

WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

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SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2014 • hometownlife.com



Fire damages vacant Hawthorne Valley building

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Wayne-Westland firefighters found an open door when they arrived to battle the fire at the closed Hawthorne Valley building Wednesday night. "Someone had broken into the building and that person's or persons' actions resulted in a fire," said Wayne-Westland Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Mar-

shal Kelly Eggers. "It (the cause) is undetermined at this time. No evidence of accelerants has been found."

There have been break-ins at the vacant building in recent years with graffiti and vandalism, he said. The fire started in a storage area containing napkins and golf brochures, Eggers said.

Firefighters responded to the building, on the east side

of Merriman north of Warren Road, about 9:30 p.m.

"There were heavy flames through the west part of the building. We went into a defensive mode since it is a vacant building," Wayne-Westland Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal Kelly Eggers said. "We put up the sticks and started laying water down."

The fire was under control within about 20 minutes, Eg-

gers said. "No one was injured. We did a search of the building and no one had been inside," he said.

An addition to the original building was heavily damaged by fire, he said, with light smoke damage in the front part of the building.

"We don't have a cause for the fire. We will be out here digging today (Thursday)," Eggers said. "It's pretty beat

up."

Hawthorne Valley, which had a restaurant and banquet rooms along with a nine-hole golf course, has been closed since the end of 2011, when the business was forced into foreclosure.

The city of Westland owns the parcel fronting Merriman, which includes the restaurant

See FIRE, Page A2



Lynn Boertje (left) and Teresa Harnes enjoy a drink at Max and Erma's during the restaurant rally. PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GOOD EATS

Restaurants serve up favorites for rally

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Local restaurants had a chance to show off their best food Tuesday at the Westland Chamber of Commerce Restaurant Rally.

"I like the food, I like the people, I like the drinks. I love it all. I get a night out," said Kim Courlas, adding that she had been to every previous restaurant rally. "I live in Wayne but I do everything in Westland."

Seated at the bar in Texas Roadhouse, Courlas brought along Jim Cullison of Gibraltar, who was attending his first Westland Restaurant Rally.

"She (Courlas) told me about it and

asked me to come this year. I'm along with the ride," said Cullison, who had enjoyed ribs and cole slaw at their first stop at Beaver Creek. "They had very good ribs."

The event, attended by 250 people, returned after a two-year absence. This time there were 10 restaurants participating: Beaver Creek, Biggy Coffee, Famous Dave's, Max and Erma's, McDonald's, Papa Romano/Mr. Pita, Texas Roadhouse, Toarmina's Pizza, Dairy Queen and Westland Charhouse.

"The restaurants were extraordinarily happy (with the event) even though the attendance was a little



Bob and Ellen Hannah sample the offerings at Max and Erma's.

See RALLY, Page A2

Adams resigns as Parks and Rec director

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

The fate of the Wayne Community Center is still in limbo but Wayne Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Adams is leaving effective July 25.

"It's bittersweet. I need stability. I'm very close with the staff. The city has allowed me to grow and given me opportunities," Adams said. "I appreciate what the city has provided me with and wish the best to everyone."

A Livonia resident, Adams has been Parks and Recreation director since 2002. He began his career as a University of Michigan Health Systems fitness specialist working at the community center as a contract employee.

In his new position, Adams will be general manager for Sola Fitness, operating a facility in Rochester Hills for Beaumont Hospital.

Due to budget cuts in recent years, Adams is now the only full-time employee in the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department.

Under the plan approved earlier this year by council, the community center operations were to be reduced and over half the facility, including the ice arena, was to be closed.

Adams also provided council with other alternatives as part of dealing with the deficit in the general fund, which has been subsidizing the community center costs. So far, council has not acted on any of the proposals and held off implementing the reductions approved earlier.

Wayne City Manager Jo-

See ADAMS, Page A2

Two men ordered to stand trial in killing of Westland teenagers

By LeAnne Rogers
Staff Writer

Two men have been ordered to stand trial in the killing of Westland teens Jacob Kudla and Jourdan Bobbish in 2012.

Felando Hunter, 23, and Fredrick Young, 25, were ordered bound over to Wayne County Circuit Court on mul-

tiple felonies after a preliminary examination spread over three days. Both are charged with first-degree murder, first-degree felony murder, torture, armed robbery, unlawful imprisonment and felony firearm. Young also is charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm.

At the last day of the hear-

ing Wednesday, witness Demerious Cunningham, 27, testified that Hunter told him about robbing and killing the teens the day after they failed to return from a visit to a family member in Detroit.

It began with a late-night phone call, Cunningham said, with Hunter saying he had done things he described with

an expletive. He said Hunter came to his home the next day and told him what had happened.

"He (Hunter) proceeded to tell me about the two white boys (Kudla and Bobbish). They rode up on him asking to buy pills - Xanax or something," Cunningham said. Telling the teens he had

what they wanted, Cunningham said Hunter told him the teens followed him and entered a home.

"He (Hunter) said he hit one kid with a rifle; he said it was his dad's rifle. He said he robbed them and made them strip," Cunningham said, add-

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Volume 50 • Number 18

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Senate hopefuls offer views on issues

Two candidates — incumbent Sen. Patrick Colbeck and political newcomer Matthew Edwards — are seeking the Republican nomination for the state Senate 7th District seat, which includes the City of Wayne, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Northville, Northville Township and Livonia. The candidates offered their views on several issues.

State and local roads and bridges are in deplorable shape. As a member of the Legislature, how would you address the issue? Explain where you believe the money should come from.

Colbeck: Michigan already spends 53 percent more per mile than the national average. Road funding solutions focused on raising taxes would only send good money after bad until we address the quality of our current road construction. I have developed a path to fix our roads that doesn't require tax increases. Readers can see it at MorninginMichigan.com.

While I continue to pursue full implementation of this plan, please note that I have already been successful obtaining over \$5M in state funding to address the Ford Road/I-275 traffic safety issue.

Edwards: First, I would cut spending for unnecessary programs. Second, I would consult with experts on how to eliminate the gas and sales tax on gasoline and replace it with a revenue stream that stays consistent so there is enough revenue to repair roads on a yearly basis. The current system does not

provide a consistent revenue stream due to economic conditions.

Whatever revenue increase is needed I would make sure that it is offset with a reduction in auto insurance premiums. Also, I would make sure businesses pay their fair share based on a professional study on how much they damage the roads. If they're responsible for 30 percent of the costs they will pay 30 percent. All revenues collected would be tax deductible on both the federal and state tax returns.

Did the Senate do the right thing this summer by adjourning without really addressing the issue?

Colbeck: We did address the issue. We passed several bills promoted in my road funding plan. These bills focused on ensuring that all of the taxes gathered at the gas pump go towards our roads (SB 6, SB 149) and reducing the costs of maintaining our roads by requiring warranties and competitive bids on road projects (HB 4251, HB 5460, HB 5167). These reforms go along with funding increases of \$737 million in the FY14 and FY15 budgets. It is a disservice to our taxpayers to suggest that the only way to fix our roads is to raise taxes.

Edwards: It was irresponsible for elected officials to leave before finding a solution to this major issue.

Twenty years after the implementation of Proposal A, there remains a wide disparity in per-pupil funding for school districts throughout the state. How would you address

this concern? What is your recommendation? Be specific.

Colbeck: The push for "equity" in funding has hurt our school districts. Most recently, this push diverted over \$100 million from "donor" districts (i.e. most of the school districts in the 7th State Senate district), to lower-funded school districts. The result was a \$60-per-pupil increase rather than a \$94 per pupil increase.

We need to be pushing for "fair" funding that addresses cost of living differences throughout the state, not "equal" funding. I have fought successfully to do so in previous years. I will continue to push for fairness in funding as we go forward.

Edwards: First of all, our home prices are dependent on the quality of the public schools in our community. We need to invest the right amount for education in every district to produce a world-class education for our young adults. I would not raise taxes, but reapportion how the current dollars are spent in a fair and equitable manner between all districts. I would also reward districts based on their performance so there is competition between districts to perform.

The 7th Senate District is a diverse district that includes an ever-changing diverse population in Canton. What do you see as the issues in the district and how would you address them?

Colbeck: I prefer to focus on the principles that unite us rather than those that divide us. As Americans, we are all

united by the common belief expressed in our Declaration of Independence that we are all created equal. One of the biggest issues we face today is that there are many among us who seek to divide us into sub-groups for the purposes of political gamesmanship.

We need to rekindle an appreciation for the expression "e Pluribus unum" which translates to "from many into one." This signifies that the ideas that unite us are stronger than those which divide us.

Edwards: The district needs at this time is to fix the roads, attract employers with high-quality jobs and provide the funding to our communities that was taken away so they can provide a safe and vibrant community without raising your local taxes.

Does the redrawing of the district's boundaries change its needs, and how do you plan on addressing those needs?

Colbeck: Most needs transcend any arbitrary political boundaries. We all need jobs. We now have over 19,000 jobs within a 25-mile radius of Canton. We all need access to affordable health care. That is why I continue to oppose the Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare) and have developed a better approach called the Patient-Centered Care Solution (See MorninginMichigan.com). We also need access to quality education. That is why I oppose one-size-fits-all education models such as Common Core and promote policies that empower parents with education choices.

PATRICK COLBECK

Residence: Canton.

How long have you lived in the district? Over 18 years.

Family: Married to my wife, Angie, for 19 years. Our parents and several family members live in Livonia.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, 1987; Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, 1988; graduate of the Life Sciences Department of the International Space University, Strasbourg, France, 1989.

Current job/profession: Currently serving as the state senator for the 7th State Senate District. My management consulting business has been put on hold during my service as state senator.

Community involvement: Member of Northridge Church in Plymouth; co-founder and board member for the Michigan Freedom Center serving military personnel and their families at Detroit Metro Airport and the Troy Military Entrance Processing Station; member of the U.S. Navy League; honorary member and supporter of the Civil Air Patrol; member of the Northville, Canton, Plymouth and Livonia Chambers of Commerce; earned designation as a Microsoft Small Business Specialist; member of Good News! Via de Cristo lay Christian apostolic organization.



Colbeck

MATTHEW EDWARDS

Residence: Plymouth Township.

How long have you lived in the district? All of my life.

Family: Ron (father), Mary Pat (mother), Thomas (brother), Theresa (sister), Mark (brother).

Education: Graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management.

Current job/profession: Hilltop golf course.

Community involvement: Plymouth Township Fourth of July picnic for 18 years. Salvation Army food collections.



Edwards

Edwards: No. **What makes you the best candidate for this position?**


Colbeck: My service to date reflects that I have consistently remained focused on the best interests of my constituents not playing politics. Rather than simply saying "no" to bad legislation, I have gone the extra mile to provide better alternatives. Over 20 years of engineering and management experience has taught me that government policies have real world impacts.

This experience has provided me with the insights to go beyond the talking points and dive into the unvarnished facts driving our issues.

For more information, I encourage you to view my editorials, speeches, solutions and the data supporting these solutions at MorninginMichigan.com.

Edwards: I will work for you the voter and not special interests. Just look at the past four years, they gave big business a tax break and raised taxes on individuals (pensions and eliminate some homestead credits), they failed to fix the roads, which caused insurance rates to go up, car repairs went up and we have less money in our pockets. How is that being fiscally conservative? I will make sure you keep more of what you earn in your pocket.





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The group at Port Crescent in 1992.

No Moms Allowed Camping Trip celebrates 25th year

By Karen Smith
Staff Writer

A group of area fathers will take their children next week on the 25th annual No Moms Allowed Camping Trip.

The group of about 30 will head to Pioneer Park in Muskegon County July 24-30, continuing a tradition that has forged strong relationships between the dads and the children, created lasting memories and given the moms a little time to themselves.

Kristen Smith, 29, who is now married and a teacher for Hudsonville Public Schools, wouldn't dream of missing the trip with her dad, David Quenneville of Livonia. Her husband, Steven, a financial analyst, has also been going along

since they started dating. "It's been a nice thing to look forward to every summer," Smith said, adding she enjoyed spending time with her dad, who sometimes worked long hours at Ford Motor Co., and with the other campers, some who were relatives and some who became as close as relatives over the years.

The trips, she said, engrained in her a love of camping and the outdoors.

Bonding time

Maureen Casey of Novi, who works at Greenmead Historical Park in Livonia, said she was the one who suggested 25 years ago that the dads take the kids camping without the moms.

The dads, all friends

from high school and college, used to camp together and bring their wives along before any of the kids were born. But that changed after the babies started coming. "We thought it was really good bonding time (for the dads and kids); at least that's what we told ourselves," Casey said, laughing.

The moms, none of whom really liked to camp, would all get together for dinner while their families were away and tackle projects they couldn't otherwise get done.

"We all took advantage of that time our husbands and our kids were out of the house," Casey said. She would hold her annual garage

See CAMPERS, Page A8

CORRECTION

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HOUSING THE HOMELESS



Tina V. (right), moving into her new home, gets some help from Joan Carr and Lorraine Zaksek.

Program hopes to put needy families in homes

By Brad Kadrich
Staff Writer

Like most people, Canton residents Lorraine Zaksek and Joan Carr sympathize with the plight of homeless people everywhere.

They were just surprised to find so many of them in their own backyard.

So the two women – along with a team of volunteers representing St. Vincent de Paul conferences from nearly two dozen western Wayne County churches – are doing something about it.

Zaksek, who volunteers at the SVDP conference at Canton's St. John Neumann Catholic

Church, chairs the committee that developed the Pathway to Housing program. The St. John Neumann conference started three years ago and Zaksek said calls for help started flowing in.

"I was surprised to find as many homeless cases as we did in Canton," she said. "There were people living in cars or in someone else's basement. The only thing we knew to do was put them up in a hotel. But we couldn't do that forever."

To study the issue, the Metro-West Exploratory Committee on Homelessness formed and met for the first time in February 2013. Several members reported an increase in the numbers of homeless individuals and families seeking assistance from SVDP.



Lorraine Zaksek (left) gets some help moving furniture from an unidentified volunteer.

Fight the fight

With only two homeless shelters (a First Step shelter in Canton and the Wayne County Family Center in Westland), a program was needed to help the rising caseload. The Pathway to Housing initiative was conceived to battle the problem.

The program has adopted a "housing first" mentality that hopes to put homeless people in homes as a necessary first step toward regaining their own independence.

"Research shows placing people in housing right away has a huge psychological benefit," Zaksek said. "It better equips them to move toward independence."

One of the things the committee did was determine the need. Their research showed:

» The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty determined there are some 3.5 million people, including 1.35 million children, likely to experience homelessness

in a given year.

» The U.S. Department of Urban Development and Annual Homelessness Assessment showed Michigan ranked fifth in the country – and first in the Midwest – for number of homeless residents.

» The National Coalition for the Homeless showed there are some 86,000 homeless persons in Michigan, 50 percent of which are families.

Children the target

But the most disturbing part to committee members was the number of children affected. The SVDP Metro-West committee sent a survey to area churches, community agencies and schools. The most telling figures, in their minds, came from the schools, whose results come from the 2012-13 school year:

» Livonia schools reported 152 homeless children.

» Plymouth-Canton had 78 homeless children.

» Redford reported 105 homeless children.

» Wayne-Westland reported a whopping 248 homeless children.

Those numbers were hard for Joan Carr to hear. Carr, an 85-year-old who has been a member of SVDP for 25 years at SS. Simon and Jude Catholic Church in Westland, services the Nor-Wayne area of Westland and has seen her share of poverty.

"Every single person in Nor-Wayne qualifies as low-income," Carr said. "We're very busy there and often we get people who are homeless. It's heartbreaking, especially when there are children involved."

The Pathway to Housing program is two-pronged. First, SVDP finds its clients a home.

See HOUSING, Page A7

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Central City Parkway Concrete Maintenance
City of Westland
July 18, 2014

Sealed Bids for Central City Parkway Concrete Maintenance will be received at the office of the City of Westland until 1:00 pm local time, on August 6, 2014, by the office of the Interim Director of DPS located at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. The approximate work involved is as follows:

11,500 syd of concrete pavement repair on Central City Parkway between Warren Rd. and Wayne Rd.

The Contract Documents for this project are on file and may be examined on and after 12:00, July 21, 2014, at the following locations: the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz, & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150; area offices of McGraw-Hill Construction/ReproMAX, 36060 Industrial Road, Livonia, MI 48150; Reed Construction Data at www.reedpr.com; the Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), 43636 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-3204; and City of Westland, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185.

Copies thereof may be obtained on or after 12:00, local time, July 21, 2014, at the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150. A fee of Forty dollars (\$40.00) non-refundable will be charged for each set of Contract Documents. An additional fee of Ten dollars (\$10.00) non-refundable will be charged for each set of Contract Documents that are mailed.

Bid Security in the form of a Certified or Cashier's Check or Bid Bond for a sum no less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the Bid will be required with each Bid.

The OWNER reserves the right to accept any Bid, reject any Bid, or waive irregularities in Bids.

No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receipt of the Bids.

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Eileen DeHart, City Clerk
City of Westland

Published: July 20, 2014

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Joan Carr (left) and Lorraine Zaksek sort through bedding.



Lorraine Zaksek (left) and Joan Carr haul in the kitchen boxes.

HELPING THE HOMELESS

What: St. Vincent de Paul Wine and Cheese Tasting fundraiser; the event will also feature live and silent auctions
When: 7-10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17
Where: St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren, in Canton
Why: To benefit St. Vincent de Paul's Pathway to Housing program. According to organizers, costs range from \$5,000 to \$7,000 to house a family under the program.
Who: Super Fine Wines in Canton is providing the wines; several restaurants – including Palermo's, Three Brothers, Olympus Coney Island, Fat Chef in a Little Coat and Bamboo – will provide food.

as the families being helped by it. "If the family is willing to put some time and effort into it, they can hopefully break that cycle of poverty they're in," she said. "If they can ... get their kids to get a good education, they can break that cycle. They have to be willing to put something into it, too. It's not a giveaway. They

have to work at it also." bkadrich@hometownlife.com
 Twitter: @bkadrich

HOUSING

Continued from Page A6

The first two families have already been placed under the new program, one in Nor-Wayne, the other in Romulus.

Homeless families with children get priority and SVDP also considers the current living conditions – "Families living in someone's basement are safer than, say, families living in a car," Zaksek said – and the family's ability to achieve independence.

Talking helps

SVDP provides the financial assistance – helping with rent, utilities, food bills – while

the family re-establishes itself. The financial assistance is provided on a reducing scale; as the family gains stronger footing, SVDP reduces its share of those bills, until the family can survive on its own.

A third family is about to be placed, Zaksek said, and four others are on a waiting list. Referrals are coming from the 22 churches aligned with the Metro-West committee.

"The churches really get a feeling for their families," Zaksek said.

The other part of the program is counseling. SVDP is partnering with Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan to provide what she said is "intense counseling."

Families being considered for the program have to agree to 12-18 months of counseling, which covers subjects such as budgeting, child care and taking care of a household.

Zaksek said the counseling is important because it helps families understand both the root of the problem and the way to fix it.

"Very often, there's an event that precedes the homelessness," she said. "But it's often precipitated over time. It helps to talk about that."

Carr, who put huge amounts of time and effort into placing the first family in Nor-Wayne, believes in the program, but knows it will only be as successful

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T-shirts and a sign make it clear that no moms are allowed.

CAMPERS

Continued from Page A5

sale and get rid of things she knew her kids and husband Mike would never miss. Another mom spent all her time gardening, without having to stop to make meals. "We all got to do things that we wanted to do and not feel guilty," she said.

Campers have come and gone over the years, but a core group of five dads and their kids have gone annually for at least 23 years — Richard Quenneville of Novi, his brother David Quenneville of Livonia, Richard's brother-in-law Jeff Berry of Brownstown, friend Mike Casey of Novi and friend Dave Parker of Westland.

The first year, it was a dads and daughters only trip. But the second year, when Berry invited Richard Quenneville to attend for the first time, Quenneville told him: "I have to bring my son if I've coming."

That was when the trip officially became known as the "No Moms Allowed Camping Trip." The group posts a sign each year at their camp site saying so.

Richard Quenneville said he didn't think it was fair to leave his son home. "He liked the outdoors as well," he said.

New moms grandfathered in

Richard Quenneville's daughter, Michelle Vigna, 29, of Howell now has two little boys: Brayden, 2, and Tyler, born June 4. She was the first of the kids to get married and have children.

It was decided all of the daughters could continue attending, even after they became moms themselves. "They are all grandfathered in," Richard Quenneville said, adding, however, that the group still excludes the grandmothers. Asked

why, he said, "It's just the tradition."

The group has camped all over the Lower Peninsula in tents, pop-ups and on occasion, trailers. The dads prepare all the meals. "We eat like kings the entire trip, three to four meals a day, usually some fairly elaborate stuff," Richard Quenneville said. "We all take turns cooking; everybody also has to clean up."

The cooking has become more elaborate over the years; the group now uses a 20-foot by 10-foot portable pavilion as a mess hall.

The dads also share parenting responsibilities. "We agreed early on, they're all our kids," Richard Quenneville said. And rules about washing hands, brushing teeth and adhering to a strict bedtime are all enforced.

There is only one duty the dads don't share: changing diapers.

"When Leander Berry



The dads and kids eat like kings the entire week. Says Richard Quenneville: "We all take turns cooking; everybody also has to clean up."



Pictured in this undated photo are Corey, Kristen, Brennen and Michelle Quenneville, Emily Parker, Shannon Casey and Lyndsey Berry.

(Jeff's son) joined us, he was still in diapers," Richard Quenneville said. "That became a new rule: You can bring him if you want, but you're doing all the diapers. Last year there was

a little one wearing diapers, and the rules still applied."

One of the boys, a young teen at the time, came down with appendicitis, was taken to the area hospital for emer-

gency surgery and returned to the camp site, not wanting to go home. "His mom was on the phone begging him," Richard Quenneville said. "He agreed he would stay out of the lake."

Another trip, it rained the entire week and the temperatures dropped into the 50s. Richard Quenneville remembers wearing every piece of clothing he brought, just to try to stay warm.

The group was at popular Otsego Lake at the time, and they insisted the horrible weather was not going to ruin their fun, which always includes sports like the annual bocce ball tournament. "We had 10 different tarps stretched over trees, the size of a small play field. After a day or so the place was empty besides us, but we had a riot," Richard Quenneville said. "We refer to that trip as tent city."

Extended family

Another year, someone invited along for the trip broke the cardinal rule and brought his wife. "He knew the whole story, he was told not to come back," Richard Quenneville said. "The kids were livid that he had brought her, they were not at all happy, they complained the entire trip."

It turned out, the moms were right 25 years ago: The camping trips were good bonding time.

The dads shared their struggles with each other over campfires at night, Casey said. "There were divorces, businesses lost — it was like therapy for those guys."

The kids benefited from having an extended family, attending each other's weddings and baby showers when they grew up. "The kids had blood cousins, but these people are their families," Casey said.

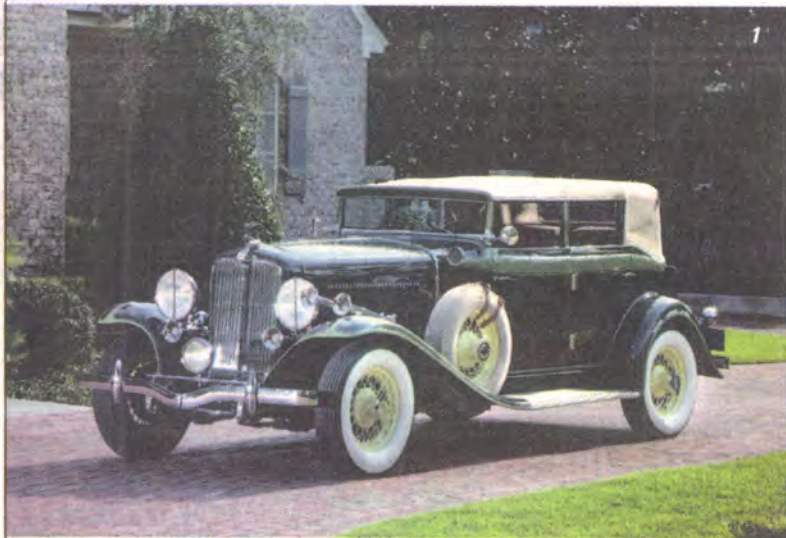
And, the kids and their dads each forged strong relationships. "As they got older, things went from, 'Dad read me a story' to 'We just don't know what mortgage lender to go through,'" Casey said.

As the 25th anniversary trip approaches, Richard Quenneville said the group's excitement is building for another memorable week of good times with good friends. Summer just wouldn't be the same without it.

"It's been a huge part of all of our lives," he said.

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Changing beneficiary designations

Q: Dear Rick: I am a widow. A few years ago after my husband's death, I did a living trust. The beneficiaries are my three children equally. I have an account at Fidelity and Vanguard and I changed the names on those accounts to my living trust. I also had my house switched into my trust. At the time of the trust, I also changed the beneficiary of a life insurance policy into the name of my trust. My problem is I want to leave money to someone other than my children and I don't want it to go through my trust. My kids do not get along with this person and I'm afraid if I left him something in my trust, it would cause all sorts of problems. How can I accomplish this?

A: There are a couple of things that would allow you to leave money other than to the children without going through your trust. The first thing is to change the beneficiary on your life insurance policy. Then, upon your death, the proceeds from the policy would be paid directly to the beneficiary without having to go through the trust.

Another alternative is to open a new brokerage account at Fidelity or Vanguard and, as opposed to titling that account in the name of the trust, you can title it in your name individually and name that person as your beneficiary. That would mean that upon your death the beneficiary would now own the account and, just like with the insurance policy, the monies would not go through



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

your trust.

Whether you change the beneficiary of your life insurance policy or establish a separate brokerage account, it is important to recognize that that money is still in your estate for estate tax purposes.

The way our estate tax laws work is that upon your death, your assets are valued at their fair market value. If the value of those assets is over the estate tax threshold, which is now a little over \$5 million, then there potentially would be an estate tax.

There are some deductions and, like all tax laws, there are exceptions to the rules. With regard to estate taxes, the biggest is the marital exemption. Whatever you leave your surviving spouse is estate tax-free.

We all recognize that in many situations family dynamics can be difficult. When you do your estate plan, it is important to recognize those challenges. After all, one of the goals of a good estate plan is to reduce or eliminate the chances of family disputes.

The key is to recognize family issues and work through them as opposed to ignoring them.

Good luck.

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

Artists sought for fine arts exhibition

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is now accepting entries for the 22nd annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition, which will be held Oct. 2 through Nov. 1.

Entries for the exhibition are currently being accepted through Aug. 25. Michigan artists are encouraged to enter online at CantonVillageTheater.org. Interested artists may also request an entry form hard copy by calling the Village Theater at Cherry Hill at 734-394-5300, ext. 8.

"This juried art show has a rich, 22-year history that has included over 1,000 works being shown," said Jennifer Tobin, Canton arts coordinator. "I look forward to this exhibition each year because I enjoy seeing some of my favorite seasoned artists new work while being introduced to exciting emerging artists and their view of the world."

"The jurors have made it their mission to select as many types of art forms as possible; we thoroughly love the variety of this exhibition," she added. "The opening reception is a wonderful, free event complete with a wine and cheese reception and a program that features the top winning artists speaking about their work - a treat, for sure!"

All media is accepted for this exhibition. Only digital image files on CDs will be accepted for review. No slides will be accepted for consideration. Paintings and hangings should not exceed five feet wide or six feet high, 40 pounds in weight and must be properly and appropriately framed and prepared for hanging.

Sculpture dimensions must not exceed 5 feet by 5 feet by 6 feet and 200 pounds in weight. Original works of art must have been completed in



2013 Canton Fine Art Show Awards presentation featured (from left) Patrick Williams (township trustee), Donna Tribodeau (third-place winner), Gilda Snowden (juror), Nora Chapa Mendoza (second-place winner), John Wood (best of show winner) and Anthony Davis (Canton Cultural Commission chairperson).

the last three years.

A non-refundable entry fee of \$15 for each submitted piece is required.

The competition will award \$1,950 in cash prizes: Best of Show \$750; Second Place \$500; Third Place \$300; two Honorable Mentions of \$100 each; and four Merit

Awards of \$50 each. Juried result notification will be mailed by Sept. 10.

A reception will be held for the selected artists at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 1, with a special program starting at 7:30 p.m. The Village Theater has exhibition hours throughout the year (except for ma-

ior holidays) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, also by appointment and during all public performances. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

For more additional information about the exhibition, please visit CantonVillageTheater.org or call 734-394-5300.



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Judge Michael Talbot appointed chair of Madonna board

Judge Michael Talbot has been appointed chair of the Madonna University Board of Trustees, effective July 1. Talbot has served as a Madonna trustee since 2005. He will chair his first full board meeting in October.

Looking forward to his term as chair, Talbot described it as challenging. "We have a president, Sister Rose Marie, who is retiring after 14 years of extraordinary service, so the first year will focus on the search

for her successor," Talbot explained. "The second year will involve assisting and supporting the next president in implementing strategies for the university's continued growth."

Madonna President Sister Rose Marie Kujawa said these are exciting times. "We have ample opportunities before



Judge Michael Talbot

us to reflect on all that has been accomplished, while welcoming new leadership, particularly someone of Judge Talbot's stature," she said. "He brings exceptional organizational skills and a keen understanding of the Catholic education system and practices, gleaned through his own K-16 education. His deep understanding of Madonna's mission, vision and values, will serve us well."

A member of Madonna's Foundation Board

and emcee for several key university events, Talbot demonstrated his commitment to the school's success. His affinity for the Franciscan institution reaches back to his youth. "My relationship with the Felician Sisters began as far back as when I attended grade school at St. Michael's in Livonia," Talbot said. "And over the years I have been supportive of the various capital campaigns Madonna has led to secure funds for academic pro-

grams, new buildings and other projects."

Sister Kujawa recalled another connection.

"Long before Michael became a board member, and even before I came to Madonna, his mother was one of Madonna College's first lay staff members."

In his 37th year as a judge, Talbot considers himself fortunate to have served in four courts; Wayne Circuit, Detroit Recorder's, Detroit Common Pleas and currently the Michigan Court of Appeals. He also is wrap-

ping up his work as special judicial administrator for the 36th District Court in Detroit.

Talbot is a trustee of Sacred Heart Major Seminary and the Archdiocese of Detroit Endowment Fund. He is the past chair of the Board of Education for the Archdiocese of Detroit and chair of the AOD Review Board. Talbot received his bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and his law degree from the University of Detroit.

Madonna's College of Arts and Humanities names new dean

Kathleen M. Edelmayer, chair of Madonna University's Department of Communication and Writing, has been appointed dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, effective July 1. She succeeds Kathleen O'Dowd, who retired June 30 after 37 years of service, 10 of which were as dean.



Edelmayer

In her new role, Edelmayer will be responsible for policy and academic program development and delivery, as well as for promoting faculty professional development and academic leadership among students.

"A passionate advocate for the relevance of liberal arts education in a world of high tech and unrelenting change, Dr. Kathleen Edelmayer is a seasoned leader who is well prepared to position the Madonna University College of Arts and Humanities for the next several decades of the 21st century," said Ernest Nolan, provost and vice president for academic administration at Madonna. "A doctoral specialty in rhetoric and communication provides her with special insight into the public discourse on the value of the foundational skills of critical thinking and interpersonal communication that are associated with the liberal arts. She articulates how these skills and habits of mind are essential for both the personal and career success of college graduates."

While serving as department chair, and professor at Madonna, Edelmayer also was director of the master's program in liberal studies and leadership and the undergraduate interdisciplinary studies program. She began teaching at Madonna University in 2003, and has taught at several colleges and universities, including Wayne State, St. Mary's College, St. Olaf College, Illinois State University, Albion College, and Central Michigan University.

Edelmayer has presented at numerous conferences and workshops

across the United States. She is involved on committees and professional associations, most recently as chair of the Madonna Department Chairs' Council and as president of the Religious Communication Association.

She earned a Ph.D. in communication and rhetorical theory and a bachelor's degree in economics at Wayne State University and her master's in interpersonal and public communication at Central Michigan University. Edelmayer is a graduate of Bishop Borgess High School in Redford Township.

Edelmayer and her husband, Philip Chisholm, reside in Waterford.

New dean to lead Madonna University College of Nursing and Health

Deborah Vargo has been hired as dean of Madonna University's College of Nursing and Health, effective July 1. She succeeds Teresa Cervantez Thompson, who retired June 30 after nine years at the helm.

Under Thompson's leadership, the university launched its first doctoral program; the doctor of nursing practice. She also championed the college's reaccreditation in 2012 and traveled with nursing students on several service pilgrimages to Lourdes, France.

Vargo comes to Madonna from Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio, where she was director of the master of science in nursing

program and associate professor. She began her career at Lourdes as an instructor in the nursing program in 1995, and continued to earn promotions to assistant professor, associate chairperson, associate professor and graduate program director. Vargo earned a Ph.D. in nursing at the University of Akron, a master of science in nursing from the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo, and bachelor's degree at the University of Toledo.

"Dr. Deborah Vargo brings an impressive



Vargo

background in higher education, nursing practice, and professional involvement to her role as dean of the College of Nursing and Health," said Ernest Nolan, provost and vice president for academic administration at Madonna University. "Identified by her colleagues as a leader with vision, Dr. Vargo is equipped to ensure that nursing education is sensitive to the changes that are on the horizon with the implementation of health reform and is responsive to the challenges faced by the health industry in a recovering economy."

An award-winning faculty member, Vargo brings a wealth of experience in both under-

graduate and graduate nursing program and curriculum development. She also has expertise in nurse education, leadership and anesthesia, as well as community outreach and infection control. A consultant on nursing education projects, Vargo holds licenses and certifications in Ohio and Michigan, and she has published several articles, and delivered many presentations.

Vargo resides in Toledo with Albert, her husband of 33 years. When she is not working, Vargo enjoys gardening and traveling, especially to visit her daughter, Sara, an attorney in the Washington, D.C., area.

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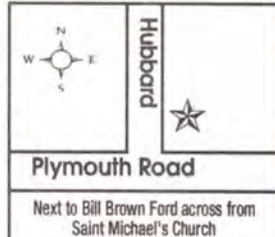
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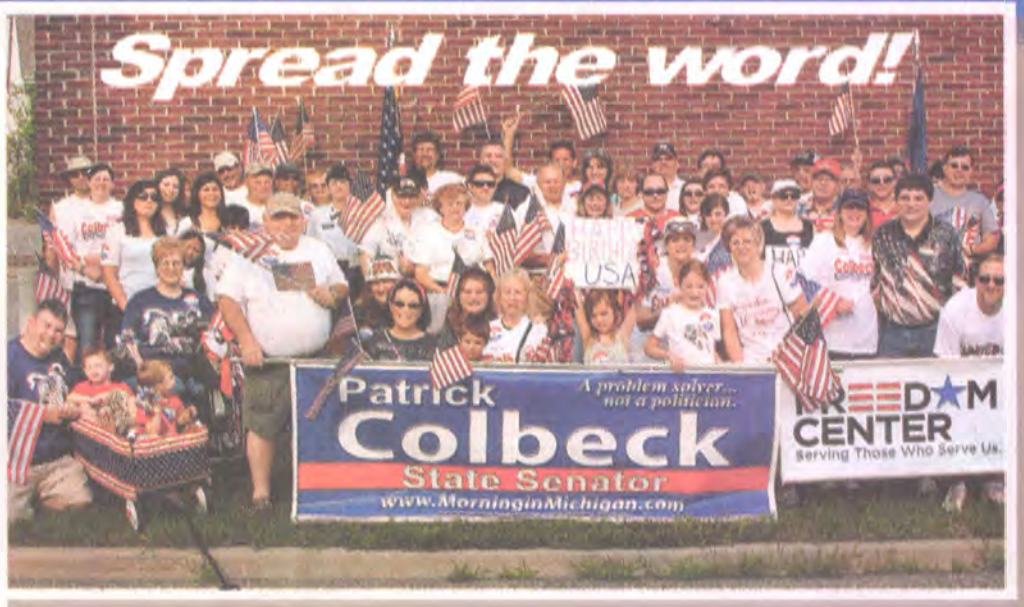
ABOUT PATRICK

Patrick Colbeck is currently serving his first term in elected office as the State Senator for MI's 7th District which will include Livonia starting in 2014 along with the communities of Northville, Plymouth, Canton and Wayne. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan with Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Aerospace Engineering as well as a graduate of the International Space University in Strasbourg, France. Included among his over 20 years of engineering and management work in a variety of industries, he has worked on systems for the International Space Station and instructed students at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Space Camp.

While currently residents of Canton, Patrick and his wife, Angie, have deep roots in Livonia. Patrick attended Hoover Elementary School and Holmes Junior High School before graduating from Catholic Central High School. His parents were founding members of St. Colette. His late mother, Barbara, was the organist at St. Colette and later the music minister at St. Edith. His dad, Bill, was an active member of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce of which Patrick is a member. Angie attended Dickinson Junior High School and graduated from Stevenson High School. Angie and Patrick's parents live in Livonia.



Patrick received the Good Citizenship Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution while in high school



"Like many of you, I dearly love our country but I am very disappointed by our current political environment. I am disheartened by attempts to transform our nation from one of a free and independent people to one of increasing government control and dependence. How do we change this course? Well, my wife Angie and I left the comfort of a relatively obscure private life and successful small business to change the direction of the state we love. With your support, we have made a significant difference by focusing on actual solutions to the problems that we face rather than politics as usual. I am working hard to faithfully represent your voice in Lansing. I will need your vote to continue to provide your voice of common sense."

- Senator Patrick Colbeck



Grand Opening of the MI Freedom Center November 11, 2011

JOBS	EDUCATION	SENIORS	VETERANS	ROADS	PUBLIC SAFETY
Did you know that there are ~26,000 job openings right now within commuting distance of the 7th Senate District? See MorninginMichigan.com for link to job openings	Over \$1B in state funding has been added to K-12 schools to compensate for loss of federal stimulus funds and to fix the school employee pension fund. See MorninginMichigan.com for funding chart	Senator Colbeck has been awarded The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year Award for his work to safeguard our seniors. He voted NO on the Senior Pension Tax.	In 2011, Senator Colbeck co-founded the Michigan Freedom Center to "serve those who serve us". As Chairman of MI Veterans Agency budget, he has driven performance improvements in veterans services.	Did you know Michigan already spends 53% more per mile for our roads than the national average? We can fix our roads without raising taxes. See MorninginMichigan.com for plan to fix roads	As Chairman of the State Police budget, Senator Colbeck added more police, more truck weight enforcement officers, and grants to keep our schools safe.

ENDORSEMENTS

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- Observer & Eccentric Media
- Right to Life of Michigan
- National Federation of Independent Businesses
- Small Business Assoc. of MI
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- Greater Metropolitan Association of REALTORS
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- Associated Builders and Contractors PAC
- Medical Doctors PAC
- Docs4PatientCare
- Police Officers Assoc. of MI
- Retired Detroit Police and Fire Fighters Association
- National Rifle Association
- Citizens for Traditional Values
- The Madison Project
- Bruce Patterson, Former State Senator, Canton
- Laura Toy, Former State Senator, Livonia
- Jack Kirksey, Mayor of Livonia
- Astronaut Jack Lousma

MORE INFORMATION

Elect Patrick Colbeck to be your state senator and you will be among the best informed citizens in the state. His Senate website at [MorninginMichigan.com](#) contains links not only to his editorials, press releases, office hours, and floor speeches, it also provides links to what he calls the "Solution Center" and "Data Center". His Senator Patrick Colbeck Facebook® page provides almost daily updates on events, issues, and votes happening in Lansing and throughout the district.

Colbeck's views on the issues

JOBS "I started my public service in January 2011 at a time when Michigan was suffering from the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Our unemployment had skyrocketed and our auto industry was struggling. Many referred to this downturn as our "lost decade". During that decade, Michigan was the only state in the nation to have lost population. Times are better now. Michigan is coming back! I am happy to report that Michigan has created over 250,000 private sector jobs. In fact, there are now ~ 26,000 job openings within a 30 mile commute of the 7th Senate District. Our population is growing again and our youth no longer have to seek employment in other states."

HEALTHCARE "As one of a handful of legislators who have actually read the federal Affordable Care Act (aka Obamacare), it is obvious that this act is neither affordable nor caring. Putting 159 new organizations between a doctor and patient does not lower costs or improve care. This is why I strongly opposed Obamacare and applied my experience in the healthcare and IT industries to develop a free market alternative called "Patient-Centered Care". This approach has been described by Forbes.com as "Two parts Marcus Welby, M.D. and one part Steve Jobs". Not only would this solution lower costs, it would also improve care by providing patients of all income levels access to life-saving, preventive care. My solution keeps healthcare decisions between you and your doctor. See [MorninginMichigan.com](#) for more info."



Sharing biography of Neil Armstrong with students

profession has been reduced to following a script rather than allowing teachers to tailor instruction to suit the individual student. Furthermore, we have no objective proof that these new standards will actually improve student performance. That is why I have been the most outspoken opponent of Common Core in the Senate and will continue to be if re-elected."

SENIORS "As a kid I was blessed to grow up surrounded by both sets of grandparents. They helped teach me the value of hard work, integrity and responsibility. I have worked hard to repay their loving guidance with my public service. During the past four years, I have passed legislation to protect seniors in nursing homes and have been an outspoken advocate for retirees including my passionate NO vote on the Senior Pension Tax (Senate Journal #41, Roll Call Vote #170 on HB 4361, May 12, 2011). My opposition to Obamacare is driven in large part by the federal government's push to cut Medicare services for the elderly by over \$700B in order to pay for other services such as the expansion of Medicaid. I am committed to caring for those who spent their entire lives working to leave this nation stronger than they found it and that is why I am honored to have received The Senior Alliance Legislator of the Year award for my work on behalf of all of the seniors right here in our community."

VETERANS "Serving those who serve us is a passion of mine. Active duty, veterans and their families have sacrificed much to preserve our freedom. And it is our duty to honor those sacrifices. As the chairman of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs budget, we brought Michigan from one of the worst performing states for veteran benefit claims processing, to 3rd in the nation. Public service does not always require legislation. In 2011, I teamed up with a group of service-minded veterans to co-found the MI Freedom Center at Detroit Metro Airport. To date, the MI Freedom Center has welcomed over 90,000 active service personnel, veterans and their families with open arms during their travels."



Astronaut Jack Lousma, Angie, and I

EDUCATION "Like many parents, my parents were always passionate about ensuring that their kids received a quality education. A quality education is a team effort that requires hard work from students, parents and teachers. In Michigan, we helped students and parents by expanding dual enrollment programs that significantly lower the cost of higher education. We also changed teacher tenure law to reward educators on the basis of performance not length of service. We have gone on to provide over \$1B in additional funding during my tenure, but we still need to remove roadblocks to innovation like Common Core. The Common Core Standards Initiative adopted by the State Board of Education in 2010 not only micromanages our state standards and assessments, it also micromanages the classroom by mandating not only what kids are taught but also how they are taught. The teaching

HEADS UP!

Ultimate Dodgeball puts extreme twist on old-school sport



Action is a blur during the free-wheeling games of Ultimate Dodgeball, as demonstrated here by Free Headshots players during the recent state tourney at Sky Zone in Canton.

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer

Wow, how that good ol' school staple called dodgeball has evolved — something worth rejoicing for new, prime-time players like Livonia's Simeon Kraft.

It used to be a game of dead-eye accuracy, where bigger kids slammed younger ones who couldn't react when a round, rubber sphere started zeroing in toward their heads.

In the 21st century, however, there is a version called Ultimate Dodgeball, where Kraft and other young athletes weaned on the X Games play inside a bowl-shaped trampoline — jumping, throwing and strategizing to their hearts' content while trying to remain the last one standing.

These days, they can't wait to go to battle.

Consider Kraft's team of twentysomethings called Free Headshots, who are glad to be part of the recreational sport's latest incarnation.

The team, featuring a number of members from *Observer-area* communities, won the Ultimate Dodgeball Challenge



Celebrating after winning the Ultimate Dodgeball Challenge June 29 in Canton are Free Headshots players (standing, from left) Jordan Hemingway, Jesse Jones, Mat Jones, Will Miller, Drew Jones, Matt Clunis, Billy Werthman and Simeon Kraft. Kneeling is Jon Long.

on June 29 at Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park in Canton. Due to financial reasons, however, the team will not compete Aug. 8-10 in Las Vegas, Nev., against Sky Zone qualifiers from around the country.

Frenetic fun

"I think the sport in general appeals to us, because everyone on our team is athletic," said Kraft, 22. "We all play soccer, football, volleyball. But

dodgeball as a sport appeals to us because it's very strategic and requires group synchronization.

"At the same time, it's very fast-paced. So it's a very rare combination that you got a game that's played at this speed, but with this much active strategy put into it. It's different than the dodgeball you play when you're in middle

See DODGEBALL, Page B3



GET IN THE ZONE

Info: For more information about Ultimate Dodgeball or other offerings at Sky Zone Trampoline Park in Canton, go to www.skyzone.com/canton or call 734-981-0007. Sky Zone also can be found on Facebook.

Location: Sky Zone Trampoline Park is located at 42550 Executive Drive, north of Michigan Avenue, between Lilley and Sheldon roads.

Upcoming: There will be an adult dodgeball tournament set for 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17, and a kids dodgeball tournament at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20.

Facebook: Sky Zone and Free Headshots are all about using social media to communicate about what's going on. Like Sky Zone Trampoline Park and Free Headshots Dodgeball Team on their respective Facebook pages.



PCA grad Daniel Jipping (left) and Detroit Tigers second baseman Ian Kinsler during Thursday's inaugural Muscle Milk Heavy Hitters Home Run Derby at Wayne State.

Muscle Man Dan

Plymouth Christian Academy graduate Daniel Jipping followed up his excellent performance at the July 10 Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association All-Star Game with another powerful performance.

Jipping, who will play Division I baseball next season at Central Michigan University, slammed 30 home runs Thursday night to win Wayne State University's inaugural Muscle Milk Heavy Hitters Home Run Derby.

He outslugged Walled Lake North's Brennan Williams in the final round.

Other participants at the event, hosted by Detroit Tigers all-star second baseman Ian Kinsler, included Atlanta Braves draft choice Dazon Cole (West Bloomfield), Will Salter (Orchard Lake St. Mary's), Randy Righter (Birmingham Brother Rice) and Ty Kiafoulis (Brother Rice).

Golf to help military vets

Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton will participate Monday, Aug. 11, in the World's Largest Golf Outing to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

The event will involve thousands of golfers and hundreds of courses throughout the country.

The cost is \$200 for a foursome, \$100 for a twosome and \$50 for a single golfer. The fee includes a hat and golf ball with the WLGO logo, greens fee, shared cart, lunch, prizes and awards.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. There will be a shotgun start at 9 a.m., followed by an awards ceremony at 3 p.m.

Golfers can register either at worldlargestgolfouting.com or fellowscreekgolf.com. For more information, call Fellows Creek at 734-728-1300.

Participants will have a chance to win a trip for four to the Nike Campus, which will include all fittings for custom-fit Nike irons and a Nike hat-and-shirt package.

She rides to make kids happy

Hills woman is major fundraiser in Make-A-Wish Michigan's annual bike tour

By Dan O'Meara
Staff Writer

Beth Brandvain of Farmington Hills is among the nearly 1,200 cyclists who are gearing up for one of the state's longest bike rides and biggest charitable events.

She will test her endurance while pushing the pedals July 24-27 in the Wish-A-Mile Bicycle Tour — a three-day, 300-mile journey traversing much of lower Michigan.

It's all for a good cause, however. The purpose is to raise money for Make-A-Wish Michigan, which grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions.

"If anybody is looking for a challenge

that is within reason but pushes the envelope a little, this is a great one," Brandvain said. "It's about far more than that. It's about connecting with a wonderful organization and granting wishes to kids who are very deserving."

It's the 27th year for the bike tour and the 16th for the 57-year-old Brandvain, who is one of Make-A-Wish's biggest fundraisers.

She has done most of those rides with her husband Avi on a recumbent tandem bicycle, but they decided to ride separate bikes this year for a change of pace.

The event begins in Traverse City and concludes at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn. Along the way, there are overnight stops in Big Rapids and DeWitt.

It's the type of ride any fit rider can complete, save for an injury such as a swollen knee, according to Brandvain.

See BIKE TOUR, Page B4



Beth Brandvain takes a break from pedaling in last year's Wish-A-Mile bicycle tour. ANDREW KNAPIK

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Generals third in Summer Sizzler

The Michigan Generals finished third in the 12-and-under division of the Akron (Ohio) Summer Sizzler softball tournament July 13.

The Farmington Hills-based team posted a 5-1 record, losing its final game to the eventual champion, Ohio Ice Red.

The Generals played three games at Firestone Stadium, home field for the Akron Racers, a professional women's softball team.

"They had the scoreboard going and they were announcing. It was pretty cool," Generals assistant coach Jeff Simpson said.

The Generals were one of three teams among the 12 that competed to win their first

five games, starting with a 7-3 win over the Ohio Diamondbacks.

Emma Curran scattered five hits and struck out five in a complete game. She was complemented by the play of Sarah Fish behind the plate.

Sydney Bernot and Curran led the offense with two hits each; Bernot also scored two runs.

Jordyn Taylor also pitched a five-hitter as the Generals won their next game, 9-2, over the Akron Grizzlie Fastpitch.

Kacey Noseworthy led the team with two singles and two runs. Allison Poremba, Curran and Alayna Mulford also had two hits and scored one run apiece.

Taylor's walk-off, RBI



The members of the Michigan Generals softball team are (from left to right) Jaden McLaury, Jordyn Taylor, Sarah Cassidy, Sydney Bernot, Molly Simpson, Maddie Armstrong, Sarah Fish, Emma Curran, Allison Poremba, Kacey Noseworthy, Olivia Kellem, Kelly McCullough and Alayna Mulford. The coaches are Jeff Simpson, Bob Fish and Dave Kubecker.

single gave the Generals a 5-4 win over Ohio Lightning Blue and a first-place finish in pool play.

The Generals rallied from a 4-1 deficit to tie the score with Poremba's three-run double in the third inning.

With runners at first and second in the bottom of the fifth, Taylor singled to right field, scoring Mulford.

Molly Simpson had two hits and scored a run;

Sarah Cassidy singled and scored, too. Curran was the winning pitcher.

In the first round of bracket play, Noseworthy had three hits and scored a run in the team's 8-2 rout of the Pittsburgh Riot.

Kelly McCullough had an RBI triple. Simpson and Taylor had two singles each and Maddie Armstrong one. All four of those girls and Olivia Kellem, who played

good defense in the outfield, scored a run.

Taylor and Mulford combined for a four-hit, five-strikeout pitching performance. The Generals scored six runs in the first inning to make Taylor the winner.

The Generals defeated the Grizzlie Fastpitch again for their fifth win, 5-1. Taylor earned another pitching victory, allowing four hits.

She helped her caused

with two hits and three RBIs. Curran had two hits and scored one run; Jaden McLaury had one of each.

Ice Red defeated the Generals, 13-1. It was only the second run Ice Red had allowed. McLaury had an RBI single that scored Curran.

The Generals earned a bid and will play July 23-27 in the ASA Eastern Regional in Marion, Ohio.

Mud Hens win fourth tournament



The Mud Hens baseball players are (kneeling, from left) Blake Bean, Brody Demunnik, Kyle Lockhart, Kevin Korte, Mitch Knedgen, Jack Budde, Dylan Parsons, Jack Downs, Dom Lanni and Tyler Holston; (sitting in front) Shane Saxton and Will McLellan; and (far right) Vic Mencotti. The coaches are (back row, from left) Roger Parsons, Steve Bean, Joe Mencotti and Mike Korte.

The 14-and-under Farmington Hills Mud Hens won their fourth baseball tournament championship of the season in the Commerce Fourth of July Classic.

The Mud Hens rallied from a 5-1 deficit in the championship game to defeat the Motor City Riversharks, 7-6.

Trailing 6-4 in the bottom of the seventh

inning, the Mud Hens loaded the bases and scored twice to tie the score.

With two outs and the bases still full, Dom Lanni laid down a perfect squeeze bunt to score the winning run.

"The team played great defensive baseball all weekend and the pitching and hitting made the difference," coach Roger Parsons said.

"It was a great effort by the entire team and everyone contributed to the win."

The Mud Hens won their first tournament at the EMU Early Bird Classic, defeating the Livonia Thunder in the championship game, 6-5.

They also won the Mother's Day Bash in North Ridgeville, Ohio, and the Kurt Demuth Memorial Tournament in Charlotte.

The Mud Hens were runners-up at the USSSA Baseball City Slugfest in Pontiac, losing to the Michigan Expos in the final, 9-7.

The Mud Hens are a Triple-A independent baseball team representing the Farmington Hills area. They have been together as a team for five years.

In a few weeks, the team will participate in the Ripken's Ocean Breeze Week Long Experience in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Rams rally, nip 'Canes after rout of Lightning

The Michigan Rams scored single runs in the fourth and fifth innings Wednesday to break a 1-1 tie and defeat the Hurricanes in a Livonia Collegiate Baseball League game, 3-1.

Nolan Page was 2-for-2 and scored two runs for the Rams, who improved their record to 18-8. Dominic Jamett hit a solo homer, accounting for the team's other run.

Randy Kuzdak was 2-for-3 with an RBI. The team's seven hits included one each by Travis Harvey, who also had an RBI, and P.J. Nowak.

Ben Matigian went 2-for-4 for the Hurricanes (11-12-1) and drove in their lone run, which was scored by Jake Makowski.

Jake Balicki pitched a complete game for the Rams, scattering six hits, striking out five and issuing two walks. He pitched six straight shutout innings after allowing a run in the first inning. The Rams tied the score in the bottom of the second.

Hurricanes starter Chase Keathley got the loss, allowing two runs on five hits and a walk over

four innings. Josh Lockwood pitched the last two.

In a game played Monday, the Rams jumped on the Southfield Lightning for four runs in their first at-bat and never trailed en route to an 11-5 victory.

Jake Semak pitched 4¹/₂ innings and got the win despite giving up five runs on nine hits and three walks. He fanned five. Johnny Slater threw 2¹/₂ innings of no-hit, scoreless relief.

The Rams supported Semak with 10 hits. They led 5-1 after three innings and 7-4 through four.

Kuzdak was 2-for-3 and drove in five runs. Kyle Jusick and Slater went 2-for-4 and Trent Drumheller 2-for-5.

Jusick knocked in two runs and Page, Nick Harris and Harvey had one RBI apiece. Page also scored three runs and Harris two.

For the Lightning (4-21), Mark Tooley was 2-for-3 and had two RBIs and Don Goodson was 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles.

Brad Jones also had two hits. Joe Killian had one RBI and Kevin Moore scored two runs.

Park to host USSSA World Series

Canton Sports Center at Victory Park will be the host site of the 2014 United States Specialty Sports Association Baseball AA World Series.

The July 24-27 tournament includes more than 90 teams from around the country, featuring boys ages 9-14.

The opening ceremony is at 8 a.m. Thursday, July 24, with the tournament continuing through Sunday, July 27.

Admission to the tournament is \$10 per person, per day. A tournament

pass is available for \$30. Children ages 6-12 and seniors 65 and older will be charged \$5 per day or \$20 for a tournament pass. Children 6 and under get in free.

For more information, contact Ann-Marie Carra-vallah, Canton Sports Center coordinator, at 734-483-5600 or visit csc.canton-mi.org. Additional information is available at www.michussa.com.

Canton Sports Center is located at 46555 W. Michigan Avenue.

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To all residents and interested parties:
Legal notices are available for review at our website.

**The minutes (including approved ordinances) from regular and special Council meetings are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/minutes**

**Current requests for bids and proposals are available at:
www.gardencitymi.org/bids**

You may also access this information at Garden City Hall or the Garden City Library during regular business hours or in the Garden City Police station lobby 24 hours a day.

Publish: July 20, 2014 LO-000020393 3x2.5

**CITY OF GARDEN CITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 14, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to solicit public comments on a request to rezone the vacant property located at 5662 Gillman Avenue from R-1 VP Family Residential District to VP Vehicular Parking District.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135.

Publish: Sunday, July 20, 2014 LO-0000205203 3x2.5



Simeon Kraft (foreground) is poised to make a play. He is flanked by teammates Matt Clunis (left) and Billy Werthman (right).

DODGEBALL

Continued from Page B1

school, where you just throw balls and try not to get hit."

Based on the fact Free Headshots came away with hardware following the June 29 state tourney final (a victory over a team called Our Ball, Your Face), Kraft and his teammates were successful enough in that regard.

One of his teammates, 24-year-old Will Miller of River-view, said it was quite a thrill to win last month's tournament. Free Headshots prevailed in a round-robin format, besting the 12-team field.

"I think it was pretty fantastic to win it," said Miller, who possesses a strong arm and the penchant for picking off opponents. "We won it two years ago and we got to go to (Los Angeles). But this year we're not able to go because of team funding."

Team captain Mat Jones, a 22-year-old from Farmington, said Free Headshots was guaranteed prize money for the 2012 regionals in California, regardless where the team finished in the competition. When no such guarantee was available this time around, the decision was made to skip the Las Vegas event.

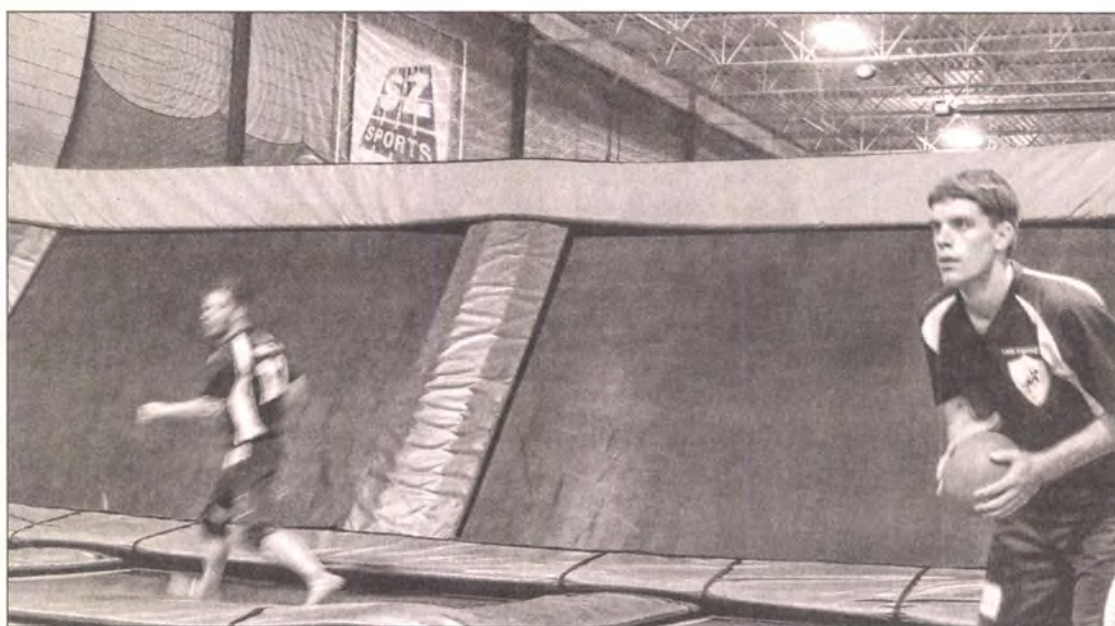
"Last year they changed it and now you only are guaranteed money if you make the top eight out of 40 or 50," said Jones, a Farmington High School alum. "And since all of us but one or two are in high school or college, we can't really afford to make the trip out to Las Vegas on such short notice without being guaranteed prize money back."

Money matters aside, Miller said Ultimate Dodgeball is "a combination of two great things. It's dodgeball and you got trampolines, so everybody loves both of those. It just makes sense."

Sticking together

Just how team members came up with Free Headshots for a nickname was something that — pardon the expression — kind of smacked them in the face.

"We went to a tournament



Considering his next move is Matt Clunis (right). At left is Will Miller.

where you weren't allowed to hit people in the head," Miller said. "Like, they wouldn't be out, you'd be out. So we took the name Headshots Only."

"And then the next tournament we were Free Headshots, not sure exactly why. We're a pretty silly team, though."

Jones said many team members started playing the original version of dodgeball during youth group at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville when they were in middle school.

One tournament led to another and eventually took them to Sky Zone. They quickly adapted from gym floor to trampoline.

"Moving on into high school, we started hearing about a couple tournaments. We threw a team together for the Detroit Cup Tournament that comes around every March," Jones said. "And we kind of stuck as a team since then."

"As the years go by, we've been playing more and more tournaments. We've been to Canada several times, Chicago several times."

Other members of the state champions include Farmington's Jesse Jones, Drew Jones and Matt Clunis and Livonia's Jon Long, Phil Maessen, Ben Kraft, Ben Sweetman and Billy Werthman. Ferndale's Jordan Hemingway is assis-

tant captain.

New-school buzz

Canton Sky Zone manager Darian Luttrell said the facility, located in an industrial park at 42550 Executive Drive (near Michigan and Lilley roads), opened in 2012 and is becoming extremely popular with the younger set.

"I like that it's fun, it's a workout," said Luttrell, a 2011 graduate of Southfield-Lathrup who now attends Eastern Michigan University. "That's why a lot of people come here. It's just different elements, it's not the natural, traditional dodgeball — it provides that new-school element to it."

Other Sky Zones in Michigan are located in Grand Rapids and Shelby Township. At all three facilities, Luttrell stressed, people of all ages and both genders participate.

By and large, the essence of dodgeball remains unchanged from yesteryear.

There are five balls in circulation to start the action (two per team and one placed in the center of the court) and, once the whistle blows, anything goes.

Players keep firing balls (sometimes at a velocity of upwards of 70 mph) trying to nail opponents and force them to the sidelines. If a throw is caught by a player on the other side, the one who launched it takes a seat.

Adding insult to injury, the player who made that catch can wave a teammate back into the fray from the bench to gain an edge in the numbers game.

As always, the team with the last player standing wins. "Each team starts out with five people and it's just like regular dodgeball," Luttrell said. "As soon as you get hit with the ball, you're out."

Wild and crazy

Thanks to how players can soar high into the air and come at each other from crazy angles, players need to simultaneously be proficient in physical and mental gymnastics.

For Kraft and Miller, that challenging combo is what really makes Ultimate Dodgeball such a rush.

"I'm jumping higher than I could normally jump," Kraft said. "But also the structure of the arenas (there are 26 Sky Zone parks in North America) have the trampolines along the walls that angle; (it) definitely adds another dimension to the game. I just enjoy it."

According to Kraft, being able to react under pressure is integral to success, not to mention reading how a game is progressing.

"It's very fast-paced and so ... it's just doing the math," Kraft said. "I know I've got a ball and my teammate has one

and I think there's one behind me, so that I'm only looking for two on the other side."

"And that influences my decision on who to throw at or if I should be throwing at all."

Another strategy is feeding balls to teammates in better position to attack.

"I would get a ball and, let's say I kind of hyperextended my elbow and I'm not sure I'm going to get a good throw off," Kraft said. "It's better to feed it to one of my teammates who still has a strong arm. That's a legitimate strategy."

"And some of the more basic strategies that really pay off are just ball control, making sure you don't give them all away and controlling the pace of the game."

In position

Defensive positioning can't be ignored, either.

"It's one thing to just stand there and let them throw at you," Kraft said. "But it's another to have someone, if your team's only got like one ball and they've got three, to have people positioned so that as soon as the other team is throwing at you, you're in a position to counter-attack."

"And so, it's little things like that, really tend to pay off."

Miller added that players on Free Headshots have great team chemistry and communication skills that often mean the difference between winning and losing.

"We don't necessarily have plays, but if we have more of the balls than them then we try to throw two at once," Miller said. "Or if we only have one more than them then we only throw one, just simple stuff."

"And covering people, trying to tip balls up so that you can try to catch them instead of getting hit."

So to that end, the basics of dodgeball haven't changed from generation to generation.

Still, Sky Zone's trampolines are helping to launch the current version of the sport higher than it's ever gone.

You might say it's becoming the ultimate.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

National judo champ



Nicholas Joseph of Livonia (middle) won a USA Judo junior national championship June 29 in Irving, Texas. Joseph competed in the Juvenile B 66-kilogram weight class of the 15-17 age group. He won all four of his matches to capture the gold medal. Joseph is a Shodan (first-degree black belt) and trains year round at the Birmingham YMCA under Olympic referee Noboru Saito. Joseph will be a junior at Catholic Central High School, where he is a varsity wrestler.

SUMMER CAMPS

Wildcats baseball

The Plymouth Wildcats summer baseball clinic will be Wednesday, July 23, at the Plymouth High School baseball field.

The first session is 9 a.m. to noon for boys and girls entering grades 1-4; the second is 1-4 p.m. for boys and girls entering grades 5-8.

The cost, which includes a snack and water, is \$25 before July 20, \$30 after that date. Participants need to bring a glove, cleats, bat and baseball hat.

To obtain a registration form, contact head coach Jason Crain at plymouthbaseball@pccsmail.net or plymouthbaseballboosters@gmail.com.

Lutheran soccer

A soccer mini-camp for beginning and intermediate players (boys and girls ages 5-12) will be 6:30-8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, July 21-24, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia.

The cost is \$20 (includes T-shirt, snacks and soccer ball).

To register, visit www.christsaviorsavior.org; or call 734-522-6830.

Summer camps

On tap this summer through Canton Leisure Services are sports camps instructed by longtime coach Pat Watson.

The camps will emphasize drills and skills that cover offensive strategies and defensive

plays in game situations. Mornings will be spent on drills focused on improving fundamentals, while afternoons will be used for scrimmages. Participants should pack a sack lunch and a water bottle.

Basketball: There will be two more weekly basketball camps at Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway. Those sessions (for ages 7-14) will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. as follows: Session 2, July 21-25; Session 3, July 28 through Aug. 1. The fee is \$150 for residents and \$160 for non-residents.

To register, visit cantonfun.org, call Canton Sports Center at 734-483-5600 or visit either Canton Sports Center or Summit on the Park and inquire.

Waza track athletes capture AAU crowns

Waza Track Club performed exceptionally well at the AAU National Qualifier meet July 5-6, producing 14 champions, 10 runners-up and nine third-place finishers.

The Waza athletes joined others from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and several other states in the AAU Michigan Region Championship.

They were competing to qualify for the Junior Olympics, July 26 through Aug. 2 in Des Moines, Iowa. With the exception of one athlete who was injured during his event, every Waza athlete qualified for Junior Olympics.

Every athlete achieved at least one personal record and many achieved multiple personal records. The club collected 35 medals (places 1-3) and 26 rib-

bons (places 4-8).

Jordan Weekley (13) and James Weekley (15-16) of Farmington Hills and Taji Chappell (14) of Westland are Observerland athletes and national champions.

Chappell won the triple jump. He also was third in the 200-meter hurdles and high jump and fifth in the long jump.

James Weekley won the 1,500 and 3,000 runs, as well as the javelin, and was third in the 800 run. Jordan won the javelin, placed second in the discus and finished third in the shot put.

The national runners-up were Josh Momeyer (14), Livonia - 800 run, second; 400 run, fifth; Anna Nagelhout (14), Plymouth - 1,500 run, second; 800 run, fifth.

Other national qualifi-

ers were Allison Deep (8), Milford - 100 dash, 200 dash, 400 run; Zoe Morrow (8), Farmington Hills - 100 dash, 200 dash, long jump; and Lily Wilczewski (11), Northville - 400 run, 800 run, 1,500 run.

In the Michigan AAU District championship meet June 14-15, Waza had 15 state champions and 10 runners-up.

The team earned 36 medals (top three finishes) and 40 ribbons (places four through eight). Waza athletes competed in a total of 80 events and qualified for the regional championships in 77.

The area state champions were Jordan Weekley, javelin, shot put; James Weekley, 1,500 run, 3,000 run; and Taji Chappell, high jump, triple jump.



The Waza Track Club team includes (front row, from left) Kyle Samluk, Bo Anderson, Ava Rathwell, Mahi Khandelwal, Grace Hoover, Lily Wilczewski, Bella Haynes, Zoe Morrow-Adams, Amanda Nickell and Saanvi Reddy; (middle row, from left) Haley Rathwell, Mariah Belcher-Lamb, Anna Nagelhout, Marisa Sailus, Victoria Heiligenthal, Madison Swisher and assistant coach Cathy Momeyer; and (back row, from left) head coach Doug McDowell, assistant coach Colin Cashner, Akshay Reddy, James Weekley, Josh Momeyer, Taji Chappell, Josh Holcomb, Jordan Weekley, Melanie McDowell and Jordan Turner. Also on the team are Matthew and Michael Brown.

The state runners-up were Jordan Weekley, discus; Josh Momeyer, 800 run; and Taji Chappell, 200 hurdles.

Third-place medalists included Allison Deep,

200, 400; Zoe Morrow, long jump; Lily Wilczewski, 1,500; Anna Nagelhout, 1,500; James Weekley, javelin.

Athletes earning ribbons were Deep, 100;

Mahi Khandelwal (11), Northville, 400, 800; Jordan Weekley, long jump; Anna Nagelhout, 800; Josh Momeyer, 400; James Weekley, 800; Taji Chappell, long jump.



Beth Brandvain poses for a portrait for the Wish-A-Mile Hall of Fame.



Beth Brandvain (left) and her husband Avi ride their tandem bike along a secluded Michigan road in the Wish-A-Mile tour. PHOTOS BY ANDREW KNAPIK

BIKE TOUR

Continued from Page B1

"Other than that, it should be doable for somebody who is prepared," she said. "It's not as daunting as it sounds. All kinds of people do this ride.

"There are some who are unbelievably fit and could do it a hundred

times over and there are people who can surprise themselves and not believe they could do it."

Back on the bike

Brandvain had surgery in May and didn't ride for six weeks. She just started back recently, so her level of conditioning isn't what it ordinarily is.

"I'm not as prepared as I should be, so that will

be interesting, too," she said. "I don't have as many miles as I would like under my wheels, but I'm well-rested."

Brandvain rides her bike five days a week, normally. She logged nearly 6,000 miles last year.

Regarding the bike tour, she added some people come for the ride and get hooked on the cause, while some come

for the cause and become hooked on cycling.

"It's a nice little evolutionary process that happens and brings everybody together for a common cause," she said.

'Watch for that ...'

The cyclists, most of whom are over 50, must ride on regular roadways to cover so many miles, but most roads are not too busy and the route is

beautiful, according to Brandvain.

A big challenge for riders is the same one that has vexed Michigan motorists — poor condition of the roads.

"Sometimes, you'll see cyclists in the middle of the road and what they're doing is avoiding the potholes that could cause them to fall and hurt themselves," Brandvain said. "It is a concern this year with the roads being in such bad shape. I imagine this year's ride will be a little more challenging in that respect."

"Drivers don't always give cyclists the room they need, although they're legally entitled to that."

On the overnight stops, most riders camp on the high school grounds or sleep in the gym. Those who choose to stay in a hotel pay for it themselves.

"It's not advertised as a hotel ride," Brandvain said. "We don't want anybody to think (those riders who do are) staying in a hotel on the dime of the people that support them."

Why they ride

On the fundraising side, Brandvain is part of the 140-member Team Alex, which was organized in 1999 in memory of the late Alex Graham, a young girl from West Bloomfield and a wish child.

Her wish was to create a public service announcement to encourage kids to "just smile" when they see other kids with cancer.

Brandvain is on her way to raising \$25,000 this year and has a goal of \$30,000. Team Alex has contributed more than \$2.7 million since it became involved in the event.

This year's ride is expected to generate \$2 million. Make-A-Wish Michigan's objective is to grant a wish for every mile of the bike tour. "Alex didn't want people to feel sorry for her," Brandvain said. "She wanted people to do

a good deed in her name. "It's about way more than a trip to Disneyland or what the kids choose. For some people, it's a very important part of healing. If you think of it from that perspective, it's a lot more meaningful."

"People get a lot of hope, strength and joy from a wish. Sometime, kids rally enough to have their wish granted. If you put it on a personal level and see what you can do for a family, it's a very important thing."

Brandvain added the members of Team Alex made a giant family tree and have as their slogan, Family by Choice.

"What I like best are the friendships and meaningful connections people have made with each other," she said. "I think we really feel we are family. People do feel a special connection."

Grand finale at MIS

The bike tour ends with the Heroes Hurrah at MIS, in which the wish kids award the exhausted cyclists with medals as they cross the finish line.

"One year a girlfriend and I said, 'Enough of this,'" Brandvain said. "We said we weren't going to do this anymore. Then, we got to the end and tears were streaming down our faces and we said, 'Well, I guess we'll be back next year.'"

"It was very emotional. We were happy and sad, exhausted and exhilarated. You've been riding for three days, sometimes in all kinds of crazy weather. Those are long days."

"There's a beauty to a shared experience, whether you're doing it on a team with friends or with a friend in mind who's not even there."

"It's going to be my 16th time. Every time I complete something like that, it's unbelievable. It's a journey you take with friends."

For more information about the event or Make-A-Wish, go to wishamile.org or michigan.wish.org or call 800-622-9474.

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Musicians bring varied styles, single message to Redford festival

By Sharon Dargay
Staff Writer

If it weren't for their collective message, the 10 bands that will play in a Redford music festival next weekend likely wouldn't share the same stage.

"There's no reason we should be together. I've got a guy that does a smooth jazz thing coming and last year I had a rap group. I've got acoustic performers. We keep it incredibly diverse so if you don't like the hard rock music we play, if you wait a minute there is a jazz group playing. Then wait another minute and we've got blues," said Ben Mitchell, who arranges the music lineup for the annual Hosanna Palooza Christian music festival at Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church in Redford. "Go to a regular concert venue and you're not going to see a jazz keyboard player opening for a rock band."

Mitchell, a Livonia resident, said the diverse musical lineup works because the musicians all include a Christian message in their music.

"Sometimes you've got to pay attention. The stuff we write is not necessarily 'go Jesus, yea Jesus,' but if you pay attention, you'll know," Mitchell said, describing the music that his band, This Fire Within, performs.

Award winners

Canton-based Sweet Crystal has played musical festivals throughout the country and has won multiple honors at the Detroit Music Awards, but will make its first appearance at Hosanna Palooza on Saturday, July 26.

"What we always try and do with one of our shows is leave the listener with a sense of hope and understanding that whatever they are going



This Fire Within plays at the annual Hosanna Palooza Christian Music Festival.

through, we have probably gone through it as well and we have a solution and a direction they can use to triumph," said Marq Speck, lead vocalist and guitarist, in an email to the Observer.

Speck said the festival setting gives listeners a chance to hear the band's music and message in a "nonthreatening atmosphere" and to enjoy other bands and activities at the event.

In addition to the 10 bands that will play an hour each from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., the festival will include food concessions, crafters, vendors, carnival games and gift drawings.

Mitchell suggested the festival to the Rev. Paul Undlin, Hosanna-Tabor pastor, after his band performed at the church. They fleshed out the idea together and recruited 10 bands for the first festival held

HOSANNA PALOOZA

What: A free Christian music festival

When: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 26

Where: Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Levene, east of Inkster Road, south of Plymouth Road, Redford

Details: 10 bands play in 10 hours. Crafters and vendors will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Gift drawing will be held at 3 p.m. Food concessions will be on site

Schedule: 11 a.m., Not Our Own — Acoustic

- » Noon, Heavenly Embers — Worship
 - » 1 p.m., Wise Family — Rock
 - » 2 p.m., The Lively Pelts — Classic Rock
 - » 3 p.m., This Fire Within — Rock
 - » 4 p.m., The Transparent — Worship
 - » 5 p.m., Kindred Nation — World Jazz
 - » 6 p.m., Sweet Crystal — Rock
 - » 7 p.m., Aaron Lucas & Co. — Blues Rock
 - » 8 p.m., Connor Roy — Worship
- Contact:** 313-937-2424

five years ago.

"That first year, we were struggling to find bands to play a festival they had never heard of," Undlin said. "But the past few years we've had people asking if we have room for

them. Fortunately (Mitchell) has remained well-connected in the music scene here."

One big family

Mitchell is a member of the church and recently took on

the position of its outreach director. He said the festival is a "family reunion" for its performers.

"At this point, a lot of guys and I have been doing this for so long, we've become one giant family. It's great to get together and see each other," he said.

The bands play for free, but get a chance to sell their merchandise. Vendor fees and concession stand sales help pay for the festival. Some money also is set aside for charity.

This year, proceeds will benefit the family of John Bieniewicz, the soccer referee who was killed in Livonia this month.

"They are members here, active, vibrant members of the church," Undlin said. "We wanted to make sure we could support them in any way possible."



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'Baby brain' makes pregnancy forgettable

With pregnancy come side effects that some women, myself included, don't particularly like. Take the backache, swollen feet, and an enlarging abdomen that starts to get so tough that your ribs feel like they are being crushed. Not to mention the countless visits to the doctor's office and the curiosity of trying to understand how that bowling ball size human is actually going to come out of your body. Most of these "symptom" are frustrating, irritating, and certainly not enjoyable. But the most aggravating part of pregnancy, for me, is the "baby brain."

Some people might tell you that the baby brain is a myth, but now that I am moving into my third trimester of my first pregnancy, I can tell you it's the truth. One day, you just wake up, and your brain doesn't work like it used to. I like to think that I am giving all my great memory to my daughter, sort of helping her to be the best person she can be, and maybe the smartest baby around. I figure she must be getting brilliant, collecting all the brain cells that I am losing so rapidly. I can't remember who I talked to earlier in the day anymore, nor can I remember if I folded my laundry, locked the door, or turned off the lights. You could quiz me on something as simple as naming all the people in my family, and



By Sarah Davies
THEN THERE WERE TWO

I'm probably going to mess up some of their names.

Sharp mind

I like to think that pre-pregnancy I was a pretty smart cookie. I don't think I would go so far as to say I had the memory of an elephant, but I could manage to pull off an A on an exam if I put my mind to it. I certainly could remember my address and phone number, and maybe even those of some friends. But now, as I move quickly through my sixth month of pregnancy, I might even forget my birthday if my mother didn't remind me. It's difficult to plan the life of someone new when you can't even remember what day of the week it is.

Sometimes my words don't come out right; I say things all messed up and backwards. I recently said I was trying to get all my eggs in a row when obviously I meant get my ducks in a row. I've been known to mispronounce words that maybe I haven't heard out loud before, but now I've been mispronouncing common words and phrases like chicken and procrastinate. I catch myself stumbling over the simplest of things, and repeating myself numerous times to the same

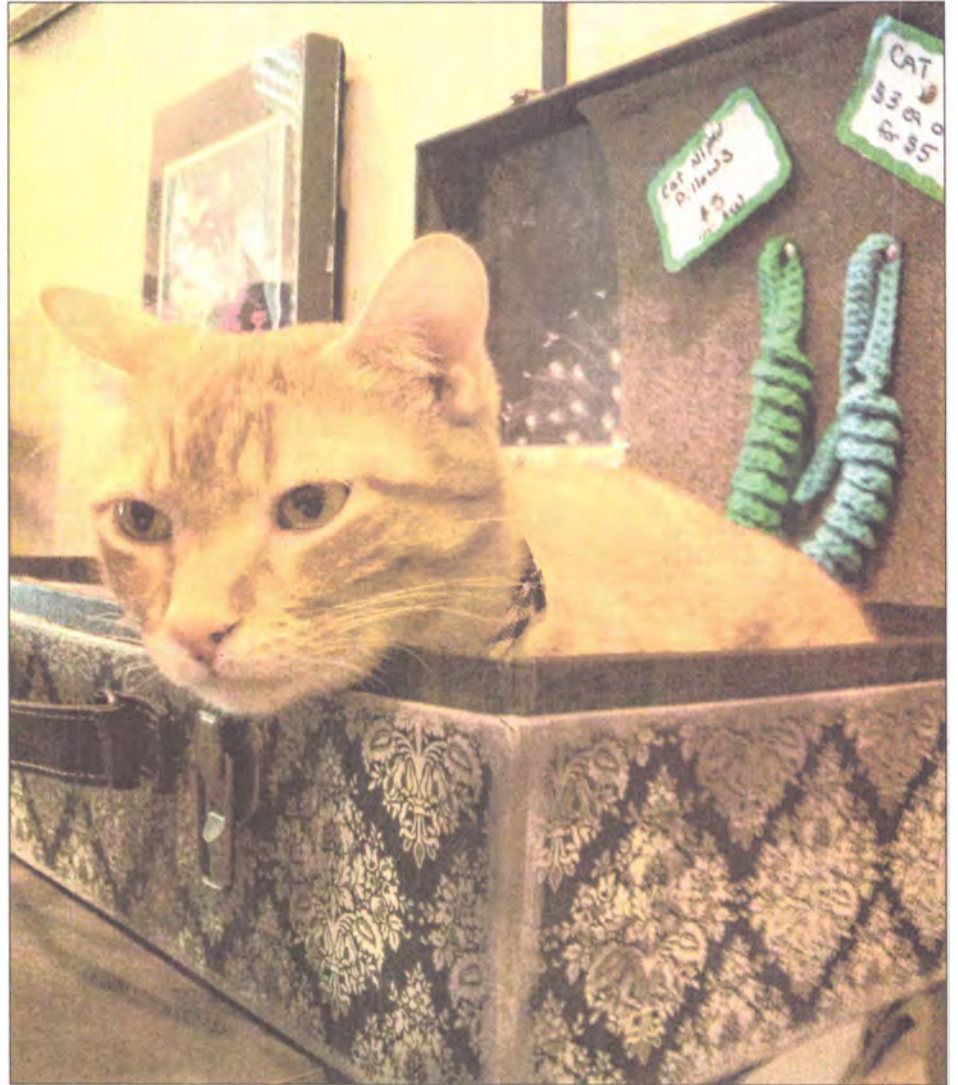
person, like a bad rerun of *Groundhog Day*.

Forever forgetful?

Supposedly, the baby brain will wear off once the baby is born, along with the backache, heartburn and swollen feet. People constantly tell me that the "cure" for that symptom is birth and that I just need to keep my eye on the prize and I will be pleasantly excited when my new arrival comes. I've heard that the pain from birth "isn't so bad," and "if it was people would stop having babies." But you want to know what I think? I think the baby brain continues, that once you start to become forgetful you can never go back to that fantastic memory you think you might have once had. And THAT is why people forget all about birth and the pain and symptoms of pregnancy ... simply because their brains don't work the way they used to, and all that is left is forgetfulness.

If you can't remember your own phone number, how in the world would you remember the crummy parts of delivering a baby? Who knows?! Maybe I am right. I've got about 90 days or so until I will know for sure. Until then ... wait, what was I saying?

Sarah Davies lives in Livonia and grew up in Farmington Hills. She writes about her journey toward single motherhood.



Think you've got an award-winning household or pedigree cat? The International Cat Association is accepting applications for its show, Aug. 2-3 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Dogs visit food trucks, cats compete for awards

Food truck for dogs

Building on the massively popular Detroit food truck trend, Milo's Kitchen brand dog treats is launching the area's first mobile food experience for dogs and their pet parents.

The Milo's Kitchen Treat Truck will offer dogs a chance to taste chicken and beef home-style dog treats, such as Chicken Meatballs and Grilled Burger Bites.

They'll also get a chance to take a free family photo or "doggie selfie" in a professional canine-ready photo booth, socialize with other four-legged friends in the backyard-style lapdog lounge, take a break with dog beds, drinking bowls and puppy toys, and bring home a doggie bag of tasty treats.

The Milo's Kitchen Treat Truck is free and will stop at the Canton Dog Park, starting at 7:30 a.m. Sunday, July 27, in Preservation Park, north of Cherry Hill Road and east of North Ridge Road



and at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 27, at Heritage Park, 1010 S. Canton Center Road, in Canton.

Follow the treat truck's live location updates at <http://twitter.com/miloskitchen>.

Cats galore

Cats from all over the world will compete in six separate divisions for titles, regional, and international awards at The International Cat Association cat show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 2-3, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi.

Seven judging rings will run continuously each day. Visitors will see such breeds as the curly Cornish Rex, the wild-looking Bengals and Savannahs, the folded eared Scottish Folds and more.

Vendors with cat-related products will be on hand and some cats will be available for adoption.

Anyone interested in showing a pedigreed or mixed breed cat may enter before July 27 at www.GLCatConsortium.com.

Admission is \$4 per person. Parking is \$5 per car.

Ann Grenier of The Country Cat and City Kitty Rescue in Livonia will be on hand with her award-winning felines. Her cat, "A Moment in Tyme," will receive an award for the top Household Pet Kitten in the region. Tyme also a No. 2 international winner. Grenier also will receive an award for having had the No. 4 Household Pet Kitten in the region.

GARDEN & NATURE CALENDAR

Send material for the Garden & Nature Calendar to Sharon Dargay, sdargay@hometownlife.com.

4901 Coolidge Highway, Royal Oak, 248-280-9500; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, 248-851-7506.

Master Gardeners of Western Wayne County

Learn the proper way to save open-pollinated tomato seeds by the fermentation method. Paul Rodman, Master Gardener emeritus and longtime seed saver, will share his secrets, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 24, at MSU Extension, 5454 Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Van Born, Wayne. For information, call 313-719-1181.

English Gardens

Learn which of the more than 100 varieties of hydrangeas are best for your garden at a free presentation, 1 p.m. Sunday, July 20.

Area stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, 734-332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, 313-278-4433;

Friends of the Rouge

Friends of the Rouge board president Mike Darga leads a walk, "Explore the Rouge: Newburgh Lake on Foot," 6-8 p.m. Thursday, July 24. Meet at the comfort station on the south side of Hines Drive, west of Newburgh. RSVP at the-rouge.org.

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PAIN 101

Understanding and finding relief for body pains

Whether it's sharp or dull, off and on or constant, pain can be a real pain at times. With the ability to interrupt time with family, lessen productivity at work and create many sleepless nights, understanding the source of your pain is essential for relief.

As a source of discomfort, it may be hard to view pain in a positive light. But this natural, protective tool is used by the body as an alert of present or potential harm to tissues. While pain usually ceases once the stimulus has been removed and the damage to tissue has healed, there are many different factors involved for the amount of time the process takes. One thing is certain—whether it takes an hour or several months, relief is the main focus for those who suffer from any type of pain.

According to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, approximately 100 million Americans deal with chronic pain, which is classified as discomfort lasting six months or longer. While this type of pain can range from minor to debilitating, it can disrupt the social and physical aspects of life in a major way. Those that suffer from this condition often experience headaches, backaches and neck pain, though it can aggravate other areas within the body. Due to its lengthy nature, chronic pain can often lead to emotional issues, such as depression and stress, which can exacerbate the healing process.

The best way to identify chronic pain is to be aware of its symptoms. This pain is persistent and can often be described as aching, burning or shooting. The area where



Hot or cold pack therapy can ease pain.



A comforting toy can help distract a youngster from focusing on pain.

the pain is located is often defined by patients as sore, tight or stiff. Because this type of pain can affect so many areas of life, many in the health community recommend a comprehensive mind and body approach for its management. This can include medication, injections, acupuncture and other holistic treatments.

Here are some of the common types of chronic pain and a few ways to end the discomfort, so you can

get back to enjoying life.

Back and neck pain

What causes nearly 40 percent of missed work days in the U.S. and is the fifth most common cause for doctor visits? Running from the top of the neck to the bottom of the spine, back pain is a common complaint among many people. While back pain is typically divided into the most common areas of neck, middle back, lower back and tailbone, its

symptoms can also be felt in other parts of the body, including arms, hands, legs and feet.

Some of the common remedies for back and neck pain include everything from massage therapy, acupressure, acupuncture, back conditioning exercises, medication and hot and cold therapy to help eliminate swelling.

Headache pain

Though there are many factors that can trigger its unpleasant feeling, headaches can range from a minor sinus headache to a severe migraine. Though it may feel that your brain is the source for the pain, the discomfort is actually caused by a disturbance to the structures surrounding it, and not within the tissue itself.

Some headache symptoms can be as minor as sensitivity to light or noise to the extreme conditions of fever and vomiting. Treatment can range from over-

the-counter medications to natural treatments, such as the Thermal-Aid Headache Relief System.

Helping children through pain

Whether they're visiting a physician to receive a routine shot or undergoing treatment, it can be difficult for parents to watch their children experience pain. Here are some tips from the American Medical Association for helping your little ones cope:

» Stay close during the pain. Regardless of their age, your presence is comforting to your child.

» Make contact with your child. If you can, hold or touch your child throughout the process.

» Take notes from nature. Some animals, such as kangaroo mothers, carry their young close to them. If you have an infant in pain, hold your baby close to your chest wearing only a diaper. This tactic is used worldwide and research shows that it can reduce pain during a procedure.

» Offer distractions. Focus the attention on things your child enjoys to help them relax. Some helpful diversions include singing a song together, reading a book out loud or telling their favorite story.

» Be truthful. Tell your child up front the procedure will cause discomfort but you will be there for support.

If you suffer from persistent body and head pains, it's important to understand the source of the pain. For more ways to stop the pain, visit <http://thermalaidproducts.com>.

Courtesy of Family Features

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(1) Not all customers qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low-mileage lease (10,500 miles). Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan Lessees. Some payments higher; some lower. Residency restrictions apply. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash, with the exception of the Escape which includes \$1,000 Renewal Bonus Cash and the Fusion which includes \$750 Renewal Bonus Cash, for RCL/RCO customers who currently lease a Ford product and lease again through Ford Credit. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 8/30/14. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. (2) 2014 Fusion SE FWD 2.5L Duratec I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 22 city/34 highway/26 combined MPG; 2014 Escape SE FWD 1.6L EcoBoost[®] I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 23 city/32 hwy/26 combined MPG; 2014 Focus SE FWD 2.0L Ti-VCT direct-injection I-4 engine EPA estimated rating of 26 city/36 hwy/30 combined MPG; 2014 Edge SE FWD 3.5L Ti-VCT V-6 Engine EPA estimated rating of 19 city/27 hwy/22 combined MPG; and 2014 F-150 5.0L Ti-VCT V8 FFV engine EPA estimated rating of 14 city/19 hwy/16 combined MPG. Actual mileages will vary. (3) Driving while distracted can result in loss of vehicle control. Only use mobile phones and other devices, even with voice commands, when it is safe to do so. (4) Valid on SE Appearance Package which excludes "S" models. (5) SiriusXM Satellite Radio comes with a 6-month prepaid subscription. (6) Sound and Sync Package with leather seating value at \$1,190 on package 201A. Sound and Sync discount excludes "S" model. (7) Lease price valid only on 2014 Focus SE package 201A.

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JOBS

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A GANNETT COMPANY

Not landing interviews? You could be annoying employers

By Val Matta

Vice President of business development

This time of the year, many employers review up to 100 resumes per job opening -- and that's if they're getting looked at at all. With so many applications, there's clearly a certain etiquette that needs to be upheld, particularly when it comes to following up after you apply. Since two thirds of workers don't follow-up after submitting their résumé for consideration, you may believe sending a quick note could help your chances. Unfortunately, following up incorrectly can send your résumé to the trash can.

While it's always advised to follow-up after you apply for a job, doing so in the wrong way can severely impede your chances at landing an interview. If you're uncertain on follow-up etiquette, here are some do's and don'ts to consider:

DO
contact the right person

It's so important to contact the right person in the follow-up process. After all, you'd probably be peeved if people were contacting you for the wrong reasons. While the job

description may not include contact information, there are some easy ways to obtain it. Use databases or check out who posted the job on social media. By doing a little detective work, you'll be able to find the right point of contact.

DON'T
call or email if the job description explicitly says not to

It's vital that you follow all directions, even if they go against follow-up protocol. For instance, if a job description explicitly says no phone calls or emails, this means no phone calls or emails. Although it's not exactly the best scenario for your candidacy, you have to respect the wants and needs of an organization.

Instead, do little things to "follow-up" such as becoming a fan of the organization on Facebook or mentioning them on Twitter. While you shouldn't be too obvious, these little gestures can help you to stand out.

DO
take schedules into account

Employers are busy people. They may not have time to respond to every email or call back every candidate. Although you did take the time to apply for the position, you have to understand the schedules of the hiring department, especially if the position is highly coveted.

Here's a tip: Following up after one week is pretty customary, no matter how busy an employer may be. If the job description says anything else such as following up after two weeks or sending them a message on LinkedIn, be sure to keep these methods in mind, as well.

DON'T
follow-up more than twice

While not everyone may agree, it's okay to follow-up on your follow-up. Emails can always get lost in the shuffle or the employer may have forgotten to respond to you. However, anything more can be seen as annoying and overbearing, especially if it's the same message twice. Oftentimes, an employer may have "mentally" acknowledged they got a message or voicemail and simply decided to leave it at that. Once you've followed up twice, you've done



your part and should wait for things to unravel organically.

DO
cut your losses if there's radio silence

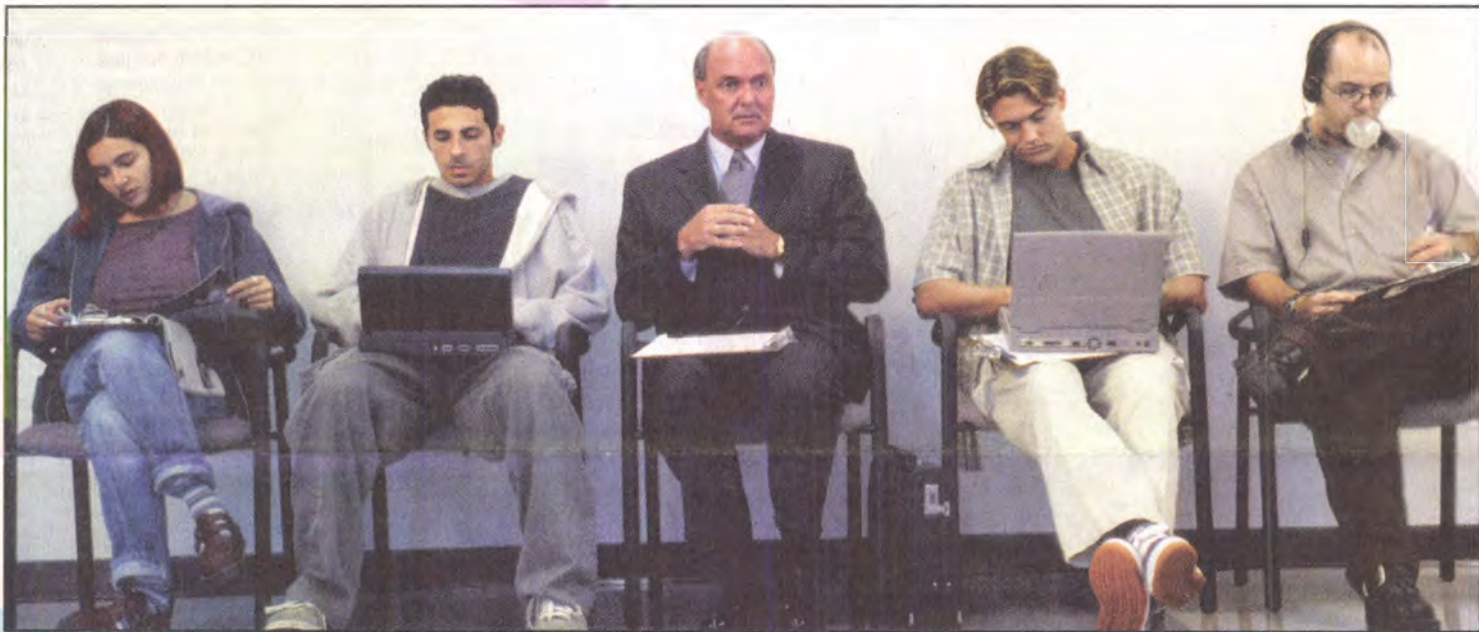
It's a tough pill to swallow,

but sometimes you need to cut your losses. It's nothing personal, nor should you take it as such, but sometimes someone was just more qualified than you. When this happens, you can either get angry or you can learn from your mistakes.

For example, if you evaluate how your candidacy could have been improved, such as sending in higher quality writing samples or following directions better, you can move forward as a smarter job seeker.

If you're not landing interviews, take a look at how you're following up after you send in your application. You'll likely find a connection between how you contacted an employer and the outcome of your candidacy.

Val Matta is the vice president of business development at CareerShift, a comprehensive job hunting and career management solution for companies, outplacement firms, job seekers and university career centers. Connect with Val and CareerShift on LinkedIn.



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Livonia: Garage Sale Miscellaneous household and kids' stuff, new toys. 14058 Edgewood St., Livonia. July 23rd and 24th, 9am-4pm

Northville: Sub Garage Sale Northville Hills Golf Club Fri July 25th & Sat July 26th 9:00am - 4:00pm

South Lyon - 3 Family Sale! July 24 - 26, 9am-5pm. 11883 Four Lakes Dr., 9 Mile btwn Marshall & Dicksonburg. Kids - collectibles & much more!

SOUTH LYON - July 25-27, 8am-4pm. 1035 Colt Lane, in Trotter's Pointe Sub. Something for Everyone!

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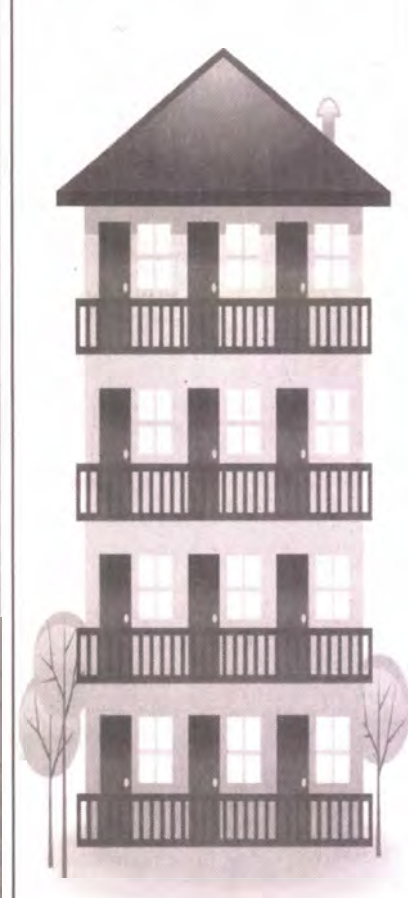
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AFI Financial	2431	(810) 588-4424	3.99	0	2.99	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	4	0	3	0
Go-op Services Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.125	0.25	3.25	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	4.25	0	3.375	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4.125	0	3.125	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.25	0	3.25	0
Gold Star Mortgage	3446	(888) 293-3477	4.125	1	3.125	0.5
Group One Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.25	0	3.375	0

Above information available as of 7/11/14 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

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 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available
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 \$500 RCL Renewal Incentive available
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 \$750 RCL Renewal Incentive available
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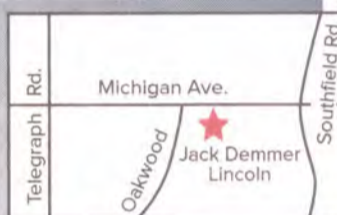
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Car Report

Toyota Sienna Exemplifies Why Minivans Are Still So Great



By Dale Buss

With minivan sales showing more perk than they have in a while, Toyota is introducing a refreshed 2015 Sienna minivan with a passel of strategic improvements in the vehicle itself – and a marketing campaign that breaks significantly more interesting ground.



The 2015 Toyota Sienna.

Toyota's just-breaking "Unexpected Adventures" campaign for the fall launch of the new Sienna is an internet-only campaign that uses fun videos that happen to be created by parents who already showed they were adept at exploiting the world of social media.

Meanwhile, the 2014 Toyota Sienna that it replaces showed me on a recent trip that it has absolutely everything families would need in an automotive platform. And so the improvements in the new model year – touches such as a feature that helps parents talk with kids in the rear of the vehicle without having to shout – only enhance what already is an outstanding package.

I've always been extremely partial to minivans in

the first place, having leased a couple of Chrysler Town & Country minivans sequentially as our kids were growing up. And from the beginning of the minivan phenomenon with Chrysler vehicles in the early Eighties until today, I defy anyone to come up with a category of vehicle that is so versatile and checks so many boxes for practical automotive ownership.

Decent gas mileage for a larger vehicle? Check. Pretty good handling for something that's not a sports sedan? Check.

Complete and utter flexibility of the interior space for passengers and cargo? Double check.

Most comfortable and flexible seating options for the largest number and biggest variety of people? Double check as well.

Best driver and passenger visibility, especially in the front, for any type of vehicle on the American road? Triple check.

No matter so many soccer moms bought and are still buying minivans. And that, of course, is the only real rub against this mode of transportation: It's considered dowdy. And today's soccer moms and dads don't want to be seen as fuddy-duddies, so minivans aren't even on the consideration list for many, many families these days as they buy new vehicles.

They should put Sienna back on that list. Aesthetically on the outside, it's about as pleasing as a minivan can get. And inside – where vans do their business – it executes to the max on each one of those



Great visibility is one of the abiding features of Sienna and other minivans.

major advantages of minivans.

The 2014 Sienna we drove on an iconic, Fourth of July road trip up the peninsula was powered by a 3.5-liter, 24-valve six-cylinder engine that yielded an EPA-rated 16 mpg in the city and 23 mpg on the highway. My mileage, mostly highway and country driving, was a little better than that in the latter measure.

In any event, Toyota's reliable 3.5-liter was a dependable power train, not only providing acceptable mileage, better than SUVs of its size, and also moving Sienna around briskly even over country hills and in passing lanes. Plus the driver's package in the XLE version I drove included brake-assist and smart-stop technology that came in handy more than once on the trip.

Sienna's highly comfortable interior demonstrated one of the best attributes of minivans versus SUVs: second-row seats that recline to a meaningful degree. In fact, Sienna's second-row captain's chairs had foot rests that turned them into "lounger" chairs and encouraged second-row occupants to sleep along the way, providing the driver with peace and quiet.

The vehicle's configurable interior seemed bottomless in accommodating luggage, as folded the rear seats back and piled suitcases, beach gear, groceries and all the other trip essentials into the deep well that opened up when we moved the seats. And when we got to our destination and wanted to use the rear seats for passengers, they simply folded back down into the well again.

In the 2015 version of Sienna, Toyota is adding LED daytime running lights, more soft-touch surfaces, optional black-leather seats with contrasting white stitching, and the cool new intercom feature. Called Driver Easy Speak, and also found on the Highlander SUV, it allows parents behind the wheel to talk through a microphone while they're driving so they don't have to yell back at their kids in the third row. It's an important safety feature that can really make a difference in a minivan.

Sienna sales actually were about flat through June compared with a year earlier. Some competing vans, such as Town & Country, have been posting sales increases over a year ago, and overall the minivans category seems to be getting more attention – and respect.

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