

Novi News

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Intro to geocaching

Join the Friends of Maybury, as they introduce you to geocaching 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, July 9. Get started with this fun high tech "treasure hunt." Participants will walk on and off paths, so appropriate foot wear is required. Bring bug spray and a GPS unit if you have it (or download a Geocaching App on your smart phone). Suitable for all ages. We will run this program rain or shine. Meet at the Trailhead Building, using the Eight Mile Road entrance. Recreation Passport required for entry. For more info, call the park office at 248-349-8390.

Walking tour

MSU Tollgate Farm & Gardens "Sunset in the Gardens" free mid-day Garden Tour gives you the opportunity to view the 20 distinct gardens in the late afternoon and early evening hours. The program runs 4-7 p.m. Saturday, July 16, at 28115 Meadowbrook Road. Call 248-347-3860, ext. 251, or go to www.tollgate.msu.edu.

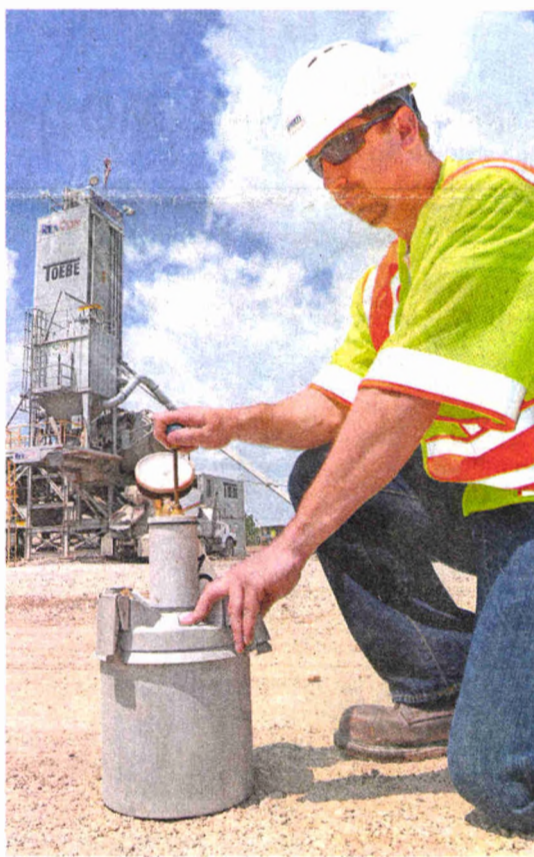


A recently poured section of concrete shows its one-foot depth on I-275's southbound lanes. Crews subcontracted by MDOT have been working on the highway since early May.

Danger zone: On the front line of I-275 construction

Susan Bromley
Staff Writer

Jeff Mack is working this summer anywhere from eight to 16 hours a day, six or seven days a week, in a dangerous job that affects hundreds of thousands of people. He is joined by a few hundred others, not in an air-conditioned office, but in blistering heat, sometimes rain and with dirt, concrete and impatient, frustrated motorists in abundance. Mack is a senior transportation technician for the Michigan Department of Transportation and, this summer, his assignment is to inspect work done by contractors on the Interstate 275 rehabilitation project spanning from Five Mile Road to the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange. The project includes 13 miles of distance north and south, some 144 lane miles, in Novi, Farmington Hills and Livonia, said Diane Cross, MDOT communications representative. "The biggest challenge is to



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jeff Mack, senior transportation technician for MDOT and a project leader of the I-275 reconstruction, takes an air pressure entrainment near one of the site's two concrete making facilities. Mack and other engineers have to test the air pressure in the concrete mixture several times a day to make sure that air trapped in it is within a certain limit so it can cure properly. Like most workers on the project, Mack works seven days a week and has only had one full day off in the last 50, leading up to the July 4 holiday weekend.

See ZONE, Page A2

Southbound I-275 open, northbound lanes closed

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Motorists saw some "eye of the storm" relief from the Interstate 275 construction project this Fourth of July weekend. The Michigan Department of Transportation opened the southbound I-275 lanes from the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange to Five Mile on Friday evening. MDOT shut down the northbound side after rush hour Tuesday morning, said Diane Cross, an MDOT spokeswoman. The opening was earlier than expected.

Having both sides of the freeway open for the holiday weekend wasn't part of the original contract, but it coincides with work the contractor, Wixom-based Toebe Construction, has made along the southbound side. Bill Erben, a construction engineer for MDOT, said the lack of rain, while not good for some areas, have benefited the project. Laying concrete is much easier to do without rain falling, he said.

"Less rain days have helped," he said. "This is one of the fields where, if you get a downpour, you can't pave." Crews were seen installing guardrails on the freeway last Thursday and signage was seen earlier in the week along the route being prepped for installation.

The two concrete plants will not move for the next phase of the project, leaving one concrete plant on the west side of the freeway. Erben said it's likely more concrete will be created at the south end plant for easier transport to the northbound lanes.

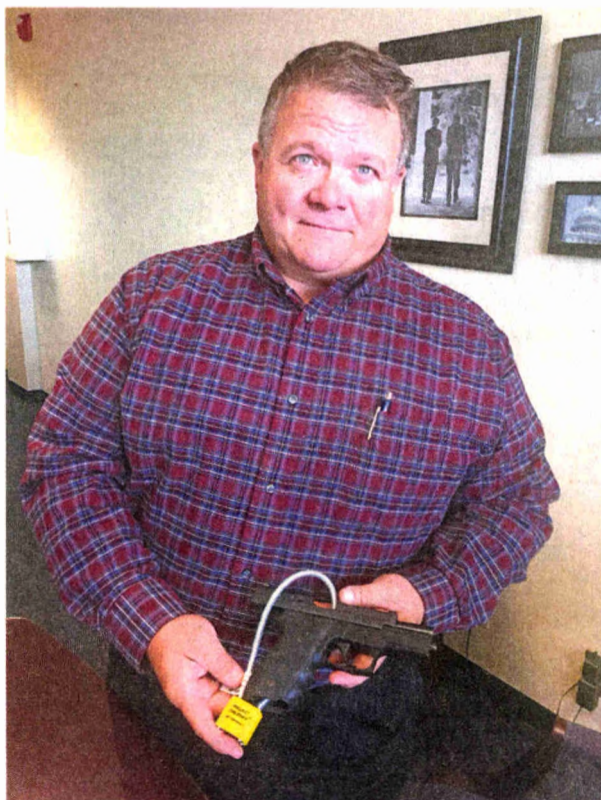
The length of the contract for the \$75 million project is 122 days, which means both sides of the freeway need to be open by Sept. 15 to meet that deadline. For every day early the freeway opens, the contractor is awarded a \$150,000 bonus for each day, Erben said. Conversely, they are charged an additional \$150,000 for every day after that date before it opens.

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Safety, know-how are topics covered in CPL class

SUSAN BROMLEY
Lt. John Nelson shows one of the free gun safety locks available at the Novi Police Department. A CPL class will be taught July 16 by Sgt. Michael Warren. Cost is \$150.



Susan Bromley
Staff Writer

A CPL won't necessarily protect you or those you love in the case of an active shooter, like the one who killed 49 people and wounded 53 others at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando last month. However, taking a concealed pistol license class with Novi Police Sgt. Mike Warren will teach you how to safely own and handle a weapon, as well as ways to avoid becoming a victim. "I really enjoy doing these classes, because the people who attend are here because they want to do things the right way," Warren said. "They are law-abiding citizens who are now better able to protect themselves and we've had some outstanding people attend this training. ... I think what we have to look at is these are people going through training at their own expense and on their own time and most continue after they get done here. I think they

are a positive impact on society, rather than a negative impact." Few police departments offer a pistol safety training class, he added, which is among the requirements for those wishing to obtain a concealed pistol license. Pistol safety training classes are also offered by private gun ranges with state-certified instructors. The Novi Police Department began offering CPL classes six years ago and, since that time, more than 300 people have attended, ranging in age from the minimum of 21 all the way up to a 92-year-old man who had always wanted to get his CPL, but had never gotten around to it. Class participants may be novices or very experienced with guns. While the main goal is to obtain a CPL from the state of Michigan, the reasons behind that differ, even with people from the same home. One may want a weapon with the intent of carrying. A spouse might not

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ZONE

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get this opened as quickly as possible. We recognize the inconvenience to everybody," Mack said. "But at the same time, we need to make sure the best quality product is out there."

Lots of traffic

I-275 is among the busiest stretches of road in Michigan because it is the only major north-south route for that area and as such carries 200,000 vehicles per day on average, Cross said. Detours to local roads that take north-south routes are not designed for the same quantity of freeway traffic, leading to frustration from drivers in an already hazardous situation for construction workers.

"Thousands of pounds of metal, steel and glass are driving right near you at high speeds, which

is why when we can close and contain it, it's much safer for workers so they don't have to worry about drivers," Cross said. "Almost every day, a driver crashes in a work zone area — hitting a barrel, a sign, or truck. ... People send me pics on Twitter that they take while driving, and they say, 'Why am I in a slow-down?' They feel protected in their safe bubble of a vehicle, with air bags and brakes while driving at a high speed next to someone who only has a construction barrel. Then there are the stories of vehicles hitting construction workers. Fortunately, we haven't had one of those in a long time."

Still dangerous

Helping to prevent such a tragedy was closure of the southbound lanes of I-275, which reopened Friday, while northbound lanes are closing as the project is 50-percent completed. Even with closed



Construction workers toil in the 90-degree plus temperatures June 20 to properly set and smooth recently poured concrete on I-275 near the 10 Mile overpass. The site has somewhere between 100 and 200 workers on the project seven days a week.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

lanes, construction zones remain dangerous for Mack as well as other workers as they walk back and forth in a zone filled with heavy equipment and materials.

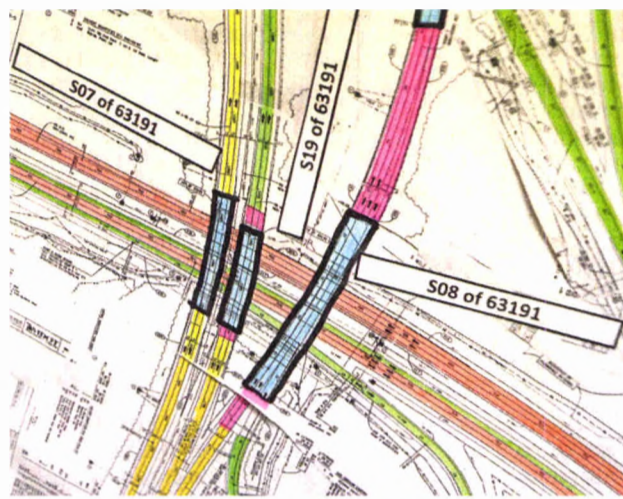
"Toebe, the prime contractor, has an excellent safety program in place and we've had zero injuries so far," Mack said. "Our No. 1 goal is to go home safe."

Toward that end, all the workers on the I-275 project wear personal protection equipment, including hard hats, protective vests, safety glasses, work boots and ear plugs.

Mack, 37, has worn the gear for his entire career with MDOT, which spans 15 years. He earned his degree in engineering technology from Eastern Michigan University and chose this career path after spending a summer in a co-op program and "falling in love with it."

Many duties

As a senior technician, his primary focus is to inspect the contractors' work in the field, docu-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A color-coded blueprint of the I-275 reconstruction project near the Grand River overpass shows how many different road surfaces and gradings MDOT has to keep in mind as it rebuilds the busy highway.

contracted construction workers are on-site and they are out there rain or shine, he added. If weather prevents one job, such as laying concrete, they do another, such as removing it.

After 15 years and more than a hundred projects, Mack still likes all aspects of his work, including the variability, the challenges, his colleagues and meeting new people. He takes pride in a job well done.

"As a taxpaying citizen myself, it brings me a lot of joy that when I leave a project, I know it was built with the highest quality and effort I could put into it," Mack said.

He knows construction is frustrating for drivers and the married father of two wants motorists to know he shares that frustration, but he also hopes they will be patient, be aware, be safe and slow down.

"My end goal is to get home each day," said Mack. "Help me get there."

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ment their activities, do testing and ensure the best quality products are being placed on the job, including 13 inches of concrete on a correctly pitched base.

Everything you see, he explained, has a design elevation. Once concrete is in place, the next step is curing the concrete, which includes a time frame where no

one is driving or touching it as it strengthens. Curing can take anywhere from two to seven days after being placed and there are no workers out during that time.

There must also be relief cuts to the pavement, as concrete will always crack, and those are deliberately placed.

The inspectors are on-site as long as the

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July 22	Lin Rountree	Home Depot- in the Orange Block Ford & Lotz	
July 29	Randy Scott	JC Penney- in the Green Block Ford between Morton Taylor & Sheldon	
August 5	Penny Wells	Home Depot- in the Orange Block Ford & Lotz	
August 12	Tim Bowman	Super Bowl- in the Purple Block Ford between Canton Center & Sheldon	

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Genova Brick Oven Pizza- 734-667-1972	Thai Bistro- 734-416-2122
Hayden's Grill and Bar- 734-895-3388	Toarina's Pizza- 734-981-0060
Jersey Mike's Subs- 734-844-2121	Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza- 734-404-5484
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In the event of inclement weather, all concerts will be held indoors at Super Bowl 45100 Ford Rd.

Visit ShopCanton.org and rainedout.com Canton Jazz for updates and details.

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Forest Service, local partners boost Rouge River health

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

A “Rouge Growing Green” project, aimed at improving Rouge River water quality, is partly funded by the U.S. Forest Service and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Some 20 trees were planted in the city of Plymouth recently on Burroughs, between Harding and Fairground, across from Lions Park. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is the largest investment in the Great Lakes in two decades, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website notes.

“There were nearly 700 trees planted,” said Jill Johnson, Midwest Urban Forestry coordinator for the U.S. Forest Service. Johnson, who works out of the St. Paul, Minn., field office, noted the grant to the Alliance of Rouge Communities covered a number of local communities, as well as Wayne County.

Plymouth Township, the city of Plymouth, Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Township, Canton, Inkster, Novi, Oak Park, Rochester Hills, Southfield, Troy, Franklin Vil-



JULIE BROWN

Some 20 trees were planted along Burroughs, between Harding and Fairground, in the city of Plymouth. The “Rouge Growing Green” project is partly funded by the U.S. Forest Service and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.



JULIE BROWN

This sign along Burroughs in the city of Plymouth notes the “Rouge Growing Green” project is partly funded by the U.S. Forest Service and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

lage and Wayne County are recipients of the grant for tributaries of the Rouge River. The grant was for \$100,000, with trees planted this spring.

“This is just one of the grants we have. There have been many grants over the years” associated with the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Johnson said. The U.S. Forest Service manages EPA funds and has given

the grants since fiscal year 2010.

“We’ve had a lot of opportunities to award projects,” she said. This aim includes “tree canopy cover” for the river’s restoration.

Johnson noted the devastation of the emerald ash borer. “The EPA recognizes that trees are important for reducing toxic substances,” she said. The trees also help control invasive plants,

along with reducing storm water runoff.

After grants are awarded, Johnson said, recipients find vendors/contractors. “Almost always, those trees are locally sourced,” Johnson said. “We always try to make sure we’re awarding to communities that have an arborist.”

In planting, the arborist considers diversity of plants “to make sure that urban forest is as resilient as possible.” The

arborist needs to consider soil, hardness of the zone, as well as possible road salt.

“Some species can’t handle that salt. There are so many site factors to take in. That’s why we rely on the local experts to pick that palette of trees,” Johnson said.

Johnson gets to visit on-site from Minnesota.

“I’ve had a chance to see all the good work that’s been done,” she said. “It’s very reward-

ing. It’s been very rewarding to see all that happen through this initiative.”

She noted benefits to the wildlife habitat, as well as beautification and cooling of homes.

The Great Lakes region includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Pennsylvania and New York. Some \$17.8 million has been granted in the Great Lakes region for the initiative, she said.

Federal agencies use GLRI resources to strategically target the biggest threats to the Great Lakes ecosystem and to accelerate progress toward long-term goals, the EPA website notes. Combining GLRI resources with agency base budgets, the GLRI works with non-federal partners to implement protection and restoration projects.

GLRI funding is also used to support efforts to prevent Asian Carp from establishing populations in the Great Lakes. For more information about the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, go to www.glri.us.

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CPL

Continued from Page A1

want to carry, but wants to know how to use it and when it is legally justified.

Warren notes that there are more males than females in the classes, which tend to have older participants. He recalls a group of hunters who took the class because having a CPL would make it easier to transport their weapons when going up north hunting and camping. Others, Warren said, “see the news and crazy stuff going on and want to have a weapon in case they ever did have to defend themselves.”

But as Warren explains, a concealed weapon can’t be legally taken into many of the places where mass shootings have occurred, such as schools, any school-owned property, places of worship, stadiums or businesses where the primary source of income is the sale of liquor.

In the class, Warren instructs participants on how to avoid situations, control situations and things to look for in possible assailants.

“Ideally, the time to stop a shooter is not after he gains entry (to a nightclub, school or other public place of planned attack), but by the people around him before he evens get the chance,” Warren said. “People often talk about the wife or other individuals around that person knowing something was going to happen. ... It is not spur of the moment; there is planning. If you see something, say something. If it is suspicious, report it.”

As far as individual safety, Warren advises citizens to never use a walk-up ATM or put yourself in a situation in which you could be an easy target. Avoid dark, unlit areas.

“If you never visit an area of high crime, you can never be a victim,” he said. “If you wouldn’t want your kids going to a place, perhaps you shouldn’t be going there, either.”

In public gathering places, use situational awareness, Warren advises, knowing the points of exit not only in case of a shooter, but in case of a fire and pay attention to what is transpiring around you, not just your phone. In the event you find yourself in an active shooter crisis, first seek to run, then to hide and, lastly, to fight.

“Talk about it with your loved ones. It’s better that you have a plan,” Warren said. “What do you do if you’re at a restaurant and someone has

a weapon? How do you want them to react? If something happened, where would you go, what would you do, who would you call? It’s no different than talking to your kids about what to do if the house is on fire or talking to kids about a tornado — where do you go?”

CPL class applicants

must be 21 years of age or older, with a \$150 fee, and the class requires equipment, including a personal handgun (weapons are not provided, but a limited number of handguns are available to rent at additional cost), as well as 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses and earmuffs or ear plugs. You do not

have to be a Novi resident.

“If you are interested, carefully consider that choice, because with that choice comes a great amount of responsibility,” he said. “Before you do it, make sure this is for you. Don’t just go right out and start carrying. Maybe a firearm is not for you, but maybe a

Taser is, which you also need a CPL for. And maybe none of it is for you and that’s OK. There’s nothing wrong with that.”

The next Novi Police Department CPL class is planned for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., July 16, at 45125 W. 10 Mile Road. Cost is \$150 and pre-registration and a criminal background check is required. Regis-

tration forms are available online at cityofnovi.org or at the police department. For more information, call 248-348-7100.

Free gun safety locks are also available at the police department at any time.

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Novi High School graduate joins stem-cell research team

James Mitchell
 Correspondent

Matthew McClure plans to fail often over the next year. No discouragement there — in fact, he's looking forward to it.

"There will be failures along the way," McClure said of the research project he's joined. "But that's part of the process."

McClure, who grew up in Novi and graduated from Novi High School in 2012, began biomedical studies at Oakland University that fall. Having earned his bachelor's degree in April, McClure is among eight students who will spend the next year working in a stem-cell research lab under the direction of Dr. Luis Villa-Diaz.

"This is a great experience for doing the research side of medicine," said McClure, who is applying to various medical schools to continue his education.

Seven undergraduate students and one doctoral student have been hired by Villa-Diaz to serve as research assistants. For the next year, the young scientists will work with pluripotent stem cells — those that can transform from a primitive form into any type of cell in the human body. The potential benefits of the project join the growing field of stem-cell research that McClure said will arguably be the most important for the future of medicine.

"The field is so brand new and can go in so many different directions," McClure said.

The research aspect of the project was what appealed to McClure and his fellow students and is what he hopes to focus on in his career. The work is demanding of both knowledge and time, but Villa-Diaz said he's been impressed by the students' understanding of the commitment they've made.

"I've found a lot of eager-



Matthew McClure prepares solution.

GRACE TURNER

ness and dedication," Villa-Diaz said. "Science is very demanding and very time-consuming and Matthew, like the other students, is very engaged in the process of research."

Villa-Diaz said that his project — which will assess the impact of a particular protein's interaction with other stem cells — will likely take several years. The seven initial students have each committed to

at least a year's worth of research.

"This will take months of hard work," said Villa-Diaz, who began teaching at Oakland in January after more than a decade at the University of Michigan. "In the short time they've been working, I'm very pleased with their performance and results. The students are very mature and they value their time here."

Interest rates on new federal student loans take a dive

David Jesse
 Michigan.com

Students about to hit college campuses are getting good news — the interest rate on new federal student loans just dropped, although that is tempered by the fact that every Michigan public university just increased tuition rates for this fall.

Here's the drop:

» Loans for undergraduates: 3.76 percent (down from 4.29 percent)

» Loans for graduate students: 5.31 percent (down from 5.84 percent)

» PLUS Loans for parents: 6.31 percent (down from 6.84 percent)

That's for any new loan originated after July 1.

That's because in 2013, Congress changed how student loan interest rates are set, moving from setting a number each year to basing it on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note rate in the spring of each year, plus a set increment for each fee. The rate is then locked in for the life of the loan.

This is the second year in a row rates have dropped under the new plan.

That's good news for Teresa Walter, 18, of Novi, who is about to head off to Wayne State University. She's not quite sure how much she's going to need to borrow yet.

"So less interest is good, but tuition keeps going up," she said. "It all evens out in the end."

Wayne State raised tuition late last month 3.8 percent on lower-division students (freshmen and sophomores) and 4.5 percent on upper-division students (juniors and seniors). That's an average of 4.1 percent and keeps Wayne State under a statewide tuition cap of 4.2 percent.

Every other Michigan public university has also raised tuition for next year.

Eastern Michigan voted to raise tuition 4.1 percent. Among Michigan schools that

have approved tuition increases for the fall: University of Michigan, 3.9 percent; Oakland University, 3.95 percent; Michigan State University, 3.7 percent for in-state freshmen and sophomores and 3.9 percent for juniors and seniors.

Borrowing to go to school is becoming more common: 63 percent of those who go to college in Michigan borrow money to go to school.

And there are lots of Americans who haven't been able to make their payments after graduation.

Twenty percent of all federal loan borrowers have defaulted on their loans, according to new data released by the federal government last week. That translates into \$121 billion of loans in default. That same data show 40 percent of all borrowers are not making any payments.

Michigan's graduates had a default rate of 12.8 percent in 2015, the latest state-by-state breakdown shows.

A 2015 report from the non-profit Project on Student Debt at the Institute for College Access & Success shows the average 2014 graduate of a Michigan college had \$29,450 to pay back on federal student loans. That's up considerably from a decade ago, when graduates left owing \$18,754 on average.

According to the latest numbers issued in early May by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Americans added \$29 billion of student loan debt last quarter. In comparison, Americans added \$120 billion in mortgage debt and \$7 billion in auto debt. However, Americans decreased their credit card debt by \$21 billion in the last quarter.

Americans continue to owe more money on student loans than any other type of debt besides home mortgages. Student loan debt owed is now \$1.26 trillion. That's more than Americans owe on auto loans (\$1.07 trillion) or credit card debt (\$712 billion).

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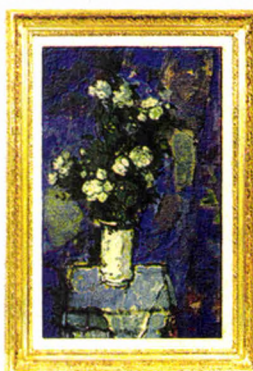
HENRY OSSAWA TANNER
 GOUACHE & WATERCOLOR



PIERRE BITAR
 OIL ON CANVAS



PETER MAX
 MIXED MEDIA



SARKIS SARKISIAN
 OIL ON CANVAS



GEORGE SHAWE
 OIL ON CANVAS



MISSION REVOLVING
 OAK BOOKCASE
 H 73", W 32"



GARDEN STATUARY &
 PATIO FURNISHINGS
 OVER 20 LOTS



LUXURY FASHION:
 CHANEL, LOUIS VUITTON,
 JUDITH LEIBER, GUCCI



FRENCH GILT
 BRONZE
 CHENETS
 19TH C.
 H 16"



EXCELSIOR, DINING SET, EBONY
 WITH ACRYLIC, 10 PCS. WITH LEAVES

Stuffed animal found hanging in black family's backyard

Daniel Bethencourt
Michigan.com

A stuffed animal was decapitated then hung from a tree in the backyard of a black family's home in Commerce Township in what is being looked at as an act of "ethnic intimidation," according to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. Deputies found the stuffed animal when they were called to the home near Lower Straits Lake and arrived at around 10

a.m. Saturday, Undersheriff Mike McCabe said in a news release. Not only was the animal's head cut off, but its arms were taped behind its back, police said. The family told police they didn't know who would leave the stuffed animal in their backyard — but the homeowner did say that over the course of living in the home for the last two years, "boaters pull up to their property and point at them," McCabe said.

And last month someone at a barbecue at a neighbor's house, who the family is friends with, yelled the N-word at the homeowner's wife while she was in her yard. Police did not provide further details Sunday afternoon. Anyone with details about the incident should call the Oakland County Sheriff's Office at 248-858-4951.

dbethencourt@freepress.com



OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
A stuffed animal with no head was found Saturday hanging from a tree in a black family's backyard.

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Drone crash

Novi Police were called at 11:35 a.m. June 20 to Jasper Ridge after a drone crashed into a deck. The caller stated an unknown male was flying a drone, which struck the deck next to his residence. The male then picked up the drone and walked away. No damage was observed and the subject who was flying the drone was not located.

Dumpster divers

Novi Police were called at about 2:45 p.m. June 21 to a medical facility located on Hagertry Road for a report of individuals going into dumpsters on the property for medical supplies. An employee of the business said for the past three months, people have gone into the dumpster for items that have been thrown away, including reagent, machinery and expired syringes. The subjects have been warned in the past that they are on private property and not welcome, but they would leave and then return later in the day. The incidents had not been reported until now. On June 20, locks were placed on the dumpsters, but employees again found the subjects, who came in three pickup trucks, in the dumpsters. No damage was found to the dumpsters, which were able to be relocated.

Found kitten

A kitten found in a work site woodpile at 7:55 a.m. June 17 in the area of Nine Mile and Garfield roads was turned over to an emergency vet after neighbors said they weren't missing a kitten.

— By Susan Bromley

Democratic Club hosts event to highlight candidates

The Northville Democratic Club held a Unity Party event June 24 at the American Legion in Northville. The table was groaning under the weight of appetizers from samosas to guacamole and chips, chicken fingers to spicy meatballs and brownies to French toast squares. The purpose of the party was to provide candidates for local offices the opportunity to speak to potential voters about their candidacy and their views and to mingle and talk to their potential constituents. Close to 50 members of the Northville Democratic Party, as well as friends and guests, listened to short speeches, ate a lot of good food and talked about current political issues.

Lisa DiRado, the Northville Democratic Club president and long-time resident of Northville Township, opened the meeting and introduced elected officials who were in attendance, including Sam Ekong, Northville City Council member, and Roland Hwang, member of the Northville Board of Education.

Patrick Crandell, candidate for the Wayne County Commission, 9th District (Livonia, North-



Jane Breslin and Marlene Oden.



Patrick Crandall, Susan Nichols, Roland and Tina Hwang.



U.S. House candidate Dr. Anil Kumar with Lisa DiRado, president of the Northville Democratic Club.



Michelle Letourneau-McAvoy, Sam Ekong, Jini Sawani and Lavinia Ekong at the Unity Party.

ville and Northville Township) spoke about the needs in Wayne County for greater fiscal responsibility and his desire to help Wayne County prosper and further develop a regional transit authority. Colleen Crossley, candidate for Oakland County commissioner, spoke about how her background as a social worker has propelled her

desire to serve the community and her wish to serve the families of Oakland County. Dr. Ghulam Qadir, candidate for Northville Township commissioner, spoke about using his extensive knowledge of psychiatry to help the community with the many diverse mental health challenges. Michelle Letourneau-McA-

voy, candidate for the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court, spoke about her years of experience as an attorney helping families and children in crisis. Dr. Anil Kumar, candidate for the U.S. House 11th District seat, was also present to talk to voters and discuss his run. A skit was presented by NDC members Susan

Nichols and Patrick Collins, playing the roles of Hillary Clinton and Bernie Saunders, and proving that these two Democratic leaders are more alike than they are different. Another NDC member, Herb Helzer, presented information from the other side of the political battleground.

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July 21st - 24th

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Livingston Daily Press & Argus 323 E. Grand River, Howell, MI 48843

Wristbands need to be picked up at the Livingston Daily Press & Argus 323 E. Grand River, located in Downtown Howell.

For more details on the 2016 Lyon Township Summerfest, visit www.LyonEvents.org

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Shelby Twp. - 568.566.1233
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www.buddyspizza.com

Sculptor to bring 'devil's rope' art to Plymouth show

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Jeff Best loves getting his hands on rusty barbed wire.

He takes the material, also known as devil's rope, from old fence posts and rural trash dumps, then bends, twists and shapes it into majestic elk and barnyard chickens, prickly pine trees and trophy deer heads.

"It's a great medium to work with. It's just dirty, dusty, pokey and it can come up and smack you if you're not watching it. I'll get scratched sometimes. You've got to be careful with it," he said. "I have found several rolls of barbed wire still on the spool, all rusted. Those are the most dangerous. They are wound tight and still have some spring. But other than minor scratches, it's not too

bad."

Best, who lives in Clare, north of Mt. Pleasant, will bring his unique work to the 37th annual Art in the Park, July 8-10 in downtown Plymouth. Show times are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Shuttles will run continuously from Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft, in Livonia, and at Burroughs, located at Plymouth Road and Haggerty.

More than 400 artists from across the country will show and sell their paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, fiber art, glass works, photography, folk art and woodwork.

Best is new to the show. Art in the Park will be his third art fair since he began creating barbed wire sculpture five years ago. He attended the Great Lakes Art Fair in



A barbed wire elk sculpture seems to call out to the herd at sunset.

Novi the past two years and will end the summer art fair season next month in Mt. Pleasant.

"The Plymouth show is the big dog for me," he said. "I'm looking forward to going there and see how it goes. I don't know what to expect."

He wasn't fluent in the art fair "lingo" or the application process when he sent a few photos off

to the Great Lakes show last year. All he knew was that he loved turning used barbed wire into "something pretty."

"It's cool for me to think that wire was manufactured to be on a post to hold in things or hold things out," he said. "It served its purpose. I grabbed it and who knew it would turn into a deer head."

Popular chickens

He'll have a family of three barbed wire elk for sale at the Plymouth show. Examples of other sculptures will be displayed in his booth. Customers can order a piece and expect delivery about a month later. Prices range from approximately \$150 to \$500 or more.

Chickens are his most popular sculptures, but he also makes full size elk and deer, trophy heads, trees and just about anything a customer requests. His "Bugling Elk," a 10-foot-long, 8-foot-tall sculpture greets customers from atop the entrance to Jay's Sporting Goods in Gaylord.

"I did a Spartan helmet for a couple in Howell," he said. "It turned out awesome. I've done a sandhill crane, a cactus, trees, that kind of stuff."

A former salesman

for Purina, Best started his own company, Best Outdoors, manufacturing planting and cultivating equipment in 2005. He splits his time between his business and his art.

The self-taught artist created his first sculpture out of a coat hanger for his son, who is now 32. The piece became a perennial "show and tell" item for all three of his children.

He considered moving on to larger pieces when he found barbed wire on his property, but the coils of rusty wire sat in his barn for eight years before he took needle nose pliers to the material.

View his work in person during the art fair or go to devilsropestudio.com. For more about Art in the Park, call 734-454-1314 or go to artinthepark.com.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Here are some must-have tech gadgets for the summer

We've reached peak technology status. Remember how the emergence of cellphones helped us downsize the number of necessary digital devices? The cellphone became not only your phone, but your MP3 player, camera, video camera, key ring, wallet and more. But the rise of the Internet of Things has seemingly reversed that trend and helped the electronics market shift from entertainment devices to useful productivity devices. That's not to say that the TV, radio or your 1995 desktop computer wasn't useful — new unitasking devices are simply more functional and affordable and have pushed more tech devices into consideration.



Jon Gunnells
TECH SAVVY

Digital thermometers

Advanced and enhanced summer grilling is as easy as a digital thermometer. And that doesn't mean your standard meat thermometer with a digital display. Bluetooth and WiFi-enabled temperature gauges are available for the professional smoker to the novice grill. And while nobody needs a digital thermometer that connects to their phone, it certainly saves you unnecessary trips to the grill, smoker or oven. The Weber Style for

instance, offers two prongs (which is what you want) to measure the air temperature as well as internal temperature. A two-prong meat thermometer can run \$40 to \$100. Of course, if you think this is a waste of money, then I don't need to tell you about the more than \$200 solar-powered beach tote that has been developed by a company called Earth Beach Products.

Security cameras

Previously, a homeowner who wanted peace of mind could sign up for an expensive monthly or yearly contract with a home security company. Expensive top-end video monitoring systems were also available for the 1 percent. Today, you can secure your home as easily as an add-on pack-

age from your cable provider or a wireless self-install device.

Nest, the famous smart thermostat provider, offers a home security camera for as low as \$150. Any homeowner and renter can grab one for less than the cost of an upgraded phone and install it in less than an hour. For those with larger homes, you can grab a three-pack of cams from Nest or other manufacturers like Arlo for \$500 or less. With both Nest and Arlo, buyers receive access to the cloud, where they can store 24 hours of video coverage. Owners can purchase more space for a monthly fee. It is the perfect solution for the business traveler, snowbirds or summer vacationers. Arlo, D-Link and others offer motion-activated

cameras. Some brands such as NetAtmo offer facial recognition and can send text alerts when something is up.

Mosquito repellent

Some mosquito deterrents like citronella candles are hardly considered technical. But a trendy, synthetic lantern might be. Thermacell offers a \$29.99 lantern that will keep a 15 by 15 area free of those pesky bugs. At that price, it makes sense on a patio, porch or deck to help keep us outdoors longer.

Watershot pro

Finally for the travelers, outdoor enthusiasts and photography pros, the Watershot pro can help you capture shots in and around water without worrying about your phone insur-

ance coverage. Retailing for \$139, the Watershot Pro is safe to use up to 195 feet — which should be considered "extreme waterproof."

Notebook

Just when you thought it was safe to buy video games, Microsoft and Sony announced updated versions of their respective Xbox and Playstation devices. In June at E3, Microsoft announced a virtual reality and 4K-capable Xbox that is expected to hit the market next year. Sony also recently announced updates with 4K, but may not have virtual reality capabilities.

Jon Gunnells is a social media manager for a Detroit-based advertising agency. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com.

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City of Novi
Trash Rollout
 New trash & recycling service for most residents starts **Friday, July 1**

For most residents, your collection day will change.
 Visit cityofnovi.org/trash for your new service day.

You can still use your current trash and recycling carts/bins. New Waste Management carts will be delivered later this fall.

Due to the 4th of July, service will be one day behind.
 Monday customers will be served on Tuesday, Tuesday on Wednesday, Thursday on Friday and Friday on Saturday.

Questions? Learn more at cityofnovi.org/trash, or call Waste Management's Customer Service line at **866-797-9018**, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Curbside Residential Trash Collection
 Monday Pickup
 Tuesday Pickup
 Thursday Pickup
 Friday Pickup

Waste Management Customers Under Current Contract

LC-000287674

OUR VIEW

Suicide in teens: Reducing risk through screening and parental involvement

With suicide rising to the second-leading cause of death among adolescents, the American Academy of Pediatrics is publishing updated guidelines advising pediatricians how to identify and help teens at risk.

In a clinical report, "Suicide and Suicide Attempts in Adolescents" in the July 2016 Pediatrics (published online June 27), the AAP urges pediatricians to screen patients for suicidal thoughts and identifies risk factors linked to teen suicide attempts, such as bullying and pathological Internet use.

The report replaces a previous version that was published in 2007. At that time, suicide was the third-leading cause of death for adolescents ages 15-19; now it is second, having passed homicide. Only unintentional injuries, such as motor vehicle crashes and inadvertent poisonings, claim the lives of more teens.

According to the AAP, risk factors for suicide attempts include a family history of suicide, a history of physical or sexual abuse, mood disorders, drug and alcohol use and lesbian, gay, bisexual or questioning sexual orientation or transgender identification. An important additional risk factor for suicide is bullying.

"Bullying has always been a major issue for adolescents, but there is now greater recognition of the connection between bullying and suicide," said the AAP report's lead author, Benjamin Shain, M.D., Ph.D.

"The Internet is a key influence, as well. Cyberbullying, for example, is as serious a problem as face-to-face bullying," said Shain, a child psychiatrist with NorthShore University HealthSystem.

Internet use that exceeds five hours a day is linked to higher levels of depression and suicidal thoughts among adolescents, although the Internet may also be an important source of support for them. Adolescents are also at higher risk of suicide attempts if they have a strained parent-child relationship, live outside the home, have difficulties in school or are not attending school. Protective factors cited include religious involvement and connection between the youth and parents, school and peers.

Suicide rates vary based on race and gender, according to the clinical report. Girls make more suicide attempts, but boys die from suicide at a rate three times higher than girls because they tend to choose

more lethal methods, such as firearms. Firearms in the home are a particular danger, according to the AAP, with studies showing the risk of suicide is four to 10 times higher in homes with guns than in those without. The AAP recommends any firearm be kept locked up, with the ammunition stored separately.

But however they are stored, firearms in the home are associated with a high risk of adolescent suicide. The AAP recommends that parents of adolescents at risk for suicide remove guns and ammunition from the house.

The AAP recommends pediatricians routinely ask adolescent patients if they have thoughts of harming themselves and screen for other factors associated with increased suicide risk. Pediatricians should refer patients for appropriate mental health evaluation and treatment when needed. Antidepressants medications are a valuable treatment option, according to the AAP. Since "black box" warning labels were added to antidepressants in 2004, new research has indicated that the benefits of these medications outweigh the risks for many patients.

For more information, go to www.aap.org.

LETTERS

End the hate

I could not agree more with your editorial (addressing hate) that parents should be teaching their children not to hate. That is a good plan for the future, but what about now?

Hate has always been used in politics, but since Barack Obama was elected our president, Republican leaders have pushed hate to the extreme. It can be seen at all levels of our govern-

ment, local, state and national.

For proof of this hate, we need look no further than the current presidential campaigns. The leading Republican, Donald Trump, has based his campaign on name-calling and has been very successful. He gives no details of any plan, he just issues insults and makes negative claims.

The leading Democrat, Hillary Clinton, is a very intelligent and successful candidate who

has a huge amount of political experience. However, she has been accused and attacked a lot by Republicans and for this she is hated by many. She has not been charged with any wrongdoings and has not had to step down from any office in disgrace. She has only been accused by her enemies, who have not shown any proof to back up their claims.

Now the Republicans have lost control of the hate and Trump is about to become their nominee. They know he is not qualified to be president yet, for fear of losing power, they are backing him.

Those in the media should call on Republican leaders to stop the hate, admit they have been wrong and refuse to support Trump for his child-

ish name-calling and the hate he deals in.

America cannot wait for today children to grow up. We need to make our leaders act like grown-ups now.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Pick a third-party candidate

With the unpopularity of the Republican and Democratic presidential nominees, this could be the era of the third party. It would send a message to the two parties that they can't take our votes for granted.

Now the party leaders are endorsing their candidate, even though they don't like or agree with the nominee's policies. This is done for the good of the party, not for the good of the American

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. Letters should be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com

people. Presidential debates should be open for third-party candidates so their voices can be heard. Mainstream media and the two parties don't want third-party voices heard, so the criteria that's needed to be in the debates is hard to meet for third-party candi-

dates.

As the November election gets closer, the scare tactics will be out in full force, telling voters to vote for the lesser of two evils. Unfortunately, this tactic works and voters will be loyal to their party, even if they don't like the nominee. This is what the two parties want, loyalty without accountability.

It's time to consider a third-party candidate. Maybe you'll find someone you can feel good about supporting. We can change the political climate in this country, but it will take time and courage to break away from the Republican and Democratic parties. Now's the time to be a responsible voter, not a scared voter.

Lee Tschirhart
Howell

NOVI NEWS

Phil Allmen,
Community editor

Jani Hayden,
Advertising director



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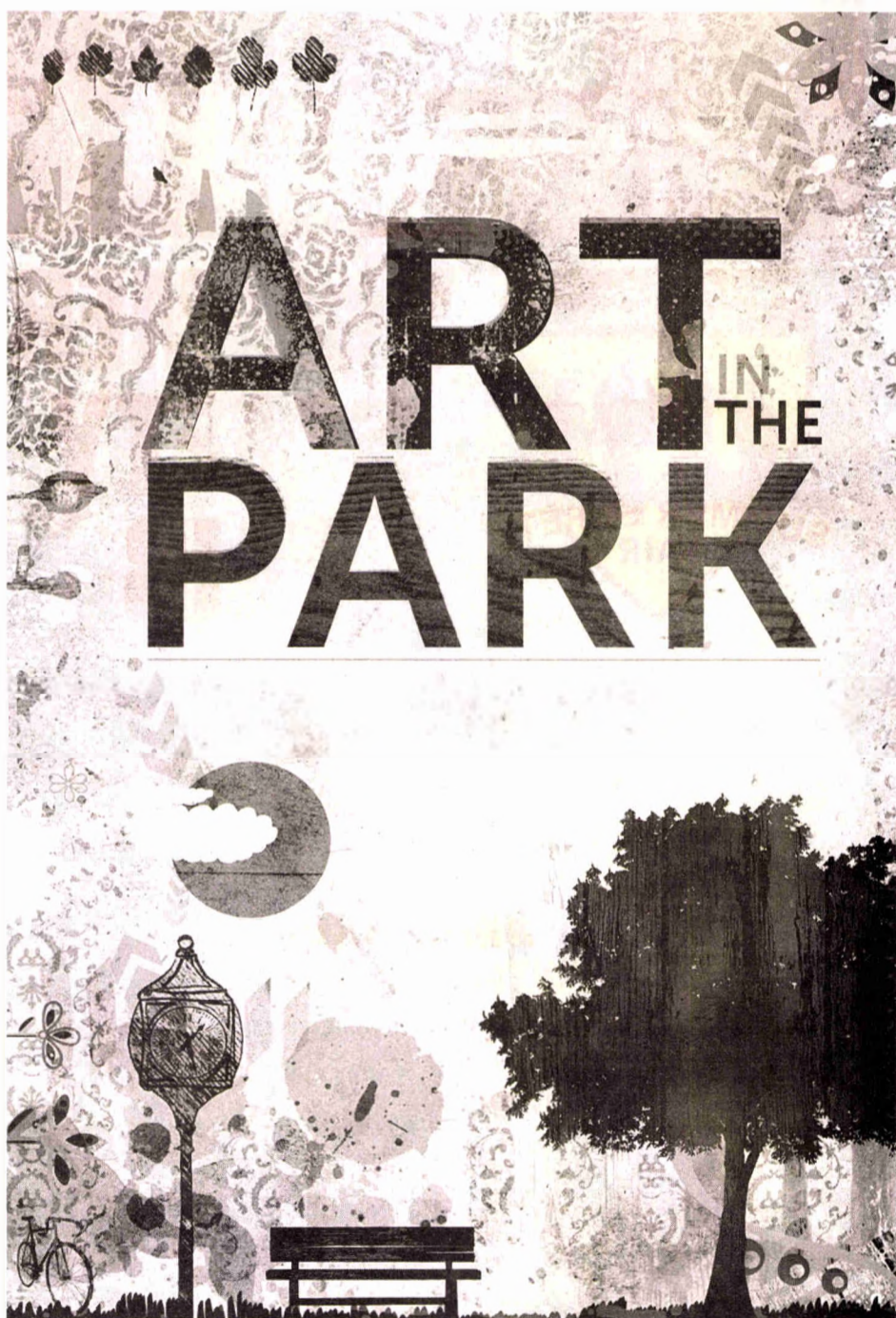
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Hiking in the outdoors 'inspires fresh thinking'

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Maia Turek is the statewide recreation programmer for the Parks and Recreation of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. She's not surprised to hear of Stanford University research touting the mental health benefits of time outdoors.

"Oh, absolutely," Turek said from her Traverse City work location. "We also find it helps improve focus and creativity. It really does help inspire fresh thinking."

That day, she and colleagues had an outdoor meeting and she saw "just the idea of being around nature. You're still getting the benefits of being connected to that natural environment. You can have the same benefit of walking outside in an urban setting which has trees."

That includes suburban communities with trees and parks, she agreed.

'We go the other way'

She's an Ortonville native who graduated from Brandon High School. She travels "to a lot of really awesome destinations. We've actually found ourselves traveling south to take advantage of what's be-

come an amazing city. We go the other way," she said of heading south on I-75 with her husband and family to Detroit.

They like the city's Riverwalk, as well as Belle Isle, now managed by the state DNR, and the Outdoor Adventure Center. "What an amazing way to spend a Saturday in the city," Turek said of the Riverwalk.

"It's this idea of getting people out of their cars," she said, noting you can park some distance away to get health and nature benefits when you do drive. "Just allow yourself that 15 minutes in the morning and that 15 minutes in the afternoon," she said.

She noted those who exercise outdoors often stick with a workout longer. "You may go that extra distance to see that vista. Plus, there's so much to see. I can see a chipmunk, I can feel the sun on my face," Turek said.

She urges a visit to michigan.gov/Rec101 to learn more. She likes the trails movement. "Right now, there's some really great things going on in trails, especially in urban areas," said Turek, who holds a bachelor's degree in marketing/communications from Chicago's DePaul University, as well as a communications master's from Eastern Michigan University.



Matthew Turek and son Bryan visited the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit. The Turek family travels south from Traverse City now to visit Detroit attractions.

'Walk in groups'

Safety issues arise in walking outdoors in cities. "One of the things I recommend is walk in groups," said Turek, who belongs to the Hike It Baby national organization, as her family has a young son. She noted Michigan has some 12 such branches of Hike It Baby.

"It's good to be social and share an experience with people, especially if you have kids," she said. "You're building a community every time you go out for a walk."

She added, "If you just take five to 30 minutes a day and look at a picture of nature, it has been shown to reduce anxiety. That sense of comfort,

relaxation, that's what you feel when you're in it."

So what does her family like best about Detroit on their trips south? "Some of the really cool pop-up things we see where urban meets nature," Turek said. On Detroit's Dequindre Cut, they saw art reproductions from the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Michigan State University's Tollgate Farm and Education Center in Novi also gives local folks a chance to explore outside. Education director Alan Jaros, who's been on the job there five years, answered questions for this newspaper:

Would you agree being in nature is helpful in

reducing stress in people of all ages, including children? In what ways does that occur?

Studies have proven that spending time in a garden, hiking in the woods, or even enjoying time at your municipal park will substantially help your physical and mental well-being. We often promote the value of gardening for children and adults as a holistic way to improve quality of life.

Do you find people who visit Tollgate Farm tend to be less stressed out after visiting?

We have a number of visitors, including a Tollgate Garden Association of over 200 volunteers who care for and maintain the farm and gardens on-site. They spend over 4,000 hours annually giving back while participating in their own horticultural therapy. During our summer camp program, the campers visit our production fields daily to harvest tasty veggies to prepare a wholesome snack. Not only are we contributing to their mental welfare, but the young people are eating healthy snacks contributing to their physical well-being.

MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village is at 215 Griswold Ave., north of Main Street near Ford Field. Grounds open daily dawn until dusk. Mill Race relies on rentals and memberships to maintain the Village. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millracenorthville.org for details.

Upcoming events
Buildings open to the public: 1-4 p.m. each Sunday through Oct. 16.

Grounds closed for weddings: 4:15-6:15 p.m. July 9 and 4:15-6:15 p.m. July 10.

Country Garden Club Garden Walk: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 13. Tickets available at Gardenviews in Downtown Northville.

General info

Website: www.millracenorthville.org
Volunteers: The Northville Historical Society at Mill Race Village accepts volunteers in many different areas. We are in special need of Sunday store clerks and help with our fundraising teas. Students, we're happy to verify your volunteer hours with school or scouts. Please contact the office for more information.

Rentals: Call or email the office to rent the Cady Inn or Church for a wedding or party. Many dates are available. More information on our website.

Donations: Accepted only from 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday.

Archives: The archives are open Monday and Tuesday.

Office: The office is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. Due to the Gardenwalk, the office will be closed on July 13. All other times by appointment only. Call 248-348-1845 or email office@millracenorthville.org.

Study: Walking in woods, parks helps boost well-being

Hikes in nature have been proven to boost mood and overall mental health.

A 2015 Stanford University study found people who walked for 90 minutes in a natural area, compared to participants who walked in a high-traffic urban setting, showed decreased activity in a region of the

brain associated with a key factor in depression.

In the study, two groups of participants walked for 90 minutes — one in a grassland area scattered with oak trees and shrubs, the other along a traffic-heavy four-lane roadway. Before and after, the researchers measured heart and respiration

rates, performed brain scans and had participants fill out questionnaires.

The researchers found little difference in physiological conditions, but marked changes in the brain. Neural activity in the subgenual prefrontal cortex, a brain region active during rumination — repetitive thought

focused on negative emotions — decreased among participants who walked in nature vs. those who walked in an urban environment.

The research notes city dwellers have a 20-percent higher risk of anxiety disorders and a 40-percent higher risk of mood disorders as compared to people in rural

areas. People born and raised in cities are twice as likely to develop schizophrenia, the study noted.

The Stanford study was published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

— By Julie Brown



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LIBRARY LINES

The Northville District Library is closed each Sunday in the summer.

Summer Reading Programs for All Ages
Time/Date: Through Aug. 13
Details: Kids, teens and adults! Register in person to receive reading/activity guides and reading logs. Read and earn prizes. Enter to win prize drawings. Parents, read to your little ones and help your students maintain reading skills over the summer. Details for all programs can be found at northvillelibrary.org > Summer Reading.

Drop-In Summer Storytimes
Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Friday, July 8
Details: Fun for all ages! No registration, just drop in for stories about Silly Monkeys! Due to space limitations,

no special groups please.

Drop-In Creative Crafts
Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. Tuesday, July 12
Details: Kids of all ages drop in to decorate a mini Frisbee disc. Due to space limitations, no special groups please.

Teen & Adult Book Discussion
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Monday, July 11
Details: Eat snacks and win prizes while discussing Rainbow Rowell's "Eleanor & Park." Recommended ages 13 and over. Just drop in! Register online at www.northvillelibrary.org or by phone at 248-349-3020.

Alex Thomas & Friends Puppet Show
Time/Date: 2-3 p.m. Thursday, July 14
Details: Awesome interactive show with exciting Muppet-style

puppets! 100 free tickets available at the Information Desk 10 minutes prior to program. Due to space limitations, no special groups.

Life of a Civil War Soldier
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Monday, July 18
Details: Historian and teacher Timothy Puzella presents the life of a Civil War soldier. He'll come in costume and discuss food, equipment, weaponry and more. Register online at www.northvillelibrary.org or by phone at 248-349-3020.

Critters in the Garden
Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 20
Details: A presentation by the Michigan DNR Wildlife Division highlights some animals we consider to be pests, and what you can do to keep them out of your yard. Register.

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Animal shelter is tops in business practices, 'save' rate

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer



Hayes lives in the office at Humane Society of Huron Valley with other cats that have tested positive for feline leukemia.

The Humane Society of Huron Valley recently received its fifth consecutive four-star rating from Charity Navigator. Only 6 percent of charities get such high marks consistently from the nonprofit organization, which evaluates their fiscal management practices, accountability and transparency. HSHV has the top Charity Navigator rating among animal shelters in Michigan. Ratings listed on the Charity Navigator website help inform charitable givers as they decide where to donate their money or time.

But that data alone doesn't tell the entire story for animal rescues and shelters. Christie Keith, an advisory board member for Michigan Pet Fund Alliance, says potential donors also

should look at the Alliance's annual save rate report, which compares intake rates, euthanasia stats and number of "saved" animals for welfare organizations that operate shelters statewide. The Alliance looks at data collected from shelters and compiled by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

It organizes the data into an easy-to-read format that it posts on its website, michiganpetfund.org.

HSHV has scored high on the annual save rate report, too.

"We have gotten the outstanding animal shelter (award) for the best save rate all the years they've offered it," said

Wendy Welch, HSHV marketing director. "We receive it for being a large, open admissions shelter."

Keith said HSHV saves nearly 90 percent of all animals it takes in and does a "spectacular job" innovating new programs and staying in touch with shelter trends across the country.

"Tanya (Hilgendorf) has been an extraordinary advocate for animals," she said, referring to HSHV's president and CEO. "I've seen her help other shelters and communities by sharing experiences and innovations. She is a leader."

New program

HSHV recently turned its administrative office into a sanctuary for cats with the feline leukemia after taking on dozens of cats from another local shelter. FeLV-positive cats must be separated

from non-infected cats to keep the disease from spreading. Many shelters euthanize FeLV cats, but Hilgendorf said in a press release that HSHV found a way to deal with the increase in its FeLV population by thinking "outside the box."

"We're constantly working around cats, cats on keyboards, cats on papers," Welch said. "In a few weeks we'll release information about another program, playgroups for dogs. It's helping them become more adoptable."

Keith suggests that charitable givers look at an animal shelter's mission, programs, Charity Navigator rating, and save rate before digging into their wallets for donations.

"I'd look at the numbers and Google to see the conversation about the organization. I'd Google to see if there has

been a big change in the organization. Get a feeling whether the conversation is positive or negative," said Keith, who also consults with several national organizations.

"I believe it's critical in philanthropy to give money where it will have impact. There is no one litmus test, but if you take an organization that has historically been saving low numbers of animals and there's nothing to indicate anything will change the historically low numbers, there are no new policies in place, no new leader... give your money to (another) organization rather than to a failing shelter."

For more about HSHV, go to hshv.org. For more about Charity Navigator, go to charitynavigator.org.

sdargay@hometownlife.com



Some of Jim Blaine's 17,000 PEZ dispensers and related items are on display in the room he dedicated to his collection.

GILLIS BENEDICT | MICHIGAN.COM

Local man amasses 17,000 PEZ dispensers

Lisa Roose-Church
Michigan.com

Jim Blaine first noticed a PEZ candy dispenser in a gas station store and bought it, thinking the plastic candy container was "kind of cool."

At a flea market, Blaine found another dispenser, different from the first and just as unique. He bought the PEZ pink cardboard box containing 36 dispensers from Europe.

"I saw them and thought it was kind of cool. It kind of became a feel-good moment," he said about finding new dispensers. "I'd see them, and say, 'Here's a new one I don't have.' I bought 30-some boxes and then I started getting involved in the PEZ community."

That was in 1999.

Today, the Hartland Township resident estimates that he has 17,000 PEZ dispensers, 4,000 of which are his personal collection while the rest he trades internationally with collectors as far away as Spain.

"It's more than collecting a plastic toy," he said. "It's collecting memories."

Shawn Petersen, a project manager for PEZ Candy Inc., said there "is definitely a collectability" to the popular candy dispenser. He said company leaders have tried to estimate the number of collectors, but it is an unattainable number.

"There are people who identify themselves as collectors and attend collectors' conventions, but there are thousands

who collect it and keep it to themselves," said Petersen, whose PEZ collecting interest led to a job managing the company's visitors' center.

Petersen and Blaine agreed that PEZ dispensers are popular because they are relatable.

PEZ Candy began in 1927 in Vienna, Austria, and was first marketed as a compressed peppermint candy. The first PEZ dispenser was introduced in 1948. In 1952, the candy came to the United States, where it is currently manufactured in Orange, Conn.

The first dispensers were a Santa, full-body robot and the Space Gun, which dispensed PEZ tablets.

Available in more than 80 countries, PEZ dispensers' character has changed numerous times. The first licensed character featured was Popeye in the late 1950s, with Mickey Mouse following in the early 1960s, which also saw a change in the dispenser — stickers and die cuts.

The ever-popular "Star Wars" characters were introduced in the 1990s.

Since its beginning, PEZ has introduced interchangeable rubber-head character dispensers, feet to the bottom of the dispensers and limited edition character sets.

"There's a saying at PEZ," Petersen said. "You're not famous until your head is on the PEZ dispenser. It needs to be something that resonates and is easily recognizable."

The first living people

to be featured on a PEZ dispenser were the Teutons of "Orange County Choppers." Since then, the company has completed a presidential series from George Washington to President Barack Obama.

Blaine, founder of dad2mom.org, which brings low-cost clothing to families, said collectors learn one thing quickly: One can never have a complete PEZ collection.

"There are so many variations," he said. "Plus, you have American (versions) and European PEZ. ... I've traded in 36 countries and know people all over the country."

Blaine traded a PEZ with a man in Spain who sent him a PEZ from Spain, as well as a handkerchief the man used when running with the bulls.

Blaine said his favorite is Dr. Skull, a dispenser from 1971.

When collectors find a favorite, they create what they call an "army." To date, Blaine has 720 Dr. Skull dispensers, which he describes as a "cool little bald head with a missing tooth."

"It's the hunt and search," he says. "I have another shipment with over 500 coming."

Blaine houses his collection in a room in the family's Hartland Township home. He said he and his wife have an understanding: She doesn't go into the PEZ room and he doesn't bring the PEZ out.

Learn to grow plants from veggie scraps at show

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

Forget the seeds. Juli Jeffery simply needs a few vegetable cuttings to make her garden grow.

The Livonia Garden Club member brings cast-off carrot tops, sweet potato scraps and other produce parts back to life with a little water, soil, and green thumb TLC.

"Last year I decided to try celery. I had seen something online where you cut the hard part off at the bottom. I grew it and it was almost 3 feet tall. I was taking stalks off and eating it," she said.

"My most exciting plant this year is sweet potato. It has vined all over the place."

Jeffery, an 18-year member of the club, will demonstrate how to grow plants from fruit and vegetable scraps at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 9, at the club's flower show, "Grandma Says," in the atrium at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 327775 Five Mile.

The free show runs 3-5 p.m. Friday, July 8, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 9. Jeffery will have carrots, containers and soil on hand at her presentation, "Eat Your Veggies and Plant Them, Too," for anyone who wants to give her process a try.

She plants some scraps, like the sweet potato cuttings, in water until they begin to grow roots. Some, like garlic cloves, go directly into the soil. Carrot tops yield "pretty green" shoots that can dress up a salad. Garlic sends up chive-like greens.

Even the top of a pineapple, when planted in soil, can yield another plant and possibly another pineapple.

"You take the top and stick it in the soil, but it takes forever. To get a pineapple on it is not that easy," she said. "From what I understand, it takes three years after it's growing."

Gardeners can speed up the flower-



Juli Jeffery shows off a plant she grew from a slice of sweet potato.

ing process by placing the plant in a bag with an apple for a few days, Jeffery said. The apple releases ethylene gas, which encourages blossoms and eventually a pineapple fruit.

"I know someone who had a pineapple plant with a pineapple on it. They kept it under grow lights all winter and let it do its thing," she said. "I'm thrilled at what it looked like after a year."



A planting earns a blue ribbon at a previous Livonia Garden Club flower show.

Public participation

"Eat Your Veggies and Plant Them, Too" will be one of four educational presentations at the flower show on Saturday. Youngsters can listen to a reading of "The Frightened Frog, an Environmental Tale," learn frog facts and possibly win a copy of the book at 10 a.m.

Free marigold seeds will be available at a session on collecting, storing and planting marigold seeds at 1 p.m. The Community Flowers session at 2 p.m. is a workshop on making an arrangement in a tea cup.

The public also may compete in the horticultural division of the show by entering their exhibits from 8:30-11 a.m. Friday, July 8, at the library. Categories include cut flowering annuals, perennials or native plants; combination plantings, including a butterfly garden; succulents; and

dish fairy gardens grown and tended by adults or children. Children's fairy gardens will be judged separately from the adult gardens.

"We're hoping some children will enter the category," Jeffery said.

Blue, red, yellow and sometimes white ribbons are awarded in each category.

"The flower show itself can win an award," said Louise McGhie, Livonia Garden Club president. "The 2014 show took first place for video from District I, first place from the Michigan Garden Clubs, and a certificate of commendation from National Garden Clubs."

For guidelines on entering the show, including how to fill out an entry card and plant tag, go to livoniagardenclub.org.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 20

The Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees approved amendments to Article 20 (Development Options) at their meeting on June 16, 2016. The primary changes include: reorganization and cleaning up language to be more concise, removing the HPUD (Haggerty Road PUD) development option, adding regulations for smaller scale Planned Unit Development projects (PUD) and adding regulations for active adult residential communities.

Article 20 can be viewed in the Planning Department at the Northville Township municipal office building during regular business hours 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday-Friday. The address is 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168.

Sue Hillebrand, Clerk
Board of Trustees
Published: July 7, 2016

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST August 2, 2016 PRIMARY ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Public Accuracy Test for the August 2, 2016 Primary Election is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 3 p.m.** in the lobby of Township Hall, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the Election count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

The public is welcome and invited to attend.

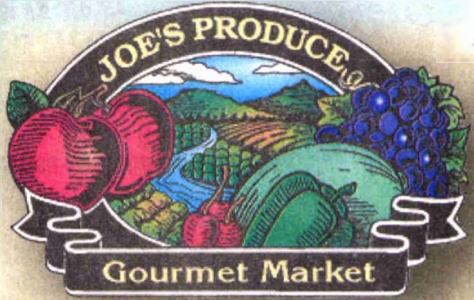
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EXTREME SPORTS



BRAD EMONS
Northville's Matt Cylla, who trains at Mash Gym in Redford, is off to a 5-0 MMA amateur start.

CYLLA MOVING UP THE MMA RANKS

Northville amateur improves to 5-0 with unanimous decision

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Matt Cylla is in the infant stages of what could become a promising career in mixed martial arts.

But the 19-year-old from Northville, the fourth-ranked Michigan amateur welterweight, has been laying a solid foundation for years. "All my life, I've been training in martial arts," said Cylla, who raised his record to 5-0 coming off a five-round unanimous decision Saturday over Troy's Lebron Oldham in the Dual Combat Sports 5 card at the Eastern Market in Detroit. "I've been doing boxing since 12 or 13 and karate since I was a kid. (I) started wrestling in eighth grade. I had my first cage fight at 15."

Cylla's father Maxceau, a native of Haiti, also trained in self-defense and is a black belt in tae kwon do.

Cylla, who just finished his first year at Schoolcraft College, trains regularly out of both Mash Gym in Redford and Fuse MMA in Clinton Township.

Going the distance

Prior to his win over Oldham (9-5), Cylla defeated Marcus Maulding with a first-round arm bar submission in the Impact Fight League 65 card April 9 at Joe Louis Arena.

Meanwhile, against a much older and more experienced Oldham, Cylla had to go the entire 15 minutes for the first time in his young career.

See CYLLA, Page B3

JUNIOR GOLF

Dales makes the cut for U.S. Junior Am tourney

Northville standout gains one of two qualifying spots

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

Jimmy Dales calls qualifying for the U.S. Junior Amateur "right at the top" as far as his young golf career goes.

Dales, who will be a junior this fall at Northville High School, garnered one of the two spots qualifying berths when he tied Carter Cook of Cornelius, N.C., for medalist honors with a 36-hole total of 147 on June 28 at Medina (Ohio) Country Club.

Dales carded rounds of 73-74, while Cook went 76-71 for a 3-over score.

"I was making a lot of clutch par putts, really saved my strokes gained," Dales said. "I was hitting the ball really well off the tee. (Medina C.C.) was playing pretty difficult. It was a very windy, tough to play 36."

Dales was able to hold off Canton native James Piot, who finished fifth last month at the MHSAA Division 1 state finals and helped Novi Detroit Catholic Central win its second straight team state title.

Piot, who will be a U.S. Amateur alternate along with Connor Quigley (Dayton, Ohio), was already in the clubhouse with 75-73—148 when Dales approached the 18th hole.

"I was in the last group coming in and he was watching me three-putt out," Dales said. "I looked at the leader board and saw that I just needed a bogey to get in."

The U.S. Junior Amateur will be July 18-23 in Ooltewah, Tenn. The Honors Course, which is hosting for the first time, is a par-72, 7,301-yard layout designed by Pete Dye.

"I'm really looking forward to it," Dales said. "It's a really difficult course. It ranks 31st as far as best courses in the country. Real excited to go down there and give it a shot."

See DALES, Page B2



Northville's Jimmy Dales has qualified for the U.S. Junior Amateur, July 18-23 in Ooltewah, Tenn.

GIRLS SOCCER

U17 Michigan Hawks prove elite making national final four

Brad Emons
Staff Writer

With a star-studded cast featuring several area players, the Michigan Hawks Under-17 girls soccer team is headed this weekend to Germantown, Md., and will be among four teams competing in the Elite Club National League finals.

The Hawks, coming off a 2-0 win over SC Del Sol to cap a 4-0 run recently in the Oceanside, Calif., qualifying tournament, are coached by former Detroit Rockers player Doug Landefeld.

The remaining teams in the field are all from California, including the San Diego Surf, Slammers FC and the De Anza Force FC, who the Hawks defeated earlier this season, 1-0.

"It should be good. We know them all pretty well. It should be fun," Landefeld said.

The Hawks finished first in the ECNL's Midwest Conference with a 13-1-2 record, while also going 3-1 in the Champions League and 0-0-3 in the Phoenix ECNL National.

Three players with local ties have been stalwarts for the Hawks: Grace Krygier, a junior at Novi High; Abby Willerer, a junior from Northville; and Sarah Clark, a junior from Milford.

Krygier, a starting center midfield-



Two key players for the U17 Hawks are (from left) Abby Willerer of Northville and Grace Krygier of Novi.

er, is committed to the University of Iowa, where she'll join her older sister Natalie.

"She's rangy, she does a really good job. She's an important part of what we

do," Landefeld said. "We play a lot through the middle of the field, so she touches the ball a lot for us. A great kid, who had a really good tournament out in San Diego and is a big reason why

we're moving forward."

Willerer, a defender, is a Central Michigan University commit.

"Abby has started every game for us this year," Landefeld said. "Her and Sarah Clark are a great partnership in the back. Abby technically is quite good, really distributes the ball well, fantastic in the air, goes up and creates goals on corners and everything. Has really matured into a great player. She goes up against the best players in the country and does a great job."

Clark, headed to Purdue, was among 70 players recently invited to participate in the Nike National Training Camp in Beaverton, Ore.

"She originally played outside for us. Then Maggie Samanich got hurt, so we brought her into the middle of the field and she's really a force for us in the back with Abby," Landefeld said. "She takes most of our free kicks. She scored a real nice goal out in San Diego. She's a great leader and really responded with more responsibility brought into the middle of the field. She likes to attack quite a bit. She's the consummate team player and really filled that role and (is) a big reason why where we are right now."

Novi junior Bethany Kopel, a goalie who has been playing up on the U18

See HAWKS, Page B5

JUNIOR GOLF

Kensington Tour event in Novi gets good reviews

M.B. Dillon
Correspondent

Ties in two divisions sent golfers into sudden-death play, adding excitement June 27 to the inaugural Kensington Junior Golf Tour Links of Novi Open.

Atop the leader board with 82 after 18 holes on a picture-perfect summer day was Ben Cohen of White Lake in the boys 15-18 division, while Evan Johnson of Grosse Ile and Alex Willis of Howell deadlocked at 85 for second place.

"I struggled at the start, but turned it around by staying calm," said Cohen, 16, a student at Lakeland High School. "I was making a lot of putts. I just love this course. It's just really nice and the bunkers are perfect."

With a gallery cheering them on, Willis and Johnson entered the playoff. Willis emerged with runner-up honors after the first hole.

"I was up and down today, but tried to capitalize on the good shots and minimize the mistakes," said Willis, who attends Hartland High School. "I hit a couple birdies and chipped one in on 12."

Lauren Henry of Novi shot 90 to capture the girls 18-and-under division, followed by runner-up Despina Alexander, also of Novi, who shot 108.

"I was up really late the night before and I was really tired, so the front nine was pretty rough," said Henry, captain of the Novi High varsity team. "I shot 51 and was pretty frustrated, but I was able to come back and do the best I could with a 39 on the back."

"It was hot out there, but I always enjoy the Links of Novi. It's in good condition and it's fun to play there. It's where we set our school's nine-hole varsity record when I was a sophomore, so it brings back good memories."

Madeline Townsend of Brighton placed third with 113, followed by Anna Haupt and Sara Haupt of Northville.

Westland's Troy Watson, who is state-ranked, and New Hudson's Jason Zobl tied for first with 18-hole scores of 84

in the boys 12-14 division.

Their gallery witnessed a two-hole playoff, with Watson eking out the victory.

"I was, like, driving it today — my longest was 250 yards. I smashed it," said Watson, who attends Johnson Upper Elementary. "My focus was getting on the green with my irons. My putting was just a little bit off."

Added Zobl: "I started out good, but had a couple of blow-up holes. I brought it back. My back nine was better. I wanted to be on the podium. Sudden-death was an experience. I was a little nervous. It wasn't like tournament play."

Detroit's Vincent Levesque captured the boys 11-and-under title, carding a nine-hole round of 50.

Levesque, who attends St. Michael School in Livonia, used his mental strength to turn his game around after a rough start.

"On the first hole, I got a 9, then I started bogeying holes, mostly," the 11-year-old said. "Things improved after. I pretended like those earlier holes weren't there."

Wixom's Nathan Cohen and Westland's Damo Watson placed second and third, respectively, with 55 and 60.

"I thought it was a nice course," said Cohen, 11, who attends Wixom Elementary. "It's spaced out and the greens are actually kind of fast. I played the break and got a lot of roll."

Nearly 30 tournaments are featured on this summer's Kensington Junior Golf Tour in Livingston, Washtenaw, Wayne and Oakland counties at discounted rates, thanks to numerous sponsors who've come on board.

High school graduates playing KJGT tournaments are eligible to apply for KJGT scholarships offered by the Dinan Foundation. The Livonia-based charitable foundation is granting five \$1,000 academic scholarships to male and female golfers in an effort to support junior golf in southeast Michigan.

Meanwhile, Links of Novi head professional Mark Doughty enjoyed the day.



The top two finishers in the boys 15-18 division were champion Ben Cohen (right) of White Lake and runner-up Alex Willis of Howell.



The top two finishers in the girls 18-and-under division were Novi natives Lauren Henry (right), who took first, and runner-up Despina Alexander.

"We love having the kids out here; they're great," he said. "We need more junior golfers." Doughty was happy, but not

surprised, to hear the junior golfers like the 27-hole Singh-designed course. "We invested just under \$2 million in renovations two

years ago," he said. "We have new bunkers, landscaping and new bridges. I'd match our bunkers and greens against any private course."

The KJGT began 11 years ago with tournaments in Livingston and Washtenaw counties.

"A Wayne County division has been added and there's competition at all sorts of courses in Oakland County now, too," said Jim Shaffer, Milford High School golf coach and KJGT tour director. "Numbers have been growing steadily. The best thing about this tour is that it offers good competition, but it's not super-competitive. The kids are all friends — and making friends — watching each other in the playoffs. It's reasonably priced compared to other tours."

For more information and a tournament schedule, go to www.kensingtonjuniorgolf.com.

Madness '02 advance



The Madness '02 girls softball team secured a bid to the ASA 'A' World Series in Sioux Falls, S.D., by going 10-1 at the Mizuno ASA/USF Ultimate Fastpitch Qualifier, June 23-26 in Novi. Madness '02 started 7-0 during the first three days of the tournament before falling to T2 2020. Fighting their way out of the loser's bracket, Madness '02 made a last-inning comeback for a 7-6 victory and rallied twice to beat T2 2020 to win tournament. Team members include (front row, from left) Karlie Moore, Shae Scott, Cassidy Brendtke, Grace Nieto and Kylie Millhorn and (back row, from left) Gaby Cummings, Abbey Barta, Stephanie Schmunk, Bella Brass, Chelsea Collins and McKenna King. Also on the team is Sierra Kersten.

Kneen makes Am sweet 16



Oakland University's Jake Kneen (White Lake) reached the round of 16 in match play before losing to eventual runner-up Domenic Mancinelli (Northville) on the 19th hole of the 105th Michigan Amateur Championship, June 21-25 at Eagle Eye in Bath. Kneen, a second team all-Horizon League pick last spring as a sophomore for OU, made the cut with a two-round total of 73-71—144 (tying for 13th overall). He was seeded 17th and captured his first two matches before falling to Mancinelli. The International Academy West grad also took 12th in the Michigan Open last month at Prestwick Village in Highland.

DALES

Continued from Page B1

The tournament, featuring two rounds of stroke play before going to match play, has a rich history, featuring past winners such as Johnny Miller (1964), David Duval (1989), Tiger Woods (1991-93), Hunter Mahan (1999) and Jordan Spieth (2009, 2011).

"I'm going to have to play really well to get into the match play," Dales said.

It will be a busy summer for Dales, who is entered in the Coca-Cola Championship at Boyne Highlands, a three-day stroke play event sponsored by the American Junior Golf Association that begins Tuesday.



John Heider | Staff Photographer
Jimmy Dales, who will be a junior at Northville High, has earned a spot in the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship, July 18-23 in Ooltewah, Tenn.

Dales will also play in the AJGA Junior Tom Holzer event, Aug. 8-11 at Forest Lake Country Club in Bloomfield

Hills. He also plans to qualify or perhaps receive an exemption to the 38th Michigan Junior Amateur Championship, Aug. 22-25 at Point O'Woods Golf & Country Club in Benton Harbor.

Dales performed well this spring for the Northville varsity team, which placed 12th at the MHSAA Division 1 state finals. He was runner-up at the KLAA Kensington Conference and KLAA Association tournaments and was seventh at the district and 12th at the regional.

At the state finals, held at Grand Valley State University's The Meadows, Dales shot 78-84 for a two-day total of 162.

"I had a very solid regular season," Dales said. "I had a couple mental mistakes at

states and didn't play very well."

Dales, a three-sport athlete for the Mustangs, will play varsity tennis in the fall and hockey in the winter.

But being on the links is his first passion.

"Golf is No. 1. I try and fit the other two the best I can," Dales said.

Girls Junior Amateur

At the 38th Michigan Girls Junior Amateur, held June 27-30 at Michigan State University's Forest Akers (West Course), Flushing's Kerrigan Parks defeated Ann Arbor's Jami Laude, 2 and 1, for the overall title.

In the round of 16, South Lyon's Priscilla Harding, who finished fourth in stroke play,

eliminated Allison Cui, 2-up, before losing to Laude in the quarterfinals, 2 and 1.

Laude also ousted Harding's sister Elizabeth in the round of 16, 6 and 5.

Meanwhile, the 15-and-under title was won by Brighton's Heather Fortushniak, who topped Macomb Township's Ariel Mac, 3 and 2.

In the semifinals, Fortushniak beat Savannah Haque 2 and 1, while Chang beat Northville's Abigail Livingston, 1-up.

Livingston, who will be a junior at Novi High School, finished third in stroke play and won her opening round match against Karina VanDuijnen, 6 and 5.

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Five Michigan companies make Fortune's top 100 best workplaces for Millennials

Jay Grossman
Staff Writer

Oh, to be young again ... and gainfully employed.

United Shore is one of several companies in southeast Michigan that made Fortune magazine's list of the nation's top 100 best workplaces for Millennials in 2016. The list was based on a magazine survey of more than 88,000 Millennials (born 1981 or later) at more than 600 companies.

"Our top priority at

United Shore is our people," company president Mat Ishbia said. "We know our team members are what make us a great company. That's why we place such an emphasis on promoting from within and creating an exciting and engaging culture."

Here's a few of the perks that United Shore employees get to enjoy:

» Firm 40: Employees are encouraged to work hard for eight hours each day and then go home to friends and family.

» The 3 o'clock dance party: Each Thursday, employees gather together and turn up the volume to re-energize on the dance floor.

» "UBike" rentals: Employees can rent bicycles during their breaks, whether it's to grab lunch somewhere or simply get the blood pumping.

» On-site gym: Employees have access to a state-of-the-art fitness center.

» The company even offers Starbucks coffee in the cafeteria.

Andrea Frank, 30, of Birmingham, said she found a perfect working environment at United Shore.

"Millennials like companies that promote work/life balance and provide things like flexibility, perks and opportunities to give back to the community," she said Wednesday.

Roughly 56 percent of United Shore's 1,600 employees call themselves Millennials. The company, headquartered in Troy, touts itself as the

nation's largest wholesale mortgage lender.

"Millennials add to our focus on creating an engaging and exciting workplace because they bring a different energy," said Laura Lawson, the company's chief people officer. "They're a very hands-on group, so it encourages the rest of the team to rally behind those efforts."

Other local companies that made Fortune's top 100 include Quicken Loans in Detroit, Credit Acceptance in Southfield,

Plante Moran in Southfield and Mercedes-Benz Financial Services in Farmington Hills.

Millennials are on track to become the most educated generation in American history, according to Pew Research. By 2025, they will account for 75 percent of the global workforce, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Run, walk, enjoy a beer at weekly 5K in Farmington

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

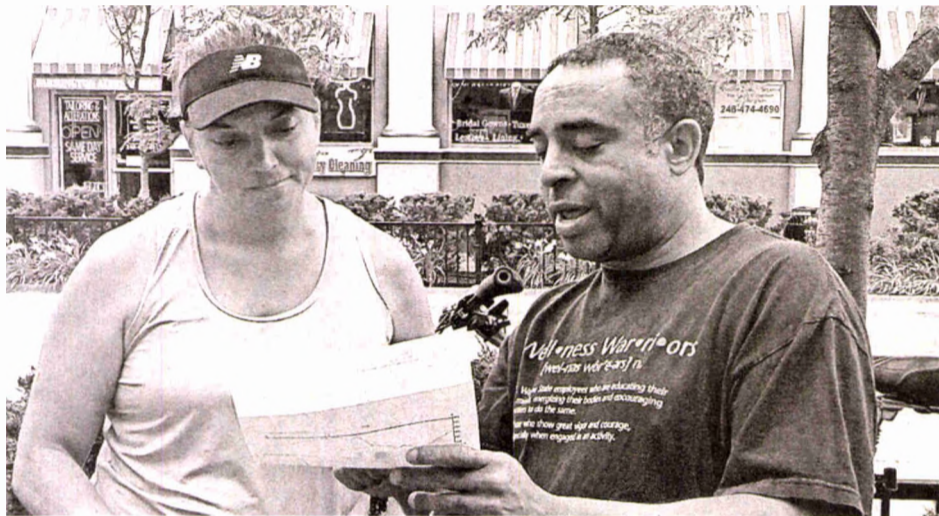
Farmington-area runners and walkers who love beer now have a weekly 5K to call their own.

Farmington Brewing Co. Run Club meets 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, at the brewery, 33336 Grand River Ave., in downtown Farmington.

"It's lighthearted fun," said Susan Arlin, a recreational runner from Farmington Hills and the event's co-organizer with her neighbor, Bill Hill.

"The beer afterward is a bonus. If you don't want to drink when we get back from the event, they have pitchers of ice water ready for everyone.

"We hang out and talk and meet each other and the sense of community is phenomenal. We have a great small town in downtown Farmington. To bring people together to share in that is so awesome."



Bill Hill goes over the route map with Tracy Bragiel of Livonia.

Arlin had participated in other 5K events with Hill and tried an east side community run on her own, but realized it was too far away.

"I'm a social person but I felt a little awkward," she added. "I thought I'd so like to do this in my own home-

town."

She and Hill talked about starting a local run and then asked Jason Hendricks and Jason Schlaff, owners of Farmington Brewing Co., for permission to meet with runners outside the brewery. Arlin said the brewers were "beyond

supportive," and created a Facebook page for the new event. Meanwhile, she started a Meetup.com page for the weekly run.

More than 60 runners and walkers signed up for the inaugural 5K last month. The group's 78 members live in the Farmington area, Livonia, Novi, Commerce and other west side communities. About 70-80 percent of members run and the rest walk. Arlin plans to change the route monthly.

At a recent run, Arlin greeted every participant, while Hill went over the route map with newcomers, including Tracy Bragiel of Livonia, who planned to push her daughter, Rachael, in a stroller. Derek West-

brook of Farmington brought his Jack Russell terrier mix, Twiggy, to run the roughly three miles.

Arlin said 90 percent of the group returned to the brewery to socialize after their first run. She hopes that continues.

"It's about the whole sense of community. It's so comfortable and casual," she said.

Beer Yogis

Craft beer doesn't just pair well with walking and running. It also attracts other fitness fans.

Mikki Trowbridge, who teaches yoga at breweries in Oregon, and Ohio-based yoga instructor, Melissa Klimo-Major, call themselves the Beer Yogis. They are leading yoga sessions in 23 cities across the country. Atwater Brewery in Detroit was their second stop on the tour.

"Yoga and beer make you feel good. They help you relax, and connect with other people," Trowbridge said. "They compliment each other well. I think so often people go into a yoga studio and it's easy to head to class and practice, head back into your day, and not connect with anyone."

Although yoga students learn to focus on breath, mind and self during practice sessions, Trowbridge hopes they look outward after class. Beer, food, juice, "any-

thing that encourages community" can serve as social glue.

"Local craft brewers put so much passion into how they brew their beer. Yoga is about finding the passion in yourself and not blindly walking through life. From that standpoint alone it aligns with the beer world."

Real world

She said students tell her they enjoy working out in a brewery because it's closer to "normal" life than they'd find in a quiet, "sacred space" studio.

The distractions and noise help them to realize they can practice yoga anywhere, Trowbridge said.

That's good news for Rich Lockwood, who runs Motor City Gas, a whiskey distillery in Royal Oak.

"We cook with steam in here. We get nice and hot with steam. I've thought about having bikram hot room yoga here in the winter," he said with a laugh, adding that making whiskey also can be noisy.

He opened the small distillery a year ago. It includes a tasting room where visitors can get flights, buy bottles of his whiskey and try it mixed into cocktails. On Saturday, July 9, they'll have a chance to practice yoga, too.

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Study shows co-signing a loan can be risky business

I saw the results of a survey the other day that didn't surprise me, but may surprise you. The study found that four out of 10 people who co-signed a loan got burned. Thirty-eight percent of the co-signers had to pay off the loan or the credit card bill. The reason: The primary borrower did not meet their obligations. Twenty-eight percent saw their credit scores decline because the primary borrower was either late in their payments or did not pay at all, while 26 percent said their relationship with the person they co-signed for had been hurt. The bottom line — co-signing can be dangerous.

I am frequently asked by clients and others about whether they should co-sign a loan. Whenever I'm asked that, the first thing I remind people of is their legal obligation. When you co-sign a loan, you are as responsible for the loan as the person you are co-signing for. Therefore, if they don't make the payment, you are responsible for it. If they are late on a payment, it could impact your credit scores and future borrowing ability. What sometimes confuses people is they assume if the primary borrower defaults on the loan, the lender is going to go



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

after that person first. It doesn't work that way. The lender can choose to come after you. Remember, from the lender's standpoint, you are both responsible for the loan. In fact, if the primary borrower ends up in bankruptcy, that may relieve their obligation to the lender; it doesn't relieve yours. You are the co-signer and you are ultimately responsible.

Whenever someone asks you to co-sign a loan, it's obviously a difficult position to be put in. After all, more likely than not the person who is asking you to co-sign the loan is a very good friend, a child or a relative. Therefore, you're initial instincts are always to say yes. However, it is important to consider your legal and financial obligations before you get involved. My general rule is that if someone asks you to co-sign a loan, you should make the assumption that, ultimately, you will be responsible for that loan. Therefore, if repaying that loan is going to put you in financial difficulty, you probably should decline. I know that is difficult to do;

however, it is the responsible thing to do.

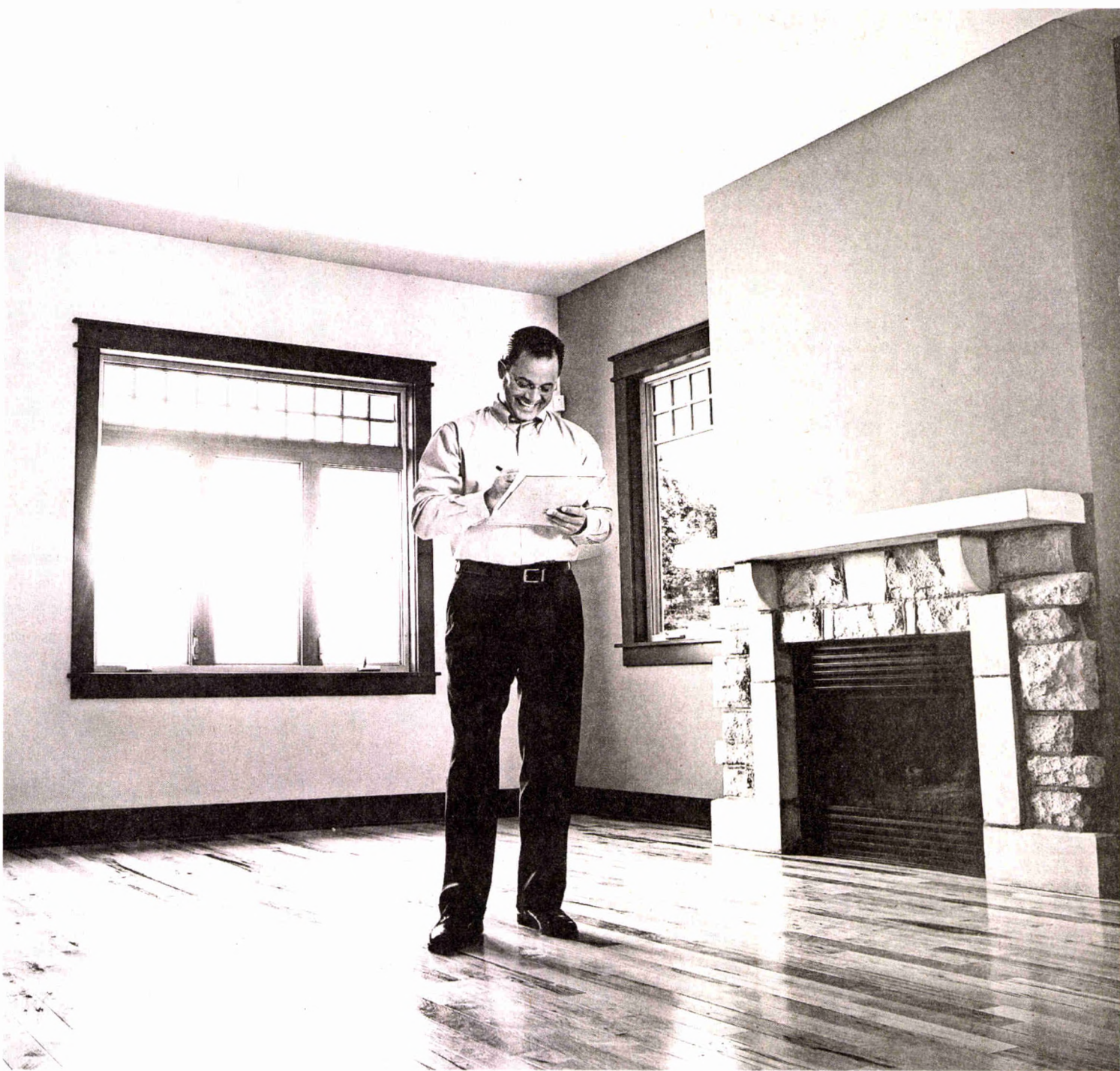
If you decide to co-sign on a loan, my recommendation is that you sit down with the primary borrower to make sure they understand their obligation, what impact late payments and non-payment will have on you and what you expect from them. In addition, I would work with the lender to make sure if there is any kind of default, you are immediately notified. I would also make sure you have access to the loan account online so you can independently verify that the loan is being repaid on time.

Before you agree to co-sign a loan, it is important that you dot the I's and cross the T's. Don't rush into this arrangement; be certain you're going into it with your eyes wide open. In addition, don't forget you want to confirm that the primary borrower has the resources to repay the loan. If the person has a history of not repaying their loans and they are in shaky financial shape, co-signing a loan can lead to disastrous consequences.

Good luck!

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

EDUCATING HOMEOWNERS



GETTY IMAGES

WAYNE METRO 'ABOUT CREATING PREPARED BUYERS'

Julie Brown
Staff Writer



"It's about creating prepared buyers and helping them sustain ownership ... Owning a home is very different from renting."

DANNIELLE BILLS homeownership services manager for Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency

Danielle Bills is a social worker with a passion for helping people with housing issues. As homeownership services manager for Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, she's involved with helping people decide if owning is right for them, along with a host of related issues.

The Own My Home homeowner education program has been around some 15 years, and recently funded through Community Development Block Grants of Wayne County HOME dollars.

"Homeownership education has been around for decades," Bills said. In addition to deciding on renting vs. owning, clients need to look at issues of maintenance (there is no landlord to call in owning), the process of getting a mortgage, and recognizing predatory lending practices.

"It's about creating prepared buyers and helping them sustain ownership. We work with some people a couple of years," Bills said. "Owning a home is very different from renting."

That includes staff pulling a

credit report to help the client overcome obstacles, to pay down debt, "just helping them save toward the down payment," she said.

She said clients' first step is to sign up for a Homebuyer Club Workshop on the agency website: www.waynometro.org/homes or email Wayne Metro for more information at: ownmyhome@waynometro.org

You can contact the Wayne Metro Connect Center at: city of Detroit residents: 313-388-9799, out-county residents: 734-284-6999, TTY: 1-800-649-3777.

Wayne Metro staff helps to connect clients with other programs that assist with down payments. Wayne Metro has Realtors and lenders who work with the program as facilitators, meeting to speak to clients.

"The participants have a chance to ask specific questions," she said. Their questions include issues on credit reports, such as a bankruptcy or lien, impacting ownership, ways to improve a credit score, and what kind of an offer to make based on a sale price listed.

The agency is certified both through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Programs get support through private industry, including the real estate industry, Bills said.

"Read and ask questions," she urges prospective buyers. If answers aren't satisfactory, "you should continue to ask questions. Always being informed."

Bills noted, "There's assistance out there to purchase homes. There are so many

programs out there designed to help people become homeowners." That's true even for those with credit issues.

Bills noted the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has helped with rules and regulations applying now to the mortgage market.

"It's on the consumer to be mindful the information they're getting is accurate," she said. "If they're not comfortable, they have choices" on lenders. There's a window of time to shop around for preapproval with lenders.

"They're busy," she noted of Realtors. "Our only job is to be those clients' advocate." She has done such work since 2010, and noted other agency services such as free income tax e-filing for earners under \$50,000 a year.

"The best way to go is to take a homebuyer education class," she added, noting staff has no stake in the outcome of the decision made.

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Right exists to know condominium unit owner

Q: We have a situation where a limited liability company is buying a unit in our condominium. We are concerned about who was actually going to live there. Do we have a right to find out?

A: The name of a unit owner who lives in a housing organization in which use-rights and other property interests are formally interlocked seems to be a reasonable request.

An official owner of a unit may have otherwise legitimate reasons to register the property with a corporation or a trustee.

However, granting homeowners the ability to identify the beneficial owner by name, if nothing else, serves an important goal of preserving their liberty to make timely and informed decisions. You have a right to know who will be living there as that person or persons will have a responsibility to comply with the condominium documents and your condominium bylaws should so provide.

Q: I live in a detached condominium and want to install a high-voltage station in my unit to provide for an electric vehicle. Do I need permission from the association?

A: It depends on your condominium documents as to who is responsible for the electrical network in your condominium and whether the association is responsible for the exterior of your building. It is probably a good idea to consider this given the influx of electric vehicles. Homeowners who install residential charging equipment before the end of 2016 can receive a federal income tax credit up to \$1,000. There may also be a further incentive by your municipality, utility or other governmental agency. I anticipate that future condo buyers will likely have more options for buildings with communal charges, but since you are a separately detached condo, it may not affect you unless the association decides to consider a communal charger.

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update. Meetings are at 6-9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate.

Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership. The Red Lobster is next to 7-Eleven, near Trenton Road.

Any questions or concerns, call Bill Beddoes at 734-934-9091 or Wayne Koehler at 313-819-0919.

Short sales

If you owe more than what your house is worth, you may be interested in a free informational seminar on short sale procedures.

Bonnie David, broker/owner of Quantum Real Estate, is the presenter. It will be 6-7 p.m. each Thursday at 129 N. Lafayette, downtown South Lyon.

For more information, call 248-782-7130 or email june.quantum@gmail.com.

Free foreclosure tours

Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96.

Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Competitive housing market puts crimp on buyer options

After steadily increasing for three straight months, pending home sales let up in May and declined year-over-year for the first time in almost two years, according to the National Association of Realtors. All four major regions experienced a cutback in contract activity last month.

The Pending Home Sales Index, a forward-looking indicator based on contract signings, slid 3.7 percent to 110.8 in May from a downwardly revised 115.0 in April and is now slightly lower (0.2 percent) than May 2015 (111.0). With last month's decline, the index reading is still the third highest in the past year, but declined year-over-year for the first time since August 2014.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says pending sales slumped in May across most of the country. "With demand holding firm this spring and homes selling even faster than a year ago, the notable in-

crease in closings in recent months took a dent out of what was available for sale in May and ultimately dragged down contract activity," he said. "Realtors are acknowledging with increasing frequency lately that buyers continue to be frustrated by the tense competition and lack of affordable homes for sale in their market."

Supply is scant

Despite mortgage rates hovering around three-year lows for most of the year, Yun says scant supply and swiftly rising home prices — which surpassed their all-time high last month — are creating an availability and affordability crunch that's preventing what should be a more robust pace of sales.

"Total housing inventory at the end of each month has remarkably decreased year-over-year now for an entire year," added Yun. "There are simply not enough homes coming onto the market to

catch up with demand and to keep prices more in line with inflation and wage growth."

Looking ahead to the second half of the year, Yun says the fallout from the U.K.'s decision to leave the European Union breeds both immediate opportunity as well as potential headwinds for the U.S. housing market.

"In the short term, volatility in the financial markets could very likely lead to even lower mortgage rates and increased demand from foreign buyers looking for a safer place to invest their cash," he said. "On the other hand, any prolonged market angst and further economic uncertainty overseas could negatively impact our economy and end up tempering the overall appetite for home buying."

In spite of last month's step back in contract signings, existing-home sales this year are still expected to be around 5.44 million, a 3.7 percent boost from 2015. After accelerating to 6.8 percent a year

ago, national median existing-home price growth is forecast to slightly moderate to between 4 and 5 percent.

Regional breakdown

The PHSI in the Northeast dropped 5.3 percent to 93.0 in May, and is now unchanged from a year ago. In the Midwest, the index slipped 4.2 percent to 108.0 in May, and is now 1.8 percent below May 2015.

Pending home sales in the South declined 3.1 percent to an index of 126.6 in May but are still 0.6 percent higher than last May. The index in the West decreased 3.4 percent in May to 102.6, and is now 0.1 percent below a year ago.

The National Association of Realtors is America's largest trade association, representing 1.1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

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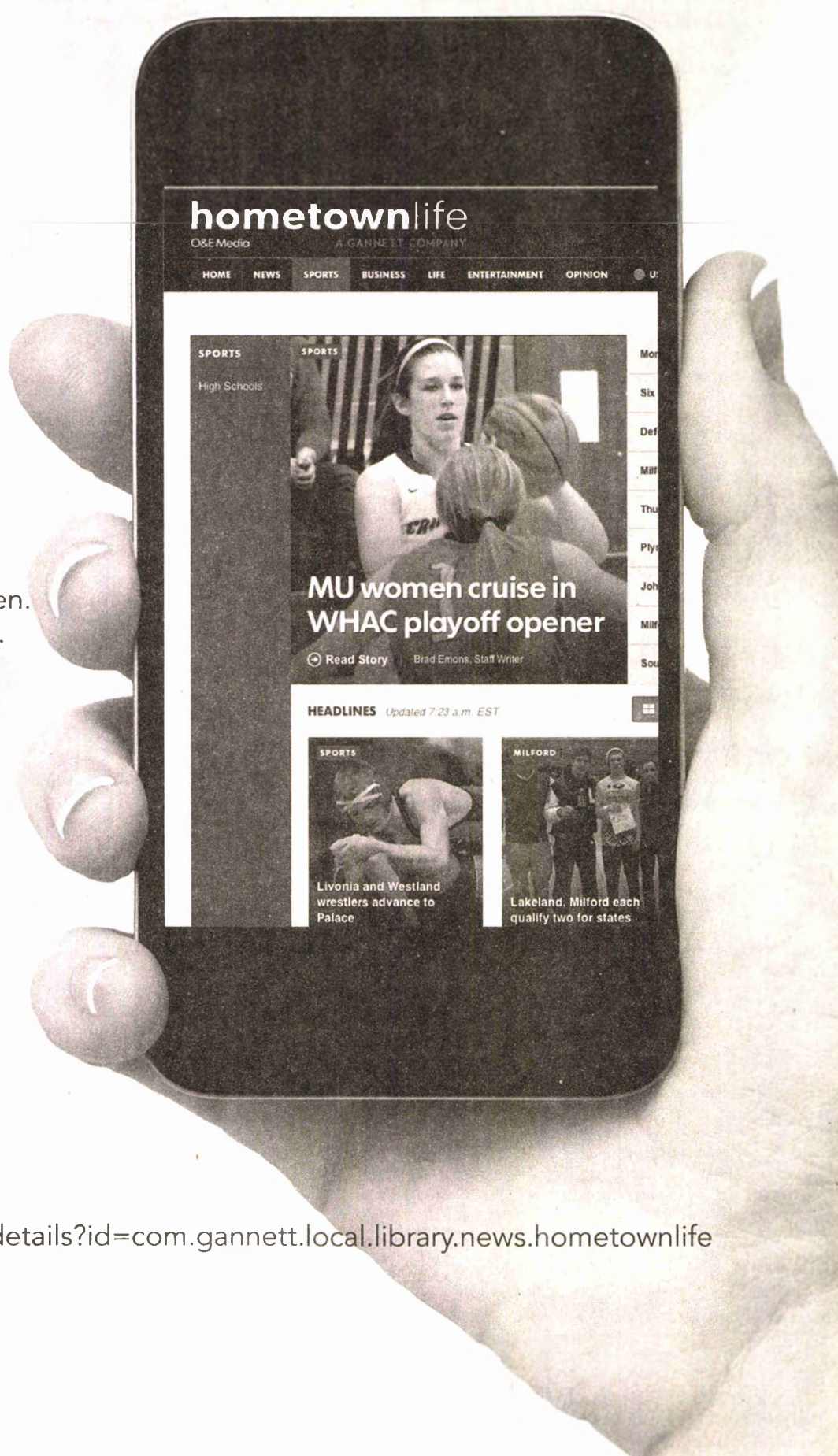
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Take steps to avoid burnout at work

BY DEANNA HARTLEY
CAREERBUILDER

When you work more than 40 hours a week and feel the pressure to be plugged in 24/7, it's inevitable that at some point, you'll run the risk of getting burned out.

Here are five simple but practical tips to mitigate that risk and recharge.

Start your day right.

What you do in the morning can affect the rest of your day, so start with a simple activity to get you in the right frame of mind.

"A bad start leaves you in a bad mood that leads to a bad day at work," says Eric Brantner, founder of Scribblrs.com, a resource for bloggers. "Take a moment each morning to do something you enjoy — this could be as simple as writing in a journal, enjoying your coffee, 15 minutes of video games or even yoga."

Set boundaries. Learn to say no, especially when you have a lot on your plate already.

"Not every meeting has to be attended; not everything that is asked of you has to get done. I'm surprised at so many experienced people who still say yes to anything that's asked by a more senior



THINKSTOCK

or same-level colleague," says Matt Girvan, co-founder of My Gung Ho, which creates apps that help individuals thrive in their day-to-day lives. "I learned to say, 'No, I can't do that now, but come back to me in a week or a month, and let's see if we can do it then.' Often, as that time goes by, it either gets figured out or forgotten about. It helps to filter some noise coming your way."

Talk to your manager.

It's understandable if you don't want to be viewed as the person who's unable to manage the workload, but at the same

time, you don't want to become so overwhelmed that you're unable to effectively perform the tasks assigned to you.

"Rather than fearing and avoiding your supervisor, see him or her as an important person in helping to bring about positive change," says Jonathan Alpert, a psychotherapist, executive coach and author of "Be Fearless: Change Your Life in 28 Days." "Most supervisors that I know realize that a happy and content employee is a productive one. Approach your supervisor with that mindset and enlist his or her help in making work

more desirable. There's a good chance he or she may not even know that you're unhappy, so speak up."

This will help you prioritize and/or delegate tasks as necessary to free up your workload.

Go to lunch. Taking a break away from one's desk is one of the simplest yet most often overlooked tips.

"Designate a time to get up and leave your work during the day. No one is capable of working a full eight or more hours a day at a desk, day after day, without burning down

and out," says Lynda McKay, vice president of human resource consulting at Bagnall, an employee benefits and HR consulting firm. "This does not mean eating through lunch, but actually removing yourself from the office in some fashion."

Sam Wheeler, a digital PR specialist at Inseev Interactive, echoes that sentiment. "Studies show that eating outside and being away from your desk is extremely beneficial from a health point of view. From a burnout perspective, it will break up your day more, and you will begin to see two sections of the day rather than one continuous workday."

Take time off. It's important to get some much-needed rest and relaxation when necessary.

"Rather than accrue vacation time and let it sit, use it," Alpert says. "Time away from work can help to provide a new and fresh perspective, allow you to recharge and expand your horizons beyond the confines of your work environment."

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

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Car Report

With F-150 As The Star and Some New Attractions, Ford Enhances Rouge Factory Tour as Branding Vehicle



By Dale Buss

The launch of the aluminum-bed Ford F-150 pickup truck last year meant more than a bump in sales for the nameplate that already had been America's best-selling vehicle for decades. It also has brought an uptick in visitors to the Ford Rouge Factory Tour at The Henry Ford Museum, an experience that has transformed the Rouge truck plant into an important location for brand "ambassadorship" as well as profits.

More brands these days are building places like this that they can call "home" -- not new headquarters per se, but externally oriented, experientially based, bricks-and-mortar tributes to their achievements, values, history and future.

In the Rouge tour, Ford has had one of the nation's best "brand homes" for about 15 years. While affiliated with the iconic The Henry Ford / Greenfield Village complex nearby in Dearborn, the actual Ford Rouge Factory Tour is co-located at the most important plant in the Ford network. The sprawling, integrated Rouge complex is where so much of the company's storied past unfolded -- and where its present and future, in terms of the crucial F-150, is being constructed as well.

And with the uptick in public interest in Ford's innovative F-150, and because of a significant overhaul of the Factory Tour itself, the attraction has been turning the attendance arrow back upward recently. It's averaged around 100,000 visitors a year since its opening early last decade, according to Christian Lachel, vice president and executive creative director with BRC Imagination Arts. The company has been the lead visionary

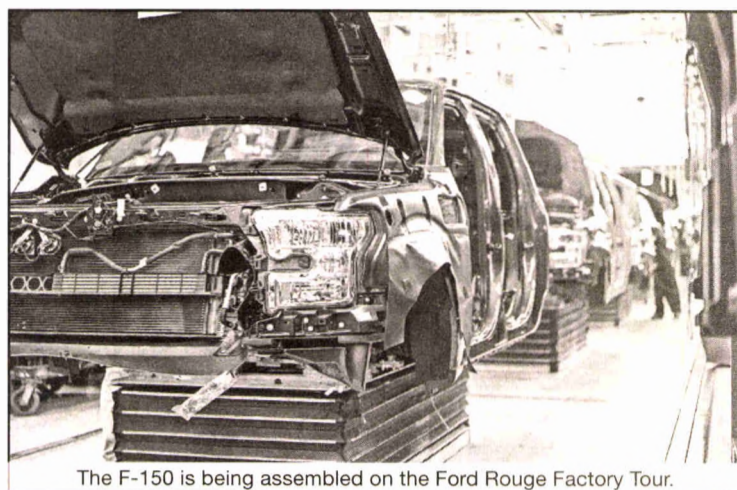
not only behind the Rouge tour but also behind other branded destinations including The World of Coca-Cola in Atlanta and The Guinness Storehouse in Dublin.

"There's an increased interest in American innovation, and Ford is on the rise," Lachel told me. "It's a great story to tell. And it's a great education platform for The Henry Ford." Specifically, in line with the launch of production last year of the aluminum-bed F-150, the attraction added the Manufacturing Innovation Theater, which celebrates the engineering ingenuity behind the production of the F-150 with a multi-sensory film experience complete with vibrating seats, gusts of "wind," 3D projection mapping and winking robots. The new film replaced a previous "film experience" for the tour.

"We wanted to upgrade the experience overall," Lachel said. "And so much of the truck had changed. We wanted to bring that forward. Also, so much of the Rouge has been transformed inside. It was important for us to get back in there and get kids excited. And now they just sit there and go, 'Wow!'"

Importantly for Ford, the Rouge Factory Tour also serves as a great platform for brand events, official visits by VIPs, and other outward-reaching exercises in addition to tourism per se.

As with many things at today's Ford, the very existence of the Ford Rouge Factory Tour in part is a testament to the under-appreciated forward thinking of Chairman William C. Ford II. His impulse toward environmental leadership was a major factor, for instance, in Ford's



The F-150 is being assembled on the Ford Rouge Factory Tour.

becoming a leader in introduction of conventional-hybrid models several years ago. And "Bill" Ford wanted a "living" green roof on the top of the Rouge assembly plant.

He also "really wanted to make sure the Ford Rouge wouldn't fall into disrepair" after the complex, parts of which are a century old, was showing its age, Lachel said. "He wanted Rouge to show the reinvention of the industrial story."

And historically, Lachel noted, "Ford had always had a company tour." It used to originate at the famed Rotunda, the iconic Ford building in Dearborn that once was one of America's leading tourist attractions but which burned to the ground in 1962.

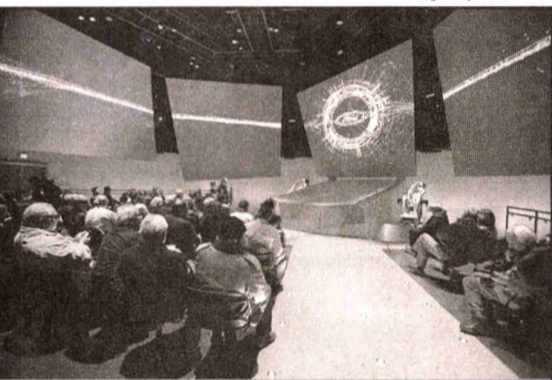
In the intervening decades, however, factory tours offered by the Detroit Three automakers

mainly faded away, in part because of their concerns about corporate espionage and, frankly, because what they had to show off wasn't as impressive as it should have been at that point.

And when the 9/11 terrorist attacks occurred in 2001 while BRC and Ford were right in the middle of planning the Rouge tour -- in Dearborn, home of one of America's largest concentrations of Muslims -- "it was surreal," Lachel said.

Now, he said, Ford believes "it's important to tell this story, especially with Ford leading the next generation in sustainable manufacturing. And people in general are excited about the renaissance in American manufacturing."

The Ford Rouge Factory Tour is closed July 4 through July 10 for maintenance and reconstruction.



Opening the Manufacturing Innovation Theater has bumped up attendance at the Rouge tour.

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Left to Right: Brandon Riedberg, Britni Hutton, Jeffrey Hutton, Jayne Hutton, Corbin Hutton, Neil Merzin

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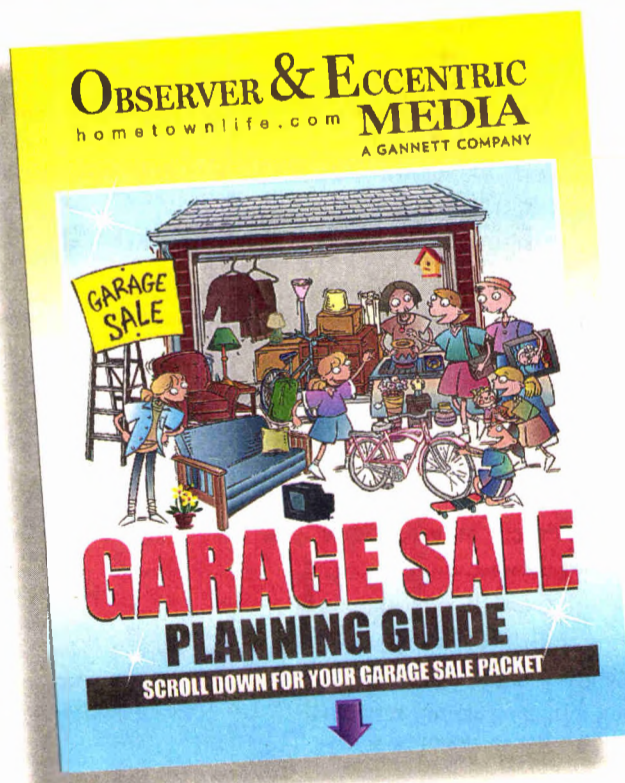
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