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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2011

'Nutcracker' returns to theater

By Christy Vander Haagen
Special Writer

Chelsea's Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan will, once again this season, dazzle crowds of all ages with its presentation of "The Nutcracker," a timeless holiday classic. This year's performance, according to YDT Marketing Coordinator Patricia Marsh, is the theater's 14th. The ballet is based on E.T.A. Hoffman's "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice," a story of a young German girl who dreams about her Nutcracker becoming a prince who battles against a mouse king with seven heads. The story was originally choreographed into a ballet by Marius Petipa and premiered in St. Petersburg in December of 1892. Performed by thousands of ballet companies around the world, "The Nutcracker" has become a tremendously popular part of Christmas tradition for millions. Rehearsals for "The Nutcracker" began shortly

after Labor Day and ran every Sunday through December under the direction of YDT Artistic Director, Wendi DuBois. DuBois, a professional dancer previously of the Dayton Ballet Company and former adjunct lecturer for the University of Michigan Dance Department, has led the nonprofit theater since 1998. DuBois said the most challenging part of putting together a production of this size is finding enough time to rehearse. "Although we put in long Sundays, trying to get a production this big up in 10 or 12 Sundays with two or more casts, 60 or so performers, is always a bit daunting," she said. But, DuBois has enjoyed watching the dancers grow and mature over the years. "The most wonderful part is watching how much the dancers grow ... technically, artistically and emotionally from each production. They learn to manage their time, work well in a group ... in essence, watching young people build



Tickets for "The Nutcracker" are on sale now. Performances are 7 p.m. Dec. 2, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 3 and 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Adult ticket prices are \$18 each and students are \$12.

their minds and bodies is always rewarding." This season's performance is bittersweet for more than a dozen senior

PLEASE SEE RETURNS/3-A

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Make sure to click on www.heritage.com around the clock for the most in-depth coverage of Washtenaw County. Our most viewed story this week is 'Michigan football: Nebraska fans are the best!'

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Hometown Holiday to light up Chelsea

Hometown Holiday, an annual, fun-filled weekend celebration, will light up Chelsea Dec. 2-4. The festival, in its 24th consecutive year, is sponsored in part by Key Bank, and will begin with a special visit with Santa Clause. Santa will arrive to light the giant Christmas tree at Pierce Park, and youngsters will have a chance later that evening to sit on the big fella's lap and share their wish list at Santa's workshop at the Depot.

"Unlike some of the other big events in town, this is really an event for the people of Chelsea," said Bob Pierce, Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce executive director and organizer. "This is a true local celebration and we don't really market outside of the community for that reason." There are many other attractions during the weekend including the seventh annual Holiday Light Parade along Main Street,

FM
See page 3-B for a complete schedule of Hometown Holiday events.

lit up with illuminaries, on Saturday evening, followed by the community sing and afterglow party at Chelsea Teddy Bear. "The parade and sing-along after really represent the holiday spirit here in Chelsea," Pierce said. "It

doesn't get much warmer or fuzzier than that event." There are a few new activities this year and the return of many of the standard favorites. Chelsea District Library is offering a teen and tween gift-making session on Saturday afternoon from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Younger kids from pre-kindergartners to fifth graders have the opportunity to shop for those on their list at the Children's Christmas Bazaar at the First United Methodist Church, also

on Saturday (must sign up at www.signupgenius.com/go/201268). The church will also host two Gingerbread House Workshops from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Families can decorate their own custom gingerbread house for free, but reservations are needed by calling the chamber's office at 475-1145. Chelsea's own talented Youth Dance Theatre will be

PLEASE SEE HOLIDAY/3-A

Land conservancy, CCA partner for exhibit

Birgit Huttemann-Holz's work will be on display as part of the CCA's exhibit. Her paintings are done in the Greek encaustic style, which uses heated beeswax.



The Legacy Land Conservancy, celebrating 40 years of helping to protect over 4,500 acres of forests, prairies, farms, wetlands, and waters, teamed with the Chelsea Center for the Arts to commission artists to create original works of art. An exhibition, "Stand In The Place Where You Live," will run through Jan. 7, 2012, at the CCA, 400 Congdon St. in Chelsea. A reception, free and open to the public, is set for 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 2. Artwork will be for sale and 30 percent of the proceeds will be donated to Legacy Land Conservancy and CCA. Sandhill Crane

Vineyard wines and Wolverine State Brewing Company beer will be served with light appetizers. Artists Barbara Bushey, Deborah Campbell, Nancy Feldkamp, Steve Gilzow, Birgit Huttemann-Holz, Angelis Jackowski, Janet Kohler, John Lloyd, Nancy McKay, Brenda Miller, Susan Moran, Lynn Quick, Anne Rubin, Cathy VanVoorhis, Nora Venturoli, and Elaine Wilson were each assigned a site not open to the public, and within 30 miles of Ann Arbor. "Art helps us understand the idea of place, and illuminates how our sense of place is connected to our ideals and identity," said artist Cathy Barry, a CCA

trustee and co-curator of the exhibition along with land protection consultant Barry Lonik. The project is sponsored by the Charles Reinhart Co. "Legacy Land Conservancy and the Chelsea Center for the Arts are both tremendous community resources," said Reinhart president Daye Lutton. "We are very proud to support these wonderful organizations as well as the Stand project." Established in 1971, the Legacy Land Conservancy has worked to protect lands such as the Osborn Mill/Riverlands Preserve, now managed by Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission; and

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Big House event encourages organ, blood donation

By Amy Bell
Heritage Media

When Chantay Leonard of Detroit was 12 years old, she was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and underwent chemotherapy and radiation. Now, at age 32, she's free of cancer and volunteering with Be the Match, an organization dedicated to signing up bone marrow donors.

When 18-year-old Tucker Schumacher was 18 months

old, he was diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer. Since age 5, the liver-transplant recipient has been an active volunteer, working to promote organ donation throughout the state.

Although the two have never met before, they both have something in common: they are cancer survivors working to give back.

Both Schumacher and Leonard were at the University of Michigan Nov. 16 at its first ever "Be A Hero at the Big House", the largest single organ donation drive in state history. The event also featured a blood drive and a chance for attendees to sign up to donate bone marrow and tissue.

"Today is really about hope," said Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.

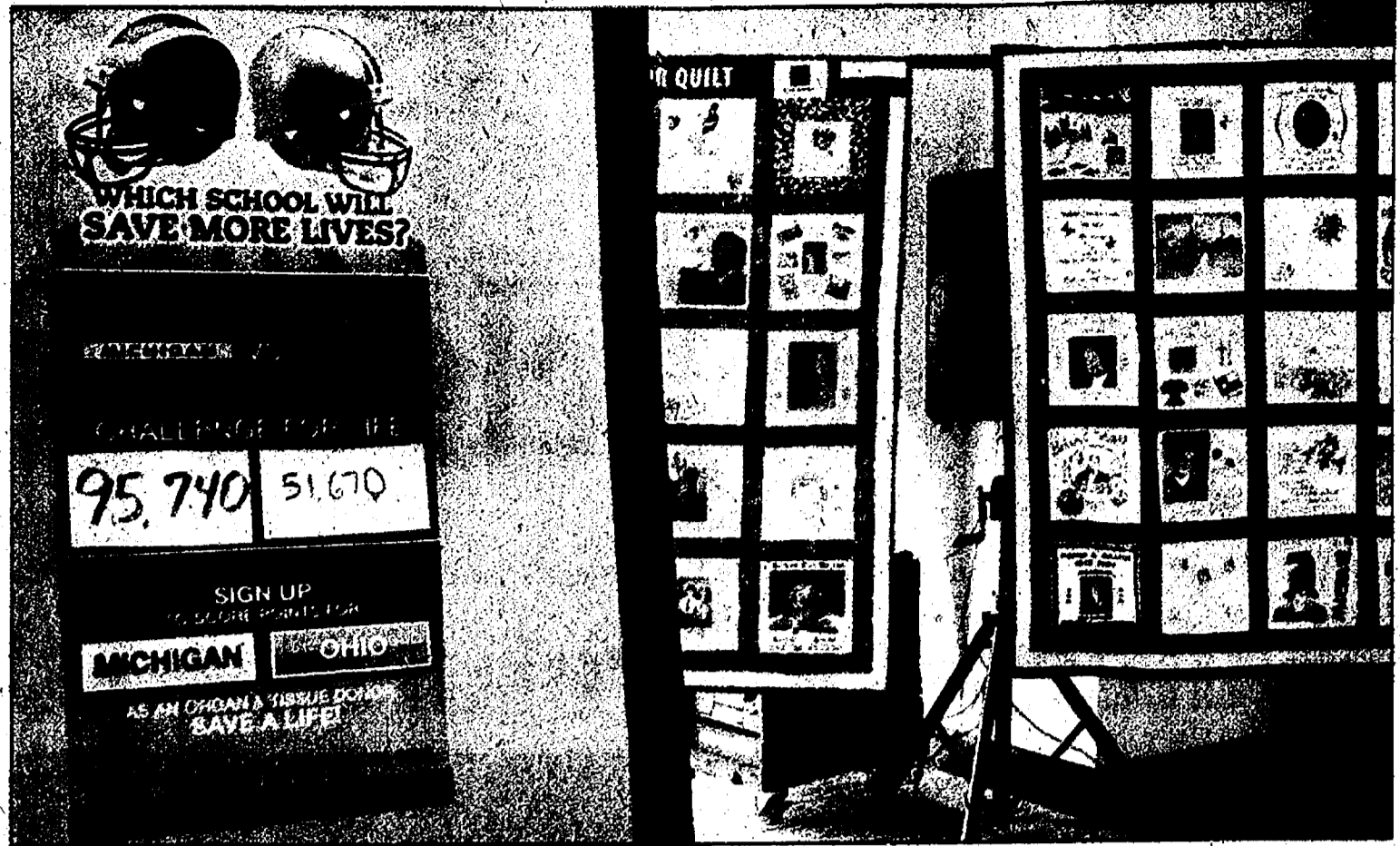
Right now, nearly 3,000 people in Michigan are currently awaiting an organ transplant. Currently, there are 2.3 million people on the registry, and the number keeps growing, she said.

Since the spring, Johnson's campaign has seen an increase of 30 percent more donors and recently set a record for annual registrations of nearly 320,000 donors, enough to fill three Michigan Stadiums, she said.

"The results have been very gratifying," Johnson said.

She also emphasized the importance of the event because it draws attention to the fact Michigan is the sixth-worst state in the nation for people signing up on the organ donor registry.

Now in its seventh month, Johnson's campaign has involved increased efforts to promote the Michigan Donor



Attendees of the "Be A Hero at the Big House" event held Nov. 16, 2011 got a chance to sign up to become an organ and tissue donor and also help University of Michigan beat Ohio State University in the Wolverine Buckeye Challenge and Blood Battle. In the background is a display of organ donors who saved lives through their donation.

Registry at local Secretary of State branches as well as promoting it on its website and through social media.

Dr. Jeffrey Punch, director of transplantation at U of M, said he knows personally about the difference the donors make for families with loved ones in need of a transplant.

"Each recipient is here because someone decided to be a hero, it really takes very little effort to actually be that hero," he said.

Punch said the donor families are truly the real heroes and many take real knowing their loved one has gone on to help another person live.

Schumacher reminded everyone there is a major shortage of donors throughout the country and

many of the names on the waiting list are children waiting on the recipient for a donor without much hope.

"Remember, don't take your organs to heaven, heaven knows we need them here," he said.

Representatives from Phi Alpha Omega, Be the Match and the Michigan Eye Bank were all present with a common goal of making the public aware of their respective organizations.

The Eye Bank is a 501-c3 organization, which partners with the Gift of Life, Secretary of State and the Michigan Hospital Association to increase the number of registered donors in Michigan. Formed in 1957, the organi-



Dr. Jeffrey Punch, director of transplantation at the University of Michigan.



Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson.

zation's mission is to recover and distribute eye tissue for use in transplants, research and training. For more information about the Eye Bank, visit www.michiganeyebank.org. Staff Writer Amy Bell can

be reached at 429-7380 or abell@heritage.com. Text HERNews and HERWeather to 22700 to receive news and weather alerts to your cellphone. Msg and data rates may apply. Text HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel.

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House Passes 'Matt's Safe School' Law

House lawmakers this week approved House Bill 4163, which amends the Revised School Code to include anti-bullying language under a section known as "Matt's Safe School Law."

The State Board of Education asked districts to adopt anti-bullying policies in 2001, and issued a model policy for them to emulate in 2006 in response to 10 reported cases of bullying-related suicides in Michigan in the last decade.

Michigan is one of three states without anti-bullying laws. The Senate passed SB 137 Nov. 3.

The House bill doesn't include language from the Senate Bill known as the "religious exemption."

Rep. Rick Olson, R-55th District, said he and fellow legislators are taking a new approach to anti-bullying laws in the state.

"This bill does not give anyone an excuse to bully anyone else. It protects every student — and their rights," said Olson in a press release. "The religious exemption is legally unnecessary and would only cause confusion. The

STATE ROUNDUP

First Amendment protects the people's right to talk about their religious faith or moral beliefs and always will. No bill can undo that, and no bill could add to it."

The bill defines bullying as abuse that interferes with the victim's ability to take part in education opportunities and other benefits and programs offered by the school. It includes actions that place victims in reasonable fear of physical harm or emotional distress.

The policy applies on school premises, school buses and off-site school activities. Existing school policies are grandfathered in if they meet the requirements of the bill.

Colbeck withdraws support of Health Care Exchange Bill

Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-7th District, took the action of removing his co-sponsorship and voting nay on SB 693 — legislation that would provide for the establishment of the MiHealth Marketplace, a nonexclusive clearinghouse for health benefit plans.

Colbeck stated on the Senate floor that his original concerns about the bill as it relates to the federal Affordable Care Act were

never addressed.

"I rise in strong opposition to SB-693. My original co-sponsorship commitment was predicated on the understanding that this bill would provide a free market alternative to the Federal Affordable Care Act," said Colbeck. "As a co-sponsor, I had worked hard to ensure that the bill would live up to this promise."

Colbeck called the proposal in its current form an extension of "Obama Care."

"Our citizens do need access to affordable care. Our state would have more jobs if we implemented a health-care system that provided lower cost and higher quality care for our citizens than other states," Colbeck said. "I regret to say that this bill does not provide an effective solution to these real needs that is consistent with the free market principles that made us a great nation."

Colbeck was among 25 nay votes on the bill as it passed through the Senate Nov. 10.

—Compiled by copy editor Austen Smith



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RETURNS

FROM PAGE 1-A

dancers and their parents as this will be their last Nutcracker performance with YDT. Grass Lake Senior Allison Burg is one of the graduating dancers. She has been dancing for 15 years, 10 of which have been with YDT. Last year, Burg was cast as Snow Queen but her dreams of dancing the part were crushed just one month before the show when she broke her foot while jumping in ballet class.

This year, Burg is cast as Snow Queen as well as Lead Hot Chocolate, Toy Soldier and Waltz corp. "I am feeling pretty good," Burg said. "I hope that if I continue to work hard and focus on my parts that things will go well."

Allison's mother, Terri Burg, said it has been a joy to watch her daughter and friends grow over the years in their Nutcracker performances.

"From a tiny mouse to Snow Queen, each year has brought a special memory."

Lauren Mitchell of Dexter is also a senior this year. She has been with YDT for nine years. This will be her final Nutcracker performance with YDT.

"After nine years, I

can't imagine not doing it (Nutcracker)," Lauren Mitchell said. "I love dancing and performing. It helped me gain confidence and taught me that hard work is really worthwhile. I will miss performing in the Nutcracker and the friendships I made through it."

Marsh said YDT's production of Nutcracker wouldn't exist without the talent and direction of DuBois or the dedication and hard work of the parents and other volunteers.

Marcia Mitchell of Dexter is one of the many parent volunteers who dedicates countless hours to help make the production a success. Mitchell works on props, and this will be her fifth year in that role. Prop volunteers, according to Mitchell, are responsible for making and repairing the props as well as making sure they are where they need to be backstage so the dancers can get to them easily and quickly.

"We just try to make things go smoothly," Mitchell said. "It's a really fun job because we get to experience the excitement of the show from backstage without ever stepping foot on stage."

All of the exquisite costumes are hand-sewn and quilted by parent volunteers lending help to the theater's on-staff costume

mistresses Mary Waldron and Robin Krienke.

According to Waldron, the group of volunteers is like a family, supportive and helpful.

"This is like a wonderful little sewing circle of hardworking moms," Waldron said. "It is also a great way to get involved."

Theater goers are also invited to attend a "Sugar Plum Tea" both Saturday and Sunday at 12:30 p.m. in the Chelsea High Schools Commons. The tea is geared toward the little ones, according to Patricia Marsh, but is also for the young at heart. The commons area will be transformed into a traditional tea party complete with kid-friendly tea, snacks and even a few sugar plum fairies and other performers who will stop in to say hello. There will be a photographer on hand to capture all of the memories.

Sugar Plum Tea tickets are \$12 each.

Tickets for "The Nutcracker" are on sale now. Performances are 7 p.m. Dec. 2, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 3 and 2 p.m. Dec. 4.

Adult ticket prices are \$18 each and students are \$12.

For more information about the Nutcracker or Chelsea's Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan, visit <http://youthdance-theatre.org>.

HOLIDAY

FROM PAGE 1-A

performing the classic holiday ballet "The Nutcracker" at the high school, with five shows scheduled throughout the weekend. There are many other free concerts scheduled around town.

If they didn't get enough of Santa on Friday night, kids and their families are invited to have a free breakfast with Santa on Saturday morning at the Chelsea Comfort Inn & Village Conference Center, courtesy of Lake Trust Credit Union. Just down the road from there at the Chelsea Fair Grounds service building, dozens of local artists and crafters will show and sell their work at the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All The Trimmings Artisans Holiday Show.

Sunday features musical concerts throughout the day including the Chelsea Chamber Players performing two free holiday shows at the First United Methodist Church at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. and the local church choirs singing holiday songs at the Festival of Lessons & Carols at the Chelsea Retirement Center Chapel at 6:30 p.m.

Chelsea will be all decked out in holiday splendor to warm your hearts and get everyone in

the holiday spirit.

Many of the local merchants will be open late all weekend for shopping. Free gift-wrapping, refreshments, demonstrations and entertainment will be available at select stores.

For more information and a detailed list of events and activities (updated daily), please click on chelseafestivals.com or call 734-475-1145. You may also download a copy of the brochure from the website.

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CCA

FROM PAGE 1-A

Bandemer Park, Bird Hills Park, and Black Pond Woods in Ann Arbor.

In 1999, the Potawatomi Land Trust merged with the Washtenaw Land Trust, and the Waterloo Land Conservancy Trust joined the organization in 2003. In 2009, the Washtenaw Land Trust changed its name to Legacy Land Conservancy to reflect its regional scope. Nationally recognized for conservation excellence, it is among the first conservancies nationwide to be awarded accreditation by the Land Trust

Accreditation Commission.

The Conservancy works to spread its message, through outreach and education, that nature and open spaces are important for clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat, relaxation and recreation, growing fresh, healthy food, and more. For more information, visit legacylandconservancy.org.

The CCA offers classes, workshops, private lessons, after school art clubs, summer camps, outreach programs, exhibitions, performances, and special events for youths and adults; and does collaborative programs with community partners such as

LLC, River Gallery, Chelsea District Library and Chelsea schools.

The CCA Gallery, open noon to 2 p.m. weekdays except Thursdays, and 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, focuses on work by students, faculty, area artists, and featured artists through curated exhibitions. Exhibitions are free and open to the public.

Sheila Pursglove is a freelance writer. She can be reached at bingley51@yahoo.com.

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STRAIGHT FACTS
 A Nov. 10 article in the Chelsea Standard about businesses being awarded for their sandhill crane decorations incorrectly stated the name of Merkel Furniture & Carpet One as two separate businesses. The Chelsea Standard regrets the error.
 If you spot an error you think needs to be corrected, please contact copy editor Erica McClain at emcclain@heritage.com.


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SECOND FRONT

Changes to child labor laws concern farmers

By Tanya Wildt
Heritage Media

After a 30-day extension, farmers will now have until Dec. 1 to comment on proposed rule changes to federal child labor laws that would affect farmers hiring youth for agricultural work.

"Given that the comment period fell during the hectic fall harvest season, many in the agriculture community argued farmers were given inadequate notice and insufficient time to comment on a rule that could fundamentally disrupt agriculture practices across the country," Michigan Farm Bureau wrote in its Agri Notes & News Oct. 28 publication.

The changes have drawn many questions from the agricultural community, including if children working on their parent's farm would be affected and if 4-H programs are at risk.

The update is the first since the 1970s and would change age limits for operating power-driven equipment, working in a pen with certain animals and using electronic communication devices while operating or assisting to operate power-driven equipment, among others.

The Department of Labor decided to update the laws to ensure the safety of young farm workers. During the 1990s, about 4 percent of all working youth were employed in agriculture, including forestry and fishing, but they experienced more than 40 percent of the youth occupational fatalities, according to a 1998 report by the General Accounting Office.

Children affected

Michigan State University Extension issued a fact sheet about the proposed changes and explained how they would directly impact "young hired farm workers." The term, YHFW includes:

- 14- and 15-year-olds who are not the children of a farm owner or operator;
- 12- and 13-year-olds who work on the same farm where their parents are employed, or with the written consent of a parent or a person standing in place of a parent;

- Children younger than 12 who are employed with the written consent of their parents, on a small farm where no employee is required by the Fair Labor Standards Act to be paid the minimum wage.

Children could be granted permission by someone standing in place of a parent, such as a grandparent they are staying with for the summer.

"Children of farmers, no matter the age, are exempt from the laws and regulations of the Fair

Labor Standards Act, as long as they are directly supervised on the job by a parent who owns or operates the farm," said Claire Layman, public policy education specialist for Michigan State University Extension.

Layman said "young hired farm workers" are those hired in an employment relationship.

Stanley Moore, dairy extension educator who co-presented a MSUE webinar on the changes, said the exemption can also apply to jointly-owned farms.

"If it's a joint ownership by the parents and the aunt and uncle, but the parent does the supervision, then the rules would state that it would be an exempt situation..." Moore said.

Changes

The changes would prohibit YHFW from operating tractors or tending any power-driven equipment. An exception would be made for YHFW who have completed 90 hours of agricultural education offered by a state or local education authority.

"There are counties that have very structured tractor operator programs that are in part provided by 4-H," said Jackelyn Martin, 4-H educator. "If there is a need for an educational program, volunteers who are willing to help make it happen, and appropriate guidelines set by the state and MSUE, this could be an opportunity to expand what Washtenaw County 4-H currently offers along the lines of agricultural education."

The term young hired workers does not apply to 4-H participants tending their animals boarded on someone else's farm, or performing duties relating to a fair project, as long as they are not performing their duties for hire," according to the MSUE summary.

Moore further explained how 4-H work is not affected by the changes.

"(The law) does exclude those that would be volunteering or that they would be doing most their work for educational benefit of that participant," Moore said.

Moore also said the volunteer aspect could be applied to working on farms of other family members. A child could do unpaid work on their grandparents' farm because it would be considered volunteer work.

Some 4-H activities, however, could be affected by the changes, according to Martin.

"Washtenaw County 4-H currently offers a tractor driving contest at the 4-H Youth Show, which may be impacted by the passage of this law," Martin said.

In terms of animal interaction young hired farm workers would be pro-



Photos by Tanya Wildt

Rachel Weidmayer, 13, is concerned about how proposed changes to child labor laws will affect her work on and off her family's Saline dairy farm.



Danny Weidmayer, 11, has picked up several skills by working on the family dairy farm, including using tools and tending to cows.

hibited from working on a farm in a yard, pen, or stall occupied by an intact (not castrated) male horse, pig, cow, or bison older than six months, a sow with suckling pigs, or a cow with a newborn calf (with umbilical cord present).

The law would also prohibit the workers from engaging or assisting in animal husbandry practices; handling animals with known dangerous behaviors; poultry catching or cooping in preparation for slaughter or market; and herding animals in confined spaces such as feed lots or corrals, or on horseback, or using motorized vehicles such as trucks or ATVs.

YHFW also wouldn't be allowed to ride as passengers as the machinery is being moved on a public road.

Another alteration drawing criticism is lowering the height at which YHFW can work from 20 feet to 6 feet. It would include working from a ladder, scaffold, roofs, silos, grain bins, windmills and towers; and vehicles,

machines and implements.

"This proposal has gotten quite a lot of attention," Layman said during the MSUE webinar. "I know some people have said that would prohibit a youth from working on a hay trailer."

She said she thought the department expected some pushback from this change and it is specifically asking for input on this issue. Moore added there is discussion about making 10 feet the new standard instead of 20.

Several of the proposed rule changes have exemptions if a student learner meets certain requirements.

Getting involved

To view the entire 211-page document and leave comments, visit www.regulations.gov and enter the document identification number: WHD-2011-0001-0001.

Tanya Wildt can be reached at 429-7380 or twildt@heritage.com. Text HERNews to 22700 to receive news alerts.

Farm family questions proposed changes to law

By Tanya Wildt
Heritage Media

Thirteen-year-old Rachel Weidmayer and her 11-year-old brother, Danny, can answer all your questions about dairy farming.

The two youths have grown up on Pleasant Valley Farm LLC, a dairy farm in Saline, owned by parents Keith and Renee, and have also worked on their grandparents' farm. They perform various tasks around the farms, including feeding the cows, milking, tractor driving, helping with hay, moving wood and stones, and the birthing of calves.

"I like feeding the calves," Rachel said. "It's fun because sometimes they suck on your fingers."

The children will usually help Keith for about two hours each day during the school year, but always make homework the top priority.

"We take turns doing things," Danny said.

Rachel and Danny are also very active in 4-H and are concerned about how proposed changes to child labor laws could affect their agricultural work on and off their own farm.

Proposed changes to child labor laws would prohibit young hired farm workers from doing tasks that the Department of Labor believes could be dangerous.

The various rule changes would apply to children under the age of 18, but would not affect children working on their parents' farm if they are supervised.

"Children of farmers, no matter the age, are exempt from the laws and regulations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as long as they are directly supervised on the job by a parent who owns or operates the farm," said Claire Layman, public policy education specialist for Michigan State University Extension.

Layman said "young hired farm workers" are those hired in an employment relationship.

Rachel and Danny, however, don't only work on their parents' farm. Keith and Renee's farm is a limited liability corporation, or LLC, and is technically owned by both Keith and his father, Dale.

Although they are partners, if the propos-

als pass and Rachel and Danny work their grandfather's farm for pay, they would be in violation of the law because a parent would not be directly supervising them.

Layman said a parent is categorized as someone who feeds, houses and clothes a child for an extended period of time. This could be someone other than the parent if the child was spending the summer living and working with a family member.

Keith is concerned about the children's participation in 4-H work. While 4-H volunteer work is not affected by the changes, Keith says his kids often tend to feeder calves at the local fair for pay.

"That money is theirs and goes in their college fund," he said.

Keith and his children hope the law changes don't impact the 4-H events.

"I've made quite a few friends in 4-H," Danny said.

Rachel agreed. "I like doing the 4-H stuff," she said.

Keith also helps his children earn college money by giving them calves to raise and show at local fairs. Any money earned goes directly to them. He also often pays Danny and friends to pick up rocks in the field that could potentially damage farm equipment. He said they've sold five wagons worth of rocks and have banked about \$200.

Keith has also taught both his children how to drive some tractors, but makes sure he supervises them in the field and doesn't let them drive on the road.

"I don't let them do any major skilled jobs," he said. "It's too dangerous for them."

Although they've been taught and monitored by Keith, if the children did the same work at their grandfather's farm for pay, they would still be in violation of the proposed law.

Keith agreed children need to be protected on the farm and makes sure he creates a safe environment for Rachel and Danny, but also realizes dangers are present everywhere.

"There are dangerous jobs on the farm and I'm sure kids can get hurt, but kids can get hurt riding their bike, playing football or riding a moped, too," Keith said.

Arbor Hospice thanks veterans of past, present

By Michelle Pafford Helms
Special Writer

Arbor Hospice ensured that the veterans who served their country and died in hospice's care were not forgotten on Veterans Day.

The nonprofit hosted a memorial service and flag ceremony on the front of its grounds for supporters and friends of all ages, including children from the adjacent Gretchen's House child development center, on the symbolic date and time of 11-11-11.

President and CEO of Arbor Hospice Gloria Dana Brooks addressed the crowd and said that her organization served 230 veterans in the last year

through its services. The names of the veterans who passed away in hospice's care were announced during the ceremony and "Taps" was played in remembrance.

"We have families that are here today, and we certainly appreciate you coming and helping us remember your loved ones because as important as they were to you, they were important to us," Brooks said.

Spiritual Care Coordinator for Arbor Hospice Paul Arnold also spoke of the sacrifices that hospice's patients have

made for the country during the event.

"As a chaplain for Arbor Hospice, I regularly meet men and women from the greatest generation, who served during World War II.

"Each one has been incredibly humble and yet confident that they were given a job to protect our country and our way of living," Arnold said.

Just recently, one hospice patient, a veteran from the Air Force made the Air Force motto his personal motto.

"I think it applies to what we do here at hospice, as well: 'The difficult we

do immediately, the impossible takes a little longer.' On this special day, we are here to honor the men and women who have done the difficult and the impossible."

Brooks also recognized the far-reaching effects of veterans throughout the community.

"Patients, families, employees and volunteers, all of us have a connection to veterans."

"There are more than a million men and women who are serving in the United States armed services right now. We recognize the sacrifices that you have made."

Arbor Hospice employee Daniell Cromwell, who works in information

technology, said that the day's ceremony was extremely meaningful to her. Cromwell, a former U.S. Navy service member stationed in Jacksonville, Fla., from October 1994 to 1997, also comes from a family with long military ties.

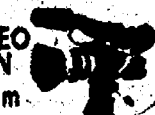
"I think recognizing everyone as a whole is important," Cromwell said. "It's hard for me to put into words... I can't imagine my life without the military."

Other Arbor Hospice employees that were recognized included Annette Vondenberger, U.S. Army; Richard Ott, U.S. Navy; Robbin Kuhn, U.S. Navy; and Venning Curtis, U.S. Army.

Arbor Hospice's Vice President of Marketing Margaret Adrain said that the event has taken place in the past and is always well received simply because "it is important to stop and say thank you."

Since 1984, Arbor Hospice has been committed to providing quality, compassionate care for those experiencing life-limiting illnesses.

Arbor Hospice serves communities in Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties, with offices in Ann Arbor, Monroe, Plymouth and Woodhaven. For more information, visit www.arborhospice.org or call 1-888-992-2273.



ANALYSIS

Three statistics every school district should provide

By James-David Dickson
Heritage Media

Ann Arbor Public Schools' recent budget forums revealed that even parents in one of Michigan's best-educated school districts are in the dark on some important information that would let them know the financial challenge the district is facing, and from whence it came, and whether the school system is using whatever money it does have in the most effective, equitable fashion possible.

Heritage Media was at Pioneer High School for the budget forum, and has created a list of the three pieces of data every school district in Michigan should provide, and every parent should demand, as we head into budget season.

1. Unfunded Mandates.
Article IX, Section 29 of the Headlee Amendment of 1978 altered the Michigan Constitution to "prohibit the state from reducing its share of existing state-mandated programs" and it "requires the state to reimburse local governmental units for any new state-mandated programs," according to the state of Michigan.

In reality, the state has passed on billions of dollars in unfunded mandates to local units of government, schools included. It is arguable that at least two new unfunded mandates have come through since the summer, with the State Board of Education's passage of tougher cut scores for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program and Michigan Merit Exam and the teacher-tenure package, which requires annual teacher evaluations.

School districts around the state will be scrambling to overhaul their curricula, their teaching practices, and their professional development programs to get their students up to speed. This all costs money, but none has come from Lansing, and no one is expecting any.

While the state Board of Education has the power to set the new standards, it neither has the power of the purse, nor the cachet with the Legislature to successfully recommend that more money be provided K-12 schools.

Teacher evaluations are undoubtedly necessary and, in truth, should have been required a long time ago. It shouldn't have been a radical change to demand this of the people who literally hold the state's future, the education of its children, in their hands.

However, teacher evaluations will take time to produce and finalize. But the state has failed to heed the old adage that "time is money." Any overtime worked to create the evalu-

ations will have to be paid by school systems, that are slashing their budgets.

To the extent specific costs can be matched to the unfunded mandates, they should. But even without specific numbers, it's helpful to know the ways in which Lansing has put a strain on local school systems.

The costs of litigation are too high and lawsuits drag on too long to pursue legal action for anything, but the most egregiously unfunded of mandates. Transparency is the best bet here. The more information is out there, the more untenable the situation will become, as politicians and state Lansing fields calls from parents and media wondering why the state's big talk about the importance of education to Michigan's future hasn't been matched by an investment.

This narrative needs to be built and school districts need to take a lead role.

2. The retirement rate and its effect on the budget.

Robert Allen, Ann Arbor's deputy superintendent for operations, said at the budget forum that even if the retirement rate were at 16 percent, rather than the 24 percent it was set at last year, the district would face much smaller, more manageable budget cuts.

The "retirement rate" is the contribution school districts pay to each employee's retirement, expressed as a percentage of salary.

If the rate was 16 percent, rather than the 24 percent, it was last year, Allen said, "we probably wouldn't be here," meaning, at a budget forum, on a school night. The district expects the rate to approach 30 percent this year.

The retirement contribution is paid on top of salary. In Ann Arbor, this means the state paid 124 percent of the salaries

of all 2,900 or so of its employees, not including benefits.

In 2010-11, Ann Arbor Public Schools paid some \$1,600 per pupil in retirement costs, effectively reducing its on-paper foundation allowance of \$9,490 down to \$7,890, according to the district's auditors, attorneys from Plante & Moran. The auditors spoke at the Board of Education's Nov. 16 regular meeting.

But don't expect the retirement rate to move in the other direction any time soon.

Kerrie Vanden Bosch, who works in benefit plan design at the state's Office of Retirement Services, explained that the Public School Employees Retirement System is facing an unfunded accrued liability of \$17.6 billion, as of Sept. 30.

The state is on the hook for that liability, as much as it may affect school district budgets.

The liability came about as a result of poor-performing investments, Vanden Bosch said, as well as the efforts of some employees to "spike" their pensions by taking on higher-paid positions in their last years at work — those pensions are based on the employee's three highest-paid years.

The system, many agree, needs to change, and last year the Legislature passed a law creating a new system for new hires. Public school employees hired after July 1, 2010, were enrolled into a hybrid retirement plan, which some call a "pension-plus" plan.

Unlike the old pension system, which allowed for retirement after 30 years of service, no matter how young the employee, the hybrid plan requires that employees be 60 to draw their retirement. The hybrid plan doesn't offer the cost-of-living adjustments of the old plan. Rather than assume an 8 percent return on its investments, the hybrid

plan assumes a 7 percent return.

The "hybrid" part of the plan allows employees to put 2 percent of their earnings away, and requires school districts to put up a 50 percent match, in lieu of the COLA.

And, so as to prevent late-career spikes, the plan bases its payouts on the five highest-earnings years of each employee's career, rather than three years.

Vanden Bosch added that while there were more than 300,000 public school employees paying into the retirement system just a few years ago, there are only 242,000 paying into it now.

Only 18,000 of them are on the hybrid plan, which means that roughly 92 percent of public school employees are still on the old pension plan.

School districts cannot move employees from the pension plan into the pension-plus, nor are the retirement rates, which are set by ORS actuaries and staff, negotiable.

In Ann Arbor and elsewhere, a table indicating the current retirement rate, as a percentage and in real dollars, as well as its change over time, and how the numbers would look if the retirement rate were either lower and higher, would be helpful to parents who don't understand why their districts

are facing annual, major-dollar budget cuts.

"We have done a lot to address the future cost," Vanden Bosch said.

But it is legacy costs that are dragging districts down, and there is no current means of escape. The least school districts can do is quantify the problem.

3. The cost per student, by building, and the budgets of individual schools.

This number may be more important for parents in big districts, such as Ann Arbor, which has 21 elementary schools, six middle schools and six high schools, than it is in small communities. Equity is always a concern in Ann Arbor, where there are so many different schools, and those schools have different demographics.

Right now, parents can't be sure that the budget is being doled out in an equitable fashion. That's why so many of them asked for this statistic, which Allen said the district would soon produce.

Making the cost per student, per building available to parents would make school districts more transparent. If there are major disparities between schools, parents would know, the media would have a chance to ask why, and the school system

would have an opportunity to explain its logic.

If the disparities are indefensible, they will change. If they make sense — if, for example, one elementary school has a much larger budget than a same-size peer, but the difference owes to serving more special education students — then it will be understood.

This data is crucial at a time when school closures seem to be on the tips of some parents' tongues whenever budget remedies are considered.

Ann Arbor Public Schools is planning to cut \$14 million from its 2012-13 budget.

Are you a parent? A concerned taxpayer? Which statistics do you believe school districts should make available to help you understand their budget woes? Let us know.

Staff Writer James David Dickson can be reached at JDickson@Heritage.com.

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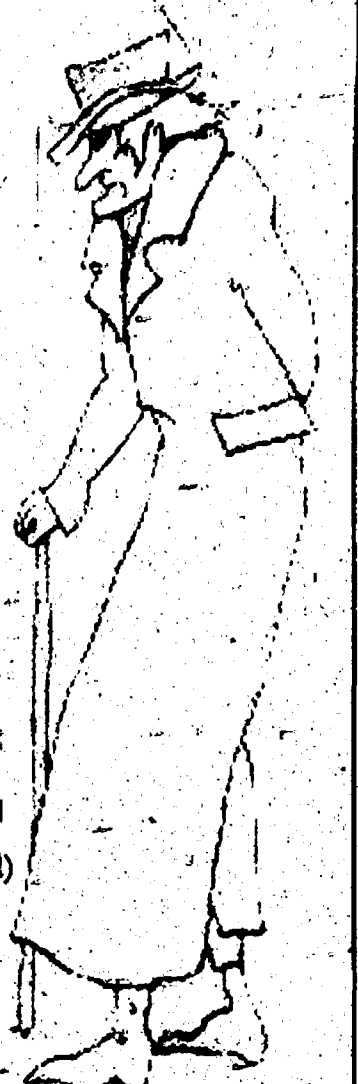
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Letters may be sent to Michelle Rogers at mrogers@heritage.com.

EDITORIAL

Our policy

It is our policy to run all local letters to the editor that deal with local issues and are not personal attacks.

November 24, 2011

WEB VIEWS

ONLINE POLL QUESTION

What's your favorite part about Thanksgiving?

- A. Watching the parade B. The food C. Seeing family D. A day off from work

GUEST COLUMN: By Donna Iadipaolo

Look around you for Christ's face

In the midst of my journey through this life, I have thus far stumbled upon the luminous face of Christ in helping others and in nature.

Most visually poignant, Christ's guidance was evident during my ultrasound when pregnant with my only child, Luke.

Tears of joy were shed upon the realization that the Holy Trinity had entrusted me to have a little angel growing inside my womb, affectionately in Italian: "mio bello angioletto."

As a volunteer catechist, the face of Christ is revealed to me through all our young learners. As a founding member of a group of undergraduate students at the University of Michigan who traveled to the Dewey Middle School in a beleaguered part of Detroit, the face of Christ was revealed in the students who created interdisciplinary videos and theater pieces about their community.

As a chaperone for an "Alternative Spring Break" to inner-city Memphis for

a Habitat for Humanity Project, the face of Christ was apparent to me in those we were building the home for, as well as the high school students who had volunteered to help build the Habitat home. As a continuously certified state of Michigan teacher of mathematics, language arts, theatre and the social sciences since 1993, the face of Christ is apparent in each student's yearning to learn and hope.

As a volunteer assistant Cub Scout leader, the face of Christ is now reflected in my 8-year-old son and the other Scouts in his pack in their pursuits to do their best.

As a published journalist since 1988, starting as a "minority beat reporter" for the Michigan Daily and continuing as a writer today, the face of Christ reveals itself in giving a voice to those who are often disenfranchised or under-represented.

As a recreational gardener at my roadside Ann Arbor home garden since 1996, the face of Christ reveals itself in the seed heads of my purple cone flower echinacea, the random sprouting sunflowers,

the bursting daisies, and the spiraling spring fern heads possessing eternal, infinite rebirth.

Likewise, the face of Christ is apparent when raking leaves and a solitary fluttering, vibrant multi-colored mosaic leaf cascades from a tree and in the symmetrical crystallized snowflake that whips in on a winter breeze.

I imagine the face of Christ when contemplating my hardworking Mediterranean, fair and olive-skinned ancestors who gave their body and blood as immigrant construction laborers, coal miners, and peasant farmers.

I see the face of Christ each week at church when I say "Peace be with you" to my fellow brothers and sisters. And I see the face of Christ in the Eucharist.

The older I get, the more I realize that my faith urges me to fight against those who would scar the face of Christ — fight against bullying, hopelessness, injustice, suffering, poverty, discrimination, greed and war — because the face and the spirit of Christ is prevalent in every living being according to our rich

Catholic tradition.

And when we catch a glimpse of Christ in each other, we also become closer to seeing Christ in our ancient, forgotten self. Sonically, the face of Christ is felt through certain music.

Roman Catholics believe that God became human through Jesus.

I, therefore, believe the spirit of the Lord is present in every individual because each person has a soul. I believe our rich religion, including the Old Testament and the Israelites, teaches us to see the face of Jesus every day by taking care of one another, and the Earth the best we can.

In seeing the face of Christ in one another, we note that which encompasses all of humanity, and all living things throughout all realms of time and space. To see the face of Christ, I try to keep in mind Jesus' own words: "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do on to me."

Donna Iadipaolo is an Ann Arbor-based mother, teacher and writer. She may be reached at diadipaolo@yahoo.com.

OUR TAKE: Editorial

Something needs to be done to get through to smokers

When we sounded off last summer in support of harsh new anti-smoking images coming to cigarette packs, it occurred to us that the tobacco manufacturers might be able to make a good case against them.

How many other products use packaging in highly emotional images urging a customer not to buy a product? A federal judge has sided with the manufacturers and postponed putting the images on packs. Judge Richard Leon found that there's a reasonable chance that higher courts, up to and including the U.S. Supreme Court, may find the federal requirement unconstitutional, which is reason enough, he concluded, to delay the changes.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration signed off on nine images earlier in the year. They included a color image of a man blowing smoke through a tracheotomy opening in his neck, a plume of cigarette smoke enveloping an infant receiving a mother's kiss, a cadaver with staples in its chest, a pair of diseased lungs next to a pair of healthy ones. You get the idea.

The judge said it's clear that the images are intended to persuade a viewer to quit using the product, "an objective wholly apart from disseminating purely factual and uncontroversial information."

The Justice Department contended that the images were intended to communicate dangers to users and would be used, including children.

It isn't clear if the Justice Department and FDA will appeal Judge Leon's ruling. Whether it does, the case will continue through the federal judicial process.

The FDA wasn't acting on its own. Congress mandated the changes.

It's clear that there's reason enough to keep up the pressure on smokers to quit and on non-smokers never to take up the habit. Smoking indeed has declined in the United States, but the decline has now leveled off. About 20 percent of Americans smoke, half of the proportion of smokers half a century ago.

We hope that the FDA and the Justice Department prevail, that the new labeling goes into effect as scheduled next September.

If it's shot down by a Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court, we'll understand, but we'll hope that other ways can be found to scare the hefters out of those who continue a toxic habit and those who are tempted to do so.

— Courtney of The Michigan Daily

Cartoon by Daniel Fenech (© 2011) showing two children. Caption: "MOM'S PHILOSOPHY IS TO SHOP OFF HER THANKSGIVING CALORIES THE NEXT DAY..."

GUEST COLUMN: By Brian Cox

Horror at Penn State is a cautionary tale

For days over the past week, I was unable to wrap my brain around this: A young graduate student walks into a collegiate locker room and in the showers sees an esteemed assistant football coach naked and sodomizing a young boy; the 28-year-old graduate student doesn't rush in to stop the rape; he doesn't call police. Instead, he turns away and calls his father for advice about what he should do.

He calls his father! In what sphere of accepted, moral human behavior is it comprehensible that a 28-year-old man should call to ask his father what he should do after he sees a child being raped? How does he not know what to do?

I wrestled with that question over and over as the gruesome details of the charges of child molestation against former Penn State defensive coordina-

tor Jerry Sandusky were reported and as the fallout compounded. Two university officials stepped down after being charged with perjury. Then Joe Paterno, Penn State's legendary and revered head football coach, and Graham B. Spanier, the university president, were fired over it.

And still, what continued to confound me was the behavior of that graduate student, Mike McQueary, a former Nittany Lion quarterback and now the football team's receivers coach. What possessed him to call his father, who is reported to be an avid longtime Penn State booster?

It just made no sense. If my adult son called me to ask what he should do after seeing a boy being raped in the shower, I would know I had failed as a father; that I had somehow raised him with a confused moral compass and distorted allegiances. I expect my son to

know what to do if he sees another child being teased on the playground, for God's sake.

And the father's advice? It wasn't to report the rape to police. It was to go talk with Paterno, advice that reveals the father to be as morally compromised as the son.

The inexplicableness of it gnawed at me.

None of the talk of the overriding importance of football at Penn State could explain to me McQueary's call to his father. And here's why: In that moment, in the moment when he walked into the shower and saw Sandusky raping a young defenseless child, how could a long-held attachment or deep-abiding passion or even the most fervently held loyalty to a football program override the human instinct to save the child? I can't believe that is possible. That is where no reasoning could

take me.

I was at a loss. But then thousands of Penn State students rioted in the wake of Paterno's firing. On news reports, I listened to them shout their outrage at Paterno's ouster, watched them gather at the old coach's house and call out: "We love you, Joe Pa" and reach out to touch him as if seeking a blessing.

I realized right then what was wrong. I realized why McQueary was uncertain what to do when he saw a child being raped by a football coach. I realized why college officials from the president on down looked to Paterno for guidance on how to handle the problem.

What happened is I suddenly remembered Jonestown. I remembered the way members of the People's Temple venerated their spiritual leader, Jim Jones. I remembered the fervor his followers showed toward his teachings, the

fanatic devotion they held for him, and the adoration they proclaimed toward him.

It isn't difficult imagining them shouting, "We are People's Temple" or holding up signs written in block letters, "We love you, Jim Jones!"

And then, against all human instinct, they killed themselves and their children at Jones' command because they had handed over to one man their total devotion and in so doing had forfeited command of their humanity.

I know few people will feel comfortable with this analogy, but I am convinced that the Penn State football program devolved into a cult. Paterno wasn't simply an influential college football coach; he had become a cult leader. The school even erected a bronze statue of the man while he was still alive.

McQueary, raised in the

cult that was Penn State football, was thrown into a moral quandary when he saw his old coach raping a child because his corrupted sensibilities understood that what he saw threatened the institution — and the man at its head — that he had been reared to revere. As things have played out, he was clearly right about the consequences; he was just wrong to think that any of that could matter over the welfare of a child.

I know it can be exhilarating and reassuring and empowering to identify with a group. Organizations can serve to provide us a sense of place and acceptance in a chaotic world. But when that group fosters the elevation of a leader to near superhuman status and endorses the adulation of that leader, it's the obligation of a moral individual to maintain their distance and identity.

Your Voice: Letters to the Editor

DIA appreciates support for program

On behalf of the Detroit Institute of Arts, I want to personally thank the residents of Manchester and Milan for their enthusiastic support of our Inside! Out program, which this past summer brought reproductions of DIA masterpieces into businesses, parks and libraries in those communities.

Inside! Out brings a taste of the museum's outstanding collection into metro Detroit and offers the opportunity for people to engage with art where they live, work and play. It's been a pleasure working with venues in Manchester and Milan to develop activities that complement these displays,

including participating in the Manchester Chicken Broil and an art talk at the Milan Community House.

We invite you to visit the DIA to see the originals of the works displayed in Manchester and Milan, and you can continue to explore Inside! Out through November in Birmingham, Armada, Detroit, Holly, Milford, Warren, Lake Orion, Oxford, Belleville and Macomb Township, and look for more in 2012 and 2013.

We believe art is for everyone, whether seen in a museum or on the street. Thank you again for making Inside! Out in your community a success.

Graham W. J. Beal Director Detroit Institute of Arts

Occupy movement spreads to Chelsea

A group of concerned Chelsea residents held what they are calling a vigil Nov. 17 at the corner of Old U.S. 12 and M-52.

The group is a part of the Occupy, or We Are the 99 Percent, movement. "It is grounded in the most basic of American

values of economic fairness, social justice and equal opportunity for all," stated Colleen Verge in an email.

Verge said the goal is to get the community to start paying attention to what's going on in America. "People are losing

their jobs, homes, wages and health," Verge said. "Congress can't pass a jobs bill, our infrastructure is crumbling and schools are understaffed."

"The 99 percent want to put pressure on Congress to tax Wall Street and create millions of jobs."

The same group held a teach-in at the Chelsea District Library Nov. 9 to discuss the current situation, how the country got in this situation and what citizens can do about it.

The group will look to meet again for another vigil sometime early December.



A group of residents from the Chelsea area listen to presenters from the local We Are the 99 Percent movement at a Nov. 9 teach-in at the Chelsea District Library.



Demonstrators hit the streets at U.S. 12 and M-52.

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New law gives more power to physician assistants

By Amy Bell
Heritage Media

A new state law will allow area physician assistants to provide more help to doctors in an effort to improve access to health care and make it more sustainable.

Public Act 210 of 2011, signed by Gov. Rick Snyder Nov. 8, lifts restrictions on physician assistants when prescribing certain medications under the supervision of the physician. It also allows the physician assistants to perform rounds and take medical histories, duties that were previously limited to physicians.

Senate Bill 384, sponsored by state Sen. Jim Marleau, R-Lake Orion, lifts restrictions on physician assistants prescribing Schedule II-V narcotics such as morphine and dilaudid, which are pain medications with a high potential for abuse.

"At its core, this law is about empowering physician-PA teams to safely address access to care issues within our state," said Marc

Moote, chief physician assistant for the University of Michigan Health System.

Of the 37 states that allow physician assistants to prescribe controlled substances, Michigan was the only state with restrictions, he said.

Moote believes the new law will have a positive impact on access to care, simply by removing unnecessary barriers to the physician-physician assistants team.

"Whether it is related to the signature issue, or the prescribing of Schedule II medications, not having to halt two busy provider schedules in order to obtain a physician signature should have a net positive effect on both the physician's ability to see patients as well as the PA themselves, resulting in a net increase in volume and efficiency within practices and hospitals," he said.

Previously, physician assistants could prescribe Schedule II medications within a hospital, surgical

center or hospice facility but were limited to a seven-day maximum supply.

The law created barriers in outpatient and inpatient settings, particularly in hospitals where a patient being discharged after surgery would see a physician assistant to receive their prescription for pain medication. Typically, the patient would have a follow-up appointment in two weeks, but since the physician assistants could only write the prescription for a one-week supply, the patient or family member would have to drive back to the hospital to pick up a new prescription before all of the medication was used, he said.

Moote said it may sound insignificant on the surface, but the complexities of surgeon's schedules, emergency surgeries, and the complexity of electronic prescribing make this more challenging than simply quickly writing on a prescription pad.

Other changes in the law, which was made before the creation of the physician

assistants positions, allows the physician assistants to perform rounds.

This will help physician-physician assistants teams, particularly in rural settings, he said.

The law is also designed to address a shortage of doctors. According to the American Association of Medical Colleges, within the next 10 years there will be a shortage of more than 91,000 physicians within the United States. In addition, within the next decade the number of Americans older than age 65 is projected to increase by 26 percent and nearly one-third of physicians are expected to retire.

National healthcare reform, which will insure an additional 32 million Americans, is expected to strain an already-burdened healthcare system and could increase the shortage by as much as 25 percent, Moote said.

Physician assistants will be critical in addressing the shortage, but only if barriers

to the physician-physician assistants teams are removed at the state level, he said.

Dr. Lakshmi Halasyamani, chief medical officer for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, said physician shortages vary by specialty and it depends on the region and the specific population served by the healthcare providers collectively in

that geographic area. According to the AAMC, the doctor shortage will most severely impact the 20 percent of Americans who live in rural or inner-city locations designated as health professional shortage areas.

Halasyamani said in an underserved area, shortages could exist across a broad range of primary care and subspecialty areas.

New program helps uninsured

By Amy Bell
Heritage Media

A new program gives options to people who don't have health insurance because of a pre-existing health condition.

The Health Insurance Plan of Michigan, commonly known as the HIP program, will insure up to 3,500 people through 2014, when a similar program will be provided through the Affordable Care Act.

"The program brings peace of mind," said David Seaman, executive vice president with the Michigan Health and Hospital Organization.

In 2010, 10.9 percent of Washtenaw County residents were uninsured. That's roughly 37,000

people. Of those individuals, 66.8 percent had been without insurance for between one and four years, and 10.5 percent couldn't afford insurance within the past year, according to recently released Health Improvement Plan data from the Washtenaw County Department of Public Health.

To be eligible, one must be a legal citizen and resident of Michigan, be uninsured for at least six months and have a pre-existing health condition.

Applicants are required to have a letter documenting rejection from an insurance company for a pre-existing condition and certification of a qualifying pre-existing condition from a nurse practitioner or physician within

the past year.

Of the current HIP members, 30 percent include individuals with cancer and 20 percent with HIV/AIDS. Other conditions include diabetes, obesity and heart problems.

The program provides comprehensive coverage, including medical, preventive care, hospitalization, home health care and behavioral health care.

It also helps create budget predictability because the insured would be able to pay a monthly payment. Those who use the program are required to use doctors who belong to a PHP network.

Premiums start at \$100 a month. Co-pays are \$20 for a visit to a primary care physician, \$30 for a specialist and \$100 for an emer-

gency room. Prescription drug coverage is available through a three-tiered plan. The program also allows for third-party support, where a neighbor or friend pays for the monthly premium. Plan rates vary by age with varying deductibles.

By promoting the plan, hospital officials are hoping it helps to decrease the amount of medical bills that go unpaid.

Seaman said patients frequently delay needed care if they don't have insurance. When they do see a doctor, their medical bills cost more and frequently are too high for the patient to pay and those costs get passed on to other patients.

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AUTO

Honda CR-V

More car than before

By David Schmidt
Journal Register Newspapers

SAN DIEGO - The compact, car-based Honda CR-V began life as a cute-ute, but has been growing up ever since.

The fourth-generation 2012 Honda CR-V adds a dash of classy and a bit of sophistication to its looks and its ride.

The first CR-V hit our shores in 1997, followed five years later by the second generation in 2002.

That model stuck around until 2007, when the third-generation CR-V was introduced. For 2012, the new fourth-generation reflects the current take on a small crossover ute.

From 2007 through this year, the Honda CR-V was the best-selling sports ute.

Akio Tonomura is Honda's large project engineer for the CR-V, which means he's the program boss - the person who determines what the vehicle will be, and what it will look like and drive like. With total sales worldwide at 4.9 million units in 160 countries, this is a pretty important product for Honda.

Tonomura said the factors at work on the new generation CR-V were caused by the 2008 economic slump. In addition to tighter budgets, he thinks people have changed their lifestyles, constrained as much by changing attitudes as by financial considerations. People are environmentally conscious now and they don't want to feel guilty about what they drive.

So he sought to create a car that feels like a minivan, drives like a car and is as safe as a sport ute. The vehicle doesn't change much overall, but gains space inside.

The styling is both modern and sleek. The CR-V looks more car-like, and is actually lower.

This is a trend throughout the industry as people want the capabilities they're used to from utes, but no longer want them to look like trucks.

The interior is also more car-like, especially in how quiet it is. Honda recognizes that people now expect the same care, quality and features in small vehicles as in larger - and more expensive - ones. In the CR-V, you get surfaces that look and feel more luxurious, although they're still plastic.

The new center console is bigger and massively more useful. Cupholders are where they're most usable, and storage is deep and wide - although the sliding cover on the top of the console isn't particularly elegant. There are a couple of power outlets inside the console as well as a USB connector for your flash drive or iPhone.

The instrument panel is more modern, with its five-inch color multi-information display. The screen sits high on the center stack, displaying data on the audio system, telephone and fuel efficiency.

The rear entertainment center uses a seven-inch screen, and if you've got the Nav system, there are rear cameras that give you three different views: wide, normal and from above.

Seats are comfortable and the leather-covered seats in the testers had a great high-end look.

There's enough room in the back seats, partly because the interior grew from 35.7 to 37.2 cubic feet of cargo space. Better yet, the second-row seats fold reasonably flat and stow themselves with the pull of a single lever from the trunk.

All models of both the front- and all-wheel CR-V are powered by Honda's 2.4-liter iVTEC four-cylinder engine, which produces 185 hp. and 163 lb.-ft. of peak torque. That's five horsepower more than the previous generation.

They did this by reducing friction in the automatic transmission and tuning the gear ratios for better fuel economy.

It supplies a decent amount of power and the transmission is well geared. After a morning on varying roads and highways, the smoothness of the engine and the shifts is what I remembered.

Plus, the Honda CR-V comes with Eco-Assist, which helps to train you, changing the color of instrument lighting as you drive more efficiently.

The system also modifies shift points in the transmission and makes the air conditioning more eco-oriented.

To improve the car-comfort, Honda changed the suspension setup for a smoother, quieter ride. It also got better damping and there's more sound absorption material between the suspension and the passenger for a quieter interior.

Also, the German Continental tires were seriously quieter and had a less-harsh ride than the Japanese Bridgestones mounted on the current CR-V Honda, which had been brought along for comparison.

Honda says the car's stability control has been advanced, a process that you'd expect in each new generation.

Another improvement was in the all-wheel drive system, which pays more attention to road conditions through its sensors and then uses engine management to control clutches and how much power is going to which wheel.

When just cruising, all the power goes to the front wheels. But Honda says that power can immediately be sent to the rear if needed to keep things going in the proper direction.

James Jenkins, American Honda Motor Co. product planner for CR-V, says they'll focus marketing efforts on the young female who buys the CR-V, and is responding to three characteristics: economy, value and styling.

They plan to focus on these Gen Y, or leading edge Millennials (aren't these cool terms?) using lots of social marketing. (I'm sure they've taken into account that most buyers of the third-generation Honda CR-V were between 45-55 years old.)

There are three trim levels: the base LX, the EX and the EX-L.

This has been a year of serious difficulties for Honda. According to the John Mendel, the head of American Honda Motor Co., the company lost 200,000 units of production across the lineup, a serious shortage caused by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan last spring.

But just as Mendel was telling us that production was being "normalized," another problem arose, and several days after his comments, Honda announced the company's production was being temporarily cut by 50 percent because of the flooding in Thailand.

In spite of the production issues, which will eventually pass, Mendel says that 90 percent of Honda cars sold in the U.S. are produced here. When two plants come on line in Mexico, Honda will be able to produce their full line in America.

But in this interconnected world, parts can be from anywhere, and no vehicle comes completely from one country. Honda started the move to produce Asian cars here 30 years ago, and is still helping to keep a lot of the economies in Midwest states healthier than they'd otherwise be.

The Honda CR-V goes on sale Dec. 15 and Honda is planning on selling 200,000 units - at least before Honda announced a production cutback.

But whatever numbers of them are available, the CR-Vs will be assembled in Honda's East Liberty, Ohio plant.

Prices, not yet announced, will be similar to current prices.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas, please send them to comment@AutoWritersink.com

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BOYCHUCK, RAMONA FAYE (WARDEN); Pinckney, MI; age 83; passed away peacefully November 16, 2011; at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor surrounded by her loving family. She was born September 25, 1928 in Ann Arbor, MI, the daughter of Clarkson Frederick and Marguerite (Talcott) Warden. On November 6, 1948 in Angola, IN, Ramona married Peter John Boychuck who preceded her in death on January 13, 2010. Ramona worked at Edwards Brothers and was a wonderful homemaker. She was a past member of the John Sackett DAR Chapter, Extension Club, a Rush Lake ladies golf league, and Zion Lutheran Church. One of her many accomplishments was walking the Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk for many years. Also, together with her husband, Peter, they built several beautiful homes. They enjoyed traveling, spending time in Florida and at their cabin in Lewiston, MI. She also enjoyed golfing, bowling, sewing, painting, shopping, gardening, her lake home, but most of all, just spending precious time with her children and grandchildren. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends. Survivors include her beloved children, Bonnie (Charlie) Crooks of Brighton, Cheri (Jon) Falk of Saline, Dennis (Susan) Boychuck of Ann Arbor and Dale (Vera) Boychuck of Dexter. She is also survived by her adored grandchildren, who she was so proud of, Joe Winkle, Nicki (Kurt) Pfefferle, Katie Falk, Amy Boychuck, Nina Boychuck, Peter Boychuck, Cora Boychuck; great grandson Joey Winkle, Jr.; step-grandchildren, Kim (Ken) Scotch, Niki (Dan) Visosky and step-great granddaughter Claire Visosky; her three sisters, Jean Stanley, Glenna Lowell, Phyllis Newsum; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, her parents and several siblings. Her family would like to thank the wonderful and caring staff at St. Joe MICU, especially Jané A Healing Farewell took place Monday, November 21, 2011 at Dexter United Methodist Church. Burial took place at Washenong Memorial Park. Those desiring, may make memorial contributions to Dexter United Methodist Church. Arrangements by the Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. Please leave a Message of Comfort to Ramona's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit and sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com



SNYDER, ELIZABETH; Chelsea, MI; age 95; died Friday, November 18, 2011, at Chelsea Retirement Community. She was born May 29, 1916, in Garfield, New Jersey, the daughter of Anton and Anna (Haller) Fink. Elizabeth was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church and a former member of Our Savior Lutheran Church and St. Luke Lutheran Church in Dublin, PA. She was an assistant buyer for 22 years in the women's department at Armbaugh's (Wurzburgs) in Lansing. Elizabeth was a devoted mother. She was a loving, kind woman who always put her family first. Her greatest joy was giving to other people. On August 6, 1938, she married Dr. Freeman Woodrow Snyder in Ottsville, PA and he preceded her in death on December 24, 2001. Survivors include a son, Robert (Patricia McCormick) Snyder of Kila, MT; a daughter, Barbara St. John of Chelsea; three grandchildren, Ronald (Stacey) Snyder, Rebekah (Zane) Smith, Jennifer St. John; six great grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Helen Fink; a nephew, Joseph (Maureen) Fink; and several step-grandchildren and step-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother, Joseph Fink; a grandson, David Snyder; and her son-in-law, Homer St. John. Funeral Services were held Monday, November 21, 2011, 2 p.m. at the Towsley Village Chapel at Chelsea Retirement Community, with Rev. Dr. William J. Turner officiating. Burial followed at St. Joseph Cemetery, Dexter. Memorial contributions may be made to the Heritage Foundation at Chelsea Retirement Community, St. Mary Catholic Church of Chelsea, or Chelsea Faith in Action. Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea.

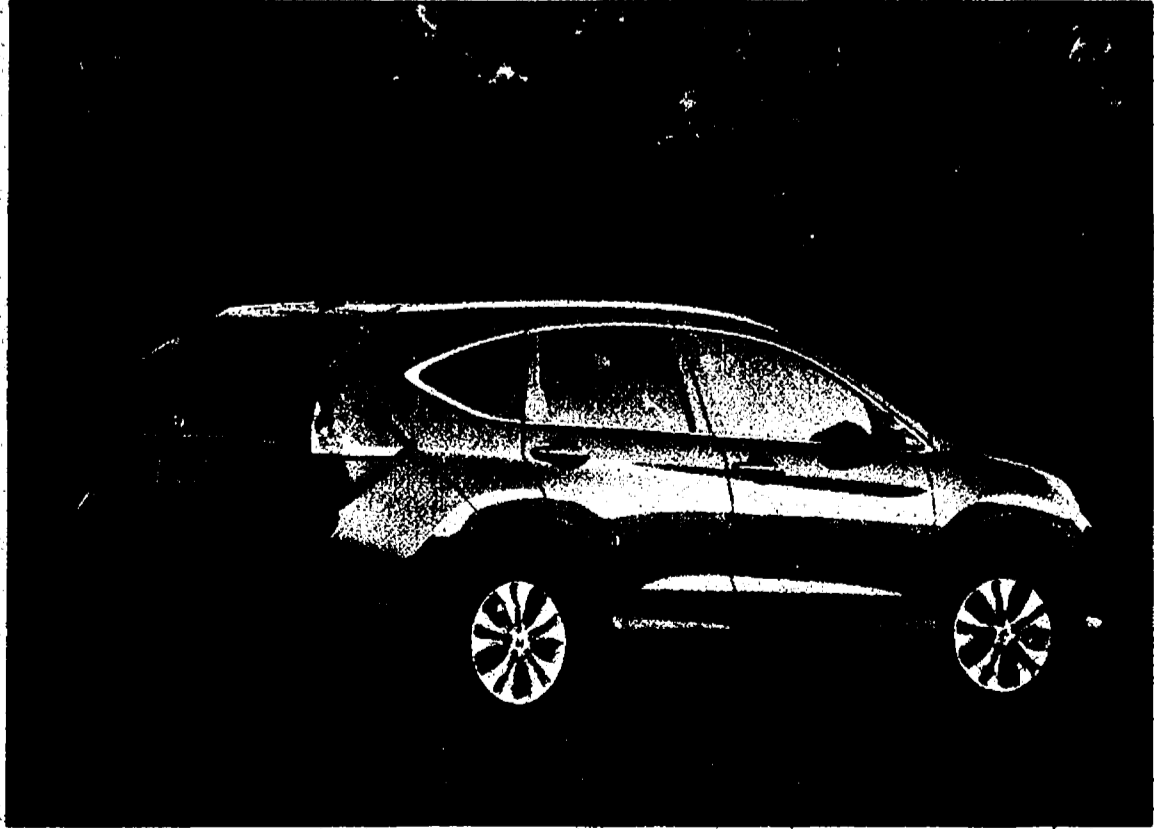
MCCALLA, GRACE; Houston, TX, formerly of Chelsea; age 64; died Sunday, November 20, 2011, in St. Johns, MI after a short illness with her family by her side. She was born December 14, 1946 in Jackson, MI, the daughter of Robert E. and Maxine L. (DeVerna) Kushmaul. Grace was a 1965 graduate of Chelsea High School. She started her career at Chelsea Retirement Community, which led to her current position at Bucknar Retirement Services in Texas. She was a member of Grace Bible Church of Elyria, OH, and a former member of Chelsea Kiwanis. She loved to bake, but her favorite past time was spoiling her grandkids. She is survived by her mother, Maxine Kushmaul; two sons, Nicholas (Jennifer) McCalla of Howell and Case (Amy) McCalla of Grass Lake; her brother, Bill (Kathy) Kushmaul of St. Johns; four grandchildren, Emily, Megan, Will, Alyssa McCalla; a niece, Roxanne (Dave) Kudwa; and a nephew, Robert Kushmaul. She was preceded in death by her brother, Joseph Fink; a grandson, David Snyder; her son-in-law, Homer St. John; and an infant sister, Anna. A Memorial Service was held Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea, with Rev. Jason Boyer officiating. A Private Burial will take place at Oak Grove Cemetery, Chelsea. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society or Sparrow Hospice.



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With total sales worldwide at 4.9 million units in 160 countries, this is a pretty important product for Honda.

All models of both the front- and all-wheel CR-V are powered by Honda's 2.4-liter iVTEC four-cylinder engine, which produces 185 hp. and 163 lb.-ft. of peak torque. That's five horsepower more than the previous generation.

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2012 BMW 7 Series 750Li Sedan

# 2012 BMW 750Li: The car for drivers looking for pinnacle of 'executive transport'

By Mike Govello  
Journal Register/News Service

Bavarian manufacturer BMW leaves you with no doubt that their flagship, the 750Li, is their biggest sedan.

While their M division takes their "Ultimate Driving Machine" slogan to the next level, it's this 4,718-lb. sedan that represents my vision of executive transport. Ever since the mid-Eighties, I've been obsessed with the image of German businessmen using their big BMW 7-Series as an alternative to short jet hops. True, we don't have access to stretches of Autobahns with no speed limits, but the idea still resonates with me decades later.

So when a Cashmere

Silver Metallic 2012 BMW 750Li xDrive sedan appeared in my driveway, I was ready to see if this luxurious tourer could also live up to its sporty BMW heritage.

I was not disappointed. Some might find it hard to swallow that this car's sticker price of \$102,725 represents a mid-point of the 7-Series lineup. You can get into a very nice BMW 740i for "only" \$71,000. With this engine, you can score 25 mpg on the highway according to the EPA. Under the hood, we'd find the excellent 315-hp, 3.0-liter six-cylinder that's available in a wide range of BMW's products. Twin turbos add a nice bite to the legendary smoothness of a BMW six.

Step up to the \$84,000 750i, and you get a 4.4-liter

V8 that also packs twin-turbos and boasts a 400-hp. rating and 450 lbs.-ft. of torque. Backed up by a six-speed automatic transmission, the acceleration is nothing short of magnificent. With rear wheel drive, the 750i gets 22 mpg on the highway. My tester was equipped with BMW's X-Drive and had a base price of \$88,900 and a 20-mpg highway rating.

But what if your need for speed and pocketbook are even greater? Take a look at the mighty 760Li. Now you've got bragging rights to a 6.0-liter, twin-turbo V12 with 535 hp. at its disposal. Sure, your highway mileage drops to 19 mpg. But you have the satisfaction of paying \$137,000 for the fastest flagship BMW makes.

There's even an

ActiveHybrid 750i that makes 455 combined horsepower, costs \$97,000 and will achieve 24 mpg.

This car impressed me the first time I hit the highway. It roared up the entrance ramp like a race-horse out of the gate, but once up to speed, it settled into a deceptively quick gallop. I had to keep a close eye on the speedometer if I didn't want to find myself inadvertently cruising at illegal speeds. Imagine the most comfortable living room you've ever occupied. Now have this opulent room move down the highway with a serenity that feels like you're almost

standing still. That's the experience this Big Beemer can deliver.

I'm almost at a loss to tell you about all the goodies that come standard or are optional on the 7 Series. First, the "L" in the name means that the wheelbase is stretched enough to make the back seat a truly limousine experience. The Xenon Adaptive headlights with dynamic auto-leveling and cornering lights only begin your enhanced vision. For \$2,600, you get BMW's NightVision with pedestrian detection. If you like to keep your eyes on the road, \$1,300 buys you a heads-up display. The \$1,800 premium

sound system delivers music that makes you think the singers and instrument are right there in the voluminous back seat.

But I'll have to give the nod to the \$2,000 active roll stabilization option for being the most memorable. The way this XL sedan can be hustled down your favorite back road just seems to flat out defy the laws of physics.

I'm sad to report I had no opportunities to use this 7-Series tester as a really long distance mile-gobbler. But my experience left me eager to try my hand at putting this car to a real long-term test.

## Holiday Mail for Heroes comes to Briarwood

For a fifth year, the American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes Inc. are teaming up to deliver holiday cheer and greetings to service members, their families and veterans throughout the holiday season.

The Holiday Mail for Heroes program provides Americans the opportunity to send holiday greetings to military members, many of whom will be far from home during the holidays, as well as the nation's veterans and their families.

Through Dec. 9, the public is invited to send a "touch of home" through holiday cards that contain messages of cheer and appreciation. The Red Cross and Pitney Bowes will then screen cards for hazardous materials, sort and package the cards, and deliver them to military bases and hospitals, veterans' hospitals and other locations during the holidays.

Pitney Bowes is donating all of the screening, packaging and shipping for the cause. The Red Cross will mobilize hundreds of volunteers to sort and box cards for delivery to servicemen and service-women, veterans and family members in November and December.

"All you need is a pen and piece of paper to share your appreciation of the sacrifices our men and women in uniform make each day in their service to our country," stated Ashley Cieslinski, Emergency Services director, Washtenaw-Lenawee Chapter, in a news release.

"The American Red Cross serves and supports members of the military, veterans and their families by providing emergency communications, educational resources, comfort and assistance each day. The Holiday Mail for Heroes program continues the Red Cross tradition of service to

those who serve."

This holiday season, the American Red Cross has teamed up with Briarwood Mall in Ann Arbor to give the opportunity for the public to send cards to members of the military. Red Cross volunteers will be at Briarwood Mall through Dec. 9 with cards available for signing. For complete dates and hours, visit [wc-redcross.org](http://wc-redcross.org) or visit the information desk at Briarwood Mall.

All holiday greetings should be addressed and sent to Holiday Mail for Heroes, P.O. Box 5456, Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456.

Cards must be post-marked no later than Dec. 9; cards received after this date will be returned to senders.

For reasons of processing and safety, participants are asked to refrain from sending "care packages," monetary gifts, using glitter or including any inserts with the cards.



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# Chief judge of 15th District Court resigns

By Ben Baird  
Heritage Media

Julie Creal has submitted a resignation as chief judge of the 15th District Court in Ann Arbor effective Jan. 12, 2012.

Creal has been on medical leave since Aug. 12. Court Administrator Keith Zeisloft said she is resigning because of undisclosed medical reasons.

He said she thinks it wouldn't be in the best interests of residents to remain a judge because it's unlikely she will be able to return from medical leave.

"She was hoping she could come back to work," Zeisloft said.

He helped her prepare resignation letters, he said, of which there were

two separate resignations.

On Nov. 10, a resignation letter for chief judge was prepared and sent to Chief Justice Robert Young of the Michigan Supreme Court.

This resignation was effective the same date. Creal thought that it also would be an appropriate time to resign as judge altogether, Zeisloft said.

A second letter resigning as a judge of 15th District Court was then sent to Gov. Rick Snyder to be effective Jan. 12, 2012.

The governor is responsible for appointing a replacement for Creal to serve the remainder of her term, which ends on Dec. 31, 2012.

A notice of the vacancy was posted Tuesday on

the State Bar of Michigan website, Zeisloft said. He said he understands there's an application process and the governor will make the final decision.

The application deadline is Dec. 9.

Since Creal went on leave her docket has been covered by other judges, Zeisloft said, which is a factor of her decision to resign given the amount of work that needed to be covered.

He said Judge Elizabeth Hines and Judge Christopher Easthope covered the bulk of Creal's docket.

Retired judge Ann Mattson came out of retirement to help. She retired as a judge in 15th District Court several years ago.

Judge Charles Pope of

14B District Court and Magistrate Colleen Currie also expanded their docket to help.

"It was a team effort, so to speak," Zeisloft said.

Creal was appointed to the bench in March 1999 and holds a law degree from the University of Michigan College of Law. She presided over civil cases, small claims appeals, domestic violence cases, and criminal cases involving drunken driving.

Staff Writer Ben Baird can be reached at [bbaird@heritage.com](mailto:bbaird@heritage.com).

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Julie Creal has resigned as chief judge of 15th District Court effective Jan. 12, 2012.

## Lauren Brown crowned Miss Washtenaw

Miss Washtenaw 2011, Lauren Brown, was crowned Nov. 5 at Chelsea High School at the 17th annual Miss Washtenaw County Scholarship Pageant.

The Miss Washtenaw County Pageant is an affiliate of the Miss America program. Brown, 20, is a student at the University of Michigan.

Her community service platform was National Eating Disorder Association, and she performed a jazz dance to "Hernandos Hideaway."

Brown was awarded more than \$2,500 in scholarships and gifts as the winner.

First runner-up and a \$1,200 scholarship was awarded to Mekeisha Alcock, a 22-year-old student at Eastern Michigan University.

Second place and an \$800 scholarship went to Brittany Tinsler, a 19-year-old student at the University of Michigan. She was also the recipient of the Spirit of Miss America award, formally known as the Miss Congeniality award.

Third runner-up and a \$600 scholarship went to Christine Zuchora, a 21-year-old student at University of Michigan.

Fourth runner-up and a \$400 scholarship went to 19-year-old Danica Katnik, a graduate of Specs Howard School of Media Arts.

Raleigh Poxson, 17, a University of Michigan student, received the audience Choice Award.

Co-emcees for the pageant included Sheila Klein-Fessler, Miss Washtenaw County 2006; and Stephanie Frey, Miss Washtenaw County 2008; and special guest was

Elizabeth Wertenberger, Miss Michigan 2011.

Earlier in the day, the Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen pageant was held.

The new Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen selected from a group of 16 contestants was 14-year-old Erica Kennedy.

Her talent was a vocal performance and her platform is "See the Need: Inspiring Teens to Take Action!"

She received her choice of a \$500 Savings Bond or Miss Michigan Outstanding Teen entry fee covered, as well as flowers, a plaque, crown/sash and other gifts.

First runner-up was Kyleigh Smith; second runner-up was Cassidy Krimmel; third runner-up was Sofia Sokansanj and Kiersten Lieurance was fourth runner-up.

Brown and the newly crowned Miss Washtenaw County's Outstanding Teen Erica Kennedy will serve as ambassadors of Washtenaw County at various community and charitable events throughout the year and will represent Washtenaw County at the Miss Michigan and Miss Michigan's Outstanding Teen Pageants in June in Muskegon.

The Miss Washtenaw County scholarship program now in its 17th year has raised more than \$150,000 in scholarships for youth.

The organization has also produced four state titleholders and numerous top-10 candidates in the Miss Michigan program. Anyone interested in volunteering, should visit [www.MissWashtenawCounty.org](http://www.MissWashtenawCounty.org).

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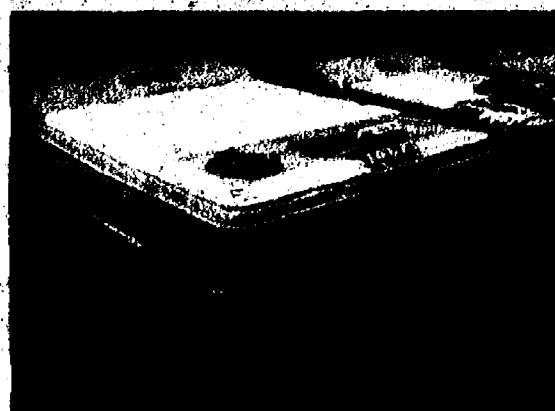
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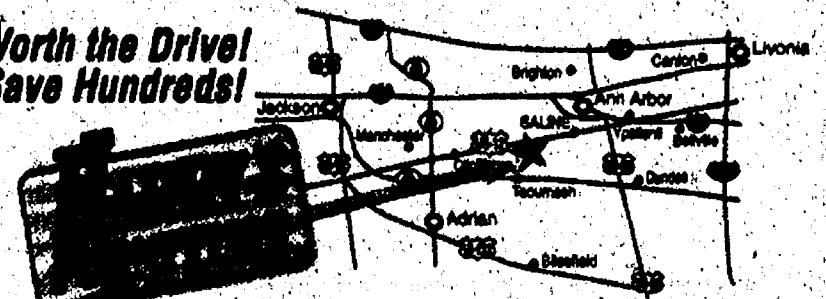
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# Stabenow fights insider trading with proposed legislation

By Chad Selweski  
Journal Register News Service

Creating a direct conflict with House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, fellow Democrat Sen. Debbie Stabenow has proposed legislation that would ban members of Congress from using privileged information obtained on Capitol Hill for insider trading on Wall Street.

Stabenow's bill was sparked by a recent CBS "60 Minutes" report that provided evidence that Pelosi and other lawmakers have apparently used details about corporations and economic trends, obtained through the legislative process, to cash in through stock purchases.

"This law makes crystal clear that members of Congress must not be exempt from laws everyone

else has to follow," said the Michigan Democrat.

"Any member of Congress abusing his or her position for financial gain must be held accountable."

"Congress needs to fix this glaring inequity immediately."

The bill would redefine insider trading to include knowledge gained from congressional work and service.

It would also create transparency rules and reporting requirements, and require so-called "political intelligence consultants" to register as lobbyists.

Though few members of the public realize it, insider trading by members of Congress and their staffs is not currently prohibited by the Securities Exchange Act or congressional rules.

One bill was introduced in the Senate by Republican Scott Brown of Massachusetts, but supporters of Stabenow's version, co-sponsored by two Democratic colleagues, believe it goes a little further and makes insider trading a violation of Senate ethics rules, as well as SEC regulations, which may accomplish robust oversight.

Stabenow's stance is in direct contradiction to the statements made by Pelosi, still the most powerful Democrat in the House.

The "60 Minutes" broadcast aired a report highlighting instances in which congressional officials reportedly bought stocks around the same time Congress was discussing legislation affecting those companies or industries.

The CBS News story

looked at the investments of various lawmakers, including Pelosi, House Speaker John Boehner and Republican Rep. Spencer Bachus of Alabama. Pelosi fired back at the report, dismissing claims that her 2008 purchase with her husband of 5,000 shares of stock in the initial public offering of credit card company Visa conflicted with a piece of legislation — opposed by credit-card companies — that was making its way through the House.

"It is very troubling that '60 Minutes' would base their reporting off of an already-discredited conservative author who has made a career out of attacking Democrats," Pelosi's spokesman, Drew Hammill, said in a statement soon after the broadcast aired.

He added that Congress passed even stronger credit card legislation at about the same time.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, chairman of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, announced that the committee would hold a hearing to examine how insider trading laws apply to Congress.

In addition to Pelosi, the CBS report scrutinized the investments of Bachus and Boehner.

Bachus bought options funds betting financial markets would fall at about the same time he met with then-Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and lawmakers about the imminent crumbling of the global economy in 2008, CBS reported.

He also traded General Electric stock at a time when a third of GE's business holdings were in financial services, CBS reported.

CBS reported that Boehner bought health insurance stocks during the 2008-09 healthcare debate, which increased in value after Republicans succeeded in killing a "public option" proposal, which would have allowed the government to offer a health insurance plan to compete with private companies.

In a statement, Bachus' office said the representative never trades financial services stocks or trades on private information.

Boehner said at a news conference that he has played no role in managing his stock portfolio for years.

## Walk to End Alzheimer's raises more than \$79,000

More than 960 residents of Washtenaw County joined the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's Oct. 2 at Huron High School and Gallup Park in Ann Arbor.

Participants raised more than \$79,000 to fund Alzheimer's care, support and research programs.

"I was inspired by Washtenaw County residents uniting in the fight against Alzheimer's disease at the Walk to End Alzheimer's," said Jennifer Howard, executive director for the Alzheimer's Association, Michigan Great Lakes Chapter, in a news release.

"With funds raised, the Alzheimer's Association will be able to provide much-needed care and support to people affected by the disease as well as fund critically needed Alzheimer's research."

Walk to End Alzheimer's

participants did more than complete the three-kilometer walk; the event was also educational.

Participants learned more about Alzheimer's disease and the Association's role in the fight against it, the latest about Alzheimer's research and current clinical trials, how anyone can become involved in advocacy efforts and more about the association's support programs and services.

The event ended with a tribute to those who have experienced or are experiencing Alzheimer's.

Walkers welcomed state Sen. Rebekah Warren and former Ann Arbor mayor Ingrid Sheldon, as well as top fundraiser, 17-year-old Presley Wright, who raised \$1,943.

Ann's Bosom Buds, led by Terise Padilla, was the top fundraising team, raising more than \$2,200.

Glacier Hills was the

Walk's top corporate team, bringing in \$3,460 to combat Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's disease is now the nation's sixth-leading cause of death.

As baby boomers age, the number of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease will escalate, increasing well beyond today's estimated 5.4 million Americans living with Alzheimer's today.

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer care, support and research.


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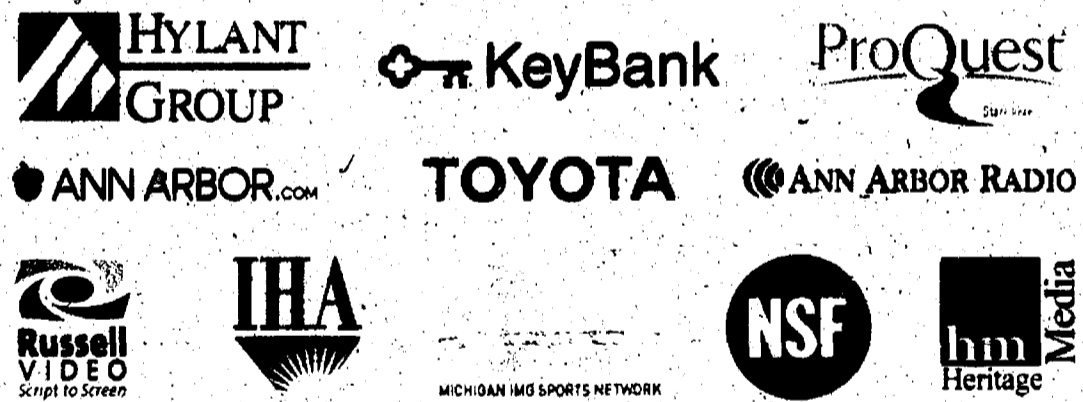


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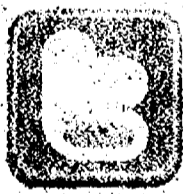
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# DMVA, U of M team to raise veteran benefit awareness

The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is partnering with the University of Michigan to raise awareness about the many benefits and opportunities available for veterans through friends and family of the university. Michigan is 11th in the nation in veteran population, but 53rd, even behind Guam and Puerto Rico, in the nation for treatment and services for veterans. The DMVA began an intense, statewide knowledge campaign earlier this year and will continue to closely monitor service numbers to improve Michigan's current

last-place status. Michigan is below the national median as it relates to compensation and pension, construction, education and vocational rehabilitation and medical support. Officials at the DMVA believe this may be, in part, due to veterans not knowing what benefits they are eligible for. For example, in 2009 only 17.29 percent utilized Veterans Affairs medical services — services provided at no cost to the veteran. There are some challenges that must be solved in order to connect veterans with benefits and employ-

Michigan is 11th in the nation in veteran population, but 53rd, even behind Guam and Puerto Rico, in the nation for treatment and services for veterans. Michigan is below the national median as it relates to compensation and pension, construction, education and vocational rehabilitation and medical support.

veterans and their families to inform them of changes to benefits and connect them to veteran counselors across the state. Veteran counselors can assist in determining eligibility for a variety of programs. Veterans are encouraged to sign up for the benefits they have earned at local organizations such as the VFW, American Legion or AMVETS, or online at Michigan.gov/veterans. Veterans seeking employment can call the Veteran's Employment Services Information Hotline at 1-800-455-5228 or visit www.veteranemployment.com.

ment opportunities. Examples include: • The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that 7.5 percent of Michigan's total homeless population is veterans. • The U.S. Department of Labor Statistics found that unemployment rate is roughly 30 percent for veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. Retraining and

skills workshops, coupled with job fairs and community outreach may be used to lower this number in Michigan. Michigan DMVA is conducting public outreach to

## Author releases 'Summer Dance'

Author Lynn Swanson, a dancer and dance educator from Royal Oak, recently celebrated the publication of "Summer Dance," her novel for middle readers, ages 10 through 14. Inspired by her experiences over several summers dancing in the northern Michigan woods, including at the Interlochen summer dance program, Swanson portrays in her novel the exciting and sometimes scary experiences of 13-year-old Sara Sutherland. Over the summer, the girl makes new friends, learns to deal with a troublemaker,

struggles with the tension between her feelings about dance versus "the boys across the lake," and finds herself challenged by class auditions, rehearsals and performances of ballets while striving to win a scholarship so she can return the following year. To help make "Summer Dance" come alive, Swanson suggests that readers listen to the music from the performances described in the book, including "Swan Lake," "Les Patineurs," "Les Sylphides," "Nutcracker," "Romeo & Juliet" and "Pieces of Africa."

The book also has a glossary of dance and theater terms and a study guide. Swanson began dance lessons at age 2 with her mother, Mary Kay, who was a dancer and choreographer for community productions. Swanson took preschool lessons at the Barbara Matthews School, and then took classes from Frances and Virginia Borgo of the Borgo Sisters School of Dance in Royal Oak. As a young adult, while teacher-supervisor of dance at the Linkletter-Totten School of Dance, she took teacher training classes in

ballet from Rosemarie Floyd. The major part of her classical ballet training was from the renowned Cecchetti instructor, Sylvia Hamer, at the Sylvia School of Dance in Ann Arbor. Swanson holds a bachelor's degree in dance from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in creative writing from Michigan State University. She is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. For more information about Swanson and her books, visit www.lynnswansonbooks.com.

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## Volunteers sought to 'Adopt a Family'

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw County is hosting its 19th annual Adopt-A-Family program. All the holiday hustle and bustle — making sure we find that perfect gift for our loved ones, planning our menus, buying all the ingredients, baking that special batch of cookies — can be overwhelming. But for families in need, this is an extremely challenging time because, in many cases, their ability to find that perfect gift for a son or daughter is only a dream.

Through the Adopt-A-Family program, families in need will have presents to open and a special holiday meal to share. Last year, more than 50 families, individuals and businesses called to ask how they could help. As a result, 70 families were able to share in holiday festivities. This holiday season, area residents are invited to help families in the community who are struggling to make ends meet. Anyone interested in participating may get fam-

ily, friends and co-workers together to do some power shopping to provide a special holiday for a family in need. "We need the community's help, this year, more than ever," said Big Brothers Big Sisters Program Supervisor Chad Allee in a news release. "We have seen a marked increase in the number of families requesting household items — cleaning supplies, sheets, towels, mattresses — food and winter clothing."

Allee said BBBS has a wait-list of families to be matched and encouraged interested parties to sign up soon. To get involved and be assigned a family to help, contact BBBS at 975-0933, ext. 103 or callee@bbbswashtenaw.org. Big Brothers Big Sisters will provide individuals and groups with an individualized "wish list" of items for each family. Each donor is asked to use the list as a guide in determining a shopping list.

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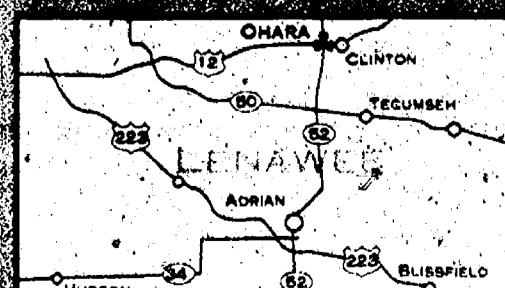
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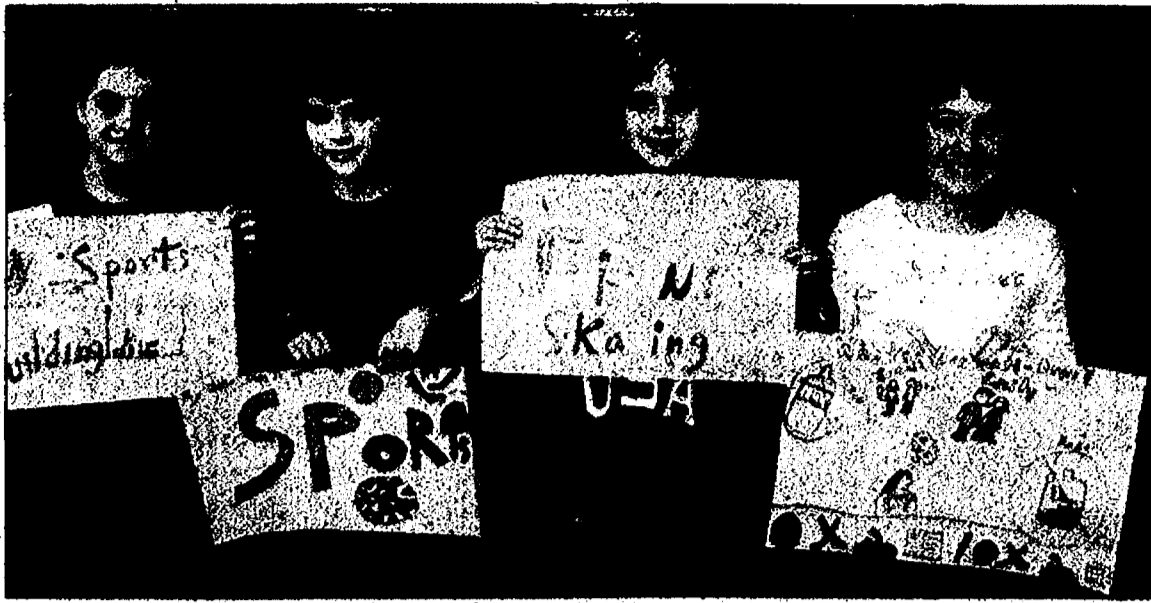
OPEN SATURDAYS 10-5

**DOWN PAYMENT MATCH**





# SRSLY asks: What's your anti-drug?



Hundreds of posters, stories, poems and goals were submitted to the SRSLY "What's Your Anti-Drug?" media contest by children in third through eighth grade recently. Throughout Red Ribbon Week in October, SRSLY volunteers led classroom activities about anti-drugs, which is something or someone who helps you stay drug-free, including

activities, family, friends, knowledge or goals. SRSLY members worked in teams to select the five best entries from each grade. These students received a gift certificate to Zou Zou's café, and their entries will be used in future SRSLY publications and posters.

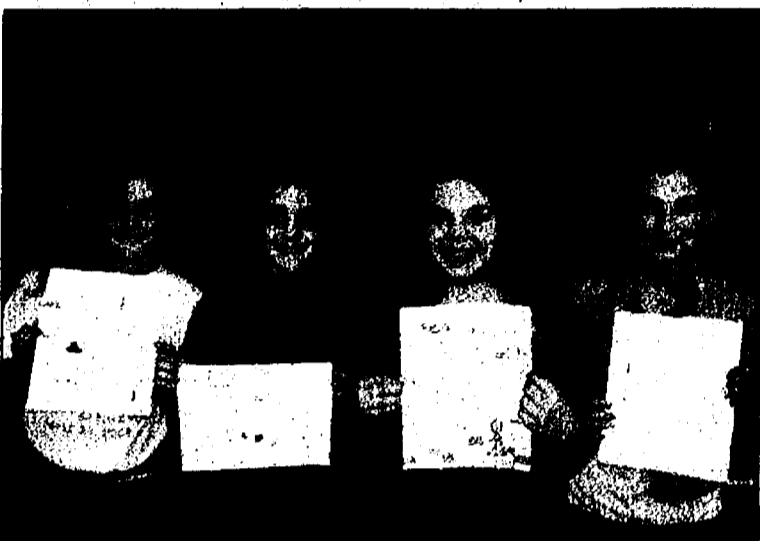
Quinn Campbell, McKenna Ford, Jordyn Porter, Ally Fieszar and Branden had the best answers for the third-grade class.



Teresa Wochlak, Kara Feldkamp, Ashley McCoudrey, Olivia Oik and Aiden Reames had the best answers for the fourth-grade class.



Rachel Zeller, Abby Merrill, Parker Stahl, Sophie Sjogren and Lauren Elder had the top five answers in fifth grade.



Alex Quintana, Annie Nichol, Anne Findlay, Zabrina Yannella and Emma Catalina had the best answers for sixth grade.



Abby Bareis, Megan O'Hara, Shaurna Caffrey, Brian Jacobs and Molly Oik were the top five in seventh grade.



Olivia Catherman, Mason Mitchell, Elsa Adamezyk, Hanna Clark and Lily Coy had the best answers in eighth grade.



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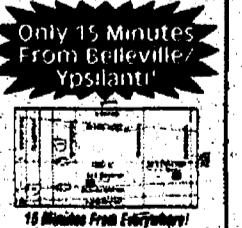
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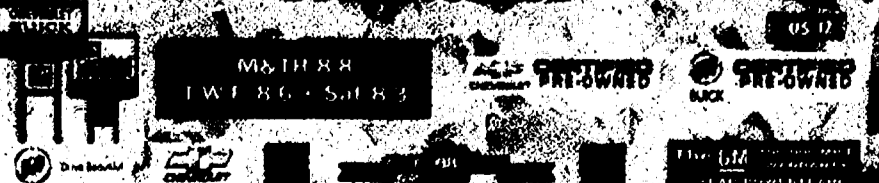
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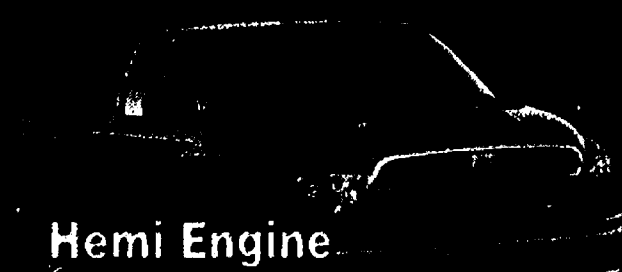
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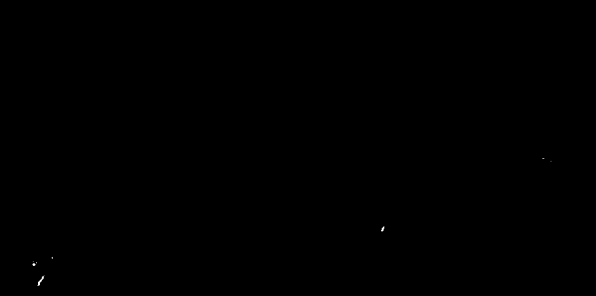


STK # 12S127  
Was  
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Now

Lease for \$227/mo. **\$25,914\***  
\*\* (Just \$999 down)

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STK # 12S143  
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STK # 12S222  
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### 2012 Chrysler 300



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# KIDS' VIEW

www.kidsview.com

Thursday, November 24, 2011

## O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, How lovely are your branches!

**E**vergreen branches or trees have been used to celebrate winter since before the birth of Christ. Pagan families would bring branches into their homes in the belief that the wooded spirits would be pleased with the warmth of their homes.

It is believed that the first decorated Christmas tree was in 1510 in Riga, Latvia. However, the first written reference to a tree, decorated with golden apples, paper roses and thin wafers was in Germany in 1610.

The first commercially-sold Christmas tree in America occurred in 1850. The first "tree lot" appeared the following year in New York City, run by a man named Mark Carr.

More than one million acres are devoted to growing Christmas trees in the United States; and more than 100,000 people are employed in the Christmas tree industry. Of the 34 to 36 million trees produced each year, 95 percent are shipped or sold directly from Christmas tree farms.

More than 2,000 trees are planted per acre of land, of which 1,000 to 1,500 will mature. With heavy rains, wind, hail, pests, and drought, only 750 of those trees will reach the six to seven feet needed to be sold as a Christmas tree. Christmas trees take seven to ten years to mature.

Seventy-five million new trees will be planted this year. Two to three seedlings are planted for every mature tree. A tree is most at risk as a seedling.

Christmas trees are grown in all 50 states, but the six top-producing states are Oregon, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Washington and Wisconsin. Oregon is the leader, with more than eight million trees harvested in 2010.

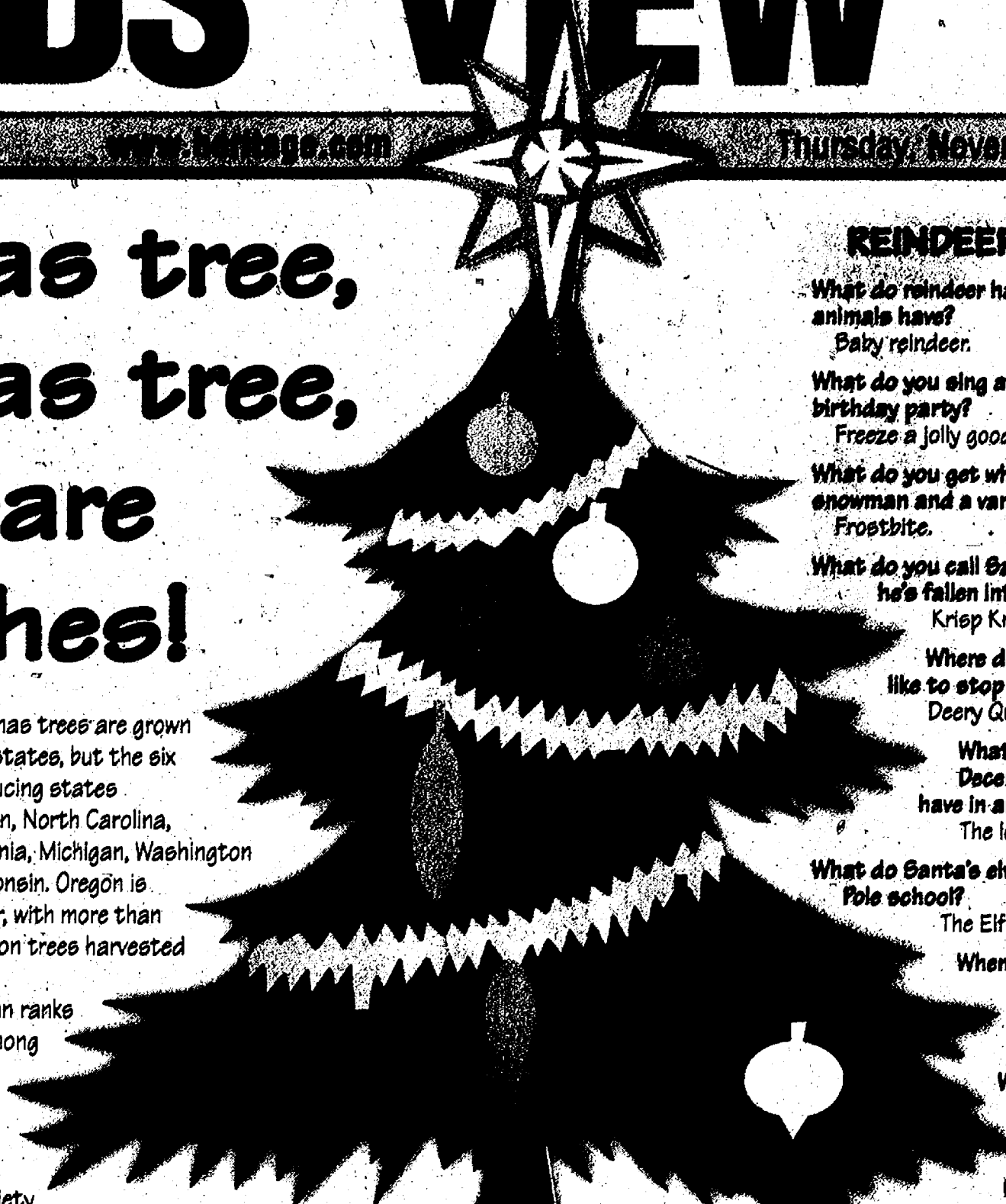
Michigan ranks fourth among states in production but grows a larger variety of trees than any other state — 13 to be exact.

Eighty-two percent of trees are pre-cut, baled (netted), and shipped. Helicopters are often used to help lift harvested Christmas trees from farms. The remaining 18 percent are cut-your-own trees.

North America boasts 15,000 tree growers, including 12,000 cut-your-own tree farms.

More than 330,000 trees are sold through Internet and catalog sales. Best sellers are Scotch pine, Douglas fir, noble fir, Fraser fir, Virginia pine, balsam pine, and white pine.

Thomas Edison's assistant, Edward Johnson, came up with the idea for electric lights for Christmas trees in 1882. Before that time, candles were used on the branches.



### REINDEER RIDDLES

What do reindeer have that no other animals have?  
Baby reindeer.

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?  
Freeze a jolly good fellow.

What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire?  
Frostbite.

What do you call Santa Claus after he's fallen into a fireplace?  
Krisp Kringle.

Where do Santa's reindeer like to stop for lunch?  
Deery Queen.

What do you have in December that you don't have in any other month?  
The letter "D".

What do Santa's elves learn in North Pole school?  
The Elf-a-bet.

When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving?  
In the dictionary.

Why does Scrooge love Rudolph?  
Because every buck is dear to him.

### DECEMBER CALENDAR CORNER

| Sun                                    | Mon                          | Tue                          | Wed                 | Thu                            | Fri                                | Sat                               |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                        |                              |                              |                     | 1 Handwashing Awareness Day    | 2 National Mutt Day                | 3 National Bingo's Birthday Month |
| 4 Santa List Day                       | 5 Blue Jean Day              | 6 Mitten Tree Day            | 7 Pearl Harbor Day  | 8 Brownie Day                  | 9 Christmas Card Day               | 10 Human Rights Day               |
| 11 December is Read A Book Month       | 12 Poinsettia Day            | 13 National Cocoa Day        | 14 Monkey Day       | 15 Bill of Rights Day          | 16 Ludwig Von Beethoven's Birthday | 17 Bake Cookies Day               |
| 18 First Performance of the Nutcracker | 19 Look for an Evergreen Day | 20 Hanukkah begins @ sundown | 21 Humbug Day       | 22 National Date Nut Bread Day | 23 Feast of the Radish Day         | 24 National Egg Nog Day           |
| 25 Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas         | 26 Kwanzaa Week              | 27 Louis Pasteur's Birthday  | 28 Card Playing Day | 29 Tick Tock Day               | 30 Falling Needle Family Day       | 31 New Year's Eve                 |

## Rice Krispies Christmas Trees

### What you will need:

- 4 tablespoons margarine
- 10-oz bag of marshmallows
- 6 cups of Rice Krispies cereal

In a sauce pan over low heat, melt margarine. Add marshmallows. Stir constantly until all marshmallows are melted. Remove from heat. Add cereal and continue to stir until all of the cereal is coated with marshmallows.

Spread the coated cereal onto a lightly buttered cookie sheet. Let cool.

While cereal is cooling, add green food coloring one drop at a time to frosting until you get the desired shade of green for your Christmas tree.

Using a lightly buttered

Christmas tree cookie

cutter, cut out tree

shapes. Frost each

tree with green

frosting. Add

Red Hot cin-

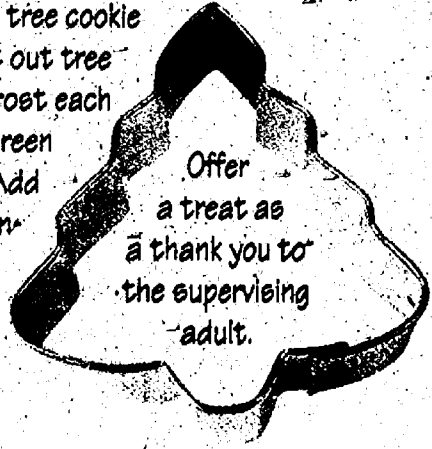
namon

candles

as orna-

ments to

your tree.



- 1 can of vanilla frosting
- Green food coloring
- 1 pack of Red Hot cinnamon candies
- An adult to supervise using the stove

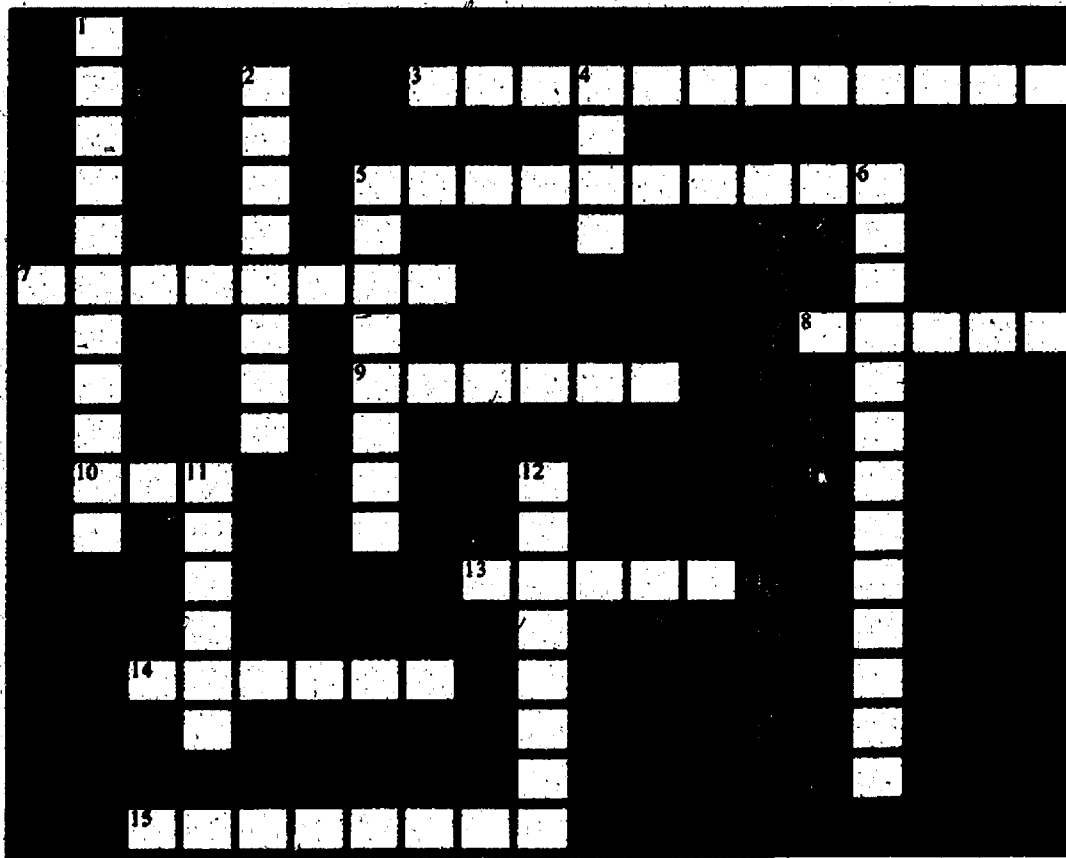
### TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

#### ACROSS

3. Decoration in first written reference to Christmas trees.
5. One of the best sellers of trees on the internet.
7. What did Pagan families bring in the house to please the spirits?
8. Another word for netted.
9. It is believed the location of the first Christmas tree was \_\_\_\_\_.
10. How many thousands of trees are planted per acre? —
13. How many states are Christmas trees grown in?
14. Michigan is ranked \_\_\_\_\_ among states for tree production.
15. Percentage of cut-your-own trees.

#### DOWN

1. Location of first Christmas tree lot.
2. Who ran the first Christmas tree lot?
4. Animal found on the calendar.
5. When is a tree most at risk?
6. He came up with idea for electric lights on Christmas trees.
11. Top-producing state for Christmas trees.
12. How many varieties of Christmas trees are grown in Michigan?



- DOWN**
1. New York City
  2. Mark Carr
  3. Golden apples
  4. Two
  5. Latvia
  6. Baled
  7. Branches
  8. Scotch pine
  9. Seedling
  10. Fifty
  11. Oregon
  12. Thirteen
- ACROSS**
13. Eighteen
  14. Fourth
  15. Fifteen

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Vyne Records founders focus on work ethic

By Sarah Rigg  
Special Writer

The themes of "do it yourself" and cooperation with other local artists have been part of the mix since the beginning of local startup record label Vyne Records.

For someone so heavily involved in local music now, Vyne Records co-founder Pat Raymond came late to the scene, only picking up a guitar for the first time in the fall of 2009. He honed his craft for months and then starting playing open mic nights around the area, and also started making friends with area musicians.

"I played a house show, back in April, a house party," Raymond said, noting that two of the bands he met at the party later ended up signing up with Vyne Records.

"And I realized they were only able to throw the party because one brought a PA system, another band brought a microphone, and so on. They shared their equipment. I thought we should pool resources, and we could really do something. If we all tried to record on our own, we would not be capable of doing it."

Raymond and some of the musicians he met that night came together and started planning a record label.

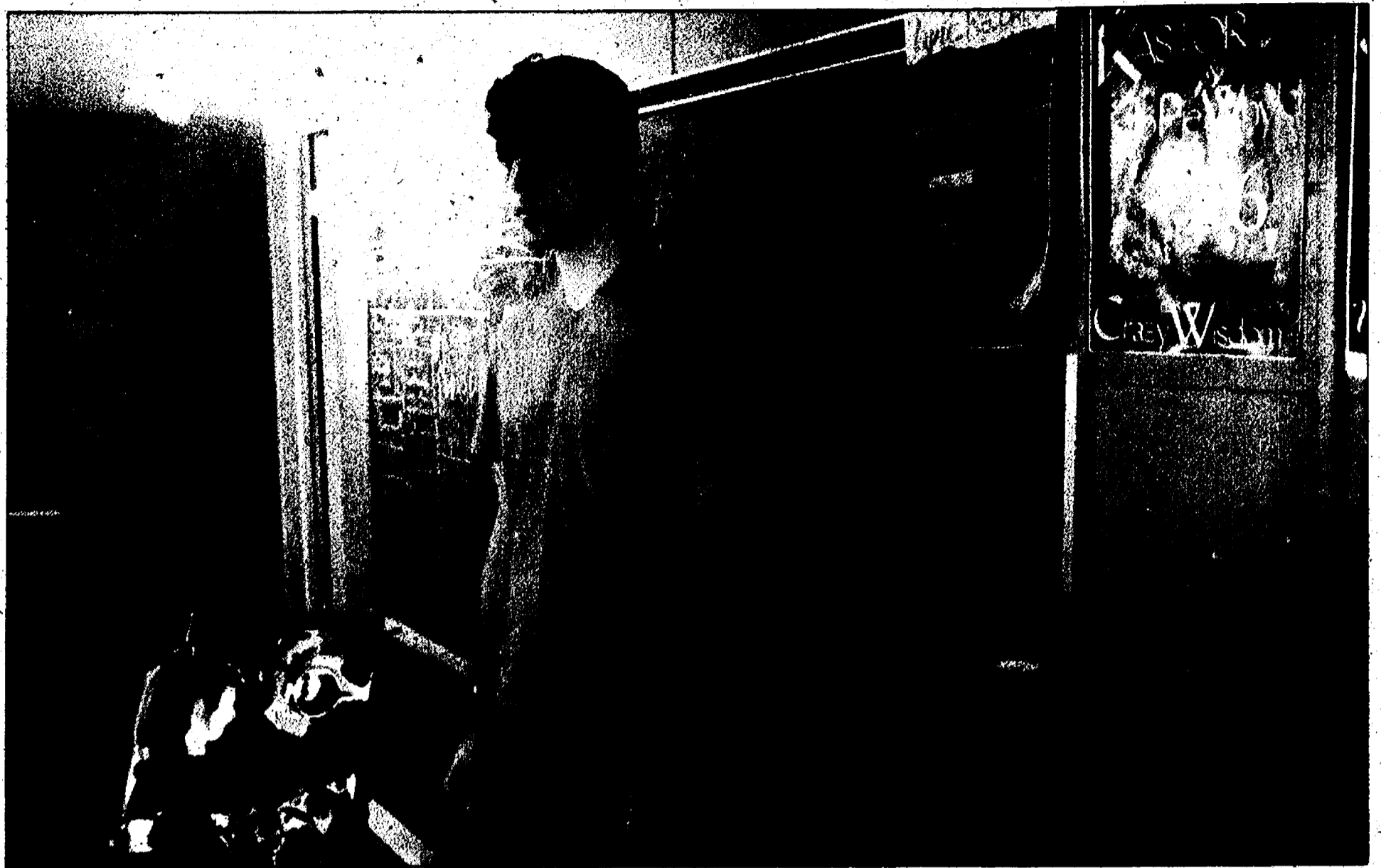
"That was the beginning of Vyne Records," he said.

However, though the other musicians wanted to be in bands, no one except Raymond was particularly interested in the business end.

The business end of the label didn't come together until Raymond tried to get on stage at a summer music festival, and encountered Alex Marr, the man who is the other co-founder of Vyne Records.

Marr wasn't able to get Raymond on stage to play, but a connection was established. Marr ended up drumming with one of Vyne Records' recording artists, The Boilerroom Volcanoes.

Raymond, a University



Vyne Records co-founder Pat Raymond in the Vyne Records recording studio. Next to him is a painting created during an October multi-media concert put on by Vyne Records.

of Michigan student studying business, and Marr, an Eastern Michigan University student studying arts administration, put together a show at Woodruff's in Ypsilanti, and that was the first Vyne Records show.

"After that, Alex and I talked about getting serious," Raymond said.

Raymond joined other local musicians in looking for a house to rent, initially thinking they might find a house with an outbuilding to record in, like a barn. "Somewhere we could be as loud as we wanted," Raymond said.

What the group found, instead, was a house right near campus that already had the basement half-transformed into a studio space.

The landlord had outfitted it to attract music students from the University of Michigan, and it was a serendipitous find for the

record label's founders.

Since then, Raymond, Marr and those signed to the label have transformed the basement space further, with one large area and several smaller ones for recording, each with different ambient sound due to differences in the sizes of the space and the way they are equipped.

Raymond called his business partner "an interesting guy" who can "walk through a room, and everyone wants to talk to him." Raymond said both founders have been told they're charismatic, and that has helped with networking, he said.

"We can go out and find people who help us out — other bands, or people showing up to give us advice, or telling us, 'You have to talk to this guy.'"

Vyne Records has put on several shows this autumn, including a multimedia October show at Ypsilanti's

Dreamland Theater, during which a local artist created a painting in real time as some of the Vyne artists played their sets.

Vyne Records' current lineup of artists includes The Boilerroom Volcanoes, Cigarette Merry-Go-Round, Midwest Skies!, JoPie Whyld, and Raymond's solo act.

Midwest Skies! Is a three-piece band from Grand Rapids that Raymond described as having a "pop-punk" sound. He said they have an already-established fan base, largely cultivated by putting on dynamic live shows.

"The band's live performance asset is their live performance. Every time I've seen them play, they got the crowd up and moving and into the music, which is very difficult for new artists," Raymond said.

Jo Pie Whyld is a solo artist named Hope

Thomas. She got a chance to shine at a recent Vyne Records show in downtown Ann Arbor Nov. 4 at Elmo's Print Shop on Main.

"I met her when I was playing open mic circuits in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti cafes. Her beautiful voice and songwriting talent for such a young artist are unbelievable," Raymond said.

She's putting the finishing touches on her first album, and an album release party is set for Dec. 2 at METAL in Ann Arbor.

Raymond knows members of two of the other labels' bands very well, since he went to high school with musicians in both Cigarette Merry-Go-Round and The Boilerroom Volcanoes.

Merry-Go-Round members describe their sound as "exotic rock," while the Volcanoes kick out "good, old-fashioned but refreshing rock and roll," accord-

ing to Raymond.

Raymond said to know whether the band is a good fit for the label is not about what genre their music fits into but rather whether he feels a connection to the band and their music.

"I have to like their music. They have to interest me. It has to be something that motivates me to work," he said.

The next chance for the public to catch a Vyne Records artist playing live is during the album release party for Jo Pie Whyld's debut album, "Songs for Noah," 8 p.m. Dec. 2 at METAL, 220 Felch St., in Ann Arbor.

To learn more about the record label or upcoming shows by Vyne Record artists, visit the group's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/VyneRecords>.

Sarah Rigg is a freelance writer. She can be reached at [sarahrigg@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahrigg@yahoo.com).

### THINGS TO DO: REGIONAL CALENDAR

#### CHELSEA

Friday, Nov 25

##### Community Drum Jam

8 p.m. Friday: Tree of Life, 6065 Sibley Road. Free. 433-0697.

##### "Escanaba in da Moonlight"

8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays; 3 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sunday: Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St. 433-7673.

Saturday, Nov. 26

##### Chelsea Teddy Bear Co.

11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday: Group tours. 400 N. Main St. Free. 433-5499.

##### Chelsea Chess Club

3 p.m. Saturday: Wendy's, 1640 Commerce Park. Free. 475-1583

##### DJ Skate

7:15 to 9 p.m. Saturday: Arctic Coliseum, 501 Coliseum Drive. \$5 (14 and younger, \$3) admission, \$3 skate rental. 433-4444.

Tuesday, Nov. 29

##### "Ancestry Aficionados"

10 a.m. Tuesday: Chelsea District Library, 221 S. Main St. Free. Pre-registration required. 475-8732.

#### DEXTER

Friday, Nov. 25

##### "It's a Wonderful Life"

8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: Encore, 3126 Broad St. \$28 (members and seniors, \$25; groups of 10 or more, \$22). 268-6200.

Saturday, Nov. 26

##### Draw Doubles 101 Disc Golf

Noon Saturday: Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Road. (\$7 per player; free for spectators. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

##### Art on the Lake Show

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday: 505 Lakeview Ave. Free admission. 663-7114.

##### Winter Festival

1 to 7 p.m. Saturday: Downtown and other locations; Dexter. Free admission. 426-0887.

##### Handspinners' Holiday Fair: Spinnors Flock

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday: Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Road. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 475-7922.

Tuesday, Nov. 29

##### "Perfectly Clear: the Art of Glass"

2 p.m. Wednesday: Dexter

District Library, 3255 Alpine St. Free. 426-4477.

##### Wednesday, Nov. 30 Book Snackers Book Club

4:30 p.m. Wednesday: Dexter District Library, 3255 Alpine St. Free. Pre-registration required. 426-4477.

#### SALINE

Saturday, Nov 26

##### Scandinavian Dance

5 p.m. Saturday: 4531 Concourse Drive. \$5 (students, \$3). 1-908-721-2599.

##### "A Christmas Carol": Family Theater Project

7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday: Liberty School Auditorium, 7265 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Saline. \$5. 429-8000, ext. 2338.

##### Ballroom Dance Party

8 p.m. Saturday: Come Dancing, 7025 E. Michigan Ave. (Country Creek Plaza), Saline. \$10. 944-1888.

Sunday, Nov 27

##### Rails on Wheels Train Show

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road. \$3 (age 11 and younger, free with an

adult). 994-9872.

##### Contra Dance

8 p.m. Saturday: Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Drive. \$10. 260-9027.

##### Tour: Zingeman's Creamery

2 p.m. Sunday: 3723 Plaza Drive. \$5 (includes a \$5 coupon). 929-0500.

Monday, Nov. 28

##### Line Dancing

6 p.m. Monday: American Legion Hall, 320 W. Michigan Ave. \$7. 429-4840.

Tuesday, Nov 29

##### New Horizons Band

7 p.m. Tuesday, 1 p.m. Thursday: Liberty School band room, 7265 Saline-Ann Arbor Road. Free. 429-1742.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

##### Saline Woodcarvers

6 p.m. Wednesday: Saline Area Senior Center, 7190 N. Maple Road. Free. 944-1918.

##### Michigan's Top 10 Backpacking Treks

7 p.m. Wednesday: Saline District Library, 555 N. Maple Road. Free. Pre-registration required. 429-5450.

##### "Willoughby & the Moon"

4:15 p.m. Wednesday: Saline District Library, 555 N. Maple Road. Free. Pre-registration required. 429-5450.

#### YPSILANTI

Sunday, Nov. 27

##### Puppet Show

3:30 p.m. Sunday: Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington St. \$5 (age 3 and younger, free). 657-2337.

Tuesday, Nov. 29

##### AI-Anon: A Panel Discussion: Dawn Farm Series

7:30 p.m. Tuesday: St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive. Free. 485-8725.

##### Jazz & Percussion Ensembles

7:30 p.m. Tuesday: Eastern Michigan University Pease Auditorium, West Cross at College Place. Free. 487-2255.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

##### "Fugue": New Theatre Project

8 p.m. Wednesday: Mix Performance Space, 130 W. Michigan Ave. Pay-what-you-can. 645-9776.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Thursday, Nov. 24

■ The Chelsea District Library, the Dexter District Library, The Chelsea Senior Center and the Dexter Senior Center are **closed** in observance of Thanksgiving.

## Friday, Nov. 25

■ The Chelsea Senior Center is **closed** in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

■ Join the Dexter District Library for a **Teen Craftsmoon** with author and crafter Tracie Lampe. 1-2 p.m. and learn the basics of spinning. This program is for youths in fifth through 12th grade, and registration is required.

■ The Dexter Senior Center hosts **Seniors Get Stuffed** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. as part of a tradition that community leaders and service groups from the Dexter area come together and serve a traditional Thanksgiving feast to the seniors of the community. Those 55 and older or disabled are invited to attend this event, where Busch's will provide turkeys and all the trimmings. Steve and Sandy Varney and the kitchen crew of St. Andrew's Church will be preparing the food. The Dexter Lions Club, Kiwanis Club of Dexter, Boy Scout Troop No. 477, the DHS Key Club and Leo's Club, as well as many dedicated volunteers play a key role in making this wonderful event possible. "Seniors Get Stuffed" is intended for Dexter's seniors to gather with friends and rekindle friendships while enjoying a delicious meal. There are no regularly scheduled programs at the senior center on this day, and the WAVE bus will not be operating. Homebound meals are available by calling Cindy at 426-5397. No reservations are required. Just come and enjoy the company and delicious food.

■ See "Escanaba in da Moonlight" at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. at the Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., in Chelsea. Tickets may be purchased online, purpletheatre.org, or by calling the theater's box office, 734-475-7673.

■ See "It's a Wonderful Life" at 8 p.m. at the Encore Theatre, 3126 Broad St. Tickets may be purchased online, theencoretheatre.org, or by calling the theater's box office, 268-6200.

■ Dexter's Artistic Gallery will hold its **Fourth Friday Celebration** featuring Jan Sevd's Honey Bee Happy Soaps from 5 to 8 p.m. Jan is an avid gardener and beekeeper and uses ingredients from both in her soaps, lotions and lip balms. No dyes are used. Join Artistic for free refreshments and conversation while enjoying some great Michigan artwork.

## Saturday, Nov. 26

■ Downtown Dexter will be host to the Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce's **Winter Fest** from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event will feature caroling and lighting the village's Christmas tree in Monument Park as well.

■ See "Escanaba in da Moonlight" at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. at the Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., in Chelsea. Tickets may be purchased online or by calling the theater's box office, 734-475-7673.

■ See "It's a Wonderful Life" at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. at the Encore Theatre, 3126 Broad St. Tickets may be purchased online, theencoretheatre.org, or by calling the theater's box office, 268-6200.

## Sunday, Nov. 27

■ See "Escanaba in da Moonlight" 2 p.m. at the Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., in Chelsea. Tickets may be purchased online or by calling the theater's box office, 734-475-7673.

office, 734-475-7673.

■ See "It's a Wonderful Life" at 3 p.m. at the Encore Theatre, 3126 Broad St. Tickets may be purchased online, theencoretheatre.org, or by calling the theater's box office, 268-6200.

## Monday, Nov. 28

■ **Paint with Steve Wood** at the Chelsea Senior Center at 9:30 a.m.

■ **Dexter Village Council** meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor Road.

## Tuesday, Nov. 29

■ Join the Ancestry Aficionados at the Chelsea District Library at 10 a.m. The group will have expert volunteers on hand to answer genealogy and computer questions.

■ The Chelsea District Library hosts **Babytime** at 10:30 a.m. The program is appropriate for babies up to 2-years-old and is a great way to introduce your child to the wonderful world of books.

■ The **Dungeons & Dragons** Weekly Gaming group meets at 4:30 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library.

## Wednesday, Nov. 30

■ Learn some **Healthy Holiday Recipes** at 11 a.m. at the Chelsea Senior Center.

■ Take a look at some glass art with the DIA's Margaret Prizer at "Perfectly Clear: The Art of Glass" at the Dexter District Library at 2 p.m. This program is the third presentation in the Libraries Fall Art Series by the DIA, and the art is a part of the DIA's permanent collection. Refreshments will be served.

■ See "Escanaba in da Moonlight" at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. at the Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., in Chelsea. Tickets may be purchased online or by calling the theater's box office, 734-475-7673.

■ Join the **Book Snackers** book discussion group for children in third through fifth grade at 4:30 at the Dexter District Library. The featured book is "Sheep" by Valerie Hobbs. Registration is required.

■ Ava Passino, RN, BC of Nurses Foot Care Services is at the Dexter

Senior Center today for **foot care service**. Nurses Foot Care Services provides preventive, basic foot care. All members of the Dexter Senior Center receive \$3 off their first appointment. The fee for this service is \$36.00. Appointments can be made with Ava by calling 734-878-7330.

## Thursday, Dec. 1

■ The **Dungeons & Dragons** Weekly Gaming group meets at 4:30 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library. The group will be using the 3.5 edition of the game.

■ See "It's a Wonderful Life" at 7 p.m. at the Encore Theatre, 3126 Broad St. Tickets may be purchased online, theencoretheatre.org, or by calling the theater's box office, 268-6200.

## Ongoing

■ The **Dexter Garden Club** meets 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month September through May at the Dexter Senior Center. Each month features a different speaker or event.

■ Join Miss Jackie and her puppet Rosie for **fall storytime** fun every Wednesday at the Chelsea District Library. For 2- to 3-year-olds, storytimes will be at 10:30 a.m. For 3- to 5-year-olds, storytimes will be at 11:30 a.m. Miss Jackie's storytimes include stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft. Miss Jackie brings more than 10 years of storytime experience to the library's programs.

■ Kate Mulligan from TCF Bank in downtown Dexter will provide **free notary services** on the second Monday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Dexter Senior Center. You will need to bring a valid ID. If you don't need anything notarized, just stop in and meet Kate and receive a free coin counting coupon. This coupon will allow non-account holders to have loose coins counted free of charge at the TCF Bank in downtown Dexter.

**To have an event listed on the Community Calendar, please email Erica McClain at emcclain@heritage.com with the keywords "Community Calendar" in the subject line by 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's edition.**

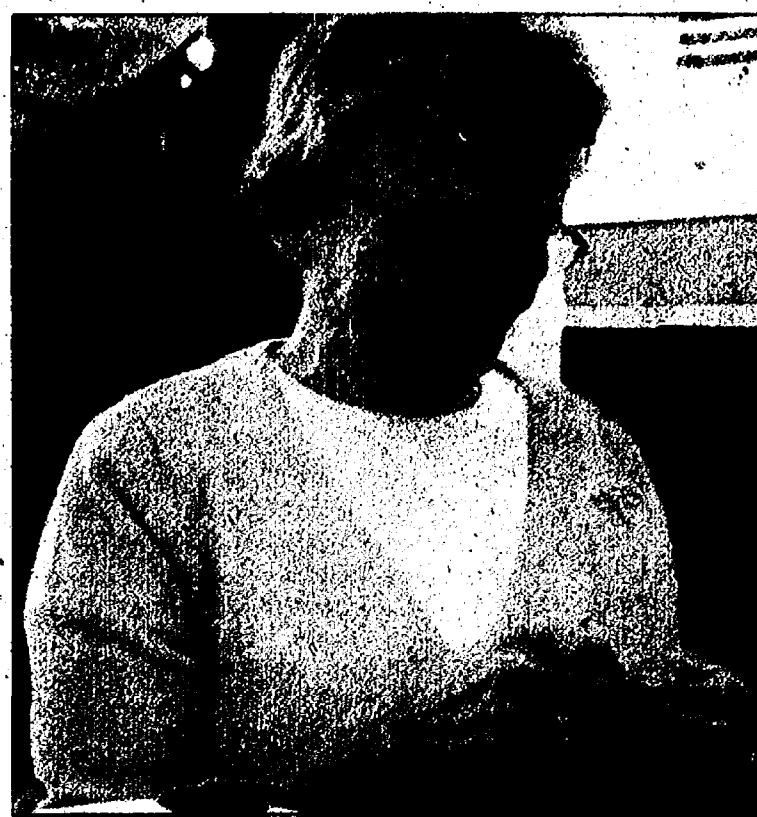
# Bazaar to feature handmade gifts

The Dexter Heritage Guild's 40th annual Christmas Bazaar and bake sale, featuring delightful handmade gifts for everyone, will take place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 3 at St. Andrew's, 3443 Inverness St.

The bazaar, which began in 1971, supports the Dexter Area Historical Society and Museum, which now includes the renovation and upkeep of the historic Gordon Hall. The hall was built by the village's founder Judge Samuel Dexter.

Some of the items available for sale will be wooden toys, Christmas decorations, kitchen items, fine needlework, doll quilts, Christmas crackers, delicious homemade baked goods and much more. Santa will pay a visit between 10:30 a.m. and noon so be sure to bring little ones and a camera.

There will also be tickets available for a drawing of an original wall painting and a beautiful handmade market basket.



Bea Christopherson, chair of the Dexter Heritage Guild, makes some lace tatting.

The Museum will also be open which houses Dexter's permanent historical collection and the Museum Gift Shop.

For more information contact 734-426-2519 or email dexterguild@gmail.com.

## HOMETOWN HOLIDAY EVENTS

### Friday, Dec. 2 Kick-off Tree Lighting Ceremony and Santa Arrives

6-6:30 p.m. at Pierce Park, Main Street (FREE) Santa makes his appearance on the American Legion Voiture 957 Train and lights the Holiday tree to start the festivities. Music from CHS choir groups.

### Sit with Santa & Santa's Workshop

6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Depot, Jackson Street (FREE - there is a fee for photos with Santa) Kids bring your list and sit with Santa, have your photos taken, then make gifts in his workshop. Sponsored by the Chelsea Children's Co-op.

### Live Nativity Scene

7-8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Park Street across from Purple Rose Theater, adjacent to the Library lot (FREE) Featuring live animals and a Christmas choir.

### Common Chords Concert

7-9 p.m., at the Chelsea District Library

McKune Room (FREE) The Common Chords hand bell choir will perform a holiday concert with refreshments.

### Cookie Decorating

6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Chelsea Teddy Bear Factory (FREE)

### Story Telling

6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Farmer's Supply on Jackson Street across from the Depot (FREE) Listen to Ms. Jackie tell some of her favorite holiday stories.

### Saturday, Dec. 3

### Breakfast with Santa

8:30-10:30 a.m. at Comfort Inn & Village Conference Center (FREE) Located on Commerce Park drive (off M-52) Sit with Santa and enjoy a free pancake breakfast with other goodies. Sponsored by Lake Trust Credit Union.

### Children's Christmas Bazaar

10:30a-2:30 p.m. at Chelsea First United Methodist Church, Park Street for kindergarteners to fifth graders, kids can

PLEASE SEE HOMETOWN/9-B

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**BRIEFS**

**The New Theatre Project presents 'Fugue' in Ypsilanti**

The New Theatre Project will present the world premiere of "Fugue" by Audra Lord Nov. 30 through Dec. 18.

In a bleak, institutional space, James, Julie, Tina and Princess Stephanie recover from a shared tragic event that resulted in the complete loss of their memories.

"Fugue" follows their attempts to remember, to forget and to piece together

their shared and individual identities.

Is it better to leave the past behind, or to remember, no matter what the cost?

The cast features Jon Ager, Dan Johnson, Keith Paul Medelis, Linda Rabin Hammell and Jamie Weeder, under the direction of Luna Alexander.

The production features the design work of Medelis (scenic), Janine Woods Thoma (lighting), and Ben Stange (costumes). "Fugue" is stage managed by Carla Angeloni.

The New Theatre

Project is located at 130 W. Michigan Ave. in Ypsilanti at the Mix Studio Theater.

Pay-what-you-can previews take place at 8 p.m. Nov. 30 and Dec. 1. Regular performances will take place Dec. 2 through 18, at 8 p.m. Fridays through Sundays.

Tickets are \$15 and \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets can be reserved by calling or texting The New Theatre Project box office at 645-9776 or emailing tickets@thenewtheatreproject.org. For more details, visit www.thenewtheatreproject.org.

**Theatre to host auditions for musical 'Grey Gardens'**

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre will hold auditions for its production of the musical "Grey Gardens," directed by Edmond Reynolds.

Auditions take at 7 p.m. Dec. 11 and Dec. 12, with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m. each day.

Callbacks, if needed, are at 7 p.m. Dec. 13. All auditions take place at A2CT's Rehearsal Studio, 322 W. Ann St., Ann Arbor.

"Grey Gardens" is the hilarious and heartbreaking story of Big Edie and Little Edie Bouvier Beale, the eccentric aunt and cousin of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, once bright names on the social register who became East Hampton's most notorious recluses.

"Grey Gardens" has roles for three or four women ages 20 through 80, four men ages 25 through 80, and two girls ages 8 through 12.

Auditions consist of dance-movement, singing and cold readings from

the script. Those auditioning should prepare a Broadway-style song of no more than 32 bars and should bring sheet music; songs from the show are okay and encouraged.

Auditioners should be prepared to dance — no tennis shoes for the dance portion.

Those auditioning need attend only one of the regular auditions but should be available for callbacks. No pre-registration is required.

A cast meeting and first

PLEASE SEE BRIEFS/5-B

The Saline Area Chamber of Commerce presents

# S.E. Michigan's Most Popular and Entertaining Holiday Event!

the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Holiday Parade & Holiday Week in Saline ~ December 2 - 11

**Saturday, December 3 - Parade Day**

- Shuttle Coach runs between Busch's Shopping Center and Downtown 4:30-8:30pm except during Parade
- Holiday Parade Downtown 5:30pm - "Saline Polar Express" with Floats, Bands, Baton Twirlers, Unicyclists, Hot Air Balloon, Train Boxcar, Dance Alliance, Mrs. Claus, Horses, Donkeys, Goats, Dogs, and Santa arriving in his Sleigh with his chief Elf
- Saline Chamber Grocery Raffle Winning Tickets drawn during Parade
- Santa's Village after Parade at Stone Arch Arts and Event 117 S. Ann Arbor St. - Kids visit with Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, & Elves, receive goodie-filled Santa Sacks

# HOLIDAY Treasures

**RIG** Jeep

on Friday and Saturday

Get a Toshiba 32" flat screen television with your new vehicle purchase at LaFontaine Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in Saline. PLUS get a down payment match of up to \$1,000 and no payments for 90 days on select models!

**2012 Dodge Journey SXT** STK # 12S161  
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- Huron Valley Financial, Inc.
- Int'l Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Junco Ace Hardware
- Pineapple House
- Quantum Signal LLC
- Saline Area Firefighter Association
- Saline Pharmacy
- Sam's Club
- Stonington Golf Club
- U-M Saline Health Center
- United Bank & Trust



**BRIEFS**

FROM PAGE 4-B

read-through is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 15, 2012. Production dates are March 8 through 11, 2012.

For more information, character descriptions and PDF files of audition music, visit the audition page of the A2CT website at www.a2ct.org or call the A2CT office at 971-2228.

**Dance Alliance presents its 14th annual 'Nutcracker' performance Dec. 11**

On Dec. 11, Dance Alliance will present its 14th annual "Nutcracker" performance at the Saline High School's Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center.

Over the last 14 years, Dance Alliance's production of "The Nutcracker" has become a community must-see under the guidance of artistic director Lisa Darby Clark.

This year, Dance Alliance will share its captivating and adventurous story of Clara and her beloved

Nutcracker doll.

After a courageous battle of mice and soldiers, Clara will attempt to save her precious Nutcracker and then journey through the glorious Land of Snow.

Clara's magical journey will not stop there as she will venture through the Land of Sweets.

Clara's story will come to life at 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 11 at Saline High School, 1300 Campus Parkway, in Saline.

Tickets are \$13 each and are available at Dance Alliance from 9:30 a.m. to noon Dec. 8 and 10 and at the Dancer's Boutique in Ann Arbor. Tickets will also be available at the Saline High School box office one hour prior to each performance.

**Woodruff's in Ypsilanti to host 'Mittenfest IV' Dec. 28-Jan. 1**

An upcoming event, Mittenfest VI, will feature five nights of local music, including a New Year's Eve dance party lasting until 4 a.m. Mittenfest VI will be held at Woodruff's Bar in Ypsilanti from Dec. 28 through Jan. 1, 2012.

Doors open at 4 p.m. each day. As in previous years,

proceeds from Mittenfest VI will benefit local nonprofit 826michigan and its creative writing and tutoring programs for students 6-18 in Washtenaw County.

The music festival was founded in 2006 by Brandon Zwagerman and, last year, raised more than \$15,000 for 826michigan.

"We are simply astounded at the ongoing growth of Mittenfest," said Amanda Uhle, 826michigan executive director, in a news release.

"Every year we think it can't get bigger, and every year we have a larger audience, more amazing music and raise more funds for our youth literacy programs. It's a testament to the strength and generosity of the music community here in southeast Michigan, and we're pleased to be able to pass that strength and generosity along to the over 2,300 students we serve each year."

For more information about Mittenfest VI, including bands and lineups, visit www.mittenfest.org.

To purchase a VIP pass granting access to all five nights of Mittenfest VI, visit Brown Paper Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/210337.

For more information about the nonprofit 826michigan, visit www.826michigan.org.

**Holiday Week**

**Saturday, December 10 - "Treasure Trail to Santa" 10am - 1:30 pm**

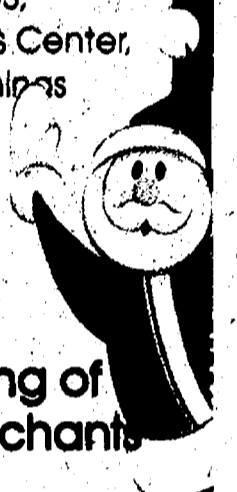
Kids start at Curves to get a treasure map and go on an excursion through the shops at Busch's Shopping Center to find Santa.

Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides, Refreshments, Petting Animals and Merchant Favors.

**Enter by December 8 to win a Giant Stocking full of goodies from**

Baker's Nook LLC, Brecon Grille, Brewed Awakenings, Briarwood Ford, Busch's Fresh Food Market, Capitol Cleaners, Cobblestone Rose, Curves, Donna's Therapeutic Massage, Downtown Diner, Drowsy Parrot, Ed's Bread, First Design Cabinetry, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church Saline, GNC, Goodwill Store, Great Clips, Grondin's Hair Center, Hungry Howie's Pizza, Jet's Pizza, Junga's ACE Hardware, LaFontaine Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Leo's Coney Island, Mac's Acadian Seafood Shack, Mancino's Pizza & Grinder's, Manglamo Italian Grill, Mark's Midtown Coney Island, Maureen's Designs, Mi Zarape Mexican Restaurant, Mickey's Dairy Twist, Mod Squad Salon, My Urban Toddler, New Era Chiropractic, PLLC, New Horizon, Nu2U Resale, Oxygen Plus, Pets 'N' Things, Pineapple House, Quilting Season, Reincarnations, RydeOn!, Saline Area Chamber of Commerce, Saline District Library, Sheryl Pomerance, DDS, Spotted Dog Winery, St. Andrews Catholic Church, The Bling Thing, Saline Town & Country Supplies, Tropical Illusions, Two Twelve Arts Center, United Bank & Trust, UPS Store, Verizon Wireless - Wireless Zone, Voila Salon & Spa, Wags to Wiskers Pet Supplies, Wings Pizza N Things

**Holiday Week Activities**



**Nov. 23 to Dec. 20**

- Santa's Mailbox Downtown available to Kids

**Dec. 1, 2, 3, 4**

- Saline Area Players "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", Stone Arch Arts & Events  
Thurs. & Fri. 7pm;  
Sat. & Sun. 1 pm & 3:30 pm

**Dec. 2**

- Tree Lighting Ceremony, Downtown N. Ann Arbor St. & Michigan 7 pm

**Dec. 3**

- Saline's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Parade 5:30 pm
- Santa's Village following Parade at Stone Arch Arts and Events  
Shuttle Coach runs between Busch's Shopping Center and Downtown 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm (except during Parade)

**Dec. 4**

- Fiddlers ReStrung Holiday Hometown Concert at Saline High School 2:00 pm

**Dec. 9**

- Drawing for Giant Stocking of Goodies from Local Merchants - 5 Winners!
- Dec. 9 & 10 Varsity Blues Holiday Show - "All Aboard the Polar Express", Middle School 7:30 pm
- Dec. 10 Treasure Trail to Santa 10 am - 1:30 pm
- Dec 17 Breakfast with Santa, SHS, 9 am

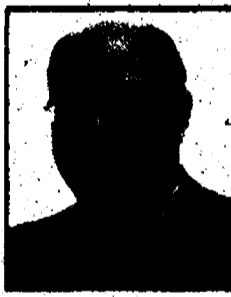
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**Holiday Art Sale**

Saturday, December 10 through Saturday, December 17 (Closed Sunday)  
Sale Hours: 10am - 6pm

Kick-off Reception: Friday, December 9, 7-9pm

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# Exhibit 4G an impressive, affordable, mid-range Android option from T-Mobile

There is no shortage of new phones coming on the market that come with a "4G" tag, and T-Mobile is one of the carriers contributing to the deluge.

While most of the carriers are focusing their 4G on the bigger, more high-end models, T-Mobile is also including some less expensive, mid-range phones in its 4G lineup.

I recently spent some time with one of these new phones, the Samsung Exhibit 4G, and found it to be an impressive and more affordable alternative to some of the bigger phones on the market.

## LOOKS

Physically, the first word that comes to mind when I think of this phone is "light." At just 4.4 ounces (and 2.3 inches wide x 4.7 inches tall x 0.5 inches thick), this phone is not the monster size that is more and more common on new phones these days.

That's mostly a good thing, especially if you don't want a phone that's huge, and the Exhibit 4G feels very comfortable in the hand. Good materials are used, so you won't have to worry about it breaking with every little fall.

## SCREEN

In terms of image quality, the 3.5 inch screen on the Exhibit 4G features a 480x800 resolution. This is good quality and come through bright and clear, but some other phones on

the market do top those numbers.

I found the touchscreen to be overall very responsive to the touch.

## TECH TIME



MATT MYFTIU

## OS

The Exhibit 4G features the Android 2.3 operating system, the latest version of the Google's industry leading OS. With the Android system, you get all the usual Google features (Gmail, Google Maps, and much more) and tons of app options for work or play via the Android Market.

## WEB EXPERIENCE, PROCESSOR

The phone features a pretty fast 1 GHz processor, which was good but great compared to some of the other new phones I've tested recently. It's not a dual-core processor, unlike much of its competition.

Still, Web browsing was pretty fast on the Exhibit 4G, just not the fastest I've seen. It features full Flash support, unlike some of its competition, and the ability to use pinch-to-zoom technology to aid in your Internet reading.

## OTHER FEATURES

The Exhibit 4G offers a variety of entertainment options such as T-Mobile TV, which is available for a \$10 monthly fee.

You also get some standard features, such as GPS, an address book, an alarm clock, calculator, calendar, etc. USB Tethering is offered,

## On the Web:

For more information, visit [www.t-mobile.com](http://www.t-mobile.com)

so you can use your device's data connection to access the Internet on your laptop. And if you want to expand the memory via the Memory Card Slot (microSD), you have that option.

## CALL QUALITY

If you're still making actual phone calls, an increasingly rare thing these days with the rise of texting and e-mail, you will be impressed with the sound quality and connection on the Exhibit 4G. I found it to be very strong and reliable, and even the speaker phone sounded good.

## CAMERAS

This is one of the weaker areas of the Exhibit 4G. All you get is a 3 megapixel camera with flash, which is not great but took decent pics. There is no shutter button to snap photos, though, which was a bit annoying.

You also get a simple front-facing camera for video chat, and a very basic camcorder that is similar to the camera - gets the job done, but nothing to write home about.

## MESSAGING

The Exhibit 4G offers the usual messaging options, including the ability to send text or photo messages; Instant Messaging; email and more. I did find the on-screen keyboard to be a little bit cramped for people like myself who might have bigger fingers. For people in the

The Swype input method, which allows you to drag your way to each letter of a word without lifting your finger, is a helpful option for those who don't want to have to punch in every letter.

## 4G SPEEDS

Since this is a 4G-labelled phone, the question is whether it lives up to that name. For the most part, I would say yes, as I had no major issues with the speeds on downloads and streaming of content on the Exhibit. It was not the absolute best 4G experience I've had, but T-Mobile's network speed should make most people happy.

## BATTERY

I was impressed with the overall battery life of the Samsung Exhibit 4G, which got me through the day without having to be recharged. Just make sure you plug it in at night.

## PRICE

The Samsung Exhibit 4G will cost T-Mobile customers \$99.99 out of pocket, with the purchase of a 2-year contract with T-Mobile.

## BOTTOM LINE

The Samsung Exhibit 4G is not the biggest and the baddest, but it shows that a 4G name doesn't have to mean an expensive phone. While some specs do fall a little short, it's still a solid mid-range 4G phone offering for T-Mobile customers who don't want to spring for the higher-priced top models or don't want a huge phone.

Matt Myftiu can be reached at [matt.myftiu@oakpress.com](mailto:matt.myftiu@oakpress.com).

Follow him on Twitter @MattMyftiu, or become a

fan of the Facebook page OPTechTime.

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Level: Intermediate

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# Collaboration to support regional jobs

The Workforce Intelligence Network for Southeast Michigan, partnered with Washtenaw County Michigan Works Agency, launched Nov. 16.

The purpose of WIN is assessing the area's workforce needs and supplying metro Detroit employers, educational institutions, workforce development agencies and policymakers with the information they need to further cultivate and transform the region's workforce.

Funded by a three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the New Economy Initiative, WIN is a region-wide collaborative effort between metro Detroit's eight community colleges, seven workforce boards and economic development partners to assess and serve three primary roles for southeast Michigan:

- Gather, analyze and distribute real-time workforce data specific to southeast Michigan;
- Serve as a connection point for regional business, industry and other stakeholders in regard to workforce development;
- Research talent-related policy concerns.

For each of the above, WIN will understand needs and apply a plan of action to achieve desired outcomes.

Washtenaw County MWA serves on the WIN board and will help provide strategic direction for WIN and help implement collaborative regional strategies to support regional jobs.

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. also is providing in-kind support to the WIN initiative, including technical expertise and resources.

"Collectively, these community colleges and workforce boards designed this concept to leverage assets to build a comprehensive and cohesive workforce and talent system across the region," said WIN Executive Director Lisa Katz in a news release.

Their investment in this network will bring economic developers, business accelerators, colleges, universities, training institutions, employers and policymakers with the data and strategies they need to help redefine the region's workforce.

"To successfully do this we need real time data to understand those changing needs; a collaborative approach with our workforce, economic and educational partners that business can quickly and easily work with; and the ability to affect identified economic and workforce development policy at the local, state and federal levels," Denig said.

"WIN is on the front lines of this struggle, bringing together key stakeholders that, when partnered, can keep our region's workforce ahead of the curve." Following are a few examples of how WIN is addressing regional workforce issues:

- Working to identify regional skill training needs of the corporate IT sector — a growth opportunity in SE Michigan — and coordinating accelerated training approaches for short term and ongoing industry needs. Moving forward, the network will also work to implement regional training strategies and leverage private, state and federal workforce

training resources.

- Developing a career pathway for the energy workforce with special focus on entry level and apprenticeship resources. This sector is anticipating a retirement crisis among skilled workers, and industry veterans came to WIN to develop strategies for rebuilding the talent pipeline.

- Supporting the demand of the rebounding auto sector for skilled engineers

and technicians with hybrid and electric vehicle expertise.

WIN is working with business and government partners to bring together the combined expertise of regional workforce boards and community colleges to develop a blueprint for short and longer-term talent development.

"The Workforce Intelligence Network's regional approach creates an opportunity for educa-

tional institutions, workforce boards, and economic development partners to collaborate on a new level and provide comprehensive data for the entire region, not just one specific geographical area," said New Economy Initiative Executive Director David Egner.

"Their support will help identify where resources are needed and how it will affect business development."

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GUEST COLUMN

This holiday, think about your family's shared financial picture

It's Thanksgiving week. And, if you're fortunate, you can look around your Thanksgiving table and see several generations of your family.

Of course, as you know, many types of cohesiveness are involved in knitting a family together. But one connection that frequently gets ignored, at least in terms of family dialogue, is the financial linkage between parents and their children on one hand, and these same parents and their parents on the other. So if you find yourself in this "sandwich" group, it may be worth considering your financial position. If your children are very young, you might want to start by emphasizing the importance of three separate concepts: saving, spending and sharing. If you give them an allowance, or if you pay them to do some minor tasks around the household, you can encourage them to put the money in three separate containers. The "spending" jar is for them to use as they choose, the "saving" jar is to be put in some type of savings or investment account and the "sharing" jar is to be used for contributions to

charitable causes. You can extend the spending, saving and sharing themes by encouraging your kids to spend wisely, watch how their savings grow and feel pride in the work done by the charitable groups their dollars support. Later, when your kids are older, and can earn money by babysitting, mowing lawns or working part-time, you can further encourage good financial habits by offering to match their contributions to a Roth IRA. And be sure to discuss the different types of investments available; they may enjoy learning about the ways in which they can participate in the financial markets. Above all else, talk to them about the importance of developing good financial skills and how these skills will play a part in your family's overall well being. Now, let's turn to your parents. If they're elderly, you may find that talking to them about financial issues may be considerably more challenging than talking about these issues with your children. It's unfortunate, but true: People are sensitive about money and often don't want to talk about it. You may find that you need to be persistent,

especially if your parents are getting on in years. Perhaps you encourage them to consider their current position, and what planning might need to be considered. Do they have accounts in a local bank? Where are their investments held? Do they have a financial adviser? Have they worked with legal professionals on any arrangements? If your parents have expressed interest in leaving a legacy or passing assets to family members, you might consider encouraging them to seek assistance from the appropriate professionals.

After all, if something were to happen to your parents without them having made the proper arrangements, their wishes may not be carried out. So this Thanksgiving, as you think about the value of your family, you might take some time to consider issues that need to be addressed. It may take time and diligence — but when it comes to your loved one's wishes and well being, it's probably worth the effort.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

BULLETIN BOARD

"Around Town with Linda"

"Around Town with Linda" will feature Glen Geer, professional square dance caller.

"Around Town with Linda" features interviews conducted by the local host Linda Meloche.

The show airs daily on Channel 18 at 7:30 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 11 p.m.

A new interview begins every Friday evening and runs for a week. The guests all live or work in Chelsea, and everyone connected with the show is a volunteer.

Previous shows are available to view at McKune Memorial Library or online at http://storiesofchelsea.org.

Senior passes available for Dexter athletic events

Senior passes are now available for SEC home and away high school sporting events. This pass is only good for conference games. These passes are free. If you are interested in a pass, please contact the Dexter Senior Center at 426-7737 or the Dexter High School athletic office at 424-4170.

Help for Medicare enrollment available for members at Dexter Senior Center

The dates for open enrollment for Medicare Part D (prescription drug plans) will be different this year.

During open enrollment, Mary Ellen will be available at the Dexter Senior Center Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings by appointment to help with members' Medicare questions. You can make an appointment by calling 426-7737 and leaving your name and phone number. Mary Ellen will contact you to make an appointment.

Sign up for Heritage's e-newsletter

Sign up for The Chelsea Standard and Dexter Leader's e-newsletter to get the latest headlines delivered directly to your e-mail box, as well as breaking news and community alerts. Sign up on the newspaper's home page at www.heritage.com, on the right side of the page.

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3060 S. Fletcher Rd., Chelsea
(734) 475-8064
Christian Ed. 9:15 am
Worship 10:30 am
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Pastor Doris Sparks
www.zionchelsea.org

First United Methodist Church
128 Park Street
Chelsea, MI 48118
734-475-8119
8:30am - Daybreak Worship
9:30am - Classes All Ages
9:30am - Renew Worship
11:00am - Mosaic Worship
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Rev. Tom Macaulay
www.chelseaumc.org

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9575 North Territorial Road
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www.faithdexter.org

Immanuel Bible Church
145 E. Summit St.
(734) 475-8938
Dominic Aquilino, Pastor
Worship Service..... 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School..... 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service..... 10:45 a.m.
Evening Service..... 5:45 p.m.
www.immanuelbiblechurch.net

St. James' Episcopal Church
3279 Broad St., Dexter
Phone: 426-8247
www.stjamesdexter.org
Sunday Worship, 9:30am
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Dexter United Methodist Church
7643 Huron River Dr.
Sunday Worship
8:30AM Spirited Traditional
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www.dexterumc.org
secretary@dexterumc.org

Chelsea Church of Christ
Minister Tom Haddox
13661 East
Old US-12
Chelsea, MI 48118
(734) 475-8458
www.chelseapoc.org
Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am
Sunday Evening Service 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Class 6:30 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran
1515 S. Main St. (M-52)
Chelsea, MI 48118
(Next to McDonald's)
734.475.1404
8:15am Heritage Service
9:30am Education Hour
10:30am Celebration Service & Childrens Church

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(734) 426-5115
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Church School, 10:00 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Waterloo Village United Methodist Church
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Sat 11:00am • Freedom Townhall
Pastor Charles R. Schulz
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Dexter, Michigan
734-426-8610
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10:00am Worship Service
Sunday school classes offered during 10am service
Bible Study
Wednesday 7:00pm, 12pm, & 6:30pm
Thursday 2pm
New Interim Rev. Larry VanSlaambrook
www.standrewsdexter.org

St. Paul United Church of Christ
Rev. James Cameron Coyl • 476-2646
14600 Old U.S. 12, Chelsea
StPaulChelsea.org
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Sunday School: All Ages 9am
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# HOMETOWN Show

FROM PAGE 3-B

shop for the holidays from the hundreds of affordable handmade and locally made items, all under \$5.00-available. By appointment only. Please register at www.signupgenius.com/go/201268.

## Gingerbread House Workshop (Two sessions)

11:30a-12:30 p.m. and 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Chelsea First United Methodist Church, Park Street (FREE) Decorate your very own gingerbread house for the holidays. Only 75 houses available - reserve a house by calling the Chelsea Chamber at 475-1145. Sponsored by Lake Trust Credit Union.

## Holiday Tween and Teen Homemade Gifts

2-3:30 p.m. at Chelsea District Library McKune Room (Registration Required | Ages 10-15, FREE) Need a present for a friend or family member? Who doesn't like a homemade gift? Make your own holiday presents here in the library! What we'll be making is a surprise, but we'll make it and wrap it today! Parents, this would be a great time for you to go shopping downtown, while your children make you a present! All supplies provided.

## All The Trimmings Artisan's Holiday

# Edward Jones named 'top workplace'

The financial-services firm Edward Jones recently was named to the Detroit Free Press Top Workplaces listing, according to the three Financial Advisors in Chelsea, Edward Jones was named the No. 2 large company on the prestigious ranking.

The Detroit Free Press teamed up with research partner WorkplaceDynamics of Exton, Pa., to rank the area's best employers. One hundred companies were named Top Workplaces in Michigan for 2011, divided into large, medium and small companies by the number of people they employ in Michigan.

The Detroit Free Press Top Workplaces program recognizes companies based on employee opinions about company leadership, compensation and training, diversity/inclusion, career development, family-friendly flexibility, and values and ethics. This was Edward Jones' second entry in this competition and the second year it ranked No. 2.

The Chelsea Edward Jones financial advisers are: Diane Kielszewski, 134 W. Middle St., Ed McClellan, 12855 E. Old US Hwy. 12 and Michael O'Quinn, 1100 S. Main St.

10a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chelsea Fairground service building, corner of Old US12 at Old Manchester Road A wonderful artisans' show featuring unique local talent - woodcarvings, bears, counted cross-stitch, pastels, tiles, folk paintings, textiles, jewelry, antiques and collectibles, rug hooking, punch needle, stained glass, photography, bread boards and fresh Christmas greens. Free refreshments, free admission and free parking.

## Chelsea Light Parade

6 p.m. along Main Street (street closed to thru traffic during the parade-FREE) Seventh annual parade featuring dozens of lighted floats and vehicles, marching bands, and the big guy himself, Santa! Parade starts at Chelsea State Bank south-end lot and ends at Chelsea Teddy Bear Company for the free community afterglow party.

## Community Sing

7-9 p.m. at Chelsea Teddy Bear Company, Main Street in the Clocktower complex (FREE) Warm up after watching the light parade, enjoy free refreshments and sing holiday carols with Counterpoint. Sure to get you in the holiday spirit. Sponsored by Chelsea Teddy Bear Company & Chelsea Comfort Inn.

## Bear Cub Run

8 p.m. at Chelsea Teddy Bear Company, Main Street in the Clocktower complex (FREE) Now an annual event, share in the excitement as several local children run through the Chelsea Teddy Bear warehouse and grab as many bears as they can carry, most of which are donated to local hospitals or organizations. Sponsored by Chelsea Teddy Bear Company.

## Sunday, Dec. 4 Chelsea Chamber Players Holiday Concert (2 shows)

3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Chelsea First United Methodist Church, Park Street (FREE) A free Holiday performance by Chelsea's talented Chamber Players with students from the Chelsea High School chamber orchestra. Free admission.

## Holiday Festival of Lessons and Carols

6:30 p.m. at the Chelsea Retirement Community Chapel, at the end of West Middle Street (FREE) The churches of Chelsea come together for a magical evening of holiday music.

## Giant Holiday Stocking Giveaway

11:30 a.m. McDonald's,

M-52 and Main Street Drawing to win the 6-foot tall stocking packed with donated items from local merchants. Music provided by Chelsea choir. Sponsored by Chelsea McDonald's.

## All Weekend Events

### The Nutcracker Ballet (4 shows)

At Chelsea High School Performing Arts Complex, Freer Road Performed by the Youth Dance Theatre of Michigan 7 p.m. Dec. 2; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 3; and 2 p.m. Dec. 4. See their web site for ticket information at youthdancetheatre.org

### Luminaries on Main Street

6-8 p.m. Friday and

Saturday night, lighting up Main Street along the Light Parade route. Presented by the Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of the Chelsea area.

## Christmas on the (Waterloo) Farm

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 3 and Noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 4 at 13493 Waterloo Munnith Road This annual re-creation of the holiday's traditions includes tours of the 10-room farmhouse, the authentic log house, eight outbuildings, and the one-room Dewey

School. New this year is a traditional Christmas program at Dewey School. Hand-crafted greens, homemade baked goods and gift items will be available for purchase. Free refreshments and live music will be among the offerings for this home-spun weekend. More info on their web site at waterloofarmmuseum.org

For more information and a detailed list of events and activities (updated daily), please click on chelseafestivals.com or call the Chamber of Commerce office at 734-475-1145.

### SYNOPSIS OF UNAPPROVED MINUTES LIMA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOVEMBER 14, 2011

The regular meeting of the Lima Township Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge to the Flag. Present were Supervisor Unterbrink, Clerk Bareis, Treasurer Havens, and Trustee Laier. Absent Trustee McKenzie. Also present several residents and guests.

A moment of silence to remember Terry Wesner was observed. Motion by Unterbrink supported by Bareis to amend the Agenda to PA 118 for Steven Trinkle and Quit Claim Deed with Michigan Grange, to New Business. Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by Bareis to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2011 regular meeting as submitted. Motion carried.

Mt. Tom Freeman, Deputy Director of Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation, was present to present information and answer questions regarding the purchase of the Easton Farm on Dancer Road. The Treasurer's report was received.

Motion by Laier supported by Bareis to adopt the Pond Ordinance Fee Schedule, draft dated November 2, 2011. Motion carried.

Motion by Havens supported by Laier to table the proposed Village Commercial Zoning Amendment to work session with the Planning Commission, to November 28, 2011 at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Motion by Bareis supported by Laier to table the MTA Education Conference to December. Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by Bareis to authorize Clerk Bareis to sign the audit engagement letter offered by Karl L. Drake, PC, dated October 12, 2011, to complete the 2011-2012 Lima Township Audit. Motion carried.

The proposed CAEA and WWRA Budgets were presented for review and discussion.

Motion by Laier supported by Bareis that the Lima Township Board approve PA 118, Application 2011-005, for Steven and Carol Trinkle, as submitted, subject to favorable approval by the Washtenaw County Conservation District and review by Washtenaw County Strategic Planning. Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by Unterbrink that the Lima Township Board of Trustees proceed with the Michigan Grange Foundation Quit Claim Deed which conveys any interest the Michigan Grange Foundation may have in Lima Township's property to Lima Township, as recommended in Victor Lillieh's communication dated November 7, 2011. Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by Bareis to pay the bills as submitted and any others as required. Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by Havens to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Arlene R. Bareis, Clerk

Publish November 24, 2011

### LEGAL NOTICE

Washtenaw County Purchasing Division is issuing a Request for Proposal for Independence Lake Spray and Play Zone. There is a MANDATORY Pre-Bid meeting scheduled for 2:00 PM on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings Road, Whitmore Lake, MI 48189-9510 at Park Headquarters in the Beach Center followed by a visit to the project site at the Gamble Group Center Pavilion. Detailed specifications may be obtained on the website <http://bids.ewashtenaw.org> click on line bids, then open bids or at the Washtenaw County Finance/Purchasing Department located at 220 North Main Street, Room B-35, Lower Level, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. RFP 6622 Due: Tuesday, December 20, 2011 by 3:00 PM local time. For more information, please call (734) 222-6760.

Publish November 24, 2011

### Washtenaw County Legal Notice

Washtenaw County Purchasing Division is issuing a Request for Proposal for HVAC & Mechanical Services at Various Parks and Recreation Locations. Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Washtenaw County Finance/Purchasing Department located at 220 North Main Street, Room B-35, Lower Level, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. RFP 6651 Due: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 by 4:00pm local time. For more information, please call (734) 222-6760 or log on to our website at <http://bids.ewashtenaw.org> and click on "open bids".

Publish November 24, 2011

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**Dexter Township**  
6880 Dexter-Pinckney Rd.  
Dexter, MI 48130  
(734) 428-3767

Summary of Action of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees  
Regular Board Meeting November 15, 2011

Called to order at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Supervisor Kelly, Treasurer Kooyers, Clerk Rider, Trustees Brushaber, Feinman, Lesser and Maciejewski

Also Present: Patrick Sloan, Director of Planning & Zoning

Absent: None

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, along with General Fund bills totaling \$44,232.04, Fire Fund bills totaling \$44,898.59, Police Fund bills totaling \$41,218.25 and gross Monthly payroll of \$19,745.41.

The Board received committee reports from: Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC), Personnel Policy Committee, Regional Fire Committee, Capital Improvement Plan Committee.

In addition, the Board took the following actions: Agreed to provide up to \$5,000 in matching funds for the purchase of development rights for two parcels of agricultural land, provided that at a minimum, a like amount of private funds are also raised. Amended the General Fund Budget to pay for the Presidential Primary Election that the Michigan Legislature mandated, but did not fund, for February 2012. Agreed to make a request to the Dexter Area Fire Department (DAFD) to provide fire services to Township sections 1 and 2, starting in 2012, when the Putnam Township Fire Department (PTFD) is scheduled to move into its new station that is farther away from those Township sections. Agreed to the 2012 fire services contract with the Chelsea Area Fire Authority for Township section 31 and a portion of section 32. Agreed to a contract with Washtenaw County for Information Technology Support. Agreed to Trustee Feinman's request to attend the Michigan Township Association Annual Educational Conference in January.

The board opened sealed bids for snow plowing for the Township Hall property and awarded the 2011/2012 seasonal contract to Northland Services, LLC.

The Board also regretfully accepted Jim Korcek's and John Shea's resignations from the Planning Commission (PC) and thanked them for their service. The Board confirmed Supervisor Kelly's appointment of Treasurer Kooyers as the Board's representative to the PC, and Martin Ruhlig III fill the remainder of one other vacancy on the PC.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
**Harley B. Rider, Clerk, Dexter Township**

Summary approved by  
**Pat A. Kelly, Supervisor, Dexter Township**

Publish November 24, 2011


THE 24th ANNUAL

# CHELSEA

# Hometown

# HOLIDAY

Friday, Dec. 2 - Sunday, Dec. 4

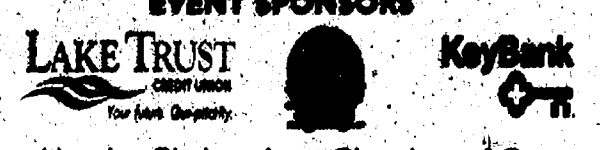


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Teddy Bear Cub Run  
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EVENT SPONSORS



Presented by the Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF DATE FOR DECEMBER REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEBSTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

A CHANGE IN THE DECEMBER REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEBSTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES WILL BE RESCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011 AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE WEBSTER TOWNSHIP HALL, 6685 WEBSTER CHURCH ROAD, DEXTER, MICHIGAN.

Those with disabilities must notify the Township Clerk no less than Seven (7) days prior to the meeting, so that accommodations may be furnished to satisfy their disability and allow for meaningful attendance.

**John Kingsley**  
Supervisor

Publish November 24, 2011

**DEXTER VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
SYNOPSIS OF ACTION TAKEN AT THE REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Keough at the Dexter Senior Center located at 7720 Ann Arbor Street in Dexter, Michigan.

**ROLL CALL:** President Keough, Carson, Cousins, Fisher, Semifero, Smith, Tell

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion Smith; support Fisher to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 24, 2011.

Unanimous voice vote for approval

President Keough introduced Bill McAfee and Bill Eaton from the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, Carpenter-Welch Camp 180. They thanked the Village for their involvement with Gordon Hall and the 2011 Civil War Encampment. Trustee Fisher was honored for her leadership in the planning of the Encampment with a Centennial Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Sons of the Union Veterans.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion Smith; support Fisher to approve the agenda with corrections.

Unanimous voice vote for approval

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Consideration of: Bills and Payroll in the amount of \$202,712.22, 2012 Arbor Day Proclamation

Motion Fisher; support Semifero to approve item 1 and 2 of the consent agenda.

Unanimous voice vote for approval

**NEW BUSINESS-Consideration of and Discussion of:**

Motion Cousins; support Carson to authorize entering into an agreement for professional services for the planning phase of the redevelopment of 3045 Broad Street, the Old Dapco site, not to exceed \$26,500 as outlined in the May 25, 2011 Fee Proposal and summarized in the September 19, 2011 Scope of Services.

Ayes: Cousins, Fisher, Smith, Semifero, Tell, Carson and Keough  
Nays: None

Motion carries

Consideration of: DAPCO Site Plan

Motion Cousins; support Fisher based upon the information received from the applicant, reflected in minutes of this meeting, and in conformance with Section 21.04(E)(3) of the Village of Dexter Zoning Ordinance, the Village Council finds the DAPCO Addition, 2500 Bishop Circle East, combined site plan dated 10-4-11 meets the requirements to recommend the combined site plan.

Ayes: Smith, Semifero, Tell, Carson, Fisher, Cousins and Keough  
Nays: None

Motion carries

Motion Fisher; support Carson to set a Public Hearing on November 28, 2011 to consider an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption request for DAPCO Industries

Ayes: Semifero, Tell, Fisher, Carson, Cousins, Smith and Keough  
Nays: None

Motion carries

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Smith; support Fisher to adjourn at 10:39 PM.

Unanimous voice vote for approval

Respectfully submitted,  
**Carol J. Jones, Clerk, Village of Dexter**

Approved for Filing: November 14, 2011

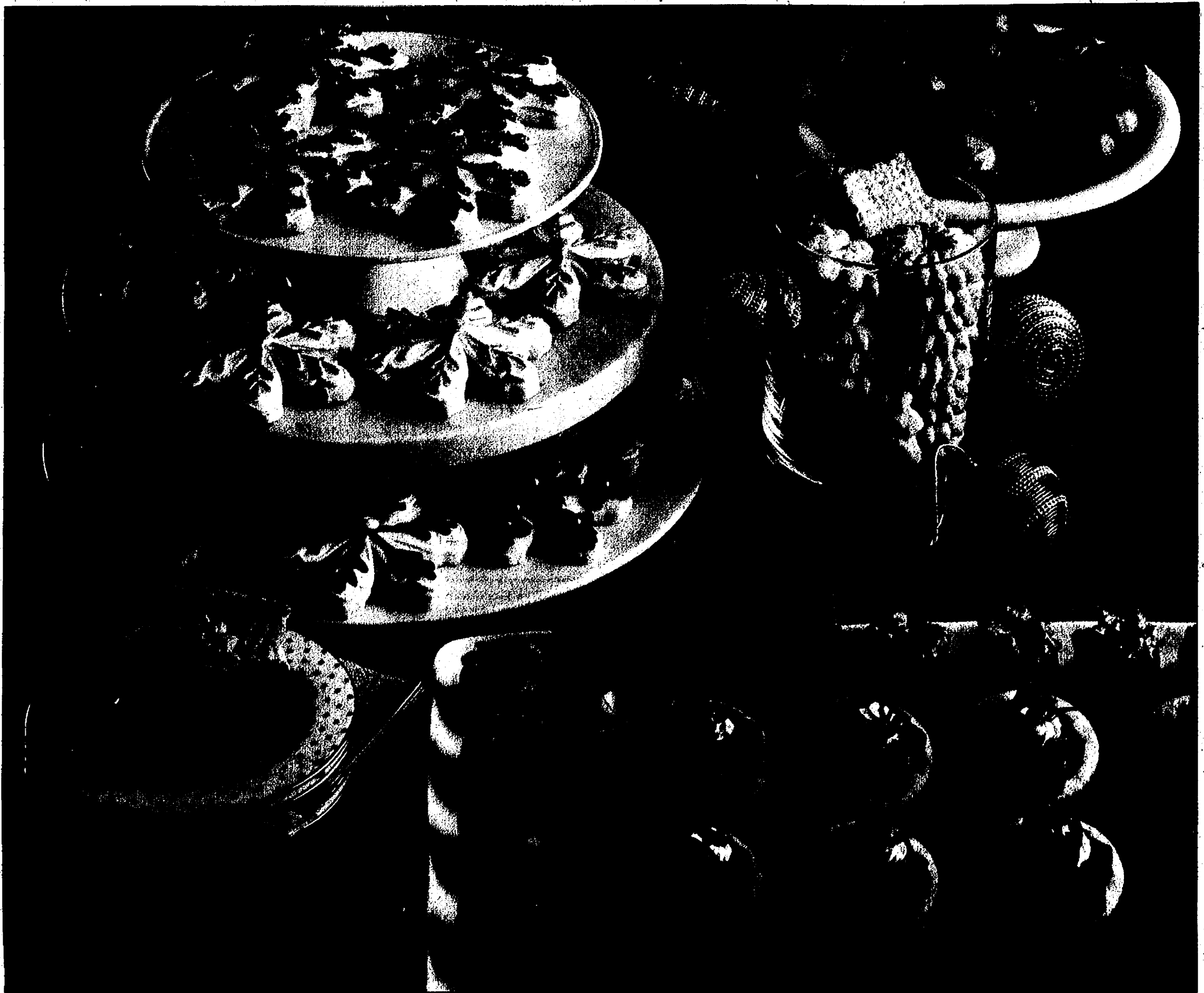
NOTE: This is a synopsis of the Regular Council Meeting. The minutes in their entirety may be viewed at the Village Office at 8123 Main Street, Dexter MI or online at [www.villageofdexter.org](http://www.villageofdexter.org)

Publish November 24, 2011



# FOOD

www.Heritage.com Thursday, November 24, 2011



Snowflake Shortbread Cut-Out Cookies, Mint Chocolate Chip Truffles, Chocolate Raspberry Chip Truffles, Parmesan Pepper Spritz Crackers, Merry Mushroom Bites and Savory Southwest Donuts

## HOST A..... HOLLY JOLLY PARTY

**FAMILY FEATURES**

When it comes to celebrations, there's no season quite like the holiday season. The celebration experts from Wilton share party tips and irresistible recipes to help create a fabulous cocktail buffet complete with all the trimmings.

"It looks like it would take lots of time and effort, but it really doesn't," says Nancy Siler, Vice President of Consumer Affairs at Wilton. "We've worked out all the details to make it easy, elegant and delicious."

Siler suggests setting up a beverage station so guests can serve themselves, or recruit a friend to help prepare and serve your signature cocktails — sugar-finned Cheery Cranberry Mojitos and colorful All Aglow Melon-tinis that twinkle with sparkle gel. And for a warm beverage choice, offer rich, thick hot chocolate garnished with frothy snowmen, peppermint curls or chocolate candy-coated marshmallows.

"When it comes to the food, a mix of savory and sweet is a must," Siler adds. "Tree-shaped Merry Mushroom Bites and tiny Savory Southwest Donuts piped with avocado to resemble a wreath will wow both the eye and the palate. For another unexpected twist on tradition, stack peppery spritz crackers in a clear glass canister."

And for the sweets, beautifully decorated snowflake shaped holiday butter cookies are displayed on stacked pedestal plates alongside a bowl of truffles adorned with festive candy drizzles and luminescent pearl dust. Both treats make a fitting finale — and can be made in advance.

For more holiday recipe and decorating ideas, visit [www.wilton.com](http://www.wilton.com).

### Parmesan Pepper Spritz Crackers

- Makes about 7 dozen crackers
- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
  - 1/2 teaspoon cracked black pepper
  - 1/2 teaspoon ground white pepper
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 2 cups (about 8 ounces) grated Parmesan cheese
  - 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
  - 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
  - 1/3 cup milk

Preheat oven to 375°F.

In small bowl, combine flour, black pepper, white pepper and salt. In large bowl, beat cheese, butter and garlic until smooth. Gradually add flour mixture to cheese mixture. Mix until dough forms a ball. Gradually add milk, mixing until fully incorporated. Shape into small logs and place in Cookie Master Ultra II. Using desired disk, press crackers onto ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 11 to 13 minutes or until edges are light golden brown. Cool 2 minutes on cookie sheet on cooling grid. Remove from sheet and cool completely. Store in airtight container up to 1 week.

See step-by-step instructions for Mint Chocolate Chip Truffles, Chocolate Raspberry Chip Truffles and Snowflake Shortbread Cut-Out Cookies on [www.wilton.com](http://www.wilton.com).

### Merry Mushroom Bites

- Makes 24 bites
- 1/3 cup diced yellow onion
  - 3 tablespoons butter
  - 12 ounces portobello or baby portobello mushrooms, coarsely diced
  - 4 teaspoons finely chopped fresh rosemary
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons black pepper
  - 3 eggs
  - 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons salt
  - 1 package (4 ounces) water or other favorite crackers
  - 1/2 cup sour cream
  - 1/2 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
  - Chopped rosemary or parsley (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare Bite-Size Silicone Tree Mold with vegetable pan spray.

In large skillet, cook onion and butter over medium-low heat stirring occasionally until soft, about 5 minutes. Add mushrooms, rosemary and black pepper; cook until liquid has evaporated, about 10 minutes; cool slightly. Transfer mixture to food processor. Add eggs, flour, and salt. Pulse until mixture is pureed with no large pieces of mushroom or onion. Fill cavities of silicone mold completely with mushroom mixture, patting flat.

Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until top of the mushroom mixture is firm. Cool in pan 15 minutes, carefully remove and place on cracker. Top with sour cream, sliced red pepper and, if desired, rosemary. Serve warm or at room temperature.

### Savory Southwest Donuts

- Makes about 36 mini donuts
- 1 tablespoon ground paprika, divided
  - 1-1/2 cups cake flour
  - 1-1/4 teaspoons baking powder
  - 3/4 teaspoon ground cumin
  - 1/2 to 3/4 teaspoon ground chipotle chili powder
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 3/4 cup milk
  - 1 egg
  - 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
  - 1 garlic clove, finely minced
  - 2 tablespoons finely chopped cilantro

#### Topping

- 1 ripe avocado
- 1 teaspoon lime juice
- Salt to taste
- Additional chopped cilantro

Preheat oven to 400°F. Spray Mini-Donut Pan with vegetable pan spray. Lightly sprinkle wells with some of the paprika.

In large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, cumin, chili powder and salt. In second bowl, whisk together milk, egg, oil, garlic and cilantro. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir just until flour is moistened. Fill each donut cavity about 1/2 full.

Bake 5 to 7 minutes or until the top of the donuts spring back when touched. Let cool in pan 4 to 5 minutes before removing. Wash pan, dry thoroughly and prepare with pan spray and paprika. Repeat with remaining batter.

For topping, mash avocado with lime juice and salt; stir until smooth using a whisk or in a food processor. Pipe avocado mixture over top of cooled donuts. Sprinkle with cilantro. Serve immediately.

### All Aglow Melon-tinis

- Makes 1 cocktail
- Wilton Red Sparkle Gel
  - 2 ounces green melon liqueur
  - 1 ounce lemon flavored vodka
  - 1 ounce bottled sour mix
  - 2 ounces club soda
  - Maraschino cherries (optional)
- Squeeze Wilton Red Sparkle Gel around the inside of a martini glass.
- In cocktail shaker filled with ice, combine melon liqueur, vodka, sour mix and club soda; shake well. Strain into martini glass. Garnish with maraschino cherries.

### Cheery Cranberry Mojitos

- Makes 1 cocktail
- 6 fresh torn mint leaves, plus additional sprigs for garnish
  - 1/2 lime, cut into four wedges
  - 1 tablespoon dried cranberries
  - 2 tablespoons Wilton Red Colored Sugars, plus additional for garnish
  - 2 ounces rum
  - 3 ounces cranberry juice
  - 2 ounces club soda
- In tall glass, thoroughly muddle mint leaves, lime wedges, cranberries, and red sugar. Add rum, cranberry juice and club soda and stir. Add ice and additional

### Peppermint Blitz Hot Chocolate

- Makes about 4 servings
- 1 quart (4 cups) milk
  - 1 cup (about 6 ounces) Wilton Dark Cocoa Candy Melts, roughly chopped
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 3/4 teaspoon peppermint extract
  - 3 ounces chocolate liqueur (optional)
  - 1 ounce peppermint liqueur (optional)
- In a large pot over medium-low flame, heat milk and Candy Melts, whisking frequently, until boiling. Remove from heat. Stir in extracts and liqueurs, if using. Garnish with peppermint sticks or curls or snowman decorations





Heritage Media monster

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Legal Notices 1050

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF WASHTENAW NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Raymond O. Golden, Deceased Date of Birth: April 19, 1941

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Raymond O. Golden, Deceased, who lived at 2133 Yorktown, Ann Arbor, Michigan, died November 5, 2010.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to James Scott Golden, named co-personal representative, or to both the probate court of 101 E. Huron Street, Box 8645, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C. Norman E. Richards - Bar no. P55762 32300 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 200 Farmington Hills, MI (248)785-4724

November 16, 2011 James Scott Golden 818 Grove Acre Avenue Pacific Grove, CA 93950 (831)277-8942

Publish November 24, 2011

The Saline Police Department will auction to the highest bidder the following vehicles:

2003 Dodge Van Unknown mileage Condition: poor 11-5711

1998 Toyota Unknown mileage Condition: front damage 11-5696

The auction will take place on Wednesday, November 30, 2011, at 9 AM, 820 West Michigan, Saline, Michigan, 48176. Minimum bid requirements must be met at time of auction.

Publish November 24, 2011

Lost 1060

LOST BLACK and White chubby cat. Near Kings & Gohl in Lincoln Park. 313-388-0666

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Business Opportunity 4030

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Miscellaneous for Sale 2190

Business Opportunity 4030

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Drivers 4050

Attention CDL-A OTR DRIVERS Up to 41 cents/mi. Full Benefits Pkg. Vacation after 6 months Home Time \$1,000 sign-on Bonus 1-888-560-9644 www.whitelane-express.com

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AIRLINES ARE HIRING- Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Housing available. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance (877)818-0783

SEEKING OPERATED 4X4'S WITH PLOWS for snow removal work in Dearborn. ALSO seeking OPERATED FRONT END LOADERS. Competitive rates and steady work. Email: whitelaneexpress@gmail.com

Restaurant/Hotel 4130

Chelsea, Cleary's Pub exp. Line Cook, competitive wages Apply within or (313) 407-8543

Celebrations 1020

Situations Wanted 4160

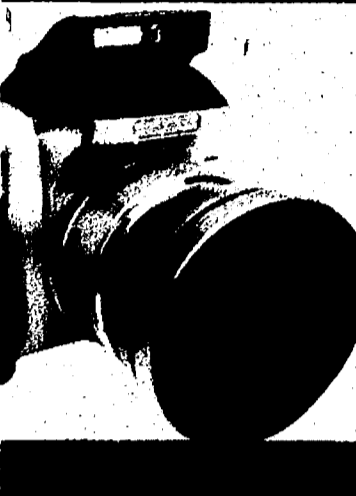
CAREGIVER: Grosse Ile - NEEDED for overnight hours 9p-7a for 10y male - days are varied but consistent - 4 to 5 days wk. - perfect for responsible teen or senior-pay negotiable - 313-778-0098 leave message.

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Auctions/Estate Sales 2040

NOTICE... is hereby given that on Deember 2nd, 2011 at 12:00 pm Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Road, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111 is holding a public auction.

Table listing names and phone numbers for various individuals: M-587 Brian Batts, M-575 Ginger Lynn Smith, L-506 Crystal Scott-Brown, M-572, M-367 Janice Jones, G-475 Joseph Edwards, L-403 Kimberly Soldin, L-536 Wanda Lawson, M-589, G-519.

Miscellaneous for Sale 2190

Bargain Hunters Free Bulletin Board \*Merchandise for Sale \$100 & less. Includes a form to choose a publication and a mailing address: Classified Bargain Hunter HERITAGE NEWSPAPERS 1 Heritage Dr., Ste. 100, Southgate, MI 48195



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**Arts/Crafts/Bazaar 2030**

**DEALER SPACE** avail. - Antique's - Downtown Stockbridge booth rental. 810-923-7566

**Cemetery Lots 2080**

**MICHIGAN MEMORIAL** 3 lots for sale. 248-668-0884

**MICHIGAN MEMORIAL** Cemetery, 6 prime grave sites all together in Serenity Garden section 8 248-767-7455

**MICHIGAN Memorial** Cemetery lots. 6 at \$1000 per lot or \$5500 for all (734) 697-4628

**MICHIGAN MEMORIAL** Park Cemetery, inside the Mausoleum, Niche for sale \$1500. 734-672,7126

**Firewood/Fuel 2140**

**BEST QUALITY** Hardwood, seasoned, clean, \$75/face cord. Local delivery free. Downriver. 734-475-9752

**FIREWOOD SEASONED** Mixed hardwood, \$50/face cord. You pick up. Call before 8:30pm. 734-475-9752

**SEASONED MIX** Hardwood, Oak, Maple, Hickory, 1 face cord del. \$65, stacked \$75. 734-757-5434

**Bargain Hunter 2145**

**1960'S RADIO/ 33-78** record/ tape player console, wood. 32x16x24 \$98. 734-662-6274

**BRASS BED** frame head/foot boards. Full size OLD. \$99. 734-662-6274

**JACK LALANNE** juicer used 6x. \$45. 734-904-5336

**Furniture 2150**

**QUEEN P-TOP MATTRESS SET** New, Factory sealed must sell \$100. 734-730-3419

**Garage/Runnige Sales 2160**

**ALLEN PARK** Moving sale furniture and house hold items. call for appt. 313-410-7799

**Miscellaneous for Sale 2190**

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**WANTED DIABETIC** test strips-cash paid up to \$20 per 100 strips 734-328-2614 www.diabeticstripswanted.com

**WANTED YOUR DIABETES TEST STRIPS.** Unexpired. We buy Any Kind/Brand. Pay up to \$22.00 per box. Shipping Paid. Hablamos español. Call 1-800-267-9895 www.SellDiabeticstrips.com

**Musical Instruments 2210**

**SCASHS FOR GUITARS & All** musical instruments wanted, any condition. Will pick up. 313-424-9212

**Sporting Goods 2240**

**Michigan Antique Arms Collectors** 500 table show, Nov. 24-27. Antique and modern fire arms, knives. Buy/Sell/Trade. Suburban Collection Showplace 46100 Grand River Rd. Novi. Admission \$6, open to public 9am. Information 248-556-6590

**Animals 3000**



**WARNING: ADS FOR FREE PETS** A beloved pet deserves a loving, caring home. The ad for your free pet may draw response from individuals who wish sell your animal for the purpose or research or breeding. Please be sure to screen respondents carefully when giving an animal away. Your pet will thank you!

**Pets 3020**

**BEAUTIFUL PERSIAN** Kittens silver shaded, \$300/ea. 313-932-3124

**CHECK OUT** These Listings For the Best Deals Or To Advertise Your Automobile Call Classified Today!

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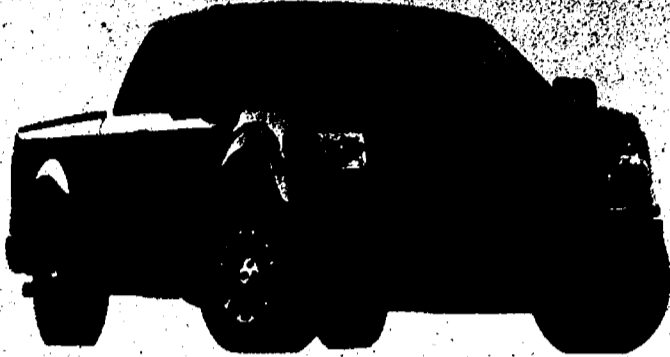
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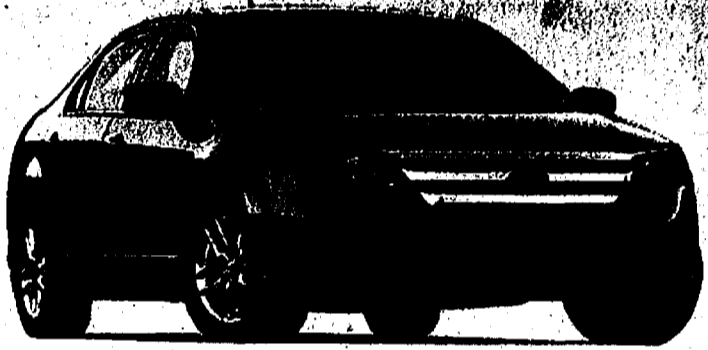
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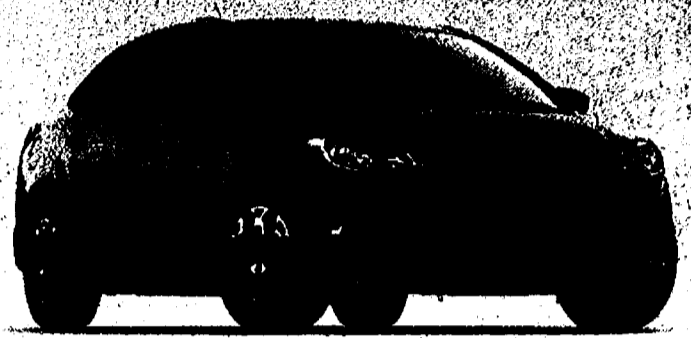


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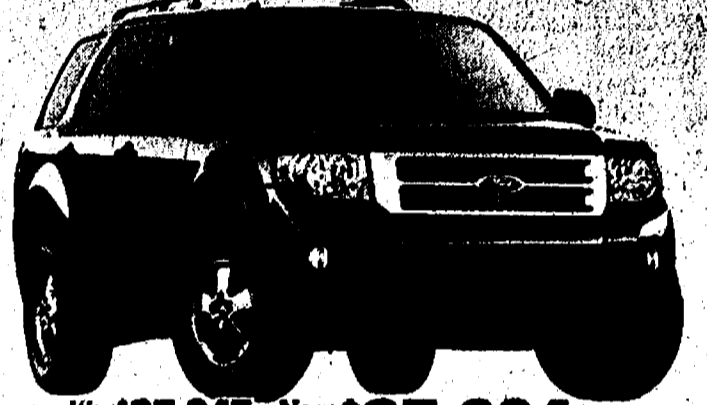
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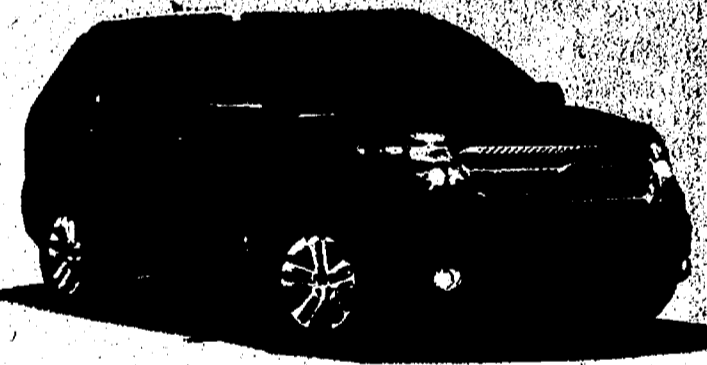
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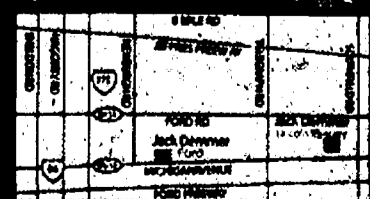
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# CHELSEA SPORTS



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Thursday, November 24, 2011

## SWIMMING STATE FINALS Chelsea saves the best for last at States

The Chelsea girls' swim and dive team finished up the 2011 season at Oakland University on Friday and Saturday at the MHSAA Division 3 state finals. The girls entered the weekend facing an uphill climb, as only one of their five events was seeded to advance out of the preliminaries.

When the dust settled on Friday, Chelsea had earned one swim in the finals and had missed the cut on three other swims by a combined total of 0.77 seconds.

Chelsea coach Dave Jolly was extremely pleased with the overall effort.

"All of our swims were able to drop time during the preliminaries, which was great for the girls," he said.

"We fell just short of making the finals in three races, but of the 11 girls that are at the state meet, only two are seniors. We are going to be looking forward to a successful state meet next year."

The 200 medley relay team of Maddie Doman, Jillian Dixon, River Jensen and Talia Dyerly dropped nearly 4 seconds, to a time of 1:57.92, which was good enough to move up to 18th place, just two places out of swimming in the finals.

Chelsea had two divers representing the team in the preliminaries, after

Lena Cashman did not advance out of the regional dive meet. Sarah Carrara and Kayla Whipple, who both performed well at the regional dive meet, were unable to make it past the first cut (five dives) of the state meet.

Dyerly was able to post a time of 55.39, which earned her a tie for 18th place and missed swimming in the finals by 0.04 seconds.

The 200 freestyle relay team of Dyerly, Jensen, Katie Olsen and Dixon was able to post a 1:45.31, earning them a 19th place finish.

The preliminary session wrapped up with the 400 freestyle relay team of Dyerly, Alex Duncan, Jensen and Dixon dropping 7 seconds and earning 14th place in 3:50.14.

In the finals on Saturday, the 400 freestyle relay, with the team of Dyerly, Dixon, Jensen and Katie Easley, was able to drop over 2 seconds again, which helped them move up one more spot to finish in 13th place with a time of 3:47.86.

The relay dropped nearly 10 seconds on the weekend, which reflects the hard work put in all season by the group of girls.

Chelsea ended the state meet in 31st place with eight points.

## Locked & Loaded!



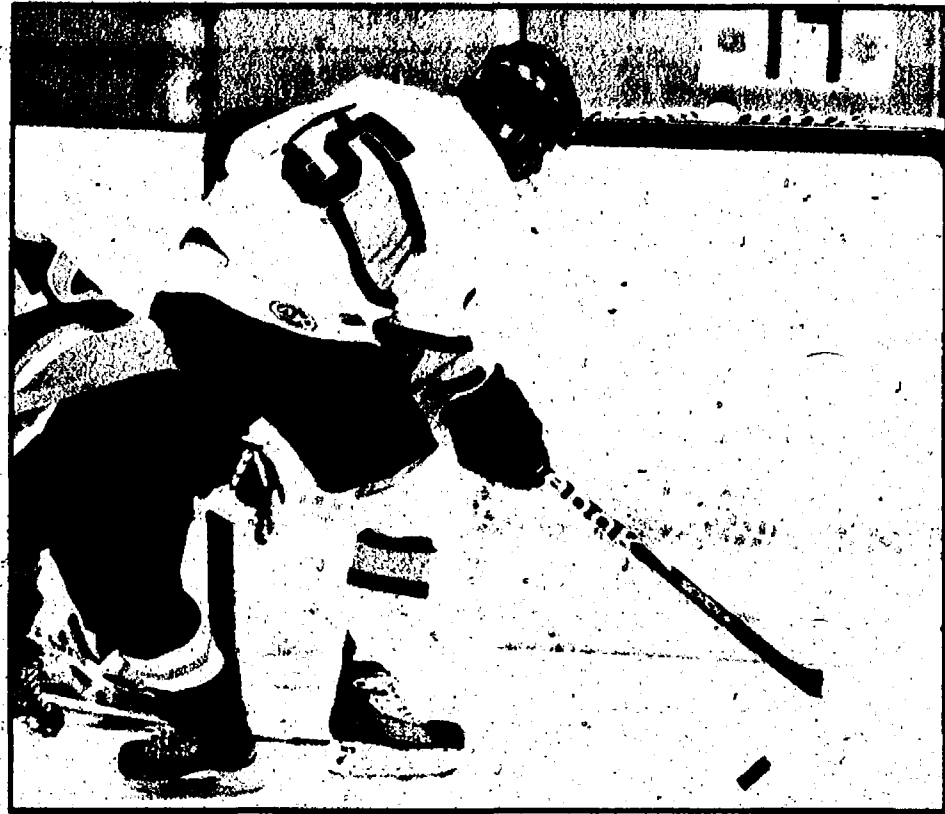
## Bulldogs open with a bang: Rout Riverview

By Terry Jacoby  
Heritage Media

How's that for starters! The Chelsea Bulldogs got a hat trick from Joe Hewitt, solid goaltending from Chris Boyd and an impressive all-around team effort to open the hockey season on Saturday night in impressive fashion. The result was a 10-2 mercy-rule victory over visiting Riverview in the season opener for the Bulldogs.

Joe Hewitt scored his three goals after two periods as Chelsea built a 7-2 lead heading into the third period. They ended up finishing off the visiting Pirates midway through the third.

"We worked hard, moved the puck around and ended up with a couple of rushes," Hewitt said. And they buried many of those



Photos by Burrill Strong

Joe Hewitt (above) had three goals as the Bulldogs celebrated a 10-2 win.

rushes in the back of the Riverview net.

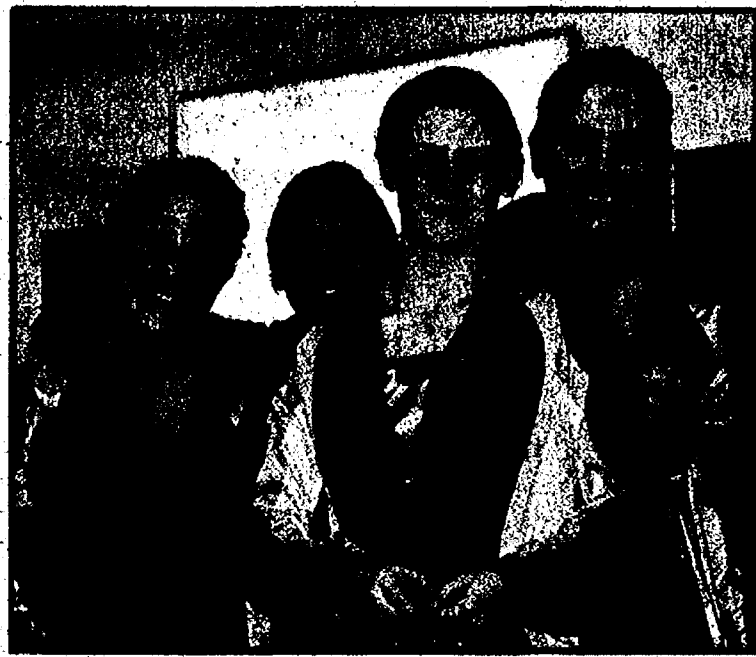
"We definitely have a lot of forwards coming back and should be offensively strong this year," Hewitt added.

Kody Johnson, one of several talented seniors in the Chelsea lineup,

believes the Bulldogs have plenty of talent to succeed this season.

"Our goal is always to make it as far as we can in the playoffs," he said. "We need to play our own game and play at our pace, move

PLEASE SEE BULLDOGS/4-C



Photos by Cynthia Mahalak

TOP: The 400 freestyle relay team of Katie Easley, Hannah Mahalak, Maddie Doman and Maria Eke. ABOVE: The 200 medley relay team of Mahalak, River Jensen, Jillian Dixon and Talia Dyerly.



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See video of six Chelsea goals and postgame interviews with Joe Hewitt and Kody Johnson.



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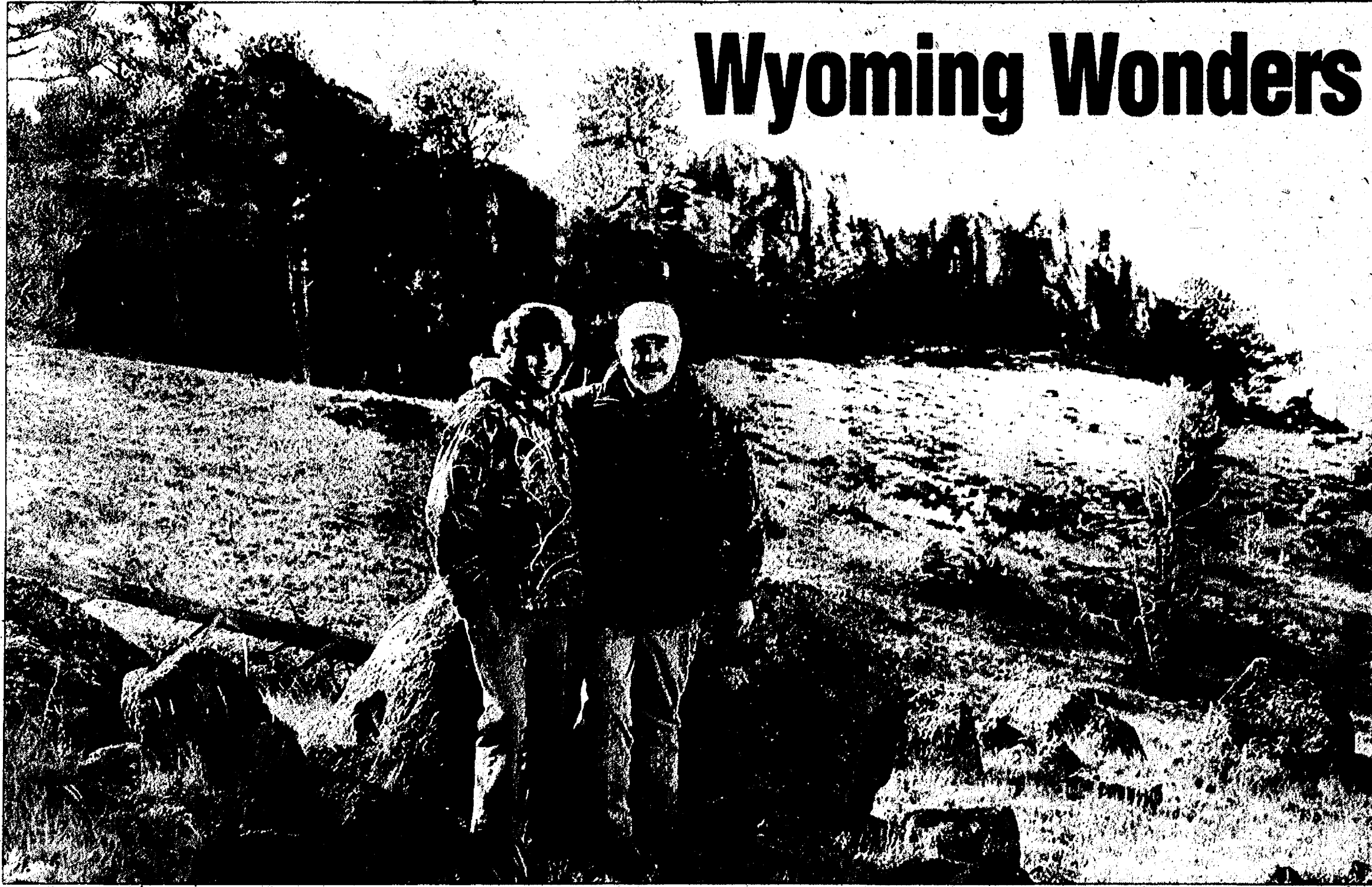
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# OUTDOORS

## HUNTING IN WYOMING: PART III

# Wyoming Wonders



## Treasures and memories just part of the hunt

Outdoors writer Rick Taylor recently traveled to the Moriah Ranch in south-east Wyoming for a little hunting and fishing expedition. Taylor was invited to hunt the secluded ranch by owner Stu Phillips. The following is Part III of his story.

### TAYLOR MADE ADVENTURES



RICK TAYLOR

**T**he rock band U2 has nothing to do with hunting but the narrator in their most recent documentary (From the Sky Down) discussed why men group together to form a band. Whether it's a rock band, football team or a group of hunters one thing is for certain; there's an undeniable kindred spirit among men who group together with a common goal in mind.

This may have something to do with that whole "Men Are from Mars" thing that we've heard about our whole lives. Whether it's native Indians grouping together to form a hunting party eons ago or a group of guys hunting at the Moriah Ranch today; we were meant to bond together.

Perhaps it's why Deer Camp is so important to families and why they love to pass on their passions to their children and friends. Ok, back to the elk hunt...

I had walked to the top of the Pinto Mountains to see if I could get reception in the hopes of calling my wife to give her the good news of my hunt. I finally made it to the summit and there's about a 20 yard area that's fairly level with a grouping of about a dozen boulders that anyone could easily sit on. I looked at those rocks and wondered if native Indians ever sat

on those boulders getting ready for a hunt. I stood there imagining what they would have been wearing, what language they were speaking and what they were saying to each other. These Indians could have been here 200 years ago or 10,000 years ago.

I pictured them eating dried meats, discussing strategy and spending a great deal of time making arrow heads

commonly referred to as Flint Knapping. I sat down on one of those boulders to catch my breath and looked down; a little to my left and a little to my right. I saw a rock about the size of a quarter that had no business being there. It had been cleaved; purposely cut by using another rock. I picked up this rock and immediately knew a native Indian had indeed worked on making an arrow head at this very spot.

It moved me emotionally because I felt their presence on that mountain top. There we were; two hunters from a different time but both having the same spirit on that mountain top. I looked around a bit more and found other cleaved rocks and brought them back to the ranch. I would never take them back home without asking Stu permission first; thankfully he said yes. What a treasure, arguably the best geological find in my life.

I wasn't the only one who had an amazing hunting experience. There were 8 other guys who also had a very personal connection to this magical ranch. Every single hunter with an elk license eventually tagged out; simply unbelievable when you think about it.

But, elk wasn't the only thing we were hunting



Top: Stu Phillips and his son Stephen Phillips on their ranch in Wyoming. Above: Rick Taylor and his family - Ava, Rick's daughter, didn't recognize him because of the beard. Below: A few of the rocks Rick Taylor found in Wyoming.

here. A few of the guys had Pronghorn Antelope licenses they hoped to fill. The pronghorn antelope is the fastest land animal in North America. They don't hide in the woods or draws; they prefer to hide in plain sight. They'll rest in the wide open plains and won't let you get within a quarter mile before bolting out of there. They know how fast they are and it's very difficult to get close to them. And, man, when they run they're going 45 miles an hour.

Three of the fellow hunters did indeed fill their antelope licenses but it wasn't easy. I had the privilege of watching 2 hunts unfold before my very eyes. I wasn't able to get an antelope license this year but you can bet I'll try next time should the opportunity present itself.

We spent more time fly fishing for trout and had a great time passing the time by doing so. I also brought along my .223 caliber rifle for some Prairie Dog hunting. Prairie dogs are similar to ground hogs but are about half the size. Prairie dogs burrow holes in the ground and this ranch had no shortage of them.

Prairie dogs are problematic because livestock like cattle roaming the ranch can break their legs by stepping into these burrows. A cow's life expectancy pretty much ends right there if it breaks a

leg from a prairie dog hole. Ranchers waste no time in shooting prairie dogs given the opportunity and I was happy to try out my long distance shooting myself.

I didn't have to remind myself that I'm doing the ranch owner a favor by shooting these creatures in order to save livestock. However, I must admit that shooting prairie dogs from 50 to 300 yards was a heck of a fun way to spend an hour or two in the field.

There were so many prairie dogs out there that I'd shoot one and another would pop up right next to it. I could see dozens of their heads popping out of the ground as far as I could see the entire time I was out there. Let's just say the .223 did the job efficiently and I happily went through four boxes of ammunition.

The time at the Moriah Ranch was slowly coming to an end. We had spent over a week here but soon began preparing for the long drive home. Gary, Stu and I finally

packed up all our gear and said our goodbyes to the last few guys at the ranch.

It was day nine when we finally hit the road in Stu's Hummer and tow behind trailer.

We had one last stop before hitting the interstate and that was the meat processor that had butchered our elk a few days earlier. We filled up both chest

freezers in Stu's trailer with elk and hit the highway. Stu, Gary and I knew this drive was going to be a long one; especially towing a trailer with a lot of weight in it. We joked that driving through Nebraska was like driving through Dante's inferno.

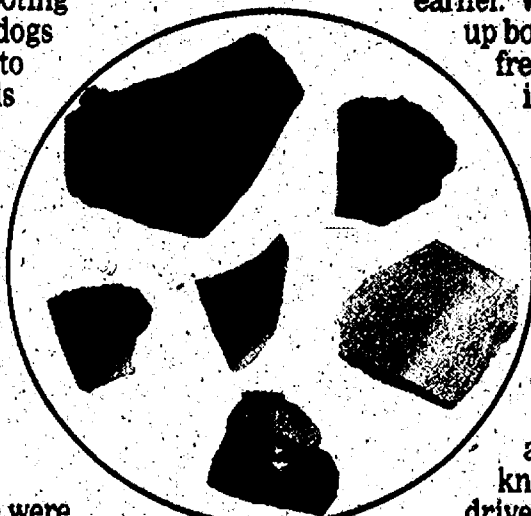
But seriously, who needs a state that long? We each took turns driving and had a few laughs along the way. Gary hit the lottery when he found a radio station that covered the MSU football game. It was a long game for me personally but Gary was in his glory when MSU threw a Hall Mary pass at the end

of the game to win it. As my dad always said "I'd rather be lucky than good!" Just kidding, Gary. I felt so blessed to finally see our state sign welcoming us back home; it felt good knowing we were just a few hours away. I put the hammer down and nobody complained about my driving; we all wanted to be near our loved ones sooner than later.

The sun began to come up as we made our way through Albion; what a glorious morning. I called my wife soon after and asked her to meet me in Chelsea.

We pulled into Stu's driveway and our trip was over just like that. We were unloading the trailer when I looked up and saw my beautiful wife pulling into the driveway. Man, did I miss her. This trip never would have happened without her selflessly watching our kids for 10 days. Shelley came out of the car and brought out our year old daughter Ava. She didn't recognize me in the beard I was sporting and that was all I needed to shave it off later that day.

Gary, Stu and I shook hands and thanked each other for an amazing time. I waved goodbye while driving away when my wife looked over at me with that beautiful smile and said "welcome home honey." Boy, don't you know it.





# Wolverines welcome Nebraska to the Big Ten

**W**elcome to the Big Ten, Nebraska. Or, more appropriately, welcome to Ann Arbor. It's been a long time since your football team made the trip to Big House.

And on Saturday the Wolverines were more than happy to play host.

You see, there may not have been any power in much of the stadium, but on the field, there was more than enough electricity.

And the Wolverines used it to their advantage as they outplayed the seemingly overwhelmed Cornhuskers.

But aside from the beating that went on the field, Nebraska has one thing it should be incredibly proud of: the Cornhuskers had an outstanding showing of fans Saturday.

The visitor's section was packed with red sweaters and jackets, and the spotting of red was evident around the stadium.

It's more than clear that the Husker faithful love their team.

And I already love the Nebraska fans.

I even got a chance to get somewhat up close and personal with a few members of Husker Nation.

As I was driving to the game (I tend to park away from the stadium and walk to the Big House), I passed Grizzly Peak Brewing, and while I stopped to wait for the car in front of me, I was approached by three very rowdy, very inebriated Cornhuskers.

I thought they were going to ask for directions to the stadium. I was wrong.

"Hey, I'll give you \$20 for a ride to the game," one said. I told him as politely as I could that I wasn't driving to the stadium.

"Will you take \$40?" I had no desire to brave the traffic to get these three yahoos to the stadium. But then again, 40 bucks is 40 bucks.

"...climb on in," I said. To say that these gentlemen harbored a hatred for the Michigan football team was an understatement.

In fact, they seemed to hate everything about our wonderful mitten state.

They bantered about how Michigan girls were the ugliest in the Big Ten. They told me they could never live here, as the real estate market was just "accrocious."

(That's not a typo.) Then they started telling me the finer points of Nebraska football lore.

They spoke in strange metaphors that can only make sense to people who have ingested a large amount of alcohol in a short period of time.

"Letting Nebraska into the Big Ten is like letting a fox into a china shop..."

Then they discovered the window cranks to my car, and proceeded to roll down the windows and scream, "LET'S GO BIG RED!" for about two blocks.

Finally, we got to our destination and I bid them farewell. One of them handed me a pair of twenty dollar bills, and I told them to enjoy the game.

Even after all the bad things they said about the Michigan football team, and Michigan as a whole, I wanted them to have a good time at the Big House.

You see, with Nebraska being new to the conference and still looking for a main rival, it's logical to think Cornhuskers could fill that void.

As I watched those tipsy Husker fans walk away, I couldn't help but feel like this was the start of a brand new rivalry.

I also couldn't help but feel a little twang of guilt, as I had dropped them off at Crisler Arena.

I love Nebraska fans. Contact Mike Larson at (734) 429-7380 or mlarson@A2Journal.com.



MIKE LARSON



## Dexter's Adam Cares honored

Adam Cares was selected to the Capital One Division III Academic All-District VI Football Team on Thursday, Nov. 10. Voted on by members of CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America), the team recognizes the top sophomores, junior and seniors with a minimum GPA of 3.3. District VI includes all Division III schools in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.



Cares is a senior defensive lineman from Dexter carrying a 3.744 GPA as a business major. Before suffering a season-ending injury during the seventh game, Cares had 29 tackles, including 12 for lost yardage. Despite missing the last three games, Cares led the Hornets and finished second in the MIAA with seven sacks, a figure that also ranks third in school history.

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## Youth basketball tryouts

The WWBA Warriors, an AAU football program based in western Washtenaw County, will host tryouts for its 7th and 8th boys' travel teams on Saturday, Dec. 3. Tryouts will be held in the Chelsea High School gym from 1:30-3:30 p.m. For more information about WWBA, please visit wwbawarriors.wordpress.com.

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## Dexter's Steavenson making waves

Albion College first-year student-athlete Laura Steavenson has been named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Women's Swimmer of the Week in the wake of her performance in the Corbiere-Merion Invitational Nov. 19-20.



Steavenson, an Ann Arbor native who prepped at Dexter High School, led the Britons to a second-place finish among five teams in the meet. She won the 200-yard freestyle in 1:59.77, the second-best time among MIAA freestylers in the event so far this season. She also swam the anchor leg on Albion's winning 400 freestyle relay team, posting a split of 55.91 seconds on her leg. She also swam the anchor leg on the Britons' winning 800 freestyle relay team and the 400 medley relay team that finished second at the meet.

Steavenson also finished second in the 200 individual medley (2:21.13) and in the 1,650 freestyle (18:54.53).

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# BULLDOGS

FROM PAGE 1-C

the puck around and score goals."

Sounds easy. And on Saturday night it looked easy.

But coach Don Wright knows there are challenges ahead even with his experienced and talented roster.

"You are always happy with a win and I thought we did a lot of good things," Wright said. "We got a little sloppy in the second period and didn't play as disciplined as I would like. And (Riverview) took advantage of that."

"We played a strong first period and then lost our focus a little in the second period. We played much better in the third period, especially on the defensive end. Overall, we worked hard and scored some nice goals."

Staying healthy is one of the keys for this year's Chelsea team and so is playing smart, team-orientated hockey.

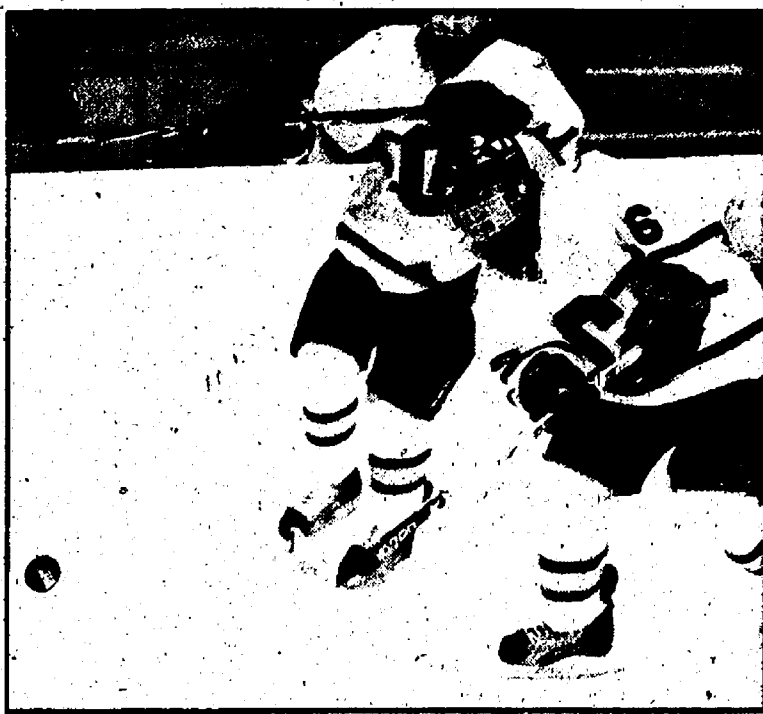
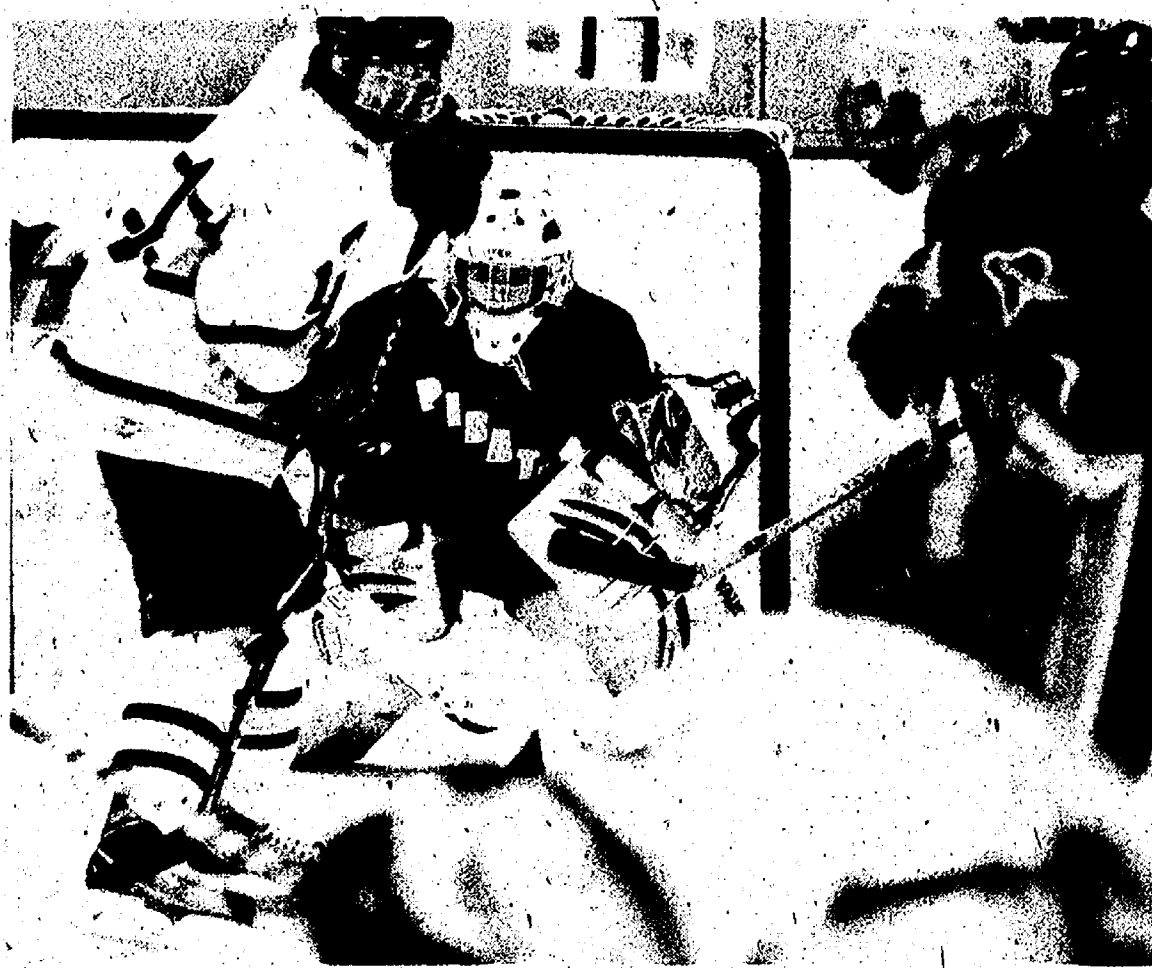
"The main thing is that we have to get better in every game," Wright said. "And we have to stay disciplined. We had a couple of penalties that we have to be a little smarter about. We have to play smart, play together and get better."

Saturday's certainly started fast and furious as both teams came flying out of the gate.

After Chelsea goalie Chris Boyd had to spread out on the ice to make several big stops in the first minute, Chelsea's Kody Johnson found himself on a breakaway only to be stopped by Riverview freshman netminder Russell Stewart.

After a questionable penalty, Chelsea scored the game's first goal short-handed. Anthony Catalina and Hewitt found themselves on a two-on-one and didn't waste the opportunity. Catalina made a nice pass to Hewitt, who beat Stewart with a nice move and shot in the upper corner at the 13:04 mark of the first period to give the Bulldogs a 1-0 lead.

The Bulldogs killed the rest of the power play and



Photos by Burrill Strong

The Bulldogs kept the pressure on the visiting Riverview Pirates all night long in a 10-2 rout in the season opener.

went on their own power play a few minutes later. Stewart came up with a few nice saves before Chelsea was called for another penalty and the teams played four-on-four for 1 minute. The Bulldogs were able to kill the rest of the power play.

The Bulldogs took a 2-0 lead at 6:58 of the first period when Taylor Atchley tipped a shot from the point past Russell, who had no chance on the redirection.

The teams played fairly even the rest of the first

period. The Bulldogs started strong in the second period and made it 3-0 at the 15:23 mark on a goal by Austin Sullens. Kyle Whipple took the puck behind the Riverview net and put it out front to Sullens, who buried it for Chelsea.

Riverview quickly answered, getting on the board at 14:39 of the second period on a nice goal by David Grunwald.

But the Bulldogs got it right back. At 13:38,

Chelsea's Connor Carry carried the puck down the left side and flipped it in front of the net to Sullens. The senior deflected it past the Riverview goalie who again had little chance on the shot and the Bulldogs went up 4-1.

The Pirates made it 4-2 at the 7:56 mark of the second period on a great pass from Timothy Lyons to Gerald Heistowski who fired a shot past Boyd.

Stewart made another nice save, this time on a shot from dead center by Brad Hepler at 6:10 of the second period to keep it a two-goal game. But at 5:23, Hewitt got behind the Riverview defense, made a nice move on Stewart and buried the shot to give Chelsea a 5-2 lead.

Less than a minute later, Hewitt carded his hat trick on a great individual effort, scoring on a tough angle while falling to the ice to make it 6-2.

The Pirates switched goalies, but it didn't matter. At 4:19, Tyler Fullerton came in down the left side and fired a shot in the upper corner that beat Zachary Woolcott and Chelsea led 7-2.

Chelsea scored early in the third period (14:50) on a goal by Kyle Whipple to make it 8-2. Whipple, who played a solid game all night, scored again at 7:56 to make it 9-2.

A few seconds later, Chelsea's Mack Sullivan scored to make it 10-2 and the game was called because of the mercy rule with 7:35 left in the third period.

# Lions welcome best after beating worst

Putting up 49 points against anybody—even a two-win Carolina team—should have the Lions feeling good about themselves heading into a Thanksgiving Day matchup with the Packers Thursday.

So what if Detroit trailed by 13 points at half time and had to erase a 24-7 deficit at home? The Lions are 7-3 and are doing everything in their power to avoid their annual tailspin, unlike some teams I know; I'm looking at you, Buffalo.

Granted, the Lions are playing a dangerous game—gaining notoriety for being the "Comeback Cats" or "Cardiac Cats" or whichever nickname they're going by these days, the Lions have eclipsed their win total from a year ago before Thanksgiving.

Talks of exiling Matthew Stafford are surely silenced after a 355-yard, five touchdown performance against Carolina. As brilliant as the third-year quarterback was after starting 3-8 with two interceptions, it was the resurgence of Kevin Smith that made the difference Sunday.

Smith, in his second tour of duty with the Lions, gashed the Panthers for 140 yards and two scores, to the tune of 8.8 yards per carry. While he isn't the organization's long-term answer, Detroit has finally found its stopgap until Jahvid Best returns from his concussion.

While Sunday's offensive outpouring was impressive, scoring 35 points in the second half, don't expect a repeat performance with the defending Super Bowl Champion and currently unbeaten Green Bay Packers coming to town.

All-Pro quarterback Aaron Rodgers is completing 72.9 percent of his passes and has thrown for 28 touchdowns against just three interceptions through 10 games. The seventh-year quarterback is having his best season as a pro and has Green Bay comfortably atop the NFC North.

About the only good thing for Lions fans regarding Aaron Rodgers right now is that opposing defenses have held him under 300 yards passing for three straight weeks. Well, that and Detroit



RANDALL CASTRO

knocked Rogers out of the game in a 7-3 Lion victory.

But if Detroit is thinking about derailling Green Bay's quest for perfection, the Lions will have to start faster than it has all season.

Head coach Jim Schwartz alluded to that after the win over Carolina, saying "Against Green Bay, you can't make the mistakes we did."

File that under "No Kidding." Green Bay comes to town averaging an NFL-best 35.5 points per game, yielding just over 21.

In last December's 7-3 victory, Detroit held Green Bay to just 258 yards of total offense, limiting Rogers to just 46 passing yards on 7-11 before leaving with an injury. Detroit generated three turnovers and had four sacks.

For the Lion offense, the recipe for success is simple: run the ball effectively, take care of the ball, chew up clock and make the most of scoring opportunities.

While the Lions may have enough firepower to keep up with Green Bay's offense, the Detroit defense can't be expected to win the game. The key to not letting a player of Rogers' caliber hurt you is easy, keep him off the field.

The Green Bay defense has its weakness; namely its secondary. The Packers are allowing 284 yards per game, ranked 31st in the league. Stafford and the Lions are averaging 266 yards per game and will look to stretch the field to aid Smith and the running game.

It's not going to be an easy task to end the seven-year Thanksgiving Day skid that started with a 41-9 loss to Indianapolis. The last time the Lions won on Turkey day? A 22-14 win over Green Bay in 2003.

But if the Lions want to prove they can play with anybody in the league, a win over the best the NFL has to offer would be an awfully good start.

## Great season!

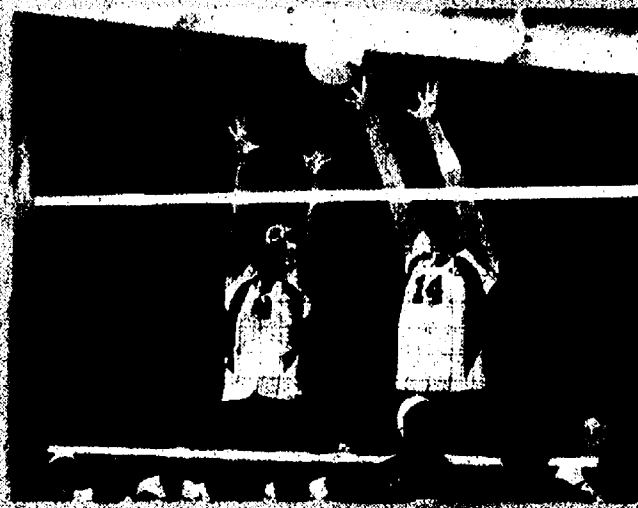


The fourth-grade U-10 Chelsea Soccer Club Travel Team recently completed an outstanding season on the pitch. The team featured (back row) assistant coach Mike Zvasek, assistant coach Beth Sanborn, Chris White, Ben Zvasek, Zach Sanborn, Max Korschuh, Milani Macha, Daniel Golding, head coach Tom White; (front row) Erik Koeck, Owen Fahie, Zane Johnson-Christen, Aaron Zvasek and Edarjen Lin.

### ATHLETES OF THE WEEK SPONSORED BY IOTT INSURANCE

#### Marissa Owen (No. 9)

The Harnet senior capped a brilliant volleyball career by being named to the All-SEC, All-Region teams and earning a Michigan Volleyball Coaches Association Scholar-Athlete award.



#### Mackenzie Shaad (No. 14)

As a junior, Shaad was named to the All-SEC and All-Region First Team for her role in Saline's 37-win season.

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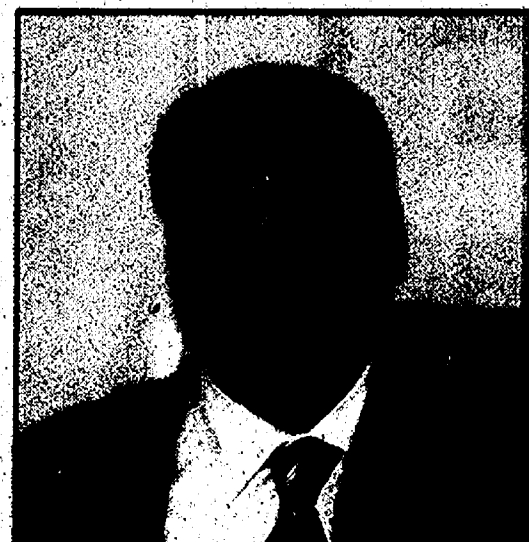
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