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W-W officials pitch info on bond

District says major cuts are in store without passage

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Wayne-Westland Community Schools district Superintendent Shelley Holt made it clear Wednesday night: Without the passage of the \$158 million bond in November, the district is going

to see major negative changes.

"At the end of the day, the stuff we're talking about has to get done, whether we get the bond or not," she said.

Holt gave the first of three presentations planned for the fall on the proposed bond Wednesday night at Wayne Memorial High School. The bond, being requested after the previous bond ex-

pires this year, would help pay for several infrastructure improvements at the district's schools. Some of the improvements planned include:

- Improvements to classrooms, including new paint and carpeting
- Creation of secure sally port entrances to all schools to prevent outsiders from wandering the school halls
- Upgrades to the district's phone system
- Work at the district's schools to

align with the new K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 grade configuration, approved by the school board earlier this year

■ A new field house at John Glenn High School and the addition of a corridor connecting the auditorium to the rest of Wayne Memorial High School

■ Purchasing new buses to replace 80 percent of the district's fleet, most of which is aging quickly

See **BOND**, Page 3A



Penn-Taste-Tic patrons enjoy the Ironwood Grill. PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Try 12 eateries for \$20 in downtown Plymouth

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

No one leaves hungry. How could they, with the opportunity to try 12 downtown Plymouth restaurants for just \$20?

It's the downtown Plymouth restaurant crawl known as Penn-Taste-Tic — an event whose proceeds are split be-

tween the historic Penn Theatre and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

Dine on everything from Thai food to Mediterranean cuisine to deliciously decadent chocolate desserts.

Here are five things you need to know:

- The event is 5-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25.
- This year's lineup includes Alpine

Chocolat Haus, E.G. Nick's, Fiamma Grille, Greek Islands, Ironwood Grill, Jimmy John's, Kilwins sweet shop, Little Bangkok, Plymouth Coffee Bean, Post Local Bistro, Simply Fresh Mediterranean Grill and Westborn Market.

Three of them — Simply Fresh, Westborn Market and Coffee Bean — are along Penniman Avenue.

See **PENN-TASTE-TIC**, Page 2A

Five Mile tech corridor gets financial shot in arm

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Two communities have found a funding mechanism to improve roads and clean up contaminated areas along an emerging technology corridor on Five Mile Road, between Napier and Beck roads.

In a joint decision, the Plymouth and Northville township boards have approved creation of a site-specific brownfield authority for the so-called Michigan International Technology Corridor, or MITC.

Known as the MITC Redevelopment Authority, the new entity will capture certain tax revenues to clean up the former Detroit House of Corrections prison site in Plymouth Township and other contaminated sites in Northville Township.

Just as important, officials say, the MITC authority and the Michigan Land Bank, which owns the DeHoCo property, are expected to work together to improve infrastructure, including reconstructing Five Mile Road, improving Ridge Road and expanding water mains and sewer lines to serve the corridor.

State and local officials have said the technology corridor is expected to create 6,000-8,000 jobs in coming years as the long-range vision gains momentum. Officials say the MITC authority's work will be critical to that goal.

"This is a historic moment for our

See **CORRIDOR**, Page 4A

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Penn-Taste-Tic

Continued from Page 1A

"It makes for a nice set of restaurants in a row on Penniman," chamber President Wes Graff said.

■ Tickets are \$20 each — \$15 for children ages 10 and under — and only 250 are being sold. They can be bought at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail, or on the chamber's website at www.plymouthmich.org.

"We sell out every year," Graff said.

■ It's the 13th year for Penn-Taste-Tic and patrons use their tickets to visit as many of the 12 eateries as they choose.

"They go door to door, restaurant to restaurant, for what they want to try," Graff said.

■ It's one of three chamber-involved events that let people try multiple Plymouth restaurants for one price. The others are the Old Village Restaurant Crawl, which was in August, and Showcase & Taste of Plymouth, which was in April at the Inn at St. John's.



The Penn Theatre is one of the beneficiaries of the Penn-Taste-Tic downtown Plymouth restaurant crawl.

Penn-Taste-Tic "is similar," Graff said. "It's the same concept, just in another location."

Contact Darrell Clem at dcllem@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.

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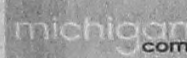
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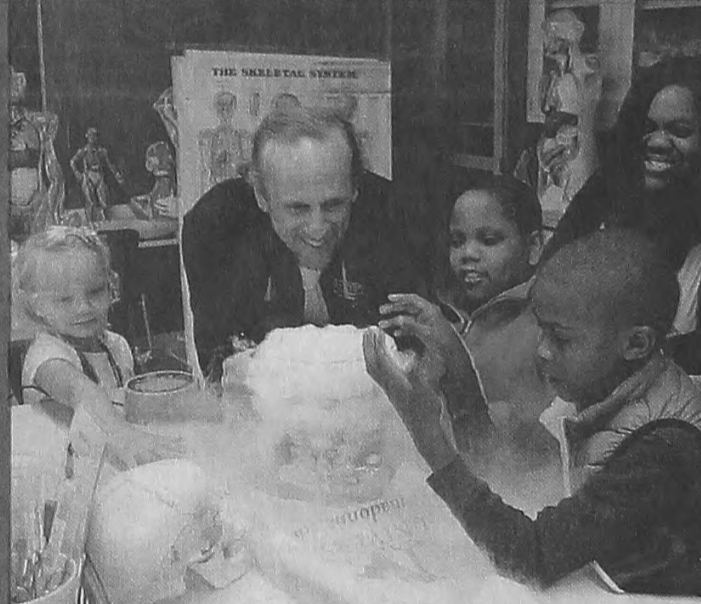
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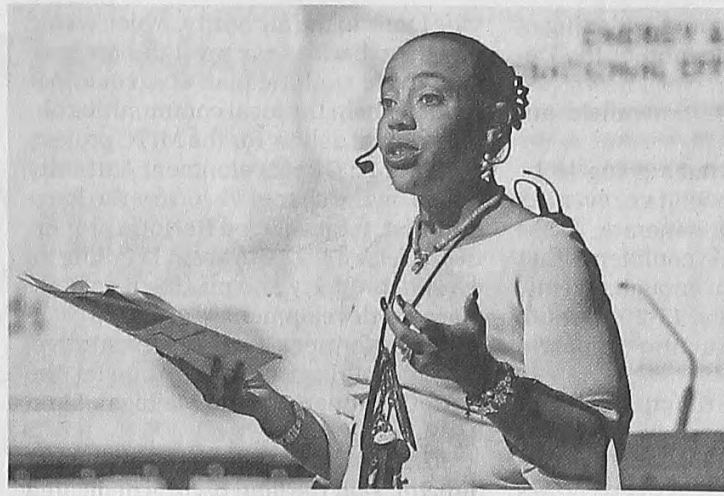
Bond

Continued from Page 1A

Holt said the district needed to lease some buses recently to keep up with the transportation of students and that the bond money would be used to make one-time purchases. After that, the district would return to a cycle of purchasing buses as they aged out.

"Currently, over 80 percent of our buses have over 200,000 miles on them," Holt said. "Now I don't know about you, but how many of us in this room drive a car with over 200,000 miles on it?"

School officials placed a 25-year bond proposal on the Nov. 6 ballot earlier this year across the district, which covers Wayne, most of Westland and parts of Canton, Inkster and Romulus. The proposal will ask voters to approve 4.48 mills for the planned improvements, a 176-mill increase from what residents pay now. If approved, homeowners who own a home with a value of \$100,000 will pay an additional \$88 a



District Superintendent Shelley Holt explains the need for the bond proposal.
BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

information on the upcoming proposal. The others are scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at David Hicks Elementary, 100 Helen, in Inkster; and at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 11, at Stevenson Middle School, 38501 Palmer, in Westland.

More information on the proposal can be found on the district's website at wwcsd.net/bond.

Wednesday's forum drew about 20 people, including Westland resident Jim Huffman and his daughter Suvi, who attends Marshall Upper Elementary School.

Jim Huffman said he came into the meeting to gather more info and left thinking that voting for the bond was the right move.

"That's the thing that jumped right out: it's not a significant cost," he said. "It wouldn't even really be, like, much change at all. Taxes change every year anyways. Another \$30 to \$40 a year ... it doesn't make sense to not do something like this for our schools."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.

year above what's being paid under the current bond.

Holt was quick to point out the proposal would take the bond millage rate to less than what residents paid in 2015, which was 5.56 mills. The district later rolled that millage back.

The \$158 million bond represents about half of what the district truly needs in repairs and infrastructure work, Holt said, but she knew asking

voters in the district for that kind of money wasn't an option.

"When we went through all the needs, just needs, not wants, we were over \$300 million. We knew that was not going to work with our community," she said. "So we went back to the drawing board and made those basic needs even more basic."

The meeting was the first of three public forums being offered to provide

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Corridor

Continued from Page 1A

communities,” Northville Township Supervisor Robert Nix said, lauding the leadership of the Michigan Land Bank in helping to create “an engine for economic growth and development for years to come.”

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said infrastructure costs could reach or top the \$28 million mark, in-

cluding the rebuilding and widening of Five Mile Road and cleanup of the DeHoCo property. It isn't yet known just how much money the brownfield authority will generate.

“We don't know what's going to be built there” or how much tax revenues those businesses will generate, Heise said, adding, “We're confident that there will be more than enough revenue generated over the next 15-20 years to pay for the infrastructure improvements.”

Heise said it's likely the state will pro-

vide loans to the authority, which would pay them back as tax revenues are generated. He said the plan also could potentially help the local communities obtain federal dollars for the MITC project.

“The MITC Redevelopment Authority builds on the shared vision for the long-dormant, undeveloped DeHoCo properties,” Heise said. “Our team is taking an eyesore property and making it a show-place for development.”

As a former state representative, Heise wrote legislation to transfer the DeHoCo property to the Michigan Land Bank.

Josh Burgett, Michigan Land Bank director, said the land bank is dedicated to boosting local economies in Michigan — a goal officials say the MITC corridor is certain to achieve.

“The Michigan Land Bank works to create positive economic impact to communities across Michigan,” Burgett said. “The former DeHoCo site will be a catalyst for continued growth in this region and we are proud to be a part of this partnership.”

Burgett, in a press release, lauded Heise, Nix and other community leaders who are working to boost the MITC project.

The MITC corridor's redevelopment will not be finished overnight.

“What we're embarking on here is at least a 10-year vision,” Heise said, and possibly longer.

Development of the MITC Corridor was initiated last year at the old Robert Scott prison site at Beck and Five Mile with an upscale mixed-use project. Dubbed the Village of Northville, it includes single-family houses, townhouses and lofts — and the vision also includes retail shops and possibly restaurants and a hotel.

With the Village project under construction, officials say economic development plans in the MITC corridor are accelerating rapidly. They mentioned incoming companies such as Verita Co., at Five Mile and Ridge in Plymouth Township, and Zhongding Sealing Parts (USA), Inc., east of Five Mile and Ridge in Northville Township.

Moreover, Plymouth Township recently signed a \$3.5 million purchase agreement with Hillside Investments for former DeHoCo farmland property on Five Mile, west of Ridge. The corridor sites are zoned for office, research and development, with an emphasis on high-tech operations and companies



This former Detroit House of Corrections site, where buildings have been demolished, is pegged for redevelopment along the Michigan International Technology Center corridor. DARRELL CLEM | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

seeking sites for their world headquarters.

Heise described the corridor as “very hot” for emerging development.

Northville Township Manager Chip Snider said he is encouraged that significant development could occur along the MITC corridor within a few years.

“I'd say it would be closer to five years than 10,” he said. “I think things are picking up at a pretty fast pace right now.”

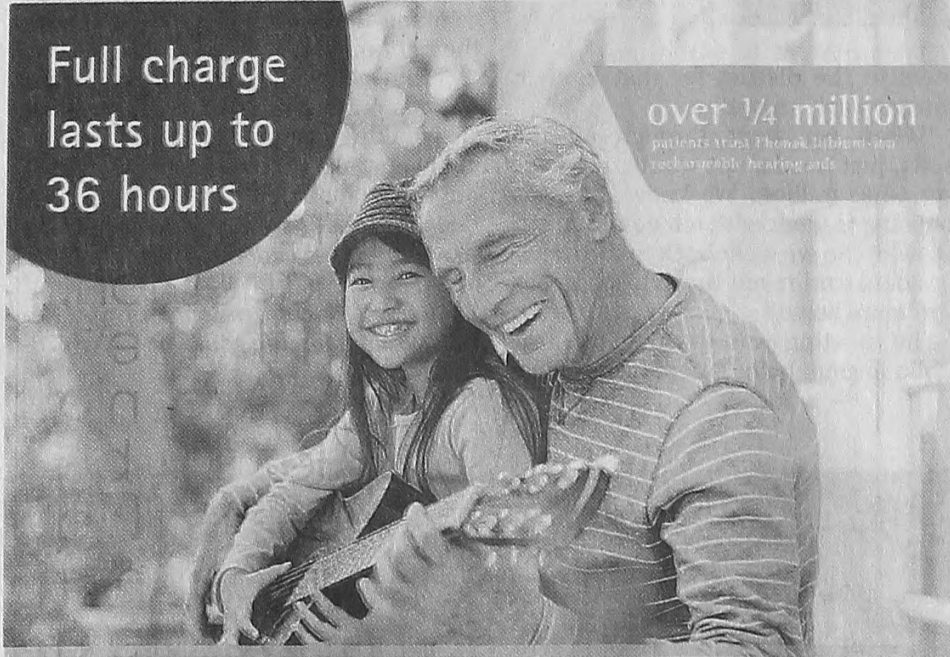
The latest developments come one year after state, county and local officials gathered on the former DeHoCo site as the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority announced it was seeking proposals to purchase and redevelop the property, where work crews already had demolished the long-unused DeHoCo buildings.

Officials have said the MITC vision could involve high-tech firms in the automotive and life-sciences sectors, recreation space and businesses such as restaurants, supermarkets and day-care centers to cater to those firms.

Burgett last August called the site “probably the second highest profile property” in the Michigan Land Bank's inventory of 4,000 sites, ranking just behind the old Michigan State Fairgrounds.

For more information about the Michigan International Technology Center, go to www.mitc-usa.org.

Contact Darrell Clem at dcllem@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.



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PICCOLO RISTORANTE
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The official ribbon cutting with The Rugiero Family, Livonia Mayor Dennis K. Wright, and distinguished guests.

On September 5 Brothers Antonio, Livonia city Mayor, Marco, and Roberto city council members, shared stories and dignitaries gave thanks to many of the guests arrived to a grand event. By invitation, in attendance and a couple hundred guests attended to celebrate the grand opening of the Rugiero's fifth location Antonio's Piccolo Ristorante; a cozy intimate Antonio's establishment with the same great food but without a banquet room. A full bar with espresso machine, Pasta Factory, and this location has it's fabulous home made gelato.

"A soft opening," says Antonio Rugiero, "took place in April of this year dinner only, shortly after opening for lunch, and now we are in full swing. We prefer to open the doors quietly, work out the kinks, and then do a formal opening. It was great to see so many friends and family joining us in celebrating the opening."

yet cozy atmosphere. One frequently asked question, "who will run the new location?" Antonio replied, "let's be clear we are still a family restaurant not a franchise. We are a family restaurant with five extensions, with a great protocol, still making everything in house. My brothers and I have the same responsibilities which take us to all the locations, making certain to provide the same great food at a great price. We have a great management team working together to provide consistency and great friendly service."

Father Jim from Divine Child was on hand to give the blessing to everyone before breaking bread. Monsignor Chuck from St. Ann's was also in attendance to support the blessing. A wonderful buffet was prepared by the staff and laid throughout the kitchen. This allowed guests to go through the beautiful state of the art kitchen. The guests then moved to the front of the restaurant where they had dinner in a elegant, high ceiling, com

yet cozy atmosphere.

One frequently asked question, "who will run the new location?" Antonio replied, "let's be clear we are still a family restaurant not a franchise. We are a family restaurant with five extensions, with a great protocol, still making everything in house. My brothers and I have the same responsibilities which take us to all the locations, making certain to provide the same great food at a great price. We have a great management team working together to provide consistency and great friendly service."

The new location is in Livonia on 31735 Plymouth Rd. west of Merriman. Carry out orders can call 734-513-8000. They do not take reservations for parties larger than 14 people. It is first come first serve no reservations required. Antoniosrestaurants.com



Father Jim performing the blessing of the restaurant and Rugiero Family.



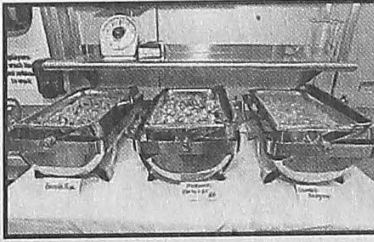
Food being served to grand opening guests through the kitchen.



Dining Room photo



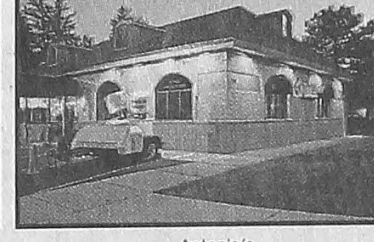
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Chamber Music Society to host concerts in Canton

The Chamber Music Society of Detroit will launch new regional series in 2018-19 in conjunction with its 75th anniversary season, with the inaugural concert taking place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

The concert features the acclaimed Pacifica Quartet performing music of Beethoven, Bartók and Mendelssohn and is the first of four weekend concerts. Single tickets are priced at \$45 for premium seats, \$30 for adults and \$10 for youth/students; seniors receive a \$5 discount on premium or regular seats. Tickets are available online at www.CMSDetroit.org or by phone at 313-335-3300. Series subscriptions are also available at a 20 percent discount over single ticket prices.

the inaugural American tour of a new duo collaboration between Brazilian cellist Antonio Meneses and Scottish guitarist Paul Galbraith. In January, the multiple award-winning Aeolus Quartet is joined by Franklin Cohen, principal clarinet emeritus of the Cleveland Orchestra, for Mozart's Clarinet Quintet as well as American composer Ben Johnston's String Quartet No. 4, Variations on "Amazing Grace." The season concludes with the return of the young Canadian pianist Stewart Goodyear to the CMSD series with a program that pairs a late Beethoven sonata with three colorful Ravel works and Mussorgsky's beloved "Pictures at an Exhibition."

The remaining concerts are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019, and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 9, 2019.

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Rotary looking for high school students for leadership program

The Rotary Club of Plymouth is now offering an opportunity for high school students to participate in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program. The program will take place Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 15-17, at Schoolcraft Community College's VisTa Tech Center. The program is open to all high school students in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district.

The RYLA program is a leadership skills course for nominated high school students who desire to improve their leadership potential. RYLA is about education and practicing some basic leadership skills, doing the right thing, making a positive difference plus having opportunities to meet and greet like-minded people who desire to be leaders in their school, community and beyond. For more information, go to http://rotary6400.org/?page_id=348.

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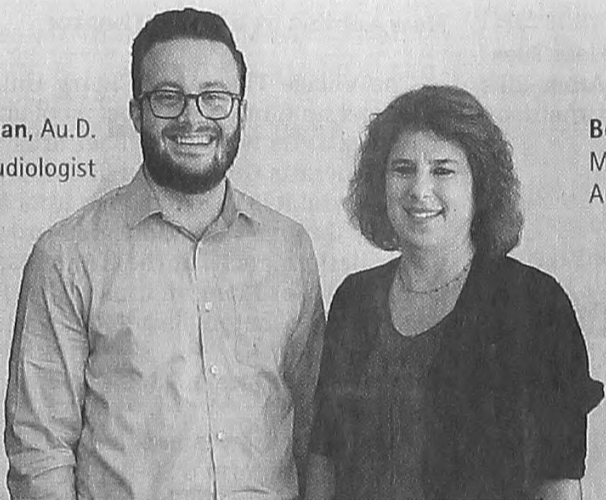
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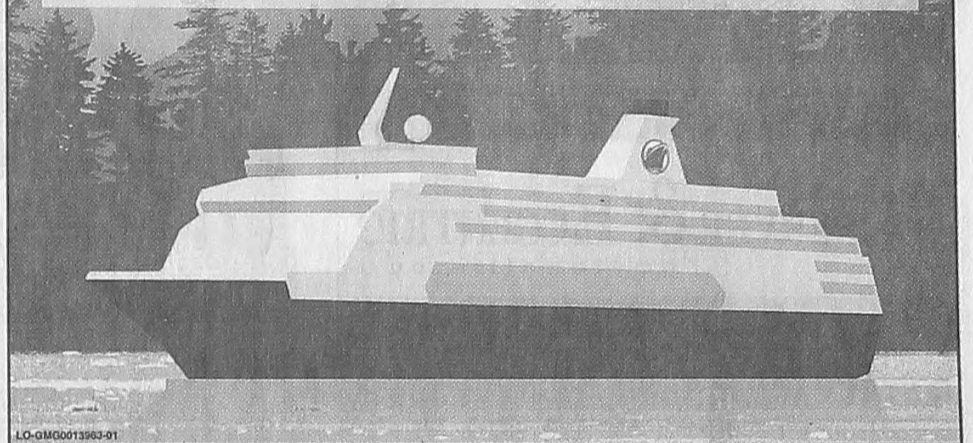
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AREA EVENTS

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Free home buyers workshop

Catholic Vantage Financial, 8817 Sheldon Road, in Plymouth is hosting a free home buyers workshop 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19. Leading the workshop will be Bill Cook from the mortgage center, who has more than 25 years' experience working in all aspects of mortgage lending.

To register and receive access to additional home buying resources, go to www.mycvf.org/home-workshop.

Plymouth Concerned Citizens

All Plymouth Township residents are invited to the Plymouth Concerned Citizens meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street. The discussion topics will be the two local millages which will appear on the ballot Nov. 6: A public safety millage which asks for a 1.2-mill increase and one for 0.75 mills to fund the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Center.

On hand will be representatives from the police and fire departments as well as township Treasurer Mark Clinton, to answer any questions on the proposed safety millage. In addition, representatives from PARC will be available to make a presentation and answer questions.

Veterans Health Summit

Legal Help for Veterans, PLLC, will be hosting its ninth annual Veterans Health Summit from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, in Livonia. This free event brings experts to veterans in the community.

Topics will include VA Ann Arbor Medical Center update, state veterans update, Veterans Home for Southeast Michigan, maximizing veterans health care,

veterans health and medical cannabis and disability benefit update. Veteran specialists will also be on-hand to address special needs and VA, MVAA and county counselors will answer questions.

Register at <https://2018vetsummit.eventbrite.com> or call 248-912-3223.

'Oklahoma!' at Village Theater

Spotlight Players will present "Oklahoma!" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton, set for Friday through Sunday, Sept. 21-23. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 to \$18 and can be purchased at www.cantonvillagetheater.org, by phone at 734-394-5300, ext. 3, or at the box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each weekday. If any tickets are still available, they can also be purchased one hour prior to show time.

For more information, call 734-480-4945 or email admin@spotlightplayersmi.org.

Family Safety Awareness Day

Beaumont Medical Center, 7300 N. Canton Center Road, in is hosting its inaugural Family Safety Awareness Day from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22. The event is free and everyone is welcome. The event will include ambulance tours, child identification kits, an obstacle course, tips on gun safety and free pizza, ice cream and snacks.

While supplies last, get a free bicycle helmet from noon to 3 p.m. when you complete the safety stations, which also enters you in the free bike contest. Also on hand will be members of the police and fire departments, K-9 units, fur angels and LifeFlight of Michigan.

For more information, go to beaumont.org/safety-days or call 734-467-2756.

Music at the Elks

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

The Terry Lower Trio with Edye Evans Hyde will perform Tuesday, Sept. 25. Hyde is an award-winning singer from Grand Rapids. Lower plays keyboard and accompanying them are Ray Tini on bass and Jim Ryan on drums.

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plyaa325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com.

Know Our Neighbor series

The Michigan Roundtable group will lead a panel discussion at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street. Panelists include Peter Hammer, director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and Wayne State University Law School professor; Jamon Jordan, president of the Detroit Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and Ellen Elliott, local historian and researcher.

Know Our Neighbor is an organization of Plymouth-area individuals who seek to help residents become more familiar with the different customs and cultures that reside within our communities.

Registration is required. Go to plymouthlibrary.org and click on events.

Plymouth Goodfellows meetings

Christmas planning has begun for the Plymouth Goodfellows, who have assisted families with food, clothes and toys for the past 80 years. The group is looking for volunteers. Fall meetings for the 2018 Christmas season are scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 26, Tuesday, Oct. 16, and Monday, Nov. 19, at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street.

For more information, contact Kristen at 734-262-3199, email plymouthgoodfellows@yahoo.com or go to www.plymouthgoodfellows.org.

New exhibit at Village Theater

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton will host a collaborative exhibit, featuring a the work of 17 fiber artists from the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild, through Sunday, Sept. 30.

This exhibit is free and open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, one hour prior to and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment. For more information, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

Canton Newcomers & Neighbors

The Canton Newcomers & Neighbors club will host a Victorian tea party 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3, at the Sunflower Clubhouse 45800 Hanford. Attendees will learn about tea and the etiquette of the Victorian era from caterer Diann Dupuis. Cost is \$5 for non-members. For information on membership, contact Nancy Ellenberger at otter2@comcast.net.

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Obituaries

Helen Bernice Cox

LIVONIA - It is with great sadness that the family of Mrs. Helen Bernice Cox (née Larwinski) of Livonia, Michigan, announces her passing on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at the age of 93.



Helen was born to parents Michael and Mary Larwinski on October 3, 1924 in Royalton, Illinois.

She grew up as the second of four children and attended Royalton High School. After graduation, Helen moved to Chicago, Illinois and held various jobs in support of the World War II war effort. Helen married Walter Eugene Cox in 1956, and the couple had two children, Michael and Leanne.

Helen is survived by her son, Michael (Karen) Cox; her daughter, Leanne (Randy) Czarnecki; her sister, Dorothy Mantel; grandchildren Heather (Adam) Jahn and Brittany Cox; and great-grandchildren Ava and Evelyn Jahn. She is preceded in death by her husband, Walter Cox; her parents, Michael and Mary; and her brothers, Chester and Michael Larwinski.

Helen did not want to have a viewing, or funeral, and will be cremated according to her wishes. A memorial service and scattering of ashes will be held at a future date in Illinois. Memorial donations in memory of Helen may be made to the Alzheimer Association.



Barbara Hastings

LIVONIA - Age 80, of Livonia, traveled to heaven. Wife of L. Wayne Hastings. Mother of Doreen MacPherson (Chris Hardt), Ginger Hastings, and Heather (Doug) Hanson. Also survived by three grandchildren.

Visitation Wednesday September 12, 2018 from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm At Harry J. Will Funeral Home 37000 Six Mile Rd. in Livonia. Funeral service will be Thursday September 13, 2018 at 11:00 am at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Rd. (North of Haggerty) with visitation preceding at 10:00 am. Donations appreciated to the Mission Fund at Ward Church in lieu of flowers in her name. Please share a memory.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes

Beverly Jane Schaffer

PLYMOUTH - Beverly Jane Schaffer (nee Truesdell) age 89, of Plymouth passed away Thursday, September 6, 2018. She is the beloved wife of the late George Schaffer. Devoted and loving mother of John (Pam) Schaffer of Salsbury, NC, Ann (Matt) Greenough and James Schaffer of Plymouth and the late Janis (John) Holmes of Kissimmee, Florida. Proud grandmother of 5 grandchildren, Jennifer (Briann) Rojas, John (Stephanie) Holmes, and Janette Holmes; Katie and JP Greenough, and 2 great-grandchildren, Bailey and Morgan. Predeceased by parents Alfred and Evelyn (nee Austin) Truesdell, sister Sherry (Wilson) Andrews, and brother-in-law, Dr. Robert Aldrich. Survived by sister Katherine Aldrich of Ann Arbor. Also survived by several beloved nieces and nephews who loved their "Aunt B."



A graduate of the University of Michigan, Bev was a lifetime Wolverine fan who had great passion for all things sports related, especially her beloved Tigers. Bev was a long time member of VMCCA and Huron Valley car clubs. She had a great interest in local history.

Friends may visit the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main Street, Plymouth on Friday, September 14th from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Funeral service Saturday, September 15th at 10:00 AM. Bev will be laid to rest at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Plymouth Community Band or the Plymouth Historical Museum in memory of Beverly Schaffer.



Gabrielle Simone Keeley

DEARBORN - Gabrielle Keeley age 27, September 8, 2018 of Dearborn. Darling daughter of Joe and Sabrina Keeley. Loving sister of Megan and Kevin. Cherished granddaughter of Mary and the late John Keeley, Eunice (George) Bageris and the late John Sabatino Simone. Also survived by adoring aunts, uncles, cousins, other loving family members and friends. Gabby will be forever loved and so greatly missed. Visitation Wednesday from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm with Rosary 7:30 pm at the Allen Park Chapel - Martenson family of Funeral Homes, 10915 Allen Rd. (corner of Goddard). In-State Thursday 9:30 am at Divine Child Catholic Church, 1055 N. Silvery Lane, Dearborn, Michigan 48128 until time of Mass 10:00 am. Donations in memory of Gabby may be made to: Divine Child High School Athletics in the name of Gabby Keeley.

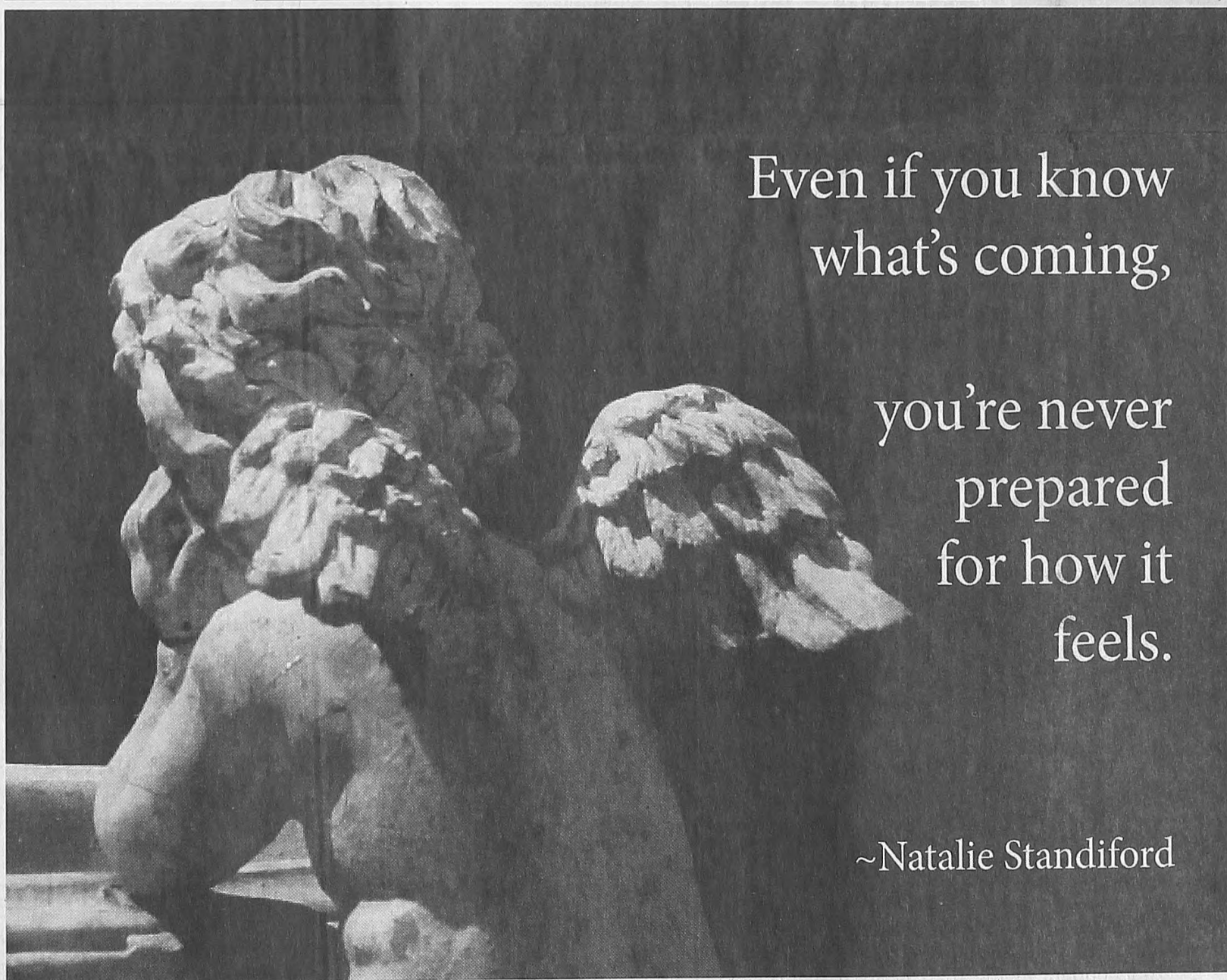


May you find comfort in family & friends

Margaret Danko

LIVONIA - age 96, passed away peacefully September 13, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank and son, Christopher. Margaret is the loving mother of Mary Shraffenberger, Debra Danko (Steve Durdle), Daniel, Frank and Matthew (Mary); beloved grandmother of 5 and great grandmother of 1; dearest sister of 10. Visitation Monday, September 17, 2-8 pm, with a 7 pm Wake Service, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral, 23720 Farmington Rd (btw. 9-10 mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Funeral Mass Tuesday, September 18, 11 am (in state 10:30 am) at St. Gerald Catholic Church, 21300 Farmington Rd, Farmington. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. www.heeney-sundquist.com

HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME



Even if you know what's coming, you're never prepared for how it feels.

~Natalie Standiford





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- Atherosclerosis
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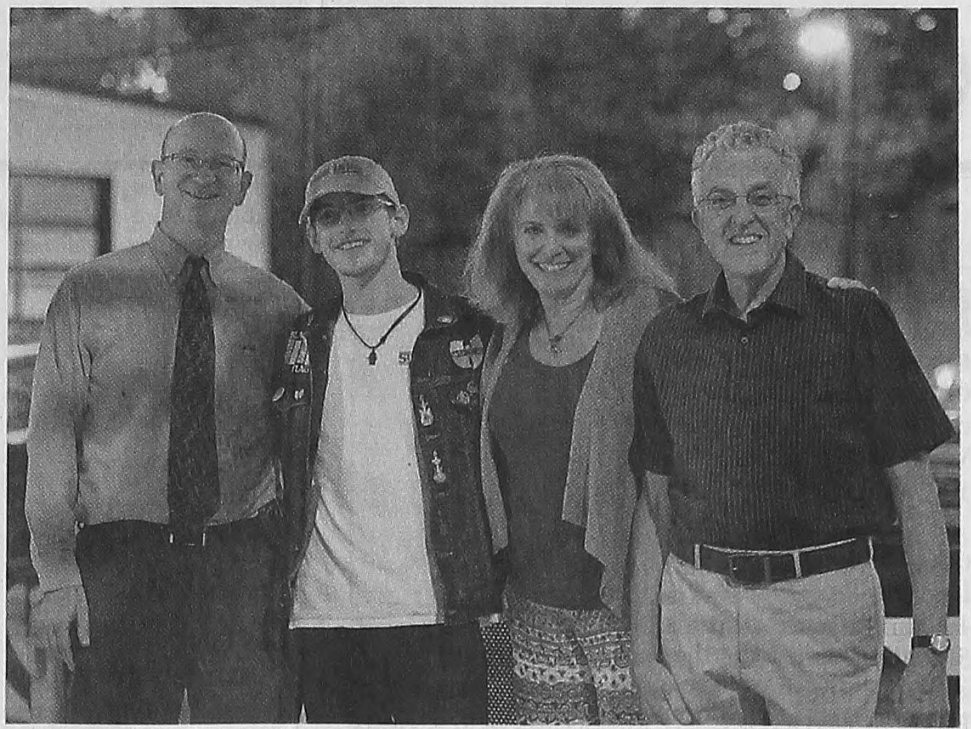
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Paul Fine, Zach Antonelli, Leah Juarez and Michael Soranno will share their stories Sept. 20 at the Village Workshop in Northville. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Storytellers to share how music heals, soothes

Dreamy days watching the season's first snowfall, kicked up family reunions with professionally recorded songs, a northern Michigan musical retreat that set the stage for a life of success and a compelling story of coping through hard times ... music moves people in many different ways.

Come listen to Zach Antonelli and Paul Fine of Plymouth, Michael Soranno of Livonia, Leah Juarez of White Lake and Phil Allmen of Holly share their stories of music's influence live on stage Thursday, Sept. 20, during the inaugural Hometown Life Storyteller Project.

Former Hometown journalist and guitar player Kevin Brown of the popular band Corndaddy will entertain guests as well during the evening.

The Hometown Life Storytellers Project will be held at the Village Workshop, 455 E. Cady Street, in downtown Northville. With a new cafe serving sandwiches, soup and salads, the workshop is a unique maker and shared work space in a beautiful historical building, a perfect location for the kickoff of the

Hometown Life Storytellers Project. The Northville Rotary club is partnering to present beer and wine sales.

The event is open to all for \$7 per person. Doors open for general admission seating 6:30-7 p.m. Tickets are on sale now. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/267881900668026/> for updates.

Topics for future events include: Traditions (Nov. 8), Food & Culture, New Beginnings, Tattoo Tales and Glory Days of High School Sports. To submit a story idea or to become a teller at a future event, email ddean@hometownlife.com.

What: Hometown Life Storytellers Project 'Music'

When: Thursday, Sept. 20; 6:30 p.m. for general admission; show starts at 7 p.m.

Where: The Village Workshop, downtown Northville.

Who: Everyone is welcome.

Tickets: \$7. Buy tickets at <https://tickets.hometownlife.com/e/hometown-life-storytellers-music/tickets>

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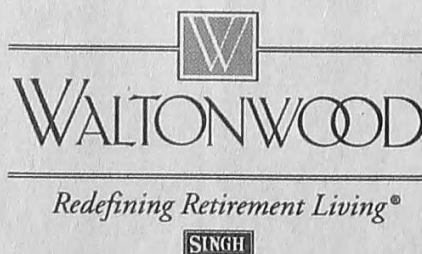
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Area residents recognized for service by DMCVB

The Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau honored Gary Luchenbill of Canton and April Hayes of Wayne for excellent customer service at the 2018 Recognition of Service Excellence Awards. More than 500 people attended the celebration Aug. 29 at the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center in Detroit.

Luchenbill, network specialist at Co-bo Center, was named the behind the scenes category winner. Hayes, front of house supervisor at Blitz at Ford Field, was named the restaurants category winner. Both received a \$100 Visa gift card, dinner for two at the London Chop House, two Detroit Tigers game tickets, a crystal award, one dozen red roses, a bottle of champagne and an announcement in the next issue of Visit Detroit magazine and on visitdetroit.com.

ROSE Award nominations were provided by clients, guests, supervisors

and the general public. There were 198 nominees and one winner in each of the six categories was chosen. Additionally, one overall service champion, selected by a panel of expert hospitality professionals, was also recognized.

"We have a thriving hospitality community in metro Detroit that attracts 19 million visitors to the region each year," said Larry Alexander, DMCVB president and CEO. "Individuals like Gary and April play a key role in creating positive experiences for visitors."

Glenda Lewis of WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) served as mistress of ceremonies for the evening, which included entertainment by Daniel D. and John E. Lawrence Trio. The event was sponsored by Centerplate.

For more information about the ROSE Awards, go to theroseawards.com



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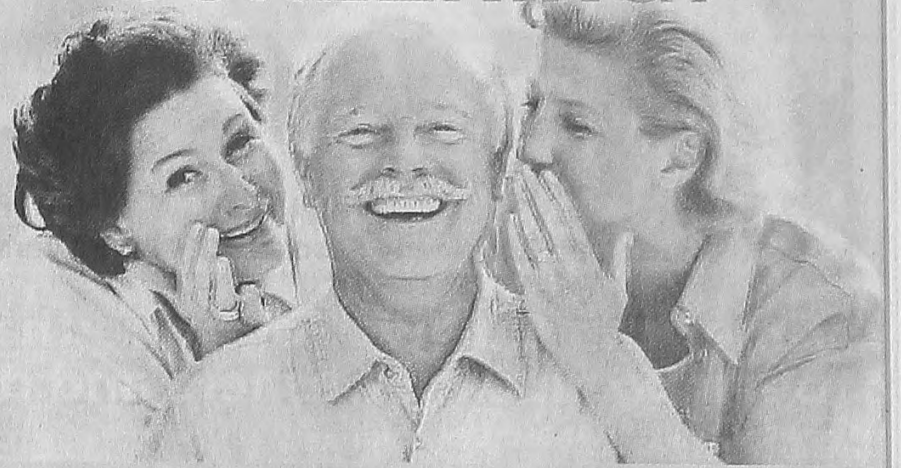
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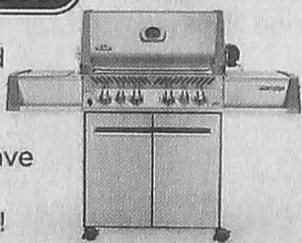
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Sports

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Friends now on opposite sides

PCA graduates Kellogg, Pray are college foes

Tim Smith
etownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

They don't wear the same uniform these days, but that doesn't spoil things for Plymouth Christian Academy alums Grace Kellogg and Abigail Pray.

After playing important roles for the Eagles en route to back-to-back Class D state championships, Kellogg and Pray have moved on to the Division III collegiate level.

Kellogg is playing for Calvin College, while Pray is with Olivet College, both in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Activities Association. One is a Knight, the other a Comet.

But both realize they are friends and

former Eagles who experienced something pretty special the final two years of their high school careers.

"It is definitely hard not being able to play volleyball with Abbi anymore," outside hitter/defensive specialist Kellogg wrote an email to hometownlife.com on the eve of the Sept. 8 Calvin-Olivet match-up. "But I'm so thankful that we're still able to see each other in conference games."

"We also are only an hour apart, so we can easily meet up whenever we are not busy. Being opponents is definitely weird, since we were always such a good team together, but it is still fun to have a little friendly competition. We will both

See **FRIENDS**, Page 2B



Olivet's Abigail Pray (left) and Calvin's Grace Kellogg, part of back-to-back volleyball state championship teams at Plymouth Christian, played against each other during a college game Sept. 8.

MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



In his first year of minor league baseball, Bloomfield Hills native Todd Weiss (second from left) holds the USPBL championship trophy. MATT CRIPSEY

Bloomfield Hills resident wins USPBL championship

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Todd Weiss turned an opportunity into a championship.

Last summer, Weiss, a 2014 Bloomfield Hills High School graduate, was playing in a recreational baseball league. This summer, he hooked up with the United Shore Professional Baseball League and won a championship as a

member of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers.

Weiss is simply overwhelmed by his good fortune.

"I mean, this was absolutely the best experience of my life," said Weiss, still on Cloud Nine two days after the Beavers clinched their second straight championship with a 9-3 victory over the Eastside Diamond Hoppers at Jimmy John's Field in Utica. "Playing with these guys all summer — some of them

are my best friends and it couldn't have gone any better, really."

Weiss was afforded the opportunity to play in the USPBL through his long-time association with Birmingham-Bloomfield head coach Chris Newell.

Newell owns a baseball academy — The Player's Edge Baseball and Softball Training Center — which Weiss attended. It was there the two met and

See **WEISS**, Page 4B

BOYS SOCCER

Canton hands Salem first setback

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

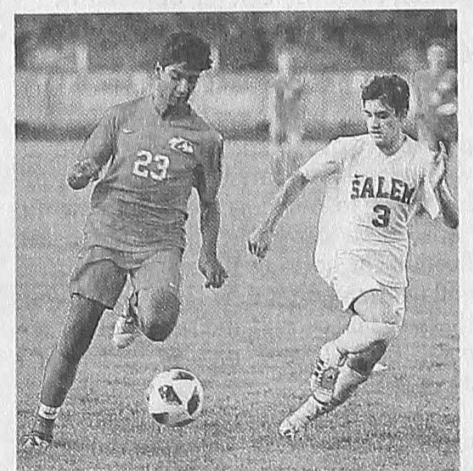
Canton's Nicholas Provenzano now has eight goals on the boys soccer season, but none was bigger than Tuesday night's game-winner to beat previously unbeaten Salem, 3-2.

Fellow senior Bennett Austin drew all the attention from the Salem defense on the play and Provenzano was able to capitalize against Salem goalkeeper Baraq Oral as the Chiefs took over sole possession of first place in the KLAA's highly competitive West Division at 5-0-2 (17 points).

"(Austin) was able to cut in, take a big shot, it's happened all year, so I just tried to read the play and put my shot in the goal ... very exciting," said Provenzano, who broke a 2-2 tie with 27:52 left.

The Chiefs, who lost to Salem at the season-opening Balconi Invitational, 2-1, overcame a 2-0 first-half deficit in

See **SOCCER**, Page 4B



Canton's Srikar Komanduri (left), chased by Salem's Nolan Chaput, had a goal and assist in the win. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



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MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Beavers claim second straight USPBL crown

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The United Shore Professional Baseball League has provided quality play and fun family entertainment over its three years of existence.

But when it comes to championships, it's the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers who rule the four-team independent league.

The Beavers have qualified for all three championship games since 2016, winning the last two playoff crowns. Birmingham-Bloomfield defeated the Eastside Diamond Hoppers, 9-3, in this year's title game played Sept. 9 at Jimmy John's Field in Utica.

In the USPBL's inaugural season, the Beavers lost to the Utica Unicorns in the championship game. Last year, they defeated the Westside Woolly Mammoths — the circuit's newest team.

Adding in the Beavers' three regular-season titles, it's safe to say head coach Chris Newell has created quite an impact in the short history of the independent league, which is gaining quite a strong reputation around the metro area.

"For the first three years, we've definitely created a dynasty," said Newell, a former minor league coach who is widely regarded as a top-notch hitting instructor. "To be the first and only team to win the regular-season title for three straight years is special. And to be the first and only team to repeat as champions is special.

"These players have created a nice little legacy, if you will, in our league. I know these kids are holding their heads very high. They're proud and they should be. Ever since I've been in baseball, I've preached we're all products of our preparation.

"And we prepared them to be successful every single day. They all know that," he added. "There's a right way to do things and a right way to be successful and, thankfully, my players have bought in to what we're trying to do."

A competitive season

The league's parity allowed for some exciting competition all season.

Birmingham-Bloomfield began with three consecutive victories, but then lost six straight. It took a while for the Beavers to get back to .500, finally bouncing up to the top of the standings to clinch first place overall in late August with a 6-3 win over the Diamond Hoppers.

The regular-season's overall winner is awarded the automatic berth into the USPBL championship game, awaiting the winner among the other three teams. The Diamond Hoppers advanced to the title game for the first time in franchise history with the goal of dethroning the champs.



Birmingham Bloomfield manager Chris Newell, who has led the Beavers to two titles in the USPBL's three-year existence, is doused with water by his team after his most recent victory. JOSE JUAREZ

"It's important to get that top seed," Newell said. "You get the full rest and you get all hands on deck as far as the pitching staff is concerned. We were able to throw our ace all three years. It was awesome."

Birmingham-Bloomfield took an early 4-0 lead in the title game and went on to the six-run victory, scoring seven of their nine runs with two outs.

Shortstop Thomas Roulis, who drove in two runs, and left-handed pitcher Kevin Matthews, a former first-round pick of the Texas Rangers out of high school who struck out eight in 5½ strong innings to register the win, were named the game's co-Most Valuable Players. Ryan Smith and Nicholas Campana both had two hits and southpaw reliever Gerry Salisbury got out of a bases-loaded jam in the top of the sixth with the Beavers leading 4-2.

Reliever Brian Heldman got Eastside's Trey Bridis on a ground out to third base to end the game and secure the team's second championship in three years.

"I can speak for everyone on our team. Kevin was our guy from day one and we wouldn't have wanted anyone else out there pitching for us in the championship game," Newell said. "And Thomas is the best player that this

league has seen. He is undoubtedly the best player I've ever managed. He's the two-time batting title winner and he's just a special player."

A special moment

For Newell, it was a special day for a few reasons.

First of all, he had dedicated the 2018 season to his childhood friend, Nathan Schomberg, who died right before the season started. Second, he clinched the title on his 45th birthday. Third, winning in front of family and friends sparked enormous sentiments.

"It's very special. The week of opening day, I buried my first ever best friend, so I dedicated the season to him and he was watching down on us, for sure," Newell said. "It was such a great moment. I've been so blessed to have great family support, as well as friend support. They've been by my side from day one. This just isn't me celebrating championships. It's everyone in my life and they're all a big part of it.

"It's nice that we set the precedent high and that was my plan from the beginning," he added. "I came in with a purpose and, thankfully, I brought the right guys in for the first three years and I couldn't be more proud of all three

clubs that I had."

Newell said the USPBL, founded by Bloomfield Hills resident Andy Appleby, capped another successful season.

"Andy and his staff, for the third straight year, hit a grand slam," Newell said. "We've had close to 30 players sign Major League Baseball contracts and that's a testament to everyone involved. They have identified the right players, the ones who can get out and move on to MLB.

"And the atmosphere (at Jimmy John's Field) is really unbelievable. People show up and you just know there are going to be 3,400 fans every night and that's a big draw for players. I've been to other independent leagues and watched teams and, I'm going to go on record saying, they're boring.

"But our atmosphere is truly second to none and our guys feed off of that," he added. "They know that when they show up to the ball park, there is going to be 3,400 fans watching them play. And as a player, if you can't get motivated by that, there's something wrong. We've made an impact and it's been special."

Contact Marty Budner at mbudner@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @MartyBudner.

Friends

Continued from Page 1B

forever cherish our time on the court together, even while being opponents."

Pray, who is a setter for Olivet, is in agreement.

"On Saturday, it will be hard to catch up, since we both have games before we play each other and then as soon as we're done after, my team will be heading back to our campus," Pray wrote. "But we've stayed in touch and being friends for so long before going off to college helped us develop a friendship that will last a long time, whether we see each other every day or not won't change that.

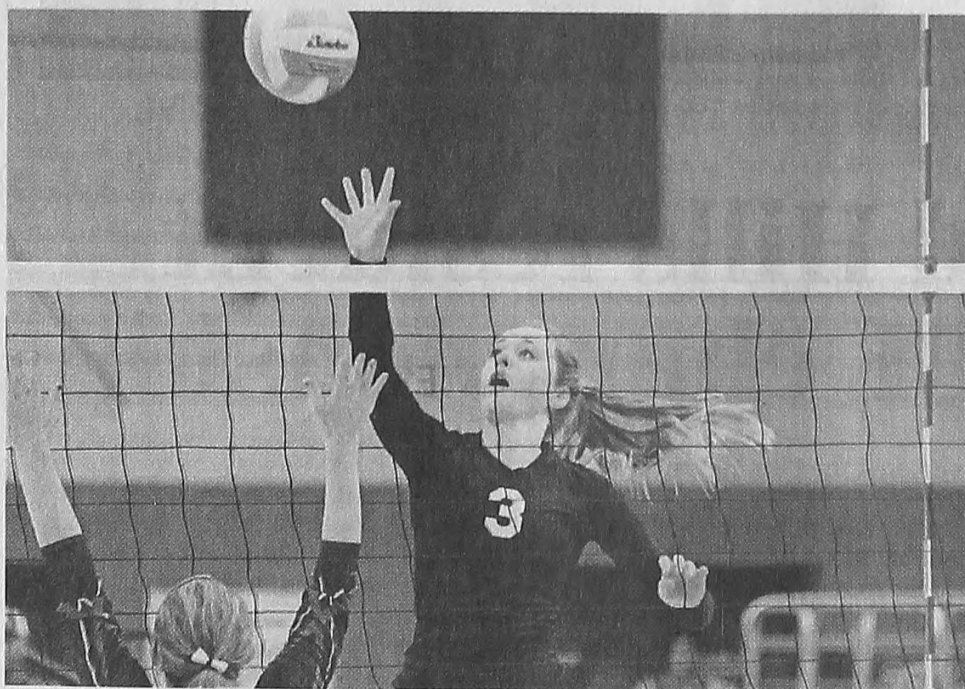
"It will be weird playing against each other and I'll always treasure the times we did have to play together that prepared us both to get to this point in our volleyball careers."

Kellogg and the Knights remained undefeated with a 3-0 match win against the Comets. She contributed seven kills, three aces and seven digs. Meanwhile, Pray tallied five assists, four digs and one ace.

Insider info

Of course, the lifelong friends (actually since fourth grade) pretty much know what makes each other tick. That means Kellogg has a pretty good idea how Pray will set up a teammate — something she knows from first-hand experience.

"She's always been my setter, so we basically had seven years to form the great setter-hitter connection we had (at PCA)," Kellogg wrote. "We under-



Grace Kellogg's tip during the second set of last season's Class D state final in Battle Creek enabled the Eagles to prevail as they won the state championship. TOM LANG

stand each other so well as friends off the court, so I think that also had an impact on how well we worked together on the court."

Pray noted both have grown "side by side" in their skills.

"I think going to school together and building the friendship we did off the court helped our chemistry on the court by us being able to communicate and understand each other easier," Pray wrote. "Grace and I have so many inside jokes and love laughing when we're together, so I think keeping it light on the court helped us play our best and keep relaxed and calm."

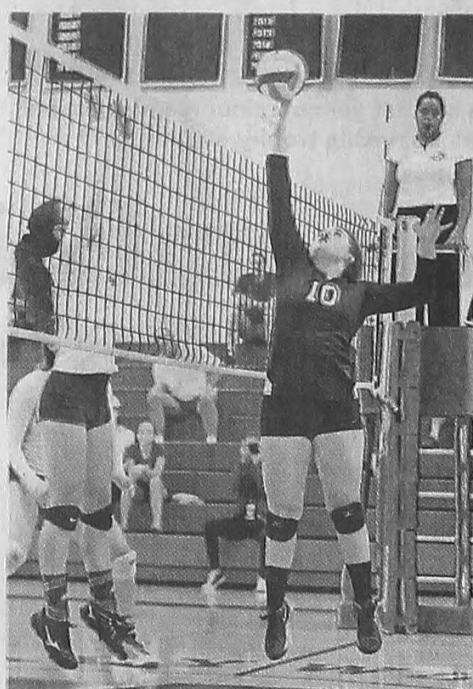
Both girls are going to a relatively

small, religious college on the west side of the state.

Still, the adjustment from PCA to college is a pretty big deal — especially for two student-athletes with such a desire to achieve and succeed.

According to Kellogg, a Class D all-stater last year, "Life as a college athlete is definitely a lot more demanding than high school. It's a lot more competitive, especially because every game matters.

"Getting a NCAA bid into regionals depends on how we do during our normal season, unlike high school, where everyone gets a chance to compete during postseason in their district games. It's a fun chance though and I'm really



During this 2017-18 game, Plymouth Christian's Abigail Pray (right) tips the ball at the net against Livonia Ladywood. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

enjoying Calvin."

"It's hard going from class sometimes until 3:10, to practice from 3:30-6 and then getting homework and social time in," Pray wrote. "But I've loved every minute of it. For me, keeping busy is something I love and, believe it or not, it helps me manage my time and homework better by getting it done as soon as it's assigned."

If you have a compelling story to tell, contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter @TimSmith_Sports.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Miracle helps lift Brother Rice squad

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Brother Rice has qualified for the Division 1 cross country state championship meet in each of the last two years.

If Alec Miracle has anything to do with it — and make no mistake, he is a key member of the Warriors cross country team — that streak will be extended to three straight this fall.

Miracle is one of three seniors on this year's squad that has enjoyed a pretty decent start.

Brother Rice finished eighth among 27 teams at the season-opening Golden Grizzlies Invitational in late August at Oakland University. The Warriors also placed eighth Sept. 8 in the Lee Averill Invitational's 16-team Large School Division at Kensington Metropark.

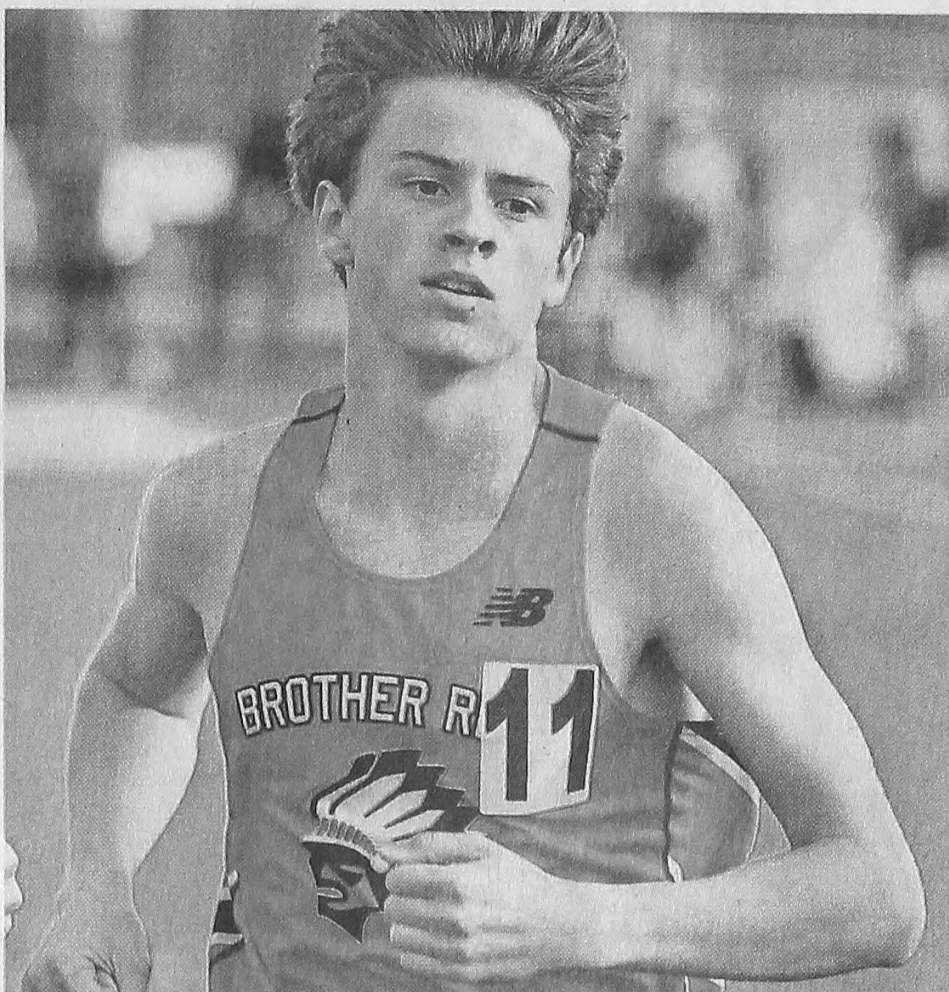
Miracle raced to first place at the 4,000-meter OU course with a time of 12:34. The 18-year-old Beverly Hills resident was fourth at the Averill meet, completing the 5,000-meter layout in 16:29.

"My teammate from last year — Michael Tremonti, who is now racing at Marquette University — won the (OU) race last year, so I kind of wanted to keep the Brother Rice guys on top," said Miracle, who was voted Hometown Life Sports Athlete of the Week after winning that event. "I just wanted to continue the back-to-back for our team."

Miracle, who did not run cross country as a freshman due to injury, has learned a lot while working his way up through the varsity ranks. He said Tremonti and Grant Davey were valuable teammates and competitors who always brought out his best.

"I ran a lot of races alongside (Tremonti and Davey), so (the win at OU) was actually my first invitational win as a high school runner," Miracle said. "I finished fourth at some races, but never had a victory under my belt. It was rewarding to finally get one."

"(Tremonti and Davey) definitely motivated me throughout the years," he added. "We were running together ever since we were in fourth grade, so we've always been close together."



Senior Alec Miracle aims to lead Brother Rice to the cross country state championship meet for the third straight season. PAT DAVEY

Training for states

Miracle is hoping all the training the team is putting in now will pay off when the Michigan High School Athletic Association's cross country regionals take place next month.

Brother Rice raced to third at states during Miracle's sophomore season and placed 12th last fall. Miracle's mission is to lead the Warriors to the state finals again as he closes out his final prep season of cross country.

"Our team is pretty young this year. We lost a lot of good talent in Tremonti and Davey, but I definitely want to lead our team back to the state meet for a third straight year," he said. "We won

our regional the past two years, so I would like to make that a three-peat."

Individually, Miracle has improved in each of his two seasons at states.

Miracle was 31st overall, and ninth in his class, as a sophomore in 2016 with a time of 16:28.9. As a junior, Miracle was 21st overall in 16:08.9.

The Brother Rice standout is aiming for at least a top 10 finish this year, which would result in all-state honors. He also has extra motivation to do well at states, since he missed half of the spring track season with a hip injury.

"I definitely plan on being in the top 10 this year at the state meet," said Miracle, who lists former Rice track coaches Deron Early and Ken Kandt as two of his

favorites. "That's kind of the goal of mine and that's what I've been thinking about throughout the summer while I've been training."

"This senior cross country season, I've been thinking about just getting some revenge back. Because of that injury, I had and not being able to compete at the state (track) meet as a junior," he added. "I was definitely looking forward to this cross country season."

A 'dedicated' runner

Veteran Brother Rice head coach Bob Stark said his top runner is a hard-working student-athlete who takes every race seriously.

"Alex is a very cerebral runner. He is very thoughtful about every race and the courses he runs," Stark said. "He's a dedicated runner and he's in very good shape. We're looking for good things from him this year."

Miracle, a distance runner on Rice's track team, plans to run in college. Although he has not made any college commitments yet, he is looking at a trio of Big Ten programs: Michigan, Michigan State and Wisconsin.

"I have narrowed it down to three schools," Miracle said. "I would like to make the decision as soon as possible, but most likely it won't be until after the cross country season."

Brother Rice's other seniors are Kevin O'Brien and Jacob Hannawa. O'Brien was 29th and 30th at the OU and Averill meets, respectively. O'Brien had a time of 17:53 at the Averill meet, while Hannawa finished in 18:34.

Junior Joe Berg and sophomore Joe Kawka are Rice's other top runners.

During Monday's Catholic League dual meet against Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Brother Rice raced to a 20-42 victory.

Miracle won in 16:24, followed by Berg (third at 18:34), O'Brien (fourth at 18:38), Hannawa (fifth in 18:40) and Parker Young (seventh in 18:48).

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Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

the rematch, getting goals from junior Srikar Komanduri, his first of the year, assisted by Diego Galvin with 21:09 left, followed by Dahi Al-Khatib's goal with 12:46 remaining in the half, assisted by Komanduri.

"I like they way we started on the attack and had two guys come off the bench and score goals for us," said Canton coach Mark Zemanski, whose team improved to 7-2-2 overall. "They brought a lot of energy and that was big for us."

Salem (9-1-2, 4-1-2) came out of the gate flying.

After Canton goalkeeper Ian Nielsen stopped Aidan Walesch on a breakaway attempt with 29:40 left in the opening half, the Rocks kept coming, getting a goal from Thomas Dono when he pounced on a rebound after Josh Stevens's free kick from a sharp angle caromed off the crossbar.

Canton was then called for a handball in the box with 23:58 remaining in the half and Bryan Rodwell scored on a penalty kick to make it 2-0.

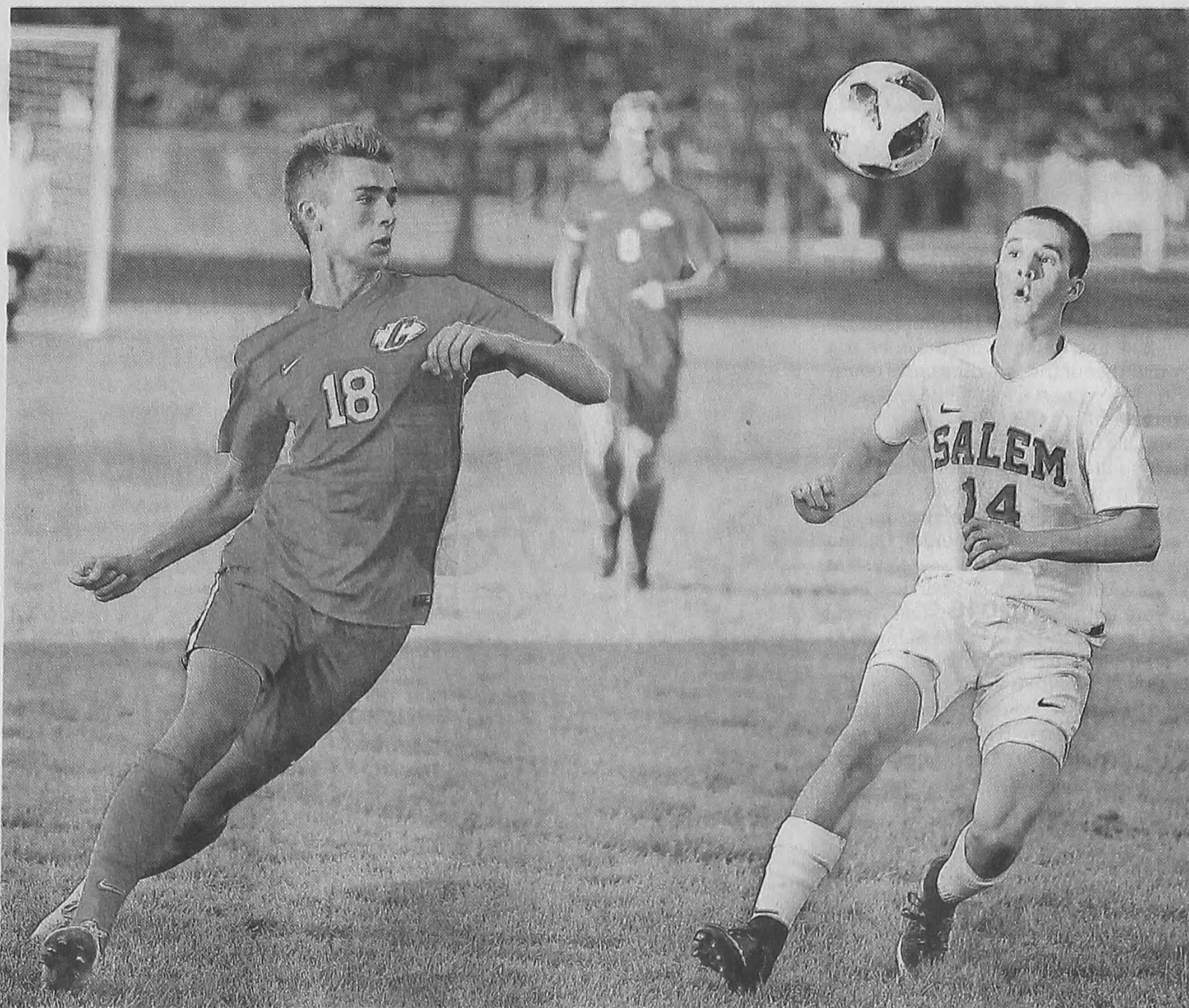
"I think we all knew, in these rivalry games, you just can't sit back and two goals aren't going to be enough," Salem coach Kyle Karns said. "Four goals were scored in 30 minutes of first-half soccer, so once the teams kind of settled in a little bit, it changed. Those are dangerous leads to be up by two and it proved to be costly."

The Chiefs seized momentum in the second half and began to carry the play and it resulted in Provenzano's game-winner to knock off the No. 5-ranked team in Division 1.

Despite the two-goal deficit, staying composed was the key.

"We've been down before, so we knew how to play," Provenzano said. "We knew we have the talent to get back into the game, we just worked hard enough to get there."

Added Zemanski: "We did a nice job. When we fell down 2-0, the boys didn't quit, came back and it was a nice win for us. They put the ball in the net when they had to. I'm very proud of them."



Canton's Kyle Kulas (left) and Salem's Thomas Dono contest a 50/50 ball. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Meanwhile, for Salem, it's back to the drawing board and the Rocks hope to regroup.

"We kind of went away from some of the things that we've done well, keeping the ball, building possession," Karns said. "We couldn't string a couple of passes together as it got later in the game. But again, I think we've accomplished a big stepping stone so far going forward. We've got to learn from this. We hadn't lost yet. We've got to step it up next game and learn from this."

In the KLA West, there are no "gimmies."

"This is definitely, in my mind, the toughest division in the state," Zemanski said. "Everybody we play is really good. I'm real proud of the boys. They had two big victories against their Park rivals and I know they're happy. We want to keep that momentum."

Karns said every match in the KLA West has proven to be a battle.

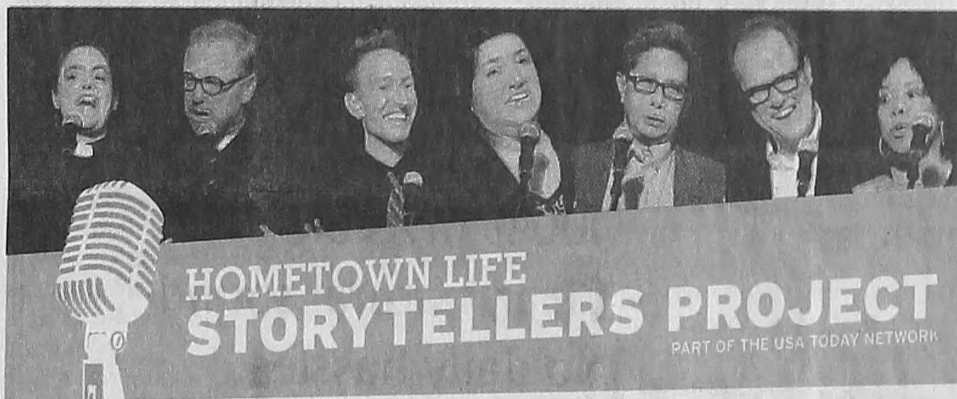
"Twice a week, you're going to be playing a very good, competitive

match," he said. "So we have stuff we can work on tomorrow at practice."

But for at least one night, Canton will savor the win before getting back into division action.

"Taking over first place, taking over a commanding lead in the Park Cup, standings is big for us," Provenzano said.

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Weiss

Continued from Page 1B

Newell was able to keep track of Weiss's baseball exploits.

Weiss played high school varsity baseball for head coach Frank DiVito at Andover and then at Bloomfield Hills after the school's merger with Lahser in 2013. Weiss was recruited to play at Wayne State University. He was with the Warriors for one year before leaving.

Never lost touch

He never lost touch with Newell and the relationship eventually evolved into a shot with the Beavers. It couldn't have worked out any better.

"Growing up, I had a personal relationship with Chris Newell," Weiss said. "I had taken hitting lessons with him while in high school and then I got back in touch with him and started working out with him and he ended up giving me the opportunity (to play in the USPBL)."

"I was out of competitive baseball, but stayed in shape and played in some men's leagues, but nothing really at (the USPBL) competitive level at all," he added. "I just stayed with it. I knew I wasn't done playing and was really excited that I was able to do this."

Weiss, an outfielder, made the Beavers roster and played all season in a reserve role.

The 5-foot-9, 175-pound right-hander appeared in six of the team's 49 games. He batted .500 with six hits in 12 trips, including a triple and four RBIs.

Perhaps Weiss's best game was in late August, when the Beavers defeated the Westside Woolly Mammoths, 9-5, to clinch the all-important top seed for the USPBL's postseason tournament. He went 2-for-4 in that game with an RBI.

Despite the limited playing time, Newell praised Weiss for his overall team attitude.

"Toddie came up big for us in a couple games and he was definitely a nice player to have around," Newell said. "He was a great teammate and he knew his role. He grew immensely as a baseball player and as a professional and that was good to see. I'm sure some people had doubts on him with that."

"I was very candid with him from the very beginning. I told him I was going to give him this opportunity for personal reasons," he added. "I told him, 'If you don't get it done and don't do the things I'm asking, I'll have to release you.' To his credit, he was on board from day one and got better ever single day. He busted

his chops and the rest is history. He was awesome and fun to watch."

Weiss, who played center and left field, acknowledged his role as an upbeat team player.

"Coach told me I would start the year as a developmental player, which sort of meant I was not going to play for a while," Weiss said. "He just wanted me to get in tune with the higher level of play and sort of stick it out and grind it out. I worked hard in practice, stayed with a positive attitude and, when I finally got a chance to play, I was ready to go."

"I was always mentally positive and just waiting for the chance to get back into it," he added. "I was telling coach all year I was ready to go when he needed me. He gave me the chance and it worked out real well."

The ring is highlight

Weiss said the season's highlight for him was not any individual accomplishments, but winning that ring.

"You know, it was cool getting into some games and helping to contribute," Weiss said. "But the highlight of the year was just being with the guys and winning the championship."

"We won a league championship and district championship when I was in high school, but I've never had a feeling like (winning the USPBL championship) in my life," he added. "Being with the guys and working hard all year really paid off for us."

Weiss enjoyed his first taste of minor league baseball so much he aims to do it again next year. In fact, he plans to play winter ball in the California League with the team Newell coaches.

"Coach Newell has been a massive influence in my life," Weiss said. "This year was everything I could have wanted and more. I'm just really excited going forward and getting a chance to play."

"They get a nice crowd out there and Jimmy John's is a beautiful field," he added. "It's really cool being in that atmosphere and playing in front of people. I think they sold out 61 games this year and it's a really good place for family and kids to watch baseball."

Weiss said it was "special" to win a title with his hometown team.

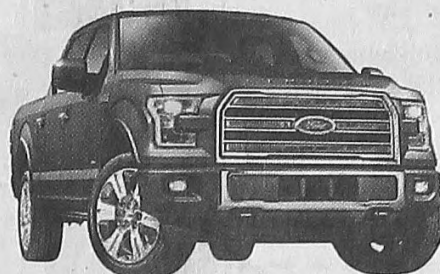
"Yeah, definitely it was," he said. "Kids come play here from all over the country and for me to be able to play from home, 20 minutes from the stadium, for my own city was very special."

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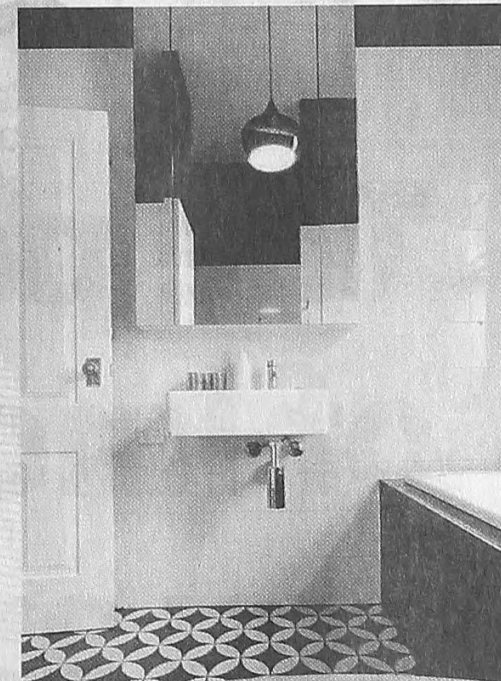
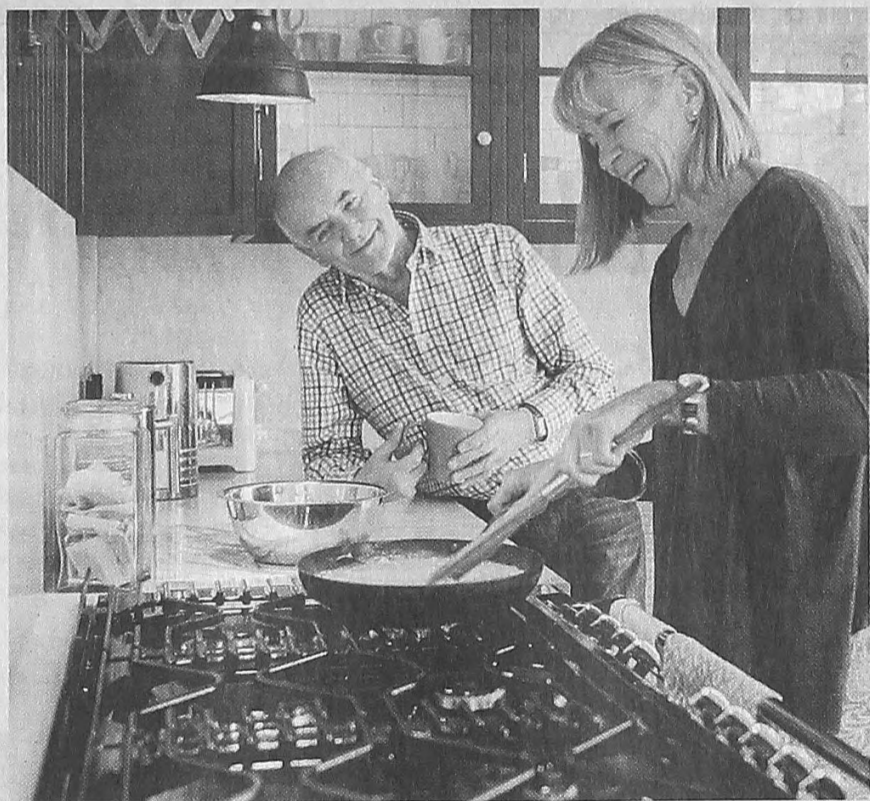
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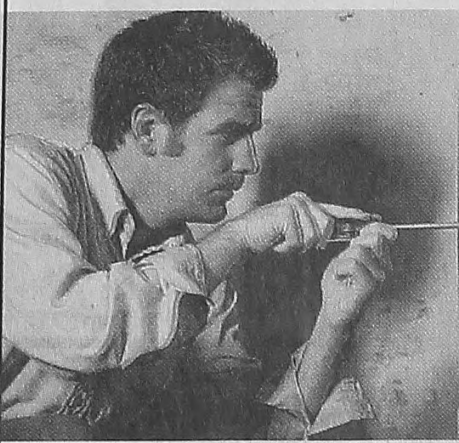
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the job network

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How to effectively communicate with your boss

BY ERIC TITNER
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

Anyone who's ever had to answer to a boss — whether you have one destined for the great boss hall of fame or quite the opposite — has learned that the key to having an effective working relationship is communication.

Developing and maintaining an appropriate flow of thoughts, ideas and work updates with the person you report to on a daily basis does the following:

- It empowers you to perform the varied tasks and responsibilities associated with your job while minimizing confusion or miscommunication.

- It helps you stay connected to the flow of essential information across teams and departments.

- It allows you to build a relationship of mutual respect and trust with your superiors and colleagues.

Ideally, this communication flow goes two ways, and your boss will be just as eager to share information with you as you are with him or her, which serves to benefit your team's productivity.

Although some of us are lucky enough to work with managers who are naturally gifted communicators, some of us must work harder to ensure



GETTY IMAGES

that key information gets communicated.

The flip-side of the coin is also true — some employees are great communicators with minimal effort while others among us have to work harder at it.

If your communication with your boss needs improvement, these strategies might help:

Cut to the chase

In today's hectic work world, most of us are doing multiple

jobs and juggling a small universe of responsibilities. Your work time is extremely valuable — and so is your boss'. Therefore, it's essential that you make the most of the limited time you have with him or her.

Avoid meandering stories, long speeches and lengthy preambles. If you get a reputation for being too verbose, your supervisor may start trying to avoid you and your relationship might suffer.

Whenever possible, just cut to the chase with the information you need to share. Hopefully, that will inspire your boss to do the same.

Also, be sure to strategically choose your moments for communication. If your boss is about to go into an important meeting or heading out for the day, it might not be the best time to drop an important work bombshell. Choose wisely.

Look ahead

Try to anticipate your boss' reaction to the information you're about to share. Do you foresee specific questions? If so, be prepared with answers. Can you envision requests for additional data or stats to back up something you're going to share? Have it at the ready.

Not only will you save time and effort every time you speak with your boss, you'll also come across as more prepared and effective — a real win-win for you.

Choose your communication approach

Of course, the substance of your communication matters a great deal, but what also matters is how you deliver the message. Make sure your body language and tone are appropriate and professional. It might be helpful if you took a second to make sure you

look polished and put together when interacting with your boss.

Figure out how and when your boss likes to communicate and do your best to adapt to their preferred style and approach. It will benefit your relationship in the long run.

Don't wait

If you have important information to share with your boss — even if it's not great news — don't wait. If you put off providing them with actionable information until it's too late, then your news will never be well received.

In almost every scenario, it's to your advantage to fill your boss in as quickly as possible, allowing everyone involved to understand and digest the information, formulate an appropriate reaction and respond accordingly.

If it is bad news, your early warning might allow for sufficient planning to minimize the damage.

Above all, remain professional, polite, direct and clear — traits that will move your communication in the right direction.

Eric Titner has been an editor and content creator for more than a decade. His primary professional focus has been on education- and career-related topics. He currently lives in New York City.

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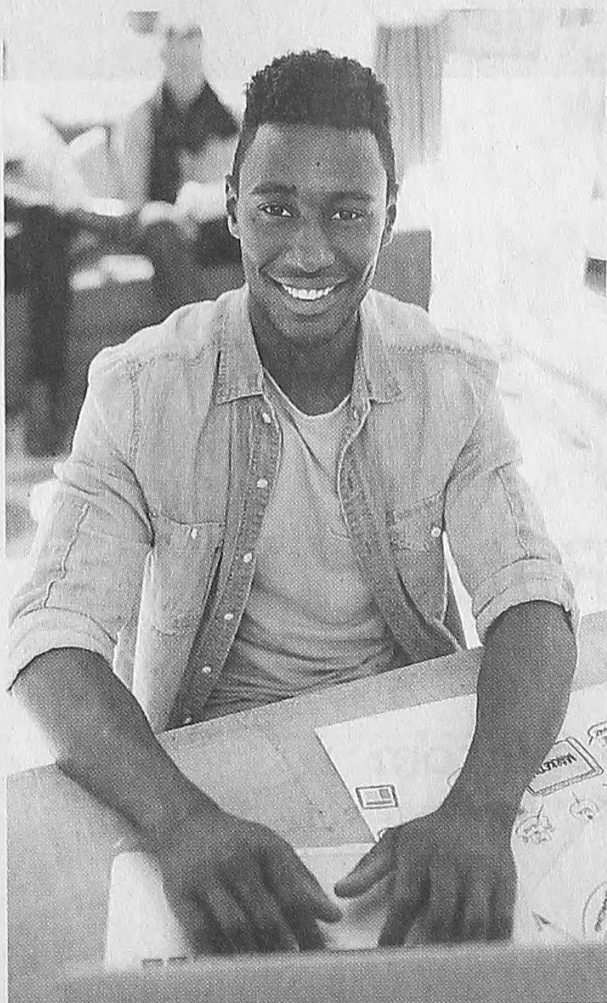
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Community Announce
announcements, events...

Special Notices

Adult Day Care and Respite Services. MORC Home Care is requesting proposals from adult day care and respite providers in Southeast Michigan to expand its delivery network. Call 586-263-8953 for more information and a copy of the RFP. Respond by September 21, 2018.

Livonia FHS 50th Class Reunion. For details call Katie Pope 810-334-2052 or Michael Cox 734-355-6055 or visit Classmates.com - Reunion site or Alumni Franklin High School site.

Great Buys Garage Sales
neighborly deals...

Events & Fairs

Beyond Belief Senior Theater Presents: Young At Heart. Novi High School Auditorium Fri 9/21 & Sat 9/22 at 10m. Tickets \$12 in adv. \$15.00 at the door. 248-325-5119.

Garage-Tag Sale

Canton, Sunflower Sub. Thursday (9/20) through Saturday (9/22), 9am - 7 West of Canton Center and North and South of Warren. Look for signs and yellow balloons.

GARAGE SALE

Farmington Hills, Neighborhood Sale-Quaker Valley Farms. Quaker Valley rd, Michigan, 48331 Fri: 9/21, 10-3. Sat: 9/22, 10-3. Household Goods. Dir: West side of Farmington Rd, between 11 and 12 Mile Rd

FARMINGTON HILLS: Rummage & Bake Sale at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28000 New Market, Fri Sept 21st, 9-5. Sat Sept 22nd, 9-12 Saturday with \$3 & \$6 bag sale.

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all kinds of things...

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Livonia, Glen Eden Memorial Park, 3 Cemetery Lots in the Garden of Victory, \$1300 each OBO 248-377-2049

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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Elite names in show biz
 - 6 Food-cooling chest
 - 12 Impetus
 - 20 Make allusion (to)
 - 21 Long rant
 - 22 Evenly paired
 - 23 French cabaret figure
 - 25 IRS probe
 - 26 Acey- —
 - 27 All right
 - 28 Three-time Frazier foe
 - 29 Airport area
 - 30 Using a blast furnace for
 - 32 Mia Hamm, for one
 - 37 "— Rose" ("The Music Man" song)
 - 38 Old brand of hair remover
 - 40 Calhoun of old Westerns
 - 41 Get sour
 - 42 Bronco
 - 45 Singer Zadora
 - 46 Wear for nighty-night
 - 49 Movie units
 - 50 Suffix with trick
 - 51 Rant, maybe
 - 52 "That feels ni-i-ice!"
 - 53 Duncan toy
 - 55 Unborn child
 - 60 In the capacity of
 - 63 "Jay — Garage" (CNBC series)
 - 66 Seasonal tunes
 - 67 Hawaiian goose
 - 68 Boxers and briefs, briefly
 - 70 Something associated with eight answers in this puzzle
 - 72 Squirrels' cheekfuls
 - 74 Vast time stretch
 - 75 Dashing actor Flynn
 - 76 Proclaims, in the Bible
 - 78 Australian Open unit
 - 79 Fifth-degree black belt, say
 - 83 "The Daily Show" host Trevor
 - 85 Ending for Peking
 - 86 Graph line
 - 87 Island with Pearl Harbor
 - 90 Sporty 1980s Pontiac
 - 94 Rouge color
 - 95 Barber's job
 - 96 It's just been fired
 - 100 Yuletide tree
 - 101 Richard of "Chicago"
 - 102 Victim of Cain
 - 103 — Ana County, New Mexico
 - 104 One giving up gambling, maybe
 - 109 With all in agreement
 - 111 "Jenny" actor Alda
 - 112 See
 - 96-Down
 - 113 She clucks
 - 115 Associated with bribery
 - 116 Rolling Stone interviewee
 - 119 Laced holiday quaff
 - 123 String in a sneaker
 - 124 Family divisions, in taxonomy
 - 125 French for "queen"
 - 126 Donations
 - 127 Attached with rope, e.g.
 - 128 X-ray, e.g.
- DOWN**
- 1 Pigskin path
 - 2 Source of element #82
 - 3 In case it's necessary
 - 4 In a way not related to religion
 - 5 Piece of land
 - 6 "— be my honor"
 - 7 What a U.S. spy may be
 - 8 "Cubsmith" Rubik
 - 9 Spine sites
 - 10 Lyric work
 - 11 Kid of a boomer
 - 12 Of varied character
 - 13 TV studio alert
 - 14 Oaxaca loc.
 - 15 Plato's "H"
 - 16 Nutty treat
 - 17 The present time
 - 18 Put together
 - 19 Taxi fixture
 - 24 TLC series about a tattoo studio
 - 28 Land division
 - 30 Bit of slander
 - 31 Liam of films
 - 33 Bobby of ice hockey
 - 34 Bus. entities
 - 35 Go to press
 - 36 Reluctant
 - 39 Over — top
 - 43 "— Mio" (Italian tune)
 - 44 Ball in space
 - 45 Bic buys
 - 46 Superheroes have them
 - 47 Actress Dru
 - 48 Most mousy
 - 51 Russian river
 - 54 "Of course"
 - 56 Low joint
 - 57 Young guy, in hip-hop
 - 58 Cravings
 - 59 Composer Brian
 - 60 Giant in oats
 - 61 Disquiet
 - 62 Truly loved
 - 64 Sticky pods
 - 65 Dated letter opener
 - 69 Win — walk
 - 71 Military bed
 - 72 From — Z
 - 73 Irritate
 - 75 Let out
 - 77 Hardens (to)
 - 80 Left unsaid
 - 81 Wealthy outlying area
 - 82 Mythical flier
 - 84 Secret treasure
 - 88 "I get it now!"
 - 89 Very hot pepper
 - 91 Self-esteem to a fault
 - 92 Skedaddle
 - 93 Put — act
 - 96 With
 - 112-Across, blind alley
 - 97 Irritate
 - 98 Get the point
 - 99 Mitten's kin
 - 100 Snitched
 - 101 Sci-fi and mystery, e.g.
 - 104 Strident
 - 105 Lanai "Hi!"
 - 106 Brunch meat
 - 107 Jerk the knee, e.g.
 - 108 Ruhr's outlet
 - 110 Pola of silent films
 - 114 Barely made, with "out"
 - 117 —-pitch softball
 - 118 Plato's "T"
 - 119 SFPD rank
 - 120 Architect I.M. —
 - 121 Fouts of football
 - 122 "Hot diggity!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20					21						22							
23				24							25							
	26					27				28						29		
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111							112				113	114			115			
116					117	118				119	120				121			122
123										124						125		
126										127						128		

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

SUDOKU

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

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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 figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

WORDS

- ABSOLUTE ZERO
- AFTERGLOW
- AMPLIFY
- ASTEROID
- ASTRONOMY
- ATMOSPHERE
- ATOM
- BELT
- BRIGHTNESS
- CELESTIAL
- CHROMOSPHERE
- CLOUD
- COLLISION
- COMET
- CONSTELLATION
- CORONA
- CRATER
- DUST
- DWARF
- EARTH
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- IMPACT
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- MATTER
- NUCLEUS
- OPTICAL CAMERA
- ORBIT
- RADIATION
- SOLAR SYSTEM
- SPACE
- STAR
- SUN
- UNIVERSE

ANSWER KEY

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

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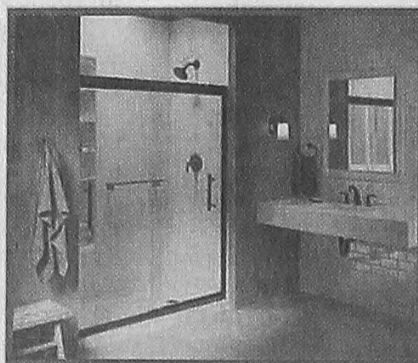
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Plymouth District Library 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 on the following proposed 2019 budget:

General Fund	\$4,111,800
TOTAL	\$4,111,800

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

The proposed 2019 budget documents are available for public examination at the Plymouth District Library on the upper level at the Reference Desk during regular Library hours.

Carol Souchock, Director
Plymouth District Library

The District Library Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon reasonable advanced notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Carol Souchock, Director, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 at 734 453-0750 X 218.

Published September 16, 2018

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

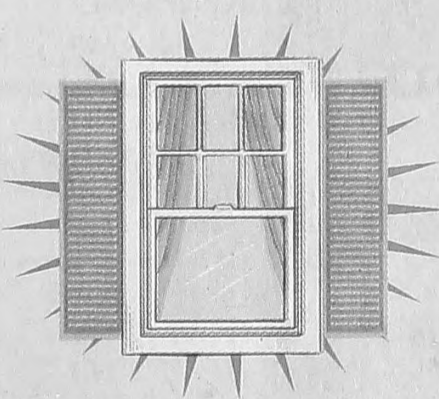
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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 9/30/2018. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$300 off each window and \$700 off each patio door and 12 months no money down, no payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 9/1/2018 and 9/30/2018. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky[®] consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2018 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2018 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Based on 2016 homeowner brand survey. Andersen family of brands aggregated: Andersen, Renewal by Andersen, Silver Line and American Craftsmen.

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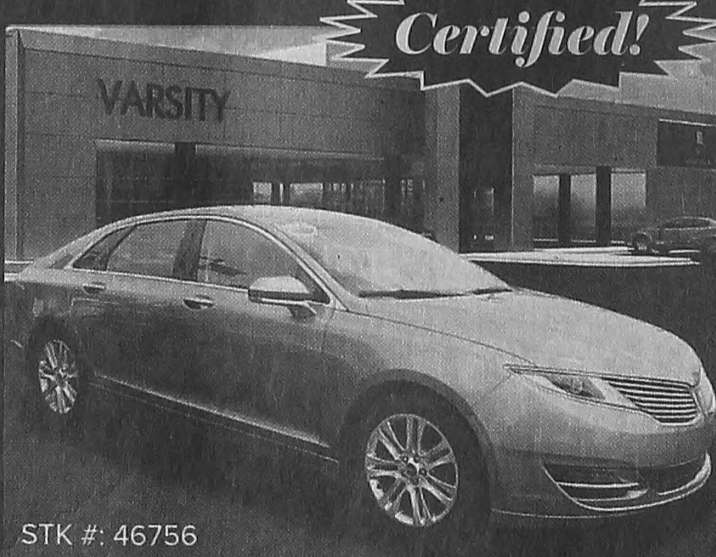
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