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WAYNE-WESTLAND OBSERVER

SUNDAY 09.17.17 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Wayne, Westland receive grants

Fire departments receive money for smoke detectors, training

U.S. Sens. Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow announced that two Wayne County fire departments will receive \$140,211 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program.

The city of Wayne Fire Department will receive \$14,972 to train officers in fire inspection, while the Westland Fire Department will receive \$125,239 to purchase and install smoke alarms in senior and low income homes, according to a press release.

"Investing in local fire prevention efforts goes a long way toward saving



Peters

Stabenow

lives during emergencies," Peters said. "With this funding, the city of Wayne Fire Department and the Westland Fire Department can continue their important work to ensure their communities have the resources they need to stay safe during fire emergencies."

"Our firefighters in Wayne County put their lives on the line to protect our families and homes," Stabenow said.

"Prevention is key and these resources will help save lives and the treasured possessions of so many families."

The Assistance to Firefighters Grants program has positively affected public safety by providing nearly \$7.3 billion since 2001 for fire prevention and safety equipment.

"With this grant, the Westland firefighters will be able to help provide safer homes for the community's most vulnerable residents," Westland Mayor William R. Wild said. "On behalf of the city of Westland, I'd like to thank Sen. Peters and Sen. Stabenow for their help in securing these important life-saving funds."

"Smoke alarms and other fire prevention efforts are critical to saving

lives," Westland Fire Chief Michael Stradtner said. "This grant will enable us to purchase smoke detectors and develop a program to assist our seniors and low-income families with new smoke detector installation to ensure they have working smoke detectors in their homes."

Eligible fire departments and emergency medical services organizations in Michigan and across the country can apply for Assistance to Firefighters Grants. These competitive grants help first responders purchase the equipment and obtain the training needed to handle fire-related hazards. More information about the grant can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>.



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Post 32 Cmdr. Larry Fenner presents the award to Alessia Vagnini, Sgt. John Cammarata (center left) and veteran service officer Jim Pardo (right).

First responders honored at American Legion event

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Livonia Fire Inspector Greg Thomas planned on stopping by Providence Hospital in Novi this past June to visit a family member. He had it in his mind the whole time while traveling there: Don't take Beck Road.

Fate played a huge factor in his decision that day. He ended up driving north on Beck Road anyway and stumbled across a scene that called for him to utilize his fire training.

He saw Novi police officer Scott Woodley struggling with an individual. After further investigation, the officer was trying to assist the man, 22-year-old Collin Pew, who had gotten pinned under a motorcycle and had lost part of his leg in an accident.

Acting quickly, Thomas pulled out a tourniquet he had with him and began assisting Woodley. His actions that day saved Pew's life.

"Everybody was laser-focused on

"Everybody was laser-focused on helping that young man. Everyone was fantastic."

GREG THOMAS
Livonia fire inspector

See LEGION, Page A8

New dog park could be open by November

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Livonia's first dog park is currently on track to open before Thanksgiving.

The park, located at Bicentennial Park near Seven Mile and Wayne roads, will enter its second phase of construction later this fall, said Ted Davis, superintendent of parks of recreation.

Infrastructure work has taken place throughout the summer, but Davis said the second phase will be all the qualities people will recognize as part of a dog park.

"The fencing, the play features, the drinking foundations," he said. "It's going to be all those things to make it look like a dog park."

Once that phase is complete, he's hoping the city will hold a ribbon-cutting in November and open the park.

Once open, the park will complete a cycle that has taken about a year to complete. The city council approved the plans last December after moving the proposed park from along Seven Mile to behind the fire station at Bicentennial Park.

The groundbreaking took place in May.

The second phase will cost roughly \$107,000, which will come from budgeted funds. The city council is expected to approve a contract with Warren-based American Fence at its next regular meeting after reviewing the proposal at its Sept. 6 study meeting.

See DOG PARK, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Workers from Bob's Landscaping Service prepare the dog park site for hydroseeding.



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DOG PARK

Continued from Page A1

Fees

Also reviewed by the council at that meeting were the proposed fees for users of the dog park. It's expected Livonia residents will pay \$30 per

year for their first dog and \$10 per year for each additional dog up to three.

Davis said those fees line up with other communities that have dog parks. The Wayne County Dog Park in Westland costs \$20 per dog, Novi's costs \$30 for the first dog and \$12 for every dog after, Canton's is \$25 per dog and Farmington Hills

charges \$30 for the first dog and \$10 per dog after.

The new park will be for dogs that are up-to-date on their licensing and shots. It will also be only for Livonia residents, at least in the beginning.

Passes are not for sale yet, but are expected to go on sale later this fall and will be available at the city clerk's department in city hall, 33000 Civic Center, Davis said. Once passes go on sale, they'll be good for a year. Passes sold this fall, however, will remain valid until January 2019.

The park will move forward as a city project and without the previously-announced partnership with Tailwaggers 1990, though Davis said he hopes to continue a good relationship with the organization.

"We'll look to them as a resource from time to time," he said. "And we still have a good relationship for them."

The park's opening is something Davis has heard plenty about from residents in recent months. He said the No. 1 question he gets asked around town is when the dog park plans on opening.

"That seems to be the question I get most often, for sure," he said. "A lot of people are excited about it."

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

Eight Mile motel condemned over danger, feces, vomit and bugs

John Wisely
Detroit Free Press



ROMAIN BLANQUART
DETROIT FREE PRESS

The Royal Inn motel in Royal Oak Township has 17 fire code violations and 33 building code violations.

trash and other debris in hallways. Many of the rooms had mattresses on the floors. In some rooms, tubs and toilets didn't work, according to inspectors.

A message left for the motel's owner was not returned.

The 200-room motel, on the north side of Eight Mile, just east of Scotia, has several hundred residents. It rents rooms for \$35 a night. The condemnation notice gave residents until Sept. 5 to vacate.

"We're going to be on site to offer what assistance we can to help these people transition from the Royal Inn," said Shane Bies of the Oakland County Health Division. "We realize that some of these people will have a place to go and some might not."

In addition to the health division, officials from the United Way, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities and others will be available to assist residents, Squalls said.

"The township board of trustees and leadership are most concerned with the welfare of the people staying and working at the Royal Inn," Squalls said. "These are some of our most needy and impoverished citizens."

The motel has been the site of crimes and emergency issues.

In August 1985, when it was known as the Northlander Inn, its manager, Ramaniklal Doshi, 45, was shot dead during a robbery.

In 2013, a guest was charged with attempted murder for pushing his girlfriend out a third-floor window and then proceeding downstairs to beat her on the ground. She lived.

"This structure is to be closed and padlocked on Sept. 5, 2017," township building official Jim Wright wrote in the condemnation notice. If the violations aren't completed within a week of the closing, the township will order the building demolished, Wright said.

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11.	2003	Cadillac	1G6KY54943U254852
12.	2002	Chevrolet	1GNEK13Z72J262876

Published: September 17, 2017

LC-0000329912 2x2.5

Radiation Therapy Associates, P.C. the office of Dr. Ronald Lutsic at 6255 North Inkster Rd. Suite 7 Garden City Michigan will be permanently closing as of September 29, 2017. Any requests for records can be done in writing and sent to the above address.

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Published: September 17 & 21, 2017

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WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS

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

Baseline Folk Society

The Baseline Folk Society opens its 13th season at The JWH Center for the Arts, Plymouth Community Arts Council, at 774 N. Sheldon Road.

The first show is scheduled for 7-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, and features Robert Grossman, with open-mic performances starting at 7 p.m. and also following the featured artist. Host Cathy Fitzpatrick, singer-songwriter and president of Baseline, will perform a couple of songs and host the evening of music and entertainment.

Tickets are \$5 at the door, including performers. Sign-up for open mic starts at 6:15 p.m. and ends at 6:40 p.m. Performances are the third Saturday of each month. September through May.

Fall activities

Enjoy an afternoon filled with festive treats and fall activities 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, hosted by the Canton Historical Society at the Bartlett-Travis House, 500 N. Ridge Road.

Make a craft to take home and learn more about what Canton farmers would be doing in

early fall to prepare for the coming winter.

Tickets are \$25 each and available at the Summit on the Park (46000 Summit Parkway in Canton). Seating is limited.

Free dental care event

Livonia Family Dental Center will have their fourth annual Dentistry From the Heart free dental care event for adults 18 and over that do not have access to dental care or dental insurance. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Livonia Family Dental Center, 15939 Middlebelt Road, Livonia.

Patients will be seen on a first-come-first-serve basis. They may choose to have a filling, extraction or cleaning. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m.

The first 50 patients are guaranteed to be seen. Patients are encouraged to arrive early, dress appropriately as they may be waiting outdoors, and bring chairs, blankets, water and snacks. For more information, call 734-427-2222 or go to www.drgli-voniadental.com

Shred day in Livonia

Catholic Vantage Financial (CVF) will host a complimentary Shred Day event for the com-

munity on Saturday, Sept. 30. The public is invited to bring personal papers and documents for shredding from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the credit union's branch at 36111 Five Mile Road in Livonia.

To aid individuals and families impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, Catholic Vantage Financial will be accepting monetary donations to be distributed by Catholic Charities and the Red Cross. According to Teller, donations can also be made at the credit union's branch offices in Livonia and Plymouth.

For more information, go to www.mycvf.org.

Chocolate Affair

Hosted by The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Elizabeth Fagan Division is the 13th annual "A Chocolate Affair." Enjoy an afternoon of tasting delightful chocolate specialties from area restaurants, bakeries, caterers and chocolate makers. A dazzling array of raffle items and door prizes will also be offered.

All funds raised will benefit First Step's program for counseling and emergency housing for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their families.

It takes place 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1, at Italian

American Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia.

Body Mind Spirit Festival

Enjoy a day of exploration and fun at the Body Mind Spirit Festival set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road.

More than 40 vendors will be showcasing their products that help body, mind, and spirit: aura photography, massage, spiritual coaching, wellness, natural healing, holistic health, metaphysics, natural health products, Reiki, Reflexology, readers, and more.

Presentations will be given on how to move through change, connect with energy, heal with sound, and access pets' radiant health; in addition, there will be information on the energy of prayer, float therapy, Reiki, essential oils, chiropractic medicine and understanding product labels.

Refreshments will be available; there will also be an activity center for kids.

Admission is \$5; children under 12 free with an adult.

Volunteer tutor training sessions

The Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy

Council is a volunteer, nonprofit organization aiming to improve conversation literacy skills for adults who speak English as a Second Language. CLC provides free one-on-one tutors and conversation group tutors in the Plymouth-Canton community. Volunteer literacy tutors do not need any prior experience.

Tutors receive comprehensive training before volunteering in a setting of their choice for 1.5-2 hours each week. The next training class, which includes 12 hours of instruction spread out over two days, will be held on the following dates: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21.

Community Literacy Council charges \$40 for each tutor to cover the cost of training, materials and food. Advance reservations are required and can be made at www.plymouthcanton-literacy.org or by calling the literacy council at 734-589-0011.

Free senior luncheon

The Salem National Lutheran Church, 32430 Ann Arbor Trail, Westland, will host a free senior luncheon at 11 a.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call 734-422-

5550 for more information.

Detroit United Railway slide show

At 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 18, the Livonia Historical Society will present a slide show on the history of the Detroit United Railway narrated by local historian Brian Golden.

The inter-urban line connected Wayne, Plymouth and Northville to Livonia. This line serviced the Newburg-Ann Arbor Trail intersection area until 1927 and the waiting Room is now at Greenmead.

The meeting will be held at the Alexander Blue House at Greenmead, Livonia's Historical Park, which is off Newburgh Road just south of Eight Mile Road.

For more information, call 734-416-3848.

Dinner, silent auction

A Spaghetti dinner and silent auction will be held 5-8 p.m. Oct. 6 at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile Road. The auction ends at 8:15 p.m. Pre-sale tickets only. Ticket sales end Sept. 22.

Funds go to the general budget at St. Matthews to be used as necessary by the finance commit-

See EVENTS, Page A4



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EVENTS

Continued from Page A3

tee, spaghetti, salad, dessert and beverages. Adults \$10, children 6 and under \$5

Contact Peg Besecker for tickets at 734-718-5040.

Raku workshop

The Village Potters Guild in Plymouth announces a Raku Workshop on Sept. 22-23. Raku is an ancient Japanese pottery technique.

Purchase a piece of bisque pottery, glaze it, watch it being pulled red hot from the fire and take home a treasure.

Registration is \$10. Call 734-207-8807 to register.

Shred Day in Plymouth

The city of Plymouth and Plymouth Township will offer a Shred Day

for all residents of both communities Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to noon (or until trucks are filled) at the Plymouth Township Hall parking lot, 9955 N. Haggerty Road.

This marks the second Shred Day event to be hosted jointly by the township and the city this year, something leaders of both communities cite as part of their new cooperative relationship.

Paper to be shredded shall be limited to five banker boxes on each trip. Residents can, however, make multiple trips throughout the morning. Documents can be in paper bags or boxes when brought to shredding. Documents in plastic bags must be removed.

Residents participating must also provide proof of city or township residency, which can be done with a driver's license, voter ID card,

water bill or property tax bill.

Michigan Mobile Hard Drive Shredding will also be on site to securely dispose of old and unused hard drives.

For more information, email the city at shred@ci.plymouth.mi.us or the township's Sarah Visel at svisel@plymouthtp.org.

Chili Cook Off

St. Paul Knights of Columbus Chili Cook Off is set for 5-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford.

Cost is \$10 per entry for chefs and \$5 per guest, which includes chili samples. There will be a cash prize for best chili and other food available for purchase. All proceeds to benefit the Knights of Columbus Charities.

For more information, call Mike at 313-289-4912

or Keith at 313-320-8695.

Weekend Apart

Clarenceville United Methodist Church is hosting a Weekend Apart on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 29-30, with Rev. Dr. Bobby Cabot, a retired United Methodist pastor who now travels internationally with her 4½-day Healing School and for weekend healing conferences.

The cost will be a freewill offering. A light lunch will be provided for a donation on Sept. 30. For more information, contact Clarenceville UMC office by Sept. 22 at 248-474-3444 or clarencevillechurch@gmail.com. The church is at 20300 Middle Belt Road, Livonia.

Mom 2 Mom Sale

A Mom 2 Mom Sale is set for 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Newburg United Meth-

odist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia.

Cost is \$2 for early bird admission, \$1 after 9 a.m. and free at noon. Strollers are welcome.

For more information, email newburgmom2mom@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/NewburgMom2Mom.

Patriot Golf Day

The inaugural Patriot Golf Day will be held Saturday, Sept. 30, at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, 8768 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, to benefit Folds of Honor.

Tickets are \$125 and include 18 holes of golf with a cart, open driving range, lunch at the turn, event dinner with open bar and awards. Contests include hole-in-one, longest drive, closest to the pin, gift raffle, 50/50 raffle, mulligan and skins.

Registration is at 7:30 a.m. Shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m. Lunch at the turn is 10:30 a.m. and dinner and awards are at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, email foldsmichigan@gmail.com.

Church rummage sale

Newburg United Methodist Church's upcoming rummage sale is set for 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5; 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Oct. 6; and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 7.

The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia between Newburgh and Wayne roads.

Cost is \$2 admission per adult Thursday only; and admission is free Friday and Saturday. Saturday will be a half-price sale.

For more information, call the church office at 734-422-0149.

Livonia Towne Club meetings

Livonia Towne Club, a nonprofit women's or-

ganization that brings together women for social interaction, will meet the fourth Thursday of each month from September through May (except in November and December, when it's held the second Thursday).

The club meets for lunch and a program at different restaurants in Livonia and surrounding areas. Our program could be an informative speaker, bingo, fashion show, music entertainment and more. Plus an occasional local day trip.

For more information, call Carolyn at 248-478-6933.

Livonia women's club

Livonia Neighbors and Friends, a women's club, is open to women who live/work in Livonia and its surrounding communities. General meetings are held at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month, September through May. Special activity groups meet year-round.

For more information, go to <http://livonia.neighborsandfriends.tripod.com>.

Music at the Elks

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

Tuesday, Sept. 26, Sean Dobbins' Rising Star Program will feature Peyton Miller. This 17-year-old vibraphone expert will be joined by Sean Dobbins on drums, Corey Kendrick on keyboards and Jeff Pedraz on bass.

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plyaa325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com.

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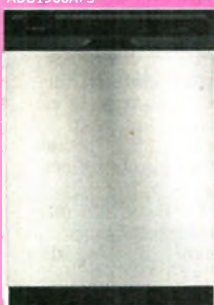
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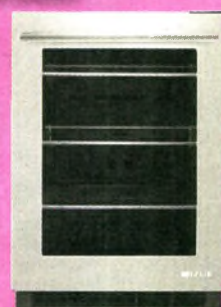
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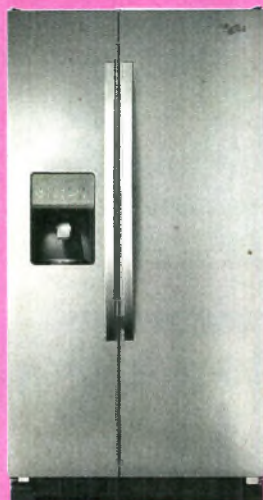
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN UPGRADE OF TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Sealed proposals will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until **2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, October 3, 2017** at which time the RFP's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each proposal shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Proposals shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late proposals will be returned unopened.

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. local time. The meeting

will be held at the City of Livonia City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154.

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the proposal must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed proposals in response to this request will not be accepted.

All proposals shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN UPGRADE OF PHONE SYSTEM, name of vendor** and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

No vendor may withdraw his proposal within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any proposal does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Daniel Putman
IS Director

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Publish: September 17, 2017

LO-00022882 3/6

LEGION

Continued from Page A1

helping that young man," Thomas said. "Everyone was fantastic."

Thomas was one of three Livonia public safety officials recognized Monday by the American Legion Post 32 during its annual Sept. 11 first responder awards. The annual awards highlight local officers who rise to the call of duty and are honored each Sept. 11, the anniversary of the most deadly terror attacks on American soil.

Deputy Fire Chief Mike Kelly, standing in for Fire Chief Shadd Whitehead who was assisting with Hurricane Irma recovery efforts in Florida, said he has known Thomas for many years, dating back to his time as a firefighter. When he heard about that incident, there was no second thoughts over what Thomas did to help.

"There's no doubt, that when I heard about this incident, that Greg was involved with it and performed at a high level with officer Woodley," he said.

Pew ended up losing part of his leg and now gets around in a wheelchair. He and his family attended Monday's event at the American Legion post.

He said he was riding home from class at Wash-tenaw Community College when the accident occurred.

"I don't remember a lot of it, but I do have very clear memories of officer Woodley and Mr. Thomas and I just cannot say a big enough thank you to both of you," he said. "Not just for doing your job, but for caring about me personally."

The other awards were given to Livonia police officers for their role last fall, when a



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Fire Inspector Greg Thomas accepts his award from Cmdr. Larry Fenner and veteran service officer Jim Pardo.

robber fired shots at officers while driving on Merriman.

Shots fired six days in

Police officer Alessia Vagnini and Sgt. John Cammarata were recognized for being key to the eventual capture of a man believed to have robbed several businesses across metro Detroit last fall donning masks. The suspect had robbed the Embassy Suites on Victor Parkway in the early morning hours of Oct. 6. The same suspect was believed to later rob the Days Inn on Plymouth Road in Livonia.

Vagnini, a newly-christened police officer, observed a vehicle believed to be the suspect's driving eastbound on Plymouth Road, Police Chief Curtis Caid said. She then did a U-turn and began following the car, which eventually went south onto Merriman, where the suspect fired a handgun at officers while driving off.

"Officer Vagnini, who at that time had six days by herself ... she is at Plymouth Road and Farmington with very basic information," Caid said. "She sees a vehicle coming eastbound and she can't see in the vehicle

and, on a hunch, decides she's going to flip on it and does a U-turn.

"When she does, they're off to the races and the chase is on. And she is a pitbull."

The pursuit of the suspect ended in Dearborn after officers lost sight of the vehicle. Law enforcement officials later found the suspect that weekend in southern Ohio. He was arrested and faces federal criminal charges.

Caid said Cammarata, who was working as a school resource officer at Franklin High School that morning, heard of the incident on his police radio.

He hopped in his vehicle and headed along northbound Merriman near where the suspect was. At that point, the man pulled out a gun and began to fire at the car.

"His apprehension is due to these two fine Livonia police officers," Caid said. "And these folks are a great example of what the character is and the commitment is to all of the members of the Livonia Police Department."

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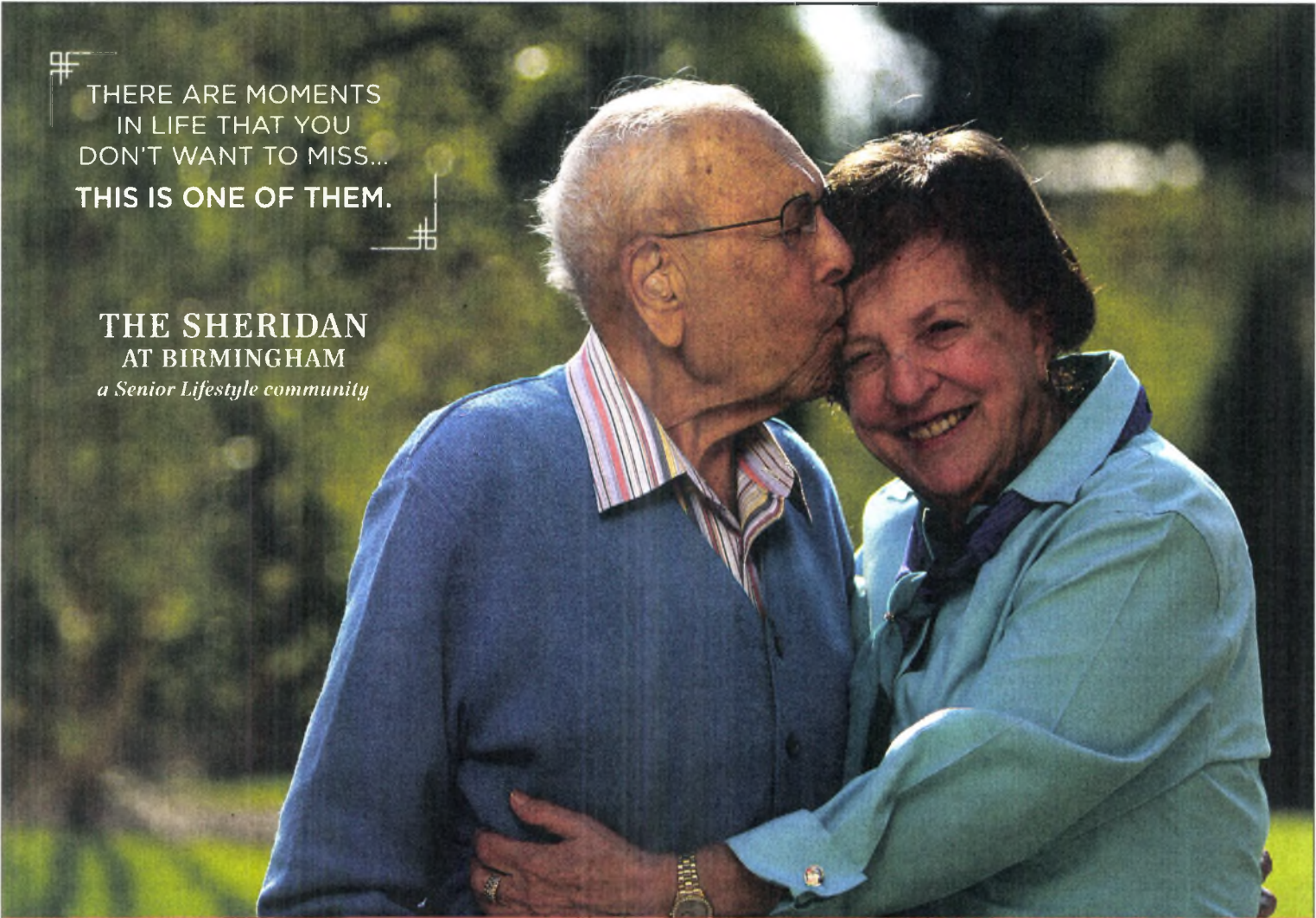
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I am an American We are One Nation

WORKING TO LIFT AWARENESS OF PTSD

Mother of veteran who took his own life wants to shed light on issue

JOHN MCCARTHY
USA TODAY NETWORK

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

Robin Kiepert describes herself as "a mother, a wife and a veteran."

These days the Merritt Island, Florida, woman can add another title: post-traumatic stress disorder awareness advocate.

"My youngest son, Terrance Jeffery O'Hearn, was deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan," said Kiepert, who served eight years herself in the Air Force. "When he came home after his discharge, it became very apparent that things had changed for him. He was diagnosed with severe PTSD and ultimately took his own life."

O'Hearn was 30 when he hanged himself in his California apartment in 2016.

O'Hearn was being treated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, but for privacy reasons, the VA couldn't share details of his condition with Kiepert.

About a year after O'Hearn's death, Kiepert decided she needed to do something to help bring awareness of how large a problem PTSD is for returning soldiers.

Kiepert started a Facebook community, "Linked Arms for Veterans," for people to share their stories of struggling with PTSD.

As she started to speak out about her experience, Kiepert was surprised to find that there were still lots of people who were not aware of the problems with veterans and active-duty military members committing suicide.

Earlier this year, she began to think



MALCOLM DENEMARK/USA TODAY NETWORK

Robin Kiepert's son took his own life after returning from duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. She started a Facebook community for people to share their stories of struggling with PTSD.

about ways to increase awareness. She found her inspiration in Ohio.

Howard Berry is a Cincinnati man whose son, Staff Sgt. Joshua Berry, committed suicide in 2013.

In March, Berry planted 660 American flags on a hillside overlooking the Ohio River — one for every military member or veteran estimated to commit suicide each month.

She is hoping to set up a similar display near her home on Florida's Space Coast.

"I would like to see that people are aware that it is happening ... that it is happening in the community, that it is happening to people in their neighborhood."

Robin Kiepert

Home: Merritt Island, Florida

Profession: Resource efficiency manager

Age: 58

Mission: To raise awareness about PTSD-related suicide

ONE NATION

Nominate an American

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

Q&A WITH ROBIN KIEPERT

What does it mean to you to be an American?

I am fifth-generation Californian, so I have a long line of history in America. I have a longstanding history of military people supporting and defending our nation. I have traveled around the world, and I will tell you, there is no greater country than America.

What moment touched and motivated you to start this effort?

My youngest son, Terrance Jeffery O'Hearn, was deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan. When he came home after his discharge, it became very apparent that things had changed for him. He was diagnosed with severe PTSD and ultimately took his own life. I hope bring awareness to this very, very serious problem that we have with our returning soldiers.

Terry just fell through all these little cracks, that people weren't doing their jobs and those gaps were just wide enough for him to slide all the way through.

At first you think this is happening to you. ... And then after a while you realize that it is happening to 20 families a day and that something has to be done about it.

What gives you hope or what concerns you?

I hope by the efforts of planting the flags that we will bring awareness to the fact that 20 veterans a day die by suicide. My concern is that statistics and the ongoing daily struggle that these veterans have makes those numbers stay high or higher. It's pretty powerful when you see it all in one spot. We can talk about 20 or 22 a day. And we can talk about 7,000 or 8,000 a year. But when you see 660 flags in one spot ... it's powerful. The message, it's powerful.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

I hope to bring awareness to the fact that 22 veterans or active duty military people a day die by their own hands, by suicide, so that everybody understands that 22 a day is an unacceptable number.

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WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Speakers stolen from vehicle

A resident who lives in the 28000 block of Joy came to the police station Sept. 1 to report some speakers stolen from his vehicle.

He said he parked his car by his residence and believes someone entered it overnight and took a pair of subwoofer speakers from the car. He said the car was unlocked at the time. No suspect information was available.

Heart monitor taken

A patron at Golden Corral, 37101 Warren, came to the police station Aug. 29 to report the theft of a heart monitor.

The diner said he was eating at the restaurant and set the monitor down on the table. He went to the buffet to get more food and came back to find the monitor missing. No witnesses were reported and the restaurant did not have cameras in that area.

Vehicle rummaged through

A victim called police Aug. 28 to the 300 block

of South Hubbard Court to report a larceny from an auto.

She said she parked her car in the parking lot at the apartment complex. The next morning, she noticed the trunk was open. She searched her vehicle and found it had been ransacked. She discovered some prescription glasses were missing and there was no signs of forced entry. She said she was unsure if the car was locked at the time.

Vehicle damaged

A resident who lives in the 29000 block of Hanover Avenue came to the police station Aug. 30 to report some damage done to her vehicle.

She said she parked her car in front of her home the day before and returned to it the next day. Police went out and observed some damage to the vehicle's front bumper. The owner said she believed someone had backed up repeatedly, striking her vehicle.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

WAYNE POLICE BRIEFS

Larceny from auto

A resident who lives in the 37500 block of Knoll filed a police report Aug. 31 regarding a larceny from an auto.

The victim said he parked his car in his driveway. Later, it appeared someone busted open a window and took some money from inside the vehicle. No suspect

information was available.

Checkbook taken

A resident who lives in the 35200 block of Sims filed a police report Aug. 28 over a stolen checkbook.

The resident said the checkbook was taken by an unknown suspect. No other information was available.

Prescription missing

A report was filed Aug. 30 by a resident who lives in the 4300 block of Carnegie to report a missing prescription.

The victim said they left their prescription on the kitchen table. They left their home to take their dog for a walk and came back to find the prescription missing.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Wayne Police Department.

Flu shot clinic set for the Costick Center

The city of Farmington Hills Adults 50 & Better Division, in cooperation with the Oakland County Health Department, will offer flu shots for all ages from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile Road.

A flu shot is recommended annually for everyone ages six months and older. Getting a flu shot is especially important for those 65 years or older, anyone with medical problems and for people who live or work with high-risk individuals.

Participants should bring a picture ID with a current address and their Medicare/Medicaid identification card. For those without Medicare/Medicaid, there is a cash fee

of \$25 or you can pay with a credit card at the Costick Center.

High-dose flu shots are available for a fee of \$47 for those ages 65 and older. This flu shot clinic is walk-in only, no pre-registration is available. For quicker service, wear a short sleeve shirt or a shirt with a sleeve that can be rolled up to the top of your arm.

There is no residency requirement to participate in the flu shot clinic. Farmington and Farmington Hills residents 55 years and older or handicapped who need transportation to the Costick Center may call 248-473-1864 to reserve a ride with the Senior Division transportation program. For more information, call 248-473-1830.

Passages

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

Mevis



Carole L. (nee: Messner) of Livonia, age 85 of Livonia. Cherished wife of the late John for over 54 years. Loving mother of Cathey (James) Brachulis and Kevin. Proud grandma of Timothy and Chelsey. Best life-long loving friends of Barbara and Geri. Also survived by many other loving family and friends. Carole proudly worked for Michigan Bell and Livonia Observer before retiring at 72 years old. Per Carole's wishes, there will not be a service. Cremation has taken place. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice Care Center. Arrangements in the care of Fred Wood Funeral Home-Rice Chapel, Livonia.

Smith



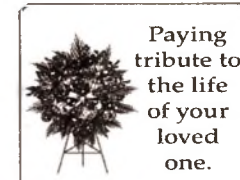
Alice Clay, age 96 of Novi, MI, formerly of Plymouth, MI, died on September 3, 2017. Alice was born in Tutwiler, MS and delivered by her father, Dr. T. F. Clay, on September 25, 1920. Alice attended Tutwiler High School and received a BS Degree in Education at Delta State Teacher's College in Cleveland, MS on May 1942. She joined the WAVES in October 1942 and served in the Disbursing Office of the US Navy in Memphis, TN for three years. Alice met Sgt. Arthur Smith at Fort Belvoir, VA and four months later they were married. They lived in Virginia, Detroit, MI, and then Art built their family home in Plymouth, MI. Alice is survived by her five children, Virginia (James) Nelson, Pamela (Robert) Burcaw, Deborah (Paul) Geiderblom, Thomas (Marilyn) Smith, and Michael (Lynne) Smith, along with 19 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. Alice was always busy with family and church activities. She taught her girls to sew and cook, was a Brownie Leader, and active in the United Methodist Church Women. She has written and published books on the lineage of her parents and her husband's parents. Art and Alice were married 63 years with Art preceding her in death in April 2009. They enjoyed living in the Fox Run Community since 2003. A Memorial Service will be held in the PAC at Fox Run on Saturday, September 23 at 3:00 pm. Memorial donations may be made to Fox Run Resident Care Fund, 41200 Fox Run Rd, Novi, MI 48377 or the Dr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Clay Memorial Scholarship Fund at <http://www.deltastategiving.org> or by mail: DSU Foundation, P. O. Box 3141, Cleveland, MS 38733. To share a memory please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

Turner

Virginia May 6, 1923 - September 7, 2017. Born in Cincinnati, daughter of Nina and Richard Kalbfus, Virginia was a long-time resident of Birmingham, Michigan. She attended Birmingham public schools and graduated from Smith College with a degree in psychology. Ginny was a decades-long member of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham where she was a passionate advocate for social justice, inclusivity and women's advocacy. As an Elder of the church she worked tirelessly to create Baldwin House, a residence providing affordable and dignified housing for seniors and other members of our community. Ginny embodied a lively, open-minded commitment to life-long learning. Her curiosity, care and interest in others was evident in her engagement in education, the arts, social activism and simple, good conversation. Ginny's genuineness - her humility, warmth and sense of humor - were contagious and she served as an inspiring mentor and friend to many. Ginny's family continues through her son Rick (and his partner Holly Gayley), daughter Ann (and husband Lari Greenleaf) grandson Kyle Greenleaf; step daughter Joan (and husband Lou McCasland); Ginny's sister Nina and brother-in-law Stephen Mahalich, their daughters Carrie Graham, Amy Mahalich and their children. A memorial service was held Saturday September 16 at 11:00 am in the small chapel of the First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple Road, Birmingham Michigan. Memorial Gifts celebrating the life of Virginia can be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham in person or online at: <https://giving.ncsservices.org/g3/> or to Skyline Camp and Retreat Center. <http://www.campskyline.org/home/4587335038> If you are donating in memory of someone, or for a specific project, please call 248-644-2043. heaney-sundquist.com



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The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the purchase of:

LMC AC Replacement - Webster Elementary Bid for the 2017-2018 School Year (See Attached Specifications)

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2017-2018 school year, open bids, Bond Project OR Buy4Michigan Website, www.buy4michigan.com. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked LMC AC Replacement - Webster Elementary will be received until 12:00 p.m. on the 27th day of September, 2017, in the Business Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays. There will be a mandatory walk thru on September, 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Webster Elementary, 32401 Pembroke, Livonia, MI, 48152.

The Bid Opening will take place at 12:00 p.m. on the 27th day of September, 2017, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized statement.**

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. **No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.**

PREVAILING WAGE APPLIES TO THIS BID.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Destination. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

"LMC AC Replacement- Webster Elementary"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlau@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

CITY OF LIVONIA

The City of Livonia will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Auditorium at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan for the purpose of hearing written and oral comment from the public concerning the proposed annual budget for the fiscal year 2017 - 2018. All interested citizens, groups, senior citizens and organizations representing the interests of senior citizens are encouraged to attend and submit comments.

A copy of the entire proposed budget and additional background materials are available for public inspection from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. weekdays at the City Clerk's Office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

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Program Start: 10:00 AM

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A toast to craft beer that scares your pants off

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com

There's no need to wait until Halloween to get your scare on.

Some craft beverage makers add a little anxiety to their ales, while some horror to their honey mead and screams to their stout. At least that's the impression you get looking at some of the labels on a few Michigan brews.

Witch's Hat, for example, keeps beer lovers in "Fear of the Dark" at its South Lyon location.

Ray Leibal, brewer and manager, says a song, rather than monsters under the bed, inspired the scary-sounding brew. It's a beer in the black barley-wine style with a high alcohol content.

The brewery's Bear Witch Project came from a collaboration between Grizzly Peak in Ann Arbor and Witch's Hat.

"It's not as popular as Fear of the Dark because it's a Lichtenhainer, which is soured. It's smoky and soured. Not everyone likes that style," Leibal said.

But those who do, like it a lot, he

said.

Time for a little liquid nightmare? Just pop open the cap or order on tap and drink. See you in hops hell.

Witch's Hat, South Lyon

Beer: Barrel-aged Fear of the Dark
Its description: "Black barleywine aged in Wild Turkey barrels."

Our take: The 15-percent ABV will make you forget the boogeyman. Just drink up.

Grisly graphic: Scary monster with long, sharp teeth.

Beer: The Bear Witch Project
Its description: "Lacto-soured smoked wheat ale brewed Lichtenhainer style."

Our take: Sounds like a movie sequel.

Grisly graphic: Angry-looking, red-faced bear in a witch hat.

Griffin Claw, Birmingham

Beer: Screamin' Pumpkin Ale
Its description: "The perfect beer to

See BEER, Page A13



Black Fang sits on the store shelf, along with other B. Nektar meads.

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BEER

Continued from Page A12

celebrate Halloween.”

Our take: Better to drink that jack-o-lantern than to smash it.

Grisly graphic: Green, orange and screaming pumpkin.

Beer: Rail District Bohemian Pilsner

Its description: “You gotta like hops to like this beer.”

Our take: Train signal crossings are there for a reason.

Grisly graphic: Woman screaming, tied to railroad tracks.

ROAK Brewing Co., Royal Oak

Beer: Blow Your Face Out

Its description: “Crafted to maximize the dark character of hops with piney, tropical and stone fruit aromas and flavors. This beer is going to blow your face out.”

Our take: Face lift with a twist.

Grisly graphic: Screaming man, his mouth overflowing with hops.

Atwater Beer, Detroit

Beer: VooDoo Vator Doppelbock

Its description: “Traditional extended lagering makes the VooDoo Vator deceptively smooth though high in alcohol. Be warned. A stronger, darker version of the bocks of Germany, doppelbocks were designed in monasteries for sustenance during fasting.”

Our take: Looking forward to Lent next year.

Grisly graphic: Scary man with glowing eyes holding a skull.

B. Nektar, Ferndale

Beer: Black Fang

Its description: “Sweet and smooth with a full-bodied, dark berry wine character. Reminiscent of Spanish sangria and Garnacha grape wine.”

Our take: Goes well with cheese, olives, ham ... and a necklace of garlic.

Grisly graphic: Creepy vampire and victim with bloody teeth marks on her neck.

Short's Brewing Co., Bellaire

Beer: Ben's Asthma

Its description: “Despite the sweet initial flavors, an immediate mouth warming sensation caused by the high alcohol content lingers well beyond the finish.”

Our take: No need for albuterol.

Grisly graphic: Asthma inhaler with beer bottle on one end, flames shooting out the mouthpiece — ouch!



SHARON DARGAY

Rail District Bohemian Pilsner doesn't sound scary, but this Griffin Claw brew features a graphic of a screaming woman tied to the railroad tracks.



SHARON DARGAY

New Holland Brewing Co. features a scary trio on its Ichabod beer.

New Holland Brewing Co., Holland

Beer: Ichabod

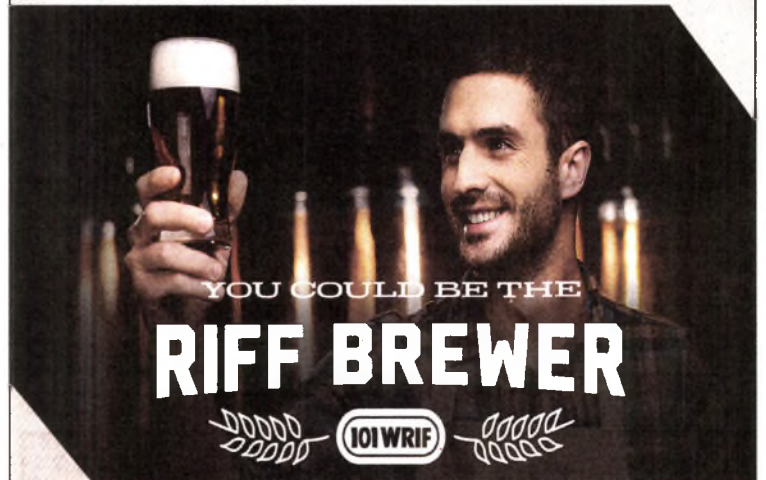
Its description: “Combines malted barley and real pumpkin with cinnamon and nutmeg in a delicious and inviting brew. After dinner, try it with your favorite dessert.”

Our take: You might lose your head over this seasonal brew.

Grisly graphic: Horseman with scary jack-o-lantern, on a horse with glowing eyes

sdargay@hometownlife.com

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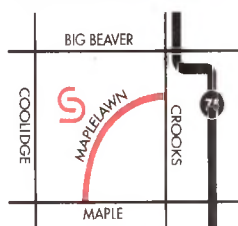
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Everyone should have a will, to make matters easier



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

Q: I'm a 61 year-old widow with two adult children. I only owe \$4,500 on my house and have an equity loan. All my other money is in bank accounts, with my children as beneficiaries. Plain and simple, I don't feel like I need a will. What are your thoughts? When I die, I suppose they will have to sell the house to pay off the equity loan and split the proceeds. The house is only in my name at the moment. What do I need to do, if anything? And will they have to claim their money from the sale of the house and their income tax return or anything? I hope you can answer my questions.

A: I still believe that despite having all your assets with beneficiaries, other than the house, it makes sense to do a will. It will act as a catch-all for anything you may have forgotten about or anything you may acquire that for some reason you do not have a beneficiary attached to. In addition, there can be issues that occur at the time of your death where the will can be useful. For example, if your death occurs because of an accident, your estate may wish to bring a lawsuit. Having a will can be helpful in resolving that lawsuit. Even though more likely than not your will won't be necessary, I believe it makes sense to do one.

Many people are under the belief wills are expensive; that is not the case. In your situation, I would think the Michigan Statutory Will would be an excellent will for you. This is a free fill-in-the-blank will that would act as a catch-all for property you acquire that does not have a beneficiary or, in an unusual case, if you acquire property after your death.

The Michigan Statutory Will is a free fill-in-the-blank will and is very easy to complete. If you visit my website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com, you can download a free copy of the

Michigan Statutory Will. I believe every adult in Michigan needs a will. The will may not be needed upon death, but if it turns out you needed a will and did not have one, it can cause all sorts of extra complexities and expenses. Since every adult in Michigan can do a will for free, I believe it makes sense to complete one.

With regard to the house, I would recommend doing what is known as a Lady Bird Deed. Basically, a Lady Bird Deed establishes a type of ownership in which the original owner (you) would have a life estate on the property, coupled with an unlimited power of appointment. The deed then specifies who will become the property owner upon your death. In simple terms, what this means is that, as the owner of the property, you retain full control of the property during your lifetime. Upon your death, that property will automatically pass, without the need of probate, to the designated beneficiaries.

The Lady Bird Deed has many advantages. Not only are they inexpensive to implement, but they also are very effective to avoid probate. Another advantage, which I believe is substantial, is the fact this type of arrangement does not create a joint ownership. In other words, the beneficiaries have no rights in the property until the death of the owner. The owner has control of the property and can change the deed at any time during their lifetime.

My advice to complete your estate plan is to do the Michigan Statutory Will and then to have an attorney draft the Lady Bird Deed. By doing this, you are going to avoid probate on the house and, at the same time, the kids will receive a stepped-up basis, which means if they sell the property immediately after death, there will be no tax liability. Furthermore, by having the will, you're covering your backside and protecting your children from anything unexpected that may occur.

Good luck!

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



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Livonia chamber's city council candidate forum set for Sept. 28

The eight candidates vying for four seats on the Livonia City Council in this fall's election will have an opportunity to share their ideas during a candidate forum Thursday, Sept. 28.



West

The Livonia Chamber of Commerce will serve as host for the 90-minute forum that will begin at 7 p.m. at the Livonia City Hall Auditorium. Admission is free and open to Livonia residents and business owners.

Chamber president Dan West will be the moderator of the event.

There will be an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the candidates, after some preliminary questions prepared by the Livonia Chamber Government Affairs Committee.

James Hooper, Suzan Hyssen, Jim Jolly, Steve King, Brian Meakin, Gerald Perez, Laura Toy and Cathy White are on the ballot for the Nov. 7 election. The top three finishers will each earn a four-year term in the seven-member city council; the fourth-place finisher will earn a two-year

term. "We invited all eight candidates and we usually have some pretty good interest in our candidate forums," West said.

The forum will be video recorded and rebroadcast on Livonia cable-access Channel 8 several times in the weeks leading up to the election.

The Livonia Chamber of Commerce is a non-partisan, nonprofit trade organization that represents 930 members. The chamber regularly coordinates candidate forums for city offices, but it does not endorse candidates.

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Wallet stolen

A resident in the 19900 block of Purlingbrook came to the Livonia police station to report her wallet had been stolen.

She said she went out to her vehicle and discovered her wallet was missing from her vehicle. She looked and saw her car, which was unlocked, had been rummaged through. The wallet contained items such as credit cards, her driver's license and cash. No suspect information was available.

Retail fraud reported

Police were called Sept. 10 to Target, 20100 Haggerty, on the report of a retail fraud suspect who had fled the store.

An employee told police they saw the suspect select several items of children's clothing and then went to the bedding section. She was seen concealing an infant's

outfit in her purse. She selected other pieces of clothing and went to a changing room. When she walked out of the room, she left several empty hangers in the room. She tried leaving the store without paying for the items, but was stopped by an employee. She refused to follow the employee and left the store, fleeing in a vehicle. Police later located the suspect's vehicle while it was driving near Seven Mile and Haggerty. She was then arrested.

Clothing taken

Police were called Sept. 9 to Walmart, 29574 Seven Mile, on the report of a retail fraud.

An employee told police the suspect had selected several pieces of clothing and was scanning them at a self-checkout. She scanned an item and placed another item in a bag without scanning it. She was later seen selecting other

items, including ear buds, and placing them in a cart. She then walked out without paying for the items but was stopped by an employee. She was detained until police arrived and issued her a citation. She was released at the scene.

Cellphone missing

A shopper at Walmart, 29574 Seven Mile, came to the police station Sept. 9 to report her cellphone went missing while at the store.

She said she was shopping at the store with her father when her cellphone went missing. She said she left it in a cart, which went unattended for a few minutes. When she returned, she found the cellphone was missing. She checked the location tracking on her phone, which revealed it was stationary near Seven Mile and Middlebelt.

- Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.



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GIRLS HOCKEY

Birmingham area to get unified team

Two schools to team with Bloomfield Hills to form squad

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

Lily Kirkman loves to play hockey. She started playing the fast-paced sport on area lakes as a youngster and hasn't stopped.

Now a junior at the International Academy in Bloomfield Hills, Kirkman is a returning member of the Bloomfield Hills Black Hawks girls hockey squad, which plays in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

Kirkman will have some new teammates when the 2107-18 season begins later this year, as Bloomfield Hills has teamed with Birmingham Seaholm and

Groves high schools to form a combined squad. The speedy center and honorable mention all-state player is looking forward to sharing the ice with players from the neighboring schools, which previously did not have a girls hockey program.

"I love playing high school hockey. Not a lot of high schools have girls hockey programs," said Kirkman, whose dad got her involved in hockey at an early age. "They either have to play club hockey or with their boys teams."

"I really like how we are expanding our program. There are girls from Birmingham who can come here and play and that's really cool," she added. "The more girls we can get, the better. I have a great time on the team."

A two-year experience

Mick Singelyn, Bloomfield Hills' coach the past four years, will coach the combined team.

He explained how players from Groves and Seaholm have always expressed an interest in playing, but he's had to turn them down since it was an exclusively Bloomfield Hills High School-based team.

After petitioning MMGSHSL officials — the governing body for girls high school hockey, like the Michigan High School Athletic Association is for boys hockey — it was agreed to allow the combined team a two-year window.

If enough Birmingham girls wind up playing for Bloomfield Hills over that time, they would be allowed to form



MARTY BUDNER

Lily Kirkman, a junior at International Academy in Bloomfield Hills, is a speedy center and one of the leading scorers on the Black Hawks ice hockey team.

See HOCKEY, Page B2

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Brandon Boyd, Ethan Byrnes and Carter Solomon run cross country for Plymouth High School.

LEADERS OF THE PACK

Plymouth standouts run with, for each other as Wildcats poised to make run for the top

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Running through the trees next to your buddies pretty much is the ultimate for Plymouth High School cross country runners Ethan Byrnes, Brandon Boyd and Carter Solomon.

The trio recently talked about why they prefer cross country to track and field — which all three also compete in during the spring — as well as what makes them tick as individual standouts and as part of a team that has the makings of literally making a run at something big this season.

"I love track, but going around in a circle gets boring after a while," said 17-year-old Byrnes, coming into his senior year with all-state honors under his belt (10th place at Michigan International

Speedway in Brooklyn with a 15:55.6 mark). "With cross country you get to see all the different courses and you get to run through woods. You can't have a forest on the track."

The 16-year-old Boyd, a junior who might have been a 2016 all-stater if not for late season injury, boiled it down even more. His personal best last year was 16:04.

"I think you get closer to the people you run cross country with," Boyd said. "Track team's too big, you can't really have as many close friends."

"On the cross country team, your varsity is your family. Those top seven, you go in with high hopes and, if you fall, you fall as one. If you win, you're united as one. It's just a great feeling to have such a

See WILDCATS, Page B3

PREP FOOTBALL

North Farmington win is a program builder

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

It's all about building a program for Bob Chiesa.

Now, don't misunderstand North Farmington's first-year head coach.

Chiesa was happy to register his first victory Sept. 8, when the Raiders defeated Pontiac, 26-16. The win also snapped a burdensome 11-game North Farmington losing streak.

However, his message to the team was to not be satisfied with one win — the program's first since the season-ending game of the 2015 season, when the Raiders toppled Oxford. Chiesa viewed the victory as the first step toward changing the culture of North Farmington football.

"It was a good win for us. I was happy for the young men, because we are asking a lot of them," said Chiesa, a 1980 University of Michigan graduate. "It's nice to get the monkey off our back, but I'm a non-complacent person."

"When you lose and you lose and you lose, it becomes a way of life. Now we gotta get them to understand and realize, don't be happy with one win. Let's start a streak of winning and then we can talk about that streak. I'm not saying we're going to win the state championship, but let's shoot for it and keep

See WIN, Page B2



MARTY BUDNER

First-year head coach Bob Chiesa (right) addresses his North Farmington football squad during a recent practice following its first victory of the season.

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PREP FOOTBALL

Canton's Baechler reaches 200 career victories

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Canton's Tim Baechler is no stranger to personal achievements as a high school football coach, having already been inducted into not one, but two halls of fame during his career.

Now, Baechler has joined the ranks of Michigan prep football coaches with 200 victories under his belt, thanks to Canton's 54-6 victory Sept. 8 over Hartland.

In his 26th season as a head coach and his 20th with the Chiefs, Baechler continues to be consistent with his method of communication — strong and fair, but demanding.

His teams' annual records are proof that his approach works, as he has led Canton to at least eight victories in seven of the past eight seasons (the only exception being 2012, when the Chiefs went 7-2 during the regular season before losing

to Plymouth in a pre-district game).
"It means I've been a head coach for 26 years; it's a long time," Baechler said during Tuesday's practice in preparation for Friday night's showdown against campus rival Salem. "But we've had a lot of success, I'm very thankful to be here. My 20th year and it's special. Not everybody can coach 26 years, I guess."

One of Baechler's longtime assistants, Bob Williams, tipped his cap to the boss for reaching the milestone.

"I think he's a master of the game. He gets it figured out," Williams said. "He will win more than he will lose. It's been great working with him."

During practice, it is interesting to see the way Baechler interacts with players following a snap — offering quick and direct takes on whether a run-through hit the mark



Getting a point across during Tuesday's practice is veteran Canton football head coach Tim Baechler.

or still needs further attention before game day.

Baechler almost seems as though he is in his "classroom" out on the practice field.

"I'm a little rougher out here than I am, obviously, in the classroom," he said with a chuckle. "But they respond to it.

I'm not yelling or calling anybody names, but it is an attention-getter.

"These kids, they need the constant feedback and they need me to coach hard. They expect me to coach hard and they respond."

Whether Baechler is doling out criticism or praise, players learn to

stick to the task at hand, the game at hand and get down to business. He also cares about each player on his roster.

"And they know that. They respect him huge," said Williams, the offensive line coach. "They'd run through a brick wall for him. It's consistency. He just has the bar high and he consistently pushes the kids to get there."

Baechler started his career at Hudson and moved to Dexter before joining the Chiefs for the 1998 season.

The success has been pretty much non-stop for the program ever since. In 2012, Baechler was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Three years later, he was named to the Michigan High School Coaches Association hall, which includes those who have led teams in all sports.

Also a big deal for the Plymouth resident has

been having sons Brocton and Lou (a current team leader) on the Chiefs. Wife Julie also is active with the football program.

But over the years, a Baechler-coached team doesn't pull any punches or offer any surprises. It always features multiple playmakers behind a tough-as-nails offensive line, augmented by strong defense and special teams.

"It's 'the team, the team, the team,'" Baechler said. "No stars. Sometimes it's going to be the fullback, sometimes it's going to be the quarterback, sometimes it's going to be one of the halfbacks."

"We don't care, as long as we're moving the ball and scoring touchdowns."

And, of course, winning games. Lots of them.

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Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

their own team. If not, they would continue to play for Bloomfield Hills.

"Since I had taken over at Bloomfield Hills, every year I get about four or five Birmingham girls asking to join our team and asking if we are unified," Singelyn said. "And every year, I have to tell them no, we are not unified. It's a varsity sport at Bloomfield Hills High School.

"Over the summer, we had enough interest from the Birmingham girls that we went to our league and asked for a unified program. Our league agreed to it and here we are. They voted to get Birmingham going and give them a chance. If it works, great, we have another team in the league. If not, at least we're giving them a chance to play."

"The Bloomfield Hills AD (Mike Cowdrey) has been great," he added. "They are all about kids sports over there and trying to make it work."

Satisfied with response

Singelyn is satisfied with the response he has seen so far.

In fact, about a dozen girls were on hand for an optional conditioning and skills camp Tuesday afternoon at the Orchard Lake St. Mary's Ice Arena. Seaholm students Mika Hamady and Charlie Kuchman were two player skating with Kirkman.

Conditioning coaches



Charlie Kuchman, a Seaholm sophomore, plans to play girls ice hockey this winter on the unified team representing Bloomfield Hills, Groves and Seaholm high schools.

Marc Bekolay and Anatoli Buliga guided the girls through some spirited skating drills.

The conditioning camps are scheduled for each Tuesday and Sunday at the arena on the St. Mary's High School campus. Singelyn is hoping the camps, which are completely voluntary and run by Bekolay and Buliga, will help prepare the girls for the first official day of practice in November.

"Pretty much every high school does fall skates. Obviously, the (high school) coaching

staff can't be on the ice, so we have to find volunteers to help us out or pay a coach," Singelyn said. "You don't want to walk into the season on Nov. 1, have two weeks and then go play a game. "Hockey is one of those sports where you have to get yourself going a couple of months ahead of time," he added. "It's almost a year-round sport. If you're not in shape and your edges aren't ready to go and your stick-handling isn't there, you'll be in trouble come November."

Bloomfield Hills suffered a few injuries and finished with a 4-7-1-1 record last year in the 14-team league. The Black Hawks lost in the first round of the Division 2 state tournament to eventual state runner-up Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Singelyn, whose teams are normally around the .500 mark, hopes the camps and influx of new talent will help the Bloomfield Hills program continue to develop.

"There aren't a lot of girls teams in the state and the skill level in high school is all over the place," said Singelyn, who is assisted by Chris Koch. "You have high-end girls and you have novices. High school hockey is another place for them to put the skates on and go play hockey."

"Every year, though, we are getting bigger and bigger in Bloomfield. But we are getting more girls who haven't played before, so the interest is there. The girls are just having a great time and every kid is laughing and smiling out there and that's what it's all about. We are not going to cut anybody. We are going to take them all."

"It was good news when I heard that we could combine with the Birmingham schools," he added. "I love coaching and teaching them. Giving them a place to play is what it's all about. And if they do separate, it would give us a good rivalry to play Birmingham."

All eligible female players from the Birmingham-Bloomfield area are encouraged to contact Singelyn if they wish to play high school hockey at micks.hockey@gmail.com. Preseason fall skates continue through October.

PREP WRESTLING

Bruce Lee motto sums up coach McCurdy's approach

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

There's a new wrestling coach in town and he plans on doing things by the numbers, if you will.

But that doesn't mean Livonia Stevenson varsity wrestling coach John McCurdy plans on being too conservative or keeping his athletes from cutting loose on the mat.

"I'm a grinder and I believe that you can outwork people," McCurdy said. "We are basic in our approach to wrestling, taking the old Bruce Lee motto, 'I am not scared of the man who knows 10,000 kicks, I'm scared of the man who has done one kick 10,000 times.'"

"We will be very good at the fundamentals and we will be passionate. My staff and I will make the sport fun, too."

Many hours working hard in practice also are part of the plan. Repetition of drills and attention to detail will help Spartans wrestlers work toward becoming experts in various maneuvers and technique.

"Wrestling is really hard and we will make sure the kids enjoy the grind as much as they embrace it," said McCurdy, who lives in Livonia with wife Etana and children Kerrington and E.J. Taking over at Stevenson (from veteran coach Dan Vaughan) is "a dream job for my family and I. ... We are all in and it is my first priority to make sure the athletes are as excited about me

as I am about them," McCurdy said.

McCurdy comes to Stevenson with a wealth of coaching experience, having guided Dearborn Heights Crestwood teams to some outstanding achievements over the past 12 years.

During that span, the Chargers made one trip to the state championship meet and had five individuals qualify to compete at The Palace of Auburn Hills. One Crestwood wrestler earned a championship in his weight class.

"There is very nearly nothing I have not seen in this sport," McCurdy said. "I will lean on that experience and lean on the people who deserve a lot of the credit for making it."

"I'm chasing several high-profile assistant and volunteer coaches who helped me over there and I hope to be bringing some into the fold very soon. We plan to make a splash and are very willing to work hard for it."

According to McCurdy, his Stevenson predecessors left him with a great deal of talent to start off with.

"I am thrilled and honored to have been chosen to take over the program," McCurdy said. "It is a program with rich history, including several state champions in past years. We have a great returning class and an awesome batch of incoming freshmen."

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WIN

Continued from Page B1

taking a step at a time.

"It was nice to get that first win but, as I told the players, celebrate for two days and then put it in the closet and focus on the next game," he said. "We have come a long ways since the beginning of the season, but we have a long ways to go. You don't turn an 0-9 season around in one year."

Will be a process

Chiesa knows it's going to be a process.

The good news is that the varsity numbers are significantly higher this year with 53 players on the roster, more than

double from last year. Because of that, Chiesa is able to field completely different units on both sides of the ball.

The flip side is there are only 11 seniors.

North Farmington entered this season with just five returning starters: Jason Wade, Dylan Gordon and Chris Ulmer on offense and Jayden Allen and Lamar Pope on defense. Ulmer is the lone junior among that group.

"We do not have any two-way players. People are shocked when they hear that, but



Dunlap

Fuller

Coleman

we do not have one player who plays on both sides of the ball," Chiesa said. "That makes for some fresher players on the field and better productivity. Instead of getting half the reps in practice, they are getting all the reps on the field."

In that 10-point victory over the Phoenix, the Raiders trailed at half-time, 16-7. They rallied for the win with 19 unanswered second-half points.

Gordon led the way with 17 carries for 115 yards, including a pair of touchdowns. Cam-

eron Dunlap scored on a short sweep and Matt Corporan Coleman started things off on the right foot for the Raiders with a sizzling 85-yard kickoff return for a score to open the game.

In addition, Corporan Coleman, a junior free safety, was the team leader in interceptions (two) and fumble recoveries (two) after the first three games. Junior Ivory Fuller, an outside linebacker, had a tremendous game against Pontiac with seven solo tackles, three assisted tackles and one sack.

"Pontiac's a good team," Chiesa said. "They have athletes. I'll make a prediction right now. I think three of their starters can play D-I

(college) football. They are that good."

"But I was proud of my team. They hung tough," he added. "It was like taking that first step. You gotta learn how to win and I think we took that first step."

Building team philosophy

Chiesa intends to build the team philosophy. With a group of young players dedicated to that goal, he's excited about the future.

"We are young, but the future is bright. I have said that all along and I smile when I say that," Chiesa said. "We are a very young team and I'm going to have all that experience coming back. How many programs can say they only start five

seniors? And all the key positions, they are sophomores."

"We knew this year you gotta do what you gotta do. We're not making excuses. We're strapping up every day and we're going to get better every day. That's our team motto. We want to get better every day. We ask the players: 'Did you get better with that play? Was today better than yesterday?'"

"It's not that I'm down on them, but I related one thing to them at the beginning that I'm not going to accept mediocrity," he added. "We want to get better every day and stay together as a unit. That's what I want. I want to find guys who are willing to commit."

PREP CROSS COUNTRY



Senior Andrew Beyer (from left), junior Luke Haran, senior Ryan Exell and junior Christo Jeffers will spearhead Salem this season.

SALEM CROSS COUNTRY

Preview: Area teams abound with talented performers

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Kensington Lakes Activities Association boys and girls cross country teams are approaching the first marker of the season.

Yet there remains much to be discovered about runners and their teams over the next couple of months.

Following is a look at what coaches consider the top three runners on their teams, as well as insight into which opponents loom large.

(Note: Other coaches did not respond to a request for information.)

Salem boys

Coach Steve Aspinall's take: Junior Luke Haran is at the top of his list. He ran 16:05 last year, 10th best in school history and the fastest time ever by a Salem sophomore.

Next up is senior Ryan Exell, who ran 16:37 last season. He also was the Rocks' top finisher in the recent Golden Grizzly Invitational at Oakland University, which Salem won.

It's a toss-up between

senior Andrew Beyer and junior Christo Jeffers for No. 3 on his list. Beyer and Jeffers had personal bests of 17:06 and 17:30 in 2016.

As for top foes, the Salem coach listed Plymouth, Novi and Brighton.

Livonia Churchill boys

Coach John McGreevy's take: His top three are juniors Brendan McCoy and Eric Pensari and senior Will Hengy.

McCoy is looking to improve upon his 2016 personal best of 17:17; Pensari and Hengy ran top times of 17:10 and 17:51, respectively.

Plymouth, Novi, Northville and Livonia Stevenson should kick up the most dust among other KLAA squads, he added.

Canton boys

Coach Bill Boyd's take: He lists senior Shane Andrews (16:15) as the Chiefs No. 1, followed by seniors Andrew Lake (17:10) and David Kight (17:31). Another top runner is Bailey Hoffmeyer (18:14).

Andrews is only 17



MICHAEL VASILNEK

Shea Wilson returns to the Salem lineup, where she was a standout last fall.

seconds away from posting a school record, while Lake owns one of the school's 50 fastest times.

Boyd listed Plymouth, Salem and Livonia Churchill as top rivals.

Wayne Memorial boys

Coach Thomas Gibson's take: The young Zebras will be paced by senior John Gatton, junior Jonathan Boland and sophomore Trent Griffith

as the team looks to improve after losing five of the top eight runners from last year's squad.

Gatton and Boland had a good start, both running 18:11 at a dual meet, while Griffith clocked in with a mark of 18:59.

Livonia Stevenson girls

Coach Rick Brauer's take: Sophomore Cassie McDougall qualified for the state meet as a freshman and she looks to pick up where she left off. She finished in the top 10 at the highly competitive Northville Mustang Invitational.

Junior Gracie Droz had a strong 2016-17 in cross country and track for the Spartans. "I expect her success from the track season will carry over to a successful 2017 cross country season," Brauer said.

Stevenson's third runner is senior and fourth-year runner Emily Lauzon. The coach said he is "looking for big race performances from her this fall."

Opponents to watch out for include Northville, Brighton, Livonia Churchill and Salem.

Salem girls

Coach Dave Gerlach's take: At the top of Salem's list is senior Shea Wilson, who last year had a personal best of 19:32.4 while qualifying for the state meet.

Juniors Hallie Younglas (19:54.2, state meet qualifier) and Gabby Mancini (19:49.2, state meet qualifier) round out an impressive top three.

Northville, Brighton and Novi are teams Gerlach intends to watch out for.

Plymouth girls

Coach Alice Ahearn's take: Senior Arwa Hararwala is listed No. 1, having "worked hard over the summer putting in countless miles and (she) already PR'd in her first two pre-season races."

Freshman Londyn Swenson and sophomore Izzy Tiplady are next up for the Wildcats. Swenson eclipsed the 21-minute mark in two pre-season races.

She said other teams of note this season are Northville, Salem and Livonia Stevenson.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

WILDCATS

Continued from Page B1

close bond with your guys like that."

It's just fun

Solomon, 15, is the youngest of the three, entering his sophomore year. But as a ninth-grader, he ran like an upper-classman. In fact, he joined Byrnes in the all-state ranks. He finished 18th at MIS with his time of 16:01.

"These guys that I come to practice with, they're just a good time," Solomon said. "Going out for a run with them, talking about their day and how they went about their day is just a lot of fun to me."

There's nothing else they'd rather be doing and it is evident in their success with the Wildcats.

Consider Byrnes for a moment. He could have

dialled it down a notch after last season's all-state honors. Instead, he and his running pals pushed it during track season, during "optional" summer training and into the pre-season.

"The training has become a little more aggressive," Byrnes said. "We do a little more of sprint work, longer distances now."

"All it is is building up leg strength and getting ourselves prepared for what other teams have to offer, since we are coming in as one of the best teams in the state of Michigan."

In it together

Summer vacation also is marked by long runs through Canton streets, up and down hills.

"They're optional practices, but we get a good group to come out," Byrnes said. "It will range from freshmen all the way to seniors and the seniors will lead the

group on runs that range from about four to seven miles. We can take Joy Road all the way down to Ridge and then Gyde and all the way back."

The dedication already is paying off. Byrnes set a Plymouth record when he finished a recent meet at Huron Meadows Metropark with a time of 15 minutes, 42 seconds (breaking Matthew Pahl's record). He's already shaved 11 seconds off his best time last season.

Individual records might be nice, but they're not the reason Byrnes, Boyd and Solomon push themselves to run long and fast.

They obviously like being with each other, which is essential for team success as well — the good-old "pack mentality" is one of the special ingredients that make cross country unique.

By pushing themselves they push their teammates, which also

include Ethan's younger brother (freshman Patrick Byrnes) and sophomore Tyler Mussen, among others.

"I really put a lot of pressure on myself, especially keeping up with these two, it's always a challenge every day at practice," Boyd said.

"Everyone's always pushing each other trying to make each other better."

"Everyone's always encouraging each other to run their absolute best every day."

Kicking it

Solomon said having a deep team also relieves individual pressure.

"Yeah, our four and five guys are super-strong this year," Solomon said. "And, hopefully, they can drop some times and we can make some huge improvements as a team."

With a wry smile, Solomon said there is some attempts at friendly one-upsmanship at play, too.

"The second race I went 15:47, which is only two seconds behind the previous school record and about five seconds behind the new school record (which Byrnes just set)," Solomon said, adding that he might be targeting that high water mark. "Yeah, a little bit. He's got a phenomenal kick that's hard to keep up with, but I try my best when I'm out there."

That extra gear late in a race is essential to winning closely contested KLAA meets, which are the norm at Plymouth's home course (Cass Benton in Northville).

"During a race, I like to kick with 400 meters to go, to try to sprint it in," said Boyd, whose dad (Bill Boyd) happens to be Canton's head coach. "But it all depends. If I'm a mile away and the guy is beating me by a 400, then I got to kick earlier, make sure I'm in front of that guy so we get points."

Another key element in a successful runner's tool box is the ability to read a situation and adjust in real time.

"You can't go into a race without a changing plan," Boyd said. "You never know. Sometimes, the first mile goes too fast and you got to always be ready to change on the fly."

Byrnes concurred that game plans change.

"There'll be points where I'll be running with some of the top guys and then they decide to kick it in with 800 left and you just have to go with them," Byrnes said. "Be the better man, get on your toes and go faster."

"You got to give it everything you got in the last mile and lay it all out there in the last half."

This talented trio of Plymouth Wildcats can be counted on to do that. For their second family.

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USPBL BASEBALL



The Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers celebrate after claiming the 2017 USPBL championship Sept. 10 at Jimmy John's Field.

USPBL

Beavers manager reflects on 'super cool' crown

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

It's been a long time between baseball championships for Chris Newell.

In 1991, Newell played shortstop for Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes when it captured the MHSAA Class D state crown under head coach Dan Webster. Sept. 10 at Jimmy John's Field in Utica, Newell led the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers to the United Shore Professional Baseball League title with a 5-2 victory over the Westside Woolly Mammoths.

Even though 26 years have passed, that championship feeling never loses its luster.

"My first reaction was I just wanted to hug every one of my players for a job well done," Newell said. "You know, these guys were so driven to win that thing for one another. It was awesome. It was super cool."

"In fact, I had flashbacks from my senior year in high school. This game really took me back. The gratification and the feeling of accomplishment, like, you set out to reach a goal and, once you achieve it, it's the greatest thing in the world."

"And what's crazy, and I kid you not, is that I had a dream (later that night) that we had won the championship after we had already won the championship," he added. "I'm telling you, the real thing was better than my dream. It was awesome. It's been a magical season."

Redemption is sweet

The victory is even sweeter for Newell, whose Beavers dropped last year's title game to the hometown Utica Unicorns.

Birmingham-Bloomfield entered as the top-seeded team in 2016 after having registered the league's best regular-season record. The Unicorns were last in the standings, but managed to qualify for the championship game and log the upset.

Newell's squad faced a similar situation this season, qualifying for the



MARTY BUDNER

Manager Chris Newell led the Birmingham-Bloomfield Beavers to a championship 26 years after winning a high school state crown at Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes.

championship game as the top seed after again securing the league's best regular-season record. They again faced the lowest-seeded team in the Mammoths.

But unlike last year, the Beavers survived the pressure-packed one-game elimination playoff to win in just the independent league's second season of play.

Newell even utilized coach Webster's 1991 pep talk to help motivate the Beavers.

"What was fantastic is that part of my pregame speech to the guys, even though it was a short, brief one, was the same speech our high school coach gave us back in 1991," Newell said. "That ('90-91 season), we lost in the state finals in football, 33-7, and (Webster) asked us if we were close to winning the state championship in football."

"Of course, we said yes. But he told us we weren't even close to winning that thing. He told us we may have been in the final game, but we weren't even close to winning. He said now you guys have a chance at redemption."

"And really, that's what I told my players. I told the few guys who were returning: 'We played in the cham-

ampionship game last year.' Then I asked them, 'How close were we to getting that ring?' They all said we got real close. And I said, 'No, we lost 5-0. Today's your chance at redemption.'

"There was a lot of 1991 floating around in our clubhouse in 2017 on championship day," he added. "It was so cool."

Confident team of Beavers

The Beavers took an early 2-0 in the third inning, when DonAndre Clark drove in Thomas Roulis with an infield hit. Brandon Rawe plated Clark on a double to left field.

The Mammoths, the USPBL's newest team this year and winners of their first two playoff games, rallied for a pair of seventh-inning runs on Alex Abbott's opposite-field two-run home run to tie the game.

It didn't take long for the Beavers to respond.

Birmingham-Bloomfield regained the lead in the bottom of the seventh inning on run-producing hits by Nichols Buckner and Hunter Wood. The Beavers added an insurance run in the eighth inning on an RBI double by Rob Paller.

Randy Wynne, Birmingham-Bloomfield's monster arm down the stretch, went all nine innings to pick up the victory despite a pitch count that eclipsed 100 for the game. The second-year Beavers hurler struck out a league-record 14 batters and got the game's final batter on a slow roller to the mound, which ignited the celebration.

"They weren't over-hyped for the championship game. It was just business as usual," Newell said. "Thank God, I just let them do their thing and got out of the way."

"After they tied the game, (injured team leader) D.J. Martinez kept saying we had to get Randy a run, that he deserved to win it, and our guys knew that. We scored two in the seventh and got the extra run in the eighth."

"Randy finished the season with three consecutive complete games and he was magnificent down the stretch for us," he added. "Our guys just weren't going to be denied. It was their day and they had Randy's back the whole day and the whole year, for that matter. Our guys were confident."

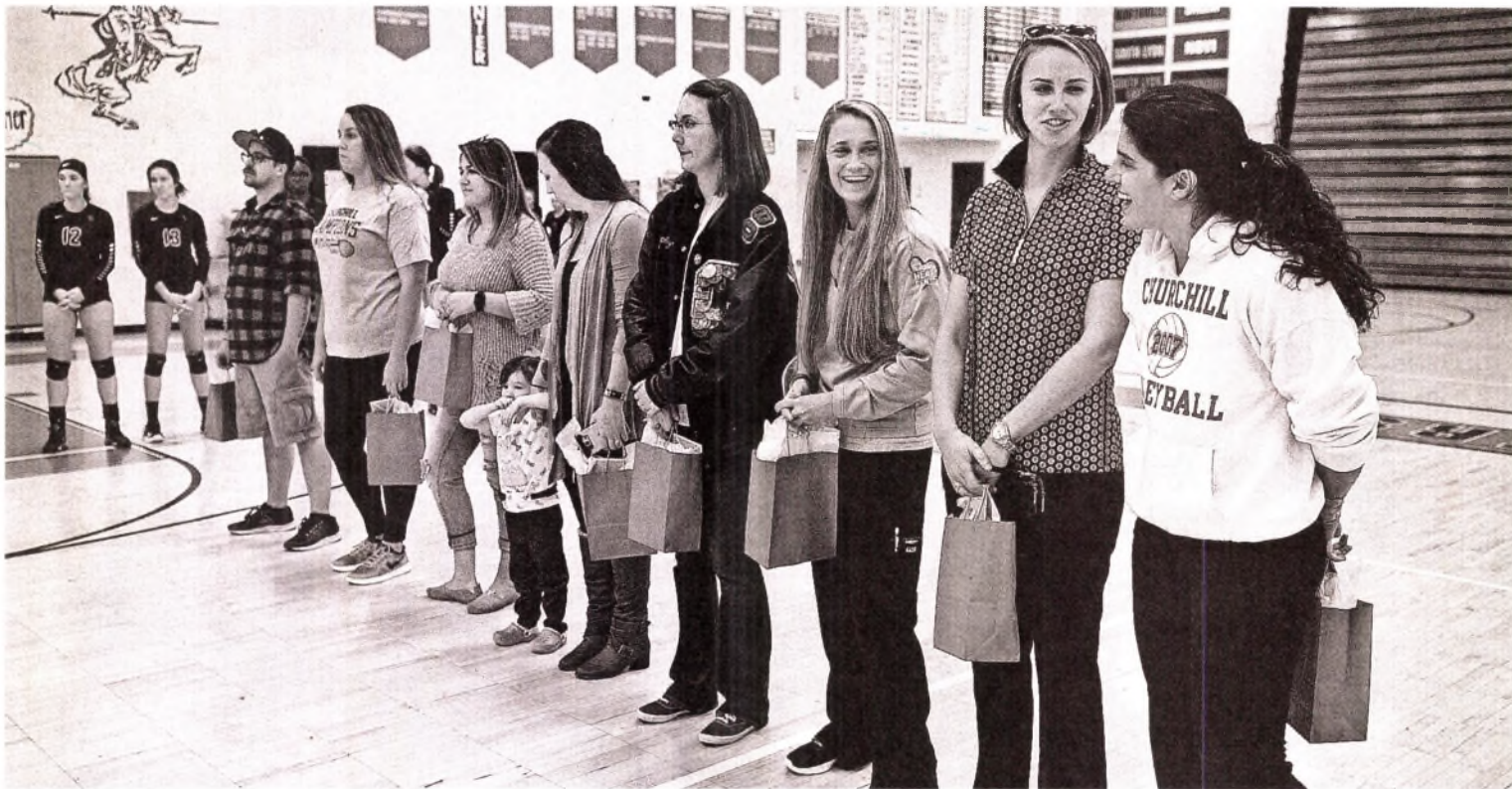
As far as Newell is concerned, Birmingham-Bloomfield, even though it got off to a slow start and had the league's worst record at the all-star break, had a perfect season in terms of goals reached.

The Beavers sent the most players to Major League Baseball organizations (three), had the best regular-season record (27-22) to finish as the top seed, won their division title and captured the league championship.

"It was a clean sweep for what I had wanted to do at the start of the season," Newell said. "So it was a perfect season, in my mind, and it was very special. I know it's only been two years, but these guys are the best team in the brief history of our league."

"When you win the regular season, you're the best. When you win the championship, you're the best. So we took care of business and I'll be forever grateful to those young men who I had the privilege of managing."

HONORING CLASS A CHAMPS



On Tuesday, Livonia Churchill honored members of the 2007 Class A state championship volleyball team.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Chargers celebrate past glory

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

It's been more than a decade since Livonia Churchill's volleyball team went on a magical postseason run that culminated with the 2007 Class A state championship.

On Tuesday, some of that old magic was still in the air at Churchill, as '07 head coach Mark Grenier and several members of that team were honored in ceremonies prior to the Chargers' contest against Hartland.

Kelsey McKenzie could feel it. So could Anna Gatt and Grenier.

"It is hard to believe it's 10 years, but I tell you what, it's the gift that keeps on giving," said Grenier, who this summer left Churchill to take an assistant coaching job at Madonna University. "We've had 10 years worth of memories and 10 years worth of wonderful celebration."

McKenzie, a senior setter during the 2006-07 season (that was the last season volleyball was played during the winter; it moved to the fall schedule in 2007), couldn't stop from smiling when thinking back to the way the Chargers upset defending state champion East

Kentwood in the semifinals and North Branch in the finals.

"I just cannot believe a decade has gone by," McKenzie said. "It seems like yesterday, obviously. I remember the whole day like it was yesterday."

Just amazing

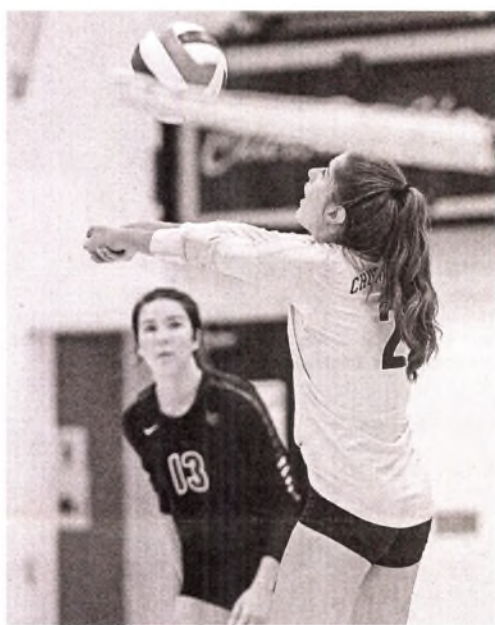
What a day March 17, 2007, was, too. She sparked Churchill's 3-2 win at Kalamazoo's University Arena with 61 assists, a feat still recognized in the MHSAA record book.

"It went to five games and it was very intense," McKenzie said. "We lost the first one, then we won and they won and we won. And then we came back and won in the fifth."

"It was just really intense. Every moment still replays in my head, it was an amazing feeling. ... We were the underdogs, we weren't favored, so it was awesome."

Gatt, a defensive specialist on the 2007 team, noted that the title run seems to carry more emotional clout now than it did at the time it happened.

"It's amazing how, when you're in the moment, of the day of, it doesn't really seem like much," Gatt said. "We



Churchill sophomore libero Jessica Maladeckin (right) keeps the play alive. In the background is Sarah Dunn.

BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

just took it as another game. But, like, every year we meet and (this is) the 10th year they do this for us, it's pretty amazing."

Other 2007 players on hand for Tuesday's program included right-side hitter Sarah Button, defensive specialist Jordan Kerr, middle hitter Ja-

clyn Gribeck, outside hitter Stephanie Bradshaw and right-side hitter Sarah Suppelsa.

Not able to make it due to logistics were middle hitter and 2008 Miss Volleyball Kyndra Abron (who lives in California), outside hitters Lauren Krupsky and Kathryn Krupsky, defensive spe-

cialist Lindsay Graciak, middle hitter Shari Zakalowski, setter Kristy DeClercq, libero Kelly Archer and defensive specialist Shannon Warner.

"We were definitely the underdog team," Grenier said. "We had to play East Kentwood in the semifinals and they were the defending state champs."

"Quite honestly, we probably had no business even winning. You know, it's just kind of reminiscent of really what we are. Just a hard-driven team and we kind of had a mantra, 'Why not us?' Somebody was going to win it."

Deja vu

Tuesday's game mirrored the 2007 championship tilt, with Churchill (now coached by Kristin Clutter) rallying for a 3-2 victory.

The match took on the same pattern, with the Chargers losing 25-19 to start it off.

After Churchill (14-6, 2-1 KLAA) won 25-17 in set two, the Eagles came back for a 25-21 win in the third set.

The Chargers answered the challenge, however with 25-22 and 16-14 wins in the last two sets.

"We wanted to respect them (2007 champions) and make a name for Churchill," said junior setter Grace Vaeth, who served an ace for the match-winning point.

"We still can win in the end. Like tradition doesn't graduate, we're still here and we're still victorious. We can do it."

Vaeth had 34 assists, helping set up power hitters Sarah Dunn (17 kills) and Annabelle Dunn (16 kills).

Other strong performers were sophomore libero Jessica Maladeckin (23 digs) and junior middle blocker Summer Clark (six kills, four blocks).

Before the game, Clutter said it would be good for her team to soak in the 2007 championship ceremony.

"We're really proud of the history of this program, so the 2007 state championship really holds a special place at the school and with the program," Clutter said. "It's good to still have the ties from that team that are coming back and supporting the younger team and for us to be able to celebrate that accomplishment."

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USA HOCKEY

Appert brings energy, passion to NTDP position

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Seth Appert already looks totally at home at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth, where he soon begins his first season as head coach of the National Team Development Program Under-18 team.

"It's been great. Every day it's just fun to come to the rink," Appert said following Monday afternoon's practice. "You're working with the most talented young players in our country."

With longtime NTDP coach Danton Cole leaving to coach at Michigan State University, Appert was brought in to fill the void.

Last year's U18 coach, John Wroblewski, moves down to the Under-17 team (in the NTDP, coaches stay with the same group of players for their two years in the program).

"I am by nature an energetic, passionate, competitive optimist, I guess," Appert said. "I'm

a guy that has good positive energy every day. I expect the same in return.

"Naturally competitive, but I'm certainly an optimist by nature and I try to see the best in situations and in our young men. So I think that style will relate well to this age group, especially. It will allow them to build trust."

Appert was a goaltender for Division I Ferris State University (1992-96) and went on to log two decades as coach, including the past 11 seasons at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York state.

He also was an assistant coach in 2017 for the U.S. Men's National Under-18 team that won a gold medal at the IIHF worlds. As if that wasn't enough, he also helped coach the 2017 U.S. Men's National Team.

"I got to live this (NTDP) job as an assistant and watch (U.S. coaches) John Wroblewski, Nick Fohr and Greg



Appert

Moore," Appert said. "I was with them for about six weeks at the end of the year and then into the world championships."

"I also got to go overseas with the NHL guys, to see how those guys do it on a daily basis, how competitive they are, how detailed they are. And (had) a chance to work with coaches like Jeff Blashill and Jack Capuano and guys with NHL experience."

Because of his long career as a college coach — and because the NTDP

largely develops players to go to the collegiate level first and, hopefully, turn pro after that — Appert is confident he can help players as they struggle and grow during the season.

"I was a student-athlete in college, at Ferris State," Appert said. "I've coached for 21 years in Division I. So for most of these guys, that's going to be their path. They're going to go from here, they're going to go on to Division I hockey and then, hopefully, on to the NHL from there."

"Seeing what it's taken for players to be elite Division I players, to move on to the NHL, to see it at that level, hopefully, some of those things I can pass on to our guys that are going to help them on their path."

Appert is a Plymouth resident, along with his family (wife Jill, daughters Addi and Campbell).

"We're thrilled to be in the Plymouth community," Appert said, "and appreciate the warm

welcome that we've received."

FOR OPENERS

The preseason begins Sept. 15-16 at USA Hockey Arena, with both NTDP teams then hitting the road for a couple of weeks.

Regular season home openers are: U18 team, 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13, against Miami (Ohio) University; U17 team, 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, against Green Bay.

The U18s play a schedule that includes college opponents and teams from the United States Hockey League; the U17s play mostly in the USHL. Both teams also compete in international tournaments during the season.

LOCALS

On the U18s, Michigan natives on the roster include goalie Drew Deridder (Fenton, MSU commit), defenseman Bode Wilde (Birmingham) and forward Jonathan Gruden (Rochester, Miami University).

Forward Ryder Rol-

ston (Birmingham, Notre Dame commit) is on the U17 roster.

GETTING SCHOOLED

USA Hockey fans will want to circle several dates on their calendars as six "elite" college hockey programs will face the U18 team.

The College Series 6-Pack is being promoted by the NTDP, with one ticket going for \$60. Games on the docket include: Friday, Oct. 13, Miami (Ohio), 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Nov. 22, Adrian College, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 2, Michigan, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 16, Michigan State, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 2, Ferris State, 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 7, Utica College, 2 p.m.

For more information, go to usahockeyntdp.com or call 734-453-8400.

"For our fans to see six high-quality NCAA opponents in our arena is going to be a real treat for them," Appert said.

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O&E MEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

Tournament veterans earn some more hardware

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Golfing at Whispering Willows in Livonia never gets old for Bill Himm and grabbing some hardware at the annual Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Tournament also is something he's getting quite used to.

Himm, a 1969 graduate of Livonia Stevenson who played for the Spartans boys golf team when it first was formed (with matches at Whispering Willows), won the senior flight with his 152 total over Labor Day weekend.

The overall champion was Westland's Matt Wiley, who captured his third tourney triumph and second in two years. He finished the 36-hole excursion with a 75-70-145 total, edging runner-up Raz Boghikian (75-71-146). Tied for third place with 148 each were Matt Lee and Chris Treadwell.

After recording 77 on Sept. 3 at Fox Creek in Livonia, deadlocked with Don Mullett and two ahead of Vincent Rhodes, Himm went back to Whispering Willows on Sept. 5 and shot 75 to finish three strokes up on Mullett.

It was Himm's third senior championship in a row and fourth during his career. He also won overall honors in 2007.

"I went to Stevenson back when it was new and Whispering Willows was our home course," said Himm, who lives in Livonia not far from the golf course. "So I played in the first versions of those tournaments way back.

"I think they called it the Livonia Open back then, before the Observer started sponsoring it."

Wiley won the overall

championship for the second year in a row and

third all told, while Himm won his back-to-back senior division title. Wiley and Himm pocketed gift certificates for \$325 and \$160, respectively, along with tourney hardware.

Tournament director Paul Worley, golf pro at Whispering Willows, said there were 62 golfers taking part this year, down from last year's 65.

Kolpacke won the first flight with a 79-81-160 scoreline, edging Gordon Harrison (81-81-162).

His efforts were rewarded with a \$275 gift certificate and trophy.

"The biggest hurdle I faced was on the greens," Kolpacke said. "Some greens, it was my speed and others, it was my line. I just kept focusing on hitting solid shots into the greens and at least giving myself a chance for pars and birdies.

"All in all, the weather was great and it was a few fun rounds on the course, so I was happy no matter what happened."

Himm, whose son Daniel caddied for him, also won the closest to the pin competition on the No. 11 hole at Fox Creek (165 yards).

"They put the pins in very tricky spots," Himm said. "I've been playing there a lot since high school, 40-some years, and they still found new pin positions at Whispering.

"It makes it kind of challenging. I don't think anybody can prepare when they find new pin positions. If I haven't seen them, I don't think anybody has."

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Matt Wiley (right) of Westland was the overall champion at the O&E Men's Golf Tournament. Victorious in the first flight was Westland's Alex Kolpacke (left).



Westland's Matt Wiley, who won the overall championship at the O&E tourney, takes a tee shot.

BILL HIMM
Bill Himm of Livonia displays his plaque for winning the senior flight at the recent O&E Men's Golf Tournament.



OAA ROUNDUP

Brother Rice runs past U-D Jesuit, 17-43

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Boys cross country

Brother Rice opened the Catholic League dual meet season Sept. 11 at Martin Road Park in Hazel Park with a 17-43 victory over U-D Jesuit. The Warriors swept the top four places, led by Mike Tremonti who won in a time of 16:17. Grant Davey was second in 16:24, followed by teammates Alec Miracle in third (16:33) and Kevan O'Brien in fourth (17:29). Rice's Jacob Hannawa was seventh, Joe Berg eighth and Joe Kawka 10th.

AVERRILL INVITATIONAL: Brother Rice placed

16th in the Averill Invite Sept. 9 at Kensington Metropark. The top two Warrior runners were Joe Berg (78th in 18:51) and Joe Kawka (88th in 19:01).

Girls cross country

RAMBLING ROCK INVITATIONAL: On Sept. 9, North Farmington placed 15th in this invite at Willow Metropark. The Lady Raiders were led by Kavina Sheth, who placed 77th in 23:00. Youmna Khan was 92nd (24:30), Sophia Goldman 97th (25:08) and Sierra Willnus 101st (24:44) — all season-best times — for North Farmington. Plymouth Salem won with 33 points, followed by Livonia Stevenson with 96.

Boys tennis
GROVES 8, ADAMS 1: Groves swept the singles

matches Tuesday and registered this easy OAA Red Division win. The host Falcons were led by singles players Gabe Liss (No. 1), Gabe Vidinas (No. 2), Jonah Liss (No. 3) and Ian Rosenwasser (No. 4). The first three flights were decided in straight sets, while Rosenwasser defeated Adams' Evan Chang, 6-3, 2-6, 6-0. At No. 1 doubles, the Groves duo of Aerik Joe and Nick Haddad won in two tough sets over Alvin Chan and Matt Heapy, 6-4, 7-6 (4). Adams' lone win was a three-setter at No. 2 doubles.

COUNTRY DAY 6, GROVES 3: In this non-league match Sept. 11, Groves won the top three singles flights while Country Day swept the doubles and final singles slot. The two Gabes, Liss and Vidinas, and Jonah Liss all won for Groves in

straight sets. DCD's Eric Wang defeated Groves sophomore Ian Rosenwasser in straight sets at No. 4 singles. Country Day's No. 2 doubles team of Prathik Chykkapall and Nathan Thews defeated the Groves team of Alex Nader and Yanis Bousarsar in three sets, 7-5, 6-7 (3), 6-1.

CRANBROOK 9, GROVES 1: On Sept. 9, Cranbrook Kingswood stormed past Groves as all 10 flights were decided in straight sets. At No. 1 singles, Cranbrook's Benji Jacobson defeated Groves junior Gabe Vidinas, 6-3, 7-6 (7). The lone Groves win was at No. 3 singles, where Jonah Liss won by default.

Boys soccer
NORTH FARMINGTON 1, LAKE ORION 0: On Tuesday, North Farmington scored the game's

only goal midway through the first half, when Andrew George converted after a nice set-up through pass by Matthew George. The Raiders had a few more quality second-half chances without scoring. North Farmington goalie Zach Shuk played a solid game to earn the shutout. North hiked its overall record to 5-2-1, including a 3-1-0 OAA White Division mark.

ROEPER 4, CLINTON 1: On Sept. 9, Roeper scored twice in each half. The Roughriders had four different goal scorers: Jacob Gladney, Cameron Robinson, Ben Sta-feil and Peter Giftos. Roeper tied St. Mary Catholic Central, 1-1, that same day.

Girls swimming
BLOOMFIELD HILLS 110, ROYAL OAK 76:

Bloomfield Hills won two of the three relays and seven of the nine individual events Tuesday in OAA White Division action. Bloomfield's winning 200-yard medley relay team included Katie Gierlach, Rebecca Coapman, Julia Boswell and Erin Leahy. Lara Janosz was Bloomfield's double individual winner as she took the 100-yard freestyle (59.87) and the 100-yard breaststroke (1:13.40).

Volleyball
ROEPER 3, MICHIGAN MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY 0: Roeper won all three sets in decisive fashion Monday. Sophomore Emma Wine led the front row with five kills, while freshman Jada Coburn connected for six service aces.

KLAA ROUNDUP

Salem cross country teams sweep Ramblin Rock Invite

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV:sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Boys cross country

RAMBLIN' ROCK INVITATIONAL: On Sept. 9, host Salem (47 points) captured the Ramblin' Rock Invitational at Willow Metropark led by personal bests from junior Luke Haran (16:03) and senior Ryan Exell (16:05). Other Salem finishers included Andrew Beyer (eighth, 16:33); Talha Syed (18th, 16:52); Shane McKimmy (25th, 16:58) and Nolan Teodori (32nd, 17:06). Novi, which placed third with 103, got an individual first from Gabe Mudel (15:46), while Trey Mullins was 10th (16:36). Stevenson, fourth with 105, was led by Owen Rowader (seventh, 16:31).

CANTON WINS TRI MEET:

Canton prevailed Sept. 12 in a tri-meet over Livonia Churchill (18:44) and Westland John Glenn (15:50) at Cass Benton in Northville. In the other result, the Chargers defeated the Rockets, 15-50. For Canton, finishing first was Shane Andrews with a season's best time of 16:58. He became the 39th senior in school history to break the 17-minute mark. The Chiefs nailed down five of the next six places, with Grant Hoffmeyer (second, 17:19), Andrew Lake (fourth, 17:49, season's best), Garrett Nagelhout (fifth, 17:59), Daniel Jiminez (sixth, 18:08, season's best) and David Kight (seventh, 18:11). Churchill's Brendan McCoy placed third with a time of 17:37.

Girls cross country

RAMBLIN' ROCK INVITATIONAL: Salem made

a clean sweep at the Sept. 9 invite as the girls joined Salem's boys team at the top of the charts at Willow Metropark. Salem tallied 33 points, coasting to victory over runner-up Livonia Stevenson (96). For the Rocks, there were seven performers earning medals. In fourth place was Reagan Justice (19:43.1), followed by Hallie Younglas (fifth, 19:56.4), Gabrielle Mancini (eighth, 20:02.3), Bridget Nelson (ninth, 20:02.7), Sophie Jeffers (10th, 20:03.2), Hannah Jeffress (12th, 20:08.8) and Olivia Millen (13th, 20:14.2). Franklin came in seventh with 188 points, but Erin Seibert had a strong individual showing (third, 19:37.5). "The girls ran terrific today with being eager to get out and finally race when it means something," Salem coach Dave Gerlach said. "The depth that this team has this year is incredible. We have around 14 girls fighting for the top seven spots and that intersquad competition is going to push each runner up the line. It makes for an exciting 2017 season."

BIG DAY FOR CHIEFS:

Canton's girls squad also won a tri-meet Sept. 12, with the Chiefs topping Churchill, 25-32, and John Glenn, 15-50. Standouts for Canton included Anna Nagelhout (20:25), Carmen Bruchnak (21:41), Veena Salih (22:54), Lupita Quesada (23:06) and Olivia Blaufuss (23:20).

BATH INVITATIONAL:

On Sept. 9, Northville placed fourth in the Bret Clements Bath Invitational with 102, with Saline (79), DeWitt (92) and East Grand Rapids (97) taking the top three places. Top finishers for the Mustangs included Ana Barrott, seventh (19:00); Emily Gordon, 12th (19:15); Olivia Harp, 13th (19:16); Olivia Masse, 29th (20:12);



and Anna Buettner, 43rd (20:41).

Boys soccer

NORTHVILLE 2, PLYMOUTH 1: Down a man, the Mustangs (6-2-1, 4-1) got the game-winning goal from senior Andrew Mitchell, assisted by senior Collin Neal, to beat the host Wildcats in a KLAA crossover match. Senior Tyler Schneider scored from senior Felipe McCarthy 10 minutes into the second half before Plymouth tied it at the 64-minute mark. The Mustangs then lost Owen Marshall to a second yellow card in the 66th minute, but pulled out the win.

CANTON 2, GRAND BLANC 2:

Jordan Fourney scored on a penalty kick and assisted on Avery Olson's goal as the Chiefs played to a draw Sept. 12.

SALEM 1, JOHN GLENN 0:

Salem broke a scoreless tie with a goal in the second half to prevail Sept. 12.

DETROIT CC 3, NORTHVILLE 0:

Ryan Pierson had a scored on a penalty kick and added two assists Sept. 9 as host Novi Detroit Catholic Central (6-1-1) downed the Mustangs (5-2-1). Ethan Park and Henry Koelling had the other CC goals. The Shamrocks were coming off a 1-0 loss Sept. 7 at home to Catholic League rival Birmingham Brother Rice.

PLYMOUTH 5, JOHN GLENN 3:

The Wildcats were paced by Justin Wojcik's hat trick, while Benjamin Tetlow had a

goal and three assists.

Volleyball

STEVENSON 3, PLYMOUTH 0: Livonia Stevenson got past the Wildcats, 26-24, 25-18 and 25-21, on Sept. 12.

NOVI 3, FRANKLIN 0:

Claire Pinkerson finished with 20 digs and Savanna Frick added nine kills as the Wildcats (19-2, 3-0) rolled to a 25-12, 25-11, 25-16 KLAA crossover win Sept. 12 over host Livonia Franklin. Other leaders for the Wildcats included Savanna Frick (nine kills), Shannon Jennings (16 assists, six kills) and Lauren Murphy (six kills).

NORTHVILLE 3, SALEM 0:

Christina Valentini led a balanced hitting attack with seven kills and setter Rachel Holmes added 16 assists as the Mustangs (14-5, 3-1) recorded a 25-10, 25-13, 25-23 KLAA crossover win Sept. 12 over the host Rocks. Clare McNamara added five kills, while Hannah Grant added seven digs for Northville. Salem was led by Kate Mockaitis (six kills) and Nikia Quan (five kills).

NOVI INVITATIONAL:

On Sept. 9, Lake Orion defeated the host Wildcats (18-2) in the championship final, 25-23, 25-21 after ousting Clarkston in the semifinals, 25-16, 25-20. Novi defeated Northville in the other semifinal, 25-19, 25-11. Northville (13-5) defeated Grand Haven (25-19, 25-13), Grosse Pointe North (25-14, 26-24), Flint Powers Catholic (25-14, 25-11) and Portage Central (25-16, 25-23) en route to the semifinals. Total kills leaders on the day for Northville were Izzy Guleff (20), Morgan Rodgers (16), Brianna Marccoux and Christina Valentini (14 each) and Clare McNamara (11). Rachel Holmes and Gabi

Fisette led in assists with 53 and 32, respectively. Fisette also had 11 aces, while Hannah Grant led in digs with 56, followed by Jenna Boksha (19), Nyia Setla (15), Fisette (15) and Ally Zayan (14).

Girls swimming

NORTHVILLE 95, SEAHOLM 91:

On Sept. 12, the host Mustangs evened their dual meet record at 1-1 against non-conference foe Birmingham Seaholm led by double winners Sophia Tuinman, 200-yard individual medley (2:09.36) and 100 freestyle (54.01); and Lulu Mans, 200 freestyle (1:59.02) and 500 freestyle (5:20.04). Mans and Tuinman also teamed with Katelyn McCullough and Lauren Heaven for first in the 200 freestyle relay (1:39.72). Other individual wins came from McCullough (100 backstroke, 1:00.32) and Emma Phillips (100 breaststroke, 1:11.36).

SALEM 100, BELLEVILLE 38:

On Sept. 11, the visiting Rocks were led to victory by diver Camille Burt, who set a pool record. Sarah Griffiths also set pool records in the 100 fly and 100 back.

PLYMOUTH 143, JOHN GLENN 37:

The Wildcats were paced by wins from Grace Maclellan (200 free), Abby Boyer (200 IM), Regan Peregord (50 free) and the 200 medley relay team of Liz Breda, Vy Nguyen, Boyer and Peregord.

Girls golf

CHURCHILL 171, SALEM 186:

Host Salem fell short Sept. 13 at Fox Hills despite a 45 score from freshman Megan Kozlowski. Other Rocks with solid days were Nicole Hahn (46), Ryleigh Reed (47) and Julianne Small (48).

NORTHVILLE 170, CHURCHILL 198:

On Sept. 12 at Northville Hills, the Mustangs were led by medalist Mariella Simoncini (38), Nicole Whatley (39) and Katelyn Tokarz (42). For Livonia Churchill, top finishers were Rachel Parrelly and Halena Harris, with 45 and 46, respectively.

12 at Northville Hills, the Mustangs were led by medalist Mariella Simoncini (38), Nicole Whatley (39) and Katelyn Tokarz (42). For Livonia Churchill, top finishers were Rachel Parrelly and Halena Harris, with 45 and 46, respectively.

FRANKLIN 161, CANTON 189:

On Sept. 11 at Fox Hills, the Patriots were led by match medalist Olivia Napier (37), Sofia Cueva and Sarah Iler (40 each). Manasa Potluri recorded 38 for the Chiefs.

NORTHVILLE 181, CANTON 198, HOWELL 243:

On Sept. 11 at Fox Hills, the Mustangs defeated host Canton and Howell in a tri-meet. For Northville, Natalie Falitico (43), Taylor Rothwell (44), McKenna Rupert and Sedana Shipka (47 each) led the way. Canton's Manasa Potluri was match medalist with 40.

Boys tennis

PLYMOUTH 7, STEVENSON 2:

The host Wildcats rolled to victory Sept. 12, taking every flight except No. 3 singles and No. 1 doubles.

SALEM 8, FRANKLIN 1:

On Sept. 12 at Livonia Franklin, the Rocks were led to victory, falling short only at No. 3 singles (Franklin's John Pokryfky won in three sets against Parker Henderson). Salem wins were scored by Eric Liu (No. 1 singles), Ajay Bharathan (No. 2 singles), Abdul Junaid (No. 4 singles), Nihal Lingam-Rahul Rao (No. 1 doubles), Nathan Prieskorn-Parth Narang (No. 2 doubles) and Ini Rajeswaran-Ray Kim (No. 3 doubles).

CANTON 8, JOHN GLENN 1:

On Sept. 12 at Canton, the Chiefs were successful virtually across the board.

Some tips to prevent troublesome knee injuries



Detroit Lions punter Kasey Redfern reportedly suffered a season-ending knee injury while scrambling out of the end zone after dropping a snap during the Lions' win Sept. 10 over the Arizona Cardinals. Redfern reportedly tore his ACL, sprained his MCL and partially injured his patellar tendon.

Stephen Tulloch, a former starting linebacker for the Lions, tore his ACL while "celebrating" the sack of Aaron Rogers during a Lions win over the Green Bay Packers back in 2014.

Now it's easier to see how a punter-turned-running back might hurt his knee, but it's hard to believe that a guy like Tulloch, who had made numerous tackles against the NFL's most powerful running backs, could "blow out" his knee doing a victory dance. But that's the nature of the beast when it comes to the ACL - it's simply a vulnerable ligament.

Before we go any further, let's learn a little more about the ligaments of the knee.

The knee's cruciate ligaments are two ligaments that are located deep inside the knee joint and connect the thighbone (femur) to the shinbone (tibia). They are called "cruciate" ligaments because they "cross" in the middle of the knee. They are instrumental in providing the stability that is need-

ed for proper knee joint movement and stability when you torque on your knees and put them to the test.

The cruciate ligament located toward the front of the knee is the anterior cruciate ligament, while the one located toward the rear of the knee is called the posterior cruciate ligament. There are also two other ligaments on the inner and outer parts of the knee that provide side-to-side stability - the one on the inner part of the knee called the medial collateral ligament and one on the outer part of the knee is called the lateral collateral ligament.

ACL injuries

The ACL prevents the tibia from sliding forward beneath the femur. The ACL can be injured in several ways. Most often this involves a sudden change in direction, during which the knee is twisted, or during direct contact, such as during a football tackle. Sports like football, soccer and basketball see their fair share of ACL injuries because of all of the cutting, jumping and pivoting.

When an athlete tears their ACL, they may feel or hear a "pop." The knee will often swell and get stiff and they will often feel pain when you try to stand. Over time, the swelling, pain and stiffness most often subside, but without a functional ACL, the knee may give out, especially when they attempt to change directions.

When the knee gives way, this can lead to additional cartilage damage. The "bumper cartilage"

that is often damaged along with the ACL is called the meniscus. Sprains of the MCL, which occurred in Redfern's injury, also commonly occur when the ACL is torn.

The diagnosis of an ACL injury is based on the history, a good physical exam and, most often, an MRI.

A partial tear of the ACL may or may not require surgical treatment. A complete tear is more serious and, unfortunately, ACL tears do not heal. Complete tears, especially in younger patients, athletes and active individuals, most often require surgery to restore stability to the knee.

Operative treatment is done arthroscopically (through small "poke" incisions) and uses minimally invasive incisions to harvest a piece of tendon, usually taken from the patient's knee (patellar tendon or hamstring tendon) or from a cadaver (believe it or not!). This tendon is passed through the inside of the joint and secured to the femur and tibia with implants that are either metal or bioabsorbable.

Surgery is followed by a rehabilitation program designed to strengthen the muscles around the knee. Occasionally, complete tears may be treated conservatively in less active individuals whose knees are being "put to the test."

These days, we are offering different types of reconstructions that can be tailored based on gender, age and activity level. We are also doing some pretty cool re-

search looking into ways to use PRP, stem cells, growth factors and biologic scaffolds to potentially get ACL tears to heal better with reconstructive surgery - or even to heal on their own someday.

PCL injuries

The posterior cruciate ligament is not injured as commonly as the ACL.

PCL sprains usually occur when the knee is twisted or from a direct blow to the front of the knee. Without a PCL, the knee sags and there can be increased wear and tear on the cartilage inside the knee. Like the ACL, PCL tears do not generally heal. Fortunately, many patients with PCL tears do not have as much knee instability as patients with ACL tears and even high-level athletes can return to their sport after completing a good rehabilitation program.

Interestingly, collegiate football linemen and other players are screened and, not that uncommonly, diagnosed with PCL tears at the NFL Combine - and they never even realized they had a tear!

For athletes with PCL tears who continue to have pain, swelling or instability of their knee, surgery may be necessary to reconstruct the PCL or clean up collateral meniscus and cartilage damage. PCL reconstruction itself is akin to what we do to reconstruct the ACL ligament.

Collateral ligament injuries

The collateral ligaments are located at the inner side and outer side

of the knee joint. The medial collateral ligament connects the thighbone to the shinbone and provides stability to the inner side of the knee. The lateral collateral ligament connects the thighbone to the other bone in the lower portion of your leg (fibula) and stabilizes the outer side. Injuries to the MCL are very common and are usually caused by contact on the outside of the knee. The LCL is rarely injured. If the MCL is torn, it does have the ability to heal.

Also, always remember the acronym RICE: rest, ice, compression or bracing and elevation. Most MCL sprains, as well as other sprains and strains, do fine with an initial period of RICE, followed by a good rehab program.

What does this all mean for you and your kids?

When it comes to sports, some injuries are simply unavoidable and there is always a risk of injury when participating in sports. But let me be very clear - in the vast majority of sporting endeavors, the positive impacts on health, wellness and good development outweigh the risks.

Now, when it comes to the risks - especially the risk of ACL injury - experts agree that training programs that teach proper landing methods and basic injury prevention techniques can decrease the risk of ACL injury.

If you're a coach, athlete or parent who is interested in a program that can reduce the incidence of ACL tears and

other injuries, there are programs out there. Most of these programs can be incorporated into the drills that are done during practices.

If you don't have the time or access to a specialized program, here are some good tips that may reduce your risk of knee injury:

» Hit the gym: Strengthening the muscles of the thighs and hips can definitely help the knee protect itself from injury.

» Take a few extra minutes to stretch and warm up: Muscles, tendons and ligaments will have a better chance to adapt to the stresses and strains of play if they are warm and supple.

» Work on your dexterity: If the muscles can learn to react more quickly, injury can often be avoided. Sport-specific maneuvers should be worked on both during practice and prior to play. By mimicking the maneuvers that will be performed during the game, the muscles can learn to react more quickly and protect the knee ligaments from injury.

For more information and links to injury prevention, health and wellness, go to www.performanceorthopedics.com.

Dr. Joseph Guettler is an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine. His practice, Performance Orthopedics, is located in Bingham Farms. Guettler is active in teaching and research (including ACL research) at Beaumont Hospital and the OUVB Medical School. He is also an expert in ACL reconstruction.



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DYLAN KUTZLEB

FOOTBALL SENIOR LAKELAND EAGLES

WHAT HE DID: The running back rushed for a career-high 254 yards on just 14 carries, including touchdown runs of 86 and 69 yards, as the host Eagles improved to 2-1 in the Lakes Valley Conference with a 34-14 football win over South Lyon.

WHAT HE SAID ABOUT BEING NAMED AOW: "I'm just really humbled that there's 14,000 people out there that even care about this," Kutzleb said. "I'm really surprised that I was even nominated for this award and then to win it means a lot for me." Kutzleb, who was also a big factor in Lakeland's 29-27 LVC win the previous week against Waterford Mott, believes the seed was planted for his early season success during the offseason.

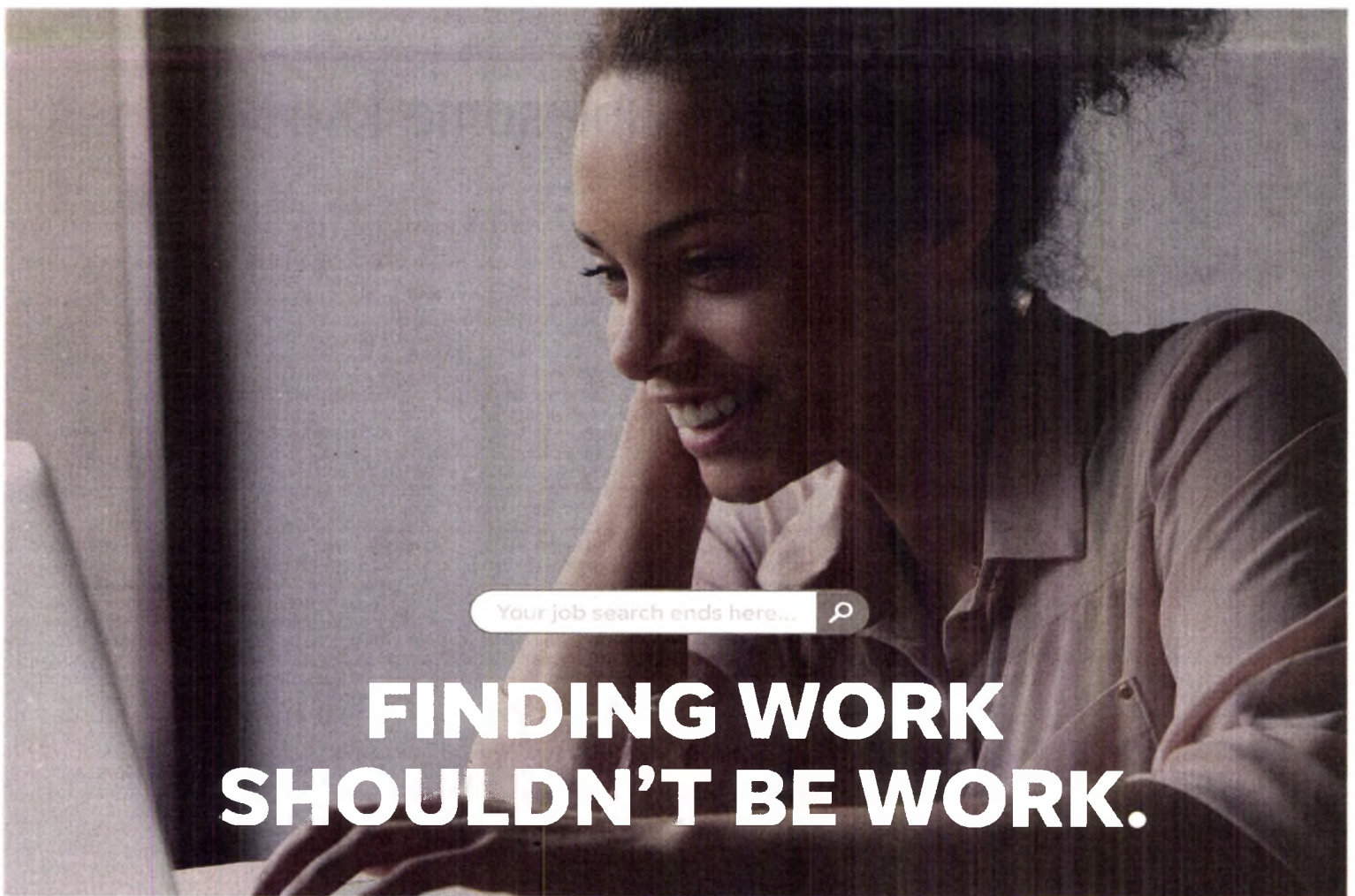
"It started in early summer," he said. "We started workouts every morning. All the team was there working hard, three hours a day, just getting at it, and building as a team, and getting the offense down early."

Kutzleb had a couple of individual goals going into the season that he needed to improve upon. "Particularly blocking for me was a big thing that I needed to work on," he said, "but also finding the holes and hitting them with no hesitation was a big thing also."

During his spare time, Kutzleb likes to stay active. "I like cars and just hanging out with my friends, playing sports, being outside . . . fishing, stuff like that, being on the boat," he said.



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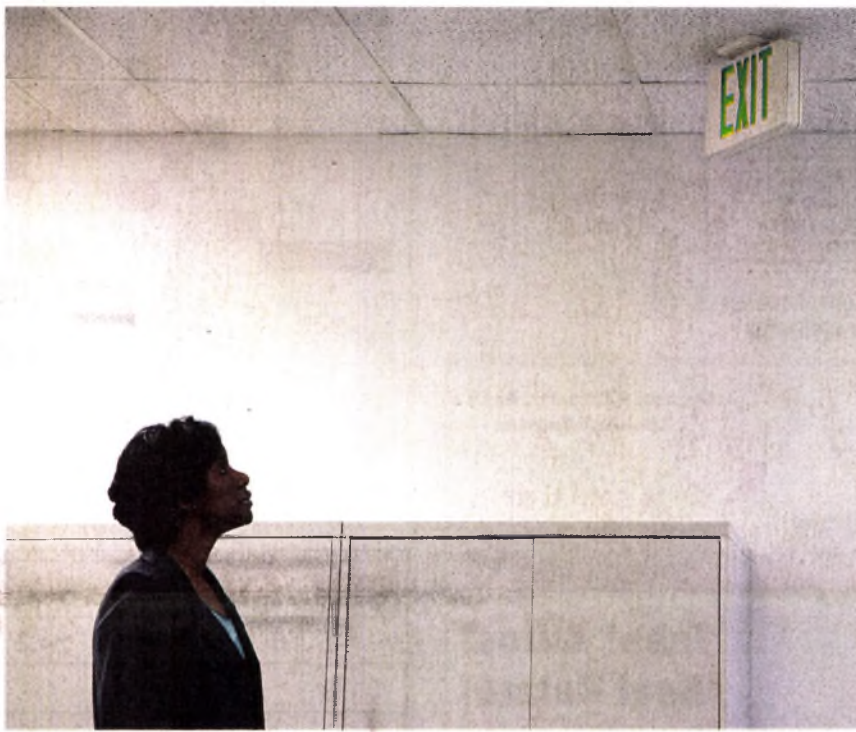
How to quit a job that you just started

BY PETER JONES
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

You did everything right and landed the job. Trouble is, through no fault of your own, it's just not what you expected it would be. You're suddenly desperate not to work there anymore, but you're worried you're stuck. You don't want to anger your new colleagues or boss. You don't want to risk being black-listed from future positions at the company. You don't want to bring your educational institution a bad name. And you definitely don't want to be seen as a quitter. What if you get to your next job and feel the same way?

These are all things to think through, but bear in mind there are other considerations. You won't be as happy, fulfilled, challenged or productive at an unfulfilling job. Getting out now, once you can see the unpleasant future spilling out before you, might just save both you and your boss a lot of trouble and mental waste.

If you do decide to quit, be absolutely sure before you do. That's the most important factor in deciding whether to breach decorum and cut your losses before you've even gotten situated in a new position. The second most important thing is to exit gracefully. Here's how:



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Resign tactfully

Don't burn any bridges. Do what you can to keep these contacts. And do it in person. This is not the time for letters or emails (though you should have a formal resignation letter ready to go after you meet to discuss with your boss). You owe it to your supervisor to explain why you are bailing —

particularly after so much joint effort to get you on board.

Consider that you might be asked to stay

In most cases, you'll be given a bunch of reasons to stay. Ask yourself before you speak to your boss whether there are any conditions that, if changed, would make you

actually want to stay. Have an answer prepared either way.

Be honest and apologetic

Don't make weak excuses that you think will make your boss feel empathy for you. Give the real reason, or the closest to it you can get while still remaining tactful.

Be genuinely sorry for the inconvenience, and pivot to showing how this is best for the company and your quitting is actually something of a selfless act.

If you're the wrong fit for this job, it's your moral duty to speak up and say so before wasting time and resources.

Give proper notice

You'll want to do this with plenty of time for them to find someone else. You should even offer, if at all possible, to stay until they find and train your replacement.

This could be great for you if you don't have an alternative job lined up — use the time to find another one. Remember, you are inconveniencing them and should behave accordingly.

Think harder next time

Don't beat yourself up. But do let this be a lesson that you should really consider all angles of a new job before accepting it. Save yourself the embarrassment and a whole lot of extra uncertainty and work.

Peter Jones is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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36 Bow out	17 Plantation, e.g.
38 Daddies	18 More serene
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41 Plug up	24 With no difficulty
43 Most of them run on gas	31 Cry out
45 Furthermore	33 More scarily
48 Bonnie Parker's partner in crime	34 That lad's
	37 New York Jets coach
	Bowles

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SUDOKU

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

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

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

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

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

BOTL
 BROIL
 CHILL
 CHOP
 COMBINE
 CREAM
 CUBE
 CUT
 DESSERT
 DICE
 DINNER
 DOT
 DRAIN
 FLOUR
 FOLD
 FRYING
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Crossword Answers

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 I N H I C P T I N T O N C E C C S A W
 C I A W I N G F O A M M O W M E I L L A
 H I T I N G C A S P E R C H L A M E
 E S I E P I C S T E R G H A L L O
 S T S E X I T P O P S T I G E R S
 A N D C L O G A U T O S
 C L Y D E B A R R O W M A T T
 S I L E T E A D E E V S P I T R A N H A
 S A N A E L I A T A R D S E E O O T E N
 E N D I C H I A T A R D M U R T I C H
 R E P E A T S C A R P H Y S I Q U E
 T R A N S O M C R A Z E D A T U R E
 S Y N P E T T E R V A R R O W E E L
 S I A T I N P R E P
 M I R T I D A S T P R E P P R O
 T I R O N S L E O G R E S L E N
 M O O S C A L I M I A C T I V L
 O A T I M P C A P T A I N S P A R R O W
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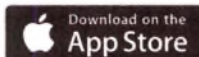
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- XM Radio
- Onstar with 4G Wi-Fi

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