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New Canton GOP club aims to strengthen voter base

Darrell Clem
 Staff Writer

Mobilizing to broaden Canton's GOP voter base, a grassroots group has formed amid plans to trumpet conservative issues and candidates as next year's local political season draws nearer.

The Canton Republican Club also intends to reach out to Canton's increasingly diverse population, realizing that

political pundits have said shifting demographics could potentially favor Democrats. "I don't want to divide people," Derek Moss, club co-chair, said. "I want to be inclusive."

Moss said he brings to the group his former experience as ethnic vice chair of the Michigan Republican Party. Moss, who is African American, said he believes the Canton group can show residents

that the GOP's conservative ideals, including "appropriate-size government," offer the most fiscally responsible path forward.

The club is organizing during a quiet election year in Canton, where no candidates are on the ballot this year for local or state races.

Republican Township Trustee Pat Williams, among oth-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Geoff Boltach, left, chairs the new Canton Republican Club and Derek Moss co-chairs it.

See GOP, Page A2

Halloween fixins'

Celebrate with scary stories, scarecrows and skeletons

Casey Hans
 Correspondent

Halloween is big.

According to the recently released September Halloween Spending Survey by the National Retail Federation, 157 million Americans plan to celebrate Halloween this year, spending a total of \$6.9 billion.

That's a lot of skeletons, pumpkins and other characters, which highlight fall festivities in Northville, Plymouth and Canton. Each community does its part to ring in fall with a variety of family-oriented activities.

Pumpkin Palooza

In Plymouth, two big events are taking place to celebrate fall. The fifth annual "Pumpkin Palooza," co-sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce and its retail committee, is set for noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18, throughout the downtown.

Downtown Development Director Tony Bruscato said the event is lots of fun for residents and visitors alike. "Not only do the kids get dressed up, but the parents do, too," he said. "They also bring their dogs. It's kind of fun to see families embrace this event."

Not only are they welcome, but pets compete in a costume contest as part of the Pumpkin Palooza, which features plenty of family fun including games and prizes and family entertainment. Visit the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce website (plymouth-mich.org/events/Pumpkin-Palooza_ET359.html) for more



JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

See SCARY, Page A6 Mike McDonald of Northville's Begonia Brothers and his creation, a bride and groom in a loving embrace.

Boy injured; help sought locating hit-run vehicle

Plymouth Township police are seeking the public's help in locating an unidentified vehicle that struck a 10-year-old child last Saturday night.

At about 8 p.m., Oct. 3, the boy was struck by a vehicle as he attempted to cross Ann Arbor Road at Sheldon. The

vehicle continued westbound on Ann Arbor Road.

The boy and a friend were running north across Ann Arbor Road when he was struck by the westbound vehicle. The intersection is controlled by a traffic signal and witnesses told police that the

signal light was green for the thoroughfare.

It was raining at the time of the crash and the boys were wearing dark clothing and it's possible the driver is unaware of what was struck, police said.

The boy was transported to

Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor with head injuries.

Those in the area of Ann Arbor Road and Sheldon Saturday evening at the time of the crash and who may be able to provide any information are asked to call 734-354-3232.



JULIE BROWN

Krisjan Krafchak, 32, is a 2002 Plymouth Canton High School graduate who has good memories of his teachers, including Gretchen Jones when he was at Central Middle School.

See MEMORIES, Page A2



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Get tickets for Pucks for Pasadena

Plymouth Township, Plymouth, Canton Township and Wayne County are joining forces to help raise money — Pucks for Pasadena — to send the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band to Pasadena to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade in January.

Pucks for Pasadena is a game pitting the Red Wings Alumni Hockey against the USA Hockey's National Development Program — also known as Team USA — at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24, at the USA Hockey Arena, 14900 Beck, Plymouth Township.

Tickets are \$10 per person to attend.

Meanwhile, letters are going out asking businesses and community sponsors to sponsor the event. All proceeds from the evening will go to for the band's trip.

It's estimated that taking the 180-member-plus marching band, instruments and props to Pasadena carries a price tag of more than \$500,000. The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools does not pay for the band to attend the Rose Bowl, leaving parents and supporters to foot the bill.

The marching band has three times won the national championship title and last year were state champs. The band was last asked to participate in the Rose Bowl Parade in 1973. To purchase tickets, go to PCMB.net. For more information, contact Chris Zygmunt at chriszygmunt@wow-way.com.

For sponsorships, contact Committee Chair Jim Harb at 734-502-0645 or jharb@gsfmail.com.

GOP

Continued from Page A1

ers, has said the demographics in Canton have been changing, pointing out the need for Republicans to reach out to broaden their local voter base.

The Canton Republican Club hopes to achieve that by organizing now for next year's election season, in which the Canton Democratic Club already has indicated it hopes to run a slate of candidates for the township board and the Plymouth-Canton school board, among other offices.

Geoff Boltach, who chairs the new Republican group, said an effort will be made to help GOP hopefuls win local offices while also supporting candidates for state and federal offices. He said the GOP club, as a whole, is likely to endorse candidates only after the primary has passed.

However, Boltach said

Since forming, Boltach and Moss say the group had an informational booth at the Canton Liberty Fest and has held meetings to discuss issues.

individual members of the Canton Republican Club may choose — on their own — to become involved in primary campaigns.

Boltach said the group is considering hosting candidate forums next year for both the primary and general elections, a move to help voters get to know Republican candidates. The Canton Democratic Club also has hosted its own forums.

Michael Hansel, the Canton Republican Club's vice president of membership, said Canton had a GOP club that had become dormant until the new group formally orga-

nized in March. The group has begun with about 15 active members but already has expanded its email list to about 200.

Since forming, Boltach and Moss say the group had an informational booth at the Canton Liberty Fest and has held meetings to discuss issues such as drugs making their way into drinking water and the need to observe Juneteenth, which sets aside a day in June to celebrate the end of slavery in the United States.

Moss said Juneteenth has been more common in southern states, but, he said, "it's a holiday everyone should celebrate." As next year's election season arrives, Hansel called it important for local Republicans to become involved both in political races and ballot issues.

"In my opinion," he said, "they go hand in hand."

The Canton Democratic Club, led by township trustee and club president Steven Sneideman, has long portrayed

itself as an inclusive organization that has the best interests of all residents in mind. It did not go unnoticed by Republicans that Sneideman placed first in votes in 2012 among the four part-time trustee victors.

Boltach said the GOP group has a multi-pronged approach as it moves to broaden its reach and influence.

"We're still building our identity," he said.

Boltach said the goals include helping groups ranging from veterans to public service organizations. The group is using social media, organizing local meetings and trying to grow.

The group can be found www.facebook.com/CantonRepublicans or at www.cantonmiRepublicans.com. It also has an email address, cantonmirepublicans@gmail.com.

dclm@hometownlife.com
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MEMORIES

Continued from Page A1

Mallory, who also helped him. Krafchak recently went to the open house for the new Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex, the new use of Central, and remembered the pencil sharpener in Room 312.

"There it was, still on the wall," said Don Soenen, president of PARC. "It was very emotional for him."

Soenen told Krafchak, "The price for the pencil sharpener is for you to tell me the story."

Krafchak said, "I didn't even think it would still be there after 17 years." The writing he did helped: "It's really where I found an outlet how to express emotions. It was a good outlet not to have all this bottled up." Jones is now teaching



KRISJAN KRAFCHAK
This pencil sharpener from the former Central Middle School is now a proud possession of former student Krisjan Krafchak.

SUBMITTED
Krisjan Krafchak as a student at Central Middle School with teacher Gretchen Jones. She now teaches at Discovery Middle School.

at Discovery Middle School. Krafchak remembered a lesson at Central on multiplying 44 by 2 that he couldn't get.

The Central students stood up and "danced out" the multiplication problem. "For me, I got that," he said. "I understand this now."

Of Mallory, he remembers, "she was able to get past all those walls I put up." Of Jones, he added, "Without Mrs. Jones, I don't know I would have done as well as I did. Mrs. Jones was one of those great teachers."

She would tell Krafchak, "If you feel like you can't say it, write it down." That helped him as he went on to Plymouth Canton High School, from which he graduated in 2002. He last saw Jones around 2000.

In early high school, Mallory moved to North Carolina. She later married, had a family and lost touch with Krafchak. A high school speech teacher, Jonelle Stec, helped Krafchak a lot.

"At that point, 10th grade, I had some really good teachers. She (Stec) made sure I had someone to talk to. Without her, I

don't know where I would have been."

School security officers and others also helped. Krafchak, who's still in touch with Stec on LinkedIn, helped by testing his artistic leanings. He took photography throughout high school.

His photo career has included work at the Detroit Zoo, covering events like the Halloween "Zoo Boo." He's also photographed University of Michigan football fans who could then buy those photos online.

That was followed by portrait studio work. Krafchak would research history, such as poses of Gen. Patton, for his work with young servicemen whose families wanted photos.

"I loved that creativity of being able to do something out of the norm," he said. He now does mainly portraits outdoors, along with some nature and landscape photography.

"I'm not a big city person," he said of his Commerce address. He's in Plymouth a lot for photography, noting he enjoys shooting in urban areas.

"I like Plymouth.

There's so much history there. It's nice that they saved it," he added of the former Central Middle School.

As for his school-days pencil sharpener? "It's already on the wall," Krafchak said.

Teacher Gretchen Jones said of Krafchak, "He's such a neat kid. He is just such a kind person. You couldn't ask for a nicer person. He had great parents who worked with him. I wish him all the best."

"He was always very positive," Jones added. "He kept working through his disability, didn't give up." She agreed some students struggle, especially at middle school age. She tells parents, "Oh, no, this is when we're going to march forward. The payoffs are great."

She didn't recall the pencil sharpener specifically, and joked about her age. Jones will immediately contact colleague Beth Savalox on this happening, and also Krafchak through Savalox.

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Believe in better

New tests may help solve mystery of skeleton found wrapped in carpet in '97 in Plymouth Twp.

Daniel Bethencourt
Michigan.com

Police in Plymouth Township have called the case their "mystery bones."

They are still wondering what happened to a man who was killed, wrapped in a carpet and dumped in a wooded area near railroad tracks.

It's the township's only unsolved homicide, nearly two decades later — and police still don't know whose bones they were.

"We're hoping somebody will remember something," said Detective Charlie Rozum, with the township's police department. "We're at a standstill."

The bones were discovered May 10, 1997. A man was surveying a wooded portion of Plymouth Township because he was thinking about buying some property nearby.

He was walking near Haggerty Road, between Schoolcraft and Plymouth roads, just north of the railroad tracks. That's when he spotted a mouse, or maybe a mole. He told police he decided, on a whim, to play with it, but the animal scurried inside a rolled-up carpet.

The man pulled back the brown carpet's corner and found a human skeleton still dressed in a blue and white striped shirt, blue shorts, and knee-high socks that read "USA 80" — memorabilia from the 1980 Olympics.

The carpet had been lying there for up to a decade. So long, in fact, that grass and weeds had grown through the rolled-up carpet, according to police records.

Medical examiners determined that the man had been killed by blunt force trauma to the head. A portion of his skull was bashed in.

The case is fairly unusual for Plymouth Township. Rozum, one of the department's two detectives, can recall only one homicide in seven years.

"Here we have a guy that could have been laying in the field for five or 10 years before he was found, and nobody knows who he is," said Rozum. "We don't even have any place to start."

For years, this was most of what was known about the victim, according to police records: He was probably white and stood between 5 feet 6 inches and 5 feet 9 inches. He was between 35 and 50 years old and had a build suggesting heavy labor or athletics.

He was also in fairly poor medical condition. He had a nonstandard surgical pin in his right upper arm, which could indicate a military field hospital, according to police records. His right hand and wrist had been fractured several times.

He also appears to have suffered from Osgood-Schlatter disease, which causes knee pain. He appears to have worn dentures.

And he wore a gold ring, which a jeweler later told Rozum was fake.

For years, the case appeared stalled. DNA tests and attempts to recheck evidence have so far yielded no significant updates.

But in late August of this year, Crime Stoppers put out a notice requesting clues. They got multiple tips about a homicide in West Bloomfield that took place in 1991, six years before the mystery bones were found. The case resulted in two convictions, but never led to the discovery of the body, said Curt Lawson, deputy chief of the West Bloomfield Police Department.

The victim in that case was Gustav Prilepok, 56, who worked the night shift as a welder at a GM plant about a mile from where the bones were found. A coworker at that

plant later told police that Prilepok served in the military at some point before working there.

Prilepok was killed by members of his family. His stepson, Jan Borek, and Prilepok's wife, Janea Prilepok, 47, later told police that Gustav

was controlling and would limit the amount of money that each could have per week. He also wanted the stepson out of the house, said Detective Sgt. David St. Germaine, also with West Bloomfield Police.

A day or two before

Feb. 1, 1991, when the family reported Prilepok missing, he had gotten into a heated argument with his stepson in the driveway of their home on Fieldview in West Bloomfield.

Then there was another altercation inside the

home, Lawson said. This one turned physical: Prilepok drew a small knife and told Borek, 22, that he had to leave. Borek grabbed a fire poker and bashed his stepfather on the head, then took the knife from him and slashed him in the neck,

Lawson said.

Borek would later tell police that he acted in self-defense. But Borek, along with his mother, then wrapped the body up in linoleum, or maybe carpet — Janea Prilepok

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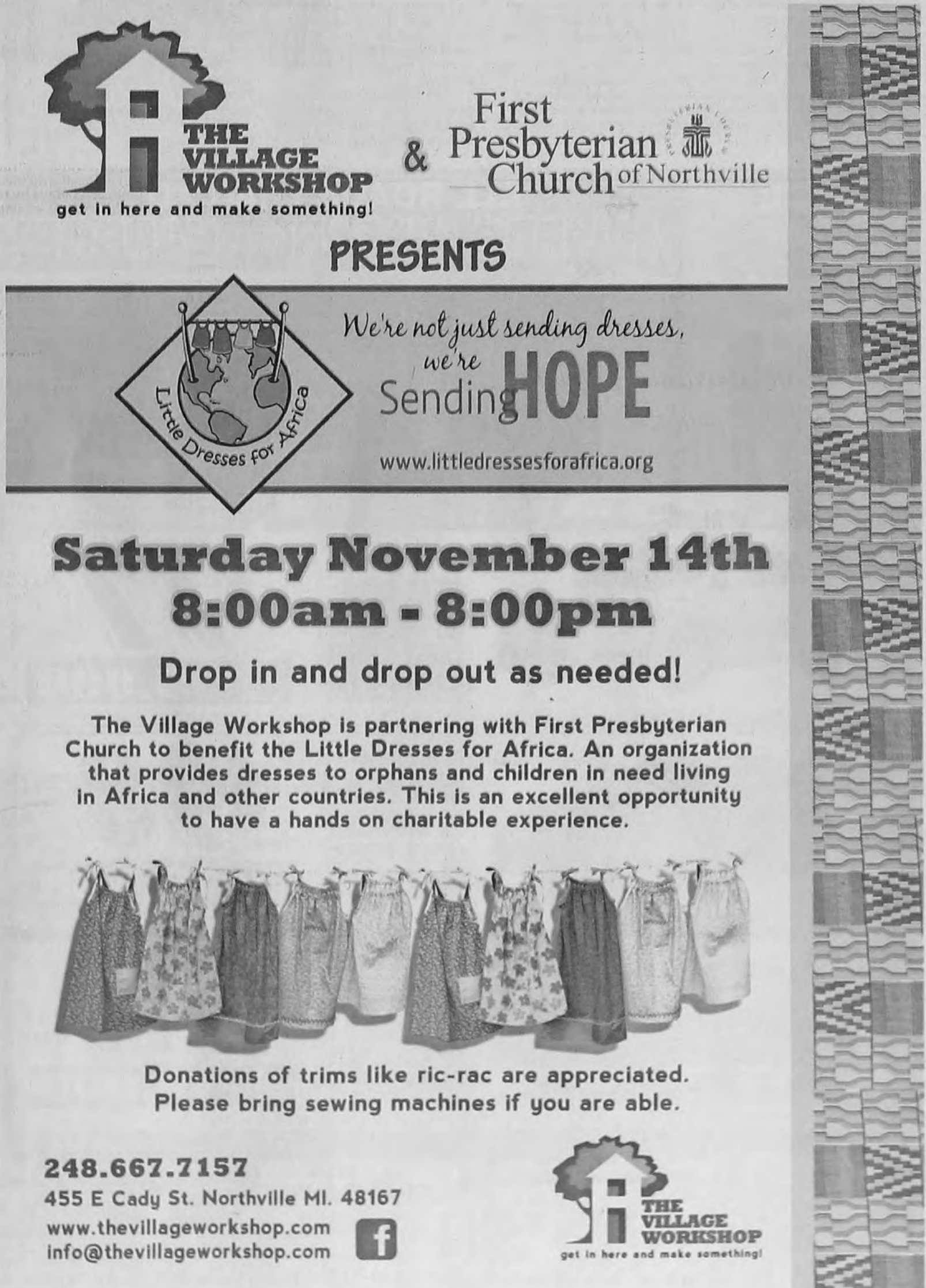


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BRIEFS

A 26-year-old Canton woman called 9-1-1 even though police were standing right in front of her as a neighborhood dispute unfolded Sunday night at Stoneybrooke Apartments, near I-275 and Joy.

The suspect was issued a citation for misuse of a 9-1-1 phone line.

It all started when police went to an apartment about 10:30 p.m. Sunday after an upstairs neighbor called to report that a female suspect and her friends were making loud noises. Police arrived and found a group of women talk-

ing loudly and watching TV with the apartment door open.

Police left after warning the women to quiet down, but officers had to return a short time later amid accusations the noise continued. Moreover, the female resident told police she wanted to file a cross-complaint against her upstairs neighbor for being loud.

The woman proceeded to call 9-1-1 to file the complaint even though police reminded her that they were already there. The woman also refused to give her full name.

Obstructing police

A 20-year-old man, involved in a dispute with police outside the Super 8 motel on Michigan Avenue near Lotz, was ticketed for obstructing police, littering, possession of drug paraphernalia and being a minor in possession of alcohol.

The incident unfolded about 12:15 a.m. Monday when police, patrolling the area, saw the suspect and a 19-year-old woman acting suspiciously. Police saw the underage man try to conceal two 24-ounce bottles of Mike's Hard Lemonade.

Police told the man to sit on a bench as they conducted an investigation, but he smashed the two bottles on a sidewalk and ran from the scene, only to return later from behind some shrubs. Police found a glass pipe with marijuana remnants in his hiding place.

Police ticketed the man for several misdemeanors and gave him a court date.

Disorderly man

Police went to 4 Friends Bar & Grill on Warren east of Sheldon following reports a 44-year-old Canton man was

drunk and had gotten into a fight.

Police went to the bar about 12:45 a.m. Saturday.

One man claimed the suspect had shoved him, so he pushed back and caused the suspect to fall and hit his head, a police report said. Police found the suspect outside the bar, unsteady on his feet and slurring his words. As police began to arrest him, he began yelling that he wanted to go to a hospital for a head injury. He later was taken to the police station.

By Darrell Clem

BONES

Continued from Page A3

told two different stories — and dumped it somewhere else.

When police later examined their home, there was a section of carpet that, in a photo, looked similar to the carpet that the mystery victim was found in, according to Rozum, the detective with Plymouth Township Police.

Prilepok's wife and stepson later confessed. His stepson was convicted of second-degree murder, and his wife was convicted of an accessory charge. Both served prison terms and were then deported, possibly back to Czechoslovakia, where they were both from, Lawson said.

But the whereabouts of Gustav Prilepok's body remained a mystery. No other family members are still in the country to be interviewed.

But even with all these similarities, the case was known to investigators and dismissed at the time as unlikely.

The biggest difference is in the teeth. The man found in the carpet had lost most of his teeth and appeared to wear dentures. But Prilepok was thought to still have teeth a year before he died. (Police interviewed his dentist.) And even if he had lost them in the span of just one year, when



Evidence photos from a Plymouth Township cold case of a body that was discovered in 1997. Body was found rolled up in a carpet. The human skeleton was still dressed in clothes.

the dentist had last seen him, the sockets would have needed more time to heal before the death, an expert concluded at the time.

The cases have another key difference: the man in the carpet had shorts that measured 30 inches at the waist, while pants thought to belong to Prilepok and taken from his

garbage measured 38 inches.

According to police records, these differences were enough to "effectively eliminate the possibility" that the mystery bones were those of Prilepok.

Still, within the last few months, police are trying to match blood samples from the Prilepok crime scene with

The carpet had been lying there for up to a decade. So long, in fact, that grass and weeds had grown through the rolled-up carpet, according to police records. Medical examiners determined that the man had been killed by blunt force trauma to the head. A portion of his skull was bashed in.

DNA from a bone in Plymouth Township. These tests would not have been possible at the time.

"We're going to use the capability we have now to try to determine who this person is," Lawson said.

The results will likely take weeks, maybe a couple months. If a connection can't be established, it's not clear what's next.

"We're kind of hoping that it matches," Rozum said.

Daniel Bethencourt is a reporter with the Detroit Free Press; contact him at dbethencourt@freepress.com or 313-223-4531. Follow on Twitter @dbethencourt.

Canton Public Safety seeks community input

The Canton Public Safety Department would like to hear how it is doing.

The department in October and November is offering citizens an opportunity to rate the department's police, fire and emergency medical services.

The online survey can be accessed from the home page of the department's website at www.cantonpublicsafety.org.

Included in the short survey is the chance for residents to rate which area of concern they feel is most important for the police department to focus its resources — either criminal activity, traffic enforcement or crime prevention.

Survey results will be reviewed by public safety officials to identify any potential issues or areas of concern. Officials will also review and take into consideration the community's ranking of areas of concern, utilizing police resources to fit with the needs of the community, when possible.

Results of the survey will be available to the public in early 2016 via the department's website, Canton FOCUS newsletter and various local and social media outlets.

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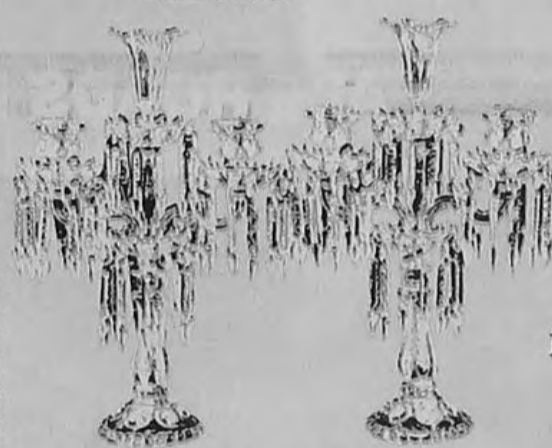
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Each building, neighborhood has a history

Someone recently told me that just because a building is old does not make it historic. I suppose that kind of logic can be applied to an entire neighborhood. I thought about this for awhile, and came to the conclusion that if such was the position of a skilled debater, a case could be made.



Daniel Sabo

GUEST COLUMNIST



This is where two mills once stood.



SUBMITTED

This home shows a home on the north side of Plymouth Road, on the east edge of Old Village, was once the home of Village President Lewis Hillmer in 1893-94. Rent for the property at that time, which included 15 acres, was \$50 per year.

I have a different perspective. I believe every old neighborhood, every old building or structure in an old neighborhood has a history. I know this because when I was a young boy, taking strolls with my grandfather Karl or my Uncle Davis through town, they had a story for just about every house or building or site we passed.

Who lived there? What was his or her profession? An interesting character lived or worked here. Why was so and so important? A mill stood over there. Alter cars were made here. Cigars rolled there. Crops grew here. A railroad engineer lived there.

I do not believe that in order for a building or an entire neighborhood to be historic, that George Washington or Ulysses S. Grant had to have slept in it. However, Old Village has had a few presidents and a controversial national figure visit. Also charming, beautiful, fast disappearing architecture to admire — much with character that can

never be replaced. I believe what makes a neighborhood historic is the importance the area or structure had in terms of growth to the community, combined with the architecture or style of the homes and buildings, and of course, those small gems of collected stories to go with it all.

I have given many reasons in the past why I feel a historic area should be preserved. Although money should not be on the moral argument side, some folks may need further convincing. Historic districts, when preserved as a whole, generally tend to hold their value better over time, compared to new construction. Historic districts also tend to be better insulated than non-historic districts, from price fluctuations during economic downturns.

The question then becomes what to preserve and what to demolish or cobble up. And at

what point does too much tinkering make a historic neighborhood no longer historic?

From my perspective, when I walk down a street such as Penniman or Union, and see a home over a century old next to a brand new modern-style mini-mansion or modern structure sitting upon a lot upon which once sat a beautiful Victorian-style home, I think that harms the overall value historically, aesthetically, and I believe in the long term, monetarily harms the entire neighborhood.

I think the same, when I walk down a main drag anywhere in America, and see a residential home sitting next to a home that has been converted to a commercial, and the lot next to that is a parking lot, for which an old home gave way to provide.

At a recent Plymouth City Planning Commission meeting, someone suggested that even though new homes in back of

the former Starkweather School are modern style, no one will see them because they would be hidden by a large, old building, also proposed to become cobbled up for housing.

Someone suggested that the proposed homes and 50 new addresses would be fully integrated into the neighborhood. I do not see congruency between hiding a housing development from view of a historic neighborhood, and fully integrating it into said historic neighborhood.

For just a few of many examples (and speaking of character), consider what has already been lost. The home of Village President Davis B. Hillmer included taxidermy. I sometimes wonder if the deer were hunted locally. I suspect they were since I vividly remember Davis B. Hillmer telling me while on a walk in Old Village that as a boy he spotted foraging deer from Holbrook, near Plymouth

Road. Another example is a photo of the last traces of tail races of two waterpower mills — a carding mill and a saw mill. The sawmill was erected by Luther Lincoln in 1826 or '27 and the carding mill — now preserved in Greenfield Village — was erected later.

For other examples, you can do additional research. I suggest the Jan. 26, 2003, *The Detroit News* article by S. Esparza on page 3D. It is titled "Plymouth moves to protect its old-fashioned charm." The article talks about the city trying to prevent large housing projects. I sometimes wonder what happened to that initiative. Or a *Plymouth Mail* article dated Feb. 1, 1961, about the demolition of the old Roe home on Union Street. I am sure residents can think of many other present-day examples.

Daniel Sabo is the grandson of Karl Starkweather.

SCARY

Continued from Page A1

details or see their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PumpkinPaloozaNV>.

The other big fall event in Plymouth is the Kona Running Company's "Wicked Halloween Run" on Sunday, Oct. 25, when runners get into the spirit by wearing costumes and compete for Plymouth Chamber gift certificates. The Plymouth DDA will judge costumes from 7:15-8:45 a.m. for individuals, partners and groups of three or more runners.

Alan Whitehead is race director and owner of Kona Running Company, which has stores in Canton and West Bloomfield. He said they are expecting upward of 5,000 runners of all abilities at this year's event in Plymouth, the fourth annual race. "It's very festive," he said. "It's the only Halloween event we do. Downtown Plymouth is a great town. They want to have fun and stay in shape."

The 10K run starts at 7:30 a.m. followed by a Monster Mile run at 8 a.m. and the 5K at 9 a.m. Whitehead said Kona donates some of its race proceeds to Karmanos Cancer Institute, Mott Children's Hospital and the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department. Visit wickedhalloween-run.com/race-info.htm for information.

Events such as these help boost the community spirit in Plymouth, Bruscato said. "We're very fortunate to be a hot spot, not only in western Wayne County but we're known throughout the state as well," he said. "You put Kellogg Park in the mix, and there's really nothing like it."

To round out the season, Scarecrows in the Park are on display in Kellogg Park through October.

Trick or Treat Parade

Canton Township Leisure Services hosts its annual "Trick or Treat Parade" from 4-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30. Kids 10 and under can dress up and collect Halloween goodies throughout the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway.

Canton Recreation Specialist Jennifer Girard said the event has been around for more than 10 years, draws about 5,000 children each year and typically sells out. "We take over the entire (Summit) building," Girard said, adding that the event started as a small, one-room activity and just grew over the years. "It's a great alternative for families," she said.

The Summit is decked out for the Halloween holiday and young trick-or-treaters will follow a trail of themed-stations that will include family-friendly characters such as Captain America, the cast from *Inside Out*, characters



JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

This skeleton will be on display beginning Friday.



FILE PHOTO

The Trick or Treat event at the Canton Summit typically sells out.



JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

The Plymouth District Library is all about Star Wars Reads.



JOANNE MALISZEWSKI

Passers-by take in the scarecrows displayed in Kellogg Park.

from the *Wizard of Oz*, Anna and Elsa from *Frozen* and more. For older children who can handle a bit more fright, a spooky Haunted House will be available in the Summit gymnasium.

Tickets cost \$5 for Summit members, \$6 for other residents and \$10 for non-residents, though Canton families get first priority. Pre-sale tickets for the "Trick or Treat Parade" go on sale Oct. 1 at Summit on the Park. Early ticket purchasers can reserve time slots to go through the Summit, while others will receive general admission passes. No tickets will be available at the door. Visit cantonfun.org for more details.

For those who prefer a bit of storytelling fun, the Canton Historical Society hosts "An Evening of Ghost Stories" from 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Cady-Boyer Barn in Preservation Park, 500 N. Ridge Road. Children must be accompanied by adults.

Judge Ronald Lowe and Dr. Debra Christian are the story-

tellers and they will include a variety of scary tales sure to delight. The event is suitable for children ages 8 and older. According to information from Canton Township, both Lowe and Christian are master storytellers.

Lowe, known as The Spellbinder, has been telling scary stories his entire life, as his father, mother, aunts and many other family members were storytellers. Lowe has been a professional storyteller for more than 25 years. Christian, a Plymouth native, has performed at the National Storytelling Festival, WDET National Public Radio, Greenfield Village, the Michigan State Fair and the Detroit Institute of Arts and throughout the Midwest.

Tickets are \$4 per person and can be purchased at the Summit, the White Pole Barn at the Canton's Farmers Market on Sundays and at the door. Proceeds benefit the Canton Historical Society. For more information, visit cantonhistoricalsociety.org.

October in the 'Ville'

The handiwork of Mike McDonald of Begonia Brothers in Northville takes center stage at the "Skeletons are Alive" event from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, in the Town Square, with more than 100 hand-created skeletons featured around the downtown area.

"We get people from all around that drive a good hour to come and see the skeletons," said Tieler Holland, service manager for Begonia Brothers. She said McDonald creates the life-sized, themed skeletons, which are geared toward individual businesses and groups.

McDonald said the idea started about nine years ago when he put skeletons on bicycles at the Begonia Brothers entrance to show off their fall Haunted Garden Center. The city's Downtown Development Authority got local businesses involved and the idea took off. Now, the DDA coordinates the event and works with McDon-

ald who creates and decorates the bony friends, depending upon the type of business.

"People kind of fell in love them," McDonald said, adding that designing and making the skeletons gives him a creative outlet. "I love downtown Northville and they're very good to us. It seems to help everybody."

The "Skeletons are Alive" event kicks off "October in the 'Ville," the city's fifth annual fall spooktacular. This year there are not only skeletons, but spiders taking over the town square.

A ribbon-cutting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2, in Town Square, followed by a free concert featuring the Shawn Riley Band. For a full calendar of "October in the 'Ville" events, visit <https://goo.gl/9auQqc>. It includes a costume parade and street of treats on Oct. 24 and a fire station open house and costume contest on Halloween. The event is sponsored by the Northville Downtown Development Authority.

Griffin Funeral Home expands to Northville

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

David Griffin and his staff were really just doing a favor for a couple of grieving families when they traveled to those families' Northville homes to make funeral arrangements for a loved one.

Physical circumstances made it difficult for both families to make the arrangements the traditional way, and they asked Griffin, whose family owns the chain of L.J. Griffin Funeral Homes (including the Northrop-Sassaman Chapel in Northville) if he'd come to their house.

Griffin, of course, was happy to grant the unusual request and made the arrangements sitting in the families' kitchens.

That act of kindness spawned an idea the Griffins have now turned into a regular service that has already been used by two families.

"When we did those, we thought, 'We can do this,'" Griffin said. "And if we can do these, why can't we do it for everyone?"

So, they are. Upon request, Griffin staffers will travel to the home, armed with everything a family needs to make the arrangements. Families will know prices, be able to make selections on everything from caskets to prayer cards, arrange for flowers and choose a local cemetery.

Griffin knows it won't be a service that appeals to everyone, but he's happy to be offering it to families who want it or, more importantly, need it.

"If we can make (the experience) easier by going to the home, at the end of the day that's what we're supposed to do," said Griffin, whose family also operates funeral parlors in Westland, Canton and Livonia. "Our motto is 'Service ... a Family Tradition,' and this is just an extension of that."

It's the kind of service Griffin has been offering since the family purchased the funeral home from former owner, John Sassaman, in the spring of 2014. According to Griffin, Sassaman, who owned the funeral home for years, knew his health was poor and approached the Griffins to keep it alive.

David Griffin, who lives in Northville Township, had known Sassa-



David Griffin will host an open house at the Northrop-Sassaman Chapel of L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Oct. 14-16.



After the Griffin family bought the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home, they "took it down to the studs" to renovate it.

OPEN HOUSE

What: Open house, L.J. Griffin Funeral Home Northrop-Sassaman Chapel

Where: The chapel is located at 19091 Northville Road.

When: Oct. 14-16

Why: To mark the official grand opening of the chapel, purchased by the Griffin family last year from previous owner John Sassaman.

Details: For more information, call the chapel, 248-348-1233.

man for awhile and thought the funeral home would be a good addition to the family chain.

With his health failing, Griffin said, Sassaman hadn't been able to keep the parlor in peak condition. It needed work, and Sassaman asked Griffin to help.

"The funeral home was a little bit tired," Griffin acknowledged.

Seeing the work that was needed, the Griffins "took it down to the studs," David Griffin said. They rebuilt the large primary room, added the fireplace in the foyer, completely renovated the entire interior, and added state-of-the-art sound systems and televisions.

The latest addition: A new lounge on the upper level where families can bring food, drink and provide a waiting area for visitors.

"I saw the Northville community didn't have a place to honor their dead," Griffin said. "This funeral home fits the

community."

Griffin said the family tried to keep Sassaman, who was well-respected in town, in mind as they did the work.

Indeed, the first funeral in the renovated parlor was for Sassaman, who passed away in November.

"Jim was a huge part of the community," Griffin said. "As we took over, people would call every day asking, 'How's John?' There's not a week that goes by when somebody doesn't bring John's name up."

More than a year after buying the place and some 10 months after completing renovations, Griffin will hold a formal open house at the Sassaman-Northrop Chapel. Griffin said the delay was largely a testament to Sassaman.

"We wanted to make sure the place is done perfectly," Griffin said. "We just wish John was with us."

bkadrich@hometown-life.com



DFCU CEO Mark Shobe presents a check for \$12,500 to Stephanie Goeke of the Educational Excellence Foundation and Superintendent Michael Meissen.

New DFCU branch gives to P-CCS educational foundation

While cutting the ribbon for the new DFCU Credit Union's Plymouth branch last week, CEO Mark Shobe showed off the new facility and gave the Plymouth-Canton Educational Excellence Foundation a boost.

Shobe told the crowd gathered at the grand opening celebration that the credit union is committed to public education. With that, he presented Superintendent Michael Meissen and EEF Chairwoman Stephanie Goecke with a \$12,000 check.

The check will be used by EEF to continue enhancing the school district's programs, Goecke said.

The new Plymouth DFCU branch is at 855 Ann Arbor Road.



BILL BRÉSLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Mark Shobe, DFCU CEO, welcomes the crowd to the grand opening of the new branch at 855 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth.



BILL BRÉSLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
DFCU CEO Mark Shobe cuts the ceremonial ribbon, opening a new branch on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth.

ST. MARY MERCY
LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

LADIES' NIGHT OUT

Get the Inside Knowledge

What you need to know about gynecologic cancer

Thursday, October 15

St. Mary Mercy Livonia South Auditorium



Michael Hicks, MD

5:30 - 7 p.m. - Health Screenings and Massage

7 - 8:30 p.m. - Keynote Speaker Michael Hicks, MD

director, gynecologic oncology
St. Mary Mercy Livonia

All women are at risk for gynecologic cancers, and risk increases with age. Each gynecologic cancer is unique, with different signs, symptoms and risk factors. You can lower your risk for some of these cancers, and when gynecologic cancers are found early, treatment is more successful. Dr. Hicks will discuss the risk factors, symptoms and treatments of gynecologic cancer and answer questions about general women's health.

Prizes - Vendors - Massage
Light Refreshments

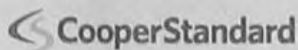
The event is free, but registration is required. Space is limited. Please call 734-655-1182 or visit stmarymercy.org and click on Classes & Events.

Women's Health
SERVICES

Cooper Standard honored as 'veteran-friendly'

Celebrating its support of military veterans, Novi-based Cooper Standard announced the company was recently named a Veteran-Friendly Employer by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, earning silver status for meeting and exceeding many key metrics for veteran programs, especially as it related to veteran hiring.

"The Veteran-Friendly Employer achievement is significant to Cooper Standard, as helping military veterans' transition back to civilian life is a key Company initiative," said Jeffrey Edwards, chairman and CEO, Cooper Standard. "We've taken a multifaceted approach, which includes actively pursuing veterans for Cooper Standard job openings, supporting several veterans' transition training programs and increasing the awareness of the advantages of hiring veterans. I know that our new Veteran-Friendly Employer status will help



us shine an even brighter light on this important responsibility."

MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer program helps qualified organizations recruit and retain top veteran talent while providing others a road map to improve their recruitment efforts. The organization recognizes employers that commit to military veteran recruitment, training and retention practices by awarding those employers gold, silver and bronze level status as Veteran-Friendly Employers.

Through its Careers for Veterans program, Cooper Standard met the requirements to achieve silver status. In addition to the new hire benchmark, other requirements included posting veteran-friendly job postings and advertise-

ments, recruitment efforts and apprenticeship or training programs.

Cooper Standard has a long history of supporting the men and women who serve the United States by helping them put their unique skill sets to work when they complete their service. In February 2014, the company formalized its veteran's support initiative as the "Cooper Standard Careers for Veterans program." Since its creation, the initiative has increased Cooper Standard's veteran workforce by 12% due, in part, through the support and sponsorship with organizations including Brad Keselowski's Checked Flag Foundation, Inforum's Center for Leadership, Focus: HOPE, the National Association of Manufacturers, the Manufacturing Institute, Macomb Community College and others. For more: www.cooperstandard.com/careers/careers-veterans.

OUR VIEWS

Safety alert reminder: Smoke alarms are early warning of fire danger

When it comes to a fire, smoke alarms are a critical early warning system.

A survey in *Smoke Alarms in U.S. Home Fires*, a report released in September by the National Fire Protection Association, found that in 2009-2013, fires in homes with no smoke alarms caused an average of 940 deaths per year (38 percent of home fire deaths). An additional 510 people per year (21 percent of home fire deaths) were fatally injured in fires in which smoke alarms were present but failed to operate. Power source problems were the leading cause of smoke alarm failures.

According to the report, almost all households indicate having smoke alarms, yet smoke alarms were present in slightly less than three-quarters (73 percent) of reported home fires and operated in roughly half (53 percent). When present in reported fires large enough to activate them, they operated 87 percent of the time. Hardwired smoke alarms were more likely to operate than those powered solely by batteries.

The death rate per 100 reported fires was more than twice as high in homes with no or no working smoke alarms (1.18 deaths per 100 fires) as it was in homes with working smoke alarms (0.53 deaths per 100 fires). The lowest fire death rates were seen in homes with hardwired smoke alarms and sprinklers. Victims in homes with working smoke alarms were more likely to have been in the area of origin. They were

also more likely to be 65 or older, to have a physical disability or to have tried to fight the fire themselves, according to the report.

This week is National Fire Prevention Week, established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on Oct. 8, but did most of its damage on Oct. 9.

The goal of the week is to inform and educate the public about fire prevention. This year's theme is "Hear the Beep Where you Sleep," a reminder that smoke alarms should be installed in every bedroom and on every level of a home, including the basement, and routinely tested and maintained to make sure they work.

"Homes need to be equipped with multiple smoke alarms, especially in all the bedrooms, because half of home fire deaths occur at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are sleeping," said State Fire Marshal Richard W. Miller. "Many homes still have only one smoke alarm and that is simply not enough. Having working smoke alarms throughout the home can truly make a life-saving difference."

A working smoke alarm can provide extra time for a family to escape, especially children and senior citizens who are most at risk and need extra seconds to get out safely. An average of three children per day die in home fires and 80 percent of those occur in

homes without working smoke alarms.

The State Fire Marshal along with the NFPA recommend that homeowners choose a smoke alarm that bears the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Hardwired smoke alarms are more reliable than those powered solely by batteries.

They also recommend that:

» For the best protection, interconnect all smoke alarms so when one sounds they all sound.

» Use both photoelectric and ionization smoke alarms or combination ionization and photoelectric alarms, also known as dual sensor alarms. An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires.

» Test all smoke alarms at least once a month by using the test button.

» Replace batteries once a year.

» Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years or sooner, if they do not respond properly when tested.

Miller also recommends that families know and practice two ways out of the house in case of fire. The best defense against fast-moving fire is having an escape plan "because a home can be totally engulfed in flames in less than three minutes," said Miller. "Conduct a fire drill at night at least twice a year to make sure all family members recognize the sound of the smoke alarm, can respond instinctively to its signal and follow an escape plan."

Recent motorcycle deaths a safety reminder

Last year, there were eight fatal motorcycle crashes in Oakland County.

Last week, there were two.

A Novi man died Sept. 23 after hitting a large rock on Grand River Avenue in Lyon Township. He was attempting to pass a school bus on the right shoulder when the motorcycle hit the rock, causing the crash. He died at the scene, and a rider on the bike was transported to the hospital for her injuries.

The next day, a South Lyon man crashed on Commerce Street in Milford. He died Saturday from injuries sustained in the accident.

In both cases, the motorcycle riders were not wearing helmets.

Accidents happen. And it's always tragic when someone dies.

And since April 2012, it's been up to the motorcycle rider to decide if he needs to wear a helmet. That's when a state law took effect eliminating the requirement to wear a helmet while out on the road. Ironically, it's Michigan legislators who 30 years ago passed a law requiring those in a car or truck to wear a seat belt as a way to improve safety.

For opponents of the helmet law, they argue it's a matter of choice for the rider. And there's an economic boon, they claim, as well, arguing that there's more tourism from out-of-state riders who previously avoided Michigan because of its helmet re-

quirement.

In the first year helmets weren't required, fatal motorcycle crashes increased in Michigan with 129 in 2012 compared to the 109 fatal crashes in 2011, according to the state Office of Highway Safety Planning.

Since then, the numbers have dropped a bit. Last year, there were 105 fatal accidents. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that 62 percent of motorcycle fatalities occur between May and September.

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning said there were almost 300,000 accidents in Michigan last year. Of those, 2,860 involved motorcycles. In Oakland County, there were 258 motorcycle-related crashes last year, down from the previous two years, but slightly higher than five years ago.

It takes a concerted effort among all motorists to keep the roads as safe as possible. Motorcyclists can increase their safety by following these tips from the NHTSA:

- » Never ride distracted or impaired.
- » Always wear long pants and closed-toed shoes.
- » Wear a DOT-compliant helmet and other protective gear.
- » Obey all traffic laws and be properly licensed.
- » Use hand and turn signals at every lane change or turn.

» Wear brightly colored clothes and reflective tape to increase visibility.

» Ride in the middle of the lane where you will be more visible to drivers.

Other drivers can always benefit with reminders on the road, as well, when motorcycles are around.

» Allow the motorcycle the full width of a lane at all times.

» Always signal when changing lanes or merging with traffic.

» If you see a motorcycle with a signal on, be careful. Motorcycle signals are often non-canceling and could have been forgotten. Always ensure that the motorcycle is turning before proceeding.

» Check all mirrors and blind spots for motorcycles before changing lanes or merging with traffic, especially at intersections.

» Always allow more follow distance — three to four seconds — when behind a motorcycle. This gives them more time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.

» Never drive distracted or impaired.

Motorcycle season is nearing its end this year, but for those remaining days when the sun is shining, many riders will take advantage of a final ride or two. Fewer accidents on the road is a boon for everyone.

Be aware of fire safety



Ayan Patel, 3 1/2, attended the Canton Fire Department open house during this Fire Prevention Week. It's almost time to change batteries in your smoke detectors.

GUEST COLUMN

A house divided can't stand — gun violence is killing America

We are better than this.

Outside of those regions who are at war with their neighbors and themselves, America holds the dubious distinction of being No. 1 in the world in the slaughter of innocent people from handguns wielded by our fellow human beings.

Collectively, we ought to be embarrassed, ashamed and disgusted. Yet what we are is divided.

In 1858, Abraham Lincoln, the public voice for rationality, proclaimed, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." He might just as well have been prophesying our 21st century future — he was right then and is just as right today.

As a nation, we should not be continually witnessing the senseless slaughter of innocent citizens by our own people just because we are petrified to seek common sense solutions in dealing with gun violence in our country.

Enough is enough

When will enough be enough of senseless gun violence?

It matters not whether it occurs every day on the streets of Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., or whether it emanates from a gunman who opens fire in a community college in Oregon, or in schools in Newtown



and Charleston. These massacres have become all too common.

Our national pain will not fade until our nation's leaders take decisive action on multiple fronts to address this violent horror in our midst.

Yet, once again, politicians merely debate who is at fault. Let me make it easy for them — we all are at fault.

If we do not come together now as a nation to address this madness, we risk giving up the very soul from which this great nation began.

When are Americans going to recognize that senseless slaughter can be minimized and prevented if we mesh quality mental health services with sensible, enforceable, and strong gun ownership laws? When will we demand that violence not be peddled as the norm which passes for entertainment in our living rooms and movie houses?

At a minimum, our national response must address the current easy access to guns and make sure there is appropriate treatment for people with mental illness.

When will the "pols" in Congress be made to fear the wrath of the American voter's power more than the loss of support

from the National Rifle Association?

Americans say they are fed up with senseless gun violence. But haven't we as a nation grown far too complacent about protecting the status quo? That very status quo is killing our citizens and rotting the moral fabric of this country from the inside out.

A little less talk; a lot more action

America, we have a problem.

When the rate of children killed by guns in the United States is 19.5 times higher than similar high-income countries in the world, America, we have a problem.

It will take no less than an intense, well-funded campaign to get congressional votes to help mandate a stop to the gun madness in this country. Thoughtful Americans must organize and advocate for a balanced approach to gun law in America including, at a minimum:

» Establishment of sensible gun controls allowing for sale and legitimate gun ownership for sport, self-protection or collection purposes. Ban the sale of assault weapons with ammunition clips capable of shooting dozens of high-powered bullets in seconds.

» Address the culture of violence perpetuated by Hollywood, the video and entertainment industries. Video games, mas-

querading as "entertainment," are corrosive to young minds and do not support a healthy and stable society.

» Make available, and affordable, quality mental health services for people with serious mental illness. Start the conversation about the use of these services in our communities to help each other. Stress efforts to end the stigma that often prevents persons in need from seeking treatment.

Creating sensible laws, keeping weapons off our streets and out of the hands of deranged people — this is not a violation of America's Second Amendment right. Sensible gun laws do not interfere with the rights of legitimate gun ownership. Anything less is inadequate.

Congress, Mr. President: Do something, do anything. But let's stop allowing people to die in vain. As a nation, we are literally killing ourselves.

At Sandy Hook, we had 20 little reasons to act. We added nine more reasons in South Carolina this year. Last week, we added nine more reasons at Umpqua Community College.

Gun madness is killing America. For God's sake — and ours — let's DO something.

Tom Watkins is the president and CEO of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (www.dwmha.com).

CANTON OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

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Editor
Susan Rosiek,
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HATS OFF to newspaper carriers!

*International Newspaper
Carrier Day, October 10*

DID YOU KNOW? _____

Ninety-six percent of U.S. newspaper carriers are adults. While once primarily carried out by youth as their first job, adults now often deliver newspapers in addition to their full-time jobs. On this annual day of recognition, join us in thanking this special group of hardworking Americans!

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Children got to spray fire hoses during the open house.

CANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



Children got coloring books, pencils and other gifts during the fire department's open house.

CANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

FALL DECORATION STATION

<p>FALL DECOR KIT Reg. \$30.96 \$24.99 <i>Great Price!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corn stalk • Large pumpkin • 8" Mum • Straw bale 	<p>FALL MUMS 8" Reg. \$7.99 \$5.99</p>	<p>Premium GLAZED POTTERY 60% OFF</p>
<p>SILVER RED-CEDAR JUNIPER 5.5' B&B Reg. \$129.00 HALF OFF</p> <p>Tall evergreen specimen, screen or windbreak.</p>	<p>SNOW DANCE TREE LILAC 2" B&B Reg. \$339.00 25% OFF</p> <p>Small tree, white blooms June.</p>	

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Offers Expire 10/14/15

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7 Miles West of I-275 • 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Gottfredson Rd.



Children got to learn about fire safety during the tour.

CANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good time: Fire station open house draws over 1,500 visitors

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Canton children didn't let a chilly, windy day ruin their chance to sit in a fire truck, spray fire hoses, dress up like a firefighter and tour a fire station.

Canton Fire Chief Joshua Meier estimated that just over 1,500 people Saturday attended an open house at Fire Station No. 1.

"We're pretty happy with the turnout," he said.

And it keeps bringing

people back, year after year.

Ashish Patel said his son Aayan, 3½, made it for a third year, while daughter Aanya, 2, attended for the first time.

"I hope to have the kids learn about awareness of fire and safety and how important those things are," Patel said. "It's also important to show respect to the folks who protect us and just to say 'hello' to them."

That same day, Patel took his children to The Home Depot on Michigan Avenue, where youngsters got to build their own wooden fire trucks and paint them during a workshop.

At the fire station, Meier said children saw firefighters stage a rescue to show how they save victims involved in car crashes. The fire department used a 2015 Lincoln, a test vehicle from Ford Motor Co.

Children also toured a fog-filled fire safety house to learn how to escape a burning home, and they saw on-site demonstrations of a hazardous materials team and a western Wayne County search-and-rescue team.

Fire officials say the event helps to build relations between the fire department and the community without it being an emergency situation.

Youngsters received pencils, erasers and coloring books and participated in a scavenger hunt. Meier said two children from the scavenger hunt will be picked for a future lunch with firefighters and a ride in a fire truck.

Although the open house was intended as a fun time, Meier said it's also a way to help children - and their parents - learn fire safety tips.

"It was a great success," he said.
dclm@hometownlife.com
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Aayan Patel, 3½, sat in a fire truck during Saturday's fire station open house in Canton.

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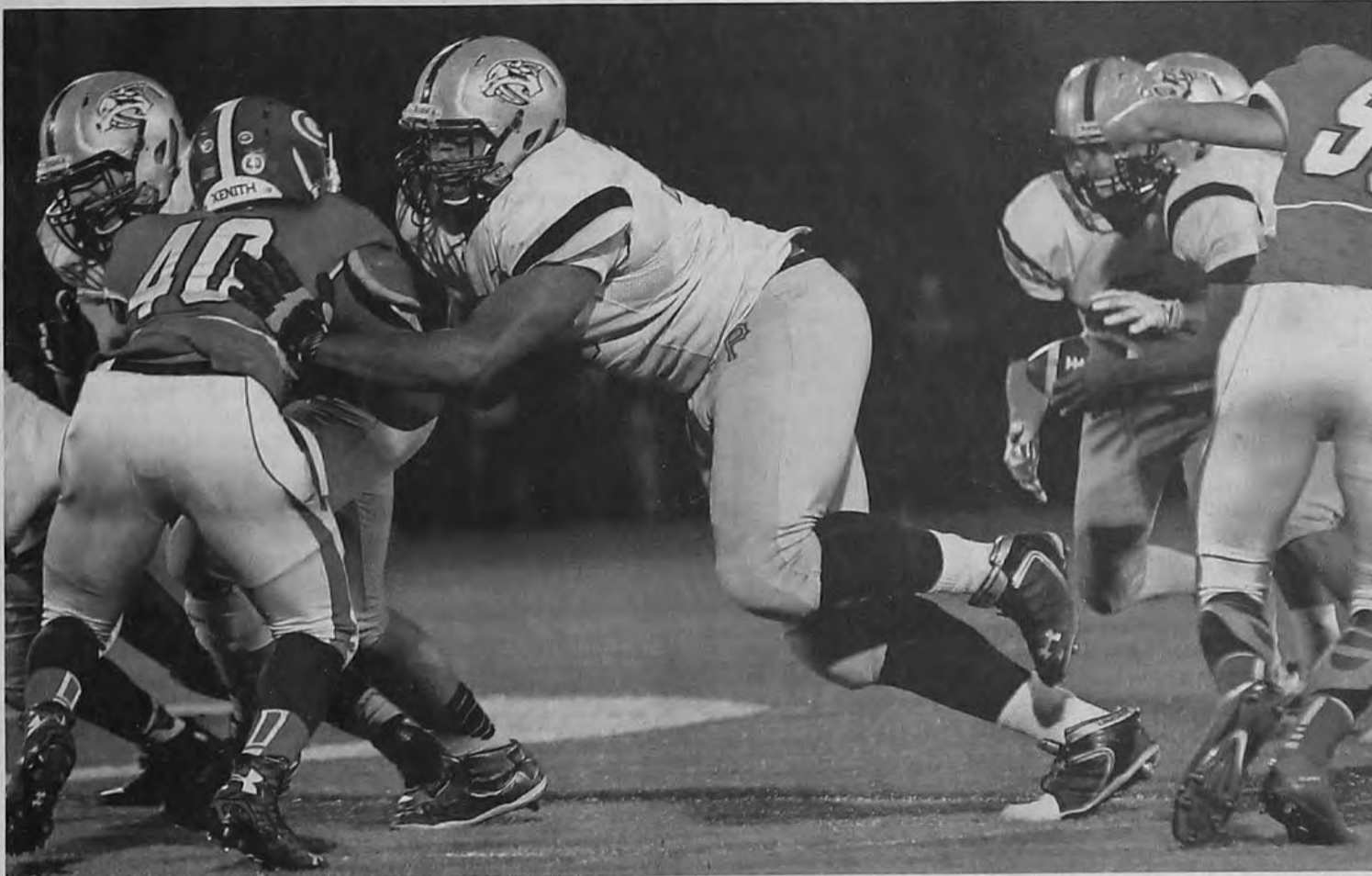
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SPORTS

TIM SMITH, EDITOR
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PREVIEW: CANTON VS. PLYMOUTH



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Play in the trenches could determine who wins Friday's Canton-Plymouth matchup. Sure to have some say in that will be Wildcats' senior lineman Michael Jordan (center).



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Danton Cole, head coach of the USA Hockey NTDP U18 team, is eager for his squad to perform on home ice 7 p.m. Friday.

USA HOCKEY NTDP USA Hockey heads home

After two weeks on road, U18s open Friday at USA Hockey Arena

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

The long-awaited home opener for the USA Hockey National Team Development Program's Under-18 team is 7 p.m. Friday at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, against the Chicago Steel.

But until then, the NTDP U18s are getting some road games under its belt including Saturday's 4-0 loss to Northern Michigan University and a 2-1 overtime victory Sunday against Lake Superior State.

Northern Michigan scored just 1:34 into the contest when Brock Maschmeyer tallied a power-play goal against USA netminder Jake Oettinger, and that marker held up as the eventual game winner.

USA's attack couldn't get untracked, managing just 21 shots against the NMU goalie tandem of Derek Dun and Atte Tolvanen.

Results from Sunday's game against Lake Superior State were not yet available on the USA Hockey website.

After Friday's home opener, the NTDP U18s, coached by

See USA HOCKEY, Page B3

CLASH OF THE TITANS

An annual rite of autumn is regular season smackdown between Canton, Plymouth gridders

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Tim Baechler and Mike Sawchuk have seen this movie before.

Many times, in fact. Over the past decade or so, Baechler's Canton Chiefs and Sawchuk's Plymouth Wildcats have not only shared a campus, they've shared space among the state's elite football programs.

And the next installment should be fun to watch: At 7 p.m. Friday, the Chiefs and Wildcats are slated to once again bump helmets at Plymouth-Canton Educational

Park, on the freshly installed turf under spanking new lights.

Which side of the new scoreboard will light up more? That is to be determined.

Since 2009, Canton has knocked off Plymouth four of six times during the regular season. (The 2012 game, won 28-21 by Plymouth, officially went to the Chiefs because all of the Wildcats' wins that season were forfeited by the MHSAA.)

However the game goes, both teams look poised to qualify for the MHSAA playoffs.

See SMACKDOWN, Page B3



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

One of the keys to Canton's success this season is team defense, demonstrated here by Colin Troup (left) and Lou Baechler (No. 38).

PREP GIRLS GOLF

Rock-ing the KLAA's world

Salem girls golf team shows it belongs at top of elite league

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

As usual, Plymouth has some company from "the Park" among the best varsity girls golf teams in the Kensington Lakes Activities Conference.

But this time around, it's not Canton. It's the Salem Rocks who might be crashing the Wildcats' party as the 2015 season enters the home stretch.

Last Wednesday at Pontiac Country Club, Plymouth captured the Kensington Conference and association champi-

onships with a tally of 338 strokes. In fourth place, just 10 strokes behind in an ultra-competitive 24-team field, was Salem.

"Fourth place in the KLAA, it's a real good golf league," Salem head coach Ryan Nimmerguth said. "There's some real good schools, some of the top schools in the state."

"That's our highest finish in the KLAA since it started. The girls were really happy."

Both Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams will enter Thursday's Division 1 regional at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth looking to

be one of three to qualify for the D1 state finals.

"It just gives them a real boost of confidence," Nimmerguth said. "We beat some teams in the association that we haven't beaten before."

"So that gives them a real boost of confidence that they can do it. It's not something that we just talk about, now we've done it."

Rock steady

Spearheading the Rocks was junior Darby Scott, who registered a 78 over 18 holes —

See ROCKS, Page B3



SALEM ATHLETICS

Salem all-conference golfers (from left) Hope Warkoczski, Darby Scott, Kiley Flynn and head coach Ryan Nimmerguth.

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CAMPUS CLASH

Who: Canton Chiefs take on Plymouth Wildcats in a KLASA South Division football matchup.
When/where: The opening kickoff is set for 7 p.m. Friday, on the varsity turf field at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.
Recent years: In recent seasons, here is how the series has gone: 2009 - Canton 49 Plymouth 7; 2010 - Canton 36, Plymouth 0; 2011 - Plymouth 31, Canton 30 (regular season), Canton 24, Plymouth 21 (pre-district); 2012 - Plymouth 28, Canton 21 (game reverted to Canton due to MHSAA forfeiture); 2013 - Canton 34, Plymouth 23; 2014 - Canton 30, Plymouth 20.
2015 records: As of Week 6, Plymouth is 5-1 overall and 4-0 in the KLASA South Division, good for first place. Canton is 5-1 overall and 3-1 in the division. Both teams need one more win to qualify for the postseason.
Canton has outscored opponents 214-103 through six games while Plymouth has a plus-60 differential (195-135).

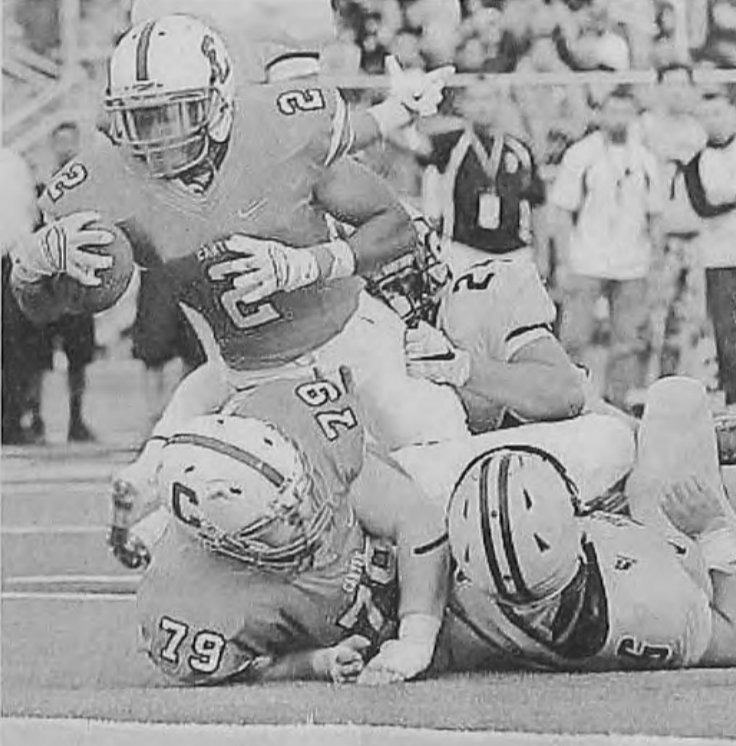


Plymouth running back Cameron Stella (No. 32), shown from last week's game, will look to crack the Canton defense Friday night.

SMACKDOWN

Continued from Page B1
With Week 7 approaching, Canton and Plymouth each enjoy 5-1 records — just one short of the six wins required to enter the postseason party.
'It comes down to turnovers and which team makes the big play when the ball is in the air,' said Baechler, recently inducted into the Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame.

It will be 'nasty'
Sawchuk boils the matchup down to the basics. 'The trenches will be nasty this Friday night.'
Exhibit A for such nastiness is Plymouth's mammoth senior lineman and future Ohio State Buckeye Michael Jordan (he reportedly decided to go to OSU instead of his original pick, Michigan, due to academic reasons). Sanders will be ready to plug the holes and stop Canton's junior dynamo, 5-7 tailback Markus Sanders.



Chewing up yards and scoring touchdowns is what Markus Sanders (No. 2) does a lot of these days for the Canton Chiefs.

figures to include senior Elie Atallah (6-1, 240) and junior Austin Scheffer (6-3, 270) among others.
Canton's linemen are just as ferocious. Among them are seniors Josh Dunn (5-8, 215), junior Mike Maes (6-1, 215) and junior David Gunnis (6-0, 255).
Last week, Baechler used both Joel Foster and Jake O'Donnell at quarterback. Whoever gets the nod Friday also will look to get enough protection from the O-line to connect with receivers such as seniors Jared Stephens, Jalen Cochran, Jesse Warner and junior Reid McDonnell.
Keeping mistakes and penalties to a minimum — obviously — will play a role in the final outcome.
'We have to control the ball on offense and clean up the turnovers and mistakes,' Sawchuk added.
During recent seasons, the pendulum has swung both ways between the KLASA South

Division rivals.
In 2010, the Chiefs routed Plymouth 36-0 but the Wildcats got some payback by going all the way to the Division 1 state final at Ford Field.
In 2011? That was a doozy of a year between the teams. Although the Wildcats rallied late to nip the Chiefs 31-30 in the regular season matchup, it was Canton to move on during the postseason — edging the Wildcats 24-21 in a D1 pre-district thanks to Scott Piowar's field goal.
Friday night's matchup could be another one for the books, to be remembered fondly or with disdain in a few years. That depends on whether the one doing the reminiscing wears red or black.
Either way, the P-CEP bleachers will be overflowing and the football game will be amazing.
tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Lining up
Plymouth's front line also

USA HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1
Danton Cole, will play another game at USA Hockey Arena 2 p.m. Sunday against Notre Dame.
Tickets (\$12 and \$10) are available by calling the USA Hockey Arena box office at (734) 453-8400. Season tickets (full and partial) and group rates are also available.
» The USA Hockey U-17 team had a better time of it

Saturday, posting a 6-3 win over the Muskegon Lumberjacks at L.C. Walker Arena.
A four-goal first period propelled USA. Joey Cassetti, Michael Pastujov, Logan Cockerill and Brady Tkachuk each found the back of the Muskegon goal during the opening 20 minutes.
Rounding out the scoring for the victors were Grant Mismash and Sean Dhooghe, in the third frame.
An unbelievable 56-save performance by USA netminder Adam Scheel was a key

factor to the victory.
USA's U-17 squad won't skate on the USA Hockey Arena ice until competing in back-to-back 7 p.m. games against the Madison Capitols — Friday, Oct. 16 and Saturday, Oct. 17.
BROADCASTS: The Schoolcraft College Sports Network produces broadcasts of all NTDP home games. Pete Krupsky provides the play-by-play with Sean Baligian as analyst. The game is show online on Fasthockey.com; the games will also be shown on a delayed basis on CN-900. Airdates are set for Sunday @ 6pm and Monday @ 9pm.
Twelve games are scheduled to be shown live on CN-900, starting with Friday, Oct. 30 when the NTDP U18's host the Chicago Steel.

OBSERVER FOOTBALL PREDICTIONS

ALL GAMES 7 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

Table with columns for game date, teams, and predictions from Ed Wright, Dan O'Meara, and Tim Smith.

PREP FOOTBALL

Shamrocks topple U-D Jesuit, 21-7

Dirita's punt return for a TD bolsters CC

Brad Emons
Staff Writer



Catholic Central's Victor Dirita returned this first-quarter punt 54 yards for a TD.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central inched closer to its 26th football playoff appearance in school history Friday night with a 21-7 Central Division win over University of Detroit Jesuit in a game played at Ferndale High School.
The Shamrocks, who improved to 5-1 overall and 2-0 in the division, can wrap up a postseason spot next Friday at home with a win against Orchard Lake St. Mary Prep.
Victor Dirita's 54-yard punt return for touchdown with 2:33 left in the opening quarter catapulted CC to a 7-0 halftime advantage.
Freshman quarterback Austin Brown then scrambled his way into the end zone for a 47-yard TD run with 9:46 remaining in the third quarter to increase CC's lead to 14-0.
Philip Schmitz then scored on a 10-yard run with 3:46 remaining in the game to put the Shamrocks up three scores, 21-0. (Cole Gingell was three-for-three on extra points.
U-D Jesuit (4-2, 0-2) averted the shutout with 1:52 to play when Mike Sims hit Scott Nelson on a 28-yard TD pass. Niccolo Seilo's PAT completed the scoring.
Catholic Central outgained the Cubs, 293-240, in total offense.
Brown was CC's leading

rusher with 90 yards on 11 carries and was 5-of-12 passing for 71 yards. Cameron Ryan added 75 yards rushing on nine attempts.
Sims was 14-of-32 passing for 153 yards and one interception (by CC's Alex Bock in the first quarter). The Cubs rushed for only 87 yards, but had the edge in first downs, 14-12.
The Shamrocks' top tackler was Isaac Darkangelo, who had five solo and six assists. Austin Darkangelo and Tyler Morland also got into the act with two solo and four assists each. Jack Ross had four assisted tackles and a half-sack, while Tyler Laurentius contributed three solo and one assist.
bemons@hometownlife.com



CC freshman quarterback Austin Brown (19) turns the ball upfield on U-D tackler Jimmy Pierce (77).

ROCKS

Continued from Page B1

third overall at the tournament.
'She's rock steady, she's been that way all year,' said Nimmerguth, about Scott. 'She shot 78 that day for third overall which is not her best score, but was a great score for that day. There must have been some tough conditions.'
Scott along with seniors Kiley Flynn (11th, 85) and Hope Warkoczkeski (23rd, 90) were all-conference medal winners for their efforts.
'Great trio right there,' the seventh-year Salem coach continued. 'They've really done great things for the program.'
Meanwhile, Scott was second overall in the KLASA individual standings for the season, trailing only Plymouth's Katie Chipman.
Rounding out the Salem scorecard with a respectable 95 was Grace Grelak.
'That was a tough golf course that she (Grelak) handled very well,' Nimmerguth said.
Other Salem finishers were Genevieve St. Jean and Hannah Saad, who tied for 114th with scores of 102.
Nimmerguth tipped his cap to the Wildcats, overall medalist Chipman (who shot a 71) and head coach Dan Young.

'We were happy for Plymouth,' Nimmerguth said. 'We practice at the same course, our girls are really close.
'We want to beat Plymouth just like everybody else does. But if we can't win it, why not keep it at the Park?'
Bright future
Nimmerguth added that it's not a bad thing to model a program after the Wildcats, who have won state championships in recent seasons.
'We've tried to model our practice habits and play (like) them,' he said. 'Why not? We've got a great opportunity to learn from them and see what they do and learn from that, apply what we see.'
It remains to be seen whether the Rocks can qualify as a team Thursday, but Nimmerguth is optimistic this season will catapult the program to great things in the near future.
'We've been building slow and steady,' he noted. 'The last couple years we've had some graduating classes that added to this. ... now these girls have just taken it to another level.
'Hopefully, our younger players can learn from what these older girls are doing.'
For starters, Nimmerguth said with a laugh that it won't hurt to have Scott back in 2016. 'Darby is back, that always helps.'

But he noted that his team is starting to feel it is able to hang in the same lofty vicinity.

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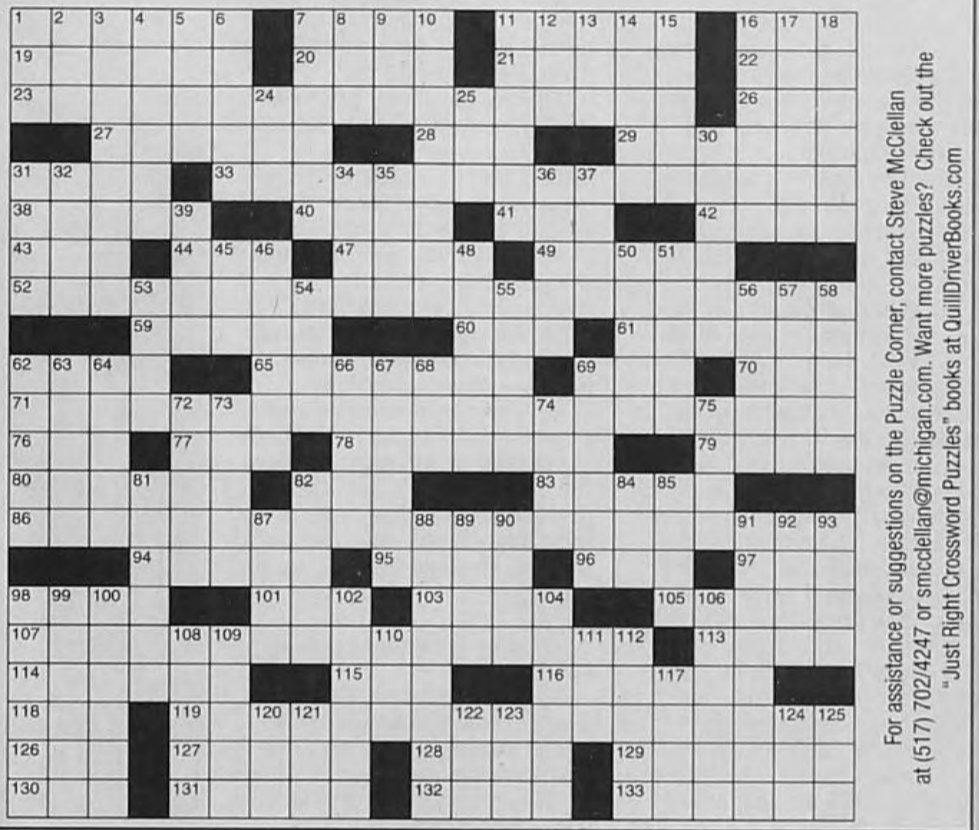
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20 "That clarifies it"
21 Saabs, say
22 Use scissors
23 Enron scandal figure was inactive?
26 Suffix of fruit drinks
27 — Pie (cold treat)
28 Sternward
29 Lucas of film
31 By way of, briefly
33 "Three's Company" actor started dozing?
38 See 82-Across
40 Money owed
41 Floral wreath
42 Puppies
43 Lyric writer
44 Lyric work
47 Toe part
49 "Lulu" composer
Berg | 52 Watergate whistleblower had anxiety?
59 Island near Molokai
60 — for "apple"
61 Charles of CBS News
62 "CSI" actress Elisabeth
65 Solar system members
69 Ending for pent- or hex-
70 Citi Field stat
71 Reds great met a tough challenge?
76 Santa — (hot desert wind)
77 Unveil, in poetry
78 Swiss resort lake
79 Greek mountain
80 "Is there an echo —?"
82 With 38-Across, they have film bloopers
83 "This —" (fighting words)
86 Teen sleuth noted the subtle difference?
94 "Gladiator" actor Davis | 95 Mrs. Addams, to Gomez
96 Bygone flight inits.
97 "Aquarius" network
98 Chilly
101 Hereditary helices
103 Small needle case
105 Have one's cake and eat —
107 "The Ward" actress hallucinated auditorily?
113 Te — (giggles)
114 Blueswoman Smith
115 Fuzz figure
116 Machine for sowing
118 Become old
119 "The Great Ziegfeld" figure caused a road jam?
126 UNLV part
127 Valuable store
128 River of Pisa
129 Not coastal
130 Pack carrier
131 Targeted (through)
132 In order
133 States of change | DOWN
1 Bugling beast
2 Winning sign
3 Cochlea site
4 Relative of an attaché
5 Trying trip
6 Take effect
7 What to call an English nobleman
8 Retirees' fund org.
9 Marina del —
10 Like a smug know-it-all
11 OPEC, e.g.
12 Mai tai liquor
13 Sked guess
14 Pacific island nation
15 Actor Will
16 U.S. capital and environs
17 Deemed
18 Infuses
24 Wellness gp.
25 Awry
30 Horse-track
31 Slim and fit
32 Greek Juno
34 Eatery card
35 Impose — on (forbid)
36 Pages (through)
37 — & Stitch
39 Long couch
45 Room with a 39-Down
46 Pass
48 Hate
50 Horse to bust
51 All mixed up
53 Abstract artist Paul
54 Scrabble pick
55 Tight-fisted type
56 Karlott of film
57 Timber wolves
58 City near Minneapolis
62 Seville locale
63 Hair dye
64 Fan of the Jazz, usually
66 Attorney or heir follower
67 Nutty candy
68 Misc. abbr.
69 Nails the test
72 Actors Calkin and Calhoun
73 Pages for think pieces
74 Handling the matter
75 Kind
81 Schools, to the French (forbid)
82 "Hero" co-star Davis
84 NYC-to-Seattle dir.
85 Berry from Brazil
87 Bike, e.g. | 88 Weight-loss strategy
89 Narrow strip of land: Abbr.
90 Feng —
91 Russian news agency
92 Penetrating woodwind
93 Sarges, say
98 Jewish mystical tradition
99 Last letters
100 Dwell (on)
102 Like insteps and rainbows
104 Hip place
106 Winter bug
108 Gaucho rope
109 "The Dance" artist
Matisse
110 Female goat
111 Fetch
112 Sans — (font style)
117 Pioneer Boone, to townsfolk
120 — de plume
121 Hail, to Ovid
122 Rap's Dr. —
123 A, in Italy
124 Opal ending
125 LPs' successors |
|--|---|--|---|---|



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

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SUDOKU

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

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!

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

COMPUTER WORD SEARCH

R B A S I C X C E G J L G V R G T R O P R Y Y V A H E P T D I L L U Y P P R K N B I I B N N J A A H A G P A D R X P E T C A P T C H A M C Y J V A R W E O E B C S E G X R G J T I M C V I B D E R M Y N M N O Y E L A I F L R V E N Y C R T E H E O D O M B V B I K E L I B S T D I F M Y I H V O J A E T P I P E H M R E D F J N S X A T W N E R F N M C D A P E A L R A N J T E T C A E O A U P O U S R I J B L A U L E R O E C R O U B V K O A D B B H P K S U C R E F T J Y D T U N W E A D F X C O I A H N Y G E E O K G B D M T C U E S V W O I N R K B P L A A F A Y C U J I J M U A H A O U W I P N K O C U H M U E R T M I P D G L A H I B E R N A T E F I A V G H V B M M O D W K M M A S O O F S C V I C X O E I X G V D E A R P U M K B H C D A T A B N F G Y I E T H U X T E Y S S E C C A V N O I S S E R P M I Y	WORDS ACCESS ADWARE BASIC BATCH BITMAP CAPTCHA CERTIFICATE CLIENT DATA DEBUG DESKTOP DRIVE EMAIL EXPANSION FILE FIREWALL FIRMWARE FORMAT GIGABYTE GRAPHIC HOME HIBERNATE IMPRESSION INDEX JAVA KEYBOARD LAN MAINFRAME MEDIA MEMORY PORT REMOTE SOURCE TASK TECHNOLOGY TOUCHSCREEN
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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Crossword Answers EVICTS MSRP CRETE OJS LENORE TSEE AUTOS COUT KENNETH LAYDORMANT ADE DESKTOP AFT GEORGE THRU NORMAN FELLABLEEP REELS DEBIT LET DADS IRA ODE NATL ALBAN MARK FELTUNG COMFORTABLE LANAT ATIS OSGOOD SHUE PLANETS ANE RBT PETEROSE TO THE OCCASION ANA OPE LUCERNE OSSIA INHERE OAG TISWAR NANCY DREW ADISTINTION OSSIE TISH TWA NBC COOL DNA ETUI TITTOO AMBER HEARDY THINGS HEES BESSIE GOP SEEDER AGE ANNAHELOUP TRAFFIC LAS TROVE ARNO INLAND ASS AIMED NEAT FLUXES	Word Search Answers BASIC X C E G J L G V R G T R O P R Y Y V A H E P T D I L L U Y P P R K N B I I B N N J A A H A G P A D R X P E T C A P T C H A M C Y J V A R W E O E B C S E G X R G J T I M C V I B D E R M Y N M N O Y E L A I F L R V E N Y C R T E H E O D O M B V B I K E L I B S T D I F M Y I H V O J A E T P I P E H M R E D F J N S X A T W N E R F N M C D A P E A L R A N J T E T C A E O A U P O U S R I J B L A U L E R O E C R O U B V K O A D B B H P K S U C R E F T J Y D T U N W E A D F X C O I A H N Y G E E O K G B D M T C U E S V W O I N R K B P L A A F A Y C U J I J M U A H A O U W I P N K O C U H M U E R T M I P D G L A H I B E R N A T E F I A V G H V B M M O D W K M M A S O O F S C V I C X O E I X G V D E A R P U M K B H C D A T A B N F G Y I E T H U X T E Y S S E C C A V N O I S S E R P M I Y
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World view: Gina Yashere jokes at being British with Nigerian roots

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

British comedian Gina Yashere will make her Detroit-area debut Friday, Oct. 9, at the Kola Restaurant & Ultra Lounge, in Farmington Hills.

Yashere, raised in London by Nigerian parents, now lives in New York, and performs to sellout crowds throughout the world, including in Japan, Dubai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, Canada, South Africa, and in Europe. She made her comedy debut at the Edinburgh Festival in 1997, selling out almost immediately, and then broke into the American comedy scene on *Last Comic Standing*. She's also known for her appearances on *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* as Madame Yashere, *The Surly Psychic*.

The *Observer* caught up with Yashere to find out more.

Q: How would you describe your comedy? What inspires you to write and perform humor?

A: My comedy is a mixture of observation, and storytelling, covering my life and what interests me. I'm inspired by life!

Q: Was *Last Comic Standing* your first appearance in the U.S.? Why did you appear on the show — and then move to the U.S. — after having such success in the U.K.?

A: It was my first TV appearance in the U.S. The previous year I'd flown myself out to Oakland to compete in the Bay Area comedy competition, to test if I could perform to American audiences. It's been a dream of mine to live in the U.S. since I was a child. I always felt that my Mum had chosen the wrong country! As a comedian, the way I see it, if you make it in the U.S., you've automatically made it everywhere in the world. I'd reached as far as I could go in the U.K. as a black, female comic. I wanted to expand worldwide. And I love a challenge. I get bored very easily, and I'd been in the U.K. all my life. Time for new experiences.

Q: How does your Nigerian heritage, your British upbringing and being a woman influence your comedy?

A: Most of my comedy focuses on my experiences, and being black, British and Nigerian form a big part of that. I was born and raised in England, pounded yam and okra stew was my staple at home, not fish & chips. My experiences differentiate me from the average U.S. comedian.

Q: Do you change or tailor your act to suit different audiences around the world? Do some observations play better in say, Minneapolis or Detroit than they would in Singapore or Malaysia?

A: My act is pretty much the same wherever I go — me talking about me. The difference is, that when I go to a new place, I like to immerse myself in the local culture, and then incorporate what I've experienced into the opening few minutes of my show. So I have routines about Australia, Malaysia, India, China, and all the place I've traveled to.

Q: Any idea why you are highly sought-after in Asia?

A: The comedy scene in Asia is about to explode. I've been doing shows there on and off for the last 10 years, and I've built a following of people who enjoy my stuff. It's that simple. I've been hustling!

Q: Where have you found the most receptive, comedy-loving audiences to be?

A: One of my favorite audiences are Malaysians. English is not their first language, but they speak it well, and understand foreign humor to boot. They come out to enjoy themselves, and there is none of the "seen it all before" cynicism.

Q: Who is funnier, U.K. or U.S.?

A: Hard question. Neither. But the best places in the world to see comedy are New York and London.

Yashere will perform at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door and \$40 for VIP admission. They're available at Kola Ultra Lounge after 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, at 32523 Northwestern Highway.

For more about Kola, visit kolalounge.com. For more about Yashere, visit ginayashere.com



Gina Yashere

MOVIES OPENING

Friday, Oct. 9

99 Homes: In this timely thriller, charismatic and ruthless businessman, Rick Carver, played by Michael Shannon, is making a killing by repossessing homes — gaming the real estate market, Wall Street banks and the U.S. government. When he evicts Dennis Nash, played by Andrew Garfield, a single father trying to care for his mother and young son, Nash becomes so desperate to provide for his family that he goes to work for Carver. As Nash falls deeper into Carver's web, he finds his situation grows more brutal and dangerous than he ever imagined. Rated R.

Freeheld: Film tells the true love story of Laurel Hester, played by Julianne Moore, and Stacie Andree, played by Ellen Page, and their fight for justice. Rated PG-13.

Goodnight Mommy: The film, opening exclusively at the Birmingham 8, tells the story of twin boys who play a dangerous game of make-believe that blurs the line between nightmare and reality as their mother recovers from cosmetic surgery. Stars Susana Wuest, Elias Schwarz, and Lukas Schwarz. Rated R.

He Named Me Malala: Opens in Ann Arbor, Detroit and Grand Rapids. The film is an intimate portrait of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai, who was targeted by the Taliban and severely wounded by a gunshot when returning home on her school bus in Pakistan's Swat Valley. Rated PG-13.

Pan: Peter, played by Levi Miller, is a mischievous 12-year-old boy with an irrepressible rebellious streak, but in the bleak London orphanage where he has lived his whole life those qualities do not exactly fly. Then one incredible night, Peter is whisked away from the orphanage and spirited off to a fantastical world



"Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension" opens Oct. 23.



Vin Diesel stars in "The Last Witch Hunter," opening Oct. 23.

of pirates, warriors and fairies called Neverland. There, he finds amazing adventures and fights life-or-death battles while trying to uncover the secret of his mother, who left him at the orphanage so long ago. Rated PG.

Friday, Oct. 16

Bridge of Spies: This dramatic thriller is set against the backdrop of a series of historic events and tells the story of James Donovan, a Brooklyn lawyer who finds himself thrust into the center of the

Cold War when the CIA sends him on the near-impossible task to negotiate the release of a captured American U-2 pilot. Stars Tom Hanks, Mark Rylance, Amy Ryan, Scott Shepherd, and Alan Alda. Rated PG-13.

Crimson Peak: When her heart is stolen by a seductive stranger, a young woman is swept away to a house atop a mountain of blood-red clay. It's a place filled with secrets that will haunt her forever. Stars Mia Wasikowska, Jessica Chastain, Tom Hiddleston, Charlie

Hunnam and Jim Beaver. Rated R.

Goosebumps: Upset about moving from a big city to a small town, teenager Zach Cooper, played by Dylan Minnette, finds a silver lining when he meets the beautiful girl, Hannah, played by Odeya Rush, living right next door. But every silver lining has a cloud, and Zach's comes when he learns that Hannah's mysterious dad is in fact R.L. Stine, played by Jack Black, the author of the bestselling *Goosebumps* series. Rated PG.

Steve Jobs: Set backstage at three iconic product launches and ending in 1998 with the unveiling of the iMac, Steve Jobs takes viewers behind the scenes of the digital revolution to paint an intimate portrait of the man at its epicenter. Michael Fassbender plays Steve Jobs, the pioneering founder of Apple, with Kate Winslet starring as Joanna Hoffman, former marketing chief of Macintosh. Steve Wozniak, who co-founded Apple, is played by Seth Rogen, and Jeff Daniels stars as former Apple CEO John Sculley. Not rated.

Friday, Oct. 23

Burnt: Chef Adam Jones, played by Bradley Cooper, wants to land his own kitchen and his third elusive Michelin star, but will need the best of the best on his side, including the beautiful Helene, played by Sienna Miller. Not rated.

Jem and the Holograms: As a small-town girl catapults from underground video sensation to global superstar, she and her three sisters begin a one-in-a-million journey of discovering that some talents are too special to keep hidden. Stars Aubrey Peeples, Stefanie Scott, Aurora Perrineau, Hayley Kiyoko, Ryan Guzman, Molly Ringwald and Juliette Lewis. The film is based on the Hasbro animated television series. Rated PG.

The Last Witch Hunter: Kaulder, who has spent centuries hunting down rogue witches, discovers the Queen Witch he killed long ago has been resurrected. She seeks revenge, causing an epic battle that will determine the survival of the human race. Starring Vin Diesel, Elijah Wood, Rose Leslie, Ólafur Darri Ólafsson, Julie Engelbrecht, and Michael Caine. Not rated.

Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension (In 3D): The horrifying conclusion to the *Paranormal Activity* films stars Chris J. Murray, Brit Shaw, Olivia Taylor Dudley, Dan Gill, Ivy George, Jessica Brown, Chloe Csengery, Don McManus, Hallie Foote and Cara Pifko. Not rated.

Rock the Kasbah: A has-been rock manager from Van Nuys, Calif., stumbles upon a once-in-a-lifetime voice in a remote Afghan cave in this dramatic comedy inspired by stranger-than-fiction, real-life events and directed by Oscar winner Barry Levinson. Stars Bill Murray, Zooey Deschanel, Leem Lubany, Kate Hudson, Danny McBride and Scott Caan. Not rated.

Fall for baking trends

As the weather turns cool, you can look forward to warm flavors and new takes on comfort foods inspired by the 2015 Baking and Decorating Trends from the Wilton Test Kitchen.

Middle Eastern and North African flavors have become increasingly popular ingredients in baking and other sweet treat making. Wilton's Cinnamon and Aleppo Pepper Braided Loaf recipe is reminiscent of classic cinnamon bread, but served with a side of sass as it weaves in a mild, almost citrus-like heat with Aleppo peppers.

For dessert, tap in to the "fruitful possibilities" trend with a Hard Apple Cider Tart. The tart plays up crisp, light apple flavor with a refreshing bite of hard cider. Produce sections are piled high with ever-expanding selections of fruit. Each kind boasts its own signature flavor, texture, fragrance and color.

And nothing says fall like pumpkin. Try Wilton's Pumpkin Cake Roll and Pumpkin Spiced Baked Doughnuts.

For more flavor and recipe inspiration, visit wilton.com/treatology.
Courtesy of Family Features



CINNAMON AND ALEPPO PEPPER BRAIDED LOAF

Serves: 12-14

Filling:

6 tablespoons butter, softened
¼ cup granulated sugar
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
1 teaspoon crushed Aleppo pepper

Bread:

1 package (16 ounces) hot roll mix
1 cup warm water
½ cup butter, softened
1 egg
1 egg yolk
½ cup all-purpose flour

Heat oven to 350 F. Prepare 9-by-5-inch loaf pan with vegetable spray. In small bowl, stir together butter, sugar, flour, cinna-

mon and Aleppo pepper bowl until well combined. In large bowl, stir together hot roll mix and included yeast packet. Add water, butter, egg and egg yolk; stir until dough forms (dough will be very sticky). Turn out onto well-floured surface and knead ½ cup flour in until smooth dough forms, about 5 minutes. Cover and let rest 5 minutes.

Roll dough into 20-by-12-inch rectangle. Spread filling evenly over dough surface.

Roll up from long end as for cinnamon rolls, pinching seam and ends to seal. Cut log in half lengthwise. Twist pieces together and place in prepared pan in "S" shape, tucking ends under. Cover pan and let rise in warm area 15 minutes.

Uncover loaf and bake 30-35 minutes or until loaf is golden brown and sounds hollow when tapped. Let cool in pan on cooling grid 5 minutes then turn out onto grid to cool completely.



HARD APPLE CIDER TART

Serves: 10-12

Crust:

½ cup (1 stick) butter, melted
¼ cup granulated sugar
½ teaspoon Wilton Pure Vanilla Extract
¼ teaspoon salt
1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour

Filling:

1 tablespoon granulated sugar
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of salt
2 medium red baking apples, such as Braeburn, cored and sliced ½-inch thick

Glaze:

1 bottle (12 ounces) hard apple cider
3 tablespoons light corn syrup
2 tablespoons granulated sugar

Heat oven to 350 F. Prepare 9-inch tart pan with vegetable spray.

In large bowl, stir together melted butter, sugar, vanilla and salt. Add flour; stir until just combined. Evenly press into bottom and up sides of pan. With fork, prick dough all over. Refrigerate 30 minutes. Remove tart from refrigerator; bake 12-14 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely.

In small bowl, combine sugar, cinnamon and salt. Arrange apples in tart pan in overlapping circular pattern, working from outside in. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar mixture. Bake on cookie sheet 55-60 minutes until apples are soft and crust is golden brown. While tart bakes, make glaze. In large skillet, cook cider over medium heat until liquid has reduced to 2 tablespoons. Reduce heat to low; add corn syrup and sugar. Stir continuously until sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat and cool.

Re-warm glaze over low heat, if needed, and brush on tart when it is removed from the oven. Cool tart completely in pan on cooling grid.

