

# CANTON OBSERVER

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CHRISTMAS WALK FEATURES 5 HOMES COMMUNITY LIFE, B5



## Elected officials get pay increase

Board votes 7-0 to hike salaries 1 percent

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton's elected leaders will get a 1-percent pay increase starting Jan. 1, but their salaries remain significantly lower than they had been before officials slashed their own income in 2008 amid an economic recession.

New salary levels will be \$116,520 for Supervisor Phil LaJoy, \$99,778 for Clerk Terry

Bennett and Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin and \$12,120 for part-time Trustees John Anthony, Steven Sneiderman, Pat Williams and Tom Yack.

The seven-member township board, in a sweeping decision Tuesday evening, voted 7-0 to accept a 1-percent wage hike that mirrors a pay increase already approved for department heads and other non-union employees.

The wage hikes follow years

of concessionary pay levels for elected officials and township employees, both union and non-union, as Canton has fought back against declining property tax revenues and shrinking fund balances. The township board in 2008 adopted a compensation package for itself that slashed pay levels by 9.2 percent for the supervisor, 4.7 percent for the clerk and treasurer and 4.3 percent for part-time trustees.

"Everybody has made some sacrifices over time," LaJoy said Tuesday.

The decision in 2008 left salary levels at \$115,366 for the supervisor, \$98,790 for the clerk and treasurer and \$12,000 for part-time trustees.

McLaughlin said cuts in compensation in 2008 went even deeper when changes in benefits, such as elimination of longevity pay for years of service, were made.

Moreover, since 2010, elected officials have reduced their salaries by an estimated 5 percent each year to match concessions accepted by employees through measures such as fur-

lough days, which remain in place for 2014.

Yack, who was departing as township supervisor when the 2008 salary reductions occurred, said Tuesday he believed the 9.2-percent pay cut for Canton's top elected official went too deep.

"I just thought the 9.2-percent decrease was inordinately high," Yack said.

He guessed the issue should be revisited by 2016.

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## BLACK IS GOLD



Sideways store employee Jean Kozak helps Al Abdou of Plymouth shop for his sister.

Canton, Plymouth usher in holiday shopping frenzy

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Lured by Black Friday sales, some Canton and Plymouth shoppers stretched their holiday budget by scrounging for deals, while others quietly sat it out in local coffee shops.

However, many agreed the shopping frenzy had gone too far after numerous retailers rolled out Thanksgiving Day sales and made employees work rather than spend time with their families.

Canton resident Karen Harcharik started the Black Friday rush at 6 a.m. at Jo-Ann Fabric and worked her way to stores such as Home Goods along Canton's Ford Road shopping corridor.

"This is my first time going out for Black Friday," she said, before going inside Home Goods to look for a dish for a flower decoration for her daughter in Windsor, Ontario.

Harcharik's job in Canada had kept her away from America's Black Friday frenzy until this year. She set her sights on stores such as JC Penney and Kohl's department stores.

Harcharik had gone Thanksgiving night to Walmart to try to cash in on good deals.

"I walked in and walked back out," she said. "It was way too busy."

Plymouth Township resident Robert Benefiel, pausing inside the Starbucks coffeehouse in downtown Plymouth, said

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Tawnya Dysarz of Canton and her mom Peggy Hayse do some early morning Black Friday shopping at Bed, Bath & Beyond in Canton. TOM BRADDOCK

## New housing surge continues in Canton

By Darrell Clem  
Staff Writer

Canton's new housing spurt gained more momentum as the township board Tuesday night supported measures ushering in 93 upscale apartments and 42 single-family homes.

Ohio-based Redwood Management Co. has received site plan approval for The Enclave at Brownstone – the largest apartment complex proposed in Canton in nearly a decade. Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said.

Redwood representative Richard Batt said The Enclave includes 93 single-story apartments that are expected to rent for \$1,400 to \$1,500 a month southwest of Haggerty and Palmer, nestled between Wethersfield condominiums and Woodcreek subdivision.

Batt said the 17-building complex, intended for older residents who no longer have children at home, will feature apartments roughly 1,300 square feet in size with two-car garages and patios.

Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said the project needs a permit from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to fill in a wetlands area and mitigate it elsewhere.

Batt said Redwood already has built 3,800 apartments, mostly in Ohio, though several developments are occurring in Michigan.

Meanwhile, the Canton Township Board of Trustees also Tuesday approved a minor planned development proposal and preliminary site plan for Hickory Ridge, 42 single-family homes sandwiched between Vintage Valley and Antique Forest southeast of Ford and Ridge roads.

Developers expect the homes to sell from \$350,000 into the \$400,000 range.

Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said Hickory Ridge is proposed for an area where potential home buyers are "basically stalking" potential sellers because the section of Canton has become so popular.

The Enclave at Brownstone and Hickory Village plans come as local officials say housing demand is strong in Canton, though real estate representatives say there are few homes on the market.

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## District's food program healthy

General fund receives \$300,000 surplus

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

While the numbers – revenue, expenses, participation – around Plymouth-Canton's food services program are still solid, district officials point to ancillary points while hailing the program as one of the district's best.

The program turned over nearly \$300,000 to the district's general fund in 2012-13, a little less than officials thought, but still a significant number. A

program that dealt with new regulations and a move of the Starkweather program from its old building to Fiegel Elementary School still managed a number of achievements that mark it as a successful program.

Food service director Kristen Hennessey presented the district's Board of Education with numbers to back up the program's financial success and a list of achievements she

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Missy Trajlov, assistant manager of the cafeteria at Allen Elementary, hands out meals to students at lunch time.



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# New director 'excited' for foundation role

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

Michelle Malamis remembers when she found out a \$500,000 grant she'd written for Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit was approved.

"The grant helped Malamis and the center start a mentoring program she says has benefited nearly 500 kids since 2004.

"It was one of the biggest days of my life," she said. "It was an opportunity to create this grant program and there was such a high need for it. The chance to help a lot of kids was really exciting."

It's that excitement for the job — and the ability to raise money and get it to the right places — that convinced board members at the Canton Community Foundation to hire Malamis as the foundation's new executive director. Malamis, who owns a master's degree of social work in community organization from Wayne State University, comes to the foundation and the Canton community with 15 years of experience in the nonprofit industry. In nearly 14 years at

## MORE ON MALAMIS

**Who:** Michelle Malamis  
**What:** Executive director, Canton Community Foundation  
**Where:** She lives in Livonia and grew up in Oak Park  
**Family:** Married to Nicholas, they have two children, 8-year-old Lily and 4-year-old Matthew  
**Education:** Bachelor's degree in social work from Eastern Michigan University, master's degree in social work and community organizing from Wayne State University

Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit, Malamis did a little of everything.

She was the center's director of volunteer services, then director of mentoring services and, finally, its development director.

Her experience with volunteer management, event planning, program and fund development, collaborative building, marketing and board development intrigued board members.

"Those were all the reasons we hired her," said Jerry Grady, chairman of the foundation's board. "It wasn't just from a fundraising standpoint. It was also her ability to help people establish their special needs and help get the grants to the right places."

Malamis said she's looking forward to the

challenge of directing the foundation's efforts. She spent 14 years with JFS looking at things from a direct-service aspect and the thought of now being able to build the resources of the foundation and get money back into the community "is exciting."

"It seemed like a real good fit for me," Malamis said. "I've worked with volunteers and community leaders and lay people and this seemed like a chance to expand what the foundation can do. I see a community foundation as a true community organizer, being a true advocate to identify the resources and the needs and bring those two together."

Malamis said the foundation will look at "broad giving categories" that people can support. Among those broad categories could be children



The team at the Canton Community Foundation includes (from right) new Executive Director Michelle Malamis, Darice Schubats and Beth Meade. **BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER**

and families, veterans support (the foundation already hosts a veterans summit every year) and services to those with disabilities.

"Michelle possesses the powerful combination of nonprofit leadership experience, passion for the community and energy to initiate change that can take the Canton Community Foundation, which is entering its 25th year, in an exciting new

direction," Grady said. "Our primary focus has always been to connect donors with causes they care about and Michelle is dedicated to that mission."

Malamis said that dedication comes from being "a bleeding heart." "I've always been drawn to helping people," said Malamis, who also has a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University.

"I've always been the person people will talk to. I wanted to help people and this (kind of work) is something I could do to help them."

"I feel like I've been blessed to have made a lot of impact on a lot of people in my career," she added. "It's been very fulfilling."

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## FOOD

Continued from Page A1

believes shows a program successful on a personal level, as well. "The thing that comes through clearly is that you've created a group of people who understand the business, but haven't lost sight of the people," Trustee Mark Horvath told Henessey and many of the staff in a recent board meeting audience.

"What your team has done is create a business that hasn't lost sight of its customers."

First come the numbers. The program realized some \$5.3 million in revenue, based on the sale of some 1.655 million meals.

The program transferred \$290,299 to the district's general fund and is left with a fund balance of some \$171,000.

"We said we'd start to take a little bit from our fund balance to have a little bigger transfer to the general fund," said Henessey, who took over the food services program five years ago. Some financial highlights:

» Lunch participation

increased 7 percent.

» Federal reimbursement dollars increased 4 percent, or some \$71,000.

» Breakfast participation decreased some 2 percent, a result Henessey said she attributed to a move to all-day kindergarten.

» Year-end net overall participation was up 1.5 percent.

The consolidation agreement with Livonia Public Schools remained in force, with more than 200 food and nutrition staff professionals. The staff participated in the Gleaners backpack program, building some 49 food bags weekly. They

also partnered with local business to give families food baskets and turkeys, plus started the full food service program at Starkweather at Fiegel.

"We went from the old building to the new building and it was like moving into the Taj Mahal," Henessey said with a smile. "We could do anything there."

The program awarded Fuel Up to Play 60 grants at Discovery and Pioneer middle schools, made carbohydrate information available to parents via the district's website ([www.pccs.k12.mi.us](http://www.pccs.k12.mi.us))

and awarded breakfast grants to Isbister, Tonda and Dodson for 2013.

In addition to its collaboration with Livonia, Plymouth-Canton just finished its second year working with Our Lady of Good Counsel and is now providing 40-50 meals a day to St. Peter's.

"The accomplishments are incredible," school board President John Barrett said. "Not only is Plymouth-Canton the recipient of your talents, but districts around us are waiting in line to get your services." Henessey deflected

the board's compliments to her staff, pointing out they did an additional 600 hours of training just to catch up on requirements of new nutrition guidelines.

"Every year, you illustrate the power of having the courage to set aggressive goals," board Trustee Mike Maloney said.

"You can create a strong organization and get good buy-in, create excitement with your team and get the results."

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# SHOPPING

Continued from Page A1

he avoided Black Friday and Thanksgiving Day shopping.

"If the stores depended on me, they'd all go broke," he said, decriing Thanksgiving Day shopping in particular. "It's supposed to be for families, not for shopping."

Canton resident Peggy Hayse and her daughter Tawnya Dysarz, also of Canton, left the Bed, Bath & Beyond store on Ford Road with a cast-iron skillet and other items. They started shopping at 8 a.m. Friday and planned to visit Best Buy and Kohl's, among other stores.

"We go to Bed, Bath & Beyond every year to use that 20-percent coupon," Hayse said.

Hayse nodded in agreement, saying she found gifts for her husband along with food trays and a blanket "for the dogs."

Hayse avoided Thanksgiving Day shopping, saying "it should be a day for families to get together."

Standing in downtown Plymouth, Canton resident Don McLane wasn't shopping Friday but, rather, was waiting to meet with other Vietnam veterans to decorate a tree — as they do every year — in Kellogg Park.

"I shop as needed," McLane said. "I look for something specific. I get it and I leave."

He didn't have an issue with Thanksgiving Day shopping.

"I think it's great," McLane said. "I think the stores should open any time they want. It's good to see people making money."

Around 10 a.m. Friday, not many shoppers had taken to Plymouth streets, but Sun and Snow Sports employee Reid Walborn said he expected he would get "fairly busy" as the day unfolded and people



Nil Akbari of Plymouth and his mother Manju got some presents at Macy's at Westland Shopping Center. TOM BEAUDOIN



Pat Goetz of Canton, with his mother-in-law Betty Lockar, also of Canton, waits for his wife, who was doing the shopping Thursday evening. TOM BEAUDOIN

shopped for gloves, boots, snow skis and other wintry items. "It's good here (in downtown Plymouth) because you can walk to multiple stores," Walborn said.

Over at the Sideways shop, employee Jean Kozak helped shopper Al Abdou of Plymouth find a dish he needed to buy. He broke his sister's baking dish while doing dishes Thanksgiving.

"I'm trying to replace it," Abdou said.

Kozak said Sideways does a brisk holiday business as shoppers look for Christmas decorations and cards, baking dishes and other kitchen items, locally roasted coffees and specialty teas, among other merchandise.

Over at Westland Shopping Center, people crowded into the mall Thanksgiving night to look for deals even before Black Friday arrived.

Plymouth teen Nil Akbari was at the mall with his mother Manju as she sought blockbuster deals. Otherwise, he said he likely would be playing video games. "Last year I went to a different mall, but decided to come here," Manju Akbari said. "My husband didn't come, but he wanted cologne. I got myself the cookware."

Pat Goetz of Canton was surrounded by shopping bags as he sat on the bench with his mother-in-law Betty Lockert, also of Canton. His wife Tracy was doing the shopping at the mall.

"I got promoted, I got bumped up to bag carrier," Goetz said. "I haven't had to stand in any lines. I'm just holding the bags."

Staff Writer Sue Mason contributed to this story.

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Central Middle School teachers Samantha Domingue and Tanya Mackrain accept an Educational Excellence Foundation grant from school board President John Barrett (left), state Rep. Kurt Heise and EEF member Stephanie Goecke.

## EEF meets grant promise

By Brad Kadrich  
Staff Writer

When the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools kicked off the school year back in August, Carole Kody announced the Educational Excellence Foundation would be handing out some \$25,000 in grants before the end of 2013.

Last week Kody, the EEF's executive director, made good on that promise. Kody and board members Stephanie Goecke and Kurt Heise and school board President John Barrett, among others, made the rounds of middle school and elementary schools last week, handing out more than \$12,000 worth of grants for classroom projects ranging from a simulated French-Indian War in French to a "Calculator 9-1-1" program that will bring identical calculators to resource room students.

"It's what we do," an excited Kody said. "We want to provide classroom enhancements above and beyond what we can do with our state fund-



Central Middle School teachers Roby Jarczewski and Hawanya Urquhart accept their \$1,680 grant from the Educational Excellence Foundation. Helping present the grant are school board President John Barrett, state Rep. Kurt Heise and EEF board member Stephanie Goecke.

ing."

The largest grant was \$2,379 for the calculator program, handed out at Central Middle School. The grant will provide identical calculators for the resource room kids. As it stands now, teachers have to demonstrate how to perform functions on several different calculators, making standardized instruction all

but impossible. "We'd have to explain how to find a square root three different times," Central teacher Christine Eagles said. "This (grant) is huge. We can't even put it into words."

Kody said the foundation received 32 grant proposals totaling \$52,000, with 88 percent of them (28) being approved for full or partial funding.

Grant requests are reviewed by the district's curriculum coordinators, as well as the director of technology. Grants are then reviewed by the EEF's grant committee. Judy Morgan has served on the committee for 10 years.

"I wish we could say yes to every one of them," Morgan said. "They're all great." Kody said estimates are that more than 10,000 students will be affected by the grants. EEF has handed out some \$300,000 in grants over the last 13 years.

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## PCAC offers special-needs music classes

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is offering "I-Time Music & Movement" classes for special-needs students and families beginning in January.

This six-week pilot program is sponsored by Kelly's Kids, a nonprofit organization that supports children with special needs through grants for health insurance, specialized equipment, education and tuition for Miracle League Plymouth baseball players. Read more about its mission at [www.kellyskidz.net](http://www.kellyskidz.net).

Terrye Mock, movement instructor at the Friendship Circle in West Bloomfield, will teach the six-week session in the PCAC auditorium/gallery 5:30-6:30 p.m. each Wednesday from Jan. 8 through Feb. 12. Cost will be \$78 (members) and \$84 for non-members. Preregistration is required, with the

class size limited to 10.

The program will employ the Miracle League Plymouth Buddy model, with training available for volunteers before the start of the class. People 16 and older with a bit of experience (preferred) interested in being a buddy may call the PCAC for information at 734-416-4278 or email Executive Director Lisa Howard, [lisa@plymoutharts.com](mailto:lisa@plymoutharts.com).

"I am very excited to be able to add such an important class to our schedule," Howard said. "Terrye is an enthusiastic teacher who is passionate about offering an opportunity for music and dance in a safe social setting for these students."

Phone registration is now open, with online registration/payment available beginning Dec. 6. The link will be on the PCAC website, [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com).

## District seeks more bus drivers

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

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

The district has exactly 125 drivers to cover its 125 routes, leaving officials scrambling to find subs.

"We're not there yet, but we're at the point where we can't lose any of our drivers," said Kate Dietrich, the district's director of communications, community engagement and marketing. "We're at a critical shortage. We need to make sure

we have enough drivers. The routes are covered, but we don't have any cushion."

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

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

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

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# Man sentenced to 2½ years for gas station armed robbery

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

The man involved with a pair of armed robberies this past summer in Livonia and Plymouth will spend at least 2½ years in prison for his role.

Tyler Robinson, 21, of Canton, was sentenced Thursday to 2½ to 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to armed robbery earlier this fall. He was arrested and charged earlier this summer after police detected a vehicle being driven by Ross, authorities have said, and later went to the gas station in Plymouth to attempt another robbery. A delivery man entered the station there, thwarting

the attempt. In addition to the prison sentence, Robinson was ordered by Wayne County Circuit Judge Craig Strong to pay nearly \$1,200 in court costs. He received 143 days credit for time served in the Wayne County Jail since his arraignment in July. He had faced up to life in prison.

He was bound over to circuit court in September from Livonia's 16th District Court after a mental competency exam deemed him fit for trial. He took the plea deal Nov. 7.

Ross, who was also originally charged with armed robbery, took a plea deal with prosecutors and pleaded guilty to unarmed robbery in October. He was bound over to circuit court in July after 16th District Judge Sean Kavanagh found enough evidence to go to trial.

He faces sentencing at 9 a.m. Monday before Circuit Judge Linda Parker.

Ross faces up to 15 years in prison.

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# FRIENDS JOIN FOR CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Candles will glow around the world Sunday, Dec. 8, when tens of thousands of bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, relatives and friends will join together to light remembrance candles to honor the memories of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

Held annually the second Sunday in December, this will be the 17th Worldwide Candle Lighting sponsored by The Compassionate Friends, the nation's largest self-help bereavement organization for families that have suffered the tragic loss of a child. TCF has more than 650 chapters in the United States, with sister organizations in at least 30 countries around the globe.

The local ceremony, sponsored by the TCF Western Wayne County (Livonia) chapter, takes place in Plymouth's Kellogg Park beginning at 7 p.m. The remembrance will include a



The annual Compassionate Friends candlelight vigil takes place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.

candlelight vigil, reading of the children's names, poetry and

songs. Families will gather near memory trees specially deco-

rated with the names of children who have died too soon.

It's important for western Wayne families and friends to know the Livonia chapter has started a new list of children to be honored at the candle lighting.

For more information or to register a child, call 734-778-0800 or email tcfandlelight@yahoo.com.

The Worldwide Candle Lighting is a way of uniting together to remember all children around the world who have died too soon and to try to bring light out of darkness during this difficult time of the year. Like a ring, this circle of light surrounding the globe represents that there is no beginning and no end for the love we carry for our children.

Friends and family are invited to the remembrance and candles will be provided. Families do not have to attend to register their child.

# Authors to sign books at Plymouth Panera

Brian Webster recently became the published author of his first novel. He is sharing that credit with another writer, Trish Reeb. The book is a murder mystery titled *Death by Default*. It is a story about a homicide detective drawn into a deadly game of chess where the pieces result in loss of lives. The problem is the detective is a dummy at chess, so he seeks out a master chess player who just happens to be a 10-year-old kid.

## Death by Default



Trish Reeb  
Brian Webster

Webster and Reeb worked together at Redford High School. During one of their conversations about writing, he asked if she would be interested in writing a book for a screenplay he had in mind. "What I described the premise of the story, Trish did not hesitate," he said.

The product of their writing will be introduced at a book launch at the Panera Bread in Plymouth, where they first met during the book signing of Webster's children's book *Snowville*. The book signing will be from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7-8.

Panera is at Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail in downtown Plymouth.

Reeb's *Dance of Deception*, her first novel, debuted in 2012. Recently, 50 years after her mother's death, she pub-

lished *No Place to Hide*, the novel Mary Lou Ormond left behind. She's currently working on a sequel and with Webster on their next project, *Black Ice*. Reeb lives in Florida with her husband. Visit her by email at trish\_reeb@yahoo.com.

Webster recently retired from Detroit Public Schools. He now devotes his time to writing. He's written and published several children's books (*Snowville*, *Santa's Elf*, *Trapped in Toyland*), as well as numerous holiday and family-based screenplays. Two of his screenplays won awards at the Moonance International Film Festival. *Santa's Elf* was a finalist in the Hollywood Screenplay Contest. In 2001, he was featured in *People Magazine* "Idea Man" involving a controversial case against 20th Century Fox's *Jingle All The Way*. Contact him by email at ldsatwork247@hotmail.com/.

# Arthritis Today

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



## POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

When the public hears the term "post-traumatic stress disorder," what comes to mind is a veteran from the Middle East wars who experienced a vicious battle encounter, saw comrades die, and who suffered a war wound that though serious, allowed survival.

The same term gains another usage in Fibromyalgia. In such instances, the physician is reflecting on the event that set the Fibromyalgia in motion. Often the patient will relate how the aching associated with the condition came and went over the years, but after the accident or traumatic event, the aching became intense and continuous.

In civilian life the trauma takes forms like a sudden rear end collision, a fall from a theater stage or scaffolding or even a physical scuffle. What happened was the traumatic stress event, while not the underlying cause, acts as the immediate event that brings the Fibromyalgia to the forefront.

At present, physicians do not know the underlying cause of Fibromyalgia, though current concepts place the problem in a pain center in the midbrain. The connection between the immediate traumatic event and the midbrain pain center remains elusive but it is likely that research within the next five years will uncover the relationship.

The patient gains when the physician is able to point out that the Fibromyalgia has a definite starting point and the mystery evaporates as to why and how it occurred. Often, the best medicine that a physician can offer in treatment is to give the patient a rational explanation of Fibromyalgia. Then the individual can focus on caring for the body rather than worrying why the pain is ongoing.

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# Hills fifth-grader in 'Annie' lead role opening Dec. 13

Annie, the feel-good, rags-to-riches musical that took Broadway by storm, opens Dec. 13 at the Farmington Players Barn, and the holiday classic is almost sold out. Maryanna Lauter of Farmington Hills stars as the rambunctious little redhead who steals Daddy Warbucks' heart. She's almost 10½ years old, a fifth-grader at Warner Upper Elementary School and she's playing her dream role. "From a parent's point of view, I couldn't be more proud of Maryanna's work so far in developing this role," said her mother Amy Lauter, who is co-directing the show. "She pretty much eats, sleeps and breathes Annie."

## Family hit

Annie, music by Charles Strouse, lyrics by Martin Charnin, book by Thomas Meehan, is currently enjoying a revival on Broadway. The family-friendly hit tells the tale of the young orphan girl searching for her birth parents. It's based on the "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip.

When the show first hit Broadway in 1977 it was an instant hit, winning seven Tony Awards, including the "triple crown" for best musical, book and score leaded with musical hits — *Tomorrow, It's The Hard Knock Life, Maybe, NYC, Easy Street*.

In the Farmington Players production, Dorne LeFere of Metamora plays the billionaire Warbucks, who hopes to adopt Annie and helps her look for her parents.

"From a director's point of view it has been so rewarding to watch the chemistry. You can really see the genuine warm feelings they bring out in one another, which I think the audiences will really enjoy," Lauter said.

Co-director Terie Spencer said audiences will be dazzled by a unique twist to the pro-

duction. The Barn designed this version of Annie to reflect the comic strip origins of the story which Spencer said "creates some unique and striking visuals."

Adding to the magic at The Barn are exceptional performances by Shannon Groves of South Lyon who plays Grace Farrell, Warbucks' loyal secretary.

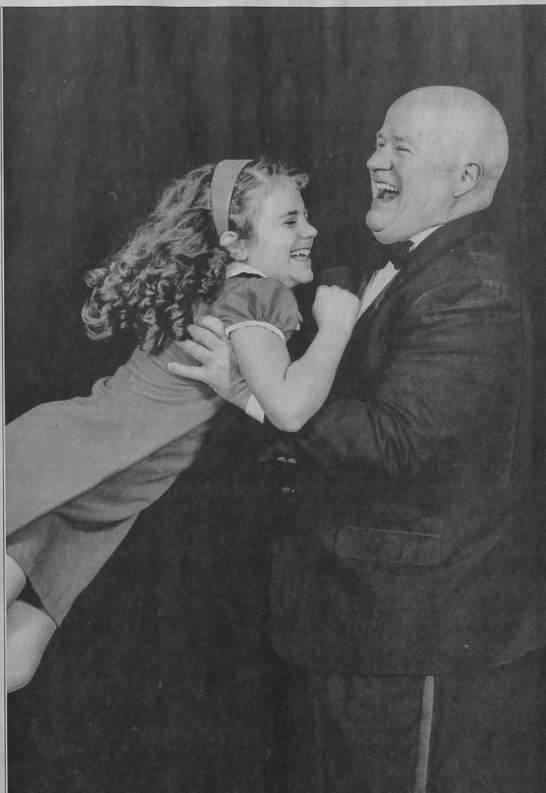
Rachel Biber of Huntington Woods shines as Miss Hannigan, the character everyone loves to hate.

Brandon Mace of Novi serves up excitement with his portrayal of Rooster, while Tony Targan of West Bloomfield plays a charming President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Throw in 16 talented children and Murphy who plays Sandy the dog and you have a show sure to delight crowds with every performance.

## Cast and crew

Annie's cast and crew and their hometowns include: Elizabeth Bartz, Lily St Regis (Ferndale); Rachel Biber, Miss Hannigan (Huntington Woods); Taelor Burrell, Orphan Chorus Ginger (Pontiac); Maddi Carpenter, Crawford Pepper (Farmington Hills); Jillian Clark, Orphan Chorus (Beatrice) (South Lyon); Anne Craft, Cecille / Perkins / Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus (Wixom); Mary Ebrat, Assistant Dog Catcher (Farmington Hills); Murphy Ebrat, Sandy the dog (Farmington Hills); Chris Falkowski, Police Officer Justice Brandeis (Novi); Sydney Harker, Kate (Farmington Hills); Charlie Gass, Hull/ Hoovervilians/ NYC Chorus; Charlie Gass, Jimmy Johnson (Farmington Hills); Jerry Gass Drake/ Hoovervilian (Novi); Shannon Groves, Grace Farrell (South Lyon); Audrey Groves, Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus (South Lyon); Carter Krumins, Apple seller/ Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus (Waterford); Madison Krumins, July



Alidor P. LeFere III (Daddy Warbucks) of Metamora and Farmington Hills resident Maryanna Lauter in the lead role of Annie. WILLIAM SOULE

(Waterford); Mark Krumins, Morgenthau/ Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus; Sound Effects Man (Waterford); Jordyn Lash, Alice (Orphan Chorus) (Huntington Woods); Maryanna Lauter, Annie (Farmington Hills); Alidor P. LeFere III, Daddy Warbucks (Auburn Hills); Lily Mace, Tessie (Novi); Brandon Mace, Rooster (Novi); Reagan Marinucci, Julia (Orphan Chorus) (Farmington Hills); Daniel Murray, Bert Healy (Birmingham); Brennan Regan, Duffy (Farmington Hills); Meredith Shapiro, Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus (Farmington Hills); Sheri Shapiro, Mrs. Greer (Farmington Hills).

Jim Snideman, Lt. Ward/Fred McCracken/Wacky/ Harold Ickes (Commerce Twp.); Karen Southworth Howe, NYC Chorus (Plymouth); Tony

Targan, Mr. Bundles/ FDR/ Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus (West Bloomfield); Stephanie Viotor, Ushegete/ Servant/ Hoovervilian (Farmington Hills); Brittany Ward, Star To Be/ Hoovervilian/ NYC Chorus Boylan-Sister (Ferndale); Katie Walker, Boylan Sister/ Mrs. Pugh/ Hoovervilian (Brooklyn); Sara Ward, Annette/ Boylan Sister (West Bloomfield); Hazel Ward, Molly (West Bloomfield); Dajielle Williams Servant/ NYC Chorus/ Hoovervilian (Southfield); Marilyn Zerlak, NYC Chorus/ Servant/ Hoovervilian (Farmington Hills).

The production team includes Dianne Cragg, musical director (Berkeley); Ellen Doman, assistant director (Farmington Hills); Jill Jones, producer (Southfield); Nicole Jones, stage manager (Warren); Kandi

## TICKET AND SHOW INFORMATION

Because Annie is a show families can enjoy together, The Farmington Players added three Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. Dec. 14, 21 and 28. Annie opens Dec. 13 on the Barn's brand new stage floor and runs through Dec. 29. The show is sponsored by Mail Malisov & Cooney, P.C. Holistic Estate & ElderCare Planning Attorneys. The Barn is at 32332 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

## Show dates and times

Opening night is 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13; 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 (senior Sunday \$2 off) 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20; 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 21; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27; 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28; 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28; 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29

## Tickets

Tickets (reserved seats) are almost sold out. Check www.farmingtonplayers.org and the box office at 248-553-2955. Tickets are \$18 for adults; \$2 for students any performance; senior Sunday, only Sunday, Dec. 15, for \$2 off for seniors; group discounts are \$2 off any show for groups of 10 or more.

Krumins, choreographer (Waterford); Amy Lauter, director (Farmington Hills); David Reink, producer (Novi); Terie

Spencer, director (Commerce Township); Tim Timmer, technical director (Farmington Hills); David Reink, producer (Novi); Terie

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## Funeral home holds annual Service of Remembrance

The R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes and Cremation Services of Livonia and Garden City will be holding its 23rd Annual Service of Remembrance on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7-8, for families who have lost a loved one during this last year and in the years past.

At the service, family members will be invited to place an angel with their loved one's name on a tree where it will remain until after Jan. 1, 2014.

A popular Children's Table is available for kids to design their own angel ornament to help them express their feelings.

Helpful thoughts on getting through the holidays after a loss will be given and a carol will be sung before all the names are read.

Refreshments and fellowship can be enjoyed indoors following the service.

The service at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home-Livonia Chapel, 15451 Farmington

Road, just north of Five Mile, will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Call 734-422-6720 for more information.

The service at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home-Garden City Chapel, 31551 Ford Road, just west of Merriman, will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8. Call 734-425-9200 for more information.

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RIGHT NOW ON THE STREET

# Canton hosts annual tree lighting

Holiday revelers can celebrate the holiday season by attending Canton's 35th annual tree lighting event 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

Festivities will kick off at 6 p.m. outside the Summit on the Park, where visitors can enjoy holiday carols performed by the P-CEP Octavians A Cappella Choir, watch Santa's arrival – courtesy of the Canton Fire Department – and count down to the official tree lighting with Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy. Ward off the night chill with some warm soup or other hot and delicious options, available for purchase from The Rolling Stove food truck.

Special festive activities will also be held indoors, including additional refreshments and seasonal entertainment. The cost is \$5 per family, which includes cookie decorating, face painting by D & M Art Studio, two



Santa comes to visit with children and throw the switch on Canton's Christmas tree during the annual ceremony Wednesday.

holiday crafts and a visit with Santa.

Free seasonal entertainment will also be available indoors, including performances by Dancin' Feet and Spotlight on Youth, along with a family sing-along with Kevin Devine and a Lionel Train display. Coffee and sweet holiday drinks and treats will also be available for purchase from Katherine's Catering in the Summit Lobby.

Kids are encouraged to bring their favorite toy

or stuffed animal to the event for a check-up at the Radio Disney Junior Doc McStuffins Toy Clinic, powered by Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Be sure to take advantage of the special photo opportunity with a special Doc McStuffins backdrop. Parents are also encouraged to get a free Child Safety Kit, provided by New York Life.

During these festivities, the Tree Lighting Marketplace, located in



P-CEP's Octavians A Cappella Choir will provide entertainment at Canton's Christmas tree lighting ceremony Wednesday.

the Summit Banquet Lobby, will feature vendors including Farmington Soap Works, hand crafted soaps; Geiser-Weaver Associates, American Girl inspired clothing and accessories; Cakes by Penny, cinnamon, sour cream coffee cakes and muffins; Woolsey Wonders, hair bows, tutus and accessories; Don't Worry Bead Happy, holiday and everyday jewelry designs; Art by Audet, hand painted holiday ornaments and door hangers that can be per-

sonalized; Simple Threads, Plymouth and Canton cities, Michigan and school apparel; and Kristie's Creations, wool mittens and brooches, scarves and snowman crafts.

This year's tree light-

ing ceremony is sponsored by: Atchinson Ford; Community Financial; and The Goddard School. For additional information about the event, call 734-394-5460 or visit Canton fun.org.

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## LWW hosts meeting on Common Core impact

What are Common Core Standards and how will they impact local school systems?

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County invites the public to come 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, to the Livonia Civic Center Library to learn about this issue that is a hot topic among parents, teachers, administrators and students.

Speakers will include a curriculum administrator from the Plymouth-Canton school system. The library is at 32777 Five Mile Road, just east of Farmington Road. For more information, contact Paula Bowman at 734-277-2243.

## Needy families get boost at children's show

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

SteveSongs is a big-name children's entertainer on PBS and local Rotarians are making sure needy children get to see him perform for free this holiday season.

Canton Rotary, working with Livonia A.M. and Livonia Rotary clubs, is bringing a SteveSongs "Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes" program from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, to the Cherry Hill Village Theater in Canton.

"It's a Rotary event, Canton Rotary and the Livonia clubs," said Abe Vinitzki, a Canton Rotarian and Canton Township park and sport supervisor. Other families do fun things like visit Greenfield Village, he explained, and this extends that kind of merriment to the needy.

The event grew out of the Canton Rotary's earlier



Canton Rotary, working with Livonia A.M. and Livonia Rotary clubs, is bringing a SteveSongs "Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes" program from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, to the Cherry Hill Village Theater in Canton.

er "Pizza With Santa" for needy children and their families.

"It's really a fabulous facility," Vinitzki said of the theater. "This may be some place they may not normally find them-

selves."

Last year, the Rotary event had 100 kids with hopes for 200 this year.

Vinitzki, a Livonia resident, came Nov. 27 to Livonia A.M. Rotary seeking additional volunteers.

an age-appropriate book," Vinitzki said, noting Rotary's literacy emphasis. "The people that attended last year had a wonderful time."

To support the "Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes" event, an event with admission featuring SteveSongs will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at the CHV Theater.

Santa Claus and others will welcome guests at 6:30 p.m. for that, with the show at 7 p.m. Admission is \$15 for adults/seniors, \$10 for youth, with reservations needed. Call the box office at 734-394-5460 for details.

Vinitzki noted a lot of families for "Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes" come through Starfish Family Services and include Livonia, Canton, Wayne and Westland. Counting the earlier "Pizza With Santa," this will be the event's 16th year.

The "Kiddie Rock and Candy Canes" event will feature Santa Claus visits, arts and crafts, face painting and the SteveSongs show. It's geared to ages 3-11.

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# Give grandkids gift of education

**Q:** Dear Rick: I've decided that this year, as opposed to buying my grandchildren gifts, I'm going to establish a college fund for them. I have nine grandchildren and I'd like to put \$1,000 for each into a 529 plan. My grandchildren are of different ages and they live in different states; therefore, I want to make sure that the plan I select can be used by any of the grandchildren. Are the 529 plans the best way to go or is there another way to save for college? I've done some research on 529 plans and I've narrowed my search to two plans, the Michigan plan or Vanguard. I'm leaning toward the Vanguard plan because currently I have all my money in Vanguard. Which one would you recommend?

**A:** I think it is great what you are doing for



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

your grandchildren. I wish more grandparents were like you in that when it comes to gift giving, as opposed to giving what your grandchild may want, you're giving them what they need. A gift of an education, particularly in today's world, is a wonderful gift. In fact, I can't think of a better gift for a grandparent to give a grandchild.

When it comes to saving for a grandchild's college education, a 529 plan is the best way to go. These plans offer flexibility, a variety of investment alternatives, tax breaks and are an easy way to save for college.

In reviewing the Michigan and the Van-

guard plans, there are a number of similarities. Both have very low costs and are very flexible—basically, you can use the proceeds for any public or private institution in the country. Therefore, it doesn't matter where your grandchildren go to college. In addition, both plans are easy to administer and make receiving distributions relatively easy.

From an investment standpoint, the Vanguard 529 has more options than the Michigan plan. In addition, through the Vanguard plan you can also invest in some Vanguard funds.

Not all 529 plans are the same. Some, particularly those sold by financial salespeople, have high costs, such as commissions, and limited investment options. In addition, some plans are more difficult from an administration standpoint than others and

some have limitations in regard to the institution where they can be used.

One item that favors the Michigan plan is its low minimum. Vanguard has a \$3,000 minimum, while the Michigan Education Savings Plan has a \$25 minimum. It's available for everyone. Considering you want to invest \$1,000 per grandchild, I recommend the Michigan plan, which also allows you to deduct your contribution on your Michigan income tax return.

As you begin to look for holiday gifts for grandchildren, don't forget about a gift of an education and a 529 plan. Good luck.

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, please email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*

# Friends group decorates Nankin Mills for holidays

Wayne County Parks and the Friends of Nankin Mills are inviting families to the annual Family Holiday Fest and Mill Lighting 3:30-5:15 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center, 33175 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

There will be several holiday crafts, games and prizes for children in the center, followed by a short outdoor ceremony with the mill lighting and sing-a-long, ending at 6 p.m. Children will have the opportunity to visit Santa and enjoy refreshments after the mill lighting.

There is no charge to for the mill lighting and Santa visit, however, the cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult for Wayne County residents and \$7 per child and \$3 per adult for non-residents to participate in crafts and

games. Limited space available is available, so preregistration is required.

Families also can celebrate the magic of the season during the 20th anniversary of Lightfest 7-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6-10 p.m. Friday through Sunday on Dec. 31. Lightfest is closed Christmas Day. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle.

Friends are also looking for help in decorating the mill. People are invited to join them in stringing cedar roping, red ribbons and other decorations on the mill and Miller House. For more information, call Don Nicholson at 734-658-5296.



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# New-look Mt. Brighton has people 'psyched'

Customers like what they see after \$10M in improvements

By Jim Totten  
Gannett Michigan

Sherri Heffernan had an instant reaction when she strolled into the completely renovated Mt. Brighton Ski Area last week.

"I walked in — holy cow," Heffernan said. "It's unbelievable."

The Lyon Township woman began texting her friends and putting photos on Facebook about the new look at the facility. Vail Resorts, which recently purchased Mt. Brighton, has sunk \$10 million in improvements into the slopes at 4141 Bauer Road in Genoa Township.

With frigid temperatures, Mt. Brighton fired up its snow-making machines and opened Nov. 26, a month earlier than normal.

The slopes had a base of 22 inches of snow.

"The weather was on our side," said Taylor Ogilvie, Mt. Brighton

general manager.

He said he's been most impressed with the enthusiasm of people coming to ski. After months of construction, he said that it's great to see people enjoying the facility.

"It's been fabulous," Ogilvie said about the opening days. "Everyone is psyched."

People lined up to get their passes Nov. 27, which was an ideal day for skiing. It was sunny with blue skies and parents sat inside the lodge overlooking the slopes as their children went skiing.

Ogilvie said construction crews are completing the final improvements to the new Ore Creek Mountain Grill, which used to be the Bowery Grill, and the retail area.

Heffernan visited the skiing facility so her sons, Jake, 13, and Brandon, 10,

could go snowboarding. Everything is new inside the lodge, including chairs, tables and counters; the restaurant and other areas have all been renovated.

"It's really, really impressive," Heffernan said.

Heffernan, who used to live in Colorado, said Mt. Brighton now has the real look and feel of a lodge in Colorado, a top skiing destination.

Jake Heffernan said the chairlifts are more comfortable and there's more powdery snow on the hills. He is excited to try the new terrain park, which hasn't opened yet.

Mt. Brighton has been open since 1960. It will hold a grand re-opening celebration at noon Dec. 14.

j.totten@gannett.com  
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Gary Martin of Northville puts the first tracks down a slope fed by chairlift No. 3 at Mt. Brighton. GILLIS BENEDICT/DAILY PRESS & ARGUS



Skiers line up for night sessions at the newly re-opened and remodeled Mt. Brighton.

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11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50  
**FREE BIRDS** (PG)  
11:55, 1:45, 4:15, 6:55  
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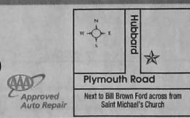
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# Group: Trouble remains in Toyland

By Nathan Mueller  
Staff Writer

ROYAL OAK — The holiday shopping season kicked off Thanksgiving Day with consumers trying to score the best deal.

But the Public Interest Research Group in Michigan is cautioning those shopping for children to take a closer look at what they are buying to ensure that that best deal is in the best interest of kids.

The consumer group released its 28th annual 'Trouble in Toyland' report Tuesday that details the dangerous or toxic toys that can still be found on store shelves everywhere from dollar stores to major retailers.

The report, which was unveiled in partnership with Beaumont Hospitals at Safety City U.S.A. in Royal Oak, touches on four hazards — toxic, choking, magnetic and noise — and urges lawmakers to continue to be vigilant in enacting safeguards to protect children.

"The message is clear, we need to protect our littlest consumers from unsafe toys," said Eric Mosher, PIRGIM program associate. "Parents and caregivers should be aware of these common hazards while shopping this holiday season and throughout the year."

Mosher said a lot of progress has been made since 2008 when the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act was enacted in response to a "unprecedented wave of recalls," but it didn't solve everything.

"Unfortunately there are still products out there that fail to meet these important safeguards," Mosher said. "And some standards need to be even stronger."

The leading cause of toy recalls is choking hazards because, as Mosher notes, "toddlers like to put things in their mouths."

He said between 2001-12, more than 90 children choked to death on balloons, balls, toys and small parts of toys. And in the past year alone the Consumer Product Safety Commission recalled more than 172,000 toys for being choking hazards.

Mosher said a reason why many products hit store shelves is because they pass through the small parts choke test cylinder that PIRGIM feels is too

big. The group urges parents to complete their own at-home test with a toilet paper roll. "If it can pass through the toilet paper roll, it is a choking hazard for children under 3," Mosher said.

One of the most dangerous hazards mentioned in the report pertains to toxic toys, because they can not be seen. According to the report, the following problems were found with toys. A Ninja Turtles pencil case sold at Toys 'R' Us was found to have 150,000 ppm of one of six phthalates banned from toys, as well as excessive levels of cadmium. It is not recalled because it is not a toy subject to the CPSIA's phthalates or toxic metal limits.

The Lamaze activity mat also tested high with antimony, but is allowed to remain on store shelves because it doesn't violate the CPSIA's soluble antimony limit. Magnets pose a major threat to children because, if swallowed, they can cause severe internal damage, according to the report.

Toys that emit loud noises, like the Chat & Count smart phone that tests above 85 decibels and is intended to be held close to the ear, can lead to hearing loss down the road, the report said.

State Sen. Roger Kahn, who serves Saginaw and Gratiot counties, said he is working on two pieces of legislation for Michigan.

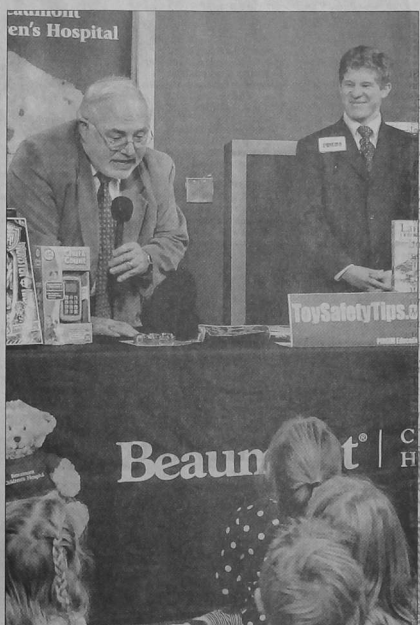
The first deals with mercury and cadmium content on toys, while the second is the creation of a safe toy for children council.

Kahn said lawmakers cannot predict what is going to happen five to 10 years from now, but they need to be looking forward to provide information to parents.

"Our children are curious and defenseless and it is up to us to protect them," he said. "That protection is empowered if you have the power to know about the safety or lack of safety of the things you buy."

The full PIRGIM report can be found online at [www.pirgimedfund.org](http://www.pirgimedfund.org) and parents are encouraged to take a short quiz to test their knowledge at [www.toysafetytips.org](http://www.toysafetytips.org).

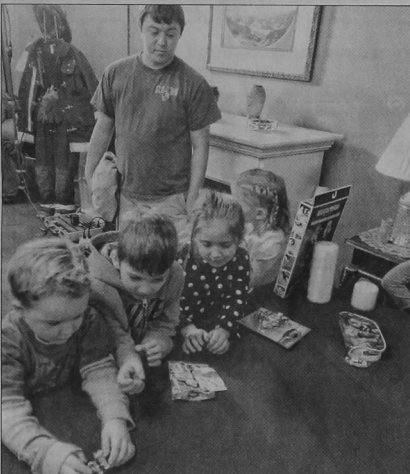
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State Sen. Roger Kahn addresses a group of students on hand at the release of PIRGIM's 28th annual Trouble in Toyland report. NATHAN MUELLER

*"Unfortunately there are still products out there that fail to meet these important safeguards. And some standards need to be even stronger."*

ERIC MOSHER  
PIRGIM program associate



Matthew Derkowski (left) plays with a toy as Luka Inadeski and Lexi Berezowski look on. The toy would pass the CPSC small parts test, but is one PIRGIM still believes is a hazard. NATHAN MUELLER

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# YAM celebrates bomber's 70th birthday

The Yankee Air Museum is sending out an invitation for the public to join in a 70th birthday party of its storied North American B-25D Mitchell bomber, "Yankee Warrior."

The beautifully restored, pristine twin-engine bomber — which turns 70 on Sunday, Dec. 8 — remains in top-flight condition.

The celebration begins at 1 p.m. and runs until 4 p.m. and will surround the aircraft, which is Hangar 1, Bay 8 on the west side of Willow Run Airport. There is no cost to participate. Birthday cake and soft drinks will be served.

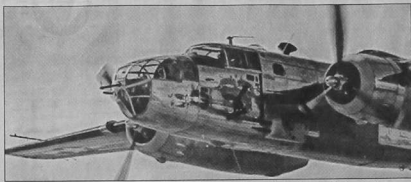
"This is a great opportunity for the public to get up close and learn more about an historic World War II aircraft," said Ray Hunter, chairman of the YAM Board of Directors. "It's important and it's a tangible application of our mission to preserve and honor aviation history and its partic-

ipants through a living, flying museum." Hunter said that this B-25 rolled off the assembly line Dec. 8, 1943, and was delivered Dec. 17, 1943, to the U.S. Army Air Forces. This medium bomber flew with the 12th Air Force, 57th Bomb Wing, 340th Bombardment Group, 489th Bombardment Squadron based in Corsica, Italy. It flew eight successful combat missions.

### One of Two's

YAM's B-25 Mitchell is one of two remaining D models and one of two B-25s with a documented combat history. The B-25D Mitchell bomber was acquired by the Yankee Air Museum in 1987 and flies regularly through the spring and summer. This plane is never on display at the Museum's Collections and Exhibits Building on the east side of Willow Run Airport.

"Having an event like this, especially the day



The "Yankee Warrior," manufactured Dec. 8, 1943, by North American Aviation in Kansas City, Kan. After the war, it was used primarily as a trainer by the Royal Canadian Air Force. The Yankee Air Museum purchased the plane in 1988. YANKEE AIR MUSEUM

after Pearl Harbor Day, is important to the community," said Kevin Walsh, YAM executive director. "Aircraft of this type, and their gallant crew, provided the first strike back at the enemy in April 1942. Now, we remember and respect our veterans while providing teachable moments for our young people."

Walsh looks forward to having the public visit the flyable aircraft in the

hangar but added that the Yankee Air Museum is consistently adding new exhibits, displays and programs. He said people should also visit the Museum's Collections and Exhibits Building during the normal operating hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

In planning the event, Gerald Lester, the Yankee Warrior's public relations officer said honoring the

public is icing on the cake."

"Yankee Warrior is a tribute to our veterans. The current crew works scores of hours preparing for every flight and there is real affinity, indeed a personal bond between all of us and this machine," Lester said. "When the crew suggested a party, it seemed the natural thing to do and inviting the

public is icing on the cake."

"The honoree requests only the pleasure of your company," Lester said. "No gifts please."

Hangar 1 is on the northwest side of the airfield. Follow the road signs for West and south access to Willow Run Airport to get to Hangar 1. Entry will be through the door under the awning of M2 Aircraft Management, Willow Run Airport, Kirk Profit Drive, Building 2601, Hangar 1.

Yankee Air Museum security volunteers will be on hand to help direct free parking and access to the birthday party.

# No opening date yet for Cantoro's on Haggerty

By David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Those eager for the second location of Livonia-based Cantoro Italian Market to open will need to wait.

Mike Larranaga, the shop's sommelier, said wine expert, said no official opening date has been set for the new location on Haggerty north of Five Mile in Northville Township. The restaurant/market is awaiting approvals from the state Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to open the kitchen, as well as the



The parking lot at the new market is complete and landscaping work is wrapping up. TOM BLEDON

liquor control commission.

He said they hope to be open by the second week of December, but nothing is official.

"We've got closer and closer to Christmas, we'd

rather do it right rather than rush it open," Larranaga said. "Right now, we're putting things on the shelves."

If delays continue, Larranaga said the shop may not open until some-

time early next year. He said a large grand opening event spanning several days is slated to take place in the spring.

The market will be the company's second, with the first at 19710 Middlebelt in Livonia between Seven Mile and Eight Mile. Larranaga said the new shop will be larger, but will feature goods many customers are able to find in Livonia, such as cheeses, meats and wines. Larranaga said the new store will also most likely expand its cheese and wine selection to other types around the world, but

would still feature mostly Italian products.

"As big as this building is, it's still family-owned," he said. "You're still going to see the owners walking the floors."

The parking lot at the new market is complete and landscaping work is wrapping up, Larranaga said, bringing many customer vehicles to the parking lot only to turn around when they realize the market isn't open yet.

"We have people walking in and out constantly," he said. "They're chomping at the bit."

The shop is expected to hire about 175 employees.

Larranaga said many customers who drive over to the Livonia shop from the Plymouth and Northville area have said they will continue to come there since they are more familiar with it.

"There's still the people from the other store that have been coming there for years and years," he said. "They will not leave. This one will be another fine place for them."

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# Safe passage

Signalized pedestrian crossing coming to metropark entrance

By Laura Colvin  
Staff Writer



Jeanie Kelleher and Bill Terian cross on horseback at the traffic light on the east side of Milford Road across from the Dairy Queen. HAL GOULD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's been a long time coming, but hikers, bikers and equestrians will be safer crossing to and from Kensington Metropark when a signalized pedestrian crosswalk is installed at Milford Road and Huron River Parkway next spring.

Bill Terian was president of the Kensington Trail Riders Association seven years ago when he first took the issue to the Milford Township Board of Trustees, hoping for a solution after a fellow Trail Riders member was nearly struck by a car as she crossed the street on horseback.

"It's very dangerous," Terian said, noting the trail in that area is frequented by recreationists going to and from Kensington Metropark and Proud Lake. "There's really not enough time for a person on horseback or a hiker or a biker to sufficiently cross that road. But it's more dangerous for horses, because horses don't always move on cue."

### The timing

The timing of light at the intersection makes crossing difficult. As it's set, the light at the park entrance at times allows for northbound traffic to proceed while southbound traffic is stopped, so vehicles leaving the park can turn right and continue south down Milford Road.

It also gives the right-of-way for northbound vehicles to turn left into the metropark.

All in all, the situation creates a dangerous scenario for those on foot, bike or horseback trying to negotiate the busy roadway and go into the park or leave it.

Over the years, KTRA

members went to township officials several times to ask that something be done to improve safety at the crossing.

They were told, however, that it was up to the Road Commission for Oakland County to handle the crossing, because the township has no jurisdiction over that stretch of Milford Road.

"The problem started years ago, when the trail was built," RCOC spokesman Craig Bryson said. "At the time, no one had funds to create a crosswalk, so the trail ended at the road right-of-way on either side. Since that time, many people have suggested there should be a crosswalk there, which (RCOC) agreed with from the beginning. The question has always been the funding."

### Cost

Finally, after much ado, several groups have come together to make it happen.

Construction costs are estimated at about \$50,000. According to Bryson, Milford Township will contribute \$5,000 to the project, Huron-Clinton Metroparks will step up with about \$17,000 and Sunoco Oil is set to donate \$25,000 to the project.

The \$50,000, Bryson added, does not include design, but the RCOC plans to make an in-kind

donation of about \$10,000 for those services.

"All the numbers are still preliminary," Bryson said. "But the goal is to go out for bid in the winter, start the project in early spring and be finished before summer."

### The project

The road commission will manage the project, which includes completion of the section of trail — currently, it comes up to the road and stops at the edge of the right-of-way on both sides — and creation of a signalized, ADA-compliant crossing with a button to activate the pedestrian cross walk and a second button at a higher level for equestrians.

Milford Township Supervisor Don Green said he's glad to see the project finally coming to fruition.

"It's been there for 54 years," Green said. "But 54 years ago, we weren't getting 33,000 cars a day on Milford Road and I think it's great that all the different entities have come together to finally make this happen."

The Sunoco Oil Co. is scheduled to make a formal check presentation for the project Dec. 3 at the Huron-Clinton Metroparks office in Brighton.

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# Start holidays the Olde-Fashioned way

What has a tree lighting, pictures with Santa and Dan Dan the Choo Choo Man?

Redford Township's Olde-Fashioned Holidays event, of course. Held at the Redford Township Marquee, the hours are 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, with the tree lighting and caroling at 6 p.m. "Everyone loves getting pictures with Santa, even adults. It kind of takes you back to your childhood," Mike Dennis, township Community Development director, said.

The event includes food and live entertainment, horse-drawn carriage rides, a wreath auction with proceeds to benefit the Redford Goodfellows, kids' activities, model train display and holiday market.

The carriage rides are very popular. "Everyone loves to get on the carriage rides and take their family and their spouse," Dennis said.

Carriage rides are \$3 per person with kids 2 and under free, according to Doreen Arwood, chair



Keily Miller sings Christmas songs at a Redford Township Olde-Fashioned Holidays celebration.

of the festival committee. Even with four carriages, the tickets sell out quickly, she said. "People should get there as soon as possible to buy tickets," she said.

#### What's new

New this year will be face painting, with a percentage of the proceeds being donated back to the Goodfellows, Arwood said.

Music will include the Redford Union High School band and carolers.

Kids' activities will include ornament decorating and other crafts, free rides on the Dan Dan

the Choo Choo Man train and an obstacle course, Arwood said.

An area Montessori school will perform a skit on different ways to celebrate the holidays and Christmas traditions around the world, she said.

A game of dreidels is also planned, Arwood said.

There will be 10-15 vendors this year, selling items such as mini doughnuts, cupcakes, herbs, soaps, coffee and pies.

Those who bring a non-perishable food item will be entered in a candy prize raffle.

The weather has been hit and miss over the years, but there are heaters and plenty of hot chocolate, Dennis said.

"It's a great time at the Marquee and it's all decorated," he said.

#### Holiday events

Other upcoming Redford Township holiday fun includes:

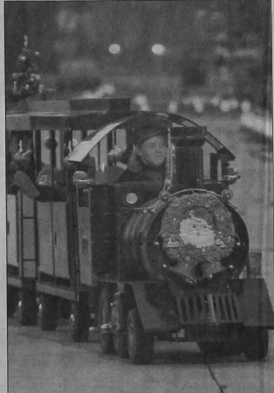
» North Pole Holiday calls for Redford residents in kindergarten through second grade.

Moms and dads can register to have special elves call their child from toy headquarters in Santa's workshop. Deadline for registering is Dec. 13. Phone calls will be made Monday, Dec. 16.

» Blizzard Brunch with Santa at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. "Snowy" games and "cool" crafts are included with this brunch that includes pictures with Santa. An adult must accompany each child and all attendees must have a ticket. Register at 12121 Hemingway in Redford. Phone 313-387-2650. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$7 for children. Children under 2 are free.

» Santa's Mailbox Dec. 2-18. Send a picture or letter to Santa at: 12121 Hemingway, Redford MI 48239. The child's name and address must be included.

Santa's mail may also be hand-delivered to his special mailbox located outside the Leisure Services Office inside the Redford Community Center. Every letter will receive a written response.



Dan Dan the Choo Choo Man will be visiting the Olde-Fashioned Holidays event Thursday, Dec. 5.

# Turning 90 with a song from the heart

By LeAnne Rogers  
Staff Writer

Turning 90 years old is a milestone, so Westland resident J. Bernard Taylor decided to have a public celebration—a vocal music recital.

"I've been singing all my life," said Taylor, a Plymouth Oratorio Society member who decided to give the concert after auditioning for a role. "I was a bass. I didn't get the part, but the idea came to me. I could still sing."

So Taylor organized the recital of mostly secular music for 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at St.

Andrew Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, Dearborn Heights. The concert is free, although a free-will offering will be accepted. Everyone is welcome and a reception with refreshments will follow. Taylor won't actually turn 90 until Dec. 27.

"I'm 90 years old, but I sing as good as ever. I think my technique is better than 20 years ago," said Taylor, a retired Presbyterian minister. "It's been over 30 years since I gave a concert. I had done joint recitals

and two by myself. When I joined the Presbytery, it sort of fell away."

#### Second career

A Philadelphia native, Taylor was ordained in 1981

after retiring from a 25-year career as a business teacher.

"I had thought about the ministry for a few years. It just hit me one night that I should do it," Taylor said. "I was a department head at a vocational school. I took a sabbatical leave and went to the seminary. I liked it and I was able to retire

(from teaching.)" Taylor received a bachelor of science degree in 1950 from Temple University, where he majored in accounting.

"It was difficult for a black person to be hired as an accountant, so I became certified as a teacher," he said.

Prior to college, Taylor served in an all-African American Army Post Battalion that was part of the D-Day invasion.

"We unloaded ships. It was particularly important to unload at the (Normandy) beach," Taylor said. "We were there three or four months. We

stayed on the beach, then we went to LeHavre."

Later, Taylor served as a clerk in Paris, working for the regiment establishing cemeteries for American military killed in action.

"I sang with the American church in Paris choir. It's the oldest American church on foreign soil," said Taylor, who returned from Europe in 1946. "I've done a lot of things in my life."

#### Crazy about Internet

A widower, Taylor moved to Westland in 2009 after marrying his current wife Beulah. The

couple met over the Internet. "I'm crazy about the Internet and YouTube. My wife is learning to knit online," Taylor said. "I spend a lot of time online. I look stuff up and do trivia."

As far as his longevity, Taylor attributes it in part of exercise — he started jogging at 50 and still walks for exercise.

"My mother died at 92; we have strong hearts. A lot of it is luck," Taylor said. "Most people my age wouldn't think of doing a recital. It's really to honor God to do it on this age."

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## PREP BOYS HOCKEY



Stevenson's Drew Hunter (14) controls the puck in front of Churchill's Drew Pulishes (2). DOUGLAS BARBER/STOCK

# Lutz sparks Spartans

Senior nets five goals in 8-0 win against Crosstown rival Chargers

By Brad Emmons  
Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson's Production Line was hitting on all cylinders in Wednesday's annual Thanksgiving Eve boys hockey clash with Livonia Churchill at Edgar Arena.

The Spartans, in fact, got to feast at the table a day early as they improved to 3-0 overall by carving up the Chargers en route to an 8-0 victory.

Senior Dominic Lutz continued his early season scoring binge with five

goals to run his season total of 11. Lutz had plenty of help from as line-mate as Tyler Irvine had a goal and four assists, while Devin Kelly also chipped in with four assists.

Stevenson, ironically, was outshout 10-8 in the first period but led 1-0 thanks to a short-handed goal by Lutz just 1:53 into the game off an assist from Irvine.

Stevenson, however, took control with three goals in the second period and added four more in the final period capped by Alec Allen's goal from Ian McDonald to end the game with 7:03 left.

"Churchill came out prepared and give them credit," Stevenson coach

David Mitchell said. "They worked really hard and outshot us in the first. Give them all the credit in the world, but it's good having that line and the chemistry with that line. Those three guys can play at the high level and high speed. When they get rolling and finish that's what can happen."

Lutz got his second 7:56 into the second period on a quick wrist shot following a face-off with Kelly assisting.

Ray Chartier then glanced a shot from just inside the left point that caromed off a Churchill defenseman and behind goaltender David Turel at 13:25

See SPARTANS, Page B4

## PREP HOCKEY

# Falcons ice 4-0 victory over Flyers

Farmington senior goalie John Lethemon pitches shutout over Crosstown rival North-Harrison

By Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Farmington took an early and let senior goalie John Lethemon do the rest in its annual Thanksgiving Eve hockey game with North Farmington-Harrison.

Lethemon stopped all 32 shots he faced and secured a 4-0 victory for the undefeated Falcons over their Crosstown rivals Wednesday night at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

"We have a really good goalie, so we play to his strength," Farmington coach Bill Newton said, adding it was the same in a 2-1 win over Novi, which enjoyed a 41-23 advantage in shots on goal.

"We'll let in shots from the outside. What we try to do is make sure there are no second or third opportunities, which we did pretty well tonight."

Newton is not the least bit concerned about the Falcons being outshot with Lethemon as the last line of defense.

"We're going to get outshot," he said. "We're designed to play that way. He's going to stop 99.9 percent



Lethemon

See FALCONS, Page B4



Senior defenseman Roman Firestone winds up for a shot on a Farmington power play in the 4-0 win. JOHN STORMZAND/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## BOYS HOCKEY

# Plymouth finally solves Canton goalie in 3-1 win

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Gerry Vento didn't have to say a word to his Plymouth varsity boys hockey team after Canton tied Wednesday night's game in the third period.

And just 57 seconds later, Vento's Wildcats went up 2-1 on a goal by junior forward Andrew Jossey (his second of the KLA's South contest).

The Wildcats tacked on another goal for good measure and skated off the Arctic Edge Arena ice with a 3-1 victory, the team's first win of the young season after two losses.

"You just got to go out there and give it your all," Jossey said when asked about his mind-set immediately following Canton's earlier equalizer by sophomore Hunter Outman. "I mean, I didn't know I was going to score, but I got a chance and I capitalized."

Jossey didn't have much to say about his game-winner, where he eluded a Canton defenseman below the circles and waited out junior goalie Nick Borg



Plymouth's Michael Scarpello is checked by Canton defenseman Hunter Schiampop while trying to jam the puck past Chiefs goalie Nick Borg. In the background is Canton's Michael Gaffka. ANNI ESPINOZA

before flipping the puck into the net with 5:15 left in the third.

His coach, however, did.

"He (Jossey) had a great game,"

See WILDCATS, Page B4

## ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE

# Oshawa nips Whalers in shootout

By Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

If every there was a moral victory, the Plymouth Whalers secured one Friday night at Compuware Arena.

That's because it was the Eastern Conference-leading Oshawa Generals that needed a shootout to squeak past the Whalers, 4-3, before 2,759 fans.

Oshawa (20-5-0-1) evened the Ontario Hockey League contest at 3-3 midway through the third on a goal by Mitchell Vande Sompel, who took a pass from Michael Dal Colle and ripped a shot that sneaked through Whalers goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (47 saves).

Following a scoreless overtime, Scott Laughton and Plymouth's Zach Lorentz traded goals in the shootout before the winner was netted by Josh Sterk.

"They're first in their conference, so they're a good team," Plymouth head coach and general manager Mike Vellucci said. "They have that one line that's really good. We tried to hold them at bay as much as we could."

That line included Dal Colle and Philadelphia Flyers property Laugh-



Plymouth Whalers defenseman Gianluca Curcuruto (No. 32) shown during a recent game, continued his physical brand of play Friday night against Oshawa. RENAI LAVERTY

ton, who scored his 20th of the season on the power play during the second period to knot the game at 1-1.

Plymouth, looking to bounce back from Wednesday's home loss against Owen Sound, had taken a 1-0 lead with 4:02 to play in the first when forward Carter Sandiak roofed a cross-crease dish from linemate Connor Chatham for his team-leading 16th of the season.

Vellucci noted his team played hard and persistent, but had trouble

See WHALERS, Page B4

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# Skipline's Young takes over Glenn A.D. reins

By Brad Emmons  
Staff Writer



John Young

Executive Director, Dr. Paul Salah, Deputy Superintendent, along with Ambrose

multiple rounds of interviews," Salah said. "We went through a very rigorous paper screen. We interviewed around 10 candidates. There were a couple of recommendations made."

Young, who also served as an assistant baseball coach two seasons at Michigan State and 14 as an assistant at Bradley University (Ill.), sat through a final interview with Wayne-Westland Superintendent Dr. Gregory Baracy.

"He possessed several characteristics," Salah said. "He's been a athlete at all levels including the pro level, the high school and collegiate level. He's played and coached competitive baseball for over 30 years. He not only has a clear understanding of the NCAA rules and guidelines, but also the MHSAA rules and guide-

lines. He presented himself as a man with a great amount of character and integrity. He was very knowledgeable and we were very impressed. He has some really good experiences at Skipline, so he can hit the ground running."

Severe cuts, close to \$1 million made recently in athletics by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, may have played a factor in Young's decision to apply for the Glenn job. "We've made cuts every year since I've been there," Young said. "That's just the way things are today with the Governor pulling funding out the way he has. Ann Arbor has been hit pretty hard financially, but we've made cuts everywhere including athletics. Athletics has been hit pretty hard. It's been kind of a juxtaposition, the pro level, the high school to build a program while the funds are being cut. That was an interesting process to go through, but the district was very fair to Skipline. We weren't hurt any more than anybody else by the cuts."

Prior to his six-and-half-year stint at Skipline, Young worked four years at the Greater Lansing Sports Authority. Prior to that he was an assistant baseball coach for two seasons at MSU (2003-04).

"For me personally it was more of a personal opportunity for me to advance my career there and do a better opportunity for me and my family," Young said. "I think John Glenn, and Wayne Memorial as well, have excellent facilities. They're well maintained. They're playing in an excellent league (K.I.A.A.). There's a lot of things that are attractive about this position that I'm sure they had several qualified applicants."

Young is a graduate of Utica Ford High School where he was a 1500-meter track draft pick by Pittsburgh. But he turned down the Pirates' offer and opted to play four seasons at Michigan, where he made the 1981 All-Big Ten Tournament team and hit .400 in the College World Series.

The former catcher was drafted in the 19th round by Detroit following his senior year and spent two years in the Tigers' minor league system before becoming an assistant at U-M under Bud Middaugh.

Young has a bachelor's degree in education and a master's in education administration. His final day at Skipline is Tuesday, but he's now spending time learning the landscape at Glenn.

"I've had a couple of conversations with Greg Ambrose," Young said. "It's just more get a feel than anything else. With basketball starting this week and all that, it's a situation where I'd really like to hit the ground running and maintain. "What Greg maintained with two buildings for the last few years... that's an unbelievable task because I know just maintaining one building what a lot of work that is. I congratulate him for keeping two programs afloat for as long as he did."

Swinehart left to take a similar position with the Walled Lake Consolidated Schools in 2009, budget cuts in Wayne-Westland forced Ambrose to assume athletic administration duties at both high schools.

"I'm just trying to fit into the system and find out how John Glenn does things," Young said. "Of course, with my diverse background in college athletics, and high school athletics, some time in professional baseball, and in the professional work world, hopefully I can bring some additional ideas and maybe some additional strategies that will help move programs forward."

"But I really don't have a good handle on any of the day-to-day stuff," Young said. "I'm excited about having some help. I don't have a lot of help at Skipline other than some volunteers I recruited and things like that. It's my understanding that we have some event coordinators and people like that in place."

When former Glenn athletic director Brian demons@hometowlife.com

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL WRAP

# Schoocraft no prevail on Sewell's clutch tip-in

The Schoocraft College men's basketball team won in dramatic fashion Friday afternoon in the Muskegon Community College Thanksgiving Tournament.

Terrill Sewell's tip-in with only 0.3 seconds left off an out-of-bounds pass Devonta Riley gave the Ocelots an 83-81 triumph over the Alma College JV squad.

Schoocraft (6-3) rallied from a 38-22 halftime deficit by outscoring the Scots 51-42 in the second half.

Basel Ibrahim led Schoocraft with 26 points, while Terrence Coles (Reford Thurmond) added 15 points and nine rebounds.

Sewell (Canton) finished with 11 points and nine rebounds, while Riley also had 11 points and dished out eight assists.

Malcolm Thurmond and Nick Sullivan scored 25 and 18 points, respectively, for Alma. St. Xavier (Ill.) 91, Madonna University (MI) 78; Brad Krey scored 27 points and led Kreyer added 19 on the bench Friday in St. Xavier University (I-3) downed No. 17 Madonna University (I-4) in a battle of NAIA Division II nationally ranked teams.

The host Crusaders trailed 20-18 in the first half before going on a 25-4 run end the half and take 40-25 advantage. Michael Simpson added 18 points and nine assists for the winners.

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Monday, Dec 2  
Lufkin, Westland at Ann Arbor, 7 p.m.  
Lakeland, W. Farmington, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, Dec 3  
Milford at Clarensville, 7 p.m.  
Serenity at Edsel Ford, 7 p.m.  
Divine Child at John Glenn, 7 p.m.  
St. A. Skyline at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Lufkin, Westland at Lufkin, 7 p.m.  
Huron Valley at Lufkin, 7 p.m.  
Lakeland at First Power, 7 p.m.  
W.L. Central at Farmington, 7 p.m.  
St. A. Skyline at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Canton at H.H. Martin, 7 p.m.  
Plymouth at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, Dec 5  
N. Farming, at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.  
H.A. Mercy at Canton, 7 p.m.  
A.A. Pioneer at Salem, 7 p.m.  
Harrison at Green Grove, 7 p.m.  
Farming, at St. Catherine, 7:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec 6  
Churchill at Crestwood, 7 p.m.  
Franklin at A.A. Skyline, 7 p.m.  
Garden City at Wayne, 7 p.m.  
Clarensville at Berkey, 7 p.m.  
Lakeland at Green Grove, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Farming at St. Catherine, TBA  
Harrison at Arbor Shooout, TBA

**PREF HOCKEY**  
Monday, Dec 2  
H.H. Mercy vs. Ann Arbor  
at Edger Arena, 8 p.m.  
Wednesday, Dec 4  
Farmington at Lakeland, 5:15 p.m.  
Franklin vs. Serenity  
Churchill vs. Canton  
at Edger Arena, 8 p.m.  
Divine Child vs. Plymouth  
at Arctic Edge Arena, 8 p.m.  
Berkey at North-Harrison, 7 p.m.  
Lakeland vs. St. A. Skyline  
at Veterans Arena, 7:30 p.m.  
H.H. Mercy vs. Country Day  
at Edger Arena, 8 p.m.  
Friday, Dec 6  
Sorey Creek vs. Canton  
at Arctic Edge Arena, 6 p.m.  
G.C. Rapids at Farmington, 7 p.m.

P.C.S. Penguins vs. Port Huron  
at Glacier Point Arena, 7:15 p.m.  
Northville vs. Plymouth  
at Edger Arena, 8 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Sorey Creek vs. Brighton  
Strommen vs. Canton  
at WWU Lawson's Arena, North-Harrison at Clarkson, 6 p.m.  
Sorey Creek at Farmington, 7 p.m.

Franklin vs. Salem  
at Port Huron, 8:30 p.m.  
Churchill vs. Pt. Huron  
at North-Harrison, 7 p.m.  
TBA  
TBA  
**PREF WRESTLING**  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Waterford, 9 a.m.  
Northville, 9 a.m.  
Glen Rocker, 9 a.m.  
Howell, Wilkerson, 9 a.m.  
Trenton, 9 a.m.  
Warren Woods, 9 a.m.  
A.A. Pioneer, 9 a.m.  
St. A. Skyline, 9 a.m.  
Biosciences International, 10 a.m.  
Plymouth, 10 a.m.

**GIRLS GYMNASTICS**  
Tuesday, Dec 3  
Livonia vs. W.L. Western-Gold  
at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.  
W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.  
Salem, 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Dec 4  
Waterford at Canton, 6:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec 6  
Livonia vs. Milford-Lakeland  
at Highland, 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Judges: Carl Invernizzi, TBA  
**PREF BOWLING**  
Saturday, Dec 7  
N. Farmington Tournament  
at Gibraltar Lanes, 10 a.m.  
**GIRLS COMPETITIVE SWIMMER**  
Saturday, Dec 7  
N. Farmington, 10 a.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS**  
Wednesday, Dec 4  
Neweston, Ohio at MI, 7:30 p.m.  
Schoocraft vs. Rochester IV  
at Oakland Christian, 8 p.m.  
Neweston, Ohio at MI, 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Schoocraft vs. Rochester IV  
at Oakland Christian, 8 p.m.  
Neweston, Ohio at MI, 7:30 p.m.  
South at Expo Valley, 1 p.m.  
**ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
Friday, Dec 6  
Soo Greyhounds vs. Pt. Whales  
at Centerville Arena, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec 7  
Gardner vs. Pt. Whales  
at Centerville Arena, 7 p.m.  
TBA - time to be announced.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Naubert pours in 29 in MU win vs. Lourdes

By Brad Emmons  
Staff Writer

There's a long way to go in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball schedule — 18 games to be exact — but Madonna University got a signature win when she won 67-57 over Lourdes University.

The 17th-ranked Crusaders got 29 points from senior guard Bobby Naubert and a lift from their bench during the second half to earn a hard-fought 67-57 victory over visiting Lourdes (Ohio) University.

MU improved to 5-3 overall and sits alone again in first in the WHAC at 4-0, while Lourdes falls to 6-2 and 3-1.

The Crusaders trailed by as many as seven, 40-33, with 13:16 left in the game on a layup by Elvis Butler, who led all scorers with 31 points.

But MU rallied with a 14-0 run, thanks in part to its bench, which outscored the Gray Wolves 27-10 on the night.

Zach Wedesky, a junior guard, came off the bench to add eight points, while freshman forward Dan Hall contributed six points, three rebounds and two steals in 10 minutes. Junior forward Jeff Schmitz chipped in seven points in 12 minutes.

MU trailed 26-25 at the half and came out slowly to start the second half. Wedesky's triple with 2:45 left put MU up 61-53 and Derek Lemmen's floater in the lane with 1:23 remaining sealed the win.

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## Livonia resident recreates White House Christmas tree for holiday walk

By Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Tina Lindsay occasionally tears up when she talks about the blaze that destroyed her Livonia home five years ago.

But she'll be all smiles when visitors next weekend tour the 7,500-square-foot house that replaced it. Lindsay, whose home is on the Livonia Christmas Walk, is eager to show the rebuilt abode, as well as her decorating efforts.

"There are 19 areas we decorated in the house. We did every single room," she said.

The Lindsay home is among five residences, along with the Simmons/Hill House at Greenmead, that will be decorated for the holidays and open to ticket-holders on the walk, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Tickets are \$9 in advance, \$10 the day of the walk. Advance tickets are available at Livonia's public libraries and at Greenmead, located at Newburgh and Eight Mile. Proceeds benefit the restoration and maintenance of the historic site.

Members of Friends for the Development of Greenmead, the organization that sponsors the walk, approached Lindsay last year about participating, but she and her husband, Chris, and their two daughters, Caitlyn, 8, and Mariah, 4, planned to be out of town.

"I thought to myself that the next year, for sure I would do it. I told them I would," she said.

### Pitching in

She started decorating about a month ago, enlisting the help of friends, her daughters and her mother for some of the larger projects. Lind-

say's mother and father, Nick-ey and William Necker, co-own the house and live with their daughter and her family. Lindsay, an only child, grew up in Livonia and graduated from Stevenson High School. Her husband, whom she met through a family member, graduated from Franklin High School.

"Every room is so big. We needed to do more in each room to make it feel full. Adding a few things wasn't enough. We added more and then switched things around and switched colors and we were climbing out of boxes and were entangled in glitter."

She and a friend placed table top Christmas trees, sparkly figurines, roping and wreaths, bows and ornaments throughout the house, letting their imaginations and advice from others guide them.

### White House tree

The most time-consuming project stands in the spacious family room. Lindsay and her helpers painted 487 clear, round ornaments for what has become Lindsay's favorite Christmas tree. She plans to add another 13 bulbs to round out the number at 500.

The tree, with its candy cane-style swirl of colored ornaments, replicates a White House Christmas tree from 2012. Lindsay recorded a television program last year about decorations at the White House. She used the recording as a reference when she decorated her own tree.

"We got clear ornaments, dumped paint inside with a tiny bit of water, shook them up, tipped them over Dixie cups, let them drain over night and let them dry five to six



Tina Lindsay, and daughters Mariah, 4, and Caitlyn, 8, painted the 500 glass ornaments on the tree in the background. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Nineteen areas, including rooms and hallways, are decorated for the walk at the Lindsay home.



The dining room table is set for the holidays.



The mirror on the wall by this chest reflects decorations on the other side of the room.

days. The color is inside, so the bulb is shiny, not dull," Lindsay said. "It took three of us to place the ornaments. We wired them ourselves."

### Finishing touches

She planned to decorate her final tree for the walk on Sunday, Dec. 1, and will hold a "baking day" later in the week. The live evergreen will wear gold and crystal ornaments

and plates full of baked goodies will greet visitors as they walk through the kitchen.

Guests also will get a chance to leaf through a photo album that documents changes in the house, from its early days in the 1940s, to its charred remains after the fire in February 2008, and finally to its reconstruction. Lindsay said a steel liner in a fireplace broke loose just six months after the family moved into the house,

causing flames to spread.

"It was very bad. They gutted everything. It was a three-year ordeal."

In addition to the album, several photos of the house are displayed in a hallway which visitors will use to exit the residence. The sentiment printed above the photos advises: "Remember to cherish each moment, for this is what memories are made of."

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# Should reader replace old appliances before selling?

This column is a follow-up to my last column about hidden problems that we hear so little about.

As an example, I am quoting an email sent to me from Tony in Westland who wrote: "I had to laugh while reading your column in the *Observer* newspaper, Nov. 10, 2013. You mentioned the light staying on when the door was closed. I had this same problem several months ago with my Sears Kenmore. At first, I thought it was simply a switch, but when I bypassed the two switches with a jumper wire, it didn't fix it. I then searched the Internet and found that there was a recall but it affected refrigerators that were manufactured before mine. The thought occurred to me, 'If this existed before mine, why didn't they fix the problem?'"

"Anyway, I did find that there was a class action lawsuit for this problem. I had my wife call Sears and they told us that even though our refrigerator was not recalled, they extended the warranty for this problem. They replaced the circuit board and the light fixtures, which had turned a nice brown color as well as melting a lot of the plastic. Incidentally, the bulbs that were in there were 60 watts. He told us not to put anything higher than 40 watts. Even though it takes two bulbs, it's fine with one."

"I have to admit that I was shocked when I did the research. I discovered that my unit is made by LG. I would have never bought this if I knew it was made by LG. This company used to be Goldstar and their electronic equipment was unreliable. Thanks for the excellent column and the advocacy that you do for consumers."

My thanks to Tony for the educational email he sent me and also to the other readers who make me aware of many other things going on with their appliances. A special thanks to service technicians who also feel the pain of consumers and want to see issues resolved in a better fashion.



**Old or new?**

An email from Donna just exemplifies what is going on across America at an alarming rate. Donna writes: "I have a question for you which is of the utmost importance to my cousin, who lives in southeast Florida. My husband and I just returned from staying with her and her husband. They have a beautiful home, immaculate, really, which is about a half mile walk from Juno Pier. Unfortunately, they will be unable to retire next year, and will not be able to keep their home due to taxes and insurance. The home has all of the original appliances, which are now 34 years old. My cousin fears the age of the appliances gives the home an "uncared" for appearance, which could not be further from the truth. The thing is, my aunt, her mother, who lives not too far away on Singer Island, recently bought all new appliances, including stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and microwave. The blue lights and the stainless steel are absolutely beautiful, but she has had nothing but trouble with all but the microwave. "My cousin is very concerned about buying new appliances and having nothing but trouble. She also doesn't want to pay an arm and a leg for them. Are there any good looking, good working appliances out there at affordable prices?"

Well, Donna, I will give you a suggestion to pass on to your cousin. Keep all the old appliances in place. Someone may walk into that house and purchase it based on the fact that he or she may prefer the old appliances and the quality they still hold today. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m. Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can email your problems and questions on appliances to [appl@tdwm.com](mailto:appl@tdwm.com).



Randy Mauck, (left) Lisa Brancato and Dawson Mauck of Detroit and Cole Wilson of Westland, enjoy Hob Noble Gobble. PHOTOS BY JULIE YELLES

# Parade supporters eat, mingle, dance at Hob Noble Gobble

We give thanks for 87 years of America's Thanksgiving Parade. And even more thanks to the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation for 24 years of hosting Detroit's premier family fun-raiser, the Hob Noble Gobble. The 24th annual Hob Noble Gobble brought nearly 2,000 supporters to Ford Field last Friday.

Less than a week before showtime: America's Thanksgiving Parade. The black-tie gala had nonstop live entertainment, including America's Got Talent Kenichi Ebina; a buffet of every cuisine imaginable,



Katie and Clayton Welch of Livonia, along with their daughters, Kendra, 2 and Megan, 4, look picture perfect for their photo opp with Santa.



Redford resident Sherrie Chrysler (left) wears her Smiggins the clown costume at Hob Noble Gobble. With her is Detroit resident Cheryl Woodward.

including Thanksgiving in a cup (turkey, cranberry sauce and stuffing); sugar, sugar and more sugar — cotton candy, candy apples and even Girl Scouts cook-

ies; corn dogs, fries, Shirley Temples; tattoo and face painting; Disney radio contests and since it was held in Ford Field, dancing with Detroit Lions' Roary.

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- **Bike Through the Lights on Nov. 13**
- **Reindeer Nights**  
Back by popular demand! There will be live reindeer at Santa's Workshop on Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9 and 16.
- **Toy Night Tuesdays**  
Nov. 19, 26 and Dec. 3, 10 and 17. Bring a new, unwrapped toy in lieu of the \$5 vehicle fee. Toys will be donated to the Wayne County Family Center.
- **Live Entertainment**  
Santa's workshop on Dec. 4 and 11!
- **Photos with Santa**  
at his workshop nightly starting Nov. 22 until Dec. 23 at the end of the Lightfest.

For fees and registration information, visit [www.waynecounty.com](http://www.waynecounty.com)

## WESTLAND GOODFELLOWS

"2013~ No Child Without a Christmas"

The Westland Goodfellows is holding a toy and food drive. Donations of toys, hats & gloves, and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at any of the following locations. All donated items will be distributed to Westland families this Christmas.

**Donation boxes available November 1 to December 7th, 2013**

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Daniel Sharpmart	36520 Ford Rd., Westland
Don Massey Cadillac	5770 N. Hix Rd., Westland
Family Video	40475 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
Forum Fitness Center	146 S. Genoa, Westland
Fountain Park Apartments	34250 Ford Rd., Westland
Gentle Dental Family Dentistry	37410 Fountain Park Circle, Westland
Hampton Court Apartments	35270 Nankin Blvd., Westland
Independent Carpet One	5800 N. Christine, Westland
Lutheran Church of Our Saviour	1400 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Nativity of the Virgin Mary Church	29425 Annapolis, Westland
Orchards of Newburgh Apartments	39851 W. Five Mile Rd., Plymouth
Our Savior's Manor	37140 S. Orchard Cr., Westland
Parkside Credit Union	29495 Annapolis, Westland
Speedy Auto Repair	1747 S. Newburgh, Westland
Taco Bell	1803 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Tanabed Island	6925 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Taylor Towers	35041 Cherry Hill, Westland
Venoy Pine Apartments	36500 Marquette, Westland
Wayne Ford Civic League	7127 E. Bonnie Dr., Westland
Wayne-Westland Fed. Credit Union	1661 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Bow	500 S. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Car Care	5940 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland Chamber of Commerce	7666 N. Wayne Rd., Westland
Westland City Hall	36900 Ford Rd., Westland
Westland Fire Station-Main	36601 Ford Rd., Westland
Westland Library	Ford Rd at Central City Parkway, Westland
Westland Nursing & Rehab. Centre	6123 Central City Parkway, Westland
Westland Police Dept.-Lobby	36137 W. Warren Rd., Westland
Westland Senior Center	36701 Ford Rd., Westland
Wildwood Apartments	1119 Newburgh Rd., Westland
	5995 N. Wildwood, Westland

[www.westlandgoodfellows.org](http://www.westlandgoodfellows.org)  
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# Nurses, pharmacist weigh in on ACA impact

By Julie Brown  
Staff Writer



Dale Knab of Wilts's Community Pharmacy said pharmacists have long been front-line health care providers. TONY BRUSCATO

## Nursing today

Gardner worked at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital by Ann Arbor for 32 years, and has views on nurses' role in health care. She agreed the computer and documentation increased in nursing.

"But the care still has to be given," she said. "I worked in critical care. You still had a lot of hands-on nursing." She's now in pre-op and post-op care at the VA, preparing patients for surgery and doing some recovery.

"I think there is a lot more opportunity for teaching and follow-up" for nurses today, Gardner said, including working with families. Doctors have limited time with patients: "I think the nurse does play a bigger role in education and follow-up. You play a key role in their recovery and education."

Gardner has been with the VA long enough to get retiree health care for herself. "I think there's still a lot of uncertainty," she said of the ACA. "Somebody's got to pay. There's going to be a lot more people who can get medical treatment."

Premiums and costs will remain an issue, Gardner added. "It's hard to say if it's going to prove a good

thing or not."

Jones said some older nurses are concerned about less hands-on care. "It's still things you need a nurse for," Jones said. "There have been changes. It's still a good field."

## Pharmacist's view

Knab, who earned his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Michigan, bought Wilts's in Plymouth with wife Andrea, also a pharmacist, in 1980. He noted some older patients, including those on Medicare, are confused about coverage changes coming Jan. 1.

"I think it's too soon to tell," Dale Knab said, noting difficulties with the government's health care website. "I think in general it will work. It's going to take some time."

Knab, an Ann Arbor resident, has been pleased to see Blue Cross Blue Shield suggest alternatives to customers whose policies are ending. "I don't think it's as bad as it could be," he said. "I think they're doing a pretty good job."

All pharmacies experience some confusion each Jan. 1, he said, with changes in prescription coverage each year going back to when it started. "A number of these plans are going to have some changes in them," Knab said.

Older people are generally less computer-literate, he said, and some don't have a younger family member to help with online research and issues.

He and other pharmacists recommend that a patient's prescriptions all be filled at one pharmacy, to allow monitoring of side effects and interactions. Knab sees pharmacists continuing as visible health care providers.

"I don't know that's going to increase," he said. "It's certainly already there." When he's working at his store, he's visible and available for health care questions, some of which get answered by phone.

jbrown@hometownlife.com

## MEDICAL DATEBOOK

### DECEMBER

#### HOSPICE SEMINAR

Hospice and palliative care expert Dominic F. Glorioso Jr., D.O., will present a free community lecture, 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 2, at Botsford Hospital's Education and Administration Center, Classroom C, 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills. Glorioso, director of palliative care at Gettysburg Hospital in Gettysburg, Pa., and a hospice physician at York Hospital, York, Pa., will discuss death and dying and the importance of family support. For more information, call 248-442-7986. **KIDNEY BALL**

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan will hold its ninth annual Kidney Ball beginning with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner served at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the MGM Grand in Detroit. The event, which features the theme "A Midwinter Night's Dream," will include a night of live music, dancing, a live auction, silent auction, food, cocktails, and even a candy "bar" to top off the evening. Tickets are \$250 per person, available at [www.nkfm.org/events](http://www.nkfm.org/events) or by calling 800-822-1453.

#### ONGOING

#### AQUATIC CLASSES

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease the pain of arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m. to noon Tuesday and Thursday at the Farmington branch and

1:15 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at the Livonia branch. To join or for more information, visit [www.ymcadetroit.org](http://www.ymcadetroit.org). **BREAST CANCER SUPPORT**

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit [www.stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org). **BLOOD PRESSURE**

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, cholesterol (\$5), and lipid panel (\$10) testing, 10 a.m. to noon the first Tuesday of each month in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required.

Senior citizens can have their blood pressure tested monthly, free of charge, at 8:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesday and second and fourth Thursdays of each month at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 Warren Road, at Wayne Road in Westland; 10:15 a.m. every other

Wednesday at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, Garden City; and every second Tuesday at the Redford Community Center. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

#### CHOIR TRAINING

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22.

The Affordable Care Act and its implications for health care have dominated recent headlines, nationally and locally.

"Most folks can pay for the new premiums as long as they don't get sick," said pharmacist Dale Knab, owner with his wife of Wilts's Community Pharmacy on Main Street in Plymouth. "Certainly the co-pay amounts are going up. I'm not sure anyone really knows at this point what will happen."

Doctors have spoken on the ACA and health care, but nurses and pharmacists also have views. Marilyn Gardner of Canton is a registered nurse with 42 years experience, and works at the VA Medical Center in Ann Arbor, where she's been five years. She studied for nursing on the west side of Michigan, before the B.S.N. or associate's degree programs became commonplace.

"I do hear some from the employees," Gardner said. "I do think there's a lot of uncertainty about the Affordable Care Act."

Charlene Jones of Canton is a registered nurse at Primary Pediatrics of Integrated Healthcare Associates in Ann Arbor. Much of her job is determining where patients should go.

"That's a lot of what my job is, doing the triage," said Jones, who earned her B.S.N. from Bowling Green State University in Ohio and has practiced since 1977. "Cost is an issue. They try to hold back from coming in if they don't have to. Sometimes they come in the office first. They might need to go somewhere else."

That could be an urgent care or even the emergency room, a call nurses can help make. Both nurses have handled minor health issues for people when asked.

Gardner's patients will be less impacted by the ACA, as they have veterans' benefits, but do pay some for treatment, based on their service record, illnesses and other factors.

## VETERANS'

## COFFEE HOUR

## Q&A

Enjoy free coffee and donuts and get answers to your questions about the benefits, services and resources available to military veterans, including:

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- ★ Special benefits for disabled veterans
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**Q&A WITH:**  
Department Service Officer Toni Moses,  
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)  
DAV is a veterans' advocacy and assistance group. DSO Moses will answer questions about a wide range of benefits, services and resources available to veterans. Learn more at [www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)

Veterans Services Coordinator Pam Paxton-Keehler,  
Schoolcraft College  
Ms. Paxton-Keehler will answer questions about how veterans can use their educational benefits to pursue a college education. Learn more at [www.schoolcraft.edu/](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/) veterans or 734-462-4400, x5346.

*This event is free and open to all veterans and those who care for and support them.*

## Baby, It's Cold Outside!

...Stay Warm and Practice Proper Winter Safety!  
From A Garden City Hospital Health Expert



Dr. Szelesnicki  
Sports Medicine

A snowy day can add a nice touch to the holidays, but with temperatures below freezing, it's important to exercise caution when going outside. GCH Family Practice and Sports Medicine Expert, Dr. Stanley Szelesnicki, provides essential information for staying healthy when the weather outside gets frightful.

**Q: What exactly is hypothermia?**

**A:** Hypothermia is when the body's core temperature drops from its usual 98.6 degrees, and becomes a medical emergency when dipping below 95 degrees or less. Anyone who spends extended periods of time outside in cold winter temperatures is at risk for hypothermia. In addition to the lowered temperature, someone experiencing hypothermia may suffer from extreme shivers, confusion, slurred speech, clumsiness, disorientation, dizziness and drowsiness.

When heading outdoors, make sure you dress warmly. It's wise to dress in layers when you'll be exerting yourself in frigid temperatures so that you can start out properly insulated, and then shed layers as your body temperature starts to rise as a result of your level of activity.

Make a point of wearing clothing made from synthetic materials to help conserve body heat. Avoid wearing clothing made from cotton fibers. If cotton gets wet, it takes some time to dry and during that time, you run the risk of becoming severely chilled and losing much needed body heat.

**Q: How do you know if you have frostbite?**

**A:** When it's cold enough, skin can freeze, resulting in frostbite. Frostbite not only is painful, it can result in loss of fingers and toes. Early warning signs of frostbite may include but are not limited to tingling, numbness or coldness in an affected area. While we all experience cold fingers, toes, hands, feet and faces in cold weather, the feeling goes beyond mere cold. Skin in the affected area may begin to appear white or "frosted," and skin may feel tight and resistant when pressed. Frostbite may also be indicated when a person experiences lack of sensations to the affected area. Normal sensations like pain disappear and hands or feet may feel "heavy". Be prepared and dress properly when going outside in cold weather. This is especially important when letting children play outside. If you feel you or a loved one is experiencing frostbite or hypothermia, get them to a warm place and remove any wet clothing. **GENTLY BEGIN WARMING THEM. AND SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY. IF A PERSON HAS FROSTBITTEN TOES OR FEET, AVOID LETTING THEM WALK, UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. DO NOT USE HEAT FROM HEATING PADS, A RADIATOR, FIRE OR HOT WATER.**

From chilling temperatures to slippery sidewalks, winter brings many unique safety concerns. Keep your family cozy and safe this winter. Remember to dress appropriately, use extreme caution on frozen lakes and rivers, go outside in groups or at least let someone else know where you are, prepare your car for winter travel, don't "over do it" when shoveling and stay hydrated. If you get wet or cold, go inside right away. If you're concerned, play it safe and see a physician.

Happy holidays from Garden City Hospital!

If you have a health or medical question, or would like to make an appointment with one of the GCH Health Experts, visit [GCH.org](http://GCH.org) or call 877.717.WELL.



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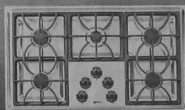


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# Why every job seeker needs a portfolio

**Nicki Krawczyk**  
Founder of  
FilthyRichWriter.com

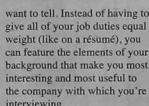
Job interviews used to be about showing up, answering questions and being polite and professional. Now, with how competitive it is to get a job, successful candidates need to also focus on proving their usefulness to the company and their uniqueness as professionals.

## How?

Portfolios – visual representation of previous work – have been a go-to job search tool for copywriters, graphic designers and artists for years. But the benefits of a portfolio can be reaped by any serious job applicant, regardless of the industry. While they shouldn't replace résumés, portfolios can help bring your experience to life.

## Here are some benefits:

- 1 **People like pictures.** It's simple but true: Instagram and Pinterest wouldn't be successful if it weren't. You can draw people in by showing an interesting visual representation of your previous work experience and volunteer activities.  
Did you volunteer for Habitat for Humanity? Use a picture of you helping to build a house. Did you work on a social media campaign? Use a picture of some of your tweets and posts. Did you work the front desk for a pharmaceutical firm? Use some of the firm's pictures of people its drugs have helped (Always give photo credit and be sure that the photo is available for public use.)  
The purpose of the photo is to catch someone's eye and draw him in to learn more. The more interesting the picture, the better: just be sure it's relevant.
- 2 **People like stories.** Once you've drawn someone with a picture, use a paragraph to tell a story about what you did at a company or in a volunteer position. Make sure you focus on how you benefited the company and made a difference. Use this story to answer the questions, "How did I help this company/organization meet its mission?" and "What did I do differently or better than others have done?" Keep it to just a few sentences, but keep it interesting. Remember, you've always got your résumé to fall back on for bullet-point details.
- 3 **Portfolios let you feature your strengths.** When you put together a portfolio, you're guiding a hiring manager through the story you



portfolio? You'll want both an online and a print one. Sending a link to an online portfolio with an application or cover letter lets you show off your skills before an interviewer meets you. A print portfolio lets you show off your skills in person. For your print portfolio, you

can go to an art store and simply pick up a presentation case with clear archival pages (kind of like old photo book pages) in which to put photos. In a pinch, you could even use a good-looking binder.  
For your online portfolio, sites such as [wix.com](http://wix.com), [imcreator.com](http://imcreator.com), [vrb.com](http://vrb.com) and [squarespace.com](http://squarespace.com) let you create your own site with a gallery/portfolio section and a place for a bio about yourself. Some offer free services, while others cost a small fee.



Portfolios are an effective way to help you direct the conversation about yourself as a job candidate. But, right now, not that many people outside of the creative industries are doing it, which means that creating your portfolio is just another opportunity to stand out and prove what an insightful, strategic and unique professional you are.

*Nicki Krawczyk is a copywriter, copy coach and founder of FilthyRichWriter.com, an online resource for new and aspiring copywriters.*

want to tell. Instead of having to give all of your job duties equal weight (like on a résumé), you can feature the elements of your background that make you most interesting and most useful to the company with which you're interviewing.

The interviewer is in the position to decide whether you get the job, but it's up to you to guide the discussion toward the things about you that make you the best candidate.  
So, how do you build a

"The benefits of a portfolio can be reaped by any serious job applicant, regardless of the industry."



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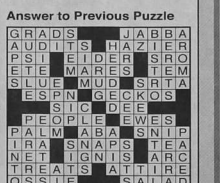


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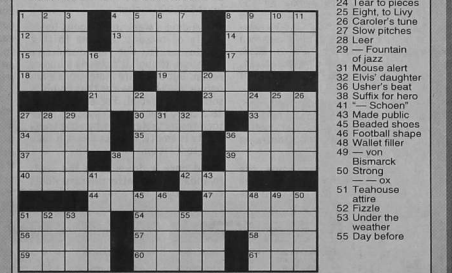
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**CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Big galoot
  - 4 The mind's 1?
  - 6 tinglass
  - 12 Lemony drink
  - 13 Fossil fuel
  - 14 Bloodhound's clue
  - 15 Himalayan city
  - 17 Polio vaccine inventor
  - 18 Paint with fingers
  - 19 Subsidies
  - 21 Gridiron div.
  - 23 "Don Juan" poet
  - 27 Removes, as branches
  - 30 Morays and congers
  - 33 Environmental prefix
  - 34 Pointed arch
  - 35 Grass-skirt accessory
  - 36 Part of a.m.
  - 37 Diner sandwich
  - 38 Types
  - 39 Archaeologist's find
  - 40 Pod contents
  - 42 Stomach muscles, for short
  - 44 GI supply
  - 47 Bauxite giant
  - 51 Norse Zeus
  - 54 Gorges
  - 56 Lion's share
  - 57 Neanderthal home
  - 58 Depot (abbr.)
  - 59 Laid-off
  - 60 Malamute's load
  - 61 Term of endearment
- DOWN**
- 1 Acorn droppers
  - 2 Sandier or West
  - 3 Party
  - 4 Neck warmer
  - 5 Very long time
  - 6 Put cargo on board
  - 7 Botch
  - 8 Like a damp rock
  - 9 Mont. neighbor
  - 10 Blimp title
  - 11 Indiana Jones' guest
  - 16 Pastor's abode
  - 20 Small shot
  - 22 Nun's room
  - 24 Tear to pieces
  - 25 Eight, to Livy
  - 26 Caroler's tune
  - 27 Slow pitches
  - 28 Leap
  - 29 Fountain of jazz
  - 31 Mouse alert
  - 32 Elvis' daughter
  - 36 Usher's beat
  - 38 Suffix for hero
  - 41 Schler's tune
  - 43 Made public
  - 45 Beaded shoes
  - 46 Football shape
  - 48 Wallet filler
  - 49 — von Blismarck
  - 50 Strong — ox
  - 51 Teahouse attire
  - 52 Fizzle
  - 53 Under the weather
  - 55 Day before

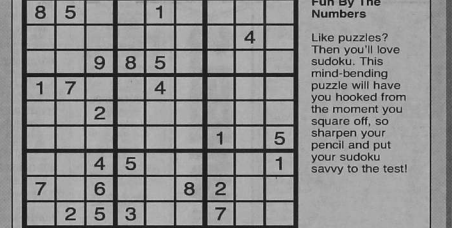


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