parker. "I think every court is a little different. Some of it is the court's culture; some is how the program was initially designed and structured."

The key similarity in all three of the court's

programs, however, is accountability and the goal of giving more applause than sanctions to the participants.

For a long time, the 47th District Court boasted of no-recidivism among participants, but that ended a month or so ago.

"Still, it's much better when you look at the rate for people who don't go through a program. It's 60 to 80 percent (recidivism). It's really high," said Parker.

Like the 52-1 and 35th Sobriety Courts, participants in the 47th District Court have to volunteer. "You do have to agree to be part of it," said Parker, "but the other options aren't so hot!"

She said her Sobriety Court has very specific eligibility requirements. At the time of arrest, the offender's blood-alcohol content must register .15 percent or greater. They must also have a prior record of alcohol related offenses.

A key requirement is that the drunken drivers must be residents of Farmington or Farmington Hills. Parker said that's because many offenders don't have licenses, and it's not realistic for people to commute long distances to

appear in her court.

"And we want to serve citizens of our community first," she said.

16th District Court

The 16th District Court in Livonia uses drug and sobriety courts to get offenders' lives back on track. Judges Kathleen McCann and Sean Kavanaugh are involved in overseeing the progress of offenders, according to Probation Director Natalie Stojcevska.

Judges and probation officers examine whether the offenders are considered "high risk." "That is if they have a high blood alcohol content or run a high risk of re-offending," Stojcevska said. "That can be a first-time offender with a high BAC or a repeat offender."

The court also employs a program geared toward 17- to 21-year-old at-risk offenders who are involved in drug and alcohol use. "It is run outside of those other programs and it puts the younger offenders under intense supervision," Stojcevska said. The program provides guidance and education.

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TEEN

Continued from page A6

gan District Judges Association, said that when he first took the bench, district courts didn't handle juvenile cases. Rather, they were assigned to probate judges on a juvenile docket. But there has been much growth, especially in western Wayne County.

At John Glenn High School in Westland, a classroom has been transformed into a courtroom

— including a judge's bench, jury box and witness stand — and 18th District Court (jurisdiction is Westland) judges go there to listen to selected cases in Teen Court.

Paul Motz, director of Westland Youth Assistance, finds actual misdemeanor court cases — everything from shoplifting to assault — that are appropriate for Teen Court. The majority of the offenders, called respondents, are middle schoolers and there are

some high schoolers.

Students in the high school's business and personal law class serve as the jury, questioning the defendant and witnesses and then coming up with a sentence after defendants admit their guilt to juvenile authorities.

As part of the sentence handed down by the Teen Court jurors, the respondent is placed on diversion. If he or she complies with the terms of the diversion, the case is dismissed and doesn't appear on the respon-

dent's juvenile record.

"This is a great partnership certainly between the court and the school district," said Greg Barcy, Wayne-Westland schools superintendent. "I'm impressed by the students' questions and their maturity level. This is a great learning opportunity."

Staff writer Sue Mason contributed to this story.

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Parkside Credit Union employee Rachel Reynolds (left) and Heather Gatwood, meeting coordinator, are surrounded by the gifts provide for 28 boys at the Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford for Christmas.



Parkside brings Christmas to boys at Methodist Home

Many hours were spent walking the aisles of local toy stores looking for MP3 players, walkie talkies and Bayblades so the boys from the Methodist Children's Home Society could wake up on Christmas morning with their wishes fulfilled. This holiday season, the employees of Parkside Credit Union played Secret Santa for 28 of the boys who reside on the Methodist Home campus in Redford. The Methodist Children's Home has been caring for children in need for 95 years. They currently help boys who have been abused and/or neglected, creating a safe haven for them. The boys Parkside purchased presents for range in age from six to 17. A trunk-load of gifts was dropped off on Friday, Dec. 14, at the Meth-

odist Home and opened by the children on Christmas morning. "We're excited to say that the boys' wish lists have been filled," said Heather Karschner, development and marketing associate at the Methodist Children's Home. "We want to say 'thank you so much' to those who made our Donation Drop-Off Day a success!" Parkside staff had a blast shopping for the boys. Many of the toys were items they had never heard of. The shopping trips were definitely filled with education on what toys are hot this year, and the Parkside staff was excited to help the residents of the Methodist Children's Home Society this Christmas and throughout the coming year, according to

Karschner. A staff member from Parkside added that "it makes you feel good to know that your contribution will put a smile on these children's faces." Parkside Credit Union, a Michigan-based nonprofit financial institution, has been serving the community since 1953, with offices at 36525 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and 1747 S. Newburgh, Westland. Parkside offers a full line of financial products and services to its members and provides convenient account access with thousands of nationwide fee-free ATM and service center locations as well as mobile, online and telephone solutions. For more information about Parkside Credit Union, visit www.parksidecu.org.

What you may have missed in December

By Jon Gunnells
Guest Columnist

If holiday parties, baking and entertaining the in-laws have eaten up your holiday season, you've likely missed some of the biggest tech stories and trends of the year. With the holiday hassles in the rear-view mirror, you can now catch up on what you've missed.



Tech Savvy
Jon Gunnells

Social Media

The story that garnered the most social buzz in December was Instagram's unpopular terms of service change. The popular photo-sharing application changed its terms of use in mid-December leaving many users outraged that their filtered photos of dinners and cloudscape would be sold for money. After nearly two days of angry tweets and deleted accounts, Instagram decided to readjust the terms of service. This much is now obvious, Instagram and parent company, Facebook is not beyond exploiting hipsters to make money. Facebook also announced a number of other initiatives to help increase its bottom line in 2013 and beyond.

The popular social network will begin embedding video ads into users newsfeeds and is also considering to allow private messages to users that are not friends for a dollar per message.

Facebook is even developing technology to compete with one of the most popular apps of 2012 - SnapChat. SnapChat is a photo messaging app that automatically self-destructs photos shortly after they are sent. As you can imagine, the application's unique functionality makes it popular among teens for sexting.

There is some good news, however, Facebook is also adjusting its privacy settings once more in an attempt to make privacy easier for users.

Among the changes are the ability for users to prevent their timeline info such as pictures and status updates from being indexed by search engines. The new changes also helps users determine which Facebook users can search them or find their profile. Unfortunately, the changes do little for users who want to remain more private or unsearchable.

Additionally, those fed up with Facebook and Instagram all together may have a new option to share photos. Twitter recently announced photo color filtering - an obvious attempt to steal users away from Facebook.

Hardware

Now that the biggest shopping season of the year has come and passed many manufacturers and retailers are planning deep discounts. Google for instance is rumored to be slashing the price of its popular Google Nexus Tablet. The unit may soon be going for as low as \$99, that's \$100 less than the current price.

January's annual Consumer Electronic Show is also typically an indicator of new models of televisions, computers, cameras and other gadgets hitting the markets. As a result, surpluses of last year's gifts usually go down in price as well.

If you are still in the market for electronics or have holiday bonus money to spend, you may want to wait until the end of January or early February to make your purchase.

For those looking to keep a closer eye on the 2013 International Consumer Electronics Show - the event runs from Jan. 8-11. During the show, products from all categories will be unveiled including health and fitness gadgets, home health care products and even land line telephones (hey, that's not new technology).

Jon Gunnells is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShw.

Presbyterian Village joins national health initiative

Presbyterian Villages of Michigan has been selected to partner in a national initiative to create strategies to improve quality of life for senior residents while producing cost savings to the health and long-term care systems. Developed by LeadingAge and Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. (Enterprise), the Learning Collaborative will engage 12 teams of senior housing organizations and service providers to develop and refine housing and healthcare models over a two-year period. Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future is also participating in the effort, providing strategic policy support to the teams. "PVM is honored to be selected to participate in the Learning Collaborative. We bring 67 years of

expertise to this important national issue," said Roger Meyers, president and CEO. "PVM is committed to service excellence. Our efforts in this initiative will improve quality of life for seniors locally and across the country." Through the Learning Collaborative, teams will explore components of housing with services strategies, such as partnership development, operations, financing mechanisms, outcome measurement, data collection systems and processes, and policy and regulatory changes. The Learning Collaborative model highlights peer-to-peer education, harnessing the vast expertise among the participants. "At a time when our senior population is growing more rapidly than ever before, and public resources for affordable

housing and services are shrinking, it is vital that we take the necessary steps to support innovation, identify successes, and encourage the adoption of these emerging successful models," said Terri Ludwig, president and CEO of Enterprise. "Serving the most vulnerable and low-income populations is one of our greatest responsibilities," said Larry Minnix, president and CEO, LeadingAge. "This Learning Collaborative will provide an opportunity for us to identify the essential elements and practices of effective housing plus services models so we can serve these populations to the best of our ability." For more information on the collaborative, visit www.enterprisecommunity.org/learningcollaborative.org or www.leadingage.org/learningcollaborative.aspx.



Jane & Phil Button recently moved to Oakwood Common

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Joins law firm

Karen L. Boone, a Livonia resident, has joined the law firm of Miller Canfield as an associate in the Real Estate Group in the Troy office. She focuses her practice on commercial development, economic development incentives, construction law and commercial leasing.

Prior to joining the firm, she served as an intern for U.S. District Court Judge John Corbett O'Meara of the Eastern District of Michigan. She also interned with Wayne County's Economic Development Growth Engine.

Boone received her J.D., cum laude, from the University of Michi-

Re-elected to board

Joleen Immerfall of Wayne has been re-elected for a third consecutive term to the Blue Cross Complete of Michigan Board of Directors to represent Blue Cross Complete members. Blue Cross Complete serves Medicaid members. Immerfall, a Blue Cross Complete member, has served as a board member since 2007. She was elected by Blue Cross Complete members. Her third term begins on Jan. 1. "Serving as a board member gives me the opportunity to learn about the benefits Blue

Cross Complete offers its membership, and address member concerns with my peers," said Immerfall.

Immerfall looks forward to continuing to be the members' voice and is especially interested in what Blue Cross Complete does to improve lead screening rates among children.

A devoted grandmother, wife and mother, Immerfall has been a licensed practical nurse and also served as past president of the Council of Catholic Women in Washtenaw County. In April, BlueCaid of Michigan changed its name to Blue Cross Complete of Michigan to recognize its affiliation with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and expanded its service area to include all areas within Wayne County.

OUR VIEWS

Be smart and safe Don't let alcohol ruin holidays

Let's start this off with a very sobering statistic: In 2010, 17 million people admitted to driving drunk. If they had their own state, it would be the fifth largest in the U.S.

Yes, this is that editorial that most media companies feel obligated to write every year around this time. Frankly, by now we were really hoping to be preaching to the choir. Unfortunately, that's not the case.

The holiday season, which is considered Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, is a traditional time for families and friends to get together to enjoy food, laughs, fellowship, gifts, memories and love.

Often, alcohol is included in these celebrations. We don't condone or condemn it. But when those who imbibe decide to get behind the wheel and risk ruining and taking lives, that's a different story.

Yes, it's true that overall the number of annual drunken driving deaths has been cut in half since Mothers Against Drunk Driving formed in 1980.

However, MADD also reports that there has been an increase in the proportion of drunk driving deaths around the holidays. The percentage of Christmas holiday highway deaths jumped from 32 percent to 37 percent from 2008 to 2010. Likewise, New Year's holiday deaths went from 41 to 48 in that time period.

For some reason, people still aren't getting it — especially those who have already been down that road. About one-third of all drivers arrested or convicted of driving while intoxicated or driving under the influence of alcohol are repeat offenders.

Statistically, we know that males are more likely than females to drive under the influence of alcohol. And we know that the ages of 21-25 make up the highest percentage, with rates declining after 25.

But, regardless of gender or age, the average person metabolizes alcohol at the rate of about one drink per hour. It doesn't matter what you're drinking, either. A 12-ounce beer, a glass of wine, a standard mixed drink — they all contain about .54 ounces of alcohol. Impairment is based on amount of alcohol, not type.

And alcohol, unlike food, doesn't have to be digested slowly. If you drink faster than alcohol can be eliminated, it accumulates in your body, which means higher levels of alcohol in your blood.

Now this part is important to remember — only time will sober a person up! So don't fool yourself into believing that drinking strong coffee or energy drinks, exercising or taking a cold shower will help. Neither will eating a pizza, turning up the car radio or rolling down the windows.

If you know you're going to be drinking, plan ahead so you're not driving. Designate a sober driver. Take alternative transportation (i.e. a cab, a limo, a bus). Call a relative or friend to pick you up.

Or, just stay where you're at. Hosts who throw parties with alcohol should be prepared to offer lodging to their guests who have had too much to drink. (In fact, it's a good idea to gather car keys when guests arrive.)

Recent events have made all of us realize just how precious is life. Every day, about 28 people die as a result of drunk driving crashes. The time to end this is long overdue. Simply stated: Enjoy the holidays, but please don't drink and drive.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is your one wish for the country in 2013?



"A better economy. That's probably what everyone wants."

Robert Rowe
Canton



"The economy to get better, first and foremost. Then maybe people will be nicer to each other."

Pawona Lewis
Canton



"Fiscal responsibility. We need to get it solved."

Ruth Rosenberg
Canton



"I want to see President Obama's agenda be successful in terms of the fiscal crisis and gun control. These two items seem to be paramount, and I wish us well."

Brian Hermes
Plymouth



"For everybody to come together. Quit blaming the people in the other party and just figure it out."

Kathy Theodore (with grandson Nathan)
Plymouth



"After Sandy Hook, I'd like to see a little more gun control."

Jeff Brown
West Bloomfield



"Peace."

Jim Forsthoefel
Plymouth



"For Obamacare to get overturned."

Teri Sage
Livonia



"I'd like the country to return to more values. Because I'm a Christian, I think we need to get back to a belief in God, valuing life and respecting others."

Rebecca Byars
Garden City



"To live in peace. For world peace."

Margaret Hughes
Westland



"Restart and refocus in America to get jobs in this country and bring down unemployment, rather than losing jobs to other countries."

Heather Dixon
Livonia



"My hope is that it will be better in 2013 ... less political, less confusing."

Suzie Skorupa
Westland



"Peace and happiness."

Summer Saffold, 15
Farmington



"Justin Verlander wins his second MVP. It would be good for Detroit, and the Detroit economy would revive, and that would be good for the country."

Jason Poblacion
Farmington Hills



"Less violence, more harmony. We need more patience with each other."

Christine Bezy
Farmington



"I hope that America will have more jobs; we'll be at peace overseas, and our country will be on the way up, not down."

Barbara Bridges
Garden City

TYPES OF CHARGES

According to Michigan law, violations for Operating While Intoxicated include:

- Alcohol or drugs in your body substantially affected your ability to operate a motor vehicle safely.
- A bodily alcohol content (BAC) at or above 0.08. This level can be determined through a chemical test.
- High BAC means the alcohol level in your body was at or above 0.17. This level can be determined through a chemical test.



"My hope is that the country can pull together and do the things that need to be done. It won't be easy."

Billy Pate
Garden City



"I hope that the economy grows, that people can see without colored eyes and get rid of the meanness."

Bonnie Sue Olds-Asbury
Wayne



"I'm hoping that the government can work together to resolve the issues. They need to set aside their problems and work together."

Lorene Waybrant
Westland



"Hopefully, they can make a decision about the fiscal cliff. As a small business person, if they don't we're screwed."

William Long
Wayne



Wearry travelers find a friend in airport Ambassadors

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Tom Beyersdorf remembers well the day he stood in a Tokyo train station looking at a dazzling display board when a voice said, "Can I help you?" The assistance he received was much appreciated and led to an important decision — someday he would "pay it forward."

The retired executive director of Gift of Life Michigan, Beyersdorf has traded in his business suit for the red vest of an ambassador at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, helping travelers and guests navigate the 17th busiest airport in the country.

"Airport junkies like me like hanging out here, it's fun out here," the Northville resident said. "I get to help people who are confused or distressed or even blind. You have to put yourself in their frame of mind to do it."

Beyersdorf is part of a cadre of 65 volunteers who belong to the Travelers Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit's Airport Ambassador Program. They work an average of four hours a week, manning five booths — two in the North Terminal and three in the McNamara Terminal — and serving as an information conduit for travelers.

"I think the ambassadors are very important," said James Kelly, executive director of the Travelers Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit. "They're on the front line of customer service at the airport. They're here to serve the public and help the airport to achieve its goals."

There to help

More than 30 million people pass through the Detroit Metropolitan Airport each year, and it is the ambassadors who are there to help them. Seniors, people with special needs, children traveling alone, business and foreign travelers can count on the ambassadors for assistance. They also connect lost passengers and families and provide resources for people who are stranded at the airport.

"Any holiday is a busy time and bad weather can have an impact," Kelly said. "Our people help people get to where they can be comfortable."

The program also is part of an international network. The ambassadors wear a red vest so people can find them, Kelly said. He added that the ambassadors get more than 200,000 requests each year for assistance. With Metro Airport serving as a primary gateway to Asia for Delta Airlines, a lot of requests come from China. One request came several weeks ago to help a couple who spoke no English and faced a three-hour layover in Detroit. Photos were supplied so the ambassadors could locate them quickly.

"We've been asked why we get so much contact from China," Kelly said.

"Our name pops up in a blog over there."

The Travelers Aid Society has been around since the early 1900s. It helped families during the Depression, worked with the USO during World War II and is now helping those who are homeless. It's been involved with the airport since 1948, serving as a link between travelers, Wayne County Airport Authority and the entire airport community.

"The airport has something designed for returning veterans," Sharon Kelly said. "It was something we did, but we couldn't keep it up. A group of veterans has created a lounge for returning veterans."

'Love people'

Many of the volunteers are retirees like Beyersdorf and Sharon Kelly of Trenton. Kelly has been an ambassador for more than eight years. She worked in fleet service for Northwest Airlines and decided to come back to the airport after retiring.

"I love people, I love helping people," she said.



Ambassadors Tom Beyersdorf of Northville and Sharon Kelly of Trenton work the information booth in the baggage claim area of the North Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

"It's what makes me feel good. You have to like people and have patience. If you don't, don't volunteer."

Good was how she felt after recently helping a woman who had lost her passport. Kelly went with her to look for it all over the airport.

"We found it in the nick of time," she said. "She

AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

Volunteer airport ambassadors are needed by the Travelers Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit to assist people at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Volunteers can work as much as they want. The information booths are open 12 hours a day, seven days per week, 365 days per year. Most volunteers work four hours per week. A lot of what they do is answer basic questions, such as "Where do I claim my luggage?" or "How do I get to my rental car agency?" but they also help a lot of very stressed travelers who have much bigger issues.

Among the benefits is free parking, even when a volunteer isn't working. Volunteers also receive an airport badge that not only gets them through security without a boarding pass, but provides discounts on food and at the gift shops at any airport in the country. Discounts can range from 10 to 20 percent.

For more information on the Airport Ambassador Volunteer Program, contact the Travelers Aid Society of Metropolitan Detroit at (313) 962-6740, toll-free at (800) 207-1771 or by email at volunteer@tasmd.org. The organization's website is www.TravelersAidDetroit.org.

things on the Internet.

"He's taught me a lot about bus schedules," she added.

And being a part of the Ambassadors Program doesn't preclude a person from getting help.

James Kelly was on his way back from a conference and was in Chicago

when he was approached by a Travelers Aid volunteer.

"I was coming home from a Travelers Aid conference and after 14 hours, I wanted to get home," he said. "I heard someone tell me, 'You look like you could really use some help.'"



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UNIFORMS

Continued from page A1

give the story that goes with the uniform."

The Spad is a French SPAD XII World War I fighter that a group of volunteers have been building from scratch using the original blueprints. The plane will look as it did as part of 103d Aero Squadron in 1918, complete with the Hat in the Ring emblem.

Gerych sounds like a walking encyclopedia when talking about the uniforms. His interest in collecting began when he was nine years old. His grandfather, a World War II veteran, took him to gun shows and would "buy me stuff to keep me quiet."

A veteran himself, Gerych was studying for his master's degree in history and was required to do community service during one semester. His father-in-law wanted to volunteer at the museum and one thing led to another.

Gerych wanted to work on airplanes, but that was in flux, so he went into collections. It's been "very interesting" and he's learned a lot, he said. Now the two men are working on making the museum's catalog system better.

"When we find something in the collection, we search to see if a number exists for it, sometimes we find it was brought in and not cataloged," said Wygant who was working on a pair of Vietnam jungle boots. "They're not in the system, so I have to track them back."

Painted jacket

In addition to uniforms, the collection includes such things as a hard-to-get painted bomber jacket belonging to J.D. Asmussen who was credited with seven kills as a member of the crew of the Yankee Queen.

The collection also includes World War I avi-



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Scott Gerych and volunteers in the collections room are working to organize the 300-400 uniforms that have been donated to the Yankee Air Museum.



The museum will be reorganizing displays that will take visitors from World War I through the Iraq and Afghan wars.

ator uniform Henry Rex Waddell, who was a personal secretary for the Ford family, Marie Mountain Clark who was a Women's Air Force Service Pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden Clark, a B-17 pilot.

Waddell's uniform is in a display case near where the World War I fighter is being built.

The museum also has

several North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong uniforms. And in boxes in the collections room are items such as Nazi banners. While some people don't think the flags should be shown, it was the flag and flew in Germany in the 1930s through 1945, Gerych said.

"One thing my father-in-law says is that if it wasn't for Germany and



J.D. Asmussen's bomber jacket is painted on the back with a picture of the Yankee Queen and seven swastikas representing his number of planes shot down.

Japan, we wouldn't have had a bomber plant in Detroit," said Gerych.

"They hated the war and we responded."

While Gerych would like younger veterans of recent wars to consider making donations, he can understand them wanting to pass it down to their kids. He recommends that they take care of their items. The collections room has the distinct aroma of moth balls and some of the wool uniforms are moth eaten.

People can call and make an appointment to drop off items, and museum volunteers will go out and pick up donations.

"We're not just looking for uniforms, we really need the average soldier stuff - uniforms and personal effects," Gerych said.

smason@hometovillife.com
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Personal info helps tell story

Knowing more about the clothing and artifacts donated is important to the Yankee Air Museum which is participating in the Veterans Oral History Project.

The information provides a story of the uniform beyond what can be determined by looking at the patches which can tell the last name of the person who wore it, what unit the person was in, where he or she served and in what branch of the military.

A case in point: the uniform and artifacts of a World War I aviator Henry Rex Waddell which is on display in the museum near where volunteers are building a French SPAD.

A native of Port Lambton, Ontario, Waddell was enrolled in the University of Michigan School of Engineering when he left in 1915 to join the Canadian Regiment and become a Royal Flying Corps pilot and flight instructor in England. He also piloted a Handley Page bomber and patrolled the North Sea before being reassigned to France just before the Armistice began on Nov. 11, 1918.

After being discharged from the service, he worked for a nickle mining company in Ontario before taking a job at Henry Ford's Dearborn

Publishing. He was transferred by Henry Ford to his office in 1924 and the next year was introduced by Ford to his future wife, Etha Peabody. The couple was married in 1926.

Waddell went on to serve as the personal secretary of the Fords and later joined Ford Archives where he worked until he retired in 1979.

The museum also has uniforms and personal artifacts donated by Marie Mountain Clark, who was a Women's Air Force Service pilot during World War II, and her husband, John Alden Clark, who served in the 8th Air Force 100th Bomb Group and flew 32 missions over Germany.

While those are some of the "stars" of the collection, the museum also is looking for donations from others.

Veterans and their families who would like to make donations can bring items can contact Pete Stowe who is at the museum Tuesday through Thursday. Call (734) 483-4030, Ext. 255, to schedule an appointment.

The Yankee Air Museum is at 47884 D St., west of Beck Road, in Van Buren Township. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



STEPHEN CANTRELL, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The donation from Henry Rex Waddell included his World War I uniform, leather and wool aviator caps and goggles.

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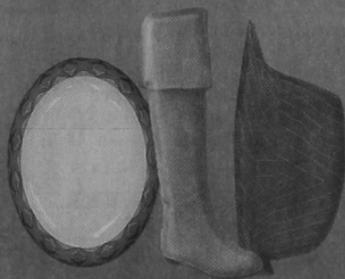
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2012
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

SPORTS

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TIM BUSCH | TSPORTRIX.COM

Madonna's Kaylee McGrath (41) goes in for the uncontested layup being pursued by Detroit's Demisha Brown (left) and Megan Hatter (right) during Saturday's game at Calihan Hall.

Out of its league

Madonna no match for Lady Titans

By Brad Emons

Observer Staff Writer

The Madonna University women's basketball team bit off more than it could chew, facing its third NCAA Division I opponent of the season Saturday.

The Crusaders, who made respectable showings in losses to Eastern Michigan University, 75-64 (exhibition), and Bowling Green, 68-57, got demolished Saturday by host Detroit Mercy, 90-43, at Calihan Hall.

Detroit, led by the nation's leading scorer Sharetta Brown's

game-high 28, improved to 7-4 overall.

The Crusaders, getting 11 points apiece from Kaylee McGrath (Livonia Stevenson) and Michelle Lindsey, fall to 6-5.

The Lady Titans came out and hit their first seven shots from the floor during the first 4:48 to take a 16-8 lead and the rout was on.

The Lady Titans went up 42-20 at halftime as Canton native Rosanna Reynolds, a 5-foot-10 freshman point guard from Dearborn Divine Child, had 13 points, while Brown added 10.

Detroit's dominance was most evident in the paint, as it out-scored MU 56-16.

Brown, a 6-1 sophomore from Grand Blanc, made 13-of-15 shots from the floor to lead five Titans in double figures.

"It was all Brown, they got 56 points in the paint," Madonna coach Carl Graves said. "Literally, our last three practices, that's all we worked on, so I was really disappointed. She (Brown) finishes with contact. I thought we were in good posi-

Please see MADONNA, B4

Govantes earns first in County

See complete tournament results, B2.

By Brad Emons

Observer Staff Writer

You can never count Immanuel Govantes out of a match.

And that was never more evident than Saturday, as the senior from Farmington rallied to pin Novi Detroit Catholic Central's Myles Amine with 10 seconds remaining in the second period to earn the 130-pound weight class title at the 53rd annual Oakland County Wrestling Championships held at Lake Orion.

"Immanuel was behind in matches with all three of his matches Saturday," Farmington coach Al Beyer said. "He will always give you his best effort, and with his athleticism, you always have a chance to win the match with a pin."

Govantes, now 17-1 overall, was selected as the meet's lower-weights MVP and became the first Oakland County champion for the Falcons since Matt Michalski captured back-to-back titles in 1994-95.

Catholic Central, the top-ranked team in Division 1 and defending MHSAA champion, captured the team title with 347 points, with Oxford (278), Rochester (264.5), Clarkston (239) and the host Dragons (207) rounding out the top five in the 39-school field.

Individual champions for CC included Trevor Zdebek (119), Evan Toth (125), Drew Garcia

Govantes



Barber earns USA position

Miami (Ohio) University freshman forward Riley Barber (Livonia), the Central Collegiate Hockey Association's leading point producer, has earned a roster spot on the U.S. Junior National team that will compete Dec. 26 through Jan. 5 in the International Hockey Federation World Junior Championship in Ufa, Russia.

Barber is the seventh Miami player to earn a Team USA spot at the World Juniors. The sixth-round pick of the Washington Capitals previously helped Team USA to a gold medal at the 2012 U-18 World Championships.

Prep harrier going to CIU

Farmington High School senior Drew Lindman has signed a national letter of intent with Columbia (S.C.) International University to run cross country for the Rams.

Lindman was a four-year varsity runner for the Falcons, ending his career at the Division 1 state meet in November with a personal best time of 16:35 that placed him in the top half (120th) of the competition.

From a field of 45 applicants, Lindman was selected the winner of the McQuiklin Scholarship to attend CIU, a member of the National Christian College Athletic Association.



Lindman

Falcons pay back Flyers in OI, 2-1

By Brad Emons

Observer Staff Writer

Farmington High turned the tables Saturday night on its rival North Farmington-Harrison Flyers for a 2-1 overtime boys hockey victory at the Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

With 4:48 remaining in OT, Farmington senior assistant captain Cooper McLean picked up the puck along the left boards, moved just inside the faceoff circle, and scored the game-winner off an assist from Austin Metzler.

The Falcons, who improved to 5-4-1 overall and 1-0-2 in the Oakland Activities Association's Red Division, avenged a 3-0 setback to the Flyers on Nov. 21 when they were outshot 48-17.

"It was a great night for hockey in Farmington — two evenly matched teams that played their hearts out," Farmington coach Mark Vellucci said. "It was a big crowd and they got their money's worth."

After a scoreless opening period, Farmington senior Nick Gensheimer unloaded a shot from the high slot and scored 43 seconds into the second period off an assist from McLean to make it 1-0.

But the Flyers (6-4-1, 2-1-1) evened the count at 1-1 on senior Noah Downs' goal from the high slot off a rebound from assists by Sean Devin and Roman Firestone at 11:22 of the second period.

Farmington goaltender John Lethemon sparkled in net by making 27-of-28 saves, including three in



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Cooper McLean (77) scored the winning goal in Farmington's 2-1 overtime victory over the rival Flyers Saturday night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

the overtime. Meanwhile, the Flyers' Hunter Myers stopped 24-of-26 shots, including two in OT.

"Both goalies were very good," Vellucci said. "Both Cooper (McLean) and Nick (Gen-

sheimer) were standouts up front and we basically went with four defensemen all night, led by D.J. Rankin."

The Falcons took eight penalties to the Flyers' three, but were able to fight off every North-

Harrison power play opportunity, including one in OT.

"Special teams won the game for us," Vellucci said.

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Chargers tie, unbeaten streak goes to five

Livonia Churchill ran its unbeaten streak to five games, but had to settle for a 3-3 KLAAs Kensington Conference boys hockey tie last Friday night with host Northville at Novi Ice Arena.

Churchill, now 5-4-1 overall and 3-2-1 in the KLAAs's South Division, took a 2-0 first-period lead on goals by Brad Milks (from Riley Brown and Evan Gibboney) and Nick Mistak (from Brown and Milks).

Northville (5-3-2, 2-2-2 KLAAs Central) tied it with a pair of goals in the second, with Ben Crabb notching a power-play goal from Ryan Bloom and Alex Morgan, followed by Alex Shuart's

BOYS HOCKEY

short-handed goal from Buddy DeBrabander with 11 seconds left.

Churchill regained the lead, 3-2, just 41 seconds into the third on Tommy Carey's power-play goal from Brown and Milks.

Northville responded with a power-play goal at 3:30 (from Alec Melucci and DeBrabander). Churchill freshman goaltender Alec Calvano made 14 saves, while Northville's Jake Pavloski had 22 stops.

FARMINGTON 2, LAKE ORION 1: Junior Nick Kozoro's goal with 1:49 remaining in overtime Thursday won the game for the Falcons (4-1-1, 2-2).

The victory counts as an

overall win for Farmington, but it goes down as a tie game in the OAA Red Division.

Kozoro was assisted on the even-strength goal by DJ Rankin and Drake Cole. The game was scoreless until 9:17 in the third period, when Farmington junior Roman Firestone scored on a power play from Austin Metzler. The Dragons (3-6-1, 1-1-1) sent the game to overtime with Connor Moesta's power-play goal with 1:59 to play in regulation time.

The Falcons had a 37-35 edge in shots on goal. John Lethemon made 34 saves for Farmington, Logan Aldrich 35 for Lake Orion.

SALEM 10, FRANKLIN 4: On Dec. 19, Jake Fedel notched a hat trick leading the Rocks (5-2-3, 3-2) to a Kensington Conference crossover victory over host Livonia Franklin (3-5-1, 1-3) at Edgar Arena.

Franklin goaltender Sean Reeves-Carr, making his

each added two goals for Salem, which led 3-0 after one period and 6-2 after two. Alek Zulfowski, Jake Sealy and Kyle Downey also tallied a goal each for the Rocks. "Salem played well and finished," Franklin coach Dennis Gagnon said. "We had several good chances, but were unable to finish. We gave up way too many quality chances in the red zone in front of our net. That's something we will work on — taking away the opponents' stick in front of our net."

Franklin scored twice in the second period — Richie Wiczorek (from C.J. Cromie and Ryan Pace) and Adam Stadler (from Josh Dudek and Daniel Pedersen).

The Patriots got two more in the third period — Greg Bo from Bailey D'Ellemente and Wiczorek) and Tyler Morrison (from Alex Stavar and Pace).

Franklin goaltender Sean Reeves-Carr, making his

first start, faced 34 shots, while Anthony Verhas was in goal for Salem.

WESTWOOD FC UNIFIED 6, AIRPORT FC UNIFIED 3: Unified senior forward Matt Krunchyk notched a hat-trick to lead the Chargers to an emphatic victory over Airport in a game played Tuesday night at Canfield Ice Arena.

Both teams unleashed 25 shots.

Justin Sims, Matt Sandburg and Joey Testane also lit the lamp for the winners. Krunchyk, Lucas Johnston, Steve Bennett, Scott Bleim, Micki Nanowski, Will McDonald and Chris Greco recorded assists.

The Chargers led just 2-0 after two periods before turning on the after-burners in the third.

Greco made 25 saves to record his first prep shutout.

"We limited any quality

Please see ICERS, B2

GC alumni hoops game

The Garden City girls basketball program will host its annual alumni game Thursday, Jan. 3, in the high school gymnasium. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and opening tip is set for 6:30 p.m.

All former Garden City High School girls basketball players are invited to participate in the doubleheader, which will pit former Cougars against the current JV squad in the opener and current varsity players in the nightcap.

For more information, contact head coach and former player Michele Tye at tyeem@gardencityschools.com.

MU adds trio

Madonna University baseball coach Greg Haeger announced the signing of three players for the 2014 season, including Thomas Daffern and Sean Ritchey, both of district champion Grand Blanc, along with Alec Padilla of Romeo.

As a junior, Daffern played infield and hit .378 with six homers and 12 doubles en route to all-KLAA and all-district honors, while Ritchey, an outfielder and catcher, posted a 17-game hitting streak while batting .375 and making all-KLAA and all-district honors.

Padilla, a 6-foot-4 right-handed pitcher, posted a 1.92 earned-run average as a junior, leading Romeo to the Macomb Area Conference and district titles.

Spartans recal T-Birds, 64-41

Senior Josh Campbell scored 20 points and sophomore Jaalen Webber added 16 to lead Livonia Stevenson to a 64-41 non-conference boys basketball win last Thursday at Dearborn Edsel Ford.

The Spartans, who improved to 3-1 overall, led 32-13 at intermission and had 11 different players score.

Thad Baydown tallied all nine of his points in the second half to pace the Thunderbirds (0-5), who shot 5-of-14 from the free-throw line.

Stevenson made 12-of-19 foul shots.

RJ 38, BISHOP OLEY 37: On Saturday, Tyler Hathaway drained a three-point shot at the buzzer to lift Bedford Union (2-1) to victory over Madison Heights Bishop Oley (2-1) in the consolation final of the Royal Oak Christmas Tournament.

DeAngelo Rodgers led the Panthers with nine points. Jacob McKiddie and Manny Chatman both added eight.

WVJ 46, CENTRAL 40, PLYMOUTH 46: On Dec. 20, the host Wildcats (2-3) held Wallaced Lake Central (4-2) to 12 first-half

BOYS HOOPS

points but could not stem the tide after intermission. Varsity guard T.J. Warren sparked the visitors with 18 points, including "two threes in the first quarter that really sprung them to life." Plymouth coach Mike Soukup said.

For the Wildcats, Josh Priebe led the scoring with 25 points. Other contributors in a losing effort included Tyler Gambin (eight points), Sid Acharya (four points, six rebounds), Deji Adebeyi (six rebounds) and Josh Reynolds, who tallied four points in his first varsity action after being called up from the JV.

"It was another pretty tough one where we just didn't have enough to close it out," Soukup said. "We held them to 12 points in the first half and promptly gave up 37 in the second half."

"... We need to just keep plugging away at it and see if we can get a couple of these close ones to go for us."

HOWELL 54, CHURCHILL 48: On Dec. 20, the host Highlanders (2-2) rallied from 10-22 halftime deficit to beat Livonia Churchill (2-3).

Pete Gender and Jeremy Matras paced Howell with 13 and 10 points, respectively.

Robert Foster, Jr. led the Chargers with 14 points and six steals, while Jaywade Scott

added 10 points.

Churchill made only 7-of-19 free throws, while Howell hit 8-of-18.

"We're layups and free throws away from being 4-1," Churchill coach Jim Solik said. "We missed 12 shots that were either layups or putbacks. We're playing hard, but we have to find better ways to get the basket."

ANNAPOLIS 60, CVILLE 57: Kirk Butzin hit three consecutive 3-pointers with just under three minutes remaining last Thursday to give host Dearborn Annapolis (2-2) a victory over Livonia Clarendon (0-7).

Nehemiah Gradick paced the victorious Cougars with a game-high 22 points, while K'Von Lavant added 11 and B'Zion finished with nine.

Jawan Nelson led the Trojans, who 44-41 after three quarters, with 18 points. James Hill chipped in with 10.

Clarendon struggled at the foul stripe going 5-for-16, while Miller (W.L. Northern) 12-20.

PLY. CHRISTIAN 65, EVEREST 56: A 23-point outing by Alex Huber last Thursday lifted host Plymouth Christian Academy (4-0) to a non-league victory over Detroit Everest Collegiate (3-2).

Mick Noel chipped in with 19 points for the Eagles while Daniel Jipping tallied eight points and 11 rebounds.

Richie Cro scored 14 points for Everest Collegiate.

53rd annual OAKLAND COUNTY WRESTLING TURNEY DEC 27 at Southfield

Dec 27 at Lake Orion TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Novi Detroit Catholic Central, 347 points; 2. Oxford, 278; 3. Rochester, 264; 4. Clarkston, 239; 5. Lake Orion, 227; 6. Holly, 187; 7. Orionville Brandon, 176; 8. Ortonville Stony Creek, 152; 9. Waterford Kettering, 146; 10. Rochester Adams, 135; 11. Farmington Harrison, 133; 12. Farmington, 115; 13. Livonia Clarendonville, 54; 13. North Farmington, 33 (9 schools).

CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS (103 pounds): Bryan LaVeran (Bronx) defeated Alex Hrisopoulos (Oxford) 8-4; 3rd place: Mike Volynyuk (Harrison) dec. Colton Cleaver (Holly) 5-4; 5th place: Kaleb Maran (W.L. Central) dec. Keen Thomas (Troy) 4-3.

3rd place: Ben DeWola (Novi) won by major dec. Justin Miller (W.L. Northern) 12-0.

112: Kyle Noonan (Stoney Creek) won by major dec. over Parker Brian (CC) 12-3; 3rd: Daniel Shear (W.L. Central) dec. Nick Bis (Ortonville) 5-4; 5th: Justin Strick (Adrian) dec. Steve Van der Meer (Royal Oak) 17-4.

119: Trevor Zedeker (CC) dec. Justin Kim (Rochester) 7-1; 3rd: Daniel Curtis (Cedarford) won by major dec. over Aaron Parsesmer (Berkeley) 13-2; 5th: Gordy Dewey (Ortonville) pinned Keith Lee (Southfield) 4-3; 7th: Devin Acker (Kettering) won by major dec. over Corner Ryan (Clarkston) 13-3.

PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

125: Evan Toth (CC) won by maj. dec. over Ross Bahro (W. Bloomfield) 8-0; 3rd: John Johnson (Holly) d. Cameron Wilkie (Clarkston) 5-1; 5th: Anton Letko (Lake Orion) dec. Saferian (Razel Park) 5-2; 7th: Tyler Dukart (Kettering) p. Tim Hager (Rochester) 3-5.

130: Immanuel Goavates (Farmington) p. Myles Amine (CC) 3-0; 3rd: Edwin Schlickmeyer (Oxford) p. Thomas Keys (Athens) 2-4; 5th: Alex Poterion (Adams) dec. Austin Murray (W.L. Western) 7-4; 7th: Keegan Soles (Holly) dec. Mike Cardinale (Clarkston) 7-6.

135: Mason Elve (Holly) won by major dec. over Charlie Higlier (Lake Orion) 10-2; 3rd: Christian Lauderbach (W.L. Northern) dec. Andrew Fialka (Harrison) 3-1; 5th: John Schuele (Rice) p. Jay Dornie (Clarkston) 13-2; 7th: Et. Joseph (CC) d. Mario Giglio (W. Bloomfield) 8-7.

142: Anthony Gonzales (Holly) d. Malik-manuel Goavates (Farmington) 10-0; 3rd: Mike Wilks (Oxford) dec. Trevor Bourdeau (Ortonville) 6-0; 5th: Chris Minahan (Novi) won by major dec. over Tim List (Seaholm) 10-1; 7th: Jazz Hubbard (Clarkston) dec. Matt Mathieson (Harrison) 4-4.

145: Andrew Napier (Rice) dec. Kason Richards (Rochester) 7-1; 3rd: Rocco Bobo (Oxford) won by major dec. over Aaron Mack (Harrison) 8-0; 5th: Chris Lautert (CC) dec. Jake Heston (Rochester Stony Creek) 3-1; 7th: Jesse Torres (Holly) d. Dave Dolanahy (Kettering) 2-1.

152: Andrew Price (Stoney Creek) won by major dec. over Wesley Makill (Oxford) 8-0; 3rd: Kyle Pepper (Holly) dec. Jack

Ady (Adams) 4-2; 5th: Mike Babicz (CC) dec. Patrick Kern (W.L. Northern) 5-1; 7th: Thad Wardell (Ortonville) p. Dazon Cole (Pontiac) 1-4.

160: Steve Poyner (Rice) dec. Nick Vandermere (Clarkston) 9-6; 3rd: Mitch Craig (W.L. Central) d. Aaron Morgan (Rochester) 8-5; 5th: Max Wardell (Ortonville) dec. Wesley Kuutila (Farmington) 4-3; 7th: Sam Gomez (Seaholm) won by forfeit over Andrew Subida (Adams).

171: Drew Garcia (CC) dec. David Gies (CC) 3-3; 3rd: Josh Thomas (Rice) d. Shane Shadham (Rochester) 5-3; 5th: Durham Basco (Lake Orion) dec. Liam Logan (Lake Orion) 4-2; 7th: Austin Swell (W.L. Central) dec. Austin Denha (Stoney Creek) 3-2.

215: Steve Shadiah (Kettering) dec. Matt Okaysi (Rochester) 3-1; 3rd: Noah Hosking (Milford) won by major dec. over Peterson (CC) 10-2; 5th: Prince Onwevu (W.L. Central) dec. Ryan Logan (Lake Orion) 7-1; 7th: Adam Myers (Clarkston) p. Luke Groves (Clarksville) 4-3.

285: Bob Cole (Troy) d. Zach Wood (Oxford) 5-2; 3rd: Paul Scott (Lake Orion) dec. Tyler Lovelace (Milford) 8-5; 5th: Josh Dalney (O.L.S. Mary) dec. Reyes Luis (Clarkston) 2-1; 7th: Tommy Edwards (Kettering) p. Cameron Daniels (Rochester) 2-15.

315: Steve Shadiah (Kettering) won by major dec. over Tim List (Seaholm) 10-1; 7th: Jesse Torres (Holly) d. Dave Dolanahy (Kettering) 2-1.

352: Andrew Price (Stoney Creek) won by major dec. over Wesley Makill (Oxford) 8-0; 3rd: Kyle Pepper (Holly) dec. Jack

place finish, while Andrew Fialka (135) and Larone Mack (145) each placed fourth; Bobby Mathieson (140) was eighth.

Farmington, finishing 14th overall with 115 points, also got a pair of sixths from Wesley Kuutila (160) and Ryan South-erland (171).

Livonia Clarendonville and North Farmington were 28th and 37th, respectively, with 54 and 33 points.

Clarendonville placed Ryan Groves placed eighth in the 103-pound weight division.

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THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Dec. 27
Glenn at Muak, 7:30 p.m.
Salem at Chelsea Inv., 8 p.m.
(Patriot Inv. at Franklin)
Richard vs. Lakeland, 5:30 p.m.
Franklin vs. Crestwood, 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 28
Glenn at Kentwood, 6 p.m.
N. Farm. vs. Detroit Henry Ford at Ypsilanti H.S., 6 p.m.
(Patriot Inv., 5:30 & 7 p.m.)
Noviville Holiday Tourney
Cville vs. Wat. Mort., 1 p.m.
N. Farm. vs. Farmington, 7 p.m.
Salem at Chelsea Inv., TBA.

W.C. Roundball Classic at Detroit Country Day
Canton vs. Withrow, 2:20 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 29
Northville Tourney, 3 & 7 p.m.
O-U Jesuit Tourney, TBA.

GIRLS BASKETBALL Thursday, Dec. 27
(M.C. Roundball Classic at Detroit Country Day)
N. Farm. vs. Lakes, 12:40 p.m.
Lady vs. G.P. South, 7:30 p.m.
Glenn vs. Toledo Rogers, 9 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 28
(M.C. Roundball Classic at Detroit Country Day)
PCA vs. Franklin Road, 9:20 a.m.
Saturday, Dec. 29
(M.C. Roundball Classic at Detroit Country Day)
Harrison vs. Consortium, 4 p.m.

PREP HOOPS Thurs.-Sat., Dec. 27-29
Traverse City Tourney, TBA.
PREP WRESTLING Friday, Dec. 29
Milford Vty Challenge, 9 a.m.
Saturday, Dec. 29

lonia Invitational, 9 a.m.
Salem Eks Tourney, 9 a.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Sunday, Dec. 30
MU at Roosevelt Hill, 3 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS Friday, Dec. 28
MU at Ave Maria (Fla.), 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 29
MU vs. Auburn-Montgomery at Ave Maria (Fla.), 3 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 30
MU vs. Virginia-Lynchburg at Ave Maria (Fla.), 1 p.m.

WRESTLING

Continued from page B1

(171) and Bob Cole (185) Farmington Hills Harrison finished 14th overall with 115 points, also got a pair of sixths from Wesley Kuutila (160) and Ryan South-erland (171).

Clarendonville placed Ryan Groves placed eighth in the 103-pound weight division.

ICERS

Continued from page B1

scoring chances for Airport throughout the game, but when they did have quality shots, Greco was there to make the saves. "Unfired coach Steve Popp said, "I was happy with our killer instinct to open the third period. Overall, it was a good effort and a game that we can all be happy about for the time being."

PLYMOUTH 8, CANTON 1: The Wildcats (8-11, 4-11) won their third game over a four-day stretch, capped off by a

win Dec. 18 over rival Canton (1-9, 1-7) at the Arvic Ice Arena.

Senior forward Nick Schultz again led the offensive attack for the Spartans with two goals (4 for the season) and three assists. His brother Mike Schultz added his 12th goal of the season and two assists. Plymouth jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second period, but Canton forward Ian Fagan scored late in the period to narrow the gap.

Forward Christian Jack and goalie Justin Kolbicz assisted on the play.

The Wilds expanded the lead with four third-period goals by junior forward Con-

Browne, sophomore defenseman Jake Zaborowski (power-play goal) and forward Cam Nadell and senior forward Jordan Lopetrone.

The third game on Monday took a toll on us physically, and Canton was eighth in the 103-pound weight division.

"We seemed to find our legs in the third and created more scoring chances."

Sophomore forward Madstock topped 11 of 12 shots to earn his fifth win of the season in goal for Plymouth. Canton's Kolbicz faced 20 Wildcat shots.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

call ahead (248-848-4315) to reserve a seat.

K-of-C contest
The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship boys and girls 9-14 will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at St. Thomas a Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. with all age-group contestants recognized in the event for their participation which will progress through local, district and state competition.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written paren-

tal consent.

For more information, call Dave Langel (734) 516-4930 or email dangel2@yahoo.com.

Softball camp
Madonna University will hold a series of winter softball camps (ages 7-18) including:

Fundamentals (Camp I) - 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26; Fundamentals (Camp II) - noon-2:30 p.m., Sundays, Feb. 3, 10, 17 and 24. (Cost for each is \$125 by Dec. 1, or \$150).

For more information, visit www.MadonnaCrusaders.com.

ORDINANCE #2012-05

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

THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

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

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

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

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

(a) **A Violation of Section 626(1)(c) of the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code (being MCL 257.626) shall be a misdemeanor. And shall be punishable by one or more of the following:**

1. Community Service for not more than 360 hours.
2. Imprisonment of not more than 180 days.
3. A fine of not less than \$200.00 nor more than \$700.00.

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

DANIEL DWYER, Mayor
LYNDA LANGEMESSER, City Clerk

Introduced: December 3, 2012
Revised: December 17, 2012
Published: December 27, 2012
Effective: December 28, 2012

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Dearborn Center
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ALL-AREA FOOTBALL

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE
Seth Suida, QB, Churchill: The 6-1, 175-pound senior completed 114 of 195 passes for 1,913 yards with 19 TDs and only four interceptions for the KLAAs South and Kensington Conference champions.

The all-KLAA pick and team captain also rushed for 271 yards (5.7 per carry) and four TDs.
"Seth is a very competitive kid who has worked very hard to improve his game," Churchill coach John Filatrout said. "He's a big kid who will continue to grow as a player. He's a great leader who showed poise in leading us to 10 straight victories. Seth could run and throw the ball and perhaps was the most accurate passer ever at Churchill."

Joe Mims, QB, Stevenson: A 11-year senior and two-year captain, Mims enjoyed his best season completing 130 of 226 passes for 1,665 yards and 17 TDs, with only six interceptions. The 6-1, 175-pound Mims, an all-KLAA pick and team MVP, also rushed for 353 yards and three TDs as the Spartans earned a Division 1 playoff berth.

He is also Stevenson's all-time career passing yardage leader (3,868).
"I've said this before, but the leadership Joe took on, as far as what he wanted the team to accomplish... he worked to lead that group toward that goal and was really the driving force for us," Stevenson coach Matt Fielder said.

Romelo Brown, RB, Churchill: The 5-10, 240-pound All-State Detroit team selection by the Detroit Free Press, who had made a verbal commitment to Wayne State, finished with 1,849 yards rushing (7.6 per carry) with 29 touchdowns.

The all-KLAA pick also had 12 receptions for 151 yards and two TDs.
"Romello is a great story of a kid who has overcome many obstacles to succeed," Filatrout said. "He's a tough, hard-nosed runner who can run through you, around you, or by you. He had 1,800-plus yards when everyone knew he was getting the ball."

Malcolm Hollingsworth, RB, Canton: For someone only 5-7 and 170, Hollingsworth once again proved to be a huge threat in the side of KLAAs opponents in 2012, sparking the Chiefs to another playoff appearance.

Just one example of Hollingsworth's ability to find a seam and hit it for major yardage took place Sept. 21. On the first snap of the contest, he broke loose for an 80-yard touchdown. Hollingsworth carried the ball 169 times for 1,517 yards and 19 TDs and broke the Canton record for average yards per game with 151.

"He took care of the ball, could grind out the tough yards and also break the long touchdown run," coach Tim Baechler said. "He had great quickness and balance."

The all-KLAA selection also was named to the Detroit Free Press All-West first team and Detroit News All-Metro West second team.

Jordan Degrefreeneed, RB, Farmington: The senior tailback has explosive speed and power for his size (5-8, 182). He averaged 7.2 yards per carry while rushing for 1,060 yards and 11 touchdowns on 148 attempts. He would've had greater numbers if an injury hadn't slowed him down. Degrefreeneed also played cornerback on defense (2.8 tackles), and he returned punts and kicks, too. Many of the GLIAC schools have offered him a scholarship.

"In our estimation, he's one of the best backs in the state," coach John Bechtel said. "He's the whole package. He hits the hole as hard as anyone, and he doesn't mind running inside. He has great feet and the ability to make good teams' best players miss. He can catch the ball out of the backfield, too. He's as good a running back as we've ever had, and we've had some pretty good players."

Tomaz McNeil, RB, Garden City: Using a slashing, powerful running style, McNeil churned out 1,006 yards in just eight games, averaging 5.2 yards per carry. In addition to scoring a team-high 12 touchdowns, he averaged 29.7 yards per kick-off for the 5-4 Cougars. McNeil finished his career as the school's No. 2 all-time leading rusher behind only Michael Sparks.

"What makes Tomaz such a special player is that he runs with the combination of balance and power," said Garden City coach Scott Murray. "He really stepped up as a leader this season. He's the best running back I've coached since I've been at Garden City."

Matt McKay, TE, Canton: Tough as nails and dependable in the clutch, the 6-1, 190-pound captain earned team MVP honors after posting another big season for the Chiefs. McKay excelled as a tight end and wide-out, making 21 catches for 355 yards along with five touchdowns. He set a Canton school record in reception in the process. He also mentioned providing dominant blocking at the tight end position. But he also was a key member of the defensive secondary, registering a team-high 77 tackles. He chipped in an interception and two fumble recoveries.

An all-KLAA selection, he also collected accolades elsewhere. He was named to the Detroit News All-Metro West first team as a defensive back and was an honorable mention for the Detroit Free Press' All-West squad.

"Matt made big catches and big blocks all year for us,"



Seth Suida Churchill



Joe Mims Stevenson



Romelo Brown Churchill



Malcolm Hollingsworth Canton



Jordan Degrefreeneed Farmington



Tomaz McNeil Garden City



Matt McKay Canton



DaMario Jones John Glenn



Gairus Coleman Harrison



Cameron Dillard Canton



Matt Rodey Stevenson



Devin Moynihan Churchill



DeAnthony Price Clarenceville



Collin Rankin Redford Union



Breton Zuzo Plymouth



Jake Slobin Harrison



Danny Stropes Salem



JaMarco Willingham Franklin



Kyle McMillan Plymouth



Mike Kennedy Plymouth



Youssef Barakat Salem



Connor Mohr Farmington



Charlie Yost Churchill



Andrew Long Thurston



Ed Huckleby Harrison



Nate Emminger Plymouth



Isalah Gouridine Farmington



Chauncey Bridges N. Farmington



Kevin Williams Thurston



Andrea Abrams Churchill

Baechler said.
DaMario Jones, WB, John Glenn: Committed to the University of Michigan, the 6-2, 190-pound Jones finished with 1,067 all-purpose yards and nine touchdowns for the Rockets. He rushed for 437 yards (16.2 per carry) and had 17 receptions for 362 yards (21.2 per catch) to go along with 266 yards of total kick-off returns (21.3 per touch).
Jones, an all-KLAA pick, also played in the defensive backfield full-time.

"DaMario is a great kid, was a heckuva football player, but the great thing about him is that he's an even better person," Glenn coach Tim Hardin said. "Obviously he did a lot of great things for us as a football player, but was a great leader. It's always good when your best player is your hardest worker and has the best attitude, and that's the kind of guy DaMario was."

Please see ALL-AREA FOOTBALL B4

SYNOPSIS OF THE MINUTES OF THE 1,718th REGULAR MEETING LIVONIA CITY COUNCIL - DECEMBER 5, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present: James McCann, John Pastor, Maureen Miller, Brandon Kritzman, and Laura Toy. Absent: Joe Laura and Thomas Robinson.

#469-12 Resolution by Pastor and Brosnan, unanimously adopted, approving the minutes of the 1,717th Regular Meeting of the Council held November 21, 2012.

President Toy announced a **Public Hearing** to be held **Monday, January 7, 2013, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Auditorium of Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI for the following item:

The City Council of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing to consider adoption by the City Council of an ordinance amending the Plymouth Road Authority District to amend the boundaries of the Authority District pursuant to Act 197. (CR 365-12)

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION: None.

The following resolutions were offered by Brosnan and Pastor:

#470-12 Referring the matter of a possible sidewalk extension on the south side of Ann Arbor Trail from Dowling Street to Rosedale Elementary School for safety reasons to the Administration for its report and recommendation.

#471-12 Approving a request submitted by Charmika Holmes, 1214 Stacy Drive, Building #54, Canton, Michigan 48188, for a massage therapist permit in accordance with Chapter 5.49 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#472-12 Approving a request submitted by Jeffrey Ramseyer, 33333 Oregon, Livonia, Michigan 48160, for a massage therapist permit in accordance with Chapter 5.49 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#473-12 Approving a request submitted by Amy Jackoy, 19936 Punciana, Redford, Michigan 48240, for a massage therapist permit in accordance with Chapter 5.49 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#474-12 Approving a request submitted by Barbara Iovan, 14956 Auburndale, Livonia, Michigan 48154, for a massage therapist permit in accordance with Chapter 5.49 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#475-12 Approving a request submitted by Amy Des Jardins, 624 Reed Court, Northville, Michigan 48167, for a massage therapist permit in accordance with Chapter 5.49 of the Livonia Code of Ordinances, as amended.

#476-12 Accepting the quote of Jack Dehoney Companies, 777 Dehoney Court, Northville, Michigan 48167, for supplying the Public Service Division (Water and Sewer Section) with one (1) 2013 Victor Model 2115 Combination Sewer Vacuum and High Pressure Rodder with parts and related services for a total price of \$398,512.00 from budgeted funds.

#477-12 Determining that it is necessary for the best interests of the public to amend the boundaries of the Plymouth Road Development Authority district pursuant to Act 197 to eliminate purely residential properties from the Plymouth Road Development Authority district. (CR 365-12)

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing resolutions:

AYES: McCann, Pastor, Brosnan, Kritzman and Toy.
NAYS: None.

McCann gave **SECOND READING** to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 105 TO TITLE 15, CHAPTER 16 (FIRE PREVENTION CODE)

OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing Ordinance:

AYES: McCann, Pastor, Brosnan, Kritzman and Toy.
NAYS: None.

McCann gave **SECOND READING** to the following Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADDING SECTION 155 OF TITLE 15, CHAPTER 36 (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing Ordinance:

AYES: McCann, Pastor, Brosnan, Kritzman and Toy.
NAYS: None.

Kritzman gave **SECOND READING** to the following Ordinance:

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 030 THROUGH 110 OF TITLE 5, CHAPTER 30 (ENTERTAINMENTS AND AMUSEMENTS) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

A roll call vote was taken on the foregoing Ordinance:

AYES: McCann, Pastor, Brosnan, Kritzman and Toy.
NAYS: None.

#478-12 Resolution by Brosnan and McCann, unanimously adopted, approving Petition 2012-03-06-06 submitted by the City Planning Commission, proposing to amend sections 9.02 and 9.03 of Article IX, O-2 (Official Services) District Regulations, in order to modify the types of permitted and waiver uses.

#479-12 Resolution by Brosnan and McCann, unanimously adopted, approving Petition 2012-03-06-07 submitted by the City Planning Commission, proposing to amend Sections 10.02 and 10.03 of Article X, C-1 (Local Business) District Regulations, in order to clarify and make certain changes to the types of permitted and waiver uses.

#480-12 Resolution by McCann and Kritzman, unanimously adopted, approving Petition 2012-03-06-08 submitted by the City Planning Commission, proposing to amend Sections 11.02 and 11.03 of Article XI, C-2 (General Business) District Regulations, in order to make changes to the types of permitted and waiver uses.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION:

Curtis Lipinski, 36555 Ann Arbor, Trail, expressed his concern regarding the proposed sidewalk extension on Ann Arbor Trail.

Tony Perelli, 36543 Ann Arbor Trail, expressed his concern regarding his landscaping and the proposed sidewalk extension on Ann Arbor Trail.

By Pastor and McCann, unanimously adopted, adjourning the 1,718th Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia at 8:21 p.m. on December 5, 2012.

TERRY A. MARECKI
CITY CLERK

"This filing is a summary of the Council's proceedings in synopsis form as authorized by CR 1184-08. The full text of the official minutes of this meeting is on file in the Office of the City Clerk and is available to the public upon request."

Published December 27, 2012

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CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 28/12/17/12
Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Bryant, Hammons, Johnson, Kadi, Kehrer, Reeves
262: Appr. request for closed study session immediately following meeting re. pending real estate matters.
Mtg. adj. at 6:04 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.
James Godbout
City Clerk
Elyse DeHart
City Clerk, CMC
Published December 27, 2012

NOTICE TO BRIGHT HOUSE NETWORKS CABLE CUSTOMERS
This notice is to inform our Bright House Networks customers of upcoming changes to their cable programming lineup.
From time to time our agreements with cable channels and service providers may change or expire, which may result in the discontinuation of service. Bright House Networks is committed to providing our customers with the best possible service and programming. Therefore, please be advised that we may discontinue certain channels and services. Bright House Networks will be moving those existing programming services to the new SDV system as well as adding new services on the SDV system.
Bright House Networks offers a new digital video delivery (DVR) service called Bright House Digital Video (SDV). SDV is a robust hardware management system that makes it possible to offer more programming services to our customers. Bright House Networks is committed to providing our customers with the best possible service and programming. Therefore, please be advised that we may discontinue certain channels and services. Bright House Networks will be moving those existing programming services to the new SDV system as well as adding new services on the SDV system.
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ALL-AREA FOOTBALL

Continued from page B3

Gairus Coleman, WR, Harrison: Coleman, like the other Harrison players on the first team, was a starter on the Division 2 Championship team in 2010.

He moved from slotback to wide receiver this year, making 24 catches for 370 yards and seven touchdowns.

He also started two seasons at cornerback. Coleman had 36 tackles, three interceptions, four pass breakups and three fumble recoveries. He was Harrison's team MVP and is one of the top time leading receivers (65 catches for 944 yards).

"He did a little of everything," coach John Herrington said. "He was our best defensive back for a quarter." He also was a punt returner and the holder for extra points. He runs excellent pass routes; he can get open and he has good hands. I think he'll be a real good receiver in college. He'll be a real good possession receiver and probably a slot receiver."

Cameron Dillard, DL, Canton: The 6-4, 290-pound Canton captain grew an inch and gained five pounds since his junior season and grew in stature with another outstanding season.

Dillard verbally committed to University of Florida, where he will receive a football scholarship for the second year. He earned all-conference honors for his defensive line.

Other honors keep pouring in as making the Detroit Free Press All-State Dream Team for the second year in a row (the only Canton player to ever do so) as well as first team All-Metro West second team and Detroit News and first team All-West accolades from that press.

"He was a dominant blocker that finished every block," Baehler said. "He was a rare big man in that he could run and wanted to knock people down, not just block them."

Matt Roy, OL, Westland: The 6-2, 270-pound senior became a two-year starter his senior year on both the offensive and defensive lines.

The team captain and earned first-team Division 1 Detroit Free Press and Detroit News all-state honors for the Spartans, who earned a playoff spot.

"I think around both our offensive and defensive lines," Fielder said. "I think that separates him from some of the other linemen that were very good that we played against. He was a good on the offensive line as he was on the defensive line."

Riley Moynihan, OL, Churchill: The 6-foot, 232-pound senior was ranked as Churchill's best lineman.

The team captain picked both ways for three years and was a team captain.

Defensively, Moynihan finished with 36 total tackles, two sacks and seven tackles for loss.

Strong and physical, Riley rarely came off the field. Filatrout said. "He was a leader by example and helped pave the way for the most prolific offense in school history. He had monumental games against Canton and Grand Blanc. He's also a great defensive player."

DeAnthony Price, OL, Clareville: The 5-11, 180-pound two-year, two-way starter helped the Trojans make the Division 4 playoff.

Voted the team's most outstanding lineman, Price was a tight end and blocking fullback as a junior who made the switch to guard.

"He was shocked when we asked him to play a guard as well as a linebacker," Clareville coach Ken Fry said. "He was reluctant at first, but soon warmed to the idea. DeAnthony did what every coach dreams that his players will do and that is do whatever he's told to do."

His stats testify he was an anchor to us on the defensive side of the ball."

Defensively, Price had 39 solo tackles and 45 assists, along with two fumble recoveries.

Collin Rankin, OL, Redford Union: Rankin was an impactful force on both sides of the ball this season for the Panthers. Although unvoted for an offensive lineman at just under 200 pounds, he cleared wide paths for Panther running backs. Rankin was a heat-seeking missile as a linebacker, racking up an average of 20 tackles per game. He is also an outstanding student and captain of the school's wrestling team and track-and-field team.

Brenton Zuko, PK, Plymouth: Strong kickers are becoming a staple for Plymouth football, and Zuko lived up to the standard.

The Wildcats could count on getting points out of situations where an offensive series stalled thanks to Zuko. He connected on nine of 11 field-goal tries, including three of four from the 40-to-49-yard range.

Zuko had 10 extra points, often booting the ball through the end zone, a field kicker. Over 71 kickoffs, he averaged 54.4 yards and had a 71-yarder as his longest of the season.

In the punting department, he averaged 38.6 yards per punt.

For his efforts, Zuko was an all-conference selection and earned accolades from the Detroit Free Press (DL, All-West second team, honorable mention) and Detroit News (All-Metro West First Team).

"Brenton was a huge weapon for us on special teams," coach Mike Sawchuk said. "His work ethic is incredible and he carried on the legacy that Kyle Brinda started as far as Plymouth High School having a great kicking game."

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE
Jake Slobin, DL, Harrison: Slobin was the team's leading tackler with 97 — an impressive feat for a tackle who also played defensive end at times. He had 30 tackles for loss, eight sacks and 10 quarterback hurries. He forced fumbles and three blocked kicks. Slobin (6-0, 235) was a three-year starter at left guard on offense. He committed to Grand Valley and will continue to play defensive line in college as part of the all-area defense.

ALL-OBSERVER FOOTBALL

FIRST-TEAM OFFENSE

Seth Suda, Sr. QB, LV, Churchill
Joe Miris, Sr. QB, LV, Stevenson
Reneo Brown, Sr. RB, Canton
Malcolm Hollingsworth, Sr. RB, Canton
Jordan Degreffened, Sr. RB, Farmington
Tomaz McNeil, Sr. RB, Garden City

Matt McCoy, Sr. TE, Canton
Dorian Jones, Sr. TE, Stevenson
Gairus Coleman, Sr. WR, FH, Harrison
Cameron Dillard, Sr. DL, Canton
Matt Rodey, Sr. OL, LV, Stevenson

Riley Moynihan, Sr. OL, LV, Churchill
Dylan Sierke, Sr. OL, LV, Stevenson
Collin Rankin, Sr. OL, Redford Union
Brenton Zuko, Sr. PK, Plymouth

FIRST-TEAM DEFENSE

Jake Slobin, Sr. DL, FH, Harrison
Danny Stroper, Sr. DL, Salem
JaMarco Willingham, Sr. DL, Franklin
Kyle McMillan, Sr. DL, Plymouth
Mike Kennedy, Sr. LB, Plymouth
Youssef Barakat, Sr. LB, Salem

Connor Mohr, Sr. LB, Farmington
Charlie Yost, Jr. LB, Churchill
Andreel Longs, Sr. LB, Red. Thurston
Ed Huckleby, Sr. LB, FH, Harrison
Nate Emminger, Sr. LB, Plymouth

Isaiah Gourdine, Sr. DB, Farmington
Chadley Bridges, Jr. DB, Farmington
Kevin Williams, Sr. DB, Red. Thurston
Andre Abram, Sr. DB, LV, Churchill

COACH OF THE YEAR

John Filatrout, Livonia Churchill

SECOND-TEAM OFFENSE

Jamari Eiland, Sr. QB, Plymouth
Jacob Richter, Sr. QB, LV, Westland
Joe McRobb, Sr. RB, LV, Franklin
Drake Kolar, Jr. RB, Salem
Lorenzo Collins, Jr. RB, FH, Harrison
Derek Russell, Jr. RB, Plymouth
Austen Bryant, Jr. RB, LV, Clareville
Justin Douglas, Sr. WR, Clareville
Jeremy Lewis, Sr. WR, LV, Churchill
Chad Penders, Sr. OL, LV, Franklin
Andrew Burek, Sr. OL, LV, Farmington
Dan DeRosio, Sr. OL, Canton
Mike Ditzler, Sr. OL, Canton

Ryan Caprath, Sr. OL, Farmington
Kory Inagami, Sr. OL, Plymouth
Noah Downs, Sr. OL, FH, Harrison
Alex Krawski, Sr. OL, Westland
Drew DeLoe, Sr. OL, Canton
Mike Ditzler, Sr. OL, Canton
Ryan Caprath, Sr. OL, Farmington
Kory Inagami, Sr. OL, Plymouth
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Drew DeLoe, Sr. OL, Canton
Mike Ditzler, Sr. OL, Canton

SECOND-TEAM DEFENSE

Damon Fuller, Jr. DL, Red. Thurston
Alex Reardon, Sr. DL, LV, Westland
Keenan White, Sr. DL, Farmington
Drew Smith, Sr. DL, N. Farmington
Patrick Sullivan, Sr. DL, Plymouth
Kyle Cameron, Sr. DL, Salem
Tommy Vincent, Sr. DL, Garden City
Abdullah Miles, Sr. DL, Wayne
Antonio Mckelton, Sr. LB, FH, Harrison
Derek Russell, Jr. RB, Plymouth
Wes Kuattila, Sr. LB, Farmington
Matt Janke, Sr. LB, Plymouth
Mike McNamara, Sr. DB, Salem
Dwayne Scott, Sr. DB, LV, Churchill
Cody Coleman, Sr. DB, LV, Stevenson
Devin Kelly, Jr. DL, LV, Stevenson

HONORABLE MENTION

Churchill: Dylan Seifman, Anthony Groat, Robert Foster, Jr., Jake Staff, Matt Bossa, Mike Tanana, Hunter Rimatzki, Frankie Ruffalo, Trentine, Tony Blake, Stevenson
Franklin: Tom Ferrara, Giovanni D'Agostino, Tomlin Orr, Adam Wheeler, John Glenn; Devin Spalding, Mike Laada, Brandon Jordan

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ing, including 15 for loss along with two sacks, four fumble recoveries.

"JaMarco is one of the best defensive linemen we've had at Franklin," coach Chris Kelbert said. "We moved him to tight end late in the year and it made a huge change in our offensive line."

Willingham is also a two-time all-KLAA selector.

Kyle McMillan, DL, Plymouth: The 6-1, 215-pounder proved to be a valuable weapon on the line of scrimmage for the Wildcats.

He was credited with 22.5 tackles and one sack on defense while also blocking with a vengeance when Plymouth's offensive team was on the field.

When McMillan was injured in the second quarter of Plymouth's DI regional loss to Novi-Detroit Catholic Center, it was a huge blow to the defense. "Sawchuk said

McMillan was selected to the all-KLAA team and received other honors, namely the Detroit News All-Metro West second team and Detroit Free Press All-West second team.

"Kyle is a relentless player on both sides of the field," Sawchuk said.

Mike Kennedy, LB, Plymouth: Much of Plymouth's dominance on the strength limited opponents to 216 points over 11 games, featured his punishing play at linebacker.

The 5-11, 180-pounder tallied 47.5 tackles, five of them for a loss, while breaking up one pass and intercepting one.

"Mike is just a nasty football player," Sawchuk said. "He was undervalued as a linebacker, but made up for it with his intense and physical play."

Kennedy made outstanding contributions to offense and special teams, too.

Not only did he lead the team in touchdowns and scoring with 114, 84, respectively, he collected 786 all-purpose yards — including 672 rushing in 86 carries for a superb 7.8 average.

The all-conference pick was named to the All-West first team by the Detroit Free Press and All-Metro West second team by the Detroit News.

Prime Reasons, LB, Salem: One of the biggest talents came oh-so-close to making the varsity roster as a freshman at the school of Barakat, who did it all for the Rocks.

Not only did the 5-10, 188-pounder make 58 tackles, he wreaked havoc on opposing backs with three tackles for loss, two fumble recoveries and one fumble recovery.

He also chipped in on offense, making 10 catches for 198 yards and scoring a touchdown.

Barakat, who is being recruited by the Mid-American Conference, was an all-conference selection and was selected to the Detroit News' All-Metro West first team. The Detroit Free Press named him as an honorable mention for the all-West.

"Youssef's a tough kid, with no regard for his body," praised coach Kurt Britnell. "He worked hard every day to be a better football player."

Connor Mohr, LB, Farmington: Mohr, who is going to Michigan State on a baseball scholarship, was a three-year starter for the Falcons and their team MVP. He ranks third in school history for sacks with 47.

An all-state linebacker, Mohr (6-0, 200) made 63 tackles, intercepted one pass and recovered two fumbles this year. As a running back, he gained 829 yards on 113 carries for a 7.3 average and nine TDs. He was the leading receiver with 11 catches for 227 yards and four scores, and he was the leading scorer with 92 points.

Mohr also averaged 21.7 and 13.5 yards per kick and punt return, respectively.

"Connor does everything," Bechtel said. "He's an outstanding special teams player. He's one of the most talented and, arguably, most underrated players we've coached (if not for baseball). I think he's a Division I football player, probably in the secondary as a deep safety or outside linebacker. He runs a 4.5 and has great speed, and he's a highly intelligent player."

Charlie Yost, LB, Churchill: The 6-5, 220-pounder is a two-way, two-year starter on both tight end and linebacker for the 10-1 Champions.

On defense, the all-KLAA selection had 102 total tackles including five sacks, 12 tackles for loss and five pass deflections.

"Charlie is a dominant blocker who set the edge for many of our sacks," Filatrout said. "He's a great practice player and a guy that makes big plays in games but it sacking the quarterback or making a key first down."

Andreel Longs, LB, Thurston: The senior covered the field like a blanket for the Eagles this season, recording 76 tackles, including six for loss, and one sack. He recovered one fumble and picked up five sacks. On the offensive side, he had 16, Longs gained 221 yards on just 32 rushes (6.9 yards per carry) and five touchdowns.

"Andreel is an outstanding linebacker with the rare qualities of speed which allow him to play sideline to sideline and play man coverage on a receiver, while still having the toughness to defend the inside run," said Thurston coach Bob Snell.

Ed Huckleby, LB, Harrison: Huckleby was a three-year starter on defense, playing outside linebacker the first two and moving to an inside position this year. He had 57 tackles, including two sacks, six picks, four pass breakups and a fumble recovery. Huckleby (5-11, 190) also started for two seasons at backup, but he went to tailback and carried the ball 37 times for 100 yards after a season in which Huckleby rushed for 526 yards, averaging 5.7 per carry, and five touchdowns.

"Eddie is just an outstanding all-around player," Herrington said. "He hadn't practiced that much before the first game. In the first game, when Lorenzo got hurt, we put him in there and he did a great job against Renaissance and Oxford. He played almost every down. He's someone like Jake (Slobin) who has good football savvy. He'll always be in the right position, and he has the speed to cover receivers out of the backfield."

Nate Emminger, DB, Plymouth: For his 5-7,

180-pound frame, Emminger packed a big wallop in his penchant for crunched opposing receivers.

The all-KLAA defensive back who always seemed to be in the middle of things registered 40 tackles, five most for interceptions. He also forced five fumbles and forced one fumble with his tenacity.

Emminger chipped in with four interceptions, including one he returned for a touchdown.

In addition to the 40 interceptions, he went to the offense with 1,201 all-purpose yards — including 15 receptions for 407 yards, 261 on kickoff returns and 240 on punt returns. He collected five TDs, three on the ground and two in the air.

"Nate's the best pure football player that we have ever had at Plymouth," Sawchuk said. "He can do it all."

Emminger earned plenty of accolades, foremost being named to the Detroit Free Press All-State Dream Team. Other honors included selection to the Detroit News All-West and Detroit Free Press All-West first teams.

Isaiah Gourdine, DB, Farmington: Gourdine, who committed to Cincinnati last summer, was Farmington's leading tackler the last two years. He was named to the all-conference list by design in the team's defensive scheme.

He made 83 tackles, including 35 solos, had one pick and blocked three kicks. As a wide receiver, he caught eight passes for 171 yards and one TD.

"He's a gifted athlete and a big hitter," Bechtel said. "He comes up and supports the run as well as anybody would want. When he does, he can run for 30 yards, he can block (6-3, 195) and he runs a 4.5 40. He creates a lot of problems for people in the run game. In pass defense, he has great skills and great hips."

Chaucer Bridges, DB, N. Farmington: Bridges got voted to the All-West first team. He was a two-year starter in which he also received an all-state honorable mention (Division 1-2). He led the Raiders with 1,110 rushing yards and eight touchdowns on 218 carries. Bridges (6-10, 170) also returned punts and kicks, averaging 167.3 all-purpose yards per game. He caught for 13 passes for 151 yards and a TD, and he had a punt return for a TD. As a defensive back, he had 33 tackles (four for loss) and 10 pass breakups.

"We knew he was a good cornerback, because he played there last year," coach Todd Schultz said. "With the running back we had last year, he didn't get many chances to carry the ball. But he got plenty this year and showed what he could do. On special teams, he was a threat to go any time with a punt or kick."

"He's just a great kid. He has a great attitude and is easy to coach. He's kinda the perfect player you like to have."

Kevin Wilson, DB, Thurston: Williams did it all for the Eagles this fall, serving as the team's No. 1 running, a lock-down cornerback, dangerous kick-off returner and reliable place kicker. Williams ran for 558 yards on 69 carries (8.1 yards per carry) and eight touchdowns.

He made 21 tackles on defense with four pass break-ups, and nailed 20 of 27 extra points.

"Kevin is an excellent athlete who was a standout at defensive back, as well as running back," said Snell. "He also returned kicks and was our place kicker. He is a great competitor with outstanding speed and toughness, which makes him a great player to play against."

Andre Abram, DL, Churchill: The foot, 175-pound senior excelled on both sides of the ball.

The all-KLAA pick finished with 68 tackles and 10 interceptions, including two interceptions on offense and eight touchdowns.

Andre Abram, DL, Churchill: The foot, 175-pound senior excelled on both sides of the ball.

"Andre is a great team leader who made timely catches and interceptions. Filatrout loved him. He was a great player on our defense and got us aligned in the right spot. He has matured physically and mentally into one of the best players in the KLAA. He had a great game-winning interception against Plymouth."

COACH OF THE YEAR
John Filatrout, Churchill: The 16th-year coach guided the Chargers to their first Division 1 championship in school history with a 10-1 record, including a KLAA South and Kenson-Kenton Conference championships.

Churchill also put up record numbers this season for offense and defense.

"Offensively we were able to play at a high level all year and defensively we went on a 10-1 record last year when we won," said Filatrout, a Dearborn Divine Child High grad and former Union.

"Achieving measurable goals like city, division, and conference championships is also very rewarding because of the tough schedule we play. Week after week school spirit seemed to build and our team certainly enjoyed the ride. It was an honor to coach with our staff and to go to practice every day with our kids."

His varsity assistants include Bill DeLopp (offensive coordinator), Al Smith (defensive coordinator), Matt Fryer (offensive line), Marcus Dukes (wide receivers), Ron Targosz (defensive backs), Dave Crispin (linebackers) and Dan Simpson (defensive line) and Jeff Ricketts (running backs).

Under Filatrout (61-90 career record), the Chargers have earned four postseason playoff games (2006, 2007, 2011 and 2012), along with one district title.

"2012 was a very rewarding season," Filatrout said. "We had a very talented group this year and almost without exception the kids were as good as well as they could have. Every player seemed to have a great year. Helping kids reach their potential is what coaching is all about and this year I felt that many kids played really well."

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John Filatrout, Churchill: The 16th-year coach guided the Chargers to their first Division 1 championship in school history with a 10-1 record, including a KLAA South and Kenson-Kenton Conference championships

Exercise classes offered at church school, parish

Exercise classes begin next month at Metropolitan Adventist Jr. Academy in Plymouth and St. John Neumann Parish in Canton.

Jeanie Weaver, a certified personal trainer, will lead senior focused strength, balance and core exercise aimed at increasing mobility, at 8:45 a.m., Monday and Thursday beginning Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013. Exercises will be of beginning to medium intensity.

She'll also lead a medium to high intensity boot camp at 6 a.m. Friday and 5:30 p.m. Monday.

The suggested donation for registration is \$70 for all 16 sessions held mornings Monday and Tuesdays Monday and \$65 for 14 sessions held in the afternoon on Monday and mornings on Friday. The drop-in rate for all classes is \$6 per single session.

The Academy is located at 15585 N. Haggerty, Plymouth. Register by calling Weaver at (248) 446-9176 or emailing to jeanieweaver@charter.net.

Jason, a certified personal fitness trainer and yoga trainer, will lead exercise classes that run seven weeks, beginning Monday, Jan. 28 at St. John Neumann Parish, 44800 Warren Road. Cost is \$42. A portion of the class fee will be donated to the Parish.

Mason's class, "Easy on the Joints," begins with gentle aerobic movements to thoroughly warm the body for work that includes strength training, high repetitions with light hand weights and abdominal and back exercises. Classes include body stretching and balance work.

Each participant will receive handouts with easy-to-follow workout recommendations for most days of the week. To be successful, daily home exercises must be completed. Mason guarantees improvement in sleep patterns, flexibility, endurance, strength and stamina. Participants should bring a yoga or exercise mat to class, along with light hand weights and bottled water. Sign up by calling St. John Neumann Parish at (734) 455-5910.

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

December

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 30

Location: Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia

Contact: (734) 422-0149

HOLIDAY SERVICES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Dec. 31

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: The New Year's Eve service will include communion

Contact: (248) 553-3380

January

DIVORCE GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. beginning Jan. 3, 2013

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: Two new support groups, "The Divorce First" and "The Divorce Recovery Group," and "Hope for Tomorrow" an eight-week grief support class, are offered. Both of these programs have been developed and will be led by the Rev. John Straub and his wife, Suzanne, who have more than 10 years teaching experience. Pre-registration deadline is Dec. 16

Contact: (248) 553-3380

GREEN FILM SERIES

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

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

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

Contact: www.cbucc.org

OPEN HOUSE

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

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

Details: Tour the school, talk to other parents and staff during this open house for the school, which includes classes for preschool through middle school, CVO sports, bus transportation for Livonia residents, and flexible payment plans. Registration packets will be available at the open house

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

SPECIAL SERVICE

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

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

Details: In the midst of dealing with the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, economic hardships, a broken relationship, or a grim medical prognosis, the holiday season can be filled with sadness, rather than joy. When the hustle and bustle of Christmas is through, January can feel bleak. "Light in Our Darkness," will be an evening of prayer and song. Participants may acknowledge the hurts in their lives and pray for God's light to enter into their lives darkness.

Contact: (248) 553-7170

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. cash bar, 6 p.m. dinner

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

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

Contact: Carol at (313) 562-3080

Ongoing

CLASSES/STUDY

Men's Bible study

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

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

Contact: John 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

Nicole's Revival

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

Location: YWCA Northwest Branch, 25340 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

Details: KJV Scripture Reading, Communion and Prayer

Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesday

Locations: Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Livonia

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

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200, or www.livoniastmichael.org

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

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

FAMILY COMMUNITY MEAL

Time/Date: 5-6 p.m. every Thursday

Location: The Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: (248) 477-1153, ext. 12

FOOD BANK

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: 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, MOPNext.

Both programs run September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergarten; MOPNext supports mothers of school-aged children. Contact: Rebekah Creeden at (734) 522-6830 for MOPS and Susan Wagner at (248) 478-3643 for MOPNext details.

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: 29877 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

St. Michael Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 7000 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

Contact: (734) 459-3333

St. Michael the Archangel

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. Saturdays

Location: In the church rectory conference room, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: St. Monica's Prayer Group is open to all women who want to support one another in praying for their children, regardless of age.

Other prayer sessions: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday, includes parish prayer and Eucharistic adoration, with Benediction service following.

Contact: (734) 261-1455, ext. 200

PRESCHOOL

Ward Preschool

Time/Date: 2011-12 school year

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Enrolling now for children turning 3, 4 and 5 years old by Dec. 1.

Contact: (248) 374-5911 or e-mail carol.nowacki@wardchurch.org

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 4-6 p.m. Sunday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated. Occasionally includes guest speakers; open to the public and visitors are welcome.

Contact: The facilitator at (313) 283-8200; lef@dwo.org

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 7:30-7:45 p.m., social time; 7:45-8 p.m., opening; 8-9 p.m., program Thursdays

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Life Ministry; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 394-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridientine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 28100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule First Friday Mass 7:00 a.m. Saturday Mass 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses Confession Heard Prior to Each Mass Ministry of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>Rosedale Gardens PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, LANSING, MI Between Westwood & Farmington Hills (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am</p> <p>Visit our website: www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs.</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 20000 Six Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48120 (248) 374-5920 www.westward.org</p> <p>Traditional Worship at 8:30 & 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship at 9:30 & 11 a.m. Children's Programs available at 9:30 & 11 a.m.</p> <p>The Traditional Service is broadcast on the radio each week at 11 a.m. on 96.9 FM. Times: 8:30 AM & 11 AM Times: 8:30 AM</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, Just north of I-96 www.christoursavior.org</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p>Sunday School/Bible Class 9-45 am Early Childhood Center Phone: 734-513-8413</p> <p>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Davenport, Bayer, & Creeden 734-522-6830</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 10000 W. Ann Arbor Road • 17000-17015 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES CENTER (248) 455-3198</p>	<p>ASSEMBLIES OF GOD</p> <p>OPEN ARMS CHURCH Worship: Sunday 10:30 am</p> <p>Children's Programs Available</p> <p>Kid's Stop Preschool Now Enrolling 248.474.0001</p> <p>Meet our New Pastor Eddy Jensen & His Family Assoc. Pastor Abe Fazzini</p> <p>33015 W. 7 Mile Rd. • Livonia 48152 Between Farmington & Harmon Farmington Hills 248.474.5282</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church & School 17810 Farmington Road Livonia, Michigan 48150</p> <p>Worship Services Sundays: 8:30 AM & 11 AM Times: 8:30 AM www.stpaulslivonia.org</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>
<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p> <p>Antioch Lutheran Church 13 Mile & Farmington Rd. (248) 626-7906 www.antiochleca.org</p> <p>December 30: 10 a.m. Service Jan. 6: Epiphany Sunday Services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday school for all ages, 9:45 Welcome our new pastor David Vinagorras</p>			

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Sue Sare at 248-437-2011 ext. 247 or e-mail: ssare@hometownlife.com

Crossroads Ceili

Add Irish dancing, music to your holiday entertainment

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Mick Gavin wants to help you get your New Year's celebration started early — and with an Irish flair: The Redford resident, who teaches Irish fiddle, will bring family, friends and fellow musicians together Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29, at The Ark in Ann Arbor, for two nights of Celtic song and dance in a post-Christmas, pre-New Year's concert known as Crossroads Ceili.

The Ark calls the gathering "a great way to mark the turning of the year."

Gavin says it's a passion that started 16 years ago when The Ark's director suggested he stage a concert between Christmas and New Year's Day. Gavin dubbed the event Crossroads Ceili after the tradition of Irish villagers who met at crossroads for fairs, markets and performances.

"It wasn't originally two days, but we had

so many people show up when we first started that one night there were 300 people waiting outside the door. We needed two nights," he said. "I think we're going to have a huge turnout again this year."

The musicians engage the audience in singing along to a few Christmas songs — and last year they did *And Long Syne* — but most of the concert is pure Irish folk music, performed by Gavin and friends, informally known as "the Crossroads

Ceili gang," along with nationally known acts. The local musicians and dancers he'll bring together this year include Michael and Colleen Gavin — Mick Gavin's son and daughter-in-law — on fiddle, banjo, flute, and tin whistle; all-Ireland champion fiddlers Holland Raper and Kelsey Lutz; all-Ireland gold medal winning harpist Siobhan McKimney; Ray Maguire on flute, whistle guitar and songs; five children



Brian Cunningham, director, producer and lead dancer of the Atlantic Steps, will perform at Crossroads Ceili in Ann Arbor.

from the Dollowy family of Plymouth, on fiddles, banjo and step-dance; and Lance Wagner on piano.

Big party

"It's really a community group. There are some students, like the Dollowy kids. I like them to come as a family and I have other students as well," said Gavin, who has known many of the musicians since they were children, having either taught them or per-

formed with their parents.

"It's amazing the way people know each other through music and they actually learn tunes and stories from each other. This year we'll be doing *The Long Journey Home*," he said, referring to the song written by Paddy Moloney of The Chieftains and Elvis Costello. "We're trying to get the (Dollowy) girls to do *Caledonia*. We'll probably have guest dancers from the audience. It's not a free-for-all, but it's

open for performers who are legit, who are accomplished. I try to make it a party, like a big Christmas ceili.

"It's coordinated around Bua. They are going to be calling the shots."

Nationally-known band

Gavin is especially proud of Bua, the featured quartet from Chicago, Ill., that includes his son, Sean, on flute, uilleann pipes, and whistle. The band plays Irish tra-

16TH ANNUAL CROSSROADS CEILI

When: Doors open 7 p.m., concert starts 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29

Where: The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor

What: Mick Gavin and Friends perform Celtic music and share the stage with nationally known headliner, Bua. Shows also feature dancer Nic Gareiss, dancer Brian Cunningham, and soprano Katie Else

Admission: \$15. Get tickets online at theark.org, by phone at (734) 763-7KTS; in person at the Ark box office, 316 Main or the Michigan Union, 530 S. State, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 761-1451 or (313) 537-3489

ditional music and tours extensively. Gavin hopes to have Bua's CDs on hand at the shows.

In addition to Sean Gavin, Bua includes Brian Miller on guitar, bouzouki, backing vocals; Devin Shepherd on fiddle; and Brian O'Hair on vocals, sean-nós dance, concertina.

"I have great admiration for the youngsters in Bua because of their approach. They play the tunes in unbelievable traditional Irish fashion. The songs are historic, they are ancient, from another day. A lot of credit is due for their digging so deep."

Other featured performers will include Nic Gareiss, who has danced as a featured soloist with such bands as The Chieftains, Solas and Dervish; Brian Cunningham, an "old-style, traditional" dancer; and Katie Else, a vocalist from Detroit who has toured with Riverdance.



Bua headlines the Crossroads Ceili concert, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29 at The Ark in Ann Arbor.

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GET OUT

p.m. Monday-Thursday and during public events, through Jan. 2, 2013

Location: Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: An exhibit of paintings and drawing by Jean-Paul Abou-Dib, a graduate of the College for Creative Studies, with a master's degree in painting from Wayne State University

Contact: (734) 416-4278

Film

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, 2013; 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 28-29; and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 30

Location: 760 Penningman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Argo," \$3

Coming up: "Wreck It Ralph," 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4 and 10, 2013, and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 5-6, 2013; "Cloud Atlas," 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11 and 3:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 12-13

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Jan. 4, 2013 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 5, 2013

Location: 17350 Lahser, Detroit

Details: "Strangers on a Train," \$4

Coming up: "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," 8 p.m. Jan. 18, 2013 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 19, 2013; prizes will be awarded to all Marilyn Monroe look-alikes

Contact: (313) 537-2560; www.redfordtheatre.com

MUSIC

BASELINE FOLK SOCIETY

Time/Date: Sign up for open mic, 6:15-6:45 p.m.;

Please see GET OUT, B7

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GET OUT!

Continued from page B6

performances, 7 p.m., the third Saturday of the month

Location: The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth
Details: The next performance on Jan. 19, 2013, will feature John Nativ. Tricia Lloyd will serve as host. Admission is \$5. Individual and family annual memberships also are available
Contact: Scott Ludwig at B5Fresident@aol.com or call (734) 453-0869

BERMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013
Location: 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center performs; tickets are \$46 for adults and \$36 for Jewish Community Center members

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF DETROIT

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013
Location: Seligman Performing Arts Center, located on the campus of Detroit Country Day School, 22305 W. 13 Mile, at Lahser, Beverly Hills
Details: Anthony Marwood plays violin and Aleksandar Madzar is on piano for this program that will include works by Debussy, Schubert, Beethoven



Peter Oprisko will sing a tribute to Frank Sinatra Jan. 12, 2013 at the Farmington Players Barn.

and Gordon Kerry. Tickets range from \$15-\$60
Contact: (248) 855-6070 or visit www.ChamberMusicDetroit.org

FARMINGTON PLAYERS BARN

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013
Location: 23232 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills
Details: Peter Oprisko presents "Fabulous Frank," a tribute to Frank Sinatra. The show will feature timeless classic such as "Fly Me to the Moon," "New York, New York," and "Strangers in the Night." Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$17 for students and seniors. They're available at https://recreg.fhogv.com, by calling (248) 473-1848 or at the Costick Center at 28600 W. 11 Mile. Some tickets may be available at the door
Contact: (248) 473-1848

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last

Tuesday of the month — except December
Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: There is a \$10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com
TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE
Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.
Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia
Details: Harper and the Midwest Kind Acoustic Show, Jan. 5, 2013; Floyd King and the Bushwackers with the Campfire Compadres, Jan. 11, 2013; Empty Chair Night with Annie and Rod Capps, Joel Palmer and

The Potter's Field, Jan. 13, 2013; Songwriters Anonymous Showcase, Jan. 18, 2013; David Nefesh and Jeff Reynolds with Anthony Retka, Jan. 19, 2013; Lindsay Lou and the Flatbellys, Jan. 25, 2013; Billy McLaughlin, Jan. 26, 2013. Most shows tickets are \$15, and \$12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted
Contact: (734) 464-6302

WOODWARD CORRIDOR MUSICIANS

Time/Date: 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13
Location: Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Road, Bloomfield Hills
Details: Chamber music concert features "Site for Flute and Jazz Piano Trio" by Claude Bolling and "Trio in E-flat major, Opus 27," by Frantisek Skroup. Admission is \$10 for adults. Students in K-12th grade are admitted free
Contact: WoodwardCM.org; (248) 546-5818 or LFDean@aol.com

Something different

DETROIT 200
Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily
Location: 1-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak
Details: Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free.
Contact: (248) 541-5717

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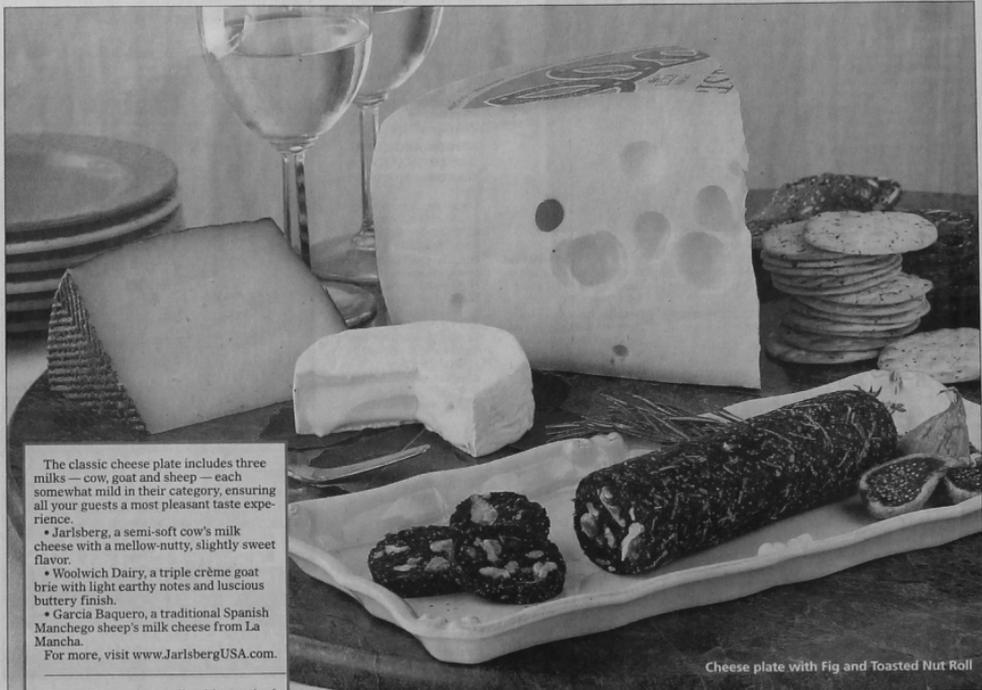
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 - Woolwich Dairy, a triple crème goat brie with light earthy notes and luscious buttery finish.
 - Garcia Baquero, a traditional Spanish Manchego sheep's milk cheese from La Mancha.
- For more, visit www.JarlsbergUSA.com.

Fig and Toasted Nut Rolls add a touch of distinction to cheese plates.

- Made with sweet, dark purple California Mission Figs, a hint of citrus and herbs and stuffed with toasted nuts, this no-bake recipe is simple elegance at its best.
 - Golden, slightly nutty-flavored Calimyrna Figs are another versatile recipe ingredient, adding sweetness and texture to a wide variety of dishes.
 - California Dried Figs, bursting with sweet fruit flavor, are available all year around.
- For more, visit www.ValleyFig.com.

Amazing PARTY BITES



Fig, Beef and Olive Empanaditas

Fig, Beef and Olive Empanaditas

- Makes 28 to 30 empanaditas
- ½ pound lean (15 percent fat) ground beef
 - ½ cup finely chopped green bell pepper
 - ½ cup finely chopped yellow onion
 - 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped or pressed
 - 1 cup chopped stemmed Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid figs
- Mild figs
- ½ cup finely chopped pimiento-stuffed olives
 - 2 tablespoons tomato paste
 - 1 ¼ teaspoons ground cumin
 - 1 ¼ teaspoons dried crumbled oregano
 - ¼ to 1 teaspoon hot sauce
 - ½ teaspoon salt
 - 3 refrigerated pie crusts for 9-inch pie (1 ½ packages, 14.1 ounces each)

1 egg, lightly beaten with 1 tablespoon water

Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add beef, bell pepper, onion and garlic. Cook, stirring often and crumbling meat into small pieces, until meat is browned and cooked through. Remove from heat and stir in figs, olives, tomato paste, cumin, oregano, hot sauce and salt. Blend well. Cool.

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Let dough rest at room temperature 15 minutes. Working with one pie crust at a time, unfold dough on lightly floured surface. With 3 ½-inch-round cookie cutter, cut out 8 dough circles from each crust. (Save dough scraps; combine and roll to cut out 6 additional dough circles.)

Brush rim of each circle with beaten egg. Place 1 tablespoon filling in center of a circle and fold to make a half-moon shape. Press edge to seal; flute edge if desired. Place on a lightly oiled baking sheet. Brush tops with egg mixture.

Bake 1 sheet at a time for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

Hosting a New Year's party? Add some magic to the festivities with these enticing bites. The cheese and fruit plate is simple yet stylish and acts as a tantalizing centerpiece. The appetizers — stuffed and studied with luscious bits of fig, cheese and seasonal spices — are the perfect party size.

Fig and Toasted Nut Roll

- Makes 28 to 30 servings
- 14 ounces Blue Ribbon Orchard Choice or Sun-Maid Mission figs (2 cups)
 - 2 teaspoons finely grated lemon or orange zest
 - ½ cup toasted, blanched whole almonds, toasted walnut pieces, roasted marcona almonds (without skins) or roasted mixed nuts without peanuts
- Remove and discard fig stems. Cut figs into quarters. Place in bowl of food processor with lemon or orange zest and process until figs are finely chopped and form a paste, stopping to scrape bowl once or twice as needed.

Turn fig mixture out of bowl onto a piece of parchment paper. If nuts are large, cut into halves or quarters. Work nuts into fig mixture, distributing evenly and covering nuts completely with fig mixture. Form mixture into a compact 8-inch-long log. Wrap parchment paper around log, folding in ends to seal. Place in a plastic bag and seal bag. Chill for 12 to 24 hours.

To serve, unwrap and cut with sharp knife into thin (about ¼-inch) slices. Serve with cheese.

Stuffed Fondue Meatballs with Fig Honey Balsamic Glaze

- Makes 18 meatballs
- 1 large head garlic
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 large onion, peeled and sliced into ½-inch rings
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 2 tablespoons sweet Riesling wine (or balsamic vinegar)
 - ¼ teaspoon each salt and pepper
 - ½ pound each ground pork sausage and ground beef
 - 1 tablespoon Fig Honey Balsamic Glaze mixed with ½ teaspoon each salt, pepper and allspice (or nutmeg)
 - 1 ½-ounce piece of Jarlsberg, cut into 18 ½-inch cubes
- Make Fig Honey Balsamic Glaze (recipe follows). Preheat oven to 375°F. Cut across the top of garlic head, then place cut side up in heavy aluminum foil. Pour olive oil over exposed cloves, before enclosing garlic in foil, and place in oven to bake 45 minutes.
- Place onion rings in a baking dish. Toss with 1 tablespoon each olive oil and wine (or balsamic vinegar); sprinkle with salt and pepper and bake 45 minutes at 375°F. At ½-hour mark, toss onion rings with 1 tablespoon more wine (or balsamic). When garlic and onions are cool enough to handle, remove garlic cloves from skins and combine with



Stuffed Fondue Meatballs with Fig Honey Balsamic Glaze

onion in food processor, pulsing to chop to coarse-chop to produce ½ cup. Reserve ¼ cup for another use.

In large mixing bowl, gently combine pork sausage and beef with glaze plus ¼ cup roasted garlic/onion mixture. Using 1 tablespoon measure to scoop meat (a 1-ounce portion), place Jarlsberg cube in center before shaping into 1 ½-inch-sized meatballs.

Place meatballs about 2 inches apart on foil-lined baking sheet and bake at 375°F for 15 minutes. Transfer meatballs into small serve-style baking dish and drizzle with remaining glaze.

Fig Honey Balsamic Glaze

- ½ cup honey
 - ½ cup water
 - ¼ cup balsamic vinegar
 - 8 Calimyrna dried figs, stemmed and quartered
 - 1 tablespoon light brown sugar
 - ¼ teaspoon allspice (or nutmeg)
 - 1 sprig fresh rosemary
 - 3 sprigs fresh thyme
- In saucepan, mix honey with water, vinegar, figs, brown sugar and allspice. Simmer on very low heat about 45 minutes — adding rosemary and thyme for last 15 — until liquid is reduced to half (the consistency of molasses). Remove herbs before separating liquid glaze from figs. You should have generous ¼ cup.
- Note: Process figs until smooth and, if you'd like, add reserved ¼ cup onion/garlic mixture. Use as a spread, or add to stews and sauces.

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