

Novi News

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Area teen wins surf competition

Nick Parros of South Lyon swept the annual WakeFest competition on Gull Lake in Minnesota last weekend.

The three-day competition, sponsored by Redbull and Agenda Surf, among others, demands high performance from wake surfers across the world.

"This was an awesome event and the competition was very steep. It was also important for me to win so that my scores will put me in the top 10 going into the nationals competition in Atlanta in two weeks," Parros said of his win.

Parros won first place in Men's Amateur Skim and first in Men's Amateur Surf competitions; this was his debut into surf style of wake surfing. The 17-year-old has only recently entered into the world of competitive water sports, though he has sustained it as a hobby since he was 10 years old. This was his second event, both times winning first place.

When Parros is not competing, he attends school at Detroit Catholic Central in Novi. He will be entering his senior year in fall, when he will be applying to colleges — preferably schools where wake surfing competitions are well within reach.

Four vehicles targeted across Novi

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

At least four vehicles in Novi were targeted in larcenies — three of them of wheels and tires — over several days last month, according to Novi Police Department reports.

In one incident, a Lincoln parked outside a home on Arizona Avenue had 50 pills of a prescription painkiller stolen from it, the complainant told police.

The Lincoln had been left unlocked. That theft occurred between noon on July 24 and 2 a.m. the next day, a report said.

In other thefts:

» The wheels and tires were stolen July

26 or July 27 from a Ford Taurus parked outside an apartment on Westgate Boulevard, near Pontiac Trail.

» The wheels and tires were stolen July 28 or July 29 from a Ford Escape parked outside an apartment on Portside Drive, also near Pontiac Trail.

» The wheels and tires were stolen July 28 or July 29 from a Dodge Challenger parked at a condominium complex on Hagerty, south of 10 Mile.

Mailbox vandalism

Several streetside mailboxes were damaged the night of July 30 outside homes in the area of Nine Mile and Taft.

Victims couldn't recall hearing or witnessing anything that night that might have been directly related to the vandalism, a police report said.

Mower theft

A lawn mower was stolen July 27 from outside a house on Balcombe Street after it had been left briefly unattended.

The complainant told police he had been using the mower and left it to do other yard work and that it was gone when he returned. A witness reported seeing a man put it in a white pickup truck and drive off, police said.

macjman@hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi Police Detective Mike Bender greets Novi Teen Center attendee Jadavian Jenkins at the Aug. 2 community luncheon at the Novi Civic Center. The Jeanne Clark Teen Center attendees got together that day with members of Novi city government and sponsoring agencies to thank them for funding the Teen Center that runs through the summer.

Novi Teen Center thanks community for support



Novi Teen Center counselors Isabelle Burmley and Jordan Fox help to put out food for the center's community luncheon.

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Livonians go to help bust blight in Detroit

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Mary Andrews typically pays for a crew to mow the lawn at the vacant lot across the street from her house on Monterey in Detroit.

The 85-year-old woman didn't have to worry about getting her checkbook out this week for it, as dozens of volunteers descended onto her neighborhood Aug. 2 as a part of the Life Remodeled project.

More than 120 volunteers from the city of Livonia, Livonia Public Schools and other

groups worked that day in the neighborhood surrounding Detroit Central High School as a part of the week-long Life Remodeled cleanup taking place in the area. The Detroit organization decided to spend a week cleaning up the neighborhood around Central High School and Durfee Middle School, which the organization hopes to turn into a community center.

Kept up nice with flowers all over the porch, Andrews is quick to tell you about the plants in her living room, many of which

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Crystal Frank of Livonia hauls many armloads of brush to the curb.

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Wonderful Wednesdays fun

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Magician and juggler Sem Abraham balances on a chair atop two empty bottles atop a table during the Aug. 2 Wonderful Wednesday series at Novi's Fuerst Park. Abraham and his son Nash provided nearly an hour of fun tricks and juggling. The free series continues at Fuerst Park at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday through Aug. 16.



Colleen Walter watches Cirque Amongus performers Sem and Nash Abraham.

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BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Livonia City Councilman Scott Bahr.



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
David Stechly carries an armload of brush to the curb.



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright moves a mower to the next location.

BLIGHT

Continued from Page A1

have been there for decades.

She was extremely appreciative of the effort, but wishes more would be done by locals in the community to keep the neighborhood up.

"I get mad," she said. "I said, 'Why the hell does somebody have to come from the suburbs to clean up our mess?' That's the thought that goes through my head."

Brought down to the city via Livonia Public Schools buses, volunteers spent a good part of the morning mowing grass and clearing brush near vacant homes along Monterey, near Rosa Parks. More than 120 people came to the city Aug. 2 to help clean it up, including various city and school officials.

One volunteer was Melissa Wagner, who works for LPS and lives in Livonia. She spent the morning taking care of grass along the street.

She said she decided to volunteer this year, her first year doing such a project, and was excited at the level of work being done in that neighborhood.

"I'm really impressed with the organization," she said. "It's nice to see community involvement from all different areas of Livonia, businesses, the school district, city hall."

Helping out neighbors

This was the second year Livonia has been



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM
Cheryl Caskey and Krystal Fatolitis clear weeds at the curb.

directly involved with the Life Remodeled project; volunteers helped in the neighborhood around Denby High School on the city's east side last year.

It's an effort neighborhood resident Cortez Poindexter appreciates.

The Novi High School alumnus and former Novi resident moved to the area and lives with his mom, Latia. He said the street saw major improvements before lunchtime Wednesday thanks to the volunteers.

"I like it. It's way better down there than what it was," he said. "This house has been like this for so long."

Steve Schreiber spent most of the morning weed whacking the overgrown brush. He said he's happy he heard of the project from the school district and wanted to come and help out.

"I just got the email from LPS, otherwise I probably wouldn't have done it," the Westland

resident said. "I do a lot of community service."

The neighborhood was near the site of the riots that took place in 1967, which recently was recognized for its 50-year anniversary last month and was a big reason Life Remodeled decided to tackle blight in that part of the city.

Andrews, 85, lived in her home during the riots and remembers seeing the damage happen down the street from her home. She said she went out to a party the night the riots started and came back home to her three children. Businesses, such as a hardware store and barber shops, were later destroyed.

"All kind of beauty shops and barber shops at that time," she said. "All of that was burned out on this side during the riot."

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Women Who Care group continues to grow

After only two meetings, the 100 Women Who Care-Northville chapter has about 160 members. The giving circle is part of a global initiative to pool funds to support local charities.

100 Women Who Care-Northville meets for one hour, four times a year. Each member comes prepared to write a \$100 check. Each member can nominate a local charity. Three charities are drawn at random at each meeting. A member makes a five-minute pitch about the cause. The women vote on which cause to support. The winning cause receives the entire dona-



After only two meetings, the 100 Women Who Care-Northville chapter has about 160 members.

100 WOMEN WHO CARE

tion from that meeting. This group donated \$13,000 to Northville

Civic Concern after its first meeting. At its Aug. 1 meeting, 75 women

donated \$8,700 in checks to benefit Christ Child House. The rest of the

members will mail in checks to be presented to the Detroit charity. The

donation should total about \$16,000, as each woman pledged to donate at least \$100. Christ Child House is an intensive treatment center that provides residential services for up to 31 boys, ages 6-16, who suffer emotional, behavioral and physical impairment resulting from severe abuse and neglect.

The other two charities voted on were Stop Arbor Hills and Bridge-Pointe.

The group meets next at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 6 at the Garage Grill Banquet Hall in Northville. Learn more at <http://100womenhocarenorthville.weebly.com>.

NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Police: Passed-out woman had left dog in car for hours

A 26-year-old Southfield woman was arrested on animal cruelty, marijuana possession and drug paraphernalia charges July 29 after passing out at the Meijer on Haggerty Road.

A small dog had been left in the suspect's car for several hours, according to a Northville Township Police Department report, and suspected marijuana, a glass pipe and marijuana grinders were found in the car, as well.

Police were called to the store shortly after 11 a.m., when an employee saw a woman stumble into the garden center, sit on a flatbed cart, begin smoking a cigarette and then topple over, the report said. She was breathing, but non-responsive, the report said.

Initial reports indicated the unconscious person was male, but police later learned she was a woman in the process of transitioning to a male.

When she came to, with an officer on the scene, the woman appeared confused about how she came to be at Meijer and said she'd had two beers. When a breath test registered a high blood-alcohol content, police said, she admitted to having also consumed several shots of liquor.

Northville Township paramedics recommended she be transported to a hospital, police said, but she refused.

An officer located the woman's car, a Ford Fusion, with a dog lying down inside, the police report said. Once the

locked Fusion was opened, the dog was panting and shaking, police said. The dog was taken to Northville Animal Hospital and the Fusion was impounded.

The woman said the Fusion had been parked at Meijer since about 4 a.m. or 5 a.m., police said.

Police found 5.5 grams of suspected marijuana and a hand-rolled cigarette in the car, along with a pipe and three grinders. Both the suspected marijuana and the "joint" later tested positive for marijuana, police said.

The woman was arrested and held in the police lockup until she registered a zero blood-alcohol content, police said. She was released just before midnight on a \$220 bond and is due to appear in 35th District Court later this month.

Underage party

Police the night of July 29 broke up a teenage drinking party that reportedly "got out of hand" because word of it had spread on social media.

The incident took place at a house on Mission Point, a police report said. No tickets were issued, but police had some of the teens pick up trash, including beer bottles, that had been left in the street and in front yards by fleeing guests.

The homeowner told police she returned home to find many more people at her house than her daughter was supposed to be hosting. An arriving police officer reported seeing "several dozen juveniles exit a house in a hurried fashion." Some left on foot and others

drove off, the report said.

There were still nine teens at the house, eight girls and one boy, and the report said they told the officer the party "got out of hand" and that some of the uninformed guests had brought alcohol.

Trespassing

Three teenagers were issued trespassing tickets and an underage girl detained and later released to her mother after police found them on the Northville Psychiatric Hospital property the night of July 25.

The teens — two Dearborn Heights girls, 16 and 17, and a Dearborn Heights man, 19, plus a Wayne man, also 19 — were spotted by officers as they exited the main hospital building about 15 minutes after officers on foot patrol on the grounds spotted flashlights on the top of the building, a police report said.

Soliciting without permit

A 19-year-old Columbus, Ohio, man was ticketed for soliciting without a permit July 25. He had reportedly been going door to door in a residential area west of Beck, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, police said.

The man said he worked for a magazine distribution company, according to a police report, and that his boss, who had dropped him off in the area, had a soliciting permit.

Police could find no permit on file for that company, however.

— By Matt Jachman

ENGAGEMENT



Todd Scharra and Erin Benson.

Benson-Scharra

Jack and Yvette Benson of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter Erin to Todd Scharra, son of Mike and Sherry Scharra of Sterling Heights.

Erin graduated from Novi High School in 2002 and from Michigan State University in 2006. She is currently a PR manager for United Airlines.

Todd graduated from Henry Ford High School in 2002 and from Michigan State University in 2006. He currently works as a civil engineer in Chicago, Ill.

They are planning a destination wedding in Door County, Wis., in September 2017.

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UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, August 16 6:30 p.m. Holiday Inn Jackson NW - Airport Road
2696 Bob McClain Dr, Jackson, MI 49202

Thursday, August 17 6:30 p.m. Courtyard Detroit Livonia
17200 N Laurel Park Drive, Livonia MI 48152

Tuesday, August 22 6:00 p.m. DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Medical Office Building
1 William Carls Dr, Commerce, MI 48382

Wednesday, August 23 6:30 p.m. Taylor Community Library
12303 Pardee Rd, Taylor, MI 48180

Monday, August 28 6:30 p.m. Courtyard Detroit Livonia
17200 N Laurel Park Drive, Livonia MI 48152

For more dates and to register, call 1-888-DMC-2500 or visit dmc.org/solutions



Rzepecki

Arnie and Ellie Rzepecki of Novi celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Aug. 5 with a lunch at the Sheraton

ANNIVERSARY

Novi for their family and friends. They are active members of Church of the Holy Family. Arnie was a member of the senior housing commission that ultimately built

Meadowbrook Commons, as well as being active in other Novi volunteer opportunities. Ellie is a board member of Oakland County Health Network.

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Firehouse Subs donates \$43,000 to area fire departments

Continuing its mission of supporting hometown heroes, Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation donated \$43,275 worth of life-saving equipment grants to four first responder organizations during a press event Aug. 3 at the Firehouse Subs restaurant located at 48955 Grand River Avenue in Novi.

"Giving back to our first responders is the primary goal of the Foundation," Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Executive Director Robin Peters said. "We're in a very fortunate position that allows us to work together with Firehouse Subs restaurants to raise funds that help provide life-saving equipment locally and throughout the country. Thanks to the generosity of so many people, we're truly making a difference."

Plymouth Township Fire Department received extrication equipment valued at \$19,950. The awarded equipment will improve the department's rescue capabilities for victims in motor vehicle accidents.

Northville Township Police Department received an automated external defibrillator valued at \$1,300. The awarded device will be placed into a police cruiser to help ensure the department is prepared to provide medical assistance if an individual goes into cardiac arrest.

Hamburg Township Fire Department received a fire extinguisher training package valued at \$17,975. The awarded system will allow firefighters to train members of the community on the safe and proper use of fire extinguishers through hands-on instruction and demonstrations.

Woodhaven Fire Department received new fire hose and fittings valued at \$4,050. The awarded hose will replace the existing, which has several damaged sections in need of repair, helping ensure the de-

partment is prepared to deliver safe and efficient services to the community. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends a front line hose life of 10 years. After that, the hose should be put on reserve status.

"The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation allows a local small business to give back to the community they are a part of," Northville Township Police Lt. Paul Tennes said. "There is no better example of the direct impact provided to the community than that of the life saved using our AED donated by the Foundation."

Event attendees include local first responders, as well as Peters, Firehouse Subs area representatives John Kupiec and Jennifer Kupiec and Firehouse Subs franchisees Brad and Pamela Wilson.

Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation was founded in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when Firehouse Subs co-founders, Chris Sorensen and Robin Sorensen, traveled to Mississippi where they provided food to first responders and survivors. As they traveled back to Florida, they knew they could do more and Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation was born with the mission of providing funding, life-saving equipment and educational opportunities to first responders and public safety organizations. Since its inception, the nonprofit organization has granted more than \$28 million to hometown heroes in 46 states, Puerto Rico and Canada, including more than \$458,000 in Michigan.

Each restaurant recycles leftover, five-gallon buckets, available to guests for a \$2 donation to the Foundation. Donation canisters on register counters collect spare change, while the Round Up Program allows guests to "round up" their bill to the nearest dollar.



Attending the grant ceremony were (from left) franchisee Brad Wilson, area representative John Kupiec, Plymouth Fire Chief Dan Phillips, general manager Katie Mitchell, Officer Chris Rowley, Officer Tyler Schmittou and Northville Township Director of Public Safety Todd Mutchler.

Summer at Pavilion Shore Park



Ron Valo of Farmington Hills heads out on his bike from Novi's Pavilion Shore Park. Valo had biked to the park on the sound end of Walled Lake via the I-275 bike path and said that it's an easy, safe trip to get into Novi.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



A Canada goose flaps its wings about in Walled Lake as it gives itself and bath. Many geese were in the waters of the lake just off Pavilion Shore Park bathing and preening their feathers as they prep for the fall flying season.

NORTHVILLE LIBRARY LINES

BUILD A BETTER WORLD! Youth Summer Reading Program

When: Ends Aug. 12
Details: Northville kids up through those entering fifth grade, join the Summer Reading Program and enjoy books, attend free events and win prizes! Parents, read to young ones and help your students maintain their reading skills over the summer. Register in person to receive your Summer Reading packet.

TEEN BUILD A BETTER WORLD Summer Reading Program

When: Ends Aug. 12
Details: Teens, those entering sixth grade through spring '17 high school grads, stop in and

register for your summer reading packet. Complete up to three logs and earn prizes and entries into the Grand Prize Drawing.

Teen Summer Reading Finale Party

When: Noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12
Details: Tie-dye T-shirts and enjoy snacks and prizes. Register with your size to reserve a T-shirt (limited quantity) or bring your own. Grand prize winners announced. Wear old clothes, tie-dye does not wash out. Registration required.

One-on-one help with our tech expert

When: 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. each Tuesdays; 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. each Thursdays
Details: Free one-hour session with our Digital Services librarian to help

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All About Hoopla

When: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15
Details: Learn about the library's new downloading service Hoopla. Instantly download digital movies, TV shows, eBooks and more for free with your library card. Bring your tablet or smart phone and learn how easy it is to download with Hoopla. Register.

International Cosplay Day

When: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26
Details: Teens in

grades 6-12, come in costume or start your own as we learn to make no-sew cloaks and capelets - perfect for the aspiring Hogwarts student, Attack on Titan character and more! Geek out over some awesome anime screened during the craft. Supplies are limited. Registration required.

Foreign Film @ NDL

When: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 28
Details: View a well-reviewed film with English subtitles. "Marie's Story" is about a woman born both blind and deaf who finds a friend in Sister Marguerette, who wins her trust and teaches her how to express herself. French film. 95 minutes.

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Livonia fire crews save cat from burning house

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Livonia firefighters were able to save a family pet after a fire broke out in the kitchen of a home in the southwest part of the city.

Deputy Chief Mike Kelly of the Livonia Fire Department said firefighters were called at about 11 a.m. July 31 to a fire in the 37000 block of Grantland, located west of Newburgh.

A fire had started in the kitchen, which damaged the interior of the room but was mostly contained. Fire crews were able to extinguish the fire, which caused smoke damage throughout the house. No injuries were reported.

The family's two dogs were able to get out to a



COURTESY OF MIKE KELLY
Firefighters rescued a cat from a house fire Monday morning from a home on Grantland. Crews used an oxygen mask designed for pets during the rescue. Fire officials say the cat appeared to be fine.

neighbor's home, Kelly said, but the family's cat could not be located. So fire crews entered the home, searching for the

feline. "They extinguished the fire and were able to execute a search and rescue the cat," Kelly said.

The cat was located and brought out of the home unharmed.

Fire crews then used a pet oxygen mask on the cat to deliver it fresh oxygen outside the home. The masks were donated last year to the department, with fire crews receiving training on how to use them from Dr. Heather Robertson from Animal Emergency Center in Novi.

Kelly said it appeared the cat was doing well after the blaze.

"As far as I know, the cat's doing fine," he said.

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I am an American We are One Nation

PLANTING TREES FORMS CONNECTIONS

Community arborist finds that unity thrives when people go green together

JENNY UNG
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.

Mari Aviles never expected that her studies would lead her to a career in the woods — she was never an outdoorsy kid — but after volunteering for Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, it was clear where she wanted to be: in nature, while helping her city.

After hearing of a job opening at the nonprofit, where she volunteered for several semesters in college, she was dead set on returning.

“Coming back to Indianapolis and doing what I love in the city that I grew up in and with the ownership I feel of the city was very rewarding,” Aviles said.

What she loves — and does for a living — is planting and maintaining trees across Indianapolis as a community arborist. Although planting trees may not seem like a community unifying activity, that’s Aviles’ and Keep Indianapolis Beautiful’s mission.

KIB connects volunteers to about 500 projects a year focusing on community improvement. The organization supports planting trees, cleaning up neighborhoods and other initiatives.

Aviles and the organization hope to unite people through nature.

“KIB strives to keep the communities beautiful by increasing the green spaces around the city and increasing the canopy,” she said. “These projects take a lot of manpower in the form of volunteers who ... become united by the work and the idea of a greener environment.”

They bring people together from diverse backgrounds, such as economic status, race, age and education.

“All of Indianapolis is diverse,” Aviles said. “Working in the various communities of Indianapolis will result in a diverse group of volunteers on any given



JENNA WATSON/USA TODAY NETWORK

Mari Aviles is a community arborist at Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, a nonprofit that connects volunteers with around 500 annual projects focusing on community improvement.

project.”

Aviles emphasizes that it’s the little things that can bring people together and help the environment.

“I’ve faced the issue where people don’t believe they can make a change,” she said. “They see themselves as one person in the whole world of people who are doing the same thing. With that, it seems a bit cliché to say it, but I let them know that if they do anything, it’ll have a positive impact.”

ONE NATION

Nominate an American

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

Q&A WITH MARI AVILES

What does it mean to you to be an American?

“To be an American to me means being proud of where you live, helping out your community and the people who live in your community, and being open-minded. (It also) means to be open to diversity in every way because people should have the right to be different in (any) way.”

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

“The moment that motivated me to start my career in the environmental field was probably my orientation day at Purdue University the summer before I started my studies. I decided to switch my major to wildlife science without much prior experience, and I never looked back.”

What gives you hope?

“What gives me hope is the people I surround myself with — a lot of positivity and my friends and family. I’m hoping that everyone around the world has the same thing — people (who) love and care about them.”

What concerns you?

“I’m concerned about what’s going on in the country right now. It’s nerve-racking, but seeing people stand up for what they believe in and for what they love brings me away from being nervous about it. The violence across the world is something else that concerns me.”

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

“I hope to bring the community together — that’s the mission of this organization — through nature. I love nature and I want to see a lot of positivity in the city, and I think this is the best way to do it. Although a tree planted in front of someone’s yard here in Indianapolis won’t (directly help) many of those suffering through some of these tough times, I hope to bring a bit of joy in the form of nature to the people of this city.”

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Darrel Lambert (left) and his son Robbie Lambert will bring their barrel-inspired art to Milford Memories Summer Festival.

Check out these five artists at Milford Memories

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com

More than 300 artists will sell their works Friday through Sunday, Aug. 11-13, at the annual Milford Memories Summer Festival.

"There are so many good, exciting things," said Raychel Rork, fair organizer. "The Milford show has a homecoming feel and everyone is there to have a good time."

Live entertainment, contests and activities and food vendors round out the festival. Art booths will open at 10 a.m. each day and will close at 8 p.m. Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m. Sunday, in downtown Milford.

Here are five artist booths you won't want to miss:



Katja Hilton sells framed beetles as big as your hand through her company, Amazing and Beautiful Butterflies.

Beauty and the beetle

Artist Katja Hilton finds beauty in bugs. "The wow factor in our tent is the giant stuff," she said. "I've got beetles the size of your hand. The creepier the bug, the better. We can't keep that stuff on the shelf."

Hilton, who has a master's degree in entomology, started mounting and selling framed specimens about eight years ago, working from her Florida home. Her husband makes the frames and she works with the insects and arachnids, which she buys from small farms throughout the world. Her business is Amazing and Beautiful Butterflies, which sells wall art, insect-based jewelry and specimens encased in other objects, such as computer mice and lamps.

She'll bring a little of everything with her to Milford, which is in the top five of the 30 art shows she attends every year.

"Our newest are bats. I had a hard time doing bats, because they are mammals," she said, adding that the animals come from a guava orchard in Indonesia. "A lot of bats get tangled in the netting of the fruit trees."

The bats and insects are shipped freeze-dried. Hilton re-hydrates them, places them into position, dries and frames them. Butterflies, moths, beetles, scorpions and spiders also are encased in an acrylic resin and integrated into necklaces, earrings and bracelets.

"I've been doing this so long I rarely break stuff," she said. "I do so many, literally hundreds a week. I'm pretty good at it."

She said butterflies are bestsellers in her line of jewelry, but large, creepy, crawling insects attract buyers for wall art.

"We have framed bird-eating tarantulas," she said. "I've had a 1½-foot-long mice-eating centipede."

Don't expect to see any daddy long-leg spiders in her inventory.

"I'm terrified of daddy long-legs," she said. "Do you know how embarrassing that is?"



Kathy Lochmann creates floral-themed lighting fixtures using glass door knobs.

Who is Jack Riley?

Kathy Lochmann worked as an electrical engineer, an attorney and as caregiver for her parents before she found her niche as an artist. The Milford native, who lives in Plymouth Township with her husband, turns glass doorknobs and other architectural cast-offs into exquisite lighting fixtures.

"I had the privilege of caring for my parents during their final illnesses – Edward and Janace Johnson," she said. "I guess it left me with the impression that there are things that are way more important than an office in a skyscraper and a fancy career, which I've had."

"It causes you to slow down and think about the beauty of each moment. You start to open your eyes to the art around you. There is beauty in all things, especially old things. I started looking at things differently."

She began to scout out beautifully crafted door hardware, discarded architectural items and tools, adding light to each reclaimed item.

"The glass door knobs have been crazy popular," she said. "Glass door knobs were made to capture light and reflect it. I turned it around and thought, 'What if I project light through it?'"

The glass knobs resemble flower blossoms on metal stems, which are set into antique oil lamp bases. Lochmann started selling her works at fairs about two years ago.

Her business, Jack Riley Lighting and Metal Works is named after her two ever-present Airedales, Jack and Riley.

"It sounds like an old-school electrical guy," she said. "And I'm crazy about my dogs."

Decorating with barrels

Motor City Barrels, created last year by Darrel Lambert of Berkley and his son Robbie Lambert of Farmington, has its roots in wedding décor.

"I bought barrels for my wedding a couple years ago. We had a barn wedding and I saw on Pinterest

that some people use barrels for decoration. I found a local brewery selling them for cheap," Robbie Lambert said.

Instead of reselling the barrels after his wedding, Lambert asked his father, a woodworker, to repurpose the wood. The pair worked together and created a cabinet with shelves, then posted a photo to Facebook.

"The response was crazy and we started getting orders from friends and family," Lambert said. "We found more barrels and realized some of the breweries were throwing them away. That got me thinking it's also good for the environment."

They mix reclaimed barn wood and wood from crates with the barrels to create furniture, pet beds, inspirational signs, planters, card holders, bottle racks and more. The barrels are made of oak and were used to age whiskey and beer at distilleries and breweries across the country.

"The barrels have some history behind them," he said. "Now we're getting into wine barrels, as well."

The artists coat the inside of barrel with a polyurethane product, which helps mask whiskey and beer odors.

"Some people like the smell and some don't," he said. "I love the smell."

Look for the pair to bring new products, including a cooler and rocking horse, to Milford Memories.

Contemporary clocks

David Scherer learned a lesson about art and business at age 13.

The Livonia native designed a hockey goalie mask with full head and neck coverage. He colored the mask and then produced it, learning how to work with molds and fiberglass.

"It taught me if I make something cool, I can sell it," he said.

As a high school student, he made cork and wire sculptures and sold them at craft fairs to help pay for dirt biking, downhill skiing and other activities he enjoyed as a teen. He took art classes at Churchill High School, but followed his own path after graduation, painting and showing at galleries.

"Someone commissioned me to do a wall clock," he said. "Once I did, it gave me the idea to design clocks and do reverse painting on clear acrylic."

Fast forward to 2017 and the Madison Heights resident now sells his contemporary wall and table clocks in stores such as Walmart, galleries, online and at a handful of fairs.

"For most of my life as an artist, I just sold to stores and galleries and never was one on one with customers," he said. "I started doing a couple of art fairs here and there. I like to interface with my customers."

You're the artist

Give to a good cause while creating your own art at Community Sharing's Empty Bowls project booth, located between the children's activity area in Central Park.

"The emphasis will be on children painting the bowls but adults can paint, too," said Mark Cryderman, project spokesman. "What they do is they pay for the bowl and then decorate it and that is their ticket to the big party at Baker's (of Milford) in November."

Cryderman said the Empty Bowls project is Community Sharing's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds from painting events, like the one scheduled for Milford Memories, help the organization continue to provide food, clothing and counseling to residents in need.

Participants take their decorated bowls home with instructions on how to bake the paint onto glass in an oven.

Cryderman said nearly 200 bowls have been painted at other events this year.



David Scherer's clocks are whimsical and colorful.

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Winning poster captures history of hydroplane racing



Graphics artist Daniel Stack said he wanted to capture the history of the sport in creating a poster for the Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers HydroFest.

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

When he decided to enter a poster contest for the upcoming hydroplane races in Detroit, graphic designer Daniel Stack wanted to create something that captured the history of the sport.

Mission accomplished. The 22-year-old Farmington Hills resident, a recent graduate of Lawrence Technological University, took first place in the art competition. As part of his prize, he'll take part in "autograph row" alongside the hydroplane drivers at the Metro Chevy Dealers HydroFest that runs Aug. 25-26. He'll meet and greet fans while signing copies of his poster.

"The race has been around for over 100 years, so I kind of wanted to tap into a nostalgic feel for the poster," Stack said. "That was the original idea I had right off the bat."

This year marks the 101st year of hydroplane racing along the Detroit River. The winner of the two-day event will be awarded the prestigious APBA Gold Cup, the oldest active trophy in motor sports, dating back to 1904. The first Indianapolis 500 automobile race, in comparison, was held in 1911.

H1 Unlimited Hydro-



Stack

planes are described as the fastest circuit racing boats in the world, powered by turbine engines producing 3,000 horsepower, topping 200 mph and trailing a 60-foot high, 300-foot long wall of water called a "roostertail."

This will be the first time Stack attends a hydroplane race and he's looking forward to it. His plans for the rest of the summer are to relax and do some freelance work. In the long run, he's planning a career in graphic design that focuses on his talents in animation and videography.

His advice to other budding artists? Go with your instincts.

"Just trust yourself in terms of what you think

looks good," he said. "Don't try and fit into the mold of what you think is doing best at the time — one of the most important qualities you have as an artist is your vision and your direction."

His poster will be produced as a limited-run poster available for purchase on-site or at the 2017 Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers HydroFest web page.

To purchase tickets for the race, call the office of the Detroit Riverfront Events Inc. at 313-329-8047 or go to www.detroitboat races.com.

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Ex-coach gets probation for having sex with underage girl

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A former Canton High School assistant coach has avoided a prison sentence after he pleaded guilty to having sex with an underage girl who is accused of lying about her age.

Eric Christopher Locke, 20, was placed on probation for two years during his sentencing July 27 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Richard Skutt.

"I'm very pleased and relieved at the same time for Eric's sake," defense attorney Raymond Cassar said. "We appreciate the results and we're appreciative of the judge taking the time to look at this case closely."

Locke could have faced up to 15 years in prison after he pleaded guilty in May to a charge of third-degree criminal sexual conduct. Police have said the girl was 15 when she met Locke, but Cassar said Locke was led to believe she was 18.

The two met through an app, Tinder, often used for dating.

"The moral of the story on all this is that young people should

really, really be careful who they are dealing with online," Cassar said.

"People don't always tell the truth online — men and women, boys and girls. You can find yourself in some hot water."

Skutt sentenced Locke under the state's Holmes Youthful Trainee Act, a court clerk said, meaning Locke can keep the case off his record as long as he obeys the terms of his probation and stays out of trouble.

The act applies to certain offenders ages 17-24. Locke, a former Canton High School boys hockey assistant coach, had a sexual relationship with the student from last November to February, until the girl's mother found out and reported it to a high school resource officer at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park, Canton police have said.

Locke pleaded guilty to one charge after authorities agreed to dismiss two other counts.

Cassar spoke about the case at length prior to Locke's guilty plea.

"He was under the belief when he met her that she was of age," Cassar said. "He cared a great deal about her. They were in a dating relationship."

Police have indicated Locke knew the girl was

younger, even though Cassar insisted he did not.

Locke was dismissed from the boys hockey coaching staff after he was slapped with criminal charges.

Locke worked on the same 6,100-student campus where the girl attended school, but Cassar said the two met through Tinder.

"This is a good man who has never been in trouble before," he told the Observer, saying Locke "had a great future ahead of him."

Locke had remained free on a personal bond as he awaited the outcome of his case. He also had been ordered by 35th District Judge Ron Lowe to stay off school property and away from minors.

Monica Merritt, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district superintendent, issued a letter after Locke was charged to alert parents that Locke had been "permanently removed" from the district, saying "student safety remains the No. 1 priority of the district."

Locke was employed by the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district through a third party, CoachEZ, LLC.

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SUBMITTED

A panoramic view the Zeal Credit Union's Incredible Science Machine: Game On! in advance of the continuous chain reaction.

Zeal's Incredible Science Machine breaks three U.S. domino records

Breaths were baited as more than 200 people crowded the bleachers of the Trillium Academy gym in Taylor in July to watch the uninterrupted toppling of nearly 250,000 dominoes.

The display that took a team of 19 domino artists and chain reaction builders a full week to make, came down in just over 15 minutes. This year's "Game On!" theme of Zeal Credit Union's Incredible Science Machine featured dominoes arranged as video games, board games and a variety of sports.

Lead builder Steve Price, a Canton native and Michigan State University graduate, surprised the audience before the dominoes toppled to announce that the team was attempting to break three national records, not just one.

The team was seeking to break the record for the most dominoes toppled; the largest domino field, a Pokemon display; and largest structure, a Game Over build.

After making last-minute checks to make sure everything was ready, Price invited the team, ages 13-31, to introduce themselves. They included builders from California to the East Coast, Canada, Austria, Germany and Switzerland.

The audience also



SUBMITTED

Zeal Credit Union staffers (center) celebrate with the Incredible Science Machine team following the record-breaking event.

included domino and chain reaction enthusiasts who traveled hundreds of miles to watch the record-breaking event.

Making the drive to Michigan from Toronto with her husband and three sons was Jas Bim-

rah. "It's a great opportunity for my son Aaron, 11, to meet builders he communicates with online," Bimrah said. "As a parent, it's a great way to expose kids to science and the hard work and patience that goes into building a domino rally

or chain reaction machines." This was the third year for the family to attend Zeal Credit Union's Incredible Science Machine event.

The honor of starting the chain reaction was given to 7-year-old Sebastian Krage, a Detroit-

area resident and member of Incredible Domino Workshops, sponsored by Zeal Credit Union. The workshops are held monthly at local libraries.

Everyone was on their feet when the chain reaction began, shouting and

screaming as their favorite structures and displays came down. With 10 seconds to go on the scoreboard, a buzzer sounded, and the final Game Over structure came toppling down. Cheers erupted throughout the crowd.

Final results revealed three new U.S. records set, with the most dominoes toppled at 245,732, the largest domino field of 12,450 and the largest domino structure of 12,780.

None were more delighted with the success of the Incredible Science Machine than its sponsor Zeal Credit Union.

"Passion, dedication and hard work is what led the team to success," said Tiffany Sweet, youth and community development coordinator for Zeal Credit Union. "And that's exactly what we're all about at Zeal."

Sweet also expressed appreciation to all the builders and their families, the attendees who traveled from near and far, the Trillium Academy for use of its gym and for all the media who helped promote and cover the record-breaking event.

For more information and to view a video of Zeal Credit Union's Incredible Science Machine: Game On!, go to www.IncredibleScienceMachine.com.

Maserati driver pleads no contest to murder

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

A former U.S. Coast Guard employee accused of slamming his Maserati into another car at an estimated 144 mph, killing a 53-year-old mother of two, has pleaded no contest to second-degree murder and operating while intoxicated causing death.



Belkin

Gregory Allen Belkin, 44, entered the plea July 27 before Oakland County Circuit Judge Denise Langford-Morris. Chief Assistant Prosecutor Paul Walton said the defendant will spend anywhere from 25 years to life in prison.

"I did talk to the prosecutor (Jessica Cooper) and she told me that she's never seen anything so callous in all her years as both a judge and prose-

cutor," Walton said July 28. "Quite frankly, neither have I."

Belkin's attorney, Deanna Kelley, could not be immediately reached for comment. Along with the prison sentence, Walton also said it's his understanding that Belkin is in the process of being dishonorably discharged from the Coast Guard.

"The police did a phenomenal job in piecing everything together," he said of the case. "They talked to his neighbors, who said (Belkin) was basically using the subdivision as his personal race track."

The crash occurred last January on Square Lake Road, just west of Woodward Avenue. Belkin told police he dropped his cellphone and was trying to pick it up seconds before his 2014 Ghibli Maserati slammed into the rear of a 2009 Subaru being driven by Rhonda Williams, an Oakland Township resident in driving



JAY GROSSMAN

Police say the driver of the Maserati was traveling at an estimated 144 mph when he slammed the Italian sports car into another vehicle

home from work that evening.

"I looked down, I looked up and there she is," Belkin reportedly

told investigators at the scene, adding there was "no warning, no freaking warning."

Police say the Ma-

serati's event data recorder indicates Belkin was traveling at approximately 144 mph moments before impact. Crash

investigators calculated the Subaru's speed at approximately 54 mph.

Belkin failed a sobriety test at the scene and admitted he had been drinking prior to the crash. Investigators also learned he had proposed marriage to his ex-girlfriend earlier that evening and was turned down.

Police say Belkin was a 17-year employee of the Coast Guard and that his main task was painting buoys. At a previous hearing, it was noted the Coast Guard was investigating Belkin for possibly drinking on the job.

Belkin remains in jail without bond and his sentencing is set for Sept. 7. Walton said information gathered about the defendant portrays a person who was quickly spinning out of control.

"The reports were pretty chilling," he said.

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
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Beaumont's O'Malley among county speakers on gun violence

Beaumont Hospital-Farmington Hills President Constance O'Malley, along with a small group of physicians and a social worker, appeared Aug. 1 before the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Public Service Committee.

They provided information related to gun violence from the perspective of medical professionals with first-hand experience treating victims and at-risk patients. The discussion focused heavily on the issue of mental health as it relates to gun violence and the importance of effective education and intervention strategies in preventing tragedies.

Panel members stressed that training and encouraging medical staff to ask the right questions are absolutely critical in terms of evaluating and addressing a person's risk for suicide or their potential to commit violence. They also pointed out that people with mental illnesses are not necessarily more likely to be perpetrators of violence. Therefore, raising awareness about this common misconception and other stigma around mental illness, as well as providing more funding for treatment, is extremely important.

When asked by committee members for feedback regarding how best to combat gun violence at the local level, O'Malley and the other panel members recommended focusing efforts at home and in schools. They discussed the importance of educating and engaging family members of at-risk patients and spoke on the benefits of teaching comprehensive conflict resolution strategies at school.

The discussion also touched on the effectiveness of securely storing firearms in preventing suicides and other gun-related injuries and



Beaumont Hospital Farmington Hills President Constance O'Malley (left), with COO Carolyn Wilson, spoke to the Oakland County Commission recently about gun violence.

FILE PHOTO

deaths. O'Malley expressed her support of the Board of Commissioners' Lock It Up Oakland program, an initiative focused on promoting safe storage practices and making free gun locks available to the public.

While it is apparent that there is no quick or easy solution to the nationwide gun violence epidemic, the committee hearing aimed to bring the important perspective of the medical community to the table. Inviting Beaumont repre-

sentatives to participate reflects their position that incorporating expertise from, and collaborating with, medical providers, law enforcement and other important partners is essential to combating this serious public health issue.

"There was a great exchange of information regarding the nature of gun violence and what we are seeing at the hospitals during the meeting today," O'Malley said. "I hope the insight and experience we shared with the committee will prove

helpful as they move forward with their work. It is refreshing to be invited to the table and to have the opportunity to participate in efforts to come up with more effective and innovative solutions to the complex problem of gun violence."

Commissioners in attendance expressed their appreciation of the panel's participation.

"The perspectives and expertise of the medical panel helped to connect the dots regarding different incidents, response and intervention, ensuring the conversation was not heavily restricted to a singular view concerning this complicated issue," said Commissioner Janet Jackson, minority vice chair of the public services committee.

Bill Dwyer, who chairs the public services committee, said the hearing was "part of our ongoing effort to better understand the complex issue of gun violence" in order to come up with more effective strategies to reduce it and "the negative impact it has on our communities."

"We are so grateful that (O'Malley) and her team participated in our meeting and shared such valuable insights with the committee," Dwyer said. "We look forward to continuing to work with them to better combat gun violence in Oakland County."

A video recording of the Aug. 1 meeting, including coverage of the panel discussion, is available at www.oakgov.com/boc under the "Watch the Board" section of the home page. For more information on the gun violence prevention efforts of the Public Services Committee, contact Dwyer at 248-417-7500. For more information about the Board of Commissioner's Lock It Up Oakland program, go to www.lockitupoakland.com.

Jasti promoted to district prez for Bank of Ann Arbor

Bank of Ann Arbor is proud to announce the promotion of Satish Jasti to Plymouth district president. Jasti joined the bank in 2011 and has more than 30 years of banking experience in sales, business lending, credit analysis and management. He served as vice president and senior loan officer at the Plymouth office before be-

ing promoted to senior vice president and senior loan officer in 2015.

"Over the course of his career, Satish has exhibited a unique blend of exceptional sales skills, credit quality expertise and leadership capability," said Tim Marshall, president and CEO of Bank of Ann Arbor. "He is consistently one of the top revenue

generators in the bank and sets a high bar for networking and self-generating opportunities for new relationships. We are confident that Satish will excel in his new position and the Plymouth office will continue to enjoy notable and quality growth under his leadership."

Prior to joining Bank of Ann Arbor, Jasti start-

ed his career as a financial analyst with the Detroit office of the Federal Reserve. He then moved to NBD, where he worked in various positions of increasing responsibility over a 14-year period in its Detroit and Ann Arbor offices, including time as a middle market lender and a division manager for one of NBD's successor

banks, Bank One, with responsibility for the Ann Arbor and Toledo markets. Most recently, he was the founder, president and CEO of a de novo community bank in Novi, where he was able to successfully conceptualize, create, raise \$14 million in capital and help open the new bank.

Jasti is also very involved in his local com-

munity. He serves on the College of Management Advisory Board at Lawrence Technological University, is active in the Novi Rotary Club, is a sustaining member of the Detroit Economic Club and is a member of the West Bloomfield Optimists Club. He holds an MBA from University of Chicago and a BS from Wayne State University.

Community Reads author to visit Novi Public Library

The Neighborhood Library Association is pleased to announce the eighth annual Community Reads book selection: "Underground Airlines" by Ben H. Winters. This chilling mystery-thriller is a powerful look at what might have been if the Civil War had never happened and illuminates the many ways life today is more like Winters's alternative world than we may want to admit.

Six neighboring libraries are hosting book discussions and programs related to the book, culminating in a visit by the author at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at Novi Public Library. New this year is the addition of a wine reception at 8 p.m., immediately following the author presentation. The event is for those 21 and over. Register at Novi Library for the event.

"Underground Airlines" tackles the thorny subject of racial injustice in America. It takes place in contemporary United States, however slavery remains legal in four states. Narrated by a

former slave who now tracks fugitives for the U.S. Marshals Service, Victor's mission is complicated as he infiltrates an abolitionist movement called the Underground Airlines, but in doing so, is forced to confront his own complicity.

Winters is the author of nine novels, including the award-winning "The Last Policeman" trilogy. His other books include a book of scary poems for kids; the New York Times bestselling "Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters" and a novel for young readers, "The Secret Life of Ms. Finkleman." He has also written extensively for the theater.

"This year's choice should lend itself to fascinating book discussions. This is the first time we've chosen an alternate history novel and it is especially topical in today's world," said Julie Farkas, Novi Public Library director. "Librarians from our six participating libraries meet to discuss many book choices in order to select

one that will appeal to our diverse audiences, and we think we've made a great choice with 'Underground Airlines.'"

The NLA is composed of Lyon Township Public Library, Northville District Library, Novi Public Library, Salem-South Lyon District Library, Walled Lake City Library and Wixom Public Library. Copies of the book are available at each library. Book discussions and related programs begin in September.

Everyone is welcome to attend these Community Reads events: "African American Genealogy Research" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at Lyon Township Public Library; "The Underground Railroad in Michigan" at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, Walled Lake City Library; "Detroit in Crisis: The History of the 1967 Rebellion" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, at Salem-South Lyon District Library; "The Underground Railroad in Northville" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, at

Northville District Library; "The Underground Railroad in Detroit" at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25, at Wixom Public Library; and "13th" (documentary screening) at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1, at

Walled Lake City Library. Contact each library to register for events.

The NLA thanks their Friends of the Library groups and the Baronette Renaissance Hotel in Novi for their sponsorship of the annual Com-

munity Reads program. To learn more about the book and for a complete schedule of 2017 Community Reads events, dates and times, go to <http://nlacommunityreads.weebly.com>.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan**

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT OF THE NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Northville District Library, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, the 24th day of August, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Carlo Meeting Room of the Northville District Library, Northville, Michigan, to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of the Northville District Library for the fiscal year 2017-2018.

Copies of the proposed budget are on file with the Library Director at the Northville District Library, 212 West Cady Street, Northville, Michigan, for inspection during regular library hours. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers and property owners of the Northville District Library District, comprised of the City of Northville and the Charter Township of Northville, shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the budget.

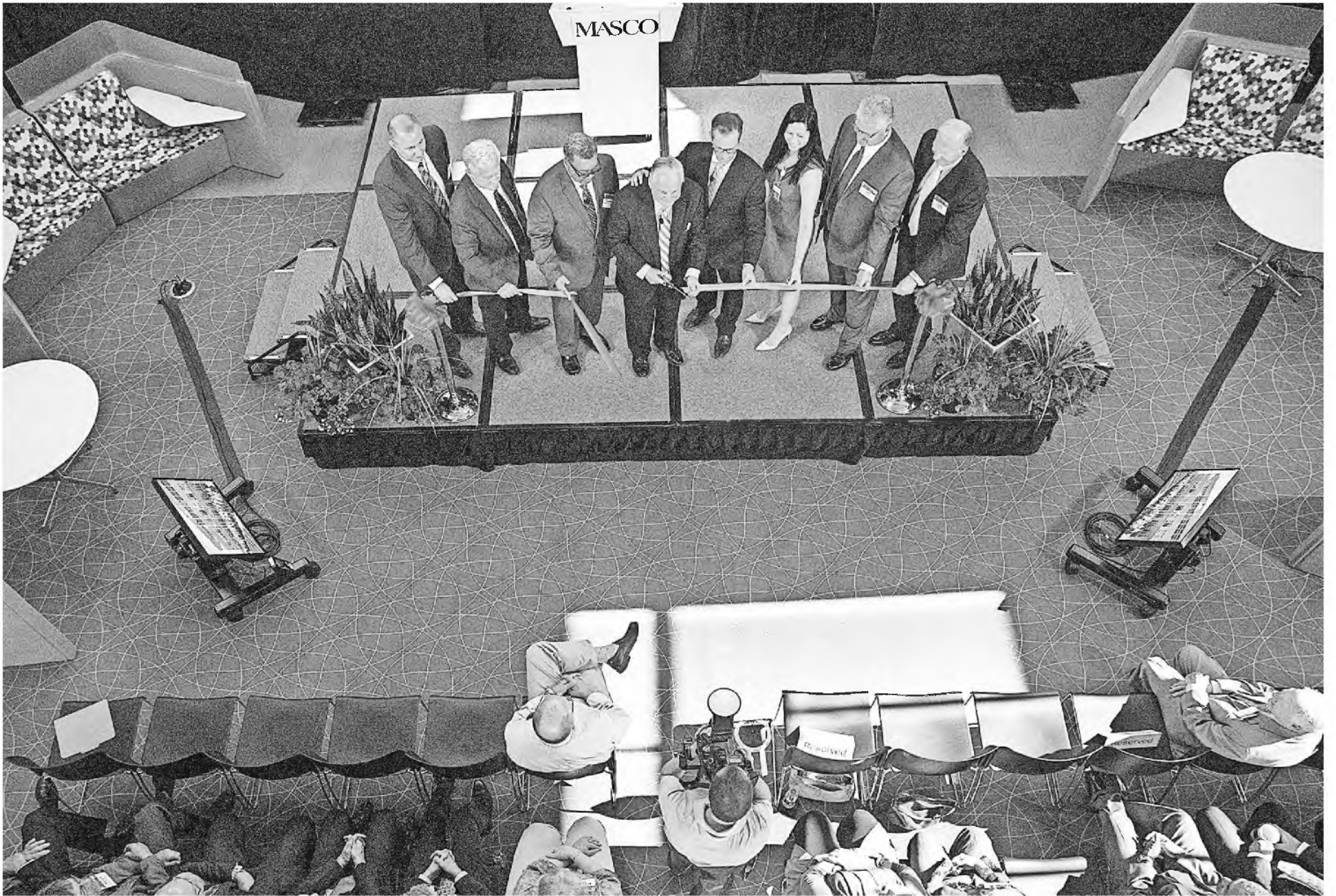
THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Trustees of the Northville District Library, Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan.

ALAN SOMERSHOE
SECRETARY
NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Julie Herrin, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206.
To obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact Julie Herrin, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206.

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BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The official red ribbon is cut by Richard Manoogian.

Manufacturing giant Masco unveils Livonia headquarters

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Richard Manoogian marveled at the new Masco world headquarters July 28, wondering what his father would think of it.

The chairman emeritus and son of the company's founder, Alex Manoogian, said he would be pleased at the growth his company has seen in recent years.

"I cannot express how truly honored I am to be here. I often think about my father and what he would say about this ribbon-cutting ceremony," said Richard Manoogian, who was the company's president from 1968-85. "I know he would be very proud to see the dedication and culture of our staff that has remained our hallmark of no matter where the location of our corporate office."

Masco held the grand opening event for its new world headquarters that day at its new building at 17450 Masco Way in Livonia, located at Schoolcraft College. The ceremony unveiled the latest addition to the community college's campus, a project that's been in the works for more than two years after the company announced it would move from Taylor to Livonia.

About 220 employees began moving into the more than 91,000-square-foot building earlier this summer. The company, which manufactures multiple types of home improvement fixtures and products, has more than 60 facilities across the globe. Several of those materials are used throughout the building, and a room near the entrance is dedicated to the company's history. That room contains the first original screw machine bought by Alex Manoogian when he launched Masco back in 1929.

Ground was broken at the site in fall 2015 and the final steel beam was placed on the building in April 2016.

Solid addition to city, college

Conway Jeffress, president of Schoolcraft College, said he's impressed by the level of work put into the building, which oversees Interstate 275 on the east side of the college's campus just south of the new St. Joe's Soccer Dome.

"The building looks good," he said. "The last time we were in here, a lot of things weren't finished. Now that you see the work done, it's really nice."

Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright welcomed the employees to the city, saying it was providing welcome packets with discounts to local businesses to encourage them to shop in the city.

He said he sold quite a few Masco products during his days owning Wright's Hardware on Five Mile, and was happy to see them come to town.

"We look forward to a special part-



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Schoolcraft College President Conway Jeffress and Richard Manoogian chat after the ceremony.



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"The Double Knot" sculpture by artist Charles O. Perry was purchased by Masco for its former headquarters in Taylor and moved to the new site in Livonia.

nership with Masco and the city of Livonia," he said.

Those sentiments were echoed by Masco CEO Keith Allman, who said he hoped for a successful tenure at the new building in Livonia.

"We look forward to being a pillar in this community," Allman said.

The headquarters also features a fitness area, an outdoor patio for employees and a market stocked by nearby Cantoro Italian Market, which has locations in Northville Township and Livonia.

"We never stop providing a great place for our employees to work and we never stop providing our customers with the very best," Richard Manoogian said. "The best designs, the best service, and of course, innovation."

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BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Employees and guests listen to Richard Manoogian talk about the origins of the company, started by his father Alex Manoogian.



Masco's new building is located just south of the Schoolcraft College campus.



GILLIS BENEDICT | LIVINGSTON DAILY

Kathi Letovsky performs a kick at Kil's Taekwondo in Brighton with her husband Mike. Kathi recently won a national taekwondo championship in sparring.

Milford woman captures national taekwondo championship

Bill Khan
Livingston Daily

Conventional fitness classes didn't appeal to Kathi Letovsky. "I found a kickboxing group down the road from me, because I hate aerobics," said Letovsky, Hartland High School's choir instructor. "I'm sorry, Zumba — I don't do Zumba." When the facility at which she attended kickboxing classes closed, she checked out the classes at Kil's Taekwondo Center in Brighton. "The lady, Kelly Verpoort, said, 'You know, you should try sparring and taekwondo; you'd really like it.' And I did and I'm hooked." Letovsky and her husband Mike began training in taekwondo in 2005, both achieving third-degree black belts. Recently, she won her second USA Taekwondo national championship in sparring at Cobo Center in Detroit. Letovsky won the women's 41-50 black belt heavyweight divi-

sion. Her other championship came in 2010 in Orlando, Fla. "Nationals is a great experience, to see all these competitors from all over the country," she said. "The ladies I fought were from Indiana, Georgia, Pennsylvania. It's really neat seeing the different styles and the different regimens and training that go on from different states. Maybe I can pick up some new ideas. It's a cool experience seeing all of those people out there." Traveling was convenient this year for Letovsky, with the Michigan qualifier at Fowlerville High School in April and nationals in Detroit in early July. With nationals taking place in Utah next year, she's not sure if she'll come back in an effort to repeat in 2018. She would definitely like to go, having enjoyed the camaraderie between competitors who don't let up on one another when they take the mat. "When we were done, I said to the ladies, 'So,

are we doing this next year?'" said Letovsky, 42, who lives in Milford. "They're like, 'Yeah, let's do it next year.' I said, 'It's really cool we can show these young whippersnappers you can still do stuff when you get older.' Keep doing it; never stop." Letovsky also competed in forms at nationals, but she admits that's not her forte. She tied for 22nd out of 27 competitors in that discipline. "It was amazing to watch how pretty they did their forms," she said. "Apparently, the first lady who went was one of the current world champions. On her belt, it said, 'Poomsae USA team.' I was like, 'Uh, I'm not worthy.' I didn't place, but the experience was just amazing. I was intimidated, yep. Because I was No. 10 in the lineup and watching ladies one through nine go, it's like, 'Thank you and good night.'" Master Yong S. Kil said Letovsky is the type of driven individual who

succeeds in taekwondo. "She was a very dedicated student," he said. "When I showed her a technique, she'd practice it over and over 1,000 times. In sparring, her focus is great and her instinct — whatever the reaction from her opponent, she has an immediate reaction to counterattack.

"Her goal is grand master. ... She's a very smart lady. She's a teacher. She wants to continue her education and get a Ph.D. She always finishes what she starts, setting goals and focus. That's why she was a success." Letovsky was asked if her choir students know that their instructor is a

third-degree black belt and if that knowledge would help keep them in line. "I think most of them know, but I don't know to what extent they know," she said. "I like working at Hartland, so I probably shouldn't be too harsh on them."

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF NORTHVILLE HISTORIC SURVEY, LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT REPORT AND NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION

The City of Northville is a Certified Local Government, and contains a Historic District that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is also a designated Local Historic District. The original survey and study committee report for the designation of Northville's Historic District was conducted in the 1970s, before current standards for historic surveys were developed. In order to properly administer the district, the City of Northville is proposing to conduct a new intensive-level historic and architectural survey of the existing district, as well as prepare a new nomination for the National Register of Historic Places and a Local Historic District study committee report.

The City of Northville seeks consultants to conduct the survey and prepare the designation materials for the Northville Historic District. Please visit <http://www.ci.northville.mi.us/Community/HistoricDistrict/HistoricDistrictSurvey.asp> to obtain a copy of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for this work. The RFP document more fully describes the project, the required products, and project schedule.

Questions about the project may be submitted via e-mail to historicsurvey@ci.northville.mi.us by August 16, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Questions must be in writing. Phone calls will not be accepted. Questions submitted by this date and time will be answered, in writing, and available at the following web address: <http://www.ci.northville.mi.us/Community/HistoricDistrict/HistoricDistrictSurvey.asp> and on BidNet Direct: <https://www.bidnetdirect.com>.

One (1) electronic copy on CD and five (5) paper copies of the proposal must be delivered to the Clerk's office in a sealed envelope labeled "City of Northville Intensive-Level Above Ground Historic and Architectural Survey." Proposals must be received by the City Clerk's Office at the address below **no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on September 5, 2017**, per the RFP. Faxed and e-mailed proposals will not be accepted.

Deliver proposals to:
City Clerk's Office
City of Northville
215 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan, 48167

The City reserves the right to postpone the proposal opening for its own convenience. The City of Northville also reserves the right to waive any irregularity or informality in the proposals, to reject any and/or all proposals, in whole or in part, or to award any contract to other than the low bidder, should it be deemed in its best interest to do so.

This document must include the federal credit below:

Include in the Introduction of the final report and in each written, audio, visual, or other material, including public announcements and news releases produced through this Agreement, a credit that reads verbatim as follows:

The activity that is the subject of this project has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. However, the contents and opinions herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior or the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products herein constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

Financial Assistance Credit and Disclaimers. The Subgrantee and its subcontractors shall also print in each written, audio, visual, or other material (including any public service announcement or news release) produced through this Agreement, a notice as follows:

This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its federally assisted programs. Michigan law prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to:

Chief, Office of Equal Opportunity Programs
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW, MS-2740
Washington, DC 20240

Three charged with trying to bribe Garden City officials over dispensary

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Federal prosecutors have filed charges against three men accused of attempting to bribe Garden City officials over establishing a medical marijuana dispensary in the city. A federal indictment charging Mike Baydoun, 54; Ali Baydoun, 52; and Jalal Baydoun, 38, was unsealed July 27, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorneys Office for the Eastern District of Michigan. The indictment alleges the three men, all from Dearborn Heights, conspired to bribe several Garden City officials in order to secure authorization for a new medical marijuana facility in the city. The indictment states the men attempt to pay several city officials, including the mayor, police chief and several city council members. Prosecutors say the men

offered bribes in order to secure a new medical marijuana facility, which would require a change in the city's ordinance. The ordinance only allows for two such dispensaries in the city, which were already open and operating. The trio hoped to open a grow facility near Ford Road and Hubbard, and the dispensary somewhere else along Ford Road. The three are accused of bribing officials, both with cash and offering a percentage of the marijuana center's profits each month in exchange for the issuance of a license to operate the building. One of those officials, the indictment states, was working with federal law enforcement. The three delivered \$15,000 in cash for three Garden City council members, \$5,000 per person, in exchange for their votes to change the ordinance and allow for the medical marijuana

facility. Federal prosecutors also said the three agreed to place \$150,000 in an escrow account to show good faith toward paying off future bribes. Federal officials are seeking forfeiture of those remaining funds, which total about \$133,000. The timeline of the bribes took place from Sept. 2016 to Dec. 2016, with the three handing off the envelope with the cash to a city official Dec. 2. "Citizens deserve elected officials to make decisions in the best interests of their constituents, not on who's lining their pockets," said Acting United States Attorney Daniel Lemisch in a statement. Public servants who sell their votes will be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law." dveselenak@hometownlife.com
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World's smallest pacemaker available at St. Mary Mercy Livonia

St. Mary Mercy Livonia successfully inserted the world's smallest pacemaker into two patients June 16, joining a small number of facilities in Michigan that now offer minimally-invasive surgery for people living with an irregular heart rhythm.

The Micra TPS pacemaker is the size of a vitamin capsule, more than nine times smaller than a conventional pacemaker. The new pacemaker is completely self-contained within the heart, which eliminates potential medical complications arising from a chest incision or as a result of wires running from a conventional pacemaker into the heart.

"We strive to improve quality through innova-

tion and by bringing leading-edge medical technology to our patients," said David Spivey, president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Livonia. "I congratulate our Cardiovascular Services team for their diligent work to elevate our level of service for people living with an irregular heartbeat."

A pacemaker addresses Bradycardia, a condition characterized by a slow or irregular heart rhythm, usually fewer than 60 beats per minute. At this rate, the heart is unable to pump enough oxygen-rich blood to the body during normal activity or exercise, causing dizziness, fatigue, shortness of breath or fainting spells. Pacemakers are the most common way to treat Bradycardia

to help restore the heart's normal rhythm and relieve symptoms by sending electrical impulses to the heart to increase the heart rate.

Nathan Foster, M.D., the St. Mary Mercy cardiologist who performed both surgeries, explains that unlike traditional pacemakers, the Micra TPS pacemaker device does not require cardiac wires (leads) or a surgical "pocket" under the skin. Instead, the device is small enough to be delivered through a catheter and implanted directly into the heart, providing a safe alternative to conventional pacemakers without the complications associated with leads – all while being cosmetically invisible. The device is also designed to automatical-

ly adjust pacing therapy based on a patient's activity levels.

"By removing the device pocket and leads, the two most common failure points of traditional devices are eliminated," Foster said. "All of this is accomplished in a tiny package that outperforms many pacemakers currently on the market. I'm thrilled that our team can offer this new option to patients."

The Micra TPS was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in April 2016 and has been granted Medicare reimbursement eligibility, allowing broad patient access to the pacing technology.

For more information about St. Mary Mercy, go to www.stmarymercy.org



SUBMITTED

The new pacemaker (right) is small enough to be delivered through a catheter and implanted directly into the heart.



ILLUSTRATION BY DAN ALEGRIA | GETTY IMAGES | ISTOCKPHOTO

Several on the banned list are just goofy, but apparently gross enough to run afoul of the secretary of state's prohibition on plates with a "connotation offensive to good taste and decency."

27,000 things you'll never see on a Michigan plate

Justin A. Hinkley
Lansing State Journal

License plates have made Michigan headlines lately, with Gov. Rick Snyder vetoing legislation that would allow Michiganders to buy fundraising plates supporting antiabortion groups.

But mini-controversies are routine at the secretary of state, where a committee regularly gives the "yea" or "nay" on so-called vanity plates,

those custom configurations Michigan motorists use to dress up their vehicles with a personal message. Think "DADS BABY" on the back of a classic Mustang.

As of May 31, there were more than 300,000 personalized license plates in circulation, but the secretary of state maintained a list of 27,401 configurations that were either preemptively deemed unacceptable or were requested by motorists but denied. The

state's personalized plate policy broadly prohibits any configurations with a "connotation offensive to good taste and decency," and specifically prohibits references to drugs or alcohol, certain body parts, violence or disparaging phrases.

The banned list includes:

» Literally hundreds of variations of the f-word, including "FWORD"

» "ALCOHOL" and the misspelled "ALCA-

HOL," along with "ABEER," "BEEER" (yes, four E's), "CHIVAS," "CUERVOS" and "VINOGAL"

» Hundreds of variations of body parts and things drivers apparently want done to or want to do to those body parts

» At least three references to avian fecal matter (maybe the motorists requesting those phrases thought it would prevent droppings on their car, the way dressing up like a goblin at Halloween is

supposed to scare away evil spirits)

» Lots of hate, including hate for automakers — "H8FORD," "IH8GM," "H8HONDA" and the more general "H8MPORTS"; for politicians — "H8HILRY," "H8LBRLS," "H8LIBS," "H8GOP"; and the more personal, "H8EXWIF"; others would espouse tolerance, but still run afoul of secretary of state policies, like "H8H8RS"

» At least eight variants of "BOOGER"

» "ISPEED," "SPEEDR" and "TAILME" (the state apparently wants to discourage bad driving)

» Nine variations of "REDRUM" (that's "murder" backward, as made famous by the Stephen King novel and Stanley Kubrick film "The Shining"); the list also bans "BLOODY" and "BLOODY"

» Several racial slurs and epithets, including someone who just wanted to proclaim "RACIST"

Cops raid pawn shop, home in massive crime scheme

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A Detroit pawn shop owner and employee, accused of accepting \$300,000 in merchandise stolen from stores in southeast Michigan, including Canton, are facing a total of 21 felony charges.

Gasswan Usama Gargis, 38, of Commerce Township and Trisha-Lynette Viado Razon, 20, of Orchard Lake are accused in an organized retail crime scheme amid allegations they took in stolen high-end electronics, kitchen appliances,

generators, jewelry, power tools and other merchandise.

The defendants were arraigned Aug. 1 by Detroit 36th District Judge Kenneth J. King, who released them on a \$5,000 personal bond. They were scheduled to be back in court Aug. 8 for a probable cause conference.

The charges follow a six-month investigation that included Canton police executing a search warrant June 12 at the iPawn Shop on Eight Mile Road in Detroit and also at Gargis's home. Canton Deputy Police Chief



Gargis

Razon

Craig Wilsher said Gargis and Razon are suspected of buying stolen merchandise and selling it at the pawn shop.

Gargis could face up to 20 years in prison, Wilsher said, if he is convicted of one count of conducting a criminal enterprise, seven counts of organized retail crime,

six counts of receiving and concealing stolen property over \$1,000 and two related misdemeanor charges.

Razon could face five years in prison, Wilsher said, if convicted of five counts of organized retail crime, two counts of receiving and concealing stolen property over \$1,000 and two related misdemeanor charges.

Police say they recovered more than \$300,000 in stolen merchandise. Wilsher called it a "very extensive" list of goods taken from big box stores such as Walmart, Home Depot and Target

in southeast Michigan, including Canton.

The case was handled by Canton police, the Michigan State Police and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. Authorities haven't said who may actually have stolen the merchandise and sold it to the pawn shop.

"The defendants are allegedly responsible for thwarting over approximately \$300,000 from major big box retailers in the metro Detroit area," Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy said in a statement. "These charges today are the result of months of te-

dious and exhaustive work by the Canton Police Department and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office."

Worthy said the charges should send a strong message.

"This case should serve as notice that these wide-scale sales of stolen goods to pawn shop operations will be vigorously investigated and prosecuted in Wayne County," she said.

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NISSAN TECHNICAL CENTER

Jennifer Clapp, with the Nissan Technical Center in Farmington Hills, joined the former president in building houses with Habitat for Humanity.

Farmington Hills worker builds houses with Jimmy Carter

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Jennifer Clapp is proud to say she got hammered with Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.

In celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary, Clapp - who works at the Nissan Technical Center in Farmington Hills - joined the former president and his wife to build and repair more than 100 houses for families in Edmonton, Alberta, and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The 34th annual Carter Work Project for Habitat for Humanity took place July 9-14.

"Most people don't see callouses on their hands or a bashed thumb as a sign of a well-spent week," Clapp said. "But it was more than worth it."

Q: What was it like working alongside Jim-

my Carter?

Clapp: Unfortunately, there wasn't much time in which he was working. About 90 minutes into the first day he was there, President Carter became dehydrated and went to the hospital. He returned the next day, however, he did not continue building.

Q: How are your building skills?

Clapp: Before the week-long build, I only used a hammer for hanging pictures in my condo ... however, since then, I've shingled two roofs and framed a houseful of interior walls. I'd now consider my hammer skill level at expert.

Q: Who are the recipients of this project?

Clapp: Overall in Winnipeg, Manitoba, there were 21 families who will each own their own home. They are people



Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his wife Rosalynn volunteered to build houses in Canada with Habitat for Humanity.

who were chosen by Habitat for Humanity based on their applications. All recipients are required to have a job and put in over 200 hours of labor and other requirements set by the organization in order to live in the home.

Q: Were you able to meet and chat with the former president?

Clapp: Unfortunately, other than a quick picture with President Carter and Mrs. Carter at the end of the week, we did not. I've been told President Carter is very fo-

cused and task-oriented when he's working on the build sites and doesn't like to be disturbed.

Q: Did anyone crack open a can of Billy Beer?

Clapp: Not that I saw! Although a volunteer did share with me a beer by

Torque Brewing, which donated \$4 of every 12-pack they sold to Habitat for Humanity Manitoba initiatives. After we finished our work, I made sure to do my part!

Q: Are there similar Habitat for Humanity volunteer opportunities in Michigan?

Clapp: Yes, there are. Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Michigan do "blitz" builds year-round. A blitz build occurs when multiple homes are being built or updated all at once. Pontiac just had one that involved a neighborhood park. These builds call on all types of people of all skill levels to help build, rebuild or update our neighborhoods.

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Theater to exhibit 'Expressions: A Portrait Collection By Mary's Artists'

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is pleased to exhibit "Expressions: A Portrait Collection By Mary's Artists," a group art exhibit featuring works from over a dozen artists, through Aug. 30.

Featured artists include Kathleen Boettcher, Candace Brancik, Carole Cooper, Barbara Eko Murphy, Daria Fileta, Sara Hadley, Janet Kondziela, Kathleen McNamee, Kathleen Montgomery, Lynn Newman, Kathleen W. O'Connell, Jane O'Dell, Susan Perrish, Karen Schlender and Mary Step. Artwork includes more than 40 life drawings and paintings.

Mary's Artists represents more than 20 artists who attend weekly life studio sessions at Mary Step's Studio in Novi. Founded 10 years ago, this unique work space was created after Barbara Eko Murphy and Mary Step met at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center and formed a life drawing group. Step provides the studio, hires models and collects costumes and props. Murphy leads, coordinates and encourages the artists to show their art in solo and juried art shows.

Mary's Artists work each week from a live

costumed model and in a variety of media to include oils, watercolors, acrylics, pastels, charcoals and inks. Each artist's interpretation is uniquely his/her own and many are award winners. A few artists have degrees in fine art, others have taken classes at Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Visual Arts Association of Livonia and a variety of workshops with national artists. All artists are committed to the art community found at Mary Step's Studio and to the value of painting from life.

Mary's Artists find that their mix of gender, age, religion, heritage, education and other differences blend well to form a wonderful art community and studio experience. Art is a common passion but a splash of humor and friendship add to the experience.

Each week at the studio you will find creative art souls gathering to drink coffee, discuss news and make art. Life Drawing and Painting are invaluable to the artists as they collaborate with models to create masterpieces. Mary's Artists hope that the viewer feels inspired when attending



"Inspired" by Kathleen O'Connell is one of the works on display at Canton's Village Theater.

the collective portrait show.

This current art exhibit at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, one hour prior to and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment. The Gallery@VT is closed holidays. The gallery is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road. For more information about this latest exhibit, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillage theater.org.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.284

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 3, "ZONING DISTRICTS" SECTION 3.20, OST REQUIRED CONDITIONS;" AND ARTICLE 3, "ZONING DISTRICTS" SECTION 3.14, I-1 REQUIRED CONDITIONS;" TO ALLOW OUTDOOR PLACEMENT OF ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANK AND ARTICLE 3, "ZONING DISTRICTS" SECTION 3.18, "OSC REQUIRED CONDITIONS;" TO ALLOW OUTDOOR DISPLAYS IN CONNECTION WITH A PERMITTED GENERAL HOSPITAL USE.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, July 31, 2017 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: August 10, 2017

LO-0000326904 3x3

Not everyone needs a life insurance policy



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

I recently met with a potential new client to discuss managing his investments and whether he had enough to retire and maintain his lifestyle. As I reviewed his information, I told him that he could retire, but that he did not have much of a cushion; he would have to be prudent with how he spends money in retirement. As we took a closer look at his expenses, one thing that jumped out at me was the amount he was paying for life insurance. He had a substantial life insurance policy for which he was paying more than \$1,200 a month. My first

question to him was why he needed life insurance — after all, he is divorced and has no children or dependents. After thinking about it for a minute or so, his answer was that he didn't know.

The client explained to me that he bought life insurance when he was married in order to protect his spouse and that it never occurred to him that he should cancel the policy. My advice to him was to cancel the policy and that the money he saves on a monthly basis would provide him the cushion he needed in retirement. I have seen this many times, where people have life insurance policies that they don't need. There is a misconception out there that everyone needs life insurance, but that's not the case. As I've said many times, life insurance is not an invest-

ment; it is a means of covering risk. The risk that you cover with life insurance is that someone will lose out financially upon your death. However, if there is no one financially dependent upon you, why have life insurance?

I recommend that everyone go through their life insurance policies to determine if they need them or not. Just because you purchased the policy 20 years ago doesn't mean you should have it today. I have always believed that life insurance is like all other insurance, that it's need-based. No one would buy boat insurance unless they had a boat. The same theory applies to life insurance. The question isn't if you're going to die or not, because we know that happens to everyone. The real question is, when you die, is a

loved one going to have financial difficulties? If no, you don't need life insurance. If yes, life insurance is something to consider.

If you decide to cancel your life insurance, what do you do with your policy? If it is a term policy, you can cancel it and just walk away. If you had a policy that was accumulating cash value, there are a few options. In deciding what option to take, the question is, what will your tax ramifications be?

Many people are under the mistaken belief that if you cash out a life insurance policy and receive the cash value, it is subject to tax. That is not necessarily the case. Don't forget, in a life insurance policy, you do have a cost basis and that is all the premiums you have paid. For example, if you had \$50,000 cash

value on a life insurance policy and over the years you had paid \$60,000 in premiums, you can cash out your life insurance policy, receive the \$50,000 and there will be zero tax consequences. On the other hand, if the cash value is \$50,000 and the total premiums you paid were \$40,000 when you cash out the policy, there would be a \$10,000 gain, which will be reported as ordinary income.

For those that are thinking about cashing out a policy where there will be a tax consequence, in order to avoid that tax consequence, you can directly transfer your cash surrender value into an annuity. This is known as a 1035 exchange and there would be no tax consequences to the transaction. If this is an option you are thinking about,

you certainly should look at some of the no-load, no-penalty annuities offered by companies such as Fidelity, Schwab and Vanguard.

It doesn't matter why you bought the life insurance, the question you need to ask yourself is whether you still need it today. If you don't need life insurance, why pay for it? If you have not reviewed your life insurance coverage, this could be an excellent time to do so. After all, why should you pay for something you don't need? The money you save looks much better in your pocket than it does anywhere else.

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

GUEST COLUMN

St. Mary's Mercy psych staff caught doing the right thing



Tom Watkins
GUEST COLUMNIST

The St. Mary's Mercy Hospital Livonia leadership team recently filled its boardroom for a special meeting to honor some of its staff. Hospital President and CEO David A. Spivey smiled with pride as he greeted staff and special guest state Rep. Laura Cox, R-Livonia. She was there to recognize employees for going above and beyond for their patients — specifically, one living with a developmental disability.

"It is my honor to recognize individuals who take the extra steps to care for some of our most vulnerable," Cox said. "This approach is a part of the culture of St. Mary's Mercy Livonia and our community at-large."

The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority worked collaboratively with the hospital staff in caring for one of our consumers and assuring that her needs were met. The woman, in her early 30s, lives with severe autism spectrum disorder and was brought to the hospital by her group home staff for extreme self-injurious and aggressive behaviors. After several weeks in the medical unit for injuries she had inflicted upon herself, she was admitted to St. Mary's Mercy's mental health unit for psychiatric stabilization. All other hospitals in the area with a unit dedicated to patients with devel-



Tom Watkins (from left), state Rep. Laura Cox, Pam McCullough, Dr. Samuel Wedes, Suzanne Stevenson and David Spivey.

opmental disabilities had denied her admission.

Upon admission, she was assessed and treated by a multidisciplinary team of psychiatrists, social workers, occupational and activity therapists, nurses and mental health technicians. The team included Dr. Samuel Wedes, nurse Pam McCullough and case worker Suzanne Stevenson.

After 100 days of care, the patient did not improve to the point where she would be considered

safe to be discharged. So despite the hospital not being suited for long-term care, the team worked tirelessly, continuing its work with the patient, exploring alternative options in the community where she would receive specialized services catered to her condition as an individual with developmental disabilities. After weeks of coordination, the team helped facilitate the safe transfer through Trinity Advocacy Services to Stonecrest Hos-

pital in Detroit, where the patient could get the tailored care she needed.

We often single out individuals doing the wrong things, but it's quite a delight to catch people doing the right thing, administering an extra dose of care and kindness. This situation required going beyond providing the standard-level of care. That's why DWMHA and Cox worked together to honor Spivey's staff.

"We instill this philosophy from the top on

down in our organization," Spivey said. "We extend ourselves where we can and this team exemplified that spirit."

Spivey's team was diligent, having engaged all parties to determine the next step for the patient and cover all basis for their hospital. Several conference calls were made and multiple meetings were convened on how to proceed for one individual.

This scenario played out as it should, professionals doing everything

they can to make things right for individuals receiving services. We hear too often about the bad apples caught abusing the system or, worse, the patients they are entrusted to care for. Let's salute more heroes like those at St. Mary's Mercy Hospital.

Tom Watkins is president and CEO of the Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (www.dwmha.com) Follow him on Twitter @tdwatkins88.

GUEST COLUMN

For inspiration, look no further than Farmington Hills, then listen for the singing!



L.J. McCulloch
OUR MENTAL HEALTH

If you can use a dose of inspiration, mixed with a load of hope, I would like to introduce you to Gary Francis. He has been a member of the Therapy Choirs of Michigan for five years. Headquartered in Farmington Hills for 20 years, TCM is a nonprofit organization, created by myself and co-director Sherry Cantrell. We began with only one voice. We have grown to three therapy choirs, representing special-needs folks in Oakland, Macomb and Livingston

counties. The therapy choir is composed of individuals recovering from various traumas. We have found that music therapy, in general, and choir therapy, in particular, are helpful in many ways to individuals recovering from such calamities as traumatic brain injury, cerebral vascular accidents, Parkinson's and other neurological disorders.

We met Francis about five years ago, after his physician referred him to the Therapy Choirs of Michigan for choir therapy treatment. The story is about how Francis and his personal music therapist/guitar and harmony accompanist, Jonathan Carmona, have spawned a new performance

group called Remember When.

Gary's story

You see, Francis is a U.S. Navy veteran and was an accomplished cyclist and barbershop quartet singer. He was hit by a car driven by a driver who fell asleep in July 2009. Francis sustained a severe, traumatic brain injury and associated orthopedic and internal organ injuries. This accident left him hemiplegic. He has no movement with the entire left side of his body and he is completely wheelchair-bound. As a result of the brain injury, Francis also lost his beautiful singing voice. He continues to devote his rehabilitation to singing. Song by song, his

specialty has become a group of songs from the '50s and '60s. His audiences are always familiar with his set of songs by the Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, Peter, Paul and Mary and others. Francis has been on a fast-track of recovery, vowing to learn at least one new song per week. He has a performance list now of 100 songs.

With his guitarist accompanying him and the use of harmony, Francis has made several performances at local, private and public venues. These include the Detroit Eastern Market, VFW ceremonial sites, the Michigan Capitol building, assisted living homes, memory-care units, schools and more. Remember When has

appeared with the Therapy Choirs of Michigan on several PBS television documentaries.

The question

Francis is in the process of recovery from his tragedy. His life has been permanently altered. With determination, Francis has stopped asking the question, "Why me?" and has actively begun to answer the more pertinent question of, "Now, what am I going to do for myself and for others as a result of this tragedy?"

For more information about Francis and Carmona's participation in the Therapy Choirs of Michigan, as well as a Remember When duet, contact us. The Therapy Choirs of Michigan is a

subsidiary of this column, "Our Mental Health," which has been syndicated in Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, for 15 years. Approximately 300 articles have been published and are archived at the Farmington Library, <http://www.farmlib.org>. Also, go to www.therapychoirs.org for more information.

L.J. McCulloch is a diplomate of the American Psychotherapy Association. He is credentialed in mental health, traumatic brain injury, addictions and social work. His monthly column, Our Mental Health, is available online, at local newsstands and via home delivery. Call McCulloch at 248-474-2763, ext. 222, for a courtesy phone consultation regarding his work.

AREA EVENTS

.Send calendar items to
LIV-OENewstip@
hometownlife.com.

Meals on Wheels benefit

Western Oakland Meals on Wheels will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 12-13, along Main Street during the Milford Memories event. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$5 for children.

The group also sponsors the Meet Up and Eat Up Summer Meals for Children, which take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday at Commerce Meadows (Wixom), Cedarbrook Estates (White Lake), Novi Meadows and Old Dutch Farms (Novi) and Highland Greens (Highland). Free meals are also served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Wednesday at Kensington Place (South Lyon).

Rummage sale

MCC will hold a rummage sale" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 10-11 This event will be on the same days as Milford Memories Summer Festival (<http://www.milfordmemories.com/1/mm/index.asp>). The sale location will be 1150 S. Milford Road. Up-to-the minute information will be posted to MCC's Facebook event page (<https://mm.facebook.com/events/135380553745297/?ti=icl>). To donate items to the sale or to volunteer, call Kim 248-624-1836 or Debi 810-499-9895.

Document shredding event

Huron Valley State Bank will host a community document shredding event 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15, at the Milford and Highland branches. The community is welcomed to shred confidential documents safely and securely free of charge (up to four banker boxes per person or business and up to shredding truck capacity). The shredding event is taking place on the same day as the bank's 12-year anniversary.

The bank is also offering lunch at both branches from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The community is welcome to stop inside for traditional grilled hot dogs, snacks and refreshments.

The branch locations are at 130 S. Milford Road and 2920 E. Highland Road.

Dems club meeting

The Democrats of West Oakland County will host a meeting, Tuesday, Aug. 15, with a social hour at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting at 6:30 p.m., at the Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road.

Gather info on area happenings, legislative updates and local candidates. For more information, go to www.dwoc.info or on Facebook at Democrats of West Oakland County.

Summer concerts

The Northville Summer Friday Night Concert Series - presented by Tom Holzer Ford - brings the music of some of the finest local musicians to downtown Northville's outdoor stage in Town Square



St. George's Episcopal Church in Milford is sponsoring a medical equipment drive through Aug. 15.

(located on Main Street across from the Marquis Theatre) 7-9 p.m. each Friday through Aug. 25.

The schedule features everything from jazz to blues to rock 'n' roll. For more information, including a full schedule of performances, contact the Northville Chamber at 248-349-7640 or go to www.northville.org.

Estate/yard sale fundraiser

The Lyon Area Rotary Club is having an estate/yard sale to raise funds for its scholarship programs. The sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, Aug. 9-12, at 51760 Grand River Ave, Wixom

Each year students at both South Lyon High Schools are awarded scholarships. Come out and support our efforts and find some amazing deals.

Carrabba's to host blood drive

Please join in Sept. 5 at Carrabba's Restaurant, 43455 W. Oaks, in Novi as Carrabba's partners with the American Red Cross to host a blood drive to help save lives. The American Red Cross has a critical blood shortage this summer and has issued an emergency call for blood donors to give now and help save patient lives. Right now, donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in and more donations are needed now to replenish the supply.

The Red Cross will be bringing out its mobile bus for the blood drive and the restaurant will be offering a \$10 gift card to all presenting donors and everyone will be entered into a raffle for dinner and movies for two.

The blood drive hours are from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and donors can sign up at redcrossblood.org (sponsor code is Carrabba's) or call 800-RED-CROSS.

Runestad seeks public input

State Rep. Jim Runestad has scheduled two public meetings to gather input on proposed child custody reforms. Runestad, chair of the House Judiciary Committee, is working on legislation establishing shared custody with equal parenting time as the starting point for all child custody deliberations in Michigan.

"I want to get as much input as possible from

people involved with the family court system throughout our state, including parents, attorneys and other experts," said Runestad, R-White Lake. "This information will allow me to move forward and make meaningful reforms that improve child custody laws in Michigan."

Public meetings will be at 6-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21, at Studio D2D, 401 Hall St. SW, Grand Rapids; and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 22, at Antonio's Cucina Italiana, 2220 N. Canton Center Road, Canton.

Anyone unable to attend one of the meetings is encouraged to contact Runestad's office at 517-373-2616 or email JimRunestad@house.mi.gov.

Medical equipment drive

St. George's Episcopal Church, 801 E. Commerce St., Milford, is partnering with World Medical Relief as a drop-off site for your unused medical equipment. Donate your clean, gently used walkers wheelchairs, commodes, shower chairs, crutches, canes, splints, medical boots, adult briefs and pads, sealed C-Pap equipment and sealed medication (no narcotics). We are also collecting for hygiene kits: towels, wash clothes, sample sizes of shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, soap and toothbrushes. We cannot accept glasses, hearing aids or electric wheelchairs.

Drop-off times are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and each Sunday morning through Aug 15. We suggest you call first to ensure someone is available to take your donation during the week. For more information, go to stgeorgesmilford.org or call 248-684-0495.

RCL meet and greet

The Republican Club of Livonia will host a gubernatorial candidate meet and greet event from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at Livonia Victory Center, 33462 W. Seven Mile Road. For more information, call 734-679-7757.

Runestad to host coffee hours

State Rep. Jim Runestad of White Lake will host coffee hours Friday, Aug. 18, in White Lake, Highland and Milford. The coffee hours are at

the following locations and times:

- » 8-9 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 6845 Highland Road, White Lake
- » 10-11 a.m. at Colasanti's Market, 468 S. Milford Road, Highland
- » Noon to 1 p.m. at Baker's of Milford, 2025 S. Milford Road, Milford

No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Runestad at 517-373-2616 or JimRunestad@house.mi.gov.

Health care lecture

Providence Park Hospital is offering a free health care lecture, Do You Know What You're Really Eating? Emily Schwartz will offer this lecture 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 15, at Providence Park Hospital, Novi Campus, Conference Room A & B, outpatient building.

It is no secret that a healthy diet helps reduce the risk of developing heart disease, type 2 diabetes and obesity. But how do you go about it? Picking up any item in a supermarket, chances are you're overwhelmed by all the ingredient listing and buzz words on the label. What part of it is just marketing, and what are the really important facts to watch out for? Learn about the new FDA changes to label terms and how to make the best food choices for you and your family.

For more information or to register, call 888-751-5465.

SL Rec Authority

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority board meetings are held at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call the South Lyon Area Recreation office at 248-437-8105 for directions and confirmation of meeting location. To register for upcoming classes, call or go to www.slrec.net.

Week of Aug. 13: Island Lake Kids Kamp Week 9, Fun Time Soccer Camps, Last Chance Baseball Camp, Basics of Being the "Photographer," Mom's Camera Class, Adult Beginner Equestrian Lessons, The Enchanted Princess Party

Week of Aug. 20: Island Lake Kids Kamp Week 10, Fun Time Soccer Camp

Friday and Saturday Night Hangouts

The Living and Learning Center in downtown Northville is a center that specializes in help-

ing teens and adults that are on the autism spectrum learn job and social skills. This center provides a program 6-9 p.m. each Friday and Saturday night that allows their clients to partake in games, art, and creating friendships with their fellow peers and mentors.

Each week, teens and adults learn essential social skills (introducing themselves, carrying a conversation, etc.) while also having a fun night out of the house.

To learn more about this program or to reserve your spot in the program, call 248-308-3592 or go to www.livingandlearningllc@gmail.com.

Wooden window repair workshop

Do you own an older house with original windows? Learn how to repair this valuable asset while maintaining the historic character of your home. Find out how to save money, improve window operation and increase energy efficiency with historic window specialist James Turner of Turner Restoration at a workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the Heritage Park Nature Center, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

If you love DIY projects, this workshop is for you! Attendees will learn how to remove old sashes; safely remove old paint or finishes; make needed repairs; add energy-efficient upgrades; eplace glass the proper way; and more.

Admission is free for the first 12 attendees who register by Aug. 15. The admission fee is \$25 for all others. Space is limited to 16 attendees.

Register online at <https://farmingtonhillswindowworkshop.eventbrite.com/>. Contact Ellen Thackery, Michigan Historic Preservation Network, at info@mhpnp.org or call 313-575-5215. Please bring a bag lunch.

Milford High School reunion

The Milford High School Class of 1967 will hold a 50-year union 6-10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, at Lazy J Ranch, 625 Hickory Ridge Road, Milford. Casual dress is preferred and cost is \$55 per person or \$110 per couple. Contact Marlene Perry Gomez at 248-396-3728 or timmar01@aol.com.

Art House exhibition

The Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street, will host a juried watercolor exhibition titled The Graded Wash, featuring featuring 29 artists who painted 44 works. It will take place through Aug. 26 during normal Art House hours: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.

For more information, call 248-344-0497 or go to www.northvillearthouse.org.

Milford Knights of Columbus golf outing

The Knights of Columbus, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Council No. 7444 in Milford is having a golf outing for the children at St. Jude Children's Hospital. The outing will take place Aug. 20 at Mystic Creek (in Camp Dearborn), Milford.

Registration is at 8:30 a.m., shotgun start is at 9:30 a.m.

Price is \$400 for a foursome or \$100 per golfer. This get you doughnuts, coffeecake, bagels, coffee or juice, hot dogs, chips and a soda at the turn, dinner to follow, golf 18 holes with cart, best ball scramble, longest drive, closest to the pin, skins, putting contest, prizes and a 50/50 raffle.

Hole sponsorship is \$100. Donations welcome.

If you make a donation, make them to: St. Jude. c/o John Rogers, 3101 Sands Ct., Milford, MI 48380. If you need a form, call Rogers at 248-714-5353.

Artist lecture features Roko

The Village Fine Arts Association invites the public to hear guest speaker, Tony Roko, a Detroit-based post-industrialist figurative painter, at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 23.

Roko is gaining recognition as one of the nation's most innovative artists. His accomplishments include commissioned pieces for Lady Gaga and Jay Leno, as well as a commission for Ford's centennial celebration of the assembly line in 2013. Roko has been voted "Best Fine Artist" of Detroit by the readers of HOUR Detroit magazine.

VFAA informational meetings are free and open to everyone and are on the fourth Wednesday of each month, January through October, at the SHAC 125 S. Main St., Suite 700, Milford. Come for a general meeting at 7 p.m. or for the lecture at 7:30 p.m. The VFAA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization since 1992 that has been operating the SHAC since 2014. For more information, go to www.milfordvfaa.org, email contactus@milfordvfaa.org or call 248-797-3060.

Evenings in the Garden

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center in Novi is offering two great late-summer classes for gardeners of all levels to enjoy, as part of their Evenings in the

See EVENTS, Page A16

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EVENTS

Continued from Page A15

Garden series.

Aug. 24, popular author, professional gardener and artist Cheryl English will reveal the wide variety of Michigan woody native plants that "play well with others" in the landscape. English is a dynamic and provocative speaker with a deep knowledge of our state's green jewels, most of which are available at our local garden center.

Sept. 14, Nick Zimmer will be at Tollgate to demonstrate how to plant successful and beautiful fall containers. Zimmer is an MSU alumnus and founder/owner of Willow Greenhouse. At the end of this class, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase finished pots, along with plants for their own containers.

Classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday. Advance registration is required. The cost of classes is \$20 and supports further adult education programming at MSU Tollgate.

To find out more and to register, go to <https://events.anr.msu.edu/evenings17sum/>.

Tee off for autism

The Autism Society of Oakland County will host its premiere fundraiser, the 23rd annual Golf for Autism event, Sunday, Sept. 10, at Pine Knob Golf Course in Clarkston.

The event will begin with an 8 a.m. registration that includes breakfast and a bloody Mary/mimosa bar. Shotgun start is at 10 a.m., followed by a buffet lunch, raffle drawings and an award presentation. There is a wide array of

sponsorship opportunities available to highlight your business, honor a loved one with autism or support the organization and all that it does. It is also looking for donations to be included in the raffle drawing.

Since the 1980s, the Autism Society of Oakland County, has been advocating and supporting meaningful participation in all aspects of life, for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families. By working with community partners, ASOC creates, cultivates and supports programs and events that impact the daily and future life of people with autism of all ages. This year alone, ASOC has been responsible for programs and services benefiting more than 2,000 with autism.

To register, sponsor or donate, go to www.autism.societyoaklandcounty.org or call Rosemary Rangi, golf co-chair, at 586-419-0371.

Salem-South Lyon book sale

The Salem-South Lyon Library will hold a book sale Aug. 22-26. This once a year sale features thousands of books and media for all ages. Prices start at 25 cents. Books are sorted by category.

S-SL Library is at 9800 Pontiac Trail. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Artist and crafters gallery

The Novi Civic Center Atrium Gallery features rotating exhibits from artists and crafters and provides the opportunity for the community to explore and support local

arts. Upcoming shows include:

Hobbies and Crafts of Novi's Older Adults, Aug. 3-31: The exhibit will feature several craft groups from the Novi area including, All Things Yarn, In Stitches and Novi Needlers. Also included is rug-hook artist, Darcell Brown. On hand will be specially-designed handmade quilts, colorful and fun, knitted/crocheted crafts, and innovative, cross stitched/embroidered projects.

Photographer Daniel Sidoli, Sept. 5-29: Sidoli is a former Michigan resident who has since relocated to Las Vegas. His main focus for this show will be landscape photography, especially unique land and rock formations. A free public opening takes place 7-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8.

Palette and Brush Club, Oct. 3-30: This metro Detroit-based group's beginnings date back to the mid-1930s. Their mission is to provide opportunities to their members to enhance their lives and artistic careers. A free public opening takes place 7-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6.

The exhibit is available for viewing during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with some exceptions. The exhibit is also open many evenings and weekends. Call the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 248-347-0400 for details.

Veterans benefit show

Come enjoy "Dean Martin," a.k.a. John Morrello, straight from a 1960s Vegas show, during two benefit shows 4 p.m.

and 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30. The shows, sponsored by The Marine Corps League Northwest Detachment 162, go to support the mission of the Detachment. They will be at the VFW Post 4012, 438 N. Main St. Northville.

Tickets are \$20 per show, with a cash bar. RSVP to Mark Sutton at 248-390-5481, go to www.semperfi162.org or email mcldet162@gmail.com. The MCL will accept Visa, MC, cash or checks. All reservations must be prepaid.

Lakeland 2007 reunion

The Lakeland High School Class of 2007 will hold its 10-year reunion 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at Lucky Strike in Novi. The event will include door prizes, bowling, pool, food and drinks, with a cash bar. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite at <https://goo.gl/SaiGeS>. More information is available on the class Facebook page, "Lakeland High School Class of 2007 Reunion."

Schoolhouse celebration

The Salem Area Historical Society will be holding a celebration 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10. It has been 50 years since the end of the 110 years of continuous school years at the South Salem Stone School. All are invited, especially all students of all classes who have attended the one-room schoolhouse, located at 7991 North Territorial Road (corner of North Territorial and Curtis roads in Salem Township). The celebration will be held at the

old school, which is now part of the Jarvis Stone School Local Historic District.

If you were a student or can help the SAHS locate previous students, contact Terry Cwik at Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com or go to the Salem Area Historical Society's Facebook page.

Barn dance

The Salem Area Historical Society and Three Cedars Farm will present the annual barn dance 7-10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, at Three Cedars Farm, 7897 Six Mile Road, west of Curtis. Admission at the door is \$5 per person or \$3 for members of SAHS.

The square dance caller will assist dancers with all levels of experience. Families and groups are encouraged to attend. Proceeds will be used for the upkeep of the Salem Area Historical Society's South Salem Stone School and its Dickerson Barn. Cider and doughnuts will be available for purchase.

Major sponsors include Salem Tool, Alumi-tect Industries, AA Anchor Bolt, Karl's Cabin Restaurant & Bar, All-American Storage, Gardner-Westcott and Three Cedars Farm.

More information can be found at the Salem Area Historical Society's Facebook page or website (www.sahshistory.org) or via an email request to Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com.

Ride for Recovery and color run

Sponsors, participants and vendors are being sought for the second annual Boots on the Ground Color Run and the Ride for Sobriety,

which both take place Saturday, Sept. 30. Both events are presented by the Sobriety Promotions Program, Inc., in partnership with the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities, Oakland Community Health Network and Lyon Events Organization.

All proceeds directly benefit the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities prevention and educational programs developed to raise awareness of the dangers of abusing prescription drugs and the 52-1 District Court Veterans, Sobriety and Drug Treatment Court.

The Ride for Recovery will have registration at 9 a.m. and the ride at 10 a.m., starting at Grace Community Church, 3275 Martin Road, Commerce. Registration for the color run will start at 9 a.m., with an opening ceremony at 11 a.m., a kids mile run at 11:30 a.m. and the 5K run at noon, all at James Atchison Park, 58000 Grand River, New Hudson. The motorcycle ride will also end at the park.

All are welcome to participate in one or both of the events. There will be a celebration after the color run with music, vendor booths, educational material, fun kids activities, food and more. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information or to register, call Tracy at 248-221-7101 or go online at www.achcmi.org

You can also register for the Color Run or the Motorcycle Ride through Eventbrite. Key words: "Boots on the Ground Color Run" or "Ride for Recovery."

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BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Novi coach passes torch after 36 years

Smith steps down; Moore takes baton

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Robert Smith put Novi boys cross country on the map but, after 36 years, there will be a new coach this fall checking times at the finish line.

The 61-year-old Smith, who guided the Wildcats to two MHSAA Division 1 state championships (1998 and 1999), along with a pair of runner-up finishes (2000, 2006), has decided to retire.

Smith, who guided the Wildcats to their first-ever school state title, is passing the baton to Brad Moore, who has been Novi's boys and girls distance coach for track since 1999.

Smith, who started his coaching run at Novi in 1981, guided the Wildcats to seven regional titles, including back to

back in 2015-16. He also posted 13 top 10 state meet finishes, including fourth last year and third in 2015.

Smith, who retired from Novi in 2010 as a business, accounting and physical education instructor, said he wrestled with his decision to step down.

"I don't have one specific reason," said Smith, who is a member of the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association Hall of Fame. "I guess 36 years has been a nice, long run — no pun intended there. Most people don't stay in there job 36 years, but most people don't love there jobs like cross country coaches do, either."

Novi athletic director Brian Gordon called Smith "a phenomenal coach."

See SMITH, Page B2



Retired Novi boys cross country coach Robert Smith (left) will be replaced by track distance coach Brad Moore.

WORLD JUNIOR SUMMER SHOWCASE

SUMMER SPARKS



Vying for a loose puck along the boards Saturday night are Team USA's Brady Tkachuk (right) and Team Canada's Kale Clague.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Hot power play lifts Team USA to win over Canada in Showcase finale

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

It wasn't quite the Olympics — or World Juniors, for that matter.

But Saturday night's contest at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth between the United States and Canada was pretty close — a thrilling tour de force in front of more than 2,750 fans to close out the week-long 2017 World Junior Summer Showcase.

Fans, as well as a bevy of National Hockey League scouts and front office personnel, were on hand to catch the fast and physical tourney finale. Team USA prevailed 7-5, sparked by four power-play goals.

Leading the charge were U.S. National Team Development Program alums Adam Fox (goal, four assists), Joey Anderson (three goals, assist) and Brady Tkachuk (two assists).

"Sometimes, it's tough in the middle of summer to perform," said Anderson, who will play hockey at University of Minnesota-Duluth between now and December, when the U.S. World Juniors squad reconvenes in advance of the 2018 World Juniors in Buffalo, N.Y. "But we had guys going out there and everyone was giving their all; that's all you can ask for."

"Tonight was probably our most complete game of the whole week. All four lines were moving. A couple penalties we probably didn't like, but we did our best to kill them and make sure they didn't cost us too much."



Celebrating his goal early in the third period is Team USA forward Patrick Harper.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Work to do

U.S. head coach Bob Motzko said it was a good, competitive week for his group.

"Last year, there were a lot of pieces we thought were concrete," said Motzko, whose 2017 World Junior team defeated Canada in the gold medal game. "Right now, there are a lot of pieces, there's so many people that are still in the mix. ... We got a lot of work to do through December."

See HOCKEY, Page B2

JUNIOR TENNIS

Milford's Kim National Clay Court Boys 12s runner-up

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Milford's Aidan Kim recently proved he can adapt to all surfaces after finishing runner-up in the U.S. Tennis Association Boys' 12 National Clay Court Championships.

The incoming eighth-grader from Muir Middle School also overcame stifling conditions at the USTA National Campus in Lake Nona, Fla. by reaching the finals before falling to top seed Jungcheng Shang of Naples, Fla., 6-3, 7-5.

The fourth-seeded Kim wound up with an impressive 6-1 tournament record, winning his first five matches in straight sets, including a 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 quarterfinal win over third seed Kaylan Bigun (Phoenix, Ariz.), followed by a 6-2, 6-0 semifinal triumph over Garen Spicka (Las Vegas, Nev.).

"I tried my best and just believed in myself," said the 5-foot-5, 103-pound Kim. "Since it was on clay, I just tried to stay a little more consistent, just trying to get the point being played. Keep it longer."

Kim, who has posted a 68-14 singles record over the past 12 months, also had to contend with the Orlando weather.

"It was brutal," Kim said. "It was 110 almost every day. I tried to stay out of the heat as much as possible. I had to prepare. I got there a few days early to get used to it because Michigan is not as hot."

Kim is coached by his father Andrew, a teaching pro at Chippewa Valley Tennis Club in Ypsilanti. Andrew played on the ATP Tour from 1983-90 and was ranked in the top 300 after playing at University of Tennessee. Andrew also played for the Indonesia Davis Cup team.

"It was brutal conditions," Andrew Kim said. "It was 90 degrees, but the real feel temperatures were 110-115. It was humid. The good part the first few rounds he went through very nice and easily, so we did a lot of damage control in the first few rounds, then he was still fresh for the quarterfinal and semifinals. It was on clay courts and we hardly ever practice on clay. Brutal conditions, clay courts ... I think Aidan did really well."

Kim practices primarily on hard courts, but two weeks prior to the Orlando tourney he had to switch gears to the slower surface.

See KIM, Page B2



Milford's Aidan Kim was runner-up in the USTA Boys 12s National Clay Courts.

USTA

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

Motzko praised Anderson and Fox for their work on the power play and said Tkachuk "plays at such a hard level every single shift. ... He's going to be an outstanding player. You got to learn to pick and choose your spots a little bit. Right now, it's just full-speed every second he's out there."

Another NTDP alum who made his mark Saturday was forward Josh Norris (Oxford).

"I think it's a huge honor to be at this camp and wear these colors. I, obviously, got a chance to do it the last two years," Norris said. "So to get invited back to this was a huge honor."

"Obviously, there's a lot of talent here. To just kind of see where you fit in, I think I took some good steps this week."

Norris added that playing such an intense game in summer time was "a little different."

"I really haven't played in a game like that before in August," Norris said. "But it's always a huge rivalry when you play those guys, you know

you want to beat them. For us to do that tonight was a huge confidence booster."

Off the hop

Anderson got the night off to a rousing start for Team USA when he scored a power-play goal at 5:33. He tipped in Patrick Harper's shot over the stick side of Team Canada starting goalie Carter Hart.

But Canada bounced back to go up 2-1 on goals by Jordan Kyrou (on the power play) and Givani Smith, a Detroit Red Wings prospect who many area fans wanted to see.

Smith found the mark at 16:39, when his harmless shot from above the circles hit a body and changed direction in front of U.S. goaltender Joseph Woll (16 saves).

"I'll take it," said Smith, a power forward who likely will play a second season for the Guelph Storm of the Ontario Hockey League. "But I love to score pretty goals."

Smith added that he was overall pleased with his performance Saturday and throughout the tournament.

"I was happy with my physical play," Smith said. "They want me out here being a physical presence, finish my



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Team USA's Joey Anderson (left) and linemate Brady Tkachuk celebrate after scoring against Team Canada. Anderson registered a hat trick and added an assist in a 7-5 victory.

checks, do what I do, play good down low and move the puck."

Less than a minute after Smith's goal, Fox tied the game on a play started by dynamic forwards Casey Mittelstadt and Kailer Yamamoto.

Taking the lead

Team USA went up 4-2 when Anderson and Yamamoto found the back of Canada's net in the first nine minutes of the middle period.

Pierre-Luc Dubois then cut

the deficit to 4-3 at 12:45, finishing off a beautiful tic-tac-toe sequence of passes on the power play.

"They had great looks," Motzko said about Canada's power play. "We blocked a lot of shots before they got to our goalie, so we did a few good things on it (PK). But that's what dictated the score, was all the power-play goals."

Patrick Harper and Ryan Poehling padded the U.S. margin to 6-3 early in the third

period, against Dylan Wells (who replaced Hart midway through the second).

But Canada got to within 6-5 when Sam Steel and Jonah Gadjovich scored less than two minutes apart.

There were a few anxious moments for the home fans, until Anderson scored into an empty net with 47 seconds to go, to provide the insurance that Team USA needed. Defenseman Dylan Samberg recorded his second assist of the night on the play.

About the quality of play demonstrated during the Summer Showcase, Motzko said there was a lot to like. But he emphasized that it's just the start of a long, challenging process.

"It's so hard for these guys to come together in the summer and try to crank it up to game shape, game speed, because none of the four teams were there," he said. "They're going to be so much better when (they're) in shape."

"But this gives us a blueprint, it gives us the start of a foundation."

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Milford's Aidan Kim (left) was runner-up to Jungcheng Shang in the Boys 12s National Clay Courts in Orlando, Fla.

KIM

Continued from Page B1

"In this tournament, he competed against kids from Florida and Texas who always play all year-round on clay," Andrew Kim said. "This why in the French Open, it's been a long time that an American has won the French Open on clay ... just because we don't play and hardly practice on clay. In that condition, I think he endured all those obstacles. It was amazing."

Aidan's victory over Bigun proved to be the most satisfying from Andrew Kim's perspective.

"In the quarterfinals, Aidan was a little tired, but he just doesn't want to lose," Andrew said. "He wants to win so badly he forgot he was tired."

After taking home a silver ball for his National Clay Court runner-up finish, Kim headed July 27 to Kalamazoo to play in the No. 5 singles spot for the Midwest Section team in the USTA 14s North Zone Championships, a five-day, collegiate-style dual match format at Western Michigan University.

Kim, who was accompanied to the tourney by his older brother Alexander, a junior on

"It was brutal. ... I tried to stay out of the heat as much as possible. I had to prepare. I got there a few days early to get used to it because Michigan is not as hot."

AIDAN KIM, Milford tennis prodigy

Michigan State's team, was the youngest player on the six-member Midwest team.

After going to Kalamazoo, Kim will take two days off and travel to Mobile, Ala. for the USTA Boys 12s National Hard Courts before taking a break.

It's been a whirlwind 2017 season thus far for Kim, who lost in the round of 16 in the prestigious Easter Bowl (March 25 through April 1) in Indian Wells, Calif., and the round of 32 in the Junior Orange Bowl over Christmas break in Coral Gables, Fla.

His summer schedule has been jam-packed starting in early June, when he was a quarterfinalist in the Boys 14s Southeast Michigan Tennis Association Muthig District Qualifier at Centennial Education Park in Canton.

He then captured the Dr. Joe Morris Memorial Boys 16s singles title (June 16-18) at Huron Valley Tennis Club in Ann Arbor.

Kim reached the semifinals

of the Boys 14s Midwest Closed (June 24-29) in Okemos, falling to Bloomfield Hills' Jeffrey Etterbeek in straight sets, before winning a USTA National Level 2 Boys 12s tourney (July 1-2) in Grand Rapids.

According to Tennis-Recruiting.net, Kim is ranked a five-star blue chip who is No. 4 nationally and No. 1 in Michigan.

He attributes his success this season to "more conditioning, running."

"I'm more of an all-around player," Kim said. "I do pretty much everything."

Kim called his runner-up finish in the National Clay Courts "great, my best achievements so far."

And the best appears yet to come for Kim, no matter what type of surface or conditions.

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SMITH

Continued from Page B1

"And I've been around a lot of good ones," he said. "Just so organized — and to see how the kids respond to him. They have the utmost respect for him and work hard because of the respect they have for him. Just an unbelievable coach."

Smith graduated from South Lyon High School and ran at Alma College, where he was a two-time NCAA Division III qualifier in the 400-meter dash.

He also served as Novi's boys track and field head coach from 1981 through 2007. In 2010-11, he also coached track at Howell High School with his daughter, Samantha Smith-Hudson.

"It wasn't easy," said Smith, a three-time MITCA Coach of the Year. "I'm still kind of at a loss for words. I knew it was time. I was really excited about coming back. I don't know ... I wish I could give you a good answer. I think about it all the time and I thought about it since the end of last season and it's been on my mind all last winter. Finally, I knew I had to make a decision to be fair for the program and I told the athletes in May that I wouldn't be coming back."

During his illustrious cross country run at Novi, Smith coached 31 all-stater athletes, the most of any school other than Rockford during a 21-year period dating back to 1996, when the MHSAA began to host the state finals at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

His most accomplished runner was Tim Moore, the 2001 MHSAA Division 1 individual state champion and Foot Locker national champion who later went on to become a captain and All-America runner at Notre Dame before representing the U.S. at the World Cross Country Championships in Dublin, Ireland.

"I miss the kids already," Smith said. "Novi athletes are just an awesome bunch of kids and they'd run through a wall if you asked them to. They're just that way."

Brad Moore, meanwhile, will transition into his new position beginning Aug. 9 when official practice begins.

"When I started teaching (at Novi), I didn't know anything about the program, I just went to help out and I learned under Bob," Moore said. "I'm really excited, but I'm also following a legend. I've been warned it's hard to follow a legend and I can't ask for a better situation."

The 45-year-old Moore ran under Farmington High coach Gerry Young, graduating in 1989.

He was a member of the University of Michigan marching band and is currently affiliated with the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps, which just returned from a summer trip to the U.S. Naval Academy. He will



SUBMITTED

Robert Smith guided the Wildcats to a pair of MHSAA Division 1 state titles and two runner-up finishes in boys cross country.

also continue to serve as an assistant band director at Farmington High.

"I think the transition will be pretty smooth," Smith said. "That was one of the things I was worried when I stepped down and who was going to take over."

Gordon, meanwhile, brought Moore on board in June.

"I'll call him a disciple or protege of what Bob Smith was," Gordon said. "Brad idolizes Bob and has modeled all of his coaching and the way he's done business. Not everything, but much of his style is similar to Bob's. Not that we're trying to recreate Bob Smith, but Brad handles all the distance for our track team in the spring, the boys and girls. He's got some tremendous experience in that area and the kids returning are very comfortable with him."

Smith, who grew up in Detroit, developed his love for running as a fifth-grader in the Police Athletic League.

But he readily admits he's going to experience some withdrawal symptoms and his heart still bleeds green and white.

"I know I'm going to be heading out to a lot cross country meets — unless it rains," Smith said with a laugh. "I do want to make sure that (Moore) makes his own mark. I don't want him to do whatever I've done. I want him to do what he thinks is appropriate. I'm walking that line. I want to be available to help out. I created that wheel so many times that Brad doesn't need to do that. But on the other hand, I respect his capabilities and want him to make his own mark."

Smith, who most recently guided Novi to back-to-back Oakland County championships, plans to be an avid spectator.

"Once the season gets going ... one or maybe two meets every week," he said. "That will help. And during the week — practices — I'm not sure how I'm going to cope, to tell you the truth."

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WORLD JUNIOR SUMMER SHOWCASE

Fans relish chance to watch future NHL players

Tim Smith
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With Givani Smith at the top of the list, potential National Hockey League stars filled both the American and Canadian rosters for the World Junior Summer Showcase twinbill Aug. 1 at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

So there was no way fans such as Brian Evans and his 13-year-old son Tyler weren't going to drive an hour or so from Macomb Township for the experience.

"Pretty much all the kids have been drafted or will be drafted in the early rounds of the NHL draft," Evans said. "So you kind of figure when you get the game program and you throw it away in the drawer, pull it out five or 10 years from now and you look and say,

'Look at all these guys that we saw.' "I kind of equate it to seeing an up-and-coming rock band before they make it big, in a really small venue. To be able to say you saw some of these kind of players in a venue this intimate with so few people watching, it's kind of a cool experience."

Givani Smith was in the lineup for Canada White for the evening game against USA Blue (the USA White team defeated Canada Red 8-2 earlier Aug. 1) and the 6-2, 209-pound power forward showed why the Detroit Red Wings drafted him in the second round in 2016.

In the first shift of the nightcap, won 2-1 by Canada White, Smith threw a heavy check in the corner and then fed a perfect outlet pass for good mea-

sure. He also was a net-front presence for Canada during several power plays.

Two other recent Detroit draft picks, defenseman Dennis Cholowski (first round, 2016) and forward Michael Rasmussen (first round in 2017), skated for Canada Red, with Cholowski earning an assist.

"We're looking forward to seeing (Smith)," Evans said between games. "It was good to see Rasmussen and Cholowski play in the first game."

Also happy to be at USA Hockey Arena to watch both games were Ann Arbor's Robert Garcia and his 8-year-old son Sean.

"We're just hockey fans and we wanted to come out," Garcia said. "USA Hockey used to play in Ann Arbor at the

Cube. That's where (Sean) plays. We kind of miss seeing those guys, so we thought we'd come out and catch a game."

Garcia concurred that it's a hockey fan's dream to get to watch so many up-and-coming players in one day. Out of 132 players participating in the Summer Showcase, 111 are NHL draft choices.

"Yeah, I think it is (unique), especially if you consider that a lot of these guys are going to be playing at the next level in the next two or three years," Garcia said. "And there's the success that USA Hockey's had in particular, with guys moving on to the NHL and having a lot of success at that level (such as current Red Wings player Dylan Larkin). It's pretty fun to watch them."



Robert Garcia and son Sean of Ann Arbor were pumped up about games between the U.S. and Canada.

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YOUTH BASEBALL



The Braves captured the Novi Youth Baseball League Bronco Division title.

Novi league crowns three champions

Brad Emons
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The Novi Youth Baseball League recently crowned three champions, led by the Bronco Division-winning Braves, coached by Brad Leidal.

Braves team members included Kash Anderson, Rishi Tappeta, Ryan Kelly, Tristen Moody, Tomoatsu Saito, Shoma Mizuno, Amough Pisipati, Brett Leidal, Andrew Sziraki, Aidan Turner, Stanley Wilson and Jonathan Doredla.

Shawn Kelly, Mike Pompa and Steve Staley served as assistant coaches.

Meanwhile, the Tigers captured the Mustang Division, guided by head coach Dennis Manning.

Team members included Brandon Salo, Max Frank, Brendan Steff, Alex Ji, Ethan Roller, Eisho Tanaka, Marco Medico, Sam Xie, Mikihiro Amano, Alex Lee, Christian Molnar, Wyatt Manning and Sawyer Chirdon.

Among the assistant coaches were Andy Steff and Alan Molnar.

The Pinto Division championship went to the Giants, led by players Akhilesh Shenoy, Ryuta Nomura, Brayden Zasada, Drew Shaw, Leland



The Novi Youth Baseball League Tigers earned the Mustang Division crown.



The Novi Youth Baseball League Pinto Division champion Giants.

Dobek, Billy Rozelle, Colin Still, Miles Loiselle, Alex Durante, Michael Segerstrom and Bailey Weathers.

The coaching staff

consisted of Justin Shaw, Larry Weathers, Greg Durante and Sean Zasada.

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WATER SPORTS

Wake surf competitor Parros earns first place

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Nick Parros is just getting started, but he's already riding a wave this summer.

The South Lyon resident, who will be a senior this year at Novi Detroit Catholic Central High School, earned a first-place finish in the wakefest competition during the Lake Anna Wake Surf Open held June 23-24 in Spotsylvania, Va.

His category was wake skim in the two-day event.

It was Parros's first event at the competition level and his final placement was determined using the place points method with judging in accordance with the Competitive Wake Surf Association rules.

Parros has been involved in water sports since he was 10, but only



South Lyon's Nick Parros (middle), who will be a senior at Detroit Catholic Central High School, recently took first in the Wake Surf Open.

Richard Club. "I'm looking forward to my next one in Minnesota."

Lake Anna features a competition in which a rider trails behind a wake-surfing boat, riding the boat's wake without being directly pulled. Lake Anna Wake Surf Open is also a World Series of Wake Surfing event and qualifier for the World Wake Surfing Championship.

The 16-year-old Parros, who is currently ranked 14th in the world in the amateur men's wake skim through the CWSA, starts his senior year at CC interested in applying to colleges located in the southeast region, where he can continue to compete in wake surfing.

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recently became interested in competing at a national level.

"Since this was my first competition, I was not sure what to expect, but the competition was excellent and the event was fun," said Parros, who is a National Honor Society student and member of CC's Gabriel

CLUB SOFTBALL

Stealth 12U team proves stellar

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

The South Lyon Stealth, a 12-and-under girls softball team, recently wrapped up its 2016-17 season by earning runner-up honors in the National Softball Association South Fastpitch World Series.

The Stealth competed in 13 tournaments, finishing with an overall record of 52-15-1 while earning six championships.

Team members include: Ashleigh Tatara, Ava Crumley, Delaney Lis, Melissa Cosens, Sophie Propps, Julia Duncan, Claire Loveland, Ashley Hardesty, Ally Sharnowski, Renee Porter and Alyssa LemMon.



The South Lyon Stealth 12-and-under girls softball team finished runner-up in the NSA South Fastpitch World Series.

For more information on the South Lyon Stealth 10-, 12-, 14- and 16-under girls travel softball tryouts during the month of August, email Bryan

Spaller at bspaller68@gmail.com; or visit www.sljl.org.

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YOUTH WRESTLING

Matcat claims two titles at Meijer State Games

Brad Emons
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South Lyon Matcats member Travis Richardson wrapped up his summer season recently by earning age-group Greco Roman and freestyle wrestling titles at America's State Games hosted by Meijer and the U.S. Navy in Grand Rapids.

America's State Games featured 32 Olympic-style sports

over two days, with indoor sports such as wrestling, gymnastics, judo and tae kwon do held Aug. 3-6 at DeVos Arena.

Richardson was the lone Matcats wrestler in the competition, bumping up 30 pounds as a personal challenge to come away with the Greco Roman title.

"He wanted to use his skills and experience against weight and muscle to prove to himself

he's worked hard enough for nearly 10 months of training," Matcats coach Steve Richardson said. "Being the coach's son, Travis rarely gets the spotlight. He knows that the team's success will always come before his accomplishments. He really defines what it means to be a Matcat."

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STEVE RICHARDSON
South Lyon Matcats wrestler Travis Richardson took freestyle and Greco Roman age-group titles at the 2017 State Games of America in Grand Rapids.

PRO BASEBALL

Cameron continues career Down Under

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Even after a successful high school and college career, Daniel Cameron can't quite get baseball out of his system.

The 2013 Livonia Churchill grad, who recently earned a degree in finance and economics from Shenandoah (Va.) University, is taking his talents Down Under to the Carine Cats, a feeder team for the Perth Heat of the Australia Baseball League, which is affiliated with Major League Baseball.

Perth, the capital of Western Australia, is the country's fourth largest city with 1.9 million people.

"The real world — you could say — I'm not ready for yet," said Cameron, a catcher who batted .347 with 37 RBIs for Shenandoah, which earned a school-record 41 wins and was ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division III for six weeks. "The beaches are gorgeous. I'll be living right on the beach. There's Starborough Beach, world-renowned. It's pretty cool."

The 22-year-old Cameron signed a pro contract with the state mi-

nor league team July 8 and will leave Sept. 26. The season begins Oct. 1 and will run through March and possibly into April (depending upon the playoffs).

Former Shenandoah player Greg Van Sickler, who started with the Carine Cats and played for the Perth Heat, helped make the connection for Cameron.

"One of my coaches contacted me and asked, 'Hey, want to play semi-pro ball over in Australia?'" Cameron said. "I said, 'Of course, yeah. It sounds awesome.' Got in touch with one of the coaches and a scout here. We talked and, after about a month of them working on who they were looking at and deciding who was going to come, they ended up and decided going with me and offered me the position."

The 5-foot-6, 185-pound Cameron started 46 of 51 games last season for the Hornets (41-10), earning second team all-Old Dominion Athletic Conference honors while hitting .346 in 19 league games with 16 RBIs.

He also earned second team ABCA/Rawlings all-South and third team



Catcher Dan Cameron batted .346 his senior year at NCAA Division III power Shenandoah (Va.) University.

D1baseball.com NCAA all-South region honors at catcher.

That came on the heels of an abbreviated junior season, when he played in only 19 games after fracturing his hand, which required surgery.

And although Cameron's season ended with a 1-0 regional final loss to Wheaton (Mass.), the

Hornets were ranked No. 8 in the final NCAA Division III poll.

"Shenandoah was unlike any other baseball I've ever played before," Cameron said. "I learned so much about the game of baseball being there more than I have ever learned in my entire life in those two years."

Cameron, a two-time all-Observer pick,

earned four baseball letters at Churchill and started three years for the Chargers under coach Ron Targosz. He then played two seasons at Henry Ford Community College and appeared to be headed to Wayne State University for his final two years of eligibility.

"It was my dream school," Cameron said of WSU. "But some personal things went down here and I decided to go down there and check out this school that contacted me, which had made it to the (NCAA Division III) World Series two of the last six years and made it to the regional six out of the last six. I said, 'OK, let's go check it out.'"

Cameron decided to take a visit to Winchester, a town with a population of 27,000 in the northwest corner of Virginia, and it changed the course of his life and, possibly, his career.

"Went down there and fell in love with it as soon as I got there," he said. "I was like, 'Maybe this is why I'm going to go here.' About a month later, I committed and haven't looked back. It was a great decision to go there."

With the Carine Cats, Cameron said he'll play four games per week, with one week off for Christmas.

"Not getting paid a substantial amount," he said. "But they set me up with a car, housing, plane tickets, weekly money to live on and fed, as well."

And if Cameron plays well, he could someday get a call-up from the Perth Heat.

But for now, he's going to a country that he has little knowledge about, only things he has read about online.

"I know that the spiders are huge," he said. "I know they have kangaroos and a lot of great white sharks at the Perth beach where I'm at. I also know it's a world-renowned beach where I'm staying. Some of the nicest people in the world. I heard every Saturday, they celebrate like it's the Fourth of July here. I just know it's a different lifestyle."

Cameron, who made the dean's list all four semesters at Shenandoah, hopes to parlay his Australia experience into a full-time baseball career.

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AMATEUR GOLF

CC grad Smith repeats as Junior Am champ

Gregory Johnson
Correspondent

Ben Smith of Novi wanted to leave junior golf with a bang on his way to college at Georgia Tech.

He did, winning the Michigan Junior State Amateur Championship for the second consecutive year by turning back Eric Nunn of DeWitt, 2 and 1, in the title match Aug. 3 at Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath.

"I knew this was going to be my last junior tournament coming in and I was thinking I was ready to go and I really wanted to go for two in a row," Smith said. "This means a lot to me to pull it off."

Smith, who will be 18 in October, is the first junior to win back-to-back titles since the format of the 39-year-old championship switched to a match play bracket conclusion in 2000. He is the third in the history of the championship, joining Kip Byrne, who won the first two in 1970 and '71, and Michael Harris, who won in 1994 and '95.

Smith, part of three consecutive Division 1 state championship teams at Novi Detroit Catholic Central, and Nunn, part of back-to-back Division 2 state championship teams at St. Johns, staged an entertaining final by trading and matching birdies through the front nine and by trading big momentum shifts early on the back nine.

Three times through the first 13 holes, Smith had a 1-up lead, and twice Nunn was able to move the match back to all square.

Smith made a three-putt bogey on No. 10 from 30 feet and Nunn made par to square the match and then, at No. 11, Nunn powered a hooked drive into heavy brush left of the fairway. He actually found the ball, hit it sideways out of the brush into a bunker, knocked it on the green and then made a 45-foot putt for a par to halve the hole.

Meanwhile, Smith missed a six-foot birdie



Novi's Ben Smith, a recent Detroit Catholic Central High grad, won the Michigan Junior Amateur Golf Championship for the second straight year.

putt at 11 to add to the drama and momentum seemed to switch to Nunn. Smith brought it right back, however, draining a sliding 20-foot at the par 3 No. 12 hole for birdie and a 1-up lead.

Smith went to 2-up at No. 14, when Nunn hit another hook off the tee, this time into a water hazard on the par-5.

Smith gave a hole back at 15, though, with consecutive poor chips, but then won it back when Nunn hit a poor chip at No. 16.

Smith closed out the match at the par-3 No. 17, when Nunn hit his tee shot just barely on the front edge of the island that is home to the green and the hole ended up halved with 4 each.

Smith fought off the surprising 13-year-old Davis "T-Bone" Codd of Brighton in the morning semifinal, 3 and 2. Codd, the recent GAM 14 & Under champion, is believed to be the youngest semifinalist since the current match play format was started in 2000.

Nunn, meanwhile, battled to a 2-up win over Curtis Hughes of Belle River in the other semifinal.

A field of 84 golfers, determined by sectional qualifying and exemptions, started the week with 36 holes of stroke play to fill out the 32 spots for match play.

Patrick Sullivan was the stroke play medalist with 66-69—135. Five rounds of match play resulted in Smith holding the trophy for the second consecutive year.

CLUB BASEBALL

Commerce Cannons complete stellar season

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

The Commerce Cannons recently completed a 17-0-1 season, capped by a 12-9 victory in the season finale over the Novi Nitros, en route to a first-place finish in the Kensington Valley Baseball Softball Association 12-and-under division.

In a back-and-forth affair that featured a number of lead changes, the Cannons tied the game with a three-run inning thanks to a triple by first baseman Lucas Shallal.

Head coach David Fiedor then went to his bullpen, with Gabe Staron going the final 2½ innings without allowing a run to seal the victory.

The Cannons showed their versatility this season as 10 of the 11 players took turns on the mound.

"Our team doesn't have a superstar, it's just a bunch of solid baseball players that all contribute, Fiedor said.

The Cannons were



The 12-and-under Commerce Cannons recently completed a 17-0-1 season.

also a veteran squad.

"Most of the team being together for a second year allowed the boys to gel," Fiedor said. "First-year teams are tough. A lot of time is spent getting to know and trust your teammates abilities on the field. This year, there was less hesitation and more execution; specifi-

cally on the defensive side."

Other members of the Cannons, who clinched first place with a win over the Liberty Shores Minutemen, included Cooper Cross, Beau Krawczyk, Andrew Ostin, Jack Biron, Nick Ridley, Nick Uhazie, Brady Gollan, Lucas Hayes and Matthew Hu-

dack.

"I'm proud of what these boys have accomplished on the field, but I'm more proud of how they conduct themselves off the field," he said. "These are truly great boys who conduct themselves the right way."

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CLUB BASEBALL

Huron Valley Falcons flying high after FFAST Bash

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The 16-and-under Huron Valley Falcons travel baseball team proved to be the comeback kid as it rallied twice to defeat the Michigan Thunder, 11-9, in the finals of the FFAST July Bash on July 9 at Whitmore Lake High School.

The Falcons, coached by Mario Giannandrea, finished with a perfect 4-0 record in the Fun American Amateur Sports Tournament.

Trailing 1-0 after one inning, the Thunder struck for six runs in the top of the third to go up 7-2, only to have the Falcons answer with six of their own in the bottom of the fifth to take an 8-7 advantage.

The Thunder went back on top with two more in the top of the sixth, 9-8, but their lead didn't last long as the Falcons responded with



The Huron Valley Falcons 16-and-under baseball team captured the FFAST July Bash in Whitmore Lake.

three in the bottom half of the inning as Alex Canning came off the bench to knot the game at 9-9 with an RBI triple, followed by Justin Lebron's game-winning RBI single.

Lebron, who pitched five innings, earned the victory.

In the semifinals, the Falcons got an inside-the-park home run from Ma-

son Koudelka and a complete game pitching performance from Aaron Stidham in a 10-2 mercy rule victory over the Michigan Titans (1-1).

Stidham went 2-for-2 with two RBIs as the Falcons broke the game open with a seven-run fifth inning.

In pool play July 8 at Ypsilanti Lincoln High, the Falcons got a com-

plete game from pitcher Tyler Rex in an 11-4 triumph over the Michigan Nationals.

Koudelka went 3-for-3 with a stolen base and three runs scored as the Falcons took a 4-0 first-inning lead and never looked back.

The Falcons wrapped up the top seed in Pool B with a 17-1 four-inning mercy run victory over the North Farmington-West Bloomfield Panthers as Koudelka went 2-for-2, including a triple, double, three RBIs, three runs scored and two stolen bases.

Chandler Oaks went all four innings to pick the victory.

Rounding out the Falcons' roster are Wes Cassidy, Jacob Chilton, Paolo Giannandrea, Nick Martin and Patrick Meagher.

Steve Oaks and Jason Martin served as assistant coaches.

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DEBT QUESTIONS

YOU MAY BE AFRAID TO ASK

SEAN PYLES NERDWALLET

Talking about debt can be awkward or embarrassing, leaving you to worry in silence about your own rising balances or a family member's finances. Here are answers to some questions you might be hesitant to ask:

WILL MY DEBT EVER GET SO OLD THAT I WON'T HAVE TO PAY IT?

Not really. Many debts that might be worrying you — credit-card balances or medical bills — have a statute of limitations. It varies by state, but generally is three to six years from the first missed payment or most recent payment. Most negative marks fall off credit reports after seven years.

But you still owe the debt. And debt collectors can seek payment, even though they can't sue you.

► **Tip:** There are a few ways to handle old debt, but tread carefully or you may accidentally reset the statute of limitations, which leaves you open to a lawsuit.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

WILL I GET STUCK WITH FAMILY MEMBERS' DEBT AFTER THEY DIE — OR VICE VERSA?

It depends on the debt and how connected family members' finances are.

Assets left behind after death may have to go toward paying off debt. Most times, any debt left over when that money runs out is a creditor's loss.

In some cases, though, a family member might have to pay. Co-signers, such as on joint credit cards, mortgages or other loans, are on the hook for any remaining balance. And in community property states, the surviving spouse is responsible for marital debts.

► **Tips:** Be careful about co-signing on credit accounts. And have enough life insurance to cover your debt.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO



IS THERE A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF DEBT I CAN TAKE ON?

The short answer is no. Lenders may offer more credit than you have the ability to pay back.

► **Tip:** Debt can help you accomplish goals, such as owning a home or building a business, but be realistic about what you can repay.

Sean Pyles is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website. Email: spyles@nerdwallet.com. NerdWallet is a USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.

CAN I BE ARRESTED FOR DEBT?

Technically, no. Federal law bars debt collectors from threatening you with arrest or jail.

But debt collectors can sue for payment, and about 90% of people they sue don't appear in court. That leads to a default judgment ordering repayment, and some collectors have used arrest warrants to get consumers to comply with such orders. That's uncommon, though. Usually, courts order payment from your wages or bank account.

► **Tips:** Know your rights when dealing with debt collectors, and never ignore a court summons.

WILL BANKRUPTCY ERASE ALL MY DEBT?

Alimony and child support obligations can't be erased in bankruptcy. Student loans, tax debt and judgments can be difficult to eliminate, as well.

► **Tip:** If you're struggling with overwhelming debt, consult a non-profit credit counselor and bankruptcy attorney to see if bankruptcy might make sense.

Consider finances, emotions before retiring

MAURIE BACKMAN
THE MOTLEY FOOL

Though many workers look forward to retirement and the change of pace it typically brings, deciding when to pull the trigger can be quite the stressful endeavor.

Before you choose to retire, take time to think about whether you're really ready.

FINANCIALLY READY?

Though you may be itching to leave your job and enjoy a more relaxed lifestyle, your plan could backfire if you're not financially prepared for what lies ahead.

The Economic Policy Institute reports that more than 40% of Baby Boomers nearing retirement have absolutely no savings. And of those who have begun building a nest egg, households ages 56 to 61 have a median savings balance of just \$17,000.

Contrary to what you may have been led to believe, Social Security is only designed to replace about 40% of the typical worker's preretirement income. Furthermore, the average current recipient collects just \$1,360 a month, or \$16,320 per year, in benefits.

Don't discount the mental upheaval once you leave your career.

But according to the latest projections, the average healthy 65-year-old couple today will spend at least \$400,000 on health care costs throughout retirement. Over a 20-year period, that's \$20,000 per couple, or \$10,000 per individual, per year.

If you're counting on Social Security in the absence of additional savings or income, that leaves you with a mere \$6,320 per year, or \$527 a month, to cover your remaining bills once medical care is accounted for. And that's just not enough.

EMOTIONALLY READY?

Don't discount the mental upheaval once you leave your career.

Though many seniors look forward to the downtime they've been missing during their working years, you may come to find that your newly unstructured existence throws you for an emotional loop.

Before you decide to retire, figure out how you'll spend your days and whether you're likely to have the income to support the lifestyle you're hoping for. If you're the type of person who needs constant stimulation, you may come to find that you're just not ready for your career to end.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

TRAVEL

RV parks, camps go upscale — way upscale

TREVOR HUGHES
USA TODAY

BLUEWATER KEY, FLA. Vacationers are plunking down thousands of dollars a week to sleep in tents or RVs at luxury “glamping” resorts featuring massive televisions, private docks and farm-to-table dinners, with concierges ready with fishing guides or to rustle up cowboys for horseback rides.

It's all part of the newest trend to target both retiring Baby Boomers and Millennials looking for active adventures in which not a single moment is wasted in a boring hotel room, and where Mother Nature takes top billing. Today, when even the most casual travelers expect to find comfy beds and clean showers wherever they choose to sleep, experts say there's a demand for experiences that go above and beyond.

“These are no longer stripped-down campgrounds,” says Mark Ellert, the president of Guy Harvey Outpost Resorts. “These are summer camps for adults, and adults have expectations about those creature comforts.”

At Bluewater Key RV Resort near Key West, the creature comforts come in the form of sprawling tiki huts equipped with high-end appliances, flat-screen TVs and Wi-Fi. Private docks float on the sparkling blue water and a concierge will whip up a Jeep rental so you don't have to move your RV. Bluewater Key permits only RVs that are at least 24 feet long; pop-ups, truck campers and tents are banned. During the winter, high-end RVs gather at Bluewater, their owners cooking in their custom kitchens, sleeping in memory-foam beds, relaxing in massaging loungers. In the summer, vacationing families fill out Bluewater.

For Miami native Lizbeth Lara, this is paradise. The palm trees waving in the breeze. The sand between her toes. Meeting new friends in adjacent sites, sharing meals with family. Nine members of her family are sleeping in their 30-foot RV. Boasting 80 sites, many of them sitting right on the water, Bluewater prices start at \$90 a night and go up to \$200 for a prime slot with a 7-night minimum stay in peak months.

“Oh my God, this view,” Lara says. “Are you kidding me? It's priceless.”

Lara, 47, looks around, as kids pitter-patter across the RV site between the tiki hut and the private dock. Lara and her friends rented eight Bluewater sites for the weekend, creating a temporary neighborhood of campers. They've been



At Collective Retreats' Vail location, guests sleep in fur-trimmed beds inside spacious tents.

PHOTOS BY TREVOR HUGHES, USA TODAY



Bluewater Key RV resort near Key West features luxury tiki huts featuring flat-screen TVs and Wi-Fi.

cooking out, sharing Jet Ski rides and fishing from their docks.

“I lose all sense of time,” she says. “I'm not looking at my phone.”

More than 2,000 miles away near a dude ranch in Vail, Colo., sit eight white canvas-wall tents, each with a king-size bed and a wood stove.

It's a world away from Bluewater Key, but the emphasis is the same: high-quality experiences without permanent walls. At Collective Retreats' Vail location, guests sleep in fur-trimmed beds sitting inside spacious tents. Woodstoves provide heat in the spring and fall, and each guest gets a box of hand-made marshmallows and graham

crackers with which to make s'mores. Mountains ring the encampment, and herds of horses race through the nearby pastures as dusk falls.

Peter Mack founded Collective Retreats after a year of business travel in which he spent 250 nights in hotel rooms.

“I woke up one day and I didn't know if I was in Beijing or Dallas,” he says. “I want people to wake up in a place where a hotel shouldn't exist.”

The company has three locations — Vail, Yellowstone and New York's Hudson Valley — and is building two more, in Sonoma and in Texas Hill Country. Prices start around \$400 a night during

the early and late seasons, and the company tends to sell out its most popular weekends. The company uses social media — Instagram in particular — to find customers. Guests who come average 2.5 social media posts per stay, Mack said, snapping photos of the farm-to-table dinners and smoke rising from the tents.

“What we're hearing from our guests is they're tired of the traditional travel experience,” he says.

And, Mack says, younger travelers who don't have money to spare are among their most frequent guests.

Says Ellert: “People want experiences, they want to be active, they want to connect with the great outdoors. ... We are in a sea-change of attitude about what physical things are required to make you happy.”

Back at Bluewater Key, Ronnie Puno and his friends are lounging in their tiki hut, trying to decide whether to go fishing or kayaking or mix up a drink.

“We really wanted access to the water, and personal access, instead of sharing a beach,” says Puno, 34, who came down from Kentucky with his wife and four friends.

A few spots away, Norvin Moya, 26, and Aly Seda, 23, are watching a soccer game as Seda mixes a mojito. They're staying in Seda's mom's luxury Redwood fifth-wheel trailer.

“This is as cool as it gets,” Moya says. “I'm mind-blown.”

Practice safe Internet while traveling

Here are a few ways you can lower your risk for cyberattacks



ON TRAVEL
CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

Somewhere along the Kenya-Tanzania border, 8,000 miles and eight time zones from home, I got the news no traveler wants to hear: My email account had been compromised.

The evidence? One of those English-as-a-second-language messages in which I appeared to beg my friends to wire money overseas. It looked like someone had stolen my password.

Perfect timing, I thought, as my computer strained to download the rest of my emails over a faint wireless connection.

I've written about this topic several times and use a long list of precautions, so if it can happen to me, it can happen to anyone. Before you take that August vacation, let's talk about the rules for practicing safe Internet — and where I went wrong.

Kaspersky Lab, a global cyber-security company, says one in five travelers has been hit by cyber crime while traveling abroad. In other words, it's open season on the jet set, particularly those who use open, public wireless networks.

“Never trust open Wi-Fi networks that require no passwords,” says Michael Canavan, a Kaspersky senior vice president.

I reviewed the places where I'd logged into an open network. At the airport in Orlando. In Dubai. At the InterContinental in Nairobi. Impossible to tell where it happened.

What's wrong with an open network? It may be run by bad guys, according to David Balaban, an expert on ransomware.

“Hackers may set up fake Wi-Fi spots masquerading as a genuine hotel network,” he says.

“They create duplicate Wi-Fi networks using the hotel's branded online materials. They use stronger signals and so lure users to connect to them instead of the genuine hotel network.”

Another common error: hitting the road with obsolete operating systems or



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

It's open season on the jet set, particularly those who use open, public wireless networks.

software. Emmanuel Schalit, the CEO of the password manager Dashlane, says securing a laptop or cellphone is easy.

“Before you go, make sure your devices are updated with the latest versions of your applications, anti-virus, anti-malware and other software updates,” he says. “To protect your devices while on vacation, secure all of your devices with a lengthy PIN number or strong password, and encrypt any data locally stored on those devices.”

I'd done all of that, too. Ah, but did I use a Virtual Private Network (VPN), which encrypts your data through a server, to access the Internet?

I hadn't, mostly because a VPN can make a slow Internet connection even slower.

“Always use VPN while connected on any public Wi-Fi network,” scolds cyber-security expert Sanjay Deo. “This will encrypt your communications and help reduce chances of being hacked.”

In all fairness, once I spotted the apparent hack, I immediately fired up my Buffered.com VPN and used it for the rest of my time in Africa. A slow connection is better than a dangerous one.

Anything else? Yes, says Internet

“Never trust open Wi-Fi networks that require no passwords.”

MICHAEL CANAVAN, KASPERSKY

safety expert Darren Guccione. I need to set my smartphone so it self-erases after multiple incorrect log-ins. I need to activate anti-theft applications such as “find my phone” that allow you to lock the phone if it's stolen. “So if your phone or tablet is stolen, you can track it, disable it and change all the passwords,” he says.

Done, too. So what happened?

This was no computer security breach at the hands of a careless traveler. It was a lesson in being discreet about your travel plans. I'd told a lot of people about my plans to visit Kenya, and one of them decided it would be the perfect time to scam my co-workers.

You want to scam a consumer advocate? Good luck with that.

WHAT NOT TO DO ON A TRIP

► **Don't post lots of geo-tagged photos or location updates on social media.** They can reveal your current and future travel plans in sufficient detail to give criminals an opening.

The latest threat: virtual kidnappings, which are becoming more common in Latin America. When you go camping or to locations where you may be off the grid, cyber-stalkers contact your family, claiming you are their hostage. “They will demand immediately a sum of money, usually affordable and easily wired,” says Mark Deane, CEO of ETS Risk Management.

► **Don't browse unsecured.** Only use “https” when you're online, especially when you're on the road. “It's a more secure option set up by a website that knows security is essential,” says Robert Siciliano CEO of IDTheftSecurity.com. Look for https:// in the address bar, signifying it's a secure page.

► **Don't leave your device unattended.** Put your name on your device, in case someone returns it to lost and found.

Christopher Elliott is a consumer advocate and editor at large for National Geographic Traveler. Contact him at chris@elliott.org or visit elliott.org.

SOLAR ECLIPSE AUGUST 21



Astro-photographer Brian Valente sports filtered glasses for the summer eclipse

ROBERT HANASHIRO ROBERT HANASHIRO

Do you have your solar eclipse glasses?

Companies are making millions of pairs to prepare

DOYLE RICE
@USATODAYWEATHER
USA TODAY

Got your eclipse glasses yet?

The USA's solar eclipse is only a few weeks away, and demand for the special glasses — which allow you to safely view the event — is fast and furious.

American Paper Optics in Bartlett, Tenn., the company that produces the most eclipse glasses, is working speedily to churn them out. "The demand has been amazing and scary," company president John Jerit said.

So far, the company has produced about 37 million glasses and is shipping out as many as 500,000 each day. The company had hoped to make 100 million of the glasses.

While that sounds like a lot, the com-

pany has produced as many as 134 million glasses for a 2010 Super Bowl promotion.

Chances are the eclipse glasses you've ordered (or plan to order) were made by the company, which has created thousands of custom bulk orders for groups and organizations across the nation.

Clients include NASA, Walmart, Lowes, ToysRUs and Home Depot. They've also supplied about 10 million to Amazon, Jerit said.

If you do buy eclipse glasses, be sure that they are made by one of the five companies the American Astronomical Society and NASA has certified as safe for use: In addition to American Paper Optics, others include the Baader Planetarium (in Germany), Rainbow Symphony, Thousand Oaks Optical and TSE 17.

TSE 17 has produced over 6 million glasses so far, and the demand continues to increase, said Andy Lunt,

owner of Lunt Solar Systems, sister company to TSE 17. As for how many Rainbow Symphony has produced, it's "way into seven figures," according to spokesman Mark Margolis.

Thousand Oaks Optical has some glasses for sale but also produces the safety material that's placed in the eclipse glasses frames made by American Paper Optical and Rainbow Symphony, according to company owner Pat Steele.

He said his company has produced enough of the safety film for 90 million glasses and viewers.

NASA this week issued a warning to be sure that the "ISO" (International Organization for Standardization) icon is on any eclipse glasses you buy. The glasses also must have the ISO reference number 12312-2.

In addition, the space agency warned glasses should not be more than three years old and should not have scratched or wrinkled lenses.

Eclipse tips from scientist Neil deGrasse Tyson

JULI THANKI
USA TODAY NETWORK — TENNESSEE

When the internet's favorite scientist, Neil deGrasse Tyson, was in Nashville earlier in June for his "An Astrophysicist Goes to the Movies" show at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, we asked for some tips on making the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21 a stellar experience.

Here's what he told us:

Do some advance research on your planned location

"Location is more than just being in the path of totality," Tyson said. "It's not so much where you are but what the chances are that it will be clear while you're there. Does it get thunderstorms? Is it overcast often?"

"If you're going to pick a spot, you should look at the long-term statistics."

Befriend an astronomer; they're willing to help

"If they're amateur astronomers, they're totally friendly," he said. "I was a member of amateur astronomy groups as a kid. The first thing you want to do is grab people in the street, show them your telescope and what you're looking at, and get completely angered because they have someplace to go."

Don't bother Tyson that day; ask your local expert for advice

Tyson plans to watch the eclipse at an undisclosed location. It's nothing personal. He just wants media covering the event on that day to seek out local experts for comments.

"There are probably tens of thousands of people in the country who know exactly as much as I do about eclipse viewing," he said.

"This would include members of amateur astronomy clubs, planetariums, community colleges and things like that," he said. "If I back away, it'll force people to go to all their local (experts)."

SOLAR ECLIPSE AUGUST 21

Quality photos, videos of eclipse made easy

With preparation, even your smartphone can make lasting memories

JEFFERSON GRAHAM
@JEFFERSONGRAHAM
USA TODAY

SHERMAN OAKS, CALIF. The biggest photo event of the year is coming in August, and if you want to capture the total solar eclipse, you'll want to stock up on some accessories and prepare to shoot photos and videos differently.

The big day is Aug. 21, when the moon aligns between the Earth and the sun.

"Total eclipses are a fairly rare phenomenon," says Brian Valente, an astro-photographer whose studio is littered with cameras, lenses and telescopes. Through photography and video, "you can show your family and friends what it was actually like. The last one was 1913, so this truly is a once-in-a-lifetime event."

What you need

► **Solar glasses**, which look like 3-D shades. "You want to cut down on the amount of light so you don't injure your eye," Valente says. If you look at the sun during an eclipse without protection, you could go blind.

► **A solar filter** for your camera lens. Whether you shoot on a big DSLR or a small smartphone, you can order the filter sheet and use a pair of scissors to slice out a covering that can be taped over your camera lens. Focusing the lens on the eclipsed sun without a filter could damage the camera.

► **A tripod**. The eclipse will go from day to night fast, and you'll need the best tool to keep the image steady. A decent tripod can be picked up for as low as \$25, but it's not very steady. Expect to spend at least \$100 on one that won't shake as much.

► **A smartphone tripod adapter**. If you plan on shooting the eclipse on your iPhone or Galaxy, you'll need an inexpensive smartphone adapter to fit the phone onto the tripod. Expect to pay less than \$10.

► **A zoom lens** or smartphone lens accessory, such as the Olloclip or Moment lens. To get a great shot of the eclipsed sun, you'll want to zoom in; otherwise, you'll just have a shot of a big sky with a little dot in it.



ULET IFANSASTI, GETTY IMAGES

When taking pictures of the solar eclipse use a tripod to keep your image steady.

If you have a DSLR, you'll need a long lens. Ideally, try a 200mm or 300mm lens, which is the focal length sports photographers use to capture big events. Wildlife photographers go even further, using big 400mm to 500mm lenses, which cost thousands of dollars.

One cool cheaper accessory is a lens extender, which you can attach to the bottom of your zoom lens. Expect to spend \$200 to \$300 for them.

What about smartphones?

The lenses on smartphones are primarily wide angle (28mm for iPhone, 26mm for Samsung Galaxy S8) and can't be switched out for others.

A cottage industry of accessory lenses has emerged. There are tons of telephoto add-on lenses you can clip to the front of the phone.

The two most common brand names are Olloclip and Moments, and both have lenses selling in the \$100 range that will extend your range to around 85mm, which is perfect for a portrait. It won't get you that much closer to the sun, but it will look way better than just the standard smartphone image.

Shooting tips

Using the DSLR, get a good shutter speed to stop action, and use the timer to snap photos without the camera shake of your hand on the shutter.



SEAN FUJIWARA

The Olloclip active lens snaps over your smartphone.

If you opt for the smartphone, which I expect most of you will, reach for the timer (five seconds should be good), and snap the shutter that way to eliminate camera shake.

► **Video**. On a smartphone, you won't be able to compete with the pros and camera nerds who have access to giant lenses and even know how to connect their DSLRs to telescopes.

But video mode on smartphones is great. You can shoot in high resolution 4K on the more recent models.

(If you have a DSLR, you can do the same thing. Just remember that in both cases, you have to have your camera

atop a tripod.)

Video "is a great way to see the landscape around you, as it goes from daytime to night to daytime again," Valente says,

► **Time-lapse**. You've probably seen the gimmick all over YouTube. The clouds start speeding across the skies in super-fast speed, as in the opening sequence of Netflix's *House of Cards*. This is called time-lapse, and most smartphones have the feature. Put the phone on your tripod, set the time-lapse button maybe five minutes before the expected eclipse, and let it roll for 20 minutes.

You'll end up with a condensed, absolutely awesome look at a magic day you'll be able to share online.

You'll want to take the clip into a video editing program to trim the boring parts before the eclipse starts. Apple's iMovie is free, and so is GoPro's terrific new Quik app for smartphones.

► **Shoot the crowd**. The eclipse is going to be quite the scene, and you get to be a part of it. With your smartphone, capture the crowd, the day, the funny hats and glasses. Think the old *Life* magazine photo of folks watching a 3-D movie at the theater, and you get the idea.

To recap: All you need are glasses, a camera filter, a tripod, a smartphone adapter and a place to camp out on the magic day.

DIGITAL DOLLARS

Experiencing slow Internet downloads?

Look to Wi-Fi first, then blame your provider

ROB PEGORARO
SPECIAL FOR USA TODAY

Q. My download speeds seem much slower than advertised. How can I verify that I'm getting what I paid for, and what can I do if I'm not?

A. In most cases, you're debugging not one connection but two: the access your Internet provider brings to your house, and the Wi-Fi network that distributes it to most devices in your home.

Start by getting third-party measurements of the download and upload speeds your computer sees at the bandwidth-measurement sites Speedtest.net and M-Lab. Those two, like Netflix's more recent, download-only speed gauge Fast.com, run in your browser. Speedtest and M-Lab, along with OpenSignal, also offer mobile apps.

If they all agree your downloads are dragging, you might as well start with your Wi-Fi because that's more likely to cause problems and easier to debug.

The simplest way to see if your wireless network is letting you down is to cut out of the connection: If you have a laptop or desktop with an Ethernet port, run a network cable directly from your router to that computer.

But since many laptops and almost all tablets don't have an Ethernet port, you may have to start by moving the device closer to the router and then tinkering with the router's settings. For instance, if it offers 5 Ghz Wi-Fi, try switching to that faster but shorter-range frequency to avoid congestion in the more widely-used 2.4 GHz Wi-Fi frequency.

If your router is more than a few years old, you may want to replace it with a newer model. "Routers have gotten much better in the last three or four years," said Dave Burstein, a telecom analyst and editor of Fast Net News.

If you can't find a fault in your Wi-Fi, it could be your Internet provider. The Federal Communications Commission's most recent "Measuring Broadband America" study found phone-line-based DSL was especially unreliable compared to cable and fiber-optic connections, but not all of the cable and fiber providers surveyed were as reliable.

For instance, that December 2016 re-



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

port found Frontier's fiber varied much more than Verizon's. Among cable operators, Charter, Comcast, Optimum and Time Warner Cable delivered advertised speeds more often than Cox and Mediacom.

Ralph Brown, chief technology officer at CableLabs, said cable operators should have the technology to stay ahead of growing appetites for data. "It's relatively easy to add capacity," he said. That wasn't always the case: "Early days, understanding the capacity re-

quirements and peak capacity requirements was a bit of an art."

It wouldn't hurt to check with neighbors, especially within a block or two, to see if they're seeing the same issues. The more evidence you can bring to your provider, the better your odds of convincing them — the only people who can fix the problem — to address your concern.

"Give them as much detail as possible, such as when and how often you see the problem as well as what lights come on

the modem," Burstein said.

He added one bit of advice you'll probably hear the first time you call, and maybe every time: "Turn off everything and then turn things back on. That resets everything and surprisingly often makes a difference."

Rob Pegoraro is a tech writer based out of Washington, D.C. To submit a tech question, e-mail Rob at rob@rob-pegoraro.com. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/robpegoraro.

BACK TO SCHOOL

High grades for online back-to-school shopping

Discounts, free shipping and other incentives make it worth staying home

LAUREN SCHWAHN
NERDWALLET

Shopping for school supplies, electronics and clothing can be a chore — and an expensive one at that.

Families with children in grades K-12 plan to spend an average of \$687.72 on back-to-school shopping, about \$14 more than last year's average of \$673.57, according to the National Retail Federation. College students and their families plan to spend an average of \$969.88, or about \$82 more than last year's \$887.71 average.

Incentives such as discounts and free shipping make online shopping an attractive option.

"Retailers are trying to cater to everything that will make the consumer happy," says Ana Serafin Smith, senior director of media relations at the NRF.

Here's a lesson on saving when back-to-school shopping online.

GO BARGAIN HUNTING

You wouldn't want to buy a pack of notebooks only to spot the same item elsewhere for half the cost. Fend off buyer's remorse by shopping around before you click the "order" button.

Google Shopping can help you compare the costs of items on your list between retailers, or find coupons with a browser extension such as Honey. Remember to factor shipping costs into the comparison.

ASK FOR A PRICE MATCH

If you find separate retailers selling an identical item at different prices, or if there's a discrepancy between the same retailer's prices in-store and online, ask the site with the higher price for a reduction.

Retailers with price-matching policies — including Target, Best Buy and Newegg — will honor a competitor's lower advertised price or reimburse you the difference on eligible items if you can provide proof of the amount within a specific time frame. At Staples, you'll get the lower price plus 10% of the difference. Call the retailer's customer service number for price-matching your online order.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Students — and sometimes parents — can save or score freebies by shopping on websites with student discounts or promotions.

PURSUE STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Students — and sometimes parents, faculty and staff — can save or score freebies by shopping on sites with student discounts or promotions. For example, Apple is discounting select Macs by up to \$300 and the iPad Pro by up to \$20, plus throwing in wireless Beats headphones for free with eligible purchases through Sept. 25. Check other retailers or student discount networks such as Unidays for deals on electronics, supplies, clothing and more.

BUY ONLINE, PICK UP IN STORE

If you order back-to-school supplies online and pick them up in-store, many retailers will give you free shipping or order discounts or will send you a coupon for a future purchase. On Walmart's website, look for items marked

"free pick up and discount."

RENT MATERIALS, BUY USED

Newer isn't necessarily better, at least not for your wallet. You can save on textbooks, calculators, clothing and other back-to-school staples by renting or buying them used.

Explore options and pricing on sites such as Chegg, Amazon and Poshmark.

BYPASS SALES TAX IN SOME AREAS AROUND COUNTRY

This year, more than a dozen states are waiving sales tax on eligible back-to-school items — such as clothing, books and laptops under a certain amount — during sales tax holidays.

Some areas waive local sales tax, too. These events typically last for a few days in late July or early August, both in stores and online. For example, Ohio and Virginia both offer tax-free week-

ends Aug. 4-6.

If you live in a participating state, consider timing your back-to-school purchases around the holiday, and check the list of tax-exempt items and cost limits first.

You can still strategically time back-to-school purchases if your state doesn't take part or you miss the window. The shopping season's peak savings usually last through August into September, closer to the start of the school year.

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Robocall relief coming eventually

Government, cellphone makers trying to help

TALI ARBEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK - For Michael Rizzo, answering the phone is too often a waste of time.

His Sports City Pizza Pub in Buffalo, New York, depends on customers calling to order wings, pizza and potato skins. But much of the time, it's an automated message pushing a scam. "It's getting to the point where it's blocking other callers from coming in," the 24-year-old bar owner said.

Help is coming, if slowly. Over the past year, prodded by the government, cellphone makers have added new tools to counteract unwanted "robocalls." The Federal Communications Commission has proposed letting phone companies block more spam and is hoping to deter scammers with big fines.

Experts say these steps are not a cure-all, but they're a good start.

Why is this happening?

The federal and state "Do Not Call" lists are supposed to protect people from unwanted calls from telemarketers. But scammers don't care about breaking the law.

Scammers reach people cheaply and easily using autodialers, which spew out a large number of calls automatically. It's estimated that Americans receive tens of millions of robocalls every day. Not all of them are fraudsters, of course. Pharmacies send automated messages about prescriptions being filled. But too often, it's this: you owe the IRS money; it's Microsoft calling to fix your computer; free cruises!

And spam callers have tricky technology that makes a phone's caller ID display a local or important-looking caller, like the IRS. Cracking down on "spoofed" numbers would make running a scam more difficult and save U.S. consumers millions of dollars, a group of state attorneys general said in an FCC filing.

Phone companies pitch in

Phone companies and independent apps can screen or block unwanted calls by checking them against databases of known problem numbers and analyzing suspicious behavior, like a number that's calling lots of people on Do Not Call lists.

Wireless carriers also have tools that



JOHN RAOUX/AP

Jen Vargas, a multimedia producer from Orlando, Fla., uses an AT&T app that helps locate and block fraudulent calls.

flag incoming calls with warnings like "scam likely," but they aren't available on all phones, or to many prepaid customers. The versions from Verizon and Sprint cost extra.

A few Android phones, including Google's Pixel, screen spam calls for free.

Jen Vargas, 39, a multimedia producer from Orlando, Florida, said her AT&T app flags and blocks some fraudulent calls to her cellphone, but she's given up with the landline.

"Very rarely do I pick up a call from a number I don't know," Vargas said.

Apps including YouMail and Nomorobo offer relief on home phones for free, with limitations. With YouMail, your carrier must allow "conditional call forwarding," which forwards calls if a line is unanswered or busy. Nomorobo isn't available through all home phone providers and won't work with older, copper-based landlines. You can also buy gadgets, some pretty clunky, that block calls on home phones. Verizon is also testing warnings about suspicious calls

on a home phone's caller ID display.

Help from the government

Phone companies can already block some calls that are being faked. The FCC has proposed rules to formalize that practice and permit them to block other calls they suspect are scams. That means Verizon can block a toll-free number that accepts calls for a bank but never initiates a call. Carriers would also be able to block calls they know aren't legitimate, like a number with a 911 area code. The rules still need to be finalized.

Maureen Mahoney, a public policy fellow at the nonprofit Consumers Union, said the development is "promising," but won't protect consumers from all unwanted calls.

For one thing, "Do Not Call" lists don't apply to certain types of callers, such as debt collectors and political campaigns. In addition, Mahoney said, the FCC rules would cover only faked numbers. Not all robocalls are spoofed.

Consumers Union wants phone com-

panies to make call-blocking tools available to all consumers for free.

In the longer term, the FCC supports industry efforts to verify that callers are really who they say they are. Perhaps one day, you'll see a green checkmark on your smartphone when the caller is legitimate. U.S. Telecom, the phone company lobby, says rolling this out could take a few years, but would prove powerful against robocallers.

The FCC is also seeking ways to stop annoying calls from dogging consumers when they change numbers. Today, if you sign up for Do Not Call but then get a new number, a marketer may not know and could pester you on your new line.

Robocallers aren't going away, said Aaron Foss of Nomorobo, a call-blocking service for cellphones and home phones. "These guys are criminals and they're going to find their way around any system. But it's our job to make sure we make it as difficult for them as possible."

BOOK REVIEW

'One Device' is missing features

'History of the iPhone' has plenty of material but is not the whole story

JEFFERSON GRAHAM
@JEFFERSONGRAHAM
USA TODAY

In the past 10 years, the Apple iPhone has changed our lives in more ways than we can imagine.

Remember when we went to restaurants and walked down the street without staring at our smartphones? How we checked our e-mail once or twice a day instead of every minute and had a work-free weekend without touching base with co-workers and bosses?

Thank the iPhone for the always-on culture, for building the app economy that brought ride-hailing cab alternatives, visual dating tools and the constant sharing of upload-from-anywhere travel photos.

With the 10th anniversary of the iPhone marked just last month, there's a great book in this, and not just the birth of the iPhone, but how it has evolved in the past decade.

The One Device: The Secret History of the iPhone (Little, Brown, 380 pp., ★★★☆ out of four) by Brian Merchant, an editor at Motherboard, isn't it, unfortunately.

In a nutshell, Merchant's book dwells on Apple's penchant for secrecy (old news — don't we all know this?) and expands beyond the basic story of the device's birth with long passages on the history of the touch screen, gyroscopes and other features.

The iPhone wasn't just Apple co-founder Steve Jobs' idea. Credit goes to an overworked and underappreciated team of engineers who did the grunt work and came up with many of the features. When Merchant focuses on the basic history, he's in good territory. It's a great story — with Jobs changing his mind on several key details at the last minute, and the iPhone not being finished and looking as if it wouldn't make the planned reveal at the Macworld conference on Jan. 9, 2007. (It went on sale six months later.)

Merchant connected with many of the key engineers from the iPhone team, which isn't an easy thing to do;



PAUL SAKUMA, AP

The day everything changed: Steve Jobs' big reveal on Jan. 9, 2007.



CARA ROBBINS

Apple frowns on current and former employees talking in an uncontrolled environment.

He expands the story by spending time in China, where more than 200 million iPhones are mass-produced every year, at the Foxconn plants.

He somehow manages to sneak in to

the ultra-secretive facility, where many workers have responded to the crushing hours and mind-numbing work by committing suicide from the top of the building.

But I missed the parts of the story Merchant left out.

He decided not to focus on the birth and growth of Google's Android operating system, which now has an 85% market share, or the rise of Apple's chief rival, Samsung, and the Galaxy S line of smartphones.

He skips how Tim Cook, who took over as CEO of Apple after Jobs' death in 2011, has been skippy on innovation but has built the iPhone into an even bigger business that now represents two-thirds of Apple's revenue.

Nary a word is said about the iPad, the Apple Watch or what Apple will do when the inevitable happens and the life cycle for the iPhone comes to an end.

Well, the material is there. Perhaps it's time to get to work on the sequel.



RICARDO ROLON / THE NEWS-PRESS

Dr. Susan Hook checks for the source of abdominal pains her patient, Carolyn Williams of North Fort Myers, is experiencing at Samaritan Health and Wellness.

Guided by faith

Before she starts her workday, Dr. Susan Hook gathers with her staff at Samaritan Health & Wellness for a morning devotional.

"Lord, whoever is supposed to be our patient, we know you're going to bring them," they say.

And the patients keep coming in.

In the nearly three years that Samaritan Health & Wellness Clinic has been open, more than 4,000 patients have made more than 10,000 office visits. Meanwhile, community members have saved more than \$1 million dollars in billable services.

Hook started with a staff of two — herself and an office manager. The Cape Coral Christ-based primary health care facility that integrates behavioral health for the working underinsured or uninsured has expanded to 11 staff members. By adding five rooms, more than 1,000 square feet was added in a recent renovation.

Programs include Discovering Life & the Pursuit of Happiness; Freedom From Food Obsession; Family Support Group; Breaking the Chains of Trauma; and Staying Quit/Relapse Prevention.

"This place has just blown up," Hook said. "This was not Sue Hook's plan. Whatever God has planned is better than my plan."

Filled with a strong faith, big smile and a humble but passionate view of her role, Hook, 54, considers herself a servant of those she serves. Hook has more than 30 years experience in nursing, which included a stint with Lee Physicians Group. She's a registered nurse with the Florida Board of Nursing and is an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner.

As patients enter Samaritan Health & Wellness, there is a wooden cross on the wall and there's another in a patient room, courtesy of Felipe Rivera, a master carpenter. In the waiting room are spiritual books, magazines and newsletters.

If they choose, patients can pray with the specialist before their session.

Hook has had people tell her they feel an immediate peace. One told the doctor that "God brought her here."

Art Doyle has known Hook for 11 years and the two have developed a strong bond. Doyle, 64, battles depression and alcoholism. He'd rather not talk about that but wants others to know about this clinic and his doctor so "it's necessary to suck it up and go with it."

"She's all about people and helping people," Doyle said. "That showed from day 1."

"I had a neighbor who died July 15 of liver failure. The doctor told him, 'Quit drinking or I don't want you to come back in, there's nothing I can do for you.' You don't get that here. I was lucky. So many

Christ-based clinic integrates behavioral health care into its practice for the working underinsured or uninsured

CRAIG HANDEL USA TODAY NETWORK-FLORIDA



Art Doyle, 64, battles depression and alcoholism. He says the clinic "is the kind of outfit that if you become a patient, you won't fall through the cracks unless you let it."

people fall through the cracks. This is the kind of outfit that if you become a patient, you won't fall through the cracks unless you let it."

Wanita Burlingame, 61, started coming to the clinic two years ago after moving from New York when her husband, Robert, died. She has no insurance and needed an alternative after a doctor visit cost her \$400.

Her challenge is overeating, which is partly manifested after being assaulted for years, starting at age 5.

"It's just very personal," she said of her relationship with Hook. "It's like the doctor that used to come to your house. You know them, you feel like they're your neighbor."

Difference maker

A native of Garrett and Fort Wayne, Indiana, Hook volunteered at a homeless shelter called Samaritan Center in Auburn, Indiana.

When thinking of a name for her clinic, "Samaritan kept coming in my head," she said.

In the Book of Luke, thieves beat and steal from a man, leaving him naked and penniless. A Levite and a priest walk by without giving aid. Ironically, it's the Samaritan who cares for the man, then takes him to an inn where he pays for the man's lodging and continued care with a promise to pay for additional care.

In the early days, Samaritans were considered lower class and clashed with the Jews.

"When you look at your brother, somebody who's in need and you have the ability to help, you do it," Hook said. "That's where this all comes from."

Hook and her patients feel there are



Wanita Burlingame, 61, started coming to the clinic two years ago after moving from New York. She has no insurance and needed an alternative after a doctor visit cost her \$400.

two areas that separate Samaritan Health & Wellness from many other facilities — cost and a mind/body/soul approach.

To be seen as a new patient is \$50. Follow-up care is offered at \$35. Counseling is \$40 per session. Radiology Regional, Quest and LabCorp work with the center to keep costs low. Hook said the biggest challenge is getting specialists to work for a lower fee.

"I don't want this to be free and our patients don't want free," she said. "This is not a free clinic and was not supposed to be one."

For those who can't afford the center's prices, there is a Silver Coins Club, modeled after the Good Samaritan who left the innkeeper two coins. The patient pays \$5 and the rest comes from the club.

Those patients have access up to five visits, Hook said.

More than half (52 percent) of Samaritan's annual revenue is in the form of private donations. In three years of operations, it has received \$228,000 from the Florida Association of Free and Charitable Clinics grant in 2016-17.

Hook's staff includes Jabnel Torres, a certified addiction professional; pastor, counselor Joel Montalvo; Leslie Robinson, a prevention specialist and community liaison; Jessica Sagastume, licensed mental health counselor/intern; medical officer manager Cheryl Roman; medical assistants Julie Schneider, Daisy Leeds, and Julianna Devoy; front office coordinator Maris Lewis and front office assistant, Axia Montalvo.

By taking a mind/body/soul concept, specialists can share information on a multi-pronged approach for a patient in

the same location.

"Dr. Sue works with the body, another with the mind and they all work with the spirit," Burlingame said.

Doyle had a situation where he went to a doctor for his heart, was put on blood pressure medicine, then told his psych medicine would be changed.

"I said, 'No, you don't,'" Doyle said. "Here, it's done in house. They sit and meet with each other. Before you know it, you're on your way."

Burlingame and Doyle had a bleak outlook on life six months ago — but it has since changed.

"I have hope for the future," Doyle said.

Burlingame added, "People tell me I'm strong but I feel I'm a weak person."

"My wall was so impenetrable that in the past, we'd would get to a point, then can't get through it. But I'm doing way better than when I first came."

Making this happen

Six years ago, a guest comment on Janet Parshall's 'In The Market' on Moody Bible Channel helped Hook alter her thoughts for the way she wanted to treat her fellow men, women and children.

It came from Scott Morris, founder and executive director of the Church Health Center in Memphis, Tennessee.

"I heard him say, 'If you as the church — Christ followers — aren't involved in the healing ministries, you're leaving one-third out when Christ walked the earth,'" she said.

When Morris added people could attend a workshop on how to start a healing ministry, Hook felt compelled.

She prayed and spoke with her husband, Steve.

She attended a workshop in Memphis in October.

She talked to her pastor, Dennis Gingerich, at Cape Christian.

"It resonated with a need we already saw and knew existed," Gingerich said. "My wife is a registered nurse at Lee Health and she sees patients that come in. Some had no doctor, no prenatal care and here they're coming in in labor."

"So when she talked, I immediately saw the need and caught the vision."

Gingerich said he "talked to my people and she talked to her people" and he became part of a steering committee. The church gave seed money, Gingerich said, which helped encourage others to donate.

Armed with a year's budget in November 2014, Hook opened Samaritan Health & Wellness.

"This is the hardest job I've ever had but it's the best job I've ever had," she said. "When God puts something before you, it's gonna be hard. But it's worth it because it's from Him."

Stabenow tours state to highlight success in improving waterways

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Stopping in Wayne to highlight success stories like the federally funded Rouge River improvements, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow noted the calming influence of the flowing water.

"After the last few months I've had, the idea of sitting by the river is alluring," the Michigan Democrat said. "It's great to be here on a beautiful Pure Michigan day. Everyday is a Pure Michigan day."

Traveling around the state this month, Stabenow is highlighting success stories under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative — federal legislation she authored which has brought more than \$400 million in funding to Michigan to improve and protect lakes and waterways.

"I've lived my whole life in Michigan. We are very blessed to live in the most beautiful state. Water is a big part of it," Stabenow said. "Forty million people get their drinking water from the Great Lakes. We are surrounded by 20 percent of the world's fresh water. It's in our DNA to protect water. It's a special responsibility."

That special responsibility means fighting to keep GLRI funded, she said, noting the current federal budget director proposed no funding, dismissing the GLRI as a local issue.

Eight states and officials from Canada are involved in bipartisan efforts to protect the Great Lakes from a variety of threats like Asian carp, along with improvements like the Wayne Road Dam removal.

"I never thought an ugly fish would keep me up at night," Stabenow said. "The bad news is that the budget proposes to eliminate the funding. People around Michigan rose up. At the moment, the funding is back in."

During her visit Friday, Stabenow was joined by Wayne city officials, representatives of the Alliance of Rouge Communities and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on the Rouge River to see the completed Wayne Road Dam Removal and



Wayne City Manager Lisa Nocerini (left) introduces U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, at a program along the Rouge River.

LEANNE ROGERS

Habitat Improvement Project

Completed in 2013, the Wayne Road Dam Removal and Habitat Improvement Project received more than \$1 million in GLRI funding through NOAA. The project reconnected approximately 121 miles of river and tributaries to the Great Lakes system for the first time in more than a century.

The three-foot tall Wayne Road Dam no longer served a public purpose and acted as a barrier to fish and promoted the accumulation of sediment and debris behind the dam. The dam removal opened up new opportunities for canoeing and kayaking and restored passage for a variety of fish, including trout, small mouth bass, northern pike and wall-eye.

"It's a miracle you got the Wayne Road Dam out without collapsing the road," Stabenow said. "The dam was built in the 1900s to hold water to fight fires. There are

more efficient ways to fight fires today."

With the Rouge River running through the city just north of Wayne City Hall on the edge of Goudy Park, the free-flowing river is providing a focal point for activities in the city.

In visits to various communities and through stories posted online, Stabenow said she wants to focus on the success stories regarding Michigan lakes and rivers.

"One in five Michigan jobs are tied to water. It is more important than ever to continue investing in the health of our Great Lakes and waterways," said Stabenow, co-chair of the bipartisan Senate Great Lakes Task Force. "This successful project is an excellent example of how Great Lakes funding is helping more Michigan families and visitors enjoy fishing, kayaking and canoeing in the Rouge River."

The 41-community member Alliance for Rouge Communities has done 15 projects, stretch-

ing all the way south to the Raisin River, principal engineer John O'Meara said.

"This shows the importance of what we are all doing. I want to thank Senator Stabenow for her efforts to keep the GLRI funded," O'Meara said. "We are in the process of connecting waterway trails. This would connect with the Detroit River."

Improvements to waterways are a quality of life issue, he said, but also improve property values and result in jobs being created.

"Habitat restoration creates a big return on investment," said Julie Sims, Great Lakes regional coordinator, NOAA Restoration Center. "It's more than just better fishing — restoration projects can improve local property values, aid in flood control, improve access for recreation and add jobs to the economy."

Following the program along the Rouge River, Stabenow stopped to visit local businesses

Karma Kitchen and Coffee and ICON Computers.

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Lichorobiec

Jonathan Feb. 12, 1990- July 29, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made to obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

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Mannisto



Ruth E. Age 89 of Fowlerville, passed away early Saturday morning, August 5, 2017. Born in Calumet on December 7, 1927, she was the daughter of Charles A. and Helmi S. (Lehto) Siira. Formerly of Kearsarge and Northville, Ruth was a 1946 graduate of Calumet High School. She went on to receive her Registered Nurse degree from the Highland Park School of Nursing and retired as a surgical Registered Nurse. She was proud of her Finnish heritage and was a member of the Finnish Center Association. Beloved wife of the late Ralph A. Mannisto whom she married in Farmington on March 29, 1948. He preceded her in death on August 8, 2006. Loving mother of Dennis Mannisto of Ann Arbor, Elisa (Steve) Seigle of Fowlerville, Mark (Debbie) Mannisto of Howell and the late Keith Mannisto (Feb. 2016). Also survived by her siblings, George (Carol) Siira of Laurium and Lois Manninen of Negaunee; daughter-in-law, Anne Mannisto of Northville; sister-in-law, Charlotte Siira of East Tawas; five grandchildren and great-grandson, Tristin. Ruth attended Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church, 228 N. Burkhart Road, Howell where a memorial service in honor and celebration of her life will be held Saturday, August 26, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. (visitation beginning 10 a.m.). Memorial contributions are suggested to Heart of the Shepherd Lutheran Church or Kindred Hospice. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com
MacDonald's Funeral Home

Marinelli

Justin June 30, 1924-July 26, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made at obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN
FUNERAL HOME

Pelchat



Kenneth, Age 80, passed away July 31, 2017. He was born May 28, 1937 in Detroit, son of the late Roland and Evelyn Pelchat. He is survived by his children: Sue (Ken) Cox, Gary (Sandy) Pelchat, Cheryl (Al) Schaefer, Brad Pelchat, Gerry (Jen) Bell, and Anissa (Luke) Grimelli; his grandchildren: Daniel Pelchat, Paul Pelchat, Jenifer (Mike) Ciatti, Crystal Schaefer, Joshua Schaefer, Jordan Schaefer, Justin Bell, Dominic Grimelli and Charlie Grimelli. Kenneth is also survived by his great-grandson, Declan Ciatti; and his sister, Diane (Don) Volrich. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Sharon "Jeanne" Pelchat in 2007 and his brother, Jerry Pelchat. Visitation was held on Friday, August 4 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday, August 5 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon. Kenneth was laid to rest beside his wife in South Lyon Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Parkinson Disease Association. www.phillipsfuneral.com

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Thomas Dec. 19, 1947-July 28, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made to obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN
FUNERAL HOME

Mom left three children in minivan in 86-degree temps

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A 41-year-old Plymouth mother is accused of leaving three of her seven children in a minivan in sweltering heat while she shopped inside the Canton Meijer store, police say.

The mother, now facing a misdemeanor child neglect charge, told police she had been in the store for 45 minutes about 3 p.m. Aug 3, while the children were in the minivan in 86-degree weather.

It was the latest of at three incidents this summer during which a mother has been accused of leaving children in a vehicle in Canton — a decision police say is potentially life-threatening.

"Your poor choice could lead to death," Canton police Lt. Michael Steckel said.

In the latest incident, a witness phoned police after she saw the three boys in a locked Toyota Sienna, with the windows slightly rolled down and the ignition shut off with no air conditioning. Police found the children — ages 2, 5 and 11 — "tired and sweating profusely," according to a police report.

The youngest child's T-shirt was soaked with sweat, the report said.

An officer managed to unlock the minivan, remove the boys and put them in an air conditioned police car. The mother's other four children — 13, 9 and 7 years old and the youngest just 8 months old — had accompanied the mother into the store, police said.

The mother told police she left the 2-year-old behind because he was sleeping. She said her 11-year-old son volunteered to watch the tod-

dlers and the 5-year-old who, according to the report, wanted to stay in the minivan to play video games.

The mother said she left the minivan's keys with the 11-year-old so he could turn on the air conditioning if the children became hot. She told police she is a professor who teaches online courses for Columbia College in Missouri. She said her husband is a bio-medical researcher at the University of Michigan.

Police issued a citation to the woman for child neglect and also contacted Child Protective Services.

Steckel said Michigan, unlike some states, has laws against leaving children alone in vehicles. Regardless, he said, parents should realize it's dangerous to leave youngsters in cars, especially on hot summer

days.

Among other similar incidents: » A 29-year-old Canton mother admitted to police that she left her two sons, ages 2 and 7, in a Ford Edge that was unlocked and running while she was inside a Meijer store for 30 minutes about 11:40 a.m. July 22.

» A 37-year-old mother left her two sons, ages 4 and 5, strapped inside a hot Acura MDX for 21 minutes in 88-degree weather while she returned merchandise to the Kohl's department store on Ford Road. The incident happened about 8 p.m. June 10. The car was not running and the front windows were slightly rolled down.

Those women also were charged with child neglect.

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Matthew Oliver, Minister

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Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
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www.fumcnorthville.org

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10:30 am Fellowship/Coffee
11:00 am Worship Service
Wednesday Bible Study at 7 pm
Pastor Andy Whitten
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Sunday School @ 11 am
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Rev. Cliff Mansley, Pastor
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Rev. Thomas Scherger
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Website: www.fbcsouthlyon.com
• Email: fbcsouthlyon@sbcglobal.net

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YOUR LOCAL JOB LISTING FROM LIVONIA OBSERVER

6 tips for job hunting while you're employed

BY MIRANDA PENNINGTON
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

Looking for a new job while still employed in another makes you more employable; however, it can backfire if your current employer finds out. Workers have various reasons to continue the job search. Perhaps your current job is too far away from where you live and commuting costs are pecking away at your salary, or your salary is on the low side for your job description. Maybe you want to work your way up the ladder faster. Whatever the reason, job hunting while employed is common. A few tips on how to do it can help.

1. Keep quiet about your job search

If you are looking at job ads for a new position, don't tell your co-workers. That's the fastest way for word to get around and eventually your boss will hear about it. Although some employers don't care if an employee wants to change jobs, the knowledge of it may keep you from getting pay raises or responsibilities that you want.

Additionally, if you have social media accounts, you often have friends in the same office, or friends of friends who may share your posts. Be discreet and refrain from post-



GETTY IMAGES

ing about your job search. Be careful about posting on job boards as well, for the same reasons.

2. Don't quit your job

It's easier to get a new job if you are already working. In addition, don't get lazy in your current job because you are hoping to get a new one. You still owe your current employer a good day's work for your pay.

3. Think before you list character references

While your first inclination may be to include your current boss or co-workers as references on your job application, don't do it. Obviously, if you get called for an interview and the hiring manager calls your references, everyone in the office will know you are job hunting. Surprisingly enough, many of those seeking a new job don't think to leave

these references off of their resumes.

4. Schedule job interviews outside of office hours

Hours when you are supposed to be at work are not the times to schedule job interviews. Missing work hours can make your boss suspicious and does not look good to other employees. In addition, it looks odd if your

office dress is casual and you show up for work dressed up for an interview. Instead, schedule interviews outside of office hours or on weekends, if possible.

5. Don't bad-mouth your boss

Your current boss may not be all sweetness and light, but bad-mouthing your employer is always a bad idea. It may give recruiters the impression you are a complainer or difficult to get along with. Focus on your qualifications for the job and the opportunity it offers for your advancement.

6. Don't use office equipment

Don't use office phones, computers and fax machines to conduct a job search or send in resumes. First of all, many companies monitor use of their machines to ensure employees are not spending company time on personal affairs. Second, you are actually supposed to be working, so keep your mind on the business at hand.

Miranda Pennington is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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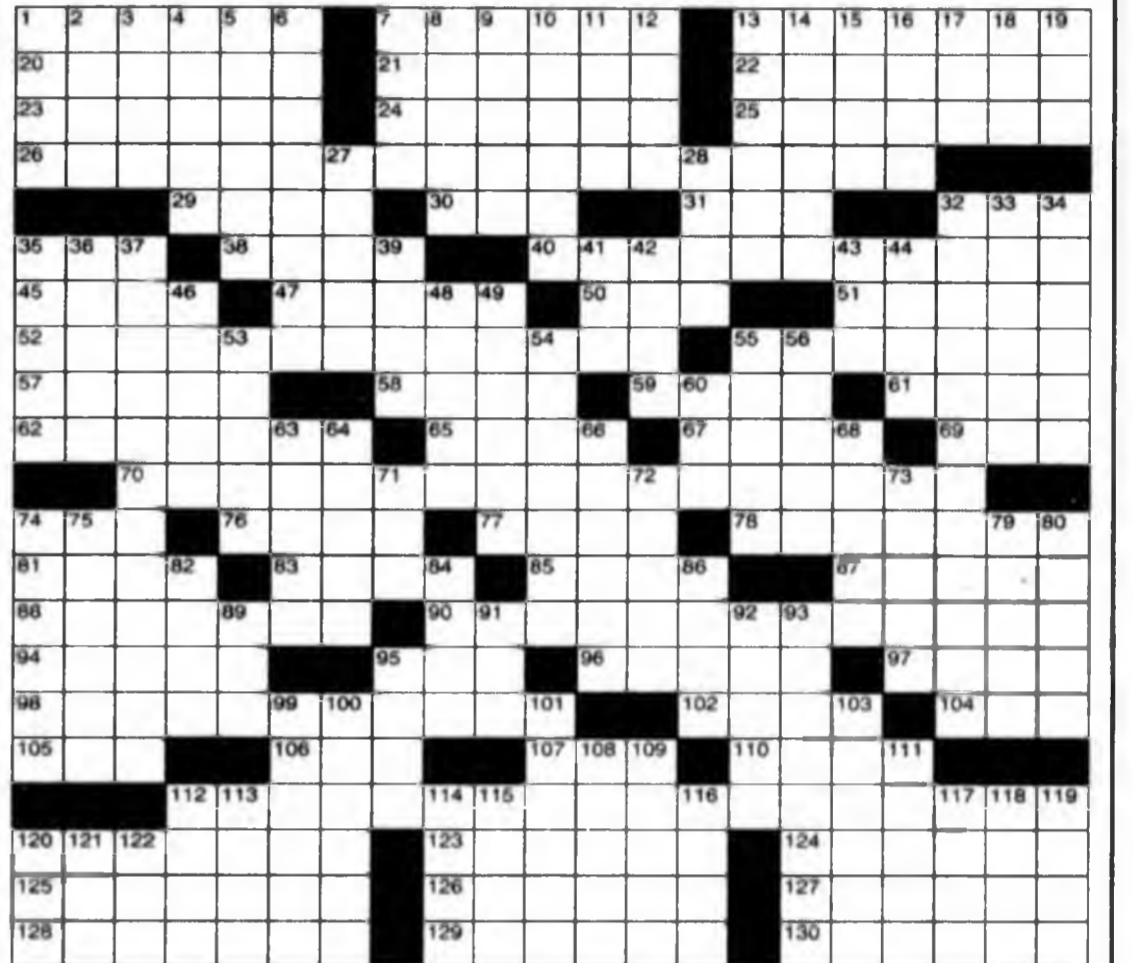
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Inflate
 - 7 Cattle pen
 - 13 Sucks up
 - 20 I'd of old Hollywood
 - 21 Excite
 - 22 Graduation document
 - 23 Verdi opera set in Cyprus
 - 24 Carrot, tater or cuke
 - 25 Barn bash
 - 26 "Spread the news!"
 - 29 Sore, as muscles
 - 30 Mermaid setting
 - 31 Dernier — (newest fashion)
 - 32 Mauna — (Hawaiian peak)
 - 35 Mom's mate
 - 38 Give relief of "Hip, hip, hooray!"
 - 45 "— From Mukogoe" (country hit)
 - 47 Tons of, informally
 - 50 Down a meal
 - 51 Author Nin
 - 52 1975 Joni Mitchell hit
 - 55 Feed voraciously
 - 57 Conan O'—
 - 58 Rialto glower
 - 59 Itinerary specification
 - 61 Piqued state
 - 62 Totally fill
 - 65 Sante — (some winds)
 - 67 Warm up
 - 69 USN jr. officer
 - 70 Country that one's forebears are from
 - 74 Unwell
 - 76 "Farewell" City near Grenoble
 - 78 Enjoys anew, as a book
 - 81 Wine valley in California
 - 83 Sonic the Hedgehog's creator
 - 85 Pouchlike parts
 - 87 Lower leg bone
 - 88 Refrigerator part for
 - 24-Acrosses
 - 90 1953 Bing Crosby film
 - 94 Metropolis in Japan
 - 96 Lucky number
 - 97 Actress Liu
 - 98 Title dance in a 1962 novelty song
 - 102 River in Germany
 - 104 Blue Jays, on sports tickers
 - 105 Grammy-winning Brian
 - 106 Kauai wreath
 - 107 Peak periods
 - 110 "Yeah, right!" from
 - 112 Prize won by the ends of 26-, 40-, 52-, 70-, 90- and 98-Across
 - 120 Its capital is Kingston
 - 123 Quite polite
 - 124 "Damien: —" (1978 sequel)
 - 125 Structure near a tonsil
 - 126 Voting item
 - 127 Thread puller
 - 128 1949 Tony winner
 - 129 Denise Fabray smiles
 - 130 Sergeant Bilko and others
 - 3 German auto
 - 4 "One of Ours" writer Cather
 - 5 Loosen, as a skate
 - 6 Place to play snooker
 - 7 Guinea pig
 - 8 Cookies since 1912
 - 9 Knavish one
 - 10 Toddler
 - 11 "Yeah, right!"
 - 12 Roué's look
 - 13 Hang on (to)
 - 14 Having artificial body parts
 - 15 Humed
 - 16 It made the Cutlass
 - 17 Joey, e.g., informally
 - 18 German auto
 - 19 SFPP part
 - 27 Common disinfectant
 - 28 "Power" rapper
 - 32 Heard of
 - 33 Inception
 - 34 Good traits
 - 35 Pundit Lou
 - 36 Film director — Kurosawa or Casio product
 - 39 Princely school
 - 41 Witch's spell
 - 42 Sortie, e.g.
 - 43 Witch
 - 44 Slaughter in the outfield
 - 46 "There wasn't a dry — the houses"
 - 48 Takes a vow
 - 49 Not in any key
 - 53 Ratify
 - 54 Market researcher
 - 58 Old numbing liquid
 - 56 Zora — Hurston
 - 60 PIN taker
 - 63 Rib
 - 64 Aspartate, for one
 - 66 Young pigs
 - 68 Toadlike, in a
 - 71 Gift stick-on
 - 72 Aunt's spouse, in Seasons
 - 73 Actor Sam of "Backtrack"
 - 74 Earned pay
 - 75 Cartoonist Gary
 - 78 Style for the Bee Gees
 - 80 Lustrful deity
 - 82 Queenie
 - 84 Actor Alan of "The Aviator"
 - 86 Gaffer
 - 88 Ballesteros
 - 89 Margarine square
 - 91 Bliffold items, briefly
 - 92 Make hazy
 - 93 In single file
 - 95 Gal pal, in Grenoble
 - 99 Bnng to light
 - 100 Like "Carrie" in 2013
 - 101 Modest
 - 103 Juicing gizmo
 - 108 Norman Vincent —
 - 109 Tijuana Mr.
 - 111 12-year-old, say
 - 112 Glazier's unit
 - 113 Large brawl
 - 114 Rubber duck locales
 - 115 Where shahs ruled
 - 116 New York ball team
 - 117 "— in my cap ..."
 - 118 Vax
 - 119 Goes totally kaput
 - 120 "Brady Bunch" sister
 - 121 Toothpaste box abbr.
 - 122 Pawna, e.g.
- DOWN**
- 1 Ink spot
 - 2 Mandolin kin



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

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

AGRICULTURE WORD SEARCH

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

- WORDS**
- ACRE
 - AEROBIC
 - ALLEY
 - ANAEROBIC
 - BACKGROUNDING
 - BARN
 - BEDDING
 - BIOSECURITY
 - BOVINE
 - BREEDER
 - CHRONIC
 - CHURNING
 - COMMODITY
 - CROPS
 - CULL
 - DAIRY
 - DEPRESSION
 - DRAWBAR
 - ENVIRONMENT
 - EROSION
 - FARROWING
 - FLOWERING
 - GESTATION
 - GRAZING
 - INTEGRATION
 - LACTATE
 - MOLTING
 - NITRIFICATION
 - PADDOCKS
 - PASTURE
 - PLANTING
 - RATION
 - RUMINANT
 - SANITIZATION
 - TILLAGE

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Crossword Answers

1. INFLATE
7. CORRALS
13. SUCKS UP
20. HOLLYWOOD
21. EXCITE
22. DIPLOMA
23. VERDI
24. CARROT
25. BARN
26. NEWS
29. SORE
30. MERMAID
31. DERNIER
32. MAUNA
35. MATE
38. RELIEF
45. MUKOGOE
47. TONS
50. DOWN
51. NIN
52. JONI
55. FEED
57. CONAN
58. RIALTO
59. ITINERARY
61. PIQUED
62. TOTALLY
65. SANTS
67. WARM
69. USN
70. COUNTRY
74. UNWELL
76. FAREWELL
77. CITY
78. ENJOYS
81. WINE
83. SONIC
85. POUCH
87. LOWER
88. REFRIGERATOR
90. BING
94. METROPOLIS
96. LUCKY
97. LIU
98. TITLE
102. RIVER
104. BLUE
105. GRAMMY
106. KAUAI
107. PEAK
110. YEAH
112. PRIZE
120. KINGSTON
123. POLITE
124. DAMIEN
125. STRUCTURE
126. VOTING
127. THREAD
128. TONY
129. DENISE
130. SERGEANT

Word Search Answers

ACRE
AEROBIC
ALLEY
ANAEROBIC
BACKGROUNDING
BARN
BEDDING
BIOSECURITY
BOVINE
BREEDER
CHRONIC
CHURNING
COMMODITY
CROPS
CULL
DAIRY
DEPRESSION
DRAWBAR
ENVIRONMENT
EROSION
FARROWING
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MOLTING
NITRIFICATION
PADDOCKS
PASTURE
PLANTING
RATION
RUMINANT
SANITIZATION
TILLAGE

Car Report

VOLKSWAGEN SHOWS IT'S TAKING SUV SEGMENT SERIOUSLY WITH TOUAREG THAT COMPETES IN NEAR-PREMIUM SEGMENT



By Dale Buss

Now that it's past its near-death experience in the United States market over the diesel emissions scandal, Volkswagen has been able to get Americans to pay closer attention again to its vehicle lineup. And as they do, consumers are seeing a lot to like in the 2017 Touareg mid-size SUV.

VW long has been more or less an afterthought in the SUV segment, preferring to emphasize its zippy and fuel-efficient little cars and its iconic Beetle. But recognizing that American buyers have made a definitive shift in favor of the utility-vehicle type over traditional sedans, Volkswagen is taking SUVs more seriously than ever. Soon, for example, it'll have a seven-passenger new SUV called Atlas.

And for the time being, VW is making Touareg an even more serious

entry in the crowded mid-size, near-premium segment. It competes with the top trim levels of Ford Explorer and Grand Cherokee, while licking at the heels of true high-end models such as Acura MDX, BMW X5 and Lexus RX350.

Significantly larger than the Volkswagen Tiguan just below it, Touareg presents a pretty formidable competitor in the segment. It already was loaded with a near-premium list of features, but for 2017 Volkswagen also added as standard adaptive cruise control, a rearview camera, a trailer hitch and eight-inch touch screen.

Touareg's appeal starts with its spare exterior styling, a very German execution of what an American SUV should look like. The design is beautiful in a somewhat minimalist way, and when emphasized with its 20-inch wheels, the Wolfsburg Edition makes for a handsome presence on the road indeed.

Inside, Touareg is restrained in a classy way as well. The cabin design is pretty conservative, but it evokes the premiumness that VW is after in this segment. Standard features



Inside, Touareg's restrained design is classy.

include automatic and adaptive bi-xenon headlights, foglights, LED running lights and tail lights, a hands-free power liftgate, heated mirrors, a trailer hitch, a rearview camera, front and rear parking sensors, a blind-spot monitoring system, a forward collision-warning system and automatic emergency braking, a lane departure warning system, keyless ignition and entry, and adaptive cruise control.

Amenities include dual-zone automatic climate control, heated eight-way power front seats, a heated tilt-and-telescoping steering wheel, 60-40 split folding rear seats, an auto-dimming rearview mirror, Bluetooth phone and audio connectivity, an eight-inch touchscreen interface, a navigation system, and an eight-speaker sound system with HD and satellite radio, a CD player, and a proprietary digital media interface.

There also are some unique touches that reflect good old-fashioned German engineering. For instance, the split second row of seats locks into the flattest position for each portion, which is very handy for loading cargo and lends a certain solidity and stability

additional adjustments, driver memory functions, second-row air vents, leather upholstery and a power-folding rear seat.

Also of note are two other significant characteristics of Touareg. First, VW says Touareg can tow up to 7,716 pounds when properly equipped, which is considerably more than most rivals. And in a Michigan market where a considerable number of utility vehicles are counted upon to haul boats, JetSkis, motorcycles and other drag-behinds to points all over the state, this advantage alone may bear a look for many buyers.

Second, however, is a negative about Touareg: It's only adequately powered. It comes with a 3.6-liter V6 engine that produces 280 horsepower and 265 pound-feet of torque, coupled with an eight-speed automatic transmission and all-wheel drive as standard. It accelerated to 60 mph in an unremarkable 7.7 seconds in testing by Edmunds. Yet its mileage is only 19mpg combined, only an average figure for this segment.



The 2017 Volkswagen Touareg is a great match for Michigan summers.



The Wolfsburg Edition adds a panoramic sunroof and more.

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BRIGHTON: Ravenswood Sub Sale - 3 streets Aug 10-12, 80-40 Birch Run Old US 23 Btw Hillton & Hyne Roads

DEARBORN HEIGHTS-CANFIELD CENTER OVER 150 VENDORS. Free parking. 13th annual garage sale, Sat 8/12, 9-4, 1801 N. Beech Dr. Between Ford Rd. & Cherry Hill.

GARDEN CITY Presbyterian Church Rummage Sale. 1841 Middlebelt, S. of Ford Road, August 10-11th, 9-5 pm, & August 12th; 9-2pm. Food Will Be Served.

Garage-Tag Sale

LIVONIA, 11018 Loveland St. (off Plymouth & Farmington Rd) Thurs-Sat 8/10-12; 10a-7 New Clothes (\$0c-\$2), Jewelry, Shoes, DVDs, Mail, Mark Linens & Lots of Everything!

GARAGE SALE

LIVONIA: 18321 Pershing Thru/Fri/Sat Aug 10, 11, 12, 9-5pm. Craft & Sewing supplies, h/h items, bookshelves, dble stroller, too much to list, Dir: 1 block W of Inkster 2 blocks S of 7 Mile

YARD SALE

Livonia, HUGE! American Legion Hall 9318 Newburgh 8/11 & 12, 9a-5p Sat & 1-9p, 5th Ann Arbor Tr & Jov

New Hudson, 29701 Marlin/Indale Rd, Fri 8/11-Sun 8/13 9-5, tractor, lawn mowers, trimmers, leaf blowers, generators, snowblowers, chain saws etc.

NEW HUDSON: Garage Sale! 59669 Sunridge Dr. Thurs 8/10-Sat 8/12, 9am-4pm. Lots of items!

NORTHVILLE, 20076 Valley St. Dir: Signs at 8MI & Lexington & Main St/Clement Fri 8/11 & Sat 8/12; 9-4a. Art Objects, Household, Tools, Etc.

Northville, Rummage, 41355 Six Mile, 48168 Wed: 9-4, Thur: 9-4, Fri: 9-6, Sat: 9-2 half off day, Tools, sports equip, toys, furniture, jewelry, clothing, sports equip, household items Dir: 1/4 mile west of Hogarty

Novi, Garage, 47490 Edinborough Lane, Sat: 8-2, Sun: 8-noon. Riding mower, generator, snow blower, grill press, grills, saws, wrench sets, Husky top and bottom boxes complete with tools, battery chargers, car jack, treadmill, canoe, outboard motors, tents, gozebo, gas grill, fire bowl, garden hooks, lots more, many brand new

MOVING SALE

Novi, Moving Sale, 23632 Greening Drive, Michigan, 48375 Fri: 1 PM - 5 PM, Sat: 10 AM - 4, Awesome Sports Memorabilia, golf, file cabinets, all kinds of great stuff, Dir: South of 10 mile and west of Novi Road, Orchard Ridge Estates, 23632 Greening Drive

South Lyon, Garage Sale, 57611 Hidden Timbers, Michigan, 48178 Fri: 10-4, Sat: 10-4, Sun: 10-1, Antique license plates, sports equip, race car slicks, yard equip, households, music/videos, college dorm stuff, clothing/access.

Cemetery Lots

Novi Cemetery Plots - 8 Cemetery plots at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens. Multi-Denominational Cemetery charges \$2,395 each asking \$1,000 ea. Victory Garden Lot 229 A&S, (517)714-0827 brearley.david@hotmail.com

Wanted to Buy

BUYING Older Motorcycles, road & dirt bikes & used ATVs/snowmobiles. Running/Non 816-775-9771

Transportation Wheels

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Cars

M&W Top \$5 Cash for junk cars. Free towing-7 days, 34yrs 734-223-5581

2007 Toyota Camry, 129k, 2nd owner, great car, cold A/C, non-smoker \$4750 (734)837-1081

Classic & Antique

Excellent Condition

Mazda Miata MX-5, 1991 \$5000 mi., Convertible, 2 dr., Manual, excellent cond., White ext., Black int., 04 Cylinders, 2WD, Airbag, Driver, Cassette Radio, \$4400, 48168 obo, (248)348-1711

Recreational Vehicles

WINNEBAGO, 2000, 37 ft w/slideout, good condition, 313-537-4097

Vans

DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT 2007 Slow & go, over doors, runs well, 119K mi., \$4,000 248-613-0637

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Beautiful Contemporary with Lake Views!
*This three bedroom, two and half bathroom home is a must see!
*This fabulous home has a unique floor plan with high ceilings and many upgrades
*Kitchen includes a greenhouse window over the sink, Jenn Air stove and 3 corner lazy Susan cupboards *Master bedroom has a door wall and balcony overlooking the lake
MLS 217065810 248.684.1065 \$299,000



Charming Colonial!
*This home features three bedrooms and two and half bathrooms
*Gorgeous landscaping, large lot and neighborhood sidewalks
*Completely updated kitchen with granite counter tops, porcelain country sink and center island
*Open floor plan with vaulted ceiling in family room, fire place, large loft sitting, study area with built in shelves
MLS 217067067 248.684.1065 \$289,900



Welcome Home!
* This home features four bedrooms and three and half bathrooms
* This unique home has a fully finished basement with kitchen, bedroom and fireplace
* Stainless steel appliances, stamped concrete patio
* This is a must see home!
MLS 217068811 248.684.1065 \$354,000



Perfect Location!
*This condo features two bedrooms and one and half bath
*Private and secluded back deck allowing for great outdoor entertaining
*Generous size rooms, separated by Jack and Jill baths
*Best location for shopping, dining and convenience of many local freeways
MLS 217061801 248.684.1065 \$169,900



OPEN HOUSE SUN AUG 13 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Peaceful Ranch on 1.5 Acres!
*This gorgeous Ranch has three bedrooms and two bathrooms
*Updated kitchen with patterned granite, refinished cabinets and hardwood flooring
*Dining room with arched opening and cathedral ceiling
*Finished walkout with family room, rec room and work out area
MLS 217047128 248.684.1065 \$364,000



OPEN HOUSE SUN AUG 13 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Gorgeous Cape Cod in Desirable Lake Oaks!
*This home features four bedrooms, three and half bathrooms on 1.86 acres
*Gourmet kitchen with granite counters, hardwood flooring and desk area
*Master bedroom has private deck, 2 walk in closets
*Full finished basement with kitchenette, full bath, rec room and laundry
MLS 217055133 248.684.1065 \$549,000



Gorgeous Colonial on Over 1 Acre!
*This four bedroom, two and half bathroom Colonial, has a spacious backyard perfect for a pool
*Spacious kitchen with expansive island, granite counters and maple cabinets
*Master suite with sitting area, finished basement with plenty of space for entertaining
*Located just minutes from downtown Milford and Kensington Park
MLS 217024941 248.684.1065 \$439,900



Adorable Colonial in Desirable Subdivision!
*This home features three bedrooms two and half bathrooms
*Great floor plan, finished basement and beautiful landscaping
*Oversized lot, and stamped concrete patio in backyard
*Neighborhood features tennis courts, clubhouse and community pool
MLS 217057283 248.684.1065 \$239,900



OPEN HOUSE SUN AUG 13 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Gorgeous Custom Built Colonial!
*This home features five bedrooms, four and half bathrooms located on a quiet cul de sac
*Beautiful gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and hardwood floors
*Great room equipped with temperature controlled wine cellar & cozy bar
*Full finished basement with kitchen, bedroom, full bath and living room
MLS 217057350 248.684.1065 \$549,900



Exquisite Home in Great Neighborhood!
*This beautiful four bedroom, three and half bathroom home is located on 2.26 acres
*Spacious dining room with crown molding, open kitchen with breakfast room
*First floor laundry with porcelain tile, cabinets and sink
*Stunning master suite
MLS 217040546 248.684.1065 \$525,000



Peaceful Ranch on 1.5 Acres!
*This Ranch features three bedrooms, two and half bathrooms, located on 1.12 acres with lake access *Updated kitchen with large island, wood flooring and two sided fireplace
*Living room with natural fireplace leading to the office
*First floor laundry and pool
MLS 217048351 248.684.1065 \$298,900



Motivated Sellers Looking at Offers!
*This five bedroom, four and half bathroom, has custom features galore including, walk in closets on each level
*Kitchen features a sub-zero refrigerator, high end range with steamer and hickory cabinets
*Theatre room has an 8ft HD projection screen
*Basement includes walk in fire proof vault
MLS 217042605 248.684.1065 \$595,000

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Home for Sale - In State

Bloomfield Hills, For Sale by Owner
4 br, 3.2 ba, colonial, 3,205 sq ft,
Wabeek sub div., gourmet kit,
new roof, \$499,000, 248-855-3888

GARDEN CITY Close to Town
3 Bdrms, Bungalow with huge
upper master bdrm, updated BA &
kitchen w/stove, bsmt, 2 car GA on
large corner lot, \$277,900
Century 21 Castelli 734-525-7900

Lots/Acreage/ Farm Land for Sale

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