

CANTON OBSERVER

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Tragedy to triumph: meet latest inductees

Pardingtons honored for work with young athletes

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Losing their first-born son Max, who suddenly died at age 20 of an enlarged heart, only inspired heart-broken parents John and Lisa Pardington of

Canton to work even harder to help others. Now, their myriad efforts to leave the world a better place than they found it have thrust them into the spotlight as this year's Canton Hall of Fame inductees.

"We're humbled. It's reinvigorating and makes me feel like we need to redouble our efforts," John Pardington said.

His remarks came after the couple, owners of Holiday Market of Canton, received their award Sunday during a ceremony at the Summit on the Park.

"Absolutely, the Pardingtons are worthy of the Canton Hall of Fame," said township Supervisor Pat Williams, who

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John and Lisa Pardington celebrate with son Jack, his girlfriend Savannah and daughters Claire and Emily after being inducted into the Canton Hall of Fame.



Emily Bullock of Canton is fired up about participating in the World Vision 6K for Water.

DAN DEAN

WALKING, RUNNING FOR WATER

CLOSE TO 900 participants took part May 6 in the World Vision 6K for Water at Kensington Metropark.

Noah Boye of Westland was one of eight to carry a five-gallon Gerry can filled with water weighing around 42 pounds the entire 3.75 miles. The distance and weight represents what many in parts of the globe must endure each day to find drinking water.

Globally, 27,000 participants in 18 countries raised \$1.6 million to bring clean water to 32,000 children.



Lindsey Pagnatiello from Plymouth with Podrick before the start of the race.

DAN DEAN

Pay taxes? Look for a job? Canton has an app for that

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Canton residents can report a crime, pay a water bill, peruse township job openings, complain about a pothole and buy tickets to The Village Theater at Cherry Hill — all from a smart phone.

Canton has an app for that. Officials say it's a way to give residents easy access to a wealth of local government information, including crime alerts, recreation programs and email addresses to elected leaders and township departments.

"What it does is, it allows the community to communicate directly with Canton Township," Supervisor Pat Williams said. "It allows us to go to the next level. We're working very hard to be transparent. This is one more tool that allows us to get better access by the citizens to Canton government."

App users can report a pothole, pay a water bill and re-

See APP, Page A2



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HALL

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handed them the award.

The Pardingtons have raised \$350,000 through their LiveLikeMax Foundation and worked with Beaumont Hospital to provide about 15,000 students, ages 13-18, with potentially life-saving heart screenings. All the while, they support community organizations and allow groups to raise money at their store, on Lilley south of Cherry Hill.

"It comes from the heart," Williams said. "They are good corporate citizens, but they go so far beyond that in Canton Township."

Consider just some of their efforts:

» They work with a senior residence, Waltonwood at Cherry Hill, to drop off groceries for

residents who can't do their own shopping.

» When St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church ran out of hot dogs and buns for a church event and needed 250 more, the Pardingtons made the donation.

» They support community organizations such as Special Olympics, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and area school groups.

» During the holiday season, Holiday Market employees find families in need and make sure they have a Thanksgiving and Christmas.

» They routinely sponsor events such as Brews, Brats and Bands at the Barn, an annual event that has raised \$70,000 for the Canton Historical Society.

Perhaps it is how the Pardingtons turned their son's death into a way to help other teens that has impressed the most. He

was an athlete who had no idea he had a heart problem.

"When you lose a beautiful child who, up until the day he died was the healthiest kid you knew, it's like 220 volts of electricity. You can kill yourself with it or you can light up a city," John Pardington said.

Their effort to help teens detect a potential killer — hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or HCM — also involves their three other children: Claire, 28, Emily, 26, and Jack, 19. The family has provided money not only for heart screenings, but also for medical equipment.

Often, John Pardington can be found at heart-screening events, talking with parents and teens and telling them his son's story. After the screenings, some youngsters have had to stop strenuous physical activity after their diagnosis, potentially saving their lives.

At the Hall of Fame

ceremony, the Pardingtons also were honored by state Reps. Kristy Pagan and Jeff Noble, who gave them a state resolution. While welcoming their Hall of Fame status, the Pardingtons say it's just their philosophy in life.

"We've raised our kids to give more in life than you take," John Pardington said. "It's a philosophy Lisa and I have lived since our first child was born. We've got to do what we can in this world."

In other awards during the 27th annual ceremony, Janet Brady of Canton received the Community Achiever Award for the 128 medals she has received in local, state and national competitions for her athletic abilities, many of them in senior events.

Also, those receiving the Community Supporter Award were:

» Natalie Anderson-Theisen, secretary of Canton Goodfellows, for her untiring efforts to

help ensure local children don't go without gifts at Christmastime.

» Aamina Ahmed for her advocacy for intercultural dialogue. She is executive director of Asian Pacific Islander America Vote-Michigan and is a Detroit Equity Action Lab fellow through Wayne State University Law School. She is involved with groups ranging from Plymouth-Canton Citizens for Diversity and Inclusion and the Canton Response to Hate Crimes Coalition.

» Local historians David and Ronni Curtis for their efforts to uncover Canton's history and help others learn about it, partly through the Canton Historical Museum. They are members of the Canton Historical Society. They helped with a project to move the historic Cady-Boyer barn to its location in Preservation Park.

» James Malinowski for his involvement in numerous organizations.

He has served on the Canton Tax Board of Review, on his homeowner's association and is co-founder of Canton's Boys and Brews, a group that shares a beer and raises money for charity.

» Bob Paciocco, a developer and business owner, who has helped organizations such as the Canton Community Foundation, Camp A.B.L.E. for youngsters with disabilities and Plymouth-Canton student radio station WSDP-FM (88.1), among other groups. He served on the Canton Board of Appeals for 27 years.

» Mary Jo Raeck, who won for her volunteerism with Canton Goodfellows, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, the Lower Rouge River Trail cleanup and Liberty Fest, among other events.

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APP

Continued from Page A1

search local ordinances, among numerous other measures. Residents also can connect to Canton through Facebook and Twitter.

Joseph Kocinski, Canton information technology services manager, said the free app is available for both iPhones and Android-based smart phones.

Canton made the app available after rolling out a new design of township government's website, <http://www.canton-mi.org>.

"It's more of a mobile version of some portions of our website," Kocinski said.

He said the app isn't perfect and still could

be improved in the future.

"I always want to make it better for folks," he said. "But I think this was a good first step."

A separate app is available for the Summit on the Park, Canton's recreation center, and it allows users to register for everything from swim lessons to youth camps to senior citizen programs.

The Summit app also includes a mobile version of the township's Discover brochure, which provides a wealth of information about parks and recreation offerings.

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Snyder appoints Heise to park authority

Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Kurt Heise of Plymouth to the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Board of Commissioners.

The board governs the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority through the approval of expenditures, acquiring lands, planning of new parks and facilities and other regional recreational matters.

Heise is the supervisor for Plymouth Township and previously served as a Michigan state representative. He is a licensed attorney with more than 25 years

of experience in municipal, labor and environmental law. Heise holds a bachelor's degree in political science from

the University of Michigan and a law degree and master of law degree, both from Wayne

State University Law School. He will replace John Hertel.

Heise will serve a four-year term expiring May 2, 2021.



Heise



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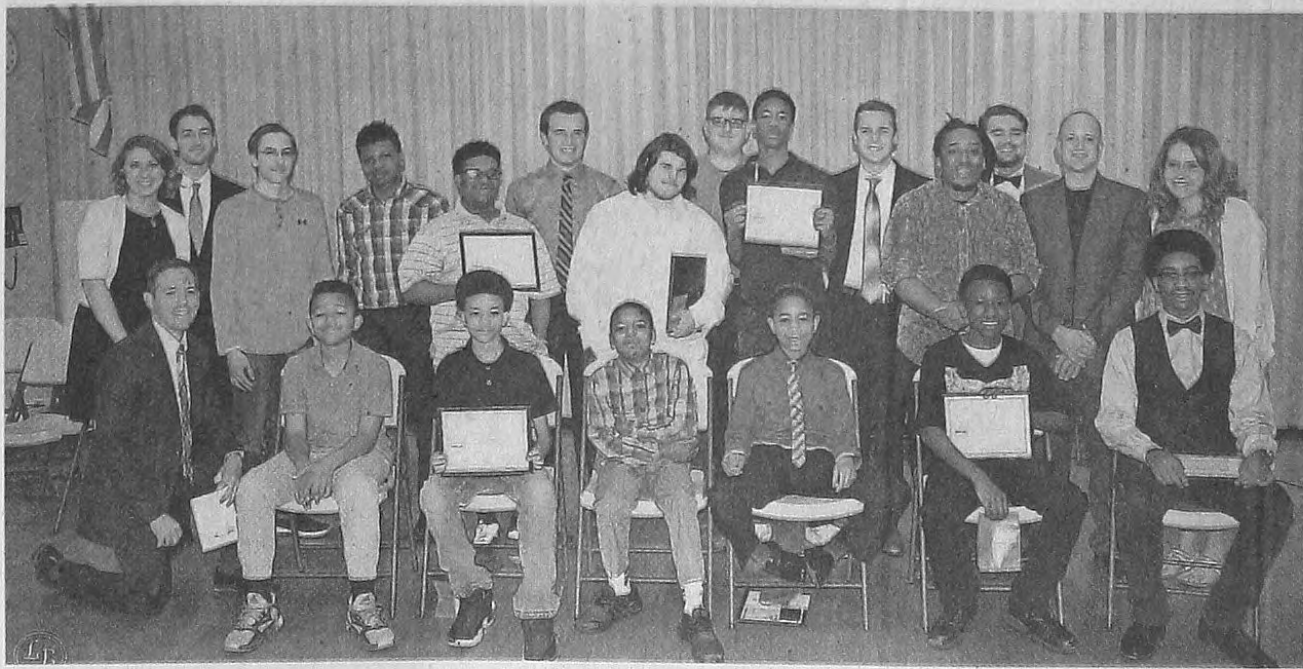
Canton's Be A #ModelMan program holds first graduation

Canton's Be A #ModelMan program, a youth leadership and empowerment initiative for young men ages 11-15 in the Canton community, recently held its first graduation ceremony at the Summit on the Park.

Be A #ModelMan was developed by Canton Leisure Services to cultivate six core program values in young men that would encourage the development of young men into respectful and responsible male leaders. These core program values include: integrity, empathy, compassion, inner strength, courage and respect.

A pilot group of 12 young men was selected through an application process at The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center, located in the Canton Township Administration Building, early last fall. Applications required permission from parents for consideration, as well as a commitment to continued learning and implementation of learned skills. Monthly programs were held at various Canton community facilities from December 2016 through April 2017 to increase knowledge of and exposure to local resources.

The Be A #ModelMan program curriculum was developed to promote positive behavior, enhance social skills and encourage contribution and activism in participants' communities. Topics include: "Redefining Masculinity," with a special presentation by Canton Public Safety focusing on the pro-



At the graduation ceremony were (back row, from left): Chelsea Schmitt, B.L.O.C.K. programmer; Shawn Davies, B.L.O.C.K. staff; Nick Alia; Christopher Madison; Jacob Johnson; Evan Sweet, facility specialist; James Brooks; Ty Portell; Gavin Hardeman; Scott Kardel, B.L.O.C.K. programmer; Lawrence Brown II, B.L.O.C.K. staff; Ian Litchenberg, B.L.O.C.K. staff; Jon LaFever, deputy director; and Laura Mortier, recreation specialist; and (front row, from left) Jason Lombardo, facility supervisor; Jaeden Smith; Christopher Scott; Myles Chastang; Jordan Jackson; Tyson Walker; and Ashton Cross.

gram's core values of empathy, compassion and courage; "Community Man," a special presentation by U.S. Olympian Jeff Porter focusing on the program's core values of integrity and inner strength; and "Becoming A #ModelMan," featuring a special presentation by STEM engineer Lawrence Brown focusing on the program's core value of respect.

All 12 members of this pilot program completed this six-month commitment and graduated from the program in front of family and friends celebrating their new understanding of what it really means to Be a #ModelMan.

Interested future

candidates are encouraged to apply through The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center. Applications will be available on The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center website at www.canton-mi.org/146 beginning July 2017. Space is limited.

The B.L.O.C.K. Youth and Teen Center, located on the third floor of the Canton Administration Building at 1150 S. Canton Center Road, provides a fun, teen-friendly environment where students from ages 11-17 can participate in supervised after-school programs, social events, and activities. For more information, go to www.cantonfun.org or call 734-398-5570.

City, township to host joint shred event

The city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township will offer a shred day for all residents of both communities from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 24, (or until trucks are filled) at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer.

Shred Legal will be providing the on-site shredding services. Plymouth Township will host another city/township shred event in the fall.

Township Supervisor Kurt Heise welcomed the chance to partner with the city of Plymouth in this popular event. "In the past, each community hosted a single event in their respective community for their residents only. We're providing an expanded service and saving taxpayer dollars through regional cooperation," Heise said.

Plymouth Mayor Dan Dwyer added, "This is another example of our two organizations working together for the entire Plymouth community."

Paper to be shredded shall be limited to five banker boxes on each trip, although residents can make multiple trips throughout the morning. Documents can be in paper bags or boxes when brought for shredding. Documents in plastic bags must be removed.

Residents participating must also provide proof of city or township residence, which can be done with a driver's license, voter ID card, water bill or property tax bill.

For more information, email shred@ci.plymouth.mi.us.



LAURA MORTIER

Jacob Johnson accepts his Be A #ModelMan certificate of completion from Canton Deputy Director Jon LaFever.

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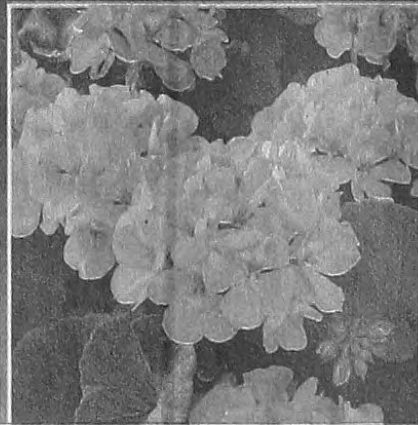
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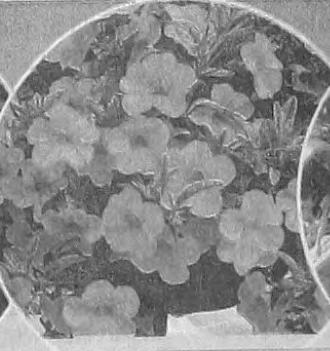
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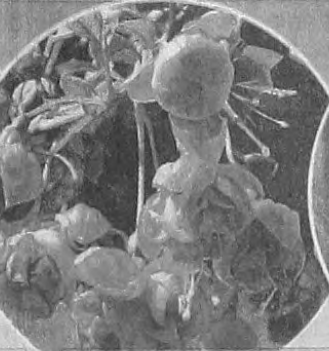
All Clematis now 25% off



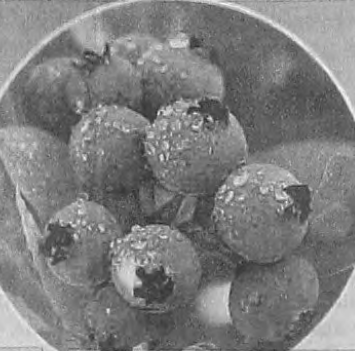
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WMU student from Canton gets aviation scholarship

Corporate Eagle, a provider of premium, membership-based fractional and managed business aviation programs based at Oakland County International airport, announced that it has awarded its first College of Aviation scholarship to a Western Michigan University student. Corporate Eagle President and CEO Rick Nini made the announcement.

Selected internally by the WMU College of Aviation scholarship selection committee, the 2017 recipient is WMU senior Joel Moriarty, who has completed 830 flight hours. Moriarty is passionate about becoming a corporate aviation pilot to use it as a platform to enrich the lives of everyone he encounters. He is a Canton resident who attended Detroit Catholic Central High School.

This is the first year Corporate Eagle has



Joel Moriarty, a senior from Canton, has been awarded the first Corporate Eagle College of Aviation scholarship to a Western Michigan University student.

offered the \$3,000 Corporate Eagle Aviation Excellence Scholarship, providing tuition assis-

tance to one enrolled College of Aviation student who is seeking his/her multi-engine flight

instructor rating. "Western Michigan University's aviation program is one of the

largest and most respected programs in the nation, and we are fortunate to have this world-

class professional aviation program in our backyard where we recruit many of our pilots from," Nini said. "As part of Corporate Eagle's value in continued education, we have connected with local grade school classes to introduce the science of aviation through tours and hands-on learning, provided summer internships for high school students, and are excited to now partner with WMU to provide this scholarship each year to deserving students enrolled in the College of Aviation."

To be eligible, applicants had to have a minimum grade-point average of 3.0, write an essay as part of the application process discussing his/her interest in pursuing a career in corporate aviation, provide a letter of recommendation from chief flight instructor and a professional resume.

Always take precautions while away on vacation

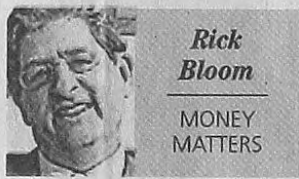
Q: We are planning our summer vacation and I was curious as to what precautions we should take before we leave. Also, do you have any warnings for when we are on our vacation?

A: I love the way you think. It is important to take precautions when you travel. In this technological world, even on vacation, you have to protect yourself.

When you go on vacation, it's not necessary to take every charge card you own. I generally recommend people take a couple of charge cards and that's it. The more you take, the greater the risk that you lose something. With regard to the charge cards you are taking, if for some reason you lose them or they are stolen, you have the information available to immediately contact your credit card company and that you have immediate access to charge card account numbers, PINs and the phone number to contact your credit card company. There are many ways of doing that. For example, you can take a picture of these items on your phone or you can send an email to yourself (an email that you would have access to while you're out of town). The bottom line is, you want to make sure that, in case of an emergency, you have access to this information.

In addition to making sure you have access to the information for your charge cards, it's important to have copies of your ID, such as your driver's license or — if you're traveling out of the country — your passport. Having access to this information can be invaluable and prevent your family vacation from turning into a nightmare.

When you're out of town, there are also things you need to be aware of. The first deals with ATMs. There has been lots of fraud when it comes to certain ATMs. Crooks attach skimmers, which steal your sensitive information. It's important that you are careful as to which ATMs you use. My general rule: I never use an ATM at a bar, gas station or convenience store. These machines are more apt to have



Rick Bloom

MONEY MATTERS

difficulties than ones at banks or other financial institutions. Even if I have to pay a small fee (and I hate paying fees), I would do that in order to protect myself.

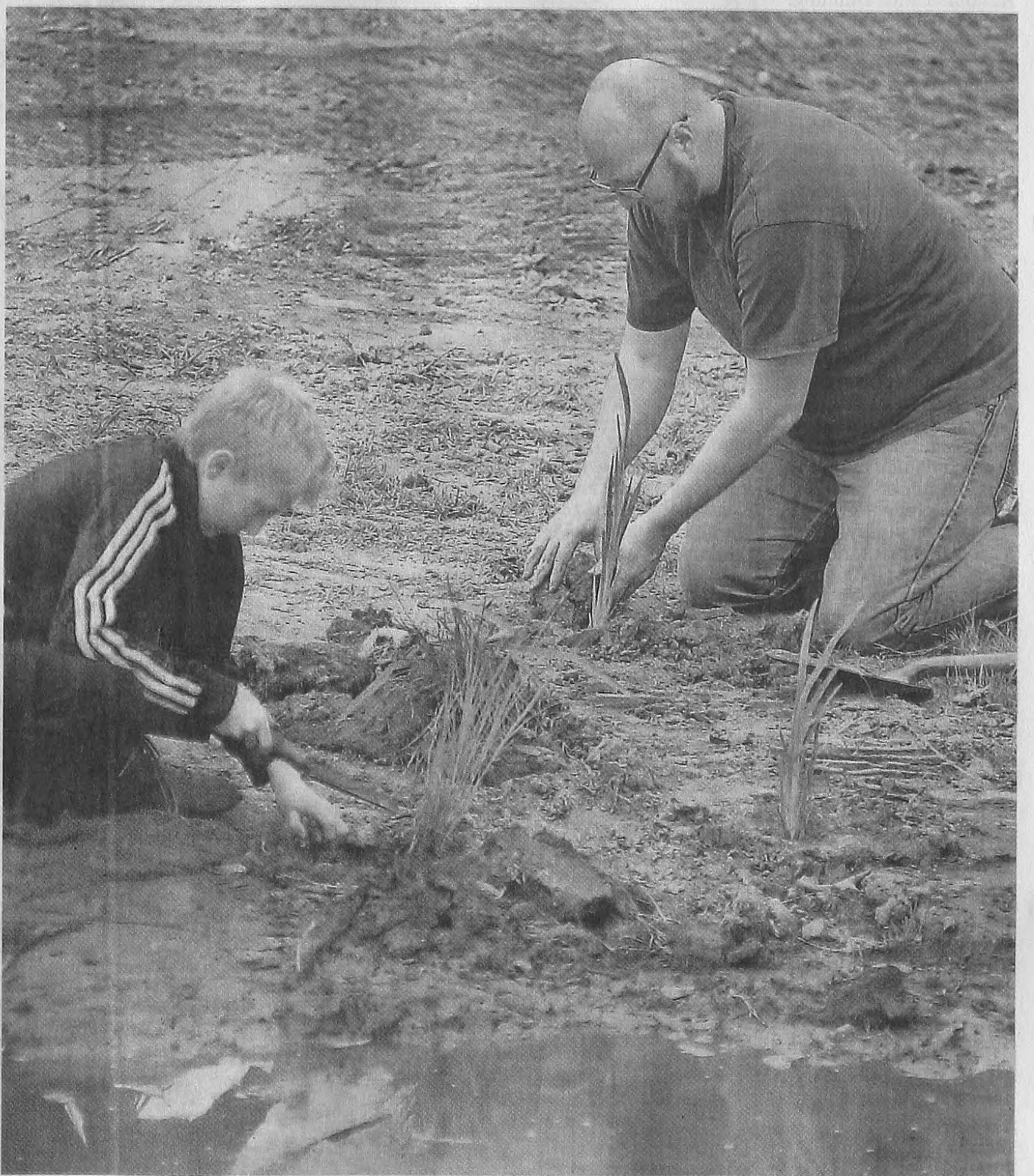
While people are on vacation, they tend to let their guard down and crooks readily take advantage of that. One way they do that is stealing information through public Wi-Fi. You have to be extremely careful about transacting business through public Wi-Fi. The crooks know how to steal your information, so you need to be cautious. My general advice: No transactions of business on a public Wi-Fi, particularly in places like coffee shops and hotel lobbies.

If you are planning on renting a car, one thing all the rental companies try to do is to get you to buy additional insurance. The issue is whether or not you actually need it. The agents of the car rental companies will always give you the doom and gloom scenario, frightening you to pay extra money for what may be unnecessary insurance. My advice: Talk to your auto insurance agent before you rent the car to review your coverage and determine if any additional coverage is necessary.

It used to be that while on vacation you could be very care-free and somewhat let your guard down. Unfortunately, in today's technologically advanced world, you cannot afford to do that. Crooks are everywhere and they're good at what they do. The old adage, an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure, certainly applies.

Good luck!

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



The annual Rouge Rescue effort attracts hundreds of volunteers to different sites all across southeast Michigan.

FILE PHOTO

It's time for the Rouge Rescue

Friends of the Rouge seeks individuals, families, Scouts, school and faith-based groups and social clubs to join them in their work to clean and restore the Rouge River at multiple locations Saturday, May 20.

People living on the land in the Rouge River system care deeply about the river but are unsure how they can contribute to its restoration. A simple, fun and rewarding way people can help is to participate in Rouge Rescue.

Rouge Rescue is an annual river cleanup event that has attracted tens of thousands of people across metro Detroit to the Rouge River to clean up trash from its banks and to improve its waters.

"We have made great progress in improving the Rouge River for us and for future generations," said Cyndi Ross, river restoration pro-

gram manager for Friends of the Rouge. "It's rewarding to see the community come together to make positive change in the watershed, but our work is not done, and we can't do it alone."

In addition to trash cleanup, volunteer help is needed to create gardens that soak up and clean rainwater runoff, install native plantings on stream banks to reduce erosion, improve habitat and natural areas by controlling invasive plant species and enhancing recreation along the Rouge by opening canoe routes and maintaining trails. Restoration work will have a larger impact at improving the health of the Rouge River and will help move us closer to achieving a river that is fishable and swimmable.

"We are working to improve many special places along the Rouge River," Ross said.

WORK SITES

- Douglas Evans Nature Preserve, Beverly Hills
- Linden Park, Birmingham
- Flodin Park, Canton
- Meadows of Canton, Canton
- Heritage Park, Farmington Hills
- Beverly Park, Livonia
- Newburgh Pointe Rec Area-Hines Park, Livonia
- Allen Drive Park, Northville
- Northville Downs (Hines at Seven Mile) - Hines Park, Northville
- Rotary Park, Novi
- Tonquish Creek Manor, Plymouth
- Plymouth Township Park, Plymouth Township
- Lola Valley Park, Redford
- Methodist Children's Home Society, Redford
- Merriman Hollow Rec Area - Hines Park, Westland

"Spaces where we can distress and reconnect with nature."

People interested in participating should come prepared to get a little dirty. No experience is necessary. Instruction and guidance will be provided on-site. Friends of the Rouge recommends volunteers wear sturdy closed toe shoes, long pants and long sleeves.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to improve river sites in Birmingham, Bloomfield Township, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Northville, Novi, Plymouth, Southfield, Superior Township, Wayne and Westland.

Go to www.therouge.org for more information or to sign up. Additional workdays have been scheduled June 3 and June 10.

East Middle students get a taste of healthy eating

As part of a Building Healthy Communities program May 1, students at East Middle School in Plymouth took part in three food tastings during the sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade lunch periods, respectively.

Building Healthy Communities is a private-public initiative designed to fight obesity and improve childhood health through school-based wellness programming. Schools are invited to apply to participate and, if selected, receive support for initiatives that support students' health, for example salad bars in the cafeteria, recess equipment and physical activity breaks during the day.

Tables were set up with samples of red, yellow and orange bell peppers that students could try at their own discretion. Students took a sample of each pepper and then voted for their favorites by writing their name on pepper-shaped paper cutouts and hanging them on a pepper plant mural.

During the tastings, a running slide show was on display sharing nutritional facts about bell peppers.

"My mom cooks with these peppers a lot, but I don't usually eat them,"



East Middle School students vote for their favorite bell peppers.

said Aaliyah, an eighth-grader at East. "After trying them today, I would definitely have

them again." Building Healthy Communities has an extensive history of mea-

asurable and demonstrable impact on improving the health of Michigan's children, including:

- » A significant reduction in obesity
- » 40 percent more fruit and vegetables

- consumed than the national average
 - » 700-step increase per day
 - » 35 additional minutes per week of moderate to vigorous physical activity
 - » 19 minutes less of screen and video time per day
 - » 74 percent report that it was easier to pay attention in class
- "Good nutritional choices lead to optimal performance in school work and athletics for students," Building Healthy Communities' Katherine Goldberg said. "Real kids need real food."

More than 230,000 students in more than 500 Michigan schools have been reached through Building Healthy Communities and nearly 150 schools started the program last year. Catering to the unique needs of schools, differing age groups and learning environments, Building Healthy Communities offers three programs for schools to choose from, including Engaging Elementary Schools through Partnership, Engaging Middle Schools through Project Healthy Schools and Step Up for School Wellness for kindergarten through 12th grade.

Canton resident wins 2017 Nightingale Award as top nurse

Canton resident Donna Bednarski has been recognized among Michigan's top nurses. She received a Nightingale Award in the Post-Acute Care and Specialty Nursing category.

Bednarski is a nurse practitioner in nephrology at DMC Harper University/Hutzel Wom-



Bednarski

en's Hospital.

This award is given to a professional who delivers effective, humanistic nursing care in a specialized setting. The award acknowl-

edges the finely-tuned skills developed by nurses who work with specific patient populations. The award recipient demonstrates leadership and develops strategies to promote high-quality, compassionate nursing care practices. She/he is a lifelong learner who

consistently seeks knowledge and skills that promote maximum development of a patient's self-care abilities following an incident of acute medical need.

The only event of its kind in the state, this year's Nightingale Awards were held May 9 at the San Marino Club

in Troy. The awards were created to spotlight nurses from a variety of clinical roles who go above and beyond in caring for patients and families.

Each of 10 winning recipients received a check for \$1,000, a solid bronze statue of Florence Nightingale and a

special Nightingale ceremonial pin. This was the 29th year of the event, which is hosted by Oakland University's School of Nursing and its Board of Visitors. WJBK-TV (Channel 2) news anchor Roop Raj and Oakland University alumna Amy Andrews co-emceed this year's awards ceremony.

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May 20, 2017 | Noon - 3 p.m.

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- Health Screenings: Skin Cancer, Blood Pressure and More
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- Rock Climbing Wall
- Teddy Bear Clinic

All activities are free

Giveaways include Tiger and AFC Ann Arbor tickets and more

stjoeshealth.org/healthy-kick-off

LO-99832024

I am an American We are One Nation

GIRL DELIVERS LOVE TO THE HOMELESS

10-year-old's survival kits, called Snuggle Sacks, offer necessities, encouragement

CHRISTINA HALL
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

Addisyn Goss believes that everyone deserves snuggles.

Even the homeless. Just like her grandpa was.

After meeting her grandfather for the first time two years ago at a veterans home in Indiana, Addisyn, now 10, learned he had previously been homeless for years. That's when she decided to go on a mission.

The fourth-grader created Snuggle Sacks — survival kits with toiletries, snacks and warm coverings for men and women on the streets — and delivers them to soup kitchens and other locations in Lansing, the state capital of Michigan, and Flint, about a 20-minute drive from Addisyn's Genesee County home.

Addisyn, with help from her family, has delivered more than 1,075 Snuggle Sacks, with more expected to go out thanks to recent donations.

And thanks to gifts of child-themed toothbrushes and smaller gloves, Addisyn now plans to create similar care kits for children who are homeless.

"I'm happy knowing I help other people beside myself," the Lake Fenton girl said.

A room in the finished basement of Addisyn's home is Snuggle Sacks headquarters.

In about two minutes, Addisyn loads a clear plastic zip bag with the toiletries and goodies, such as granola bars and fruit snacks. She also adds a card entitled "a word of hope."

"I know you may be feeling down right now and don't think life is fair," the card reads. "Please remember that there are people who care about you, and things will get better. I hope this makes you smile. With love, Addisyn."



RYAN GARZA/USA TODAY NETWORK

Addisyn Goss of Lake Fenton, Mich., collects donations of toiletries, snacks, bottled water, clothing items and blankets for the Snuggle Sacks she distributes to homeless people.

The toiletry bag is put into a cloth bag with a handle. A blanket and a bottle of water are final touches. The blankets and socks are some of the most popular items for the recipients.

"To see her take her own cause and run with it, it blows my mind," Addisyn's mother, Stacy Daul, 34, said of what her daughter is doing for the homeless. "You can see it on their faces — it makes their day."

ONE NATION NOMINATE AN AMERICAN

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onenation.usatoday.com or via email to onenation@usatoday.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

Q&A WITH ADDISYN GOSS

What does it mean to you to be an American?

For me to be an American, we have our freedom instead of being slaves.

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

Addisyn was motivated to launch her effort after visiting her grandfather for the first time at a veterans home in Indiana. She learned from him that he was homeless for at least six years, that he moved from Michigan to Indiana during the years that he was homeless, and that he when he was homeless, his leg was run over and injured.

I told him that it was because of him when I started it. He said, "I'm so proud of you, and I'm glad you did it because of me."

What gives you hope?

When everybody comes up to me and says, "You're doing a good job on it," and that just makes me keep on going, and it gives me a lot of hope.

What concerns you?

Addisyn said that what concerns her the most is that people, including criminals, could harm the homeless or those who are living on the streets.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

I hope to accomplish, like, where it can go all over the nation and ... we can help several people all over the state.

For more: Find Snuggle Snacks on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/snugglesacksmi/> or via email at snugglesax@gmail.com.

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State Supreme Court candidate a judge from Canton

Paul Egan
Detroit Free Press

A 19-year veteran of the Michigan Court of Appeals is seen as a leading candidate when Gov. Rick Snyder names a Michigan Supreme Court justice this month to replace former Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. The appointment — Snyder's fourth — will make him the first Michigan governor since election of justices began in 1850 to name a majority of justices to the court who all held their positions at the same time, Ballenger Report publisher William Ballenger said Friday.

Appeals Court Judge Kurtis Wilder has been mentioned in the past as a potential nominee to the state's highest court, along with Appeals Court



Wilder

colleagues such as Judges Christopher Murray, Michael Rioridan, Colleen O'Brien and Kirsten Frank Kelley, as well as Snyder aide and former Kent County Circuit Judge James Robert Redford.

This time, court watchers and sources give the edge to Wilder, who was appointed to the appeals court by former Gov. John Engler in 1998, elected in 2000 and re-elected in 2004, 2010 and 2016.

If nominated, Wilder would be the fifth black justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, following Young, who served since 1999, Justice Con-

rad Mallett Jr., who was appointed in 1990, and former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, who joined the court in 1986. Otis Smith, who was appointed in 1961 and served until 1967, was the first black Michigan Supreme Court justice.

Young, who served a record six continuous years as chief justice, stepped down in April to return to private law practice in Detroit.

Wilder, 58, of Canton is a former chief judge of the Washtenaw County Circuit Court who previously practiced law with Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith in Lansing and with Butzel Long in Detroit.

Wilder has a bachelor's degree in political science and a law degree, both from the University of Michigan.

Lathrup Village attorney Jehan Crump-Gibson, president of the Wolverine Bar Association representing hundreds of black attorneys in Michigan, said diversity is important on all courts and a black justice can bring a needed different perspective based on different life experiences.

"I respect and admire Judge Wilder a lot," said Crump-Gibson, who added that he is one of many black jurists in Michigan worthy of consideration for the appointment.

Two other black judges on the Michigan Court of Appeals — Cynthia Diane Stephens and Karen Fort Hood — both have Democratic ties.

Colleen Pero, chief of staff to the Michigan Republican Party, said the appointment of con-

servative judges first under Engler and now under Snyder has created more certainty in Michigan about how state laws will be interpreted.

"That's the result of people interpreting the law the way the words tell them to," she said.

Snyder's appointment of a majority to the court is "great for the state because he, like Gov. Engler before him, has appointed judicial conservatives who understand the difference between being a legislator and being a judge," Pero said.

"I have no reason to think the next appointment he makes will be any different."

Snyder spokeswoman Anna Heaton said Supreme Court appointments is "a part of the job of being governor

that he takes very seriously and rule of law judges are very important to him."

It's remarkable that Snyder has been able to name a majority to the court in six years when governors who served 12 years or longer — including Engler, Republican William Milliken and Democrat G. Mennen (Soapy) Williams — were not, Ballenger said.

While Snyder's appointment of a fourth justice in six years is historic, there's also potential for more Snyder appointments before he leaves office at the end of 2018, Ballenger noted, with Justices Brian Zahra and Joan Larsen being mentioned as possible appointees to the federal bench.

Comcast offering parents Wi-Fi control

Frank Witsil
Detroit Free Press

Comcast activated a new Internet management technology last week that puts Wi-Fi controls in the palm of customers' hands.

The cable and Internet provider promises a new app that gives users a way to see what devices are connected to a Wi-Fi network, help identify and fix connection problems, and give parents a way to control when their kids can connect by limiting access to certain devices.

"We wanted it to be more user-friendly so we can manage it in our homes and make it work for us," said Michelle Gilbert, a vice president of Comcast Michigan. "We're investing in it because we know Wi-Fi usage is the future — and we want to improve that experience for our customers."

customers can customize it further by selecting passwords, organizing devices — and, in some cases, smart appliances — into groups so they can be tracked and monitored and Wi-Fi access can be controlled through the app.

In a family of three, for example, all of the mom's devices can be grouped, as can the dad's and the child's.

This way, customers can see who is using what devices when, and for how long.

If, for instance, parents want their child's phone access to Wi-Fi to shut off at bedtime, it can be programmed that way. If a family decides it wants to sit down to dinner without any Wi-Fi for anyone, the network

can be programmed to do that, too.

The app also allows Wi-Fi to be controlled from anywhere and to pause access with a tap.

Moreover, Comcast said, it can detect when devices join the network and send alerts — and monitor whether the network, or part of the network, goes down.

This, Comcast said, can make fixing problems easier and quicker.

Comcast estimates that 86 percent of a home's broadband use is over Wi-Fi and in three years, Americans — on average — will have 50 devices connected to Wi-Fi, especially as appliances, such as refrigerators, washers and even coffee makers, become smarter and

connect to the Internet.

In addition, Comcast is also planning to roll out small devices that plug into electric outlets and will work with the new Wi-Fi system and can to boost the wireless signal throughout a customer's home so that dead spots, areas where Wi-Fi can reach, can be brought back to life.

"The adoption and use of connected devices has grown dramatically," said Eric Schaefer, a senior vice president for Comcast. "Comcast has created a solution that makes it easy to control and manage them. It's a platform that will allow us to bring future innovations to our customers."

Farmington Hills hiring new firefighters

Anyone who's wanted to be a firefighter has a chance now in Farmington Hills.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department hosts an informational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 21, at Farmington Hills Fire Station No. 5, 31455 W. 11 Mile Road (at the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads on the Farmington Hills City Hall campus).

The Farmington Hills Fire Department is seeking candidates for the position of paid-on-call fire fighter. This is a part-time, paid position within the department officials say offers many rewards.

Paid-on-call fire

fighters typically respond to emergencies in the evenings and on weekends. Once trained, they are part of the highly acclaimed Farmington Hills Fire Department and will respond to medical emergencies, extinguish fires, participate in fire prevention activities, receive continuous training and enjoy the personal satisfaction that comes from helping others in the community.


For more information, contact the Farmington Hills Fire Department at 248-871-2800 or Fire Capt. James Donovan at 248-331-7337.

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The exciting series of personal stories and testimonies continues its 8th season with an outstanding roster of new speakers.

Tuesday, May 16th, 7 PM

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant of Michigan Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, being Sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Academy Board of Directors, 2016-7 Board Meeting Calendar, New School High, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth MI 48170, Tel: (734) 386-6601, Website: newschoolhigh.org

PUBLIC HEARING

TIME: 6:30 pm DATE: Wednesday, May 31, 2017

LOCATION: New School High, 46250 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth MI 48170

The 2017-18 School Budget under consideration is available for public inspection at the meeting. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. A copy of the meeting minutes is available for public inspection at the Academy office address within 8 business days for proposed minutes and 5 business days for approved minutes. The Academy shall comply with subtitle A of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336, 42 USC 12101 et seq or any successor law. Should you require specific accommodation(s) please contact Cynthia Burnstein at (734) 386-6601 prior to the meeting.

Published: May 14, 2017

BJ's Restaurant gets first approval from Livonia planning commission

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

The proposed new restaurant wanting to move onto the former Champps property on Haggerty Road in Livonia cleared its first major hurdle recently.

The Livonia Planning Commission recommended approval of the waiver petition for BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, looking to operate on the former Champps site on Haggerty Road in Livonia.

The recommendation from the planning commission came with no discussion from the five members at Tuesday's meeting. It will now go to the city council for its review and determination.

Champps was first approved for the site in 1997, Taormina said. The restaurant closed several of its restaurants abruptly last summer as its parent company dealt with bankruptcy. The Champps in West Bloomfield has continued to operate.

Legay said the goal is to have the restaurant open by the first quarter of 2018. The chain, which operates 190 restaurants across the country, would serve food such as salads, appetizers, entrees and pizza at the Livonia location, as well as beer.

BJ's does operate some restaurants that brew onsite, though the Livonia location will not be one of them. Lagay said many of them will be the company's own brews, but plans to highlight Michigan craft beer on several taps as well.

"We will have many taps, but 12 of them will be BJ's own beers," she said. "And we'll also showcase local brewers as well."

The company turned in its paperwork last month to begin the waiver petition process to the city.



FILE PHOTO

The Livonia Planning Commission recommended approval of the waiver petition for BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse, looking to operate on the former Champps site on Haggerty Road in Livonia.

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dveselenak@hometownlife.com

A Comic Con visitor as a teen, she now appears as VIP guest

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

Jordan Trovillion grew up in Michigan and started attending the annual Motor City Comic Con in Novi as a teenager.

Now, as an actress and singer and still, in her words, a "comic book dork," Trovillion is one of the VIP guests at this year's Comic Con, which opens next week at the Suburban Collection Showplace.

"It's truly incredible. I remember being a kid and being so intimidated by all these famous people and all these hard-working artists," Trovillion said recently by phone from Cincinnati, where she now lives.

"I wouldn't come up to talk to people" whom she later found out had written something she loved, she added. "I was so intimidated."

Trovillion, seen recently in an episode of the Comedy Central show "Detroiters," has had roles in 2012's "Jack Reacher," with Tom Cruise, and the locally filmed movies "Eloise," "Elder Island" and "Vanishing on 7th Street."

She is lead vocalist with the band The Party and recently shot scenes for "The Old Man and the Gun," starring Robert Redford, Danny Glover and Tom Waits, which is still in production. She also used to host a comic book and "nerd culture" television show, "Comics Continuum."

Trovillion, who started appearing at the Comic Con about four years ago, will take her place this year in a guest lineup that includes Michael Rooker ("Guardians of the Galaxy"), Barbara Eden (Jeannie in the TV show "I Dream of Jean-



Jordan Trovillion in a scene from "Vanishing on 7th Street," a 2010 movie that was filmed in Detroit and starred John Leguizamo, Hayden Christensen and Thandie Newton.



Jordan Trovillion will appear at this year's Motor City Comic Con, which opens Friday, May 19, at the Suburban Collection Showplace.

nie") and Ron Perlman (the title character in the movie "Hellboy").

"It's wonderful to have people say, 'Hey, I saw your show' or 'Saw a movie that you're in,'" Trovillion said. "It's exciting to feel validated in that way."

The Motor City Comic Con is a celebration of movies, television, super heroes and all things pop culture, as well as comic

books. Trovillion, who hails from the Flint area, was originally drawn to the event by her love of manga, a Japanese comics style, and anime, a Japanese animation style.

She started out acting on stage in school (now in her 30s, she still appears in live theater) and later acted at the Michigan Renaissance Festival. She studied theater at the

University of Michigan-Flint.

Perhaps not instantly recognizable — Trovillion has a sign at her booth that invites passersby to "Feel Free to Ask Who I am" — Trovillion says she enjoys hanging out with visitors to the Comic Con. "I love having people to talk with," she said.

This year's Motor City Comic Con, the 28th annual, has a 1980s theme, with many guests from movies of that decade, including Kelly Le Brock ("The Woman in Red"), Anthony Michael Hall ("The Breakfast Club") and Sean Astin ("The Goonies").

The Comic Con will run 12:30-7 p.m. Thursday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 20, and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 21. For ticket information and more details, go to www.motorcitycomiccon.com.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman

WAYNE COUNTY PARKS EVENTS

June is a great month to explore some of the unique locations in Wayne County Parks. Take a guided tour through the historic Bennett Arboretum to explore the tree collections or a naturalist-led hike through Holliday Nature Preserve to learn how to identify many different ferns and other plants. You can also attend indoor programs at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center on fern identification or the history of the Detroit Riverfront! We offer a wide variety of program topics about our local nature and history throughout the year for the public to enjoy.

All programs require pre-registration by calling the Parks Division at 734-261-1990. The programs offered in June are for adults only. Pro-

gram fee is \$3 per person, payable in advance or at the door by cash, check or charge. Checks should be made payable to Wayne County Parks. Charge payments for hikes must be made in advance by calling the Parks Division.

Deciduous Tree Collections - Bennett Arboretum
1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 3

Bennett Arboretum was originally planted in the 1930s, with rare trees from around the world as well as native Michigan tree collections. We will leisurely hike the rolling hills of this beautiful area to explore and enjoy the trees. Meet at the Disc Golf Parking lot on the east side of Hines Drive, north of Six Mile Road.

Ferns of Southern Michigan - Indoor Presentation at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center
1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 10

Ferns are some of the oldest groups of plants on earth. They can be difficult to identify. Join us for this indoor presentation at Nankin Mills to learn some clues to help you recognize these botanical treasures.

Detroit Riverfront History - Indoor Presentation at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center
10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 17

From the ancient Native American mound builders to the current riverfront parks revival, the Detroit riverfront has seen many changes over the years. Join our Park Naturalist for this

indoor presentation at Nankin Mills to learn more about the Detroit riverfront history.

Foraging for Ferns - Holliday Nature Preserve Koppnick
1-3 p.m. Saturday, June 17

The western end of Holliday Nature Preserve features a rich forest habitat with around 20 different fern species as well as large beech and tulip trees and many other botanical wonders. Meet the Park Naturalist at the parking lot on Koppnick Road, off of Hix Road between Joy and Warren, to enjoy a hike in this unique natural area. Insect repellent recommended.

For more program information, contact Carol Clements, 734-261-1990.

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END-OF-LIFE ISSUES:
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THURSDAY, MAY 18th, 7PM

St. Michael School Cafeteria
11441 Hubbard Rd., south of Plymouth Rd.
734-261-1455, ext. 200 www.livoniastmichael.org

This end-of-life issues are something we all have to wrestle with from time to time, whether for ourselves, our parents, or other loved ones. Do you know what the current state of Michigan law is regarding things like "living wills", advanced healthcare directives, hydration and nutrition, or DNR orders? Do you know the exact language wills and other legal documents should include to be in keeping with your personal wishes?

The public is invited to hear Jason Negri, a nationally known attorney and Assistant Director of the Patients Rights Council of Steubenville, Ohio address both the practical and ethical aspects of these important subjects. A graduate of University of Steubenville and Ave Maria Law School, he is also admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

All are welcome.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Plymouth Library DIA celebration

The Plymouth District Library invites folks to see the newly placed artwork from the DIA, along with enjoying some music from the Motor City Boogie Woogie Kid, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, May 27.

Matthew Ball, the Motor City Boogie Woogie Kid, is the attorney turned musician who now has more than 3.7 million YouTube views and counting! Michigan's reigning boogie 'n' blues heavyweight, Ball left the practice of law in 2001 to pursue a life in music.

The library is at 223 S. Main St., Plymouth. For information, call 734-453-0750.

Senior luncheon

The next free luncheon at Salem National Lutheran Church in Westland will be at 11 a.m. May 24. The church is located at 32430 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland.

Festival of Song

The Langford Men's Chorus will be in concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 21, at the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 36375 Joy Road, Westland. The internationally renowned chorus will present its third concert in the 2017 Festival of Song series. The concert repertoire includes music from many genres, such as spirituals, classical compositions, Broadway and doo-wop.

Formed in 1999, the group, under the direction of Steve SeGraves, has grown to a chorus of over 60 voices featuring men of many different musical experiences. The LMC namesake, from Wayne State, Harry Langford, provided a legacy to achieve exciting male chorus productions. In addition to local performances, the chorus has toured throughout the state. The group made two very successful concert tours in the UK in 2008 and 2012 and plan to return in 2018. The chorus toured Washington, D.C., in 2014 and performed a concert with the U.S. Army Men's Chorus.

Advance tickets are \$15 and will be available at the church. Tickets on the day of the concert are \$18. Tickets can also be ordered at langford-menschorus.org

For more information, email dhcatherman@aol.com or call 248-478-1336.

Westland Farmers Market

The Westland Farmers Market will run 3-7 p.m. each Thursday through Oct. 13. The market is located at 1901 N. Carlson, south of Ford Road, in Central City Park. The market features

produce, plants, fresh foods, crafts and live music weekly. EBT is accepted.

For more information, call 734-326-7222 or email westlandchamber@yahoo.com.

Baseline Folk Society

The Baseline Folk Society will present its final concert of the season at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 20, featuring Beverly Meyer. The concert is at the JWH Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth.

Meyer has a rich, soulful voice that spans the blues, jazz, folk and pop genres. She is a singer/songwriter with a simple guitar style that complements her beautiful, heartfelt vocals. She will perform a 30-minute set beginning at 8 p.m.

Host Scott Ludwig and friends have a special number for us that he calls the "Banjo Bonanza"! As host, he will perform two songs and introduce the open mic performers for the evening, starting at 7 p.m. our open mic performers.

Admission is \$5 and refreshments are included.

Michigan vision walk

The 10th annual Michigan Vision Walk is set for 9 a.m. Saturday, May 20, at Kensington Metropark in Milford.

Walk with the foundation fighting blindness and make the world a brighter place for millions of Americans with blinding diseases. Learn more and sign up online at www.fightblindness.org/michiganvisionwalk.

Mariners Inn Golf Classic at Inn at St. John's

The Mariners Inn's Golf Classic will be held Friday, June 9, at Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. Proceeds will benefit the mission of Mariners Inn, a Detroit-based homeless shelter and rehabilitation facility for men.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. The cost is \$150 per golfer, which includes golf, lunch and admission to the awards dinner. The event will also include on-course games and contests, a silent auction, 50/50 raffle and hole-in-one prizes compliments of Dixon Golf and DBusiness. Sponsors of Mariners Inn's Golf Classic include UAW Ford, TEAM Wellness, Club GM, HopCat Detroit and Strategic Staffing Solutions.

For more information about the event, sponsorship opportunities or to register for the golf classic, contact Stephanie Maurice at 313-962-9446, ext. 230, or go to

www.marinersinn.org/golfouting.

St. Colette to host car show

A car show will be hosted by St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 3. The lot will open at 8 a.m. for car participants, with all vehicles in place by 10:30 a.m.

Cost of \$15 per show vehicle covers entrance and provides for door prize eligibility (drawn every half-hour). Admission is free to spectators.

There will be food/beverages, music and raffles. Voting for awards will go on throughout the day, with presentation at 2:30 p.m.

Contact Bob Rais at bobdebrais@hotmail.com or www.dooleyknights5492.com.

LIFESPAN garage sale

A garage sale will be held May 18-20 to benefit the Wayne County Chapter of Right to Life - LIFESPAN.

Sale hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at 36709 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Morin, garage sale coordinator, at 734-422-6230 or Eileen Brandt, Wayne County Chapter office, at 734-422-6230.

Drawn to the Night

Drawn To The Night, set for 7-9 p.m. Friday, May 19, at 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth, is an unstructured, Open Life drawing event for artists of all ages to practice drawing the human form. Our model and set will be inspired by "The Card Players." Host is Christina Evans.

Cost is \$10 at the door, \$5 for students. Bring your art supplies.

For more information, go to www.plymoutharts.com.

Author presentation

The Finnish Center is having lawyer, historian, car enthusiast and author Steve Lehto give a presentation about his latest book, "Preston Tucker and his Battle to Build the Car of Tomorrow," at 7 p.m. Friday, May 19. The Finnish Center is located at 35200 W. Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Lehto will talk about his book, which the Library of Michigan named as one of its 2017 Notable Books of the Year. He has written many books and this is his fourth one to be named a Notable Book by the Library of Michigan.

Lehto's love of cars led him to write about Tucker's struggle to bring an innovative car to market in 1948 and the book is the first comprehensive account of this

magnificent car and its brilliant creator.

Crohn's & Colitis support group

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Michigan Chapter's next monthly support group for patients and caregivers affected by Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis is 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25. Held at Beaumont Hospital, the group is facilitated by a trained

volunteer and allows participants to connect to others sharing a similar journey. Patients and their loved ones can share their stories, seek emotional support, find answers to their questions, and connect with a community who share their challenges.

The Farmington Hills IBD Support Group meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at

Beaumont Hospital, Ziegler A & Center, Classrooms A & B. The address is 28050 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills. This group will take the summer off and not meet in June, July or August. For more information, call 248-737-0900, ext. 2, or email michigan@crohnscolitisfoundation.org.

Passages

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

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Groat



Janice S. May 9, 2017 age 65 of South Lyon. Beloved wife of James T. Loving mother of Ryan (Jennifer), Kenneth (Christina), and Suzanne (Peter) Wyckoff. Proud "Nana" of Charles, Jillian, Kyle, Shane, and Jacob. Dear daughter of the late Charles and Ruth Rumbold. Sister of Sharon (Michael) Pollock. Visitation was held at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, Plymouth. Funeral Service was held at First United Methodist Church of Plymouth. Interment was made in Glen Eden Memorial Park. Janice was a member of First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, as well as the Little Stone Church on Mackinac Island. Memorial contributions may be made to The American Lung Association, 1475 East 12 Mile Road, Madison Heights, MI 48071 or First United Methodist Church of Plymouth, 45201 North Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



Harris



Hugh Arthur Age 51, born in Cardiff, Wales on October 29, 1965 and died November 3, 2016 in England. Beloved son of the late Frank and Sigrid Harris. Loving father of Megan and Ryan. Dear brother of Ingrid (Lary) Rynnion, Robert (Gerald) Harris, Gerald Harris, Rosalie (John) Taube, Scott, Ivan and Michael Harris. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Hugh grew up in Livonia and graduated from Stevenson High School in 1983. He joined the US Navy in 1985 and was accepted into the Nuclear Program where he studied nuclear power theory and later oversaw nuclear submarine engine room operations. He was stationed upon the USS Tennessee and was honorably discharged in 1991. Hugh was extremely academic and pursued higher education for a span of over 16 years, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Lawrence Tech, Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering from Oakland University; MBA from Wayne State University and a Master of Science in Financial Planning from the College of Financial Planning. Hugh contributed his talents to a number of companies including Chrysler and the EPA where he was awarded a Gold Medal, the highest award in the EPA, for his work on reducing greenhouse gas emissions for light duty vehicles. Hugh loved his children more than anything. He had an infectious laugh, he lived life to its fullest and was always ready for an adventure. He loved getting outdoors and working with his hands. He was always there to help others and will be forever missed by his family and friends. Visitation at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia, Friday, May 19, 2017 from 12 p.m. until his Memorial Service at 2 p.m. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Boy Scouts of America. Please share a memory at www.rggharris.com.

Karr



Clara W. passed away May 4, 2017 at the age of 101. Loving wife of the late Robert H. Karr Sr. Beloved mother of Bonnie (Ray) Bihary, Dolores (Ken) Long, Robert (Mary) Karr Jr., Peter Karr, Deborah (Steve Nowak) Davis, and Margaret (Germaine) Jacky. Cherished sister of Anna (George) Pernicano, the late Matthew Whitman, and the late Steven Wittman. Clara is also survived by 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren. Clara worked for 32 years as the Secretary for the City of Livonia Parks and Recreation Department. Proud member of Business and Professional Women Organization of Livonia. Clara was also Citizen of the Year for Livonia in 2012. Memorials can be made to American Cancer Society, the Alzheimer's Association or a hospice of your choice. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

Livinstone

Betty Jean passed away from natural causes at the age of 97 in Dana Point, California on May 2, 2017. Betty was born April 10, 1920 to Clarence and Erma Mae Baxter in Pontiac, Michigan. She attended school in Pontiac and continued her studies at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. Betty lived most of her life in Bloomfield Hills and Troy. In 2014 she moved to California to be closer to her oldest daughter E.J. and her family. Betty was a member of Orchard Lake C.C., The Village Woman's Club and Kirk in the Hills Presbyterian Church. Preceding her in death are her parents Clarence and Erma Mae, her loving husband Jack and his parents George and Bertha Livingstone and her sister Adeline Teague. Betty is survived by her three children, daughters E.J. Tracy of Dana Point, Ca., Ann Schoenherr of Fort Collins, Co. and son John Livingstone II and wife Jane of Jacksonville, Tx. Betty delighted in her many grandchildren and great grandchildren throughout her life. Also surviving her are her grandchildren, Cynthia Tracy of Laguna Niguel, Ca., Christina Tracy of Los Angeles, Ca., Kerry McKenna and husband Greg of San Clemente Ca., Kilian Ollison and husband Fitz of Mandeville, La., Katie Calavan and husband Matt of Cumming, Ga., John Livingstone III and wife Jordan of Dallas, Tx., Bradley Livingstone and wife Jennifer also of Dallas, Tx., Lauren Romano and husband Ron of Rosemary Beach, Fl., Jody Wood and husband Dr. Ian Wood of Fort Collins, Co., Brook Schoenherr of Loveland, Co. Betty is also survived by 21 great grandchildren. She was laid to rest next to her loving husband Jack Thursday, May 11, 2017 at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. Mother, Love you more, E.J., Ann, & John. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com

Schwaegler



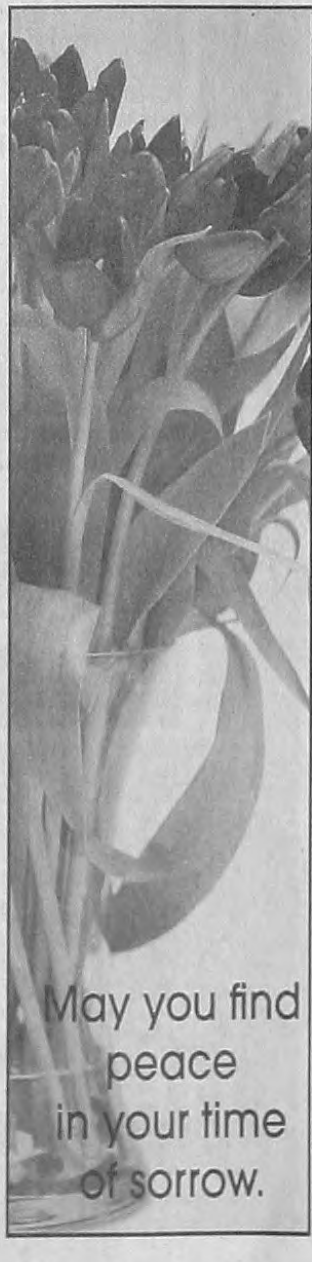
Ann Marie (Nee Smith) Passed away on May 6, 2017 at the age of 53. Loving wife of 27 years to Jim Schwaegler. Beloved mother of Tyler and Ashley. Cherished daughter of Alice Smith. Sister to Patrick (Joan) Smith, Mike (Edith) Smith, and Judy Edl. Aunt to 10 nieces and nephews and 6 grand nieces and nephews. Ann will also be lovingly remembered by numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins. She has now joined her father, Robert Smith, in heaven.

Ann lived in the Glengary subdivision for 14 years where she had many friends. In 1982, she graduated from Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln High School and in 1986 went on to become a Badger Alumna after graduating from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. In 1991 Ann and Jim ventured to Canton, MI to raise a family. Her most favorite vacation spot was the sandy shores of the Sleeping Bear Dunes in Northern Michigan. In 2009 they returned to Wisconsin to settle in Brookfield. Go Badgers!

Ann's passion was her involvement in La Leche League of Canton, MI, The Michigan Tri-County Collie Rescue, and the Bible Study Moms of Brookfield.

Visitation was held at Becker Ritter Funeral Home in Brookfield, WI on Friday, May 12th. An additional visitation and Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, May 13th at St. John Vianney Catholic Church (1755 N Calhoun Rd, Brookfield, WI) Committal services will be held in Wisconsin Rapids at a later date. Becker Ritter Funeral Home serving the family, 262-782-5330.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Michigan Tri-County Collie Rescue through their website.



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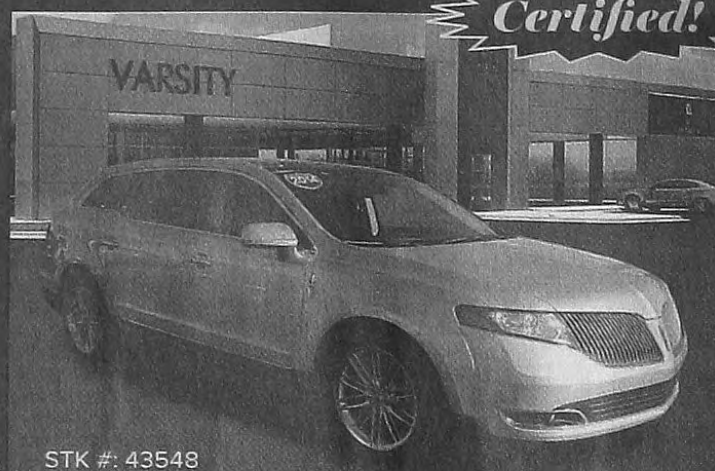
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COLLEGE SIGNING/PREP SOFTBALL

Dawson primed to play at Aquinas

Canton senior thinks small school 'feels more personal'

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

After four years at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, a sprawling campus bigger than some colleges, Canton senior Sydney Dawson knew she'd be comfortable anywhere if it meant getting the chance to play softball at the next level.

The 18-year-old Dawson indeed will do just that, recently signing to play softball at Aquinas College.

"(Aquinas) was so small," said Dawson, asked about her college choice following a recent Chiefs game. "Going from P-CEP, which has 6,000 kids (attending a combined three high schools), they only have 600 kids."

"I feel like it fits me more and it feels more personal."

Plus, the Grand Rapids college isn't that far from Canton.

"I think it's a perfect fit for her. Coming from such a big school, I think she wants to be

in a more intimate setting," said Sydney's mom, Andrea Dawson of Canton. "I think she'll fit in great."

The family of Andrea and Brian Dawson also has another Chiefs player with college aspirations in Izzy Dawson, Sydney's sister.

Sydney Dawson, who likely will play second base for the Saints of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, said she knows she will need to put extra time in as she prepares for her first college season.

But hard work never has been a shortcoming and she

has a number of years playing high-caliber travel softball — first for the Plymouth-Canton Pride and recently for Turnin2.

"I'm anticipating more work, more dedication, just more hard work all-around," Dawson said. "You have to practice every day and I have to get bigger and stronger."

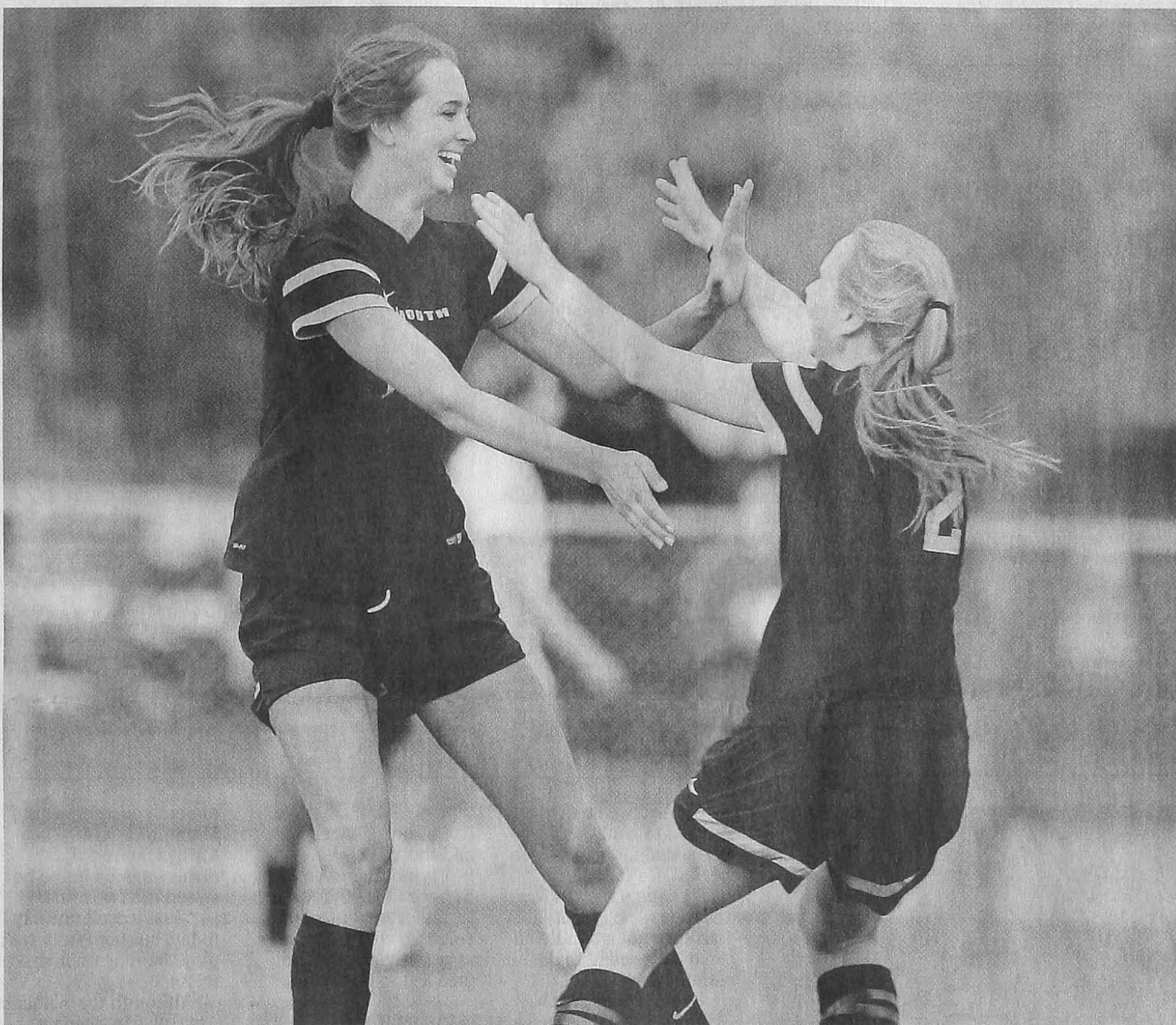
Getting the opportunity with Aquinas, where the honors student (3.3 grade-point average) she will pursue a degree in physical therapy, is the culmination of Dawson's longtime dream to play college



Sydney Dawson

See DAWSON, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Celebrating a Plymouth goal Tuesday against Canton are Kenna White (left) and Hailey Melnick. Plymouth won 3-0.

BATTLE FOR THE TOP

Kenna White's two-goal game sparks Plymouth to 3-0 victory over Canton

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

For all intents and purposes, the KLAA South Division girls soccer race came down to Tuesday's campus clash between state-ranked Canton and Plymouth.

The No. 2 Chiefs finished second on this particular night, unable to slow down Plymouth sophomore forward Kenna White, who scored two goals in the Wildcats' 3-0 victory.

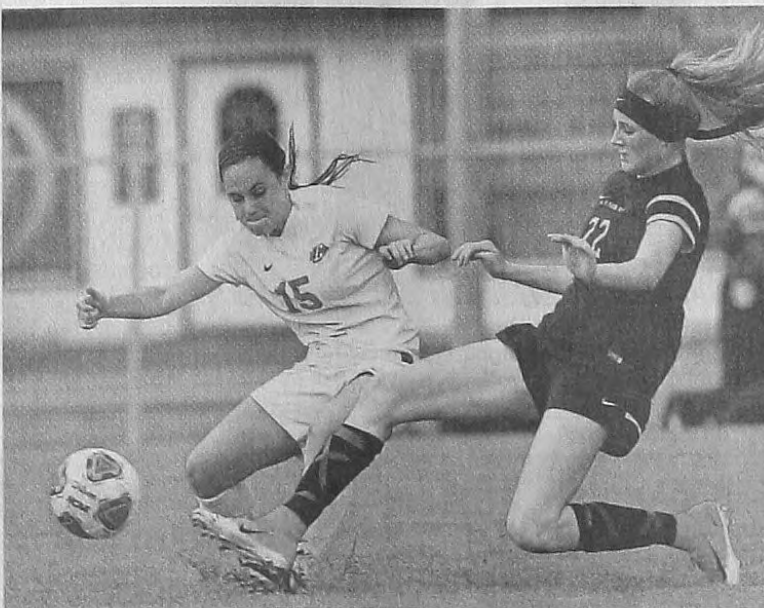
Both squads are deadlocked at the top of the KLAA South with two division games to go. But goal differential could be used in a tie-breaker scenario.

Had Canton prevailed instead, the Chiefs would have been a shoo-in for the title.

White's icing-on-the-cake breakaway goal with 54 seconds to play could prove crucial in that situation.

"Last time, we had a hard time finishing and, this game, we just calmed down," said White, who notched goals 19 and 20 on the season. "We were able to get our heads into it more."

On the first one, with under eight minutes remaining in the first half, White wheeled and put her left foot into a 20-yarder that got past Canton



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Canton's Sarah Willett (left) and Plymouth's Elle McCaslin go after a 50/50 ball during Tuesday's division showdown.

See SOCCER, Page B2

WALL OF CHAMPIONS

Krueger headlines Salem inductees

MLB pitcher Davey, 1991 baseball team also honored

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

The third induction class of Salem High School's Wall of Champions featured two state championship teams and a number of top-notch players.

But it was legendary Rocks wrestling coach Ron Krueger who topped the impressive list of Salem legends enshrined April 29 at the high school.

Krueger coached from 1971-2000, garnering 13 division titles, 12 conference titles and six district championships — plus guiding 37 all-state finalists and four state champions.

His biggest accomplishment at Salem was coaching the undefeated 1980 state championship squad (13-0, the only undefeated dual meet record in the school's 47-year history).

That 1980 wrestling team was one of three teams to have a plaque placed on the Wall of Champions.

The others were the 1991 baseball team (27-6) and 1987 girls soccer team (17-2-2).


Also inducted were former major league pitcher Tom Davey, baseball player Scott Niemiec, the tennis-playing Gilles sisters (Wendy and Chris) and

See WALL, Page B2




SALEM ATHLETICS

Lee Krueger, son of wrestling coach Ron Krueger, accepts the Salem Wall of Champions award on behalf of his dad during the April 29 induction ceremony.



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HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER

Eagles take flight with five-goal second half

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Missing some key players for Thursday's Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division tilt was no excuse for Plymouth Christian Academy's disappointing first half.

Eagles head coach Annette Somercik reminded her team at half-time, with visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest leading 1-0, that the second 40 minutes would require better teamwork and grit.

Whatever Somercik said to the squad paid off in a hurry as freshman Danae Moriarty found the back of the Crusaders goal to tie the game. Moriarty went on to score two more goals for a hat trick, and PCA cruised to a 5-1 victory.

"We talked about how we wanted to start working for each other and play a little bit smarter,"



Plymouth Christian's Allie Crecelius (22) chips the ball toward the Lutheran Northwest goal during Thursday's game.

TIM SMITH

Somercik said. "We weren't having great touches, we weren't spreading out the field

very well in the beginning. "When we came out for the second half we decided we were going to

spread the field, play around them and play smart. And they did, I'm really proud of them and

what they accomplished." Also scoring for the Eagles were junior Isabel Nunez and sophomore Crystal Bock — the latter who moved up from defense to midfield.

Turning the page

Helping the cause with two assists was senior forward Allie Crecelius, who also noted how important it was to start fresh in Thursday's second half.

"We came out kind of slow in the first half," said Crecelius, who ran in waves past Crusader defenders in the second half. "But we picked up our intensity in the second half."

Crecelius said the way the game played out was a reminder "to play hard all the time."

Plymouth Christian improved to 9-2 overall with the win, which followed an 8-0 win Tuesday at Arbor Prep.

On Monday, the Eagles dropped a 4-0 decision to

Grosse Pointe Woods University Liggett. Somercik said the way the team played as a unit in the second half Thursday will be something to build off of as the regular season quickly morphs into district competition.

"They came out with aggressiveness and realized they should be doing better and playing together," she said.

PCA, who will host districts beginning Tuesday, May 30, closes out the regular season with six games, including three on the road.

The road games are against Liggett, Parkway Christian and Wixom St. Catherines. Remaining home dates are 4:30 p.m. May 18 against Oakland Christian, 4:30 p.m. May 23 against Southfield Christian and 4:30 p.m. May 26 against Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

DAWSON

Continued from Page B1

softball.

"I've always wanted to play since I was younger," Dawson said. "I could never see myself not playing softball. I played softball since I was 6, so I'm really excited."

CANTON SWEEPS: On May 7, in the makeup of a doubleheader from April 19, the Dawson sisters swung hot bats as the Chiefs won 5-3 and 7-6 over Plymouth.

In the opener, Sydney Dawson drove in two, while Izzy Dawson homered.

The nightcap featured a 4-for-6 performance by Izzy Dawson, who homered and drove in three.

Shae Scott delivered a clutch, two-run single in the sixth, while Olivia Grant, Roberts, Peyton Philbeck and Zajdel each collected two hits.

PLYMOUTH 9-17, FRANKLIN 3-2: The Wildcats swept a Wednesday doubleheader against Livonia Franklin, with Jenny Bressler and Angela Schmidt each pitching Plymouth to a win.

In Game 1, Jessica Tucci had three RBIs to pace the Plymouth attack.

Whitney Holden slammed her fifth homer of the season in the nightcap, but the Wildcats' offense also featured big games from Haley Gagnon (2-for-5), Tucci (3-for-5, four RBIs), Arie Bartholomew (2-for-4), Gina



Sydney Dawson (second from left) recently signed to play college softball at Aquinas. On hand were parents Brian and Andrea Dawson and Saints assistant coach Brad Koch (far right).

Barber (2-for-4), Mikayla Rose (2-for-3, three RBIs), Kiersten Metz (3-for-4, four RBIs) and Alexis D'Alexander (2-for-3). Schmidt added a hit and RBI for Plymouth.

SALEM 6-13, S.L. EAST 5-6: The visiting Rocks took both ends Wednesday from South Lyon East.

Hailey Dechalk was the standout in Game 1 with a home run, double and four RBIs to

back winning pitcher Rae Campbell. Also getting into the extra-base parade for the Rocks were Jordan Hazel (triple, two doubles) and Caroline Miller (double).

Hazel continued her offensive assault in the second game, with four more hits and four RBIs. Morgan Overaitis helped the cause with a 3-for-4 showing, including a triple, double and five RBIs. Sophia Smock

(two singles), Miller (two singles, double) and Kristin Mihalic (double) chipped in.

PLYMOUTH 6, SOUTH LYON 4: On senior day Monday, Plymouth's Gina Barber, Kelly Gryniewicz, Mikayla Rose and Rachel Kristian all were honored and the Wildcats made the day even better with a victory.

Angela Schmidt pitched the distance for the win. Wildcats making an impact at the



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Running the bases during a 2016 game is Canton's Sydney Dawson.

plate included Jessica Tucci (double) and Whitney Holden (three RBIs).

SALEM INVITE: The Rocks won 13-4 over Ann Arbor Huron and 16-6 over Walled Lake Central during pool play of Sunday's Salem Invitational — delayed several days due to rain.

But the championship game against Dearborn Divine Child could not be played due to darkness and will be played at a later date.

Against Huron, Morgan Overaitis went 3-for-3 (including a home run), while Emily Stewart homered and had two singles.

Chipping in two hits each were Caroline

Miller, Rae Campbell and Hailey Dechalk. Salem's third homer was by Kristin Mihalic as the Rocks provided plenty of offense for starting and winning pitcher Campbell.

Against the Vikings, in the pool final, Salem kept the offense rolling with big games from Jordan Hazel (two singles, homer), Miller and Mihalic (double and single, each) and Campbell (two singles).

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

junior goalkeeper Sarah Hammond.

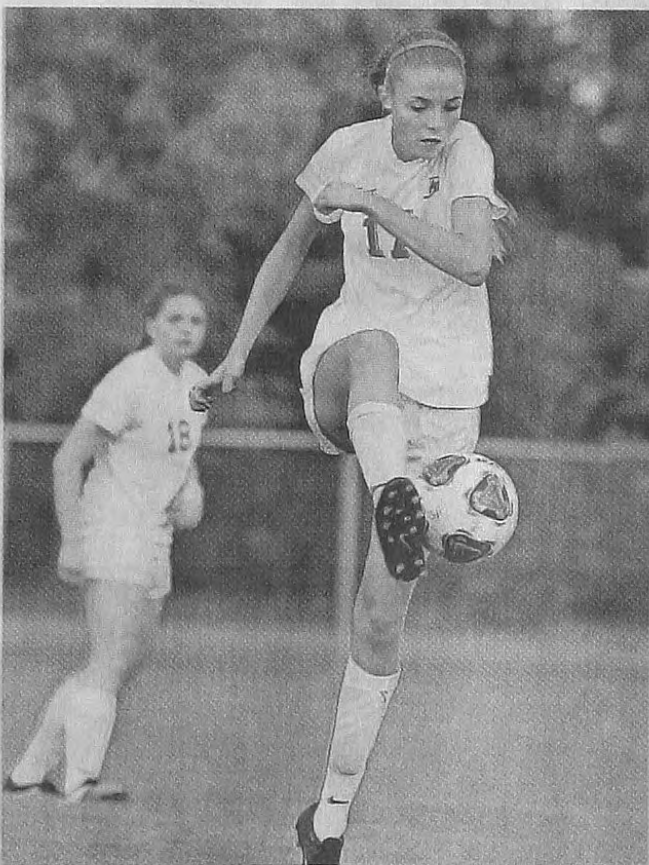
Defense first

By that time of the match, the Chiefs had used most of their bullets for the evening as they could not keep up with their opponent.

"Our defense was on-point today," White said. "We changed up our formation a little, we did a 4-5-1, so we tried to stay back a little bit and I think that helped a lot."

Concurring was veteran Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich, who noted that the team (now 12-1-1 and 7-1-0 in the division) heeded the message all week to pay attention to detail against the Chiefs (10-2-0, 7-1-0).

"Team defense is what we've been preaching this week," Neschich



Putting a foot into one Tuesday night against Plymouth is Canton's Raquel Church.

MICHAEL VASILNEK

said. "And we really needed to shut them down and did a great job of that."

"We gave them a few (chances) early, but I think we got a handle on what we needed to do defensively."

Canton head coach Jeannine Reddy lamented White's add-on goal, where she went around Hammond — who ranged far out of her area in an attempt to thwart the speedy Plymouth player — and tucked the ball into the empty net.

Yet Reddy conceded that the Chiefs just didn't quite get up to speed throughout the 80 minutes at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's varsity soccer stadium.

"I think we were just off a step everywhere, from our defense to our forwards," Reddy said. "We just got beat to the ball. ... in a Plymouth-Canton game, who comes to play, they win. That's

kind of how it was. We had a few chances here and there."

Plymouth goalkeeper Rebecca Przybylo wasn't tested often, but she did come up with a timely save with about 30 minutes left in the game.

Not their day

And less than four minutes later, the Wildcats went up, 2-0. Hailey Melnick took a free kick that bounced around the Canton goal line and Lindsay Badger chipped in the rebound.

With less than 20 minutes to go in the contest, the aggressive Hammond slid out to make a stop, but then rolled around in agony after taking a cleat to the knee. After the game, she was wearing an ice pack to help keep down any swelling.

"Against a team like this, where they're all fast, if you hang back on your line, they're going

to beat you every time," Hammond said. "They always come out. It's always a good game between the two of us."

"Just wasn't our day today, but hopefully we'll play them again in districts."

Although the Wildcats were pretty fired up about the victory, freshman midfielder Elle McCaslin stressed that the team won't waste any time getting back to business with games later in the week against Livonia Churchill and Brighton, respectively.

"It feels good. We've worked this whole season (for) something like this," McCaslin said. "We just work every day to get better. The motto is to stay classy, so stay proud that we beat them, but we got to finish the rest of the week."

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WALL

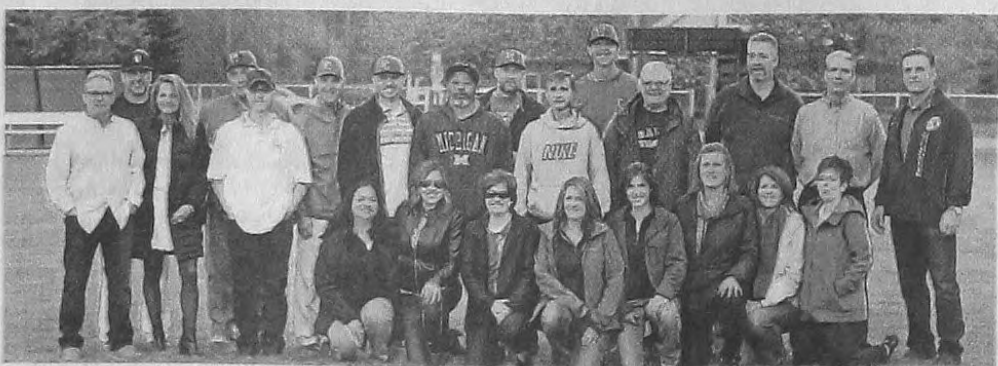
Continued from Page B1

two-sport dynamo Jeff Gold.

During his Salem career, Gold was Mr. Soccer, setting school season and career records in several categories. He had 30 goals in one season and 46 for his career.

But Gold also was a stellar basketball player, establishing a school mark for steals (99) during the 1989-90 season.

"Jeff Gold was one of the best and most competitive guards in the history of Salem basketball," longtime Rocks head basketball coach Bob Brodie said, in the induction ceremony pro-



Members of the third class of the Salem Wall of Champions were honored during the April 28 girls soccer game between Salem and Plymouth. Also on hand were family members of the inductees.

SALEM ATHLETICS

gram. "The intensity in which he competed in both soccer and basketball was remarkable, which led to his success in both sports."

Wendy and Chris Gilles both were all-state

tennis players who went on to excel at Wisconsin.

"Salem has never had more dominant tennis players (than the Gilles sisters) in singles or doubles, either female or male," Allie Suffety said

in the program. The 6-foot-7 Davey, from Garden City, was a key member of the 1991 baseball champs who currently is Salem's pitching coach. He pitched four seasons in

the majors, with Toronto, Seattle and San Diego.

"Tom Davey as a high school pitcher was one of the most imposing sights you would ever see on the mound," said Mark LaPointe, former Canton baseball coach. "If we knew we were going to face Tommy, we knew it was going to be a long afternoon."

Niemiec, another baseball state champion, was an all-around standout for the Rocks (.371 average his senior year) who went on to garner a baseball scholarship at the University of Michigan.

Niemiec is an assistant coach for the Plymouth baseball team.

The Wall of Champions, launched in 2016 by

Salem athletic department staff members Brian Samulski and Anna Britnell, is designed to honor student-athletes, coaches, administrators and teams "who have made a positive impact on the local community, earned success on and off the field and who serve as role models for today's student-athletes."

Britnell stressed that "the backbone" of the spring ceremony — which began with celebrations of the inductees at Salem baseball and soccer games April 28 — were 20 student-athlete leaders from SOSA (The Student Organization of Salem Athletics).

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PREP BASEBALL

Chiefs in KLAA South Division driver's seat

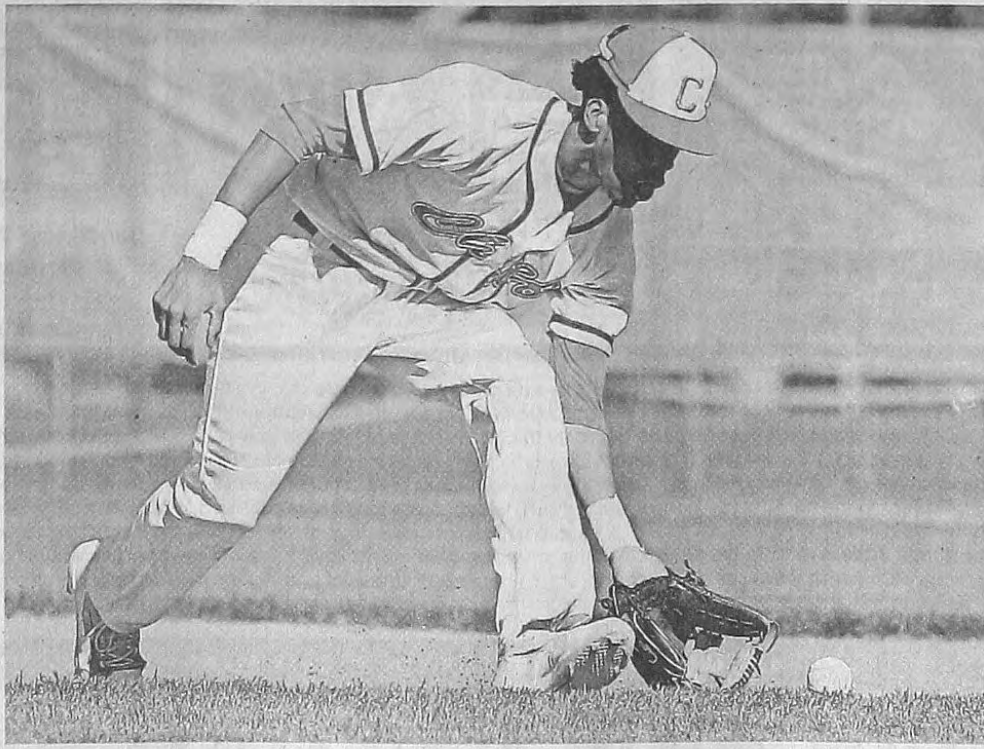
Stevenson splits twinbill with Northville to lose chance at KLAA Central title

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Picking up Tuesday where they left April 19, when their game was halted due to darkness, the Canton Chiefs and Plymouth Wildcats looked to finish the game and decide — for all intents and purposes — crown the KLAA South Division champion.

Canton managed to score in the top of the 10th and Seth Marano wiggled out of a jam in the bottom half as the Chiefs prevailed, 3-2.

Jake Dattilio and Justin Dolney opened the decisive inning by getting on via errors and Lou Baechler followed with a hit to load the bases. A missed squeeze



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Shown during Monday's win over Salem, Canton second baseman A.J. Brazelton helped his team edge Plymouth in 10 innings.

bunt resulted in Dattilio being picked off third, but Aaron Dolney ripped

a two-strike single to right to score Justin Dolney from second.

In Plymouth's 10th, back-to-back singles by Zach Beadle and Nik

Patel and a walk to Evan Good loaded the bases with two outs. But Marano got the game-ending strikeout.

STEVENSON 3-0, NORTHVILLE 1-7: In a Wednesday doubleheader between top teams in the KLAA Central Division, each came away with a victory.

With their win in the nightcap, the Mustangs clinched the division title. The Spartans won the opener with a three-run surge in the sixth, with a two-run hit by Dan Bos keying the uprising.

Brandon Posky was the winning pitcher, going five innings and striking out eight. Earning the save with two perfect innings of relief was George Ferguson.

But host Northville responded in Game 2, scoring two runs in each of the first two innings and going on from there.

Ben Schmidt limited the Spartans to five hits, one each by Chris Tanderis, Ferguson, Bos, Danny Morris and Nick Olsen.

Stevenson's record dropped to 22-5 overall and 12-4 in the KLAA Central.

Northville improved to 16-5 and 13-3.

FRANKLIN 6-3, PLYMOUTH 0-8: In a KLAA South Division doubleheader Wednesday, the host Patriots prevailed in the opener behind a complete-game effort from senior pitcher Kolby Dewhirst (who threw a five-hitter with four strikeouts).

Franklin took an early 2-0 lead in the second on an RBI double by Colin Metzler, who went 2-for-3 and drove in two runs.

Other Patriots with an RBI were Johnny DiPonio (1-for-2), Harrison Merrill (1-for-3), Kyle Wollam (1-for-4) and Ryan Celmier.

For Plymouth, Evan Good collected two hits in four at-bats.

Game 2 went to the Wildcats, thanks to a seven-run fourth inning that put them up to stay.

Chase Every was one of several Plymouth players who swung big bats. He went

3-for-4, scored a run and drove in two. Also with multiple hits for the Wildcats were McKenzie Marco (2-for-4, run, three RBIs, two doubles), Good (2-for-4), Zach Beadle (2-for-2) and Michael Wischer (2-for-4).

Earning the win for Plymouth was starter Kai St. Germaine, who pitched into the fifth, giving up all Franklin runs. Finishing up with 2 2/3 innings of one-hit relief was Michael Harber.

Franklin's offense was keyed by Wollam, who went 4-for-4 and scored twice.

Celmier went 1-for-2 and drove in two runs while Ben Ralsch went 2-for-3 with an RBI.

LUTH. WESTLAND 13, HURON VALLEY 3 (5 INNINGS): Kory Barikmo went 2-for-2, including a homer, and scored three runs to pace the Warriors to a mercy-rule win over Huron Valley Lutheran.

Jeremy Orme (2-for-3) doubled and homered and drove in three, while Grant Ingersole and Ben Brown both went 1-for-2.

Evan Zagata was the winning pitcher.

"We did a good job of hitting today for the most part," Warriors coach Kevin Wade said. "We were able to take advantage of some of their mistakes and that led to an increase in the lead early on."

LUTH. WESTLAND 15-12, INTER-CITY BAPTIST 4-1 (5 INNINGS): Kevin Wade won his 200th game as head coach as Lutheran Westland mercied Allen Park Inter-City Baptist in both games of a twinbill Monday.

There were many contributors to the wins. In the opener, Evan Zagata went 3-for-4 and drove in three. Drake Snyder went 2-for-3, with three runs and three RBIs. Grant Ingersole had a 2-for-2 game.

Game 2 continued the hot hitting, with Kory Barikmo (2-for-4, three runs), Andy Faith (2-for-4, two runs, two RBIs), Jeremy Orme (2-for-2, three-run homer, five RBIs), Ingersole (2-for-4, three RBIs) and Luke Konkel (2-for-3) helping the cause.

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PREP ROUNDUP

Stevenson girls tennis squad captures city championship

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

After splitting singles flights Tuesday against Livonia Churchill, it was time to double down — literally — if Livonia Stevenson wanted to capture the city girls tennis championship.

The Spartans did just that, taking all five doubles matchups, to prevail 7-2 and win the coveted city title for a fifth consecutive season. Recently, Stevenson also defeated Livonia Franklin.

"The girls are very excited to win our fifth in a row," Stevenson coach Don McEachney said. "This is a direct effect of our girls working hard in the off-season to improve their games."

"Our seniors have set forth a great example of dedication and hard work for our younger players

to emulate."

Those veteran players had their say against the pesky Chargers.

Stevenson seniors Noelle Hillert and Jill Weiland dropped the 1 and 2 singles contests (6-1, 6-2; 6-1, 6-0, respectively) to Churchill's Kaitlyn Rogosch and Allison McConnell.

But Molly Cormier came through at 3 singles with a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Mya Grant and Natalie Hay followed at 4 with a 6-0, 6-1 win over Mary Jiang.

Seniors Allison Malkowski and Julia Seychel each had a role in Stevenson's wins at 1 and 2 doubles.

Malkowski and junior Natalia Roznowski won 6-0, 6-0 at 1 doubles while Seychel and junior Kayla Parker prevailed 6-1, 6-1 at 2 doubles.

Stevenson's Shannon

Ward-Jillian Cormier won at 3 doubles, with sophomores Mackenzie Wilson-Jessica Hinkle and Mackenzie Pisko-Alyssa Engle took care of the matchups at 4 and 5 doubles, respectively.

McEachney said the city title is something to be proud of because Churchill and Franklin "great programs so its an honor to be able to compete against such fine coaches and their great kids. There's a great deal of respect between these three programs. Which is nice to see in a rivalry situation."

SALEM PREVAILS: The Salem varsity girls tennis team defeated Walled Lake Western and Canton by identical 8-1 scores on Monday and Tuesday, respectively.

Against the campus rival Chiefs, the Rocks were lifted by victorious matches from Lizzy Lu, Bianca Ghita, Corina Ghita, Oya Venkat, Raegan Henderson, Emilee The, Trina Pal, Sarah Martin, Aria Mason, Neha Narayan, Charlotte Barterian, Megan Trulock, Rachel Zhou and Sharon Chen.

Boys golf

PLYMOUTH 153, CANTON 174: On Tuesday at par 35 Fox Hills Classic, the Wildcats remained undefeated in the KLAA. Leading the way for Plymouth was match medalist Justin Kapke, who shot a 36. Other Wildcat finishers included Joe Fontana (37), Matt Decker (39), Jack Boczar (41), Timmy Baldwin (46) and Ian Smith (49).

For Canton, Paul Maurer shot a 39 with Suhass Potluri registering a 41. Other Chief finishers included Curt Yun and Ryan Witzak (47 each), Dominic Dimaya (48) and Quinn Yun (53).

SALEM 156, S.L. EAST 176: The Rocks improved to 2-2 in the KLAA with Tuesday's win over South Lyon East at par 35 Fox Hills.

Senior Shawn Weldon was match medalist with a 35. Other Salem scorers included Bryce Henderson (38), Jack McCarthy (41), Matt Schaumburger (42), Josh German (45) and Robbie Hermes (46).

WYNGATE INVITE: Plymouth finished sixth at the Wyngate Country Club invitational held Monday in Rochester.

Freshman Ian Smith shot 79 to lead the Wildcats, with other finishers including junior Timmy Baldwin (80), freshman Josh Wein (85) and senior Joe Fontana (86).

Girls lacrosse

WEST BLOOMFIELD 17, PLYMOUTH 12: Michelle Cirino scored seven goals, but they weren't enough against the Lakers. Chipping in with two goals was Madeleine Caswell while Jillian Koviak, Kari Schoen and Ava Eilola each had a goal.

SOUTH LYON 8, PLYMOUTH 4: Despite two goals and an assist from Michelle Cirino and two goals by Madeleine Caswell, the Lady Wildcats fell short in this

Monday contest.

Girls track and field

PLYMOUTH 98, FRANKLIN 39: Plymouth finished their KLAA South schedule with Tuesday's win over host Livonia Franklin.

Winning for the Wildcats (4-1) were Paige Sanders (100 dash, long jump), Allison Range (100 hurdles), Reghan Draper (400 dash), Kayla Dudek (300 hurdles), Ana White (800 run), Faith Washington (200 dash), Annie Bonds (two-mile run), Kennedy Chastang (high jump) and Natalie Janke (pole vault).

Plymouth also took two relays. The quartet of Annie Bonds, Izzy Tiplady, Emily Britton and White won the 4-by-800 relay while Erin Bradley, Sanders, Reghan Draper and Ryan Draper took first in the 4-by-100 relay.

Victorious for Franklin were Alexis Browning (shot put, 32-1; discus, 100-5) and Erin Seibert (1,600 run, 5:27.62).

The Patriots also won the mile relay, with Emily Esker, Mikaela Hille, Hannah Strasser and Cierra Echebelem turning in a time of 4:19.41.

"We may not have won this meet, but we had some breakthrough performances that I am super proud of," Franklin coach Megan Wilson said. "Alexis Browning had a huge throwing performance today, Brooke Geitzen and Cierra Echebelem both dropped about a second each off their times and our 4-by-8 took 30 seconds off (for) their best time this year."

LADYWOOD FALLS: Ally Hill, Maddie Bastin and Kelly Solak each won a pair of events Wednesday, but it wasn't enough as host Livonia Ladywood (0-4) fell to Birmingham Marian (2-2) in Catholic League Central Division girls track meet.

Hill earned firsts in the long jump (15 feet, 8.25 inches) and 400-meter run (1:02.1), while Bastin swept the 100- and 300 hurdles in 18.01 and 51.3, respectively. Solak added wins in the shot put (30-4) and discus (85-8).

Other winners for the Blazers included Sarah Fracala in the 200 (29.66) and Sam Horn in the 3,200 (13:44.28).

"We had lots of season record times," Ladywood coach John Dunn said. "We continue to show consistent improvement."

Boys track and field

CHURCHILL 82, CANTON 52: On Tuesday at Livonia Churchill, the Chargers prevailed to earn the KLAA South Division championship.

Canton firsts were recorded by Andrew Koenigsnecht (pole vault, 14-0), James Deese (shot put, 41-5.75), Jemal Vaunado (110 hurdles, 15.85; 300 hurdles, 42.18), Steven Walker (100 dash, 11.87) and Dirk Thornhill in the 400 dash with a career best time of 49.07 leading a sweep in the event.

Thornhill was followed by Caleb Moraw (second with a career best 49.92) and Srikar Komanduri (third with a personal best 50.47).

For Churchill, wins were collected by Niguel Smith (200 dash, 23.07), Dash Dobar (800 run, 2:02.35; 1,600 run, 4:34.42), Tyler Opdycke (3,200 run, 9:49.07), Evan Cummings (discus 126-1; high jump, 6-0 and long jump, 20-8.5).

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BASEBALL TRIBUTE

The place Chinavare loved will forever bear his name

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

The memory of Tom Chinavare is permanently honored at Livonia Franklin's baseball field with the press box named in his honor.

Following the opening game May 6 of the Livonia City Baseball Tournament, all four participating teams gathered on the diamond with his family to toast the new Tom Chinavare Press Box.

But press box partner Jim Hopson and others who knew Chinavare insisted the man himself would have shrugged off all the attention.

"He would be thrilled," Hopson said. "I'm sure he wouldn't make a big deal, he would be humble, he'd think 'Oh I don't deserve this, what are you guys doing?'"

"But he worked hard, he never really bragged about what he did or didn't do, he was just always here."

The two-day rains that soaked Alumni Field required Patriots head coach Matt Fournier and others put in extra work just to get the facility in playing shape for the tourney — which included Franklin, ultimate champion Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Churchill and Livonia Clarenceville.

Had Chinavare not succumbed last Novem-



WENDY DEWHIRST

The memory of Tom Chinavare was honored during the Livonia Baseball City Championship at Livonia Franklin. Holding a plaque that later was installed on the press box at Alumni Field are Tom's widow Sue Chinavare (front left) and daughter Kathryn Chinavare. Standing (from left) are sons Joe and Jack Chinavare.

ber to complications from leukemia, just 52 years old, there is no doubt where he would have been in the early morning hours May 6.

"He'd come strange hours and help Matt rake

the field," said Hopson, looking at the plaque that now is affixed outside the press box. It was donated by the families of Hopson, Fournier and Bill Binkiewicz, another of Chinavare's Franklin

press box pals.

Chinavare's widow, Sue, was at Alumni Field for the ceremony. Also there were the couple's children, Kathryn, Jack and Joe.

"It was great to have

"He would be thrilled. I'm sure he wouldn't make a big deal, he would be humble, he'd think 'Oh I don't deserve this, what are you guys doing?'"

JIM HOPSON

the family here and it was great to have all four teams show their support," said Fournier, following the tourney. "He was somebody that didn't just help our program or our school. He was big throughout the city of Livonia in terms of, every one of these teams had kids that he had either coached or directed."

In addition to working the press box at Franklin for eight seasons, Chinavare was a director of Livonia Junior Athletic League for a number of years. He also worked the scorer's table for Livonia Franklin's basketball teams.

Fun debates

Hopson said the press box was a fun place to hang out with Chinavare and Binkiewicz. Their sons (Nick and Jay Hopson, Jack and Joe Chinavare) played for the Patriots during an eight-year run.

"We had eight years of Franklin baseball, so we had a lot of hours in that booth keeping score," Jim Hopson noted. "... I did the actual (score-keeping) and Tom did the announcing."

"We would just get into these debates about the (scorekeeping), over and over, was it a hit or an error? It wouldn't end there, it would go into the night."

"We're texting each other, Googling portions of the baseball scorebooks. We always did come to some consensus, but it was always fun in there."

Clarenceville baseball coach Craig Cotter said the city tournament and Chinavare ceremony underscore baseball's importance in the community.

"It means a lot to the area," Cotter said. "And for all the Livonia schools to get together and honor him is a great thing to do because it's very well deserved."

"Playing in a tournament like this is a little bit more about winning and losing, it's a little bit more about camaraderie and the community — which is what I really like."

"I like to win, but hey, you got to put the community first in something like this."

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How soft skills can set you apart

BY SARAH SIPEK
 CAREERBUILDER

It's true that technical skills — or hard skills — are essential qualifications for a job, but they're not the full story. Contrary to technical skills that focus on what you know, soft skills focus on how you interact with others. They are loosely defined as transferable skills, interpersonal skills or social skills. They are often multifaceted, but at the end of the day they build relationships — and in business, relationships are key to success. Here are a few soft skills employers identify as most important — and most likely to get you ahead at your job.

Communication

It may seem overstated, but the ability to communicate with colleagues sets you apart in the workplace, says Karen Russo, president of K. Russo Consulting. "Companies are not looking for 'yes' people," says Russo. "But they are looking for people who can make things happen that usually take a team, not just one person."

Communicating is about more than just being personable and outgoing. It's about bringing up the right points at the right time. It is the end result of many other soft skills — most important of which is critical observation. "Objectivity and divergent thinking — along with good communication — is what will allow you to stand out from the crowd in a good way," says Russo.

Ability to handle criticism

Giving and receiving criticism in a helpful, ego-less way sets you apart,



GETTY IMAGES

says Leslie Garr, a certified professional resume writer. You are not always going to perform perfectly. In order to grow within an organization, you need to have the ability to hold an open and honest dialogue about your strengths and weaknesses.

"Being able to self-reflect and grow as a professional through constructive criticism is a great way to impress any employer," says Garr. And when you're receiving criticism, body language is key. Refrain from crossing your arms or slumping your shoulders, says Garr. Avoid accidental eye rolls as well. These behaviors imply you are not a willing participant in the professional development process.

Attention to detail

Accomplishments are great, but soft skills are how those accomplishments come to fruition, says Jessica

Holbrook Hernandez, an executive resume writer and president and CEO of Great Resumes Fast.

For example, when adding bullet points to your resume, go beyond the "what" and explain the "how." If you recovered \$1 million in lost revenue, don't assume the number alone will distinguish your efforts. Hernandez suggests you write: "Recovered \$1 million in lost revenue through attention to detail and meticulous review of 750 client accounts," to highlight the soft skills you used to accomplish that goal.

"As an employer, I can tell you that the employees I consider first when a promotion opportunity presents itself are those who are attentive to detail, take initiative to solve problems and are committed and invested into the success of the clients we work with and the company," she says.

Positive attitude

When disaster strikes, people who radiate positive energy and search for solutions rather than dwell on the technical details of the problem come out ahead when the problem is solved, says Valerie Streif, a senior adviser with thementat.com, a San Francisco-based staffing agency. "People who lack this soft skill tend to overanalyze all the reasons why something bad happened, rather than moving forward and doing everything that they can to mitigate and get things back up and running smoothly," says Streif.

Issues will always arise at work, but the ability to handle them with grace and composure shows your boss you have leadership potential.

Time management

It seems cliché, but the ability to divide your time and complete projects on-time is an in-demand skill among employers. Not only will meeting deadlines help your company achieve its goals, it will also set you apart as reliable, says Jan Yager, sociologist and author. People who have a strong understanding of what needs to get done and how long it will take to complete often excel at securing raises and promotions because they demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the company's mission and work to fulfill it, says Streif.

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

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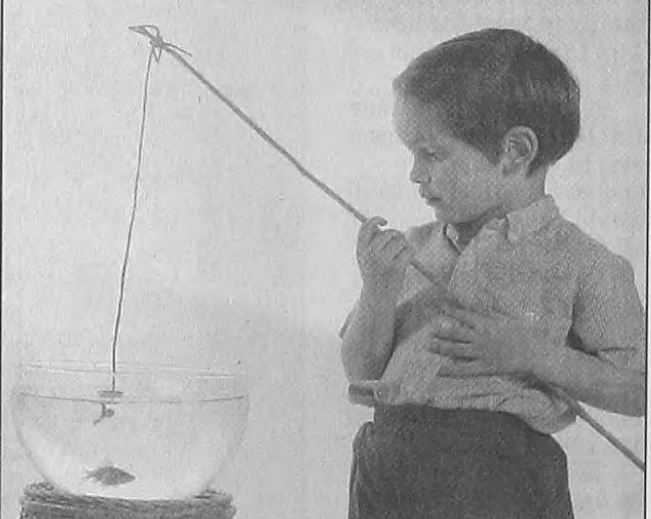
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Garage Sales
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Garage-Tag Sale

CANTON - BRIDGEMONT PARK SUBDIVISION Thurs-Sat May 18-20; 9am-4pm Center Rd & Warren 6824 Bridgemont Dr. 734-453-1496

CANTON- CARRIAGE HILLS Subwide Garage Sale, 43750 Hanford, May 18, 19 & 20, 8am-5pm Antiques, furn, childrens

CANTON: Huge Garage Sale! 8258 Forrest Dr, Thurs 5/18, Fri 5/19 & Sat 5/20, 9am-5pm, Holiday Park Sub, South of Joy Rd, East of I-75.

Canton, Michigan, 48187 Dir: Sunflower Sub, Thursday (5/18) through Saturday (5/20), 9am - 7 West of Canton Center and North and South of Warren. Look for signs and yellow balloons.

CANTON: MOVING SALE: Furniture, antiques, small appliances, clothes, jewelry 14 Normman Rockwell Christmas plates, May 20-21, 41280 Cherry Hill, E/Haggerty.

CANTON MULTI-SUBS Oakvale, Stonegate, Cherryhill Orchards, N. of Palmer, E. & W. of Lilley, S. of Cherryhill, May 18th-21st 9am-5pm, look for signs. Hundreds of Homes!

Canton Pebble Creek Condo Subwide Sale Thurs, 5/18-Sat, 5/20 9am-5pm off Palmer Rd. btwn Hannan & Lotz

Garage-Tag Sale

CANTON PINWOOD SUB SALE May 18-20, 9-4pm E. of Beck, S. of Cherry Hill. Come for great stuff!

Community-wide garage sale Highland Lakes Condominium Complex on Silver Spring Drive, Northville btw, 7 & 8 mi Sat, 5/20 9-3pm

DEARBORN HTS. - Crestwood Estates Mobile Home Summer Garage Sale! Something for everyone. May 18-20, 9a-5p, 26235 W. Warren, Near corner of Beech Daly & Warren.

Farmington Chatham Hills Sub Sale, May 18-20th, 9am-5pm, S/Grand River & W/Drake.

Farmington Hills - 31774 TRESTAIN May 18, 19, 20 9-5pm (So of Eleven Mile Rd, W of Orchard Lake) 70 yrs of stuff. Old radios & parts.

GARDEN CITY - Multi-Family Thurs-Sun, (18-21) 9-7p. lots of misc & HH, Dune buggy, 32259 SHERIDAN

HIGHLAND - 2624 Foxgrove 5/18-5/21 Starting at 9:00AM; Subdivision Sale! Furniture, H/H items, crafts, toys, clothes, kitchen items, tools & more!

Livonia, 33115 Lyndon St, 5/18-5/20 9-5. Mon-Cove Tools, Building Supplies, Everything must go!

MAY 12 & 13, 9-4pm, Dunbarton Pines Sub-wide Sale. Corner of 9 Mile and Taff Road. 45335 Dunbarton Drive, Novi

MILFORD, 145 OUR LAND LANE, Fri-Sat (5-12-13) 9a-4p. HH items, power tools, furn, kitchenware, ect!

RUMMAGE SALE
NORTHVILLE, 20440 Haggerty Road, Michigan, 48167 May 18-20 Thur: 9 AM - 4 PM, Fri: 9 AM - 4 PM, Sat: 9 AM - 4 PM, Fundraiser for Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue. Indoors. Furniture, home goods, sports equip, collectibles, Dir: So of 8 Mi, next to Aubree's Pizza, across from Meijers.

NORTHVILLE - Connemara Hills Sub Sale, 5/18-5/20, 9:00a-4:00p, SE of 9 Mile and Taff and W of Center.

GARAGE SALE
Northville, Garage Sale, 18958 Bella Vista Ct, Michigan, 48168 Thur: 9-2, Fri: 9 AM - 4 PM, Sat: 9 AM - 4 PM, Fundraiser for Waggin' Tails Dog Rescue. Indoors. Furniture, home goods, sports equip, collectibles, Dir: So of 8 Mi, next to Aubree's Pizza, across from Meijers.

Northville Huge Huge Yard Sale 118 Linden, downtown. May 18-21, 9-6

Novi, Garage, 22229 Worcester Dr., Michigan, 48374 Thur: 9:00-3:00, Fri: 9:00-3:00, Sat: 9:00-3:00, Dir: Bradford sub, south of Nine Mile Rd, between Taff and Beck Rds.

Novi Sub Garage Sales, 9 Mile & Center St, 5/18-5/21 Thur-Sun: 9-4, FREE items avail

Get results. Advertise in CLASSIFIEDS!

Garage-Tag Sale

2 DAYS ONLY
NOVI SUB SALES - Chase Farms & Riverbridge - 5/19 & 5/20, 9-4 - East of Novi Rd & West of Meadowbrook - Enter both Subs from 8 or 9 Mile (Chase Dr) or from 9 Mile (Roethel)

Multi-Family YARD SALE
PLYMOUTH TWP, Lake Pointe Garage Sale, Thu 5/18, Fri 5/19, Sat 5/20. Over 800 homes in this subdivision, and this is our annual garage sale. Lake Pointe is located in Plymouth Township, and is bounded by 5 Mile Road to the North, Haggerty Road to the east, Bradner Road to the west, and Wilcox Road to the south.

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MOVING SALE
WESTLAND, 7461 Cochise St, Fri 5/19 & Sat 5/20, 9am-6pm. Furn, tools, hh goods, & clothes.

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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Wave with a foamy crest
9 Bugs' feelers
14 Force to be accepted
20 Waikiki site
21 Ethiopia's - Selassie
22 Of the skin
23 "The King and I" heroine who's a real angel?
25 Plural ending for bed and home
26 "P" element
27 Roulette turn
28 Physique, informally
30 Start of a counting-out rhyme
31 Md. hours
32 Flower used in rituals?
37 Minimalist artist Frank
39 Reese of song and screen
40 Litigious sorts
41 Courtroom excuse
43 A, in Amiens
45 -Magnon
46 "I've got it!"
49 Benefactor contributing supplies for a bowman?
54 Different acquired relative?
57 - Grande City, Texas
58 Contents of la mer
59 Like fairly high-quality bonds
61 Form images
62 At the stern
64 Penniless
66 Sports org. for the Flock
68 See 2-Down
69 Be a sign of
70 One talking to the very first man?
73 Author Janowitz
75 Waco-lo- Austin dir.
76 Q-U string
77 Went off course
78 "Yeesh!"
79 "La -" (Puccini opera)
81 Region in central Italy
84 Young miss
86 Abet, e.g.
87 Atlanta university student's little slip-up?
89 Nothing except glowing coals?
92 Morning glistener
93 Dusk - dawn
94 Hornets' org.
96 Glacial ridge
97 Sauna output
99 Shark's place
102 Charge with an offense
106 Curved entryway under which Antarctic birds pass?
111 Unit of conductance now called a siemens
112 Pot fragment
113 Unit of work
114 Tallies
115 "Peek -!"
116 Neighbor of an Iraq
118 Unable to afford any more dental visits?
123 Seyfried of "Big Love"
124 Eldritch
125 Virtual vendors
126 Abhor
127 Turn a car
128 Short-term
DOWN
1 Belugas, e.g.
2 With 68-Across, Lincoln's nickname
3 Like instincts
4 Frog kin
5 Pixieish sort
6 Inferior mutt
7 "It's - cause!"
8 Like mechanically delivered well water, say
9 Antiseptic compound
10 Tow-offering gp.
11 Ullmann of Hollywood
12 USMA
13 "freshman actor Ethan
14 Madrid men
15 Cardinals check them
16 Potential shooting star
17 Pretties
18 Neighbor of a Yemeni
19 "It's nobody - business"
24 Engage
29 Low card
32 Entirely wrong
33 "You - mouthful!"
34 Winter illness
35 Lake craft
36 More cheery
38 Language akin to Thai
42 Leaps
44 Approx. takeoff info
46 Cotton State native
47 Nastigrams
48 Stupefaction
49 116-Across, for one
50 Cytoplasm particle
51 Musical on tour, e.g.
52 Utah city near Provo
53 Absorbed-dose units
55 "Bohoo!" actor Ethan
56 Below, to bards
60 Blood classifier
63 Not as many
65 Really enjoy
67 Shims, e.g.
70 "What -!" ("Whew!")
71 Lake north of Sandusky
72 Film director
74 Warhol of art
78 TV twins
79 Ashley and Mary-Kate
80 1987-90 NBC sitcom
82 Popular Web portal
83 Jazz genre
85 Alan of film
88 Off to - start (behind)
90 Stupefied
91 City reg.
95 A 29-Down may beat it
97 Holy spot
98 Sharp pangs
100 Playwright Eve
101 " - walks into ..."
103 Infused (with)
104 Writer
105 Foot, cutesily
106 116-Across president
107 Rapper's skill
108 Gem unit
109 Marsh wader
110 "Space - premium"
115 Folkie Woody's son
117 D.C. player, for short
119 Equal
120 Be situated
121 "No" voter
122 First-aid collection

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
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116									117						118	119	120				121	122
123															124							125
126															127							128

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

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

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

WORDS

COMMENCEMENT DAY WORD SEARCH

ACADEMIC
ADVANCEMENT
ALUMNI
AUDITORIUM
CAMPUS
CANDIDATE
CAP
COLLEGE
COMMENCEMENT
COURSE
CREDITS
DEGREE
DIPLOMA
DRESS
EXAMS
FINAL
FOLDER
GOWN
GRADES
GRADUATE
GUESTS
HONORS
MORTARBOARD
PERFORMANCE
PROCESSION
PROFESSOR
RESIDENCY
SCHOOL
SENIOR
STAGE
TASSEL
TEACHER
UNIVERSITY
WALKING

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

Crossword Answers

WHITECAP PALPS IMPOSE
HONOLULU HAILE DERMAL
ANNAFROMHEAVEN STEADS
LEAD SPIN BOD EENIE
EST ASTEROF CEREMONIES
STELLA DELLA SUERS
ALIBI UNE CRO AHA
ARROWDONOR OTHERINLAW
RIO EAU RATED AIDEATE
ABAF WEEDY WEALE
BODE ADAMSPEAKER TAMA
SSWRST ERRED OHMAN
BOHEME UMBRIA GAL ATD
EMORYLAPSE EMBERONLY
DEW TIL NBA ESKER
SWEAT OCEAN INDICT
ARCHOFTHE PENGUINS MHO
SHARD ERG SUMS ABOO
SYRIAN BRALLEYBANKRUPT
AMANDA BRALLEYBANKRUPT
DETEST STEER DAYTODAY

Word Search

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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4	0	3.25	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0
Lenderful.com	1326443	lenderful.com	4	0	3.25	0
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.5	0
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Car Report

MERCEDES-BENZ CEO SAYS U.S. SUCCESS IS DUE TO ITS LEAD IN LUXURY SUVs - AND TO RELATIONSHIPS WITH ITS DEALERS



By Dale Buss

Mercedes-Benz blitzed BMW in the US market last year and blasted past its rival to claim the overall luxury-auto sales crown for 2016. Much of that was due to the brand's growing offerings in the hot SUV part of the market, where BMW's cupboard isn't as stocked.

And this year, while he can't promise that Mercedes will hold on to that title, Dietmar Exler, chief of Mercedes-Benz USA, does expect another record year for sales in the American market.

"We had a very good 2016, but 2017 starts us all over again," Exler told me.

In that regard, Dieter Zetsche, Exler's boss as CEO of Mercedes-Benz parent Daimler, based in Germany, has declared the brand's intention not only to become a leader in the rapidly jelling electric-vehicle market but also in the self-driving technologies that will determine much of the future of the automobile.

Yet Zetsche must be careful not to sacrifice the brand's growing chops as a provider of hiply styled performance vehicles, not just staid and sumptuous transport.

I talked with Exler about helming the U.S. operations of a brand on the rise in the U.S. and around the world:

Q: Congratulations on your US success recently. How do you build on it? Can you sustain it?

Dietmar Exler: What it does kind of mean -- and we always ask how important it is -- it that it isn't important from the pure fact of being



Mercedes-Benz GLC is eating up sales.

No. 1 but as an indication of the success of our product lineup and focus on customer experience and processes that we've employed together with dealers. We focus on the right things and what we do resonates with the customers.

We still have the youngest, freshest product lineup in the industry. Look at our SUVs: We have the freshest SUV lineup. The same is true with passenger cars. In New York [at the recent auto show] we showed in sneak preview, and at the Shanghai auto show, the new S-Class sedan, the flagship of the industry. We will continue also to focus on the customer experience and how can we provide the best experience with customers and our dealers.

Q: What have been the implications for Mercedes-Benz of the huge shift to SUVs and crossovers from sedans? Sedans were a historical strength for you.

Exler: We have an advantage in

SUVs as well as sedans. Our design is cutting-edge. It'll certainly resonate with customers extremely well. I don't know where it will end up, sedans vs. SUVs, in luxury. This is very strong in the mass market, and in luxury there is a trend toward SUVs as well.

We're celebrating 20 years of SUVs. It's pretty much a success story. No one was really sure back then how this would turn out but it turned out to be huge success story, and now our GLE is shaping the segment. Back then it was called M-Class. We're strong in SUVs as well as sedans and very strong in our whole lineup and working extremely hard on production to meet shifting customer demand.

Q: What have been the key strategic considerations that have allowed you to achieve this position over your rivals, especially BMW?

Exler: Our product lineup is fantastic. And we continue to focus on the customer experience. We're

working very closely with our dealers. For example, we had our executives all spend a week in a dealership to make sure we understand each other as well as possible. These relationships are extremely good; they're not just hugging and kissing and loving. Dealers are good at seeing opportunities on the table. In my mind the most important thing is that both sides feel comfortable behind closed doors and challenge each other constructively.

We have a tremendous advantage in a way with 390 dealerships, or just a few less, in the US. And many are owned by the same dealer principals; we have an owner count in the low 200s. So as the number of partners we have is fairly limited, we can talk to each other and know each other and understand each other and build this relationship that allows us to jointly thrive going forward.

Q: Every luxury brand wants to improve the buying and using experience. So how do you actually make a competitive differentiator out of that for Mercedes-Benz?

Exler: We have a more digital presence for customers, and we have to understand, most importantly, our customers. No one customer is a proxy for all customers ... We need to make sure we're ready to serve the customer however they want it.



The newly redesigned S-Class will be an even more worthy flagship for Mercedes-Benz

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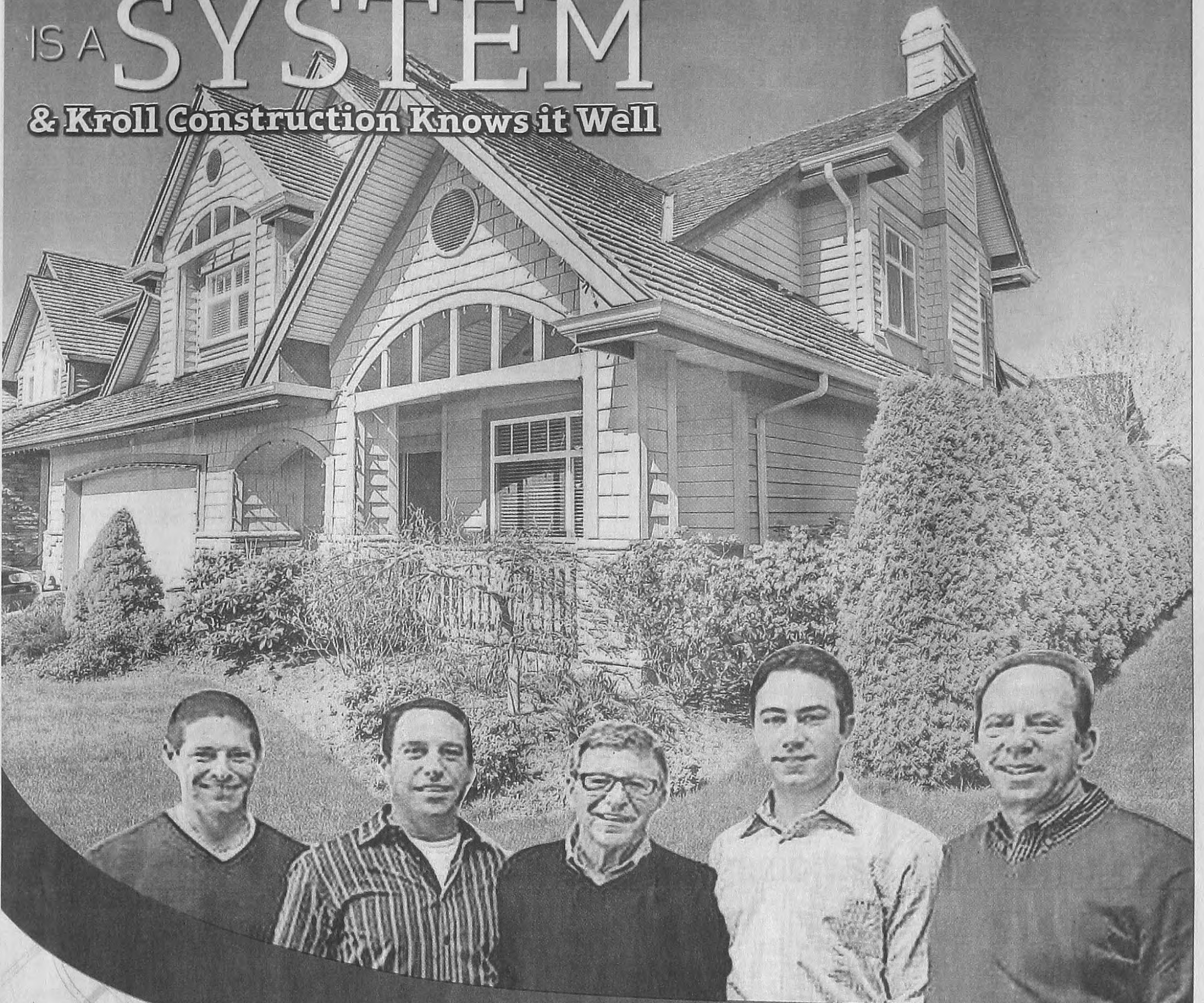
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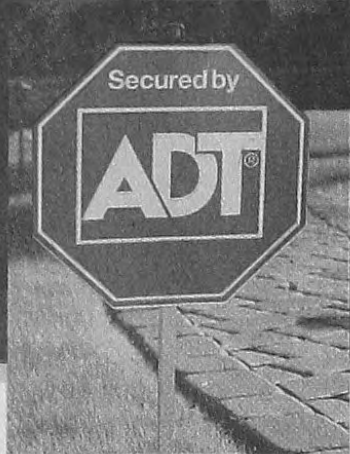
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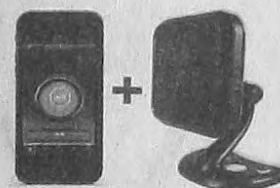
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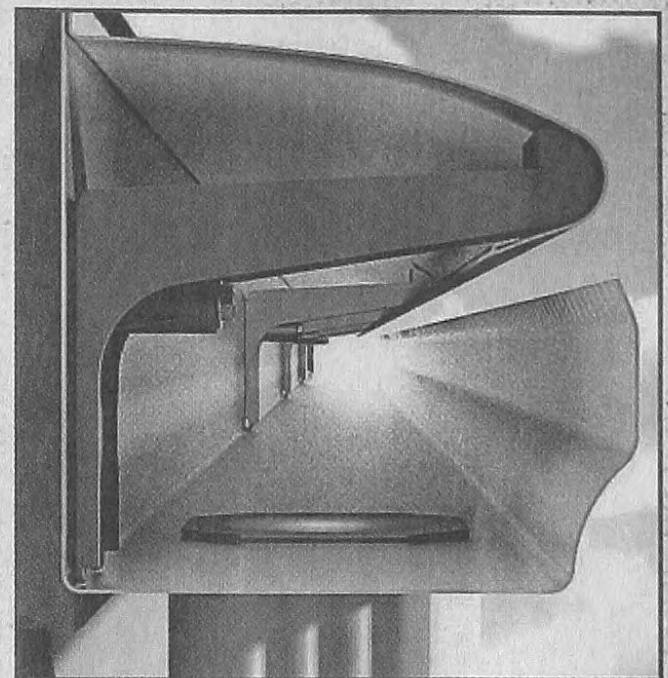
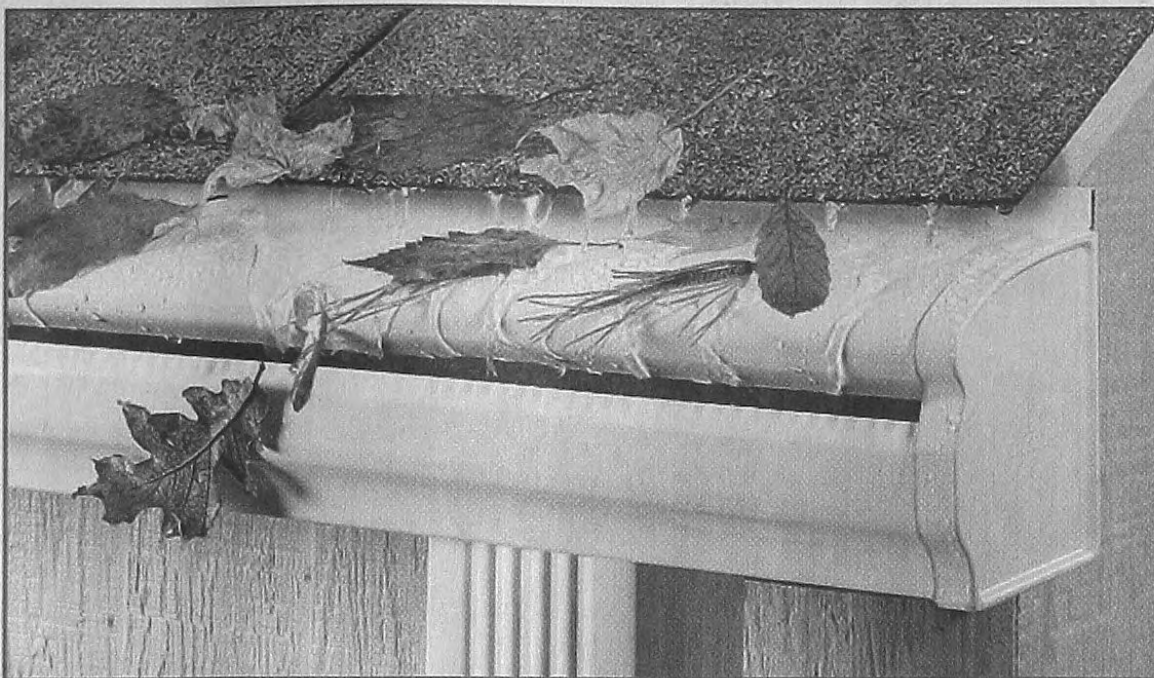
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\$100 Visa Gift Card fulfilled by Protect Your Home through third-party provider, Mpell, upon installation of a security system. Shipping and Handling Fee applies. \$99 Customer Installation Charge. Up to 15 sensors free for pre-wired homes or up to 7 wireless sensors free. No substitutions allowed. Labor charges may apply. \$99 Customer Installation Charge. 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$1,007.64). 24-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$671.76) for California. Form of payment must be by credit card or electronic charge to your checking or savings account. Offer applies to homeowners only. Certain packages require approved landline phone. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Termination Fee applies. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer valid for new ADT Authorized Premier Provider customers only and not on purchases from ADT LLC. Other rate plans available. Cannot be combined with any other offer. The \$27.99 Offer does not include Quality Service Plan (QSP). Quality Service Plan (QSP) is ADT's Extended Limited Warranty. ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services, which help you manage your home environment and family lifestyle, require the purchase and/or activation of an ADT alarm system with monitored burglary service and a compatible computer, cell phone or PDA with Internet and email access. These ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services/Equipment. All ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services are not available with the various levels of ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services. All ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the ADT Pulse Interactive Solutions Services features you desire. Installation starts at \$399. Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert monitoring requires purchase and/or activation of an ADT security system with monitored Burglary, Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert devices. Fire, Carbon Monoxide and Emergency Alert services are an additional charge. Quality Service Plan (QSP) is ADT's Extended Limited Warranty. 36-month monitoring contract required from \$58.99 per month, (\$2,123.64), including Quality Service Plan (QSP). Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. Prices subject to change. Prices may vary by market. Some insurance companies offer discounts on Homeowner's Insurance. Please consult your insurance company. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Additional monitoring fees required for some services. Photos are for illustrative purposes only and may not reflect the exact product/service actually provided. Licenses: AL-17-1104, AK-35221, AZ-ROC217517, AR-2008-0014, CA-AC06320, CT-ELC.0193944-L5, DE-07-212, FL-EC13003427, DC-602513000006, GA-LVA205395, HI-CT30946, ID-ELE-SC-39312, IL-127.001042, IN-City of Indianapolis: LAC-000156, IA-AC-0036, KY-City of Louisville: 483, LA-F1082, LA-F1914, LA-F1915, ME-LM50017382, MD-107-1626, MA-1355C, MI-3601205773, MN-TS01807, MS-15007958, MO-City of St. Louis: CC354, St. Louis County: 79853, MT-247, NE-14451, NV-68518, City of Las Vegas: 3000002944, NJ-34BF00021800, NM-353366, NY-Licensed by the N.Y.S. Dept. of State UID#12000317691, #12000286451, NC-1622-CSA, OH-53891446, City of Cincinnati: AC86, OK-1048, OR-170997, Pennsylvania Home Improvement Contractor Registration Number: PA22999, RI-3582, SC-BAC5630, SD-1025-7001-ET, TN-C1520, TX-B13734, ACR-3492, UT-6422596-6501, VT-ES-2382, VA-115120, WA-602588694/PROTEYH934RS, WV-042433, WI-City of Milwaukee: PAS-0002790, WY-LV-G-21499. 3750 Priority Way South Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46240 ©2016 DEFENDERS, Inc. dba Protect Your Home

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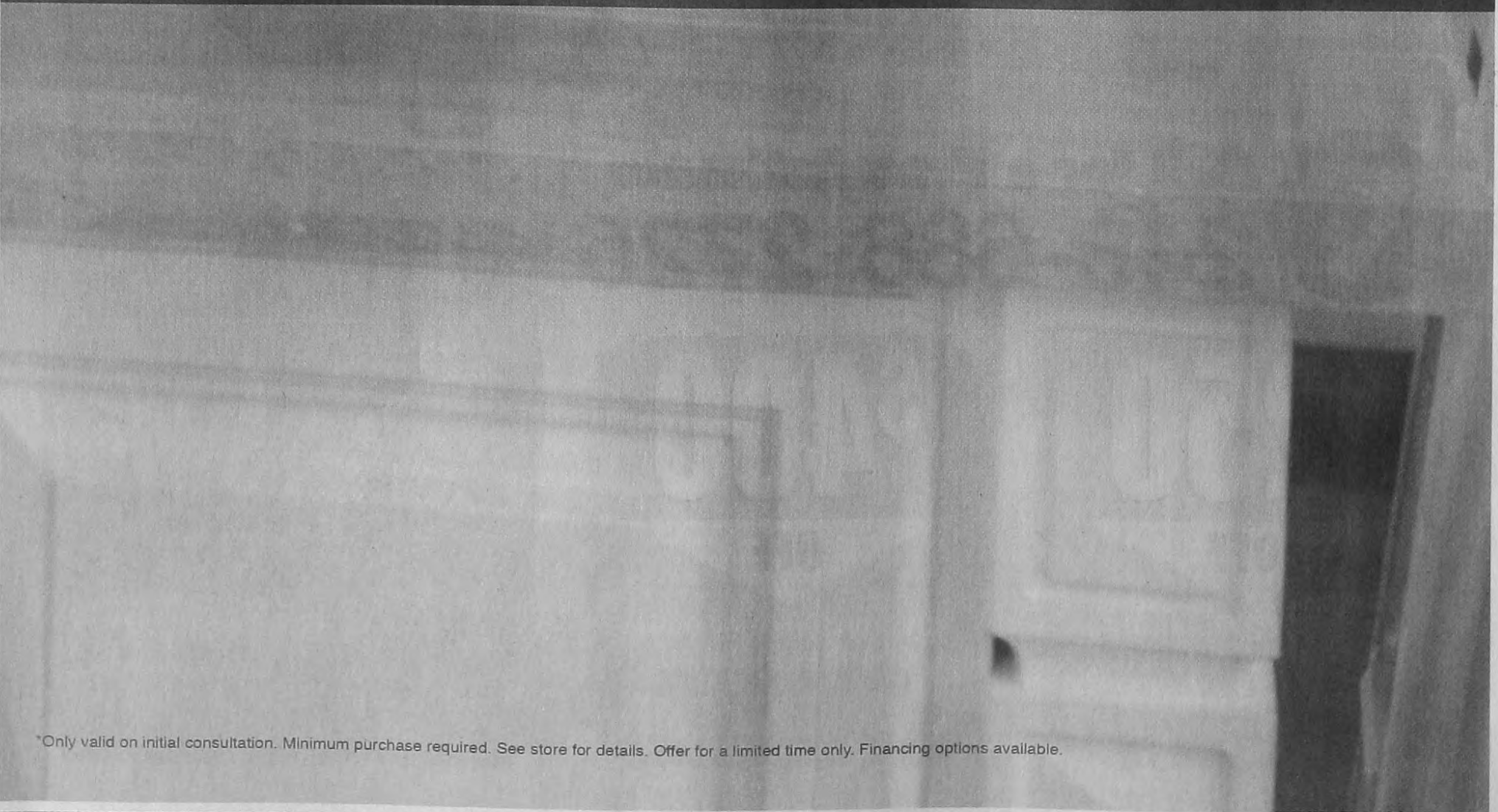
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