

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

THURSDAY 05.19.16 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



**ACADEMIC ALL-STARS HONORED AT MADONNA**  
LOCAL NEWS, A5

## Lawsuit seeks to toss Heise from primary

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

A technicality could decide the race for Plymouth Township supervisor before voters go to the polls in August. In a lawsuit filed Friday in Wayne County Circuit Court, Carl Berry, a Republican activist, seeks to have Kurt Heise, who is challenging Supervisor Shannon Price in the Republican primary, tossed off the ballot for failing to fill out a box, on the affidavit of identity Heise filed for his candidacy,

indicating his home precinct. The suit also asks that Don Schnettler, who is running for the Board of Trustees, be disqualified for also leaving the precinct box blank. "Technically, it's a violation of the law" to not fill in the box, Berry said Tuesday. "Do we want candidates violating the law to become candidates? I don't think so." Berry, a former township police chief, is a supporter of Price and introduced him when Price formally announced last month that he was running for

supervisor. Berry said it "sounds harsh" to seek the candidates' removal from the ballot, but that he's "trying to get a problem resolved." "If the court comes up with a way to fix it, that's up to the court and that's fine with me," he said. Berry's suit names township Clerk Nancy Conzelman, Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett and the elections commissions in the township and the county as defendants. Berry sought to have Heise and

Schnettler removed from the ballot through the clerks' offices before filing the suit, Conzelman said. "It's really up to Wayne County Circuit Court," Conzelman said Wednesday. "I don't believe ... I have authority to make any changes." Conzelman said the affidavit of identity, filed for campaign finance reporting purposes, is "entirely the candidate's responsibility" and not subject to the kind of official scrutiny



Heise



Berry



Schnettler

See LAWSUIT, Page A3



Craig Hane and his mother Anne, last year during her 86th birthday celebration. She also has been involved in theater.

## Barefoot Productions founder sets sights on Broadway — and Mars

**Sharon Dargay**  
Staff Writer

Craig Hane turned in the keys Sunday to Barefoot Productions and retired from the theater he founded 10 years ago. "Birthing BP and watching it grow from a five-by-seven-foot rug and folding chairs in the basement of the Plymouth

Historical Museum to a 97-seat, black-box, three-quarters thrust stage in its own building ... an accomplishment?" he said. "I think so. I am happy. I am proud." But he's also ready to move on and the next chapter of his life will take him to Mars, via Seattle, possibly Chicago, with stops in New York City and Hollywood.

He's co-writing a play about the colonization of the Red Planet, with Barefoot actor Nathan Corliss, who conceived the story and wrote its first draft. Hane has big plans for the script. "I'm going to take this show to Broadway or die," he said with a laugh. "It's a science fiction script and you never see science fiction onstage. It's

a thriller. There is mystery involved and murder, but it's happening on Mars. "I see this onstage like a movie. After we've won our Tony Award for this play, we'll have to adapt it to a movie and we'll win an Academy Award. So I've got this all planned out. By that

See HANE, Page A9

## Water going up, trash down in city

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth's residents and business owners will be paying a little more for water and sewer service come this summer.

But taxpayers' cost for garbage disposal in the city will be going down. The city commission unanimously approved Monday an increase in the city's water and sewer rate of 29 cents per thousand gallons used, bringing the cost from \$11.34 per thousand to \$11.63 per thousand.

The increase, amounting to just over 2.5 percent, takes effect in July and will be the city's first since July of 2014. Plymouth's residential customers pay for water and sewer service quarterly. With the typical household using 18,000 gallons per quarter, the new \$11.63-per-thousand rate translates into just over \$209 for water and sewer every three months. With a "ready-to-serve" charge, based on meter size, of \$11.56 for a five-eighths-inch meter, the typical quarterly water bill in Plymouth will total nearly \$221. A smaller increase had been planned but, in a memo to commissioners, finance director Mark Christiansen said the new rate needed to cover anticipated increases in the cost of sewage treatment.

See RATES, Page A2

## Downtown liquor licenses: city commission keeps cap on number

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth's downtown liquor license cap, which limits the number of establishments in the central business district that can use a state license to sell alcohol by the glass, won't be raised this year after all. The city commission, facing pressure from downtown business owners and landlords to maintain the current cap until a parking shortage is addressed, approved an amended alcohol management ordinance Monday — but kept the cap at

14 licenses rather than raising it by one, as had been planned. The commission had voted 4-3 in March to allow up to 15 licenses to be used downtown, but business owners in recent weeks appeared at city meetings to lobby for maintaining the cap until there is more public parking. Many of the same opponents of raising the cap spoke up Monday. "It's just a chaotic mess right now with parking," said Patrick O'Neill, a downtown landlord and financial planner who said he cannot see clients

in his own building during evening hours because of a parking shortage. Paraphrasing baseball legend Yogi Berra — who supposedly said, "People don't go there anymore. It's too crowded." — O'Neill said Plymouth runs the risk of choking on its popularity when it comes to parking. Opponents of raising the cap said they were not against downtown growth, but want officials to plan for where visitors will put their vehicles. "If you don't address the parking, this town is going to

diminish," said Jim Courtney, another downtown landlord. "I don't care how you resolve it, but you've got to resolve it." **New criteria, but no new licenses** Monday's decision — it was a voice vote, with no "no" votes — heads off what was expected to be fierce competition for the commission's blessing to use the one license that would have been available under the raised downtown cap. The amended alcohol management ordinance revises the detailed criteria for how businesses

seeking to use a license in the city will be evaluated by officials as they decide applicants' suitability. The commission will take up a second and final reading of the amended ordinance at its Monday, June 6, meeting. Some of the discussion over parking focused on the soon-to-open Westborn Market, which is going into the former post office building on Penniman. Westborn's owners plan a 90-seat cafe for the store and sought to transfer a license,

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# State's first Container Store coming to Novi

**Georgea Kovanis**  
Michigan.com

The Container Store, the place for fun and functional storage boxes, bins and bags, is coming to Novi.

Located in a former Best Buy in the West Oaks shopping center, the 22,000-square-foot store is scheduled to open June 4.

It will be Michigan's first Container Store.

A second store is scheduled to open in the fall at Rochester and Big Beaver roads in Troy

The Container Store is a favorite with fans of organized living spaces. It carries everything from cupcake wrappers to closet systems and dustpans to desks.

West Oaks is located on the northwest corner of Novi Road and I-96. The store's address is: 43525 West Oaks Drive. Ten percent of its sales June 4-5 will be donated to Forgotten Harvest.

For more information about The Container Store, go to [www.thecontainerstore.com](http://www.thecontainerstore.com).



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## LIQUOR

Continued from Page A1

under a raised cap, in order to serve beer and wine there.

The Westborn site, however, will include 36 parking spaces — more than the city requires for

its intended use as a retail shop and cafe.

Commissioner Oliver Wolcott, who is also chairman of the Downtown Development Authority board, said officials have heard the message on parking loud and clear and plan to increase their efforts toward increasing its availability.

"It's something that is going to be taken up in earnest," Wolcott said.

### 'Definitely need to handle' parking

Bryan Bandyk, a spokesman for Westborn, declined to comment Tuesday on the commission's reversal on raising the license cap, saying he

was hearing about the vote for the first time. Westborn tentatively plans to open on Penniman in late June, he said.

Stefan Stefanakis, who has also been wanting to obtain a license to sell beer and wine at the Greek Islands Coney Island, in which he is a partner, said the decision has pluses and minuses, but that he is mostly in favor of it.

"Before they give out any liquor license, including to myself, they need to definitely handle the parking situation," said Stefanakis, whose father George, also a partner in the restaurant, is part-owner of the building in which it's located.

"If in a year from now, we're in the same place we are today ... that will be upsetting," he added. "That will be upsetting for a lot of people."

The commission annually debates whether to raise its alcohol-by-the-glass license caps — 14 licenses downtown and 10 elsewhere in the city — while reviewing license-holders' compliance with the city's alcohol ordinance and recommending their licenses for renewal — or non-renewal — by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

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## RATES

Continued from Page A1

Rate increases from the Rouge Valley sanitary sewer system have not been received and are not expected until next month, Christiansen wrote, but the new Great Lakes Water Authority has passed on to the Rouge Valley system an increase for its services of 7.5 percent, higher than had been budgeted for earlier.

The commission did not increase, however, Plymouth's monthly "cart fee" for trash and recyclables disposal, which was lowered to \$9.50 a month from \$10 a month in late 2014. The cart fees are included in the quarterly water bills.

In addition, the commission also voted to lower the solid waste millage, which also provides revenue for trash and recyclables disposal, by one-tenth of a mill, or a dime for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable value.

The new rate will be 1.82 mills, down from 1.92 mills.

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# Help the Elks and enjoy a cruise-in concert

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks are hosting Rock 'n' Ride, a cruise-in benefit concert, from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at the lodge, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Proceeds will benefit the building fund for the Elks Lodge.

The show is free to car and motorcycle owners. If a piston makes it go, you're welcome to the show. Any custom, classic, exotic, cherished vehicle is welcomed. First-come, first-parked; no entry fee, no prizes, just good clean fun for a good cause.

For a \$10 donation, you can go inside to hear four rock bands: SRP, Most Wanted, Jack Stand and Spillin' Whiskey. Food and beverages will be available inside the Lodge.

For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to [www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com](http://www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com) or email [jazzat-theelks@gmail.com](mailto:jazzat-theelks@gmail.com).



Help the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks building fund by taking in some lively concerts by bands, including Most Wanted.



Take a listen to SRP this weekend at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge.



Jack Stand will perform at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks this weekend.

## LAWSUIT

Continued from Page A1

that candidates' petition signatures get.

### Heise: 'Denial of democracy'

Heise called the lawsuit frivolous and said he was considering a counter-suit.

"It's like filling out an

ID," he said of the affidavit. "It's an administrative document" and doesn't carry the same weight as the voters' signatures that candidates are required to file in order to get on the ballot.

Heise said Berry's suit amounts to "a denial of democracy" and that his oversight on the affidavit is "easily correctable."

In 2014, a challenge by

Susan Brams, Heise's campaign treasurer and an employee in his state House office, to petition signatures filed by Delicia Taylor Coleman resulted in Coleman being removed from the ballot in a race for circuit court judgeships that included Heise's wife, Judge Catherine Heise, and other judges. Catherine Heise had been appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to fill a

vacancy and was seeking a full term.

Heise, though, said Brams' challenge of petition signatures and Berry's lawsuit over himself and Schnettler leaving the precinct box blank can't be compared.

"That's throwing mud against the wall," he said.

Like Heise, Schnettler said he will fight Berry's suit.

"It's nothing more than

antics, trying to get us out of the race or keep us tied up with things other than the race," Schnettler said after Tuesday's Board of Trustees meetings.

But the suit was "not a surprise," he said. "They're grabbing at any straws they can."

Berry, however, said it's common to review candidates' paperwork for technicalities and oversights.

"I don't know of any candidate who hasn't gone in and checked petitions and checked things," he said.

Heise and Price are the only two candidates for township supervisor in the primary race. Schnettler is among 10 Republicans running for the board.

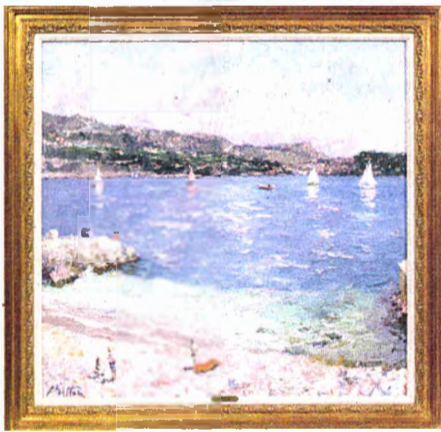
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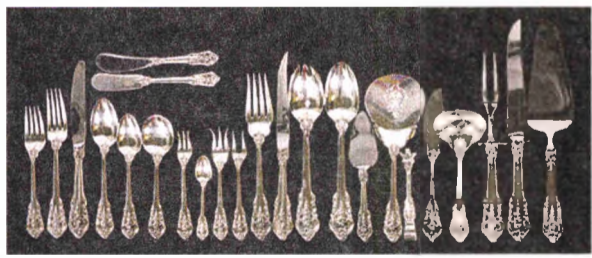
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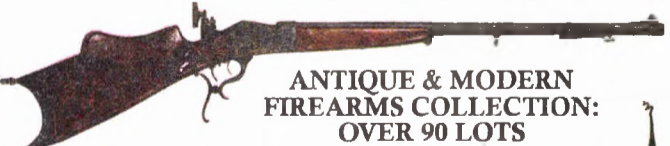
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## CANTON CRIME WATCH

## Teen says crowd beat on his car, taunted him

As a crowd of young men beat on his car and taunted him to get out, a Canton teen called police for help as an incident unfolded outside the High Velocity Sports complex on Michigan Avenue, a report said.

The crowd of young men dispersed after it became clear police had been called, but one of the suspects had shattered a side mirror of a 2003 Chevy Impala the alleged victim was driving, a police report said.

The incident unfolded about 10:30 p.m. Sunday amid reports that two groups of friends playing

basketball inside the sports complex began to "trash talk" — causing tensions that spilled outside the building, the report said. As many as 15-20 people were involved.

The Canton teen said the other team followed him and his friends outside and continued to argue. He said he got into his car to drive away when someone drove up behind him and blocked him. He said the suspects then began beating on his car and telling him to get out until it became clear he was calling police for help.

Police spotted one getaway car driven by a suspect and pulled it over at the Walmart store

on Michigan Avenue. An investigation indicated one of the occupants of the vehicle had caused the damage to the victim's car. That occupant was cited for malicious destruction of property.

## Stranger danger

A bizarre string of events including accusatory texts, a slashed tire and an attempt to run her off the road prompted a 23-year-old Canton woman to notify police. She said she had no idea who the stranger was.

She finally turned to police May 12 after she received some 20 text messages accusing her of dating a married man, although she told police she isn't seeing anyone, a

report said.

Police tried to call the phone number used for the texts, but got a recording only stating it was a "text now" phone number — apparently a reference to an app that can be used for texts and calls.

Police left a message on the recording warning that the texting should be stopped.

The woman told police someone also slashed a tire on her vehicle while it was parked in her driveway in Canton. She also said during a recent trip to Oak Park that a driver in a red Chevrolet Impala intentionally hit the side of her car and drove off. Canton police advised her to report that

incident to Oak Park authorities.

## Stolen truck

An Imlay City man notified police after his work truck was stolen from a parking lot south-east of Ford and Lotz roads while he was doing work at Hayden's restaurant.

He told police the 2003 Dodge Ram was stolen between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Friday. He said certain property, including a .40-caliber handgun, a lawnmower and tools, was in the truck.

## Loud neighbor

Saying he was fearful of who might be knocking on his door, a resident

of a Canton apartment complex called 9-1-1 for help before he realized it was actually the police at his door, a report said.

Police had gone to the man's apartment about 4:20 p.m. Sunday after a neighbor for a third time had called to complain he was playing his music too loud and disturbing neighbors.

One neighbor told police the music is played loud at all hours, waking him and his girlfriend as they try to sleep. Police cited the suspect for disturbing the peace. He told police he would turn down the volume.

— By Darrell Clem

## Canton safety team tackles opioid abuse

Canton police officers and firefighters last year responded to 23 drug overdoses — seven of them fatal.

To fight back, the Canton police and fire departments have joined forces with local community health organizations and Growth Works, Inc., to address Canton's slice of the nationwide opioid abuse epidemic.

Opioids are a class of drugs derived from the opium poppy, including morphine, codeine and heroin; they also include synthetics like oxycodone, hydrocodone and the extremely potent fentanyl.

Earlier this year, public safety officials noted a remarkable increase in the number of reported overdoses involving opioid drugs. Already this year, Canton has had 24 overdoses, with four ending in death.

Of the 47 total overdoses since January 2015, 66 percent of the individuals were ages 18-30.

"The increase in runs

Canton Public Safety is responding to for individuals experiencing a drug overdose is alarming and, unfortunately, aligns with the upward trend being experienced throughout the state and nation," Public Safety Director Joshua Meier said.

Nationwide, heroin overdose deaths have tripled from 2010 to 2013, according to federal prosecutors — and the number of deaths from all drug overdoses exceeded 43,000 individuals in 2014.

The intent of Canton's newly formed partnership is to attack drug abuse and addiction in the community with a two-pronged approach:

First, the police and fire departments will continue providing their respective services to the community including educational programs, prosecution of drug offenses, and treatment for overdose patients.

Second, the new partnership is aimed at securing resources for proac-

tive approaches toward reducing drug use and abuse in Canton.

Growth Works, Inc., was recruited into the partnership as a valuable resource for addicts seeking help. It is a private, nonprofit organization serving youth and families in the western Wayne County since 1971.

The agency provides innovative chemical dependency and substance abuse programs for addicts and recovering addicts. Growth Works, Inc., can be reached at 734-495-1722.

The agency is also a valuable assistance resource for individuals impacted by a friend or loved one's addiction.

"Opioid abuse has no socio- or economic boundaries — addicts are not just street people or junkies, they can be your friends, co-workers or relatives and their addiction usually results in tragedy for those around them," Deputy Police Chief Debra Newsome said.

## Canton honors employees during Public Works Week

They ensure safe drinking water, monitor local waterways, sweep streets and keep police and fire vehicles running, among other duties.

Canton is recognizing the men and women who make up the Canton Public Works Division during this week, National Public Works Week, which runs through Saturday.

Instituted as a public education campaign by the American Public Works Association in 1960, NPWW is observed each year during the third full week of May.

This year's theme is Public Works Always There, a theme that highlights the importance of public working in the community, a service officials say often goes unnoticed, especially if it is being

done exceptionally well.

Canton's Public Works Division is broken into five sections; water distribution, sanitary sewer collection, environmental services, fleet maintenance and asset management. All sections work closely together to help provide and maintain the infrastructure and services that keep our community functioning in an operable manner.

In addition to the five sections that make up the Public Works Division, Canton also is recognizing the Engineering Services Division that works closely with Public Works to help maintain the community infrastructure. This section ensures that the community engineering design and construction standards are met on all projects.

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DAN DEAN

Jason Ren from Canton High School receives congratulations from Karen Sanborn, director of marketing for Madonna University.



DAN DEAN

Paul Chamberlain from Plymouth Christian Academy receives his certificate from Karen Sanborn, director of marketing for Madonna University.

# ACADEMIC ALL-STARS HONORED

When officials at Parkside Credit Union design the essay question they use every year to determine the scholarship winner among the Observer & Eccentric Academic All-Stars, they're looking for a winner who takes seriously their desire to have young people think more deeply about financial responsibility.

This year, they found their winner in Plymouth Christian Academy senior Paul Chamberlain, named the recipient of Parkside's \$500 scholarship.

"We know fiscal education isn't necessarily taught as part of school curriculum," said Heather Gatewood, vice president of marketing and development for Parkside, one of the sponsors of the annual O&E Academic All-Stars. "It's a way to get the kids to think a little more deeply about managing their financial situation."

The 2016 Observer & Eccentric Academic All-Star Team, representing the most accomplished students from public, private and parochial schools in Oakland and western Wayne counties, was honored at the 31st annual breakfast Friday in Madonna University's Franciscan Center.

Ten team members posted 4.0 grade-point averages in high school and perfect ACT and/or SAT scores. Another 15 students were honorable mention and their scores are separated in most cases by a mere fraction of a point.

Community Alliance Credit Union was a sponsor of the special section honoring the team. Judging was done by Dan Willenborg, principal of Livonia Franklin High School, and Charlie Holerith, principal of Bloomfield Hills High School.



DAN DEAN

The honorees gather at the Franciscan Center on the campus of Madonna University for a group photo May 13.



DAN DEAN

Katherine Robertson from Northville High School poses with Karen Sanborn, director of marketing for Madonna University.



DAN DEAN

Ean Maloney from Catholic Central High School is congratulated by Observer editor Brad Kadrich.



DAN DEAN

Observer & Eccentric marketing manager Choya Jordan welcomes attendees to the 31st annual Academic All-Stars breakfast on the campus of Madonna University.



DAN DEAN

Parents get out the phones and cameras to record a group photo of the Academic All-Stars honored at Madonna University.

## Families get room makeovers from IKEA

Sharon Dargay  
 Staff Writer

The problem: Tiphany and Jonathan Walker's living room had no overhead lighting, lackluster storage units and no room for entertaining guests.

The solution: The IKEA Home Tour Squad, a team of experts from IKEA stores nationwide, spent three days in the Walker's Ferndale home this month, furnishing the space with wall-mounted cabinets, new seating and multiple lighting sources, while also video recording the transformation.

The outcome: A happy family, a refreshed living space and a wealth of design ideas to help other homeowners take on their own home improvement projects.

"The cool thing about the video aspect is to answer questions for people who aren't sure how to place things, what coordinates together or what's an easy way to make an impact in your space without spending a lot of money," said Elizabeth Spencer, the team manager and an IKEA employee from Washington, D.C. "Being able to produce these videos is awesome to try and help people across America."

Videos showing the redesign at the Walker's home, one of two Detroit-area families chosen for the IKEA Home Tour series, will be uploaded to the IKEA YouTube channel in approximately five weeks. The site has more than 120 short videos showing the IKEA Home Tour design transformations in other private homes.

IKEA launched the traveling design team



Wall-mounted cabinets and an entertainment center provide lots of storage areas. The mirror reflects light from windows on an opposite wall and the wall lamps offer mood lighting.

last year and dispatched it to cities along the East Coast. This year's team stopped in Texas, Kansas and Missouri before arriving in Detroit. The group is based for a few more weeks at the Canton store before it moves on to Chicago, Ill., and Minneapolis, Minn.

IKEA selected its makeover participants through an online application process. Applicants identified one room at home that needed help, explained their design challenges and uploaded a video of the space.

### More seating needed

It was an easy decision for the Walkers, who live in a two-bedroom, ranch-style house.

"We'd like to be able to invite friends over and hang out, you know, all that stuff you'd like to do in your living room and we've never been able to do it," Tiphany Walker

said.

"I had a table in the middle of the room, but it was too big for the space. We had a book shelf and we were using something for our TV. It wasn't really a TV stand. Nothing really worked."

She and her husband made a video, stressing they wanted a living room that could accommodate guests and board game play. They and a couple in Allen Park, who needed a revamped office space, won makeovers.

### Consider your needs

"What happens is a lot of people just add (furniture) and sometimes you need to assess first and then see what's really working and what's not," said Stephanie Recupero, an IKEA designer from Chicago. "Sometimes it's something else you need to change instead of adding."

The team started the

redesign process by asking the Walkers about their lifestyle and living room needs.

The couple wanted extra seating for game nights. They wanted better lighting and a sofa bed for family members who visited. With a child on the way, they hoped to replace glass tables with more toddler-friendly furniture.

"You want to make it a more conversational space. It's odd to be sitting in a row. The way they had it before, you had to bring chairs in from another room," Recupero said.

The team brought in a new sofa and added an upholstered chair to the space. A lightweight coffee table and wall-mounted, shallow storage cabinets — with enough space for games and other entertainment items — replaced the bulky, heavy glass tables. A wall-mounted entertainment center now is home to the television and has lots of storage space. Ottomans that can provide more seating are stored beneath it. Nesting tables in one corner



Glass tables, a television stand and makeshift table for electronic components furnish the small living room before the IKEA Home Tour experts redesigned it.



Team manager Elizabeth Spencer (left) watches as Jonathan and Tiphany Walker try out their new couch.

of the room take up little space, but offer flexibility.

Additional lighting was important, too. Table lamps, wall-mounted lamps, lights in the entertainment center and a reading lamp disperse light throughout the room. A rug adds warmth.

"In a lot of makeovers, people realize lighting is a problem. Usually there is one light and that's not enough. That has been a common theme," said Rocky Brewer of Portland, Ore., who served as director and cinematographer during the tour. "You want task lighting, general lighting and mood lighting."

The team also added

remote-controlled, color-changing LED lights — just for fun — to a portion of the entertainment center.


"Wow, wow. That's sweet," Jonathan Walker said as Spencer demonstrated how to change light colors.


"Oh my god, you guys, this is so beautiful," Tiphany Walker added, looking over the entire room. "This is exactly what we needed."

Get design tips from videos shot by Brewer and Jesse Myatt of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., from this year's IKEA Home Tour at [hometourseries.com](http://hometourseries.com).

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## Coffee klatsch with feline friends at newly opened cafe

Sharon Dargay  
 Staff Writer

Visitors to the Humane Society of Huron Valley's new "cat cafe" can knit, read, use Wi-Fi, relax with a beverage, watch a movie and even practice yoga — all in the company of cats.

Tiny Lions Lounge & Adoption Center opened earlier this month in Ann Arbor and three feline residents — the first to be adopted at the facility — went to their permanent homes Tuesday, May 10.

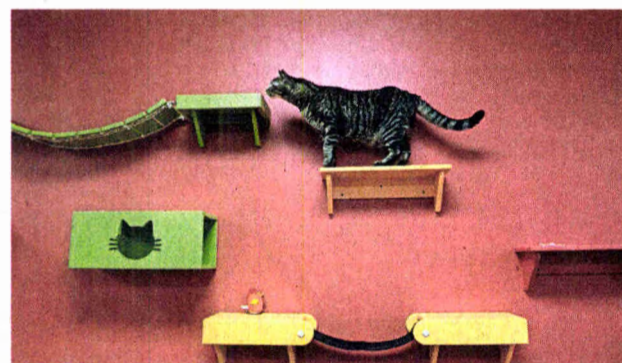
"It was very successful," said Wendy Walsh, HSHV marketing director. Opening weekend drew 43 visitors Friday, 116 Saturday and 74 Sunday, Mother's Day.

"We have a limit for the safety of people and the cats, on the number of guests that can come in at one time. We did hit that limit a couple of times over the weekend."

A maximum of 20 guests can mingle with 10-15 cats in the off-site adoption center at 5245 Jackson Road. Tiny Lions includes free Wi-Fi, comfy chairs, tables, a fireplace, cat toys, beds and scratching posts. Visitors can bring in their own beverages — a Biggy Coffee store is located next door — and hang out with the cats for \$7 per hour. The admission price helps pay for care of the cats and the cafe's upkeep.

Why would someone pay to mingle with free-roaming cats?

"Right now, some people are just curious about the space," Welch said. "People are looking to adopt a cat. Of course,



A cat makes its way across the wall at Tiny Lions.

we have a sector of the population that can't have a cat due to someone at home having an allergy. These cats all have personalities, but they are friendly and are looking for love."

Guests can pet the cats and watch them snooze, play, eat and cuddle.

There's no time limit other than venue hours, as long as visitors pay the hourly fee and follow the rules.

"If they want to pay \$7 an hour and stay all day, we'd welcome them," Welch said. "We have some rules to keep it safe for patrons and cats. There's no flash photography and don't pick up the cats or chase them around."

### Yoga, movies

The off-site adoption center gives HSHV more flexibility in finding them homes. The main shelter is at 3100 Cherry Hill Road in Ann Arbor. The additional location also gives HSHV an opportunity to duplicate successful programs and try new events. Beginning in June, a room with

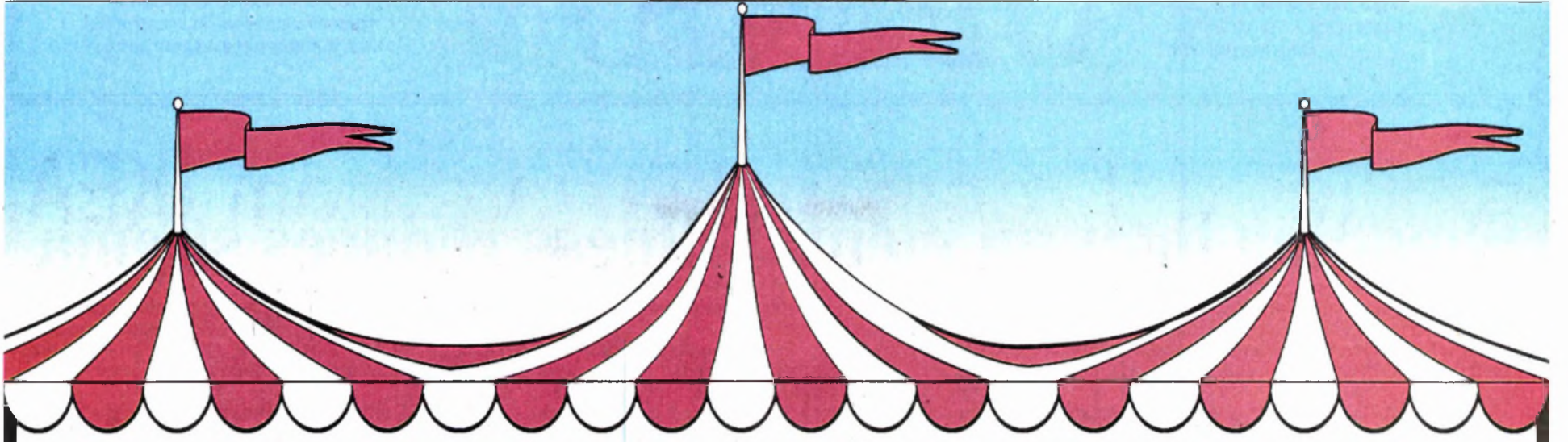
access to a kitchenette will be available for party rental on select weekends at Tiny Lions. Little Paws Story Time also starts next month and will focus on crafts, finger plays, stories and cat interaction for children, ages 2-5.

The organization's first yoga session with cats May 29 has sold out. Tiny Lions is accepting registration for Friday and Sunday sessions in June. The hatha-style classes cost \$15 per person. Rental yoga mats are \$2.

"There are other cat cafes that have done yoga. (The cats) are fascinated, from what we've heard," Welch said, adding that cats often join in with a stretch or two.

Welch said the Tiny Lions Family "Mew-Vie" Nights were inspired by the main shelter's pajama night parties for children. Adults wanted in on the fun, too. The family-oriented film nights cost \$7 per person and run 7-9 p.m. Friday, June 24, July 29 and Aug. 26.

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## OUR VIEW

# Shedding light on mental illness reduces stigma

A key program took place last week at Westland library. Courtesy of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the library, residents explored a topic on which there has been too much silence and stigma for far too long.

In Our Own Voice (IOOV) is a public education program developed by NAMI, in which two trained consumer speakers share their personal stories about living with mental illness and achieving recovery. The program was started with a grant from Eli Lilly and Company.

Mike and Kristen shared their stories with an audience of about 25. Businessman Mike had shame and fear for the future. "The stigma of mental illness has a crushing effect on me," he noted. "I have to learn to embrace my life as it is today."

Said Kristen, a high school guidance counselor, "We've come a long way. We have a long way to go" on addressing mental illness and mood disorders. Of her father, who was a medic in Vietnam, she said, "He's very accepting of me, loves me."

Both Mike and Kristen emphasized professional help, with resources often available for free through the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University. The National Alliance on Mental Illness has resource information and

is online at [www.namimetro.org](http://www.namimetro.org) and [www.namimi.org](http://www.namimi.org).

Audience members asked questions, including one elderly father concerned about a middle-aged daughter who won't acknowledge her mental illness. Information was shared on support groups, research studies and other resources from those who know the issues best.

IOOV presentations are given to consumer groups, students, law enforcement officials, educators, providers, faith community members, politicians, professionals, inmates and civic groups. Information on hosting speakers can be found online.

The goals of IOOV are to meet the need for consumer-run initiatives, to set a standard for quality education about mental illness from those who have been there, to offer genuine work opportunities, to encourage self-confidence and self-esteem in presenters and to focus on recovery and the message of hope, its website of [namimi.org](http://namimi.org) notes.

As Librarian Liz Waun said, "It's just a very open and honest discussion about mental illness. I think it's really hard for people who don't suffer from mental illness to understand. I think there's a lot of stigma and negativity."

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

is also getting the word out, hosting regional walks to increase awareness of mental health issues and the tragedy of suicide. A brighter future can be found for those who face mental illness and for their loved ones.

The AFSP will host an "Out of the Darkness" Walk for Metro Detroit/Oakland/Livingston on Oct. 9 at Kensington Metropark's Maple Beach. The walk will be 1-3 p.m. with check-in at 11 a.m. Details are available from Anne Perry, 248-425-2178 or [anneperry@gmail.com](mailto:anneperry@gmail.com). Visit [afsp.org](http://afsp.org) to learn more about the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Let's get behind these community efforts and reach out to those facing mental illness. Kindness and compassion go a long way toward achieving understanding, along with referral to community services that can assist with issues such as employment and housing.

No one should ever lose a loved one to suicide, or have to sit by helplessly while watching a family member or friend combat mental illness. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention walks, and NAMI programs, are good first steps toward bringing mental illness and mental health to the forefront where they belong.

## LETTERS

### Celebrating my heritage

On Monday, May 16, it was my privilege to attend and speak at the Holland, Mich., public school board meeting. More than 100 people were in attendance at this meeting to recognize the accomplishments of all students and their teachers.

I visited Holland to honor my mother's family. My mother was the youngest of 12 VanderVens, who were raised in the centennial home and

educated through the Holland Public School system. The MEA Voice Magazine of April 1938 documented the fact that seven of my aunts and uncles were public school teachers and superintendents for more than 35 years each in Michigan's public schools.

As we observe Michigan Week, my mother's family is testimony to the importance of quality public schools in our great state of Michigan. It was public education that raised them out of

### WRITE US

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

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the Great Depression.

In my family, we were taught that public education is the foundation of our democracy and the cornerstone of our society. The best choice, by far, is our local neighborhood public school, where our public school teachers nurture the growth and development of Michigan's children.

As we celebrate Michigan Week, I hope that we will cherish the efforts of our public school teachers who guide and shape

our children and grandchildren. I can see a more dynamic, progressive Michigan once we fully support our local public schools.

**John VanderVen Stewart**  
Plymouth

### Loudest, right aren't the same

Last week, a letter to the editor claimed that Trump is listening to the people.

Listening is an important component of leadership and I understand that many people are frustrated with our political gridlock. It is easy to hear the most vocal complainers, but loudest is not the same as right. There is a lot more to leadership than a knee jerk reaction to angriest special interest rhetoric. We have a constitution and a moral identity that are more important than the latest internet tweet.

I have listened to Trump and I find he has little to say. He spends a lot of time quoting tabloids, polls and "people." He insults and degrades others as if that is ac-

ceptable way of treating others. He seems to feel that demeaning others proves his arguments. He advances his ideas with sound bite statements that often contain words like "ban," "waterboarding" and "punish." He has no concern that actions he proposes are illegal and amoral.

Trump hears what he wants to hear. He is not a good listener

That is why I will vote for anyone but Trump.

**Tom Rutherford**  
Milford

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# Dozens 'brave the shave' for cancer research

The St. Baldrick's Foundation, a volunteer-driven organization dedicated to raising money for children's cancer research, hosted one of its signature head-shaving events Sunday at The Plymouth Roc.

More than 100 participants (including 70 of whom braved the shave in solidarity with kids with cancer) got together to raise more than \$100,000 for children's cancer research.

Why all the shaved heads? Worldwide, a child is diagnosed with cancer every three minutes and one in five children diagnosed in the U.S. will not survive. With only 4 percent of all federal cancer research funding dedicated to pediatric cancer research, St. Baldrick's Foundation volunteers, supporters and donors are needed to continue the battle against this devastating disease.

The event provides

## LENDING A HAND

**Current funds raised:** \$97,000  
**Projected funds raised:** More than \$100,000

**Number of shaves:** 74  
**People in attendance:** 300-400

**How to help:** Anyone who'd like to help out with upcoming events in the area, contact Robb Drzewicki at plymouthstbaldricks@gmail.com. The group has plans for events over the summer and in September for Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month.

cancer patients and their kid a chance to fight back. For Kelly Wadle, it has helped ease the overwhelming sense of powerlessness she's felt since her daughter was diagnosed with cancer.

"(St. Baldrick's) allows me to feel like I'm helping make a difference by raising awareness and funds for childhood cancer research,"



Event organizer Robb Drzewicki takes a moment to talk about honored mom and co-organizer Kelly Wadle: "These events take a lot of heart. Kelly brought ours out big time."

said Wadle, a two-time shaver. "They also prove to all the children fighting cancer that they're not fighting this battle alone. They have entire communities fighting for and with them."

With the help of The Plymouth Roc, Fantastic Sam's of Plymouth, the

volunteer committee and local businesses, this year's event smashed all fundraising goals.

Veteran Teams from TAFFY (Taking Action for Friends, Family, and Youth), Chicks Dig Bald and Ror's Renegades got some serious fundraising competition from new-

comers Chrome Dome, Michigan Chivers and The Women's Council of Realtors.

Raffles, auctions and old-fashioned "passing the hat" helped the event raise more than \$15,000 that day.

"Seeing the way our event has grown and getting to know all of the amazing people that help make this happen has been all the payment I could ever ask for," said Robb Drzewicki, volunteer event organizer. "I couldn't be happier. A couple of people started doing this event in 2011. Just six years later, we've raised over a quarter of a million dollars."

For six years, this ever-growing planning committee has brought a wild, fun and energy-packed event for the whole family. The event started in 2011 in Livonia and moved to The Plymouth Roc in 2014. For its third year at The Plymouth Roc, the

event's organizers hoped to bring new spectators and shaves together with veterans of the event.

"When you've been running an event like this for a few years, you start to lose the support of your core volunteers," Drzewicki said. "We try to make it too fun to give up on, but we always need new volunteers, spectators and folks willing to brave the shave."

More than 10 feet of hair was donated by men and women braving the shave. Hair went to Children With Hair Loss, a Michigan based nonprofit that makes wigs for children going through various treatments.

Event co-organizer Jody Williquette put it all on the line this year, shaving eyebrows, goatee and rainbow-colored hair while wearing a dress. "Anything for an extra dollar for the kids," Williquette said.

## HANE

Continued from Page A1

time, I should be 90."

### Making a move

Hane, who turns 54 next month, says moving out of state is an inevitable part of the process. He wants to check out the lively theater scene in Seattle, where friends have offered their home for an extended visit. Chicago is on his radar, too. The goal is to take the play to small, professional theaters while working toward Broadway.

The move won't come for at least another year, while Hane continues his day job managing a medical office and shifts focus from Barefoot to the "Mars One" script. He'll check out Seattle when he is financially secure and aware of potential jobs there.

Meanwhile, Barefoot Productions will say goodbye to its founder and artistic director at a reception 2-6 p.m. Sunday, June 12, that will be open to the public at the theater, 240 N. Main, Plymouth.

Hane said he was working in the tech booth during Barefoot's production of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" last year when he realized he needed to make a change. He had been at his day job for 17 years and the theater had consumed his nights and weekends. As of last year, he had directed or staged 43 of Barefoot's 57 shows.

"I think my hair is growing back," he said. "When you create a theater company, it becomes your child. There's constant worry. I have literally gotten up in my pajamas and gotten into my car at two in the morning and drove past the theater when I heard an ambulance (or) a fire truck."

## FIVE THINGS ABOUT CRAIG HANE

1. He's a foodie. "The only books I have in my house are scripts or cookbooks. I read and eat and eat and read. And I love food."

2. He staged a production called "Food, Glorious Food," at Barefoot by compiling recipes, food essays and food-related script excerpts. "I wrote it in a weekend. There were fun moments and sad moments and it was all about food."

3. One of his favorite plays was "Rope," staged in 2010. He shifted the starting time of the play from the usual 8 p.m. to 8:40 p.m. and eliminated intermission so the audience could experience the story in real time.

4. He used a hidden, filled swimming pool onstage for a scene that required an actor to "jump off a pier." The



Craig Hane says this is his favorite portrait for the stage.

water splashed and the first three rows of the audience didn't see the special effect coming — until they felt it.

5. Three plays he refused to do at Barefoot were "Harvey," "You Can't Take It With You" and "Arsenic and Old Lace."

### Making it happen

Instead of worrying, Hane intends to "think big" about his new project.

"Think unlimited. You can't write thinking you have limitations," he said. "Just believe."

That kind of bravado — along with a tinge of anger and frustration — motivated him to found Barefoot Productions. The Farmington High School graduate had studied theater at Central Michigan University, where his 87-year-old mother had also been involved in theater during the 1950s. After college, he worked in his chosen field for three years in Maine and then moved to southern California, where he founded his second theater company. His first was with friends after high school graduation. After seven years in California, he returned to Michigan and took a break from the stage for another seven years.

"I did not touch a stage until 2005," he said. "I finally got involved

with some theater companies and dabbled in tech work. My heart was in directing. I'd be in the wings and I'd see poor directing. I'd pull the actors aside and say don't do that, do this. I got into so much trouble."

Angry about the poor directing he witnessed and frustrated in his attempts to correct it, Hane decided to start his own company. Barefoot Productions, grown by Hane and its members, staged plays that weren't being done by other community theaters, in an empty furniture store that was converted into a theater. He raised the bar on set design and special effects and built a reputation for edgy and creative programming.

"I was Broadway-bound when I graduated from college. Every day since I graduated from college, I knew what wanted to do, but there has been doubt," Hane said. "Barefoot has helped me pat myself on the back."

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Nathan Corliss (left) and Ken Karges in one of Craig Hane's favorite plays, "Rope," which Barefoot Productions staged in 2010.

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# Looking for a treasure? Bookstock may have it

**David Veselenak**  
Staff Writer

Biographies. Classic literature. Mysteries. History.

If there's a genre you're interested in, this year's Bookstock is likely to have some books available — and then some.

"It's every bit as good as our best years," said Janet Berman, co-chair of the annual sale in the hallways of Laurel Park Place in Livonia. "It seems as if every year, we're going up."

"I think that's what's going to happen. We have more to offer people than we ever have."

The sale began Sunday and will run to this Sunday throughout the mall, with paperback books selling for as little as \$1 and hardcovers going for as little as \$3. Tens of thousands of books are available for purchase and cover many categories, including local history, sports and travel.

Several special events are still planned through the rest of the week with the sale, including the opportunity Thursday to enter to win a skate signed by Olympic ice dancers Charlie White and Meryl Davis, Detroit Tigers tickets and tickets to see United Shore Professional League baseball games at Jimmy John's Field, which is scheduled to open later this month in Utica. Those who spend more than \$25 will be entered in those drawings 3-9 p.m., as well as buy three books, get one free.

"There's just some really great things," Berman said.

Books and media will also be half-price Sunday.

Bookstock is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. through Saturday and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
734-678-6728  
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Stevenson High School band members Scott Cole and Jack Gaskill wait for the 8:15 a.m. start.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## WHY BE CATHOLIC? Season 7

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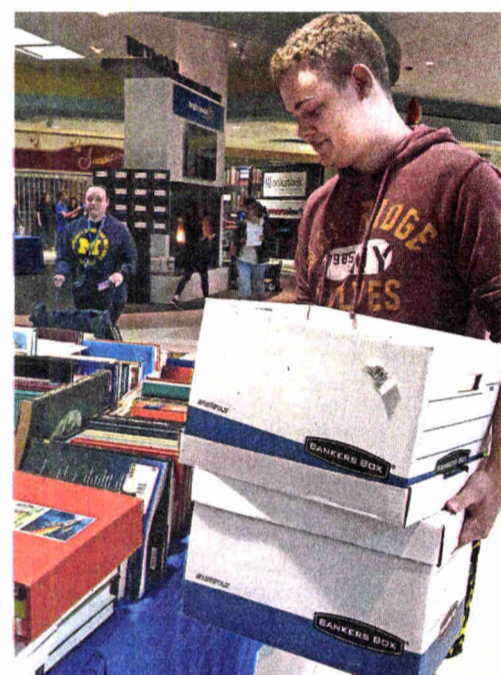
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Tara and Jason Michener, with 2-year-old son Cannon Michener, are at Bookstock's opening.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Nathan Bump is working with Sue Kolasinski. Many of those who show up for the \$20 pre-sale are booksellers, looking for stock.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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# 'Lessen stigma' of mental illness: Speakers share personal stories with audience

**Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

Mike speaks to groups on his mental illness "to bring a little bit of hope to those who have none. My hope is that we lessen the stigma."

He hopes for a day, too, when mental illness is on par with other diseases in terms of research dollars and public awareness. Mike and Kristen were the presenters at a National Alliance on Mental Illness program last week at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.

"The thing we want to give you is hope," Mike told his audience of about 25, encouraging them to seek help. As a teen, he channeled his anger issues into his swimming and continued to swim at Michigan State University competitively.

He graduated with a 3.4 GPA and went on for an M.B.A. Mike is married with three kids. "You can't tell just by looking at me," he said. "Stigma is an ugly word. I think it's the ugliest word we

have."

Kristen is a high school guidance counselor or who graduated from the University of Michigan and earned her master's degree from Wayne State. "Sports, I think, really saved me," she said of younger days.

These days, she has a cat, loves technology and watching TV crime shows, as well as researching ancestry. Kristen noted the genetic basis of mental illness; she's trying to find roots of her birth family (her mother was adopted) and also runs a support group. "Mental illness is part of what I live with every day," she said, adding it was a good day other than the unexpected I-275 construction detour.

### 'In Our Own Voice'

Kristen and Mike spoke at the Westland library for the "In Our Own Voice" program, sponsored by NAMI and suggested by a library patron. Mike had faced anxiety and depression 30 years.

"I knew I was in trou-

ble," he said of many job moves. He lost a lot of weight in that manic time.

"It allowed me to lie to the people I love about how I was feeling," said Mike, who recalled having to watch DVDs over and over of things like their children's first steps. He lacked that memory then.

Mike was hospitalized in spring 2012 and diagnosed with a form of bipolar disorder, cognitive disorders and generalized anxiety disorder. He recalled the outpatient therapy as saving him.

Kristen, too, was diagnosed with a form of bipolar disorder at 29 and was hospitalized. She was in a new job; her parents moved away.

"They were my safety net. Nothing felt right. Just being in my skin didn't feel right," said Kristen, who drove around a lot at that time.

She now "reboots" much like a computer when her thinking turns negative and finds going to bed early on those bad

days a big help. "Now it's at the point where I can manage it," she said of her illness, using the analogy of a heart monitor.

Mike had shame and fear for the future. "The stigma of mental illness has a crushing effect on me," he said. "I have to learn to embrace my life as it is today."

Both have adjusted their goals and dreams, as did the people with mental illness in a video shown that evening. Kristen asks herself "Can I solve it?" and, if not, works on surviving it.

"There are some days I accept it more than others," she said. She initially feared side effects of medication, including weight gain.

"We've come a long way. We have a long way to go" on addressing mental illness and mood disorders, she said. Of her father, who was a medic in Vietnam, she said, "He's very accepting of me, loves me."

Mike's dad and other family members weren't accepting. "He called me

a big loser," Mike said of his father.

Mike sees a psychiatrist monthly, noting he can oversleep, and also sees a psychologist to help him "unlearn erroneous coping skills." Mike's wife is a big help and he emphasized friends and family are key.

### 'Unconditional support and love'

"You have to have that unconditional support and love," he added.

Kristen has thyroid issues, too, and needs to monitor her sleep and diet. She was earlier stressed out by summers when she doesn't work as much and has less structure.

"A lot of psychiatrists don't take insurance. I was stressed out," she said of needing to shop around for another good psychiatrist. She's also in group therapy and saw a therapist.

Kristen finds group therapy helpful for emotional regulation and relationships. "Am I taking care of myself and doing what I need to do?"

said Kristen, who also benefits from chiropractic treatment and massage.

Both discussed coping or "compensation skills," with Mike noting he can't go to Las Vegas. Exercise helps them both, as does humor, with Mike playing the mascot at NAMI benefit walks.

"There's no way you're going to be able to get through this alone," he said. U-M, MSU and WSU all have resources, he said, and testing is often free.

"You've got to be around positive people," he added. They also touched on spirituality to help.

Kristen said she's in several studies to improve treatment. "I'm very hopeful whatever comes my way I'll be able to handle with support," she said.

Additional information is online at [www.namimetro.org](http://www.namimetro.org) or [www.nami-mi.org](http://www.nami-mi.org).

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# Forever After stages 'Brighton Beach Memoirs' this weekend

A local cast of Forever After Productions will stage one of Neil Simon's most popular works, "Brighton Beach Memoirs" May 19-22 at the downtown Plymouth Arts and Recreation Center.

The play is a semi-autobiographical look at growing up in Brooklyn during the 1930s and a portrait of the writer as a young teen living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up.

Eugene Jerome,

standing in for the author, is the narrator and central character.



Simon

of his family life in Brooklyn: a formidable mother, overworked father and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche

and her two young (but rapidly aging) daughters and you have a recipe for hilarity, served up Simon-style. This bitter-sweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling Jewish household where, as his father states, "If you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here."

"Watch as a cast of local talent brings life to the Jerome family" said Connor Rhoades of Plymouth, director, PCEP grad and theater educa-

tion student at Eastern Michigan University. "Enjoy a professional quality theatrical experience in a new and intimate way at the Playhouse at the PARC."

This production is outrageously funny, though it does feature some adult situations, so it receives a PG-13 rating.

"Forever After Productions is a great way for young people come together and create something wonderful," Rhoades said. "In the

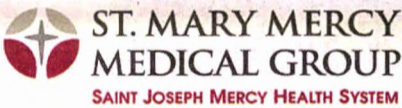
case of 'Memoirs,' these students get the opportunity to dig into meatier and more challenging material that they otherwise wouldn't get the chance to do in a school or youth theatrical setting."

Forever After also hosts a variety of other productions throughout the year and also provides opportunities for youth to perform in various summer camps.

General admission tickets are \$10 and are on sale for all six perfor-

mances. Show times are 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, May 19-21; 2 p.m. Saturday, May 21; and 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday, May 22.


Tickets may be purchased at [www.heartforeverafter.com](http://www.heartforeverafter.com) or by calling Forever After Productions at 734-547-5156. The Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex is the re-purposed Central Middle School located in Plymouth between downtown and Old Village at 650 Church Street.



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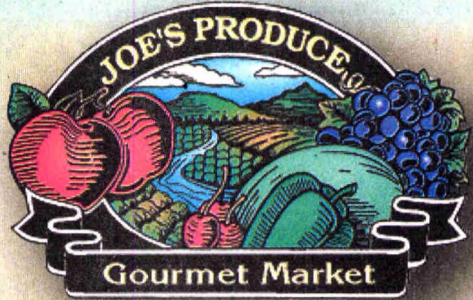


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PREP BASEBALL

## Dunn 'deals' in victory over Chiefs

Northville earns third straight Kensington Conference crown

Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Chris Dunn gives you a little Cole Hamels, Jamie Moyer and Cliff Lee — all wrapped into one.

The Northville senior is a crafty left-hander who works the plate with pinpoint control and will throw a sneaky fastball by you.

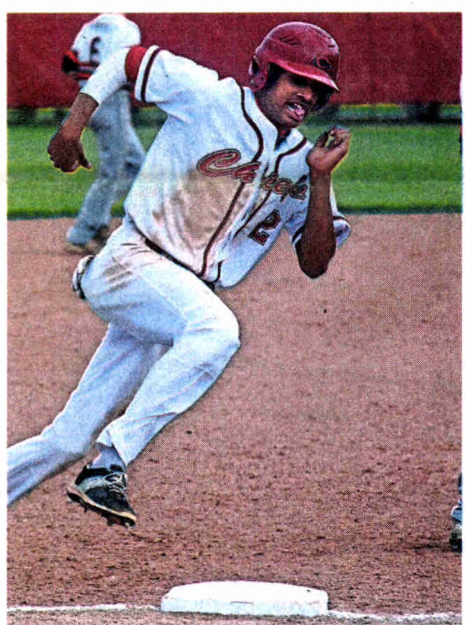
That was the case in Monday's KLAA Kensington Conference baseball championship game as Dunn quieted host Canton's bats on a six-hitter as the Mustangs (20-4) earned their third straight title with a 4-1 win.

"Outstanding. What can I say? (He) beat a very good team," Northville coach John Kostrzewa said of Dunn's performance. "He's been like that this year, but all last year, too. He's done a tremendous job. To come in here on the road and in this environment ... got in a couple of binds in the game and was able to get out of it. He just competes. He's a great competitor, nothing fazes him. I'm real happy and proud because he carried us in this game."

Dunn, who struck out five and did not allow a walk, deflected the attention from himself and praised his infield, which laid the leather down by getting 11 ground outs.

"Defense was tremendous," the 6-foot, 160-pound Dunn said. "The shortstop and the third base, Nate (Wixon) and Kevin (Morrissey), especially getting to the sides ... that was great and, with their strong arms, they just threw them out. That's killer when they

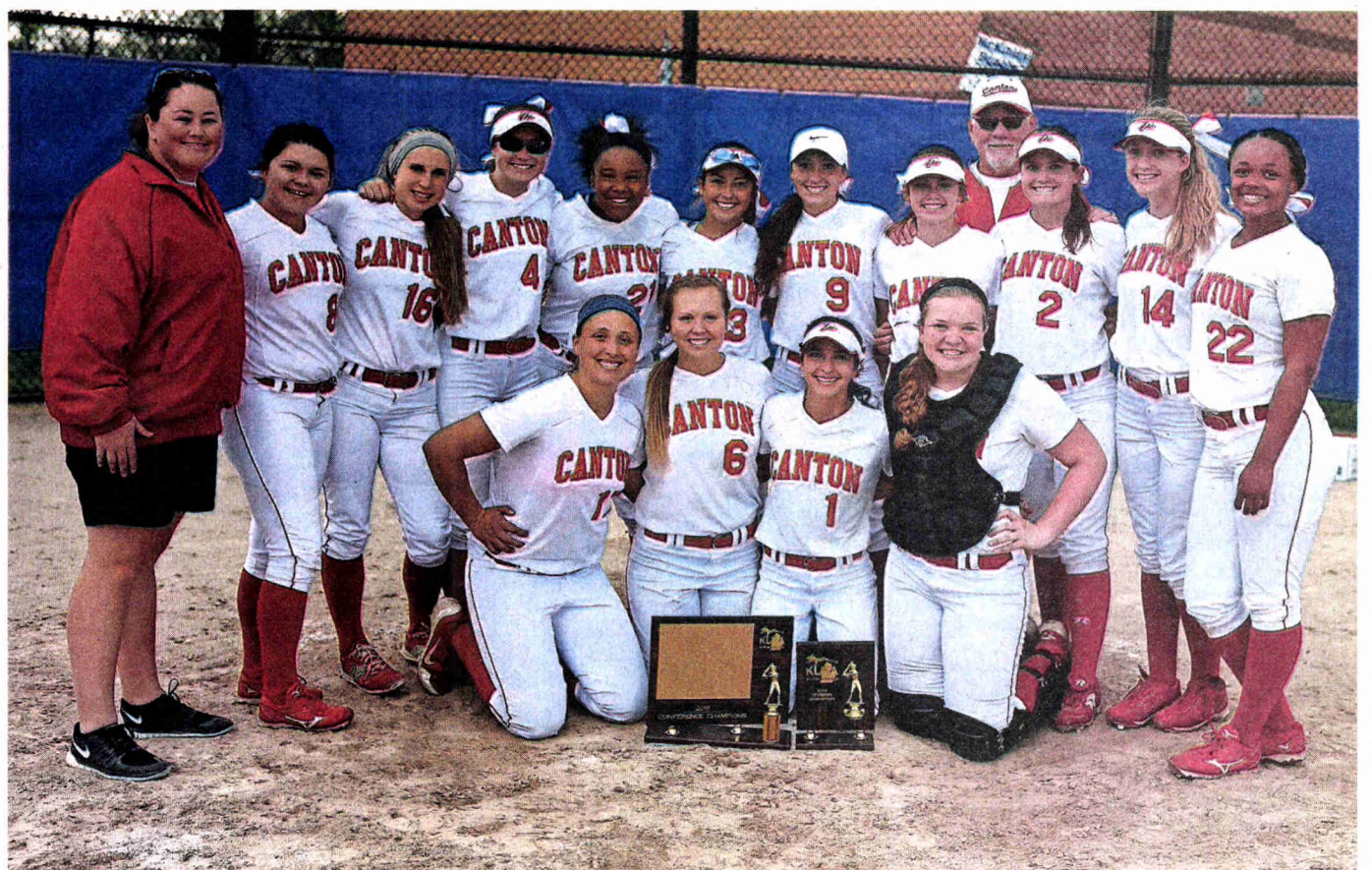
See **BASEBALL**, Page B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Aaron Brazelton rounds third base on his way home for the Chiefs' only run Monday against Northville.

KENSINGTON CONFERENCE FINAL



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Celebrating after winning the Kensington Conference softball championship Monday are the Canton Chiefs.

# CHIEFS SINK ROCKS

Canton's Payne homers, pitches complete game against high-powered Salem

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

When Canton varsity softball coach Al White walked out onto the field before Monday's Kensington Conference championship game against Salem, he shook his head.

The veteran coach noticed how the wind was blowing out toward the fence on Salem High School's softball field.

"I was out on the field and the wind started blowing," White said. "That's not a good thing for us, because we don't hit a lot of high pop-ups. We hit through the ball or we try to."

What followed was Canton's 6-3 win over the Rocks in a close match-up between division champions that was determined more by pitching, defense and clutch hitting than fence-clearing drives (although both teams did notch home runs).

In the top of the seventh with the game tied 3-3, senior catcher Victoria Porter grounded a single up the middle to open the inning. Senior center fielder Elizabeth Yager then hit a hot grounder to third that was not handled cleanly and she also reached base.

Salem's Kristin Mihalic made a diving catch in left-center to rob Olivia Grant of a run-scoring hit, but then Izzy Dawson stepped up with a two-run double to center to score courtesy

See **SOFTBALL**, Page B2



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton base-runner Elizabeth Yager (left) gets a lead during the seventh inning of Monday's conference final, while Salem first baseman Jordan Hazel keeps an eye on home plate.

BOYS LACROSSE

## Wildcats take Park honors with 8-5 win

Plymouth gets past Canton in match-up of campus rivals

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

For much of this season, the Canton varsity boys lacrosse team could not be stopped — or beaten, for that matter.

But the tables have turned, at least a little. Plymouth became the fourth team in recent weeks to defeat Canton, winning 8-5 Friday in the match-up to determine the 2016 Park champion.

Following the low-scoring contest, Canton's record was 13-4 overall and 4-2 in the Kensington Conference (according to the KLAA website), while Plymouth improved to 8-9 and 4-2.

"Our defense did a really good job

winning their individual match-ups and limiting Canton's high-quality scoring opportunities," Plymouth head coach Brian Walsh said. "(Goalie) Trevor McManus did a phenomenal job on the shots Canton was able to take. We knew they had a face-off advantage over us, so we had to play great defense, clear the ball and limit penalties."

The defense, spearheaded by Tyler Ramer and Charlie Shaver, did a good job of frustrating the Chiefs. McManus made 19 saves — many from point-blank range — to close out the victory.


To that end, Canton senior scoring machine Carson Pakula was held to three goals, with the Chiefs' other goals scored by midfielders Micah Rinke and Ben Phillips.

See **LACROSSE**, Page B3




MICHAEL VASILNEK







Plymouth's Nolan Ouellette (left) carries the ball Friday night, while Canton's Nick Polydoros tries to stop him.



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KLAA GIRLS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

# TOP-SEEDED 'CAT: Braun muscles way to victory

Plymouth freshman now 19-0 entering Thursday's regionals

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

On the eve of the MHSAA Division 1 regional at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Plymouth varsity girls tennis coach Rob McLaren allowed himself the chance to look ahead a couple of days.



Braun

"This Thursday is sort of our Super Bowl," McLaren said. "This is the MHSAA regional tournament and how we do here really (decides) on whether we go to states or not."

Plymouth can go to the state finals as a team with 18 wins Thursday. Action begins at 9 a.m. and continues all day.

"I think the most we've ever had was 12," McLaren said. "If we can squeeze out an extra six, we get to go to states. It's going to be a challenge, but that's what our goal is."

McLaren's Wildcats had another pretty important tournament Tuesday, also at the Park. Plymouth finished fifth out of 12 teams at the KLAA 'A' tourney with 11 points. Northville and Novi took the top two spots with 31 and 21 points, respectively.

Yet the veteran coach was beaming, largely thanks to the continuing play of still-undefeated freshman Jessica Braun at No. 1 singles.

Braun won all three of her matches



Plymouth No. 3 singles player Swetha Duraiswamy returns the ball during a recent match. Duraiswamy and the Wildcats placed fifth at Tuesday's KLAA 'A' tournament.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

Tuesday, improving to 19-0 on the season, and knocked off Northville's Emma Worley 6-4, 6-2 in the final.

She goes into Thursday's regional as

the top seed at No. 1 singles; for her to make it to the state finals (only at No. 1 singles can an individual qualify on her own) she must at least get to the cham-

ampionship match in her flight. Likely to be in the way is Salem senior standout Chelsea Yu.

"Jessica has the best shot," McLaren said. "Chelsea is a great player; she's the four seed at one singles. The path is through my player. I really like Chelsea, she's a great kid ... if Jessica doesn't go to states, Chelsea will. They're both great players."

Salem finished tied for sixth with 10 points Tuesday. Other top teams included Grand Blanc (third, 15 points) and Walled Lake Northern (fourth, 13).

Against Worley, the soft-spoken Braun said she "had to be aggressive and move around" to have success. She stressed that she'll need to keep playing that way Thursday.

"She had a great match," McLaren said. "Worley was for the first-place finish in the KLAA Association, so that was a big match for her. I was thinking she might have a different opponent, but Worley played great and she made it to the finals."

Also stellar for the Wildcats was the No. 4 doubles team of Alayna Stults and Olivia Schafer, which made it to the semifinals.

"Unfortunately, because we had to play on Tuesday on a school day, we had a couple girls who weren't able to make it, including some of our seeded players," McLaren said. "That made it difficult, but our four doubles had a good showing, making it to semis."

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## SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

runner Allayha Griggs and the speedy Yager.

Capping off the rally against Salem sophomore pitcher Maddy Rosiewicz was an RBI single to center by Peyton Philbeck that scored Dawson.

"Victoria and I just talked to each other before we walked up to the plate. We were, like, 'This is our chance, let's get something started here,'" Yager said.

### Cool and calm

Canton senior pitcher Mackenna Payne gave up a lead-off hit to Jordan Hazel in the seventh, on a smash that took a bad hop and bounced off second baseman Sydney Dawson.

But Payne merely took care of the next three batters to close out a complete game victory, one that sent the Chiefs into Wednesday's scheduled KLAA championship game against Milford.

"I told (Payne) to put the team on her back and take them where she wanted to go in that last inning when Sydney got hit with the ball there (the Hazel hit)," White said. "Nothing fazes her; she's even-keeled."

Payne had a big game at the plate as well as in the circle, opening the scoring with a homer to center field. She also registered an RBI single in the sixth, when the Chiefs scored to deadlock the contest at 3-3.

The Rocks only got to her in the third, which began inauspiciously when Hannah Zajdel's drive was flagged down by Yager with an over-the-shoulder grab.

Two batters later, Krisin Mihalic hit one a little farther — it cleared the fence in center — to even the score.

"I didn't notice the fence was there, I was just tracking it," Yager said with a chuckle.

### Brief surge

Salem then went up 3-1 following a single by Rosiewicz and an opposite-field homer to left-center by sophomore shortstop Morgan Overaitis.

But that turned out to be the final long ball of the game, even with the wind blowing out.

Payne settled down and gave up just a double to center by Mihalic in the fifth and the seventh-inning hit by Hazel the rest of the way.

"I was definitely trying to keep the ball lower and just outside, so they wouldn't get up on the ball and get it up into the wind," Payne said.

Canton chipped away in the fourth, when Zajdel and Payne walked and Sydney Dawson singled to right to score Zajdel.

The Chiefs then evened the game in the sixth on Payne's clutch hit down the right-field line that scored Zajdel (who doubled).

### Timing off

According to Salem head coach Bonnie Southerland, whose KLAA Central Division championship team fell to 22-7, her hitters became a bit impatient and



Salem's Kristin Mihalic (left) slides safely into second with a double in the fifth inning Monday. Canton shortstop Olivia Grant is just a bit late with the tag.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

thus did not square up many pitches over the final several innings.

"We wanted them to hit like they've been hitting all season long," Southerland said. "We were just ahead of the pitch today. Our timing was a little bit off, but when this team's on, it's on."

"Today we had nine pop-ups on the infield. We have to have a little better pitch selection and make better decisions at the plate."

Although Overaitis and Mihalic both homered (No. 7 for each), they were frustrated by not being able to do more offensively.

"I think we did pretty well defensively," Overaitis said. "We needed more hits and we needed to string them together to get some runs on the board."

"We needed to get deeper in counts and take some more pitches, to wear out the pitcher and get on-base."

Mihalic said it was "kind of frustrating, because after losing to them a week ago (in a conference crossover), it was ... we kind of wanted to get them back. It didn't happen."

Meanwhile, Yager said the team kept the Rocks at bay with pitching and defense.

"Mackenna pitched an amazing game," Yager said. "But we knew we were going to have to play some defense and our goal was to come in and score first and that's what we did."

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JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Canton's Mackenna Payne delivers a pitch during Monday's win over Salem to clinch the Kensington Conference title.

## PREP SOFTBALL

# Bressler's gem sparks Plymouth to 3-1 triumph over South Lyon East

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

Monday's Kensington Conference varsity softball match-up of second-place teams Plymouth and South Lyon East was a well-pitched contest, with the Wildcats prevailing 3-1.

Striking out 13 and giving up just

two walks and four hits over seven innings of work was Plymouth winning pitcher Jenny Bressler.

The Wildcats (18-4-1) went to work early on offense, scoring one run in each of the first three innings — proving to be more than enough for Bressler.

In the first inning, Rachel Zerona

got on base and scored on Bressler's double.

Plymouth added a run in the next inning. Cali Jones led off with a single to right.

With one out, After Kiersten Metz and Zerona walked to load the bases and Jones scored on Bressler's RBI out.

A double by Haley Gagnon sparked Plymouth's third run. She moved to third on a grounder and scored on McKayla Rose's well-placed bunt.

The Wildcats were scheduled Wednesday to host Howell.

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## WATER SAFETY AT THE FOREFRONT

YMCA aquatics pro stresses year-round swimming pool safety

Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

Water safety comes to the forefront this time of year, although Michelle Robinson, regional director of aquatics for the YMCA, knows it's key year-round.

"The first big thing is to make sure there's somebody to watch the children," said Ferndale resident Robinson. She also urges parents to use Coast Guard-approved life jackets on their children, and never to rely on the arm "floaties" sold.

Robinson, who earned a bachelor's degree in education from Eastern Michigan University, works with nine regional YMCAs that have pools as well as two summer camps with swimming. The YMCA focuses on water safety all year, with May National Water Safety Month. Parents often become more aware of safety concerns for their children in warming spring weather, she said.

The U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets will flip the child over, even if he's unconscious, to allow breathing, she noted. The jacket should be put on by following instructions, with the strap between the child's legs and the shoulders below the ears.

Sometimes, parents can rely too much on a lifeguard. "Most definitely," Robinson said. "Parents will often tell their children to play in front of the lifeguard. It's a tremendous effort to keep everybody safe."

The lifeguard has many people to watch, she noted, so can't keep his or her eye directly on a child at all times.

"Any amount of water can be dangerous in the wrong form," Robinson said. "It's being aware of water and making sure kids are safe. We don't want that to happen to anyone at anytime," she added of drownings in bathtubs or toilets.

Older people also are at greater risk of slipping and falling in a bathtub, she said. A bathmat or smaller decals with non-slip coating can reduce this risk, and a shower chair is a good option for a senior.

The YMCA is diligent about its own pools and safety: "All of our pools have to have lifeguards to be open," Robinson said. The majority of swim instructors are also lifeguards, with some of them having lifeguard assistant training.

If a child goes under water just briefly and surfaces, alert the lifeguard and. "Try to remain as calm as possible for the sake of your child," she said. "Try not to make the

*"Any amount of water can be dangerous in the wrong form. It's being aware of water and making sure kids are safe. We don't want that to happen to anyone at anytime."*

MICHELLE ROBINSON  
regional director of aquatics for the YMCA

water a negative place for them."

That situation may call for a better life jacket in the future, learning to "enjoy the water in a safe manner," she added.

The YMCA begins parent-child swim lessons for kids age 6 months, with 3-year-olds beginning to learn some strokes on their own. "It helps encourage them to be safer," she said. "There's no such thing as drown-proofing but we want to encourage as much safety as we can."

The YMCA also teaches about boating safety, including adults wearing life jackets while boating. Robinson agreed children are often more diligent about water safety than some adults are.

For lakes, "You always want to know what's going on in the water," she said. A sand bar that was there may be gone with that water now deeper due to a changing tide. Parents should accompany their children into lakes.

"Never just assume it's OK," she said.

In YMCA classes, even young children learn about throwing a floating object to help someone in a pool. They understand they shouldn't jump in themselves to try to help.

"We start right with the 3-year-olds," she said. "They know exactly what to do. They walk you right through the steps."

Robinson swam competitively at Royal Oak Shrine High School, from where she graduated in 1998.

"I've always enjoyed the water," she said. "That's what led me to become a competitive swimmer." She's really "more of a fish around water."

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## Check with attorney on rights as co-owner

**Q: Our developer is now coming in approximately 12 years after he completed construction of the condominium project to finish units in the condominium project and says he has a right to do so?**

A: I think that you should consider hiring an experienced condominium lawyer as soon as possible to evaluate the propriety of the developer's actions. There will be a loss by the developer of any right to build or sell condominium units depending on what the Master



Robert Meisner

Deed and, in particular, the site plan of the condominium project sets forth. Also, keep in mind that there is a movement among builders/developers in Lansing to eliminate the right of the members of a condominium community to regain property when the developer has not completed construction in a certain period of years. This would be conditioned upon the area at issue being previously designated as a "need not be built item" as set forth in the site plan. You may be entitled to substantial rights as a co-owner in the condominium project. However, you must move quickly to ensure that your rights are protected.

**Q: Our current bylaws for our homeowners association limit residency to single families only, and we currently allow renters. We have a renter who has guardianship rights regarding three men and she is living with them in one of our condominium units. She is not keeping the home up and is having difficulty managing these individuals. Does her guardianship status allow her to define herself as a "single family" renter?**

A: You have asked a multitude of questions that raise a number of issues. First, your association's documents may be outdated in limiting occupants to "single family" residents only. Secondly, there is no statutory limitation as to the number of renters allowed in a project, although there may be a local ordinance that limits the number of people living in a single family residential dwelling. Finally, if the residents are violating any other provisions of the association bylaws, those violations may form a basis by which the residents may be evicted.

These are issues that require an experienced community association lawyer to advise the board as to how to deal with matters such as this in an appropriate manner.

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](http://bmeisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## Parade of Homes featuring 78 new homes set for June

Parade of Homes 2016, the 27th annual exhibition of new model homes located across southeastern Michigan, will open on June 1 and run through June 30. Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA), Bank of America Home Loans and James Hardie sponsor this free public event.

"The 78 new homes featured in this program offer a good cross-section of the homes being built throughout Southeastern Michigan," commented James V. Clarke, builder, of Robertson Brothers Homes and 2016 president of HBA. "We're excited to be building innovative new homes for the families of southeastern Michigan and to be able to feature 25 more homes than were featured in 2015."

The Parade of Homes offers potential home buyers a

unique opportunity to visit model and inventory homes, including condominiums and single-family homes, affordable housing and estate-sized homes. Visitors to the homes will have an opportunity to see firsthand the latest trends in energy efficiency and green building, architecture, interior design, amenities and materials. The 78 model, under construction and pre-construction homes and condominiums range in base price from \$79,900 for the one manufactured home in the program and \$143,900 to \$1,198,000 for the condominiums and single family homes.

The homes are built by 31 different builders, all members of HBA. The Parade of Homes includes seven attached condominiums and six detached condominiums. Seven of the homes are pre-construction, so potential



HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN  
This featured Yorktown home is by Robertson Brothers, Wixom.

home buyers have the opportunity to work with the builder from the beginning of construction. Another 11 of the homes are currently under construction. The remainder are built and will be open for visitors beginning June 1.

Architects and industry experts will judge the homes and award blue ribbons in

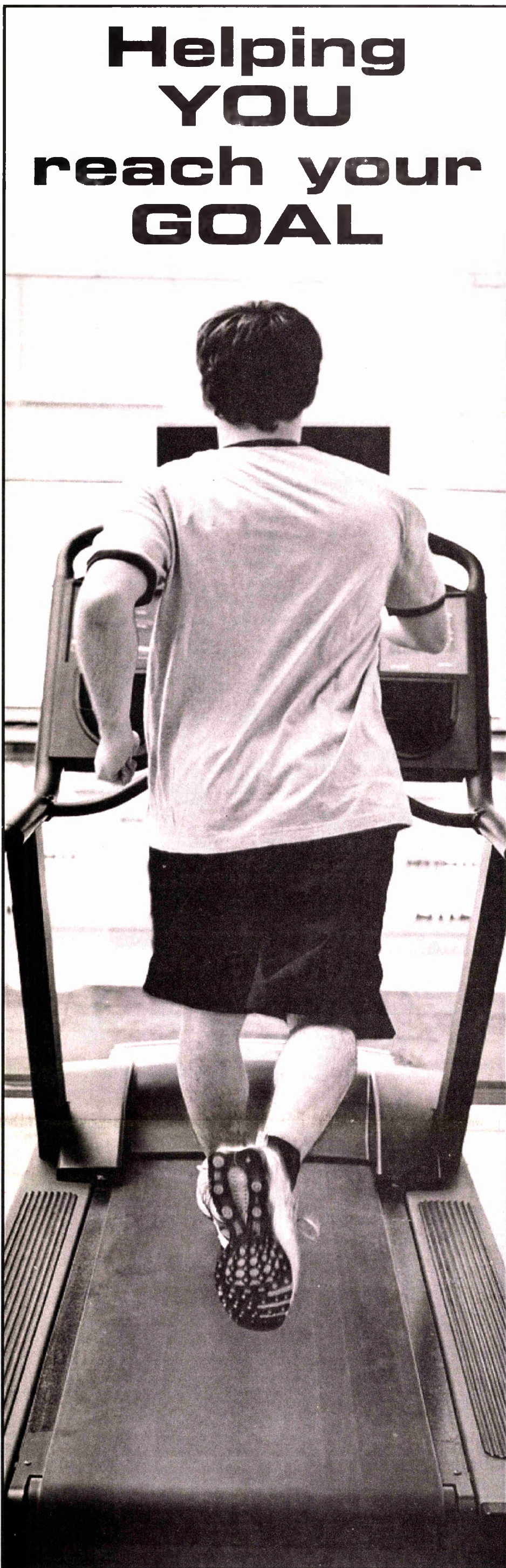
several categories. The judges will make their decisions based on a combination of factors, including innovation, aesthetic appeal and value for the price. Judges for this year's program will be Lonny S. Zimmerman, AIA, NCARB of Siegal/Tuomaala Associates; Benedetto Tiseo, FAIA, NCARB of Tiseo Architects Inc.; Michael J. Gordon, RA of Moiseev/Gordon Associates and Paul Salloom, Retail Sales manager, of Bank of America Home Loans.

A free Parade of Homes magazine including photos, renderings, features, hours and location maps for all homes will be distributed within select home delivery of Detroit Free Press on Sunday, June 5, available at Bank of America locations throughout southeastern Michigan, at select Kroger locations and at all partici-

pating model homes beginning June 1. The Parade of Homes website will also be available beginning June 1 at [www.ParadeHBA.com](http://www.ParadeHBA.com). This is the only Parade of Homes event HBA will sponsor this year.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA) and Apartment Association of Michigan are trade associations representing over 800 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. HBA is affiliated with the Home Builders Association of Michigan in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. Membership nationwide includes more than 150,000 individuals and companies.





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## THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Snakebite treaters
  - 9 Roomy rides
  - 15 Slowly, in music
  - 20 Tie in a race
  - 21 Actress Wilde of "House"
  - 22 — now and then
  - 23 Taft's foreign policy
  - 25 Jacket-and-lie affairs
  - 26 Look from a villain
  - 27 Word after lo or chow
  - 28 Non-U.S. gas brand
  - 30 Use a recliner, e.g.
  - 31 Forward, as a message with a hashtag
  - 34 Grand Prix racing
  - 37 A doc prescribes it
  - 40 Imbiber's hwy. offense
  - 41 Half-diameters
  - 43 He voiced Carl in "Up"
  - 44 Bachelor suitable for marriage, say
  - 48 Licoricelike herbs
  - 49 Novelist Ira Margaret Mitchell's plantation
  - 51 African nation
  - 53 — Trapp family
  - 54 Three-card game
  - 56 Some book blurbs
  - 57 Apollo program org.
  - 61 The girl
  - 62 Elderly Smurf
  - 63 Shifting of responsibility to another
  - 66 Co. name abbr.
  - 67 Golf rarity
  - 68 PayPal funds, e.g.
  - 70 Lead-in to skeleton
  - 71 Egg mass
  - 72 Edible soft-shell mollusk
  - 75 Burning liquid
  - 76 Bowl over
  - 77 Hens and heifers
  - 78 War group
  - 79 Bakery treats
  - 81 Mom's treatment
  - 82 Volkswagen family car
  - 85 Moore or Lovato
  - 86 Use profanity
  - 88 Very strong
  - 91 Late 19th-century political group
  - 95 De-creasing workers
  - 97 Gallery stand
  - 98 Laugh half
  - 99 Mao — lung
  - 100 Brand of flavored balms in tubes
  - 102 Tower atop a mosque
  - 105 Hack (off)
  - 106 Kitchen lure
  - 107 Actress Olin
  - 108 Day of song
  - 112 Beat poet Ginsberg
  - 114 University SSE of Spokane
  - 119 V-formation fliers
  - 120 Medieval balladeer, maybe
  - 121 French folk song
  - 122 Snaky curves
  - 123 Perplexes
  - 124 Eellike fish
- DOWN**
- 1 Tosses in
  - 2 Sign light
  - 3 Narration
  - 4 Lazy type
  - 5 Partook of
  - 6 Always, to Donne
  - 7 "Too cool!"
  - 8 "Once upon ..."
  - 9 Gem in a ring
  - 10 North Carolina university
  - 11 Not so bright
  - 12 Gardner of "Mogambo"
  - 13 Less nasty
  - 14 Bully's words of authority
  - 15 Block-filled theme park
  - 16 Entertainer Gabor
  - 17 Wrestling holds
  - 18 New hire
  - 19 Pearl makers
  - 24 Eyes closely
  - 29 African nation
  - 32 Bath fixture
  - 33 Wheaton of "Stand by Me"
  - 34 Fruit that's often dried
  - 35 Like OPEC nations
  - 36 Koreans and Laotians
  - 37 Ott of baseball
  - 38 High-school junior's grade
  - 39 Person with an ex-spouse
  - 42 Crime scene material
  - 45 — mill (bar)
  - 46 Sicilian volcano
  - 47 "Star Wars" creature
  - 52 Feature
  - 54 Royal staff
  - 55 "Faust" and others
  - 56 Greyhound transport
  - 58 Signal to pilots
  - 59 Treaded winter vehicles
  - 60 1940s film critic James
  - 61 Cobra sound
  - 62 Actress Dawber
  - 63 "Pow!"
  - 64 Pivot point
  - 65 Put turf over
  - 68 Graceful street liner
  - 69 Coral island
  - 73 Some poplars
  - 74 Cliff rock
  - 75 Solo often in Italian
  - 79 Slum abodes
  - 80 Moseying
  - 81 Old carrier
  - 83 Tentacled reef dwellers
  - 84 Fine violin
  - 85 — Moines
  - 86 Hits the gas
  - 87 Dark loaf
  - 88 Rob violently
  - 89 Twins' rivals
  - 90 Overturns
  - 92 Attention
  - 93 Part of a dance move
  - 94 Prefix with plop or flop
  - 96 Glowlers
  - 101 Frank topper
  - 103 Of birth
  - 104 Redcap at work, often
  - 107 Speech therapy topic
  - 109 \$20/day, say
  - 110 Really small
  - 111 Uses eyes
  - 113 Suffix with 29-Down
  - 115 Actor/comic Gulliam
  - 116 "That guy!"
  - 117 Suffix with pay or plug
  - 118 Moniker, in France

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122																				

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

### SUDOKU

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

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

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

### SALSA WORD SEARCH

**WORDS**

ADOBO JALAPENO  
BEANS KITCHEN  
CAPSAICIN LATIN  
CHERRIES MEXICO  
CHILE MILD  
CHIMICHURRI ONIONS  
CHIPS PARTY  
CILANTRO PUNGENT  
COOKING RECIPE  
CORN RESTAURANT  
DICE SAUCE  
DIPPING SOUR CREAM  
ENTERTAINING SPICY  
FESTIVE TACO  
HEAT TOMATOES  
HERBS TOPPING  
HOMEMADE TORTILLA

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

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

**Crossword Answers**

ANTISERA SEDANS LENTO  
DEADHEAT OLIVIA FEVRY  
DOLLARDI PLOMACY GALAS  
SNEER MEIN ESSO SITE  
RETWEET FORMULAONE  
MED DUIT RADII EDASNER  
ELIGIBLE SINGLE ANISES  
LEVIN TARA RWANDA  
VION MONTE BIOS NASA  
HER PAPA BUCKPASSING  
TINC ACE ECASH EXO ROIE  
SHE AMERCLAM ACID LAWE  
SHE ARMY TARTIS TLO  
PASSAT DEMI SWEAR  
POTENT GREENBACK PARTY  
IRONERS EASEL HEE TSE  
LIPSMACKER MINARET  
LOP ODOR LENGA DORIS  
ALLEN WASHINGTON STATE  
GEISE LUTIST ALLOUETTE  
ESSIES STUMPS LAMPREYS

**Word Search Answers**

ADOBO BEANS CAPSAICIN CHERRIES CHILE CHIMICHURRI CHIPS CILANTRO COOKING CORN DICE DIPPING ENTERTAINING FESTIVE HEAT HERBS HOMEMADE JALAPENO KITCHEN LATIN MEXICO MILD ONIONS PARTY PUNGENT RECIPE RESTAURANT SAUCE SOUR CREAM SPICY TACO TOMATOES TOPPING TORTILLA



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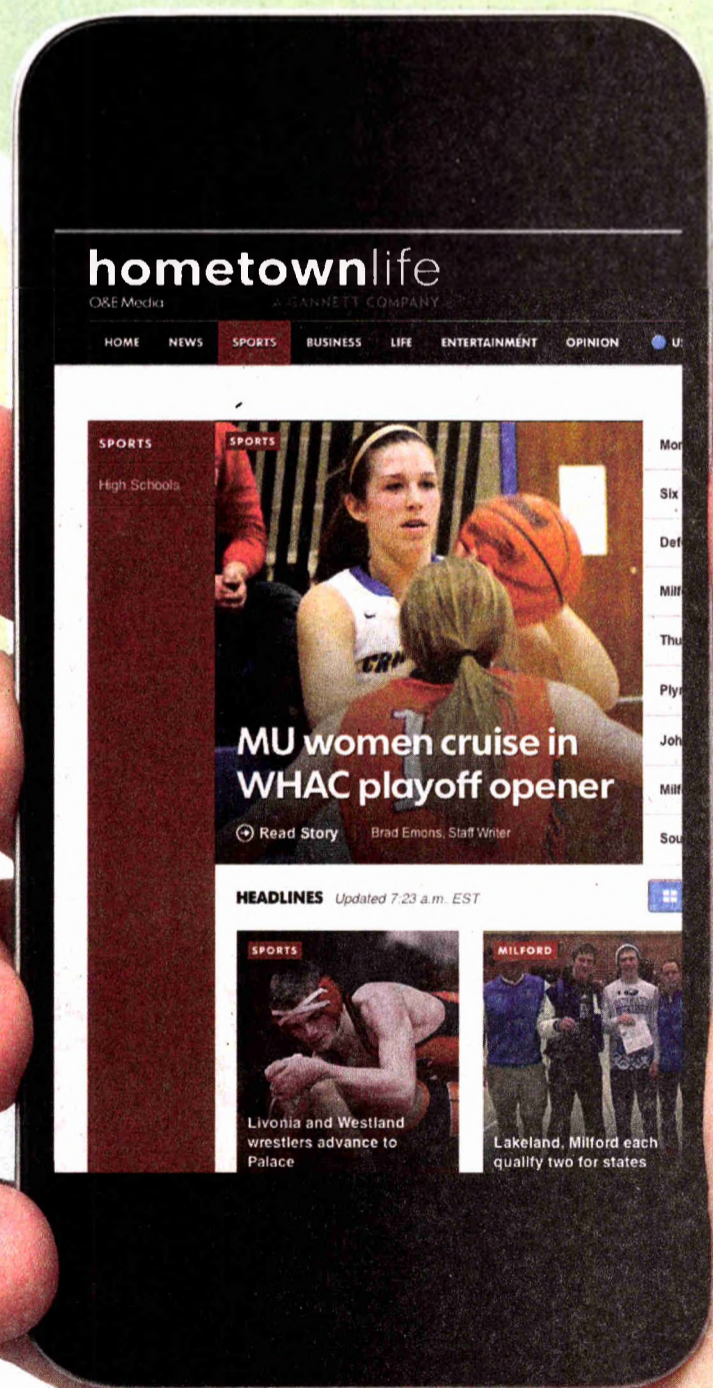
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