



◆ **PIRATES POWER** Wild-card Pittsburgh routs Reds. **SPORTS, B1**  
◀ **CAJUN CUISINE** Hill's Country Store serves up flavor. **FOOD, C1**  
◆ **EXTRA EFFORT** Ursuline players give back to the city. **LOCAL, A3**

**AWARENESS** Breast Cancer facts every day in October. SOCIETY, C4, and on VINDY.COM  
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# The Vindicator

WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 2, 2013  
50¢

## Valley residents feel effects of federal shutdown

By EMMALEE C. TORISK and KALEA HALL  
news@vindy.com

**YOUNGSTOWN**  
Clyde Hess of Boardman drove around Tuesday morning looking for an open Internal Revenue Service office. But because of the government shutdown, after Congress failed to agree on essential federal funding by Monday's midnight deadline, all IRS offices are closed indefinitely — including the one inside the Nathaniel R. Jones Federal

**INSIDE**  
◆ **Health insurance** markets open to a surge of new customers. **A2**  
◆ **Mahoning County** Department of Job and Family Services personnel help the public with the Affordable Care Act. **A4**  
◆ **In Washington**, leaders suggest the shutdown could last for weeks. **A11**

Building and U.S. Courthouse. "I am very disappointed in Congress," Hess said, sitting in his car parked outside

the federal building at 10 E. Commerce St. "I have to get some IRS forms, and there is no place open."

Hess said he was not expecting the government to actually go through with it, because the House of Representatives and Senate usually come through with a solution to avoid the shutdown.

"Everyone is trying to blame everyone," Hess said. "The very fact this office is closed means people will be suffering."

See SHUTDOWN, A4



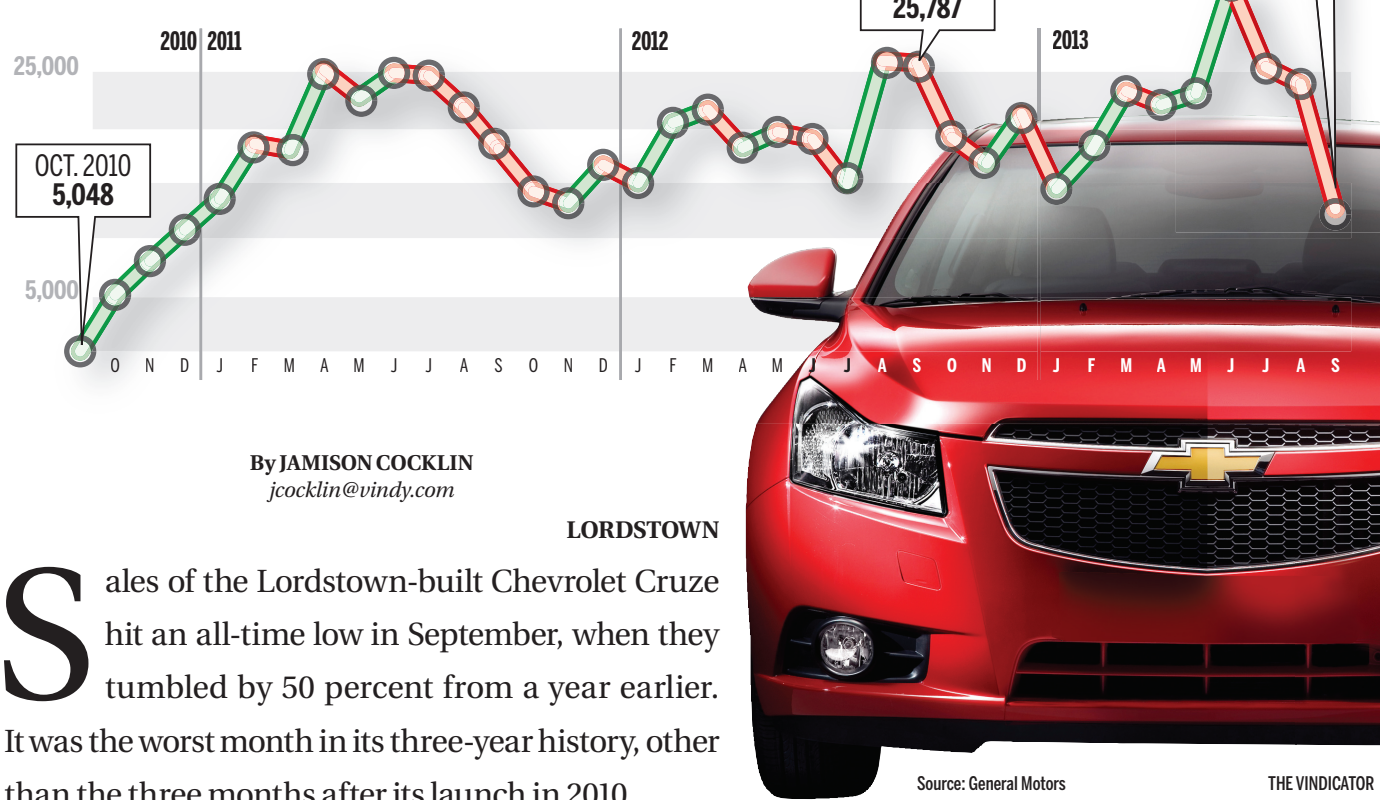
Signs were posted at the Internal Revenue Service office inside the Youngstown federal building Tuesday.

KALEA HALL THE VINDICATOR

### CRUZE PURCHASES PLUMMET IN SEPTEMBER

## What led to drop in sales?

Lordstown's Chevrolet Cruze monthly sales figures declined 50.6 percent over last September's sales



By JAMISON COCKLIN  
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**LORDSTOWN**

Sales of the Lordstown-built Chevrolet Cruze hit an all-time low in September, when they tumbled by 50 percent from a year earlier. It was the worst month in its three-year history, other than the three months after its launch in 2010.



ROBERT K. YOSAY | THE VINDICATOR  
A Chevrolet Cruze on sale at Sweeney Chevrolet in Boardman on Tuesday.

The figure had analysts scratching their heads when General Motors reported sales Tuesday.

September was the second-straight month of sales declines for the Cruze. In August, sales slid by 8 percent.

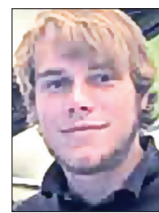
Last month's data, however, marked the first time since January that Cruze sales dipped well below the 20,000 mark — a number auto analysts generally view as favorable regardless of any sales increase or decrease.

The Cruze sold 12,730 units last month, down by 50.6 percent from 25,787 a year earlier.

"I don't know if you would ever expect that, especially after the car's performance this summer," said Tim Fleming, an analyst at Kelley Blue Book. "It certainly is worrisome. You don't ever want to see the worst sales month in a vehicle's history."

Despite a slight drop in August, when the car still sold 23,909 units, the Cruze posted sales records from May through July. Included in that

“YOU DON'T EVER WANT TO SEE THE WORST SALES MONTH IN A VEHICLE'S HISTORY.”



TIM FLEMING, Kelley Blue Book analyst

“I DON'T SEE IT AS A TREND, AND I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING TO PANIC ABOUT — IT'S JUST A HICCUP.”



GLENN JOHNSON, UAW Local 1112 president

**YOUNGSTOWN**

## City employee accuses Kitchen of sex harassment

MAYORAL HOPEFUL STRONGLY DENIES CLAIM

By DAVID SKOLNICK  
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**YOUNGSTOWN**

A city council employee is accusing DeMaine Kitchen, the mayor's chief of staff/secretary and an independent mayoral candidate, of sexually harassing her on and off since January 2011 — a claim he strongly denies.

One of three Cleveland attorneys representing Lindsey Hughes, the city's downtown director of events, special projects and marketing, sent letters to city council members contending her client "has experienced sexual harassment, including unwelcomed sexual advances, requests

for sexual favors, and other verbal and physical harassment of a sexual nature during her tenure" from Kitchen, a city councilman who joined Mayor Charles Sammarone's administration in August 2011.

Kitchen, who took a leave of absence from his job Friday to concentrate on his mayoral bid, said the allegations are "untrue and unsupported. I've never harassed her in any way."

See KITCHEN, A4

## Warrant issued for Crea's arrest

By JOE GORMAN  
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**YOUNGSTOWN**

Two days after his disruptive behavior caused a church service to end early, a warrant was issued for the arrest of a mayoral candidate after he failed to show up for a court-ordered psychological evaluation.

John M. Crea, 46, also faces new charges after neighbors accused him of threatening them.

Tuesday afternoon, after Crea failed to show up for his evaluation, a warrant was issued for his arrest, said

municipal Judge Robert Milich. Crea also will face charges for an incident Monday morning, the judge said.

Police called to an apartment complex in the 800 block of East Midlothian Boulevard about 10:30 a.m. Monday said witnesses told them Crea threatened to kill a person and also said to that

See CREA, A4

### The Vindicator

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### inside today

#### VISITING OFFICIALS TOUT JEDD BENEFITS

Officials with the city of Tallmadge told government officials from the Mahoning Valley how a joint economic development district deal with a neighboring township improved the finances of both.

LOCAL, A3

#### '50 SHADES!' AT DEYOR

"50 Shades! The Musical," a spoof of the erotica novel, comes to Youngstown on Saturday at the DeYor Performing Arts Center in Powers Auditorium.

VALLEY LIFE, C3



WILLIAM D. LEWIS | THE VINDICATOR

#### POLAND TOPS FITCH

The Poland High School boys soccer team shut out Austintown Fitch 2-0 in an All-American Conference match Tuesday.

SPORTS, B1

## City teachers work under expired pact, await audit of district health care plan

By DENISE DICK  
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**YOUNGSTOWN**

City schoolteachers continue to work under the terms of the contract that expired last June while they await completion of an audit of the school district's self-funded health care plan.

In late August, shortly before the start of the new school year, the Youngstown Education Association, the union representing 525 school district teachers, and

THE LAST THREE-YEAR CONTRACT PROVIDED 1 PERCENT PAY INCREASES EACH YEAR. THAT FOLLOWED SEVEN YEARS OF FREEZES ON BASE PAY.

the administration agreed for the union to conduct the audit at its expense. As part of the agreement, the teachers agreed to work at least through Sept. 30.

Paula Valentini, a YEA spokeswoman, said the teachers await completion of the audit and no new talks have been scheduled pending its completion.

She said it's unknown when the audit will be done. Karen Green, assistant superintendent of human resources, said a tentative date has been set for negotiations later this month, but that hasn't been confirmed.

"Hopefully, we'll have

See TEACHERS, A10

### Welcome

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