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# CANTON OBSERVER

THURSDAY 09.08.16 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Survey scheduled to identify needs

Canton Chamber and Community Foundation want to know what's missing in the community

Joanne Maliszewski  
hometownlife.com

The Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Community Foundation want to know what's missing in the community and have partnered to find some answers that may lead to solutions. "We feel Canton is great already," said Thomas Paden, chamber president. "But we need to make it better." To that end, the chamber and foundation are awaiting results of a community survey

that is expected to provide some insight into where community members may see some gaps in fulfilling needs. The survey, which is online through the chamber, was sent out to some 5,000 residents and business representatives, including to about 500 random households, said Beth Meade, foundation donor relations managing director.

"For us, it is a way to say, 'If we are granting, we should see where the real needs in the community are,'" Meade said. For example, if literacy



Paden

is an issue, is there a need for more education for adults or children or both. The survey, available through Survey Monkey, breaks issues into six categories: health, economic development, education, human services and a miscellaneous category (other), plus an opportunity for respondents to write in their opinions and thoughts.

On Sept. 16, a task force, representing a diverse cross-section of Canton, including police, religious, business,

educational and charitable leaders, will meet to analyze survey results. The task force will meet a couple of times to then develop strategies for improvements. "We will see what we can do to fix things," Paden said.

One such area is economic development, including job training. "We are hearing a lot from that community," Paden said, adding business leaders tell him they are in need of engineers.

Paden would like to start a program for young entrepreneurs to arm them with the knowledge and experience to develop successful businesses. "Tom has a real passion for

helping young entrepreneurs in the community," Meade said.

From the results and over a number of meetings, the task force will develop plans, choosing two or three efforts annually to accomplish. Yet another example — a request from educators — is the need to provide experience for students interested in the trades and to determine if businesses are willing to help.

"This is a good way to involve the community," Meade said. "We will go back to the community and continue to see where the needs are."

## CROWD-PLEASER



JULIE MASER

A large crowd gathered to see Steve King and the Dittilies in the final 2016 Music in the Air concert at Kellogg Park. King and his band are Plymouth regulars and their appearances in town typically draw thousands.

### STEVE KING & THE DITTILIES CAP 2016 CONCERT SERIES

Perennial Plymouth favorites Steve King and the Dittilies wrapped up Plymouth's 2016 Music in the Air concert series Friday with a show at Kellogg Park.

King and his band, always a big draw in Plymouth with a mix of classic rock and danceable tunes, capped a 14-week Music in the Air season that also included performers like the Randy Brock Group, Lady Sunshine and the X Band, Social Bones and Motor City Soul. The typical Friday evening concert brings several thousand people to the park.

The concerts are presented by the Downtown Development Authority; major sponsors are Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Hines Park Lincoln and Johnson Controls.

The Steve King and Dittilies concert was sponsored by the Downtown Plymouth Restaurant Association.



JULIE MASER

Steve King and the Dittilies are favorites in Plymouth and regulars in the Music in the Air series.

**INSIDE**

Thousands turn out for annual Michigan State Fair, A5

## Canton is among ITT campuses shut down

What's next for students?

David Jesse  
Detroit Free Press

Facing heavy sanctions from the U.S. Department of Education, ITT Technical Institute has announced it will shut down, affecting five campuses in Michigan.

"Please know we worked diligently to identify alternatives that would have allowed you to start or continue your education at ITT Tech, and earn your degree," the school wrote in an email to students. "But the Department of Education's actions have forced us to cease operations at the ITT Technical Institutes. We are truly sorry to have to make this decision."

The Michigan campuses are in Canton, Dearborn, Grand Rapids, Swartz Creek and Troy. It's unknown at this time how many students attend classes on those campuses.

The department had no choice but to take the action, Education Secretary John King Jr. wrote in a letter to students Monday.

"The school's decisions have put its students and millions of dollars in taxpayer-funded federal student aid at risk. Last week, the Department of Education took oversight actions to prevent ITT from continuing to add to that risk. When we made that decision, we did not take it lightly. One possible outcome of oversight actions is that a school may choose to close rather than take corrective actions, which can cause disruption and disappointment for current students."

Ultimately, we made a difficult choice to pursue additional oversight in order to protect you, other students, and taxpayers from potentially worse educational and financial damage in the future if ITT was allowed to continue operating."

See ITT, Page A2



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**INDEX**

Business .....	A6	Jobs .....	B7	Services .....	B6
Crossword Puzzle .....	B7	Obituaries .....	B4	Sports .....	B1
Homes .....	B7	Opinion .....	A8	Wheels .....	B7

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# Attorney named 'Women in the Law' by legal publication

Michigan Lawyers Weekly, a news publication serving the state's legal industry, has named Plunkett Cooney attorney Carolyn M. Jereck as one of its 2016 "Women in the Law."

For 14 years, Jereck has served as a Department Leader at Plunkett Cooney, one of the Midwest's oldest and largest law firms. She is also the first woman to hold the position, and her impact hasn't gone unnoticed by colleagues.

"Carolyn is an out-

standing attorney and leader. Truth be known, she's a pioneer here at the firm," said Dennis G. Cowan, Plunkett Cooney's president and CEO. "She has provided steady leadership for over a decade. She's been a tremendous influence on the strategic direction of the firm, and I'm privileged to have her as part of our management team."

The 2016 Women in the Law honorees will be recognized by Michigan Lawyers Weekly in a

special section of the publication distributed in September that coincides with awards luncheon on Sept. 15 at the Detroit Marriott in Troy. Jereck will be among 30 women honored at the luncheon, and one member of the class of 2016 will be selected as the "Woman of the Year."

The Michigan Lawyers Weekly editorial staff selected this year's honorees, considering a number of criteria, including each nominee's commitment to excel-



Jereck

lence in the practice of law; inspiration and accomplishments as leaders in the profession; mentorship of other women; and significant contribution of time and effort to volunteerism and/or pro bono service.

Jereck is a member of the Plunkett Cooney's Litigation and Labor and Employment practice

groups. She is also a founding member of the firm's Women's Leadership Committee. She concentrates her practice in the areas of employment law, retail liability, premises liability, loss prevention litigation, liquor liability and product liability.

A recipient of Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating-AV Preeminent Peer Review rating, Jereck is a member of the Oakland County Bar Association, the Litigation Section and Lawyers

and Judges Assistance Program of the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan Defense Trial Counsel, The Association of Trial Defense Counsel and the Employment Subcommittee of the DRI — The Voice of the Defense Bar.

Jereck received her law degree from the University of Toledo College of Law in 1988 and her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in 1985.

## CANTON OBSERVER

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## ITT

Continued from Page A1

The result is that students are left with all sorts of questions. Here are some:

### 1. I have federal student loans that I took to pay for my education at ITT. What happens to them?

"If you are currently or were recently enrolled at ITT, you may be eligible to have your federal student loans for your program at ITT discharged," the U.S. Department of Education wrote in its letter. "Your federal loan debt will be wiped away and you will have the option of re-starting your education somewhere new. We will post and update information about how to receive a discharge at our ITT announcements page."

### 2. I still want to pursue a college degree. What are my options?

"If you wish to con-



MICHAEL CONROY

ITT Educational Services, which operates vocational schools, announced "with profound regret" that it is ending operations at all of its more than 130 campuses across 38 states.

tinue and complete your program at a different school — especially if you are close to graduating — you may be able to transfer your credits," the federal letter to students read. "It is important to note that transferring your credits may limit your ability to have your federal loans discharged. Closed school discharge may be an option if you

enroll in a different program that does not accept your ITT credits."

### 3. How do I see my grades?

"You may access your academic record via the Student Portal by clicking this link," the letter from ITT read. "Please use your student email and network password to log in. We expect to have

all grades for the June 2016 quarter updated by Friday, Sept. 9."

### 4. How do I obtain a copy of my official transcript?

"You may request a copy of your official transcript via the Student Portal by clicking this link," the letter from ITT read. "Please use your student email and network password to log in. Graduates may also request an official transcript via the alumni website by clicking this link."

In his letter, King urged students to keep pursuing their studies.

"Whatever you choose to do, do not give up on your education. Higher education remains the clearest path to economic opportunity and security. Restarting or continuing your education at a high-quality, reputable institution may feel like a setback today, but odds are it will pay off in the long run."

# Award Winning... for a Reason



## Canton urges emergency readiness

Canton Public Safety's Emergency Management Office is joining federal, state and local governments — as well as private and public organizations — in supporting emergency preparedness initiatives and encouraging residents to take action to prepare.

Agencies nationwide are uniting under the banner "Don't Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today" to encourage everyone to create a family communications plan.

When a big emergency or disaster event occurs, residents need a plan that outlines who to call, what to bring and where to go — and they are encouraged to share that plan with family and friends.

Residents are also encouraged to know the hazards that affect their communities and build an emergency supply kit. Businesses are encouraged to prepare for emergencies and disasters by establishing an emergency preparedness program.

All households should be self-reliant for at least three days by building an emergency preparedness kit supplied with food, water and medications. During an emergency or disaster, critical services — such as electricity, water service or access to grocery stores — can be impacted and response for police, fire and rescue personnel could be significantly delayed.

For more, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov), <http://do1thing.com/> or [www.michigan.gov/miready](http://www.michigan.gov/miready).

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# Bounty hunter recovers missing Northville children

**Joanne Maliszewski**  
hometownlife.com

Within hours of hearing from the Northville Township father whose ex-wife allegedly kidnapped their daughters, Kelly Masters, a Macomb County bounty hunter, was on the road to Jacksonville, Fla., where he recovered Caitlin, 8, and Charlotte, 5.

Northville Township police confirmed that father James Peck was reunited with his daughters Saturday following the arrest of his ex-wife Courtney by the Duval County Sheriff's Department in Florida.

"They were a little shaken at first," Masters said of the two girls. "But they really didn't know what was happening. The kids were not traumatized."

Masters worked with AAA Bail Bonds Agency of Michigan in Clinton Township, which had bond on Courtney Peck on previous charges. She failed to appear on her scheduled court date.

Peck contacted the Northville Township police and media last week after his ex-wife failed to return the girls at 4 p.m. Aug. 21. Court-



Recovery team members (from left) Anthony Carlton and Kyle Clement, with father James Peck (center), daughters, Caitlin, 8, and Charlotte, 5, and Kelly Masters.

ney Peck was, as planned, supposed to drop off the children at Ford Field in Northville. "When she didn't show up, he was concerned, based on some previous behaviors and came looking for our assistance," said Todd Mutchler, deputy director of Northville Township Police Services.

"The dad called me and said, 'You are my last hope.' After hearing his desperation, I dropped what I was doing. I felt the guy's pain," Masters said, adding he, too, had

been involved in his own custody battles.

That's one of the reasons - following the girls' recovery - Masters and his team refused to accept payment for their work. "I did it for the right reasons," Masters said.

Armed with information provided by a private investigator he contacted, Masters arrived at what at first glance appeared to be a vacant vacation home in Jacksonville.

"We had the address. I knew it just wasn't a va-

cation home," said Masters, who Friday left Michigan.

As Masters and the private investigator made their way around the area where the house was located, the garage door opened with Courtney Peck and the children, including her one-month-old baby, in the car. "We weren't there more than five minutes before she had cuffs on," said Masters, who contacted the police.

Masters also contacted the girls' father, James

Peck, a phone call that Masters said helped keep the children calm. While Peck caught a plane for Jacksonville, Masters and his team members remained with the girls for about 12 hours. When Peck arrived, the girls were handed to him, while Courtney Peck's baby was taken by Child Protective Services, Masters said.

While Masters, according to Northville Township police, worked on his own, the department also "was very active in the investigation," Mutchler said. "We used the resources and technology available to us. It was good, old-fashioned police work."

Meanwhile, Northville Township police are working with the Wayne County Prosecutor's office and its extradition team to return Courtney Peck to Michigan to face charges. "There are a lot of moving parts in this," Mutchler said.

Courtney Peck was arrested last month after fleeing Grosse Pointe Farms police with her one-month-old baby in the car after being discovered in a no-trespassing zone at 3 a.m., according to WXYZ-TV (Channel 7). She was charged with

fleeing and eluding police, fourth-degree child abuse and reckless driving.

A court order Wednesday, Aug. 24, granted James Peck full custody of the girls, at least temporarily. Northville Township police Lt. Mike Burrough said last Friday that police were actively investigating the kidnapping case to restore Peck's custodial rights. Peck did not respond to a request for comment from the Northville Record.

According to Burrough, Peck last saw his daughters Aug. 13, when they left with their mom on what they collectively referred to as a road trip. Peck's last contact with them was Aug. 19, on a phone call with Caitlin.

Peck told police that when he was helping his daughters pack, their mother "told them to bring all sorts of special stuff, which was a special request," Mutchler said last week. "He's been really struggling with that realization."

The case was handled as a parental kidnapping, something Mutchler says he doesn't see very often.

Correspondent Maria Taylor contributed to this report.

## Pure Barre is pure Plymouth



RACHEL BOHN

Pure Barre instructors (from left) Rose Schulist, Jaclyn Baack, Carmen Crapo, Bridget Amodeo and Amy Smith led the free class Aug. 31. Studio owners Liz Hynes and Becky Lictawa hope to open Pure Barre Plymouth in October.

Kellogg Park became an outdoor exercise space Aug. 31 as more than 100 people tried out the Pure Barre fitness program.

Liz Hynes and Becky Lictawa, who plan to open a Pure Barre studio in downtown Plymouth, brought five of their instructors to the Kellogg Park stage to lead free lessons in barre exercise — small, isometric movements that tone the body.

Hynes, a Salem High School graduate who was

on the school's nationally ranked dance team for all of her four years there, said the Pure Barre approach combines Pilates and ballet, focusing on one major muscle group at a time, followed by stretching.

Pure Barre is a franchise company that originated in Birmingham and now has more than 400 locations in the U.S. and Canada.

Lictawa and Hynes plan to open their studio at 585 Forest Avenue next month.



RACHEL BOHN

Pure Barre instructors Jaclyn Baack (front) and Bridget Amodeo demonstrate a stretch on the Kellogg Park stage during a free fitness class Aug. 31. More than 100 people took part in the class.

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## Driver arrested after two crashes with motorcycles

**Matt Jachman**  
hometownlife.com

A 49-year-old Ypsilanti man was arraigned on seven charges, including three felonies, after his ninth drunken-driving arrest Saturday.

David Berjewski's arrest came shortly after 8 p.m. Saturday at Ann Arbor Trail and Sheldon following separate crashes between a car and two motorcycles on Ann Arbor Trail. One motorcyclist was

thrown off his motorcycle when he was struck while stopped for a red light at Ann Arbor Trail and Mill Street, but no injuries were reported in either crash, said Lt. Jamie Grabowski, who is in charge of the Plymouth Police Department's detective bureau.

After that crash, in which the motorcycle was lodged underneath the car, the car's driver backed up to dislodge it, then continued west on Ann Arbor Trail, followed by an-

other motorcyclist, Grabowski said. The car's driver braked suddenly, causing the second motorcyclist to crash into the rear of the car and the driver also attempted to run the motorcyclist off the road, Grabowski said. The car continued through downtown Plymouth until the driver was stopped and arrested by Sgt. Justin Bulmer, the lieutenant said.

The driver refused breath and chemical tests for alcohol

and, after a search warrant for his blood was obtained, Plymouth and Canton Township officers had to restrain the man at a Canton medical facility in order for a blood draw to be completed, Grabowski said.

Berjewski was arraigned in out-county weekend court on charges of felonious assault, resisting and obstructing a police officer and felony driving while intoxicated, plus driving with a suspended li-

cense, reckless driving and two counts of leaving the scene of a property-damage accident. Not-guilty pleas were entered for him.

Berjewski was being held Wednesday in the Wayne County Jail on a \$5,000 bond. He is due Friday, Sept. 16, in 35th District Court for a probable cause hearing.

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734-678-8432  
Twitter: @mattjachman

## Police seek suspect in assault at park

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com

Livonia police are asking for the public's help locating a man they say sexually assaulted a runner in Edward Hines Park.

According to police, a 28-year-old woman was running eastbound at about 7:25 p.m. Sunday along the Hines Drive bicycle path, west of Levan in Livonia. She told police she came across the suspect, who was walking westbound along the road. She told police the man wrapped his arm around her neck and struck on the side of her face when she tried to pass him, struggling with her and trying to drag her toward the Rouge River.

Police say he also attempted to remove the woman's clothing and told her he wanted to have sex with her. She was able to fight off the suspect, who then ran eastbound on foot.

After flagging down a motorist along the road, she was able to use his cellphone to call authorities and report the incident, police said. Police arrived, but were unable to locate the suspect.

Capt. Robert Nenciarini of the Livonia Police Department said the woman did not require any hospitalization after the incident.

Livonia police say the suspect is described as a black male between 28-30 years old, about 5 feet, 10 inches and 180 pounds. He's also described as having a muscular build with short, dark hair and clean shaven.

Anyone with information regarding the incident is encouraged to call Livonia police at 734-466-2470.



Nicole Harmon takes her oath.

## Canton Police Department swears in new officer

The Canton Police Department has welcomed its newest police officer, Nicole Harmon.

She took her oath of office, administered by township Clerk Terry Bennett, Monday with family and friends in attendance.

All new police officers in Canton are required to suc-

cessfully complete a 16-week instructor-led field training program, prior to working on their own. It is designed orientate and develop recruit officers while maximizing their potential and providing them with the tools necessary to successfully make the transition into their new position as a Canton police officer.

## Troopers find meth lab in Westland

**Diane Gale Andreassi**  
hometownlife.com

State Police said they found a methamphetamine lab in a home on the 3500 block of Manila Street, near Palmer and Wayne, in Westland during a raid Aug. 31.

Nine people were in the house and police said six of them had outstanding felony warrants. A 10th person, who came to the scene to see what was happening after police arrived, had a felony warrant out for his arrest from Westland police, Michigan State Police spokesman 1st Lt. Michael Shaw said. That man was arrested along with the other six.

Two houses — one on each side of the house that was raided — were evacuated "while the teams were removing the items in case there was an explosion," Shaw said. "We did air quality tests inside the home and around the home, and there's no danger to the community."

Michigan State Police Fugitive Team members initially entered the home looking for an individual wanted on a felony parole absconder warrant.

Troopers were concerned about a possible explosion that could have been caused by mixing chemicals and sealing them up in weakened containers. The chemicals used to make methamphetamine are also very toxic, he added.

Shaw said police found a gram of meth, other narcotics, cash and a large amount of guns. Three Wayne County Sheriff's Department badges were also found.

An investigation continues on who owns the property, he added. A placard was placed on the house declaring it a hazardous waste site "and it's up to the owner to go in and clean up the chemical waste that is always found on these methamphetamine sites," Shaw said.

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ESTATE AUCTION ~ SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>-18<sup>TH</sup>



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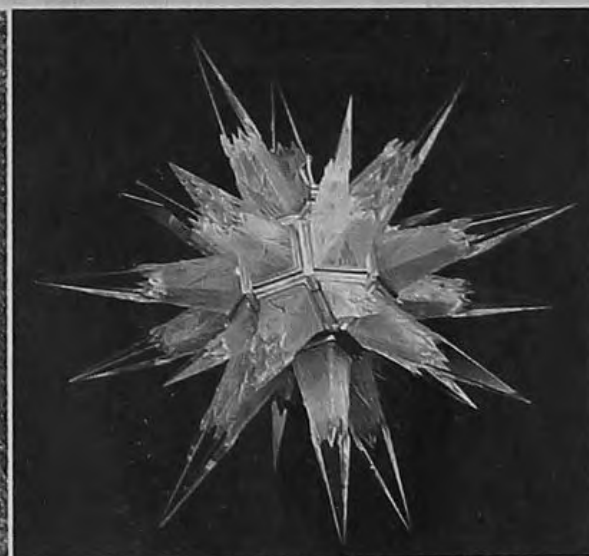
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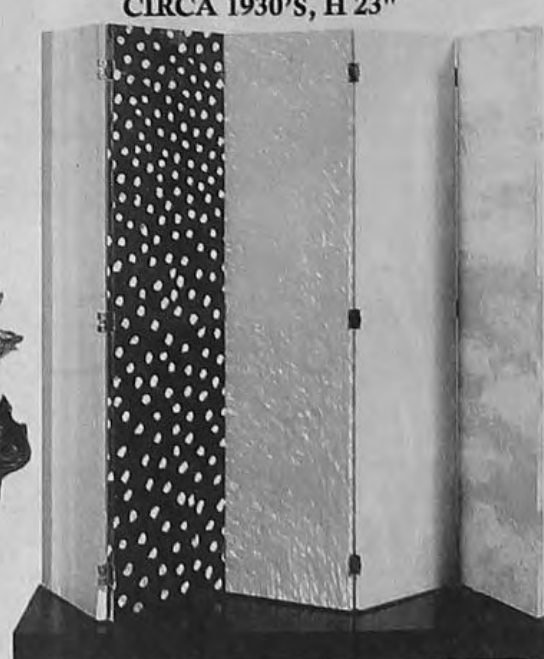
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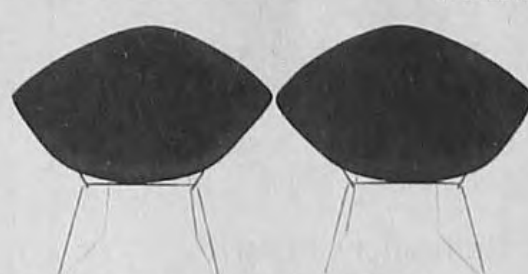
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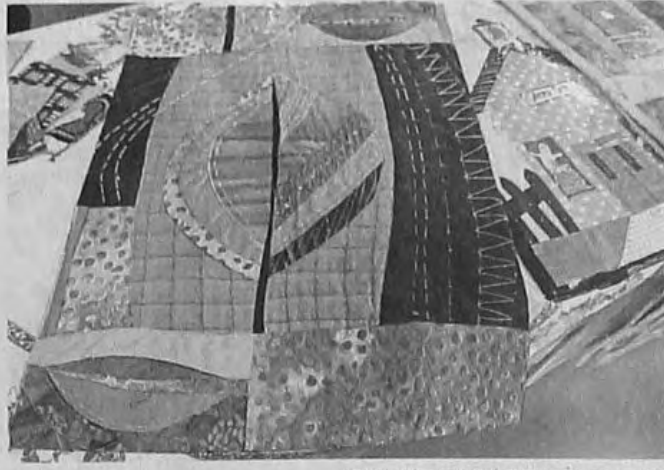


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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clowns Goran Mistic (GoGo) and Chris Fetko entertained visitors to the fair.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Some examples of the GLAAQN group's efforts.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Yvette Meadows and her funk band take to the outdoor stage at the Michigan State Fair.

# HOLIDAY FUN AT THE MICHIGAN STATE FAIR

The Michigan State Fair was held over Labor Day weekend at the Suburban Collection Showplace. Staff photographer John Heider snapped photos of some of the happenings. Find more photos online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Michigan State Fair expanded yet again this year with more exhibitors, rides and musical acts. There was also a Shrine Circus under the big tent.



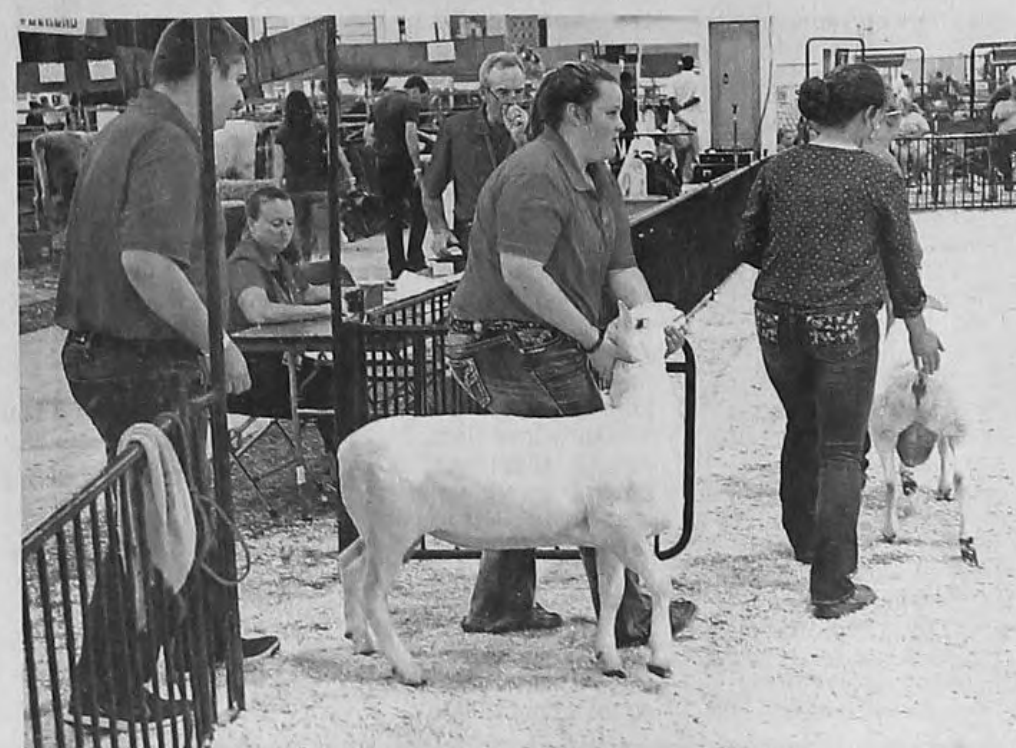
JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A young lady tries to entice passers-by to purchase a bubble machine during the state fair in Novi.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cole Provoast gives his cow's coat a close trim Sept. 2 at the Michigan State Fair at the Suburban Collection Showplace. Farmers and ranchers from all over the state brought the best of their livestock and produce to be judged and sampled by officials and visitors to the fair.



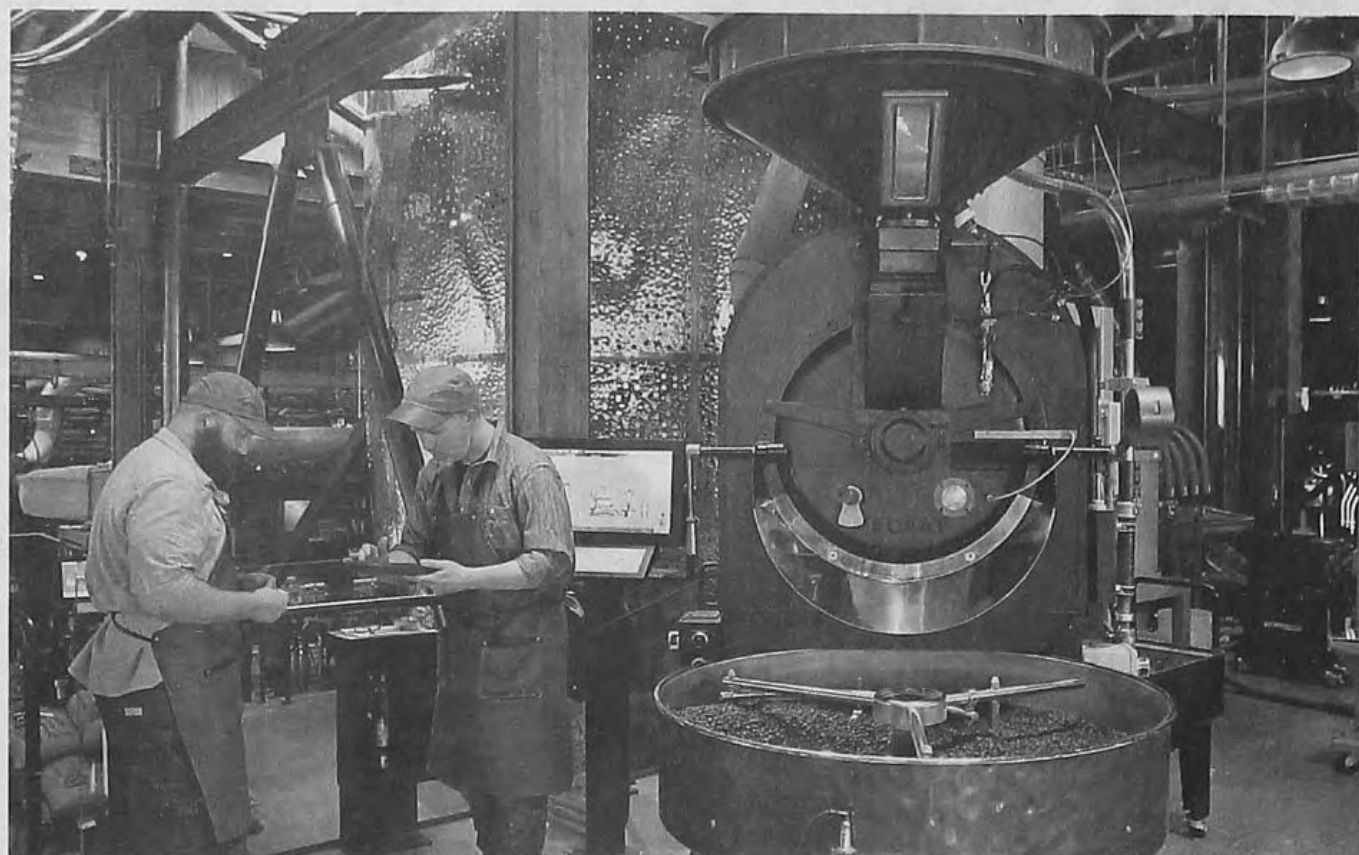
JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Judging of lambs took place around mid-day Sept. 2 in one of the two rings inside the Suburban Collection Showplace.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mark Menghini helps out at the Guernsey Dairy booth at the fair as he scoops out some vanilla ice cream.



ALAN BERNER | SEATTLE TIMES

Brandon Cohen (left), roaster operator, and Shawn Sidey, master roaster, check Sitio Baixadao coffee as it's roasted at Starbucks Reserve Roastery.

## Birmingham to get Michigan's first Starbucks Reserve shop

Jay Grossman  
hometownlife.com

Starbucks Reserve coffee is coming to Michigan.

A Starbucks spokesperson confirmed the company plans to open a Starbucks at 101 N. Old Woodward that will be the first in Michigan to offer Starbucks Reserve coffee. The new store is more than twice the size of the existing Starbucks across the street on Old Woodward and will offer customers plenty of premium coffee choices.

"It's going to be a larger store with more space and it's at better location," said Karleigh

Wolber, a supervisor at the Birmingham Starbucks. "We're going to have more food options and we're going to have a clover machine that will provide our customers with more coffee choices. We'll also have more space for laptops."

The new store opens in the spring.

The first Starbucks Roastery Reserve and Tasting Room opened in Seattle in 2014, offering customers more space, a larger breakfast and lunch menu, more baked goods, a line of premium coffee choices and its own roastery.

"This location will have our full Starbucks

menu of handcrafted beverages and food and will not be a Reserve-only store," the spokesperson said. "Additionally, this store will offer an exceptional collection of exclusive, small-batch arabica coffees available in select Starbucks stores around the world, roasted at our Starbucks Roastery Reserve and Tasting Room in Seattle."

Because of the premium selections, customers can expect to pay more for their coffee. A 12-ounce cup of coffee at the Starbucks Reserve in Manhattan sells for \$4.

The new store will occupy the former Cosi space at the northwest

corner of Maple and Old Woodward, right in the heart of downtown Birmingham. Landlord Brian Najor said he expects the store to be a popular draw.

"It's kind of a unique use for that space and it's a perfect location," Najor said. "We're adding a premium retailer to a prominent space and I really think it will be a nice addition for Birmingham. And besides, I'm a big Starbucks fan, so I plan on spending a lot of time there."

jgrossman@hometownlife.com  
586-826-7030  
Twitter: @BhmEccentric

## Job Search Seminar a boon to job seekers

A JVS Job Search Seminar, Taking Your Job Search by Storm, will be offered from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Southfield Public Library Auditorium, 26300 Evergreen Road. Pre-registration is not required.

Join Abby Kohut – known as Absolutely Abby – to learn the steps to launch a successful job search. Admission is free.

Kohut is an author and expert on effective job search strategies. She is president of Staffing Symphony, LLC and author of "Absolutely Abby's 101 Job Search Secrets." She has held corporate recruiting positions in a variety of industries and is responsible for helping 10,000 people get hired.

The workshop is sponsored by JVS and the Southfield Public Library. Kohut will stress the five Ps – be prepared, persistent, patient, positive and prudent.

Southfield-based JVS, a nonprofit, also has other extensive resources for job seekers. The JVS Women to Work program helps women find employment after being out of the workforce for a substantial period of time. The program is designed to guide participants through the latest job search strategies while providing emotional support to make the process easier.

For additional information on Women to Work, contact Judy Richmond at jrmond@jvsdet.org.

JVS also has some words of wisdom for job seekers:

» Climb the totem pole. Young job seekers have tons to offer, but they usually end up in entry-level positions. This is for one simple reason: They lack experience. So as a young employee, be willing to climb the totem pole. "Excel at basic tasks, and even though they might be boring, see them as a gateway to more exciting work," the agency notes in its current newsletter. "Over time, this will prove to your boss that you can handle more complex assignments."

» Use your resources. "When you sit down to re-vamp your resume or prepare your pitch to employers, taking the time to search the Internet for new ideas can be a game changer. Thousands of resume templates are at your disposal with Google images. YouTube has a slew of popular videos on crafting an elevator pitch. You may already know the basics, but if you're willing to search, you could find a few transformative tips that can take your credibility to the next level," the newsletter notes.

JVS is at 29699 Southfield Road and is online at [www.jvsdet.org](http://www.jvsdet.org).

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## Make certain beneficiaries make sense to you

I had a recent meeting with a client regarding their estate plan that I thought I would share with you. The client is divorced and in his mid-70s. He was married for more than 30 years and has three children. According to him, the divorce was very nasty and changed his relationship with his children. As he describes it, before the divorce he had a wonderful relationship with his children and, since the divorce, which is more than five years ago, he no longer has any relationship with two of them. In fact, as he describes it, he has grandchildren that he has never seen. He says he's tried to reach out to the two kids, but his efforts have been unsuccessful. As we sat down to discuss his estate plan, the one question he asked me was what I thought the right thing would be with what he should do with his money.

The way I interpreted the question was, despite having no relationship with the two children whatsoever, should he still leave them part of his estate upon his death? As I explained to the client, I don't believe that as a matter of right people are entitled to an inheritance. In most cases, inheritances are earned by the love and devotion that someone has demonstrated. I also explained that many situations are based upon the needs of the beneficiary. For example, I have drafted many estate plans where parents treat their children differently, not for a lack of love and devotion, but because of financial con-



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

cerns. In other words, one child's financial situation may be such that a larger inheritance is called for. There are no hard and fast rules when it comes to inheritances and people shouldn't try to do what everyone else is doing, but should do what makes sense for their individual situation.

After the discussion with the client, he did decide to totally disinherit the two children and leave the money to the child who has been very good to him. At the beginning of the meeting the client was tense, but by the end of the meeting he was relaxed and relieved. Relieved in the fact that, from the beginning, he knew that he didn't want to leave money to the two children, but he needed the assurance that he was doing the right thing.

When it comes to choosing beneficiaries, people generally name all their children as their alternate beneficiaries. You should never do what the majority does, but you should do what makes sense for your individual circumstances. There is nothing to say that all children should be treated equally. You may love them equally; that doesn't mean from a financial standpoint their needs are the same. After all, when the kids were growing up, if one of your children needed braces, you didn't say I know I have to spend an equal amount on my

other children. More likely than not, you treated them each according to their individual needs. The same thing should apply when it comes to estate planning.

I recognize when you don't treat children equally, there could be some hard feelings. If you think there would be hard feelings, you can either explain to your children ahead of time why you're doing what you're doing or you can add something to your estate planning documents that explains your reasoning. You're under no obligation to do so, but if it would make you feel better, you should.

It's also important to remember when you do estate planning that what you do today doesn't mean it's set in stone. In the situation at hand, if down the road my client's relationships with his two children changes, he can always change his estate planning documents. That is why it's important that every year or so you review your estate planning documents to make sure they still reflect your wishes.

When it comes to deciding beneficiaries, don't let anyone tell you what you should do. You should do what you believe is right for your individual situation. If you do that, then you will make the right decision. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [bloomassetmanagement.com](http://bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to questions, email [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

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# Woman stumping for Trump in Oakland County

**Terry Jacoby**  
Correspondent

Nothing ignites one's passion and excitement like something you strongly believe in. And when Donald Trump decided to run for president of the United States, it lit the match for Meshawn Maddock to not only support the controversial candidate, but to get involved in what she says is an "uprising" against the establishment in Washington, D.C.

Maddock, 49, of Milford said it was an "honor" to be named the first co-chair for the Oakland County team for the Donald J. Trump for President campaign.

"We know that if Trump wins southeast Michigan in November and especially if he wins Oakland County, he will be our next president," Maddock said. "I'm really excited about working for this campaign. I've been working really close with Scott and C.J. for months leading up to the primary and they have been helping us prepare our grassroots office."

Scott Hagerstrom is the Michigan state director for the Trump campaign; C.J. Galdes is the deputy state director for the Trump campaign.

Maddock and her team didn't waste any time getting the Oakland County office up and running. The headquarters, at 500 N. Pontiac Trail (second floor) in Walled Lake, is "stocked

and fully staffed."

"We worked hard to open a grassroots office," she said. "While we wait from the RNC for official Trump office status, we press on to organize rallies, knock on doors, distribute signs and meet with volunteers. We have signs, stickers and volunteers ready to go door to door. People are stopping in every day eager to help in any way they can. It's pretty exciting."

The Oakland County team for the Donald J. Trump for President campaign was organized in part by the Michigan Conservative Coalition, of which Maddock is a member.

"We are an activist group that wants to steer our party back to the right and back to the platform principles," Maddock said. "That's how I got involved with this. And as of (Tuesday) we already fully staffed with 16 volunteers."

She is well aware that Michigan hasn't voted "red" since 1988.

In 2016, Michigan has 16 electoral votes, which is 3 percent of the 538 electoral votes up for grabs and 6 percent of the 270 electoral votes needed to win the general election. Many experts believe that Michigan is a lock to remain a Democratic state and support Hillary Clinton, but Maddock is convinced Trump has the support to take those 16 electoral votes.

"We need to get out there and get people to go



Meshawn Maddock of Milford shows her support for Donald Trump at the Republican National Convention.

vote and help turn Michigan red," Maddock said. "Donald Trump is a fantastic candidate for all the people."

"We are ready for a change and we feel it's here. I believe he will fight for me. I know he can win Oakland County and I know he can win Michigan."

And remember, Clinton didn't even win Michigan's primary. Bernie Sanders won the Democratic primary with 49.7 percent of the vote.

Trump won the Michigan Republican primary with 37 percent of the

vote, with Ted Cruz and John Kasich taking second and third, respectively. While Cruz won Republican voters who identified as "very conservative," according to exit polls, Trump won over voters who viewed themselves as "somewhat conservative."

Now running against the liberal Clinton, Trump hopes to capture all of the conservatives — which he is going to need in order to have a shot at winning the White House.

And while she worked on the Mitt Romney campaign as well as local and

state campaigns, Maddock has never been "all in" like she is with Trump and the 2016 election.

"I've never felt so close to overturning the monopoly of control you see in both parties," she said. "Donald Trump represents an uprising for people who are sick and tired of big money, lobbyists and special interest money and most of these politicians we have now are out to protect themselves and their paychecks. Donald Trump represents what we've been fighting for in Michigan for a long time."

Maddock was as a Trump-bound delegate to the recently completed Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

"I was honored to be voted as the national delegate for Trump in the 11th Congressional District and was one of four national delegates and I also was elected to be one of two people from Michigan to represent the state's Republican Platform Committee for the RNC," she said.

She called the trip to Cleveland a "once-in-a-lifetime experience."

"It was amazing just to see how the process works," she said. "I got to be a big part of it. While I felt a little intimidated, I stood up and spoke. I felt God had me there for a reason. It was even on C-Span. It was just incredible."

Maddock is equally as proud of being a Milford

resident, where she has lived the past 17 years, as she is as being a conservative.

"My husband Matt and I have raised our three children in Milford," she said. "We run our business (A1 Bail Bonds Agency). Matt has been in the bail bonds business for over 30 years and I went to work with him about 10 years ago after raising our then young children."

Maddock now wears many titles with pride, including wife, mother, small-business owner and community leader, to name a few. She admits not everyone is as vocal as she is in her support for the outspoken GOP candidate — and that only fuels her belief that he can win the White House in November.

"It's a silent majority out there who are supporting Donald Trump," she said. "I am on the ground out there and I can hear it and feel it. There are a lot of people who don't respond to polls or who aren't out there speaking, but they are going to show up in November and vote for Trump because they are sick and tired of the way things are."

The Michigan Conservative Coalition is "committed to our founding fathers' principles and to the Republican Party platform."

For more information, contact [info@michigan-conservativecoalition.com](mailto:info@michigan-conservativecoalition.com).



Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN quintet performs Sept. 27 at the Plymouth Elks.

## Plymouth Elks offers blues, jazz

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325, in partnership with the Detroit Blues Society will host the Boa Constrictors on Sept. 13 and jazz quintet Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN on Sept. 27.

The lodge features Blues @ The Elks 7-10 p.m. second Tuesday of each month and Jazz @The Elks 7-10 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month. There is a \$5 donation for the blues concert and a \$10 donation for the jazz entertainment.

The Boa Constrictors

return with their high-energy blues and R&B music to fill the dance floor and generally have a good time. Carl Caballero will be on vocals and harmonica, Steve Allen on vocals and bass, Glenn James on vocals and guitar and Mike Kissick on drums. Go to [www.theboaconstrictors.com](http://www.theboaconstrictors.com) for more information.

Paul Keller AT SUNDOWN Quintet will feature Sarah D'Angelo. This group performs jazz standards. Join the Elks for the humor and good sounds of the quin-

tet with Sarah DeAngelo on vocals and clarinet, Paul Keller on string bass, Duncan McMillan on piano, Steve Wood on tenor sax and flute and Dave Taylor on drums. Go to [www.paulkellerjazz.com](http://www.paulkellerjazz.com) for more information.

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge 325 is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. For more information, call 734-453-1780 or go to [www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com](http://www.plymouthannarbor-elks325.com) or email [jazzattheelks@gmail.com](mailto:jazzattheelks@gmail.com).

## Canton woman helps fight hunger with food drive

Katrina Knott of Canton is partnering with Move For Hunger, a national nonprofit organization, to host a food drive Sept. 9-24.

September is Hunger Action Month, when Feeding America and its member food banks ask everyone to take action to fight hunger in their community, all month long. Members of the community are encour-

aged to drop off non-perishable food items at the clubhouse of the Wagon Wheel mobile home park, 51000 Mott Road, Canton to help support the cause.

There are more than 1.5 million people in Michigan, including almost 437,000 children, who face hunger. Through the support of local organizations and community members

like Knott, Move For Hunger can continue to help the nearly 50 million Americans struggling to find their next meal.

The local effort involves Knott, Wagon Wheel mobile home park, DMS Moving Systems of Canton, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan and Move For Hunger.

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LINDA J. LANGMESSER

Published: September 8, 2016

## Heise announces September hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise invites residents to meet with him during office hours or "Coffee with Kurt" in September to discuss the state government.

"I encourage all who are available to come out on Sept. 12 or Sept. 16 so that I can listen to your concerns and help in any way that I can to be the best representative possible," said Heise, R-Plymouth Township.

"The hard-working taxpayers in our community deserve to know what's

going on in Lansing."

Heise's in-district office hours will take place Monday, Sept. 12, at the following locations:

- » 10-11 a.m., Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road (east of I-275), Canton
- » Noon to 1 p.m., Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., Northville
- » 3-4 p.m., Plymouth

District Library, 223 S. Main St., Plymouth

Residents and business owners are also invited to join Heise for "Coffee with Kurt" 7:30-9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at Panera Bread, 400 S. Main St., Plymouth.

Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call toll free 855-REPKURT or e-mail [KurtHeise@house.mi.gov](mailto:KurtHeise@house.mi.gov) to schedule an appointment.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
Plymouth District Library  
2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 on the following proposed 2017 budget:

	Amount
General Fund	\$3,803,235
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,803,235</b>

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The proposed 2017 budget documents are available for public examination at the Plymouth District Library on the upper level at the Reference Desk during regular Library hours.

Carol Souchock, Director  
Plymouth District Library

The District Library Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon (7) seven days' notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Sandra Young, Administrative Assistant, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 at 734 453-0750 X 217.

Published: September 8, 2016

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GUEST COLUMN

## What's Trump hiding by not releasing tax returns?

For 20 years, I worked as an investment adviser, helping families save for a home, pay for their kids' college and plan for retirement. I know Michigan families work hard to secure the building blocks for a strong financial future and they should be able to trust that their president can do the same with their tax dollars. Over the last 40 years, nearly every major party presidential nominee, Democrat and Republican alike, has released his or her tax returns so the American people can better understand how



**Gary Peters**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

these candidates manage their own finances — before deciding who should manage our nation's finances. Unfortunately, Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has made clear that he believes he can play by a different set of rules. When asked about his tax rate, he said, "It's none of your business." But before Michi-

ganders can ever trust Donald Trump to lead our country, they deserve to know: what exactly is he trying to hide? A column in the New York Times raises the question of whether Trump is using a bevy of loopholes in the tax code, many of them available to developers, to pay zero taxes. Is he exaggerating how much money he's contributed to charities? Is he taking advantage of the tax code by promising not to build luxury homes on his own golf course? Or perhaps he does not want to admit

that he may not be as rich as he claims to be? We now know Trump's tax plan, outlined at the Detroit Economic Club, would cut taxes for the wealthy. But the American people will never know just how much Trump stands to gain from his tax plan unless he stops stonewalling voters and releases his tax returns. Trump has insisted that he cannot reveal his tax information because he is under an IRS audit. This is simply not true. He has previously handed over his tax returns in the midst of an audit

when one of his casinos was at stake and it was in his personal interest. And, as the IRS confirmed, there are no restrictions on making tax returns public during an audit. What we do know about Trump's business record, however, is deeply troubling. He talks tough on trade, but as a businessman Trump makes his own Trump-branded products overseas instead of here at home. With the release of her 2015 tax information last week, Democratic presidential nominee Hillary

Clinton has now revealed 38 years of tax returns. Additionally, Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine just released a decade's worth of his and his wife's tax returns. In fact, you can see their tax returns online. Mitt Romney said that it is "disqualifying" for any modern-day presidential nominee to refuse to release tax returns. I couldn't agree more.

Gary Peters, a Democrat from Bloomfield Township, represents Michigan in the U.S. Senate.

LETTERS

### Grateful for support

The Canton Public Library has concluded another successful summer program. Patrons read books, completed activities, enjoyed programs and had a summer full of great experiences and we'd like to thank our community for making this summer so much fun. Several community partners were instrumental in providing the means to present this program. Our thanks go to the Friends of the Canton Public Library, Vibe Credit Union, Zap Zone, Tony Sacco's, Super Bowl Canton, Ann Arbor Hands On Museum, Holiday Market, Henry Ford Mu-

seum, Detroit Zoological Society, High Velocity Sports, Arctic Edge, Michigan Sea Life Aquarium, Rusty Nail, Skatin' Station, Menchie's, Imagine Canton, Twisted Rooster-Belleville, Einstein Bagels, Sweetwaters Coffee and Tea and Canton Leisure Services. We are grateful for their contributions to this summer's program, and their ongoing support.

Laurie Golden  
community relations  
Canton Public Library

### Canton should follow ordinances

Is the township of Canton the employer of the four or more panhandlers that beg on the

exit ramps of Ford Road and Michigan Avenue, off I-275? If any of the panhandlers are injured as they dart out to vehicles to collect "donations," will Canton be responsible for workman's comp, since they're working in the city? I know we live in a generous community. We want to help those in need. Those drivers actually should donate the money to a shelter or local charity or even a religious organization that works with the indigent or truly impoverished — then you will know exactly where your funds are going. Keep your change and help with the bigger problem of substance abuse. If you believe you need to give the beggars something — a sandwich or some type of food should curb their hunger. Offer them a job application, something that could last them a lifetime if they're truly interested in maintaining an occupation and

off the streets. See how long they'll continue to beg once the supply is turned off. Did you ever notice it seems these "homeless or jobless" solicitors are swapping places with each other so each north and southbound ramps are covered? These four or more panhandlers know the pose and demeanor to work the corners, if not, it wouldn't be a lucrative job for them. Homeless, hungry, lost job, etc. If, in fact, these people are without jobs and no money, how is it they have enough money for cigarettes? The municipality needs to post "do not feed wildlife" signs, just as in the parks to deter them from becoming dependent or maybe the township ought to enforce or change their code of ordinances. Maybe the Code of Ordinances is just for show? The following excerpts would pertain to the panhandlers. The Canton Charter

Township municode specifically states: Sec. 46-298. — Begging and soliciting alms. Ask, beg and solicit mean and include, without limitation, the spoken, written or printed word or such other acts as are conducted in furtherance of the purpose of obtaining alms. (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit money or other things of value: (6) From any operator of a motor vehicle that is in traffic on a public street; provided, however, that this subsection shall not apply to services rendered in connection with emergency repairs requested by the owner or passengers of such vehicle.

Dianne Zak  
Livonia

### Let's use more coal

Our current administration's agenda to protect the environment is superseding the needs of the people. We have been burdened with overzealous regulations by the

Environmental Protection Agency, and this has forced many of our coal-fired power plants to be shut down and ruined the majority of the industry. We have made extensive strides to reduce the emissions from coal and our air quality is at some of the best levels we have seen. Yet, our administration still wants to destroy one of our most reliable sources of energy. Michigan faces energy prices that are at least 20 percent higher than in other parts of the country. Eliminating the use of coal-fired power plants in our state is narrowing our options for energy considerably. However, supporting our fossil fuels would not only create many new jobs, but it would also provide all of us with more affordable energy while helping to secure our energy independence as a state. It seems to me like a win-win.

Ivan Secord  
South Lyon

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## Catching one for MSU



JOE HOHNER

Jonah Hohner, 19, of Canton caught a foul ball during the first inning of a Detroit Tigers game in late August. He was accompanied by Lauren Conley, 19, of Plymouth. It was Michigan State University night at Comerica Park. Both are MSU students. The Tigers beat the Los Angeles Angels, 4-2.

## Plymouth museum offers free family day

Stop by the Plymouth Historical Museum 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, for a free family visit.

The museum will open its doors to the public free of charge so that everyone can enjoy an evening of history. Come and see the "First Ladies - Fashion Setters" exhibit with historical re-enactors portraying presidents and first ladies of the past.

This exhibit, open to all ages, is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

The "First Ladies - Fashion Setters" exhibit features 15 dresses of the first ladies throughout history. Each dress in this exhibit has been recreated based on careful research by museum volunteer and past president Pam Yockey, who is also a costume historian and seamstress.

The 26,000-square-foot Plymouth Historical Museum features a late 19th century Victorian recreation of Main Street, tracing the growth of the small town from the railroad depot to the general store. The largest Lincoln collection in the state of Michigan is housed in a separate room off Main Street. And a Timeline of Plymouth is the newest permanent exhibit featuring displays on the Daisy Air Rifle, Ford Village Industries, the Alter Motor Car, World War II, communication history and much more.

The museum is at 155 S. Main Street. Hours of operation are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

For more information, contact the Plymouth Historical Museum at 734-455-8940 or go to [www.plymouthhistory.org](http://www.plymouthhistory.org).

## Rotary donates backpacks, money to Salvation Army

Area students will have a better back-to-school experience after the Canton Rotary has donated backpacks, school supplies and money for shoes to The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps.

The Rotary club has been participating in the school supply program for years. It also has made a \$500 donation to The Salvation Army for a shoe fund.

It all happened during a recent Canton Rotary meeting featuring speaker Laurie

Aren, director of family and community services for the Plymouth-based Salvation Army. She accepted the check from the club.

Anyone interested in Rotary Club membership or community and world projects may contact club president John Kowalski at 734-578-8090.

The club meets for lunch at 12:05 p.m. each Monday at Antonio's Cucina Italiana in Canton.



Canton Rotary president John Kowalski and Laurie Aren of The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps hold a symbolic copy of the check Rotary donated. They are accompanied by other club members.

## YMCA to offer blood pressure program

The Plymouth Family YMCA will begin offering a blood pressure self-monitoring program, designed to help people with hypertension lower their blood pressure, this month.

The YMCA developed the evidence-based program, which combines blood pressure monitoring, nutrition education and personalized support, to help people better manage hypertension and improve overall health. According to the American Heart Association, more than 80 million Americans have high blood pressure, but less than half have it under control. Research shows that the simple

process of checking and recording blood pressure at least twice a month over four months may lower blood pressure in some people with hypertension. In addition, evidence shows that proper nutrition, particularly with a reduction in sodium intake, may help reduce both systolic and diastolic blood pressures.

As part of the program, participants will measure their blood pressure at least two times a month for four consecutive months — a minimum of eight times — and record their readings in a self-selected tracking tool. A nutrition education component will encourage partici-

pants to practice healthier eating habits, including reducing sodium.

The program is facilitated by "Healthy Heart Ambassadors," appointed and trained by the YMCA, who will show participants how to use a blood pressure cuff, encourage self-monitoring and facilitate monthly nutrition education seminars.

The Plymouth Family YMCA is looking for adults with high blood pressure to take part in the program. For a small investment of time, participants receive:

- » A simple, evidence-based program that may lower blood pressure.
- » Personalized sup-

port from a Healthy Heart Ambassador.

» Tips for maintaining cardiovascular health.

» An easy-to-use, portable self-tracking tool.

» Heart-healthy nutrition education seminars. Participants must: be at least 18, be diagnosed with high blood pressure, have had no recent cardiac events, have no atrial fibrillation or other arrhythmias and not be at risk for lymphedema.

For more information, contact Plymouth Family YMCA executive director Sage Hegdal at 734-453-2904 or by email at [shegdal@ymcadeloitrois.org](mailto:shegdal@ymcadeloitrois.org).

## Bark for Life this weekend at Milford park

Bark For Life is a celebration of four-legged loved ones.

It is an opportunity to recognize canine caregivers, canine survivors, service dogs and K-9 police dogs. It is taking place Sunday, Sept. 11, at Milford's Central Park LaFontaine Family Amphitheater.

Many survivors have canine caregivers who have helped them get through their initial diagnosis, chemo, radiation and looking forward to a cancer-free future.

Just like humans, dogs get cancer, too. Funds raised year-round go toward research and that research benefits dogs and other animals in their fight against cancer, too.

Registration is \$20 for the first dog, \$5 each additional dog. Registration is at 10 a.m., followed by an opening ceremony and walk through park. Each registered dog will receive a Bark For Life bandana and a goody bag. Partici-



FILE PHOTO Milford will host a Bark for Life fundraiser this Sunday at Central Park.

pants without a dog can register for \$10, which will provide a Bark T-shirt. There will be additional T-shirts for \$10.

There will be several dog rescues on site with adoptable dogs who are looking for a "forever" home. After the walk, there will be a simple obstacle course, contests, hot dogs for hu-

mans. Each dog will receive homemade cookies as a treat.

The event is being sponsored by Pet Supplies Plus in Milford, Purina and Pet People. Veterinary Care Specialists is also a sponsor and has provided a vet tech for the event. Merrill, owner and dog trainer from Bark Busters, will

be on-site giving free advice to anyone who needs help with their four-legged buddy.

Entertainment will be provided by DJ Wayne.

Register at [www.relayforlife.org/barkhuronvalley](http://www.relayforlife.org/barkhuronvalley) or email Diane Steslicki at [di.steslicki@comcast.net](mailto:di.steslicki@comcast.net) for more information.

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CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

## 'Cats' young nucleus keeps improving

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

On the surface, the 2015 season wasn't a great one for Plymouth's varsity boys cross country team.

But dig a bit deeper and one will find it was an invaluable year — simply because a group of athletes grew together and became bona fide varsity standouts by the time the season concluded, even with the Wildcats finishing 2-3 in the KLAA South Division.

"Last year was a rebuilding season for us," veteran Plymouth coach Jon Mikosz said. "A lot of the guys had a chance to get some great experience and run some good times. They really came on at the end of the season and were chomping at the bit to keep running."

"They all ran a lot more than they had in the past, so they are coming in at a higher level than last year."

At the top of the list are junior Ethan Byrnes and sophomore Brandon Boyd.

"Ethan is our top returning guy," Mikosz said. "He had a great sophomore season, ending in qualifying for the state meet."

"Brandon had a great freshman year last season. He broke the Plymouth freshman record."

Mikosz knows he has a pretty deep supporting cast this time around, too.

Back from a year ago are Jarrett Warner, Adam Stepek, Bassil Syed and Timothy Hoang and "all made great improvement from last season. They all put in a ton of miles over the off-season and are all looking to make an impact."

Looking to do the same are three young newcomers, who very well could push their way into the top seven by the time all is said and done.

Sophomore Jacob Steward did not run cross country last fall, but did have a standout season with the Plymouth boys track and field team.

See WILDCATS, Page B3

*"Last year was a rebuilding season for us. A lot of the guys had a chance to get some great experience and run some good times."*

JON MIKOSZ  
Plymouth coach



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Plymouth's Brandon Boyd is looking to build off an outstanding freshman season.

BOYS SOCCER



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Looking to cut around Livonia Churchill's Devon Noble (right) during Tuesday night's game is Canton senior forward Mohamad Miri.

## CANTON STEAMROLLER

Churchill unable to stop wave after wave of Chiefs' pressure

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

In the opening moments Tuesday night, Livonia Churchill had a glorious chance to get on the scoreboard first against Canton.

But Chiefs senior goalkeeper Steven Page dove to rob the Chargers' early attempt and that seemed to awaken a sleeping giant. Pretty much the rest of the night at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity soccer field, the host Chiefs ran past Churchill players en route to a convincing 5-1 victory.

"It's always important to make a big save like that, because it gets us even more motivated," Canton senior defender and co-captain Matt Rockefeller said, with a glint in his eye.

Not much needs to be said or done for Canton to turn on the jets; Tuesday's lopsided win in the KLAA South Division opener for both teams upped the Chiefs' record to 7-0-1 overall. Churchill dropped to 3-2 with the loss.

"We always give them games; Churchill kids are tough and we play hard," Chargers head varsity boys soccer coach Matthew Grodzicki said. "It's just tough, you got to score the first goal. You can't spot two or three and expect to come back and get a result."

"We work hard, there's no doubt, and we'll compete and I'm sure Mark (Zemanski) will tell you the same thing. But that team's deep."

Zemanski already had a pretty good team returning from 2015, when the



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Celebrating one of Canton's five goals Tuesday are seniors Mohamad Miri (rear) and Matt Rockefeller, to the chagrin of Churchill's Michael Hudock.

Chiefs lost in the Division 1 state finals. The 2016 squad looks to be even better and deeper, what with the return of senior forward Mohamad Miri from a major knee injury that knocked him out almost all of last season.

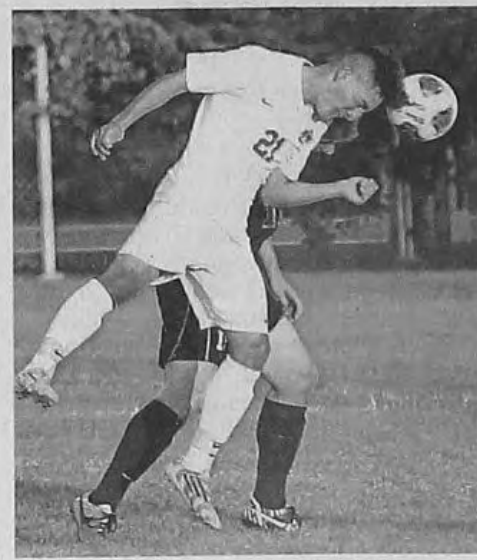
### Bigger and better

"We're bigger than we were last year, which has helped us," Zemanski said. "We have a lot of guys back. Mo coming back from an injury is huge. I like our team; we're playing well."

Miri had a goal and two assists and was rewarded by sitting out the final 26 minutes of the second half to enable a talented bunch of reserve players to trot out onto the pitch.

According to Miri, who looks as though he'd fit right in with a college team, he came into this season on a mission to make up for last year's lost

See CHIEFS, Page B2



ED HENGESH | EXPRESS PHOTO

Heading the ball into the Livonia Churchill net during the first half Tuesday is Canton's Alex Spratte.

PRESEASON OPENS

## Friday freebie at USA Hockey Arena

USA Hockey NTDP U17s skate for first time against Muskegon

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

Hey USA Hockey fans, come one, come all Friday night and watch the National Team Development Program Under-17 team take a swing at the Muskegon Lumberjacks.

Tickets are free for the 7 p.m. pre-season match-up at USA Hockey Arena, the first of several tuneups as the NTDP U17s gear up for the 2016-17 regular season, which begins Sept. 23.

Fans from last season will notice a familiar face behind the Team USA bench as Danton Cole — who was head

coach of the 2015-16 Under-18 squad — now takes the reins of the younger group.

While the new U17s represent the entire country (Erik Middendorf from Scottsdale, Ariz.; Tyler Weiss, from Raleigh, N.C., etc.), there's plenty of Michigan representation for fans to cheer on, including Plymouth native Will MacKinnon, Birmingham's Bode Wilde, Blade Jenkins of Jackson and Jack DeBoer, who grew up in New Jersey but was born in Plymouth when his father Peter DeBoer was general

See USA HOCKEY, Page B2



RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Danton Cole will be behind the bench Friday night as the USA NTDP Under-17 team opens the preseason schedule at USA Hockey Arena. Tickets to the game are free.

## PREP FOOTBALL

# CC defense suffocates Whitmer

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

Novi Detroit Catholic Central's defense turned in another performance Friday night that would make Pittsburgh's "Steel Curtain" and Buddy Ryan's "46" Chicago Bears defenses envious.

The Shamrocks, who improved to 2-0, crossed the Ohio border and returned home with a convincing 29-7 win at Toledo Whitmer, which had won three of the previous four meetings between the schools.

CC's defense, coming off a 42-0 shut-out the previous week in Ann Arbor against Sterling Heights Stevenson in the Battle of the Big House, dominated the defensive side of the ball once again, limiting the Panthers' offense to 59 total yards.

"Overall, I'm really happy with the performance," CC coach Tom Mach said. "It's really hard to come all this way, especially down in Ohio. We know what we're going to get when we get here. They always play great football in Ohio and you have to up your game. I think our kids did that today."

One player who upped his game was senior defensive end and tight end Jack Morris, 6-foot-3, 225-pound senior who played like he was Richard Dent and "Mean" Joe Green all wrapped into one as he helped disrupt the Panthers' offense.

"We watched film all week on them, every day," said Morris, who was in on seven tackles, including a sack. "And we knew exactly what they were running. I was able to hear what the quarterback was saying and able to tell where they were going and I told my linebackers where they were going. They caught me on one play when I was cheating a little bit, but for the most part, we did really well reading them and reading their blocks."

Morris also did his part offensively, catching a 34-yard TD pass from sophomore quarterback Austin Brown on the final play of the third quarter to make it 27-7.

"It was a designed play, but I was just wide open," Morris said. "My coach, I could hear on the sideline and it was, like, 'Yes.' And as soon as he saw me wide open, my quarterback was able to get me the ball."

Whitmer (1-1) managed just 9 total



Catholic Central's Jackson Ross (from left), Matt Young and Tyler Morland put the squeeze on Whitmer QB Riley Keller.

SCOTT CONFER

yards in the first half. The Panthers' lone scoring threat came when they were helped by a pair of 15-yard CC personal fouls, putting them at the Shamrocks' 6, but kicker Eric Filby missed a 32-yard field goal try as the first half ended.

"Anytime you have that (9 total yards) it's not good and we were probably fortunate as it turned out only to be down 7-0 at half," first-year Whitmer coach Ken Winters said. "We had some momentum and a chance to execute a few things and we didn't."

CC took a 7-0 advantage with 7:02 left in the second quarter on Brown's 17-yard TD pass to Chris Jakubik. The play came on third-and-11.

With 8:52 left in the third quarter, CC committed its only turnover of the night, when Whitmer's Kaleb Breitner pounced on a fumble at the CC 48.

But the Shamrocks responded with a big stop on fourth-and-two, when Morris tackled Whitmer running back Lar-

ry Patterson for a 2-yard loss.

Catholic Central then made it 14-0 with 6:32 remaining in the third on Cameron Ryan's 4-yard TD run, set up by Brown's 48-yard pass to Jakubik down to the Panthers' 10.

But CC's lead was sliced in half in just an instant, when Malik Moore busted loose for a 95-yard kickoff return to give Whitmer its only points of the night.

But that seven-point Shamrock advantage mushroomed back to 14 when CC drove 69 yards on just four plays, capped by a 9-yard TD run by Tyler Morland, followed by Brown's scoring pass to Morris.

CC allowed just five first downs, two of which were by penalty.

"We never stopped with our momentum," Morris said. "We came out on defense, shut them out, except on the kickoff return. The defense did a really good job and our DBs had really great coverage, so I was able to get my sacks.

Our D-line was able to get in there and get pressure on the quarterback and they were making mistakes. We made some mental errors, but not as many as them and that's why we won the football game."

CC ran 58 plays to Whitmer's 40, while finishing with 314 yards total offense, including 214 on the ground.

The rushing wealth was spread around for the Shamrocks, led by Capatina (15 carries, 63 yards), Ryan (18 carries, 55 yards) and Brown (11 carries, 46 yards).

"I thought offensively we kept the ball away from them a lot," Mach said. "We kept them off the field. We kept them from doing what they wanted to do. And then we scored when we had the opportunities."

Brown, in his second year of starting at QB for CC, was an efficient 3-of-3 passing for an even 100 yards.

"He's got a lot of poise and does a great job of running the team," Mach said of the sophomore. "As time goes on, he's getting a little bit better every week and I think he's going to end up being a very good quarterback for us."

But it's the play of the Shamrocks' defense that has people taking notice early in the season. Whitmer had just 38 net yards rushing on 29 attempts and quarterback Riley Keller was just 4-of-12 passing for 20 yards.

Linebacker Isaac Darkangelo led CC with 13 tackles, including two solo and 11 assists. Other leaders included Jackson Ross (six assists), Morland (one sack, five assists) and Matt Young (one solo, four assists).

"They were physical and they matched our physicality and they actually wore us down just a little bit," Winters said. "Offensively, we left our defense on the field a little bit too much. (CC) executed their plays and we didn't execute ours."

CC and its defense will try to keep yet another opponent under the 100-yard total offense mark Friday, when it travels to Ontario to face Toronto St. Michael's College School.

"I thought we played well in all three phases of the game, except the one mistake we made on the kickoff," Mach said. "Other than that, I thought the defense played great. I think they had a great attitude. They shut down a lot of things that they wanted to do and we were happy with the play of them."

## PREP FOOTBALL

## Warriors nearly unstoppable in opening win

Ed Wright  
hometownlife.com

The Lutheran Westland football team's D.J. wasn't spinning any records Aug. 27, but he sure was breaking them.

D.J. Nykiel, the Warriors' senior running back, maximized his 5-foot-7, 160-pound frame by piling up 327 yards and seven touchdowns (both school records) on just 15 carries to lead Lutheran Westland to a 60-28 victory over Marine City Cardinal Mooney.

Nykiel's seven touchdowns ranged in distance from 4 to 93 yards, with 70-

and 58-yarders mixed in for good measure.

"D.J. is very Barry Sanders-esque; he's not real big, but he's very fast and he's elusive," LW head coach Paul Guse said.

As a team, LW rushed for 557 yards on 48 attempts.

The titans in the trenches who paved the way for the explosive ground game were center John Davenport, guards Nick Glynn and Camden Hess, tackles Jeremy Orm and Brendan Downer and tight end Ben Brown.

"Our fullback, Andy Faith, was also the lead blocker on a lot of our big

runs," Guse said.

Senior quarterback Luke Smith completed 1-of-5 passes for 3 yards.

Faith churned out 53 yards on 10 carries, while Nate Ivey dashed for 68 (including a 60-yard sprint to the house) and Layne Priess ran for 60 yards and a 37-yard TD on six runs.

"I like our front line," Guse said. "We're more experienced than we were last year; more mature as a group. We have two seniors, two juniors and a sophomore. With D.J.'s speed, he doesn't need a lot of space."

Brown and Davenport both recovered a fumble for the Warriors' de-

fense, which was spearheaded by Christian Zimmerman's 12 tackles. Faith and Downer both added eight tackles.

Nate Green was Cardinal Mooney's star, gaining 275 yards on 35 carries. He scored all four of his team's TDs.

"We didn't see film on Cardinal Mooney coming into the game, but I knew they were young; they had a good senior class last year," Guse said. "On the other hand, we were pretty young last year and more experienced this season."

ewright@hometownlife.com

## CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

opportunity.

"I just had to work twice as hard, because I was so far behind," Miri said. "Even when I came back (from nearly eight months on the sidelines), I had four or five months I was trying to rebuild myself because I was so slow."

"I had to make sure I was working harder than everyone on the field. I made sure I was at the gym after practice every single day. I put in the best effort I could and it's starting to pay off now."

### Teaming up

Another player not around for the Chiefs' 2015 state tourney run, former Michigan Wolves Academy player Alex Spratte, teamed with Miri to open the scoring at 6:20 of the first half.

Canton senior midfielder Ryen O'Meara chipped the ball along the right side to Miri, who dashed deep into the Churchill zone before serving a feed into the box, where Spratte made good with a header.

With less than 26 minutes left in the opening half, Rockafellow doubled the lead to 2-0.

Senior midfielder Joey Chung



Livonia Churchill's Meritan Jusufi (left) battles Canton's Joey Chung during a KLAAs South Division boys soccer match-up Tuesday night.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

nudged a rebound out to Rockafellow, located a few yards above the top of the box, and he blasted a laser inside the

right post behind Chargers goalkeeper Michael Lubonja.

"(Chung) just sent me a great ball

right outside the box and I nailed it," Rockafellow said. "I put my head down, moved my foot and rocketed it right in the corner."

Lubonja denied the Chiefs on a few top-notch chances in subsequent minutes, diving to deny a scoring attempt by junior midfielder Luke Kurili.

That only delayed Canton's third goal of the half, scored with about 7:45 remaining to make it a 3-0 spread.

Junior midfielder Avery Olson floated the ball into the middle of the box and Kurili headed it up and over the Churchill goalkeeper.

### Shutout spoiled

The Chargers got on the board with 1:37 left before intermission. Senior Uthman Babatunde's low drive from inside the box whizzed past Page (junior David McGrath played the second half).

In the second half, Canton upped its edge to 4-1 with 34:30 remaining. Rockafellow delivered a crisp pass from the right side of the box right in front to Miri for the slam-dunk goal.

Closing out the scoring at 13:48 was O'Meara, who blasted a shot off the left post and in. Assisting on the play was Miri, who then took the rest of the night off.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

## USA HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

manager and head coach of the Plymouth Whalers from 1996-2001.

"Every new group that comes in, it's like Christmas morning for all of us," Cole said. "There's a lot of hope, there's a lot of promise, there's a lot of unknowns - which leads to the excitement. It's a great process."

The way it works with the NTDP

*"Every new group that comes in, it's like Christmas morning for all of us. There's a lot of hope, there's a lot of promise ... which leads to the excitement."*

### DANTON COLE

Team USA head coach

program is like this: Each coach follows a particular group of players from the U17s to the U18s; so the current team that Cole will coach will be the group he is in charge of in 2017-18, when it moves up a step on the NTDP ladder.

Under that set-up, players receive consistent training and coaching for the duration of their two-year tenure with the program instead of dealing with a new coach at the mid-point.

Meanwhile, taking over at the helm

of the NTDP Under-18 team is John Wroblewski, who succeeds last year's U-17 coach Don Granato (now an assistant coach at Wisconsin).

The NTDP regular season starts Friday, Sept. 23, when the U17s host Muskegon at 7 p.m. The U18s are in action Saturday, Sept. 24, when they host Youngstown at 7 p.m.

Single game, partial season tickets and full season tickets can be purchased by calling the USA Hockey Arena box office at 734-453-8400 or on arena website at usahockeyarena.com.

USPBL BASEBALL



MARTY BUDNER

Birmingham Bloomfield's triple crown candidate Nic Wilson (right) offers a bit of advice to much improved infielder Austin Leyritz.

# Beavers motoring toward first league championship

Marty Budner  
hometownlife.com

It's an hour before game time one recent Wednesday evening. Black clouds blanket the sky and the smell of rain is in the air.

Underneath the stands at Jimmy John's Field in Utica, Chris Newell is sitting comfortably inside the locker room. The effervescent Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers manager is feeling good about his team, which sits atop the United Shore Professional Baseball League standings with just under a handful of games left to play in its inaugural regular season.

The playoffs are set to begin in just two weeks.

Newell is asked how good it would feel to win the first USPBL championship.

He pauses for a second, then throws the question to the players preparing for that night's game against the Utica Unicorns.

"Hey fellas," he calls out to them "Who's going to win the championship this year?"

In unison, the team gives a hearty response: "The Beavers, baby! The Beavers!"

"See, just ask them," Newell said. "They'll tell you how much they want it. We absolutely talk about winning the championship. It's a goal and something that we are working for."

Birmingham Bloomfield has been leading the three-team league for most of the summer.

The streaky Beavers started the season in early June with three straight losses, then strung together six straight victories to jump into first place. They've been there ever since.

Newell's squad had a superb month of June with a 9-4 record and continued its winning ways through July, when it went 10-6. The Beavers have struggled a bit in August, with a 4-8 record through 12 games.

Birmingham Bloomfield (23-19) held a 1½-game lead over the Eastside Diamond Hoppers (21-20) through the first 42 games of the 48-game regular season.

Despite the recent slump, Newell said his team is still playing the right way and, without question, will take a positive frame of mind into the playoffs.

"Yeah, we were on the struggle train through the first three games, but like I said then, it was a matter of letting the guys play and see where we were at and work from there," Newell said. "From then on we went on a nice little roll and it's a testament to the guys for preparing to win every day."

"This last little six-game stretch has been a positive for me. We needed to go through that stretch, but they prepared every day and stayed positive. I told them how we deal with failure is ultimately how we are going to be successful. The thing is, during that stretch, other than one bad game, we didn't play bad baseball. We weren't scoring a lot of runs, but we still had a

chance to win some games.

"To me, that's the testament of a good team, that when you're not scoring runs, you still have a chance to win. These guys deserve all the credit. They didn't hang their heads, they didn't waver in confidence. You



Newell

wouldn't know if we were on a 20-game winning streak or a 20-game losing streak.

"And that just shows me how they're wired, because it's business as usual," he added. "They never lost confidence and you can see how

loose they are. They are a pretty special group."

The Beavers, according to Newell, have excelled in all phases of the game — pitching, hitting, defense and running the bases — through most of the season.

The offense has been led by Georgia State University product Nic Wilson, who is having a monster season. The towering 6-foot-6, 240-pound first baseman is threatening to make USPBL history by winning the triple crown.

Wilson leads the league in home runs with 14 — he blasted the league's first home run opening day May 30 — and average at .372. The powerful right-handed batter has 34 RBIs in 40 games, nine behind league-leading Kentucky-bred outfielder Austin Crutcher of the Utica Unicorns.

"Nic's season speaks for itself," Newell said. "He's a quiet guy. He's a leader and everyone knows what he stands for. As the manager, I know what I'm going to get every day from Nic. He's all business. He comes in and does his job and is a great teammate."

Birmingham Bloomfield infielders D.J. Martinez (.292) and Dan Kennon (.291), and catcher Ray Ortega (.290), a leader who is like a coach out there, also sport healthy batting averages. Outfielder Miles Williams and infielder Kevin Wirth have sparked the lineup with home run power with seven and five, respectively. Williams (27), Kennon (18) and Martinez (18) are the other leading run producers.

The pitching staff is led by right-handers Forrest Koumas from South Carolina and Randy Wynne from San Diego, with four wins apiece. Kent State University product Nick Jensen-Clagg is second in the league with 47 strikeouts and Koumas is third in earned-run average at 2.32.

Newell said one of the team's most improved players is infielder Austin Leyritz, a 21-year-old Florida native whose father Jim played professionally with the New York Yankees.

"At the end of the day, the backbone of this club is hitting and playing defense," Newell said. "Our pitchers know that all they have to do is get ahead and throw strikes and the defense will bail them out. When we get down five runs with two outs in the ninth, our guys feel they can still win the ball game."

"Collectively, what I love is that the position guys support the pitchers and vice versa," he added. "I've been around a lot of clubhouses and this is the most special one I've had, I promise you that. It's a beautiful feeling. When they walk in, the love and support that they show each other is outstanding. There is no jealousy, no envy. They are all just here to get the job done."

Newell, who helped lead Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes to the MHSAA state championship in 1991, said the team is right where he wanted to be at this point of the season.

"We are in a great position. We want to finish strong," he said. "This team is confident. I trust each one of them in a tight spot. If you had told me we'd been in this position back in May when the season started, I would have told you you're right. This is where we wanted to be."

"It's been fantastic," he said. "I couldn't have a better group of guys and I couldn't have drawn it up any better. If we win, it will be everything I would have imagined."



FILE PHOTO

Ethan Byrnes (right), shown from last season, will be one of Plymouth's key performers this year.

## WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

Mikosz is confident Steward's athletic ability can be put to good use on the course.

"If he can mirror what he did in track last season, he will be a huge help to the (cross country) team this season," Mikosz said.

The coach also has two talented ninth-graders entering the fold in Tyler Mussen and Carter Solomon.

"Both Carter and Tyler are incoming freshmen and both had great middle school races," Mikosz said. "Carter has looked great so far this season and, once he gets his feet wet, he could easily get Brandon's freshman record from last season."

"Tyler should be running varsity for most, if not all, of the season. He has a huge upside to him and should only get better as the season goes on."

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

GOLF

# Wiley's dramatic putt clinches O&E tourney

Ed Wright  
hometownlife.com

The drama was so thick Monday afternoon on the 18th green at Whispering Willows Golf Course that the willows weren't even whispering.

They were dead silent — just like everyone else who watched Westland resident Matt Wiley drain a pressure-packed, 35-foot putt from the green's fringe to earn a one-shot victory on the 36th and final hole of the two-day Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Tournament.

Wiley edged Jordan Andrus, a Pinckney native and red-shirt senior on the Wayne State University golf team, who nearly sank a 30-footer on the 18th that would have extended the tourney into extra holes.

Wiley, who finished runner-up in the tournament the past three years to Roz Boghikian, last won the O&E title in 1981.

Just a few days removed from winning the Michigan Senior Publinx championship at Polo Grounds in Washtenaw County, Wiley carded a 36-hole score of 143, one shot lower than Andrus.

Boghikian came in third at 145.

Wiley admitted that his prime objective when lining up the final putt was to "just get it close."

"Very rarely do I putt off the fringe, but I was taking a little gas and I figured the putter was the safe club," Wiley said. "I hit it at the perfect speed and it just broke into the hole."

Wiley delivered a Tiger Woods-esque fist pump.

"When I was younger, sometimes I'd let the pressure of a big putt like this get to me, but now I know how to have fun with it," Wiley said. "I really thought Jordan and I would be going to a playoff. I just tried to get it close and it happened to go in."

"Jordan is a fine young player. He hit a great drive on 15, but he doesn't know the course as well as Roz and I and his ball went too far right and out-of-bounds. I thought he was two up on us at that point, so I told Roz, 'The game's on for sure now.'"

Andrus, who was an all-state golfer at Pinckney High School, said he's already looking forward to next year's O&E tournament.

"I hit the ball well today, but I had the one bad tee shot on 15 that cost me," Andrus said. "The pin placements were tough today, I'm usually a decent putter, but I couldn't get anything going."

"I tip my hat to Matt. That was a great putt. My goal coming in was to win, but it is what it is."

Wiley bogeyed the par-3 16th hole, but finished strong with a par on 17 before notching a birdie on 18.

"Honestly, I don't look at the scorecard anymore late in tournaments because it consumes my mind," said Wiley, who admitted he wasn't certain who was leading heading into the 17th. "But before we took our second shots on the 17th fairway, Roz asked me, 'Where are we at here?' and that's when we figured out how tight things were."

"It means a lot to win this, especially since I haven't won it since 1981."

Wiley earned a \$350 gift certificate and a trophy for his efforts. Andrus pocketed a \$180 gift certificate for his runner-up showing, while Boghikian won a \$170 gift card for placing first in the net standings.

Westland residents Alex Kolpacke (156) and Jeff Orzel (160) finished first and second in the first flight standings.

Livonia's Bill Himm successfully defended his senior flight title with 156, eight shots better than runner-up Keith Girard, also of Livonia.

Sunday's first round was played at Fox Creek Golf Course in Livonia.

### 2016 O&E GOLF TOURNAMENT Sept. 4-5 at Fox Creek and Whispering Willows Championship Flight

143: Matt Wiley; 144: Jordan Andrus; 145: Razmig Boghikian; 151: Marco Trevino; 153: Chris Treadwell; 161: Andrew Newman; 162: Alan Johnson; 163: Paul Otanez; 164: Paul Mazanka; 165: James McComb; 166: Nolan Peterson and Joel Hall; 167: Stephen Connolly; 171: Kenny Lee and Jeff Harrison; 172: Daniel Tackler; 173: Greg VanGorp; 176: Barry Slegers; 177: Sam Williams; 184: Mike Lightbody; 186: Michael Bean.

**First Flight**  
156: Alex Kolpacke; 160: Jeff Orzel; 163: Kyle O'Keefe; 165: Peter Mianowski; 166: Brian Hanley, Kevin Moreno and Gordon Harrison; 168: Steven Geanides; 169: Zoz Compagnari; 171: Derek Verant; 173: John Waterworth and Thomas Mulhern; 175: Michael Cavichio and Matt O'Neill; 178: Eric Birkle; 180: Doug Cambell and William Hanley; 182: Daniel Tondreau; 183: Gordon Stefanick; 184: Ronald Ambrose and Tommy Stansell, Jr.; 192: Art Dart; 196: Kraig York; 208: John Birchler; 211: Adam Buehner.

**Senior Flight**  
156: Bill Himm; 164: Keith Girard; 165: Mark Johnson and Vincent Rhodes; 167: Ken Gardner; 168: Don Mullett.



ED WRIGHT

Westland's Matt Wiley was rock solid throughout Monday's final round of the O&E Men's Golf Tournament.

RELIGION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

9-11 REMEMBRANCE

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11  
**Location:** Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Worship service will commemorate 911 anniversary and honor first responders. A picnic lunch will be served following the service and will include a blessing of the backpacks, bounce house, and a DJ with music. RSVP by calling 734-464-0211 or register online at tinyurl.com/hlrc-picnic or email dlove@holylivonia.org

**Contact:** Kathy Weinberg at 734-464-0211, ext. 202

ANNIVERSARY GALA

**Time/Date:** 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24  
**Location:** St. Nicholas Event Center, 760 Wattles, Troy  
**Details:** Gala celebrates Bloomfield Hills-based Manresa Jesuit Retreat House's 90th anniversary. The Rev. Leo Cachat will celebrate Mass. Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, silent auction and dancing will follow. Marie Osborne of WJR 760 AM radio will emcee. Tickets are \$100 and \$20

**Contact:** 248-644-4933; manresa.sj.org

BIBLE STUDY

**Time/Date:** Thursdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, from Sept. 8-May 11  
**Location:** Berkley Community Church, 2855 Wiltshire, Berkley  
**Details:** This 30-week, in-depth, interdenominational study of Romans is for women. Children's program also is available for youngsters through kindergarten. Register at 248-885-5718

**Contact:** birminghamberkley.cbclass.org

BIBLE STUDY

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. Thursday, beginning Sept. 22  
**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** "Matthew: The King and His Kingdom," a 24-part video Bible series, features Catholic apologist Jeff Cavins. Registration is required for this course and there is a \$35 charge for the study workbooks

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

BIBLE STUDY

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, beginning Sept. 22  
**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Parish school library, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** Catholic apologist and author Gary Michuta leads a Bible study on Ezekiel, emphasizing portions that relate to the Book of Revelation. Bring your own Bible

**Contact:** 734-261-1455, ext. 200

BREAKFAST

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to noon Sunday, Sept. 18  
**Location:** St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland  
**Details:** French toast, pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, coffee, tea, milk and juice. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for ages 2-10.

**Contact:** 734-425-4421

CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16  
**Location:** Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Cheek to Cheek sings pop-jazz and R&B duets. Get tickets at unityoflivonia.org

**Contact:** 734-421-1760

FAITH FORMATION

**Time/Date:** 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24  
**Location:** St. Priscilla Parish activity center, 19120 Purlingbrook, Livonia  
**Details:** "Prayer: The Faith Prayed - Making Room For God," is the first of the parish's "Growing in Faith Together - Intergenerational Sessions" for 2016-17. A light meal will be provided. Free will donations will be accepted. RSVP by Sept. 16

**Contact:** faithformation@saint-priscilla.org; 248-476-4700

FILM

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19  
**Location:** First Presbyterian Church, 26165 Farmington Road, Farmington  
**Details:** The Tri-County Celiac Support Group presents a documentary by filmmaker Michael Frolichstein about his life before and after he was diagnosed with Celiac disease

**Contact:** tccsg.net

GRIEFSHARE

**Time/Date:** 6:30 p.m. Monday, beginning Sept. 19  
**Location:** Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Grief support group will meet for 13 sessions. Each week participants will watch a video seminar featuring experts on grief and recovery subjects, and will spend time in discussion. Workbooks will be available for personal study of the grieving process. Register at christoursavior.org

**Contact:** Linda Hollman at 734-522-6830 or Mike McGrath at 248-505-8894

GRIEF SUPPORT WORKSHOP

**Time/Date:** Wednesday evenings, Sept. 28-Oct. 26  
**Location:** Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth  
**Details:** Grieving with Great HOPE is a five-week grief support series that offers a pray-

erful, practical and personal approach for anyone who is mourning the loss of a loved one. Presenters will include the Rev. John Riccardo, and John and Sandy O'Shaughnessy from Good Mourning Ministry, a local Catholic bereavement organization. Visit www.goodmourning-ministry.net for more details. Register at olgcp parish.net. The fee is \$20.

MOM2MOM SALE

**Time/Date:** 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24  
**Location:** Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia  
**Details:** \$2 early bird admission, \$1 after 9 a.m., free at noon; strollers welcome.

**Contact:** newburg-mom2mom@gmail.com; www.facebook.com/Newburg-Mom2Mom

MONEY MANAGEMENT

**Time/Date:** Noon, Sunday, Sept. 11  
**Location:** Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Robert A. Finnigan, who has a background in finance and accounting, and who is a student of Unity teachings, will lead a personal finance workshop

**Contact:** 734-421-1760; unityoflivonia.org

MUGS & MUFFINS MINISTRY

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. third Saturday of the month, beginning Sept. 10  
**Location:** Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** This new ministry is for women, ages 18 and up, no children, to gather together for friendship, exploring God's word and coffee, tea and muffins

**Contact:** 734-421-0472

POMEGRANATE GUILD

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11  
**Location:** Hechtman Apartments, 6700 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** The group, which studies and creates Judaic needlecraft, will sew bears for Chanukah and will knit scarves and hats for Special Olympics

**Contact:** Judy Galperin at 248-661-5337; jimgbloom@gmail.com

PRaise AND WORSHIP

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9  
**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** This monthly Friday worship service includes Eucharistic adoration, praise music, prayer teams, private prayer and reflection, confession and benediction

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

PRAYER DAY

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20  
**Location:** Capuchin's St. Bonaventure Monastery Chapel, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit  
**Details:** A prayer service, with the Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir and the Dearing Dancers, will celebrate the International Day of Prayer for Peace. The theme is Let Peace Begin With Me and the featured speaker is Capuchin Friar Ray Stadmeier

**Contact:** 313-579-2100; TheCapuchins.org

RUMMAGE SALE

**Time/Date:** 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 17  
**Location:** The Birmingham Temple, 28611 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Specialty boutique, house wares / household, electronics, toys, books, home décor, linens, shoes, clothing for baby, kids, teens, adults, furniture, sporting goods and more. Grand opening with 20-percent mark-up is Sept. 14. Bag sale is Sept. 17

**Contact:** 248-477-1410

RUMMAGE SALE

**Time/Date:** 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29; 9 a.m. to noon, Friday-Saturday, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1  
**Location:** Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, between Newburgh and Wayne Road, in Livonia

**Details:** \$2 admission per adult Thursday; free admission Friday-Saturday. Saturday half-price sale

**Contact:** 734-422-0149; www.facebook.com/NUM-CRummage

STUDY SERIES

**Time/Date:** 10:15-11 a.m. Sunday; 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills  
**Details:** Six-week series is "Jesus in His Jewish Context." The series explores Jesus through the eyes of Jews and pagans from the first century. Morning classes are held in the refectory and evening classes in St. Andrew's Room

**Contact:** 248-626-2515

T-SHIRT COLLECTION

**Time/Date:** Through Sept. 15  
**Location:** Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** The church is collecting T-shirts in bright colors for adults and youngsters in Zimbabwe. Helping Hands, Touching Hearts, a Farmington Hills-based charity, will send the donations to Africa next month. A donation box is accessible 24/7 and is stationed at the church's front door. As of Sept. 4, more than 500 shirts have been donated

**Contact:** kenwoodchurch.org

WHY BE CATHOLIC?

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28  
**Location:** St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** Deacon Andrew Dawson, the son and grandson of Anglican priests, talks about why he became a Catholic

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

OCTOBER CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15  
**Location:** The Birmingham Temple, 28611 12 Mile, Farmington Hills  
**Location:** Dave Bennett and his jazz trio perform

**Contact:** 248-788-9338 or 248-661-1348; vivaceseries.org

FESTIVAL

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1  
**Location:** Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia  
**Details:** More than 40 vendors will display their products at the Body Mind Spirit Festival. Presentations will focus on self-massage techniques, balancing hormones naturally, meditation, chiropractic medicine and more. Admission is \$5

**Contact:** 734-421-1760

RUMMAGE SALE

**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13 and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14  
**Location:** First Farmington United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River Ave., at Warner, Farmington  
**Details:** \$7 bag day on Thursday, \$4 bag day on Friday. Jewelry and oversized items are priced separately

**Contact:** 248-474-6573

ONGOING CLASSES/STUDY

**Congregation Beth Ahm**  
**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield  
**Details:** "Drop In & Learn," which runs year-round, features lectures on DVD on Jewish history, culture, philosophy and related topics, followed by brief informal discussion. No charge, no reservations required.

**Contact:** Nancy Kaplan at 248-737-1931; nancyellen879@att.net

Our Lady of Loretto

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday  
**Location:** Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford Township  
**Details:** Scripture study

**Contact:** 313-534-9000

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. second and fourth Thursday, through May  
**Location:** 11441 Hubbard, just south of Plymouth Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Gary Michuta, author and Catholic apologist, leads a study of Isaiah. Bring your own

Bible

**Contact:** 734-261-1455, ext. 200; www.livoniastmichael.org

Faith Community Wesleyan

**Time/Date:** 4-5 p.m. every Saturday  
**Location:** 14560 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** This informal class includes fellowship, discussion and question and answers. All ages welcome. Bibles available if you don't have one

**Contact:** pastor Tom Hazelwood at 734-765-5476

ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
**Location:** 23300 W. Chicago Road, Redford Township  
**Details:** An informal and ongoing study of the Orthodox faith and life. RSVP to Subdeacon Joshua Genig at joshua.genig@gmail.com or 630-936-6386

**Contact:** facebook.com/stinno-centredford

EXERCISE

**Time/Date:** 6:45-7:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
**Location:** Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Instructor Wendy Motta, a seven-year Zumba practitioner, teaches Zumba through drop-in classes. Each costs \$3. Participants should bring water, a towel and wear athletic shoes. For more information, email Motta through zumba.com

**Contact:** 313-408-3364

FAMILY MEAL

**Time/Date:** 5-6 p.m. every Thursday  
**Location:** Salvation Army, 27500 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Free meal

**Contact:** 248-477-1153, Ext. 12

HEALING SERVICE

**Time/Date:** Arabic service, 3-4 p.m. first Tuesday of the month; English service, 3-4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month  
**Location:** The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of Saint Mary, 18100 Merriman, Livonia  
**Details:** The service includes prayers of petition and intercession, hymns, Scripture readings and the anointing of the sick. Offertory candles are available for a free will offering in the vestibule of the church.

**Contact:** Rev. George Shalhoub at 734-422-0010 or Stacey Baaden at sbadeen@tbsosm.com

MOMS

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. second Tuesday, September-May  
**Location:** 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia  
**Details:** Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) is aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

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

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

**Time/Date:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. first and third Tuesdays  
**Location:** 24800 W. Chicago Road, Redford  
**Details:** MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope.

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

PET-FRIENDLY SERVICE

**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. Sunday  
**Location:** Dunk N Dogs, 27911 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** All Creatures ULC sponsors the service, which is conducted in an informal setting. Pet blessings are available after the service.

**Contact:** 313-563-0162

PRAYER

**St. Edith Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday  
**Location:** Parish office, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia  
**Details:** Group meets for singing, praying and short teaching. Fellowship with snacks follows

**Contact:** Parish office at 734-464-1223

St. Michael Lutheran Church

**Time/Date:** 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday  
**Location:** 7000 N. Sheldon,

Canton

**Details:** Praying silently or aloud together; prayer requests welcomed.

**Contact:** 734-459-3333 for additional information

RECYCLING RISEN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Time/Date:** 1-4 p.m. third Saturday of the month  
**Location:** 46250 Ann Arbor Road, between Sheldon and Beck roads, Plymouth  
**Details:** Recycle your cell phones, laser cartridges, inkjet cartridges, laptops, iPods, iPads, tablets, eReaders on the third Saturday of each month. Use the doors on east side of church.

**Contact:** Lynn Hapman at 734-466-9023

SINGLES

**Detroit World Outreach**  
**Time/Date:** 4-6 p.m. Sunday  
**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford, Room 304  
**Details:** Divorce Overcomers group is designed for individuals going through divorce, those who are divorced or separated.

**Contact:** The facilitator at 313-283-8200; lef@dwo.org

**Steve's Family Restaurant**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday  
**Location:** 15800 Middlebelt, a quarter mile north of Five Mile, Livonia  
**Details:** Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others.

**Contact:** 313-534-0399

SUPPORT

**Apostolic Christian Church**  
**Time/Date:** 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily  
**Location:** 29667 Wentworth, Livonia  
**Details:** Adult day care program at the church's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Funding available from TSA, AAA 1-C Older Americans Act.

**Contact:** 734-261-9000; www.woodhaven-retirement.com

**Connection Church**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. Friday  
**Location:** 3855 Sheldon, Canton  
**Details:** Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery for all hurts, habits and hang-ups. Child care is available for free

**Contact:** Jonathan@Connectionchurch.info or 248-787-5009

**Detroit World Outreach**  
**Time/Date:** 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday  
**Location:** 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; Room 202  
**Details:** Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems

**Contact:** 313-255-2222, Ext. 244

» Farmington Hills Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August  
**Location:** 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile in Farmington Hills  
**Details:** Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

**Contact:** 248-433-1011

» Merriman Road Baptist Church

**Time/Date:** 1-3 p.m. second and fourth Thursday  
**Location:** 2055 Merriman, Garden City  
**Details:** Metro Fibromyalgia support group meets; donations

**Contact:** www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Ruthann with questions at 734-981-2519

» Fireside Church of God

**Time/Date:** 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday  
**Location:** 11771 Newburgh, Livonia  
**Details:** Fireside Adult Day Ministry activity-based program for dependent adults, specializing in dementia care. Not a drop-in center

**Contact:** 734-855-4056 or 734-464-0990; www.firesidechog.org; or email to adm@firesidechog.org

» St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

**Time/Date:** 10-11 a.m. Saturday  
**Location:** 16360 Hubbard, Livonia  
**Details:** A twice-monthly drop-in Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available

**Contact:** 734-421-8451

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances  
 View Online www.hometownlife.com  
 How to reach us: 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968 • www.mideathnotices.com  
**Deadlines:** Friday, 4:00 p.m. for Sunday papers Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

BEISER



**RONALD E.** September 4, 2016, Age 77 of Livonia. Beloved husband of Betty for 54 years. Dearest father of Randy (Jackie) and Bonnie (Bruce) Berry. Dear brother of Carl (Charlotte) Beiser. Cherished grandfather of Justin, Ryan, Ian and Jackie. Visitation Thursday, at the L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, 8809 Wayne Rd. (at Joy Rd.) from 3-9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be made to The Shriners Hospitals for Children. Share a "Memorial Tribute with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com

HOLMES

**BESSIE** passed away quietly at Woodlawn Meadows in Hastings, Michigan on Monday, August 29, 2016. Just last month she had celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by family and friends. Bessie was born in Barrow in Furness, England on July 2nd, 1916 and had resided in the Bloomfield area for many years. She was preceded in death by her husband John Holmes, her sister Margaret Offutt and her brother Donald Doig. Bessie is survived by her children John W. Holmes (Sandy); Susan Penrod (Howard); Evelyn McBride (David); Janice Smith (Leigh); her brother George Doig of Okemos, Michigan; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A Memorial Service honoring Bessie 's life will be held at the Franklin Community Church in Franklin, Michigan on September 16th at 11:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Michigan.

Your Invitation to Worship

For information regarding this directory please Call Janice Brandon at 248-926-2204 or email jkbrando@michigan.com

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN



HBA OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

Christenbury Creek was developed by Arteva Homes. The developer is also the builder of two of the Homearama showcase homes.

## Homearama highlights local lifestyles; charity preview Sept. 21

The eight custom-built new homes showcased in Homearama 2016 at Christenbury Creek in Macomb Township will be unveiled Wednesday, Sept. 21, at a charity preview party to benefit the Children's Hospital of Michigan Foundation. Homearama 2016 is presented by the Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

The charity gala will be held from 6-10 p.m. at Christenbury Creek, 49758 Card Road. Guests will enjoy extensive hors d'oeuvres and cocktails presented by Andiamo and Nino Salvaggio then will have the opportunity to stroll through the fully decorated, furnished and landscaped homes built by four of the region's custom home builders.

The homes feature the latest in building trends, technology and interior design. Preview party guests will be

among the first to tour the homes and will have the opportunity to speak to the builders, interior designers and various other professionals who were a part of creating these showcase homes.

"Bringing the Dream Home" is the theme of Homearama 2016 and visitors will experience many affordable ideas that can be incorporated into their own homes. Guests will receive a Homearama Plan Book at the event featuring floor plans and other information on the homes.

Christenbury Creek was developed by Arteva Homes. The developer is also the builder of two of the Homearama showcase homes. Other builders, each featuring two homes, include Lassale Homes, Sunset Homes and Vitale Companies. The homes range in price from \$449,000 to \$749,500.

Tickets for the charity

preview party cost \$100 per person and include a "come back" ticket for use once during the run of the public event beginning on Sept. 23. For the charity preview party, there will be a complimentary on-site executive shuttle service. Dress for the evening is casual-chic. Limited tickets are available at [www.HomearamaHBA.com](http://www.HomearamaHBA.com).

Following the charity preview, Homearama 2016 will be open to the public from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends, Friday, Sept. 23, through Sunday, Sept. 25, Thursday, Sept. 29, through Sunday, Oct. 2, and Thursday, Oct. 6, through Sunday, Oct. 9. The event features free on-site parking. Advance tickets for use on one day during the run of the program may be purchased online for \$10 per person or at the gate for \$12 per person. There is no charge for children 15 and under when accompanied by an

adult. A portion of the proceeds from the public event will benefit HBA's Charitable & Educational Foundation, the American Red Cross and the Chippewa Valley Educational Foundation.

For more information, visit [www.HomearamaHBA.com](http://www.HomearamaHBA.com) or call 248-737-4477.

Headquartered in West Bloomfield, Home Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (HBA) is a trade association representing over 800 builders, remodelers, multi-family property owners, developers and suppliers to the single family and multi-family residential construction industry. HBA is affiliated with the Home Builders Association of Michigan in Lansing and the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. Membership nationwide includes more than 175,000 individuals and companies.



JULIE BROWN

Recent residential construction data shows that the size and costs of new homes have moved downward over the past year, notes the National Association of Realtors which cites affordability concerns.

## Industry report cites need for more housing for middle-income, lower-income buyers

Pending home sales expanded in most of the country in July and reached their second highest reading in over a decade, according to the National Association of Realtors. Only the Midwest saw a dip in contract activity for July.

The Pending Home Sales Index, a forward-looking indicator based on contract signings, rose 1.3 percent to 111.3 in July from a downwardly revised 109.9 in June and is now 1.4 percent higher than July 2015 (109.8). The index is now at its second highest reading this year after April (115.0).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says a sizable jump in the West lifted pending home sales higher in July. "Amidst tight inventory conditions that have lingered the entire summer, contract activity last month was able to pick

up at least modestly in a majority of areas," he said. "More home shoppers having success is good news for the housing market heading into the fall, but buyers still have few choices and little time before deciding to make an offer on a home available for sale. There's little doubt there'd be more sales activity right now if there were more affordable listings on the market."

Added Yun, "The index in the West last month was the highest in over three years largely because of stronger labor market conditions. If home building increases in the region to tame price growth and alleviate the ongoing affordability concerns, the healthy rate of job gains should support more sales."

Recent residential construction data shows that the size and costs of new homes

has moved downward over the past year. According to Yun, this is an early indication that home builders are beginning to shift away from building larger, more expensive homes for the upper end of the market to focusing more on properties geared for buyers in the middle and lower price tiers.

"Realtors in several high-cost areas have been saying for quite a while that there is robust demand for single-family starter homes and townhomes at an affordable price point for young buyers," added Yun. "The homeownership rate won't move up from its over 50-year low without a meaningful boost from first-time buyers, whose participation has yet to noticeably increase so far this year despite mortgage rates near all-time lows."

Existing-home sales this year are forecast to be around

5.38 million, a 2.8-percent increase from 2015 and the highest annual pace since 2006 (6.48 million). After accelerating to 6.8 percent a year ago, national median existing-home price growth is forecast to slightly moderate to around 4 percent.

### Regional breakdown

The PHSI in the Northeast moved up 0.8 percent to 96.8 in July, and is now 1.1 percent above a year ago. In the Midwest the index decreased 2.9 percent to 105.8 in July, and is now 1.1 percent lower than July 2015.

Pending home sales in the South inched higher (0.8 percent) to an index of 123.9 in July and are now 0.4 percent higher than last July. The index in the West surged 7.3 percent in July to 108.7, and is now 6.2 percent above a year ago.

## 'Reasonable repair' standard applied by court on property

**Q: I own an apartment complex. Sometimes, I'm not sure whether I should make certain repairs to the common area. What are my legal responsibilities?**

**A:** It would be best to consult with your attorney regarding specific questions concerning repair requirements. However, a recent unpublished Michigan appellate court decision is instructive in this regard — Tremper vs. Westland Colonial Village Apartments (MILW No. 08-92024). The decision confirmed that the applicable statute, MCL 554.139, only requires that common area be "fit

for the use intended" in contrast with the responsibilities in connection with "the premises," i.e., the separately leased residence, where the lessor has a higher obligation to keep the premises "in reasonable repair" and in compliance with applicable health and safety laws. In this case, a common area sidewalk had a section of pavement that was one inch higher than another section, which allegedly caused a trip and fall accident. The court ruled in favor of the defendant apartment complex owner, stating that there was no question that the sidewalk was fit for its intended purpose; however, it is interesting to note that a dissent was filed by one judge stating that this question was for a jury to decide, not the court.

**Q: We purchased a home inclusive of sod and underground sprinkler system which was in place along the boundary line with an adjacent vacant lot. We have maintained that sprinkler system and continuously mowed, fertilized and watered the sod for over 16 years. Now our lot neighbor is beginning to construct a home on the adjacent lot and a survey revealed that a section of land consisting of portions of the sod and sprinkler system were part of his lot. Do we have any rights in terms of adverse possession?**

**A:** Probably not. In a similar case out of Nebraska, the court held that although the possession of the adjacent lot owner was actual, continuous, exclusive and under a claim of ownership for the statutory period, it was not "notorious." In effect, neither the underground sprinkler system nor its sprinkler were visible and therefore did not satisfy the requirement of being "notorious" in order to establish adverse possession. Of course each case is factually intensive. In effect, the court in that case was saying that something more than a neighbor watering and mowing over the property line is needed to alert a reasonable owner that his title is in danger and he must take steps to protect his interest, i.e., to be "notorious."

**Robert M. Meisner** is a lawyer and the author of "Condo Living 2: An Authoritative Guide to Buying, Selling and Operating a Condominium." He is also the author of "Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track," second edition. Visit [bmeisner@meisner-law.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-law.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

## REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

### Benefit Estate Sale

Hall & Hunter Realtors will hold its 13th annual Estate Sale of Antiques, Collectibles and Treasures to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County.

It will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Hall & Hunter Realtors, 442 S. Old Woodward Ave. in Birmingham.

Since Hall & Hunter started this tradition 11 years ago, the firm has donated \$250,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. For more information, go to Halland Hunter.com or call 248-644-3500.

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 Items from all rooms prices from \$1-\$2000. 57855 Travis Rd.

**Events & Fairs**

Age Old Utica Antiques Market, Sept 10 & 11th. K of C Grounds, 21 Mile Rd. 1 Mile E of Van Dyke. Thousands of Items. Saturday, 8-5pm. Sunday 8-4pm. Admission \$5. 586-254-3495.

**Garage-Tag Sale**

Canton Fri. 9/9- Sat. 9/10 9a-4p  
 Fur coat, Antique furn., toys, sewing machine, designer purses- 327 Robyn Dr.

**Canton-Multi-Family Garage Sales**  
 Canton Glade Condos, Haggerty bwn Cherry Hill & Ford, Huge Variety Sat-Sun Sept 10-11 9-4p

**Canton Pebble Creek Subside Sale**  
 Thurs. 9/8-Sat. 9/10 9am-3pm  
 off Palmer Rd. btwn Hannan & Lotz

**CANTON- SALE** Fri 9/9 & Sat 9/10  
 9a-4p Something for everyone!  
 6625 Whitehurst

**Canton: Windsor Park Subside Sale**  
 9-5 Thurs., 9/8-Sat. 9/10 E. of Sheldon to Emerson N. of Warren to Arlington  
 www.windsorparkcanton.org

**Farmington Hills 3 Family Sale**  
 28848 W. King William Dr. in Dunbar Oaks Subdivision off Drake S. of 13 Mile. Thurs. 9/8- Sat. 9/10 9a-3pm

**Livonia 27541 Buckingham** (W. of Inkster rd. N of 96) Thurs 9/8-Fri 9/9 9a-4p

**Livonia- Sat. 9/10 & Sun. 9/11 10am-5p**  
 Furniture, household & clothing, 14715 Taylor Blvd. (5 Mile & Inkster Rd)

**Garage-Tag Sale**

Livonia Thurs. 9/8- Sat. 9/10 9am-4pm  
 household, clothing, toys, collectibles, Christmas, jewelry. 27925 Oakley

**Milford- 2232 S. Hickory Ridge Road.**  
 1 Mile S. of M59. Sept 8-9th. 9-6pm.  
 Collectibles, household, clothes, jewelry, antiques and MORE!!!

**Plymouth Great Selection of Antiques**  
 Tables, Dressers, Sideboard w/mirror, windows, doors, old work bench, 5 board cupboard, ladders, vintage books, cement locky boy. MUCH MORE! 655 Forest, Sept. 8-10th. 9-5pm. 1 blk W of Main 2 blks S of Ann Arbor Trl.

**PLYMOUTH: MULTI-FAMILY**  
 13210 Beacon Hill Dr. N of Ann Arbor Trail, S of N. Territorial. Thursday, Sept 8th; 9-5p; Friday, Sept 9th; 9-4p.

**Plymouth Multi Family Sale**  
 Something for Everyone! Thurs. 9/8- Sat. 9/10 9am-5pm 12940 Drury Lane

**MOVING SALE**

Redford, Garage Sale. 20493 MacArthur. Sat. Sept. 10. 9-4 pm., Sun: Sept. 11 9-4 pm., Oven, Patio set, bedroom set, yard tools, TV microwave, and much more. Dir: off 8 mile btw Inkster and Beech Daly.

**GARAGE SALE**

South Lyon, 11968 Crooked Ln. Sat. Sept 10, 10-5. Antique Furniture, Kid's Bed, Mini Fridge, Legos, Toys, Handicap items, plus more.

**GARAGE SALE**

South Lyon Garage Sale - Sat 9/10 & Sun 9/11 9-4p DALEVIEW DR 9-5p Cool Stuff, Household Items & Furn.

**WESTLAND: GIGANTIC YARD SALE!**  
 9/10 9a-4p HOLLIDAY PARK TOWNHOUSES, Wayne Rd. btw Joy & Warren Rain date 9/11.

**White Lake Garage/Moving Sale**  
 Antiques, furn., lawn equip., bikes, toys, tools. Fri. 9/9 & Sat. 9/10 8am-4pm 1820 Carla Hills

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**Cemetery Lots**

Glen Eden Cemetery; 2 plots. Block 20. Garden of Holy Trinity. Section 1480. Graves 1 & 2. 1 for \$1000. 2 for \$1500. 248-880-6734 or 248-477-1946

**Furniture & Household Items**

3 bdrm sets, antique table/chairs. Silver, collectibles. 248-790-1827

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Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.25	0	2.5	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.625	0	2.875	0
Lenderful LLC	1326443	lenderful.com	3.375	0	2.875	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	3.5	-0.125	2.75	0.125
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	2.875	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 468-6113	3.5	0.25	2.875	0

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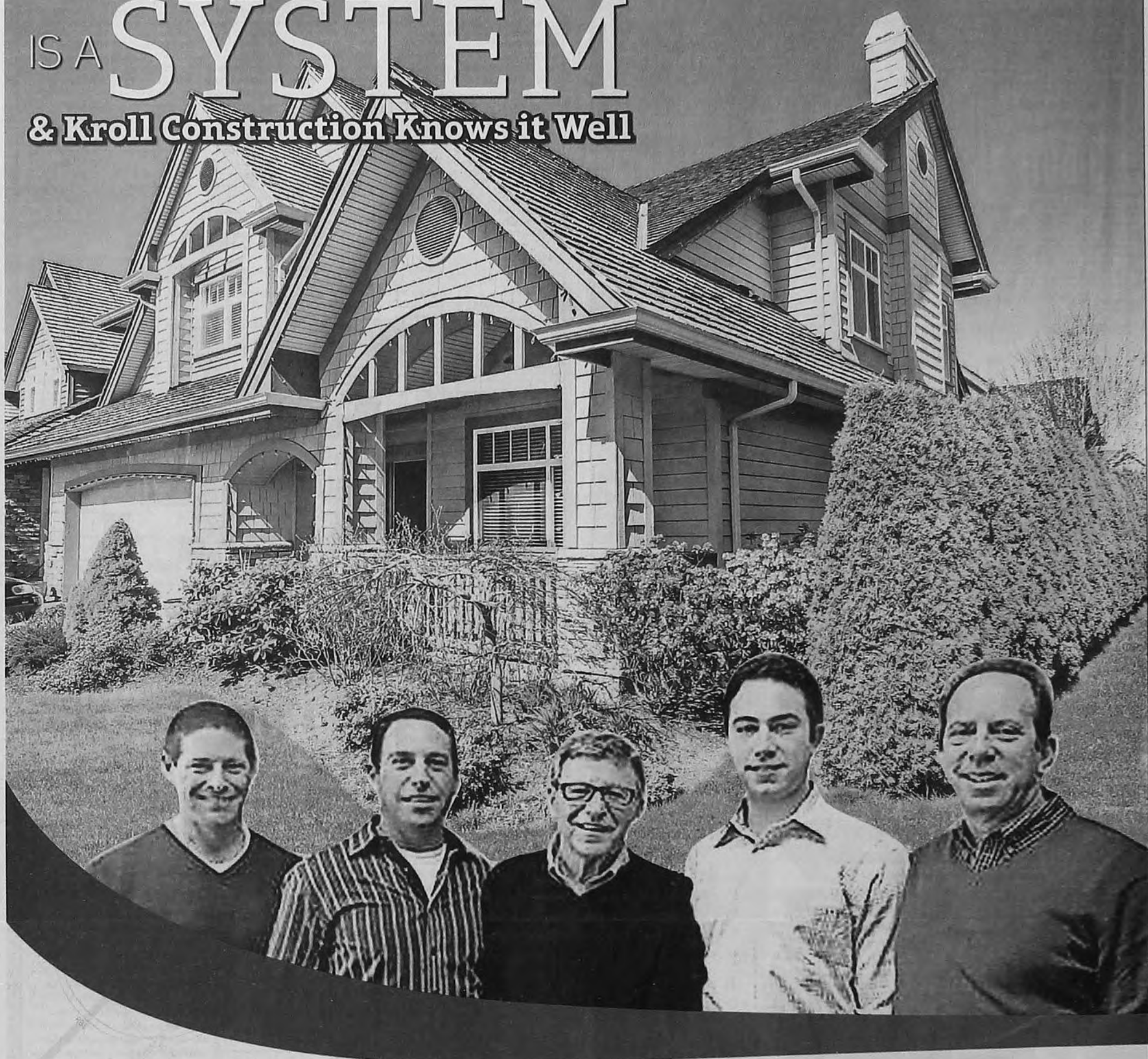
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