

NORTHVILLE RECORD

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Volunteer earns award

Vicki Guck, Dublin Elementary School volunteer, will receive the Michigan Association for Media in Education Media Volunteer Award for at the state convention in November.

Tina Entwistle, Dublin media specialist, nominated Guck.

"Vicki works tirelessly to help in the media center, checking books in and out, shelving books, creating displays and helping wherever needed," Entwistle said.

Jeff Drewno, Dublin principal, called Guck a "permanent fixture at Dublin."

Job fair

The city of Wixom and the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the West Oakland regional job fair from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, to assist area employers in finding qualified candidates to fill open positions in a wide variety of areas. The event will be at the Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail.

Job recruiters will be on-site seeking engineers, sales associates, maintenance technicians, cashiers, servers, construction laborers, mechanics and candidates in other industries. The job fair is also focused on helping local job seekers to find good jobs near their homes and to allow job seekers to talk with employers and explore career options.

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Explore history in cemetery

Walk highlights area's heritage

Matt Jachman
 hometownlife.com

Fans of local history will be introduced to some of the personalities of early Northville during the Northville Cemetery Walk, beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday.

The walk, sponsored by the Northville Historical Society, is an annual event in which actors portray figures from the area's history. It will be held this year at Rural Hill Cemetery for the first time in honor of the 150th anniversary of Northville's incorporation as a village. The walk is usually at Oakwood

Cemetery.

The walk's theme is "The Leaders and Legends of Northville." Local pioneers to be portrayed this year include Civil War heroes, suffragettes, elected officials and a doctor from the World War I era. There will also be a story based on Northville's role in the Underground Railroad.

Guests will be led by a tour guide through the cemetery in small groups and can expect to meet eight to 10 actors. The walk will be in the oldest part of the cemetery and cider and doughnuts will be served at the end of the tour.

Tours between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. will be suitable for families with young children.

See WALK, Page A2



A character from last year's Northville Cemetery Walk. This year's walk begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Rural Hill Cemetery.

Dem hopeful makes pitch for investing



Shri Thanedar speaks to the Northville Democratic Club. He's running for governor.
 BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Thanedar meets with members of Northville Democratic Club

Matt Jachman
 hometownlife.com

Mixing a political pitch with his personal story, gubernatorial hopeful Shri Thanedar introduced himself Sept. 25 to a few dozen members of the Northville Democratic Club.

A chemist and entrepreneur who founded several chemical-testing companies, Thanedar is running next year to succeed Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who is term-limited. He is

among a host of candidates, including former state Senate minority leader Gretchen Whitmer, retired Xerox executive William Cobbs and former Detroit Health Department Director Abdul El-Sayed, vying for the Democratic nomination.

Thanedar, 62, immigrated from India in 1979 and became a citizen in 1988. He did post-doctoral work in chemistry at the University of Michigan, has lived in Missouri and Florida

and returned to Ann Arbor in 2010.

"If you haven't noticed, I look a little different. I also speak a little different," Thanedar, who retains an accent, told Democrats during their meeting at the Cady Inn at Mill Race Historical Village. "In me, you will get a very different governor."

He said that as a scientist, he would look at data and "use

See THANEDAR, Page A3

Fire station reopening ends five-year closure

Darrell Clem
 hometownlife.com

As if on cue, an ambulance responding to a medical emergency rolled out of Plymouth Township Fire Station No. 2 as residents and leaders Friday celebrated its reopening, five years after it was shuttered amid budget cuts and layoffs.

A crowd standing in front of the fire station applauded as firefighter paramedics rode off, siren wailing, as the third call for help Friday came mere hours after the station reopened on Wilcox, west of Haggerty. In a joint agreement, it will serve Plymouth and Northville townships.

"It's a special day," said Plymouth Township resident Susan Bondie, who has lived 46 years in nearby Lake Pointe subdivision. "It's a new beginning. It's what the residents of Lake Pointe have wanted for a long time."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise and other elected officials had promised during successful political campaigns last election year to reopen the fire station, in a move to reduce emergency response times in both townships.

"This is a good day for Plymouth Township and Northville Township," Heise said.

He held a fire ax and Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix held a pair of scissors as they cut a yellow ribbon to for-

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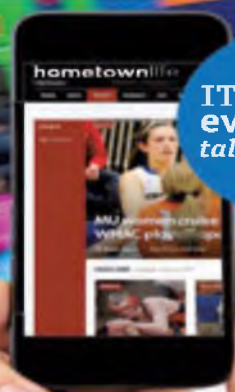


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STATION

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mally mark the station reopening. It will house two fire engines, two ambulances and four firefighters — two from each township.
Heise said the station originally opened in 1974. He said its reopening after a five-year closure means residents in the Lake Pointe area will have the same protection as the rest of Plymouth

Township. He called fire and medical service “an essential, No. 1 function of local government.”
Nix said the station also will improve service in Northville Township, such as along the Haggerty Road corridor that is home to several senior living facilities. Friday afternoon’s medical run was to a senior residence in Northville Township.
Nix said Friday’s celebration shows what can happen when two communities work to share resources.

Plymouth Township resident Ed Haggerty welcomed the station reopening.
“It’s a wonderful feeling,” he said. “It’s the culmination of a lot of hard work by a whole lot of folks.”
Plymouth Township Fire Chief Dan Phillips said his department has 21 firefighters, after three recent hires. Northville Township Fire Chief Brent Siegel said his department has 30 firefighters.
Both fire chiefs have

said the fire station reopening will reduce response time, particularly in northeast Plymouth Township and southeast Northville Township.
Siegel said it may be four months or so before officials can say how much response time has improved.
During the ceremony, Heise and Nix unveiled two big signs on the front of the fire station that are identical to the fire badges of the two departments.
The townships will

maintain separate fire departments and respond to calls in their respective communities from the station. They could respond together during incidents such as big fire that requires a mutual aid response.
State Rep. Jeff Noble, R-Plymouth, was among those on hand Friday. He

represents both communities.
“It’s an exciting time in Northville and Plymouth (townships),” he said. “This gives us another layer of protection in both communities.”
dclcm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919



Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise, fire ax in hand, and Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix, flanked by other officials, formally cut the ribbon on the fire station reopening. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Two signs in the image of fire department badges adorn the front of Plymouth Township Fire Station No. 2. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

WALK

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Advance walk tickets are \$10 for historical society members, \$15 for non-members and \$7 for

students ages 6-12. Children 5 and under are admitted free. Adult tickets at the gate are \$18.
Tickets can be purchased by phone with a credit card at 248-348-1845. Tickets are also

available at the Knightsbridge Antique Mall, 42305 W. Seven Mile.
Rural Hill Cemetery is on Seven Mile, between Center and Rogers. Walk visitors can park in the lot near the cemetery entrance; no cars will be

allowed in the cemetery during the walk.
mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman

NORTHVILLE RECORD

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Newsroom Contacts
Dan Dean, Print Content Editor
 Mobile: 248-396-0706
 Email: ddean@hometownlife.com
Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach
 Mobile: 586-262-9892
 Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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Shri Thanedar, a scientist and entrepreneur, is running for governor. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



President Lisa DiRado addresses the Northville Democratic Club meeting Monday. On the agenda was Shri Thanedar, who is running for governor. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

THANEDAR

Continued from Page A1

logic and reason” to make decisions for the state and, that as a chemist, he recognizes the issues behind lead-contaminated water in Flint and the concerns about the Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline, which passes under the Straits of Mackinac.

Snyder, Thanedar charged, ran as a moderate Republican, but “has really caved in to the right-wing lawmakers.”

Speaking for about 20 minutes, Thanedar argued for investing in the state — particularly in education, health care and infrastructure — and ending “this love for big corporations” in the form of tax breaks that have, he claimed, not led to net job gains.

“We have not invested in education. We have not

invested in infrastructure. We have been kicking the infrastructure can down the road so long, we have run out of roadway,” he said. “We have let this state go bad because we have not invested.”

Thanedar said he favors single-payer health insurance for the state. “A lot of countries less fortunate have done that,” he said.

After his formal talk, Thanedar said he’d pay for his investment proposals by raising taxes on the wealthy — those with household incomes of \$200,000 or perhaps \$250,000 or more a year — and “more importantly” on corporations. The state, he noted, is already on the hook for about \$2 billion in corporate tax credits, some even dating back to the Jennifer Granholm administration.

“Giving tax breaks to the rich has not made the

life of the working poor, the life of the middle class, any better,” he said. “This Republican notion of trickle-down economics never worked, never will and it’s time we focused on people.”

Thanedar has faced his share of adversity. His first wife died in 1996, leaving him with two young sons; he remarried two years later. His businesses were affected by the Great Recession and, despite his protestations that he could turn things around and save jobs, his lender, a major bank, seized them, plus his home, in 2010.

“I did not declare bankruptcy like somebody we know in Washington, D.C.,” he said, referring to President



Shri Thanedar, a scientist and entrepreneur, is running for governor. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Donald Trump, who has had multiple business bankruptcies. His seized assets, Thanedar said, made the lender whole.

“I had lost everything I had worked hard to achieve,” he said.

Thanedar, with some savings, moved with wife Shashi to start fresh in Ann Arbor later in 2010 and last year sold a majority share of the his new company, Avomeen Analytical Services, and

later retired as chief executive officer. His sons, Neil and Samir, are both graduates of U-M’s Ross School of Business.

“I’ve achieved my American dream,” he said. “It’s time I helped others achieve theirs.”

Democratic Club president Lisa DiRado said local Democrats have been energized this year as a response to Trump’s election and are eager to help Democratic candidates. El-Sayed and Cobbs have already spoken to the group, she said, and Whitmer is to appear at the November meeting.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
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One month into year is a good time to reassess

What can you tell after one month of a season?

This year, the Detroit Tigers ended April with a record of 12-12. As a baseball fan, there was still hope. A .500 record was not the best in the division, but it certainly was not the worst, either.

However, April did not foreshadow what was to come for my beloved Tigers. They are no longer a .500 baseball team. No, they ended the season with a record of 64-98. They have the worst record in all of major league baseball.

After nearly one month, our beloved De-



Steve Matthews
SUPER TALK

troit Lions sit at 3-1. They have played well. They are almost 4-0, having suffered a heartbreaking loss after a referee made a decision that went against them in their third game. What will the season hold for the Lions? Will they go the way of our Tigers and end the season as a poor team? Or will they continue their positive trend and finish the season well? The same questions

could be asked of the Michigan Wolverines, who after a month sit at 4-0. The Michigan State Spartans football team sits at 3-1. What direction will their season take?

It is hard to know what the outcome of any season will be at the beginning of the season.

Fall in Michigan started with 90-plus degree days and record high temperatures. Do those record high temperatures mean fall will be mild or will that unusual weather means more record warmth?

We are now one month into our "school season." What does the future

hold for our students?

Some of our students have started this season well. They have settled into a great rhythm. They get up in the morning without, or at least with minimal, complaint. Homework is getting done. Communication with teachers is good.

Other students have not started so strong. Getting up for school has been a struggle. Homework, if it is getting done, is getting lost. Buses are missed. Lunches are forgotten. In short, the "school season" has gotten off to a rocky start.

But the season is not over. In fact, it has just

begun. Regardless of where a student sits now, the season can still be a success.

For those students who have started the season well, it is important to continue the good habits. Continue the behaviors that have been effective.

For those students who have started, shall we say, slowly — don't give up! There is still time to have a successful season. Look for ways to improve the schedule. Find ways to ensure that homework doesn't get lost. Improve communication with the teacher. Create a new way of

doing things.

One month into the new "school season" is a good time for parents and students to re-assess. What works? What needs to change? Parents and students should take time to make adjustments to the game plan, if necessary. Reinforce what works. Change what doesn't.

Taking the time now can work to ensure that the school year will be a success.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at steven.matthews@novik12.org.

Homecoming, now and then



Last Friday, during halftime of the Novi Wildcats football game against Hartland, the 50th Novi High School homecoming court was introduced (front row, from left): seniors Alexandra Pringle and Ireland Whalen; junior Katlyn Collins; sophomore Anna Shinohara; freshman Leah George; and seniors Alexandra Kobakof and Mackenzie Kwasniewicz and (back row, from left) seniors Erik Halboth and Joseph Macek; junior Luke Horsburgh; sophomore Matthew Whyte; freshman Justin Levine and seniors Marcus Link and Blake King. The Wildcats defeated Hartland, 14-7.

BILL ROOSE | NCS



In 1968, senior Cathy Carr (second from left) was named Novi High School's first football queen.

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK

ELECTION LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seeking bond support

On Nov. 7, Northville Public Schools will ask for community support of a \$104,850,000 bond to address upgrades to infrastructure and improvements to the learning environment in every school within the district's real estate portfolio. To align with the Board of Education's desire to achieve stability and longevity with the district's aging real estate assets, in 2014 it commissioned a team of architects and construction professionals to assess each building on a critical need scale of 1 through 4 ("1" being the most critical). Through this review, it became apparent that current funding sources would not be adequate in meeting most, if not all, of the findings. As a result, the Board commissioned a Bond Study Committee to evaluate by consensus, the need to address not only infrastructure needs, but best practices as they relate to a 21st century learning approach.

While the details of the bond are extensive, the following best convey the advantages of this bond proposal:

- » Zero increase in the current debt millage rate of 3.64 mills;

- » Retains every dollar of the bond proceeds to remain in our district for projects earmarked at every school;

- » Enhanced building environments to engage students and promote dynamic, collaborative and stimulating learning spaces;

- » Improved environmental quality and operational efficiencies by upgrading outdated building components;

- » Improved learning opportunities at all schools for all students; and

- » Protects our residential property values by maintaining a strong and solid school system.

For more information about the bond proposal, review the Frequently Asked Questions document online at www.northvilleschools.org, as well as detailed information regarding bond features across the district and at individual schools and facilities.

There will be numerous opportunities for school families and community members to learn

more about the bond proposal. Board members stand ready to attend civic and professional group gatherings, homeowner association meetings and other community events, to share information and answer questions. Board members' contact information is available at the district's website under the tab labeled Board/Board Members.

The Northville Board of Education remains steadfast in its commitment to provide all learner levels the opportunity to achieve, whether it be in academics, the arts, STEAM or athletics. Approval of this bond will ensure opportunities for every learner, every school.

Please "Say Yes to NPS" with your vote.

Northville Public Schools Board of Education

Cyndy Jankowski, president

James Mazurek, vice president

Roland Hwang, secretary

Matthew Wilk, treasurer

Laurie Doner, trustee

Ann Kalass, trustee

Sarah Prescott, trustee

Support school bond

As a Northville Public Schools parent and PTA leader, I hope you will join the Northville Board of Education in supporting the \$104.85 million Bond Initiative that will be on the ballot for Northville school district residents in the Nov. 7 election. This bond initiative will touch every school with much-needed facility and program improvements, while maintaining the current 3.64 mills debt millage rate for taxpayers. As our aging schools are enhanced, everyone benefits, from families with students already in the district, to empty nesters and retirees looking to sell their homes quickly.

If you want to keep Northville Public Schools a place that attracts home-buying families with the incentive of amazing schools, then I strongly urge you to support this bond by voting yes. Passage of the bond will help keep Northville Public Schools competitive with other area school districts receiving exponentially more in per pupil funding from the state, all while maintaining the current debt millage rate for taxpayers.

Please say yes to NPS on Nov. 7. Make an effort to get to the polls and support our schools.

Lori Leneschmidt

Northville Co-Council of PTAs president

NORTHVILLE MILL RACE MATTERS

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

Upcoming events

Buildings open to the public: 1-4 p.m. each Sunday through Oct. 15.

Grounds closed for wedding: 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. Oct. 6, 2:45 to 4:45 p.m. and 5:45-7:45 p.m. Oct. 7, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m. Oct. 14.

Cemetery Walk: 2-5

p.m. Oct. 8. Rural Hill Cemetery. Tickets available now at Mill Race Village office and store and at Knightsbridge Antiques Mall.

Members only annual meeting: 6:30 p.m. Oct. 19.

Dine to Donate at Granite City: Dine and mention the Northville Historical Society and 20 percent of your bill will be donated to the NHS. All day Oct. 22.

Children's Christmas Workshop Tickets on Sale: 6 p.m. Northville Historical Society members only, 6:30 p.m. non-members. Nov. 3, 218 W. Dunlap Street.

Christmas in the Village: noon to 4 p.m. Nov. 19. Free to the public.

Donations accepted.

Children's Christmas Workshop: 10 a.m. to noon or 1-3 p.m. Dec. 2.

German Christmas Tea: 1-3:30 p.m. Dec. 9. Sold out.

General info

Website: www.millracenorthville.org

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

Rentals: Call or email

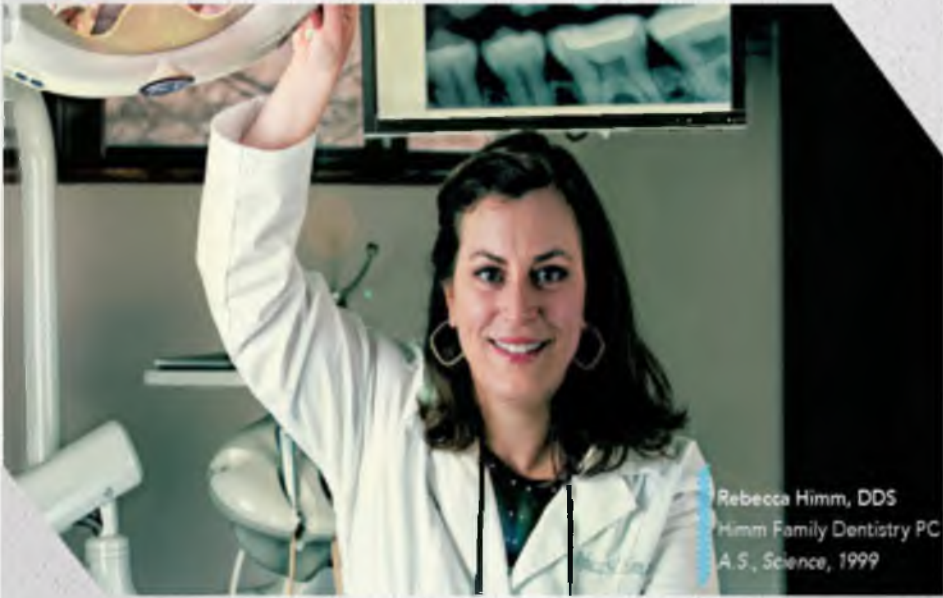
the office to rent the Cady Inn or church for a wedding or party. Many dates are available. More information on our website.

Donations: Archives donations accepted from 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday.

Archives: The archives are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

Office: The office is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All other times by appointment only. Call 248-348-1845 or email office@millrace.northville.org.

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Restrictions on bathrooms could lead to violation

Q: One member of our condominium association's board of directors wants to adopt a rule for our clubhouse bathrooms saying that you can only use the bathroom that corresponds to the gender on your birth certificate. He's been going door to door in the building trying to get people on his side. The rest of us on the board think this is ridiculous, but is there any law or case law we can point out in order to get him to leave this alone?

A: Yes, in fact, there is case law supporting the position that the prohibitions against discrimination based on "sex" in federal law applies to transgender people. Adopting such a bathroom restriction would likely be found to violate state law as well.

Michigan's federal courts



Robert Meisner

CONDO LIVING

must rule in accordance with the federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, which has previously found that federal prohibitions against discrimination in employment based on sex apply to transgender people. For example, see *Smith v. City of Salem*, 378 F.3d 566 (6th Cir. 2004). While housing was not the subject of those cases, it would be difficult for an association to argue that those cases should be distinguished from a housing issue, as employment discrimination and housing discrimination law have evolved generally along the same lines over the years.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development issued guidance in 2012 clarifying that housing discrimination against LGBTQ people violates sex discrimination prohibitions in the federal Fair Housing Act.

At the state level, although there is no express prohibition of discrimination based on someone being transgender in Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission recently considered issuing an interpretive statement finding that the prohibition on sex discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations found in Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, MCL 37.2101 et seq., includes a prohibition on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation. However, the Michigan at-

torney general's office intervened, saying the commission had no authority to issue such a statement. Pressure may build for the attorney general to issue an interpretive statement, which the commission has now requested.

Consult a knowledgeable condominium association attorney regarding this issue, as it may be advisable for the board to take additional measures. It may be prudent to send a brief communication to all association members clarifying that the board is aware that this individual board member is going door to door and expressing his individual opinion, which does not represent the opinion of the board or the association. Emphasize that the board and association are committed to complying with fair housing laws.

In fact, a formal censure of this individual by the board or other measures may also be appropriate. If the board member's actions could be found to be discriminatory or harassing toward someone, and if the board is aware of those actions and does nothing about it, the association could face liability under the federal Fair Housing Act.

Robert M. Meisner, Esq., is principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group, based in Bingham Farms, which provides legal representation for condominiums, homeowner associations, individual co-owners and developers. His book "Condo Living 2: The Authoritative Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium" is available at www.momentumbooks.com. He can be reached at 248-644-4433 or bmeisner@meisner-law.com.



Witch's Hat Furious Ginger milk stout. DAN DEAN

FALL BEERS

9 RELEASES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Dan Dean
hometownlife.com

As the air finds a crisp edge to it and cider mills are buzzing with yellow jackets, area craft breweries are releasing their tributes to the change of season. We emailed brewers and went through local online beer lists to bring you nine fall brews sure to release your inner autumn.

Furious Ginger milk stout

ABV: 11.5%

Witch's Hat Brewing Co.: An anti-pumpkin beer, a nice fall alternative to all the pumpkin-flavored everything that takes over the season. Furious Ginger is a big, bold, spicy stout brewed with lactose, cinnamon, ginger and peppers. Is available on draft only, available in the taproom and in bar/restaurants throughout southern Michigan.

Marzen Oktoberfest

ABV: 4.8%

North Center Brewing Co. (Sept. 30): "This is our take on the season's favorite style. This lager has great drinkability with a nice malty flavor so you can enjoy them all day long!" De-Grood said.

Headless Horseman Pumpkin Pie Ale

ABV: 7.1%

North Center Brewing Co. (Sept. 30):

"Pumpkin pie ale is loaded with 120 pounds of pumpkin and uses pumpkin pie spices and biscuit malt with just a touch of vanilla to create that pumpkin pie flavor that we all love this time of year," managing officer Kevin DeGrood said in an email.

Screamin' Pumpkin Ale

ABV 5%

Griffin Claw Brewing Co.: The website describes it as "Our Screamin' Pumpkin Ale is like a slice of warm pie. Cinnamon, clove, sweet pumpkin and a little molasses. A couple sips in you'll mistake the malty aftertaste for a crispy crust. The perfect beer to celebrate Halloween. Or Thanksgiving. Or Christmas, if there's any left."

Piwo Grodziskie

ABV 3.8%

Farmington Brewing Co. (Oct. 7) "Our take on a Polish original, Piwo Grodziskie (pronounced pivo grow-JEES-kee-uh)," FBC's Jason Hendricks said. "The only truly Polish beer style around, Piwo Grodziskie (Piwo, Polish for beer, Grodziskie referring to the Grätzer region that made the style popular) is a light-bodied, smoked wheat beer."

Mother Mary's Toffee Stout

ABV 6.3%

Farmington Brewing Co.: A stout made with

Farmington's own Mother Mary's Toffee. It has a chocolaty taste with a salty toffee finish.

Spiders from Marzen Oktoberfest-style lager

ABV: 6.1%

River's Edge Brewing Co.: "A copper-red German lager with a malt-accented presence that is rich and toasty. This beer is slightly sweet yet well-balanced and exits with a welcome hop dryness," River's Edge's Ryan Wiltse said.

Rivers & Roads Altbier

ABV: 5%

River's Edge Brewing Co.: "Like a Kolsch, this beer is fermented cool, lending to its clean, slightly bitter and lager-like character," Wiltse said. "Unlike a Kolsch, caramel, chocolate and black malts are blended to create a light brown-colored beer with touches of toast, biscuit and caramel in the flavor. A fair amount of hop bitterness yet a clean, balanced beer."

America's Apple Pie Cream Ale

ABV: 6%

Draught Horse Brewing Co.: Website describes this as "smooth, balanced ale with pie spices and fresh apples (that) takes you over the river and through the woods to grandma's house slowing things down with a slice of apple pie."

I am an American We are One Nation

FIGHTING TO SAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD

Man works to help SC city's black community overcome poverty, racism

MIKE ELLIS
USA TODAY NETWORK

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

GREENVILLE, S.C. - Darian Blue said he would be walking through Winn-Dixie grocery stores in 1980s Florida and his great-grandmother, born in 1908, would suddenly pull him behind her.

She'd tug at him and tell him to look down at the ground whenever a white person passed in an aisle.

"The years I spent with her, I was seeing the world from her lens," said Blue, now a reverend at Nicholtown Missionary Baptist Church and the executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center in Greenville.

"This went on through the '80s and '90s," he said. "I don't think she ever felt the type of equality she hoped for."

Blue, 37, said people like his great-grandmother went to the grave with racial scars so deep that they struggled to recognize the changes he saw while growing up.

He sees similar scars in Greenville's Nicholtown neighborhood, where he moved five years ago to run the Wheatley Center, a nonprofit that has been led by African Americans for nearly 100 years.

Poverty, Blue said, is the main problem in Nicholtown, Greenville's first black neighborhood established just before the Civil War. The community is about 1.5 miles from the booming downtown business district.

Blue expects downtown growth to push many longtime residents out of the neighborhood. To help them, he is working with developers so they'll get to know the homeowners. The hope is that developers can talk with homeowners and leverage their stories into bigger sales, meaning more money for those who are being priced out of the neighborhood.

But Blue and others also are working



Darian Blue, a pastor at Nicholtown Missionary Baptist Church and executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center in Greenville, S.C., is fighting poverty. JOSH MORGAN/USA TODAY NETWORK

to keep people in Nicholtown.

The Wheatley Center is undergoing renovations to add a cooking school, which Blue hopes will train a generation of people to work at restaurants before owning their own.

Blue is troubled that he still has to have tough conversations about race with his children. He said the solution for racial tension in society is found through Christ: "Love one another."

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.

Darian Blue

Location: Nicholtown community in Greenville, South Carolina

Age: 37

Profession: Minister and executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Center

Mission: To bring his neighborhood out of poverty

Q&A WITH DARIAN BLUE

What does it mean to you to be an American?

My great-grandma raised me. She was born in a time that these United States were very segregated. Seeing the world from her lens was somewhat hard, because for her, looking a white person in the face was dangerous. You had to address all white people by "yes, sir" or "yes, ma'am." Growing up, I didn't understand that because I felt like ... everyone was equal, and I really didn't understand racism at that point. I am passing on to my kids that the only time you hold your head down is when you pray, when you pray to God out of reverence because there's no one human being greater than another. So when we pray, we bow our head in reverence to God.

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

So poverty is what I hate. Poverty is what led me and still guides me to this day to put forth the effort and make sure everybody has a good living. I've been in poverty. I know what it smells like. What it tastes like. ... If more people would open their eyes and wouldn't turn a blind eye to poverty, what we'll see is that America can be better because there are great minds, but they're just diamonds in the rough. They need someone to reach down and pick them up.

What gives you hope or concerns you?

The rhetoric I hear now from the government, that really concerns me. We see a spike in these hate groups ... and it's just, at one point I thought we were getting better, but we're kind of going backwards, so that concerns me what I hear. ... I think white America has to stand up against white America. I tell all my friends, if you say you're really passionate and your heart is there, then you have a conversation with that racist family member, that racist co-worker. This is a battle for white America. White America has to heal white America. Black America can't heal white America. Hispanic America can't heal white America.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

Social justice, for one. Two is economic empowerment. And I want to see education for minorities skyrocket through the roof. There's a direct correlation between education and economics.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Northville bond support

I am voting yes for the \$104.85 million bond issue for the over 7,000 students of Northville Public Schools. The bonds will not raise our debt millage but will continue the excellence that is Northville Schools and that contributes to our excellent reputation in the state and nation and benefits us all with high real estate values.

I have been involved with the schools first as a kindergarten parent in 1980, President of the Co Council of PTAs in 1987 and on the School Board from 1994-2002. Currently I serve as the community member on the International Baccalaureate Advisory Committee.

Our aging school buildings (average age is 40 years) need this technology, environmental and safety updates. Our students need the flexible classroom changes that allow new methods of teacher learning and student teamwork to flourish and the district to remain competitive. Buses need to be replaced. If you have specific questions on what the money will be used for, go to the Northville Public School website and click on the 2017 Bond Issue tab.

I hope you will join me in voting yes on Nov. 7 for the NPS Bond proposal. Do it for the kids. Do it for the staff. Do it for your real estate values. Vote absentee if you will be out of town by seeing your governmental clerk for an absentee ballot.

Martha Nield
Northville

Mutch to like in council race

I am writing to endorse Andrew Mutch for Novi City Council. Andrew is an incumbent and has served as a councilman for 12 years.

I've lived in Novi for 42 years and many of your readers will remember me as the Farm Lady. For 30 years I worked with youth in this community through the Novi Adventurers 4-H Club and my Farm Lady business. Not only did I share everything "farm" with children but I also shared my love of nature and encouraged them to be caretakers of the natural world.

I have many reasons for supporting Andrew but high on the list is Andrew's commitment to preserving open spaces in Novi. He has led efforts to acquire parkland to protect natural land for future generations. Andrew is truly an example of someone who is a caretaker and protector of our city's natural resources. All of us living in Novi owe him a debt of gratitude and this can be paid by voting for him in the coming election.

Margaret Schmidt
Novi

Toying with nostalgia

I recently heard the news that Toys 'R' Us may be going into bankruptcy. Although that doesn't mean that it will cease to exist, it certainly doesn't bode well for the company. I feel that would be a great tragedy and loss if it did go under.

"Toys 'R' Us" has been an unique and unusual store. It's like a warehouse for Babes In Toyland. Originating in the early 1970s or so, the store has always been a visual feast, especially at Christmas-time. In 1975, I bought a Bobby Hull Hockey Game from the store, and in 1985, I bought a Tudor Electric Football Game from them.

"Toys 'R' Us" joins a long list of stores like Kmart that have closed previously. Some of these stores were done in by Walmart, while others fell to online shopping, such as the Ama-

zon site. Amazon began as a seller of books and drove several great stores out of business, including Walden Books, Edward Hamilton Bookseller and Media Play.

People really are idiotic in how they've reacted to online shopping as if it's revolutionary. We've had mail-order shopping around since the 1900s Sears catalog. The same products can be found in 'brick and mortar' stores, it's just that today's American is so lazy that he can't get up off his darn, fat butt and travel to a store, and he wants instant gratification.

I just feel that this modern, digital generation has lost something by its de-evolutionary descent into a soulless state of mind-numbing blandness. Joni Mitchell once said "you don't know what you got 'til it's gone." It seems that the Baby Boomer generation had the best years of their lives (the wonder years), in the past. Today, there seems to be a lack of a magical sense of wonder.

Back in the 1960s, there was classic TV, classic rock music, and some great stores. We used to have Christmas catalogs from Sears, Ward's, JC Penney's, Spiegel's and Federal's. We once had stores like Ben Franklin's (a five and dime), the downtown Hudson's, the Westland Woolworth's and Kresgee's. The Westland Mall was a marvel to behold: stores like Ward's, long hallways, fountains, red and blue parrots in cages, Hot Sam pretzel stands. The old Livonia Sear's mall was also fantastic. So much has been lost and can never be regained.

Leo Weber
Livonia

Support Northville schools

We request your informed support on behalf of our 7,200 students, 450 educators and community-

at-large. On Nov. 7, you can set Northville's course on an upward trajectory for decades by passing the Northville Public Schools Bonding Proposal.

Did you know, when passed, every dollar from this bond will remain in Northville and provide major improvements to all schools with zero increase to the current debt millage rate. And the tax rate is expected to begin declining in five years.

Did you know the average age of school buildings in our district is 40 years, with some being built 60 years ago or more. I encourage you to think of your own home; has your house received upgrades in the past 50 years? I'm guessing so. There are major infrastructure challenges in many of our buildings, including those related to the safety and security of students, staff and visitors.

Did you know growing enrollment is straining capacity at some schools, while buildings in some of our peer districts have been closed because of declining enrollment. Anyone at our high school in recent years can attest overcrowding in the common areas is an issue. Why? Because Northville Schools continues to excel in achievement while being one of the most fiscally responsible and conservative districts around.

Although he passed more than a decade ago, my grandfather's voice still rings loud and clear in my ears: "waste not, want not." He also believed in not being "penny wise but pound foolish". Both ad-

ages apply where we find ourselves today, in a district that does more with less than many of our peer districts. We cannot afford to ignore needed upgrades to our schools. It is incumbent upon us to ensure Northville's outstanding reputation and results continue, and provide environments that exemplify best practices to ensure our learners are prepared to compete and excel in a global society.

If you have questions about the Nov. 7 NPS Bonding Proposal, reach out to a Say Yes to NPS committee member, school captain or school board member. We are all volunteers and invite your engagement: www.sayyestonps.com, www.facebook.com/sayyestonps. email: npsbond2017@gmail.com.

Kelly Masters
Northville

Support all kids

It is always incredible to see the amount of opportunities presented to all the students that attend the National Youth Science Camp ("Northville Student Attends Prestigious STEM Camp" Aug 23.); all due to the education provided by their school districts and state/government. The kids are awarded an opportunity to challenge themselves academically and learn from others in a field along with emphasizing the value of scientific careers.

However, this particular camp and other academic opportunities are not available in developing countries such as Kenya, Uganda and Nepal.

A staggering 263 mil-

lion children are unable to attend school worldwide; perhaps what is even more disturbing is that 57 million children have never stepped foot in a classroom. If children do have the ability to attend school, it is uncertain if a high standard of education will be met. For example, in some areas, children in secondary school are unable to write in full sentences.

Now with the introduction of the House Resolution 466 - Global Partnership for Education, this can become a reality. The Global Partnership for Education allows for the development of effective national education programs that are tailored to each country's needs. As of 2003, approximately 72 million children are in primary school due to the funds raised. By committing \$250 million over two years to the Global Partnership for Education, we can stand with the world's children and ensure that each child is afforded a quality education across the board. In order to receive this funding, each participating country must devote 20% of its gross domestic product to its own education programs.

I am asking U.S Rep Dave Trott to stand with these children and co-sponsor the bipartisan House Resolution 466 in order to ensure that the underprivileged children and youth worldwide are given the same opportunities as those at home.

Simran Reddy
Northville

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF UPCOMING NATIONAL ACCREDITATION VISIT BY ACEN
(Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing)

Schoolcraft College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association and the Michigan Board of Nursing, will host a site review for continued national accreditation of its Practical Nursing and Associate Degree Nursing Programs by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

You are invited to meet the site visit team in person to share your comments about the nursing programs at a meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 from 1:45-2:45 PM at the Livonia Campus-Biotechnology Building-Room BTC 225.

Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:
Dr. Marsal Stoll, Chief Executive Officer
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326
or email: mstoll@acenursing.org

All written comments should arrive at ACEN by October 6, 2017.

Please RSVP to nursing@schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4456 by October 6, 2017 if you plan to attend.

Published: October 5 & 8, 2017

SYNOPSIS
SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 - REGULAR MEETING
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, September 21, 2017
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Nix called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
PRESENT: Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor Richard Allen, Trustee
Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Symantha Heath, Trustee
Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer Mindy Herrmann, Trustee
Fred Shadko, Trustee

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- Agendas:**
 - Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda items** - Approved
- Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements:**
 - Public Safety Presentation: Lt. Burrough** - Presented
- Public Hearing:**
 - Set Budget Public Hearings for October 12 and October 19, 2017** - Approved
- Brief Public Comments:** None
- New Business:**
 - METRO Act Permit: Verizon Access Transmission Services** - Approved
 - Bid for Website Redesign Project** - Approved
 - Budget Amendment #2017-7** - Approved
 - Bid for Asbestos Abatement & Demo: Former Psychiatric Hospital** - Approved
 - DTE Real Estate Purchase Agreement** - Approved
- Unfinished Business:** None
- Ordinances:** None
- Check Registry:**
- In the amount of \$ 2,278,668.90 for the period of 8/5/17 to 9/8/17** - Approved
- Board Communication & Reports:**
 - Robert R. Nix, II, Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie Banner, Richard Allen, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Snider
- Any other business for the Board of Trustees:** None
- ADJOURN:** Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

A draft of the minutes will be available October 3, 2017.

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

Published: October 5, 2017

Beatles tribute band to play Village Theater

Following the success of their 2016 U.S. debut tour, the Mersey Beatles, an all-Liverpool-born Beatles tribute band and the house band for more than a decade at the world-famous Cavern Club, will perform their Sgt. Pepper's 50th Anniversary Show at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill. The concert is set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at the venue, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton.

John Lennon's sister Julia Baird, author and director of the Cavern Club, will also be in attendance selling and signing copies of her book "Imagine This: Growing Up with My Brother John Lennon" before and after the show.

The Mersey Beatles are the official Beatles tribute band representing the city of Liverpool. From 2002-12, they were the resident tribute band at The Cavern Club, the nightclub in Liverpool, where the Beatles perfected their act before launching a global rock music revolution in the 1960s.

Since 1999, the band has played sell-out shows in more than 20 countries, recreating the Beatles' most popular hits. The show spans the Fab Four's entire catalog with four costume changes and authentic Liverpool accents, wit and charm. The Mersey Beatles recreate the Beatles' sound and image with amazing accuracy, using replica Hofner,

Rickenbacker and Gretsch guitars and VOX and Ludwig gear. This year, the band is celebrating 50 years of what is arguably the most iconic and influential album of all time: "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band."

To purchase tickets (\$25, \$37, \$15 with student ID and \$45 VIP), call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillagetheater.org. VIP includes premium seating, Mersey Beatles free CD download and a meet and greet with the band and Baird.

The Mersey Beatles, an all-Liverpool-born Beatles tribute band, will perform in Canton.
DONNA JACKSON



The forum drew an attentive crowd to the Canton Township Hall board meeting room. BRAD KADRICH

Education experts talk funding, performance

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

With studies showing inequity in Michigan's school funding and state testing showing declines in reading, writing and science, about 100 people turned out Sept. 25 in Canton for a town hall-style meeting on public education.

The forum, hosted by state Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, featured a quartet of panelists and covered issues ranging from student achievement and public school funding to charter schools and a shortage of teachers.

"Michigan is experiencing a systematic decline across the K-12 system," Pagan said. "I find these reports extremely disturbing. ... I am confident we can find solutions and find common ground to move our students forward."

The forum featured four panelists, including three local experts, discussing education issues:

» Former state Sen. Gilda Jacobs, president/CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy.

» Monica Merritt, superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

» Adrienne Quinn, the student support coordinator at Field Elementary School in the Plymouth-Canton district.

» Heather Colombo, president of the Plymouth-Canton Education Association.

Among the issues they discussed:

» School funding — Pagan pointed out that an independent study commissioned by the state Legislature found Michigan's school finance system "inequitable when it comes to allocating resources across districts" and suggesting the state comes up about \$1,200 per student short, on average.

Jacobs, who was a special education teacher in a previous career, noted that a Fi-



Former state Sen. Gilda Jacobs (left), president/CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy, and Plymouth-Canton Superintendent Monica Merritt discuss the state of education. At right, State Rep. Kristy Pagan hosted a town hall-style forum on education Monday in Canton. BRAD KADRICH

nance Research Collaborative, made similar findings.

"It's a matter of economics," Jacobs said. "If Michigan is going to be the rebound state, it starts with kids and education. If we are not giving kids what they need. ... We have a funding formula that isn't always enough."

Merritt noted that "money isn't everything," but said her district, which at a \$7,500 per-pupil foundation allowance is in the lower brackets of school funding, could do a lot with that extra money.

"Money isn't the only thing needed to give kids what they need, but it's important," Merritt said. "We have a moral obligation to give kids what they need to succeed. Imagine, with 17,000 students, what another \$1,200 (per student) would do."

» Protecting the school aid fund — Pagan pointed out the state has, in the past, dipped into the school aid fund to

patch other budget holes, including not sending all of the sales tax money that's supposed to be earmarked for public education to that fund. The question: Should the school aid fund be protected from such practices?

"We need to stop dipping into the school aid fund," Colombo said. "If it's called the 'school aid fund' that's what it should be used for."

» Student performance — Results of statewide testing on the MSTEP and MME exams show some progress being made in math scores, but state students are losing ground in reading and writing. How do districts improve on those results?

"Part of this work is on us at the local level," Merritt said. "We need to assess our students to see where they are. There can be testing overload, but we need to be mindful of where our students are and use best practices in place

to get them where they need to be."

Jacobs brought up the controversial legislation passed in the state that says third-grade students not grade-level proficient will be held back. She decried the lack of funding that goes with that mandate and also said she doesn't believe automatic retention is a good idea.

"There are some good ideas to make (reading success) happen," Jacobs said. "But adequate resources have not been put in that plan. If we don't put the proper resources behind it, we're really setting our kids up to fail."

» Charter schools — Pagan pointed out the differences between public and charter schools (charter boards are appointed, not elected; many are run by for-profit management companies; charters aren't required to disclose how their budgets are spent). She said the state removed its

cap on the number of charters in 2011, while 21 states still have a cap and 31 require annual reports. The question: Do you feel the effects of charters?

"We have definitely felt it," said Merritt, who pointed out that some 2,000 students from within the P-CCS boundaries are attending charter or private schools. "It really comes down to funding. We're all getting the same funding, but our costs are different. Now, we're trying to get students from other districts, so it's a circle. Kids lose in that case."

Quinn said she'd like to see more transparency required of charter schools.

"As a taxpayer, I'd appreciate transparency," Quinn said. "I'd like knowing the for-profit entities are not abusing the system. Studies have shown it is and kids lose in that situation."

Jacobs said she believes Michigan's education system has been "weakened through the charter school system."

"Accountability standards are not the same," she said. "If someone's feet aren't being held to the fire ... we have to have the same standard for any entity taking public dollars."

Pagan said education is "not a priority" in talks in Lansing these days, with legislators focused more on issues like auto insurance reform.

"Education isn't talked about much," she said. "That's why, whenever I get the chance to go to the podium, I'm talking about our kids."

Merritt said that's one reason she likes participating in forums like Monday's in Canton.

"The opportunity to have a voice in education is valuable," Merritt said. "When you think of all the decisions being made in Lansing, it's nice to have a voice."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Hurricane dogs find new homes in Bloomfield Township

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Welcome to the suburbs, Axl. The adorable puppy is one of five dogs that found a new home in Michigan after being displaced from various animal shelters because of Hurricane Irma.

The Bloomfield Township Animal Welfare shelter took in the pets Sept. 24 after a local pet rescue group transported them to Michigan. Within 24 hours, all five dogs were adopted.

"It was wonderful to see the excitement and interest the dogs generated as they arrived at the shelter," said Gwen Lund, a part-time employee at the shelter.

Kathy Bono in the township's assessing department coordinated the transportation and adoption efforts. Other employees also chipped in.

Bloomfield Township police officers Kim Comerford and Joe Monti both adopted a puppy for their respective family, while a third puppy went to Gayle Sadler in the township's IT department. A pair of local families adopted the two other dogs.

Comerford said it was her husband's idea to name the puppy after Guns N' Roses rocker Axl Rose.

"My husband is a huge fan of Guns N' Roses," she said. "In August, we were at Mile High Stadium in the front row to see them play - it was very cool."

It was love at first sight when the Comerford family saw Axl at the shelter. So far, the shepherd-hound mix is getting along fine with the two other pets in the household, Thor and Oberon. Yes, it was also



Bloomfield Township Police Sgt. Kim Comerford and her new dog, Axl. BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

her husband's idea to name one of their dogs after a beer.

"He was so skinny," Comerford said about the newest family member. "But he's super happy and super laid back. I'm glad we could do something to make sure these pets could find a good home where they're loved."

Monti said his family recently lost a pet dog and wasn't quite ready to adopt another one. But along came Nico and so began a new chapter of hugs and chew toys.

"When we saw him, we couldn't pass him up," he said of the boxer mix. "It worked out for him

and it worked out well for us."

Monti said training Nico has become a family project. He's agreed to take on poop patrol in the yard, but it's a job he hopes to pass onto the kids sooner rather than later.

Molly Kallen of West Bloomfield adopted Mikey, a lab mix that quickly found his way around the house.

"He's already sleeping on the bed with the kids," she said. "He was a little timid at first, but he warmed up real fast."

Mikey joins a family of three kids, plus a rescue cat and a rescue dog. "We're one big happy



The Kallen kids and their new pet, Mikey. MOLLY KALLEN

family," Kallen said. "Mikey's already put on a few pounds since we adopted him and he's great with the kids. You can tell how happy he is to have a home."

Bloomfield Township Supervisor Leo Savoie said he's proud of his employees for helping with the hurricane pets. "Bloomfield Township has gone to the dogs," he said. "And we love it!"

Helping hands

Vikki Long with 3rd Coast Lab Rescue out of New Boston, the organization that transported the dogs to Michigan, said the animals were picked up from shelters

in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina to make room for dogs that were displaced from the storm.

"These animals were what we call pre-hurricane dogs that were already surrendered or abandoned as people were evacuating," she said. "I've been working hurricane rescue for several years, but this was the first time we shared our transport with other shelters as the need was so great."

In total, the shelter rescued 46 dogs and puppies from Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Hurricane Irma in Florida. Getting the dogs to

Michigan required four separate transports and more than 150 hours of drive time. Once the dogs arrive, they're checked by a local vet and quarantined up to 14 days to make sure they're healthy for adoption.

Long said these latest transports were labors of love in honor of Moxie, her recently-passed Labrador, who was a Hurricane Katrina victim. To help the shelters affected by the storms, her group packs each van with medical supplies donated by local clinics.

jgrossman@hometownlife.com
586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric



Darth Vader, BB-8 and Yoda, along with 66 costumes from the movies, are highlights of the exhibition "Star Wars and the Power of Costume," at the DIA next spring. LUCASFILM LTD.

'Star Wars' costumes coming to DIA

Julie Hinds
Detroit Free Press

The best-known cinematic franchise in the galaxy is bringing its iconic outfits to the Motor City.

Next year, the Detroit Institute of Arts will be hosting a major costume exhibit from the "Star Wars" movies.

Clothing and gear for characters ranging from Darth Vader, Princess Leia and Stormtroopers to Chewbacca, Han Solo and droids (including C-3PO and R2-D2) will be part of the "Star Wars" and the Power of Costume" exhibit.

It will run from May 20 to Sept. 30.

The sure-to-be popular show also will feature BB-8, Yoda and an Ewok,

according to the DIA. In addition, more than 150 items and sketches will help illustrate the process of creating the apparel and accessories of the "Star Wars" universe that sprang from the vision of director George Lucas.

And there will be videos and interactive elements about the work of concept artists and costume designers for the movie franchise.

"This exhibition allows visitors to explore the creative processes behind the art of costume design, while discovering the unexpected ways in which these works relate to art from the DIA's collection," museum director Salvador Salort-Pons said in a statement. "It also connects di-

rectly with our Detroit Film Theatre program, which has shared the art of film with hundreds of thousands of visitors over its 42-year history."

The ticketed exhibition was put together by the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibit experts in partnership with the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, which will be constructed in Los Angeles.

Detroit will be the sixth city on its tour, which launched in 2015 in Seattle.

Ticket prices have yet to be determined, but tickets should be available by April, according to the DIA.

The latest movie in the "Star Wars" series, "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," is due Dec. 15.

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'Trump bridge' vandalized in Virginia

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

One of metro Detroit's most iconic support pieces of President Donald Trump was hit with vandalism earlier this month while out of state.

Rob Cortis, a Livonia resident behind the "Trump Unity Bridge" trailer that makes its way around the region and country, said the bridge was vandalized while he was planning to attend the "Mother of All Rallies" in Washington, D.C., this past weekend.

He said he was staying at a hotel in Fairfax, Va., and came out the morning of Sept. 15 to find police and witnesses standing around the bridge.

"I went outside about quarter to nine to go get my morning preparations ready on the bridge," he said. "I went out there and saw a bunch of police cars and a couple of people standing around."

He discovered tires slashed, a wooden bald eagle was toppled, flags were damaged, the vehicle had been spray-painted and the arm to his replica Statue of Liberty had been ripped off.

"They defaced the Statue of Liberty in line with what's going on across America," Cortis said. "They stole her arm and took it."

Cortis recorded a video of the damage and posted it to Facebook that morning.

Officer C.K. Young of the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia confirmed Sept. 19 a report was filed regarding damage done to the trailer. Young said police arrived, spoke to witnesses and attempted to locate security footage of the damage.

Young said the investigation appeared to be closed as of last week.

Cortis and his brother, Novi resident Mike Cortis, are behind two vehicles that most metro Detroiters would recognize after last year's election. They're behind the "Trumpmobile," an RV that was covered in Trump campaign signs, and the Trump Unity Bridge, which has the president's last name across the trailer with a



Some of the damage done to the Trump Unity Bridge in Virginia. ROB CORTIS

bridge.

Rob Cortis traveled with the bridge from Washington, D.C., to New York City for the United Nations meetings.

Rob Cortis said he's going to work on restoring the bridge back to its original shape, along with some improvements. That includes a new Statue of Liberty made up of metal instead of the poly carbon fiber the original was con-

structed out of.

"My plan is to get the new Statue of Liberty," he said. "I've located two of them that are the same size."

He's keeping all the damaged materials, hoping they could be enshrined somewhere as a testament to the issues he and others have faced.

He's gotten a lot of attention, both positive and negative, traveling across the country. Rob

Cortis said he's hoping to pen those interactions sometime down the line into a book.

"I'd like to write a book about my adventures on the road, because it's been amazing," he said. "It's been wonderful."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Man throws handful of candy during mall argument

A man who stuck his hand in a bin of Assorted Fruit Sours, grabbing a handful and tossing them

during an argument with employees at a Twelve Oaks mall candy kiosk, agreed to pay more than \$400 to replace the candy, police said.

The incident occurred Sept. 26 at the Sweet Pick & Mix kiosk at the mall, according to a Novi Police Department report. The man was told not to put his hand in the bin, employees told police, but then did so and threw a handful. The manager told police all the candy in the bin was considered

contaminated.

Police found the man at a mall store; he told them he was sorry and would pay for the candy. Police reached the kiosk owner by phone and she said if the man paid for the entire bin of candy — \$415.68 — by Friday, she would not press charges. The man agreed to do so and was released, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

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CITY OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Notice is hereby given that the City of Northville Election Commission will meet on October 16, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300, to conduct business related to the November 7, 2017 General Election.

The Public Accuracy Test for the November 7, 2017 General Election will be conducted as part of this meeting. The public accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Election law.

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, CITY CLERK
ELECTION COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

Published: October 5, 2017

LO-000031238

NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Small dog stitched up after German shepherd attack

A German shepherd weighing an estimated 75 pounds was quarantined Sept. 18 after attacking a much smaller dog at the Northville Woods apartment complex, in the area of Seven Mile and Northville roads.

The victim, a Maltese weighing about eight pounds, suffered five puncture wounds in the attack at about 5:30 p.m. and was to be sedated and stitched up, according to a Northville Township Police Department report. The complainant told police the German shepherd was too strong for the girl walking it on a leash and pulled toward his dog, bit it on the back, lifted it with its mouth and shook it before releasing it.

The dogs' respective owners both live in the complex and are friendly with each other, the police report said, and the dogs reportedly played together as puppies.

The shepherd's owner, however, told police the dog was not licensed and had no proof that it was current on its shots, so police took it temporarily, eventually bringing it to a local veterinary clinic for observation.

The owner was issued a citation for having an unlicensed dog.

Booze-tampering

A 31-year-old Southfield man was arrested Sept. 19 after he was accused of removing anti-theft tags from four bottles of high-end liquor at the Meijer store on Haggerty.

He and two women, however, paid for other grocery items at a self-checkout lane and left the booze in a shopping cart in the store, a police report said. Asked by police why he had left the liquor, the suspect said he didn't have enough money to pay for it and denied removing the anti-theft tags, police said.

The incident occurred around 2 p.m. Store security was watching, police said, as the man discarded the bottles' cardboard outer packaging and used some type of tool to pry off the tags. He then took a rug from the textiles department and covered the bottles in the bottom of a shopping cart, police said.

The four bottles of liquor left behind totaled more than \$200.

The man joined two women in the store and the three walked to a self-checkout line, where they paid for groceries, security told police. They got into a Dodge Charger, with the man behind the wheel, and were heading through the lot when stopped by police.

The suspect complained of chest pains and was evaluated by township paramedics, police said. He was later released with a citation and Wednesday, Oct. 11, date in 35th District Court. He faces charges of malicious destruction of property, driving on a suspended license and having no proof of insurance.

Trespassing duo

Two men, a 19-year-old from Belleville and a 21-year-old from Redford Township, were cited for trespassing after police caught them Sept. 23 at the Northville Psychiatric Hospital property on Seven Mile.

Two officers were checking the property around 1:30 a.m. when they saw flashlights moving about in the main building, then saw the males exiting, a police report said. They were detained; one of them complained of feeling faint and passed out, police said, and was treated at the scene by township paramedics.

The two were released with trespassing citations and are due in district court Wednesday, Oct. 18.

— By Matt Jachman

NORTHVILLE LIBRARY LINES

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 you navigate our downloading services, help with email, Facebook, DropBox and more. Not for computer repair or configuration questions. Register online or in person or call 248-349-3020.

Fall TOT Storytime

When: Varied, see website

Details: Develop your toddler's early literacy skills and preschool readiness in this fun, interactive, small group experience. Please bring only children who are registered for this storytime; babies, siblings may not attend.

Fall Storytime

When: Varied, see website

Details: Stories, music and creative activities. Children must attend independent of a caregiver and have basic cutting skills with craft scissors. Only registered children may attend.

Drop-In Morning Storytime

When: 10:15 a.m. Thursday through Nov. 2

Details: Storytime fun for toddlers and preschoolers. All ages welcome. Caregivers must accompany children age 3 and younger. Just drop in!

Teen Faux Stained Glass Workshop

When: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7

Details: Fake it while you make it with our fun faux stained glass craft for teens in grade 6-12. Learn how to use glass paint and

"instant lead" to make a faux stained glass panel. Supplies limited, register.

Picks & Sticks & Pals

When: 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10

Details: This crowd-favorite group has a somewhat different sound with two new members, but still delivers a wallop, a rollicking ride through some familiar musical tunes and new uncharted territory. Foe all ages. Register. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Chris Linn's Halloween Harvest Magic Show

When: 4:15-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 11
Details: Magician Chris Linn presents a harvest of laughter and amazing magic for all ages. Please, no special groups. 100 free tickets available five minutes prior to the program.

Decorate a Pumpkin

When: 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 24
Details: Tweens ages 9-12 can decorate a mini pumpkin for Halloween. Register online or by phone. Limit 30.

Howell Nature Center 'Birds of Prey'

When: 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 25
Details: Discover the fascinating world of Michigan's birds of prey in this Howell Nature Center presentation featuring live hawks, owls, falcons and vultures. Held next door at the Community Center. All ages welcome. Please no special groups. Register online or by phone. Sponsored by The Friends of Maybury State Park and the Northville District Library.



Be especially wary of those protecting nests. BOB GROSS | TIMES HERALD

Stinging insects ornerly this time of year

Bob Gross

Port Huron Times Herald

The woods and fields are filled with wasps, hornets, yellow jackets and bees fueling up for winter. And some of them are ornerly.

Howard Russell, an entomologist at Michigan State University, said yellow jackets are not in the mood to be trifled with.

"They are really aggressive and intolerant this time of the year," he said. "As things wind down in the fall, they become rather aggressive."

Yellow jackets often nest in the ground in colonies that can reach 4,000 to 5,000 workers. The entrance hole, Russell said, might have been there since May — but autumn is when the colony is at its largest and when the bugs get feisty.

"One reason is the last brood they raised are next year's queens," he said. "Those are the future of the colony, so they tend to be more protective."

"What they do at the end of the season, they're coming out with a vengeance because their time is shorter," said Char Paulun, at ABC Home and Commercial Services in Clay Township.

Swat a yellow jacket, and you might trigger and even more aggressive response: A dying yellow jacket, like a honeybee, releases a pheromone that alerts the nest. Stepping in the wrong place can trigger a full-on attack with the stinging insects swarming and pursuing.

Russell, however, said people are more likely to encounter stinging insects that are foraging for food.

"Their diet somewhat changes," he said. "Most of the summer, they're predators and feed on other insects."

"In the fall, they kind of develop a sweet tooth. Fermenting fruit, adult beverages, colas, fruit juice — all become super attractive to them."

The foraging insects tend to hang out in places such as apple orchards and cider



Wasps, hornets, yellow jackets and bees are out fueling up for winter. Here, a bee forages for nectar on goldenrod. Usually, stinging insects prey on other bugs, but in fall, they turn to sweets. BOB GROSS | TIMES HERALD

mills, picnic areas, outdoor restaurant seating and backyard barbecues.

Sharon Pankiewicz, at Pankiewicz Cider Mill and Farm Market in Columbus Township, said yellow jackets don't bother her custom-

ers. "We have traps in our eating area," she said. "We fill them with apple juice, not cider. Cider turns into vinegar, and they won't like it anymore."

"It attracts them to the trap, not to the people. We

have very few that ever bother anybody."

Paulun said ABC places wasp traps at Lake St. Clair Metropark to control stinging insects. The traps help, she said, "but I've been to the cider mills where I've

had to fight them off. The traps do help, but they don't eliminate them."

Russell said the foraging insects are not as aggressive as those protecting a nest.

"Kind of remain calm, if they are exploring you," he said. "Yellow jackets, if they're out foraging for food, they tend not to be in that super aggressive, defend-the-colony mode."

He said people eating outside should check their food and drink before taking a bite or sip.

Yellow jackets and bald-faced hornets build nests with an outer paper envelope — the large gray egg-shaped nests hanging off buildings and from tree limbs often belong to bald-faced hornets. The paper envelope protects the nest and can render insecticide sprays ineffective, Russell said.

Paulun said yellow jackets also can get into the walls of a home or behind the siding.

Paper wasps build smaller cone-shaped nests that lack the paper envelope. Russell said homeowners can use an insecticide to deal with paper wasps if they become a nuisance.

Like mosquito bites, stings contain a protein that causes itching.

People who are allergic to insect stings can go into anaphylactic shock that in severe cases can cause death. Auto-injectors containing epinephrine, or adrenaline, that counter the effect of the venom are available.

Russell said people who are not allergic can get some relief by taking an antihistamine and by applying ice or topical creams to the sting site. Some people, he said, recommend a poultice of baking soda and a little water.

Honeybees have a barbed stinger that will remain in the victim's skin, pumping venom until it is removed. The stinger can be scraped out with a fingernail or with a credit card or something similar.

A memorable meal is more than just the food

Think of a special meal you enjoyed sometime in your life. Maybe it was the food you ate, but more likely it was the place you were or the people you were with. There used to be an Ethiopian restaurant in downtown Plymouth, run by a husband and wife from Ethiopia.

One Sunday after church, about 20 of us went there and we had the whole place to ourselves. I don't know if you know much about Ethiopian food, but you don't get silverware. You get this kind of pancake bread, which you use to pick up the food off a common plate. There we were, with bowls of buttered cabbage and tenderized beef and corn mush, all using our hands and laughing and loving the time together. How about you — what's a favorite memory you have of a meal?



Dean Johnson
CULTURAL RELEVANCY

All four of the Bible's gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) tell of an event where thousands of people came to be healed by Jesus and hear him preach about how the reign of God was returning to Earth. Supper-time came and the disciples offered this completely unimaginative suggestion: "Send the people away." They were tired from a recent mission's trip, so I guess that's the best they could come up with. Not one disciple said, "Wait, guys. There's so much good ministry going on here. Let's at least try to figure out a way to feed these people." How

often do I not make spiritual progress because I'm so practical I don't even ask Jesus to work?

We're like Eeyore: "It can't be done. Send them away!" Don't be one of those people who always points out the reasons something can't be done. I knew of a ministry once where more and more people kept coming and it was taxing their facility. So there was actually some discussion among the leadership about making the program less attractive so fewer people would come!

Jesus asks, "Well, what food do we have?" and the disciples say, "Here's a little boy willing to give us his two fish and five loaves." And then we have for all time the example of Jesus giving thanks before eating. I hope you do that. Do you give thanks at home before eat-

ing? How about in a restaurant? At work or school? I was with a Christian friend recently at a Leo's Coney Island and, when the waitress brought our food, my friend said to her, "We're about to pray. Is there anything we can pray for you about?" The waitress told us that her father has cancer. So we bowed our heads, my friend thanked God for the food and prayed for the woman's father. Afterward, she had tears in her eyes and thanked my friend for his kindness.

Jesus multiplies the food, everyone gets enough, and Luke 9:17 says this: "They all ate and were satisfied." And that, of course, is the key word: "satisfied." Through the work of Christ, people are completely satisfied. I would guess this was the most memorable meal of their lives! There are other meals

recorded in Luke. In Chapter 10, Jesus eats at the home of Mary and Martha. Martha scrambles around in her busy-ness, but Mary sits and enjoys Jesus's presence as they eat. In Luke 19, Jesus goes to the home of Zacchaeus, where he eats with lots of sinners, setting an example for Christians today. Then in Chapter 22, Jesus and his disciples are in an upper room enjoying the Passover meal and Jesus takes bread and says, "This bread represents my body, which will be broken for you, and this wine represents my blood, which will be shed to cover your sins." Jesus satisfies. What is your most memorable meal?

Dean Johnson is senior pastor at Lake Pointe Bible Church in Plymouth. Email him at DeanLPBC@sbcglobal.net.

Stislicki case draws look from crime show

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

Since their daughter's disappearance in December, Ann and Richard Stislicki have worked to bring their daughter home, to no avail.

Their latest attempt to keep the case of missing 28-year-old Danielle Stislicki of Farmington Hills in the forefront — with hopes of shaking loose some piece of information that will lead them to their goal — came a few weeks ago, when the Fowlerville couple agreed to take a short, but incredibly painful, trip down memory lane.

Stislicki family members were among several principals in the puzzling case to sit down to talk with representatives from the syndicated crime show "Crime Watch Daily with Chris Hansen" to go over the case in an effort to keep people talking about it.

It wasn't easy. "It takes you back to the actual day and the call," Ann Stislicki said. "Having to go through that again and talk about that long drive from Fowlerville to Farmington Hills ... that was hard."

Bad memories

Danielle Stislicki disappeared Dec. 2, 2016, from the MetLife office where she worked in Southfield. She had been scheduled to meet a friend that evening, but didn't show. The next day, her car was discovered in the parking lot at Stislicki's Farmington Hills apartment complex. She hasn't been seen since.

The story originally drew the attention of Hansen during the show's second season. A Michigan native, Hansen keeps up with stories that are resonating here and the case of Stislicki caught his attention.

The show teamed with its Detroit affiliate, WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), to report on the story during season two. This new report, put together in the last couple of months, was scheduled to air Sept. 29 on WMYD-TV (Channel 20).

We have continued following it because we knew there was more to the story that people needed to know," "Crime Watch Daily" producer Scott Eldridge said. "We are hoping our coverage will bring more attention and answers as authorities work to bring justice and closure for Danielle's family."

Media frenzy

The national media attention is nothing new to the Farmington Hills Police Department, which has been investigating the case from its inception. Farmington Hills Police Chief Charles Nebus said the case drew national media attention "from day one," with much of the focus on details police "couldn't release without jeopardizing our investigation."

The media attention waned — a little — until earlier this summer, when a 30-year-old Berkley man, Floyd Galloway, was arrested in connection with an attempted sexual assault in Hines Park in Livonia in September 2016.



Ann and Richard Stislicki of Fowlerville agreed to talk to "Crime Watch Daily" to keep their daughter's name in the forefront. CRIME WATCH DAILY



Danielle Stislicki



Farmington Hills Assistant Police Chief Matt Koehn, left, and Livonia Police Chief Curt Caid talk to "Crime Watch Daily." CRIME WATCH DAILY

Police in Livonia and Farmington Hills compared notes — they've never released specifics — and, as a result, Galloway was labeled a "person of interest" in Stislicki's disappearance. It's important to note Galloway, whose house was searched by Farmington Hills Police back in December, has not been charged with anything in the Stislicki case.

"We were executing daily search warrants and were doing 24-hour surveillances that could not be compromised," Nebus said. "Most national media backed off on coverage as a result. 'Crime Watch' reached out at a time more details of the case had been made public and they placed focus on reporting about Danielle's life and the Stislicki family."

Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid said he hesitated at first about taking part in the show, fearing the exposure might taint his case against Galloway. But the potential good the show could do the Stislicki case won him over.

"The biggest reason I thought it was important to participate was the open Stislicki case," Caid said. "It was a complicated decision. I did think participating in the show might motivate someone to come forward with information about Danielle."

Front and center

The Stislicki family has been persistent in its efforts to keep Danielle's name out there in the hopes that she'd be

brought home. Friends, family and strangers are helping in the efforts, which have included a wristband campaign, painting Danielle's name in car windows, leaflets and other efforts.

It hasn't always worked — "Someone approached my mother in a parking lot and wondered who Danielle was," Ann said — but not for a lack of effort.

"There have been plenty of people who've done our wear-and-shares, they've put her name in their car windows, people are putting flyers out," Ann Stislicki said. "Spreading awareness of (Danielle) missing, is still at the top of our list."

The compelling story, and its attraction even to total strangers, is part of what attracted "Crime Watch Daily" to the story.

"Crime Watch Daily" strives to be the crime show of record for the country, a voice for victims and a forum that families can use to help bring justice," producer Jeremy Spiegel said. "Danielle's tragic disappearance is a story that resonates with thousands across the nation and we are honored that her family is trusting us to share their story."

Family ties

The family's strength in participating helped convince Nebus, who has marveled at the family's resilience throughout, the department should help with the show.

Department officials communicate with the Stislicki family on nearly a daily basis, Nebus pointed out, and try and follow their leads when the time is right to talk to the media.

"They have been an amazing family to work with," Nebus said. "They have a keen sense of when media is digging too deep and they know when to back off and what might jeopardize the case. 'Crime Watch' personnel gained the trust of the Stislicki family who wanted to do the story and we followed along."

The Stislickis were willing to talk to "Crime Watch Daily" because they know the story isn't finished. They know police are doing everything they can, there's a "person of interest" in custody and the investigation is ongoing.

But Danielle isn't home — "Our utmost responsibility as parents is to get Danielle home," Ann Stislicki said — and there's more story to tell.

"We don't have all of our story, because our case hasn't gone to court," Ann Stislicki said. "It's important for us to keep her name out in the public. (The show) was difficult, but it was something we needed to do and continue to do, until we have some sort of resolution."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

Local man took 'anything of value' in theft spree

Laura Colvin
Livingston Daily

Deputies are sorting a large assortment of laptops, tablets, golf clubs, televisions, credit cards and other items at the Livingston County Sheriff's Office after a South Lyon man was arrested Sept. 22 in connection to a long string of thefts in several counties, police said.

Robert Lee Juel, 23, was arraigned Sept. 22 in connection to larcenies, break-ins and illegal credit card use across Livingston County.

He faces felony charges of identity theft and stealing or retaining a financial transaction device (credit card) and is currently lodged at Livingston County Jail on \$100,000 bond.

The charges are related to purchases made with the stolen credit cards, said Detective Sgt. Gary Childers of the Livingston County Sheriff's Office.

Childers said investigation showed Juel — along with others who are expected to be charged as the investigation continues — took items from unlocked automobiles and homes, and may have been involved in commercial break-ins, as well.

"We have 10 open cases we can directly tie him to and we expect to open more as we identify property and where it came from," Childers said, noting other recovered items include high-end sunglasses, silverware, designer purses in brands like Louis Vuitton and Michael Kors.

"He took anything of value," Childers added. "We also have tons of men's wallets we found empty."

Juel was picked up after a Livingston County sergeant on patrol recognized him from a bulletin issued by the agency's detective bureau and pulled him over at a Genoa Township gas station.

Numerous stolen items were recovered in Juel's car, as well as in his home, Childers said. Deputies also recovered more stolen merchandise connected to Juel dumped near Woodland Lake in Brighton Township.

Childers said Juel used the stolen credit cards locally. "Speedway seemed to be a favorite," Childers said. "They were getting their gas, buying their munchies ... they made a few online purchases, but nothing major."

Childers said investigators believe Juel was working with at least one other male, and has been "directly linked" to cases in Milford, Clarkston and other areas of Oakland County, and well as Ypsilanti.

Juel was scheduled to appear in 53rd District Court for a probable cause conference Oct. 4, followed by preliminary exam Oct. 10.



Juel

7 tips to help avoid deer making poor decisions

Winter's coming; do you know what deer are doing?

October and November are the prime months for deer mating. As deer are on the move — “chasing tail” as it were — they can head out into the middle of the road.

“We share this community with wildlife and, as our human population grows, it becomes increasingly important to learn how to live together safely and peacefully. Education is key,” said Tanya Hilgendorf, president and CEO of the Humane Society of Huron Valley. “While there are times when collisions are unavoidable, there are ways we can change our own habits to help avoid them. We need to be extra alert in and around mating season when behavioral

changes increase risk for collisions.”

How do you play it safe while randy bucks are chasing does? Here are seven tips:

1. Look out, especially at dawn and dusk. Deer are most likely to be on the “edge” of development — where we’ve built roadways next to woodlands. Be extra vigilant around forest edges and ditches, as well as when the sun rises or sets — though during the breeding season, they may be on the move anytime. And please, put your phone away!

2. See one? Expect more. A doe is likely to be followed by a buck during mating season and followed by a family of deer afterward. If you see one deer, slow down and look out for the others to cross.

3. Use your high beams. Continually scan the road back and forth and look out for movement and “eye shine.” Deer don’t have great vision — hence the phrase “Deer in the headlights.” They’re not stupid; they’re trying to focus on the bright light ahead of them.

4. Slow down. Collisions are more likely when you’re speeding or on a high speed road. Deer are making poor decisions during this time and may dart suddenly in front of you. If you think you might see a deer, slow down early and get ready to stop.

5. Honk in short bursts. While a deer’s vision isn’t great, their hearing is better and they can discern where noise is coming from. Though you should still slow down and

stop, honking your horn will encourage them to move further from the road, as well as alert other nearby drivers to look out.

6. Don’t veer. If an animal jumps in front of you, slow down as much as possible without swerving or losing control. Apply the brakes, keep your hands on the wheel and come to a controlled stop. Only steer around the animal if you can safely do so; the biggest danger comes when people veer into oncoming traffic or collide into trees on the side of the road in order to avoid the animal.

7. Slow down. It bears repeating. You’re more likely to avoid a collision at slower speeds.

What should you do if you

do hit an animal? If you are injured or your car is damaged, call 9-1-1 immediately.

For injured animals, call the Humane Society of Huron Valley’s emergency rescue line at 734-661-3512. Don’t attempt to move an animal. HSHV provides emergency services to sick and injured wildlife and stray animals; wildlife are given medical treatment and transferred to local, licensed rehabilitators, when possible. Although animals which are hit by a car are top priority, wait times may vary as a field officer may be servicing another part of the county. For removal of dead animals from public areas, call your local police department’s non-emergency line.

Local student cares for elephants in Thailand

Jay Grossman
hometownlife.com

Nothing beats an elephant hug.

Michigan State University student Jacob Bloom spent part of his summer at the Elephant Nature Park in Thailand, where he gained some hands-on experience taking care of the gentle giants.

The 19-year-old Farmington Hills resident is majoring in animal science and molecular genetics. Working under experienced veterinarians, Bloom and other MSU students in the Loop Abroad program learned how to feed, bathe and care for more than 100 elephants in the sanctuary:

Q: What’s it like to bathe an elephant?

Bloom: Bathing an elephant is sort of like bathing a dog, except you’re bathing something a couple of tons bigger. We would take the elephant to the river, fill giant buckets with lots of water and splash it all over the elephant. Since elephants can’t sweat, they love baths to cool off in the summer heat of Thailand.

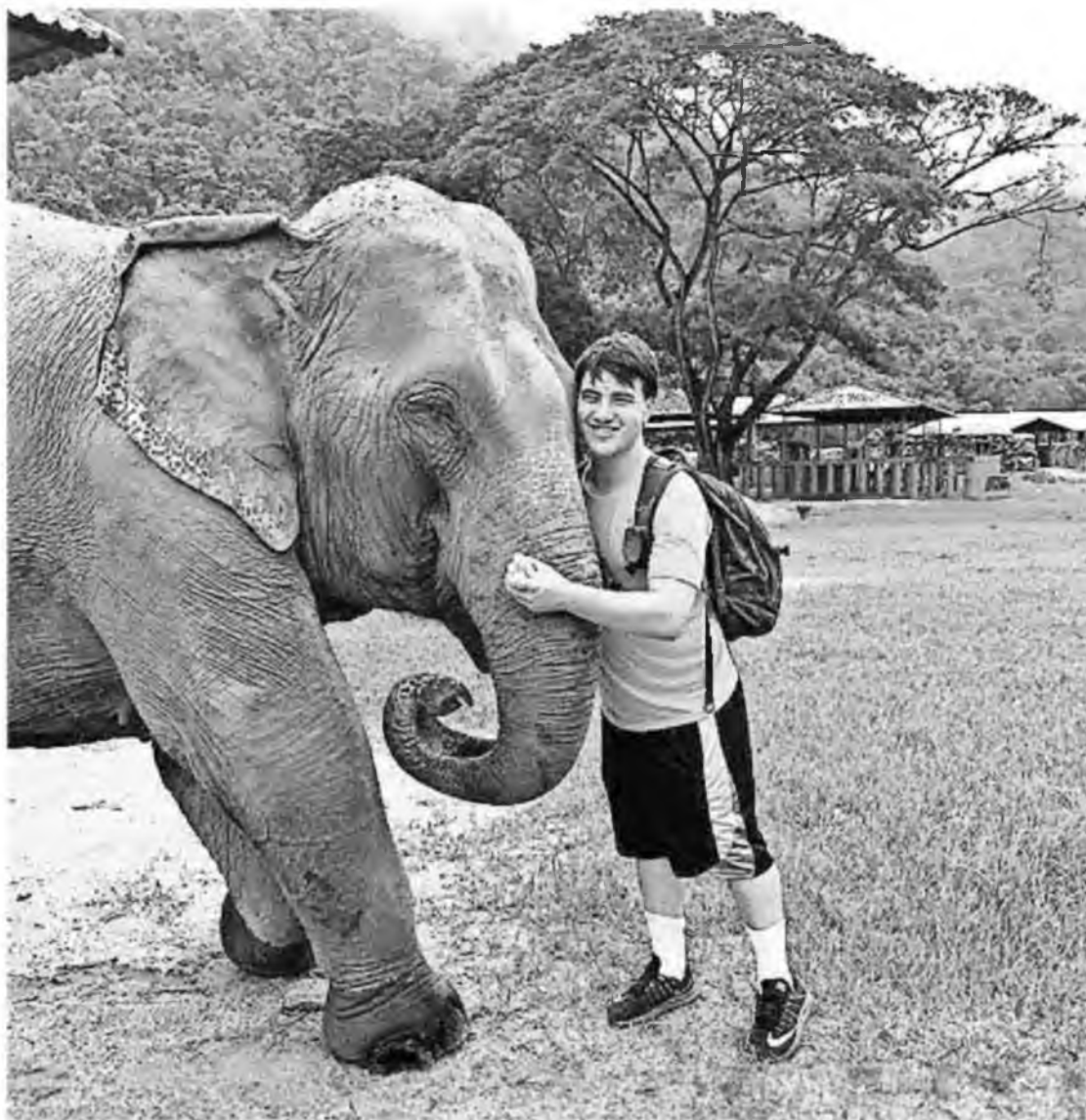
Q: How big is an average elephant? How long do they live?

Bloom: An adult male Asian elephant is typically 12,000 pounds and the females weigh about 6,000 pounds. African elephants are even larger. Elephants in captivity typically live around 40-50 years, however, wild elephants can live for about 60-70 years. One of the elephants at the park was even approaching her 80s!

Q: How does the sanctuary help elephants?

Bloom: The Elephant Nature Park rescues elephants from the tourism and logging industry. These industries are often abusive, so the elephants are rehabilitated by giving them plenty of space, food, water and other necessities. Since every elephant is different, the sanctuary accommodates their different needs: some elephants are in enclosures where they receive the same care, but without the stress of other humans and elephants constantly around them, while others get to walk around the 37 acres of land owned by the sanctuary, where they could interact with other elephants and tourists.

In addition to elephants, the sanctuary provides a home for dogs, cats, horses, cows, goats, pigs and even water buffalo.



Jacob Bloom of Farmington Hills spent part of his summer at an elephant sanctuary. LOOP ABROAD

Q: Were there any scary moments with the elephants? Any close calls of getting stepped on?

Bloom: Thankfully, I did not get stepped on. While there are safety precautions needed when being surrounded by so many elephants (don’t stand between two elephants, don’t grab tail, don’t tease), I did feel relatively safe around the elephants, as most of the elephants freely walking around were gentle around humans and some even let you touch them.

The only experience that was a little scary was when a baby elephant chased our group around. The baby elephant meant no harm ... it was just being playful and eager to interact with newcomers, not realizing it weighed twice as much as the newcomers. After chasing us, the baby elephant saw a small gator passing by and chased that.

Q: What’s a typical day like in the life of an elephant?

Bloom: Typically an ele-

phant at the nature park would spend the day strolling around with his or her “mahout” (elephant’s trainer). Tourists will come and interact with the elephants, feeding and bathing them. Vet students will come to do research and provide care for the elephants. There are also more than 100 elephants to play with, so most of the elephants are social.

Q: What did you learn about elephants that you didn’t know before?

Bloom: I had no idea their skin was so rough. I always pictured elephants to have smooth skin, so it was a surprise to feel that their skin could be as rough as a rhinoceros.

Q: Are elephants more like dogs or cats?

Bloom: Elephants are actually a lot like pigs. They don’t sweat, so they love to roll around in mud. They are great swimmers, they can be very friendly and they’re very playful around each other.

Q: What’s being done to protect them from poachers?

Bloom: The biggest effort that has been taken to stop the poaching and abuse done to elephants by the logging and tourism information is information. Sangduen Lek Chailert, the founder of the Elephant Nature Park, has done an excellent job of documenting elephant abuse and making the public aware of the abuse that happens behind the scenes. The Thai government also established the National Elephant Institute, which helps with elephant conservation throughout Thailand.

Tourists can also play a role in stopping the poaching of elephants in Thailand, since most of the elephant hunting and capturing is caused by demand from the tourist industry.

grossman@hometownlife.com
586-826-7030
Twitter: @BhmEccentric

Amazon beginning operations in Livonia

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Amazon customers will soon start seeing “Livonia, MI” on their tracking orders.

That’s because the 1 million-square-foot fulfillment center at Amrhein and Eckles began its operations last weekend, according to a company spokeswoman.

“The Livonia fulfillment center will be coming online this weekend as we greet our first cohort of new associates,” Shevaun Brown, a public relations manager for Amazon, wrote in an email.

The company will begin sorting and shipping goods out of the facility, the first such in Michigan for the e-commerce giant.

The launch comes nearly nine months after it was revealed the company was coming to Livonia. It’s opening at the site of the former GM Delco Chassis plant, which has been vacant since the 1990s. The company received \$7.5 million in Michigan Strategic Fund credits late last year, as well as a 12-year tax abatement from the city of Livonia earlier this spring.

The company hosted its first-ever media tour of one of its facilities back in July, when Amazon showed off its new facility to local press. The company expects to have about 1,000 permanent workers at the facility, as well as additional seasonal workers.

Those interested in jobs should inquire at amazon.com/livoniajobs, which Brown said is the best way for those interested to inquire.

She said there’s no immediate benefits planned for area customers who use the retail giant on a regular basis, but said they could receive their packages faster if the item is in stock at the Livonia center.

“We can’t promise any new services, but depending on what they’re ordering customers in the region could see faster shipping times — but this is dependent on if the product they’re ordering is housed in the new Livonia fulfillment center,” she said.

The center will ship items all over the country.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



Shelves in the distance at the Amazon fulfillment center in Livonia. Come this fall, those shelves will be stocked with merchandise. DAVID VESELENAK | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Counterfeit cash passed in Craigslist deal

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Livonia police are once again reminding those who buy and sell online to utilize the police station as a meeting place after some counterfeit cash was reportedly used in a transaction.

A 22-year-old Linden man came into the police station Sept. 25 to report some counterfeit bills he said he received in a transaction done through Craigslist. He said he put an iPhone for sale on the site and was contacted by an

interested buyer. The two agreed on a price of \$580 and arranged to meet at a Tim Hortons on Five Mile.

The two met at the restaurant and made an exchange of cash for the phone. The buyer then sprinted away through the parking lot back to his car after the transaction took place, according to the Linden man.

The man later deposited the money at a Chase Bank in Livonia, along with an additional \$20 he had in his wallet previously. He later got a notification from the bank that some

or all of the bills were counterfeit.

When police inquired about why the additional \$20 could have been counterfeit as well, the man said he had sold a cellphone case for cash the day before. The man said he did not believe that bill was fake, saying the seller seemed “too genuine” to do such a thing. Police said the man appeared nervous reporting the claim, though attributed it to having high anxiety and affirmed his story was true. He did not bring the disputed cash with him, since he had already de-

posited it in the bank.

Police advise those looking to do such transactions in the future attempt to do them at area police departments for safety reasons. The Livonia Police Department offers a service for Livonia residents that allows police to check a serial number of an item to determine whether it’s stolen. This free service was launched in 2015.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak



From left: Joseph Hakim, of Holmes Middle School, smashes a lime frozen in a bath of liquid nitrogen while Ivan Lin records. Jeanne Ruff, a Schoolcraft employee volunteering, uses a vacuum cleaner hose to suck the air from the bag around Jacob Kiwanuka. This simulates what a human body experiences in space. He said he was "feeling like 500 pounds." Gevon Hannawa, a student at Orchard Lake Middle School, is enclosed in a soap bubble created by Michigan Tech student Joellen Saugrich. Geremiah Toler of Novi Middle School learns about surface tension by running through a vat of cornstarch and water. If he steps quickly, the mixture firms and supports his weight. If he stops, he will sink in. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Michigan Tech students create an explosion using liquid nitrogen in a pop bottle dropped into a trash can full of water.

Boom! Michigan Tech students visit town to showcase science

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

A science fair on steroids. That's how Chuck Hayes, associate dean of sciences at Schoolcraft College, described the Mind Trekkers event put on at the Livonia campus Sept. 23-24.

The event, brought to town by Michigan Technological University in Houghton, brought extreme science to the college for area middle school students to learn about science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It's an event that's meant to bring students closer to science and pique their interest.

"Part of the phenomenon is, yeah, you can sit in a science class and a chemistry class and learn the basic structures. But how do we see it and apply it in our daily lives?" he said. "The hope is to get a middle school student, which this is geared toward, to get them so excited about STEM that they start to wonder, 'How can I study STEM in college?'"

Students from area school districts, including Northville, Livonia, Garden City, Clarenceville, Plymouth-Canton and West Bloomfield, were among the hundreds of students learning about science



Michigan Tech students create an explosion using liquid nitrogen in a pop bottle dropped into a trash can full of water. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Friday.

Booths were set up in the college's gymnasium to showcase various experiments that involved bubbles, liquid nitrogen and, of course, fire.

One of the more popular exhibits allowed students to run on a liquid. Students could remove their shoes and socks and prance atop a substance called Oobleck, a non-Newtonian

fluid that displays properties of both solids and liquids.

At rest, the substance appears to be a liquid, though as students ran across it, it would solidify. It provided quite the scene for many students, who opted to make the run several times over.

One such student was eighth-grader Brad Withem, who attends Discovery Middle

School in Canton. He ran across the substance several times

"It just feels normal," he said. "It just feels like you're walking on concrete. It barely moves if you go quick enough."

He joined several of his classmates, one of whom praised the amount of things to do at the event, specifically using a very cold substance.

"I like liquid nitrogen stuff," said Ty Wagner, who also attends Discovery Middle School.

The Mind Trekkers event is one that's gone across the state and country providing such exhibits to students, said MTU freshman Eric Steve, who came down from the Upper Peninsula school to volunteer at the event.

Steve, an Ispeming native, said the eight-hour drive was worth it to see so many students inspired.

"Whatever it takes to get these young minds interested in science," he said. "It's a nice experience to see all these people just enjoying this."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728

Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Police find cocaine in car during traffic stop, arrest man

Laura Colvin
Livingston Daily

A South Lyon man was arrested Sept. 19 after cocaine was found in his car during a traffic stop, Green Oak Township police said.

Elijah Christopher Dalke, 20, remains in Livingston County Jail on \$20,000 bond and faces charges of delivery or manufacture of narcotics/cocaine less than 50 grams, a felony carrying up to 20 years in prison.

Green Oak Police Chief Jason Pless said officers responded to reports of a fight at Woodland Ridge Mobile Home Park, off Nine Mile Road west of Rushton Road, just after midnight Sept. 19.

Pless said officers pulled Dalke over when they spotted him driving away from the scene and administered sobriety tests after noting he smelled of alcohol.

He was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

During a search of his vehicle, police also discovered three small packages of cocaine, about 5.5 grams total, Pless said.

Dalke was arraigned Sept. 19. A preliminary exam was scheduled for Oct. 3 in 53rd District Court.



Dalke

County committee to meet to discuss federal road funding

The Oakland County Federal Aid Committee, which selects projects to receive federal road funding in the county, will conduct a task force/funding committee meeting at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

The funding committee has selected road-improvement projects through 2020 that will receive federal funds anticipated to come to Oakland County. It is made up of representatives of the Road Commission for Oakland County, the Michigan Department of Transportation, SMART (the suburban bus system), Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and all communities in the county.

During the meeting, the funding committee will discuss the status of current and future federal aid-funded projects throughout Oakland County. In addition, the committee will discuss the 2021 call for projects and its project selection methodology. It is anticipated that just over \$16 million in federal funding will be available in 2021.

Projects selected must be on federal aid-eligible roads under the jurisdiction of the road commission or cities/villages in Oakland County.

The agenda for the Oct. 3 meeting and a list of upcoming projects can be viewed at <http://www.oaklandfac.org/>.

Final round of county's Adopt-A-Road program now underway

The Road Commission for Oakland County continues to celebrate the 270 groups and organizations that help to clean up Oakland County roadsides by participating in the Adopt-A-Road program. The final round for the RCOC 2017 cleanup runs through Oct. 1.

"This is the final cleanup for the year and a good chance to get debris removed from our roadsides for the start of fall and before winter settles in," RCOC board chairman Eric Wilson said. "We appreciate all the volunteer groups and organizations that take great pride by keeping Oakland roadsides clean and beautiful."

Any group interested in adopting a paved county road section should call the RCOC

Permits Division at 248-858-4891 or send an email to adoptaroad@rcoc.org. Participating organizations receive orange safety vests, training and garbage bags.

Additionally, RCOC erects signs at both ends of the designated road sections recognizing the volunteer groups responsible for the sections. Road segments are approved by the RCOC Board of Road Commissioners.

Participating groups are reminded to call the RCOC Permits Division to arrange pick up of litter bags after the cleanup. RCOC relies on groups to call and verify that contact information is current. Groups needing additional garbage bags or orange safety

vests can also call the Permits Division.

Motorists can help augment the effort by slowing down when volunteers are seen picking up trash along roadways and join RCOC in reminding others not to litter. Groups are registered to clean up approximately 453 miles of roadway across Oakland County.

RCOC would also like to remind motorists not to litter. Residents can help too by keeping roadside catch basins in front of their homes free of leaves and debris so roads can properly drain throughout the fall and winter months.

For more information on the RCOC Adopt-A-Road program, go to <http://www.rcocweb.org/218/Adopt-A-Road>.



Many community groups, including members of Team 68 First Robotics, participate in the Oakland County Adopt-A-Road program.

SUBMITTED



Money to fight human trafficking in metro Detroit is being raised by runners with Love Runs out of NorthRidge Church. BRIAN CRAIG

Marathon runners race to fight human trafficking

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Just a few dollars can help a human trafficking victim.

And hundreds of runners from a NorthRidge Church group, Love Runs, are making huge strides to help.

They have raised an astonishing \$949,505 in three years. This year alone, they have raised \$241,000 and counting toward their \$500,000 goal as they again prepare to run Oct. 15 in the Detroit Free Press marathon.

Love Runs director Veronica Coker of Belleville said 431 runners are participating this year and raising money for organizations that work to rescue, house and feed human trafficking victims and help them find a road to recovery.

Mark Bacchus of Canton, a Love Runs volunteer leader, said the money raised goes to Detroit-area organizations that fight back against “modern day slavery” — organizations such as Vista Maria, S.O.A.P., The Salvation Army and All Worthy of Love.

Bacchus said young teen girls are the most common victims of human trafficking, whether they run away from home, get involved in drugs or merely try to escape a life of poverty. He said some are coerced on social media or by their own families and friends.

The problem isn't happening just in big cities.

“Surprisingly,” Bacchus said, “the issue also thrives commonly within typical suburbia settings.”

The statistics are disturbing. Every 30 seconds, human trafficking claims its next victim, whether it's a young girl, boy or an adult woman or man.

Coker said the average victim is drawn into human trafficking at age 12-14. She



Runners from Love Runs ran 20 miles recently in Hines Park. They are raising money to fight human trafficking and preparing to run in the Detroit Free Press marathon. BRIAN CRAIG

said Michigan ranks among the top 10 states for the problem, with some studies ranking it as high as second in the nation.

“We're among the worst,” she said.

Some statistics are difficult to pinpoint, Coker said, partly because so much of human trafficking goes unreported.

But a little money goes a long way to help. Just \$10 can buy food and a hygiene kit; \$14 can cover the cost of housing a human trafficking victim for a night.

Love Runs is making an immeasurable difference as it inches toward the \$1 million mark.

Love Runs is based at NorthRidge, a megachurch in Plymouth Township. However, marathon participants come from multiple churches, while some runners belong to no church, Coker said. Runners this year are coming from as far

away as California and one is from Windsor, Canada.

Runners recently finished a 20-mile practice run in Hines Park before they began to scale back their efforts so that they don't tire their bodies out before the marathon, Coker said.

NorthRidge Church has been involved in numerous fundraisers that make a difference. Past runners have raised money to bring clean drinking water to areas of Africa, but Love Runs is keeping the money in the Detroit area.

“We recognized that we also needed to have a local presence,” Coker said. “That's very important to us.”

For more on Love Runs or to donate, go to <http://www.loveruns.org>.

dclem@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919

Student loans need to be addressed quickly

The other day, I received a call from a client who was concerned about her sister, who's in her mid-70s and experiencing some financial difficulties. As my client explained, a number of years ago her sister took out a student loan in order to help her granddaughter. The granddaughter is now out of school and my client's sister must begin making payments on the loan. It is these payments that are causing her financial distress. My client wanted to know what options her sister had. She explained that the two options they are considering are either not making payments and hoping that the lender will not come after the sister or to declare bankruptcy.

This problem is not uncommon. When most people think of student loans, they're generally thinking younger people, but the amount of student debt held by seniors has skyrocketed over the last number of years. In fact, in just the last decade, outstanding student debt has increased by more than 600 percent for seniors. Although the great bulk of that outstanding debt is for seniors' own education, about 20 percent of outstanding student debts held by seniors are loans they took out to either help a child or a grandchild.

I explained that student loans are not dischargeable in bankruptcy, so the bankruptcy option would not resolve her issue. I also explained it would be a mistake to do nothing and wait for the lender to take action. I've always been a believer that it is better to be proactive in these issues than reactive. When you're always on the defense, resolving the issue is much more difficult.

What most people don't know about student loans is that all federal student loans are eligible for an income-based repayment program. These programs allow borrowers to pay off their loans based upon their income. There are a few different programs available, each with a little different term. In many situations, seniors find that because of the formula used to determine repayment terms — along with



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

What most people don't know about student loans is that all federal student loans are eligible for an income-based repayment program.

how Social Security benefits are subject to income tax — these income-based repayment programs can substantially reduce the payments on the loan.

The long and short of the story is the income-based repayment program is going to work for my client's sister; the crisis has been averted. However, it was only averted because we were proactive in trying to resolve the issue. When people get into financial difficulties, they tend to bury their heads and hope the problem goes away; it doesn't work that way. When you have a financial problem, the sooner you address it, the easier it will be to resolve. There's another benefit and that is to your health. When you're constantly worried about your finances, it can't be good for your health.

I would love to say that there are simple solutions to everyone's financial issues, but that's not true. In many situations, there are ways to work through the problem to a favorable outcome, but you must be proactive. The sooner you recognize there is an issue and act upon it, the sooner it will be resolved.

Good luck!

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

Runestad welcomes parenting advocates to Capitol



State Rep. Jim Runestad, R-White Lake, welcomed a group of mothers, stepmothers and grandmothers to the Capitol for their inaugural Michigan Women for Shared Parenting legislative day Sept. 27. The women, representing 10 counties, traveled to Lansing from around the state to meet with legislators and discuss their support of family court reforms. Michigan Women for Shared Parenting recently formed in an effort to restructure the state's existing family court laws. Runestad is the sponsor of House Bill 4691, the Michigan Shared Parenting Act, which is currently on the House floor.

Move to Plymouth Township puts parts firm closer to auto industry

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Nudging closer to the automotive industry, a company that sells plastic injection molding machines is moving its North America operations — and jobs — to Plymouth Township from Delaware.

Negri Bossi North America, Inc., plans to build a 31,000-square-foot facility on Concept Drive in the Metro Plymouth Business Park.

Joseph Guidos, the company's real estate consultant, said Negri Bossi is offering its 17

employees in New Castle, Del., a chance to relocate. He said the move is expected to create four to six additional jobs.

In return for moving here, the company has received from the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees a 12-year, 50-percent tax abatement on its building. That means the township and other taxing jurisdictions, such as the school district and library, will get just half of tax revenues until the tax break expires.

Township Clerk Jerry Vorva said that means the township still will get \$50,000 it wouldn't

have otherwise received during the 12-year period, with a larger chunk coming afterward.

“We're getting a company moving here when they could go anywhere,” Vorva said. “We're competing with other communities for a company that is bringing a nice building and 17 jobs, with a half-dozen more jobs to come. That's good for any community. In order to compete, we have to offer these kinds of incentives.”

Guidos said it's likely Negri Bossi will start construction of its new building in spring, in

hopes of moving in by late August. It will include a one-story warehouse equipped with bridge cranes to move heavy machines and a two-story area to house offices, seminars and, possibly, training programs for college students.

The local facility will not be a manufacturing plant. Rather, Guidos said, the plastic injection molding machines will be made before they arrive in Plymouth Township and be sold here.

The U.S. facility also has a selection of machines and

robots and an extensive inventory of spare parts.

Guidos said the township seemed a good location partly because of its proximity to the auto industry. Moreover, he said the Detroit area is more centrally located in the United States than Delaware is.

Negri Bossi was started 70 years ago in Italy. It now has locations in Italy, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Spain, India, France and the United States.

dclem@hometownlife.com
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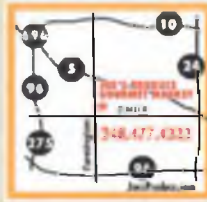
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BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

FAST AND FURIOUS

Novi senior Mudel hopes to crack 15-minute 5K barrier for Wildcats

Brad Emons
 hometownlife.com

Gabe Mudel has the sport of cross country running broken down to a science.

The senior from Novi has already captured three races this season, but the one he did not win was probably his most impressive performance so far as he took runner-up honors Sept. 15 at the MSU Spartan Invitational with a personal best time of 15:29.2 (for 5,000 meters).

Only Coldwater's Shuaib Alijabaly recorded a faster time (15:28.1) in the Elite Division on a muggy afternoon at MSU's Forest Akers Golf Course.

"It was super-hot and my coach (Brad Moore) told all our guys to not tax ourselves on the first mile, because the heat definitely makes an impact on your race," Mudel said. "And you have to plan around that. I kind of took it easy the first mile and I knew Shuaib, who ended up winning, he took it out super-fast and was about eight seconds ahead of the next pack, which I was leading. Basically, I kind of took it easy the first mile and gradually moved up. He had a 15-second lead at one point."

Mudel's strong finish came as no surprise to new Novi coach Brad Moore, who took over the Wildcats' highly successful cross country program this fall from longtime coach Robert Smith, who retired.

"Gabe is very dedicated," Moore said. "He's very smart and he thinks through everything quite a bit. He's analytical, cerebral. We have some real good discussions about the training, racing and all that stuff. He'll challenge you mentally, which is great."

Mudel's ultimate goal is to crack the 15-minute barrier, which would put him in the same company with former Novi all-state runner Tim Moore, the 2001 MHSAA Divi-

See **MUDEL**, Page B3



Novi senior Gabe Mudel was runner-up in the Elite Division at the MSU Spartan Invitational.

DOUGLAS BARGERSTOCK

GIRLS GOLF

Stevenson's Vento scoring big as athlete, student

Spartans senior earning medals, academic accolades

Tim Smith
 hometownlife.com

When Anna Vento puts her mind to something, she pursues it with vigor.

That goes for a variety of pursuits, including Livonia Stevenson varsity golf — where as captain, she is helping lead younger girls just getting started in the sport — or acing a mid-term exam.

"With my team being comprised of all first-year varsity players, I have really enjoyed using my experience to help them progress, not only this year, but also for the years to come," said Vento, 17. "The team is full of a lot of potential and, hopefully, it can come together at regionals and we can qualify as a team for states."

"It was such a great experience last year to qualify as a team and, hopefully, I can share that experience with them this year."

See **VENTO**, Page B4



Livonia Stevenson girls golf captain Anna Vento is all smiles about how her senior year is going.

STEVENSON ATHLETICS

What a Troup-er!



Versatile Canton senior Colin Troup catches quarterback Connor Engel's pass and then takes it to the end zone for an 82-yard touchdown during the Chiefs' 40-28 victory Friday over Livonia Stevenson. For more on the KLAA Black Division match-up, turn to page B2.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Northville libero Grant in league of her own

Michigan State commit proving to be a defensive stalwart

Brad Emons
 hometownlife.com

There's more than one reason Northville's Hannah Grant stands out among the crowd when she's on the volleyball court.

The 5-foot-7 junior not only wears the different colored jersey as the Mustangs' starting libero, but she has also quietly distinguished herself as one of the top defensive players in the state.

The Michigan State commit continues to thrive in



Michigan State commit Hannah Grant, a libero for Northville, has been a defensive standout this season.

BRAD EMONS

only her second year of playing the position while leading

the state-ranked Mustangs to a 25-5 start.

Grant didn't take up volleyball until she was a seventh-grader at Meads Mill Middle School. She started out as a setter and outside hitter, but moved to libero with her club team (Team Detroit) just prior to her sophomore season at Northville.

"It actually wasn't that hard because, when I was setting, my favorite thing was playing defense," Grant said. "Everyone was kind of confused when I wasn't setting, but it was really an easy transition because you need to be able to have good hands when you're back there. Especially out of system, it makes it easier for

See **GRANT**, Page B4

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PREP FOOTBALL

Canton mixes up attack, rolls to 40-28 victory

Chiefs knock off Stevenson, just one win away from playoffs

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

It's tough enough to slow down Canton's multi-pronged running attack, but host Livonia Stevenson found out Friday what the Chiefs can do when they throw the football.

Canton senior quarterback Connor Engel threw three touchdown passes in the second quarter, including two to senior Colin Troup. That sparked a 26-point surge, opening up a 33-14 half-time advantage. The Chiefs never looked back, winning 40-28 to spoil Stevenson's senior night.

Troup had another stellar game, with 235 all-purpose yards (100 rushing, 135 receiving), while junior tailback Steven Walker tallied 153 yards rushing in 19 carries and two TDs as Canton moved to the cusp of another state playoff berth at 5-1 overall.

"The key to this game was the offensive line, they really stepped up," Troup said. "They helped me, Steve, Luke (Jouppi), they just helped us really follow through the holes and score touchdowns. Really it's all thanks to them, the big guys."

Canton outgained Stevenson by a 484-339 margin and allowed just 15 first-down conversions by the Spartans.

The KLAAs Black Division shutdown was 7-7 after the first quarter



Shaking off Livonia Stevenson defenders Roman Klenk (right) and Scott Rushlow is Canton running back Colin Troup. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and the Spartans were driving deep into Canton territory to open the second. But Stevenson quarterback Parker Graham just missed hitting Devin Dunn in the end zone on a fourth-down play, turning over the ball to the Chiefs.

On Canton's next offensive play, Engel threw Troup and he took it to the house for an 82-yard touchdown. That put the Chiefs ahead to stay, although the Spartans did show some life in the second half, when they scored the game's final two touchdowns.

Graham and Dunn (three receptions, 93 yards) hooked up for a second TD, a 17-yarder, late in the third quarter. Canton penalties helped the Spartans complete a 95-yard drive in the fourth, but the Spartans also showed some big-

play capability.

After Graham found Dunn for a 47-yard pass play, the quarterback burst through the middle for a 30-yard touchdown run. Stevenson tacked on a two-point conversion to make it 40-28 with five minutes left, but that was all the scoring.

"They just played tough the entire game, they brought it to us," Graham said. "We started figuring it out and get our game plan going in the second half. Just wish we would have gotten it going sooner."

Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef, whose team dropped to 4-2, gave the Chiefs credit for throwing some wrinkles into their usual game.

"They're a good football team," Micallef said. "They did some things defensively, a couple different alignments and

moving guys around, that gave us some trouble at times.

"We adjusted and ran some plays that I think we were successful on, but it was just a matter of making sure we were in the right spots."

Following are several takeaways from the contest:

MIX AND MATCH

Canton's outstanding offense usually is powered by the running game, but against Stevenson, quarterback Engel showed there is another side to the attack. In the second quarter, during a 26-yard surge by the Chiefs, Engel threw three TDs, including two to Troup (82, 31 yards) and a 12-yard strike to Walker.

Engel only completed 4-of-6 passes for the night, but he made them



Livonia Stevenson's Joshua Page (right) catches a pass in the first quarter and then scores on a 70-yard play. Trailing Page is Canton's Noah Brown. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

count.

"Their defense wasn't really set up for it and our guys made some plays and I got it to them," Engel said.

WHO THREW THAT?

The Spartans stopped the Chiefs in the game's first drive, but when the offense came onto the field it was senior George Ferguson behind center (instead of at wide receiver).

The left-handed Ferguson connected over the middle on a pass to senior Joshua Page for a nifty 70-yard catch-and-run into the end zone, to briefly put the Spartans up, 7-0. The usual starting QB, Graham, came out for the next series, however.

ILL-ADVISED

After Canton upped its lead to 27-14 on a 31-yard pass from Engel to Troup, with a minute remaining in the first half, the Spartans tried to force things. Graham's pass into the left flat was picked off by Canton's Nick Polydoros, who returned the ball to the 1-yard line.

Punching it in on the next snap was junior running back Luke Jouppi (eight carries, 40 yards) and, just like that, it was a 33-14 contest with 34 seconds left until intermission.

"We had a rough last couple minutes of the first half there, we gave up a touchdown and then threw the pick-six and it ended up being the difference in the game when you look at the final score," Micallef said. "In the second half, we played better, we executed better, we got a couple stops defensively and a turnover. So that helped."

IN THE PINK

It was Stevenson's fifth annual Pink Out game to raise awareness about breast cancer. Spartans players wore pink socks and wristbands to salute the worthy cause. A moment of silence was held at half-time to honor those who have lost their lives to the disease.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

PREP FOOTBALL

Western's defense comes up big in win vs. Lakeland

Late defensive stand gives Warriors 13-11 victory

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Walled Lake Western wanted to eliminate the long ball in its Lakes Valley Conference football showdown Sept. 28 against White Lake Lakeland.

The Warriors gave up some singles and doubles, but their defense kept the Eagles' vaunted wing-T offense from hitting the grand slam as they held on for 13-11 win in what could be considered an old pitcher's duel.

Western (5-1, 4-1) gave up 176 yards on the ground, but only one touchdown against a Lakeland team that came into the game averaging nearly 30 points per outing.

"No home runs," Western coach Mike Zdebski said. "They have 21 50-plus touchdown plays and that's what we eliminated tonight. And we were a few tackles away from not even allowing that to get on the board. Our kids did a great job of preparation and understanding what a wing-T offense is and understanding the strengths of their team and what they're trying to accomplish with everything that they do."

The Warriors managed just 123 yards total offense, but managed to jump out to a 13-0 first-quarter lead.

Western took just three plays to score its only TD with 10:27 remaining in the opening quarter, as Sam Johnson hit Justin Thomas on a 43-yard TD pass.

A 48-yard punt return



Lakeland's Robbie Tracy (left) turns the corner against the Western defense. JERRY REA

by Randall Harris set up a 31-yard field goal by Aidan Jennings, who then followed with another field goal of 39 yards less than two minutes later to give Western a 13-point cushion.

"He's good," Zdebski said of his place kicker. "He's another in the lineage of kickers we've had here. We've had great kickers. He's going to be an all-state dude, too. He kicked two field goals tonight and won the game. He's perfect on extra points this season."

Lakeland (4-2, 4-2) got on the board with 9:20 left in the second quarter, when the snap from center on a Western punt sailed over the head of



Lakeland's C.J. Davis (left) and Matt Fus team for the tackle on Western running back Jakkel Moore-Wells. JERRY REA

See WESTERN, Page B3

PREP FOOTBALL



Northville's Nicholas Prystash (right) makes a leaping grab over Grand Blanc's Jace Parrish. MARTHA MICHALAK

Northville falls 38-30 despite record boot

Mustangs' Moody kicks school-record 58-yard field goal in 38-30 loss

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Just when you think he couldn't top himself, Northville's Jake Moody put on another kicking exhibition for the ages on Friday at Tom Holzer Ford Field.

Moody topped his own school record with a 58-yarder - now tied for the second longest in MHSAA football history - but it still wasn't enough to overcome Grand Blanc's 546 yards total offense as the Bobcats stayed unbeaten with a 38-30 win.



Moody

"Our kids played hard, they gave great effort, they just came up short," Northville

coach Matt Ladach said. "There were a lot of times where we had them in third-and-long and we let them out. We had them stopped and had them off the field, missed tackles or let the quarterback escape. It wasn't for a lack of effort. You have to give their kids credit. They made plays and, those instances, we didn't."

Grand Blanc, which improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the KLAAs Gold Division, also won in Clint Alexander's return

See NORTHVILLE, Page B3

BOYS SOCCER

Fourney's hat trick lifts Canton past Northville

Chiefs take advantage after Northville red card

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Canton's Jordan Fourney proved to be the tallest player on the soccer field Sept. 26 in more ways than one.

The 6-foot-3 senior forward and captain was the difference-maker as he scored a natural hat trick in the second half as the Chiefs defeated host Northville, 4-1, in a key Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover.

"He's our guy that plays up top, but we have some guys who certainly help him," Canton coach Mark Zemanski said the team's goal and assist leader. "But Jordan is big, strong and fast. He's a beast to handle and he works hard."

Canton trailed 1-0 early in the second half, but the game quickly changed in the Chiefs' favor after Northville sophomore goalkeeper Robert Damron was sent off with a red card after venturing outside his box to stop a breakout attempt by Nick Yono.

Damron was called for a deliberate handball foul.

On the ensuing free kick from 30 yards out with 35:38 remaining, Fourney scored off a blast that was threaded through a sea of players on a redirected shot eluding Northville's backup keeper Reggie Spencer, who had just entered the match.

"It was deflected off the other team, but I'll take it for my own," Fourney said. "The goal really reinvigorated the team and we started playing our game. It was tough, but it was a long time coming. I thought in the first half, I thought we really controlled the game. Then once we got that first one in, I guess they started rolling in."

Fourney followed by scoring twice within a span of 2:21, making it 3-1, with assists credited to Tyler Turko and Brett McGue, respectively.

Canton's Jake McGue put the game out of reach on a laser-like shot that hugged the Tom Holzer



Canton's Luke Lloyd goes on the transition against Northville. JOEL LLOYD

Ford Field turf and past Spencer with 28:07 to go to give the Chiefs a four-goal cushion.

The Chiefs scored all four unanswered goals in just 7:31.

"(Zemanski) said keep going," said Fourney, who plans to do track and field in the spring with hopes of attending Michigan State next fall. "We had most of the possession in the first half. Missed a few key finishing opportunities, then put them in second half."

Northville played the final 36 minutes a man down because of the red card to Damron, who was consoled afterward and given words of encouragement by the Canton coach.

"Without a doubt, it really put them in a tough situation," Zemanski said. "He's a really good keeper, but it was the right call. He was the last man, he handed the ball and it was a red card."

Northville had a goal disallowed in the first 1:36, but came back and scored just 51 seconds later when Andrew Mitchell made a hard drive down the right flank and sent a cross that fooled Canton keeper David Sadanowicz resulting in a rebound goal by Shane McHugh.

But the momentum slowed shifted back Canton's way as the first half unfolded and into the early stages of the sec-

ond half.

"I thought after the first 10 (minutes) we settled down, played well and created some chances," Zemanski said. "Then we did nice job of burying the ball when we had to."

The loss dropped Gold Division leader Northville, ranked fourth in Division 1, to 8-3-1 overall and 6-1-1 in all KLAA crossover matches.

"Canton outplayed us; they deserved to win," Northville coach Henry Klimes said. "We have core players on our team that didn't play to their core level — or what they think they are. So if our better players don't play their best game, we're not going to win games."

Canton, which is 2-0-1 in the KLAA Black and ranked No. 16 in Division 1, improved to 7-2-5 overall and 5-0-4 in the KLAA.

"I still think we have a ways to go as a team, for sure," Zemanski said. "We need to play 80 minutes and we haven't done that yet in a game but, hopefully, we will. We'll need to because we're playing a lot of good teams. Northville is a very good team. If we played again, this score wouldn't be the same, for sure."

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

VENTO

Continued from Page B1

Vento's golfing and leadership is paying dividends in a hurry.

In the clutch

At the recent dual match against Livonia Churchill, Vento was medalist with 35. Her 1-under-par showing helped the Spartans clinch the KLAA South Division championship.



Vento

That clutch effort led to her nomination for hometownlife.com Prep Athlete of the Week honors.

She is following up a very successful 2016 season, in which her averages were 39 for nine holes and 78 for 18.

"I owe a lot of thanks to my second-year high school coach Curtis Hay," Vento said. "He has been phenomenal these last couple of years and I really enjoy playing for him."

Yet her most-cherished statistic has nothing to do with golf. It's 4.56, her weighted grade-point average.

Golf and education

are very important motivators for Vento. They intersected last winter, when she had to decide whether or not to go after a college scholarship to continue playing the sport she only took up seriously in eighth grade.

Valparaiso University came calling, wanting Vento to play Division I golf next year.

"I decided last winter that I wanted to focus solely on academics," Vento said. "It was a really tough decision."

"My focus right now is to finish the season strong and cap off a memorable four-year career."

Her first tee

For the daughter of Gerry (Plymouth boys hockey varsity coach) and Colleen Vento, the golf aspect of her life began in earnest when she started taking lessons at Fox Hills Golf Course in Plymouth Township.

Fox Hills PGA professionals Brian Cairns and Jordan Young showed her the ropes.

"I really fell in love with the game and spend a good amount of my free time on the course, whether it's practicing or caddying at Meadowbrook Country Club," Vento said. "I really love the mental side of the sport and how every shot

and hole creates a new challenge."

At Stevenson, she continued to hone her golfing skills.

Since her sophomore year, she has earned a spot on the all-KLAA team. In 2016, she was named Stevenson's MVP.

At the Livonia City Golf Tournament, which the Spartans have won the past three years, Vento collected medals each time.

"My team also won regionals last year and I was second with a 75 at it," Vento said.

Even though her big junior season so far has carried over to her senior year, Vento perhaps is most proud of all her various accomplishments away from the golf course.

For the past three years, Vento was a KLAA scholar-athlete. Last year's Stevenson girls golf team earned academic all-state accolades.

And don't forget Vento is captain of Stevenson's Quiz Bowl and debate teams, not to mention president of the National Honor Society.

No matter how one slices it, Vento is finding the bottom of the cup as a golfer, student leader and young woman.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



Following through on a shot during a recent Livonia Stevenson girls golf match is Anna Vento.

GRANT

Continued from Page B1

the hitters. One of my coaches were, like, 'You need to be a libero.' It worked out pretty well and I've loved it ever since."

In 30 matches this season, Grant has already racked up 350 digs has shown an innate ability to see the play before it happens.

"She reads the ball well," Northville coach Julie Fisette said. "She's quick, but she's really unassuming. She moves really well and she sees things ... I don't even see the ball and it's off before you know it. She can totally read where the ball is going off the hitters' hands, even off the blocker's hands."

Grant performs a lot like former Red Wings Hall of Fame defenseman Nick Lidstrom — steady and consistent, while playing on the back line efficiently without much fanfare.

"I told her the other day and I said, 'Hannah, you make phenomenal plays and we don't even say, 'Great job Hannah' anymore because we

expect you to make those,'" Fisette said. "And it's almost sad because we expect her to make all these great plays, so when she makes one we're not always like, 'Yeah, nice job!' and we're all screaming and yelling because it's just common."

Pardon the pun, but Fisette admits she often takes things for granted. She calls Grant "the best libero I've coached in 25 years."

"I've had some good liberos and Hannah is just that kid," Fisette said. "And really, she's very calm. She doesn't get really excited, really depressed or down. She's a great role model to follow. She hits really well, she's very smart in a lot of different aspects in her game."

Grant also has proven to be an offensive weapon from the service line, accumulating a team-best 49 aces this season.

"She can serve any zone I ask her to serve," Fisette said. "She's very aggressive when she serves and she's very competitive when she serves. She gets very frustrated if she doesn't hit a zone or misses a serve. It's the same with

her hits. She'll take that third ball and hit it over the net and five out of 10 times she'll score with it. Even just standing and hitting the ball she knows where to put. She's got a lot of ball control. She's a great hitter."

And when she's patrolling in the back row, things tend to click.

"I love passing," Grant said. "It's like a game to me. You can't let the ball drop anywhere it goes."

Grant dabbled in a number of sports growing up, playing soccer, softball and baseball. Her dad Steve, a Northville High grad, played basketball at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Mother Andrea (Creighton), a Livonia Ladywood grad, played softball at Madonna University.

"I think I like volleyball a little more," Hannah said. "I want to play college volleyball and I think I can play at a higher level in college volleyball. I told my varsity (basketball) coach (Todd Gudith) and it was hard because my dad was my basketball coach my whole life. It was hard, but now it worked out for the best of us and everyone is happy and proud."

But if I really wanted to play at the next level, it would be volleyball. I always tell my dad I might play (basketball) here my senior year."

After receiving numerous recruiting emails and letters, Grant began to realize she could play at the next level.

She visited South Carolina and had offers from several Division I schools, including Stanford and North Carolina. She had interest from another Big Ten school before settling on Michigan State, a top 25-ranked program nationally.

Grant made her verbal commitment while Northville was playing at MSU's team camp.

"First of all, I love the coaches," said Grant, who likes math and science while carrying a 3.9 grade-point average. "When I went there to visit, it just felt like home. And it is close to home, which is nice, so I'm not that far. Big Ten — it's the best conference, I believe, in college volleyball, so I really want to play with the best in continuing my career."

Fisette believes Grant has all the attributes to be a Spartan.

"(MSU coach) Cathy (George) and I talked and I said what a great kid she was and how well she'll fit in at Michigan State," she said.

Grant's versatility and mindset also bode well for her at the collegiate level, according to Fisette.

"Even when the setter is setting the ball, she's there with beautiful hands putting up a great set for our outsides," Fisette said. "She has all aspects of the game covered with little stature. She loves to play up front. She's just a competitive kid. She's a lot of fun, but I think sometimes she's hard on herself. But she wants to get better and she knows when she gets to Michigan State, she knows she'll have to work for her position, so she's constantly trying to better herself in all areas."

Grant not only has high expectations of herself, but also for the team as the Mustangs have moved into the No. 10 spot in the latest Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association Division 1 poll.

"I'm really excited this year," Grant said. "This year there's a lot of

new players. There were seven seniors starting last year. So it was a little harder to come into it this year with all new players and having to learn systems because last year it was just going in there and play. We kind of knew everyone. It was normal, but this year we had to do more fundamentals and working as a team ... getting to know each other and know how each other plays to play around each other."

Two of Northville's five losses this season have come against arch-rival and two-time defending Division 1 state champion Novi, which is coached by Jennifer and Rick Cottrill. Ironically, the Cottrills will coach Grant during the off-season for the Legacy Under-18 club team.

Novi is ranked No. 4 in the Class A poll and has had Northville's number during Grant's three years on the varsity. But Grant remains optimistic the tables can be turned.

"We're going to get Novi some day," she said with a smile.

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

“If you can build up a really big HSA (health savings account) balance, you’ll have a bucket of money to use tax-free for all of your medical expenses.”

ANDREW DAMCEVSKI, CO-FOUNDER OF CINCINNATI WEALTH MANAGEMENT FIRM RHINEVEST



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

NO 401(K)? NO PROBLEM.

YOU CAN STILL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT

ARIELLE O'SHEA

@ARIOSHEA
NERDWALLET

If you don't have a 401(k), you might feel alienated by a lot of the retirement savings advice out there: The first recommendation is often to save in that account.

More than a third of private sector workers don't have access to a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, according to The Pew Charitable Trusts. That leaves them without the benefits that make a 401(k) top of the list when it comes to places to save for retirement — including pretax contributions, automatic salary deferrals and employer matching dollars.

Except for employer matching dollars, much of that can be replicated with other methods of saving.

START WITH AN IRA

An individual retirement account such as a Roth or a traditional IRA is the next best thing to a 401(k). These accounts — which you can open on your own at an online broker — allow you to invest up to \$5,500 a year, or \$6,500 if you're 50 or older.

Like the 401(k), IRAs have tax benefits: A traditional IRA provides an upfront tax deduction on contributions, with taxes paid on distributions in retirement. A Roth comes with no initial tax deduction, but qualified distribu-

tions are tax-free.

USE SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME TO SAVE MORE

That \$5,500 a year with an IRA is a decent amount, but it's probably not enough: Even with steady contributions over 40 years, you're looking at an end balance of just less than \$1 million at a 6% average annual return.

If you're self-employed or have side gig income, consider saving in a SEP IRA or a solo 401(k). Both allow you to save considerably more than your standard IRA — up to \$54,000 in 2017, although that's limited to a portion of your self-employment income.

MAKE A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT MULTITASK

If you have a high-deductible health insurance plan, you may also have access to a health savings account, which is as good as it gets, tax-wise: The money you put in an HSA is tax-deductible, it grows tax-free, and distributions for qualified medical expenses aren't taxed.

The goal of the account is to pay for medical expenses, but contributions typically can be invested so unused dollars grow and accumulate like any other investment account.

What do medical expenses have to do with retirement? Fidelity estimates the average couple will spend \$275,000 on health care in retirement, not including long-term care expenses. If you can pull

even part of that \$275,000 from an HSA, you'll be at an advantage, says Andrew Damcevski, co-founder of Cincinnati wealth management firm RhineVest.

“If you can build up a really big HSA balance, you'll have a bucket of money to use tax-free for all of your medical expenses,” Damcevski says.

Money not used for those expenses can be pulled out after age 65 for any reason without penalty; it will be taxed as income.

OPEN A TAXABLE BROKERAGE ACCOUNT

Don't overlook a standard brokerage account, says Mark Wilson, a certified financial planner in Irvine, Calif.

“Saving in after-tax accounts is not optimal, but it does have some advantages,” Wilson says. “Taxes in retirement will be reduced because you will be drawing from accounts that have already been taxed, and taxation will be at long-term capital gains rates.”

Fund all of the above options with direct deposit from your paycheck if available — many employers will split your check among two or three account options, mimicking the automatic deferrals of a 401(k).

O'Shea is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website and USA TODAY content partner providing general news and commentary. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.

Insurance is a key driver for Patrick

‘It’s always a good idea to be prepared,’ NASCAR star says

N'DEA YANCEY-BRAGG

@NDEAYANCEYBRAGG
USA TODAY

Most people don't think about life insurance until they really need it. But when your day job involves driving more than 200 miles per hour caged inside concrete walls, financial planning becomes a priority.

For Danica Patrick, one of the few female drivers competing at NASCAR's top level, having life insurance is just another part of being “financially fit.”

“You prepare your body for life, and you prepare your mind for life, why wouldn't you prepare your money for life?” she asks.

For the second year in a row, Patrick is the face of Life Insurance Awareness Month. The annual campaign, run each September by the non-profit organization Life Happens, seeks to educate people about financially protecting themselves and their loved ones if the worst should happen.

Although taking out a life insurance policy is common practice for race car drivers, Patrick has a family connection to the cause. Both of her parents lost their fathers at a young age, and neither had life insurance.

“They ended up having to sell the family farm as a result,” she says. “It just creates another challenge, having to argue about money. That's nothing anybody really wants to do.”

Patrick's parents always encouraged her to be financially responsible, and now she's helping others do the same.

Without life insurance, one in four households would have immediate difficulty paying their bills if their primary wage earner died, according to the Life Insurance Barometer Study conducted by Life Happens in 2017. Despite this, the study found that more than 40% of Americans still don't have life insurance.

“Most people put off things they don't know how to do,” Patrick says. “Think about how awful it will be for those around you to then have to figure it all out.”

“It's always a good idea to be prepared, especially when it comes to money.”



For the second year in a row, NASCAR's Danica Patrick is the face of Life Insurance Awareness Month.

TIMOTHY T. LUDWIG, USA TODAY SPORTS

PETER DUNN
SPECIAL FOR USA TODAY

On an almost daily basis, I hear the phrase “paycheck to paycheck.”

It has come to represent the financial reality many hard-working Americans face month after month, year after year, decade after decade. Every cent of every paycheck seems vital to survival, and God forbid you miss a paycheck, because your financial world would crumble around you.

I’ve been in a roughly 20-year debate with myself as to whether a paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle is as involuntary as it’s often made out to be. Given that I never speak in absolutes, I’ve come to the conclusion doing the whole paycheck-to-paycheck thing is often self-imposed, but not always.

Sometimes the culprit is a low wage, which may or may not be resolved by the person living it, but most of the time the problem is a less than ideal strategy set into motion early in a career and then never properly corrected. A waving white flag unknowingly replaces effort, and you find yourself saying things like “it is what it is.” But the good news is, it isn’t.

I didn’t do well in college physics, but I do remember that a body in motion will stay in motion when it’s not exposed to an outside force. If you are currently living a paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle, that will not change unless you introduce a new source of force into your financial life. A paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle left alone, will perpetually exist.

You have to create the force.

You can absolutely change your current paycheck-to-paycheck reality by re-examining instances which you’ve mistakenly held onto as truths. I’ve watched families of four struggle to make ends meet, all the while unflinchingly spending \$1,100/month on exclusively organic groceries. And you wouldn’t believe the number of six-figures-earning families I’ve seen bang their heads against a wall with \$900 worth of monthly car payments.

I don’t really care what you spend your money on — it’s your money. A long time ago I stopped giving the ubiquitous “stop drinking lattes” advice. But if you want to end the paycheck-to-paycheck phenomenon, which isn’t a phenomenon at all, then some habit — any habit — has to change.

If you didn’t know by now, my favorite financial tool is your monthly bank statement, or your credit-card statement if you happen to use your credit card as the primary means of spending. Your monthly statements consist of every piece of behavior and information



PETE THE PLANNER

CHANGE YOUR PAYCHECK-TO-PAYCHECK LIFESTYLE

It’s not necessarily a bad thing, as long you properly budget in monthly savings, investment obligations

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

about your lifestyle that you can possibly imagine. So much so that you may refuse to look at your monthly statement because you don’t want to see the details of your behavior struggles.

Find the the last three months worth

of spending. You need to determine if your paycheck-to-paycheck reality is caused by big decisions or small decisions. In other words, do your major expenses such as housing and transportation put you in a bind, or is it a

copious amount of small purchases such as meals, shopping and online purchases?

Categorize each month’s spending into individual categories.

Using three months worth of data, determine your monthly averages. Next, pick two or three categories which could use a good culling, and then create a new budget target by reducing your monthly average by 10%. For instance, if you spend \$680/month at the grocery store, then your new price target will be \$612/month (\$680 minus \$68). If you go to the grocery store four times per month, then you must limit your spending to \$153/week, as opposed to your former average of \$170/week.

Repeat this exercise for every discretionary spending category which requires attention. If you’re like most people, you likely have a store. That one store you visit frequently and spend a great deal of money at. Often, your store is the catalyst of spending in many different budget categories, thus it’s especially difficult to figure out what you spent on groceries vs. cleaning supplies vs. clothing. Simply make the store its own category, and make sure it’s one of the categories on the 10% chopping block.

It could take two to three months for your strategy to find success, but if you do find success, you’ll finally be cash-flow positive on a monthly basis. Use that money to build your savings, and off you go.

However, by the process of elimination, you might learn the reason for your paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle doesn’t reside in your daily decisions, but instead is in your major purchase/expense categories such as housing and transportation. The good news is at least you know what the real problem is. The only way to solve a transportation or housing expense issue is to take extreme actions and greatly reduce your monthly spend in those categories.

It’s also worth noting that living paycheck to paycheck isn’t necessarily a bad thing, but it has taken on a negative connotation over the years. I personally strive to live paycheck to paycheck to ensure that I’m properly budgeting in my monthly savings and investment obligations. If an expected event comes along, I don’t feel the normal stress of living paycheck to paycheck, but I do benefit from the daily accountability.

Grab those statements, and get to work. That is, if you want to stop living paycheck to paycheck.

Dunn is an author, speaker and radio host. Have a question for Pete the Planner? Email him at AskPete@petetheplanner.com



7 HEALTHY HABITS TO ADOPT FOR YOUR CREDIT CARD

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

CLAIRE TSOSIE NERDWALLET

You try to rake in big credit-card rewards, avoid paying interest and keep your spending under control, but it feels like you’re running on a hamster wheel. What gives? The answer likely has to do with your habits, or actions you take automatically without much thought. When implementing the wrong habits, putting in more effort only gets you to the wrong place faster, according to Stephen R. Covey’s best-selling book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. To get to the right place with your credit cards, adopt these seven habits of highly effective cardholders.

1 PAYING IN FULL, ON TIME

For David Rae, paying credit-card bills in full and on time is just part of the drill.

“I’m probably the worst customer for the credit-card companies because I maximize the value from my rewards and points and minimize what I pay for them,” says Rae, a certified financial planner at DRM Wealth Management in Los Angeles. He and his husband are flying first class to Europe soon using points and miles, he says.

By paying on time and in full every

month, you avoid interest and late-payment penalties. If you dread cutting that big check, try making multiple payments throughout the month. Trouble with deadlines? Set up autopay, assuming you won’t risk an overdraft.

2 OPTIMIZING REWARDS WITH JUST A FEW CARDS

Using two or three credit cards can certainly deliver more value than using just one. But splitting purchases among a dozen cards brings diminishing returns and

creates an organizational nightmare.

If your wallet is overcrowded, identify the few cards that bring you the most value and concentrate your spending in those accounts.

3 STICKING TO A BUDGET

Budgeting doesn’t require Herculean effort when it’s part of your routine.

“We’ve been tracking our budget since we started college, really,” says Kelan Kline, who runs the personal finance blog *The Savvy Couple* with his wife, Brittany

Kline. The Rochester, N.Y., couple always pay their cards in full. “Usually, once a week, we’ll kind of go through and just make sure we’re hitting our budget for the month.”

Pair your weekly budget check-in with another weekly activity such as grocery shopping. As you do these tasks side by side repeatedly, budgeting becomes a habit.

4 STAYING WELL BELOW CREDIT LIMITS

To keep your credit scores in shape, use less than 30% of the limit on every card. The lower your balances, the more your scores will benefit.

Download your issuer’s smartphone app to more easily track your spending. Check your balance when you have some time to kill, and make an extra payment if it creeps too high.

5 WATCHING FOR BETTER OFFERS

If you don’t pay attention to new credit-card offers, you might end up using a lackluster card for too long.

Get in the practice of thinking comparatively. When you hear about a credit-card offer — on TV, online or by mail — measure it against your current card. If the offer is rich enough, pounce. To help your credit score, keep your old card open and use it on occasion, provided it doesn’t charge an annual fee.

6 MONITORING ACCOUNTS

When your credit-card statement comes, don’t just pay it — read it. Otherwise, you could miss billing errors, fraudulent charges or other problems.

“For me, once to three times a year, there’s something funny on (my credit-card statements),” says Clint Haynes, a certified financial planner at NexGen Wealth in Lee’s Summit, Mo. “If I didn’t go through my transactions ... I would never know about it.”

Stay on top of your account by signing up for spending push notifications from your issuer.

7 BOUNCING BACK FROM MISTAKES

Making a credit-card goof — missing a payment or spending too much — might make you feel like curling up under the nearest rock. But it also can be an opportunity to grow. Direct your energy toward solving your problem rather than wallowing in it. Ask yourself, “What can I do to fix this?” Then get to work.

Tsosie is a staff writer at NerdWallet, a personal finance website and USA TODAY content partner providing general news, commentary and coverage from around the Web. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY. Email: claire@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @ideclaire7.



The iOS11 operating system upgrade lets you mark up screen shots.

TECH

New features worth checking out on iOS 11

You don't have to go out and spend \$700 on a swanky new iPhone. The latest mobile operating system upgrade, iOS 11, was released Tuesday, and it has "hundreds" of new features, according to Apple. Here are five worth checking out today.

JEFFERSON GRAHAM
@JEFFERSONGRAHAM
USA TODAY

» **Control Center:** The feature, which you get by swiping up from the bottom of the screen, has a new look, and it's customizable. If you go to Settings, Control Center, you can choose what shortcuts you'd like to be in there. Apple has Flashlight, Timer, Calculator, Camera and others, by default. I tweaked it to add Screen Recording, Voice Memos and Alarm.

» **Did you say screen recording?** Yes, and it's my favorite new feature — and one I predict I will use more than any other. We have long been able to take screen shots of our phone by clicking the home and power buttons at the same time. Now, open Control Center, take a screen shot, and you can mark it up, with doodles and underlines. Best of all, we can also create video screen

Screen recording is my favorite new feature — and one I predict I will use more than any other.

shots — expect to see a lot of them from gadget reviewers.

» **Siri:** The long-suffering personal digital assistant has a different voice, according to Apple, although it seemed the same to me. Siri can do more, however, and that's good. The assistant can translate phrases and speak the responses effectively. When I asked Siri to tell me about tennis legend Billie Jean King, it went to Wikipedia, and in-

stead of saying, "Here's what I found on the Web," it actually read me the top two paragraphs, a vast improvement over the old way of just sending me a link. (Siri is still as finicky as ever, though. I asked for movie listings, and it gave me what was playing on Netflix.)

» **iMessage:** The popular text program makes it easier to find those new apps for texting that were introduced in last year's iOS. Those sent you to a separate App Store. Now, there's a tab for the store within your message history, along with the apps you like to use. In my case, that's stickers from JibJab and GasBuddy and the Solitaire app.

» **App Store:** The App Store also got a major upgrade, with less of a guide to hundreds of apps and more of a curated, editorial look at what's new and hot. It's easier to navigate your way around and find new fun stuff.

MISSING IN ACTION

Two of the most awaited iOS 11 features didn't make the cut and fall into the "coming soon" arena.

The cloning of the popular Venmo app, on which friends pay their share of the pizza bill or rent money via their smartphone, via iMessage, has been delayed, as has an enhancement for Apple Maps. The new feature promises indoor mapping — think shopping malls and office buildings, alongside outdoor maps.

Additionally, many of the new iOS features are geared toward the iPad and making it more of a laptop replacement. We'll be back at a later date with a review of those features.

To update your iOS, back up your device first, and then go to Settings, General and Software Update. You'll want to plug your phone into power and Wi-Fi for the download, which, depending on your connection, could take 30 to 60 minutes.

KIM KOMANDO
@KIMKOMANDO
SPECIAL FOR USA TODAY

We've all been there: Every gadget at home is running smoothly, and we're streaming without a hitch. Suddenly, the dreaded digital slowdown — and then the mental meltdown — occurs.

There are plenty of reasons your Wi-Fi acts up, including signal congestion, bandwidth issues and hardware limitations. The truth is, most households and offices can't get away with a basic single-band router anymore. Personal devices have started to stretch available bandwidth, and each smartphone, tablet, television, desktop, gaming console, smart appliance and laptop is competing for the same signal.

Whatever your Wi-Fi hiccups, here are surefire ways to speed things up.

1 UPDATE YOUR ROUTER'S SOFTWARE

Most people routinely update their apps and operating systems, but they forget about their router's firmware. The advantages are twofold: You might make your Wi-Fi more efficient and also protect yourself from newly discovered security breaches.

Using your Web browser, type in your router's IP address to visit your router's administrator page and check for updates. You will have to enter a username and password to log in. Crazy, but router default passwords are readily available online.

Fing is a network tool that you should have in your tech arsenal even if you know your router's IP address. Sure, you'll learn your router's IP address, but you can also see all devices connected to your network, check your Internet connectivity, monitor the network and detect intruders.

Be sure to restart your router once the update is complete for the changes to take effect. Set an appointment in your calendar to check for router firmware updates every three months.

We probably won't have to do this task much longer. Some newer routers update themselves without owners having to do a thing.

2 LOOK FOR INTERFERENCES

You might be surprised what kinds of household devices can affect your Wi-Fi speeds. Cordless phones are obvious. But what about microwave ovens? Did you ever suspect that a baby monitor could slow down your videos on Facebook?

This is particularly true for older routers running on a 2.4GHz frequency. This is the same frequency on which many household appliances run, so the



If you're sick of Netflix buffering, you might need to invest in a new router.

BRENDAN NYSTEDT, REVIEWED.COM

signals tend to overlap. The easiest way to fix this problem is to move your router away from other 2.4GHz devices or just upgrade your hardware.

Feeling ambitious? Create a Wi-Fi "heat map," which can help you see where Wi-Fi signals are strongest (and weakest). Look for free apps such as HeatMapper, Netspot (for Macs) or, to get a sense of signal strength on an Android phone, Wi-Fi Analyzer.

3 CHANGE CHANNELS

Another common tweak is to change the channel of your router. Again, this step is most helpful when you're running on a 2.4GHz frequency because these can get congested with other appliances. Moving from one channel to a less crowded one might speed things up.

The process is slightly different for Macs and PCs.

MACS

Apple provides a free tool called "Wireless Diagnostics." To use it, hold the Option key while clicking on the Wi-Fi icon on the top right-hand side of the menu

bar and then choose "Open Wireless Diagnostics."

To access the Scan tool, ignore the Wireless Diagnostics window. Immediately go to the Window tab on the top left side of the menu bar and choose Scan.

You'll see a list of the Wi-Fi signals in your vicinity and the channels they occupy, among other useful information.

WINDOWS

For Windows, download a free Wi-Fi utility called "Acrylic Wi-Fi Home." Similar to the Mac's Scan tool, this application will instantly give you information about the Wi-Fi signals in your area, including the channels they occupy.

For Android users, there are a bunch of Wi-Fi scanning tools available, but a popular one is Network Analyzer.

Once you have the channel info you need, to prevent trampling on other channels, the recommended channels for 2.4GHz are 1, 6 and 11, which don't overlap with each other.

4 PUT THE KIDS ON THEIR OWN NETWORK, AND

ENABLE QOS

Many parents have specialized settings on their computers to prevent kids from getting into trouble. Similarly, you can put your kids on a separate network with its own rules and parameters.

The simplest method is to set up a separate Wi-Fi router.

Alternatively, you can enable your router's "Guest Network" option. Guest networks are designed to give visitors limited access to your home's network and files, but they can also work for kids.

A guest network also has security benefits, including the ability to shield your main devices from certain Web-based attacks.

Finally, adjust your router's Quality of Service settings. QoS lets you prioritize traffic according to the type of data getting transmitted. You could set applications including Skype, streaming media and online gaming to have higher priority than other activities.

5 BUY A NEW 802.11 AC ROUTER

If you're in the market for a new router and want improved Wi-Fi speeds, look for a 802.11 AC router with dual or triple band capabilities.

Newer Wi-Fi standards mean better features and increased performance. "AC" routers are a step up from the older "B," "G" and "N" models.

If you want, you could keep your older 2.4GHz router on its own band and add the newer AC device on a higher band. This essentially is like having multiple routers in one, and it can solve interference and congestion issues.

6 MESH IS THE WORD

Some people have big houses, and they quickly find that the Wi-Fi only extends so far, especially when a lot of devices are attached to the same network. You might have heard of a "network extender," a cheap device that will help you expand your Wi-Fi reach. And you might be tempted to invest in one.

Hold off and investigate a savvy option of a "mesh network." This system uses two or three different devices, which work together to "blanket" your environment. While a Wi-Fi extender might require several network names and give you uneven coverage, a mesh network is all part of the same system, so you should always get a consistent signal.

If that sounds enticing, understand that a mesh network isn't added onto your current router; you will replace your router with at least two new devices. The transition isn't cheap, but you'll be astonished how much more powerful and far-reaching your Wi-Fi will become.

SPANKING A TODDLER CAN HAVE LINGERING EFFECTS



Instead, experts cite time outs and loss of privileges

WASEEM ABBASI
USA TODAY

A new study finds spanking and other physical discipline techniques continue to have adverse effects on children for far longer than originally thought.

Children spanked when they were as young as 15 months old displayed negative temperament and were less likely to show positive behaviors in the fifth grade and even into their teenage years, researchers at the University of Missouri say. The finding was vastly more pronounced in African-American children than those of European origin.

"How parents treat their children at a young age ... significantly impacts their behavior," says Gustavo Carlo, a study co-author who is a professor of diversity at the university and director of its center for family policy and research. "It is very important that parents refrain from physical punishment as it can have long-lasting impacts. If we want to nurture positive behaviors, all parents should teach a child how to regulate their behaviors early."

Past research has indicated physical punishment can have negative consequences on children's development, yet previous studies examined only short-

term impacts.

In the new study published in *Developmental Psychology* late last month, Carlo's team analyzed data from 1,840 mothers and children who were at or below the federal poverty level and identified as either of European or African descent. Information was collected when children were about 15 months old, 25 months old and in the fifth grade. Researchers used surveys of mothers and children, home visits and interviews with fifth-grade teachers to complete the study.

Long-term effects of severe discipline, such as increased aggressive and delinquent behaviors, were only found in African-American children, according to the study. Previous research, however, has shown short-term negative effects for children of all races and ethnicities. Carlo says that disparity might be tied to more frequent and more severe disciplining of the African-American children involved in the study.

Parenting expert Carole Lieberman, who wrote *Lions and Tigers and Terrorists, Oh My! How to Protect Your Child in a Time of Terror* says physical discipline is bad for any child and wonders if

the parents of European-descent children involved in the study were less forthcoming with how much physical discipline they used.

"With each spanking, children experience physical pain as well as emotional pain as a sign that their parents don't love them," she says. "Spanking conveys a message to them that they are not good. It causes them to become aggressive later on in their lives."

Carlo stressed the study does not suggest that the use of physical disciplining automatically means any child exposed to spanking or other physical discipline will end up maladjusted. However, this research and the majority of existing studies show such practices significantly increase

the likelihood of problems later. "If we think about child development as a jigsaw puzzle where many things are affecting our kids, this is one piece of the puzzle that increases the chances of negative child outcomes," he said. "As a parent, it is worth considering whether it is worth the risk, especially when there are many other alternatives available."

Alternative techniques to discipline

children include time-outs, distractions, removing them from the situation, moral conversations and loss of privileges, Carlo says. While physical punishment and yelling are both bad for children, verbal discipline might not be as harmful if done in a controlled manner that relays a message that the child's behavior is unacceptable.

Psychologists have known for years that physical punishment is detrimental to the development of children and this study provides further evidence, says Brian Johnson, professor of counseling psychology at the University of Northern Colorado and co-author of *WARNING SIGNS: How to Protect Your Kids From Becoming Victims or Perpetrators of Violence and Aggression*.

"Physical discipline, including spanking, is associated with increased aggressive behavior and lower self-esteem in children," he says. "Spanking models for children that using aggression is fine when one is upset, or has a conflict."

Parents often resort to spanking because they see quick changes in their children's behavior. Unfortunately, Johnson says, any positive behavior changes are seldom long-lasting, while the detrimental effects on behavioral and emotional health can be.

"Spanking suppresses behavior quickly, but does not change it," he says. "Spanking also increases a child's anger, resentment, and desire to get revenge."

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See **HONEY**, Page 12B

Honey pan rolls.
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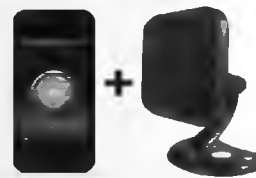
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What are the pros and cons of job hopping?

BY PETER JONES
 THEJOBNETWORK

The jury remains out on job hopping. Most people agree the stigma is mostly gone, particularly if you're in the unique brand of circumstances that makes it the wisest move for your career. But there are still pros and cons — even if you think it's all good or all bad.

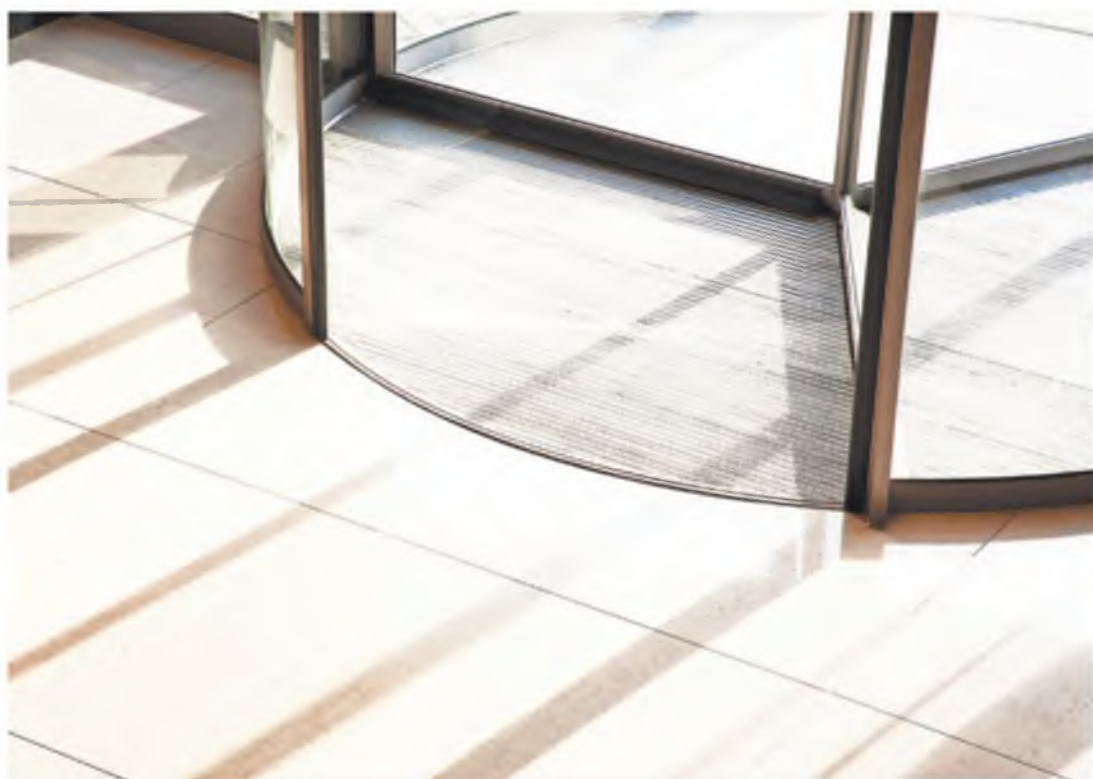
JOB HOPPING PROS

Finding yourself. If you're not entirely sure what you want to do with your life, a few job hops early on can actually be very useful in saving you valuable time. Just be mindful to figure out what you like and start pointing yourself in that direction with some force and purpose.

Variety is fun. They don't call it the spice of life for nothing. You get that many more opportunities to make sure you find the right fit—as well as a fresh take on things with each new company.

But remember, the novelty wears off very quickly. Make sure to get accustomed also to the routine of working a job for more than a few months.

Networking, networking, networking. You can amass a truly powerful network by job hopping. Just



GETTY IMAGES

make sure you're actually making lasting connections and not just blowing through people for the sake of it.

You'll grow as a person. You'll meet more people, you'll work in a broader range of diverse fields and institutions and you'll be exposed to a much wider variety of information and resources. This can really build your versatility, and indeed, your attractiveness

as a long-term hire, provided you shape your experience mindfully.

A cash increase. Jumping to a new position, when done right, almost always ends up with you making a bit more money — often more than a routine raise.

JOB HOPPING CONS
Relationships are in danger. Gaining experience

by job hopping might get you a bunch of bullets on your resume, but it won't necessarily get you a good recommendation, and it won't help you build the kind of relationships that make for a long and successful career. The last thing you want to do is give the impression that you're unreliable.

Employers might hesitate. If you have a track

record of loving and leaving, so to speak, employers might be hesitant to hire you.

Or worse, they might put you on the chopping block first if or when lay-offs are in order — before you've had a chance to prove your loyalty. Basically, they fear you'll jump ship at the first sign of trouble. And, to be fair, they have no counter evidence.

Lack of satisfaction. If you don't stick around long enough to really reap some of the slow-release, long-term benefits of company loyalty, you'll miss a potentially truly enjoyable part of your career.

Greener grass syndrome. If you get into a pattern of job hopping, you might start to fall victim to the trap of always thinking the grass is greener in some other job or other career.

Try to find a place to settle down when you can and when appropriate. Otherwise, you'll develop a long list of shallow experiences and expertise, and never reap the sweet rewards of loyalty.

Peter Jones is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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Car Report

SUBARU GAINS FANS, SALES FOR IMPREZA BY INTRODUCING ALL-NEW 2017 VERSION WITH TECHNOLOGY, OTHER UPGRADES



By Dale Buss

Subaru has completely redesigned the Impreza for 2017 as the brand continues to pile up sales and take market share from much bigger rivals. Impreza wasn't at the top of the list of reasons that Subaru has gained traction, but the new version of the small nameplate – available as a sedan or hatchback – certainly will move it up a few notches.

The brand is an intriguing one. For something whose name is so Japanese, and a company that is Japanese, Subaru seems more like a brand and a car lineup designed by Americans, for Americans.

Sure, there's the crunchy element of the brand – after all, Subaru recently ran a TV advertisement that literally depicted the grandchild of someone who was at Woodstock hugging the

tree where she and grandpa met back in their dissipate days. But if you talk with Tom Doll, the chief of Subaru in the United States, he explains that progressives are just who Subaru's market is.

Yet it's hard not for everyone to love Subaru. The brand loves dogs and tells you so. It has become associated with tough slogging through difficult weather because all of its vehicles are all-wheel drive – and have been for a long time.

And how can a Midwesterner not like a company that's now making many of its vehicles in Indiana?

So even though Subaru sales not too long ago were up by 20 and 25 percent a year in the U.S. over the previous year, its gains have backed off recently to an annualized level of about 6 to 8 percent a year over 2016. Doll recently told the Philadelphia Inquirer. But that's in the context of an overall U.S. market that faces the possibility of its first year of decline in eight years.

Which brings us to the new Impreza. The nameplate never has had as much



The rear of the Impreza hatchback is plenty roomy for its segment.

cached or sales volume as Subaru's beloved Outback or Forester SUVs, and Legacy was always the brand's primary sedan.

But Americans are showing tremendous appreciation for the new Impreza: Sales through August this year were up by more than 40 percent over 2016, far outpacing volumes for Legacy and giving Impreza the best year-to-year relative performance of any vehicle in the Subaru lineup.

It's not difficult to see why buyers are demonstrating unprecedented appreciation for Impreza nowadays. It was completely redesigned for 2017 and, while Subaru never has been a design-forward company, the new lines put Impreza well within the mainstream – which, for this vehicle, is a good thing.

Impreza has always been known for its roomy interior, but the new version moves the wheels further apart to open up additional space in the cabin. And pop open the rear of the hatchback version to the kind of cargo space that matches some small SUVs: more than 55 cubic feet with the rear seat down.

latest versions of several useful safety features, such as Subaru's proprietary EyeSight Driver Assist Technology that includes adaptive cruise control, automatic pre-collision braking, lane departure and sway warning, and lane keep assist.

Including EyeSight as an option on Impreza gives great value for buyers of a car that comes even fully loaded for under \$30,000. And it underscores Subaru's commitment to occupant safety, one of its primary brand values.

In fact, WardsAuto recently recognized Impreza on its 10 Best User Experience list for intuitive and effective features including connectivity, infotainment, controls and driver-assist technology as well as overall value.

Subaru also added power for its four-cylinder, 2.0-liter, dual-overhead-cam engine, which now generates 152 horsepower and 145 pound-feet of torque. It's no speed burner, but then most Subaru customers don't care about that. They do care that Impreza notches an impressive 37 mpg on the highway and 28 mpg in the city.



Subaru's 2017 Impreza Hatchback is a very timely offering for today's market.



The rear of the Impreza hatchback is plenty roomy for its segment.

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LIVONIA Church Rummage Sale
Pre-Sale - Thurs October 5th, 5-7pm. (Adults \$2). Free Admission Fri. October 6th, 9am-12pm, & Sat. October 7, 9am-noon (1/2 off Sale). Newburg United Methodist Church 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia 48150

Northville Huge Yard Sale 118 Linden, downtown. Oct; 5-9; 9-6pm

NOVI-Catholic Central High School Annual Rummage Sale - 27225 Wilcox Rd. Sat. 10/7; 8-11pm Drop Off Items for Donations on Fri. 10/6.

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Charming Condo, Great Location!

- * This three bedroom, two bathroom condo is a must see
- * Hardwood flooring flows throughout the kitchen, that includes all updated appliances
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MLS 217086791 248.684.1065 \$229,500



Gorgeous Colonial!

- * This four bedroom, two and half bathroom Colonial, has amazing views of Beacon Hill golf course
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MLS 217081849 248.684.1065 \$285,000



Wonderful Four Bedroom!

- * This four bedroom two and half bathroom is located on a large wooded lot in desirable Timber Ridge
- * Kitchen with Maple cabinets, granite counters and backsplash
- * Amazing three season sunroom, with vaulted ceiling, ceiling fan and door to wooded yard
- * First floor laundry, super family room and three car garage

MLS 217083592 248.684.1065 \$340,000



Gorgeous Home in Desirable Forest Ridge!

- * Stone and brick home features four bedrooms and three and half bathroom
- * Tumbled marble, stone and Brazilian cherry wood flooring throughout
- * Gourmet kitchen perfect for entertaining
- * Laundry room with pet bath, three car garage

MLS 217085986 248.684.1065 \$999,999



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, a must see

MLS 217085469 248.684.1065 \$500,000



Peaceful 8.23 Wooded Acres!

- * This delightful Ranch features three bedrooms and three bathrooms
- * Spacious master bedroom with spa like bath including a jetted tub, euro shower and dual sink
- * Beautiful granite gas fireplace is a focal point in the modern living room
- * Finished lower level with full bath, second kitchen, large bedroom and family room

MLS 217085126 248.684.1065 \$649,900



Up North Living Without the Drive!

- * This 1830's style home features three bedrooms and two bathrooms, located on 6.38 acres
- * Custom lakefront, log home is waiting for your personal touch
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- * The garage has a 20X20 one bedroom, one bathroom guest house

MLS 217048284 248.684.1065 \$499,900



Great Condo, Great Location!

- * This four bedroom, three full baths Ranch condo is a must see
- * Marble foyer, skylights and vaulted ceilings
- * Spacious great room, with a fireplace and three door walls that open onto a deck
- * Lower level with a fireplace, two bedrooms and a full bath

MLS 217076679 248.684.1065 \$274,900



Custom Home!

- * This gorgeous Colonial features four bedrooms and three and half bathrooms
- * Solid oak wood floors and staircase, dining rooms with custom wood built ins
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MLS 217073157 248.684.1065 \$289,900



Welcome Home!

- * This adorable three bedroom, one and half bathroom home, with lake access is a must see
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