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# CANTON OBSERVER

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## Locals seek more county money for streets

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Tired of dodging potholes, Canton residents and local officials are hopeful Wayne County will extend a two-year, \$14-million initiative to fix crumbling subdivision streets in townships. Canton, alone, received \$3 million for 20 street-repair

projects in aging subdivisions where homeowner groups agreed to plunk down matching dollars amounting to \$750,000. Officials say the repairs, while not a panacea for widespread problems, offer a Band-aid for some neighborhoods. "If we could do this for five or 10 years in a row, just look at the difference we could

make," Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy has said. Ryan Bridges, spokesman for Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, said no decision has been made whether to extend the township roads initiative after current projects are done. "Presently our focus is on continuing our allocations to the townships currently partic-

ipating in the initiative, which is an ongoing process," Bridges said. "At the conclusion of this process we will conduct a complete review of the initiative and reach a decision on whether to continue based upon this review." Wayne County Commissioner Joe Barone, whose 10th District includes Canton and Plymouth townships, said he

plans to push for more money to fix township streets. He has been pressed on the issue by some local residents. "I'm going to be fighting hard for it," he said. "We believe it is absolutely one of the only avenues for getting township subdivision streets repaired, even if it's just a Band-

See **STREETS**, Page A2

## Haute chefs return with a national win

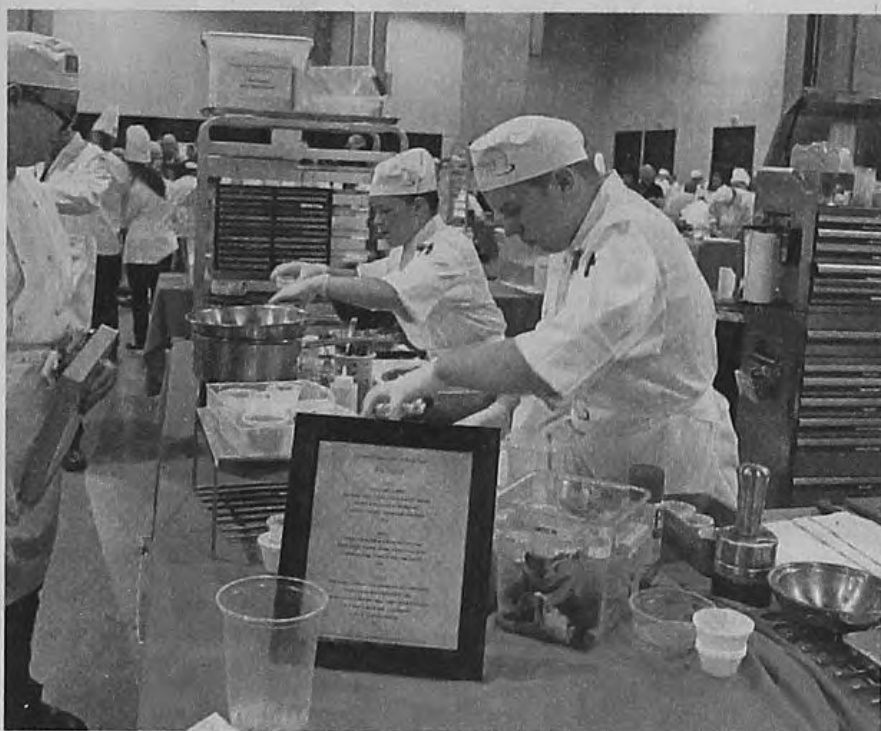


The P-CEP student culinary team, the second-place nationals winner, was lauded for team work among a host of attributes.

SUBMITTED

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
Staff Writer

"On cloud nine." "Blessed." "A dream come true." All apply and are being felt by members of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park student culinary team on the heels of taking second place - out of 48 teams - in the 15th Annual National ProStart Invitational. "They wanted it and respected it. They worked their butts off," said Diana Woodward, instructor/coach of the P-CEP Hospitality and Culinary Arts program. "They are talented to have placed at an international competition." Second place in the nation means that team members will reap scholarships in addition to what they won as state champs



Team members Emma Stephens and Patrick McMillen show their expertise.

SUBMITTED

See **NATIONAL**, Page A9

### WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

For their winning meal at the recent national competition, the P-CEP student culinary team served up the following menu to perfection:  
**As a starter:** Pan-seared scallop with sunchoke puree, tarragon beurre blanc, pickled beet and enoki, bacon-glazed brussels sprouts.  
**Entree:** Petit filet mignon and braised short rib. Potato puree, fondant, glazed vegetables, jus lie, parmesan.  
**Dessert:** Passion fruit yogurt mousse, brown butter macadamia nut cake, strawberry jelly, caramelized white chocolate truffle, strawberry coconut sorbet, accented with lemongrass, basil, mint, and cardamom.

## IKEA unveils latest investment in Canton store

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

IKEA Canton, after building a large addition and expanding its rooftop solar energy array, has finished yet another project that customers might find even more palatable - literally.

Customers working up an appetite amid shopping excursions can enjoy Swedish meatballs and other fare in the store's newly remodeled restaurant. The latest change marks IKEA's continued investment in its only Michigan store. Canton Township Trustee

John Anthony was among the elected officials who helped IKEA celebrate the latest phase of improvements during an April 29 ribbon-cutting ceremony. He said the store, at Ford and Haggerty, helps make Canton's retail corridor a regional draw. "It's a tremendous asset to

the community," he said. "It's in a prime location and it draws people from all over. It adds tremendously to the overall retail and social setting for Canton." Amanda Preston, IKEA

See **IKEA**, Page A5

Canton firefighters never had their own honor guard to usher in the U.S. flag during special ceremonies - a show of patriotism and respect of country in what is called the posting of colors. Firefighter Jim Harrison changed that, long after the department was formed in 1974. "I've always had a sense of patriotism," he said, adding that he also sought to pay respect to firefighters who have lost their lives and those who continue to serve. Harrison's efforts to form a five-member honor guard earned him the department's top award as Firefighter of the Year during a ceremony at Canton's Summit on the Park. "Jim does an excellent job. He took the lead in establishing our honor guard last year," Public Safety Director Joshua Meier said. "He has been a very good asset to the department." Harrison was singled out among 65 sworn firefighters for his award. "I'm very blessed and honored and humbled," he said. Harrison, 36, has been a Canton firefighter for 14 years. He said he had known since junior high school what career he wanted. "I'm impressed by the camaraderie of firefighters and the ability to go out every day and

See **GUARD**, Page A2



**DARRELL CLEM**  
Jim Harrison is Canton Firefighter of the Year

## Canton's top firefighter led effort to form honor guard

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer



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# CRUISE CONTROL: Friend wants to help Canton family battling SMA

**Brad Kadrich**  
Staff Writer

With the effects of spinal muscular atrophy more rapidly ravaging her body, 19-year-old Erinne Williams is running out of time.

Erinne, struck young by a strain of muscular dystrophy called spinal muscular atrophy, has been confined to a wheelchair much of her life. And now, her mother says, the disease has "taken a heavy toll" on Erinne's body and "time is running out" for Erinne.

Her mom, Suzanne

Williams of Canton, said Erinne has had two bad germs — MRSA and Pseudomonas — and has recently picked up a strain of E-Coli, which has colonized in her lungs.

"The doctors have given us almost no hope for any chance at survival if she gets sick again," Suzanne said of Erinne, who has developed pneumonia 26 times. "It seems inevitable that she will."

Now a family friend wants to help make what time she does have left a time Erinne will remember.

Suzanne's best friend,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Friends are helping raise money for a cruise for Suzanne and Erinne Williams of Canton. Erinne suffers from spinal muscular atrophy, a strain of muscular dystrophy.

Cynthia Werstein, wants Erinne to be able to

"make some memories" with one last trip with her

family. Werstein has set up a GoFundMe page and put it up on Williams' Facebook page, trying to raise \$10,000 to take Suzanne and Erinne on an Alaskan cruise.

The ties between the two families are close. Werstein's daughter, Olivia, was Erinne's best friend. The friends had something in common: Olivia also had SMA, which claimed her life in June 2015.

Werstein knows more than most, since the loss of her daughter, that time is precious.

"We've been aware, since our kids were diag-

nosed, that time is running out," Werstein said. "As any parent could imagine, we want to give Erinne this chance to make some memories. This will give Erinne something to look forward to."

The cruise seems like a good idea, because Erinne "had the time of her life" on a cruise Suzanne took her on four years ago. But, according to Suzanne, the destinations are limited because doctors want Erinne to stay in American waters in case she falls ill and has to be evacuated from the ship.

## CANTON OBSERVER

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## STREETS

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aid."

Robert Ficano, former Wayne County executive, announced the election-year initiative in 2014. Canton was allocated \$3 million over two years; Plymouth Township, \$1.5 million. All townships qualified for some money from the cash-strapped county.

Jim Leddy, president of the Pickwick Village homeowners association in Canton, said streets are in dire need of repairs in that subdivision, over 40 years old.

"Some roads are still pretty good but there are sections that are crumbling," he said. "We have some 5-foot-wide potholes."

Leddy said residents call Wayne County road crews to patch the potholes, but he and others say a long-term solution



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Local residents and officials are hopeful that a county initiative to fix crumbling subdivision streets will continue.

is needed. He said it's hard to convince homeowners to pay a costly special assessment for their own street repairs, but he said the county initiative requiring a 20 percent match is more palatable.

"That's a great tool for us to present to the neighborhood that has a chance of passing (a vote)," he said. "It's a great compromise between the county, the township and the homeowners."

In Canton, officials initially chose 13 sub-

divisions for repairs based on a local lottery drawing that decided which neighborhoods would get the first round of county money amounting to \$1.5 million. Those repairs had been set for last summer but were delayed one year.

Seven other subdivisions initially lost out on the money but were added to the list of projects after the second round of \$1.5 million was allocated by the county.

Now, all the work is to occur this summer. Canton Municipal Services

Director Tim Faas said the projects likely will start in mid-June after school buses are off the streets to avoid problems.

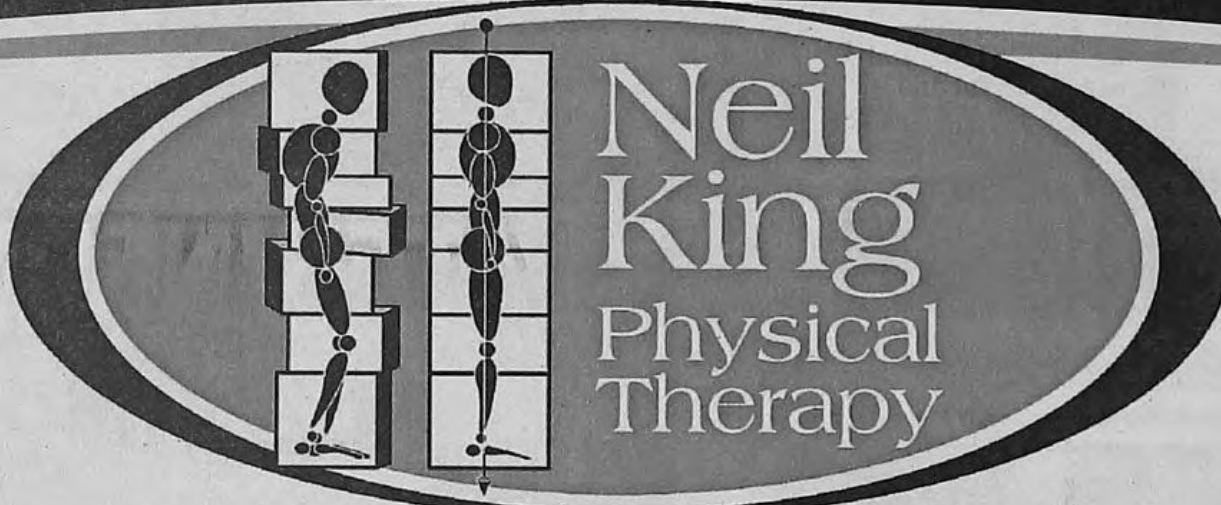
"We don't want to cause that much disruption," Faas said. The lucky 13 neighborhoods winning the first-round lottery money in Canton were Forest Brook, Meadow Brook, Century Farms, Oakvale/Stonegate, Fairways West, Willow Homes, Nowland Estates, Canton Country Acres, Huntington Place No. 1, River Woods, Salem Manor, Royal Pointe and Gleggarry No. 1.

Those later added to the repair list include Windsor Park, Brookside No. 5, Meadow Villages, Sunflower and various Gleggarry subdivisions.

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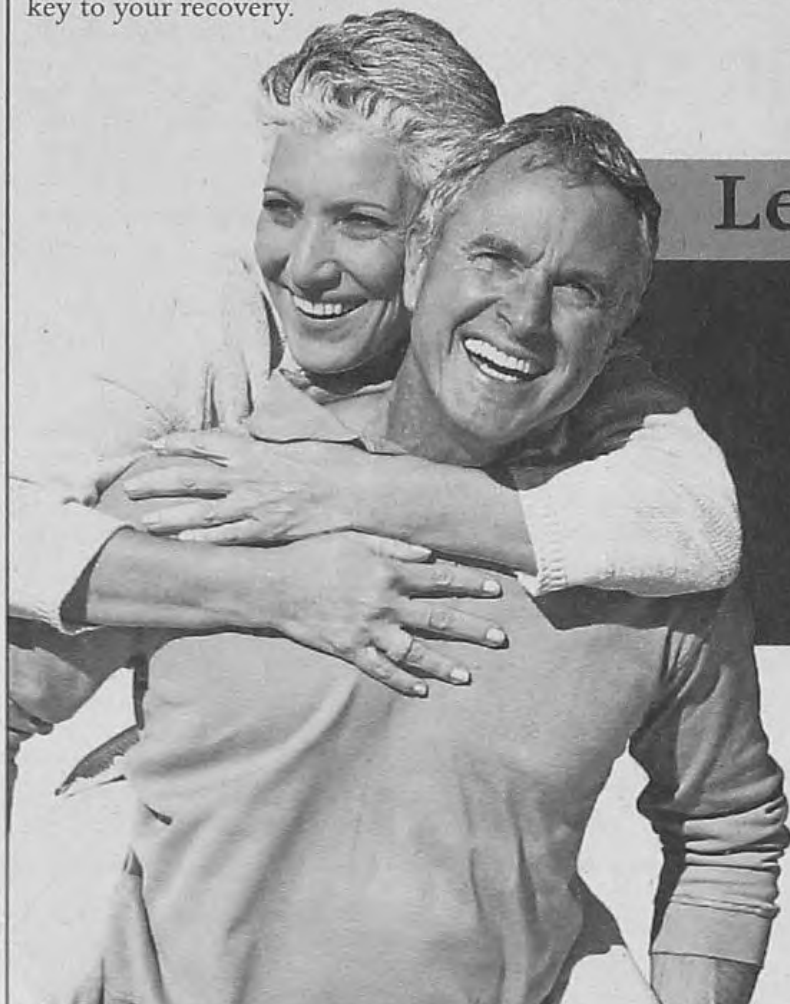
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## GUARD

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solve problems," he said. Sometimes that means saving a life as a paramedic. Other times it involves dousing fires to protect homes and businesses.

Harrison's patriotism also led him to spend six years as a reserve officer with the 1st Battalion 24th Marines.

Meier commended Harrison for "countless hours" — on-duty and off-duty — to create the department's honor guard. Harrison serves on it along with Firefighters Brian Switzer, Geoffrey Eicholtz, Duane Lowe and Louis Carney. Battalion Chief Wendy Murphy oversees it.

The honor guard already has participated in firefighter ceremonies at Schoolcraft College, Eastern Michigan University and a Canton High School football game, among others.

Meier said firefighters have described Harrison as being patriotic, having a commitment to his profession and inspiring others around him.

"His energy, enthusiasm and sincere devotion to the fire service have earned him the respect of his fellow firefighters," Meier said, during the department's awards ceremony.

Meier also said Harrison has shown "outstanding professionalism, expertise, and dynamic leadership skills."

Harrison accepted his award as wife Sarah and their children Jimmy, 7, and Lexi, 5, looked on. Other family attending the ceremony included Harrison's parents, Jim and Chris Harrison.

It was a proud moment for a firefighter who said he merely wanted to show his patriotism and respect for his profession by leading the effort for an honor guard. He is confident he chose a career that is right for him.

"I have no regrets," he said.

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# Canton honors community supporters, achievers

**Darrell Clem**  
Staff Writer

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, ending a 27-year political career at year's end, received a standing ovation during a ceremony honoring people whose good deeds have made a difference in the community.

Amy Hughesdon, township operations coordinator, had high praise for LaJoy as the ceremony was ending last Sunday at Summit on the Park.

"We will miss his leadership, his passion for Canton and the connection he makes with everyone he comes into contact with," Hughesdon said. "He guided Canton through some very hard (recessionary) times and brought us out onto the other end stronger and more vibrant than ever."

Hughesdon said LaJoy "loves his community in a way you would want your community leader to love it." She called him "a person of integrity"



Among those at the ceremony (from left) were Laurie Aren; Lina Aoude (representing Dr. Mouhamad Ahmad); Nila Patel; Jacob Semik; Maureen Stoecklein; daughters of the late Tom Strock, Kelley MacDonald, Kimberly Fredriksen and Lori Hamming; Jim Blough, and U.S. Dave Trott.

who has "a kindness and insight that is not often seen in people with high positions."

LaJoy, a former state representative in his eighth year as township supervisor, chose not to seek re-election in November.

Here's a look at the Community Supporter Awards given last Sunday.

» Nila Patel was honored for her involvement in Canton's emergency food assistance program and Canton Goodfellows, which helps struggling families at Christmas-

time. She also helped Christmas in Action, in which volunteers fixed up homes for low-income and disabled residents, and she gives her time at Hoben Elementary.

» The family of Thomas Strock, who died earlier this year, accepted an award recognizing him for his involvement in the Wayne County Meals on Wheels program for home-bound residents. He also helped with the emergency food assistance program and with a meals program at the Canton Place senior living facility. Strock also

was recognized for service to Canton Goodfellows, the trick-or-treat parade at the Summit and the Canton Lions Club.

» Dr. Mouhamad Ahmad, owner of Bright Side Dental, was honored for visiting elementary schools with the tooth fairy to educate children about oral hygiene. His staff also visits senior centers to provide free oral cancer screenings. He also collected several hundred pounds of candy that was shipped to troops overseas.

» Jim Blough received an award as the volunteer force behind the Canton Concert Band for 12 years. The band is the resident ensemble of the Village Theater at Cherry Hill and is known for performances such as an annual Christmas concert. He also spearheaded efforts to take the band to First Step domestic violence shelter.

» Laurie Aren, director of family and community services for the Plymouth-based Salvation Army, received an

award for helping the homeless and people who have lost their homes due to fire. She also works with Plymouth-Canton schools to collect new backpacks and school supplies for families who can't afford it. Aren also makes sure struggling families get Christmas baskets.

» Janet Brady was recognized for her involvement in Relay for Life and for making dresses for Little Dresses of Africa, which benefits orphanages, churches and schools. She also has made scarves for veterans. She has volunteered for the Canton Historical Society, Canton Newcomers, Canton Goodfellows and the Canton Senior Advisory Committee, among other groups.

Those receiving Community Achiever Awards were:

» Jacob Semik, a Salem High School student, was one of five players from Michigan that played for Team U.S.A. Men's Hockey at the 2016 Youth Winter Olympics

in Norway. He started his hockey career at age 4 and has won state titles with teams including Detroit Little Caesars and Detroit Honeybaked, which also earned a national title.

Team U.S.A. brought home gold in a game against a Canadian team in Youth Olympics.

» Canton Firefighter Maureen Stoecklein was honored for becoming the fastest woman to climb 71 flights of stairs inside the Detroit Renaissance Center to raise money for the American Lung Association. She climbed it in 12 minutes, 47 seconds, ranking first among 27 female climbers and 15th among all 333 firefighters — all while wearing 70 pounds of gear. She also was chosen by paper towel maker Brawny as one of four women in its Strength Has No Gender campaign.

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## Growth Works chief decries marijuana legalization

**Julie Brown**  
Staff Writer

Dale Yagiela recalls the early days of Growth Works, then Plymouth Youth Inc., as a drop-in youth activity center in downtown Plymouth. He had a leaky roof, no money and was the only staffer.

"Kids in the community were dying from things, but people weren't paying attention," said Yagiela, Growth Works executive director since its early 1970s inception. One youth was drunk and by a train viaduct where he had a leg severed by a passing train.

Yagiela told a Westland Rotary audience April 28 his agency later began to help kids who were failing in the Plymouth-Canton school district. Drug abuse treatment led to better academics, they found.

"Their behavior improved, their ability to function in school improved," said Yagiela, who praised the late Ron Harrison as a mentor.

The link between drug use and crime became apparent, with Yagiela



Yagiela

noting a changing economic landscape: "As we got into the 1980s, those opportunities for kids began to disappear," factory jobs.

Growth Works now works with 17 communities in which delinquent youth go to court for alternative sentencing. The program has served up to 400 at a time, he said, now some 200-250, with about half in residential placement.

Yagiela decried legalization of marijuana. "It's just going to open a tidal wave of problems that nobody's prepared for," he said. "It's substantially more powerful and more impactful on brain

development. It's going to put a lot of kids in jeopardy."

Yagiela said drug treatment is offered with Wolverine Human Services. He's proud of the roughly 91 percent crime-free result, reduced recidivism. "So the Wayne County model has been a very effective model," he told Rotarians. "I'm very proud of my staff because they're very effective," including some 12 case managers.

There's a Growth Works office in Canton, as well as the original on Main Street in downtown Plymouth. A newer Garden City office on War-

ren Road assists with a parenting program through Wayne County Circuit Court. Adult outpatient drug treatment, mainly through local district court referrals, is also available.

Yagiela noted a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in recent years on "juvenile lifers." Newer research shows young brains are driven by emotion and pleasure, he explained.

Yagiela also spoke on

trauma in young people's lives. "We have addiction in parents. We have just the lack of recognition they have kids and they need their nurturance and love," he said.

Motz noted local communities often know how to address issues and urged parents to be "willing to take a look at their own behavior. A lot of these problems are generational."

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## P-CEP Winter Guard nails finals

Dawn Pyko  
Contributing Writer

As the team loaded the bus, the rain was coming down relentlessly but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the P-CEP Winter Guard as they headed to Dayton and their final competition of the season. It would be the first time in nine years the Guard has competed at World Guard International to compete against 52 teams from around the world.

On Thursday, April 7, the guard competed in preliminaries at the Nutter Center on the University of Dayton's campus. Following their performance, the team awaited their results. At 11:30 p.m. the scores were in and the top 36 teams would advance to semi-finals performance.

To qualify for World Guard International was an honor, to qualify for semi-finals was their goal and at 11:32 p.m. the girls were informed that with a qualifying score of 81.3 they would be competing in the Scholastic Open World Guard International Semi-Finals on



P-CCS board member, Shelia Paton, Winter Guard director, Rachel Nelson, with Anna Berry, Kaleigh Pyko, Jenna Craven, Catherine Christenson, Madeleine Hoke, Amelia Brave and coach Lucas Schmidt.



P-CEP Winter Guard in front of the University of Dayton arena prior to competition.

April 8. Only two Michigan high schools qualified for this round, Plymouth Canton and Jension High School were moving on to compete for a spot in the final round.

The P-CEP team's semi-finals performance was outstanding. "I couldn't have been happier, I was incredibly proud of the girls. They executed an

outstanding performance, they left their hearts out there on the floor and gave it everything they had," team director Rachel Nelson said.

The team scored an 82.3 and showed improvement over their preliminary performance. But it wasn't enough to move to the final round. The goal this season was to improve with each and every

performance and that is exactly what they did.

Nelson, is not only incredibly proud of her team, but is eagerly anticipating what is to come with three seniors graduating leaving a fairly young team comprised of a majority of freshmen.

The team has had an incredible season and the Guard is proud of their accomplishments. In January they started the year by showcasing their

talents and leading the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band down the streets of Pasadena in the 127th Rose Bowl Parade.

That was followed by first-place finishes in their local competitions and a Michigan Color Guard Circuit Championship. Both the Color Guard and Drumline were honored by the P-CCS Board of Education at the April meeting.

### ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

#### Honored

##### University of Nebraska

Monica Rose Mackie of Plymouth was among more than 1,800 University of Nebraska students honored April 24 during individual college celebrations and the All-University Honors Convocation at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. A junior in the College of Education and Human Sciences, Mackie was recognized as a high scholar.

#### Graduates

##### Hope College

Canton residents Lindsey Davidson, Elyse Gryniewicz, Amanda Napier and Plymouth residents Plymouth include Austin Beaudoin, Alicia Curmi, Evan Johnson and Marina Milad received their degrees Sunday, May 8.

## NAMI hosts May 12 program on living well with mental illness

Julie Brown  
Staff Writer

A presentation from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, "In Our Own Voice," will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 12, at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland.

The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road and east of Newburgh Road.

Adult services librarian Liz Waun organized the upcoming program, which focuses on "actually hearing from people who suffer from mental illness, and hearing their voices," Waun said.

A library patron recommended the NAMI presentation, to coincide with May as

National Mental Health Month.

Those attending will receive a firsthand account of what it's like to live with a mental illness. Presenters will humanize this misunderstood topic by demonstrating that it's possible — and common — to live well with mental illness, a library statement notes.

Waun said the Westland library has hosted a program previously on history of mental health care. The "In Our Own Voice" from NAMI includes accounts from people diagnosed with mental illnesses such as bipolar disorder and schizophrenia and their recovery.

"I think it's really hard for people who don't suffer from

mental illness to understand," Waun said. "I think there's a lot of stigma and negativity. It's good to kind of understand what they're going through. It's just a very open and honest discussion about mental illness."

No advance registration is required. For more information on this program, call the Westland library at 734-326-6123 or visit westlandlibrary.org.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (for Michigan) is online at [www.namimi.org](http://www.namimi.org). The website notes, "IOOV is an opportunity for those who have struggled with mental illness to gain confidence and to share their individual experiences of recovery and transformation."

"Throughout the IOOV presentation, audience members are encouraged to offer feedback and ask questions."

"Audience participation is an important aspect of IOOV because the more audience members become involved, the closer they come to understanding what it is like to live with a mental illness and stay in recovery."

IOOV presentations are given to consumer groups, students, law enforcement officials, educators, providers, faith community members, politicians, professionals, inmates and civic groups.

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IKEA Canton has added restaurant space that also doubles as a social setting.

IKEA Canton has remodeled its restaurant.

**IKEA**

Continued from Page A1

Canton marketing manager, called the restaurant grand reopening "a wonderful success" celebrated by customers, elected officials and store employees.

IKEA Canton opened a decade ago and just last year expanded the store to 355,000 square feet, adding 15 percent more space.

Preston said the restaurant's new configuration includes three different "dining zones" — one for quick dining, one for families and one intended as a casual, social environment. The menu also has been expanded.

While IKEA is certainly a destination for customers seeking home furnishings, company officials also have said some patrons visit stores simply to dine. That led IKEA to usher in a makeover of its restaurants.

Preston said IKEA Canton had "a wonderful customer turnout" for three days of in-store events, including gifts, centered around the unveiling of the remodeled restaurant.



IKEA employees and Canton's elected officials celebrate the grand opening of the store's remodeled restaurant.

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The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular meeting May 17, 2016 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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Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI  
734-453-0750 x 217  
Publish: May 8, 2016

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**General**  
**Sheet Metal Apprentice**  
The Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee will accept applications for the Sheet Metal Apprentice Entrance Exam on May 11, June 8 & July 13, btwn the hrs of 9AM & 1PM. Applications are available online at <http://www.smw80ac.org/exam.html> or at the Training Center, 32700 Dequindre Rd., Warren, MI 48092. The Entrance Exam will take place on Wednesday July 27, 2016. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, citizen of the United States or a legally emigrated alien and at the time of application show proof of high school graduation or G.E.D., valid Drivers' License and provide a \$40 cash non-refundable examination fee. The Sheet Metal Workers' Local 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee is an equal opportunity organization admitting qualified applicants regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age or national origin. For more info visit <http://www.smw80ac.org>

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# Find the appealing 2015 Rogue at Nissan of Canton

The 2015 Nissan Rogue is an appealing compact SUV with a robust exterior and a high-quality look. Its sporty appearance is complemented with updated interior features. You can check out the available models at Nissan of Canton located at 42175 Michigan Ave., just west of I-275.

## Styling

Nissan has definitely succeeded in crafting a compact SUV that many find appealing. The Nissan-family look is in full force, with more than a passing resemblance to the bigger Pathfinder. The look is more aggressive than its competitors, with bulging wheel arches and a bigger nose than the Honda CR-V or Toyota RAV4. Seventeen-inch steel wheels are standard on the base S trim, with 17-inch alloy wheels standard on the midlevel SV trim and 18-inch alloy wheels standard on the topline SL trim. New LED running lights up front and angular tail-lights make the Rogue distinctive even in the dark.

## How it drives

The Rogue's power-train is a 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine making 170 horsepower and mated to a continuously variable automatic transmission. Front-wheel drive is standard and all-wheel drive an option.

Handling is sharp. The thick steering wheel delivers excellent feedback to the driver. Brakes are very strong and firm, with excellent pedal feel and no noticeable fade.

The standard front-wheel-drive Rogue gets an EPA-rated 26/33/28 mpg city/highway/combined.

## Interior

Nissan paid a lot of attention to the interior,



The 2015 Nissan Rogue's bold, sharp bodylines offer a sporty and confident appearance, balancing its sleek style with an aggressive stance provided by large wheelwells and available 18-inch wheels and tires.



Nissan paid a lot of attention to the interior, creating a cabin that is inviting, attractive and comfortable for a variety of body types.

creating a cabin that is inviting, attractive and comfortable for a variety of body types. Slide into the driver's seat and the combination of command seating and low dashboard creates excellent visibility to the front and sides.

Seating is flexible, spacious and comfortable.

The second row of seats is also quite spacious at 37.9 inches, with much more legroom than

expected for a compact SUV, stadium-style layout and long, tall windows for rear seat passengers.

## Ergonomics and electronics

Gauges are easily visible through the steering wheel and include a 5-inch color LCD, the largest in any Nissan product, to display a variety of customizable vehicle information.

A full complement of

information and entertainment electronics are available, including navigation, satellite radio and Bluetooth streaming audio and phone connectivity. The Rogue features not only a backup camera but Nissan's Around View Monitor, which uses cameras to display a 360-degree live feed of the Rogue's environment on the touchscreen.

## Cargo and storage

Pop the rear hatch (a power liftgate is optional) to reveal a spacious cargo area with low bumper liftover. The second-row seats fold flat in a 40/20/40 split, and the levers are accessible with a stretch from the cargo area to unlatch the seatbacks. Fold the front passenger seat flat as well to get a cargo area able to accommodate an 8-foot ladder. For models without the third-row seat, under-floor storage is presented with two reconfigurable dividers that can also act as package shelves.

The Rogue cargo volume area is 39.3 cubic feet of space available behind the second row of seats.

Some notable features of the 2015 Rogue include the following:

## Exterior highlights

- » 17-inch steel wheels; 17- and 18-inch alloy wheels available
- » Halogen headlights
- » LED daytime running lights
- » Rear spoiler
- » Available power moonroof
- » Available fog lights
- » Available power liftgate
- » Available heated outside mirrors

## Interior highlights

- » Available front seat warmers
- » Six-way adjustable driver's seat
- » Six front storage areas
- » Available Nissan-Connect™ with navigation
- » Available Nissan Voice Recognition
- » Available Travel

## Link

## Under the Hood

- » 170-horsepower, 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine
- » Continuously Variable Transmission
- » Front- or all-wheel drive

- » Active Trace Control, Active Engine Braking and Active Ride Control

## Safety features

- » Required in every new car: front airbags, anti-lock brakes and an electronic stability system
- » Blind spot warning
- » Lane departure warning
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- » Rollover sensor
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Cars.com contributed.

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# Senate cuts 'burdensome' reporting in schools

**Danielle Alexander**  
Staff Writer

The state Senate has recently passed legislation that would greatly reduce red tape for public schools across Michigan.

State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, and other Senate Republicans introduced Senate Bills 754-767 earlier this year, legislation that would end burdensome reporting requirements while eliminating unnecessary and redundant reports for schools.

"By bringing an end to these burdensome, duplicative reporting requirements, we are providing schools with the ability to focus more resources on the classroom and less in the back office," Colbeck said. "Eliminating this red tape will allow educators to do what they do best: educate."

Michigan school districts

are mandated to prepare and submit hundreds of reports to state and federal entities. These reports can be time-consuming and tedious to produce and are often redundant or even obsolete by the submission date.

Education reporting requirements are sprinkled throughout Michigan law — not just in the state's education code. Unfortunately, there is no published comprehensive index to easily locate all mandated reports. These reports are costly, often taking a great deal of staff time and resources.

"We have been working for several years with Senator Pavlov and superintendents in the 7th Senate District on this bill package," Colbeck said.



Colbeck

"We are very thankful for the senator's leadership in pulling together this extensive bill package."

Plymouth-Canton Public Schools' superintendent Monica Merritt said she is definitely excited about the plan, and any legislation that can free district employees of duplicative paperwork, including both those who work in central office as well as individual schools in the district, is a great opportunity to remain student-focused.

"I definitely support any legislation that would eliminate the need for burdensome reporting that has to take place, especially in a time of limited resources," Merritt said in February when this legislation was first proposed.

The bills now head to the Michigan House of Representatives for further consideration.

## P-CEP voter registration drive

Eligible students at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park high schools can register to vote on Thursday during a registration drive sponsored by the clerk's offices in Plymouth and Canton townships.

Representatives from the clerks' offices will be in the cafeterias at all three high schools — Plymouth, Salem and Canton — during lunch hours (10:25 a.m. to 1:10 p.m.) Thursday to sign up students for voting. To register, students must live in either Canton or Plymouth township and be at least 17 ½ years old.

Registering in person allows first-time voters to request an absentee ballot for their first election, an option that could be important for graduating seniors who will be away at college this fall. Voters who register by mail must appear in person at their respective polling places the first time they vote.

The U.S. presidential election is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Michigan also has a primary election on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

Seniors from the townships can also register during the P-CEP senior all-night party on Sunday, June 12; representatives from the clerks' offices will be at the party, which will be held at Salem, between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m.

People can also register to vote at any Michigan Secretary of State branch office or at the clerk's office in their community.

Plymouth Township Clerk Nancy Conzelman's office is at 9955 North Haggerty, and the hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett's office is at 1150 South Canton Center Road, and the hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Voter registration can also be done by mail; visit [www.michigan.gov/vote](http://www.michigan.gov/vote) and click on the button labeled "Register to Vote."



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# Seminar addresses active shooter preparation

**David Veselenak**  
Staff Writer

Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid knows it's important to be prepared in the slightest of chances a mass shooting. Not just law enforcement, but many other jobs across Livonia.

"Being as prepared as we can be in every discipline. That's the big thing here. This isn't geared just at police or fire or any specific responsibility," he said. "This is geared toward getting all of us on the same page, learning from the incidents that have happened in the past and determining what we can do better, should a tragedy like this ever occur in our city."



DAVID VESELENAK | STAFF WRITER  
Michael Clumpner of Charlotte, N.C., speaks to about 130 people Tuesday morning at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia on active shooter research and how to prepare.

That's why Caid and about 130 others attended a seminar Tuesday put on by North Carolina-based

Threat Suppression Inc., led by Charlotte resident Michael Clumpner, who researches active shooter

incidents and does presentations on the topic around the globe.

The all-day seminar, held at Livonia's St. Mary Mercy Hospital, saw police, firefighters, elected officials and even library directors from various communities in the region. Firefighters from Livonia, Northville Township, Novi and Milford, among other communities, were in the audience.

The presentation showcased some history of mass violence in the U.S., touching on events such as the Columbine High School shootings, the Newtown, Conn., school shooting, as well as the deadliest school attack in U.S. history, the 1927 Bath school bomb-

ing that took place north of Lansing where 45 people died.

Clumpner said he's given his presentation in Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East and across the U.S. They all have varied responses to the content of his presentation, he said, with some attendees overseas not understanding how mass shootings become such a frequent affair in the U.S. "In the last two years, I've trained 40,000 responders," he said. "I've trained on four continents."

A big piece he wanted attendees to take back is that these types of major events don't typically play out in bigger cities such as Detroit. The vast majority happen in com-

munities the size of Livonia and smaller. That's why training and knowing how to handle a major situation, especially across departments, is important.

"Active shooters are not a big-city problem. They're not. Ninety-eight percent of all active shooter events in the United States have happened in a jurisdiction where the police department has 100 or fewer police officers," he said. "These events happen in small communities. They happen here."

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## A growing movement: Why mindfulness matters

**Jay Grossman**  
Staff Writer

Mindfulness: the ability to pay attention to the moment without judgment or criticism.

Oakland University Associate Professor Caryn Wells has carved out a career teaching graduate students, community leaders and other professionals about mindfulness and mindful leadership. Teaching someone how to 'be in the moment' is her specialty.

"That's very elusive because many people spend time dwelling on past regrets or tomorrow's agenda," Wells said. "The part that I think is so unique is no judgment and criticism — criticism for ourselves and others."

Mindfulness applies to all ages, but Wells said it takes on a special emphasis as people reach their 50s and find themselves juggling a busy career and family demands, along with an increased



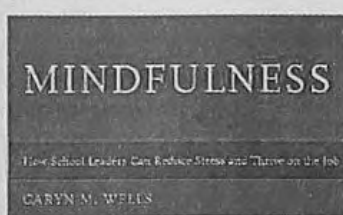
SUBMITTED  
Oakland University Associate Professor Caryn Wells teaches classes on mindfulness.

awareness of their health.

"I'm not an expert on aging," she said. "But if you think of how busy our world is — baby boomers involved with cell phones ... the social media ... staying connected with family and work. It can feel like 24/7 activity, so when is there a time to pause? Mindfulness really helps with pausing."

It's a growing movement that reaches out to all professions, from doctors to police officers, from educators to the military. Wells said mindfulness teaches people how to gain a perspective and grab hold of their anxieties.

"Just entering into stillness and quiet and being able to see all that's there," she said of the practice. "Giving what-



SUBMITTED  
"Mindfulness teaches you that less is more, that it's easier to accept than to resist," Caryn Wells said about learning to be mindful.

ever it is that's in front of you some space and looking at it honestly."

To practice, she recommends sitting in a quiet room and focus on taking calm deep breaths. Focus on each breath. Clear away the mental clutter and sim-

ply focus on the moment and the practice of breathing.

People who engage in mindfulness see improvements in mental and physical health. Especially when it comes to depression or anxiety or high blood pressure levels. It can also help with a good night's sleep.

"Consider personal relationships and when you're with someone who always seems to push your buttons," she said. "Mindfulness teaches you how to respond in a better way. You learn to observe and listen, rather than an automatic reaction."

Mindfulness strengthens the immune system. It also can lead to improved cognition and memory. It teaches kindness and compassion because you're not judging. Instead, you're listening.

"Let's say you're in your 50s or older, and good things happen and not-so-good things hap-

pen," she said. "Mindful self-compassion is a very difficult thing because most of us have a harsh inner voice — it takes practice to step back and understand there's a common humanity in the sense that we all go through things. Mindfulness reinforces kindness, compassion, and self-compassion."

Wells recently wrote a book on mindfulness that's titled *Mindfulness: How School Leaders Can Reduce Stress and Thrive on the Job* (Rowman & Littlefield, \$35). The book just came out and is available on Amazon.

"People in our age bracket, if we look back and say what is really important, it's about being there for the moment," she said. "Mindfulness teaches you that less is more, that it's easier to accept than to resist. I think this really makes a difference in the lives of people ... it's just very gratifying work."

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Zachary Wolfiss and Taarika Singhal during nationals competition.

**NATIONAL**

Continued from Page A1

in April. "We are up to about \$155,000 in scholarships - 96 percent is from the nationals," Woodward said.

That of course is plus trophies and medals and duffle bags of gifts.

When Woodward describes team members as "over the moon," she's not kidding.

"Getting second at Nationals is a feeling I will never forget. Pure shock ran threw me and I felt so blessed to be able to have an experience like that," said team member Emma Stephens. "It was something we did not really expect as a team because we focused on having fun and celebrating making it that far. Placing well was just the cherry on top to our trip."

Teammate Zachary Wolfiss wouldn't disagree: "Nationals was an experience that happens only once in a lifetime. Being placed in the top five is something any school strives to achieve. Being ranked second is a blessing that I will not take for granted. I am humbled to have such an amazing team; these relationships will last longer than the competi-

tion did."

The real sweet spot for the team and Woodward is that compared to their national competitors - and a few outside the country - P-CEP had no where near their budgets. In fact, many of the competitors were actual culinary schools, with some having, Woodward estimated, about \$20,000 budgets.

"We spent about \$2,000 in food all season," Woodward said, adding that all money for the P-CEP program is provided through fundraising.

In addition to winning second place, Woodward said the team was lauded for its team work, communication, attention to details, commitment and how members delicately and accurately mastered slicing, dicing and chopping.

"With what they have (in ingredients) they layered with flavors and added different levels to their ingredients," Woodward added.

In the aftermath of their big national win, team members lauded the P-CEP culinary program. "This program has done wonders for me," said team member Patrick McKillen. "I've learned many valuable skills that apply to the culinary field. I walked

in here not knowing anything about food, and now I'm part of a team that is the second best in the nation. I can't wait to come back next year and hone my skills even more."

Taarika Singhal offered the same sentiments: "I have been in this program for only a year, but it has given me experiences that will last forever. From teamwork to time management, I've learned so many different life skills apart from culinary. All the people that were a part of this journey worked so hard to make everything perfect and I am so proud to be a part of this team."

Cody Bates, who is the alternate on the winning team, is already looking forward to next year: "This program is by far the best thing that has happened to me so far. It has helped me make friends that will last a lifetime, and greatly increased my communication skills. I am so grateful for the opportunity and am looking forward to coming back next year to help anyway possible."

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# Fortune 500 CEO speaks at Livonia prayer breakfast

David Veselenak  
Staff Writer

Brad Hewitt believes the key to successful management of money can be found in one of the most recited passages of the Bible: The Lord's Prayer.

"Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors," he said. "I think in those few words, what we can discern is what a healthy relationship with money looks like, how it's connected to our purpose and how it works."

Hewitt, the CEO of Thrivent Financial, was the keynote speaker at the Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Thursday morning at Laurel Manor. Hewitt recently co-authored "Your Money Mindset: Create a Healthy Relationship with Money," a book on the role money plays in everyday life and how to have a healthy relationship with it.

He focused on two major aspects during his talk: the Lord's Prayer and what it says about personal finance, as well as a story broadcast on WNYC's Radiolab where a man saved another man by jumping onto railroad



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guest speaker is Bradford L. Hewitt, CEO of Thrivent Financial and author.

tracks to keep someone who had had a seizure and had fallen safe as a train rolled into a station.

That story was relevant, Hewitt said, because the hero in that situation remembered having his life spared when a gun pulled to his head several years before misfired and didn't go off. That moment, Hewitt said, was the reason this man believed he continued to live: that God had given him the job of helping that man on the train tracks.

"When they asked him why he jumped on the train tracks, he gave this explanation: 'The mission wasn't complete,'" Hewitt said.

The 42nd annual breakfast was attended by more than 500 people, all of whom received a copy of Hewitt's book.

One of those in attendance was retired Livonia Public Schools teacher Diane Plungis, who said the connections made between money and faith were strong and well-spoken.

"It was interesting and it was truly a prayer breakfast," said the Livonia resident.

"He incorporated the religious aspect to the aspect of money."

### Being comfortable with money

In addition to Hewitt's presentation, Grammy award-winning musician Russ Taff was on hand, singing some of his biggest hits, including "Praise the Lord" and "I Cry."

Prayer breakfast chairman Ken McMullen said he really wanted to bring Taff, who is set to be inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame Tuesday, to Livonia, and moved a little quicker than usual to book him.

"It's a great honor to have him here," he said. "Our board, we take votes on everything. However, in this case, I wanted to hear Russ Taff, so I booked him and then said, 'can we have a motion on that, please?'"

Hewitt talked about the importance of generosity and knowing what's important when it comes to possessing money. He touched on a study done of people with net worth of \$25 million and what



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gospel singer Russ Taff performs "Trumpet of Jesus."

effects of having that amount of money has on the quality of life.

Those polled said they thought they needed just 25 percent more wealth in order to be more secure in their lives. This showed, Hewitt said, that no matter what stage people are at, learning to be happy and generous with what you have is the key.

"In that study, the joys and dilemmas of wealth found a number of fascinating facts about these elite people," he said. "Their money contributed to a deep sense of anxiety about love, work, family. In fact, interestingly enough, they don't feel like they have enough money. Many consider themselves financially insecure."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tessie Wilson and Brenda Stilley wave the flag during Russ Taff's musical performance.



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# Founders Day celebration fast approaching

Fantastic free family fun, farmers market and flowers amp up the annual Highland Township Founders Day celebration Saturday, May 21, in downtown Highland.

From 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. there will be a full schedule of activities for all ages. The celebration is a free day out in downtown Highland in honor of the pioneer families that settled the township in 1835 and the beginning of spring in the area.

"We have so many great things going on in Highland. Founders Day is such good old fashion clean fun," said Heidi Bey, director of the Highland Activities Center.

The day begins with a parade down Livingston and John streets with cash prizes awarded for best float followed by some retail therapy at the craft fair at Highland Activity Center, annual Garden Club plant sale, and a



Boys and girls, moms and dads march in last year's Founders Day parade.

y'art' sale from Huron Valley Council for the Arts. The parade is free to participate in and starts at the Church of Nazarene on Livingston Road.

"This will be my first Founder's Day," said Erin Sabo, executive director of HVCA. "I think it's fun to get the community together to celebrate being a community and a wonderful way to dust off

winter and get back to being neighborly, I hope people stop by and introduce themselves at the y'art' sale."

At 11:30 a.m., the annual Veteran's Ceremony is held at Veteran's Park by the VFW Post 9914 and the American Legion & Color Guard.

After the sales end at 2 p.m., families can head on over to Veteran's Memori-

al Park for a community picnic where they can bring a picnic lunch or purchase one from the vendors on hand. They can also run over to the all day Heavner's Kid Zone which includes bounce houses, 4-H activities, animals, kites and a cake walk.

Finally, the day of fun ends with the Highland DDA Ice Cream Social and Square Dance at The Highland Feed Store from 5:30-9 p.m.

"The ice cream social and square dance celebration is a Highland favorite enjoyed by all ages," said Melissa Dash-evich, director of the Highland DDA, "There is dancing, ice cream, pie, root beer floats, and food for those who wish to make it a complete evening. A silent auction will also take place benefiting the improvement of downtown Highland. So everyone put on your boots and come on down".

# Milford student hosts interactive art showcase in Ireland

Pearce Stevens of Milford was one of 12 Champlain College students who planned and hosted an interactive street art showcase at Champlain College's campus in Dublin, Ireland.

The students, from Champlain College's Stiller School of Business and Division of Communication & Creative Media, have been planning the event all semester as part of their coursework in the Creative Dublin class, which is run from Champlain's academic center in Dublin, Ireland.

The event featured a friendly competition among local graffiti artists accompa-

nied by music from Dublin buskers and other street performers. Through the event, the class aimed to celebrate the vibrancy that street art brings to Dublin while fighting the stigma against graffiti art and street performing. There were more than 1,000 people attending the event.

Champlain College has provided career-focused education to students from its hill-top campus in Burlington, Vt. Champlain offers study abroad programs at its campuses in Montreal, Quebec and Dublin, Ireland. For more information, visit [www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu).

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## Ask Dr. Stewart

Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist in Livonia, MI. Today, he answers a question about the surprising ways you can damage your teeth in the first part of a two-part column.

### SURPRISING WAYS YOU CAN DAMAGE YOUR TEETH

Dear Dr. Stewart: I heard chewing ice can hurt your teeth, is this true?

Dr. Stewart: Yes. Believe it or not, chewing ice can actually cause minuscule cracks to the enamel, increasing the risk of further damage or even decay later on. In addition, there are other unexpected ways you can potentially damage your teeth, including:

- Drinking water with lemon (the acidic content erodes tooth enamel)
- Frequent swimming (chlorine in pools can also erode tooth enamel)
- Brushing directly after meals (the acid content of your drink and/or food leaves enamel weak, so immediate brushing without rinsing can damage teeth)
- Eating too much fruit (while healthy, fresh fruit also contains high amounts of sugar AND acidic content)

As with most things, if done in moderation these things may not be an issue but are important to keep in mind.

If you have a question about your dental health contact Dr. James Stewart by calling 734-425-4400 or visiting [jamesstewartdds.com](http://jamesstewartdds.com)

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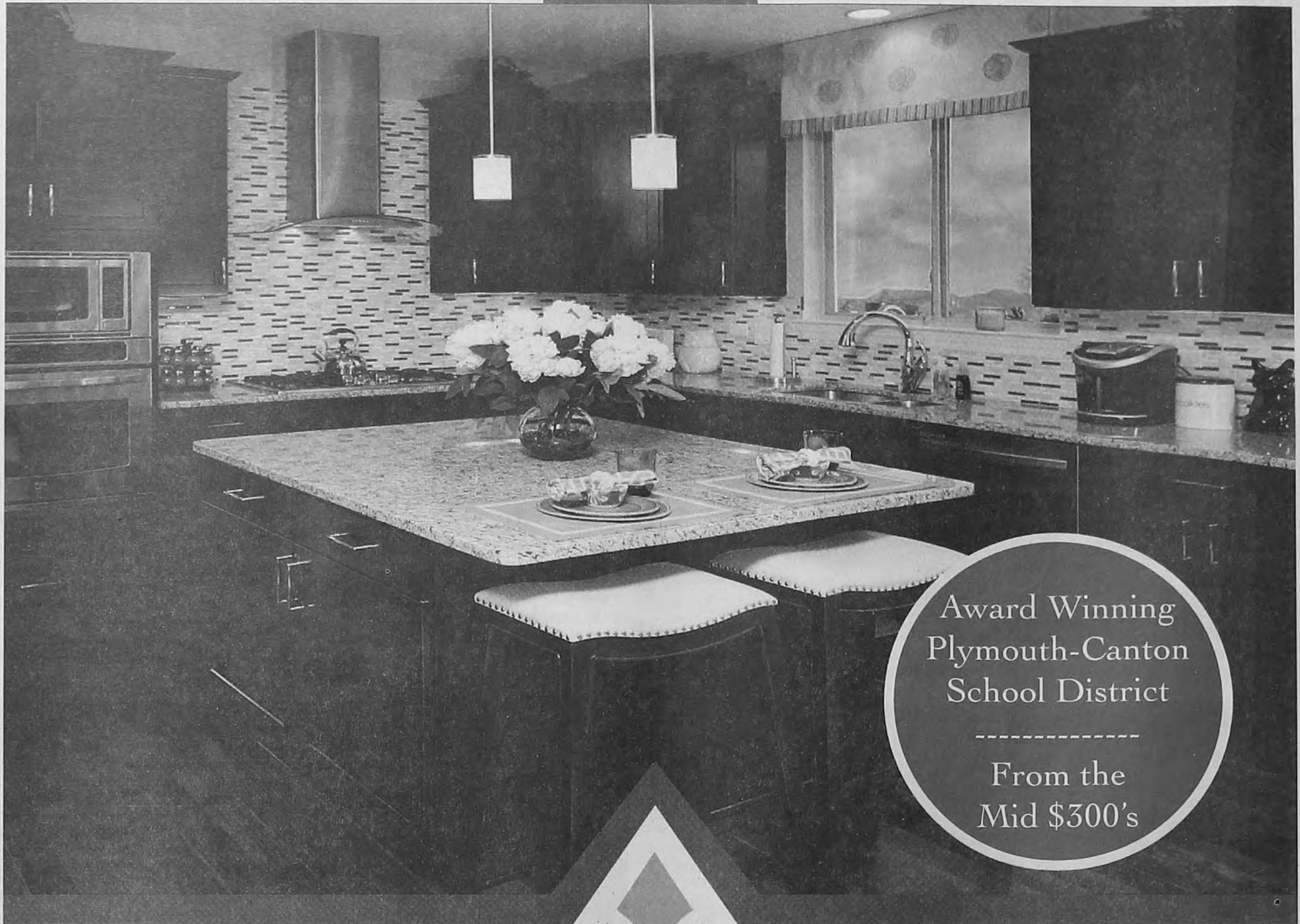
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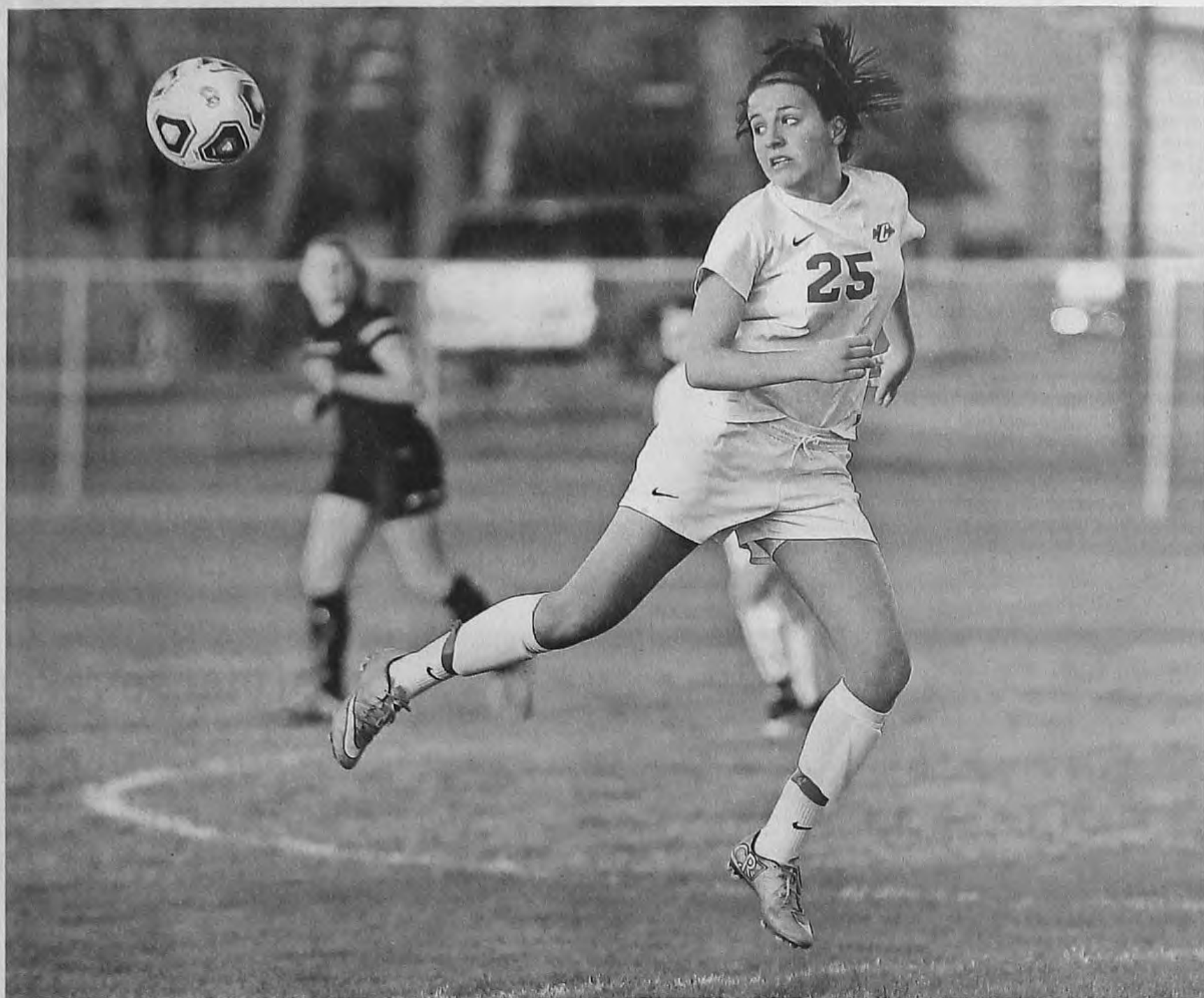


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CANTON-PLYMOUTH GIRLS SOCCER



Kicking the ball Thursday night is Canton's Hannah Lapko, who scored one of the Chiefs' goals on a penalty kick.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

## Chiefs' depth keys victory

Canton wins with across-the-board contributions

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Strong performances throughout the lineup Thursday helped Canton's varsity boys track and field team earn a 90-47 victory over Plymouth.

The win lifted Canton's record to 3-1 in the KLAA South Division.

Pacing the Chiefs was Andrew Koenigsknecht, who registered a personal best mark off 14-feet, 3 inches in the pole vault. Koenigsknecht bested teammate Chuck Carey (second, 10-6) and Plymouth's James Rubio.

Canton double winners included thrower James Deese (shot put, discus) and Steven Walker (long jump, 20-1; 100-meter dash, 11.53 seconds).

Other Canton firsts were turned in by Jemal Vaunado (110 hurdles, 16.07), Zach Clark (mile run, 4:49), Dirk Thornhill (400 dash), Joey Glunt (300 hurdles), Nick Socha (800 run, 2:11.05), Alan Jones (200 dash, 23.22) and the 800- and 400-meter relay teams.

There were several highlights for the young-and-improving Wildcats.

Earning firsts were Jarrett Weaver (3,200 run), Cameron Kight (high jump), the 3,200-meter relay team of Matt Weiner, Jacob Steward, Lucas Kapala and Timothy Hoang and the 1,600 relay of Weiner, Cade Ahlijian, Joseph Ahearn and Ryan Schmatz.

Earning points for finishing in second were Ahlijian (400 dash), Steward (800 run), Mario Galindez (two-mile run), Gabriel Paquette (long jump), Azam Saleem (high jump), Robert Florence (shot put, discus).

Plymouth thirds were recorded by Rubio, Martino Deltoro (110 hurdles), Kevin Dorsey (100 dash), Jarrett Warner (mile run), Ahearn (800 run) and Zachary Murry (two-mile run).

See TRACK, Page B3

## SHOWDOWN AT THE PARK

Late penalty kick goal helps Chiefs edge Wildcats in hard-fought division tilt

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

As always when Park rivals Canton and Plymouth meet on the pitch, the action Thursday night was fast and physical — with several stoppages to attend to injured players.

Throw in the fact that both varsity girls soccer teams entered the contest in a dead heat for the top of the KLAA South Division standings at 4-0-2. All that did was crank up the intensity.

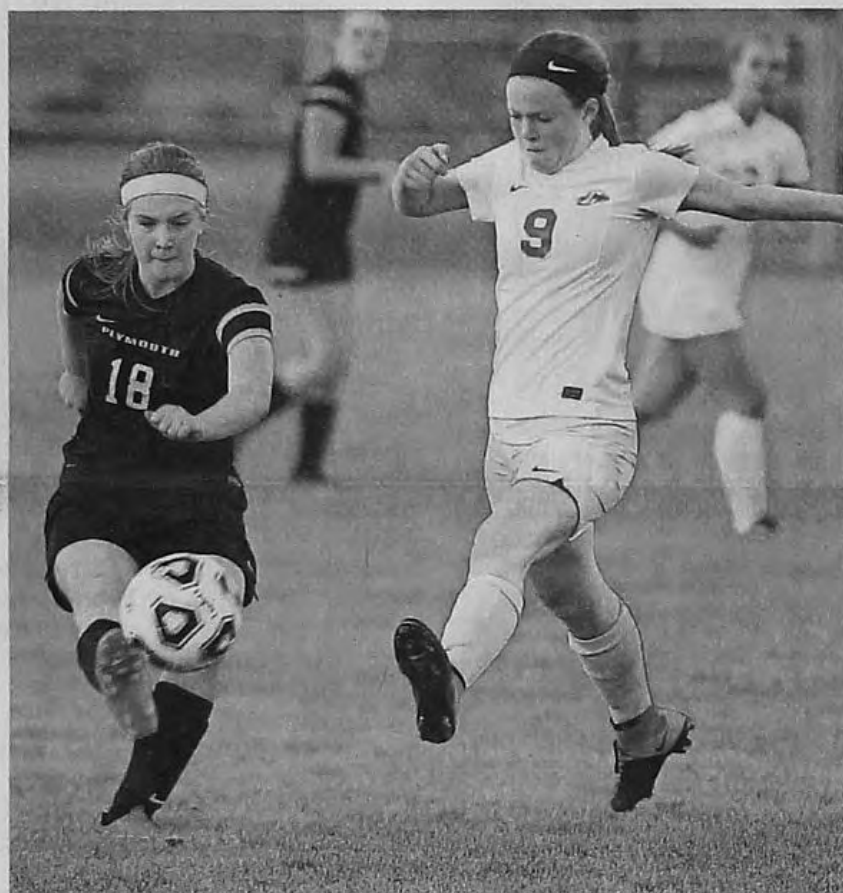
After 80 minutes of grueling action at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park

varsity soccer stadium, Canton pocketed a 3-1 victory to move into sole possession of first in the division. It was a closer game than the score indicated.

"Being division champs is just one of the steps to what we want to do," Canton's Hannah Lapko said. "We want to win states and win districts and all that stuff. It feels really good to beat a Park rival, but it's a lot of hard work."

Lapko scored on a penalty kick with 13:36 left in the second half to pretty much

See SOCCER, Page B2



Canton's Marlee Taylor (No. 9) closes the gap on Plymouth's Morgan Gooden (No. 18) during Thursday night's division showdown.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

PREP GIRLS TENNIS

## 'CATS SHOW 'HEART AND HUSTLE'

Plymouth puts up challenge but falls to Northern

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Plymouth varsity girls tennis coach Rob McLaren chalked up Thursday's 7-2 loss to Walled Lake Northern as one of those days.

The host Wildcats did have some stout performances in the crossover match of the KLAA South and North division champions at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

"We've been rolling and I told the girls this team (Northern) looks a lot like our team," McLaren said. "They're strong in doubles, they have depth at singles. We had two 3-setters, our 1 doubles went three sets

and our 4 doubles went three sets and they just didn't go our way.

"It could have been much closer; it could have gone either way. But they (Knights) definitely got the edge on us today."

Plymouth's lone wins were tallied by talented freshman Jessica Braun at 1 singles (6-1, 6-0) and by the 3 doubles tandem of Arwa Harawala and Allie Baker (6-2, 6-4).

"Jessica Braun is undefeated on the year," McLaren said. "Her real test will come on Tuesday, she's going to play Emma Worley (of the defending state champion Northville Mustangs) at Northville.

"And she's got a couple other big matches coming up. Again, she's undefeated but she's going to have a real test coming up. I think she's going to do well."

To the wire

McLaren said the match could have been much closer, noting tough, three-set losses by the 1 doubles team (Alyssa Lopez and Bei Li Martin) and the 4 doubles tandem of Alayna Stults and Dani Escalera-Sanchez.

"I really liked the heart and desire in our 1 doubles and our 4 doubles today," McLaren

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MICHAEL VASILNEK

Launching a shot Thursday is Plymouth freshman 1 singles player Jessica Braun.

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## PREP BOYS LACROSSE

# Unbeaten Canton wins big on 'Senior Night'

Plymouth posts victory over Walled Lake Western

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

On Senior Night Monday, Canton's varsity boys lacrosse team defeated Walled Lake Western 20-2 to improve to 12-0 overall and 4-0 in conference play.

The Chiefs broke out early with senior attackman Carson Pakula scoring the game's first three goals in the opening stanza. He finished with six for the night.

Another senior attackman, Lukas Pashigian, scored to make it 4-0, but the Warriors notched two markers near the end of the frame to trail 4-2.

Canton scored all five goals in the second. Two were collected by junior attackman Drew Montgomery, with single goals by senior midfielder Aditya Joshi, sophomore midfielder Connor Flannigan and Pashigian.

The second half was all Canton, with Montgomery setting up Pakula for a goal on the doorstep. Following in quick succession were goals by sophomore midfielder Nick Polydoros (from senior middle Ben Phillips), Montgomery, Flannigan, Pashigian and senior middle Micah Rinke (from senior middle Jake Stephan).

Pakula and Pashigian (five goals) scored two each in the fourth with senior midfielder Andrew Goulet burying the final goal of the contest, finishing a perfect feed from Phillips.

Shutting down Western were defenders Kumar Johnson, Steven Szymusiak, Reid McDonnell, Jakob Wickens and Austin Carr while senior goalie Trevor Stahl also was strong.

## Wildcats rally

Bouncing back from a couple losses, Plymouth's varsity boys lacrosse team defeated Walled Lake Western 13-8 on Wednesday night. Scoring for the Wildcats were Carson Miller, Nolan Ouellette, Jack Balch and Zach Gallaher. Registering his first career varsity win in goal was Blake Nowicki.

## Rocks edged

Salem dropped a 12-7 decision to Northville Monday,



MICHAEL VASILNEK

One of many Canton senior stalwarts this season is Carson Pakula (No. 25), shown from a recent game.

despite four goals by Lucas Martin.

Tallying single markers for the Rocks were John Jaaska, Nicholas Azarovitz and Ian Wunderlich.

Strong on faceoffs was Azarovitz (10-16) with Tommy

Simpson winning two of five draws.

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## SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

seal the victory. On the play, Plymouth goalkeeper Rebecca Przybylo slid out to try and corral the ball before Canton's Raquel Church could get to it.

### Calm approach

There was a collision and officials called the PK, which Lapko converted with a line-drive boot inside the right post.

"It was just a cluster of people but we ended up getting the call, and I made the PK," Lapko said. "... I'm actually really calm when I take penalty kicks, it's a pretty simple thing, right in front of the net.

"I look one way then I shoot the other way," she added with a chuckle.

Plymouth head coach Jeff Neschich, however, wasn't in a laughing mood about the ruling. But there wasn't much he could say about it.

"That really changed the complexion of the game, but what do you do?" Neschich said. "Honestly, I'm not going to get the call changed. ... I don't want to bad-mouth the ref."

Neschich, whose team fell to 4-4-4 overall and 4-1-2 in the division, conceded the loss likely knocked the Wildcats out of the running for a KLA South title.

"Chances are we may face each other in the district," Neschich said. "We got to finish the job, we didn't get it done tonight. We played well, and created more opportunities than they did, but at the end of the day we didn't get them in the back of the net."

Plymouth did go up 1-0 in the first few minutes of the contest when Hailey Melnick deposited a shot past Canton goalie Jordan Anheuser, who played an excellent game. Assisting on the goal was Anna DeBiasi.

### Perfect shots

But it didn't take long for the Chiefs to get the equalizer. With about 31 minutes to go in the first half, Casey Muglia's 25-yard blast beat Przybylo.

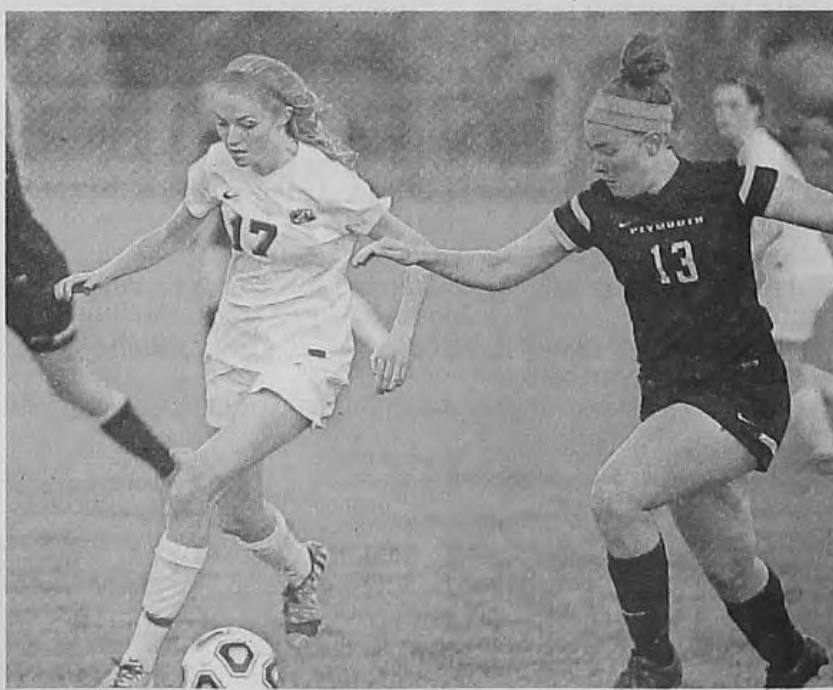
Canton (8-0-3, 5-0-2) then took a 2-1 lead with just over 15 minutes to go. Taking a corner kick from the right side was Mary Galm, and the ball was headed in the 18-yard box by Nicole Doucet of the Chiefs.

The carom bounced beyond the top of the box, where Sarah Willett turned and drove a shot into the upper-right corner for the tally. Nicole Giordano was credited



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

It's a goal-mouth scramble Thursday between Canton's Raquel Church (No. 17) and Plymouth's Megan McCurry (No. 16) as Wildcats goalie Rebecca Przybylo reaches for the ball.



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Dribbling the ball is Canton's Raquel Church (No. 17) while Plymouth's Addisyn Lewis (No. 13) is in pursuit.

with an assist on the play.

"I just came right out to the top of the 18, and I just volleyed it in and it hit the upper right corner," Willett said. "It was just hard work, determination and we just pushed through the pain and came out with the win."

Neschich tipped his cap to the Chiefs for making the most of those opportunities.

"They (Chiefs) had a couple of really fantastic shots in the first half that went in," Neschich said. "I thought their back line did a good job

of limiting our opportunities. It was a close game."

Concurring was Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy. "Those were really good goals, Casey had a great goal. And then the second goal was off the corner. Nicole Doucet headed it out and then it was kind of bobbled around in there and Sarah went in and nailed it."

Meanwhile, Reddy added that the key to the win was the way the Chiefs responded after falling behind early.

"I really give them a lot of

credit for getting scored on that early and coming back and winning 3-1," Reddy said. "That's kind of hard to come back from that. ... They didn't let them bother them and kept playing."

"Plymouth always battles, they're a good team. They're fast, they always challenge us. Jeff does a good job with them."

**SALEM 3, NOVI 3:** On Thursday night, the Rocks overcame a 3-1 deficit in the second half against Novi.

Scoring with 18 minutes left in regulation was Gabby Mazzuca, from Caroline Simko to cut the Novi lead to 3-2.

"This gave us a lift and we kept pressing," Rocks head coach George Tomasso said.

That paid off with the equalizer, netted by Anna Faybrick with about eight minutes remaining. Earning the assist on the goal was Simko.

Helping nail down the point with strong play in the nets was Salem goalie Skylar Brandt, who made 10 stops. Brandt's best came in the first half, an acrobatic stop of a penalty kick.

Salem's first goal was scored in the first half by Sarah Hawks, from Katie Coleman.

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## PREP SOFTBALL

## Offense rakes for Plymouth

Pair of home runs helps Salem sweep Novi

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

Plymouth bats were booming Thursday as the Wildcats defeated South Lyon East 4-0 in a make-up varsity girls softball game.

The Wildcats (10-4 overall) kept the line moving with 13 hits, spearheaded by sophomore Jessica Tucci, who collected three hits in four at bats.

A key hit for Plymouth was turned in by sophomore Whitney Holden in the third inning to put the Wildcats up 1-0.

Holden (2-for-4, two RBIs), Jenny Bressler (2-for-3) and Gina Barber (2-for-3) also had multiple-hit games.

Contributing to Plymouth's second run was a sacrifice bunt by Jocie Rutkowski in the fifth inning.

### Salem wins two

Homers by Jamie Squires and Morgan Overaitis helped Salem edge Novi 9-7 on Thursday in the opener of a doubleheader.

Salem then closed out the sweep with a 16-4 victory in the nightcap to improve to 20-2 overall.

In Game 1 of the matchup of KLA Central Division teams, Division.

Squires hit a three-run shot while Overaitis connected on a two-run blast; both players also chipped in with two singles.

Other contributors for the Rocks (19-2) included Kristin Mihalic (triple, single) and Mad-dy Rosiewicz (double).

Earning the pitching win for Salem was Rosiewicz.

Game 2 featured at least one hit for every Salem batter, including big games from Rosiewicz (single, triple, two RBIs), Mihalic (three RBIs), Squires (two RBIs), Hailey Dechalk (three RBIs), Amy Hines (two RBIs), Overaitis, Jordan Hazel and Jenna Taylor.

Overaitis was the winning pitcher for the Rocks.

### Mercy sweeps

Farmington Hills Mercy swept its four-game season series with Birmingham Marian in softball Tuesday, but the last of the victories was not easily achieved.

After winning the first game in five innings, 13-2, the teams went back and forth in the second until the visiting Marlins eked out a 10-9 win.

Abby Krzywiecki was the winning pitcher in relief, holding the Mustangs to five hits, no walks and two earned runs over the final four innings.

The Mustangs capitalized on three errors and got to starting pitcher Andrea Elmore for seven runs (four earned), six hits and one walk.

Mercy scored three runs in the sixth to break a 7-7 tie. Marian added two in the seventh with a two-run homer by Sera Stevens.

Following the no-outs blast by Stevens, Krzywiecki retired the side with a strikeout, groundout and strikeout.

Cari Padula was 3-for-3 with two home runs and four RBIs for the Marlins. She also scored four runs.

Nicole Belans and Anna Dixon had three hits and one RBI apiece. Dixon hit two doubles and scored twice.

## GIRLS PREP SOCCER

## Canton blanks Churchill with complete game

**Tim Smith**  
Staff Writer

Strong all-around play spearheaded Canton's varsity girls soccer team to a 5-0 victory over Livonia Churchill on Tuesday night.

Scoring two goals for the Chiefs was Hannah Lapko, who also assisted on a goal.

Others contributing to the Canton offense were Jen Richmond (goal, two assists),

Rachel McGue (goal), Jessica Suyak (goal) and Mary Galm (assist).

"We really have been focusing on playing quickly and together as a team," Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy said. "We are getting better each day. ... Casey Muglia and Marlee Taylor played outstanding in the middle and created lots of chances."

Augmenting the offense

was a shutdown defense and goalkeeping.

Reddy cited defenders Galm, Nicole Doucet, Kaleigh Mahaz and Abbey Kramer for playing "outstanding all over the field and outstanding on the back line. They won almost every 50/50 ball, supported each other and played composed."

Blanking the Chargers (3-3-3, 2-1-2) were goalkeepers Stephanie Morgan and

Sarah Hammond, each playing one half and making key stops as Canton improved to 7-0-3 overall and 4-0-2 in the KLA South (tied for first entering Thursday's showdown against co-leader Plymouth).

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One of two Plymouth wins Thursday was tallied by the 3 doubles team of Arwa Harawala and Allie Baker.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

## TENNIS

Continued from Page B1

added. "They played good, tough three-setters."

In a reference to Lopez and Martin, the Northern coach told McLaren "There's not a whole lot of shots that get past those two; they chase everything down."

Although it was a crisp, windy afternoon, McLaren did not use the weather as an excuse for the defeat, which left Plymouth with a record of 5-2 overall (5-0 in the division). Northern improved to 7-0, 5-0.

"The wind affected us both, on both sides of the net," McLaren said. "For spring tennis this is actually great weather."

Meanwhile, McLaren is confident his team will continue to be reckoned with at the May 14 KLAA 'A' tournament, also at P-CEP.

"A lot of what happens in the (KLAA) tournament, we get a good idea of how we're going to do in the tournament based on our crossover matches," McLaren said. "Being a No. 1 team, we can really measure ourselves against the other No. 1 teams."



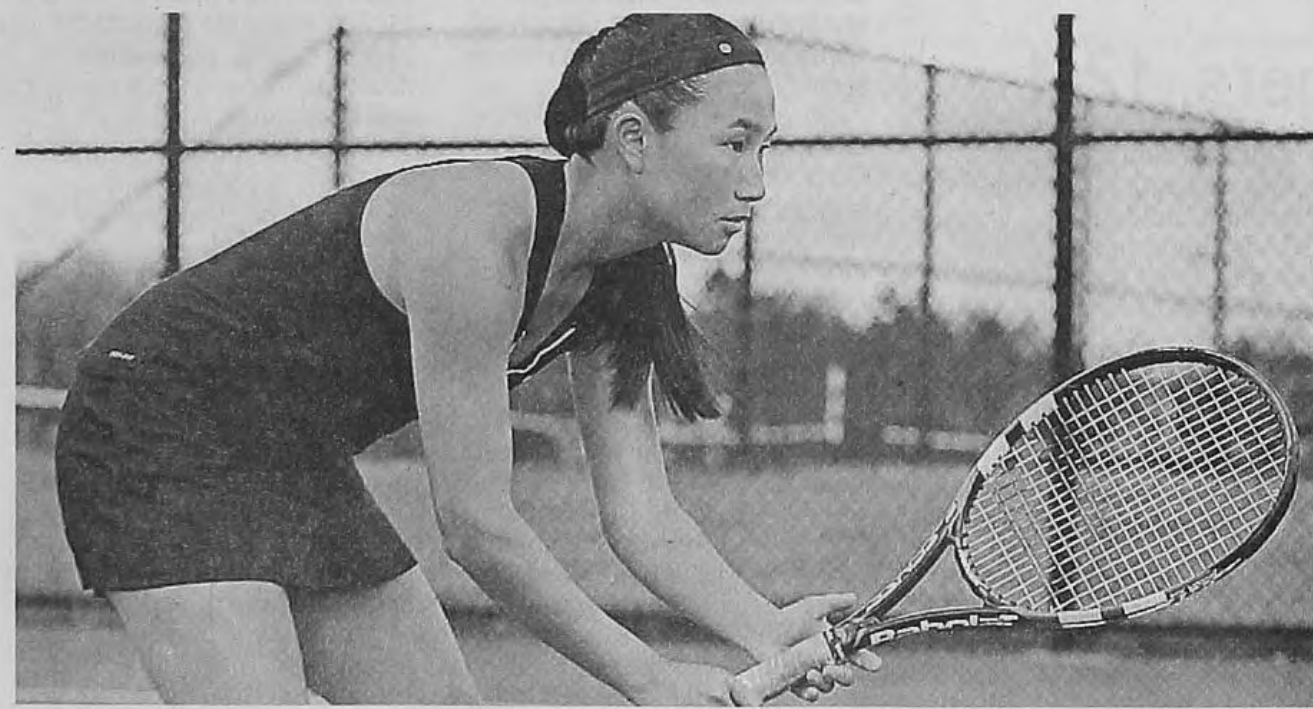
Preparing to serve during Thursday's match against Walled Lake Northern is Plymouth 1 doubles player Alyssa Lopez.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

"So the fact that we lost against Walled Lake Northern today, tells us we have some more work to do before we get to the tournament time. I think we have all the tools, we just need to work on fine-tuning some of our approach-

es and I think we're going to win."

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Bei Li Martin of Plymouth's 1 doubles team waits for the opponent's next serve.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

## GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

# Plymouth dominant in dual meet

### Wildcats strong in running, field events

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

The beat goes on for Plymouth's varsity girls track and field team as the Wildcats posted a convincing 108-29 victory over Canton on Thursday afternoon.

Plymouth upped its record to 3-1 in the KLAA South, showing little effects of having four meets within a five-day span.

"Many different athletes were asked to step up," Wildcats head coach Ricky Styes noted. "And step up they did."

The Wildcats won nine of 12 running events and also dominated in field events (winning all five, scoring 44 of 45 possible points).

On the track, individual winners included Briya Bhakta (100 dash, 13.74), Faith Washington (200 dash, 27.52), Bailey Brown (400, 1:03.82), Annie Bonds (1,600 run, 5:48.64), Nadine Salamey (100

hurdles, 17.52), Kayla Dudek (300 hurdles, 50.51).

Also stellar for Plymouth were the relay teams. The 400 relay of Salamey, Bhakta, Paula Guzman and Aly Wickham prevailed in 53.54 seconds.

Placing first with a time of 1:59.69 was the 800 relay tandem of Bhakta, Via Dumoren, Guzman and Wickham. Also victorious with a time of 4:28.13 was the 1,600 relay of Ana White, Breanna Kooienga, Dudek and Brown.

Styes also pointed to dominance in field events, which has been a season-long strength.

Senior thrower Elise Wehmer took the top spot in the shot put and discus, with respective marks of 30 feet, 10 inches and 94-7.

Victorious in the high jump was senior Kat Harris, with a jump of 5-2.

Emily Caragay won the pole vault (10-6) while Brown took honors in the long jump with a tally of 16-0.

### Plymouth prevails

Depth throughout the lineup enabled Plymouth to post an 83-54 victory over Livonia Franklin on Tuesday. The Wildcats improved to 2-1 in KLAA South Division meets.

A balanced attack sparked Plymouth, winning 11 of 17 events. Wehmer won both shot put and discus while freshman sprinter Reghan Draper took honors in the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

Other Wildcats to earn firsts included Erin Bradley (100 hurdles), Ryen Draper (400 dash), Salamey (300 hurdles), Caragay (pole vault), Jillian Betts (high jump) and Harris (high jump).

Winning in the 800-meter relay was the quartet of Bradley, Washington, Reghan Draper and Ryen Draper; also first was the 400 relay team of Salamey, Bhakta, Guzman and Wickman.

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## PREP BOYS GOLF

# Plymouth bests Canton in division tilt

Rocks' Weldon excels at Orchard Lake invite

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Two teams at the top of the KLAA South Division standings met Tuesday at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth, and the Wildcats emerged still undefeated — winning 147-165 over Canton.

The Wildcats (4-0) were led by medalist James Baldwin (36), Jack Boczar (37), Kyle Kozler (37), Joe Fontana (37), Justin Kapke (37) and Matt Decker (39).

For the 3-1 Chiefs, Brian Oldani registered a 39. Other Canton finishers included Suhas Potluri (40), Dominic Dimaya (41), Patrick McDougall (45), Brenden Chan (46) and D.J. Jablonski (51).

### Chiefs win pair

On Thursday at par 36 Fellows Creek, Canton defeated Wayne Memorial 171-202 to improve to 4-1 in the KLAA South Division.

Patrick McDougall was medalist with a 41 score, while Phillip Conrad (43), Suhas Potluri (43), Ryan Witczak (44), Paul Maurer (44) and D.J. Jablonski also helped the cause.

Canton bested Westland John Glenn 167-241 Monday at Fellows Creek.

Co-medalists were McDougall and Jablonski of the Chiefs, each tallying 41s.

Other Canton finishers included Dominic Dimaya

(42), Maurer (43), Curt Yun (44) and Witczak (50).

### Salem recap

A strong 42 performance by senior Hayden Winch wasn't enough Thursday for Salem at par 36 Northville Hills Golf Course.

The Rocks dropped a 166-188 match to Northville.

Other scorers for the Rocks (2-3 in the KLAA) were Shawn Weldon (47), Bryce Henderson (49), Matt Schaumburger (51), Adam Marcero (52) and Justin Polce (57).

» Despite finishing 21st with a team score of 344 points at Monday's Orchard Lake Invitational, Salem head coach Ryan Nimmerguth said his team played well against a "very strong field."

Novi Detroit Catholic Central and Grosse Pointe South each tied with 282, but the Shamrocks won the tourney on a tie-breaker.

For the Rocks, Weldon shot a season best score of 82 on the par 71 Orchard Lake Country Club.

Other Salem finishers included Winch and Matt Danis (each shooting an 86), Henderson (90) and Travis Stott (95).

» On April 29, Salem fell 161-168 to Novi at par 35 Fox Hills despite Winch shooting a 38 for medalist honors.

Weldon (42), Henderson (43), Marcero (45), Danis (46) and Polce (50) also had solid rounds for the Rocks.

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Tami Bealert of Hickory Creek Golf Club (left) presents the winning check to Tin Cup champion Chris Cooley on May 1.

SUBMITTED

## RECREATIONAL GOLF

# Tin Cup decided by playoff

The annual Tin Cup tournament took place last Sunday at Hickory Creek Golf Club and there was some extra excitement needed to decide the event.

Part of the Mulligan Tour, the Tin Cup tourney required a four hole putt-off to break a deadlock between Chris Cooley and Jeff Klipa.

It was Cooley who prevailed, earning a \$32 check for his efforts.

There were 38 players

participating in the fifth-annual event hosted by Hickory Creek PGA teaching professional Tami Bealert, Mulligan Tour president Erik Meland and Greg Kline.

The event raised \$290 for Common Ground Ministries, located in Canton.

Hickory Creek Golf Club is located at 3625 Napier Road in Plymouth Township.

For more information about the Mulligan Tour, go to themulligantour.com.

## TRACK

Continued from Page B1

### Chiefs edged

In a battle of previously undefeated squads Tuesday, Canton dropped a hard-fought dual meet to Livonia Churchill, 74-63.

The meet was decided in the final two events, with the Chargers winning the 1,600-meter relay to edge the Chiefs.

Jemal Vaunado was a double winner (110 hurdles, 15.37 seconds; 300 hurdles, 40.97) while Darren Davis won the 100 dash (10.69) and came in second in the 200 dash (22.35).

Other Canton wins were secured by Zach Clark (3,200 run, 10 minutes, 14 seconds), Dirk Thornhill (400 dash, 51.17) and the 400 relay team of Alan Jones, Brennon Pelland, Steve Walker and Darren Davis (43.56).

Other solid showings were turned in by Caleb Moraw (second in the 400 dash, 51.6) and Clark (second in 1,600 run, 4:40).

In field events, Canton firsts were registered by Andrew Koenigsknecht (pole vault, 14-0) and Steve Walker (long jump, 19-9.5), but several others scored points with second- and third-place efforts.

Placing second in the long

jump was Danual Johnson (18-0). Freshman James Deese turned in a season's best throw of 127-7 in the discus, good for second place. Also second was Derek Triebwasser in the high jump with a mark of 5-6.

Finishing third for the Chiefs were Chuck Crey (pole vault, 10-6), Luke Fenstermacher (high jump, 5-4), Steven Walker (100 dash), Joey Glunt (110 hurdles, 300 hurdles).

### Wildcats fall short

On Tuesday, Plymouth dropped an 81-56 dual meet to Livonia Franklin.

Earning firsts for the Wildcats were Matt Weiner (800 run), Ethan Byrnes (1,600 run), Martino Deltoro (110 hurdles), Cameron Kight (high jump), Gabriel Paquette (long jump) and the 3,200-meter relay team of Byrnes, Jacob Steward, Weiner and Lucas Kapala.

Earning second place points were Byrnes (3,200 run), Steward (800 run), Joseph Ahearn (400 dash, long jump), Robert Florence (shot put, discus) and James Rubio (pole vault).

Thirds were picked up by Cade Ahljian (400 dash), Steward (1,600 run), Jarrett Warner (3,200 run), Andrew Shattuck (110 hurdles) and Hunter Le-forge (discus).

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PREP BASEBALL ROUNDUP

# Shamrocks take two out of three vs. St. Mary's

Franklin Road sweeps twinbill improves to 9-1

Brad Emons  
Staff Writer

Novi Detroit Catholic Central was able to take two out of three games April 30 against visiting Orchard Lake St. Mary's in Catholic League baseball action.

In a game suspended from April 13 tied at 7-7 in the eighth inning, CC pulled out a 3-2 win in 12 innings as senior right-hander Grant Hartwig, who earned the victory, allowed just one hit over the final five innings while striking out six.

Matt Stinebiser's RBI single in the top of the 12th proved to be the game-winner in the Central Division encounter.

In the regularly scheduled first game, the Eaglets got a two-hit masterpiece from Car-

ter Macias in a 7-2 victory. Macias allowed just one earned run and struck out 10.

CC then bounced back to win the finale, 4-3, behind Dante Toppi's complete-game four-hitter. The senior struck out 10 and also knocked in two runs.

Jaret Robson paced the CC offense, going 3-for-3, while Cody Kanclerz added a two-run double. Anthony Esser also had two RBIs as the Shamrocks improved to 10-9 overall and 5-7 in the Central.

**FRANKLIN ROAD 14-10, SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN 2-3:** Gavin Harris had four hits Friday as Novi Franklin Road Christian (9-1) took both ends of a doubleheader from Southfield Christian.

Harris went 2-for-3 with an RBI for the Warriors in the opener and went 2-for-3 with three runs scored and two stolen bases in the nightcap.

Paul Alex also went 3-for-4 with three doubles and five RBIs to lend support offensively in Game 1.

Pitcher Nick Suchezy was the winning pitcher, scattering five hits and striking out four over five innings.

Evan Lorey went all seven innings in the nightcap to earn the victory, scattering five hits while striking out nine.

Zeke Stockman had two hits and three RBIs.

**SALINE 12-2, DETROIT CC 1-3:** Novi Detroit Catholic Central (8-8) bounced back from a Game 1 defeat to earn a split of its non-league doubleheader Friday against the visiting Hornets.

Winning pitcher Ted Eppinga allowed just one hit over four innings for Saline in the opener.

Zach Schwartzberger, Jake Finkbeiner, Mike Schuby and Rich Hovde paced Saline's attack with two hits apiece.

The Shamrocks got a bases-loaded single in the bottom of the seventh from Matt Stinebiser to win the nightcap.

CC's Johnny Lobbia pitched six innings to earn the victory as he allowed one earned run on four hits and two walks while fanning four.

**FRANKLIN ROAD 3-6, LUTHERAN NORTHWEST 1-0:** Novi Franklin Road Christian (7-1, 4-1) swept its two-game series in the Red Division of the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference over Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

On April 27, Shaun Moore pitched a complete-game three-hitter for the Warriors. Moore went all seven innings, striking out eight and walking two.

Evan Lorey (2-for-3, double, RBI) and Paul Alex (two RBIs) provided the offense for the Warriors.

On April 26, Gavin Harris was the winning pitcher, going all seven innings for the shutout. Harris allowed just three hits, walked three and struck out seven.

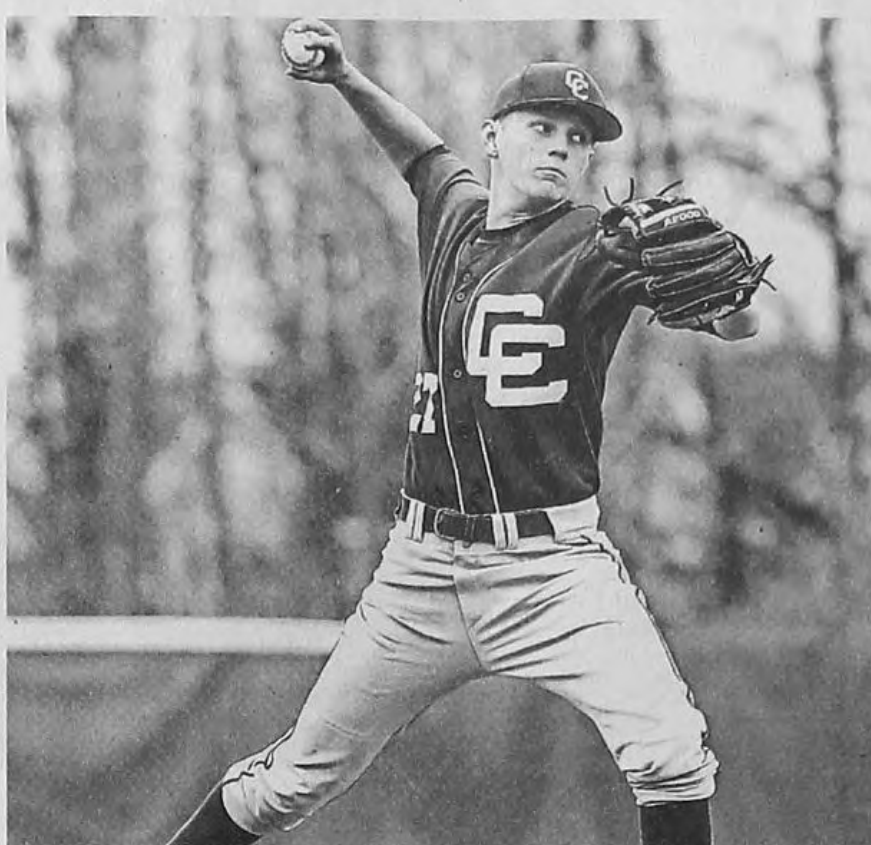
Alex went 2-for-2 with a double and two RBIs, while Moore went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs.

**DIVINE CHILD 4-0, DETROIT CC 1-6:** Grant Hartwig threw a complete-game shutout April 27 as host Novi Detroit Catholic Central (7-7, 3-6) took the nightcap and earned a split of its Catholic League doubleheader against Dearborn Divine Child (8-6, 5-5).

The senior right-hander allowed just two hits and a walk over seven innings, while striking out eight. He also had two hits and two RBIs, while Dante Toppi also added two hits.

In the opener, Divine Child's Danny Bullard went six innings, allowing no runs on five hits.

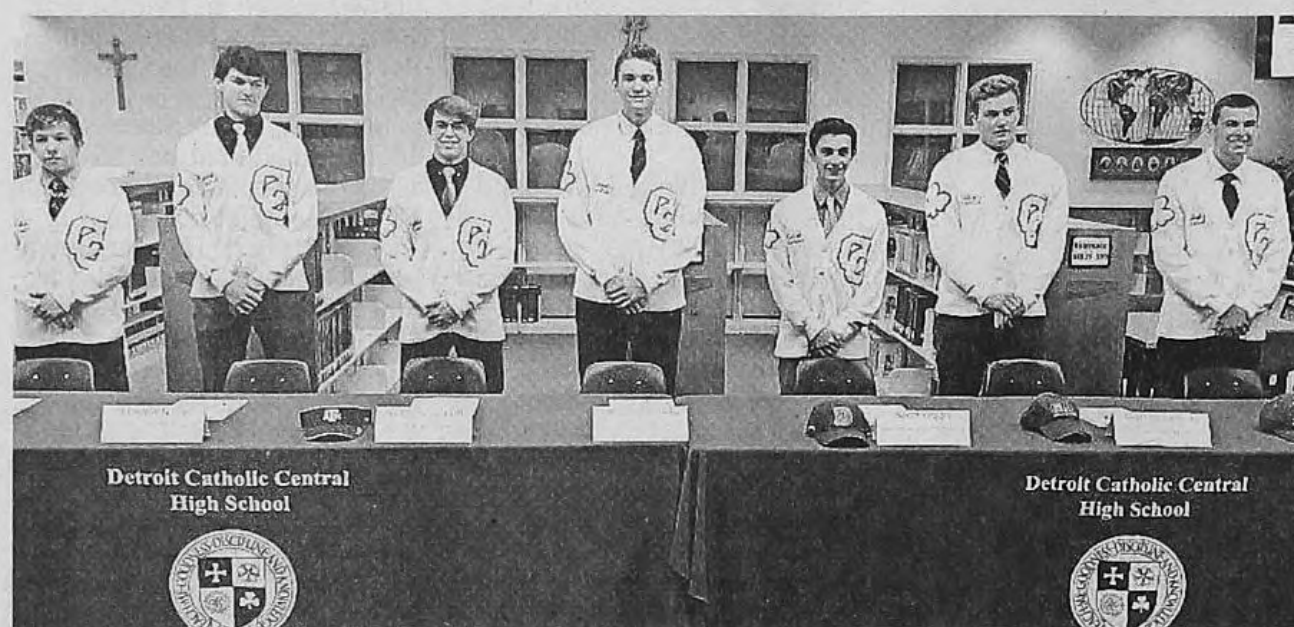
Losing pitcher Sean Garcia went the distance for CC, allowing four runs (only one earned) on three hits while striking out six.



SCOTT CONFER

CC's Johnny Lobbia, a call-up from the JV squad, got the win with six strong innings Friday to beat Saline in the second game of a twinbill.

## CC college commits



AARON BABICZ

The Novi Detroit Catholic Central athletic department recently announced it has seven senior spring college commits or signees, including (from left) Aaron Rehfeldt, wrestling (Ohio State); Connor Nally, basketball (Case Western Reserve); Nick Joseph, judo (Texas A&M); Tom Smulsky, basketball (Washington & Lee), Scott Smith, track and field (Detroit Mercy); Matt Loniewski, swimming (St. Louis University); and Matt Fosdick, cross country (Aquinas College).

PREP BASEBALL

## Eagles walk right over Chargers, 12-1

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Plymouth Christian Academy routed Allen Park Inter-City Baptist 12-1 on Thursday in a rematch of the MIAC varsity boys baseball teams.

The Eagles also routed the Chargers on Tuesday at PCA.

PCA was led by Matt Cusumano, who singled twice and walked twice and scored two runs.

A.J. Greuber garnered two

hits (including a double) while other players swinging the bat well included Nathan Bishop and Josh Slater (each with a double) and Jake Shook (single).

Helping the PCA cause were 14 walks.

On the mound for the Eagles was Adam Albert, who pitched into the seventh before giving way to Josh Mason.

Albert gave up four walks and seven hits but struck out

five, while Mason recorded the final two outs of the contest without incident.

PCA is slated to host Ypsilanti Arbor Prep for a Saturday doubleheader.

**SWEET FOR PLYMOUTH:** The Plymouth Wildcats defeated Wayne Memorial 13-2 and 6-0 on Thursday in KLAAS South Division baseball action.

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SCHOOLCRAFT SOFTBALL

## Lady Ocelots end first season with split

Tim Smith  
Staff Writer

Schoolcraft College's inaugural women's softball season concluded Thursday with the split of a doubleheader against St. Clair Community College at Pine Grove Park in Port Huron.

After the Lady Ocelots dropped a 4-1 decision in the opener, they came back for a 9-3 victory in the finale — sparked by three-run homers off the bats of Elaine Gerou and Kerry Prowse. That gave Schoolcraft a final record of

15-24 overall and 12-16 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Eastern Conference.

It was a memorable end to Gerou's Schoolcraft career. At the plate, the Plymouth High School alum went 2-for-4, scoring twice and driving in three while pitching a complete game for the victory. She gave up just two earned runs to finish with a 8-4 won-loss record. Other Schoolcraft performers of note included Garden City product Kelsie Powell (2-for-4), Shelby Shelton (2-for-4, three RBIs) and Mariah

Coleman (2-for-4).

Schoolcraft scored three runs in the third on the Prowse homer and broke it open with four in the sixth, the big blow the Gerou home run.

The loss dropped St. Clair CC's record to 20-16 and 17-11.

In Game 1, the Skippers limited Schoolcraft to four singles (one each by Shelton, Gerou, Mariah Coleman and catcher Caitlyn Fitzpatrick). The Lady Ocelots broke the shutout bid of Riley Thompson in the seventh without the benefit of a hit.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## Got talent? Independent baseball league sets tryouts

Marty Budner  
Staff Writer

If you're a young baseball player and you've always thought you had the ability to play professionally, now's your chance to prove it.

The United Shore Professional Baseball League, an independent minor league, will conduct open tryouts May 16-19. USPBL managers and members of its advisory committee will be on hand searching for potential talent.

Eligible players must be at least 18 years old and have been born on or after Jan. 11, 1990. No player may have attained the age of 26 prior to January of this year. Players with college eligibility remaining should check with their school compliance office before registering.

Players will be vying for spots on the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers, representing Oakland County, and the Utica Unicorns and Eastside Diamond Hoppers, representing Macomb County.

"The tryouts will be a situation where there will be quite a few guys looking for the opportunity and we will give them every opportunity to showcase what they have in front of all of us coaches," said Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers manager Chris Newell, a Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes graduate who owns and operates the The Player's Edge baseball facility in Auburn Hills. "We will make the determination whether they are good enough to continue on or whether they have to get a real job, per se."

Tryouts will be held at the Evolution Sports Complex in Auburn Hills (141 S. Opdyke Road) and Lake Orion High School (495 Scripps Road) under the following schedule:

- May 16, 1-4 p.m.: Light workout, including batting practice and infield/outfield practice (Evolution Sports Complex)
- May 17, 9 a.m. to noon: Professional player evaluation drills; three-inning live action games (Evolution Sports Complex)
- May 18, 9 a.m. to noon: Players will be placed in game situations and live games (Lake



Orion High School)

• May 19, 9-11 a.m.: Situational baseball and live games (Lake Orion High School)

The inaugural USPBL season will consist of a 48-game schedule among the three teams at Jimmy John's Field in Utica, located just north of M-59 and a half-mile west of Van Dyke. The state-of-the-art facility is visible from M-59.

The USPBL will conduct a draft May 19 and team rosters will be announced May 23. Training camp will commence the week of May 23. The USPBL's opening day is scheduled for May 30.

The USPBL's main goal is to develop players and send them off to the major league level.

"We've been actively communicating with more than 1,000 coaches from top universities and colleges, as well as monitoring over 100 seniors from NCAA Division I and Division II, to identify and sign players from the best schools to bring our fans the highest level of professional baseball," said Bloomfield Township resident Andy Appleby, league founder and CEO. "We want every player that comes through our league to get a chance at making it to Major League Baseball and we're extremely confident that will happen and that dreams will be realized."

Newell will be assisted on the Beavers by Rich Donnelly, who has 43 years of coaching experience.

The USPBL's other coaching tandems include Greg Grall (manager) and Shane McCarty (assistant coach) of the Utica Unicorns and Paul Noce (manager) and Jim Essian (assistant coach) of the Eastside Diamond Hoppers.

For more information, visit [www.uspbl.com](http://www.uspbl.com).

mbudner@hometownlife.com

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Canton grid meeting

The Canton football season doesn't kickoff until August, but the first official order of business is just around the corner.

On Tuesday, May 10, Canton football staff members and the boosters club are holding a mandatory meeting for all 2016 players and their parents.

At 6 p.m., players and parents new to the program will convene in the Canton High School cafeteria. All returning players and parents will join them at 6:30 p.m.

Coaches will give information and expectations about the program and answer any questions. Team merchandise will be available.

One of the topics to be discussed is an overview of off-season workouts.

Any questions can be directed to head coach Tim Baechler via email at [tim.baechler@pccsk12.com](mailto:tim.baechler@pccsk12.com).

### Hole-in-one club

» Jeff Horton, 60, of Plymouth, registered a hole-in-one April 27 at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

He aced the 108-yard No. 5 hole on the Woods course, using a 9-iron and Titleist Pro V1 ball.

» Marty Rapson, 54, of Plymouth, shot a hole-in-one April 27 at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center.

He aced the 108-yard No. 5

hole on the Woods course, using a Callaway Gap Wedge and Titleist ball.

### Brindza injured

Plymouth and Michigan alum Kyle Brindza reportedly ruptured his Achilles tendon during a kicking workout and is done for the 2016 season.

Brindza, who played in 2015 for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers of the NFL before being released, recently signed a reserve/future contract with the New York Jets.

### Salem camp offerings

A series of summer camps are being offered at Salem High School.

Contact athletic director Brian Samulski at [brian.samulski@pccsk12.com](mailto:brian.samulski@pccsk12.com) or visit Salem athletics' website if interested.

Following are the various offerings:

**Sports Camp Grades 1-5:** Fee is \$60 for residents, \$70 for non-residents; camp is 9 a.m. Monday, July 11 through 9 a.m. Thursday, July 14; for boys and girls of all ages in grades K-5.

**Basketball Skills Camp (Boys - Grades 5-9):** Fee is \$85 for residents, \$95 for non-residents; camp is 8 a.m. Monday, June 20 through 8 a.m. Friday, June 24.

**Basketball Youth Camp (Girls - Grades 3-6):** Fee is \$50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents; camp is 10 a.m. Thursday, June 27 through 10 a.m. Thurs-

day, June 30. Boys also are welcome to sign up.

**Basketball Youth Camp (Girls - Grades 7-12):** Fee is \$50 for residents, \$60 for non-residents; camp is 7 p.m. Monday, June 6 through 7 p.m. Thursday, June 9. Boys also are welcome to sign up.

**Volleyball Skills Camp (Girls - Grades 3-6):** Fee is \$70 for residents; \$80 for non-residents; camp is 2 p.m. Monday, June 27 through Wednesday, June 29.

**Volleyball Skills Camp (Girls - Grades 7-12):** Fee is \$85 for residents, \$95 for non-residents; camp is 5 p.m. Monday, June 27 through Wednesday, June 29.



# Bet on JLB to do great things for the community

In honor of Mother's Day, it's very fitting that we spotlight the Junior League - one of the oldest and largest women's volunteer organizations in the world, with a membership of over 150,000. The Junior League of Birmingham (JLB) is one of 291 Leagues on four continents.

The JLB recently held its fourth annual Signature Event at the Bloomfield Open Hunt Club. It



Julie Yolles

SOCIAL SCENE

was a night of gaming and chance and the dice and wheels were rolling and the cards were being dealt past midnight. A

PHOTOS BY JULIE YOLLES

great time was had by all. In addition to a silent auction that night, JLB had a very clever fundraiser where guests could purchase a bottle of wine, donated by JLB members, for \$10.

The Junior League of Birmingham is recruiting new members and looking for volunteers to help out on May 13 for a carnival for the kids of CARE House of Oakland County. To volunteer, call 248-203-9841. You can also go online to [jlbham.org](http://jlbham.org) and find out about High Tea at the Townsend on May 15 and the Annual General Membership meeting on May 18.

### The Gift of Theater

After shopping for the perfect gift at the Birmingham Art Fair today, take Mom to the 2 p.m. performance of "Sistas The Musical" at Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills. The Michigan premiere celebrates family and woman-hood through hit songs from the '30s, to the Girl Groups of the '60s, and empowerment of the '90s. Audiences will love the songs ranging from "Oh Happy Day" to "I Will Survive" and the music of artists from Billie Holiday to Beyonce. And if you can't make it today, "Sistas The Musical" runs through May 15. Tickets range from \$27 to \$42 and are available by calling the Meadow Brook Theatre box office at 248-377-3300 or going online to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com). Student discounts are available at the box office. [www.Mbtheatre.com](http://www.Mbtheatre.com).

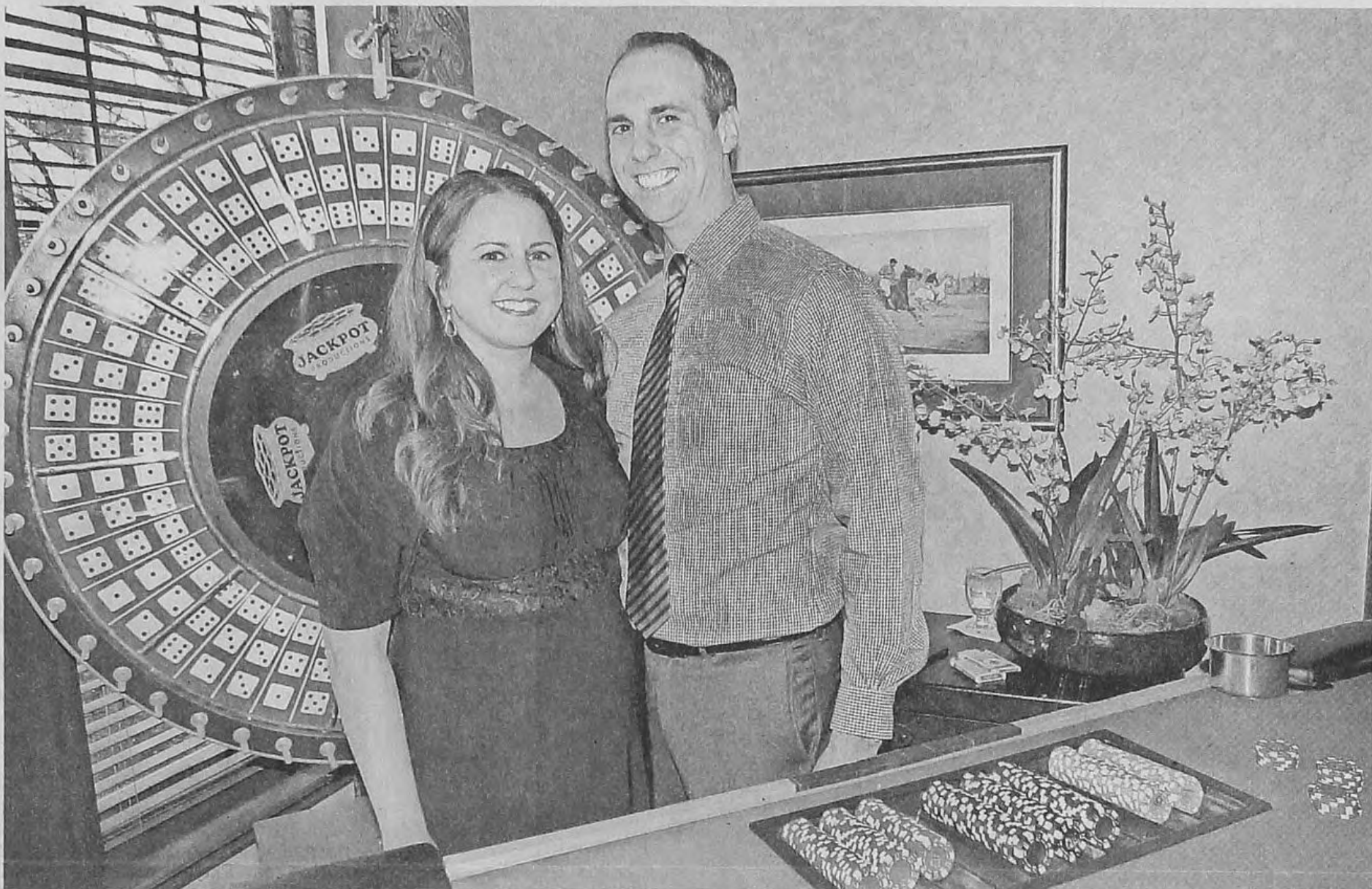
For consideration of coverage in this column, please send event happenings, including invitations and press kits, to Julie Yolles, Social Scene columnist, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 615 Davis Ave., Birmingham, MI 48009. Contact her at [socialscenejulie@gmail.com](mailto:socialscenejulie@gmail.com) or leave a message at 248-642-9465.



Junior League of Birmingham (JLB) New Members Caitlin Rayburn of Royal Oak and Tricia Jamerson of Westland



Farmington Hills residents Cheryl and Juan Jeffries



It's a sure bet that Livonia residents Alicia Bateman and Joe Pizzo are getting married on May 21.



Junior League of Birmingham (JLB) Fall Events Committee member Libby Black of Royal Oak and New Member Advisor Elizabeth Smith of Farmington Hills



Junior League of Birmingham (JLB) members Susan Evani of Farmington Hills, a Signature Event committee member; Sarah Ambrose of Royal Oak, Elizabeth Pizzo of Canton and Jacquelyn Schrot of Birmingham

## Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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### BERBERET



**JAMES R.** Age 77, May 3, 2016. Beloved husband of Barbara for 54 years. Dear father of Debbie Goltz, Beth (Steve) Schumacher and Rick (Trish). Loving grandfather of Justin, Kaitlyn, Jared, Jordan, Brianna, Kevin, Brooke and proud great grandfather of Braxton, Brady and Boyer with Mia on the way. Dearest brother of the late Jean Ellen Kreider, Barb Forest and Kathy Roush. Funeral services have taken place. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Geneva Presbyterian Memorial Garden or the Dr. Dale Bixby Research Foundation for Leukemia. [www.mccabefuneralhome.com](http://www.mccabefuneralhome.com)

### DeSANTIS



**VINCENT J.** Age 78, passed away May 3, 2016 in Plymouth, Michigan. Vincent was born September 1, 1937 in New Castle, Pennsylvania to his parents, Urbano and Lily DeSantis. He graduated from Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania. Vince had a passion for automobiles and as a result, began a 35 year automotive career at Ford Motor Company as an Electrical Engineer. Vincent loved automobiles - especially the British manufactured MG cars and gained much enjoyment in restoring them. He was a proud member of the MGT Register and the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. Besides his love of cars, he also held a special place in his heart for the love of animals. Vincent is survived by his beloved wife, Carole (nee Stevenson); his loving son, John (Sarah Barron), step-son, William (Kathy) McDonald and, dearest grandchild, Lily DeSantis. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Carole Anne in June 2008, his daughter, the late Sherry DeSantis in 1992, his grandson, the late Nicholas Rathburn, and his late brother, Bernard DeSantis. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Road, in Ann Arbor. Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Vincent J. DeSantis to the Humane Society of Huron Valley, Attn: TNR Program, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan.

### HENRY

**DOROTHY** Born in Detroit, longtime resident of Farmington Hills, died May 2, 2016. Wife of Jack D. Henry. Daughter of Virginia and Edward Zeller. Sister of Susan Thomas (Doug). Aunt of Benjamin Edward Thomas and Michael Thomas. Memorial to be held at a later date in Largo, Florida.

### HINKLE

**DOROTHY (nee HAYES)** passed away May 2, 2016 at the age of 96. Wife of the late Robert. Loving Mom of Donna (John) Thomas, Ronald Hinkle, and John Hinkle. Cherished grandma of Jill Thomas-Grannan. Dorothy is also survived by many nieces, nephews, loved ones, and friends. Funeral services were held Saturday May 7, at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Road in Livonia. Interment Monday, May 9 at 12pm at Oakview Cemetery in Royal Oak. [www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com](http://www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com)

### KEENEY



**CHARLES** 72, passed away on Thursday, April 21, 2016 after a long illness. He was Born in Redford Mi. and attended Redford Union H.S. He also lived in Big Rapids, Mi. DeLand Fl. and Fishers, In. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Lynne (Souder) Keeney, his son Todd Keeney and children, Dewane, Karon, and Patrick. Also his daughter, Lisa Keeney and her son, Alex. His brother Don and Loretta Keeney, brother, Larry and Gladah Keeney, sister Dianne Bates, and brother Dennis and Sally Keeney. The memorial service was held for immediate family members. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to [MultipleSystemAtrophy.org](http://MultipleSystemAtrophy.org).

### BERTGES

**MARY RACHEL** May 4, 2016, age 74 of Westland. Loving daughter of Armetha (York) Smith and the late A. B. Smith. Beloved wife of the late Paul W. Bertges Sr. Loving mother of Kurt Bertges, Paul W. Bertges Jr. and the late Karl Bertges. Dearest sister of Janice Calhoun, Larry George, Billie Smith, Barbara Martin, the late R.C. George and the late Hazel Harrison. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Interment White Chapel Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements handled by Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, Westland. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 20450 Civic Center Drive, Southfield, MI 48076. To share a memory, please visit [vermeulenfh.com](http://vermeulenfh.com)

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.





David McMurtrie and Kayli Sparks rescue dogs in bad situations — from abandoned buildings to life on a chain.

ANNE SAVAGE

## 'PIT BULLS & PAROLEES' STAR MENTORS LOCAL DOG RESCUERS

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

At first, Kayli Sparks figured the email was a joke.

Tia Torres, the gutsy, compassionate star of Animal Planet's reality show "Pit Bulls & Parolees" had reached out to Sparks and David McMurtrie, co-founders of Pit Stop for Change Rescue & Rehabilitation in River Rouge. She wanted to help the struggling downriver rescue.

Torres' Villalobos Rescue Center in New Orleans, La., rescues, trains and finds homes for hundreds of pit bulls, with help from volunteers and a staff of mostly prison parolees.

Sparks, a California native, and McMurtrie, who grew up in Parma, both had rescued dogs individually before joining forces in 2014. They turned a house into a shelter that on average harbors 50 dogs. McMurtrie also has trained dogs for other rescue organizations.

"I don't know if it was Dave's past that caught her eye," said Sparks, referring to time he spent in prison for robbery years ago, "but whatever caught her eye, we're grateful. We're really lucky. When Tia sent the email, I said this has to be a joke. I don't believe this is Tia Torres. But it was real life."

Torres chose Pit Stop for Change Rescue & Rehabilitation, a nonprofit organization, as her first participant in a new mentoring program. Her reasons, according to a Feb. 15



Dogs play in the yard at Pit Stop for Change Rescue and Rehabilitation.

ANNE SAVAGE

post on the Villalobos Facebook page, were the group's "adoption practices, overall outlook on the pit bull 'breed' and a realistic approach to rescue practices in general." In March she asked her own Facebook followers to help Pit Stop with its vet bills. This month the founders from both rescues will meet at a fundraiser for Pit Stop. "It's Fur The Dogs!" will run 2-7 p.m. Saturday, May 21, at Renegades Bar & Grill, 33729 Ford Road, Garden City.

Torres is the special guest at the fundraiser that will include a silent auction, prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$50 and sponsorships are available. Visit [pitstopdogrescue.com](http://pitstopdogrescue.com) for more information.

"I'm really excited Tia is coming to town. I can't wait to

see her interact with the dogs and learn what she does and learn some new training tips," Sparks said. "I hope we can learn as much as possible and hopefully, after this fundraiser, we can put a nice down payment on a building."

### New location

She and McMurtrie hope to move from the house, which is not licensed as a kennel, into a commercial building in a more appropriately zoned area. They were cited for ordinance violations last year, but moving will resolve the issue and help them comply with city regulations.

"Thanks to the mayor (Michael Bowdler) we have a little bit of time to get into a commercial building. We can't stay in this residence forever,"



A volunteer gets some one-on-one time with a dog.

ANNE SAVAGE

### Getting help

Their high standards and passion for dog rescue caught the attention of Chris and Anne Savage of Dexter. Chris is a political writer and owner of Eclectablog and Anne is a photographer. He wrote a story about McMurtrie and the rescue and his wife shot the photos. She sent the blog post to Torres.

Anne Savage also created a Pit Stop for Change Rescue & Rehabilitation web page, launched a volunteer program, and paid for fencing to create a play yard with two runs and 15 kennels for the dogs. Approximately 50 new volunteers signed up to help. She worked with Sparks and McMurtrie on a mission statement and created an online adoption application.

"Our biggest issue is people don't know about us. We had less than 1,000 likes on Facebook," Anne Savage said, adding the page now tops 5,000 followers.

"We work on a transparent level. We post pictures of our vet bills. We show dogs at rescue and into adoption. We're trying to prove we're a full-service dog rescue here. We don't just take dogs in and take the money."

They get high marks from Tail Waggers 1990, the Livonia-based organization that aids other rescues and pet owners. Tail Waggers plans to donate a gift basket for the silent auction. It also has donated dog

See PAROLEES, Page B7

## Paula Abdul says tenacity, bravado, pushed her to achieve career goals

Sharon Dargay  
Staff Writer

Television personality Paula Abdul shared the ups and downs of her personal life and her career this week at Congregation Shaarey Zedek, in Southfield.

Abdul, a singer, dancer, Emmy Award winner and a judge on Fox television show, "So, You Think You Can Dance," was the guest speaker at the annual Lois Linden Nelson Woman's World event. She answered questions from Fox 2 news anchor Sherry Margolis, who moderated the event, and explained how keeping a positive, grateful attitude, while also visualizing her goals, helped her through times of adversity and doubt.

"I am no different than anyone else. I have my insecurities and doubts and fears, but there is a little trick that I've always done and that is, I may not believe I can do this, but I

JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Television personality Paula Abdul speaks at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield.

sure know what it would feel if I could," she said. "And if I could imagine how good it can be to do a great job and succeed, then I can become that. I can move forward.

"I'm very grateful for my family for instilling the gift of gratitude. They taught me to be grateful for the smallest things to the largest, to be grateful for the let downs and disappointments, as equal to the thrill of succeeding. That has always been with me."

Abdul said she always tried to think "outside the box" as she made career moves that took her from head choreographer for the Los Angeles Laker Girls to choreographing for movies, music videos and "The Tracey Ullman Show," to recording her own albums to becoming a judge on "American Idol."

"No one ever said Paula is going to make it. I needed to figure out a different way. I had the bravado to do that. I was under the radar, always the underdog and I got a kick out of making people believers."

She said she tried out three times during a group audition

for the Laker Girls, the Los Angeles Lakers' cheerleaders, when she was 17. One of more than 1,000 girls trying out for the team, she was cut from the session after just 30 sections, but that didn't stop her from trying again.

"I went into the ladies' room and changed my clothes. I put my hair in a pony tail. I entered my name as Julie Abbel. I got to dance, but I was cut."

She changed into another leotard, rearranged her hair, and re-entered the audition as P.J. Abbal.

"This time was a charm ... and I became a Laker Girl," she said, as the crowd applauded.

### Ups and downs

Abdul spoke candidly about her longtime struggles with body image and eating disorders, as well as being diagnosed with reflex sympathetic dystrophy, chronic upper extremity pain that can result

from injury or surgery.

She talked about her outreach work with WE Day, an event that brings speakers and performers together with young, social innovators, and Turnaround: Arts, which brings art programs to elementary and middle schools to help improve academic achievement and attendance.

She also related her first experience visiting Israel, which included her bat mitzvah and a visit to the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

"At the tender age of 50 I needed that spiritual yumminess of what it's like to feel connected," she said. "I remember feeling overwhelmed with emotion."

When it came her turn to place a prayer message into a crack in the wall two doves flew overhead.

"It was an extraordinary experience."

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

# Uplift, encourage — don't judge — other moms

I think that most mothers at some point question if they are good enough at parenting. We face challenges in our lives sometimes that question our own ability. I think it's about time we all stopped judging other parents and started finding the similarities amongst ourselves instead.

Some days are hard. I work full time, and my daughter is going through some serious separation anxiety. So sometimes I come home from a long day at work and she wants nothing to do with me. She wants to be held only by the person who was watching her that day, and isn't even interested in hugging or kissing me hello. She will cry and fuss more than usual and kick and scream. And some moments are certainly challenging. Thankfully, although I am a single mom, I have my parents close by and they do an overwhelming amount of support for us. In fact, as I write this, my dad has taken my daughter for a walk after



**Sarah Davies**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

she had one of her fits. I couldn't calm her down myself, which hurts a little. I am so grateful my daughter is so loved by so many people, but inside it stings just a little when it's not Mom that calms her down.

There have certainly been a few days (or more) where I have found myself standing in the shower, hot water pouring over me, at 3 in the morning. This is the only time I can find to myself, and it has happened more than once where I catch myself just standing still in the shower, not even thinking at all. Just standing, breathing, listening to the water. But the moment I catch myself not actually being productive, I instantly feel bad, like I am a bad mom for wanting to just stand there for another ten min-

utes.

## Supportive friends

My friends have changed since becoming a mom. Some friends are still the same, but I find myself closer to others and farther from some. I have found myself hurt at times when people have criticized my parenting, whether purposeful or unintentional, and sometimes have been equally as surprised to discover who is giving the advice.

However, I also have found myself so grateful for some friends, other parents who, whether we agree or disagree on a belief, will never argue or judge. Take, for instance, one of my mom friends who happens to love animals and whose family is vegan. When I mentioned to her that I was taking my daughter to the circus, which she finds offensive to animals, she never once tried to sway me not to go or to "hear her out" about her opinions. No, instead, she simply said "I don't like the

way circuses treat animals, so I would never go but I hope you have a great time." Wow. You mean there are actually other mothers in the world who are NOT trying to go out of their way to judge me?

## Don't judge

Listen, I have my shoes, and you have yours. I don't ever remember one day in my life so far where I have actually worn someone else's shoes, nor can I recall a day when someone actually wore mine. So please stop trying to tell me that breast is best and that I "should have known better." Don't tell me that co-sleeping will result in years of an overly emotional child. I certainly don't need anyone else hinting at me doing a lousy job as a mom. I have my own inner voice to do that.

Motherhood is hard. There are constant reminders on TV and in the magazines, all over the Internet, mom-to-mom sales and Facebook about how to be the perfect mom.

We spend countless moments trying to engage our children, dress them their best, keep them clean, fed and educated. We are always on the go, never able to stop, constantly searching for the next exciting thing for our little ones to experience. But then in the morning, when we working moms have to leave and head out the door to work for somebody else, we beat ourselves up, just a little. And when later we get home, and then dinner is burnt, and the kids are screaming and bath time that should have happened just gets completely forgotten, we beat ourselves up a little bit more. Let's try to remember that when we are in the grocery store judging the mother in front of us in line or when that screaming child just won't shut up, wherever you are. Instead, let's just smile and understand.

*Sarah Davies of Livonia writes occasionally about the ups and downs of single motherhood.*

## PAROLEES

Continued from Page B6

food to Pit Stop in the past.

"We totally support Dave in what he does," said Judi Marietti, Tail Wagger's 1990 vice president. "He is doing some awesome things. It's all about the dogs, and he stays away from the drama."

### Long day

Sparks and McMurtrie begin their work day at 7 a.m. They rotate dogs in and out of kennels for cleaning and time in the yard. They administer medications, start laundry, tend to yard clean-up, work on training, play with the dogs. It doesn't stop until around midnight.

They also find time to rescue dogs left in abandoned buildings or living as strays on the street. They've pulled dogs from high-kill shelters and taken owner surrenders.

Earlier this year they took eight puppies, along with their mother and father, from an

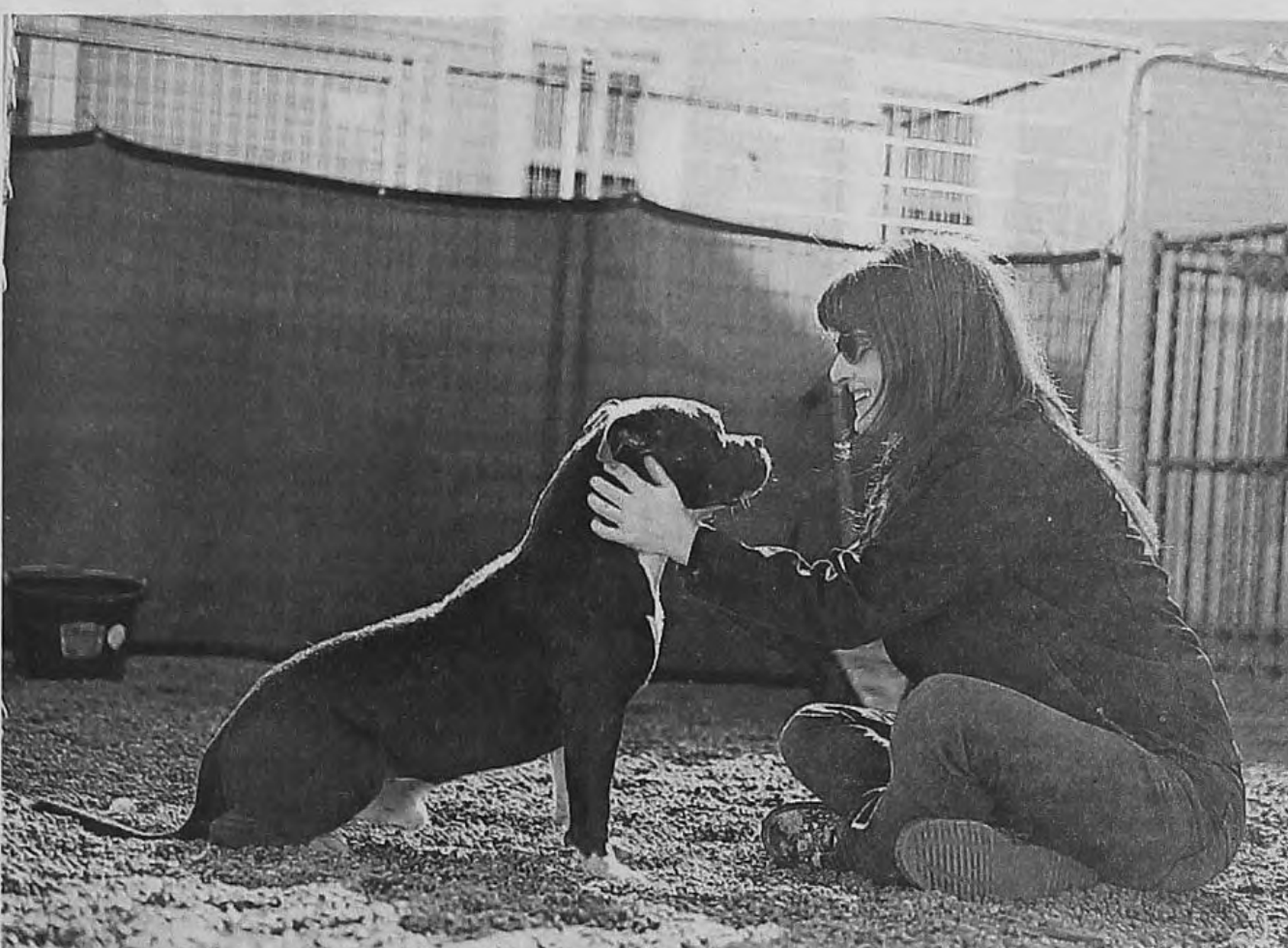
abandoned house in southwest Detroit. Another time, McMurtrie entered an empty, dilapidated structure to pluck a frightened dog from its third-story window. "Southpaw," who was hospitalized for two weeks, was found in a backyard attached to a long chain. Badly infected tissue cost him an ear.

The dogs they find often have serious medical needs. The group works with Rajbir Chadha, a veterinarian at Dix Animal Hospital in Lincoln Park.

"There are so many dogs that need help that find us or people ask us to take them in," Sparks said. "The amount of unwanted dogs and cats out there, it's mind blowing. And until you start working in this field, you just don't know."

Pit Stop for Change Rescue & Rehabilitation will include a free training session for dogs adopted over the next two weeks. Visit [pitstopdogrescue.com](http://pitstopdogrescue.com) for more information.

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



A volunteer spends time with one of the rescued dogs.

ANNE SAVAGE



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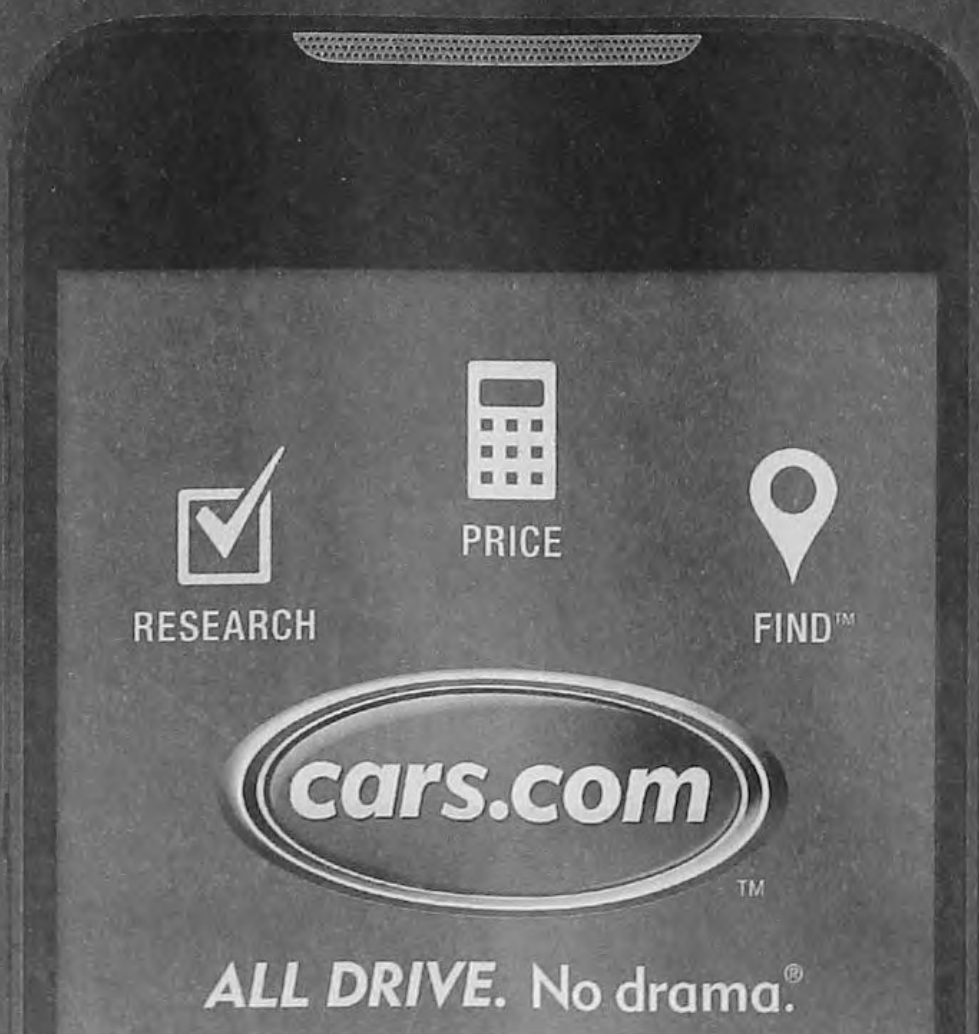


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## Decide if you need a new job or a new career

**BY DEANNA HARTLEY  
 CAREERBUILDER**

**Y**ou may get stuck in a rut in your professional life occasionally, but is that a sign that you need to find another job or move into a different profession?

Cachet Prescott, a corporate trainer and career/leadership/personal coach, says there are clear signs that it's time for a change professionally.

"You can usually tell when someone needs to change jobs or careers when the person is constantly complaining and can't seem to find anything positive to say about their work anymore; no longer seems to be fulfilled by what she's doing or no longer has that passion; isn't quite performing to the standards that they once did; seems checked out; has simply outgrown this opportunity; (or) is in a different life stage and may need something different to fit their lives."

Also be on the lookout for signs that you may be reaching a dead end in your current profession and should keep your options open.

It might be time to change your career if you "no longer enjoy talking about what you do, avoid professional association meetings or events or socializing with people in your field, (or you) dissuade people



THINKSTOCK

from pursuing a career in your field," says Lisa Phalen, a certified coach, HR consultant and speaker with more than 25 years of experience.

However, making a change is a big decision, so take a step back and think it through first. To get you started, here are some questions to ask yourself.

**Would I be happy in this job if it paid more?** When considering a change, introspection is key, says Pierre-Renaud Tremblay, director of

human resources at Dupray, a steam cleaner and iron services firm.

"Imagine a world where your current role pays 10 times what you are making right now. Will you be satisfied with the work you are doing? If the answer is not an unequivocal yes, the likelihood that you should change careers is particularly high," he says. "When you enjoy what you do, you never have to work a day in your life. You need to be excited about what you do. You don't want to hate Sunday nights."

**Will I be satisfied in a similar position at a different company?**

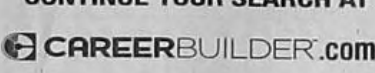
"When the idea of another role in a comparable company is also no longer appealing to you, it may be worth considering a career change," says Angelina Darrisaw, a media consultant, digital strategist, brand ambassador and career coach. "Consider (it) critically. Take stock of your transferable skills. Be realistic about your level of experience. Weigh the pros and cons of a career change at this point in your

career. Are you willing to take less pay for a more fulfilling job? ... Most importantly, identify what you really want so you don't fall into the same pattern of unfulfillment."

**Are my issues extrinsic or intrinsic?** "Extrinsic or environmental problem areas are ones dealing with things like your boss, your pay/hours, your co-workers, office politics and so forth — those typically indicate a need for a new job and not necessarily a new career," says Steve Bohler, founder of the Oxford Program, a career consulting firm.

But intrinsic problems may indicate the need for a change in careers. "Intrinsic problem areas deal with feelings you get from performing the tasks associated with the job," he says. "Are you satisfying innate needs for creativity, autonomy, variety, problem-solving, helping others, seeing the fruits of your labor, etc.? These are fundamental sources of friction that will probably be found in different jobs within the same career and would indicate the need for a larger change."

*Deanna Hartley 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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# Car Report

## 'Love' May Make Subaru a Subaru, But Rising Brand and SUVs Are Making It Mainstream



By Dale Buss

Love may be what makes a Subaru a Subaru, but the company's increasingly popular SUVs are pushing the formerly niche brand into the U.S. automotive mainstream.

With sales of 573,000 vehicles in the U.S. last year—about 60 percent of Fuji Heavy Industries' worldwide total sales of Subaru vehicles—the brand has turned in six straight years of compound average sales growth of 17.6 percent.

And while the 2015 sales increase was only 5 percent or so over 2014, that wasn't from lack of American consumer interest in buying a Subaru—it reflected constraints in the company's ability to turn out



Tom Doll

its Forester, Outback and Crosstrek models fast enough.

Tom Doll is what makes Subaru hum. The former accountant rose through the ranks of Subaru of America and, in his three years as the Japanese automaker's U.S. president and chief operating officer, has helped lead the brand to new pinnacles of sales and brand equity each year.

The company is addressing supply issues by expanding its plant in Indiana, while Doll—who is No. 2 in the U.S. to Subaru of America Chairman and CEO Tomomi Nakamura—keeps his hand firmly on the brand tiller.

And Subaru continues to shine there, burnishing what has become one of the most distinctive brands in the American auto industry, retaining its thousands of loyal customers and attracting new ones as the U.S. market tilts favorably toward the segments where Subaru excels.

"We're no longer just attracting those loyalists who came to us for all-wheel drive," Doll told me. "We've crossed from being a niche brand to a mainstream brand."

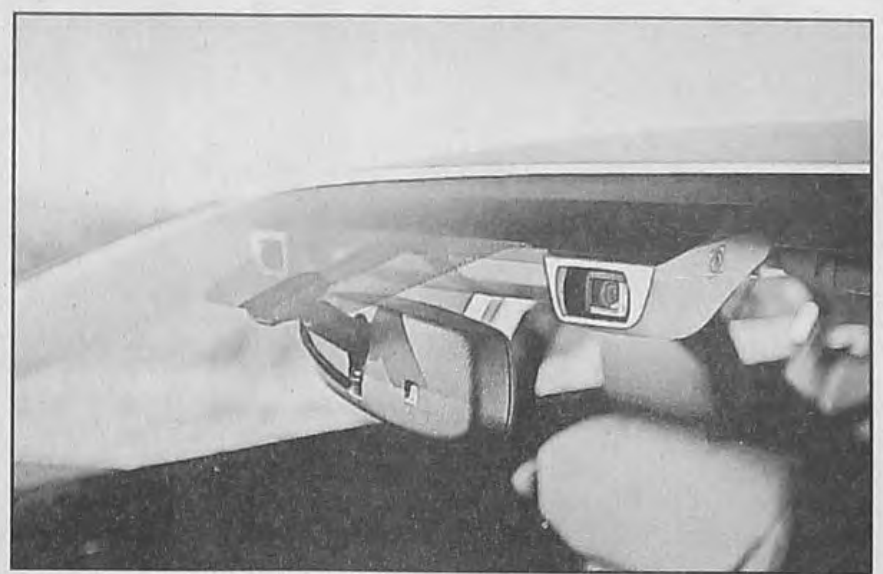
And an interesting one at that. Subaru has continued to cater to the crunchy crowd with, for instance, its recent TV ad in which a former-hippie grandmother and her family hug a tree at Woodstock, and with its new partnership to reduce waste at America's national parks. It's also recruiting talent with the Subaru University automotive school program.

Doll was named Motor Trend 2016 Person of the Year and also named to the Automotive Marketer of the Year Award for 2015.

**Q: How do you balance production constraints with the need to keep telling the Subaru brand story?**

**Doll:** We discuss achieving the right balance between short-term results driven by profitability and longer-term results necessary to grow the business, and in such a way as to keep the Subaru mystique high in the minds of customers. What's the right level of investment necessary to do that? We also need to help our retailers with investments that they have to make to adjust to this level of growth.

**Q: So do you compete more on a**



Subaru's EyeSight automated-driving system.

**product basis now or a brand basis?**

**Doll:** If we have to compete like everybody else in the segments we're in, we're going to get our teeth kicked in because we're still the smallest. It's just that in certain segments, such as crossovers, we're kind of getting more mainstream because of the volumes we're achieving.

So the way we approach the market has to be a little different from our competitors.

They're trying to sell significantly higher volumes than we are; we can't go down to the same transaction-price levels they can with low lease payment or zero-percent financing. We have to create value for customers in different ways, including all-wheel drive, and our legendary safety, reliability and durability.

**Q: Do you worry about automatically ceding half of the American market who might be turned off when watching the "Woodstock" ad, even though it's tongue in cheek?**

**Doll:** Our customers have been identified as granola crunchers and tree huggers and people with lots of stickers on the back of their cars—and we're proud of that. Why run away from that? People who are critical of that wish [their brands] could be like that. That's also why we show lots of dogs and cats in our ads.

**Q: When it comes to automated driving, Subaru, with your Eyesight system of features including pre-collision braking, lane-departure warning and adaptive cruise control, is in the ballpark with most other manufacturers and perhaps ahead of them. These, of course, are precursors to the self-driving era.**

**Doll:** Yes, we have the no. 2 driver-assistance technology in the marketplace today in EyeSight. We are doing things in the market that are applicable in such a way that, as self-driving technology evolves, we are not going to be far behind and will be right there as it happens.



The 2017 Subaru Forester has been a hot seller.

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Buy Harris Bed Bug Killers/KIT Hardware Stores, The Home Depot, homedepot.com

**Musical Instruments**

Baby Grand Piano, 1965 Chickering Baby Grand, 4'11". Sat. Mahogany finish. \$3,500.00. (248) 231-4912

**Wanted to Buy**

Piano - Immaculate Yamaha M500 Parisian console upright cherry piano purchased in 1978, rarely used. \$3,000 or best offer. Call: (248) 471-1626 robin.l.womack@gmail.com

**ANTIQUE**

Intax round above the ground pool 18 by 52. Pool is a few years old, you take down, ladder, filter and many more \$250/best, (313)319-2131

**Make A Bid Auctions**  
auto, farm, general...

**General Auctions**

**Hulet Body Shop Auction!**  
Tues. May 10th 9:10-30 a.m. 1989 Ford L9000 Tractor, 1991 GMC Sierra Box Truck, Forklifts, Generators, Welders, Scrap Metal, Office Furniture etc. 8801 Schaefer Hwy. Detroit. See www.MichiganAuctionCompany.com for inventory and more

**Transportation Wheels**  
best deal for you...

**Cars**

Chevy 08 Impala LT white 4 dr Excellent condition 117k mi. new tires/brakes \$5300 734-646-5342

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**MICHIGAN.COM**  
Observer & Eccentric  
800-579-7355  
Mon. thru Fri., 8:30-5pm  
Some restrictions may apply

**Trucks**

Toyota 2004 Highlander 248-352-4766

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HANDICAP MINI VANS OVER 20 USED LOWERED FLOOR IN STOCK 10 UNDER \$15,000 5751 S CEDAR ST LANSING MI CALL RJS: 517-230-8865

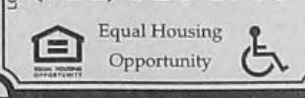
# YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO APARTMENT LIVING

TO PLACE YOUR AD IN THIS DIRECTORY CALL US TODAY AT:  
**800-579-7355**



## WESTLAND

**Thomas F. Taylor Towers**  
Now Accepting Applications Senior Citizen Residence 62 & Older. 1 & 2 Bedroom 36500 Marquette Westland, MI 48185 (734) 326-0700



## Unlock New Doors At Westgate Tower!



Westgate Tower, in Westland, MI. We have beautifully renovated one-bedroom apartments for individuals aged 62 or better. We offer free group transportation to local shopping destinations. Rent is based on 30% of your income. Heat and water are included.

Call Us Today!  
**734-729-2900**

Visit us at 34567 Elmwood, Westland, MI 48185.

Open House Friday May 13, 2016 10:00A.M. to 12:00P.M. and 1:00P.M to 4:00P.M.

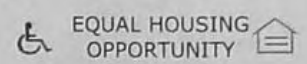
\*Small gift for those who qualify



MUST BE 62 YEARS OLD OR OLDER TO APPLY



INCOME LIMITS APPLY.



Purchase a select home from **AJR HOMESALES** and receive a **\$2000** community rebate & **TWO** months **FREE** site rent!

**PLYMOUTH HILLS**  
Call Sarah in Plymouth at **734.414.9760**  
[www.ajrhomesales.com](http://www.ajrhomesales.com)

**Offer ends June 30, 2016**

Homes for purchase **\$23,900 to \$75,900**  
Leases with option to own in select communities from **\$899!**

\*WAC, certain restrictions apply. Cannot be combined with any other incentive. No cash value. See housing consultant for details. Please bring ad to receive offer. Offer expires 6-30-16.

**\$100 Off Lot Rent For 12 Months**  
Own this home for only \$749 per month!  
Cozy 3 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom home with a wood burning fireplace and new carpet!  
**No Application Fee Required | 3rd Party Financing Available**  
Call Sun Homes today, **888-685-0265**  
Visit us online at [www.4northville.com](http://www.4northville.com)  
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Offer expires 5/31/2016 \*\*Some restrictions apply EHO

**Real Estate Services**

**HUD Homes**  
These are houses to call "HOME" Call and see how we can help you find your "HUD HOME" Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

**Rooms-Rent**

Northville or Plymouth Dwn. 1st week with full deposit. Furnished sleeping rms. Newly decor. \$99/wkly. Sec. Dep. 734-355-6453 or 248-305-9944

**Real Estate Rentals**  
great place to live...

**Adult Community - Rent**

Farmington Area Adult Comm. 55+ cozy-quiet country setting, heat & water incl. \$590 July 1st (734)564-8402

**Wanted to Rent**

Mechanical Designer wants semi furnished room, male, non-smoking 313-320-2112.

**Apartments & Lofts**

**FARMINGTON HILLS ANNGIE APTS. FREE HEAT!** 1 bdrms from \$550. 9 Mile/Middlebelt 248-478-7489

Westland-3832 N. Hixford Place, 2 br renov, appl, full bsmf, 2 car driveway \$850/mo + \$1275 dep. 734-207-3631

**Condo/Duplexes/Townhouses Rent**

Novi -2br 2ba 935 sq ft Lake access, no pets, Newly renov. Secure & quiet, for mature adults \$1200/m 248-553-4153

**Homes-Rent**

Birmingham, 'Little San Francisco' walk to everything! \$4,500, 4 bdrm, 2.5 ba, Mr.patrickmurphy@gmail.com

Westland- 3 br, 1.5 ba brk ranch, C/A, crpt, bsmf, fridge, no pets, 1-275/Ford Great schools & area. 734-591-9163

**Rooms-Rent**

Livonia Furnished, kitchen privileges, cable, washer/dryer, all util. Retired male pref. \$375/mo + \$100 dep., larger room 313-680-8014

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	NMLS#		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.
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Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	3.375	0	2.625	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.375	0	2.75	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.625	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.625	0	3	0
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.75	0	3	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	3.75	0.25	3	0

Above Information available as of 5/6/16 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](http://www.rmcreport.com).

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