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COMMUNITY LIFE, B6

Mystery piano found on construction site

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

Billy Joel was nowhere to be found.

This was the mystery of the piano, man.

Workers showed up Monday morning to find an abandoned grand piano on a new construction site in Canton.

"How does a grand piano end up in the middle of a field where a new housing development is going in?" Canton Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin asked. "It just appeared overnight."

The lid was propped up, as

if beckoning someone — anyone — to play.

Stante Excavating Co. workers found it as they showed up to begin utility work on the site off Ridge Road, between Cherry Hill and Proctor, where Pulte Homes is building a new subdivision, River Ridge.

Charles Laroque, a Canton staff engineer, said the piano has everyone baffled.

"I've moved a piano before. It wasn't even a grand piano, but it was very heavy," he said.

Mike Noles, vice president of land development for another builder, Toll Brothers, said he knows what he would have

done if he found it on his property.

"The first thing I would do is sit down and play it," he said.

A picture sent to the *Observer* shows Nico Stante, a Stante company family member, doing just that — and smiling like a piano man.

Noles said it appeared the piano wasn't in the best shape, though.

It wasn't clear Thursday where the piano would end up — or where its last sad refrain might be played.

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NELLO STANTE

Nico Stante takes a turn on the piano that was found on a new construction site.

ANOTHER VICTORY



KRISTAN RODWELL

A view from the stands as Plymouth-Canton performs its 2015 show, "E.X.O."

Plymouth-Canton Marching Band takes first place

Kim Ward
Correspondent

The Plymouth-Canton Marching Band served up a sweet Halloween treat by ending the regular marching band season with another first-place finish Oct. 31 at Livonia Franklin High School.

PCMB scored 95.575 for its performance of their 2015 "E.X.O.," an otherworldly show about what happens when alien nations meet for the first time. It features music by Aaron Copland.

Once again, the band also captured the awards for Outstanding Music Performance, Outstanding Visual Performance and Outstanding General Effect.

In Flight II competition, Wyandotte Roosevelt came in first place with a score of 87.775 and captured the awards for Outstanding Music Performance, Visual Performance and General Effect.

The winner in Flight III competition was Redford Thur-

See **BAND**, Page A13



KRISTAN RODWELL

The PCMB brass and battery on the field.

Local leaders: State road plan offers some relief

Joanne Maliszewski
Staff Writer

Local municipal leaders say a \$1.2 billion annual road funding plan will provide at least some money for road repairs, even though it won't be fully funded until 2021.

"The fact that we're able to get something done to where we're going to have some money for roads is a good thing. Obviously, our roads are in terrible shape and we need to do something," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said.

In Plymouth, Mayor Dan Dwyer talked about the state's proposed use of general funds for the phased program. "It does seem a little bit like they kicked the can down the pothole-filled road, but I'll take something rather than nothing," he said, adding he is concerned if money is taken from state shared revenues to local communities.

"If they pull the money out of revenue sharing, then it's a terrible idea," Dwyer said. "I think they (state legislators) are just able to say, 'We did something.'"

Wayne County Commissioner Joe Barone of Plymouth is keeping his fingers crossed that money does head to the county and local communities. "It sounds good," he said. "I hope the funding is there. It's a matter if the money's there and it trickles down to us."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Shannon Price was unavailable for comment.

State Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth, who supported the plan — which includes increased vehicle registration fees and gas tax increases — called the measure "reasonable and prudent."

"It's a sustainable plan. It's fair to road users. It also reduces the size of government," he said. "Not everybody got what they wanted."

In fact, the Senate and House passed the bills this past week by slim margins. The fuel tax increase passed in the



Dwyer



LaJoy



Barone

Seniors, students share ageless passion for reading

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A simple lesson in reading is helping to form a bond between a Canton school and a senior housing center.

Twice now, seniors from Waltonwood at Carriage Park have visited Bentley Elementary School, listening intently while young students read to them. They are separated by generations, but drawn together by reading.

Pairing up, seniors huddle with students who realize someone other than a parent or teacher — someone they hardly know — cares about their reading skills.

"The students are begin-

ning to build relationships with another generation," Bentley Principal Jerry Meier said. "The residual effect is the students have an opportunity to display their reading skills. They're reading for a purpose. The seniors' smiles do a whole lot to encourage the children to read."

Nichole Passmore, life enrichment director for Waltonwood at Carriage Park and a former Bentley PTO president, initiated the program as a way to enrich the lives of seniors and students, alike.

"For the seniors, hearing a child read to them is wonderful," she said. "And they love

See **READING**, Page A2



NICHOLE PASSMORE

Kindergartner Meah Hall reads to Marcia Fraser.



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INDEX

Community Life	B6	Homes	C4	Services	C3
Crossword Puzzle	C2	Jobs	C1	Sports	B1
Education	A4	Obituaries	B5	Wheels	C3

State Police: Prepare your home for winter's wrath

With winter weather rapidly approaching, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is encouraging Michiganders to make winter emergency preparedness a priority.

Severe winter weather poses health and safety concerns with extremely cold temperatures, freezing pipes, potential propane shortages and power outages. Michiganders should consider the following actions to be prepared for the winter months.

To prepare your home for winter:

» Weatherproof your home by installing weather-stripping and caulking and insulating walls, doors and windows.

» Insulate any water

lines that run along exterior walls so pipes are less likely to freeze.

» Lock in a propane rate now and have a backup heating plan, such as a generator, wood stove or fireplace.

» Have gas or oil furnaces inspected by a qualified professional and change the air filter.

» Have your fireplace and chimney cleaned and inspected. Contact your local fire department for a referral or look for a local inspector online.

In support of statewide winter preparedness efforts, Gov. Rick Snyder proclaimed Nov. 1-7 as Winter Hazards Awareness Week. For more tips, go to www.michigan.gov/mready or follow the MSP/EMHSD on Twitter at @MichEMHS.

Suspect in Canton carjacking ordered to undergo competency evaluation

Darrell Clem
Staff Writer

A Westland man — accused of attempting two carjackings outside a Canton Walmart after witnesses said he first brandished two airguns inside the store — has for now avoided trial.

Police also allege that Faheem Tamir-Saul Nance, 25, made threats he had a bomb inside a Honda Accord he tried to steal, but authorities say the claim was false.

Nance's court proceedings are on hold because he has been referred to a forensics center for a psychiatric evaluation, after a de-



Nance

fense attorney raised questions about whether he should be held criminally responsible and whether he is competent.

The latest developments arose in October in 35th District Court, where Nance's probable cause hearing has been pushed back to Dec. 18 on two counts of carjacking, six counts of assault with a dangerous weapon and one count each of armed robbery, making a false bomb threat and felony

firearm.

Charges against Nance followed a tense situation about 10:30 p.m. Sept. 13. Police say he pointed two Airsoft pistols at employees inside the Walmart store on Ford Road, near Lotz, and then attempted two carjackings involving customers in the parking lot.

Witnesses told police Nance managed to get inside one victim's Honda Accord, but struggled to work the manual transmission, giving officers time to reach the scene and make an arrest.

If convicted as charged, the defendant

could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Nance had been slapped with a \$500,000 bond and ordered to jail after he was charged.

During the incident, police had received reports the suspect was pointing handguns at people — some who believed the weapons were real — inside the store. Then, outside, one potential victim drove off amid an attempted carjacking before the suspect got into the second car.

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READING

Continued from Page A1

seeing the kids, too."

Students read from books or digital devices, teaching some seniors about technology such as iPads. Youngsters get to work on their reading skills as they develop new friendships.

"This is a way for them to form relationships, because a lot of the children don't have grandparents living with them," Meier said.

It's a program that also offers an outing for seniors at Waltonwood at Carriage Park, which offers assisted living and independent housing.

Passmore said the seniors "love interacting with the students" and are "already looking forward to their next visit."

Meier said it's a good program that can grow.

"We're going to nurture this more and more," he said.

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Elena Allen practices her reading with Joe Mraulak.

NICHOLE PASSMORE

CANTON OBSERVER

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Schoolcraft moving forward with brewpub plan

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Livonia is one step closer to getting its first brewpub in town.

Schoolcraft College went before the Livonia City Council earlier this month to request approval for a new Class C liquor license for the college's new brewing and distillation technology program, which launched earlier this year.

Linda Mayer, an attorney representing Schoolcraft College, told the council the students, all of whom will be 18 and older, will brew beer as a part of the curriculum on campus at the VisTaTech Center.

"It will be within the culinary kitchen wing," she said. "The brewing equipment will be wholly contained within that space, and they will sell and serve the beer there within the restaurant that's affiliated with the culinary program."

The council voted unanimously to approve the request for the college to obtain the necessary license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. Rich Weinkauff, the college's vice president and chief academic officer, said they will submit the resolution from the city council once the minutes are approved Monday.

Mayer said the school is requesting a new Class C license for the brewing program, one that would allow for the school to serve and sell the beer made by students on the premises.

"Right now, they have a Class C license at the (VisTaTech) Center. It's an event license," she said. "It's only usable for events."

The original event license would remain intact at the college and could still be used during events and fundraisers, Mayer said. The new license would not affect the limited amount of licenses the city is allowed by law either, she said.

If approved, Schoolcraft College would be the first brewpub to open in Livonia. Several other communities have seen brewpubs open up in recent years, including in Farmington, Lyon Township, and Northville.

Earlier this year, Livonia saw its first beer maker, Liberty Street Brewing Co., come to town.

The next steps

It could take about 90 days for the license to be approved, meaning the college will be able to serve beer sometime early next year if approved. That will allow students to serve beer at the American Harvest restaurant.

"We're really hoping for early January," Weinkauff said. "We intend to be teaching students how to serve beer, how to pour it."

Beers served will have to be other brewery's beers until the brewpub license is approved, Weinkauff said. That approval process will take several more months, as the college needs to have its equipment in place before a state inspection. Weinkauff said it won't be until probably next academic year that students will serve beer brewed on premise.

Weinkauff, who is also an instructor, said the program has 44 declared students in it, and more are expected to join when the new semester begins in January. He said it's a wide mix of students, but that they are all very determined to succeed.

"That's the impression I'm getting. They are incredibly motivated," he said. "They seem extremely happy in this program. I think they're going to be successful."

Once all the proper permissions are secured, students will then be able to sell and serve their brewed beer to patrons on campus, as well as provide beer sales for

people looking to take some home.

"The idea is that the students have an opportunity to learn how to sell, to serve, to do all those kinds of things," Mayer said. "You could go in and buy a six pack of beer that was made by the students."

City council president Maureen Miller Brosnan said while the council checked on age restrictions on who could participate, the opportunities coming with the brewpub were something that benefited the college.

"As much as we want to be cautious, we also want to recognize how this provides Schoolcraft College with a unique advantage," Brosnan said.

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FILE PHOTO
Tom Block, of Block Brewing in Howell, will teach in the Schoolcraft program. The program received approval from the Livonia City Council on Monday night to request a liquor license from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.



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Plymouth foundation establishes Youth Fund

The Advisory Committee of the Plymouth Foundation has spent the last few years laying the ground work and soliciting input for a survey to provide a needs assessment for youth issues in the community. More than two dozen nonprofit and community groups offered feedback that led to the establishment of an endowed Youth Fund that will be used to meet these challenges and more.

The foundation's Advisory Committee – a group of 14 community leaders from numerous service clubs, businesses and nonprofits – got some much needed assistance.

A packed room of residents from the 48170 zip code saw the unfolding of the final product and was asked to roll up their sleeves and get to work raising awareness and money for the fund.

"I had to ask (Kathleen Dul Aznavorian co-owner of Fox Hills and Advisory Committee member) to bring in additional tables," chairman David Siegrist said. "We have a saying around our table that 'many hands make light work' and tonight is a perfect example."

"For good. For ever," is the foundation's tag line, which illustrates the permanent nature of the endowed fund for youth's objectives. An endowment is like a savings account for the community, which provides a source of permanent funding for important community issues both now and for the future.

According to vice chair Warren Musson, the idea is to "take care of the youth of the Plymouth Community in perpetuity, providing grants out of a portion of the investment returns while preserving the original value of the fund over time."

With Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center as the backdrop, the program included a thank you to the current committee – representing some 439 total years serving the

Plymouth community – including a special bouquet of roses for previous chairwoman Penny Joy of Rotary and Christensen's Plant Center.

Elaine Kennedy of New Morning School, a grant recipient of the foundation, gave a brief presentation of the school's summer camp program designed to close the achievement gaps that occur when children from low-income families leave school for the summer.

It was a night of both giving and receiving as the foundation was presented with a \$10,000 check from the Wilcox Foundation's Dan Herрман. The grant is to raise awareness for the foundation's visibility and growth toward its efforts in the community.

"There was a buzz in the room and many people stayed over an hour after the program had ended. Now we are going to translate that excitement and energy into action," Siegrist said. "It was awesome watching people have such a wonderful time."

Former director of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Fran Toney was among the guests and was extremely impressed with the event. "It was a night to remember and I was glad to see so many people who make our community great," she said.

The foundation has provided more than \$250,000 in grants since its inception in 2006 and provides support "for Plymouth, by Plymouth." Examples include engaging at-risk middle school students through the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, supporting the Music Boosters efforts in attending the Tournament of Roses Parade in California and the Community Arts Council with preparing installation exhibits.

Those interested in joining the efforts of the Foundation can learn more at www.cfplymouth.org or support the Fund for Youth, P.O. Box 700866, Plymouth, MI 48170.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
David Siegrist is chairman of the advisory committee.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Michael Siegrist speaks with Laura Riegal and Ken Fistler.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Fran Toney and Bill Lawson.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Advisory Committee member Penny Joy receives roses for her work.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sofia Juncaj and Darian Neubecker.

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Do your homework as annual deadlines approach

It's hard to believe it is November already! That means there are some fast approaching deadlines. Of course, not all deadlines apply to everyone; however, keep in mind that these deadlines are real and there are no extensions. Therefore, if any of these deadlines apply to you, you need to take them seriously. All too often, people make uninformed decisions as deadlines approach. You don't want to be in that crowd. You want to take the appropriate amount of time so you can gather the information you need and make the proper decision.

The first approaching deadline deals with Medi-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

care D. The prescription drug plan is now in an open enrollment period. This is the one time of year where people can make changes to their Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. The deadline to select a plan for 2016 is Dec. 7. Therefore, there is still time to do your research and make an informed decision.

It is important to remember that not only do plans change year-to-year, but your prescriptions could change. The plan you had for 2015

may not be appropriate for 2016. My advice is to research as if you do not have a plan. Typically, people think if they had a plan last year and it was fine, they might as well just re-up for the next year. Unfortunately, that is not a strategy you should follow, as once again, the plan that you had last year may have changed and in addition, your prescription drugs and the cost of them could also have changed.

A great place to start your research is through Medicare's prescription drug finder on its website.

Another deadline that is approaching is with taxes. For those of you who are generous in

nature and are going to make year-end charitable contributions, if you are going to deduct them this year, contributions must be done before the end of the year. I believe people need to do their research. Not only are there scam artists that put up bogus charities just to steal your money, but there are also legitimate charities that do not spend your money wisely.

As far as I'm concerned, when you make a charitable contribution, you're hoping that the money goes to a charitable purpose, not to paying high salaries and administrative fees. Therefore, before you give to a charity, it is important that you do

some research. Not only should you determine that the charity is actually legitimate, but also that they spend their money wisely. Unfortunately, many charities are poorly run and spend an inordinate amount of their money on administrative and fundraising expenses. Therefore, by doing your research, you can make sure that your hard-earned money goes to a charity that is legitimate and is spending your money wisely.

Two excellent sources of information regarding charities are charitynavigator.org and give.org. There's a wealth of information on these websites that can assist you in making your

charitable contributions.

I wish that life was easier and that you didn't have to check and double-check so many different things. It would be nice, but unfortunately, that is not the world that we live in. The only way that you can truly protect yourself is to take your time and do the necessary research. Only then will you be able to make an informed decision and one that best suits your needs.

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

Donations help improve Westland's Cayley Park

Leanne Rogers
Staff Writer

Less than ideal weather at the dedication ceremony didn't hamper the enthusiasm for improvements at Westland's Cayley Park.

"Cayley Park is beautiful thanks to the efforts of the DPS (Department of Public Services) staff, (Wayne-Ford Civic League President) Vic Barra, the Norwayne Community Citizens Council and (Westland Parks Director) Jessica Mistak," Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell said.

Along with a clean-up of the park, playground equipment was repaired and spruced up and a soccer field was added with a basketball net set up on a vacated section of street. Parking was added on the site of a now-demolished quad-plex.

Cayley Park East/West spans two acres on Grand Traverse, just east



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Westland residents and officials gathered on a blustery Thursday afternoon for the re-dedication of Cayley Park.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Michael Cayley Sr., son of park namesake Charles Cayley, cuts the ceremonial ribbon for the re-dedication of Cayley Park in Westland.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Ready to cut the ribbon at Cayley Park.

and west of Everett, in Norwayne. The park has a picnic shelter, grills, picnic tables and play equipment.

The park was named for the late Charles Cayley, who was a Nankin Township trustee. Cay-

ley's son Michael Cayley Sr. has made two donations totaling \$8,000 to fund improvements at the park.

Cayley Sr. attended the dedication ceremony. He grew up in Westland, now resides in Chicago

and is President of Midaco Corporations, a manufacturing company based out of Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

"We are so honored to receive this generous gift from Mr. Cayley," Westland Mayor William

Wild said. "It is so rewarding to see people taking pride in the communities that they were raised in, and the family history that these communities hold, even after they have moved away." The city has also bud-

geted \$28,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds for yet-to-be-determined future improvements to the park.

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\$28,303.12.....FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE

\$6,326.88*TOTAL VALUE

2015 TAURUS AWD SHO



\$41,095.00.....MSRP BEFORE DISCOUNTS
\$38,753.33.....FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PRICE
-\$4,000.00.....LESS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH
-\$750.00.....LESS FORD CREDIT CUSTOMER CASH
\$34,003.33.....FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE

\$7,091.67*TOTAL VALUE

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\$26,209.52.....FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS PRICE
-\$1,000.00.....LESS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH
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\$24,709.52.....FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS NET PRICE

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Plymouth police broaden honors program

Matt Jachman
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Police Department is overhauling — and playing catch-up with — its departmental honors program. Limited until recently to letters of commendation, which may or may not get written, according to the schedules and motivational levels of the command officers to whom the task fell, the honors program now includes 15 different awards, each with specific criteria, and an awards committee that will decide annually who should get recognized.

The honors include the Officer of the Year award, given out yearly since 2000 by the Rotary Club of Plymouth, plus new awards, such as for community service, life-saving, academic achievement and an extended accident-free driving record.

The result, Chief Al Cox said, is a more formal and thorough process through which officers can get recognized for going above and beyond the call and a goal-setting measure designed to boost morale.

"It's something that I've always thought we should have," Cox said Thursday. "There are a lot of things that these folks do within their job that also goes above and beyond what they're required to do."

"We don't always go home and share everything that happens at work with our families and just chalk up things we did as 'part of the job'



Plymouth police Chief Al Cox.

FILE PHOTO

even though it may go beyond that," Lt. Jamie Grabowski wrote in an email. "This process will facilitate having our families and fellow officers around us to celebrate both professional and personal accomplishments."

Grabowski, an 18-year department veteran and the Rotary's Officer of the Year in 2000, was one of many officers honored last month when the department, in Cox's words, played catch-up by handing out several honors. Officers were recognized for academic achievement, participation in special units, community service, lifesaving, qualifying as firefighters and emergency medical responders, among other achievements.

"We were catching up, this first go-round, on a lot of awards," Cox said.

From now on, he said, department honors will be formally presented each May during National Police Week.

The honors will be for actions and achievements that take place during every 12-month period from March through February, plus nominations will be reviewed and the winners chosen by a five-member awards panel. Not all 15 honors, however, will necessarily be handed out each year, Cox said, and one honor, the Chief's Award, will be decided solely by the chief.

"I want to make sure we're recognizing these folks," Cox said. "It's an opportunity for me, too, to brag about them and I love that."

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Senate prayer



State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, welcomed the Rev. Scott Sessler to lead the invocation recently before the Senate session. Sessler (right) is the pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia.

Schoolcraft College clarifies tax vote totals

Schoolcraft College has clarified unofficial vote totals officials initially released from Tuesday's election, which had a 0.6-mill tax increase on the ballot.

The latest numbers show the proposal lost by a 1,053-vote margin, with 21,051 "no" votes and 19,998 "yes" votes. Initial totals had a narrower margin of defeat.

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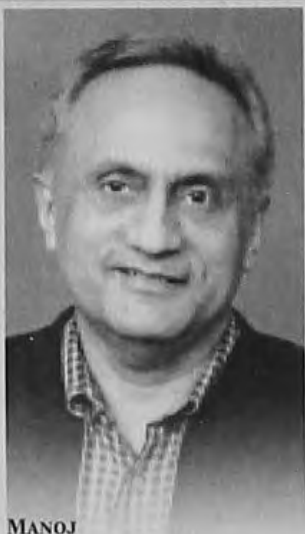
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Woman's road to recovery took inner strength, support

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Linda Vecchioni loves her 2-year-old granddaughter.

"She's the love of my life," said Vecchioni, mom to two daughters, 30 and 24, one in Florida, the other in Michigan with the toddler Vecchioni loves.

"I never knew there was a deeper love than that," the Melvindale resident said of parental love and being a grandma. "I get to see her learn and grow."

Vecchioni, 49, has traveled a torturous path to sobriety. At 36, she said she married an addict, her second marriage, and began to abuse crack cocaine, alcohol and prescription drugs.

"I just wanted to be loved and have the fairy tale so badly. It took me 43 years to realize this is the fairy tale," said Vecchioni, who grew up in Canton.

"I come from a pretty traditional Italian family," said Vecchioni, whose parents were 43 and 44 when she was born. She grew up with nieces and nephews her own age.

Now, Vecchioni is marking being clean. "October was my six and a half years," she said, with April 6, 2009, her clean date.

'A thinking disease'

She's also bipolar. "Addiction is a thinking disease. It's up here," she said. "For me, it was more of a stigma to admit I had a mental illness vs. being an addict."

She married at 18, had her first child at 19 and was divorced at 21. Her second husband was a friend of years. "I just thought we were going to get married and it would all work out. At some point, it became my choice," she said of her addiction.

"So I do own my part in it," she said, noting

she could have left. "I'm grateful he loved me enough to let me go and heal. I wouldn't change anything."

Her second marriage included domestic violence, she said. Vecchioni later divorced and speaks with her ex-husband, who agreed she should tell her own story for the *Observer*.

She'd done some marijuana use and beer drinking in high school, "nothing that really got out of control for me." Now, she sees patterns from growing up that caused later behavior.

"My last relapse was really bad," she said. "I couldn't find the exit door this time and I tried to commit suicide. I just came in so broken and so lost. I needed some direction."

Reaching out for help

She entered the Westland-based Beginning Step program. Vecchioni spent nine months in transitional housing, going to 12-step-based group meetings five times weekly. She got a sponsor as well.

"She's still my sponsor today. She's a recovering addict. She has 18 months (clean) more than I do. My sponsor taught me unconditional love. She taught me not to take myself too seriously," Vecchioni said.

After becoming clean, Vecchioni earned Certified Recovery Peer Mentor credentials and took recovery coach training. She now volunteers with Beginning Step to help other addicts and will continue her training.

"My passion is really more being in the trenches working side by side with people," she said. She's based out of the Dorsey Center in Westland.

There's a related Safe Step housing component for those battling addiction. "We service the veterans as well as re-



Linda Vecchioni and program director Don Oesterwind Jr. of Beginning Step visit at a recent Westland Rotary meeting where Vecchioni shared her story.

JULIE BROWN

covering addicts coming in," she said. A contract with the VA is part of that initiative, to help those in recovery.

"As I stayed, I am so grateful," she said. "I truly surrendered from the heart."

The 12-step programs include a higher power concept. "It's the god of your understanding," she said. "I have spirituality today like the relationship you have with your best friend. My faith coming in has just deepened so much."

Her brother, whom she calls "amazing," told her, "Fear and faith cannot go together. You have to pick one."

A sister supported

Vecchioni emotionally through her struggles. "To guard their hearts, they have to back up for a minute," she said of family members of addicts.

Her daughters asked about relapse. "I don't know the future," she told them. She sees her disease like cancer or diabetes in that it requires research.

"I tried to get clean by myself many, many times. There was no support," she said. The peace and serenity she now has includes the mental health piece and reaching out to both friends and professionals.

She had her medical

charts flagged for her addiction at the hospital. One physician wasn't aware in the past of her issue.

"He didn't know because I didn't disclose," she said of that doctor. At that time, she wouldn't allow blood draws.

She has no issues with that doctor, and later needed to change for insurance reasons. "We just have a wonderful agreement," she said of her current doctor, who's careful with medications due to her history. "He's very supportive."

Daily inventory needed

She takes a morning and evening daily inven-

tory of herself, including the higher power and mental health. "Each day, my recovery has to come first," said Vecchioni, who reaches out to her colleagues at Beginning Step, the 12-step program people and friends.

A few years back, she earned her GED. She was invited to speak at graduation, an especially proud moment enhanced by Beginning Step staffers attending.

"I always say to them 'you raised me.' There, I got my support. How do you go wrong with all that support?"

Re-engaging with her siblings in sobriety took some eight months. Her Florida daughter was apprehensive at first. "You're like a fragile flower," the daughter told her. "I don't want you to break."

She's proud of her career-oriented daughters and noted the "village" it took to raise them during her struggles. Newcomers to the agency rely on her, as she knows where they've been.

Vecchioni also works to help women addicts, a passion she has and hopes to get more women into recovery.

She sees a growing heroin epidemic now, and would like more awareness of that. Facebook shares many stories on the heroin epidemic, some sad and others encouraging. She took out her phone to show the encouraging posts.

"I don't feel old," said Vecchioni, who has some lingering health challenges. "I'm so grateful I lived to this age."

She added, "We're all fighting this on a daily basis. I have to deal with life's problems, I can't just use. Today, I have a choice. But you get through it when you reach out, you just do."

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ROAD

Continued from Page A1

Senate by 20-18, while in the House it was 55-52. The hike in vehicle registrations fees in the state House scraped by at 54-53.

In dollars, Michigan motorists would typically pay about \$20 more for their vehicle registration fees and spend about \$1.17 more for a 15-gallon fill-up.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, opposed his party and the road package. "I voted no on the hike in vehicle registration fees (HB 4736) and gas tax rates (HB 4738)," he said.

"I voted yes on bills that would help our citizens including bills to reduce the state income tax (SB 414) and dedicate \$600 million in existing funds to roads while expanding the Homestead Property Tax Credit (HB 4370). I also voted yes on a bill that specifies warranty requirements (HB 4737), although I was disappointed that it lacks key enforcement provisions that were in the original Senate package."

Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign the bills into law this coming week.

Republicans in the Michigan Senate passed a plan earlier in the day that would raise \$400 million from increased fuel taxes, \$200 million from higher registration fees and take \$600 million from the state's general fund.

The plan also includes a sweetened Homestead Property Tax Credit and an income tax rollback that would start in 2023 if growth in Michigan's general fund exceeds the rate of inflation multiplied by 1.425. Some Michigan residents could see their homestead credits increase by \$300 a year.

Democrats didn't embrace the package.

"It's a sustainable plan. It's fair to road users. It also reduces the size of government. Not everybody got what they wanted."

REP. KURT HEISE
R-Plymouth

"This week, the Republican-controlled House and Senate passed an irresponsible, politically motivated roads funding package," said state Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton. "I voted no on the package because this plan raises taxes on working families without actually solving the problem of fixing our roads, cuts income taxes for the wealthiest, drains our state budget while putting funding for education, public safety and health care in jeopardy and fails to address the issue of overweight trucks, which cause the most damage to our roads."

She also criticized the delay in fully funding the road effort, because by then more money will be required for repairs and maintenance than the current estimates, on which funding is now based. The package, Pagan said, "will only generate \$425 million in the first year and \$608

million in the second year of the \$1.2 billion needed annually for road funding and won't reach \$1.2 billion in annual funds until fiscal year 2021 – meaning Michigan's roads will continue to deteriorate for years to come."

But Heise said he believes the timing is fine, considering it takes time to plan and executive road improvements. "You don't have that many shovel-ready projects in place now," he said.

Additionally, Heise noted, if the \$1.2 billion was immediately available, the Michigan Department of Transportation would be unable to spend it right away. "It will ramp up and I think that's reasonable and prudent," he said.

While Heise criticized Democrats for wanting to increase the state business tax, which he said would "kill our recovery," Pagan said the plan "offers income tax breaks targeted at helping millionaires and billionaires, while leaving

regular working families to shoulder the burden of program cuts and road funding."

Pagan also questioned taking some \$600 million from the general fund for roads without any details of what cuts will be made to accommodate the drain. "It is obvious that the Republican road plan hurts as many Michigan residents as possible again without presenting a clear, long-term solution to fixing our roads," she said.

Still, local municipal officials remain uncertain how the plan will really work and how their communities of the counties, in the case of townships, will receive money. "It wouldn't have been the way I would have designed the package, but at least there's going to be some money going into roads," LaJoy added.

Michigan.com contributed to this story.

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Regular Meeting

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting November 17, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Friends Room on the main level of the Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

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Newburgh near railroad tracks to see construction next summer

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Orange construction barrels will be common place in Livonia next year.

While the Michigan Department of Transportation prepares to do work on I-275 through Livonia, Farmington Hills and Novi next year, Wayne County is expected to do work along Seven and Eight Mile. Now, add a portion of Newburgh Road near the CSX Railroad bridge to the list as well.

The road will have new pavement put in along the roadway going 450 feet south of the railroad tracks to 300 feet north. City engineer Todd Zilincik said he expects the work will begin in the middle of the summer and wrap up before school starts after Labor Day. It's expected to last for several weeks.

"Newburgh will probably be done sometime after school's done or Spree's out," he said. "My goal would be to do it in July or August."

The city council approved design expenditures for the project at its regular meeting Wednesday night.

The planned work is part of many segments



Several hundred feet of Newburgh will see work next summer near the CSX Railroad bridge.

the City of Livonia has done on Newburgh in the last 10 years or so, Zilincik said. Work has been done on segments between Seven and Eight Mile, Schoolcraft and Five Mile and several other stretches of the road, which is controlled by the city.

The roadway there, Zilincik said, is in great

need of work.

"The conditions are deteriorating," he said. "I want to get that done and taken care of and resolve that pavement condition."

When the work does take place, the road will be restricted to one lane each direction, Zilincik said.

Other major projects

scheduled for next year besides I-275, as well as Seven and Eight Mile roads include Plymouth Road from Farmington to Telegraph in Redford. That work, which will consist of milling, will be overseen by MDOT, as road is a state trunkline, Old M-14.

Livonia and other area motorists will be able to

have some say in some of the state roadwork planned for next year in the city: MDOT will host an informational meeting from 4-7 p.m. Tuesday at Davenport University, 19499 Victor Parkway, for the public to get more information on the proposed work.

2016 road program streets

The list of other streets expecting work as a part of the \$4.5 million road program has many streets south of I-96 seeing work beginning next year.

Some of the longest stretches expected to see work next year as a part of the road program include: Cavell between Plymouth and Grantland; Clarita from Brentwood to just east of Middlebelt; Riverside Drive from Lyndon to Five Mile; and North Capitol Court from South Capitol Court to Newburgh, to name a few. A map of the streets currently planned for next year can be found on the city's website.

Zilincik said the work planned on some of the city's streets next year, funded by the most-recent roads millage approved by voters, will consist of asphalt overlay, reconstruction and rehabilitation. Some concrete work will also be done on some streets as well.

"Most of the asphalt work is pretty straight forward," he said.

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Madonna ranked one of most affordable online accounting degrees

Madonna University in Livonia has been ranked among the most affordable online accounting degree programs by College Values Online.

The ranking was published on the organization's website in June.

Madonna University was ranked 80th.

The following criteria were used in this ranking:

- » accreditation/degree field (accredited schools offering a bachelor's degree in accounting, accounting and business/management, and accounting and finance)
- » affordability
- » distance degree option (schools with distance learning options in accounting and related fields)
- » undergraduate population (3,000 or fewer students)

From among more than 200 qualifying schools, the top 100 most affordable schools were selected and ranked


based on the most recent tuition rate as listed by the National Center for Education Statistics' College Navigator database.

Madonna University was established by the Felician Sisters more than 75 years ago as a Catholic, independent college dedicated to the liberal arts, career preparation and public service. True to its mission of making a college education accessible, Madonna has outreach centers in Gaylord, Macomb and southwest Detroit, where the underserved and disadvantaged attend classes.


"This ranking exemplifies Madonna's commitment to academic excellence and ensuring Catholic higher education is accessible and affordable," said Dr. Michael Grandillo, Madonna University president. "Madonna continues to deliver the quality liberal arts education and career preparation that students and employers have come to expect."

The Accounting and Business Law Department at Madonna University offers a bachelor's degree in accounting for CPA and non-CPA track majors. While the school is accredited, the program is in the process of obtaining accreditation from the International Association of Colleges and Business Administration. Students learn how to apply

knowledge of fundamental accounting practices and concepts, prepare financial reports and statements, and interpret financial data and economic information. Business ethics, auditing practices, and taxation within private and public entities are covered within the program. Read more about the program at <https://www.madonna.edu/academics/departments/accounting-and-business-law#ACT>.



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Retiree works to help others at Plymouth Opportunity House

Pamela A. Zinkosky
Correspondent

Every other weekend, Auburn Hills resident Bertha Johnson drives about 70 miles round trip to a part-time job that started as a way to occupy her time and supplement her full-time salary, but resulted in what she calls a second family.

In 1996, Johnson — who prefers not to give her age, but admits she's around 70 — was a Detroit resident and a receptionist for the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit. Her husband had died at an early age and her five children were out of the house, so she was looking for a way to occupy her time. "There wasn't anybody there at home anyway," Johnson said.

She stumbled upon a newspaper advertisement for Community Opportunity Center, which provides housing and support for people with developmental disabilities, and became a part-time program trainer at Plymouth Opportunity House, which houses 13 developmentally disabled adults.

Johnson retired from the archdiocese about 15 years ago and moved to an Auburn Hills apartment three years ago to be closer to her family, but she still makes the trek to Plymouth every other weekend at 3 p.m. Friday and leaves for home at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Asked why, she simply says, "I like going to the Plymouth House."

Johnson is one of Community Opportunity House's most loyal and sought-after employees, according to executive



Bertha Johnson and residents of Plymouth Opportunity House.

"She just has a big heart. Everyone looks forward to the time they spend with Bertha."

DENISE KING

executive director, Opportunity House

director Denise King.

"She just has a big heart," King said. "Everyone looks forward to the time they spend with Bertha."

Daily living

As a program trainer, Johnson is responsible for helping the residents, ages 20-50, with daily living. She cooks for them, helps them with laundry and chores, administers medication as needed, helps with bathing and showers for three of them and takes them on outings using 12-person and six-person passenger vans. "They like going to the Dollar Store," she said.

On Saturday, there's

usually an activity like bowling or the movies and Sunday, there's church. "They look forward to going to church," Johnson said.

Johnson likes "interacting with the residents and teaching them different things," she said. She helps the residents focus on what they can do rather than what they can't and work toward independence, she said.

One resident calls her "Mama Bertha" and that touches her heart. "You love all of them," she said, "but you still have those special ones."

Johnson said she shares stories about her family, which now in-

cludes 11 grandchildren, and the residents share stories with her. "Their parents come and hold conversations with me," she said. Likewise, the residents ask about Johnson's family and have even met some of them. "They don't forget anything," she said.

"It's my second family," Johnson said of Plymouth House. "It's a good atmosphere."

A kind heart

King said Johnson is one of the few employees who stays all weekend. Other weekend employees help with the residents each Friday until 9 or 10 p.m. or come Sat-



Bertha Johnson, in the kitchen at Plymouth Opportunity House, is known for her good cooking.

urday during the day.

Plymouth House can count on Johnson to be there every other weekend, even in inclement weather, King said, because she enjoys her work so much.

"She gives people individual attention," King said. "I don't know too many people as kind and compassionate."

In addition to her company, King said residents really appreciate Johnson's cooking. "They like when I make cornbread," Johnson said.

When Johnson is not working at Plymouth House, she enjoys visiting family. Locally, she has family in Bloomfield

Hills and Pontiac. She also goes to Texas a couple of times each year to visit her grandchildren and to Las Vegas and Georgia to visit other family members.

It's a fulfilling life for Johnson, who looks back on when she first started at Plymouth House in 1996 and can hardly believe that much time has passed. "The years just kept rolling and rolling," she said.

Johnson's not sure how long she'll keep working at Plymouth House, but for now she's enjoying the time spent with residents — and the extra money. "I have a car to pay off," she said.

Back to the Past hosts estate Spider-Man collection auction

An auction featuring rare Spider-Man comics and collectibles is being presented at Back to the Past Collectibles in Redford, starting Wednesday, Nov. 11 and continuing Saturday, Nov. 14.

Highlights of the collection include early Spider-Man comics, first appearances of Deadpool, Dr. Strange, Sandman and Batgirl, as well as rare statues and figurines from a single lifetime collector.

The auction may be attended live in person or online through proxibid.com.

More information is available at www.gobacktothepast.com and catalogs for both sessions can be found at www.proxibid.com/backtothepast

Back to the Past Collectibles is located at 12670 Inkster Road in Redford.

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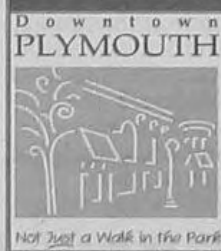
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- Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio
- Nico & Vali
- Old World Olive Co.
- Omelette & Waffle Café
- Plymouth Yoga Room
- Progressive Family Eye Care
- R.S.V.P.
- Salon Awesome
- Sean O'Callaghan's Public House
- sideways
- Spa Agio
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- Synergy Dance Academy
- Subway
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- E.G. Nick's and Gordon Food Service—Free Hot Chocolate and Coffee
- Community Financial—Cookies and 104.3 WOMC
- Tree lighting ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m.
- Entertainment by 104.3 WOMC and the Salvation Army Brass Band.
- Bring toys or non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army's food pantry and be entered to win gift certificates from downtown merchants.
- First 100 guests will receive a free gift from the Plymouth Salvation Army!

Holiday Open Houses 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

Downtown Plymouth retailers participating in November 13 Holiday Open Houses: Birch Wood, Bohemian Home, Candy Trail, Creatopia Pottery,

Dearborn Jewelers, Home Sweet Home, Laine Elizabeth Boutique, lolaryan, Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio, Old World Olive Co., Opndohr, sideways, Sun & Snow Sports and TranquiliTea.



downtownplymouth.org

Laurel Park Place cuts ribbon after \$5 million in renovations wrap up

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Laurel Park Place general manager Todd Huhn wants Livonia shoppers to know now is the time to come and visit the mall at Six Mile and Newburgh.

That declaration comes after a more than \$5 million renovation has taken place at the mall over the last six months.

"It turned out fantastic," he said after a ribbon-cutting event Friday morning at the mall.

The renovations included new flooring, signage, as well as new lighting.

"We actually changed the lighting all throughout the center to LEDs, so the entire center is brighter," he said. "My goal was to make it brighter, which we accomplished."

It will also result in an energy savings for the facility as well, Huhn said. Costs for lighting are expected to drop 40 percent using the brighter, more efficient LED lights.

The mall, built in 1989 and owned by CBL & Associates Properties since 2005, announced the renovations back in April. Since then, crews have worked to update the facility, including at the food court and a brand-new area for Santa Claus, who was scheduled to make his arrival to the mall Saturday via the Livonia Fire Department. Also since then, major clothing retailer H&M has moved into the mall.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said many residents look forward to many more years of shopping at the city's mall.

"It's an exciting place," he said. "It's right in the heart of a lot of exciting things in Livonia on Six Mile between Haggerty and Newburgh."

Dan Irvin, president of the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce, said many Farmington and Far-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chamber president Dan West, general manager Todd Huhn and Mayor Jack Kirksey, with a crowd of chamber ambassadors and mall employees, cut the ceremonial ribbon.

mington Hills residents spend a lot of time at the mall, a member of the chamber in the Oakland County community.

He praised the work done as well, including the arrival of the newest fashion retailer.

"I know it takes a lot of work to do the renovations," Irvin said. "Also, the opening of H&M is a great addition to the center here."

'The community really supports us'

Mayor Jack Kirksey said it was an honor to be in attendance and to celebrate the improvements made.

He said Laurel Park Place is a crucial stop for folks looking to shop or even just walk in Livonia.

"We share the excitement of the wonderful things that have been done," he said.

"This has been a destination place. Always where you want to go, where you want to shop."

"It's been a very important aspect of our city."

Completing the renovations and pushing forward with new retailers is a sign that Laurel Park Place has a lot of customer support, Huhn said.






While other malls in metro Detroit are seeing hard times — including Northland Mall in Southfield, which recently

shut down — Huhn said the investment made at Laurel Park Place is a sign of great community support in and around Livonia.

"We're positioned well in the community. The community really supports us," he said. "It was nice to put that investment into the community because they do support us."

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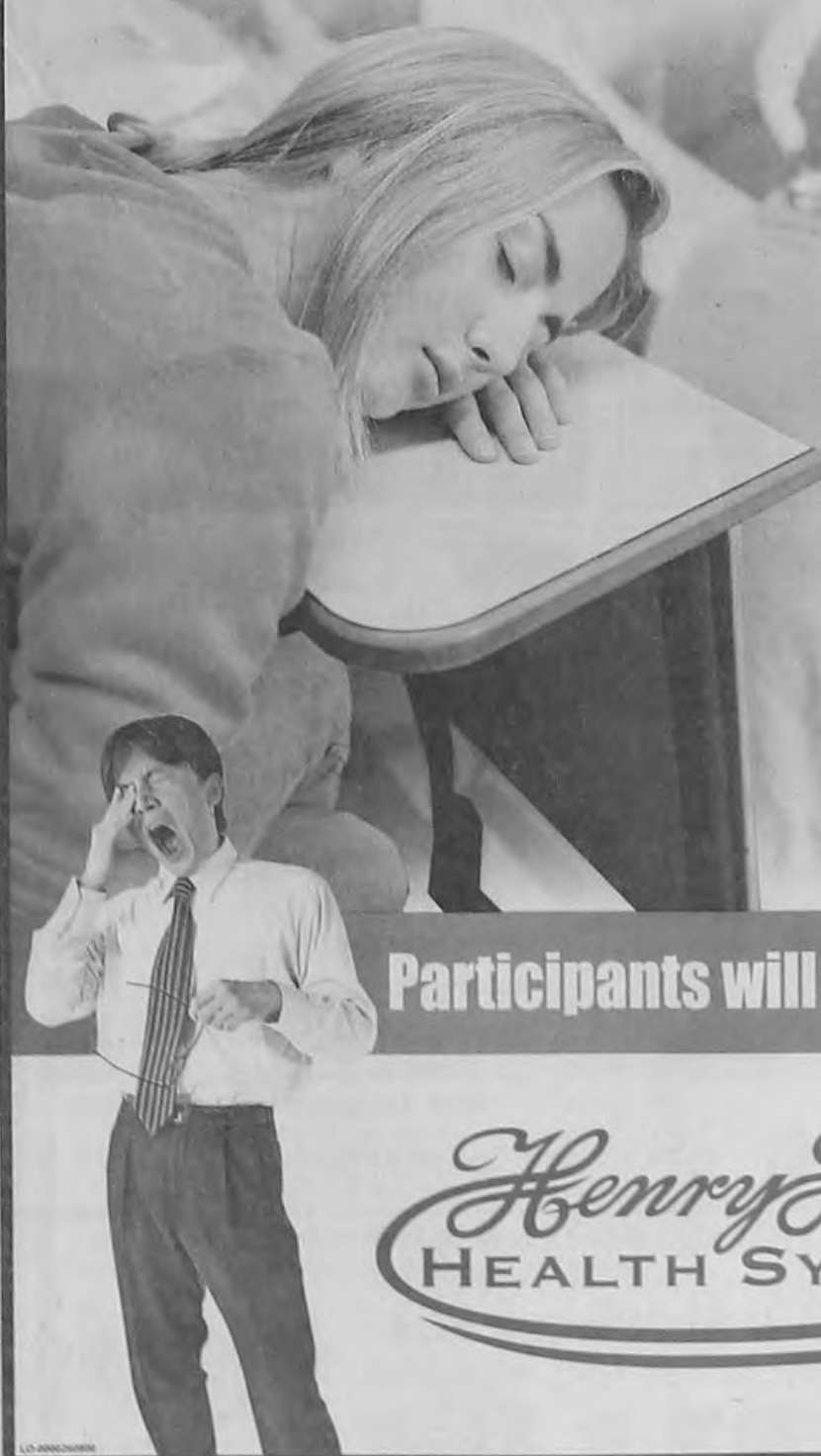
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What to do (or not) in the event of poisoning

When I was going to college, I had a friend nicknamed "Dumpster." He had that nickname because he would literally eat anything. He exercised quite a bit and was always hungry. He would often grab something out of the fridge, smell it and decide if it was edible. Sometimes, even if it smelled a little funny, he would then taste it. If it passed the taste test, it was usually gone.

I remember him asking, "Hey does this smell bad?" I looked at it and said, "I don't need to smell it. I can see mold."



Sgt. Michael Sura

ASK A TROOPER

That item quickly was tossed from the house. One time however, Dumpster's smell test failed him and he got sick. He was in taken to the emergency room. He made a full recovery, but swore to add the expiration date as part of his new three-step process when evaluating if items were edible.

Have you ever thought of what you

would do if someone you knew ingested a poisonous substance — or if a child that ingested the substance?

Poisoning is caused by swallowing, injecting, breathing in or otherwise being exposed to a harmful substance. Most poisonings occur by accident. Symptoms of poisoning may take time to develop. However, if you think someone has been poisoned, do not wait for symptoms to develop before getting that person medical help.

If you think someone has been poisoned, check and monitor the person's

airway, breathing and pulse. If necessary, begin rescue breathing and CPR. Make sure that the person has indeed been poisoned. It may be hard to tell. Some signs include chemical-smelling breath, burns around the mouth, difficulty breathing, vomiting or unusual odors on the person. If possible, identify the poison. Do not make a person throw up unless told to do so by poison control or a health care professional. If the person vomits, clear the person's airway. Wrap a cloth around your fingers before cleaning out the

mouth and throat. If the person has been sick from a plant part, save the vomit. It may help experts identify what medicine can be used to help reverse the poisoning.

Keep the person comfortable. The person should be rolled onto the left side and remain there while getting or waiting for medical help. If the poison has spilled on the person's clothes, remove the clothing and flush the skin with water. These are some basic ways to assist, but remember: In some situations, especially invol-

ing gas, it may be better to contact first responders immediately instead of trying to render aid. You do not want to become another victim.

Oh, and if you ever wonder what became of my friend Dumpster — he now works in city management. He is in charge of disposal and sanitation, of course.

If you have questions or comments please email them to askatrooper12@gmail.com or mail them to Ask A Trooper, Michigan State Police-Brighton Post, 4337 Buno Road, Brighton, MI 48116.

Peace, Love & Planet is offering Go Green mini grants

Peace, Love & Planet is offering \$50 to \$400 Go Green mini grants to qualifying student-led "green" initiatives.

Student charged initiatives addressing environmental concerns enable young people to

become part of the solution while contributing positively to the community. Additionally, collaboration, implementation and project promotion will help develop valuable leadership skills. The deadline to

apply is Dec. 5. Apply online at www.peaceloveandplanet.org.

Northville-based Peace, Love & Planet's mission is to nurture appreciation for nature and promote environmentally responsible

choices resulting in healthy, sustainable communities.

The nonprofit reaches more than 9,000 children annually by conducting engaging programs and partnering with schools and businesses to help

implement sustainable waste reduction strategies.

The mini grants are made possible by a matching grant from Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families,

which promotes the growth of organized philanthropy that enriches the quality of life in those communities.

For more information, contact Gina Adams-Levy at 248-840-0248 or plp_gina@me.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

NEWS OF UPCOMING EVENTS

The Community Calendar runs in the Plymouth and Canton *Observer* as space permits. Nonprofit groups and community organizations are welcome to submit news of upcoming events. Please include a daytime telephone number and contact person. Email information to jmaliszews@hometownlife.com.

SALUTE TO SERVICE

Time/Date: Doors open 6 p.m.; program starts at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11

Location: The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road

Details: Veterans Day celebration to recognize military personnel currently on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserves, as well as veterans for their exceptional commitment and dedication. Attendees may enjoy exhibited military memorabilia displays and a cookie and punch pre-show reception prior to the program.

Cost: Free

Contact: 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillagetheater.org

VETERANS CEREMONY

Time/Date: 11 a.m., Wednesday, Nov. 11

Location: Plymouth Veterans Memorial Park on Main Street, Plymouth

Details: Local veterans organizations host a public Veterans Day ceremony, featuring American Legion Post No. 391, Commander Johnnie Johnson; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 6695, Commander Bob Caldwell; and Vietnam Veter-

ans of America Chapter No. 528, President John Spencer and their committee. The ceremony will start with a prayer, as well as the Pledge of Allegiance, national anthem and speakers from veteran organizations. The event will conclude with a closing prayer, rifle salute in honor of veterans and *Taps*.

Cost: Free

CATWALK FOR CAUSE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14

Location: In the Summit's Chestnut Room, 46000 Summit Parkway

Details: Catwalk for a Cause, "to raise awareness for Alzheimer's disease. Benefits the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Michigan. It includes a luncheon and a fashion show presented by The Clothing Cove of Milford. Audience members will also be able to participate in the Power of the Purse raffle. Each donated purse contains an assortment of gift certificates and specialty items from local merchants

Cost: \$40. Reservations by calling 734-394-5485 or online at www.cantonfun.org

'ALMOST MAINE'

Time/Date: Nov. 13-15 and 20-22

Location: The Village Theater's Biltmore Studio, an intimate Black Box theater, at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads

Details: The Spotlight Players return to perform six performances of *Almost, Maine*, a show that features residents of Almost, Maine, who find themselves falling in and out of love in the strangest ways

Cost: \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors and students

Contact: www.cantonvillagetheater.org. Tickets also are available for purchase at the box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday and one hour prior to show time

ZUMBA PARTY

Time/Date: 9-10:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 14

Location: Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

Details: Area residents are

invited to take part in Canton's Zumba Party Hearty event to benefit the American Heart Association.

Cost: \$5

Contact: 734-394-5460 or go to www.cantonfun.org

COMPASSIONATE CARE

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. first and third Thursday of each month

Location: Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton

Details: Compassionate Coffee Club is an open and ongoing grief support group offering support and socialization for widows and widowers moving beyond the first year of loss. The program is sponsored by Compassionate Care Hospice.

Cost: Free, but drink purchase is required for use of space

Contact: Ann Kozma, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at 888-983-

9050, or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

GRIEF MATTERS

Time/Date: 2-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6

Location: Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth

Details: To help individuals coping with grief, Arbor Hospice & Palliative Care offers a supportive caring environment to work through the loss. This special workshop will give you helpful tips for coping with the upcoming holidays. Support groups and events are open to everyone, regardless of whether their loved one received services from Arbor Hospice & Palliative Care. All programs are limited to 12 participants and registration is required at least one week in advance.

Cost: Free

Contact: Sara Swanson at 734-794-5469 or sswanson@arborhospice.org; <http://www.arborhospice.org>

PUCKS FOR PASADENA

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24

Location: USA Hockey Arena, 14900 Beck, Plymouth Township

Details: Plymouth Township, Plymouth, Canton Township and Wayne County are joining

forces to help raise money to send the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band to Pasadena to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade in January. The Red Wings Alumni will play against the USA Hockey's National Development Program in a game, with all proceeds to support the marching band.

Cost: \$10 per person

Contact: Committee chair Jim Harb at 734-502-0645 or jharb@gsfmail.com. For sponsorship, contact Chris Zygmunt at chriszygmunt@wow-way.com.

ANTIQUE MARKET

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 22 and Dec. 6

Location: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor/Saline Road, Ann Arbor

Details: The Saline Antiques & Vintage Market is open. The event is pet-friendly, but pets must be leashed. The event continues rain or shine. Everything is under cover with food and refreshments.

Cost: Admission is \$6. Parking is free

Contact: www.salineantiques-market.com. To become an exhibitor, contact Doug Supinger, manager, at 937-875-0808 or email salinemarket@gmail.com

FREE AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

November 19&20, 1-5 PM

- Reduce traffic violations, crashes, chances for injury.
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Tuesday, November 17th, 7 PM

Catholic author, apologist, and award-winning Michigan Catholic columnist, Gary Michuta, brings a new twist to Season 7 with his "inversion" story. Having been born into a devoutly Catholic family, Gary never wandered from that path. Several of his meticulously researched books on the Deuterocanon and the Virgin Mary have been hailed by critics as landmarks in their field.



Gary Michuta

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With the All-on-4 procedure you do not need a dental implant for each and every tooth. Four implants that are precisely placed are all that is needed for a new set of teeth on either the top or bottom. This is a great option for someone who is losing their teeth or is struggling with dentures.

If you have a question about your oral health and what you can do to enjoy a healthier smile, contact Dr. James Stewart

Call 734.425.4400 or Visit www.jamesstewartdds.com

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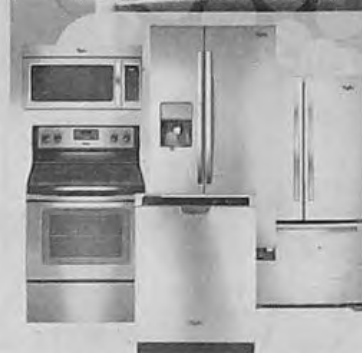


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Moody's downgrades credit rating for Plymouth-Canton district

Moody's Investor Services has downgraded Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' credit rating from Aa2 to Aa3, which weakens the district's borrowing strength, including potentially higher interest rates.

In its release Friday, Moody's offered the reason for the credit downgrade: "The Aa3 rating reflects the district's large, appreciating tax base with above average socioeconomic indicators; recent operating deficits which

have resulted in narrow reserves and liquidity; and ongoing enrollment declines. Also incorporated in the rating is the district's moderate debt burden and exposure to an underfunded cost-sharing pension plan."

The downgrade was described by P-CCS board members and administrators as modest and as a sign of the difficulties in current public education funding.

The district also indicated that the down-

grade, nonetheless, maintains P-CCS in a category that Moody's defines as having "very strong creditworthiness relative to other domestic issuers."

"Aa3 is a high-quality rating, and P-CCS is in a position of financial balance for the 2015-16 school year. P-CCS is one of several districts in the state of Michigan to receive a downgraded rating, and it is clear to the district that there are more financial challenges ahead for us," accord-

ing to the district's statement.

But school district officials said that a balanced budget remains a focus for the board and administration. "It will also be a primary focus area to rebuild the fund balance, and several initiatives will occur in the coming months to do so. It has also been reported to us from our financial managers that this downgrade will have no impact on the upcoming bond issuance."

Madonna adds two new health sciences majors

Baby boomers are aging, people are staying active later in life and health care continues to evolve. In response, Madonna University in Livonia now offers two new health sciences majors to give students the skills needed for jobs changes in the health care system.

Students will be able to pursue a health sciences degree in one of two tracks: population health care management or health care informatics and quality systems management. Both tracks are delivered through Madonna's College of Nursing and Health, with the

informatics track offered in partnership with the School of Business.

Students studying population health care management will likely help patients manage their care, coordinate care transitions, promote good health habits, and educate patients in self-care. Possible jobs for a graduate include wellness coaches and consultants, community health liaisons, and care coordination specialists.

Each track requires two, semester-long internships, during which students work with health care workers.

BAND

Continued from Page A1

ston, with a score of 88.550. Thurston also captured the awards for Outstanding Music Performance, Visual Performance and General Effect.

Ferndale won in Flight IV competition and also took home awards for Outstanding Music Performance, Visual Performance and General Effect.

Marching Band director Jon Thomann said he has been very proud of the student marchers all season.

"The band continues to strive for excellence each and every day," Thomann said. "When the students believe in themselves, set goals and do everything they can to prepare to achieve those goals, the journey becomes so enjoyable. That is exactly how the marching band has developed this season."

According to junior Brian Vasquez, bass clarinetist, not even the rain could dampen PCMB's performance on the field. "There was a huge amount of power on the field and everyone was putting all of their energy into the music and



KRISTAN RODWELL

Plymouth-Canton marchers practice in the drizzle before taking the field at Livonia Franklin.

movement," he said. "It was great!"

PCMB this week prepared to defend its state champion title Saturday at the Michigan Competing Band Association state championship at Ford Field in Detroit. PCMB has been Flight I state champion 24 times.

"We have a lot to look forward to at states since we compete with many great band programs. I can't wait to see the kids perform," Thomann said.

Tournament of Roses Parade

Although the regular competitive season end-

ed Saturday, PCMB will continue to practice for its appearance Jan. 1, 2016, in the 127th annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif.

And while the band practices, the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters will still be busily fund-

raising to ensure that all the student marchers are able to make the trip to Pasadena.

"Many people are working incredibly hard to make sure we raise enough money of offset the burden of cost families will bear to send their students to march

in this iconic parade," said Chris Zygmunt, booster club president. "This will be a fabulous, never-to-be-forgotten experience for these kids and we want all 176 members to participate, so we hope the Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities come to our last two major fundraisers and make the trip happen for these kids."

Pucks for Pasadena

On Tuesday, Nov. 24, the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth will host a USA Hockey National Team Development Program versus Red Wings Alumni Charity Hockey game. All proceeds will go to the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band for its trip to Pasadena. Tickets to this event are \$10. For more information, go to pcmb.net.

Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Ensemble

On Saturday, Nov. 21, PCMB will kick off the holiday season with its annual arts and crafts ensemble featuring more than 100 unique exhibitors, a bake sale, door prizes, concessions and music by members of the band. The show is held at Plymouth High School, 8400 Beck Road, in Canton. Admission is \$2, with children under 12 free.

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Public meeting on I-275 construction Nov. 10 in Livonia

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Got questions on the upcoming Interstate 275 construction project through Livonia, Farmington Hills and Novi?

The Michigan Department of Transportation announced Friday it will host a public meeting to inform motorists of more details of the project, scheduled to begin sometime in the spring. The meeting will

take place 4-7 p.m. Nov. 10 at Davenport University, 19499 Victor Parkway, in Livonia.

The open-house meeting will give interested motorists and residents more details on the project and MDOT officials are expected to be available for questions. Those who require special accommodations for the meeting can contact MDOT at 313-375-2400 prior to the meeting date.

The project, which will go from Five Mile to the I-96/

I-696/M-5 interchange, will include more than \$70 million in work. Work will entail replacing 13 miles of concrete pavement on the freeway, including on all the ramps to the mile roads and the interchange in Oakland County. Shoulder work and repairs to 16 bridges are also expected to take place, as well as drainage improvements and intelligent transportation systems work.

MDOT recently asked motorists to vote on a traffic pat-

tern they would like to see during the construction. More than 87 percent voted to close and detour one direction of I-275 at a time during the work. This option, the cheapest and shortest of the three proposed by the agency, will take only one construction season.

Traffic costs for closing one stretch of the freeway at a time and detouring the other will be \$1.04 million, while the other two options would have cost \$2.87 million and \$4.85

million, according to MDOT.

The public can still leave feedback on the project if there are concerns or other issues they have regarding the work, including if they are not able to attend the meeting next month. Feedback can be given by going online at research.net/r/i275feedback.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Michigan remains accredited in emergency management procedures

Gov. Rick Snyder announced Nov. 4 that the state of Michigan has retained its accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program. This national accreditation reaffirms the ability of state government to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies and disasters.

"The state of Michigan continues to be a national emergency management and homeland security leader," Snyder said. "In Michigan, we are committed to having a system in place that ensures our residents are prepared for all hazards, whether natu-

ral or human-made. I commend the Michigan State Police and the other state departments for their dedication and commitment in this arena."

As of October, 31 state emergency management programs were accredited. To achieve re-accreditation, Michigan was required to document how the state's emergency preparedness and response system meets 64 national standards and undergo a peer-review assessment by an independent team of EMAP assessors.

The accreditation process was led by the Michigan State

Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, which is responsible for coordinating the state's activities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters.

"This achievement displays Michigan's dedication to protecting the health and safety of Michiganders during times of crisis," said Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, state director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and director of the MSP. "The accreditation process was crucial for assessing Michigan's emergency plans and procedures,

ensuring we continue to be compliant with current emergency management standards and are establishing best practices for years to come."

The accreditation is valid for five years from the date granted by the EMAP Commission. Accredited programs must maintain compliance with EMAP standards and are reassessed every five years.

EMAP is a voluntary assessment and accreditation process for federal, state and local government agencies. The program was established by a group of national organizations to foster continuous improvement and account-

ability in emergency management and homeland security.

The EMAP process evaluates emergency management programs on compliance with requirements in 16 areas, including planning, resource management, training, exercises, evaluations, corrective actions and communications and warning.

EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management. The state of Michigan first achieved EMAP accreditation in 2011.

For more information about emergency planning in Michigan, go to www.michigan.gov/emhsd.

Former Livonia resident goes into Michigan Women's Hall of Fame

The late Janet C. Cooper, a former Livonia resident, was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame at an awards dinner and induction ceremony last week at the Kellogg Center in Lansing.

A longtime League of Women Voters member, Cooper was nominated by two fellow League members, Paula Bowman and Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, who attended the ceremony. Janet Cooper's sister, Marjory Cooper, also attended and accepted the award at the ceremony.

Janet Cooper began working for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights in 1963. She started as a field investigator, educating the public

about civil rights issues, and for the next 33 years worked her way up through the department, eventually serving as legal director and then deputy director of the entire department.

After receiving her law degree in 1974 from Wayne State, she became an adjunct professor of employment law at Wayne State. She later taught at the Detroit College of Law and the Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University until her death in 2002. During this time, Cooper mentored many young men and women and inspired many future generations of lawyers.

Cooper served as chair of the Metro Detroit Chapter of

the American Civil Liberties Union and, in the late 1990s, as chair of the ACLU of Michigan. Cooper led the ACLU to adopt affirmative action standards and guidelines which are still in place today.

Cooper was particularly active in addressing housing discrimination and women's issues in the 1960s and '70s.

"She had a passion for eliminating disparate treatment and securing remedies for such discrimination throughout her life," Bowman said. "Her commitment to civil rights knew no boundaries and her professional responsibilities were inextricably linked to her community activism."

Cooper lived in Livonia for

37 years and, despite her high-profile professional life, she was committed to serving her local community as well. She was the chair of the ethics committee for the Livonia City Council and helped draft the city's code of ethics for public officials, which passed in 1996.

These rules still govern the activities of Livonia's elected officials and employees. She was active in the League of Women Voters, Michigan Women's Campaign Fund, an early supporter of PLAID (People of Livonia Addressing Issues of Diversity) and numerous other organizations where she was able to give back to the community.



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Pet Supplies Plus will host pet pain workshop



Pet Supplies Plus in White Lake will host a workshop with Commerce Village Veterinary Hospital on identifying pet pain.

New developments for treating pain in pets are being used to help dogs and cats with health problems from arthritis to cancer. But first, pet owners have to know how to spot signs of pain, which is the main focus of an upcoming workshop 7-8 p.m. Nov. 19 at Pet Supplies Plus of White Lake.

The workshop, "Pain doesn't have to hurt," is part of the health series Pawsitively Healthy, conducted by Andrea Putt, D.V.M., of Commerce Village Veterinary Hospital in Commerce Township (www.commercevillage-vet.com).

Left untreated, pain in pets can cause severe stress, lack of appetite and depression, which can all lead to more serious health issues, Putt said. The program is designed to help pet owners recognize the warning signs of a pet in pain along with an overview of recent developments and approaches in treating dog and cat pain.

Veterinary medicine has come a long way and pain management in pets has become the norm. Today, veterinarians are prescribing not only specifically formulated pet pain medications, but they are also recommending therapies like acupuncture, laser therapy, massage and physical therapy, all intended to treat pet discomfort associated with injuries — such as fractures and muscle strains — as well as arthritis, chronic conditions such as pancreatitis and serious illnesses such as cancer.

"The bottom line is that no pet should ever have to be in pain," Putt said. "There are too many alternatives for pets with both acute, quickly onset pain and with chronic pain that is persistent like that experienced with arthritis. The key is recognizing the signs."

In dogs and cats, signs of pain can be subtle since many species, as a throw-back to living in the wild, mask their suffering to ward off would-be predators. In other cases,

signs can be more obvious like having trouble walking or going up and down stairs.

In addition to focusing on warning signs and new treatments, the workshop will also discuss what pet owners can do at home to help make pets more comfortable. This includes joint care supplements, mobility aids to help pets access furniture and vehicles and comfort care items such as heating pads.

"Pain can affect a pet at any age," Putt said. "We have seen pets only a few years old with arthritis pain. Pain does not discriminate. Any pet — of any size, any breed and any age — can suffer from pain."

Pawsitively Healthy workshops are held at Pet Supplies Plus, 6845 Highland Road in White Lake.

Advance registration is required. A \$5 donation per workshop with proceeds going to Elizabeth Lake Animal Rescue. Register online at www.addysp.wordpress.com.

Farmington Hills mom promotes student data privacy bill

Aileen Wingblad
Staff Writer

Are you concerned about who can access public school data bases, which serve as holding tanks for completed student assignments, personal information and more?

Farmington Hills resident Tammy Luty certainly is. And she recently made those concerns known in Lansing.

Luty, Michigan PTA's federal legislative chair, former president of the Farmington PTA Council and mother of three in the Farmington Public Schools district, was a featured speaker Oct. 22 at the state's House Educational Committee meeting, as part of Michigan PTA Advocacy Day 2015. A main focus of the meeting was student privacy and proposed legislation to protect it.

In her speech, Luty talked about her 13 years as a parent in the FPS district and how technology use at school has

greatly increased. With students' assignments for math and writing using online applications, for example, she questioned who owns the data and the student reports and how long it will be stored.

"Never am I asked as a parent if it is OK. It is just now part of the curriculum and required. So I have to hope that someone will protect this data about my child," she said. "The security is based on if the software company will not use this data to negatively impact my student or sell the data to another company."

"The laws that are currently in place date back to when I was in school and we know that technology has changed a lot since then. ... I have to be asked if my name, address and phone number can be shared in a school directory," she added. "Yet I have no control on who owns the data my student enters or the school district stores in all the databases it maintains or hires companies to maintain on students in our school system."



Michigan PTA members pose for a photo outside the House chamber in Lansing, along with Rep. Christine Greig and Rep. Jeremy Moss.

require protection of school data and personal information contained on websites or online with companies that provide contracted services for public school districts.

"I urge you to pass the legislation on student data privacy and protect the students in Michigan," Luty told the committee.

That's what HB 4894 is designed to correct. Sponsored by Rep. Jim Tedder — who introduced the bill at the hearing — the legislation would

Luty said she decided to take up the student data privacy cause for Advocacy Day 2015 after attending a National PTA conference on it last year in Washington, D.C.

"Having an active bill on this in Lansing also made it a great opportunity to be involved and represent the students and parents from across our state as Advocacy is the heart of PTA mission," she said.

It's been more than five years since the Michigan PTA held Advocacy Day in Lansing and Luty said she would have liked to see more participation from students and parents. Still, she said, "the ones that did attend had a great day of seeing the legislative process in action. Hopefully, we can see progress on student data privacy in Lansing."

Michigan PTA Advocacy Day 2015 was sponsored by Microsoft Corporation.

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DIVISION 1 FOOTBALL DISTRICT FINAL

WHAT A TRIBUTE



Canton football coach Tim Baechler presents the Division 1 district trophy to his team after Friday's 34-27 win over Northville.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

Chiefs honor Josh Nolen's memory with hard-nosed 34-27 win over Northville

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Their biggest game of the season awaited the Canton Chiefs on Friday night.

But before making the bus ride over to Tom Holzer Ford Field in Northville, Canton head coach Tim Baechler talked to his team about Josh Nolen — the former Chiefs defensive back who died Oct. 30 after a bout with kidney cancer.

Nolen's funeral was earlier Friday, attended by the entire team.

"We had the (No.) 8 stickers, we talked about it," Baechler said following Canton's 34-27 victory over previously unbeaten Northville in a Division 1 district final. "The funeral service today was inspirational, it was awesome. And I talked to the kids a little bit about that. We played for him today and for his dad, his family. It was a special day."

"I told the kids in our meeting room before we got on the bus: 'Guys, if you knew you had a week left to live, what would you do? How hard would you play?' This young man was just sitting here like you five years ago. You can't waste a down, you can't waste a play, you can't waste a day."

Baechler's speech hit the mark, because on the second snap of the ballgame, 5-foot-7 junior running back Markus Sanders burst through the Mustangs' defense for a 74-yard run.



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Charging ahead for some of the more than 200 yards he gained Friday night is Canton's Markus Sanders (middle).

Only a desperation tackle by Ryan Nelson kept Sanders from scoring. Taking it in from the 1-yard line on the next play was senior running back Jakob Wickens to put the Chiefs in front 7-0.

"That (Sanders' big run) kind of set the tone and let them know we were here," Baechler said.

Northville senior quarterback Justin Zimbo then had his first-down pass

tipped at the line and intercepted near midfield by Canton sophomore Colin Troup.

"That hurt; every possession in this game mattered," said Mustangs head coach Matt Ladach, whose team finished 10-1, its best record since 1961. "Turning the ball over was something we knew we could not do and, un-

See CHIEFS, Page B2

PREP BOYS SOCCER



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Hunter Olson (right) and the rest of the Canton Chiefs are heading back to title game.

Chiefs one win away

Canton nips Adams in shootout, reaches D1 final

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

When the boys soccer state tournament began, Canton head coach Mark Zemanski made sure to give both of his goalkeepers extra work stopping penalty kicks at the end of practices.

That preparation paid dividends Wednesday as sophomore goalkeeper David McGrath made one big stop and watched another shot sail wide as the Chiefs outscored Rochester Adams 4-3 in the shootout, giving Canton a 3-2 victory over the Highlanders in a Division 1 state semifinal at Rochester Hills Stoney Creek.

Canton (20-6-3) played Saturday for a second straight D1 championship against undefeated Forest Hills Central at Brighton High School.

"We judge both keepers on how they do on the PKs at the end of practice," Zemanski said. "And David has been the better keeper on PKs, so we went with him."

After senior forward Hunter Olson buried a shot into the middle of the Adams net to tie the shootout at 3-3, McGrath kicked out a leg to block a low shot by Peter Lencioni.

Going top-right corner with the subsequent PK was senior Jason Ren to put the Chiefs ahead in the shootout and that left it up to McGrath versus Connor McDevitt.

Time to party

The shot sailed high and wide to the left of the net, triggering a huge celebration along the side of the turf field between players and fans who made the 50-mile trek to Stoney Creek.

"I just had to pray before the game and trusted God to tell me where to go," said McGrath, who knew before the game he would take over from junior Steven Page if the contest reached the shootout. "Just took my instincts and that's where I went."

"I also read the position of the shooter taking the kick and I based which way I went off of that."

Olson, who also scored in the first

See FINAL, Page B3

FAMILY STICKS TOGETHER

PLAYING FOR MOM

Sarah Thompson tees off on family challenge, helps her mom fight breast cancer

P.J. Gradowski
Correspondent

Sand traps, water, divots and hazards of all kinds are usually what golfers are used to facing. The best play through those obstacles and still find themselves at the top of the leaderboard.

At the University of Detroit Mercy, however, one golfer was given a challenge that you can't practice for, but with the determination and the strength shown by her mother, she was able to excel both on and off the course and now the two of them are just acing every hole that they encounter.

It was just another trip to the doctor

for Carol Thompson, mother of then-sophomore Sarah Thompson, a Canton resident and graduate of Plymouth High School, where she starred in girls golf.

But the early September day was nothing ordinary, as the Thompson

See MOM, Page B4



COURTESY THOMPSON FAMILY

At the 2014 Horizon League Championship, Sarah and Carol Thompson share a hug and a smile.

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CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

fortunately, we did.”
The Chiefs subsequently cashed in on a 7-yard up-the-middle TD run by Wickens, accelerating as he neared pay dirt, opening up a 14-0 lead.

Like a machine

Canton — which now faces nemesis Saline in a D1 regional rematch from 2014 — never gave up the lead the rest of the way, grinding down Northville's defense with a running attack that chewed up yards and minutes.
The only time Chiefs junior quarterback Jake O'Donnell had to throw the ball, it went for a 56-yard gain to junior Brennon Pelland.

That play keyed a third-quarter TD drive capped off by senior Jared Stephens' 3-yard run through the left side of the line.
“Our line was blocking hard all day, the run was working,” O'Donnell said. “When you throw it once a game, you know it's going to be wide open. That's what we did and it worked.”
“You know he's going to be wide open, you just got to get it to him.”
Before the game, Ladach emphasized the need to put the defensive clamps on Sanders — who entered the contest with nearly 1,800 rushing yards and 27 TDs — if Northville was to move on to the next round.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Northville's Zach Prystash dives for a touchdown score in the first half against Canton. Trying in vain to stop him is Lou Baechler (right) of the Chiefs.

What the Mustangs had to deal with was Canton's O-line and an offense that kept coming, on a mission to move the chains.
“It's amazing for a quarterback,” O'Donnell said, smiling. “We get all the glory, but our line's doing all the work and we're just running downhill all night long.”
If not Sanders running the ball (he ran for about 250 yards anyway), the Chiefs had Stephens (who also cracked the 100-yard mark Friday) and Wickens to contend with.
“Our offense plays better when all three backs get carries,” Baechler

said.
Striking fast
Northville didn't go quietly, cutting the Canton lead to 21-14 with 1:25 to go in the first half. Zimbo and wide-out Anthony Abbott II combined for a 50-yard catch-and-run down the left sideline.
The Chiefs responded with the long toss to Pelland, setting up Stephens' short touchdown run, taking a 28-14 edge into the locker room.
The Mustangs received the kickoff to start the second half needing to score quickly to grab back some mo-

mentum.
Zimbo and his teammates did just that just one minute into the third, thanks to a spectacular hook-and-ladder play that went for 55 yards and a touchdown. After Zimbo threw a short pass to Jack Burke, the ball was pitched to Adam Ghabra — who went the rest of the way.
Canton pretty much sealed the deal with a seven-minute TD drive, all on the ground, covering 68 yards in 11 plays. Wickens finished the march, taking it in from the 1.
Northville made it a one-score game again when Zimbo threw a 60-yard TD pass to Burke down the right sideline.
Then with about 5:30 left in the final quarter, the Chiefs got the ball back, only to be faced with a fourth-and-short at their own 45. Instead of punting, Baechler went for it. Making the first down was Stephens and the Chiefs were able to run out the clock.
“I don't care, I'm playing to win, it's playoffs,” Baechler said, asked about potentially giving Northville a short field in a seven-point game.
Ladach said it was painful not being able to get another chance on offense.
“It's a situation where you're doing everything you can to get back in the game,” Ladach said. “They get a first down, it's gut wrenching. You can feel the kids behind you getting their hearts ripped out. It's tough.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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USA HOCKEY

NTDP icers can't sustain quick start

USA team falls short of medal at World U-17 Hockey Challenge

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

After soaring to the top of their group standings at the 2015 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge in British Columbia, Canada, the USA Hockey National Team Development Program's Under-17 team stumbled just a bit down the stretch.
Things got off to a great start for the Don Granato-coached U17s, with victories Sunday against the Czech Republic (6-1), Monday against Canada White (7-5) and Tuesday over Canada Black (6-1).
On Thursday came the first blemish on the trip, as Sweden earned a close 5-4 victory in a quarterfinal match-up.
Friday against Finland, with a medal on the line, the U17s dropped another 5-4 decision.
Sasha Chmelevski and Scott Reedy scored in the first period for USA, but Finland scored four goals in the period to take a 4-2 edge and never looked back.

Still, Team USA remained at the top of the Group A standings with a 3-0 record and nine points, well ahead of the Czech Republic (four points).
Following is a recap at the earlier games played at Escana Events Center in Dawson, Creek, B.C.:
NTDP U17s 6, Czech Republic 1: Quick goals by Jacob Tortora and Joey Cassetti fueled a lopsided victory.
Reedy needed two goals with Chmelevski and Tommy Miller also lighting the lamp.
Stopping 26 of 27 shots for the victory was goalie and Northville native Dylan St. Cyr.
NTDP U17s 7, Canada White 5: Grant Mismash scored two goals and the U17s got multi-point efforts from Josh Norris (one goal, one assist), Evan Barratt (one goal, one assist), Reedy (one goal, one assist) and Tortora (two assists).
Going the distance in goal for USA was Adam Scheel (24 saves).
NTDP U17s 6, Canada Black 1: Team USA made it three straight in the tournament.
Brady Tkachuk led the way with two goals and an assist for the U17s. Adding



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY
One of the top performers for the NTDP U17s in British Columbia was Scott Reedy (foreground).

a goal and two assists was Reedy, while David Farrance chipped in with a goal and an assist.
Helping the cause with a 17-save performance in net was St. Cyr.
SWEDEN 5, NTDP U17s 4: In the quarterfinal, Max Gildon put the U17s up 1-0 early in the first period, but Swe-

den answered with a three-goal surge and never trailed after that.
Scoring two goals for Team USA was Sean Dhooghe, with Logan Hutsko also scoring.

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YOUTH FOOTBALL

WSJFL playoffs kick off on high note for Lions

The Western Suburban Junior Football League playoffs kicked off Saturday, with all Canton Lions teams earning playoff spots.
The top-seeded freshman team had a first-round bye.
Following is a recap of the first-round, held at Wayne Memorial:

Varsity

The Lions varsity squad had a strong start to the post season with a 59-6 win over the Belleville Cougars. Ivan Davis ran in two touchdowns, while Daylin Banks, Jeremy Fuchs and Seth Humm each reached the end zone once.
Cameron Wilborn scored multiple times, including a kick-off return, punt return and a pick six. Extra points were put on the board by Humm and BJ Nichols.
Fuchs also had an interception; and Jon Hanton and Cameron Wallace led with tackles.
The varsity Lions will take on the

Dearborn Heights Redskins in the second round of playoffs, Saturday, Nov. 7 at Belleville High School.
Junior varsity
The Canton Lions junior varsity team defeated the Belleville Cougars 47-0.
The scoring started early for the Lions when Ethan Bennett returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown.
Touchdowns continued with three by Carson Sampson and one each from Marco Johnson, George Faris Jr. and Joshua Nichols. Conversion points were scored by Johnson, Nichols, Gavin Bobby and Daniel Carroll.
The Lions' strong defense resulted in their third shutout of the year. Key plays were contributed by Preston Long with two sacks and another resulting from teamwork by Brandon Keen and Derik Watson. Nichols had an interception.
Additional solid defensive efforts



CANTON LIONS

Canton Lions freshman Aaron Alexander (No. 51) powers through the Redskins defense during the Oct. 24 game.

came from Faris, Johnson, Nichols, Sampson, Daniel Baldwin, Ethan Bennett, Giulian Bodiu and Aidan Thompson.
The JV Lions will meet the Dearborn Heights Redskins in round two, Sunday,

Nov. 8, back at Wayne Memorial.
OCT. 24 RECAP: The Lions teams traveled Oct. 24 to Dearborn Heights to face the Redskins in the last week of the regular season.
» The varsity dropped a 31-0 decision. Although the Lions had plenty of highlights on offense, those efforts did not result in points on the scoreboard.
Cameron Wilborn had a long pass completion to Josh Bergevin, Wilborn had a 20-yard run, Ivan Davis chimed in with a 30-yard run and Jeremy Fuchs had an interception and 25-yard return.
Fuchs, Jon Hanton, Lucas Holden and Cameron Wallace led the defense with six or more tackles each. Bergevin, Davis, Wilborn, Daylin Banks, Sean Britt, Gabe Fisher, Seth Humm, Spencer Korroch, Daniel Martin and Ezell Snipes all contributed with tackles.
» The JV Lions defense held the Redskins scoreless until just before the half, when a Redskins touchdown and extra point brought the score to 8-0.
Even as the strong rain and winds rolled in during the second half, the tough defensive efforts continued with two fumble recoveries made by Lions Tyler Klabunde and Preston Long.
Marco Johnson provided a key highlight on offense, with a 35-yard run. But the Lions still couldn't reach the end zone.
The result: A tough loss for the JV squad, with a final score of 28-0.
» The Canton Lions freshman team remained undefeated for the regular season with a 32-0 win over the Redskins Saturday. Leading the end zone charge was Kris Easley with two touchdowns in the first half and one more in the second.
Oronde Patterson's pass completion to Aaron Alexander resulted in a touchdown. Patterson also scored on a quarterback keeper.
The strong Lions defense kept the Redskins out of the end zone, with an interception by Avery Satterlee and tackles by Alexander, Easley, Devin Kaigler, Brynden Miller and Aaron Pryce.
Special teams contributed, too, with Luke Matusik recovering a 24-yard kick by Alexander Wiewiora.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Top-ranked Ocelots go to work

Schoolcraft players hungry for more success after title season

Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Abe Mashhour's first season at the helm of Schoolcraft's men's basketball program couldn't have gone any better — save for winning the NJCAA championship.

Although the Ocelots (31-5) came up short on the national stage, they did cruise to the Michigan Community College Athletic Association title with a 15-1 mark, featuring a blend of power in the paint and precision from the perimeter.

What can Mashhour's team — opening 2015-16 as the No. 1-ranked team in NJCAA Division II — do for an encore?

"Last year's team was very talented, but to some extent overachieved," Mashhour said. "This year's team, if we don't have a terrific year, then you can say we underachieved."

"There's some pressure on us. We have great depth, great size, all 14 guys are capable of coming in and giving us good minutes."

Such was the case Wednesday in the season opener against visiting Jackson College, a never-in-doubt 92-62 win for the Ocelots.

Leading the charge was a newcomer, sophomore guard Tyron Hamby, who poured in 24 points as Schoolcraft bolted to a 51-27 halftime lead.

"Tyron Hamby is ultra-talented, he can do a lot of different things," Mashhour said. "He is a very, very good defender. He can score the ball multiple ways. So Tyron is going to be a high-impact player immediately."

Several holdovers from 2014-15 got off to productive starts, including sophomore guard Dre Black (17 points, nine assists, six rebounds) and sophomore forward Davon Taylor (10 points, six boards), who played high school basketball at Westland John Glenn and Canton, respectively.

Joining them in double figures were sophomore guards Ja'Christian Biles and Tyler Johnson (Howell), with 10 points each.

Schoolcraft opened the contest with Taylor and forward Anthony Wartley-Fritz up front and Black, Biles and Johnson rounding out the lineup.



Two sophomore players with Observerland ties, Davon Taylor (left) and Dre Black, are back for Schoolcraft.

"It makes a world of difference when you have five sophomores returning," Mashhour said. "And fortunately for us, we have one at every position. ... Obviously, they know what the expectations are and what we're trying to do as a team, collectively."

"It's almost like I don't even have to say anything. They kind of already know for the most part what they're doing wrong and what they need to do better, that type of thing."

Mashhour said his sophomore class made sure to come to training camp in top-notch condition.

"All five of them worked very, very hard over the summer," Mashhour said. "Davon Taylor is as improved as anybody, Ja'Christian had a great summer, Tyler had an excellent summer. They went to a couple camps and did very well for themselves."

A large freshman class could make a quick impact this season. In the mix are guards Bryan Collins, Dwayne Chastain and Esa Abdulmami, forwards Daniel Dwyer, Rodney Scales and Carlos Taylor (eight points) and 6-10, 240-pound center R.J. Coil (Toledo, Ohio).

"R.J. Coil, once he gets going, he's



One of Schoolcraft's promising freshmen is Salem alum Jamyra Wilson.

going to be very, very good for us as well," Mashhour said, adding that the freshman is just now recovering from an illness that hampered him during the preseason. "And Bryan Collins, a freshman from (Dearborn Heights)

"Last year's team was very talented, but to some extent overachieved," Mashhour said. "This year's team, if we don't have a terrific year, then you can say we underachieved."

ABE MASHHOUR
Schoolcraft men's basketball coach

Annapolis, he's a very good scorer as well. He gives a few more options. We have a lot of scorers, so that's nice."

Rounding out the squad is sophomore guard Juwan Clark.

Schoolcraft will enjoy several home games the rest of November, including at 3 p.m. Saturday against Grand Rapids, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday against Lake Michigan and 3 p.m. Nov. 14 against Cuyahoga.

Lady Ocelots roll

Also opening the 2015-16 season with a win Wednesday was the Schoolcraft women's basketball team.

Led by Salem alum Jamyra Wilson, who scored 18 points in her first game with the Lady Ocelots, the home team rolled to a 76-47 victory over Jackson.

Wilson started at guard and played 25 minutes for head coach Kara Kinzer, who last season guided Schoolcraft to a 26-10 record (including 11-5 in the MCCA).

Returnees Ashley Bland (Wayne Memorial) and T'era Nesbitt (10 points) also played in the back court.

Up front for the Lady Ocelots was freshman forward Jade Smith, with sophomore guard-forward Rikki Scherdt, also on the 2014-15 squad, chipping in with eight rebounds.

Rainy McCune, a freshman guard, scored 15 points off the bench as Schoolcraft jumped out to leads of 28-8 after one quarter and 41-16 at halftime.

Other Schoolcraft players to contribute were sophomore guard Elise Tolbert (Birmingham Seaholm) and freshman guard Phoenix Douthat, with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Madonna men put scare into Indiana East

Crusaders women's team edged by Windsor

The Madonna University men's basketball team put a scare Tuesday into No. 10-ranked Indiana East, but the Crusaders came up just short, falling 99-90 at the Tiernan Center.

Nick Owens scored a career-high 19 points, with Chris Dierker (Salem) adding 16 to go along with 14 points each from Khalil Malone and Muhammed Zahr.

Dan Hall led Madonna on the glass with seven rebounds.

The two sides traded baskets over the opening eight minutes before IUE used a 9-0 run to take a 23-15 lead with 11:30 to play in the half. MU trailed 33-25 with 6:53 left before starting an 11-1 run of its own to lead 36-34.

Malone accounted for five of MU's points in the run while adding an assist on a Hall basket as MU took the lead back briefly before trailing 45-39 at intermission.

IUE led by as many as 14 early in the second half before MU pulled all the way back to within a single point, 67-66, with 9:47 to play on one of Owens' four 3-pointers. IUE extended its lead back



Madonna's Chris Dierker lines up a free throw.

to four the next trip down the floor and did not let it slip below three the remainder of the game.

Lady Crusaders edged

A 30-point fourth quarter was not enough to overcome a cold first half of shooting and pull off the comeback as the No. 21-ranked Madonna University women's basketball team dropped its

season opener Oct. 31 by an 85-79 score to visiting Windsor at the Activities Center.

Lindsey Hernden led all scorers with 26 points, just two away from tying her career high. Hernden scored 23 of her 26 points in the second half, connecting on seven 3-pointers in the contest.

Newcomer Becca Sabol posted a double-double with 21 points and 14 rebounds to go along with five blocks, while fellow newcomer Cris Harper added 17 points in the setback.

Hernden gave MU its lone lead of the game two minutes in when she connected on her first triple to make it 3-2. Windsor retook the lead in the first quarter and eventually saw it grow to as many as nine, 21-12, after the first 10 minutes.

The Lancers pushed their lead into double figures in the second quarter, using a 9-2 run to take their largest lead of the half to that point at 30-16. Back-to-back baskets by the Lancers made it a 38-21 game with 2:04 left in the second quarter before Sabol made a pair of free throws to pull MU within 12, 38-26, at intermission.

A pair of free throws from Kacy Robinson pulled MU within 10 early in the third quarter, but UW went on a 19-11 run that spanned 6:02 and gave the

visitors a 59-39 lead with 3:21 to play in the quarter. MU got back within 10, 59-49, thanks to a 10-0 run keyed by four points from Harper and capped by a Hernden triple. Windsor answered the MU volley with one of its own, scoring the last seven points in the third to lead 66-49 after three.

Down 74-54 with 7:21 to play in the game, Sabol knocked down a pair of free throws to start a 13-4 MU run that pulled the Crusaders within 10, 78-68. Kelsey Gerhardt, Harper and Hernden all canned triples in the run with Hernden closing the barrage with a 3-pointer with 2:32 left.

After Windsor retook a 14-point lead at the free-throw line to lead, 84-70, with 1:07 to play, Harper started another MU run with two free throws before Hernden followed with back-to-back triples and was fouled on the second before completing the four-point play to bring MU back within five, 84-79, with 11 seconds left. UW split a pair of free throws with 10 seconds left to lead 85-79 and MU was unable to get another shot off, falling just short of pulling off the comeback.

Andrea Kiss led Windsor with 24 points, while Cheyanne Roger added 19 and Emily Prevost chipped in 16 for the Lancers.

FINAL

Continued from Page B1

half to put Canton up 2-1, said the team "knew from the beginning that David would make two saves (in the shootout). We said we had to make four and we did and we pulled the 'W.'"

Also scoring for Canton during the shootout were senior Josh Posuniak and sophomore Avery Olson.

Adams head coach Josh Hickey said his team (16-8-3) was "hoping to see them again and we got that opportunity," referring to the 2014 state final, in which Canton beat the Highlanders, 1-0.

"I thought we gave it a good effort," Hickey said. "They ended up finishing on their PKs and we didn't."

"I thought we played well throughout the whole second half of the game, to be honest with you. We had some opportunities, we didn't find the back of the net. Obviously, that brings you into a shootout, where it's just a coin toss."

The Highlanders got on the board first, when senior Zorn Lennart headed the ball past Page with 30:14 left in the first half.

It only took the Chiefs 90 seconds to respond, with a great individual effort by senior midfielder Jimmy Walkinshaw and a perfect finish by senior



The Canton Chiefs celebrate Wednesday after defeating Rochester Adams 3-2 in a Division 1 state semifinal at Rochester Hills Stoney Creek.

forward Sam DeLoey, who headed the ball past Adams goalkeeper Dylan Brown.

"That was really big," Zemanski said. "Jimmy made a great play to beat the ball and serve a perfect ball. It was a perfect header by Sam."

DeLoey smiled about the significance of the play, but talked more about how "amazing" it is that the Chiefs are going for a second straight title.

"It's been a ride; it's been so great," DeLoey said. "From the beginning, we knew we were a good team. We knew

we could do great things.

"We put in a lot of hard work, really peaked at the right time."

Perfectly placed

With 23:27 left in the half, Canton took a 2-1 lead. Posuniak sent a corner kick into the middle of the 18-yard box and Olson knew what to do from there. He sent a header past Brown for his 26th goal of the season.

"I just saw it in the air, I went up for it," Olson said. "It felt like I was up in the air forever. I had a head on it and it went over the defender. Just celebration from there."

That lead held for the Chiefs until the second half. With about 29 minutes to go, a 60-yard shot by junior Jon Kmiec sailed over the head of Page for the equalizer.

The Kmiec goal was the last one to be scored through the rest of regulation and the two OT sessions, setting up a shootout to remember for the Chiefs.

"This is a veteran group. These are the guys who took my PKs last year when we got through districts and regionals," Zemanski said. "They knew I had a lot of confidence in them."

Not to mention, having a practice-tested stopper ready to come out of the bullpen.

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MOM

Continued from Page B1

family was rocked with the news that would change their life. Maybe it was fate, maybe it was just pure coincidence, but Sarah just happened to be with her mom at the initial testing.

"I went with her to the yearly mammogram visit and you normally don't get the results back for a few days," Sarah said. "I went with her just to go with her, not really thinking anything about it. It was just a normal visit for the exam and something she has done for so many years now."

After the routine mammogram, Carol was told that she needed to go back to see the doctor and that is where the journey began.

"When they called saying they needed her to go back, I knew I had to be there because they normally don't tell you to come back if everything is fine," Sarah said. "I went to the follow-up appointment and I was there when they told us she had breast cancer."

"When you get news like this, everything just seems so surreal," Carol said. "You are just shocked, but we had to take the news head-on and deal with it from that point."

The mother and daughter arrived home and, with help from the entire family, the Thompsons got together and did the only thing they could do — get ready to tee off on their next challenge.

"At first, you are just shocked," Sarah said. "You don't know what to expect and I don't think my mom really knew, either. The first day was just about absorbing it and taking it all in and then after that came all the planning. It got hectic, chaotic, stressful and emotional, everything that you would think about would come with news like that."

What to do

The 2014 fall golf season was just about to begin and for Sarah Thompson and Titans, they came into the year as back-to-back defending Horizon League champions. Thompson was the Horizon Freshman of the Year in 2013-14 as the team stormed back from eight shots down to shock Oakland University and claim its second straight title.

Now as the 2014-15 season started, Thompson was counted on to assume a much larger role on the team, both on and off the course, due to the graduation of a few seniors, but the news had her doubting if she could continue to play golf and help her team.

"It was something I needed to get over," she said. "There were times I talked to coach (Terri Anthony-Ryan) and thought that maybe I shouldn't go to a tournament because, mentally, I didn't think I would be there, but she would always calm me down and bring me back to earth a bit. My mom would then tell me that, you can't miss a tourna-



Carol Thompson gives a hearty thumbs-up after her last chemotherapy session.

COURTESY THOMPSON FAMILY



Plymouth alum Sarah Thompson (middle) with parents Carol and Tom after she won the 2013 Horizon League Freshman of the Year Award.

COURTESY THOMPSON FAMILY

ment because of me, that is not a good excuse, but it was definitely hard looking over and not seeing her."

The Titans' fall schedule consisted of four tournaments, three of which would have been easy drives within a few hours for Carol to make. Sarah would now have to walk without her mother behind her for those events, but with her mom fighting the battle, so was Sarah. She claimed runner-up at the Loyola Fall Invitational and was fourth at the Dayton Fall Invite, all while ending the non-traditional season leading the team in scoring average.

"A lot had to do with the fight that my mom was putting up," Sarah said. "She was fighting so hard to beat this and her passion and emotion for that carried over to me and my golf game and school work. I was able to pick up on her aggressive attitude and relate that to my life. It helped me so much and motivated me every single day."

"I think like any parent would have done, I told her that I didn't want to be the cause of her missing out on anything," Carol said. "If it was a golf tournament, school function or just a social event, I told her that she could not miss any of them due to my condition."

The fall came to an end with Sarah posting three top 20 performances and two top 10 efforts. The long winter break was about to kick in for the UDM golf team.

Battle for life

Carol Thompson had already started chemotherapy during the fall season, which prevented her from attending any of the fall events. She was also hospitalized a few times during her bout.

The battle against breast cancer is always a fight for survival. Just look at some of the facts from the National Breast Cancer Foundation:

» One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.

» Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death among women.

» Each year it is estimated that more than 220,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 will die.

With that said, the NBCF also lists that death rates from breast cancer have been declining since 1990, in part due to screening and early detection, increased awareness and continually improving treatment options. For the Thompsons, the early detection meant an early start for the fight.

"Breast Cancer Awareness is every day, not just one month," Sarah said. "The good thing about it is that it does get all the information out there and reminds people to go and get checked out. You can fight this and beat it, but the earlier you catch anything wrong, the better the chances are. It can happen to anybody,

so we need to stay on top of things and always make sure to go to those yearly appointments."

"I remember telling Sarah and her teammates that this news was like hitting a shot out of bounds or in the woods," Carol said. "You just have to pick yourself up. It is not a shot that you want, but you have to deal with it and just figure out how you can score."

In it together

The fight and support extended well beyond the Thompson family. Ask any student-athlete and they will tell you that their team, teammates and coaching staff are all just another part of their family. A member of any winning team will tell you that they are as close to their team as they are to their own relatives and that closeness helps separate the regular teams from championship squads.

Sarah had that family in her corner right from the start. From her head coach to her teammates, athletic and school administration, it all helped foster an atmosphere of continued success.

"Coach Ryan's philosophy is family, school and then golf and she always says that, so she was a huge help in all of this," Sarah said. "My teammates were great, my roommates were great, all of the professors here at Detroit were understanding of what I was going through and I couldn't ask for a better support system from all of them and my family."

"Coach Ryan would call me all the time and I would get texts and Facebook messages from the team on a daily basis," Carol said. "They made things a lot easier on me and I know Sarah was well-taken care of."

Back on the course

Spring is the season of life. It's the season when the weather begins to get warmer, flowers start to bloom and the leaves start to grow. In Division I golf, spring is the championship season and, as the weather started to turn, the Titans were right back on the golf course, getting ready to make another run at a title.

Detroit would play in four spring events before the Horizon League Championship, but when the Titans made their annual trip to Florida, Carol was still not in any condition to visit the Sunshine State to see her daughter Sarah and the rest of the team.

"I would text coach Ryan and coach Lammers all the time to see how the team was doing," Carol said. "They always kept me updated so for me, that constant communication made it just a little easier to get through everything since I could not be there."

Carol was determined to make it back to the course to see Sarah and the team play and that appearance was at the IPFW Spring Classic in early April. Carol was able to come down for one round and see her daughter play again.

"She tried to make every event that she could, but she couldn't travel to any in the fall because of the chemotherapy," Sarah said. "She really couldn't and I didn't want her to come and then have her get even sicker with her immune system down. She finally came to our IPFW tournament in the spring. It was only for one day, but that was enough for me."

Sarah ended the regular season among the Horizon League leaders in scoring average and was named all-Horizon League, but she didn't know the surprise she was getting when the conference championship came around.

"I honestly didn't think she was going to be able to come to the Horizon League Championship and I didn't want to give my hopes up, but when she did, something happened," Sarah said. "It just gave me a spark and I played with even more confidence out there."

Thompson was in the top 10 all weekend long and wound up tying for third with a career-best 232. With her mother on her mind all season long, she would end up ranking fifth in the league with a career-best 78.43 average. She was in the top 20 eight times, with four top 10 finishes. In the classroom, she was a member of the Detroit Athletic Director's Honor Roll and the Horizon League Fall and Spring Academic Honor Rolls.

"She always told me that I am doing what I have to do to get better, so I need you to just focus on your goals," Sarah said. "Sometimes, she would say, 'I am doing what I have to do to see you play in the spring so go out there, continue to work hard and make it worth me watching when I finally get back out there' and she would say that with a smile to fire me up. It worked."

"I really don't know how she was able to do everything she did with this on her mind," Carol said. "I am so impressed with my daughter. My mom was diagnosed with cancer when I was in college and I fell apart, so I am so proud that she was able to stay focused."

All the way back

With Carol getting better every day, the summer was one of joy and jubilation for the Thompson family. While the day in April was a great celebration to see her mom finally able to make it back out to a tournament, perhaps no day could match July 6, at a Taylormade Adidas Midwest Collegiate Series amateur event.

It was on that day that Carol caddied for her daughter and Sarah went on to win the event, firing a 1-under 70 in the first round and ending the competition with a 148 score and a two-stroke victory.

"She was able to stay as strong and positive as possible and I still don't know to this day how she was able to do that," Sarah said. "All of this just makes you appreciate what you have. Your friends, family, the ability to play a sport you love and to go to school for it, it makes you cherish everything."

Meanwhile, Carol had her last chemotherapy in early September and one last minor surgery recently. She is now a survivor, a true fighter and a winner for everything she did during her year-long battle. There may be no better example of her relentless strength than seeing what her daughter accomplished during this time.

P.J. Gadowski is director of athletic communications at University of Detroit Mercy. This article originally appeared on the Detroit Titans website.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Fourth time is a charm for Novi in district final

Iacobelli's 21 kills lift Wildcats past Northville

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Big-time atmosphere, big-time stage, big-time performance.

That's what Novi's 5-foot-9 senior outside hitter Victoria Iacobelli delivered Thursday as the top-ranked Wildcats upended host Northville for their second straight Class A district title in three sets, 25-12, 25-16, 25-19.

It was the fourth encounter this season between the two Central Division rivals, with

Novi holding off two match points in the second set to pull out a three-set win in the KLAA Association championship (Oct. 24 at Milford).

But this time, Iacobelli wasn't going to leave anything for chance as she erupted for 21 kills, while hitting at a .429 clip to go along with 10 digs.

"I love playing good competition with exciting crowds and this is why I love playoffs," Iacobelli said. "And it's awesome to play with such a great team with great support."

Novi, which improved to 45-2, dominated the first two sets, but trailed 14-11 and as late as 18-17

in the third before going on an 8-2 run to close out the match, capped by junior Emmy Robinson's block.

Twin sister Paulina Iacobelli contributed six kills, while junior middle blocker Emmy Robinson came up with five blocks. Sophomore setter Erin O'Leary finished with 25 assist-to-kills and 10 digs.

Preparation proved to be key to Novi's success in the fourth encounter.

"You never know who you're going to see at the (district) tournament," Novi coach Jen Cottrill said. "You assume maybe you're going to play (Northville), but we really examined the game film and we really were

able execute the game plan — defend their outside. They're an outside driven team and I thought we did a really good job."

Defensively, sophomore libero Claire Pinkerton led the way with a team-high 19 digs.

Northville, meanwhile, ended a fine season at 37-12-2, but couldn't come up with the upset against last year's state runner-up.

Junior Emily Martin paced Northville with eight kills, two blocks and nine digs, while freshman setter Hannah Grant had nine assists.

But the Mustangs had no answers for Novi's potent hitting attack, led by Victoria Iacobelli.

The district final marked the final appearances by three Northville seniors, including Katie O'Malley (four kills), Emily Watkins (two kills) and Allison Lang (11 attack receives).

Rocks swept

In Wednesday's district semifinal, O'Leary racked up 31 assists, 18 digs and six kills as Novi defeated Salem in three sets.

Victoria Iacobelli added 14 kills and 12 digs, while Ally Cummings contributed 12 digs and three aces.

"This was our fifth time this season playing Salem and we thought we handled it very well," Cottrill said. "Salem is a

team that rides on a lot of emotion and play very well with that. We were able to manage those rallies from them and continue to play our system."

Plymouth downed

In the other district semifinal Wednesday, Martin racked up 20 kills, 11 digs and three blocks as the host Mustangs defeated Plymouth in four sets, 25-18, 25-11, 18-25, 25-16.

O'Malley chipped in with 12 kills and nine digs, while setters Rachel Holmes and Grant each collected 17 assists. Bryce Quick added three blocks.

bemons@hometownlife.com

RELIGION CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS FAIR

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 14

Location: Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Local and international service and charitable organizations sell products and offer information about the services they provide. Proceeds go to the organizations. Find a list of participating vendors online. Admission is \$1

Contact: alternativechristmas-fair.org

BREAKFAST

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

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

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

Contact: 734-425-4421

FAIR TRADE BOUTIQUE

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15

Location: St. Regis Catholic Church, 3695 Lincoln, Bloomfield Hills

Details: Guests can buy merchandise from around the world through Catholic Relief Services and Ten Thousand Villages, and speak with ministry representatives from local organizations that assist the poor in southeastern Michigan

Contact: 248-646-2686

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5

Location: St. John Neumann Church, 44800 Warren Road, Canton

Details: Includes 30-40 vendors and crafters with homemade items, raffles and lunch for purchase. Proceeds will fund youth trip to World Youth Day in Poland. Admission is \$2

Contact: Sara at 734-417-1405; sara17king@gmail.com

POMERANATE GUILD

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15

Location: Rachel's Needlepoint & Judaic Gifts, 29260 Franklin Road, Southfield

Details: The Guild, a group that studies and creates Judaic needlecraft, will learn how to make a beaded kippah. Rachel's will provide kits for \$25.

Contact: Judy Galperin at 248-661-5337

SINGLES DANCE

Time/Date: 6:30-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14

Location: Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark, Livonia

Details: Livonia Christian Singles Community's annual square dance is \$12 per person. No partner needed, but RSVP requested. Includes refreshments.

Contact: catholicingles@livonia-stmichael.org

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Nov. 23

Location: Trinity in the Woods Episcopal Church, 268809 La-

Muera, Farmington Hills

Details: Interfaith service with combined choir. Persons interested in participating in the choir must come to 6:30 p.m. rehearsal. An offering of non-perishable foods and money will be collected for St. Alexander's Food Pantry and Neighborhood House

Contact: Rachael Rose at rrose1031@gmail.com

VETERAN'S DAY MASS

Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. color guard and flag raising ceremony; 10 a.m. Mass, Sunday, Nov. 8

Location: St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: An informal reception will follow

Contact: 734-261-1455, Ext. 200; livoniastmichael.org

WIDOWED FRIENDS

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 12

Location: AMC Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty, Livonia

Details: Movie and lunch. Widowed Friends is a peer support group of Archdiocese of Detroit. RSVP required

Contact: Elaine at 734-717-0303

DECEMBER

BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICK

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Dec. 5

Location: The Solanus Casey Center, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit

Details: Continental breakfast with St. Nicholas is \$12.95 for

adults, \$10.95 for children, 3-12, and free for children 2 and under. Includes breakfast, a visit with St. Nick and other activities. Proceeds benefit the Solanus Casey Center, a part of the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order

Contact: 313-579-2100, ext. 191

WOMEN'S EVENT

Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4

Location: Crossroads Church, at Sacred Heart Conference Center, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: A Cup of Christmas Tea - A night of tea, carols, crafts, and fun for women and girls, ages 8 and up. Event is free but reservations are requested. RSVP by Sunday, Nov. 29 at crossroad-snow.org and click on the "get involved"

Contact: 248-890-5718

ONGOING

CLASSES/STUDY

Our Lady of Loretto

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

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township

Details: Scripture study

Contact: 313-534-9000

Faith Community Wesleyan

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

Location: 14560 Merriman, Livonia

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

Contact: pastor Tom Hazel-

wood at 734-765-5476

EXERCISE

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

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

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

Contact: 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

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

Location: Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills

Details: Free meal

Contact: 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

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

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

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

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

MOMS

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

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

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

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

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

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

Location: 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford

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

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

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. Sunday

Location: Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia

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

Contact: 313-563-0162

PRAYER

St. Edith Church

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

Location: Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia

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

Contact: Parish office at 734-464-1223

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

How to reach us:

1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com

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

View Online
www.hometownlife.com



BOWMAN, NANCY HUBBARD

Of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, passed away peacefully on November 3, 2015. Born in Pontiac, Michigan, on February 8, 1925, she was the daughter of William H. and Bernice H. Hubbard. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 63 years, Bliss "Bo" Bowman, her brother Holloway Hubbard, and her sister Betty Lou Lind. She was the dear mother of William, Richard, and Jane; grandmother of Katja, Joshua, Christopher, Matthew, Brian, and Bliss; great-grandmother of Giovanni, Hudson, Briggs, Maclain, Hale, and Zoey. She is also survived by Peggy Maham who her provided many years of loving care. She loved the University of Michigan, where she met her husband, graduating in 1946. While at Michigan she was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority in which she remained active for the rest of her life. Always an active in her community, she was a member of the Child Research Center League and volunteered for many years at Detroit Children's Hospital. She supported their research and worked with children suffering from leukemia and other blood diseases. A highly-skilled home cook, she helped test recipes and edit their fundraising cookbook. A lifetime member of Pine Lake Country Club, she was also an active member of the Village Club in Bloomfield Hills for many years. A devoted mother and loving grandmother, she always found the right balance between actively participating in their lives and unquestioning support for their own decisions. A memorial service was held at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham Memorial tributes can be sent to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 24359 Northwestern Highway, Suite 225, Southfield, MI 48075. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at A.JDesmond.com

AJ DESMOND & SONS
Funeral Homes



COTE, SERGE J.

Age 52, of Canton; passed away on November 5, 2015. Born in Sayabec, QC, CA. Loving husband of the late Deanna M. Cote. She preceded him in death on August 29, 2014. Serge is survived by his beloved partner Vicky-Lucas; children Nicholas Cote and his significant other Melissa Pronovost, Ben Cote and his fiancée Katie Schreiber, and Chantel Cote and her fiancée Joe Markos; Caring brother of Francois Cote and his wife Nancy, Jean Cote and his partner in life Jocelyne Doiron, Andre Cote and his wife Mary, and Myriam Cote. Serge was preceded in death at a young age by his parents, Placide and Georgette Cote, and was raised like their own children by Benoit and Ilda Cote in Buffalo, NY. Serge was the Principal Maintenance Inspector for the FAA, assigned to Kalitta Air. Prior, he was a Maintenance Manager at US Airways. He was the PASS (Professional Aviation Safety Specialist) Chapter President, Michigan 2, and was also credited for being on the negotiating team for the Aviation Safety Contract. Visitation will be Friday, November 13th from 1 p.m. until 8 p.m. with a Scripture Service at 7:30 p.m. at the Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (Between Sheldon and Beck). The Funeral Mass will be Saturday, November 14th at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Rd., Canton, MI 48187 at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Cote will lie in state at the church on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the time of Mass. Cremation will follow. In lieu of flowers, memorials suggested to St. John Neumann Catholic Church or Cancer Support Community of Ann Arbor. Please visit and share a memory at vermeulenfuneralhome.com

VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI
FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES

GAUTHIER, WILLIAM R.

Age 63, of Canton, passed away November 5, 2015. Beloved husband of Karen. Dear father of Ryan (Adriana) Gauthier, Kelly (Christopher) Benko, and William R. Gauthier, Jr. Loving grandfather of Adrian Gauthier and Hadley Benko. Brother of Fritz (Nora) Gauthier, Dick (Benita) Gauthier, Larry (Judy) Gauthier, Jim Gauthier, Nancy Cox, Mary (the late Bob) Loeb, Barb Gauthier Fanning, and the late Gene (Mary Alice) Gauthier. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and loving friends. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main St., Plymouth, Monday 11 a.m. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Friends may visit Sunday from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Memorials may be made to the ALS Association, or MDA Greater Detroit.

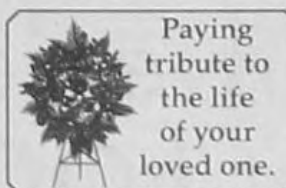


Schrader-Howell
FUNERAL HOME



LIVELY, JAY ARTHUR

Passed away November 3, 2015, in Traverse City. He was 85 years old. Jay, by his own account, had a good life. He was born July 26, 1935, in St. Clair, Michigan, the only child of William Arthur and Edna Pearl (Atkinson) Lively. He graduated from St. Clair High School where he excelled at sports, played in the band, and learned to love Greek mythology. He attended Graceland University and graduated from Michigan State. After college, Jay served in the Army and worked briefly for Mobil Oil. Jay married Mary Lou Richards on August 17, 1957, in Harbor Beach, Michigan, a love story for the ages. At Mary Lou's encouragement, Jay became a teacher, and taught fifth grade for more than 30 years at Jefferson and McKinley elementary schools in Livonia, Michigan. They resettled in Traverse City after Jay retired, and enjoyed their new life. Up North for just a few years before Mary Lou died in 1997. Jay nursed his broken heart by devoting himself to his grandchildren, building a cabin on Lake Superior, traveling, golfing, reading, walking, shoveling snow, and following the Spartans and the Detroit Tigers. Jay will be lovingly remembered by his children, Janet (Kevin Lynch) Lively and Jim (Kelly) Lively; his grandchildren, Emily, Marley, Jane and Annie Lively, and Conor and Ruth Lynch; brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, many good friends and treasured neighbors. Visitation was held from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday, November 7, at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be directed to American Legion Junior Baseball and Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities. Please share your thoughts and memories of Jay by way of his online guestbook at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com. The family is being cared for by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Service.



Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

MONTGOMERY, MARTHA M.

An outstanding member of the Nursing Faculty at Henry Ford Community College for over forty years, passed October 1, 2015, of a prolonged illness in Farmington Hills, MI. A Memorial gathering will be held at McCabe Funeral Home, 31950 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills at 10 a.m. until time of the Memorial Service 10:30 a.m. on November 14. The family requests that donations, in lieu of flowers, be made to the Alzheimer's Association or Wayne State Medical School in her name.

www.mccabefuneralhome.com

McCabe
Funeral Home



NARSESIAN, PATRICIA ANN

Was born on September 10, 1935 in Detroit Michigan, the daughter of Frank James McGill and Thelma Nichols; and passed away November 5, 2015 at the age of 80. She retired from the State of Michigan. She was a MSU Super fan, and loved shopping, loved Christmas and her tree, loved reading books and cooking for her kids. Most of all, she loved her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Patricia was preceded in death by her husband, Harry; daughter, Debra Narsesian; and her grandson, David Michael Narsesian. Surviving to cherish her memory is one daughter, Kimberly (Doug) Raby; four sons, Harry (April) Narsesian, Mark Narsesian, Dale (Colette) Narsesian, and Thomas Narsesian; sixteen grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; and one sister, Florence (John) Knox. A Funeral Service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at Gorsline Runciman Lansing Chapel, 900 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. For those desiring, contributions may be made in Patricia's memory to the American Cancer Society, 1955 Abbey Rd., East Lansing MI 48823 or Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars, 924 N. Washington, Lansing, MI 48906. The family is being served by Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.grlansing.com.

Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes



May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



SULLIVAN, DENNIS B.
October 30, 2015 Age 74. Survived by his beloved wife of 48 years, Patricia, and his three loving sons Chris (Lauren), Dan (Shannon) and Michael (Danielle). Extremely proud grandfather of Carlin, Brendan, Jack, Rian Grace, Callahan, Dennis Brady and Kelly. Also survived by his brother John (Anne) and sister Susan Bedore (Bob). Funeral Mass was held November 5, 2015 at St. Regis Church, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to University of Detroit Jesuit High School or Brother Rice High School. View obituary and share memories at A.JDesmond.com



WILLIAMS, HAROLD KENNETH "KEN"

Died Thursday, November 5, 2015 at Henry Ford Village. He was born October 8, 1929, in Dearborn, MI, to Claude and Margaret Haley Williams and was a graduate of Fordson High School and Wayne State University. He was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church, including Simpson Church, Dearborn, and St. Matthews UMC in Livonia. Ken was a gifted singer, performer and composer and sang in many choirs and musical groups. In his college days, he sang with the Don Large Chorus. A U.S. Army veteran of the Korean Conflict, he did military Investigative work in the New York City area during the Cold War era. During his 30 years with Ford Motor Company, Ken worked as a buyer for the company and after retirement worked for DST Industries of Tecumseh, MI. He was an avid golfer and historian and in later life learned to paint with acrylics which he enjoyed for as long as his eyesight allowed. Harold was married to Harriette E. (Kitto) Williams 1958 (divorced). Beloved by his family, he is survived by son Mark Allen (Karen); granddaughters Noel Williams and Erica Rabban (Theo); daughter, Claudia Beth (Lori Kilen); his sister Jeanette Bartz (Curtis); "favorite" niece and nephew Kathryn Bartz (Susan Perry) and Curtis Bartz, Jr. (Dorthea) with their children Tyler and Aliya Bartz. Ken was endeared to his cousins William T. Haley (the late Penny Haley), Loretta Haley (Bob), the late Richard Haley (Sharon), Terry Lynn Vaught (Linda), Annie Ray Sorrell (the late Bobby Sorrell), Dorothy Norton (Bill), and Kay Russell (Carl) of Tennessee. Funeral Services will be at 3:00 p.m. Sunday at Harry J. Will Funeral Home at 37000 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152. The Rev. Kurt Gebhard will officiate. Visitation will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home on the same day.



WILMS, GERALD CHRISTOPHER

Born April 1, 1938 in Baltimore, Maryland, died November 1, 2015 in Bellaire, Michigan. He resided in both Bellaire and Tonto Verde, Arizona and was the only child of George Christopher Wilms and Elizabeth Staley Wilms, both deceased. Survived by loving wife Murdeen (Shell), daughter Kim Friedman (Jon) of Manhattan Beach, CA, and sons Blake (Kim) of Clarkston, MI and Todd (Tammy) of Beverly Hills, MI. Wonderful grandfather to Morgan, Elisse, Clay, Aaron, Henry, and Greta. Stepfather to Shelly Goetcheus of Grand Rapids, MI, Eugene Barlow of Boston, MA, and Donald Barlow III (Vanessa) of Arvada, CO. Step-grandfather to Emma, Caroline, Jack, Megan, Cameron, Lillia, Trevor, and Aubriella. Jerry was a mechanical engineering graduate of the University of Virginia, and founder/former CEO of Unique Fabricating, Inc. He loved his family, golf, traveling and adventure. His great sense of humor and love of life will be missed by all who were fortunate to know him. A casual service of remembrance will be held Saturday, November 7 at 2 pm at the family's home, pastor Gary Bekker presiding. A larger Celebration of Life will be held in the Spring/Summer in the Detroit area. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project. Arrangements have been handled by the Bellaire Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes. Please sign his online guestbook mortensenfuneralhomes.com.

May you find comfort in family & friends

In Memoriam

In Loving Memory of



BILL MILLER
May 9, 1959-November 12, 2009
The days are sad and lonely since your golden heart stopped beating, six years ago. We have the memory of so many wonderful times we spent together. We miss you and love you forever and ever. All our love, Mom & Dad



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

TELLABRATION

CELEBRATING THE ART OF STORYTELLING



SUBMITTED
Gwendolyn
Lewis will tell
stories for
adults Friday,
Nov. 13 at the
Livonia Civic
Center Library.



SUBMITTED
Judy Sima,
president of the
Detroit Story
League, will
perform at
Tellabration in
Livonia.



SUBMITTED
Elizabeth
Najdich will
serve as
maestro for the
Detroit Story
League's
Tellabration in
Livonia.



SUBMITTED
Alma Petrini
will also tell
stories.

THINKSTOCK

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Become the storytelling star of the family dinner table this Thanksgiving with the help of a few simple rules and a little practice.

"The first rule of becoming a storyteller is choosing a story you love. It's hard to love a story that doesn't call to you," said Judy Sima, president of the Detroit Story League. "If you're trying to pass on traditions to your

children, you can talk about how you celebrated Thanksgiving when you were a kid, what was served, describe who was at the table.

"Give more specific things. When I do workshops on personal narratives, I have a whole list of conversation starters to jog your memory. Thanksgiving is a great time to tell stories. Turn off the football game and talk about past Thanksgiving dinners, about going to the parade."

Need help with the delivery? Pick up a few pointers while watching storytelling pros, including Sima, in action at Tellabration! A Night of Storytelling for Adults, Friday, Nov. 13, at Livonia Civic Center Public Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia.

The event starts with a silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by storytelling at 7 p.m. and refreshments at 8:45 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door.

Annual tradition

Tellabration is a worldwide event that was launched in 1988 by the Connecticut Storytelling Center to build community support for storytelling. Within three years it expanded nationally and by 1995 was held internationally. Traditionally it is held the Saturday before Thanksgiving, although dates can vary depending on the organization.

See STORIES, Page B7

STORY STARTERS

Stuck for a story idea? Judy Sima's story and conversation starters can help you find your voice. Here's a sampling:

- » The story of how your parents met
- » Your mother's kitchen. Talk about a special dish or recipe
- » A skill or hobby your father taught you
- » Family gatherings and celebrations
- » A trip that turned out to be a disaster
- » A fortune won or lost



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Churches collect gift-filled shoe boxes for needy kids

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

They're shoe boxes — and some may even contain shoes. The 400 care packages, filled with toys and necessities for children in Third World countries, line the wall at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville. Sally Drago, coordinator of Operation Christmas Child at the church, hopes to add a few thousand more by Nov. 23, when the Project's national appeal ends and shoe boxes are shipped overseas.

Church members donate filled boxes from Nov. 1-15, then community groups, businesses, individuals and families join the campaign from Nov. 16-23. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, a non-denominational evangelical Christian international relief agency. Ward is among 22 churches in southeastern Michigan that collect boxes for the program.

Drago said any standard size shoebox with lid can be used to donate care items. "You can fit in school supplies ... a toothbrush, toothpaste, a bar of soap, hair ribbons. It's easy to slip in a comb," Drago said. "I heard a story about an orphan in Russia who lived in a room with 17 boys. They all shared one towel. When he got his shoebox he used his washcloth like a towel. Ever since I heard that story I try to put a washcloth in."

"Samaritan's Purse likes there to be a 'wow' item at the top of the box." That might



Colorful shoe boxes contain toys, hygiene products and school supplies for children in Third World countries. Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville annually participates in Operation Christmas Child.



Loading a truck with shoe boxes bound for needy children.

include a stuffed animal, doll or for a boy, a ball. The possibility of a deflated soccer ball with a pump gives him the ability to play soccer. You can purchase a pair of child's shoes and pack other items around the shoes."

Letters, prayers

Samaritan's Purse encourages supporters to include a letter in their boxes and to pray for recipients.

"If you write a letter and put an address on it, sometimes you get a letter back," Drago said. "I got one from India from a little boy who told us how happy he was with everything. We got one from a girl and she sent us her picture."

Participants can track their boxes by purchasing a \$7 label from samaritanspurse.org. The

labels also indicate if the contents are for a boy or girl and identify age group.

Ward is considered a relay center for Operation Christmas Child. After packing the boxes into shipping cartons, it sends its collection to NorthRidge Church in Plymouth, one of five "hub" centers. Beth Harris, NorthRidge outreach coordinator, and her volunteers stack the cartons from Ward and other relay churches into trucks. Ward also collects shoe box donations from its own members and from the public.

"We've sent teams to the warehouses where the boxes go. We've gone to North Carolina and Atlanta to be a part of the processing," Harris said.

At the warehouse, volunteers get their first look inside

donated boxes. They remove and replace breakable items, chocolates and liquids.

"I remember taking out plastic cows from boxes because they were going to India and that would be a negative to have it in the box," Harris said. "Some countries don't want toy snakes. A lot of times among representing war, like camouflage fabric or guns are removed. It's amazingly fun to be on the assembly line. There are times we stop and pray over each box that it will meet the need for that child who receives it."

Volunteers welcome

According to Suzie Aheimer of Northville, Operation Christmas Child area coordinator for southeast Michigan, 11 countries donated more

than 10 million shoe boxes for children in need around the world last year. The U.S. contributed 8 million of that total. Approximately 60,000 boxes came from southeastern Michigan.

"We're blessed. People are very generous," Aheimer said. "This year we hope to collect over 65,000 boxes."

Aheimer said Operation Christmas Child is a year-round organization. It welcomes volunteers for both short-term work in November and for continuing projects.

"We want to feel you've been led to serve with us. We always want to add churches and drop-off locations to our network. Without families and Girl Scout troops and clubs and churches, we would not be able to collect as much as we do."

To volunteer, email Aheimer at saheimer@yahoo.com.

Ward Church will accept shoe box donations 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nov. 16-18 and 20-21; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Nov. 19; noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 22; 8-11 a.m. Nov. 23; and 5-8 p.m. Nov. 17-18 at 40000 Six Mile, Northville.

NorthRidge will accept shoe boxes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 16-19; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 20; noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 21; 10 a.m. to noon and 3-6 p.m. Nov. 22; and 9 a.m. to noon, Nov. 23 at 49555 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth.

For other drop-off locations, including in Dearborn, Berkley, Waterford, Troy, and Ypsilanti, visit samaritanspurse.org and click on Operation Christmas Child.

STORIES

Continued from Page B6

Sima said the Detroit Story League has participated in Tellabration for 10 years. Three League members tell stories and a "maestro" serves as emcee. The lineup this year includes Gwendolyn Lewis, Alma Petrini, and Sima telling stories and Elizabeth Najdich as maestro.

"Alma probably will do some humorous stories. Gwen will do some Maya Angelou poetry. I will do an Arthurian legend. I like the story a lot, but I don't get to tell it very often," Sima said, adding that she'll also tell a tale by storyteller Sid Lieberman, who died earlier this year. "We had quite a few losses in the storytelling community this year. Sid Lieberman was a much-loved storyteller. I'm going to

do one of his signature pieces about a debate in sign language."

Sima said sign language, multimedia presentations, mime and dance are among the more unusual storytelling methods she has seen at the National Storytelling Festival in Tennessee. One of the biggest trends in adult storytelling is personal narrative — telling a true story about yourself.

"Personal stories have

morphed into things like (NPR's) The Moth and competitions done at bars. It attracts young adults and has become quite popular, more so than traditional stories."

The League's Tellabration event raises money for a scholarship fund that helps send a member to a conference, workshop or festival each year.

The organization includes a brief workshop, along with storytelling at its monthly

meetings, noon to 3 p.m. the third Saturday of the month. The meeting on Nov. 21 will be held at the Berkley Public Library, 3155 Coolidge, just south of 12 Mile, west of Woodward. On Dec. 19, it will meet at the Redford Township Library, 25320 W. Six Mile, between Beech Daly and Telegraph.

For more information about the Detroit Story League and Tellabration, visit detroitstorytelling.org.

Guide to Employment

To place your ad here

contact us at careers@hometownlife.com or call 1-800-579-7355

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Livonia Hill House furnishings receive fresh, new looks

Two chairs and a settee at Simmons/Hill house look almost new — by early 1900s standards — thanks to a grant from The Sauk Trail Quester Chapter #537.

The group paid for reupholstering the antique furniture with a grant it received last year at the Michigan State Quester Convention and with some of its own funds. John's Upholstery in Livonia reupholstered the pieces, which furnish the upstairs sitting room at the house, which is located at Greenmead, Livonia's historical park.

"One of our Quester members was instrumental in working with John's and picked out material appropriate for the time period," said Linda Wiacek, program supervisor at Greenmead. "Mrs. Hill had a good number of antiques. They bought the property in 1920 and started restoration and it took a couple years to complete it. They brought in electricity and water. It was a huge modernization in the 1920s. But I have a feeling the settee was older



SUBMITTED
One of the reupholstered chairs at Greenmead in Livonia.

than 1920."

Wiacek said the reupholstering project was finished in September and completes the furniture restoration in the second floor sitting room.

"There is still a lamp that needs to be done and wallpaper needs to be done, but the furniture is complete. They are really beautiful."

Wiacek said other Quester chapters have funded restoration projects in other rooms of the house and that the

Sauk Trail Questers also recently funded furniture restoration in one of the bedrooms.

"There are still pieces that need to be re-upholstered and as funds become available, we'll be able to do that," Wiacek said. "It's a multi-year process, worked on slowly as funds and grants are available. We're pleased the Sauk Trail Questers is so active."

For more information about Questers, visit questers1944.org.

Ready for Veterans Day



SUBMITTED
Sue and Gary Colepean, members of the Livonia Garden Club, place a fresh flower wreath on the Livonia Blue Star Memorial Marker at Five Mile east of Farmington near Nehasil Park. The Colepeans head the Livonia Garden Club committee that is responsible for decorating the site with wreaths throughout the year. They use fresh, dried or treated plant material. Dedicated in 2011, the Garden Club Blue Star Memorial Marker honors all service men and women.

Appliance Doctor evaluates new General Electric washer

A few months ago I received a press release with the headline that read "GE is building the great American washer." At that time I said that I would personally look at the workings of this new washer and report back to you. So here it is.

As soon as this new washer arrived at a certain appliance retailer, I was contacted and it didn't take me long to get there. The washer looks much like one from the past. It has a large tub with a full agitator and it fills to the same water levels we used to have. It has a stainless steel tub and a porcelain top which both should last for years.



The operational sounds are different, and I feel that is acceptable as the washer no longer has a transmission. This fact may eliminate many of the transmission change-outs GE was once known for. Instead of a transmission, a lever mechanism moves the tub into spin and agitation cycles. Located under the machine, this mechanism is all encased in plastic housing. A small pump takes care of the pump-out cycle.

The control panel has

many different knobs for any cycle you want to select. This washer has a suggested retail price of \$599, with another model selling for slightly more. Most important is the extra spin cycle available on both.

Does it last?

Now, I'm not going to tell everyone to go out and purchase one of these new GE washers because one factor I can't comment on is the expected life span. I've written before that the expected life span of a clothes washer is a typical 10 years and I don't know about this washer. Only time will tell, and I wish GE would have given us consumers a

bit of an estimate.

All in all, I must say that I am a bit impressed with this machine. It's a large tub, fills to capacity with a full agitator and still meets the energy guideline set forth by the U.S. Department of Energy. I am sorry that I gave the impression in a previous column that this washer might have a suds saver and a mini basket. GE said it knows exactly what Americans want in a washing machine, but my contention is that they sound smarter than they are. I've had readers email me that mini baskets and suds savers are in demand. For those folks wanting a suds saver you have to remember that laundry

rooms today use a standpipe to drain a washer.

Sounds different

The retailer I visited that day informed me of two common complaints he receives from his customers who purchase any make of new washing machines. The first is that homeowners are not accustomed to the different sounds emitting from their new washer and the next is that they are disappointed with the lack of very hot water when using the hot cycle. They don't feel it gets rid of bacteria and so they hook up a hose to a faucet and fill the machine by hand before they turn it on. This is all a little back-

wards to me as I feel it is an automatic washer, isn't it? Besides, I take issue with the false advertising of it all. The knob says "hot," and you only get 104-degree water filling the tub. That is against the law and uses very poor logic.

My opinion of front load washers has not changed during the past 20 years. I have heard so many thousands of complaints that once in while I hear somebody praise their front loader and it pleases the ear drums.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Alzheimer's benefit

Catwalk for a Cause will include a lunch, fashion show, and raffle from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, in the Chestnut Room at the Summit on the Park banquet center, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton. Cost is \$40. Proceeds will benefit the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Michigan. Register by calling 734-394-5485; cantonfun.org.

Breastfeeding clinic

The course runs 6:30-9:30 p.m. Nov. 9 at Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills, 28050 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills. It will cover the advantages and benefits of breastfeeding, physiology of milk production, basic nursing positions, assessing latch-on, back-to-work issues, how to determine if your baby is getting enough milk, common problems, and pumping and storing breast milk. Register for "Breastfeeding Basics" by phone at 248-888-2500, or go to <https://www.botsford.org/forms/payment/maternity/index.html>

Hearing loss support

The Hearing Loss Association of America meets 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. Contact Tony at 734-664-3297; afterack@comcast.net

Lung cancer support

The Lung Cancer Support Group meets 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 16, at Beaumont Cancer Center-Farmington Hills, 27900 Grand River Ave., Suite 230. Thoracic surgeon David Sternberg, M.D., leads the group, which is open to anyone living with lung cancer, and their loved ones. For more information, call 248-473-4828.

Turner Town Project

Jennifer Wakenell of Livonia displays her Turner Town Project, a collection of dollhouses with accompanying storyboards that depict the day-to-day challenges of a girl with Turner

syndrome and nonverbal learning disorders, through November at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The project offers suggestions for dealing with both medical and academic obstacles and aims to raise awareness of the disease, which can impact kidneys, thyroid and cardiac functioning and cause learning disorders. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday. 734-466-2491

Walk with a Doc

Eric Kovan, D.O., physical medicine and rehabilitation specialist, and Nancy Webb, a physical therapist, will show you how to improve your balance and prevent falls, noon to 1 p.m. Nov. 19 at Heritage Park Nature Center, located on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, in Farmington Hills. Register by calling 877-477-3521, option #1.

Zumba party

Wear red and dance from 9-10:30 a.m. Nov. 14 at the Summit on the Park in Canton to raise money for the American Heart Association. Admission to the Zumba Party Hearty is a minimum \$5 donation. Zumba fuses Latin, pop and hip hop music with easy-to-follow moves to create a fitness routine. Participants are asked to bring bottled water and come ready to move. The Summit is located at 46000 Summit Parkway. Call 734-394-5460 or visit cantonfun.org for more information.

Ongoing

Ab-Anon

Twelve-step program and weekly group to help those suffering with eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and exercise compulsion is held 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, at the Friendship Circle, 6892 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. An Ab-Anon meeting group is available for families and loved ones, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, also at the Friendship Circle. For more information, contact Mindy at 248-672-



Join a local support group, get a screening, or take a class to improve your health.

9776.

Amputee support

The Amputee Support Group meets 2-3 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month in Classroom #1 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-2837 for more information.

Aquatic classes

The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit and the Arthritis Foundation have partnered to offer aquatic classes designed to ease arthritis. Classes are held 11 a.m.

Blood pressure

Garden City Hospital offers free blood pressure testing, lipid panel (\$15) testing, 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 2, in the main lobby of the hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. No registration is required. For more information, call 734-458-4330.

Breast cancer support

Meets from 6:30-8 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month in the Atrium of Our Lady of Hope Cancer Center, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile (use south entrance off Levan), Livonia. Call 734-655-1100 or visit www.stmarymercy.org.

Choir therapy

The Therapy Choirs of Michigan extend an invitation to individuals with any kind of special needs or disabilities and their able-bodied family and friends, to participate in singing. Call Len McCulloch at 248-474-2763, Ext. 22, or visit www.therapychoirs.org for additional information.

CPAP/BIPAP

The Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan offers a free CPAP/BIPAP mask fitting clinic, 5-6 p.m. each Wednesday at 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland. Most insurances cover new supplies. No appointment needed. For more information, call 734-458-7251.

Health programs, support

The Garden City Hospital Health Enhancement Center offers classes designed to strengthen your heart after a cardiac event. It also offers an exercise class, "Get Up and Move." For more information, call 734-458-3242. GCH Community Education offers classes in diabetes self-management education. The hospital also hosts various support groups including Nar-Anon, Alzheimer's, Alcoholics Anonymous, Focus on Living and Diabetes, which are held monthly. For more information,

call 734-458-4330.

Low vision support

Meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For more information, call Ellen Stross at 734-453-0750, Ext. 232.

Lyme support

Meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, except January, July and September, at Northwest Unitarian-Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield; 248-354-4488. For more information, visit the Michigan Lyme Disease Association website, www.mlda.org, or call 888-784-LYME.

Metro Fibromyalgia & CFS Support

Meets 1-3 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. For more information, call Ruthann at 734-981-2519 or visit www.MetroFibroGroup.com.

Neuropathy support

The group meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Livonia Senior Center, located at Five Mile and Farmington Road. The Southeast Michigan Neuropathy Support Group is designed for individuals with any kind of neuropathy.

Scleroderma Foundation

The Scleroderma Foundation Michigan Chapter offers support for scleroderma and overlapping autoimmune patients. The Livonia group meets 7-8 p.m. the first Thursday of the month, February-June and September-November, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia. Group leader is Sue Harris, sharris27@mi.rr.com; 248-982-5740. A virtual support group meets 1-3 p.m. the third Thursday of the month, February-November. Contact Judy Nichols at kenjudynichols@gmail.com; 231-775-8446.



The 2015 Nissan Altima.

Check out 2015 Altima at Nissan of Canton

The Nissan Altima midsize sedan comes with a choice of four-cylinder or V-6 power and is available at Nissan of Canton, 42175 Michigan Ave. Competitors to the five-seat, front-drive Altima include the Toyota Camry, Honda Accord and Ford Fusion.

The 2015 Altima has had success as the third-best-selling midsize sedan in the U.S., in one of the most competitive classes in the car market.

Our Altima test car was a 2.5 SV with the standard 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine. Trim levels include base, S, SV and SL, the higher three of which are offered with an optional 3.5-liter V-6 that changes the trim name to 3.5. All Altimas have front-wheel drive.

Interior

Nissan has added a tilt adjustment on the SV and higher trim level, which is an improvement. The Altima's comfort was rated pretty well thanks to good head-

room and a reasonable split between front and backseat legroom. The interior volume is about average for the group, but it feels nice and airy, aided in part by our car's light color scheme.

Our SV's leather steering wheel is a quality touch worth having. The car's bright, rich-looking gauges are a high point.

Ergonomics and electronics

The Altima proved blissfully simple to operate. The 5.0-inch color display is a decent size for general purposes, though a bit small and low in the dashboard for displaying the backup camera's image. The feature becomes optional on the Altima 2.5 S and is standard on higher trims.

The same is true of a USB port, though Bluetooth streaming audio and hands-free telephone support are standard on all trim levels.

Cargo and storage

With 15.4 cubic feet of trunk volume, the Altima is in the middle of a group that ranges from 14.8 (Mazda6) to 16.3 cubic feet (Chevrolet Malibu and Hyundai Sonata). The trunk lid's hinges drop into the storage space, but the aperture between the trunk and cabin when the 60/40-split rear seats are folded is nice and tall.

Cabin storage is good, with highlights including larger door pockets than many competitors, a very deep glove compartment and a generous storage console underneath the center armrest. In addition to the front seat's two cupholders and a bottleholder in each door, backseat passengers get door bottleholders and a flip-down center armrest that looks like it could take either a large or a small drink, but not both at the same time.

Safety

In Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

crash tests, the 2015 Altima earned the top score of good in all but the small-overlap frontal test, where it earned a rating of acceptable. This result matches six competitors in the institute's classification of moderately priced midsize cars. Seven other models scored good in the small overlap.

New for 2015

The available 3.5-liter V-6 engine is more efficient thanks to less internal friction and new technology like variable timing for the exhaust valves. Beige interior color schemes now have black carpeting.

Below is a list of highlighted features and not an exhaustive list. Features are standard unless otherwise noted.

Exterior highlights

- » 16-inch steel wheels with covers; 16-, 17- or 18-inch aluminum wheels available
- » Low-rolling-resistance tires

- » Available automatic headlights
- » Available fog lights
- » Available LED tail-lights

- » When filling tires with air, horn beeps when correct pressure is reached

- » Available remote start

- » Available power moonroof

Interior highlights

- » Cloth or leather upholstery
- » Bluetooth cellphone connectivity with streaming audio

- » 60/40-split folding backseat with armrest

- » Customizable 4-inch color screen in gauge cluster

- » Available Nissan-Connect with Pandora and iPod connectivity

- » Available power-adjustable driver's seat

- » Available navigation system

- » Available dual-zone automatic climate control

- » Available Bose premium stereo

- » Available heated front seats and steering wheel

Under the hood

- » 182-horsepower, 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine

- » Available 270-hp, 3.5-liter V-6

- » Continuously variable automatic transmission

- » Front-wheel drive

- » Active Understeer Control can brake inside front wheel in corners for improved handling

Safety features

- » Required in every new car: front airbags, anti-lock brakes and an electronic stability system

- » Side-impact airbags for the front seat

- » Side curtain airbags

- » Available blind spot warning system

- » Available lane departure warning

- » Available moving object detection when in reverse

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Tips for developing your personal brand

BY MATT TARPEY
CAREERBUILDER

Like it or not, you have a personal brand — an image and reputation built through interactions with people and the corresponding thoughts and emotions that image evokes. Thanks to smartphones and the Internet, it's relatively easy for a new acquaintance or a prospective employer to find plenty of information about you. A well-maintained image not only gives you the chance to take control of what they might find, but it also can increase your likelihood of getting hired.

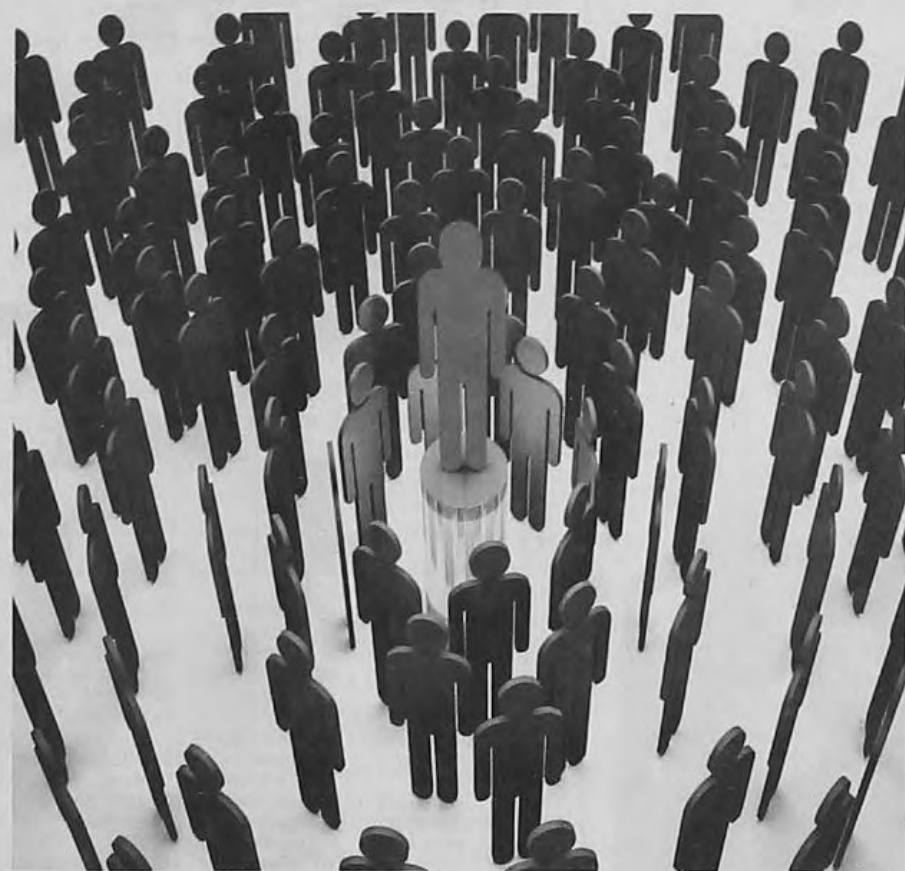
Here are some tips on how to develop a powerful personal brand and influence how people and businesses view your top product: you.

Identify your passion.

One of the biggest turnoffs for employers is when a candidate doesn't seem genuinely enthusiastic about a position. Real passion can't be faked, so take some time to understand what truly matters to you, what you enjoy doing and where those two intersect.

"Your personal brand should be (a product) of your value system. Identifying your values is the first step," says Bill Treasurer, author of "Leaders Open Doors," which focuses on how leaders create growth through opportunity. "What do you stand for? What do you stand against? What principles do you hold so dear that you would never compromise them?"

"Authentic passion is attractive and demonstrates traits like commitment (and) being well-rounded and enthusi-



THINKSTOCK

astic," says Alexa Merschel, U.S. campus recruiting leader for accounting firm PwC. "Recruiters look for passion because it is the quality that drives people to arrive at work with energy and enthusiasm."

Prepare an elevator pitch.

Even after you have a strong grasp of your personal brand in your head, conveying it to others can sometimes prove to be tricky. You can count on holding someone's attention for only a few minutes, so make that time count. Come up with a list of the most important aspects of your experience, skills and goals and

practice explaining each succinctly.

Network.

You can have the best-maintained personal brand in the world, but it's useless if nobody ever hears about it. While companies use advertising campaigns to promote their brands, that's not exactly the best strategy for your personal brand. That's where networking comes in.

"Even when you are not looking for a job, keep connected to your network. Set a goal of continuing to expand your network and also checking in with people in your network," says Joseph Testani, assistant dean

and executive director of the Gwen M. Greene Career & Internship Center at the University of Rochester in New York. "Your career is about relationships more than anything else. Invest in them, and your returns will be great — new business ventures, new job opportunities, new collaborative ideas — but most importantly, deep and rich relationships, which will serve as a great support network."

Get your name out there.

Networking isn't the only way to get exposure. Share your expertise and highlight your skills by getting involved in professional speaking opportunities or through services such as Help a Reporter Out, a free service that connects thought leaders and experts of all kinds with reporters and bloggers.

"In the same way that product placement is important to consumer brands, situating yourself where your personal brand will stand out is important," Treasurer says. "Submit proposals to speak at conferences where your uniqueness will be valued by the attendees. Join associations where your contributions would make a difference. Sponsor charities that connect to what you value. You're the brand, so place yourself where your brand will get noticed."

Your personal brand is already out there. It's up to you to make it a strong brand with a clear voice and a history that employers will trust and seek out.

Matt Tarpey is a writer for the Advice & Resources section on CareerBuilder.com. He researches and writes about job-search strategy, career management, hiring trends and workplace issues.

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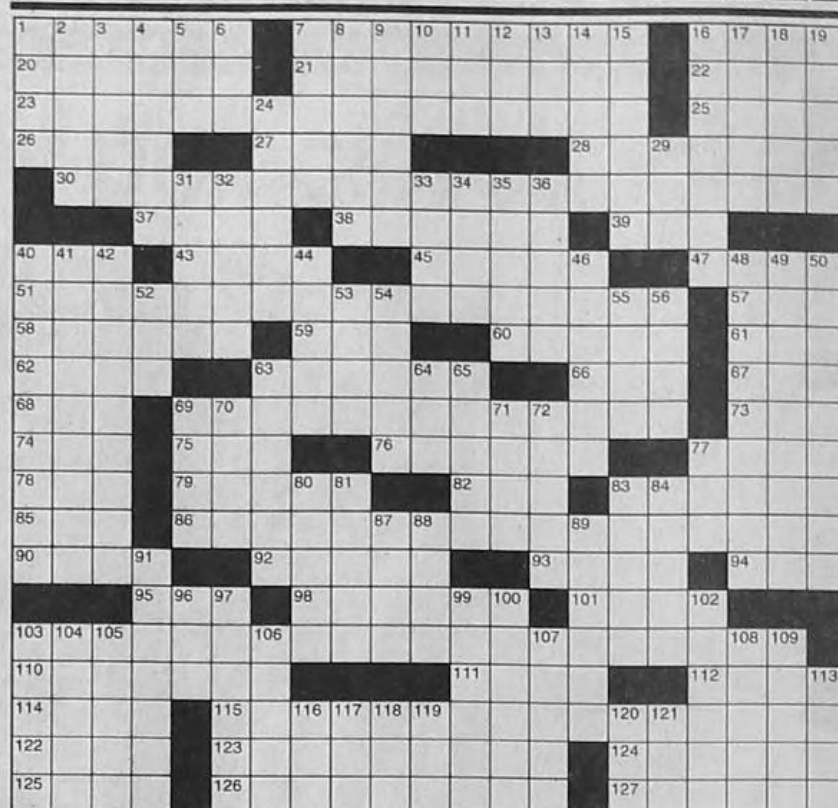
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ACROSS

1 Singer Bocelli
7 Almond-flavored liqueurs
16 Backyard building
20 Talking amorously
21 Picked up while hitchhiking, say
22 Island off Scotland
23 1969 Liza Minnelli film
25 Scrawny
26 Locality
27 — TASS (news agency)
28 Nation whose capital is Abuja
30 1975 Robert Redford film
37 Highway hauler
38 Málaga Mrs.
39 Boozehound
40 "C"—la viel
43 Actress Sofer
45 Cake coating
47 Asia's largest desert
51 1997 Helena Bonham Carter film
57 Con's place
58 Like an angel's head

59 Grammy nominee Zadora
60 Iraq neighbor
61 Bugling animal
62 Foil's heavier cousin
63 Common jazz chords
66 Suffix with hotel or front
67 Gore and Franken
68 Cong. member
69 2001 Josh Hartnett film
73 Columnist Hentoff
74 "Sands of — Jima"
75 Tore on foot
76 Dined at a diner
77 Meat-stamping org.
78 Baden article
79 Bar assoc. members
82 Roman 700
83 Conan of TV
85 Hood's pistol
86 1976 Michael Caine film
90 Lead-in for "while"
92 Avant-garde composer Erik

93 Rock's Jethro —
94 Hectic hosp. areas
95 Clumsy ox
98 Cuts again, as a plank
101 Alternative to Alpo
103 1970 Barbra Streisand film
110 Rules about legal wrongs
111 Bites from puppies
112 Tennis champion Arthur
114 1977 Scott Turow book
115 1941 Humphrey Bogart film
122 Purplish brown
123 Schedule
124 City in west Texas
125 Former Brit. Airways jets
126 Saclike larval stage of some flatworms
127 Scatter and drive away

DOWN

1 Drama units
2 Rare kind of ball game

3 Performs, biblically
4 Choir platforms
5 Strep treater: Abbr.
6 Era
7 Heartburn
8 Neighbors of Thais
9 Disinclined (to)
10 — room (place for air hockey)
11 — de cologne
12 "Toddlers & Tiaras" ailer
13 "ToK" (2009 #1 hit for Ke\$ha)
14 — mind (in agreement)
15 Unemotional sorts
16 Feature of the word "sign"
17 Slash away
18 Film composer Morricone
19 Senegal's capital
24 In a cab, say
29 Slimy stuff
31 Hair-raising
32 Correct, as a manuscript
33 Taking care of the issue

34 Actress Nina
35 Makes an effort
36 Within reach
40 Rock singer Melissa
41 Some form-shifting garments
42 Moves instantly, in sci-fi
44 Meat-stock jelly
46 "Le Père —" (Balzac novel)
48 Area next to the sea
49 Love song singer
50 Places to dip quill pens
52 Calamity
53 Sty noise
54 Jazz pianist Earl —
55 Outlook
56 Make money
63 City on the Loire
64 Bowler, e.g.
65 Krona earner
69 Impish tyke
70 Narrow strip of wood
71 Former Big Apple mayor Ed
72 Gold coin of yore

77 Tea holder
80 Ache (for)
81 Totally full
83 Earthen pots
84 Like mild weather
87 Basic point
88 Jacob's wife
89 Genève's country
91 Flute sounds
96 Belt piercer
97 Rascal — (country group)
99 Elapsed
100 Hucksters' pitches
102 Bald people have visible ones
103 Alternatives to sunroofs
104 Baseball's Wagner
105 Assemble
106 Smart as —
107 Ruffled
108 Music industry gp.
109 "For — interested ..."
113 Chemical compound
116 Punk music offshoot
117 Sea, to Yves
118 — Z
119 Fond du —
120 Nourished
121 — Baba

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

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

BOOKSHOP WORD SEARCH

G D B W M A E P O R U S D E P P O R C C
W A S P L A O R R G A P L I C C S Y R T
K E P O A I N G R O S L R E E O R U R V
O T I H F G B U K O T S G O A L P K G P
O R S V A T I R S K T A I A L V T Y A E
B K V N F R C N A C T A G G L O E I O U
A D S E O O D O A R R S R O N L G S T G
T E R L L I T C V T Y I I R N A E U O O
E T E S E Y T N O E I J P N A I T Y E L
K A T C F E M T A I V R O A T O N S U E I
C L C J R R E S R O E N N D C A G S T R P
A L A E E O I H J T P R E T A N A V A E
J O R B C K H E T O S D H S N L U T I D
C C A G N P P T S A I U U C C N E U N K
I H K N A T N A U C U M L H E E B V U A
I C C I V J R E A U A M B D L A E Y O U
J A K D D C G T G A W V F M I M Y B K N
N U O N A F I N R E D A E R F O O R P V
F F I I J O J Y A Y R E V I E W L K E E
I H N B N E D I T I O N V E R N E G H N

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

ADVANCE
ANTAGONIST
AUTHOR
BINDING
BOOK
CANCEL
CHARACTERS
COLLATED
COPY
CROPPED
DEDICATION
EDITION
EPILOGUE
GALLEY
GENRE
HARDCOVER
ILLUSTRATIONS
JACKET
LEAVES
LIBRARY
MANUSCRIPT
NARRATOR
NOVEL
PAGINATION
POINT OF VIEW
PROLOGUE
PROOFREADER
PROTAGONIST
REVIEW
SERIES
SIGNATURE
SOFTCOVER
STYLE
SUMMARY
THEME
TITLE

Crossword Answers
ANDREA AMARETTOS SHED
COOING GAVEALIFT IONA
THESTERILECUCKOO LANK
SITE ITAR NIGERIA
THREEDAYSOFTHECONDOR
SEMI SENORA SOT
EST RENA ICING GOBI
THEWINGSOFTHEDOVE CAN
HALOED PIA SYRIA ELK
EPEE NINTHS IER ALS
REP BLACKHAWKDOWN NAT
IWO RAN ATEOUT USDA
DER ATTYS DCC OBRIEN
GAT THEEAGLEHASLANDED
ERST SATIE TULL ERS
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ONEL THEMALTESEFALCON
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K E P O A I N G R O S L R E E O R U R V
O T I H F G B U K O T S G O A L P K G P
O R S V A T I R S K T A I A L V T Y A E
B K V N F R C N A C T A G G L O E I O U
A D S E O O D O A R R S R O N L G S T G
T E R L L I T C V T Y I I R N A E U O O
E T E S E Y T N O E I J P N A I T Y E L
K A T C F E M T A I V R O A T O N S U E I
C L C J R R E S R O E N N D C A G S T R P
A L A E E O I H J T P R E T A N A V A E
J O R B C K H E T O S D H S N L U T I D
C C A G N P P T S A I U U C C N E U N K
I H K N A T N A U C U M L H E E B V U A
I C C I V J R E A U A M B D L A E Y O U
J A K D D C G T G A W V F M I M Y B K N
N U O N A F I N R E D A E R F O O R P V
F F I I J O J Y A Y R E V I E W L K E E
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Car Report

Lexus RC 350 Shows Power of F Sport Package to Give Brand a Sexier Edge



By Dale Buss

Toyota Chairman Akio Toyoda just made it clear at the biennial Tokyo Motor Show in Japan that he wants the Lexus brand in future vehicles to stand for sexiness rather than utility. It seems that he's already got a pretty good start on that goal with a new Lexus that already exists: the 2015 RC 350 coupe, especially when it's equipped with the brand's highly successful F

its vehicles. And the grandson of the company's founder wants to rely significantly on the Lexus luxury-car brand to carry out this significant change in the DNA of the entire enterprise.

For, yes, Lexus long has been known for producing some of the best overall vehicles in the global luxury market – but, no, not for producing heart-pounding speed, performance or even racy exterior design in those cars.

Yet nowadays, when American dealers press Toyoda to come up with another large Lexus SUV to take advantage of the still-growing demand in the U.S. market for such behemoths, Toyoda's "answer

this year to give an immediate sexiness upgrade to existing and new vehicles that are in its lineup right now.

F Sport trim packages are available on nearly every model Lexus sells, and customers are appreciating that. Through September, 71 percent of all RC coupe buyers this year opted for the F Sport package that graced the vehicle I drove and cost about \$4,000 extra. About half of GS buyers and IS buyers also opted for F Sport.

The hot-selling NX also offers F Sport, and about 30 percent of those compact SUVs have been sold with the performance upgrade since the nameplate was launched this year, as well as 34 percent of the Lexus CT 200h hybrid hatchbacks. Based on all of that success, Automotive News said, Lexus added F Sport availability on the hybrid model of its 2016 RX midsize crossover for the first time.

On the RC 350, F Sport includes a special front bumper and spindle grille (a curvaceous, blacked-out form that resembles either the shape of a lab beaker or that of a nuclear-power-plant cooling tower, depending on your experience), 19-inch F Sport wheels, a blind-spot monitor with rear cross-traffic alert, a TFT instrument cluster, heated and ventilated front F Sport seats, perforated leather steering wheel and shift knob, black headliner, aluminum pedals, power steering column, and performance adaptive variable



The interior is certainly worthy of the brand.

suspension.

Even the non-F Sport version of the RC churns out 308 horsepower and 277 lb.-ft. of torque from its 3.5-liter, 24-valve V6 engine, paired with an eight-speed automatic transmission. So it provided suitable quick power to match its athletic overall stance, prominent front end – and, in the case of the car I drove, a vibrant orange color that is curiously known as "Molten Pearl."

A note about the color: It absolutely draws people, gazing and often with mouth agape, to the car. Getting in and out of the vehicle everywhere from the Fox Theatre parking ramp in downtown Detroit to suburban Oakland County, I got comments and questions about the car – and especially the color – from no fewer than a couple dozen onlookers.

That's quite a few, even more than asked me about the lime-

green-with-black-trim Dodge Challenger that I drove a few months ago. In the case of the Lexus RC 350 coupe with the F-Sport package, I think the curiosity was driven at least as much by the overall appearance and appeal of the car as by the seasonally orange color.

And if they'd had time, I would have been happy to tell these folks about the fantastic interior of the vehicle as well. It includes genuine wood trim, a heated and 10-way power driver's seat with two-way lumbar controls – even an eight-way power passenger seat, which isn't necessarily a given even in luxury cars.

There also was ample room in the car's back seat even though the RC is a sleek coupe, and still more than generous space in the trunk.

If this is the kind of sexiness that Toyoda has in mind for future Lexus models, I'm all in.



The Lexus RC 350 F Sport

Sport package.

Toyoda, an amateur race-car driver himself, has been trying to amp up the excitement quotient at Toyota, which of course built its reputation in the U.S. market and elsewhere over the last half-century by topping the charts in utility, reliability and quality of

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Fri. Night Nov. 13, 6pm
11580 Ozga Rd., Romulus MI. Lots of Antique Furniture, Lamps, Early Musical Instruments, Toys, Clock Collection, Advertising Items, Military, Lots of Primitives, Fine Jewelry, & More.
For List & Photos Go To: Doug Dalton Auctioneer, com. 800-801-6452

Garage/Moving Sales

Canton Garage Sale
47232 Larchmont Dr., Sun, Nov 8th 9-5pm. N of Ford Rd. E. of Beck. Many Christmas items, collectibles, crafts, legos, Beanie Babies, Kids toys (Barbie & Ken).

Livonia Moving/Estate Sale
Sat, 11/7 & Sun, 11/8 11am-4pm Furniture, household accessories, artwork, appliances, crystalware & MORE!
18219 University Park Dr.

Household Goods

Need help keeping your home nice and tidy? Then call someone with years of experience to help you relax and feel refreshed.

Shannon's Cleaning Service
734-431-8314
Shannoncreaney33@gmail.com

Appliances

GE Profile Refrigerator
White, Side by Side. Top of the line. Every option. Like new. \$550. 248.738.4445

Maytag Electric Stove - Aluminum 3 to 4 yrs old. Like New. \$275/obo 734-459-7682

REFRIGERATORS \$150 & up! Range, washer/dryer \$125 & up! 90 day warranty/delivery! Call: (734) 858-8846

Musical Instruments

Antique Baby Grand Piano
Very good condition. \$2500. Must Sell! Moving. 248-892-2425

PIANO YAMAHA Upright, early 90's model, walnut finish, original owner, tuned once \$4,000 obo 248-437-3791

Wurlitzer Spin-It Piano. Excellent Condition, needs tuning. \$400/obo 734-427-2942

Sporting Goods

TREADMILL - Tony Little Air Trac Total Body. Total Body Workout. Comfortable convenient features. Adjust the level of incline and speed with the touch of the button. Under Manufacturer's warranty. Pick Up Cash only. \$375. 248-324-2831

Wanted to Buy

WANTED: Bound Volumes of Detroit News, Detroit Times & New York Times. 313-255-7380

PETS

hometownlife.com

Dogs



ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO

You can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling, in addition to ad copy. Ads will appear whenever you want them to run, under the classification you choose. The cost for the photo will be \$10, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used. Email or mail your 3x5 or 4x6 photos. Call for addresses. Photos will not be returned. Prepayment required/no refunds. To place your ad & get more info call:

MICHIGAN.COM Observer & Eccentric
800-579-7355
Mon. thru Fri., 8:30-5pm
Some restrictions may apply.

MALTESE PUPS
Females, Male, Non-shedding. Tiny, White, Home Raised. Ready 11/7. 517-420-3602

Pet Supplies/Services

LOW COST VET VACCINE WELLNESS CLINIC
TSC - WHITE LAKE
10150 Highland Rd.
Sun. Nov. 8th
4PM-6:30PM
3year Rabies, \$16.
Heartworm Test, \$19. Skin, Ear & Eye exams avail.
313-686-5701

O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
800-579-7355

WHEELS

cars.com

Airplanes

SELL YOUR CAR FOR ONLY \$35.00!

Are you looking to sell your used vehicle and would like to reach over 140,000 potential buyers and have it a nationwide website to even widen the opportunity of selling it?

Then **MICHIGAN.COM Observer & Eccentric**/Hometown Media is the place to advertise it!

Package Includes:
•Ad in all 13 community newspapers for 2 weeks
•14 days on cars.com - with enhanced features!
You can now add the photo to the ad on cars.com!
•Extra \$5 add a photo to be included in print ad.

*4 line minimum (\$2.00 for each additional line).

Auto Auctions

PUBLIC VEHICLE AUCTION
NOVEMBER 13, 2015
ROSS TOWING
21360 TELEGRAPH RD
SOUTHFIELD, MI
48033 248-356-6011

2006 NISSAN
1N4AL11D26C125033
1998 MERCURY
1MEFM5355W6822875
2001 FORD
1FAFP56S3X1G141801
2004 SUZUKI
KL5VM52L04B135543
1989 PLYMOUTH
1P1BK46D7K7956383
2010 CHRYSLER
3C8FY68B43T585263
2006 HYUNDAI
KMHDN45D46U259853
2001 CHEVROLET
1GNCS18W01K266279
2010 CHRYSLER
2G1WAE5K3A1240706
2001 BMW I
WBAAV341F087897
2001 HONDA
1HGG327Y1A009103
2010 CHRYSLER
2C3CASC59A8326346
1994 CHEVROLET
1GNFK16KRJ328008
2004 PONTIAC
1G2WHP52294113028
2005 CADILLAC
1GYEE63A150120664
2000 PONTIAC
1G2NE52T0YM811169
2008 SATURN
1G8ZS58789F267623
1996 FORD
1FBJS31H8TH43029
1996 JEEP
1J4FJ6887L1294915
1996 FORD
1FALP6240TH132084
2000 BMW
WBADM6345GU07688
1995 CADILLAC
1G6KD52B8S215486
1995 GEO
1Y1SK5283S2043776
2001 BUICK
1G4HP54K81U121176
2000 TOYOTA
JTD0T1238Y0033997
1998 PONTIAC
1GMDX03E8W0111946
2009 FORD
1FAHP35N49W234131
2004 PONTIAC
1G2NF52E74M702667

Cash in with Classifieds
800-579-SELL

Autos Wanted

H & W Paying cash for junk cars & trucks. Free towing. Also buying some 2004 & up repairs. 734-223-5581

Trucks for Sale

Ford F-150 2011
Call Now For A Fast Approval Process
#156054A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD F-150 2013
19,000 Miles, Super Crew, Blue Jean Metallic \$34,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD F-150 2013
Many In Stock! Save Thousands! #P22218 \$36,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Mini-Vans

FORD F-150 2013
Power Options, Call Now For More Details! #1511314A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD RANGER 2002 S. Cab, Power, CD, Fast Approval Process! \$7988. #15C8336B
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD RANGER 2007
4X2 SUPER CAB, ABS, 89,000 MILES. 1577019A \$10,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Vans

HANDICAP 10 BEAUTIFUL LOW FLOOR MINI VANS UNDER \$15,000. CALL RIS IN LANSING 517-230-8865

FORD ECONOLINE

CARGO 2014
A GREAT VEHICLE! P22249 CALL FOR DETAILS!
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Sports Utility

FORD ESCAPE 2014
Titanium. FWD, one owner, 8800 miles. #159568A \$27,188
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Ford Escape Titanium 2014
24,000 Miles, Sterling Gray Metallic With Black Leather Interior #15C1109A \$25,488
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD ESCAPE XLT FWD 2012
57,000 Miles, Sterling Gray Metallic, #15T9366A \$15,099
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD EXPLORER 2013
3rd Row, 22,000 Miles, Deep Blue Metallic \$23,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD EXPLORER BASE 2013
ABS, 3rd row seat, luggage rack. Call for Price. P22176
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD EXPLORER
BASE 2013
ABS, 3rd row seat, luggage rack. Call for Price. P22176
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

CHEVY IMPALA 2LT 2014
Blue Topaz, Leather, Only 15K Miles. #15T6066A \$25,288
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

CHEVY IMPALA LS 2011
Imperial Blue, 59,000 Miles, Roomy Sedan That Won't Break The Bank! #P22183. \$13,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

CHEVY IMPALA LT 2012
Triple Black With Power Options and Only 61,000 Miles #15C8263A \$13,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

O&E Media Classifieds
Just a quick call away...
800-579-7355

Chrysler-Plymouth

Chrysler 200 Limited 2013
Gray Mist With Plenty of Options! 20,000 Miles! #P22181. \$17,988.
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

DODGE DART SXT 2013
20,000 Miles, Sporty & Sleek With Performance To Match! #P22201 REDUCED! \$15,998
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

2013 FORD EXPLORER
All Power Options, Exceptional Savings! Call Now! #15T5061A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD EDGE 2013
Call Now For Fast Financing Options! #15T3047A \$28,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD EDGE LTD 2013
6-spd w/spl mode, heated seats 16T9103A \$28,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD ESCAPE 2013
A True Favorite! Call Now For Details! #16T9013A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD FOCUS SE 2014
Leather, heated seats & mirrors, 25k miles. Call for Price. P22148
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

FORD FOCUS SEL 2012
FORD SYNC, BLUETOOTH, 6-SPD AUTO 15C8033A \$14,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Ford Fusion 2014
Power Options, Automatic, Fast Approval Process! #P22289
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Ford

FORD TAURUS 2013
LIMITED - FWD, Sterling Gray, Tan Lthr, 30K Miles \$21,488 #15C1143A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Kia

ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO
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MICHIGAN.COM Observer & Eccentric
800-579-7355
Mon. thru Fri., 8:30-5pm
Some restrictions may apply

KIA SPECTRA 2007
EX, FWD, Ice Blue, Tan Interior \$3,588 15C9040A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

LINCOLN MKS 2013
AWD, HEATED SEATS, LEATHER 15T9401A \$27,988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

NISSAN VERSA 2012
FWD, Titanium Metallic, 30+ MPG, 52,000 Miles \$12,988 15C1174A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

NISSAN VERSA 2012
FWD, Titanium Metallic, 30+ MPG, 52,000 Miles \$12,988 15C1174A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

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855-667-9860

NISSAN VERSA 2012
FWD, Titanium Metallic, 30+ MPG, 52,000 Miles \$12,988 15C1174A
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

NEED A HAND AROUND THE HOUSE?

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

Check the Services listings in the Observer & Eccentric classifieds

Call **800-579-7355** or visit **www.hometownlife.com** to place an ad

Toyota

TOYOTA CAMRY SE 2012
Silver Metallic, FWD, Only 51,000 Miles. P22044A \$13988
NORTH BROTHERS
855-667-9860

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?

Place an ad with Observer & Eccentric Media, and have it rented in no time!
800-579-7355

CONTACT US AT:

Phone: 800-579-7355
Fax: 313-496-4968
Email: oeads@hometownlife.com
Online: www.hometownlife.com

DEADLINES:

Fri. at 4PM for Sunday
Tue. at 3PM for Thursday

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising published in Hometownlife/ O&E Media newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card(s). Copies are available from the classified advertising department: 6200 Metropolitan Pkwy, Sterling Heights, MI 48312, or call 800-579-7355.

The Newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. The Newspaper reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. All ads are subject to approval before publication.

Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first incorrect insertion will be credited. The Newspaper shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO APARTMENT LIVING

TO PLACE YOUR AD
IN THIS DIRECTORY
CALL US TODAY AT:
800-579-7355



INKSTER

THOMPSON TOWER APARTMENTS

Affordable Housing for
Seniors 62+ or disabled

- 1 & 2 bedroom apartments - all utilities included!
Immediate Occupancy
Income Based Rent.
Our features include:
- Spacious floor plans
 - Laundry Rooms • Community Room
 - Resident Activities

For more details, call
(313) 565-3022
(800) 567-5857 TDD
Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5; Saturday 9-1
Or visit us at: 27727 Michigan Ave, Inkster
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

LO-2515859-01

WESTLAND WESTGATE TOWER APARTMENTS

ATTENTION SENIORS: LOW RENT



CALL US
TODAY!
734-729-2900

34567 Elmwood in Westland
62+ only

Income Limits Apply.

Equal Housing Opportunity.

LO-2516586-01

HOMES

HomeFinder.com

Homes



Novi - Sun., Nov 8th, 1-3 pm.
21609 Shadybrook Dr. 3br 2ba
colonial 1/3 acre lot back to
woods. 2.5 gar, fin bsmt, gas
frplc, multilevel deck, all appl.
freshly paint new crpt, granite
countertop in kitc. Novi
schools. \$269,700 FSBO
248-962-2128

Open Houses

Garden City
HOT NEW LISTING
3 Bdrm brick ranch,
kitchen w/stove, fridge &
dishwasher, bsmt w/fpl
CA, GA \$72,000
Century 21 Castelli
734-525-7900



LIVONIA Open Nov 8th, 1-4
16627 Fitzgerald. 2200 sq/ft
beautiful 4 bdrm 2.5 bath col.
in desirable Laurel Park area.
Close to I-275/96/696. Well
maint., newer roof, windows,
furn, C/A, large fenced in lot,
walk to schools. \$259,500
734-934-0718 586-914-7007

Wayne
OLD WORLD CHARM
3 bdrm colonial, Living
rm w/fpl, din rm, Kitchen
w/dishwasher, bsmt
w/lav, CA, 2 car GA
\$40,000
Century 21 Castelli
734-525-7900

Westland
Great Value
3 bdrm, ranch, Kitchen
w/stove & fridge, hard-
wood flrs, bsmt w/lav,
CA, GA \$50,000
Century 21 Castelli
734-525-7900

Cemetery Lots

Two Full-Body Mausole -
um Crypts - Acacia Park
Cemetery, 31300 Southfield
N of 13 MI \$24,000. Call
Gordon 313-919-0450

RENTALS

HomeFinder.com

Apartments For Rent

GARDEN CITY: Lg 1 bdrm,
appl., heat/water Free.
\$550 + security deposit.
734-464-3847, 734-513-4965

Real Estate Auction

Real Estate Auction

On-Site Real Estate AUCTION

3 BR Ranch Home



Friday, Nov. 20th @ 12 PM
On-Site, 35632 Palmer Rd,
Westland, MI

- 1,170+ sf
- Kitchen
- Natural Gas
- Built 1955
- Dining Room
- Forced Air
- 3 Bedrooms
- Living Room
- On 0.27+ Acre
- 1 Bath
- A/C

The seller provides a warranty deed, title insurance,
transfer tax, & tax proration. Buyers premium in effect.

This property will be SOLD.
Plan Now. Bid Your Price!

Preview: 1/2 Hr Prior to Auction or by Appt.

Detailed Info Visit Our Website or Call

888-481-5108

BippusUSA.com

Landscaping

Landscaping

Lawn Care & Maintenance

35 years of Experience

Garden Garage & Gutters
Cleaning

Available 24 hours a day
for Emergency Services

Call today for a free estimate!

313-999-6610

Homes For Rent

Hauling - Clean Up

LIVONIA/FARMINGTON
HILLS 1,200 sq. ft. 3 br beau-
tiful ranch, appliances, fenced
yd., \$990/mo 248-342-0314

Clean-up/Hauling Srv.
Cheap Rates! Garages, bsmts,
attics. Free Est.
248-521-8818, 248-489-5955

Landscaping

Northville/Novi: 3bd fam & liv
rm, bsmt 2 car att gar c/a
\$1450/mo 248.787.4076

SOUTH LYON - 4 br, 2 bath,
bsmt, 1800 sf, walking dis-
tance from dwtn. Nr schools.
\$1350/mo 248.767.9125
or 248.974.6617

COMPLETE LANDSCAPING
BY LACROUX SERVICES
Clean-ups, landscaping, grad-
ing, sodding, hydro-seeding,
retaining walls, ins. work,
brick walks & patios.
Drainings & lawn irrigation
systems, low foundations built
up. Weekly lawn Mainte-
nance. Haul away unwanted
items. Comm. Res. 42 yrs exp.
Lic. & Ins. Free Est.
www.lacrouxservices.com
248-489-5955, 248-521-8818

Paint Decorating Paper

Rooms For Rent

LIVONIA: Furnished, kitchen
privileges, cable, washer &
dryer, all utilities. Retired male
preferred. \$375/mo + \$100
dep., one of the larger rooms.
313-885-3766

PAINTING BY ROBERT
• Wallpaper Removal • Int
• Ext • Plaster/Drywall Repair
• Staining. 40 yrs exp.
Free est. 248-349-7499,
734-464-8147

QUALITY PAINTING
Int./Ext. Work myself, free est.
Reasonable. (248) 225-7165

Roofing

LEAK Repairs Flashing Valleys
etc. tear offs 30yrs exp. BBB
Member Tri County Roofing
lic'd & Ins'd. 248-489-4321

Snow Removal

SNOW PLOWING & SALTING
24 hr Emergency Srv - Comm.
& Res. Lic & Ins. Free Est.
248-521-8818, 248-489-5955

CASH IN
with
O&E Media's
CLASSIFIEDS
800-579-SELL

Need to Rent That House or Apartment?



Place an ad with
Observer & Eccentric Media newspapers,
and have it rented
in no time!

800-579-7355

Need a Hand With Your To-Do List?



Drywall
Gutters
Roofing
Plumbing
Siding...

Find professional home
improvement service providers in
O&E Media's Classified Services
section every week!

To advertise your home improvement
services, contact us at:
800-579-7355

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
MEDIA

SERVICES

hometownlife.com

Drywall

COMPLETE DRYWALL SRV.
Plaster Repair. All jobs well-
come! Lic/Ins. Free Est. 31yrs
exp. Mark 313-963-6738

RECYCLE
THIS
NEWSPAPER

PLYMOUTH HILLS

Call Sarah in Plymouth at
734.414.9760

AJR

www.ajrhomesales.com

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	138560	(734) 459-0782	3.75	0	3	0
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	3.75	0	3	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.875	0	2.99	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.75	0	2.875	0
CrossCountry Mortgage	3029	(248) 282-1602	4.125	0	3.375	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4	0.25	3.375	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.875	0.25	3.125	0

Above Information available as of 11/6/15 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a

\$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment
calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders. Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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unlock
your
potential



employers
meet
employees
in the
O&E
classifieds

800-579-7355
oeads@hometownlife.com