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Sewer overflow

Around noon on Friday, June 23, City of Novi officials said the city experienced a minor sanitary sewer overflow near the Country Place Lift station north of Eight Mile and west of Meadowbrook.

A contractor working in the area hit a sanitary sewer force main causing the spill. The spill was contained on site, and no sewage entered the surface water or any storm catch basin. Once the spill was contained, the cleanup was initiated and was completed on Saturday.

The City of Novi had a contingency plan in place for this scenario, and it was implemented immediately to avoid any problems.

The pipe has been repaired, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has been notified as required.

'Preschool in the Park'

The Walled Lake Preschool Programs are hosting an opportunity for summer fun for parents and their preschool aged children 10-11:30 a.m. July 19 and 26. Join them for reading, singing, dancing, playing and moving with some new friends. Snacks will also be provided.

The 2017 Preschool in the Park dates/locations are:

» Wednesday, July 19: Gilbert Willis Park (2911 Chick-saw Street, Wixom) — balloons and face painting with Pebbles

» Wednesday, July 26: Bloomer Park (7581 Richardson Road, West Bloomfield) — live animals nature presentation

For more details, go to <http://wlcsl.org/programs/preschool/>.

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'Driven to help people'

Church's service director looks back on decades of helping

Matt Jachman
 hometownlife.com

The example set by her parents when she was a child inspired Carol Ann Donnelly during a decades-long career of reaching out to people in need.

Donnelly grew up in Livonia, where her parents, Everet and Stella Veenstra, were generous with folks who were down on their luck, even taking some of them in temporarily until they could get back on their feet.

"It was just their way with people," said Donnelly, 70.

She recalled another lesson she learned, as a "sassy teenager," when her father, a local builder, sat her down and told her, "You're no better than anybody else," she said. "Those words stayed with me all my life," she added.

Fast forward to today and Donnelly is looking back on more than 40 years as the Chris-



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
 Carol Ann Donnelly, 70, decided that it's time to spend more time with loved ones after more than 40 years as the Christian Service director at Church of the Holy Family.

See DONNELLY, Page A3

ROAD OFF-TRAVELED



JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
 Getting through traffic in metro Detroit can be horrendous at times. Those who weekend up north hope they won't experience similar traffic once they're past the suburbs.

Hassles worth every chance to get up north, drivers say

Philip Allmen
 hometownlife.com

Maybe it's the turquoise water of Torch Lake or heavy forests surrounding Grayling that draws them in. Or perhaps the cute boutiques that bustle in the waterfront downtowns like Traverse City, Alpena and Petoskey in northern Michigan.

For tens of thousands of people, heading up north is a summer ritual. Load up everything in the car after work Friday, drive four or five hours until you get up north. Then Sunday afternoon, you get things packed up in the car for the adventure back home to reality.

Michigan is a state where distance is usually measured with time, but "up north" has a flexible definition.

Just where is "up north"? Depends on who you ask. Steve Wisinski, a Hartland dad, thinks that moniker best applies to areas north of the Mackinac Bridge. He and his wife Karen bought a cottage on Drummond Island in Lake Huron about five years ago. If they time it just right, it's a 5½-hour drive and ferry ride.



ALLISON STOCK | PURE MICHIGAN
 Tahquamenon Falls is found near Newberry in the eastern Upper Peninsula, as shown from this 2015 Pure Michigan Moments photo contest entry.

See UP NORTH, Page A2

Novi bus driver up for state honor



BILL ROOSE | NCSD
 Jesse Lollo has been driving a school bus in the Novi Community School District for the last three years.

Jesse Lollo believes his school bus is an extension of the classroom.

"I am the first person they see in the morning and the last contact they have at the end of the day," Lollo said. "So my impression has to be positive, professional and impactful."

A retired restaurant and property management owner, Lollo has had a great effect on students during his three years as a bus driver in the Novi Community School District. For his diligence, innovation and astute attention to detail, Lollo was named a finalist for this year's school bus driver of the year award, presented by the Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation.

To be considered for the award, nominated drivers must be an MAPT member, have no points on their driving record and not have previously won the award. Finalists were recognized at a banquet June 21 at the Lansing Convention Center.

After 40 years as a Burger King franchisee, Lollo sold his interests in seven properties throughout Wayne and Oakland counties, before deciding to become a substitute driver.

"I was taking my daughter to school one day and saw the sign 'Now hiring school bus drivers,'" said Lollo, who lives in the subdivision behind Parkview Elementary School. "At a back-to-school meeting, the superintendent (Dr. Steve Matthews) said that we were to treat the school bus as our classroom. It was at that moment the light went off in my

See DRIVER, Page A3

UP NORTH

Continued from Page A1

But for Adam Daniels, a day trip to Kensington Metropark will suffice for his up north experience. Daniels, of Romulus, said he'd rather go to Kensington, Hines Park or Belle Isle for an afternoon, then go back to the comforts of home and suburban life.

"Why would I take all that time (to visit northern Michigan for the weekend) when we have everything we need close by?" he said.

No easy way

The draw to northern Michigan can be hard to fight. The only problem sometimes? Getting there.

Matt Blase was heading north the afternoon of June 22 with plans for a long weekend to some family property near Rogers City at the northern tip of the Lower Peninsula. The Westland man and his wife stopped at a rest area on U.S. 23, near Grand Blanc, for a quick break.

"We really prefer coming up Thursday or staying until Monday, if we can," Blase said. "You

never know how easy the drive's going to be. I'd rather just avoid it."

And when all you want to do is get to your destination — or get home — any hiccups can get frustrating.

For the amount of traffic Interstate 75 sees any given weekend, life isn't too bad for these weekend vacationers, said First Lt. Michael Shaw with the Michigan State Police. But for summer holiday weekends like Fourth of July, problems can be compounded.

"Naturally for us, the holiday weekends is when we see our heavier traffic, Shaw said. "If there is a bad crash, that throws everything for a loop. And construction is always another issue."

If you're lucky, those orange barrels have been pulled off to the side of the expressway for the weekend.

It's worth it

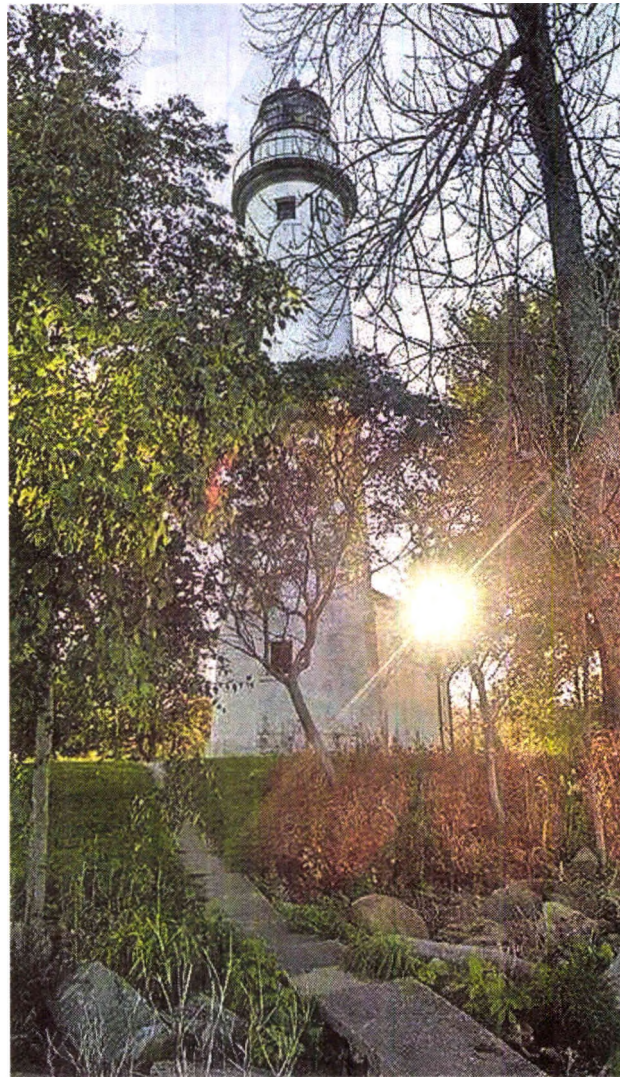
Matt Eggleston, a Milford High School teacher, said those first 60 miles or so — to about Bay City — are the worst, traffic-wise, but any headaches in the journey are worth reaching your destination.

"The journey up — packing and unpacking, making the trip — definitely the time is the worst part," he said.

Whether it's going to a family-owned cottage on the lake or rustic campground in the middle of nowhere, families like the Egglestons try not to limit their options.

"I enjoy being outdoors," he said. "Northern Michigan is beautiful for that. I like to spend time in the woods, on the lakes."

Same goes for Jeff Wirth, who June 22 was



AMBER CLARK | PURE MICHIGAN

Visiting lighthouses is a popular pastime with some Michigan travelers, like this one in Michigan's Thumb, one of the 2015 Pure Michigan Moments photo contest entries.

on his way to the Alpena area for some fishing.

"Sure, I could fish near home, but it's so much nicer up here," Wirth said. "It's not so busy and you can just, I don't know, relax."

Wirth left from Farmington Hills early in the afternoon to beat the usual evening rush hour traffic on I-96 in Novi. Leaving Friday, he said, would just extend the heavy traffic through half his drive. More important to him, he said, was to maximize his time up north, since he can't get up there too often.

Same goes for the Wisinski family.

"It's not something we can pop up Friday after work for the weekend," Wisinski said. "We've got to have a day or two extra just to make it worth it."

But ask any regular weekend traveler why and they'll agree that any hassles along the way are worth it. Some seek the forest to connect with nature. Others meet up again with old friends who have grown up together along a line of cottages. Others prefer the resort towns, where they can discover local artists, craft brews and a slightly slower pace to life, a welcome respite at

times from the daily grind.

It's tradition

Another common thread among these frequent northern travelers is that it's a tradition, something they've done all their lives.

"I grew up doing a lot of northern Michigan things. Lots of camping, canoeing and fishing," said Eggleston, who grew up near Lansing.

Wisinski, a Bay City native, has fond memories of spending time with friends in places like Au Gres and Alpena.

Wirth went fishing and camping with his dad, grandfather and brothers for as long as he can remember.

"It's these Michigan getaways that I think of when I think of my dad. They were always so much fun," he said. "I hope my kids feel the same way then they get to be my age."

Busy holiday

According to AAA Michigan, it's going to be extra busy for people traveling during the Fourth of July holidays. The company said it expects more than 1.48 million people to travel 50 miles or more from home.

The number of Michigan travelers, AAA said, is on the rise compared to last year with a 3.3-percent increase. And the projected number of travelers during the holiday weekend is the largest it expects in Michigan in the past 15 years.

And the vast majority of those people will be traveling by car.

The July 4 holiday weekend is considered June 30 to July 4. Because the holiday falls on a Tuesday, AAA is considering it a four-day weekend.

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NOVI NEWS

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UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, July 12 6:00 p.m.	Southfield Public Library 26300 Evergreen Rd, Southfield, MI 48076
Wednesday, July 12 6:00 p.m.	DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Medical Office Building 1 William Carls Dr, Commerce, MI 48382
Tuesday, July 25 6:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts of America - Dauch Scout Center 1776 W. Warren Ave, Detroit, MI 48208
Wednesday, July 26 6:00 p.m.	Northwest Activities Center 18100 Meyers Rd, Detroit, MI 48235
Thursday, July 27 6:00 p.m.	DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Medical Office Building 1 William Carls Dr, Commerce, MI 48382

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DONNELLY

Continued from Page A1

tian Service director at Church of the Holy Family in Novi.

"This is what I was put here for," Donnelly said during an interview in her cramped office at the church. "I guess I'm driven to help people."

Involved since the Catholic parish was founded in 1974, Donnelly will retire at the end of this month. It was a difficult decision, she wrote in a message to fellow parishioners.

Donnelly, starting out as a volunteer and becoming a paid employee after about a decade, runs an active ministry that includes an emergency food pantry, a clothes closet, participation in a rotating shelter for homeless people, a baby diaper bank and more. She's resettled refugees, provided volunteer workers for a Detroit soup kitchen, coordinated Christmastime giving to people who are struggling financially, helped the convalescing and the home-bound and, for 19 years, ran a program that provided spiritual guidance and the Eucharist to the incarcerated.

She was also a catechist for 14 years, instructing others in the

Catholic faith. "I had a vocation," Donnelly said. "I had to do this."

Donnelly said her Christian Service department "just evolved" with Holy Family, in part because of parishioners' desire to give.

"I just kept adding, adding and it blossomed into this," she said. "One of the reasons is the volunteers. People want to help."

In one year, Donnelly said, Holy Family's service programs drew about 700 volunteers. "It takes a lot of people to pull some of these programs off," she said.

The clothes closet, which provides gently used outfits to people who can't afford new clothes, is one of its longest-running programs. It was begun, Donnelly said, in the 1970s by a faith-based service group called Northville-Novu Fish and was first housed at the Old Village School; the closet bounced around to a number of locations, including Donnelly's basement, before it found a permanent home at Holy Family.

Donnelly lives with husband Robert, a retired tool-and-die worker, in Novi, where they raised daughter Lisa and son Jason. She plans to spend time in retirement with her family, particularly sisters Vickie Merrill and

Barbara Sienko. "They mean the world to me and I want to have time, while I'm still healthy, to do things," she said. Her brother, John Veenstra, died last year. Donnelly does plan to stay active at Holy Family; she tells fellow parishioners they will be able to reach her through the parish office.

Taking Donnelly's place at Christian Service will be Adam Perry of Farmington, who graduated this year from the University of Michigan with a master's degree in social work.

Perry already has a long history of community activism, having worked with Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County, with homeless and low-income people in New York City and at an urban garden in Toledo, among other programs.

The job is a natural fit for Perry, who went to school at Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Fabian while growing up and was involved at St. Mary Student Parish while attending U-M, where he also earned his bachelor's degree.

"I really wanted my faith, my spirituality, to be a part of my job," Perry said.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Carol Ann Donnelly laments the condition of her office, but it represents the many pieces of the Christian Service ministry she is responsible for at Church of the Holy Family in Novi.



Adam Perry is getting hands-on training. He will take over July 1 for Carol Ann Donnelly as Christian Service director at Church of the Holy Family.

DRIVER

Continued from Page A1

head and I knew exactly what my job as a school bus driver was going to be."

As a sub driver, Lollo familiarized himself with each route he was assigned while trying to learn the students' names in case he would see them again. It wasn't long before he moved to

a full-time route and now he's widely considered to be among the best drivers the district has ever employed.

"When he did do a run again, the students would comment on how much they liked him and they were glad he was driving if their regular driver was gone," said Cindy Valentine, director of transportation. "Once Jesse became a full-time driver with his own run, the compliments poured

in." The 64-year-old Lollo has built a great rapport with young and older students alike, learning their names and developing age-appropriate trivia to share during rides to and from school. He even established a Wall of Achievement on his bus to praise students for doing good things.

"Instead of numbers for the rows, he has math flash cards where

the answers are the row numbers," Valentine said. "He starts the year with simple addition and, as the year progresses, the cards change. The younger students love learning math with the row numbers and his older students love the trivia and just talking to Mr. Jesse."

Lollo's innovations have rubbed off on his peers, who started their own brand of trivia and puzzle games on their

buses. "Now we have several drivers who share their trivia games every week," Valentine said. "I admit, some of them I can't figure out, but the kids always do, eventually."

Lollo has also taught safety rules to the kids and shares drivers' best practices with fellow district drivers.

"I try to come up with creative ways to keep the students engaged

and foster positive thinking and not horsing around, breaking the safety rules or distracting me from driving the bus," he said. "I consider my bus the learning and school spirit bus. I try to cast a positive shadow on their educational experience at Novi Community School District and to bring that value added, that something extra that over-the-top ingredient that makes their day."



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Northville visitors can try out giant games

People who love being outdoors during Michigan summers can combine that with a friendly game of Jenga, corn hole, dominoes or Connect 4 in downtown Northville.

From now until the end of the summer, the downtown Town Square (on Main Street, across from the clock) will feature oversized versions of those games for visitors to play.

The games were built by The Village Workshop and sponsored by the Northville Downtown Development Authority. They will be set up from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily in Town Square. There is no cost or registration required to play.

Five volunteers, including a staff member from The Village Workshop, created the four games. There are 28 dominoes tiles (11.5 by 5.5 inches each) and 54 Jenga bars (10 by 3.5 inches each). The Connect 4 game measures 50 inches by 50 inches, while the corn hole game measures 24 by 48 inches.

"The oversized games were created to provide a fun family activity in Town Square and give residents and visitors another reason to visit Town Square," Lori Ward, the Northville DDA director, said in a press release. "It is also a creative way to showcase

the capabilities of The Village Workshop and the opportunities available for artisans and creatives at the maker space."

Town Square serves as a central gathering space in downtown Northville, hosting concerts each Friday night, concerts for children each Tuesday morning in the summer and a number of other events throughout the year. The open-air patio is landscaped and equipped for concerts with a music system and stage. The area also has wireless Internet access. Evening ambiance is created with overhead Tivoli lighting, while heated pavers extend the



MATT JACHMAN

Oversized versions of Jenga, corn hole, Connect 4 and dominoes will be available to play daily, at no charge, in downtown Northville.

life of the plaza into the winter.

For more information about The Village Workshop, go to

www.thevillageworkshop.com. Additional information on the games in Town Square and all downtown Northville

events, shops and restaurants can be found at www.downtownnorthville.com.

Testimony: 'I heard two shots ring off'

Double homicide trials begin with several witnesses describing night's events

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Amber Tackett said she believed she was only going to a potential robbery of marijuana Feb. 6 near Norene and Treadwell in Westland. She left the scene confused and uncomfortable after she said one of those she went with shot and killed two people that night.

"I heard two shots ring off and then I hear one more shot ring off," the 17-year-old Taylor resident said. "Dominik said, 'I think I killed the one, but not the other.'"

Tackett was one of several witnesses to testify June 21 in the trials for Dominik Lou Charleston, 19, of Romulus, and Kobi Austin Taylor, who is 19 and homeless. The two men are charged with several criminal counts stemming from a double homicide case that took place in the early morning hours after Super Bowl Sunday.

Charleston faces two counts of first-degree murder, two counts of felony murder, two counts of armed robbery and one count of felony firearm. Taylor is charged with two counts of felony murder, two counts of armed robbery and one count of felony firearm.

The two are charged in the deaths of Jordan Baker, 19, of Wayne, and Howard Wick, 35, of Westland, both of whom were found shot to death early that morning in that area in what's been

described as a botched armed robbery of marijuana.

If convicted, the two face up to life in prison.

The two have separate juries deciding their fates, though both juries were in Wayne County Circuit Judge Qiana Lillard's courtroom listening to testimony from several witnesses together June 21.

Tackett was originally charged in the case with murder as well, but opted to take a plea deal with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office that saw her plead guilty to one count of armed robbery and one count of felony firearm. As a part of that deal, which includes her serving 7-22 years in prison, she also agreed to testify in the case.

She said she was with Charleston when he began communicating with Taylor, who was at a friend's house that night. She and Charleston eventually went to pick up Taylor when the three of them drove to meet with Baker and saw Wick there as well. After some time, which included a side trip to a gas station and the discussion over whether they wanted to purchase the marijuana from Baker, she said she heard the shots and Charleston and Taylor got back into the car. The three of them drove off.

Tackett said she felt confused and did not understand the situation, and was worried something would have come of her as well.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Defendants Dominik Lou Charleston and Kobi Austin Taylor listen to witness testimony.

"I didn't know if he was going to shoot me next," she said.

Westland resident Raymond Terry testified Wednesday that Taylor had shown up at the location he was currently living at late the night of Feb. 6. He knew Taylor was interested in picking up marijuana that night, but decided

against going with him, fearing what could have happened in the transaction, he said.

"He just said he was going to get it," Terry said. "He was talking about finding any way possible to get weed."

"I had a bad feeling something bad was going to happen."

Terry was not the only

one with bad feelings about hearing about Taylor's plan. Westland resident Rex Pierson, who had taken Terry into his house to live at for a while, said he overheard Taylor talking about going out late that night to pick up the marijuana.

Pierson said he had already put three of his children to bed and did

not want to deal with issues surrounding Taylor possibly returning to his house that night.

"I told him if he did it, don't come back to my house," Pierson said.

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Northville Township beautification commission seeks members

The Northville Twp. Beautification Commission is looking for individuals with that proverbial green thumb. The beautification commission is an all-volunteer organization that works to enhance the appearance of the community. It currently has six initiatives that it promotes in this regard:

» The commission annually recognizes and gives awards to businesses which beautify their property.

» It supports the environment through the free seedling giveaway at township hall in April every two years. This event is co-sponsored by

the city of Northville Beautification Commission.

» It provides a secure means of disposing of identity-sensitive documents for residents at the shred-it event every two years. At each shred-it event, tons of documents are shredded. These materials were recycled, thereby easing the strain on landfills.

» The commission planned and maintains the Friendship Garden at Northville Township Hall, Six Mile and Sheldon.

» It has created and maintains a brick recognition patio within the Friendship Garden, pro-

viding a means by which people can recognize life achievements and commemorate the memories of loved ones.

» It annually decorates a tree for the winter holiday at the Northville Community Center.

The commission is always looking for residents who may be interested in joining, or who would simply like to help out on any of these projects. If you would like further information, contact commission co-chair Mary Jo Blasius c/o Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville Twp., MI 48168.

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Go Blue! U-M coach Harbaugh spends afternoon with retiring fire chief

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Who knew the coach wanted to be a firefighter?

Donning a maize and blue fire helmet, University of Michigan football head coach Jim Harbaugh took time out of his spring schedule to meet with Bloomfield Township Fire Chief Dave Piche, who's retiring at the end of June after a 32-year career.

"It was awesome," Piche said. "I'm a huge U-M fan, so this was a pretty neat moment for me. And he couldn't have been any nicer. I was pretty nervous meeting him, but he kept asking me questions about being a fire chief and just made me feel right at ease."

Piche spent the afternoon in Ann Arbor with Assistant Fire Chief Mike Morin and Fire Capt. Chris Whitehead, touring Schembechler Hall, taking photos and even watching the team practice. Afterward, they ate at the Brown Jug Restaurant and met some of the players.

"Genuine is the best word to describe him," Morin said of Harbaugh. "He asked us questions about the department, about the job ... he made us feel like it was his pleasure to have us there. He made us feel great."

Township Supervisor Leo Savoie was able to arrange the meeting through Paul Jokisch, a former U-M wide receiver who played alongside Harbaugh back in the '80s under legendary coach Bo Schembechler.

"I'm friends with Paul and asked him to set it up," Savoie said. "I knew Dave was a huge University of Michigan fan and I thought this was a great way to thank him for all his years of service to the township."

Piche's son Joshua graduated from U-M and is now in his fourth year of medical school. The two spent many a Saturday afternoon watching the Wolverines play in The Big House. He even has a banner in his office with the immortal words: "Those who stay will be champions."

The trip itself was a total surprise.

"I thought they were taking me up there to snap some photos in front of the stadium," Piche said. "Then we go to Schembechler Hall and, all of a sudden, this person comes up to me and says, 'Are you Fire Chief Dave Piche? You have an 11 o'clock appointment with James Harbaugh and he's waiting for you inside his office.' I was absolutely floored at that moment."

Whitehead noted the Bloomfield Township Firefighters Charities raises money every year to help support medical treatment at the U-M Trauma Burn Center as one of its causes. Piche continued those efforts when he became chief in 2008.

"We thought we'd get his signature and go, but we spent over an hour with him," Whitehead said. "I have tons of respect for both men, because they always put the team first."

For his part, Piche said it was a day he'll always remember.

"It says a lot about our guys and our department," he said. "We all take care of each other and they thought enough of me to pull it off. I'm very humbled and I feel very lucky to have worked with these guys."

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BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

"It was awesome," Bloomfield Township Fire Chief Dave Piche said about meeting Jim Harbaugh.



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

U-M football coach Jim Harbaugh and Bloomfield Township Fire Chief Dave Piche, watching a team practice in Ann Arbor.



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

University of Michigan head football coach Jim Harbaugh dons a maize and blue fire helmet.

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Tree ripped from front yard in Novi

A six-foot Rising Sun Redbud tree, worth about \$200, was stolen from the front yard of a house on Sandstone Drive, in the area of 13 Mile and Novi roads, the night of June 17.

Police said it appeared that the tree had been ripped from the ground rather than dug up with a shovel, according to a Novi Police Department report. The complainant told police the stolen tree was one of two identical trees she had planted in

April.

Police said the theft occurred between 10 p.m. June 17 and 8 a.m. the next morning.

Car break-in

A touch-screen stereo system was stolen June 16 from a Chrysler 200 while the car was parked outside a business on Orchard Hill Place, in the area of Eight Mile and Haggerty.

Police said a window on the car had been broken. The complainant told police he had parked the car at 8:30 a.m. when he arrived for work and

discovered the break-in at about 1:30 p.m.

Police also reported a vehicle burglary attempt that occurred June 18 in Novi. The navigation system in a Cadillac parked at Oak Pointe Church on 10 Mile was tampered with between 11:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m., a police report said. The device was not stolen, however, and nothing else was stolen from the Cadillac either, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

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Farmington DDA director: 'We want everyone to succeed'

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Smart development, public/private partnerships and a friendly "hello" are some of the keys to growing a successful downtown, according to the new DDA director for the city of Farmington.

Kate Knight previously served as planning coordinator for the Downtown Development Authority in the city of Northville. She most recently worked at Cog-Studio, a full-service design firm in Detroit. She starts her new position in July.

"We are delighted to have Kate join our team," Farmington City Manager Dave Murphy said. "With her urban planning background, I think Kate is the perfect fit for downtown's continued



Knight

growth."

Here's her take on Downtown Farmington and the DDA:

Q: What's new in downtown Farmington?

Knight: We're hosting the DIA's Inside/Out program this summer, and there's an exciting new Public Art Blueprint ready to implement. It's a great time to come visit us.

I like to use three B's: bread, books and beer. If you can walk from your home

to find these three, you live in a highly desirable location. We have it in Downtown Farmington, especially with the addition of Fresh Thyme Market. We have a great variety of residential offerings within walking distance, much of it more affordable than some of our peer down-

towns.

We're about to celebrate 200 years of success here. Downtown Farmington has evolved, and continues to thrive as a vibrant community. Come see us. We're having a party!

Q: Tell us about yourself and your role as the Farmington DDA Director?

Knight: I jumped at the opportunity to help lead Downtown Farmington. My background is urban planning and design, and community development is my passion.

Downtown Farmington is a jewel with stellar history - almost two centuries as a marketplace and meeting place. I welcome all of Downtown Farmington's opportunities and challenges. We've just updated our master plan and we're poised for success.

Plus, I like to yell across the street to say hello and recommend a sandwich, so this role is a great fit.

Q: How many properties are in the district? Where are the borders?

Knight: There are 136 tax parcels in the DDA district. Many of these have more than one business within them. The district generally runs down Grand River Avenue from Slocum to Mayfield, and on Farmington Road from Oakland to Slocum.

Q: What services does the DDA provide to the businesses?

Knight: We provide a clean, beautiful streetscape, through maintenance such as snow removal, and investment in landscaping. We have support resources for new businesses through Oakland County's Main Street program. We'll do local and regional pro-

motion, and host great programming and events to bring traffic into town.

It's my job to communicate constantly with our business and property owners, and keep us moving forward together as a whole effort. Retention and recruitment of new business are key. We have room for more business in Downtown Farmington. We want everyone to succeed, and we're constantly seeking that healthy, vibrant business mix.

Q: What's the DDA budget for 2017-18? How is it funded?

Knight: Our total DDA budget appropriations for 2017-18 will be just over \$750,000. We also have a Principal Shopping District special assessment. The DDA is funded through a Tax Increment Finance Authority, which captures and directs future prop-

erty tax revenue increases within the district toward public improvement projects. It's a potent, effective tool for concentrating resources toward economic development.

Our Michigan downturns weathered a terrible storm through the recession, and we're on the rebound. However, despite rising property values, we're still far behind where we should be in 2017. It's more important than ever to focus on new, smart development to grow revenue for Downtown Farmington. This means balancing careful stewardship of our historic character with sustainable, high quality, high density new investment. Public/private partnership has to figure prominently.

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ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Boren Scholarship

Swarthmore College announced that Novi resident Christina Hui was awarded the Boren Scholarship for Language Study. Hui is among the newest Boren scholars, supporting a federal initiative to deepen the pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills.



Hui

Hui will learn Mandarin at the East China Normal University in Shanghai and work as a research analyst intern at the Joint U.S.-China Collaboration on Clean Energy.

"The threat of climate change is a global issue. Its impact doesn't respect national borders," said Hui, a political science major from Novi.

"Because we exist in a common context, there will be no solution to climate change without close collaboration between the U.S. and China. And it is my hope as a Boren scholar to promote and facilitate a common ground between the two countries."

CMU theater features Liberati

Calyn Liberati of Highland Township will star in Central Michigan University's Summer Theatre 2017 tour.

The daughter of Anthony and Jo'El Liberati of Highland Township, she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in theater and interpretation at CMU.

The tour will stage three plays at three different stops during the summer. The plays are "For the love of Juliet!" by Luigi Jannuzzi, "Love/Sick" by John Cariani and "Twain by the tale" by Dennis Snee.

Performances will take place June 21-25 in CMU's Bush Theatre in Mount Pleasant; July 6-8 in Beaver Island Community Center Theatre in Beaver Island; and July 13-15 in Howmet Playhouse in Whitehall.

For more information, go to <http://cmich.ly/summertheatre16>.

Kalamazoo College grad

Sarah Smith received her bachelor of arts in biology from Kalamazoo College on June 11. She graduated summa cum laude and with honors in the major. She was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. Smith is a 2013 graduate of South Lyon East High School.

Smith studied abroad in Madrid, Spain, her junior year. Last summer, she received a DAAD RISE scholarship at the Bernhardt Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg, Germany, where she conducted her senior individualized project. Her research focused on malaria and her presentation of her senior research project won the Diebold Scholar Award. At Kalamazoo College, she was also a member of the equestrian team.

Smith has been awarded a one year ORISE Fellowship at Walter Reed Army Institute for Research in Silver Spring, Md., where she will be a research assistant. She will be conducting malaria research. Following her one-year fellowship, Smith plans to attend medical school.



Novi facilities manager Brandon McCullough shows off the gold certificate awarded to the city.

Novi commits to being green, honored with gold certification

The city of Novi is one of just five communities in Michigan to receive a gold certification in the Michigan Green Communities Challenge for its commitment to sustainability projects, from green infrastructure improvements to renewable energy projects.

Novi achieved gold for incorporating sustainability into its capital improvements planning process, along with other programs and initiatives including:

- » Replacement of all

air handling units at both the civic center and police headquarters with variable frequency drives to optimize power consumption.

- » Retro-fit of civic center atrium light fixtures to LEDs, saving an average of 240 watts per fixture.

- » Building automation upgrades at both the civic center and police headquarters

- » Ongoing effort to increase Novi's walkability by constructing new pathways and sidewalks.

The Michigan Green Communities Network celebrated 26 communities during a June 6 event in Muskegon on clean energy and environmental leadership. The MGCN aims to connect community leaders through training, education and communication.

The original challenge, launched in 2009, emphasized energy efficiency projects. In 2016, MGC network members, with support from the C.S. Mott Foundation,

revised and relaunched the MGC Challenge. Program benefits include creating a road map for sustainability initiatives; establishing benchmarks for your community's progress toward sustainability initiatives; and the motivation of comparing and competing with other Michigan communities. The challenge competition occurs annually, but is available year-round as a tool for communities to benchmark sustainability.

Marijuana grow operation found while fighting fire

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

A fire damaged multiple units at a South Lyon apartment building and exposed a marijuana grow operation in an adjoining apartment early June 16.

South Lyon firefighters had responded to the late night fire at the Waters Edge Apartments, on the north end of the city. The fire was reported at 664 Lakewood.

"The fire started in a first-floor apartment. The rear bedroom window failed from the fire, which went up to the second floor to the attic," South Lyon Fire Chief

Mike Kennedy said.

As a result, the fire damaged three second-floor apartments — one directly above the unit where the fire had started, along with one unit on either side of that apartment.

"We had to pull the ceiling down to get access to the attic," Kennedy said.

The fire started when a candle got too close to some bedding, he said, and has been ruled an accidental fire. Two occupants of that apartment were able to leave the apartment and there were no injuries, Kennedy said.

Firefighters were

checking on residents of other apartments and received no response to knocks on the first-floor apartment next door to where the fire had started.

"The smoke was heavy and we needed to make sure that there was no one passed out in the apartment," Kennedy said.

Firefighters ended up forcing open the door to the adjoining apartment and also found a bedroom door locked. When they received no response, that second door was also forced open.

Inside, firefighters reported finding a marijuana grow operation and

contacted South Lyon Police.

An officer called the tenant's cellphone number and initially talked to the woman's adult son, who reported his mother was his medical marijuana caregiver. When the woman arrived, she had the proper licensing to grow the medical marijuana.

However, the woman is now being evicted from the apartment, as having a grow operation is in violation of the apartment lease.

"I'm surprised that the grow operation wasn't the cause of the fire. You can't do that in a multiple-family building,"

Kennedy said. "With the fans and heaters, people think they can plug into normal 110 (electrical) service, but it's not built for that. It's a big power drain. And it's not even permitted on the lease."

Police reported finding an irrigation system, grow light, fan, air filtration system and fertilizer in the apartment. The bedroom had two areas walled off by plastic sheeting, with a large marijuana plant in each area, police said, with four smaller plants under a grow lamp.

Seedlings in an incubator were in the bathroom sink, officers noted, making it unusable.

The apartment had a bed, couch and dining room table, but police reported the apartment looked as if it was not lived in.

The apartment management offered hotel rooms for tenants who didn't want to spend the night in their apartments. DTE Energy workers were able to isolate and shut off power to the damaged units while leaving power to the rest of the apartments.

"There was substantial fire into the attic. They will need to replace a substantial part of the roof," Kennedy said.

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CHANGES TO FIREWORKS LAWS UNLIKELY BEFORE 'BOOM' SEASON BEGINS

Kathleen Gray
Detroit Free Press

LANSING — Since 2012, when new fireworks laws went into effect and allowed Michigan residents to buy and ignite more powerful fireworks, some lawmakers have repeatedly tried to modify or repeal the laws.

Forty-one bills have been introduced toward that end in the last three legislative sessions. But none have even gotten a hearing.

"What I'm hoping to do is to bring more regulation and local control because we see a disproportionate impact in certain parts of the state," said state Sen. Steven Bieda, D-Warren. "The profusion of sales has created a denser and louder holiday experience for many residents."

Indeed, the first year that pop-up stores and tents started selling bottle rockets, Roman candles and other more powerful pyrotechnics, the governor's office got more than 500 complaints following the Fourth of July holiday from people who had sleepless nights, crying babies, terrified dogs and who were traumatized by the incessant explosions.

The Legislature tweaked the bill in 2013 to allow local communities to restrict the time when fireworks could be shot off, prohibiting any displays between the hours of midnight and 8 a.m.

But that didn't go far enough for some.

"We shouldn't have to give up our houses for the Fourth of July because we've got a bunch of idiots in our neighborhoods," said Michael O'Leary of Dearborn. "It starts about 5 in the evening and it runs through 2:30 in the morning and it's one right after the other. They ought to be ashamed of themselves."

Warren Mayor Jim Fouts said he has had consistent complaints, mostly about the incessant noise, since the law went into effect, and said that his city will start enforcing the law at 11 p.m. this year.

"I feel that midnight is unreasonable on part of the state to force people to stay up until midnight and beyond that, when

many people have to get up and go to work the next day," Fouts said.

Fouts, who will be patrolling the streets with police and enforcing the law as he has on the Fourth of July in the past, said he hopes to see to the law either eliminated or drastically changed. Ever since the new state law, Fouts said, the fireworks have been louder, lasted longer, and been more lethal.

"Continually, I have residents say 'I feel like I'm in a war zone, and I don't want to be in a war zone. But I'm in a war zone.'"

The bills introduced this year would:

- » Expand the authority of local communities to regulate when fireworks could be used
- » Repeal the law outright

- » Prohibit the use of fireworks in densely populated areas
- » Ban the use of sky lanterns

Rep. Martin Howrylak, R-Troy, would like to see the fireworks limited to the three days around the Fourth of July and New Year's Day, instead of the three days around 10 designated holidays. He'd also like to see the bill tweaked to ensure that people under the age of 18 — who can't buy the fireworks — also would be prohibited from using them.

He wishes the Legislature could acknowledge that different communities have different experiences with the high-powered fireworks.

"You can go in your yard in Clawson and you see 20 to 30 houses. But you can go Up North and not see a house at all," he said. "Even the folks who like to use fireworks, like the ability for the city or township to set their own standards. I don't think it's realistic to repeal, but we have an opportunity to give the locals some more control."

State Rep. Henry Yanez, D-Sterling Heights, thinks an outright repeal is the only way to go.

"As a retired firefighter, it's not only physically dangerous, but actually can cause fires. It's a nuisance and an annoyance. We have pets that are aggravated and scared and veterans with PTSD who have to leave their homes because of the noise," he said. "My



The Ford Fireworks celebration lights up the night sky on the Detroit River.

KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL | DETROIT FREE PRESS

personal feeling is that this is an unnecessary nuisance that doesn't really bring any benefit to the state."

A MoveOn.org petition that calls upon Michigan lawmakers to "immediately repeal the Fireworks Safety Act 256 of 2011, and for the Governor to sign that repeal, in the interest of the safety and well-being of the citizens of Michigan" is about 3,000 signatures away from meeting its goal of 30,000.

Margaret Broersma, 64, of Grand Rapids signed the petition in September 2016, and wrote on the petition board about the "noise and danger" of the fireworks, and how it is "literally making people sick from lack of sleep and causing a great deal of anxiety in children."

In a conversation by phone, Broersma, whose son has partial hearing loss after an accident with fireworks in his early teens, explained that she has to comfort her cognitively impaired granddaughter, who gets anxiety when fireworks go off.

She said that it's not just on the Fourth of July that people are lighting fireworks.

"There were fireworks going off last night," she said. "I mean, it just happens all the time."

The petition, submitted by Brad Lang, ultimately calls for a "return to the time before 2011" and says that the change "is not worth the additional revenue."

But fireworks is big business in the state of Michigan. In the last three years, according to the state Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Department, there has been \$89.6 million in fireworks sales that probably would have gone to neighboring states if the law hadn't been passed. Those sales

have generated more than \$18.4 million in fees and tax revenues to the state since the bill went into effect in 2012.

The money and the fact that the Legislature has already tweaked the original law make significant change unlikely anytime soon.

"At this time, I don't have a tremendous amount of desire to make any changes," said Rep. Brandt Iden, R-Oshtemo Township, the chairman of the House Regulatory Reform Committee, where the House-sponsored fireworks bills have landed. "Down in my neck of the woods in Kalamazoo, I haven't heard from a lot of folks on this particular issue."

He understands that people in more densely populated areas have a different experience, so he may be open to some technical fixes to the law. "But just a total rewrite

of what we've done with fireworks, I'm not interested in doing that."

In the Senate, the bills have been relegated to the Government Operations Committee, where bills go to either die or get moved quickly. This year, it's more likely that the bills will die.

"I don't expect us to do anything with those bills. It was just a few years ago that we addressed the issue and tried to resolve it," said Amber McCann, spokeswoman for Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive. "There has been a tennis match on this issue, but we're not looking to revisit the issue right now."

Yanez and three other state lawmakers who have sponsored fireworks bills — Reps. Diana Farrington, R-Utica; Howrylak of Troy, and John Chirkun, D-Roseville — have written a

letter to Iden, urging the committee chair to hold hearings on the bills.

"With the upcoming holiday, and the effects that fireworks can have on some of our most valuable residents, seniors and veterans, across the state, we respectfully request that you take up these bills for further consideration," the letter stated.

Iden only promised one thing: Nothing will happen before the Fourth of July this year.

Absent action on the bills, Bieda has a more practical solution.

"Fireworks have always been a part of American tradition, but it's kind of rude to set off fireworks at 11 at night," he said. "Maybe it could be something as simple as a public service announcement. It's the law, but it's also rude."

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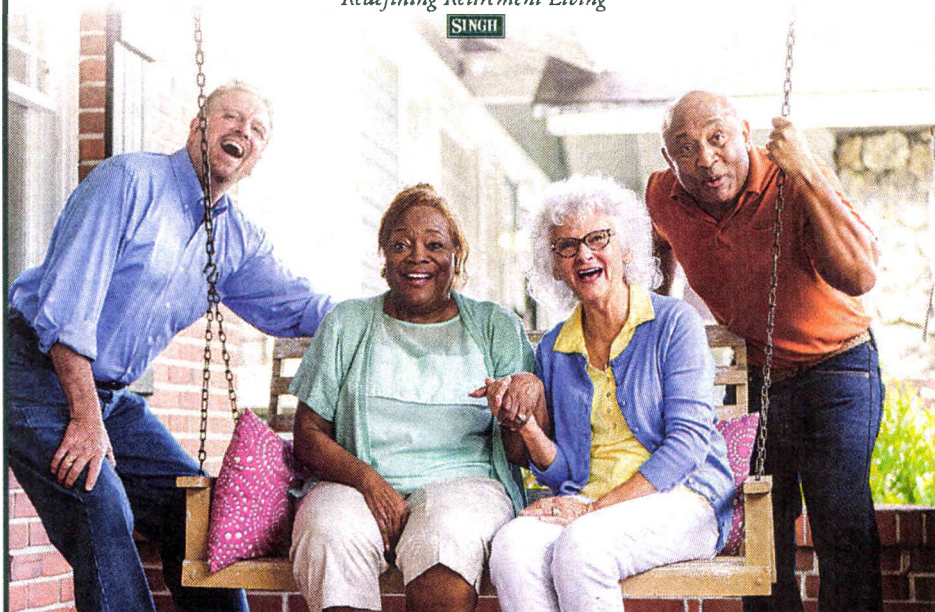
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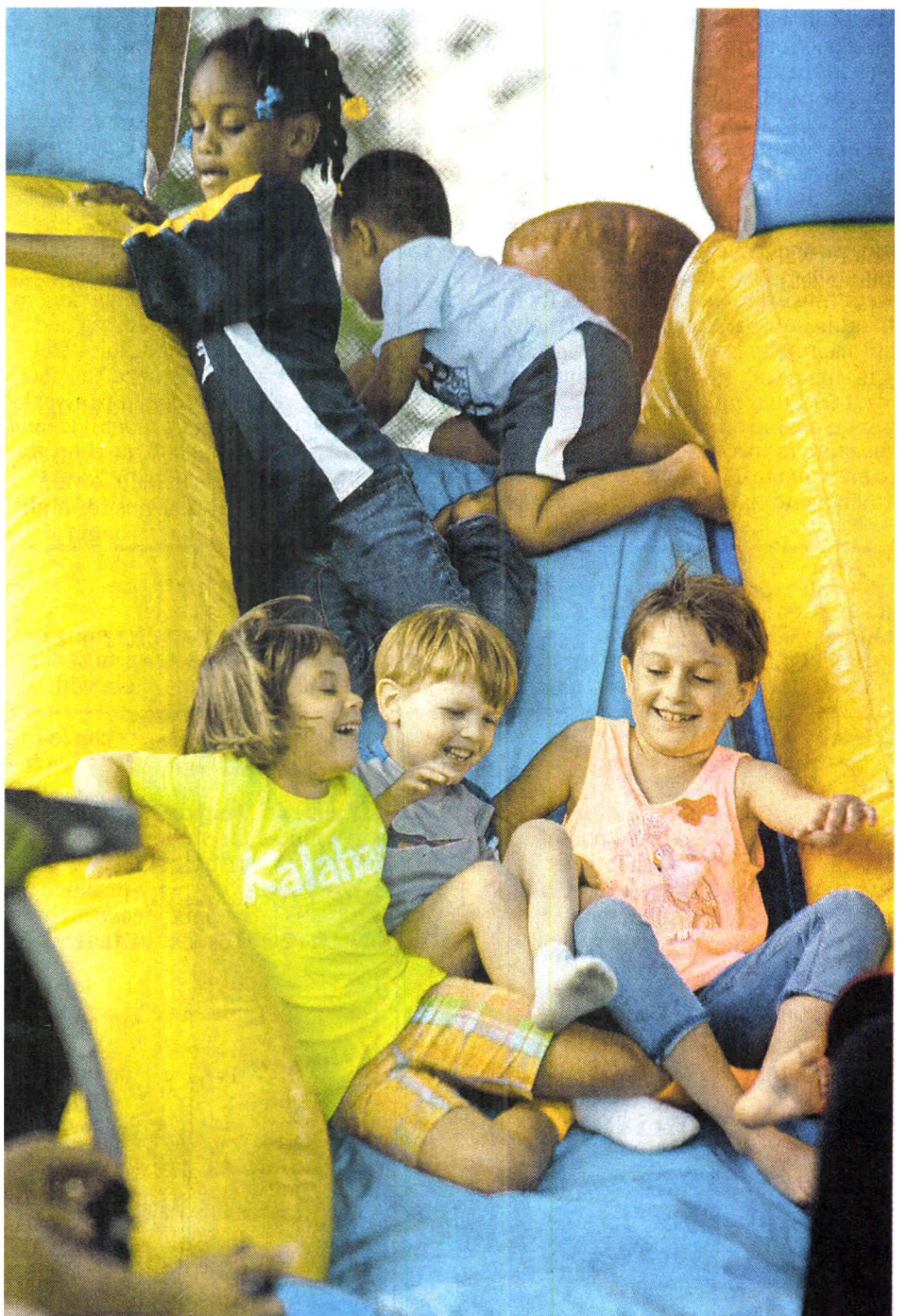
CURTIS DROGMILLER

There was plenty of sand at the beach party.



CURTIS DROGMILLER

A dunk tank was part of the fundraising effort at the 2017 beach party.



CURTIS DROGMILLER

Kids activities were a big part of the beach party, including this inflatable slide.



CURTIS DROGMILLER

Power Play Detroit headlined the entertainment.



A young, aspiring artist holds his work in his hands during a CCS class.

COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES



Students get instruction on their designs.

COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES

College for Creative Studies bringing design classes to Plymouth PARC

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Regarded as a leading art and design school, the Detroit-based College for Creative Studies is coming to Plymouth — a decision officials say raises the education bar in western Wayne County and boosts Plymouth's profile as an arts community.

This fall, CCS plans to offer 13 courses such as designing a dream car, web design, developing a strong portfolio and computer animation. The classes will be taught at the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex, or PARC.

"We are thrilled," said Jane Stewart, CCS director of pre-college and continuing studies. "We are on the moon with this one."

It marks the first time CCS has offered its courses on this scale away from its Detroit campus. By next winter, high school juniors and seniors can begin earning college credit for courses in foundation drawing, 2D design and fundamentals of imaging.

The project also brings an education anchor to PARC and raises Plymouth's profile as an arts community, potentially making it "the focal point for the arts in western Wayne County," PARC president Don Soenen said. "This is a game-changer."

A decision by CCS to lease three classrooms and an office at PARC, formerly Central Middle School, culminates talks that spanned nearly two years. Classes typically have no more than 15 students and, cumulatively, the courses per semester are expected to accommodate 150-200 students. Some are geared toward teens, some toward younger aspiring arts and still others toward adults.

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Monica Merritt said the classes will complement the local education community.

"Plymouth-Canton schools is excited about College for Creative Studies joining the P-CCS community by offering programming in the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex," she said. "We look forward to this partnership giving unique and valuable opportunities to P-CCS students and alumni."

Stewart said enrollment begins July 7 at <http://www.ccsclasses.com>. That coincides with plans by CCS to roll out details of its PARC offerings July 7-9 during Plymouth's Art in the Park, a weekend celebration of art in downtown Plymouth.

For that event, artist Sabrina Nelson, CCS admissions counselor, plans to create a mural that will end up at PARC. She plans to draw Plymouth landmarks, such as the Penn Theatre and the Kellogg Park fountain, on Masonite boards and allow art fair visitors to use water-based Crayola markers to color the mural, similar to a paint-by-numbers concept.

"It's like a big coloring book," Nelson said.

Soenen, meanwhile, said he believes having CCS at PARC could potentially have a "significant" economic impact by bringing prestige to the community and making it more attractive to new businesses. He also said property val-



Students practice their photography skills during a College for Creative Studies course.

COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES



A career in automotive design is among those students can pursue at CCS.

COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES

ues could benefit.

"It's a big deal," Soenen said of the CSS-PARC partnership.

Stewart said courses this fall will not offer college credit, but the following semester brings opportunities for high school juniors and seniors to begin earning college credit for select courses. Classes range in price.

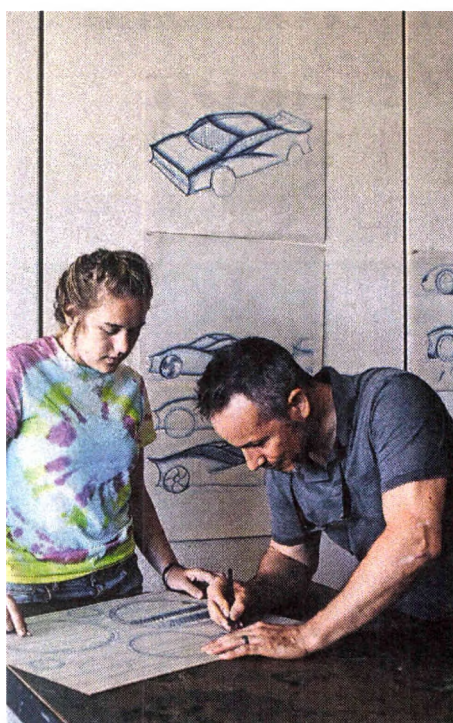
Among the fall offerings:

» A two-part course in designing a dream car guides students from sketching their ideas to creating them with clay.

» Photography enthusiasts can learn about digital cameras and how to photograph images.

» A figure drawing class will provide a live model for students looking to learn or improve their skills.

» Geared toward teens, a product design class is intended to teach students about a process that has been



Students and instructors work closely together in an automotive design class at the College for Creative Studies.

COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES

used to create real-life objects such as smart phones, sneakers and furniture.

» Young artists ages 8-13 can enroll in a cartooning course that teaches them to draw characters, while other classes are geared toward comic book art and computer animation.

CCS has initiated its PARC-based courses using a two-year grant from

the Dunning Foundation, created by the late Plymouth philanthropist Margaret Dunning. The amount hasn't been disclosed.

Going forward, Stewart said the goal is for CCS to generate the revenue it needs to support PARC courses.

"We're looking at this as a long-term partnership," she said. Moreover, CCS will be "working hard to become self-sustaining."

CCS is no stranger to lists of the nation's best art and design schools. In one ranking, LinkedIn named it the third best design school in the United States and the best in the Midwest. LinkedIn identified schools that have successfully launched graduates into desirable jobs.

Amy Armand, CCS director of recruitment, said the automotive industry, with its strong Detroit-area ties, is one career that CCS courses are geared toward. She said PARC-based classes give high school students from Plymouth, Canton, Northville and other communities a way to start pursuing such a career.

Students also may pursue scholarship opportunities with CCS. Stewart said 10 scholarships for \$2,000 each already have been offered this year, but students can apply again next March.

CCS currently has about 1,400 students and offers 12 undergraduate and four graduate programs. For more information, go to <http://www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu>.

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STILL WAITING

Family doing what they can to find missing Farmington Hills woman

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

Danielle Stislicki's friends and family all get them. Heck, even perfect strangers have been known to suffer them.

They're moments when the horror surrounding Danielle's disappearance seep into what they've been trying to make ordinary days, working or shopping or going to school.

The family calls them "Danielle gets into your head" moments, brief periods when rational thought is driven from the brain, replaced by the overwhelming and nearly omnipresent reality that Danielle has been missing for six months.

Six-month mark



Danielle Stislicki

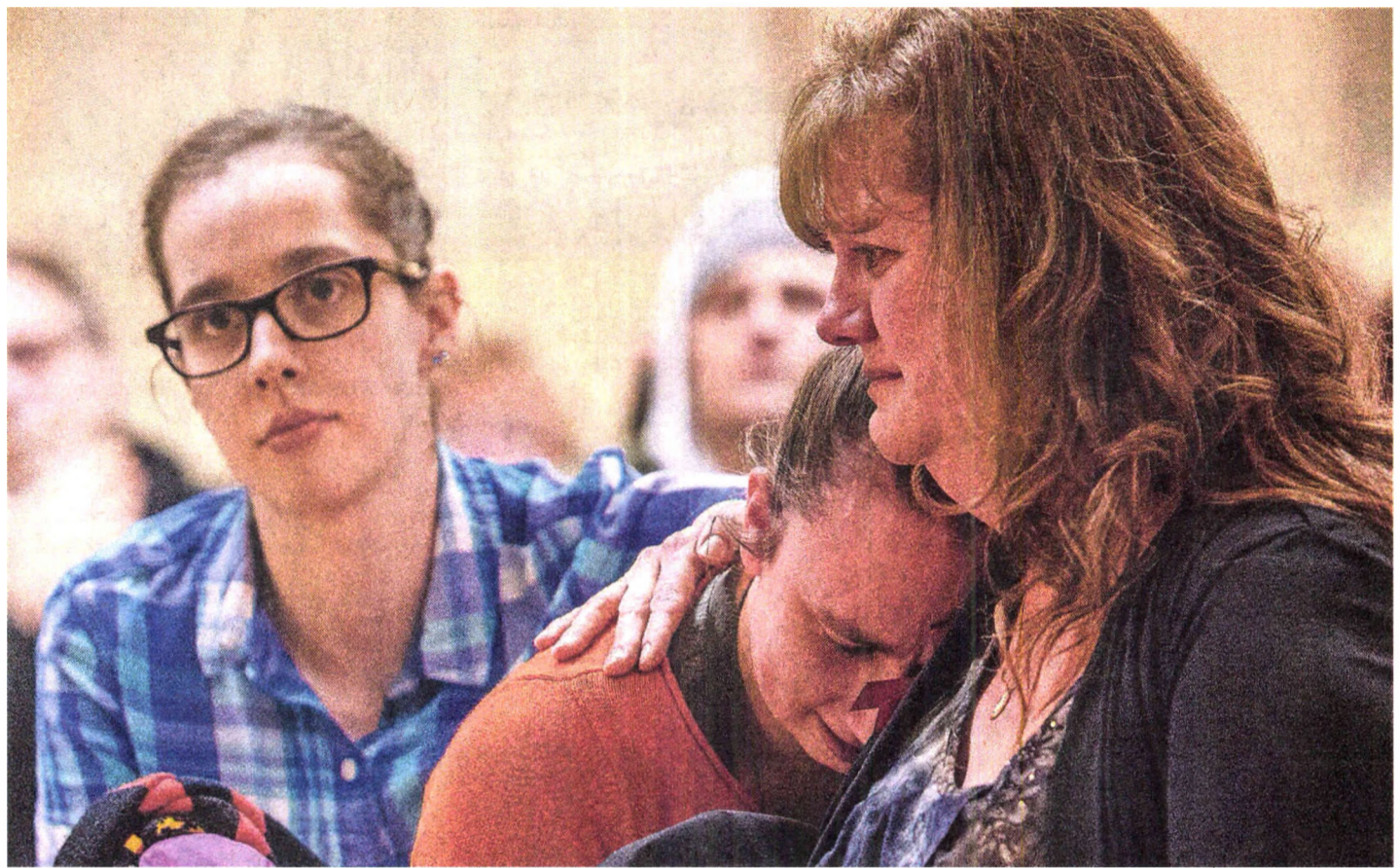
"We have our good days and we have our not-so-good days," said Ann Stislicki, Danielle's mother, who lives in Fowlerville. "You have those times ... you have that hope that when you close your eyes, you get to see her again, even if it's in a dream."

Her voice choked up. "It was tough at the six-month mark," she said.

That came June 2. Danielle has been missing since last being seen at the Met Life insurance office in Southfield, where she worked. Her car was found in her Farmington Hills apartment complex parking lot the next day, but Danielle hasn't been seen since.

Police have been working hard on the case. They collected evidence from the raid of a home in Berkley in December. Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck said the department continues to build a case and he's "confident" an arrest will be made.

Police are waiting on the crime lab analysis of all the evidence collected so far. Nebus won't name a suspect, though one name had been bandied about on social media, to the point where a woman was telling local media her brother-in-law was a suspect, though she didn't name him.



Ann Stislicki comforts daughter Jillian Stislicki at a vigil in Redford. Daughter Holley Stislicki is at left.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Progress coming

Nebus on Wednesday reiterated progress continues to be made.

"We ... believe this case will be solved," Nebus said. "One by one, the pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. There is nothing further we are prepared to release at this time, including any lab results."

While the family believes the Farmington Hills Police Department is doing all it can — "I understand the task they have at hand," Ann Stislicki said — they aren't simply waiting around. Family and friends have, from the beginning, coordinated a massive social media effort to get Dani's story out front — and keep it there — hoping someone, somewhere will know something.

A 'social' story

Stislicki's friends started a website and a Facebook page (which has nearly 45,000 people following it) to keep her story alive and help in the search for information related to her disappearance.

Dani's uncle, Chris Paliewicz of Shelby Township, set up the website, but admitted he "wasn't really sure" what he was doing. He got a lot of help from friends and some strangers. Considering some 16 million people have viewed the Facebook page, he must have done something right.

"I got a lot of help," Paliewicz said. "It's great to have all the people out there who care so much."

There are "#finddani" wristbands and buttons available. Links to both are on the Facebook page. Megyn Belmonte designed the buttons and sells them through her Etsy page.

In the beginning, people were asking for permission to put up fliers or hand out materials about the case. Paliewicz said that's not the case any more.

"The whole 'Finding Dani' movement has become sort of grassroots," he said. "People aren't asking permission anymore to put up flyers. They're just doing it."

Grassroots help

The popular thing right now is putting "#finddani" in car windows as a means of drawing attention to the case. All of those things are "talking points," Ann Stislicki said, designed to keep people talking about the case.

She said conversations have taken place in grocery store parking lots and other public avenues. Someone will spot the "#finddani" in the window and ask, "Is that the missing Farmington Hills girl?"

"They make it easier for people who have a hard time talking about it," she said. "It's about unity. It's a way of knowing you're not alone. We're all out here looking to find the answers."

Beth Guthrie is part of that grassroots effort. The longtime friend of Ann Stislicki's — she's known Ann for more than 20 years — felt like she "had to be" part of the support system for her friend.

Guthrie said her goal is to "do something productive" to advance Dani's story every day.

"Anytime someone is going through a crisis like this, building a support system is such a sense of peace to them, knowing they're not doing it on their own," Guthrie said. "Every day is a roller-coaster for them. They hold up as



BRAD KADRICH

The hashtag "#finddani" in car windows makes for a conversation starter that can keep Danielle Stislicki's story on people's minds.

best they can, but I'm sure it can't be easy."

Not just Dani

In addition to trying to keep Dani's story front and center, the Stislicki family has also been careful to point out she's not the only person missing. Richard Stislicki, in particular, has used platforms at a pair of vigils in Danielle's honor to point out that thousands of others are missing and deserve the same attention.

As it has been for Dani, social media has helped in some of those cases. Ann Stislicki pointed out that a couple of people have recently been found via social media.

"Rich always says it's not only about Danielle," Ann said. "It's a realization about how many missing there are. As we do this for Danielle, many of our Danielle followers are using social media for messages for other missing people."

Paliewicz, Dani's uncle who actually sang songs at both vigils held for her since her disappearance, said his family — and Dani's friends — are affected by the situation in different ways at different times.

"Sometimes it'll be a song or a saying that Danielle says, that triggers (memories)," Paliewicz said. "It eventually sinks in to everyone at many given points. We're holding up pretty well."

Nebus, the Farmington Hills Police chief, thinks they're holding up better than "pretty well."

"The Stislickis are a great family," Nebus said. "They are an inspiration to the detectives working on this case and we remain committed to seeking justice for Danielle and the Stislicki family."

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BRAD KADRICH

Chris Paliewicz, the uncle of missing Farmington Hills woman Danielle Stislicki, tags a car window with "#finddani."

From desk to stall: Milford woman trades former corporate life for her own horse boarding facility

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com

Vanessa Smith is living her dream, even though it sometimes involves shoveling manure.

The 28-year-old Milford woman started her own horse boarding and riding facility, Groveland Equestrian Center, two years ago in Ortonville after teaching riding lessons for 10 years in her spare time.

"I heard about this place and I jumped on it," said Smith, a former corporate marketing director. She switched careers when the investment company she worked for downsized and the opportunity to rent the riding facility fell into her lap.

"You start something and it's always more work than you anticipate," Smith said. "In the beginning, it was just me. I'd show up at 8 o'clock in the morning and wouldn't leave until 9 at night. I'd be hauling manure and hay bales and everything else wondering, 'Why did I do this?' But it got better once I got used to it."



Smith

Smith has renovated about half of the center, which includes a riding ring and stalls for 70 horses, along with an adjacent pasture. She opened the business with six horses, but now cares for 40 on-site. She also has two staff members and a dressage instructor. Four high school equestrian teams practice out of her barn, including Brandon High School team, which she co-coaches. She also teaches riding under the business name Punk Horse Training.

"It's definitely not a financial dream come true. The profit per stall is barely \$100. After I pay someone for labor, it's like \$50 a horse," said Smith, who claims she lost thousands of dollars her first year, but now is poised to break even.

"You're not going to get rich doing anything in the horse industry, but the emotional reward is worth it. It's hard work, but definitely worth it."

Reva and Amari

Smith also has rescued horses over the past year. One of four horses that had been left behind on foreclosed property gave birth a few days ago.



JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Kelly Weeks of Wixom visits with two horses, including Groot (right), in the pasture at Groveland Equestrian Center. Groot is another one of the riding center's rescue horses and, at a year and half old, is still growing and getting healthier.

Two 7-month-old fillies that were bound for the slaughter house got a second chance when Smith bought their way out of a kill lot in Louisiana last month.

On her GoFundMe page, she lists costs totaling \$2,900 paid to obtain the fillies and another \$1,290 in vet and dental costs, farrier work, supplements and quarantine care. She has raised \$620 of her \$3,500 goal.

"When I saw these foals were in the kill lot, I was heartbroken," she said. "I wish I could save them all."

She enlisted the help of friends to clean out stalls and create a quarantine area in the un-renovated portion of the barn. The foals, whom she dubbed Amari and Reva, arrived so underweight that their ribs and other bones were visible through their skin. They also had respiratory infections.

The foals were moved from quarantine a few weeks ago and continue to recover in separate stalls in the boarding facility. Smith is slowly building their weight and allows them to play in

the pasture a few hours daily, when no other horses are nearby. They may be ready for riders in another three years. Smith said she likely will keep one of the horses, but may try to re-home the other.

Young rider

Her first horse, Punk, whom she bought as a youngster, lives at the equestrian center. Smith started riding lessons at age 5 and began saving her pennies to buy a horse. When she raised \$1,000, her parents agreed to add the additional \$4,000 needed to buy Punk.

"She was at the barn where I was taking lessons. She's the cute black pony that every girl wanted and she was just a wild thing," Smith said. "I worked every weekend to work off her board. That was where a lot of my barn management experience came from."

Smith worked out of barns that drew only hunter/jumper riders and in a barn for western-style riders, but was intent on mingling the two when she opened

her own equestrian center.

Kelly Weeks of Wixom said she loves the diversity and variety of horses at Groveland. Weeks rides and helps out at the center.

"We do a lot of different things," Weeks said. "There's a group of us that drive up from that (Milford-Wixom) area. I'm here every day."

Horsing around

The center has offered workshops with guest trainers, camping trips, archery on horseback, soccer on horseback, cow sorting — a western-style event — barrel racing, jumping, dressage and extreme obstacle courses. Horseball, a mixture of rugby and basketball, has attracted both adults and teens.

"The first time we played horseball, we got a group of older ladies, 50-plus, that liked to trail ride. They came in and were the most ruthless group we'd ever seen," Smith said with a laugh. "So we do have variety."

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WOODHAVEN
AT HOME

Emagine theater project is now in jeopardy

Jennifer Eberbach
Livingston Daily

The CEO of a movie theater company that has been planning to build a new 11-screen movie theater in Hartland Township told Livingston County officials June 19 he was willing to scrap the plan if officials blocked the company's path toward getting tax breaks.

Which is exactly what they did. In a 5-4 vote, the Livingston County Board of Commissioners rejected the township's request to establish a commercial rehabilitation district on 7.5 acres off M-59 near Meijer, which would have allowed Emagine Entertainment to apply for a seven-year tax abatement.

Emagine Entertainment CEO Paul Glantz had told county officials that he wouldn't want to scrap the plan to build the theater in Hartland, but it could be the best option for the company.

Glantz said someone asked him what he would do if the company were not to get a tax abatement.

"I said to him very truthfully ... I'm going to have to put my thinking cap on, and I've thought about it a lot since that conversation. And I must tell you, I do not want to pursue the single best idea in my mind, which is to consider another community," he said.

William Gershenson, vice president of Ramco-Gershenson, a property investment company that has invested about \$37.5 million since 2006 in developing the Hartland Towne Square shopping plaza, where the movie theater would be built, told county officials he is concerned about what will happen should the movie theater deal fall through.

The movie theater would attract "other retailers and other types of restaurants and potentially hotels," Gershenson said. "And I will tell you the interest we've had since the public announcement of Emagine has been very aggressive. ... If not Emagine, we are very concerned about the prospects and the opportunities for this piece of dirt at this important intersection going forward."

Emagine Entertainment had been planning to break ground this summer on a new \$15 million 11-screen movie theater. The 10 movie screens and an IMAX-style screen was expected to open next spring. The company has also applied for appropriate licenses to serve beer, wine and cocktails at the theater.



RENDERING COURTESY OF STUDIO 3 DESIGN
An architectural rendering shows what an Emagine Entertainment movie theater planned for Hartland Township would look like.

The tax break district and seven-year abatement would have saved Emagine Entertainment an estimated \$438,000 over seven years. The company would have still paid over \$130,000 a year in taxes on the land and personal property. The tax abatement would have been for the building itself.

After seven years of abatement, the movie theater would pay "almost \$200,000 a year," according to township estimates, Hartland Township Manager James Wickman said, adding that the \$15 million movie theater construction project would be "one of the single largest private investments in the township."

Debate over tax breaks

Most of the 18 county residents and business owners who shared opinions during the public comments portion of Monday's board meeting were in favor of allowing the township to establish the tax break district for the movie theater.

Owner of nearby Hartland Town

Center shopping center Michael Yurick told county officials letting the movie theater go would be a "financial mistake."

"As landlords in Hartland Township, we learned a long time ago that if you let something go it takes you years to fill that empty space," he said. "The Emagine theater is going to come in here, and they are probably going to drag in millions of dollars of tax revenues on their coattails," by attracting other businesses, he said.

Handy Township resident Chuck Wright was against creating the tax break district for the movie theater.

"That money could be better spent on the entire county. And I don't think government at any level should be picking winners or losers. If there is money left over in the funds for abatement, that money should be returned to all the taxpayers in the county, businesses and citizens," Wright said.

County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Carol Griffith said tax abatement "is a business tool" and "nothing

new," and she told her fellow commissioners to rely on Hartland Township officials' judgement when they decided to approve creating a tax break district for the movie theater.

Griffith was one of the four commissioners who voted in favor of the tax break district. The others were Kate Lawrence, Dennis Dolan and Gary Childs.

Commissioner David Domas said the county should have a say, in part because countywide tax levies such as those for veteran's and EMS would be abated.

Domas was among the five commissioners who voted against the tax break district. The others were commissioners Robert Bezotte, William Green, Donald Parker and Douglas Helzerman.

"It's important because these millages that we are talking about don't just affect the township and people in that township. They affect people throughout the entire county," Domas said.



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SUBMITTED
Authors join sponsor Dr. William Demray (front center, kneeling) on stage for recognition.

Short on Words essay contest winners announced

The Short on Words author reception was held June 16 at Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall. Short on Words is the literature arm of Northville's Arts & Acts Festival. This year was the sixth edition of the writing competition. Preservation Dental, the office of Dr. William Demray, is sponsor of Short on Words. There are two age categories, Young Authors (ages 17 and younger) and Adult Authors (ages 18 and older). Authors are invited to write a poem or short story (1,500 words or less) about a select photo from Demray's personal collection. The event has raised more than \$500 for the Northville Art House and has awarded more than \$2,000 in cash awards to aspiring authors of all ages.

This year, there were 65 entries from 25 different communities throughout southeast Michigan, including Brighton, Canton, Clarkston, Davisburg, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Farmington Hills, Gibraltar, Grosse Pointe Woods, Highland, Howell, Livonia, Milford, Northville, Novi, Oakland Township, Oxford, Plymouth, Rochester Hills, South Lyon, Webberville, West Bloomfield, Westland, White Lake and Whitmore Lake. There were 15 returning authors and 41 new authors.

The evening's program began in Genitti's Little Theater with readings from nine different authors. The stories included a tale about the memories of a son, working beside his "pop" building a bridge; a woman giving up the glitter of the runway for a life with

purpose; and a short sweet poem about how everything looks a little different after sipping tea with hint of brandy.

The event ended with the awards. Honorable mention in the Young Authors category went to Jessica Jasinski of Highland, Kate Dewan of South Lyon and Abby Rutila of White Lake; in the Adult Author category to Diana Radomski of Novi, Terri Schleuder of Novi and Jeremy Schultz of Westland. The Judge's Choice Awards went to young authors Robert Crawford of Farmington Hills, Katie Howard of Plymouth, Sophia Miller of Davisburg and Alex Wagner of Livonia; and to adult authors Karen Hamp of Whitmore Lake and Fred Karr of Brighton.

Grand prize cash award winners were: first place, Young Author - Maggie Kuban of Northville; first place, Adult Author - M. D. Taverner of Novi; second place, Young Author - Caleb Holm of Rochester Hills; second place, Adult Author - Joan Runkel of Webberville; third place, Young Author - Laine Johnson of Milford; third place, Adult Author - Karolynn Pargo of Dearborn Heights.

The sixth edition Short on Words entries were compiled into two books this year, one for each category. Authors were given a copy of the book. Both books will be available online for review at preservationdental.com in July. There will be a call for entries in the seventh edition of Short on Words in February 2018.

I am an American We are One Nation

PROVIDING A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Couple offer students from Asia opportunity to meet, practice English

CHRISTIAN VOSLER
USA TODAY NETWORK

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

TK Mac was once one of them — a young person in a new country, struggling with the language and the culture.

Now, the engineer and his wife, Beth, a nurse, are providing a home away from home in the Pacific Northwest for dozens of young people from Asian countries through an “English Corner” fellowship they founded.

“They need somebody, someplace to go, a place they can trust,” said TK Mac, who himself immigrated to the United States from China as a refugee.

The Macs had been involved in the Asian community for several years in their hometown of Silverdale, Washington, but decided to start English Corner after hosting a Chinese New Year dinner for college students. They saw needs that went beyond what support services at schools or their church could offer. Now the family’s Friday nights are spent playing charades or cards with community college students to practice English skills and develop social connections in a country that can feel lonely. During the week, the social connection deepens, and the Macs will help schedule dentist appointments, give advice on cooking meals or push the students to finish homework.

While the group is informed by their Christian faith, Mac’s passion is to give international students a place to relax and interact with people from other cultures. Students from China, Vietnam, Korea, India and Japan attend every week. Social connections can be an obstacle even among the foreign students themselves as cliques develop. English Corner is a place for anyone, and it’s intended to tear down those walls for a



LARRY STEAGALL/USA TODAY NETWORK
TK Mac of Silverdale, Washington, with his wife, Beth, organizes a weekly “English Corner” fellowship for students from Asia in the Pacific Northwest.

group of people who need to offer support for one another.

“They’re great,” TK Mac said. “They try really hard to make everyone good together.”

TK Mac

Location: Silverdale, Washington

Age: 57

Profession: Engineer

Mission: Giving foreign students a welcoming community in the United States.

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

Q&A WITH TK MAC

What does it mean to you to be an American?

Being an American means that I live in the “land of the free.” This freedom has been won by those who have sacrificed their lives to protect our country and the Constitution. Being an American means that I have vast opportunities that offer the possibility of a great future.

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

It was about two years ago when I met a few Asian students attending Olympic College. Meeting these students, and hearing about many others like them, reminded me of when I first came to America. When I came to this country over 30 years ago, I was lonely and in culture shock. I was unable to speak the language, unfamiliar with the food and climate.

What gives you hope?

My new faith in Christ gives me hope. I am very thankful to live in a country where I can express my freedom of religion.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

My hope is that every student that comes to English Corner fellowship (will have) an opportunity to practice ... their English language, make American friends and learn about the American freedom, culture, belief and its traditions. My hope is that when these students return home to their country, they will take what they have learned with them, and it will broaden their perspective.

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Orphaned fawn gets to walk again

A tiny fawn, abandoned on the side of the road in Belleville, was lucky a good Samaritan found him.

Though fawns often appear abandoned, their mom almost always returns after several hours with food. Not so with this little guy. A gentleman from Belleville patiently waited eight hours and, when no adult deer returned, he took the baby home, hoping to raise it as a pet.

"He had great intentions but, fortunately, a friend of his talked him out of it," said Jan Zuidveld, rescue officer at the Humane Society of Huron Valley. "Most people don't know it's not only illegal, but also wild animals don't make good pets, either."

"We're happy to help him find a cat or dog," Zuidveld added with a smile.

HSHV helped transfer the fawn to Help 4 Wildlife, a wildlife rehabilitation organization in Washtenaw County, where it was discovered that the fawn had deformed front legs.

"That's probably why he was left behind," said Karen O'Connor, a DNR-licensed wildlife rehabilitator. "I suspect he was unable to follow his mom because his front legs were 'bent' outward from his knee joint."

O'Connor took the fawn to Dr. Tom Maves at Village Animal Clinic, who confirmed the deformity with X-rays, and created specially made splints for him. The splints are checked bi-weekly as the buck grows.

"He's doing great. He has learned to



This fawn, with help from the Humane Society of Huron Valley, has a new lease on life.

walk very well and is the little king around here," O'Connor said with a laugh.

If all goes as expected, the braces will be removed this week and, after several weeks of practice walking, the buck will be released slowly, with the option to return if he's unable to acclimate.

Interested in helping wildlife? HSHV depends upon volunteer wildlife rehabilitators like those at Help 4 Wildlife to help save hundreds of injured and orphaned wildlife each year. Volunteers say it's rewarding work. To find out more, go to info@help4wildlife.com.

For more information on HSHV, go to hshv.org.

Michigan Philharmonic offers free summer concerts

The regular concert season may have ended, but the Michigan Philharmonic will be celebrating all summer long with six free music concerts performances throughout southeast Michigan.

The first of the summer series takes place at 7 p.m. Saturday, July 1, in downtown Plymouth at Kellogg Park. Thousands come to enjoy this annual patriotic concert, which honors veterans and features music from great American composers such as Gershwin, Bernstein and Quincy Jones, along with perennial favorites from John Phillip Sousa and ending with the triumphant "1812 Overture."

The next set of concerts will be performed throughout the Huron Clinton Metroparks, partnering with the parks to celebrate their 75th anniversary. The orchestra will help the Metroparks celebrate their past and their future with concerts that include the terrific score from the film "Back to the Future."

Kensington Metropark was the first park to open to the public in 1946 – and the first Michigan Philharmonic concert celebration will be Saturday, July 15, at Kensington. This will be the fifth year the Michigan Phil will perform at the park with a concert featuring movie music and more. The Michigan Phil concert takes place on Maple Beach and starts at 7:30 p.m., but come early and enjoy all the amenities the park has to offer.

The second Metroparks concert



Conductor Nan Washburn and the Michigan Phil will play a series of free concerts.

takes place 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22, at Lake St. Clair Metropark.

If you are in Oakland County, come enjoy a concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 29, at Stoney Creek Metropark.

The last of the Metropark concert series takes place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at Lake Erie Metropark.

Another great opportunity to hear the Michigan Phil will be at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, July 23, when the orchestra will perform "Movie Music Magic" for the grand opening of Detroit's newest urban park, the DTE Beacon Park, located just in front of the DTE headquarters on Grand River. The Michigan Philharmonic concert performance ends with the "Back to the Future Suite" and concert-goers will be treated to a special outdoor showing of that terrific movie following the concert!

For information on the Michigan Philharmonic and all these concerts and activities, go to www.michiganphil.org, call 734-451-2112 or go to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Kellogg's distribution center to close, 211 being laid off

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Kellogg Company's distribution center in Lyon Township will close this summer, laying off 211 employees.

The facility at 30204 Research Drive is one of 40 distribution centers being closed across the country by the Battle Creek-based cereal and

snack company. More than 1,000 people are expected to be laid off by the moves.

In February, Kellogg's announced changes in its snack sales and distribution, moving from distribution centers to a warehouse system. The change comes as part of a cost-cutting plan as the company has seen falling sales.

"In February, Kellogg announced it will begin to exit its direct store delivery network in the second quarter, transitioning the DSD-distributed portion of the company's U.S. Snacks business to the warehouse model already used by Pringles and the rest of its North American business," a Kellogg's spokesperson said. "The new model will be

transformational for Kellogg, reducing complexity and cost structure while driving growth and profitability for the company and its retail partners. While this is the right move for the company to achieve our long-term objectives, it was a difficult decision because of its impact on employees."

For employees at the

New Hudson distribution center, most will work their last day between July 29 and Aug. 11. That's according to the federal Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification filed by the company.

An unspecified number of other employees — snacks retail execution staff — will finish working Aug. 4-17. Most of those employees were

described as not working physically at the distribution center.

Some of the employees are represented by Teamsters Local 337 and any bumping rules would be followed, according to the notice filed by the company.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
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Meet the girl who never missed a day of school

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Meet Olivia Elby, the girl who never missed a day of school.

From her first day of kindergarten at Kenbrook Elementary School to her final hour at North Farmington High School, Elby somehow managed to make it to class each and every day.

"You're talking 13 years of perfect attendance," North Farmington Principal Joe Greene said. "It would have been easy to throw in the towel at some point, but she stuck with it."

For those keeping track, that's around 2,340 days of perfect attendance. And she earned good grades!

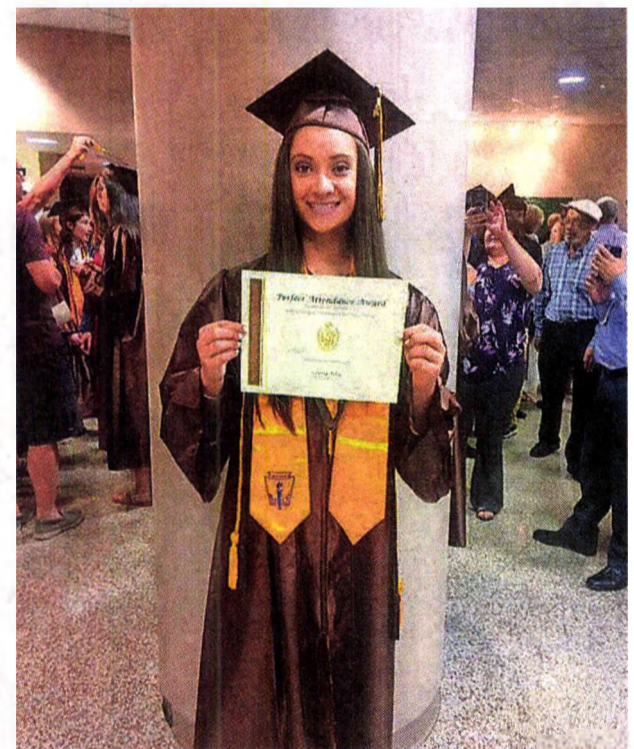
Elby, 18, said she practically waltzed through elementary school without realizing she hadn't missed a day of school. The dog never ate her homework. Her family was never abducted by aliens.

"I think it was in seventh grade that I kind of knew in the back of my head that I hadn't missed a day of school," Elby said. "At that point, I wanted to keep the streak going."

Oh, sure, there was the occasional head cold or upset stomach. Days of gorgeous weather where the classroom seemed so ... confining. Didn't stop her.

"I'd tell myself, 'It's only one day, you can do this ...' and I'd make it to school," she said. "I got really sick twice, but both times it was in the summer, so I was lucky."

High school was a challenge, given all the distractions — especially



Olivia Elby is one of the few students in the country to never miss a day of school.



Olivia Elby earned a Perfect Attendance Award for her rare achievement.

on senior skip day.

"I was the only student in a couple of my classes that day," she said. "It was just me and the teacher."

But she made it and was honored at the end of the school year with a special certificate for her rare achievement. Starting in the fall, she plans to study law and play soccer at the University

of Detroit Mercy, where she'll attend on an athletic and academic scholarship.

Asked what lessons she learned from all her years of perfect attendance, Elby said, "I think it shows a lot about my integrity. I'm a responsible person. You know you can count on me to be there."

Greene said in all his years as an educator, he's heard of maybe one or two students with perfect attendance records.

"She set a goal and she achieved it," he said. "She's an amazing young lady and she's well-prepared for the challenges that lie ahead of her."

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586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Ezell Robinson Jr. reels in his catch.

VETS GET A CHANCE TO BUILD FISH TALES

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

When U.S. Army veteran Ezell Robinson Jr. caught his third fish in about a half-hour, he smiled, chuckled and calmly threw it back in.

No rush. Plenty of time to catch more.

Robinson, who served in the U.S. Army from 1979-88, was one of two dozen veterans from the Michigan Veterans Foundation of Detroit on a field trip June 12 to Founders Sports Park in Farmington Hills.

The group was on the fishing pier at Founders Sports Park as part of a Farmington Hills Nature Center initiative,

Learn How to Fish, a program nature center officials wanted to create as a way to enhance the lives of veterans and, mostly, to thank them.

Robinson was grateful.

"I was excited to come," said Robinson, who counted bases in Korea and Panama among his duty stations. "It's a chance to fish, to be outdoors doing something. It gives us something to do that's constructive."

While the day's event focused on veterans from the MVF in Detroit, organizers hope to expand it to include other veterans groups in the future.

The day included plenty of fishing, with poles and bait provided by the nature center, and lunch.

"What we'd like to do is promote this

to more veterans groups, to give as many vets as possible a chance to enjoy this," nature center programmer Carol Fink said.

Not everyone was successful. MVF case manager Regina Thompson was largely donating worms while she was out there, before finally landing a fish.

She didn't care — "They kept stealing my worms," she said of the fish — because the veterans about whom she cares were having fun.

"They love these outings," Thompson said. "It gives them a sense of belonging, makes them feel important, because it's about them."

Marian Belaire, a member of the board of directors for MVF, said outings like Monday's are good for the

vets, who don't usually find places to fish in downtown Detroit.

Outings like this one, she said, have a "healing" effect on veterans.

"These veterans need to know people care," Belaire said. "When they get invited to things like this, they know people care about them."

Fink said the reason for the program was simple: The veterans deserve it.

"These men deserve to have a chance to relax and have some fun," Fink said. "They fought for our country. They're the ones who made something like this possible."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich



Rudy Sotelo, James Nowak and Lawrence Rivers stay cool in the shade.



Edmoun Spears and Ezell Robinson Jr. bait their hooks.



Henry Bell readies his fishing gear for a morning on the water.



Ellen Rentola from the VFW, Carol Fink from the Nature Center, Regina Thompson from Michigan Veterans Foundation and Marian Belaire, in pursuit of the wily bluegill.



INSIA DARIWALA

Social activist Insia Dariwala, an international filmmaker and children's advocate who lives in Mumbai, said there's been "tremendous" backlash from her religious community in India for speaking out against female circumcision.

A backlash on speaking out against mutilation

Tresa Baldas
Detroit Free Press

When Alifya (Ally) Sulemanji first disclosed on Facebook that she opposed female genital cutting, she got unfriended by a handful of women in her religious community.

But the backlash got worse.

Now, says the New York activist, some women at her mosque won't talk to her or look at her. And even those who support her views, she says, ignore her at religious gatherings out of fear of being shunned themselves.

Sulemanji is not alone.

In the wake of the federal government's historic female genital mutilation investigation

in metro Detroit involving the Dawoodi Bohra, a small Indian Muslim sect, advocates seeking to end genital cutting say they are getting backlash like never before from fellow members of their sect for speaking out against the practice.

The backlash has largely occurred on social media where, advocates say, they've come under attack by a fledgling overseas group of Bohra women who are fighting to keep what they call female circumcision legal in India.

In recent weeks, a group called the Dawoodi Bohra Women for Religious Freedom has launched campaigns on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook, seeking to preserve female circum-

cision in India, calling it a religious rite of passage.

"We have been demonized and misunderstood and absent from the narrative that involves us for far too long," the Dawoodi Bohra group wrote in an email to the Detroit Free Press. "Our organization was formed as a spontaneous coming together in reaction to the sustained negativity about us. We want to tell you our side of the story."

The group maintains it does not condone female genital mutilation and that it only practices a form of female circumcision that involves no cutting — just a minor nick of the clitoral hood.

'This is nonsense'

Advocates working to end genital mutilation,

including some Bohra women who underwent the procedure as young girls, dispute that it involves a minor nick.

They say the Bohras have launched a hate campaign on those who disagree with them or speak out against them.

For example, according to activists, the Bohra group is telling its followers to put a thumbs-down on certain YouTube videos that feature genital mutilation survivors talking about their ordeals and condemning the practice. The goal, activists say, is to get so many negative reviews of the video that YouTube will take the videos down.

Similar tactics occurred on Instagram, where anti-female genital mutilation posts were getting inundated with negative comments by those supporting female circumcision.

Some Bohra activists say their families are also getting ostracized by the religious community and pressured into tell-

ing their daughters to stop denouncing female circumcision — also known as "khafz" or "khatna."

"We've always had backlash, but the intensity of it really increased in the last couple of weeks," said Mariya Taher, a Massachusetts activist and vocal opponent of female genital mutilation. "Some (Bohras) were really angry that we were speaking out about this."

Taher, a Bohra who was subjected to genital mutilation when she was 7 during a vacation in India, is co-founder of a group called Sahiyo, which means "friend" in Bohra Gujarati. The group's mission is to end female genital cutting and empower women in the Bohra community and in Asia.

Taher believes Sahiyo in particular has come under attack by the Bohra community, citing a new hashtag that has cropped up on the Internet: #Sahiyoisnotmyvoice and Instagram

images that depict that hashtag. One of Sahiyo's cofounders in India also was advised by a cousin not to go to mosque because people were unhappy with her views.

"We started getting inundated with messages from people who supported them and angry women claiming that we are putting a bad face on this, that we're really not Bohras," Taher said.

Taher, however, is not giving up her fight to end female genital mutilation in any form — be it cutting, shaving or nicking.

"This is violence. This is wrong," said Taher, who can't fathom why her faith can't see that. "It's still shocking because to me it makes common sense. ... I'm trying to do what I feel is right. And so getting attacked like that is — I don't know — it makes me stop and wonder. ... but I know it's worth it."

She also stressed: "Our intention has never been to put a bad name

See BACKLASH, Page A17

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY RESPONSE FEE ORDINANCE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees will be considering adoption of the proposed Public Safety Emergency Response Fee Ordinance at their Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 20, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. at the Northville Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168. This amendment was introduced at the Board of Trustee meeting of June 15, 2017.

The proposed Ordinance will include:

Section 1: The Northville Township Department of Public Safety shall initiate service fees for the delivery of Northville Township Department of Public Safety services, personnel, supplies and equipment to the scene of motor vehicle crashes. The rate of the service fees shall be that which is the usual, customary and reasonable costs, which includes any services, personnel, supplies and equipment and may vary based on the actual costs of the individual accident.

Section 2: The service fees shall be charged to the responsible parties or "at-fault" driver, jointly and severally. Fees shall be initially filed with the responsible parties' motor vehicle insurances, representing an add-on cost of the claim for negligent driving and for damages of the vehicles, property and/or injuries. The claim costs shall be filed with the insurance company of the owner of a vehicle, owner of property, or other responsible parties. The township shall be entitled to pursue any other remedy or may institute any appropriate action or proceeding in a court of competent jurisdiction as permitted by law to collect assessable costs from a responsible party, including expenses, costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred to collect those cost. The recovery of charges imposed under this ordinance does not limit liability of responsible parties under any other local ordinance, or State or Federal law, rules or regulations.

Section 3: The Northville Township Board of Trustees may make rules and regulations, and from time-to-time may amend, revoke or add rules and regulations, relating to this section as they may deem necessary or expedient in respect to billing for these fees of the collections thereof.

Section 4: All amounts collected as a result of this Ordinance shall be placed into a Public Safety Fund as established by the Northville Township Board of Trustees.

Section 5: It is found and determined that all formal actions of the Northville Township Board of Trustees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in open meetings of the Northville Township Board of Trustees and that all deliberations of the Northville Township Board of Trustees and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in compliance with all legal requirements, and the Codified Ordinances of the Township of Northville, County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

Section 6: Should any provision or part of this ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remainder of this ordinance.

A copy of the full Ordinance and amendment can be viewed during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Township Clerk, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville Michigan 48168.

Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.
Clerk

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-0000123823 3x7.5

SYNOPSIS JUNE 15, 2017 – REGULAR MEETING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, June 15, 2017

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor Richard Allen, Trustee
Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Symantha Heath, Trustee
Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer Mindy Herrmann, Trustee
Fred Shadko, Trustee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

1. Agendas:

- A. Regular Amended Agenda and the Consent Agenda items – Approved
2. Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements:
 - A. Kimberly Winnik – Ethics Board Reappointment – Approved
 - B. Jim Tishkowski – Ethics Board Reappointment – Approved
 - C. MTA Resolution – Approved

3. Public Hearing: None

4. Brief Public Comments: One resident had a question or comment for the Board of Trustees.

5. New Business:

- A. Planning – Heritage Park Active Adult Community PUD – Approved
- B. MTA Annual Dues – Approved
- C. Temporary Sign Request – Seventh Day Adventist Church – Approved
- D. Temporary Sign Request – Country Garden Club – Approved

6. Unfinished Business: None

7. Ordinances:

- A. Amendments to §67-42, 43, 44 & 45 – Fireworks – Approved
- B. Amendments to §79-2, 5 & 6 – Fire Prevention – Approved
- C. Public Safety Emergency Response Fee Ordinance – Introduced

8. Check Registry:

- A. In the amount of \$ 1,841,955.76 for the period of 5-6-17 to 6-2-17 – Approved

9. Board Communication & Reports:

- A. Robert R. Nix, II, Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie Banner, Richard Allen, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Snider

10. Any other business for the Board of Trustees: None

11. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

A draft of the minutes will be available June 27, 2017.

Respectfully submitted:
Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-0000123833 3x8

BACKLASH

Continued from Page A16

on the community, but to end a harmful practice and to bring it out to the public from its secretive nature."

Sulemanji, who was subjected to genital mutilation when she was 7, is also frustrated by the push back in her religious community. She's especially outraged by the claims that there's no cutting.

"I went to the doctor and got myself checked," she said. "And she said that they did cut the top of the clitoris."

"They can say whatever they want, but this is what it is," Sulemanji said. "They literally cut ... I don't believe this is scraping of skin — this is cutting the hood of the clitoris."

And even if it is just scraping, she said, that's wrong, too.

"Why do you want to scrape?" she said. "All the little girls around the world who are not (Bohra) ... their parents are not scraping their girls... This is just plain nonsense."

'We were judged and damned'

In the criminal case unfolding in Detroit, prosecutors have expressed concerns that the Farmington Hills mosque — where the local Dawoodi Bohra worship — is interfering with the investigation.

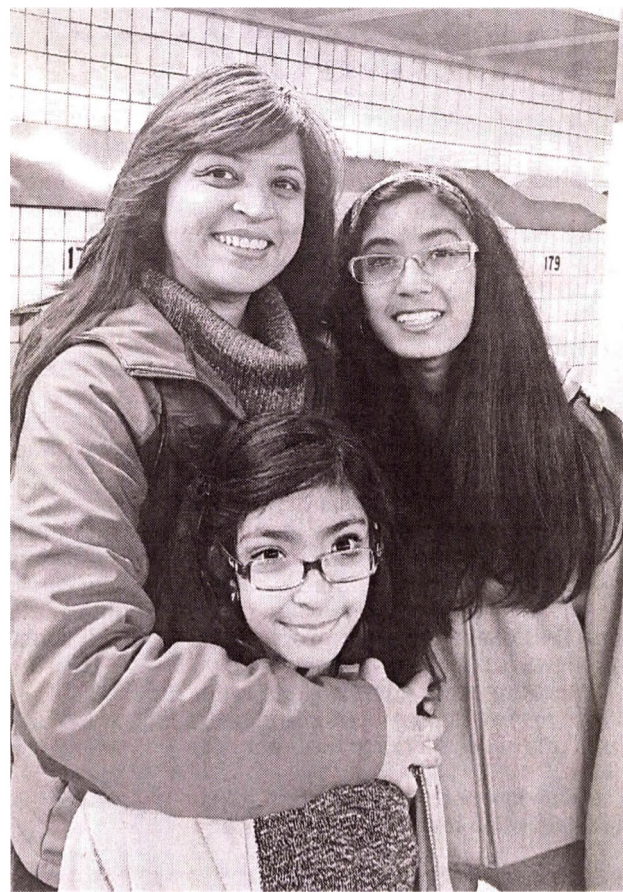
As Assistant U.S. Attorney Sara Woodward said during the arraignment early this month of a fourth defendant: "We have concerns that obstructive conduct has taken place at the mosque."

But the organization that oversees the local mosque has repeatedly said that it does not condone its members violating any U.S. law and that it has issued a directive instructing members not to engage in any practice that could be construed as genital mutilation.

"It is an important rule of the Dawoodi Bohras that we respect the laws of the land, wherever we live," the group, known as Anjuman-e-Najmi Detroit, has stated. "This is precisely what we have done for several generations in America. It is unfortunate if anyone has not abided by the laws of the country."

Despite these words of caution, the group, however, stops short of condemning female circumcision as practiced by Bohras.

In the metro Detroit case, six Bohra members — including two doctors, a physician's wife and two mothers — are charged with subjecting



Alifya Sulemanji

several young girls in some fashion to genital mutilation procedures. So far, the government has identified six minor victims: four from metro Detroit; two from Minnesota. Federal prosecutors believe the chief suspect in the case, Dr. Jumana Nagarwala, 44, of Northville, may have performed the procedure on up to 100 young girls over the past dozen years.

It is the first such prosecution in the U.S., though the Bohras were the focus of a 2015 mutilation prosecution in Australia.

A movement also is underway in India's Supreme Court to criminalize all versions of female genital mutilation, even the ceremonial nick practiced by the Bohra.

The Bohras are fighting back, claiming the anti-genital mutilation movement is putting a bad face on its religion and mischaracterizes female circumcision as practiced by the sect. Their procedure, they maintain, is extremely minor, not harmful and involves only a nicking of the clitoral hood. They say it's not done to suppress a woman's sexuality, but as a requirement for purity.

"We hope that the U.S. understands that 'khafz' is not FGM," the Dawoodi Bohra Women for Religious Freedom said in its letter to the Free Press. "It does not mutilate, it does not harm. Our faith would never advocate anything that harms. 'Khafz' is far less invasive than male circumcision that is legal in the U.S."

But four Bohra women now living in the U.S., who each said that they had their clitorises cut

when they were 7 years old, described the procedure in interviews with the Free Press as painful, horrifying, cruel and "a form of gender violence and child abuse."

The group also denies attacking Bohra members who have spoken out against the religious practice.

"We have not heard of anyone in the U.S. or anywhere else come under attack," the group said.

The Bohra organization, however, said it does take issue with Sahiyo's approach to ending genital mutilation, stating: "What we find wrong with their approach is that they have attempted to discredit the community, and especially its leadership and have shamed the community's women."

Moreover, the group claims: "We were judged and damned and portrayed as child abusers and archaic religious zealots. (Sahiyo) might say that they meant no harm but cause harm they did. ... Our garb marked us out, and we felt persecuted, vulnerable and stripped."

Bohra women typically dress in a hooded waist-length cape and a long skirt with colorful embroidery.

The group also insists it is opposed to female genital mutilation.

"'Khafz' is not FGM," the group said. "And we live peaceful productive lives as Dawoodi Bohras do — causing neither ourselves nor anyone else any harm. Then the Sahiyo burst upon the scene in a flurry of sensational media reports that clearly targeted Dawoodi Bohra women accusing them of FGM, while ironically claiming



ELAINE CROMIE | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Dr. Fakhruddin S. Attar has an office at the Burhani Medical Clinic building in Livonia. The clinic is where prosecutors say the medical cutting of young girls took place.

to speak for them. We were shocked to find ourselves in the eye of a storm. We were relentlessly bombarded with one-sided articles in most major papers in India that were often accompanied by lurid graphics — like women wearing (traditional garb) holding a blade dripping with blood or bloody surgical instruments."

Why the secrecy? "We are Muslim women. The veil assures our privacy. Obviously, any discussion of our genitals is going to be private. There is no great sinister conspiracy about this as seems to imply," the group states, adding the open discussion by critics about "our most private body parts, is for us, unforgivable."

Girls were 'publicly shamed'

According to social activist and child advocate Insia Dariwala, an award-winning international filmmaker who lives in Mumbai and is a member of the Bohra faith, the Detroit case put the community on high alert.

As the movement to end genital mutilation gained momentum and the case made international headlines, she said, the Bohras in India sprang into damage control to protect their image and launched a full-on attack on whoever spoke out against female circumcision.

"The backlash was

tremendous. We were trolled on social media. Our personal lives were attacked. Our loyalty to the faith was questioned. And on a more personal level, young girls known to me were publicly shamed," Dariwala wrote in an email to the Free Press. "Their parents were humiliated and also threatened with ostracism when they spoke up for us. The families were traumatized."

But she's not backing down.

"Naturally, it was upsetting for me, but I chose to vent my feelings in an article," said Dariwala, an advertising graduate of the prestigious Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. "The backlash, in fact, reinstates our belief that we must be doing something right to make them feel so threatened."

However, she noted, the fight to end female genital mutilation in India appears to have hit a roadblock.

"Honestly, a lot has changed since the Detroit case happened. While in the beginning we were positive that something good was going to come out of it, today we are not so certain of that," Dariwala said.

According to Dariwala, the movement to ban genital mutilation in India seemed to gain momentum following a declaration last month by India's Women & Child Health Ministry that the

practice is illegal and should be banned in India. However, she said, the government official has since met with Bohra religious leaders and said the government has decided to handle this sensitive issue on its own.

"Needless to say, we are not very hopeful on the outcome of this promise now. There is serious doubt of any legal ban on FGM coming through in India, with the recent developments on the legal front," Dariwala said, noting pressure to preserve genital mutilation is coming from all over. "It's not the just the Bohra community in India, but from all over the world, who have come together to fight for their rights to practice their religious beliefs. Herein lies the biggest problem."

Dariwala is exasperated, arguing the Koran nowhere mentions female circumcision as a mandatory practice. She believes the Bohras are armored with misplaced religious beliefs and are afraid to question the practice and authorities.

"The faith of a community, or the rights of anyone practicing their religious beliefs, cannot rest on the genitals of a little girl," Dariwala said. "It's deplorable, no matter which religion you belong to."

She added: "We are saddened to see how women are rooting for other women to continue the suffering."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division, in conjunction with the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has applied for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to design and construct safe rooms within state parks. These safe rooms are associated with potential new toilet/shower buildings and park headquarters buildings which will provide shelter in the event of extreme weather events. Target parks include Maybury State Park, Interlochen State Park, Traverse City State Park, Ludington State Park, South Higgins Lake State Park, Wilson State Park, and Lakeport State Park.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), EO 11988 and EO 11990, public notice is required of any federal actions that affect floodplains or wetlands. All necessary permits will be obtained prior to construction and completion of the project.

The objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program are to prevent future losses of lives and property, to implement state or local Hazard Mitigation plans, to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during immediate recovery from disaster, and to provide funding for identified and approved hazard mitigation projects.

Public participation is encouraged. Interested parties and/or citizens are invited to comment on the project within 30 days either in writing to:

Nic Mueller, Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region V
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, IL 60605

Or comments may be directed via e-mail to Mr. Mueller:

Nicholas.Mueller@FEMA.dhs.gov

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-0000323584 3x4

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE §67-42, 43, 44 & 45 - FIREWORKS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees approved the adoption of amendments to Ordinance §67-42, 43, 44 & 45 (Fireworks) at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. at the Northville Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168.

The amendments bring the ordinance into compliance with current law regulating fireworks within the State of Michigan and provides clarity for the residents regarding the sale, display, storage, transportation and discharge of consumer grade fireworks within the Township boundaries in accordance with the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act, Public Act No. 256 of 2011 (MCL 28.451, et seq.) as amended.

The introduction of the amendment was approved at the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on May 18, 2017.

A copy of the full Ordinance and amendment can be viewed during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Township Clerk, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168 or on the township's website: www.twp.northville.mi.us.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Ordinance as passed by the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees at a Regular Meeting held at Township Hall on the 15th day of June, 2017.

Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C. Clerk

Introduced: 05-18-17

Second Reading: 06-15-17

Publish: 06-29-17

Effective: 06-29-17

Publish: June, 29, 2017

LO-0000323822 3x4.5

NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE

AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE §79-2, 5 and 6 - FIRE PREVENTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Charter Township of Northville Board of Trustees approved the adoption of amendments to Ordinance §79-2, 5 and 6 (Fire Prevention) at a Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. at the Northville Township Hall located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168.

The amendments include the adoption of the 2015 Fire Code and appendix chapters to ensure compliance with current safety standards.

The introduction of the amendment was approved at the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on May 18, 2017.

A copy of the full Ordinance and amendment can be viewed during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Township Clerk, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168 or on the township's website: www.twp.northville.mi.us.

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Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C. Clerk

Introduced: 05-18-17

Second Reading: 06-15-17

Publish: 06-29-17

Effective: 06-29-17

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-0000323819 3x4

Any buyout offer fraught with potential pitfalls

Ford Motor Co. has announced buyout offers for about 15,000 employees. The people eligible for the buyout have received materials from Ford detailing the terms of the offer. As opposed to reviewing the terms of the buyout offer, what I will do here is give you some thoughts to consider. These apply whether you are a Ford employee who has received an offer or you work for another company that offers a buyout.

The first thing that is important to understand in any of these buyouts is that it's not a cut and dry decision. I remember in the past that some auto company buyouts were so generous you had to take it. Those types of buyouts are long gone. In most of these buyout offers, I would label them as fair, but far from generous. The key is to always look at these plans from your own individual situation. Your goals for your future are what's important. Someone could be in your situation and the best option for them may be to accept the



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

buyout offer, while for you the best option may be to not accept it. The key to making the right decision is to focus on your situation and goals.

For those who are going to sit down with someone professionally to help make the decision, it is important to choose the right person. That isn't the one who has more initials by their name, but the one who will help you make the decision that's best for you. If you sit down with someone and they don't talk to you about your individual situation or goals, you know you're dealing with the wrong person. You also know you're dealing with the wrong person if they tell you everyone should do this or everyone should do that. As far as I'm concerned, just because everyone else

is doing something, doesn't mean I should.

In dealing with professionals, it is important to make sure they don't have any conflict of interest. Are they recommending you take a course of action because it's good for them or because it's good for you? Just like when you go to the doctor, you want to make sure that your doctor has your best interest at heart. The same thing applies to a professional who may help you make these decisions. I have mentioned many times that, when it comes to financial advisers, there potentially are many conflicts of interest you should be aware of. The most notable is commissions. It's important that when you seek professional advice, the professional you use is not a salesperson looking at generating more commissions, but a true professional whose only concern is making sure you make the right decision.

One last note: If you were thinking of accepting the Ford buyout (or any

buyout) and part of your game plan is to get another job, you should not automatically assume you'll be able to get a job paying the wages that you think. The older you are, the reality is that it's harder and harder to find employment. If part of your game plan is to get another job, it's a good idea to do some homework to find what jobs you would qualify for and what the chances of getting a job actually are. After all, you don't want any surprises.

The decision to accept the buyout is important and making the wrong decision can have severe consequences. Take your time, get all the information you can and don't let anyone talk you into anything that you're not comfortable with.

Good luck!

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Stach named to American Academy of Audiology board

The American Academy of Audiology announced that Brad Stach, Ph.D., has been selected to join the 2017 board of directors.

"We are delighted that Brad has agreed to join the academy board of directors," Executive Director Tanya Tolpegin said. "Brad's impressive background and experience will be a huge asset to our organization."

Stach holds a doctorate in audiology and bioacoustics from the Baylor College of Medicine; a

master's in audiology from Vanderbilt University; and a bachelor's degree in communication disorders from New Mexico State University. He is head of the division of audiology at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

Stach said, "I am honored to have been elected to this position and look forward to working with the Academy to continue advocating for the highest standard of hearing care, professionalism and scholarship."

Stach resides in Northville. The board of directors of the American Academy of Audiology serves as the academy's governing body and custodian of the academy's investments. Each member of

the board assumes the responsibility to initiate and establish policies governing the academy and to maintain a fiduciary responsibility over the financial affairs of the academy. Go to www.audiology.org for more information.

Firehouse Subs opens in Novi

Firehouse Subs announced the grand opening of its first Novi restaurant at 48955 Grand River Ave. under the ownership of Michigan native and brand area representative John Kupiec.

Founded by former firefighting brothers, the new Novi restaurant décor reflects the founding family's decades of fire and police service. It boasts a custom, hand-painted mural showcasing the birthplace of the Novi Special engine, an American dual overhead cam supercharged V8 engine used in the Indianapolis 500. Pictured in the painting are Indianapolis greats Andy Granatelli, Jim Hurtubise, Bobby Unser and Tony Bettenhausen. In the background stands the infamous water tower in Novi, depicting the Novi Special engine. Local firefighter memorabilia from the city of Novi, Wixom, South Lyon and Walled Lake fire departments is also displayed, a unique characteristic to each Firehouse Subs location.

The Novi Firehouse Subs restaurant is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.



The Firehouse Subs shop in Novi features a unique mural painted just for this location.

each day and will house the brand's first operating drive-through location in Michigan. This is the second restaurant for Kupiec, who also owns a location in Brighton.

The mural in the Novi location is the work of chief mural artist Joe Puskas and his team. They paint every mural from his studio at Firehouse Subs headquarters in Jacksonville, Fla. Since the opening of the first Firehouse Subs in 1994, Puskas has painted more than 1,075 murals.

In 2005, Firehouse Subs created the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation® with the mission of providing funding, life-saving equipment and educational opportunities to first responders and public safety organizations. Many first responders make do with older equipment and

have limited or no access to needed resources. The 501(c)3 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has given more than \$25 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada. Each restaurant recycles leftover, five-gallon pickle buckets, available to guests for a \$2 donation to the foundation. Donation canisters on register counters explain the nonprofit's mission and collect spare change, while the Round Up Program allows guests to "round up" their bill to the nearest dollar. All funds raised benefit the foundation.

MY SALON Suite opens location in Northville

MY SALON Suite, the nation's leading upscale salon suite franchise, announced the opening of a new location in Northville, 133 W. Main Street in Northville Square Mall. The new MY SA-

LON Suite location includes a collection of private, spacious suites for beauty professionals.

The location spans more than 4,000 square feet with 24 individual suites. Guests who visit MY SALON Suite are treated to the latest hair and related salon services.

This is the first MY SALON Suite location in Northville for local resident Alpesh Trivedi, who will be managing the daily operations. With his proven success and growth within the beauty industry, Trivedi will use his communication and management skills to recruit and lease suites to salon professionals, who MY SALON Suite refers to as its members. Members are provided with proactive building maintenance and support with business development, among other services.

More information for stylists interested in leasing a suite at the MY

SALON Suite in Northville is available online at <http://www.mysalonsuite.com/northville.html> or by calling 248-590-0677.

Vlasic & Roth, LLC, opens in Northville

The latest business to open its doors in downtown Northville is Vlasic & Roth, LLC, 108 N. Center Street, Suite 201.

Vlasic & Roth, LLC, specializes in strategic planning, organizational change implementations and crisis mitigation for health care organizations and technology companies. The company's process delivers solutions to the most critical challenges faced by organizations, enabling senior leadership to access best-in-class talent and strategies.

Vlasic & Roth, LLC, is owned and operated by Mike Roth and Jeff Vlasic. Roth has worked in health care technology consulting for more than 22 years, most recently selling a health care focused IT company with a national footprint located in Southfield. Vlasic is an emergency physician at Hurley Hospital, trained at U-M Medical School and has been involved in multiple businesses as well.

For more information, go to www.VlasicRoth.com or follow them on Twitter at @VlasicRothLLC.

Tata Technologies gets big investment

Tata Technologies, the global engineering services company headquartered in Novi, recently announced New

See BRIEFS, Page A19

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - PUBLIC HEARING JULY 19, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has scheduled a public hearing for Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Northville Township Municipal Office Building, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI. The ZBA will consider the following variance requests to Chapter 170, Zoning Ordinance:

- Article 31.5.B.(2), Fences (Height and Solid Fence), for a residence at 46625 Stratford Court (Parcel ID#77-015-01-0024-000).
- Article 18.1.I., Schedule of Regulations Limiting Height, Bulk, Density and Area by Land Use (Front Yard Setback), for a residence at 42071 Sutters Lane (Parcel ID#77-053-04-0223-000).
- Article 31.2.A., Fences (Swimming Pool Fence in Front Yard), for a residence at 19755 Clement Road (Parcel ID#77-016-01-0017-303).

Written comments regarding these requests will be received by the ZBA at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168. The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M.

Paul Slatin, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000022818 3x3 5

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE Advertisement for AUDIO VISUAL REFRESH PROJECT

Sealed Bids will be received by the Clerk's Department, Second Floor, Northville Township Hall, on or before 2:00 P.M. Thursday, July 27th, 2017.

The Township hereby solicits bids to upgrade the audio visual systems at Township Hall, including the installation of equipment in the Community Room, Lower Level Training Room, East Conference Room, and Manager's Conference Room in an amount not to exceed \$45,000. Information on existing equipment, system expectations, and room layouts are available on the Northville Township website at www.twp.northville.mi.us/RFP along with all bid documents that can also be obtained from the Clerk's Department, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan. A mandatory pre-bid walkthrough is scheduled to begin promptly at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, July 18th, 2017.

Any further information may be obtained from the Township Information Technology Director, Mr. Shaun Nicoloff, (248) 662-0496. Questions regarding the project shall be brought to the attention of the Director, Northville Township Information Technology Department, via email to snicoloff@twp.northville.mi.us. Questions will not be accepted after Friday, July 21, 2017 by 12:00 pm.

Sue A. Hillebrand
Clerk

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000022847 3x3

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI **TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PROPOSED CITY OF NOVI 2016 MASTER PLAN FOR LAND USE UPDATE.** Such hearing is being held pursuant to requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act, Public Act 33 of 2008.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

For more information please visit: <http://cityofnovi.org/Government/City-Services/Community-Development/Codes,-Ordinances-and-Master-Plan/Master-Plan-for-Land-Use-Review-2016.aspx> or contact the Planning Division at 248-347-0475.

Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000022808 3x3

CITY OF NORTHVILLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE 4:00 P.M. ON JULY 25, 2017

In accordance with PA 44 of 2010 and PA 276 of 2012, all city level candidate filing deadlines are governed under State law. The Public Acts supersede the City of Northville's Code of Ordinances and City Charter deadlines for filing for local office. As such, the Code of Ordinances and City Charter's language pertaining to the deadline to file nominating petitions for Mayor and City Council is no longer applicable.

Per Michigan election law amendments, the non-partisan candidate filing deadline for the November 7, 2017 election (no primary) is 4:00 p.m., July 25, 2017. Candidate packets are available at the Office of the City Clerk, City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300, during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday.

POSTED: June 15, 2017

DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish: June 15, 2017

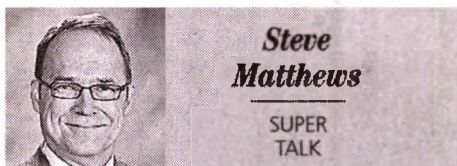
LO-0000322756 LO-00002

School year provided students chances to shine

Time flies. Another school year has come and gone. As we look forward to the 2017-18 school year, it is appropriate to reflect back on the 2016-17 school year.

We started the 2016-17 school year by formally dedicating our new Early Childhood Education Center. This new facility provides age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate educational opportunities for children ages 3-5. While the facility itself is grand, the best part of the building is that staff who work there. Our early childhood staff, now located primarily in this one facility, serves our youngest students in an exceptional way.

Early in the fall, we also learned that 19 Novi High School students qualified as National Merit semifinalists. Approximately 1.6 million students begin the process of qualifying to be a National Merit Scholar. Only the top 16,000 students nationwide qualify. Novi High School was well-represented by 19



Steve Matthews
SUPER TALK

amazing students. In fall 2016, the Michigan Department of Education released academic growth scores for all districts in the state of Michigan. The academic growth of students in Novi was among the highest in the state. This growth is realized because of the support we receive from our parents, our outstanding teachers and, most importantly, the drive and curiosity of our students.

Over the course of the 2016-17 school year, our Novi athletic teams also performed well. We had a state championship volleyball team for the second year in a row. Our girls golf team finished second in the state. Our boys cross country team finished fourth in the state. Our boys soccer team made

the state semifinals. Our boys and girls basketball teams and our girls soccer team all won a district title. Our girls and boys tennis teams both qualified for the state tournament.

In the arts, our Novi High School marching band finished in fourth place in the state championship. Our one-act play finished as the state runner-up in its competition. Our high school wind ensemble was invited to perform at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids. Our bands, orchestras, choirs and students earned high marks in their solo and ensemble festivals.

By any measure, Novi is successful. We have high test scores. We provide a robust curriculum that includes experiences in art, music, physical education and the media center at every level. We have award winners in a variety of academic and fine art competitions. We have National Merit semifinalists and finalists every year. We provide Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs that challenge

our students and prepare them to be successful.

We have students compete and win at the state and national levels in Quiz Bowl, DECA and other student clubs and organizations. Our student clubs participate in trips across the globe, broadening our students' experience and helping them prepare to be successful in the world that they will step into.

The Novi Community School District is an amazing place. Each school year, we continue to provide opportunities for our students to shine. As this school year ends, I look forward to the next school year. I can't wait for the positive and exciting experiences that I will continue to have in the Novi Community School District.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at smatthews@novischools.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter was divisive

The Beloved Community and the Plymouth Canton Interfaith Community Outreach are compelled to respond to Leo Weber's recent letter published by the Observer. As our communities and our country continue to grow more diverse, the hatred expressed in Mr. Weber's letter attempts to push people toward divisiveness rather than the inclusiveness and respect we each deserve as individuals and community members.

Mr. Weber's letter reveals a deep lack of understanding regarding Islam and the many Muslim members of our collective communities. In fact, we both were formed out of a commitment by community members to challenge assumptions and fear that arise when we are exposed to people we perceive as different from us.

As community organizations committed to educating and organizing against hate and oppression based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion or culture, we recognize that our communities benefit from our rich diversity. Statements attributing violence and hatred to Muslim people cannot go unanswered. Hatred and ignorance weaken our whole community. To leave such statements unchallenged would be to fail to stand with our fellow community members in solidarity and as allies.

"When you really know somebody you can't hate them. Or maybe it's just that you can't really know them until you stop hating them." - Orson Scott Card

To that end, we invite him to become more familiar with the richly diverse members of our communities by attending a community coffee hour

Thursday, June 29, 6 p.m. at Sweetwaters Coffee and Tea. We welcome engagement and questions. Please come and get to know us as individuals and community members before writing another letter.

Regarding the publishing of the letter, we are concerned the Observer would choose to print a letter which has seemingly no purpose other than to spew hate and division among our communities. While we are sensitive to the Observer's commitment to free speech, this was a letter to the editor. Certainly, news media receive many letters and select from among those letters which to publish. Here, the letter selected added no value to community dialogue and lacked a perspective beyond demeaning and vilifying a specific part of our community based solely on a twisted and uninformed understanding of their religion. The choice to publish a letter so lacking in substance and full of misinformation, does not encourage those of us who look to the Observer to provide important, substantive and unbiased information about our communities, to continue to support the Observer through our individual subscriptions.

The Beloved Community and
The Plymouth Canton
Interfaith Community Outreach (ICO)

Keep vigilant

Wake up, citizens and media personnel. Trump with his Trumpsters are still involved with reality TV. They are masters of manipulating and managing the news, driving the process and narrative with lies. Trump, especially, thrives on chaos as well as disorder. He and his cohorts divert our attention from Russian involvement in the November 2016

election, the Republican health care bill, and more.

Our senators and representatives want to be yes persons to save their own jobs, they neglect to address the serious problems in the U.S. Nothing constructive is being done to improve infrastructures, the environment plus the primary concern, economic problems. Many Republicans still believe in the trickle down theory to address job and wage growth. Democrats believe in the bottom up approach.

As citizens, we must be aware of biases in all forms of media concerning the serious issues in our democracy. We should be active participants in choosing who represents us on all levels of government. Onward to 2018.

Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

On immigration

It's bad out there right now. There are calls for closing the border and refusing all immigrants.

It is true that many have taken advantage with the H1-B Visa system which was intended, for what, I do not know. We have the finest universities in the world so I am at a loss to understand the imminent threat of 'brain-drain' on our nation.

Some folks took advantage of our porous borders with Mexico and Canada to just walk right in and get to work. This is understandable in many ways. It hasn't been made clear for more than 50 years as to what someone is supposed to do when they get here.

In the past they arrived, paid fees, got checked up, had to register for work.

Kindness pays dividends that war does not.

The strong man is not an aggressor but a protector.

The sound of freedom is the sound of a coffee cup placed gently on the kitchen table.

It is the sound of a page turning in a book.

It is the sound of children playing together.

The sound of people working together.

Many immigrants are doing all the right things. They have also decided to leave their home country behind because of horrendous things that happened to them and they earnestly wish to spare their families from. They do this because they know those horrible things don't happen here.

So, are the people that come here and work and learn English and become American my enemies?

Alfred Brock

Wayne

Thank you

Friends of the Lyon Township Public Library and LTPL would like to thank all those who helped make Family Fun Day such a tremendous success. A special thank you goes out to Oakland County Parks and Recreation, Troy Powe from Wonder Jump, McDonald's (New Hudson), the Lyon Township Fire Department, Mike's Garden and all the volunteers who donated their time.

A good time was had by all! Families enjoyed inflatables, planting flowers, bubbles, face painting, refreshments, crafts and so much more. We so appreciate the support we get from our patrons and community!

Friends of the Lyon
Township Public Library

BRIEFS

Continued from Page A18

York City-based private equity firm Warburg Pincus has agreed to invest \$360 million for 43-percent equity stake in Tata Technologies. With a core business in engineering and technol-

ogy service for automotive, aerospace and industrial heavy machinery manufactures, Tata Technologies provides high-value product manufacturing engineering service at cost-effective rates through a balanced onshore-offshore delivery network spread through 23 countries and 16 dedicated engineering

facilities.

County board to host workshop Aug. 9

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners, in partnership with the Oakland County Department of Economic Development & Community Affairs and Purchasing,

will present a business workshop for local business owners and entrepreneurs at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 9. The event is free and will take place in the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center at 2100 Pontiac Lake Road (Building 41W) in Waterford. The program is de-

signed to provide business owners, entrepreneurs, vendors, suppliers and contractors, with information about the many free business services and resources the county offers. Attendees can learn how to become a registered vendor with Oakland County, access the One Stop Shop Business Center's many re-

sources, explore business financing options and connect with Oakland County Michigan Works! offices. Oakland County Commissioners Janet Jackson, Michael Spisz and Gary R. McGillivray will host the event, which will also feature a Q&A session and tabletop exhibits.

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

2017 CITY OF NORTHVILLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES, DUE JULY 1, 2017, WILL BE PAYABLE WITHOUT PENALTY TO THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE FROM JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2017.

Taxes may be paid by mail, addressed to City of Northville, PO Box 674505, Detroit, Michigan, 48267-4505, in person at the City Clerk's Office, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., or via internet. Tax information, including payment status, will be available online as of July 1, 2017 at www.ci.northville.mi.us.

Forms of payment accepted will be cash, check, money order, and credit card. Please note if paying by credit card there will be a fee of 3% with a minimum of \$2.

On September 1st, 2017 a two percent (2%) penalty will be added, plus an additional 1/2 of 1% interest per month beginning October 1st, 2017. All payments received after 4:30 p.m. August 31st, 2017, regardless of postmark, will be subject to penalty and interest.

City of Northville
Tax Department

Publish: 06/29/17

LO-000022805

3x3

CITY OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 06-05-17

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northville City Council has adopted **Ordinance No. 06-05-17** - an ordinance to amend Chapter 74 Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places, Article VI-Sidewalk Cafes and Outdoor Seating in the Code of Ordinances. The amendment modified Section 74-175(a) Operating Restrictions to allow all sidewalk cafes serving alcoholic beverages to operate during the hours of 10am until 1am Monday through Saturday (Saturday defined at 1am Sunday morning), and Sunday during the hours of 10am until 10pm. The previous ordinance language restricted Sunday operating hours to 12pm until 10pm.

The ordinance was introduced for first reading on June 5, 2017 and was adopted by the City Council on June 19, 2017. The ordinance shall become effective on June 30, 2017. The complete text of the ordinance is available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk, 215 W. Main St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or on the City's website at www.ci.northville.mi.us.

DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000022812

3x3

2017 CITY OF NOVI SUMMER PROPERTY TAXES

2017 CITY OF NOVI SUMMER PROPERTY TAX BILLS WILL BE MAILED BY JULY 1ST

If you have not received your property tax bill by July 15th, please contact the Treasurer's Department at 248-347-0440 and a copy will be mailed to you.

Payments must be received by the Treasurer's office on or before Thursday, August 31st, to avoid an automatic penalty.

For your convenience, there is a drop box located at the curb behind the Civic Center for tax/water and sewer payments. Payments will be accepted in the drop box until midnight Thursday, August 31st.

Property taxes/water and sewer payments can also be paid on-line at www.cityofnovi.org by credit card or electronic check (no fee charged for electronic check). Please be careful when entering your bank account/routing numbers; payments returned after the due date will be assessed a penalty.

Please contact the Treasurer's Office at (248) 347-0440 if you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance.

POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000021968

3x3

CITY OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF ENACTMENT ZONING ORDINANCE #05-15-17Z

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northville City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 05-15-17Z for the purpose of amending the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance. The Zoning Ordinance text amendment to Section 18.11.6 Lots Adjoining Alleys - eliminates the exception to lots adjoining alleys as found in Section 18.11.6 of the zoning ordinance. The previous ordinance language allowed a property owner whose lot adjoins an alley to add half of the alley area to their lot in applying lot area requirements. The adoption of Ordinance #05-15-17Z eliminates this exception.

The ordinance was introduced for first reading on May 15, 2017, and was adopted by the City Council on June 19, 2017. The ordinance shall become effective on July 7, 2017. The complete text of the ordinance amendment is available for public review at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Office of the City Clerk or the Building Department, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the City's website at www.ci.northville.mi.us.

BRENT STRONG, BUILDING OFFICIAL

DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Publish: June 29, 2017

LO-000022813

3x3

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STK #: 44358

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- Rear View Camera
- Only 26,418 miles

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Financing as low as
1.9% APR!*

2015 Lincoln MKC Select AWD



STK #: 43862

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- Bluetooth Connection
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2015 Lincoln MKC Select FWD



STK #: 43941

Certified!

- Bluetooth Connection
- Dual Airbags
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2015 Lincoln MKS Select AWD



STK #: 43956

Certified!

- Bluetooth Connection
- Climate Control
- Only 9,010 miles

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2014 Lincoln MKS Reserve AWD



STK #: 43957

Certified!

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- Rear View Camera
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\$21,995+

2014 Lincoln MKT EcoBoost AWD



STK #: 43959

Certified!

- Leather Seats
- Stability Control
- Only 36,837 miles

NOW ONLY
\$25,995+

2015 Lincoln MKS Reserve AWD



STK #: 43979

Certified!

- Rear View Camera
- Remote Engine Start
- Only 29,487 miles

NOW ONLY
\$22,995+

2014 Lincoln MKX Select FWD



STK #: 43986

Certified!

- Climate Control
- Keyless Entry
- Only 26,495 miles

NOW ONLY
\$23,995+

2015 Lincoln MKX Reserve AWD



STK #: 44017

Certified!

- Bluetooth Connection
- Satellite Radio
- Only 19,077 miles

NOW ONLY
\$28,995+

2015 Lincoln MKZ Select AWD



STK #: 44022

Certified!

- Bucket Seats
- Climate Control
- Only 28,186 miles

NOW ONLY
\$19,995+

2014 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid FWD



STK #: 44023

Certified!

- Keyless Entry
- Power Windows
- Only 31,171 miles

NOW ONLY
\$18,995+

2014 Lincoln MKZ Reserve AWD



STK #: 44024

Certified!

- Bluetooth Connection
- Satellite Radio
- Only 33,827 miles

NOW ONLY
\$19,995+

2014 Lincoln MKZ Reserve AWD



STK #: 44027

Certified!

- Keyless Entry
- Satellite Radio
- Only 52,965 miles

NOW ONLY
\$17,995+

2014 Lincoln Navigator Select 4WD



STK #: 44032

Certified!

- Bluetooth Connection
- Climate Control
- Only 48,759 miles

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STK #: 44076

Certified!

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\$29,995+



STK #: 43934

Certified!

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- 6-year / 100,000-mile comprehensive warranty coverage
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*Based on 5/2017 Total New Vehicle & Certified Pre-Owned Sales and Customer Satisfaction per Lincoln Sales Report. *As low as 0.9% APR for up to 48 months on select vehicles for qualified customers with Tier 0-1 approval through preferred finance source. Offer subject to change at any time. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Price does not include tax, title, license and dealer fees due at point of purchase. Inventory and pricing subject to change. See Varsity Lincoln for details. Offers end 6/30/17.

06/29/2017 NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

PREP BASEBALL

East-West all-stars soak up Comerica Park

Players, coaches all take home personal memories

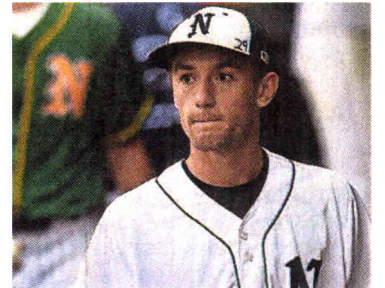
Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Grant Smith still has a lot of baseball left in his career, but he was already able to check off one thing on his personal bucket list June 20. And although the White

Lake Lakeland senior second baseman was on the losing end, 7-5, against the East, the opportunity to play in the 36th annual Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game at Comerica Park will resonate forever. "It was more than what I could ask for," said Smith, who got the start and went 0-for-2 at the plate. "This experience is once in a lifetime." Smith admitted to nerves, but those quickly dissipated. "At first there were some,

but as the game went on, it all went away," said Smith, who will continue his baseball career this summer with A Green before heading off to play at Northwood University. "It was just all having fun." The victorious East team featured area players Kolby Dewhirst (Livonia Franklin), Branden Posky (Livonia Stevenson), Kevin Morrissey (Northville) and Scott Combs (Dearborn Divine Child/Northville). Morrissey, just coming off

a Division 1 state runner-up finish with the Mustangs, entered the game at shortstop in the sixth inning and made an immediate impact when he drew a walk and scored on a double by East MVP Sam Cross (Grosse Pointe North) to make it 2-0. Morrissey, who helped Northville reach its first ever MHSAA Division 1 state final June 17 before losing to Saline, 5-2, followed with two singles,



JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Northville's Kevin Morrissey paces in the dugout between innings during the MSCBA All-Star Game at Comerica Park.

See ALL-STARs, Page B4

PREP BASEBALL



Kolby Dewhirst of Livonia Franklin throws a pitch from the Comerica Park mound during the MHSBCA East-West All-Star Game.

WENDY DEWHIRST

STARRY SENDOFF

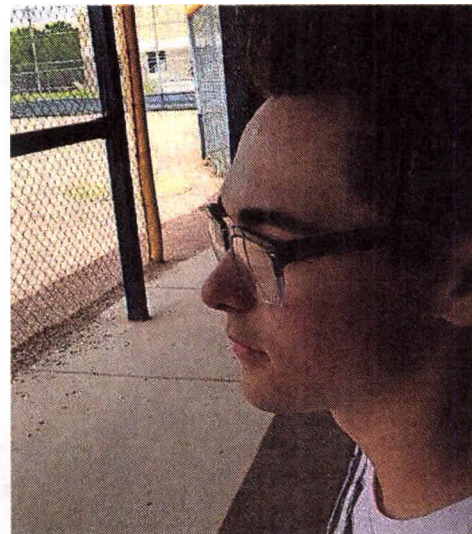
After Comerica Park stint caps stellar Franklin career, Dewhirst ready for Eastern Michigan chapter

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Just one night earlier, Kolby Dewhirst threw from the mound at Comerica Park during the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association East-West All-Star Game. He still had a smile on his face just thinking about throwing from the same slab that Justin Verlander does. Yet, as thrilled as the recent Livonia Franklin grad was about playing in the coveted game, he seemed more proud

about the legacy he built the past four years with the Patriots. The four-year varsity performer and co-captain — both in baseball and hockey — sat on a bench at Alumni Field and let his mind wander to all the times he graced the neatly manicured infield. "Obviously, going to Comerica was really cool," said the 17-year-old Dewhirst, who at the start of his senior year signed to play NCAA Division I baseball at Eastern Michigan University. "But I think I'm

See DEWHIRST, Page B4



TIM SMITH
Kolby Dewhirst reflects on his Livonia Franklin career while looking out at the Alumni Field diamond.

REC SPORTS

Novi Fantasy Football Camp a big hit

More than 80 participants turn out for fun-filled evening

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

The Novi Wildcats Fantasy Football Camp is rapidly becoming a real happening. Just ask the more than 80 children and young adults between the ages of 4-26 with physical or cognitive disabilities, along with their families, who participated in the second annual event June 19 at Wildcat Stadium. The free event was spearheaded by the Novi High football players and coaches, who also worked in conjunction with the Easter Seals' Miracle League of Michigan and the Detroit Sports Commission. Novi head coach Jeff Burnside set up six different stations for the participants to go through a simulated practice session, which included cone and bag drills to increase agility, while learning the basics about blocking, tackling, passing and catching. The campers also had the thrill of entering Wildcat Stadium through the same inflatable tunnel that the Novi players use to run onto the field each Friday night during the fall. Campers then finished the 90-minute session by demonstrating their own touchdown end zone and dance celebrations. Detroit Lions fifth-year punter Sam Martin and NFL free agent linebacker Brandon Chubb, who had practice squad stints last year with the Rams, 49ers and Lions, also took part. Members of the Livonia Stevenson football team also joined forces with their

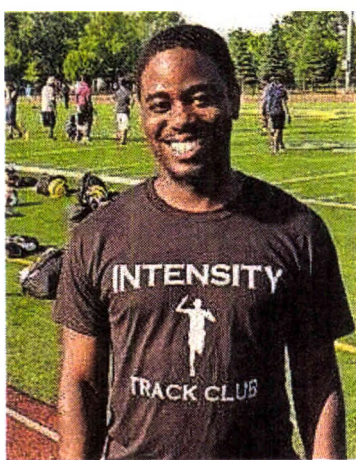
See CAMP, Page B2

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

They keep up the 'Intensity'

Area high school runners combine talents for Intensity Track Club, gear up for AAU meets

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com



TIM SMITH
The Intensity Track Club is based out of Wayne Memorial and is coached by Jamal Johnson.

Just because the school year is over doesn't mean track runners such as Brandon Smiley shut it down over the summer months. Smiley just finished his prep career at Livonia Franklin, but the standout sprinter was out on the track at Wayne Memorial High School with

his new teammates — those on the Intensity Track Club. Based at Wayne, under the guidance of Intensity coach Jamal Johnson (who also coaches the Zebras), the group of athletes from several KLAA schools works on shaving seconds and getting ready for the Amateur Athletic Union regional qualifier June 29 through July 2 at Detroit Renaissance High School.

"We're all in the same conference, so we all know each other," Smiley said. "Because it's a smaller team, it's more of a family. "The people you're working with, you've raced them before and so you know what they run, if they're faster than you or slower than you ... everybody's competitive, but in a

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BILL ROOSE | NCSO
NFL free agent Brandon Chubb (left) gets ready to take on a young tackler at the Novi Fantasy Football Camp.

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CAMP

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KLAA Central Division counterparts from Novi to work with the campers.

"It looked like everything came out really well," said Burnside, who worked alongside Chubb as they took turns getting tackled by campers. "It looks like the kids had fun. There was a rain shower in the middle but, hey, football is meant to be played in the rain. I saw a rainbow real briefly — that was good."

Novi junior middle linebacker Ryland Bennett partnered with 8-year-old Jonathan McSween, who attends Vandenberg Elementary in Southfield, going station-to-station during the various drills.

"I think it was amazing," Bennett said. "Such a great opportunity, not only for the kids, but for us. We're so fortunate to be able to play this great sport and such a great opportunity for these kids to come out and have a great time."

McSween, who has a form of muscular dystrophy, loves sports and counts Odell Beckham Jr., Steph Curry and LeBron James as his favorite athletes. He is currently playing Miracle League baseball.

"This is emotional for me, because he wants to play football," said Vivian McSween, Jonathan's mother. "And for me to just see him out here is just a blessing. I like the effort they made to put this together and the work of Easter Seals put in with the kids. They enjoy seeing the football players. They're passionate about being with the kids. I just think it's a good thing. They're thinking about doing a Miracle League football game, so I think that will be wonderful for him."

Jacob Louk, 21, of Farmington Hills, who has Fragile X syndrome, a genetic disorder, was attending his second Novi Fantasy Football Camp. He partnered this time with Stevenson lineman Brandon Plue, who will be a senior this fall.

"We were here last year also," said Andy Louk, Jacob's father. "Verbally, he's not that great, but he has a blast with it and once he figured out where we were and when we pulled back up, he was all for it again. He was yelling for the guys."

Louk is the team mascot and a big fan of both the Farmington Hills Harrison varsity football and North-Harrison (Flyers) hockey teams.

"He has a blast with them," Andy Louk said. "They take care of him and he takes care of them. It restores my faith in the next generation that the way they accepted him with all their programs and stuff."

South Lyon's Tyler Glaszek, 7, who has cerebral palsy, was a first-time participant.

"This is awesome," said Tyler's father, Tom Glaszek.

"Tyler likes to play sports and likes watching his (twin) brothers (Joshua and Owen) play baseball and football and to come out and do this with a lot of these great coaches and



Novi junior middle linebacker Ryland Bennett (right) partnered with Southfield's Jonathan McSween.

BRAD EMONS



Farmington Hills' Jacob Louk (left) found a new friend in Stevenson lineman Brandon Plue.

BRAD EMONS



Novi varsity football coach Jeff Burnside braces for the hit during a practice drill at the Novi Fantasy Football Camp.

BILL ROOSE | NCS

players is awesome.

"You see all the camaraderie and the high school kids do an awesome job. We did another one of these last year, Victory Day, in South Lyon. Seeing the high school kids warm up to these guys is really cool. They all learn a lot, take selfies with them and I think it's something that's a real education for them."

And if it was only for a day, Stevenson junior safety Hunter Satz was glad to team with the rival Novi players to volunteer his time.

"We really got them going and getting around the pads, kind of showing them what we do out there, too, so they got to

experience it themselves," Satz said. "It's a little different, but no hard feelings going on here. We're all friends here, all getting along and we're all OK. It's all one community."

Martin, the Lions' punter from Appalachian State, was invited to the event by WXYZ-TV (Channel 7) sportscaster Justin Rose.

"This is really neat. It's the first time I've obviously been to this one," Martin said. "This is amazing, just the way both teams came out from different high schools and collaborated. Every kid I saw today had a smile on their face, no matter what activity they were doing,

whether it was something as simple as throwing and catching a ball or going through a drill. Everybody had a good time. This is awesome. I think they should continue this for years to come."

Meanwhile, Burnside said the camp participants will be invited back to join the players and coaches on the field for the pregame national anthem and run through the inflatable tunnel for the Week 2 match-up between Novi and Stevenson.

"We live in a world where a lot of times it's about 'me, me, me' and I want our kids to start giving back to everybody else," Burnside said.

Burnside and Chubb, it seemed, had the most fun, getting tackled by the campers as they braced to get hit with their blocking pads.

"I was taking some punishment, but all in the name of fun," Chubb said. "These kids, to be able to tackle an NFL player or to be able to punt with an NFL player or play catch ... it means the world to them, so I'm just using my platform to give back. I'll take a little hit for their fun, so it's a good time."

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friendly way, so everyone wants to outwork each other."

Those finishing in the top eight per event at Renaissance will make the cut for the Eastern Michigan University-hosted AAU Junior Olympics, slated to take place July 29 through Aug. 5.

"I want to qualify for the Eastern JOs and I want to run under 21.8 (seconds) in the 200 dash," Smiley said. "And in the 100, I want to get a better time just for myself. I know I can run under 11, I know I can run 10. That's a goal for me, too."

Keeping things fresh

Running hard side-by-side during practice were Wayne Memorial distance runner Jon Boland and Franklin's Greg Thaxton.

"It's so I can get better with my running," Boland said about what prompted him to essentially extend his track season into June, July and August. "I would like to im-

prove my time as much as I can."

Boland competed during the high school season in the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs; some races are different in the AAU, he'll run the 1,500, for example.

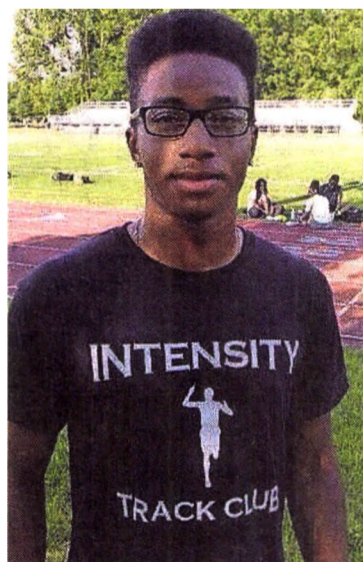
One concern about the Intensity season immediately following high school tournament season is the "burnout" factor.

But Johnson insists he tries to give the 18 young men and women on his squad (mostly grades 9-12) some variety to help them stay focused and energized.

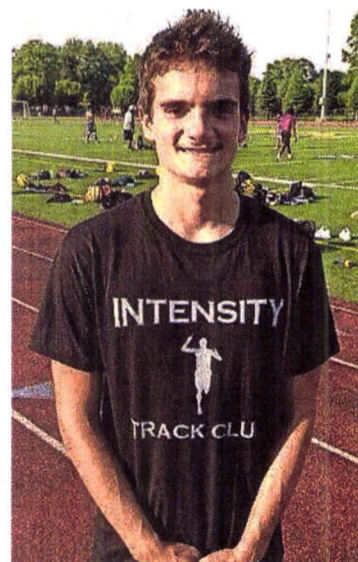
"We don't run every single day," Johnson said. "Yesterday, we did a whole bunch of jumps into the high jump mat. We were doing medicine ball tosses. Just to give the legs a rest from the pounding on the track. It's a little different. And our practices only last an hour and 20 minutes, so we aren't doing too much work."

Hot spot

According to Johnson, who started Intensity Track Club in 2014 (with only a handful of runners, all from Wayne at that



Smiley



Boland

time), the program continues to grow and attract athletes from all over southeast Michigan.

On the 2017 team, there are six members from Wayne, five from Franklin, two from Plymouth and one each from Livonia Churchill, Salem, Ann Arbor Huron, Monroe St. Mary's

and Dearborn Fordson.

"It's all word of mouth. Different kids being in different schools, they see them with the (Intensity) shirts on," Johnson said. "They've had success in their high school season so (they ask), 'How did you get fast? Who got you fast?'"

Johnson said he takes a bit of a different approach to coaching the club, too.

"There is an adjustment, because at this point in the summertime, I'm not really looking to get people in shape," he said. "The summer season is so short. So it's really just fine-tuning everything, putting everything together and try to run fast at certain meets."

With a chuckle, Johnson said if club members "aren't in shape after running the entire spring with their team, then you know that's a different story and we'll go from there."

This year's Intensity squad includes: **Wayne:** Boland, John Gatton, Kyle Osborne, Raymon White, Reanna Brown-Deacon, (state champion) Anavia Battle; **Franklin:** Smiley, Thaxton, Khalil Pasha, Michele Joyner, Christian Bagnall; **Plymouth:** Malcolm Caldwell, Faith Washington; **Churchill:** Niguel Smith; **Salem:** Berry Matthews; **Huron:** Kyle Martin; **St. Mary's:** Caden Smith; **Fordson:** Abe Jafaar.

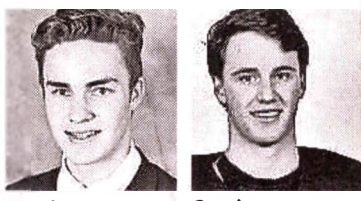
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NHL HOCKEY

USA Hockey NTDP players go high in NHL draft

Norris and Oettinger selected in first round

Brad Emons
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Norris

Oettinger

USA Hockey National Team Development Program alumni Josh Norris and Jake Oettinger were selected in the first round of the 2017 NHL Entry Draft on Friday night at the United Center in Chicago.

They were among 11 players from the Plymouth-based national program taken during the two-day, seven-round draft.

Norris, who hails from Oxford, was the first NTDP alumni selected when the San Jose Sharks secured his rights with the 19th overall pick.

"It's so surreal and hard to explain," Norris said. "It's a moment I've been dreaming about for a long time and I'm happy to have my friends and family here with me."

The Dallas Stars traded up

to the 26th slot to select Oettinger, making him the first and only goaltender selected in the first round.

"Whenever a team trades up to pick you, it shows how much they want you," said Oettinger, a resident of Lakeville, Minn. "I couldn't be more excited to be part of an organization that really wants me to be there."

Norris most recently completed his second season with the NTDP, where he finished his career with 41 goals and 47 assists in 105 games.

He also helped lead the U.S. National Under-18 Team to tournament victories in the 2016 Under-18 Five Nations

Tournament (Plymouth), 2017 Under-18 Five Nations Tournament (Sundsvall, Sweden) and the 2017 International Ice Hockey Federation Under-18 Men's World Championship (Spisska Nova Ves and Poprad, Slovakia).

Oettinger recently completed his first season with Boston University, where he was named to the Hockey East all-rookie team after posting a 2.11 goals-against average and .919 save percentage.

He was also earned a gold medal with the U.S. National Junior Team at the 2017 World Junior Championship (Toronto and Montreal). Over his two-year career with the NTDP (2014-16), Oettinger earned 38 victories and posted a GAA of 2.48 and a .911 save percentage.

The picks continued Saturday, with University of Michigan defenseman Luke Martin (St. Louis, Mo.) and future University of North Dakota forward Grant Mis-

mash (Edina, Minn.) being selected in the second round.

Martin was selected with the 52nd overall pick by the Carolina Hurricanes, while Mismash was taken with the second-to-last pick in the round by the Nashville Predators.

When asked about his reaction to hearing his named called, Martin said, "I just had a big smile and I think I'll be smiling for a long time."

The third round featured three NTDP players selected.

Max Gildon (Plano, Texas) was taken with the 66th overall selection by the Florida Panthers, while Evan Barratt (Bristol, Pa.) and David Farnance (Victor, N.Y.) were taken just two picks away from each other by the Chicago Blackhawks and Nashville Predators, respectively.

"I met with them (Florida Panthers) at the combine and I thought things went well," Gildon said. "The Panthers are a great organization and I'm

just happy to have the chance to be drafted by them."

Four players were selected in the final four rounds: Scott Reedy (Prior Lake, Minn./San Jose Sharks), Tyler Inamoto (Barrington, Ill./Florida Panthers), Logan Cockerill (Brighton/New York Islanders) and Phil Kemp (Greenwich, Conn./Edmonton Oilers).

Playing together as part of a gold medal winning defense corps, Inamoto and Gildon will now compete together as Panthers prospects.

"It's unbelievable," Inamoto said. "I've been playing with Max for a few years now and he's a great friend of mine and I'm just looking forward to it."

Following the 2017 draft, the NTDP has now produced 294 NHL draft picks during its first 20 seasons.

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He's Aquinas-bound



SALEM ATHLETICS

Salem graduate Noah Haran (left) recently signed to continue his baseball career at Aquinas College. He is shown being congratulated by Saints baseball coach Doug Greenslate. Haran told the college website he plans on having a dual major, in business administration and communications. In 2017, he earned the Rocks' Most Improved Player award.

SUMMER CAMPS AND CLINICS

June and July are filled with family reunions, graduation parties — and various summer youth sports camps and clinics. Such is the case once again this year, with a number of offerings on tap.

» **CHURCHILL 'UNDER THE LIGHTS':** Livonia Churchill's football program is hosting an "Under the Lights" Youth Camp 7-9 p.m. Thursday, July 27 for youngsters entering kindergarten through eighth grade.

Cost is \$20. Checks should be made out to Churchill High School and be mailed in advance to Allen Feigel, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia, 48150.

The camp will take place at Churchill's varsity football field. On tap will be instruction about "offensive and defensive football techniques."

Participants also can pay the fee at the door.

» **SALEM FOOTBALL ODK CAMP:** A fundamental skills football camp for incoming Salem High School players in grades 9-12 will be held 5-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 10-13, at the Centennial Education Park varsity stadium.

The camp will focus on Salem's offense, defense and kicking skills for all positions while integrating teamwork and discipline into all phases.

The cost is \$50 (includes camp T-shirt). All players must bring cleats, T-shirt, shorts and water.

To register, email Salem coach Kurt Britnell at salem-footballvarsity@pccsk12.com or call 734-416-7768. Payment can be made at the camp.

» **CHURCHILL GIRLS HOOP CAMP:** Livonia Churchill is hosting a summer camp for girls in grades 1-9 this fall.

The camp is 5-7 p.m. July 17 through July 19 and costs \$60.

Former college athletes (including from Madonna) and varsity players will work with campers on various skills.

Contact coach K'Len Morris, kmo2334@gmail.com. Checks should be made out to Churchill High School.

» **LIVONIA BLUE GYMNASTICS:** Gymnasts ages 11 and up are invited to sign up for the 2017 Livonia Blue Gymnastics Summer Camp at Churchill High School. The camp is July 10-13 and Aug. 7-10.

Submit questions to coach Lisa Broomfield, MissLisa621@yahoo.com or (734) 765-5439.

The program provides the chance for youngsters to "practice and showcase their skills" and receive instruction on conditioning, flexibility, individual skills and team building.

» **CHARGER HOCKEY CAMP:** Livonia Churchill's Charger Hockey Camp will take place at Eddie Edgar Arena between July 31 and Aug. 4 and Aug. 7-11. Each day's session is from 7:30-8:50 p.m.

Questions should go to coach Jason Reynolds, Jayrey48152@gmail.com or (734) 788-0447.

MICHIGAN GOLF HALL OF FAME

Six inducted with Class of 2017

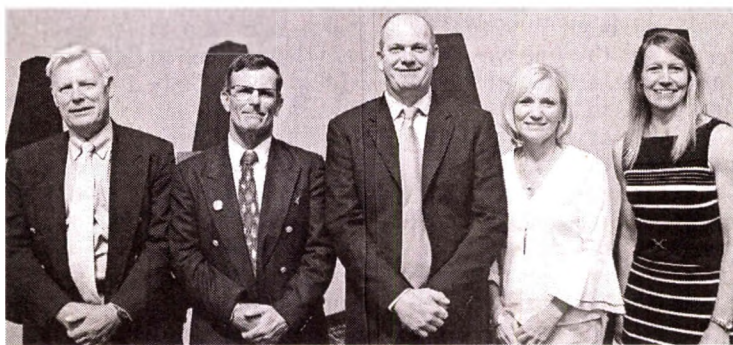
They could be called the super six.

The Michigan Golf Hall of Fame's newest class was presented June 3 in induction ceremonies at Ferris State University's Katke Golf Club. Former LPGA Tour player and Birmingham Groves graduate Suzy Green-Roebuck of Ann Arbor was among the featured inductees.

PGA master professional Bob Ackerman of West Bloomfield, PGA professional Brian Cairns of Walled Lake, PGA Tour veteran Tom Gillis of Lake Orion, the late Alex Ross of Detroit — a U.S. Open winner 110 years ago — and Michigan State University women's golf coach Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll of Haslett were others in the group that tied for the largest class in history with the induction class of 1990.

Green-Roebuck, 50, won her third Michigan Women's Open title last summer at age 49. She played for seven years on the LPGA Tour in the 1990s and was a four-time winner on what is now the LPGA's Symetra Tour. As an amateur, she won the Michigan Women's Amateur, among other titles.

Ackerman, 63, owner of Bob Ackerman Golf in West Bloomfield, won his first Michigan Open title in 1975 as an amateur and added a second in 2003, while also winning the Michigan Senior Open that



The Michigan Golf Hall of Fame recently inducted its newest members (from left) Bob Ackerman, Brian Cairns, Tom Gillis, Suzy Green-Roebuck and Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll. A sixth — Alex Ross — is deceased.

year and being named Michigan PGA Player of the Year.

Cairns, 52, a teaching professional at Fox Hills Learning Center in Plymouth, was inducted into the Michigan PGA Section's Hall of Fame last year. His credentials include being a three-time Michigan PGA professional champion and being named the national Senior PGA Professional Player of the Year in 2015.

Gillis, 48, played nine seasons on the PGA Tour, including 2016, and has been a touring professional since 1993, including stints on the European Tour and the Web.com Tour. He has played competitive golf in 26 countries.

Ross, who died in 1952 at age 72, is the brother of famed golf course architect Donald

Ross and is credited with having won seven of golf's major championships because of his 1907 U.S. Open win at the Philadelphia Cricket Club and six North and South Opens at Pinehurst Resort (considered a major in the early 1900s). The native of Dornoch, Scotland, was head professional for 31 years at Detroit Golf Club.

Slobodnik-Stoll, 45, a Grand Rapids native, is the successful women's golf coach at Michigan State University with five Big Ten titles and 10 trips to the NCAA championships. As a player, she is the winningest golfer in Golf Association of Michigan history with 15 titles, including two Michigan Women's Amateur Championships and an unprecedented eight GAM Mid-Amateur wins.

USA HOCKEY

Appert named as new NTDP coach

Seth Appert, with more than two decades of coaching experience, has been named head coach of USA Hockey's National Team Development Program's Under-18 team for 2017-18.

In addition, USA Hockey promoted Nick Fohr to NTDP associate coach and hired Greg Moore as an assistant coach for the Plymouth-based program.

Appert, brought in after former NTDP coach Danton Cole left to become head coach at Michigan State University, spent the previous 11 seasons as head coach of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute men's hockey team.

"We're excited to have Seth join the NTDP," said Jim Johansson, USA Hockey's assistant executive director of hockey operations. "He brings a lot of passion and knowledge to the table and is someone we really feel like will be a terrific coach for the young players that are part of the NTDP and also a great mentor for our intern coaches."

In addition to currently being on the coaching staff for the U.S. Men's National Team, Appert also served as an assistant coach for the gold medal-winning 2017 U.S. Men's National Under-18 Team.

"Seth's experience level, connectivity in the sport and

commitment to development are characteristics that were important to us," said Scott Monaghan, NTDP senior director of operations. "We look forward to welcoming him and his family to Plymouth."

A former president of the American Hockey Coaches Association, Appert spent the nine seasons prior to taking over the head coaching reigns at RPI as an assistant coach at the University of Denver, where he helped lead the Pioneers to a pair of NCAA titles, three WCHA playoff championships and two WCHA regular season titles.

"I'm honored to have this opportunity," Appert said. "I look forward to having a chance to work with the staff currently in place to help strengthen hockey in our country through our efforts at the National Team Development Program and across USA Hockey. I'm excited to meet and get to know our young men upon return from the world championship."

In his 20 years in the collegiate coaching ranks, Appert has recruited and helped develop 13 All-Americans, 37 all-league selections, four Players of the Year, four Hobey Baker finalists and 23 players who have gone on to play in the NHL.



Appert

DEWHIRST

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going to remember playing here as a Patriot the most, the past four years.

"It means a lot to represent Franklin. It's sad that I'm leaving but, at the same time, I'm ready to move on and do greater things at Eastern."

Dewhirst was in the middle of Franklin's baseball resurgence in 2016-17; the Patriots won 26 games each of those seasons and this spring won the district championship game. At the regional, he pitched the final inning and struck out the last batter he faced.

Unforgettable

Asked about any specific memories from his Franklin career, the bespectacled, introspective Dewhirst took a deep breath.

"There's a lot of good and bad memories, but mostly good," he said, with a knowing nod. "I'm going to miss playing here, that's for sure. I'll miss the guys."

A large contingent of Franklin players, coaches and classmates drove to downtown Detroit to watch Dewhirst compete on the East squad (as did Livonia Stevenson grad Brenden Posky). He joined David Wells, who played in the 2005 game, as the only Patriots to appear in the contest.

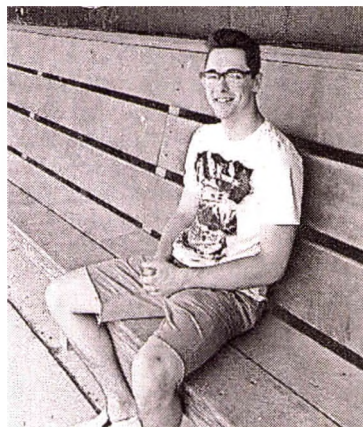
"There was a ton of people there. It was probably the most people I've ever played in front of," Dewhirst said. "I actually got to start at third base, so it was pretty cool to start the all-star game. No chances, thank God. I was a little nervous the ball was going to get hit to me. I was just happy to be there."

"I was more focused on just enjoying it. It was really fun to meet all the guys, guys I've played with before or played against before and some kids I'll be playing with and against in the future, too."

"I hit against Sam Weatherly. He got drafted (by Toronto). He was throwing pretty good. I struck out, but I was more focused on just going up there and getting good swings. I fouled a few off. I missed the last one just by a little."



Early in his senior year at Livonia Franklin, Kolby Dewhirst signed his NCAA national letter of intent to play baseball at Eastern Michigan University.



The afternoon after playing at Comerica Park, Kolby Dewhirst reminisced at Livonia Franklin. He now will go to Eastern Michigan University and pitch for the Eagles.

Working it out

With Dewhirst's work ethic, determination to get bigger and stronger and his already impressive pitching arsenal, veteran Franklin baseball coach Matt Fournier wouldn't be shocked if Dewhirst hears his name called at a MLB draft sometime in the future.

"You've got to have a lot of things go your way and somebody's got to fall in love with you, so to speak," Fournier said. "We haven't had a kid from here drafted in quite a long time, maybe since (former Detroit Tigers player) Chris Baker in the 1980s and Bernie Carbo in the late '60s, early '70s."

"But he's a hard worker. ...

He's a kid that got bigger every single year that he was here."

Fournier — noting Franklin's refreshing philosophy that athletes play as many sports as they can in high school — credited Dewhirst's standout varsity hockey career for helping him improve on the baseball field.

"You can just look at the difference in width of his shoulders (since ninth grade)," Fournier said. "He's 6-2, 6-3 now. The hockey helped him out tremendously because of the leg strength. If he doesn't play hockey, who knows, he might not be where he is now."

"Everything along the way helped him and, now that he can kind of focus on just doing one thing, the sky's the limit. I wouldn't put it past him."

"If he gains another couple miles an hour and you're sitting at 90 miles an hour and throw four pitches for strikes, someone's going to take a look."

Growing arsenal

Dewhirst, who is nicknamed "Dewey," throws four-seamers, two-seamers, a circle change and slider.

"But it's more like a slurve," he said. "And I'm working on a fifth pitch, a splitter. But it still needs a little work."

With a couple of months before EMU's baseball team begins its journey toward 2018 and, hopefully, another long run in the Mid-American Conference tournament, Dewhirst already is mapping out a busy, sweat-filled summer of training

sessions and bullpens.

He said he might join Barwis Methods in Plymouth, a training facility for many elite athletes (including college and professional).

"I've been looking into getting a personal trainer or training at a facility, because I know I need to get my body ready physically and mentally for college baseball," said Dewhirst, who sported an impressive 2.00 ERA against the best opponents on Franklin's schedule.

It's not all about work, however.

Having fun, too

"Not working out today, just some time to relax, babysit the little brother," Dewhirst said, talking about 9-year-old Braden, with him June 21 at Alumni Field. "We actually had a Wiffle ball game in the front yard and he beat me on a walk-off home run. He might be the best out of all three brothers."

The oldest brother, 24-year-old Tyler, also was a four-year letter winner in baseball and hockey.

"He was more of a hockey guy," Dewhirst said.

Dewhirst's memorable senior season partly was due to being able to chill from beginning to end, Fournier explained, simply because the pitcher/infielder had already made his decision to go to EMU.

"He started off (the year) by getting the recruitment process out of the way," Fournier said. "He got that done and over with,

so he could relax and play ball. It was a great year for him and a great year for us."

He just knew

According to Dewhirst, whose parents are Wendy and Brian Dewhirst of Livonia, he had some interest from other D-I baseball programs such as Michigan State.

But then he visited Eastern and immediately knew it was the place for him to play college baseball.

"I think I remember my first college visit, my mom said, 'When you leave the campus, if it's the right fit, you should see yourself going there right away,'" he said. "And I went to a few colleges and I was iffy on them and, when I went to Eastern, it was a right away thing."

"I liked everything there. It's a good school, a good campus and a smaller Division I school. I didn't like the fact some schools have classes with 300 or 400 kids in it. Not only that, but Eastern (baseball) is rebuilding right now. They just made it to the MAC finals this year. I think it was just the best fit for me, for sure."

Fournier said EMU head coach Mark Van Ameyde and his coaching staff will help the "good one" they signed to get to another level of success.

"The coach that's there now, Mark Van Ameyde, is a guy that was a pitcher himself in college," Fournier said. "He'll work wonders with Kolby and fine-tune some of the other things that maybe we missed on."

The best arm

If the Patriots "missed" on anything with Dewhirst, it wasn't enough to keep him from carving out an outstanding legacy.

"In the past 20 years, he's the best arm we've had that's come through here," Fournier said. "That's no knock on some of the other kids we've had. Alex DeYonker just finished up a great four years at Madonna."

"But Kolby, from the moment he stepped on the field as a freshman, he looked like he belonged."

Dewhirst is now set on doing whatever it takes to take flight with the EMU Eagles. All signs are he'll do just that.

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ALL-STARS

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making it a perfect 2-for-2 night at the plate.

"It was just a fun experience overall," said Morrissey, who also scored two runs.

"That was my goal coming in, was just to have fun and I did that. When I first walked in, you see the huge stands and then the huge fern wall in center field ... walking around, I got a little nervous. I didn't get in until the sixth inning, so just seeing everybody else go out there and play really kind of calmed me down."

Morrissey is undecided about continuing his baseball career, but if he doesn't, he can say he went out a winner at a major league ballpark.

"I've been talking to the Michigan State coach (Jake Boss) a little bit," he said. "He told me I should come and try out in the fall, so that's a possibility (that) I'll try and walk on there. Then, there's also club baseball up there at State as well."

The two Livonians, Dewhirst and Posky, both threw scoreless innings for the East and got a chance to swing the bats as well.

"Just to be able to pitch on the same mound as MLB players is a really cool experience for sure," said Dewhirst, who will throw next season at Eastern Michigan University. "It was something I wasn't used to, was the mound being so nice. I got out there and I was, like, 'Oh, my God, this is perfect.' It was an MLB mound, so I couldn't expect anything else. Just to know pro ballplayers get to come here every day and you get to play on that same field is really cool."

Taking part in the MHSBCA All-Star Game experience is something the right-hander will treasure.

"I think it's really cool that it's just not a game now," said Dewhirst, who will stay busy



Some of the East team members line up for the pregame introductions at the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game at Comerica Park.

this summer playing for College Connect, an 18-and-under team. "It's more like a two-day event. At the (MHSBCA) banquet, I got to hang out with the guys a little bit, meet some new kids. That's the thing I'll remember the most, just hanging out with the guys."

Posky, meanwhile, got one more chance to don a Stevenson uniform. In his final game June 10 with the Spartans, he struck out 13 in a 3-1 regional semifinal loss to Hartland.

The right-hander, who will pitch next year at Oakland University, followed East starter Alex Kuster (Birmingham Brother Rice) in the second inning.

Posky was able to work his way out of a slight jam when the West put two runners aboard before inducing a ground out to end the inning.

"I thought it was a great experience," said Posky, who will play sandlot ball this summer for Detroit Caesars. "I never had something like this before and I thought I did pretty well. I was a little bit nervous as I started out there, but I calmed down and started hitting my spots."

Posky and Dewhirst were also able to throw in the Tigers' bullpen.

"It's a different mound than what we pitch on in high school," Posky said. "In high

school, we have ditch on the mound and this one was flat. It was a little hard to get used to, but I got used to it."

For Combs, playing at Comerica has become old hat. The catcher, who has signed to play at Michigan State, played last month and last season at Comerica in the Detroit Catholic League A-B Division playoffs.

"This is my third time; it's crazy," Combs said. "As many times as you can come out and play on a professional field, is just a great feeling."

Combs, who will continue to play this summer in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League for A Green, was glad to renew some old acquaintances.

"Got to play with some old teammates and got to see some guys that I haven't seen in a couple of years, so it was an overall good time with the banquet yesterday and the game today," he said. "I'm just thankful to be in this position to play here."

Meanwhile, East manager Mark Blomshield went out a winner himself.

"I would call it a pretty good success," said the Canton coach, who guided the Chiefs this season to a 32-6 record, including the KLAA Association, Kensington Conference and KLAA South Division titles. "Everybody had two or

three at-bats. All the the pitchers that needed to throw threw. Everybody did a real nice job."

With the East ahead 2-0 after Cross's RBI double in the sixth, Blomshield tried some "trickery" to get things jump-started offensively.

"We were kind of stagnant for a minute there," Blomshield said. "(Matt) Boutin was on first and I said, 'Do a fake steal.' (Boutin) just took off and ended up making it and then we scored the run from third. Sometimes things work in mysterious ways, but it worked out that time."

Afterward, Blomshield sat in the visitor's coaching office and joked: "This is where Joe Girardi (Yankees manager) sits his rear end. Maybe I can put a thumb tack on one of those seats."

Blomshield's assistant coach for the East, Lutheran High Westland's Kevin Wade, was also able to check off one of his bucket list boxes as well.

"The experience was just phenomenal ... the practice, being on the field, it was just tons of fun," said Wade, who led the Warriors to a 21-4 record this season. "These kids are really good and you don't get to experience that too often, so it was fun."

Blomshield and Wade, along with the two other East



Lakeland High's Grant Smith mans second base for the West All-Stars at Comerica Park.

assistant coaches Corey Farmer (Woodhaven) and Tom Kurczewski (Avondale), had the task of getting all 21 players into the game for an equal amount of playing time.

"We planned it out the day before and tried to make sure we gave everybody three to five innings as best we could," Wade said. "We had a big matrix we filled out last night, just posted it in the dugout so they knew exactly what inning they were playing and everything. We just stuck to it, for the most part. It was good. Baseball season is officially over and what a sweet way to end it. It's fun to be here and fun to win."

Meanwhile, Blomshield will never forget setting foot inside Comerica Park for the first time.

"Being on the field was really breathtaking. Coming out of the tunnel and going out and saying, 'Whoa.' It's something as a coach that you should at least strive to try to do before you wrap it up, if you can," he said. "It was just a fun couple of days and glad I had the opportunity to do that. I was fortunate I was selected for the opportunity."

bemons@hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY UNIVERSAL ORLANDO RESORT

At 200 feet, Universal's Krakatau Volcano towers over its competitors and is an imposing sight. Waterfalls cascade down the mountain and feed the Watari Beach wave pool at the base of the volcano.

VOLCANO BAY ERUPTS AT UNIVERSAL ORLANDO

Take a plunge at a water park that raises the bar and lowers the boom

ARTHUR LEVINE
SPECIAL FOR USA TODAY

A couple of seconds after the trap door in the water slide's launch capsule opened, I was plummeting in near darkness at breakneck speed with no end in sight. Many thoughts were racing through my mind: I can't believe how steep this is. I can't believe how fast I am going. What the heck did I get myself into? Will this thing ever end?

Having survived the Ko'okiri Body Plunge, one of the featured attractions at the new Volcano Bay water park at Universal Orlando, I can report that it did, in fact, end, and that my dignity remained intact. Barely intact, however, was my ability to brave the ultra-challenging ride. (As a thrill ride fanatic, it should be noted that this is a very good thing.) The Ko'okiri Body Plunge was the single most terrifying water slide I had ever experienced — until I tried the park's even wackier Kala and Tai Nui Serpentine Body Slides.

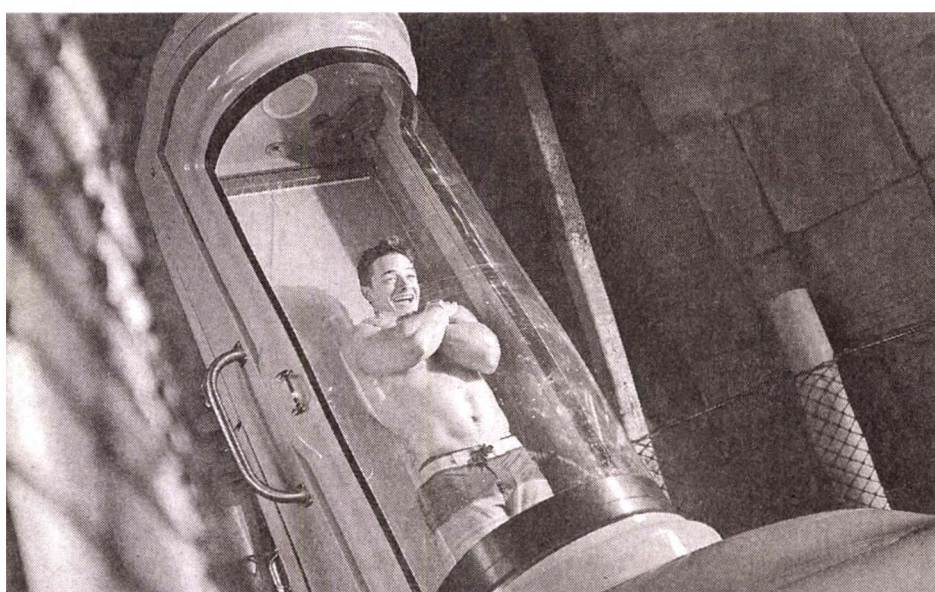
Known for wild, in-your-face theme park thrills, Universal has built a water park filled with intense water-based experiences. If you don't share my fanaticism for thrill rides, there are plenty of less challenging slides and attractions at Volcano Bay. There are even opportunities to relax amid its lovely South Sea Islands setting.

The resort is billing its new property as a "first-of-its-kind water theme park." That may be a tad hyperbolic, but Volcano Bay does raise the bar. Let's call it a new-wave water park.

The genre traces its roots to Disney World's River Country and Wet 'n Wild Orlando, both of which opened in the mid-1970s. Disney has since closed its original water park, but opened two more. The Mouse's Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach could justifiably lay claim to the "water theme park" descriptor. For the past few years, Universal quietly owned and operated the aging Wet 'n Wild. It closed the park in December to prepare for Volcano Bay's opening. (Located a couple of miles away from its resort, Universal Orlando reportedly has plans to convert the Wet 'n Wild property into additional hotels and a second shopping and restaurant district.)

GO WITH THE PARK'S FLOW

Like Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach, a mountain sits at the center of Volcano Bay. At 200 feet, however, Universal's Krakatau Volcano towers over its competitors and is an imposing sight. Waterfalls cascade down the mountain and feed the Watari Beach wave pool at the base of the volcano. By the way, according to Universal's elaborate back story, the Watari are fictional South Pacific islanders who have



The Ko'okiri Body Plunge is the tallest speed slide in the USA. Along with Volcano Bay's two Serpentine Body Slides, it shares a world record for the tallest drop capsule slides.

Having survived the Ko'okiri Body Plunge, one of the featured attractions, I can report that it did, in fact, end, and that my dignity remained intact.

settled on the idyllic Volcano Bay, and by visiting the park, guests become honorary islanders. At night, lighting effects help transform the waterfalls into what appears to be a lava flow.

The park's most extreme slides are located inside the volcano. Intrepid riders have to trek up the equivalent of 13 flights of stairs to reach them. While catching their breaths, they can see spectacular views of the park and the rest of Universal Orlando from the upper reaches of the mountain. They also can see how the 28-acre Volcano Bay is hemmed in on all sides.

The park is this close to I-4. In fact, in order to get to the main entrance, visitors have to pass through a tunnel that goes under one of the highway's exit ramps. Unlike Disney World, which has massive amounts of property on which to build and expand, Universal Orlando's resort is much smaller. It appears to be using every available square foot. Another side of the park is immediately adjacent to Cabana Bay, one of Universal's five on-property hotels. Guests staying at Cabana Bay have their own gate

to access the water park.

At 125 feet, the Ko'okiri Body Plunge is only 5 feet taller than Summit Plummet, the thrilling speed slide at Blizzard Beach. It feels way more out of control, however. That's probably because unlike Disney's slide, Ko'okiri begins with a drop capsule.

A rider climbs into the capsule, leans back, and nervously watches as a glass door swings shut to entomb him. The beat of piped-in tribal drums quickens to accompany his accelerated breathing and pulse rate. The ride operator counts back from three to one, pushes a button, and the capsule's floor opens to release the passenger into a 70-degree freefall. I think "Ko'okiri" may be Watari for "You've got to be kidding me." Stunned riders are unceremoniously dumped into a splash pool at the bottom.

The Ko'okiri Body Plunge is the tallest speed slide in the USA. Along with Volcano Bay's two Serpentine Body Slides, which riders access at the same 125-foot-tall loading platform as Ko'okiri, it shares a world record for the tallest drop-capsule slides. As their name implies, the Serpentine slides snake in and around the volcano rather than shooting passengers straight down. Because of their more circuitous routes, they send riders on a disorienting, high-speed, lights-out journey and take longer to complete. That gives passengers even more time to contemplate the ridiculously raucous rides.

LOOK MAI NO LINES!

Less intense, but still satisfyingly wild and fun, the Krakatau Aqua Coaster starts near ground level and uses magnetic propulsion, as opposed to the water jets that are

more commonly used at water parks, to catapult four-passenger canoe-like rafts up and into the volcano. The long ride features multiple uphill launches and drops.

Universal considers the water coaster to be Volcano Bay's signature attraction and expects it to be the most popular ride. The park has made no provisions for a queue, however. That's because there are no lines for any of the rides.

Instead, visitors are issued wearable TapuTapu bracelets as they enter the front gate. They tap the waterproof devices at kiosks near each attraction to reserve a ride time and enter a virtual line.

Instead of inching along in a queue, they can float in the Kopiko Wai Winding River, catch some waves, or just chill out in a lounge chair, which, to its credit, Volcano Bay appears to have in abundance, until the TapuTapu alerts them that it is time to ride. In theory, the concept is groundbreaking; in reality, Universal experienced some opening-day hiccups that overtaxed the ride reservation system and caused long delays. The park should be able to get TapuTapu up to speed in short order.

Riders still have to climb tons of stairs to reach the slides, but unlike most parks, they don't have to tote tubes or rafts. Every slide that requires them has a conveyor system that lifts tubes to the loading platform.

That includes Honu, which features four-passenger rafts that soar up and down two halfpipe-like walls, and Maku, which sends six-passenger rafts swirling around a bowl. Other thrilling rides include Ohno, a body slide that twists and turns before depositing riders 6 feet above a splash pool. Like a cartoon character about to encounter gravity, passengers momentarily flail before dropping into the water.


There also is the Fearless River (a slightly more aggressive take on a lazy river), a reef with a waterfall, and play areas with small slides and interactive water elements for younger visitors.

Universal has given lots of attention to the park's food. Pizza and chicken tenders are on the menu.

But so are poke bowls, a grilled mahi mahi sandwich topped with pineapple salsa, and a quinoa edamame burger garnished with roasted shiitake mushrooms. A barbecued pulled pork sandwich with mango slaw was a personal favorite.

Desserts include chocolate lava cake (this is Volcano Bay, after all) and a sinfully delicious chocolate pineapple upside down cake.

If you think you might give the gut-wrenching Ko'okiri Body Plunge a whirl, I'd recommend doing that before you tackle the gut-busting chocolate pineapple cake.



BETWEEN THE BUNS

Celebrating hot dogs in all
their myriad varieties

JOHNATHAN WRIGHT RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

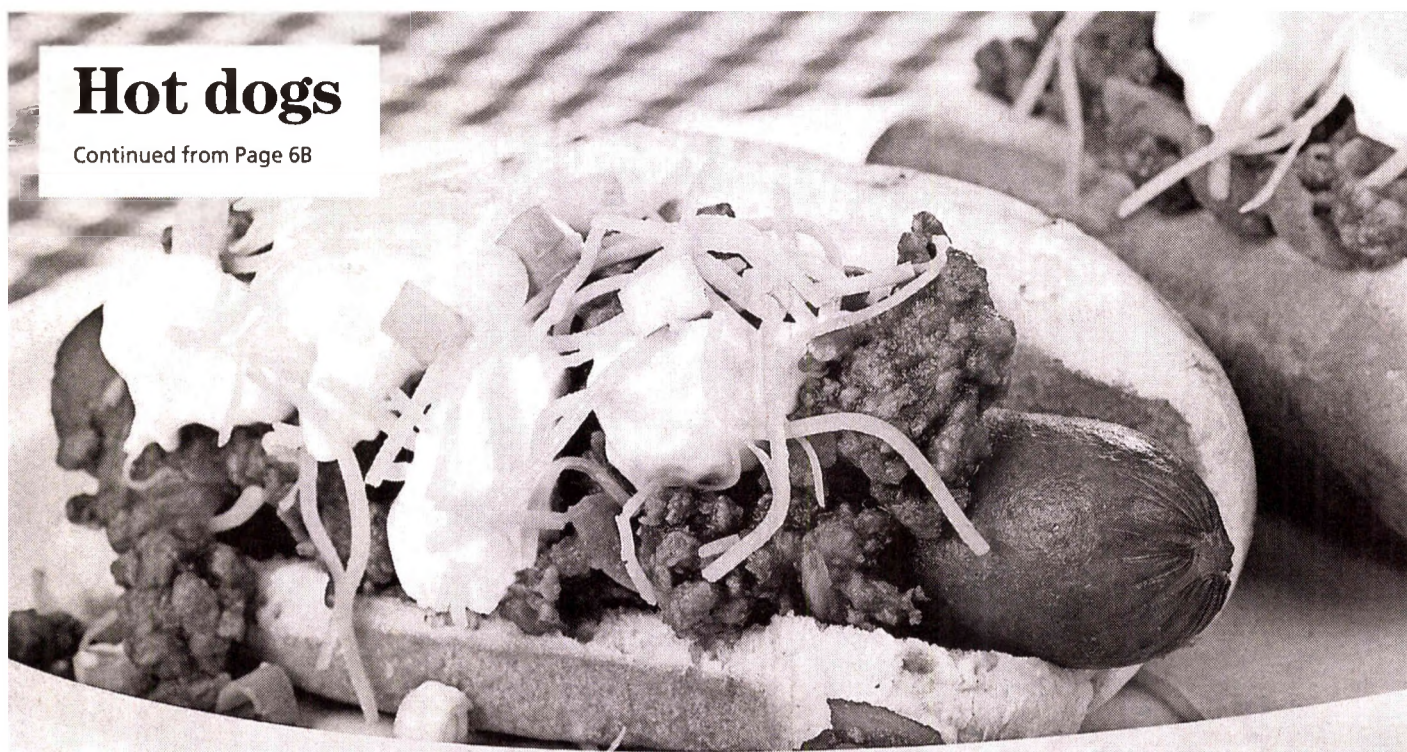
The dog days of summer? They're not just the hottest part of the season, as the old saying goes. • Dog days, in fact, could describe the entire summer — from Memorial Day to Labor Day this year, Americans will eat about 7 billion hot dogs, according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council. • That's a lot of buns. • Hot dogs rank among the basics of your summer culinary wardrobe. Classic accessories — ketchup, mustard, relish — are always in fashion, but there's far more to a wiener. • Consider dressing up your dog with easy chili, plus sour cream, cheddar, green onions (and even a yellow slash of mustard beneath). • Corn dogs, an enduring summer silhouette, get a time-saving makeover: They're wrapped in packaged cornbread crescents, then baked, instead of being dipped in cornmeal batter and fried. • If you're going to don one new dog this summer, it should be a Sonoran hot dog, a Southwest specialty featuring a bacon-wrapped wiener, a profusion of condiments and toppings, and a Mexican bolillo roll. • All these recipes work with beef, pork or chicken dogs (or a mix-and-match approach). Happy hot dogging!

See **HOT DOGS**, Page 7B

ILLUSTRATION BY CHELSEA O'DONNELL/USA TODAY NETWORK

Hot dogs

Continued from Page 6B



Chili dogs feature a quick ground beef chili (no beans!). Top at will.

PHOTOS FROM GETTY IMAGES

ALL-STAR CHILI DOGS

¾ pound ground beef
 1 cup chopped onion
 One (8-ounce) can tomato sauce
 ½ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
 ¼ teaspoon hot pepper sauce
 ½ teaspoon chili powder
 ½ teaspoon salt
 ¼ teaspoon pepper
 1 teaspoon brown sugar
 8 hot dogs, cooked according to package directions or your preference
 8 hot dog buns, split and lightly toasted
 Shredded cheddar cheese, chopped green onions, sour cream (optional)

In a medium skillet, over medium heat, brown beef and onions, breaking up beef into small pieces. Drain fat from skillet. Reduce heat to low.

Stir in tomato, Worcestershire and hot pepper sauces, chili powder, salt and pepper, and sugar. Simmer for about 10 to 12 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Place cooked hot dogs into toasted buns. Ladle ¼ cup chili sauce over each hot dog. If desired, top with cheese, green onions and sour cream. Makes 8 chili dogs.

Adapted from a recipe provided by National Hot Dog and Sausage Council

EASY MIDWEST CORN DOGS

1 pound hot dogs, 8 per package, regular or low fat
 2 ounces Monterey Jack cheese slices
 One (11.5-ounce) tube refrigerated cornbread twists (such as Pillsbury brand)
 4 teaspoons grated Parmesan cheese
 Wooden skewers (optional)

Preheat oven to 375 F. Make a lengthwise cut in each hot dog, cutting to within a half inch of the ends.

Cut the cheese into 16 strips, each strip 2 inches by ½ inch. Put 2 strips of cheese into the long cut of each hot dog. Unwind each section of the cornbread. Break each length into 2 strips. Put the strips on the cutting board and form an "X" with these 2 cornbread strips. Place a hot dog in the center of the "X". Wrap dough over the hot dog. Repeat with the remaining hot dogs.



Easy corn dogs are prepared with handy packaged cornbread crescents.

Place hot dogs on an ungreased cookie sheet, cheese-strips-side up. Stretch the tips of the dough under the hot dog. Sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon Parmesan cheese over the dogs.

Bake for 12 to 14 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove the cookie sheet from the oven with hot pads and transfer the corn dogs to serving plates. If desired, insert wooden skewers for presentation.

Serve warm with mustard or hot chili. Makes 8 corn dogs.

Adapted from a recipe provided by National Hot Dog and Sausage Council

OTHER WAYS TO CROWN YOUR HOT DOG

- New York dog:** steamed onions and deli-style mustard
 - New Jersey dog:** onions, peppers and deep-fried potatoes
 - Atlanta dog:** coleslaw
 - Michigan Coney dog:** mustard, chili and onions
 - Kansas City dog:** sauerkraut and melted Swiss cheese
 - Colorado Rockies dog:** grilled peppers, sauerkraut and onions
 - Seattle dog:** cream cheese, grilled onions and sriracha
- Source: National Hot Dog and Sausage Council*

SONORAN HOT DOGS

Cook's notes: Torpedo-shaped bolillo (bo-LEE-yo) rolls can be purchased at area Mexican markets and bakeries, including Marketon, Panaderia Las Palomas and El Pueblo Bakery (next to Chevron), all on Wells Avenue.

For zesty mayo:

- ½ cup finely chopped fresh cilantro
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon hot sauce
- Zest and juice of 1 lime

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Combine the cilantro, mayonnaise, hot sauce, lime zest and juice, and some salt and pepper in a bowl and whisk until well blended.

For hot dogs and to serve:

- 8 large hot dogs
- 8 thin slices bacon, such as Oscar Mayer brand
- 4 tablespoons salted butter, at room temperature

8 fresh bolillo rolls, each sliced into a "pocket" to catch all the fillings

- 1 cup refried beans, warmed
- 2 avocados, diced
- 2 firm ripe Roma tomatoes, diced
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 cup pickled jalapeños, drained

Fresh cilantro leaves, for garnish
 Cilantro leaves and hot sauce, for serving

Wrap each dog evenly in 1 slice of bacon. Secure with a toothpick at both ends and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes to firm up the bacon and help it adhere.

Heat grill or grill pan to medium heat. Grill each side of hot dogs until bacon is extra crisp but not burnt. It's essential to control heat to ensure dogs get properly warmed through and bacon does not burn or undercook. Set aside. Butter the outsides of the "pocketed" rolls and gently grill them until just golden brown.

Layer a schmear of warm refried beans on the bottom of each roll, followed by a bacon-wrapped dog. Top with some of the avocados, tomatoes, onions, jalapeños and a squiggly drizzle of zesty mayo

Garnish with some cilantro leaves and serve with your favorite hot sauce. Makes 8 Sonoran hot dogs.

Adapted from a recipe from foodnetwork.com

E3 2017

5 BIG TRENDS FOR VIDEO GAMERS

LOS ANGELES As video game fans continue to pile into the Los Angeles Convention Center for the Electronic Entertainment Expo, trends are starting to emerge. The event, which runs here through Thursday, not only highlights the hardware and games players can expect this holiday but also provides a sense of the direction the developers and publishers behind them are headed. USA TODAY's Brett Molina takes a look at five trends that emerged during this year's E3:



MIKE NELSON, EUROPEAN PRESSPHOTO AGENCY

An attendee plays the PlayStation virtual reality game *Bravo Team* at E3 in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

1 GET READY FOR 4K GAMING

With the launch of Sony's PlayStation 4 Pro last year, video game players with a 4K-supported TV got their first taste of 4K gaming. Get ready for it to ramp up with the arrival of Microsoft's Xbox One X this November.

Microsoft plans on updating several of its games for 4K, while third-party game publishers including Activision Blizzard have updated or will update their games to support the higher-quality video resolution.

The bigger question is how soon will more Americans get their hands on a 4K TV to reap the benefits of higher-powered home consoles. The Consumer Technology Association forecasts as many as 1 in 4 U.S. households could own a 4K TV by the end of the year.

2 WHAT HAPPENED TO VR?

Outside of Sony with its PlayStation VR platform, and publisher Bethesda Softworks boasting three VR titles in the works, talk about the once-exciting technology seems to have quieted down.

Few companies shared details on the next steps for VR. Microsoft, which had been expected to reveal a VR component to its Xbox One X console, said nothing on the subject.

The move coincides with a flattening out in interest and awareness for VR. Magid Advisors president Mike Vorhaus says.

"After years of hype and speculation, this has clearly been a year of consolidation and retrenchment in terms of consumer awareness and interest in VR," he said. "As more people buy and use more VR devices, and as more content becomes available, the interest in VR will take off in the next few years."

3 ESPORTS STAKES ITS CLAIM

Computing giant Intel announced a significant partnership with competitive video gaming organizer ESL to help power its competitions worldwide — and a \$1 million prize for the top *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive* team.

Electronic Arts revealed a larger competition kicking off this fall tied to its soccer franchise FIFA. Even Nintendo is dabbling with competitive gaming through a series of tournaments at E3 tied to games for its new Switch console.

However, Nintendo of America President Reggie Fils-Aime stressed this isn't part of a larger push into eSports just yet. "We're focused on the community," he said. "We're not focused on leagues or that space."

Awareness of eSports has continued to increase in recent years. According to research from Magid, 49% of consumers this year said they heard of eSports, up from 41% the year before.

"Our data suggests that in the future, eSports will be as popular and important to viewers as golf is today," Vorhaus said.

4 MORE MICRO-TRANSACTIONS COMING TO CONSOLES

One of Electronic Arts' potential blockbusters, *Star Wars Battlefront II*, is switching to a post-release model where players will see more consistent updates to the game, as well as the chance to buy "crates" to add more in-game items.

Meanwhile, Bethesda Softworks announced Creation Club, a hub where players can acquire items such as costumes or weapons for video games *Fallout 4* and *Skyrim*. Players will use in-game credits acquired by making real-world purchases through the PlayStation and Xbox store platforms, as well as PC service Steam.

The strategy is common in the mobile space, where free-to-play games allow users to purchase items or in-game currency to augment their experience.

5 OPENNESS AND DISCOVERY BECOMING A BIGGER DEAL

A word used often by designers when describing their experiences: surprise. Their method for injecting more surprise in games is by making them more open, with the opportunity to find hidden treasures.

Games like *God of War*, which until now have featured more structured gameplay paths, will open up to offer more chances for players to explore.

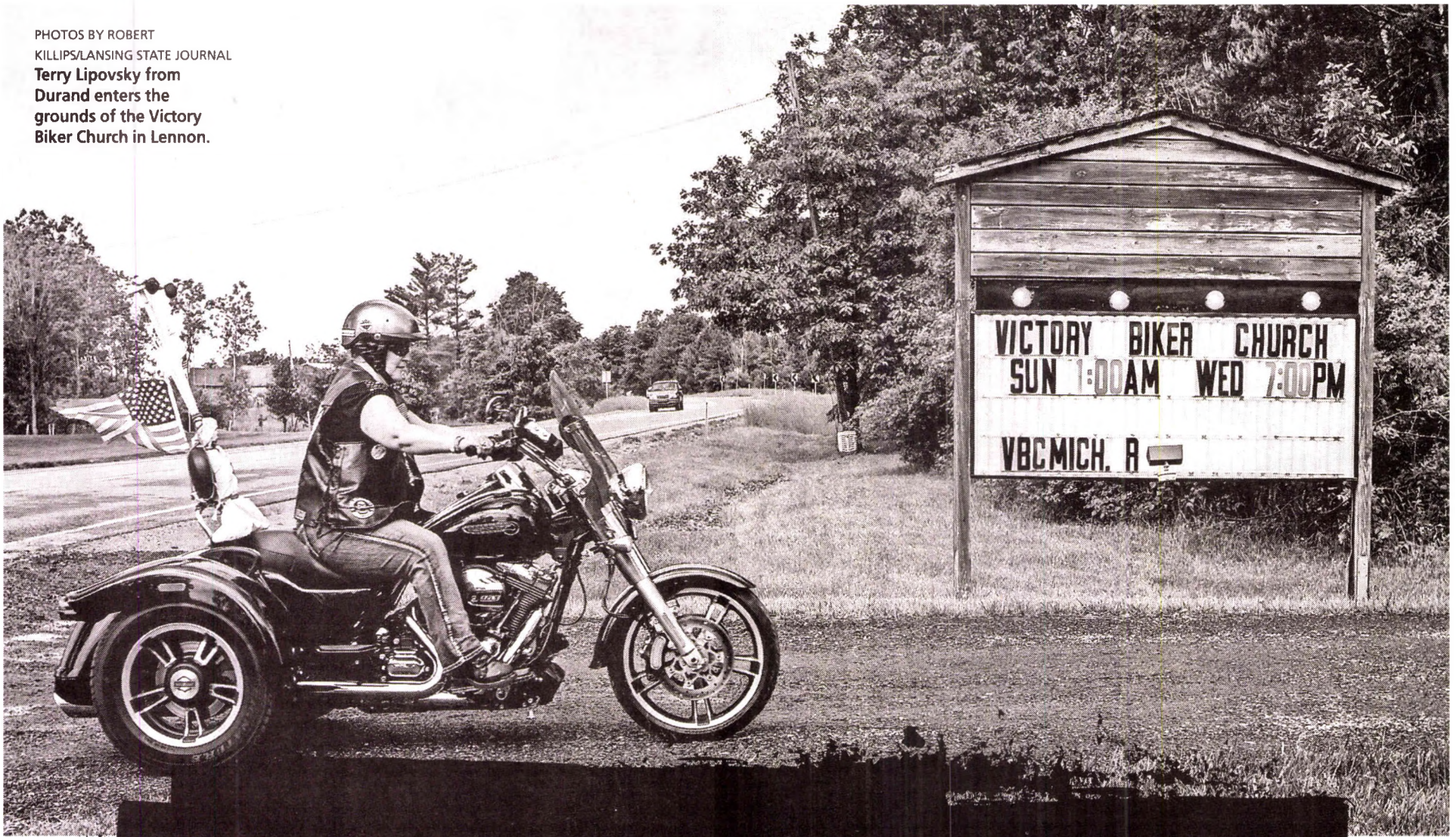
Nintendo is implementing a similar strategy in adventure game *Super Mario Odyssey*, shifting toward a "sandbox" style experience where players can roam and approach the adventure however they choose.

The open-world concept has been a staple of games for years. However, it appears to be on the rise, perhaps sunseting the days of linear, tightly-tailored experiences.



BRETT MOLINA, USA TODAY

PHOTOS BY ROBERT
KILLIPS/LANSING STATE JOURNAL
Terry Lipovsky from
Durand enters the
grounds of the Victory
Biker Church in Lennon.

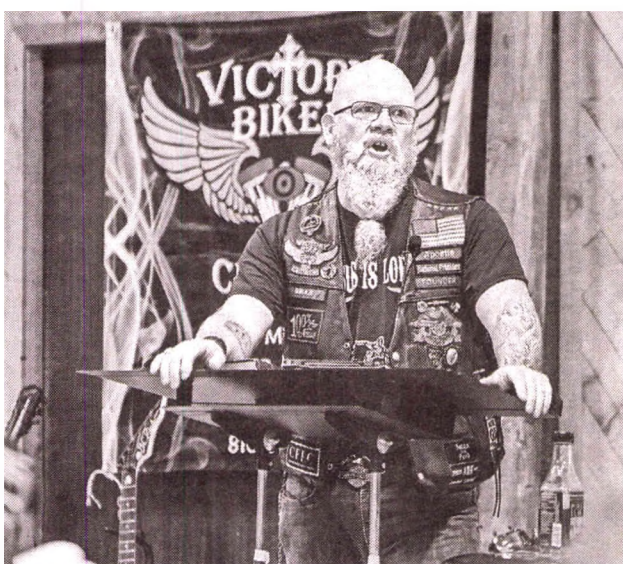


BIKERS, BLESSINGS & BLACK LEATHER

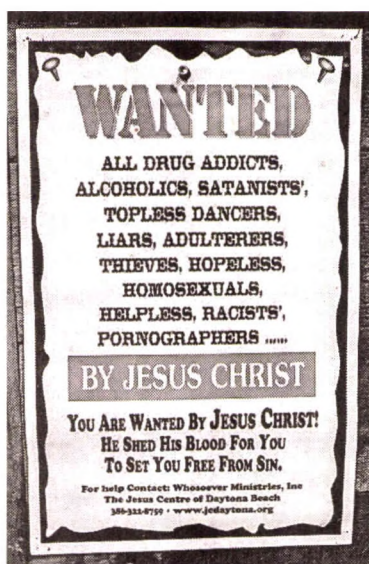
There's a shared passion for Christ and chrome at the Victory Biker Church in Lennon, Michigan

KATHLEEN LAVEY USATODAY NETWORK-MICHIGAN

LENNON, Mich. - Motorcycle club motifs decorate the rough-sawn pine walls of this former cider mill barn, set in a grove of pine trees outside this small town west of Flint. The décor even includes a working Harley-Davidson. • It's Sunday morning and a crowd is gathering — some riding in on bikes, some in cars due to iffy weather or extra passengers. The favored fashions: leather, jeans, bandanas, boots. • What you don't notice right away is the simple, eight-foot wooden cross, front-and-center against the pine paneling. Or that the black motorcycle vests so many are wearing read "Victory Biker Church" on the back. Or that a handful of them have brought their own well-thumbed Bibles.



Brian McKay, pastor of Victory Biker Church in Lennon, gives his Sunday sermon to about 80 congregants.



A poster describes who is welcomed at the church.



A member of the Victory Biker Church in Lennon prays on his knees during Sunday services.

"Grab your owner's manual," says Brian McKay. He founded the church in 2010, but prefers the title Apostle to Pastor.

This is the Christian faith, presented by bikers, for bikers, a unique amalgam of Christ, chrome and outreach to outcasts. Besides the Sunday service, there is a Wednesday night "pit stop" Bible study and the weekly "Iron-head Teens Group."

"I have not had church worship like this anywhere I've been. It's inspiring," said Dennis Riggs of Owosso as he sat in the front row waiting for the 11 a.m. service to start.

He's a Vietnam vet who rides a 2014 Harley-Davidson Road King. He came to Victory Biker Church nearly six years ago. "This one felt like home," he said.

A church home where a pair of motorcycle saddlebags hang on the wall with a sign above them reading, "Don't be jive, cough up your tithe," the U.S. flag is prominently displayed and clear patio lights are strung festively across the back of the room.

At 33, Kristy Grooms of Flint Township is less than half of Riggs' age, but she feels the same way. She and her husband, Jonathon, known as "Huck," have been attending Victory Biker Church for about five years.

"At all of the other churches, we were the outcast and never welcome because we weren't dressed like everyone else," Huck Grooms said. He's burly and blue-jeaned and currently works the night shift as a repo man.

Making people who don't necessarily live in

the mainstream feel welcome is exactly the point, said McKay. Blue-eyed and bald, he keeps his beard in check with an elastic band near its tip.

"We want to make it comfortable, so when our unsaved biker friends come to church, their walls come down," he said.

McKay rides a 2009 Harley Davidson Electra Glide Ultra Classic, and he's been working in motorcycle ministry since 1995 while working an IT job by day.

He talks about trying to reach the "one percent," in this case, the bikers who are drug addicts or involved in criminal activity.

He said he first felt the call to establish a church in August of 2006. The voice inside him was clear, he says: "I called you to be a biker preacher and start a biker church."

But like many a good apostle, he resisted at first. "It took me about two years to get over it," he said. "Then I said, 'All right, Lord, how do you want me to do this thing?'"

The church opened its doors in the former cider mill in January 2010. Although it is presented biker-style, the message is familiar from any Christian church in the country: "People need Jesus," McKay says.

First, there's music, with a praise band led by music minister Floyd "Crow" Brady of Flint with McKay on bass and Brady's wife, Kim, who also is the children's minister, singing.

The music ministers at Victory Biker Church don't mind praise music — they play some of it — but they love classic rock. Their

version of "Amazing Grace" uses the words of the traditional hymn set to the melody of "House of the Rising Sun," Animals-style. They've reworked songs from Lynyrd Skynyrd and other classic bands, too. As members line up to receive blessings from Apostle Mark Smith, the band switches modes, pumping out a Grateful Dead-style instrumental jam.

Finally, it's McKay's turn. He talks about the persecution of Christians around the world — underground churches in China, Coptic Christians killed by extremists in Egypt, Christians in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He reminds the 70 or so people in the group that faith and patience will pay off.

"I don't know about you, but kingdoms of men suck, but the kingdom of God is glorious," he says. He says he believes the kingdom of God has already come, but: "It is coming in greater measure as the children of God, Christians, press in," he says. "Don't just get comfy on Sunday mornings. 'Oh, I went to church today! Check!' 'Oh, I put some money in the saddlebags! Check!' Yes, do that, but it's about more than that. It's about your relationship with Christ Jesus."

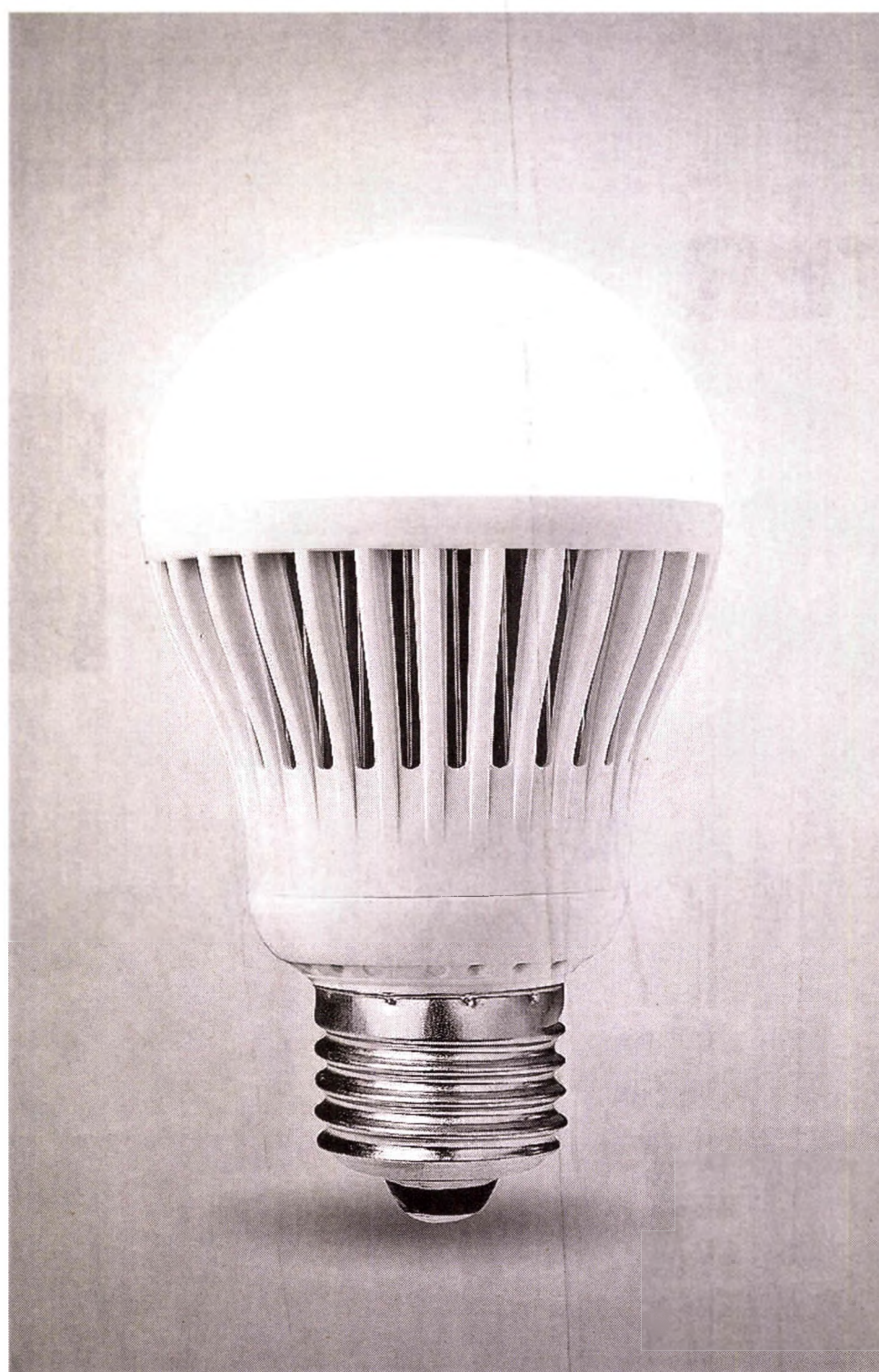
After the service ended, Terri Lipovsky of Durand stayed in her seat for a moment, chatting with friends and enjoying the atmosphere.

She met McKay and other church members at a blessing of the bikes event last year, she said. She liked them, and she liked the vibe.

"It has brought me a lot of peace," she said.

"We want to make it comfortable, so when our unsaved biker friends come to church, their walls come down."

BRIAN MCKAY
FOUNDER OF VICTORY BIKER CHURCH



HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS: LED BULBS GAINING IN COST EFFICIENCY

LED SAVINGS ADD UP

LED bulbs may cost more up front, but the electric bill savings over 10 years make the purchase worth considering:

- 10-year cost
- Electric cost per year
- Price per bulb



NOTE 60-watt bulb savings over 10 years. Prices are for GE bulbs at major retailers.
SOURCE CFA
GEORGE PETRAS, USA TODAY

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Early bulbs had some problems, but today's versions are cheaper, much more reliable

KELLIE ELL
USA TODAY

Here's a bright idea: Switching to LED light bulbs can help the typical home save about a \$1,000 over a 10-year period. That's roughly \$8.33 a month.

A recent cost analysis based on a price survey by the Consumer Federation of America (CFA), a liberal-leaning association for consumer research, advocacy and education, focused its efforts on lighting residential spaces and found the typical American family uses at least 20 indoor light bulbs throughout their home.

"LED light bulbs are good quality, last longer and are ultimately going to save money over time" compared to traditional incandescent and halogen bulbs, says Mel Hall-Crawford, director of energy programs & special projects at CFA.

LED (light-emitting diode) bulbs use a semiconductor to convert electricity into light. In 2000, the Department of Energy

helped create a LED bulb to package the new technology. But it would be another 10 years before LED bulbs were widely available. Those early bulbs were riddled with problems — short lifespans, harsh lights, flickering and high price tags.

LED bulbs have dropped in price by 85% in recent years but are still considered expensive. With a minimum of 20 light bulbs in one's home at roughly \$5 a bulb, replacing incandescent and halogen light bulbs with LEDs would cost about \$100 — or more than double the price of traditional incandescent or halogen light bulbs. And Hall-Crawford said many homes these days actual have closer to 40 bulbs. This would leave some cash-strapped Americans without the option of upgrading. And if you're planning on changing addresses anytime soon, the investment might not be worth the money.

But the longer shelf life of LED bulbs makes up for the extra expense with savings on your energy bill, something more consumers are noticing. In 2009, fewer



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

than 400,000 LED lights were in use in U.S. homes. But by 2014, there were more than 78 million LED lights installed.

Still, a survey conducted by the CFA in June 2016 found only 36% of consumers know about the benefits of high-efficiency LED lights and would be willing to switch over if they haven't already.

"We're trying to educate consumers," Hall-Crawford said.

"Change takes time. We're getting people familiar with this new kind of light bulb and then they will be saving money."

LESS HEAT

LED lights emit less heat than traditional incandescent and halogen lights. "Incandescent and halogen bulbs are wasting energy by giving off more heat," Hall-Crawford said.

In fact, incandescent bulbs release about 90% of their energy as heat. Energy Saver, an online resource from the DOE that helps consumers save money, said LED lights use between 75% and 80% less energy, saving consumers as much as \$75 a month.

COLOR OPTIONS

Most people are used to the warm yellow glow of incandescent and halogen bulbs. But LED lights are available in cooler shades of white and daylight hues, as well as dimmable and non-dimmable varieties. And while one of the earliest problems with LED lights was the harsh direct light, consumers can now choose direct light or omnidirectional bulbs, illuminating a whole room.

The key to mingling money in a relationship

Whether you combine or not, couples must be on the same page

AMBER MURAKAMI-FESTER
NERDWALLET

To combine or not combine: That's the essential question when it comes to couples and their finances — particularly bank accounts.

It pays to know the potential pitfalls — and talk about them. For couples who share joint accounts, conflict can arise when one partner spends heavily and the other likes to save, or if one overly monitors spending, psychotherapist Nicole Osequeda of Chicago says.

Separate accounts, on the other hand, can give couples a sense of autonomy but make it difficult to coordinate expenses.

The key is to make sure both partners are on the same page.

"A successful relationship is a result of successful negotiations," said Brad Klontz, a financial psychologist from Lihue, Hawaii. "Which is not a very romantic way of putting it, but it's true."

Jessica Majeski, a 27-year-old marketing specialist, and her husband,



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Mike, a 29-year-old project manager, married in March. The Holly Springs, N.C., couple decided to keep all their accounts separate, as they had for the four years they lived together. Their shared expenses — groceries, bills and mortgage payments — are split 50-50.

They have similar incomes, so they figured they would stick with what was working already.

"Going down to the bank and opening

a joint account just seemed more complicated," Jessica said.

So far, they haven't run into problems. When Jessica joined her husband's health insurance plan, they considered whether joint accounts would be better than their existing arrangement, in which they paid their medical bills from their own accounts. For now, they'll keep that setup.

Bill Reardon, 43, an engineering man-

ager in Santa Monica, Calif., took the joint account route for common expenses such as bills, groceries and vacations. He shares checking and savings accounts with his wife, Christy, 38, who is a stay-at-home mom.

They decided on this system when they got engaged six years ago, to reflect their belief financial resources in a family should be shared for common expenses.

The Reardons also use personal accounts — the same amount of money is automatically transferred to each account from Bill's paycheck — for their own expenses.

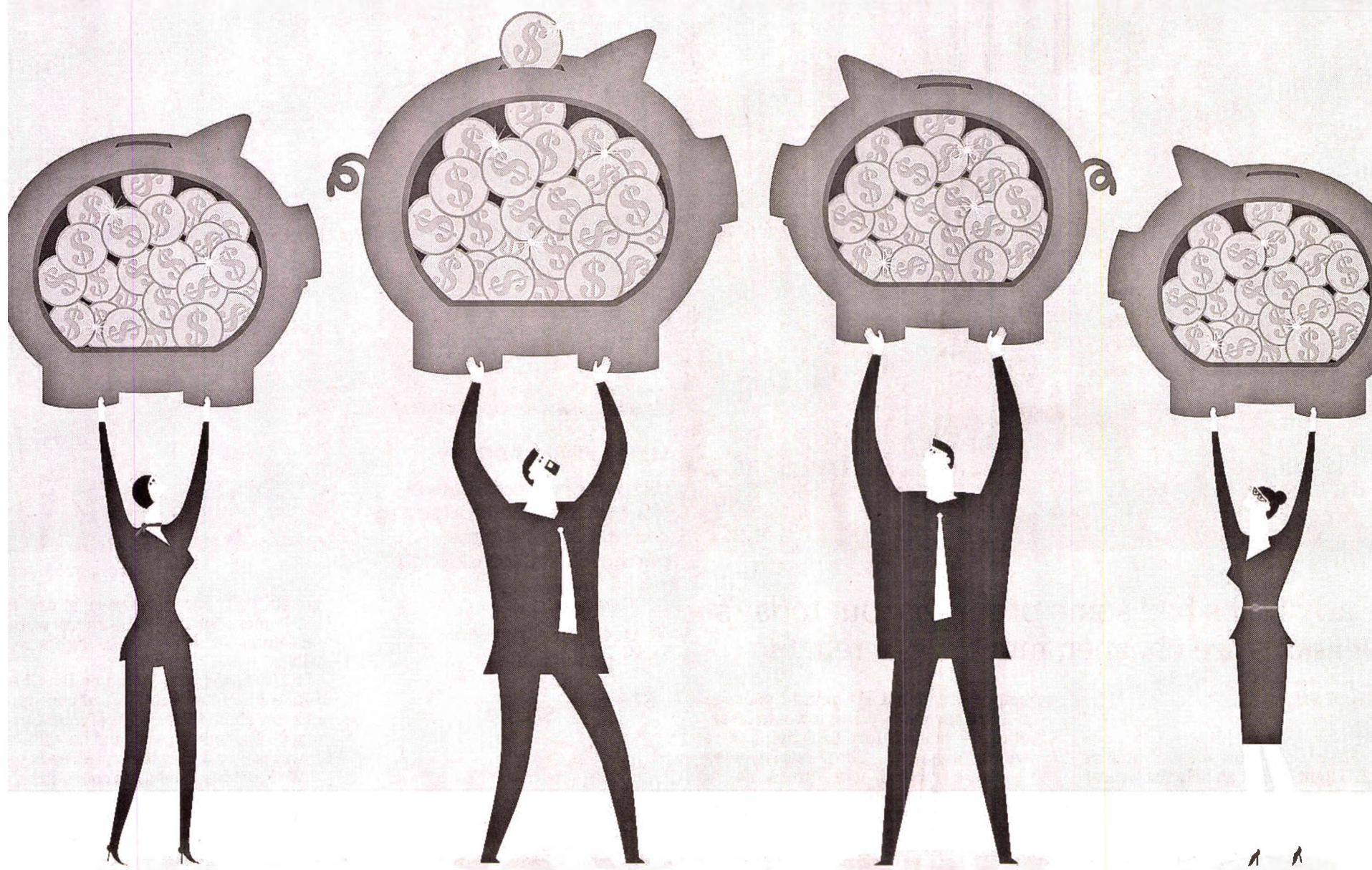
"It's each person's 'fun' money," Bill says.

Their system wasn't always without hitches. Bill says they disagreed on which accounts would pay for certain expenses — clothes, for example. Even now, he admits, they sometimes debate how much should go into their personal accounts.

The decision depends on the couple's needs and preferences, Klontz says. "There really is no right answer."

Amber Murakami-Fester is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website and USA TODAY content partner. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.

FINANCIAL PLANNING: WHY YOU SHOULD SCATTER YOUR BANK ACCOUNTS



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

SPENCER TIERNEY
NERDWALLET

Checking and saving accounts go together like bacon and eggs, but both are good separately, too. You don't need to have all your accounts at the same bank. In fact, you might benefit from splitting them up.

About one-third of people who switched banks recently or wanted to switch had checking and savings accounts at different banks, according to research by bank analytics firm Novantas. And about 11% of bank customers switched banks over the course of a year, based on Accenture's 2016 North America consumer digital banking survey.

Here's why it makes sense to scatter your money.

1 MAXIMIZE YOUR RETURNS

It's possible to find a bank account with a decent interest rate despite the national averages — 0.06% annual percentage yield for regular savings accounts and even lower for interest checking, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. But some online-only banks offer checking rates higher than 0.50% and savings rates north of 1% APY.

You might reach savings goals faster with a high-yield account. Having \$10,000 in one with a 1% rate earns you \$100 in a year, compared with \$6 at the national rate.

2 TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PERKS

Some banks offer sign-up bonuses, and credit unions tend to charge lower fees than banks do. Other banks and brokerages don't charge foreign transaction fees.

“Thank God for apps like Mint. If this were the '90s, I might not have all these accounts.”

AHMED BHUIYAN, A SEATTLE-BASED TRAVEL INDUSTRY CONSULTANT

Ahmed Bhuiyan, a Seattle-based travel industry consultant, switches between his banks when on the road.

He likes one bank's domestic ATM network but uses a checking account at another bank to avoid foreign transaction and ATM fees.

3 MAINTAIN FINANCIAL FLEXIBILITY

Certain bank features make it hard to

move your money elsewhere, such as direct deposit and recurring bill payments — so you might end up sticking with a bank you don't love. Consider splitting your direct deposit between checking accounts at two different banks or using alternatives to recurring payments, such as calendar reminders or apps.

4 WATCH OUT FOR PITFALLS

Money transfers between banks can take two to three business days, and it can be hard to keep track of the bills you pay with different accounts.

It's important to keep all of your accounts fully funded and know where direct deposits go and how to avoid fees on each, says Alicia Butera, certified financial planner at Planning Within Reach in San Diego. Some financial institutions and third-party budgeting apps make this easier by linking various accounts so you can see all your money at once.

Juggling debt: How transferring a balance affects your credit score

Abby Hayes
Credit.com

Thinking of taking advantage of a balance transfer offer? It can be an excellent way to pay off your debt.

But how will transferring a balance affect your credit score? And of what potential pitfalls should you be aware?

It's impossible to predict exactly how any one financial decision will affect your credit score.

We can guess based on what we know about credit-scoring algorithms, and credit score simulators can show you how a particular choice might affect your score. But so many factors influence your score that an exact effect is difficult to predict.

With that said, we can look at two areas of your credit score a balance transfer will most likely impact: your credit utilization and new credit inquiries.

BALANCE TRANSFERS AND YOUR DEBT-TO-CREDIT RATIO

Your credit utilization, or debt-to-credit ratio, is the second-most important piece of your credit score, behind your payment history. It's essentially a measure of how much you owe versus how much credit you have available.

Say, for instance, you owe \$1,000 on a card with a \$2,000 limit. In this case, your debt-to-credit ratio is 50%.

If you're approved for a new credit card with a balance transfer offer, you'll wind up with a higher overall credit limit. This could be a good thing, since it will push your debt-to-credit ratio lower.

In the above example, if you're approved for a new card with a \$1,000 limit, your total credit limit will be \$3,000. As long as you don't accrue more debt, your total debt-to-credit ratio will be about 33%. Since that's better than 50%, your credit score should be fine. Plus, with a lower interest rate, you can presumably pay off the debt quicker. As your debt decreases, so will your debt-to-credit ratio, which means your credit score will climb.

WHAT ABOUT NEW CREDIT INQUIRIES?

A balance transfer's effect on your credit score isn't all good.

To open a new credit card, the card issuer will pull your credit score, which will most likely add an inquiry to your credit file and cause a small but temporary decrease in your score. The impact likely won't be large unless you apply for several balance transfer cards at once.

SHOULD YOU TRANSFER A BALANCE?

Is a balance transfer right for you? If transferring a balance helps you save money and pay off debt faster, it's most likely the right choice.

Just be careful if you're preparing to apply for a larger loan, such as a mortgage.

Even a small ding at the wrong time can hurt you. Still, transferring a balance and efficiently paying off debt will have great consequences for your credit score over the long term.

Abby Hayes is a freelance blogger and journalist who writes for personal finance blog *The Dough Roller* and contributes to *Dough Roller's* weekly newsletter.

BALANCE TRANSFERS PITFALLS

A balance transfer card can be good in some circumstances, but it has potential drawbacks. Here's what to avoid if you opt for a balance transfer:

TAKING ON MORE DEBT

If you're already dealing with credit card debt because of your spending habits, a balance transfer may be the wrong choice. Opening a new credit card gives you access to more credit, and with that access can come the temptation to spend.

PAYING TOO MUCH IN BALANCE TRANSFER FEES

Most balance transfer cards come with a one-time fee. This fee may be worth it if it gets you out of paying loads of interest every month. But it might also cost more than you're willing to pay. Be sure you know what the fee is upfront.

MAXING OUT A CREDIT CARD

Scoring algorithms such as FICO's look at both your overall credit utilization and your per-card credit utilization. So maxing out a balance transfer card to take full advantage of a low- or no-interest offer may negatively affect your credit score, even if opening the new card decreases your overall debt-to-credit ratio.



GRAHAM HICKLING, UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE VIA CDC

Ticks, usually found in brush-filled, grassy areas, can be hosts to diseases such as Lyme disease and anaplasmosis to people.

TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF DURING TICK SEASON

Some tick diseases can't be treated and can even be fatal

JACY MARMADUKE
FORT COLLINS COLORADOAN

The most commonly reported tick-borne disease in the United States, Lyme disease, has been getting a lion's share of the attention lately.

Yet ticks — the U.S. has almost 100 varieties but only a few bite humans — can be hosts to nearly a dozen other lesser-known diseases that can be passed on to you and your children if they latch onto your skin.

That's the reason to wear shoes, socks and long pants before heading out to enjoy nature, whether hiking in the woods or playing in a grassy field.

Q How do I keep a tick from biting me?

A To prevent catching any disease that a tick might carry:

- ▶ **Avoid brush-filled, grassy areas** on the outskirts of fields and woods.

- ▶ **Cover up**, especially the ankles, feet and legs. Those areas are ticks' first stops on their travels around your body.

- ▶ **Use insect repellents** that ward off ticks and mosquitoes, even if you consider them messy.

- ▶ **Check yourself and your pets** for ticks after you've been outdoors. Ticks take up to 24 hours or more to find a feeding spot and latch on, so you have a little time to get rid of them.

Q What should I do if I find a tick on my dog?

A It's probably a brown dog tick, which can be found across the continental USA, or an American dog tick. They're pretty hard to tell apart, though brown dog ticks can cause a nasty home infestation because they prefer the indoors.

Be wary of both, because each can transmit diseases to humans.

To remove a tick that has latched onto your dog, put a little rubbing alcohol on the area and pluck out the tick with tweezers.

Be sure to remove the biting head as well as the entire body, save it in a sealed container and take it and your

pet to the veterinarian.

If you end up with a brown dog tick infestation in your home, you'll have to get pretty aggressive to oust the suckers. That includes treating and washing all of your dog's favorite spots, vacuuming cracks along baseboards and throwing the vacuum bag in your sealed trash can outside.

You also can take preventative measures, such as protecting your dog with tick repellent. Many brands, both oral and topical, work for both fleas and ticks and need to be taken or applied once a month.

Q What's the best way to remove a tick from a person?

A Don't use a match. Just like you would with your dog, grab a pair of tweezers and slowly pull out the tick at a right angle from your skin. You want to get the tweezers as close to your skin as possible and remove the entire tick.

If you have to use your fingers, at least put a tissue or other barrier between your hand and the tick.

Disinfect the area and wash your hands afterward. Go to the doctor if you start to develop symptoms in the weeks following the bite.

Q Twelve reasons to take ticks seriously? What diseases can they carry?

A Lyme disease infects about 300,000 Americans annually, according to an estimate from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Fourteen states in the Northeast and Midwest account for more than 96% of cases, but the range of ticks that transmit the disease has been increasing.

Federal epidemiologists also have identified 11 other tick-borne diseases that you and your family can catch:

- ▶ **Anaplasmosis**, caused by bacteria, can be fatal in about 1% of cases, even in previously healthy people.

- ▶ **Babesiosis** is caused by microscopic parasites that infect red blood cells and is treatable. The tick that transmits it is about the size of a poppy seed.

- ▶ **Colorado tick fever** is a viral infection transmitted from the bite of an infected Rocky Mountain wood tick, which lives in the western United States and Canada in areas 4,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level. This disease has no treatment.

Lyme disease infects about 300,000 Americans annually, according to an estimate from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Fourteen states in the Northeast and Midwest account for more than 96% of cases, but the range of ticks that transmit the disease has been increasing.

- ▶ **Ehrlichiosis**, caused by bacteria, appears with flu-like symptoms. It is treatable and has been fatal in about 2% of cases.

- ▶ **Powassan**, which comes from a virus, has no specific treatment. Although only 75 cases have been reported in the past decade, it can develop into encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain, or meningitis, an inflammation of the membranes around the brain and spinal cord.

- ▶ **Q fever** comes from a bacteria that naturally infects some animals such as goats, sheep and cattle, so ticks that feed on an infected animal can transmit the disease. Only about half the people who get Q fever will have symptoms, but those people can develop pneumonia or hepatitis.

- ▶ **Rocky Mountain spotted fever**, caused by bacteria, can be transmitted via at least two types of dog ticks and Rocky Mountain wood ticks. The disease can be severe or even fatal if not treated within the first few days of symptoms that include headache, fever and often but not always a pink, non-itchy rash that starts on wrists, arms and ankles.

- ▶ **Southern tick-associated rash illness** has an unknown cause, but researchers know that Lone star ticks transmit this disease that can act like Lyme's bacteria. An antibiotic can treat the symptoms.

- ▶ **Tick-borne relapsing fever**, a

bacterial infection, also can be transmitted via lice. The rare infection is usually linked to sleeping in rustic rodent-infested cabins in mountainous areas. If untreated, victims can face several cycles of three days of 103-degree fevers, headaches and muscle aches and a week without.

- ▶ **Tick paralysis**, thought to be caused by a toxin in tick saliva, is rare but can paralyze a victim and is often confused with Guillain-Barre syndrome or botulism. Luckily, within 24 hours of removing the tick, the paralysis typically subsides.

- ▶ **Tularemia** first infects rabbits and rodents, and the ticks that bite them infect humans. One telltale sign of infection is often an ulcer on the skin where the bacteria entered the body; lymph nodes also become infected.

Q How do I know if I have contracted a tick-borne disease?

A It depends. Many of the diseases that ticks carry start out with fever, headache and fatigue in people.

Some, like Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever, come with rashes — but not in every case.

If you know you've been in areas that ticks like and you experience symptoms, don't brush off those symptoms. Some people with Lyme disease or other tick-borne infections never find the tick that bit them.

Many of the bacterial diseases can be stopped with antibiotics. But curing a disease might not fix some of the associated problems — such as arthritis that often accompanies Lyme disease — that can develop after an initial illness.

Michelle Case of Loveland, Colo., needed two dozen doctors and repeated rounds of medical testing before she was diagnosed with chronic Lyme disease.

She has no idea how she encountered the disease, especially because the disease is rare in Colorado.

Yet symptoms of heart palpitations, muscle tremors, chronic fatigue, memory loss and blurred vision had plagued her for two years without a diagnosis, and the problems still come and go.

"Am I just going to keep coming in and out of remission for the rest of my life? I don't know," Case said. "Every day is a struggle."

SISTERS IN SERVICE

DUO TRAVELS COUNTRY TO OFFER VOLUNTEER SERVICES IN ALL 50 STATES

DAVID PANNELL NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI DAILY JOURNAL

TUPELO - South Carolina sisters Lindsey and Lee Ellen Fulmer have spent a week of early mornings wearing plastic gloves, spooning up grits and gravy at Saints' Brew, the feeding ministry of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Tupelo.

Though they smile and chat as they greet the guests in line at Saints' Brew, they could be excused for being a little road weary.

After all, they've been traveling around the country in a beat-up Nissan Cube with a gimpy transmission for nearly a year, living out of suitcases, sleeping in strange beds, and serving the needy everywhere they go.

Now they are within sight of the goal they set for themselves: to spend one week volunteering in each of the 50 states. After Mississippi, only Alabama and Georgia stand between the Fulmers and the fulfillment of that vision.

Twenty-five-year-old Lindsey graduated from Lee University with a degree in youth ministry in 2014, and she wanted to do some exploring before she settled down.

"I thought about backpacking through Asia. I love Asia, and there are lots of volunteer opportunities there, but something kept calling me back to the States," she said.

She didn't mention her private ruminations to anyone, not even her sister.

She was working as an intern at a church in Oklahoma when out of the blue, she got a call from her younger sister, 23-year-old Lee Ellen, who had just graduated from college with a degree in elementary education.

"Lee Ellen called and said, 'Hey, I have this crazy idea. What if I took a year off after college and traveled the US and worked for nonprofits?'"

she said. "We hadn't spoken about it, but that was exactly what I had been thinking. I knew that was my confirmation."

The Fulmers reached out to a network of friends across the country to arrange for families to host them, then found nonprofits in those areas where they could serve.

"We really didn't know what to expect from lots of places. We loved the West — the desert, the Grand Canyon, the California Redwoods. It was awesome," Lee Ellen said.

Both Fulmers agree the trip has been eye-opening.

"One of the things we've taken away is that a lot of the stereotypes that are put on people by the media are just not accurate. We're from the South, so naturally, we thought people up north would be just terrible. But everyone we've encountered has been super nice," Lee Ellen said.

Lindsey added, "I just had an adult moment, and I decided to make up my own mind about people, no matter what anybody else said."

The Fulmers agreed that no matter where they went, some things were constant.

"Across the board, one of the first things we heard people talk about was heroin. It's everywhere you go. And if not heroin, then opioids," Lindsey said.

Lee Ellen said a thread runs through all the volunteer groups they have worked with.

"It's been inspiring to see all these people constantly giving, not worrying about money or about themselves, but getting so much in return, doing things they love. That's what I want to do with the rest of my life, any way I can," she said.



Lindsey Fulmer, center, and her sister, Lee Ellen, right, work the breakfast line at All-Saints Episcopal Church in Tupelo, Miss., as they travel across the county doing community service.

THOMAS WELLS/AP

Nebraska church restoring historic stained glass windows

TAMMY REAL-MCKEIGHAN
FREMONT TRIBUNE

FREMONT, Neb. - For decades, light has filtered through the stained glass windows of First United Methodist Church in Fremont.

But when members noticed some deterioration in those windows, they knew action was needed.

So the church has embarked on a \$102,000 project to restore the 18 stained glass windows in the building. Restoration, which began last fall, has been completed on five of the windows. It probably will take another year before the project is complete.

Members already have noticed a

difference. Light streams more easily through the colorful windows and symbols, such as the lilies, look brighter.

"Our church was built in 1921 and we noticed that some of the windows were starting to show signs of bowing," Gail Bevington said.

Lead that surrounded the individual pieces of glass has been deteriorating and giving way. Thus, the glass is sagging and bowing.

The windows are very important to the church.

"They're historical and certainly we needed to take action to make sure we didn't have a problem," Bevington said.

"We're not just having them repaired, we're having them completely

rebuilt," said member Don Barnhart.

Some panes of glass are replaced. Bevington said the glass for the windows is still produced in Kokomo, Indiana.

With the restoration project, less lead and more zinc is used. That material is stronger and lighter, Barnhart said.

Besides restoring the windows, all of the existing plexiglass storm coverings will be replaced by quarter-inch plate glass, which won't discolor.

Wood trim around the windows, which is deteriorating, will be replaced with aluminum cladding.

"They'll last another 100 years, well beyond our lifetime," Bevington said.



TAMMY REAL-MCKEIGHAN / THE TRIBUNE VIA AP
Don Barnhart, from left, Claude Harder, the Rev. Michael McGregor, Chuck Danskin, Gail Bevington and Dave Theophilus stand in the sanctuary of First United Methodist Church in Fremont, Nebraska, which is restoring its 96-year-old stained glass windows.



JOHAN ORDONEZ, AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Numbers show that many U.S. mothers don't breastfeed their newborns for the recommended amount of time. A lot of factors contribute, from economics to health and outside support.

U.S. mothers cut breastfeeding short

Obstacles include nipple pain, social stigmas and working

ASHLEY MAY
@ASHLEYMAYTWEETS
USA TODAY

While mothers are breastfeeding, they aren't keeping it up. About 81% of mothers nationwide reported breastfeeding at some point,

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data shows, but that number drastically decreases to about 22% when looking at exclusive breastfeeding for six months, which is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. At one year, supplemental breastfeeding is about 31% in the 2013 data. The World Health Organization recommends breastfeeding for two years.

Breast milk has many proven benefits, including improved immunity and lower risk of sudden infant death syndrome. Some studies even show breastfeeding improves a child's cognitive function, but that's up for debate.

Still, many mothers who hear "breast is best" intend to breastfeed for one year or longer.

Here are some reasons they stop early.

IT'S AWKWARD, PAINFUL AND HARD TO KNOW IF THE BABY IS GETTING ENOUGH MILK.

Helping a baby latch properly onto a nipple is as easy as grabbing a stuffed animal in a claw arcade game. An exhausted new mother learning how to hold a tiny, fragile human has to grab her breast and maneuver a nipple into a small, crying mouth. Even if the baby takes a nipple, he might not have a good latch, and there's no way to know how much he's drinking, unless he's weighed.

Regina Maria Roig-Romero, the chair of the board of directors for the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners, said concern about milk supply is the most common problem she hears about.

"In terms of milk supply, most healthy women are perfectly capable of making enough milk they need, even enough for twins," Roig-Romero said.

Andrew Bernstein, spokesperson for the American Academy of Pediatrics, said many mothers don't understand that the first days of latching can be painful.

"Breastfeeding isn't easy," Bern-

stein said.

Nursing can cause cracked, bleeding nipples. Women who don't seek support from a doctor or lactation consultant might not know, and will give up. (Once a proper latch is established, breastfeeding shouldn't hurt.) However, resources often come at a cost, as insurance doesn't always cover private-practice lactation consultants.

THE WORK-PUMP GRIND IS DIFFICULT TO BALANCE.

Most American mothers return to work just a few weeks after giving birth, and continuing to breastfeed usually requires pumping. Initially, they have to talk to their employers about breaking three to four times daily to go into a room, partially undress, piece pump parts together, hook up to a machine, express milk, clean the pump and store the milk in a refrigerator. Then, they go about their work days. Pumping can be intimidating and overwhelming.

Laura Maria Gruber, a board-certified lactation consultant, said the time when American working mothers resume working can also be problematic.

"Mothers go back to work six to 12 weeks out of the hospital," Gruber said. "Those are two critical times. At six weeks, mothers establish their supply."

Mothers without a supportive work environment or caregivers can have difficulty meeting their breastfeeding goals. Support is key even for mothers who don't work and simply need to get out of the house. While breastfeeding in public is legal in most states, societal stigmas still discourage it.

Employers covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act (and not exempt from FLSA's overtime pay requirements) are required to provide breaks and a private pumping room (not a bathroom) for up to a year after birth. But, as a recent *Washington Post* article points out, some women pump in conditions that are illegal and, frankly, demeaning.

The U.S. does not have a paid family leave policy like other developed countries around the globe, another breastfeeding roadblock. Access to paid

maternity leave is shown to increase the duration of breastfeeding.

In 2016, 58.6% of women were working or seeking work with children younger than 1 year old, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Family Medical Leave Act gives women 12 weeks of job-protected unpaid leave, but many workers don't qualify for that. Twelve percent of U.S. non-government workers have access to paid family leave, according to the Department of Labor. President Trump recently proposed a federal budget that, if passed, would grant parents six weeks of paid leave after the birth or adoption of a child. Whether that will be passed is to be determined, and critics say it's not enough.

MOTHERS CHOOSE THE HEALTHIER OPTION.

Danielle Campoamor worked as a freelance writer and social media manager when her son was born. She had no leave, and started working the moment she returned from the hospital. Campoamor, identity editor at Romper.com, a parenting site for Millennials, said she wanted to breastfeed for two years — one year, minimum.

"I got into the idea that I would have been a really bad mom if I supplemented or stopped," Campoamor said. "Trying to breastfeed and trying to continue to work and live up to expectations definitely contributed to my postpartum depression."

Campoamor breastfed exclusively for seven months. She cried when her partner gave her son formula, but felt

healthier after making the decision to stop.

"Looking back, I wish I would have quit sooner," she said.

Campoamor's is one of several situations mothers face when breastfeeding for a year isn't best. In some cases, necessary resources and help aren't available or affordable. In others, like those who have HIV, breastfeeding isn't recommended for a baby's health.

"People do what they think is best for them and their families," Roig-Romero said. "There are reasons for why people stop breastfeeding. ... We need to point our lens not at them but at the reasons why."

81%

Of mothers nationwide reported breastfeeding at some point

22%

Exclusively breastfed for six months, which is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

31%

Breastfed at one year as supplemental breastfeeding

AREA EVENTS

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

Summer concerts

The Northville Summer Friday Night Concert Series – presented by Tom Holzer Ford – brings the music of some of the finest local musicians to downtown Northville's outdoor stage in Town Square (located on Main Street across from the Marquis Theatre) 7-9 p.m. each Friday through Aug. 25.

The schedule features everything from jazz to blues to rock 'n' roll. For more information, including a full schedule of performances, contact the Northville Chamber at 248-349-7640 or go to www.northville.org.

Medical equipment drive

St. George's Episcopal Church, 801 E. Commerce St., Milford, is partnering with World Medical Relief as a drop-off site for your unused medical equipment. Donate your clean, gently used walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, shower chairs, crutches, canes, splints, medical boots, adult briefs and pads, sealed C-Pap equipment and sealed medication (no narcotics). We are also collecting for hygiene kits: towels, wash clothes, sample sizes of shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, soap and toothbrushes. We cannot accept glasses, hearing aids or electric wheelchairs.

Drop-off times are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and Sunday mornings through Aug 15. We suggest you call first to ensure someone is available to take your donation during the week. For more information, go to stgeorgesmilford.org or call 248-684-0495.

Milford summer concerts

The Milford Township Concert Committee presents the Summer Concert Series for 2017 at the Lafontaine Family Amphitheater in Central Park on Main Street in downtown Milford. Free concerts run 7-9 p.m. each Thursday.

» June 29: Farmington Community Band allows you to enjoy an evening of patriotic music and marches in a special program that honors our veterans, active military and first responders.

» July 6: Steve King and the Dittilies will entertain you with their nostalgic rock 'n' roll.

» July 13: Kari Lynch is all the way from Nashville. Roots country, meets Americana, meets twangy pop rock.

» July 20: Persuasion thumps with their high energy hits from Motown to the Black Eyed Peas.

» July 27: Magic Bus mixes a psychedelic rock tribute with the Woodstock era.

» Aug. 3: Mr. Moody will rock the Amp with their classic rock, country rock, Motown, and everything in between.

Learn more at www.milfordtownship.com or email concerts@milfordtownship.com.

SL Rec Authority

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority board meetings are held at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call the South Lyon Area Recreation office at 248-437-8105 for directions and confirmation of meeting location. To register for upcoming classes, call or go to www.slrec.net.

Upcoming events:
Week of July 2: Yoga with Kymm; Kids Kamp – Castaway; Cardio Kickboxing; Group Swim Lessons; Intro to Horses; Hidden Gems of South Lyon Photography.

Week of July 9: Moana

Polynesian Summer Camp; Safety Town; Big Kids Safety Town; Dance Camps at the Studio; Kids Kamp – Sick Science; Horse Camp; Basketball Shooting Camp; Challenger British Soccer Camps; All American Baseball Camp; Tee-Ball; Beginning Lacrosse Camp; Aqua Fitness; Summer Travel Soccer League; Volleyball Lite & Skills/Tourney; Tae Kwon Do; Natural Beauty Fabulous Skin Class.

Register for teen camp

Novi Youth Assistance announces that registration has begun for the Summer Teen Center. Camp runs until Aug. 3 and is held at the Novi High School cafeteria.

Registration fee is \$175 for seven weeks of camp. Students in grades 6-10 may attend. There are 13 field trips this year. Zap Zone, Paradise Park, AirTime, BonaVenture, Detroit Tiger game, Detroit Zoo, C.J. Barrymore's, Emagine, Novi Bowl, Kensington Park, Red Oaks Water Park. There will also be trips to the Novi Police Station, Novi Fire Station, Novi DPS and Novi Public Library.

Daily activities include, sports, games, arts and crafts, learning activities and tutoring. Summer Teen Center has been around for more than 30 years. This is an affordable day camp teens can come to during the day open from noon to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Call Novi Youth Assistance for more information or to register at 248-347-0410.

Build A Better World!

The Northville District Library's youth summer reading program runs through Aug. 12. Open to the littlest ones up through 2017 grads – join the Summer Reading or Teen Summer Reading Program and enjoy exciting free activities, crafts, storytimes, reading games,

weekly prizes and more. Parents, read to young ones, and help your students maintain – and improve – important reading skills to prevent summer slide. Go to northvillelibrary.org for details.

Huron Valley Ambulance's Camp 9-1-1

Registration is open for Camp 9-1-1 a free, interactive, two-day camp put on by Huron Valley Ambulance for children ages 8-12. Activities include: learning CPR and first-aid with paramedics; exploring emergency vehicles; touring local emergency departments and fire departments; and engaging in interactive presentations from local police and specialty teams.

Camp dates and locations (camp runs 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day): July 10-11, Plymouth Cultural Center; July 13-14, Eastern Michigan University; July 24-25, St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea Hospital; Aug. 2-3, Van Buren Township Fire Department; Aug. 14-15, Milan Community House; Aug. 17-18, Glaab Individual Financial Planning, New Boston; and Aug. 23-24, Huron Valley Ambulance Headquarters, Ann Arbor.

Pre-registration is required. Register online at www.camp911.org.

Barn fire safety seminar

The Highland Equestrian Conservancy will conduct a barn fire safety seminar from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 8, at Equinox Farm in Highland. Topics include barn fire prevention, common ignition sources, safety and security in your barn, emergency response, handling and storage of materials and supplies, evacuation planning, fire drills, smoke and CO2 alarms, heating safety, Q&A session and more.

Speakers include Ken Chapman, fire chief, Highland Township Fire

Department, and Don St. Clair, retired battalion chief, Farmington Hills Fire Department and owner of Miracle Ranch in Milford.

Picnic lunch begins at noon and includes fried chicken, mac-n-cheese, Greek salad, rolls, dessert and beverages. The seminar is free for current HEC members or \$5 for non-members. Equinox Farm is located at 855 N. Hickory Ridge in Highland. RSVP to 248-889-7328 or hec.editor@aol.com by July 1.

Northville Garden Walk

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Country Garden Club of Northville's affiliation with the Women's National Farm and Garden Organization. To celebrate a small gift is included with your ticket to Garden Walk, which takes place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 12.

The Walk will feature six new private gardens with the centerpiece being the 19th century Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold St. just a block north of downtown Northville. The village is composed of a general store, a blacksmith shop, church, school, inn, gazebo and three representative homes and gardens from the era. As an extra bonus, along the shady village street will be a garden oriented vendor market and the music of Kurt Krahnke and Rodney Rich as well as complimentary homemade refreshments inside Cady Inn for all ticket holders.

Tickets are \$12, if purchased in advance either direct from Gardenviews Garden Gallery, 127 E. Main Street, 248-380-8881 or online at www.cgcnv.org. Tickets ordered from the website will be held for your convenience on the day of the walk at the ticket tent inside Mill Race Village. Purchased on the day of the walk, tickets will be \$15. Visitors may wish to take a

break and have lunch in one of the many quaint restaurants, sandwich, ice cream and coffee shops conveniently located within walking distance from Mill Race Village in downtown Northville. Proceeds from this event go toward supporting local and national organizations that promote environmental and horticultural causes and to provide scholarships for local high school seniors who plan to go into college science careers. Walkers and strollers are not allowed due to terrain and safety restrictions. Visit the garden club on Facebook for more information.

Active Faith golf outing

Active Faith Community Services is in the planning stages of its 20th annual golf outing, an event that raises funds to help those in the community that are struggling to provide food for their family, scheduled for Monday, July 17, at Salem Hills Golf Course.

Interested golfers and corporate sponsors are needed to make the day a success. Contact Active Faith at 248-437-9790 for more information and to register.

4-H Family & Alumni Hoedown

The Oakland County Fair and 4-H are partnering to host its inaugural public hoedown to honor 4-H Alumni in Oakland County.

The event will take place 8-10:30 p.m. Saturday, July 15, during the Oakland County Fair in the Meijer Pavilion located in Springfield Oaks County Park, 12451 Andersonville Road, Davisburg. Parking is \$12. This event is open to all ages.

No preregistration is necessary. For more information, go to www.oakfair.org, www.oakgov.com/msu/4h, www.facebook.com/4hinoc or contact Mary Blumka at blumkama@anr.msu.edu or 248-858-0890.

4-H is a youth development program for ages 5-19 that uses projects like robotics, archery and animal science to teach life skills like leadership, record keeping and communication.

The Oakland County Fair runs July 7-16.

Kids in the Park

Milford Cooperative Preschool welcomes the community to join it 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, July 25, for a free event at Central Park, 159 N. Main St. There will be story time, activities and crafts for the kids. It is geared toward children 3-6 years old, but all ages are welcome.

VBS at Solid Rock

"Created by God. Built for a Purpose" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School at Solid Rock Bible Church. VBS will meet 6:30-8:45 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 24-28. Boys and girls in grades K-5 (determined by 2016-17 school year) are encouraged to come and bring all their friends.

For more information or to register, go to <https://vbspro.events/p/events/adf689> or contact the church office at 248-486-4400 or by email at solidrocksouthlyon@sbcglobal.net.

Pre-registration appreciated, walk-ins welcome. Solid Rock is located at 22183 Pontiac Trail in the Brookdale Shopping Center, behind Jazzercise and Powerhouse Gym.

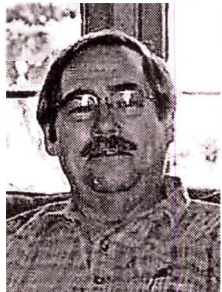
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How to reach us:
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Deadlines: Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. for Thursday papers
Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

Baggett



Ronald G. age 66, a lifelong resident of Northville, passed away on June 21, 2017. He was born May 29, 1951 at Sessions Hospital in downtown Northville; son of Othal "Bim" and Bernice (nee Lute) Baggett. Ron graduated from Northville High School, Class of 1969. When Ron was 12 years old his father bought him his first tractor and his love of being outside and "playing in the dirt" grew into a business. At the young age of 16 he began a lawn maintenance company that morphed into Baggett Excavating. He was a very hard worker and extremely professional; he truly loved his job. Ron was a very talented karaoke singer and enjoyed singing at the Wagon Wheel. He liked boating and being on the water. Ron was a very caring son and brother. His nieces and nephews enjoyed his fun-loving spirit. Ron is survived by his mother Bernice A. Baggett; his daughter Julie (Aaron) Hirkey; his step-daughter Amy (David) Bush; 5 grandchildren; and his sisters, Darlene Anderson, Shirlee Murphy, Terrie Johnson, and Kristine Short. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father Othal "Bim" Baggett. Private services have been held. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetes Association, PO Box 15829, Arlington, VA 22215.

CASTERLINE
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Boley

James F. age 52, passed away June 16, 2017. He was born August 13, 1964 to Harlan and Mildred Boley. James is survived by his beloved wife, Suzie; his children: Ashley Boley and James Boley Jr.; his parents: Harlan and Charlene Boley, and Mildred and Dean Tschudy. James is also survived by his sister, Cindy Boley Gray; and his brother, Ricki Boley. A memorial service will be held on Thursday, June 29 at 12:30PM with the family receiving friends beginning at 9:30AM at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. www.phillipsfuneral.com.

MacDonald

Robert Callaghan age 89, died on June 11, 2017. He was born on July 14, 1927 to the late August and Catherine (O'Callaghan) MacDonald. He is survived by his wife, Margaret (Downs) MacDonald, Son Andrew (Stacie) MacDonald, Daughter Roxanne (MacDonald) Naszradi and two grandchildren Nicole and Jacob Naszradi. Bob worked many years at Ford Motor Company and proudly served in the US Navy during WWII. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend to many. Memorial Service to be held on July 10th, 2017 at 11:00am at Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200 Belford Road, Holly, MI. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

Reiss-Gage

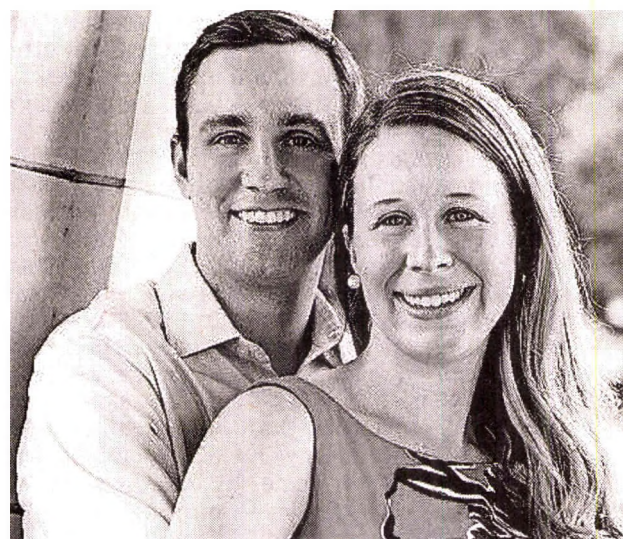
Dr. Steven and Debbie Reiss of Louisville, Ky., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jordan Lynn Reiss, to Ryan Oliver Gage, son of Ann Gage and the late Kevin Gage of Northville.

Jordan and Ryan are both 2012 graduates of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and met while living in London on a summer internship program.

The bride-to-be earned her bachelor of science degree in finance and economics at the Cox School of Business at SMU. Jordan is employed by Koan Health in Dallas as a senior business analyst.

The prospective groom is a 2008 graduate of Catholic Central High School. Ryan earned his bachelor of science and

ENGAGEMENT



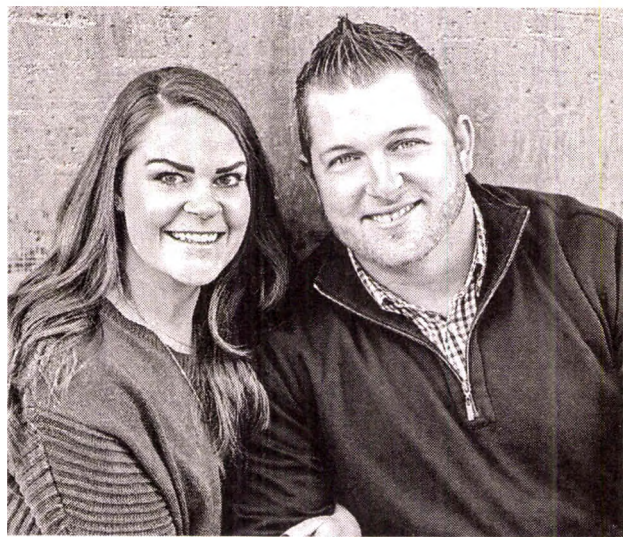
Ryan Gage and Jordan Reiss

master of science degrees in accounting at the Cox School of Business at SMU. He has also achieved the certified public accountant designation. Ryan is employed at Deloitte & Touche in

Dallas as a strategy and operations consultant.

A September 2017 wedding is planned in Louisville, Ky. The couple will live in Dallas, Texas.

ENGAGEMENT



Brittany Birdsall and Nicholas Norton

Birdsall-Norton

Rick and Diana Birdsall of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter Brittany Susanne Birdsall to Nicholas Neil Norton, son of Bill Norton and Tamara Sibert.

Brittany is a graduate of Michigan State University and is employed by Whirlpool Corp. in Benton Harbor. Nicholas is a graduate of Western Michigan University and works for Whirlpool Corp. in Chicago.

A March 2018 wedding is planned at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.

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LCMS
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Bible Study: After Both

Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic St., Milford, 248-684-2798
Sunday Worship: 10 am
Children's Church 10:10 am
Groups for Children, Youth, and Adults
www.milfordumc.net

Novi

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www.brightmoorcc.org
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and Youth Group for 6th grade and older
Website: milfordbaptist.org

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1250 South Hill Rd.
(248) 685-3560
www.opcmilford.org
Contemporary Worship Service:
8:30, 10:15, and 11:45.

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www.oakpointe.org

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905 E. Commerce St. Milford, MI 48381
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Sunday School ages 3-20; 10:30 am
Children's room: Wed & Sun services
Wednesday service: 7:30 pm 248-685-7266

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Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Msgr. John Kasza, Pastor
Parish Office: 347-7778

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238 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805
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Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
Fr. Robert A. LaCroix, Pastor
Dcn James Houbeck, Associate
Parish Office: 248-349-8847 www.holyfamilynovi.org

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile
248-348-7757 • www.mbcoc.org
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH
Gathering in Jesus Name
52909 10 Mile Rd • South Lyon, MI 48178
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
734-347-1983 pastor cell
Old fashioned preaching KJV

first united methodist church south lyon, mi
640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760
Summer Worship: 8:15am, 10:00am, & 10:45am
Rev. Mary McInnes, Lead Pastor
Rev. Kenny Walkup, Assoc. Pastor
southlyonfirstumc.org

South Lyon

CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN
(Missouri Synod)
Pastor Terry Nelson
437-8810 • 486-4335
Griswold Rd. at 10 Mile
Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.;
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Sweet Pkwy.
at Liberty St.
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-1651

Northville

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
www.fpcnorthville.org
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON
Worship, 9:30 am.
Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.
248-349-0911

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248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org
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10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.
Matthew Oliver, Minister

First United Methodist Church
(248) 349-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Taft Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor
www.tumcnorthville.org

Our Saviour Apostolic Lutheran Church
54899 8 Mile Rd. at Currie Rd. Northville, MI 48167
248-374-2268
Sunday Worship:
Sunday School at 9:45
10:30 am Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study at 7 pm
Pastor Andy Whitten
oursaviouralc.com

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church
22200 Pontiac Trail (S of 9 Mile)
Sunday Worship @ 9:30 am
Sunday School @ 11 am
Wednesday mid-week programs
Rev. Cliff Mansley, Pastor
248-437-2222 • www.fellowshippepc.org

Shepherd's Way Lutheran Church, ELCA
59255 10 Mile Rd.
South Lyon MI 48178
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM
Rev. Thomas Scherger
248-573-7320
www.shepherdswaysouthlyon.org

Whitmore Lake

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
10774 Nine Mile Road
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

Livonia

TIMOTHY ELCA LUTHERAN CHURCH
8820 Wayne Rd,
Livonia, MI 48180
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
734-427-2290

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON
60820 Marjorie Ann St., South Lyon 48178
Phone: 248-437-2983
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Assoc. Pastor: Randy Weeks
Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
• Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net

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Regular Mass Schedule:
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Sunday 8:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M., 12:00 Noon
Confessions: Saturday 3:30 P.M.
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Expert tips for negotiating your salary

BY MATT TARPEY
 CAREERBUILDER

You did it! You successfully navigated the job market and application process and nailed the interview. Now you've got a real job offer. As much as you may be tempted to just sign it and be done with the job hunt, there's still one more thing to do – a step many job seekers skip, only to regret it later. It's time to negotiate salary.

Unsure how? Here are a few tips to make sure your salary negotiation goes smoothly.

Actually negotiate

The single most common mistake job seekers make is simply not negotiating on salary. Most employers expect a negotiation and give themselves a little wiggle room with their initial offer. By not negotiating, you're effectively leaving money on the table.

"Perhaps one of the most important things to remember is that once a company makes you a job offer, they want you to come on board. They've invested a significant amount of time to determine that you're the right person for the role," says Lauren Gard, partner at Zumado Public Relations. "If the salary you ask for is rejected, you will have a chance to accept a counteroffer or the original offer."

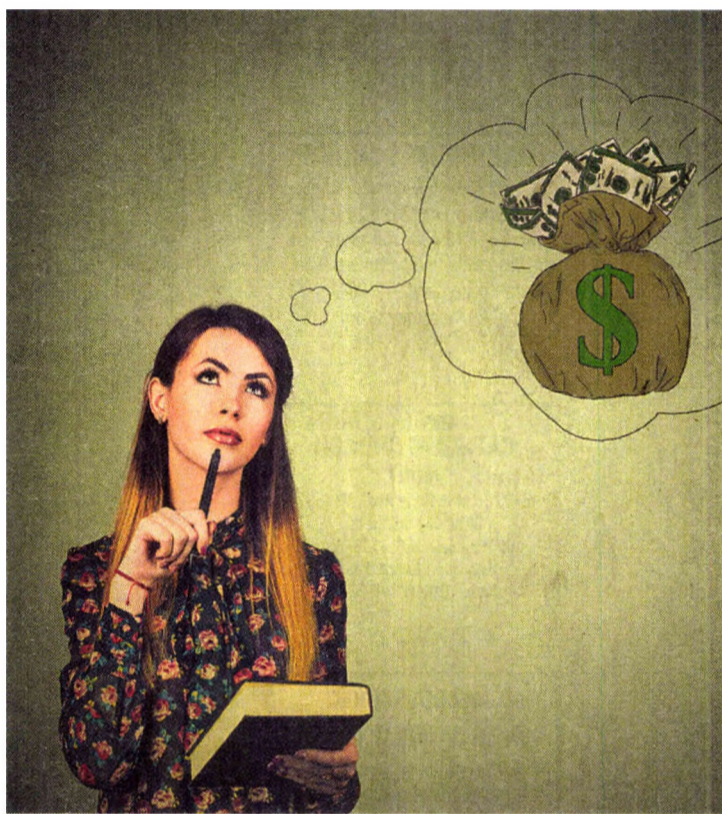
Know your worth

Doing the proper research prior to the interview will help strengthen your position and give you more confidence during salary negotiations. "Research the latest salary trends for your city, industry and job title by reviewing compensation surveys and talking to recruiters or others in your network," explains Addie Swartz, CEO of ReachHIRE, a training and placement pathway for professional women to get back into the workforce after a career break. "By confidently marketing yourself and your relevant skills and conducting salary research, you should be prepared to negotiate for what you're worth."

Focus on your qualifications

One of the most common mistakes job seekers make is negotiating based on their previous salary. Focusing on how well you fit the employer's needs actually gives you much more leverage.

"The current job market is filled with qualified candidates who have to take a lower salary because it is an employer's market. However, you are in a strong position to negotiate a higher salary if you are pretty much a perfect match for the position," says Cheryl Palmer, owner of Call to Career. "The best thing to do is to reiterate



GETTY IMAGES

what the position requires and restate the fact that you have exactly what they are looking for. Then you can say, 'My salary research shows that the going rate for someone with my qualifications and experience is between \$X and \$Y.' This makes your request for a higher salary objective instead of subjective."

Consider the complete package

Salary negotiations aren't necessarily all about salary. If

an employer is unable to go higher on base salary, they may be more flexible when it comes to benefits and employee perks. "Nothing should be off the table, but prioritize which benefits are most important to you," says Scott Dicke, director of permanent placement services with Robert Half Finance & Accounting. "It's always a good idea to consider employee perks – such as flexible scheduling, vacation time and retirement benefits – when looking at the

whole compensation package."

Get it in writing

Once you've negotiated and agreed on a compensation package, ask for it in writing. This way, the matter is officially sealed and the chance of a clerical or memory error is avoided.

"It's never a done deal until you and your new employer have signed on the dotted line and you're both on the same page," says Dicke. "Documentation of your complete compensation package, job description and expectations in your new role should all be included so there's no confusion or room for interpretation."

Remember, employers typically make job offers with the expectation that they're up for negotiation. And since raises and bonuses are often based on salary, a higher starting salary can have a big effect on your earnings throughout your career.

Negotiating your salary can be nerve-racking, but if you follow these simple tips, you'll be glad you did it.

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

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General

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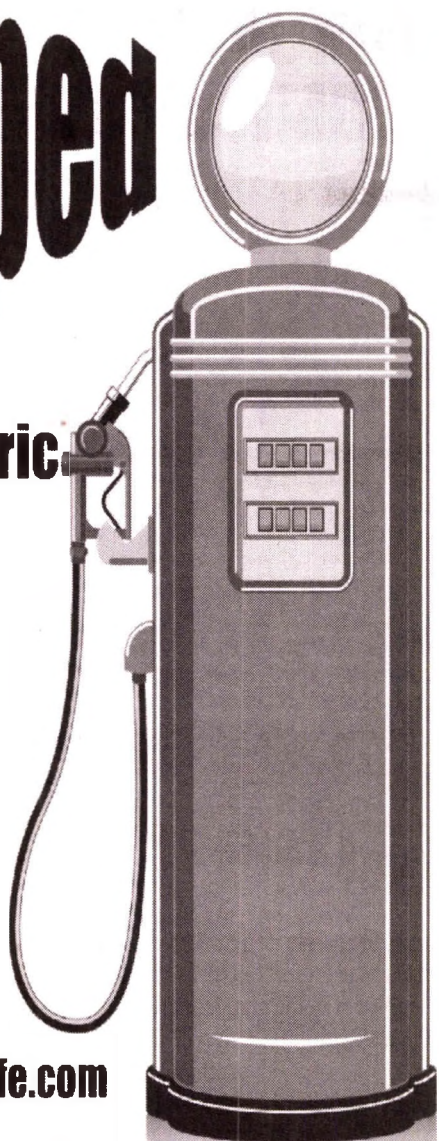
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classifieds

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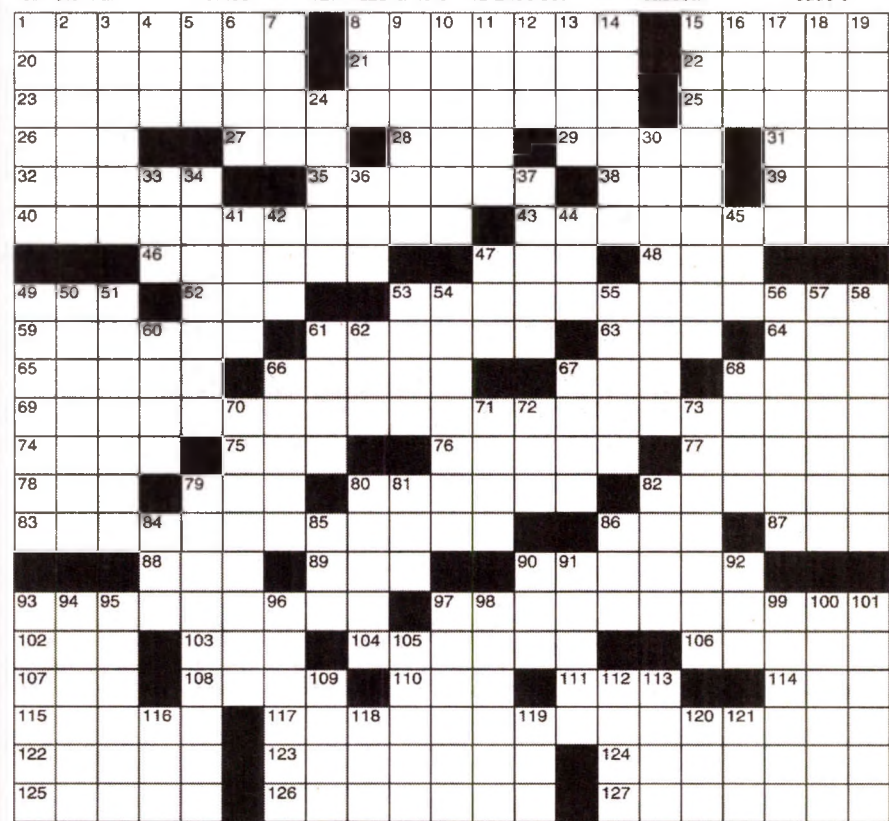
online: hometownlife.com

email: oeads@hometownlife.com



THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Theater districts
 - 8 Friendly
 - 15 Sae
 - 44-Down
 - 20 Based on logic, not fact
 - 21 Retirement payment
 - 22 Blossom part
 - 23 Time when those people are most available?
 - 25 Perk
 - 26 Sweetie
 - 27 Boggy area
 - 28 Yoo- (drink brand)
 - 29 Detergent brand
 - 31 Fighter of Frazier
 - 32 Cain's eldest son
 - 35 Film parts
 - 38 Boston fish
 - 39 Got the title
 - 40 Class that's become stylish again?
 - 43 Carpenter's intent gaze?
 - 46 Gobbling bird
 - 47 Martini liquor
 - 48 Old Pontiac
 - 49 Idling sort
 - 52 "Old man"
 - 53 Big show featuring female horses?
 - 59 Part of the conspiracy
 - 61 Court hearings
 - 63 Flub it up
 - 64 Child of the '60s or '70s
 - 65 Ancient Greek physician
 - 66 Flubs it up
 - 67 Singing syllable
 - 68 Jai — (court sport)
 - 69 Planetary center's top and bottom?
 - 74 Fillies' feed
 - 75 Where you live: Abbr.
 - 76 Sioux City citizen
 - 77 Central church areas
 - 78 Golf club
 - 79 Certain sib
 - 80 Kebab stick
 - 82 Not moving
 - 83 Reserve tire produced in Andalusia's capital?
 - 86 Gp. once led by Arafat
 - 87 Rd. with a number
 - 88 — Wayne (rapper)
 - 89 Fillies' feed again, as hair
 - 93 Lay the blame on Mr. Flintstone?
 - 97 What happens when a low-value playing card is micro-waved?
 - 102 French Dada artist Jean
 - 103 Weed whacker
 - 104 Home of Italy
 - 106 Make a goal
 - 107 — Moines
 - 108 QED part
 - 110 PC-game "City" dweller
 - 111 Early 1960s atty. gen.
 - 114 China's Sun — -sen
 - 115 Old numbing compound
 - 117 Very unusual breeds of house pets?
 - 122 Lyons' river
 - 123 Scrumline
 - 124 Be quiet revealing
 - 125 Having eaten enough
 - 126 Malady
 - 127 Pizzeria herb
- DOWN**
- 1 Kind of
 - 2 Galaxy rival
 - 3 "Am tool" retort
 - 4 Twice XXVI
 - 5 Craggy peak
 - 6 "Carmina Burana" composer Carl
 - 7 Filly's father
 - 8 Chimp, e.g.
 - 9 Net fabrics
 - 10 Chant
 - 11 "... old woman who lived in —"
 - 12 Life, in brief
 - 13 Uncouth sort
 - 14 Fermi of physics
 - 15 Leadfoot
 - 16 — Luthor
 - 17 Metropolis in Ontario
 - 18 Pizzeria, e.g.
 - 19 Stritch of "30 Rock"
 - 24 Occur next
 - 30 Full-size pickup model
 - 33 Old PC part
 - 34 Famed escape artist
 - 36 Shout
 - 37 Dips in pools
 - 41 Suffix with bureau
 - 42 Endorsed
 - 44 With 15-Across, inclined
 - 45 "Mazel —!"
 - 47 Hair fixative
 - 49 Settings for circus acts
 - 50 Clueless
 - 51 Associate of Stalin
 - 53 Slight quarrel
 - 54 More rash
 - 55 Aired anew
 - 56 Old flame
 - 57 Most imminent
 - 58 Port of eastern Italy
 - 60 Suffix with 50-Down or 84-Down
 - 61 Throw lightly
 - 62 Aussie critter
 - 66 "Silly" birds
 - 67 Simeon I of Bulgaria, e.g.
 - 68 Rent- —
 - 70 Extract via a borehole, as oil
 - 71 Hockey great Gordie
 - 72 Ovine female
 - 73 Buries
 - 79 Moved like a snake
 - 80 Garden shovel
 - 81 Big jewelry brand
 - 82 Felipe of baseball
 - 84 Not in good health
 - 85 Doe or sow
 - 86 Highly toxic pollutant, for short
 - 90 Sales agt.
 - 91 Observers
 - 92 U.K. TV network
 - 93 Soundboard controls
 - 94 Soul great Franklin
 - 95 End result
 - 96 Brought up
 - 97 Daughter of Richard Nixon
 - 98 Natives of Italy's capital
 - 99 Common Jesuit school name
 - 100 2006 action-fantasy film
 - 101 Begins, as a task
 - 105 "I'm at your disposal"
 - 109 Hailed ride
 - 112 Burkina —
 - 113 Tree knot
 - 116 Tijuana-to-Phoenix dir.
 - 118 Univ. dorm supervisors
 - 119 Golfing peg
 - 120 Anil or henna
 - 121 First name among U.N. leaders



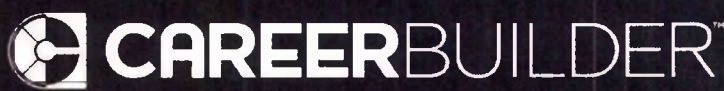
For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



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SUDOKU

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

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

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

FROZEN DESSERT WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- BAKED ALASKA
- MILKSHAKE
- NOVELTY
- PARFAIT
- PREMIUM
- SANDWICH
- SEMIFREDDO
- SHERBET
- SOFT SERVE
- SORBET
- SOUFFLE
- SPRINKLES
- SPUMONI
- SUNDAE
- SWIRL
- TARTUFO
- WAFFLE
- YOGURT
- MALTED
- NOVELTY
- PREMIUM
- SANDWICH
- SEMIFREDDO
- SHERBET
- SOFT SERVE
- SORBET
- SOUFFLE
- SPRINKLES
- SPUMONI
- SUNDAE
- SWIRL
- TARTUFO
- WAFFLE
- YOGURT

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

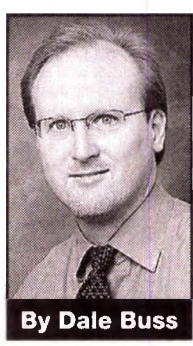
Crossword Answers

RIALTOS AMIABLE SLOPE
APRIORI PENSION PETAL
THEIR FREESTHOUR EXTRA
HON PEN HOOD TIDE ALI
ENOCH SCENES COD WON
RETRO COURSE WOODSTARE
TURKEY GIN GTO
BUM DAD TIEMAH EEVENT
INONIT IRIATIS FRAXFR
GALLEN GOOFS TRAKALATI
TWO SIDES OF THE SAME CORE
OATS RES IOWAN NAVES
PHO SITS SKEWER AIRESI
SEVILLES PARE PLO RITE
LIL HAY RECOMB
FAULTY RED TREY BUBBLES
ARP IOE EUROPE SCORE
DES ERAT SIM RFK YAT
ETHER RARE CATS SAND DOGS
RHONE EXAMINE SAYALOT
SATIED DISEASE OREGANO

Word Search Answers

Car Report

EXCITING, CAPABLE CH-R COMES ALONG JUST IN TIME TO REPRESENT TOYOTA IN HOT SUBCOMPACT-UTE SEGMENT



By Dale Buss

One of the best things that happened to the new Toyota CH-R is that the downscale brand the car originally was supposed to represent -- Scion -- disappeared a couple of years ago. So Toyota Motor Corp. plugged the subcompact crossover vehicle into a crying need in the namesake brand's own vehicle lineup. And Toyota has been able to execute a better model because it took CH-R upscale in the process.

In fact, CH-R is clearly worthy of the Toyota badge, with its interesting shapes and surfaces in exterior design and a platform loaded with amenities that will make CH-R very competitive in what admittedly is an already highly competitive segment. Hyundai's very late-coming new Kona is tilted at the same opportunity: the desire for small but utility-type vehicles by millennial consumers.

CH-R offers a sporty enough 23-liter, four-cylinder engine that delivers 144 horsepower, coupled with a continuously variable transmission, for a powertrain that provides 31 mpg on the highway and 27 mpg in the city. Among its featured performance benefits are a very tight turning radius. The standard safety system is a huge plus as well, including automatic raking as standard equipment and a suite of other automated-driving features that to date have remained the province mainly of much pricier vehicles.

All of this for a price that begins at \$22,500 with a \$960 delivery fee. "Prior to 2010 the segment didn't exist," John Meyers, national manager, Toyota Motor Sales, told me. "The



The new Toyota CH-R is styled for summertime fun

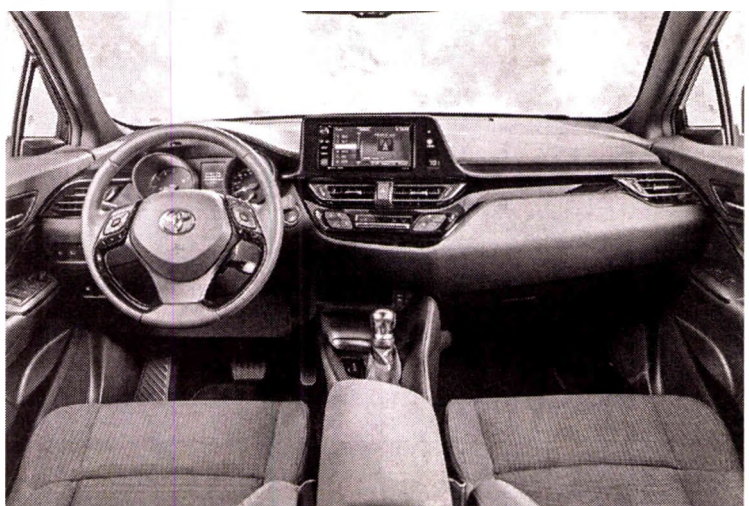
Toyota CH-R as the object of desire.

"One of our main objectives was to spark interest and enthusiasm in a creative campaign equally as captivating as the vehicle itself," said Ed Laukes, group vice president of marketing for Toyota Motor Sales USA, in a press release. "The fairy tales we use in the creative element are timeless classics, but we're telling them in a fresh and mischievous way."

Further adding to the mischief, Toyota also had agency Saatchi & Saatchi remix the content with the help of YouTube sensation Bad Lip Reading, whose re-dub spots highlight CH-R's features with a humorous touch.

Meyers told me that the creative "is a little un-Toyota like and that starts with the target we're going after. They're younger and not typical Toyota buyers. With the audience we're going after, the young millennial audience, and the vehicle and product we have to offer, it really kind of drove the decision to create this unique campaign. It was after mischief makers from fairy tales. We have Cinderella, Ginger Bread Man, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, and so on."

Right now these spots are strictly for YouTube; they won't be repurposed for TV ads. It'll be all digital placement. "We also have print ads, social and digital -- it's a fully Toyota campaign," Meyers said. "We have activations with music and a big partnership with MTV. And a lot of experiential activations at various festivals spread across the country."



Advanced standard safety features highlight the CH-R package

is for another 61 percent in the next couple of years. It's an entry point for new buyers with starting prices in the low 20,000s. It offers the alternative to a sedan.

"For our vehicle, the three key items are styling, fun-to-drive, and it offers our full suite of safety items as standard, which no one else in the segment does. That include dynamic radar cruise control, lane departure alert with steering assist, and [others]."

But whatever happened to the notion, so popular in the auto industry just a few years ago, that millennials don't want to own a vehicle or even learn how to drive?

B, and to work, and to do what they need to do. We don't see slack. While millennials come in later to get their driver's licenses and drive cars, they are purchasing vehicles. They're doing a lot of what you traditionally do in life, just a few years later."

Meanwhile, the marketing launch campaign for C-HR -- which stands for Coupe-High Rider -- inserts the new vehicle into online video ads that tell classic and traditional stories of mischief makers that are updated for the modern age. So, for example, Cinderella escapes the rules of conformity around her life in a C-HR, and a Gingerbread Man spot places

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July 2nd. 9am-4pm.



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turbo, 2001 GMC Sierra 3500 4x4
winow plow, 2000 Ford 350 Van, 2
Enclosed Trailers, GUNS, Knife col-
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& Pinball machines, Beer & Coke Col-
lectibles & Signs, Golf Cart, 6-Turn
Mower, Chain saws, Wood chipper,
Generator, Snow blower, Shop &
Hand Tools, 2 Rolling Toolboxes,
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Glassware, More!
Estate Auction: Saturday, July 1st
Details @ norhnauctions.com

Garage-Tag Sale

Livonia, MOVING SALE 18718
Golfview St., Michigan, 48152 Fri:
June 30, 9-4, Sat: July 1, 9-4, Fur-
niture, household items, games,
toys, entertainment and lots more.
Dir: 7 mile east of Levon

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9-4, 114 West St. Epic Film maker
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3 bks w. of Center 6-28 - 6-30 tons

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NOVI, Moving Sale, 44596 Mansfield
Dr., Michigan, 48375 Thur: 8-5, Fri:
8-3, Sat: 9-5, Sun: 10-4. Furni-
ture, office supplies, boxed toys, anti-
ques, instruments, American Girl
dolls, kids clothes, household items,
video games, DVDs, CDs, books &
more. Dir: Jamestown Green Subdi-
vision: Off 10 mile between Novi Rd
& Taft. Enter sub on Christina & fol-
low the signs.

GARAGE SALE

PLYMOUTH, Huntington Park Sub-
division Garage Sale, 51140 Weston
Drive, Michigan, 48170 Thur 6:29- 9-4,
Fri/6:30- 9-4, Sat 7/1- 9-4, House-
hold items, children's clothes, toys,
books, clothing, etc. Dir: located off
Powell Rd, between Ridge Rd &
Napier Rd

Garage-Tag Sale

TROY, 4384 Renee Dr. Sat-Mon 7/1-
7/3: 8:30-4p Yard Sale. Everything
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Sun, July 9, 2-5PM
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Fri, July 9th, 9:30-12:30pm.
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3 yr \$17, Heartworm Test \$19.
Must bring ad.
Questions: 313.686.5701

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217 E. Livingston Rd.
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Rabies \$17, Heartworm Test \$19
MUST BRING AD. Skin, Ear & Eye
exams avail. 313-686-5701

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WELLNESS CLINIC
TSC (WHITMORE LAKE)
6850 Whitmore Lake
Saturday, July 8th, 10am-2pm
DHPP Lepto CV BDT \$51, 3 year
Rabies \$17, Heartworm Test \$19
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Exams Available. 313-686-5701

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Beautiful Lake Front Home!

*This five bedroom, three bath, Colonial features incredible views of Lake Sherwood
*Open floor plan with lots of space for entertaining
*Walkout lower level with family room and fireplace, separate bedroom and full bathroom
*Choose to keep this existing home or build the home of your dreams on this amazing waterfront lot

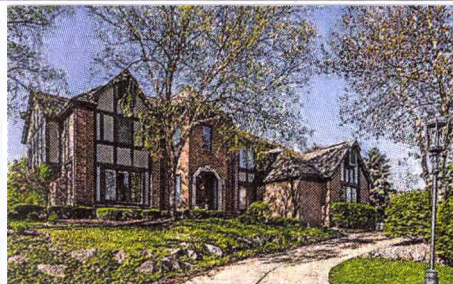
MLS 217049046 248.684.1065 \$675,000



Build The Home Of Your Dreams!

*Pictured is a four bedroom, two and a half bathroom, Colonial, on 1.03 acres
*Many floor plans, with natural fire place and hardwood floors
*Brick and stone with covered porch
*Island kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances

MLS 216116498 248.684.1065 \$499,000



Exquisite Custom Built Home!

*This five bedrooms, three and half bathrooms, is just minutes from downtown Northville
*Updated kitchen with granite counters and hard floor, double oven and two pantries
*This home features an Elevator that provides access to all three levels
*Professionally landscaped yard with composite deck, bridge walkway, gazebo and a salt water Assemany pool

MLS 217036450 248.684.1065 \$649,900



Charming Five Bedroom Colonial!

*This home features five bedrooms and three and half bathrooms
*Dream kitchen with center island, granite counter tops, breakfast nook and formal dining room
*Impressive 2-story entrance with split staircase
*Entertain in your spacious finished walkout basement

MLS 217052265 248.684.1065 \$359,900



Exquisite Home in Great Neighborhood!

*This beautiful four bedroom, three and half bathrooms, located on 2.26 acres is a must see
*Spacious dining room with crown molding, open kitchen with breakfast room
*First floor laundry with porcelain tile, cabinets and sink
*Stunning master suite

MLS 217040546 248.684.1065 \$525,000



Gorgeous Ranch in the Village of Milford!

*This adorable four bedroom, three bathrooms, Ranch home
*Updated kitchen with granite counters, built in buffet and cabinet lighting
*Master bedroom with plantation shutters
*Beautiful view of the common area

MLS 217040598 248.684.1065 \$369,900



Custom Built Home in Desirable Westacres!

*This five bedroom, four and half bathroom, cozy cottage home has amazing lake views
*Kitchen features a sub-zero refrigerator, high end range with steamer and hickory cabinets
*Theatre room has an 8ft HD projection screen
*Oversized three car garage with direct access to the basement and outside

MLS 217042605 248.684.1065 \$595,000



Gorgeous Colonial with Lake Privileges!

*This four bedroom, two and half bathrooms, is located on one acre
*Spacious kitchen with expansive island, granite counters and maple cabinets
*French doors into private first floor study
*Finished basement with plenty of space for gaming, TV zone and dry bar

MLS 217024941 248.684.1065 \$465,000



Peaceful Ranch on 1.5 Acres!

*This gorgeous Ranch has three bedrooms and two bathrooms
*Updated kitchen with patterned granite, refinished cabinets and hardwood flooring
*Dining room with arched opening and cathedral ceiling
*Finished walkout with family room, rec room and work out area

MLS 217047128 248.684.1065 \$384,000



Beautiful Ranch

*This Ranch features three bedrooms, two and half bathrooms, located on 1.12 acres with lake access
*Updated kitchen with large Island, wood flooring and two sided fireplace
*Living room with natural fireplace leading to the office
*First floor laundry and pool

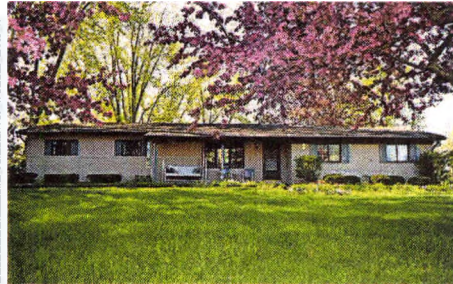
MLS 217048351 248.684.1065 \$345,000



Award Winning Lake Front Home!

*This home features three bedrooms, three and half bathrooms, with panoramic lake views
*Big open living spaces, 10ft ceilings throughout
*Italian porcelain slate and cherry flooring
*Hydronic heated floors throughout, including the basement and garage

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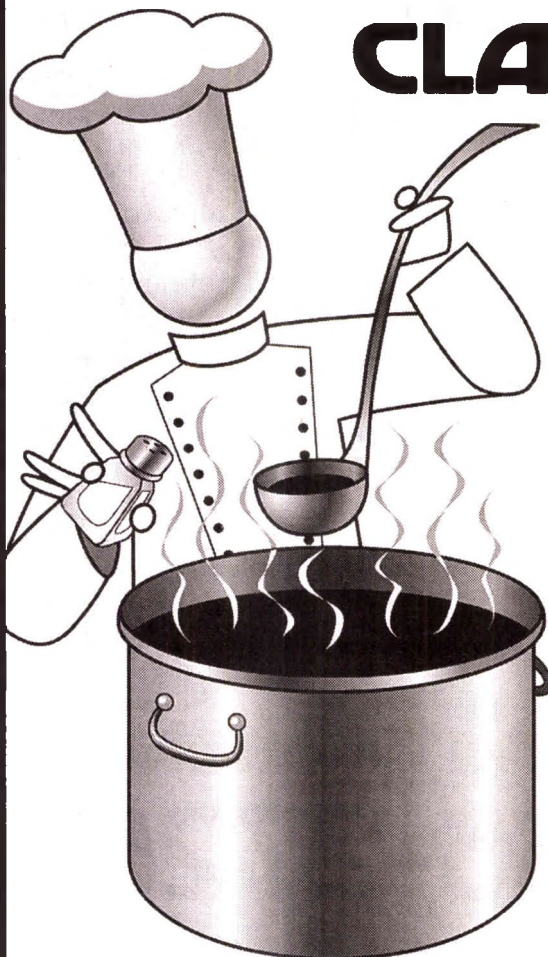
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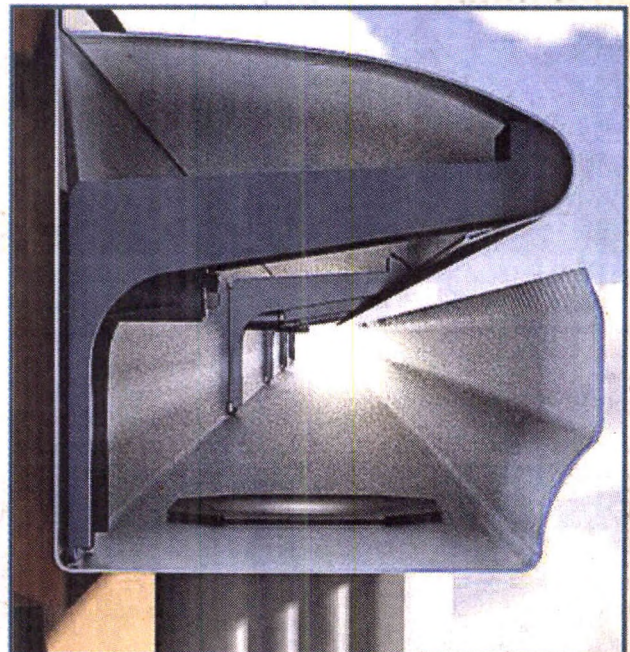
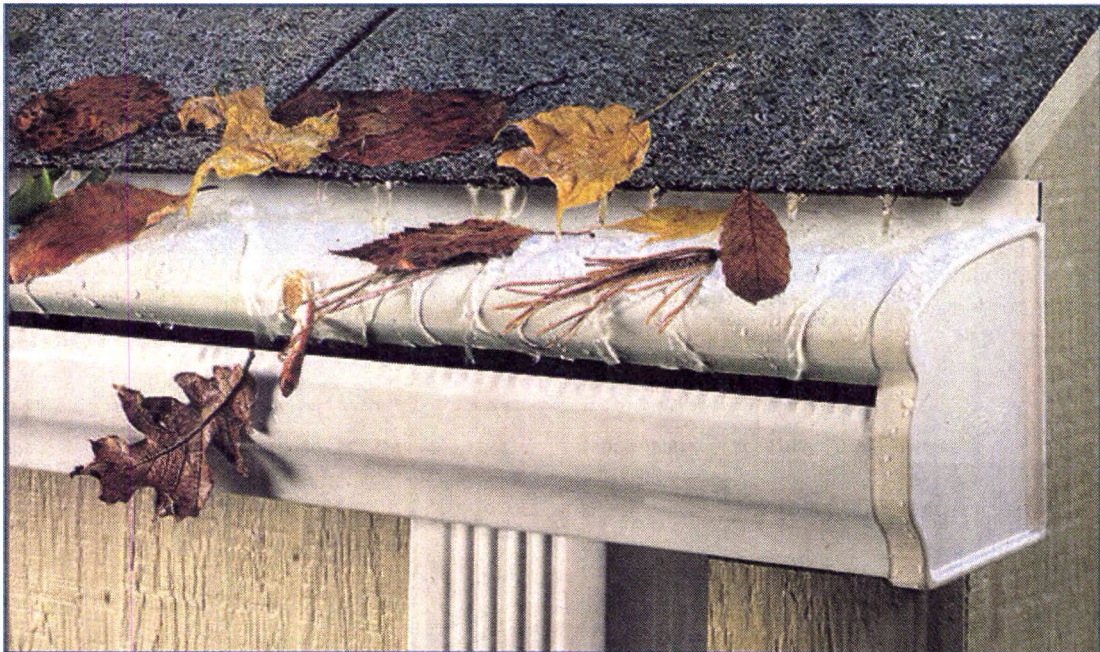
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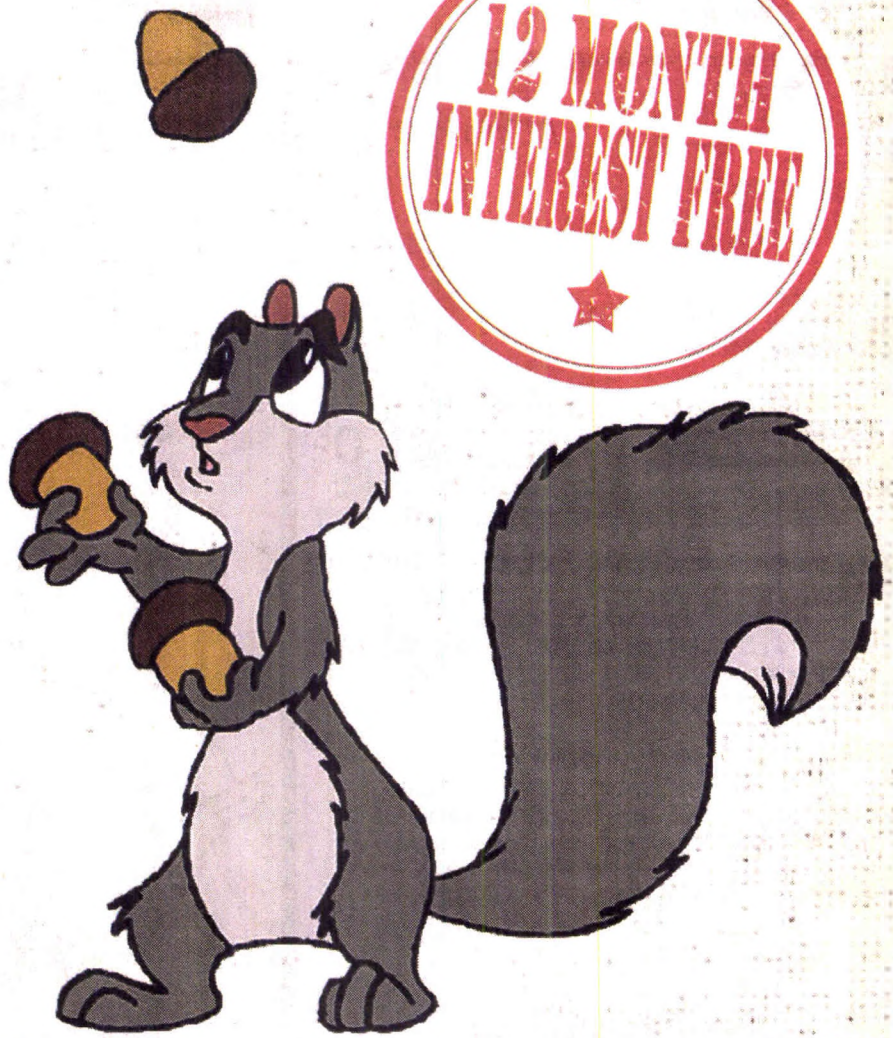


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