

Canton teen preparing for Junior Ninja Warrior TV debut

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON OBSERVER

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019 II HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Buddy's Pizza coming to Plymouth Twp.

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Buddy's is bucking the pizza industry's trend of morphing into takeout/ pickup eateries only.

Some time in mid-June, the popular Detroit-born franchise is scheduled to open its 16th Michigan location at 15075 Beck Road in Plymouth Township — the site of a former Ruby Tuesday's restaurant.

While the company's newest location will offer takeout and delivery through Door Dash, its primary goal is to cater to families looking to enjoy life while eating its distinctive brand of pizza. "We've been looking at expanding to this area for a long time," said Buddy's Chief Brand Officer Wes Pikula. "We love this location because of its strong sense of community and family. The Plymouth area just felt like a natural extension of our Buddy's family of restaurants. People in this area won't have to drive to our Livonia or Novi restaurants any longer."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said Buddy's is a welcome addition to the community's wealth of dining-related businesses.

"Buddy's has been a very popular restaurant chain in and around Detroit

See PIZZA, Page 2A



Online warrant resolution launches in Livonia

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Livonia's 16th District Court at 32765 Five Mile has launched a program aimed at assisting those with a warrant out for their arrest for not paying misdemeanor fines.

Nadezda Stojcevska, the court's administrator, said the program benefits the court and the defendants: In-person court appearances decrease, allowing the court to take up cases faster, and defendants who fear landing in jail over a warrant can get them erased. "They have lifted that cloud that may have been bothering them," she said. "It's a good alternative to resolve warrants." The program, which runs on the same platform as the court's online ticket mediation that launched three years ago, allows those with a warrant out for their arrest for failing to pay to submit their case electronically. After paying a \$125 fee that gets applied to their fines and costs, the court can review the case and then decide whether to recall the warrant. After the claim is reviewed by a judge or magistrate, a plan for the defendant to pay can then be set up, all without the individual needing to step foot in the courthouse. The court could refuse the claim and still require defendants appear in person, but Stojcevska said many efforts are made to resolve the issue online if possible. Stojcevska said the program was launched earlier this year and some defendants with outstanding warrants were informed of it. She said several people took advantage of it and set up plans to eliminate their debts to the court, many within just days of submitting the claim. The program can't be used for warrants on other issues, such as failure to appear. The program only applies to fines and costs associated with cases in Livonia's 16th District Court, though other courts in the area also use the warrant resolution program for cases in their jurisdiction. Those include 29th District Court in Wayne, 14B District Court in Ypsilanti and the 1st District Court in Monroe County. Those with outstanding warrants for failure to pay in Livonia can check to see whether they are eligible at courtinnovations.com/MID16.

Kelsey Rose, 22, of Canton, came in second place at the IDO World Tap Dance Competition in Riesa, Germany, in 2018. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Tapping into the spotlight Canton dancer recognized on international stage

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Paula Abdul, Jason Derulo and Nigel Lythgo think Canton's Kelsey Rose can dance.

Judging by the forest of trophies the tap-dancing prodigy has collected over

the past decade, the "So You Think You Can Dance" judges are not alone.

"I want to put you in my purse and carry you around," Abdul told Rose seconds after she auditioned a few years ago for the 12th season of the nationallytelevised show at The Fillmore in downtown Detroit. Lythgo gushed over Rose's energy and skill level, calling her a "firecracker," while Derulo praised the Canton resident for "bringing tap to a new audience."

Rose ultimately was presented with

See TAPPING, Page 3A

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Former South Lyon mayor meets Biden in St. Croix

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Former South Lyon Mayor Tedd Wallace had just picked up some baked goods and was heading to the cashier at 5 p.m. March 6 at the Seaside Market and Deli in Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, when he saw a man he recognized

Former Vice President Joe Biden was searching for spaghetti sauce for his wife, Jill, who was already in line.

'I knew he had come to the island before, they have a house on the ocean here, and I walked up to him," Wallace said. "He was very gracious, very nice. I said, 'Hello, I am a former mayor from Michigan and I have always admired you,' and I have, for all the trauma he has gone through.'

Wallace said Biden's first wife, Neilia, and 1-year-old daughter, Naomi, died in a 1972 car crash. Biden also lost his 46year-old son Beau to brain cancer in



Tedd Wallace, former mayor of South Lyon, met former Vice President Joe Biden while shopping at a grocery store in St. Croix in the Virgin Islands. COURTESY OF TEDD WALLACE

2015, the same year Wallace was in another tragedy in St. Croix.

mayor from 1985-1989 and again from 2009-2015 and was a member of the city council in between those terms, was boogie boarding March 1, 2015, when he was caught in a riptide.

Two men came to his aid, but the first, a Danish tourist, died trying to save him.

Wallace no longer boogie boards, but he still enjoys St. Croix for several weeks every winter, renting a home on the island since 2004.

Biden asked Wallace about where he was from in Michigan and was amenable to a selfie after taking the jar of spaghetti sauce to his wife.

"We went over in a corner so we couldn't cause a scene and did the selfie," Wallace recalled. "Then he went outside and when I came out with my stuff, he said, 'Mayor, it was very nice meeting you!' and he had his sunglasses on - he made himself incognito."

Wallace speculated whether the for-

Wallace, who served as South Lyon mer vice president, who was without an entourage at the island grocery store, was seeking a peaceful place to contemplate a possible run for the presidency next year. The Drudge Report and Fox News both picked up the story and that supposition.

Wallace, a retired teacher for South Lyon Community Schools, substitute teaches in St. Croix at Country Day School and at St. Mary's Catholic School, established in 1898.

Wallace said that he hoped to see Biden at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Christiansted on Sunday, where he will ask him to come read to the students.

Would Wallace vote for Biden if he ran for president?

"I think Biden deserves his opportunity to run as president," he said. "I'm not partial to that party, so it doesn't matter to me, but he is a nice guy in person. He's a gentleman's gentleman.

"He was very nice and gave me the time of day."

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by **Observer & Eccentric Media**

Newsroom Contacts:

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50 \$104 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737 Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon Afterhours, leave voicemail Email: custserv@hometownlife.com

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Pizza

Continued from Page 1A

for a long time and I'm positive it's going to be well received in Plymouth Township," Heise said. "When we posted a story on it opening a restaurant in our community on our Facebook page, it got 35,000 likes, which is a pretty good indicator."

Pikula said the Plymouth Township building is currently undergoing a renovation process that he expects to be completed prior to opening.

The renovated site will be spacious with 7,000 square feet and a capacity to serve 200 people.

"It will have a similar feel to our existing restaurants, with large tables to serve family gatherings and an outdoor eating area," Pikula said.

For those who have yet to experience dining at Buddy's, Pikula said they're in for a treat.

"Buddy's originated the Detroit-style pizza," he said. "It's essentially a square pizza baked in blue-steel pans. The



Buddy's will be opening a restaurant in Plymouth Township some time in June. ED WRIGHT | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

dough is made fresh daily with no preservatives."

Pikula added that the restaurant chain has also developed a strong reputation for its antipasto salad and craft beers.

Contact Ed Wright at eawright@ hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.





Tapping

Continued from Page 1A

a ticket to the show's next round of nationally-televised competition in Los Angeles — a rarity, it turns out, for a tap dancer.

An international resume

In December, Rose's resume was lengthened by a second-place finish in the prestigious international contest "Battle of the Feet," an elite event held in Riesa, Germany, that brought together the top tap dancers in the world.

"They had all of us stand in a huge circle in front of three judges," Rose said. "Then, one by one, we went around the circle and each dancer improvised a capella. They eliminated a few dancers after every round until it was just me and a girl from Switzerland.

"I didn't win any money, but I got a beautiful trophy ... and bragging rights."

Rose has been tap, tap, tapping on success's door since she was 3, growing up in her family's Talent Live Studios facility in south Canton.

"While most kids her age were playing with dolls and toys, Kelsey would be up on that stage (in the recording studio) with the lights on, dancing to music all day," reflected her mom, Patty Young.

Rose is a whirlwind of energy and accomplishment.

Five years ago, at age 17, she was named director of the Detroit Tap Repertory, which has added a sister company in Cleveland under her guidance.

Rose is a difference-maker for the national Showstopper conventions, an instructor for the Fuzion dance camp and a choreographer/performer in the annual Motor City Tap Fest.

She is a rock star when it comes to giving back to the community, with regular volunteer performances at Detroit's Covenant House — a facility for homeless teens — veterans hospitals and nursing homes.

"The kids at Covenant House absolutely love it when Kelsey comes out and performs," said Rick Young, Kelsey's dad. "They get the biggest smiles on their faces when they get up and dance with her."

Oh, and she is also a lights-out singer. "One of my top goals is to try and fuse singing and tap dancing together," Rose



At left, Kelsey Rose tap dances on an inch-thick oak board so her metal-plated tap shoes don't scratch the floor of her parents' studio in Canton. At right, a photo of Rose at age 3, when her tap-dancing days began, hangs on the studio wall.



About half of Rose's trophies line a wall of her parents' dance and recording studio. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

said. "A lot of people sing and dance, kind of like Brittney Spears, but not many sing and tap, like they did back in the day.

"I'd love to eventually go on tours, perform at concerts and bring tap dancing back to the forefront."

On Feb. 25, Rose was center stage at Little Caesars Arena, leading a group of close to 30 tap dancers ranging in age from 7 to 50 in a Detroit Pistons halftime show performance.

Not only did Rose choreograph the close-to-five-minute routine, she performed a slam-dunk solo and helped set up and tear down the show's elaborate stage in just over one minute.

"I think the set up and tear down were as tiring as the performance," she said, smiling.

There are no boundaries for Rose when it comes to taking her talent to people whose ability to travel is limited.

In 2017, joined by her parents and an Elvis impersonator, she put on a show for inmates inside the Federal Correctional Institution in Milan.

"We set up lights and a stage in the gym," recalled Rick Young. "The Elvis guy admitted to me that he was a little nervous, but Kelsey was as calm as could be. ...

"When it was over, the inmates gave her a standing ovation."

Rose's No. 1 passion is teaching youngsters how to tap. One of the rooms in Talent Live Studios is set up with instruction in mind.

"Basically, we say if you can walk, you can tap dance," Rose said. "It helps if you're flexible and if you're gifted with the ability to turn your body certain ways. But even if you're not gifted, if you work super, double hard, you can learn to become a great tap dancer."



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PlayStation serial number helped bust huge drug ring

Tresa Baldas Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

A horse groomer and a barber will spend decades in prison for their roles in a massive heroin ring that was busted in Novi, where federal agents raided a condo in 2017 and found what they estimated to be enough fentanyl to kill at least five million people.

How they found the drugs is notable: A Drug Enforcement Administration agent traced a serial number off a Sony PlayStation box that was used to deliver heroin at a Novi Walmart parking lot. That serial number helped identify who bought and activated the Play-Station and led to the Novi condominium where the PlayStation was active, triggering what would become the third largest fentanyl seizure in U.S. history, prosecutors said.

Fentanyl bound for streets, seized in drug bust

Federal agents seized more than 10 kilograms of pure fentanyl that day, along with 20 kilograms of fentanyl laced with heroin and more than \$500,000 in cash, according to court records.

"Fentanyl is now the leading cause of overdose deaths in America — it is inherently dangerous and 50



times more potent than heroin," U.S. Attorney Matthew Schneider said in a statement March 7. "This fentanyl seizure has literally saved lives by keeping this poison off our streets. Criminals who harm our community like this will be held accountable for the venomous drugs they spread."

Sentenced in the scheme are Manuel Barajas, 23, a horse groomer from West Covina, California, who was sentenced to more than 11 years in prison, 135 months, by U.S. District Judge Terrence Berg in Detroit. His accomplice, Andre Scott, 27, a barber from San Bernadino, California, was sentenced to more than 12 years in prison, or 141 months. Both men also got five years of supervised release.

According to court records, the men were arrested in July 2017 at the Brownstones complex on Joyce Lane, where DEA agents and Oakland County drug officers entered the unit about 9:30 a.m. and found three men and massive amounts of drugs inside. Scott and another man were in the living room. Barajas was in the bathroom. There were 9 kilograms of fentanyl and heroin cut open on a folding table in the dining room; an additional 17 kilograms of fentanyl and heroin in the bedrooms; and more than \$500,000 stashed in heatsealed packages.

With help from a police dog, more suspected heroin was found in the closets and under a seat in a rental car parked outside.

Here, according to court records, is how the Play-Station serial number made this all happen:

First, agents seized 600 grams of heroin from a drug customer in a Walmart parking lot.

The heroin was hidden in an empty PlayStation box. The DEA asked Sony to run a check on the serial number and learned more.

The serial number on the PlayStation box identified who bought it, how they paid for it, and who activated the game system.

The DEA also obtained the PlayStation's IP address, contacted the internet service provider for that IP address, and ultimately linked the PlayStation to the Joyce Lane condo in Novi, where the gaming system was active

Prosecutors said that Barajas admitted he traveled to Michigan on behalf of a drug supplier when drug shipments arrived.

Scott was responsible for overseeing the drug distribution and money collection at the condominium.

Family of accused ask for mercy

Relatives and friends of Barajas and Scott filed letters with the court and urged the judge to show mercy to both men. Under federal sentencing guidelines for drug crimes, both men each faced a mandatory minimum of 10 years in prison. Prosecutors asked for more while relatives and defense lawyers urged the judge not to go above the 10-year minimum.

"As Manuel's grandparents we lived closely with him growing up and I can say that he has always led a very positive lifestyle; earning the respect not just of his parents and all of his four siblings, but that of many people in our neighborhood as well," Barajas' grandparents wrote in a letter to the court. "He is also a very devoted brother who sacrificed almost half of his paycheck when he got older so that his younger brothers could join after-school field trips and sports. Manuel has never previously been involved with drugs and certainly does not have any criminal record."

Scott's lawyer, Gerald Evelyn, urged the judge to take into consideration his client's background: His father was murdered when he was 1; his mother was murdered before he was 6; and his brother Cecil was murdered at 15 because of gang violence.

'We believe it is clear that the defendant is certainly not beyond redemption or rehabilitation, and that 10 years will be more than enough time for him to have an opportunity to grow, reflect, and take steps to improve his life, particularly with drug treatment and mental health intervention," Evelyn wrote in a court filing. "The traumatic environment that Mr. Scott grew up in, notwithstanding the genuine efforts of his grandmother, does not excuse his criminal conduct but it certainly helps to explain it, and in that explanation

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Items seized in the nation's third largest pure fentanyl raid in 2017, when agents raided a Novi condo after tracing the serial number on an empty PlayStation box in a Walmart parking lot that had been used as a way to deliver the drugs. COURTESY OF U.S. DISTRICT COURT RECORDS

Drug ring

Continued from Page 4A

lies the insight of what would be a fair disposition of this matter."

Prosecutors sought and received a 135-month prison sentence for Barajas, arguing "drug trafficking is a serious offense that must be justly punished, particularly given the inherent dangerousness and potency of the staggering amount of fentanyl DEA agents seized."

Prosecutors stressed: "The Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention released a report showing fentanyl, a synthetic drug 50 times more potent than heroin that can be absorbed through the skin, is the deadliest drug in the United States, consistently responsible for the most overdose deaths since 2011."

In Scott's case, prosecutors sought a 165-month prison sentencing, almost 14 years, saying Scott was "responsible for overseeing the third largest pure fentanyl seizure in the United States."

The investigation is ongoing. Six additional defendants have been indicted in the scheme and are awaiting trial, which is scheduled for April 30.





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Water bottle used in alleged domestic assault

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

"Love" was written all over a reported assault that landed a Canton woman in jail March 5.

An altercation between family members led to the woman grabbing a purple, metal water bottle adorned with the word "Love" and hitting a relative in the arm, a police report stated.

Officers responding to a 9-1-1 call from the residence were informed that the woman who committed the domestic assault often became agitated and "would throw anything she could get her hands on" at family members.

Firearms were located in an upstairs bedroom, officers were told, but they were not used during the assault.

The suspect claimed that she struck her family member because he "gave her attitude." She reportedly threatened the victim of the assault that "I'll do like I did to you yesterday."

The friction was ignited when the suspect was told to turn off the firstfloor television because a third family member was sleeping upstairs after returning home from a midnight shift.

Ban on privacy fences in Plymouth Twp. may change

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plymouth Township residents are filing for fencing variances at such a rate that the board of trustees is considering updating a decades-old ordinance.

"In recent years, the bulk of our Zoning Board of Appeals' agenda has consisted of fencing variance requests, so much so that they've started referring to themselves as the 'fence committee,' said Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise. "They came to me and said, 'Look, all but a few of our requests are for fence variances, and it's not fair to the public because they have to pay up to \$200 just to apply for a variance."

The township's existing ordinance that dates back to the 1970s allows a maximum fence height of four feet. It also allows residents to begin the fence line at the front of the house, unless the home is on a corner lot.

The new text, if approved by the board of trustees, would allow six-foot fences, but the front line of the fence would have to start at the mid-point of the sides of the home — or just in front of a side door.

According to records presented at a

March 5 study session, 29 variance requests have been made in the past five years, with just one being rejected.

The continued variance requests with just one denial is evidence that the current ordinance is no longer performing properly and should be subject to review, said township planner Laura Haw.

The proposed text would allow sixfoot fencing in the side and rear yards only, four-foot chain-link fencing powder-coated with a neutral color, and a provision that would require the building department to evaluate corner lots.

Homeowners who reside in subdivisions with homeowners associations would be required to follow the rules and regulations of the HOA.

When trustee Chuck Curmi asked why people are requesting taller fences, a representative answered that it's a reflection of society.

"People work with people all day; when they come home after a long day, they want to relax in their backyard without having to look at their neighbors," she said.

Township attorney Kevin Bennett encouraged the board to hold off on voting on the subject until another public hearing can be held.



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Tax implications of home renting



Money Matters

Rick Bloom Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

Last summer I took a leave of absence from my job and spent a few months in Florida helping my elderly parents. By a stroke of luck, I was able to rent out my condo for a couple months when I was gone. When I took my tax information to my tax person, he told me that I would have to pay taxes on that money.

I was shocked; I never thought I'd have to pay taxes on renting out my own condo. My first question is just to confirm my preparer is right. My second question is what are my chances of getting caught if I don't report it? I didn't go through an agency and nothing was reported to the government.

Brenda

Dear Brenda:

Unfortunately, your tax preparer is correct. The money that you received as rental income, less expenses, is taxable to you as ordinary income. It doesn't matter whether you used an agency.

When someone rents out their owner-occupied home, the IRS gives that taxpayer a break. The break is if the taxpayer rents out their owner-occupied home for no more than 14 days a year, then all the rent received would be tax free. However, if you rent your house out for 15 days or more, the entire amount is taxable to you.

The next question is one of the more difficult questions I get. I cannot tell you

hometown th

what your risk of being audited is. You can do everything right and still be randomly audited.

Furthermore, the person you rented your property to may treat the rental payments differently than you did and that can cause you issues if he is audited.

If you do not report the income and the IRS does audit you, not only would you have to pay the taxes, but they will also assess interest and potentially a penalty, which can be severe.

I always want to be honest so I will say that the chance of getting audited in this situation is slim, particularly if the person you rented to is not deducting the rent on their tax return; however, that should not be the standard. The standard should be what the law says, and in this case the law is crystal clear.

My advice for people is that they should follow the tax law. Not only is it the law, and as citizens we have an obligation to follow the law, it will also make life easier. I cannot tell you how many people I've dealt with who were overly aggressive on their taxes and who lived to regret it.

I am not suggesting that you do not take every deduction you're entitled to, because you should. After all, it is not more patriotic to pay more money in taxes than you have to.

However, if you get too aggressive, it could cost you .

Good luck!

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



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Canton fire leaves woman hospitalized

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

One woman suffering from smoke inhalation was hospitalized and two other residents were treated at the scene of as fast-spreading fire March 8 that caused serious damage to a building in the Canton Crossings apartment complex south of Joy Road and just east of Interstate 275.

Eight families were displaced by the fire, which is believed to be accidental and possibly started by the burning of incense, Canton Fire Chief Chris Stoecklein said

"After interviewing residents, we have no reason to believe that the fire was not accidental," Stoecklein said. "All of the firefighters and police officers on the scene did a great job of extinguishing the fire and making sure everyone was out, all while working with limited manpower."

On a positive note, six cats were rescued from two separate units during a post-fire search of the building

"I think they used up seven of their nine lives," Stoecklein said. "Three of the cats we located in one unit were wedged under a couch cushion. Animals generally are pretty resilient when it comes to finding

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Fr. Patrick Collins, C.M., B.A., M.A. and STL is a Vincentian priest and a long time member the Charismatic Renewal He is well known in Ireland and internationally as a speaker, ecumenist, broadcaster, and author of hundreds of articles and twenty-five books. For many years, Fr. Collins has lectured on spirituality and the psychology of religion. He is a founding member of Alpha Ireland and the New Springtime Community, which is devoted to evangelization and the training of evangelizers.

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ways to survive."

The Canton Township Fire Department was assisted by units from Plymouth Township, Northville, Van Buren, Livonia, Dearborn Heights and Garden City.

"This is the largest fire we've seen in several years in Canton," Stoecklein said. "The last big one was in this same complex."

Stoecklein said it appeared smoke detectors were working at the time of the blaze.

"Management is in the process of remodeling the buildings, so making sure the smoke detectors are up to code and working is one of the first things the building department checks," he said.

Witnesses said the blaze started around 6:30 p.m. and quickly spread through one of the complex's buildings.

"We were pulling out of the Ford Road Walmart at around 6:30 and we could see the flames from there," said Lisa Doud, a resident of Canton Crossings. "My nephew, Michael Stewart, called and told me he helped escort people out of the building before the fire crews arrived."

Contact Ed Wright at 517-375-1113 or eawright@ hometownlife.com.



A fast-spreading fire raged through the Canton Crossings apartment complex March 8. SUBMITTED



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Obituaries

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Marie Beard

FARMINGTON HILLS Marie Beard, aged 78 of Farmington Hills, passed away March 5, 2019, at her home surrounded by family.

Marie was born on the kitchen table in a two-bedroom home with an outhouse in a small Colorado town. She was the youngest of four chil-

dren of an immigrant family from Italy. Marie was a coal miner's daughter and knew the value of hard work and instilled in her own children a sense of pride in a job well done. Living in a rural town with little access to secondary education, she was the first in her family to attend high school and became a very successful bookkeeper.

Marie had an abundance of energy and loved to travel, golf, and enjoyed her weekly outings to the local bowling alley with her friends. If she wasn't engaged in physical exercise, you could find her cheering for her favorite professional sports team on TV or acting as an unpaid Uber driver for her grandchildren's never-ending basketball, baseball, football, and dance activities. Always the best cheerleader, she never missed an event or the opportunity to support and encourage her family.

Her three grandchildren were the pride and joy of Marie's life. The legacy of Marie's kind spirit, passion for sports, and zest for life will live on through them. Marie is survived by her husband and three children, and many other relatives and close friends who will miss Marie's energy and enthusiasm.

A memorial service will be held on April 12th, at 10:30 a.m., Holy Family Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her honor to Angela Hospice or the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Sally Day

SUTTONS BAY - Sally was born in a log cabin at Indian Mound, Tennessee, January 1926. Her family moved to Michigan during the Great Depression. Sally lived 60 years in a house built by her husband, family members and herself. During that time she helped bring the first hospital, St. Mary's, to Livonia. She was awarded a key to the city for her work. Sally was also PTA president, election worker, country line-dancer with a group called, "Boots in Motion" and a Red Hatter. She was an avid reader and the queen of crossword puzzles. Sally traveled throughout the US searching for family genealogy clues and information. In 2003 she was awarded the Austin Genealogical Research Award in St. Louis, Mo. Sally is survived by her three children, Lynn (William) Black, Jeffrey (Diane) Day, and Patrick (Sharon) Day. She was "Grandma Sally" to Jenny Freels, Sally Freels, Timothy (Kelly) Day, Kathleen (David) Braunreuther, Lindsay (Steven) Conroy and Peter Day. She was the doting "GiGi" (great-grandma) to Claire, William & Henry Conroy and Emma, Lucy and "soon-to-be" John David Braunreuther. Sally was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years Winfield (Wink) Day, her parents Brock & Jennie (Street) Austin and one brother, Brock Austin, Jr. Funeral Services were held. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to: Leo Creek Preserve, P.O. Box 628, Suttons Bay, MI 49682, or Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Research, "In memory of Sally Day", Dept. 41831, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265 or an organization of your choice that makes you remember Sally. www. santeiufuneralhome.com.



Dorothy M. (Brasseur) Morier

RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA - Dorothy M. (Brasseur) Morier died on September 7, 2018 in Rancho Cucamonga, California following a short and sudden illness. The kind and dedicated mother, sister and wife succumbed to metastatic cancer. Dorothy was born January 8, 1931 in Detroit, Michigan and was a long-time resident of Livonia, Michigan and Rancho Cucamonga. Following her retirement from Schostak Brothers Co., she and husband Bruce Morier moved to Cheboygan, and later Oscoda, Michigan and lived during winters in Florida. After Bruce died in 2011, she moved to Cucamonga to be near her oldest daughter Lynne Ravenelle.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter Lynne Ravenelle (Greg), Renee Bianchi (Brad), son Dean Morier (Susan), her siblings Jean Wilko, Marion Dore, Patrick Brasseur, Donald Brasseur, Carol Hawkes, grandchildren Nicole Bruce (Brady), Evan Morier, Corinne Morier, Bradley Bianchi (Bailey), Lauren Bianchi, great grandchildren Kelton and Hudson Bruce, and many nieces and nephews. Dorothy was pre-deceased by husband Bruce and grandson Michael Ravenelle. Dorothy's parents Clarence Brasseur and Laura (Allaire) Brasseur raised her and her siblings in Detroit, Michigan. Dorothy graduated from Redford High School and was an active member of her sorority. She and husband Bruce were dedicated golfers and bowlers, and were married for 54 years. Dorothy was creative and an accomplished tailor, quilter, and knitter. Dorothy was still bowling in leagues up until just a few months prior to her death. She was a kind and dedicated mother and was very involved in her children's extracurricular activities when they were in school.

There will be a memorial service and burial at Great Lakes National Cemetery, next to Bruce Morier, in Holly, Michigan on March 29, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Contact Dean Morier at deanmorier@ gmail.com for details about the memorial and post-service gathering.

Dorothy C. McAninch

PLYMOUTH - Dorothy C. McAninch, age 96, of Plymouth, passed away March 9, 2019. She was the beloved wife of the late William (Mack) C. McAninch for 57 years.

Though the family rejoices that she is released from her struggles with dementia, she will be deeply missed by long-



time friend Herman Orr, her children William G. (Karen Knor) McAninch, Karen Nottenkamper, and Paul McAninch; her grandchildren Glenn (Kathy) McAninch, Mary Theresa Kelly (Mike) Branscum, Kary (Greg) Seach, William (Jennifer McKean) Nottenkamper, and Joseph Bernardi McAninch; 10 great grandchildren; and 5 "step" grandchildren. She was preceded in death by grandson Brian McAninch.

Born and raised in the coal mining area of western Pennsylvania, in 1953 Dorothy and Mack, with their two youngest children, moved to Michigan where she operated several small retail and real estate businesses and cared for her family. Retiring briefly to Florida in 1975, she and Mack then moved to the mountains of western North Carolina, returning to Michigan shortly before his death in 1999.

Dorothy will be remembered for her quick wit, intelligence, and love of reading. As an evangelical Christian, she favored the Bible for reading with health and medical related publications her second choice. Outdoor enjoyment included gardening and walking.

A memorial will be held at a later date. She will be laid to rest in Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorial contributions to Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child ministries.

Please share condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com





Vontella M., of Livonia, age 91. Went home to be with the Lord on March 8, 2019. Beloved wife of Robert for 67 years. Loving mother of Phillip (Kim) Sheridan and the late Timna Peterman. Dear grandmother of Ryan Sheridan and great grandmother of Joseph. Von was a graduate of Wheaton College and was active in Sheridan Construction in Garden City. Von's Funeral Service was held at The R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Rd., Livonia Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 11 am. Memorials may be directed to the Michigan Humane Society. Please share a memory of Von at www.rggrharris.com.



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PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wayne Memorial beats Pioneer to win regional

Andrew Vailliencourt

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

For the second year in a row, the Wayne Memorial girls basketball team is headed to the state quarterfinals.

After a slow first quarter, the Zebras stormed back to beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 53-35 in the regional final at Ann Arbor Skyline Wednesday night.

The win sends Wayne to the state quarters where it will play Temperance Bedford on Tuesday evening. The Zebras improve to 23-2, while Pioneer ends its season at 19-5.

"It means a lot to us to be back-toback champs for regionals," Wayne Memorial senior Jeanae Terry said. "We're in the gym constantly working, so showing what we've been doing, it's a pleasure to win."

Here are three takeaways from the game:

Slow start

The first quarter was all Pioneer.

It was more aggressive than Wayne and pounded the ball inside. The Zebras were unable to get anything going, continuing the cold streak they had at the end of Monday night's game against Mercy. By the end of the quarter, Pioneer led 9-4.

"Pioneer played good basketball," Wayne Memorial coach Jarvis Mitchell said. "A lot of people when we start out slow, they go 'oh you guys had to wake up', but no, they played good basketball.

See WAYNE, Page 3B



5'6" Zebra Jordan Wright tries to rip a rebound away from 6' Pioneer Asaria Turman. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

JUNIOR NINJA WARRIOR



PREP BASEBALL John Glenn's Stevens signs with Hillsdale

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Playing college baseball has always been a dream for John Glenn senior Chad Stevens.

Now, that dream will be a reality as the three-sport star has signed to play at Hillsdale College next year.

Stevens, who also plays basketball and is the quarterback of the football team, chose baseball despite having several offers to play college football at

Sophie Shaft jumps from angled block to angled block in an obstacle course at the Edge Training Center in Plymouth. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Local teen set for Junior Ninja Warrior TV debut

Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Canton's Shaft family may own the only basement in the township that has been transformed into a ninja warrior training site.

One-of-a-kind or not, the renovation is paying dividends.

On Saturday, March 16, at 7 p.m., Sophie Shaft, the family's super-athletic 14-year-old, was scheduled to compete on the inaugural season of "American Ninja Warrior Junior" against 63 other 13- and -14-year-olds from across the country. The show airs on the Universal Kids network.

Similar to the adult version of "American Ninja Warrior", the junior show features under-18 ninjas who attempt to defy a series of obstacles with names like Sonic Swing, Tic Toc, Spin Cycle and the Warped Wall — faster than their opponent.

A former gymnast, the homeschooled package of energy applied for the show approximately one year ago and competed in Los Angeles in July.

Approximately 10,000 kids between the ages of 9 and 14 applied for show, so

See NINJA, Page 2B



Sophie Shaft, 14, prepares to try a ninja course at the center.

places like Eastern Kentucky and Dayton.

"Baseball is just my sport," Stevens said. "I grew up loving baseball, football I played more as a side sport. I love football, but baseball is where my heart is at."

At Hillsdale, Stevens will be a twoway player, meaning he'll both pitch and hit. He pitches and plays in the outfield for John Glenn. Only two players on Hillsdale's roster currently are two-way players, making what Stevens is able to do quite unique.

"Chad is a special player, he's an outstanding baseball player," John Glenn baseball coach Lawrence Scheffer said. "He's smart, he has instincts. As a baseball, either you have instincts or you don't, and he has those intangibles on the baseball field. His mom and dad are great people, his brother played for me a few years ago. Chad is a delight to have."

Last season, Stevens went 4-4 on the mound with a 1.97 ERA and 65 strikeouts. At the plate, he hit .398 with two home runs, five doubles, a team-high six triples and recorded 34 RBIs to go with a .675 slugging percentage.

"He just loves baseball," Scheffer said. "He's a good hitter and a good pitcher, he might be able to play right away at Hillsdale, they're real high on

See HILLSDALE, Page 2B



PREP BOYS HOOPS Saint John Neumann basketball wins division

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Saint John Neumann (Canton) varsity boys basketball team won its division this season, finishing with a perfect 8-0 division record. The Dragons went 14-3 overall.

They play in the Detroit Catholic Youth Organization League (CYO).

Team members include: John Clark, Alex Bobak, Brendan Burns, Evan Proske, Tommy Wietfeld, Colon Gregory, Will Davidson, George Kandah, Andrew Greening, Ezekiel Velilla and Jason Zerona.

The team is coached by head coach Mike Meagher and assistants Tim Thomas, Dave Visser and Brian Wietfeld.

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659 or on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.



The Saint John Neumann boys basketball team won their division in 2019. COURTESY OF MICHAEL MEAGHER

Hillsdale

Continued from Page 1B

him. He's a coach's dream to coach, he has great leadership skills, does the right thing on and off the field."

Not only is he good on the field, he's strong in the classroom. Scheffer says Stevens has close to a 4.0 GPA and is part of a senior class that averages better than a 3.6 GPA.

He'll have the chance to further his academics at a school widely considered one of the best liberal arts colleges in the country.

"Hillsdale is a great academic school and his goal is to get his college degree," Scheffer said. "He's got potential to be an outstanding baseball player and who knows, he could play at the next level. I wouldn't put it past him. Hillsdale is doing a lot of good things with their baseball program."

Hillsdale's baseball program is in Division 2 and plays in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference, which it won last season.

"I wanted to go to a winning team," Stevens said. "When I went on a visit there, I loved it. I love the players and coaches. Obviously, it's a really good academic school, so by going there, I'll get a great education as well as have a great athletic career."

The Chargers first noticed Stevens while scouting him during a game last season against Salem. He pitched a hit a home run, which got the attention of the coaching staff. The staff was also able to watch him play summer ball for the Lincoln Park Rails. From there, things went smoothly and on November 17, he officially signed with the school.

A few weeks ago, Stevens and a number of his classmates that are playing sports in college were honored at ceremony. He said the event was a great experience. Now, he gets to look ahead to his final season at John Glenn.

"It's definitely a relief, (the recruiting process) is stressful," Stevens said. "Now I'm going into the season and I'm already committed. I want to show that Hillsdale made a great choice on me where other schools didn't."

He added that he wants John Glenn to make it out of districts this season and has a personal goal of being named All-State. With another productive season, both of those goals are attainable.

"Hillsdale is a great fit and that's the most important thing," Scheffer said. "They want him and he wants to go there, you have to go where you're wanted, I'm a firm believer of that."

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659 or on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.





While dangling in the air, Sophie Shaft works on moving a wheel over a bar by her own momentum. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

John Glenn senior Chad Stevens sits with his parents after signing to play baseball at Hillsdale. PHOTOS COURTESY OF LAWRENCE SCHEFFER



John Glenn senior Chad Stevens is honored with his family and coach.

Ninja

Continued from Page 1B

Shaft's strength, endurance and flexibility no doubt impressed the producers.

"You should see our basement," said Shay Shaft, Sophie's mom, smiling. "The whole ceiling is covered with grips and holds. When she's down there practicing, she looks like a cat moving across the ceiling, hold to hold.

"This is a wonderful activity for Sophie. She quit gymnastics when her sister (Eadie) was born (three-and-ahalf years ago), so this is a perfect fit for her because she gets to fly through the air, use her strength and balance. It's a continuation of the skills she used in gymnastics and she loves it."

Three final winners (one per age bracket) will be crowned the first ever American Ninja Warrior Junior champions.

Contractually restricted from discussing how she fared until the show airs, Shaft admitted she is more than fired up for the viewing party her family will host on Saturday.

"It's been tough waiting, for sure," she said. "I was nervous competing in L.A. because I had never done a full course before, but I had done enough to get through it."

Shaft is one of just four Michigan residents — Carli Snook (Dimondale), Sophia Beaulieu (West Bloomfield) and Grant Snook (Dimondale) are the others — during the first season of the junior show.

"Once I started watching the show, I was hooked," Shaft said. "I started building a course in my basement. As soon as I saw an application for the junior show, I applied and made it.

"They flew us out to L.A. for a couple days, which was fun. My friends think it's pretty cool."

Canton's first-ever junior ninja also

12 1-100



Shaft training with the rings.

competes in cross-fit and club volleyball.

"My favorite obstacle is anything with rings or swinging on bars, things I did in gymnastics," she said. "The obstacles with balance scare me a lot, but it's not dangerous because there is always a lot of padding under us.

"Strength and endurance are probably the two most-important skills. You don't have to have the greatest flexibility, but at least a little bit helps."

The sport is booming at such a rate that Carey Sherbrooke has opened two The Edge ninja warrior training centers — one in Plymouth Township and another in Commerce Township.

"It looks like a playground and it feels like a playground, but the kids and adults who come in here work hard," said Sherbrooke. "This sport is a great confidence-builder. If you've never done it before, it can be a little scary, but you start out small and build your skills."

Contact Ed Wright at eawright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

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PREP BASKETBALL





The St. Michael's boys basketball won this year's CYO title. PHOTOS COURTESY CHERYL EBBEN

The St. Michael's girls basketball team won this year's CYO title.

St. Michael boys & girls both win CYO title

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The St. Michael (Livonia) boys and girls basketball programs each brought home the Detroit Catholic Youth Organization championship this year -a

feat that had never previously been accomplished.

The girls team went a perfect 26-0 to win its second consecutive title, while the boys team went 24-4 to win its first title in 22 years.

Coincidentally, each team beat St. Hugo in the finals. Only one other time in history has the same school won both the boys and girls basketball championships in the CYO.

The girls won the title game 39-26 and were led by Kennedy Blair, Paige Ebben, Hailey Baumann and Sydney Bourdon. The boys won their championship game 38-36 on a three-point buzzerbeater by Nate Curtis. Their leading scorers were Tommy Marshall and Patrick Vallely.

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659 or on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.



As a referee makes the signal to count a Zebra hoop (with a foul to come), the Wayne Memorial bench erupts in cheers, with even Coach Jarvis Mitchell, far left, making the "count it" gesture. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Wayne

Continued from Page 1B

I want to say we were sleeping, but at the end of the day they played well. We tightened it up a little bit more, which got us together."

Senior center Asaria Turman, who finished the game with 10 points and 20 rebounds, tallied nine of those rebounds in the first quarter alone. She was a force to be reckon with the entire game inside, just as she was against Brighton earlier in the week.

"She's a senior and we knew she didn't want to go out, so we knew we were going to get her best shot," Mitchell said. "The kid can play."

The second quarter was a whole different story.

Wayne's offense came alive, scoring 18 points behind the hot hand of senior guard Sammiyah Hoskin. She had seven in the quarter and finished the game with 13 points.

The Zebras took a 22-15 lead into halftime.

"We didn't get rattled," Terry said. "We knew that if we settled the game down and got into what we know how to do, we'd be fine. We knew if we played our style we'd get back into it."

Mitchell said that because his team has played such a difficult schedule, they are well prepared for these close games full of pressure.

Defense prevails

Wayne's calling card this season has been its defense. It plays a high pressure trap defense that tends to stretch the

full length of the floor. This makes it especially difficult for opposing teams to both in-bound the ball and take it up court. Every time Pioneer got caught in a corner, Wayne was there to force a turnover. It was a stellar performance against a tough team that has been successful inside all season.

"You better be able to (play defense) when you can't score," Mitchell said. "If you're missing bunny lay-ups and missing everything you better be able to do something. Luckily, our pressure saves us a lot. We would like to pressure them and be able to score too, but we can't get everything. I don't mind winning ugly, as long as winning is still the prefix."

Only five Pioneer players scored all game, and only two scored more than six points.

"We're very long, so if you lob the ball we're able to get there and even if you beat us, we're able to get back and help," Terry said. "Our defense kind of stops you even when you think you can attack."

Holding on

Wayne didn't have an easy time fighting off Pioneer. It hung around the entire second half and made the final few minutes close after drawing to within nine points.

There were plenty of fouls, each team reaching the double bonus with more than three minutes left. The Zebras hit the majority of their free throws to keep enough distance between them and the Pioneers, ultimately securing the victory.

Terry scored 12 points, while sopho-



Wayne Memorial player Sammiyah Hoskin, left, battles with Ann Arbor Pioneer Asaria Turman for a rebound on March 13.

more Alanna Micheaux also added 12.

After losing in last year's state semifinals against East Lansing, the Zebras are determined to bring home a state championship.

"We have six seniors, but last year was a real wake up call to let them know that this can all go away," Mitchell said. "They felt a lot of hurt from that. Our mission from the offseason was to never have that feeling again. There was a feeling of mourning in the locker room, it was like someone died. That's what you have to remind them when they don't want to run the sprints hard, when they don't want to defend hard."

Reach Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659 or on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.

TL X

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The math on a Roth IRA adds up



Robert Powell Columnist USA TODAY

If you haven't opened a Roth IRA account by now, you should. And that's especially so if you're young, in a low tax-bracket and expect to be in a higher one later in life - in retirement.

A Roth IRA is a retirement plan where you contribute after-tax dollars. Your money grows tax-free; and, generally, distributions are tax-free. To be sure, you won't really know if you'll be in a lower or higher tax bracket years from now.

But most advisers have this to say about Roth IRAs. "The Roth is the second-best deal in the tax code," says William Harris, a certified financial planner and retirement management adviser with WH Cornerstone Investments.

Health savings accounts, or HSAs, are the best deal, Harris says.

Thomas O'Connell, president of International Financial Advisory Group, agrees, noting that there are other types of Roths to consider as well.

"Roth-anything is a great first line of defense versus rising tax rates," he says. "Most people are not aware that they probably have a Roth component in their 401(k), 403(b), 457, TSP and they should take advantage of it when available."

It all sounds good on paper. But there's plenty to learn before you open a Roth IRA (or Roth anything).

Roth contributions

According to O'Connell, the top benefits of contributing to a Roth IRA are that you pay tax today in a lowtax environment and you have access to some of your money later on without penalties, under certain conditions.

For 2019, your total contributions to all your traditional and Roth IRAs cannot be more than \$6,000

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A Roth IRA allows tax-free withdrawal of earnings upon your retirement. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

(\$7,000 if you're age 50 or older), or your taxable compensation for the year if your compensation was less than this dollar limit. Note, however, that your Roth IRA contribution might be limited based on your filing status and income.

Some married couples might also consider funding a spousal Roth IRA, Harris says. "Generally, you need earned income to contribute, but for married couples, there is an exception for a stay-at-home spouse," he says.

Distributions

Distributions from a Roth IRA are tax-free - that is, not included in the account owner's gross income - if it's a qualified distribution or if it's a return of the owner's contribution.

That's one big benefit, O'Connell says. The other, he says, is that the original Roth IRA account owner doesn't have to take distributions - ever.

A qualified distribution is one that meets two tests: The distribution has to be made after a taxable five-year period, and it must satisfy one of the following requirements: It is made on or after the date on which the account owner turns 59%; it is made to a beneficiary or estate of the owner on or after the date of the owner's death; it is a result of the account owner being disabled; or it is used for a first-time home purchase (though there's a lifetime cap of \$10,000).

By the way, beneficiaries of Roth IRAs have to wait

only until the end of the original taxable five-year period for the distribution to be a qualified distribution.

Inherited Roth IRAs

What happens if you inherit a Roth IRA? If you're a non-spouse beneficiary, you have to start taking distributions no later than the year following the death of the Roth IRA owner. The good news?

"The assets continue to grow untaxed, you can change your own beneficiaries, and withdrawals are tax free," says Harris.

O'Connell notes too that non-spouse beneficiary Roth IRA accounts have the "potential to provide multigenerational tax-free income."

If, however, you're a spouse beneficiary, you've got two options. You can elect to be treated as the beneficiary or the owner of the Roth IRA. If you choose to be treated as the beneficiary, you can defer distributions until the year the original owner would have turned 70½. If you choose to be treated as the owner, then you don't have to take any required minimum distributions over your lifetime.

"If you treat it as your own, the five-year aging requirement and over age 59% or dead rules may apply," Harris says.

Robert Powell is the editor of TheStreet's Retirement Daily - www.retirement.thestreet.com - and contributes regularly to USA TODAY. Got questions about money? Email Bob at rpowell@allthingsretirement.com.



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(CP) HOMETOWNLIFE.COM I SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019 I 5B Free lodging is easy – if you're willing to venture out of your comfort zone



Even if you're low on credit-card or hotel loyalty rewards, a variety of websites and apps connect travelers with frugal options for lodging.

Melissa Lambarena NerdWallet

Credit-card rewards can be your ticket literally your plane ticket – to a dream destination. But even if you've earned what you need to get to where you're going, the accommodations could be a different story.

What do you do if you don't have enough points or miles left for lodging? You can slash those costs, too, if you're willing to get out of your comfort zone.

That might mean couch surfing with locals, agreeing to a home exchange or signing up for house sitting. Websites and apps can help you connect with frugal options domestically and abroad.

You may be able to stay for free, or nearly free, if you're flexible with dates and can tidy. abide by house rules.

Couch surfing

This option works for solo travelers or couples looking to make new friends over a few nights. Since you're staying in someone's home, you'll likely need to "check in and out" at reasonable hours while you travel, you can see the world for and clean up after yourself.

For Alexander Salas, who runs the YouTube channel Alex Travelbum, giving up some freedom is worth it. He uses the app from Couchsurfing.com, which has allowed him to sleep in 15 countries for free. His trip to Naples, Italy, was the most memorable, he says.

"I stayed with this woman who was just the most generous, nice person in bilities of each house sit beforehand and the world, and we're still friends till this day," Salas says. "She made me all of this authentic Italian food and took me

Lyric

around town."

Home exchanges

This option offers more privacy since you'll swap your home temporarily with someone else.

Melissa Conn, blogger at The Family Voyage, uses the GuestToGuest website. This service charges about \$11 a night or about \$147 annually (and you'll have to pay deposit). The damage a host also may include additional charges or requests.

Some hosts charge a cash cleaning fee," Conn says. Other places, "they'll just leave a list of the five things that they want before do leaving. to vou And then some people just say, 'Leave it

You can offset the costs of such services by cooking in the kitchen to save money on meals. Some homeowners even let you borrow their car, Conn says.

House sitting

If you don't mind pets or a few chores less

Nik and Angel Rowell, YouTubers at Roadtrip with Nik, have traveled to Costa Rica and several U.S. states, among other destinations. They frequently use trustedhousesitters.com, which also has an app and charges \$119 for an annual membership

They suggest considering the responsihow it might affect your stay.

Wherever you stay, communicate with the host to match your expectations to the

experience. If you need a kitchen or Wi-Fi, scriptions. for example, ask whether you'll have access.

Take precautions

If you're staving with strangers, screen them first. Some subscription services have a verification process, but it's not always as robust as a traveler might like.

Amanda Kelly, solo traveler and content creator at Amanda Round The Globe, generally seeks female hosts when she couch surfs. During a trip to Belgium, she says, she was deceived by a man pretending to be a female host.

"After that experience, I did take a lot more precautions by checking the reviews a lot more," she says.

Other best practices

Look for hosts who have several positive references, photos and detailed de-

See how your host behaves on social media.

Set up a video meet-and-greet.

Make sure you're on the same page with house rules and expectations of privacy

Tell a family member or friend where you're staying.

Have a plan B in case the accommodations aren't a good fit.

If that sounds like too much hassle or if you're just not interested in a stranger's couch, house or chores - consider ways to save on more traditional accommodations.

Join a hotel loyalty program, for example, or consider applying for a hotel credit card. The right one can earn you rewards toward future stays, and many cards even offer a free anniversary night, usually in exchange for an annual fee.



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Why 'follow your passion' is sometimes bad advice

Kate Lopaze thejobnetwork.com

"Do what you love"... that's the dream, right? Everyone fantasizes at some point about quitting their day job and going full-time after something they already love to do, whether it's a hobby or a secret passion. Steve Jobs once famously said, "The only way to do great work is to love what you do." So what could possibly be the drawback of making your passion your career?

Not everyone has a passion

If you feel like you should be pursuing something you're passionate about in order to feel fulfilled, that presents an immediate question: what is your passion, anyway? For some, it's an easy answer. For others, not so much. If "do what you love" sounds more like a command and less like an opportunity, then that pressure may lead you to do something just for the sake of doing it—not because it's the right path.

It's totally okay to keep your passion as a free-time activity. It's also okay to have a lot of different interests instead of one driving passion. Not everyone feels a calling to do one particular thing, forever and ever.

Passion might not pay the bills



GETTY IMAGES

not just a temporary choice, then it's probably not the best option.

Pursuing your passion may not solve your problems

Following your passion may seem extra appealing for a lot of reasons: stress at work, boredom, and general life malaise are a few. But even if you march into your boss's office and hand in your resignation tomorrow, that doesn't mean your life will be magically happier or more fulfilling. Before you consider making any big life change, it's important to think about why you're making the choice, and what (realistically) you will achieve by doing it. nursing assistant, that might not be a bad thing. If you make your passion your career, that means you're going to be spending a lot of time on and off the clock thinking about it, doing it, and engaging with it. There's definitely something to be said about setting work-life boundaries and keeping a balance.

And it could be that comedy is a great release for your work stress or daily routine, but wouldn't be as fun when you're not only doing it all the time, but also need to focus on making it pay the bills.

What we love may not be what we're strongest at doing

with the fact that my most marketable professional skills are geared toward jobs outside the kitchen. What we love to do and what we're trained/educated/ great at doing may not be the same thing at all. So when someone tells you to follow your passion as a career, there's a significant risk that what we love to do on an amateur level just may not be a strong choice for going pro.

Even passion projects require a plan

"Follow your passion" is very vague. The logistics of your new passion career are probably not. For example, would your new business require you to get additional education or certification if you were to go pro? What kind of connections would you need to dig up employment opportunities in your passion field? There's a very good chance that elevating a passion to a career would involve starting over in many different ways, so be prepared to plan it out beyond "I really like doing this, therefore I should do it full-time."

Making a personal passion into a career sounds like great, life-affirming advice-and it can be. But in many cases, it's just not feasible or sustainable. So before you follow your bliss, consider all aspects of your hot new career path. And remember: there's no shame in doing a job that may not inspire an all-consuming passion. If you're doing work that challenges you and helps you fulfill your goals, you're already doing pretty well! Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

Your career is about the life you want to create for yourself—it's a comprehensive picture. For most people, that includes long-term stability for themselves and/or their families. Pursuing your lifelong love of being a performing accordionist may sound appealing now, but what's your strategy for the long haul? If you can't plan how your passion path will be sustainable as a career and

Making a career out of a passion can blur boundaries

If you love to do, say, stand-up comedy on nights and weekends, but keep it entirely separate from your day job as a Fact of life: sometimes our passions don't line up with our skills. For example: I love to bake. I'm decent at it, but definitely don't have the skills or infrastructure to do it professionally. And although sometimes I think about what it would be like to quit my office job and bake cookies full-time, I've made peace



SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

via app

57 Trait sources 97 Ride ordered ACROSS 58 Randy Quaid 1 Spanish sailing ships 9 Regrets 13 Disney's Ariel, e.g. 20 Classic Italian song 21 About 22 Powell of "Rosalie" 23 Agitates 24 Ticket for a suitcase at an airport 26 Model Banks 27 "Let me think 29 1836 Texas siege setting 30 Farm baby 34 "Cleopatra' director 41 Health insurance invoice 45 Off the clock for a while at work 46 "Law & Order: -" (TV spinoff) 47 Libertine 48 Fore-and-aft rig section 51 Actress

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99 — Nabisco thriller about (old corp.) a menacing 100 "Conga" car singer Gloria 62 Cherry, e.g. 102 Shameless 63 Biblical wife of Isaac untruth 64 "Showdown" 105 Branch of rock gp. knowledge 65 "Aha!" 108 — Hashana 67 "Westworld" airer 110 Western 70 Those, to tribe 112 First lessons Juan 116 Like the god 71 Lisa, vis-Anubis à-vis the 122 Anchor in a Simpson kids forest 126 Brother 75 Anjou, e.g. 76 Pigs' of Wilbur hangout Wright 77 Towed-away 127 Watch datum 28 Nero's 1,150 car, maybe 128 Electronic 78 Route device's 79 "Yep, sounds evaluation about right" state 129 "Sure, hon" 81 Star of 130 Tater Earth 82 Pic on a web 131 This puzzle's nine longest page, say answers use 86 Start to use only the first 89 La — Tar half of it Pits 90 Dallas-to-NYC dir. DOWN 1 Price 91 Circular 2 Pale gravish gasket 3 Mimic a lion 93 Paella need 94 "Av. -!" (crv 4 Lye, e.g. from Bart 5 Neckline Simpson) type 15 6

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44 Michael of 85 Ample, to Li'l "Juno" Abner 49 Goat's bleat 86 With 114-Down, phone 50 PC character number part format 87 Part of DVD 53 West and 88 Bi- x four Busch 89 One exiling 55 Took way too much, in 92 Univ. senior's test brief 94 Prince 57 "Shucks!" 59 Dean who Charles' wife invented the 95 Sweetie, in Segway modern lingo 60 Laid up 96 Referred 61 Lerner's 98 Green: Prefix partner 101 Doe or sow 62 103 Pesticide (dessert banned in topping) '72 63 In medias - 104 "- & Greg" 66 Control on a (old sitcom) sound mixer 106 So-so grade 67 1971 Donny 107 Greek Week groups Osmond hit 68 Non-barking 111 "- Kett" hunting dog 113 - tube (TV) 69 Italian gold 114 See 72 Red Sox Hall 86-Down of Famer 115 "Let it stand" Bobby 116 Great delight 73 Ill-bred guy 117 Plural "is" 118 Rite Aid 74 Jekvll and competitor 75 Jack of old 119 Farm baby talk TV 120 Fast swim 77 Tire snagger 121 Very big bird 80 Gooey camp 123 Priest's snacks study: Abbr. 81 Haste 124 Sci-fi ability 83 "Give - call" 125 Suffix of 84 Disney deer ordinals 14 15 16 17 18 19 13 22

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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!

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