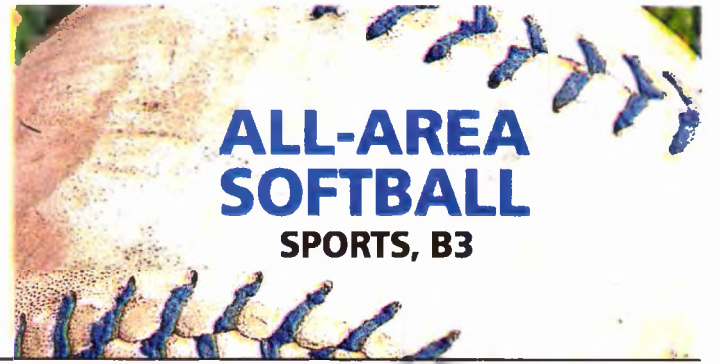


# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

THURSDAY 08.18.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



## Barrett, Maloney, Paton will not seek re-election to school board

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

Big changes are on the way for the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education as three incumbents will not seek re-election in the Nov. 8 general election.

By deciding not to run as their terms expire this year, incumbents John Barrett, Mike Maloney and board Vice Presi-



Barrett



Maloney



Paton

dent Sheila Paton have made way for three newcomers. Board Treasurer Patrick

four-year seat. Kehoe will run unopposed for the seat, but will be joined by nine political new-

comers vying for three, six-year seats.

Newcomers include Douglas Brooks, Bharat Malhotra, Patti McCoin, Patricia Mullen, Pete Puzzuoli, Leonardo Savage, Michael Scopone, Girish Tiwari and Gurunath Vemulakonda.

Remaining on the school board is board President Kim Crouch whose term is up in 2018, board Secretary Kate

Borninski and Trustee Michael Siegrist, with terms that expire in 2020. Siegrist, however, is seeking election on the Democratic slate for Canton Township clerk. He faces Republican Linda Obrec in the Nov. 8 election.

As the only candidate for the four-year seat, Kehoe, nonetheless, said he wants to

See BOARD, Page A2



Bob Pniewski prepares a Cuban sandwich for a customer.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Advertising campaign puts Plymouth on television

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

If you're a daytime WXYZ-Channel 7 television viewer, you just might see something familiar - your hometown.

Beginning Thursday through Aug. 21, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will reinforce the community's brand in 15-second and 30-second advertising produced by Mark Salloum of Highway Media in Canton.

"We are targeting programming during the morning and daytime," said Wes Graff, chamber president. "We are trying to get people who have leisure time and disposable income."

The colorful ads will run twice an hour and will be featured during ABC's "Good Morning America," "Live with Kelly" and "Dr. Oz."

"It is our first time doing television," Graff said.

Chamber officials chose network television - as opposed to cable - in an effort to reinforce the Plymouth brand throughout the region. Simultaneously, the chamber's August billboard campaign, on M-14 near the Sheldon exit, targets folks closer to home.

The four-day television run, in addition to fitting the chamber's finances, also creates a heavy impact. "With television, you can make an impact in one day. This is a good time to tell our story," Graff said.

The heart of the story is Plymouth as a Michigan destination that offers not only dining of all sorts, interesting retail, an exciting atmosphere, but recreation and parks. The advertisements show particularly the community's golf courses, Kellogg Park, sports and fun venues and other amenities, such as Kellogg Park and the Penn. They also show Plymouth's nightlife.

"It really reinforces the positive vibrancy of the community," Graff said.

Salloum took videos he previously created for Plymouth, reworked them and used a voice over. "He wrote the scripts and did all the work," Graff said. Salloum's advertising for the chamber received a Telly Award two years ago.

The advertisements start with "the Plymouth community

## Beyond Borders brings Latin street food to Plymouth

**Matt Jachman**  
Staff Writer

Bob Pniewski has gone beyond bowling with his new venture, Beyond Borders.

The Canton Township resident has spent a career in bowling, from working in and managing bowling alleys to directing tours for the National Senior Bowling Association. Now in his early 60s, he started working on the day he turned 16.

"There's nothing in a bowling alley that needs to be done that I haven't done," Pniewski said.

But this year, he's branched off with a new restaurant in Plymouth, Beyond Borders, that combines a passion for cooking with the satisfaction of "putting a smile on somebody's face" with good, healthy food.

Beyond Borders offers Latin street food - portable

See EATERY, Page A3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Beyond Borders is at 810 South Main Street in Plymouth.

## Love Old Village at annual Restaurant Crawl

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

Pull out your love of Old Village and head to the annual Restaurant Crawl 5:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22, during which four eateries will serve up their best cuisine.

Sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and the restaurants, the crawl is a way to introduce the Old Village and its offerings to community members.

"We've been doing this for years," Wes Graff, chamber president, said. "It highlights

what's in Old Village."

The four participating restaurants include: Aqua, Hermann's Old Town Grille, Station 885 and Liberty Street Brewing Company.

This year's event, however, adds a new twist to the crawl with the chamber adding on-

line ticket sales. "It's a new feature," Graff said.

Advance ticket sales are necessary so the restaurants have an idea of how many plan to attend.

Tickets are pre-purchase

See CRAWL, Page A2

See TELEVISION, Page A2



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# Northville school bus driver charged in shooting

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher on Monday issued a statement to reassure parents, district staff and the community that a Durham School Services bus driver — arrested on felony charges in Wixom — has been removed from active employment. “Although this alleged incident took place during the summer months away from the Northville community, and did not involve students, we

recognize that a matter of this sort raises concern on the part of our students and our families,” Gallagher wrote.

In a statement from Durham School Services — the company that provides contracted bus services for Northville schools — officials said, “the driver involved in the shooting has been placed on administrative leave; background checks were performed and were clear.”

School district and Durham officials confirmed that job applicants receive fingerprint

background checks.

“We meet state and federal mandates for school bus driver/monitor screening and training and there are many steps taken before employment: these include drug and alcohol testing; an MVR check and a criminal background check,” indicated Durham spokeswoman Molly Hart.

“Monitors and drivers are also fingerprinted, which is sent to the state police who forward the information to the district who then approve (or not) the driver or

monitor for assignment,” Hart continued.

Gallagher added that when contracted employees are charged with a felony, the district takes immediate action to remove the employee during the investigation and beyond, when warranted.

“The safety of our students is our top priority and we would like to reassure parents and members in the community that we have a stringent hiring process for bus drivers and monitors,” Hart said.

In May, a bus monitor who worked for Durham

in the Plymouth-Canton school, was arrested by Northville Township police on sexual assault charges against a minor. The case is still making its way through the court system.

“He is no longer employed by Durham School Services,” according to the Durham statement. “The background checks showed there was no arrest history, therefore, our background/fingerprint checks did not show any activity.”

Meanwhile, Northville Public Schools is preparing for the opening of

the academic year in September. “As always, we are committed to working together with our police, school and community partners to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and our staff members,” Gallagher said. As we finalize preparations for school, we act with vigilance and dedication to provide a safe and welcoming school setting for your children.”

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## TELEVISION

Continued from Page A1

is one of Michigan's most cherished destinations ...” And they end with, “... come and see why Plymouth rocks.” The ads also call Plymouth a “storybook community.” The advertising, Graff said, is designed to show

the community's vibrancy. “We have that and we want to maintain it. It is image advertising showing a fresh and vibrant community to visit — and maybe to live here.”

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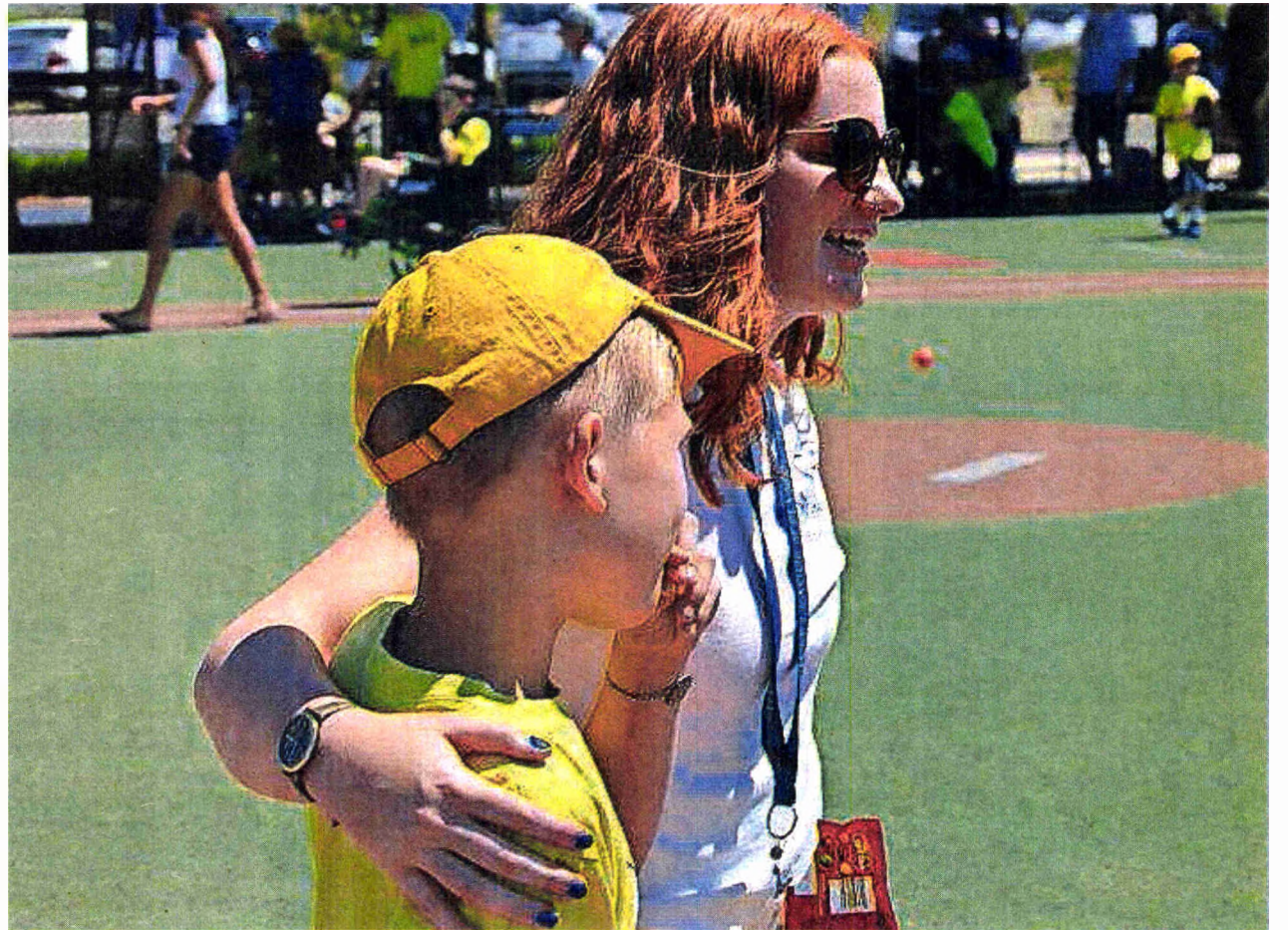
Monday's Old Village Restaurant Crawl is the perfect time to visit the area's eateries.

## CRAWL

Continued from Page A1

only and are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Tickets are also available at the Chamber of Commerce office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth, Aqua Fine Dining, Hermann's Old Town Grille, and Station

885. You may also call 734-453-1540. For tickets online, go to [http://www.plymouthmich.org/events/Old-Village-Restaurant-Crawl\\_ET514.html](http://www.plymouthmich.org/events/Old-Village-Restaurant-Crawl_ET514.html). Tickets bought online are to be picked up the night of the event at Station 885. Aug. 18 is the deadline for online purchase.



Buddies are an integral part of the Miracle League games and fun.

FILE PHOTO

# Be a volunteer buddy at Miracle League games

Be a buddy, for the upcoming fall season for the Miracle League of Plymouth.

The league, a nonprofit organization that provides children with physical and mental disabilities an opportunity to play organized baseball, is looking for buddies to volunteer during the season. Volunteers or groups of volunteers can serve as buddies for

either one game or for the whole season.

About 100 volunteers are needed each day of play. If interested, apply and turn up at the field — behind Central Middle School — at games scheduled for 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20.

Signing up to volunteer is a two-step process that includes signing a volunteer waiver and

signing up for a schedule.

“This is a big time-saver for us on the day of the game,” said Deb Madonna, Miracle League president.

To sign the volunteer waiver, go to <https://cityplymouth.seamlessdocs.com/f/vh1Qtr>. Sign up Volunteer Waiver. If a volunteer is part of a group, each member who volunteers must

sign the waiver. Even if you have volunteered before, you must sign a new waiver.

The second step is signing up for a particular day and time to volunteer. That can be done by going to <https://signup.com/login/entry/5164460840114>.

On game day, volunteers are asked to check in at the concession stand.

## PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## BOARD

Continued from Page A1

participate in debates during the school board campaign. The director of product management for a software company, Kehoe said he hopes the campaign will generate conversation about issues in public education and issues facing the district.

“I'm really excited about the progress we have made with the new

superintendent (Monica Merritt),” he said.

Kehoe calls work on the school board challenging but believes the district — under Merritt — is headed in a new and more positive direction. Though professionally busy in the year following his appointment, Kehoe said he has a new job position and when that change came about, “that's when I made a commitment” to continue on the board.

“My kids are in the district and I think I can bring a good voice to the board,” Kehoe added. Maloney was first elected to the school board in 1995 and has served — on and off — for a total of 20-some years.

“It's time for me to go. It's been a good run. I'm disappointed we haven't made more progress in the last few years.”

In many cases, Maloney — particularly after Horvath resigned — has served as a lone dissenting vote on the board, especially in financial matters. “They don't typically listen to what I have to say.”

Maloney said he believes the school board should set standards and lead the way in academic improvement and sound budget planning. “I think our board has taken on the role of cheerleader.”

Instead, Maloney continued, the board should step up to the challenge of fixing problems, such as the cleanliness of the buildings. “As a board, we lack the will to fix it.”

Maloney, however, does not intend to disappear. “I am ready to work from the other side.”

John Barrett, who served as board president last year, said he would have run if there had been a two-year term available. Retired from the Farmington Public Schools, he said he did not want to serve another six years. “It is very time-consuming. We have kids who live out-of-state and want to have time to visit.”

Barrett said he feels comfortable leaving now with Merritt in charge. “I am thrilled she is taking over. I think the district is on the right track now. There are so many great

things going on.”

Proud that the Plymouth-Canton district is considered a top-performing district, Barrett said finances will remain an issue until changes come from the state Legislature. “I will try to help by being active and getting the Legislature to be honest in how they fund public schools.”

Like Barrett, Paton remains concerned about state funding for public education and has fought the battle since her election in 2011. “I came in with (Gov. Rick) Snyder. It has just been a nonstop attack on public education. I worked hard for five years to work within those parameters.

“We need fresh people in there who are willing to take up that fight,” she said. “But we have done amazing things with funding what we have.”

Also like Barrett, Paton is proud of what has been accomplished, pointing to the creation of academies — STEM, arts — and the 2013 passage of the \$114.4 million bond issue for district facilities, technology equipment, infrastructure and bus replacement.

Paton said that she hopes by not being on the board she can better advocate for public education financing and to eliminate the state's Proposal A, which limits tax revenue growth.

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**NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS Decedent's Estate Decedent's Trust**

The decedent, CHARLES H. EVERY whose address was 14707 Northville Rd., Apt. 401, Plymouth, Michigan, died on July 6, 2016.

**NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:** The above named decedent established the Charles H. Every Trust on May 22, 1997 and which was amended and restated in 2001.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the decedent or the decedent's trust will be forever barred unless presented to the current Trustees, Gregory C. Every and/or Dawn (Every) Bain, 13272 Haverhill, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice. Gregory C. Every is also the designated Personal Representative.

Personal Representative Name \_\_\_\_\_

Gregory C. Every, Co-Trustee, 13272 Haverhill, Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 306-7885

Published: August 18 & 25, 2016  
September 1, 2016



## AAA cites road debris dangers, need to secure loads

More than 200,000 crashes involved debris on U.S. roadways during the past four years, according to a new study released by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Road debris has resulted in approximately 39,000 injuries and more than 500 deaths between 2011 and 2014. AAA is calling for drivers to properly secure their loads to prevent dangerous debris.

AAA researchers examined common characteristics of crashes involving road debris and found that:

» Nearly 37 percent of all deaths in road debris crashes resulted from the driver swerving to avoid hitting an object. Overcorrecting at the last minute to avoid debris can increase a driver's risk of losing control of the vehicle and make a bad situation worse.

» More than one in three crashes involving debris occur between 10 a.m. and 3:59 p.m., a time when many people are on the road hauling or moving heavy items like furniture or construction equipment.

» Debris-related crashes are much more likely to occur on Interstate highways.

» Driving at high speeds increases the risk for vehicle parts to become detached or cargo to fall onto the roadway.

About two-thirds of debris-related crashes are the result of items falling from a vehicle due to improper maintenance and unsecured loads. Crashes involving vehicle related-debris increased 40 percent since 2001, when the Foundation first studied the issue. The most common types of vehicle debris are:

» Parts becoming detached from a vehicle (tires, wheels, etc.) and falling onto the roadway

» Unsecured cargo like furniture, appliances and other items falling onto the roadway

» Tow trailers becoming separated and hitting another vehicle or landing on the roadway

Drivers can decrease their chances of being involved in a road debris crash by:

» **Maintaining their vehicles:** Drivers should have their vehicles checked regularly by trained mechanics. Badly worn or underinflated tires often suffer blow-outs that can leave pieces of tire on the roadway. Exhaust systems and the hardware that attach to the vehicle can also rust and corrode, causing mufflers and other parts to drag and eventually break loose. Potential tire and exhaust system problems can easily be spotted by trained mechanics as part of the routine maintenance performed during every oil change.

» **Securing vehicle loads:** When moving or towing furniture, it is important to make sure all items are secured. To properly secure a load, drivers should:

1. Tie down load with rope, netting or straps
2. Tie large objects directly to the vehicle or trailer
3. Cover the entire load with a sturdy tarp or netting
4. Don't overload the vehicle
5. Always double check load to make sure a load is secure

AAA also recommends that drivers avoid tailgating and remain alert while on the road. Additional tips on defensive driving and how to report road debris to the proper authorities are available online at [AAA.com/PreventRoadDebris](http://AAA.com/PreventRoadDebris).

## EATERY

Continued from Page A1

(read: eat with your hands) dishes drawn from the cuisines of Central and South America. It's the kind of authentic food, Pniewski said, that can be found on food trucks in Miami and Los Angeles.

"There's a need here," Pniewski said recently when asked why he opened in Plymouth. "People are looking for healthy, fresh and tasty food."

Pniewski most recently ran the grill at a local bowling alley, where the menu was centered around fried bowling-alley food, and says he was able to take it up a level.

"Everybody was saying I didn't belong there, because my food was that good," he said.

### 'Nothing is processed'

Pniewski made the leap in April, opening Beyond Borders on South Main, in a spot formerly occupied by U.P. Pasties (which had moved to Forest Avenue downtown). He had considered a food truck, but due to insurance costs, unpredictable fuel prices and the need for a base operations, "the brick and mortar has won out," he said.

Beyond Borders has a manageable menu of takeout dishes that pay homage to several Latin American countries: Mexico, Argentina, Peru, Colombia and others.



Steam escapes from a pan of slow-roasted chicken. Bob Pniewski will shred the chicken for use in Latin-American recipes.

There are nachos, authentic tacos (no cheese or lettuce, just meat, slaw, cilantro chipotle cream sauce and pickled red onions), burritos, rice bowls and Cuban sandwiches, plus sides like guacamole and chips and salsa.

"Nothing is processed. Nothing is canned," Pniewski said.

Pniewski is mostly self-taught, aside from a few classes taught by chefs from the Schoolcraft College culinary program, and began cooking while growing

### MORE INFORMATION

Beyond Borders is At 810 South Main, Plymouth. The Hours Are 11 A.M. To 7 P.M. Monday Through Friday. The Restaurant Also Caters Private Gatherings, From Corporate Events To Family Parties, On Saturdays.

up, because as the oldest he was expected to help cook dinner for the family, as both parents worked. He's learned by

doing, he says, and by trial and error.

"You can make it as hot as you want, you can make it as mild as you

want," Pniewski said. "I go for flavors. I'm out to make good food."

[mjachman@hometownlife.com](mailto:mjachman@hometownlife.com)



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
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## Canton man loses \$5,000 in IRS scam

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

A 50-year-old Canton man has lost \$5,000 after a scam artist posing as an Internal Revenue Service agent phoned him and claimed he could be jailed for unpaid taxes.

The victim owed nothing. Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor said the caller convinced the man to go to a store, buy an iTunes gift card, return home and reveal by phone the numbers off the back of the card.

The IRS scam has occurred across the nation, previously in Canton and in other metro Detroit communities such as

Livonia, Westland, Wayne, Milford and Bloomfield Township.

Authorities have repeatedly issued warnings about the scam, yet victims continue to lose thousands of dollars amid fears they will otherwise be arrested.

"Do not make any financial transactions over the phone with anyone indicating they are an IRS agent," Traylor said.

Agencies such as the IRS never demand immediate payment over the phone, he said.

The scam artists can be savvy. One caller in Canton managed to have the caller

identification show up as the Canton Police Department, Deputy Police Chief Scott Hilden has said. The caller even claimed to be Hilden.

Authorities say victims of all ages have fallen for the scam. An 18-year-old Milford woman reported paying \$3,000 to a caller in early August, and elderly people also have lost money.

IRS officials say tens of thousands of people have collectively lost millions of dollars, prompting IRS Commissioner John Koskinen to previously issue a warning.

"There are clear warning signs about these scams, which

continue at high levels throughout the nation," he said in a statement on the IRS website. "Taxpayers should remember their first contact with the IRS will not be a call from out of the blue, but through official correspondence sent through the mail. A big red flag for these scams are angry, threatening calls from people who say they are from the IRS and urging immediate payment. This is not how we operate."

The IRS statement said the agency:

» Never asks for credit card, debit card or prepaid card information over the

telephone.

» Never insists that taxpayers use a specific payment method to pay tax obligations.

» Never requests immediate payment over the telephone and will not take enforcement action immediately following a phone conversation.

Traylor said reports of IRS scams in Canton should be reported to the Canton Police Department by calling 734-394-5400.

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## Cake-kicking customer from Kroger pleads no contest

The infamous cake-kicking lady from Bloomfield Township appeared in court Aug. 4 to face accusations that she basically caused a mess.

Tricia Kortés, 46, stood before 48th District Judge Kim Small and entered a no-contest plea to a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct. She now faces a sentence of up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$500 fine.

Kortés found herself in the national spotlight after she "drop-kicked" her 7-year-old son's custom-ordered "Batman v Superman" birthday cake inside a Kroger store because she was unhappy with the decorating job. The incident occurred June 11 and Kortés later told police the

cake slipped out of her hands.

Witnesses, on the other hand, told police they saw Kortés drop-kick the birthday cake in the bakery department and then stomp on it in frustration. She also knocked over a wet floor sign on her way out the store.

This is not the first time Kortés appeared in court over anger-management issues: In 2015, she pleaded no contest to a disorderly conduct charge for getting into a physical altercation with a co-worker in Troy. In 2003, she was convicted of fourth-degree assault in King County, Wash.

Her next court appearance is scheduled Aug. 16 for a pre-sentence interview before Small. Her attorney, Gerald Gleeson, was not available for comment.

— Jay Grossman



Tricia Kortés

## Police: Grandfather threatened at knifepoint

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

A 29-year-old Canton man has been accused of threatening two men, including his grandfather, at knifepoint during separate incidents at a home on Twyckingham Lane.

Police went to the home about 11 p.m. Aug. 8 amid reports the suspect — reportedly drunk — apparently became upset that he couldn't find his vodka bottles. He was accused of assaulting his grandfather and threatening him with a knife.

No serious injuries were reported.

Police further learned that, three days earlier, the same suspect was accused of threatening another man who had been visiting the house, holding a knife near his eyes until the man subdued him and took the knife, a police report said.

Police took the suspect into custody as the investigation was continuing.

### Reckless driving

With a child strapped into a car seat, a speeding motorist's Pontiac G8 leaned perilously sideways and nearly crashed into another vehicle during a

tense situation in Canton, according to a police report.

The incident began about 6:25 p.m. Sunday as the driver, a 28-year-old Novi man, raced through a Walmart parking lot busy with pedestrians and other motorists near Michigan Avenue and Canton Center.

Police began trailing the driver, who first drove east on Michigan Avenue before circling to the westbound lanes, losing control of his Pontiac G8, causing it to lean sideways and narrowly averting another vehicle in what police described as heavy traffic.

Police initiated a traffic stop and noticed a small child asleep in a car seat in the back seat. Police say the driver tried to blame his speeding on the Pontiac's torque converter.

Police ticketed the man for reckless driving and having no proof of insurance.

### Missing teen found

An investigation of a drunken man at the Days Inn in Canton inadvertently led police to a missing 15-year-old Detroit girl who was turned over to her mother, a police report said.

The girl, who is the drunken man's younger sister, was tak-

en to the Canton police station where her mother was to pick her up.

Police had gone to Days Inn, on Michigan Avenue near Lotz, amid reports about 1:15 a.m. Sunday that a 20-year-old man was unconscious on a balcony. Police spoke with the sister and a 19-year-old woman who said she was the man's girlfriend.

Police found the man unresponsive and drooling, prompting them to summon Canton paramedics to take him to a hospital. His girlfriend told police he had been drinking vodka but initially denied he had mixed it with drugs.

Under further questioning, the girlfriend conceded he had used cocaine and smoked marijuana. Police also learned the man had a court order from an unrelated case that forbids him to consume alcohol or drugs.

At one point, Days Inn management told police it wanted the tenants in question to leave, prompting the drunken suspect — who had regained consciousness — to kick a door and demand his belongings. Police helped him gathering his things.

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# Life of a zookeeper and other tales at the Detroit Zoo

Susan Bromley  
Staff Writer

It was her day off, but Ashley Richmond rushed to work filled with excitement and anxiety when she got the Saturday evening call.

It was a day unlike most others, but every day is a wild day for some local residents who recently shared their experiences working at the Detroit Zoo.

For Richmond, the call that came on Aug. 6 was to tell her the zoo's 7-year-old giraffe, Kivuli, was in labor. Just three and a half hours later, the Farmington Hills resident who cares for Kivuli, as well as her mate Jabari, 8, and their nearly 2-year-old son, Mpenzi, watched the birth of the newest giraffe family member, a 5-foot tall, 166-pound girl named Zawadi.

"Just the people she knows were there, we don't want it to be stressful," said Richmond, who was also present for the birth of Mpenzi. "You wait 15 months and hope for everything to go well, for mom and baby to be healthy. It was sort of an out-of-body experience, I was in a daze watching ... You want to videotape everything, but at the same time be present in the moment. It was a bonus that it ended up being a girl — that is what we were hoping for. I got teary-eyed, there was relief on my part, I was just glad everything went well and the baby was breathing and stood up after 20 minutes. I had a feeling she would be a spit fire, she was very active inside of her mom."

This year marks a decade as a zookeeper for Richmond, who in the sixth grade foretold her destiny in a letter to her mom in which she wrote that she wanted to go to Michigan State University, get a degree in zoology, and work at the Detroit Zoo.

She walked that path, although she acknowledges it hasn't always been easy.

"I am 33, but some days I feel 63," laughs Richmond, who has cared for the giraffes and kangaroos the majority of her career at the zoo, but also worked in various other areas.

When she interviewed, Richmond didn't have a preference for which animals she would work with as all of them were captivating. That is the essence of being a zookeeper — building a relationship with animals.

"Every animal I have worked with, there is a level of respect, and with that comes love," she said. "You learn their behaviors and personality and their comfort level for certain things. You get attached."

Her relationship with these animals is not like that of a pet, however. She is a caregiver, which involves a lot of manual and physical labor — keeping their environments clean, providing mental stimulation, and feeding them.

## Mob mentality

She starts her day at the Australian Outback exhibit at the zoo, where she cares for a mob of 19 red kangaroos, and one Bennett's wallaby, all of whom have their own names and personalities. Some are laid back while others are curious and sniff Richmond. Others still are stand-offish and head in the other direction as she walks around cleaning their exhibit and feeding them.

They eat what she calls a "kangaroo and wallaby chow," placed in the shelter area. She also makes interesting changes to their environment, which can include



Melissa Pletcher (left), assistant manager of volunteer services, stands with Jabari, an 8-year-old reticulated giraffe, and Ashley Richmond, giraffe zookeeper at the Detroit Zoo.

hanging melons as treats, adding spices or perfumes for new odors, and throwing large piles of dirt into their yard for the kangaroos who have a natural urge to dig.

She checks to make sure they aren't scratching themselves, which could indicate a skin irritation, or doing any odd behaviors. Kangaroos, she adds, are good at masking illness. Even an ear down or angled awkwardly could mean something is amiss with the animal.

"They might come and smell me, but I don't pet them," she said. "None of them are hand-reared; they are all parent-reared. It's a respect thing, and I don't cross that line... I make sure they are doing what they would be normally at that time and 99 percent of the time, everyone is fine. When you know them so well, you can tell when something is off."

There are 12 female kangaroos and seven vasectomized males. While the kangaroo exhibit is large, the indoor shelter is at maximum capacity. Kangaroos have a life expectancy to the late teens, as do wallabies.

Zoo staff want to get another wallaby to join the 7-year-old male they obtained six years ago after he and thousands of other animals were rescued from inhumane conditions by an international exotic animal dealer in Texas.

"The situation was very dire and it was a big undertaking," said Richmond, who adds that the wallaby will not be bred as his genetic background is unknown.

## Intense giraffes

There are also no plans to add to the giraffe family. Species Survival Plan coordinators make decisions regarding breeding of animals, with knowledge of genetics and conservation efforts. Kivuli will be on birth control, and no decision has been made yet on whether Zawadi, whose name means "gift" in Swahili, will stay in Detroit.

The reticulated giraffes, which weigh roughly 2,600 pounds when fully grown and can reach up to 18 feet as the tallest land mammal, are easier to transport when they are younger. Their large size also means Richmond spends the majority of her days with the beautiful creatures who spend roughly



Brian Manfre, a Westland resident and Detroit Zoo mammal supervisor, stands near the zebra exhibit.

17 hours of their day eating and only sleep three hours a day. She has observed them in the wild on a trip to Africa and uses that knowledge for her care of them at the zoo.

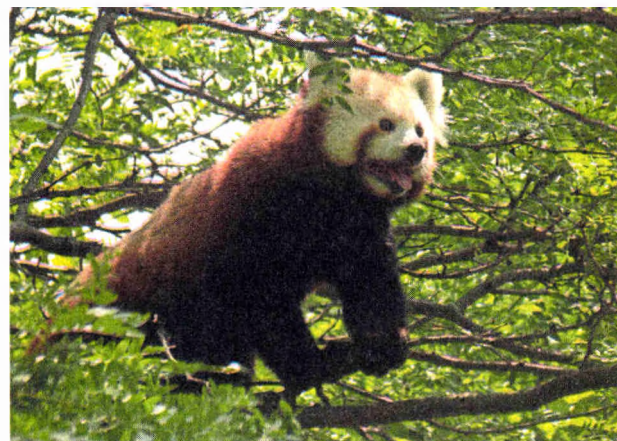
"My outback routine is much less intensive than with giraffes," said Richmond. "I spend about six hours of my day with the giraffes. A 2,600 pound giraffe, they make a big mess every day, I spend a lot of time cleaning up after them. Plus I feed them twice a day. They also get enriched frequently."

The primary enrichment for giraffes centers around food, with Richmond placing mulberry branches, grape vines, willow branches and more of what she calls "browse" around their exhibit. She cuts very large branches and ties them to different areas of their yard so she doesn't have to hand feed them all day long and so they use their tongues as much as possible in a natural way.

The giraffes, like the kangaroos, each have their own distinctive personalities as well. Jabari is more interactive and likes being around all people as long as there is a treat involved. Kivuli is the opposite, more timid and apprehensive of strangers, but like Jabari, very smart. Mpenzi tends to be shy, like his mother, and of course, the personality of the new arrival is not yet known, but Richmond looks forward to getting to know her as well. Regardless, Zawadi, like all giraffes, will require patience, as Richmond notes you can't really make a giraffe do anything they don't want to do.



An otter naps at the Detroit Zoo on a recent Sunday.



A red panda at the Detroit Zoo on a recent Sunday.

That's OK with the zookeeper though, who still enjoys the job despite the hard labor and a deeper understanding now of what the career entails than when she was a little girl dreaming of working with the animals and when visits to the zoo meant seeing performing chimpanzees and seals.

"That is not something that happens now, and I am thrilled about that," said Richmond. "I try to look at things more from the animal's eyes and maybe more than I expected, things have evolved for the better. I

love where I work and I love all of our hopes and dreams for the future. It's really motivating."

She tries not to think too much about what tomorrow will bring as the job is taxing on her body. She is living for the moment, but notes that as she ages, a change to a less physically demanding position may be in the cards.

Brian Manfre, a Westland resident, made that change.

## Mammals on the mind

Always fascinated by animals, Manfre earned

his bachelor's degree in biology from Eastern Michigan University in 2005 and interned at the Toledo Zoo. He started working at the Detroit Zoo more than nine years ago, the first six of them as a zookeeper, caring for warthogs and zebras.

Three years ago, he became mammal supervisor, overseeing carnivores including lions, tigers, otters and wolverines, as well as some of the small mammals like red pandas and bush dogs. He also oversees hoofstock including the zebras and warthogs, camels and bison.

The job entails working with administration and keepers to make sure they are in the position to take the best possible care of these animals. This includes overseeing construction projects on exhibits, renovations, and relocation of animals to accommodate their needs while projects are underway.

"There is not any such thing as a routine day," said Manfre. "If one of my keepers has a concern with a veterinary issue, I am the first point of contact to get them out there and assess things."

Recently, Manfre had plans to tie up loose ends at the newly-expanded camel exhibit and then to work on the zookeepers' schedules, followed by supervisor meetings with his fellow mammal managers.

He has what he considers a good 50/50 mix of administrative work with working alongside the zookeepers — helping with projects or assisting with routine animal check-ups which require anesthesia with the larger animals — and coordinating individuals to make sure everything goes smoothly.

"The best part of my job is just having the opportunity to work with a lot of unique animals," said Manfre. "The most common thing I hear is that people think zoo-keeping doesn't require education or is just picking up poop, when in actuality zookeepers are highly trained. It requires education, expertise and is a very difficult job to get. You definitely need a lot of attention to detail and have to pick up on subtle cues from animals and make quick, good judgment decisions, while being attentive to safety."

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## American Sewing Expo returns to Showplace

The 23rd annual American Sewing Expo returns to the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Friday, Sept. 23, and runs through Sunday, Sept. 25, with quilting, costume making, fashion sewing, fiber arts, crafts and "sew" much more.

"From a live sewing challenge to the chance to win a sewing machine each day - there's never a dull moment at our show," said Janet Pray, show producer of the largest independent consumer sewing show in the country. "There's something for the beginner to the advanced and everyone in between, from hands-on workshops and free demonstrations to cosplay and quilting exhibits."

Featured celebrities and show instructors include couturier fashion designer, Threads contributing editor and author Kenneth King; sewing, embroidery and embellishment expert Hope Yoder; cosplay designer and author Kristie Good; Simplicity Patterns costume pattern designer Andrea Schewe; fashion sewing expert from PBS "It's Sew Easy" Angela Wolf; and pattern design and fitting expert from University of Rhode Island Jennifer Stern.

Reality sewing television competitions are the inspiration for the "Passion for Fashion Sewing Challenge," sponsored by Baby Lock and American & Efird, that has 12 finalists designing and sewing garments on Friday and Saturday, judged

during a fashion show on Saturday and displayed on Sunday (similar to Lifetime's Project Runway).

Attendees can learn tips and techniques at make-n-take projects in vendor displays and as they sew their own project to take home at the Sew Party Café sponsored by Country Stitches and the Serger Studio sponsored by Janome.

The "Innovation Generation Fashion Show Competition," sponsored by Baby Lock and Coats & Clark, will be held on Saturday for ages 8-18 who know the sewing process and have made their own garments. Entries are prejudged and then worn by the contestants on the Expo Fashion Stage.

Special displays and events will include the world of cosplay in "Bringing the Fantastic to Life;" art quilting in "Stripping with Friends;" free motion thread painting fiber art in "Eric Drexler Quilt Design Exhibit;" use of recycled materials in "Recycle Runway;" ask the designer, scavenger hunt and costume making tips in the Social Media Lounge; and gifts for the first 100 show attendees each day.

Attendees can win a sewing machine each day sponsored by Baby Lock and Janome or a Dream Sewing Room on Sunday, sponsored by Janome and Gall Sewing and Vacuum Centers of Michigan. Showgoers wearing anime, steampunk, historical,

TV, movie, video game, or comic book characters in the Costume Contest Fashion Show on Sunday are awarded prizes.

Show exhibits include sewing machines, sergers, machine embroidery, fabrics and supplies, embellishments, drafting, fitting, accessories, notions, threads, patterns, technology, kits, gadgets, embroidery designs, tools and other products for fashion sewing, quilting, costuming, needle arts, home decorating and wearable and fiber arts. Showgoers can attend over 170 seminars, classes, workshops and fashion shows.

"The expo is a perfect weekend getaway for mothers, daughters, sisters or friends to learn to quilt or sew, test-drive sewing machines and be inspired by 'sew' many possibilities," said Pray.

Suburban Collection Showplace is at 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi. Show hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Preshow workshops are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23 and Thursday, Sept. 24. Expo admission is \$14 and children 15 and younger are admitted free with a paying adult. One-hour seminars are \$14, all-day workshops are \$130 and special combination packages are available. On-site parking is available for \$5.

For more information, visit [www.americansewingexpo.com](http://www.americansewingexpo.com) or call 248-889-3111.



DAVID VESELENAK

Smoky's Cigar Bar and Lounge is looking to move from its former Northville Township location to Livonia.

## Smoky's Cigar Bar looks to relocate from Northville to Livonia

David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Livonia could see a new spot for cigar smokers to spend some time with an adult beverage.

The City Council will decide at its next meeting whether to approve a waiver petition to use a Class C liquor license to allow for Smoky's Cigar Bar and Lounge to operate in the space formerly occupied by InkStop at 37298 Six Mile in Northbrook Plaza, just east of Newburgh.

The bar, which had operated in Northville Township for many years, seeks to move to Livonia to improve the business.

Teresa Essa, the bar's owner, said the former location in Northville Township made it difficult for customers to find and locate her establishment. The new facility, she said, would have greater visibility.

"The location I was at, we were really far off the road. Really far," she said. "At the end of the road, there's a fence. By the fence, there's really, really tall bushes that, if you're sitting on Seven Mile and you look over, you know there's a plaza but you can't tell what's in there."

The proposed bar would be about 1,400 square feet with about 22 seats inside. The bar would not be in compliance with regulations that require 1,000 feet separation between Class C liquor license holders,

as two other restaurants in that area also currently operate in that radius.

"That separation can be waived by you, City Council, but that is the only thing it does not comply with," said Scott Miller, a zoning manager with the city.

### Issues with smoke

While Michigan banned smoking in indoor places back in 2010, the law allows smoking inside of existing cigar bars that serve food and drink provided 10 percent of their gross income comes from the on-site sale of cigars and the rental of on-site humidors. Essa said her bar was grandfathered in under that law. Only cigars would be allowed to be smoked in the cigar bar; no other tobacco products would be allowed.

Councilwoman Cathy White said she knows a business owner in Northville who owns a shop near another cigar bar, and said she had some concerns regarding odors coming from the business if it were to open up in that location.

She said her acquaintance told her odors have been an issue for him, and wanted to raise the issue with Essa over what she plans to do with odors.

"He's indicated to me that the cigar bar next to his business does ventilate to the outdoors, and there are many times that he and his customers can smell cigar odors,"

she said. "Sometimes, he indicates you can smell them a block away."

Peter Tzilos, an architect who is working on the cigar bar, said the planned Smoke Eaters for the bar are designed to handle cigar smoke odors from the inside without sending the smell outside.

"Those devices are indoor devices that are used to clean the air. They're not necessarily exhausting air to the outside," he said. "They don't go next door or through the space or out the front door."

The City Council will take up the petition at its next regular meeting, currently scheduled for Aug. 22.

Several council members voiced support for the project, saying it was in the city's best interest to house this kind of business so those customers don't need to leave the city for them.

Councilman Brian Meakin said he would support the petition, saying it was a good option for Livonia to have.

"I think this is an item that's been needed in this city," he said. "When you want a cigar, you don't have to go to Birmingham or West Bloomfield, so, having one in the neighborhood is going to be helpful."

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## Don't make mistake of not planning for the worst

A couple weeks ago, I met with a new client. She's a woman in her mid- to late 70s who recently lost her husband. Our conversation mostly focused on her portfolio and the changes needed to help her accomplish her goals and objectives. We also talked about estate planning and, in particular, what will happen if she is no longer able to handle her financial affairs.

When it comes to talking about estate planning, most people only focus upon what happens at the time of their death. In today's complex world, that is no longer sufficient. We all must have a plan in place to deal with our finances if we are either physically or mentally unable to do so. If we are unable to handle our own affairs, there needs to be someone who can take over and seamlessly manage our finances — someone we have trust and confidence in and we know will operate in our best interest.

What made the conversation with my new client unique was that the people you would think would typically be in a position to take over, her kids, were not the people she wanted. She ex-



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

plained that she did not have a very good relationship with her kids and that she felt that, from a financial standpoint, they have taken advantage of her in the past and she did not have confidence in them. Unfortunately, stories like this are not unusual. In fact, when you look at the statistics, you will see the great majority of senior financial abuse cases come from family members.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to have someone in place to take over if you are unable to do so. It doesn't have to be a family member. In many situations, close friends are better alternatives. Also, there's nothing to prevent you from having two people take over so that there is a natural check and balance in place. The bottom line is that if you don't appoint someone and you are not able to handle your finances, you could be in real trouble.

For many people, particularly for those who do not want to name

a family member, they tend to put their head in the sand hoping the situation never occurs. Unfortunately, if the situation does occur and you don't have something in place, judges, courts and lawyers are going to be involved and I can assure you that is not something you would want.

My recommendation, particularly for people who are up in age, is to make sure that something is in place. Family members are the obvious choice, but if that does not work, you need to come up with a Plan B. The idea of doing nothing and hoping that nothing bad happens is much too risky.

One last note, one of the best ways to accomplish this is through a general durable power of attorney. The general durable power of attorney allows someone to operate on your behalf without having judges, courts and lawyers get involved in your personal affairs.

Good luck!

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

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# Adding up to school success

Donated calculators via Salvation Army 'great opportunity,' 'a big help,' teachers say

**Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

Brittany Lipschik, 16, a Plymouth Salem High School junior, is a big Plymouth Salvation Army admirer.

"It's run very well and effectively," the Plymouth Township teen said of the Salvation Army here and worldwide. "They do a great job here. They reach a lot of people. They've created such a big name for themselves."

She's applying for the National Honor Society this fall, and was among volunteers Monday, Aug. 15, at the corps on Main Street helping distribute cases of donated calculators. "I just wanted to help out," explained Lipschik as she unloaded boxes in the parking lot that afternoon.

Grateful teachers were glad to get their hands on the calculators. Joyce Napier teaches fourth grade at Canton's Eriksson Elementary, and came with fifth-grade teacher colleague Jim Gutkowski of Eriksson.

"We're excited," Napier said. "They're going to help us teach math and science. They (students) have to have the skills to compete." She's seeing demographics shift and greater financial need in Plymouth-Canton.

"They just don't have the supplies," said Napier, who finds the Salvation Army calculators "a big help, a big help."

Krista Piwko teaches second grade at Wildwood Elementary in the Wayne-Westland district, which serves K-4 grades. "Amazing," Piwko said. "For all the kids who don't have the supplies for school, amazing. They're going to be able to use a tool they didn't have in the past. This is a great opportunity for our school."

Added Piwko of her entire school, "Every kid in our school will have a new calculator to start the year." She had been sharing calculators among students in her class in the past.

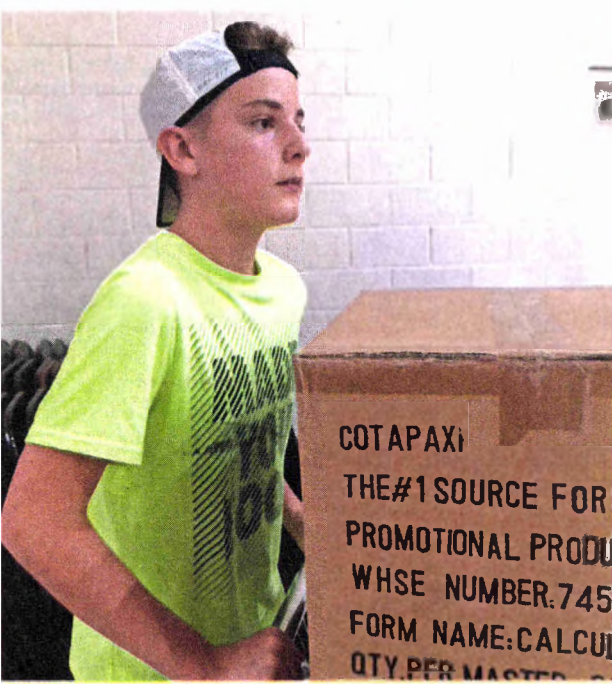
### 'Helping anybody'

Laurie Aren, the corps' director of family and community ministries, said, "Today, we serve the



Hard-working volunteers at the Plymouth Salvation Army use an assembly line to process the donated calculators Monday, Aug. 15, in the gym.

JULIE BROWN



Liam Murray, 13, of Canton pushes donated calculators into the gym of the Plymouth Salvation Army Monday, Aug. 15. He's a seventh-grader at Liberty Middle School who volunteered his time.

JULIE BROWN



Everett Caldwell, 15, of Canton volunteered Monday, Aug. 15, with distribution of donated calculators at the Plymouth Salvation Army. He's a 10th-grader at Plymouth High School.

JULIE BROWN

### 'We are so blessed'

Aren added, "These volunteers are pretty doggone awesome. We put out the Bat-signal Friday. This is awesome. When we put out the call for help, this happens all the time. We are so blessed."

Everett Caldwell, 16, a Plymouth High School 10th-grader from Canton, said of his volunteering, "Just helping people in need." His parents encouraged him "a little bit."

"I think it's good," said Caldwell, who'd encourage other teens to volunteer. "It helps them with college as well."

Liam Murray, 13, of Canton is a Liberty Middle School seventh-grader who also helped. He's applying for the National Junior Honor Society.

Mom Trisha Murray said, "I like him to do volunteer work. I had my sons work at the food pantry at Open Door Ministry. I like the kids to be involved."

Murray also has older sons, a 15-year-old 10th-grader at Canton Preparatory High School and a 17-year-old senior at Salem.

"I want my boys to learn appreciation and gratitude," Trisha Murray said. "I like to get my kids involved to give back."

whole Southeast Michigan area," as she surveyed the operation and pitched in. "We're helping anybody who pulls in our driveway."

The 189,000 calculators came originally from Gerber Life Operations of Fremont, Michigan, then to Archway Marketing of Romulus in an apparent overstock. Aren used social media to get word out quickly to nonprofits and schools.

Envoy Jim Hulett of the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army drove a navy blue van over to Plymouth to take two cases with 60 calculators in a box, about 2,400 total. "That's a lot of calculators," noted Hulett in loading up the van with volunteer help.

Wayne-Westland will use those for its after-school program, and also give calculators out 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday,

Aug. 27, at Attwood Park in Wayne during a Family Day. That's mainly for summer day camp kids, Hulett explained, although others can show up, too.

His corps also plans to give out calculators at Christmas. It's common for Salvation Army units to share resources.

"When we get large donations like this, we certainly try to," Aren said. "One time, we got

900 pounds of frozen chickens. When we get stuff, we share."

Calculators, some 3,240, went Monday to Bay City, also serving Saginaw and Midland. Washtenaw County, the Dearborn Public Schools, schools in Southwest Detroit and others also stopped by. Van Buren Public Schools planned a Tuesday visit, Aren said, as did other Salvation Army units.

# Motor City Youth Theatre asks for help funding new roof

**Sharon Dargay**  
Staff Writer

Motor City Youth Theater (MCYT) will lose its insurance unless it replaces the roof on its Grantland Street playhouse.

Nancy Florkowski, MCYT founder and director, estimates the roof will cost \$10,000-\$12,000, a hefty price for the Livonia-based troupe that has called 27555 Grantland its home for 11 years. She tried selling the two-floor building earlier this year, hoping she'd find a one-story venue locally that could accommodate wheelchairs, but had no takers.

Now she's simultaneously leading a GoFundMe campaign online for the roof while holding rehearsals for "Bye Bye Birdie," at the playhouse.

The cast of 14 youth actors will perform 7-10



Reese McClelland of Madison Heights gabs on the phone during a scene from Motor City Youth Theatre's production of "Bye Bye Birdie."

SUBMITTED

p.m. Friday, Aug. 19 and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 19-20 at the Grantland Street theater. Tickets are \$5-\$10, available at eventbrite.com/e/bye-bye-birdie-tickets-27081615842.

The GoFundMe campaign has raised more than \$5,000 in two weeks. Nearly 100 supporters have aided the cause,

wishing the theater "good luck" and expressing praise and gratitude for Florkowski's work with young actors.

"Both my children have spent many hours training, building, learning and expressing their creativity under Nancy," Tiffany Troost wrote in an email to the Observer. "My daughter went on to

attend Churchill High School to be part of the Creative and Performing Arts program (CAPA). She is now a student at Western Michigan University pursuing a degree in Fine Arts. My son is a senior in the fall at Churchill High School and also in the CAPA program."

Troost said Florkowski and her staff had "contributed to my children as well as many children throughout the years."

### Kids and adults

Although MCYT also stages at least one show annually with adult actors, "kids come first." Youngsters perform Shakespeare in July and other shows throughout the year. This fall adults and youth actors will come together for the first time to perform one-act plays.

"I've had kids in Shakespeare who were

severely dyslexic, autistic. I take everyone," Florkowski said. She is proud of the teaching methods she has used for 26 years.

"I treat kids as human beings. Kids are treated like equals. They help me block and do the dances. It's them being leaders."

MCYT has a chair lift for audience members who can't climb stairs to the second-floor theater, but it doesn't work well for young wheelchair users.

"One level would be wonderful. All on one level. I've had parents say my (wheelchair-bound) child wants to do theater but you can't have them here," she said.

"People stand outside and freeze in the winter because we have no lobby."

Florkowski dropped plans for expanding the

Grantland playhouse after discovering she'd have to enlarge and improve the parking lot. The project price tag was approximately \$100,000.

She has mixed feelings about the building, but says she loves it and calls it "home."

"Even if we sell the building, we have to put a new roof on it. The roof is old and it's going to have to be replaced before winter. And it's steep, so it's costly. You can tell by looking at it that it's not good."

"Our insurance company said get a new roof or we won't work with you. We pay almost \$3,000 a year in insurance and I was thinking that was a lot."

She and her husband, Fred, who assists with the theater, are looking into other insurance carriers.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

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## OUR VIEWS

# Team teaching: Parents have key role to play in starting school year strong

Sending a child off to school for the first time soon? It's a proud moment, to be sure, but can also be a stressful one. The National Education Association, a teachers union that includes the Michigan Education Association, has sound advice for jittery parents.

» Let your child do simple chores like setting the table at mealtimes or cleaning up toys after playing.

» Encourage independent toileting and hand washing.

» Let your child work independently on activities such as completing puzzles.

Communication skills are also important for children. Listening and speaking are the first steps to reading and writing in the preschool years, the NEA notes on its website. Through conversations with parents, teachers and friends, children learn about the people, places and objects that they will later read and write about. It's through speaking that young children tell us what they know and understand about the world.

To make sure that your child can communicate his or her thoughts and feelings in school, the organization notes you should, among other things:

» Have regular conversations with your child.

» Encourage your child to listen and respond to others when they speak.

» Answer your child's questions, even if the answer is "no."

» Help your child learn and use new words.

» Explore language through singing, rhyming, songs and chants.

The NEA ([www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org)) has parent resource guides: A Parent's Guide to Raising Ready Readers, A Parent's Guide to Helping Your Child Learn to Read, A Parent's Guide to Raising Scientifically Literate Children, and A Parent's Guide to Helping Your Child with Today's Math

For more Parent's Guides, visit [www.nea.org/parents/nearesources-parents.html](http://www.nea.org/parents/nearesources-parents.html).

The NEA notes for academic readiness, through play and interactions with caring adults, children can come to school with many skills that teachers can build upon. To get your child academically ready for school, you should:

» Read to your child daily and talk about what you've read.

» Visit the library. Check out books and attend story times.

» Sing rhyming songs and do finger plays.

» Put your child's first name on their clothing and toys to help him or her recognize their name in print.

» Encourage your child to write his or her name.

» Help your child learn basic colors by pointing and naming objects like "green trees," "red apples," or "blue coats."

Being able to get along with other children, follow directions, take turns, and say "goodbye" to parents are skills that kindergarten teachers hope to see from

incoming children. To get your child socially ready for school, you should:

» Set rules and give consequences for breaking them.

» Encourage your child to play with and talk to other children.

» Encourage your child to take turns and share with other children.

» Encourage your child to finish difficult or frustrating tasks once they have begun them.

» Encourage your child to consider the feelings of others.

» Model and discuss positive ways for your child to express his or her feelings.

Independence matters too as young children head into the classroom. Parents can help by buying shoes and clothes that are easy for kids to buckle, zip or fasten on their own. You should also encourage your child to dress independently for school.

Finally, don't hesitate to talk to the teacher about your worries, and do so courteously, keeping in mind the teacher is responsible for other children's education, too. For many teachers, email works best with their busy schedules.

Parenting and teaching are both big jobs, and important ones. As Emmet the construction worker notes in "The LEGO Movie," "Everything is cool when you're part of a team." Let's put the focus on teamwork this school year.

## LETTERS

### Canton government works well

Unaccustomed as I am to sitting down and writing and old-fashioned letter to the editor, I feel compelled to make it known that my local government is working just fine. In fact, they excel at customer ser-

vice.

I paid my water bill using the night deposit box at the Canton administration building located on Canton Center Road. In the process of putting the bill in the deposit box, I also accidentally put in my bank deposit for my dental practice.

By the time I realized

my mistake, the two envelopes had disappeared into the abyss of the fortified night deposit box.

I called the water department the next day and they reported that they had found it. I explained that I would be right down to retrieve my misplaced deposit. They kindly explained not only would they hold it for me, but if I trusted them, they offered to take it to the bank for me. Now that is service.

In a time when many of us feel that our government is out of touch and frustrated that we are forced to choose

between two poor candidates for president, I am proud to report that our local government is working. Yes, I trusted them to make the deposit for me. They showed me they cared and reminded me that the majority of government is made up of good people who just want to help.

Thanks to the employees of Canton Township. Your customer service and neighborly kindness is appreciated.

Patrick J Nolan DDS  
Canton

### Thank you Salem

Thank you to all our friends and neighbors for

your encouragement and support. Our bid to represent Salem Township as trustees fell just short. In fact, the results were very close.

What started as a small grassroots group of concerned Salem residents has grown into a coalition of hundreds of supporters who are just as passionate about protecting our peaceful rural lifestyle and having a diverse government as we are.

We are certainly not giving up. Many of you thanked us for making you aware of our current township challenges and offering practical solu-

tions. We believe in our rural character and that it is worth protecting.

Due to your overwhelming support and many residents urging us to continue with a write-in campaign, we are strongly considering this option for the Nov. 8 general election. Maybe we will see you then!

Once again, thank you for your trust and support. Our most sincere gratitude.

Kim Whiteside, Mark Griffith, Larry Petroskey, Wayne Wallazy  
Salem Township

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## They're great on the lake

Area sailors win fourth straight Port Huron-to-Mackinac Island race

Dan O'Meara  
Staff Writer

Chris Benedict and his team of sailors have done it again, adding to their impressive record of success in the Bell's Beer Bayview Mackinac Race.

The veteran crew aboard the Shape sailed to its fourth consecutive in-class championship and fifth win in six years July 16-18 during the annual event on Lake Huron.

Winning never gets old for Plymouth's Benedict, who co-owns the sailboat with long-time friend Win Cooper III of Fenton.

"It's an unusual stat to have four wins in a row," Benedict said. "There are very few boats that have ever done that. Part of me feels a little selfish."

"Should we back away from the race and let other people have an opportunity to win? The competitive side of me says, 'You need to go out there to defend and be the boat to beat.'"

"I think the competition feels the same. The right thing to do is to stick my nose in there and go at it again."

A major advantage for the Shape is the consistency of the crew. Eight of the nine members have sailed in the last seven races and represent 222 years of experience.

The newcomer was Benedict's 21-year-old son Everett. His oldest son, Cameron, 23, participated in his 12th consecutive Port Huron-to-Mackinac Island event.

"Before the race starts, we have a team lunch down below," Benedict said. "We talk about strategy, team shifts and things that have been successful in the past."

"We didn't do any of that this year. It was like we were really comfortable with what we've been doing. We just went out there and said: 'Let's go at it.'"

"Unfortunately for Everett, the first year he comes with us, we don't do it. He had to fly by the seat of his pants, but he adapted to it and did well on his first race."

The other members of the crew are Steven Bradley, Ed Ely, Dale McNabb, Richard Birdsall and Win Cooper Sr., who taught Benedict, 50, how to sail as a teen.

"The diversity in personalities among the crew is a good thing," Benedict said. "It stimulates a lot of debate. We don't

See SHAPE, Page B2



Cameron (from left), Everett and Chris Benedict are about to set sail in the Port Huron-to-Mackinac race.

## Blue Devil tops in U.S. Amateur

Duke University sophomore Alex Smalley of Wake Forest, N.C., fashioned a suitable Ben Hogan impression Tuesday to earn stroke-play medalist honors in the 116th U.S. Amateur Championship at Oakland Hills Country Club's North and South courses.

Smalley shot a 7-under-par 133 to tie for the second-lowest 36-hole score in the history of the championship.

He finished one stroke behind the championship mark of 132 shared by Hank Kim (1994), Gregor Main (2011) and Bobby Wyatt (2012).

"I'm kind of shaking a little bit, still; I'm not sure what to feel," Smalley said. "This is my first U.S. Amateur, so it's kind of cool. Medalist is nice, but we've still got a lot more golf to go."

Smalley posted a 2-under 68 to sit atop the leader board. He shot a bogey-free 65 Monday on the North Course.

"I just got off to a good start, had three birdies on the front nine and just kept it going," Smalley said. "Again, I didn't miss very many greens. I just hit the ball solid all the way around."

Playing in the rainy morning session, Dawson Armstrong, of Brentwood, Tenn., and Gavin Hall, of Pittsford, N.Y., finished one stroke behind Smalley, at 134.

Armstrong, a 20-year-old Lipscomb University junior, fired an even-par 70, and University of Texas senior Hall, 21, logged a 1-under 69 on the iconic South Course, which has hosted six U.S. Opens.

"The players that have won here are very highly renowned," said Armstrong, the 2015 Western Amateur and Dogwood Invitational champion. "It's a privilege to get to keep on going and still have a chance to be in the likes of Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, just great players. It's a real honor."

Nick Carlson, a University of Michigan sophomore from Hamilton, Mich., was the only player from the host state to qualify for match play at 1-over 141.

## Widzinski Golf at Tanglewood

The fourth annual David Widzinski Community Golf Classic will be played Sunday, Sept. 4, at Tanglewood Golf Course in South Lyon.

The daylong event begins with a 9 a.m. Mass at Catholic Central High School in Novi.

Golfer registration starts at 11 a.m. There will be a shotgun start at noon. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by dancing until midnight.

The cost for golf, dinner and dancing is \$100 per golfer. It's \$33 per person for dinner and dancing.

The event, which benefits the Society of Notre Dame de Bon Secours, includes golf contests, raffles, auctions, cash bar and live band.

For more information and to register, visit [www.davidliveson.com](http://www.davidliveson.com).

*"It was raining and hailing so hard it hurt your face. We were getting pelted. All of a sudden, the storm blows east of us. We can see Mackinac Island; we can see the bridge and the lights in the distance."*

**CHRIS BENEDICT**  
co-owner of the Shape, which sailed to its fourth consecutive in-class championship and fifth win in six years



LAUREN HARJU  
Co-owner Chris Benedict of Plymouth and the other members of the crew onboard the "Shape" sailed to a fourth straight Mackinac victory.



Dan Wanshon became a co-owner of Little Caesars franchises with his wife Brooke and in-laws Britt and Fred Julien.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## WINNING INGREDIENTS

Former Chief Wanshon making his mark in pizza industry

Ed Wright  
Staff Writer

Back in the day, when his hair was too long to be fully contained by his Canton Chiefs football helmet, Dan Wanshon was one of the most tenacious, focused and prepared linebackers to step on a high school gridiron.

It is not a stretch to say that once the opening kickoff ascended into the cool, autumn Friday night air, Wanshon was

hot and ready.

Some things never change. On Tuesday afternoon, as a steady stream of customers strolled into the Little Caesars store located on Sheldon Road in Plymouth, the 26-year-old Wanshon — his hair now business-like short and his 6-foot frame about 30 pounds lighter than in his playing days (more free safety-ish than linebacker) — elegantly reflected on

See WANSHON, Page B4

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# PORTER-TOWN

## Penguins' Porter visits Plymouth with cherished Stanley Cup in tow

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Every Stanley Cup champion has his day with the treasured silver chalice, whether superstars like Sidney Crosby or role players like Kevin Porter.

The latter, who hails from Plymouth, brought the National Hockey League championship holy grail to Kellogg Park on Sunday, where several hundred hockey fans stopped by to get a glimpse of Porter and the cup.

Porter signed autographs and greeted fans young and old, many sporting Pittsburgh jerseys, during the event which in part was sponsored by Westborn Market.

The 30-year-old forward received a hometown hero's welcome despite playing for a rival of the Detroit Red Wings. In 2015-16, Porter tallied three assists in 41 regular-season contests for the Penguins.

He is no stranger to metro Detroit, having played two seasons for USA Hockey's National Team Development Program (then based in Ann Arbor) in 2002-03 and 2003-04, before playing at University of Michigan from 2004-08. The NTDP currently is based out of USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

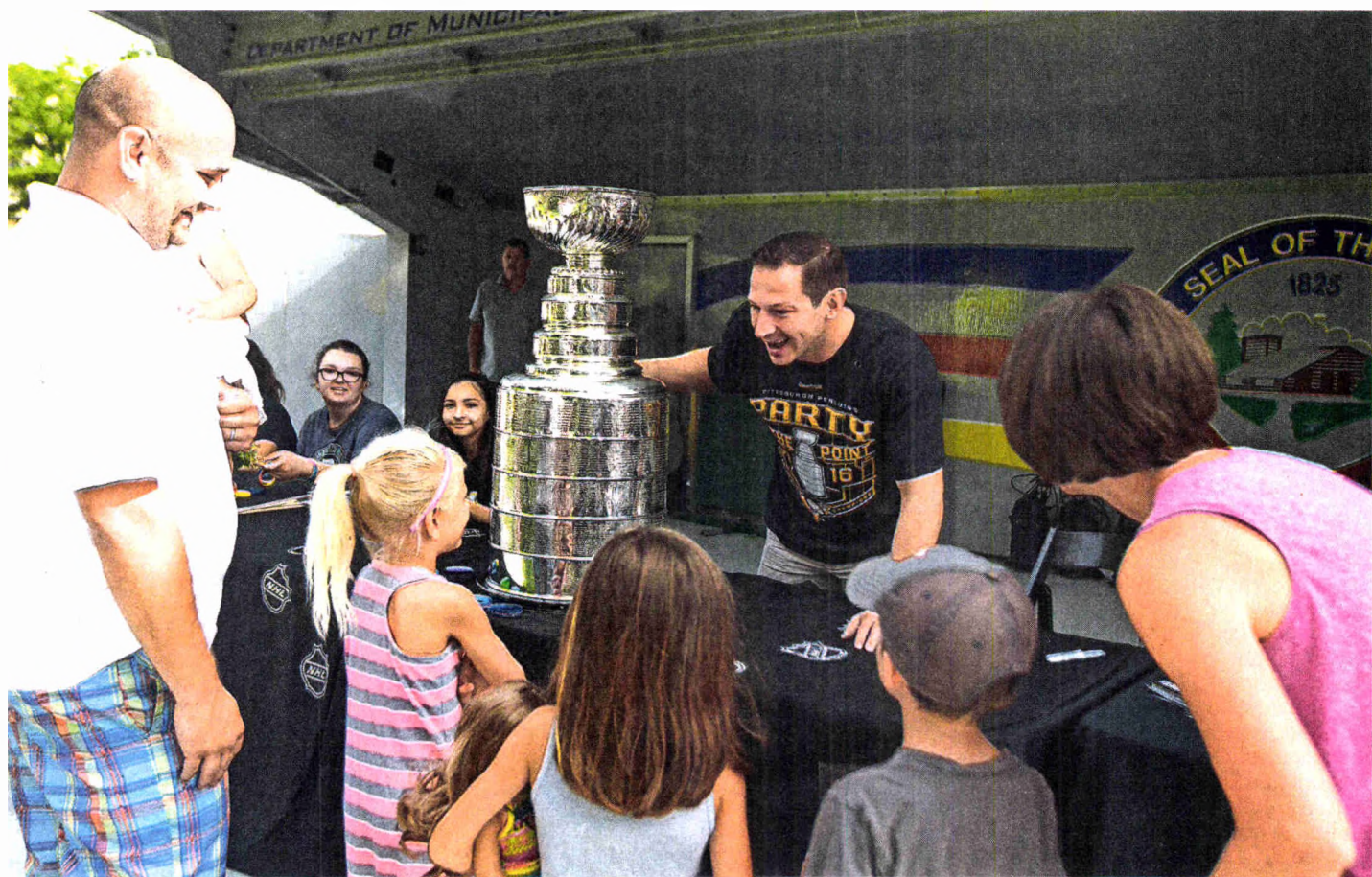
Porter was the Hobie Baker winner with the Wolverines in 2007-08 (33 goals and 30 assists in 43 games) and so far has played parts of eight years in the NHL.

In addition to Pittsburgh, he has made NHL stops in Phoenix, Colorado and Buffalo, and has 58 points (29 goals, 29 assists) in 247 career games.

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Pittsburgh Penguins forward and former Wolverine Kevin Porter talks with young fans at Plymouth's Kellogg Park on Sunday. Porter posed for photos and signed autographs for a couple of hours for fans. RENA LAVERTY/USA HOCKEY



Kevin Porter of the Pittsburgh Penguins carries the Stanley Cup to Kellogg Park in Plymouth.



Fans lined up around the perimeter of Kellogg Park to meet Pittsburgh Penguins forward Kevin Porter.



The crew of the sailboat Shape receives the championship flag at the awards ceremony on Mackinac Island. The crew members are (from left) Ed Ely, Chris Benedict, Everett Benedict, Dale McNabb, Win Cooper, Win Cooper III, Steve Bradley, Cameron Benedict and Rick Birdsall.

## SHAPE

Continued from Page B1

always agree. The diversity of opinion helps us make good decisions."

### Bad weather hits

The experience factor came into play Sunday night as the Shape neared the Straits of Mackinac. A huge storm was blowing through the area, and the worst part was on the southern end.

"It nailed us," Benedict said, adding the wind reached 55 mph and overloaded the instruments. "We blanked out. The mast was shaking like made. You almost go into save-the-boat mode."

"The entire crew grew up on small boats as kids, so we were used to sailing without instruments. We went to work like a normal day of sailing. We emerged from that and gained on the other boats during the storm."

### Up to the task

Benedict, who was in charge of the team sailing the boat at that time, loves the challenge of doing so in rough weather.

"We were enjoying the radical sail and the ride," he said. "This is what we tried to do as much as we could as kids. The harder the wind was the more we wanted to be out there in the beach boats. That's where we really learned how to sail."

"We were having the time of our lives in very bad conditions. It's an

opportunity to put your skills to work, and we've done it several times in those conditions."

As the Shape neared the north end of Bois Blanc Island, the storm abated about five miles from the finish line.

"It was raining and hailing so hard it hurt your face," Benedict said. "We were getting pelted. All of a sudden, the storm blows east of us. We can see Mackinac Island; we can see the bridge and the lights in the distance."

### Late move is key

Benedict and his team were pretty confident of victory at that time, but it almost didn't happen. The sharp eye of Cameron Benedict helped to save the day — or rather the night.

"Cam says, 'There's a boat at the tip of Bois Blanc that's much better positioned, so we need to get to that end of the course,'" Benedict said.

"We tacked our boat and covered that boat. Cam informed us and thank goodness he did, because we wouldn't have finished first if he hadn't."

### Makes good time

The Shape, a 35-foot Santana that was made in 1979, finished the race at 1:05 a.m. Monday with an elapsed time of 36 hours, 5 minutes and 35 seconds.

It was the fastest time in a long time, according to Benedict. Shape finished in 39:46:25 last year and 37:53:47 two years ago.

"Until about 6:30 or 7 o'clock that night, we were on pace to have one of the fastest races we've had," Bene-

dict said, adding his team would have reached the harbor about 8 p.m. if not for the storm and a period of light wind.

"There was a time we finished about 11:30 at night, which we like because you can still make last call at the Pink Pony. That's a very common first stop when jumping off the boat."

### 'Good camaraderie'

Shape reached the island less than two minutes ahead of the Avatar. Since all boats in the Shore Course Class K have the same handicap rating, corrected time becomes a moot point.

It was the 30th consecutive start for Shape, which has 12 in-class victories and also won the overall Division II Shore Course title in 2014. Shape was 19th among 88 boats this year.

"It's a boat-for-boat thing," Benedict said. "You know everybody in-class has the same rating. If you beat them, you win. We were really bunched in there well. There's a fun element to that."

"Yeah, you'd like to blow away your competition, but the reality is that shouldn't happen because the boats are so similar. When the race is tight, it's exciting. That means everybody is sailing well."

"It's a really good fraternity of guys in the boats. We all compete hard against each other and want to win, but there's really good camaraderie and friendship when we're on shore and talking about the race."

### Staying fit to sail

Being serious sailors, Benedict and his crewmates are disciplined during the race, making sure they sleep, drink and eat enough.

"In good weather and bad, your body is consuming tons of energy," Benedict said. "Your body is constantly working to be balanced, so the core muscles are working. The motion is zapping up energy and depleting you. It's very easy to become dehydrated."

"If you can't fight it off, you make sure to hydrate beforehand. Water comes out easily, so you're not taxing your system if you do get sick. It's important to have something to give up. That's why we eat and drink as much as we can."

"We have it down to a science — the food and beverage we take. We don't want to carry any extra weight than is necessary."

### Finishing tradition

Consumption of alcohol during the race is a no-no, but the crew is ready to unwind when it's over. Birdsall opens a bottle of cognac when the boat docks.

"It's a fun tradition he's brought to the boat," Benedict said. "Thank goodness we've had a pretty solid record in those years, so we don't feel the least bit guilty breaking it out."

Given the recent string of victories, that tradition is likely to continue, too.

domeara@hometownlife.com



## 2016 ALL-OBSERVER SOFTBALL TEAM

### FIRST TEAM

**Abby Krzywiecki, 1B, Mercy:** Krzywiecki had an outstanding senior season, leading the Marlins to the Division 1 state title and being named Miss Softball Position Player.



In addition to setting a state record for single-season home runs (20), she led her team in batting average (.558), hits (82), doubles (18), RBIs (94) and runs scored (58).

As a pitcher, Krzywiecki was 12-1 with a 1.66 ERA. In 92 2/3 innings, she struck out 81 and walked 13.

Krzywiecki, who started at first base for four years, will play at South Alabama.

"Abby had a season in Michigan softball like no other player has had," coach Alec Lesko said, citing her great leadership. "She pitched, hit and played great defense all year."

"I think she has the ability to step in and contribute right away (in college). They're getting a player who is more than ready for the next level."

**Andrea Elmore, P, Mercy:** A repeat member of the all-area first team, Elmore was a central figure in Mercy's success as a two-year starting pitcher.



She compiled a 31-1 record and 1.34 ERA this year. She pitched 198 innings, striking out 235 batters and walking just 49 batters.

Elmore, who will play at Mississippi Valley State, posted nine shutouts, including a five-hitter in a 4-0 win over Macomb Dakota in the state championship game.

"It seemed Andrea always gave us a lift when we needed it," Lesko said. "Anytime things seemed to get tight, that's when Andrea seemed to get stronger."

"She threw four scoreless innings in the all-star game (July 20), and the other team was all all-staters. She shut 'em all down; she was rocking it."

**Amber Swisher, OF, Garden City:** Swisher graduated in June as one of the most outstanding defensive center fielders in the history of the Cougars' highly regarded program. Headed to Jackson College to play next-level softball,



Swisher was also accomplished at the plate, where she hit .417 with 30 RBI this past spring while helping lead GC to a D1 regional title.

"Amber has shown an unbreakable determination during her four-year varsity career, and has developed herself into one of the top defensive outfielders in the area," GC head coach Barry Patterson said of his All-State player. "She has amazing instincts, a strong and accurate throwing arm, and covers as much ground in the outfield as anyone I've coached in my 30-plus years at GC."

"Amber was a force at the plate as well, delivering multiple game-winning hits throughout her career. Perhaps her best asset though is her unique ability to work hard, yet the attitude and personality that manages to keep the game fun for herself, her teammates and coaches. Jackson College has recruited an exceptional outfielder in Amber."

**Kaylen Glenfield, SS, Garden City:** A two-time All-State performer, Glenfield was a force at the dish for the Cougars this past spring, pummeling opposing pitchers to the tune of a .504 batting average, .798 slugging percentage to go with 103 total bases and 53 RBI. Headed to Western Michigan University with a softball scholarship, Glenfield is as accomplished in the field as she is at the plate.



"Kaylen has been an impact player for Garden City from the moment she first put on a Cougar uniform as a freshman, until her final game as a senior this year," Patterson raved. "She has rewritten our record books in almost every career offensive category we keep. Her passion, preparation and off-season work ethic has earned her recognition as a two-time All State shortstop and an opportunity to advance and play at Western Michigan University."

"The only thing that may surpass her play on the field is that she is just simply and truly a 'nice' young lady as well."

**Morgan Overaitis, SS, Salem:** Overaitis had another outstanding season for the Rocks, with an incredible .602 batting average along with 32 extra-base hits, 59 runs and 55 RBIs.



Her efforts were good for first-team all-state honors, not to mention all-KLAA, all-district, all-region and Salem MVP.

"Morgan is an amazing player and athlete," coach Bonnie Southerland said. "She has (verbally) committed to U-M."

She helped the Salem cause with a 4-0 pitching mark, and was part of the team's four-homers-in-a-row club with Kristin Mihalic, Maddy Rosiewicz and Kara Hutchison.

**Sophie VanAcker, OF, Mercy:** VanAcker, who moved from left field to center field this year, is another repeat member of the all-area first team.

She was tied with Krzywiecki for the team lead in hits (82) and led the team with five triples. Her last triple drove in the winning run in the state final.



VanAcker, who has committed to play college ball at Lehigh University, batted .532, scored 57 runs and had 24 RBIs.

"Sophie is the definition of a two-hitter," Lesko said. "She can move runners; she can drive in runs. She's very smart. She reads defenses and takes what they're giving."

"She's an amazing person to have at the top of the lineup in front of Abby. She took over the outfield and ran it for us."

**Jenny Bressler, P, Plymouth:** The Wildcats nearly won a Division 1 championship, and sophomore Bressler was a key reason.

Bressler was brilliant in the circle, going 19-4 and posting a 1.07 ERA in 179 innings, fanning 265 in the process.

She helped her own cause many times, batting .371 with 12 doubles, two homers and 23 RBI.



Accolades followed her. She earned Plymouth's top player award as well as selection to the all-conference, all-district, all-region and all-state first team.

"Jenny has great presence on the mound," coach Lauren Evans said. "She is a leader on the team and has been one with her performance since her freshman year. She has a passion to win and helps her team at the plate and on the mound to be in situations to win late in games."

**Kara Hutchison, C, Salem:** The heart and soul of Salem's KLAA Central Division championship team, Hutchison closed out an excellent four-year career behind and at the plate, collecting an all-state honorable mention selection.



She batted .504, finishing her prep career with a cumulative average of .459. She also was named to the all-conference, all-district and all-region teams while collecting Salem's offensive MVP award.

"Kara has called the pitches her entire four-year career," Southerland said. "She's a great blocker, smart player."

Hutchison will play softball next year at Davenport University.

**Elizabeth Yager, OF, Canton:** The fleet-footed Yager enjoyed another big year for the Chiefs, sparking the team to the KLAA South Division championship.



Yager batted .457, scoring 50 runs and tallying an OPS of 1.032. In addition, she was a defensive whiz in center.

"She was our spark plug; she makes us go," coach Al White said. "More than once she laid down a bunt and beat it out, then went to second. She couldn't get enough softball, always wanting to get better."

Yager, who will play at University of Detroit Mercy, earned all-conference, all-district and all-state academic honors.

**Rachel Zerona, OF, Plymouth:** The all-around player was a spark plug for the Wildcats as they nearly captured a state title, batting .438 from the leadoff spot while stealing 24 bases and catching everything in the outfield (.969 fielding percentage) and when called upon at shortstop.



Zerona was rewarded with all-KLAA, all-district and all-region honors, in addition to winning Plymouth's top defender award.

"Rachel is a natural born leader," Evans said. "... She has the motivation, drive and passion for the game that makes her a multi-tool athlete."

She will continue her softball career at Oakland University, where she will pursue a degree in exercise science.

**Mackenna Payne, P, Canton:** The senior was a standout in the circle and on offense for the KLAA South Division winners.

In addition to her pitching achievements, she sparked the offense with 10 homers, 55 RBIs and a .462 average.



Payne, who will go to Michigan State University, earned selection to the all-conference, all-district and all-state academic teams. She earned team awards for Most Outstanding Player and top offensive player.

"Mackenna came into her own this year, just an outstanding young lady," White said.

**Cori Wilson, 3B, Stevenson:** Wilson was the No. 1 catalyst for the Spartans' resurgent season as the captain and starting third baseman his .408 with 43 hits, 30 RBI and 32 runs. In addition to being selected to the KLAA all-conference team, the future Schoolcraft Ocelot softball player earned all-district and team MVP accolades.

"In my first year as head coach at Stevenson, Cori helped changed the culture of the program," coach Kevin Hannigan said. "She was consistent, committed, valued her teammates and displayed a tremendous work ethic. 'She's a true leader, which made winning contagious. Cori put the time in when nobody was watching, and that's why she accomplished so many goals.'"



**Alexa Flores, 1B, Ladywood:** Flores was a lightning rod when it came to the Blazers' ultra-successful season, which didn't end until a Division 2 semifinal loss in East Lansing. In addition to serving as her team's primary lead-off hitter, she was a splendid defensive first baseman and reliable pitcher — both as a spot starter and reliever.



**Erika Selakowski, 2B, Ladywood:** Selakowski swung a potent bat in the middle of the Blazers' productive line-up. She also provided air-tight middle-infield defense and offered invaluable leadership qualities.



**Rozlyn Price, P, Ladywood:** Price capped her outstanding high school softball career in style as she led the Blazers to the D2 final four while earning first-team all-state, all-regional, all-district and all-Catholic League recognition. She also earned first-team all-state honors as a junior and all-state honorable mention accolades as a sophomore.



**Robyn Banks, P, Farmington:** A two-year starter, Banks led the Falcons to an OAA White Division co-championship with her hitting as much as her pitching.



In 162 innings, she struck out 221 batters and walked just 17. She was 15-11 with four shutouts and a 2.63 ERA.

Banks batted .377 with 11 doubles, two triples and a home run among her 32 hits. She also drove in 25 runs.



"Robyn had a tremendous year, being our sole pitcher as well as a power threat at the plate," coach Stefanie Volpe

**2016 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM**  
 Abby Krzywiecki, sr., 1B, Mercy  
 Andrea Elmore, sr., P, Mercy  
 Amber Swisher, sr., OF, Garden City  
 Kaylen Glenfield, sr., SS, Garden City  
 Morgan Overaitis, soph., SS, Salem  
 Sophie VanAcker, jr., OF, Mercy  
 Jenny Bressler, soph., P, Plymouth  
 Kara Hutchison, sr., C, Salem  
 Elizabeth Yager, sr., OF, Canton  
 Rachel Zerona, sr., OF, Plymouth  
 Mackenna Payne, sr., P, Canton  
 Cori Wilson, sr., 3B, Stevenson  
 Alexa Flores, sr., 1B, Ladywood  
 Erika Selakowski, sr., 2B, Ladywood  
 Rozlyn Price, sr., P, Ladywood  
 Anna Dixon, jr., C, Mercy  
 Mara Szczecienski, fr., SS, N. Farmington  
 Robyn Banks, jr., P, Farmington  
 Jamie Squires, sr., OF, Salem

**SECOND TEAM**  
 Nicole Belans, jr., 2B, Mercy  
 Haley Gagnon, fr., C, Plymouth  
 Alicia Ascencio, jr., 1B, Garden City  
 Brooke Garbarino, soph., C, Franklin  
 Mackenzie Huren, sr., P, John Glenn  
 Cari Padula, sr., 3B, Mercy  
 Kristin Mihalic, jr., OF, Salem  
 Hannah Zajdel, soph., 3B, Canton  
 Shannon Gibbons, jr., SS, Mercy  
 Whitney Holden, soph., OF, Plymouth  
 Isabella Dawson, soph., 1B, Canton  
 Mikaela Smolar, sr., C, Garden City  
 Maddy Rosiewicz, soph., P, Salem  
 Alexa Cherney, sr., P, N. Farmington  
 Danielle Petras, jr., C, Farmington  
 Sam Cherney, soph., 1B, N. Farmington

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
**Mercy:** Mary Reeber; **Farmington:** Kacey Noseworthy, Lauren Johnson, Emily Moilanen, Abbie Radomski; **N. Farmington:** Sarah Fish, Ryan Walker, Drew Edwards; **Harrison:** Nora Battersby; **Canton:** Sydney Dawson, Nicole Dawson; **Plymouth:** Jessica Tucci, Gina Barber; **Salem:** Jordan Hazel, Caroline Miller; **Clarenceville:** Claudia Moore, Emily Schmidt, Kylee Hammond; **Garden City:** April Rudolph, Alissa Turnbull; **Stevenson:** Alyssa Zahra, Sarah Mesack; **Franklin:** Miyah, Tara Trujillo; **Churchill:** Rachel Klisz, Paige Hanson, Brooke Hanson, Colleen McGowan, Haley Bennett; **Thurston:** Rachel Pegouske, Ivory Mamo; **John Glenn:** Julia Michalowski, Megan Buford; **Ladywood:** Michaela Warner, Lauren Holdsworth, Cecilia Werner.

said. "She dominated teams that she was supposed to and stepped up in the big games against strong opponents."

"She will continue to be a force against teams in the OAA and the area for two more years with the goals she has set for herself."

**Anna Dixon, C, Mercy:** A two-year starter, Dixon moved from right field to catcher, replacing 2015 Miss Softball Award winner Alex Sobczak.



Dixon was third in hitting with a .477 average as the leadoff batter. Her 72 hits included 13 doubles and three home runs. She scored 55 runs and drove in 34.

"Anna made the biggest adjustment of anyone on the team," Lesko said, citing her move behind the plate. "That's a huge task to ask anybody to do at any age."

"Now she's catching for Andrea. Her ball moves; that's what makes her so good and tough to handle. It was very trying in the beginning, and Anna settled in quite nicely."

"On top of that, we asked her to be the leadoff hitter, and she was as consistent as we could have hoped. She did an amazing job at the top of our order."

**Mara Szczecienski, SS, N. Farmington:** An accomplished travel player, Szczecienski had a successful first year of high school softball as the North leadoff batter.



She led the Raiders with a .449 average and had just seven strikeouts in 107 at-bats. Her 48 hits included 14 doubles and three home runs. Szczecienski also had 31 RBIs.

"Mara does everything really well," coach Dave Brubaker said. "She bats for a good average with a lot of power and is a smart base runner."

"At shortstop, she has a good sense of what the game is about and what needs to be done, making the correct plays and calls."

"Mara is driven to succeed at the next level. I have no doubt some Division I schools will be recruiting her in the very near future."

**Jamie Squires, OF, Salem:** Possessing a sterling combination of speed, skill and power, Squires capped off her four-year Salem career with all-conference, all-district, all-region, team defensive MVP and all-state honorable mention accolades.



She batted .459, clubbing four homers to finish with a school career record of 31 (Squires hit 17 homers in 2015) while catching everything in sight in center field.

"Jamie has a strong arm, has been a solid force in the outfield and has stolen many hits from players," Southerland said. "She dives, jumps, takes charge in the field." Squires will play softball next season at Oakland University.

## How to avoid heat illness with summer exercise

**Dr. Joe Guettler**  
 Guest Columnist

From a medical standpoint, when it comes to the summer heat, it's not only about staying cool — it's also about avoiding things like heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Collectively, these entities are referred to as heat illness. The temperatures have really heated up lately and that makes it a good time to tell you how to avoid heat illness this summer when you are exercising, practicing, playing or simply working in the heat.

Many people think heat illnesses like heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heatstroke are problems that they will never have to face. However, as we have seen in the news over the past couple of years, summer time heat has the potential to affect any one of us during our outdoor activities.

On a hot, humid Michigan day, an active person can lose up to two quarts of fluid in an hour. The combination of

heat and humidity is particularly troublesome, because humidity hinders sweat from evaporating (this is the primary way our body temperature stays cool and under control). Believe it or not, heatstroke is the second leading cause of death among athletes in the United States. The good news is that most heat illnesses are treatable and preventable.

All heat illnesses are caused by dehydration and excessive loss of salt and fluids.

The mildest form of heat illness is known as heat cramps, which occur when athletes do not drink enough fluids while exercising. Heat exhaustion is a more serious condition that is triggered by excessive sweating and inadequate fluid replacement.

Heatstroke is the most serious heat illness and can be life-threatening. During heatstroke, the body's sweating mechanisms shut down, the skin becomes hot and dry and the body becomes depleted of fluids.

### Preventing heat illness

» Drink plenty of water when participating in all sports activities, even if you don't feel thirsty. By the time you do get thirsty, it might be too late.

» Take many breaks during activities in hot weather.

» Participate in your activity in the morning or early evening, when the temperatures are cooler. It's important to avoid the sun's most potent heat rays between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

» Eat citrus fruits or bananas, especially if you are participating for long times, because they are rich in potassium and sodium. On the other hand, you should avoid drinking alcohol and sodas that contain caffeine, because they actually work to dehydrate you faster.

» Wear lightweight and light-colored clothing that is made of porous materials.

» Cool water is the best fluid to keep you hydrated during workouts or events that last an hour or less. Sports

drinks containing 6-10 percent carbohydrates are useful for longer events. Most sports drinks should be diluted with approximately 50 percent water.

» Drink small amounts of fluid frequently, rather than large amounts less often.

» Drink cold beverages to cool your core body temperature.

» If you have the opportunity, weigh yourself after exercising and drink two to three cups of water for every pound lost. Your body weight should be back to normal before the next workout.

» Pay attention to the amount and color of your urine. You should excrete a large volume that is nearly colorless. Small amounts of urine or dark yellow-colored urine can indicate dehydration.

*Dr. Joseph Guettler is an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine, as well as surgery of the knee, shoulder and elbow. His practice, Performance Orthopedics, is in Bingham Farms. He is active in teaching and research at Beaumont Hospital and OUWB Medical School.*



GARY BALCONI INVITATIONAL

# High-stakes tourney is good early test

Eight top-caliber soccer programs to collide at P-CEP

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Saturday's annual Gary Balconi Invitational brings eight of the area's top varsity boys soccer programs together for the ultimate in pre-Labor Day tests.

Yes, it is August on the calendar, but that won't matter 10 a.m. Saturday when Canton, Salem, Plymouth and five other area powerhouses step out onto one of four pitches at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

By the time the 3 p.m. championship tilt concludes on the varsity soccer stadium, squads will have upped their respective compete levels to mid-season form.

"They've been talking about it all day," Plymouth assistant coach Glenn Liguori said. "We've been doing two-a-day practices with conditioning and they're talking about winning that (Balconi), because they want to start the season off right."

The Wildcats will face Utica Eisenhower on the turf field at 10 a.m., with hopes of staying in the winner's bracket. Liguori said Plymouth never has won the Balconi, and the team has designs on ending that drought.

"It is about the competition," Liguori continued. "It's about playing against the other Park teams and getting their opportunity to show who's the best."

As for other 10 a.m. games involving Park teams, Canton (Division 1 finalist in 2015) hosts Saline 10 a.m. on the varsity soccer field while Salem faces Walled Lake Northern on the freshman field.

Other squads include Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, Rochester Adams,



Canton and Walled Lake Northern players compete during the 2015 Gary Balconi Invitational. The annual tournament is Saturday.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Walled Lake Northern and Saline.

The annual tourney is a way of honoring Gary Balconi, who during the 1980s as Salem athletic director was instrumental in soccer's growth as an interscholastic program.

Three decades later, according to Canton head coach Mark Zemanski, the tournament's high caliber proves that Balconi had plenty of foresight.

"Yes he did, the skill level in these players (compared to from) 15-20 years ago is significantly better, and so is their soccer IQ," Zemanski noted.

Because of MHSAA tourney rules,

the games will be 60-minutes long (two 30-minute halves) instead of typical 80-minute contests.

"They're pretty physical, everybody wants to win," Zemanski said. "It's a big tournament and everyone's out to win the game. Especially the first game."

The Chiefs won the Balconi Invite three years in a row (including 2014, the year Canton won the state championship) before falling short in 2015.

"It gives you a gauge of how good your team is, because you're playing a lot of good teams," Zemanski added. "But it's also a 60-minute game and a lot

of things can happen in only 60 minutes. It's certainly a good start."

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:**

- Game 1: 10 a.m., Canton vs. Saline, varsity soccer stadium.
- Game 2: 10 a.m., Plymouth vs. Utica Eisenhower, turf field.
- Game 3: 10 a.m., Salem vs. Walled Lake Northern, freshman field.
- Game 4: 10 a.m., Novi-Detroit Catholic Central vs. Rochester Adams, baseball field.
- Game 5: 11:45 a.m., Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, varsity soccer stadium.
- Game 6: 11:45 a.m., Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner, turf field.
- Game 7: 11:45 a.m., Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, freshman field.
- Game 8: 11:45 a.m., Game 3 loser vs. Game 4 loser, baseball field.
- Game 9: 3 p.m., Championship Game (Game 5 winner vs. Game 6 winner), varsity soccer stadium.
- Game 10: 3 p.m., Consolation Game (opponents TBD), turf field.
- Game 11: 3 p.m., Consolation Game (opponents TBD), freshman field.
- Game 12: 3 p.m., Consolation Game (opponents TBD), baseball field.

JUNIOR GOLF

## Livingston County tops in Moose Ridge Ryder Cup format

Kensington Junior Tour ends summer season

M.B. Dillon  
Correspondent

The Kensington Junior Golf Tour hosted its season-ending Ryder Cup tourney format on Aug. 8 at Moose Ridge Golf Club in South Lyon, while also staging its traditional county competition and expanding this year's tourney to include collegiate and caddy championship play.

Livingston County junior golfers seized the cup by edging Oakland County in the best-ball tourney with 31 points.

Trailing runner-up Oakland (30 points) were Wayne County (27) followed by 2014 and 2015 defending champion Washtenaw County (21).

Moose Ridge's capacity field of 88 competed in two- and four-person squads. Points were awarded on each hole based on lowest individual scores.

Austin Carter, 20, fired two rare eagles to propel Saginaw Valley State University to victory in the men's collegiate division. Teammate Mason Motte, also 20, turned in an impressive performance as well.

Virginia Gilton and Megan Baumgartner, both entering their junior sea-

sons, swept the women's division for Cleary College.

Austin Dillon, 22, and Michael Blaesser, 21, of Western Golf & Country Club in Redford shot an even-par 71 to capture the Kensington Tour's Caddy Championship.

Blaesser, who like Austin hails from Redford, birdied the par-3, No. 6.

"I hit my 8-iron and landed above the hole," Blaesser said. "Austin gave me a good read and I tapped it in from 8 feet. It felt good. We were even par at the time, so it was good to get it going."

Dillon, who birdied a par-3 on the back nine, enjoyed the format.

"It's fun, because if you or your partner aren't having a great hole, you don't necessarily have to keep playing," he said. "He can carry you through for that hole and you can step up on the next one and make up for it. The event was well-organized and all the golfers had fun. Meeting kids from other clubs and talking to them was another good part about playing in it."

Northville's Sara Haupt, who spent her 13th birthday on the course, experienced just that contributing to her Wayne County squad's total and ending her season on a high note.

"It's been fun playing this summer to see if I do OK," she said. "I started out with 140 and at the Whispering Willows



M.B. DILLON

The Caddy Division winners at the Kensington Junior Golf Tour Moose Ridge event included winners (from left) Austin Dillon and Michael Blaesser of Western Golf & Country Club, and runners-up Travis Tubbs and Alex Opitck of Walnut Creek C.C.

tournament I went down to 115."

Winning closest-to-the-pin honors in their divisions were Michael Hermann, 11, of Canton; Kristen Szabelski, 16, of Livonia; Blaesser; and Gilton.

The KJGT division champions also stood out.

Northville's Andrew Lackswept three of the Boys 15-18 age titles (Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw), while Brighton's Brendan Britz conquered the Livingston County championship.

In the Girls 15-18, Howell's Alyssa Snider earned both the Livingston and Washtenaw crowns. Livonian Madison Maurier captured the Oakland County title, while University of Detroit Mercy-bound Kendall Payne (Livonia Franklin grad) captured the Wayne County championship.

In the Boys 12-14, Novi's Dhruv Kumar captured the Wayne County championship, while Ashrith Mummadi, also of Novi, topped the Oakland division.

Other county champs include Ypsilanti Township's Vimal Alokam (Washtenaw) and Highland's Zach Piroli (Livingston County).

Ann Arbor's Ieuan Jones dominated both the Livingston and Washtenaw 9-hole divisions. Ypsilanti's Vibhav Alokam took the Wayne County title, while Westland's Damo Watson was the Oakland winner.

To support junior golf, the charitable Livonia-based Dinan Foundation offers academic college scholarships in conjunction with the tour. For more information, visit kensingtonjuniorgolf.com.

## WANSHON

Continued from Page B1

the compelling road that led him to become the co-owner (along with his wife Brooke and in-laws Britt and Fred Julien) of three Detroit-area Little Caesars franchises.

It is a road paved with perseverance, determination, intelligence and, yes, \$5 pizzas.

**Full circle**

"It's kind of surreal knowing that 10 years after I worked in this exact store, I'm a franchisee now," Wanshon said, smiling. "My first job out of college (Grand Valley State University) was as a franchisee consultant for Little Caesars. The job entailed helping the franchisees maximize their profits. I oversaw about 150 stores out west (including in San Diego and Salt Lake City), so I learned a lot."

"During the close-to-five years I did that, several of the franchisees I worked with told me that if I ever got a chance to own stores, take the leap of faith."

Which is exactly what Wanshon did last fall when he meticulously drew up a game plan, then huddled up with his wife and her parents to discuss his dream of owning a string of Little Caesars franchises.

"When Dan approached Fred and I about his idea, he was very passionate about it," recounted Britt Julien. "Fred and I both have full-time jobs (Britt is a dental hygienist, Fred is a sales rep), so we were very comfortable and established in our routines. But we loved the concept of being involved in a family-owned business in the community we



FILE PHOTO

Dan Wanshon is a former linebacker for the Canton Chiefs football team.

lived in, so we agreed to join the team.

"Dan is wonderful in this role, especially for his young employees. He's a trainer, he's a mentor ... and he's only 26 years old, so he's relatively young to be a franchisee. He worked for Little Caesars in high school, in college and after college, so he's a natural at what he does now."

There are no typical (or dull) days for Wanshon, which is the way he likes it.

"The only constant every day is when I wake up, I have my coffee," he said, grinning. "Back when I played

football, it was probably energy drinks instead of coffee.

"I try to get to all three of the stores (in addition to the Plymouth location, he co-owns a Little Caesars on Canton Center in Canton and one on Ann Arbor Road in Livonia) every day, and I'll stay at each store two or three hours — or however long I need to be there. I'll never be accused of being an absentee owner. I absolutely love rolling up my sleeves and working side-by-side with my employees."

Having played football at a high level has helped him beyond measure in the business world, Wanshon admitted.

"I think the biggest thing is that football helped me understand how important it is to be dependable and how to play for a team," he said. "Obviously, my competitiveness comes into play, too. I always strive to be the best."

**All-American couple**

Wanshon and Brooke met during their sophomore year at Canton High School, where he starred as a linebacker and wrestler, and she excelled as a member of the pom team.

A sideline-to-sideline, ball-seeking missile, Wanshon overcame his modest speed — "I think the fastest 40 (yard dash) I ever ran was 7.2 (seconds)," he joked — with tenacity and toughness.

"I wasn't the fastest or biggest guy out there, so I had to be smart," he said. "I learned at Canton that if you practice something 100 times at 100 percent, you're going to be in the right position to make the play."

Wanshon racked up 86 tackles and six quarterback sacks as a junior while playing a pivotal role in the Chiefs' 12-1 season before piling up a team-high 113 tackles as a senior.

Despite compiling an impressive high school football resume, college recruiters weren't knocking down Wanshon's door — so he knocked on theirs, so to speak.

Following one year as a football walk-on at Eastern Michigan University, Wanshon decided to transfer to Grand Valley, the university Brooke attended straight out of high school.

"One day toward the end of my freshman year at Eastern, I sat down and wrote an email and sent some of my highlights to the Grand Valley coach," Wanshon said. "About 25 minutes later, he called me, told me he liked my stuff and invited me to walk on."

**Working his way up**

After red-shirting his first year at GVSU, Wanshon earned playing time on special teams and eventually as a linebacker for the nationally-ranked Lakers.

"Each year, during the postseason exit interview with the Grand Valley coaches, I told them how I wasn't playing football to earn a scholarship; I was playing because I loved it, and I know they appreciated that," Wanshon said.

"They told me they liked the way I took care of myself, stayed out of trouble and got along with my teammates. The next thing I know, I'm playing some linebacker for a very good college program, and having a lot of fun."

Equally impressive was the way Wanshon excelled in the classroom at GVSU, where he earned a degree in bio-medical science, which normally doesn't lead to a career at Little Caesars.

But Wanshon's life isn't normal — it's extraordinary.

And it's only the first quarter.

ewright@hometownlife.com





"When you get the right lender, VA loans are actually exceptional," says Rich Eisiminger of RichRealty Group of Plymouth.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

## Plymouth Realtor, Livonia mortgage lender: Veterans can get loans, move into homes

Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

In his 25 years in the real estate field, Rich Eisiminger of RichRealty Group of Plymouth has handled many Veterans Affairs loans.

"When you get the right lender, VA loans are actually exceptional," Realtor Eisiminger said. "They are a great way to help out our military people.

He's seeing veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan service come home in need of mortgages for home purchases. Eisiminger handles double digits of veteran loans annually along with colleagues at RichRealty Group, and also does seminars on the topic.

"Understanding them is the best thing, obviously, continuing education," he said. In the past, military veteran apprais-

als were handled differently from other buyers.

RichRealty Group was founded in 2005, and in his career Eisiminger has seen VA loans improve. "They sure have. More streamlined. They're there to help veterans get in the home, contrary to a lot of old thought processes," he said.

The time frame to get approval may be a bit longer, he added, but not much. Appraising for veteran loans is now done the same as others.

"You would get an appraisal that came from a pool," Eisiminger recalled of past days with the VA certifying certain ones. That's changed now with all buyers using a pool.

"The conventional loan is done the same way," Eisiminger said. "Sometimes it's nerve-racking and it's frustrating, but it's to the good."

He cites time frames and ease. "Communications are much better," Eisiminger said. "Lenders that are versed in it know it well."

Agreeing is Bruce Piper, Livonia branch manager for Ross Mortgage, based in Troy. "The VA loans are not really any different," Piper said. Ross Mortgage is a VA-automatic lender, as most are, he noted.

That means underwriting and processing are done by Ross Mortgage, with appraisal also out of VA hands. "It's probably the very best way to buy a home," said Piper, noting it's zero-percent down for a qualified veteran without mortgage insurance.

The VA guarantees the loan, Piper said, unlike other buyers who purchase the PMI private insurance with the 20 percent down payment.

Noted Piper of veterans, "There's a very big demand, absolutely. We're doing a lot of VA loans."

Ross Mortgage has been in business since 1949, with Piper having 31 years of experience. He finds too often military veterans don't know they can qualify, with no cost for asking on pre-qualification.

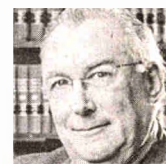
"If they don't (qualify), we'll advise them what to do on getting into a home," Piper said. "I think a lot of people don't check because they think they won't qualify."

Back in Plymouth, Realtor Eisiminger said of veterans buying homes, "I think it's just a great thing. We should do all we can to protect our freedoms. I treasure our freedoms."

jcbrown@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @248Julie

## Condo association treasurer vexed over audit request letter

**Q: I am the treasurer of our condominium association and received a letter from a homeowner requesting to conduct an independent audit of the association's books and records. The homeowner is claiming that the association has refused to give him the documents he needed. He is threatening to sue the association but has not given an identification of exactly what records he wants to look at. He has also made previous requests for records but they have been vague. What do you think?**



Robert Meisner

**A:** I think that he is obviously looking to require you to produce records for an improper purpose. In a recent case out of Texas, the Appeals Court agreed with the trial court that the homeowner's request on similar facts had not been specific enough as to which records he wanted.

However, in that case, some of the requests were verbal, were either unclear or sought records that had already been provided to the person. It may also be relevant as was in this case that the homeowner was angry with, and rude to the members of the Board of Directors and refused to acknowledge that he lost his position when another treasurer won that seat on the board after election. Frequently, people who are disgruntled use a request for documents as an excuse to punish the association. Your lawyer should be able to lead you through this problem successfully.

**Q: I read about a recent case concerning riparian rights on artificial bodies of water. Can you clarify that for me?**

**A:** The black letter common law rule is that riparian rights do not attach to artificial bodies of water. So if a pond was created artificially, for example, in a case where the prior owner had installed a dam, the court has held that there were no riparian rights. The court in that case said that the dam turned the natural water course into an artificial one, defeating the claim of riparian rights. To be sure, you should review your case with an experienced real estate attorney.

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

## National Association of Realtors: Inventory of homes issue decreases affordability a bit

Home prices maintained their robust, upward trajectory in a vast majority of metro areas during the second quarter, causing affordability to slightly decline despite mortgage rates hovering at lows not seen in over three years, according to the latest quarterly report by the National Association of Realtors. The report also revealed that for the first time ever, a metro area — San Jose, California — had a median single-family home price above \$1 million.

The median existing single-family home price increased in 83 percent of measured markets, with 148 out of 178 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) showing gains based on closed sales in the second quarter compared with the second quarter of 2015. Twenty-nine areas (16 percent) recorded lower median prices from a year earlier.

There were slightly fewer rising markets in the second quarter compared to the first three months of this year, when price gains were recorded in 87 percent of metro areas. Twenty-five metro areas in the second quarter (14 percent) experienced double-digit increases — a small decrease from the 28 metro areas in the first quarter. A year ago, 34 metro areas (19 percent) experienced double-digit price gains.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says a faster pace of home sales amidst languishing inventory levels pushed home prices higher in most metro areas during the second quarter. "Steadily improving local job markets and mortgage rates teetering close to all-time lows brought buyers out in force in many large and middle-tier cities," he said. "However, with home-building activity still failing to keep up with demand and not enough current

homeowners putting their home up for sale, prices continued their strong ascent — and in many markets at a rate well above income growth."

The national median existing single-family home price in the second quarter was \$240,700, up 4.9 percent from the second quarter of 2015 (\$229,400), which was previously the peak quarterly median sales price. The median price during the first quarter of this year increased 6.1 percent from the first quarter of 2015.

Total existing-home sales, including single family and condos, rose 3.8 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.50 million in the second quarter from 5.30 million in the first quarter of this year, and are 4.2 percent higher than the 5.28 million pace during the second quarter of 2015.

"Primarily from repeat buyers moving up or trading down, existing sales increased each month last quarter and could've been even higher if not for a few speed bumps," Yun said. "Closings were slowed a bit by meager supply levels and home prices in many areas that are still rising too fast."

At the end of the second quarter, there were 2.12 million existing homes available for sale, which was below the 2.25 million homes for sale at the end of the second quarter in 2015. The average supply during the second quarter was 4.7 months — down from 5.1 months a year ago.

According to Yun, without enough new construction being built, existing inventory seriously failed to keep up with the growing demand for buying. As a result, homes typically stayed on the market for around a month throughout the second quarter, and over 40 percent of

listings sold at or above list price, with June being the highest share since NAR began tracking in December 2012 (43 percent).

"Many listings in a majority of markets — and especially those in lower price ranges — had multiple offers and went under contract quickly because of severely inadequate supply," Yun said. "This in turn dented affordability and without a doubt priced out a segment of buyers attempting to seek relief from fast-growing rents."

Despite falling mortgage rates and a small increase in the national family median income (\$68,774), swiftly rising home prices caused affordability to decline in the second quarter compared to a year ago. To purchase a single-family home at the national median price, a buyer making a 5-percent down payment would need an income of \$52,255, a 10-percent down payment would require an income of \$49,504, and \$44,004 would be needed for a 20-percent down payment.

The five most expensive housing markets in the second quarter were the San Jose, California, metro area, where the median existing single-family price was \$1,085,000; San Francisco, \$885,600; Anaheim-Santa Ana, California, \$742,200; urban Honolulu, \$725,200; and San Diego, \$589,900.

The five lowest-cost metro areas in the second quarter were Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, Ohio, \$85,400; Cumberland, Maryland, \$94,900; Decatur, Illinois, \$95,600; Binghamton, New York, \$105,500; and Rockford, Illinois, \$109,000.

Metro area condominium and cooperative prices — covering changes in 59 metro areas — showed the national median existing-condo price

was \$227,200 in the second quarter, up 4.8 percent from the second quarter of 2015 (\$216,700). Forty-four metro areas (75 percent) showed gains in their median condo price from a year ago; 14 areas had declines.

NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Florida, says Realtors in most areas say market conditions have remained competitive well into the summer.

### Regional breakdown

Total existing-home sales in the Northeast jumped 7.6 percent in the second quarter and are 11.3 percent above the second quarter of 2015. The median existing single-family home price in the Northeast was \$273,600 in the second quarter, up 1.6 percent from a year ago.

In the Midwest, existing-home sales leaped 10.4 percent in the second quarter and are 6.6 percent higher than a year ago. The median existing single-family home price in the Midwest increased 5.1 percent to \$191,300 in the second quarter from the same quarter a year ago.

Existing-home sales in the South inched forward 0.3 percent in the second quarter and are 4.2 percent higher than the second quarter of 2015. The median existing single-family home price in the South was \$214,900 in the second quarter, 5.9 percent above a year earlier.

In the West, existing-home sales climbed 1.4 percent in the second quarter but are 2.2 percent below a year ago. The median existing single-family home price in the West increased 6.5 percent to \$346,500 in the second quarter from the second quarter of 2015.

## REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

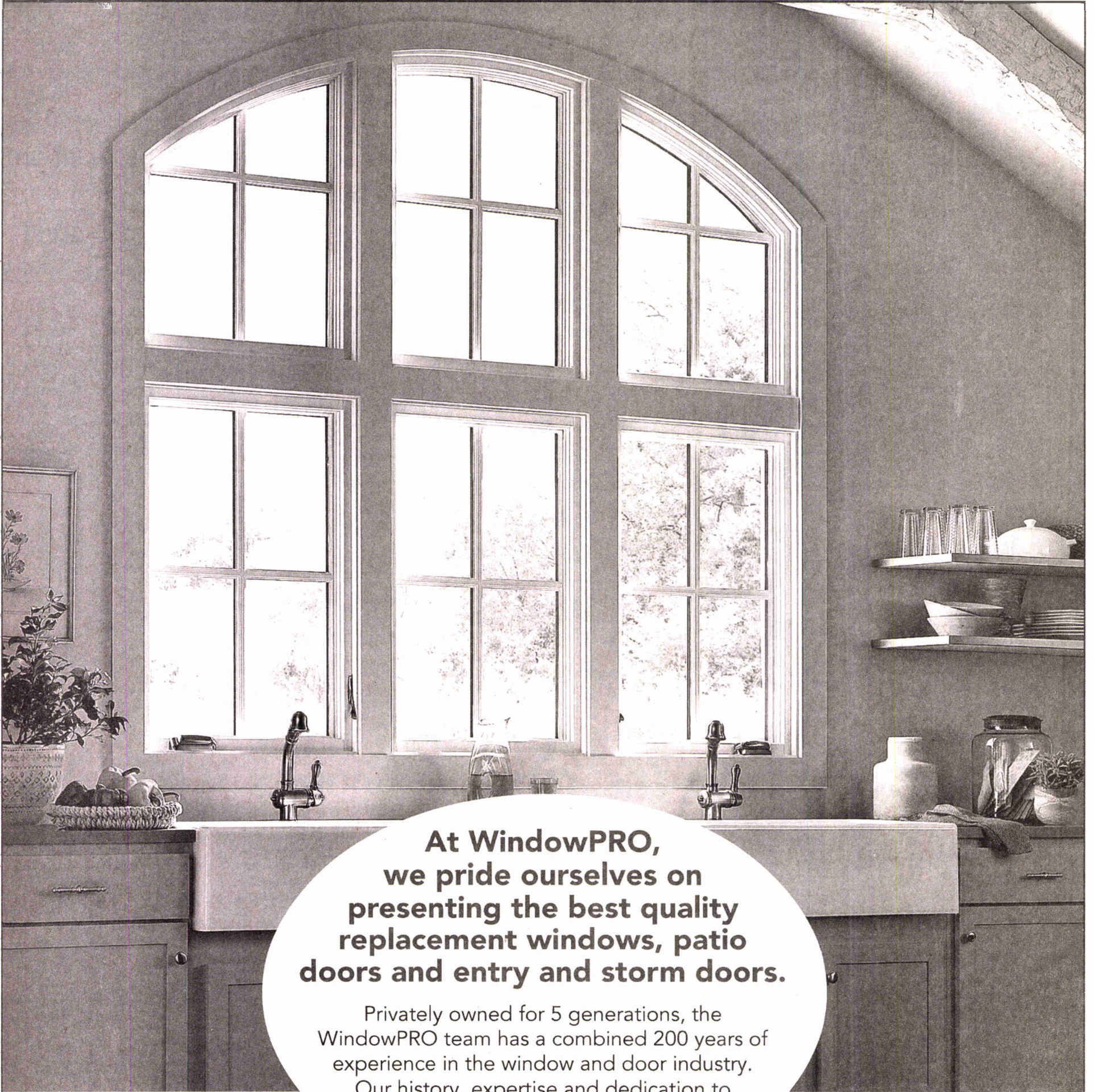
### Benefit Estate Sale

Hall & Hunter Realtors will hold its 13th annual Estate Sale of Antiques, Collectibles and Treasures to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. It will be held Saturday, Sept. 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hall & Hunter Realtors, 442 S. Old Woodward Ave. in Birmingham. All year long, Hall & Hunter Realtors collect antiques, gently used furniture and collectibles. Since Hall & Hunter started this tradition 11 years ago, the firm has donated \$250,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. Sponsored by: Changing Places Moving Company, Devon Title Agency, Stefek's Auctioneers & Appraisers, Bank of Birmingham. For more information, visit [HollandHunter.com](http://HollandHunter.com) or call 248-644-3500.

### Free foreclosure tours

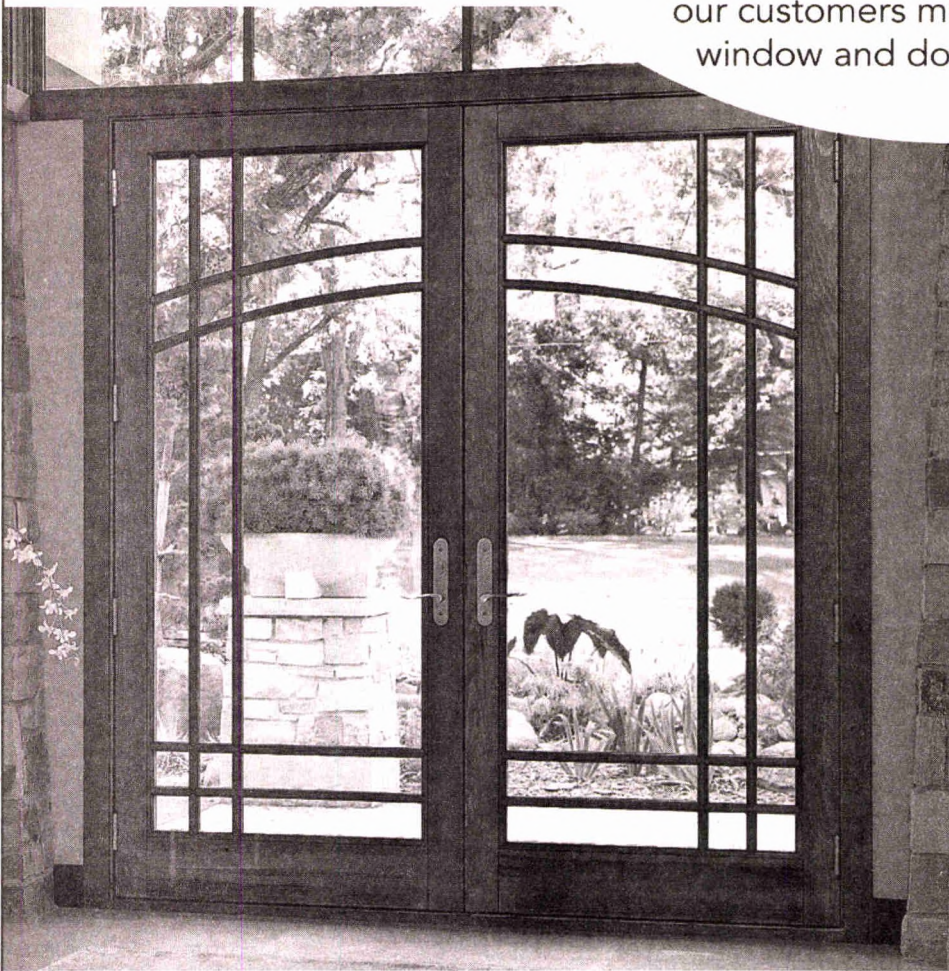
Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. For more information, email [Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com).





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RELIGION CALENDAR

Email event information for this calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

**AUGUST CONCERT**

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Aug. 18-19 and 25-26

**Location:** Trinity Episcopal Church, 26880 La Muera, Farmington Hills

**Details:** Trinity and Friends choir presents "Let's Go To The Movies." Tickets are \$12

**Contact:** trinityinthetwoods.org

**GRIEFSHARE**

**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21-Nov. 6

**Location:** New Life Church, 33111 Ford Road, Garden City

**Details:** Grief support group provides help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. Cost is \$20 and includes workbook.

**Contact:** 248-766-5977

**RUMMAGE SALE**

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20

**Location:** Sacred Heart Church, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia

**Details:** Bicycles, furniture, antiques, lamps and light fixtures, tools and hardware, kids games and toys, sporting goods, home decor, kitchenware, books, music, movies and more. All proceeds will go toward church utility bills

**Contact:** Sacred Heart church office, 734-522-3166

**T-SHIRT COLLECTION**

**Time/Date:** Aug. 15-Sept. 15

**Location:** Merrim Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia

**Details:** The church is collecting T-shirts in bright colors for adults and youngsters in Zimbabwe. Helping Hands, Touching Hearts, a Farmington Hills-based charity, will send the donations to Africa next month. A donation box is accessible 24/7 and is stationed at the church's front door

**Contact:** kenwoodchurch.org

**WORSHIP IN THE PARK**

**Time/Date:** 11 a.m. Sunday, through Aug. 21

**Location:** Cherry Hill Village Schoolhouse grounds, located at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads, Canton

**Details:** St. Michael Lutheran Church holds outdoor services with childcare provided

**Contact:** 734-459-3333, connectingwithGod.org

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY GALA**

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24

**Location:** St. Nicholas Event Center, 760 Wattles, Troy

**Details:** Gala celebrates Bloomfield Hills-based Manresa Jesuit Retreat House's 90th anniversary. The Rev. Leo Cachat will celebrate Mass. Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, silent auction and dancing will follow. Marie Osborne of WJR 760 AM radio will emcee. Tickets are \$100 and \$20

**Contact:** 248-644-4933; manresa.sj.org

**GRIEFSHARE**

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Monday, beginning Sept. 19

**Location:** Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Grief support group will meet for 13 sessions. Each week participants will watch a video seminar featuring experts on grief and recovery subjects, and will spend time in discussion. Workbooks will be available for personal study of the grieving process. Register at christoursavior.org

**Contact:** Linda Hollman at 734-522-6830 or Mike McGrath at 248-505-8894

**ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY**

**Congregation Beth Ahm**

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

**Details:** "Drop In & Learn," which runs year-round, features lectures on DVD on Jewish history, culture, philosophy, and related topics, followed by brief informal discussion. No charge, no reservations required

**Contact:** Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancyellen879@att.net

**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

**ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday

**Location:** 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford Township

**Details:** An informal and ongoing study of the Orthodox faith and life. RSVP to Subdeacon Joshua Genig at joshua.genig@gmail.com or 630-936-6386

**Contact:** facebook.com/stinno-centredford

**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@tbsosm.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

**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, 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, 1/4 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

**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

» **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

**THRIFT STORE**

**St. James Presbyterian**

**Location:** 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

**Contact:** 313-534-7730 for additional information

**Way of Life Christian Church**

**Time/Date:** 2-3:30 p.m. third Saturday from October through May

**Location:** 9401 General Drive, Lilley Executive Plaza, Suite 100, Plymouth

**Details:** Women's fellowship is designed for women with a question to know God more in their lives.

**Contact:** 734-637-7618

**TOUR**

**Time/Date:** 10:30 a.m. to noon first Sunday of the month

**Location:** The Solanus Casey Center, a Capuchin ministry, at 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

**Details:** Led by Capuchin friar Larry Webber, the director of the Solanus Casey Center, the tour focuses on the spirituality and holiness of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. No reservations are needed, although the center requests an advance phone call for groups of five or more. No cost for the tour, although donations are accepted.

**Contact:** 313-579-2100, Ext. 149; www.solanuscenter.org

**WORSHIP**

» **Adat Shalom Synagogue**

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Sunday; and 6 p.m. weekdays

**Location:** 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

**Contact:** 248-851-5100

» **Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services; 9:45 a.m. Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes

**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia

**Contact:** 734-522-6830

» **Congregation Bet Chaverim**

**Time/Date:** Services are held 7 p.m. the third Friday of the month

**Location:** At the shared facilities of Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge, Canton

**Details:** Reformed Jewish Peter Congregation with Rabbi Peter Gluck and Cantorial soloist Robin Liberatore

**Contact:** www.Facebook.com/betchaverim or email to betchaverim@yahoo.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.**

**BOBBITT**



**ARLENE A.** A long time resident of Canton, passed from this life on August 9, 2016, at the age of 80. Arlene was the beloved wife (61 years), of the late Richard P. Bobbitt; and loving sister of Ray (the late Sylvia) Johnson, Ron (Annette) Johnson, and the late Douglas S. Johnson. She was a wonderful person, whom everyone cherished knowing her. She missed Richard so dearly after his passing. It brings much happiness to her family and friends, just knowing that they are back together, once again, in God's hands.

**KING**



**BONNIE JANE (NEE BRINES)** Age 69, of Plymouth; passed away peacefully on August 14, 2016. Bonnie was born in Midland, Michigan on October 21, 1946 into a "Brady Bunch" family. Bonnie and her two



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1G6ET1291XU619980  
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1995 MERCURY  
1MELEMS389S0653643  
2007 MERCURY  
3MEHM08137R617924  
2001 INFINITI  
JNKCA31A51T005566  
2000 FORD 1F4MZU63E3Y2883452  
2001 PONTIAC  
1G2NF52T91M513058  
2000 MITSUBISHI  
4A3AA4661YE164625  
1999 PONTIAC  
1G2NE52T6XM720423  
2000 CADILLAC  
1GYEK13R3YR162061  
2002 PONTIAC  
3G7DA03E325577928  
2000 GMC 1SKD113WY2334369  
2013 FORD 1FADP3K22DL375265  
2007 FORD 1FAHP37N97W345235  
2006 CHEVY 1G1AL55F267832714  
1999 NISSAN 4N2XN11TXXD801615  
2006 SATURN 1G8A155F D6Z100545  
1990 MAZDA JM1NA3512L012777  
2000 CHEVY 1GNDT13W4Y2368557  
1994 SATURN 1G8ZF1596R2316475  
1999 DODGE 1B3EJ46X9XN665363

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**Great Buys**  
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**Estate Sales**  
Canton, Moving Sale, 226 Cherry Hill Pte Dr, Michigan, 48187 Wed: 9-5, Thur: 9-5, Fri: 9-5, Furniture, misc items, Dir: Cherry Hill Condos North of Cherry Hill Rd East of Latz Rd

Farmington Hills - 25869 Rutledge Crossing Sale, Aug 20th Sat 9-4p Living room furniture, sofa and occasional chairs, Dining room set, kitchen table and chairs, curio cabinets, Framed art, Flat screen TV, osain rugs, desks, Christmas decor and womens clothing. More info visit: [www.suchafindestateliquidation.com](http://www.suchafindestateliquidation.com)

Northville Estate Furniture Sale! Sat. 8/20 only 12pm-6pm No early birds! Mostly large items. 38786 Cheshire

Plymouth - 49131 Harvest Sale Aug 20th Sat 9-4p Oak Dining room Set, Asian Art and Figurines, Framed art Queen Bed Frame, Yamaha Upright Piano excellent condition, water lily room divider, sectional sofa, two white sofas, side tables and dressers, dressers, mirrors and lamps. More info visit: [www.suchafindestateliquidation.com](http://www.suchafindestateliquidation.com)

**Events & Fairs**  
MOM-2-MOM SALE Taylor Town Trade Center 22525 Ecorse Rd 10-3p Sat Aug 20th Christine 313-779-8241 [Christinesscrapbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:Christinesscrapbooks@yahoo.com)

**Garage-Tag Sale**

**YARD SALE**  
Dearborn Heights, Hugh Yard Sale for Dog Rescue, 4433 Cornell, Michigan, 48125, Aug 18-20, Thur-Sat 9-5. Everything you can imagine. Great Stuff!!! Great Cause!!! Dir: Two blocks east of Telegraph on Annapolis. Left at Cornell

Livonia-Moving Sale- 28772 Milton CT Fri & Sat Aug 19 & 20th, 9-5p Coke Co-la items, beer signs, household goods.

Livonia Super Sale-32723 Ohio Street Aug 18-20th, 9-4-30pm. Dining table, hutch, microwave, storage cases, luggage, glassware, Elvis memor, books, VHS, DVD, CD, paintings, toys, more.

Milford - Garage & Antiques Sale 615 S Main St. Fri-Sat. Aug 19-20th Primitives, kitchenware NO toys/clothes.

Milford Yard Sale, 568 Milford Meadows Dr TH/F Aug 18-19 9-4, Appliances, antiques, dolls, golf, military, house items. South Hill to Milford Meadows

New Hudson-60514 Town Square, Aug 18-20th, Thur/Fri, 9-5pm, Sat: 9-2pm, K-4 Teaching Materials & Household.

**Garage-Tag Sale**  
Northville -1 day Moving Sale - Sun Aug 21st Only 12-6pm 39561 Dun Rovin DR. w of Haggerty S of 6 mi.

Northville, Multi-family, Thur-Sat 9-4, 46055 Bloomcrest Dr. Crib, toys, bounce house, kid/adult clothes, fabric, lace, housewares, bedding, dvd/vcr, books, collectibles, holiday, skates

OAK PARK - Garage Sale, 14021 Balfour, Thur: 10-6 pm., Fri: 10-6 pm. Hi & Lo, Fun & Funky, Old & New, American Girl, Bikes, Dir: Near 10 Mile and Coolidge

Parish Wide Rummage Sale Sacred Heart Byzantine Church, 29125 W. 6 Mile Road, Fri. Aug 19th, 9-5pm, Sat. Aug 20th, 9-4pm. Huge Assortment of Items!!!!

Redford, Yard, 9546 Grayfield, Michigan, 48239 Sun: 8/21 9a-3p, Women's clothing (L-XL, falls), shoes (9-11), wallets/purses, jewelry, travel, electronics, household, Dir: North of Chicago, East of Telegraph, 1/3 mile east of World Outreach Church.

S. Lyon Wed. 8/17-Sat. 8/20 9am-3pm Household, clothing (M, W & Jr.), & MORE! 91376 Creekside Dr.

**2 DAYS ONLY**  
South Lyon, 25886 Coach Lane, Michigan, 48178 Fri. Aug 19th 10-6, Sat: Aug 20th 10-6. Furniture, electronics, exercise equipment, clothing, toys, books, dvd's, household, & misc.

South Lyon Thurs. 8/18 & Fri. 8/19 9am-5pm HUGE selection of jewelry, purses & scarves. Jewelry & scarves \$1-\$6. 24280 Douglas Dr.

Westland Estate Sale- 35507 Canyon everything must be sold inside and out Aug 18,19,20 10am to 5pm

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**Beaumont HEALTH SYSTEM**  
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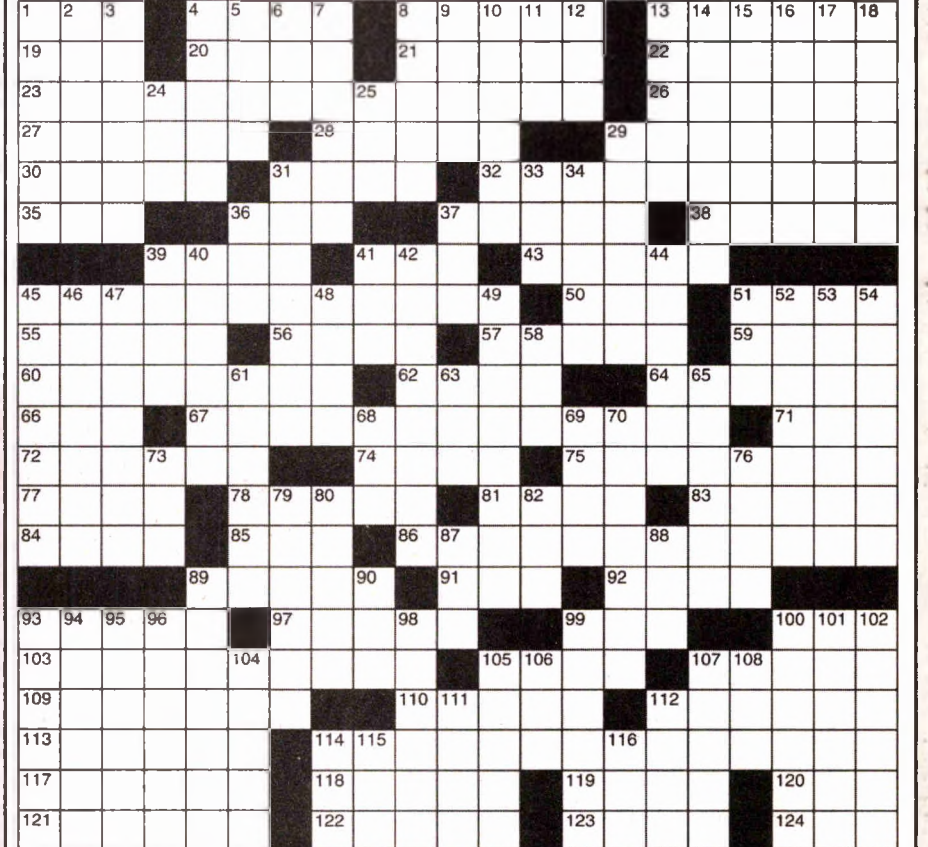
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Offer expires 8/31/2016 \*\*Some restrictions apply EHO

**THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

- ACROSS**  
1 Last letter, to Brits  
4 Peeve  
8 Family car  
13 Scenic views, as of sea or land  
19 Schooner fill  
20 State boldly  
21 Put forth, as energy  
22 Nook  
23 All-points bulletin, e.g.  
26 Little laugh  
27 Bits  
28 Pulitzer Prize category  
29 "Great" title film role for Robert Duvall  
30 Politico Kelaauer  
31 Pellets of precipitation  
32 Raising false alarms  
35 Low grade  
36 Barnyard feed  
37 CEO's "C"  
38 Broadway honors  
39 Candid  
41 Mer liquid  
43 San — (California county or city)  
45 Distinctive barnyard sound  
50 Stephen of "Angie"  
51 Cat's gripper  
55 28-Across set to music  
56 Actress Maryam or Olivia  
57 Makes whole  
59 Facts and figures  
60 Snail as food  
62 — Bator, Mongolia  
64 Dangler on a grad's cap  
66 201, to Ovid  
67 Storm flash  
71 Antique  
72 Soapuds  
74 Brain flash  
75 "The Creation" by Haydn, e.g.  
77 Spots in la Seine  
78 Boogie, e.g.  
81 Warty animal  
83 Rear — (car crash)  
84 Irksome sort  
85 Adam's madam  
86 Decorative cloth laid atop a bureau  
89 Wide-ranging  
91 Lyrical verse  
92 Per-unit cost  
93 Big foil maker  
97 See  
89-Down  
99 Sneaking  
100 Needlefish  
103 A team often punts on it  
105 Really slow  
107 Berry of "X-Men" films  
109 Emu and ostrich  
110 Hopping mad  
112 Indemnified  
113 Sneaker part  
114 Richard Belzer's "Homicide: Life on the Street" role  
117 Lined the roof of  
118 15% taker  
119 1492 ship  
120 AFL partner  
121 Actor James of "Gunsmoke"  
122 Sapheads  
123 Not hidden  
124 What the ends of 23-, 32-, 45-, 67-, 86-, 103- and 114-Across are  
synonyms of  
DOWN  
1 Gave an electric jolt  
2 "The River" actress  
3 Backspace over, say  
4 Spiked clubs  
5 Currier's art partner  
6 Grazed, e.g.  
7 TGIF's "F"  
8 Neighbor of a pelal  
9 Quiz's cousin  
10 Cut off, e.g.  
11 Bow shape  
12 Indefinitely large  
13 The enemy below?  
14 Hold firmly  
15 Second play section  
16 Magical drink  
17 Fair way to divvy things  
18 Small letter flourishes  
24 Drink cubes  
25 Lanka lead-in  
29 Strained  
31 Shamefaced  
33 Top of a cup  
34 Pine (for)  
36 "You there!"  
37 — de-sac  
39 Gumbo soup  
40 Big name in eye care  
41 Die away  
42 Was plentiful  
44 Neighbor of Boyle Hts., California  
45 Bicycle pedal  
46 Affluent  
47 Lists orally  
48 Cussword  
49 Arose (from)  
51 They made vinyl passé  
52 Former Dodgers manager  
53 Artist's workplace  
54 Staller's Muppet sidekick  
58 Leeds loc.  
61 Building beam  
63 Big fish story  
68 Habitual idiosyncrasy  
69 Snake types  
70 Tidy  
73 33rd U.S. prez  
76 In time past  
79 Eschews  
80 "Groovy!"  
82 Sugar suffix  
87 Turn bad  
88 Sunshine bit  
89 With  
97-Across, has a huge fight  
90 — Jones  
93 Benin locale  
94 Auto shop courtesy  
95 Interrupts rudely  
96 Blue Jay rival  
98 As one  
99 Flying flocks  
100 Look quickly  
101 Keys of song  
102 Fiery  
104 Is mindful of  
105 Alliances  
106 Homer hitter  
107 Macho type  
108 "The Simpsons" storekeeper  
111 City with lots of slots  
112 Painter  
113 Magritte  
114 Pops  
115 Self-esteem  
116 "C'est la —!"



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

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**SUDOKU**

**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!

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

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

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ATTRACTION MOTTO  
BARRIER PARADE  
BUNGEE PITCHMAN  
CATCHER PROPS  
CHARACTER REPRISE  
CHAREE-VARIE RINGMASTER  
CIRCUS ROPE  
ENJOY SPECTACLE  
FLIGHT STADIUM  
FLOOR TRAINER  
GAG TRAMPOLINE  
GIRTH UNICYCLE  
HEMISPHERE USHER  
ILLUSTRONIST WIRE

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE**

**Crossword Answers**  
ZED MIFF SEDAN SCAPES  
ALE AVER EXERT ALCOVE  
PIECES DRAMA SANTI  
ESTES HALL CHRYSLER  
DEE HAYL GRIEF TONY  
OPEN EAU MATTEO  
TURKEY GOBBLE REA CLAW  
OPERA DABO MENDS DATA  
ESCARGOT ULAN TASSEL  
CICI LIGHTNINGBOLT OLD  
LATHER IDEA ORATORIO  
ILES DANCE TOAD ENDER  
PEST EVE DRESSER CARF  
BROAD ODE RATE  
ALCOA ITOUT SLY GAR  
FOURTHDOWN POKY HALLE  
RATITES IRATE REPAID  
INSOLE DETECTIVE MUNCH  
CEILED AGENT NINA CIO  
ARNESS DODOS SEEN EAT

**Word Search Answers**  
ACROBAT  
AERIAL  
ANIMAL  
ATTRACTION  
BARRIER  
BUNGEE  
CATCHER  
CHARACTER  
CHAREE-VARIE  
CIRCUS  
ENJOY  
FLIGHT  
FLOOR  
GAG  
GIRTH  
HEMISPHERE  
ILLUSTRONIST  
JUGGLE  
LADDER  
MENAGERIE  
MOTTO  
PARADE  
PITCHMAN  
PROPS  
REPRISE  
RINGMASTER  
ROPE  
SPECTACLE  
STADIUM  
TRAINER  
TRAMPOLINE  
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