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**Chipotle woes won't stall Canton eatery**

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Chipotle Mexican Grill, trying to mount a comeback after an E. coli outbreak and separate norovirus incident sickened customers, has con-

firmed the company's problems will not alter plans to open its Canton restaurant. "It will not affect it at all," Danielle Moore, Chipotle public relations manager, said Thursday. Her remarks came as work

crews continue a makeover of a site Chipotle chose on the northwest corner of Ford and Lilley roads. Chipotle is hopeful of opening its Canton restaurant by late May, Moore said. "We can't put an exact date

on it yet," she said. Just this month, Chipotle closed all its restaurants for part of one day to discuss issues such as food-handling procedures, in an attempt to move past its problems and win back its customer base.

Canton Economic Development Manager Kristen Thomas said the timing of Chipotle's opening in Canton could be good, considering it comes after the company has

See **CHIPOTLE**, Page A2

**Meijer's curbside grocery service helps busy shoppers**



James Campeau is ready to load Lakya Shackelford's order into her car.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Jenni Heaton drove to the Canton Meijer on a cold, blustery afternoon and picked up \$132.33 in groceries — without ever leaving her car. It was the first time Heaton had used a curbside service that allowed her to place her order online, choose a pickup time and drive to Meijer, where employee James Campeau loaded her car with grocery bags. With 7-year-old twins and

another child, 4, in the back seat, Heaton estimated she saved 90 minutes in her day. "I think I'll use this often," she said. "It's great." As Heaton drove off, Lakya Shackelford pulled up with her daughters, ages 12 and 7, saying she often uses Meijer's curbside service to pick up large grocery orders or, sometimes, just a few items for an evening meal. "I use it all the time — three to four times a week," she said. "It's so convenient

See **CURBSIDE**, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jenni Heaton of Canton tries Meijer's curbside service for the first time.

**Stewart announces bid for state Board of Education**

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township resident and former state Rep. John Stewart has announced his run for a seat on the Michigan State Board of Education.

"This is the best place for me," said Stewart, a Democrat, referring to his dedication and support of public education.

Stewart, an attorney with an office on Main Street in Plymouth, served in the state House from 2000-06. Six years ago, he also made an unsuccessful run for the state Senate, a race won by Patrick Colbeck of Canton, who has served in the seat since. In 2007, Stewart became a Democrat. "There is no room in the Republican Party for a moderate," he said.



Stewart

Stewart has visited 14 major school districts, attending school board meetings. He also initiated a "listening tour," which has included stops in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Livonia, Wyandotte and Taylor, as well as five state Board of Education meetings.

"My purpose was to listen to their concerns and for the opportunity to speak about the need to restore full funding for public education," Stewart said. During his tenure in the state House, Stewart served on a variety of committees, including chair of the Higher Education Committee, Appropriations, Banking and Financial Institutions and Commerce committees, as well as Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services.

"We need to stop raiding the School Aid Fund," Stewart said. "I support full funding for special education, art, physical education, band, orchestra and choir, fourth grade through 12th grade," Stewart said. "I have first-hand knowledge of the 15 major public universities in Michigan. We need to do whatever we can to make college more affordable for Michigan's students."

Stewart said his years in the state House show he has a voting record consistent with his support of public education,

See **STEWART**, Page A5

**Canton rolls out new Citizens Police Academy**

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Canton residents who wonder how local police officers do their jobs can find out by signing up for a six-week program that promises an up-close look at law enforcement.

The Canton Police Department is ready to ramp up its next Citizens Police Academy starting April 14 — building on the success of a long-stalled program that local officials revived last spring. "We recognize the value of transparency in police work,"

Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler said, "and we believe in the age-old concept of the police are the public and the public are the police." Up to 30 people will be chosen for the academy. Organizers try to select a diverse group of people who represent

a cross-section of Canton. The academy involves learning how police handle criminal investigations, proper use of force, evidence collecting and traffic stops, among other duties.

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## CURBSIDE

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and the team here is so friendly.”

The curbside service fee is \$4.95 — no matter how small or large the order. Customers simply have a credit card or debit card associated with their online account at [www.Meijer.com/curbside](http://www.Meijer.com/curbside). They pay by swiping their card when they pick up their groceries.

Peter Strong, Meijer curbside program manager, said the local Meijer began its curbside service in mid-December and now fills about 50 orders a day, from 7



BILL BRESLER

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Melissa Dabelstein shops for a Meijer customer in the produce department. She is a resident of Wayne.

a.m. to 9 p.m.

Small orders can be picked up within an hour.

Shoppers who plan ahead can place orders up to three days in advance. They can even specify if they want their bananas green, their avocados ripe, their deli meat sliced thin or their light bulbs a lower wattage.

The Meijer at Ford and Canton Center is among five stores offering curbside service in Michigan. One is in Ann Arbor and three in Grand Rapids. Grocery pickup times are staggered to avoid lines.

Joe Hirschmugl, Meijer spokesman, said 75 percent of shoppers using the service are repeat customers.

“These are people who are going to shop at

Meijer anyway,” he said. “This just makes it easier.”

The service reflects a trend by grocery stores to make it easier for customers who have busy lifestyles to buy their products. Strong said shoppers can buy 77,000 items online, but not merchandise such as clothing, alcohol and tobacco. Manufacturer’s coupons also can’t be used — yet — but digital coupons through Meijer’s mPerks program can.

Campeau, loading up vehicles Tuesday afternoon at the Canton Meijer, is among a team of 15 store workers specially trained to pick out the best products they can

find, bag them up and take them to a loading area where, if necessary, they can stay in a cooler until they are picked up.

Outside, customers like Heaton and Shackelford simply drive up, press a speaker button and announce their arrival.

Shoppers can even choose merchandise such as coffee makers and toys. Ideally, Hirschmugl said, “you could do all of your Christmas shopping next year” with curbside service.

Strong said a curbside order usually tops the \$100 mark. A typical customer could be a mother who is strapped for time because she works outside the home

or is busy caring for children.

“They care about what their families eat,” he said, “and they value the time they have in the day.”

Strong and Hirschmugl couldn’t say how much revenue the curbside program generates, though it certainly is growing.

Shackelford, who works as a national sales manager, said the time she saves grocery shopping can be used to dial into a conference call or make a meal at home.

Best of all, she said, “It’s just so easy.”

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## CHIPOTLE

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taken steps to fix its problems.

“I think they will have

all their ducks in a row and I think people may have more confidence in them after this,” Thomas said, adding that Chipotle is likely to be “a hundred times” more cautious. “It’s very good timing

(for Canton).”

Chipotle has sought to reassure customers by providing details on its website about its food-handling procedures. Chipotle’s plans in Canton come after another

Mexican grill, Qdoba, already has opened a mile away at Ford and Haggerty roads.

Currently, the closest Chipotle restaurants to Canton are in Northville and Ann Arbor. Moore

said Canton seemed a desirable location with its high-traffic Ford Road business corridor.

“We typically look for busy intersections around shopping centers, schools, hospitals and

business parks where we can see customers both in the daytime and the evening,” she said.

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## ACADEMY

Continued from Page A1

During last year’s program, some citizens fired weapons at a police gun range, while others saw simulated crime scenes that revealed how quickly officers have to make life-and-death decisions.

The next Citizens Police Academy happens 6-9 p.m. each Thursday from April 14 through May 19, with one Saturday morning session May 7.

“This helps the community by continuing to build bridges between the citizens and their police department,” Mutchler said, adding that it also allows police officers to engage “with the people they are serving.”

He called last year’s academy “tremendously popular.”

Lori Morrison, who finished last year’s class, rode along with a police



CANTON PUBLIC SAFETY

Canton Detective Dave Juras taught Citizens Police Academy participants about crime scene work, such as lifting fingerprints.

officer to the scene of two vehicle crashes on Ford Road and to a residence that had a small kitchen fire. After finishing the academy, Morrison said she had an “even higher” apprecia-

tion for local police officers.

Citizens Police Academy applicants must be Canton residents and 21 or older with no felony convictions and no misdemeanor convictions

within the last three years. They have to agree to a background check.

Mutchler said the program was revived last year after it was shelved more than 30 years ago. The academy involves learning about policies and operational procedures of police work through presentations, demonstrations and hands-on activities.

It also delves into what Mutchler called “the difficult challenges law enforcement personnel face on a daily basis.”

Academy applications are available online at [www.cantonpublicsafety.org](http://www.cantonpublicsafety.org) or at the front desk of the Canton Police Department, 1150 S. Canton Center Road.

Applications will be accepted through March 13. For more information, call Staff Operations Sgt. James Harrison at 734-394-5411.

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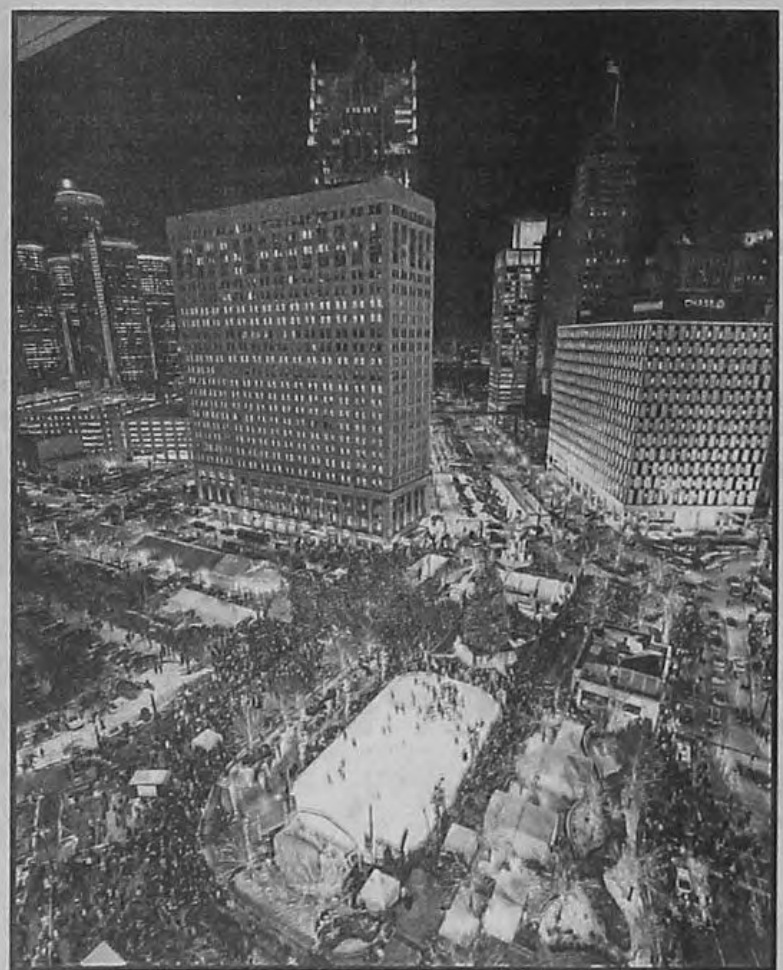
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# P-CEP choir program to perform in Italy

**Danielle Alexander**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's 2015-16 Festival Singers have been invited to perform in Italy during spring break. In addition to various smaller performances, they will serve as the choir for a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Venice the Tuesday after Easter, as well as a Mass at St. Mark's Basilica, also in Venice.

Choral director Jennifer Neumann said the choir had to submit a repertoire, as well as recordings, before getting approval and an invitation to sing.

"We have been preparing music throughout the school year," Neumann said, "mainly sacred pieces since it's Easter week, a holy week, which is a pretty big honor."

P-CEP's choir program consists of 15 curricular and extracurricular choirs composed of more than 300 students. Festival Singers is an advanced extracurricular choral ensemble that meets one day per week, with extra rehearsals often occurring week-

ends.

In the past, members of the choir program have performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City, Disney World in Orlando, Cedar Point in Ohio and in Toronto, Chicago and London.

"It is time-consuming, but I love it and can't imagine doing anything else," Neumann said. "The students work very hard and are really diligent."

P-CEP's choir boosters are raising money to support those participating in the Italy trip. Donations can be made by contacting pcepchoirs@yahoo.com.

Also, students, alumni and community leaders will be gathering for a concert by both the choirs from Eastern Michigan University and P-CEP at Plymouth First United Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27. The church is at 701 Church Street. Proceeds from the event will be divided between the two programs to support their upcoming tours.

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248-860-4183



P-CEP's Festival Singers have more than 40 performances every school year.



P-CEP's Festival Singers will make a tour of Italy this spring.



Choral director Jennifer Neumann has been at P-CEP for 16 years.

# Observer & Eccentric to connect businesses with seniors at annual expo

The *Observer & Eccentric* presents the 13th annual Spring Senior Expo, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

This tradition for seniors features diverse demonstrations and workshops, local business exhibitors, prizes, free admission, free parking and free refreshments. Learn to live healthy, make wise financial decisions and enhance life to make it the best ever.

Businesses wishing to participate can take advantage of various exhibitor and sponsorship packages.

Prior to the expo, a Spring Senior Expo special publication will be inserted into all *Observer*, *Novi News*, *Northville Record*, *Milford Times* and *South Lyon Herald* newspapers Thursday, March 31, and in all *Eccentric* newspapers Sunday, April 3. This special publication will feature articles, interests and resources for today's seniors. The publication

will also include participating local business exhibitors and information on all demonstrations and workshops being offered for this year's event.

For those interested in greater involvement and exposure, there are speaking, advertorial and various sponsorship level opportunities.

Businesses interested in learning more about how to become an exhibitor or sponsor should contact Choya Jordan at 248-926-2203 or cbjordan@michigan.com.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
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# Canton to host Chinese spring festival

Celebrating a tradition that is thousands of years old, the Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage Multicultural Committee will host a Chinese Spring Festival at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

Providing main stage entertainment will be choral performances by the Michigan Chinese Choir, the Canton Philharmonic Choir, the March Wind Choir, the AM Choir and the New Century Chinese School youth chorus.

The program also features duets and small group performances by Yangtze Melody Group and Xin Yun; pop music by the Desert Island Band; Chinese yo-yo; Tai Chi; and a traditional Chinese instrumental performance by the Troy Chinese Classic Music Guzheng Team.

The evening includes a special guest performance by Shuping Ma, a notable opera singer in China and the United States. She is a graduate of Sichuan Music College in China and was a vocal professor at Xinhai Music College in Guangzhou. Ma has performed at the Detroit Opera House and throughout China and the U.S. and is the director for three area Chinese choirs.



The Ann Hua Waist Drum Team will perform at the Chinese festival.

The art of traditional Chinese folk and classical dances will be shared by Cherry Blossom, Shihui Dance Group, Michigan New Century Chinese School, Clivia Dance Group, Ann Arbor Jade Dance School, the Ann Hua Waist Drum Team, Ann Hua Chinese Dance

Group and the Senior Chinese American Golden Years Troupe.

Event-goers can also enjoy a free punch and cookie reception starting at 6 p.m. In addition, a variety of cultural displays will be available for all to enjoy in The Village Theater lobby.

Tickets to this special Chinese celebration are just \$5 per person.

Tickets can be purchased and printed at home or held at will call, anytime from www.cantonvillage theater.org. The box office is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each weekday. Tickets can also be

ordered by phone at 734-394-5300, ext. 3, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each weekday. If available, tickets may be purchased one hour prior to the program.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

## STEWART

Continued from Page A1

which forms his platform. It also includes demanding accountability of all schools, including public and charter and cyber schools, in Michigan.

While endorsements are not officially made until after the Aug. 2 primary election, Stewart has already been recommended by Steve Cook, MEA president, Dr. David Hecker of the AFT and the Michigan Democratic State Central Committee to run for the state Board of Education. Locally, Chuck Portelli, formerly of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association (teachers union), has also recommended Stewart.

"It has been gratifying to receive widespread support. I will continue my 'listening tour' to school districts across Michigan," Stewart said.

Stewart is a former Plymouth Township trustee who served from 1988-92. He holds a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University, a master's degree in public administration from Wayne State University and a law degree from Michigan State University.

He is married to Beth, executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic. They have two daughters and one grandchild.

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# Resurrection Church hosts Lenten speaker series

Resurrection Catholic Church in Canton is hosting a Soup Supper and Speaker Series this Lent.

It was to begin Friday, Feb. 19, including a simple, meatless meal of soup and bread followed by a talk on "Marriage, the Baby and the Family" by Crystal Squire, development director at AAA Pregnancy Resource Center

in Livonia. Attendees are invited to participate in Stations of the Cross following the presentation.

The second night in the series will take place Friday, March 18. Tying in to the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis last year, it will feature a discussion on "Living Lent with Mercy" by Resurrection Deacon

Paul F. Lippard.

"Mercy is one of the core teachings of Jesus and we are called to live it out in everyday life," said Lippard, a graduate of the University of Detroit with a major in scripture who has been involved in religious education for more than 35 years.

These events, hosted by Resurrection's Evangelization and Respect

Life Committees, are a way for people to enrich their Lenten experience by examining specific aspects of their faith.

The meals will be served 5:30-6 p.m., followed by the presentations 6-6:45 p.m. and Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

All are welcome at these events. Please respond by calling the parish office at 734-451-

0444 or emailing re-soffice@resurrectionparish.net.

Resurrection Church is located at 48755 Warren Road in Canton, between Beck and Ridge roads. For more information about these or other Lenten activities, call the parish office or go to www.resurrectionparish.net.

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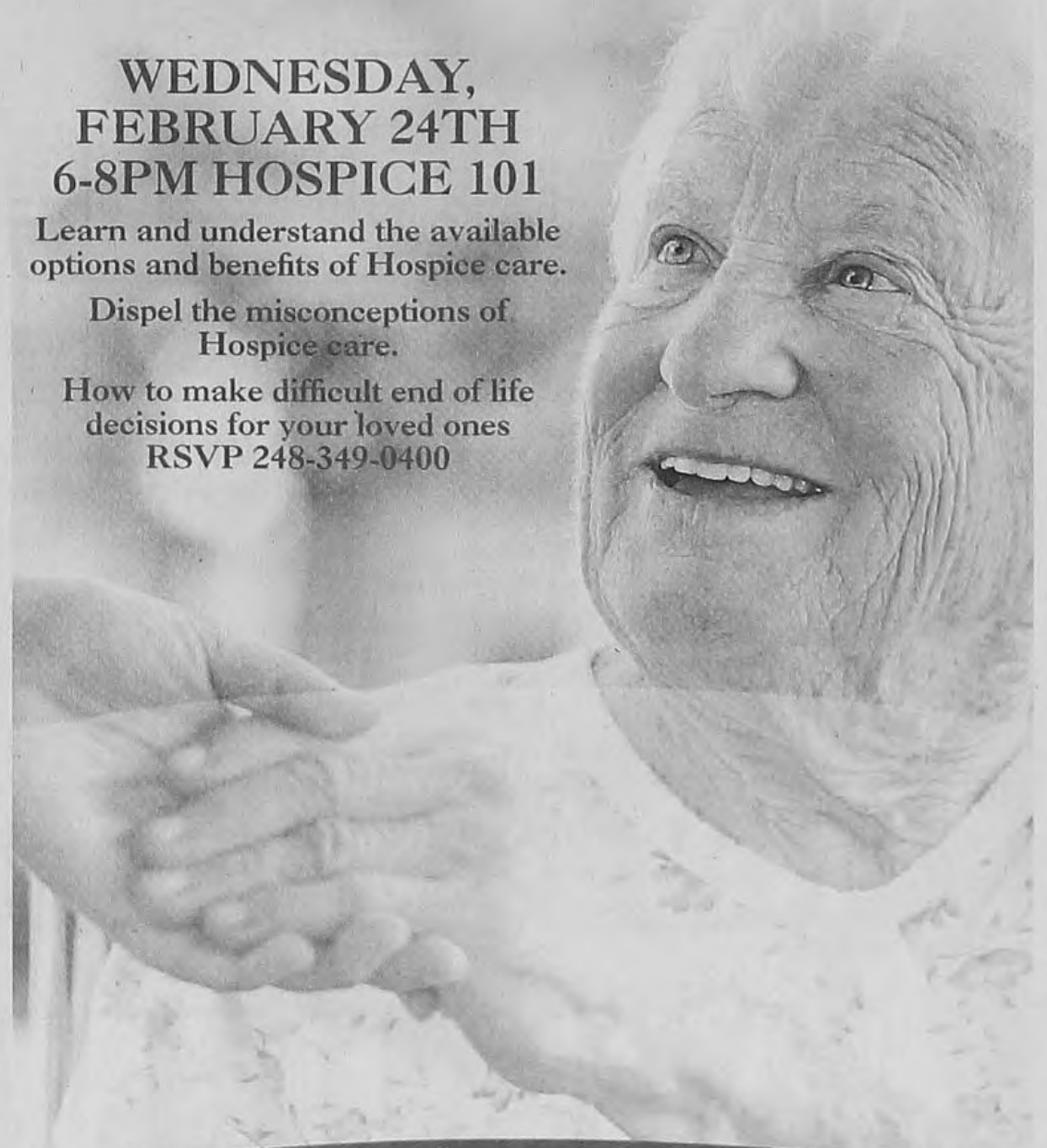
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# Growth Works dinner recognizes youth who overcome obstacles and their helpers

**Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

The annual Growth Works, Inc., awards dinner is a time to pause and reflect.

"We've been doing it a long time," executive director Dale Yagiela said of the agency which helps young people in Plymouth-Canton and surrounding communities. The 27th annual dinner, Feb. 18 this year at Fox Hills Golf Club, was "to acknowledge progress our participants have made," he said.

Staff and community partners were also lauded. Staffers, many of whom go back with Growth Works for years, are "really important to us," Yagiela said. "They're working with folks that need a lot of support, a lot of care. You need a good heart."

Yagiela has been with the agency since it began in 1971 as Plymouth Youth, Inc. The name change to Growth Works followed several years later.

Chemical dependency treatment for youth became key in the 1980s. The agency was operating alternative education for the Plymouth-Canton school district and found drug use often interfered with school success.

Yagiela praised hospital-based programs for youth who have substance abuse problems. Growth Works in the early 1980s began after-care for youth coming out of such hospital programs.

In the middle 1980s, juvenile delinquency



BILL BRESLER  
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michele Baldori of Canton earned the Rick Bergquist Memorial Scholarship.

programming evolved into what now serves 17 western Wayne County communities. Youth have gone through the Wayne County Juvenile Court and been referred, Yagiela said.

"The intent is to rehabilitate them and keep the community safe," he said. Now, Growth Works has ties in substance abuse work and court intervention with Washtenaw County as well.

"It's just doing more of the same. We're concerned about kids, crime, drug use and how they all intersect," Yagiela said.

For Yagiela and colleagues, seeing young people get lives back on track is rewarding. "It's kind of what makes you stay with the work when you see that," he said. "People can make a decision to change."

He praised the Conference of Western Wayne as "a real key partner in this since we started the delinquency program." He sees the region as stronger in that regard



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kevin Kreimes of Canton, Emily Scott of Plymouth, Bruce Thacker of Milan and Rob Lauer of Canton. All won Program Achievement Awards.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TaWanna Sperling and Marsha Sperling represented Rick Bergquist Memorial Scholarship winner Ka'Mariera Moorer of Taylor.

than others due in large part to the CWW and its leadership.

"This isn't about punishing people. It's about helping them make bet-

ter decisions," Yagiela said.

He's nearly 67 and has no immediate retirement plans. The agency's board is working on its

future. "I can't envision myself not being part of this," Yagiela said. "But we're not close to getting that figured out yet."

Those honored at the Feb. 18 dinner were:

Rick Bergquist Memorial Scholarship honorees: Ka'Mariera Moorer of Taylor and Michele Baldori of Canton. This scholarship is given by the Bergquist family of Livonia. Moorer was away at Northern Michigan University studying and unable to attend; her family represented her at the dinner.

Youth and adult Program Achievement Award honorees: Emily Scott of Plymouth, Kevin Kreimes of Canton, Rob Lauer of Canton and

Bruce Thacker of Milan. Marsha Bianconi, former executive director of the Conference of Western Wayne, was honored as she retired from the Growth Works Board of Directors. Roy Brewer and Reginald Choyle of Wolverine Human Services of Vassar garnered Community Awards.

Growth Works board members honored were: Susan Brown, Tom Fielder, Joan Gebhardt, Steve Harper, Paul Opdyke, Neal Schultz, Jordyn Sellek, Bill Ventola, Janet Volante, Pete Wilson, Ken Brooks, John Zech, John Nepiuk, Jack Kirksey and Ann O'Flaherty.

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## Spotlight Players to perform 'Old Ringers'

Spotlight Players senior group Still Got It Players is set to perform *Old Ringers* in the Biltmore Studio at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

*Old Ringers* is a PG-13 adult comedy written by Joe Simonelli about four senior women and one man affected by their negative financial changes due to the economy. Strapped for funds, they decide to start a new business venture that includes a phone sex service to increase their incomes. This all comes about from a call accidentally made to one woman from the *As You Like It* — Shakespeare Phone Sex Service.

The play offers bawdy comic lines while also addressing relationship issues between mother and daughter, as well subjects regarding religion, age, sex, dating and morals.



Laura Kitzman of Canton, Philip Lukasik of Westland and Chris Saksewski of Belleville practice for "Old Ringers."

"Senior citizen phone sex gone hilariously wrong!" producer Laura Kitzman said. "This play will appeal to anyone who wants to get away from the cold and snow and enjoy a cleverly written comedy. There are also some great messages in this play regarding relationships, integrity and ethics."

*Old Ringers* will run

March 16-20, with Wednesday and Thursday performances at 1 p.m., Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30 p.m. and a Sunday performance at 2 p.m.

Tickets are between \$16 and \$18. They can be purchased by calling the box office at 734-394-5300 or at [www.cantonvillagetheater.org](http://www.cantonvillagetheater.org).

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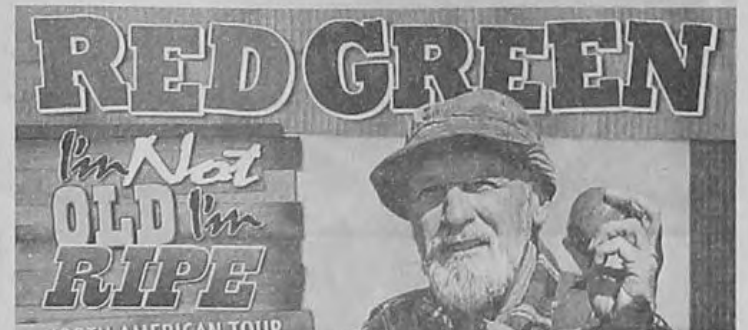
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# Art center to host workshop for transgender youth

**Brad Kadrich**  
Staff Writer

As the mother of a transgender son, Kelly Darke works hard to provide a nurturing, safe environment where her son can be himself.

Now Darke, owner of Mindful Art Center in Livonia, is trying to extend that same comfort to transgender kids at work.

Darke is hosting a youth art workshop at her center (12886 Farmington Road) Sunday, Feb. 28, as part of an ongoing art therapy effort to help transgender youth find their way through life.

"I want to provide a place where kids feel comfortable without any judgment and where they can meet other kids going through the same thing," said Darke, whose son, Grayson, came out as transgender in January 2015. "These are kids just trying to be who they are. I want to give them a place to do that."

Darke has been helping all kids — and adult clients — express themselves since getting her master's degree in art therapy from Wayne State University in 2009.

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

**What:** Transgender Youth Art Workshop  
**Where:** Mindful Art Center, 12886 Farmington Road, Livonia

**When:** Sunday, Feb. 28. Clients in kindergarten through fifth grade meet 1-2 p.m.; clients in sixth grade and higher meet 2:15-3:15 p.m.

**Why:** Provide an environment where transgender youth can learn to express themselves without fear of judgment

**How much:** Art supplies will be provided; there is a \$5 supply fee. Space is limited to 20 people; RSVP by Feb. 27

**Details:** For more information, go to [www.mindfulartcenter.com](http://www.mindfulartcenter.com) or call 734-502-7920



Jessy Cocciolone (left) paints cards as her step-mom, art therapist Kelly Darke, looks on.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Darke decided to make the leap from TBI Solutions when her husband, who also owns his own business, found the Farmington Road space for Darke's center.

At the moment, the center hosts only art therapy classes, but Darke said she's considering expanding the center's offerings to include workshops and art classes, including for adults.

At the moment, Darke is focusing on the workshop for transgender youth. But first she had to educate herself. After Grayson came out last year Darke, who also has a stepdaughter who is gay, spent the next year educating herself, reading books and attending support groups for parents of transgender kids.

"For a lot of kids — and adults — when you have issues you can't quite describe with words, art can help you do that," Darke said. "Kids can use art and expression to do that. You can express yourself without any judgment. There's no right or wrong, so you're not being judged by that."

[bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)  
Twitter: @bkadrich

with insurance companies, so the insurance company dictated who I could see," said Darke, who also got her bachelor's degree at WSU. "In private practice, the client has full control. I'm an art therapist and I wanted to work independently."

Darke has always had a therapeutic bent toward her life. She said she's got a "long history" of art and painting and

also has had a longtime fascination with psychology.

She believes the two can go hand-in-hand. In fact, she said, she has long used art as her "personal therapy."

"It's relaxing, it's satisfying, it's something I can do on my own," she said. "There aren't any rules; it is what I make of it. It's very personal. No one can tell you what it means."

It wasn't the career path she once thought she'd take. Darke said she originally thought about being a doctor. Then, she said, her brother suffered a nasty broken leg.

"When I saw him in the hospital with his leg, I almost passed out," she said, laughing. "That's when I thought, 'Maybe not a doctor.'"

Having always wanted to have her own studio,

# Canton Leisure Services captures mParks awards

Canton Leisure Services was among the winners as the state mParks awards honored parks and recreation agencies and individuals who have contributed to Michigan's recreation industry, which has long been an important economic driver by inspiring tourism, supporting jobs and improving health for the residents of and visitors to our state.

In all, mParks honored 22 parks and recreation professionals, agencies, advocates and legislators

with Michigan Recreation and Park Awards, which were presented Thursday at an mParks conference in Acme.

This year, Canton Leisure Services was the recipient of two mParks awards: the Excellence in Therapeutic Recreation Programming Award for Canton's Camp Leisure Club and a Special Brochure Award for the Canton Farmers Market's seasonal brochure.

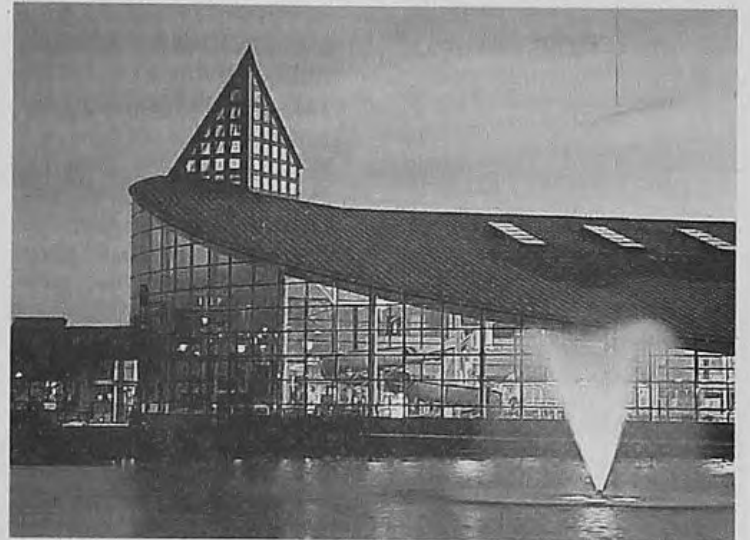
"This recognition is further proof of Canton Leisure Services' dedication to quality programs

and events," Canton Leisure Services Director Debra Bilbrey-Honsovetz said. "Canton residents are fortunate to have access to these award-winning programs in our community, as well as year-round recreation opportunities, health and wellness classes and activities, fine arts and cultural programs, family-friendly community events and more."

mParks is the statewide professional association for Michigan's parks and recreation

industry, committed to educating and inspiring a diverse membership of 2,000-plus parks and recreation professionals, agencies, advocates and vendors. It also serves as the voice for the industry, promoting and advocating for parks and recreation as an invaluable resource for community, economy and public health.

Since 2004, Canton Leisure Services has been accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies.



Canton has won awards from mParks.

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# 'The Cross and the Light'

Show brings Broadway-caliber performance to local churches

**Pam Zinkosky**  
Correspondent

The sounds of whips and cries of agony rip through the air. Tongues of fire envelop the room and the wind whistles loudly. Beautiful voices ring out. The crowd at turns cries, rejoices, sings "Hosanna," shouts out. And it's all happening at church. It's a retelling of an age-old Christian story – the passion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

This is no ordinary passion play, but a Broadway-quality multi-sensory experience that uses state-of-the-art environmental projection to not only project visions on the walls up to 150 feet wide by 30 feet high, but also project sounds and even smells that captivate the audience. The musical production, called *The Cross and the Light*, is now in its fifth season and running in March at two metro Detroit Catholic churches and one in Florida.

*The Cross and the Light* is the vision of Farmington resident Kelly Nieto, a former Miss America runner-up, comedian, fiddle player, mother of five and convert to Christianity who gives all the credit for the performance to God. Nieto said she received a vision from God on Good Friday 2000 at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington. While praying the Stations of the Cross, she had a physical and spiritual reaction to Jesus' suffering and envisioned a live Stations of the Cross on the altar, she said.

After several Lenten seasons of amateur church productions of the passion, Nieto wrote music – God-inspired, she said – for the performance and brought it to the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit with a professional cast of about 80 people, then moved it to Detroit's Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts with the addition of the resurrection and Pentecost.

## A touring production

Last year, Nieto brought the production back into churches with a touring cast of seven – three women and four men, who each play several roles. Nieto also hired Northville resident Ryan Richert, who owns the Christian nonprofit production company Outside the Box Ministries Inc., as technical director, to add the environmental projection component that brings *The Cross and the Light* to life and also enables it to be set up in eight hours or less on location.

Richert, a member of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville, supplies the technical knowledge and crew and rents the necessary equipment to run



DiRita



Nieto



Richert

the environmental projection piece, which is also known as "video mapping," he said. He's been working with the technology for about four years, he said.

"People walk into (what may be) their own church and don't even recognize it," he said. "It's a new experience. It draws you in emotionally."

"I love how overtly evangelistic (*The Cross and the Light*) is," said Richert, who provides production support for up to 40 faith-based events each year through Outside the Box Ministries. "Most Christian productions do not get that specific about who Jesus was and what he did for us."

Nieto also "made it relevant to the 21st century" starting with the 2014 production, she said: "There are no costumes to separate us from that time." Jesus wears jeans. The high priests take a selfie in front of the cross. It allows us to see ourselves in the characters, she explained, noting that her 16-year-old son said he could see himself as Judas.

While more than 70,000 people have seen *The Cross and the Light* in Detroit, Illinois and Adelaide, Australia, and another 8,000 will see it this year in the Detroit area, plus 6,000 in Florida, there is some resistance to it, Nieto said. It's entertainment, which some view as inherently secular.

"Priests are afraid we're competing with them and we're not," Nieto said. "In order to reach beyond the choir, you have to entertain." But you can entertain with Biblical material and, since entertainment equals emotional engagement, which creates memories, it's one of the best ways to teach and motivate, she said.

"It's the visual, mystical piece of this that's so emotionally engaging," Nieto said. "We connect



"The Cross and the Light" actors sing during the Pentecost scene.

with people on a level that they don't even understand."

## Vision turned business

Nieto's vision for *The Cross and the Light* gave rise to two businesses – Nieto Productions LLC, which owns the rights to and produces the musical, and Living Faith-Fine Arts Apostolate, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing students to view the performance. Nieto believes in inspiring today's youth, as they represent the future of evangelism. Living Faith has offered subsidized or free tickets to 16,000 students so far.

Nieto's successful business model is due in part to Northville resident and friend Diana DiRita, who in 2012 agreed to become Nieto's "house manager," a role she knew little to nothing about. "I'm from corporate America," said DiRita, who had left her global finance director job at Harman International to be home with her two children. "I didn't know what that meant."

DiRita, a parishioner at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth Township, said she knew Nieto's production was meant for a larger stage and that Nieto needed help. "It's beautiful and it's authentic and it's God's word," she said. "It's an authentic Bible story. It's not her version."

DiRita also knew that, in order to get to that larger stage, Nieto needed to copyright and protect her work – hence the limited liability company Nieto Productions. She also needed funding and strategic planning, which became part of DiRita's job description.

What amazed DiRita, she said, was that Nieto Productions always "broke even" on ticket sales versus expenses, which included renting the venue, paying the cast and crew and marketing. "That is truly a miracle," she said. "Most production companies go belly-up and they have longer runs. Our longest run was one week. Why

(did it do so well)? Because it is so good!"

In fact, EncoreMichigan.com, which reviews Michigan theater performances, nominated *The Cross and the Light* for two music awards. That goes to show, DiRita noted, that this is not just a Catholic performance and not even just a Christian performance. It appeals to the secular world.

Nieto said that satisfaction rates with *The Cross and the Light*, according to a research study of attendees, rival that of satisfaction with the iPhone. The study found that 86 percent of attendees were extremely satisfied with the performance, 77 percent said they would recommend it to others, 89 percent felt emotionally moved by it and 82 percent said they felt God's presence during the performance.

"I really believe we're ahead of the curve in terms of evangelism," DiRita said.

## Site hosting

As part of Nieto's 2014 move back into the churches, she and DiRita developed a turn-key model churches could use to host the performance. In addition to bringing the performance and all the technical equipment, Nieto Productions provides a project management tool called Teamwork that guides sites through every phase of marketing, along with a press kit, customizable art work, audio and video tracks, online ticketing and everything else necessary to host the event.

Each church or site pays for the production and the tools that come with it and makes a plan for funding it. Churches can sell tickets, find sponsors and donors, partner with area organizations or do any combination of these to cover the costs.

The theater business is expensive, DiRita said. The fixed cost for a site to rent the environmental projection equipment starts at \$25,000, depending on the number of

performances. That doesn't include paying the cast and crew or any travel expenses.

That's why DiRita, who now fills the role of full-time, year-round managing director and chief financial officer for both the production company and Living Faith, has embarked on a \$500,000 capital campaign to fund the purchase, storage and maintenance of the technical equipment for the environmental projection. Owing the equipment, DiRita and Nieto noted, will cut in half the cost to the church or other host site.

DiRita is reaching out to the public, asking for individual donations as well as long-term benefactors and sponsors. She's also applying for grants and scheduling speaking events for Nieto as fundraisers.

Along with purchasing the necessary production equipment, the five-year plan for Nieto Productions and Living Faith is to develop *The Cross and the Light* movie, expand the theater production to

reach more cities and turn the production into an off-Broadway show. Next year's goal is to have five different touring groups performing in 10 cities.

*The Cross and the Light* runs March 10-12 at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Grosse Pointe Woods with shows at 8 p.m. all three nights; and March 17-20 at St. Malachy in Sterling Heights with shows at 7 p.m. March 17, 10 a.m. March 18, 8 p.m. March 18-19 and 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. March 20. Go to [www.crossandlight.com](http://www.crossandlight.com) for tickets.

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Reagan Carey, director of women's hockey for USA Hockey, said bringing the 2017 IIHF Women's World Championship to the Plymouth arena is a perfect fit.

USA HOCKEY

## CENTER OF IT ALL

USA Hockey announces 2017 IIHF Women's World Championship to be played in Plymouth

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Consider last week's Under-17 Five Nations Tournament the dry run for USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth Township.

It was announced during a Thursday press conference at the Beck Road arena that the 2017 IIHF Women's World Championship will take place there in early April of next year. The tourney will feature

eight teams and is second only to the Olympics in size and scope for international women's hockey.

Among those watching the press conference were players from the Detroit Compuware Tier 1 AAA girls hockey team, including captain Jordan Modjeski of South Lyon.

"It's unbelievable. It's going to be a really great experience," the 16-year-old Modjeski, a student at Livonia Ladwyood, said afterward. "It's

going to be really great to see the games, to wear some red, white and blue. ... We all look up to these girls. We've all watched them play and we all strive our best to get to where they are right now. It's going to be fabulous to see them in person."

Modjeski and her teammates enthusiastically greeted USA Hockey women's hockey director Reagan Carey near

See WORLD, Page B2

KLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Vying for extra space during a closely contested game are Canton's Madison Wolfbauer (front) and Plymouth's Gabby Chouinard.

KLAA BOYS BASKETBALL

## Tourney opens with thud for Wildcats

Plymouth stopped cold after first quarter by Northville

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Waves of Northville's defensive pressure came after the Plymouth Wildcats during Thursday's KLAA Kensington Conference boys basketball tournament opener.

After the first quarter, the visiting Wildcats could barely create a ripple.

Plymouth took a 15-11 lead into the second quarter, but would not score another field goal until Jeremy Abraham's jumper from the top of the key at 4:25 of the fourth. In between, the Mustangs outscored the Wildcats 20-0 in the second and 15-1 in the third en route to a 53-25 victory.

"I thought our effort was pretty good from the beginning," said Northville head coach Todd Sander, whose KLAA Central Division champions improved to 17-0 overall. "(The Wildcats) got hot, (Brent) Davis made a few shots early, he's a really good player. We didn't have to adjust too much.

"Our guys have really committed to the defensive end all year long and they really stepped up. When you get stops like that, it allows you to run out easier and we like to play fast."

See WILDCATS, Page B3

## DOWN TO THE WIRE



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Plymouth's Hannah Badger (right) dribbles around Canton's Natalie Winters.

Canton holds off late push by Wildcats to advance to Kensington Conference final

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Inch by inch, second by second, the anxious Canton Chiefs held off a last-minute bid by Plymouth to score a triple and force an overtime session to decide Friday's Kensington Conference varsity girls basketball semifinal.

Up just 29-26 in the — as always — grueling battle between campus rivals, the Chiefs had four fouls to give with a half minute remaining and used every one as the Wildcats were unable to get open for a potential

game-tying shot.

Finally, with 1.2 ticks on the scoreboard, Canton junior Brianna Finn fouled Plymouth senior Cassidy Lewis behind the 3-point arc on the left wing to set up a chance for Lewis to make three freebies and extend the contest.

With no time on the clock and Lewis standing by herself at the north end of the Bob Blohm Court, the first free throw went in and out to clinch the Canton victory.

"It's a lot of pressure, but I tried to just clear my head," said Lewis, who along with sophomore Gabby Chouinard led the Wildcats with seven points each. "We practice it every day. It happens; got a bad bounce. "They had fouls to give, so we

See CANTON, Page B2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville's Justin Gibbons splits Plymouth defenders Pete Carravallah (left) and Julian LeDoux on his way to the hoop during Thursday's KLAA tournament opener.

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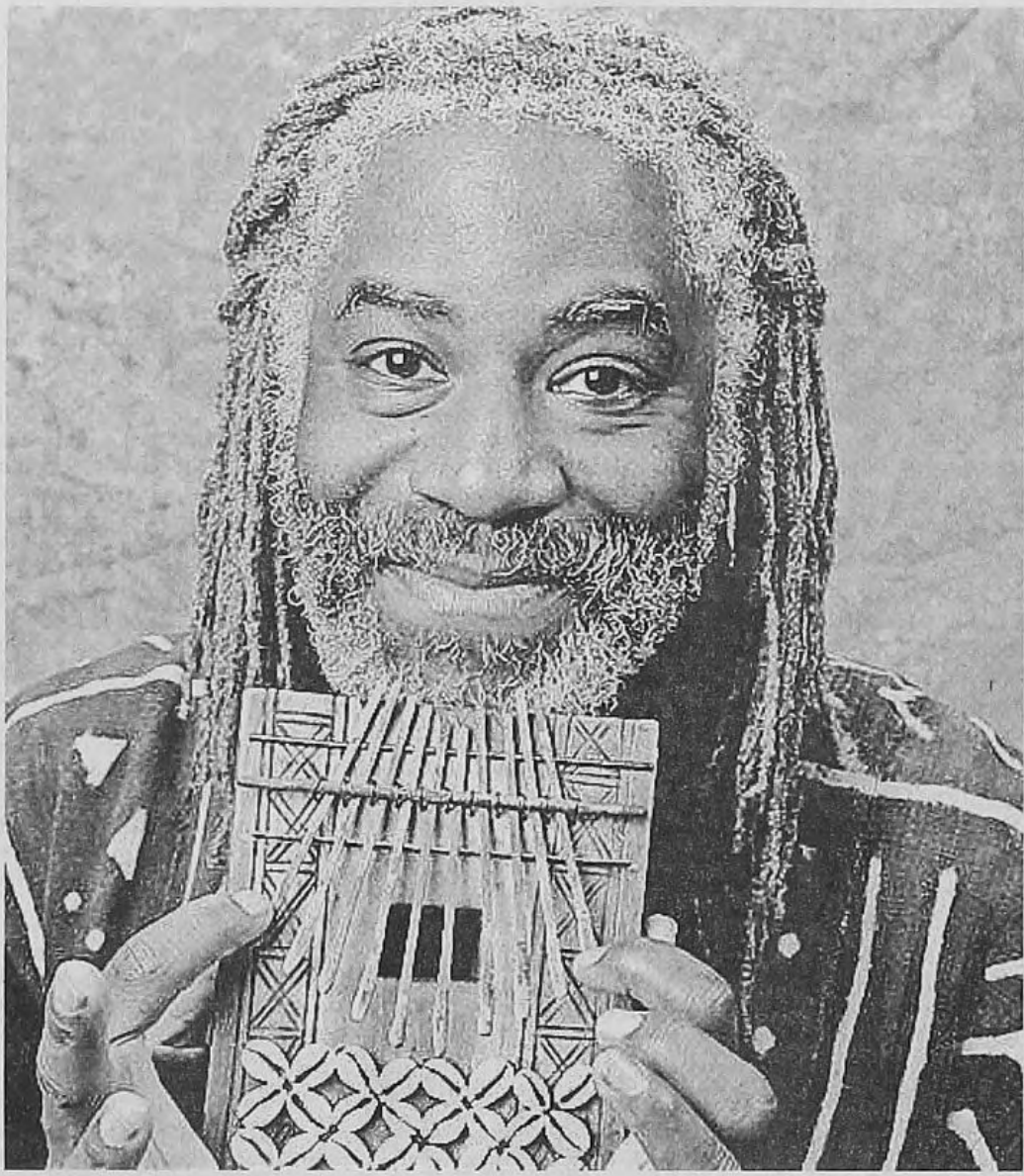


# STORYTELLING EVENT ENGAGES CHILDREN WITH TALES, MUSIC



Carolyn Graves of Commerce Township will serve as storytelling concert maestro.

Amy "Ami" Jackson sings, plays piano and tells stories.



La Ron Williams of Ann Arbor is among the storytellers at the Detroit Story League's 6th annual Children's Concert in Livonia.



Chrissy Begle of Livonia is among the featured storytellers at the 6th Annual Once Upon a Time Children's Story Concert.

## Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

If your kids fidget, zone out and fuss when it's time to listen, take them to a storytelling concert.

It will teach them how to experience live entertainment and will sharpen their listening and imagination skills, says Judy Sima, president of the Detroit Story League.

"It's cheaper than a movie and it is entertainment kids don't normally see. There aren't many places you can see a live storyteller. Most of the libraries have gone toward animal acts, jugglers and magicians."

Detroit Story League's 6th Annual Once Upon a Time ... Children's Story Concert will bring three storytellers to the stage at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 5, in the auditorium at Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, Livonia. The program is for ages 4-10. Admission is \$3 and includes the concert, refreshments and a gift for each child.

Sima said the concert gives children a chance to experience live entertainment in a theater setting. Although libraries offer story programs, most are held in the children's area with listeners seated on the floor.

Carolyn Graves, who will serve as "maestro" for the upcoming event, says the "magic of storytelling" enables even the most unruly young audiences to pay attention.

"I was going into a classroom once and the custodian stopped me and said, 'oh, you don't want to go into that classroom.' But the kids were wonderful. They didn't wiggle. They were tuned in and as soon as the story ended they hit the ceiling."

Graves and Sima said most storytellers who perform for children include some audience participation, especially for early elementary school-aged listeners.

"I like to start a story and have them listen for a while and then get more participatory," Sima said. "I

think it's important for children to sit and listen and use their imagination," she added. "With storytelling you have to use your imagination."

## Listening, participation

The three performers at the upcoming Detroit Story League concert all go beyond just telling stories. La Ron Williams of Ann Arbor sometimes uses musical or rhythm instruments to keep young listeners engaged.

"He has a wooden box he sits on. It has a hole on it and he plays drums on the box as he sits on it. He brings kids up to participate and it's a lot of fun. We're lucky to have him this year," Sima said.

Amy "Ami" Jackson of Detroit, a pianist and singer, has told stories for more than 40 years and is a founding member of the Detroit Association of Black Storytellers. She tells stories that give listeners a chance to participate.

"Her voice is musical," Sima said.

"She is quite accomplished."

Chrissy Begle, Detroit Story League vice president, also will perform. The Livonia woman started storytelling while teaching preschool.

"She is so upbeat. She is a ball of energy," Sima said. "She does some participation stories having the kids sing along."

As maestro Graves will introduce the performers and keep the concert flowing. Off stage she's in charge of the League's story bureau, an outreach program that provides storytellers for events at churches, schools, nursing homes and other community venues, for a \$50 fee.

"It goes into our fund for scholarships for upcoming storytellers. It's a win-win," Graves said.

For more information about the concert or to arrange for a storyteller for a community event, visit [detroit-storytelling.org](http://detroit-storytelling.org).

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

# Is a German shorthaired pointer the right dog for you?

## Sharon Dargay Staff Writer

German shorthaired pointers are a little like potato chips.

"They're an addicting breed. You can't have just one," says Lynn Taylor, a Milford resident who owns five German shorthaired pointers and one Labrador retriever.

"They are very smart," she said. "It's a great breed."

It's also a breed attracting the national spotlight after one of its own, GCH Vjk-Myst Garbonita's California Journey — known as "C.J." — won Best in Show on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York. The 3-year-old male is one of three German shorthaired pointers to win the top title at Westminster since 1907.

Taylor, who was among the more than an estimated 3.5 million viewers watching the broadcast, said C.J.'s win at Westminster will bring more attention to the breed. She anticipates getting a few more calls and Facebook posts, espe-

cially since she'll have a litter of puppies for sale soon. She breeds some of her dogs and sells one or two litters annually.

But she says the breed isn't for everyone and that the Westminster win isn't a good reason alone to adopt or buy a German shorthaired pointer.

"They are high energy. They require exercise. Mental stimulation is important. So, when I'm selling my puppies, I ask my buyers what kind of lifestyle they have," she said. When one prospective buyer said she hoped to start exercising — buying a dog was motivation — Taylor rejected her request.

"That is not the answer I was looking for. You always have to be that way, outdoorsy, active," Taylor said. "You'll see Facebook posts where (German shorthaired pointers) are tearing stuff up. That is because they aren't getting stim-



SPORT DOG PHOTO Riot, one of Lynn Taylor's German shorthaired pointers, retrieves a bird. Taylor, a Milford resident, owns five German shorthaired pointers.

ulation or exercise."

## Active dogs

Taylor, who serves as secretary for the German Shorthaired Pointer Club of Michigan, works with her dogs in several AKC and UKC events, including hunting, dock diving, obedience and conformation. She rescued her first two German shorthaired pointers 10 years ago and then bought a puppy when she couldn't find another young pointer in rescue.

Bob Hoffmeyer, Club president and a Clarkston resident,

trains, walks or runs with his dog every day. The Club offers AKC-licensed field trials in Ionia, hunting tests and walking trials at Highland Recreation Area and water tests at Highland Dam.

"It's a versatile breed. They love the water and they love the land," Hoffmeyer said. "So, they may track fowl or a hare, a skunk or opossum, and then point at it. If you shoot at it, they will retrieve it for you."

Both Taylor and Hoffmeyer say German shorthaired pointers make good family pets. Hoffmeyer calls them loyal

and trainable. Taylor says they are independent and affectionate.

"They have a switch. They go outside and work hard and play hard, but when they come in they settle in and are wonderful lap dogs. Mine are cuddlers," she said. "The thing people don't understand is that switch. I can exercise them in the morning and at night we come in and they relax."

Taylor said breeders generally sell German shorthaired pointer pups between \$1,000-\$1,200. She said the dogs have a lifespan of 12-15 years.

Check out Taylor's website at [highcaliberkennel.com](http://highcaliberkennel.com)

Find out more about the German Shorthaired Pointing Club of Michigan at [gspcfm.org](http://gspcfm.org)

If you want to rescue a dog, check out the Southeast Michigan Bird Dog Rescue on Facebook. Or visit the National GSP rescue at [gspca.org](http://gspca.org).

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JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jessi Tatoris-Rogers, surgical assistant, demonstrates the Trios 3 digital impression device as Joseph Nemeth, D.D.S., a Southfield periodontist looks at its scan on a monitor.

## Digital scans make 'goop' outdated

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Got a crown or denture? You've likely tasted "goop."

"Traditionally, dentists use a tray and fill it with impression material, which is a kind of goopy goop, and put it into the patient's mouth in order to get an impression," said Joseph Nemeth, D.D.S., a periodontist. "It takes several minutes to set up in the mouth. It very often causes gagging. Patients have a fear of it and because they have a fear of gagging, it causes them to throw up sometimes."

"And the impression sometimes has to be retaken over and over and over."

Nemeth took goopy impression material off the menu at his Southfield practice last year and replaced it with an intraoral scanner that makes digital impressions. He's one of a handful of dentists in southeast Michigan using a scanner called Trios, that scans teeth and projects the digital image on a monitor for both the patient and dentist to see.

Nemeth uses the most updated version — Trios 3 — and says he was the first dentist in Michigan and one of few in the country, to embrace the technology.

"We had a 3-D scanner before this. It was okay, but it didn't do (teeth) shades. It took longer and the scanner was

big, bulky and uncomfortable. When we were told about this, it sounded like it was the way to go. We ordered one immediately.

"It's revolutionizing dentistry. It's really a wonder."

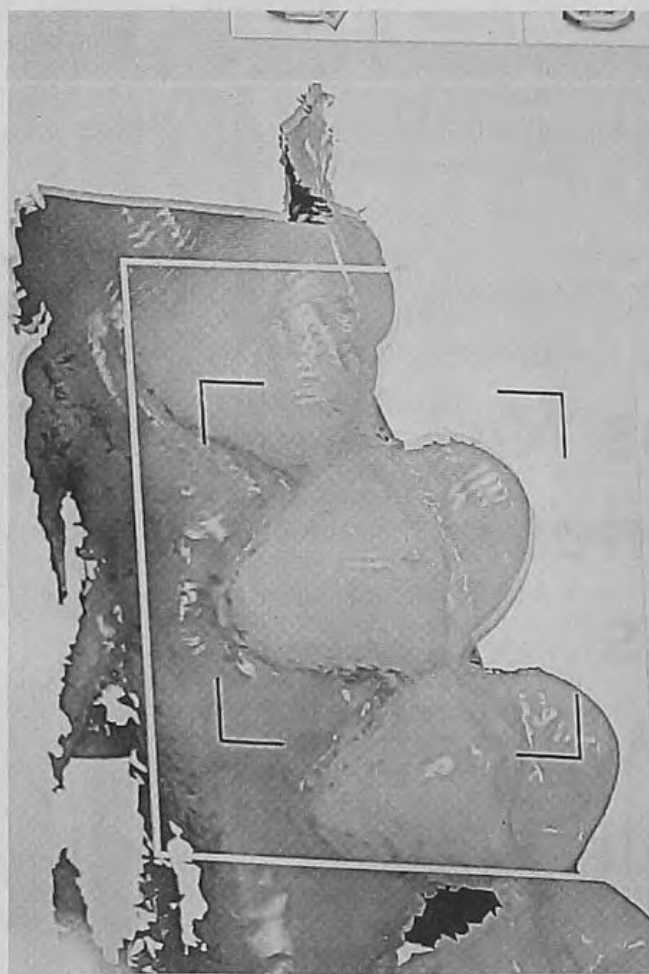
Nemeth said the system is more accurate than impression material, which can be distorted by varying temperatures. It's more environmentally friendly and sends the scan electronically, rather than by vehicle, to the dental lab, saving a few days in the process.

"You can see it on the screen. You can see your own mouth in real time as it's happening and you can rotate (the image) and turn it. You can see if you have cavities, if you have broken teeth. You can see if the shade of the tooth is right."

### How it works

Jessi Tatoris-Rogers, a surgical assistant at the practice, recently demonstrated the technology in Nemeth's office.

Instead of placing a tray of impression "goop" into the patient's mouth, she moved the Trios hand-held device along the upper and lower teeth. Two pictures appeared on the monitor. One was a real-time scan of the patient's mouth. The other showed the individual images of each tooth coming together to form the lower and upper set of teeth.



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Teeth are shown on a monitor that both the patient and dentist can see.

"Patients are thrilled, especially after the scan. We'll show them what we've done and people are amazed to see their mouth on the TV screen. Especially as big as it is," she said.

Nemeth said 3-D printers may be next innovation in dentistry.

"They're being perfected and we have one on order. It will allow us to print out whatever we want to print out that

we have scanned," he said.

"Virtual reality is here in dentistry."

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Dr. Joseph Nemeth

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joseph Nemeth, D.D.S., talks about dental technology.

## Find help for rare disorders through NIH clinics

A rare disorder or, as they are sometimes referred to, an orphan disease, is a medical mystery that needs our attention.

Increasing awareness of various infrequent and sometimes unheard of medical disorders may prompt more research into potential treatments and cures. The more attention a condition gets, the better the odds are that something can be done about it. Interestingly, the criteria for identification of rare disorders is that few people in the world have them and yet there are 7,000 separate identified orphan diseases in existence. Rare Disease Awareness Day on Feb. 29 will shine a light on them.

Examples of rare disorders include: Marfan syndrome,



Len McCulloch  
GUEST COLUMNIST

neurofibromatosis, Niemann-Pick disease, Turner syndrome, FG syndrome, Tourette's syndrome and Addison's disease, which was said to afflict President John F. Kennedy.

I've had the opportunity to meet with and speak to various support groups that exist for individuals with some of these conditions. It led me to a realization that the one thing they have in common is a lack of attention paid to the mental health issues associated with being in a "medical minority." While much attention needs to

be paid to the medical management of rare diseases including surgical procedures, medication trials and so forth, it can also be beneficial to address the psychological and emotional consequences of such conditions.

Therapeutic progress for individuals often can be seen when the question, "Why me?" evolves into "What am I going to do about it now?" To get past the "Why me?" often seems to entail a modification in identity which can now incorporate the medical diagnosis into the mainstream of one's personality. Then a question of "How can I build a life after tragedy?" can be asked and answered.

The February-March 2016 issue of *Neurology Now*, a free publication of the American

Brain Foundation's American Academy of Neurology, reported that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) created a network of medical centers dedicated to diagnosing rare diseases. Typically, the diseases they discover affect fewer than 50 people in the world with an array of symptoms that have stumped other physicians, sometimes for years. Many of these patients and their families have already been to dozens of doctors and have taken hundreds of tests, but remain undiagnosed or find only more dead ends. Through the Undiagnosed Diseases Network (UDN) Program, these individuals now can benefit from the expertise of a panel of physicians and receive unrestricted access to the latest

medical technology.

Last September, the NIH launched the network at seven medical centers across the country, which dramatically increased the number of patients that can be accepted.

To apply and get more information, visit UDN's website at: [www.undiagnosed.hms.harvard.edu/apply](http://www.undiagnosed.hms.harvard.edu/apply). For more information on rare diseases that affect 200,000 people at any one time in the United States, visit [www.rare-diseaseday.org](http://www.rare-diseaseday.org).

Len J. McCulloch is a Diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, traumatic stress, brain injury, addictions and social work. For a telephone courtesy consult, call McCulloch at 248-474-2763, ext. 222.



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## Trust is key to dealing with a micromanager

BY DEBRA AUERBACH  
CAREERBUILDER

Every manager has his or her own style. Some are so hands-off that their workers barely hear from them. Then there are the bosses who want to see every version of a project, be copied on every email and be a part of every meeting.

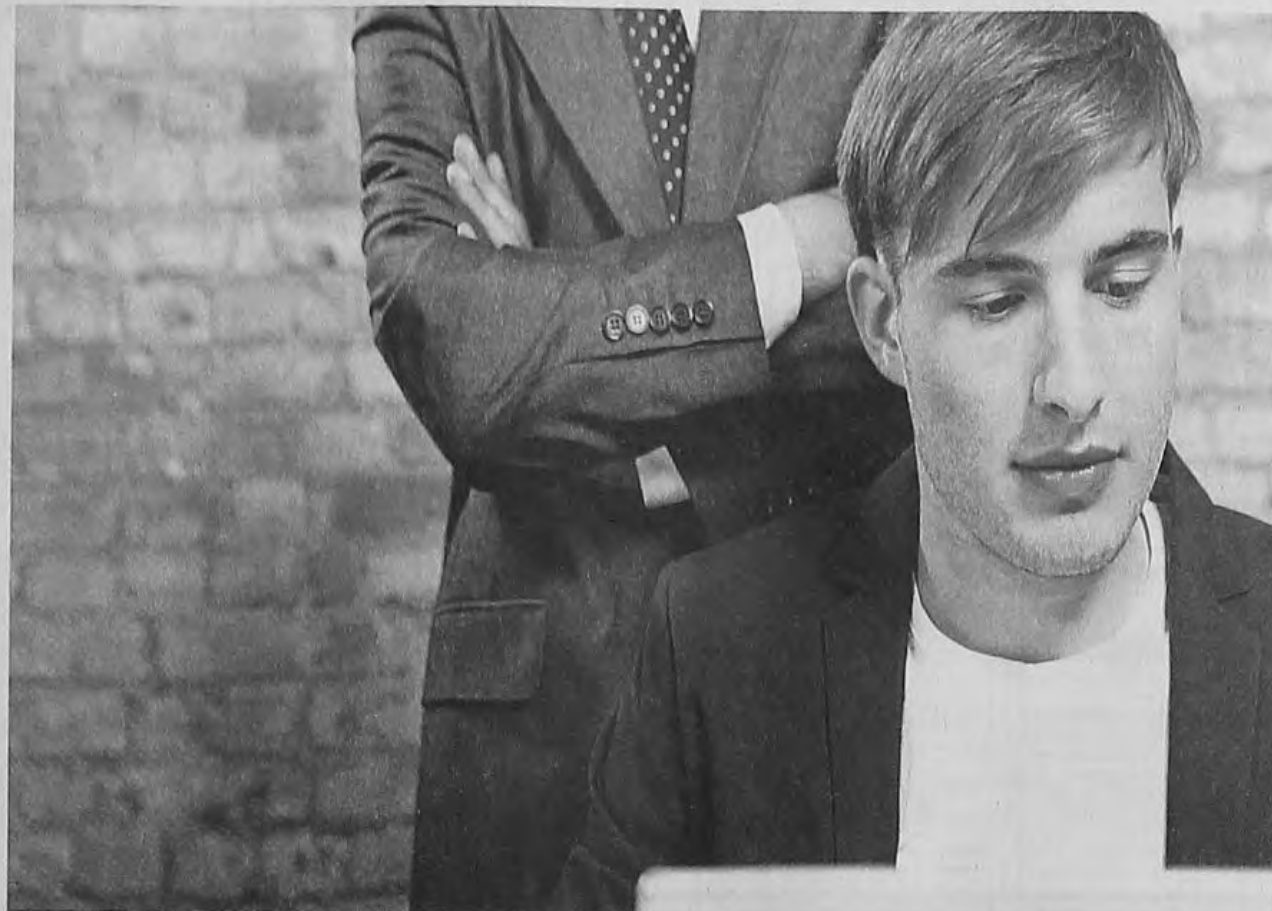
If your boss falls into the latter category, you have a micromanager on your hands. While it's helpful to have someone to bounce ideas off of and get feedback from when needed, too much oversight can stifle your creativity — and your professional growth.

Here are some tips for dealing with a micromanager and building a better relationship.

### Be on top of your game.

When you have a micromanager, you don't want to give him or her more of a reason to nitpick, and making frequent mistakes is a surefire way to do that.

"If you're making mistakes, you are sure to only increase the visibility of your errors and make your manager manage you more," says Stefanie Lomax, a human-resources veteran with 16 years of experience and the founder of HRPro4You. "Double-check your work (and) give it to a second set of eyes if you can,



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just to make sure what you submit is accurate. Check your numbers, your grammar, spelling, etc., before you turn it in to your boss. And make sure anyone else that should be in the know — by way of other co-workers, vendors, etc. — are included in your project delivery."

### Determine whether you're a target.

Chavaz Kingman, a corporate trainer and executive consultant, says that if your boss is micromanaging, you should determine whether it's happening to everyone on the team or just you. "If your

micromanager is only micromanaging you, then you know this particular manager has a trust issue with you," he says.

### Build trust.

If trust is an issue between you and your boss, you'll need to find a solution if you want any chance of getting your manager to give you more space.

"A trustworthy employee is less likely to be 'harped' on about their work," Lomax says. "Being able to gain trust by doing what is asked of you, and even doing things that aren't by going above and beyond, builds that trust factor

and can lead to less of a need for the manager to question your trustworthiness."

### Provide frequent updates.

Lori Dernavich, a growth stage leadership adviser, says that sharing updates with your micromanaging boss can also help strengthen your relationship. "Send a quick email at the start of the day laying out what you'll be focusing on and any meetings you're having. Send a status report on Friday afternoons that outlines what you accomplished during the week," she says. "These will often allay fears of the

unknown and will help build trust between you and your manager."

### Try to adapt.

"You and your boss may have very different work styles or personalities," says Bill Driscoll, a district president for Accountemps, a division of Robert Half. "Adapt as much as you can to his or her style. You don't need to change your behavior completely, as long as you remember that you can reach the same goal using a different approach."

### Decide if this is a deal-breaker.

"If all else fails, ask yourself whether you can work for a truly difficult boss," Driscoll says. "It will depend on your own personality and tolerance. Ask yourself what you have to gain by hanging in there. Leaving may not be your first choice, so before you throw in the towel, see if there's a way to change the relationship with your manager, or at least change how much you let his or her behavior and attitude affect you."

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

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Responsibilities include M/E entries, mthly acct recons, daily cash, bank recn, fixed assets, city business tax filings, assist A/P & A/R process. Qualified applicants must possess a BS in Accounting, have prior experience in month-end close, AP/AR experience, must be proficient with Excel at an ADVANCED level and possess excellent verbal/written communication skills. Experience with GreatPlains system is a plus. Annual salary \$40K to \$45K based on experience. Send your resume and cover letter to: [finance@encore-rehabilitation.com](mailto:finance@encore-rehabilitation.com)

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for retirement community in Westland. Responsible for resident activities, parties and outings. Pleasant, organized, hardworking and bright. Must have good driving record. Email resumes to [resumes@associatedmanagement.net](mailto:resumes@associatedmanagement.net). EOE

#### AUTO PARTS SORTING & INSPECTING

Established Co. in Brighton is seeking quick learners. \$10/hr. No exp. needed. Must have own vehicle. Apply online at: [matrixjobs.net](http://matrixjobs.net) Or call Mon-Fri. 9-3pm. 810-229-6053

#### Help Wanted - General

American Axle & Manufacturing has openings for Controls Engineers at its facility in Detroit, Michigan. Job duties include:

1. Review and audit the implementation, installation, and startup of new and rebuilt equipment in accordance with AAM program process and specifications globally, including the use of Rockwell PLC's, Motion, and Factory Talk View Studio, EtherNet/IP Networks;
2. Managing continuous improvement projects as required;
3. Design, review and troubleshoot hydraulics, pneumatics, lube and coolant systems;
4. Integration of robot automation systems such as Fanuc, Nachi, and ABB to assembly or CNC equipment;
5. Utilizing knowledge of National Electric Code (NEC) and American National Standards Institute (ANSI) codes;
6. Verifying adherence to global AAM control specifications;
7. Designing and coordinating maintenance of electrical schematics;
8. Preparing specifications, evaluating design, drawings, and construction of new and rebuilt machine controls;
9. Providing technical assistance and engineering solutions to manufacturing;
10. Review electrical equipment and components for adherence to safety and electrical standards/code;
11. Reviewing and approving electrical designs;
12. Designing electrical and mechanical systems and sub-systems;
13. Developing, deploying and validating Transaction Express used to integrate the Logix 5000 Controller to MS-SQL.

Position requires:  
Bachelors Degree in Electrical or Electronics or Computer Engineering, or foreign equivalent education and experience in a manufacturing environment as a systems, controls, electronic or electrical engineer. Experience is required in each of the following items:

1. Machine controls design, development, component selection, programming, testing, evaluation, implementation, installation, and troubleshooting;
2. Develop and edit ladder logic programs and HMI operator screen for new projects;
3. Development and deployment of MS-SQL databases including writing queries and integration to plant floor control systems;
4. Creating project/network drawings, configure/program network components to support multiple manufacturing and networking clients.

Experience may be obtained concurrently.  
Applicants should apply online at [AAM.com/careers](http://AAM.com/careers) and reference job ID 1193.

#### Help Wanted - General

American Axle & Manufacturing has openings for Mechatronic Engineers at its facility in Rochester Hills, Michigan. Job duties include:

1. Leading the design, development, testing and control of mechatronic systems using wet clutches, pumps, and motors for AAM product portfolio;
2. Leading GD&T and stack analysis of mechatronic systems using wet clutch system, pumps and motors to create best design practices;
3. Providing technical direction related to advance fluid mechanics for motor pump design development;
4. Leading the design and development of sealing solutions for sealing interfaces during the product development of servo hydraulic subsystems;
5. Leading the release of components, models, drawings, and product specifications for servo hydraulic and wet clutch systems;
6. Creating and simulating mathematical models for servo hydraulic subsystems in matlab/simulink to support the analytical DVP&R;
7. Analyzing the system response and correlating it to experimental data for better product development and system level integration.

Position requires: Bachelors Degree in Mechanical Engineering, or foreign equivalent education and experience in the following:

1. Development and testing of mechatronic systems utilizing wet clutches, pumps and motors;
2. Using analytical skills in Matlab/Simulink and MathCad for calculations of components including pumps and motors;
3. Using GD&T and stack calculation to design mechatronics components;
4. Analyzing servo hydraulic subsystems for pumps using advanced fluid dynamics.

Applicants should apply online at [AAM.com/careers](http://AAM.com/careers) and reference job ID 1194.

#### Cleaning Specialists

Part Time Eva shifts avail to clean banks & office bldgs No exp. req'd. Job sites within 10 mile radius of home. Shifts range from 2-5 days per week for 1-5 hours per night. 586-759-3700



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