

## AAM honored at statewide 'Prosperity Awards'

LANSING — Kalamazoo area hiring and employment successes were among those celebrated recently by the Michigan Works! Association at the recent First Annual Prosperity Awards.

American Axle and Manufacturing Holdings in Three Rivers was recognized for their announcement last year of a new, \$100 million investment in their Three Rivers facility and the promise of 500 new jobs for the region.

Michigan Works! Kalamazoo & St. Joseph Counties has partnered with American Axle, Southwest Michigan First, the City of Kalamazoo and the Northside Ministerial Alliance on an "AAM Pilot Project" designed to connect skilled workers from diverse backgrounds with the company's need for skilled workers.

Tyrone Hampton, a participant in the AAM Pilot Project who found a job with American Axle after completing the program, was also honored.

"Many local employers have jobs to fill, and with partnerships between these businesses and local Michigan Works! agencies, we're getting Michigan back work one job at a time," said state Senator Bruce Caswell (R-Hillsdale).

In addition to the AAM Pilot Project, Michigan Works! Kalamazoo & St. Joseph created a customized approach to assist with the company's expansion, including a job fair that drew over 400 job seekers, and a space for the business to host pre-employment testing.

"The efforts of Michigan Works! Kalamazoo & St. Joseph



### Employment success

Pictured from left are Ben Damerow, Director, Michigan Works! Kalamazoo & St. Joseph Counties; Commissioner Stephanie Moore, Kalamazoo City Commission; Bronwyn Drost, Manager, Michigan Works! Service Center Three Rivers; Tyrone Hampton, American Axle & Manufacturing; Christine Quinn, Director, Workforce Development Agency — State of Michigan; Brian McDaniel, HR Manager, American Axle & Manufacturing; and Kathy Olsen, Marketing & Community Information Coordinator, Kalamazoo-St. Joseph Michigan Works!

Photo provided

Counties with American Axle illustrates the kind of success that's possible when we focus on the needs of employers with jobs to fill and matching them with skilled employees seeking work," said state Representative Matt Lori (R-Constantine). "Our state has added over 250,000 jobs in the last four years, and working in partnerships, we will ensure that Michigan's future is only going to get brighter."

The Prosperity Awards are an opportunity for state leaders to recognize the work of job makers

and local workers successfully paired through Michigan Works! demand-driven approach to talent development, and saw dozens of honorees from across the state receive awards presented by their local lawmakers and state workforce development officials.

Award winners included job makers, Michigan Works! Agencies, partners and workers from across the state.

"Michigan Works! is instrumental in meeting the workforce demands of local employers," said Kathy Olsen,

Marketing and Community Information Coordinator for Kalamazoo-St. Joseph Michigan Works! "By collaborating regionally on a demand-driven talent development strategy, we are connecting job makers with the skilled workers they need while preparing Michigan citizens for 21st century jobs."

Employers and job seekers can find the nearest Michigan Works! Service Center by visiting <http://michiganworks.org/agencies/map> or by calling (1-800) 285-WORKS (9675).



### Three graduate from WTEC

Certificates of completion were presented to newly "American Welding Society Certified" welders from the June class of the Welding Technology Education Center (from left) Trent Drane of Portage, Matthew Cook of LaGrange, Ind. and Clayton Harris of White Pigeon. Levi Purins (right), instructor and welding inspector, administered the American Welding Society certification testing. This brings the total to 64 certified welders that have joined the local workforce as a result of the industry-level training offered at WTEC, through Fab Masters Company. As a special summer training offer in recognition of their fifth anniversary, WTEC is offering a three-week MIG aluminum class beginning July 14. For more information call WTEC at 646-8315.

Photo provided

## Local students named essay contest winners

MARCELLUS — Three students from Howardsville Christian School in Marcellus have been named local winners in the 45th annual America & Me Essay Contest, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

The three students, who earned the first, second and third place awards for their school, are Jessica Rosales, first; Lucas Withers, second; and Olyvia Johnson, third. All three received award certificates for their achievement. As the school's first place winner, Jessica's name will also be engraved on a plaque for permanent display in the school.

Jessica's first place essay advanced to the state level competition.

## ACADEMIC ELITE

Continued from page 2

years and the Third 90 program for two years. Along with these activities, Paavola also participated in soccer at TRHS. Paavola's Western Michigan University professor, Kyle D. Byron, was one of the most influential teachers he has had. "[He] encouraged seeing from different perspectives," Paavola said. Paavola has been on the honor roll for all four years of high school as well as having perfect attendance his senior year. Outside of school, Paavola plays soccer and speaks German in which he is fluent.

Paavola is a big fan of the sciences, and Bill Nye may be the biggest influence on that.

Nye, the famous science educator and host of the popular children's science show "Bill Nye the Science Guy," is one of Paavola's biggest role models in his life. "He encourages science and helps create scientific thought and reasoning in young children," Paavola said. With science on his mind, Paavola plans to attend Michigan State University where he will study physics. "They have a good study abroad program, and they offer

American undergrad research [opportunities]," Paavola said on why he chose to attend MSU.

**Paavola is a big fan of the sciences, and Bill Nye may be the biggest influence on that.**

So where will Josh Paavola be in 10 years? He says "doing some groundbreaking research in the unified theory." Paavola is one intelligent human being, and TRHS wishes him the best of luck with his future endeavors.

*Cat's Meow is a publication of the Three Rivers High School journalism class.*



### Thankful for book donations

Cindy Hetmansperger's first-grade class at Park Elementary shows their gratitude to Midwest Energy for donating money so each child at their school in grades K-2 could have monthly reading celebrations and receive a new book. They were able to purchase and distribute more than \$1,000 in books.

Photo provided

## THE MARKET IN REVIEW

### WE UNDERSTAND COMMITMENT.

For decades, Edward Jones has been committed to providing financial solutions and personalized service to individual investors.

**You can rely on us for:**

- **Convenience**  
Locations in the community and face-to-face meetings at your convenience
- **A Quality-focused Investment Philosophy**  
A long-term approach that focuses on quality investments and diversification
- **Highly Personal Service**  
Investment guidance tailored to your individual needs

**Call or visit today.**

**Brian K Ringler**  
Financial Advisor

756 South Us 131  
Three Rivers, MI 49093  
269-273-9332

[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com) Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

#### DAILY DOW JONES

**Dow Jones industrials**  
Close: 16,937.26  
Change: -9.82 (-0.1%)

---

#### STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Name	Ex	Div	Yld	PE	Last	Chg	%Chg	YTD
AT&T Inc	NY	1.84	5.2	11	35.39	...	+7	
AbbottLab	NY	.88	2.2	25	40.73	-12	+6.3	
AmAxle	NY	...	...	12	18.81	-0.9	-8.0	
AEP	NY	2.00	3.7	16	54.45	-0.3	+16.5	
BP PLC	NY	2.28	4.3	8	53.07	+2.9	+9.2	
Cisco	NA	.76	3.1	17	24.70	-13	+11.0	
Citigroup	NY	.04	1.1	11	48.06	+7.2	-7.8	
ConAgra	NY	1.00	3.5	15	28.83	+0.2	-14.5	
Disney	NY	.86	1.0	21	82.76	-0.6	+8.3	
Eaton	NY	1.96	2.5	19	79.24	+1.6	+4.1	
ExxonMbl	NY	2.76	2.6	11	104.38	+5.5	+3.1	
FifthThird	NA	.52	2.4	11	21.53	-0.6	+2.4	
FordM	NY	.50	3.0	11	16.88	+2.1	+9.4	
GenElec	NY	.88	3.3	20	26.68	-2.9	-4.8	
HarleyD	NY	1.10	1.5	20	71.37	...	+3.1	
HewlettP	NY	.64	1.9	12	34.52	+3.0	+23.4	
HomeDp	NY	1.88	2.3	21	80.64	+4.7	-2.1	
Intel	NA	.90	3.0	16	30.23	+0.3	+16.5	
JohnJn	NY	2.80	2.7	20	104.75	-5.2	+14.4	
Kadant	NY	.60	1.6	17	38.00	-1.3	-6.2	
Kellogg	NY	1.84	2.8	13	66.43	-8.1	+8.8	
McDnlds	NY	3.24	3.2	18	101.91	-0.1	+5.0	
Microsoft	NA	1.12	2.7	16	41.99	+3.1	+12.2	
Oracle	NY	.48	1.2	17	41.10	+2.8	+7.4	
PepsiCo	NY	2.62	3.0	20	88.39	-7.1	+6.6	
Perrigo	NY	.42	.3	64	144.30	+3.9	-6.0	
Pfizer	NY	1.04	3.5	16	29.45	-3.3	-3.9	
Stryker	NY	1.22	1.4	35	85.26	-8.2	+13.5	
VerizonCm	NY	2.12	4.3	11	49.73	+4.1	-3.7	
WalMart	NY	1.92	2.5	16	75.79	+1.1	+1.2	
Walgrm	NY	1.26	1.7	26	73.73	-8.1	+28.4	
WellsFargo	NY	1.40	2.6	13	52.98	+0.9	+16.7	

Stock Footnotes: g = Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h = Does not meet continued-listing standards. If = Late filing with SEC. n = New in past 52 weeks. pl = Preferred. rs = Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50 percent within the past year. it = Right to buy security at a specified price. s = Stock has split by at least 20 percent within the last year. un = Units. vj = In bankruptcy or receivership. wd = When distributed. wi = When issued. wt = Warrants.

Mutual Fund Footnotes: b = Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d = Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f = front load (sales charges). m = Multiple fees are charged. NA = not available. p = previous day's net asset value. s = fund split shares during the week. x = fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

#### STOCK MARKET INDEXES

52-Week	High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	%Chg	YTD %Chg	12-mo %Chg
8,256.79	5,952.18	Dow Transportation	8,162.31	-42.80	-5.2	+10.29	+36.25	
570.70	462.66	Dow Utilities	565.44	-1.02	-1.8	+15.26	+20.08	
11,334.65	8,814.76	NYSE Composite	11,014.08	-4.03	-0.4	+5.90	+23.86	
4,372.18	3,294.95	Nasdaq Composite	4,368.68	+6.4	+0.1	+4.60	+31.56	
867.07	703.39	S&P MidCap	866.69	+5.4	+0.6	+5.21	+22.28	
1,963.91	1,560.33	S&P 500	1,962.61	-2.6	-0.1	+6.18	+24.76	
1,426.15	1,114.04	S&P MidCap	1,424.26	-1.10	-0.8	+6.09	+26.63	
20,838.74	16,442.14	Wilshire 5000	20,837.52	+2.76	+0.1	+5.74	+25.62	
1,212.82	942.79	Russell 2000	1,184.95	-3.48	-2.9	+1.83	+24.59	

---

#### MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	Total Assets	Obj	NAV	Total Return/Rank	5-year	Pct Load	Min Init	
American Funds AMCAPA m	LG	23,105	28.75	+3.4	+31.9/A	+20.1/A	5.75	250
American Funds BalA m	MA	44,580	25.44	+2.3	+18.4/B	+15.2/A	5.75	250
American Funds BondA m	CI	18,783	12.72	-0.1	+4.8/C	+5.8/C	3.75	250
American Funds CapIncBuA m	IH	69,891	61.18	+1.7	+18.7/B	+12.8/B	5.75	250
American Funds CpWldGrIA m	WS	57,842	47.53	+1.5	+25.3/B	+14.8/D	5.75	250
American Funds EurPacGrA m	FB	32,381	50.74	+1.2	+23.9/B	+12.2/B	5.75	250
American Funds FnlInA m	LB	42,748	53.85	+2.9	+24.4/D	+17.9/C	5.75	250
American Funds GrthAmA m	LG	71,528	45.41	+3.3	+28.1/B	+17.5/D	5.75	250
American Funds IncAmerA m	MA	71,745	21.74	+1.9	+18.9/A	+15.5/A	5.75	250
American Funds InvCoAmA m	LB	57,235	39.51	+3.2	+29.2/A	+17.4/D	5.75	250
American Funds MutualA m	LV	21,432	36.70	+2.7	+22.2/D	+17.3/D	5.75	250
American Funds NewPerspA m	WS	37,243	38.78	+1.8	+23.0/C	+16.1/C	5.75	250
American Funds WAMutInA m	LV	51,305	41.78	+3.2	+24.3/C	+19.0/B	5.75	250
Federated EqInCA f	LV	1,149	25.29	+3.6	+25.9/B	+17.9/C	5.50	1,500
FrankTemp-Templeton WorldA m	WS	6,004	20.41	+2.0	+26.7/B	+16.1/C	5.75	1,000
Hartford BalC m	MA	117	20.22	+2.1	+16.3/D	+13.4/C	1.00	2,000
Hartford HealthCar m	SH	148	29.92	+5.0	+37.6/C	+22.3/C	1.00	2,000
Lord Abbett AffiliatA m	LV	6,137	16.55	+3.4	+23.8/C	+16.5/D	5.75	1,000
Lord Abbett AffiliatC m	LV	465	16.53	+3.4	+23.0/D	+15.8/E	1.00	1,000
Lord Abbett BondDebA m	MU	5,033	8.40	+1.4	+11.8/A	+12.3/A	2.25	1,000
Lord Abbett BondDebC m	MU	2,125	8.42	+1.4	+11.0/A	+11.6/B	1.00	1,000
Lord Abbett MABalOppA m	MA	1,479	13.05	+2.5	+19.0/A	+13.9/B	2.25	1,500
Putnam GeoPutA m	MA	1,057	16.27	+2.2	+16.0/D	+13.3/C	5.75	0
Putnam GrowInCA m	LV	5,344	21.50	+4.4	+28.2/A	+19.2/B	5.75	0
Putnam VoyagerA m	LG	3,542	33.08	+4.0	+35.6/A	+18.1/C	5.75	0

CI - Intermediate-Term Bond, FB - Foreign Large Blend, IH - World Allocation, LB - Large Blend, LG - Large Growth, LV - Large Value, MA - Moderate Allocation, SH - Health, MU - MultiSector Bond, WS - World Stock, Total Return: Chng in NAV with dividends reinvested. Rank: How fund performed vs. others with same objective: A is in top 20%, E in bottom 20%. Min Init Inv: Minimum \$ needed to invest in fund. Source: Morningstar.