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TAKE THE O&E CHRISTMAS LIGHT TOUR

SEE PAGE A10 AND HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local officials see ups in 'tough' road decision

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Local officials reacted cautiously Friday to news that Michigan voters will be asked for a penny increase in the state's sales tax as part of a tax shift that would raise an estimated \$1.34 billion annually for transportation infrastructure, most of which would go toward roads.

The measure calling for a May ballot proposal was approved by the Senate early Friday after a late-night session; the House had approved the plan on earlier. If voters agree, the proposal will raise the state's sales tax from 6 percent to 7 percent and eliminate the sales tax on gasoline, which would be replaced later by a wholesale fuel tax. "They got something done

and I hope it makes a difference in roads," said Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy. "They needed to do something."

LaJoy said he would have preferred an earlier Senate plan for raising road revenue. But he and Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume were also against any plan that would endanger state revenues to local communities

and public schools; the plan approved would actually increase money for schools and communities.

"If the voters turn it down, we'll be back to square one," LaJoy said.

Reaume admitted the estimated \$94 million the plan earmarks for local governments won't go very far when stretched across the state. "That will only help offset

the \$700,000 less we received because of lower property values," he said.

Up to voters

Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer said he's happy that voters will have the final say. "If it passes, we'll find some projects" that might be eligible for state funding, he said. It

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It's time for a group photo before the shopping begins.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHOPPING TRIP



Firefighter Mike Thoms and Adrianya Dean search for a Nerf toy.

Canton firefighters help students choose presents

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

It was tough to tell whose smile was wider Tuesday – Lisa Hunsaker or her 5-year-old kindergartner, Jaden.

The Canton residents were among some 30 kids, plus their parents, who took part in the second annual Christmas with a Firefighter program, sponsored by the Canton Firefighter Charity Foundation in conjunction with the Canton Meijer.

The program is designed to pair students from families that need "a little help," said firefighter Greg Hunter. Using money raised by firefighters, the students are

escorted through the aisles at the Ford Road Meijer, shopping for Christmas presents.

"It's very nice of (firefighters) to organize this ... a nice way to pull together," Lisa Hunsaker said. "(Jaden) is having a lot of fun. I love to see the way that she lights up."

Hunter was just as excited about the turnout, with more kids – and more firefighter volunteers – than in the first year of the program last year.

"It was great for us ... We had a great turnout of kids and a great turnout of fire-

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District, PARC are still negotiating Central buy

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

For the last year, organizers of the Plymouth Area Recreation Complex – a group that wants to turn the soon-to-be-closed Central Middle School into a regional community center – have enjoyed exclusive negotiating rights with Plymouth-Canton Community Schools officials over a potential selling price.

And, even though the board has rescinded the exclusive nature of the group's standings, the PARC still is in the driver's seat after a new board resolution passed Tuesday night.

While the new resolution, passed unanimously by the seven-member board, allows the district to entertain other potential suitors, it also directed the administration to continue its conversation with PARC organizers.

The district had been negotiating only with PARC since the board passed its original resolution in December 2013. That resolution granted exclusive negotiating rights to the PARC team through Dec. 31, 2014. With that deadline nearing with no deal imminent, the board decided to make a new resolution.

The new order allows administration to negotiate with other buyers, if any materialize, but also directs the district to continue talks with the PARC. Michael Meissen, the district's superintendent, said the new resolution allows the district to finalize a potential deal, if one can be reached.

"For me (the resolution) makes clear we recognize there has been an ongoing

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WARM THOUGHTS

Honor Society students embrace charity blanket drive

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton's National Honor Society students perform a variety of services in the name of community service.

This week, the NHS kids

extended that reach.

Some 235 NHS volunteers filled the Plymouth High School cafeteria Monday, just as winter is beginning, to make blankets that will not only benefit victims of domestic abuse in the Plymouth-Canton area, but will also help some nine million refugees across the globe.

The blankets, some 175 of them, will be donated to First Step, the domestic abuse shelter headquartered in Ply-

mouth-Canton, and to Embrace Relief, a nonprofit organization that brings together teams of volunteers to collaborate on humanitarian aid and disaster relief efforts, in this case a state of emergency in Turkey.

"We wanted to think globally and act locally," said NHS Secretary Nimra Hassan. "Embrace Relief is trying to collect 90,000 blankets (for Turkey). We chose First Step because

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Canton High School seniors Monika Webster (from left), Sean Carey, Evan Childs and Kyle Webster show off the blanket they made together during Monday's National Honor Society blanket drive.



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Five-year-old Jaden Hunsaker speaks with Santa Claus. Mom, Lisa Hunsaker, listens in.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PRESENTS

Continued from Page A1

fighters," Hunter said. "We want to help the community. We see people who maybe need a little help, and we can provide that to them. Our firefighters are happy to see the kids light up." All of the kids taking

part in the event were chosen from Field Elementary School. The school's principal, Denise Lilly, was appreciative of the help.

"It's an absolutely wonderful program," Lilly said. "It's a blessing to our families, and to our school community."

The program provided some \$5,000 for the kids. Each student was given

\$100 to spend on presents, and each parent was given a \$70 gift card to buy coats and boots for their children.

The Domino's pizza restaurant at Cherry Hill and Sheldon donated 25 large pizzas, and Meijer chipped in half the spending money for the presents.

Meijer officials understand many of the

people taking part in the event likely shop at Meijer, and this was a chance for the store to help out.

"We want to give back to our community," said Michelle Wilson, fashion team leader with the store. "It's part of our core values."

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BLANKETS

Continued from Page A1

we wanted to target domestic abuse, which is a problem close to home, and we felt the local charity deserved the help."

The blanket drive is one of four charity efforts NHS students are making around the holi-

day season. NHS volunteers recently helped out at the Plymouth Salvation Army Toy Town and visited Roberto Clemente Academy in Detroit to host a Christmas party for the elementary school's students and elevate the holiday spirit. They'll soon host a Trivia Night to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

All four events were



BRAD KADRICH

Salem High School junior Amanda Jarrett was one of more than 200 National Honor Society volunteers who created nearly 200 blankets.

chosen by the NHS' executive board.

"Those kids are amazing leaders," said Becky Kraft, the faculty adviser to NHS.

The blanket drive was incredibly successful. The NHS board originally asked for 150 volunteers, and that list filled up quickly, Hassan said. They extended it to 175, then to 225 before finally cutting it off.

"We could have had more (volunteers)," Has-

san said. "It was insane, but you can't really deny them, because they just want to help."

The volunteers took part in the blanket drive in an effort to give back to a community where the need exists.

"I really believe in helping others," Salem High School junior Amanda Jarrett said. "Some people can't totally support themselves, and there's nothing wrong with getting some help. It's important for teenagers to get involved in the community."

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Now, road funding is up to voters

By Michigan.com staff

Gov. Rick Snyder has indicated he will sign a package of bills that could raise revenue for transportation, the majority of which would go to the state's roads. The key provision is a statewide vote in May that would raise Michigan's sales tax by one cent.

The Michigan Senate passed that provision with a 26-12 vote early Friday morning, barely getting the two-thirds majority needed; the House had approved that bill on Thursday with a 94-16 vote.

Highlights of the package include:

» A statewide ballot proposal that would be put before voters in May that would increase the general sales and use taxes from 6 percent to 7 percent, raising an estimated \$1.34 billion a year. It would also eliminate the 6-percent sales tax on fuel, meaning a loss of some \$752 million yearly.

» Phasing in a wholesale tax on motor fuels starting in October, generating an estimated \$1.2 billion a year by the third year, according to Snyder.

» Increases in registration fees: \$45 million in revenue from vehicle owners and \$50 million from heavy trucks. The change will not result in an increase in vehicle registration fees; rather, it will end the 10-percent rollback that new car owners now get for three years after buying a new car.

» Transportation-related reforms - requiring warranties and improved competitive bidding on road projects.

The resulting net revenue would be split as follows: \$1.2 billion for roads; \$112 million for transit and rail; \$300 million to schools; \$94 million to local units of government; and \$260 million toward fully restoring the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-wage workers.

ROAD

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can't hurt to ask the people and see where it goes from there."

Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, said the legislative package meant "a very difficult and tough decision for everybody" and that no legislators came away completely happy. Heise's district includes Plymouth and Plymouth Township and part of Canton.

Heise voted yes on putting the sales-tax question to voters, which required a two-thirds majority in each chamber, though he voted against other components of the package.

He said he likes that community and public school revenues would be protected and in-

creased under the plan, and that roads would have a stable funding source, similar to other states, through the implementation of a wholesale fuel tax.

Heise said he trusts the voters.

"I think people are very smart. They know that we've had historically low funding for roads and bridge repair," Heise said. "I think they're willing to pay more if they know where the money is going."

Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, said he was "disappointed" that the Legislature "took a tax-increase approach to fixing our roads rather than a spending-reduction and prioritization approach."

Some reporting contributed by michigan.com staff.

CENTRAL

Continued from Page A1

negotiation, and we don't want that momentum to stop," Meisen said. "If there's a deal to be done there, we want to do what we need to do to bring it to fruition."

The district will close Central Middle School at the close of the 2014-15 school year, and open a new middle school it's building at Canton Center and Cherry Hill in September. The Central property includes 4.25 acres occupied by the Plymouth Cultural Center, 1.15 acres for the Miracle League of Plymouth special-needs baseball field, 9.79

acres of athletic fields and tennis courts and 6.41 acres for Central Middle School itself.

The cultural center and the Miracle League field likely won't be included in any potential sale, because their value to buyers would be diminished by long-term leases, appraisers have said. That leaves a little more than 17 acres accounted for in the appraisal.

Don Soenen, who has been the most visible of the PARC supporters, was pleased with the passage of the new resolution, but had no comment on the status of any negotiations.

"We aren't ready to talk about that," Soenen said.

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Police play Santa Claus for township families

By Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township police officers, with major assistance from a local car dealership and two stores, brought a merrier Christmas last week to two families struggling to get back on their feet financially.

A monetary donation and a call from Suburban Cadillac of Plymouth (formerly Don Massey Cadillac) got things rolling, and the township's Kmart and Busch's Fresh Food Market stores, where police spent the money on food, clothing and other necessities, plus a little something extra for under the families' trees, also chipped in.

Police officers delivered the gifts on Wednesday and Thursday.

"There was a ton of groceries and some Christmas presents, and it was very overwhelming how much people contributed," said Anne Howell, who, with husband Tim and their



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARCY LINTON

A couple weeks' worth of food staples, plus the fixings for a Christmas dinner, were delivered by police to two Plymouth Township families, courtesy of Suburban Cadillac of Plymouth and Busch's Fresh Food Market. Kmart also chipped in toward clothing, necessities and presents that the dealership's donation purchased.

daughter received their packages on Wednesday.

The family is extremely grateful, she said.

"It's just a gift from God, really, because we're able to just not worry about groceries," Howell added. The family lost its home to foreclosure in another community about a year and

a half ago after months of financial difficulties, and is living in a mobile home in the township.

Anne and Tim Howell are both working now, but the donations will help them stretch their budget, she said. "It just is always tight, and just trying to make everything work is difficult," she said.



Officer Marcy Linton of the Plymouth Township Police Department delivers food, household good and presents to a family on Thursday evening.

Police made a second delivery Thursday evening to a newly divorced mother and her daughter and son at their township apartment.

Spirit of generosity

Officer Marcy Linton, who coordinated the project for the police, said the department plans to make the holiday giving an annual event, and help more families if possible.

"Our local businesses have been so incredibly

helpful and generous that I'm excited to do it again next year," Linton said.

Suburban Cadillac, ready with a donation, contacted the police department early this month to ask about finding a cause to assist, and the Plymouth Goodfells referred one family and Plymouth First United Methodist Church the other, Linton said.

Linton made contacts with the families to determine their needs, and the police went shopping.

"It was a little rushed, but we got it done," she said.

Busch's donated food for a Christmas feast for each family, in addition to the staples already purchased with the dealership's donation, and Kmart added an extra 10 percent over what was spent there on clothing, toys and household items.

"This has really been a great experience for us," Linton said. It's important to officers, she said, that police be a positive presence in the township.

"We don't want all of our contacts with the public to be negative or at a stressful moment in somebody's life," she said. "We really wanted to reach out to the community in a positive way."

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DeHoCo site bill sent to governor's desk

A former prison site in the middle of an emerging economic corridor could be on its way to gaining new life under a bill heading to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk.

The Michigan Legislature gave final approval to House Bill 5179, sponsored by state Rep. Kurt Heise. The bill would transfer the Detroit House of Corrections (DeHoCo) Prison site from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget to the Michigan Land Bank.

"This site is an absolute eyecore in an area where new businesses and jobs are being cre-

ated in our growing community," said Heise, R-Plymouth Township. "DeHoCo is the center of the Five Mile corridor, where we are working to create new jobs and development. Transferring ownership from the Department of Technology, Management and Budget to the Michigan Land Bank Authority will put the property in the right hands to get it cleaned up and marketed to companies looking to invest and bring jobs to Plymouth and Northville."

The DeHoCo Prison site was formerly owned by the City of Detroit before it was purchased

by the state in 1979 as part of a regional prison reform effort. The site was closed by the state in 1986. A study done in 2004 confirmed substantial environmental contamination at the site, which will need to be cleaned up as part of or prior to a sale to a private developer taking place.

"The Michigan Land Bank Authority is an expert in working with troubled sites like DeHoCo that need to be cleaned before being sold," Heise said. "As someone who has been personally involved in the development of the Five Mile corridor and

the sale of the former Scott Prison site to Northville Township, I know the DeHoCo site will take more time to be turned around, but it can be done. Approving this transfer will put the best people in charge of leveraging grants and tax incentives to get the site cleaned up and marketable for companies looking to develop and bring jobs to the region. This bill does not guarantee an immediate sale or cleanup, but it's the most important first step in that process."

'Inspired' PCAC exhibit features local artists

More than 100 people attended the opening reception for "Inspired," the Plymouth Community Arts Council's first December open juried exhibit.

PCAC officials said the open show will become an annual December event. Artists 18 and older were invited to submit two-dimensional artwork with a subject that inspires the artist. Over 26 artists submitted 50 pieces of work that will be displayed at the PCAC through the end of December.

Regular gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 9

a.m. to 4 p.m., during all public events and by appointment by emailing lisa@plymoutharts.com. The PCAC is located at 774 N. Sheldon Road in Plymouth.

Artists from all over the southeast Michigan area responded to the Call For Entries with most from Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Livonia. A variety of media is represented in the collection, including pen & ink, pastels, watercolor, oil and acrylic.

Art in the exhibit, all original, is for sale ranging in price from \$50-\$4,000.



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WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL

Claire and Audrey West, Shivani Singh, Ava Moulton, and Erin Boyle-Levy challenged themselves to beat their record of making six blankets last year. They succeeded, making seven blankets this year for Angela Hospice patients.

Students fashion cozy gifts for Angela Hospice patients

Students from the National Junior Honor Society at West Middle School came together earlier this month to create fun and colorful fleece blankets.

The students chose their own colors and patterns, but they did not keep the blankets for themselves – they donated them to the patients of Angela Hospice.

This is the eighth year the group made blankets for the hospice, and it's a popular activity.

School counselor and NJHS adviser Val Swift said 148 students participated, making it the best-attended NJHS activity all year.

Together, they made 125 blankets.

"Both the guys and the girls love to do it," said Swift, "and it was fun to see how competitive they were with how many they could get done for hospice in an hour."

But the project is much more than a friendly competition for the students.

"I want them to learn the value of taking what you have – skills and abilities – and

sharing it with others," said Swift. "I also wanted them to experience the joy and satisfaction of coming together as a group to give something to people that we will never meet."

The hospice patients who receive the blankets experience joy and satisfaction as well, according to Angela Hospice's Business Development Manager Bob Alexander.

"I was really struck by all of the students' enthusiasm, and the selflessness with which they poured their energy into making the blankets," said Alexander.

"They knew they were making something that would reach into the lives of people who could use a little comfort and youthful TLC."

He said patients are especially touched when they realize the blankets were handmade for them by young people, and they certainly come in handy during the winter months.

For some patient families, the blankets even become a treasured keepsake for them after their loved one has died.



PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY PHOTOS

Susan Aikten, PCA secondary art teacher, and her gingerbread creation, An Elf Christmas Treehouse. Her creation was not part of the competition.

PCA gingerbread competition a big hit

Young and old alike "oohed" and "aahed" at the gingerbread houses submitted to the eighth annual Sugar & Spice Gingerbread Competition held at Plymouth Christian Academy last week.

Darren Vassel, an alumna of PCA as well as chef for Vassel's Catering of Canton, was the judge for the event.

First place winners of the Adult Division were alumna Andrew Aitken and Emily Beecher; in the Student Division, eighth-grader Sarah Fernandes took first place,

Matthew Pierce earned second place, and Keith Brown finished in third place.

Entries ranged from a barn and a manger scene to more traditional houses with snow scenes.

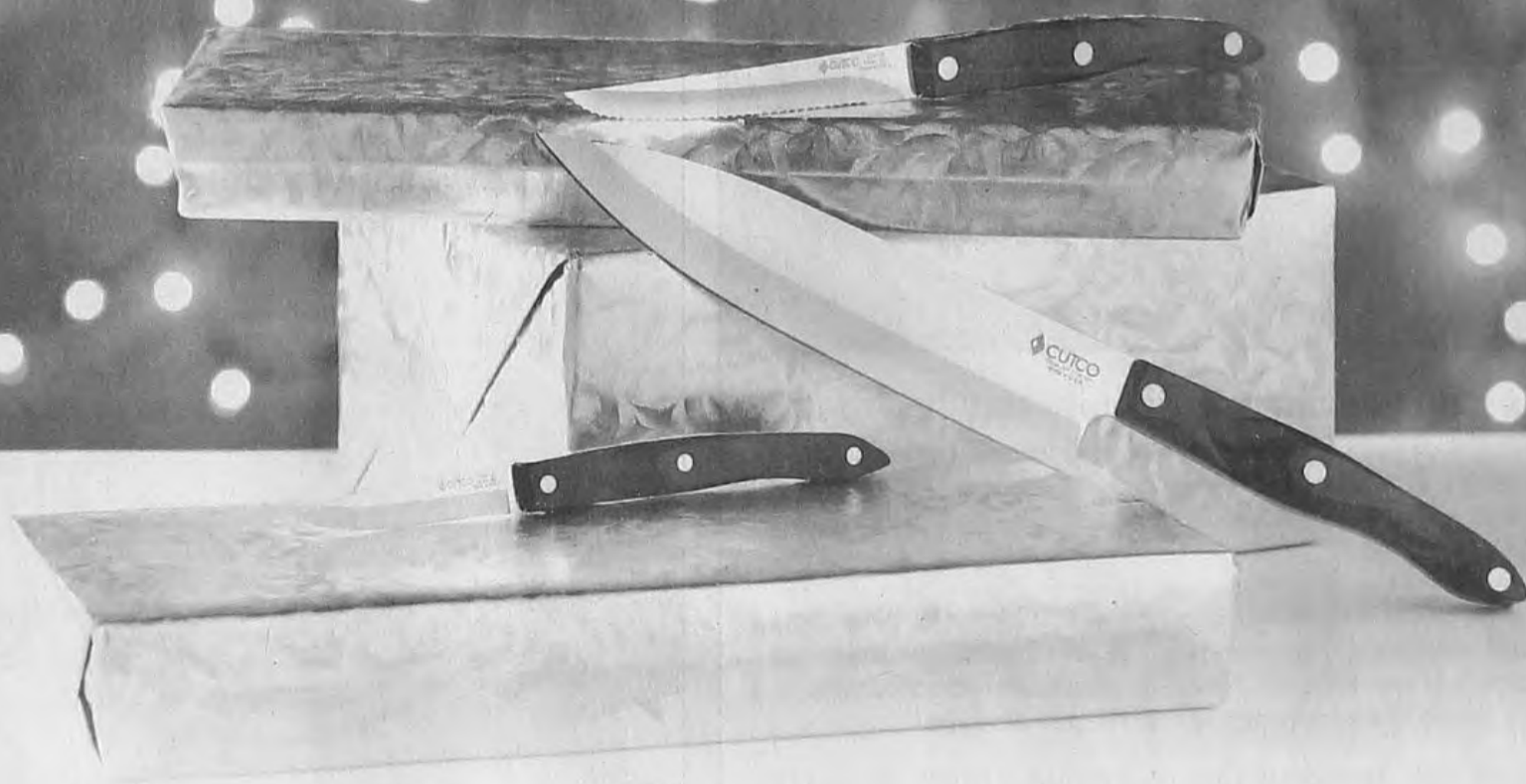
In addition to the gingerbread creations, the evening featured a full Christmas Festival of the Arts with secondary artwork on display and concert performances by PCA's bands, choirs, strings and theater students. The evening was capped off by a Christmas Cookie and Hot



PCA alum Andrew Aitken and Emily Beecher took first place in the adult category. Chocolate Bar.

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Salvation Army volunteers believe in giving back

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Ron Gutowski of Canton was glad to spend Thursday volunteering at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

"Last week, I was at Fish and Loaves (Community Food Pantry), which is next to Gleaners. Ford gives us two days a year to go and volunteer," said Gutowski, who works for the automaker in Global Messaging Operations in Dearborn.

"I was a shopper, taking people back (to choose toys for their children and grandchildren)," he said. "It's good to give back to the community and some people who need help."

Phyllis Johnson of Detroit and Linda Reed of Dearborn Heights were at the Wayne-Westland corps that day to volunteer, representing their Kingdom International Church of Dearborn.

"I volunteer because I like to do for others," said Johnson, who is retired from the former Kmart headquarters in Troy. "This is my first time with the Salvation Army."

Another church friend, who also volunteered, suggested the Salvation Army site, where toys and food for Christmas were distributed this past week.

"If I can help somebody in need, that's what I enjoy doing, especially this time of year," Reed said.

Reed, a General Motors retiree, got help from the Salvation Army as a girl.

"We were members of the east side congregation (of Detroit)," she recalled. She received clothes and toys.

"That was like 60 years ago," said Reed, who also remembers attending Salvation

Army services and the summer camp. "It was so nice. All types of activities," Reed said of camp.

"We volunteer at different organizations, sometimes as a group, sometimes individually," Johnson said of their church.

Rewarding work

Karen Calleja of Livonia, also a Ford Motor staffer, had earlier volunteered with the Salvation Army in Southfield for a prison gift ministry program. She's an IT project manager working in Dearborn.

"I find it rewarding," Calleja said of her days volunteering, including Dec. 18 at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army. "And I enjoy giving back to the community." She appreciates her employer's support of volunteer efforts.

She agreed some volunteers find the great needs of those they serve eye opening.

"I think for some it is," Calleja said. "I've been doing community service for many years now. That's why I continue to volunteer."

Phil Hull of Westland, volunteer coordinator for the Wayne-Westland corps, said, "We could not do what we do without volunteers." That ranges from taking Christmas need applications, he said, "all the way through our distribution. We've had a lot of support from Ford Motor Co. volunteers and Comerica Bank as well."

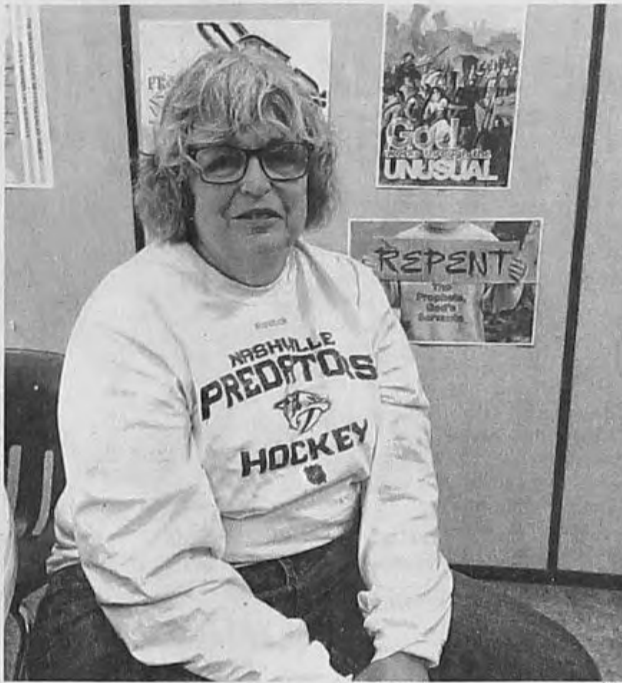
The hard-working volunteers took a brief lunch break for pizza at noon, with Kevin Zurek of Livonia saying "Because it's awesome," as his reason to volunteer.

"I volunteer because it's good helping people. Giving back is good," said Zurek, an IT business analyst working for Ford in Allen Park. "Yes, it's an eye opener."



Ford Motor Co. volunteers Dec. 18 at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army included (left to right) Karen Calleja of Livonia, Kermala Dudley of Franklin, Sally Fernandez of Brownstown, Ron Gutowski of Canton, Alyssa Hauler of Livonia, and Kevin Zurek of Livonia.

PHOTOS BY JULIE BROWN



Margaret Churchman of Westland was glad to volunteer with toy and food distribution Dec. 18 at the Wayne-Westland corps of the Salvation Army.



Phyllis Johnson (left) of Detroit and Linda Reed of Dearborn Heights were among Kingdom International Church volunteers Thursday, Dec. 18, at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

He also likes work that's different from IT. Zurek has volunteered through Ford at Life Remodeled, Gleaners and Forgotten Harvest, all this year.

'Such a need'

Margaret Churchman of Westland, who is on disability, cooks for the after-school program kids at the Wayne-West-

land Salvation Army. She also pitched in for the toy and food distribution.

"Because there's such a need," said Churchman, who was awaiting her afternoon assignment and has done many volunteer jobs for Christmas at the corps. "Knowing that we've helped a child have a Christmas is what matters to her. "It just breaks my heart

when I do the intake information."

Churchman and her family cut back on their own gifts this year to give more at the Salvation Army.

"We don't need anything," she said. "We decided we'd give less presents to each other."

"I think everyone should volunteer," she added. "I would do more

if physically I could do it. I think it's our responsibility to take care of other people."

Fellow volunteer Gutowski agreed.

"Everybody needs help at some time," he said. "It's always in the back of everybody's mind, at least mine."

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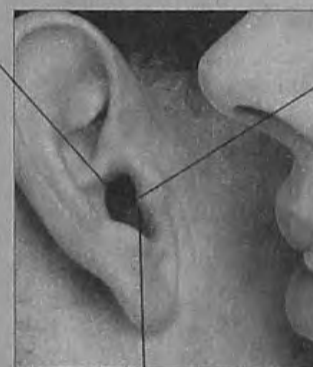
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Canton arts partnership gets foundation grant for project

Canton's Partnership for the Arts and Humanities was the recent recipient of a \$21,000 Heartland Fund grant from the Jeffris Family Foundation, an organization dedicated to Midwestern historic preservation in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Ohio.

The grant from the Jeffris Heartland Fund will fund 50-percent of the cost of a Historic Structure Report for The

Village Arts Factory, a 14-acre site currently being developed by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities.

The Historic Structure Report will provide written documentation about The Village Arts Factory's current structural conditions, which will be an effective tool in preservation planning and will also address goals for the future use of the building. In addition, the report will provide insights into the

people and historic context with which the site is associated.

Located on the corner of Cherry Hill and Ridge roads in Canton, The Village Arts Factory site was acquired in 2012 by the Partnership for the Arts and Humanities. Current site plans include the development of a future regional arts and culture destination that will support and encourage arts, education, historic preservation, and environmental conserva-

tion.

"We are truly grateful to the Jeffris Family Foundation for providing us with this generous grant," said Jill Engel, Partnership for the Arts and Humanities director. "This report will help with all future decision-making regarding design and space usage and will help us in the preservation and restoration of the this historic site."

Founded in 1979 and based in Janesville, Wis., the Jeffris Family Founda-

tion is dedicated to preserving regionally and nationally important historic buildings and decorative arts projects for future generations. The Jeffris Heartland Fund supports quality planning for restoration projects leading to capital campaigns for restoration work throughout the region.

The Village Arts Factory site is currently listed on the National Historic Register as part of the Cherry Hill Histor-

ic District. Development of this site will include preservation and restoration of the Henry Ford Village, as well as educating future generations to come.

For more information about The Village Arts Factory or the Heartland Fund grant from the Jeffris Family Foundation, visit www.partnershipforarts.org or call 734-765-7061.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SENIOR FITNESS

Location: Plymouth Senior Friendship Station, 42375 Schoolcraft Road, Plymouth
Dates: Jan. 6 to Feb. 13, Feb. 16 to March 27
Times/Details:
 » Silver Sneakers, Tuesday and Fridays, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Seniors 65+. Have fun and move to the music through a variety of exercises designed to increase muscular strength, range of movement and activities for daily living. Hand held weights, elastic tubing with handles and Silver Sneakers balls are offered for resistance. Chairs are available as needed.
 » Silver Sneakers Yoga, Wednesday, 9:45-10:45 a.m. Classes offer a modified variety of stretching exercises in both seated and standing positions. The movements and stretches done during a Yoga Stretch workout help increase muscle tone and build strength. Exercising the joints keeps them functional and helps you remain pain-free. Flexibility, range of motions and balance are improved through yoga, each of which help prevent falls.
 » Zumba Gold, Wednesday, 11-11:45 a.m. A specialty dance inspired fitness class that takes the same fun Zumba flavor and modifies the moves and pace to suit the needs of active older adults, baby boomers and the beginning fitness person. Zumba Gold has a longer warm up and cool down to allow participants a program to improve balance, flexibility and cardiovascular strength.

Contact: For more information contact cmroney@ymcadetroit.org or 734-453-2904.

BLOOD DRIVES

Dates/Times/Locations:
 Jan. 2, noon to 5:45 p.m., Super Bowl, 45100 Ford Road, Canton.
 Jan. 4, 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton.
 Jan. 5, 12:30-6:15 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth.
 Jan. 8, 2:30-8:15 p.m., Bird Elementary School, 220 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.
 Jan. 11, 7:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth.
Details: The American Red Cross asks eligible blood donors to make a resolution to give blood regularly in 2015, beginning with National Blood



SALEM ROCKETTES

Pom prowess

The Salem Varsity Rockettes put on a winning performance at the Reaction Dance Force D-Town Dance Challenge in Rochester Hills last week. The team took third place in both the pom and jazz divisions. Girls on the squad included (top, from left) Erica Garczynski, Cassie Berlin, Paige Libres, Kelcie Rocheleau, Jillian Pertler, Emily Bates, Becky DeWater, Maddie Harvath, Sarah O'Donnell and Abby VanHauen; and (bottom, from left) Maddie Martinsky, Alyssa Marshall, Olivia Benintende, Rachel Duprey-captain, Lauren Lachowski, Mady Justice and Hannah Parent.

Donor Month in January. Donors of all blood types are needed, especially those with O negative, A negative and B negative.
Contact: To learn more about donating blood and to schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

LIBRARY BAG SALES
Dates: Jan. 23-26; Feb. 20-23; March 27-30
Location: Canton Public Library, 1200 N. Canton Center Road, Canton
Details: The Canton Public Library hosts several Bag Sales to benefit Secondhand Prose, the Friends of the Canton Public Library bookstore. Visitors can shop during the monthly sale and fill a big with books for just \$5.

HOSPICE SUPPORT
Dates/Times: First and third Thursday of each

month, 10-11:30 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Coffee Bean, 884 Penniman.
Details: Compassionate Coffee Club is an open and ongoing grief support group offering support and socialization for widows and widowers moving beyond the first year of loss. The program is sponsored by Compassionate Care Hospice and is free of charge, although a drink purchase is required for use of the space.
Contact: For more information, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement coordinator, at 888-983-9050, or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

BRAIN NEUROBICS
Date/Time: Second and third Thursday, January through May 2015, 11 a.m.
Location: Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty

Details: Wayne State University Institute of Gerontology designed the 10 free courses. Keep your brain alert and active with such topics as Memory Tricks, Food for Thought and Magic of Music. Courses taught by Waltonwood Cherry Hill.
Contact: To sign up, call the Plymouth Community Council on Aging at 734-453-1234, Ext. 236.

JAZZ @ THE ELKS
Date/Time: Tuesday, Dec. 30, 7-10 p.m.
Location: Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
Details: This event features Judie Cochill with the Ron Kischuk Trio. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.
Contact: For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plymouthannarborelks325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com.

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Harmala has plan to move Wayne-Westland forward

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

After more than three months on the job, Superintendent Michele Harmala has a clear understanding of Wayne-Westland Community Schools and the framework of a plan to move the district forward.

Harmala has come up with 10 recommendations for a long-term strategic plan to address topics such as the district's continued declining enrollment, ways to increase student achievement, and determining the most effective and efficient use of resources.

"Providing great service to students is what our staff does every day and we are providing results, but we also have areas where we can improve," she said.

Harmala laid out her assessment in her 100-Day Report, a 34-page document she presented to the school board earlier this month. She looked at the district's vision, its approach to instruction and how it is set up to ensure personnel can complete their work and how resources are allocated to ensure the appropriate outcomes.

At the top of her list of recommendations is the issue of declining enrollment. Harmala said the district has demonstrated success in student achievement and believes Wayne-Westland needs plans for a smaller student population and to ensure the district has the highest enrollment possible.

"Unfortunately, we're continuing to see declining enrollment, a majority of which is due to fewer births and a smaller student population," she said. "It's not unique to Wayne-Westland, and even though schools of



Harmala

choice have brought in students, we are still seeing a decline in our student population."

Student achievement

In her review, Harmala found that student achievement is the focus of schools and departments. The district is in the process of aligning its curriculum to the Common Core Standards, and while students have demonstrated success in many areas, "assessment proficiencies in graduation rates and other success indicators have to increase to demonstrate students are achieving the required targets" established by the state.

She added that the district has been responsive to state requirements and as needs have changed, additional programs have been added.

Harmala also believes that, in light of declining enrollment, the development of a long-range facilities plan would be beneficial to the district. Looking at the use and the age of the facilities, she said such a plan would be aligned with the needs of the district and provide for the best utilization of vacant property and closed or unused facilities.

Her recommendations also include looking at:

- » The use of a program and service evalua-

tion to determine the most effective and efficient use of resources.

- » The long-term and comprehensive planning for the start of initiatives prior to implementation.

- » The purposes and effectiveness of committees and the ways personnel provide input and feedback into the ongoing success of the district.

- » The coherence among all departments and their alignment with the attainment of the district's goals.

- » The use of a budgeting methodology, such as zero-based budgeting, that allows for flexible annual planning and the alignment of resources to the district's goals.

- » The enhancement of the hiring process and development of a comprehensive talent development system.

- » The review of technology and its uses.

Harmala told the board that she is continuing to collect information on the strengths and challenges of the school district and plans to create a superintendent's steering committee that will provide guidance for district and feedback on the priorities for improvement. The steering committee will be the first group to analyze and prioritize the data that's being collected.

"A long-range strategic plan would assist us in the successful implementation of programs and interventions designed to increase student achievement," she said. "Overall, this district has many effective practices in place; this is a quality school district and I am thrilled to be here."

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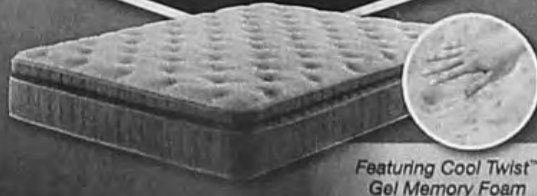
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 7:00pm Holy Communion and Candlelight
 10:00pm Chancel Choir and Candlelight
 All are welcome, come and worship
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 33112 Grand River Ave
 (downtown Farmington across from Starbucks)
www.farmingtonfumc.org

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 39020 Five Mile Road, Livonia
 734.464.0211 www.holytrinitylivonia.org
Christmas Eve
 Holy Communion offered at all Services
 5:00 pm Family Worship
 7:00 pm Candlelight Worship
 10:30 pm Festival Prelude of Christmas Music
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Christmas Day
 10:00 am Holy Communion
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 Franklin Community Church
 7:00 pm Noel Service
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 Kids Nativity Scene & Bedtime Story,
 Silent Night with Candles
 11:00 pm Holy Night Service
 Candlelit Sanctuary, Harp,
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www.FranklinChurch.us

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 10:30 am: Healing Service with Eucharist
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 Rev Kellie Whitlock, Pastor
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 248/848-1750 northcongregationalchurch.org
 Sunday, December 21, 2014
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 Special Music: Gustav Holst's "Christmas Day"
 Wednesday, December 24, 2014,
 at 7:30 p.m.
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
 "Walk in the Light!"
 Rev. Mary E. Biedron, Senior Minister

Christmas Worship
 Christmas Eve, Dec. 24
 Family and Children Services
 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM
 Traditional Sanctuary Services
 2:00 PM, 7:00 PM,
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 4:00 PM
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First United Methodist Church OF BIRMINGHAM

Christmas at the Kirk
 December 21
 4:00 PM Service of Lessons and Carols
 7:00 PM Service of Comfort and Hope
 December 24 - Christmas Eve
 11:00 AM Young Family Service
 Rev. William Adams III
 8:30 PM Holy Night Service
 Rev. Robert Sheldon
 4:00 PM Family Service
 Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon
 11:00 PM Holy Night Service
 Rev. Robert Sheldon
 6:00 PM Family Service
 Dr. Carol Tate
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Christmas Day
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St. James Episcopal Church
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www.stjamesbirmingham.org

As term wraps up, Walsh reflects on time in state House

By David Veselenak
Staff Writer

When state Rep. John Walsh was elected to the Legislature in 2008, his thoughts focused on statewide issues and his constituents in Livonia, the only city he represented. Little did he know he'd spend many months working on legislation that affected the state's largest city, just two miles away from his district, starting on "little bills" and culminating with the "grand bargain."

"Detroit was not on any of our minds," he said of when he entered the Legislature. "We never thought it was so bad or had gotten so bad. It had been hidden for so long."

But Walsh, a Republican, became a statewide name when working on the so-called grand bargain, a legislative package that sent \$195 million to the City of Detroit from the state after pensions were cut, and the Detroit Institute of Arts collection was spun off into a charitable trust.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to spend six months of my life working on getting (Detroit) out of bankruptcy," he said. "But it's six months I'll never, ever forget."

It's that plan, he said, that could leave his mark on the Legislature as he departs his post later this month.

Walsh won three consecutive terms to the state house after being elected to the now-19th District by most of the residents of Livonia, and served as speaker pro tempore the past four years. He is term-limited and cannot run again. The district, made up of most of Livonia, will be represented by Republican Laura Cox beginning in January.

Livonia mayor Jack Kirksey, a former state representative whom Walsh worked for as an intern, said he's had routine phone calls with Walsh over the past six years on issues in the city. He said Walsh showed much political leadership, something that led him to second-in-command in the state House and working with a range of other state leaders both Democrat and Republican.

But he's also stepped up and worked with city officials whenever the state could assist. One of the most recent examples, Kirksey said, is the securing of funds to help repair Sears Drive, scheduled for work next year.

"It's not that we haven't been wanting to do Sears Drive, it just couldn't be done with the amount of money we're getting," Kirksey said. "John has also been very helpful to make sure that the city got any and all of the potential dollars."



DAVID VESELENAK

State Rep. John Walsh, left center, gives Livonia senior center director Karl Peters a check for \$10,000 as Livonia residents Josie Smith and Mae Yeomans look on. The money, raised from the Western Wayne County Senior Celebration Day, will most likely go toward purchasing a new bus, Peters said.

When Walsh first ran for the position, budgeting was a main concern for him. It was the height of the recession and Walsh remembers the state asking for more funds to help cover a deficit. Then, Walsh said the state increased spending, something he disagreed with.

"Up until 2011, we were still spending money like we had it," he said. "We had more money, but we didn't put it toward the deficit. We just increased spending."

It's been a dramatic change since Walsh was in Lansing during the second state shutdown in 2009 to this year, where the budget was approved around Memorial Day, even though many have voiced disagreements with some cuts to the

state budget over the years.

"I'm not happy that we had to make cuts, but they were absolutely necessary," he said. "One of the biggest and most important things for me was to be direct and live within our means."

Four-year community college degrees

While keeping Detroit moving forward was a major piece of legislation, other issues Walsh took personally also made their way to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk. One of those pieces included expansion of four-year degrees in certain programs at community colleges in Michigan.

After several years of tabling it, the state ap-

proved legislation that allows some community colleges to offer bachelor's degrees in several very specific areas, including concrete technology and culinary arts. A longtime administrator at Schoolcraft College, Walsh said it was important to him to allow for some programs to have expanded offerings at traditional two-year colleges.

Conway Jeffers, president of Schoolcraft College, said being able to offer a bachelor's degree in culinary arts, something the Livonia-based college is on the verge of offering, has increased the political presence of the state's two-year colleges.

"I think, in a larger sense, what John helped do was raise the profile of community colleges," he said. "Community colleges have seen the light. We are more politically active. There is a recognition that you have to have a voice in Lansing."

The future

No official decision has yet been made on what Walsh will do after the lame duck term is complete. He said he has received multiple offers from both private and

public interests, and is hoping to make a decision soon, though he doesn't expect to run for elective office right now.

"Within the next week or two weeks, I'll make a final decision that's best for me and my family," he said.

He said he's been very reflective in the past few weeks as final events take place in his term.

"I think of it in a positive way, because I never planned for more than six years," he said. "I never say never, but I didn't plan for more than six years. Maybe there's something else, maybe there isn't."

"I enjoyed the time." His work continues, at least for the next week: the House has at least three more days of session to work through, and Walsh is hopeful some key legislation, including a solution to fix Michigan roads, is able to land on Snyder's desk before Christmas.

"The issues remain the same, and I'll keep working up until Dec. 31," he said. "Even if that work is turning over my office keys to Laura and giving her the draft bills I couldn't finish."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

- Z 15-01 1345 Park Place
Non-Use Variance Requested
Rear Yard Setback
Zoned: R-1, Single-Family Residential
Applicant: Win & Susan Schrader

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

To all residents and other interested parties: Agendas and Minutes for the Charter Township of Plymouth Board of Trustees Meetings are available for review online at www.plymouthtp.org under Agendas/Minutes and in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, MI.

Regular Meeting dates in 2015: January 13, February 10, March 3, March 31, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 8, September 22, October 6, October 20, November 17 and December 15.
Special meetings, if any, will occur on Tuesdays, unless otherwise posted. The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Board of Trustees Meetings.

Nancy Conzelman
Township Clerk

Publish: December 21, 2014 LO-000224487 2x3

Christmas Worship

Enjoy these holiday services with your family and friends.

Newburg United Methodist Church
36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI
734-422-0149 www.newburgumc.org

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES
December 24: Celebrate the true light of Christmas
5PM - FAMILIES & PRATSE MUSIC
7PM - CHOIRS, MESSAGE & COMMUNION
11PM - LESSONS, CAROLS & COMMUNION

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth
(734) 453-5252

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
4:30PM & 7:00PM

Website: www.risenchrist.info
Facebook: www.facebook.com/RisenChristLutheranChurchPlymouthMI

St. Genevieve-St. Maurice Catholic Parish
29015 Jamison St., Livonia 48154

Masses for the Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Eve Children's Mass 4p ♦ Christmas Eve 10p
Christmas Day 9a & 11a

Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
New Year's Eve 4p ♦ New Year's Day 11a
Holy Hour welcoming the Year of Our Lord 2015
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
From 11:30p 12/31/2014 until 12:30a 1/1/2015

St. John's Episcopal Church of Westland

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

December 24, 2014
The Vigil Mass of Christmas 6:00pm
Mass of the Angels 10:00pm
Low Mass 11:30pm
December 25, 2014
Christmas Morning Prayer 11:10am
The Mass of Christmas Day 11:30am
December 28, 2014
The Feast of the Holy Family 8:30am
10:30am

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555 S. Wayne Road, Westland, MI
734-721-5023

Christmas Worship
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24
Family and Children Services
4:00 PM, 5:30 PM
Traditional Sanctuary Services
2:00 PM, 7:00 PM,
9:00 PM & 11:00 PM
Troy Campus
4:00 PM

1589 West Maple Road
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-646-1200
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RHEUMATOLOGY
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SWOLLEN KNEE AFTER REPLACEMENT

After having a knee replaced, a person may find the operated knee appears fluid filled in the same way that occurred before operation. It is true that swelling because of fluid in the knee can occur after joint replacement. Resolution of the swelling requires the same joint aspiration as needed when fluid accumulated before replacement.

In the normal knee, fluid that lubricates the joint comes from cells lining the joint cavity; knee replacement removes most but not all of these lining cells. The knee joint includes crevices and posterior angles that precludes stripping the joint of all its lining cells. Enough cells remain, that when irritated, can produce from 5-50 cc of fluid.

One cause of irritation is shards. A replacement knee has a metal component that appears uniformly smooth, but at the microscopic level, it is possible to see flakes of metal coming off the metal and moving into the surrounding tissue. If a shard enters a lining cell, the cell senses the shard as an irritant; fluid from the cell follows much as a cinder causes the eye to tear.

A similar cycle of events occurs if the replacement knee loosens. Metal rubbing against the nearby bone initiates a stream of particles into the surrounding tissues. These particles, if taken up by lining cells will also set off a fluid response.

Another cause for fluid into a replacement knee is infection. In this instance the irritant is a bacteria; the cell's response of fluid is the way the body washes away and dilutes infection. If a physician suspects that infection is a possibility then the treatment of choice is immediate aspiration and culture of the fluid.

Observer & Eccentric

Light TOUR

Our readers share their light displays



 A 18410 Fermanagh Ct. Northville	 B 8927 Mayflower Dr. Plymouth	 C 12835 Woodgrove Dr. South Lyon	 D 20645 Woodburn Southfield	 E Ron and Lauana Ivancik 30248 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland
 F 20855 West 14 Mile Rd. Beverly Hills	 G 24023 Elizabeth Lane Novi	 H Dave and Candy Henry 33452 Alta, Garden City	 I 3 Riverbank Drive Beverly Hills	 J 1365 W. Ann Arbor Trail Plymouth
 K 35183 Lancashire Rd. Livonia	 L 4485 Napier Road Plymouth	 M 31705 Seven Mile Rd. Livonia	 N Phil and Annette Puczowski 9387 Patton, Livonia	 O 1582 Bunkingham Birmingham
 P 768 Rivenoak St. Birmingham	 Q 675 Pierce Birmingham	 R George St. Birmingham	 S 787 Hazelwood Birmingham	 T 1948 Washington Birmingham
 U 1496 Bates Birmingham	 V 1277 Henrietta Birmingham	 W House on Southfield Rd. in Birmingham	 X 1528 Larkmoor Berkley	 Y 1660 Larkmoor Berkley
 Z 1684 Edgewood Berkley	 AA 2365 Hamilton Berkley	 ZZ 2796 Robina is an award winner in Berkley		

Happy Holidays!

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H.E.A.T. offers 10 holiday safety tips

Holiday shoppers are often easy targets for vehicle thieves and carjackers. Help Eliminate Auto Thefts (H.E.A.T.), Michigan's statewide auto theft prevention program and tip line, urges shoppers to consider a few simple safety tips to protect themselves and their property during the holidays:

» **Be alert.** Always be aware of your surroundings. As you approach your vehicle, avoid talking or texting on cell phones, digging for keys or juggling multiple packages.

» **Parking.** If you can, avoid shopping alone after dark. But if you must, park in a well-lit area with pedestrian traffic or in a lot with an attendant. If possible, avoid parking near objects that block your view of the surrounding area, such as dumpsters, bushes and large vans or trucks. Also avoid parking next to cars with tinted windows that you cannot see through.

» **Remember where your car is parked.** Walk directly to your car and do not spend unnecessary time wandering around the parking lot. Walk confidently and with purpose.

» **Always ask.** If you're alone and don't feel comfortable walking to your car, don't hesitate to ask retail security personnel for an escort.

» **Place items in trunk.** If you must leave something in your vehicle, lock it in the trunk or place items out of sight. Do not leave packages on the seat of your car.

» **Move your car.** Move to another area of the parking lot if you return to your car in the middle of a shopping

trip, even if it means giving up a prime spot. This will deter a thief who may have been watching you unload your purchases.

» **Use common sense.** Even if you are just going into a store for a quick errand, never leave your car unlocked or your vehicle running unattended.

» **Keep passengers safe.** Criminals are not timid about approaching people in their driveways. Take children and the elderly into the house first, then immediately unload all purchases from your car. Never leave vulnerable loved ones alone in a vehicle, even if you will only be gone "for a minute."

» **Don't argue.** If a carjacker wants your vehicle, let him have it. A vehicle isn't worth your life. According to Terri Miller, executive director of H.E.A.T., most carjackings involve a weapon. So don't resist or argue, instead get a good look at the carjacker and what he or she is wearing.

» **Call the police immediately.** If you witness an auto theft or carjacking, call 911 immediately. After you have informed local law enforcement, call H.E.A.T.'s 24/7 confidential tip reward line (1-800-242-HEAT) if you have any information regarding auto theft, insurance fraud or carjackings.

H.E.A.T. works with Michigan law enforcement agencies to follow-up on tips. Tipsters are awarded up to \$1,000, if the tip leads to the arrest of or issuance of a warrant for a suspected car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud.

Leaders: John Glenn High School seeks Distinguished Alumnus nominations

John Glenn High School has begun its search for a former student who has gone on to achieve excellence. Each year, as part of its commencement ceremony, the high school awards a former graduate its Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The Faculty Council at John Glenn High School is seeking nominations

for the award, which has become one of the highlights of the graduation ceremony.

The council feels "that successful graduates, such as these, could have a positive motivational effect on the graduating seniors as well as the school community and the faculty."

The council is looking for nominations of John

Glenn graduates who have earned distinction in their field of endeavor following graduation.

The nomination should include the nominee's and nominator's name, address, phone number and email address, the year the nominee graduated from John Glenn and the reasons why he or she is deserving of the Distinguished Alumnus

Award. Nominations can be sent to Karen Duhl, counseling secretary, at John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185 by Jan. 16, or faxed to 734-419-2337. For more information, call 734-419-2332.

The Faculty Council will review all applications and select the nominee to be honored.

Salvation Army Thrift Stores welcome year-end donations

As the new year approaches, The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan Adult Rehabilitation Center is seeking year-end donations at the nonprofit's 34 metro Detroit family thrift stores. Now through Dec. 31, patrons are invited to drop off their gently used clothing, linens, home goods and more to receive a 2014 tax receipt.

"As we reflect upon the year, many of us will be seeking ways to give back to the community," said Merle Miller, administrator of The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan ARC. "By donating your gently-used goods to The Salvation Army family thrift stores, you're helping provide hope to men and women struggling with substance abuse."

Completely self-funded, the ARC operates two voluntary, 6-month residential rehabilitation centers for men and women that draw their working budgets from the revenue of the nonprofit's 34 thrift stores.

"Donating at The Salvation Army thrift stores is super easy," said Jacquelyn Idzior, director of operations at The Salvation Army Southeast Michigan ARC.

Contributions of gently

used clothing, linen, household appliances, furniture, toys, shoes, purses and house wares are accepted at all Salvation Army thrift store donation centers. There is a store in Livonia at 3600 Plymouth Road, 734-425-7573.

For specific hours of

local Salvation Army thrift store donation center, visit www.salarmythrift.com.

Community members will also have the option of donating to the ARC at multiple remote drop-off locations in partnership with Gardner-White Furniture. Donations will be accepted at each of Gardner-White's metro Detroit locations during normal business hours, now through the end of the year. Gardner-White Furniture has a store at 39453 Ford, Canton, 734-844-3190. For more information, visit www.gardner-white.com.



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CLOSING OUR PLYMOUTH STORE FOREVER!

Stevenson students send holiday cards to troops

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Jerry Barrett decided the best way to let his sister know he was home on leave was to surprise her in class at Stevenson Middle School in Westland.

He did, and his visit to Shayla Weston's English set off a chain of events that has 400 airmen in South Dakota getting holiday wishes from Stevenson students.

"The students had made the cards and I was thinking of giving them to a VFW to get them to the troops when Jerry walked in. I thought the better way was to give them to a soldier to distribute," Weston said. "He said it would be good for the soldiers who are away from home for the first time at Christmas."

Barrett was home on a one-week leave and had been staying at his grandmother's home. He'd stopped by the school on Monday, Dec. 8, but Leah wasn't there, so he came back the next day.

"My desk faces the door and I saw him walking down the hall," Leah said. "I got up and ran to him when he got in the classroom and Mrs. Wes-



Jerry Barrett surprised his sister Leah while she was in class at Stevenson Middle School.

ton asked what I was doing. She looked and put it together."

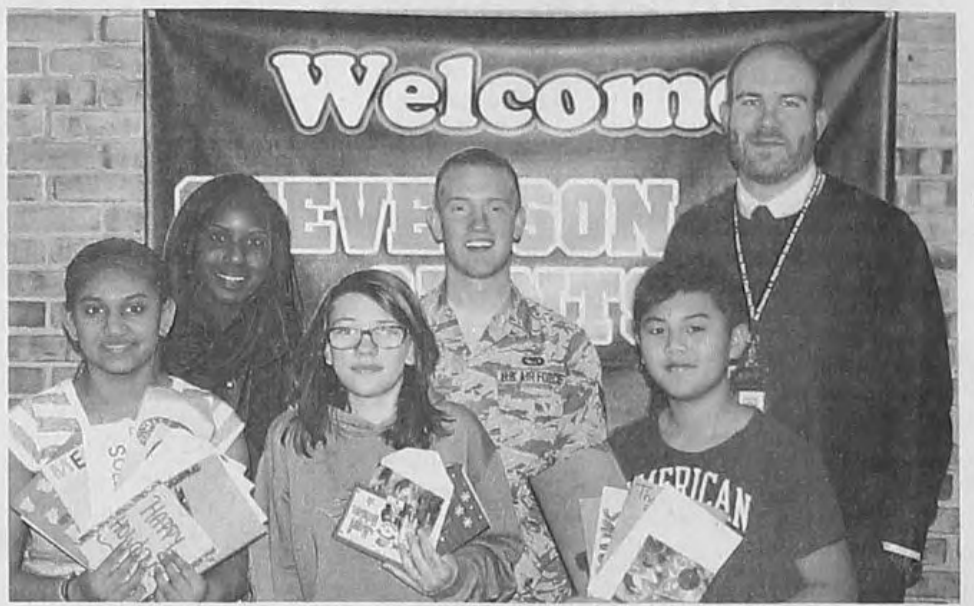
Weston has had her students making cards for troops since she was a teacher at Marshall Upper Elementary. This year the effort was coordinated by the Student Advisory Board, which invited about 400 students who had had a successful Positive Behavior Support month in November.

"The Student Leadership Board plans events, they're leaders in the school," advisor Trish

Barnes said. "They did an award for PBIS on Veterans Day and invited the students to make cards for the soldiers. Their goal is to develop a dream school and the card making is part of it."

"We wanted to give them the opportunity to make cards to give to the people who are doing something to save our school," Tulsı Patel said. "The cards were very beautiful."

"We ended up with 400 cards; each student made a card," fellow board



PHOTOS BY JENNY JOHNSON | WWCSO

Trish Barne (back row, from left), student leadership board adviser, Jerry Barrett, Stevenson Middle School Principal Adam Martin, Tulsı Patel (front row, from left), Leah Ouellette-Barrett and Joseph Vinuya show off handmade Christmas cards Barrett is taking back to South Dakota, where is stationed as a member of the U.S. Air Force.

member Joseph Vinuya said. "Mrs. Weston and Mrs. Barnes got the stuff together to make the cards and we invited students to come during their advisory period at lunch time. We had a good turnout."

While Leah didn't get to have special time with her 21-year-old brother, he did spend three hours with her at school, going

to her classes and having lunch with her. It was the first time he had been home in six months.

"It was nice to see him even if we didn't get to do something special," she said.

When Barrett was ready to return to South Dakota, the students presented their cards to him. They managed to fit all 400 cards in a paper

bag, according to Vinuya. "Some students wrote happy holiday and even though you can't be home we wish you a happy Christmas," he said. "They were beautiful."

smason@hometownlife.com
734-674-2332
Twitter: @SusanMarieMason

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2015. The bid opening will be at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 14, 2015 for the following:

PURCHASE OF PICNIC TABLES
Belson Outdoors Model PC-HWA, Quantity -15

PURCHASE OF EVENT TABLES and TABLE CARTS
Mity-Lite Table - Model RT3072BEG1 - Qty 25
Mity-Lite Table Cart - Model CRTRTUBLK2 - Qty 4

Specifications and bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at: <http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us>.

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC
City Clerk
City of Plymouth

Publish: 12/21/14

LO-000224941 3/3

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPT.

734 354-3232

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 12/26/2014, at 10:00a.m. Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI 48170, a public auction of the following:

		Starting Bid
2007 Saturn Vue	5GZCZ53497S860104	\$3765.00
1992 Honda Civic	1HGE8540NL037049	1325.00
2001 Ford Focus	1FAPP34P01W199151	1460.00
2008 Ford F150	1FTRF12208KE25499	905.00
1998 Cadillac STS	1G6KY5492WU922605	545.00
2000 Ford Taurus	1FAPP56SXYG101339	470.00

Dated: 12/17/2014

Publish: Sunday 12/21/2014 Plymouth Township PO Box 15996
Plymouth Township Police Department Account Number 142449

LO-000225133 3/2

Plymouth Charter Township, Wayne County, Michigan

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE SUBMITTAL

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following proposed Ordinance was introduced for second reading by the Plymouth Charter Township Board at its

December 9, 2014 meeting:

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

AMENDMENT 13 to ORDINANCE NO. 1016

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY GAS FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE, granting to CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to lay, maintain and operate gas mains, pipes and services on, along, across and under the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local gas business in the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. TERM. The CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, hereby grants to the Consumers Energy Company, a Michigan corporation, its successors and assigns, hereinafter called the "Grantee," the right, power and authority to lay, maintain and operate gas mains, pipes and services on, along, across and under the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local gas business in the CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

SECTION 2. CONSIDERATION. In consideration of the rights, power and authority hereby granted, said Grantee shall faithfully perform all things required by the terms hereof.

SECTION 3. CONDITIONS. No highway, street, alley, bridge, waterway or other public place used by said Grantee shall be obstructed longer than necessary during the work of construction or repair, and shall be restored to the same order and condition as when said work was commenced. All of Grantee's pipes and mains shall be so placed in the highways and other public places as not to unnecessarily interfere with the use thereof for highway purposes.

SECTION 4. HOLD HARMLESS. Said Grantee shall at all times keep and save the Charter Township free and harmless from all loss, costs and expense to which it may be subject by reason of the negligent construction and maintenance of the structures and equipment hereby authorized. In case any action is commenced against the Charter Township on account of the permission herein given, said Grantee shall, upon notice, defend the Charter Township and save it free and harmless from all loss, cost and damage arising out of such negligent construction and maintenance.

SECTION 5. EXTENSIONS. Said Grantee shall construct and extend its gas distribution system within said Charter Township and shall furnish gas to applicants residing therein in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 6. FRANCHISE NOT EXCLUSIVE. The rights, power and authority herein granted, are not exclusive. Either manufactured or natural gas may be furnished hereunder.

SECTION 7. RATES. Said Grantee shall be entitled to charge the inhabitants of said Charter Township for gas furnished therein, the rates as approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission, to which Commission or its successors authority and jurisdiction to fix and regulate gas rates and rules regulating such service in said Charter Township, are hereby granted for the term of this franchise. Such rates and rules shall be subject to review and change at any time upon petition therefor being made by either said Charter Township, acting by its Charter Township Board, or by said Grantee.

SECTION 8. REVOCATION. The franchise granted by this ordinance is subject to revocation upon sixty (60) days written notice by the party desiring such revocation.

SECTION 9. MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JURISDICTION. Said Grantee shall, as to all other conditions and elements of service not herein fixed, be and remain subject to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Public Service Commission or its successors, applicable to gas service in said Charter Township. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting the legal right of Grantee to challenge, contest or appeal any order, rule or regulation of the Michigan Public Service Commission.

SECTION 10. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS. Grantee shall comply with all applicable laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations regarding the installation, maintenance or operation of its gas system, whether federal, state or local, now in force or which hereafter may be promulgated; however, nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver by Grantee of any of its existing or future rights under state or Federal law.

SECTION 11. REPEALER. This ordinance, when accepted by grantee and published as herein provided, shall supersede and supersede the provisions of a gas ordinance adopted by the Charter Township Board on December 14, 1971 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE, granting to CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to lay, maintain and operate gas mains, pipes and services on, along, across and under the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, and other public places, and to do a local gas business in the TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

and amendments, if any, to such ordinance whereby a gas franchise was granted to Consumers Energy Company.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect upon the day after the date of publication thereof; provided, however, it shall cease and be of no effect after thirty days from its adoption unless within said period the Grantee shall accept the same in writing filed with the Charter Township Clerk. Upon acceptance and publication hereof, this ordinance shall constitute a contract between said Charter Township and said Grantee.

Publish: December 21, 2014

LO-000225108 3/12



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Lawyer in festive mood

Farmington Hills attorney joins parade clown corps

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

The awe and delight in kids' eyes was enough to cement Farmington Hills resident Barry Goodman's decision to continue clowning.

"I will try to convince my friends to do this, too," said attorney Goodman of Goodman Aker P.C. on Northwestern Highway in Farmington Hills.

For the first time in his life, Goodman served as a clown, one of some 160 members of the Detroit-based Distinguished Clown Corps, a tradition of America's Thanksgiving Parade in November.

The clowns are a group of corporate and community leaders who contribute to the opportunity to trade their business suits for clown suits to make the grand march down Woodward Avenue in downtown Detroit.

More than 2,000 clowns have made annual appearances. The Distinguished Clown Corps, supported by the Junior Jesters, has come to be not only a tradition, but an important component of the annual Thanksgiving parade.

Admittedly, being a clown was not something Goodman had previously considered. But the year before his law partner, Gerald Aker, had attended a pancake breakfast for the popular parade.

"When he came back, he said, 'We're going to be clowns next year!'" Goodman recalled.

Sure enough, Good-

man was eager. But for a number of reasons, Aker this year declined. "I made a call and was told to come for a fitting," said Goodman, who was among 20 rookies.

That was just the beginning. He didn't have a set training program but talked with other experienced clowns so he knew what to do. The main task — smile.

Because Goodman is in his first year as a clown, he received a one-piece outfit, which he will wear for the first five years of his volunteer career. After five years, clowns with the Distinguished Clown Corps can wear two-piece outfits, Goodman said.

His suit, with a ruffle around the neck, was half white. Goodman also had his choice of tall hats. "They make sure no two are the same," he said.

Other clowns recommended that he take the pull-up suit to a tailor and have a zipper added for ease. Then came the professional make up artists who give each member their clown personality.

Joining the Distinguished Clown Corps costs each member \$1,000, which is used to help pay for the Detroit Thanksgiving parade and fireworks for July 4, Goodman said.

The clown corps also has its own float, this year sponsored by UHY Advisors, that leads the clowns — walking behind — down Woodward Avenue on Thanksgiving Day. The parade's clowns

are known for passing out candy, lots of smiles and beads.

"Because of the beads, that gave us the ability to mingle," Goodman said.

Though a chilly day, Goodman said he didn't need any warmer clothing. Walking the parade route and stopping to delight kids and families meant that it was easy to fall behind the moving clown float. "You get out of your (parade walking) beat. You end up being a good half-block behind."

He was warned to forgo a clown's standard floppy shoes because of tripping. Goodman went out and bought a new pair of regular shoes just for the parade. Unfortunately, he didn't break them in — until he walked the 3.5-mile parade route.

Still, Goodman wouldn't trade the experience of his first parade as a clown.

By the time the parade ended, clowns handed out some 300,000 strands of beads, met kids and families and made the event that much more fun.

Goodman figures he posed for at least 15 photographs with kids and families along the parade route. "The looks on the children's faces was priceless. There were tens of thousands of kids. You couldn't pay enough for that privilege."

Giving and helping, Goodman said, is something he enjoys and something his law firm embraces. As personal injury attorneys, Goodman said he and his colleagues believe in help-



GOODMAN AKER P.C.

Barry Goodman as a clown greets families lined up for the annual Thanksgiving parade in downtown Detroit.

ing those in need. "You have to care about the people you represent. You help them get back on their feet."

Goodman said he feels the same about what he witnessed in Detroit

during the parade, including the start of the M-1 rail and abandoned buildings transformed into lofts.

While walking the parade, Goodman said he was struck with the

changes. "There is a renaissance going on in Detroit. I want to be a part of that."

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LO-000222946

PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

SECTION 00 11 13

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools' Construction Bid Package 5B, consisting of:

- Canton High School Science Lab Remodeling Project
- Salem High School Dance Studio Remodeling Project

will be received at the office of Mr. Patrick Briggs, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Operations, Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 until 1:30 P.M., local time on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at which time they will be opened, read publicly and tabulated.

Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

This Project will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions of work:

- 103: Selective Demolition 108: Carpentry / General Trades
- 114: Glass & Glazing 115: Metal Studs / Drywall
- 117: Acoustical Treatment 118: Resilient Flooring
- 120: Painting 124: Wood Flooring
- 129: Science Casework & Equipment 140: Plumbing
- 142: HVAC 143: Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by TMP Architecture, Inc. will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Dodge Plan Room, Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), Reed Construction Data, and Builders Exchange. Bid Documents will be available beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 via the following:

- Bidders may obtain one (1) set of 1/2 size bidding documents beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Wednesday.
 - Bidders may download bid documents from Gradebeam.com by contacting the Construction Manager.
- Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope. The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside.

There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Tuesday, December 23, 2014 at 1:30 P.M. at the office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., located at 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the project, schedule and to answer any questions that bidders may have. All Bidders are encouraged to attend.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00 41 26), Proposal Execution Form (Section 00 42 00), and the Iran Economics Sanctions Act Affidavit. The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by Section 1267 of the Revised School Code, as amended, MCL 380.1267, and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit form may be found in section 00 42 10 of the Bidding Requirements & General Conditions Manual.

All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the school district is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the bid or failure of the bidder to enter a contract for performance. Further, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

December 17, 2014, by contacting the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., at (248) 427-8400 to obtain log in information for access to the

END OF SECTION

00 11 13 - 1

Publish: December 21 & 28, 2014

LO-000222946 3/4

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS THURSDAY JANUARY 8, 2015 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE NOTE that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2015 commencing at 6:00 p.m., to consider:

- Application 1523, 51100 N Territorial, R-1-E zoning district, requesting two variances to construct a detached garage:
 - First variance; the proposed garage is 19 feet in height; the maximum allowed is 12 feet in height. *The variance requested is 7 feet in height.*
 - Second variance; the square footage of the residence is 4,270 and the combined square footage of the existing garage and new garage is 4,940. *The variance requested is 670 square feet.*
- Application 1524, 9433 Ball ST, R-1 zoning district, requesting two variances to complete a subdivision lot split in Palmer's Acres:
 - First variance; the ordinance requires that no lot shall be split less than 80% of the original lot. The original lot is 181 feet therefore the split would have to be: Parcel A 104.8 and Parcel B 104.8, neither lot can meet this requirement, so the variance requested is Parcel A 42.8 feet and Parcel B 35.8 feet. This split configuration meets the R-1 zoning district lot width requirements.
 - Second variance; the ordinance requires that the new lot must be consistent with the average two adjacent lots this split does not meet this, the adjacent corner lot is 106 feet, the new lot is only 62 feet therefore the variance requested is 25.5 feet in lot width.

The meeting will be held at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N. Haggerty Road in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

For further information contact Plymouth Township Building Department 734 354-3210.

Publish: December 21, 2014, Observer Newspaper

LO-000225087 3/4 5

INVITATION TO BID COOKE SCHOOL - VOCATIONAL KITCHEN RENOVATION NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of Northville Public Schools is accepting Prime Contractor firm bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to the Vocational Kitchen Renovation Work at the above referenced school; located in the Northville Public Schools.

Plans and specifications as prepared by the Mielock Associates may be downloaded via PlanWell and are available for review at the office of the George W. Auch Company, 735 S. Paddock Street, Pontiac, MI 48341 248.334.2000, on or after December 19, 2014. Bid Package consists of Instruction to Bidders, Proposal Forms, General and Supplementary Conditions, drawings and pertinent trade specifications. Contact Scott Oswald or Shawn Debo for download instructions.

Your proposal marked "Vocational Kitchen Renovation" will be accepted **NO LATER THAN 1:00PM, JANUARY 5, 2014 TO: NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION-ROOM 307, 501 WEST MAIN STREET, NORTHVILLE, MI 48167. (Note: The Board of Education building will be closed for holiday break through January 4, 2015, and will re-open at 8:00 am on Monday, January 5, 2015.)** Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 1:00 P.M., January 5, 2014 at the Northville Board of Education-Room 104, 501 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for December 30, 2014 @ 11:00 am at 21200 Taft Road, Northville, MI 48167. Please meet in the Cooke School main entrance. This meeting is not mandatory.

All contracts to be entered into by the Northville Public Schools must and will comply with the equal opportunity laws of the State of Michigan.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet.

All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid proposal. The bid proposal will be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Northville Public Schools, Board of Education or the Northville Public Schools, Superintendent. The District will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Proposals must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Northville Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each proposal over \$23,126 and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner.

Cynthia Jankowski, Secretary
Northville Public Schools, Board of Education

00190.1

Publish: December 21 & 28, 2014

LO-000225117 3/4

Ex-Wayne County hospital employees hold annual reunion

By Sue Mason
Staff Writer

Debbie Kowalske remembers when Wayne County General Hospital-Eloise closed in 1976. She was among the employees who worked there.

Recruited while attending Garden City West High School, she worked in D, M and N buildings and after Eloise closed moved over to the general hospital.

"I loved working at Eloise," said Kowalske, who lives in Belleville. "I was 17 years old when they came into West and recruited. I took the civil service test in the school library. I had to go downtown for the physical."

Kowalske, who worked at the hospital for 18 years, was among the retirees who showed up for a reunion last week to mark the 30th anniversary of the closing of Wayne County General Hospital. Joining her were friends Cheryl Morris of Garden City and Trudy Daberko of Brighton.

The trio grew up in Garden City and worked together at the hospital. They lost touch 23 years ago, but reconnected earlier this year.

"We got together on Facebook," Morris said. "When the hospital closed, I was with the health department and Deb and Trudy went downtown."

"The people were great, we were a close-knit group," she added. "We spent more time with each other than our families. Our co-workers became our extended family."



PHOTOS BY SUE MASON
Debbie Kowalske of Belleville, Cheryl Morris of Garden City and Trudy Daberko of Brighton recalled being recruited to work at Wayne County General Hospital-Eloise while in high school.



John Sebastian talks with Nancy Roggerio of Westland at the reunion.

The women shared stories about their years at the hospital, everything from how old the buildings were and spraying for roaches — "big ones" — to the men's and women's softball teams. They teased Calvin Sailor of Inkster about his uniform.

Sailor started at Eloise in 1960 and worked as a hospital orderly until being drafted. He served two years in the U.S. Army Airborne before returning to work as an assistant ward supervi-

sor at Eloise. He also was an in-house licensed practical attendant nurse, which he left to go into hospital security and eventually became union president, representing the 1,500 employees at the hospital and health department up until 1983.

"I negotiated a real good retirement benefit and I took it," Sailor said. "It was a great place."

Sailor had the option of going to the hospital or the sheriff's department and tested for both. He had a year to make up his



John Sailor of Inkster worked in security and was the union president, while Dennis Abraham of Westland worked in in-patient billing.



Sue Bunnell (from left) of Livonia shares a laugh with fellow Wayne County General Hospital retirees Debbie Kowalske of Belleville, John Sebastian and Dennis Abraham, both of Westland.

mind and turned down the sheriff.

"I enjoyed helping people and working with the patients," he said. "Security and union president was fine, but I enjoyed working with the patients more."

Calvin was known for the black book he carried. It wasn't filled with telephone numbers, it was his lottery numbers. A nurse on 4 South needed help, so he gave her five numbers and told her she'll win once, if she played them every day. She did and won on the

five day.

"She had five kids and didn't have enough money to last until pay day," Sailor said. "She bet \$1 and won \$500. I was so happy for her."

Among the retirees at the reunion was Sue Boneless of Livonia who spent her time as a technician doing brain wave testing in electroencephalogram unit, and Beth McClure of Milford who was a nurse in the pediatrics unit across the hall.

McClure started at the hospital in 1968 after graduating from the

Borgess School of Nursing in Kalamazoo. She had 16 years in when the hospital closed.

"I was the youngest retiree — they weren't certain what to do," she said. "I borrowed \$6,000 from my parents and bought out those four years so I could retire."

McClure went on to work for the Visiting Nurses and eventually finished out her nursing career with the Oakland County Public Health Department.

Dennis Abraham started at the hospital in 1968 and worked there for "23 1/2 years," handling in-patient billing. He also worked in the commissary doing the food orders. That was his favorite job.

Like many of the other retirees, Abraham stayed with the county after the hospital was closed. He ended up in the treasurer's office handling accounts payable and receivable until he retired in 1991.

John Sebastian bought a house in 1975 for \$25,000 and ended up living about a block from the hospital. That didn't matter; he still drove his car to work every day.

Sebastian worked at the hospital from 1967 to its closing in 1984. From there, he went to work with the Wayne County Soldiers and Sailors Relief for four years before landing at the sheriff's department, where he worked until he retired in 1994.

"I did drug and alcohol rehabilitation and worked with the ladies who need reprogram," he said. "My fondest memories, though, are of helping the Medicaid patients. They needed help and I could do it, but it took teamwork. We had a great crew of people to work with and it was my co-workers that would make my day."

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☛ **ANNIE** (PG)
FRI-TUE 1:00, 4:00, 6:40, 9:20
WED 11:00, 4:00

☛ **THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES** (PG-13)
FRI-TUE 11:30, 12:15, 2:40, 6:05, 6:35, 9:10 FRI/SAT LS 11:15
WED 11:30, 12:15, 2:40
D-BOX FRI-TUE 12:15, 6:35
WED 12:15

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WED 11:40, 3:00

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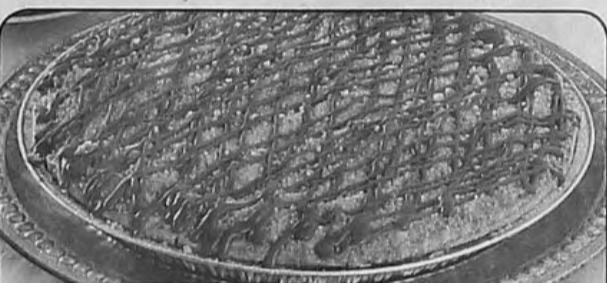
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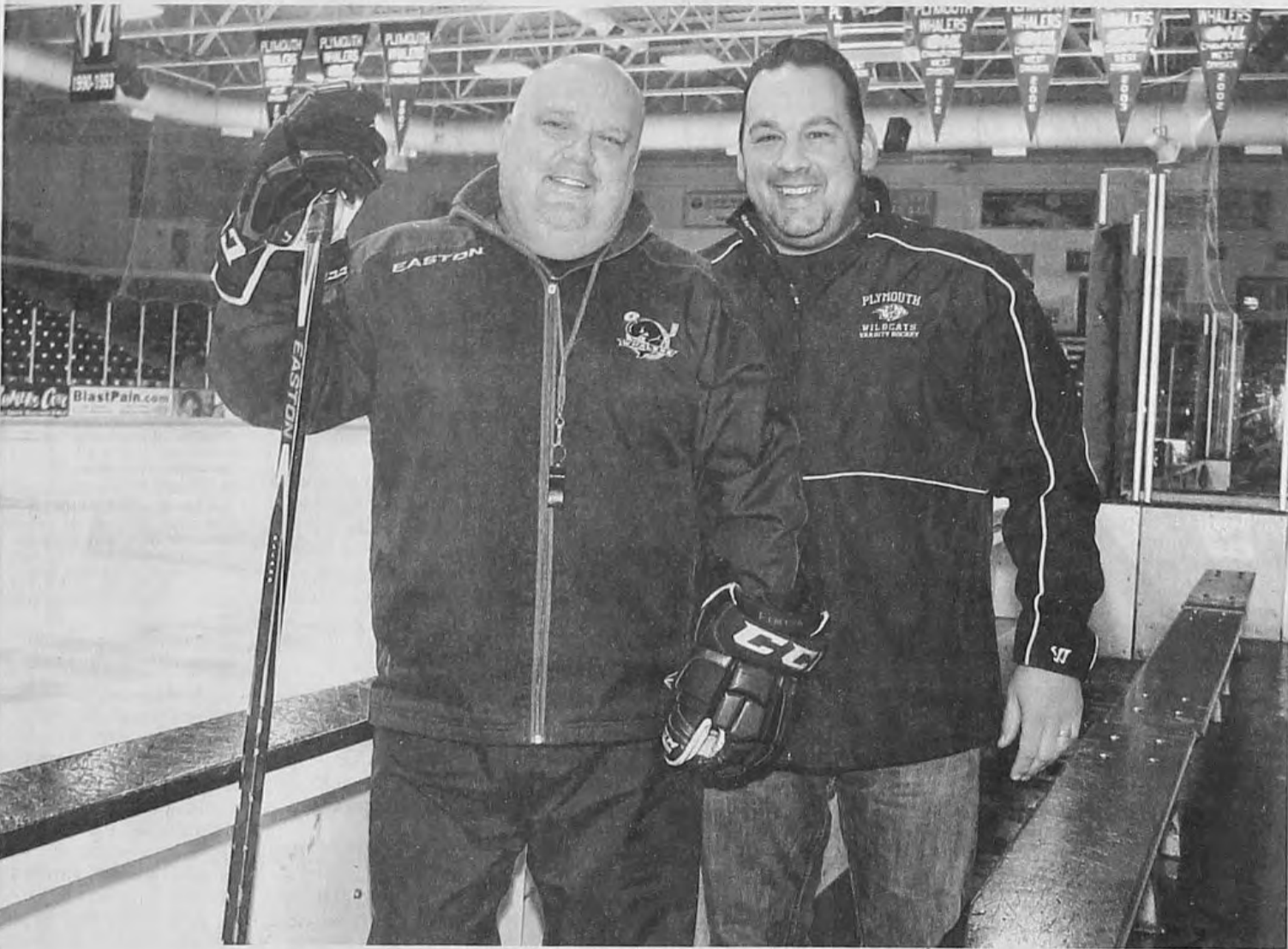
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PLYMOUTH'S HOCKEY PALS



Taking a moment together recently at Compuware Arena are Plymouth Whalers head coach Don Elland (left) and Plymouth high school coach Gerry Vento.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Salem's Jon Swift (No. 11), shown from last season, helped spark the Rocks to Thursday's win.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Salem grit stymies Rockets

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

During the first half Thursday night, Westland John Glenn's imposing post lineup led by 6-10 senior center Mike Edwards threatened to blow host Salem right out of their own gym.

The Rocks managed to "weather the storm" and trailed just 40-34 at halftime of the Kensington Conference crossover varsity boys basketball matchup.

And then Salem head coach Bob Brodie challenged his guys to force their way into the dirty areas of the floor and come away with crucial rebounds.

The Rocks outscored Edwards and the Rockets 39-26 in the second half and came away with a hard-fought 73-66 victory.

"They killed us first half, they out-rebounded us 13-to-2 in the first half," said Brodie, whose team improved to 2-1. "So we had to keep them off the glass and stop their transition baskets, which we did a pretty good job of tonight."

"Defensively, we're happy with what we saw. Even though they scored a lot of points, that's an explosive team out there."

See GRIT, Page B4

BUDDY SYSTEM

Elland, Vento enjoy friendship, fun, coaching young hockey players to become best they can be

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Call Don Elland and Gerry Vento two peas in Plymouth's hockey pod, if you want.

They would snap their heads back and laugh heartily.

It's all about hockey, laughs and friendship for Elland and Vento, both longtime coaches in the Compuware Youth Hockey program before branching out — Elland to the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers, Vento to the local high school circuit.

"I don't think I could go two or three days without talking to Gerry," said Elland,

a Plymouth resident. "It's not just that we're coaching buddies — we're buddies."

Concurring is Vento, a 46-year-old Livonian who is in his fourth season as head coach of the Plymouth Wildcats' varsity high school team.

"Donnie is just fun to be around," Vento said. "We just have a good time, whatever we do."

Keeping tabs

One more thing, both also possess a passion for helping develop youngsters into the best hockey players they can

See COACHES, Page B4

COACHES' CORNER

DON ELLAND: The 50-year-old Elland is in his first season as head coach of the Ontario Hockey League's Plymouth Whalers. The Plymouth resident spent the previous four seasons as a Whalers assistant coach.

Before his coaching days, Elland played two seasons for the Paddock Pool Saints, a Great Lakes Junior Hockey League team (U.S. Junior A), scoring 51 goals over two seasons (1981-83).

He started coaching in the Compuware Youth Hockey Program in 1995 and continued there until 2002. After briefly moving out of state, he returned to coach Compuware's midget major team before joining the Whalers.

GERRY VENTO: A Livonia resident, the 46-year-old Vento attended Detroit Catholic Central when it was located in Redford Twp., playing on the Shamrocks' junior varsity hockey team.

Vento became an assistant coach in 1998 on Elland's staff with the Compuware AAA bantams, comprised of players born in 1984. He continued there until 2003. After spending time coaching at Livonia Stevenson, he became head coach of the Plymouth Wildcats varsity boys hockey team in 2011.

SOCCER TOUR OF CHAMPIONS

National honor icing on cake for Chiefs

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Over a month ago, the Canton varsity boys soccer team streamed onto the pitch at Brighton High School and hoisted a trophy.

That victory, a 1-0 blanking of Rochester Adams, was one-upped last week by an unprecedented national honor.

Canton players and their coaches once again stepped out together, in triumph, this time onto the basketball court at halftime of Tuesday's Canton-Novu game to celebrate winning the Division 1 championship.

The team, state champs for the second time in four years, was presented with the Army National Guard national ranking trophy in front of cheering Canton fans and family members. The honor is part of the fourth annual MaxPreps Soccer Tour of Champions.

"On behalf of the Michigan Army National Guard, I'd like to present Canton High School's men's soccer team with this trophy," said Staff Sgt. Zachary Hein, talking into a microphone at half court. "I just want to say that I'm honored to be here and to see such young men working together, the leadership, the skill set that's all put together, to focus and win, it's awesome."

Sgt. Hein then handed the mic over to Canton head coach Mark Zemanski for brief comments, and soon the prestigious trophy was in the hands of players — posing for photos



Canton's state championship varsity boys soccer team was honored with the Army National Guard national ranking trophy at halftime of Tuesday's Canton-Novu boys basketball game. Holding the trophy is Chiefs senior co-captain Carter Schenk.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

amid banners proclaiming them state champions and Max-Prep award winners.

Unexpected honor

"It's pretty awesome, I didn't even think about this when we

were playing," said senior co-captain Carter Schenk, the first player to grab hold of the latest trophy. "We were always just playing for the state championship, and to get this is extra special. It's kind of cool."

Coach Zemanski, following the ceremony, called it a "well-deserved" honor.

"They're a good group of boys," Zemanski said. "They

See ICING, Page B2

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PREP BOWLING PREVIEW

Rocks start with strong showing at tourney

Canton keglers also look ready to make noise

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

This is the season for Salem's bowling program where last year's understudies get to show what they have.

Salem head coach Kathie Hahn said there is only one returning varsity bowler on the boys team — senior Tyler Ridgeway. The girls varsity returns four of six bowlers.

"Salem's boys varsity is going to be a strong team this year," Hahn noted, in an email to the *Observer*. "We only have one returning varsity player, Tyler Ridgeway, but I had a very strong junior varsity last season and have brought up several of them. It's going



Salem bowling coach Kathie Hahn (far left) and her varsity boys team pose after the squad placed second at last Saturday's tournament in Bay City.

to be a great season." Joining Ridgeway are senior Tony Przytulski, junior Zach Gonyea and sophomores Ryan Gonyea, Mitchell Rusinek and Shane Rusinek.

The Rocks got off to a promising start, finishing second at the Pinconning-sponsored tournament in Bay City. Hahn said Sa-

lem needed to defeat campus rivals Plymouth and Canton in order to place in the runner-up spot.

Hahn's optimism extends to what the 2014-15 girls varsity squad can achieve.

"Salem's girls varsity is also going to be a stronger team this year,"

she said. "We finally have six girls, so we have some wiggle room this year. Four of the six are returning teammates."

The girls lineup includes juniors Rachel Lopez, Katherine Kehoe, Brynna Samuels, sophomores Leah Boucha, Olivia Harkins and freshman Alaina Langen.

Canton preview

One of Salem's closest rivals, the Canton Chiefs, also are off to a promising start this season.

Canton's boys bowlers won a tournament and finished within the top four in another, compiling a 4-0 record, including a come-from-behind win over South Lyon.

"We look forward to continuing on this pace and looking for a division championship," coach Karl Brubaker said.

Leading the Chiefs will be returning players Mitchell Zelenak (junior) and Aaron Madsen (senior). Others with some varsity experience include seniors Josh Criscenti, Jacob Peltz and junior Tyler Pozan. Added to the mix are senior Teddy Lang and sophomore Dominic Dimaya.

On the girls side, the Chiefs placed second in a tournament and made the cut in their subsequent tourney. Brubaker expects the squad to battle for the top of the KLAAs South Division against Wayne and Westland John Glenn.

Sophomore Meghan Macunovich and seniors Megan Plave and Maranda McMaster lead the roster, with others filling in to round out the team.



Madsen



Macunovich

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Park teams turn strong defense into wins

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park varsity girls basketball teams are on the defensive and it's a good thing.

On Thursday night, strong defense and just enough timely offense enabled Canton, Plymouth and Salem to all garner victories in their respective Kensington Conference crossover games. Host Canton frustrated Livonia Stevenson, defeating the Spartans 41-25 to improve to 2-2. Junior forward Rio Santo led the Chiefs with 12 points, while sophomore guard Erin Hult chipped in with 11. Adding four was junior guard Madison Archibald.

"The girls played really, really well defensively," Canton head coach Kevin Palmer said. "We held them to 25

points, only five points in the second half."

"... This was the best we've played defensively all year. We really took care of the basketball and didn't have many turnovers tonight."

PLYMOUTH 52, S. LYON 33: Plymouth won for the second straight game, earning a 52-33 win over visiting South Lyon. The Wildcats (3-2) were led by senior wing Kendall Rose, who registered 13 points. With all 12 Plymouth players seeing court time, the Wildcats defensively stifled the Lions (1-4) and enjoyed a balanced offensive attack when called upon. Scoring nine points and leading the team with 11 rebounds was senior post Leah Kluczinski.

Helping the cause with eight points was senior post Patti Begoske, while senior point guard Courtney LaVallee added six. Chipping in with four points each were junior wing Bailey Brown, senior point guard Paige Stominski and junior wing Cassidy Lewis.

"It was a good team win for us," Plymouth head coach Nick Brandon said. "But we have a lot to work on heading into (January's) division play."

SALEM 40, JOHN GLENN 30: Senior forward Shara Long had a big night Thursday for visiting Salem, scoring 19 points and grabbing 10 rebounds, as the Rocks defeated Westland John Glenn, 40-30. Contributing 14 points and seven boards for Salem (2-3) was senior forward Maranda Armstead.

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ICING

Continued from Page B1

work hard together, they play as a team and it's nice to be rewarded for your hard effort all year long."

Canton is one of 10 boys soccer programs being honored, having finished ranked No. 6 in the country by MaxPreps (which ranks more than 15,000 teams nationally).

"For the past decade, MaxPreps, in partnership with the Army National Guard, has honored the top high school sports teams in the nation," said Andy Beal, president and founder of MaxPreps, in a press release. "Canton High School is one of a very select and elite group of soccer teams to be hon-

ored this year. "We congratulate the coach, players and the Canton High School community for earning the Army National Guard national ranking trophy."

According to a press release about the honor, MaxPreps uses an intricate compute program to determine team rank.

Prior season history, school size and comments on message boards are not considered in the MaxPreps rankings.

Although the system generally assigns a higher ranking to teams with more victories, it takes into account strength of schedule and quality wins.

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FISH DIAL-A-RIDE NEEDS HELP DRIVING CLIENTS TO DOCTORS

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Senior citizens driving senior citizens. That's how Rosalie Seal of Westland describes an all-volunteer, free transportation service called Fish Dial-A-Ride Western Wayne County. Seal coordinates the service, which pairs drivers and clients for rides to and from medical appointments on weekdays.

Although most of its passengers are seniors, the service is open to anyone in Westland, Garden City and Livonia who is unable to drive, has no alternative transportation, and needs a ride to a medical appointment.

And although most of its drivers are retired, the organization welcomes adult insured and licensed drivers of any age. Seal is "always looking for more drivers."

"We only have nine drivers. We really need drivers right now," she said.

Although volunteers decide how often they drive, most commit to one day weekly, shuttling clients to appointments between 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. The volunteer opportunity attracts mostly seniors because younger persons work during the day, Seal said.

More drivers would enable the group to take on more appointments and possibly offer rides for such procedures as kidney dialysis.

"We use our own cars. Most of us can't take people in wheelchairs — us being senior citizens ourselves," she said. Drivers may not have the room for special equipment, such as a wheelchair, or ability to handle it. But the addition of a few younger, stronger volunteer drivers could change that scenario.

"I'm 73. We've had drivers who were 85 years old," Seal said. "We're always looking for drivers."

Giving back

Kaye Gestro began driving six years ago after she retired from her job at a bank.

"I'm a breast cancer survivor. When I was going to chemotherapy and radiation, I had all kinds of family support," Gestro said. "But you'd be there and you'd hear, 'there's so-and-so who has to take a taxi to get here.' When I was getting close to retirement age, I picked up a brochure and said, this would be good to do.

"I enjoy it. I feel like I'm doing some good. Some people may have five kids but they are in Texas, Florida and Alas-



Volunteer driver Kaye Gestro waits for a client's companion to load a walker into her car.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ka. There's no one to take them and some car services are (expensive) even if you have an adequate amount of money.

"There are people who, as they are getting older, are nervous about driving," she added. "A lot of people lose their eyesight. We drive several blind people."

The Livonia woman drives once a week, but takes on added clients if her schedule allows. She picks up riders from both senior citizen apartments and private homes and may read or run errands while waiting to drive them home. She also returns calls left on the organization's answering machine and schedules drivers, a task she shares with two other volunteers.

Gestro said some clients require frequent rides and some use the service sporadically. "We've had plenty of people who use us once and never use us again. We heard from this one gal after a year and a half — she was friends with this lady and they did everything together until they got into an argument — she was back to needing rides again."

Helping others

Gestro and Seal said most riders donate "a little" money for the rides. Jan Anderson of Livonia started out as a driver, but has kept track of the group's financial books for the past five years. Fish Dial-A-Ride donates all of the money it receives to other organizations, Anderson said.

"Just yesterday I sent a check to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Last year I think we did Gleaners. One year it was the Senior Alliance," Anderson said. "Since we are a nonprofit, when the money builds up, I like to get rid of it."

Volunteers are not reimbursed for gas, but decide how often and when they'll drive. "It's very rewarding and they can do it in their own time frame," Gestro said. "They don't have to swear they'll drive once a week. One driver said last week it sounded interesting to him but he could only drive on Friday. That would be great."

Fish Dial-A-Ride needs volunteers for phone calls, scheduling and driving. Volunteers and residents who are in need of a ride may call 888-660-2007 and leave a message.



Rosalie Seal of Westland coordinates the Fish Dial-a-Ride program for Livonia, Westland and Garden City.

Good Samaritan hopes to inspire others with dog tale

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Paul Lubanski didn't think twice about scooping the bleeding terrier into a blanket, handing his car keys to a neighbor and ordering the driver to head for the nearest veterinary hospital.

Lubanski didn't know the dog, the neighbor, or the dog's owner, but he felt compelled to pitch in that day, more than 10 years ago, when he stopped to help the injured Yorkie in his subdivision.

"I'd hope that anyone who found themselves in a similar situation, confronted with an emergency with a beautiful animal, would do the same thing," said the Farmington Hills man. "Be aware of your surroundings and jump in when you can ... do something for a neighbor."

Lubanski said the experience took on special significance last month when he discovered the dog, named Genevieve, had indeed recovered and was about to turn 14 years old.

"I hadn't stayed in touch and didn't want to know if the dog had passed," he said. "She survived against the odds. It does fill my heart to know I

played a role in that family enjoying their pet."

Reunion

Annie Ross said Lubanski noticed her husband, Rob, working in their garage last month and stopped to ask about the dog. He was surprised and elated to discover their pet had survived the injuries she had sustained in a dog attack 10 years before. He asked if he could hold her again.

"To this day my kids call him the Samaritan," Ross said. "He was kind, saw an animal in distress, stopped and helped."

Ross said the incident taught her two daughters the value of being a good neighbor and a good pet owner. They experienced the patience and perseverance that was needed to nurse Genevieve back to health.

The dog had suffered spinal cord injuries and a stroke due to blood loss after being attacked by a much larger dog. A baby sitter at the Ross household accidentally let the pup out.

Poor prognosis

After two weeks in a veterinary hospital, Genevieve came home, able to move her head and tail.

"We were feeding her with a syringe, picking her up to burp her like a baby. We worked her muscles every day," Ross said, adding that a neurologist predicted the dog would never



Paul Lubanski reunites with the Yorkshire terrier, Genevieve, that he helped save 10 years ago after the dog was injured by a larger dog. Monique Ross and her family own Genevieve, who turned 14 on Dec. 11. Ross and Lubanski live in the same Farmington Hills subdivision.

SUBMITTED

walk again. "My husband said we can't give up. She's part of the family. We kept going and eventually she started crawling. Within two months she was walking.

"She walked with a funny gait, but she was happy. It's her fighting, happy spirit that worked in her favor."

Arthritis, dimming eyesight and deafness have slowed her

physical abilities, but she's still an important member of the Ross family.

"She's still happy and feisty" and alive because of their loving care and Lubanski's willingness to get involved 10 years earlier.

Lubanski, a longtime hockey and baseball coach, is president of Wilderness Xtreme Sports and author of two chil-

dren's books, including one about a dog named Coopie. He has already begun penning his next project.

"Six pounds of American hero, an inspirational book about Genevieve the wonder dog who survived all odds. I think the story is a fun one and needs to be told," he said. "I'm going to dedicate it to Wounded Warriors."

Snowfall: When you shovel, avoid trouble

By Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Shoveling snow isn't what most Michiganders look forward to each winter, but it has to be done. Physical therapist Dawn Thomas, who works at the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan in Birmingham, part of the Detroit Medical Center, has health tips for snow shovellers.

"First of all, you want to push the snow when possible," said Royal Oak resident Thomas, who earned her master's degree in physical therapy from Oakland University in 1995. "It's more in tune with your body."

Thomas, who specializes in orthopedics with a focus on the spine, noted layers of snow pile up. It's best to work on your snowfall in increments to ease the load, "helpful to take stress off the back."

Sometimes snow must be lifted rather than pushed. In such cases, Thomas says it's best to position your lifting hand near the "scooper" part of the shovel, by the handle's base.

"That will draw the load closer to your body," she said, with less spine stress. "You want to bend your knees and your hips. Your gluts and your quads (muscles) are doing the work."

Keep it natural

Your back should remain as neutral as possible, Thomas said, with you picking up the load and "move your feet to the direction where you're going to dump the snow. You're not having to lift and turn it."

A smaller shovel used will weigh less, she said: "That automatically makes you bite off smaller chunks."

Some "crunchy" snow is harder to shovel, and Thomas noted, "The fluffier the snow the easier it is to clear it."

Overall fitness and especially heart attack risk, including high blood pressure, should always be considered, she said. "You have to consider what



Chris Shurin uses a fancy shovel to handle the job on an earlier snow day. It's important to push snow when possible in shoveling and to minimize strain on your back by bending your knees and hips, keeping your back as neutral as possible if snow must be lifted in shoveling.

FILE PHOTO

your fitness level is. It is stressful on your body."

Layer up

For some people with age and/or health issues, neighborhood kids or a snow clearing service are the way to go, she said. When it comes to clothing, wicking layers should be worn, as you'll build up sweat while working.

You should cover all skin, make sure your vision isn't blocked by a hat or scarf, she said, and wear good treaded boots to reduce fall risks. Monitoring your exertion level is key.

"Typically you would work out your muscles so your muscles and body have a level of readiness for it," said Thomas,

recommending such stretches as squats or even climbing some stairs indoors before you head out to shovel.

"Allow yourself to take breaks if you need to," she added. Staying hydrated with lots of water is also vital.

If you experience chest pains, you should call 911 immediately. Those heart attack symptoms can come and go, she said, but shouldn't be ignored. "For sure I would say the 911 would be the appropriate response."

Thomas is good about heeding her own health and shoveling advice at her Royal Oak home: "Actually, I had my kids help me, too."

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SNOWBLOWER SAFETY

Dr. David Weaver, D.O., has been with Oakwood Healthcare since 1990 and is medical director of Oakwood Healthcare Center-Canton. "We do see a number of injuries during a typical winter related to snowblowers," said Farmington Hills resident Weaver.

Eyes, ears, hands and legs can all be injured by snowblower misuse, he said. He urges you to use protective eyewear, as gravel and dirt may be kicked up by a snowblower. "You want to be sure you have good eye protection," Weaver said, as well as plugs or other protection for your ears to reduce noise.

Problems often arise when the blade of the snowblower mechanism gets stuck. "Amputation is something we see very frequently," or mangled fingers, said Weaver.

You should never reach into a snowblower that's running. "Turn that thing off completely," Weaver urged. When it's totally off, you can dislodge what's stuck with another object: "It's on that object and not your hand," he said of pressure.

"Kids like to run through it," he added of snow and debris thrown up by a snowblower. "You have the potential to hurt somebody. Snowblowing is very dangerous; keep everybody away."

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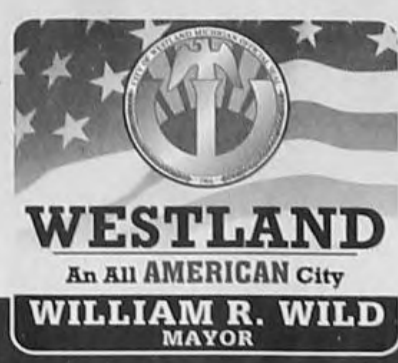
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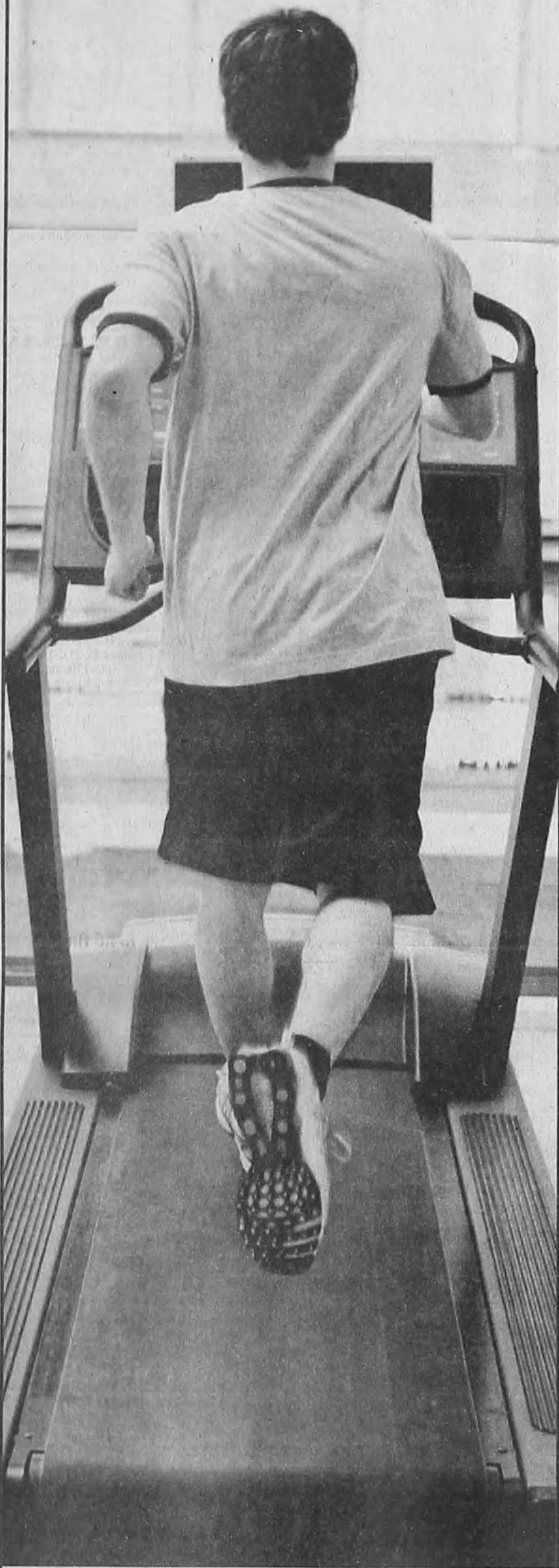


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- 5 Engine stat
- 8 Upstream spawner
- 12 Sunblock additive
- 13 Memorable decade
- 14 Deep sleep
- 15 Tops
- 16 Tadpole
- 18 Nurtures
- 20 Whether
- 21 Tokyo, once
- 22 Rained hard?
- 26 Catches on
- 29 Duffer's goal
- 30 Malt brew
- 31 Ding-a — (airhead)
- 32 Get spliced
- 33 Annoy
- 34 Lennon's wife
- 35 Dripping
- 36 Tam cousin
- 37 Ballroom numbers
- 39 Newman role

- 40 Maiden loved by Zeus
- 41 Furry thief
- 45 Period when dinosaurs lived
- 49 Horrible boss
- 50 Shaman's quest
- 51 For shame!
- 52 Jai —
- 53 Wilson predecessor
- 54 Thumbs-up vote
- 55 Notify

DOWN

- 1 Baby whale
- 2 Jumble
- 3 Fishing gear
- 4 Emergency reserve (2 wds.)
- 5 Copy
- 6 Ski instructors
- 7 — de mer
- 8 Jules Verne forte (hyph.)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	L	L	C	H	E	R	I	T	T
S	L	O	E	O	M	N	I	D	O	E
S	L	A	G	D	O	G	C	H	E	W
M	A	C	E	C	O	A	S	T		
K	O	A	L	A	U	P	I	N		
A	W	P	O	C	O	E	M	I	R	
L	E	E	S	A	O	K	S	I	N	E
E	D	A	M	K	N	E	E	C	A	
A	S	S	N	S	C	R	A	M		
K	M	A	R	T	I	S	E	E		
N	E	U	T	R	A	L	S	L	I	M
I	A	N	A	N	I	L	T	G	I	F
T	N	T	D	A	T	E	S	N	I	T

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- 9 Practical question
- 10 Centurion's sweet nothing?
- 11 Mr. Hammarskjöld
- 17 Misrepresenter
- 19 Newspaper execs
- 22 Came down with
- 23 Hideout
- 24 She, to Marie
- 25 Bug repellent
- 26 Pay phone feature
- 27 1492 caravel
- 28 Shortly
- 29 Cat or canary
- 32 "Scream" director — Craven
- 33 1776 soldier
- 35 Butters up
- 36 Tampa Bay NFLer
- 38 Economy size
- 39 Saddle horses
- 41 Climb the ladder
- 42 Gawk at
- 43 Ph.D. exam
- 44 Sedaka or Simon
- 45 Scribble down
- 46 Ms. Thurman
- 47 TKO official
- 48 Pigpen

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
12				13					14			
15				16			17					
18				19			20					
				21			22		23	24	25	
26	27	28				29			30			
31						32				33		
34				35					36			
37				38					39			
				40			41			42	43	44
45	46	47				48				49		
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

				9		5		1
7	1		4				2	9
2	9		8		7	4		
			3			9		7
9	4	7		2		3		
3		8	1				4	
4				5		7		
6		1				2		5
	7		2	6			3	4

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

GOBBLE, GOBBLE WORD SEARCH

WORDS

T G H E C O R N W D S Y A W A U O B A W S E L P P A K K W S R E L T T E S O G S V E O T R E S S E D A W N N A C E P S T V Y D G N I F F U T S F B O V E N H E M F M E U Y L I M A F R F F I B C D P I F S U R K T T C E N T E R P I E C E S P M U K E W R I N G E V I T A N B V C V F T D A W U G U T O G V M L E F T O V E R S S B O B T T A V Y F E K A B I A L E E K S L D M H Y B R E C S L W T V U F M P C T F R P H R W R G M A E U B P T V E I T E Y U W P R Y A E Y B S V F G U M A C S L A M I O E A M G A K E S A K M S L E E B M S N R B D Y R N D K R E E N B K R V I R T V O N I A E K Y A M S R L A A K R G V I V A A L F E A S T U V B O O H G A D L C M S R O C O L O N I S T S L S T H R O K G T C H Y A L F B T A B I E K F O O T B A L L L T M K F P U M P K I N U K P M G K G N R O C A N W H U C T P S P

- ACORN
- APPLES
- AUTUMN
- BAKE
- BREAD
- CASSEROLE
- CENTERPIECE
- COLONISTS
- CORN
- CRANBERRY
- DESSERT
- DRUMSTICK
- FAMILY
- FEAST
- FOOTBALL
- GIBLETS
- GRATITUDE
- HARVEST
- HOLIDAY
- LEAVES
- LEFTOVERS
- MAYFLOWER
- MEAL
- NATIVE
- NOVEMBER
- OVEN
- PECAN
- PIES
- PUMPKIN
- RECIPE
- ROAST
- SETTLERS
- STUFFING
- THANKFUL
- TURKEY
- YAMS

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

5	7	9	2	6	8	1	3	4
6	8	1	7	4	3	2	9	5
4	2	3	9	5	1	7	8	6
3	5	8	1	7	9	6	4	2
9	4	7	5	2	6	3	1	8
1	6	2	3	8	4	9	5	7
2	9	5	8	1	7	4	6	3
7	1	6	4	3	5	8	2	9
8	3	4	6	9	2	5	7	1

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search

Familiar yet fresh luxury: the 2015 Lincoln Navigator



By Greg Mullin
Staff Writer

With its iconic blend of style, luxury and performance, the 2015 Navigator delivers everything that made it great — and new levels of quality, design and personal service for active families, said Steve Hunsinger, the sales manager at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn.

“The Navigator looks both familiar and utterly fresh with a redesigned exterior and interior for 2015, in addition to client-focused technologies and new luxurious appointments to retain its leadership in the full-size luxury SUV market,” Hunsinger said.

Plus, “the Lincoln Navigator offers more technology than ever before to help assist the driver on the daily commute and on family vacations,” he said.

Available technology in-

cludes: Lincoln Drive Control, MyLincoln Touch, a forward-sensing system, rear-view camera, reverse-sensing system and the Blind Spot Information System.

“It is clear that the 2015 Navigator has set the technology bar to a whole new level,” Hunsinger said.

One of the most exciting differences on the 2015 Navigator is the all-new powertrain, he added.

“The 3.5L EcoBoost powertrain is a turbocharged engine that achieves a balance of power and fuel economy through key technologies,” Hunsinger said. “The twin turbochargers provide power while the direct fuel injection provides better fuel economy and reduces emissions.”

Critics have recognized the Navigator with Best-in-Class honors for its towing, cargo volume and third-row legroom.

Competitors include the

Cadillac Escalade, Infiniti QX80 and GMC Yukon Denali.

“With the fresh exterior restyling, interior refinements, added technology and the all-new 3.5L EcoBoost powertrain, the 2015 Navigator clearly distances itself from the competition,” Hunsinger said.

Drivers considering a Navigator have a dealer nearby with a distinguished reputation — Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn, family opened and operated since 1998.

“With the integrity and knowledge of our professional sales staff, today has never been a better time to buy from Jack Demmer Lincoln,” Hunsinger said. “From the moment a client enters Jack Demmer Lincoln, it becomes very clear what sets Jack Demmer Lincoln apart from the competition.”

“Come in and discover the Jack Demmer difference today.”



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 \$1,000 Owner Loyalty Incentive Included

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 \$1000 Competitive Conquest Incentive available
 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available

Vin #3LFR617343



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 Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
 \$1000 Competitive Conquest Incentive available
 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available

Vin #1LEG609912



2015 LINCOLN MKX

\$376

24mo/21,000 mile lease = \$376 + tax
 Per Month, \$2860 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
 Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
 \$1000 Competitive Conquest Incentive available
 \$750 RCL Renewal Incentive available

Vin #2LFBL20793



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\$392

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 Per Month, \$2962 Due at Delivery, Plus Tax,
 Title, Plates, No Sec Dep.
 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available

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\$583

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 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available

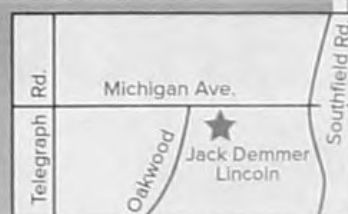
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