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## How soft skills can set you apart

 BY SARAH SIPEK  
 CAREERBUILDER

It's true that technical skills — or hard skills — are essential qualifications for a job, but they're not the full story. Contrary to technical skills that focus on what you know, soft skills focus on how you interact with others. They are loosely defined as transferable skills, interpersonal skills or social skills. They are often multifaceted, but at the end of the day they build relationships — and in business, relationships are key to success. Here are a few soft skills employers identify as most important — and most likely to get you ahead at your job.

### Communication

It may seem overstated, but the ability to communicate with colleagues sets you apart in the workplace, says Karen Russo, president of K. Russo Consulting. "Companies are not looking for 'yes' people," says Russo. "But they are looking for people who can make things happen that usually take a team, not just one person."

Communicating is about more than just being personable and outgoing. It's about bringing up the right points at the right time. It is the end result of many other soft skills — most important of which is critical observation. "Objectivity and divergent thinking — along with good communication — is what will allow you to stand out from the crowd in a good way," says Russo.

### Ability to handle criticism

Giving and receiving criticism in a helpful, ego-less way sets you apart,



GETTY IMAGES

says Leslie Garr, a certified professional resume writer. You are not always going to perform perfectly. In order to grow within an organization, you need to have the ability to hold an open and honest dialogue about your strengths and weaknesses.

"Being able to self-reflect and grow as a professional through constructive criticism is a great way to impress any employer," says Garr. And when you're receiving criticism, body language is key. Refrain from crossing your arms or slumping your shoulders, says Garr. Avoid accidental eye rolls as well. These behaviors imply you are not a willing participant in the professional development process.

### Attention to detail

Accomplishments are great, but soft skills are how those accomplishments come to fruition, says Jessica

Holbrook Hernandez, an executive resume writer and president and CEO of Great Resumes Fast.

For example, when adding bullet points to your resume, go beyond the "what" and explain the "how." If you recovered \$1 million in lost revenue, don't assume the number alone will distinguish your efforts. Hernandez suggests you write: "Recovered \$1 million in lost revenue through attention to detail and meticulous review of 750 client accounts," to highlight the soft skills you used to accomplish that goal.

"As an employer, I can tell you that the employees I consider first when a promotion opportunity presents itself are those who are attentive to detail, take initiative to solve problems and are committed and invested into the success of the clients we work with and the company," she says.

### Positive attitude

When disaster strikes, people who radiate positive energy and search for solutions rather than dwell on the technical details of the problem come out ahead when the problem is solved, says Valerie Streif, a senior adviser with thementat.com, a San Francisco-based staffing agency. "People who lack this soft skill tend to overanalyze all the reasons why something bad happened, rather than moving forward and doing everything that they can to mitigate and get things back up and running smoothly," says Streif.

Issues will always arise at work, but the ability to handle them with grace and composure shows your boss you have leadership potential.

### Time management

It seems cliché, but the ability to divide your time and complete projects on-time is an in-demand skill among employers. Not only will meeting deadlines help your company achieve its goals, it will also set you apart as reliable, says Jan Yager, sociologist and author. People who have a strong understanding of what needs to get done and how long it will take to complete often excel at securing raises and promotions because they demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the company's mission and work to fulfill it, says Streif.

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

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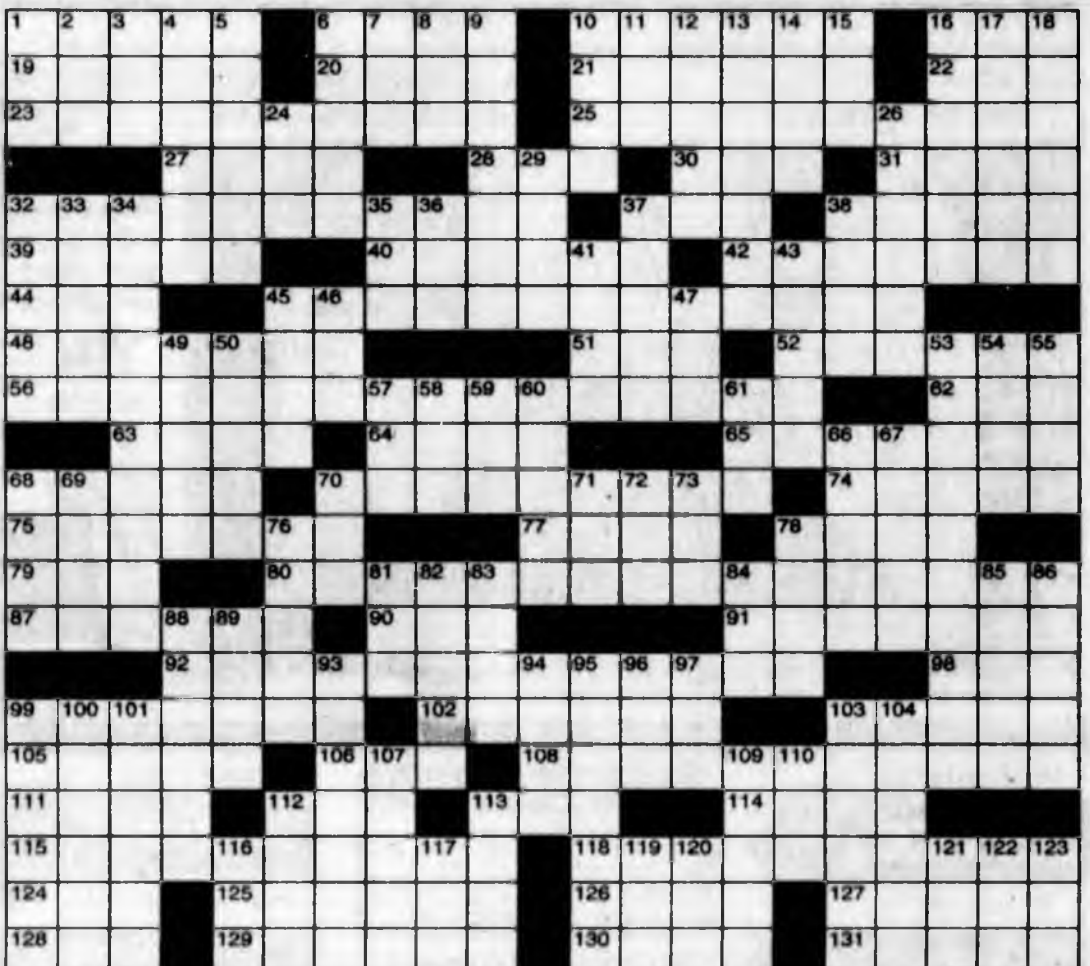
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**CAREERBUILDER**

## THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Green sauce
  - 6 Personal bearing
  - 10 Like joined oxen
  - 16 Kiwi cousin
  - 19 Bottled water brand
  - 20 — Reader (eclectic digest)
  - 21 Veep of Bill Clinton
  - 22 Diesel of the screen
  - 23 Having flawless hearing?
  - 25 Random sampling of people's views on steering-system parts?
  - 27 RBI or HR
  - 28 Letter #26
  - 30 Letter #19
  - 31 Fanning of "Super 8"
  - 32 Thinking like a bowman?
  - 37 MA hours
  - 38 Roof parts
  - 39 Form of bingo
  - 40 Nab
  - 42 Ones making engravings
  - 44 Actress Sheridan
  - 45 Winslet
  - 48 Sonora shawls
  - 51 Ltd. kin
  - 52 Distance
  - 56 Appliance used during a winter golf game?
  - 62 It precedes Virgo
  - 63 Nasty
  - 64 Co. bigwig
  - 65 Making a cozy home
  - 68 Broken down
  - 70 Adorably decorated corner?
  - 74 Policy pedants
  - 75 Slid by
  - 77 Rakish type
  - 78 Frog cousin
  - 79 Harsh review
  - 80 Thrilled to have tied the knot?
  - 87 "La Gloria" painter
  - 90 '60s war
  - 91 Sleeping site
  - 92 Assistant
  - 93 who's out of practice?
  - 98 Bouquets-to-order co.
  - 99 Like — business
  - 102 Privileged classes
  - 103 100-clam bill
  - 105 Like shahs
  - 106 That girl's
  - 108 Skyline with lots of chimney tops?
  - 111 Salmon type
  - 112 Kenny G plays it
  - 113 Tesla, e.g.
  - 114 Thing
  - 115 Vast territory ruled over by Muscat's land?
  - 118 Apt word spelled by this puzzle's deleted first letters
  - 124 Luau gift
  - 125 Reacted to a 5-Down
  - 128 They may cross blvds.
  - 127 Tossup
  - 128 Canon line
  - 129 Flight at night
  - 130 Godiva, e.g.
  - 131 Brims
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Letter #16
  - 2 LaRue or Longoria
  - 3 Camelot title
  - 4 Hits lightly
  - 5 Double blow
  - 6 Girls "olivia"
  - 7 Ending with krypton
  - 8 Lit. add-in
  - 9 Rival of AOL or EarthLink
  - 10 Tailoring aid
  - 11 Yale moniker
  - 12 Dancer de Mille
  - 13 Wet a little
  - 14 God of love
  - 15 Animal's lair
  - 16 Change over time
  - 17 Bandleader Glenn
  - 18 Except if
  - 24 Male bighorn
  - 26 Female pheasant
  - 29 Pristine spot
  - 32 Embarrass
  - 33 Zellweger or Richards
  - 34 Became very widespread
  - 35 Revolver
  - 36 "Dr." with Grammys
  - 37 Prefix with botany
  - 38 Cato's "Lol"
  - 41 Rouse
  - 43 Spanish diacritic
  - 45 "Ol' Man River" writer
  - 46 "— said before ..."
  - 47 Post-ER site
  - 48 Woffed down
  - 50 Fan fuels
  - 53 L. Frank Baum book
  - 54 Race that's about 6.2 mi. long
  - 55 Greedy sorts
  - 57 Modern, in German
  - 58 Alternative to doc
  - 59 Te- —
  - 60 GIF greeting, maybe
  - 61 AR-to-IL dir.
  - 66 Saber, e.g.
  - 67 Surface- — missile
  - 68 Didn't spoil
  - 69 Jal- —
  - 70 Half of CM
  - 71 — Hill, San Francisco
  - 72 Fellow
  - 73 Sci-fi writer Stanislaw
  - 78 Little-bitty
  - 78 Hard slog
  - 81 One or more
  - 82 Gun to stun
  - 83 Nolde of graphic art
  - 84 #1 Jackson
  - 85 5 hit
  - 85 Liked
  - 86 German port
  - 88 Kind of patch
  - 89 German car
  - 89 Like some Tetris pieces
  - 94 Opera queen
  - 95 Perpetual
  - 96 Baseball's Griffey
  - 97 Suffix with solo
  - 98 Daughter of Lionel Richie
  - 100 Cry from Juliet
  - 101 Some believers in God
  - 103 Pants fold
  - 104 Skilled hunter in Genesis
  - 107 Banish
  - 108 — ft. (lantrum)
  - 110 Mel the Giant
  - 112 Henchman of Hook
  - 113 Give up
  - 118 Gool
  - 117 Actor Alejandro
  - 119 Eggs in a fertility clinic
  - 120 Neighbor of TV's Homer
  - 121 Pull
  - 122 Ending with Vietnam
  - 123 Apt., for one



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

## SUDOKU

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

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

8	9	2	1	6	8	7	2	9
6	7	1	2	5	8	9	8	2
2	9	8	7	9	2	8	6	1
8	8	6	2	2	9	5	1	7
5	2	2	8	1	7	6	9	8
9	1	7	6	8	5	2	8	2
7	2	8	8	2	6	1	5	9
1	6	5	9	7	2	8	2	8
2	8	9	5	8	1	7	2	6

## BARBECUE WORD SEARCH

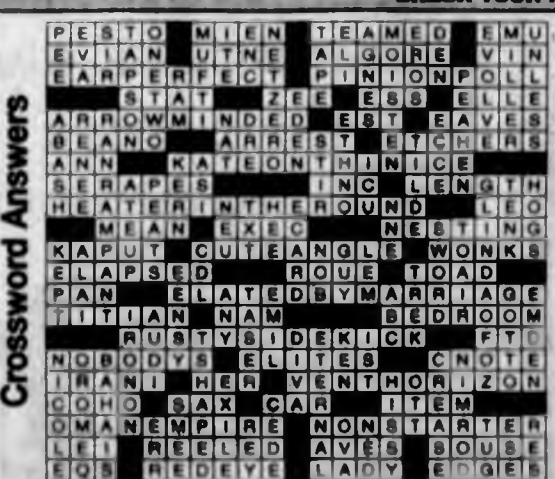
E O W D S T Y G K Q F R K T D H G S Z S  
H K I R C B W S B O U A E F S W C E E F  
D F C R P R R U C B Q M K A Z L L Y F G  
I O E I E R R I A O P S I R O E F G R M  
L S O K N G O I N E O Z O N A L R I D U  
T A O W E C K P R E B K P C A B L C A S  
T H O R D B I A A R U W O M I L H E R T  
S H S C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

### WORDS

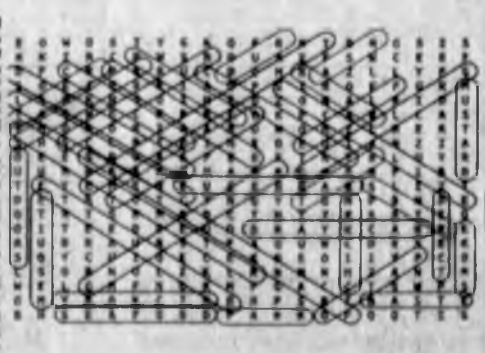
ASH  
BACKYARD  
BARBECUE  
BARK  
BASTE  
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BRISKET  
BURGERS  
CHARCOAL  
CHICKEN  
COOKOUT  
DIRECT  
FLAME  
FRANKFURTERS  
GRILLING  
HARDWOOD  
HEAT  
HICKORY  
MESQUITE  
MUSTARD  
OUTDOORS  
PARK  
PATIO  
PICNIC  
PROPANE  
RENDERING  
REST  
RIBS  
RUB  
SEAFOOD  
SMOKE  
SMOKER  
SOCIALIZE  
TEMPERATURE  
THERMOMETER

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

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



Crossword Answers



Word Search Answers



## Car Report

# 'WHEN PIGS FLY': CHRYSLER REVOLUTIONIZES MINIVAN SEGMENT WITH PACIFICA, INCLUDING NEW HYBRID VERSION



By Dale Buss

Among the new things going right at Fiat Chrysler Automotive is the reception for the company's risky bid to revive the minivan segment it invented. The new Chrysler

Pacifica minivan has been greeted with decent sales numbers and lots of third-party accolades.

And maybe even more important for the long term, the new Pacifica Hybrid — the first hybrid in the minivan category — is taking its own star turn. Waymo, the auto business affiliated with Google, fingered the vehicle for the first public testing of its self-driving technology and just recently upped its commitment, to use 500 more Pacifica Hybrid units in addition to the previously delivered 100 minivans modified for the self-driving tests.

Now FCA is pushing the



The Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid avoids a collision — as pigs fly.

promotional pedal with its first video advertising for Pacifica Hybrid, titled "Flying Pigs." The idea is that only when pigs fly — as they do in the commercial — would any automaker be able to offer everything in one package that the Pacifica Hybrid does. In the spot, best-in-class cargo volume and forward collision warning are highlighted features, as well as the vehicle's fuel-economy chops.

In case you miss the point of an airborne porcine herd, in the spot hell

also freezes over. And the 60-minute commercial ends with an appearance by a blue moon. The spot is framed by graphic touches that make it seem like a story from a fairy-tale book. And for some reason, the voiceover at the end has an Aussie accent.

FCA is boasting the uniqueness of a Pacifica Hybrid that offers 84 miles per gallon equivalent in electric-only mode, a smartphone app that delivers relevant information such as charge status and charging-station locations, and an "efficiency coach" for more fuel-conscious driving, in addition to features that Pacifica touts across its line including its panoramic sunroof, an advanced rear-seat entertainment platform and the patented onboard vacuum cleaner.

As the Pacifica Hybrid arrives in dealerships, "Consumers no longer will have to say they'll believe it when they see it," said Tim Kuniskis, head of passenger car brands for FCA North America, in a press release.

Olivier Francois, FCA's chief marketing officer, added that the brand's story of "minivan firsts" now "requires a very specific message — one that speaks to two very distinct

audiences," parents and children, he said in the release. The spot's storytelling approach highlights "segment-first features that are almost unbelievable and will appeal to adults and kids alike."

Of course, while Pacifica Hybrid's total range is 566 miles, its electric-only range is only 33 miles — far short of the kind of battery-powered ranges for new all-electric vehicles such as the Chevrolet Bolt and upcoming Tesla Model 3.

Still, the notion of the first minivan with this sort of green credibility is likely to appeal to many of the millions of American millennials who are raising broods now and entering the era of minivan feasibility in their lives. It also may help Pacifica Hybrid that a flood of new electric vehicles in various forms — conventional hybrids such as Pacifica, plug-in hybrids and all-electric nameplates — has begun flooding the U.S. market, serving to further normalize electric power even as low gasoline prices and the rise of SUV and truck segments serve as contra-indicators.

In any event, fielding the segment's first hybrid is yet another way to bust out Pacifica from generational negative perceptions of the segment.

From the beginning of the launch of the Pacifica line early last year, Francois has tried to find ways to help the newest Chrysler minivan nameplate break some of the segment-strangling conventions of old. He has highlighted its groundbreaking rear styling, for instance, and used a launch campaign starring comedian Jim Gaffigan to attempt to cast Pacifica as something more than just a traditional minivan for soccer moms.

So far, so good: Pacifica sales in March were its best month so far this year, at more than 9,000 units, placing the nameplate already squarely in the middle of the company-wide vehicle lineup in sales volume, even at this early stage. And Pacifica continues to rake in evaluator endorsements from the likes of Kelley Blue Book, Popular Mechanics and the New York Daily News.



It's hard to beat Pacifica for spaciousness.



Pacifica's rear styling is one of its groundbreaking features for the segment.

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 Livonia, Garage Sale, 39115 Stacey Dr. Michigan, 48154 Thur. 9-5. Fri. 9-3. Sat. 9-3. Lawn mower, books, snowblower, baby items, toys, wind chimes, kids clothes, TV stand. Dir: E of Mapleview, S of 6 mi (Rain Dates 18-19)  
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 MILFORD, 140 OUR LAND LANE. 775-Sat (12-13) 10-4p. HH items, power tools, turn, kitchenware, ect!  
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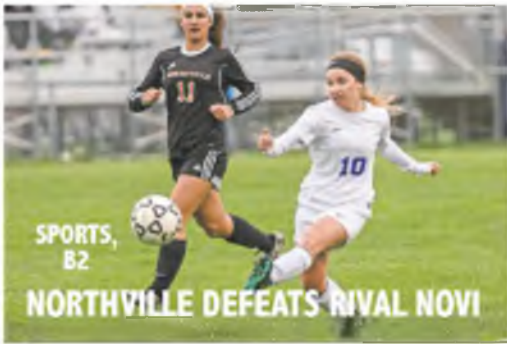
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# NORTHVILLE RECORD

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SUBMITTED  
Thayer Cemetery hosts a memorial dedication at 10 a.m. May 27.

## Memorial dedication

The Thayer Cemetery Association hosts a veterans dedication ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 27, for a memorial to honor veterans buried there.

The association was formed in 1914 to take over the perpetual care of Thayer Cemetery, which includes over 500 burials, including 24 veterans. The Veteran's Memorial was purchased by the association. Members of the armed forces represented there include those who served in the War of 1812 through the Korean War.

Thayer Cemetery is at Six Mile and Napier Road. For more information, call 734-595-7806.

## Veterans dinner

Hillside Middle School hosts a dinner honoring veterans from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 17. Veterans and their families are welcome. Entertainment will be provided, and organizers are planning a "surprise" for all the veterans. RSVP by calling 248-344-3600.

# New president of United Way U.S. has roots in Northville

Matt Jachman  
hometownlife.com

The incoming president of one of the country's farthest-reaching philanthropic organizations has deep roots in Northville.

Mary B. Sellers, who grew up in Northville Township, takes over this month as the U.S. president of United Way Worldwide. She will lead a network of more than 1,200 United Way

chapters. Based in Alexandria, Va., United Way raises money to support community, religious and government institutions that are focused on public health, education and financial stability. Sellers has been the head of United Way of Central Iowa, based in Des Moines, for five years. She comes to her new job with more than 25 years of non-

See **SELLERS**, Page A2



UNITED WAY  
Mary Sellers, who grew up in Northville Township, is the incoming U.S. president of United Way Worldwide.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

David Veselenak, Dan Dean and Phil Allmen pour the barley into five gallons of hot water to begin the brewing process.

## PITCH THAT YEAST! HOME BREWERS HIT MILFORD FOR BIG BREW DAY

David Veselenak  
hometownlife.com

A citra pale ale. That was West Bloomfield resident Mike Tanzini's choice for brewing beer Saturday, though he admits he had a hard time finding the right supplies. "I had a hard time finding citra hops; they're all gone," the former Milford resident said. "I found about seven ounces of it, so it's going to be a very citrusy beer."

Tanzini attended his first Big Brew Day event Saturday at River's Edge Brewing Co. in Milford, which saw more than 15 home brewers and a half-dozen professionals come out and brew beer for National Homebrew Day, celebrated across the country. This year's event also included a "blind box" of mystery ingredients for several local professional brewers to use, a first for the Milford event.

Held in the parking lot, the event allowed brewers to talk ideas, techniques and flavors. Participants stopped their work briefly at 1 p.m. to take part in the national toast to home brewing, done at all the Big Brew Day sites across the country.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Home brewer George Oumedian of Livonia is brewing Papa Georgio's American pale ale. He started brewing in the 1980s, took a break, and began again a few years ago.

See **BREW DAY**, Page A3

## Comic Con VIP is former visitor

Matt Jachman  
hometownlife.com

Jordan Trovillion grew up in Michigan and started attending the annual Motor City Comic Con in Novi as a teenager.

Now, as an actress and singer and still, in her words, a "comic book dork," Trovillion is one of the VIP guests at this year's Comic Con, which opens next week at the Suburban Collection Showplace.

"It's truly incredible. I remember being a kid and being so intimidated by all these famous people and all these hard-working artists," Trovillion said recently by phone from Cincinnati, where she now lives.

"I wouldn't come up to talk to people" whom she later found out had written something she loved, she added. "I was so intimidated."

Trovillion, seen recently in an episode of the Comedy Central show "Detroiters," has had roles in 2012's "Jack Reacher," with Tom Cruise, and the locally filmed movies "Eloise," "Elder Island" and "Vanishing on 7th Street."

She is lead vocalist with the band The Party and recently shot scenes for "The Old Man and the Gun," starring Robert Redford, Danny Glover and Tom Waits, which is still in production. She also used to host the comic book and "nerd culture" TV show "Comics Continuum."

Trovillion, who started appearing at the Comic Con about four years ago, will take her place this year in a guest lineup that includes Michael Rooker ("Guardians of the



Jordan Trovillion will appear at Motor City Comic Con, which opens May 19.

See **COMIC CON**, Page A2

### CONTACT US

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## SELLERS

Continued from Page A1

profit experience, much of it in museum management in Florida and Iowa. She is the youngest of the six children of the late Florence and Richard Booms; the family for years lived near Fish Hatchery Park, where Sellers remembers playing baseball and tennis. She attended Our Lady of Victory School through the eighth grade, then Ladywood High School in Livonia until her family moved to Florida. Sellers said she is proud to be from Northville and has fond memo-

ries of the area. “One of my best memories is riding my bike uptown,” she said. She liked visiting a downtown Northville candy store and seeing movies at the Marquis Theatre. “Saturday morning, they would have double features, and we always did that,” she said. Sellers credits her mother with inspiring her to take up a career in nonprofits. Florence Booms was active in the the now-defunct Northville Town Hall, which brought to town high-profile speakers who apparently sparked young Mary’s curiosity about the larger society.

“They brought in some really impressive people, said Sellers. Guests included the actress Olivia de Havilland (“Gone With the Wind”), who is now 100, and the late psychologist and psychology professor Murray Banks, a popular lecturer of the 1950s and 1960s. “Depending on who the speaker was, she’d let me miss school to go hear them speak,” she said. Sellers remembers going along for the ride when her family took Banks to the airport after his engagement. Sellers still has siblings in Michigan: brothers Ray, Richard, Tom and Tim Booms and sis-

ter Ruth Ann Jirasek. She gets back for a visit a couple of times a year, and said she enjoys walking in Maybury State Park. “If I’m there during Tiger season we go to a game, and then we go to Xochimilco (in Detroit) for Mexican,” she said. “And we always have to stop into Poole’s for a burger.” Sellers has a bachelor’s degree in public relations from the University of Florida, a master’s of business administration from the University of Iowa, and has completed professional programs at Harvard University and the Getty Leadership Institute for

Museum Management. Her Iowa United Way chapter, she said, has the highest per-capita fundraising rate in the country among local United Ways that raise \$25 million or more. “We’ve got a very generous community and a very engaged citizenry who feels it’s important to help their community,” she said. Sellers doesn’t plan to move to the Alexandria area for her new job, meaning she’ll be spending a lot of time traveling between there and Des Moines, where her husband, Sean, manages automobile dealerships. Brian Gallagher, president and CEO of

United Way Worldwide, said Sellers has been leading one of the most successful chapters in the country. “She’s ahead of the curve on donor engagement and has built bridges across the community with established impact partners and non-traditional funders,” Gallagher said in a press release. “I know Mary as a leader with the ability to implement strategy and build collective will around common goals.”

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# NORTHVILLE RECORD

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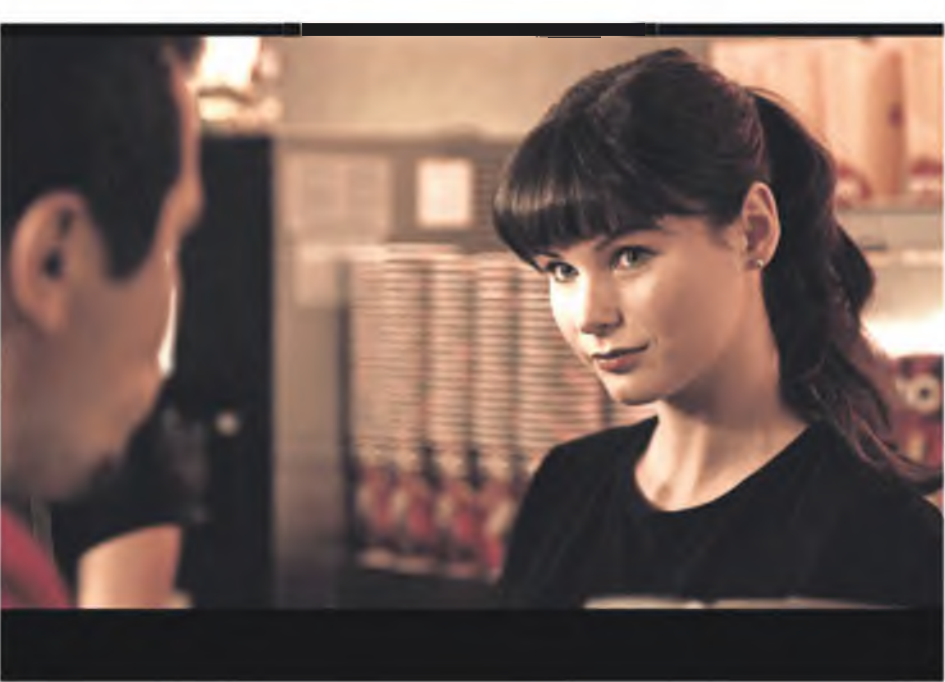
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## COMIC CON

Continued from Page A1

Galaxy”), Barbara Eden (Jeannie in the TV show “I Dream of Jeannie”) and Ron Perlman (the title character in the movie “Hellboy”). “It’s wonderful to have people say, ‘Hey, I saw your show’ or ‘Saw a movie that you’re in,’” Trovillion said. “It’s exciting to feel validated in that way.” The Motor City Comic Con is a celebration of movies, TV, super heroes and all things pop culture, as well as comic books. Trovillion, who hails from the Flint area, was originally drawn to the event by her love of manga, a Japanese comics style, and anime, a Japanese animation style.



Jordan Trovillion in a scene from “Vanishing on 7th Street,” a 2010 movie that was filmed in Detroit and starred John Leguizamo, Hayden Christensen and Thandie Newton.

She started out acting on stage in school (now in her 30s, she still appears in live theater) and later acted at the Michigan Renaissance Festival. She studied theater at the University of Michigan-Flint. Perhaps not instantly recognizable — Trovil-

lion has a sign at her booth that invites passersby to “Feel Free to Ask Who I am” — Trovillion says she enjoys hanging out with visitors to the Comic Con. “I love having people to talk with,” she said. This year’s Motor City Comic Con, the 28th annual, has a 1980s

theme, with many guests from movies of that decade, including Kelly Le Brock (“The Woman in Red”), Anthony Michael Hall (“The Breakfast Club”) and Sean Astin (“The Goonies”). The Comic Con will run 12:30-7 p.m. Thursday, May 19; 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 20;

and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 21. For ticket information and more details, go to [www.motorcitycomiccon.com](http://www.motorcitycomiccon.com).

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# BREW DAY

Continued from Page A1

## Blind boxes

Ryan Wiltse with River's Edge said it was a way to force those who create beer professionally to be creative in their brews and likes how it came about.

"The idea was it would be kind of a handicap for the professional brewers, because we're going to enter their beers in with the rest of the brewers blindly," he said. "We thought it would be a fun handicap, just something different to do."

Those ingredients included Franco-Belge Pilsen, Franco-Belge Wheat, Thomas Fawcett Rye Malt and Thomas Fawcette Oat Malt. Other ingredients included Idaho 7 hops and Voss Kveik yeast.

One of those professional breweries at the event was Drafting Table Brewing Co., 49438 Pontiac Trail, in Wixom. Mark Vesel, a brewer at Drafting Table, said he was excited to see how their brew would turn out using the ingredients, some of which he had never used before.

"We're going to do a double IPA/saison kind of thing. It's going to be weird, but it's going to be tasty," Vesel said. "When you have wheat, rye and oats, it's all going to play well together and come together real nice."

One of those amateur teams comes from the Observer & Eccentric, which was coached with the help of Jeff Rankert, a Milford resident and member of the American Homebrewers Association. The O&E's Newshound Ale is a coffee-infused cream ale brewed with Mount Hood hops.

Next to the O&E's area was Livonia resident George Oumedian, who brewed an American pale ale affectionately called Papa Georgio's Pale Ale. He said he's been home brewing since the 1980s, when he lived in New York. He said today's supplies are a huge improvement over what he used back then.

"Ingredients weren't that good. It was terrible," he said. "Everything was mail order."

He said a friend who was a police officer in New York and he would run races and then return home to drink beer they brewed several weeks before. He stopped brewing for a few years, but picked it back up and hasn't looked back since.

"I loved drinking beer and I loved cooking," Oumedian said. "It was just something the two of us got into together. And



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Home and professional brewers gathered to brew in the parking lot of River's Edge Brewing Co. in Milford.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
David Veselenak takes a whiff of the hops provided by hometownlife.com's brewing coach Jeff Rankert.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Mark Vesel is a professional brewer with Drafting Table Brewery Co., located in Wixom.



Casimira Jachimowicz and Philip Dow of South Lyon's Scrooge & Barley Brewing raise a toast for the event.

we loved it."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
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*"When you have wheat, rye and oats, it's all going to play well together and come together real nice."*

MARK VESEL, a brewer at Drafting Table

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KELLY DOBSON

Neil Seelbach of Team Farmington made a good showing in the high jump Saturday. Lakeland High School provided the venue for the Special Olympians to compete. Colder than normal temperatures did not keep spectators away.

# Special Olympians make their teams proud at local event

Sharon Dargay  
hometownlife.com

Everyone won ribbons at the Special Olympics Oakland County track and field event Saturday, May 6, at Lakeland High School in White Lake.

But no one could be happier than Denise Lawrence of South Lyon, whose daughter Jenny, 36, earned blue ribbons for first place in bocce.

"I coach bocce," Lawrence said, beaming as Jenny showed the ribbons hung around her neck. "Singles and doubles, first place."

Chelsea Richards, 32, also earned a first place in the sport. Both women are members of the South Lyon Special Olympics team and will participate in the Special Olympics Michigan Summer Games, planned for next month at Central Michigan University.

"We all have fun together," Lawrence said, explaining the importance of Special Olympics competition. "We support each of our athletes. It's truly an awesome thing to do. They have really come a long way through the years, progressing each year. It truly is awesome."

Charlie Brown, whose daughter Adrienne, 33, won first-place ribbons in 25- and 50-meter walking events, says she loves participating with the South Lyon team.

"It's great exercise," he said. "And they get to socialize with friends."

The South Lyon athletes were among approximately 400 special-needs students and adults who represented 13 Oakland County Special Olympics teams last weekend at the annual track and field event. Each athlete competed in three events, with four to six competitors assigned to each heat. Sports included bocce, softball and shot put throwing, running, walking, high jump and long jump and wheelchair races.

The event began with opening ceremonies, including a parade of athletes and a color guard from the American Legion Post 216 in Milford. State Sen. Mike Kowall, R-15th District, was the guest speaker and Nolan Theaker, a Team Huron Valley athlete, recited the Special Olympics oath, stating, "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Marty Fallat, communications coordinator for Team Huron Valley, which hosted the event at Lakeland High School, says Special Olympics' year-round training gives special-needs students and adults a chance to try a variety of sports, learn new skills, socialize with friends and compete.

"A lot of kids will be in events all year long. As long as the parents can handle it, they can be in two or more sports," he said.

Ashley Grabinski, 21, daughter of Terry and Jacqueline Grabinski of Farmington Hills, bowls, plays basketball and does track and field events with Special Olympics Team Farmington. She took on the 100-meter run, long jump and shot put at Lakeland.

"We encouraged her to get involved, otherwise she likes to sit on the couch," Jacqueline Grabinski said with a laugh. "Once she started it, she's been wanting to continue doing it. It has been awesome."

Michelle Kramp 19, of Farmington Hills, competed in the track and field competition for the first time, but also swims, bowls and plays basketball. She and Ashley will participate next month at Special Olympics Michigan Summer Games.

"It keeps them busy and gives them a social life," said her mom, Theresa Kramp.

Ginny Porter, a Team Farmington coach, said



KELLY DOBSON

Brenna Hoorn, 11, of South Lyon completes her 400-meter run around the track.



KELLY DOBSON

Drew Frazier of Madison Heights gets a good distance in the standing long jump.



KELLY DOBSON

Coach Jim Holloway of Team Farmington keeping time while teammate Anthony Chambers shouts encouragement to those running in the 400-meter dash.

approximately 40 of the team's athletes competed in track and field events last weekend. Eighteen of them will head to the Summer Games next month. Team Farmington members also will compete in swimming and other summer sports at the state event.

"One of the care workers who was there Saturday said it's so nice to see some of the athletes complete and do their best and not get teased if

they do not do well," Porter said. "Special Olympics is training for life. Nine years is when they start and they can continue for however long they want to play sports."

For more about Special Olympics Michigan, go to [somi.org](http://somi.org).

[sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com)



# Volunteers fill shelves at Civic Concern



Mike Ladwig carts a box of donated food around Northville’s Civic Concern on May 3. The local food pantry and charity has been located at Northville Township’s Highland Lake shopping plaza. Donations can be dropped off from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday or anytime at the nearby Cassel’s restaurant. Their address is 42951 W. Seven Mile Road. Ladwig is the former owner of Northville’s UPS store.

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Busch’s Market partners to reduce child hunger

Busch’s Fresh Food Market will partner with local food banks to help reduce child hunger with the annual All aBout Children Food Drive, a community based fundraiser during which food and dollars raised in specific cities stays in those cities. The drive will run through May 17 at all Busch’s locations, including Farmington, Plymouth Township, Canton and Novi.

“Since 2009, the ABC Food Drive has raised

over \$850,000 in cash and food donations to help local families in need,” said Doug Busch, community development director. “This is a community-based effort and we wouldn’t be able to do it without the generosity of our guests.”

Guests will have the opportunity to donate five different ways, which include \$5 toward produce, \$10 in bakery, recycling slips, any cash amount or a \$10 ready-to-go bag. Busch’s will also

host a Grill Fest at all locations from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday, May 12-14, in which 20 percent of all sales, including ribs sales from Busch’s new restaurant in Canton, J.B.’s Smokehouse, will be donated directly to the food drive.

Busch’s mission to promote the welfare of others stems back to when the company opened its doors in 1975. Busch’s believes that it’s important to be an active

member within the community, rather than just a neighborhood store. With these philanthropic methods, Busch’s continues to grow throughout southeast Michigan.

“Many children rely on schools or other day programs to get the food they need,” Busch said. “This is our chance to deliver fresh, nutritious food for our children to eat during the summer months.”



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Residents in both Novi and Lyon Township have clamored for improvements at 10 Mile and Napier.

## Napier, 10 Mile work possible in July

LeAnne Rogers  
hometownlife.com

Reconstruction of the Napier and Ten Mile intersection along the Lyon Township- Novi boundary is expected to get underway in July, although no specific start date has been set.

“It is on the June bid schedule and likely a July start at this point. In other words, we will know the contractor in June. We are also going to hold another public meeting on the project next month.” Road Commission for Oakland County spokesperson Cindy Dingell said.

There is currently relocation work being done around the intersection by utility companies under an RCOC permit.

The project has been awaiting approval of permits from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, specifically some wetlands that would be impacted by the project, which includes a roundabout.

The RCOC has already required additional property needed for the project.

The scope of the project, which calls for paving the currently gravel Napier from Nine Mile to north of 10 Mile and reconstruction of the Napier and 10 Mile intersection with a roundabout,

remains unchanged. Napier is the dividing line between Lyon Township and Novi. The \$5 million in project costs are being shared by the RCOC, Lyon Township and Novi.

The project also includes a significant reduction of a hill on 10 Mile to improve sight distance and enhance safety. As a temporary measure, flashing lights have been installed to alert drivers to the intersection.

Reducing the hill should improve sight lines at the intersection, along with constructing the township’s fourth roundabout.

The RCOC cites statistics showing roundabouts reduce the types of traffic crashes where people are seriously injured or killed 78-82 percent compared to conventional intersections where traffic stops with signals. There are less conflicts points with roundabouts vs. a traffic signal, according to the RCOC.

Currently, Lyon Township has three roundabouts: Grand River/ Lyon Center Drive; Lyon Center East/Grand River; and New Hudson Drive/ Pontiac Trail.

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Twitter: @LRogersObserver

## NOVI CRIME WATCH

### Woman tries on bras, walks out of Macy’s

A 21-year-old woman admitted to shoplifting more than \$100 in underwear, including two bras she had put on in a fitting room, from the Macy’s at Twelve Oaks mall on April 30.

The suspect was confronted by security employees as she tried to walk out of the store around 6 p.m., a Novi Police Department report said. She told security she had several undergarments in her purse and that she was wearing two bras, the report said, and told a responding officer the same thing when interviewed later.

A security employee said the woman had been observed picking out several undergarments and covering them with an item of lingerie, then heading to a fitting room. She didn’t appear to be carrying the merchandise when she left the fitting room, security reported, but was carrying a purse, in which some of the underwear was later found.

Only the lingerie was left in the fitting room the woman had occupied, a security employee said. Security then followed her through the store and stopped her in a vestibule.

The suspect told the responding officer she knew what she had done was wrong and that she was struggling with money. She was given a court date and released on bond.

### Macy’s shoplifting

Clothes and shoes were stolen in another shoplifting at Macy’s earlier the same day, April 30, and a 38-year-old woman was arrested,

police report.

The incident occurred around 4:30 p.m. A security employee told police she watched on closed-circuit television as a woman put two pairs of pants and a top in her purse, then open an empty Macy’s bag and put pair of shoes in it, before leaving the store.

She was confronted in the mall and police were called.

At the police station, an Arabic translator assisted, via telephone, in interviewing the suspect. She claimed she had put items in her purse because she had no shopping cart or basket and that she had stepped out of the mall to get her son, but intended to pay for the items.

She was given a court date and released on bond.

### Pot possession

A 40-year-old man was arrested on a marijuana-possession charge April 29 after admitting he had smoked pot and had some with him in a backpack.

The suspect was a passenger in a Chevrolet Suburban, the driver of which had been stopped on westbound I-96 about 11:30 p.m. for driving partially on the shoulder and then occupying two lanes, a police report said.

Upon speaking with the men in the Suburban, the officer noted the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle, and the passenger said he had smoked some earlier, police said. Some 5.8 ounces of marijuana was found in a backpack and the substance later tested positive for marijuana, police said.

The suspect, who said he had an expired medical marijuana card but

did not have it with him, was released on bond to appear in court later.

The driver was warned about his lane usage and released.

### Near miss, arrest

A Novi officer reported having to step quickly away from an oncoming vehicle on after a traffic stop early April 30. He followed the car, a Mazda 6, and arrested the driver, a 27-year-old woman, on a drunken-driving charge, police said.


A police report said the officer was walking to his vehicle after a traffic stop on Novi Road near Crescent Boulevard just before 3 a.m. when the driver of a south-bound sedan failed to move over for him. He followed the car and eventually stopped it in the area of West Oaks Drive and Novi Road.

Upon speaking with the driver, the officer smelled alcohol and noticed her eyes were red and glossy, the report said. She admitted to having consumed alcohol earlier, but said it had been about four hours, police said. She said she had been at a bachelorette party.

The woman said she hadn’t moved for the officer because it would have meant crossing the yellow line on Novi Road, but added she had moved a “smidgen” or an inch.

A breath-analysis machine registered a blood-alcohol level of 0.08 percent. The woman was later released on bond with a court date. Her passenger in the Mazda was taken to a nearby hotel.

— By Matt Jachman





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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com.

Register for teen camp

Novi Youth Assistance announces that registration has begun for the Summer Teen Center. Camp begins June 19 and runs until Aug 3 and is held at the Novi High School cafeteria. Registration fee is \$175 for seven weeks of camp. Students in grades 6-10 may attend. There are 13 field trips this year. Zap Zone, Paradise Park, Air-Time, BonaVenture, Detroit Tiger game, Detroit Zoo, C.J. Barrymore's, Emagine, Novi Bowl, Kensington Park, Red Oaks Water Park. There will also be trips to the Novi Police Station, Novi Fire Station, Novi DPS and Novi Public Library. Daily activities include, sports, games, arts and crafts, learning activities and tutoring. Summer Teen Center has been around for over 30 years. This is an affordable day camp teens can come to during the day open from noon to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Call Novi Youth Assistance for more information or to register at 248-347-0410.

Novi Choralaires Spring Concert

The Novi Choralaires present its spring concert to area music lovers and their families at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 13. "What the World Needs Now is Love," will feature familiar love songs for all ages from Broadway to pop to the Beatles. Under the direction of Liz Wolber and accompanied by Trenda Baldridge, the group has worked tirelessly to make its 41st spring concert one to remember. The Choralaires is a choir of men and women from Novi and the surrounding areas. The Choralaires' annual spring concert has become a Mother's Day weekend tradition for many people in Novi and the surrounding communities who return year after year to give their mothers, wives and their entire family a special treat. Tickets are available at the door for \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors/children under 10. For information about



The Summer Teen Center will feature a number of field trips, including a trip to the Novi Fire Department.

group sales for 10 or more, go to <http://www.novichoralaire.org>.

Pink baseball

Novi High School's varsity baseball team with host "Breast Cancer Awareness" games at Novi's baseball stadium with the first pitch scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 13. Competing schools include Catholic Central, Grosse Pointe North and Novi. Teams will use pink wood bats and pink ribbon baseballs, in addition players and umpires will wear pink wristbands and pink T-shirts are available for purchase for \$15. Spectators are encouraged make a donation to the National Breast Cancer Foundation in lieu of tickets for the games and T-shirts will be available for sale, with proceeds going to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Evenings in the garden

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center is the setting for a new season of Evenings in the Garden classes. Speakers will be sharing their wisdom and experience 6:30-8:30 p.m. each Thursday at Tollgate, 12 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, in Novi. The cost of each class is \$20 and supports further adult education programming at MSU Tollgate. To find more information and to register, go to <http://tollgate.msu.edu/events/evenings-in-the-garden>. The classes are for novice and seasoned gardeners, homeowners, landscapers and outdoor enthusiasts. This educational series is an opportunity to get out of the house, meet others who are suffering from cabin fever and start planning for spring gardening.

Free gardening program

Spring is upon us and it's time to go outdoors and work in our gardens. Attend a free gardening program presented by Landscaper Drew Lathin. He will present a powerpoint and lecture on "The Beauty of Native Plants: Their Function is Supporting Wildlife in Urban and Suburban Landscapes" at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, at Wixom Public Library. Learn the difference between native and non-native plants, and how we can use native plants to create beautiful landscapes. Native plants can withstand sub-zero temperatures, summer heat, drought, and insect predation all without supplemental water, fertilizer, or sprays. In addition, native plants have co-evolved relationships with our native insects, and together, form the foundation of the food chain that supports butterflies, bees, birds, predators, and other wildlife. Learn the principles of sustainable landscaping and how you can do your part to reduce resource inputs and create habitat. Preregister for this free event online at [wixomlibrary.org](http://wixomlibrary.org), call 248-624-2512 or stop by the library at 49015 Pontiac Trail.

Motor City Comic Con 2017

Motor City Comic Con 2017 will take place 12:30-7 p.m. Friday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 20, and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 21, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi. Complete information about the event, tickets, panels and VIP passes is available at <http://www.motorcitycomiccon.com/>.

Downtown First Friday

Celebrate the First Friday of the month 5-9 p.m. Friday, June 2, with the retailers and restaurants of downtown Northville. Many stores stay open late and feature refreshments, new merchandise, sales and visits from local artists. For more information, go to <http://www.enjoynorthville.com>.

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# Comcast offering parents more wireless control

Frank Witsil  
Detroit Free Press

Comcast activated a new Internet management technology last week that puts Wi-Fi controls in the palm of customers' hands.

The cable and Internet provider promises a new app that gives users a way to see what devices are connected to a Wi-Fi network, help identify and fix connection problems, and give parents a way to control when their kids can connect by limiting access to certain devices.

"We wanted it to be more user-friendly so we can manage it in our homes and make it work for us," said Michelle Gilbert, a vice president of Comcast Michigan. "We're investing in it because we know Wi-Fi usage is the future — and we want to improve that experience for our customers."

The new system, which the cable provider is offering as an app called xFi, is being rolled out to 10 million customers nationwide as part of a larger effort by the Philadelphia company to upgrade its service.

It also paves the way to a future in which dozens — even hundreds — of devices in a home connect to Wi-Fi.

Right now, most customers think of Wi-Fi as something that is either on — or off. It is either working — or not.

But, Comcast officials said, the new system gives customers the ability to see which devices are connected and when — and pinpoint which functions of the wireless connection are working and which are not if there is a problem with it so they can be fixed.

To access the new system, customers need to download an xFi app on their mobile device and then follow the installation steps. The system is available for iOS and Android devices.

Or customers can access the system on their laptops or desktops at [www.xfinity.com/myxfi](http://www.xfinity.com/myxfi).

After downloading and setting up the app, customers can customize it further by selecting passwords, organizing devices — and, in some cases, smart appliances — into groups so they can be tracked and monitored and Wi-Fi access can be controlled through the app.

In a family of three, for example, all of the mom's devices can be grouped, as can the dad's and the child's.

This way, customers can see who is using what devices when, and for how long.

If, for instance, parents want their child's phone access to Wi-Fi to shut off at bedtime, it can be programmed that way. If a family decides it wants to sit down to dinner without any Wi-Fi for anyone, the network can be programmed to do that, too.

The app also allows Wi-Fi to be controlled from anywhere and to pause access with a tap.

Moreover, Comcast said, it can detect when devices join the network and send alerts — and monitor whether the network, or part of the network, goes down.

This, Comcast said, can make fixing problems easier and quicker.

Comcast estimates that 86 percent of a home's broadband use is over Wi-Fi and in three years, Americans — on average — will have 50 devices connected to Wi-Fi, especially as appliances, such as refrigerators, washers and even coffee makers, become smarter and connect to the Internet.

Wireless connections to the Web — now called the Internet of Things — are expected to grow as automation becomes more advanced and devices get smarter.

By the end of the year, Comcast expects to have 15 million Internet

**WI-FI MANAGEMENT**

**What:** Comcast is offering its xFi service, a Wi-Fi management app for Comcast internet customers at no additional charge.

**App:** xFi is available for Apple and Android devices

**Link:** [www.xfinity.com/myxfi](http://www.xfinity.com/myxfi)

**Phone:** 800-934-6489

customers that can use xFi.

In addition, Comcast is also planning to roll out small devices that plug into electric outlets and will work with the new Wi-Fi system and can to boost the wireless signal throughout a customer's home so that dead spots, areas where Wi-Fi can reach, can be brought back to life.

"The adoption and use of connected devices has grown dramatically," said Eric Schaefer, a senior vice president for Comcast. "Comcast has created a solution that makes it easy to control and manage them. It's a platform that will allow us to bring future innovations to our customers."



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

After day-long rain and cool temps, there weren't many buyers for these gerbera daisies at the Northville Farmers Market.

## NORTHVILLE FARMERS MARKET BEGINS 2017 SEASON



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Mark Prielipp packs up a rack of Prielipp Farms plants May 4 after the first Northville Farmers Market. The day was pretty much a wash-out for vendors and visitors, with constant rain and temps in the low 40s. The market, however, will be open each Thursday until the last week of October. It runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is located on the northwest corner of Center and Seven Mile.

## Even during retirement, keep investing in equities

The other day, I met with a potential new client. The woman was in her early 60s and was recently divorced. She received a lump-sum settlement on her divorce and came in to discuss with me how the money should be invested. She has never invested money before and has never had an interest about money until now. As with all new clients, whether they are seasoned, sophisticated or novice investors, I generally start the conversation the same way — discuss goals and objectives. After all, if you don't know what someone is seeking from their money, how can you invest it? It's sort of like packing for a vacation before you know where you're going; it just doesn't make sense. The same thing applies to investing. You can't invest unless you know what you want from your money and the risk level that you feel comfortable with.

The potential client told me that her main goal was for retirement. She was going to work for a few more years and then retire and collect Social Security. My next question for her was when she anticipated needing income from the portfolio. As I explained to her, the fact that she is going to retire is neither here nor there; the key is determining when she is going to need income from her investments.

One of the mistakes people make with their portfolio is that they assume that once they retire, they should no longer invest in equities, but pull their horns in and invest in things such as CDs and U.S. treasuries. In fact, my potential client was stunned when I had recommended that upward of 50 percent of her portfolio should be invested in equities. As I explained to her, it is not sufficient that she only worry about the first 10 years of retirement. She has to have a portfolio that will provide her with a rising income the rest of her life, which could be 30-plus years.

The strategy of becoming ultra-conservative in retirement is no longer valid. If you go back 50-plus years, when people only lived five to 10 years in retirement, a rising income was not that important. Back then, someone in



Rick Bloom  
MONEY MATTERS

their 60s was considered old. Fast forward to today and we look at age differently. In addition, a 20- to 30-year retirement is much more the norm than a five- or 10-year retirement. When you factor that we're in an era of unprecedented change, it is more important than ever to have a strategy that provides you with a rising income for the rest of your life. The way to do that is to make sure that you have equities in your portfolio.

I recognize the common belief of retirees is that if the market goes down, they don't have time to make up the loss. That may have made sense 50 years ago; it doesn't today. Not only are markets different than they were 50 years ago, but the mere fact that we all are living longer is something that has to be considered. In the old days, when you retired, the older you got, the less money you needed. That is the opposite of today. The longer you live, the more expensive life will become. If you don't prepare to have a rising income throughout your lifetime, you could find that the last decade or so can be very challenging. I've always said, we live in the greatest country in the history of the world, but there's nothing worse than to be old and poor. When you do retire, in order to prevent becoming old and poor, you need to at least have a portion of your portfolio invested for the long term. The best way to do that, despite the volatility and the unpredictability, is through equities.

Good luck!

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to questions, email [Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*

## Nice spring day at Kensington



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paul Hathaway checks out Kent Lake with his dog Cayman during an April 24 visit to Kensington Metropark. The Plymouth resident stops by the Milford-area park often, fishing its waters via kayak throughout the year.



# Students raise funds for Maybury Farm



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville's Silver Springs Elementary students sing the national anthem before their May 1 leadership assembly. The school raised \$350 for Maybury Farm to purchase new breeds of chickens and invest in its coop. The fundraising effort was part of the school's Seven Habits system that encourages problem solving and collaboration.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Silver Springs students Rex and Elle Chenoweth (siblings) and Kano Yoneyana sing the national anthem May 1.**

JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cindy Kern, farm manager at Northville's Maybury Farm, gets the attention of Silver Springs students with a chicken in her hand. The students raised about \$350 for the farm so that it could invest in its chicken coop and buy more breeds of birds.

# Livonia exotic pet shop recovers some lizards stolen during break-in



FILE PHOTO

**A citrus bearded dragon at Stingers Exotics in Livonia. Shop owners say several lizards were recovered after a break-in last month.**

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com

Stingers Exotics pet store is a little more full these days then it was after someone broke in last month and stole some lizards.

That's because seven of them, including a blue-tongued skink, a Savannah monitor and several bearded dragons were recovered by Livonia police. Those creatures, whom store owner Hazel Bunting and her mother have dubbed the "Lucky 7," are back in their tanks at the shop at 18774 Middlebelt in Livonia.

"It's been a couple of weeks," said Bunting, a Taylor resident. "We were hoping for more, so I had a little disappointment, but we were just thrilled to get seven."

The shop was broken into March 27, with the suspect taking more than 20 lizards from the store in a smash-and-grab. Security footage showed the suspect in the store that night, stuffing lizards into a bag.

Livonia police Lt. Charles Lister said officers had identified a man they believed to have been involved in the burglary, though a case is still being developed on the break-in in regards to charges. The man, 32-year-old Inkster resident Kristin Bernard Bates, was charged with receiving and concealing stolen property, a city misdemeanor. He was arraigned April 7 and is due back in Livonia's 16th District Court at 9 a.m. May 3 for his next hearing, according to police.

Lister said officers worked diligently to try to recover some of the lizards and continue to investigate in hopes of recovering more of them.

"There was some good legwork to get some of them back," he said.

Recovering the lizards has been a "bittersweet" event for the shop, especially with so many lizards still missing. That includes Betty and Ace, the shop owner's pets that still haven't been

located.

And while the lizards are back in tanks labeled for sale, Bunting isn't so sure she's ready to part with them, especially with everything they've gone through.

"I think I want to keep them," she said.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com  
734-678-6728

**CITY OF NOVI  
NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE  
NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE**

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land or lots or any other non-subdivided parcel of land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish, to be cut down, destroyed, or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains or any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of such Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction, or removal of same, together with an administrative charge established pursuant to resolution of City Council, will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

Charles Boulard, Building Official  
City of Novi

Publish: May 11, 2017

LC-0000219630 3x4





JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Don Rach-St. Clair talks about the story behind his horse Zoro during the Cowboy Church at his Miracle Ranch stables and farm in Milford Township. Rach-St. Clair, his wife Karen and Dominic Francese of Oak Point Church teamed for an entertaining and spiritual look at God through horseback riding, showmanship and the bond of man and horse.

# Cowboy Church lassos the faithful — along with a Stephen Colbert rib

Sharon Dargay  
hometownlife.com

When Mark Bernabei and his family heard about Cowboy Church at Miracle Ranch in Milford, they were ready to saddle up and pray.

The Clinton Township man, his wife and three daughters all take riding lessons at the ranch. They also attend church regularly in Sterling Heights, but they were intrigued by the idea of a Christian event that promised equestrian demonstrations and a free chuck wagon dinner in addition to prayer and spiritual lessons.

“This is our first Cowboy Church,” Bernabei said as he ate pizza, pasta and salad after attending the hour-long celebration April 29. “It was awesome.”

The family arrived early to stake out front row seats in what would become a packed viewing area set up just outside the riding ring in the ranch barn. Bernabei’s daughter, Sophia, 9, was close enough to touch a pony that stuck its nose through the metal barrier in search of a treat. All three daughters left the event with a free toy and the family ate dinner together with other attendees in the ranch classroom afterward.

“More churches should be like this,” Bernabei said. “You’ve got music. You’ve got horses. You’ve got acrobats, a story, a message and they’ve got free food.”

That combination of horse and faith activities drew some ribbing from late night talk show host Stephen Colbert during a sketch on his CBS network show last week. Quoting from a Milford Times story that previewed the event, Colbert said the gathering would include a scripture lesson from a cowboy perspective, then he added a punchline that “instead of wine, Jesus turns water into sarsaparilla.”

Cowboy Church organizer Dominic Francese, an ordained minister, and ranch owners, Karen Rach-St. Clair, who also runs the Miracle Ranch Riding Academy, and her husband Don “Cowboy Don” St. Clair, took the joking in stride.

“It was good. It could have been way worse,” Francese said. “This must be a God thing, because he could have mocked the whole thing. He did not do that. He had some good lines.”

“That’s what he does. It was a funny take. We found amusement in it,” Rach-St. Clair said.

Her husband said the segment was good exposure for Cowboy Church.

“He used the line that a religion had started in a barn,” St. Clair said.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Dominic Francese, pastor of Oak Point Church, offers a benediction at the start of the Cowboy Church service.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Oak Point Church fed the faithful after the service from a chuck wagon outside the stables.

## Faith experience

The couple and Francese have offered Cowboy Church on a seasonal basis since 2015. The event draws horse owners, horse lovers, church goers and those with little to no church experience.

“There are so many people out there that want a spiritual experience because they are spiritual people, but they’ve had a negative church experience,” Rach-St. Clair said. “It’s providing an outlet for that, for people who have had a negative experience in church, but still want to pursue God.”

“This was something we could do for the community.”

Cowboy Church also offers simple lessons in kindness. Miracle Ranch uses “natural horsemanship” in training and caring for its charges. Horses may enter and leave the barn day or night. Rach-St. Clair and Cowboy Don establish themselves as leaders, “but not in an overly dominant way,” Rach-St. Clair said.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steven Patterson presents some maneuvers while astride a cantering Percheron.

“It’s letting the horse be a horse. They are loved and appreciated. We communicate in ways horses understand,” she said.

## Horse vaulting

For riders Rachel Harris, 11, of Commerce Township, Jenna Crantas, 16, of Highland Township and Steven Patterson, 34, of Ypsilanti, Cowboy Church was a chance to demonstrate their vaulting skills on horseback in the ring. Individually, then in pairs, they posed in gymnastic-style stances, balancing atop Ranger, the horse used for vaulting at the ranch.

Rachel slid into a split on the back of

the horse while he trotted around the ring. Patterson and Jenna looked similar to pairs figure skaters as they posed together on Ranger’s back.

“I loved it the first time I tried it,” said Jenna, who has vaulted for three years.

The next Cowboy Church is set for 5 p.m. Saturday, June 10, at Miracle Ranch, 3380 Morrow Lane. For more information, go to [cowboychurchonline.com](http://cowboychurchonline.com).

[sdargay@hometownlife.com](mailto:sdargay@hometownlife.com)



## Lend a hand for Mill Race



Please consider making a donation to be put toward painting the Mill Race Village Wash Oak School. Eagle Scout candidate Noah Luikart will lead volunteers from Troop 755 of Northville, with the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Victory Church. Donations can be made to the Northville Historical Society.

## Book reveals horrors local soldiers faced in Civil War

**Darrell Clem**  
hometownlife.com

They came to a soldier recruiting effort in what is now downtown Plymouth, eager to fight against slavery and not realizing the horrors they would face on Civil War battlegrounds.

Author Gary Rembisz points toward Kellogg Park, the site where area soldiers lined up to volunteer to enlist in the 24th Michigan Infantry. Some lied about their age, claiming they were 18 even though they were younger. One man was 70, but didn't look it.

They just wanted to serve.

"They were ready to kill rebels," Rembisz said. "They were hot to get at it."

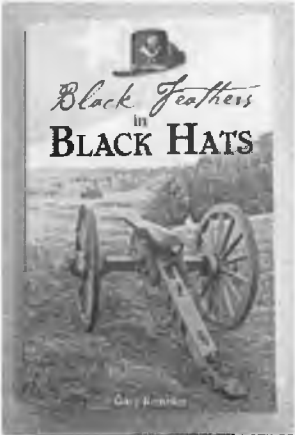
As Plymouth celebrates its 150th year as a city, Rembisz remembers a slice of history that dates back further to 1862, the year 1,037 soldiers joined the 24th Michigan Infantry, attended boot camp in Detroit and headed south to help change a nation's history.

Rembisz, a Plymouth Township resident, has penned a book, "Black Feathers in Black Hats," that tells the story of what this brave group of men faced. The title refers to attire worn by the elite Iron Brigade, which the 24th regiment joined after the brigade lost nearly half of its soldiers during the Battle of Antietam.

Led by Col. Henry Morrow, the 24th Michigan Infantry was initially shunned by the Iron Brigade, but earned respect in its first real test, the Battle of Fredericksburg. Rembisz reveals the horror as men of the 24th witnessed scenes such as a soldier's head being blown off and another losing his arm.

It catapulted them into manhood, the author said, but it couldn't prepare them for the war's biggest clash in 1863, the Battle of Gettysburg, where 80 percent of the regiment either died, was wounded or came up missing.

The 315-page book also tells the story of Nelson Pooler of Canton, who was captured by Confederate soldiers during the Battle of the Wilderness and sent to a prisoner of



THE FRONT COVER OF AUTHOR GARY REMBISZ'S BOOK ABOUT LOCAL SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR.

war camp in Andersonville, Ga.

"That was a death camp," Rembisz said, but Pooler managed to escape.

Rembisz, a retiree who earned his master's degree in history at Eastern Michigan University at age 64, said he wrote his book because he wanted to preserve this important part of local history. He also is a docent at the Plymouth Historical Museum, where he is on the board of directors, and he has toured Civil War battlegrounds.

"The focus of my book is really what it was like for the Union soldiers in the Civil War," he said, with a strong emphasis on local soldiers.

He describes it as a history book disguised as a novel.

There are brutal stories and some that are more touching, such as the 24th Michigan Infantry being part of the honor guard at President Lincoln's funeral. His book also reveals song lyrics and trivia from the era.

The soldiers faced difficulties other than combat. Some died from pneumonia, measles and other illnesses. Every day brought a challenge, whether on the battlefield or not.

For most Civil War soldiers, disease claimed lives more often than actual combat did, Rembisz said. The opposite was true for the 24th Michigan Infantry, which had higher losses on the battlefield.

Of the regiment's original 1,037 soldiers, only about 200 were able to march when they re-

turned home to a welcoming crowd. Some others came back maimed.

Among some of the soldiers mentioned in the book:

» Able Peck of Nankin, now Westland, was the Color Guard sergeant carrying the flag and the first man from the 24th regiment killed at Gettysburg. His picture is in the Gettysburg Museum and Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Ill.

» Andrew Lanning of Nankin escaped with Nelson Pooler from Andersonville, but was killed when a boat he was on capsized during a storm going to Washington.

» O.B. Curtis of Wayne was wounded at Fredericksburg and had his arm amputated. He became the regimental historian and was a professor at the University of Michigan.

» Detroit's Mark Flannigan, a sheriff and lieutenant colonel in the 24th, had his left leg amputated at Gettysburg. He became active in politics and charities in Detroit.

» Detroit's Capt. Albert Edwards led 26 men of the 24th to safety on the first day at Gettysburg. He later became a lieutenant colonel.

» James Rowland of Romulus, who was the 70-year-old man who lied about his age to join the 24th, died from disease in the war. He had claimed he was 43 when he enlisted.

» John Ryder of the 24th and his brother Alfred of the 1st Michigan Calvary, both of Plymouth, were both killed at Gettysburg.

Their stories could have been forgotten. They represent soldiers united by one cause, fighting an enemy. They died, they were wounded. Some came home. Some didn't. Because of Rembisz, however, their memories are kept alive.

The book is available at the Plymouth District Library and the Livonia Public Library, civic center branch. Anyone interested in a copy of the book may contact Rembisz at garyrembisz@gmail.com or by calling 734-207-5225.

dclem@hometownlife.com



GARY REMBISZ IS AUTHOR OF "BLACK FEATHERS IN BLACK HATS," A STORY OF THE UNION ARMY'S 24TH MICHIGAN INFANTRY. HE IS PHOTOGRAPHED IN PLYMOUTH'S KELLOGG PARK, WHERE MEN WERE RECRUITED TO FIGHT IN THE CIVIL WAR.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

YouTube gem

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Joseph Kardashian for the YouTube gem “A Tribute to Joe Ryzzi.”

The amount of time you volunteered on behalf of the community is greatly appreciated. I agree with your statement regarding citizens should educate themselves by either attending a City of South Lyon Council Meeting or viewing the meetings online to see how members of the council that they voted for conduct themselves.

Council meetings are held at City Hall the second and fourth Monday each month at 7:30 p.m. I look forward to your continued dedication toward enlightening those misinformed by personal Facebook pages. If I may offer a bit of corrective criticism, it would be more sound effects, please.

Erin Kopkowski  
South Lyon

‘Thanks’ for health care vote

Thank you, Congressman David Trott, for voting for the AHCA. Even though not a single major health provider endorsed this bill, and in fact the AMA, AHA, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Psychiatric Association, and the Federation of American Hospital all said would the AH-CA would harm patients, you knew better and stood with your 700,000 constituents like you said you always do.

Among other things you removed protections for pre-existing conditions, and indeed you wisely voted to widen the definition of pre-existing conditions to include rape survivors, survivors of post-partum depression, c-sections, and survivors of domestic violence.

I’m sure many of your constituents asked to have these included in pre-existing conditions and not be covered under normal insurance or you would never have voted for this bill.

So congratulations on understanding that women who have suffered these things should also be put in high risk pools and have to pay a lot more for their insurance than other people.

I also want to thank you for understanding that people who don’t have much money didn’t need those 10 essential benefits. They are just luxuries for your 700,000 constituents and I’m sure you had many people asking you to remove those.

And how wonderful that the caps on what people who have health insurance through their employers have to pay for catastrophic illness can now go away. While this will probably bankrupt many people, it is definitely a good thing for people who suffer catastrophic illness have to go bankrupt.

And oh yes. I’m sure the bill is fiscally sound and that you really didn’t need the COB estimate to tell you that. And those 24 million people who will lose health care? How wise of you to know that this is after all a good thing. It’s good for people not to have access to care. If that weren’t the case, I’m positive you would never have voted for this bill..

Congratulations for being so wise and understanding the needs of your constituents so well. And that great big tax cut you just gave yourself? I’m sure that didn’t even figure in your vote at all.

Cheryl McGuire  
Livonia

Support food drive

This Saturday is the 25th annual NALC food drive. Please help your letter carrier help those in need. Please leave non perishable boxed or canned food by your mailbox. All donations will be taken to a local food bank to help neighbors in need. Please help make this the most successful drive yet.

Gary Macioce  
Livonia

More on health care

I don’t understand why House Republicans were celebrating the American Health Care Act with a keg party. How tasteless and tactless. It’s a bill that gives tax breaks to billionaires on the backs of our most vulnerable citizens: the poor, the elderly, the sick. There is no CBO score. We have no idea what it will cost us — in dollars or in human misery.

I can deal with the fact that Congressman Dave Trott has different beliefs and values than mine. I’ve voted for Democrats, Republicans and third-party candidates over the years. But Trott’s cowardice and his bald-faced lies to constituents have caused me to lose all respect for him. He’s heartless, he surrounds himself with the worst kind of abusive bullies, and he clearly cares nothing for people who are struggling to get by. That is not the Christian way. Shame on Dave Trott.

Abby Klemmer  
Birmingham



Bills would open up areas where people could carry concealed weapons.

JOE RAEDLE | GETTY IMAGES

New proposed bills call for increased penalties for targeting police

Kathleen Gray  
Detroit Free Press

State lawmakers, dealing with issues in the headlines, are proposing bills that would increase penalties on people who are convicted of targeting attacks on police officers and classifying such violence as hate crimes.

“We need to make sure we’re standing with our law enforcement,” said state Rep. Brandt Iden, R-Oshtemo Township. “We’re going to be there and have your back, just like you have ours.”

The bills would create a new two-year felony crime for a person who targets victims because they are a police officer, firefighter or emergency medical services worker, and designate such incidents as hate crimes.

The bills were born after a 14-year veteran of the Detroit Police Department was shot in the head a week ago while responding to a domestic violence call. He remains in critical condition.

“You see what happened in Detroit,” said Rep. Klint Kesto, R-Commerce Township. “Not many people are standing up for our officers today. But we will stand up.”

Other bills introduced in the Michigan Legislature last week would open up the areas where people could carry concealed weapons, including banks, churches, theaters, sports arenas, day care centers and hospitals. That’s on top of bills introduced last month that would do away with the requirement to get a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

House bills

**HB 4554:** Allow an individual to get his or her name and information removed from gun license databases. Sponsor: Rep. Lee Chatfield, R-Levering.

**HB 4555:** Require emergency generators at dialysis treatment centers. Sponsor: Rep. Terry Sabo, D-Muskegon.

**HB 4556-4559:** Increase penalties for selling, delivering or importing beer or wine in violation of the state’s Liquor Control Act; provide for regulation of liquor advertising displays; allow for sampling beer and wine on wholesaler’s premises. Sponsors: Reps. Joseph Bellino, R-Monroe, Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, Tom Barrett, R-Pottersville.

**HB 4560:** Expand the areas where possession of a firearm is prohibited to include a police station. Sponsor: Rep. Abdullah Hammoud, D-Dearborn.

**HB 4561-4564:** Clarify the sales and use tax exemption for agricultural equipment and eliminate the sunset on the exemption. Sponsors: Reps. Dan Lauwers, R-Brockway, Curtis VanderWall, R-Ludington, Daire Rendon, R-Lake City, Tom Barrett, R-Pottersville.

**HB 4565-4568:** Expand the areas where people can carry concealed weapons to include banks, churches, theaters, sports arenas, day care center and hospitals. Sponsors: Reps. Gary Glenn, R-Midland, Pamela Hornberger, R-Chesterfield Township, Beau LaFave, R-Iron Mountain, Steven Johnson, R-Wayland Township.

**HB 4569:** Increase penalties for pollutant and oil spills into the Great Lakes. Sponsor: Rep. William Sowerby, D-Clinton Township.

**HB 4570-4572:** Require operators of natural gas pipelines to comply with natural resources and environmental protection act, regulate and provide oversight for siting construction and operation of pipelines. Sponsors: Reps. Tom Cochran, D-Mason, Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, Yousef Rabhi, D-Ann Arbor.

**HB 4573:** Authorize townships to establish a special assessment district for mosquito abatement. Sponsor: Rep. Tim Sneller, D-Burton.

**HB 4574:** Revise the information that is to be displayed on handicap permit placards. Sponsor: Rep. Daire Rendon, R-Lake City.

**HB 4575:** Extend the sunset date of allowing for annual increases for inflation on the costs and fees for publication of a legal notice. Sponsor: Rep. Beau LaFave, R-Iron Mountain.

**HB 4576-4578:** Regulate and tax e-cigarettes and prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes to minors. Sponsor: Rep. Henry Yanez, D-Sterling Heights.

**HB 4579:** Allow for financial aid stipends for student teachers. Sponsor: Rep. Robert Kosowski, D-Westland.

**HB 4580:** Allow for refinancing options for housing

development authorities. Sponsor: Rep. Diana Farrington, R-Utica.

**HB 4582 and SB 365:** Authorize temporary teaching license or certificate for out-of-state military spouses who are teachers. Sponsors: Rep. Joseph Bellino, R-Monroe, Sen. Dale Zorn, R-Ida.

**HB 4583:** Establish a legacy underground storage tank cleanup program. Sponsor: Rep. Mary Whiteford, R-Casco Township.

**HB 4584:** Require medical provider to give information concerning resources available to the parent of a child with spina bifida. Sponsor: Rep. Hank Vaupel, R-Fowlerville.

**HB 4585-4586 and 4590-4591:** Prohibit and provide penalties for targeting a victim based on their employment as a law enforcement officer and categorize an attack against a police officer as a hate crime. Sponsors: Reps. Jeff Yaroch, R-Richmond, Andy Schor, D-Lansing, Klint Kesto, R-Commerce Township, Brandt Iden, R-Oshtemo Township.

**HB 4587:** Define a prosperity region in the school aid act to include counties of more than 500,000. Sponsor: Rep. Klint Kesto, R-Commerce Township.

**HB 4592:** Require additional reporting regarding abortion complications and eliminate the law that makes it a crime to disclose confidential information regarding abortions. Sponsors: Rep. John Reilly, R-Oakland Township, Bronna Kahle, R-Adrian.

**HJR O:** Establish a voter bill of rights in the state constitution. Sponsor: Rep. Jon Hoadley, D-Kalamazoo.

Senate bills

**SB 345-346 and HB 4588-4589:** Require financial advisers to report suspected cases of financial abuse of elderly and other vulnerable adults. Sponsors: Sens. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, Jim Ananich, D-Flint, Reps. Winnie Brinks, D-Grand Rapids, Joseph Graves, R-Linden.

**SB 347-348:** Ban and provide penalties for female genital mutilation. Sponsors: Sens. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, Judy Emmons, R-Sheridan.

**SB 349-350 and HB 4581:** Create the campus free speech act. Sponsors: Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, Rep. John Reilly, R-Oakland Township.

**SB 351:** Allow local units of government to restrict the use of fireworks except on the Fourth of July. Sponsor: Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton.

**SB 352:** Specify frequency of training programs and provide for a written clearance form regarding student athletes who suffer concussions. Sponsor: Sen. John Proos, R-St. Joseph.

**SB 353:** Prohibit local units of government from establishing mandatory job interview information requirements for employers. Sponsor: Sen. John Proos, R-St. Joseph.

**SB 354:** Create a fund-raising vehicle registration plate for the Knights of Columbus. Sponsor: Sen. John Proos, R-St. Joseph.

**SB 355:** Prohibit local government from raising or lowering age requirements for employees that go beyond state law. Sponsor: Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge.

**SB 356:** Establish a salesperson license. Sponsor: Sen. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg Township.

**SB 357-358:** Allow liquor wholesalers and manufacturers to refund or replace beer or wine and allow distributors to provide advertising signs that promote brands of alcohol. Sponsors: Sens. Rebekah Warren, D-Ann Arbor, Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge.

**SB 359:** Modify the deadline date for delivery of documents for personal property exemption. Sponsor: Sen. Dave Hildenbrand, R-Lowell.

**SB 360:** Allow pharmacists to dispense additional quantities of a prescription drug within the limits of the prescription. Sponsor: Sen. Margaret O’Brien, R-Portage.

**SB 361-362:** Clarify the tax base of financial institutions with regard to the corporate income tax. Sponsor: Sen. Darwin Booher, R-Evart.

**SB 363:** Provide preference to Michigan-based firms for state contracts. Sponsor: Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge.

**SB 364:** Create the active shooter and officer safety act. Sponsor: Sen. Ian Conyers, D-Detroit.

**SB 366:** Create a provisional license to carry a concealed pistol. Sponsor: Sen. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City.



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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
The Big Cheese Production Co. out of Brighton worked on restoring the paint finish on the War Dog Memorial's concrete statues.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Some of the old-fashioned gas pump glass globe restoration work that Big Cheese Productions has finished.

# AREA BUSINESS BRINGS STATUES TO LIFE



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Dawn Hubert, of Big Cheese Productions, works on air-brushing a glass cover to a gas pump May 1. Huber and her husband Terry worked on restoring and refinishing the paint on the concrete statues at Lyon Township's War Dog Memorial for free.

LeAnne Rogers  
hometownlife.com

Through their Brighton business, Terry and Dawn Hubert restore lots of old things needing some TLC, from old gas pumps to a Coke machine and fiberglass statues.

Then one day, they were contacted about two concrete German shepherd statues needing some work before they could be placed at Michigan War War Dog Memorial in Lyon Township. Their company, Big Cheese, took the job at no charge.

"We were thrilled to be able to have our work in such a special place. We're animal lovers and big supporters of the War Dog Memorial," Terry Hubert said. "It's just a blessing. We knew we would donate our work right away."

The statues had been donated and were in pretty bad shape, said Phil Weitlauf, Michigan War Dogs Memorial board president. "We were surprised when they said that they would do it pro bono," he said. "They did a super job — we appreciate what they did."

The two statues are placed at the memorial — the couple asked for a second photo of a German shepherd so that each dog would have it's own coloring and not look like duplicates.

"We hope that the they love it. The statues are concrete and very, very heavy. It takes special talent to bring the dogs to life," said Hubert, who credits his wife Dawn with the painting. "She airbrushed it and brought it to life. She did such a good job on the first one, that they offered to pay for the second one. We said no."

The statues look so life-like. he said, you could reach out and pet them.

"It was a blessing and an honor for us to do this for

such a great cause," Hubert said.

The couple participates in fundraisers for the Livingston County Humane Society, said Hubert, who had recently lost his dog Tate, a dachshund.

In business for 24 years, Big Cheese handles restoration of items that are sold over the Internet, but the company also works with major auction houses, Hubert said.

"There is always something that needs restoring and painting. That's what we are well-known for. We can restore original porcelain signs. We've been featured in different books," he said. "We do a little import, export."

The Michigan War Dog Memorial started out as an old pet cemetery that included the graves of some dogs who served with their masters in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Middle East. The cemetery was overgrown and effectively abandoned when Weitlauf came across it and decided to get involved.

Today, the cemetery has been cleaned up and restored with monuments like the German shepherd statues. Weitlauf said most military service dogs had been that breed, although in recent years there has been a shift to the smaller Belgian malinois, smaller dogs less prone to health problems such as hip displacement.

At noon Saturday, June 10, there will be a full military honors funeral for a military canine which served two tours in Afghanistan.

On Saturday, June 24, there will be a ceremony dedicating a Vietnam canine wall containing the names of 4,234 military service dogs left behind when U.S. troops pulled out of the country.

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# Grieving mother devotes life to saving children

Most people will never understand or experience pain like Lisa Pardington feels every day. Her son wasn't sick. He was healthy. He was strong. He was 20 years old.

She wonders if a simple test could have saved his life.

"Max was a loving, free spirit and a deep thinker. He lived each day to the fullest, always pursuing his next adventure," Pardington said.

Pardington, who lives in Canton, has every right to be angry. No one would blame her if she didn't want to talk about Max. No one wants to know what it feels like to bury a child. No one would question her if she shut out the world.

But Pardington chose a different, more difficult path. She tells Max's story to anyone who will listen. Her family created LiveLikeMax, a foundation to raise money for a program that didn't exist before Max died. A program that might have saved his life.

"The Beaumont Children's Student Heart Check helps me channel my grief in a positive way. I get to talk about Max and share my life experience," she said.

The Pardington family has raised nearly \$350,000 for the program. With those funds, Beaumont purchases new equipment for heart screenings and AEDs for schools.

In addition to raising money, the Pardington family also attends many of the screenings.

"It's a bitter-sweet feeling when I go to a Student Heart Check. It forces me to re-live Max's final hours, but I am grateful to have the opportunity to help other families and save lives," Pardington said.

Since the program's inception in May 2007, Beaumont has screened 14,989 Michigan high school students. Of those students, doctors told 185 students to stop sports and follow up with a cardiologist due to heart abnormalities. Seven were diagnosed with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, or HCM.

HCM is the most common cause of death among U.S. athletes. Nearly 4,000 of those deaths are young people, like Max. But his family refuses to let him become a statistic.

By volunteering at screenings and supporting the program through fundraising events, Pardington has formed friendships with people she would have never met.

"You can choose the path of least resistance or you can choose to be a positive force for others. We were not aware of heart checks for high school students, and we paid the ultimate price," she said. "Our involvement in the program gives meaning and purpose to our lives."

Student Heart Check program manager Jennifer Shea added, "Many parents don't realize their child could be at risk for a life-threatening heart condition. Having parents like Lisa involved in our program demonstrates why these screenings are so important."

Pardington will never stop grieving for her son. She will never stop missing Max. She will never stop asking herself, "What if?" And she will never stop trying to prevent other mothers from planning a funeral for their child.

"Volunteering is a way to transform the sadness, anger, frustration, loneliness into something positive. Volunteering is rewarding, heart-lifting and energizing," she said.

On May 13, the Pardington family will volunteer at a Student Heart Check screening at Greenhills School, 850 Greenhills Drive, in Ann Arbor. Max's brother Jack graduated from the school.

Register at [www.beaumont.org/student-heart-check](http://www.beaumont.org/student-heart-check).



Lisa Pardington (from left), with Beaumont cardiologist Dr. George Hanzel and Max's dad John Pardington, has dedicated her life to helping save the lives of other children since losing her son Max at age 20.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Livonia Olive Garden general manager Danielle Cleary stops by to chat with customers, including Patricia Johnson and Barbara Bovia, right, during their April 27 lunch at the restaurant on Middlebelt, north of I-96. Cleary has worked her way up to a management spot since she began as a hostess at age 16.

# Camp Invention heads to local area

Camp Invention, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment camp program, is coming to Wayne and Oakland communities. Regional program sponsors include Dow Corning Foundation, Ford Motor Co. Fund, Saginaw Community Foundation and Nexteer Steering the Future Fund.

Camp Invention is a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame® — a nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing inventors and invention, promoting creativity and advancing the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship — and supported by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. What makes this camp unique is that the curriculum is inspired by some of our nation's most brilliant minds — the inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

For students entering kindergarten through sixth grade, Camp Invention is a week-long adventure that turns the summer from ordinary to extraordinary through hands-on problem solving, collaboration and the use of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Inventive young minds can exercise their creativity and use their imagination, all while learning and developing new skills they typically don't get to use in the classroom. Children are empowered to have big ideas while they take on challenges that inspire them to question, brainstorm, work as a team and build amazing invention prototypes. "Parents should send their children to Camp Invention because it encourages children to think, solve and create!" said Tracy M., mother of three campers.

The following schools will host Camp Invention:

- » Farmington Community School, Farmington: June 19-23
- » Sharon J. Hardy Elementary School, South Lyon: June 19-23
- » Novi Middle School, Novi: June 26-30
- » Ridge Wood Elementary School, Northville: July 17-21

This year's fresh, action-packed Camp Invention curriculum features several hands-on modules:

- » Duct Tape Billionaire™: Campers design duct tape products they can market and sell to mock investors
- » Have a Blast: Children build high-tech Bubble Blasters and compete as a team in friendly air battles that use physics to boost their advantage
- » Mission Space Makers: Teams hatch eggs, sprout living plants and grow crystal trees, all while on a mission to locate and prepare a new planet for habitation
- » Operation Keep Out: Campers learn to reverse engineer old machines and devices and use their parts to create the ultimate Spy Gadget Alarm Box

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by certified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves more than 130,000 students every year and partners with more than 1,400 schools and districts across the nation. For additional information or to find the camp nearest you, go to [campinvention.org](http://campinvention.org).

# Former hostess now manages popular local Italian restaurant

Matt Jachman  
hometownlife.com

When she started working as a hostess at a Red Lobster at age 16, Danielle Cleary didn't envision a restaurant career. She wanted to be a school teacher.

Seventeen years later, Cleary is still with restaurants — and a teacher, of sorts, as well — as the general manager of the Olive Garden in Livonia.

The Canton Township resident, who has also run Olive Garden locations in Ann Arbor and Novi, oversees a management team of three people and a staff of more than 100 at the popular location on Middlebelt, just north of Schoolcraft Road.

Cleary found that first job at the Red Lobster in Waterford suited her: It was close to home (she grew up in Pontiac), put her people skills to use (she was an usher at her church) and was familiar to her, as she had frequented it with her family.

Her company, Darden Restaurants, found something, too. Three years later, while employed at the Olive Garden in Auburn Hills, Cleary began climbing the company ladder, working as a hostess, server and trainer and then moving into management.

"We are always looking to develop people," Cleary said recently at her restaurant. "You're able to be recognized for what you do."

She became a trainer who helped open new Olive Garden locations, traveling to the new spots to join a team that guided new hires for their first few weeks. She opened restaurants in Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and Sioux City, Iowa, as well as closer to home in Brighton.

Management also sent her to Italy for a week, in 2007, to absorb the culture and experience the cuisine there.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Danielle Cleary is general manager of the Livonia Olive Garden restaurant on Middlebelt, near Schoolcraft Road.

*"We are always looking to develop people. You're able to be recognized for what you do."*

**DANIELLE CLEARY**  
general manager of the Olive Garden in Livonia

"It was really an exposure to the Italian culture and what we attempt to replicate in our restaurants," she said. "It was bringing our passion to life."

That Italian culture, she said, was warm, generous and welcoming and she was always among people who made her feel a part of things, a part of the family.

Cleary also had management training locally and at the Olive Garden support center in Orlando, Fla., where Darden is based. (The Red Lobster brand was spun off from Darden several years ago.)

The Livonia Olive Garden staff is typically at work by 8 a.m., to start food preparation and make sure the restaurant is ready to open. The doors open at 11 a.m. for lunch.

The food? Cleary is partial to Olive Garden's shrimp scampi and gives high marks to the lasagna and the linguine di mare.

Cleary, who lives with a boyfriend and three children, said her company is respectful of personal and family time and that long hours, common in the restaurant business, and emergency phone calls while she's off-duty aren't an issue.

"When we're at home, we're at home. When we're at work, we're at work," she said.

Still, she's passionate about her job, she said, and does what's needed to make sure diners are taken care of.

"I think you have to be passionate to work in the restaurant industry," Cleary said.

"We love what we do," said Karl Shaw, an Olive Garden director of operations in Michigan.

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I am an American We are One Nation

# ‘RETIRED’ CEO TURNS TO EDUCATION

‘The most rewarding thing I’ve done’: Dick Munro, a youth teacher and mentor

ANNIKA HAMMERSCHLAG  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit [one-nation.usatoday.com](http://one-nation.usatoday.com).

NAPLES, Florida - When asked about the three Purple Hearts he earned while serving in the Korean War, Dick Munro responds like he does to any question about his accomplishments: with absurd modesty.

“It doesn’t mean I’m a hero — it means I didn’t duck,” he laughed.

Munro, 86, is the former chairman and CEO of Time Warner Inc., which later became Time Warner, and a current education activist in Naples, Florida.

He began his career at Time Inc. as a trainee and retired 40 years later as top dog.

“I just went to work every day. It just happened,” he said.

After Munro “retired” from Time Inc., he took to sitting on corporate boards — 20 of them, he counts. They include prestigious companies, foundations and universities such as Genentech, IBM and Columbia. And that 25-year stint as director of the United Negro College Fund.

When Munro moved to Naples, a resort town known for its white-sand beaches and exclusive golf courses, he had no intention of relapsing into his philanthropic addictions. But then he peeked behind the luxury condos and five-star restaurants.

“I had no idea that just a stone’s throw away there were people hanging on by their fingernails,” Munro said.

Thirty miles northeast of Naples lies Immokalee, home to a community of Latino farmworkers. Many live in trailers. Others cram into one-bedroom bungalows with their entire family.

“It was mind-boggling, seeing how these poor people lived. There’s an underbelly to this county that most people



Dick Munro poses for a portrait on Monday, February 27, 2017 at the Education Foundation of Collier County in East Naples. Munro now works with Champions for Learning, a non-profit that pairs kids with retirees who help them study, organize college applications and get jobs.

don’t know about,” he said.

Munro began teaching at a Head Start program at a low-income school and joined a college scholarship selection committee for underprivileged students. He took on two mentees from Immokalee and helped them with college applications. One, the son of tomato pickers, now interns at a cyber security firm.

Working with Immokalee children, he said, is “the most rewarding thing I’ve done. Their smiles will just melt you.”

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### Dick Munro

**Location:** Naples, Florida

**Age:** 86

**Profession:** Retired chairman and CEO of Time Inc.; education activist

**Mission:** Empower children to reach their full potential.

### Q&A WITH DICK MUNRO

#### What does it mean to you to be an American?

It means that I was fortunate to be born in a country the world envies. A country whose democratic principles have had an enormous positive impact on the world almost since its founding. We have set an example of civility, generosity, diplomacy and when required, power. With all that comes the responsibility of leadership. And we should cherish that responsibility. Yet, despite all of our enormous resources, we are becoming a nation divided, angry and lacking the civility we once knew. Issues of income in equality, racism and the treatment of immigrants are disturbing. But, I am an optimist. There will always be more good guys than bad guys.

#### What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

My first exposure to poverty occurred years ago when I was involved with Save The Children. I visited Indian Reservations in the West, the Mississippi Delta and parts of Appalachia. It was an eye-opener, to say the least. I never realized parts of the USA were similar to third-world countries. Here in Naples, my first visit to Immokalee was equally shocking. This is a remarkable community of good, hard-working farmworkers, many of whom live in severe poverty.

#### What gives you hope or what concerns you?

Public schools give me hope. The privilege to be exposed to students, teachers and administrators gives me hope. I wish more citizens could have the opportunity to visit classrooms to observe the learning process in action, to observe the professionalism and passion the great majority of teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

#### What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

There will never be enough volunteers. Naples is made up of extremely generous and civic-minded people, but there is still a whole bunch of them who don’t become involved. This is unfortunate for both them and our community. Seniors have lots of skills to contribute. Many simply have not been exposed to the challenges we face. You really do get more out of volunteering than you put in.



The Chaldean Cultural Center Museum in West Bloomfield is the first of its kind in the world.

## Chaldean Cultural Center Museum set to open in West Bloomfield

What is the Chaldean Cultural Center Museum?

It’s a cultural center and museum where people can step into ancient Babylon and into an early Christian church. It’s a place where people can visit an Iraqi Chaldean village, then journey to America with pioneering immigrants. They can discover the diverse, dynamic lives of Chaldeans today.

The Chaldean Cultural Center Museum is the first of its kind in the world. It’s an educational resource that has been a decade in the making. The Chaldean Cultural Center Museum covers thousands of years of Chaldean history.

It will be open three days a week: Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. Special arrangements can also be made for tour groups, school field trips, etc., who may want a specific day and time.

The Chaldean Cultural Center celebrates and explores the extraordinary history, arts, traditions and contributions of the Chaldean people from ancient times to the present, serving as a repository of collected history and stories. By forging relationships with other educational and cultural institutions, it not only nurtures pride within the Chaldean community, but also promotes greater understanding between communities as part of cultural diversity.

“We are a community with deep roots and a rich history,” said Francis Boji, chairman of the Chaldean Cultural Center board. “The museum starts out at 3,300 B.C.E. and it takes visitors through time periods and the progression of Chaldeans throughout history.”

The development of the Chaldean Cultural Center Museum has been a collaborative effort from people inside and outside the Chaldean community.

“There are five galleries in the museum and each had several curators to help design it,” said Mary Romaya, executive director. “Countless hours of work and dedication have gone into this project and we are thrilled to open the museum and invite others to enjoy it.”

Exhibit Designers Saylor+Sirola worked in collaboration with Sanan Media, which produced the interactive media and films in the center.

The center paints a portrait of a people, exploring the history that shaped them, the faith that sustains them and the lives they lead today. At its heart is an exhibition that takes visitors from the court of Nebuchadnezzar to an immigrant grocery store in Detroit and beyond.

To find out more, got to [www.chaldeanculturalcenter.org](http://www.chaldeanculturalcenter.org)

To view a three-minute promotional video, go to <http://sanan.com/ccc>.

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BOYS LACROSSE

# South Lyon rallies for win vs. Mustangs

Defending conference  
champs fall in 10-8 setback

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

South Lyon Unified took a giant step toward winning the KLAA Kensington Conference by rallying in the final quarter for a 10-8 boys lacrosse win May 1 over visiting Northville.

After the teams were deadlocked at 5-5 at halftime, defending conference champion Northville took an 8-6 advantage heading into the final quarter

in a match played at South Lyon East High School.

But SLU responded with four unanswered goals to increase its overall record to 9-3 overall and 4-0 in the Kensington Conference.

Senior Carlo Zoratti led the way with three goals and four assists, while Silvio Scappaticci contributed a pair of goals. Other South Lyon goal scorers included Drew Hantz, Leo Sharkey, Colin DeWitt, Colt Kovach and Nick Harvath.

Meanwhile, Drew Neller and Hunter Sutton combined for 12 face-off wins, while goalie Joel Trent made 12 saves.

“Tonight showed teamwork and determination,” SLU first-year coach Justin Boughton said. “We showed how well a team can play when they come together. It’s been an honor coaching these young men and watching them grow as a team. They were determined and resilient throughout the entire game, start to finish. I can’t single out a single player, because the entire team played to their fullest abilities. I couldn’t be more proud. As always, ‘Go U and Ride the Wave.’”

Northville (8-2, 3-1) was led offensively by Cole Gingell (three goals, two



BARBARA NELLER

South Lyon Unified's Carlo Zoratti (left) fends off Northville defender Nate Czanota.

See LACROSSE, Page B2

GIRLS SOCCER



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem's Katie Coleman (right), looks to dribble around Northville's Jenna Lauderback.

# Rocks, Mustangs go down to the wire in tie

Tim Smith  
hometownlife.com

The May 2 girls soccer clash between KLAA Central Division rivals Salem and Northville featured blood and sweat — but no tears — as the teams left it all out on the field in a 1-1 tie.

Along the way, two Mustangs were

bloodied or bruised, while Salem senior goalie Skylar Brant had to leave the game for five minutes in the first half after taking a foot to the face while diving to smother a ball.

“Definitely not, this is a really big game for us,” Brant said about being forced off the field due to her bloody nose. “I wasn’t trying to come off the field.”

Although Salem coach Kyle Karns said junior goalie Anna Lundh played well during her brief stint for the Rocks, there was no way Brant wasn’t going to come back for the final 42 minutes of the contest, which was played at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park on a cold, windy evening.

“She’s a gamer. She’ll get back in there as quickly as possible,” said

Karns, whose team improved to 5-2-3 overall and 4-0-2 in the KLAA Central.

Also going all-out for the Mustangs was junior goalkeeper Carlie Castiglione, who seemingly was 10-15 yards out of her goal crease all night scrambling after bouncing balls. The best stop at either end of the pitch was Castiglione’s

See SOCCER, Page B2



XIN WAN

Northville senior Cayla Eckenroth set a track record in the 800-meter run (2:20.0).

PREP TRACK

# Northville seniors go out in style with double win

Brad Emons  
hometownlife.com

Northville’s senior class went out in style during its final home meet of the season, May 2 against South Lyon.

The Northville girls improved to 4-0 in the KLAA Central Division with a 110-27 win over the Lions, while the Northville boys improved to 2-2 by downing South Lyon, 93-44.

“The night was really about our seniors,” Northville coach Tim Dalton said. “We honored 31 kids. I’m proud of their contributions. My message to the

team at the end of the meet was pretty simple. I owed our seniors a big thank you for everything they have given to our program. I wanted (it) to be about them, but also needed to make it clear that we still have five big weeks ahead of us.”

In the girls meet, senior Cayla Eckenroth won a pair of individual events, taking the 800-meter run as she tied the Northville track record in her final home meet with a time of 2:20.0. She also captured the 3,200 (11:53.68) and teamed with Olivia Maase, Olivia Harp and Emily Assemany for a victory in

the 3,200 relay (11:10.87).

Other individual winners for the Mustangs included Sara Ismail, shot put (33 feet, 3.75 inches); Barbara Davis, discus (95-10); Clare McNamara, long jump (16-9); Daryn Lobingier, pole vault (10-0); Sinyu Yang, 100 hurdles (18.09); Yasmine Affes, 100 dash (13.68); Claire Wan, 400 (1:03.9); and Harp, 1,600 (5:26.74).

The 800 relay team of Savannah Manley, Erin McCallum, Affes and McNamara won in 1:50.12. Northville’s

See TRACK, Page B2

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## TRACK

Continued from Page B1

1,600 relay team of Emilie Chen, Barrott, Wan and Manley was also victorious (4:26.17).

“It was pretty neat to see Emma Smith and Taylor Gattoni cross the finish line together in the 3,200, holding hands, with smiles on their faces,” Dalton said. “Those are the memories they will remember when you reflect on the high school running careers.”

South Lyon got wins from Lily Mueller (high jump, 4-11) and Danielle Booth (300 hurdles, 51.64). The Lions (1-3) also won the 400 relay (53.03).

Double winners for the Mustangs boys included Ben Shuart, who swept the 110 and 300 hurdles in 16.02 and 45.95, respectively, and Ben Cracraft, who took the 1,600 (4:44.43) and 3,200 (10:00.24).

Cracraft also teamed with Evan Ferrante, Jacob Blackmore and Couyoumjian for a win in the 3,200 relay (9:05.48).

Other individual winners included Ja’Quan Crawford, shot put (39-11.75); Alec Hopkins, high jump (5-8); Brandon Kearney, 100 dash (11.72); and Nicholas Couyoumjian, 800 (2:01.42).

Northville’s 400 relay team of Andrew Hezemy, Rodriguez, Kearney and Benair Covington won in 46.2.

“We have a large group of exchange students who we also honored, which is always pretty special,” Dalton said. “I want those kids to have the best possible experience while they are in the States. There was a lot of positive energy at the end of the meet.”

South Lyon (1-3) got a sterling performance from Andy Mattison in the shot put (150-9), while other wins came Joey Villarosa, pole vault (10-6); Brenden Lach, 200 (24.3); and Jack Schafer, 400 (54.43).

The Lions’ 800 and 1,600 relay teams



XIN WAN

Northville’s Ben Cracraft (right) hands off to Jacob Blackmore during the 3,200-meter relay.

also took first in 4:44.43 and 10:00.24.

“Our senior distance boys put together a 4 by 400 relay to run one last race together,” Dalton said. “Those are the things I like to see out of kids, doing things together, for each other.”

**GIRLS DUAL MEET RESULTS  
NORTHVILLE 110, SOUTH LYON 27  
May 2 at Northville**  
**Shot put:** 1. Sara Ismail (N), 33 feet, 3.75 inches; 2. Barbara Davis (N), 33-0.75; 3. Allie Longstreet (SL), 25-8.5.  
**Discus:** 1. Davis (N), 95-10; 2. Chastity Brooks (SL), 80-4; 3. Ismail (N), 77-8.  
**High jump:** 1. Lily Mueller (SL), 4-11; 2. Lauren Lambert (N), 4-10; 3. Emma Sheehan (N), 4-8.

## SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

with about 20 seconds remaining in the first half, with the game tied 1-1.

Salem’s fleet freshman forward Sydney Smith — who was on the go all night long — drove a labeled shot from inside the 18-yard box. But Castiglione challenged Smith and batted the hard shot to the side.

“She’s incredible,” Karns said about Smith. “She having a great year. She’s a spark-plug for us. She comes off the bench and just provides that spark for us. She’s such an energy player.”

Northville head coach Eric Brucker called Tuesday’s difficult weather conditions another example of “Pure Michigan,” but stressed that both teams had to deal with the same cut-to-the-quick wind and cold while trying to get through 80 minutes of soccer.

“I thought both teams played well,” Brucker said. “For once this season, we picked up our aggression — it showed. We got a couple girls that got nicked up, but we needed it.

“We have not been playing tough, if you will, against our competition.”

Karns noted that the weather had an impact, but stressed that it merely added another element to a “tough division game. It’s a tough division in general and that’s a good, hard-fought battle there.”

Northville (4-6-3, 2-3-1) got on the board first with 17:22 left in the first half, when freshman forward Erica

*“For once this season, we picked up our aggression — it showed. We got a couple girls that got nicked up, but we needed it.”*

**ERIC BRUCKER**  
Northville coach

Toupin found the back of the Salem net.

Toupin was denied on a point-blank attempt by Brant, but the rebound caromed right back to Toupin. She turned and sent another shot on its way, which found the top corner.

But it took the Rocks only 2:29 to get it back, in what turned out to be the final goal of the game.

Sending a 20-yard shot from the side was Salem junior defender Gabriella Mazzuca. The ball hit the crossbar and bounced straight down. Heading it into the Northville net was junior forward Katie Coleman.

“We got a good goal in the first half, but we gave one up too quick,” Brucker said. “It was a good back-and-forth game. Both teams had opportunities ... that’s what the KLAA’s all about.”

Tuesday’s game began what is a crucial series of games for both teams.

“This is what we call the gauntlet, because you have to play the same teams back through the second time,” Brucker said. “Everybody knows what everybody has and it’s a question of who wants to play better.”



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northville’s Nikki Skinner controls the ball during last week’s 1-1 tie against Salem.

## LACROSSE

Continued from Page B1

assists) and Zach Tardich (three goals, one assist). Anthony Salamone and Kevin Conder also added one goal each.

Nate Holloway chipped in an assist and sparkled defensively with five ground balls.

Goalie Jeff Varner made 12 saves. “South Lyon came to play and they played really well,” Northville coach Greg Durham said. “They controlled the ball a lot. We were on defense quite a bit. They were slow and methodical. They just outplayed us. We couldn’t get into our game.”

The Mustangs missed its X-position player Ty Kilar, who is out for the week with an injury.

“That hurt us, but that’s not why we

lost,” Durham said. “South Lyon played really well. They had a good game plan. They won a lot of face-offs in the first half. They were 11-1 in the first, then I had Nate Holloway take face-offs and we went 5-1 the second half. He really did well, but it just wasn’t enough. Too many little mistakes hurt us, but give credit to South Lyon.”

*bemons@hometownlife.com*  
*Twitter: @BradEmons1*

*“We showed how well a team can play when they come together. It’s been an honor coaching these young men and watching them grow as a team.”*

**JUSTIN BOUGHTON**  
South Lyon Unified coach

### GIRLS SOCCER

# Northville offers payback to rival Wildcats with 3-0 victory

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

It was a reversal of fortunes May 4 for the Northville girls soccer team as the host Mustangs avenged a 3-0 loss earlier in the season with a 3-0 victory over the Wildcats at Tom Holzer Field.

After a scoreless first half, Sydney Schembri’s volley off a corner kick from Abby Gardiner in the 44th minute proved to be the game-winner as the Mustangs improved to 5-6-3 overall and 3-3-1 in the KLAA Central Division.

Schembri’s header set up Northville’s second goal just six minutes later, as Sara Noonan’s shot hit off the back post.

Noonan then set up the third goal on a cross to Tara Beason at the 54-minute mark to give Northville a three-goal cushion.

“They dominated us the first time,” Northville coach Eric Brucker said. “It took a long time, but today it’s first time we’ve played a complete game. The defense was solid, midfield controlled the tempo and the offense finally clicked and generated and finished on scoring opportunities. Overall, I’m proud of the team. They made it click against their rivals. By far the best game we’ve played so far.”

Northville goalkeeper Callie Castiglione made six saves to post the shut-out, while Callie Rich had five saves for Novi (6-3-3, 4-3).

“Hopefully, we can build on the momentum and finish out this regular season on a high note and get ready for districts,” Brucker said. “And most of these teams we’ll see in districts.”

**NOVI 7, SOUTH LYON EAST 0:** Playing its fourth match in six

days, the host Wildcats (6-2-3, 4-2) used a 19-1 shot advantage and pulled away in the second half for a KLAA Central Division triumph May 2 over South Lyon East (1-6-4, 0-6).

Novi led 2-0 at halftime on goals by Avery Fenchel with 36:28 left, from Michelle Jecmen, followed by Vera Razburgaj’s penalty kick with 22:10 to play.

The Wildcats scored five more times in the second half, by Julia Stadtherr (from Avery Fenchel), Emmie Takada (from Jecmen), Razburgaj (from Leah Kiura), Jecmen (from Riley Balconi) and Gracie Backus (from Laine Fenchel).

Novi goalkeepers Callie Rich and Rileigh Nelson combined on the shutout.

**STEVENSON 2, SOUTH LYON 1:** Livonia Stevenson (11-0-2, 5-0-1) took over sole possession of first place in the KLAA Central Division with a hard-fought victory May 2 over the visiting Lions (3-5-2, 1-5).

The Spartans, who outshot South Lyon 16-4, took a 1-0 lead in the 13th minute on an Aubrey Kopitz goal, assisted by Kennedy Thurlow. Kopitz then notched her 17th of the year from Maria Bayouk in the 42nd minute to make it 2-0 before South Lyon made things interesting on freshman Allison Faragher’s goal, assisted by another freshman Kylie Davis.

“I had this game circled as a trap game for a while now,” Stevenson coach Ken Shingledacker said. “South Lyon has some nice players and they have been playing everyone tough. We seemed to get a little to comfortable after scoring the second goal and they caught us flat-footed on a corner to make it 2-1. We’ll take the three points.”

Keeper Mackenzie Fifer did not make any saves for the Spartans. Sophomore Carmen Sweigard was outstanding in goal for the Lions with nine saves.

**Long jump:** 1. Clare McNamara (N), 16-9; 2. Erin McCallum (N), 16-1.75; 3. Emily Anderson (N), 15-0.5.  
**Pole vault:** 1. Daryn Lobingier (N), 10-0; 2. Elise Daniel (N), 8-9; 3. Liberty Romanik (SL), 8-9.  
**100-meter hurdles:** 1. Sinyu Yang (N), 18.09; 2. Abby Dunn (N), 18.91; 3. Haleigh Czarnecki (N), 19.61.  
**300 hurdles:** 1. Danielle Booth (SL), 51.64; 2. Yang (N), 52.62; 3. Dunn (N), 53.70.  
**100 dash:** 1. Yasmine Affes (N), 13.08; 2. Lauren Marshall (N), 13.17; 3. Mueller (SL), 13.43.  
**200:** 1. Affes (N), 27.42; 2. McCallum (N), 27.70; 2. Savannah Manley (N), 28.08.  
**400:** 1. Claire Wan (N), 1:03.90; 2. Emily Hudgens (SL), 1:04.32; 3. Dunn (N), 1:05.56.  
**800:** 1. Cayla Eckenroth (N), 2:20.0; 2. McNamara (N), 2:24.35; 3. Ana Barrott (N), 2:27.68.  
**1,600:** 1. Olivia Harp (N), 5:26.74; 2. Katie Chevoor (N), 5:27.05; 3. Emily Assemany (N), 5:32.48.  
**3,200:** 1. Eckenroth (N), 11:53.68; 2. Chevoor (N), 11:54.63; 3. Kayleigh Line (N), 11:57.53.  
**400 relay:** 1. South Lyon, 53.03; 2. Northville, 53.15; **800 relay:** 1. Northville (Manley, McCallum, Affes, McNamara), 1:50.12; 2. South Lyon, 1:53.71; **1,600 relay:** 1. Northville (Emilie Chen, Barrott, Wan, Manley), 4:26.17; 2. South Lyon, 4:29.92; **3,200 relay:** 1. Northville (Olivia Maase, Assemany, Harp, Eckenroth), 11:10.87.  
**Dual meet records:** Northville, 4-0 overall, 4-0 KLAA Central Division; South Lyon, 0-4 overall, 0-4 KLAA Central.

### BOYS DUAL MEET RESULTS NORTHVILLE 93, SOUTH LYON 44 May 2 at Northville

**Shot put:** 1. Ja’Quan Crawford (N), 39 feet, 11.75 inches; 2. Andy Mattison (SL), 39-1.5; 3. Anmol Multani (N), 38-10.75.  
**Discus:** 1. Mattison (SL), 150-9; 2. Crawford (N), 118-0; 3. Jake McNeil (N), 114-4.  
**High jump:** 1. Alec Hopkins (N), 5-8; 2. Caleb Sheehan (N), 5-6; 3. Gustaf Tjernberg (N), 5-4.  
**Long jump:** 1. Sheehan (N), 19-3; 2. Tjernberg (N), 18-8.75; 3. Srram Papolu (N), 18-4.5.  
**Pole vault:** 1. Joey Villarosa (SL), 10-6; 2. Sam Siter (SL), 9-3; 3. Alexander Jones (N), 9-0.  
**110-meter hurdles:** 1. Ben Shuart (N), 16.02; 2. Andrew Williams (SL), 18.07; 3. Villarosa (SL), 19.11.  
**300 hurdles:** 1. Shuart (N), 45.95; 2. Daniel McLaughlin (N), 46.88; 3. Williams (SL), 47.63.  
**100 dash:** 1. Brandon Kearney (N), 11.72; 2. Enzo Rodriguez (N), 11.87; 3. Braxton Blackwell (SL), 11.89.  
**200:** 1. Brenden Lach (SL), 24.30; 2. Demitri Zervos (N), 24.49; 3. Nolan Knight (N), 24.75.  
**400:** 1. Jack Schafer (SL), 54.43; 2. Nolan Knight (N), 55.02; 3. Brendon Goins (SL), 55.28.  
**800:** 1. Nicholas Couyoumjian (N), 2:01.43; 2. Raymond Jiang (N), 2:12.91; 3. Alex Jund (N), 2:13.40.  
**1,600:** 1. Ben Cracraft (N), 4:44.43; 2. Peter Bejin (N), 4:46.37; 3. Evan Ferrante (N), 4:48.85.  
**3,200:** 1. Cracraft (N), 10:00.24; 2. Bejin (N), 10:00.73; 3. Josh Chezick (SL), 10:42.42.  
**400 relay:** 1. Northville (Andrew Hezemy, Rodriguez, Kearney, Benair Covington), 46.25; 2. South Lyon, 46.26; **800 relay:** 1. South Lyon, 1:35.19; 2. Northville, 1:38.58; **1,600 relay:** 1. South Lyon, 3:39.38; 2. Northville, 3:39.77; **3,200 relay:** 1. Northville (Cracraft, Ferrante, Blackmore, Couyoumjian), 9:05.48; 2. South Lyon, 9:14.72.  
**Dual meet records:** Northville, 2-2 overall, 2-2 KLAA Central Division; South Lyon, 1-3 overall, 1-3 KLAA Central.

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GIRLS LACROSSE

# Northville continues winning ways

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

Northville put a stranglehold on first place in the KLAA Kensington Conference with an 11-6 victory May 3 over visiting South Lyon United in a battle for first place at Tom Holzer Field.

Sophomore Kendall Wasik scored four goals for the Mustangs (8-2, 4-0).

Sarah Chase and Ally Blough chipped in two goals and one assist each for Northville, which led 7-4 at halftime. Other Northville goal scorers included Charlotte Beaudoin, Jessica Tardich and Emma Dietrich.

Northville goalie Kat Weissert made four saves.

C.J. Perry and Lauryn Rygiel both scored a pair of goals for SLU (6-5, 4-1), while Maddie Allerton and Bailey Papiich added one apiece.

South Lyon's Alyssa Schams also stood out in goal.

"Their goalie was really good," Northville coach Dan Madigan said. "We played well defensively, limited their shots and possessed the ball well overall. It was a physical game and we played well."

**NORTHVILLE 15, NOTRE DAME PREP 7:** Sophomore Kendall Wasik scored six goals Saturday as the host Mustangs (9-2) rolled to a non-conference win over Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (10-2) at Tom Holzer Field.

Northville led 8-4 at halftime before pulling away in the second half as Emma Dietrich added three goals and three assists, while Sarah Chase also had three goals along with two assists.

Other Northville goal scorers were Ally Blough, Ella Tarasi and Jessica Tardich.

Goalie Kat Weissert made six saves for the Mustangs.

"We did a really go job in our offensive sets today, moving our feet and the ball," Northville first-year coach Dan Madigan said. "The girls did a nice job of controlling the game with possessions and looking for the right shot. We did a good job causing turnovers in the midfield to get some extra possessions. Kendall, Emma and Sarah played great on both offense and defense and they set the pace and tone of our team."

**NORTHVILLE 17, MERCY 6:** Emma Dietrich and Charlotte Beaudoin both scored four goals and added two assists May 1 to propel the Mustangs (7-2) over visiting Farmington Hills Mercy (3-3) in a non-league match played at Tom Holzer Field.

"The girls did a great job controlling the draws and getting quality possessions," Northville coach Dan Madigan said. "Offensively, we do a great job of moving the ball around and keeping our heads up and finding the open player. We had assists on eight of our goals tonight, which shows that the girls are not selfish and looking for the easy shot rather than forcing the ball."

The Mustangs, who led 10-1 at halftime, also got offensive production from Sarah Chase (three goals, two assists), Kendall Wasik (two goals, two assists), Ally Blough (three goals, one assist), Ella Tarasi (one goal) and Jessica Tardich (one assist).

Goalie Kat Weissert made seven saves for the Mustangs.

"Our defense has really started to take off with forcing other teams into bad possessions and not giving up the easy shot," Madigan said. "They have so much confidence in Kat in goal that it really allows them to cause pressure."



Northville goalie Kat Weissert gets in position to make a save.

JANET DIETRICH

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BOYS LACROSSE



Northville's Spencer Gonda (right) won 23 face-offs in a 19-6 Victory Day win over Notre Dame Prep.

## Northville wins on Victory Day

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

Northville's annual Victory Day was a winner on all fronts and even the weather cooperated for a change.

The Mustangs' coaches and players participated in and treated special-needs students from surrounding school districts to pregame match prior to their non-conference clash at Tom Holzer Field against Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

The Northville varsity then went out and defeated the Fighting Irish, 19-6, as senior forward Cole Gingell led the way with eight goals and four assists.

"Great day for a game and Victory Day was a great success again," said Northville coach Greg Durham, whose team improved to 9-2 overall.

Zach Tardich added four goals and two assists as 10 different Mustangs tallied at least one point.

Other offensive multiple point-

getters included Kevin Conder (two goals, two assists), Nate Holloway (two goals, one assist), Jack Harrigan (one goal, one assist),

Also scoring goals were Brandon Grizer, who notched his first of the season, Anthony Salamone, Ryan Figueroa, Spencer Gonda and Jake Murphy. Also collecting an assist was Gannon Henke.

Holloway also led the team with eight ground balls, while goalie Jeff Varner made eight saves on 14 Notre Dame Prep shots.

"We controlled the ball the entire game," Durham said. "Everyone on the team contributed to the win. Spencer Gonda played great, going 23-for-28 on the draws with one goal."

The loss dropped Notre Dame Prep to 7-5 overall.

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Northville players and coaches participated with area special-needs students in a Victory Day pregame match.

BOYS LACROSSE

## Novi climbs above .500 mark with win over Howell

Shamrocks topple Cranbrook in Catholic League match-up

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

Anthony Zugaro and Chase Sparling both finished with three goals and one assist to power Novi to an 11-6 boys lacrosse victory Friday at Howell.

The Wildcats, who improved to 7-6 overall, also got scoring efforts from Ian Patterson (two goals, two assists), Scott Latham (two goals, one assist), Luka Saicic (one goal) and Brendan Daschke (one assist).

Goalie Freddie Samson made seven saves to cap off a 2-1 week for Novi.

On May 3, senior Anthony D'Annibale both con-

bale's five goals and one assist went in vain as the host Wildcats fell to 1-3 in the KLAA Kensington Conference following a 13-12 overtime loss to Canton.

Other offensive contributors included Patterson (three goals, one assist), Zugaro (one goal, two assists), Nayan Makim (one goal), Daschke (one goal), Casey Lyons (one goal) and Nick Zamora (one assist).

Samson made seven saves in the setback.

Canton improved to 9-3 overall and 3-1 in the Kensington Conference.

The week started May 1 as the Wildcats defeated host Salem, 13-10, in a Kensington Conference match, with Zugaro sparking the victory with four goals and one assist.

Patterson and D'Annibale both con-

tributed three goals and two assists each, while also chipping in was Daschke (two goals), Makim (one goal, one assist) and Latham (one assist).

Samson made four saves.

The loss dropped the Rocks to 10-5 overall and 1-3 in the Kensington Conference.

**DETROIT CC 15, CRANBROOK 10:** Brennan Kamish finished with six goals and two assists, while brother Joey added a goal and four assists as Novi Detroit Catholic Central (8-3, 4-1) earned a Catholic League victory May 2 at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (6-6, 3-2).

Nick Capatina, Ryan Sullivan and Ethan Pattinson added two goals for the Shamrocks.

"We turned it over a bunch in the first half and found ourselves in a 7-4 hole," CC coach Dave Wilson said. "We played with more enthusiasm the second half and chipped away through the third quarter to pull away."

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Novi's Chase Sparling (left) goes on the attack after winning a face-off against Salem.

CHRISTINE SPARLING



PREP TRACK

# Churchill, Salem are New Balance champs

**Marty Budner**  
hometownlife.com

Livonia Churchill and Plymouth Salem took home top honors at the inaugural New Balance Invitational track and field meet Saturday at Farmington High School.

The Chargers beat back strong challenges from Plymouth, Salem and the host Falcons to win the girls team championship for the second straight season. They were the Observerland titlists last year.

The Rocks boys raced steady throughout the meet and finished with 82 points, placing ahead of Churchill (69) and Garden City (52).

“It was a little bit of a surprise. We came in expecting to win a few individual races and the (3,200) relay,” said Churchill first year head coach Bruce Rivera, an assistant last season. “But all the other girls performed very well and the field events performed as to what they should have.

“It’s always been a team effort all season long across the board and that’s what I’ve been stressing. Just everybody do your job and here we are winning for the second year in a row. It feels real nice.”

Churchill was led by double-winner Gabrielle Swider, who won the 800-meter (2:17.55) and Observerland 1,600-meter (5:13.69) runs. In the 800, Swider swept past second-place Emily Lauzon from Livonia Stevenson (2:22.25) and in the 1,600 she topped Farmington’s Abby Inch (5:19.60).

“I didn’t expect to win at first. I’m kind of new to the mile,” Swider said about her medal-winning performance in the Observerland 1,600 race. “I know Abby (Inch) is a really good runner and I just wanted to try and PR. I was able to keep my stride and keep it going and then, at the end, I left it all out.

“I kind of surprised myself that I won, but I knew I had it in me. I kind of gained confidence through the race. It was a good win for me. It was just my second time racing that event, so I’m pretty happy with it.”

The other Chargers individual winners were Kathleen George in the 3,200-meter run (11:28.46) and Cate Visscher in the pole vault (10-0). Visscher won on fewer misses as Plymouth’s Emily Caragay and Churchill teammate Natalie Yurgil, who placed second and third, respectively, also went 10-0.

Churchill also won the 3,200-meter relay in a time of 9:56.00. Stevenson was second in that event at 10:03.20.

The other field event winners were Salem’s Lyniah Wilson in the shot put (36-9.25), Farmington’s Micayla Martin in the discus (111-9), Farmington’s Morgan Murphy in the high jump (5-2) and Chippewa Valley’s Angelica Floyd in the long jump (17-4.75). Martin was named the female Athlete of the Meet in field events.

## Essian wins 100 hurdles

Wayne Memorials Anavia Battle was the other double-winner for the girls, taking the 100- (11.92) and 200-meter (24.59) dashes. Hartland’s Michella Moraitis won the 400-meter run (59.81), Berkley’s Taylor Rucker won the 300-meter hurdles (47.81) and Salem junior Haven Essian raced across first in the Observerland 100-meter hurdles (14.65).

“It was a pretty intense race for me,” Essian said. “It was a fighting race and I’m surprised I got the time that I did. That was my best time and I got the school record and the Park record (between Salem, Plymouth and Canton), so that felt really good. I felt really anxious, but it was a good race for me.”

Plymouth dominated the other three relays, winning the 400, 800 and 1,600 events.

Salem’s boys were led by double-



TOM BEAUDOIN

Churchill’s Gabby Swider took first in the Observerland 1,600 and the 800 Saturday at the New Balance Invitational at Farmington High School.

winner Mason Phillips, who took the 200-meter dash (22.08) and the long jump (24-1). Salem teammate Alex Howie won the shot put (51-1.25). The Rocks also sprinted to first place in the 400-meter relay in a time of 43.45, edging Garden City, which placed second in 44.57.

“Mason had a great jump to win the long jump. It was one of the top jumps in the history of the state,” said Salem head coach Dale Maskill, whose team is 6-0 in dual meets. “When our guys found out what he did, that really motivated them. We ran really well through sprints and our sprint relays did really well. The field events and sprints carried us today.

“We came in thinking we could be in the conversation to win this meet. We knew if we took care of our business and competed to the best of our abilities, we’d be tough to beat. We thought we would have a good day and, once the field events had a good start, we were able to just keep it rolling.”

Garden City’s Elan Castonguay won the 100-meter dash (11.01), Rochester’s Austin Remick won the Observerland

1,600-meter run (4:27.80) and Brother Rice’s Lukas Mitrius won the Observerland 100-meter hurdles in 16.70.

## Dobar sprints to 800 title

The other track winners included Southfield’s Jimmie Williams in the 400-meter dash (49.98), Churchill senior Dash Dobar in the 800-meter run (2:00.51), Stevenson’s Jack Balint in the 3,200-meter run (9:40.05) and Chippewa Valley’s Marcus Nellum in the 300-meter hurdles (39.27).

“I won this race last year and I was pretty happy to defend my (800) title,” said Dobar, a four-year member of Churchill’s track team. “I had to run the mile beforehand and I was kind of worried I was going to run out of gas and not have enough. But I had a good kick at the end and that was nice.”

U-D Jesuit (800), Southfield (1,600) and Auburn Hills Avondale (3,200) were the other relay winners.

In the field events, the other boys winners were Brother Rice’s Octaveious Miless in the discus (146-4), Garden City’s Ian Tesarz in the pole vault (12-6) and Stevenson’s Ian Knoph



TOM BEAUDOIN

Churchill’s Dash Dobar raced to first place in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:00.51.



TOM BEAUDOIN

Salem’s Mason Phillips was a double-winner at the New Balance Invitational and named the male track Athlete of the Meet.

in the high jump (6-4).

The New Balance Invitational, formerly known as the Observerland Relays, was jointly hosted by Farmington and Plymouth Salem. It included 32 schools from across the Detroit area, 17 of which were from the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown coverage areas.

The participating O&E teams included Birmingham Groves, Bloomfield Hills Marian, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Canton, Catholic Central, Farmington, Garden City, Milford, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Franklin, Plymouth, Plymouth Christian, Redford Thurston, Redford Union, Salem and Wayne Memorial.

PREP TRACK

# Golden Triangle meet proves to be daunting task

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com

It’s called the Golden Triangle Invitational, but the more than 2,000 participants who competed in the prestigious meet Friday at Saline must have felt like they got in the Bermuda Triangle.

“To put it simply, it was a tough day for track and field,” Northville coach Tim Dalton said. “The rain that this area received from Thursday to Friday night made for less than ideal conditions. Multiple teams packed up and left in the middle of the meet. Our kids toughed it out and we had some solid performances. Unfortunately, some of the field events were canceled because of the rain.”

Despite the horrific weather, the Northville girls turned in noteworthy performances, led by Clare McNamara, who was first in the 400-meter run (59.34) and runner-up in the long jump

(16 feet, 11.75 inches).

The freshman also teamed with Yasmine Affes, Savannah Manley and Erin McCallum for second in the 800 relay (1:48.16). The foursome of Manley, Claire Wan, Affes and McNamara was third in the 1,600 relay (4:13.22).

Northville’s 3,200 relay team of Ana Barrott, Emily Assemany, Olivia Harp and Cayla Eckenroth took second (9:45.80).

Other top eight individual finishers for the Mustangs included Affes, fourth, 200 (26.84); sixth, 400 (1:01.66); McCallum, sixth, long jump (15-6.5); and Abby Dunn, seventh, 300 hurdles (51.05).

The Mustangs also took fourth in the distance medley as Katie Chevoor, Emilie Chen, Taylor Gattoni and Emma Smith clocked 13:50.83. The 400 relay team of Daryn Lobingier, Emily Anderson, Lauren Marshall and McCallum placed seventh (54.82).

Meanwhile, Novi’s top finisher was

Emma Hammelef, who took fourth in the shot put (32-8).

On the boys side, Novi’s Gabe Mudel took runner-up honors in a loaded 3,200 run field, clocking a 9:18.12, while teammates Nathan Hankerson (100, 11.91) and Nathaniel Wood (800, 2:00.24) both took seventh.

Other top individual finishers for Northville included Ja’Quan Crawford, who took seventh in the shot put (39-6) and Patrick Long, eighth in the shot put (36-10.25).

Northville’s 3,200 relay team of Ben Cracraft, Evan Ferrante, Jacob Blackmore and Nicholas Couyoumjian took fourth (8:26.62). The Mustangs’ 400 relay team of Andrew Hezemy, Enzo Rodriguez, Brandon Kearney and Benair Covington placed sixth (46.67).

Northville’s 800 relay team of Connor Bragg, Demetri Zervos, Nolan Knight and Covington was seventh (1:39.75).

In a loaded 3,200 field, Cracraft took

13th overall (9:33.55), with Ann Arbor Pioneer’s Nick Foster taking first (9:17.76).

## New Balance meet

On Saturday, Novi Detroit Catholic Central took 10th in the 19-school boys field at the New Balance Invitational held at Farmington High.

Salem edged Livonia Churchill for the team title, 60-57.5, while Southfield was third with 51.

The Shamrocks’ top performer was Ty Buckley, who took second in the 3,200 run (9:40.18).

Chris Bradbury was sixth in the shot put (46-0), while teammate Ryan Woebkenberg was sixth in the discus (132-1).

The Shamrocks took fifth in the 800 and 1,600 relays with times of 1:34.82 and 3:37.31, respectively. CC’s 3,200 relay was sixth in 8:41.17.

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# Are Millennials getting a bad rap?



Millennials may not be in as bad of shape on investing as some surveys show. Nearly 65% say they are “positive about their financial future,” a BlackRock study found. GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

## Image of a stock-leery generation might not tell the whole story

ADAM SHELL  
USA TODAY

Millennials are falling short when it comes to investing for the future, surveys show.

But what this generation says in surveys, and what it does, are very different.

Fidelity Investments says Millennials are opening and funding IRA accounts at a faster rate than earlier generations. TD Ameritrade says they now account for up to 40% of new accounts.

Millennials, it turns out, care more about their finances than their survey responses suggest. The ones that do invest are buying stocks and investing in funds just like Baby Boomers have done for decades.

In short, they may not be in as bad shape as feared.

Nearly 65% say they are “positive about their financial future,” a BlackRock study found. And despite talk of them preferring to spend money on experiences rather than put it away in a 401(k) or IRA, more than 60% say they are “saving for retirement,” according to a just-released financial literacy survey from Stash, a financial app.

“What we have here is a classic mismatch between perception and reality,” Merrill Lynch’s Private Banking and Investment Group concluded in a report titled “Millennials and Money.”

Data from the Investment Company Institute, a trade group for mutual, exchange-traded and other funds, also debunks the idea that Millennials are way behind in investing compared with where Baby Boomers were at a similar stage in life.

Households headed by Millennials made their first mutual fund purchase at the median age of 23, compared with Baby Boomers who didn’t buy their first funds until they were in their 30s,

### Tips to get over anxiety of investing

- » **START SOONER, NOT LATER.** Saving for tomorrow has to start today. Putting it off means you will have to sock away more cash later to make up for lost time. Getting started often is the hardest part.
- » **JOIN THE PLAN.** That 401(k) plan offered at work is your entree to investing. Opt in, not out. Have a few dollars taken out of your check each pay period and invest in a target-date fund.
- » **CONQUER YOUR FEAR.** Sure, the stock market is confusing and scary at times. But you can’t take advantage of rising markets with your money sitting at the local bank in a savings account earning 0%.
- » **FREE UP SOME CASH.** If you need to sacrifice and live a more frugal lifestyle to boost your 401(k) savings, do it.
- » **IMAGINE YOUR FUTURE SELF.** The study found that people who saw digital images of what they might look like 30 years in the future said they would double the amount of money they put away for retirement.

an ICI survey released in October found.

Similarly, 59% of Millennials say they started saving for retirement before they were 25, compared with 28% of Boomers, according to American Funds’ study released last fall titled “Wisdom of Experience: Lessons learned from Millennial, Generation X and Baby Boomer Investors.”

Millennials can thank their employers for turning them on to stocks and introducing them to 401(k)s.

“Many Millennials are introduced to investing at work,” says Sarah Holden, senior director of retirement and investor research at ICI. She adds that 35% of Millennial households already own mutual funds vs. 48% of Baby Boomers.

And most investors in their 20s (60.4% at the end of 2014) are invested in target-date retirement funds through plans at work, the ICI says.

These funds, which often are the default option in 401(k) plans with automatic enrollment, are broadly diversified among stocks, bonds and other

assets. The beauty of these funds is the younger an investor is, the higher the allocation to stocks. Millennials also benefit from regular investments into these funds through payroll deductions.

This new investment option gives Millennials a built-in advantage over their parents. Years ago, the decision of what funds to invest in and how much of a portfolio should be devoted to stocks or bonds was up to the individual investor.

“The Millennial investor is significantly better off investing today as a new entrant to the workforce than workers 30 years ago,” says Francis Kinniry, principal in Vanguard Investment Strategy Group.

Millennials have to be do-it-yourself investors. Unlike their parents, most don’t receive company pensions from their employers that pay them a lump sum or monthly stipend in retirement. Only 5% of Fortune 500 companies offer so-called defined benefit plans, down from nearly 50% in 1998, according to benefits consultant Willis Towers Watson. Nearly all of them offer 401(k)

plans.

This young generation of investors, despite claiming in surveys that they are risk averse, will also dive into stocks they know a lot about, such as Facebook and newly public Snap, known for its popular photo sharing app Snapchat. They also put money into low-cost exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, which track broad stock indexes such as the Standard & Poor’s 500.

BlackRock says 33% of Millennials now invest in ETFs, more than Baby Boomers and Gen Xers. They’re also opening accounts with brokers that offer low fees, low minimum investment requirements and the ability to monitor and trade using their smartphones and other gadgets.

When Snap first sold shares to the public March 2, Millennials accounted for 38% of the buy-and-sell activity online and via smartphones at Stockpile, a fin-tech firm that pioneered the use of gift cards to buy stock and caters to young investors (60% of its customer base is under 30). On Snap’s IPO day, Stockpile saw 10 times its normal daily sales.

“There is something in their DNA that makes them want to own what they know and love,” Stockpile CEO Avi Lele says. “It told us that young people know what it means to own stock. They weren’t buying a pack of bubble gum, they were buying part of a company, and they knew what it meant.”

Adds Stash CEO Brandon Kreig: “Millennials are everyone. They are Uber drivers. Engineers. Workers at BestBuy. People in the military. They want to invest, but many just don’t understand. Many have no idea you don’t have to be rich to invest. It’s about financial education. Young people don’t need to be scared of investing. They just have to start.”

“The Millennial investor is significantly better off investing today as a new entrant to the workforce than workers 30 years ago.”

FRANCIS KINNIRY  
VANGUARD INVESTMENT STRATEGY GROUP







# MOSS BUSTERS

How to encourage a healthy lawn that will  
deter the growth of this plush plant

KYM POKORNY  
SPECIAL TO THE STATESMAN JOURNAL

During a rainier-than-usual winter and spring, moss eagerly invaded lawns and made itself at home. The plush, low-lying plant doesn't get many neutral reactions. People either love it or hate it. Probably more fall on the hate-it side of the fence when it lands in their lawns. That's why Alec Kowalewski, turfgrass expert for Oregon State University Extension Service, gets so many questions about how to get rid of the flowerless plant that dates to ancient times.

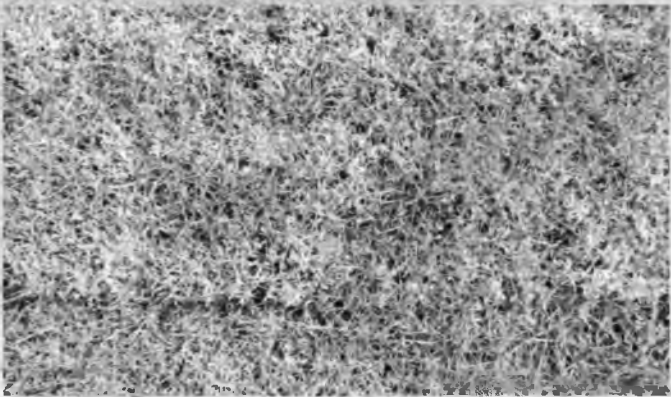
Before he gets into the answers, Kowalewski breaks some hearts. "People have the idea that if they put product down to control it then that's the end of the story," he said. "There's a misconception that once moss is killed, it won't come back. But it will if you don't change the environment."

Moss thrives in moist, shady situations on compacted soil, common conditions in the western areas of Oregon. When lawn isn't maintained properly, moss moves in. "Moss is like a lot of weeds," Kowalewski said. "It will do well in tough situations and doesn't need as much nutrients as lawn does."

Keeping a nice, dense stand of grass will keep moss at bay. To do that, two things must change: soil drainage and too much shade. Grass doesn't grow well when the soil is compacted and air and water can't get to the roots. And no matter how many different types of grasses you try, they won't succeed in shady areas.

"Trees and grass don't do well together," Kowalewski said. "By changing the environment, you can establish a healthy lawn."

The only solution is to thin or take out trees. Once that's done, concentrate on the soil. First get the moss



OSU EXTENSION SERVICE  
Moss will continue to invade lawn unless preventative measures are taken.

out. The easiest way to do that is by renting a dethatcher and running it over the lawn. Then rake up the moss down to bare soil. Moss roots are very shallow so it doesn't take much effort. If you don't want to rent a dethatcher, try using just the rake.

If the soil is compacted, use an aerator — also available at rental shops — to open it up. Usually that isn't necessary except in high traffic areas, Kowalewski said. In fact, he's never aerated his perennial ryegrass lawn, which is what most people have in their yards.

"After removing the moss, you want to make sure you replace the area with sod or grass seed if you want to turn it back into lawn," he said. "Spring until Memorial Day is a great time to do this as we enter into the sunnier, warmer time of year and moss growth slows down."

See MOSS, Page 9B

## Iris beauty continues to attract gardeners

CAROL REESE  
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Do you frown when someone uses the Latin name for plants? Are you okay with the names hydrangea, zinnia, magnolia or sassafras? These are the Latin names for those plants and proves there is nothing intrinsically difficult about Latin. No one seems to be upset if the word robust is used to describe something vigorous — two different words to describe exactly the same thing, so I'm puzzled.

Perhaps the real issue with using the Latin name will be clear to me one day, but in the meantime, did you know that the Latin name for iris is *Iris*? *Iris* describes the genus and then we are back in complicated land, where there are between 260 to 300 species of iris, depending on the taxonomist. Some see differences that have them believe a plant is an entirely different species,

while others say the differences are of no consequence. In taxonomy circles, these people are described as lumpers or splitters, and they can be found in all fields, from fish to birds.

Most of us think first of tall bearded iris. These stately flowers were part of the yard or our grandparents' yards from our first memories of spring. I'd like to give you the full Latin name for this group, but their popularity generated intensive breeding efforts over the centuries that continue today, and it is likely impossible to say for sure which, or even how many, species of iris were used to create the many spectacular cultivars.

Spectacular is not an exaggeration. A bearded iris displays one of the most architecturally interesting flowers in the garden, with its three broad up-lifted petals known as standards, and

See IRIS, Page 9B



PHOTO COURTESY CAROL REESE  
The native dwarf crested iris graces our West Tennessee woodlands each spring.



HEALTH

# Adoption can be as arduous as a pregnancy

## Couple tried different methods before finally becoming parents

ASHLEY MAY  
USA TODAY

There was a time that Lindy and Thomas Davies talked about having five children. For the Mormon couple from Richmond, Va., having kids seemed like the obvious next step after marriage.

“We believe that families are eternal,” Lindy said.

But the Davies’ desire to have children became a painful waiting game that lasted far beyond nine months.

After trying to conceive naturally, an intrauterine insemination (IUI), four rounds of in vitro fertilization and adoption dead-ends, they weren’t sure they’d ever become parents.

“There does come a point where you wonder if you can go forward with this process,” Lindy said.

Failed natural conception wasn’t a surprise.

“There was always an assumption this would be the case,” Thomas said.

About one in eight married couples experience infertility, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data. Before Lindy and Thomas married, a doctor told Thomas it was likely he couldn’t father children. He prepared Lindy for that reality before they wed, and she said she was willing to explore other options if necessary.

When IUI failed, IVF was their next step. They were hopeful when they chose a sperm donor who was “getting everyone else pregnant,” Lindy said.

Friends and family largely supported their decision.

While Mormons “strongly discourage” the use of surrogate parents or using eggs or sperm from anyone but the husband or wife, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints spokesman Eric Hawkins said judgment is ultimately left to the couple.

That was Lindy’s last chance at carrying a child.

“The doctors were standing over me,” Lindy said. “They were shooting to have at least 20 to 30 eggs, and I only produced five.”

“Through the curtain next door, there was another lady who was just waking up, too,” Thomas said. “The



Lindy and Thomas Davies saw their dreams of parenthood come true with their son, Grayson.

JARRAD HENDERSON, USA TODAY



Visit [infertility.usatoday.com](http://infertility.usatoday.com) to learn more about the couples and to share your experiences.

doctor said (to the other woman), ‘Oh, you only had 50.’ She was so disappointed.”

Lindy went through four rounds of in vitro fertilization.

On the last try, Lindy became pregnant. Not even two months later, she miscarried.

“It was heartbreaking,” she said. “I was sad. I was mad. I was upset, really.”

“The psychological impact of infertility ... is extremely profound,” said Alice Domar, director of integrative care at Boston IVF. “In fact, women with infertility have the same level of anxiety and depression as do women with cancer, HIV-positive status or heart disease.”

The fertility treatments weren’t working and they wreaked havoc on Lindy’s body.

The couple decided to adopt. Not having children wasn’t an option. “We weren’t concerned about the methods. ... As long as we could end up with a child, we were comfortable with all the pathways,” Thomas said.

Adopting a healthy infant usually takes two to seven years, according to the National Adoption Center.

Couples often must undergo a background check, home inspection and physicals — even the Davies’ dog had to get a physical. Requirements differ by state.

To save money, they started an account with Adoption.com rather than working through an agency, so expectant mothers could contact them directly.

“Adoption.com is like a giant Facebook profile,” Thomas said.

“We got scammed twice before we were able to adopt Grayson,” Lindy said.

After nearly three years trying to adopt, the Davies met with a mother in Tennessee to finalize the adoption of a baby boy. But even after Lindy and Thomas were holding the newborn, they had to wait 14 days to be sure the adoption was final.

“You want to believe with all your heart this is your baby, but ... you just don’t know,” Lindy said.

The adoption did go through, and Lindy and Thomas’ dream of becoming parents finally began with their son, Grayson.



PHOTO COURTESY CAROL REESE

Cultivars can be extravagantly colored.

## Iris

Continued from Page 8B

the three downward curving petals known as falls. Upon these falls rests the yellow-orange furry “beards” which are actually clusters of anthers — the male parts, bristling with pollen.

The color range is astounding, from pastel to deeply hued. Sometimes the falls are a different color than the standards, and can be complementary or contrasting. Others are wildly ruffled, and most all breathe an intoxicating fra-

grance.

This group likes sun and good drainage, but there are other species that thrive in constantly damp soils, and can be used in pond margins or rain gardens, such as the yellow flags or Louisiana iris. All cultivated iris seem to like being divided on occasion, which goes well with sharing — so many of us may have a garden iris that belonged to a friend or to granddaddy.

*Carol Reese is ornamental horticulture specialist for the Western District of the University of Tennessee Extension Service.*



PHOTO COURTESY CAROL REESE

A variegated iris pallida is used to create a whimsical Mohawk in this head pot.

## Moss

Continued from Page 8B

A fertilizing regiment should start now, too. Using an all-purpose lawn fertilizer rather than just nitrogen is the easiest way to go. Grass likes lots of nitrogen (the N on the front of the bag), but don’t feed it only nitrogen. Like all plants, it wants the full spectrum of nutrients. The goal for fertilizing is to apply the least amount needed. The newer the lawn, the more fertilizer needed. Apply 1 pound of actual nitrogen four to six times a year in spring and fall.

It could be that the grass needs a higher pH. At very low levels, nutrients become less available to the plants and soil elements like aluminum can become toxic. Moss can handle that situation; grass can’t. Don’t just assume lime is needed. Before doing anything, test the soil, Kowalewski said. There are inexpensive test kits available at garden centers and online.

If the pH is down around 5, go ahead with a lime application. Use about 25 pounds per 1,000 square feet in the spring and another 25 pounds in fall. Buying from a farm store is less expensive than other sources. After you have ap-

plied lime take another soil test three to five years later to determine if the acidic conditions have returned over time.

Though it may seem counterintuitive, irrigation is essential for controlling moss. Why? Because you can’t have a lush lawn without it. And vigorous grass will outcompete moss.

Recommendations for watering have changed, Kowalewski said. Research now shows that instead of 1 inch of water once a week, lawns should be irrigated several times a week for a total of 1 inch. Apply about ¼ to ½ inch three to four times a week. During intense heat, water

even more often — up to five times a week — but not any more than ¼ inch in one application. Measure with a rain gauge, plastic cup or tuna can.

Mowing correctly helps keep lawns healthy. Kowalewski advises mowing once a week and don’t take more than a third of the length off at once.

But back to moss. If you want to use a product to control moss, there are several available. Kowalewski recommends sulfate products such as ferrous sulfate, iron sulfate and ammonium sulfate. These are environmentally friendly options, he said. Apply by spot treating as soon as moss appears.

Sulfur products such as these will lower the soil pH, making conditions acidic. An occasional application of lime, which will raise the pH, is recommended when you are making frequent sulfur applications. Again, test soil pH before applying lime.

If you decide to use a chemical herbicide, Kowalewski recommended that gardeners choose products with soap of fatty acid or carfentrazone as an active ingredient. Read labels and follow all safety precautions when using pesticides. Remember, though, even using herbicides to kill moss won’t keep it from returning.



# Area teen launches country music career

**Brad Kadrich**  
hometownlife.com

Shane Decker likes the song Canton's Grace Rembinski released late last month for a lot of reasons: Her voice, her composure, the lyrics, her potential and her talent.

But regardless of how the song does commercially, Decker believes in it for one big reason: It's going to save lives. Rembinski, a 13-year-old Discovery Middle School eighth-grader, released "I Want You to Know," an anti-bullying anthem that showcases her voice and was born out of bullying she and other friends have endured.

Decker, the creative director for Mucho Love Music in Nashville who co-wrote the song with Rembinski and Mucho Love writer Mark McGuinn, believes in the song and he believes in Rembinski.

"I think people need to hear this song," Decker said. "A song like this could save a kid's life. If you can do that ... it has nothing to do with money or fame or getting on the Billboard charts. This song could save a life. I think (Grace) has a big future."

They've known that locally for the last couple of years. Her biggest local success came two years ago, in an event her own choir teacher initially discouraged her from entering. When Rembinski, than all of 11 years old, saw her teacher distributing fliers for the Canton Idol competition in 2015, she asked about it. According to Rembinski, the teacher told her that, at that point in her development, she was too young and "not quite there" to compete.

Rembinski, then a sixth-grader, disregarded the advice, entered the competition — and won it.

### Idol momentum

Since then, Rembinski has become a pretty popular presence at local events, concerts, etc. She plays events in Wixom, she's played the concert series in Plymouth's



BRAD KADRICH  
**Budding singer/songwriter Grace Rembinski (right, with mom Jill) recently released her first single "I Want You to Know."**

Kellogg Park and she's been the entertainment at a couple of events hosted by the Canton Partnership for the Arts & Humanities.

"It is so fun," she said. "I love singing for other people, because it makes them happy. I love seeing their reactions."

She's been doing it a long time. Her mom (and manager) Jill once heard Johnny Cash's "Jackson" coming from Grace's room. She hollered at her daughter to "turn that down."

"She hollered right back, 'Mom, it's me,'" Jill said. "So she's been performing for a long time."

It was the Canton Idol performance that eventually triggered the latest steps in Rembinski's musical growth.

Seems a friend of the family has a brother who works for Mucho Love. The brother saw a cover Rembinski did of Sarah McLachlan's "Angel" on YouTube, and a career was born. One day, the phone rang and it was Decker, the creative director of Mucho Love Music.

"Shane called and said, 'We'd like to meet Grace,'" Jill Rembinski said. "We spent a year talking about what Grace wanted. They then decided they wanted to hear more about Grace."

Those year-long discussions resulted in Grace co-writing "I Want You to Know" with Decker and McGuinn. They recorded the song in

February and released it last month.

### Passion topic

Decker said the song came out of a brainstorming session with Grace. He asked her what she was passionate about and she talked about the bullying she and at least one other friend had suffered. She said the bullying got so bad for one gay friend — "He's made fun of constantly," she said — that "it drove him to try to take his life once."

"I thought about how (bullying) made me feel, like I wasn't good enough," Grace said. "I just came to a point where I thought, 'Be myself.'"

Decker remembers the talks the trio had about what Grace wanted to write. They "threw around a bunch of ideas" and the bullying idea resonated, particularly with parents Decker (one son) and McGuinn (two children).

"I talked with (Grace) a while and she brought up this bully idea," Decker said. "(McGuinn) and I were very aware of it and we thought that was something we could write about."

Decker said that, even at such a young age, Grace has the traits to make it as an artist. She's got "a little something different, an edge" needed in the business, he said. She has inflections in her voice "you can't learn, you either have them or you don't and she can already control it."

Decker said that while Grace's main taste leans to country, she can sing any kind of genre. It's something her vocal coach, BeckRidge Choral musical director Michael Gross, has been trying to teach her. Gross said Grace's willingness to not only to listen to, but to learn from, artists from a variety of genres is a key to her success.

"Country is a thing for her, but I've been able to get her to look at old standards," Gross said. "She absorbs something from everyone she listens to. She takes something away from them. Not everybody can do



Canton's Grace Rembinski hopes one day to be on the inside at the Grand Ole Opry.

that."

### Slow pace

Grace seems to have a promising career, but it's a career no one is eager to rush. Mucho Love signed Grace to a single-song contract, put her in the studio and "did some simple tracks," Decker said. "I want it to be very angelic, a little 'less is more.' I wanted the words to be heard and not have this big symphony of music behind it. I wanted her voice to stand out."

Gross wants Grace — one of three kids (21-year-old Abigail and 11-year-old D.J.) of Jill and Daryl Rembinski — to experience a variety of artists, expose her to old standards like Ella Fitzgerald and others and not necessarily get trapped into making contemporary music. "Young people hear enough of today's crap," Gross said.

"I want her to have a sense of where music comes from. I want her to experience the history: 'Here are some voices to listen to ... now let's find your voice.'"

Decker said much the same thing, pointing out Grace needs to continue to write songs "that are relevant to her life and her age group."

"That should come naturally," Decker said. "She's a wonderfully talented girl, she's sweet and smart, her parents are salt of the Earth and they believe in her dreams, which is great."

"I respect her parents a lot," he added. "If you're going to dream and not chase those dreams, why dream at all?"

Mucho Love's willingness to plot out a long-term strategy for Grace was one of the things that Jill Rembinski liked about how the label want-

ed to handle her daughter. She's filled with praise for Mucho Love and, particularly, for Decker.

"They said it takes a while for things to pick up," Jill said. "They're going to give this some time to build. They want to take their time because of her age."

Grace is OK with the pace Decker wants to set for whatever career she builds. For now, she's just getting used to the attention. Her music is available in all the usual places — Spotify, Google Play and iTunes — and she even has her own YouTube channel.

"I've always thought it would be amazing (to do records)," Grace said. "I didn't think it would happen, but it did and it's amazing."

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## Bill would allow candidates to solicit big money

**Kathleen Gray**  
Detroit Free Press

Candidates in Michigan would be able to skirt campaign-finance limits under a bill approved today by the Senate Elections committee.

Under the bill, candi-

dates could solicit unlimited contributions to independent expenditure committees or super PACs, which could then use the money to support the candidate's aspirations.

Supporters say the measure simply codifies

the federal Citizens' United decision into state law. In 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned a ban on unlimited contributions by corporations and unions into political campaigns, saying it was a violation of the First Amendment

right to free speech. As a result, super PACs fueled with millions in donations have blossomed across the country to try to influence elections.

"Michigan has a long history of codifying court rulings to keep our campaign-finance law current," said Bob LaBrant, general counsel for the Sterling Corp. and a former executive with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

But Craig Mauger, director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, said the bill allows candidates to skirt campaign-finance contribution limits that cap individual donations to a candidate at \$6,800. He also said a federal ruling after Citizens United was decided said the solicitation by candidates to super PACs should be limited to \$5,000.

"We have campaign contribution limits for a reason" — to lessen the influence of money in the electoral system, Mauger said. "And this bill is a way for a candidate to easily circumvent that."

The bill — SB 335 — now moves to the full Senate for consideration.

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## How soft skills can set you apart

 BY SARAH SIPEK  
 CAREERBUILDER

It's true that technical skills — or hard skills — are essential qualifications for a job, but they're not the full story. Contrary to technical skills that focus on what you know, soft skills focus on how you interact with others. They are loosely defined as transferable skills, interpersonal skills or social skills. They are often multifaceted, but at the end of the day they build relationships — and in business, relationships are key to success. Here are a few soft skills employers identify as most important — and most likely to get you ahead at your job.

### Communication

It may seem overstated, but the ability to communicate with colleagues sets you apart in the workplace, says Karen Russo, president of K. Russo Consulting. "Companies are not looking for 'yes' people," says Russo. "But they are looking for people who can make things happen that usually take a team, not just one person."

Communicating is about more than just being personable and outgoing. It's about bringing up the right points at the right time. It is the end result of many other soft skills — most important of which is critical observation. "Objectivity and divergent thinking — along with good communication — is what will allow you to stand out from the crowd in a good way," says Russo.

### Ability to handle criticism

Giving and receiving criticism in a helpful, ego-less way sets you apart,



GETTY IMAGES

says Leslie Garr, a certified professional resume writer. You are not always going to perform perfectly. In order to grow within an organization, you need to have the ability to hold an open and honest dialogue about your strengths and weaknesses.

"Being able to self-reflect and grow as a professional through constructive criticism is a great way to impress any employer," says Garr. And when you're receiving criticism, body language is key. Refrain from crossing your arms or slumping your shoulders, says Garr. Avoid accidental eye rolls as well. These behaviors imply you are not a willing participant in the professional development process.

### Attention to detail

Accomplishments are great, but soft skills are how those accomplishments come to fruition, says Jessica

Holbrook Hernandez, an executive resume writer and president and CEO of Great Resumes Fast.

For example, when adding bullet points to your resume, go beyond the "what" and explain the "how." If you recovered \$1 million in lost revenue, don't assume the number alone will distinguish your efforts. Hernandez suggests you write: "Recovered \$1 million in lost revenue through attention to detail and meticulous review of 750 client accounts," to highlight the soft skills you used to accomplish that goal.

"As an employer, I can tell you that the employees I consider first when a promotion opportunity presents itself are those who are attentive to detail, take initiative to solve problems and are committed and invested into the success of the clients we work with and the company," she says.

### Positive attitude

When disaster strikes, people who radiate positive energy and search for solutions rather than dwell on the technical details of the problem come out ahead when the problem is solved, says Valerie Streif, a senior adviser with thementat.com, a San Francisco-based staffing agency. "People who lack this soft skill tend to overanalyze all the reasons why something bad happened, rather than moving forward and doing everything that they can to mitigate and get things back up and running smoothly," says Streif.

Issues will always arise at work, but the ability to handle them with grace and composure shows your boss you have leadership potential.

### Time management

It seems cliché, but the ability to divide your time and complete projects on-time is an in-demand skill among employers. Not only will meeting deadlines help your company achieve its goals, it will also set you apart as reliable, says Jan Yager, sociologist and author. People who have a strong understanding of what needs to get done and how long it will take to complete often excel at securing raises and promotions because they demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the company's mission and work to fulfill it, says Streif.

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

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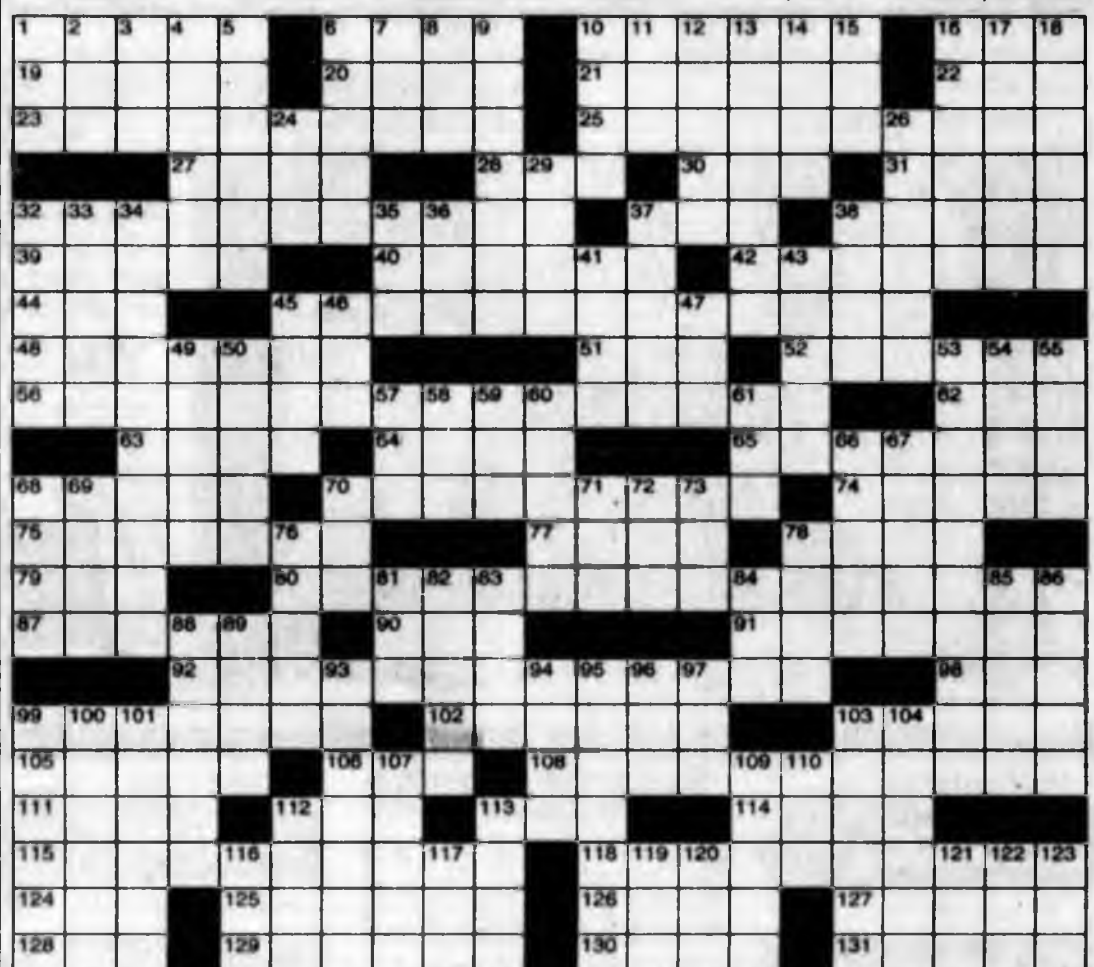
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## THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Green sauce
  - 6 Personal bearing
  - 10 Like joined oxen
  - 16 Kiwi cousin
  - 19 Bottled water brand
  - 20 — Reader (eclectic digest)
  - 21 Veep of Bill Clinton
  - 22 Diesel of the screen
  - 23 Having flawless hearing?
  - 25 Random sampling of people's views on steering-system parts?
  - 27 RBI or HR
  - 28 Letter #26
  - 30 Letter #19
  - 31 Fanning of "Super 8"
  - 32 Thinking like a bowman?
  - 37 MA hours
  - 38 Roof parts
  - 39 Form of bingo
  - 40 Nab
  - 42 Ones making engravings
  - 44 Actress Sheridan
  - 45 Winslet
  - 64 Co. bigwig
  - 65 Making a cozy home
  - 68 Broken down
  - 70 Adorably decorated corner?
  - 74 Policy pedants
  - 78 Slid by
  - 77 Rakish type
  - 79 Harsh review
  - 80 Thrilled to have tied the knot?
  - 87 "La Gloria" painter
  - 90 '60s war
  - 91 Sleeping site
  - 92 Assistant
  - 93 who's out of practice?
  - 98 Bouquets-to-order co.
  - 99 Like — business
  - 102 Privileged classes
  - 103 100-clam bill
  - 105 Like she's shawls
  - 106 That girl's
  - 108 Skyline with lots of chimney tops?
  - 111 Salmon type game?
  - 112 Kenny G plays it
  - 113 Tease, e.g.
  - 114 Thing
  - 118 Vast territory ruled over by Muscat's land?
  - 118 Apt word spelled by this puzzle's deleted first letters
  - 124 Luau gift
  - 125 Reacted to a 5-Down
  - 126 They may cross blvds.
  - 127 Tossup
  - 128 Canon line
  - 129 Flight at night
  - 130 Godive, e.g.
  - 131 Brims
  - DOWN**
  - 1 Letter #16
  - 2 LaRue or Longoria
  - 3 Camelot title
  - 4 Hits lightly
  - 5 Double blow
  - 6 Girls "divvies"
  - 7 Ending with krypton
  - 8 Lit. add-in
  - 9 Rival of AOL or EarthLink
  - 10 Tailoring aid
  - 11 Yale moniker
  - 12 Dancer de Mille
  - 13 Wet a little
  - 14 God of love
  - 15 Animal's lair
  - 16 Change over
  - 17 Bandleader Glenn
  - 18 Except if
  - 24 Male bighorn
  - 26 Female pheasant
  - 29 Praline spot
  - 32 Embarrass
  - 33 Zellweger or Richards
  - 34 Became very widespread
  - 35 Revolver
  - 36 "Dr." with Grammys
  - 37 Prefix with botany
  - 38 Cato's "Lol"
  - 41 Rouse
  - 43 Spanish diacritic
  - 45 "Ol' Men River" writer
  - 46 "— said before ..."
  - 47 Post-ER site
  - 48 Woffed down
  - 50 Fan fuels
  - 53 L. Frank Baum book
  - 54 Race that's about 6.2 mi. long
  - 55 Greedy sorts
  - 57 Modern, in German
  - 58 Alternative to doc
  - 59 Te- —
  - 60 GIF greeting, maybe
  - 61 AR-to-IL dir.
  - 66 Saber, e.g.
  - 67 Surface- — missile
  - 68 Didn't spoil
  - 69 Jal- —
  - 70 Half of CM
  - 71 — Hill, San Francisco
  - 72 Fellow
  - 73 Sci-fi writer Stanislaw
  - 78 Little-bitty
  - 78 Hard slog
  - 81 One or more
  - 82 Gun to stun
  - 83 Nolde of graphic art
  - 84 #1 Jackson
  - 85 5 hit
  - 85 Liked
  - 86 German port
  - 88 Kind of patch
  - 89 German car
  - 89 Like some Tetris pieces
  - 94 Opera queen
  - 95 Perpetual
  - 96 Baseball's Griffey
  - 97 Suffix with solo
  - 98 Daughter of Lionel Richie
  - 100 Cry from Juliet
  - 101 Some believers in God
  - 103 Pants fold
  - 104 Skilled hunter in Genesis
  - 107 Banish
  - 109 — ft. (lantrum)
  - 110 Mel the Giant
  - 112 Henchman of Hook
  - 113 Give up
  - 118 Gool
  - 117 Actor Alejandro
  - 119 Eggs in a fertility clinic
  - 120 Neighbor of TV's Homer
  - 121 Pull
  - 122 Ending with Vietnam
  - 123 Apt., for one



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

## SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

### WORDS

ASH  
BACKYARD  
BARBECUE  
BARK  
BASTE  
BRINE  
BRIQUETTE  
BRISKET  
BURGERS  
CHARCOAL  
CHICKEN  
COOKOUT  
DIRECT  
FLAME  
FRANKFURTERS  
GRILLING  
HARDWOOD  
HEAT  
HICKORY  
MESQUITE  
MUSTARD  
OUTDOORS  
PARK  
PATIO  
PICNIC  
PROPANE  
RENDERING  
REST  
RIBS  
RUB  
SEAFOOD  
SMOKE  
SMOKER  
SOCIALIZE  
TEMPERATURE  
THERMOMETER

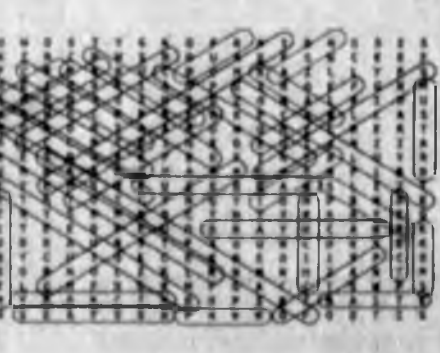
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE



Crossword Answers

Word Search Answers





## Car Report

# 'WHEN PIGS FLY': CHRYSLER REVOLUTIONIZES MINIVAN SEGMENT WITH PACIFICA, INCLUDING NEW HYBRID VERSION



By Dale Buss

Among the new things going right at Fiat Chrysler Automotive is the reception for the company's risky bid to revive the minivan segment it invented. The new Chrysler

Pacifica minivan has been greeted with decent sales numbers and lots of third-party accolades.

And maybe even more important for the long term, the new Pacifica Hybrid — the first hybrid in the minivan category — is taking its own star turn. Waymo, the auto business affiliated with Google, fingered the vehicle for the first public testing of its self-driving technology and just recently upped its commitment, to use 500 more Pacifica Hybrid units in addition to the previously delivered 100 minivans modified for the self-driving tests.

Now FCA is pushing the



The Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid avoids a collision — as pigs fly.

promotional pedal with its first video advertising for Pacifica Hybrid, titled "Flying Pigs." The idea is that only when pigs fly — as they do in the commercial — would any automaker be able to offer everything in one package that the Pacifica Hybrid does. In the spot, best-in-class cargo volume and forward collision warning are highlighted features, as well as the vehicle's fuel-economy chops.

In case you miss the point of an airborne porcine herd, in the spot hell

also freezes over. And the 60-minute commercial ends with an appearance by a blue moon. The spot is framed by graphic touches that make it seem like a story from a fairy-tale book. And for some reason, the voiceover at the end has an Aussie accent.

FCA is boasting the uniqueness of a Pacifica Hybrid that offers 84 miles per gallon equivalent in electric-only mode, a smartphone app that delivers relevant information such as charge status and charging-station locations, and an "efficiency coach" for more fuel-conscious driving, in addition to features that Pacifica touts across its line including its panoramic sunroof, an advanced rear-seat entertainment platform and the patented onboard vacuum cleaner.

As the Pacifica Hybrid arrives in dealerships, "Consumers no longer will have to say they'll believe it when they see it," said Tim Kuniskis, head of passenger car brands for FCA North America, in a press release.

Olivier Francois, FCA's chief marketing officer, added that the brand's story of "minivan firsts" now "requires a very specific message — one that speaks to two very distinct

audiences," parents and children, he said in the release. The spot's storytelling approach highlights "segment-first features that are almost unbelievable and will appeal to adults and kids alike."

Of course, while Pacifica Hybrid's total range is 566 miles, its electric-only range is only 33 miles — far short of the kind of battery-powered ranges for new all-electric vehicles such as the Chevrolet Bolt and upcoming Tesla Model 3.

Still, the notion of the first minivan with this sort of green credibility is likely to appeal to many of the millions of American millennials who are raising broods now and entering the era of minivan feasibility in their lives. It also may help Pacifica Hybrid that a flood of new electric vehicles in various forms — conventional hybrids such as Pacifica, plug-in hybrids and all-electric nameplates — has begun flooding the U.S. market, serving to further normalize electric power even as low gasoline prices and the rise of SUV and truck segments serve as contra-indicators.

In any event, fielding the segment's first hybrid is yet another way to bust out Pacifica from generational negative perceptions of the segment.

From the beginning of the launch of the Pacifica line early last year, Francois has tried to find ways to help the newest Chrysler minivan nameplate break some of the segment-strangling conventions of old. He has highlighted its groundbreaking rear styling, for instance, and used a launch campaign starring comedian Jim Gaffigan to attempt to cast Pacifica as something more than just a traditional minivan for soccer moms.

So far, so good: Pacifica sales in March were its best month so far this year, at more than 9,000 units, placing the nameplate already squarely in the middle of the company-wide vehicle lineup in sales volume, even at this early stage. And Pacifica continues to rake in evaluator endorsements from the likes of Kelley Blue Book, Popular Mechanics and the New York Daily News.



It's hard to beat Pacifica for spaciousness.



Pacifica's rear styling is one of its groundbreaking features for the segment.

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NOVI, Huge Sale, 44489 Midway Dr., N. off 9, bwn Taff & Novi Rd. Follow Signs, Thurs-Sat, May 11-13, 8:30-5pm

Novi Sub Garage Sales, 9 Mile & Center St, 5/18-5/21 Thur-Sat: 9-4, FREE Items avail

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**Just In Time for Summer Fun!**

\*Canal front Ranch with three bedrooms and two bathrooms  
\*Newly remodeled kitchen with quartz countertops, tile backsplash and slate flooring  
\*Home features recessed lighting, hardwood floors and updated main bathroom  
\*Walk out basement includes fireplace, full bathroom and wet bar  
MLS 217034528 248.684.1065 \$345,000



**New Construction Condo in the Beautiful Village of Milford!**

\*This condo features three bedrooms, two bathrooms with great views  
\*All bedrooms have walk in closets  
\*Large energy efficient windows and oak hardwood flooring  
\*Master bedroom on the first floor provides a patio with views of the Huron river  
MLS 217036096 248.684.1065 \$450,000



**Historical Home!**

\*Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, on almost an acre  
\*Updated kitchen with granite counters and center island with built in stove  
\*Many updates throughout  
\*Home built in 1882, short walk to Downtown Milford  
MLS 217014711 248.684.1065 \$309,000



**Open House Sun May 21, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**Superb Lake Front Ranch!**

\*Five bedrooms, three full bathrooms on 7.62 acres  
\*Kitchen with hardwood flooring, granite counters, and center island with range top  
\*Master suite with gorgeous all ceramic bathroom  
\*Lower level with second kitchen, two bedrooms and full bathroom  
MLS 217037775 248.684.1065 \$450,000



**Charming Condo!**

\*Two bedrooms, two and half bathrooms, Cape Cod Condo  
\*Kitchen with oak cabinets and ceramic flooring  
\*Spacious first floor suite with full bathroom  
\*Finished basement with ceiling fan and wet bar  
MLS 217020725 248.684.1065 \$195,000



**Attractive & Spacious Colonial!**

\*Five bedrooms, three and half bathrooms, located on 1.5 acres  
\*Private in ground salt water pool and hot tub  
\*Open floor plan with two story great room and stone fireplace  
\*Master bathroom with dual vanity and soaking tub  
MLS 217020712 248.684.1065 \$590,000



**Gorgeous Colonial with Lake Privileges!**

\*Four bedrooms, two and half bathrooms, located on one acre  
\*Spacious kitchen with expansive island, granite counters and maple cabinets  
\*French doors into private first floor study  
\*Finished basement with plenty of space for gaming, TV zone and dry bar  
MLS 217024941 248.684.1065 \$475,000



**Enjoy both All Sports Lakefront and Acreage!**

\*Four bedrooms, three and half bathrooms on 10.55 acres  
\*Picture yourself in this stunning well maintained gorgeous Colonial  
\*Enjoy swimming or boating on all sports private lake  
\*Lower level is great for entertaining, including a full kitchen  
MLS 217027741 248.684.1065 \$648,900



**Luxury In A Private Setting!**

\*Four bedrooms, three full bathrooms and two half baths, located on over 2 acres  
\*Perfect for a large family, 4,128 Sq. ft.  
\*Three car attached garage, plus an extra two and half car garage for additional cars  
\*Gorgeous sun room  
MLS 217014922 248.684.1065 \$639,900



**Build The Home Of Your Dreams!**

\*Pictured is a four bedroom, two and half bathroom, Colonial, on 1.03 acres  
\*Many floor plans, with natural fire place and hardwood floors  
\*Brick and stone with covered porch  
\*Island kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances  
MLS 216116498 248.684.1065 \$499,000



**Beautiful Custom Built Home on Private Road!**

\*Four bedrooms, four and half bathrooms on 2.66 acres  
\*Custom kitchen with granite countertops, glass tile backsplash and hardwood floors  
\*Spacious bedrooms with a lot of room for storage  
\*Lower level finished with full bathroom, rec area and wet bar  
MLS 217026271 248.684.1065 \$559,900



**Move in Just in Time for Summer!**

\*This beautiful Waterfront Ranch, features four bedrooms with two and half bathrooms  
\*Large updated kitchen with granite counters and wood floors  
\*Dining room with gas fireplace  
\*Finished lower level with natural fireplace, family room, bedroom and bathroom  
MLS 217023666 248.684.1065 \$330,000

"Our agent was easy to talk to." A & TA

**Home for Sale - In State**



**SUGAR SPRINGS** Glandwin 2027 South Haven \$89,900 Custom ranch Lake Lancer Waterfront, 3BR, 3 BA, 2 Garages Alice RE/MAX River Haven 989-430-0944 SugarSpringsRealty.com

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