

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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ACADEMIC ALL-STARS
SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE TODAY'S NEWSPAPER

Auto supplier moving to Sheldon Road plant

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A major automobile supplier is consolidating operations with the move of 600 jobs to a formerly vacant factory at one of the most heavily traveled "gateways" in Plymouth Township.

Troy Design & Manufacturing, which offers prototype tooling, manufacturing engi-

neering services and low-volume parts manufacturing, is in the process of revamping the former Automotive Components Holdings plant, on Sheldon Road at M-14, to accommodate workers from its three current locations, two in Redford Township and one in Warren.

The move began in April and is to be phased in and completed in the fourth quar-

ter of 2016, a press release from the company stated.

"This consolidation allows TDM to leverage all of its resources in a single facility," said John Lowery, the company's president and chief executive officer. "We are excited to join the Plymouth Township community."

TDM will continue to operate two facilities in Redford, where it has more than 500

workers, and one in Warren, where there are nearly 100 workers, during the transition, a spokeswoman said.

TDM acquired the plant, of more than 1 million square feet, from Ford Land Development Corp.

ACH, which made climate-control systems for Ford Motor Co. vehicles there, phased out operations at the plant after selling the business in

2012 to Detroit Thermal Systems, which transferred equipment and many of the workers to a plant in Romulus.

Before ACH, the Sheldon facility was a Visteon plant and, prior to that, a Ford plant. TDM is a wholly owned Ford subsidiary, and Ford is its biggest customer.

See SUPPLIER, Page A2



Fourth-graders begin their leg of the Green Run.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Head-on crash injures four in Canton

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Lincoln Park man driving the wrong way on Michigan Avenue in Canton slammed head-on into another car Friday night, leaving four people critically injured, police said.

"They were pretty serious injuries," police Lt. Craig Wilsher said.

Police say alcohol appears to have been a factor in the two-vehicle crash that occurred about 10:51 p.m. Friday in the eastbound lanes of Michigan Avenue, between Lilley and Sheldon.

A 30-year-old Lincoln Park man was driving a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado westbound in the eastbound lanes when he crashed into a 2006 Toyota Camry driven by a 23-year-old Westchester, Ohio, man, police said.

Both drivers and a passenger from each vehicle were taken to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti with what were described as critical injuries.

The passenger in the Camry was a 24-year-old man, Wilsher said.

The passenger in the Silverado was a 31-year-old man.

The crash closed the eastbound lanes of Michigan Avenue for hours, Wilsher said.

Canton police issued an advisory at 6 a.m. the following morning that the road had reopened.

Wilsher said it wasn't yet known if speed was a factor in the crash.

The Canton Police Department's Accident Investigation Team was called to the scene.

Wilsher said there is no word yet on possible charges.

"The investigation is continuing," Wilsher said Monday morning.

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12

Fundraiser boosts recycling, fitness

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

Healthier school, healthier environment.

Those were the twin goals of fifth-graders at Bird Elementary in Plymouth Township as they organized the school's first Green Run, a fundraiser for fitness and recycling that took place Friday.

Students in every level at Bird, which has about 540 students in kindergarten through the fifth grade, took a 30-minute turn Friday walking and running the school's playground path, about a quarter-mile per lap, plus did warmups and enjoyed drinks and snacks and a cool-down period.

Produced in conjunction with The Original Get Movin' Crew, which also provided

portals for online donations, the event was designed to raise money toward installing a paved walking path at Bird, plus two recyclables bins with compartments to hold different types of recyclables. One bin is to be for the school, the second for a local park.

The idea came from four fifth-graders in Neil Dixon's class — Donovan Murphy, Isabell Kulick, Wesley Hart and Libby Phillips — and they got help from classmates, their teacher and Bird Principal Catherine Williams.

The goal was \$20,000 and the Green Run had raised \$8,700 by Tuesday evening.

"We are hoping that if we do this, it'll make other people aware of recycling," Isabell

See RECYCLING, Page A5



Four fifth-graders in Neil Dixon's class — (from left) Wesley Hart, Isabell Kulick, Libby Phillips and Donovan Murphy — organized the Green Run at Bird Elementary to raise money for a walking path at the school and recycling bins.

KELLY DOBSON

Canton High senior named scholar semifinalist

Danielle Alexander
Staff Writer

Canton High School 12th-grader Jason Ren has been named one of 689 semifinalists in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. The semifinalists were selected from nearly 4,700 candidates expected to graduate from U.S. high schools this year.

"I am definitely excited,"

said Ren, who plans to pursue computer science at Harvard University next fall.

Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are



Ren

selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

"I have four varsity letters from soccer," Ren said. "I'm also the president of National Honors Society, so I have been doing a lot of community events and I am a member of Math Olympiad."

Canton High School Principal Hal Heard said Ren is a remarkable student who "embodies and exemplifies the district's moniker of learn, prepare and thrive."

"He has excelled within the classroom, on the athletic fields as he scored the winning goal for the 2014 state championship (team)

See SCHOLAR, Page A2



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SCHOLAR

Continued from Page A1

and as a leader with National Honor Society," Heard said. "Beyond those accomplishments, he is truly a great person that will represent the Plymouth-Canton community as he moves on to Harvard in the fall."

Additionally, Canton High School counselor Bridget Kocurek said Ren is a humble leader amongst his peers. Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's National Honors Society adviser Rebecca Kraft said Ren has pushed himself to develop skills that he will use to make the world a better place.

The Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of up to 32 emi-

nent citizens appointed by the president, will select the finalists and the U.S. Department of Education will announce the scholars later this month. Winners will be invited to Washington, D.C., for several days in June to receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a recognition ceremony and to participate in events and activities.

For more information about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, parents and students can call the U.S. Presidential Scholars Office at 507-931-8345 or send an email to PSP@scholarshipamerica.org.

dnalexander@hometownlife.com

Michigan Philharmonic to host 'Toon Tunes & Tales' concert

The Michigan Philharmonic invites you to "come home" to the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex for "Toon Tunes & Tales" on May 21. This fun and family-friendly concert takes place in the gym at the PARC - where the orchestra performed in the 1950s!

This fun concert will

feature the great music of cartoons and animated films. Many who grew up with cartoons heard their first opera or classical music performance on Bugs Bunny - who can forget "The Barber of Seville"? Music from other cartoons such as "The Jetsons" and "The Flintstones" will be featured, along with con-

temporary favorites like "The Simpsons" and "Family Guy" in addition to great movie music from "Frozen," "American Tale," "Despicable Me" and more.

Other tenants at the PARC will be joining the Michigan Philharmonic to celebrate this first concert back in the former Plymouth High and

Central Middle School, including Forever After Productions, Art Formed, KrisKraf Photography, Main Street Opera and more.

Don't miss this chance to have fun and reminisce. For tickets and information, call 734 451-2112 or go to www.michiganphil.org.

SUPPLIER

Continued from Page A1

Manufacturing hub

Township Supervisor Shannon Price said TDM's move means a new addition to the list of high-tech and advanced manufacturing companies with facilities in the township.

"That plant has been idle for a long time. We have a Tier 1 supplier that's going in there and going to fully occupy the building," Price said Tuesday.

Price said he was in the plant last year and that it was mostly empty. "To walk in there now and see them moving big equipment, knowing there are going to be 600 employees" is an exciting development, he said.

The TDM spokeswoman, Dawn Booker, said the new location will give TDM room to grow and add workers depending on volume and business plans.

The company would not disclose how much it's spending on the plant acquisition or the moves to Plymouth Township.

Price said the addition of TDM should boost



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Automotive Components Holdings plant on Sheldon Road - which also operated as a Ford Motor Co. plant and a Visteon plant - will be the new home of Troy Design & Manufacturing, a Ford subsidiary.

prospects for the Michigan International Technology Center, a high-tech business park planned for the Five Mile corridor in Plymouth and Northville townships. He said officials are meeting

with representatives from companies from around the world to pitch the MITC concept.

"We really are a hub in the high-tech, advanced manufacturing industry," Price said.

Redford Township Supervisor Tracey Kobylarz did not return a phone call seeking comment on the TDM move.

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Kristen Bye selects herbs at the market.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth Farmers Market now open for the season

Make it part of your schedule to hit the farmers market in downtown Plymouth from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each Saturday through Oct. 29.

Hosted by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, the market is in The Gathering across from Kellogg Park and the street in front of the park.

The only changes to the market will be closing Saturday, July 9, for Art in the Park and Saturday, Sept. 10, for the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.

The market offers a variety of fresh produce, vegetable, herb and flowering plants, fresh and dried flowers, eggs, meats, baked goods, popcorn, cherry products, salsa and BBQ sauces, pastas and sauces, honey, jams and jellies and more. Handmade goods are also available. They include a variety of candles, soaps, lotions, hand-painted furniture and frames, jewelry, bird-houses and garden and holiday decorations.



Isabella Leopardi isn't lazy. She sprained her ankle and didn't want to miss the market's opening day. Mom Lisa Leopardi and sister Sophia Leopardi shared pulling Isabella and the wagon.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fundraiser to aid area man fight cancer

Salon Bella Vi will offer haircuts and half-hour massages Sunday during a fundraiser for a 2009 Canton High School graduate battling an aggressive form of cancer. The minimum donation per haircut or massage is \$20.

Alex Berlin was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma in his right leg in May 2014, just after graduating from Michigan State University with a master's degree in accounting.

Surgery, radiation

treatment and chemotherapy were successful and Berlin was declared cancer-free in March of last year, but chest scans and a biopsy last October showed the cancer had returned to his lungs. In November, he began chemotherapy and, in January, he underwent another surgery.

Berlin is now on an intense regimen of chemotherapy that could last the remainder of the year. He is being treated at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer

Center in New York.

Sunday's fundraiser at Salon Bella Vi is from noon to 6 p.m. Proceeds will go toward out-of-pocket costs the family is incurring, such as travel to and from New York, required leg braces and medical expenses not covered by insurance. Remaining funds will be donated to organizations focused on finding a cure for Ewing's.

Salon Bella Vi is at 633 S. Main. Call 734-667-5701 to make an appointment.

Canton Dog Park offers free day for pets

Round up Rover and head to the Canton Dog Park.

The dog park will host its free, annual Bark in the Park event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, May 15. Visitors and their dogs can enjoy live entertainment, shopping and prize giveaways while trying the off-leash park, located on Denton Road north of Cherry Hill.

"Our Bark in the Park event is the perfect opportunity for dog owners to come and try out the Canton Dog Park for free," recreation specialist Laura Mortier said. "Plus, it's a great chance to meet other local dog owners, get some great canine information and coupons — and your four-legged family member can make some friends, too."

Dog park membership is not required to take part in this free event. In order to attend, those who are currently not a member of the Canton Dog Park must present a valid Canton dog license, which can be obtained at the Canton clerk's office for \$10 and requires proof of your dog's up-to-date distemper and rabies vaccinations, signed by an accredited veterinar-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Canton Dog Park is offering a free day for visitors and pets.

ian. No pre-registration is required for this event.

The opening day of the Canton Farmers Market, located a short trail walk away in adjacent Preservation Park, will take place alongside Bark in the Park from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 15.

Among the vendors in attendance at Bark in the Park will be Kelly's Pet Care, Animal Friends Veterinary Hospital and Paws Grooming Studio. First Step, a local agency that assists victims of domestic and sexual violence in Wayne County, will also be on-site for a fundraiser to raise money for their ARK (Animals Receiving Kindness) Program, which is an on-site pet sanctuary

available to residents of First Step.

Cruisin' Custom Co-nees hot dog cart will be offering lunch for guests to purchase and enjoy.

The Canton Dog Park has six acres of fenced-in, outdoor space for dogs to run and play off-leash, with specific rules for a safe and positive experience for everyone. The park is divided into a large dog section for animals more than 20 pounds and small dog section for animals less than 20 pounds. Annual memberships for the dog park are \$25 for Canton residents and \$50 for non-residents.

For more information, go to www.cantonfun.org or call 734-394-5310.

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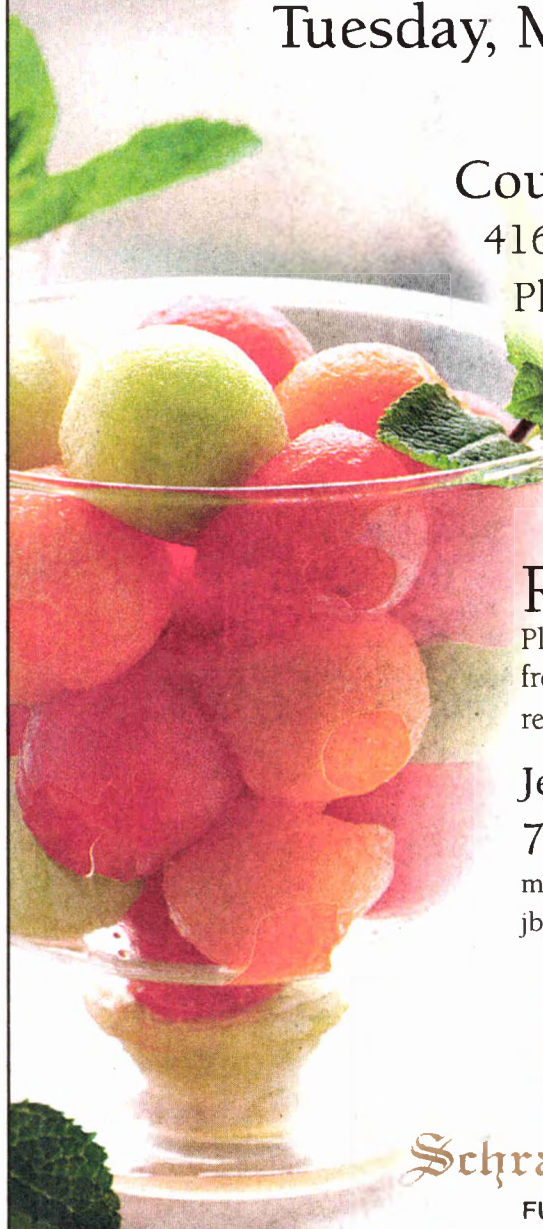
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Standoff with gunman ends with no injuries

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

A two-hour freeway standoff in Livonia ended without injuries early Sunday when a Plymouth Township man who had threatened to shoot himself surrendered to police.

Daniel J. Howard, 25, faces multiple charges: two counts of domestic assault and one each of discharging a firearm in a building, discharging a firearm in a vehicle, obstructing and resisting police, fleeing police, carrying a concealed weapon in a vehicle and using a gun during a felony. Howard, with officers from

several agencies on the scene, had stood alongside a wrecked Chevrolet Cruze while pointing a pistol at his head after crashing the car on eastbound I-96, east of Newburgh, around 3 a.m. Sunday, Plymouth Township Chief Tom Tiderington said.

He had fled there in the Cruze from a house in Plymouth Township, where he had been in a dispute with his girlfriend and his mother, according to Tiderington and Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy's office.

Tiderington said township police received help in ending the standoff from officers

from Livonia, Plymouth, Canton and Redford, the Michigan State Police and the western Wayne County special weapons and tactics team. The freeway and nearby roads were closed to traffic during the incident and police negotiators called in to encourage Howard to give up, the chief said.

"It was definitely a team effort," said Tiderington, who on the scene early Sunday. "I think this was handled as 'textbook' as one could handle an incident such as this."

It had started shortly before 3 a.m. at a house on Tavistock, Tiderington said. Howard allegedly assaulted his

mother and girlfriend during a dispute, retrieved a pistol and fired one shot into a basement wall, then left the house, firing a shot into the air and another into a window on his girlfriend's car as he drove off, a statement from Worthy's office said.

After police arrived, Howard returned, but drove off again after ignoring an officer's command to put down the pistol, Detective Charlie Rozum said. Officers pursued him onto I-275 and then onto eastbound I-96, where, driving erratically, he crashed the Cruze just east of Newburgh, Tiderington said.

Rozum said neither Howard's mother nor his girlfriend were seriously hurt.

Howard was arraigned Monday in 35th District Court by Judge James Plakas, who set a cash or surety bond of \$100,000 and scheduled a preliminary hearing for Friday, May 27, before Judge Ron Lowe.

Howard was being held in the county jail Tuesday.

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Canton bank robber lands in prison

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Canton man will spend one to 15 years in prison for robbing a local bank after police say he donned a mask and a hoodie to conceal his identity.

Damon Ross Davis Jr., 26, has been sentenced by Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas Cameron for robbing the Citizens Bank branch on Ford Road, near Haggerty, the morning of Jan. 14.

His sentencing came May 3 after he pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of unarmed robbery, averting a jury trial on more serious charges of bank robbery and armed robbery, court records show.

Davis could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison if he had been convicted as charged. He will get credit for 96 days he already served in jail.

According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, the bank robbery marked the first time Davis has been convicted of a felony.



Davis

Canton police have said Davis wore a mask when he went inside the bank and handed a teller a note demanding money and a car. Authorities said he fled empty-handed.

"He got no money, no one was injured and no weapons were seen," Canton Special Services Lt. Craig Wilsher said at the time.

Police issued a surveillance photo from the incident and, acting on a tip, trailed Davis to a Canton residence, where he was taken into custody without incident. Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor said.

The robbery prompted a joint investigation by Canton police, the Michigan State Police and a consortium of western Wayne County law enforcement agencies.

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CANTON CRIME WATCH

Neighbor accused of pointing gun at woman, dogs

A Canton woman whose two dogs escaped from her apartment told police that a neighbor pointed a gun at her and her pets and threatened to shoot.

No shots were fired during an incident that allegedly occurred shortly after 5 p.m. May 4 at the Stoneybrooke apartment complex, near I-275 and Joy Road. Police took the suspect, a 33-year-old woman, into custody, a police report said.

The 32-year-old dog owner said she was leaving her apartment when her dogs ran outside. She said one of the pets stopped a few feet from the suspect.

The dog owner said the suspect first threatened to kick one of the dogs, but then got a gun out of a car, pointed it at her and the dogs and threatened to shoot, the report said. A neighbor, however, told police he saw the suspect point the gun toward the ground.

The investigation was continuing and criminal charges were possible.

Salon hacked

A Canton salon owner notified police after her business computer was apparently hacked by someone who demanded she spend as much as \$1,795 for computer files that were being held for ransom, a police report said.

The owner of Indigo Salon, Spa & Boutique in Cherry Hill Village reported the incident May 5, saying a message appeared on a work computer indicating that certain files had been encrypted and advising her to buy special software for \$897 within five days or \$1,795 afterward, the report said.

The salon owner hired a company to fix the problem and then she took the computer to a local company to have it "scrubbed" for any remaining threats. The report said police gave the owner advice on how to prevent future problems.

Vodka theft

Police issued a larceny citation to a 44-year-old woman accused of going into the Canton Meijer store, selecting a bottle of Heaven Hill vodka, a from a shelf and concealing it in her purse, a report said.

At one point the woman was accused of opening the vodka and taking a drink.

The incident unfolded short-

ly after 4:30 p.m. Saturday. A store loss prevention employee confronted the woman as she left the store and detained her until police arrived.

Police took the suspect into custody. She also had two warrants for her arrest for being disorderly and for public intoxication.

Suspicious man

A woman told police she was frightened after a 29-year-old man confronted her at a gas station near Michigan Avenue and Haggerty roads — touching her shoulder and asking her where she lives.

The woman said the suspect then followed her as she walked toward the Sherwood Village mobile home park shortly after midnight Monday. She managed to elude him, but the report said the man approached a second woman and asked if she knew where the first woman lived.

The second woman said the man became belligerent and began calling her names. She called police who, according to the report, took the man into custody as the investigation was continuing.

— By Darrell Clem



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Students could run, jog or walk the course and were charged with keeping an eye on one another to make sure no one got overheated.

KELLY DOBSON

RECYCLING

Continued from Page A1

said Friday as Bird's third-graders did their laps.

"We want to keep our environment healthy," she added. "They pretty much ran the whole show," said Dixon, the teacher, who has 31 fifth-graders in his class.

Project management

The four met with the principal, created a flier about the Green Run that went to all school families, recorded a promotional video and went from class to class at Bird to talk it up, Dixon said.

Later Friday, after third-graders were given a treat when their time running and walking the path was over, the student leaders stood on playground equipment to welcome second-graders to the event and begin warmups.

"Thank you so much for supporting our cause," Wesley, using a megaphone, told them. "You guys are awesome."

Darren Phillips, Libby's father, was impressed with the organizational skills shown by his daughter and her friends. He was volunteering Friday at the Green Run's hydration station.

"This idea was brought home at dinner one evening," and had started as a playground conversation, Phillips said. "They had meetings on Saturdays and after school and things like that. ... Mr. Dixon was a huge help."

Wesley said he, Isabell, Donovan and Libby spent a lot of their own time on planning the event.

"We had to give up a lot of recess to stay in school and work on it, which is fine," he said.

Isabell said their original idea was to have a large run, such as those that begin and end in downtown Plymouth, with runners on streets closed to vehicle traffic.

"We decided we could probably just do it around the back of the playground," she said.

Bird is still accepting Green Run donations, in cash or by check, for the walking path



Donovan Murphy, a fifth-grader at Bird Elementary and one of the organizers of the Green Run, gives last-minute instructions to student participants Friday. With him are classmates Wesley Hart and Libby Phillips.

KELLY DOBSON



Third-grader Michael Keith warms up with a few dance moves before starting his grade level's portion of the event Friday.

KELLY DOBSON



Michael Keith, in the third grade, finishes up a lap around the course.

KELLY DOBSON

and recycling bins. Checks can be made out to Bird Elementary School. The address is 220 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth Township, MI 48170.

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Rowan Mudt and Ryan Hachigian of the fifth grade made sure that cold water was offered to all the students participating in Friday's Green Run.

KELLY DOBSON



Third-grader Patrick Barry grabs some cold water after a few laps.

KELLY DOBSON



Third-graders Ava Gotsis and Heidi Kasten take a moment to hydrate Friday during their portion of the Green Run.

KELLY DOBSON



Many students wore their school T-shirts, with a Thunderbird logo, for the Green Run at Bird Elementary.

KELLY DOBSON

Livonia-based Center Mass celebrates 20 years in business, plans summer outing

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

The height of the Great Recession wasn't a typical time for a business to expand, but that's exactly what Canton resident Jeff Felts decided to do.

His business, Center Mass, began 20 years ago in his home's basement. Today, the retired Wayne police officer operates the law enforcement products and gun shop out of a storefront in Livonia and has 30 employees.

"We started out as a police training entity. We have some products we own rights to," he said. "We eventually did well enough to go to the banks ... and got a loan to buy this building."

The store, located at 33825 Plymouth, has a retail shop and 10 firing lanes for shooting practice. He moved into the store several years ago after purchasing it in 2010.

Felts said he started the private company 20 years ago as a way to offer additional training for law enforcement. Since then, he's also gotten into manufacturing



Jeff Felts fires an AR-15 on the range.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

of items for use by the military and law enforcement agencies.

He said he was involved in two shootings during his time as a police officer and felt he was completely prepared for that experience. He wanted to offer such training to law enforcement.

"I knew there was a better way to do things," he said. "In 1996, I started Center Mass and we

have grown exponentially since then."

Those opportunities also lead to eventually expanding more training opportunities to civilians. That's a side, Felts said, that's seen a big spike in interest in recent months.

"The citizens need just as good of training for themselves," he said. "I thought I would try to provide that for them." He hopes to have a

celebratory cookout sometime this summer to recognize the company's 20-year anniversary, though no date has been selected.

National Patrol Rifle Conference

In addition to operating the business, Felts is the chairman of the National Patrol Rifle Conference, an annual event held for hundreds of law enforcement offi-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jeff Felts, owner and founder of Center Mass, celebrates 20 years in business.

cials across the country. This year's event will take place June 4-5 in Oakland County. Shooting will take place at a local shooting range and other events, including several high-profile speakers, will take place at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

The event, now in its 17th year, attracts law enforcement professionals from across the country and recognizes some each year. This year, San Bernardino police officer Nicholas Koahou, who was a part of taking down shooters in that city Dec. 2, will be recognized.

The award, named the Chief Jeff Chudwin Patrol Rifle Award, has been given to several notable people over the years, including former U.S. Marine sniper Chris Kyle, whose memoir was the basis of the movie "American Sniper."

Felts said he met Kyle at the conference before he was killed in 2013, saying Bradley Cooper's depiction of him in the film "nailed him to a T."

"He absolutely nailed Chris," he said. "Chris was a very good man. Very humble."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Horton Plumbing began in basement 28 years ago

Q: What does your business offer?

A: Basic plumbing repairs, sewer cleaning and replacement, bathroom, kitchen and basement remodeling, commercial and residential

plumbing services.

Q: How did you decide to open your business?

A: I wanted to provide superior plumbing services to local residents and businesses.

Q: Why the Plymouth-

Canton area?

A: I have lived in the Plymouth-Canton area my whole life. I love the community.

Q: Tell us a funny tidbit or story.

A: I started Horton

Plumbing out of my basement 28 years ago working 24/7 to provide emergency plumbing services. My company has continued to grow every year. Never give up on your dreams.

Q: Any advice for other business owners?

DETAILS

Name: Horton Plumbing
Address: 1382 S. Main Street, Plymouth
Owner: Jeff Horton
Hometown: Plymouth
Opened: 1988

A: Make it a priority to build valuable partnerships with other small business owners.

Employees: 31
Hours: 24/7 emergency service
Specialty: Plumbing and remodeling
Contact: 734-455-3332 or www.hortonplumbing.com

Q: What's in store for the future?

A: Only time will tell.



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Prenuptial agreement is always part of any smart marriage

The other day, I read an article about a woman who balked at signing her prenuptial agreement. As a result, she decided to not get married. Since she had already paid for the reception, she decided to throw a party for the homeless. Obviously, this is someone who knows how to make the best out of a bad situation. I admire her for that, but I also admire her for refusing to sign a legal document she was not comfortable with. Unfortunately, too many people end up signing legal documents they're not comfortable with and they pay for it in the long run.

Unfortunately, there is still somewhat of a stigma with regard to prenuptial agreements and I believe there shouldn't be. Many people believe you get married for love and therefore shouldn't need a prenuptial agreement. That would be true if we all lived in Ozzie and Harriet families, but we don't. In today's complex world, where blended families seem to be the norm, a prenuptial agreement can be an invaluable document to protect you and your family.

It is important to recognize what a prenuptial agreement is meant to accomplish. Generally, a prenuptial agreement will address two issues. The first and the one that most people are familiar with is what happens when the marriage does not work. As opposed to spending years in court and spending substantial amounts of money on divorce attorneys, a pre-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

Many people believe you get married for love and therefore shouldn't need a prenuptial agreement.

nuptial agreement sets forth terms if the marriage does not work. For a young couple with very little in assets, a prenuptial agreement may not be necessary. On the other hand, if someone is coming into the marriage with substantial assets they're looking at protecting, a prenuptial agreement can be effective. For example, through the effective use of a prenuptial, a small business owner can protect the business if there is a divorce.

Another effective use of prenuptial agreements is to protect assets or an individual upon your death. Many people think prenuptial agreements are only effective in divorce situations; that's not the case. Prenuptial agreements are also used to protect children from a previous marriage. For example, upon your death, you may want to have your assets go to the children of your first marriage without leaving anything to your new spouse. One of the most

effective ways of accomplishing this is through a prenuptial agreement. My philosophy is that when someone gets married and they have substantial assets or children from a previous relationship they want to protect, a prenuptial agreement is effective to make sure that judges, courts and lawyers don't get involved with family affairs.

One of the mistakes people make with regard to a prenuptial agreement is they wait until the last second and, as a result, it causes all sorts of problems. You can't wait until the last second — the sooner you can put it behind you, the better. After all, if you can't discuss something as uncomfortable as a prenup, maybe it's a sign you should not be getting married.

I recognize the reason people get married is because they love each other. However, we all have to accept the reality that does not mean the marriage will necessarily work. A prenuptial agreement is the mature way to ensure that, if a relationship does not work, there is an orderly and systematic distribution of the property so that both parties can move forward without destroying each other in divorce proceedings. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

GUEST COLUMNIST

Give us your thoughts, opinions during survey

For many years, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district has rightly kept its focus on the classroom, striving every day to make the best possible decisions to benefit our students.

But just as the world our students will enter has changed, so has the world of education. As a public school system, we understand it is critical to take the time to listen to our community — understanding your priorities and using your



Monica Merritt
GUEST COLUMNIST

feedback to help every P-CCS student achieve excellence.

It's with this renewed commitment to listening that I invite you to take part in our first-ever district-wide Climate Survey.

The survey launched Thursday, May 5, and is open to all parents, em-

ployees and community members. Survey questions address important topics, including governance and leadership, teaching and assessments, resources, school operations and safety.

We'll use your feedback to evaluate what the district does well and how it can improve and inform our district improvement plan. The results will drive positions and proposals that will be made to the Board of Education and serve as a bridge between your

voice and district leadership.

If you have a current email address on file with the district, you'll receive a personal invitation and survey link. If not, you can take the survey at <http://tiny.cc/PCCSSurvey> or by clicking the link on our district website (www.pccsk12.com), Facebook or Twitter. If you have opted into our text messaging system, you'll also receive survey reminders and links on your cellphone.

If you need to take the survey in a language other than English, contact Nick Brandon at Nicholas.Brandon@pccsk12.com or 734-416-2755.

You have until Thursday, May 19, to share your feedback.

No matter how you access the survey, your responses are strictly confidential. We've partnered with independent research and communications firm K12 Insight to administer the survey and compile the results.

K12 Insight's final reports will share only the overall findings.

We want to learn from you so our schools continue to be a place where every child can thrive. I hope you will join us in our effort to become the school district of choice for every family in our community.

Monica Merritt is interim superintendent of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district.

LETTERS

High disapproval ratings hurt chances

I wonder how many delegates Donald Trump would have today without the advantage of opposition votes split amongst multiple candidates? I wonder how he would have done going head to head with one candidate from day one?

I wonder why he avoided states like Colorado, where you actually have to win delegates with character and substance rather than theatrics, then claim the game is rigged when he lost?

I wonder why Trump won't accept Ted Cruz's challenge to debate one on one or why he won't release his tax returns? I wonder why he won't authorize the release of a

taped interview with the New York Times about his views on immigration?

I wonder if his parents ever told him "no"? I wonder if he really thinks he could win the state of New York in a general election after winning the primary with a vote total half that of Hillary Clinton and 250,000 less than Bernie Sanders?

I wonder how he expects to win a general election with disapproval ratings averaging 75 percent amongst women, Hispanics and millennials?

I wonder if his fans will ever realize they're being taken in by appearances and rhetoric, much like people were taken in by Barack Obama?

Jack Belisle
South Lyon

Obama does what he wants

One of the reasons why American politics is so polarized and our American system of government is at risk is because of President Barack Obama's deliberate abuse of power and disregard of his constitutional duties to faithfully execute our laws.

Take America's immigration laws. In 2010, pressed by his supporters to stop deporting illegal aliens and unilaterally grant them legal status, Obama said, "I'm president, I'm not a king. I can't do these things just by myself." In 2013, he said, "I'm not the emperor of the United States. My job is to execute laws that are passed." In fact, Obama publicly said more than 20 times that he did not have the legal authority to change immigration laws.

However, by 2014, Obama apparently had convinced himself that

he could be a king. As he remarked to the French president, "That's the good thing about being president, I can do whatever I want."

Sure enough. In November 2014, Obama unilaterally announced sweeping changes to our immigration laws. Afterward, Obama noted, "I just took an action to change the law." Hail the emperor and new king!

Feeling his kingship oaths, Obama has unilaterally changed several mandates included in the Obamacare law (no authority for that). Recently, his administration issued several made-up regulations that his own treasury secretary previously admitted they did not have the authority to do.

Just a hunch on my part — but I'll bet the Democrats would not be so tolerant of this abuse of power if a Republican president were making up these laws. Wake up, America!

Randy Kniebes
Brighton

Independent retailers

What do you know about independent retailers? Did you know that according to the National Retail Federation that one in five Americans are employed by independent or privately held retail businesses and account for nearly 95 percent of the industry? Most probably do not.

Some of these retailers are being squeezed, though, by not being noticed. A recent survey of thousands of consumers conducted by AllYourRetail.com, a marketing company, showed that 49.2 percent were able to identify an independent furniture dealer.

This same survey showed us only 32.7 percent could name an independent mattress dealer. Even sadder to me personally, as owner of Bill & Rod's Appliance Inc., in Livonia, was that a measly 19.5 percent could name an independent appliance dealer.

We could also look at

this another way: 80.5 percent of consumers cannot name a currently open independent appliance dealer.

The myth of the "Big Box" stores always having the best prices is far too wide-spread, as well. Many independents can not only compete, but hold their own without breaking a sweat.

Bill & Rod's Appliance Inc., for example, is part of national buying group called BrandSource. This allows us to pool our volume with other independents and give us the same amount buying power as the chain stores.

Our one mission is to be the absolute best every single time, and make our customers our family. Without our neighbors coming to work with us we would be sunk. If you are tired of being a number then come join the family of an independent retailer.

What do you know about independent retailers?

Joe Legato
Livonia

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Mackinac Island's world-renowned historic Grand Hotel preps for another season

Kathleen Lavey
Michigan.com

MACKINAC ISLAND — The fourth-floor corridor of the Grand Hotel is a scene of well-orchestrated chaos.

Waiters in casual clothes, rather than proper livery, carry milk crates full of bottled drinks to fill mini bars. Stacks of pillows, swapped out for 1,200 brand-new ones, line the plush-carpeted hall.

Somewhere on another corridor, Grand Hotel president R.D. Musser III, known as Dan, is personally inspecting rooms.

"I try to look at it as a guest might look at it," Musser says. If anything in a room makes him think, "That looks bad," it's repaired or replaced.

It's three days before the official opening of the season at the 390-room, white-painted Victorian-era hotel with its famous, 660-foot front porch. The hotel's 700 staffers are scurrying to prepare, as they have each season since the hotel opened in 1887.

Designer Brinsley Matthews literally has the sleeves of his striped Oxford shirt rolled up, standing among carts filled with lamps and shades of different shapes and sizes. He's deciding which one will fit with the individual decor of Room 420.

"Everything is custom in this hotel, every carpet, every wallpaper, every lamp," said Matthews, who works with superstar designer Carleton Varney. Their hotel design credits also include The Breakers in Palm Beach, Fla.; the Greenbrier in West Virginia and the Plaza in New York City.

"You won't see it anywhere else," he says. "It's better than Disneyland, because this place is real."

Pecan fudge balls and perfectionism

Some guests already are booked into rooms for the fewer-frills week known as "early opening," but the Grand Hotel season — along with other Mackinac Island hotels — officially opened May 6.

Regular season lodging rates, including three meals a day, start at \$304 per person on a weekday in a double room. After 6:30 p.m., the hotel's dress code is suits or sport coats with ties for men, dresses or upscale pants suits for the ladies.

During early opening, there aren't regular nightly meals in the 1,000-seat hotel dining room. Still, the hotel's vast kitchen was hopping last week. The Grand Hotel has its own butcher shop and workers were

JUST WANT TO VISIT?

You can swim, golf, hang out or eat at the Grand Hotel if you aren't a hotel guest. Here are ways for non-guests to enjoy the hotel:

Porch it: There's a \$10 fee to enter the hotel, explore the grounds and take in the view from a rocking chair.

Book a meal: Breakfast is \$30, lunch buffet is \$45 and dinner is \$80. The Grand Hotel also operates several restaurants: The Gate House, The Jockey Club, Cawthorne's Village Inn, Woods, Carleton's Tea Store and the soon-to-open Sushi Grand.

Play golf: The Grand Hotel's golf course, The Jewel, is open to the public. High-season rates are \$70 for nine holes or \$130 for 18.

Swim and sun: The hotel pool — named for 1940s swimmer-turned-movie-star Esther Williams, who made a movie there — is open to the public for a fee of \$15 adults and \$7.50 for kids ages 5-11.

Have a cone: Sadie's Ice Cream Parlor, outside the hotel's east entrance, is open to all visitors without a hotel admission fee.

preparing cuts of beef for a Wednesday banquet.

Guests eat from the Grand's signature china, gold-trimmed with a deep green edge and a pink rose at its center; stacks of it stand ready for the coming days.

Kitchen workers already have begun making the hotels' best-known dessert, the pecan fudge ball, served since 1947. It's a sphere of ice cream rolled in pecans and served in a pool of chocolate fudge sauce. They'll likely serve 50,000 or more such desserts before the season ends.

They're falling into the well-timed routines that will get them through the high season.

So are the housekeepers, dressed in white-trimmed, gray uniforms, expertly spreading sheets, folding corners under neatly and plumping pillows after putting them in their cases.

"The housekeeper's last look at a room is the guest's first," said Becky Belonga, assistant housekeeping manager.

Ice cream scooping lessons

Larry Schipper leans into the ice cream freezer in Sadie's Ice Cream Parlor, which opened on the hotel's ground floor in 2013.

With a smooth wrist motion, he demonstrates proper scooping techniques. In the C-curve, the server guides the scoop around the edge of the container. The S-curve, which goes back and forth across the surface of the ice cream. The resulting scoops look



Housekeeper Ann Muyco makes the bed in the Musser Suite on Tuesday at the Grand Hotel in Mackinac Island as the staff prepares the hotel for the start of the summer tourism season.



The Star Line ferry zooms past the hotel on Lake Huron. Friday marked the start of the season.

nice and contain an even distribution of the candy, swirl or nuts the ice cream contains.

Schipper also has taught new workers to "rake" the top of fresh ice cream tubs, turning over a few scoops and transforming the plain, flat surface into a display of what the ice cream will look like in a guest's cone or cup.

"People buy things with their eyes," he says. "You want them to see what's in it."

But Schipper also points to a clear cup filled with tiny tasting spoons.

"This is probably the number one ice cream-selling tool in here," he says.

Generations of ownership

W. Stewart Woodfill started as a desk clerk at the Grand Hotel in 1919, working his way up to manager. In 1925, he bought the hotel with partners, then sold his interest. Then he bought back in, becoming sole owner in 1933. He hired his nephew, R.D. Musser Jr., in 1951.

Dan Musser grew up playing in the hotel's pool and on its golf course, dressing for dinner and watching his father and great-uncle run the family business. He served an internship with the Chicago Board of Trade one summer while at Albion College.

"After one week of that, I said, 'What am I

doing?'" he said.

Other family members involved in the hotel include Dan Musser's wife, artist Marlee Brown; his mom Amelia Musser, and sister Mimi Cunningham.

Brown's paintings grace walls in some guest rooms of the hotel.

The fourth generation is at it now, too. Musser and Brown's 17-year-old daughter Amelia will work the front desk this summer. R.D. Musser IV, 16 years old and known as "Quattro," is likely to spend time in the pastry

kitchen, while 13-year-old Matilda, a horse enthusiast, may be in the stables. You may even find 10-year-old Maverick selling mini bottles of Coca-Cola on the porch from a bike equipped with a cooler.

"The others are still too young," Musser said of his two youngest kids.

Last week, Musser addressed the entire staff, from groundskeepers in their signature dark-green hoodies to bellhops in their livery and desk staff in red blazers.

He reported the year's

improvements, including the revamp of the hotel's front entrance, where red carpet is being laid as he speaks. He emphasized that their roles are crucial to guests.

"We must do everything we can to make sure they have a good stay while they're with us," he said. "We must be hospitable to the very first guest and the very last guest."

History, atmosphere and detail

Relaxing on couches inside the main entrance, Sharlyn Huyck and Connie Thornton of Ovid are among those first guests, at the hotel to attend a rural librarians' conference. Jackie Spillner of Wilmington, N.C., and Laura Moore of St. Louis came along with them.

From their seats, they can look past the white porch pillars and planter boxes of red geraniums to the silvery waters of Lake Huron.

The appeal of the hotel?

"The ambiance," Huyck says.

"The history," Moore says.

For Spillner, it's the niceties that daily life often lacks.

"High tea is excellent and their meals are very, very classy," she said.

Down the hill, Matthews, the designer, gazes through the window of the hotel's newest restaurant, Sushi Grand, slated to open later this month.

The restaurant is locked, but Matthews beckons others to look with him. A quick peek reveals red-lacquered wooden bar stools and iridescent tiles, sort of the Grand Hotel-style elegance with an Asian flair.

"Just look at that," he said. "It's coming together."

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Friends meet to fight hunger near and far

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Jim Vermeulen Sr. of Plymouth Township was taking a short break the morning of Saturday, May 7, in the gym at the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex.

"I always thought it was a nice project," said Vermeulen, who's been in the Kiwanis Club of Plymouth (Evening) since 1978. Kiwanis clubs were among many volunteering that day in the Greater Plymouth Service Project, supporting the Kids Against Hunger Coalition.

"I worked on the scale," said senior citizen Vermeulen, noting weight of the packaged food is key. He was glad to volunteer and was joined by son Jim Jr., also of Plymouth Township.

"And I know Dave Siegrist (project chair) well. Anybody who works as hard as Dave deserves help," the elder Vermeulen said. His son explained volunteering with "Because my buddy Dave here is in charge and it's a wonderful event."

The younger age group was also well-represented, including high school Key Club, part of Kiwanis, and Interact, the high school arm of Rotary. Jen Cheetam of Plymouth Township is proud of daughter Maggie, 12, an East Middle School sixth-grader who volunteered with her Cadette Girl Scout troop.

"I think it's a great opportunity to give back. Something good for others," mom Cheetam said.

'Show them love'

PARC was abuzz that day with volunteers hard at work, including Beth Harris of Pinckney, volunteering with North-Ridge Church, nearby in Plymouth Township.

"Dave stopped by the church and was looking

for help," Harris said of Siegrist. "We said absolutely. We just wanted to be a part of the experience and show them love."

She, too, weighed packaged food bags, a quality control job. "It was a beautiful experience. Made new friends," Harris said. She was glad to see children "being a part of the process."

Chairman Dave Siegrist was super-busy with organizational details Saturday. "We are going to do at least 126,000 meals," the Plymouth Township resident said of the target.

He was thrilled with the 1,150-1,300 volunteers. "The community has been awesome and they have come out in full force," Siegrist said.

He praised the Community Foundation of Plymouth, of which he's chair. "They looked at me like what are you talking about?" he recalled of the initial idea of the Greater Plymouth Service Project some nine months earlier. Anti-hunger initiatives have been done previously, although not on this scale.

"We had our core Plymouth group come together," said Siegrist, who thanked the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and its Doug Wallace. Both Plymouth Rotary clubs, A.M. and Noon, both Kiwanis clubs, PARC leaders, Interact and Key Club were also essential.

"Basically, it was just a total community effort. It was unbelievable," Siegrist said.

Recipients include: Schoolcraft College's food pantry, the Plymouth-Canton schools anti-hunger backpack program, Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, Veterans Haven, Trinity Church's food pantry and Kids Against Hunger Coalition.



Tim and Rachel Clawson of Canton brought daughters Abby, 5, Kennedy, 7, Elizabeth, 3 months (in stroller), and son James, 3 (not pictured).

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. will take 10,000 meals for Flint relief, working through Salem Lutheran Church in Flint as well as Crossing Waters there. Crossing Waters goes door to door in Flint to determine needs, and will distribute those meals.

'Willing to serve'

Michael Burwell, president/CEO of Kids Against Hunger Coalition and a Milford resident, said Saturday, "It's going excellent. These guys are full of energy and willing to serve the community."

Burwell thanked PARC's Don Soenen for the facility, adding, "It's a collage of different groups sharing their gifts."

Organizers are plan-

ning a bigger event for next year already. Marlene Donoghue of Salem Township was volunteering at the Community Foundation of Plymouth information table, and is on that advisory board.

"It shows that this whole area is very community- and civic-minded," Donoghue said. "It was like the thundering herd," she added of the many volunteers entering the PARC gym to work.

"The cream always rises to the top," Siegrist added of the turnout and hard work. "Many hands make light work."

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Anna Schmidt weighs the package and adds spices.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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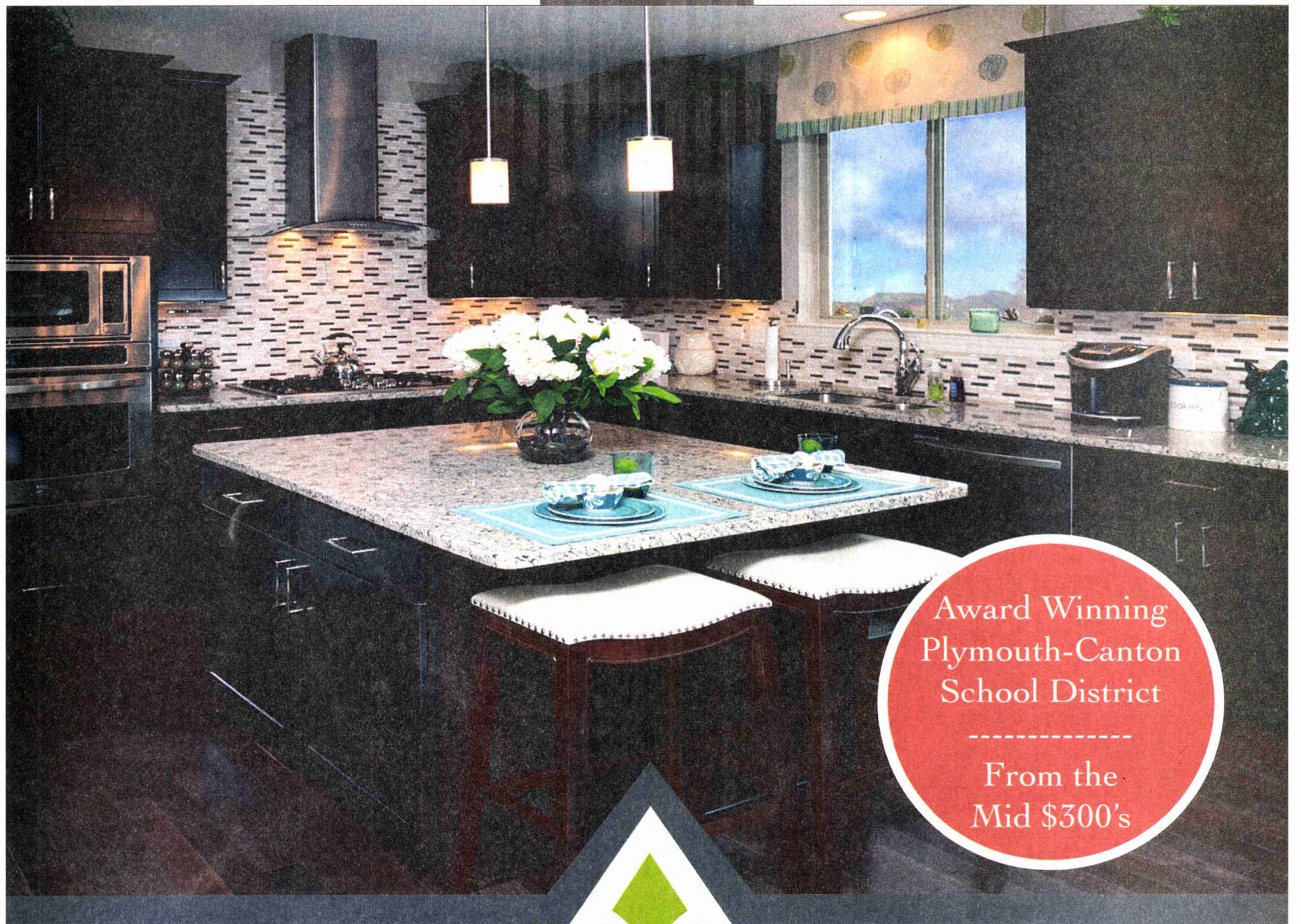
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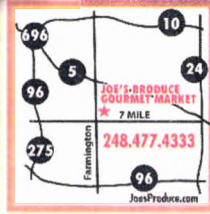
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PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Chiefs finish solid second at Observerland

Hard work pays off in a big way for on-the-rise Canton boys thinclads

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Hard work and consistent improvement produced a big payoff for Canton High School in the boys half of the annual Observerland Invitational in track and field Saturday.

The Chiefs received the runner-up trophy after scoring 95 points and finishing in second place at Farmington High School.

Livonia Churchill won the boys championship with 124. Canton was six points ahead of Stevenson and 11 in front of Salem.

"We've been improving every week here and the guys

have been really working hard," Chiefs coach Jess Shough said.

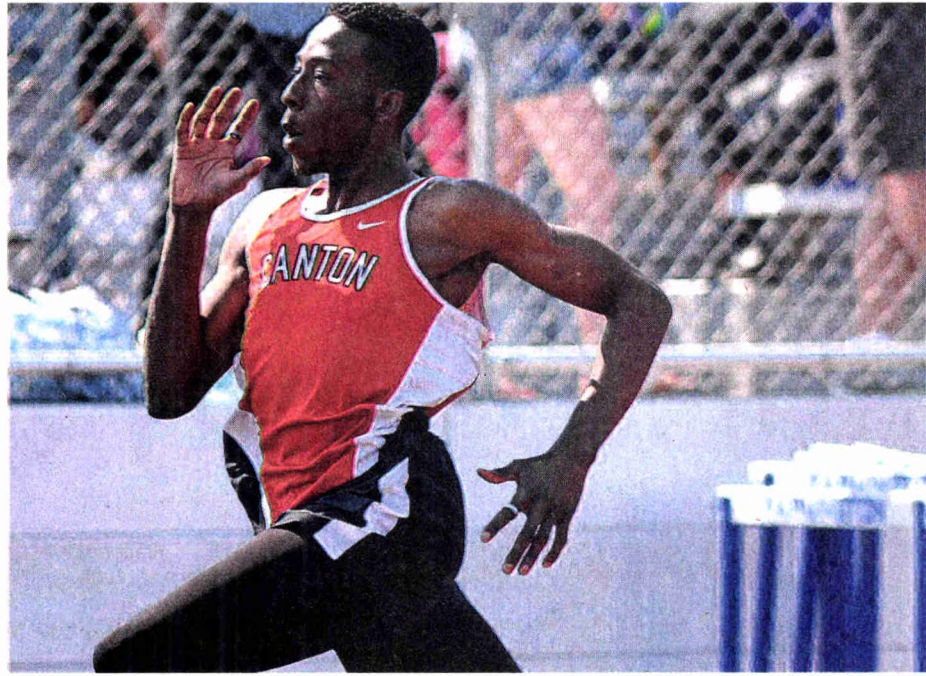
"Ninety-five points is pretty close to what we hoped we could get, so that's a great accomplishment, a great team effort."

A major plus for the Chiefs was the performance of their sprint relay teams, both of which captured first place.

Alan Jones, Brennon Pelland and Darren Davis were on both teams. Jemal Vaunado ran the third leg of the 800-meter race; Steve Walker did the same in the 400.

Canton ran 43.77 in the

See TRACK, Page B3



DAN DEAN
Canton's Darren Davis had a 100-meter prelim time of 11.12. Davis came in second in the final with a time of 11.08.

PREP SOFTBALL

Canton battery sparks victory

Big game by Payne, Porter lifts Chiefs to 7-5 win over Salem

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

It's the season of showdowns in the KLAA and the latest was Monday between two Park varsity softball rivals.

The battle of first-place teams went to the Canton Chiefs, victorious over host Salem by a 7-5 score.

The Chiefs and Rocks still have the inside track on clinching their respective division this week; if so, they will have another head-on collision May 16 in the Kensington Conference championship game.

Key to the victory were Canton battery mates Mackenna Payne and Victoria Porter, who combined for three homers and five RBIs in the match-up of Kensington Conference division leaders.

Payne pitched a solid game, giving up just nine hits and two walks. Salem sophomore pitcher Maddy Rosiewicz allowed seven hits through six innings, but could not keep the powerful tandem of Payne (two homers) and Porter from doing damage.

Power trip

"It was a good game. The girls hit the ball well, they just did not find the gaps," said Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland, whose team is 21-5 entering Wednesday's scheduled match-up against South Lyon East. "We hit a lot in the air, we did have good solid contact and only one strikeout, so we were aggressive, for sure."

"Canton was able to string a few hits together and hit deep at the right times. This might be one of the few games we didn't hit one over the fence. Canton was able to do

See SOFTBALL, Page B4



DAVE PAYNE

Connecting during Monday's game against Salem is Canton's Mackenna Payne.

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE CROSSOVER MEET

STAYING ON COURSE



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Kyle Kozler watches his tee shot Tuesday along with Brian Oldani of Canton and Hayden Winch of Salem.

Bad weather conditions don't foil P-CEP golfers at Fox Creek

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When it's raining buckets and is breezy, precisely the weather Tuesday at Fox Creek Golf Course in Livonia, all golfers like Plymouth senior James Baldwin can do is grin and bear it.

And, of course, make that next shot as much a winner as possible. Baldwin persevered through the elements to post 34 — good for first overall — to spark the Wildcats to a 150 tally and defeat Salem and Livonia Stevenson in a Kensington Conference boys golf crossover double-dual meet.

In second for the day was Canton, with 156, as the Chiefs also posted a pair of wins. Salem and Stevenson finished with scores of 161 and 162, respectively.

"Coming in, I really wasn't thinking of shooting something like that," Baldwin said. "I was just trying to post a decent number."

"Really, just pick a target and stick to the routine."

One shot at a time

It wasn't the easiest task, however, as the wet weather and soggy grounds required golfers to dial up the concen-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Suhas Potluri watches closely as he chips the golf ball Tuesday at Fox Creek in Livonia.

tration even more than normal.

"I really had to concentrate on every shot and just focus," said Salem senior Adam Marcero, who led the Rocks with 37. "On hole No. 7, I hit a shot out of play to the right. It really upset me, but I got up and down out of it after I dropped. Took a double (bogey) and just focused and got par-birdie out (on holes 8-9)."

According to Canton junior Suhas Potluri, the best way to navigate conditions such as Tuesday's is to "try to make par, play it safe and conservative."

Potluri finished with 38, tied for the top spot on his team with senior Brian Oldani.

"It was kind of tough, a little windy and rainy," Potluri said. "But overall, I played decent."

Plymouth senior Kyle Kozler finished with 38. He noted that it is important not to let weather impact performance, to stick as closely to the normal routine as possible.

"When it's raining, just make sure you go through your routine," Kozler said. "Still keep your hands dry, because that's the biggest part. That's it;

See GOLF, Page B4

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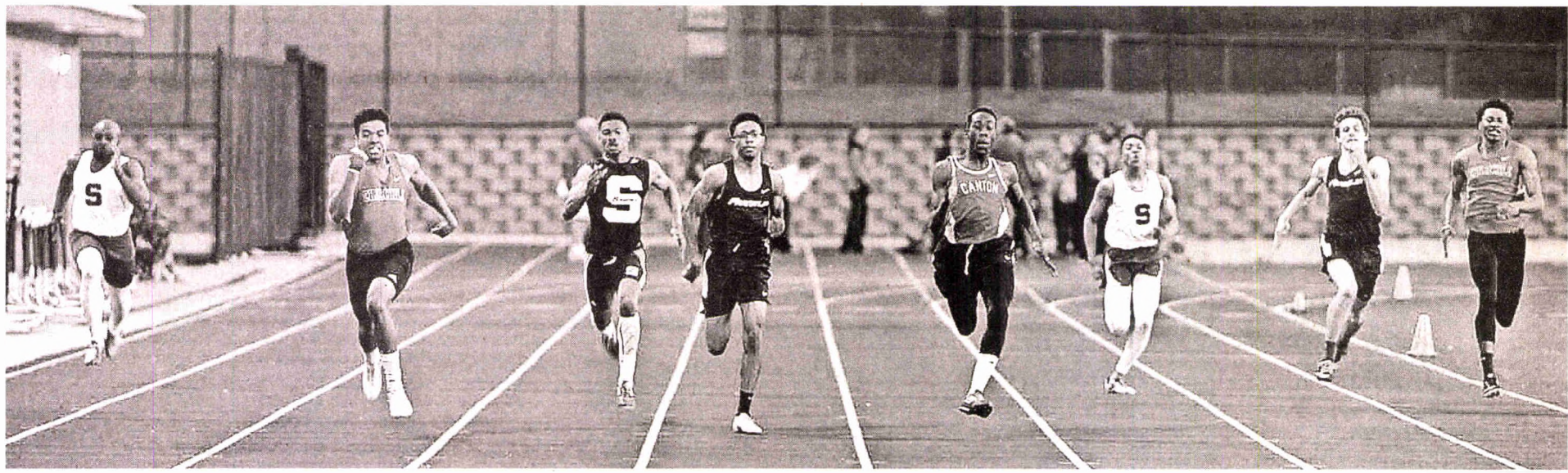
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The field makes its way to the finish line in the 200-meter final won by Churchill's Jamal Allen (second from left) in 22.17.

DAN DEAN

Churchill boys, girls top field at Observerland

Annual meet features new format to spice competition

Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

It was a great night to be a Churchill Charger at the annual Observerland Invitational for area track and field teams Saturday.

The Livonia high school was a double winner, capturing the boys and girls championships in the expanded and reformat competition at Farmington High School.

The Chargers won both meets going away, leading by insurmountable margins going into the final event and being the only teams to break the century mark in total points.

For the first time in the 46-year history of the event, the girls were included, too, and the format changed from mostly relays to a regional-style meet.

"I think our guys outscored us by half a point, so I'll have to hear about that from the guys coaches," Churchill girls coach Patrick Daugherty said. "But to have something like this, with the inaugural event and the new format, is very special for both programs and is something I'll cherish the rest of my coaching career."

"(Churchill boys coach) Rick (Austin) and I have been coaching together 16 years and this is very special for us, doing this in the same year. I'm very proud of both our teams for taking a win on the first time around for this."

The Chargers scored 124 points in the boys meet. In the late stages, the battle was for second place, which went to Canton with 95 points.

The top six included Livonia Stevenson (89), Salem (84), Southfield (61) and Novi-Detroit Catholic Central (59).

"I'm surprised we were able to score 124 points, but that's indicative of how excited our kids get about running at this meet," Austin said. "We were able to score three guys in the half."

"I think we're building up all the areas and we're a well-balanced team. If you're well-balanced in a regional-style meet like this, that bodes well for scoring a lot of points."

"We kind of miss the old relay format, but the meet was dying; so we had to do something to save it. I'm glad we went to the regional format, especially with the conference meet and regional coming up. So that helps everybody."

Southfield's Delan Wynn, who will play football at Tiffin University in Ohio, was a double winner in the 100 dash (10.95) and the 300 hurdles (40.19).

Stevenson and Salem also had two winners each. Salem's Chaz Jeffress was first in the 1,600 run (4:28.25) and Jannik Schmitt the shot put (54-9).

Stevenson's Malik Lowery won the long jump (20-1) and Aaron Simmon the high jump (6-0). The Spartans also won the 3,200 relay.

Canton's Andrew Koenigsnecht won the pole vault (14-1) and the Chiefs won both sprint relays.

The other boys winners were Garden City's Denzel Tinsley in the high hurdles (14.59) and Livonia Franklin's Tony Floyd in the 3,200 run (9:47.51).



Salem's Gino Persicone took third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:02.23.

DAN DEAN

athlete we've had.

"I'll be real excited when she sees serious competition to run against. She's already broken three school records this year. The only one left to be broken is the (4 by 400) and they're, like, a second off the school record."

Farmington won four open events and the 400 relay with a time of 50.78.

Akili Echols won the 100 (12.27), Maddy Trevisan the 1,600 (5:03.56), Morgan Merlino the 800 (2:18.64) and Morgan Murphy the high jump (5-3).

The other girls winners were Cantara Williams, shot put, Southfield, 36-1½; Kyndra Parker, discus, Salem, 101-4; Emily Caragay, pole vault, Plymouth, 11-0; Mia Flynn, 100 hurdles, Mercy, 15.90; and Natalie Douglas, 3,200 run, Franklin, 11:13.42.

Churchill won five events in the boys meet, including the 1,600 relay in 3:28.14.

Demarco McKinney threw the discus 144-0. Carrington Smith ran the 400 meters in 50.69, Dash Dobar the 800 in 2:01.39 and Jamal Allen the 200 in 22.17.

"Our sprinters are beginning to find their way, and our half-milers broke it open tonight," Austin said. "We were able to score three guys in the half."

"I think we're building up all the areas and we're a well-balanced team. If you're well-balanced in a regional-style meet like this, that bodes well for scoring a lot of points."

"We kind of miss the old relay format, but the meet was dying; so we had to do something to save it. I'm glad we went to the regional format, especially with the conference meet and regional coming up. So that helps everybody."

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Twitter address: @domeara5



Farmington's Maddy Trevisan was in front from start to finish in the 1,600-meter run, finishing in 5:03.56.

DAN DEAN



Salem's Haven Essian (left) is edged at the finish line by Mercy's Mia Flynn in the 100-meter hurdles. Flynn's time was 15.90, while Essian finished with a time 15.98.

DAN DEAN

**OBSERVERLAND INVITE
BOYS TRACK AND FIELD
May 7 at Farmington HS**

Team standings: 1. Livonia Churchill, 124; 2. Canton, 95; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 89; 4. Salem, 84; 5. Southfield, 61; 6. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 59; 7. Livonia Franklin, 41; 8. Garden City, 33; 9. Birmingham Seaholm, 22½; 10. Farmington Harrison, 18; 11. Plymouth, 11½; 12. Redford Thurston, 10; 13. Farmington, 8; 14. Ferndale, 5; 15. Melvindale, 2.

Shot put: 1. Jannik Schmitt (SA), 54-9; 2. Demarco McKinney (LC), 48-8; 3. Nick Edney (GC), 47-10; 4. Jalen Edwards (SO), 47-2½; 5. Chris Bradbury (CC), 46-7½; 6. Alex Howie (SA), 45-8½; 7. Matthew Young (CC), 45-1½; 8. Ryan Woebkenberg (CC), 44-7.

Discus: 1. Demarco McKinney (LC), 144-0; 2. Jannik Schmitt (SA), 137-5; 3. DeAngelo Meredith (SA), 130-2; 4. Jalen Edwards (SO), 124-8; 5. Ryan Woebkenberg (CC), 124-0; 6. Michael Grabda (LC), 122-0; 7. Javon Edward (SO), 120-9; 8. Christian Pearson (SA), 120-4.

High jump: 1. Aaron Simmon (LS), 6-0; 2. Matthew Gilbert (SO), 6-0; 3. (tie) Ben Barton (SE) and Malik Lowery (LS), 5-9; 5. Brendan Gibbs (CC), 5-9; 6. (tie) Evan Marini (LS) and Cameron Knight (PI), 6-9; 8. Ovie Oghoulo (FH), 5-6.

Long jump: 1. Malik Lowery (LS), 20-1; 2. Brendan Smith (CC), 19-6½; 3. Noah Hendricks (FH), 19-4; 4. Kevin Colangelo (LC), 19-3¾; 5. Steve Walker (CA), 19-2½; 6. Ben Williams (FH), 19-2½; 7. Mike Licata (LS), 19-1; 8. Brandon Turner (FH), 18-9½.

Pole vault: 1. Andrew Koenigsnecht (CA), 14-1; 2. Logan Delonis (LS), 12-0; 3. Kameron Stancer (LC), 11-6; 4. Collin Bowersox (LS), 11-6; 5. Chuck Carey (CA), 11-0; 6. Drew Niemiec (LF), 11-0; 7. Jeff Miles (M), 11-0; 8. Nick Beculheimer (LC), 10-6.

3,200-meter relay: 1. Stevenson, 8:14.54; 2. Churchill, 8:15.89; 3. Seaholm, 8:21.45; 4. Plymouth, 8:35.00; 5. Catholic Central, 8:37.72; 6. Salem, 8:45.45; 7. Thurston, 8:54.53; 8. Franklin, 8:54.74.

110 hurdles: 1. Denzel Tinsley (GC), 14.59; 2. Jemal Vaunado (CA), 15.24; 3. Andrew Levens (CC), 15.33; 4. Evan Marini (LS), 15.49; 5. William Hill (GC), 15.51; 6. Eseoosa Arhebamen (SA), 15.54; 7. Haden Kasdorf (CC), 15.83; 8. Dakota Travis-Gilmore (LC), 16.17.

100 dash: 1. Delan Wynn (SO), 10.95; 2. Darren Davis (CA), 11.08; 3. Brandon

Smiley (LF), 11.11; 4. Andrew Davis (SA), 11.16; 5. Carrington Smith (LC), 11.36; 6. LaDarius Sharpe (LS), 11.36; 7. Steve Walker (CA), 11.76; 8. Ben Williams (FH), 11.80.

800 relay: 1. Canton, 1:31.25; 2. Churchill, 1:31.57; 3. Salem, 1:32.10; 4. Franklin, 1:32.58; 5. Garden City, 1:34.25; 6. Southfield, 1:35.08; 7. Stevenson, 1:35.33; 8. Catholic Central, 1:35.97.

1,600 run: 1. Chaz Jeffress (SA), 4:28.25; 2. Scott Smith (CC), 4:33.00; 3. Jack Ballint (LS), 4:34.04; 4. James Weekley (FH), 4:35.00; 5. Ethan Byrnes (PI), 4:35.70; 6. George Nummer (SE), 4:35.71; 7. Nick Trevisan (FA), 4:36.76; 8. Griffin Skaff (SA), 4:40.84.

400 relay: 1. Canton, 43.77; 2. Salem, 43.99; 3. Churchill, 44.16; 4. Franklin, 44.31; 5. Garden City, 45.50; 6. Stevenson, 45.96; 7. Catholic Central, 46.36; 8. Harrison, 46.80.

400 dash: 1. Carrington Smith (LC), 50.69; 2. Errol Franklin (RT), 52.07; 3. Caleb Moraw (CA), 52.30; 4. Joshua Momeyer (LC), 52.53; 5. Emerson Rogers (SO), 53.13; 6. Dirk Thornhill (CA), 53.22; 7. Anthony Marx (SE), 53.46; 8. Niquel Smith (LC), 53.87.

300 hurdles: 1. Delan Wynn (SO), 40.19; 2. Jamal Vaunado (CA), 40.46; 3. Andrew Levens (CC), 41.59; 4. William Hill (GC), 42.00; 5. Dakota Travis-Gilmore (LC), 42.59; 6. Ben Barton (SE), 42.81; 7. Haden Kasdorf (CC), 43.00; 8. Sharriff Dyer (SA), 43.09.

800 run: 1. Dash Dobar (LC), 2:01.39; 2. Alex Oquist (LS), 2:02.17; 3. Gino Persicone (SA), 2:02.23; 4. Brendan Meakin (LC), 2:02.61; 5. Jacob Kubinski (SA), 2:02.77; 6. Frank LaFave (LC), 2:03.24; 7. Jared Zella (SA), 2:04.38; 8. Scott Caspersen (SE), 2:05.05.

200 dash: 1. Jamal Allen (LC), 22.17; 2. Delan Wynn (SO), 22.36; 3. Darren Davis (CA), 22.37; 4. Brandon Smiley (LF), 22.40; 5. Christian Bagnall (LF), 23.26; 6. Antonio Alexander (LC), 23.32; 7. Sharriff Dyer (SA), 23.65; 8. VerShawn Patrick (SA), 24.12.

3,200 run: 1. Tony Floyd (LF), 9:47.51; 2. Zachary Clark (CA), 10:04.07; 3. Nick Trevisan (FA), 10:04.18; 4. Will McElgunn (FE), 10:06.43; 5. Jacob Kubinski (SA), 10:09.28; 6. Tyler Opydyke (LC), 10:09.47; 7. Alex McLaren (CC), 10:11.95; 8. Ben Williams (SE), 10:13.78.

1,600 relay: 1. Churchill, 3:28.14; 2. Canton, 3:28.78; 3. Southfield, 3:38.13; 4. Stevenson, 3:38.20; 5. Salem, 3:38.25; 6. Catholic Central, 3:41.09; 7. Franklin, 3:42.74; 8. Seaholm, 3:43.53.



DAN DEAN

Farmington's Akili Echols crosses the finish line first in the 100 meters with a time of 12.27, while Canton's Jada Sabir (12.53) is second and Redford Union's Jaliyah Gray crosses in fourth place with a time of 12.84.

**OBSERVERLAND INVITE
GIRLS TRACK & FIELD
May 7 at Farmington HS**

Team standings: 1. Livonia Churchill, 123 1/2 points; 2. Farmington, 96; 3. Birmingham Seaholm, 67; 4. Salem, 65; 5. North Farmington, 45; 6. Canton, 40; 7. Plymouth, 39; 8. Livonia Franklin, 37 1/2; 9. Farmington Hills Mercy, 33 1/2; 10. Livonia Stevenson, 30 1/2; 11. (tie) Southfield and Livonia Ladywood, 11; 13. Farmington Harrison, 20; 14. Redford Union, 11; 15. Garden City, 8; 16. Plymouth Christian, 4; 17. Redford Thurston, 1.

Shot put: 1. Cantara Williams (SO), 36-1 1/2; 2. Kyndra Parker (SA), 32-11 1/2; 3. Deja Adams (FA), 32-6; 4. Ti VanHorn (FH), 32-5; 5. Elise Wehmer (P), 32-4; 6. Melissa Fular (LC), 31-10 1/2; 7. Natalia Lewandowski (SA), 31-10; 8. Alexis Browning (LF), 30-7.

Discus: 1. Kyndra Parker (SA), 101-4; 2. Ayo-ola Sobowale (FH), 99-11; 3. April Seilo (M), 99-8; 4. Micayla Martin (FA), 94-6; 5. Hannah Egan (LS), 89-9; 6. Indya Hood (M), 89-4; 7. Cecilia Norris (FA), 88-1; 8. Melissa Fular (LC), 87-9.

Long jump: 1. Iamani Moultrie (LC), 16-3 3/4; 2. Mia Flynn (M), 16-0; 3. Shanya Butler (CA), 16-0; 4. Raven Tatum (NF), 15-8; 5. Mikaela Hillie (LF), 15-6 1/2; 6. Ally Hill (LL), 15-4 1/2; 7. Carlena Toombs (SO), 14-8 1/2; 8. Gabby Hamil-Paulina (SE), 14-8.

High jump: 1. Morgan Murphy (FA), 5-3; 2. (tie) Julie Wonch (LF), Ryan Sparks (CA) and Arianna Allman (M), 5-0; 3. Katherine Harris (P), 5-0; 6. Heather Meadows (SE), 5-0; 7. Gabby Chouinard (P), 4-9; 8. Jillian Betts (P), 4-9.

Pole vault: 1. Emily Caragay (P), 11-0; 2. Olivia Ryktarsyk (LC), 10-6; 3. (tie) Shannon Burke (LS) and Natlie Yurgil (LC), 10-0; 5. Cate Visscher (LC), 9-6; 6. Natalie Janke (P), 9-6; 7. Sommer Pappas (LS), 9-0; 8. Ashley Rebaun (LC), 8-6.

3,200-meter relay: 1. Churchill, 9:45.08; 2. Seaholm, 9:57.24; 3. Stevenson, 10:12.42; 4. Salem, 10:17.22; 5. Ladywood, 10:17.30; 6. Canton, 10:18.06; 7. Plymouth, 10:50.96; 8. Garden City, 11:05.78.

100 hurdles: 1. Mia Flynn (M), 15.90; 2. Haven Essian (SA), 15.98; 3. Takiya Bradley (LC), 16.14; 4. Heather Meadows (SE), 16.53; 5. Daria Cook (FH), 16.69; 6. Gabby Hamil-Paulina (SE), 16.96; 7. Nadine Salamey (P), 17.37; 8. Casadie Searcy (NF), 17.57.

100 dash: 1. Akili Echols (FA), 12.27; 2. Jada Sabir (RU), 12.53; 3. Mycah Lewis (NF), 12.67; 4. Jaliyah Gray (RU), 12.84; 5. Jaila Brooks (FA), 12.96; 6. Jessica Krone (CA), 13.10; 7. Iamani Moultrie (LC), 13.11; 8. Hannah Blakey (M), 13.21.

800 relay: 1. Churchill, 1:43.52; 2. North Farmington, 1:44.81; 3. Canton, 1:45.96; 4. Salem, 1:48.10; 5. Seaholm, 1:52.54; 6. Southfield, 1:52.54; 7. Harrison, 1:52.81; 8. Stevenson, 1:53.47.

1,600 run: 1. Maddy Trevisan (FA), 5:03.56; 2. Abby Inch (FA), 5:12.87; 3. Rachel McCardell (SE), 5:13.51; 4. Christina Murphy (LC), 5:21.60; 5. Emily Rooney (SE), 5:22.61; 6. Erin Seibert (LF), 5:26.46; 7. Corey Szymaniak (GC), 5:28.16; 8. Kathleen George (LC), 5:33.52.

400 relay: 1. Farmington, 50.78; 2. Salem, 51.23; 3. North Farmington, 51.46; 4. Redford Union, 52.88; 5. Stevenson, 52.98; 6. Southfield, 53.34; 7. Seaholm, 53.45; 8. Harrison, 53.94.

400 dash: 1. Chanel Gardner (LC), 57.34; 2. Julie Wonch (LF), 1:00.13; 3. AJ Williams (NF), 1:00.23; 4. Ally Hill (LL), 1:01.96; 5. Allie Crecelius (P), 1:02.31; 6. Alyssa Knight (SA), 1:03.02; 7. Lily Tripp (SE), 1:03.24; 8. Dasia Johnson (RT), 1:03.36.

300 hurdles: 1. Takiya Bradley (LC), 47.24; 2. Gabby Hamil-Paulina (SE), 49.00; 3. Kayla Dudek (P), 50.00; 4. Maddie Bastin (LL), 51.50; 5. Erin McCann (SA), 51.51; 6. Nadine Salamey (P), 51.85; 7. Heather Meadows (SE), 52.24; 8. Diane Senkowski (LS), 53.17.

800 run: 1. Morgan Merlino (FA), 2:18.64; 2. Patty Girardot (SE), 2:23.35; 3. Kaya Knake (SA), 2:24.33; 4. Emily Lauzon (LC), 2:26.10; 5. Megan Gendjar (LC), 2:28.14; 6. Alexia Lombardo (LC), 2:28.64; 7. Ana White (P), 2:30.27; 8. Reagan McNally (SE), 2:32.28.

200 dash: 1. Chanel Gardner (LC), 25.03; 2. Akili Echols (FA), 25.50; 3. Jade Sabir (CA), 25.77; 4. AJ Williams (NF), 25.82; 5. Raven Tatum (NF), 25.90; 6. Carlena Toombs (SO), 26.57; 7. Julie Wonch (LF), 26.57; 8. Jaliyah Gray (RU), 26.82.

3,200 run: 1. Natalie Douglas (LF), 11:13.42; 2. Abby Inch (P), 11:28.33; 3. Christina Murphy (LC), 11:34.24; 4. Corey Szymaniak (GC), 11:43.12; 5. Kathleen George (LC), 11:44.17; 6. Whitney Reid (NF), 11:56.79; 7. Kati Beckerman (SE), 12:02.89; 8. Anna Nagelhout (CA), 12:05.50.

1,600 relay: 1. Churchill, 4:05.68; 2. Seaholm, 4:12.61; 3. Salem, 4:13.64; 4. Farmington, 4:20.53; 5. Ladywood, 4:21.14; 6. Franklin, 4:30.31; 7. Stevenson, 4:34.42; 8. North Farmington, 4:41.95.

PREP BASEBALL

Rocks edge Chiefs 1-0 on two-out rally

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Salem didn't need much of an attack to get past Canton in Monday's KLAAs Kensington Conference varsity baseball crossover. All it took was one run, which the Rocks managed to get thanks to a two-out rally in the fifth inning, to earn a 1-0 victory.

The Rocks got on the board against Canton's tough-luck losing pitcher Greg Goodbred when Trevor Genaw singled home Alex Nicholson (who started the rally with a two-out hit).

That turned out to be plenty for Salem pitcher Sean McCormack, who threw a complete game shutout. McCormack yielded four hits, but was the recipient of four double plays — three of which ended Canton innings.

"We never had a runner on second," Chiefs head coach Mark Blomshield said.

Canton still leads the KLAAs South with a record of 11-3 (19-7 overall). Salem is 7-4 in the KLAAs Central and 16-5 overall.

PCA wins two

Plymouth Christian Academy's baseball team had on its collective hitting shoes Saturday, as the Eagles romped to a doubleheader sweep over Ypsilanti Arbor Prep. PCA won 15-5 in the opener and 10-0 in the nightcap.

Game 2 featured the shutout pitching of Josh Mason, who gave up just two hits and a walk while striking out 11.

Jake Shook (three hits) and Elijah Grit (two hits) paced the attack. Others with a hit were Will Crecelius, Adam Albert, Nathan Bishop (double), Matt Cusumano and Phillip Morby.

In the opener, Nick Andres collected three hits and drove in four runs, while Josh Slater singled and doubled for PCA.

Helping the cause with doubles were Shook and Grit, with Morby, A.J. Greuber, Connor Smith, Mason, Corley B. Greiner and Norby Fernandez each contributing a single.

Josh Slater earned the victory with four innings of work, allowing five runs. Pitching the final two innings was Grit.

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

Canton hockey tryouts

Tryouts are just around the corner for hockey players looking to make Canton High School's 2015-16 varsity or prep teams.

Varsity tryouts will take place at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 23, and 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 24.

Tryouts for the prep (JV) team are set for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, May 25-26.

Each skate costs \$15 and will take place at Arctic Edge Arena on Michigan Avenue, west of Canton Center Road. For more information, contact Mark Wherrett at 734-837-6854 or Dave Flack at 734-658-3507.

Salem coaching vacancy

Salem High School is looking for a new varsity girls swimming coach, to succeed the retired Chuck Olson.

Interested applicants should email athletic director Brian Samulski at brian.samulski@pccsk12.com.

Minimum requirements for applicants include the following: high school graduate or equivalent; experience in high school level coaching or competing at the college/university level in swimming; have a time schedule compatible with that of high school; CPR and/or first-aid training preferred; demonstrated ability to work with parents and children.

Salem camp offerings

A series of summer camps is being offered at Salem High School.

Contact athletic director Brian Samulski at brian.samulski@pccsk12.com or go to the Salem athletics website if interested.

Following are the various offerings:

Sports Camp Grades 1-5: Fee is \$60 for residents, \$70 for non-residents; camp is 9 a.m. Monday through Thursday, July 11-14; for boys and girls of all ages in grades K-5.

Basketball Skills Camp (Boys - Grades 5-9): Fee is \$85 for residents, \$95 for non-residents; camp is 8 a.m. Monday through Friday, June 20-24.

Basketball Youth Camp (Girls - Grades 3-6): Fee is \$50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents; camp is 10 a.m. Monday through Thursday, June 27-30. Boys also are welcome to sign up.

Basketball Youth Camp (Girls - Grades 7-12): Fee is \$50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents; camp is 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, June 6-9. Boys also are welcome to sign up.

Volleyball Skills Camp (Girls - Grades 3-6): Fee is \$70 for residents, \$80 for non-residents; camp is 2 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, June 27-29.

Volleyball Skills Camp (Girls - Grades 7-12): Fee is \$85 for residents, \$95 for non-residents; camp is 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, June 27-29.

Hole-in-one club

» Jeff Horton, 60, of Plymouth, registered a hole-in-one April 27 at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

He aced the 108-yard No. 5 hole on the Woods course, using a 9-iron and Titleist Pro V1 ball.

» Marty Rapson, 54, of Plymouth, shot a hole-in-one April 27 at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

He aced the 108-yard No. 5 hole on the Woods course, using a Callaway Gap Wedge and Titleist ball.



DAN DEAN

Canton's Andrew Koenigsknecht won the pole vault with a jump of 14-1. Here he misses on an attempt at 14-8.

TRACK

Continued from Page B1

latter and 1:31.25 in the former, edging Salem and Churchill by fractions of a second, respectively. The Chiefs also were second in the 1,600 relay.

"Our relay teams did very well; they improved," Shough said. "We came on real strong here; we scored in most places."

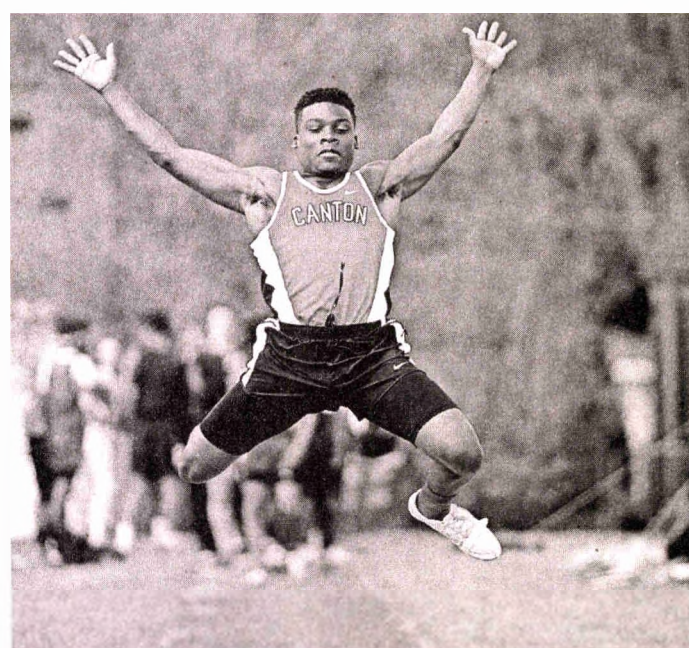
Davis had a big night, finishing second in the 100 dash and third in the 200 in addition to his anchor-leg contributions to the relays.

Andrew Koenigsknecht won the pole vault at a height of 14 feet, 1 inch, and teammate Chuck Carey was fifth in that event.

Vaunado was the runner-up in both hurdling events, while Zachary Clark finished second in the 3,200 run.

Caleb Moraw placed third and Dirk Thornhill sixth in the 400 meters. Walker was fifth in the long jump and seventh in the 100 dash.

"We scored in a lot of places where we keep improving," Shough said. "I'm really proud of the team,



DAN DEAN

Canton's Steven Walker finished in fifth place in the long jump with a best jump of 19-2 1/4.

proud of the effort. We hope to keep improving for the league and regional meets.

"The Chiefs are coming. Our theme is the 'Chief force awakens' and that's what we're planning on

doing.

"We're getting better every week and planning on peaking here for the league meet and regional. We hope to qualify a number of kids for the state meet."

BOYS LACROSSE

Canton makes Novi its 13th straight victim

Wildcats fight valiantly in 11-8 setback to Chiefs

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

It's already the best boys lacrosse season in Canton history, but the undefeated Chiefs are far from achieving any of their goals.

Novi came into the KLAAs Kensington Conference encounter with a six-game winning streak, but the Chiefs made the Wildcats their 13th straight victim with an 11-8 win Friday at Plymouth High School.

"I knew we were going to have a good team coming into the season," Canton coach Fred Karam said. "I knew we had an opportunity to compete for the KLAAs this year. I'm a little surprised we're undefeated so far, but not too much. We've got the players. They play together as a team and I think we've peaked at the right time."

It was the closest game of the year for the Chiefs since a season-opening 12-9 triumph April 11 over Tecumseh. Eight of Canton's 13 wins this season have been by double digits.

"Give them credit, they came back, we kind of lost ourselves a little bit and good thing that we had a substantial lead," Karam said. "We got some things we've got to work on, but every game can't be perfect. It's been a good run for us. We got some things we got to clean up, but we'll be ready. Not every win is beautiful, but we'll take the 'W' and we'll move on."

The Chiefs, who led 6-1 at halftime and 9-2 after three quarters, were led by junior attack Drew Montgomery, who finished with four goals and



Canton's Reid McDonnell (middle) streaks up the field against Novi's Michael Leon (left) and Griffin Sparling.

one assist.

Senior attack Carson Pakula contributed two goals and two assists, while Nick Polydoros, Lukas Pashigian and Ben Phillips also scored a goal.

Micah Rinke also had two assists, with Connor Flannigan, Reid McDonnell and Polydoros getting one each.

"The first three periods, we played well," said Karam, whose team improved to 3-0 in the conference. "Our game is a possession game. In the fourth (quarter), what started it off, we had a penalty for three minutes on an unreleaseable and that kind of threw us a little bit. We didn't have possession."

Novi (6-6, 2-1) got three fourth-quarter goals from junior attack Anthony Zugaro and one each from Griffin Sparling, who finished the night with three goals and one assist, Ian Patterson and Chase Sparling.

"We couldn't get the ground balls," Karam said. "And usually, when we get into our offense, we possess the ball. I think we had one, maybe two good possessions in the fourth,

but we just could get it down. And like I said, give Novi credit, they did a good job in fourth and pushed us."

It was Zugaro's unassisted goal with only 53.6 seconds left that cut the deficit to 11-8, but the Wildcats simply ran out of time.

"We've sort of been a second-half team all season when we faced top-level teams and this game was no different," first-year Novi coach Chris Johnson said. "It was just unfortunate we found our spark a little too late. If it happened a little bit sooner or there was more time on the clock, it's a different result."

Chase Sparling, a sophomore face-off specialist, won a majority of his draws in the final quarter to help the Wildcats maintain possession.

"Chase really showed today that he's one of the top face-off guys in the state and he's only gotten better throughout the season," Johnson said. "He just fought, fought and fought the whole game right up until the end. We just ran out of clock."

The trump card for Canton may have been the play of



Novi's Anthony Zugaro (right) battles Canton's Kumar Johnson.

burly senior goalie Trevor Stahl, who repeatedly came up with critical saves throughout the night.

"He's not the prototype but, man, especially in the first half, he was great," Johnson said. "I think we ended up shooting the ball into him a little bit. He made some huge saves and kind of stood on his head most of the game."

Karam didn't disagree with Johnson's assessment.

"He was good; he was money," he said of Stahl. "He made some great saves early on and made some great saves at the end. Everybody contributed one way or another."

"You're always disappointed when you lose," Johnson

said. "But with the roll we were on, we had something coming into this game that would keep it going. The challenge and the key is going to be refocusing and getting over the finish line for the end of the season."

Meanwhile, it was another victory and the Chiefs will take it.

"You can't win every game elegantly," Karam said. "I told the guys before the game the bull's-eye is on our back right now and everyone wants to take us down. We're going to take a positive from this and the guys are going to learn from the fourth quarter that the game is not over until the last buzzer."

BOYS GOLF

Plymouth makes a statement

Wildcats nearly catch CC at Milliken Millwork tourney

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

If the Plymouth Wildcats are to win a Division 1 state championship this season, chances are good they'll have to go through Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

On Monday, the Wildcats nearly did just that at the Milliken Millwork Tournament, held at the Wyngate Country Club in Oakland Township.

Plymouth tallied a 303 score, trailing the champion Shamrocks (301) by just two strokes.

Leading the Wildcats were juniors Justin Kapke and Jack Boczar, who registered scores of 71 (1-under par) and 73, respectively. Also stellar were seniors Logan Stefanko (79), Kyle Kozler (80) and James Baldwin (81).

"Kapke's playing well. He was struggling for a while," Plymouth head coach Dan Young said. "He shot a 71 and was in second place. Jack's been unbelievable; he shot a 73."

Chiefs eighth

Canton finished eighth out of 14 teams at the Huron Valley Invitational, held at par-72 Prestwick Village Golf Club. Lakeland and Northville



Plymouth golfers are all smiles after posting 303, good for second place, at Monday's Milliken Millwork Tournament at the Wyngate Country Club.

finished first and second with scores of 315 and 321, respectively.

Sophomore Patrick McDougall led the Chiefs with 80, followed by junior Dominic Dimaya (84), junior Curt Yun

and sophomore D.J. Jablonski (89 each), junior Ryan Witczak (90) and sophomore Paul Maurer (94).

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GOLF

Continued from Page B1

you play your normal game.

"You just know to hit your approach shots closer to the hole, because it's going to be a slower green."

All four teams were looking to pick up two points in the conference standings against two rivals from the opposite division (Canton and Plymouth of the KLAAs South both played KLAAs Central teams Salem and Stevenson).

Grind it out

Coaches said golfers know their scores will be slightly higher because of the slow greens and mushy landscape. That cannot become an excuse for mistakes, however.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Following through after a tee shot is Plymouth junior Jack Boczar, during Tuesday's crossover match at Fox Creek.

"It's hard, so you just got to grind and hang in there, do the best you can," Wildcats head coach Dan Young said. "Focus

on one shot at a time. If you make a mistake, you got to take your medicine and deal with it, not make a big deal about it, because it's going to happen when it's real cold, windy and wet. And it was pouring rain most of the round."

Young said he reminds golfers to "slow down a little bit, slow your swing down a little bit. Just try to make good contact."

Meanwhile, both Tom Alles of Canton and Ryan Nimmerguth of Salem were pleased with how their teams performed under the trying conditions.

"We played well," Alles said. "I didn't know how they were going to respond in this kind of weather, but they played very well as a team."

"We had three scores in the

30s and our fourth score was 41, so that was very consistent. That's what I like."

Nimmerguth said there were "a lot of pretty good scores for the conditions today. They know what to expect. We don't play in this type of weather too often, but we just tell them to stay focused."

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE
DOUBLE DUAL
Tuesday, May 10
at Fox Creek GC

Medalist: James Baldwin, Plymouth, 34
Plymouth (150): James Baldwin, 34; Kyle Kozler, 38; Jack Boczar, 39; Logan Stefanko, 39.
Canton (156): Brian Oldani, 38; Suhas Potluri, 38; Phillip Conrad, 39; Dominic Dimaya, 41.
Salem (161): Adam Marcano, 37; Shawn Weldon, 39; Hayden Winch, 40; Travis Stott, 45.
Stevenson (162): Connor Jakacki, 38; Jon McDonald, 40; Easton Schlatterbeck, 42; Trevor Lopus, 42.

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SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

that today."

The Rocks got off to a quick start, scoring in the first on a single by Kristin Mihalic, a walk to Rosiewicz and a Canton error.

But the Chiefs came back to tie the game on back-to-back singles by seniors Porter and Elizabeth Yager.

A two-run blast by Payne in the third put the Chiefs ahead to stay. Adding to the lead was Porter's two-run homer in the

fourth and Payne notched her second of the game and seventh of the season before the inning was over to make it 7-5.

Top contributors for Salem were Rosiewicz and Kara Hutchison (two singles each), Jamie Squires (double), Jenna Taylor (double), Jordan Hazel (double), Mihalic (single) and Overaitis (single).

Plymouth prevails

The Plymouth varsity softball team defeated South Lyon, 6-2, Monday behind strong pitching from sophomore Jenny Bressler.

Rachel Zerona (2-for-3,

double) and Gina Barber (two hits) keyed the attack for the Wildcats (13-4).

Two multi-run innings catapulted Plymouth to victory. In the second, Mikayla Rose reached base and advanced on a wild pitch before scoring on a single by Barber.

After Kiersten Metz's sacrifice bunt moved Barber to second, the inning's second run scored on a passed ball.

Plymouth tacked on two more runs in the fifth. Jessica Tucci singled and stole second base, followed by a walk to Haley Gagnon. Both scored on a hit by Whitney Holden.

A string of singles capped off the win. Gagnon singled, stole second and came home on a single by Holden. Cali Jones followed with a base hit.

The Wildcats were scheduled Wednesday to honor seniors Jones and Zerona against Livonia Franklin.

SALEM 9-16, NOVI 7-4: The Rocks won both-ends of a makeup doubleheader Friday against visiting Novi.

In the opener, Overaitis and Squires both collected three hits while driving in two and three runs, respectively. Both players homered and singled twice.

Also going deep was Hutchison, while Mihalic tripped.

In Game 2, the Rocks unleashed a 17-hit attack, with two hits each by Mihalic, Overaitis, Hutchison, Squires, Hailey DeChalk, Amy Hines and Taylor.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Senior night a real smash for Wildcats

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The rain fell, but that didn't stop Plymouth from enjoying senior night Wednesday, May 4, at the Park.

Sparked by eight goals from senior co-captain Natalie Nowicki, the Wildcats rolled to a 14-6 victory over the combined Walled Lake North/Central varsity girls lacrosse team.

In addition to Nowicki, honored seniors were co-captains Marissa Cirino, Abigail Bolterman and Sabrina Schiftar.

It also was a special senior night for Cirino, who scored three goals and tallied six assists — the most helpers in a game in school history.

Schiftar helped the cause with two goals, while Cierra Steiner, Cathryn Vandenberg and Michelle Cirino each scored one goal.

Bolterman was strong on defense for the Wildcats, along with Megan Eshelbach, Emily LeBlanc and Shelby Strawn.

Strong in net was goalkeeper Elizabeth Elliott, who made a number of outstanding stops.

Plymouth will look to keep the momentum going at Saturday's Ladywood Tournament.

Lions stop Salem

Also May 4, Salem's varsity girls lacrosse team lost 16-8 to South Lyon.

The Rocks trailed 6-3 at halftime (with Salem goals by juniors Madison Mullins, Stephanie Miller and Leah Tardiff).

Salem cut the Lions' lead to 6-5 in the second half, but could not get over the proverbial hump despite Tardiff's four-goal performance.

Chipping in two goals was Mullins, with the other goals by Miller and junior Kayla Goleniak.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

Thirty-two couples recently celebrated their wedding anniversaries at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia.

The Fourth Degree Honor Guard from Knights of Columbus participated in a procession at the beginning of the "Jubilarian Mass." During the Mass the Rev. Kevin Thomas blessed the couples and led them in a renewal of their wedding vows.

The group included Bill and Pat Mikkelsen, Glenn and Dianne Frisch, Ed and Carol Moros, Frank and Gail Orr, Vince and Pat Bastine, David and Jane Begley, Charles and Carrie Calomeni, Paul and Mary Gieske, Hank and Kathy Phillips, Mike and Annette Schwab, Chris and Nancy Bosen, Mark and Kathleen Kazmierska, Conrad and Zoysia Kudelko, Ray and Maureen Wakenell, Norm and Judy Hamady, Rick and Andrea Krollicki, Joe and Nancy Naujokas, David and Deborah Rutkey, Will and Carol Sullivan, Greg and Marcy Vance, Arturo and Patricia Villarruel, Donald and Gail Esler, Frank and Janice Grisa, Frank and Rose Grisa, Scott and Robin Mercer, Bob and Elizabeth Schulz, Frank and Paula Suchanek, David and Lisa Weber, Craig Beyrand and Dr. Marie Delewsky, Steven and Beatrice Schmidt, Mike and Kathy Stacey, Terry and Gerri Scharnhorst.

Here's a listing of other local faith-related activities:

MAY BREAKFAST

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Sunday, May 15

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: French toast, pancakes, sausage, ham, applesauce, scrambled eggs, coffee, milk, juice; \$3 adults, \$1.50 children, 2-10

Contact: 734-425-4421

CHARITY CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 14

Location: St. Mel's Catholic Church, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Road in Dearborn Heights.

Details: Admission is \$1 with all proceeds to help veterans and their families. Bake sale, food available.

Contact: AmericanLegionAux396craftshow@yahoo.com.

CONCERT

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. May 15

Location: Lola Park Lutheran Church, 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: The Concert Choir of Michigan Lutheran Seminary of Saginaw performs. A free will offering will be accepted

Contact: 313-532-8655 or 734-968-3523

DANCE

Time/Date: 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. buffet, May 15

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church, 26375 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: Music by the Off Beats and entertainment for children. Tickets, including dinner and refreshments, are \$40 per person; free for children, 12 and under. Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit to benefit retired Orthodox priests and priests' widows.

Contact: Mihaela Charlier at 313-595-7640 or ccccdetroit@yahoo.com

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. May 15

Location: Prentis Apartments community room, 15100 10 Mile, Oak Park

Details: Stitch and Kvell session. Bring a project to work on and a few to show. Pomegranate Guild of Southeastern Michigan studies and creates Judaic needlework

Contact: Judy Galperin at 248-661-5337 or jmgbloom@gmail.com

RUMMAGE SALE

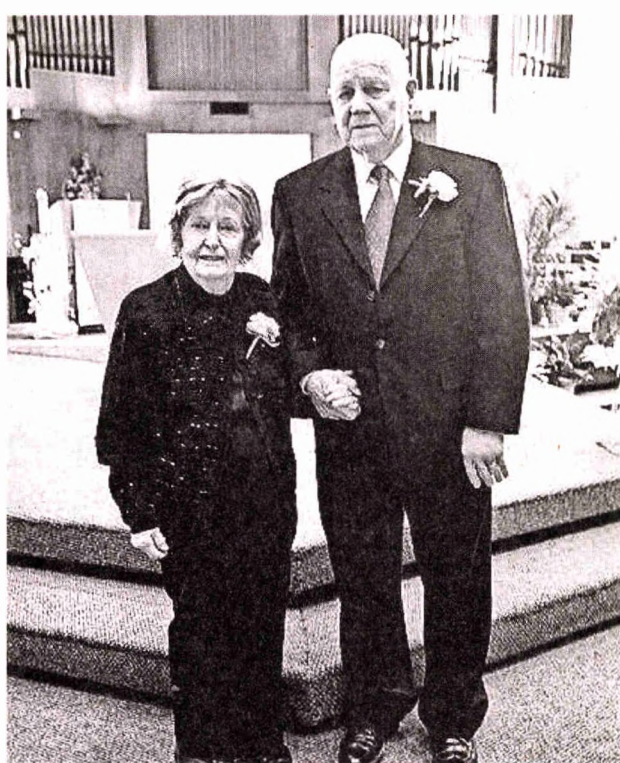
Time/Date: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, May 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, May 20

Location: First Farmington United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave., at Warner Street, Farmington

Details: Bag sale will be Friday. Items that don't fit in the bag will be half off that day

Contact: 248-474-6573

RUMMAGE, BAKE SALE



Bill and Pat Mikkelsen celebrate their marriage at a Jubilarian Mass at St. Aidan. The couple has been married 65 years.

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 13-14

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman, Livonia

Details: Furniture, crafts, electronics, books, clothing, toys, kitchen items, small appliances, holiday decorations, jewelry, collectibles, gadgets, antiques, office items and more. \$3 bag sale begins at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Cash only

Contact: 734-427-1414

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday-Friday, May 12-13, 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 14

Location: St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School, 5885 Venoy, between Ford and Warren Road, Westland

Details: Free admission; \$5 bag sale Saturday

Contact: 734-425-0260

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday, May 20, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 21

Location: Atonement Lutheran Church, 6961 Mead, Dearborn

Details: Clothes, shoes, toys, household items and more; cash sales only

Contact: 313-581-2525

JUNE GOOD NEWS DAY CAMP

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 20-24

Location: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: Activities include worship, praise singing, games, arts and crafts, Bible study, nature study and more. Includes snacks. Early-bird registration is \$65 for the first child in the family, \$60 for the second child, and \$55 for each additional child. After May 29, registration is \$65 per child. Deadline to register is June 13

Contact: Judy Cook at 248-442-8822

HAWAIIAN LUAU

Time/Date: 5:30 p.m.-dusk, Saturday, June 11

Location: St. Mel's Church, 7506 Inkster Road, Dearborn Heights

Details: Pig roast and catered dinner, Hawaiian dancers with fire wands, and cash bar. Held rain or shine. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for kids, 6-10 and free for ages 5 and under. One free drink is included with admission. Tickets are available at the parish office, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or call 313-274-0684

Contact: Grace Topolewski at 734-525-3607

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May

Location: 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own Bible

Contact: 734-261-1455, ext 200 or on line at www.livoniast-michael.org.

Faith Community Wesleyan

Time/Date: 4-5 p.m. every Saturday

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

Contact: pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE

Time/Date: 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday

Location: Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia

Details: Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

Time/Date: Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month

Location: The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia

Details: The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.

Contact: Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or email Stacey Badeen at sbadeen@bosm.com

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Ethanief Defoe at 248-227-6617 and Jody Fleszar at 734-658-2463

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

Contact: Amy at 313-937-3084 or Kristen at 734-542-0767

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

Contact: 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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

Location: 7000 N. Sheldon, Canton

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

Contact: 734-459-3333 for additional information

Recycling

RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month

Location: 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth

Details: Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.

Contact: Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

Detroit World Outreach

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

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304

Details: Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

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

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 14 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

Contact: 313-534-0399

SONG CIRCLE

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m. every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: 248-737-1931 or email nancyellen879@att.net.

SUPPORT

Apostolic Christian Church

Time/Date: 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily

Location: 29667 Wentworth, Livonia

Details: Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

Contact: 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

Connection Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Friday

Location: 3855 Sheldon, Canton

Details: Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

Contact: Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

Contact: 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August

Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: 248-433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

Fireside Church of God

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

Contact: 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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

Location: 16360 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: A twice-monthly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

Contact: 734-421-8451

St. Thomas a' Becket Church

Time/Date: Weigh-in is 6:15-6:55 p.m.; support group 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton

Details: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

Contact: Margaret at 734-838-0322

Unity of Livonia

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia

Details: Overeaters Anonymous **Contact:** 248-559-7722; www.oa.org for additional information

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 6 p.m. dinner (optional); 7 p.m. worship; 8 p.m. small group discussion; 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee/desserts), Thursday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville Township

Details: Celebrate Recovery helps men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hangups (addictive and compulsive behaviors); child care is free.

Contact: Child care, 248-374-7400; www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate

Passages View Online www.hometownlife.com

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Deadlines: Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

KASISCHKE



SANDRA ANN died Thursday, May 5, 2016. Sandy died peacefully at home in Harbor Springs, Michigan, while holding hands with her husband Lou and two sons, Douglas and Gregg. Sandy was born in Detroit, Michigan on August 2, 1943 to Edward and Jennie Colosimo. She grew up in Royal Oak, Michigan, where she attended and graduated from the National Shrine of the Little Flower Parish Schools. Sandy graduated from Marygrove College in 1965 to become an educator of young people. Most of her education career was with Detroit Country Day School teaching first grade. Sandy met Lou Kasischke in 1966 and they were married in 1967. They loved each other for 50 years and were married for nearly 49. They resided in Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, until building their current home just north of Harbor Springs. Before becoming ill, Sandy liked to walk the beach, play a little golf, work out at the gym, play cards with good friends,



Service personnel in the U.S. benefit from their military status in buying homes.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Industry survey: Military personnel purchase homes at younger age

Differences in household demographics and affordable financing options spur home buying demand for young active-service military members, causing them to significantly outpace the share of nonmilitary home buyers under the age of 35, according to the first-ever 2016 Veterans & Active Military Home Buyers and Sellers Profile, which evaluates the differences of recent active-service and veteran home buyers and sellers compared to those who've never served. The survey also found that while nearly all veteran and nonmilitary buyers and sellers use an agent, usage is practically universal among active-service military members.

NAR's survey gathered greater insight into how each population of buyers and sellers differs and is similar to those who have never served in the military. Of all home buyers, 18 percent identified as veterans and 3 percent as active-military. Of all home sellers, 21 percent identified as veterans and 1 percent as active-military.

The results revealed quite a few contrasts between active-service military buyers and buyers who've never served. At a median age of 34 years old, the typical active-service buyer was a lot younger than nonmilitary buyers (40 years old) and was more likely to be married and have multiple children living in their household. As a result, they typically bought a larger home that cost more than those purchased by both nonmilitary buyers and veterans.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says young active-service buyers (ages 18-35) bought homes at a far greater rate (51 percent) than nonmilitary buyers (34 percent). "Despite having a lower median income (\$76,800), more stable job security and no down payment financing options give aspiring homeowners in the military a deserving advantage over their civilian peers," he said. "Furthermore, their tendencies to marry and raise a family at an earlier age and carry less student debt

make buying a home a more desirable and achievable option."

Veterans Affairs loans — which offer over 100 percent financing for veteran and active-service home buyers — were the most popular loan type for active-service and veteran buyers, leading to the majority of active-service buyers financing their entire home purchase and veterans putting down a median down payment of 5 percent. For nonmilitary buyers, the median down payment was 11 percent.

Added Yun, "Current data shows that VA loans perform remarkably well and are a safe and affordable choice. Their current seriously delinquent and homes in foreclosure rate is 2.78 percent versus 3.44 percent for non-VA loans."

A place to call home is often times one of the few constants for the families of the brave men and women defending our country, said NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Fla. "That's why it's so important to ensure that homeownership opportunities and affordable financing options exist for qualified military personnel, veterans and their families."

With the ability to obtain a VA loan, only 5 percent of veterans and 3 percent of active-service buyers said saving for a down payment was the most difficult step. Of those, only 4 percent of veterans and 13 percent of active-service buyers said student loan debt delayed saving. Sixty-two percent of veterans cited having other types of debt and 43 percent of active-service military referenced credit card debt.

While a larger share of active-service military buyers had student loan debt compared to nonmilitary buyers and veterans, their debt balances were typically lower. Among active-service members, 37 percent had student loan debt under \$10,000 compared to 21 percent for those who've never served.

Active-service buyers prefer large single-family homes

The median income of veteran and active-service member home buyers in the survey was slightly lower than buyers who've never served in the military, which was \$86,500. Active-service buyers typically bought a 2,170-square-foot home that cost more (\$226,000) than those purchased by nonmilitary buyers and veterans. Veteran buyers had a median income of \$84,000, and they typically bought a 1,980-square-foot home costing \$220,000.

Mirroring the general population of buyers, over 80 percent of both veterans and active-service buyers purchased a single-family home, with those currently serving purchasing single-family homes at the highest rate (87 percent).

The primary reason for the home purchase for active-service military was job relocation, followed closely by the desire to own a home of their own. Compared to nonmilitary buyers, veterans were more likely to want to be closer to friends and family or moving for retirement.

Increased mobility means active-service and veteran buyers and sellers rely on real estate agents

Veterans and active-service buyers purchased a home a lot further away from their previous residence (at 75 miles and 28 miles, respectively) than buyers who never served in the military (10 miles). Among the biggest factors influencing neighborhood choice, veterans were most influenced by the quality of the neighborhood, while convenience to their job was desired the most by active-service members.

While nearly all buyers predominantly used the Internet and a real estate agent during their home search, active-duty buyers used a real estate agent at an even higher rate (95 percent versus 88 percent for non-military buyers). As a group, they were also most likely to use mobile or tablet search engines and relocation companies during

their search.

"Many Realtors are veterans themselves, who understand the unique housing needs of those serving our country," Salomone said. "Whether it's relocating to a completely new area across the country or needing to sell their home in a short time frame, Realtors are committed to helping active-service members and veterans succeed in their homeownership goals."

Some of the characteristics of active-service sellers differed from nonmilitary sellers. They were younger, far more likely to have multiple children living in their household and sold a home in a suburban area at a far higher rate. Additionally, the use of an agent was highest for active-service military sellers (94 percent), who — likely dealing with relocating to a new area in a short time frame — cited both wanting help marketing the home to potential buyers and help negotiating and dealing with buyers at a far higher rate than nonmilitary sellers and veterans. Eighty-nine percent of veterans used an agent, on par with nonmilitary sellers (90 percent).

The most commonly cited reason for owners selling their home varied. For nonmilitary sellers, the most commonly cited reason for selling their home was that it was too small (18 percent), while the most common reason cited by veterans was to be closer to friends and family (23 percent). Not surprisingly, job relocation for active-service military sellers was the most common reason for selling (43 percent).

NAR is committed to educating more Realtors about working with current and former military service members through its "Military Relocation Professional" certification program. This educational initiative available to Realtors offers insights into finding housing solutions that best suit the needs of current and former military members while taking full advantage of their military benefits.

Judges often allow support animals in court during testimony

Q: I have a young son who is being forced to testify in a case. Can I bring a support animal?

A: More than likely you can. In a recent Michigan Court of Appeals case, which was a criminal case, the court recognized that the trial court has within its inherent authority the right to control its courtroom and the proceedings before it to allow a witness to testify accompanied by a support animal.

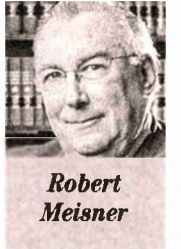
Q: I am a landlord being pursued by a tenant because someone attacked him in my building. Apparently, this person who attacked this tenant had also attacked someone in our building in the past. Do you think I have any liability? I have reported it to my insurance company.

A: Probably not. On a case somewhat similar in facts, the Michigan Court of Appeals had recently ruled that in a case by the Michigan Supreme Court, it was stated that the common law imposes a duty of care when a special relationship exists such as between a landlord and its tenants and their invitees.

The court also said that landlords and merchants share a similar level of control over common areas that are open to their tenants and other invitees and thus assume the same duty of reasonable care with regard to those common areas. However, the landlord's duty regarding criminal acts of third parties is limited to and co-extensive with the duty to respond by reasonably expediting police involvement when it is given notice of a specific situation occurring on the premises that would cause a reasonable person to recognize a risk of imminent harm to an identifiable invitee.

The court said that like a merchant, a landlord can presume the tenants and their invitees will obey the criminal law and because of the unpredictability and the rationality of criminal activity, this assumption should continue until a specific situation occurs on the premises that would cause a reasonable person to recognize the risk of imminent harm to an identifiable tenant or invitee and only when given notice of such situation, is a duty imposed on the landlord. Depending upon your facts, there may not be liability, but, obviously, your insurance carrier will have to make a determination of the facts and circumstances of your case.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit bmeisner@meisner-law.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.



Robert Meisner

Realtors Association lauds flood insurance effort

Property owners who opt to purchase flood insurance in the private market rather than through the National Flood Insurance Program may do so under current rules, but they risk paying higher rates if they return to the NFIP. H.R. 2901, the "Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act," passed the U.S. House of Representatives on April 28 by a vote of 419-0 and seeks to alleviate that concern.

The National Association of Realtors stands firmly behind the effort.

"Realtors know that a robust National Flood Insurance Program is important for protecting consumers and ensuring property sales can move forward in 20,000 communities nationwide," said NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Fla. "For many, the NFIP offers the only source of coverage that meets federally related mortgage requirements and protects properties in the 100-year floodplain."

"At the same time, consumers who wish to purchase insurance in the private market should have the freedom to do so," he said. "This legislation will help foster a vibrant private flood insurance market while giving consumers the flexibility to return to the NFIP at a reasonable cost if they choose to."

Under current regulations, the NFIP requires homeowners to retain a minimum amount of flood insurance coverage to maintain the lowest rates available within the NFIP. Those same regulations

treat consumers who move to private insurance as having had a "break" in coverage, even if the private insurance product offers comparable coverage for the property.

Often times, consumers will return to the NFIP when a private insurance product goes up in price or is no longer available. In that instance, a homeowner can only do so in the face of a rate hike.

H.R. 2901 would change this by clarifying that private flood insurance that meets state law provides continuous coverage. If the bill becomes law, property owners could move seamlessly between the NFIP and private insurance markets without the risk of arbitrary rate increases.

Earlier this year, NAR wrote (link is external) to members of the House Fi-

nanial Services Committee to ask for their support of the bill; H.R. 2901 later passed the committee by a unanimous vote, clearing the way for the April 28 vote on the House floor.

Additionally, the week before April 28, NAR joined members of the SmarterSafer coalition to urge House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) to bring the bill up for a vote.

Salomone praised the bill's passage, calling it a step forward for reform of the broader flood insurance system.

"NAR is grateful to Congressmen Dennis Ross (R-Fla.) and Patrick Murphy (D-Fla.) for their leadership on this important issue," Salomone said. "This legislation is a step in the right direction as we work to reauthorize and modernize the NFIP."

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-Eleven, near Trenton Road.

For more information, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Short sales

Salomone says more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

Call 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com.

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Livonia Sat, 5/14 9a-4p & Sun, 5/15 9a-2p. Many tools, furniture, kitchen, lawn & MORE! 31118 Orangetown

Garage-Tag Sale
Birmingham Farms Sub wide garage sale. Fri, Sat May 13-14th 9-4pm SW corner of Maple & Telegraph.

CANTON MULTI-SUBS Oakvale, Stonegate, Cherryhill, Grand, N. of Palmer, E. & W. of Lilley, S. of Cherryhill. May 12th-15th 9am-5pm, look for signs. Hundreds of Homes!

Community Garage Sale at the Links of Northville. Beck rd. Btw 5 & 6 mile rds. May 12-14th 9-4p. Great Finds!

COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE Highland Lakes Condominium Complex on Silver Spring Drive, Northville b/w 7 & 8 mi Sat. 5/14 9-3pm

Farmington Hills Sat 5/14 Sun 5/15 8a-5p Toys, crafts, books, collectibles, jewelry, cds 34698 Bunker Hill Dr.

FARMINGTON HILLS Sub Sale May 12, 13 & 14 9a-5p. Meadow Hills Estates, W. of Halsted, S. of 9 Mile, Variety of items.

Livonia - 20+ Family Sale - Fri & Sat May 13th-14th 9a-3p 34283 & 6 Mile RD. Across from Stevenson High school.

Northville 5/13 & 5/14 9am-5pm Antiques, clocks, baskets, china, 40's chandelier, 50's Schwinn bike, wood chipper, butter molds, spinning wheel toys, tools & More! 672 Thayer Blvd.

NORTHVILLE - Connemara Hills Sub Sale 5/12 - 5/14, 8:00a-4:00p. SE of 9 Mile and Taft and W of Center.

NOVI - HUGE GARAGE SALE 4489 MIDWAY DR. N. off 9 mile btw Taft & Novi rd, Dunbrant Pine Sub. Follow Signs. Thurs-Sat May 12 - 14th 8:30a - 5p.

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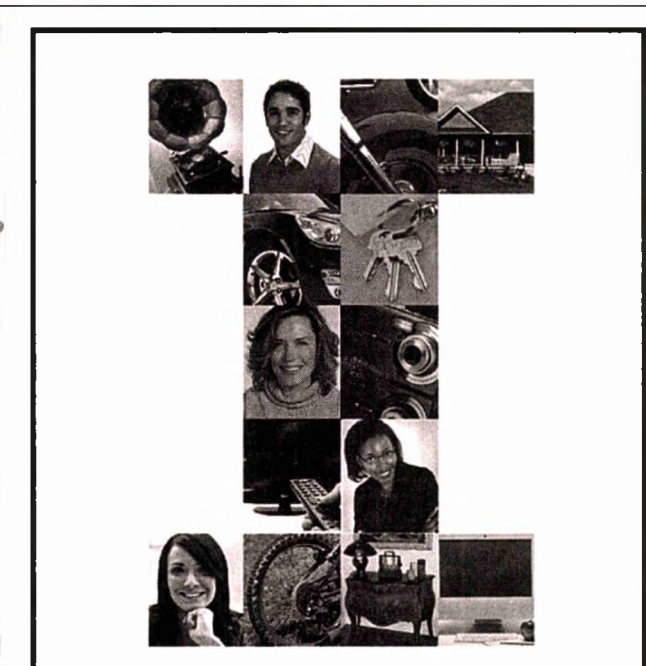
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Community Garage Sale at the Links of Northville. Beck rd. Btw 5 & 6 mile rds. May 12-14th 9-4p. Great Finds!

COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE Highland Lakes Condominium Complex on Silver Spring Drive, Northville b/w 7 & 8 mi Sat. 5/14 9-3pm

Farmington Hills Sat 5/14 Sun 5/15 8a-5p Toys, crafts, books, collectibles, jewelry, cds 34698 Bunker Hill Dr.

FARMINGTON HILLS Sub Sale May 12, 13 & 14 9a-5p. Meadow Hills Estates, W. of Halsted, S. of 9 Mile, Variety of items.

Livonia - 20+ Family Sale - Fri & Sat May 13th-14th 9a-3p 34283 & 6 Mile RD. Across from Stevenson High school.

Northville 5/13 & 5/14 9am-5pm Antiques, clocks, baskets, china, 40's chandelier, 50's Schwinn bike, wood chipper, butter molds, spinning wheel toys, tools & More! 672 Thayer Blvd.

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Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you who makes me see everything and who showed me the way to reach my ideal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Say for 3 consecutive days without mentioning your petition and your prayer will be answered. Promise to publish this prayer. Also wish to thank Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and St. Jude. J.M. Thank you St. Jude for all favors received.

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2016 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

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ACADEMIC ALL-STAR PROGRAM HONORS OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The 2016 Observer & Eccentric Academic All-Star Team represents the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in Oakland and western Wayne counties.

This year's team has 27 students and 10 of them posted 4.0 grade-point averages in high school and perfect ACT and/or SAT scores.

Another 15 students are honorable mention and their scores are separated in most cases by a mere fraction of a point. All of the students profiled here are examples of academic excellence. This year's team represents the top 1 percent of students who take the ACT and SAT tests.

The students nominated represent the top high school scholars in southeast Michigan, according to the judging panel.

This year's section is made possible by the Observer & Eccentric in cooperation with our major partner, Madonna University. Based in Livonia, Madonna is committed to teaching, scholarship and service.

Other community partners include Community Alliance Credit Union, a section sponsor, and Parkside Credit Union, the essay sponsor.

Judging the team were Dan Willenborg, principal of Livonia Franklin High School, and Charlie Hollerith, principal of Bloomfield Hills High School.

They have been part of the program for more than a decade. The principals met in March to review the applications. The All-Star Team is selected solely on academic achievement in academic subjects and SAT

THE JUDGES



Hollerith



Willenborg

The scholarship winner will be announced Friday, at the awards breakfast at Madonna University.

The 2016 All-Star Team:

» The 10 students who tied for the No. 1 ranking (in alphabetical order) are: Yannis Bi, Northville High School; James Jahns, Churchill High School; Ean Maloney, Catholic Central High School; Zachary Obsniuk, Churchill High School; Jason Ren, Canton High School; Elizabeth Sullivan, North Farmington High School; Sreeram Thirupathi, North Farmington High School; Claire Wang, Country Day School; Claire Westerlund, Groves High School; and Zhao (Joe) Zhang, Country Day School.

» The remaining members are (in order of finish): Anjali Roychowdhury, Cranbrook Kingswood; Sruthi Sundar, Plymouth High School; Sam Inloes, Cranbrook Kingswood; Jarrett Black, Bloomfield Hills High School; Paul Chamberlain, Plymouth Christian Academy; John Dolan, Groves High School; Hugh Flynn, Brother Rice High School; Jhuree Hong, Bloomfield Hills High School; Margaret Kondek, Harrison High School; Benjamin Levin, International Academy; Alexandra Mertz, Marian High School; Katherine Robertson, Northville High School; Shriharimurthi Bhaskaramurthi, Farmington High School; Daniel Evans, Seaholm High School; Zain Khara, Canton High School; Bogdan Manga, International Academy; and Riley North, Brother Rice High School.

Read more about the team and other outstanding nominees, their college choices and career dreams and the teachers who influenced them in this section.

YANNIS BI Northville High School

Yannis Bi is a resident of Northville. Among the colleges he is interested in are University of Michigan, Princeton, Columbia and Duke. "My potential fields of study are economics, pharmacy and business. Right now my likely profession is pharmacy. "I hope to go into a career that is related to math and I've been looking into pharmacy and economics."



Yannis was co-founder of the math club, played clarinet in band and was a member of the National Honor Society. He also participated in Math Olympiad and was a varsity player on the tennis team. His academic honors include AP Scholar with Distinction and National Merit Scholar semifinalist. Yannis said the teacher who had the biggest influence him was William Kinney. "He taught two of my math classes, honors geometry and honors calculus 2. Since math is my favorite subject, we naturally bonded."

His parents are Xuanjing Zhou and Shuxin Bi. He has a brother, Jonathan, 18.

JAMES JAHNS Churchill High School

James Jahns is a resident of Northville. He will attend Michigan State University with a dual major in mathematics and computer science.



"I want to complete graduate school and ultimately find a career that allows for both contribution and innovation within my field."

Academic honors include: National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar with Distinction and Honor Roll. Extracurricular activities include: robotics team, after school volunteer at Grandview Elementary and many math competitions such as MMPC, AMC, MML, SML and ARML.

The teacher who influenced him most was Mike Vasich, English, Frost Middle School. "He showed me the value of creative writing and he made literature engaging. His class was intriguing and his way of teaching was refreshing and unorthodox."

His parents are Christine and Jason Rhines and the late Jim Jahns. His siblings are Brandon Rhines, 17; Casey Rhines, 20; and Catherine Jahns, 19.

EAN MALONEY Catholic Central High School

Ean Maloney of Canton plans to attend the University of Notre Dame to study mathematics and statistics or science. Ean said he'd like to return to Detroit Catholic Central to teach some day.



"My goal is to become a secondary education teacher or college professor," he said. "I enjoy mathematics, particularly statistics, so those are the classes I would like to teach. I really love Catholic Central so my dream is to be able to teach there after college. I am, however, open to whatever opportunity comes to me. If being a teacher is not possible, I have also considered working in the business world in a mathematically-intensive position."

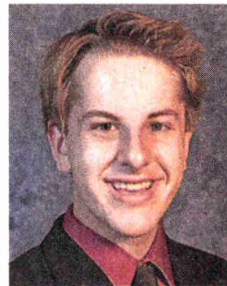
Ean said the teacher who had the greatest influence on him was quiz bowl coach and former world history teacher Ben Herman. "After being around him for four years, I have come to find his hard work, enthusiasm and genuineness inspiring. We traveled all over the country for quiz bowl so I spent much time with Mr. Herman. I have learned about how he gets up at 4:30 a.m. to prepare for class and grade assignments. He spent the summer writing lectures and preparing to teach AP history for the very first time. His devotion to teaching and the sacrifices he makes show me how to approach whatever I do in my career with excitement. He has demonstrated how hard work impacts those we serve in our jobs."

Ean's extracurricular activities are Detroit Catholic Central academic team, Our Lady of Good Council Life Teen, PB&J ministry at OLG Church, National Academy of Future Scientists and Technologists. Ean's academic honors include National Honor Society, Sociology and AP English language academic awards, Gabriel Richard Award and National Merit Scholarship Finalist.

Ean's parents are Joseph and Kerry Maloney and his brother is Aaron, 14.

ZACHARY OBSNIUK Churchill High School

Livonia resident Zachary Obsniuk plans to major in math. Zachary is deciding between University of Michigan and Michigan State University and is still waiting to hear from Harvard, Stanford and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He plans to pursue an advanced degree that will lead to a research career.



He either wants to become a mathematics professor or put his skills to use in an economically stable industry related to math or computer science. His academic honors include National Merit Finalist and Presidential Scholar nominee. He was a member of FRC Robotics Livonia Warriors, Plays tuba in band, marching band, Livonia Youth Symphony and the Michigan Youth Philharmonic. He was also in Boy Scouts Troop 1382 (working on Eagle rank) and was on Varsity Quiz Bowl.

The teacher who had the greatest influence on him was Joel Meloche, biology. "He has given me a greater appreciation of science as a whole and has encouraged a good work ethic while also being a fun and engaging teacher."

Zachary's parents are Glenn and Kathleen Obsniuk.

JASON REN Canton High School

Jason Ren is a resident of Canton Township. He has been accepted to the University of Michigan and is waiting to hear from Harvard University, Stanford University, MIT, Princeton University, Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania.



Jason plans to double major in computer science and business. "My short-term career goal is to get accepted into my dream school, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. There my plan would be to double major in electrical engineering and computer science and management. I also intend to play varsity soccer. My ultimate career goal is to start my own successful business whether right out of college or after some work experience. I am fascinated with computer science so my business will most likely be tech-related and the work experience would be as well."

Jason's academic honors include U.S. Presidential Scholars candidate, National Merit Scholarship finalist, National Merit Scholar, AP National Scholar, AP Scholar with Distinction, Michigan Math Prize Competition Top 100, MHSAA Scholar Athlete.

Extracurricular activities include: President of the National Honor Society, co-captain of the high school soccer varsity team, co-captain of the high school math Olympiad team, club travel soccer, pianist with over 50,000 views on YouTube.

Jason wanted to recognize several teachers. Ms. Nicole Willett, AP English language, was first on his list. "She has had a great influence on me as a teacher. Ms. Willett is passionate and charismatic. She always went the extra step and made class interesting. As a person, she is extremely caring and understanding. When I returned to school after several weeks off due to multiple lung collapses, she was always doing the small things that often get overlooked, asking me how my day was going or how I was feeling. She emphasized that I should take as long as necessary to catch up — she truly cared about my well-being as a person."

"Ms. Karen Ludema and Ms. Rebecca Craft have also had a great influence on me. In addition to teaching me AP calculus during my sophomore year, Ludema has supported me as the adviser of math Olympiad. Ms. Kraft has greatly helped me develop as a leader during my senior year through my independent study. Through no other experience have I developed the same practical management skills and made as much of a tangible difference in my community."

His parents are June Ouyang and Feng Ren and he has a brother, Brian Ren, 21.

★ 2016 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS ★

ELIZABETH SULLIVAN
North Farmington High School



Elizabeth Sullivan is a resident of Farmington Hills. So far she has been accepted to the University of Michigan, Calvin College and Clemson University. She's waiting to hear from Duke, Vanderbilt, Northwestern, Yale, Penn and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"I plan to study engineering and complete both a bachelor's and master's degree. Engineering combines three of my passions — curiosity about creation and technology, talents in math and science and the desire to improve people's lives. Interdisciplinary fields such as material science and biomedical engineering currently interest me the most. I plan to explore these fields in college and choose a major and career that will prepare me to create new technologies in order to directly impact people's lives."

Academic honors include: National Merit Finalist, Madame Curie Award, AP Scholar with Distinction, AP biology department award, mathematics department award and an invitation to apply for the presidential scholars program.

Extracurricular activities include: Marching band, varsity softball, piano, National Honor Society, brothers and sisters in Christ Church Orchestra.

She mentioned two teachers as being influential. The first is band teacher Michael Yoskovich. "He is the teacher I respect most for his engaging teaching style, breadth of knowledge and application of philosophy to the classroom into our lives. He is also the most demanding teacher and coach I know. His high expectations encourage me to strive for excellence in everything I do."

The second teacher is Peggy Najarian, biology and chemistry. "Ms. Najarian is passionate about both sciences and helping students learn and grow. Learning in her class was a pleasure because she is diligent and organized a variety of activities that helped us understand the material more deeply."

Her parents are Tim and Cindy and she had a brother, Timothy, 13.

SREERAM THIRUPATHI
North Farmington High School



Sreeram Thirupathi lives in Farmington Hills. He will attend the University of Michigan to study mechanical engineering or aerospace engineering.

"I want to work as an engineer for NASA, space X or similar company and help advance our understanding of the universe through my work," he said. "I also hope to do humanitarian work and fix problems like water filtration in areas of need."

His academic honors include Michigan Math Prize Competition top 100, math department award, science department award. His extracurricular activities include: Robotics team, boys tennis team, National Honor Society, Mayor's Youth Council of Farmington, Model UN, nature park volunteer, physics club.

Sreeram wanted to honor teachers going all the way to elementary school. Catherine Castlerline helped him learn computers in elementary school. Jon Vondrasek helped him with science in middle school. In high school, he said teachers Susan Szegeed, Michael Bause and David Ruehl all played key roles in nurturing his interest in math and science.

Of Ruehl, Sreeram said: "I learned from him that nothing is too complex or too hard if the right effort is given and even it seems pointless or impossible, I shouldn't give up on my dreams."

His mother is Sabitha Lakshminatusimhan and his father is Sridhar Thirupathi. He has a brother, Vikhram Thirupathi, 15.

CLAIRE WANG
Country Day School



Claire Wang lives in Farmington Hills. Claire has been accepted to the Honors College at the University of Michigan, but is also waiting to hear from several other schools.

"I hope to major in either molecular and cellular biology or comparative literature," she said. "I plan to pursue an M.D./Ph.D. dual degree. Following my undergraduate education I hope to become a physician/scientist so that I will be able to conduct clinical research work with patients and teach medicine simultaneously."

Academic honors include Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Finalist, National Council of Teachers of English certificate, Superior Writing Scholarship for best all-around from the Association of Chinese Americans, National Merit Scholarship Finalist, National AP Scholar with Distinction. Her poem, "Alabaster," was

published in Teen Ink magazine. She also won a University of Chicago Book Award and participated in the Michigan State Science and Engineering Fair.

Extracurricular activities include: editor of Spectrum literary magazine, varsity girls hockey, prostate cancer research University of Michigan Medical School, freelance writing club, hockey and skating coach, volunteer for YMCA, Gleaners Food Bank and DCD student ambassador.

The teacher who had the big influence on her was AP biology teacher Dr. Marc Fazio. "I first met Dr. Fazio at his AP biology class during my junior year. I had heard stories about him being a quirky teacher and I soon fell in love with the class. I still remember distinctly the day he performed his notorious 'phospholipid' dance to teach us about the fluidity of cell membranes. What I didn't realize at the beginning of junior year was that Doctor Fazio would become more than just a teacher to me. He would also become a close friend, a second father of sorts. As I reflect on our relationship through the past two years, I cannot imagine how I would have made it through without his friendship and wisdom. He stuck by me through the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. He taught me to have faith in things working out in the end."

Claire's parents are Zhenwen Wang and Xinlan Shi. Her brother is Collin Wang, 14.

CLAIRE WESTERLUND
Groves High School



Claire Westerlund lives in Beverly Hills. She plans to attend the University of Michigan or University of Notre Dame and is interested in the health sciences. She hasn't declared a major.

"I'm undecided about my future career path but regardless of my chosen field, I want to have a positive impact on the lives of others."

Academic honors include AP Scholar with honors, National Merit Commended Student, Math Con National Math Competition, seventh place, scholar athlete award.

Claire's extracurricular activities include cross country, soccer, symphony orchestra, National Honor Society, DECA, Grove's big brother big sister program, St. Joseph Mercy Oakland hospital volunteer, Habitat for Humanity, Susan G. Komen volunteer, tutor.

Ms. Christina Marentette, Honors and AP Physics teacher, had the biggest influence on Claire. "She is an exceptionally understanding teacher who understands student struggles in this difficult subject area. She is willing to help students anytime of the day. She inspired me to become a better student."

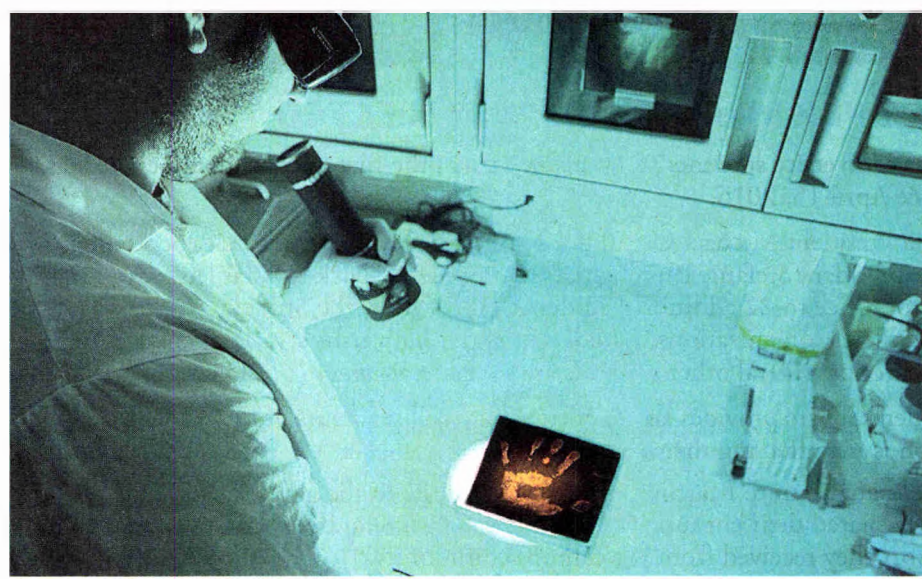
Her parents are Patrick and Kathleen Westerlund and her sister, Katie, is 15.



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DEMAND GROWS FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE GRADS

Currently, Madonna University is the only school in Michigan to offer a bachelor's degree in forensic science accredited by Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC). The University has several articulation agreements with community colleges that make transferring to Madonna seamless.

These agreements offer a unique opportunity for students interested in a career in forensic science, said Jodi Lynn Barta, Ph. D., associate professor in biological and health sciences and director of Madonna University's forensic science program. "We have an active forensic science research facility here at Madonna, which also provides students access to experiential learning in research and development," Barta said.

"Employers now are asking for forensic science technicians who have received a degree from a FEPAC-accredited program. We can provide our students with the tools they need to be successful in their field," Barta said.

Students coming to Madonna from another college will enter the pre-forensic program as soon as they transfer. Upon successful completion of the introductory survey course in forensic science, they are eligible for acceptance into the program.

Forensic Science is a burgeoning field. According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, employment of forensic science technicians is projected to increase, growing six percent from 2012 to 2022. Scientific and technological advances are expected to increase the usefulness, availability, and reliability of objective forensic information used as evidence in trials. In addition, the use of forensic evidence in criminal proceedings is expected to expand. More forensic science technicians will be needed to provide timely forensics information to law enforcement agencies and courts.

STUDENTS GIVE TO FLINT IN WATER CRISIS

When Reverend Jesse Jackson called for a "Massive Demonstration" over the Flint Water crisis, more than 25 Madonna students and staff answered the call. They not only raised more than \$600 in cash and bottled water for Flint, the group traveled to Flint for the demonstration. They assembled with over 500 others at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in a peaceful protest of the public health disaster that left Flint residents unable to drink the water.

Kevin Finch, a Madonna senior, felt his participation in the March was a way to show compassion to the people of Flint. "The March provided me an opportunity to learn 'from' a crisis, rather than 'about' a crisis."



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★ 2016 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS ★

ZHAO (JOE) ZHANG Country Day School

Zhao (Joe) Zhang is a resident of Windsor, Ontario. He has applied to MIT, Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, Cal Tech and the University of Pennsylvania. He has already been accepted to the University of Michigan.



"I would like to major in mechanical engineering or economics," Joe said. "I hope to have a profession relating to those two fields. I would like to work on engineering projects that challenge the limits of human understanding. I want to be able to apply my knowledge and economics to bridge the gap between scientific products and discoveries and mainstream society."

"I would like to conduct research to make a new breakthrough in engineering or technology. Ultimately I want to leave my mark in the world and contribute to the betterment of humankind."

Academic honors include: Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition Top 100, American Invitational Mathematics examination qualifier, Dartmouth Book Award, Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award, National French Contest Laureate, summa cum laude.

Extracurricular activities include: Honor Council, Science Olympiad, Science Bowl, Leadership Council for Track and Field, Varsity Tennis, Super Science Saturday Volunteer, peer tutor at the upper school.

The teacher who had the greatest influence on him was Mrs. Gillian von Seeger, freshman biology. "She introduced me to high school science and the way she went about conducting her class left an indelible mark on me. She taught with such enthusiasm and care for our well-being and influenced me to be more interested in pursuing the sciences."

"Mr. Ross Arseneau, my math teacher throughout high school, influenced me in many ways, through coursework, Science Fair mentoring and advising in general. He has motivated me to challenge myself in all things and do the best that I can. He has also been so helpful whenever I'm not sure of the concept or just need a pointer or two."

His parents are Zhibua Zhang and Liping Dang. His sister is Qi Zhang, 25.

ANJALI ROYCHOWDHURY Cranbrook Kingswood

Anjali Roychowdhury is a resident of Troy. She plans to attend Stanford University and most likely pursue a BS in mechanical engineering. She will then further her studies in aerospace engineering with the long-term goal working on space exploratory missions.



She's currently robotics team club president, captain of the rowing team, on Model UN, a tutor at Kabir's Prep, a medical intern and researcher in nanotechnology.

Her academic honors include Strickland writing award, foreign language award, Marion Goodale Marsh Scholar, a McCaul Endowment for Research.

The teacher who most influenced Anjali was Betsy Lamb, director of robotics. "She has really inspired me to pursue all of my goals and be confident and comfortable with myself," said Anjali.

Her mother and father are Jyotika and Ranajit Roychowdhury.

SRUTHI SUNDAR Plymouth High School

Sruthi Sundar is a resident of Canton Township. She has been accepted to University of Michigan college of engineering and is waiting to hear from other schools as well. She is considering a career in either electrical or biomedical engineering.



Extracurricular activities include varsity swimming, Bharathanatyam (Indian) dance, varsity Plymouth Science Olympiad, café Michigan math Olympiad student teacher and Micore volunteer. Academic honors include National Merit Finalist and Presidential Scholar nominee.

She mentioned two teachers who influenced her during high school: Molly Culligan, AP world history. "It was the most difficult class I ever had to take," said Sruthi. "She prepared me for the rest of high school and taught me how to take risks." Jeffrey Boykin, human body systems, was also influential, she said. "He had a unique teaching style that pushed me to be curious and go beyond basic expectations. He gave me a passion for biology."

Sruthi's parents are Mina Gala and Sundar Kumak. Her sibling is Sneha Sundar, 14.

SAM INLOES Cranbrook Kingswood

Sam Inloes lives in Huntington Woods. He is currently considering MIT, Harvard University, Princeton University, Yale University, Columbia, Cornell, Stanford University and University of Michigan.



Sam wants to study computer science, mathematics and physics. He wants to become a successful engineer and be able to use his math and science skills to give back to the community.

Extracurricular activities include math club, science and engineering club, student council, quiz bowl, Wayne state lab research, MIT launch summer program finalist and cross country. Academic honors include the Bosch-Lomb Medal, MMPC top 100 in the state, Margaret Avery Auger Scholar.

The teachers who most inspired him were Daniel Lorts, an enthusiastic physics teacher who first showed him what the subject could provide and Sanford Hertz, a passionate geometry teacher who first inspired him to learn.

His parents are Melanie Myers and Daniel Inloes. He also has a sister, Emma Inloes, 12.

JARRETT BLACK Bloomfield Hills High School

Jarrett Black lives in Bloomfield Hills. He plans to attend University of Michigan business school for undergrad and then go to Duke University Divinity school. After that he plans to become a pastor and start his own church in North Carolina.



He's in Boy Scouts of America and has earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He is also a member of National Honor Society, is on the boys varsity tennis team and has taken a mission trip to Haiti. Jarrett also volunteers at his local elementary school. He earned AP scholar with distinction.

Jarrett said his English teacher, Mrs. Vanessa Thompson, was the biggest influence on him. "She taught me how to write with passion and how to view the world. Her class helped me become who I am and helped me grow."

His parents are Debra and Steve and he has one brother, Mitchell, 21.

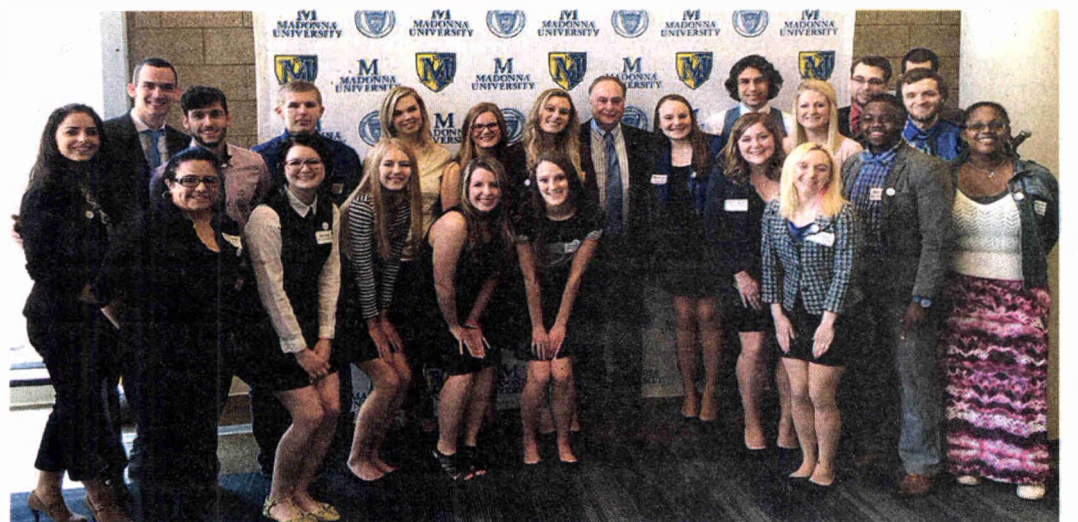
STUDENT FILMMAKERS WIN AWARDS

The work of talented Broadcast and Cinema Arts students was honored recently by the Michigan chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Nancy Boyd, of Highland, Joseph Calhoun, of Clarkston, Shayne Cahill, of Novi, and Kelly Surmann, of Commerce Township, received Michigan Regional Student Production Awards. Madonna students were nominated for 13 awards this year.

Boyd garnered two awards: one for directing *Madonna University Lip Dub 2015*, involving the campus community, and one for a short form non-fiction film *Eating Disorders*. Calhoun and Cahill won in the public affairs/community service category for *We are the Friends of the Dearborn Animal Shelter*. Kelly Surmann took the student production award for her work a short form fiction film depicting Edgar Allan Poe's poem *Annabel Lee*.



Madonna BCA students with their NATAS awards: Nancy Boyd, Joseph Calhoun and Kelly Surmann.



FIRST-EVER STUDENT SENATE ELECTED

Madonna University students made history when the first-ever Student Senate was sworn into office April 15, 2016.

Madonna President Michael Grandillo, Ph.D., swore in Senate President Thomas Martin and Vice-president Stefanie Papasoglu, (pictured above, back row, far left) who in turn gave the oath of office to 22 additional students. As a whole, the Student Senate will represent student-athletes, organizations, school spirit, the University's various colleges, and many more subgroups; several other students are senators-at-large.

The Student Senate provides the opportunity for all segments of the student body to have a voice on issues affecting them.

After the Inauguration, Martin and Papasoglu spoke to the gathered students, faculty and staff. They shared their enthusiasm for leading the student body, and their appreciation for the support they received from the campus community.

FIRST-EVER STUDENT SENATE ELECTED

Giving leaders the skills to lead other leaders, is the aim of Madonna's new Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership, Ed.S. The program provides the preparation for pursuit of a future Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree. Expected to attract aspiring superintendents, school principals, central office administrators, special education administrators, department chairs and other school district leaders, the program meets Michigan Department of Education standards for central office-level administrators. It also incorporates an expanded knowledge of the unique leadership characteristics within special education. The small class sizes at Madonna, enable professors to offer a mentor/mentee relationship and "shoulder-to-shoulder" support.

To best accommodate school administrators' schedules, the program is offered in hybrid format, with a combination of face-to-face and online classes once per week. The program includes 10 courses taken over two years, for 30 total credits. The program also focuses on strategies to promote success for all students, i.e., those living in poverty, those with special needs, or those whose first language is not English. Visit madonna.edu/grad to apply.



Education Specialist program co-directors Jill Robinson and Todd Symington

NEW GERONTOLOGY AND BEREAVEMENT CERTIFICATES FOR NURSES

Faculty in the College of Nursing and Health and the Graduate School have developed two new certificates for nurses to add to their credentials and boost their careers. The post-master's APRN Gerontology certificate will prepare the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse to care for older adults. The program is three or four courses that can be completed in one calendar year.

The graduate certificate in Bereavement: Trauma, Loss & Grief is designed for nurses, social workers and chaplains. This nine-credit certificate can be completed in one calendar year, and will help you develop skills to assist individuals and families dealing with traumatic loss and grief.

Those interested in learning more about these certificates, should contact the Graduate School at grad@madonna.edu or 734-432-5739, or attend the Graduate School Open House, Thursday, June 23, between 5-7 p.m., in room 2102 of the Main Academic Building at Madonna's Main Campus in Livonia.



★ 2016 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS ★

PAUL CHAMBERLAIN
Plymouth Christian Academy

Paul Chamberlain lives in Canton Township.

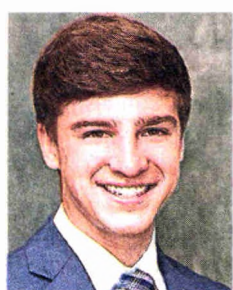
Among the schools he's considering are University of Michigan, Johns Hopkins University and Calvin College. "I plan on double majoring in biochemistry and German with the hopes of becoming a doctor, researcher or biomedical engineer. ... I want to contribute to society with a career in science."

Academic honors include valedictorian of Plymouth Christian Academy, one of 39 winners of the American Association of German teachers study trip to Germany, one of 14 national finalists in the international German Olympiad. He also garnered a Gold Award for distinguished achievement on the American Association of teachers of German Level III national German exam. Paul also won the highest achievement award in pre-calculus, British literature, band, AP US government, and German for 2015.

He volunteered for the Red Cross blood, Salvation Army, Gleaners food bank, and helped children with disabilities play baseball through the Miracle League of Plymouth. His extracurricular activities include varsity boys cross country, boys track and field, National Honor Society, German club, Calvary Baptist Church praise band, Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Delta Epsilon Phi and student council. Paul also found time to play Franz the butler in the "Sound of Music."

He cited two teachers who inspired him during his days at Plymouth Christian Academy. "Emily Carlson inspired me to love German and helped me become fluent. David Murray helped me rise to the challenge and equipped me to solve calculus problems with confidence."

Paul's parents are Donald and Kristin Chamberlain. He has two sisters, Joy, 15 and Grace, 13.

JOHN DOLAN
Groves High School

John Dolan is a resident of Beverly Hills. He has been accepted to the Honors College at the University of Michigan. He has also applied to Duke, Northwestern, Princeton and Stanford.

"I plan to pursue a major in mathematics and statistics by attending an honors math program wherever I attend college. After attaining an undergraduate degree, I plan to continue my education in graduate school, culminating with a Ph.D. Although I have no specific career in mind once I finish my education, I want to find a career that allows me to work with my peers using math to create innovative solutions to real-world problems."

His academic honors include National Merit Finalist, AP Scholar with Distinction, Michigan Interscholastic Press Association, third place award for news analysis, National Honor Society, Michigan Math Prize Competition finalist, sixth place among juniors at mathCON national competition.

Extracurricular activities include: Big Brother Big Sister at Groves, tutoring, Michigan Math League.

Among the teachers of influence were: Mr. Stuart Kane, algebra two teacher. "Mr. Kane not only allowed me to take two math classes my freshman year, he encouraged me to take two math classes my sophomore year too. He pushed me to challenge myself and achieve the most I could in math."

The second teacher of influence was Ms. Christina Marentette. "Ms. Marentette, my physics teacher, is brilliant. She loves to discuss my future plans and offers advice based on years of studying math and science. I go to her when I need information or advice on a college class or on the latest scientific discovery such as gravitational waves."

He also mentioned Mrs. Jennifer Hoinka, Spanish teacher. "She knows about my love of math, she challenges me to balance my education. Because of her encouragement, I also excel in Spanish."

His parents are Lory and Ben Dolan and his siblings are Courtney, 15; Brendan, 14; and Michael, 10.

HUGH FLYNN
Brother Rice High School

Hugh Flynn is a resident of Bloomfield Hills. He plans to study pre-med and is choosing among University of Notre Dame, Northwestern University, University of Michigan and Boston University.

"I would really enjoy being part of the field of medicine," he said. "I'm not sure in what area I would like to work but the human brain really interests me. People with mental illness inspire me to look toward this career path because their struggles make me want to help them in anyway I can. A dream job of mine will be working at Children's Hospital. I am also interested in creative writing and critical thinking."

Academic honors include National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Scholastic all Catholic Award, National Merit Finalist, class co-valedictorian, AP Scholar Award. He played baseball at Brother Rice and intramural sports. He traveled to Peru for a week of service, volunteers at the annual St. Hugo rummage sale, was a tutor at The Student Connection and a junior golf ranger at Lincoln Hills Golf Course.

Hugh said teacher Kelly Katz, who taught geometry with trigonometry and calculus, was the person who made the biggest difference. "Ms. Katz has a way of teaching that can make the most confusing topics extremely clear. Her classes are the perfect balance of learning and fun. She's one of the nicest people in school and is truly looking out for her students' best interest."

His parents are Michael and Debra Flynn and his siblings are Elle, 21, Denny, 19, and Brendan, 16.

JHUREE HONG
Bloomfield Hills High School

Jhuree Hong lives in Bloomfield Hills. She is considering University of Michigan and is waiting on some other schools. Jhuree plans to study biology and psychology, but is undecided on a profession. "I want to go in the science direction," she said. "I'm going towards the pre-med route, but I'd like to decide for sure in college."

Jhuree is a talented musician who plays violin in the Detroit Youth Symphony Orchestra and plays chamber ensemble. She has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and was president of that group. She's captain of her Science Olympiad team and captain of her color guard team. She also in the National Honor Society, Model UN, link crew, and volunteers at the Novi Autism. Jhuree is also on the track and field team and volunteers at church. Her academic honors include: AP scholar with distinction and Michigan Math Prize Competition finalist.

The teacher who most influence her was Dennis Kwasny, AP biology and AP chemistry. "He helped me realize my interest in the sciences and helped me develop academically and as a person."

Jhuree's parents are Tae and Yoon Hong. Her sibling is Ahree Hong, 15.

MARGARET (MAGGIE) KONDEK
Harrison High School

Margaret (Maggie) Kondek lives in Farmington Hills. She is selecting among University of Michigan, Johns Hopkins University and Duke. She plans to major in biomedical engineering.

"After receiving my bachelor's degree, I hope to continue my education to receive a master's degree and then begin work as a biomedical engineer in research."

Maggie was an AP Scholar with Distinction, she was on varsity cross country, varsity track, student council, Science Olympiad, HOSA and a member of the National Honor Society.

She listed Stephen Dail as a teacher who influenced her most. "In AP physics, he taught everyone to work hard and proved that it paid off."

Her parents are Deborah and Joshua Kondek. She has a sister, Paige, 20.

BENJAMIN LEVIN
International Academy

Benjamin Levin lives in Bloomfield Township. He's awaiting word from Amherst, Brown University, Harvard University, Middlebury College, Vassar College, Wesleyan University, Williams College and Yale University. His likely fields of study are sociology, anthropology and philosophy. His career goal is to affect positive social change as a human rights lawyer or labor activist.

Extracurricular activities include Groves varsity soccer, Vice President of the Black Student Association, Students for Human Equality, Spanish Honor Society, National Honor Society, Groves varsity basketball, Hispanic outreach at Auburn Elementary. He was an organic farm volunteer at Oakland University and volunteer at the Michigan United Immigrants Rights Advocacy Center. Academic honors include Swarthmore College book award, National Merit Scholarship Finalist and summa cum Laude, 2015.

The teacher who most influenced him was Robert Uhelski, history, for sinking deep into his subject matter and insisting on both the inherent value of studying history and history's relevance to our daily lives.

His parents are Mary Freeman and Andy Levin. His siblings are Koby Levin, 22; Saul Levin, 20; and Molly Levin, 10.

ALEXANDRA MERTZ
Marian High School

Alexandra (Lexi) Mertz is a resident of Beverly Hills. She plans to attend the University of Notre Dame to study environmental engineering and international affairs. Her long-term goal is to become an engineer.

"I want to create solutions for the water crisis both locally and throughout the world," she said. "I want to ensure everyone has access to clean water."

She was salutatorian and received the Marian Academic Achievement Award. She was on the Archdiocese of Detroit All Catholic Academic Team and earned the the College Board AP Scholar Award.

Lexi's extracurricular activities include Marian senior retreat leader, Powder-puff football, varsity bowling, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, volleyball coach of Saint Regis JV, volleyball coach at Michigan Intensity Club. Lexi also took a mission trip to Nicaragua to build bathrooms for school and taught English to young children.

Her parents are Darrin and Jacki Mertz and she has two sisters, Katie, 16 and Danielle, 9.

KATHERINE ELIZABETH ROBERTSON
Northville High School

Katherine Elizabeth Robertson lives in Northville. She will attend the University of Michigan Honors College. Katherine will major in biology and minor in French and will also study German and Russian. Her goal is to attend medical school. "I plan to either practice medicine or conduct med-

ical research, particularly in the field of genetics."

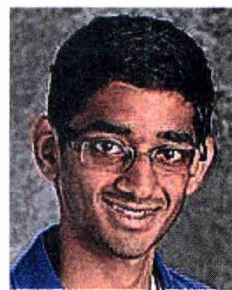
Katherine was a National Merit Finalist, AP scholar with honors, summa cum laude, American Association of Teachers of French Le Grand Concours Silver Medalist. She was also a member of the National Honor Society and French Honor Society.

She said the teachers who influenced her were Karen Motz, French and Karin Nelson, biology.

"Madame Motz helped me discover my passion for learning foreign languages. I used to be extremely intimidated by the idea of learning one language let alone three, but she has shown me that not only is it possible, it is extremely rewarding. I will always cherish her kindness and support."

Of Nelson, Katherine said: "Mrs. Nelson showed me how interesting it is to learn how living things 'work' and in particular awoken my passion for genetics. She is extremely knowledgeable about all areas of biology and was always willing to answer my questions. Although there are others who have influenced me as well, these two teachers are very special to me."

Katherine's parents are Dr. John and Janet Robertson. She has one brother, Will, 12.

SHRIHARIMURTHI BHASKARAMURTHI
Farmington High School

Shriharimurthi Bhaskaramurthi of Farmington Hills will attend University of Michigan and is planning on studying a electrical engineering and computer science.

He's a member of the National Honor Society, lead programmer for the robotics team, varsity player for quiz bowl, varsity tennis player, bass section leader for the concert choir. He also helps tutor underprivileged children.

Academic honors include Michigan Math Prize Competition Top 100, National Merit Finalist and AP scholar. As far as career goals, Shriharimurthi wants to become an electrical engineer and hopefully start his own company someday.

The educator who had the largest influence on him was math teacher Mark Azeez. "He was very influential because he was very supportive of me even as I was the youngest kid in his class."

His parents are Bhaskar and Lalitha Bhaskaramurthi and he has one brother, Ram, 24.

DANIEL EVANS
Seaholm High School

Daniel Evans is a Birmingham resident. He's been accepted to University of Michigan and Miami (Ohio) University. He lists possible majors as political science, international relations and economics.

He was one of three Seaholm juniors to participate in the National Council for teachers of English writing contest and ended up earning the highest certification of superior. He earned a silver award in LeGrand Concord Friends Competition, AP Scholar with Distinction, National Merit Commended Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society.

Daniel was on the policy debate team and he delivered a Ted talk at the inaugural youth conference in April 2015. He also served a term as a student representative on the city of Birmingham's multi-modal transportation board and placed first in the chapter regional and state competitions of the Optimist International Oratorical Contest.

Daniel hopes to pursue a career in a field that deals with public policy or international affairs. Possibilities include policy analyst for the government working in the State Department or becoming a foreign service officer.

"My experience living abroad in Europe for 10 years has guided me towards this area of work. I have a desire to become engaged in the process of facilitating US involvement in matters on a global scale."

He listed two teachers of influence. "French teacher Richard McMullan impressed me with the seemingly infinite wisdom in all imaginable areas. Being an avid fan of shows like Jeopardy, the amount of things he knew about everything was astounding."

His creative writing, debate and forensics coach, Peter Shaheen, also made the list. "I am always amazed at the investment Mr. Shaheen makes in the students he worked with closely by staying hours after school and dedicating weekends to traveling to tournaments. I am convinced had it been anyone else I would not have been able to have the success I have had in those activities."

His parents are Jill and David Evans and his sister is Sarah, 15.

ZAIN KHERA
Canton High School

Zain Khera is a Canton Township resident. He plans to attend the Honors College at University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Wayne State University or the University of Pittsburgh to study neuroscience, philosophy and history. He wants to major in neuroscience, then go to medical school to specialize in neurosurgery or ophthalmology.

He is a volunteer at the surgery center at Beaumont hospital, he coaches for the elementary school science Olympiad, and he's event captain for Science Olympiad. His academic honors include Science Olympiad state medals, AP Scholar and HOSA regional medal.

The teachers who most influenced him are Scott Milam in math and Mike Ziolkowsky in history.

His parents are Saqib and Roheela Khera. He has one sibling, Zaki Khera, 12.

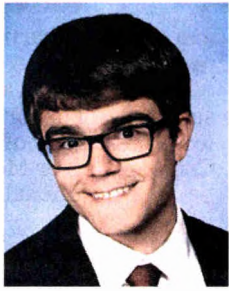
★ 2016 ACADEMIC ALL-STARS ★

BOGDAN MANGA International Academy

Bogdan Manga is a resident of Troy. Potential colleges include University of Michigan, Princeton, Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Carnegie Mellon University. He plans to study mathematics and physics with the goal of becoming a university professor with a research position.

Bogdan's extracurricular activities include Science Olympiad, math club, honors science and he was also an Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America. Bogdan also plays violin in the International Academy Symphony Orchestra. He is also a member of the Spanish Honor Society and participates in Hispanic outreach ESL tutoring at local elementary schools.

He cited Mr. Robert Uheleski, history teacher, as having a major influence on him. "Although history is not my strong suit, my junior year history teacher inspired me to adopt a critical mindset and genuinely interact with material, which made me view history more as a logically coherent puzzle rather than an amalgam of unrelated facts. His passion for teaching rubbed off on me, motivating me to overachieve



on all of my homework assignments."

Bogdan also cited freshman Spanish teacher Rebecca Riggs.

"She facilitated my intellectual transition into high school by reminding me that reward will never come without an honest effort. Throughout my senior year, she has encouraged me to supplement my classwork with individualize practice, which combined with her sense of humor, has helped me improve my Spanish to the point where I can maintain complex conversations."

RILEY NORTH Brother Rice High School

Riley North lives in Bloomfield Hills. He is currently choosing among the University of Notre Dame, Villanova University and Boston College with plans of studying business.

"I plan on working in the business sector after college," he said. "However, I am undecided as of yet as to the specific area of the business world I would like to enter. I am hoping that my experiences and class selections in college will give me a strong indication of what I would like to pursue after I gradu-



ate."

His academic honors include, class of 2016 salutatorian, Commended, National Merit Program, AP Scholar Award, 2015 State DECA Champion, president of the school business club and he also received the Saint Timothy Award for service from the Archdiocese of Detroit. Riley was also a member of the National Honor Society and the Latin Honor Society.

He was president of Angels' Place Youth Council and he also organized the Brother Rice Varsity Lacrosse service initiative with Angels' Place.

Riley cited two teachers who influenced him at Brother Rice. The first was eighth-grade English teacher Peter Kelly. "Mr. Kelly treated me as an adult and taught me that being a good man was just as important as having proper grammar."

Physics teacher Robert Barnes was also mentioned. "He said a great example for all of his students to follow," said Riley. "He walked the walk, so to speak. He showed me that it's possible and plausible to balance family life, a job, a strong spiritual life and being a good person and role model all at the same time."

Riley's parents are J. Douglas and Gwen and he has a brother, Colin, 19.

His parents are Marius and Mirela Manga.

★ 2016 HONORABLE MENTION ★

ANDREW REED

Roeper School

College: Deciding between University of Michigan and Babson College. He plans to major in business and engineering.

Academic honors: National Merit Finalist

Extracurricular activities: Soccer, Class co-president, volunteer math tutor, volunteer for anti-bullying effort at Roeper.

Influential teacher: French teacher Michael McConville.

Family: His parents are John and Julie and brother, Wesley, 14.



CAITLIN DELEVIE

Mercy High School

College: Possibilities include University of Michigan, University of Illinois, Miami University and Princeton University. She intends to pursue a career in engineering.

Academic honors: National Merit Commended Scholar, National Honor Society, National French Honor Society, Honor Roll.

Extracurricular activities: Link Leader, head coach, girls on the run; USSF soccer referee, forensics team.

Influential teachers: Jennifer Kreft, Kathy Sill and Jan Wampuszyc.

Family: Parents Donna and Hugo, sister Maggie, 15.



LUCY DEVINE

Mercy High School

College: Harvard University to study psychology and cognitive science. She intends to become an elementary or middle school teacher.

Academic honors: National Merit Semifinalist, Best Delegate, North American Model UN; National Catholic Forensics League Octofinalist.

Extracurricular activities: Theater, Model UN, National Honor Society, French Honor Society, Mime Club, Forensics, International Thespian Society.

Influential teachers: Tess Kelly in elementary school. Mr. Potter, middle school social studies.

Family: Her parents are Timothy and Julie and her siblings are Tim, 20 and Penny, 12.



BETHANY HOEHNE

Lutheran High School Westland

College: Concordia College Chicago to study secondary education with an emphasis in Mathematics. Her long-term goal is to become a Lutheran High School math teacher, athletic director and basketball coach.

Academic honors: Valedictorian.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, concert band, devotion group leader, honors choir, basketball, volleyball, soccer, chamber singers.

Influential teachers: Mike Unger and Kevin Wade.

Family: Her parents are Matthew and Jodi and her siblings are Katie, 15, Ellie, 11, and Bekah, 11.



CATHERINE KENZIE

Ladywood High School

College: Selecting between Michigan State University and University of Michigan. She intends to become an engineer and have a job that involves travel.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, Tri-M music Honor Society, field hockey, soccer, orchestra, Society of Mother Angela Service Club, Yellow Ribbon Club.

Influential teachers: Gale Schwalm, math, and Kristena Stachura, history.

Family: Her parents are Earl and Sandra and her brother, Joseph, is 19.



NATALIE LEITMAN

Seaholm High School

College: University of Michigan Honors College with plans to major in economics. Her long-term goal is to work at the Federal Reserve.

Academic honors: National Honor Society, Excellence in Economics Award, Honor Roll, AP Scholar.

Extracurricular activities: Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition, Seaholm Student Congress, Marching Band, Symphony Band.

Influential teacher: Peter Smith, AP economics.

Family: Her parents are Kelly and Matthew and her brother is Joshua, 19.



JILLIAN

MATASOVSKY

Lutheran High School Westland

College: Michigan State University to major in human biology. Her long-term goal is to become an doctor specializing in emergency medicine.

Academic honors: Valedictorian.

Extracurricular activities: Band, choir and theater.

Influential teacher: Math teacher Mike Unger.

Family: Parents John and Dina and her brother, Emmett, 15.



PRAGATHI

PATHANJELI

Harrison High School

College: Undecided, but has been accepted to University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Purdue University and Wayne State University. She plans to study pre-med with the intent of becoming a pediatrician or neurosurgeon.

Academic honors: National Honor Society, Honor Roll, Varsity letter for outstanding academic achievements.

Extracurricular activities: Student board, soccer, student council, interact club, tutor, volunteer at Beaumont Hospital.

Influential teachers: Chemistry teacher Kevin Miesner and Timothy Russell, psychology.

Family: Her parents are Kishore and Shobha and her sibling is Sahana, 14.



SEBASTIAN MINER

Catholic Central High School

College: Undecided. His long-range goal is to earn a master's degree in computer science and work for a software company like Intel or Google.

Academic honors: National Merit Finalist, National Honor Society, Scholastic All-Catholic League, AP Scholar with Honor.

Extracurricular activities: Chess Club, tutor to inner-city youth, Youth Advisory Council, Co-editor of the school newspaper, World Cube Association -- he's really fast at solving the Rubik's Cube.

Influential teacher: Anthony Cornish, Latin teacher for four years.

Family: Parents are Ross and Kelly Miner and he has a brother, Christian, 20.



DIPIKA

KRISHNASWAMI

Farmington High School

College: Choices include University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Purdue University. Her goal is to become a biological engineer.

Academic honors: AP Scholar with Honors, National Merit Finalist, Phi Beta Kappa Award.

Extracurricular activities: National Honor Society, Link Leader, Violin in the DSO Philharmonic Orchestra.

Influential teachers: Reid Smith and Mark Azeez.

Family: Her parents are Ram and Vandana and her brother is Druva.



SWETHA

DURAI SWAMY

Plymouth High School

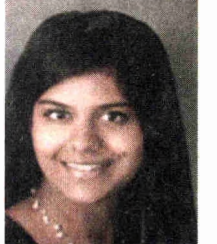
College: University of Michigan to major in biomedical engineering.

Academic honors: National AP Scholar, National Merit Finalist, Brown University Scholar and Joyce Ivy Summer Scholar.

Extracurricular activities: Varsity tennis, Debate Team, Destination Imagination.

Influential teachers: Ms. Joan Pence, AP biology and honors zoology, and Mr. Richard Mui, AP U.S. history.

Family: Parents Durai and Gayathri Duraiswamy and sibling Kirthi, 20.



TURNER MILLER

Stevenson High School

College: Undecided. Long-range plans are to earn a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and then go on to medical school or perhaps pursue and MBA.

Academic honors: Summa cum laude, National Honor Society, AP Scholar with Honors, KLAA Scholar Athlete.

Extracurricular activities: Class Council, soccer, tutoring, youth soccer coach, Rays of Hope -- Haiti.

Influential teachers: Mrs. Wilson in kindergarten and Mr. Barker in high school.

Family: His parents are Gary and Melinda and he has two siblings, Mason, 14 and Owen, 11.



JACOB FLYNN

Roeper School

College: Johns Hopkins University to study molecular and cellular biology with the long-term goal of becoming a research biologist.

Academic honors: University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship.

Extracurricular activities: Soccer, baseball, Senior Class president, student representative to the Board of Directors, moderator of student government and president of the Roeper Spirit Squad.

Influential teachers: Laura Panek and Jamie Benigna.

Family: His parents are Kris and David Flynn. He has two siblings, Alyssa, 19 and Nathan, 21.



ELIJAH SPENS

Clarenceville High School

College: Undecided on a school, but he wants to pursue a career in computer engineering.

Extracurricular activities: Soccer, Symphonic Band, Business Professionals of America, president of local chapter.

Influential teacher: Soccer coach Trevor Johnson.

Family: His Parents are Richard and Laura Spens. His siblings are Steven, 19 and Kimberly, 14.



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