

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

THURSDAY 09.01.16 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM | PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Trump supporters organize rally in Plymouth, Northville

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Rob Costis and his family have one of the most recognizable vehicles in Livonia: the self-proclaimed "Trumpmobile." The Livonia resident and

his extended family have donned massive signs all over an RV and on another truck in support of Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. Those vehicles were on display Tuesday afternoon during a demonstration for Trump at Eight Mile and Hag-

gerty in Northville Township. "As soon as Donald Trump ran, we said, 'We need to do something to support him,'" Costis said. "So we started with the back of the camper and then we went up north camping and people were beeping the horns and want-

ing to take pictures. We just decided to do the front." Costis was one of about 100 people who attended the event, which was coordinated at sites all across the state by the Michigan Conservative Coalition. Supporters stood in front of the Meijer gas station

near the intersection where Northville Township, Novi and Farmington Hills meet, holding signs, flags and even a life-size cardboard cutout of the candidate himself, supplied by none other than Cos-

See RALLY, Page A3

Plymouth engineer authors graphic novel set in Detroit

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

Engineers are straight-laced, non-creative, humorless types. Not really. Brian Anderson is happy to explode that stereotype as he talks about his new book, "Chip Dip," a graphic novel about a failing Detroit potato-chip maker.

Anderson, a Plymouth resident and a Ford Motor Co. engineer for 27 years, says that despite how engineers might be viewed in the public eye, their ability to step back, look at things from a fresh perspective and solve problems engenders a creativity that enhances their work.

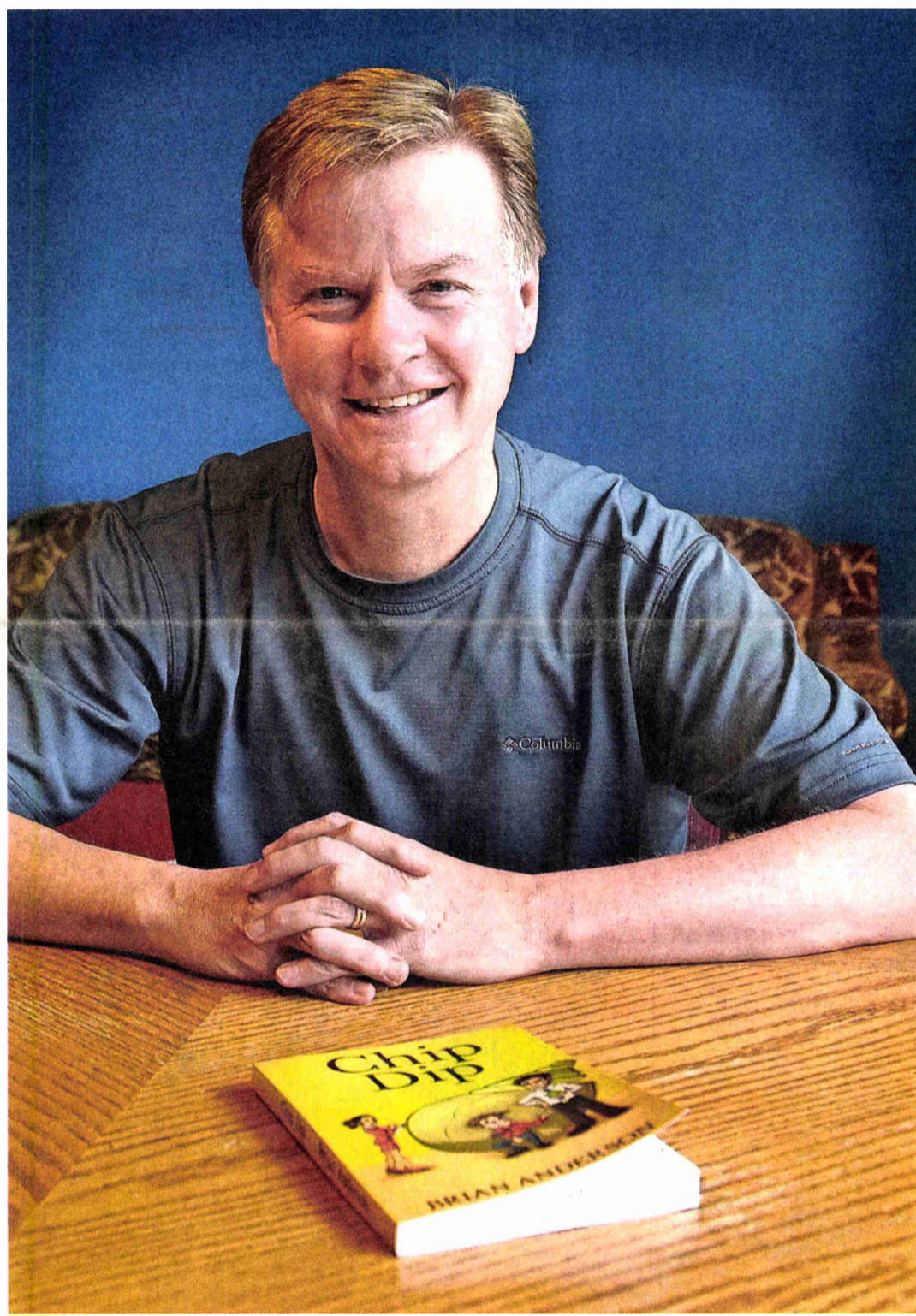
"The best engineers I know are some of the most creative people I know," Anderson said recently at the Plymouth Coffee Bean. The Farmington Hills Harrison and University of Michigan graduate works in Ford's power train division.

Anderson has long loved writing as a creative outlet, saying that he wrote his first story at about age 7. He's the co-founder of Plymouth Writers, a group of writers who use the Internet to read and critique each other's work. Anderson is also in his third term on the Plymouth District Library's board of trustees.

He wrote "Chip Dip" over a three-year period and self-published it last month through Amazon, which he says was a "perfect" for an unknown author to get his name out and gave him good non-traditional and Internet-based marketing tools.

Anderson enjoys humorous fiction from writers like Carl Hiaasen (whose work also has a dark side, he readily agrees) and Donald Westlake. But he saw room for more works in the genre.

"It's hard to find good, funny books out there. It's a genre



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Brian Anderson, a Ford engineer and longtime writer, has published his first novel, "Chip Dip."

See NOVEL, Page A2

Plymouth Township pot dispensary raided in MSP probe

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

Police raided a medical marijuana dispensary in Plymouth Township last week as part of an ongoing investigation into the illegal pot trade, seizing assets and finding records of more than 120 customers.

The raid was conducted by the Western Wayne Criminal Investigations Task Force, a multi-jurisdictional unit working through the Michigan State Police. The Plymouth Township Police Department is part of the task force.

Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington said the raid took place about noon Aug. 25 at a building on General Drive, south of Ann Arbor Road. Assets valued at between \$40,000 and \$50,000 were seized and detailed records were found showing the dispensary had more than 120 customers.

Lt. Michael Shaw, the state police spokesman, said another dispensary in Brighton was raided on the same day and that both raids were part of a wider investigation into illegal dispensaries. He would not comment on arrests, citing the ongoing investigation.

Shaw said there's a lot of confusion about what is legal and what is not when it comes to medical marijuana since medical marijuana was approved by voters, which occurred in 2008.

"There seems to be some myth going around that marijuana became legal with the passage of the Medical Marijuana Act and that's not the case. Marijuana is still illegal," Shaw said.

Medical marijuana is regulated by the state and can only be legally dispensed to patients who have been issued a medical marijuana card because of a specific health issue, by recognized caregivers, who are limited to a maximum of five patients. The law does not provide for dispensaries, Shaw and Tiderington said.

Shaw and Tiderington said results of the investigation will be sent to prosecutors for possible criminal charges.

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Drivers get northbound I-275 lanes back

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

It's almost there. The Michigan Department of Transportation says it expected northbound Interstate 275 through Livonia, Farmington Hills and Novi to reopen sometime before Wednesday's commute.

MDOT spokeswoman Diane Cross said external conditions, such as rainfall, could delay some of the work, but contractor Toebe Construction was set to reopen the freeway before Wednesday's commute.

"We're close," she said Monday morning. "We're very, very, very close to opening the freeway."

Northbound I-275 from Five Mile to the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange has remained closed since July 5 for work, days after southbound reopened after its portion of construction. The work, totaling about \$75 million, has consisted of new concrete along the road, along with improvements to bridges, ramps and roadway

technology systems. Cross said the Wixom-based contractor was expected to give MDOT eight hours notice so preparation can be done to reopen the freeway and alert the public. After I-275 reopens, intermittent lane closures

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NEWS BRIEFS

Free YMCA program aims to lower blood pressure

The Plymouth Family YMCA will begin offering a blood pressure self-monitoring program, designed to help people with hypertension lower their blood pressure, this month.

Participants must be at least 18, be diagnosed with high blood pressure, have had no recent cardiac events, have no atrial fibrillation or other arrhythmias and not be at risk for lymphedema.

There will be an open house and informational meeting about the self-monitoring program 9:45-11:45 a.m. Wednesday at Plymouth First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial.

For more information, contact Plymouth Family YMCA executive director Sage Hegdal at 734-453-

2904 or by email at shegdal@ymcadeloitroit.org.

Community forum

Resettling refugees in Michigan will be the topic of the next Plymouth Community Forum, 7-8:45 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at the Plymouth District Library.

Speaking and answering questions on the topic will be the Rev. Kenneth Flouty III, the outreach director at Samaritas, a social services agency affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and Gary Kubiak and Dick Manasseri of Secure Michigan, which monitors refugee resettlement, particularly as it affects Michigan.

The Community Forum is free and open to the public.

NOVEL

Continued from Page A1

that's not well-represented," he said.

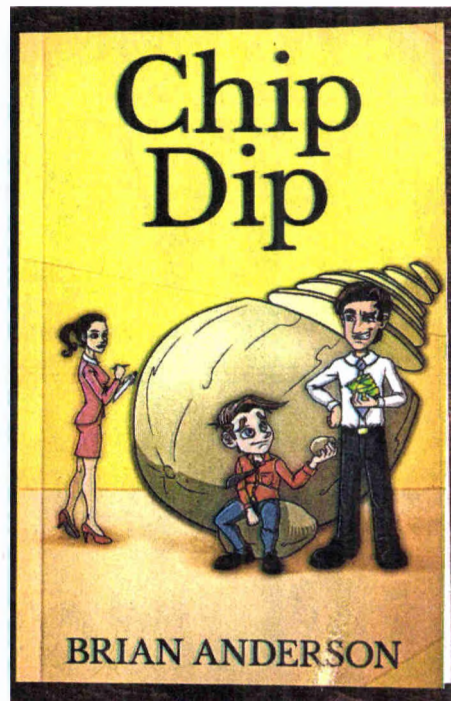
"I wanted to write something I thought would make people laugh, something I thought people would enjoy," he added later.

The story, he said, was inspired by the downs and ups of the economy in recent years, especially in the auto-centric Detroit area, and by the fact that the area was once home to many potato chip factories, New Era, Everkrisp, Krun-Chee, Mello Crisp and Vita-Boy among them. Now only Better Made, founded in 1930, remains and has achieved a status as a local success story and nostalgic touchstone as the city continues rebounding after a devastating bankruptcy.

Anderson spent some time researching Better Made for background for his book, although he stresses his fictional company, Crispy Crunch Food Co., is not at all based on Better Made.

Real-life settings

The characters, he said, are drawn from people he's known, only exaggerated, and there are some real-life Detroit



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Brian Anderson's first book is a graphic novel, set in Detroit, about the potato chip industry.

children's fiction, screenplays and more.

The group's feedback, which the members work to keep honest and not take personally, is valuable, Anderson said, whether a writer is looking to get published or simply wants to pass on a polished memoir to the grandchildren. And fellow writers, he said, will hold members accountable and keep one another motivated.

"It's really been incredibly fun," he said. "It's so nice to be associated with a creative group like that."

Anderson's wife Kathy is a sales representative for Tastefully Simple. Their son Charlie is studying environmental engineering at the U-M and their daughter Ellie graduated this year from Central Michigan University and works for Amway.

Coincidentally, Anderson's mother is in the process of self-publishing a memoir, "The Life and Times of Theresa Marie Quinn."

"Chip Dip" is available through Amazon either as a paperback or an e-book. Anderson is in the process of marketing it to local bookstores.

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locations, such as Slow's Bar BQ and the bar Nancy Whiskey.

And does the struggling company make it? Anderson won't exactly say. "I think readers will go away happy," he said.

Anderson realizes his brand of humor won't appeal to everyone, but the book has good review so far on Amazon.

"Not everyone's going to think it's funny, but there are people who think it's hilarious," he said.

Anderson, who had a

short story published in a magazine 20 years ago, says he has more book ideas in the hopper. He's also moderator for the monthly meetings of Plymouth Writers, which he founded in 2011 with his brother Dale, who is no longer involved.

Anderson said the group has about 150 members — monthly meeting attendance is limited to a fraction of that — and has included people writing in many different genres: fiction, autobiography, poetry,

I-275

Continued from Page A1

will most likely take place along the freeway in order to take care of other work needed to be done, Cross said. An announcement that the freeway would reopen came Tuesday night.

Cross said MDOT is pleased the work is finally wrapping up, knowing it's caused headaches for the hundreds of thousands of drivers it's displaced over the summer. The project comes with a five-year warranty, the maximum the state is able to get for such work.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Work on I-275 is scheduled to be finished before Labor Day, allowing the freeway to reopen.

She said because of limitations by the insurance companies involved, five years is the maximum length most compa-

nies will offer warranties for.

"There's no insurance company that will do more than a five-year

warranty," she said.

While I-275 opens this week, there will still be work and closures in the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange. The current closures include southbound M-5 to I-696 and M-5 eastbound, which will remain until mid-September, Cross said.

Other work, such as additional guardrails and other improvements, will also be added.

"The freeway portion will be open, but there is still plenty of work to do," she said.

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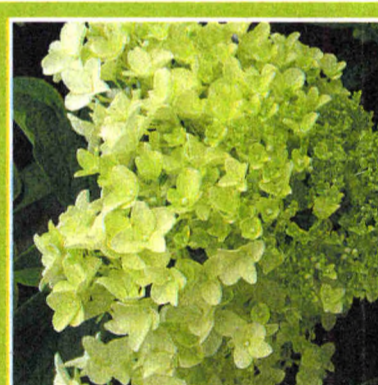
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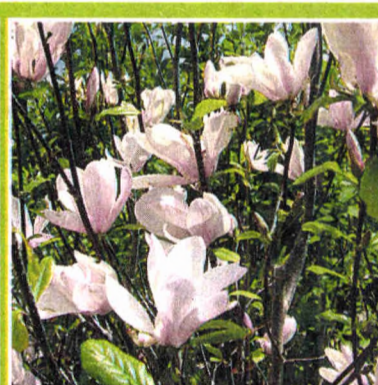
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Brews, Brats & Bands at the Barn event returns

Craft beer lovers 21 and over are invited to attend the seventh annual Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn fundraising event 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Cady-Boyer Barn, located in Preservation Park at 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton.

Proceeds will support the Canton Historical Society.

Admission includes seven drink tickets, each good for a four-ounce beer tasting sample. Attendees will be able to choose from more than 50 different craft and

specialty beers that will be available to sample. Brats with all the fixings will also be included with admission, as well as a keepsake beer tasting mug. Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by the Dale Hicks Band, performing classic rock hits, and All Directions, playing popular rhythm and blues standards.

"Event-goers will be able to taste and appreciate specialty brews from all over country in one location," said Gregg King, facilities supervi-

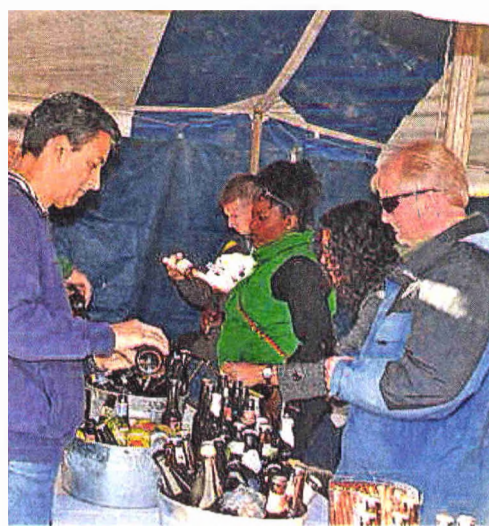
sor and fundraiser organizer. Historical Society."

Tickets are \$25 if purchased before Sept. 4 and \$30 after that and at the door. Get tickets online at www.beerfests.com or www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Summit on the Park at 46000 Summit Parkway, as well as the Canton Farmers Market at 500 N. Ridge Road. Designated driver tickets are also available for just \$10. Additional beer tasting tickets are available

for purchase; get four tickets for \$5.

Sponsors of this popular event include: Canton Leisure Services; Holiday Market; Liberty Street Brewing Co.; Canton Brew Works; Beerfests.com; Cueter Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram; and Alphagraphics.

For more information on Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn, go to www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call 734/394-5314. Remember, please drink responsibly and always assign a designated driver.



FILE PHOTO
Brews, Brats & Bands at the Barn returns to Canton.

Central City Dance sets auditions for Christmas show

Experienced dancers and soloist singers, ages 6 to adult, are invited to try out for a cast of more than 100 performing in Canton's holiday tradition, the Christmas Broadway Spectacular. Auditions will be held Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Central City Dance Center, 6700 N. Canton Center Road.

The Christmas Broadway Spectacular features some of the most talented performers from Plymouth, Canton and surrounding communities. The auditions are not specific to students of any one dance studio, but are open to anyone in the community interested in participating in a professional theatrical spectacle. Past cast members have consisted of performers as far away as Brighton, Detroit, Ann Arbor and even Toledo.

The show features tap and jazz dancers, sensational singers, glitzy costumes, flashy set-designs and follows an exciting story with professional actors about what "really" happens at the North Pole and how Christmas is celebrated around the world. The show is designed for the entire family to enjoy.

The Christmas Broadway Spectacular has sold out for 12 seasons at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill. "It's the hottest Christmas show around town," said Tim Smola, one of the show's directors.

Auditions are open to the general public and to all area dancers ages 6 to adult and singers ages 14 to adult. Audition times run 4:30-9 p.m. and specific times for each age group are listed at www.centralcitydance.com. Participants must arrive 30 minutes prior to their audition time to register and warm up.

Those participating must read through the audition process information, pay a \$10 fee to audition, due at the time of registration, and must bring a non-returnable photo of themselves with the audition form.

Dancers must have proper dance attire and bring all their dance shoes. Dancers will be taught a dance combination as a group and performers will be chosen not only on their dance skills, but ability to listen.

Singers, ages 14 to adult, bring choice of a prepared piece of holiday music or choose to sing without music. Singers will be asked to sing at least one minute of a Christmas song.

Cast members selected for the Christmas Broadway Spectacular 2016 will be posted on the Central City Dance website following the audition process.

For specific information regarding the 2016 open audition process for the Christmas Broadway Spectacular Auditions link. For more, call Central City Dance at 734-459-0400 or email centralcitydance@com-cast.net.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Donald Trump supporters take to the northwest corner of Eight Mile and Haggerty on Aug. 30 to show their support.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Rob Costis steps out of his "Trumpmobile" RV on Aug. 30 in a rally for the GOP nominee.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Gabe Purcell holds a Trump sign during the Aug. 30 rally.

RALLY

Continued from Page A1

tis.

The event was a success, said Tami Carlone, a Novi resident who sits on the board of the Michigan Conservative Coalition. She said another coordinated event like Tuesday's will take place again sometime closer to the election. Many motorists driving by honked in support of the group, while some got into shouting matches with others.

She said a lot of work needs to be done if Trump is to win Michigan's 16 electoral votes over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.

"There's so much work to be done to turn Michigan red," she said. "We need to get the message out. It's our job to do that."

Michigan has not awarded its electoral college votes to a Repub-

lican since George H.W. Bush won them in 1988.

Novi resident Rick Watkins said he attended the campaign event earlier this summer held at the Suburban Collection Showcase that featured Trump's vice presidential candidate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence and enjoyed what he heard. He said he was a Republican until 2012, when he became an independent.

He said he still is an independent, but supports Trump this time around.

"I think Donald Trump's going to do great," he said. "I'm very confident that he's going to do good things for America and he will do it. He's not going to be like all the other Republican politicians I voted for and stood me up."

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Trial ordered for defendant in mosque assault

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Barring a plea deal, a 65-year-old man accused of assaulting a juvenile boy inside a mosque in Canton is facing trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Defendant Hobibur Rahman of Hamtramck, charged amid allegations he used a blunt object to attack the boy, could face four years in prison if he is convicted of assault with a dangerous weapon and aggravated assault.

Rahman is facing trial after he appeared Friday in 35th District Court and voluntarily gave up his right to a preliminary hearing — a move that for now averted courtroom testimony. A not-guilty plea has been entered for him.

Rahman was charged after



Rahman

an incident unfolded Aug. 10 inside the Masjid Bilal mosque on Ridge Road, north of Cherry Hill. Canton Public Safety Director Joshua Meier early on called it “an isolated incident” and said it was not a hate crime.

Police believe the defendant attended the mosque, but officials haven't disclosed any potential motive for the alleged assault.

Detective Sgt. Dan Traylor has said the juvenile boy was not seriously injured and was not hospitalized.

Police haven't disclosed what kind of weapon was used — only that it was a blunt object.

Magistrate Frank Wren released Rahman on a \$10,000 personal bond during his initial arraignment on charges in 35th District Court.

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Woman reports domestic dispute, then turns on cops

A Canton woman who told police her live-in boyfriend tried to strangle her ended up turning on police when they tried to arrest the suspect, a police report said.

Two officers received minor injuries as the incident unfolded about 8:40 a.m. Aug. 23 at the College Park Estates mobile home park on Mott Road, east of Ridge.

A 22-year-old mother of two, crying hysterically when police arrived, told police her boyfriend, 28, “went crazy” after he came home, throwing her to the floor, getting on top of her and pushing his forearm against her throat. She told police she believed she temporarily lost consciousness and thought she was going to die.

The woman said the argument began after she complained that the suspect was playing music too loudly for her children to sleep. The suspect denied the allegations and, according to the report, taunted police and put his hands in his front pockets, raising fears he might have a weapon.

Officers grabbed his arms and he began to resist their efforts when, suddenly, his girlfriend tried to get between him and the officers to thwart his arrest, the report said. She continued to try to push officers away, tried to spit on an

CANTON CRIME WATCH

officer and kicked an officer in the groin area, police said.

Outside the home, the woman continued to confront officers even though the police report said neighbors were urging her to back off. Police ended up arresting the couple and the report indicated they could be facing charges.

Cable scam

A 66-year-old Canton man lost \$240 after a scam artist posing as a Comcast employee convinced him that he could get a better monthly rate if he paid the money, a police report said.

The man said he had been told he could get a monthly rate of \$79.95 for two years — with premium channels — if he paid the money upfront. He told police he believed the caller because the call coincided with his billing cycle. However, when he got his next bill, he learned the amount had not been reduced nor did he have a special promotion.

False accusations

Police investigating reports that a baby girl had been placed in scalding water and was living in poor conditions proved untrue during an investigation, a police report said.

A Canton man went to the police station to make the allegations, saying he was concerned his baby girl — born in early July — had been mis-

treated by her mother at an apartment complex on Canton's north side.

The man alleged the mother had put the baby in hot water to give her a bath and caused injuries such as marks on her skin. The man also alleged the girl had a bruise on her back.

A police officer investigating the accusations found no signs of injuries on the baby and found the girl had proper living conditions at the residence. The officer found the apartment was orderly, a crib was in the bedroom, the baby was in good health and there was food in the residence.

A police report concluded the allegations were unfounded.

Car rocked

A rock thrown from a Canton roadside struck a 36-year-old man's vehicle, breaking his windshield as he drove northbound on Denton Road, between Cherry Hill and Geddes, a police report said.

The victim told police he doubled back to the scene of the incident, which occurred about 3:20 p.m. Saturday, and he said he could hear rustling sounds and giggling in a wooded area.

The man told police he didn't see any suspects. Police found several rocks along the road, but it wasn't clear if other motorists had been targeted.

— By Darrell Clem

PLYMOUTH CRIME WATCH

iPhone taken in Plymouth Township vehicle burglary

A small amount of cash and an iPhone were reported stolen Aug. 25 in the burglary of a vehicle parked in the driveway of a Plymouth Township house.

The crime was captured on the homeowner's security video and occurred about 4:30 a.m. Aug. 24, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said. The video, how-

ever, was not clear enough for the victim to describe the thief; the victim said he would return to the police station with a copy of the video for detectives.

Another vehicle parked in the same driveway at the time had been rifled through, police said, but nothing appeared to have been stolen from it. Both vehicles had been left unlocked.

— By Matt Jachman

Driver ID'd in fatal motorcycle crash

Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Farmington Hills Police have identified the driver killed in a motorcycle crash Saturday on Shiawassee near Inkster, but few other details have been released as the investigation continues.

Police said the driver was Louie Allen Levett, 43, of Livonia. The initial investigation indicates that at approximately

4 a.m., Levett's motorcycle was eastbound on Shiawassee Road, west of Inkster, when it left the roadway and struck a traffic sign.

Farmington Hills Police Assistant Chief Matt Koehn said the crash was initially discovered by a Southfield Fire Department Life Support Unit that was returning from Beaumont Hospital after transporting a patient.

Levett was pronounced dead

at the scene. Police said they believe Levett was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

Koehn said the department is still awaiting autopsy results on Levett. The department's Traffic Safety Section is investigating to determine if alcohol and/or speed were factors.

Anyone who may have witnessed the crash can contact the Farmington Hills Police Department at 248-871-2610.

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Tim Ruggles, executive director/CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County, looks at new windows.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DIYers find bargains for home improvement at ReStore location

Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

One kitchen window. That's all Keith Cunningham needed for a home remodeling project as he shopped at Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County ReStore in Farmington Hills.

Twenty-two windows. It was a bargain he couldn't resist.

"I get to Habitat and I find all these brand new, never-installed Andersen 400 series. I start hyper-ventilating I went and grabbed the cart and started loading them up. I ended up with 22 windows. I was able to change the architect's drawing so I could use them all," said Cunningham, a Pleasant Ridge resident. "I bought 22 windows for \$1,400."

Cunningham is a steady customer at the home improvement resale store that draws contractors, remodelers, landlords and bargain hunters to buy gently-used appliances, furniture, home accessories and new building materials. The store at 28575 Grand River Ave. is one of 900 across the country that donates net profits to Habitat for Humanity, the nonprofit Christian ministry that builds and remodels houses for low-income families. The Farmington Hills store opened three years ago, but its management changed in April. Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County is in charge of both the flagship store and a smaller ReStore in Pontiac. A "grand re-opening" is set for Friday, Sept. 30, at the Farmington Hills location.

Tim Ruggles, executive director of Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County, said the store has been one of the area's best-kept secrets because of limited marketing. He and Rose-Ann Nathan, ReStore consultant, are set to change that.

"We understand the needs of the community and the shoppers. We've adjusted our prices and merchandising and we hired some employees," Nathan said.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

There are plenty of cabinets to choose from.

They've already created a better shopping experience by organizing and consistently pricing the merchandise, according to Ruggles.

DIY shoppers

"It really is a service to the community because it's about reusing materials and keeping materials out of the landfill," he said. "There are so many people interested in re-purposing. That's a big movement now. It really is a service because people can come here and they don't have to shop garage sales."

The store gets half its inventory donated from individuals, families, churches and other organizations. Half come from businesses. New products arrive every day and photos of some items are posted on ReStore's Facebook page.

Merchandise sells from 40-50 percent or more off retail price. A new hot tub with a \$3,000 price tag, for example, would sell for around \$400 at ReStore, Nathan

said. New, brand name paint is \$9 to \$14 per gallon.

"It could be discontinued, a wrong order," Ruggles said, describing business-donated merchandise. "A lot of retail establishments will take returns from customers. It actually costs more to ship it back (to the vendor) than the value of the product. They're looking for an easy way to dispose of the product. We can be that easy method and take it off their hands."

Ruggles said the store has received a consistent flow of donations from individuals, but needs more commercial products. ReStore also is looking for volunteers to help unload, clean, price, repair and stock items.

"We're short on labor. We're looking for some strong arms to help," Nathan said. Twenty-four pallets of landscaping rocks, at least 15 sets of cabinets, doors, windows, refrigerators and couches were among some of the heavier



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ReStore assistant manager Frank Carroll tests an range/oven to make sure it works.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Need a whirlpool bathtub?

items in stock recently.

Getting bargains

Isabelle Muha of Birmingham bought cabinets from ReStore for an inherited farmhouse she and her husband are remodeling for future sale. They're return customers.

"I would say you have to be handy and creative and if you have those skills it's a great place to go," she said. "I think Habitat is great on multiple fronts. They're a charity and they serve

the community. We have chosen them because of the cost."

A few weeks ago, Cunningham bought "a mountain of cabinets" and bought 35 of them for \$2,500. He had to rent a truck to get them home and plans to haul them to his daughter's house in Atlanta, Ga.

"It's worth going to that expense," he said. "Not only do I get a quality product at a reasonable price, I feel good that my money is making a difference in some-

one else's life, that it's going to building a home for someone less fortunate."

Ruggles said Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County plans to serve 64 families this year by building new houses, rehabbing homes and making repairs.

The Farmington Hills ReStore is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Go to habitatoakland.org or call 248-338-1843.

sdargay@hometownlife.com

Scam artists are taking advantage of new technology

When it comes to writing a personal financial column, I believe one of the most important things is to keep people informed about scams that attempt to separate them from their hard-earned money. With technology and the advent of the Internet, the number of scams has been increasing dramatically. That's why I want to devote time to those scams. It's important to realize that, in today's world, these scams impact everyone: the rich, the poor, old, young, the educated, the uneducated and everyone in between. The bottom line, scams affect everyone.

A scam that has been around for the last decade has taken off the last few years. This is ATM skimming which, according to recent reports, the number of people affected has increased by well over 500 percent in the last few years. ATM skimming is when a criminal attaches an illegal card reading device on an ATM machine, a gas pump or other public-area machines that process debit cards.

When you put your card into one of these machines, they skim the information stored on the magnetic strip. In addition, through the use of a hidden camera when you use the ATM, they are able to capture your PIN number as well. With your PIN, along with the information on the magnetic strip, they can either make a duplicate of your card and go to town on your dime or they can



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

The crooks know that it is very difficult to determine whether the ATM we are using has a skimmer attached to it.

sell your information on the black market.

The crooks know that it is very difficult to determine whether the ATM we are using has a skimmer attached to it. That being said, there are some things that you can do to lessen the risk. The first is to be cautious about what ATM you use. Preferably, the ATM you should use is your bank's. Not only are the security procedures better at banks, but also you can save on ATM fees by using your own bank's machine. I recommend that you avoid the ATMs that you find at places such as gas stations, party stores and bars. These machines have a higher likelihood of being tampered with and should be avoided. In addition, you want to avoid any ATM that appears to have been tampered with. If something just doesn't seem right, such as the card reader being loose, walk away.

When you use an ATM or any charge card

machine where you have to enter your password, you should make sure that you keep one hand over the touch pad so a camera can't see your PIN as you enter it. By protecting your PIN, the crooks will not be able to access your account.

Lastly, you want to make sure of it that you monitor your bank account for unauthorized withdrawals. You have protection under the law, but it is up to you to monitor your account and to timely notify your financial institution of a breach. Most banks and financial institutions will send out alerts when your account is accessed. If your financial institution offers this, it's a good idea to sign up.

Technology was supposed to make our lives easier and, in many ways, it has. There is the other side of the coin and that is technology has allowed for a new generation of crooks to use more and more sophisticated ways of stealing from us. I wish there was a 100-percent way to avoid scams, but there isn't. That's why it is always important that we keep our eyes and ears open, monitor our accounts and put up enough speed bumps to reduce the likelihood that we will be scammed.

Good luck!

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dennis O'Connell of Livonia and Jim McMillan of Farmington Hills toast to the new Stroh's.

Raise a glass: Stroh's makes its return to bars

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Winter Garden Tavern co-owner Tom LaForest did something Friday afternoon he's never done before: drink a Stroh's beer on draft.

Friday marked the toasting event across metro Detroit of the long-awaited Stroh's Bohemian-style Pilsner, made in homage to the former beer that ceased production in Detroit in the 1980s.

"Tastes like Stroh's," LaForest said with a glass in hand.

Bars across metro Detroit celebrated the release of the beer with a toast at 4 p.m. Friday. The first beer at Winter Garden Tavern, 33320 Seven Mile, in Livonia, went to Livonia resident Jeff Novak.

Novak said he had waited since 3 p.m. at the bar for a taste of the new Stroh's. He said he's a fan of the current version, which is sold at Detroit City FC matches in Hamtramck, so he figured he'd come and try out the new batch.

"It's good. Real good," he said after taking his first sip. "The flavor's more rich. It's hard to describe. You can tell it's a different beer, but it's not too different."

Stroh's stopped making beer in Detroit in 1985 and was later acquired by Pabst in 1999. This new batch marks the first time since then Detroit has been the home of brewing the beer beloved across the region.

Other area bars scheduled to hold toasts, according to Stroh's, included O'Malley's, Plymouth Roadhouse and the Lake Shore Yacht Club in Livonia; the Michigan Beer Company in Novi; Four Friends in Canton; Post Bistro in Plymouth; Sandy's on the Beech in Redford; Brady's Tavern in Beverly Hills; Townhouse, 220 Restaurant and Dick O'Dow's in Birmingham; Wagon Wheel and Meadowbrook Country in Northville; Emergency Room Bar and Grill in Westland; and Smokestreet BBQ, Comeback Inn and Baker's in Milford.

Only one keg

One longtime Stroh's fan who came out for a taste is Livonia resident Dennis O'Connell. Donning an old Stroh's T-shirt, he was rewarded for his wait with the purchase of a glass of beer and a new Stroh's T-shirt donning the skyline of Detroit.

He's been hearing about the return for a long time from his friends, who know he's still a big Stroh's beer drinker.

"As soon as it started coming out, people started sending me info," he said. "It's not like the Stroh's Pabst puts out. I think this is a Pilsner and they put out a lager. It is a little different."

LaForest said his bar received only one keg of the new brew and expected it would run dry by the end of the night Friday. "People are excited about trying it again," he said.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Logos wins

Canton-based Logos Communications has won a national Clarion Award from the Association for Women in Communications for graphic design work for its client, FOURMIDABLE, a national real estate management and brokerage company.

The agency won in the category Photography & Graphics: Special Design/Creation-Series of Items for its work designing logos for FOURMIDABLE's Real Estate Division and three affiliated businesses. Working in a small window of time, the Logos team created unique, but harmonious logos to be used in both marketing materials and websites in conjunction with a national trade show.

Logos Communica-

tions has won one or more Clarion Awards each year since 2011.

"This award belongs to our wonderful client just as much as it belongs to the dedicated team at Logos," said Sue Voyles, president, Logos Communications. "Our entire team strives to offer services that add value in telling the stories of our clients to their target audiences."

Logos Communications, Inc. is a full-service public relations and marketing firm serving a wide range of small to medium-sized businesses, nonprofits and business membership organizations.

This award-winning firm has been the recipient of multiple awards including a Telly Award, Clarion Awards from the Association for Women in Communications and

Davey Awards from the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts. Voyles completed the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program in 2015.

Logos Communications is certified as a Women's Business Enterprise by the Great Lakes Women's Business Council, a regional certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

Golf outing

The Canton Chamber of Commerce will host its 2016 golf outing from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Pheasant Run Golf Course in Canton. Major sponsors are Jack Demmer Ford, Inc., and Lou LaRiche Chevrolet. Sponsorships are still available. For more information, contact the chamber at 734-453-4040.

Community Choice Credit Union launches new grant program

In order to strengthen ties with community organizations and expand the reach of its Give Big culture, Community Choice Credit Union is issuing its first open request for grant applications through the Community Choice Foundation. Each quarter, the foundation will award a grant of up to \$3,000 to a nonprofit in Michigan.

Nonprofits must be located in Michigan and address one of the foundation's four priority areas: health and human services, projects or

programs that address the physical and or mental well-being of children and adults; capacity building, which would support staff or board trainings, financial audits or strategic planning; basic needs, for organizations who provide food and shelter for the most vulnerable residents of Michigan; and neighborhood safety/community development, which would support organizations who are fighting blight and beautifying their communities. Eligible organiza-

tions must also have their own 501(c) 3 legal status.

To apply, interested organizations are asked to contact the manager at their nearest Community Choice Credit Union member center to ensure eligibility and begin the application process. Community Choice has 15 locations across Michigan. To find the member center nearest to you, go to communitychoice-cu.com/locations.

For more information on Community Choice Credit Union, go to communitychoicecu.com.

Celebrate what's great at Michigan State Fair

Susan Bromley
hometownlife.com

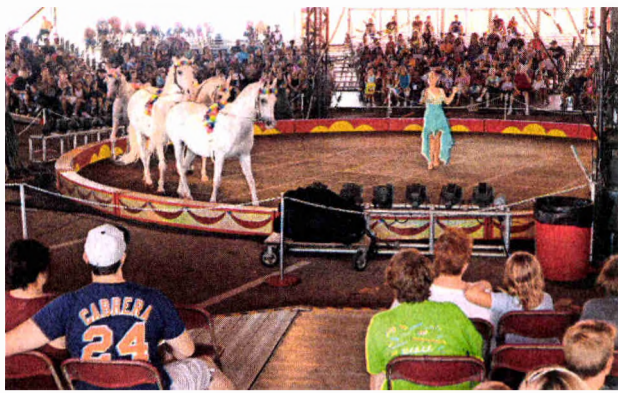
Get ready for a bigger and better state fair.

The Fifth Third Bank Michigan State Fair kicks off next Thursday, running Thursday-Monday, Sept. 1-5, at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"We've added more since last year. We continue to build every year," executive director Steve Masters said. "We have one of the largest carnival midways in the state and the largest in metro Detroit for Labor Day weekend. We are opening Thursday to accommodate all the people who may be heading out of town for the holiday weekend."

With good weather, Masters hopes to have fair attendance top 110,000 for the weekend. In a cool twist this year, one-third of the fair is indoors in air-conditioning.

Besides 50 carnival rides spread over two midways, the fair features the traditional agri-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hundreds of visitors enjoy an afternoon showing of the Shriner's Circus at the Suburban Collection Showplace during the Michigan State Fair.

cultural exhibits, with about 1,000 livestock — a 20-percent increase over 2015 — and favorites including racing pigs and a "Beginning of Life" baby animals exhibit.

In the equestrian pavilion, there will be a variety of classes and competitions, including English, Western, barrel racing and reining. Education abounds with "Farmer for a Day" and MSU Extension offering expertise in areas including not only agricul-

ture, but also health and nutrition, gardening, personal finance and 4-H youth development. Hands-on learning includes an archery station.

Kid focus

The Michigan State Fair also wants to encourage putting books in the hands of kids, as well and will host a special appearance Sept. 1 by Jonathan Rand, author of the Michigan Chillers and American Chillers chil-

dren's book series. Rand will be the first of several Michigan authors at the fair over the weekend, meeting readers of all ages. The fair will also display local artist-decorated Little Free Libraries that will be installed this fall at urban gardens in Detroit stocked with books.

"Every year, we're adding new events," Masters said. "The little library project is new in the literacy area. We are really storytellers. We are a place for people to tell all their Michigan stories and celebrate all the great things about our wonderful state."

Contests are a big draw at the fair and range from the cute diaper derby baby crawling races to the delicious pasta and coney-eating competitions to the skill-testing hula hooping and the out-of-the-ice-box frozen T-shirt unraveling.

Entertainment will shine throughout the five days of the fair, with performances under three big Detroit Shrine

Circus tents, including a tiger act, the Flying Wallendas, the Liberty horses and the popular Shrine clowns.

Music to my ears

Musical acts include 15 Superstar Contest semifinalists representing various genres, competing for prizes and performing Thursday and Friday evenings. Five finalists will perform for the judges Sept. 3, before a grand prize winner and runner-up will headline the fair Sept. 4.

The Michigan Music Mega Jam returns 1-4 p.m. Sept. 5 and will feature a state all-star revue, including natives Thornetta Davis, Jill Jack, Sean Blackman, Brandon Calhoun, locals and former Superstar grand prize winners Alison Albrecht and Carly Bins.

The Accidentals will be the final performers of the fair, taking the stage following the Mega Jam. With Northville native Michael Dause on drums, the folk band will

perform hits including "Michigan and Again," their new release, which will also be the common song performed by Superstar finalists.

Also Labor Day, the last day of fair, the second annual Michigan State Fair Parade commences at 10 a.m. with 300 Shriners and their parade units in attendance, rain or shine. The parade marches two miles, from Novi High School down Taft Road to Grand River, up to the east main entrance to the fair at Suburban Collection Showplace.

Tickets for the Michigan State Fair and information on the event, as well as discounts, including free fair only admission for senior citizens 62 and older Sept. 1, are available at www.michiganstatefairllc.com. Tickets are also available at all southeast Michigan Kroger stores.

The Suburban Collection Showplace is at 46100 Grand River, Novi.

sbromley@hometownlife.com

Champps restaurant closes over the weekend, victim of bankruptcy

David Veselenak
Staff Writer

Those who frequented Champps in Livonia will need to find a new location to hang out this football season.

That's because the restaurant, located at 19470 Haggerty, in front of the AMC 20 theater complex, closed its doors.

"Thank you for partying with us," a sign affixed on the doors to the restaurant Tuesday morning read. "Our location has closed. We appreciate your support over the years."

Several tables were standing on the sidewalk outside of the building Tuesday morning, as well as a large dumpster on the south side of the

property.

The restaurant, which has been in Livonia since that complex opened, closed over the weekend, along with many others across the nation. The parent company of Champps, Last Gurantor, LLC, filed for bankruptcy earlier this summer.

A message was left with Champps, which is based in Dallas, Tuesday afternoon. An employee who answered the phone there said more than a dozen restaurants were closed over the weekend.

The only other Champps open in the

area is the one at 7410 Orchard Lake in West Bloomfield, just north of Farmington Hills. An employee who answered the phone there Tuesday said they were the only Champps that remained open in the area. Another Champps location on Big Beaver is also closed. The phone at the Troy location just kept ringing when called Tuesday afternoon.

In addition to Champps, other restaurants owned by the company shuttered their doors over the weekend, including Bailey's in

Canton.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said the closure came as a surprise to him, but he knows another business can come in and succeed at the site.

"We had heard the ownership was having some financial troubles, but it was still a surprise to hear they were closing. That Haggerty Road corridor is a premier area for dining and this area has more development in the works," he said. "We expect someone to take over the

Champps site and have a good opportunity for success."

This is the second major chain restaurant to suddenly shutter its doors in Livonia this year: Max and Erma's in Laurel Park Place Mall closed its doors without warning back in January.

Barb Gamber, the economic development coordinator at the city of Livonia, said she was surprised to hear about

the closing. She said she drove by the restaurant earlier in the week and saw chairs outside. She said she originally thought they may have been doing some remodeling.

"We find out in the press just like everybody else does," she said.

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734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

STATE OF MICHIGAN WASHTELOW COUNTY

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS Decedent's Estate Decedent's Trust

The decedent, CHARLES H. EVERY, whose address was 14707 Northville Rd., Apt. 401, Plymouth, Michigan, died on July 6, 2016.

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:

The above named decedent established the Charles H. Every Trust on May 22, 1997 and which was amended and restated in 2001.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the decedent or the decedent's trust will be forever barred unless presented to the current Trustees, Gregory C. Every and/or Dawn (Every) Bain, 13272 Haverhill, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice. Gregory C. Every is also the designated Personal Representative.

Personal Representative Name

Gregory C. Every, Co-Trustee, 13272 Haverhill, Plymouth, MI 48170 (734) 306-7885

Published: August 18 & 25, 2016 September 1, 2016

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Published: August 25 & September 1, 2016 LO-0000293583 2x2.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal Maintenance Vehicles. Specifications of the Request for Proposal (RFP) are available on at PCCSK12.com, under departments and business office or by contacting Kristen Hennessey, Director of Procurement, and Plymouth Canton Community Schools at kristen.hennessey@pccsk12.com. Proposals will be accepted as specified in the Request for Proposals at PCCS - E.J McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170 on/or before **Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 1:00 pm** Bids shall be labeled: Bid document enclosed- "Maintenance Vehicle Bid". The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Board of Education
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Kate Borniniski

Published: August 28 and September 1, 2016 LO-0000293836 2x2.3

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OUR VIEW

It's back to school time, so safety is paramount

It's a new school year and it's hard to say who is more excited – the kids who get to see classmates after the summer break and meet their new teachers or the parents who are probably celebrating the fact that the kids are out of their hair.

Whatever the case, it's a busy time in neighborhoods and around schools, with an increase in foot and motor traffic. Drivers play an important role in safety near schools at this busy time of the year. Getting the kids into a routine takes time and can leave parents rushing to get them to school on time. A driver in a hurry can lead to unsafe conditions for students and others walking, bicycling and driving in the area.

According to the National Safety Council, drivers should always:

» Slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits, both in school zones and in neighborhoods surrounding the school.

» Comply with local school drop-off and pickup procedures for the safety of all children accessing the school.

» Avoid double parking or stopping on crosswalks to let children out of the car. Double parking

blocks visibility for other children and motorists.

» Avoid loading or unloading children at locations across the street from the school. That forces youngsters to cross busy streets unnecessarily – often mid-block rather than at a crosswalk.

» Watch for children walking or biking to school when backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage.

Another thing drivers need to be cognizant of is the school bus. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, riding a bus to school is 13 times safer than riding in a passenger vehicle and 10 times safer than walking to school. However, the reality of school bus safety is that more children are hurt outside the bus than inside as passengers.

Most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related crashes are pedestrians, ages 4-7, who are hit by the bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped school bus. For that reason, drivers need to know the proper laws and procedures for sharing the road safely with school buses.

Every state has a law making it illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children. School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop. Red flashing

lights and an extended stop sign arm signals that the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off. Never pass a school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.

All 50 states also require that traffic in both directions stop on undivided roadways when students are getting on and off a school bus and traffic behind the school bus must stop. The area 10 feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger of being hit. Motorists should stop their vehicle far enough from the bus to allow children the space to safely enter and exit the bus.

Be alert. Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus who are comfortable with their surroundings tend to take risks and fail to look both ways when crossing the street. Watch for children playing and gathering near bus stops or those arriving late for the bus. They may run into the street without looking for traffic.

The start of the school year can be a challenge for parents, students and motorists. They all need to be alert and put safety first now and throughout the school year.

LETTERS

Building Taj Mahal

So the DDA folks and Paul Sincock are all about spending Mr. Wilcox's money and having fundraisers to build a Taj Mahal "Birmingham-type" park fit for the McMansion yuppies moving into town in herds.

Should prove to be a total great gathering spot for the bar hoppers to stage. I'm not really sure this is what Jack "had in mind" Mayor Dwyer, or don't you have a say? It does sound like a new, gleaming park though. I've lived here for 68

years and going uptown and utilizing Kellogg Park has always been totally satisfactory and fun! Moving the fountain to be centrally located? Will that not disrupt sight lines to the music stage as there are always folks crowded on it for seating during events? Ah progress, time does move on, although I'd loved to have had the yearly fountain maintenance fees published. You could do a lot of "maintenance" utilizing Wilcox's "pot of gold."

I really do get "change." I just wish the "movers and shakers" of

Plymouth showed 10 percent the interest in preserving some of Plymouth's history and "unique quaintness." I'm very sure the hunk of parking concrete they envision for the historical Saxton plot is all part of the booming Plymouth uptown "plan!" Big Wheels Keep On Turning.
Jerry Norquist
Plymouth

GOP shows ignorance

Hardly a week goes by that the "new" Republican leadership doesn't show just how low down, ignorant and vile they really are.

The latest antic involved Gov. Bill Milliken being ousted from their party. His crime? Evidently he prefers Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump.

I don't imagine he is too upset with this action, as the "new" Republicans

abandoned the principles he stands for years ago. You see, he is a true conservative, meaning, a moderate, unlike the fakers of today.

Ten years ago, current Democratic state school board candidate John Stewart left that party because he could see the writing on the wall. It was spelled out then, as now, in capital letters, "NO MODERATES ALLOWED."

The end result is a ticket headed by the likes of Trump/Pence and the "new" leaders lining up behind those two idiots like sheep being led to slaughter.

James Huddleston
Canton

What's Republican or Democratic?

In a recent poll a majority of Americans self-identified as politically conservative and would logically lean Republican

as voters. Questioning that, I did a little polling research of my own and found that a majority of Americans support free college, increasing Social Security benefits, removing the salary cap on earnings subject to Social Security tax, expanded and improved Medicare, a government health insurance option, single payer health care, increased education spending, increased infrastructure spending, subsidies for clean energy development, higher taxes on the wealthy, Medicaid expansion, government negotiation of drug prices, a \$15 minimum wage, paid family leave, subsidized child care, equal pay for equal work, unions and unionization, immigration reform with a path to citizenship, decreased military spending, making voting easier, increased environmental protection, a

woman's right to choose, stronger regulation of banks and Wall Street, expanding the food stamp program, expanded background checks on gun purchases and an assault weapons ban.

The fact that a majority of Americans self-identify as conservatives but solidly support the above list of liberal initiatives leads me to believe that many Americans are very confused about what conservative, and for that matter, what liberal means. The Republican Party, the conservative alternative of our two major parties actually opposes directly or in spirit most if not all of the initiatives listed above within their 2016 Republican Party platform. One must vote straight Democratic to support and advance the initiatives listed above.

Mitch Smith
Canton

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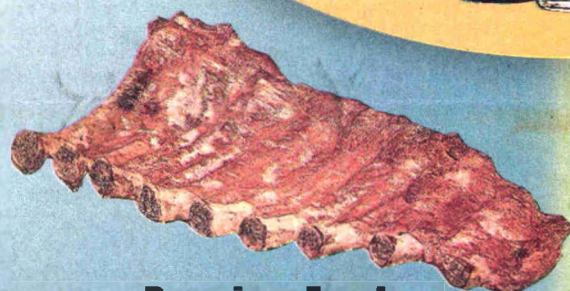
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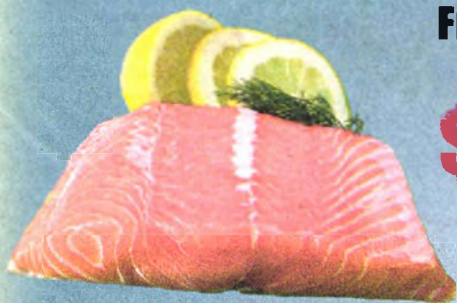
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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

OSU's Jordan: Big jump for big talent

Lineman ready to make Big Ten debut

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Add Michael Jordan's name to the growing list of Plymouth football alums going on to make major names for themselves.

The 6-7, 310-pound offensive lineman — who graduated early from Plymouth High School last year to get a head start on his college football career — reportedly is set to start at left guard as a true freshman for Ohio State University at noon Saturday

against Bowling Green. Jordan follows the likes of all-world kicker Kyle Brindza and linebacker Brennen Beyer, who in recent years rode standout prep and college careers careers right up into the National Football League.

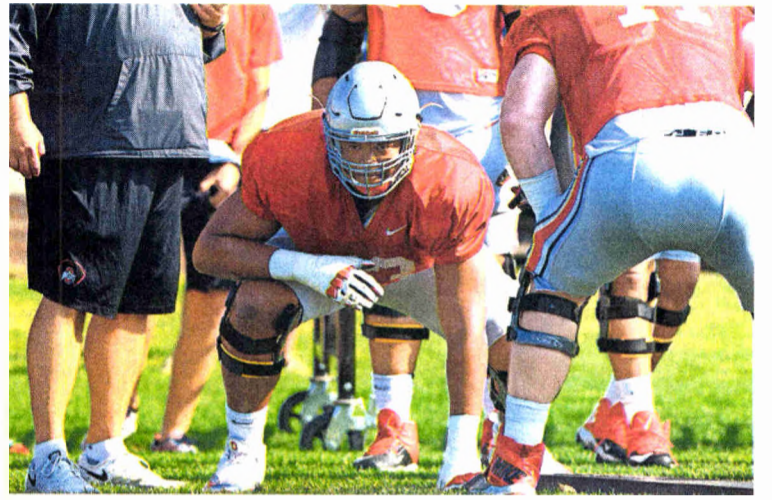
Making the trip from metro Detroit to Columbus for Saturday's Jordan debut will be his coach with the Wildcats, Mike Sawchuk. Like everybody else connected with the Plymouth program, that Jordan already is emerging on the NCAA Division I stage is no surprise, given his unbelievable talent and work ethic. If there is a surprise, it's that Jordan, barring a last-minute change of plans by Buckeyes

head coach Urban Meyer, will start merely months after graduating from high school.

"What Michael has done so far does not surprise me," Sawchuk said. "He's a very intelligent, big-hearted, athletic young man. I am looking forward to going to watch him this weekend vs Bowling Green. He's a great ambassador for our football program."

Jordan's quiet demeanor around Plymouth belied his fierce competitive nature — which Sawchuk saw first-hand on the field and in the weight room.

"I wish every student-athlete would emulate his work



WALT MIDDLETON PHOTOGRAPHY 2016

Plymouth graduate Michael Jordan gets ready for contact during an Ohio State practice.

See JORDAN, Page B2

NEW ERA AT SCHOOLCRAFT



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Schoolcraft men's soccer players warm up for Friday's first-ever game on the college's turf field. In the foreground is head coach Rick Larson.

FIELD OF OCELOT DREAMS



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Battling for a 50/50 ball Friday is Schoolcraft College forward Aidan Shennan (left) of Canton. At right for the Ocelots is Ethan Labrosse.

Rave reviews from players greets Schoolcraft College's new turf soccer field

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

It was scorching hot Friday afternoon on the bright green turf soccer field abutting Interstate 275 in Livonia, where Schoolcraft College's men's soccer team christened the pristine playing surface against Morton (Ill.) College.

The opener ended in a 3-1 triumph. If the 2016 season

goes as well as veteran Schoolcraft head coach Rick Larson hopes, the year's final contest on the as-yet-unnamed field will be even bigger — to determine whether the Ocelots advance to nationals.

"It's beautiful, I love it," sophomore forward and Canton graduate Aidan Shennan said following the non-conference game. "It's a little hot today, but it's a great facility.

"The fields out here were absolute crap before. This is just a perfect A-1 training facility. Training's a lot better, games are going to be a lot more efficient, we're going to be on top."

When the gates opened earlier Friday, players such as Shennan, Livonia Stevenson graduate Alex DeFlorio and

See FIELD, Page B4

CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

Canton boasts plenty of talent, depth

After successful 2015 season, Chiefs ready to stay on track

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Last year was pretty special for Canton's varsity boys cross country team, which captured the KLAA South Division title.

But 2016 could be a record-breaker, at least individually. On the fast track to a spot in

program lore is senior Zac Clark, who posted a time of 16:08, just nine seconds short of the school record.

Right behind Clark are senior Nick Socha and junior Shane Andrews. Socha is on Canton's top 50 career list, while Andrews — with his best time of 16:39 — is 21st in team history.

Clark, Socha and Andrews are among 10 returning varsity letter-winners and veteran head coach Bill Boyd is optimistic that the combination of

talent and leadership will be a plus as the Chiefs look to make a statement in the KLAA and postseason.

Also back are seniors Zach Carey, the team's most improved runner in 2015, and Hunter Hall, juniors David Kight, Ben Lesko and Ryan Triolet and sophomores Braden Heimbaugh and Daniel Jimenez.

With personal bests of 17:49 and 17:52, respectively, Heim-

See CHIEFS, Page B2



TIM SMITH

Canton standout runners (from left) Shane Andrews, Nick Socha and Zac Clark are looking to build off last year's success.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Catholic Central rolls in Battle at Big House

Shamrocks open season with 42-0 victory over Titans

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Following a 42-0 victory late Saturday afternoon in the Battle at The Big House, Jackson Ross was outside the University of Michigan stadium donning a Harvard T-shirt.

The standout 6-foot-3, 245-pound defensive end from Novi Detroit Catholic Central said he is considering the Ivy League school, with the idea of studying pre-law.

And it was certainly ironic that Ross and his defensive teammates laid down the law as they limited a good Sterling Heights Stevenson team to 72 total yards in a season football opener that was delayed 2½ hours by thunderstorms.

"It was just a great team game," Ross said. "Our coaches said before, 'Swarm to the ball.' I think the past couple of years, we've gotten away from CC defense and I think that game right there is great CC defense and we're hoping to continue it for the rest of the year."

The weather delay didn't seem to bother the Shamrocks, who spent their idle time wisely.

"It was a little tough going in," said Ross, who had six assisted tackles. "We were all hyped up, thought we were going to play and then waiting two hours was tough. But I think the guys responded great, scoring 21 first-half points. It doesn't get much better than that. I was really proud."

Game on hold

The game was originally scheduled to start at 1 p.m., but didn't kick off until 3:30 p.m. "Actually, we just kind of sat around in the locker room," CC coach Tom Mach said. "It was so long, the parents actually went out and got the kids some food, so that helped. It was a hard time, just sitting around and doing nothing. Coming back out was hard, but I think they



SCOTT CONFER

Catholic Central's defense of Tyler St. Clair (top), Jackson Ross (middle) and Isaac Darkangelo (bottom) gang-tackle a Stevenson runner.

handled it very well as far as the crew at Michigan and our kids. They came out ready to play when the time came and they did a good job."

The Shamrocks had only one first-quarter possession, going four plays and out, but made the most of their next three, scoring three second-quarter touchdowns.

Senior Nicholas Capatina, who finished with a game-best 138 yards on 14 carries, scored on a 34-yard touchdown run with 11:12 to play in the first quarter and kicker Jacob Nichols converted the first of his six straight extra points to make it 7-0.

CC senior defensive back Chris Jakubik then set up the next score when he picked off a pass headed near the sideline on a ball thrown by Stevenson QB Niko Nickson. Jakubik returned it to the Titans' 24 and it resulted in a 3-yard TD keeper by sophomore quarterback Austin Brown with 7:56 left in the half.

"We've just been practicing all week. We've been going over plays, scouting them a lot and we ran that in practice before,

so I just knew I was ready for it and just made a play," Jakubik said. "We were supposed to read the fake bubble and I just kind of read on it because their guys came and I just jumped on it and made the play."

Big play

Jakubik's pick proved to be an early game-changer.

"Chris is a very good athlete," Mach said. "He plays both sides of the ball. He's an offensive receiver and he went after that as an offensive receiver and a defensive back and he picked it off. That really changed the momentum. They had some momentum going there and that really helped us."

Shamrocks then drove 55 yards in 11 plays, capped by Brown's 11-yard TD pass to Jack Morris with only 36 seconds until intermission to make it 21-0.

Junior linebacker Isaac Darkangelo also picked off Nickson on the final play of the half as CC's defense held the Titans to just 57 total yards. Darkangelo had one solo and nine assisted tackles.

"We've talked about it all week," Jakubik said. "Defense is our identity; form an identity out there. We don't want them to get any first downs. We want to dominate the whole game and just, every play, make a play."

The Shamrocks' offense, which outgained Stevenson 365-72, added three more second-half scores, including a 6-yard TD run by Capatina with 6:41 to go in the third quarter that capped a 10-play, 80-yard drive.

Padding the lead

The Shamrocks put up two more TDs in the final quarter to invoke a running clock as junior fullback Cameron Ryan, who finished with 99 yards on 16 carries, scored on a 4-yard run, followed by Tyler St. Clair's 5-yard run.

"I thought we did a pretty good job of putting drives together," Mach said. "We like to eliminate the penalties, obviously, because that hurts you in the long run. But overall, I was pleased with aspects of our game today. All the kids played with great intention of getting

the job done, great heart and so forth and I thought they did a fine job."

It was a dominating performance, to say the least, for the Shamrocks, who allowed just five first downs, 10 yards passing and 62 rushing.

Other top tacklers for CC included Ty Morland (two solo, five assists), Blake Bueter (one solo, five assists) and Matt Young (three solo, two assists).

"Our defense was very good today," Mach said. "They've been working really hard during the season here and up to this point. Dan Anderson is our defensive coordinator. He had a really good game plan coming into this game and the kids executed it very well. I think we got better as the game progressed."

Meanwhile, it was a frustrating day all the way around for the Titans, who were coming in with high hopes following a 7-3 season that resulted in a playoff berth.

"They had a tremendous running game and that's something we usually pride ourselves on," third-year Stevenson coach Kevin Frederick said of CC. "We just couldn't get things going, so with that, that's going to be the outcome. If you can't get on the field to run your plays, you can't get drives going. It's a two-way thing. If we can sustain a drive, we keep our defense off the field. They were on the field way too much today and that's a team thing. We need to do a better job offensively. We need to pick each other up."

And Frederick didn't want the weather delay to become an excuse.

"I don't think that had to do with anything on how we played, it's one of those things," he said. "It's unfortunate, but you can't control the weather. They had to do the same thing and wait like we did. The experience itself was good being at the University of Michigan being in the locker room and being in the field, but obviously the outcome wasn't what we were expecting."

bemons@hometownlife.com
bemons1@twitter.co

She comes up aces!



Bridget Boczar of Plymouth recently won the Drive, Chip and Putt sub-regional (girls 12-13 division) at Prestwick Village Golf Club in Highland. She now moves on to the regional qualifier in September at Oakmont Country Club in Pittsburgh. That will be the final qualifier for next spring's Masters in Augusta. Bridget also recently won the Golf Association of Michigan's Junior Stroke Play Championship (girls 12U division) at Gowanie Country Club in Harrison Township by shooting 83 for 18 holes.

GIRLS GOLF

P-CEP teams finish in middle of the pack

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Although the three Plymouth-Canton Educational Park girls golf teams finished in the middle of the pack at Monday's KLAA Kensington Conference pre-tourney at Livonia's Fox Creek Golf Course, coaches saw glimpses of potential.

Novi topped the 10-team field on the par-71 course, posting 329. Leading Novi were senior Alexa Hatz and junior Abby Livingston, registering respective scores of 77 and 78 for 18 holes.

Finishing fifth with a 360

total was Plymouth, with Salem's 368 tally good for sixth. In ninth was Canton, with a 392 total.

For Plymouth's Wildcats, sophomore Shae Zydeck had a solid showing with the team's low score of 88. Chipping in with 89 each were junior Erin Johnson and senior Rachel Kristian.

Rounding out the Plymouth scorecard were senior Heather Muir (94), junior Sara Vohra (95) and sophomore Kaitlyn Elledge (97).

Salem was paced by senior Darby Scott, whose 82 was good for fifth place overall in the individual standings.

Other finishers for the Rocks were Hannah Saad (90), Grace Grelak (92), Nicole Hahn (104), Julianne Small (109) and Ryleigh Reed (120).

Showing promise for Canton were sophomores Nicole Dawson and Manasa Potluri, who turned in scores of 91 and 93, respectively.

Joining them were Simi Neeluri (103), Avery Ralston (105) and Lauren Luyet and Molly Mundorf (121 each).

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CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

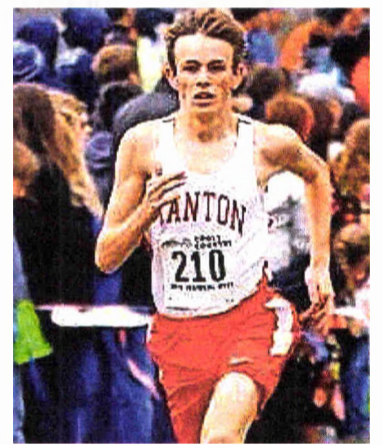
baugh and Jiminez shared Canton's rookie of the year award in 2015.

Augmenting that group are athletes who moved up from the junior varsity.

Those include senior Jeremiah McKinney, juniors Chuck Carey, Ben Devine, Andrew Lake, Karl Nuler, Greg Sigler, Nelson Vayda, Zach Harrison, Bailey Hoffmeyer and Sam Reinders and sophomores Jonah Nicholas and Adam Styron.

Newcomers include juniors Zach Seltz and Richard Ling, sophomore Faris Adam and freshmen Anurag Bangera, Chirag Bangera, Daniel Carr, Drew LaBelle, Henry Styron, Jacob Lasecki, Josh Knoll, Lucas Porco and Sam Wolf.

"Despite graduating three varsity lettermen, Canton runners are confident that they can be competitive in the divi-



FILE PHOTO

Running during a 2015 cross country meet is Canton's Zac Clark, one of the top returnees for 2016.

sion," Boyd wrote in an email to the Observer. "(They) have increased their summer miles and (we) have one of the largest freshman classes in school history."

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JORDAN

Continued from Page B1

ethic and could have seen his improvement from ninth grade to his senior year due to his commitment to the weight room," Sawchuk said.

That determination also informed Jordan's successful three-year career as a Plymouth wrestler; the only reason the burly big guy did not return to the mat as a senior in 2015-16 was his intention to graduate early and then enroll at Ohio State (which he did in January).

From the opening practices with the Buckeyes, Jordan impressed Meyer and OSU coaches and that trajectory apparently has not changed in the ensuing months.

On Saturday, for those traveling from metro Detroit, Jordan will wear No. 73. For Sawchuk and the rest of Plymouth's football program, it might as well be No. 1. Make that 1A, because he is the latest out of the Wildcats' pipeline, following Brindza and Beyer.



Jordan

Brindza was a top-notch kicker at Notre Dame and played part of the 2015 NFL season at Tampa Bay. He currently is a free agent, rehabbing an Achilles heel injury suffered earlier this year.

Beyer, meanwhile, followed a strong career at Michigan by being signed by the NFL's Baltimore Ravens. He currently is prepping for his second pro season.

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2016 ALL-AREA GIRLS SOCCER

Star players shine bright on Observer team

FIRST TEAM

Hannah Lapko, F, Canton: The Chiefs finished 17-3-4 and came up just short of a Division 1 state championship, and junior forward Lapko had plenty to do with that sustained excellence.

Lapko's third season on the varsity squad featured a steady stream of big plays, whether setting up teammates for goals or finding the range herself. Her efforts were strong enough to earn her a spot on the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association first team for Division 1.

"She had an outstanding year with many great goals and helped keep our team in the running for a state championship," coach Jeannine Reddy said.

Lapko has verbally committed to play women's soccer at Ferris State University, beginning in 2017.

Olivia Janke, M, Plymouth: Plymouth's steady senior co-captain made her presence felt yet again, tallying nine goals and chipping in with 11 assists for the Wildcats.

Janke, who is playing this fall at Valparaiso (Division I), proved versatile as she divided playing time between midfield and forward.

"Olivia's just a smart, crafty player that really was creative whether creating for herself or making space for others," coach Jeff Neschich said. "Just a smart, hard-working player."

Janke was selected to the MHSSCA D1 second all-state team for a second consecutive season.

Jordan Anheuser, G, Canton: Not only did 2016 Division 1 state finalist Canton have a well-oiled offensive machine and strong competitors on defense and in the midfield, the team had a rock-solid goalkeeper in the senior standout.

Anheuser was instrumental in the Chiefs' march to the finals, blanking Woodhaven in the regional final and coming up clutch time and again in Canton's 2-1 victory over Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central in a semifinal contest.

"Jordan is a very smart, determined and playoff-ready keeper," Reddy said. "She ... keeps the team's spirit up when we get down and is an excellent teammate."

The goalie, named to the third D1 all-state team by MHSSCA, will continue her soccer career at the collegiate level, at Saginaw Valley State.

Madison Archibald, M, Canton: It was another standout season for the senior midfielder and captain, who was a big part of the Chiefs' all-around success throughout all four seasons of her varsity prep career.

"Madison has been through a few great playoff runs and helped keep our team focused," Reddy said. "She was a great leader and and player

2016 ALL-OBSERVER GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

Hannah Lapko, sr., F, Canton
 Olivia Janke, sr., M, Plymouth
 Jordan Anheuser, sr., G, Canton
 Madison Archibald, sr., M, Canton
 Karlie Cummins, sr., M, N. Farmington
 Megan Verant, jr., M, Stevenson
 Gabby Teodorescu, jr., D, Salem
 Conner Huggins, sr., M, Ladywood
 Jennifer Richmond, jr., F, Canton
 Audrey Kopitz, soph., F, Stevenson
 Kennedy Thurlow, soph., M, Stevenson
 Olivia Elby, jr., F, N. Farmington
 Patil Tcholakian, soph., G, N. Farming.
 Anna DeBiasi, sr., M, Plymouth
 Megan McCurry, sr., D, Plymouth
 Kim Lindberg, sr., M, Harrison
 Brooke Collins, jr., F, Garden City
 Angela Boyce, jr., M, Farmington

SECOND TEAM

Allie Crecelius, jr., F, Ply. Christian
 Amy Babon, jr., F, Ladywood
 Taylor Bullard, jr., F, Ladywood
 Maddie Erdman, sr., M, Mercy
 Lauren Wynns, sr., F, Churchill
 Raquel Church, jr., F, Canton
 Mary Galm, sr., D, Canton
 Kathryn Gordon, sr., F, Plymouth
 Hailey Katulski, sr., D, Salem
 Skyler Brant, jr., G, Salem
 Jenna Thom, sr., D, Stevenson
 Jessica Paulson, jr., F, Ply. Christian
 Gabriela Sgambati, soph., M, N. Farm.
 Hailey Melnick, jr., M, Plymouth
 Tara Arlin, jr., M, Farmington

HONORABLE MENTION

Canton: Sarah Hammond, Marlee Taylor, Casey Muglia; Plymouth: Bree Pifer, Lexi White, Kenna White; Salem: Marissa Martin, Nikki Pilon, Jayna Lenders, Katie Coleman; Plymouth Christian: Crystal Bock; Farmington: Kayla Sharp, Jackie Carbone, Marlee Pope, Courtney Knoerl; Harrison: Emma Vrooman, Anya Turner; North Farmington: Arti Vaishnav, Bethany Wood, Sydney Cohn, Abby Hegarty, Carina Wright, Sam Randle; Mercy: Chloe Russo, Allia McDowell, Missy Hunt, Rebecca Heaman, Maggie Shrader; Churchill: Ashleigh Slaviero, Sara Taylor, Alivia Kondrath, Franklin Riley Burnette, Rachel Dudek, Bailey Elliott; Stevenson: Allia Baserbe, Paige Ackman, Haley Demers; Garden City: Skyler Clendening, Alex Shurlock; Ladywood: Brianne Rogers, Abbey Reppen.

for us. She's always focused in training and it pays off for her on game day."

Gabby Teodorescu, D, Salem: Salem's defense was a plus during the 2016 season, with nine shutouts, and junior Teodorescu's stellar play in the back was a major factor in that.

Teodorescu also chipped in with six assists and was one of the Rocks' go-to players in all situations. Her season of excellence earned her selection to the MIHSSCA third all-state team.

"She has been our most consistent player all year," coach George Tomasso said. "She plays at a very high club level (with the Michigan Hawks) which elevates her high school team."

"She is a great leader by example as well as leading through inspiration. Gabby is a versatile player who makes her entire team around her better."

After concluding her Salem career next spring, Teodorescu is set to play collegiately at Saginaw Valley.

Conner Huggins, M, Ladywood: Huggins, who is headed to Villanova University to play college soccer, had an amazing senior season at Ladywood, earning first team All-Catholic honors in addition to all-District, all-Region and all-State accolades. She was voted team MVP and was the Blazers' captain.

Jennifer Richmond, F, Canton: The Chiefs won the KLAAs South Division and went on to nearly run the postseason table in part thanks to the way Richmond emerged during her junior season.

Richmond was clutch, demonstrating a knack for getting open and converting chances. She was rewarded for her year with selection to the D1 all-state squad as an honorable mention pick.

"She scored big goals for us and was a threat with her speed and shooting abilities," Reddy said. "She was a veteran playoff player and played her heart out."

Following her senior season at Canton, Richmond will attend Siena Heights University.

Audrey Kopitz, F, Stevenson: Kopitz shared the Spartans' team MVP award with Verant. A dangerous threat to score whenever she possesses in the final third, Kopitz finished with 17 goals and three assists on the way to earning honorable mention All-State accolades and All-KLAA first team honors.

"Audrey was fantastic this year," Shingledecker said. "She played a major role in possession for us and she always finds herself in goal scoring spots. She led our team in goals and her work rate off the ball is excellent."

Kennedy Thurlow, M, Stevenson: Only a sophomore, Thurlow earned



All-KLAA first-team honors and all-State honorable mention recognition. A Central Michigan University commit, Thurlow assisted six goals and dished out 10 assists.

"Kennedy is a right back by trade," Shingledecker noted. "We moved her up top this year and she embraced the change and really started to excel as the season went along. She is a very dynamic dribbler and would draw man marks in multiple matches this season."

Olivia Elby, F, N. Farmington: An aggressive, hard-driving forward, Elby led the Raiders in goals scored with 15 and also had two assists.

Her contribution helped put the Raiders in contention for the OAA Red championship. Elby is a Division 1 all-state honorable mention.

"Olivia is one of those unique players who can create her own shot, and she does so with both feet — something at which she has improved every season," Russell said.

"She is very crafty with the ball at her feet, and she is becoming a smart passer, recognizing when a teammate is in a better position to score a goal and getting the ball to her."

"Her teammates showed their respect for her leadership by electing her to be captain for her senior year. Certainly, we are in good shape up top next season with Olivia returning."

Patil Tcholakian, G, N. Farmington: In two seasons as a starter, Tcholakian has established herself as an elite goalie, earning a D1 all-state honorable mention this year.

She had a 0.83 goals-against average and was voted the No. 1 goalie in the Novi district.

Tcholakian has posted 26 shutouts over two seasons and has helped the Raiders compile a 26-8-4 record.

"We were blessed last year when we learned a freshman keeper was more than ready to step into the starting position," Russell said. "It was evident early she had worked very hard to improve for this year's campaign."

"She has always been great at stopping opponents' shots and racking up shutouts, but she has improved her ability to play the ball with both feet, allowing us to include her in our passing game."

"She has become a more vocal team leader, too. I see her only getting stronger from this point on."

Anna DeBiasi, M, Plymouth: The senior midfielder's swan song as a Plymouth Wildcat followed the script established in DeBiasi's first three varsity seasons, providing stellar play and consistency.

DeBiasi, who this fall will play D-I women's soccer at Cleveland State, led Plymouth with 14 assists and was named by the MIHSSCA as an honorable mention recipient.

"Anna was just a very crafty ball-dribbler," Neschich said. "Her technique, her basic skill set was just amazing. (She) played center-mid and really just created a lot from that position."

Megan McCurry, D, Plymouth: Another integral part of Plymouth's nucleus over the past four seasons, McCurry capped off her prep career with another outstanding year.

McCurry, who was a captain, earned D1 honorable mention all-state honors and will go to Siena Heights. "Megan was a fantastic center-back for us and just held everything down in the back," Neschich said. "She kept our defense rock solid."

Kimberly Lindberg, M, Harrison: Lindberg was a four year varsity starter for the Hawks and had an outstanding high school career. She also is a high-level club player with the Novi Jaguars.

A midfielder and sometimes attacker, Lindberg always presented an offensive threat to opposing teams.

She added 13 goals to her career tally the past season and finished with a total of 33. Lindberg, who will play soccer at Adrian College, also had 15 career assists.

"Kim played defense her freshman year and helped us post a 10-2-5 record," coach Matt Conrad said. "Since then she became our most dangerous attacker, playing in the midfield."

"The role she played this year, drawing defenders to her to open up teammates and scoring goals herself, was invaluable. Because of this, she is practically irreplaceable."

Brooke Collins, F, Garden City: The junior and three-year varsity standout was a force for the Cougars this past spring, netting a team-high 17 goals to go along with four assists. She earned first-team All-WWAC honors.

Angela Boyce, M, Farmington: The junior midfielder is always in the middle of the action and plays a vital role for the Falcons.

She tallied six goals and assisted on five others the past season. Boyce, who made a verbal commitment to play for the University of Akron, was voted team MVP in addition to being named to the all-OAA, district and region teams.

She's also plays for the Northville Rush in the Midwest Regional League.

"She's a fantastic player and deserves all the accolades she receives," coach Matt Gasparotto said. "She's just a very well-balanced player."

"She can take you on the dribble and, if you try to challenge her, she can pass the ball with very good accuracy. She's a hard player to defend, because she's so balanced in her ability to attack."

BOYS SOCCER

Canton, Plymouth prevail in early season tests

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

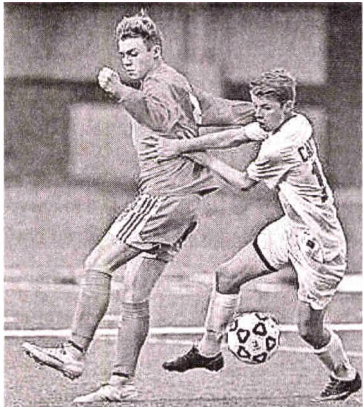
It looks like Canton is picking up where it left off last season, when it reached the Division 1 state finals.

The Chiefs won the annual Gary Balconi Invitational on Aug. 20 and kept on charging with a 1-1 tie Saturday against always tough Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and an impressive 3-0 win Monday over Walled Lake Northern.

Registering two goals for Canton against Northern was Alex Spratte, with Mohamad Miri collecting the other. Racking up assists for the Chiefs were Ryen O'Meara, Aidan Hurley and goalkeeper David Sadanowicz, who posted the shutout (two saves).

Against the Shamrocks, Spratte scored early in the first half and that held up most of the day thanks to an outstanding game by senior goalie Steven Page (eight saves). Catholic Central could not score the equalizer until late in the second half.

Another strong KLAAs South Division team, Plymouth, defeated Grosse Pointe South 4-1



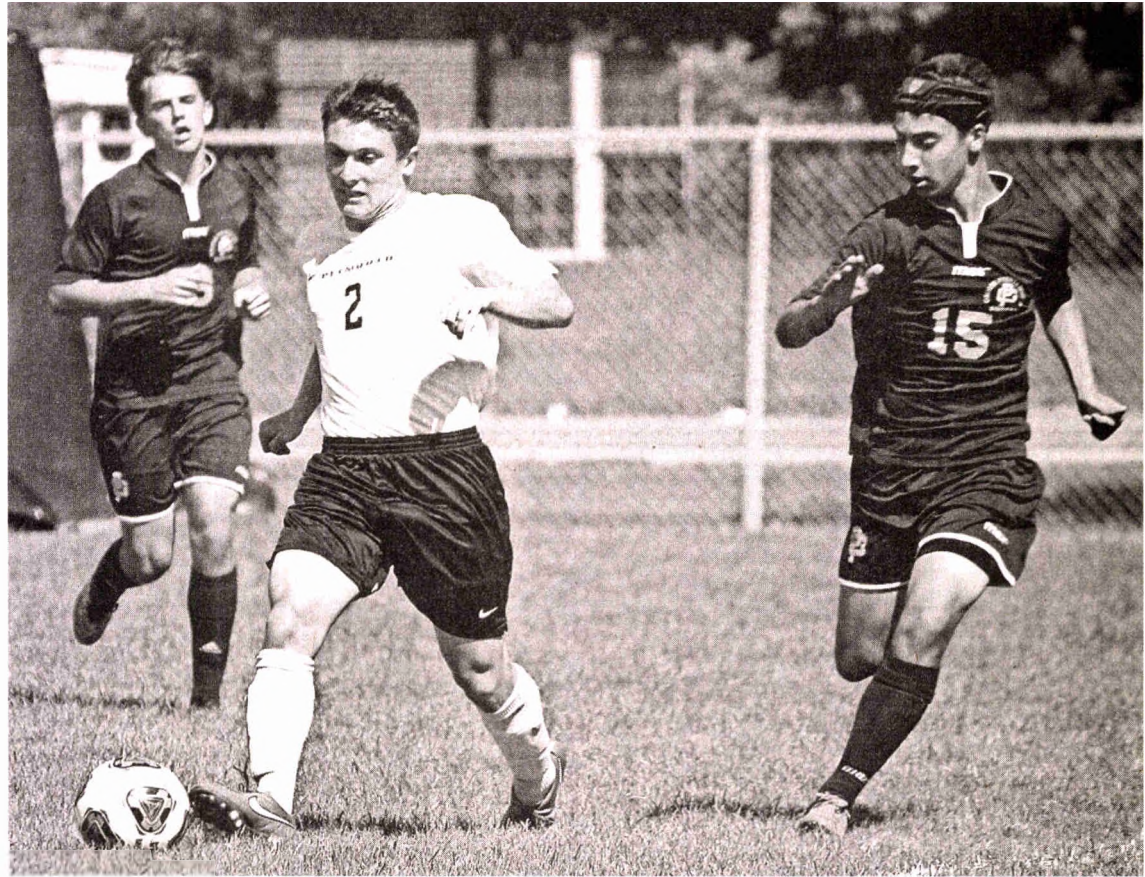
BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Canton's Ryen O'Meara (right), shown from a 2015 game, was a key contributor Monday night.

on Friday, riding a three-goal first half to victory.

In the opening 40 minutes, junior Tommy Sullivan (from Nicholas Yoshioka), senior Adam Saunders (from Yoshioka) and junior Sawyer Eggan (from Matt Weiner) each scored a goal.

Saunders capped the Plymouth scoring with a penalty kick goal in the second half.

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Plymouth senior defender Matt Weiner (left) had an assist in Friday's 4-1 win over Grosse Pointe South.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY PREVIEW

Salem numbers are down, but talent level is up

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

On the heels of a successful 2015 season capped off by a 15th-place finish at the Division 1 girls cross country state finals, the 2016 Salem Rocks look to be leaner and meaner.

They have to be, because the roster itself is down to 39 runners. But veteran head coach Dave Gerlach, entering his 22nd season, will benefit from a battle to grab one of the positions in the varsity lineup.

"We have a smaller team, but we will bring more depth with about 12 athletes fighting for seven varsity spots," Gerlach said. "The inter-squad competition should bring out the competitive nature and passion in these young ladies. "We are working hard to

reach our individual and team goals this season."

Last year was a good one for the Rocks, who captured the DeWitt, Wayne County and Franklin JV tournaments before placing second in the KLAA Central Division and Kensington Conference. From there, the squad came in second at the regional to qualify for states.

That group lost Sierra Bowden and Kayla Hughes (now running for University of Detroit Mercy), but many team members gained valuable experience that will come in handy this season.

Led by senior co-captains Erin McCann, Annie Dermody and Julia Hurley, this year's team will look to duplicate 2015's individual and team accomplishments.

Varsity returnees include McCann, juniors Madalyn Simko, Madison Justice and Hannah Jeffrees and sophomore Gabby Mancini.

A promising group of athletes who might work their way onto the varsity include juniors Shea Wilson, Charissa Johnson and Jessica Hughes and sophomores Hallie Younglas, Madison Grant, Lizzy Lu and Bridget Nelson.

Gerlach also listed freshman Sydney Meloche and junior Courtney White as making possible contributions in their rookie seasons.

"After a summer of hard work and dedication from these girls, I am looking forward to our season," said Gerlach, who will be assisted by coaching newcomer Angela Carron.



FILE PHOTO
Running during a 2015 race is Salem's Madalyn Simko, one of the team's key returning runners.

FIELD

Continued from Page B1

sophomore defenseman Carlos Rivas (a Farmington resident who hails from Venezuela) couldn't wait to step on to the field for the first time.

"It (action) is more controlled and paced out compared to bumpy grass, where the ball's moving everywhere," Shennan said.

Thumbs up

According to DeFlorio, whose right-to-left crossing feed resulted in the first goal by Ethan Labrosse (Howell) with 33:56 remaining in the first half, the new facility is "absolutely beautiful, great for the program."

He added that it was crucial to open play there with a 'W.'

Also beaming about the field was Rivas, who said he and his teammates were "excited" to finally compete on the field after a year or so of waiting.

"I think it's much better than last year," Rivas said. "In my opinion, I'd rather play on turf. It's easier to play, we can get connected better. I think the school (did) a good job doing this field for us."

Larson gave the field, part of a \$6 million project by Pontiac-based George W. Auch Construction (a domed field is going up just north of where Friday's contest took place), a big thumbs up.

"I think the field's great," Larson said. "We've played on turf fields before and I certainly am excited that we finally have one on our campus. The best thing about our turf field, soccer lines only.

"This is a soccer, state-of-the-art place to play and we are super-excited to start our season the way that we did today."

They like turf

He echoed players in how the surface will help the Ocelots from a soccer standpoint.

"The game's going to open up a lot more and our intricate skill is going to be more on display in our eight or 10 home games this year than it was in the past," Larson said.

"(That's) because the (former) field was bumpy and choppy, those kind of things that come along with a grass field. But turf suits us."

Players geared up for the change in venue by practicing indoors at Total Soccer in Wixom. "It's not a mystery to them," Larson said.

Patrick Yelsik of Schoolcraft's athletic department said the opening of the field — and the anticipated unveiling of a domed facility, which will



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Ocelots defender Alex DeFlorio (right) of Livonia Stevenson outpaces Morton College's Jose Garcia. The game Friday was the first ever on Schoolcraft's turf field.

be used by college teams as well as the Livonia Wolves/Hawks club program — is going to be "huge for us now and in the future."

"For kids who already are on campus it's a crown jewel," Yelsik said. "And for recruits that we're trying to get to come here, we know the schools we're up against.

"If we bring them on a recruiting visit and have this to show them, we know we're going to be ahead of our competitors."

Yelsik noticed the look on players' faces when they stepped foot on the field Friday.

"I'll never forget the expression on their faces," he said. "They literally stopped when they walked through."

On the board

As for the game itself, the Labrosse goal put the Ocelots in a good spot and they carried it through.

But it took a diving stop by sophomore goalie Cameron Gwinn (Brighton/Hartland) to enable Schoolcraft to prevail.

With the game still 1-0 early in the second half, Gwinn relied on acrobatic reaction to rob a blistering shot taken from the left side of the box by George Jacobo.

Schoolcraft then broke it open with two goals within a five-minute span to go up 3-0.

Scoring on a penalty kick was forward Connor Rutz with 19:50 remaining in the game.

He received the chance after freshman forward and Livonia Franklin product Jordan Whitt was fouled in the box.

Following a set-up by Shennan, Rutz scored his second of the afternoon with 15:04 left. He fired in a rebound.

Spoiling Gwinn's shutout bid with 1:38 left was Ricardo Espino, who scored on a penalty kick.

"We had a couple guys really step in and play well," Larson said. "You never know when you start the season how it's going to go. But our experience and savvy on the ball, I thought Jake Rosen was fantastic today in dictating the tempo and the timing, when to go and when not to go."

"Obviously, Aidan Shennan causing that third goal was a really good situation and Aidan is great at just making defenders stay in a panic state.

"And Jordan Whitt from Franklin came in and did a great job for us and drew the penalty for the second goal. And Connor Rutz was just being Connor Rutz today."

Season outlook

About the upcoming season, Larson and players have high hopes to make it to the NJCAA tournament and cap it off with a title.

Schoolcraft enjoys a No. 9 ranking in the preseason poll and doesn't intend to drop down in the rankings anytime soon.

"We want to keep things in order; we got to do well in the region," Larson said. "We want to finish in the top two so we get a bye on the Wednesday, going into the regional tournament, which is always tough."

"Having to travel to Ancilla and play on a grass field in late October, early November is going to be difficult for us. We need to prepare ourselves mentally and physically to get into that environment and come out of there with a win. And then the district game will be here to go to nationals."

It helps to have skill all over the pitch, of course.

Up front is returning all-region forward Rutz (Commerce/Walled Lake Northern) along with Shennan, Whitt, Elliott Woods (Northern) and Michael Machila.

Handling the midfield will be Rosen, a team leader who lives in Livonia, Labrosse and Northern alum Taylor Woods.

In the back will be DeFlorio, Rivas, Southfield-Lathrup product Kebba Sannah and Ian Walker (Dearborn).

Anchoring the defense is goalkeeper Gwinn.

"Cameron Gwinn is fantastic," Larson said. "He got a lot of game time last year and he also got a chance to apprentice under a very good goaltender in Andres Hernandez."

"And now the job's his. He's relished in that."

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BATTLE OF THE PARK

Plymouth boys netters win Park tourney

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

The inaugural "Battle of the Park," played Aug. 26 on Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's tennis courts, went Plymouth's way.

Plymouth defeated Canton (5-4) and Salem (6-3) in a pair of hard-fought matches; the Wildcats improved to 3-1 with the victories.

"(We) swept the singles matches and the top doubles spot against both teams," Plymouth head coach Tom Kimball said. "But gave up some points in the lower doubles matches."

In the tourney final against Salem, the Wildcats prevailed in three of four singles flights. At No. 1, senior Matt Decker won 6-3, 6-1 over Eric Liu.

Also victorious for Plymouth in singles play were seniors Devan Patel at No. 2 (6-0, 6-2 over Mauricio Berraga) and Yogesh Mojanraj at No. 3 (6-1, 6-1 over Ajay Bharathan).

The Rocks did post a win at No. 4 singles, with freshman Jason Zheng earning a 6-0, 6-0 triumph over freshman Aditya Suryakumar.

Getting doubles play off to a good start for Plymouth was the No. 1 tandem of seniors Justin Kapke and Ramana Ramanathan. They took it to the Salem combo of senior Caden Sweet and sophomore Conor Sweet, 6-1, 6-0.

Salem bounced back with victories at Nos. 2-4 doubles.

At No. 2, senior A.J. Choukair and sophomore Khush Patel prevailed 14-12 in a third set super tie-breaker after splitting 6-4, 5-7. They bested Plymouth juniors Anoop Kotha and Nathan Tseng.

The Salem tandem of sophomore Andrew Clarke and junior Parshva Sanghvi took a 4-6, 7-5, 10-7 win over senior David Grant and sophomore Rohit Narayanan at No. 3; the No. 4 match-up also went to the Rocks as seniors Jacob Rumpetz and Gage Moyers won 6-3, 7-6 over the Wildcats' duo of seniors Musa Zahoor and Haroon Zahoore.

In the final flight, Plymouth's No. 5 doubles team of sophomore Landon Brenny and junior Prathik Addeppali won 4-6, 6-3, 10-4 over junior Justin Kohn and sophomore Neel Shah.

PLYMOUTH 5, CANTON 4: Also during the Park tournament, the Wildcats edged Canton, sparked by a sweep in singles play.

Decker took No. 1 singles 6-1, 6-3 over Canton junior Jacob Patton to set the tone. Other Plymouth wins in singles action were posted by Patel (7-6, 6-4 over sophomore Kurt Seifert), Mojanraj (6-3, 6-2 over Sri Narayanan) and Suryakumar (6-0, 6-0 over freshman Larry Lu).

As for doubles play, only at No. 1 did the Wildcats prevail, with Kapke and Ramanathan defeating Geet Antani and Vishal Nayak, 6-2, 7-6.

The Chiefs were victorious the rest of the way.

Canton doubles wins were collected by the following: senior Vikram Vedapudi and junior Nick Huang (No. 2, 7-5, 6-3); juniors Ben Samoy and Patrick McDougall (No. 3, 6-2, 4-6, 10-4); sophomores Jack Muhktar and Sid Ganti (No. 4, 6-3, 7-5); senior Sriram Motharam and freshman Akshay Jalluri (No. 5, 7-6, 6-4).



JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO
Schoolcraft College men's soccer players listen to head coach Rick Larson (left) during pregame preparations Friday.



GETTY IMAGES/HEMERA

Insurance industry experts recommend having a renter's policy.

Renter's insurance: A little expense goes a long way in fire, theft

Julie Brown
Staff Writer

Jeff Juenemann, a long-time insurance agency owner, has seen fires in Westland destroy a number of apartments in the last 18 months or so.

"The apartment building can't protect their stuff," Juenemann, who owns Juenemann Insurance Agency in Westland, said of tenants. "They can't and they don't provide protection for the renter's belongings."

That's why he and others in the insurance field recommend a renter's policy, which Juenemann noted can cost you as little as \$100 a year when bundled with an auto policy through the same carrier.

"Obviously to protect their belongings," said Juenemann, a Northville Township resident. That includes furniture, clothing and even hobby items.

"Typically, it's not your apartment that burns that causes damage," he said. "Even as responsible as you

are, you're tied together in the same building."

Theft is also a concern for renters. "It's amazing how quickly your values accumulate," he said. That can be a new TV, new gaming system, and new clothing to replace.

"It adds up very quickly and it doesn't cost much to have enough coverage," Juenemann said.

Agreeing is Larry Johnson, owner of the Larry Johnson Agency of Farm Bureau Insurance of Plymouth.

"We do an awful lot of renter's policies," said Johnson, a Plymouth Township resident. "Most people have a tendency to underestimate how much risk they have. When you start replacing everything you own, you'd be surprised. I believe it's a very valuable policy to have."

Even your dishes can be costly to replace, Johnson said. "Just the little things, you'd be amazed," he said.

A homeowner's policy also covers such liability issues as a slip and fall or dog bite. For renters, "It would generally be the inside areas" of the

apartment covered, Juenemann said.

The apartment owner would generally bear responsibility for common areas. Juenemann said often now when tenants sign leases they're required to show they have renter's insurance "which is smart on the part of the apartment building."

If the liability is caused by the tenant, "the apartment building wants not to be the deep pocket," he added. Johnson too sees more and more landlords requiring renter's coverage, a practice he recommends.

Said Johnson, "You have a tendency to see more younger people renting apartments." They may not fully understand risk of fire and theft, Johnson said.

"In a loss like that, it's devastating for the tenant," Johnson said. He encourages people to talk to their agent about coverage.

Johnson also encourages those in senior assisted-living facilities to have insurance coverage for theft and fire. He has an older customer who

escaped a fire with only the clothes she wore and was not physically hurt.

"There's an expense there," Johnson said. Such senior units may only be a couple hundred square feet, but replacing clothing and other items quickly adds up "and some of them can be expensive," he added.

Johnson noted for seniors their glasses and hearing aids can be covered by a policy. He talks to adult children of senior policy holders if those children are involved in key decisions.

Of things like family photos, "There's really no way to cover sentimental loss. There's no way to replace photos that burn," Juenemann said.

Juenemann's neighbors lost wedding photos and sentimental Christmas ornaments in a fire. "It's just gone. There's no way to replace it," he said of a child's elementary school trophy, agreeing family safety is foremost.

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FHA mulls change on reverse mortgage eligibility

Q: I am a senior citizen and I currently live in a condominium unit. I heard that the federal government is considering eliminating the availability of reverse mortgages for seniors that live in condominiums. Is that true, and if so, why?

A: The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) has proposed a new plan which will make senior citizens residing in Community Association priority lien states, such as Michigan, ineligible for FHA reverse mortgages. The stated purpose of the proposed modifications to the program is to build in

safeguards to stop predatory lenders from using financial emergencies, or other circumstances, to enrich themselves by siphoning off a senior citizen's home equity. However, this proposal is not without controversy, as consumer advocates argue that some seniors need this type of financial relief available to them to assist with payment of medical or retirement expenses.

Reverse mortgages are often the only option for these individuals to raise funds to pay expenses and, therefore, these type of mortgage options allow seniors to avoid selling their homes to raise necessary funds. Also, Community Association advocates are concerned that the FHA is using these proposed modifications as a tool to attack the real target: states that grant priority to a portion of Association Liens when assessments remain unpaid by co-owners which is not the case in Michigan. Association advocates claim that the priority lien laws are the most effective tools that they have for collection purposes, especially when banks delay foreclosure on abandoned properties or co-owners otherwise fail to timely pay assessment dues.

Q: I understand that there are condominiums in suburban Prague which are, of course, cheaper than living in an apartment in the inner city, but what is the transportation like?

A: Prague has an excellent transportation system. It has trams, subways and buses running from the suburbs to throughout the city and you can buy a ticket from the suburbs for \$20 a month to reach the city. It may not be necessary, therefore, to even have a car in Prague, even if you live in the suburbs, because of the excellent transportation which, unfortunately, is not the case in every American city. Property values are less expensive than in the City Center.

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

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Benefit Estate Sale

Hall & Hunter Realtors will hold its 13th annual Estate Sale of Antiques, Collectibles and Treasures to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. It will be held Saturday, Sept. 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hall & Hunter Realtors, 442 S. Old Woodward Ave. in Birmingham. All year, Hall & Hunter Realtors collect antiques, gently used furniture and collectibles. Since Hall & Hunter started this tradition 11 years ago, the firm has donated \$250,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County. Sponsored by: Changing Places Moving Company, Hunter Title Agency, Stefek's Auctioneers & Appraisers, Bank of Birmingham.

For more information, contact HallandHunter.com or call 248-644-3500.

Inventory issues impact housing market, prices

Slowed by frustratingly low inventory levels in many parts of the country, existing-home sales lost momentum in July and decreased year-over-year for the first time since November 2015, according to the National Association of Realtors. Only the West region saw a monthly increase in closings in July.

Total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, town homes, condominiums and co-ops, fell 3.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.39 million in July from 5.57 million in June. For only the second time in the last 21 months, sales are now below (1.6 percent) a year ago (5.48 million).

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, says existing sales fell off track in July after steadily climbing the last four months.

"Severely restrained inventory and the tightening grip it's putting on affordability is the primary culprit for the considerable sales slump throughout much of the country last month," he said. "Realtors are reporting diminished buyer traffic because of the scarce number of affordable homes on the market, and the lack of supply is stifling the efforts of many prospective buyers attempting to purchase while mortgage rates hover at historical lows."

Adds Yun, "Furthermore, with new condo construction barely budging and currently making up only a small sliver of multi-family construction, sales suffered last month as

condo buyers faced even stiffer supply constraints than those looking to purchase a single-family home."

The median existing-home price for all housing types in July was \$244,100, up 5.3 percent from July 2015 (\$231,800). July's price increase marks the 53rd consecutive month of year-over-year gains.

Total housing inventory at the end of July inched 0.9 percent higher to 2.13 million existing homes available for sale, but is still 5.8 percent lower than a year ago (2.26 million) and has now declined year-over-year for 14 straight months. Unsold inventory is at a 4.7-month supply at the current sales pace, which is up from 4.5 months in June.

"Although home sales are still expected to finish the year at their strongest pace since the downturn, thanks to a very strong spring, the housing market is under-shooting its full potential because of inadequate existing inventory combined with new home construction failing to catch up with underlying demand," Yun said. "As a result, sales in all regions are now flat or below a year ago and price growth isn't slowing to a healthier and sustainable pace."

The share of first-time buyers was 32 percent in July, which is below last month (33 percent) but up from 28 percent a year ago. First-time buyers represented 30 percent of sales in all of 2015.

All-cash sales were 21 percent of transactions in July, down from 22 percent in June, 23 percent a year ago

and the lowest share since November 2009 (19 percent). Individual investors, who account for many cash sales, purchased 11 percent of homes in July, unchanged from June and down from 13 percent a year ago. Seventy percent of investors paid in cash in July.

According to Freddie Mac, the average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage dropped from 3.57 percent in June to 3.44 percent in July. Mortgage rates have now fallen five straight months and in July were the lowest since January 2013 (3.41 percent). The average commitment rate for all of 2015 was 3.85 percent.

NAR President Tom Salomone, broker-owner of Real Estate II Inc. in Coral Springs, Florida, says in addition to affordability concerns, an issue seen earlier in the housing recovery may be re-emerging. Realtors are indicating that appraisal complications are appearing more frequently as the reason why a contract signing experienced a delayed settlement.

"Appraisal-related contract issues have notably risen over the past year and were the root cause of over a quarter of contract delays in the past three months," he said. "This is likely a combination of sharply growing home prices in some areas, the uptick in home sales this year and the strong refinancing market overworking the already reduced number of practicing appraisers. Realtors are carefully monitoring this trend, and some have

already indicated they're extending closing dates on contracts to allow extra time to accommodate the possibility of appraisal-related delays."

Coming in at the lowest share since NAR began tracking in October 2008, distressed sales — foreclosures and short sales — were 5 percent of sales in July, down from 6 percent in June and 7 percent a year ago. Four percent of July sales were foreclosures and 1 percent were short sales. Foreclosures sold for an average discount of 18 percent below market value in July (11 percent in June), while short sales were discounted 16 percent (18 percent in June).

Properties typically stayed on the market for 36 days in July, up from 34 days in June but down from 42 days a year ago. Short sales were on the market the longest at a median of 95 days in July, while foreclosures sold in 54 days and non-distressed homes took 34 days. Forty-seven percent of homes sold in July were on the market for less than a month.

Inventory data from Realtor.com reveals that the metropolitan statistical areas where listings stayed on the market the shortest amount of time in July were Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, Colorado; San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, California; San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, California; and Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Washington, all at a median of 32 days; and Vallejo-Fairfield, California, at a median of 36 days.

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- ACROSS**
1 Want by ship rival
7 Old TWA
12 Exit doors, e.g.
20 Not certain
21 Top-drawer
22 Feeling like suede, say
23 Actor Freeman
24 Start of a riddle
26 — snail's pace
27 Layer
29 Behavioral quirks
30 Eat soup undaintly
31 Riddle, part 2
35 Short swims
38 Lean (on)
39 Horse cousin
40 Parked oneself
44 British noble, in brief
47 Mountain in Thessaly
51 Cost to get out of jail
52 Pro at W-2s
53 Riddle, part 3
58 Open field
60 Actor Sean
61 — Grey tea
62 Curly's friend
- 63 "For — Know" (1971 hit song)
65 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
67 Rent splitter, often
70 Not only that
74 Riddle, part 4
78 "Anti-art" art
79 New York governor
80 Beauty spot?
81 City in Japan
82 Pull hard
84 Camelot wife
86 Grandson of Eve
88 Diesel of film
89 End of the riddle
- 96 Balladeer
97 Oahu shindig
98 Relative of "psst"
99 Polish port on the Baltic
102 It's currently newsworthy
105 Flight takeoff abbr.
108 Be like a sot
109 Tex-Mex staple
110 Start of the riddle's answer
- 116 Set of beliefs
120 Mixed bag
121 Painter
Noide
122 Kylo — ("Star Wars: The Force Awakens" character)
123 End of the riddle's answer
127 Singer Siepi
129 In a tomb
130 Garlic
131 Las —, New Mexico
132 Unrivaled
133 Pulls hard
134 Optimally
- 11 "Thank you, Yves!"
12 Manning of the gridiron
13 Precious stones
14 Stair user's aid
15 "And you," to Caesar
16 Pot bits
17 Stage scenery item
18 Up 'til
19 Barrett of rock
25 "It — fair!"
28 Clean air org
32 Bladderlike sac
33 Beginning on 34 Mongolian desert
36 Dad
37 See 124-Down
41 Rower's tool
42 Destiny
43 Choir woman
45 Melville novel
46 Corrida cry
48 Holy Mle.
49 Give some of yours to
50 1974 and '75 World Hockey Association winners
- 54 2002 scandal company
55 Ceaselessly
56 Big failures
57 Irish poet
58 Sgt. Friday's force
59 Fitzgerald of jazz fame
64 Marshal
66 Up — (stumped)
68 Power bike
69 Qom resident
71 Remove any potential evidence
72 Pen name of H.H. Munro
73 Where Muscat is
75 Spicy stew
76 Skin-coloring dye
77 "Such a pity!"
83 The NCAA's Bruins
85 '50s prez
87 Texter's "Yikes!"
89 Olympic figure skater
Katarina
90 "Funny one!"
- 91 Entertaining little tale
92 Innuendo
queen West
93 Need to
94 "— Him on a Sunday"
95 Perry of pop
100 Round solids
101 Most acute
103 Observer
104 "— shalt not..."
106 Grad-school proposal
107 Like Obama: Abbr.
111 Revlon brand
112 Bone of the shin
113 Wise, skillful lawgiver
114 Neopagan religion
115 Observant
117 Young lady
118 Nothing but
119 Quite a white
123 Shred
124 With
37-Down, very poor rating
125 Sts.
126 Moose's cousin
128 Fill in (for)

Crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares for the clues provided.

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

Sudoku grid with numbers 3, 5, 8, 6, 3, 9, 2, 5, 1, 8, 2, 5, 3, 4, 8, 7, 5, 5, 6, 9, 1, 3, 2.

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!

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

NEW PARENT WORD SEARCH

Word search grid with words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally. Words include: ASSESSMENT, MONITOR, BABYPROOF, MOTHER, BATHING, NAP, BEDDING, NAVEL, BONDING, NURSERY, BURPING, NURSING, CHECKUP, PACIFIER, COLIC, PARENT, CRIB, POSTPARTUM, CUDDLE, PRECAUTION, DIAPERS, SAFETY, ECZEMA, SLEEPING, FATHER, SOOTHE, FEEDINGS, STROLLER, IMMUNIZATION, SWADDLE, INFANT, TESTING, IRRITABLE, WAIL, LAYETTE.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Crossword Answers: SABBED, PANAM, LEATHER, UNSURE, ELITE, LEATHER, MORGAN, AFTER, TIMITATEL, ATA, TITER, TICS, SLURP, THE COMPLAINTING, DIPS, RELY, ASS, TOOK, ASEAT, ARISTO, OSSA, BAIL, CPA, STYLE, OF THE, FIRST, YEAR, LEA, PENN, EARL, MOE, ALL, WE, REA, ROOMIE, AT, ISO, PLAYER, ON THE, SPORTS, TEAM, DADA, ANDREW, SPA, OSAKA, TUG, ENIT, ENOS, VIN, WHAT, COMMENT, ID, IM, ARE, TAN, LU, AU, AHM, GDANSK, THE, LATEST, ET, D, TOPE, TIACO, THAT, IS, THE, WAY, THE, DOGMA, OLLO, EMIL, IREN, ROCKIE, GRUMBLES, CESARE, INTERRED, ATOLI, CRUISES, PEERLESS, YANKS, ATB, IST

Word Search Answers: (List of words found in the search grid)