

CANTON OBSERVER

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SPORTS, B1

Canton gets top marks from auditors

Township 'weathering storm better than most'

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Auditors say Canton has managed taxpayer dollars effectively as it continues to rebound — more quickly than expected — from a once-bruising recession.

An independent auditing firm, Plante Moran, also found Canton has a healthy budget surplus and appears well-positioned to tackle so-called legacy costs, tied to retiree health care and pensions.

"You're weathering the storm well," Plante Moran partner Frank Audia told the board Tuesday. "You're faring



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Canton Supervisor Pat Williams said he is confident the township is on the right path financially, a position supported by a new audit report.

better than most (communities)."

Property tax revenues have been slow to increase due to a voter-approved 1994 law that limits increases to the rate of inflation or 5 percent, whichever

is less. But Plante Moran senior manager Alisha Watkins said Canton has benefited from a sustained uptick in new development and the new tax dollars that come with it.

Among the findings in the 2016 audit:

» Canton's general fund revenue has hovered just over the \$26 million mark, similar to spending levels last year.

» On paper, Canton's general fund surplus dropped from \$7 million in 2015 to \$4.5 million last year. Finance and Budget Director Wendy Trumbull said the actual balance would be closer to \$7.8 million, but Canton has chosen to plan ahead and set aside some of the surplus for future projects.

» Canton has reduced its unfunded liability for health

care benefits from \$72.6 million to \$58.3 million after working with employee unions to make changes in benefits. Still, local officials say they are keenly aware that so-called legacy costs remain a challenge.

» Township-wide taxable values stopped falling in 2013 and have since inched up, climbing 2.9 percent last year. Going forward, taxable values are expected to climb 2.2 percent for this year and 3 percent for each of the following two years.

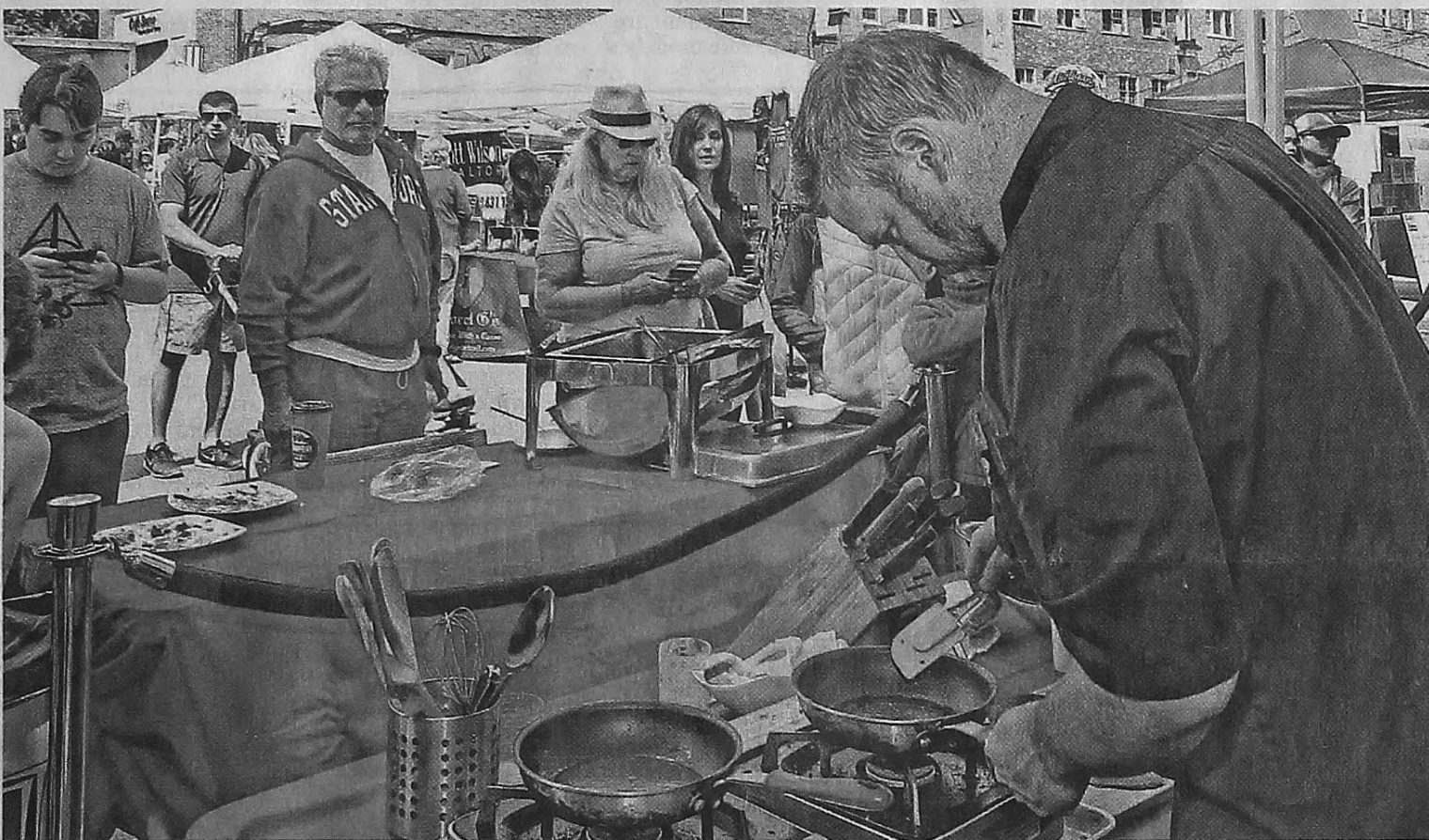
» Amid the last recession, Plante Moran had projected it would take Canton until 2024 to return to pre-recession taxable values. Amid new growth, that projection has now been moved to 2021, three years

earlier.

» Unlike many communities, Canton has witnessed an increase in state-shared revenue, which had its biggest increase in recent memory when it climbed from \$4.8 million in 2010 to \$6 million in 2011. Auditors attributed the increase to Canton's still-growing population, which spiked 18 percent to 90,173 during the last comprehensive U.S. Census. That growth brought in more state money.

» Audia said Canton's long-range financial picture has improved due to efforts to adopt multi-year budgets and plan ahead for capital improvement projects to township-owned properties.

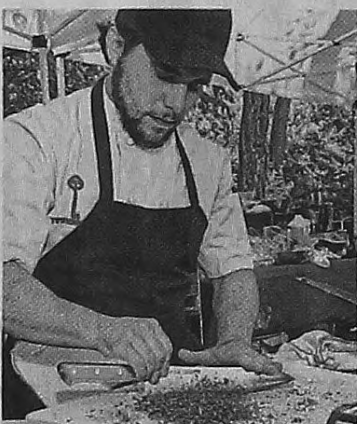
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CARROLL DEWEESE

Toast chef Chris Gadulka prepares his sauces at the Birmingham Farmers Market Chef Clash.

CHEF CLASH A TASTY AFFAIR AT BIRMINGHAM FARMERS MARKET



CARROLL DEWEESE

Townhouse chef Ben Zemach at the Chef Clash.

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Two chefs enter the kitchen, one chef leaves.

It was a war of spices and a battle of sauces at the Birmingham Farmers Market Chef Clash, featuring two of the area's top chefs, Ben Zemach of Townhouse and Chris Gadulka of Toast. Their task June 25 was to prepare one savory dish and one sweet dish under a tight deadline.

And to make it an even zestier affair, two secret ingredients were unveiled right before the start of the compe-

tion: coffee for the main course and lavender for the dessert. Steady hands and a sturdy skillet were needed to make this meal a success.

"This is the third year I've been invited and everyone out here is super-awesome," Gadulka said. "Ben's outstanding to compete against and it's fun to work in front of a crowd. There's just a lot of great camaraderie going on here."

Kim Thompson of Birmingham was among the spectators. Thompson, who grew up in Farmington, is a bona fide foodie, having attended the

College of Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University.

"I didn't even know this was going on, so it's kind of a bonus," said Thompson, a regular at the Birmingham Farmers Market. "It's very cool to watch them work."

Standing nearby were Eileen and Howard Roff of Bloomfield Hills. Declaring herself more of a baker, Eileen Roff said she loves baking pies.

"Today, I'm going to make some strawberry pie when I get home," she said. "I just

See **CHEFS**, Page A3

Survey: School climate, culture on the upswing

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

A survey of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district stakeholders shows parents and staff members generally believe things are on the upswing, according to results released at a recent Board of Education meeting.

The K12 Insight survey, conducted between March 16 and April 19 and including an online link to the district's website, measured the opinions of parents and community stakeholders and those of staff. The survey sought input from the community in areas ranging from school board role and responsibilities and safety to cleanliness of buildings and communication.

The survey allowed takers to rate each area 1-4 (a "1" voiced strong disagreement, a "4" strong agreement). In nearly every category, scores improved over a similar survey done a year ago.

"We've had some issues with climate and culture," Superintendent Monica Merritt said. "I see (the survey) as recognition from people that we're trying to improve that."

The full report is available on the district's website (www.pccsk12.com). Board of Education President Kim



Merritt

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AUDITORS

Continued from Page A1

Township Supervisor Pat Williams said the latest audit report shows Canton has worked hard to protect its finances. He said past township boards "have set us up in a very good position" for the current board to move forward and "continue our conservative, long-

range planning to ensure the continued financial health of the Canton community."

Williams also said he is confident the board will continue to chip away at legacy costs. "We're going to continue to aggressively go after the legacy costs to minimize and mitigate the liability," he said.

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SURVEY

Continued from Page A1

Crouch said she was, in general, "pleased with the results."

"While I think we still have work to do, the results are confirmation that many of the steps taken by the district over the last year are confirmation that we have taken some positive steps," Crouch said.

Nick Brandon, the district's director of communications and marketing, told board members during his presentation that response to the survey was solid. Some 17,700 surveys were sent to parents/community stakeholders, with 3,215 (12.5 percent) returned. Another 1,923 were sent to staff, with 669 (34.7 percent) returned.

According to Brandon, K12 Insight says 10-percent and 30-percent response rates, respectively, were "good rates" for surveys that size. Merritt said the response to the survey shows people are responding to what the district is doing.

"We're actively seeking their input and they've seen that," Merritt said of the district's stakeholders. "There's a sense of hope. It feels like we're bridging the divide between the board office and the schools." Some highlights:

» 91 percent of P-CCS parents and school staff members said their school was safe. However, when it comes to the school tolerating bullying and staff members being responsive when students report bullying, a large number of parents selected "don't know."

"It may be beneficial to share the bullying policy and how staff members respond to build awareness," Brandon said.

» 88 percent of participating parents and community members rated the availability of learning resources as excellent or good.

» 60 percent of parents and community members trust district leaders to make good decisions, a number that increased by 17 percent from a year ago.

However, Brandon pointed out, 21 percent of parents and community members selected "don't know."

» 83 percent of P-CCS parents trust school administrators to make good decisions. Parents' trust in school administrators is integral to strong school-family relationships.

» 90 percent of parents said their child's school has qualified staff members that support student learning and 89 percent said the teachers in their child's school are appropriate role models.

It wasn't all good news. According to Brandon, some of the problem answers included:

» While 66 percent of staff members said the professional development program is designed to build capacity among all professional and support staff members, only 55 percent of staff members who received professional development this year rated it as excellent or good.

» 40 percent of staff members rated the English Learner program as fair or poor and verbatim responses to the survey, Brandon said, supported concerns about the need for more EL staff and support.

"If there was a really glaring common theme, it was the need for additional support in English Learning," Brandon said. "The district is committed to changing the delivery model for EL services as part of the 2017-18 budget, including 10 additional EL development teachers. We all know how important that is for a district that's as diverse as we are."

» Only 28 percent of staff members rated their school's cleanliness as excellent or good; however, that's up 14 percent from the 2015-16 survey.

One indication the climate in the district is improving is the jump in confidence staff showed in the school board. Past

boards have rankled staffers with what they perceived as interference from the board in day-to-day operations, rather than just establishing policy.

In this survey, the staff gave grades 17 percent higher than last year in that area.

Merritt said the board has "worked diligently" on that relationship, participating in training with experts at Wayne RESA. The work, she said, is paying off.

"We've been intentionally working on that with the board," Merritt said. "We focused on creating a positive culture. To see all the work we put into that relationship and to see that other people are noticing, that was good to see."

Crouch was also pleased to see the improvement in that area.

"The board hasn't always had the most positive image, so to see the improved survey results, while still not reflective of where we want them to be, suggests the hard work that the board has been doing to change its image, to be more transparent and accessible and to have some clear lines differentiating the role of the board from that of administration shows we are moving in a positive direction," Crouch said.

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Marquette University graduate

Laura Landis of Canton has graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. Landis earned a doctor of dental surgery degree in dentistry.

Saint Mary's dean's list

Saint Mary's College named Lauren McGovern of Canton to the dean's list for the spring 2017 se-

ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

mester. To earn academic honors at Saint Mary's, a student must achieve a grade-point average of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, have at least 12 graded credit hours, no incompletes and no grades lower than a C.

St. Olaf graduation

Hannah Ferree of Plymouth graduated May 28 with degrees in chemistry and Spanish from St. Olaf College. Ferree is the daugh-

ter of Robert and Sally Ferree.

Ouachita president's list

Nearly 300 students at Ouachita Baptist (Ark.) University were named to the president's list for the spring 2017 semester, including Michael Neathery of Canton. To be named to the president's list, a student must compile a 4.0 grade-point average and be classified as a full-time student, with a minimum of 12 academic hours.

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CARROLL DEWEESE

Toast restaurant chef Chris Gadulka was the winner of this year's Chef Clash at the Birmingham Farmers Market.

CHEFS

Continued from Page A1

bought some strawberries. I'll roll out my crust and get at it."

The contest

This year's panel of judges included Birmingham Mayor Mark Nickita, retired Market Master Richard "Cousin Don" Hobson and personal chef Matt Tulpa.

Nickita, a celebrated architect, had the eye for determining the best-looking dish. Tulpa had the culinary chops. Hobson had the appetite.

"Don't ask me to

share!" Hobson teased the crowd before passing around one of the dishes. When someone managed to borrow his fork, he called it a case of "double dipping."

For the main event, Gadulka created a beef filet with hollandaise sauce, while Zemach cooked up trout with a side of tabouli and artichokes. Dessert followed, with a chocolate crepe from Toast and rice pudding from the Townhouse.

It was a close contest down to the last bite, with the judges picking Gadulka as this year's master chef winner. It's the second year in a row he took home the honor

and, in true chef form, he gave lots of credit to his competition.

"To be honest, I'm really surprised I won. Ben did an outstanding job," Gadulka said. "I really consider myself lucky to win. He had some really good food."

While he favored the rice pudding, Nickita said it was probably the filet that gave Gadulka a slight edge.

"It was a lot of fun and very tasty," the mayor said. "And I'm glad I didn't have breakfast ... because it was a lot of food."

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Artists return for Plymouth Art in the Park

For 38 years, Art in the Park has been a signature event in downtown Plymouth.

July 7-9, the art festival takes over the streets of downtown Plymouth, with more than 400 artists from around the United States showcasing a wide selection of paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, fiber, glass, woodwork, photography, folk art and more.

For several years, Art In The Park has offered the unique opportunity for children to have their own booths at the show. Continuing its support of budding young artists, children of all ages will have their creations on display — and for sale — around the fountain in Kellogg Park.

Art In The Park is considered by artists and attendees as a must-see event. Plymouth, with its wide range of restaurants and retailers and the ever-popular Kellogg Park, provides the perfect backdrop.

The event will feature a wide assortment of live entertainment, interactive displays and chil-

dren's activities throughout the weekend.

Art in the Park hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Visitors attending Art in the Park are encouraged to take the shuttle service from Burroughs, 41100 Plymouth Road.

The shuttle fee is \$3 round trip for adults; kids ages 12 and under ride for free. Parking at Burroughs is free. The shuttles will be operating continuously between Burroughs and Plymouth City Hall.

Shuttle hours are 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

Sponsor involvement:

» Lexus of Ann Arbor will have a lounge set up on the corner of Main Street and Church for those wanting a place to relax and cool down while waiting for the shuttle buses.

» Land O'Frost will be handing out samples of its product the entire weekend.

» Challenge Butter

will be on-site with its Challenge Butter: Art of Cooking Stage. Local chef Chewy Lebnick will do five cooking demonstrations each day featuring Challenge Butter and cream cheese. Recipes and giveaways will be distributed all weekend.

» St. John Providence Ascension will be located near Kellogg Park, providing fun activities for children.

» Michigan Lottery will be located adjacent to Kellogg Park, selling lottery tickets.

» Faygo will be on-site all weekend providing samples of products, including the launch of its new flavor, Artic Sun.

» Maltesers brings its popular gaming tent, an interactive display for kids and adults alike, and will provide samples of chocolate malt balls.

» Big Bite Tours, located on Penniman, will be passing out a variety of samples.

For schedules and updates on all things Art in the Park, go to www.artinthepark.com or call 734-454-1314.

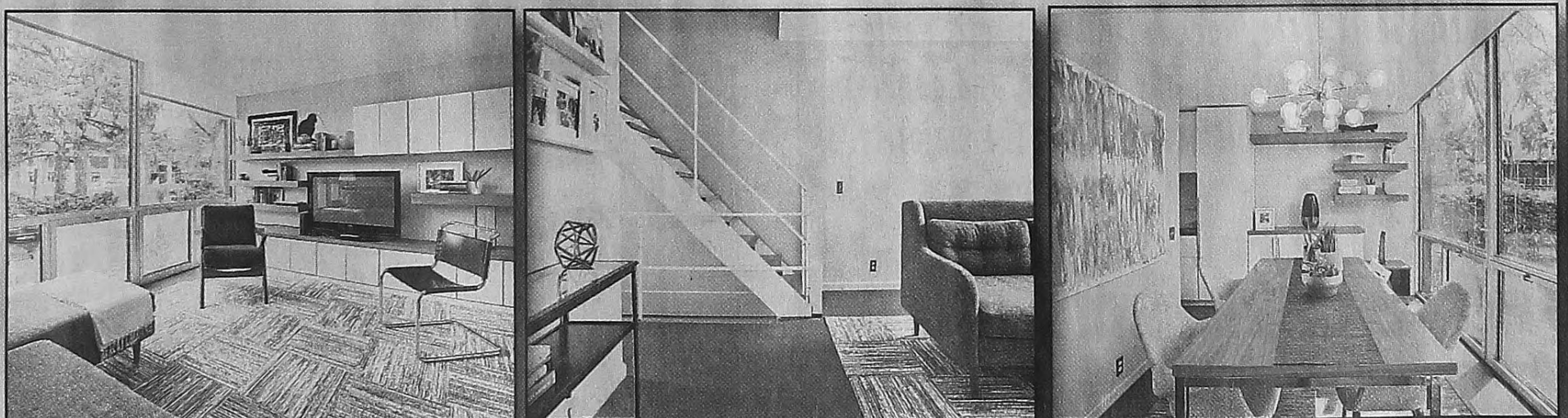


Chalk artist Rachel Bissonette works on a large chalk work at the intersection of Main Street and Penniman Avenue during a previous Art in the Park event.

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Canton man who survived Niagara Falls plunge dies after his second attempt

Detroit Free Press

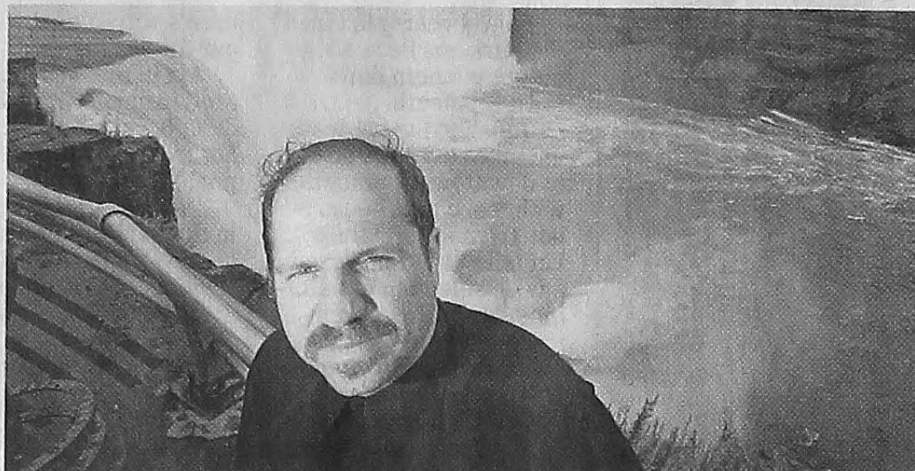
A Michigan native, the first person to have survived an unprotected plunge into Niagara Falls, is believed to have died April 19 after a second attempt at plunging into the same falls, according to the Associated Press.

The body of 53-year-old Kirk Jones was recovered from the waters under the falls June 2, the AP reported.

The AP said the apparent stunt with an inflatable ball might have also involved a boa constrictor, which hasn't been found, but an empty snake cage was found in Jones's parked van.

Jones's first plunge was in 2003, when he slipped into the Niagara River and was carried over and under the falls in an apparent suicide attempt.

Jones of Canton began to seriously consider the idea after a family visit to the falls eight weeks prior to his plunge in 2003. At the time, Jones — who said he felt like the "loneliest man in the world" — was never married, unemployed



CHIP SOMODEVILLA | DETROIT FREE PRESS

On Oct. 20, 2003 Kirk Jones of Canton leaped from the railing along the Niagara River in Ontario, Canada, and became the first human to survive the 300-foot drop over Horseshoe Falls with nothing but the clothes on his back. Jones poses at Terrapin Point on the American side of Horseshoe Falls in August 2004.

and full of regret.

There was a moment when Jones was close to climbing back to safety and forgetting the whole thing. But then he heard a woman asking him if he was going to jump. It triggered something in him and he responded, "I think I will."

He was sucked into the current and refused to look at the shore because he didn't want the panicked faces in his memory.

He somehow survived the 167-foot plummet and submersion in the frigid river and felt cleansed afterward.

The plunge brought him fame, a \$100,000 contract to join the circus and a meeting with his boyhood idol Alice Cooper.

"I think I left a lot of my problems on the bottom of the gorge that day," Jones told the Free Press at the time.

On April 19, the same day

Jones is believed to have died, tourists spotted an 8-foot plastic ball spinning in the Niagara River rapids before it went over the brink, the AP reported.

The Niagara Gazette reported that after Jones's death, the New York State Park Police found a website featuring a photo of the falls and a picture of Jones and the boa constrictor, Misty.

Canton woman advocates for those with autism

With the unemployment rate for individuals with autism around 90 percent, Canton resident Rachelle Vartanian is on a mission. Founder of Living and Learning in downtown Northville, Vartanian is helping individuals with autism and other special needs learn skills to gain employment and independence.

For individuals ready to seek employment and looking for job skills training Vartanian offers The Success Program. Students learn interviewing skills, how to great customers and other job skills. To provide on-the-job training, Vartanian partners with Maybury Farm, Fresh Thyme, Rebecca's Restaurant and First Centennial Title.

A mother to a teenager with autism and a former special education teacher, Vartanian launched Living and Learning to fill a need. "I felt a sense of urgency to create a social skills group and couldn't find any programs. After many sleepless nights, I took a buyout from my school district and launched Living and Learning," she said.

Living and Learning's programs include a support group for parents, video modeling, social skills programs and more. "Our Friday and Saturday Night Hang Outs are literally changing lives. Young adults who normally sat at home all weekend with nothing to do are now making new friends and making plans to get together on their own. This is a huge accomplishment for someone with autism or special needs," Vartanian said.

Learn more at www.LivingandLearningCenter.org or call 248-308-3592.

Woman illegally practicing pleads guilty to felony

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A woman who practiced psychology at a now-closed office in Plymouth Township has been placed on probation for one year after she pleaded guilty to one felony count of attempting to have an unauthorized practice.

Melissa Ann Sharnowski, accused of practicing without a license, had worked out of the Inspired by Me Psychological Wellness Center, on Haggerty south of Ann Arbor Road. A work crew Tuesday could be seen sprucing up the vacant office.

Attempts to reach Sharnowski have been unsuccessful.

Sharnowski was placed on probation for one year when she was sentenced June 15 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Gregory Bill. Her sentencing came after she pleaded guilty in May.

Under the plea deal, authorities agreed to dismiss a second charge of being a health professional with an unauthorized practice.

Michael Loepp, spokesman for the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, or LARA, said Sharnowski's license expired Aug. 31, 2015. She continued to

practice after that.

Loepp also said "there is an open formal complaint" against Sharnowski with the state.

"At this time, we cannot comment on the matter," he said.

Sharnowski's troubles mounted when an administrative complaint was issued Dec. 21 against her by the Michigan Attorney General's office.

"It was based in part on charges that she practiced psychology with an expired doctoral education limited license in psychology, submitted bills to insurance com-

panies for treatment sessions she did not provide and submitted bills for treatment under a different psychologist's billing identification number," Loepp said by email in April, in response to questions.

He said the administrative complaint included 10 counts of violations of the Public Health Code.

It wasn't known this week what, if any, sanctions Sharnowski might face from the state.

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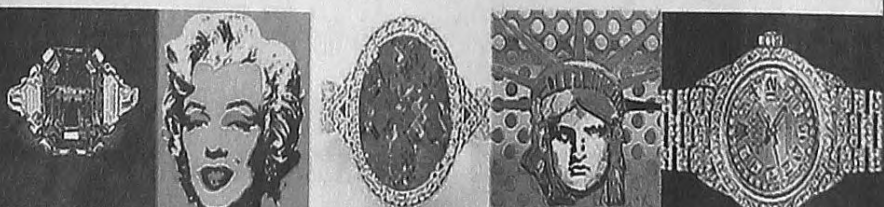
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This is a photograph by Plymouth photographer Tim Tonachella.



This painting, by Sharlene Welton, was inspired by a photograph from Tim Tonachella and is part of the exhibit.

Heise elected to transportation committee

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise was elected to serve on the Transportation Coordinating Council for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments at its annual meeting June 22 in Detroit.

The Transportation Coordinating Council, works to develop and implement a long-range transportation plan for southeast Michigan's 4.5 million residents and has oversight on a variety of state- and federally-funded road and highway projects.

The council comprises a diverse set of stakeholders, including those with expertise in local government, economic development, environmental policy, workforce development and education. The TCC's goals are to align planning initiatives, improve project coordination and enhance regional performance measures.

Heise has more than 25 years of experience in local, county and state government and served on the TCC in the late 1990s, when he was the



Heise

mayor's deputy in Dearborn Heights. As the former state representative for Plymouth Township, Heise also served on the House Transportation Committee. "Serving on the TCC will allow me to leverage my many years of public sector experience to help ensure western Wayne County gets proper consideration for state and federal road monies," Heise said. "This is best done through regional cooperation and collaboration on projects that spur economic development and job creation for our residents."

Village Theater to exhibit 'Interpretations'

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is pleased to present "Interpretations II: Growing Old on the Street," a collaboration of 20 Detroit-area artists working in various styles and media — each creating work in painting, drawing, multimedia and sculpture — based on corresponding photographs created by legally blind Plymouth photographer Tim Tonachella.

Artists participating in the exhibit include Jim Aho, Linda Allen, Emily


Beadle, Mary Jo Caruana, Dana Chicko, Jack Cameron, Jelly Estrada, Robby Gall, Liz Gullikson, Joe Hosler, Nancy Kozlowski, Rose Lewandowski, Shell McFalls, C. Elizabeth Holladay, Jack Summers, Sharlene Welton, Carrie Wheeler and Jeni Wheeler.

Co-curated by photographers Tonachella and Aho, this exhibit will run through July 30, with an opening reception 7-9:30 p.m. Friday, July 7, at The Village Theater at

Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

In addition to the more than 40 works of art to be displayed on the gallery walls, the exhibit will feature a 12-minute film produced to highlight the exhibit's artwork, together with the reality of growing old on the streets of Detroit. The film will be shown twice during the opening reception in the theater auditorium and will run continuously at a kiosk in the theater lobby.


This current art exhibit is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, one hour prior to and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment. The Village Theater Gallery is closed holidays. For more information about this latest exhibit, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillage.com.



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Michigan Phil announces 2017-18 season schedule

Season tickets are now available for the Michigan Philharmonic's 2017-18 season, which will feature music focusing on innovation, local artists and diversity. From opening night featuring the jazzy, soulful sounds of African-American composer and pianist Mary Watkins to the Chinese inspired music of MSU composer Zhou Tian and the Latin rhythms of composer Ricardo Lorenz, this season of music is sure to please.

Come out Saturday, Sept. 30, to The Village Theatre for the season opener - "A Bit of Beethoven & Blue Jeans." Enjoy Beethoven's masterpieces "King Stephen Overture in E-flat Major" and "Romance for Violin and Orchestra No.1 in G, Op. 40," as well as colorful compositions by Alberto Ginastera and Nikolai Rimsky-Korsako. The concert also features music by visiting composer Mary Watkins, who embodies both powerful

women in music and an influential force in promoting diversity. Her featured piece, "The Initiate," is a "journey to a destination of hope, stimulation, self-empowerment, more big love, more self-love and more love for one another."

Halloween brings the whole family together at the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex as the Phil collaborates with all of PARC to create a "Philharmonic Thriller." Walk through haunted hallways to see the concert performance, featuring music of from "Twilight" and "The Chronicles of Narnia - The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," along with music from "Harry Potter" and ending with Michael Jackson's "Thriller," complete with dancing zombies.

In November, the Michigan Phil salutes veterans as "Hail to the Veterans" features youthful ensembles from the Detroit Children's Choir, Main Street Opera

Theater Children's Chorus, Plymouth Counselors Youth Chorale and MPYO Sinfonia to join them in paying homage to veterans. Come to Our Lady of Good Counsel Church for huge musical celebration honoring those who served.

Everyone gets in the holiday spirit at "Holiday Pops with the Phil" each December at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth. The Michigan Phil celebrates the holidays with music from many traditions, featuring "The Eight Candle: Prayer and Dance for Hanukkah" by Steve Reister and "African Noel." This concert will also include singalongs, as well as excerpts from Tchaikovsky's masterpiece "The Nutcracker" and "The Polar Express Suite" by Alan Silvestri and Glen Ballard.

Continuing the Michigan Phil's commitment to feature local talent, the subsequent concerts "Miniature Masterpieces" and "Rock Pop &

Soul" will feature Detroit's own Dennis Carter and Lonnie Reed as soloists. "Miniature Masterpieces" in January will feature Carter performing a flute solo during "Impresiones de la Puna for Solo Flute & Strings" by Alberto Ginastera in a concert performed in the beautiful chapel at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. In February, "Rock Pop & Soul" features Reed performing melodies from Lionel Richie and Michael Jackson with the symphony. This concert is a rare opportunity to hear iconic rock 'n' roll amplified by a full orchestra in this memorable Valentine's Day weekend concert.

In March, "Tchaikovsky Spectacular" will include Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 4 in F Minor" and also feature guest composer Zhou Tian as the Michigan Phil performs his moving piece, "A Thousand Years of Good Prayers." Inspired by a Chinese proverb, Tian wrote that his

piece uses a "Western symphony orchestra to convey a sense of spiritual bliss - the balance between Western and Eastern culture embodies a universal sense of music." A professor at Michigan State University, Tian, is a world-class local talent.

The last concert of the season highlights the fusion of Hispanic culture and Western compositional styles. "Danzones y Tangos" will take place April 14 at PARC and will include works by Astor Piazzolla, Leonard Bernstein, Ney Rosaura and more. This concert will also feature guest composer Ricard Lorenz, another local talent and professor at Michigan State University. Born in Venezuela, his compositional style embraces Latin culture as he blends Cuban rhythmic motifs and rich harmonies.

Over the past 72 years, amid ever-changing educational systems, policies and economic stability, the Michigan Philhar-

monic's unwavering support for composers, music education and community outreach has remained stellar. Be a part the celebration of a 72-year legacy.

For tickets and information or to volunteer, call 734 451-2112 or go to www.michiganphil.org.

The Michigan Philharmonic is one of the most innovative and dynamic professional orchestras in southeast Michigan. Nan Washburn, music director and conductor since 1999, has won 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music from the League of American Orchestras. In 2016, the Michigan Philharmonic received first place in the American Prize for the Performance of American Music. The orchestra performs in an ever-expanding roster of Michigan communities, including Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia, Brighton, Detroit and many others.

The regular concert season may have ended, but the Michigan Philharmonic will be celebrating all summer long with six free music concerts performances throughout southeast Michigan.

The first of the summer series takes place at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 1, in downtown Plymouth at Kellogg Park. Thousands come to enjoy this annual patriotic concert, which honors veterans and features music from great American composers such as Gershwin,

Michigan Phil offers free summer concerts

Bernstein and Quincy Jones, along with perennial favorites from John Phillip Sousa and ending with the triumphant "1812 Overture."

The next set of concerts will be performed throughout the Huron Clinton Metroparks, partnering with the parks to celebrate their 75th anniversary. The orchestra will help the Metroparks celebrate their past and their fu-

ture with concerts that include the terrific score from the film "Back to the Future."

Kensington Metropark was the first park to open to the public in 1946 - and the first Michigan Philharmonic concert celebration will be Saturday, July 15, at Kensington. This will be the fifth year the Michigan Phil will perform at the park with a concert featuring movie music and

more. The Michigan Phil concert takes place on Maple Beach and starts at 7:30 p.m., but come early and enjoy all the amenities the park has to offer.

The second Metroparks concert takes place 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22, at Lake St. Clair Metropark.

If you are in northern Oakland County, come enjoy a concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29, at

Stoney Creek Metropark.

The last of the Metropark concert series takes place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at Lake Erie Metropark.

Another great opportunity to hear the Michigan Phil will be at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, July 23, when the orchestra will perform "Movie Music Magic" for the grand opening of Detroit's newest urban park, the DTE Beacon Park, locat-

ed just in front of the DTE headquarters on Grand River. The Michigan Philharmonic concert performance ends with the "Back to the Future Suite" and concert-goers will be treated to a special outdoor showing of that terrific movie following the concert!

For information on the Michigan Philharmonic and all these concerts and activities, go to www.michiganphil.org, call 734-451-2112 or go to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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General

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The Charter Township of Plymouth is recruiting a DPW Service Technician. This person must be mechanical, excellent driving record, ability to get a CLASS B CDL with an N endorsement, trustworthy and punctual. All applicants will be subject to a background check and drug testing. To review the job posting and obtain an employment application, check out our website:
www.plymouthtwp.org
EOE

General

Firefighter/Paramedic



The Charter Township is currently accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic. Work to be performed includes saving lives & reducing property loss through rescue techniques & fire suppression operations. Applicants must be certified Michigan Firefighter Level I & II, Hazmat Operations Level certified and must be licensed as a Paramedic by the State of Michigan. Evidence of licenses & certifications must be presented at the time application is submitted. The application form and additional requirements and information can be obtained on our website at www.plymouthtwp.org. Completed applications must be submitted to the Clerk's Office only at 9955 N Haggerty Road, Plymouth MI 48170. Questions may be directed to 734-354-3228.

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Marecki holding office hours

Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki, R-Livonia, has announced she will be conducting office hours in the District 9 community of Livonia 10-11 a.m. Monday, July 3, at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. Constituents can meet with Commissioner Marecki and discuss matters of concern within the community.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity of sitting down and meeting with my Livonia constituents on a one-to-one basis and listening to their concerns regarding Wayne County," Marecki said. "The exchange of information that occurs at these meetings is certainly beneficial, and necessary, in continuing the progress we seek in our community."

For more information, contact Commissioner Marecki's office at 313-224-0946.

Former pastor makes return visit

Former Clarenceville United Methodist Church pastor Dr. Jim Tuttle will be returning Sunday, July 2, to speak at 9:30 a.m. The church is located on 20300 Middlebelt Rd., just south of Eight Mile Road, on the east side of Middlebelt.

Tuttle, who recently retired, was the pastor at Clarenceville United Methodist Church from 1985-90. He had a great impact on the congregation and many members will be looking forward to his return, if only for one day, the church says.

Golf outing for pancreatic cancer research

The fifth annual Charles Cobb Foundation Golf Outing will be held Saturday, July 22, at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. All proceeds will be donated to the pancreatic cancer research team at Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Registration and continental breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$100 per person, which includes breakfast, scramble golf, BBQ buffet lunch and awards. The event will also include gaming holes, a 50/50 raffle and 20 themed raffle baskets.

For more information, sponsorship opportunities or to register for the golf outing, contact Denise Cobb at 734-673-9428 or denise@charlescobbfoundation.org. Registration deadline is July 15.

Thursday concerts at Canton's Heritage Park

Continuing a more than 20-year tradition, the Thursday Night Concert Series will fill Canton's Heritage Park with a wide variety of musical entertainment and plenty of family fun during these free weekly concerts, sponsored by Canton Community Financial.

Concerts will be held 7:30-9 p.m. each Thursday through Aug. 10 in Heritage Park, adjacent to the Canton Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Audience members are encouraged to bring blankets or folding chairs for optimal enjoyment on the amphitheater lawn. Participants are also encouraged to take part in weekly theme nights, raffles and kids activities. In addition, summertime

food items will be available for purchase on-site from Crusin' Custom Cones and Good Humor Ice Cream. Canton Leisure Services will be collecting donation items for Operation Care Package, a Michigan nonprofit group that distributes items to U.S. troops, during concerts in July.

The schedule includes: July 6: Magic Bus - Music from the late '60s that will take you on a psychedelic musical journey to Woodstock and back; July 13: Crossroads - A family band playing contemporary hits, Motown, jazz, funk and more; July 20: Saints of Soul - Featuring a repertoire of vintage soul music with infectious grooves and explosive power; July 27: Together Band - Enjoy high-energy hits in a wide range of classic rock, funk and "feel good" music; Aug. 3: Timbre of Cedar - A play list of the greatest '90s covers that showcase the talents of these band members; and Aug. 10: First Call - Enjoy electrifying pop hits from yesterday and today.

All concerts are weather dependent. To receive text weather updates, join our free RainedOut service by texting "cantonconcerts" to 84483. Weather updates will also be available by contacting the Summit on the Park front

desk at 734-394-5460 or watch for updates online at www.facebook.com/cantonfun. For additional information about this concert series, call 734-394-5460 or go to www.cantonfun.org.

Recognizing military members

TEAM Schostak Family Restaurants (TSFR), a Livonia-based family-owned restaurant group with an expansive portfolio of casual, quick service and family dining restaurants throughout the state, and its 65 Applebee's restaurants have launched a statewide campaign to recognize Michigan's dedicated military members in honor of the upcoming Fourth of July holiday.

TSFR and its Applebee's restaurants are seeking community nominations now through Tuesday, July 4, for hometown military heroes who have courageously served or are enlisted in military services. TSFR will select a semifinalist group of 15 heroes. The public can then vote on the TSFR website for their hometown hero out of the 15 semifinalists from July 6-9. The five heroes who receive the most public votes will each receive a \$250 Visa gift card and a \$250 Applebee's gift card. All military members

who reside within a 10-mile radius of TSFR's Applebee's restaurants are eligible to be one of the five finalists.

Those interested in nominating a military member need to complete the form, including the nominator's name and contact information, the nominee's name and city of residence, and 200 words or less explaining why the military member should be recognized. Nominators can access the form on TSFR's website.

For more information on TSFR's Memorial Day Military campaign or a complete list of participating restaurants, visit www.teamschostak.com.

Vacation bible school

Vacation Bible School will be held from 9 a.m. to noon July 10-14 at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road, Livonia.

At "Hero Central" kids will discover their strength in God! There will be crafts, recreation, drama, music, science experiments, super snacks, and "Flame" the red panda. Heroes that are 3 years old and potty-trained through sixth-graders are welcome. Cost is \$10 per child for the week, \$30 maximum per family.

For more information,

to register, or volunteer (adult or older youth), call the church office at 734-422-6038.

Drop-in art workshop

A free DIA Creative Drop-In Art Workshop for Kids in Wayne is set for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 14. The DIA is bringing a drop-in art workshop to downtown Wayne, Knights of Columbus No. 3021, Notre Dame Lounge, 3144 S. Wayne Road.

This is the perfect opportunity for kids, creatives and those young at heart to get out and be part of something cool in our own backyard. Space and supplies may be limited. To RSVP, go to http://bit.ly/2rZ8s9L.

Youth coed T-Ball and Coach Pitch

New this fall, Livonia Parks and Recreation will offer youth coed instructional T-Ball and Coach Pitch. Registration for T-Ball, ages 5-6, and Coach Pitch, ages 7-8. The program is an introduction to the concept of baseball. Youngsters get instruction and scrimmage with other teams. Youth will learn the importance of good sportsmanship and the joy of the game.

The season will take place from mid-August through early October,

with T-Ball scrimmages on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Coach Pitch Scrimmages on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Fees are \$40 per child for Livonia residents and \$50 per child for non-residents. Registration runs through Friday, July 14, at the Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. For more information, call 734-466-2900.

Wayne Concerts in the Park

The Wayne Rotary Club will again be sponsoring the Concert in the Park series, which takes place at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday from July 26 through Aug. 30 at Goudy Park in downtown Wayne. There will also be a special show for Downtown Days at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 14, featuring Steve King and the Dittilies.

The schedule includes: July 26, Toppermost, Beatles tribute band; Aug. 2, War Machine, KISS tribute band; Aug. 9, Kung Fu Diesel, rock 'n' roll; Aug. 16 - The Magic Bus Tour, Woodstock era; Aug. 23 - Your Generation in Concert, tribute band; and Aug. 30, Dirty Deeds Extreme, AC/DC tribute band.

All concerts are free and vendors will be available selling food and drinks.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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

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Everett



Lexie L. 88, life-long resident of Plymouth, passed away from complications of dementia in Greenville, TX, on June 26, 2017. Mr. Everett was a well-respected businessman & a devout Christian leader. He was co-owner of Plymouth Plating Works, Inc., where he retired after 42 years. He was a charter member of the Plymouth Church of Christ, serving as an elder for 25 years. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Margie Sadler Everett, & two daughters, Vanessa Blythe of Quinlan, TX, & Lynn Morris of Collierville, TN, four grandchildren & eight great-grandchildren. A memorial service for him was held at the Boles Church of Christ, Quinlan, TX.



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.

Oesterle, Jr.

Kenneth Carlyle Kenneth Carlyle Oesterle, Jr., age 76, of New Hudson, passed away on June 25, 2017. He was the first son born to Kenneth and Lillian (nee Rennert) Oesterle on May 4, 1941 in Detroit, Michigan. He was united in marriage on November 24, 1962 to Carole L. Stuckey. After graduating from Redford Union High School in 1959, Ken proudly served his country in the United States Navy. He then earned his undergraduate degree in Education from Concordia University and went on to complete a Master's Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University. For 40 over years, Ken taught scores of children in sixth grade and upper elementary learning disabled classes at Redford Union Schools. He also tutored adults at Schoolcraft College in order to improve their literacy. Commitment to his career inspired him to develop hand signals to assist students in pronunciation patterns of words. During this time he also trademarked the Unispell Dictionary that used his self-developed phonetic system to simplify the pronunciation of words. Also, he invented the game called Count Down 91 that made learning and using multiplication tables fun for kids and adults alike. Ken had a very analytical mind. He enjoyed getting all of the available information on a subject, contemplating it, calculating with it if financial and, then, making wise choices. He enjoyed reading, working on cars, summer road trips and singing including in a Barbershop Quartet for a number of years. Ken was a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle, teacher, and friend.

He is survived by his loving wife Carole; his daughter Laura L. Oesterle; his siblings Dolores (the late John) Curran, Loretta (Don) Keeney, Edward (Gay) Oesterle, and Steve (Rose) Oesterle; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. Ken was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Marlene (Doug) Hoag. Visitation will be held Friday, June 30 from 1pm until 2pm with the funeral services beginning at 2pm at Casterline Funeral Home, 122 West Dunlap, Northville. Mitch Yudasz, a Spiritual Care Coordinator with Angela Hospice, will officiate at the service. Ken will be laid to rest at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock on Saturday, July 1 at noon.

Memorial contributions, if desired, would be appreciated for Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154 or Reading Works at readingworksdetroit.org. "When I began to read, I began to exist." - Walter Dean Myers

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Peterson

Leo V. June 23, 2017. Beloved husband of Helen (nee North). Loving father of Leo (Molly), Karen (Andrew MacKenzie), Chris (Pauline), Lawrence, and Leslie Wajda (Edward). Dear brother of Marion Ellis. Also survived by 11 grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Services were held Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at St. Hugo of the Hills Stone Chapel, Bloomfield Hills. Memorial tributes to the American Cancer Society or the charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com

Shewood



Charles "Slim" Age 84, passed away June 28, 2017. He was born on June 20, 1933, in Detroit, Michigan to Charles and Jean (Waddell) Sherwood. Charles and Elaine enjoyed 57 years of marriage. His Family... Charles will be missed by his wife, Elaine Sherwood; his children, Theresa Matteson Kondel, Chuck (Petra) Sherwood, Kathy (Tim) Schriber; siblings, Arthur (Adrianna) Sherwood, Lee Sherwood; grandchildren, Matt (Kasey) Matteson, Emily Matteson, C.J. Sherwood, Ryan Sherwood, Brent Schriber, James Schriber, Lauren Schriber. His Farewell... Charles' family and friends will gather Monday, July 3, 2017 1pm until time of his community farewell service at 7:00pm, Borek Jennings Funeral Home, Hamburg Chapel. David Cornwell will serve as celebrant. Memorial contributions are suggested to Salvation Army or Alzheimer's Association. Please leave a message of comfort for Charles' family at 1-877-231-7900, or sign his guestbook at www.borekjenning.com.

Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

Soltesz



Joseph John 94 of Jonesville and formerly of Livonia, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at Drews Country Living in Hillsdale. He was born October 24, 1922 in Throop, Pennsylvania to Michael and Mary (Seidel) Soltesz. Joe married Ellenjane Kathleen Gohlke on April 7, 1953 and she preceded him in death on November 7, 2016. Joe graduated from Southwestern High School and he received his bachelors and masters in education from Wayne State University. He served his country in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. Joe taught business education for many years at Mumfords High School and Southwestern High School, later retiring from the Detroit Public Schools after 45 years of service as a teacher and administrator. In 2001, Joe was honored as the Livonia Citizen of Year. He attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsdale and also enjoyed playing bridge. In their retirement, Joe and his wife, Jane, enjoyed volunteering for Greenmead Historical Village and the Historical Commission in Livonia. Survivors include four children, Deborah (Kyle Harris) Soltesz of Brazoria, Texas, Laurel (Robert) Jones of St. Louis, Missouri, Christopher (Ann) Soltesz of Arlington, Texas and Sara (Anthony) Lisznyi of Justinville; six grandchildren, Justin Jones, Nathan (Kate) Jones, Eric Lisznyi, Daniel Soltesz, Elyse Lisznyi and Matthew Soltesz and one great granddaughter, Hadley Jones. In addition to his wife, Jane, Joe was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Mitzi Yurko and brother, John Soltesz. Funeral services for Joseph Soltesz will be Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 11:00 AM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hillsdale with Pastor Scott Johnson officiating. The family will receive friends for visitation on Friday from 5-8 PM at VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home in Hillsdale. Memorial donations are suggested to the Livonia Historical Commission c/o Greenmead, 20510 Newburgh Rd, Livonia, Michigan, 48152. Please visit www.eaglefuneralhomes.com to leave online condolences.



Swaney



Shirley Anne age 86, passed away Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at her beloved cottage "Morning Glory" at Macatawa, Michigan. She was preceded in death by her parents, Marian and Russel Swaney, former husbands Gar Meadowcroft and Gene Elyer, brother Rusty Swaney and nephew Billy Swaney. Shirley is survived by her children; Scott (Gail) Meadowcroft, Greg (Marlene) Meadowcroft and Julie (Charlie) Harrett; grandchildren, Colin Meadowcroft, Sydney Meadowcroft, Robin (Kyle)MacKillop, Sophie Meadowcroft, Porter Harrett and Coye Harrett; sister-in-law Jean Swaney and siblings Sandy (Cort) Lecklider, Bill (Nancy) Swaney and Dick (Terry) Swaney; along with numerous nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. Shirley earned a BA in Education from Michigan State University and had a degree in Holistic Health from Western Michigan University. She was always active in many outdoor sports along with teaching aerobics, fitness and Tai Chi. Since Shirley's diagnosis of ovarian cancer ten years ago, she continued her life style of walking, bike riding, knitting and teaching Tai Chi, Yoga and Qi-Gong. Her grit and grace were in inspiration to her family and friends. Her presence will be greatly missed. A memorial service will be held at Grace Episcopal Church, 555 Michigan Ave. in Holland on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at 12 noon. Following the service family and friends will gather for a lunch reception in the church undercroft. Memorial contributions may be given in Shirley's honor to Hospice of Holland, 270 Hoover Blvd., Holland, MI 49423-3719. www.langelandsternberg.com

Wishes of peace to you and yours in this time of sorrow.

Winners announced in Short on Words essay contest

The Short on Words author reception was held June 16 at Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall. Short on Words is the literature arm of Northville's Arts & Acts Festival. This year was the sixth edition of the writing competition. Preservation Dental, the office of Dr. William Demray, is sponsor of Short on Words. There are two age categories, Young Authors (ages 17 and younger) and Adult Authors (ages 18 and older). Authors are invited to write a poem or short story (1,500 words or less) about a select photo from Demray's personal collection. The event has raised more than \$500 for the Northville Art House and has awarded more than \$2,000 in cash awards to aspiring authors of all ages. This year, there were



Authors join sponsor Dr. William Demray (front center, kneeling) on stage for recognition.

65 entries from 25 different communities throughout southeast Michigan, including Brighton, Canton, Clarkston, Davisburg, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Farmington Hills, Gibraltar, Grosse Pointe Woods, Highland, Howell, Livonia, Milford, North-

ville, Novi, Oakland Township, Oxford, Plymouth, Rochester Hills, South Lyon, Webberville, West Bloomfield, Westland, White Lake and Whitmore Lake. There were 15 returning authors and 41 new authors. The evening's program

began in Genitti's Little Theater with readings from nine different authors. The stories included a tale about the memories of a son, working beside his "pop" building a bridge; a woman giving up the glitter of the runway for a life with

purpose; and a short sweet poem about how everything looks a little different after sipping tea with hint of brandy. The event ended with the awards. Honorable mention in the Young Authors category went to Jessica Jasinski of Highland, Kate Dewan of South Lyon and Abby Rutala of White Lake; in the Adult Author category to Diana Radomski of Novi, Terri Schleuder of Novi and Jeremy Schultz of Westland. The Judge's Choice Awards went to young authors Robert Crawford of Farmington Hills, Katie Howard of Plymouth, Sophia Miller of Davisburg and Alex Wagner of Livonia; and to adult authors Karen Hamp of Whitmore Lake and Fred Karr of Brighton. Grand prize cash

award winners were: first place, Young Author - Maggie Kuban of Northville; first place, Adult Author - M. D. Taverner of Novi; second place, Young Author - Caleb Holm of Rochester Hills; second place, Adult Author - Joan Runkel of Webberville; third place, Young Author - Laine Johnson of Milford; third place, Adult Author - Karolynn Pargo of Dearborn Heights. The sixth edition Short on Words entries were compiled into two books this year, one for each category. Authors were given a copy of the book. Both books will be available online for review at preservationdental.com in July. There will be a call for entries in the seventh edition of Short on Words in February 2018.

THE WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN

Free meals will be made available to any child under the age of 18 or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for the mentally or physically disabled that is recognized by a State or local public educational agency.

Meals will be provided at the sites listed below:

Hicks Elementary 100 Helen Inkster, MI 48141	Schweitzer Elementary 2601 Treadwell Westland, MI 48186
Graham Elementary 1255 S. John Hix Westland, MI 48186	Hoover Elementary 5400 Fourth Wayne, MI 48184
Marshall Upper Elementary 35100 Bayview Westland, MI 48186	Adams Upper Elementary 33475 Palmer Westland, MI 48184

Meal Service will start on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at all locations*
*Days and hours vary by location
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Buy a raffle ticket, you could win a ride on a vintage B-25

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

If you've ever wanted to fly in a vintage B-25 bomber, now is your chance to win a ride on a flyover as part of the Norwayne Community's 75th anniversary celebrations.

Raffle tickets to win a ride on the B-25 went on sale June 19 and there will be two winners. The cost is \$50 per person and only 50 tickets will be sold. The idea is to raise the \$2,000 cost for the bomber to do the flyover as part of the Thursday, July 20, Norwayne Homefront Celebration.

Technically, wartime workers at the Willow Run Plant built B-24 bombers, but the B-25 is available for the flyover through the Yankee Air Museum.

It's actually a pretty good value for flying aficionados, Westland Community Development Director Joanne Campbell points out. Each \$50 raffle ticket comes with admission to the Sept. 2-4 Yankee Air Museum Blue Angels Air

Show and a parking pass. That has a \$60 value. "And it costs \$400 for a ride on the B-25," Campbell said.

The winning raffle tickets will be drawn at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 15, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League. Winners don't need to be present.

The flyover will actually be at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 20. That's about 30 minutes into the Homefront Celebration at the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center. The program, part of a series of events celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Norwayne Community, will honor Rosie the Riveters.

"Original Rosies will be there. To me, the goal is to enhance the view of Norwayne and understand its significance," Campbell said. "It's a chance to instill more pride in the neighborhood."

Built as a community to house World War II workers from Willow Run, Norwayne has been the focus of city revitalization efforts in recent years after a period of

neglect. The goal has been to return Norwayne to the status of a community of choice.

Those investments in Norwayne have included demolition of blighted, deteriorated homes, construction of new homes and renovating the closed Jefferson Barns school into a community center.

"It's a community celebration, but also for people who have moved away. We want to share what we're doing and the pride in that," Campbell said.

Immediately following the Homefront celebration, at about 5 p.m. July 20, there will be a police, fire and kids softball games, other games, activities and food for one of Westland Mayor William Wild's Community Gathering.

For more information about the raffle tickets or the 75th anniversary events, contact Campbell at 734-716-4078 or Henry Johnson at 734-334-0042.

lr Rogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 2017 SUMMER TAXES

Summer taxes are due **July 1, 2017** and payable through **August 10, 2017** without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00a.m.-4:30p.m. at the Treasurer's office. Cash, Checks and Credit Cards (a convenience fee applies) are accepted for payment during business hours. After hours, payments (checks only) can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library. Additional payment options are on the City website@ci.plymouth.mi.us.

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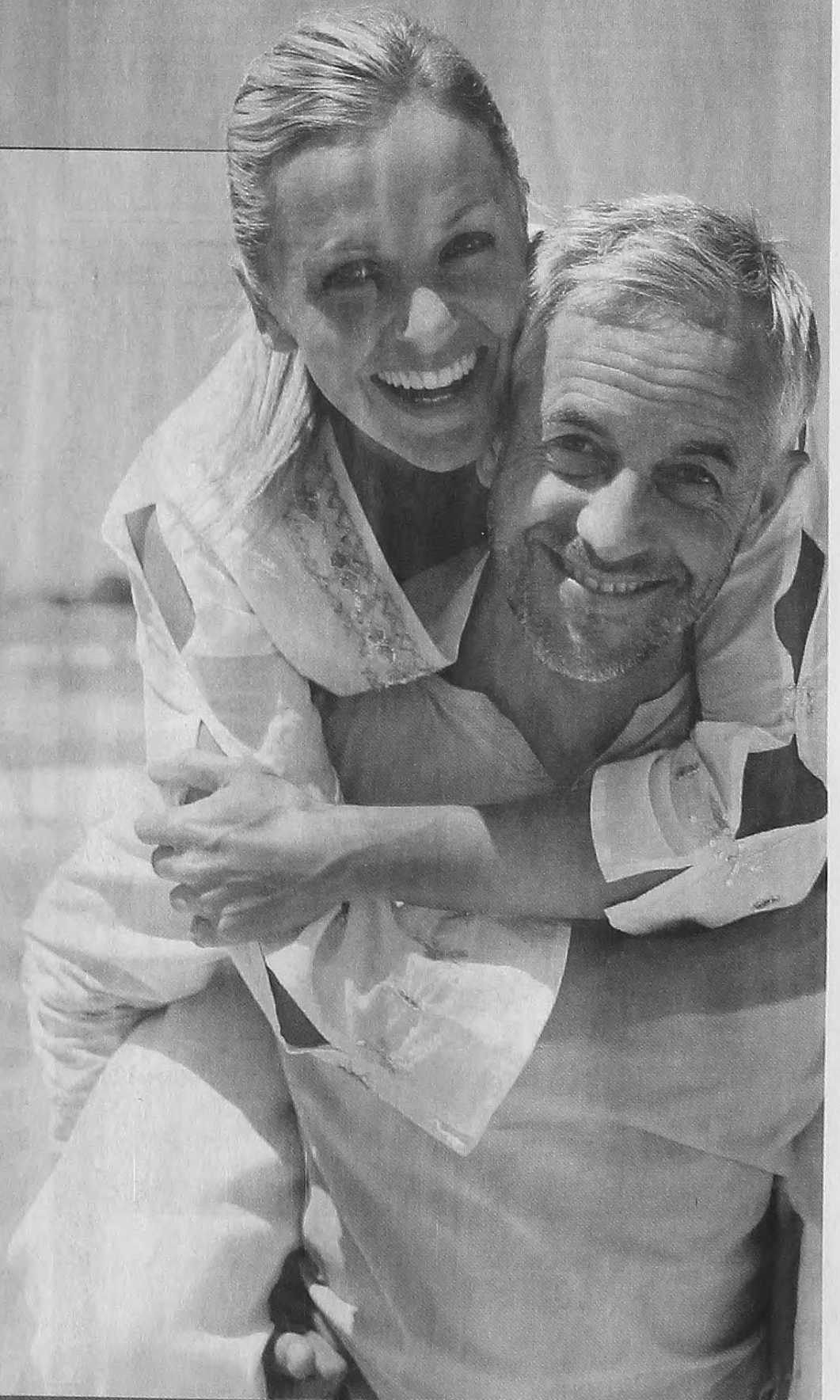
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PREP FOOTBALL

East players form tight bond in win

Game finishes indoors after lightning delay at Saginaw Valley State

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

It didn't matter if they played outdoors or indoors, the East was clearly the better team June 24 during its 21-0 win over the West in the 35th annual Michigan High School Coaches Association All-Star game at Saginaw Valley State.

After officials detected lightning in the area during the fourth quarter at Wilkes Stadium, the final 5:37 was played indoors at the nearby Ryder Center, SVSU's state-of-the-art indoor football facility.

The East, getting an 18-yard touchdown pass from Kyle Wood (Rochester Adams) to Derek Lynch (Bloomfield Hills) in the first quarter and a 1-yard keeper by Wood in the second, jumped out to a 14-0 halftime

lead.

The score remained that way until the fourth quarter stoppage, when players, coaches and spectators were moved indoors.

The East, which now leads the series 20-17, put an exclamation point on the victory when Livonia Franklin's Nyassinu Crowell scored from 1 yard out with less than a minute remaining.

"It was originally supposed to be for me, but my quarterback fumbled it and I just carried him in," said Crowell, who was the East's second leading rusher on the afternoon behind Wood. "It felt good, but that wasn't the best part, though. The best part was coming here and meeting a new group of kids."

The game started with a

52-yard end-around flea flicker play from Jared Davis (Frankenmuth) to Najon Moore (Warren Fitzgerald) set up the first score.

And with 9:49 left in the opening quarter, the speedy 5-foot-5, 155-pound Lynch, who will play this fall for the University of Findlay, caught a pass in the flat, faked one West tackler and found the end zone.

"That was my route, just a quick out," Lynch said. "I went out, no one was on me, so I just caught it, got a good block in front of me and I just saw it and just had to score it at that point."

In the second quarter, Lynch made a highlight reel 10-yard run, a la Barry Sanders, when he juked a couple of West tack-



BRANSON FOLSOM | DETROIT FREE PRESS
Franklin's Nyassinu Crowell (right) of the East squad finds daylight as East Kentwood's Andre Welch moves in for the tackle.

See ALL-STARs, Page B2

MARTIAL ARTS

NEW KICKERS ON THE BLOCK

P-CEP United Tae Kwon Do, only high school squad in Michigan, to compete July 6 at Cobo Center

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

When Alex Covert was a student at Salem High School, he wanted to earn a varsity letter in the sport he's loved since early childhood — taekwondo.

The catch was there was no team to get that chance. So the 2009 Salem grad ultimately played varsity soccer and ran varsity track.

Eight years later, he is Master Alexander Covert of Olympia Chung Do Kwan in Canton.

He is a fifth-degree black belt (there are nine levels) and also is instructor of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park United Tae Kwon Do Club, which got off the ground in 2016-17 and is on track to become an official varsity sport at the Park for 2017-18.

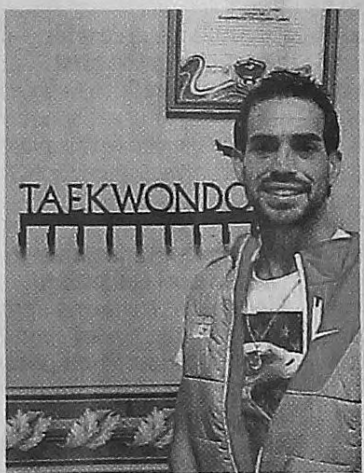
Youngsters from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools joined the only prep team in Michigan and will compete Thursday, July 6, at Cobo Center in Detroit at the U.S. Collegiate Taekwondo

See TAEKWONDO, Page B3



Master Alexander Covert (left) trains Lubna Farhat during a recent session at Olympia Tae Kwon Do in Canton. Covert coaches the upstart P-CEP United team, of which Farhat is a member.

SUBMITTED



TIM SMITH

Master Alexander Covert is a 2009 Salem grad and a fifth-degree black belt.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

From hockey to hoops, Anastos switches gears

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Although she just ended a stellar four-year career with the Boston College women's hockey team, Andie Anastos decided she didn't want to let a possible fifth-year of eligibility go to waste.

The 2013 Livonia Ladywood High grad has decided to switch gears as a walk-on for the BC women's basketball team, which may now make her the Babe Didrikson Zaharias of the Chestnut Hill campus.

The last time the 5-foot-8 Anastos laced up her basketball shoes for an organized game was in the 2013 MHSAA Class B state quarterfinals, when the Blazers fell to eventual state champion Goodrich.

As a senior, Anastos was a




ANASTOS

See ANASTOS, Page B2




BOSTON COLLEGE ATHLETICS

After four years with the Boston College women's hockey team, Andie Anastos will use her fifth year of eligibility to play basketball there.



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CLUB VOLLEYBALL



The Legacy Elite U15 team finished third in the Open Division at the AAU Girls Junior National Volleyball Championships in Orlando, Fla.

Legacy Elite U15 takes third in AAU Junior tournament

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Legacy Elite made quite a run last month in the Under-15 Open Division at the 44th AAU Girls Junior National Volleyball Championship in Orlando, Fla.

Legacy Elite U15, coached by Bryan Lindstrom and Steven Click, finished with a 7-4 tournament record, winning 15 of 27 sets en route to a third-place finish in a tournament that started at the Orange County Convention Center and finished at ESPN's Josten Center in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Orlando-Tampa (Fla.) South Rox Red captured the title with a 12-0 record, while Louisville (Ky.) PNK took runner-up honors with a 9-4 mark.

Legacy Elite reached the semifinals of the knockout stage with a 25-14, 18-25, 15-7 win over Kentucky-Indiana Volleyball Academy Red before falling to PNK, 18-25, 20-25.

Legacy Elite, which is competing this week in the USA Volleyball Junior Olympics in the Open Division at the Minneapolis (Minn.) Convention Center, features several area players, including Emily Hagelthorn (South Lyon East), 5-foot-1 defensive specialist; Nyia Setla (Northville), 5-1 DS; Genevieve Sale (Farmington Hills Mercy), 5-10 right-side hitter; Christina Audette (Birmingham Marian), 5-8 outside hitter; Alexa Rousseau (Bloomfield Hills), 6-3 setter; and Lauren King (West Bloomfield), 5-10 RSH-middle blocker.

Rounding out the squad are Meghan Dombrowski (Utica Eisenhower), 6-2 MB; Janelle Kwaborski (Ortonville Brandon), 5-11 MB; Kendall Murray (Ann Arbor Skyline), 6-1 MB; Kennedy Dolmage (Macomb Lutheran North), 5-4 DS; and Katie Stratton (Rochester Stoney Creek), 5-10 OH.

PRO SOCCER

Stevenson grad Hildebrandt turns Cincinnati crowd on its ear

Patrick Brennan
Cincinnati.com

Futbol Club Cincinnati goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt took soccer bedlam to a new level in Cincinnati with one flick of his left hand.

FC Cincinnati (United Soccer League) led Chicago Fire of MLS on penalty kicks, 3-1, in a Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup Round of 16 match June 28 when Hildebrandt sprawled left and flashed his left palm.

Hildebrandt, the reigning USL Goalkeeper of the Year who was an all-stater at Livonia Stevenson High before starring at Oakland University, then pushed Chicago's fourth penalty kick attempt wide of his left post.

The save was Hildebrandt's third of the penalty-kick stage of the match, which went scoreless through 120 minutes. It confirmed another stunning upset of a top-flight, MLS team on FC Cincinnati's fairy tale run in U.S. Open Cup.

A Nippert Stadium throng of 32,287 — the second-biggest crowd in U.S. Open Cup history and the largest crowd to see a competitive, non-friendly FC Cincinnati match — heaved and rocked the University of Cincinnati's historic football venue in celebration.

FC Cincinnati's players and coaches did the



KAREEM ELGAZZAR | CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

Stevenson High grad Mitch Hildebrandt was the hero in FC Cincinnati's upset PK win over Chicago in the U.S. Open Cup.

same, gathering in the north end of the stadium.

In addition to the three penalty-kick stops, Hildebrandt's night included 10 saves and two punches. On a night of superlative performance by Cincinnati, Hildebrandt's outing shone brightest.

"This city is unbelievable and the team was absolutely unbelievable," said Hildebrandt, who was a member of Stevenson's MHSAA Division 1 state runner-up team in 2006. "The amount of work that they put in for 120 minutes was, yeah, that's — I can't even fathom how they feel right now, so that game was just amazing."

Hildebrandt, 26, who began his pro career in 2012 with the Tampa Bay Rowdies before moving to Minnesota FC (2012-15), also produced his seventh shutout of the season in all competitions

and his 17th all time for Cincinnati.

Cincinnati midfielder Aodhan Quinn missed FC Cincinnati's first penalty, which was taken directly in front of the Bailey supporters section in Nippert's north end.

Josu, Harrison Delbridge and Jimmy McLaughlin all followed with successful conversions for FC Cincinnati. Hildebrandt responded to Quinn's miss by stonewalling Nemanja Nikolic on the ensuing kick, Arturo Alvarez and, on the final kick of the match, Juninho.

Only world-renowned Bastian Schweinsteiger, the third penalty taker for Chicago, was able to beat Hildebrandt.

"I just try to react," Hildebrandt said of his strategy for facing penalties. "We have people that (study) penalties and they give me some info, but

mainly I just try to react. I try to stand my ground and credit to the staff. They gave me some good direction."

Hildebrandt hasn't allowed a goal from run of play in 300 minutes of U.S. Open Cup competition. Including FC Cincinnati backup Dallas Jaye's second-round shutout of AFC Cleveland, Cincinnati hasn't allowed an Open Cup goal in 420 minutes.

The match allowed FC Cincinnati to progress to the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open Cup, where it will face second-division side Miami FC (NASL), but the result also meant more than that.

For on-field matters, FC Cincinnati is streaking. The club improved to 7-1-2 in its last 10 matches and 9-5-5 overall.

Off the field, the Cincinnati-Chicago match was received locally as the latest can't-miss event in FC Cincinnati history. It was an event that played out before a national TV audience on ESPN with the network's top soccer-broadcast crew on the call.

Considering the stage, it was another successful audition for the Queen City club, which some now view as a leading candidate in the MLS expansion process that's expected to yield two new franchises by year's end.

Hometownlife.com sports editor Brad Emons contributed to this report.

ALL-STARS

Continued from Page B1

lers.

"Being a smaller player, that's one of the things I have to do or else I won't get any yards," Lynch said. "That's one of the things I really do a lot."

The East defense posted its first shutout over the West since the 2008 game (9-0).

Farmington Hills Harrison linebacker Guam Lee Jr., who stands 5-10 and weighs 200 pounds, came up with the "stick" of the game on a West ball carrier in the second quarter.

"It was really exciting, because it set the tone for the game," Lee said. "We really got things going, got the shutout, great day overall."

Lee, who will play at Notre Dame (Ohio) College, was playing under a different defensive scheme devised by East head coach Jeff Wood (Temperance Bedford). "We were playing a 3-4 (defense)," Lee said. "It was my first time doing that, because at Harrison

we do a 4-4, kind of 5-2, so I really had to re-learn the whole position and we all came together. Great coaching by coach (Walker) Zaban (Dearborn Fordson). The linebackers were solid and we all melded together and did the job."

Another stalwart on defense for the East was fellow linebacker Marquis Hathaway (Redford Union), who was somewhat surprised his team pitched the shutout.

"I wasn't really expecting it," said the 6-1, 230-pound Hathaway. "I was expecting more from them. But, hey, we handled our business, we did our job and came out with a win."

"Today, we had fun. It was just a great experience. I met a lot of new people. Some of the best players across the state come in, making a team within a week and it's just like ... probably the best experience I've ever had in high school."

Hathaway will cross the Ambassador Bridge this fall to play for the University of Windsor. His recruiting process was initially started



BRANDON FOLSOM | DETROIT FREE PRESS
Derek Lynch (Bloomfield Hills) scored the first TD for the East squad during a 21-0 win over the West.

through social media.

"They contacted me through Twitter," Hathaway said. "It just came out of nowhere and it was unexpected."

Kyle Wood and Crowell carried most of the load offensive for the East.

"I don't think it could have gone any better," said the 6-foot, 190-pound Wood, who will play next season at Michigan Tech.

"I've played smash-mouth football for about five years now with Tony Patritto and Mark McFarland (at Adams). They preach it. You've got to be tough, you've got to finish runs and set the tone of the game and that's just what I do."

The East owned the time of possession, with the exception of the third quarter, when the West threatened, but could not



Lee

score.

"It was crazy. I didn't expect us to jell together like that," Lynch said. "Coming from all different schools, some being rivals ... for us to come together like that and score 21 was just amazing. It was a great experience."

East head coach Jeff Wood said he had a total of seven practices coming into the game, but many were walk-throughs while implementing his veer offensive system and 4-3 defense.

"The best thing was, we talked to them about that fact we were like a long lost family at a re-

union coming in," he said. "Nobody knew each other and, by the end, we were going to leave as brothers. And that makes a huge difference, when you're playing for your brother instead of somebody that has a price tag on his head in the pros. And our kids just loved that stuff. And they dove in with both feet and we got a lot of stuff accomplished."

Crowell, whose Franklin team was ironically eliminated by Jeff Wood's Bedford squad during the second round of the Division 2 state playoffs last fall, got a much needed equipment adjustment prior to the game.

"All week in practice, I was using somebody else's helmet and it was just too small," said Crowell, who will play at a Minnesota junior college this fall. "My coach (Chris Kelbert) brought it up this morning at 9 a.m. I got to give a shout-out to him."

And also give a big shout-out to the East squad, as well.

emmons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

ANASTOS

Continued from Page B1

fearless point guard who averaged 19.2 points, 9.4 rebounds and 5.2 assists en route to all-state honors. And she did it while juggling two sports that season, also playing for the 2013 AAA state champion Honeybaked U19 team.

"I was just talking to a few people. My academic adviser brought it up and then so did some of my hockey coaches and then, just honestly, somehow it worked out," Anastos said of her switch to hoops. "It's definitely a little bit crazy."

Anastos will join an Eagles basketball team that finished 9-21 overall and 2-14 in the tough Atlantic Coast Conference last season under

coach Erik Johnson, entering his fourth year.

"We talked a little bit," said Anastos, a resident of Farmington Hills who was recently inducted into the Detroit Catholic League Hall of Fame. "I know what (Johnson) wants my role to be on their team or what to look for and so I was able to work it out and have a good conversation with them and figure out what's going on."

Anastos is taking summer school classes, while working out with the basketball team. She admits the only times she picked up a basketball during the past four years was at Ladywood alumni reunion games.

But she looks forward to the challenge of getting reacquainted with the sport.

"I've been playing a little here and there,"

Anastos said. "I feel good. I'm excited for the opportunity and very grateful that they're letting me to do that."

Anastos left an indelible mark on the BC women's hockey program, where she was a key member of the winningest class in school history, both in victories (129) and winning percentage (.859).

A two-time captain, Anastos played in more games (156) in a BC uniform than any other women's hockey player. She scored 58 goals (eighth all-time) and had 86 assists (tied for fifth).

As a senior, she tallied 16 goals and added 26 assists while being voted to the 2017 New England Hockey Writers Association Division 1 All-Star Team. She also earned Hockey East all-star honorable mention hon-

ors.

The forward also took part in three NCAA Frozen Fours, helping the Eagles to a 40-1 record and a runner-up finish to Minnesota in 2016. BC also won three Beanpot titles and a pair of Hockey East championships.

"Obviously, would have loved to win a national championship, was close to it for about three years," Anastos said. "But no regrets. I had the time of my life. It was a blast. I loved the people, loved the coaches. It was an amazing, amazing opportunity and amazing chances everywhere."

A graduate with a B.A. from BC's Lynch School of Education as an applied psychology, human development and film major, Anastos also excelled in the classroom. She earned the Athletic Director's Award for

Academic Achievement three times, as well as places on the Hockey East all-academic team and the ACC honor roll.

Anastos will be taking grad school classes next year in the administration and leadership program at BC.

"It's the people who make it amazing," Anastos said of Boston College. "I've made some of the greatest friends there and my coaches have just been unbelievable. And it goes high up into our athletic department to Brad Bates, the athletic director. He was amazing and the same with even the professors and the community, all the people there who make it unreal."

Anastos, who has four siblings, comes from a hockey and basketball family.

Her father Tom is

former commissioner of the Central Collegiate Hockey Association and former men's hockey head coach at Michigan State (2011-17). Her older sister Lauren played hockey at Adrian College.

Another sister, Jenna, was a member of the Northwood University basketball team (2008-12) and was an assistant coach there as well.

Anastos admits there's been one major adjustment while transitioning over from hockey to hoops.

"The running — 100 percent the running," she said with a laugh. "It's a lot different than the skating. Harder on the knees and shins."

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STATE GOLF

Werkmeister claims second Michigan Am crown

Gregory Johnson
Correspondent

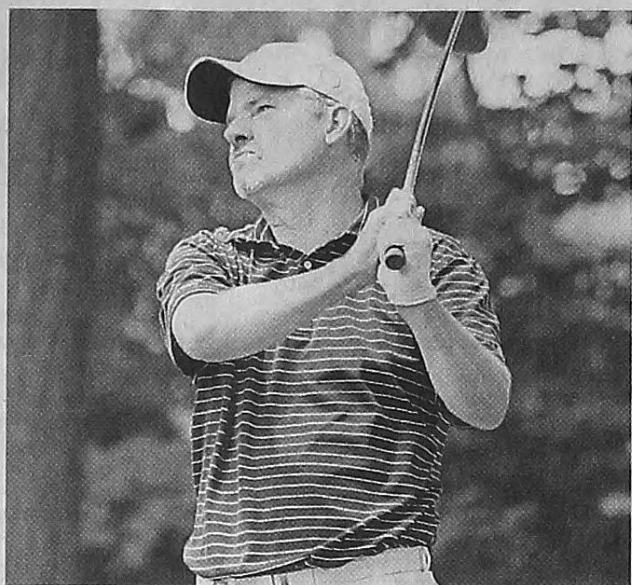
It worked out for Tom Werkmeister.

"It really couldn't have worked out any better," the Grandville resident said June 24 after winning the 106th Michigan Amateur Championship at Egypt Valley Country Club in Ada.

The 49-year-old marketing salesman, who plans to leave the amateur ranks and turn professional and try to qualify for the Champions Tour when he turns 50, turned back Hartland's Beau Breault in the championship match, 3 and 1.

It was the second Michigan Amateur title for Werkmeister, who also won in 2009, was runner-up in 2012, won the 2013 Michigan Open as an amateur, has six GAM Mid-Am titles, a GAM Championship, a record number of wins on the local West Michigan circuit and was inducted into the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame in 2014.

"The first (Amateur) was, obviously, very special and this one is a new sort of special by being in Grand Rapids, in front of my friends, my wife and everybody," he said. "It's great, every bit



Grandville's Tom Werkmeister captured his second Michigan Amateur.

as good as the first one, and the fact that this is my last Michigan Amateur – this could not have worked out better for me."

Semifinal win

Werkmeister topped Casey Baker of Ann Arbor in the morning semifinal, 3 and 2, and Breault, a 20-year-old Eastern Michigan University golfer, turned back Brett Hudson of Bloomfield Hills in the other semifinal, 4 and 3.

Werkmeister was off and running in the final. He won the first, fourth,

fifth and sixth holes, all with pars, as Breault struggled, three-putting twice, hitting a tee shot out of bounds and hitting an approach shot into a water hazard. Following a birdie on the par-3 No. 12 hole with a 25-foot putt, Werkmeister took his second 4-up lead in the match.

Breault, who hits the ball significantly farther than Werkmeister, was not finished though. His putter warmed up and he birdied Nos. 13 and 14 and won the par 4 No. 15 hole that was playing into significant wind to close



Bloomfield Hills' Brett Hudson reached his first-ever Michigan Amateur semifinal.

the gap.

Then it was Werkmeister's turn to respond as the course turned back with the wind. He did with a shot to eight feet for birdie on the par-3 No. 16 hole and finally a conceded birdie following a wedge shot to five feet on No. 17.

Mental approach

Breault, a GAM Junior Invitational winner three years ago, said he started the match thinking the wrong way, in part because of who he was playing against.

"I started thinking I might get beat and it was not how I should have been thinking about it," he said. "After I missed that putt on No. 6, I was devastated, but I told myself you have got to make some putts and win some holes or you are going to get blown out."

Werkmeister was

impressed with Breault's play.

"I was trying to fight the demons in my head," he said. "It was a kick in the butt I needed when he started coming back. He made a charge and I had to get back on the ball and hit some good shots. I did that down the stretch."

Breault said he didn't like losing, but if he had to lose, he would choose Werkmeister to be the one to beat him.

"He's such a great player and he's done so many things," he said. "I'm happy for him. He had a lot of people out there, his fans, who wanted him to win."

Werkmeister called the win very satisfying in a tournament that started with 836 entrants and went through sectional qualifying, 36 holes of stroke play to start the final week and then six rounds of match play.

"It is so difficult," he said. "It is such an endurance test, physically and mentally."

Hudson's run

Hudson, in the final four for the first time, said he was tired but excited June 23 after he topped Robert Morris University golfer David Szymanski, 3 and 2, and then toppled the defending champion, Michigan

State golfer and Egypt Valley employee Sam Weatherhead, 3 and 2.

"A lot of hard work and a lot of bad tournaments I've learned from have put me here," the 32-year-old financial planner said. "It feels great. It makes me feel like I belong out here again. I had some doubts earlier this year about my game, but I got it together and it feels great."

Hudson had an early 3-up lead against Weatherhead, but the Spartan closed the gap to 1-up repeatedly.

"I finally made great pars at 14 and 15 that held him off," Hudson said. "Sam is such a great player, but what I think got him was my short game. I chipped the ball really well and I putted great today, the best I putted all week."

On June 22, Hudson had to fight off Oakland University golfer Jake Kneen (White Lake, Michigan), the second day stroke leader at 67, for a tough 1-up win in the round of 32.

Hudson hit a 45-yard pitch to just inches on the par-5 No. 17 hole to take the final lead. Hudson, an Oakland Hills Country Club member, carried his own bag and made the round of 16 for the second time.

SUMMER BASEBALL

Michigan Rams rally in seventh inning to upend Bulls, 6-5

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

The Michigan Rams rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh Wednesday to beat the Michigan Bulls, 6-5, in a Livonia Collegiate Baseball League game played at Ford Field.

Jordan Finney brought home Trevor MacDonald, who went 2-for-4, with the game-

winning run as the Rams snapped a two-game losing skid to improve to 15-4 in the league.

Kevin O'Malley and Gordon Ferguson also knocked in runs for the Rams.

Jack Ferguson, the winning pitcher in relief, also delivered a two-run triple. He replaced starter Zack Schmidtke going the final 1 1/3 innings allowing no runs on no

hits while striking out two.

Schmidtke worked the first 5 2/3 innings allowing all five runs (three earned) on eight hits and a walk while striking out five.

Losing pitcher Christian Mercure went all seven innings allowing two earned runs on six hits and two walks. He fanned seven.

Joe Popp (2-for-3),

Jake Krek (2-for-4) and Emerson Misch each had an RBI for the Bulls, who slipped to 13-6 in the LCBL.

HURRICANES 2, RAMS 1: Rob Harris threw a complete game five-hitter Monday leading the Michigan Hurricanes (10-6-1) to an LCBL win Monday over the Michigan Rams (14-4) in a game played at Allen Park High School. Harris struck out four and walked only two in going all seven innings. He outdueled Rams starter Dylan Dzendzel, who also went the distance allowing one earned run on five hits and a walk while striking out five.

Jake Markowski had the game-winning RBI single in the bottom of the seventh inning scoring Alex Oleszewicz. Jake Weshalek had the other RBI in the sixth for the Hurricanes.

The Rams got an RBI single from Tristen Jorah scoring Patrick Downing in the top of the third inning.

DIAMOND KINGS 4, RAMS 2: Justin Green went 3-for-4 along with two RBIs June 25 as the Great Lakes Diamond Kings (5-11-1) upended the Michigan Rams (14-3) at Bicentennial Park.

Green doubled twice and scored two runs for the Diamond Kings. Charlie Ellis knocked in a run, while Collin Skorupski and Anthony Lewis also scored runs for the Diamond Kings, who got three runs in the third inning and one in the fifth. Winning pitcher Logan Walker worked the first five innings, allowing just one run on

two hits and three walks. He struck out four before Logan Priebe took over to earn the save, allowing one run on two hits and a walk while striking out four.

Losing pitcher Gordon Ferguson, the starter, allowed three runs on five hits and one hit batter in four innings. He struck out four before reliever Brendan Wetmore came on to pitch the final three innings, allowing an unearned run on three hits. Wetmore struck out four and did not allow a walk.

Anthony DiPonio and Jack Ferguson both drove in a run for the Rams.

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TAEKWONDO

Continued from Page B1

Association's first national high school competition.

"I've been doing taekwondo since I was 3 years old," Covert, 25, said during an interview at the Olympia studio, located near Canton Center and Ford roads. "I was fortunate enough to make the AAU National Team in 2008. And now I always hoped someone would create a taekwondo program (at Salem).

"I went and ran varsity track and I played varsity soccer, but my passion was always for taekwondo.

"(P-CEP United) gives these kids and athletes an opportunity to chase their passion, which is martial arts, and pursue a letter also. Because everyone wants to get a varsity letter when they go to high school, but maybe they don't play soccer or football."

Almost there

Covert, involved since last summer in starting the club, said the wheels are in motion for the school district to officially give the green light to taekwondo as a varsity sport. He expects that to happen before the start of the 2017-18 school year.

Launching taekwondo at the high school level — all over the United States — is at the heart of an initiative by the USCT. The organization wants to make taekwondo an NCAA-certified sport so that college scholarships



SUBMITTED

Members of the P-CEP United Tae Kwon Do club include (from left) Kenneth Lewis, Austin Martin, Scott Green, Katherine Springer, Andrea Herrmann, Maria Ballas, Matthew Kight, Master Alexander Covert (head coach), Lukas Herrmann, Maya Tiller, Lubna Farhat, Cody Deems, Rafael Marquez and Jack Ruhula.

could be offered, Covert said.

"The goal is to continue this movement through spreading the word (and), possibly, start a Michigan taekwondo league," Covert said, "where we can compete with fellow clubs and high schools, just like soccer or football."

At Cobo Center, because P-CEP United is the only Michigan high school team, Covert's group will be going up against squads from Texas, Iowa and California, "where they are a little more established."

Getting other area squads on board undoubtedly is going to take some time, however.

Livonia Public Schools conducted a survey this spring to gauge "potential interest in a future athletic offering," Churchill athletic director Marc Hage noted.

He stated that the survey results will be

examined in the fall.

To fill the scheduling gap, Covert's team of black belts (who mostly train at Olympia, Midwest Tae Kwon Do in Plymouth or Michigan Academy in Northville) travel to tournaments in Michigan and neighboring states.

New and cool

Among team members who are thrilled to earn varsity letters (pending board approval, called a formality by Covert) are Rafael Marquez, Lubna Farhat and Andrea Herrmann.

"I was very excited (about the P-CEP team forming), because it would be a cool opportunity to get your varsity letter in high school," said the 17-year-old Marquez, who will be a senior at Plymouth High School. "It's never been done before."

Just like his coach, Marquez (a second-de-

gree black belt in the male middleweight division) earned a varsity letter in track because taekwondo wasn't offered yet.

"It's something I thought about before going into high school," Marquez said. "I was disappointed when I found out my high school didn't have a team like that, so when this came up (in 2016), I was very excited."

Farhat, 15, who attends Salem, is a first-degree black belt and female middleweight performer. She said it is "amazing" to be able to participate in a sport she loves and earn a varsity letter in the process.

"I always go by the motto 'Do something you love or don't do it at all,'" Farhat said. "To get an opportunity to be able to do taekwondo in general is amazing, but to represent your school and, hopefully, get scholar-

ships from taekwondo is amazing. It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance."

The 14-year-old Herrmann, also a first-degree black belt, trains at Midwest in Plymouth.

"I really like it, because it's never been an option," Herrmann said about the new high school squad. "I still train at Midwest with the competition team there. (P-CEP) is on top of that.

"We all share that we go to the same school and are around the same age. We're all excited that we get this opportunity."

Many positives

Herrmann, a Salem student in the female light weight division, said there is additional incentive to perform well at Cobo Center.

"In some divisions, like mine, if you get gold (first), it means you make the national team and get to go to worlds," she said. "If you get second place, then you're a national team alternate."

All the team members said they get so much out of taekwondo.

"I'm pleased to do it. I enjoy kicking, getting kicked," Herrmann said with a laugh. "It helps me improve my athleticism and become more fit. I get to meet new people and develop relationships."

According to Farhat, the sport rewards those who are diligent: "I'm always here, so it's OK. But it sometimes gets hard. Dedication is a key."

For Marquez, benefits of taekwondo include "self-discipline, (having) a lot of respect for other people. You just learn to

work with other people that aren't up to the same level as you."

Letter perfect

Other P-CEP United team members include Katherine Springer (Plymouth), Colin McHugh (Plymouth), William Cothron (Canton), Matthew Kight (Plymouth), Lukas Herrmann (Salem), Austin Martin (Salem), Kenneth Lewis (Canton), Scott Green (Salem), Maria Ballas (Plymouth), Maya Tiller (Canton), Cody Deems (Canton) and Jack Ruhula (Canton).

Farhat, Andrea Herrmann and Springer are on the female national team, while the male national team includes Marquez, McHugh, Cothron, Kight, Martin and Lukas Herrmann.

Covert, meanwhile, said he would like nothing more than for kids at other high schools to get to compete for a coveted varsity letter.

"This is something they enjoy doing, it's something they're passionate about," he said. "They didn't grow up playing soccer or baseball. They grew up kicking and punching and yelling and enjoying the arts of taekwondo."

"A lot of the kids that are in here training, they want to go to the Olympics. That's everyone's taekwondo dream. When they get to high school, a new dream comes up. 'I would really want to earn a varsity letter.' Who wouldn't?"

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Expert tips for negotiating your salary

BY MATT TARPEY
 CAREERBUILDER

You did it! You successfully navigated the job market and application process and nailed the interview. Now you've got a real job offer. As much as you may be tempted to just sign it and be done with the job hunt, there's still one more thing to do – a step many job seekers skip, only to regret it later. It's time to negotiate salary.

Unsure how? Here are a few tips to make sure your salary negotiation goes smoothly.

Actually negotiate

The single most common mistake job seekers make is simply not negotiating on salary. Most employers expect a negotiation and give themselves a little wiggle room with their initial offer. By not negotiating, you're effectively leaving money on the table.

"Perhaps one of the most important things to remember is that once a company makes you a job offer, they want you to come on board. They've invested a significant amount of time to determine that you're the right person for the role," says Lauren Gard, partner at Zumado Public Relations. "If the salary you ask for is rejected, you will have a chance to accept a counteroffer or the original offer."

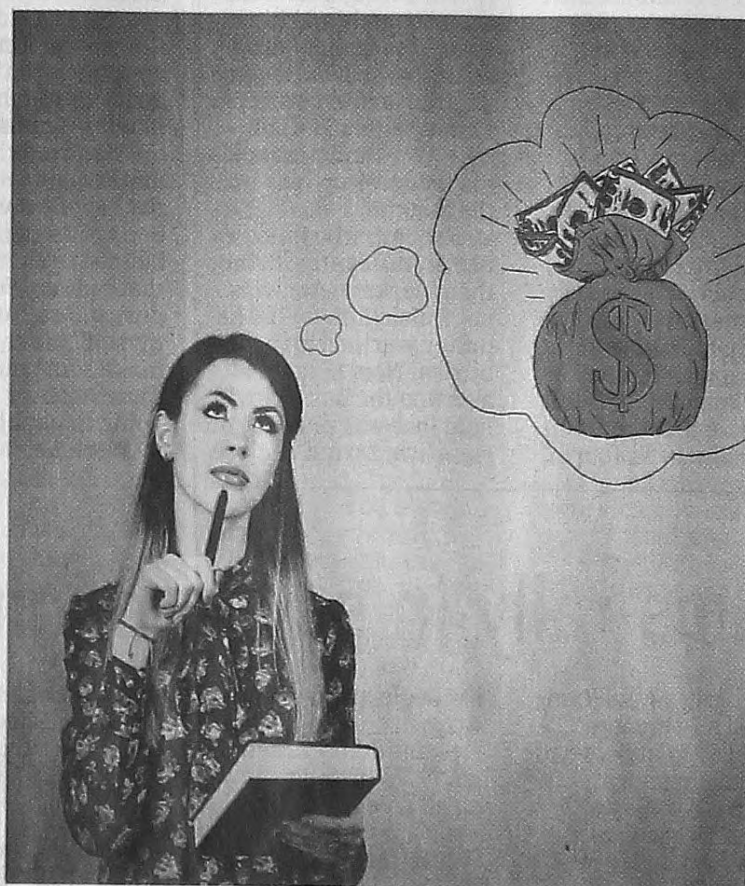
Know your worth

Doing the proper research prior to the interview will help strengthen your position and give you more confidence during salary negotiations. "Research the latest salary trends for your city, industry and job title by reviewing compensation surveys and talking to recruiters or others in your network," explains Addie Swartz, CEO of ReachHIRE, a training and placement pathway for professional women to get back into the workforce after a career break. "By confidently marketing yourself and your relevant skills and conducting salary research, you should be prepared to negotiate for what you're worth."

Focus on your qualifications

One of the most common mistakes job seekers make is negotiating based on their previous salary. Focusing on how well you fit the employer's needs actually gives you much more leverage.

"The current job market is filled with qualified candidates who have to take a lower salary because it is an employer's market. However, you are in a strong position to negotiate a higher salary if you are pretty much a perfect match for the position," says Cheryl Palmer, owner of Call to Career. "The best thing to do is to reiterate



GETTY IMAGES

what the position requires and restate the fact that you have exactly what they are looking for. Then you can say, 'My salary research shows that the going rate for someone with my qualifications and experience is between \$X and \$Y.' This makes your request for a higher salary objective instead of subjective."

Consider the complete package

Salary negotiations aren't necessarily all about salary. If

an employer is unable to go higher on base salary, they may be more flexible when it comes to benefits and employee perks. "Nothing should be off the table, but prioritize which benefits are most important to you," says Scott Dicke, director of permanent placement services with Robert Half Finance & Accounting. "It's always a good idea to consider employee perks – such as flexible scheduling, vacation time and retirement benefits – when looking at the

whole compensation package."

Get it in writing

Once you've negotiated and agreed on a compensation package, ask for it in writing. This way, the matter is officially sealed and the chance of a clerical or memory error is avoided.

"It's never a done deal until you and your new employer have signed on the dotted line and you're both on the same page," says Dicke. "Documentation of your complete compensation package, job description and expectations in your new role should all be included so there's no confusion or room for interpretation."

Remember, employers typically make job offers with the expectation that they're up for negotiation. And since raises and bonuses are often based on salary, a higher starting salary can have a big effect on your earnings throughout your career.

Negotiating your salary can be nerve-racking, but if you follow these simple tips, you'll be glad you did it.

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

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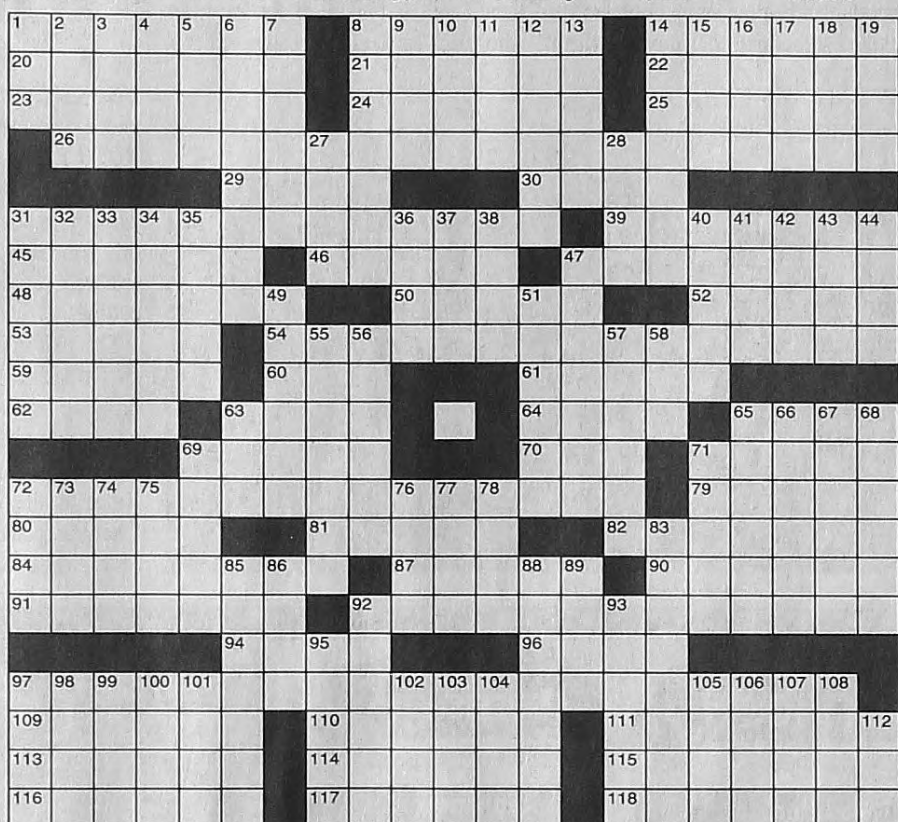
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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Diamond shape
 - 8 Swank
 - 14 Hit on the bean
 - 20 "Winnie-the-Pooh" author
 - 21 Crescent-shaped
 - 22 Have a thought
 - 23 Bishop, e.g.
 - 24 Apparel
 - 25 It's hung and hit at fiesta
 - 26 Start of an instruction
 - 29 "Anne of Green Gables" novelist Lucy — Montgomery
 - 30 "— have thought it?"
 - 31 Instruction, part 2
 - 39 Reindeer herders' region
 - 45 Burrow
 - 46 Scottish estate owner
 - 47 1976 title film role for Robby Benson
 - 48 Gin-and-lime cocktails
 - 50 Weeper of Greek myth
 - 52 Kitchen appliance brand
 - 53 Everything considered
 - 54 Instruction, part 3
 - 59 Catholic bigwigs
 - 60 Huge time unit
 - 61 Elf
 - 62 With
 - 65 Weak type
 - 69 Terri
 - 70 NFL goals
 - 71 See
 - 72 Instruction, part 4
 - 79 Steamers, e.g.
 - 80 Barbera's partner in cartoons
 - 81 Artist
 - 82 Onion's kin
 - 84 Proceeds
 - 87 Coffee option
 - 90 Plaza Hotel girl of kid-lit
 - 91 Venus, just before dawn
 - 92 Instruction, part 5
 - 94 — Field (Mets' home)
 - 96 One all, e.g.
 - 97 End of the instruction
 - 109 Team novice
 - 110 Warrant
 - 111 Actor Gary
 - 113 Bee or ant
 - 114 More timid
 - 115 Put to use (near)
 - 116 Mall stands
 - 117 Shines and smooths
 - 118 Vended
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Musical talk
 - 2 Mata —
 - 3 It's a sign
 - 4 Vibraphonist
 - 5 Ho-hum
 - 6 Inopportune
 - 7 Shilly-shally
 - 8 Model
 - 9 Skating jump
 - 10 Animated bug film
 - 11 Go via sea
 - 12 Scattered, as seeds
 - 13 "For cryin' out loud!"
 - 14 Two-footed
 - 15 Aesir god
 - 16 Confined, with "up"
 - 17 Jack of early late-night TV
 - 18 Bluesy James
 - 19 Merger, e.g.
 - 27 Knitting stitch
 - 28 E. — (gut bacteria)
 - 31 Band
 - 32 Couscous alternative
 - 33 Opens, as a gas tank
 - 34 Sock variety
 - 35 Film units
 - 36 Baseball's Martinez
 - 37 Shamrock's land
 - 38 Revered one
 - 40 Dinner piece
 - 41 See
 - 62-Across
 - 42 Open a bit
 - 43 Taboo thing
 - 44 Unhearing
 - 47 Carlisle of the Go-Go's
 - 49 Awful smell
 - 51 Indirect route
 - 55 Tobacco pipes
 - 56 Get clothed
 - 57 Is
 - 58 Material for some cans
 - 63 Alley —
 - 65 Lambaste
 - 66 Rome's land, in France
 - 67 Acacia relative
 - 68 Badger
 - 69 Incline
 - 71 Resell tickets
 - 72 Mississippi senator Cochran
 - 73 "Mary — Little Lamb"
 - 74 One of the deadly sins (some winds)
 - 76 Lead-in to spore
 - 77 67-Down, for one
 - 78 Personal quirks
 - 83 Article-preceding summary
 - 85 Marks of distinction
 - 86 Cat Nation tribe
 - 88 Pollination organs
 - 89 Pâté de — gras
 - 92 Truck fuel
 - 93 Vessel with a bag, maybe
 - 95 Streetcars
 - 97 With
 - 71-Across, French avant-garde composer
 - 98 TV actress Anderson
 - 99 Ho-hum
 - 100 — out (barely earns)
 - 101 Lit candle bit
 - 102 "Hrm ... yes"
 - 103 Zap, as leftovers
 - 104 Arduous hike
 - 105 Lost traction
 - 106 Solder, say
 - 107 Jannings of old films
 - 108 Demolish
 - 112 Actor Romero



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

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

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

ON VACATION WORD SEARCH

M E Y V A C A T I O N O I T A E R C E R
S P A B A G G A G E R P O T D H Y U I V
H L T X L B U D G E T N E I Y M E A M B
B E I D A G O C A L Y R A R E N I T I R
A S I V N Y X U X P M P O O L R F L E D
M P H N O I T A N I T S E L D P B E S L X
S A S S I C T C N N S K L O D T E Y X U
U C F N T G U A B O F A R L O R U F E B
G K D O A S L P R O T T G M V D N E G P
P E H R N T U A L N O N C A I O U S N V
A B P K R Y I N E A I K T U I G T T A K
S U T E E U O R S E N I I T R E U X H E
S C F L T F I Y E H O N A N K R H H C X
P L A X N D I S X N I M I C G O E D X X
O O M F I L T X R C R N I N T S S N E E
R T I D S H A E D I N T E E G S S T C H
T H L D G L N K F B U F L E V A R T A Y
U I Y I E C G N I P E E K E S U O H H Y
O N S R E B O L F Y T U D H A P I H S U
G G S H U C G S N S L E S A C T I U S M

WORDS

- AIRPORT
- BAGGAGE
- BOOKING
- BUDGET
- CLOTHING
- CONFIRMATION
- CURRENCY
- DESTINATION
- DUTY
- EXCHANGE
- FAMILY
- HOTEL
- HOUSEKEEPING
- INTERNATIONAL
- ITINERARY
- HOTEL
- PACK
- PASSPORT
- PLANNING
- POOL
- RECREATION
- RELAX
- RESERVATION
- SHIP
- SIGHTSEEING
- SNORKEL
- SPA
- STAY
- SUITCASE
- SUNSHINE
- TERMINAL
- TICKETS
- TRAVEL
- VACATION
- VISA

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Crossword Answers

RHOMBUS CLASSY BOPPED
AAMILNE LUNATE IDEATE
PRELATE ATTIRE PINATA
INTHISPUZZLESCENTRAL
MAUD WHOOD
SQUAREWRITEIN LAPLAND
TUNNEL LATRO BILLYJOE
RICKETS ANIOBE ANMANA
INALLTHEONLYLETTEROF
POPES EON PIXIE
EASTONOR G ANIN WIMP
SOCKO TDS SATIE
THEALPHABETTHAT CLAMS
HANNA HENRI SHALLOT
ADVANCES DECAF ELOISE
DAYSTAR DOESNOTAPPEAR
CITI TIED
ELSEWHEREINHEANSWER
ROOKITE ASSURE COLEMAN
INSECT MEEKER UTILIZE
KTOSKS SLEEKES PEDDLED

Word Search

HEYVACATIIONOITAE R C E R
SPABAGGAGERPOTDHYUIV
HLTXLBUDGETNEYMYEAMB
BEIDAGOCALYRARENITIR
ASIVNYXUXPMPPOOLRFLD
MPHNOITANITSELDPBE SLX
SASSICTCNNSKLODTEYXU
UCFN TGUABOFARLORUFEB
GKDOASLPROTTGMVDNEG P
PEHRNTUALNONCAIOSNV
ABPKRYINEAIKTUIGT T AK
SUTEEUORS ENIITREUXHE
SCFLTFIYEHONANKRHH CX
PLAXNDISXNIMICGOEDXX
OOMFILTXRCRNINTSSNEE
RTIDSHAEDINTEEGSS TCH
THLDGLNKFBUFLEVARTAY
UIYIECGNIPEEKESUOHHY
ONSREBOLFYTUDHAPIHSU
GGSHUCGSSNSLESACTIUSM

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

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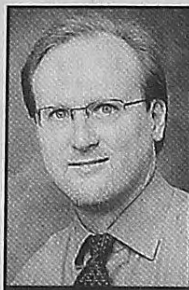
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Car Report

DODGE STEPS UP AGAIN BY SPONSORING 'ROADKILL NIGHTS' A WEEK BEFORE DREAM CRUISE, CENTERED IN PONTIAC



By Dale Buss

Now that Chevrolet has withdrawn as the primary sponsor of the annual "Dream Cruise" on Woodward Avenue, another legendary Motown brand is stepping up its own presence in the week-long, mid-August celebration that draws thousands of old hot rods and their owners—as well as hundreds of thousands of observers and other fans—to the central thoroughfare of metropolitan Detroit.

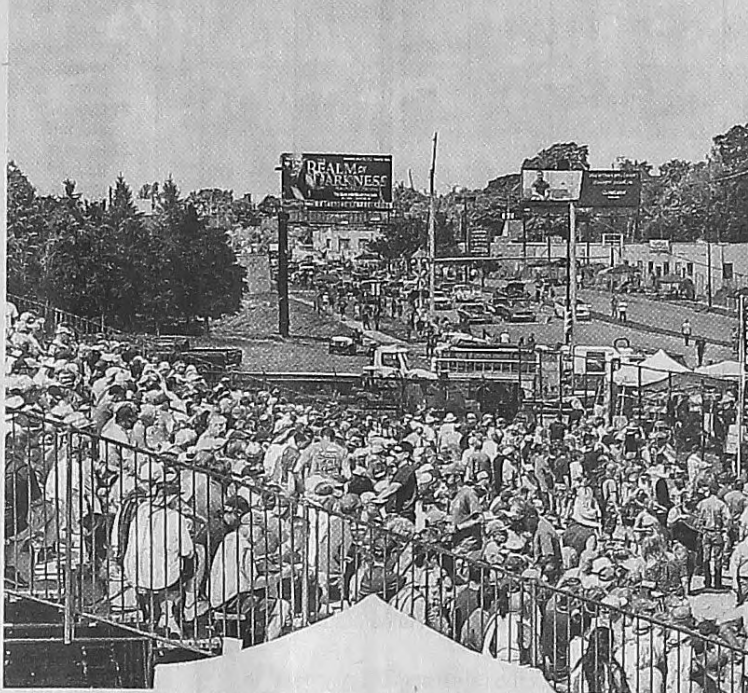
Dodge is kicking off the city's celebration of classic cars and car culture for the second straight year with a night of legal drag racing on Woodward, helping aging boomers see fulfilled something that most of them

could only have hoped to get away with in their youth as cruisers.

Specifically, on August 12, Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge will take over MI Concourse in Pontiac with drag racing and thrill rides, celebrity-showdown races and other family-friendly activities.

Attendees also will be able to check out the full potential, on the drag strip and via race simulators, of the 2018 Dodge Challenger SRT Demon. As the most powerful muscle car ever, with 840 horsepower and 770 pound-feet of torque, SRT Demon will be the new halo car for the Fiat Chrysler-owned brand that has doubled down on its performance chops in recent years and now wants to be almost totally defined by that attribute.

Even in an era of encroachment by emissions-friendly electric cars and thrill-killing self-driving features, there's still a big place for car fans who want to steer their own vehicles,



Dodge wants throngs for Roadkill Nights in Pontiac again this year

"Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge," TEN: The Enthusiast Network's popular drag-racing event and car festival, attracted more than 30,000 fans last year, returns to MI Concourse in Pontiac, Michigan. Moving up a week, Roadkill kicks off southeast Michigan's weeklong celebration of classic cars and car culture.

This year's "Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge" is even bigger and better, bringing back legal street drag racing on Woodward Avenue and even more experiences, including Dodge Thrill Rides in the 707-horsepower Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat and Charger SRT Hellcat and the 645-horsepower

Challenger SRT Demon on the dragstrip and "drive" it via a high-octane drag racing simulation experience. Additional activities include cacklefest, wheelstander exhibition runs, dyno tests, show 'n' shine, "Roadkill" stunts and exhibitions.

New family-friendly activities this year include thrill rides on the M1 track, large inflatable slides and obstacle course, rock climbing walls, face painting, as well as live music and entertainment on the main stage, and an eclectic array of food truck offerings and beverages available for purchase.

"Continuing the Dodge brand's efforts to take racing off the streets

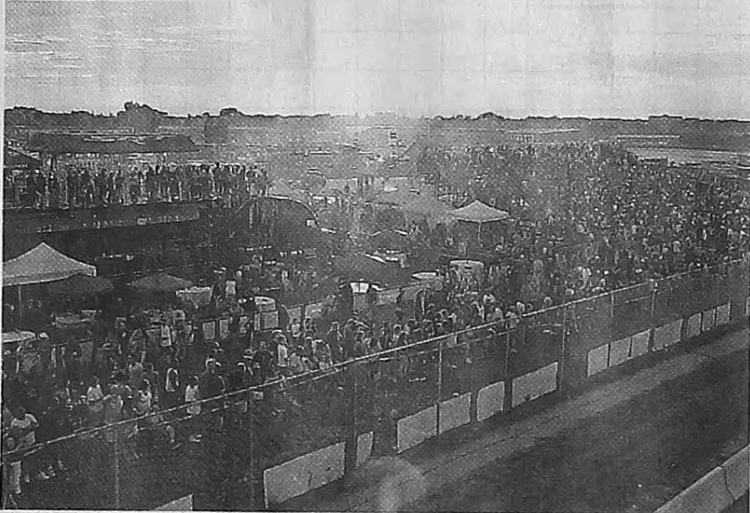
and to a professionally run strip, there is no better way to kick off Detroit's annual cruise week than to have a pure enthusiast event like Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge," said Tim Kuniskis, Head of Passenger Cars, Dodge, SRT, Chrysler, and FIAT, FCA – North America, in a company press release.

"This event is also the perfect opportunity to show muscle car enthusiasts from around the world the new 840-horsepower Dodge Challenger SRT Demon where it was born to dominate – on the dragstrip."

The car show and festival will also include a first-ever celebrity showdown with "Roadkill" cohorts David Freiburger and Mike Finnegan, drag racing stars Leah Pritchett and Matt Hagan, and "The House of Muscle" car guru Mike Musto. Leading the races will be Freiburger and Finnegan, cohorts of the most-viewed YouTube automotive original series in the United States. Chris Jacobs of Velocity's "Overhaulin'" will cohost the activities both on and off the dragstrip.

"Roadkill Nights brings 'Roadkill' to life and allows our fans to participate in the thrill of fingers-clenching, top-speed drag racing, which is what we thrive on," Freiburger says. "There's something for everyone – drag racers, families, foodies and anyone who is looking to have a great day filled with unparalleled fun at an iconic location."

The August 12 "Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge" event is open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Drag racing and Dodge Thrill rides will take place from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.



The sun sets over "Roadkill Nights Powered by Dodge" last year

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2001 Dodge 1b3e5d6c11d162305
2011 Chrysler 1c3bc1fb1bn576382
2000 Buick 194hr54k8yul91359
1997 Ford 1ftee468vhb85001
2010 Ford 3fchpjd9c376819
2002 Toyota 4t1be32k72u571020
2003 Dodge 1b3e5e683d206406
2008 Dodge 1b3lc56k08n216263
2010 Chevrolet 1gmlr1ed7as139847
1993 Lexus 1f8uz30c0p0033401
2006 Suzuki 1s1gn7da462100928
2000 Chevrolet 1g1nd5216v6234450
2007 Chevrolet 1g1nds13472224692
2005 Ford 1f1afp53245a294946
2007 Chevrolet 2g1lw158k479309757
2000 Pontiac 1g2wk5217y131162
2007 Mercury 3mehm08z7r602259
2006 Infiniti 1nras08w76x205113
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Garden City, 31464 Elmwood St, Michigan, 48135 Sat: 9-5, Sun: 10-3. Compact fridge/freezer, mens/ladies motorcycle jacket, 40" TV with stand, Iron Man inversion board, ABC poster, small kitchen appliances, asst gardening tools, misc household goods and much more. Dir: N of Ford Rd W of Merriman

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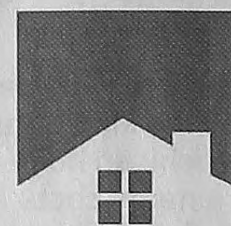
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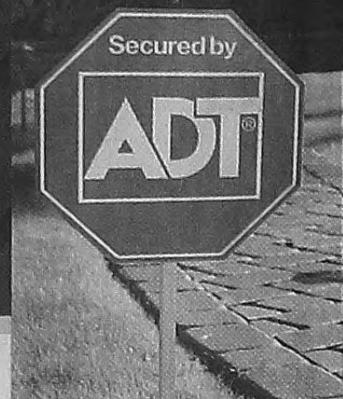
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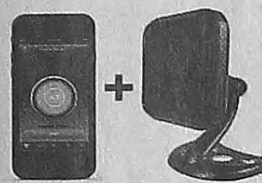
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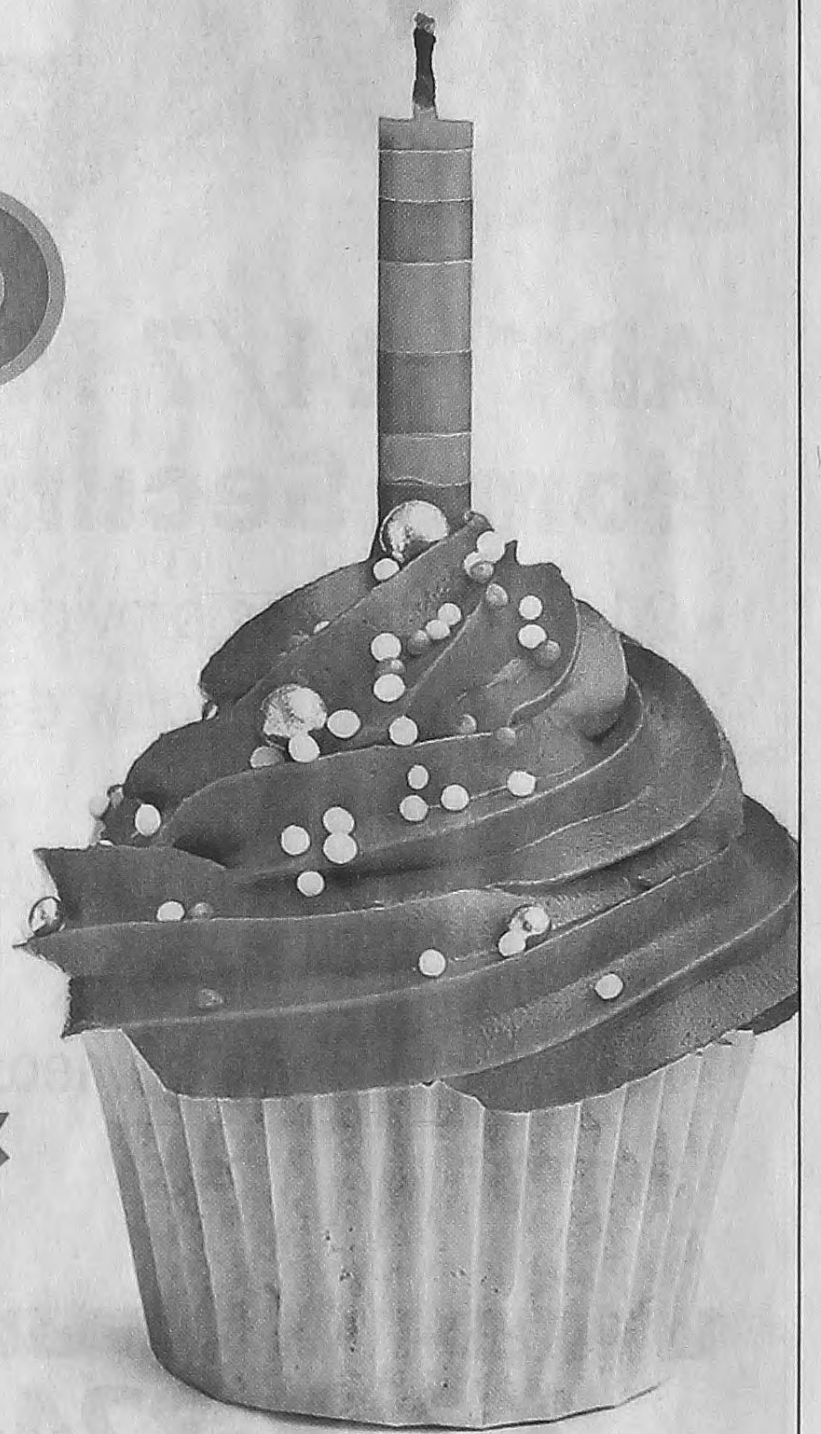
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