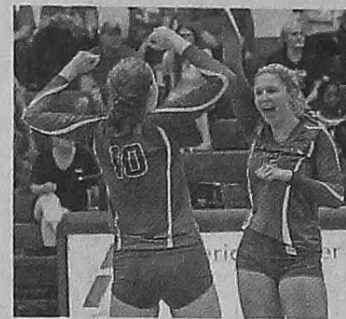


CANTON OBSERVER

SUNDAY 10.01.17 II HOMETOWNLIFE.COM II PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



LOCAL PLAYERS HELP FUEL MADONNA VOLLEYBALL SUCCESS
SPORTS, B1

Area motorists encounter dead end



Canton police are urging motorists to avoid southbound Canton Center, north of Geddes, because of a road closure. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Barriers don't stop drivers from having to turn around

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A road closure in Canton has become quite a chaotic scene for some motorists, police say.

Drivers headed southbound on Canton Center apparently are missing construction zone signs and finding they are up against a dead end just north of Geddes, Canton police Sgt. Greg DeGrand said.

The confusion comes as work crews are working on a major road reconstruction

project on Canton Center, from Geddes to Michigan Avenue.

Motorists, including semi-trailers, are having to back up once they reach the dead end. They are using residential driveways to turn around — a move DeGrand said has become a bother to some residents who live near the construction zone.

"It's a complete dead end," he said. "Some of the residents are getting frustrated. Semis are having to back up in driveways because you can't get through the Geddes intersec-

tion. These semi-trucks with big trailers on the back have to try to back up and it's a problem."

Some construction zone signs have been posted, DeGrand said, but motorists apparently still don't realize they are driving toward a dead end.

He urged southbound Canton Center motorists to avoid the dead-end at Geddes by using alternate roads such as Palmer, Summit Parkway or Cherry Hill Road.

Although Canton Center is closed off north of Geddes, Geddes itself is open to traffic

See DEAD END, Page A2

Four face trial in human trafficking, opioid probe

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Charged in a human trafficking and opioid drug ring that encompassed two southeast Michigan counties, four defendants, including a 27-year-old Canton woman, are now facing trial in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Authorities have said the investigation proves how organizers of human trafficking schemes can prey on victims of opioid drug addiction to make money.

Facing trial following a Sept. 15 preliminary hearing in the Oakland court are Jasmin Christine McGinnis of Canton, Melvin Dwight Niblett, 38, of Southfield, and Corey Michael Cooper, 45, and Maurice Rush-ton, 57, whose places of residence weren't known by authorities. Police have said Niblett is considered the ringleader.

According to Oakland County Jail records, the four defendants remain jailed as they await trial on charges that could land them in jail for 20 years or, in some cases, life.

The charges, announced Aug. 15 by Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's office, followed an investigation that began a year ago.

"Human traffickers will use anything to continue to hold their victims hostage in their dark world," Schuette said in a statement.

Attorney General spokeswoman Andrea Bitely said the case has been assigned to Oakland County Circuit Judge

See TRIAL, Page A3



At the Post Local Bistro, Mary Beth Donnelly of Canton and Margaret Godfrey of Plymouth decide which restaurant they will try next. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Plymouth restaurant crawl draws crowd

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

Diners in downtown Plymouth were blessed Tuesday with unseasonably nice September weather and a baker's dozen of restaurants in the city took advantage.

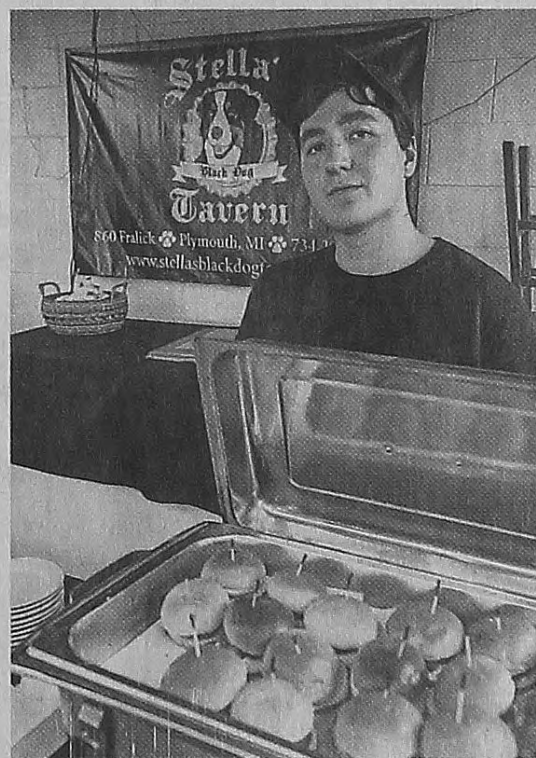
Some 250 tickets were sold for the annual restaurant crawl, dubbed Penn-Taste-Tic. Food lovers who shelled out the \$20 got more than their money's worth, tasting sam-

ples of the delicacies of the 13 restaurants taking part in the crawl.

The 250 tickets sold represented a sellout.

"It turned out wonderful," said Douglas Wallace, director of membership development and marketing for the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, which hosted the event. "We had a great sold-out crowd, the restau-

See CRAWL, Page A2



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Andrea Faught of Plymouth and Kasey Dibble of Livonia stop in at Simply Fresh Grill. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CRAWL

Continued from Page A1

rants that participated had a nice evening and (the weather) worked out well for walkability.”

The event even included a participating restaurant — Wimpy Burgers — that isn’t even technically open yet.

“It was nice to add Wimpy Burgers,” Wallace said.

One of the other newer dining establishments in town, Westborn Market, was chosen as the People’s Choice by diners taking part in the crawl. In addition to Wimpy Burgers, which served up samples in front of its downtown location, this year’s lineup included Ironwood Grill, Alpine Chocolate Haus, E.G. Nick’s, Fiamma Grille, Jimmy John’s, Kilwins, Little Bangkok, Post Local Bistro, Simply Fresh Mediterranean Grill, Stella’s Black Dog



Sandy Canzoneri, Eric Wallgast, Kelly Makowski, Kim Canzoneri, Kurt Canzoneri and Kevin Canzoneri try out the Thai cuisine at Little Bangkok. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

“It turned out wonderful. We had a great sold-out crowd, the restaurants that participated had a nice evening and (the weather) worked out well for walkability.”

DOUGLAS WALLACE, chamber official

Tavern, Westborn Market and Burger Spot.

Proceeds support the Penn Theatre and the

Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. “It provides exposure for our restaurants in our downtown and serves as a fundraiser for the Penn Theatre and the chamber,” chamber President Wes Graff said.

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Newsroom Contacts
Dan Dean, Managing Editor
Mobile: 248-396-0706; Email: ddean@hometownlife.com
Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach
Mobile: 586-262-9892; Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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DEAD END

Continued from Page A1

in both directions. From the other direction, motorists who used to drive northbound on Canton Center from Michigan Avenue also have had to find alternate routes to reach destinations such as the South Canton Scholars school and a Sikh place of worship, the Gurdwara Sahib Singh Sabha of Michigan. The problem should be fairly short-lived,

however, Wayne County Roads Division spokeswoman Kaye Byrd has said the project is expected to be completed sometime in November. Officials have said the short-term hassles will be worth it. The \$1.2 million project is occurring in what Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas had called one of the worst stretches of road in Canton.

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Choir director and singers sought for Canton's annual King celebration

The Canton Cultural Commission is looking for a director to coordinate a Canton Community Choir for volunteers of all ages and singing abilities. The choir will perform at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill during the "Canton Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." program that will be held Monday, Jan. 15, 2018.

Interested, experienced choir directors are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and request further information by emailing

jennifer.provenzano@canton-mi.org by Oct. 15. The appointed choir director will receive an honorarium and will be asked to coordinate weekly choir rehearsals at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road.

Interested singers from throughout the Canton community, including residents, members of synagogues, temples and churches are encouraged to also submit a letter of interest by Oct. 15, 2017 to jennifer.provenzano@canton-

mi.org. All ages may participate and no auditions are required.

The Canton Commission for Culture, Arts and Heritage meets at 7 p.m. the second Monday of every other month at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road. For more information, go to www.canton-mi.org or email culturalcommission@canton-mi.org.

For more information about the choir, go to www.cantonvillage-theater.org.

TRIAL

Continued from Page A1

Wendy Potts.

McGinnis could face up to 20 years in prison if she is convicted of three counts of prostitution/accepting earnings and one count of human trafficking involving allegations she provided forced labor involving commercial sex. She also is charged with one count each of conducting a criminal enterprise, possession of intent to deliver less than 50 grams of cocaine and possession of intent to deliver less than 50 grams of heroin.

Niblett could face up to life in prison if convicted of conducting a criminal enterprise; one count each of conspiracy to deliver 1,000 or more grams of cocaine, heroin or other narcotic; possession with intent to deliver less than 50 grams of cocaine and possession with intent to deliver less than 50 grams of heroin; three counts of forced labor or forced services involving commercial sex; and



Cooper



McGinnis



Niblett



Rushton

three counts of prostitution with earnings.

Cooper could face penalties ranging up to life in prison if convicted of one count each of conspiracy to deliver 1,000 or more grams of cocaine, heroin or other narcotic and conducting a criminal enterprise.

Rushton could face up to 20 years in prison if convicted of conducting a criminal enterprise; human trafficking and financially benefiting from commercial sex; and three counts of transporting a person for prostitution.

Authorities have said the case unfolded after the FBI and Oakland

County Gang and Violent Crimes Task Force received a tip of a drug and prostitution operation in Madison Heights.

One month after the investigation began, authorities said they received information last October that Niblett was using rooms at an unnamed Southfield hotel to conduct a drug and human trafficking operation. Officials say it involved dozens of people and led to a flurry of felony charges against Niblett and the other three defendants.

Schuetz has said such cases involve human traffickers who "prey upon those suffering from addiction, especially to opioids ... to maintain control of their victims."

FBI Special Agent David P. Gelios said drug and human trafficking continue to plague area communities and urged anyone with information about human trafficking to contact the nearest FBI field office or local police department.

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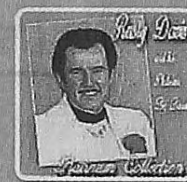


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Beatles tribute band to play Village Theater

Following the success of their 2016 U.S. debut tour, the Mersey Beatles, an all-Liverpool-born Beatles tribute band and the house band for more than a decade at the world-famous Cavern Club, will perform their Sgt. Pepper's 50th Anniversary Show at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The concert is set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at the venue, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

John Lennon's sister Julia Baird, author and director of the Cavern Club, will also be in attendance selling and signing copies of her book "Imagine This: Growing Up with My Brother John Lennon" before and after the show.

The Mersey Beatles are the official Beatles tribute band representing the city of Liverpool. From 2002-12, they were the resident tribute band at The Cavern Club, the nightclub in Liverpool, where the Beatles perfected their act before launching a global rock music revolution in the



The Mersey Beatles, an all-Liverpool-born Beatles tribute band, will perform in Canton part of their Sgt. Pepper tour. DONNA JACKSON

1960s.

Since 1999, the band has played sell-out shows in more than 20 countries, recreating the Beatles' most popular hits. The show spans the Fab Four's entire catalog with four costume changes and authentic Liverpool accents, wit and charm. The Mersey Beatles recreate the Beatles' sound and image with amazing accuracy, using replica Hofner, Rickenbacker and Vox Gretsch guitars and

Ludwig gear. This year, the band is celebrating 50 years of what is arguably the most iconic and influential album of all time: "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band."

To purchase tickets (\$25, \$37, \$15 with student ID and \$45 VIP), call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillage.com. VIP includes premium seating, Mersey Beatles free CD download and a meet and greet with the band and Baird.

CANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

ELL Conversation Groups

When: 9:30-11 a.m. each Thursday and Friday

Details: Practice speaking English in an informal setting with Community Literacy Council volunteers. See the English Language Learner Program FAQ at www.cantonpl.org for more information.

Digital Drop-In Help

When: 10-11 a.m. each Friday

Details: Stop in to get one-on-one help with your e-readers from the friendly experts at the Information desk. Just bring your device and your desire to learn. Kindle users must bring Amazon log-in information as well.

Computer Skills Lab for Beginners

When: 9-11 a.m. second Saturday of each month

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See LIBRARY, Page A6

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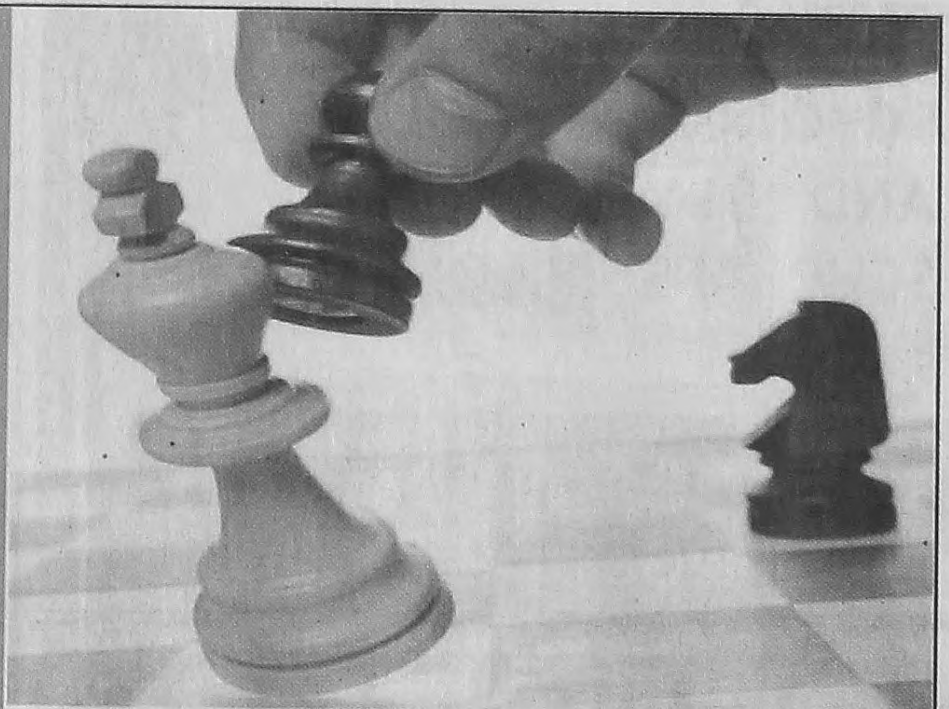
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SPMVA-B (4/17)

Consumers: It smells, but no gas leak in Wayne County

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Consumers Energy sought to ease fears Wednesday morning after hundreds of western Wayne County residents reported what they believed could be a natural gas leak.

Company spokeswoman Debra Dodd said an investigation indicated too much of a chemical additive, mercaptan, apparently was added to one of the natural gas company's stations on Napier Road. It creates the odor of rotten eggs so that people can detect natural gas, which is odorless.

"That's what we think

happened," Dodd said.

Residents in Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township, Livonia and other communities reported the odor.

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock said the city received so many calls that an extension was set up on the city's phone system to transfer calls to Consumers Energy.

"We're getting deluged with calls," he said Wednesday morning.

Steve Ott, fire chief of the Northville City Fire Department, which also serves Plymouth, also said numerous residents called amid concerns of a possible gas leak. He said

it appears there is no danger.

"We are responding to people's calls and confirming that the structures are safe," he said.

Dodd said it could take some time for the odor to dissipate. Meanwhile, anyone who ever suspects they may have a natural gas leak should call 800-477-5050.

"If people are still concerned and they are smelling gas, they can still call," she said.

Dodd said Consumers Energy was responding to calls as quickly as possible.

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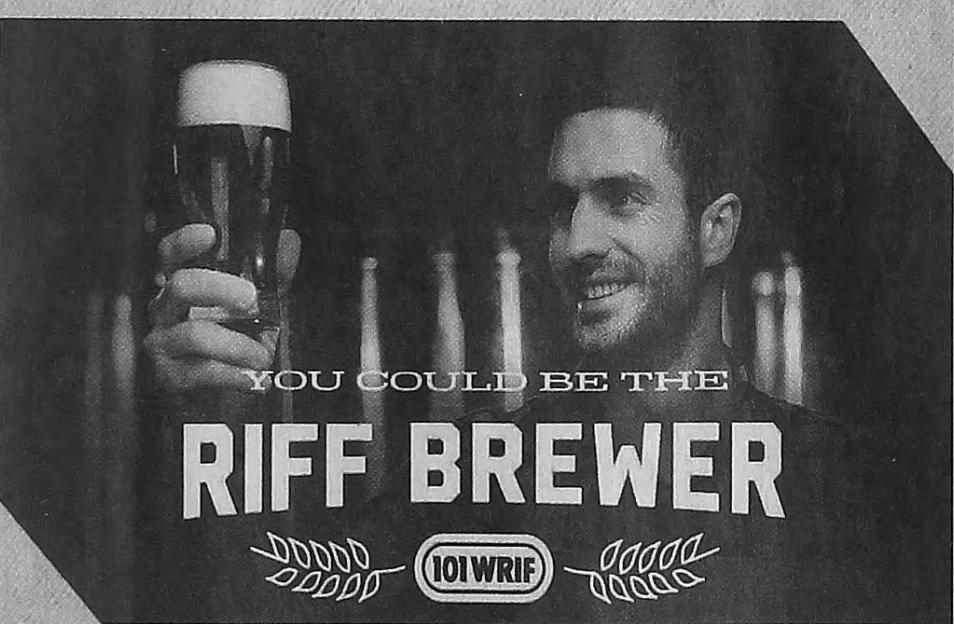
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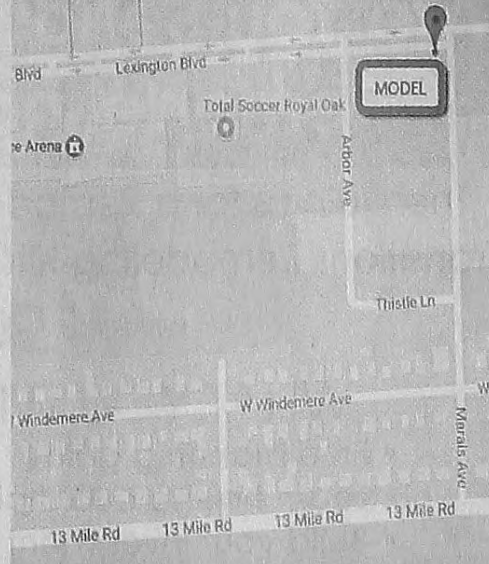
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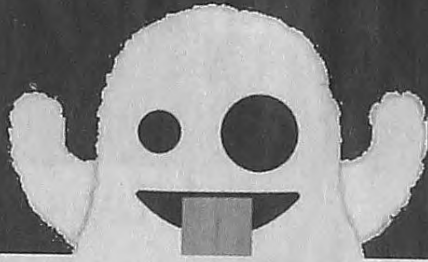
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LIBRARY

Continued from Page A4

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Family Storytime

Details: Family Storytime provides an opportunity for caregivers to actively engage with their children under age 5. Together with a youth librarian, you can build early literacy skills in a welcoming environment through meaningful stories, songs, and play. Encourage a love of language and reading while practicing listening and cooperative tasks. Every Family Storytime is followed by a half-hour of ABC Activity Time. Go to www.cantonpl.org for a full September program

schedule.

Preschool Storytime

Details: Preschool storytimes feature longer books, flannel board and rhymes designed for children ages 3½-55. These activities help develop pre-reading and school-readiness skills. Children must be able to sit independently and be attentive for 30 minutes. Parents may attend, if needed, to help transition their child to this program, and all parents must remain in the children's department. Storytimes start Sept. 11. Registration is required and you can pick a Monday or a Friday session. Go to www.cantonpl.org for registration and schedule.

Baby Storytime

Details: Baby Storytime is designed for babies 18 months and younger with an adult and features simple stories, songs and rhymes

carefully chosen to build awareness of language and vocabulary, foster a love of books and provide a fun, interactive experience for babies and parents/caregivers. Baby Storytime sessions start Sept. 12. Registration is required. Visit www.cantonpl.org for registration and schedule.

Hero Hangout: Comics Reading Group

When: 7-8 p.m. third Wednesday of each month

Details: Do you love reading comics or learning about super heroes? Join us for Hero Hangout, a comic book club is for ages 7-12, and you choose what to read. Every week we will be sharing, reading and making comics. Participants are encouraged to bring a comic to share with a group, but are not required.

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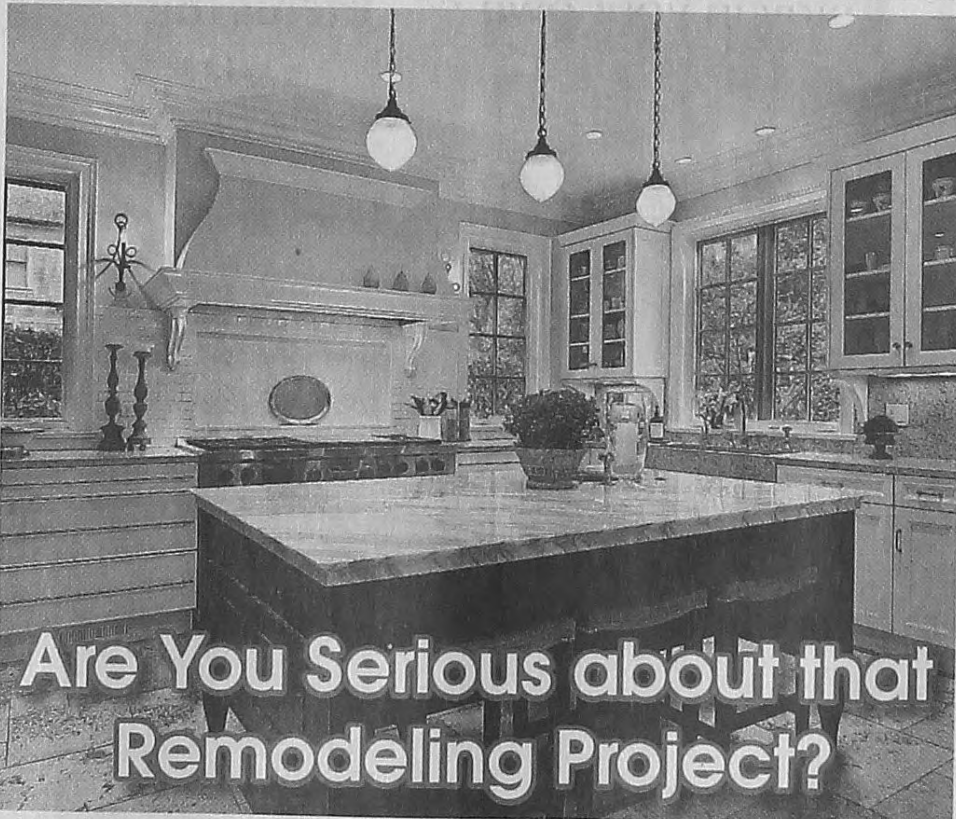
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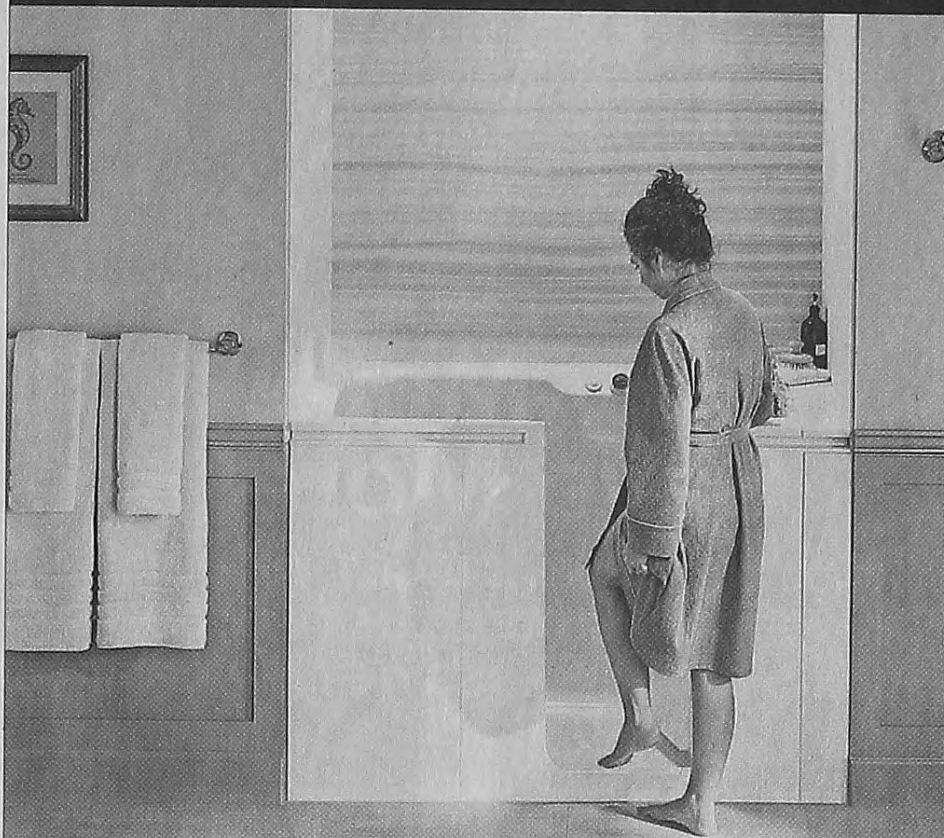
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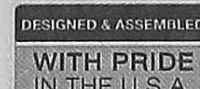
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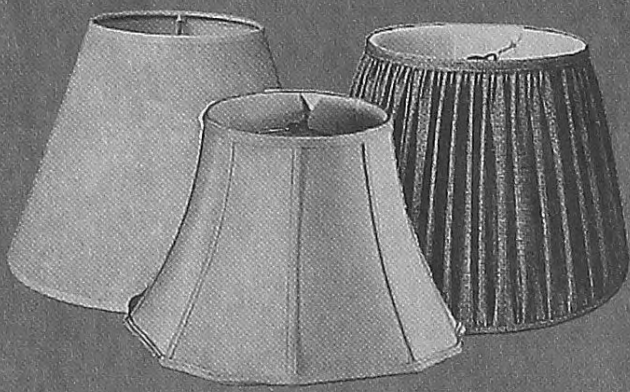
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Plymouth native trades diamond for classroom

Maria Taylor
 Correspondent

As a little girl, Laura Stewart remembers her grandfather helping her work out at her home in Plymouth Township.

"He'd say, 'Let's set a goal to jump rope 100 times without stopping; I'll count,'" she said. "If I had to start over, he'd still be there counting for me."

Stewart's grandfather, Robert Stewart, knew a thing or two about sports. Back in 1927, he was the starting fullback for Ohio Wesleyan in the first-ever game at The Big House in Ann Arbor.



Laura Stewart has gone from the softball diamond at Western Michigan to the classroom in Charlotte, N.C. STEWART FAMILY PHOTO

See STEWART, Page A11

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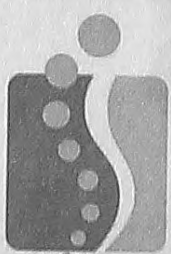


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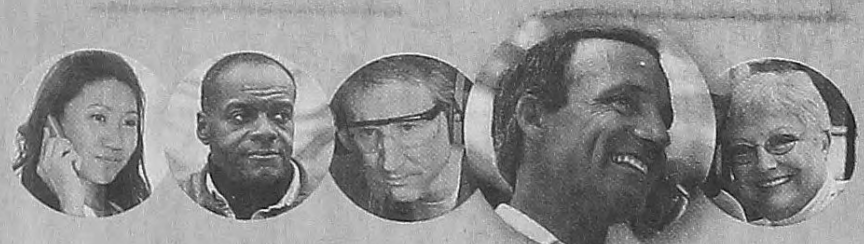
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A memorable meal is more than just the food

Think of a special meal you enjoyed sometime in your life. Maybe it was the food you ate, but more likely it was the place you were or the people you were with. There used to be an Ethiopian restaurant in downtown Plymouth, run by a husband and wife from Ethiopia.

One Sunday after church, about 20 of us went there and we had the whole place to ourselves. I don't know if you know much about Ethiopian food, but you don't get silverware. You get this kind of pancake bread, which you use to pick up the food off a common plate. There we were, with bowls of buttered cabbage and tenderized beef and corn mush, all using our hands and laughing and loving the time together. How about you — what's a favorite memory you have of a meal?

All four of the Bible's gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and



Dean Johnson
CULTURAL RELEVANCY

John) tell of an event where thousands of people came to be healed by Jesus and hear him preach about how the reign of God was returning to Earth. Supper came and the disciples offered this completely unimaginative suggestion: "Send the people away." They were tired from a recent mission's trip, so I guess that's the best they could come up with. Not one disciple said, "Wait, guys. There's so much good ministry going on here. Let's at least try to figure out a way to feed these people." How often do I not make spiritual progress because I'm so practical I don't even ask Jesus to work?

We're like Eeyore: "It can't be done. Send them away!"

We're like Eeyore: "It can't be done. Send them away!" Don't be one of those people who always points out the reasons something can't be done.

Don't be one of those people who always points out the reasons something can't be done. I knew of a ministry once where more and more people kept coming and it was taxing their facility. So there was actually some discussion among the leadership about making the program less attractive so fewer people would come!

Jesus asks, "Well, what food do we have?" and the disciples say, "Here's a little boy willing to give us his two fish and five

loaves." And then we have for all time the example of Jesus giving thanks before eating. I hope you do that. Do you give thanks at home before eating? How about in a restaurant? At work or school? I was with a Christian friend recently at a Leo's Coney Island and, when the waitress brought our food, my friend said to her, "We're about to pray. Is there anything we can pray for you about?" The waitress told us that her father has cancer. So we bowed our heads, my friend thanked God for the food and prayed for the woman's father. Afterward, she had tears in her eyes and thanked my friend for his kindness.

Jesus multiplies the food, everyone gets enough, and Luke 9:17 says this: "They all ate and were satisfied." And that, of course, is the key word: "satisfied." Through the work of Christ, people are completely satisfied. I would guess this

was the most memorable meal of their lives!

There are other meals recorded in Luke. In Chapter 10, Jesus eats at the home of Mary and Martha. Martha scrambles around in her busy-ness, but Mary sits and enjoys Jesus's presence as they eat. In Luke 19, Jesus goes to the home of Zacchaeus, where he eats with lots of sinners, setting an example for Christians today. Then in Chapter 22, Jesus and his disciples are in an upper room enjoying the Passover meal and Jesus takes bread and says, "This bread represents my body, which will be broken for you, and this wine represents my blood, which will be shed to cover your sins." Jesus satisfies. What is your most memorable meal?

Dean Johnson is senior pastor at Lake Pointe Bible Church in Plymouth. Email him at DeanLPBC@sbcglobal.net.

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I am an American We are One Nation

FIGHTING TO SAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD

Man works to help SC city's black community overcome poverty, racism

MIKE ELLIS
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 onation.usatoday.com.

GREENVILLE, S.C. - Darian Blue said he would be walking through Winn-Dixie grocery stores in 1980s Florida and his great-grandmother, born in 1908, would suddenly pull him behind her.

She'd tug at him and tell him to look down at the ground whenever a white person passed in an aisle.

"The years I spent with her, I was seeing the world from her lens," said Blue, now a reverend at Nicholtown Missionary Baptist Church and the executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center in Greenville.

"This went on through the '80s and '90s," he said. "I don't think she ever felt the type of equality she hoped for."

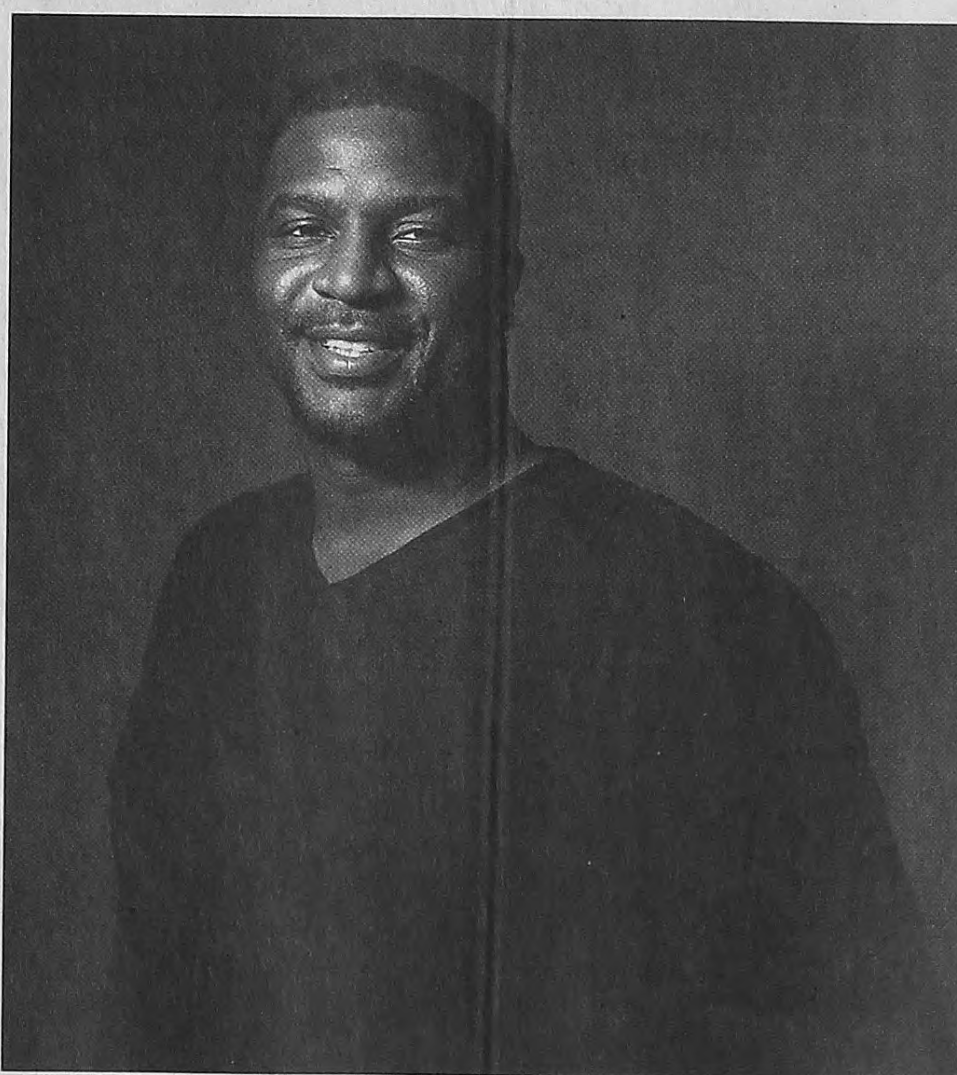
Blue, 37, said people like his great-grandmother went to the grave with racial scars so deep that they struggled to recognize the changes he saw while growing up.

He sees similar scars in Greenville's Nicholtown neighborhood, where he moved five years ago to run the Wheatley Center, a nonprofit that has been led by African Americans for nearly 100 years.

Poverty, Blue said, is the main problem in Nicholtown, Greenville's first black neighborhood established just before the Civil War. The community is about 1.5 miles from the booming downtown business district.

Blue expects downtown growth to push many longtime residents out of the neighborhood. To help them, he is working with developers so they'll get to know the homeowners. The hope is that developers can talk with homeowners and leverage their stories into bigger sales, meaning more money for those who are being priced out of the neighborhood.

But Blue and others also are working



Darian Blue, a pastor at Nicholtown Missionary Baptist Church and executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center in Greenville, S.C., is fighting poverty. JOSH MORGAN/USA TODAY NETWORK

to keep people in Nicholtown.

The Wheatley Center is undergoing renovations to add a cooking school, which Blue hopes will train a generation of people to work at restaurants before owning their own.

Blue is troubled that he still has to have tough conversations about race with his children. He said the solution for racial tension in society is found through Christ: "Love one another."

Darian Blue

Location: Nicholtown community in Greenville, South Carolina

Age: 37

Profession: Minister and executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center

Mission: To bring his neighborhood out of poverty

ONE NATION

Nominate an American

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onation.usatoday.com or via email to onation@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 DARIAN BLUE

What does it mean to you to be an American?

My great-grandma raised me. She was born in a time that these United States were very segregated. Seeing the world from her lens was somewhat hard, because for her, looking a white person in the face was dangerous. You had to address all white people by "yes, sir" or "yes, ma'am." Growing up, I didn't understand that because I felt like ... everyone was equal, and I really didn't understand racism at that point. I am passing on to my kids that the only time you hold your head down is when you pray, when you pray to God out of reverence because there's no one human being greater than another. So when we pray, we bow our head in reverence to God.

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

So poverty is what I hate. Poverty is what led me and still guides me to this day to put forth the effort and make sure everybody has a good living. I've been in poverty. I know what it smells like. What it tastes like. ... If more people would open their eyes and wouldn't turn a blind eye to poverty, what we'll see is that America can be better because there are great minds, but they're just diamonds in the rough. They need someone to reach down and pick them up.

What gives you hope or concerns you?

The rhetoric I hear now from the government, that really concerns me. We see a spike in these hate groups ... and it's just, at one point I thought we were getting better, but we're kind of going backwards, so that concerns me what I hear. ... I think white America has to stand up against white America. I tell all my friends, if you say you're really passionate and your heart is there, then you have a conversation with that racist family member, that racist co-worker. This is a battle for white America. White America has to heal white America. Black America can't heal white America. Hispanic America can't heal white America.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

Social justice, for one. Two is economic empowerment. And I want to see education for minorities skyrocket through the roof. There's a direct correlation between education and economics.

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STEWART

Continued from Page A8

Michigan won the game, 33-0. No matter: Robert's advice to Laura — lessons about goal-setting, persistence, endurance — rang true.

Ninety years later, almost to the day, Stewart's accomplishments in softball earned her a star in the Western Michigan Sports Hall of Fame. She was inducted at halftime of Saturday's football game between Western and Ball State University, played at Waldo Stadium in Kalamazoo.

Stewart got into softball at a young age, around 7 or 8, after striking up an acquaintance with a schoolmate who played slow pitch.

"Softball seemed to really interest her a lot and she was good at it," said Beth Stewart, Laura's mom, executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic.

Every Sunday from

age 8 through college, Stewart practiced with a pitching coach. Working her arm, she discovered another skill: fast pitch. By the time she was ready for college, though, she wasn't sure if she'd be able to play Division I ball; she wasn't recruited as a college athlete.

"I went to Western as a preferred walk-on: I didn't have a scholarship or anything, except that I had begged the coach to take me on the team," she said. Then, in a lucky break, Western brought on some new coaches and re-evaluated their players. Stewart ended up getting a full ride.

She studied early elementary education and she pitched the whole time, from 2000-04. At first, her mother said, college softball was rough: Stewart was still developing her style and what was going to become her best pitch and she had to do a lot of refining.

"The stuff that

worked in high school didn't work in college," her mom said. "You had to really be willing to listen to coaches and change. The people who could change and perfect their good pitches were the ones who succeeded."

Case in point: When Stewart first got to college, she'd subconsciously close her eyes when someone hit the ball. Her coaches told that was a big no-no: "You're going to be killed out there," they said. Every day, one of them would take her out on the field for an hour and hit balls toward her until she was able to develop her instinct to duck if the ball came near.

By her junior year, things were starting to fall into line. Western won the 2003 Mid-American Conference championship and Stewart recorded the last out to win the game. "We had the whole pileup on the field and everything," she said.

Stewart graduated in

2004 with a 3.6 GPA. She holds the record at Western for single season wins (23), shutouts (11), complete games (29), and strikeouts (236), plus an earned-run average of 1.77.

After college, Stewart taught for a year in Shanghai and now teaches second grade at Shamrock Gardens Elementary in Charlotte, N.C. It's a Title I school, made up of mostly students from low-income families.

In the classroom, the former pitching star puts her skills and her background to good use. Her students all know she was a college athlete and, to them, the connection between perseverance in sports and goal-setting in academics makes a lot of sense. They like her big WMU flag and pennant, too, which she proudly displays in her classroom. "Kids always think of the Denver Broncos and I say it's the Western Michigan Broncos," she said. "And then I say to

them, 'Let's talk about college.'"

While she's not playing championships any more, Stewart enjoys playing slow-pitch softball with her husband, whom she met playing flag football and subsequently won over to her own first-choice sport. She's kept up her skills and, on weekends, she gives pitching lessons to middle school girls, helping them develop their arm as her parents and her grandfather and her coaches had helped her at that age.

At their home in Plymouth, Beth and John Stewart still have the leather helmet worn by John's dad at that very first Big House game. Laura credits sports for creating remarkable toughness, both physical and mental.

"My grandfather was one of the toughest people I know," she said. Bob's yearbook, "The Tomahawk," listed this verse under his name: "By football Bob is

known in school, but for his lady he would fight a duel."

Bob was 18 years old that day, 90 years ago, when a bunch of Ohio farm boys got on a train and headed to Ann Arbor for the big game Oct. 1. Some 17,000 people watched from the stands.

Saturday night, John reckoned, his dad must have been smiling down fondly.

Seeing Stewart inducted was a huge honor, said John, who's an attorney in Plymouth and a former state representative. It's very prestigious, he noted: Candidates for the WMU Hall of Fame aren't even considered until they've been out of school for 10 years. Stewart is the only scholar-athlete in this year's group.

"All the classes I took at Western, all the clinicals I did — I always felt really proud to be from Western," she said. "Now they're proud of me, too."

AREA EVENTS

Send calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com.

Noble hosts office hour

State Rep. Jeff Noble, R-Plymouth, will host an open office hour 10:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St. No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Noble at 517-373-3816 or JeffNoble@house.mi.gov.

Volunteer tutor training sessions

The Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council is a volunteer, nonprofit organization aiming to improve conversation literacy skills for adults who speak English as a Second Language. CLC provides free one-on-one tutors and conversation group tutors in the Plymouth-Canton community. Volunteer literacy tutors do not need any prior experience.

Tutors receive comprehensive training before volunteering in a setting of their choice for up to two hours each week. The next training class, which includes 12 hours of instruction spread out over two days, will be held the following dates: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21.

Community Literacy Council charges \$40 for each tutor to cover the cost of training, materials and food. Advance reservations are required and can be made at www.plymouthcanton-literacy.org or by calling the literacy council at 734-589-0011.

Suicide prevention program

"Every Suicide is Tragic: What Can I Do?" is an informational event to take place 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, at St. Thomas a'Becket, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton. This event will provide essential information compressed into fast-paced sessions for both teens and adults, addressing questions such as: What does the church teach about suicide? What can I do to prevent it? How can I help others who may be contemplating suicide?

Fall color walks

Join the Friends of Miller Woods for their annual fall color walks 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15 and 22. Each tour lasts one hour, is free, and will leave the entrance every 30 minutes. No dogs or strollers are allowed and you must be able to walk on uneven paths. For more information, go to millerwoods.com or call Cheryl Bord at 734-459-7666. Meet at entrance of

woods on Powell Road, just east of Ridge Road.

B.L.O.C.K. to host 'The Relentless Tour'

Area teens are invited to attend "The Relentless Tour," featuring anti-bullying expert Anthony Ianni, 6:30-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.

Presented by The B.L.O.C.K. Youth & Teen Center and the Canton Youth Advisory Council, this free event will feature motivational speaker Ianni, a member of Michigan State University's 2010 and 2012 Big Ten basketball teams. Ianni is currently traveling across the state spreading a message of tolerance, as he continues to fight bullying in schools statewide.

Through "The Relentless Tour," Ianni, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and the Autism Alliance of Michigan seek to raise awareness of autism and the problem of bullying. Ianni's message encourages students to make their schools a place where people from all walks of life are respected.

For more information, go to www.cantonfun.org or call The B.L.O.C.K.

Youth & Teen Center at 734-398-5570.

Halloween Forest Fun Hike

Head Friday, Oct. 13, to Nankin Mills Interpretive Center for a guided night hike to meet "not-so-scary" and "sort-of-silly" nature characters. These costumed creatures will tell you all about themselves and share some Halloween prizes and treats. The hike, which starts at 6 p.m. and each half-hour after until 7:30 p.m., is on the grounds of the Interpretive Center and lasts about 45 minutes. It is followed by an indoor live animal show, where you will meet amazing creatures from around the world. Please arrive 15 minutes before your tour time. Program is recommended for ages 4 to adult.

Pre-registration is required by calling the park office at 734-261-1990. You will only be pre-registered when payment is made. The program fee is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult. Add \$1 per person for non-Wayne County residents. No charge for children 3 and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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Pollock Sr.



Robert "Bob" age 69 of Wayne, MI lost his battle with cancer on September 17, 2017 at home with his wife by his side. Bob was a proud Marine of the Vietnam war. A member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and AMVETS for many years. Bob is survived by his wife Donna (nee Brandenburg), Son Robert Pollock, Jr., and Stepson James Allen. He is also survived by a brother, 2 sisters and many nieces and nephews. Bob was a mechanical engineer by trade. He loved to tinker with anything. Tear it apart and put it back together. He could fix anything. Interment will be at Great Lakes National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Angela Hospice. Bob is already missed and there is an empty place in our hearts for him.



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.



CITY OF PLYMOUTH CLOSE OF REGISTRATION GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 7, 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that registration of qualified electors for the General Election to be held on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017, will be taken at the Office of the City Clerk during regular office hours. Close of registration is **OCTOBER 10, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.** to vote in the General Election. Any interested person may also register at any Secretary of State Branch Office during their regular business hours. Qualifications of any election (registered voter) elector are as follows:

1. Citizen of the United States
2. At least 18 years of age on Election Day
3. Resident of the State of Michigan for thirty (30) days
4. Resident of the City of Plymouth on or before thirty (30) days prior to the day of the Election.

Qualified electors who are currently registered with the City Clerk, will not have to re-register. If you have a physical problem and cannot come into City Hall, please call and make other arrangements. The telephone number is 734-453-1234, x203 or 225. City Offices are open from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Maureen Brodie, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: October 1, 2017 LO-0000329842 334

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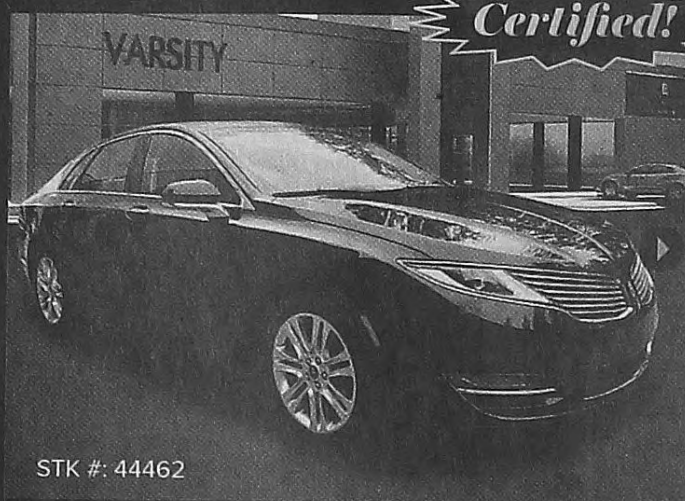
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COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Local connection paying off for Crusaders

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

There is no denying Jerry Abraham's long and storied tenure as Madonna University women's volleyball coach has been resplendent with a bevy of outstanding teams and players wearing the blue and gold. A big reason for the Crusaders' continuing excellence is being able to tap into an impressive pool of high school talent, much of it developing

not far away from the Madonna University campus in Livonia.

At the top of the list for the 2017 team are senior middle hitter Amanda Hawkins and freshman libero Aly Facione — who graduated from Livonia Stevenson and Livonia Churchill, respectively.

"We always love the local players," said Abraham, who this summer brought in former

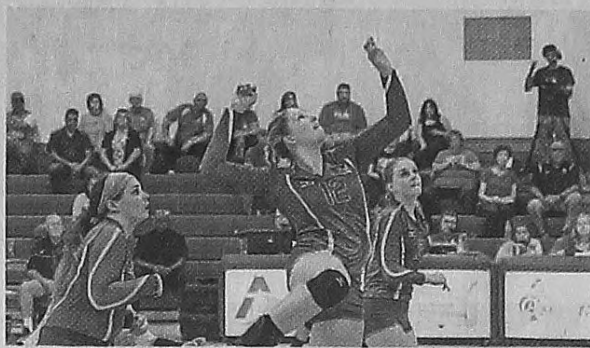
See CRUSADERS, Page B2



Hawkins



Facione



Getting ready to hammer the ball is Madonna senior middle Amanda Hawkins. MADONNA ATHLETICS

Rice cage camp

The fall 2017 Brother Rice Basketball Camp will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 28-29.

The 11th annual camp, for players in grades 3-6, will be held at Brother Rice High School and will be directed by Warriors head coach Ed Shaffer and his staff.

Campers will learn the basic fundamentals of ball handling, shooting and team and individual drills. The camp will include competitive play and tournament action.

As part of the \$90 fee, each participant will receive a T-shirt. Directors suggest to sign up early as the camp usually fills up early.

For more information, call 248-833-2014 or email at shaffer@brrice.edu.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Teams take aim at helping feed hungry kids

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Livonia high school volleyball players might have a lot on their plates, what with athletics and academics demanding much of their time.

But through Blessings in a Backpack, they are making a worthy effort to make sure some children in the area have something on their plates.

On Tuesday, the volleyball teams from Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin and Northville high schools had the unique canned food drive — which was organized by the Churchill volleyball program.

Churchill's varsity faced Northville, Franklin and Livonia Stevenson, with players and spectators alike bringing in plastic bags filled with canned food.

Blessings in a Backpack also was the backdrop for junior varsity games at Northville and freshman games at Franklin (involving those four schools at each venue).

As of Wednesday, more than 400 canned goods and cash/gift cards worth about \$600 were donated.

"It means a lot," Churchill varsity player Elizabeth Profit said. "Just for us to be able to help out the needy and just be able to give back to the community feels amazing."

See BENEFIT, Page B2



Livonia Churchill varsity volleyball players (from left) Elizabeth Profit and Summer Clark both said it was a good feeling to help collect food for kids through Blessings in a Backpack. TIM SMITH

COLLEGE SWIMMING



Katie Minnich, Mercy's all-state swimmer, will continue her academic and athletic careers at the University of Michigan next fall. DAN DEAN

Mercy's Minnich makes commitment to Michigan

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

Katie Minnich recently took a trip to the University of Michigan to check out the school and its swim program.

Farmington Hills Mercy's all-state swimmer was impressed enough that she decided Ann Arbor is where she wants to continue her education while developing her swim talents.

Minnich made a verbal commitment to attend Michigan last week and couldn't be happier with her decision. She has also taken official visits to the University of Virginia and University of Florida.

"I'm excited. Michigan just really stuck out. I loved the coaches and the team there," said Minnich, who plans to get into Michigan's pre-med program. "I felt like they are going to give me every opportunity to excel in both the classroom and the pool, so I didn't have to compromise on anything and that was really important to me."

Minnich did not have one specific college in mind over



Katie Minnich is a senior. DAN DEAN

the past few years. However, some family ties she had to Michigan did help her final decision.

"I never really had a dream school that I had in mind. I just wanted to see where life took me and where I would end up," Minnich said. "I've had my grandma, my great-grandpa and aunts and uncles who all went to Michigan, so it's definitely a family thing."

Under water power

Second-year Mercy head coach Mike Venos believes Minnich will fit in nicely with the Wolverines.

"Katie has some of the best under waters in the state. Her speed under water is amazing," Venos said. "And that's what drew the attention of a lot of college coaches to her and every coach talked about her under waters."

"And she trains. She is one of the hardest trainers we have in the pool. It's nice that she's going to be close to home and I think (Michigan's) style of training will suit her well. They do a lot of race pace. They don't necessarily do a lot of over yardage and I think that's the kind of training she's used to."

"I think she's really going to flourish there," he added. "I don't think she'll have any issue adapting to the college program."

Swimming is a sport Minnich enjoys thoroughly, despite a rigorous year-round training program.

See MINNICH, Page B3



Harrison's Terrill Collins (right) makes a 40-yard TD catch against Seaholm during a recent junior varsity game. JACK MUMFORD-ZENFOLIO

Hawks JV grid team on a roll

Farmington Harrison's junior varsity football team dropped its season opener to East Grand Rapids, but has won five straight games since.

The Hawks JV's latest victory was a 36-7 decision over Rochester. Harrison has outscored its opponents by a whopping 168-37 margin during its winning streak. Harrison defeated Farmington's JV, 52-8.

Andrew Dooley (tight end), tri-captain Myles Hunt (defensive tackle), Terrill Collins (wide receiver/corner) and Sterling Solomon (linebacker/fullback) were a few of the top performers over Rochester.

Harrison's next JV game is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Oct. 5 against Ferndale.

MIHL Showcase teams set

The Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League selection committee announced the 42 teams that will play in the 2018 event, which takes place Feb. 1-3, 2018, at the Kennedy Ice Arena in Trenton.

Teams from the Observer/Eccentric/Hometownlife areas scheduled to participate are Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Northville, Novi, Plymouth and Salem.

The Showcase features some of the Midwest's top teams and attracts more than 80 scouts from all different levels of hockey.

Scheduling will be completed in January 2018.

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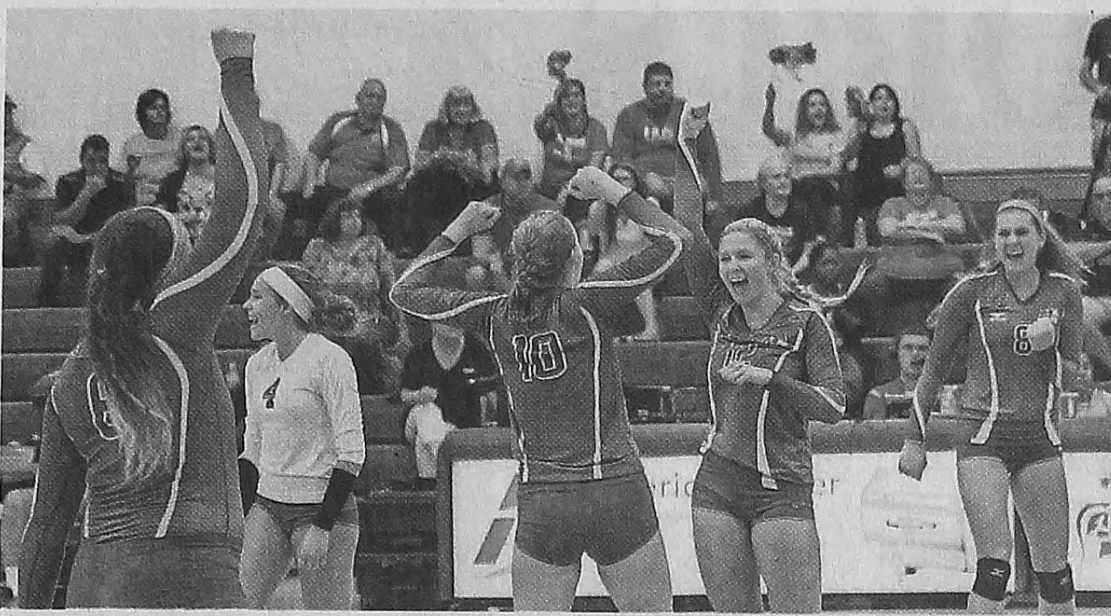
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Amanda Hawkins (center-right) celebrates with Madonna teammates after a point. MADONNA ATHLETICS

CRUSADERS

Continued from Page B1

Chargers head coach Mark Grenier as an assistant. "And in the past, we've had a lot more local players than we currently have on our team. But we still have some key players that are local.

"And this is a real good conference (KLAA) in our surrounding area, a lot of good volleyball athletes. I think when we have an opportunity to go get them and we spot somebody that we want, we make an extra effort to get them."

Local impact

The feeling seems to be mutual, especially for players such as Hawkins (an All-American and co-captain) and the scrappy Facione.

"It's been really cool to kind of stay in my hometown, because everyone can watch me play and come to all the games," Hawkins said. "Going from high school, it was such a great experience there. I broke the school record for blocks. So I was really excited to go from that and be prepared for college volleyball.

"But when I came here, it was a whole different pace, it was so much faster. I definitely learned a lot as a freshman (at Madonna) and every year I've been growing and, hopefully, getting better."

Facione said it is "such a blessing" to be able to quickly segue from preps to college without missing a beat.

"Kids around this area are really blessed to be able to have a school so close to home that is so high-caliber, both educationally and athletically," said Facione, already the starter at libero.

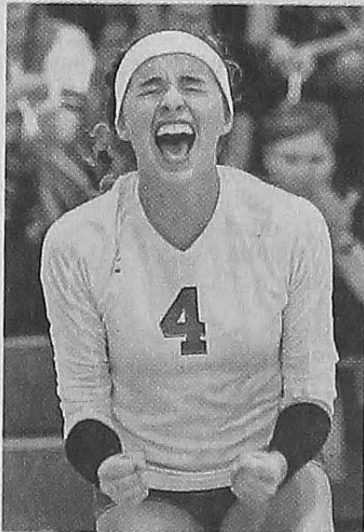
She added that youngsters such as herself know how to act and go about their business just by following the lead of All-American seniors Hawkins, Karlie Kelly and Nicole Oestrike (both outside hitters).

Muscle up front

Abraham's All-Americans up front undoubtedly have plenty to do with the Crusaders' early season hot streak.

The Crusaders (16-2, 5-0 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference) swept the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 3-0, on Sept. 20 to move into 20th place in the rankings.

"We came into this season



Reacting with emotion is Madonna University freshman libero Aly Facione. MADONNA ATHLETICS

knowing those three players (Hawkins, Kelly, Oestrike), along with our veteran setter, Lauren Korth, they're really the core of our team," Abraham said. "They have the most experience, they're the seasoned players. Nicole, Amanda and Karlie are all terminating kind of hitters and (Korth) ... she is playing much more relaxed, much more confident."

Hawkins said it is a thrill to be in the front row with two other All-Americans as the Crusaders continue to hammer opponents.

"It's definitely exciting, because it kind of makes us a force to be reckoned with, especially when we're all seniors and we're all front row," said Hawkins, a 2014 Stevenson grad. "So I definitely think other teams coming in, they know we're going to show up."

She describes her own style of play as fast and unpredictable.

"In the middle, anywhere you go you're going to have a blocker (on other side)," said the 6-0 Hawkins. "For quicks in the middle, I love cross-shots and I like to hit them fast."

A long postseason run is in their sights, said Hawkins, who really didn't turn serious about volleyball until middle school.

"I think we're going to do really well (in the tournament). Everyone steps up to the plate when they get an opportunity and that's really great to see," Hawkins said. "That road to nationals started in August. I'm real excited about it."

Good suggestion

But Hawkins' road to Madonna started several years ago, when she was spotted

playing volleyball in the neighborhood.

"To be honest, when I went into middle school, I didn't even know volleyball was a sport," Hawkins said with a chuckle. "I was soccer and basketball my whole life. There was this mom, Sally Freed from Stevenson, and she said, 'You're so tall, you should play volleyball.' I was, like, 'OK, what's that?'"

"So she's the one who got me to start playing in her front yard with her daughter. My parents (Chris and Jetonna Hawkins) then paid for me to go to all the clubs and the travel leagues, start high school and get recruited."

The rest, as they say, is history. First came an all-conference career with the Spartans, then she quickly made the transition to collegiate volleyball.

"I saw her in high school at Stevenson and I saw her progress," Abraham said. "I think, she made leaps and bounds from her junior year to her senior year and from her senior year to first year of college. She's got a volleyball body. She's lean, she's strong and fast. That's what we liked about her."

Like a family

Abraham also likes Facione at libero.

"She's a freshman libero that's absolutely taking charge," he said. "She's not playing like a freshman. She's confident, she's well-liked. She's kind of earned that starting job right off the bat. The players just love playing around her."

Whether the Crusaders take a serious run at a national championship or not, Hawkins will never forget her four years with the team.

"It's definitely going to be part of my life forever," said Hawkins, a psychology major with a 3.8 grade-point average. "You can always come back to those alumni games and see everyone. It's definitely like a family. It's kind of sad that this is my last year as part of this family."

"I've been playing volleyball since middle school. I don't know how I'm going to handle it after."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Does your shoulder need a tuneup?

Here in the Motor City, we tend to talk about things in "car terms" and when I'm talking about body parts with my patients, I will often say things like, "Your shoulder just needs a tuneup" or "Your shoulder needs an engine overhaul," depending on the severity of the problem, of course.

Now we all know that the weather has been nice, but unfortunately summer is gone and the nice parts of fall will be fading fast very soon. I suspect that many of you have been nursing a sore shoulder through your summer golf, tennis and softball endeavors. It might be just the right time to get your shoulder checked out and "tuned up" so that you're not sidelined from those activities that you enjoy this winter or next spring.

Let's start by talking a little about the shoulder itself. The shoulder is actually an amazing joint. It allows motion in all sorts of directions and has the power to throw balls, swing rackets and drive golf balls hundreds of yards. However, there is a catch: the shoulder is quite prone to irritation and injury. The unique anatomy that allows us to do all of these amazing feats also makes the shoulder a bit vulnerable.

The rotator cuff is composed of four muscles and tendons that surround the top of the humeral head (the ball) and hold it centered in the shoulder joint (the socket). The rotator cuff also helps your deltoid muscle when it comes to lifting your arm over your head. A tear may result suddenly from an injury or develop gradually over time because of repetitive activities. The rotator cuff tendons and bursa can also get inflamed, resulting in tendonitis or bursitis.

Many patients develop a bone spur that rubs on the rotator cuff, causing pinching (impingement) with subsequent inflammation or tearing. The biceps tendon attaches to an "o-ring" that surrounds the socket of the shoulder joint. This o-ring can pull away, resulting in a SLAP tear, or the biceps tendon itself can tear or become inflamed.

The AC joint is the small joint in the top of the shoulder where the end of the collar bone meets the top of the scapula. It is a lightning rod for inflammation and arthritis, especially in young active individuals. Less commonly, arthritis can also affect the ball and socket of the shoulder joint.

Common signs, symptoms

» Recurrent pain in the shoulder and upper arm, particularly with overhead activities and movements like reaching quickly or throwing.

» Pain at night that prevents you from sleeping on the affected side.

» Muscle weakness, especially when attempting to lift the arm.

» Catching and grating or cracking sounds that hurt



Joe Guettler
DR. JOR

when the arm is moved.

» Shoulder stiffness and limitation of function

Treatment options

» Rest: If the problem is due in part to overuse, resting the shoulder may help. For those of you "addicted" to your athletic and recreational pursuits, this can often be the most challenging form of treatment.

» Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications, like ibuprofen, can often help control pain and reduce inflammation (I tell my patients that these medications work like pouring buckets of water on a campfire).

» Strengthening and stretching exercises, as part of a physical therapy program, are often very important in preventing symptoms from returning once the inflammation is under control.

» Corticosteroid injections can help reduce pain and inflammation, but cannot be repeated too many times because they can also weaken the tendon.

» Because corticosteroid injections have their limitations, we have actually been researching – and using – growth factors like platelet rich plasma (PRP) and stem cells that can be injected in the office or applied at the time of surgery to aid in tendon healing.

Minimally invasive tuneups

If you do have a shoulder problem that hasn't responded to conservative treatment, don't panic. We're doing a lot of minimally invasive procedures, which can "tune you up and get you back in the game." Many of these surgeries can be done arthroscopically through poke incisions.

We can repair rotator cuff and SLAP tears, clean up arthritis and smooth bone spurs using these new techniques. In more severe cases, open surgery through a formal incision is sometimes required to repair large tears or replace the shoulder joint itself.

And, by the way, shoulder replacements have come a long way – we are doing some very advanced shoulder replacements at Beaumont that can decrease pain and improve function in some of the most complex cases that involve massive rotator cuff tears and arthritis.

Dr. Joseph Guettler is an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine, as well as surgery of the knee, shoulder, and elbow. His practice, Performance Orthopedics, is located in Bingham Farms. Guettler is active in teaching and research as a member of the medical staff at Beaumont Hospital and the OUWB Medical School.

BENEFIT

Continued from Page B1

Concurring was Chargers teammate Summer Clark, noting that players "love giving back to other people. I could never imagine (going to school hungry). That would be so difficult."

Livonia resident Karleigh Stone brought canned goods to Churchill and then watched her cousin play for Franklin.

"I brought five cans of Chef Boyardee," Stone said. "I think it's really great. My aunt told me about the tournament today to come watch my cousin and I was real excited to come to this one."

"Also, it's to help a really great cause. I think it's great that they're getting the kids involved in community giving so young and showing them how important it is."

The concept of Blessings in a Backpack is pretty simple: Make sure kids don't go hungry over the weekend and thus are not distracted when the school



Volunteering Tuesday at Livonia Churchill for Blessings in a Backpack were (from left) Colleen Drake and Denise Murray. TIM SMITH

bell rings again Monday morning.

"Students in Livonia who are on free or reduced lunch qualified for our program," said Denise Murray, a Canton resident working the food drive at Churchill. "And then if they opt in and want to participate, we send them home with a bag of food on Fridays.

"I think it's very good. Kids need the food on the weekend, because otherwise they might not be eating enough."

Food for thought

According to a description in Tuesday's game program, Blessings in a Backpack endeavors to fill the void for millions of kids who might not

get enough to eat from the time the school week ends to the time the next one begins.

"Children that show up to school healthy and well-nourished learn better," the description noted. "The are more likely to attend school and take advantage of educational opportunities."

"Undernourished children are at a disadvantage from the moment they walk into school. Poor nutrition increases fatigue, shortens attention span and decreases work capacity."

As of 2011, there were more than 19.5 million children unable to eat enough or eat healthy, the description went on. "While it seems unlikely that children in Michigan children would go to bed hungry on weekends, in reality, between 5 and 90 percent of the children in school districts are at risk."

Livonia resident Colleen Drake, volunteering with Murray at Churchill, said the Blessings in a Backpack event augments a year-round initiative to make sure kids are fed.

"This canned drive is kind of a special scenario," Drake

said. Meijer is key to the effort, providing food items at a discount.

Throughout the year, food is brought from Meijer every week by Livonia's Two Men and a Truck to The Way Church (on Middlebelt), where backpacks are filled, noted Suzanne Baker of the Blessings in a Backpack-Livonia steering committee.

The backpacks then are transported to the district's elementary schools and subsequently sent home each Friday with those children who qualify.

"I think it's a great idea," Stone said. "I work for a non-profit myself (Sweet Dreamzzz on Merriman Road in Livonia), so I think it's great anytime you can help kids and give them a better life."

"So many kids need the help and we don't notice it."

Next up for Blessings in a Backpack is a vendor fair in October and bowling fundraiser in November.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

GIRLS SWIMMING

Team compete to honor Rachael Maurer's memory

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com

The spirit of former Salem High School swimmer Rachael Maurer lives on every year, thanks to the Rock Maurer Invitational, which took place Sept. 23.

Because of renovations at the Salem pool, the 18th annual invite took place at Canton High School, where Saline topped a five-team field with 300 points.

Placing second with 174 points were the Rocks, followed by Canton (155), Plymouth (110) and Northville's 'B' team (73).

"It's very important," Salem girls swim coach Brandon Larkins said when asked about the memorial tourney. "Unfortunately, we lost Miss Maurer a long time ago. To have this meet in her honor is still great and I think it's representing a good part of this community and our school.

"I love to have this meet and my girls absolutely love it."

In her name

Maurer was killed in an August 1999 car crash. Soon after, Salem head coach Chuck Olson and that year's team decided to rename the Rock

Invitational "in honor of Rachael's infectious enthusiasm, competitive spirit and proven leadership skills," her parents, Mary and Ed Maurer, noted in the program handed out at the event.

The Maurers also thanked the current team "for their continuing remembrance of our daughter."

"(Olson) started it," Larkins said. "Rachael Maurer was his swimmer. I'm very happy that he made a meet that was in her honor."

According to Salem senior freestyler Jenna Chen, "it's an honor" for her and her teammates to compete in Maurer's honor.

"This meet is dedicated to our former teammate and her family always donates a lot of stuff for this meet," Chen said.

Salem junior Lauren Branford and Canton senior Caitlyn Marsac both said the Rock Maurer Invite is something they want to do well at, to honor Maurer but also to sharpen up for the conference and state meets down the road.

"It helps us prepare for what we need to do in each race," said Branford, who swims in the 50- and 500-yard freestyle events.



Chen



Branford



Marsac

Raises the stakes

According to Marsac, a Canton senior who competes in the 100-yard breaststroke and 200 and 500 freestyle races, "It's fun to swim against our friends from other schools, always, and it's more exciting when there's more teams instead of just two teams."

"It's our invitational. We invite a lot of the really fast teams," Chen said.

That the Rocks squared off against the Chiefs for the second time in less than 48 hours (Canton won a Sept. 21 dual meet, 104-82) spiced things up just a bit.

"Our team is doing pretty good. We changed conferences this year," Chen said. "We were undefeated until the Canton meet. We did lose to Canton, unfortunately. It is healthy competition, though. We'll get better."

"It shows two sides. It pushes us more and more," Larkins said. "Unfortunately, we lost to them (Sept. 21), but I think it gives (the Rocks) more motivation to try a little bit harder."

Canton head coach Ed Weber said the Rock Maurer is a welcome challenge on the schedule because of the opponents and time of season it takes place.

"I like how it's placed in the year. We're ahead of all the championship meets that come in October," Weber said. "We have some big meets in that part of the year. Sometimes, it's difficult to get ourselves fired up when we come off some big wins that we've had over the past week, like (against Salem)."

"That was a great swim by both teams and I was very proud of the girls for how they swam that one. And to come in here (Rock Maurer), we swam pretty much all different events, just to give the girls a different focus, looking for a new race and a new purpose. Learning how to race something different."

Earning first

At the Rock Maurer, where multiple heats per event took place, first-place points were scored by Salem's Chen (50

free, 26.70), Serena Hao (200 IM, 2:15.59; 100 butterfly, 1:01.65) and Camille Burt (1-meter diving, 357.15 points).

For Canton, Jessica Clark placed first in the 500 free (5:23.71). Plymouth's Kelsey Peregorid prevailed in the 100 free (57.96).

"I think it's really nice for them to be able to get to a place where they can all swim in the same pool, have that Park camaraderie," Plymouth coach Emily Weiner said. "I think the nice thing I got to see at the beginning of the meet (was) they did those combined cheers."

"That really shows they are three teams, but there's still one Park."

CANTON 104, SALEM 82: On Sept. 21 in a KLA Black match-up, the Chiefs were sparked to victory by multiple winners Jessica Clark, Ellie Caruso, Sophia Balow and Sadie Miller.

That quartet teamed to win the 200 medley relay (1:54.89). Clark, Balow and Miller, joined by Jenna Lepek, took first in the 400 free relay (3:50.66). Balow (200 free, 2:02.91; 500 free, 5:33.90), Miller (50 free, 26.32; 100 free, 56.50) and Clark (100 fly, 1:01.35; 100 back, 1:00.98) each added two individual wins. Lepek chipped in a first-place finish in the 200 IM (2:14.08).

Salem was first in 1-meter diving (Camille Burt, 235 points) and the 200-yard free relay, in 1:45.19, behind Jenna Chen, Morgan Davis, Serena Hao and Sabine Branford.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

GIRLS SWIMMING

No. 1-ranked Mercy favored at annual Oakland County meet

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com

The Oakland County Girls Swimming and Diving Championships always features high-quality competition in a state-meet like atmosphere.

Swim fans can anticipate the same kind of excitement at the annual event scheduled for Oct. 6-7 at Lake Orion High School. Diving finals are slated to start at 6 p.m. Friday and swim finals are to begin at noon Saturday.

Farmington Hills Mercy enters the meet as 13-time defending champion. The Marlins, currently No. 1 in the Division 1 state rankings, will be favored to defend their title.

However, Birmingham Seaholm (No. 2 in Division 2) and Bloomfield Hills Marian (No. 1 in Division 3) should provide a spirited challenge. The Maples are the defending D-2 state champions, while Catholic League rivals Marian and Mercy were state runners-up last year.

Mercy defeated runner-up Marian at last year's county meet by 87 points.

"The mindset for us is going in and swimming the way we are capable of swimming," second-year Mercy head coach Mike Venos said. "We want to treat it as if it were the state meet. It's as much a mindset as it is anything else."

"Our girls have to race in a championship setting against, let's face it, some of the best swimmers in the Midwest, if not the nation," he added. "This meet has always been, for the 20-some years I've been at Oakland County, a great gauge for how we're going to do at states."

A fast meet expected

Seaholm head coach Karl Hodgson agrees that the meet is one of the fastest outside of the state championship meet.

"We live in a fast county and I expect this meet to reflect that," Hodgson said. "Mercy should be the favorite this year."

"We should have a few com-



Seaholm's Linnea Anderson figures to be one of the top freestylers at this year's Oakland County girls swimming championship meet. MARTY BUDNER

IN THE POOL

What: Oakland County Girls Swimming and Diving Championships

When: Oct. 6-7

Where: Lake Orion High School natatorium

Time: Diving finals 6 p.m. Oct. 6; Swim finals begin noon Oct. 7

Admission: \$5 (\$3 for programs)

Notable: Farmington Mercy is the 13-time defending meet champion; Birmingham Seaholm, Bloomfield Hills Marian, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood, Northville, Lake-land, Farmington/Harrison United and Birmingham Groves are the area's other state-ranked teams slated to participate.

petitive swims," he added. "Two swimmers to watch out for from Seaholm are seniors Haley Dolan and Linnea Anderson. Both should have a significant impact on our relays, as well as their individual events."

While Marian head coach Bill Thompson believes Mercy is the team to beat, he anticipates a colossal battle for the next few spots.

"I haven't seen all the teams yet, but my hunch is that Mercy has the talent and depth to take the team trophy," Thompson said. "But the next spots should be very competitive as



Coach Mike Venos keeps an eye on his swimmers at a recent Mercy practice. DAN DEAN

there are several solid teams, all with some upper-level athletes, so that will make the team competition tight."

Marian's six athletes with 'A' cuts who are expected to make some noise include seniors Lauren Biglin, Emily Schlabach and Gabby Granata, juniors Jane Nodland and Anika Fassett and sophomore Lauren Sielicki. Biglin is the county's defending 500 free champion and was also a member of the Mustangs' foursome that won the 200 and 400 free relays last year.

Mercy is again loaded with top-end talent after having lost

just one swimmer who scored at last year's Division 1 state meet.

The Marlins already have won the Fenton Relays and the Ann Arbor Skyline quad. They placed second of nine teams to the host and No. 1-ranked (Division 2) Pioneers at the East Grand Rapids Invitational. They've also registered dual-meet wins over Birmingham Seaholm and Grosse Pointe North.

"We really haven't had too many opportunities to step up and race so far this year, but when we have, we've taken advantage of it," Venos said.

"But we're really starting to get into our competition phase of the season."

Marlins rich in talent

Mercy is led by eight-time all-state star and four-year varsity veteran Katie Minnich, who recently committed to swim at the University of Michigan.

Minnich returns as the Oakland County meet's defending champion in both the 200-yard IM (2:05.70) and 100-yard backstroke (55.51, a new county record). The senior captain also was a member of Mercy's winning 200-yard medley relay team at last year's county meet.

Mercy's other standout is fellow senior captain Kendall Goit, who garnered three all-state swims at last year's state meet. The four-year varsity veteran is also Oakland County's defending 200-yard freestyle relay champion (1:52.60).

"Kendall is very driven and probably the most competitive girl we have on the team," Venos said. "She is another one who leaves it in the pool every day."

Mercy's third senior captain is Mya Loniewski, who scored in both the IM and backstroke at the 2016 state meet. Loniewski has a rich pedigree as both of her older sisters, Mara and Maddy, were also Marlins swimmers.

"I think she understands what this team is about more than anybody, because she grew up on this pool deck," Venos said. "She had two sisters who graduated from here, so she grew up a Mercy girl."

Junior Annette Dombkowski, a distance swimmer whose mom Sue also swam at Mercy, junior Francesca Schena and sophomores Julia Coffman, Kylie Goit and Sarah Puscas are also returning state-meet scorers.

"These girls train as hard, if not harder, than any group of kids I've ever coached," Venos said. "And I've had the opportunity to coach some pretty good teams. These girls leave it in the pool every day."

MINNICH

Continued from Page B1

Minnich began swimming at the tender age of 5 with her summer team at Red Run Golf Club. A couple of years later, she joined the popular Birmingham Blue Dolphins Swim Club, where she developed her talents.

"I got into swimming because all of my friends swam and, I think, because I enjoyed it and I liked going to practice

and I liked working hard and so many good things have happened," she said. "There is still a plenty of room to improve, but I still enjoyed it as much as I did when I was 7 years old. It's year-round, but I love every day of it."

Prepared for next level

Minnich demonstrated her pool prowess in her first year as a member of Mercy's swim team.

She captured the Division 1 100-yard backstroke individual state championship as a fresh-

man and will enter the state meet later this fall as the three-time defending 100 back state champion. The 17-year-old Royal Oak resident is an eight-time all-state swimmer who also excels in the 200 IM and as a lead-off member of the 200-yard medley relay team.

Minnich said she is grateful to be part of the rich Mercy swim program, which helped her prepare for her upcoming collegiate career.

"I ended up at Mercy for the swim team," Minnich said. "I knew that I wanted to go to a

private school in the area and my parents wanted me to and I met the older girls on the team here and I met the old coach, Shannon Dunworth, and I just knew this was going to be the right place for me."

"I think Mercy really prepared me well for my next step. I think Mercy is a lot like a college team. Our schedule is very similar to the schools that I looked at and the way that our team acts with each other ... we're all so close and it's just like a college team. It's like you're swimming with a bunch

of your sisters rather than just a pool full of other girls."

"It's like a family. So some days are harder than others, you have disagreements, but in the end you are able to come together and make something really special happen at practice every day," she added. "I've enjoyed every minute of it here. The girls here really have pushed me to keep improving to get to that next level."

mbudner@hometownlife.com

Twitter: @BhmEccentric

BOYS SOCCER

North Farmington wins OAA battle against Seaholm, 2-0

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

North Farmington is certainly defensive about its quest for the Oakland Activities Association White Division boys soccer championship.

The Raiders on Tuesday blanked visiting Birmingham Seaholm, 2-0, to register their sixth straight shutout and ninth in 11 games. The victory lifted North Farmington to 4-1-1 to remain within striking distance of first-place Birmingham Groves (4-0-2). Seaholm and Lake Orion are tied for third (3-2-1).

Each team has one White Division game remaining.

The Raiders will host Royal Oak on Oct. 3, while Groves will host Oxford that same day.

"The boys know that all they can do is close out this week with two solid wins," second-year North head coach Erica Rust said. "They are just focused on that and ending on a high note. Whatever happens, happens in the league standings after that."

"I think the boys actually came out a little jittery because of that. You could tell they were nervous and they seemed like they were playing not to lose instead of to win. We talked about that at halftime and refocused and played our game."

"We kind of knew that if we play the way we know how to play, we should win," she added. "Thankfully, it ended up in the result."

Scoreless first half

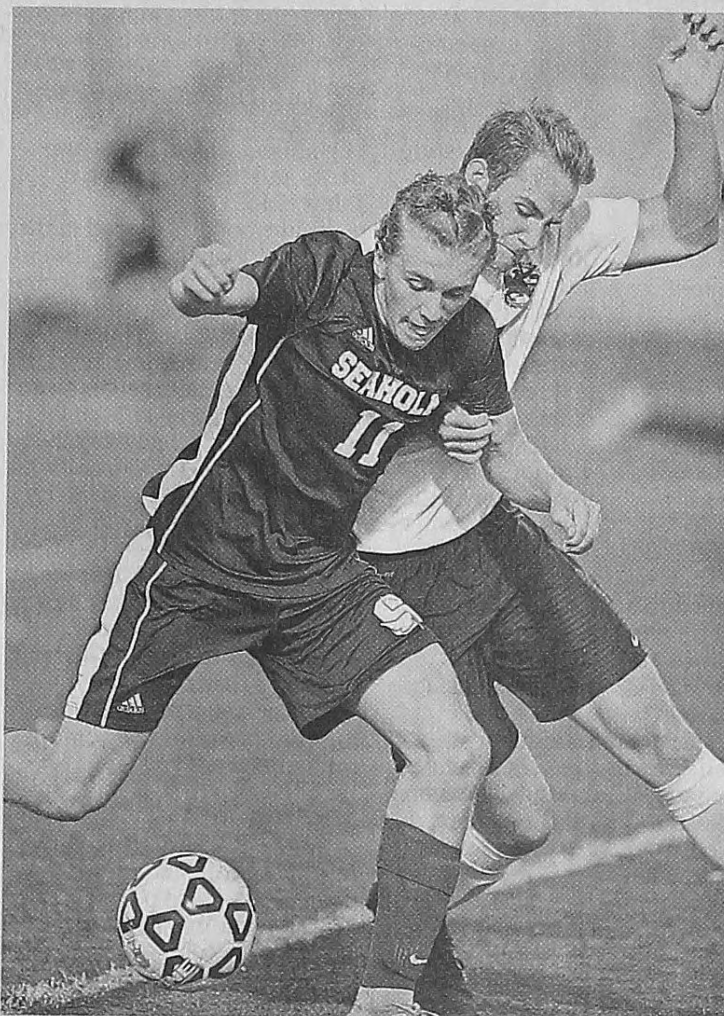
North Farmington and Seaholm played a scoreless first half. The Raiders had four total shots, two on goal, while the Maples countered with just one on the warm, humid evening at Holland Field.

The action picked up a bit in the second half.

North junior goalie Zachary Shuk made his first save on a Maples header five minutes after halftime.

Then, seven minutes into the second half, senior forward Matthew Swarouth made a nice run up the middle and through a pair of Seaholm defenders. He was taken down inside the box and the Raiders were awarded a penalty kick.

Senior forward Andrew George took the PK and successfully booted it past diving Seaholm diving goalkeeper Zachary Martin, who has enjoyed success in stopping those shots this season, but couldn't track this one down.



Seaholm forward Hagen Cunningham (left) battles with North Farmington midfielder Anthony Damiani. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"We've had another center midfielder, Easton Cummins, who's taken (PKs) before, but he's battling a little bit of a hamstring issue so he can't get enough power," Rust said. "And Andrew wanted it. He's had a few quality chances to score that he wished he would have finished, so I think he wanted to make up for that tonight."

North Farmington junior midfielder Cole Arnold banged in the insurance goal with five minutes remaining on a nice cross from senior midfielder Anthony Damiani.

The Maples turned on the heat in the game's final 10 minutes, eventually outshooting the Raiders by a 9-3 second-half margin, but they couldn't get the ball past Shuk.

It seemed as if every time Seaholm went on a nice run, the Raiders' defense stepped up to thwart each attack. Seniors Jake Selinsky, Jarryn Shin, Matthew George and Damiani, plus juniors Jiwon Kim, Nicholas Sinawi and Arnold all played stellar defense in front of Shuk.

"(Shuk) has just been outstanding this year, not just in

terms of coming up with timely saves, but simply directing the team," Rust said. "You could probably hear him all game long. He's a very vocal presence and the guys have a lot of confidence in him, so they can play a little more loose with that in mind."

"They trust playing him back. They trust taking a few more chances, because they know he's back there and I think that makes the team better overall."

Seaholm head coach Jared Vince said his team played hard, but just couldn't dent North Farmington's formidable 5-3-2 defensive front.

"It was disappointing. I thought we had some chances but just couldn't finish," Vince said. "I thought they played well, but North Farmington has a stellar keeper. That's soccer. It just didn't go our way."

"They had five back at all times and they clear out the box," he added. "They crowd the box and they get the ball forward and it works for them."

OAA ROUNDUP

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Boys tennis

SEAHOLM 5, ADAMS 4:

The doubles teams came through Sept. 26 for Seaholm in this OAA Red Division victory. Seaholm senior Charlie Appleford and William Appleford defeated the Adams duo of Matt Heaphy and Alvin Chen in straight sets at No. 1 doubles, 6-1, 7-5. At No. 2 doubles, senior Owen Cross and sophomore Jonny Cross topped the Highlander team of Hunter Lambrecht and Thomas Yu, 6-2, 6-4. The other Maples doubles winners were the teams of Aiden O'Neill and Max Levitsky (No. 3), Ben Adams and Alex Acho (No. 4) and Pallido Lavigne and Brandon Alati (No. 5). The lone singles match that went three sets was No. 4, where Adams' Evan Chang went the distance against Seaholm's Owen Claar, winning 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. Brennan Bull lost in a close match at No. 1 singles in straight sets to Julian Hyman.

LIGGETT INVITATIONAL: On Sept. 23, Birmingham Seaholm finished third in the 52nd Liggett Invitational held in Grosse Pointe. Ann Arbor Pioneer finished first, followed by host Liggett and Seaholm. Seaholm's No. 2 doubles team of junior Owen Cross and freshman Jonny Cross placed first by winning all three of its matches. They defeated teams from Utica Eisenhower and Ann Arbor Greenhills in straight sets, and needed three sets to get past the team of Sam Packer and Mickey Kichta from Grosse Pointe South, 4-6, 6-2, 10-7. In singles action, sophomore Cameron Lee (No. 3) and freshman Owen Claar (No. 4) each went 2-1 to place as a runner-up in their flights. At No. 1 singles, Seaholm senior Brennan Bull won the consolation draw.

NORTHVILLE 6, GROVES 3:

On Sept. 25, host Northville doubled up Groves in non-league action. The teams split the four singles matches, but the Mustangs won four of the five singles matches. Northville's singles winners were juniors Ryan Gallagher (No. 3) and Samir Pajani (No. 4). Gallagher defeated Groves junior Jonah Liss in three sets, 7-5, 3-6, 10-6. The Groves singles winners were Gabe Liss (No. 1) and Gabe Vidinas (No. 2). Liss defeated Northville's Janek Makherji in three sets, 6-4, 0-6, 6-4. At No. 1 doubles, the Northville duo of Giuliano Daniel and Matt Freeman stopped the Groves team of Aerik Joe and Nick Haddad,

6-1, 6-3. The Mustangs team of Nishant Chava and Trevor Keltergorn won at straight sets at No. 2 doubles by identical 6-3 scores over Groves' Alex Nader and Yanis Bousarsar. The lone Groves doubles win was No. 3, where the team of Aidan Bauer and Ari Sherman needed three sets to get past Northville's Pranav Doppalapudi and Michael Ying, 6-1, 4-6, 6-4.

Boys soccer

GROVES 2, LAKE ORION 0:

Birmingham Groves remained in the hunt for the OAA White Division championship Tuesday. The Falcons goal scorers were senior captains Spencer Tredwell (assisted by senior captain Alberto Whitmer) and Isaac Thompson. Senior Christian Williams was in the nets for the shutout.

Boys cross country

JACKSON INVITATIONAL:

On Sept. 23, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice placed fifth in Jackson with 224 points. Ann Arbor Pioneer won with 51 points and the Warriors placed behind fourth-place Northville, which scored 193 points. Rice's top runner was senior Mike Tremonti, who placed second overall with a time of 15:38. Teammates Grant Davey (ninth in 16:04) and Alec Miracle (14th in 16:15) both placed among the top 15. Jacob Hannawa (95th), Joe Berg (118th) and Dan Serra (140th) were Rice's other runners.

BROTHER RICE 19, DELA-

SALLE 41: On Sept. 25 at Metro Beach Metropark, Rice raced past Warren DeLaSalle to remain undefeated (3-0) in Catholic League action.

Girls swimming

BLACK HAWK INVITATION-

AL: Bloomfield Hills hosted the four-team meet Sept. 23 as South Lyon beat the three other teams while Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood went 2-1. The Black Hawks were 1-2 and North Farmington went 0-3. South Lyon won two of the three relays, while Cranbrook Kingswood won the 200 free relay (1:45.91) behind the efforts of Jordan Murrell, Sydney Allison, Hale Oal and Emily Prokop. The area's individual winners were junior Camille Misra (200 IM in 2:16.15 and 100 back in 1:00.27), North Farmington freshman Greta Gidley (50 free in 24.38), junior Julianna Petrak (500 free in 5:26.99) and Bloomfield Hills senior Michaela Peil (100 breast in 1:09.12).

Volleyball

BIRMINGHAM ROEPER 3,

MACOMB CHRISTIAN 2: On Sept. 25, the visiting Roughriders posted this victory, 25-21, 18-25, 25-20, 11-25, 15-12.

KLAA ROUNDUP

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Volleyball

NORTHVILLE SWEEPS:

The Mustangs (24-5) rolled to a trio of three-set KLAA wins Sept. 26 over host Livonia Churchill (25-16, 25-17, 25-15), Franklin (25-14, 25-8, 25-15) and Stevenson (25-12, 25-17, 25-20). Northville kills leaders on the night included Clare McNamara (18), Izzy Guleff (16), Brianna Maccoux (14) and Christina Valentini (12). Setters Rachel Holmes and Gabi Fisette added 46 and 35, assists, respectively. Hannah Grant recorded a team-best 30 digs and seven service aces. Other digs leaders included Ally Zayan and Maccoux, 16 each; Holmes, 12; McNamara and Fisette, 11 each.

Girls cross country

JACKSON INVITATIONAL:

Freshman Yamsine Mansi (career best 18:19.4) was runner-up and senior Ana Barrott took fourth (season best 18:29.3) as Northville (88 points) captured the Jackson Invitational Sept. 24 at Ella Sharp Park over Troy (92) and Wheaton (Ill.) Warrenville South (147). Birmingham Seaholm's Rachel McCardell took first in 18:13.4, while other finishers for the Mustangs included Olivia Harp (16th,

19:20.8); Emily Gordon (23rd, 19:32.0) and Olivia Maase (43rd, career best 20:04.7). In ninth place was Salem (186 points), led by Hallie Younglas (26th, 19:35.8).

MONROE INVITATIONAL:

Also Sept. 23, Salem sent a group to the Monroe Invitational at Sterling State Park, and the Rocks prevailed (39 points), edging Plymouth (51) and Livonia Churchill (94). For Salem, medal winners included Bridget Nelson (fifth, 20:26.8), Jessica Hughes (seventh, 20:35.4), Lizzy Lu (eighth, 20:48.8), Anna Kubinski (ninth, 20:52.8), Esha Bingi (10th, 20:56.1), Madison Grant (12th, 21:06.6) and Marnie Waggoner (15th, 21:16.7).

Boys cross country

JACKSON INVITATIONAL:

Northville (195 points) took fourth behind Ann Arbor Pioneer (51), Romeo (99) and White Lake Lakeland (104) at Ella Sharp Park. Junior Nicholas Couyoumjian (16:20.7) led the Mustangs with a 17th-place finish followed by followed by freshman Nathan Hayes, 30th (16:46.9); Raymond Jiang, 38th (17:06.6); Sean McKee, 54th (17:21.2); and Alex Jund, 56th (17:23.9).

Girls golf

NORTHVILLE 178, SALEM

210: On Sept. 26, the Mustangs defeated the Rocks despite a 49 score by Salem's Nicole Hahn.

SANDER MEMORIAL TOUR-

NEY: Freshman Nicole Whatley posted a season best even-par 72 as Northville (330) took runner-up honors Sept. 25 in the Jim Sander Memorial at Prestwick Village G.C. Brighton captured the team title with 306 with South Lyon (340) and Novi (351) taking third and fourth, respectively. Whatley, who carded four birdies, shared individual medalist honors with Novi's Abigail Livingston, along with Brighton's Annie Pietila and Heather Fortushniak. Other Northville scorers included Mariella Simoncini (78), Sufna Gill (87) and Paige Molloy (93). Novi's other three scorers included Leah Kiura (86), Hrishika Gogineni (96) and Despina Alexander (97).

Girls swimming

CLASH OF THE UNDER-

CLASSWOMEN INVITATIONAL:

Novi scored a team-best 665 points to capture the Clash of the Underclasswomen Invitational on Sept. 23 at Waterford Mott over Harrison-Farmington (331), Hartland (316), Brighton (270), Howell (199) and Waterford Union (99). Individual firsts for Novi came from Kyla Matthews, 50-yard freestyle (26.27); Anna Shinohara, 1-meter diving (188.50 points); Julia Katulski, 100 freestyle (54.58); Annick Gardon, 100 backstroke (1:00.57). Gardon, Katulski, Elise Fonda and Matthews also team up for a win in the 200 medley relay (1:54.24). The foursome of

Gardon, Fonda, Linda Weng and Katulski also took the 400 freestyle relay. The Wildcats' 200 freestyle relay team of Lia Munson, Katie Pierini, Evie Penner and Madeline Greaves was runner-up (1:45.44). Individual seconds went to Katulski, 200 freestyle (2:19.01); Sarah Kerbrat, diving (173.00); Fonda, 100 freestyle (1:02.77); and Gardon, 100 backstroke (1:00.57).

Boys soccer

PLYMOUTH 2, STEVENSON

0: Benjamin Tetlow and Justin Wojcik scored goals for Plymouth Sept. 26 as the Wildcats topped No. 2 ranked Livonia Stevenson.

CANTON 1, PIONEER 1: Canton earned a draw Sept. 23 against Ann Arbor Pioneer, with Avery Olson netting a penalty kick goal. Sharing goalkeeping duties for the Chiefs were David Sadonowicz and Sean O'Meara.

SALEM 2, PLYMOUTH 1: On Sept. 22, in the first game of the Soccer World Park Cup tournament involving Plymouth-Canton Educational Park teams, the Rocks prevailed on a second half goal by Thomas Dono. Setting up the winner was Josh Stevens. Also scoring for Salem was Jason Warras. The tourney concludes with 7 p.m. games Oct. 3 (Plymouth vs. Canton) and Oct. 5 (Canton vs. Salem).

NORTHVILLE 3, BRIGHTON 1 (SUSPENDED): On Sept. 21, the Mustangs (8-2-1, 6-1) led the

host Bulldogs when the KLAA Gold Division match was suspended with 9:45 to go in the first half at Sloan Field because of lightning. The match will be made up Monday, Oct. 2 at Brighton.

Boys tennis

NORTHVILLE 9, SALEM 0:

The Mustangs were in control Sept. 25 in this lopsided victory over the Rocks. Northville was sparked by No. 1 singles player Janak Mukherji, who won 6-1, 6-0 over Eric Liu (only his second loss of the season). Other Mustang wins were recorded by Arvind Kalyana (No. 2 singles), Ryan Gallagher (No. 3 singles), Samir Rajani (No. 4 singles), Matt Freeman/Cameron Mailley (No. 1 doubles), Trevor Kelterborn/Nishant Chava (No. 2 doubles), Michael Ying/Pranav Doppalapudi (No. 3 doubles), Joe Vig/Ilija Jaksic (No. 4 doubles) and Michail Boksha/Srikanth Kesamneni (No. 5 doubles).

BRIGHTON 7, STEVENSON

2: Livonia Stevenson faced a tough opponent Sept. 26. The Spartans' wins were posted by Erik Schmidt at No. 4 singles (a tough, three-setter over Drake Harbrecht) and by the No. 1 doubles tandem of Kevin Dunne and Josh Maj, winning 7-5, 6-1 over Jack Simpson and Jack Gray.

GRAND BLANC 8, PLY-

MOUTH 1: The Wildcats finished their regular season Sept. 25 with this loss to the Bobcats.

PREP ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

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MARCO GENRICH

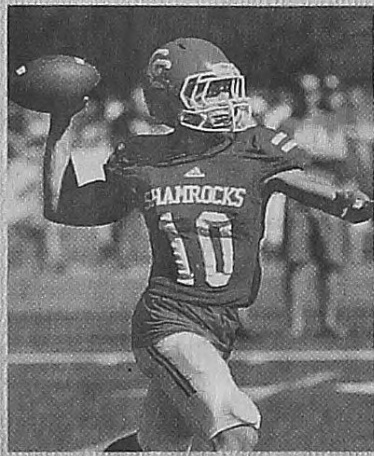
**FOOTBALL
JUNIOR
NOVI DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL**

WHAT HE DID: The 5-11, 175-pound junior quarterback was an efficient 9-of-12 passing for 221 yards and two touchdowns in the Shamrocks' 27-23 come-from-behind Boys Bowl victory over rival Birmingham Brother Rice. Trailing by two points, Genrich engineered an eight-play, 89-yard drive in the final 3:42 with four straight runs sandwiched in between hitting passes of 53 and 13 yards (including the game-winning TD with 47 seconds left).

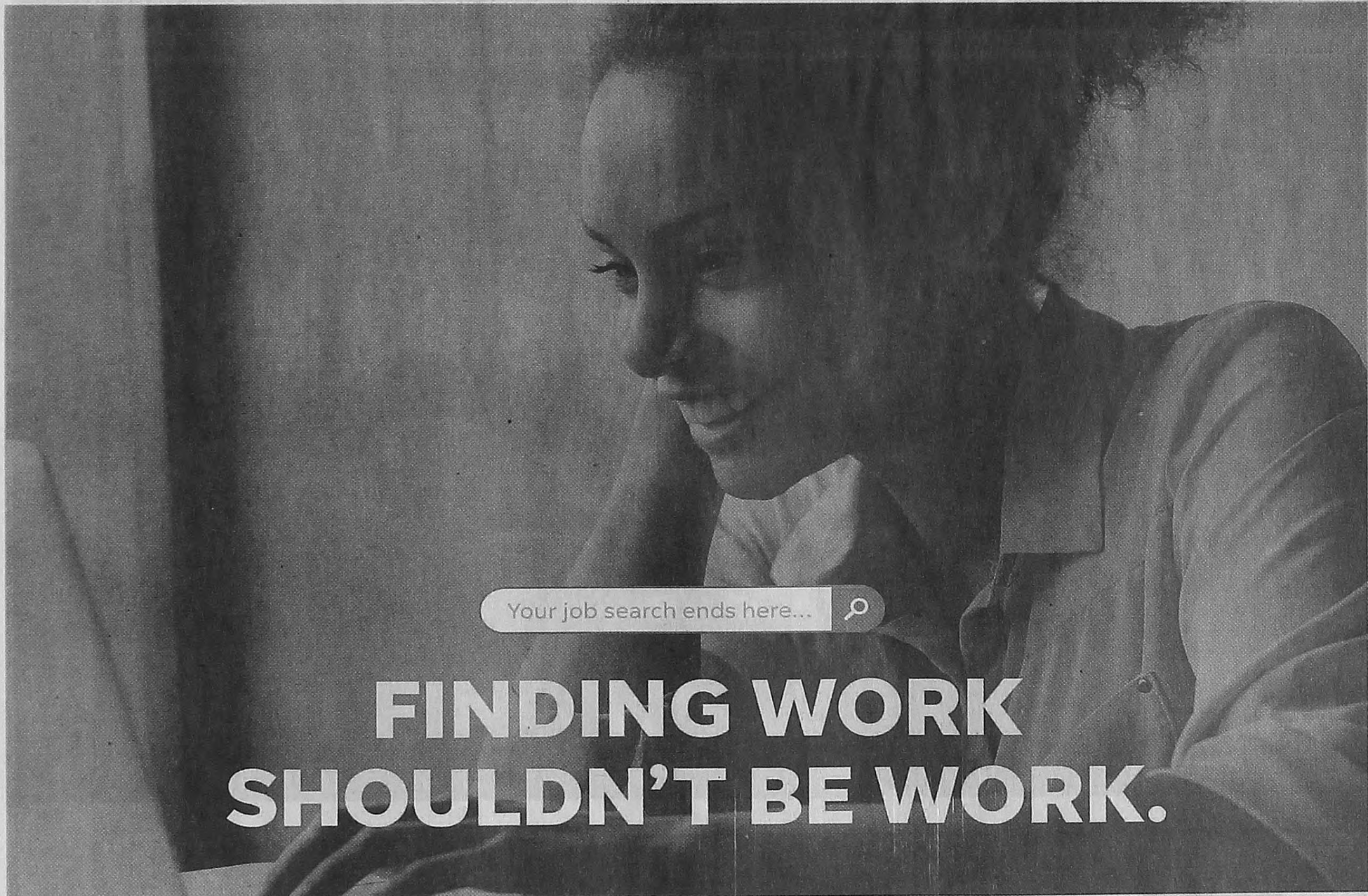
WHAT HE SAID ABOUT BEING NAMED AOW: Genrich was more than modest about his late game heroics. "I was just following the script, just doing whatever they told me to do," he said. "I just went out there and made plays." Genrich played all last season behind sophomore starter Austin Brown. The only game action Genrich saw during the 2016 season was emergency duty in a 17-7 MHSAA Division 1 semifinal playoff win against Romeo after Brown had broken his leg.

When Brown decided to transfer last January to Madison Heights Madison, Genrich stepped up and won the QB job full-time. And Sunday's performance was perhaps his finest to date as a Shamrock. Trailing by two points, Genrich engineered an eight-play, 89-yard drive during the final 3:42 with four straight runs sandwiched in between hitting passes of 53 and 13 yards (including the game-winning TD with 47 seconds left to tight end Mike Harding). "I made a statement to the coaches before the game

and I said, 'I just hope Marco comes into his own today,'" CC first-year coach Dan Anderson said. "And I felt like he really did. He's a junior, but he's young. It's his fifth game starting. And with the competition we play, you got to be on the ball at all times. And I thought he was on the ball and did a great job for us." Genrich started playing football in the fourth grade and he has been a quarterback ever since. Genrich, who resides in Northville, went to grade school and played football at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington Hills. He is the second oldest among five children. His older brother Gio was a three-point shooting specialist last season for the Shamrocks' basketball team and now attends Grand Valley State. He also has two younger brothers and a younger sister. Genrich has worked closely on his craft this season with both Anderson, who also serves as CC's offensive coordinator, and David Sofran, the Shamrocks' new quarterbacks coach.



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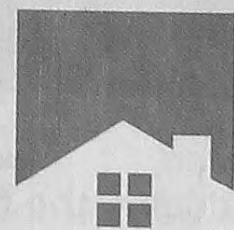
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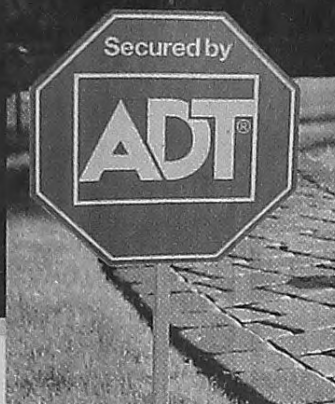
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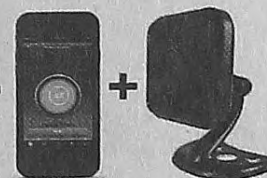
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How to answer tough interview questions

BY PETER JONES
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

We all know it's good to prepare answers to the standard interview questions, plus the not-so-standard ones that might come up in a particular interview at a particular company. But often, we are so prepared that we forget to edit our answers down to their most surgical and concise form.

Here are six standard, but tough, interview questions and the snappy sort of answers you should start rehearsing right now:

1. Why you left your last job

Maybe the answer is as simple as your company was downsizing, but if you left in order to challenge yourself further or pursue more meaningful work, try saying something that emphasizes some skill or experience you wanted to develop professionally.

Talk about how it wasn't possible to do this at your former job, and so you are committed to mastering it, and you see the perfect opportunity to do so at this company. Bonus points if you can prove you're already well on your way to developing this skill, whether by having taken a class or earned a certification.



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2. Your greatest weakness

Step one: Pick a trait that won't scare them off, and doesn't in any way affect your ability to perform this job. Don't humblebrag. "I'm just

too good at work!" But do try and pick something with a positive spin. Maybe you're too much of a perfectionist or you go flat out until a project's done without taking a break. Or choose a weakness

that you've since worked hard to convert into a strength. Formula for the latter: "Well, I was noticing that I was x, so I took step y in order to improve, and ended up in situation z," (which is infinitely better and makes you a stronger candidate for the job).

3. Why you seem overqualified

Rather than agree with them and say how much this job is beneath you, emphasize why (and pick three or so specifics) this job is perfect for you right now, and how it fits into your career growth plan. Your resume probably shows that you can do this job, so use this answer to prove that you want it.

4. Why you've changed jobs a lot

It can be a red flag to some employers who haven't gotten the memo that job-shifting isn't necessarily a red flag anymore. Try telling the truth. Either it's as simple as, "For reason x, we moved around a lot and so I was forced to..." or you have a unique opportunity to document your drive and your desire to learn new things and acquire new skills that make you such a stellar candidate with such passion for what you do. Emphasize how all this hopping has uniquely prepared you to land

on their precise lily pad, and why you'd want to stay put for a good long while.

5. Why you've been unemployed for ages

If you've been out of the workforce for a year or more, you're going to have to explain yourself. Either go for the "I took some time off to evaluate my career needs and wishes in order to come back refreshed and well-prepared and hungry to do this kind of work," or the "I've just completed x course or accreditation in order to make myself more valuable in my field." They'll eat either up.

6. Your age

It's illegal to discriminate in hiring decisions based on age, but not illegal to ask. If you're on the older end of the job market spectrum, use your answer to assuage their fears that you're just in it for the drudgery and the paycheck. Emphasize how much passion you still have and how much invaluable experience you bring to the table. You're not done yet!

Peter Jones is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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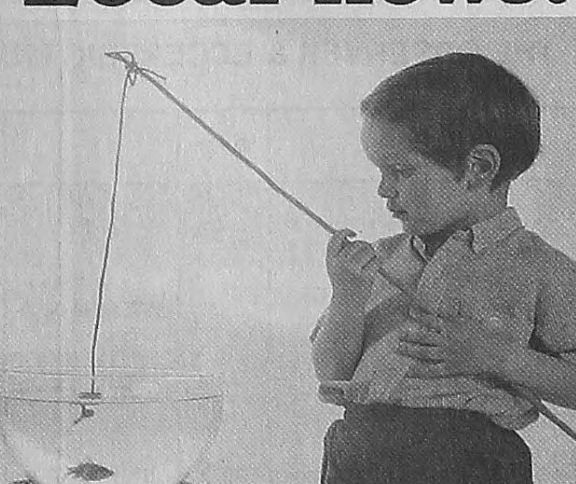
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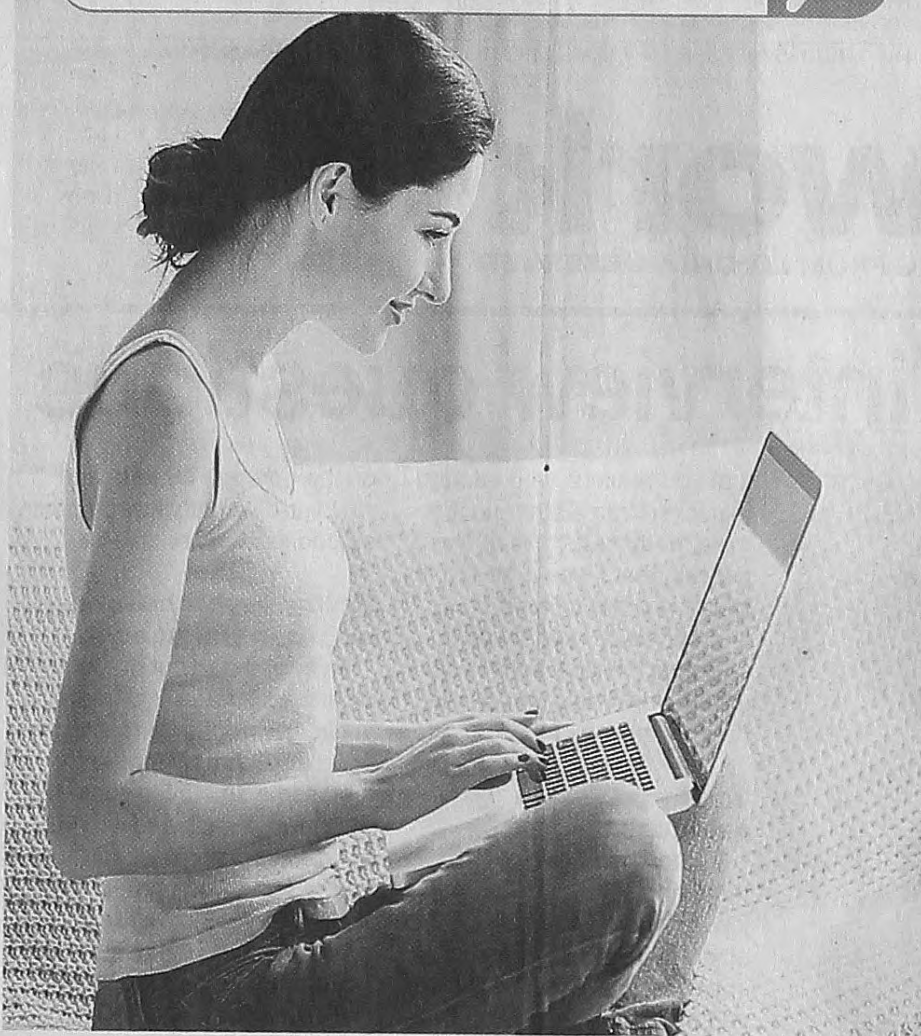
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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Nest item
 - 4 Funny Mort
 - 8 Casual top
 - 14 Cape, e.g.
 - 19 British lav
 - 20 Jai —
 - 21 Its capital is Roma
 - 22 Berry of "The Call"
 - 23 * Group for motorists
 - 25 * Turn a profit, say
 - 27 Jogging pace
 - 28 Scheming
 - 29 Drench
 - 30 On the other side of
 - 31 * "La Vie en Rose" singer
 - 34 * Amass wealth
 - 38 Aug. hours
 - 39 Bonn "one"
 - 40 Nail file materials
 - 42 As dry as —
 - 47 — Man defense
 - 48 "Rugrats" father
 - 49 Baddie's look
 - 51 Son of Eve
 - 52 * 2009 R. Kelly song
 - 56 * Stay calm
 - 58 10,000,000 ergs
 - 59 Lend support
 - 60 Tip sheet statistics
 - 63 Compares
 - 64 Askew
 - 65 Guevara the guerrilla
 - 66 Greek diner menu item
 - 67 Lushes
 - 68 * Fulfill, as a promise
 - 71 * What you don't need a return ticket for
 - 76 Only
 - 77 Skew
 - 79 Cat paw part
 - 80 Speed test
 - 81 Crucial arteries
 - 84 — noire
 - 85 D.C. VIP
 - 86 Like tapestries
 - 87 * "No noise allowed"
 - 89 * Kids' chemistry set, e.g.
 - 92 Fed. of Brezhnev
 - 93 Deliver an address
 - 96 Walk- (small parts)
 - 97 Chemical ending
 - 98 Nuclear trial, for short
 - 100 Run-of-the-mill
 - 102 "Inc." relative
 - 103 Start for marital
 - 106 * 13th-century pope
 - 108 * General Mills cereal
 - 111 Cascade Range peak
 - 115 — kwon do
 - 117 Squimpy fish
 - 118 With 104-Down, cure concocted by Mom
 - 119 * The mineral citrine, e.g.
 - 123 What the first and last letters of 13 answers in this puzzle proceed through
 - 125 Lowest point
 - 126 Lift
 - 127 Printer's unit
 - 128 Chemical ending
 - 129 Gives applause
 - 130 Capital of 95-Down
 - 131 Harper of Hollywood
 - 132 Seaport of Scotland
 - 133 Run-of-the-mill
 - 134 Mumbo relative
 - 135 Actor Bert
 - 136 Roll topper
 - 137 Sad cry
 - 138 Adidas rival
 - 139 Slugger Mel
 - 140 Tic- — toe
 - 141 Fling
 - 142 Regaled
 - 143 Element #50
 - 144 Smells nasty
 - 145 "Ahh, OK"
 - 146 Post-rain dirt
 - 147 Swimming specialty
 - 148 Woodwind instrument
 - 149 Gas in lights
 - 150 Pipe elbows
 - 151 Leisure suit fabrics
 - 152 Recolled (from)
 - 153 Add ammo
 - 154 Des Moines' state
 - 155 Wait secretly
 - 156 Western lake
 - 157 Happiness
 - 158 Feel for
 - 159 Clog
 - 160 Let go of
 - 161 Put on
 - 162 Big name in old video game
 - 163 See 104
 - 164 Itty-bitty biter
 - 165 Football Hall of Famer Lynn
 - 166 Butting beast
 - 167 Be in debt to
 - 168 Foil relatives
 - 169 Shankar with a sitar
 - 170 "Law & Order: SVU" actor
 - 171 Ballpoint, e.g.
 - 172 In medias —
 - 173 Blue-green
 - 174 Force to go
 - 175 Go skyward
 - 176 "Well done, dival!"
 - 177 Raw power
 - 178 George of "Cheers"
 - 179 Saudi, e.g.
 - 180 Turning tooth
 - 181 Bean trees of India
 - 182 Fifth of fifty
 - 183 African country
 - 184 Teaches one-on-one
 - 185 2009 James Cameron film
 - 186 Sobieski of Hollywood
 - 187 Great fear
 - 188 See 104
 - 189 Across 118
 - 190 New Hampshire prep school
 - 191 Unedited
 - 192 Bodily pump
 - 193 "— ching!"
 - 194 Align, briefly
 - 195 Get well
 - 196 Alan of TV and film
 - 197 Tiny mistake
 - 198 Poet Pound
 - 199 Sine — non
 - 200 Increases
 - 201 Una's place
 - 202 Royal Navy inits.

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

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

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

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

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

WORDS

- ADJUSTMENT
- ALIGNED
- APPLIANCE
- ARCHWIRE
- ARCHWIRE
- BAND
- BITE
- BONDING
- BRACES
- BRACKET
- BUCCAL
- CEMENT
- CHAIN
- CONSULTATION
- CROOKED
- DECALCIFICATION
- ELASTICS
- EXPANDER
- EXTRACTION
- FORSUS
- IMPACTED
- IMPRESSIONS
- MALOCCLUSION
- MOUTHGUARD
- ORTHODONTIST
- OVERBITE
- PALATE
- PANORAMIC
- PHOTOGRAPHS
- PREMOLAR
- RETAINER
- SEPARATORS
- SORENESS
- TEETH
- WAX
- XRAY

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

Crossword Answers

EGG SAHL TSHIRT CLOAK
LOO ALAI ITALIA HALLE
AUTOCLUB COMEOUTAHEAD
TROT SLY SOP ACROSS
EDITHPIAF GETRICH
DST EIM EMERIES ABONE
PAC STU SNER ABELL
ILOVEHEDU KEEP COOL
JOULE AID ODDS LIKENS
AWRY CHE GYRO SOTS
MAKEGOODON ONEWAYTRIP
SOLE WARP PAD RACE
AORTAE BETE SEN WOVEN
QUIETCAR SCIENCEKIT
USSR ORATE ONS ANE
ATEST AVERAGE LTD PRE
URBAN TV WHE ATCHEN
SHASTA TAB EEL HOME
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Car Report

NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW ADDS B2B MATCHMAKING TO OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH AUTOMOBILI-D



By Dale Buss

Expect the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) to keep evolving into a broad business-to-business platform meant to tap ever more deeply into the technological direction being taken by the global auto industry, as the Detroit auto show keeps extending from its roots as the traditional premier American showplace for news and views about the latest in cars.

Last year, the exhibition run by the Detroit Auto Dealers Association (DADA) each January took its first huge step toward capturing activity around self-driving by launching AutoMobili-D, which staged a big display area for suppliers, startups and others in the space and conducted dozens of seminars and panels that brought hundreds of people together to discuss the technological future of the industry.

Now NAIAS has announced that it is adding a business-to-business and business-to-industry connection platform with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, which will be a first for an auto show.

The state's economic development organization, as well as NAIAS and Techstars

Mobility, will curate and create a series of vetted, pre-scheduled meetings at AutoMobili-D that will provide exhibitors with new business and industry connections.

The matchmaking will occur on Monday and Tuesday, January 15 and 16, during Press Days, as well as January 17, the first Industry Preview day. Through the platform, participating AutoMobili-D companies will be able to connect and meet with automakers, startups, suppliers and venture capitalists.

"This platform will accelerate the kinds of meetings that used to maybe just be happenstance," Rod Alberts, executive director of NAIAS, told me. "It's going to bring great value to everyone. It'll almost be like an eHarmony platform for people and companies in the industry, and mobility technologies."

"We can create opportunity with this matchmaking idea. It represents quite an advance in our second year of AutoMobili-D. We're taking it to new heights."

Added Ryan LaFontaine, of the Detroit-area family that owns multiple dealerships, and chairman of 2018 NAIAS: "Companies and individuals participating in AutoMobili-D will be able to forge new connections and collaborations through these platforms the State of Michigan is launching."

LaFontaine said in a press release that AutoMobili-D



AutoMobili-D is adding a business-to-business meetings component

"provides the ideal platform to launch these auto show-first initiatives in front of tens of thousands of mobility-focused individuals."

NAIAS launched AutoMobili-D last year in large part as a counter-offensive against other exhibitions that had begun to use automated-driving technologies, and advances in the arena by tech giants such as Google, as a wedge to get more attention and exhibits by automakers, digital-tech companies, software startups and other enterprises that had begun clustering around technology that wasn't the exclusive domain of traditional automakers.

The International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona and, of course, other big auto shows around the globe

Also, Nissan-Renault CEO Carlos Ghosn keynoted, providing insights into the company's plans for a connected future. And Julia Steyn of General Motors shared views on the outlook on urban mobility as a "service" by the startup company Maven. There were more than 40 hours of mobility-focused announcements and discussions.

In 2018, NAIAS plans to expand AutoMobili-D exhibit space to more than 150,000 square feet and to double the number of universities that are exhibiting at the show, among other improvements.

MEDC's role has been growing as well as that of PlanetM, the state's partnership-branding initiative to foster, retain and grow the mobility sector and position Michigan as the global epicenter for future transportation.

"AutoMobili-D isn't just about product," Alberts told me. "It's also about sharing knowledge, and bringing everyone together. Everyone wants to be around the next big idea."

To continue to be perceived as "a true global leader," Alberts said in the press release, "our show needs to bring dynamic, industry-leading opportunities to our partners and attendees. No other event in North America provides an international platform for this vast array of companies, organizations and thought leaders under one roof."

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