



YMCA trainer bounces back following automobile accident

LOCAL NEWS, 11A

CANTON

OBSERVER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2018 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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PARC plan gains public support

Residents hear about ideas for cultural hub building

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Mike and Joan Mardeusz left a public forum at the Penn Theatre feeling confident that Plymouth has an opportunity to become a cultural hub for the arts in western Wayne County.

They were among a crowd of 150-175 people who came out Monday night to learn about a \$30 million plan to build an 800-seat performing arts theater and renovate the existing Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex, or PARC.

Mike Mardeusz welcomed the idea of

walking from home in Plymouth to see quality entertainment in a theater that would be built between PARC and the Plymouth Cultural Center.

"It's just amazing," he said.

Joan Mardeusz said she is an avid arts supporter who believes the project could improve the quality of life in Plymouth.

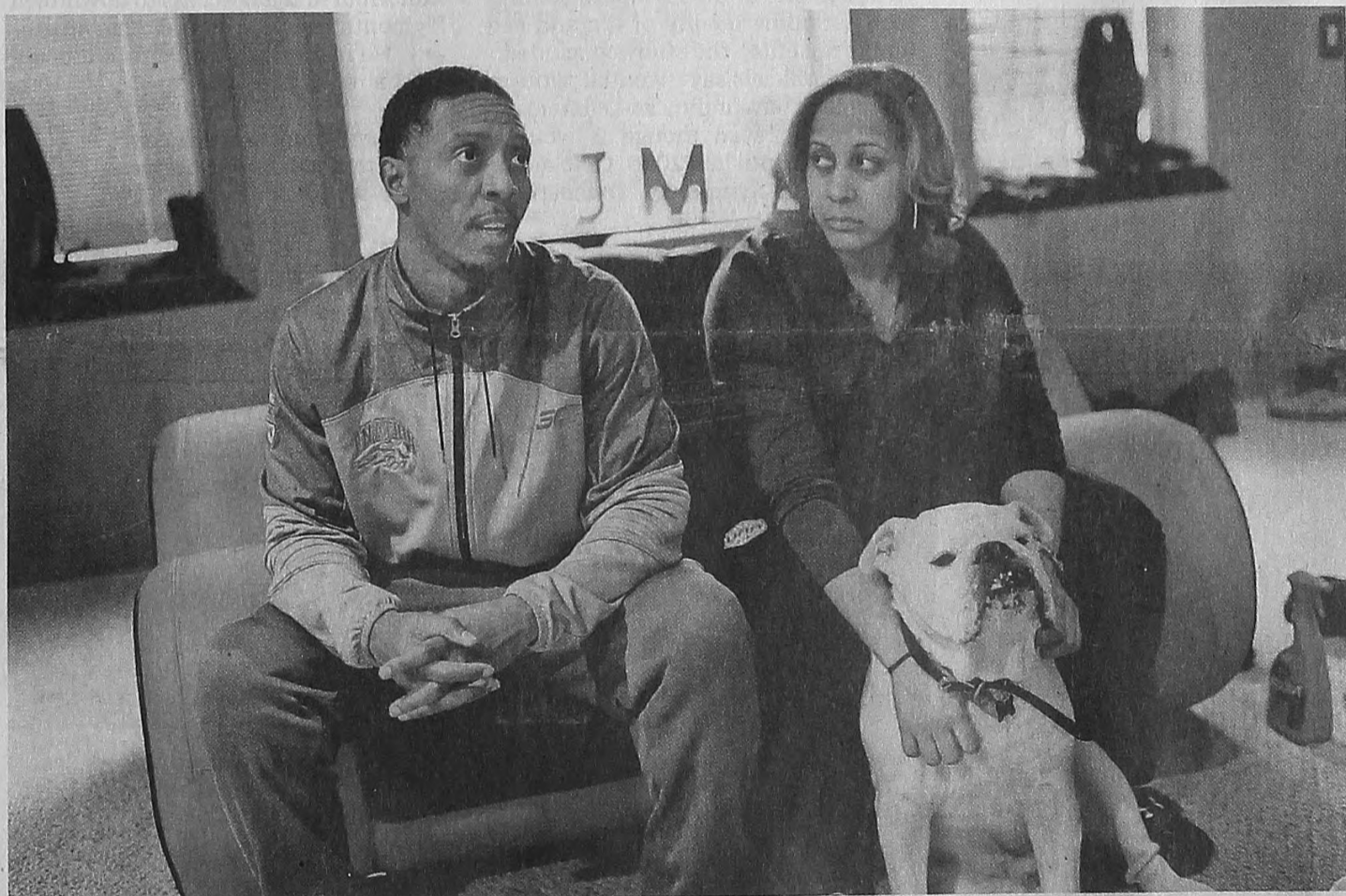
"I think it's awesome," she said.

And the Mardeuszes said they would be willing to pay a modest tax increase that PARC officials say would likely be needed to complement a massive cap-

See PARC, Page 2A



Professional photographer Krisjan Krafchak, a tenant of PARC, explains the project renderings to local residents. DARRELL CLEM



Jarvis and June Mitchell of Garden City talk about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the realities of life in 2018 for African Americans. Sitting in on the discussion is the family's English bulldog, Chauncey (named after former Detroit Pistons star Chauncey Billups). TOM BEAUDOIN

LIVIN' THE DREAM?

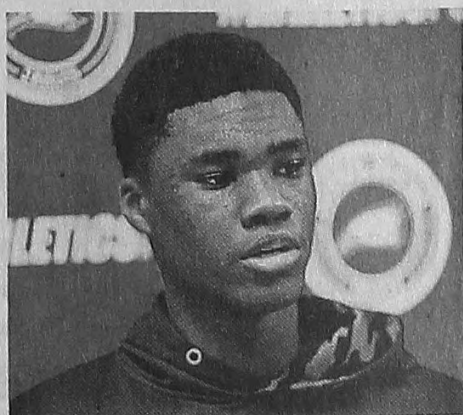
Local couple say MLK would be 'flabbergasted' at today's society

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Some sidewalks in the peaceful Garden City neighborhood where Jarvis and June Mitchell live were covered with snow and ice.

But there could have been egg shells on the pavement, under their boots, for all that African Americans still have to endure in 2018.

"He'd be flabbergasted," June Mitchell said, about how Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. — whose life will be celebrated across the country Monday — might react to all the negative headlines.



Maximus Okolo's parents moved to Michigan from Nigeria. He said he does not feel racial tension at his school, Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton. TOM BEAUDOIN

There's nationwide protests fueled by racism, stemming from Colin Kaepernick taking a knee during the na-

Inside

Brother Rice tennis star making strides
Sports, 1B

tional anthem to protest what he called oppression of black people.

There still is at least one restaurant, the Mitchells said they experienced, where black kids are turned away from getting a drink of water, albeit in West Virginia.

And, on the eve of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, it seems as though all the societal gains enjoyed by African Americans — largely thanks to what King and many others experienced in the 1950s and 1960s — are slowly slipping.

In Michigan, the number of hate crimes jumped 29.1 percent (from 309

See MLK DAY, Page 12A

11th District candidates line up with Trump in GOP forum

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

"Experience matters," Kerry Bentivolio said Monday night as a forum for six Republican congressional candidates got underway in Novi.

Two hours later, voters at the Emagine theater at Fountain Walk agreed.

Bentivolio, a former U.S. House of Representatives member from the 11th District, which covers large swaths of western Wayne and Oakland counties, narrowly won the straw vote following the forum for Republicans hoping to succeed Rep. David Trott, R-Birmingham. An attorney, Trott is not seeking re-election after two terms in the House.

Bentivolio, of Milford, who has been a soldier, autoworker, reindeer farmer and teacher, garnered 54 votes in the straw poll to 51 for Andrew "Rocky" Raczkowski of Troy, a businessman, retired U.S. Army Reserves lieutenant colonel and former Michigan legislator.

Lena Epstein of Bloomfield Hills, a co-owner of Vesco Oil Corp., was third with 45 votes, while Kurt Heise, the Plymouth Township supervisor and also a former state legislator, and current state Rep. Kint Kesto, R-Commerce Township, took just four each. Kristine Bonds of West Bloomfield, a business owner and the daughter of legendary local television anchorman Bill Bonds, won two votes.

The forum, sponsored by the Michigan Conservative Coalition, drew a standing-room-only crowd to the Emagine's largest theater, which has 346 seats.

The candidates all expressed a degree of support for many of the policies and practices of President Donald Trump, from his insistence on a wall between the U.S. and Mexico to his sometimes-controversial use of Twitter.

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PARC

Continued from Page 1A

ital fundraising campaign launched in November.

An overwhelming majority of residents who spoke during the public forum indicated support for a plan that PARC officials say would boost Plymouth's cultural status, improve the quality of life, raise property values and bring business to downtown restaurants and other businesses.

Plymouth resident Jerry Norquist said it's an opportunity Plymouth and Plymouth Township shouldn't pass up.

"This is huge for Plymouth. It's huge for the township," he said. "We can make this happen."

Some residents said they wish the project contained plans for amenities such as an outdoor swimming pool or a fitness facility. David Rosenbaum, who lives near PARC, said he supports the

PARC renovation, but opposes the theater, which he said would take up green space.

"A theater I do not think is to the benefit of our community," he said.

Plymouth Township resident Tammy Doroshewitz lauded the project, saying it "fills a gap" in local offerings for the arts and recreation.

Residents' comments came during the first public forum rolled out by PARC officials since they began the capital fundraising campaign.

"This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said PARC Vice President Mark Malcolm, who previously agreed to pay more than \$3 million to save the PARC building — formerly Central Middle School — from a potential wrecking ball. "By working together, we can leave Plymouth better than we found it."

The existing PARC building already has 25 tenants and Malcolm said it has reached 85-percent capacity within the last two years. It houses artists, theater groups, youth and adult recreation offerings, culinary arts programs, tenants as prestigious as the Michigan Philharmonic and classes from the Detroit-based College for Creative Studies.

Malcolm called CCS a world-renowned school in areas such as automotive design and said local classes are "a phenomenal resource" for the Plymouth-Canton community.

PARC President Don Soenen assured residents they will not pay for the complex's operating costs. At most, they would likely pay a 1-mill, 20-year tax increase that would cost the average homeowner about \$110 a year, he said.

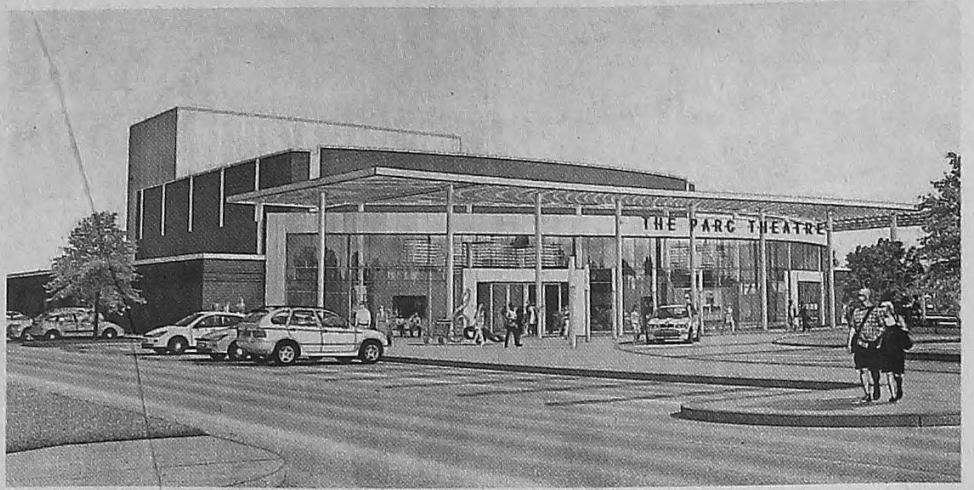
No formal tax proposal has been drafted. Soenen said it would involve negotiations with the city and township and the likely creation of a special authority with a board of directors to map out the proposal, which officials say could potentially be placed on the ballot as early as August.

Any tax would be solely to build the theater and renovate the existing three-story PARC building.

"You will never have to put a penny into operating (costs)," Soenen told the crowd Monday.

A feasibility study conducted by an independent advisory firm, Stout, Risius, Ross, LLC, concluded the project is viable.

"Based on our forecasts of income, expenses and performance projections of the existing and proposed develop-



This is a rendering of what the new performing arts center would look like. PARC



With all new windows, this is how the front of PARC would look after a massive renovation project. PARC

ment, our study of the business operations of the project indicates the future operation will be feasible," the company wrote.

It also said the business model of renting out space provides for a "stable income stream."

A separate survey by Lansing-based Anderson Economic Group concluded the PARC plan would benefit property values and downtown businesses.

"PARC will bring numerous long-term benefits to the Plymouth community, including quality of life and economic benefits," the study concluded.

PARC officials say potential performers already have indicated an interest in the theater, even though it wouldn't likely open until late 2020. Officials say the Detroit Symphony Orchestra is

among those indicating a preliminary interest.

"This is not a pie-in-the-sky plan," Malcolm said.

Officials say half the \$30 million would pay for the theater and half for the PARC renovations. On Monday, residents had a chance to view architectural renderings set up in the Penn Theatre lobby.

Soenen said the complex's location is ideal because it is between Detroit and Ann Arbor and has access to downtown Plymouth restaurants and other amenities. He has voiced confidence it could draw a regional crowd.

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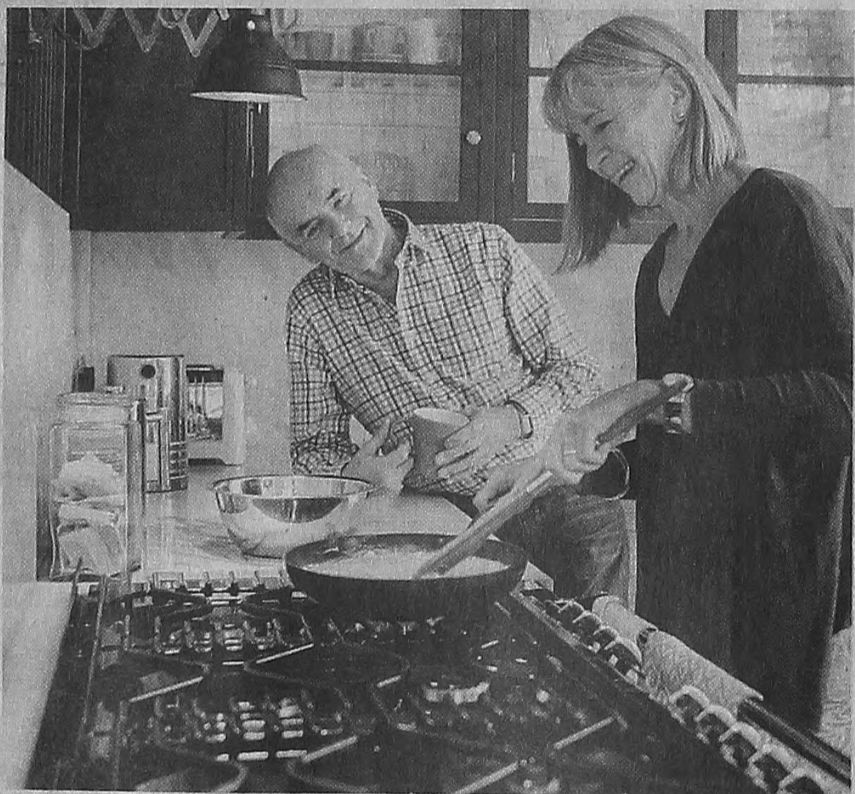
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Forum

Continued from Page 1A

"I think we get through the fake news and the fake media with them (the tweets)," said Kesto, a former Wayne County assistant prosecutor. "I say he keeps doing it."

"I think it's genius," said Bentivolio, who served in the House in 2013-14 before being beaten by Trott in the Republican primary. "A lot of people think it's unrepresentational, but the media treats him unrepresentational."

Only Heise distanced himself at all from Trump's tweets, saying, "It's certainly his way of going over the heads of the media to get his message out." The tweets, Heise continued, need to be translated into policy.

Trump was very much on the minds of the candidates as they worked to prove their Republican bona fides.

Epstein, who declared Trump "the best president in American history," touted her involvement in his 2016 campaign, during which she was a Michigan co-chair. "It was very, very important to be loud and proud and early in support of him," she said.

All six said they'd support funding a wall on the southern border, all disavowed Sharia law, an Islamic religious code that some fear could be implemented in the U.S., and none would agree that human activity has anything to do with climate change.

Answers to the climate change question prompted moderator Terry "Thayrone X" Hughes, a local radio show host, to call out mockingly: "Security! They're all deniers. They're all deniers. Take them away for re-education."

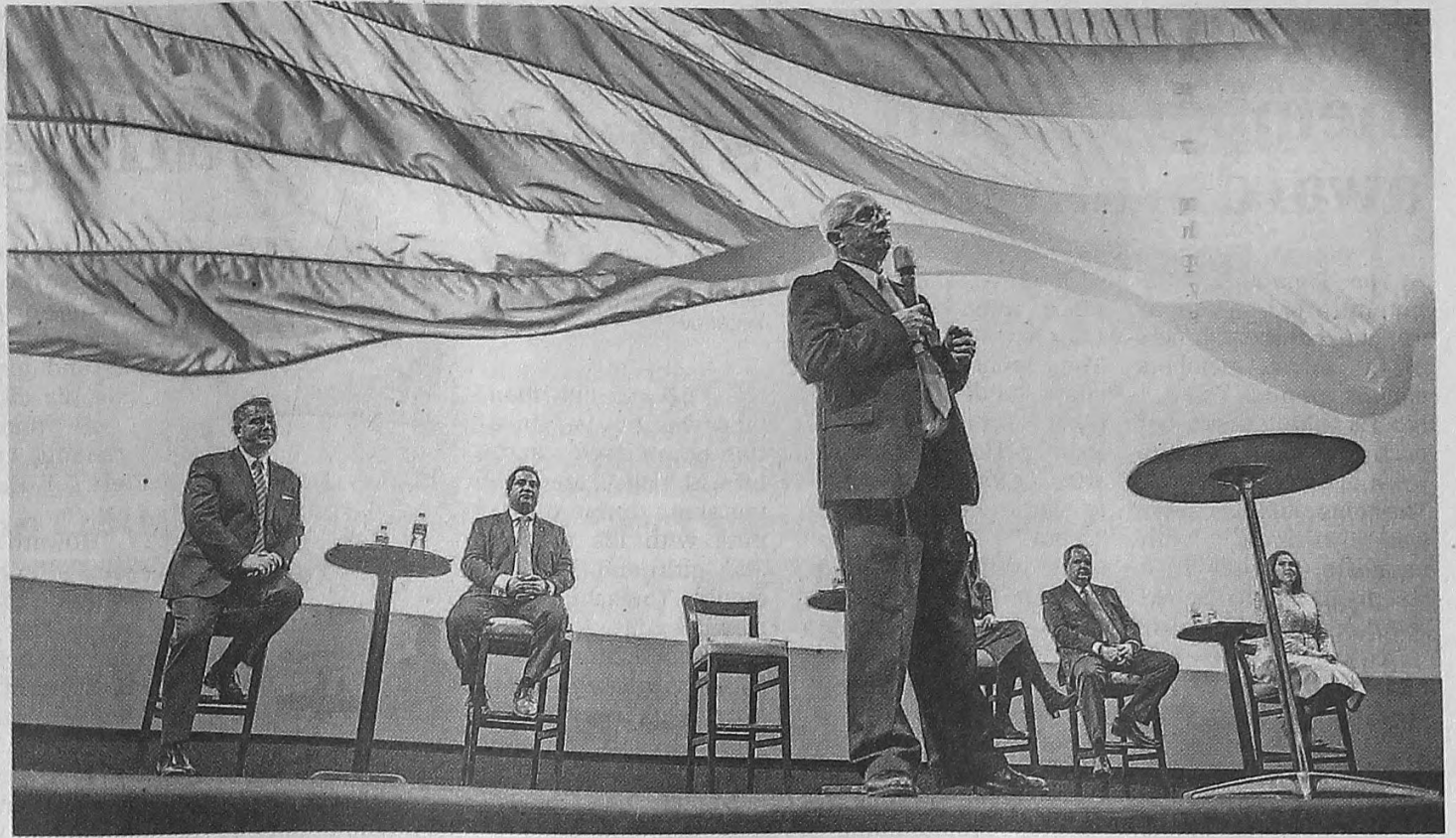
Candidates also agreed the U.S. should adopt more stringent vetting of refugees, with some suggesting refugee resettlement in the U.S. should be ended altogether.

"We cannot be everything to everyone. We just can't," Bonds said.

"Refugee assistance program works best when we help the refugees in their own country," Raczkowski said.

Bonds, who only recently announced her decision to run, focused repeatedly on the U.S. opioid addiction crisis, which, she said, claimed a son's life in 2013.

Responding to a question about the



Kerry Bentivolio answers a question. Behind him (from left) are Rocky Raczkowski, Klint Kesto, Kristine Bonds, Kurt Heise and Lena Epstein. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Raczkowski Kesto Epstein Bentivolio Bonds Heise

Affordable Care Act, which she said she'd want to repeal, Bonds turned her answer into a plea for helping addicts.

"We are in the center of the worst opioid epidemic in the history of this country," she said, adding she finds it "unbelievable" that there's no consensus about how to help uninsured people who need drug treatment.

Bentivolio painted himself as a "regular guy" who wants to continue serving the budget-cutting, small-government movement that he championed when in the House. A federal government shutdown, the possibility of which looms this month, wouldn't bother him, he said (and essential services are kept, he added).

"I don't see a problem, because less

government is actually good," he said.

Kesto and Heise both emphasized their time as state legislators. Kesto said he is working on asset forfeiture reform and welfare reform, while Heise, who served in the Michigan House from 2011 until late 2016, said he was part of a government that turned Michigan's economy and state budget around after the Great Recession.

"We're holding government accountable and draining the swamp," Kesto said.

"These are very serious times. ... We need serious people," Heise said. "This is no place for on-the-job training."

Raczkowski also mentioned his experience in the state Legislature and his service as a military leader and made an

impassioned plea for getting money out of political campaigns.

"No one will buy this district. No Democrat, no one. It belongs to the people," he said.

The 11th District includes much of northwest Wayne County and central and southeast Oakland County, including the communities of Livonia, Plymouth and Northville, Canton, Plymouth and Northville townships, Novi, Farmington, Birmingham and Troy.

The Democrats running in the district are state Rep. Tim Greimel of Auburn Hills, Birmingham businessman Suneel Gupta, Birmingham lawyer Daniel Haberman, Haley Stevens of Rochester Hills, the former chief of staff for the U.S. Treasury Department's auto task force, and Payrouz Saad of Northville, a former staffer in the Department of Homeland Security.

The primary election is Tuesday, Aug. 7.

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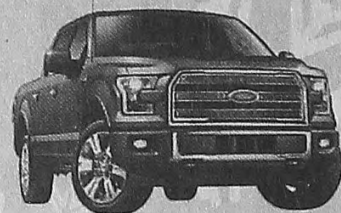
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PCAC announces member exhibit award winners

The Plymouth Community Arts Council has announced the winners of its annual members exhibit awards. The exhibit is held in December each year to showcase the work of member artists. The theme for this show was "Inspired," with members including a statement about the inspiration for their work.

Best in show first place went to Nancy Bahr for "The Beauty of The Birches." Best in show honorable mentions went to both Nick Bair for "Hippopotamus and Her Reflection" and to Janith Rolston for "Zebra." Director's choice went to Lisa Misiuk for "All That Remains." Honorable mention went to Denise Cassidy Wood for "Red Lily #552."

PCAC membership is open to anyone in the greater community and benefits programming and operations for the nonprofit arts organization. The PCAC has been providing quality arts experiences for the citizens of greater western Wayne County since 1969.

For more information about future exhibit opportunities or membership, go to www.plymoutharts.com or email director Lisa Howard at lisa@plymoutharts.com.

Gunman charged in armed standoff pleads guilty

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A 27-year-old man who was charged in a two-hour armed standoff with police, after firing shots during a dispute with his mother and girlfriend in Plymouth Township, has pleaded guilty to a single weapons charge after authorities agreed to dismiss seven other counts, court records show.

Daniel Jacob Howard, who police say threatened to kill himself, could face penalties ranging from probation to 10 years in prison when he is sentenced Jan. 18 for a Mother's Day 2016 incident involving police from Plymouth Township, Livonia, Canton, Plymouth, Redford, Michigan State Police and the western Wayne County special weapons and tactics team.

Howard's sentencing



Howard

by Wayne County Circuit Judge Ulysses Boykin comes after he was initially deemed mentally incompetent to stand trial and aid in his own defense. That ruling was since reversed after he received treatment.

In return for his guilty plea, authorities agreed to drop seven other counts, including firing a weapon from a vehicle, fleeing from police, carrying a concealed weapon, resisting and obstructing

a police officer, using a felony firearm and two counts of domestic violence involving his mother and girlfriend, court records show.

A phone message seeking comment was left for Howard's attorney.

Howard's troubles began after he quarreled with his girlfriend, police said. The incident occurred about 3 p.m. May 8, 2016, at his mother's house on Tavistock, where police say he assaulted his mother and his girlfriend, retrieved a pistol and fired one shot into a basement wall.

When police arrived, Howard was accused of ignoring orders to put down his weapon. He then left the house, fired a shot into the air and another into a window of his girlfriend's car as he drove off, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has said.

He then led police from Plymouth Township to Livonia, where he crashed a Chevrolet

Cruze on eastbound I-96, near Newburgh. As a tense situation unfolded, he stood next to his vehicle and pointed a handgun to his head, Plymouth Township Police Chief Tom Tiderington has said.

Police closed I-96 and nearby roads to traffic as police negotiators talked to Howard and encouraged him to give up, Tiderington has said.

Tiderington called it "a team effort" that ended with no bloodshed. No one was seriously injured during the ordeal.

After initially being deemed incompetent, Howard's case took a turn after he was declared competent last July, leading to a preliminary hearing in Plymouth 35th District Court that ended with him being ordered to stand trial.

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Revocable Trust of Marguerite J. Klein, Deceased

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Settlor, Marguerite J. Klein, born April 26, 1939, died on October 22, 2017. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Marguerite J. Klein Revocable Trust under Trust Agreement dated November 30, 1999, amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Jennifer Hendrick, 15650 Ronny Road, Grand Haven, MI 49417, Trustee, within four months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: December 27, 2017

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Published: January 14, 2018

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Catholic Vantage Financial accepting scholarship applications online

Catholic Vantage Financial student scholarship applications are now available online at www.mycvf.org. The credit union will award a total of 10 scholarships to members in 2018.

The deadline to apply is Saturday, March 2.

Six scholarships of \$500 each will be awarded to help cover tuition for students who attend Catholic schools. Two scholarships will be awarded to students in kindergarten through eighth grade and four scholarships to students

who attend a Catholic high school. Scholarship recipients will be selected by random drawing.

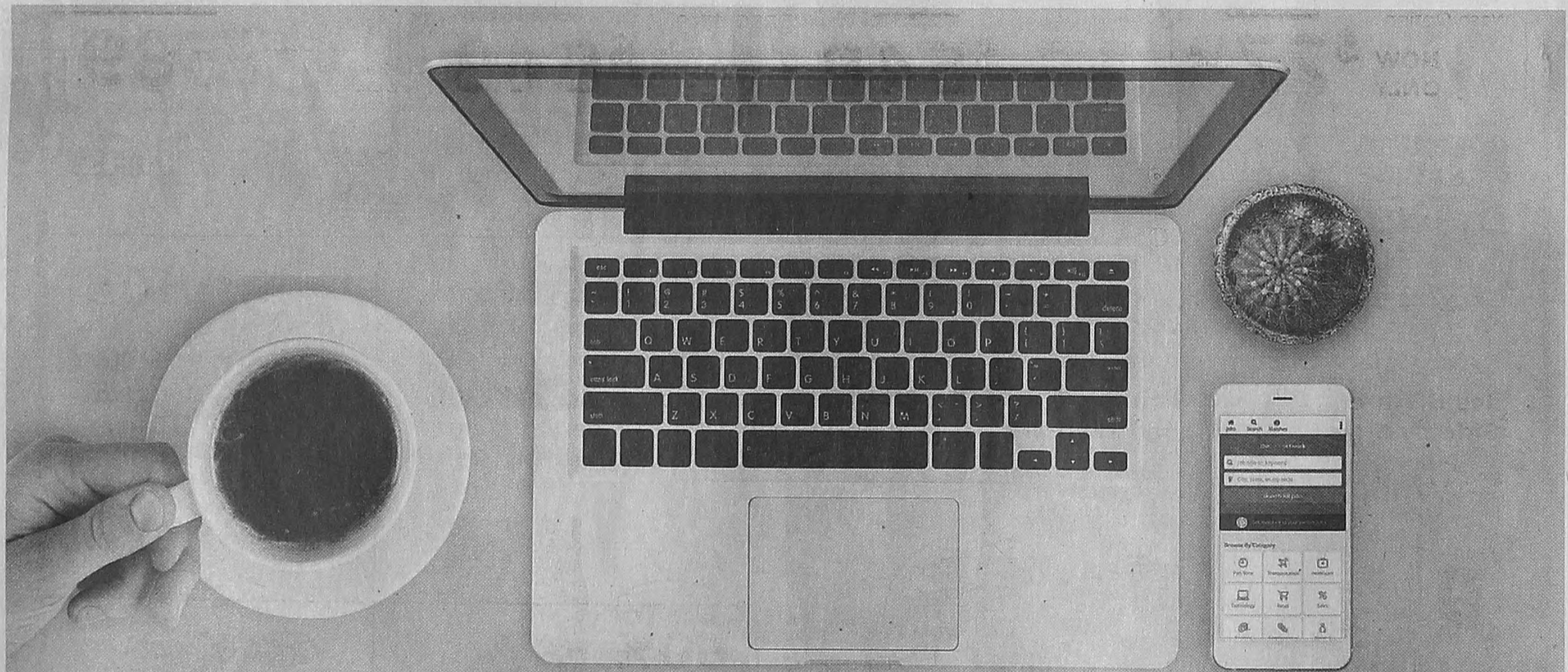
Four college scholarships of \$1,000 each will also be awarded to 2018 high school graduating seniors of private or public high schools, who will

attend an accredited college, university or trade school. In addition to completing the online application, students are required to submit a short essay and brief video describing their goals and faith journey. Scholarship winners will be selected

based on the information submitted.

All scholarship recipients will be notified by March 14.

More details about the scholarships are available at www.mycvf.org.



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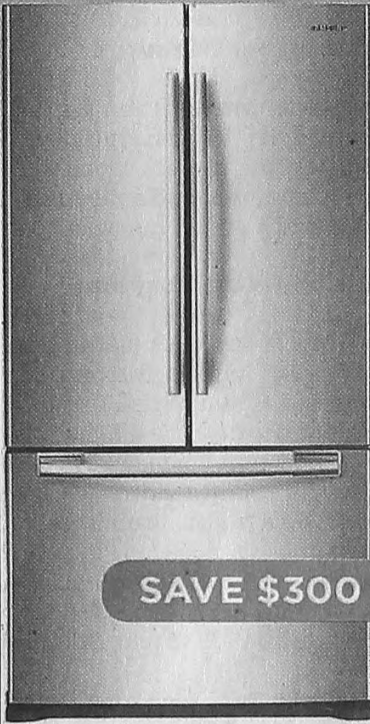
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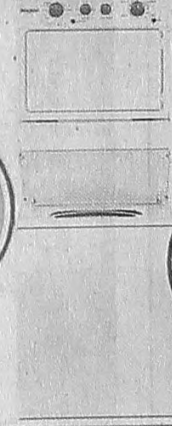
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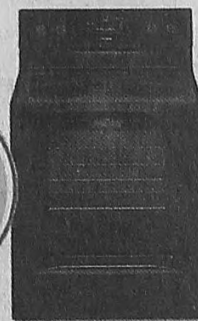
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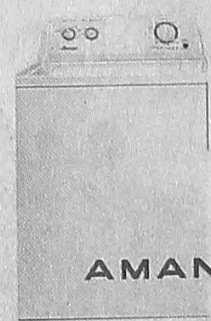
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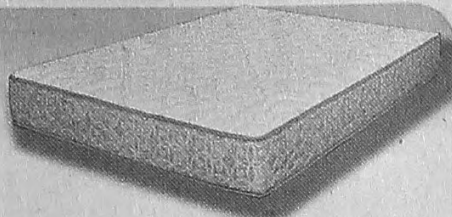
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When: 5-7 p.m. each Wednesday and noon to 2 p.m. each Saturday

Details: A team of tech-savvy volunteers has been assembled at CPL to help you find the answers to those tech issues you can't quite figure out on your own. Whether you need help while working on a project at one of our computers, setting up an email address or downloading an app on your phone, we can help.

ELL Conversation Groups

When: 9:30-11 a.m. each Thursday and Friday

Details: Practice speaking English in an informal setting with Community Literacy Council volunteers. See the English Language Learner Program FAQ at www.cantonpl.org for more information.

Digital Drop-In Help

When: 10-11 a.m. each Friday

Details: Stop in to get one-on-one help with your e-readers from the friendly experts at the Information desk. Just bring your device and your desire to learn. Kindle users must bring Amazon log-in information as well.

Computer Skills Lab for Beginners

When: 9-11 a.m. second Saturday of each month

Details: If you are looking to build a foundation of strong computer skills, including Internet use and setting up an email account, stop in to CPL's Internet Lab. We will have guided activities for practice with mouse skills, copying/

pastings and more, with trusted experts on hand to answer any questions you may have or connect you to additional resources.

Family Storytime

Details: Family Storytime provides an opportunity for caregivers to actively engage with their children under age 5. Together with a youth librarian, you can build early literacy skills in a welcoming environment through meaningful stories, songs and play. Encourage a love of language and reading while practicing listening and cooperative tasks. Every Family Storytime is followed by a half-hour of ABC Activity Time. January schedule is 10-10:30 a.m. each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Preschool Storytime

Details: Preschool storytimes feature longer books, flannel board and rhymes designed for children ages 3½-55. These activities help develop pre-reading and school-readiness skills. Children must be able to sit independently and be attentive for 30 minutes. Parents may attend, if needed, to help transition their child to this program, and all parents must remain in the children's department. Registration is required and you can pick a Monday or a Friday session. Go to www.cantonpl.org for registration and schedule.

Baby Storytime

Details: Baby Storytime is designed for babies 18 months and younger with an adult and features simple stories, songs and rhymes carefully chosen to build awareness of language and vocabulary, foster a love of books and provide a fun, interactive experience for babies and parents/caregivers. Registration is required. January schedule is 10-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, 23 and 30.

NHS Tutoring

Details: NHS students from P-CCS's The Park are here to provide students in grades 3-12 free homework help. If you're interested in getting tutored, if

you're under 12, your parent must remain in the library and you must bring the assignment and any other needed materials. Tutoring is available 6-8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the Children's Library. There will be no tutoring during breaks or school closures/snow days. Those seeking tutoring will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis. They will be allowed a 30-minute maximum if there is a line. Check www.cantonpl.org for ongoing schedule.

STEM Curiosity

Details: Children ages 7-10 interested in science, technology, engineering and math will learn something new each month in a STEM topic. Get introduced to concepts through presentations, active exploration, and creative projects. Registration required. Upcoming schedule: 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, TBD. Registration begins Jan. 23. Go to www.cantonpl.org for registration and more information.

Adult Contemporary Book Discussion

When: 7-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15

Details: Join January's Adult Contemporary Book Discussion to discuss "Salt to the Sea" by Ruta Sepetys.

Library Board Meeting

When: 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 18

Details: CPL is governed by a six-member Library Board of Trustees of community members elected quadrennially on a non-partisan ballot. You are invited to attend.

Non-fiction Book Group

When: 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 20

Details: Join the January Non-fiction Book Group at the Sweetwaters on Canton Center Road to discuss "Blink: The Power of Thinking without Thinking" by Malcolm Gladwell.

The Rhythms of Cuba With Tumbao Bravo

When: 1-2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21

Details: Come in from the cold and warm up with Tumbao Bravo and the Rhythms of Cuba. The Canton Public Library is proud to welcome the award-winning Latin jazz combo from Ann Arbor. Winner of the 2005, 2007, and 2013 Detroit Music Awards for Best Jazz Recording and Best World Music Band, Tumbao Bravo has performed at all the major Michigan jazz/music festivals. Don't miss the chance to experience this band, turn up the heat and beat the winter blues.

Dungeons & Dragons Gaming Club

When: 7-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22

Details: Roll up some fun with kid-friendly Dungeons & Dragons gaming. Have fun using your imagination and problem-solving skills while meeting and socializing with others who enjoy role-playing games. All playing materials will be provided, but feel free to bring your own dice and/or D&D 5th Edition Character Sheet. This program is suggested for ages 9-12.

CPL Finals Study Hall

When: Noon to 9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 24-25

Details: Calling all high school students. Do you need a place to study for finals? Come to the library to study or work with a group. We will have tables set up in our meeting rooms for all your studying needs. Make sure to bring your own studying supplies.

Adult Writers' Group

Details: Interested in writing? Join other adults to share your work, get feedback and discuss the craft of writing. Upcoming schedule: 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27.

Special Needs Storytime

When: 4-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27

Details: Join us for Special Needs Storytime: Count Me In. This is a sensory-friendly storytime filled with stories, songs and sign language especially designed for young children with developmental delays and disabilities.

Meditation in Motion

When: 4:45-5:45 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27

Details: Raja Yoga Meditation helps you reach a deeper understanding of yourself, your intrinsic positive qualities and your innate value. There is beauty in all of us and through meditation the inner beauty not only is revealed to the self, but also to the people around us. Join practitioners from the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization to explore these universal concepts and encourage your inner spiritual development toward a fresh perspective on values such as justice, freedom, respect and love. This program is designed for ages 8 through adult.

Teen Boredom Busters

When: 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29

Details: Bored after school? Need a study break? No worries, we've got fun activities in our Teen Space that are just right for your busy schedule. Stop by for five or 50 minutes, whatever works for you. Learn something new, meet a new friend or just relieve some stress.



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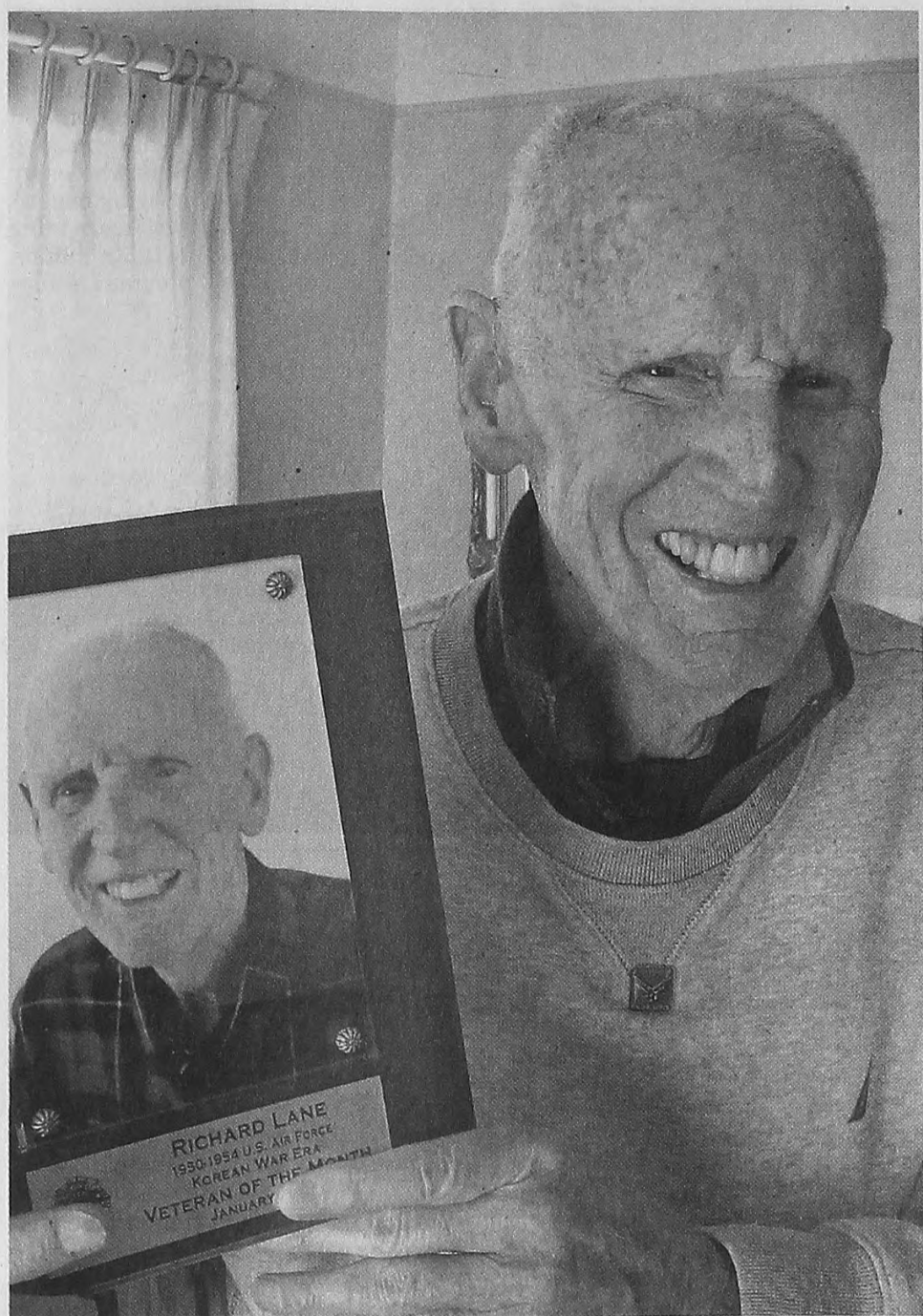
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HOLIDAY
RETIREMENT





Richard Lane of Livonia, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, was honored by the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 for January.

Lane is honored veteran for January

Richard Lane, Korean War era veteran from Livonia, was honored as the January 2018 Veteran of the Month by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Lane served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950-54. He was born in 1929 in Toronto, Canada, and put in an orphanage. At 10 months of age, he was adopted and moved to Battle Creek, where he was reared and attended high school. On June 25, 1950 North Korean forces crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. The U.S. supported South Korea with naval and air support and, on June 30, Gen. Douglas MacArthur was given two divisions of troops to support the U.N. troops defending South Korea.

Lane received his draft notice and decided to join the U.S. Army before being assigned to the air force. He enlisted in September and was sent to Lackland Air Force base, near San Antonio, Texas, for basic training. The war in Korea was escalating quickly and the military was building up at a fast pace, so his basic training was shortened from eight weeks to four. He was then sent to technical school at Francis E. Warren AFB near Cheyenne, Wyo. "I spent five months there and the winter was brutal. There was a three day stretch when it hit 27 degrees below zero," Lane said.

He was trained as an administrative clerk and, in 19 months, worked his way up to staff sergeant. After training, he assumed he would be sent to Korea, but was surprised when he was assigned to Ernest Harmon Air Force Base, in Stephenville, Newfoundland, Canada, as part of the Atlantic Circle rescue group. They were equipped with Grumman SA-16A Albatross amphibious planes and B-29s with boats for sea rescues in the Atlantic.

"There were a couple missions where we sent planes out to rescue persons and they were pretty routine, but a month after I was transferred out, a good friend of mine, a flight engineer, was on a mission when their plane went down and the whole crew was lost," Lane said. "It was a very sad time for me, but things like this happen when you put yourself in harm's way."

Lane spent 1½ years there. Then he was transferred to Palm Beach AFB in Florida for the next two years. He was assigned to the Air Police Squadron for the first year, then was promoted and put in charge of the Group Maintenance Depot Headquarter Office. The base was the main repair facility for rescue aircraft.

"It was great duty," he said. "I had it easy, but I also remember all the people that went to Korea and lost their lives and those that fought and died in World

"I have the utmost respect and admiration for their sacrifice. I have been very blessed to live such a wonderful life in such a great country and owe them and all that served my heartfelt gratitude."

Richard Lane
Korean War veteran

War II and I have the utmost respect and admiration for their sacrifice. I have been very blessed to live such a wonderful life in such a great country and owe them and all that served my heartfelt gratitude."

In 1954, Lane was discharged and sent back home to Battle Creek, where he joined his father as an insurance salesman. He finished his college education and graduated with a master's degree in hospital management from the University of Michigan. He was an administrator in the Battle Creek Sanitarium and Health Center before moving to Howell as chief executive officer at the McPherson Community Health Center. In 1984, he became vice president at Hinsdale Hospital in Hinsdale, Ill., and, in 1987, became chief executive officer at the Westland Medical Center.

Lane married Lorraine in 1952 in Battle Creek. They have three sons, two daughters and six grandchildren. Lane retired and moved to Livonia in 1992. He is also a member of the National Seniors Games Association. He is an avid basketball player and is on the 85-and-over basketball team. The team, Oldies but Goodies, has participated in eight national championship games and received the silver in one tournament.

Lane was interviewed by members of S.A.L. and a DVD was made of the interview and shown at the S.A.L. January membership meeting. A plaque was presented to him from Livonia Trophy with his picture and service information. An additional plaque was also put on display in the vestibule of the American Legion Hall. The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend its monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month. The public is also encouraged to nominate veterans to be honored at its meetings. Nomination forms can be picked up at the American Legion Hall, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia.

Attention Back Pain and Sciatica Sufferers!



ALLY PHYSICAL THERAPY LLC.
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Back Pain and Sciatica Workshop Reveals How to Naturally Heal Back Pain and Sciatica For Good.

Do you suffer with back pain or leg pain when you stand or walk?

Do you have pain when you sit for long periods or drive?

Do you experience pain, numbness or tingling into your butt, groin or down your leg?

Does your back ever "go out" if you move the wrong way?

Are you afraid your pain will get worse if you don't do anything about it?

If you have answered YES to any of the above questions (or have a stubborn spouse who is in denial) – the Lower Back and Sciatica Workshop may be a life changing event for you...

Testimonial: Debra Says: I was in tremendous pain in my back until I came to Mehul for treatment, I was having hard time getting in and out of car, wake up with pain and stiffness, and cannot walk longer. Everything seems to be getting back to normal after treatment, I started feeling whole again and I'm grateful for this place.

Hello,

Back pain and sciatica can completely ruin your life... I've seen it many times.

- ✓ It can make you lean on the shopping cart when walking through the grocery store (how embarrassing)...
- ✓ It can take your focus away from enjoying your life...like spending time with your children or grandchildren...
- ✓ It can mess up your work or force you to do a job you don't want to do...
- ✓ It can ruin your travel plans...
- ✓ And it can take away your ability to live life...having to rely on others... or to wait for you to sit down for a minute.

And less movement and enjoying of life can lead to depression, increased stress and a sedentary lifestyle (mostly sitting...not moving much) which leads to bigger health problems...and life problems.

We are Sciatica and Lower Back Specialists at ALLY PHYSICAL THERAPY, we've helped 100's of people from right here in Livonia, MI...and the rest of Wayne County...who have suffered needlessly with lower back pain and sciatica...it's our specialty.

So by request, I'm hosting a Sciatica and Lower Back Pain Workshop here at ALLY PHYSICAL THERAPY ON 10TH February 2018 at 32858 5 mile Rd, Livonia, MI-48154 at 10:30am – 11:30am.

If you're confused about what to do and looking for answers, here's some of what you'll learn:

- ✓ The Biggest #1 Mistake back pain and sciatica sufferers make which actually stops them from healing...
- ✓ The 3 Most Common Causes of Lower Back Pain and Sciatica...
- ✓ A Sure-Fire Way to Pick the Right Treatment for the Cause of Your Pain (and save you a ton of time and money)
- ✓ How a problem in your back can cause pain, numbness or tingling in your leg...
- ✓ What successful treatment and permanent relief looks like without the side effects of medications, injections or surgery.

How Do I Register for the Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Workshop?

Call our office to register at **734-525-3000** talk to Jessica or Nancy and reserve your spot today!!!!When you register, we will mail you The Lower Back Pain and Sciatica Worksheet which you will bring with you to the event.

We only have 15 seats available for the event...and this will be going out in our Newsletter and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Ally-Physical-Therapy>).

So if you would like to attend, be sure to register now... Call 734-525-3000.

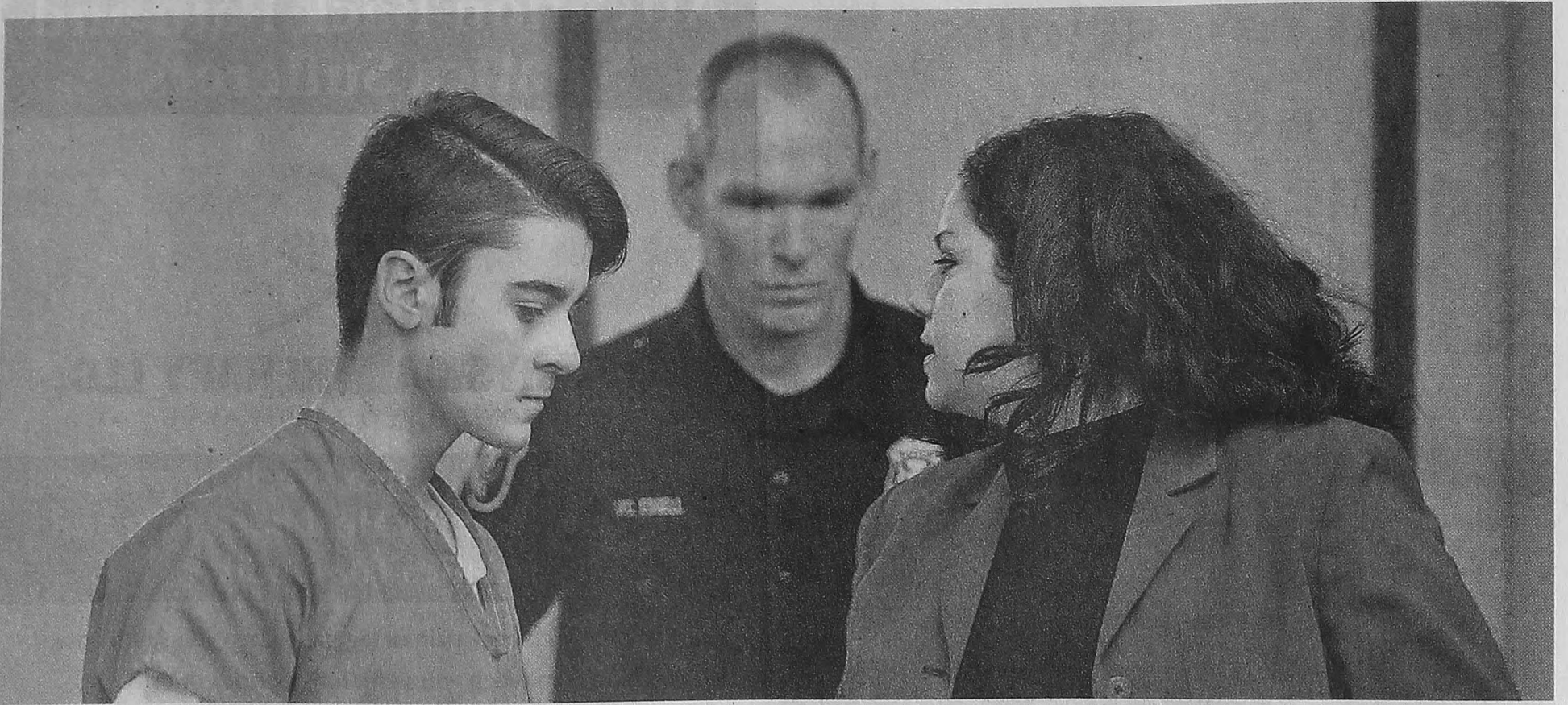
How Much Is It to Attend? The Event is Free to attend.

As a Special Bonus...the first 10 people to call, register and attend for the event will receive 15 min one on one time to discuss with Physical Therapist regarding their low Back Pain (to be scheduled on different day).

All 15 attendees for the Sciatica and Lower Back Pain Workshop will receive a Special Report: "The Top 10 Burning Questions for Sciatica". Looking forward to seeing you there on 10th February 2018 at 10:30am.

Dr. Mehul Vaidya, PT, DPT.

**Ally Physical Therapy,
32858 5 Mile Rd, Livonia, MI-48154.**



Muhammed Al-Tantawi enters court for preliminary exam. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Suspect in mother's death due back in court Feb. 8

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Muhammed Al-Tantawi, the 16-year-old Farmington Hills resident accused of killing his mother and then dropping her out a window, will be back in court early next month.

Al-Tantawi stood mute at his Dec. 21 arraignment in Oakland County Circuit Court, where Judge Martha Anderson entered a not-guilty plea on his behalf. He'll be back before Circuit Court Judge Martha Anderson for a pre-trial hearing Feb. 8.

David Kramer, Al-Tantawi's attorney, said Wednesday his client continues to

say he's innocent.

"Discovery is still continuing to trickle in; I don't think there's a chance it'll go to trial in February," Kramer said. "He maintains his innocence and he wants to go home."

Al-Tantawi, who is charged with first-degree murder and will be tried as an adult, is accused of killing his mother and then dropping her out of a second-floor window. Nada Huranieh, a mother of three, died Aug. 21.

Oakland County Deputy Forensic Pathologist Ruben Ortiz-Reyes earlier had testified he believed her death was made to appear accidental, but in fact was murder. An autopsy he performed on Huranieh two days after she died in-

dicates the cause of death was asphyxia and smothering.

Testimony in Al-Tantawi's preliminary exam included evidence of a videotape that reportedly captures images of someone dragging Huranieh to the window and tossing her out. The end of the video reportedly captures Huranieh's body hitting the patio.

While the video itself was shown only to the judge and attorneys, Farmington Hills Police Sgt. Brian Wehby described it in court.

"It appears that the person that was in the room looks out the window that the body came out of. Then it disappears, then there's another appearance by a person, looks like they might be

putting the ladder in front of the window," he said.

Wehby also testified Al-Tantawi changed his story a couple of times after learning of the existence of the video. Ultimately, he told police he'd seen his mother fall from a ladder while cleaning the window.

According to published reports, Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor John Skrzynski maintains that Al-Tantawi tried to convince investigators his mother's death was from an accidental fall — but the positioning of the body and other evidence shows otherwise.

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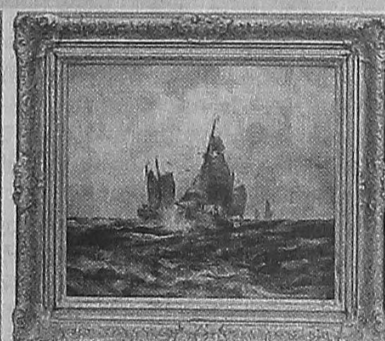
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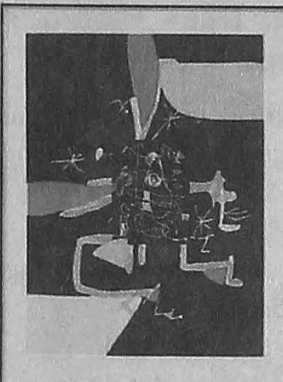
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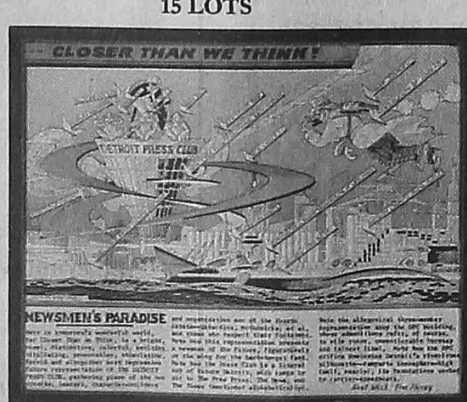
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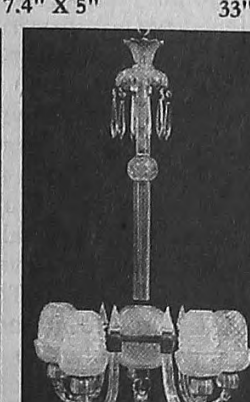
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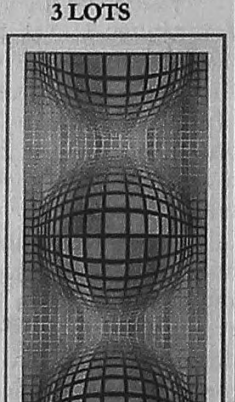
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Good questions, good advice on financial matters



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

Q: Last year, after being married for about 12 years, I was divorced. I never had to take control of my own finances, so it's been a learning process. One thing I have learned is that I need to watch my spending whenever I can. That's why I'm writing to you. I remember a couple of years ago, you wrote a column about how you can have your tax return prepared for free. I'm curious if you could still do that today. My next question deals with wills. When I go online, I see lots of places to get free wills and I don't trust them. Is there a place that I can go to get a free will? You should know I have no children and very little in the way of assets. I also have a power of attorney and medical power of attorney from the state of Michigan.

A: You may not have a lot of experience in handling your personal finances, but you have identified the key to keeping your financial house in order and that is to control spending. I always tell people it's never what you make, it's what you save.

Yes, there is a place you can go to have your tax return prepared for free. The IRS has a program known as free file that allows you to use software from a variety of independent tax preparation companies for free. The IRS has offered this program for a number of years and it is something that more and more Americans ought to take advantage of. The software is from well-known tax preparation companies such as H&R Block and TurboTax. Basically, it is the same software you can buy at the store, but through the IRS it's free.

I know what you're thinking: there must be a gimmick since it's offered by the IRS. There is no gimmick and it works. There is one caveat — this pro-

gram is for people who make \$66,000 a year or less. If you make more than that, you're not eligible. In addition, the only way to access this program is directly through the IRS website. All you need to do is go to www.irs.gov/freefile.

The will I would recommend for you would be the Michigan Statutory Will. The Michigan Statutory Will is a fill-in-the-blank will that has been authorized by the state of Michigan. It is very simple to complete and I think it would effectively cover your needs. You can download a copy at Bloom Asset Management Forms or you can get one directly at <http://www.michbar.org/generalinfo/libraries/wills>.

I think it is wonderful that you already have powers of attorney. Now, with your will, it will put you in very good shape with regard to your estate planning needs. One additional document I would recommend is what I call a document locator. You should have a road map for your loved ones so they know where to locate your assets, important legal documents, passwords and user names for your online activity, as well as any other important information the family may need in closing up your affairs. It is important that, if something happens to you, someone that you trust and have confidence in will know where your document locator is and will be able to access it.

Looking for ways to save money and to be more efficient with our resources is something we should all dedicate ourselves to. If you can save on legal fees by using the Michigan Statutory Will or save on accounting fees by taking advantage of the IRS free file, I say, why not?

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.

Salvation Army still seeking donations

The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit is \$860,000 away from its 2017 Red Kettle fundraising goal of \$7.85 million. The nonprofit organization is asking metro Detroiters to donate through Jan. 31, the campaign's official end date. While residents have been generous in supporting the annual fundraiser, The Salvation Army is encouraging donors to make a contribution to ensure it can continue to deliver vital programs and services throughout 2018.

Funds raised during The Salvation Army's red kettle campaign help provide critical social services and programs for local families and individuals in times of need 365 days a year in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, including educational and outdoor programs for youth, a legal aid clinic and

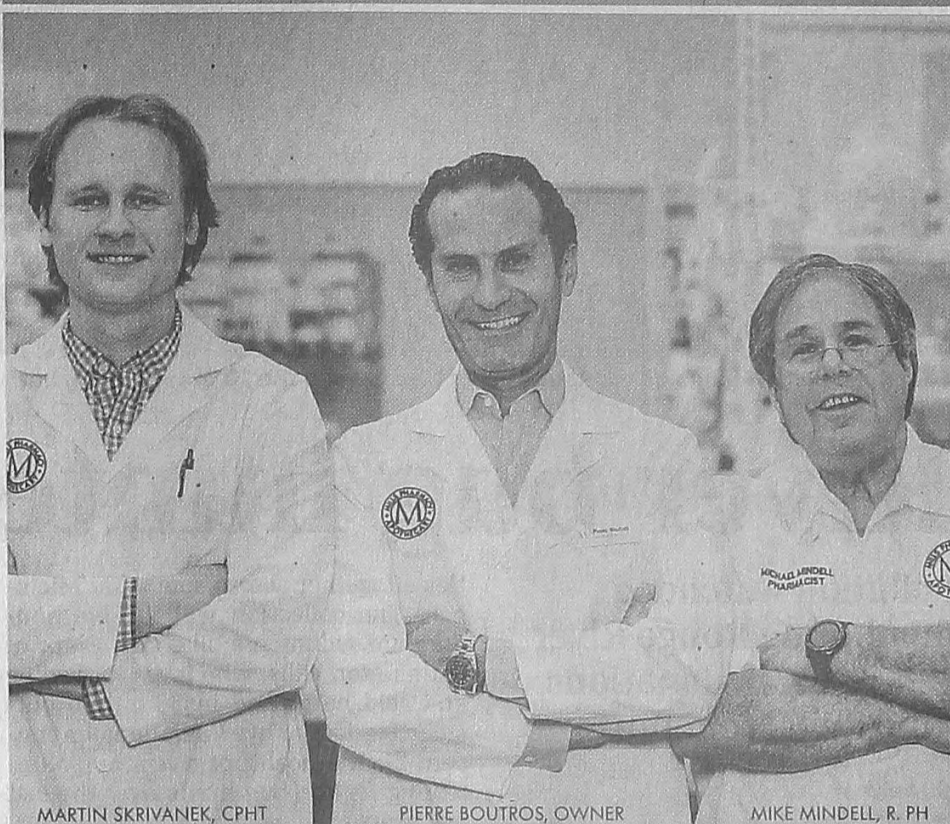
drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs. Red Kettle donations also help ensure The Salvation Army can continue providing nearly 2.6 million meals and more than 663,000 nights of shelter each year.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign:

- Go to www.salmich.org
 - Text SALMICH to 41444 to donate via mobile phone
 - Call 877-SAL-MICH
 - Send a check or money order, made payable to The Salvation Army, to: 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075
- For more information about The Salvation Army, call 877-SAL-MICH or go to www.salmich.org.

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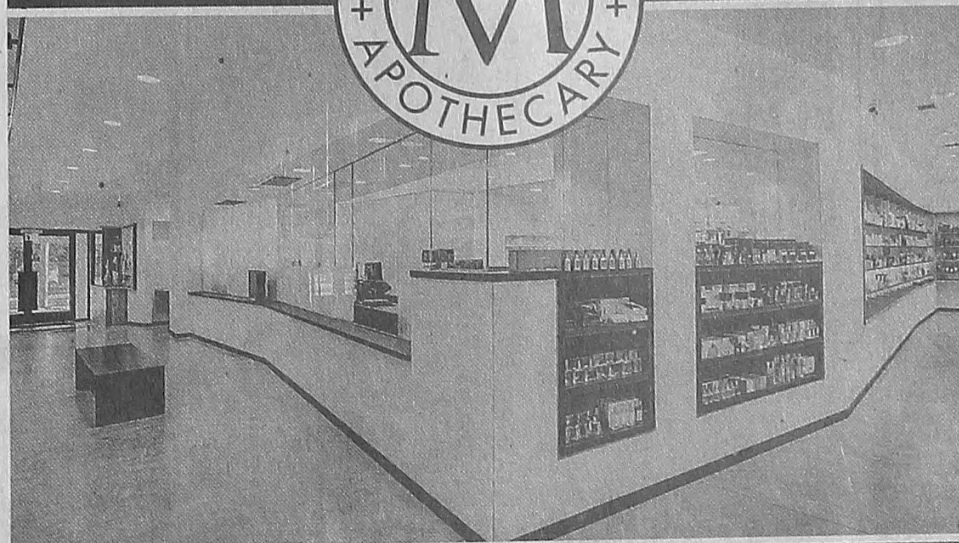
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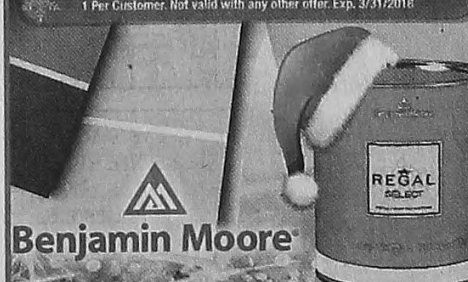
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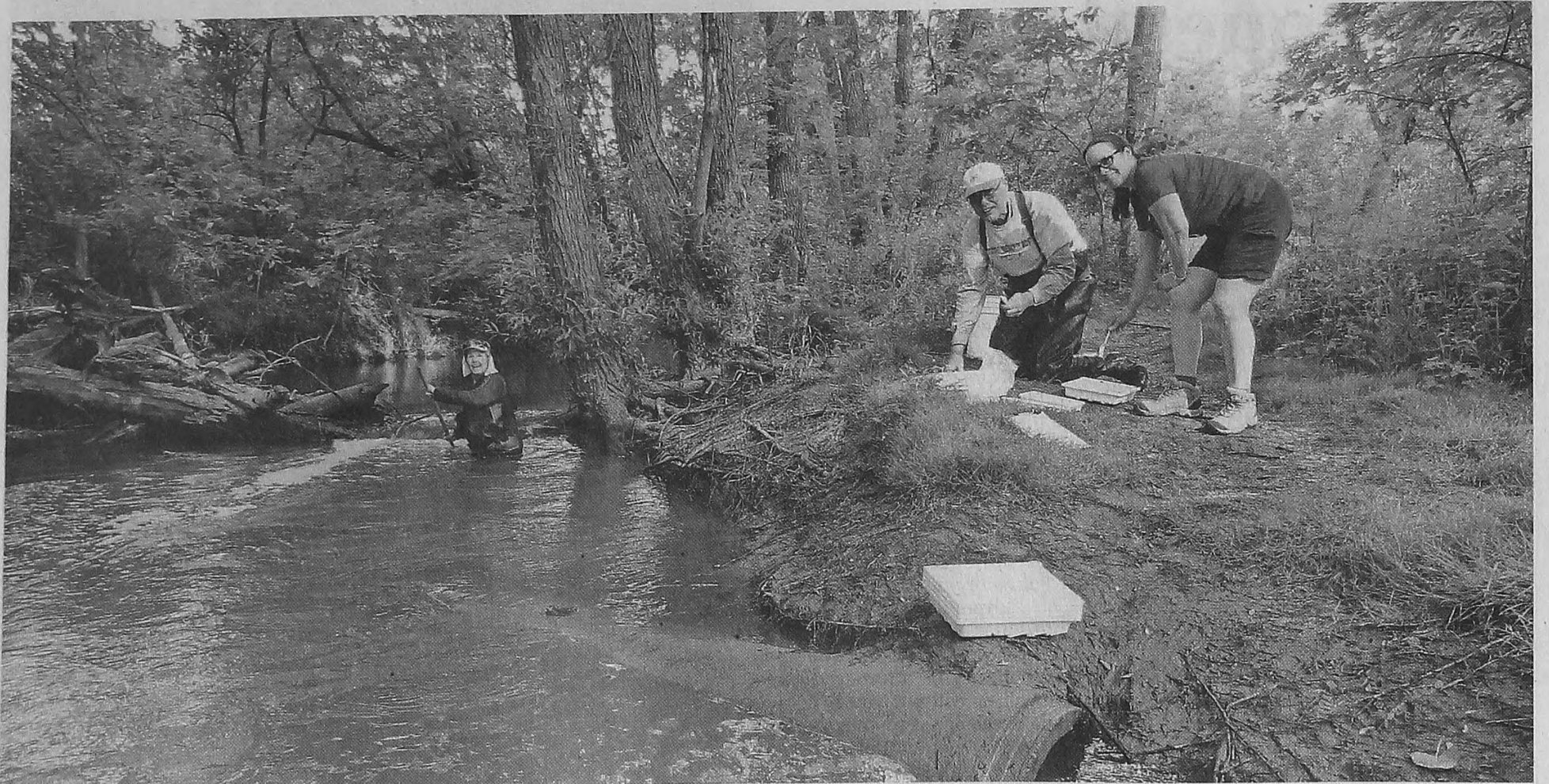




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Volunteers with Friends of the Rouge collect samples in the 2017 spring bug hunt in a Rouge River tributary. FRIENDS OF THE ROUGE

River bug hunters get fast cash

Pollution watchdog monitoring Rouge River gets \$22K in donations, funds vital for efforts

Bill Laitner
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

ties altogether across southeast Michigan. The collection will involve hundreds of volunteers, like Carl Clark of Farmington Hills, who loves fly fishing and said he gained insights into outsmarting fish as well as a greater concern for the health of rivers by volunteering for the bug hunts over the last five years.

"Actually, the Rouge runs right in my backyard," Clark said. He got involved by taking a class from Friends of the Rouge, hoping to learn more about the appearance of insects that look to fish like, well, a burger with everything.

"That helped me when I go fishing because I can look at the bugs in the river and then I pick a fly that looks like that," Clark said.

Apart from tweaking his angling chops, the class got Clark "wrapped up in the whole bug hunt," he said.

Since then, he's become a team leader, "so I actually go into the river with a net and I scoop up material from the bottom, the sides, the bank — wherever the bugs are hanging out," Clark said. He deposits his finds onshore in bins that a team of four to six other volunteers sorts through before the collections ultimately are analyzed by scientists at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, he said.

For the annual winter hunts each January, "the weather can be brutal, but everybody shows up — whole families — and nobody complains. I see kids do-

ing this and enjoying it," he said.

Friends of the Rouge has spent decades trying to revive the health of what arguably has been Michigan's most polluted river — the Rouge — synonymous with heavy industry and the legendary Ford factory named after it. The bug hunts are part of that. Would-be volunteers can learn how to help by visiting www.therouge.org and scrolling down to click on "River Monitoring."

The group's volunteer coordinator, Sally Petrella, said the term "bug hunts" — even though she uses it — doesn't do justice to the importance of collecting stoneflies, other insects and tiny creatures that live on river bottoms and in stream banks.

The analysis of the collections, done three times a year, is essential for determining whether the water quality is improving or is newly threatened by key pollutants such as storm water running off pavement with residues of motor oil and other contaminants, pet wastes swept into sewers by heavy rains, and the liquified flow of landscapers' weed-and-feed after it's dissolved by rain and lawn sprinklers. The official name of the bug hunts connotes the underlying science: Benthic Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Program. (The "benthic" zone is the lowest area of a body of water.)

To fill the funding gap, individuals donors gave \$3,300 through a CrowdRise internet campaign, Washtenaw

County Water Resources Commission provided \$2,200, the solid-waste company Waste Management donated \$1,000 through an expedited grant, and the Erb Family Foundation gave \$5,000, Petrella said.

She's hoping to raise another \$12,000 to reinstate the annual spring and fall bug hunts on the Rouge River "at a bare bones level," Petrella said.

The Royal Oak-based Erb Family Foundation, named after a family that once owned lumberyards throughout the Midwest, has been a strong supporter of water-quality efforts throughout Michigan.

Its donations to the Friends of the Rouge over the last nine years total \$931,000, said Jodee Raines, vice president of programs at the foundation.

The foundation gives away nearly \$12 million a year and about 40% of that goes to aiding the Great Lakes and associated inland bodies of water, Raines said. The bug hunts are an important indicator of whether the residents of southeast Michigan are helping — or hurting — the quality of the water around them, she said.

"I cannot stress enough the impact that everyday actions by everyday individuals have on our Great Lakes.

"How we treat the land in our own backyards affects our local waterways, and our local waterways are the feeders to our Great Lakes," she said.

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YMCA trainer bounces back after automobile accident

Serious injury can't keep him from gym

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Fresh out of the U.S. Navy, James Jones was in the best shape of his life.

He came home to metro Detroit and took a job at the Franklin Athletic Club in Southfield in summer 2016. Later that year, Sept. 28, was when he had an experience that left him humbled.

His wife came to pick him up at the club — his vehicle was still in Hawaii, the last place he was stationed — and the two were driving toward where they were living on the White Lake/Waterford border. While in West Bloomfield, they were driving near Hiller and Willow when they saw a vehicle try to stop in the intersection. It hydroplaned into the road and Jones and his wife struck the vehicle with theirs.

"The airbag hit me in the face instead of her," said Jones, who now lives in Canton. "In doing so, I have some spinal damage to my neck and in my lower back from almost being thrown in the back seat."

It left him restricted in a wheelchair for several months and it took him some time until he could get back on his feet. After extensive rehabilitation, Jones is back doing what he loves, albeit in a different location: since July, he's served as a personal training coordinator at the Livonia Family YMCA, 14255 Stark.

The experience of going from being in top-notch shape to needing assistance to do basic things was a difficult one, Jones said.

"It was humbling more than anything else. I was five weeks out from my first bodybuilding show. I was probably in the best I had ever been in in my life," he said. "And going from where I was in peak condition to (not being able) to do for myself anymore, it was a hard transition to make initially."

A sight at the Y

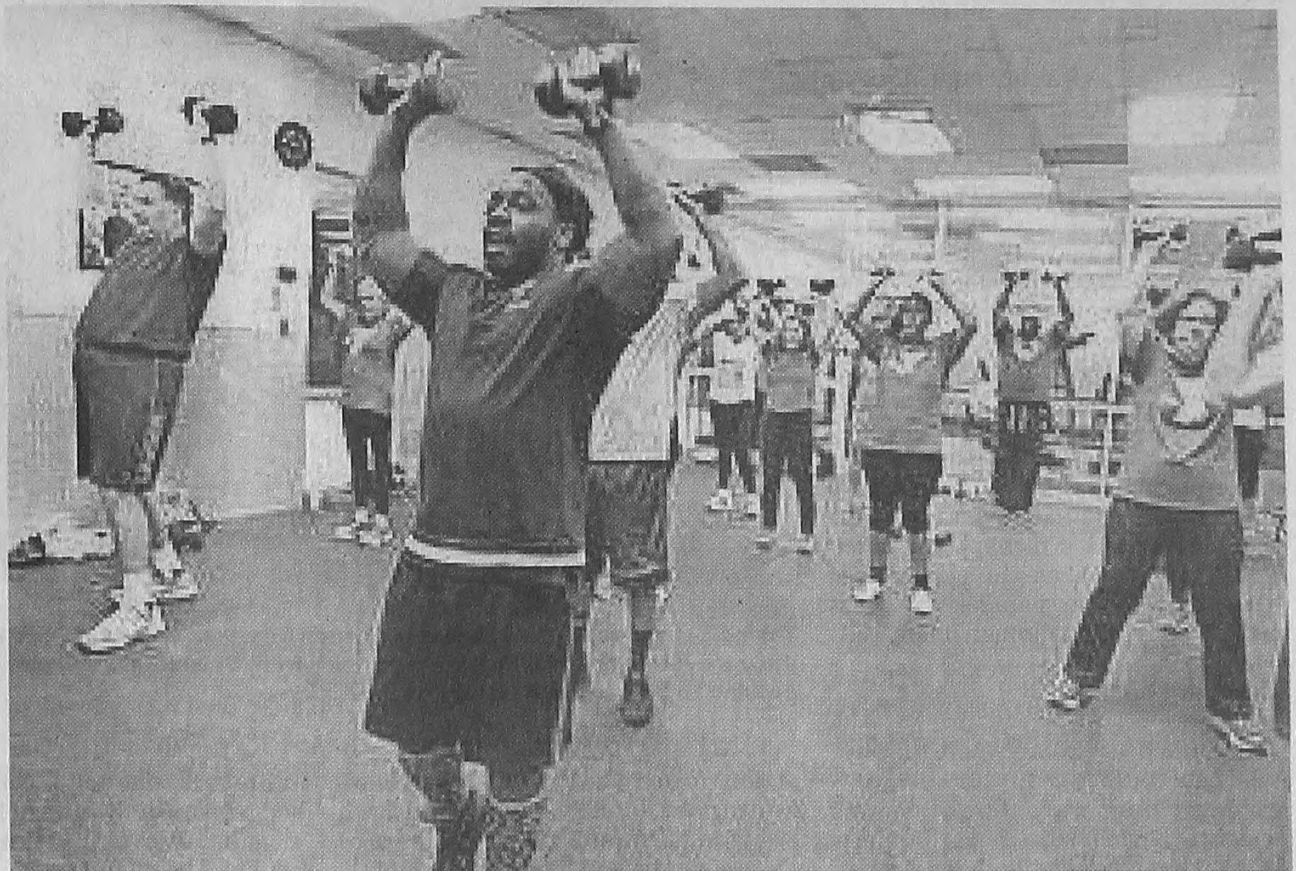
He's done quite a bounce-back, though he admits his body doesn't feel the same as it did before. But he still can be seen in the halls of the YMCA and even in the workout rooms several days a week.

In addition to his usual work, he also teaches a pair of classes at the YMCA each week. An idea that came from a patron who was in a class Jones taught as a substitute, he later went to the center's executive director and asked for permission to teach a class.

It began with just a handful of students, including YMCA member Marilyn Strabb. She said his course has increased her fitness level in a way she hadn't seen before.

"Anybody can do it. And he encourages anyone to do it. I've never seen such a cross-section of ages and ability levels," she said. "He is so encouraging to people. That guy is a gem."

The class now has several dozen attend between



James Jones in a class at the Livonia Family YMCA. YMCA

the two sessions in the new year. He's become part of the YMCA's approach to fitness in the new year, a program the organization is calling "Happy New You."

That process, he said, is all about what is key for an individual and not some stereotypical image found on places like Instagram. The YMCA will even demolish the concept of weighing in as a lone factor to indicating health later this year figuratively and literally: bathroom scales will be destroyed sometime next month at the center.

"Don't worry about anybody else. This new year, don't worry about who or what," Jones said. "It's just taking those strides to become the best in whatever that is."

And he's even making an impression when he's not in the classroom. Livonia resident Barb Campbell, who's been coming to the Livonia Family YMCA for

decades, said Jones is a wonderful person to see whenever she stops in.

"He's always happy," said Campbell, a former assistant principal at Northville High School. "He's a nice guy to be around."

Despite all the adversity Jones has seen since he left the military, he's moved forward and knows looking back won't help him achieve his goals in life.

"I went through that and I'm still here. You can't look back on what I had and how things used to be and how things used to feel," he said. "Things feel different now, but if I was able to go through that and I'm still here, then what's there to complain about?"

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734-678-6728
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James Jones was a physical trainer in the U.S. Navy. He is now a personal trainer at the Livonia Family YMCA. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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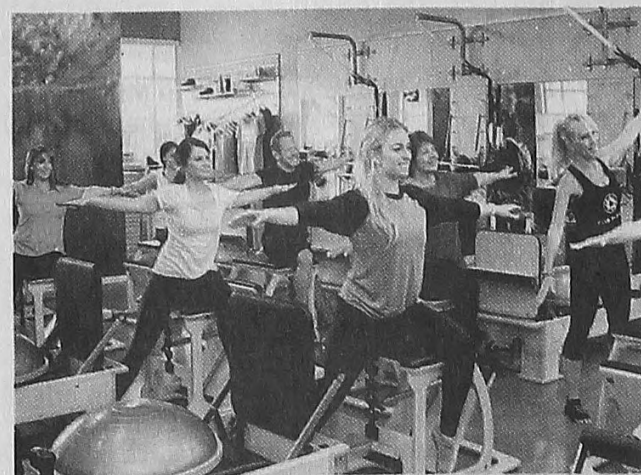
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MLK Day

Continued from Page 1A

to 399) from 2015 to 2016 — compared to the 4.6-percent increase nationally, according to data released by the FBI. Michigan ranks fourth nationally in reporting of hate crimes.

Daily reality

Racism still exists, although not as in classic brick-through-the-window fashion. It could be as subtle as a coach telling his predominantly white team not to shake black hands after a game.

"It's a reality as far as these kids are concerned," said Jarvis Mitchell, 39, head coach of Wayne Memorial's varsity girls basketball team. "A lot of them are just trying to make it day by day. So whether or not they know Martin Luther King or not, it won't affect them trying to feed themselves at 6 o'clock at night.

"As much as we would like to say it's important to know history, important to know the freedom and who fought for you. Of course it's disappointing, but sometimes you have to synchronize yourself with the parallels of what they're really going through in life."

Changing hearts

The Mitchells *do* love where they live (which, according to the 2016 U.S. census, has a black population of about 3 percent), having moved last summer from Detroit. The neighborhood is quiet, other families welcoming.

Even their English bulldog Chauncey (named after ex-Pistons great Billups) gets along famously with the collie who lives next door.

"It's been really quiet. It's been what you aspire to have," Jarvis Mitchell said.

His wife June, 33, a teacher at Ecorse High School and her husband's assistant coach, said they "love it out here, it's quiet. We have land. It's close to the gym. Stuff is within walking distance."

That doesn't mean the American Dream is alive and well for them and many other young minority couples.

"I'll be honest, this thing is bigger than a person, this thing is bigger than a march," Jarvis said. "This won't be able to change until the aggressor changes. Because no matter how much good I talk or how beneficial the march becomes, I can't extract that hate from a person that's been taught to hate. It doesn't matter."

Today's reality wouldn't sit well with King himself had the Baptist minister lived to see his 89th birthday Monday, in the couple's opinion. "There'd be a march, for sure," June said with a nod.

Color blind

Canton, which in 2016 had an African-American population of around 9 percent, is where Maximus Okolo lives with parents Frank and Elizabeth Okolo, both from Nigeria.

Frank Okolo came to the United States in the 1980s, got his college education, then returned to Nigeria, where he met Elizabeth. He brought his bride to America and settled in suburban Detroit.

Maximus Okolo, 17, a senior at Plymouth Christian Academy (where he is the lone black member on the varsity boys basketball team), is thankful for what King stood for and how he paved the way for his parents to start a life here.

"I feel like Martin Luther King, his birthday, all he did, was truly an inspiration," Okolo said. "Him allowing me to come to a school like this is really moti-



Taking a stroll down their street in Garden City are Jarvis and June Mitchell. They moved to the Wayne County suburb from Detroit last summer. It's so far proving to be a smooth transition. TOM BEAUDOIN

vation. To see what he can do and what he has done, it really drives me to try to do bigger things so I can change the people around me and how people think."

At Plymouth Christian, both in the classroom and gym, things are not viewed through a prism.

"If you would come from the outside, you would see, 'Oh, he's one of the very few black kids,'" Okolo said. "But when I came here, once I started to know everyone, no one really sees color, because we're all friends and brothers. Even my coach (Matt Windle), he refers to me as his brother in Christ. So color's really not a thing here."

Okolo, the youngest of four children, said the attitude of acceptance that King touted is the main reason he and his siblings were able to grow up and get educated and potentially have opportunities to prosper in the United States.

"Honestly, I feel like if it wasn't for people in America, my dad wouldn't be able to come here," he said. "People that gave him a chance are white individuals. Martin Luther King, obviously, influenced those people to come and try to help the people in Nigeria to come to America. They were trying to make a difference in people like my dad's life."

Backing Kaepernick

Jarvis Mitchell thinks King would have backed Kaepernick in his national anthem protest. Would the civil rights champion of "I Have A Dream" fame have taken a knee?

"Doubtful," Jarvis said. "He would have reasoned with Kaepernick to stand up. He just wanted equality — and everyone to get along."

Something that King would have liked is the brutal honesty — delivered with compassion and backed by knowledge — the Mitchells show as they try to help young people understand what life is like for them in 2018.

Whether in the classroom, the gymnasium or during a car ride (Jarvis said he routinely drives his players home after practice), it's about turning the other cheek when a slight is made.

Reject hatred

They talk about the unfairness of life

in America, but not to get back at anybody. Instead, the Mitchells want them to maintain love-filled hearts and reject hating or being haters.

That can be easy to say, hard to do.

Consider the recent episode where another team walked off the floor following a game without attempting to shake the hands of Wayne Memorial players.

That slight of basic sportsmanship was the topic of a Zebras' team meeting a couple of days later.

Mitchell merely wanted to talk to them about it as a "teachable moment." He could have made a stink about it, but decided not to.

"I explained to them this is what you're going to encounter, these are some of the things you need to brace for and not react to," Jarvis said. "I could have reacted extremely negative. And it could have been eye for an eye and I could have had just cause, because it's not only an embarrassment, but it's an antagonizing thing."

He added that a high school basketball game really isn't all that important in the grand scheme of things.

"The picture is much bigger," Jarvis said. "I want my kids to be leaders and of substance."

'Role' with it

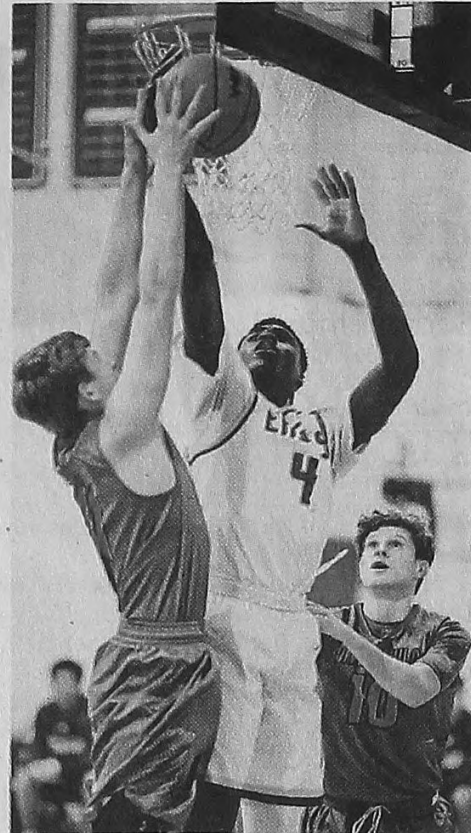
Because young people often mirror the world they see, the Mitchells underscored why they must continue to be the best people and role models they can possibly be.

"We all have our faults, we all have our disagreements," June said. "But the biggest thing is, no matter how we feel, we have to still make sure we're teaching our kids the right thing."

"Because our feelings, our emotions, our passion is going to come through."

To that end, their job as coaches and educators is never done.

"Sometimes it's going to look different types of ways to different people," she said. "But we have to make sure at the end of the day, we're still teachers. Just because you don't have a pen and a pad and you're not doing algebra on the board, doesn't mean you're not a teacher."



Plymouth Christian Academy senior Maximus Okolo (middle) goes up for a layup during a game against Dearborn Divine Child. TOM BEAUDOIN

Break the cycle

As daunting a task as breaking the cycle of injustice might be, a good starting point is children being exposed to good words and good deeds early in life and modeling those as they grow into adolescence — and finding a way to ward off societal poison when it inevitably comes.

That's where the Mitchells of the world can make a difference.

"Me and my wife, we are part of kids' lives every day," Jarvis said. "So we know our influence is just as important as a lot of their parents. ... They (children) need to mimic. I've been coaching girls basketball for 15-16 years. They've never seen me put a cigarette to my mouth. They've never seen me put a bottle of liquor to my mouth."

"We have to be extremely image-conscious. That's teaching — we're teaching 24 hours a day."

Keep the faith

Okolo added that positive change can happen for future generations. Young African Americans must decide to get educated, have strong faith and not lose the desire to step up and step out of any traps in which they might find themselves.

"If you're getting good grades, there's really nothing that can hold you back, in my opinion," Okolo said. "If you're doing what you have to do, it will carry you."

For those not in the best of situations, whether from a community or education standpoint, there remains hope.

"If you were in a low-income neighborhood, obviously, there's going to be traps you can fall into or ruts," Okolo said. "But I say stay focused on the goal, have a goal to further yourself that you want to achieve. If you really want the goal you can shoot for, you can get it, if you let nothing hold you back."

As for King's message taking root, even decades later, it all starts from within. And from having faith in God's plan.

"I use God as a support system," Okolo said. "I know even if something happens, I know God has me. Or if something happens, I know it's for a reason."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

2018 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY EVENTS

Area Martin Luther King Jr. Day events. All events are Monday, Jan. 15, unless otherwise noted.

MLK Day at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History
A full day of celebration including musical performances, arts and crafts, children's workshops, storytelling, video tributes, displays of MLK and Coretta Scott King artifacts, the openings of two new exhibitions - i found god in myself: a celebration of Dr. Ntozake Shange's for colored girls... and Untitled: Art from Detroit's Collections.
Time: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. go to <http://thewright.org/> for more information. Event is free with museum admission: \$8, ages 13-61; \$5, ages 3-12; free ages 2 and under.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day at the Henry Ford Museum
Celebrate MLK's life with live music, hands-on activities and crafts.
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Event is free go to <https://www.thehenryford.org/> for more information.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day at the Detroit Institute of Arts
Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, create pam-

phlet-stitch notebooks, one to be donated to a local school and one for yourself 3 p.m.: Watch the 1970s documentary "King: A Filmed Record ... Montgomery to Memphis."

Cost: Free with museum admission: free for Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties, free, kids ages 5 and under and members; others: \$14 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$8 for college students, \$6 for ages 6-17. Go to <https://www.dia.org/events> for more information.

Martin Luther King Day Celebration at the Farmington Community Library

Full day of events scheduled in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. go to <http://www.farmlib.org/> for more information.

MLK Day Baldwin Public Library
Miz Rosie entertains kids of all ages by bringing Rosa Parks and her story to life — all in celebration of MLK Day. Registration required at www.baldwinlib.org

Time: 3-4 p.m., free
26th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Breakfast

The Race Relations & Diversity Task Force celebrates its 31 years, with the 25th Anniversary of their Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Breakfast at The Community House in Birmingham.

Time: 8:30-10:30 a.m. The event cost is \$40 adults; \$20 for students. For more info or to buy tickets go to www.tchserver.org.

Canton Celebrates Dr. King at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill

This tribute, titled Canton Celebrates Dr. King, celebrates his legacy with music, keynote presentations, a punch social and more.

Time: 6 p.m. Cost is \$2 per person or one canned food donation. Go to www.cantonvillagetheater.org for more information.

Westland MLK celebration

The city of Westland's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration will take place at Westland City Hall with Huel Perkins of Fox 2 as the keynote speaker. The day begins with the annual Freedom Walk with the celebration to follow.

Time: Doors open at 8 a.m. with walk beginning at 9 a.m. followed by ceremony 10 a.m., free. Go to www.cityofwestland.com for more information.

MLK March on Main in Milford

The 12th annual march put on by the Huron Valley Martin Luther King Day Committee takes place Sunday, Jan. 14, at the Prospect Hill Shopping Center at Highland Avenue and Summit Street. After the march concludes, there will be a musical performance at the SHAC, 125 S. Main, as well as other entertainment, the announcement of winners in the art competition and information on other community services events in the area.

Time: Lineup for the march starts at 12:15 and the ceremony commences at 1 p.m. with a brief presentation and national anthem. Free. For more information, go to hvmlkday.org.

Southfield MLK Peace Walk Celebration

The walk will depart from Hope United, 26275 Northwestern Highway in Southfield, at 9:30 a.m., followed by an 11 a.m. program at the Southfield Pavilion in the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen Road. WXYZ-TV news anchor Malcom Maddox will serve as the master of ceremonies. Free

For more information, call the MLK Task Force hotline at 248-924-9MLK or visit www.mlktaskforcemi.org. Free

Obituaries

TODAY'S OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

Name	Age	Town, State	Death Date	Arrangements
*Blecker, Lois Ann	-	Dearborn	11-Dec	-
*MacInnis (nee Northrup), Beverly Marie	70	Englewood, FL	06-Jan	Farley Funeral Home
*Mills, Jane Buell (nee Eckenrode)	-	Tampa, FL	04-Oct	-

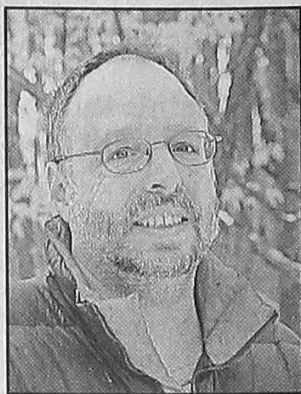
* Additional information in display obituaries

Obituaries appear in print and online at www.legacy.com/obituaries/HometownLife

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Andrew C. Claps

LIVONIA - Passed away on January 7, 2018, after a nine-month battle with glioblastoma. Born March 16, 1967, in Queens, New York, Andrew lived in Michigan for more than 20 years. His overwhelming passion in life was music--listening to it, reading about it, and talking to others about it--and he was also an audiophile interested in assembling the best possible stereo equipment with which to play that music, including his favorite bands, Badfinger, Thin Lizzy, and Fleetwood Mac. He was fascinated by the ocean--his favorite movie was Jaws, and his favorite book was 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea--and he loved horror movies. Andrew was a true people person who enjoyed talking to anyone about anything, and was always cracking jokes to make someone smile. He handled his illness with a grace that left a lasting impression on his friends, family, and the many medical professionals he interacted with. He is survived by his wife, Ellice Engdahl; his cat, Tunksies; close family in Michigan and Florida; and extended family and friends around the country. Donations may be made in Andy's memory to the Michigan Humane Society.



Lois Wall

PLYMOUTH - Lois was born in Cincinnati Ohio and passed away at home in on December 29, 2017 at age 88. Lois is survived by her husband of 62 years Raymond Wall and her 4 children Mary Beth Adyniec, Charlotte Gralinski, John Wall and Ellen Towers along with 8 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. Lois graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital as a registered nurse. Later in life Lois spent much of her time traveling the world and volunteering. She worked with women prisoners and was a reading tutor for school children. Lois influenced many young people's lives through her volunteer efforts.

A celebration mass is planned for 10:00 AM February 3, 2018 at St. Kenneth's Catholic Church.

Donations should be made to Samaritan Hospital Foundation www.trihealth.com/foundations/good-samaritan-hospital-foundation/ Or Homefull <http://www.homefull.org/>



A loving tribute

TAMPA, FL - formerly of Birmingham, died peacefully in her sleep on October 4, 2017. She was born to the late John Eckenrode (Helen) and Theresa Harris, January 19, 1929 in Detroit, MI.

A resident of Birmingham for 70 plus years, she graduated from Michigan State University in 1950 making the dean's list as an all-A student in addition to being voted one of the "50" most outstanding graduates as only a two year student. She received her BA degree in education and would continue on as an elementary teacher in Bloomfield Hills and Royal Oak for the next six years.

During her years of raising children, she modeled and did commentary work for various stores. Also during this time, she began volunteer work at Children's Hospital of Michigan, thus beginning her love for helping kids in need. From then on, Jane worked tirelessly on charitable events raising millions of dollars not only for Children's Hospital, but also for Variety, The Children's Charity. She sat on countless Boards, i.e. as a Trustee for Children's Hospital for over 20 years, Gold Heart Ball Chairmen for Variety as well as Board of Director, Vice-President and first woman President of Variety in 1996, the first in their 65 year history. She served on various other Executive and Finance Committees as well.

In 1977, Jane entered the real estate business, and joined Weir, Manuel, Snyder and Ranke thus beginning her extensive and successful real estate career. Known as the "Hat Lady", she became a top selling realtor in the Birmingham- Bloomfield area and was named by her peers Realtor Associate of the Year in 1989. She had a strong passion for the industry as she felt she could really help people in the area or relocating to Michigan since she

Lois Ann Blecker

DEARBORN - born August 6, 1926, daughter of Harold F. Wilson and Grace Lucille (Thompson) Wilson, mother of Charles W. Goode, passed away December 11, 2017. She is survived by her son, nieces, and nephews.

Ann graduated from Cooley HS, and attributed her feisty demeanor to having grown up during the Depression. She loved music; singing and playing 1950's show tunes. Ann married William Blecker in 1959, and cared for William and their five boys. Annie was a superb actor, often performing at Greenfield Village on stage and in historical vignettes.

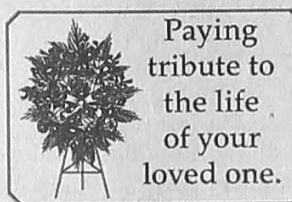
Ann worked for Detroit Edison; retiring in 1996. She also served at WSU, interacting with medical students in the role of "patient." Annie stipulated that her body should go to the Wayne Medical School. She is there now, posthumously continuing to inform the public. Ann will be missed by family and friends.



David Sigmond Erdody

NORTHVILLE - A loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather and father-in-law passed away Jan 8, 2018 at the age of 92. Beloved husband of Helen for 61 years. Loving father of Elizabeth (Kevin) Martin. Proud Papa of Danny, Christopher, and Jonathan Martin. An Army Air Force Veteran during WWII and Korean Wars. There was a Memorial service held on Sat, Jan 13, 2018 at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia. For more info, please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com

Harry J Will Funeral Homes



Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.

Beverly Marie MacInnis (nee Northrup)

ENGLEWOOD, FL - Beverly "Bev" Marie MacInnis (nee Northrup) passed away on January 6, 2018 in Englewood, FL (winter residence) due to complications of pneumonia. She was 70. Bev was born on February 13, 1947, in Detroit, MI to her parents, Arthur and Noreen Northrup. She followed her twin sister into the family, and preceded her brother Tom (Nadine). She graduated from Detroit Rosary Highschool in 1965. Bev married John A. MacInnis in 1970. The MacInnis' moved to Canton, MI where she proudly raised three children, Shawn (Mindy), Mark, and Katie, and worked for an automotive company. The family enjoyed spending summers in McKinley, MI where Bev was often found relaxing at her favorite spot near the Au Sable River. Bev retired in 2007, and she and John were able to spend more time at their winter home. She then enjoyed spending her summers in Michigan and winters in Florida. She was an active member at the Holiday Estates I & II (Englewood, FL) clubhouse where she enjoyed volunteering for events, meeting members, and could always be counted on to bring a pot of chili. Beloved wife of John, loving mother of Shawn (Mindy), Mark, and Katie. Proud Grandmother of Lilly and Keyton. Dear twin sister of Sr. Barbara Northrup, IHM and brother Thomas (Nadine). Sister-in-law of Leo and Barbara MacInnis and Aunt of Kenny. Memorial services to be held in Englewood, FL on January 21st from 11 - 1 at Holiday Estates I & II Club House (1445 Seagull Dr.) and summer 2018 in Pickney, MI.



Dorothy Jean Trent

REDFORD - Dorothy Jean Trent was born November 14, 1932 and passed away surrounded by family at the age of 85 on January 9, 2018. Dorothy was born in Seattle, Washington, the daughter of Charles and Emeline Trent. The family lived in Oklahoma and Texas, but much of her early life was centered around her grandmother's farm in Winfield, Kansas which she considered home. She graduated from Ottawa University in Kansas in 1953 and then moved to Michigan where she began her career as a teacher, working in Farmington schools and then at Highland Park High School. She earned her Master's degree in music education from Wayne State University in 1969. She was a founding member of Victory Christian School in Detroit and also served as the Director from 1974 - 1985. She taught for 8 years overseas at the Seoul Foreign School in South Korea from 1986 - 1994. She loved to travel and took many trips with family and friends to places around the globe. Dorothy was an organist and choir director for 60 years and served in several church communities, most recently at Emmanuel Lutheran Church from 1994 - 2014. She taught piano lessons for many years. She had many interests and hobbies and was active in book clubs, a piano group and was a member of the Detroit Lutheran Singers. She was a volunteer at the Detroit Symphony in her retirement. Dorothy is survived by her daughters, Diane Gamble (Richard), Jane Reitman (Tim), Marge Feucht and Kathy Nordby (Tony) and her brother Donald Trent (Betty). She was preceded in death by her loving sister Kathryn Walls (Jim). She was grandmother to Ryan Gamble (Victoria), Mara Hayashi (Kenji), Cory Reitman, Molly Reitman, Nick Feucht, Michael Nordby and Erin Nordby. She was great-grandmother to Ryleigh Gamble and Emily Hayashi. Memorial service at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile Road in Livonia on Sunday January 14 at 3:00 pm with reception to follow. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Heifer International or Habitat for Humanity.



Jane Buell (nee Eckenrode) Mills

had lived in Birmingham her entire life. She worked hard and many long hours during her career as well as serving on a number of Boards with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Board of Realtors and in 1977, she was the first recipient of the Community Service Award presented by the Birmingham, Bloomfield, Rochester, South Oakland County Associate of Realtors.

In 1958, Jane married Webster and together they raised six children. They enjoyed family time as well as time spent alone traveling, dancing, playing tennis or golf and attending charitable events.

In 1999, Jane became a widow and two years later met another wonderful man, Emmett Mills. They, too, would spend the next few years traveling and enjoying time with each other and their families. Upon Emmett's death in 2005, Jane would spend a few more years in the Birmingham area and then move to Tampa, FL to live out her remaining years. She leaves behind her children, Webster, Jr., Mardi, Mike, Robin Whaley (John), Scott (Cindy) and Beth Johnstone, as well as 12 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents and step-mother (Helen), brother Jack and his wife, Marilyn, daughters-in law Alice (Webb), Pam (Mike) and son-in-law Jeff (Beth Johnstone).

Jane was not only a loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother and friend, but she never took life for granted and felt it her calling to give back to those whose lives she could make a difference in. She felt very strongly about this quote "When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say "I gave everything you gave me."

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Children's Hospital of Michigan or Variety, The Children's Charity.

A Celebration of Life will be held January 20, 2018 at 10:30 AM the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham.



AREA EVENTS

Send calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com. Items must be received at least two weeks prior to the event.

Interfaith quilt at Village Theater

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will feature an interfaith quilt, created by the Plymouth-Canton Interfaith Community Outreach group, on display at the Gallery@VT through Jan. 31.

More than 50 men and women, members of the Plymouth-Canton Interfaith Community Outreach group, spent the last year creating this interfaith quilt, which represents the tapestry of faiths celebrated throughout the Plymouth and Canton communities. These dedicated individuals lovingly worked together every weekend on this project to demonstrate their unity, friendship and commitment to the community.

Faiths represented in the quilt include B'hai, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Jain, Judaism, Native American, Sikhism and Zoroastrianism. Also included in the quilt are cultural symbols from Africa, India, North America, and the Middle East.

For more information about the Plymouth-Canton Interfaith Community Outreach group, email icocares@gmail.com or go to www.facebook.com/Interfaith-Community-Outreach-Plymouth-Canton-162142080495925/

This current display is available for viewing from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, one hour prior to and during public performances at the theater, as well as by appointment. The Gallery@VT, located in The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, is closed each holiday. For more information about this latest exhibition, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

Socks and underwear drive

Donations of new socks and underwear for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools district clothing blank will be accepted from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day, at

the Friends Board Room of the Plymouth District Library. All types and sizes of new socks and underwear for males and females of all ages are appropriate. Volunteers from the Plymouth Democratic Club will be on hand to sort and transport all donations to P-CCS.

If you are unable to drop off that day, a collection box is located in the lobby of the Plymouth District Library during the month of January.

'Old Friends' coming to Village Theater

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton will present "Central Park Experience featuring Old Friends: A Simon and Garfunkel Tribute" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20. The performance will re-create the sound, look, mood and magic of Simon and Garfunkel's most famous performance.

There will be street food available for purchase in the lobby. In addition, a park bench will be available in the lobby, where audience members can take photos with their companions to share on social on media.

Tickets can be purchased and printed at home or held in will call anytime online at www.cantonvillagetheater.org at no extra charge. The Village Theater box office is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tickets can also be ordered over the phone at 734-394-5300, ext. 3, with a Visa or MasterCard. If available, tickets can also be purchased one hour prior to the show.

Mario the Magician at Village Theater

Mario the Maker Magician is coming to the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton for a performance at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21. Tickets are \$15 to \$20 and can be purchased online at cantonvillagetheater.org or by calling 734-394-5300, ext. 3.

Mario the Maker Magician is an award-winning performer known for his signature brand of DIY electronic and robotic magic. His show explores an inspiring maker/STEAM theme, presented in an upbeat, hilarious, slapstick

manner. It's ideal for ages 3-10 and their families. The show is approximately 60 minutes with no intermission.

For more info, go to mariothemagician.com.

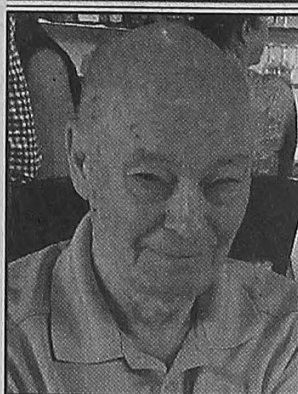
Baseline Folk Society

The Baseline Folk Society continues

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

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.

Obituaries



Virginia Ruth Horvath

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Virginia Ruth Horvath (1921-2018), wife of the late Z. Louis Horvath, succumbed to respiratory illness on Jan. 3 in Fort Collins, Colorado. She is survived by her children Nancy, Janice, Mark and John, and grandchildren Ryan, Lisa, Mian, Jae, and Sarah. Born in Caro and raised in Redford, she lived most of her life in Bloomfield Hills and Waterford. A graduate of the University of Michigan, she was a housekeeper, school teacher, and school counselor. She loved people, animals, and the outdoors. A private, family service will be held at a later date. Donations to The Nature Conservancy, 800-628-6860, <https://www.nature.org/>

Raymond Custer

DALE, PA - Raymond Elmer Custer, Age 94, passed away January 4, 2018. He was born in Dale, PA to Elmer and Helen Custer and later married Eugenia L. Wallace. Raymond was a POW in WWII then worked as an electrical engineer for Lockheed Martin at NASA.

Loving father of Gregg (Debbie) and the late Jay (Cathy), proud grandfather of 6, and beloved great grandfather of seven.

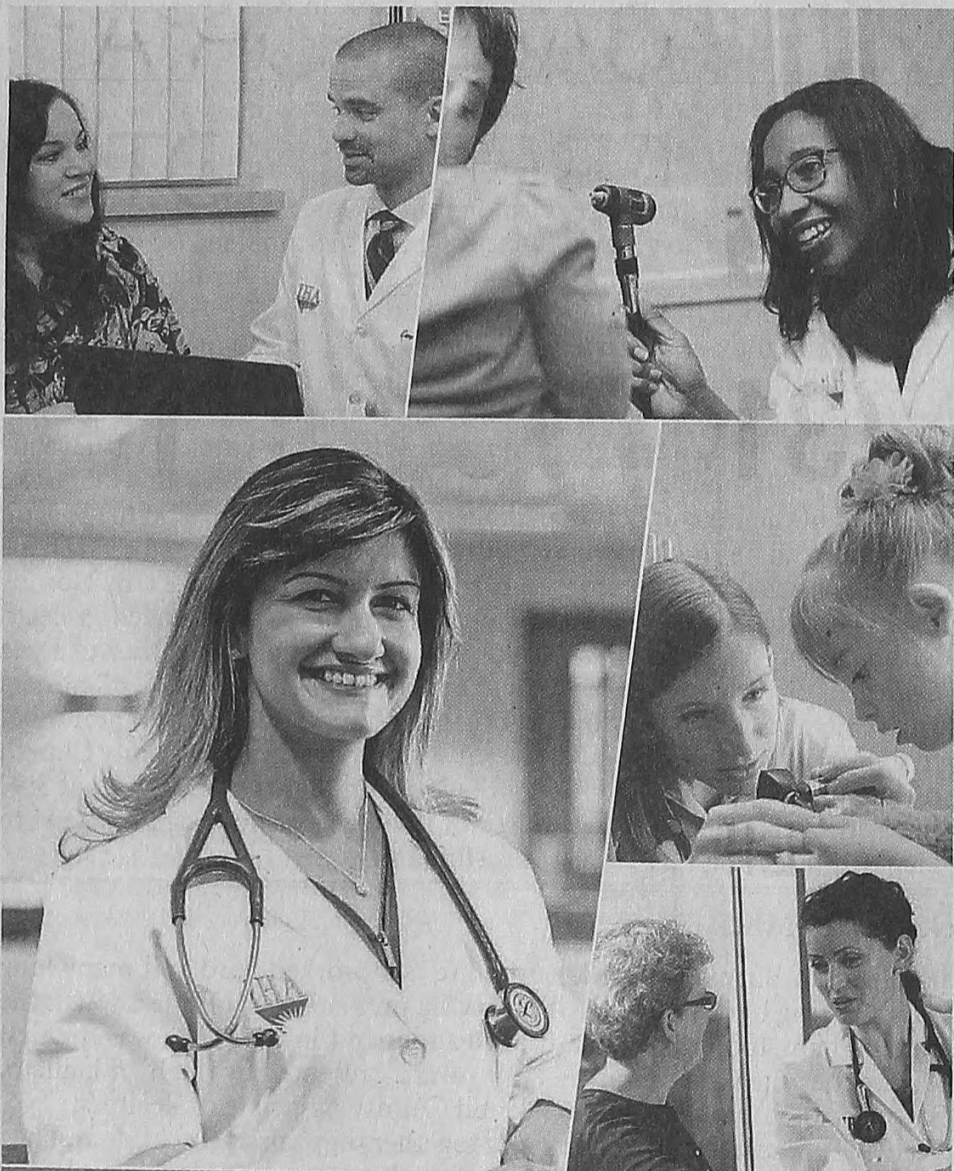
A burial will take place on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 11am at Grandview Cemetery in Johnstown, PA.



May you find comfort in family and friends

Martin J. Kennedy

LIVONIA - Martin J. Kennedy Age 81, December 31, 2017, of Livonia. Beloved husband of Annette (nee Bozek). Loving father of Martin "M.J.", Karin (Loren) Hoffmann and Melissa Piotrowski. Dearest Pa of Rebeccah and Leah. Dear brother in law of Denise Rosenbaum. Uncle of David and Eric. A Private Service will be held. Memorials may be directed to the Lustgarten Foundation (Pancreatic Cancer Research, www.lustgarten.org). Please share a memory of Martin at www.cremationmichigan.com.



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"Macbeth" will be performed Feb. 16-25 at Barefoot Theatre's new location in Livonia.

Barefoot Theatre moving to Livonia

Barefoot Productions Theatre has announced its relocation to Livonia, at 33735 Five Mile Road. Its grand opening in the new space is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 16, with local playwright Kirk A. Haas's adaptation of "Macbeth."

The theater's website (www.justgobarefoot.com) and phone number (734-404-6889) will stay the same.

Barefoot Theatre produced more

than 75 shows at its previous location, 240 N. Main Street, in Plymouth.

Show times for "Macbeth" are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16-25.

Tickets are \$17 for seniors and students and \$19 for adults and are available on the theatre's website. Group sales of 10 or more for \$12 are available by calling the call box office.

Support settlements harder with new tax law



Tales from the Front Lines
Henry Gornbein
Guest columnist

Q: What impact does the new tax reform act have on my divorce?

A: This is a very important question. Under the new tax laws, starting Jan. 1, 2019, spousal support, which is what alimony is called in Michigan, will no longer be taxable income to the recipient and tax-deductible to the person paying spousal support.

This is a major, negative change. Any current cases where spousal support was entered into as part of a settlement agreement and judgment of divorce prior to Jan. 1, 2019, will still be treated as taxable income to the recipient and tax-deductible to the payer.

If you are contemplating a divorce during the next year and your marriage cannot be salvaged, it is critical that you consult with an attorney as soon as possible. There can be many thousands of dollars at stake.

I am author of the chapter titled "Spousal Support" in the book "Michigan Family Law," published by the Institute of Continuing Legal Education. This book is used by judges and attorneys as a key reference guide on all aspects of family law throughout the state of Michigan.

Let's look at the consequences of the new law.

In the past, when negotiating a settlement where there was spousal support, the tax aspects have been critical.

Following is an example: Let's say that the person paying the spousal support is in a high-income bracket. I will use 33 percent in this example. If the spouse who is receiving the spousal support is in a low-income bracket because he or she has a low-paying job or has not worked, then the spousal support will be taxed at a much lower level.

Using \$1,000 per month as an example, the person paying the support is writing it off so that he or she is only paying \$666 in after-tax dollars, with a savings of \$334 per month. If the recipient is in a 20 percent bracket, then he or she is paying taxes on \$200 per month of the \$1,000, providing a win-win for both parties. The government is, in essence, helping everyone and footing part of the bill.

In a divorce, the person paying spousal support is never happy. It is like paying for a dead horse. In my negotiations

and trials over the years, the tax savings argument was a very important one. The tax savings tool used by attorneys, judges and accountants is now gone, beginning in 2019.

It will make it much harder to negotiate and settle cases where spousal support is a factor, because there will be no tax consequences or savings to either party.

Instead of paying \$1,000 per month, as I stated above, the settlement may be at \$600 or \$700 per month. This creates a lose-lose situation for everyone. There will be fewer dollars to go around.

In addition, over the years many complicated divorce settlements involving a business or professional practice have utilized tax-deductible section 71(b) payments as a means of saving money. Payments are made in pretax dollars with full deductibility and tremendous savings for everyone. This has created another win-win scenario for both the business owner or professional spouse and the soon-to-be other former spouse.

From now on, negotiations will have to be changed so that the tax aspects and consequences, along with the potential savings for everyone, will be gone. Settlements will have to be based on after-tax dollars, with interest factored in like a bank loan or similar economic vehicle.

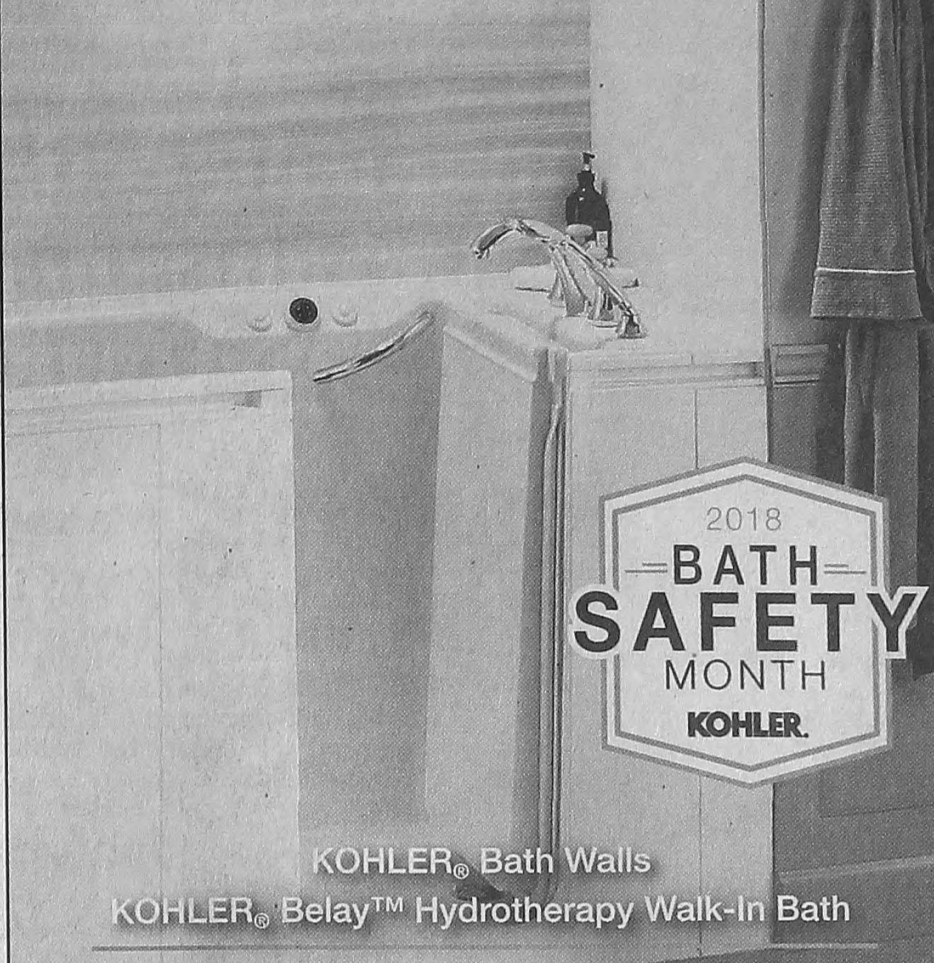
These changes will make it much more difficult to settle divorces where there are businesses, professional practices or high-income wage earners.

My advice is that you consult with an attorney sooner rather than later if a divorce may be in your future. I also advise you to have any settlements where modifications of spousal support may be coming up reviewed as well because, with the new tax laws, there are still a lot of unanswered questions.

These are my thoughts on this complicated issue. Do not hesitate to ask your questions.

Henry S. Gornbein specializes in all aspects of family law. He is a partner in the Birmingham law firm of Lippitt O'Keefe Gornbein PLLC, where he heads the family law unit. He is creator and host of the award-winning cable television show "Practical Law," with more than 800 episodes aired to date. He is the author of the book "Divorce Demystified, Everything You Need To Know Before You File For Divorce." Contact him at hgornbein@lippittokeefe.com or 248-646-8292.

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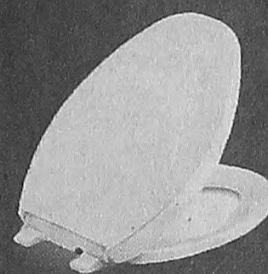


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Sports

BOYS HOCKEY

Birmingham off to terrific start

Unified squad unbeaten after first 13 games

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

There are some pretty cool things going on with the Birmingham Unified boys hockey team.

The Kings are undefeated after their first 13 games with a 12-0-1 record, including a victory in their own Thanksgiving tournament. The only blemish is a 2-2 tie with L'Anse Creuse North in

mid-December. It is one of the best starts in the program's 26-year history.

The early-season success has certainly made for some entertaining evenings at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena, which serves as home rink. The team is winning and the student section has been very vocal and supportive.

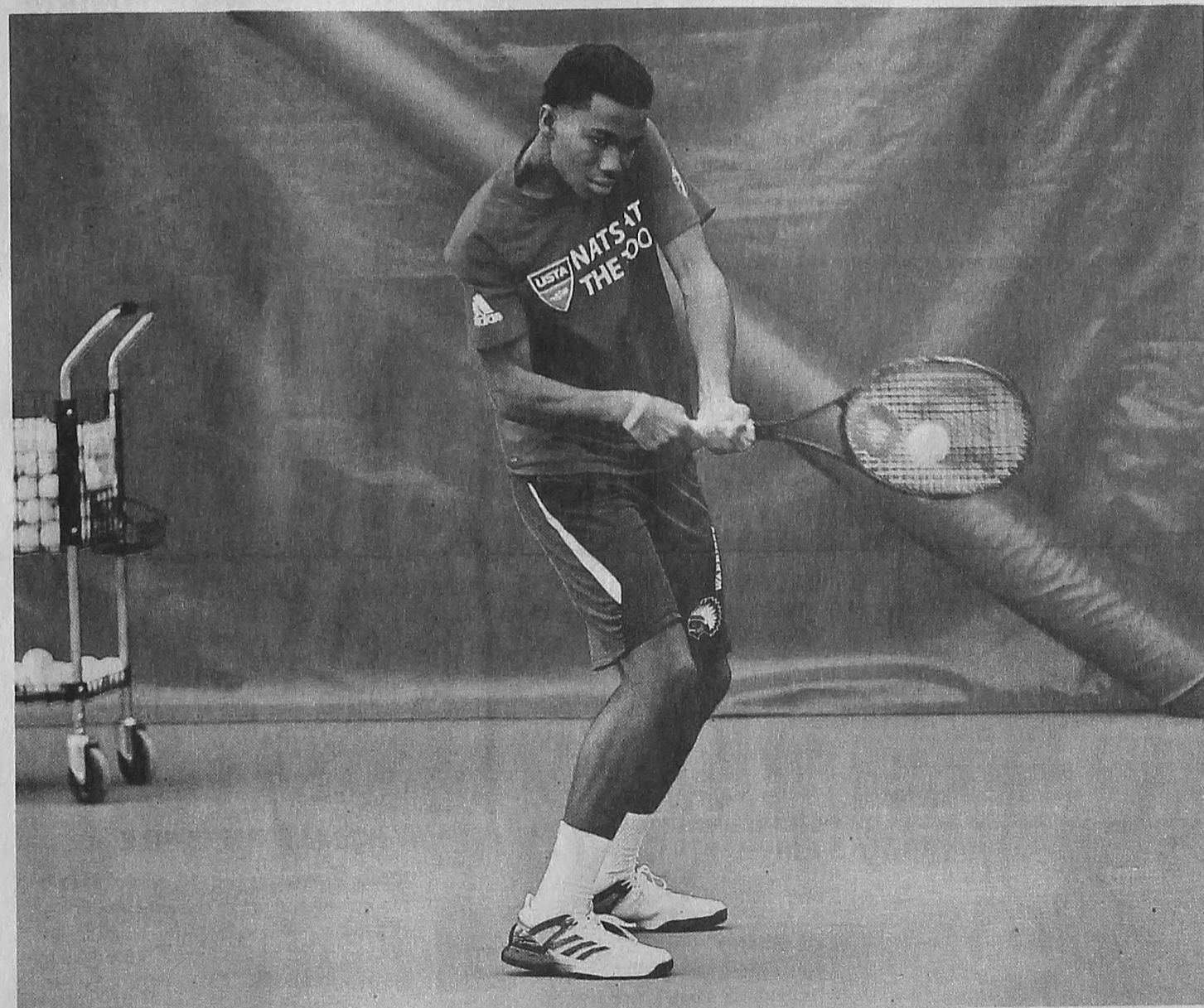
Even Birmingham's youth hockey players are taking a keen interest, as they were Tuesday when they stood by the boards and fist-bumped their heroes who were skating onto the ice for an OAA game against Oxford-Avondale.

See **KINGS**, Page 4B



Birmingham Unified's Charlie Michaud (left) and Lucas Bayagich get the puck past the Oxford-Avondale goalie. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

TALKING MLK DAY



Birmingham Brother Rice junior Jarreau Campbell works on a backhand shot during a practice at Bloomfield Tennis & Fitness. TOM BEAUDOIN

COOL PERSPECTIVE

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Jarreau Campbell stands out in more ways than one with the Birmingham Brother Rice varsity boys tennis team.

Unquestionably, the 16-year-old Campbell is a treat to behold on the court — he flies around with grace and power.

The junior is so accurate he probably could rip a backhand through a tiny

School, friends, family, tennis are components to Brother Rice tennis player's calm outlook

portal if it meant points for the Warriors. He reached the state semifinals at No. 1 singles and is a tennis finalist in the inaugural Detroit Free Press Awards.

Campbell, whose dad was a professional tennis player, also is the only African-American player on the Brother Rice roster. His estimated his school has a black population of around 5 percent.

It doesn't bother him. In fact, life is as tranquil as can be with the team, in the classroom and the Bloomfield Hills neighborhood he lives in with parents Steve (a Detroit Catholic Central alum)

See **CAMPBELL**, Page 2B



Martinez

ing house hockey," said the 17-year-old Martinez, who plays on the blue line for the Honeybaked 19-Under Tier 1 girls team that plays out of Suburban Ice Farmington Hills. "I just never thought that far down the line."

"But once I came to AAA, having older friends who started this process a little bit earlier than I did, that really opened me up to, 'Hey, I can actually go somewhere with this, I can

get some college paid for and I can continue playing."

Martinez, part of a bonafide hockey family and a senior at Livonia Stevenson, will get to live the college hockey dream after signing to play for Lindenwood University, an NCAA Division I women's hockey program in St.

Charles, Mo.

See **MARTINEZ**, Page 2B

BOYS BASKETBALL

Quinn's big game downs Eagles

Livonian's 30 points spark Divine Child

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

With a handful of Plymouth residents on the roster, Tuesday's boys basketball game at Plymouth Christian Academy might have felt like a home game for Dearborn Divine Child.

But it was a Livonian, 6-6 senior forward Quinn Blair, who did major damage to the host Eagles as Divine Child cruised to a 62-41 victory.

Despite playing with an uncomfortable knee brace, Blair scored 30 points and was a force at both ends of the floor.

"It was about Week 8 in football," Blair said, recalling how he injured his right knee. "I landed on it weird, smacked it on the side of the turf and had a partially torn PCL. I went to rehab for it."

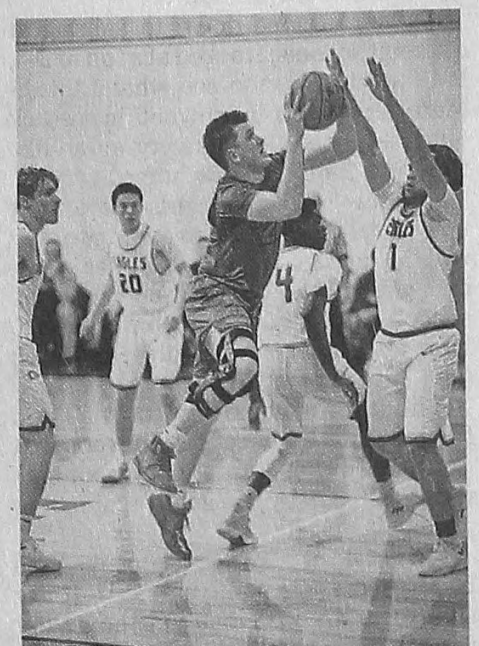
"Unfortunately, I got to wear this brace for a little while. It's kind of bulky and it's not fun to wear, but I'm thankful to be out here playing and it wasn't too serious."

As for how Blair clipped the Eagles with an impressive array of treys, lay-ups and nifty short shots taken from inside the paint, he credited Falcons head coach Mac Horvath and team-



Blair

See **QUINN**, Page 4B



Plymouth Christian's James Fadden (right) goes up in a bid to stop a drive by Dearborn Divine Child's Quinn Blair. TOM BEAUDOIN

COLLEGE RECRUITING

Martinez looking forward to Lindenwood career

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

As a young girl, Kayla Martinez loved playing hockey just for the fun of it.

Then she realized the sport could mean a lot more to her future and started digging her skate blades harder into the ice.

"When I was younger, I didn't think it would take me this far, especially play-

BOY BASKETBALL

Groves sizzles at line in close win

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Marc West will tell you any high school team shooting at least 70 percent from the free-throw line will have a chance to win most any game. The Birmingham Groves boys basketball head coach watched his team shoot free throws at a sizzling 90 percent Jan. 5 against Rochester Hills Stoney Creek and it resulted in a satisfying 56-51 triumph.

The Falcons were a solid 20-of-22 from the line, led by senior Mitchell Pitts's near-perfect 15-of-16 performance en route to a game-high 27 points. By contrast, the visiting Cougars shot 50 percent (12-of-24) and were forced to settle for the five-point defeat.

The win lifted Groves to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the OAA White Division. Stoney Creek fell to 3-3 and 1-1.

"Stoney Creek is a great team, they're very well-coached and we know that any time we play that team, it's going to be a battle," West said. "To get this one and get to 2-0 in the league and win those first two on your home court is big.

"I expected this type of game from them and they play hard," he added. "It's a game that, at the end, it's whatever team is going to hit those free throws and make those plays at the end and I think our guys stepped up to do that."

Stoney Creek head coach Steve Hargrove acknowledged free throws were the difference.

"They did a good job of penetrating our gaps and putting us at a disadvantage and we just can't afford to put teams at the free-throw line," Hargrove said. "They punished us when they got there. I was pretty happy with our floor game, for the most part. I thought we battled and played tough."

"We've been struggling at the line this year and that's something we have to fix," he added. "We're a team right now that, if we're making free throws, we're 6-0. Instead, we're 3-3. Five of our six games have been tight and been decided by free throws."

Down to the wire

The game featured five ties and six lead changes and neither team had more than a seven-point lead.

Stoney Creek scored first on a layup by senior Nate Davis and then Pitts registered a conventional three-point play with a layup and free throw. Senior Spencer Tredwell and Pitts followed with long-distance treys that put Groves up with the game's largest lead, 9-2.

Stoney Creek, playing without starting senior Mike Melargani, who is out for most of the season with a severe ankle sprain suffered in a recent game, battled back and held a 14-13 lead after the opening quarter. Groves outscored Stoney Creek by two points in the second quarter to take a 27-26 halftime lead.

Each team scored seven third-quarter points and were tied 40-40 with 5:27 left in the fourth quarter, when Stoney Creek called timeout. Groves went on to score the next five points and never trailed again, outscoring Stoney Creek by a 16-11 margin to win the game.

The Falcons got key buckets by Tredwell and senior Cristion Williams in the final minutes. Pitts then closed it out by canning four consecutive free throws. The second-year varsity veteran made 7-of-8 free throws in that deciding five-

minute stretch.

"Every single day in practice, we do this drill where we have to make five free throws to close out practice and I take those free throws seriously and I try to make all five," said Pitts, who's shooting 84 percent from the line for the season. "So that prepares me for the game. This is the most I've been to the free-throw line and this is the best I've shot. When I go to the line, my idea is to knock down both and get back on defense."

"This is the best game of my high school career," he added. "I felt good knowing we were going to have a good supporting section and that's why I tried to play my best game and I was able to. We have the best fans."

Pitts led Groves with three two-point field goals, two treys and the 15 free throws. Senior guard Offie Rashed also hit double figures for the Falcons with 12 points and junior forward Roger Motley was next with eight.

Davis led Stoney Creek with 22 points, while senior Andrew Carson had 10. Junior Josh Johnson nearly hit double figures with nine points.

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Campbell

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and Tracey Campbell.

"The team is probably the best part of Brother Rice to me," Campbell said before Wednesday's practice session at Bloomfield Tennis & Fitness. "We do a lot of unity dinners, a lot of team bonding."

"Usually after every single practice, most of the team, we go to (sandwich shop) Jersey Mike's or something like that to get food. ... I don't think anyone feels left out."

A question for MLK

That would be a reason for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to smile, had he lived to see his 89th birthday Jan. 15 (when this year's national holiday is observed).

Campbell also smiled when talking about King and his legacy, stressing that the civil rights leader — who was assassinated in 1968 — resonates with his age group.

"I think his message still definitely connects with a lot of people," Campbell said. "And I think my generation still recognizes him as a very important fig-

ure in the country and how things shifted."

If Campbell could spend a minute with King, he'd ask him "maybe just how he was so calm about everything, always so peaceful. I'd probably ask him how he was so mentally tough and calm."

Maintaining an even-keel attitude in the crazy world of 2018 is sometimes easier said than done, but Campbell strives to do just that.

Having a rock-solid family sets the tone, with strong values and good education among other important components.

"I always lived in a great community with good friends, good family," Campbell said. "We love it here a lot. And it's probably just surrounding yourself with the right people, you know?"

"Going to Brother Rice was a good decision, surrounding yourself with a lot of good kids, coming from good families."

Do your best

Yet he understands that not all African Americans can live in an upscale community and attend a private Catholic high school. That shouldn't keep those perhaps less fortunate than he is



Campbell

from taking stock in their situation and working to make it better.

For them, taking school seriously and taking advantage of any athletic endeavors might be a good place to start.

"I would say that just whatever situation you're in, education-wise, to do the best that you can in that situation," Campbell said. "And especially if you play a sport, to try and excel as much as you can in that sport."

"You never know how far that sport could take you or how far your education could take you."

Campbell is on that path to achievement, with a 3.7 grade-point average and college aspirations to go along with his prep tennis stardom.

He is thoughtful in conversation and relishes the chance to discuss U.S. history, including King's lasting legacy, in high school classes.

"We get to really reflect on all the issues, current and past events," Campbell said. "Really get to see what happened and, obviously, where things were wrong, where things were right, that kind of thing."

Empathy — and tennis — help

Meanwhile, whether or not the on-again, off-again world of racial tolerance ever settles down, Campbell knows he can only try to be a peace-loving person with empathy for what others might be experiencing.

He shares that advice.

"The one thing that could help keep everyone on the same page would be just realizing that everyone's kind of doing their best in whatever situation they're in," he said. "Definitely seeing things from the perspective of other people is very important, in any situation in life."

Campbell seems to be as on target with his thoughts about the world as he is with a laser shot over the net.

And for him, having tennis in his arsenal — not to mention a former pro player at home willing to talk about his swing — is pretty comforting during seemingly rare times when he is stressed.

"Tennis is like high-speed chess almost. You have to be very mentally tough and strong on the court," Campbell said. "Regardless of adversity."

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Martinez

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According to Martinez, who wears jersey No. 99 as a shout-out to her mom (Janine Martinez), gave an assist to friend and former Honeybaked teammate Taylor Girard for the decision to go to Lindenwood. Girard, a forward, is a sophomore for the Lady Lions.

"When they first started talking to me, they went to her because we played in the same organization," Martinez said. "They were, like, 'Taylor, do you know this Kayla Martinez girl?' She was, like, 'Yeah, she's really good, she's really nice, you guys should start scouting her.' And it just progressed from there."

Familiar feeling

Then came a campus visit and nothing changed her opinion.

"When it came down to looking at different schools, I looked at a ton of D-I, D-III schools just to see what I liked," Martinez said. "Lindenwood just stuck out to me, because it's very much like this area. It just felt like home."

"I know one of the girls there right now (Girard), actually, so getting to stay with her and know what she likes about being down there really drew me to the school. That I have someone there to kind of fall back on really comforted me."

She might have a comfort zone and friends ready for her at Lindenwood, but College Hockey America opponents won't be too happy to go up against her during games.

"My style of play has changed a little bit over the last few years," Martinez said. "I used to be a stay-at-home defenseman that really liked to hold back and have that mentality of, 'You're not going to score on me.'"

"Over the last few years I feel I've changed, because my coaches (including Lyle Phair of Honeybaked) want me



Stickhandling for her Honeybaked 19U Tier 1 girls hockey team is Kayla Martinez.

to start playing more offensive defense. I feel I've developed into that, which has also helped me, because that's what my college coaches want me to play like. They want someone who can jump up in the play and get that going."

It should come as no surprise that Martinez will keep playing hockey at the next level. She was bitten by the hockey bug at about age 3 and soon started playing for the Flames at Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

"Then I went to Livonia (house program at Eddie Edgar and Devonaire arenas) until I was 10 years old and came here (Suburban Ice)," Martinez said. "I don't know ... my parents got me into skating and it took off from there. Skating came very easily to me. I feel like that was a huge benefit."

"And with that, all the other skills just came along and developed over the years."

Ready to help

Another interest of Kayla Martinez's is helping younger girls who are cutting their hockey teeth. During the summer months, when not entrenched in personal training (she works out five times a week during the summer), she'll find time to be a mentor.



Stevenson senior Kayla Martinez signed to play women's hockey at Division I Lindenwood University.

Perhaps influencing her to go in that direction are parents Janine and Gus, longtime youth coaches in Livonia.

In fact, Janine Martinez recently launched Livonia United, a first-year high school girls hockey team that includes players from Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson.

"When I coach younger players or when I'm, like, mentoring them," Kayla said, "I just say make sure you have your skating technique down because if you have it down, you can save the most amount of energy and go the longest distance."

"I always emphasize skating when I'm helping out other players."

Martinez said she also emphasizes something else: Have a plan and stick to it.

"Especially for younger girls, just realize that no matter where you start, you can always make something out of it, if you really set your mind to it," she said, before jumping onto the ice for a Honeybaked practice. "As cliché as it sounds, once you set yourself to do something, just keep working hard for it."

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THE MARTINEZ FILE

Who: Kayla Martinez, 17, senior at Livonia Stevenson and a defenseman for the Honeybaked 19-Under Tier 1 girls hockey team based out of Suburban Ice Farmington Hills.

What: Martinez recently signed her national letter of intent to play NCAA Division I women's hockey at Lindenwood University, located in St. Charles, Mo. She will compete in the College Hockey America conference.

Ice time: She spent her hockey formative years playing for the Farmington Hills Flames, house teams located at Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena and Devonaire Arena, the Icebreakers, a Tier 2 travel program located at Suburban Ice, and since age 10 with Honeybaked Tier 1, including the 12U, 14U, 16U and 19U teams.

All in the family: Her dad, Gus, was an assistant coach on Kayla's teams from mini mites through her time with the Honeybaked Tier 1 16U team. Two sisters also play hockey. Corrin, 15, a Stevenson sophomore, plays for Livonia United; Kirsten, 13, a student at Holmes Middle School, plays for Honeybaked 14U Tier II. Mom, Janine, is a college hockey referee who coaches Livonia United, a new girls high school team.

Numbers game: Martinez wears jersey No. 99, but not to honor NHL Hall of Fame player Wayne Gretzky. Instead, it's an homage to her mom.

"It was my mom's number," Kayla said. "She likes it, that I've just carried it on through pretty much my whole youth career."

Miscellaneous: She lives in Livonia with her family. Owner of a 3.5 grade-point average, her college plans include studying for a degree in sports medicine.

KLAA ROUNDUP

Plymouth girls cagers snap skid against Allen Park

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.

Girls basketball

PLYMOUTH 65, ALLEN PARK 36: Chantal LeDoux and Ella Riley both scored 13 points as the Wildcats (4-3) snapped a three-game losing streak with a non-conference win Jan. 4 over the host Jaguars (1-4).

Sydney McCaig chipped in 12 points for Plymouth, which led 36-16 at half-time and 52-29 after three quarters.

Grace Kubik scored a game-high 20 for Allen Park.

"We've had a great week of practice," Plymouth coach Ryan Ballard said. "It certainly showed tonight with our effort and execution. Angela Schmidt (six points) and Audrey Kananen (six points) provided us with some key minutes and made a lot of plays that do not show up in the box score."

Boys hockey

STEVENSON 7, SALEM 2: The No. 2 team in Division 2, Livonia Stevenson, raced out to a 6-0 lead Saturday and coasted to this KLAA Black Division victory at Redford Ice Arena.

Cole Parkhurst scored twice for the Spartans, while Julian Decina tallied one goal and three assists. Also helping the Stevenson cause with one goal each were Jake Beaune (also two assists), Austin Adamic, Vinny Decina and Jayden Spears.

For Salem, Garrett Christie and Alex Schaumburger scored. Chipping in with assists were Sean McCormack, Tyler German and Colin Goleniak.

Making 21 stops for Stevenson was the winning netminder, Will Tragge. Finishing up between the pipes in the third period was Eric Polzin. Rocks' goalie Austin Goleniak took the defeat.

SALINE 4, CHURCHILL 3: A three-goal second period by the host Hornets proved too much in this Saturday non-conference matchup at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

The Chargers were led by Conor Burnette and Carter Swider, who each chipped in with a goal and an assist. Churchill's third goal was registered by Seth Kucharzyk. For Saline, Connor Wright and Brendan Murphy each tallied a goal and an assist.

PLYMOUTH 3, SOO 0: On Saturday in Sault Ste. Marie, the Wildcats blanked the hosts behind a 14-save shutout performance by junior goalie Josh Montroy.

Scoring goals for Plymouth were Jacob Back, Tim Baldwin and Jack VanDenBeurgueury (who also had an assist). Single assists were picked up by Nathan Stoneburg, Shane Aigner, Tommy Casari and Jake Blake.

SALEM 2-1 UP NORTH: The Salem Rocks won two of three games over a three-day span in Traverse City.

On Dec. 28, Salem lost 7-5 to Saginaw Heritage at Centre Ice Arena, despite Colin Goleniak's hat trick.

But the Rocks bounced back on Dec. 29 with a 5-4 win over Bay Reps and capped off the annual trip on Dec. 30, with a 5-1 victory over Midland.

Against Bay Reps, the Rocks received

single goals from Garrett Christie, Alex Schaumburger, Tyler German, Dante Doute and Devan Grayshaw. Splitting time between the pipes were goalies Austin Goleniak and Max Van Wert.

Salem then posted the win over Midland, sparked by multi-point games by Tyler German (two goals), Schaumburger (goal, assist) and Colin Goleniak (goal, assist). Adding a single goal was Anthony Gattoni.

Wrestling

FRANKLIN STRONG: Livonia Franklin had strong showings over the long holiday break, with a pair of second-place finishes and one championship in three tournaments.

The Patriots went second at the Pinckey team tourney and followed up by winning the 27-team Salem Elks Invitational. Franklin (14-3) then had a second-place finish at the Melvindale tourney.

Coach David Chiola listed the following wrestlers as starting off on the right foot this season: Jager Kwiatkowski (12-4), Russ Rusnell (24-3), Howie Whitaker (18-9), Johnny DiPonio (26-2), Marino DiPonio (19-3), Erick Reaves (21-7), Emmanuel Willie (15-1) and Jake Swirple (24-4).

"We're starting to jell together as a team," Chiola noted. "Some guys have a ton of varsity experience and some are wrestling varsity for the first time. There are also a few weights where we alternate kids. Some weights we have pretty good depth, but other weights we have none."

"Coming out of the break I'm just going to look for each wrestler to improve

individually so the team as a whole can improve. The postseason will be here before we know it."

SALEM SIXTH: Salem placed sixth out of 18 teams Jan. 6 at the 43rd annual Dave Elliot Invitational at Clinton High School.

Leading the Rocks was heavyweight Jake Giorgi, with a second-place medal. Placing third were Mason Opie (112), JaQuan Baker (152); in fifth place was Ali Kobeissi (135); both Collin Schultz (119) and Dom Valdivia (145) came in sixth.

"Jake Giorgi has been a hammer for us all year and lost to a tough kid in the finals," coach Jeremy Henderson said. "JaQuan Baker had a good day as well taking third, and the only way to place high in these tournaments is to wrestle back from losses and we had quite a few take 5th and 6th which is good."

"Everyone won at least a match today and that does your team well when it comes to team points."

Gymnastics

ROCKFORD INVITE: Canton (134.575 points) placed fifth Jan. 6 at the 14-team Rockford Invitational. Taking the top spot was Rockford, with 142.975 points.

Zoe Graves led the Chiefs with Division 1 scores of 9.025 on floor exercise (first), 8.75 on balance beam (second) and 34.125 in the all-around (second). Meanwhile, Rachel Socha (8.775 on vault, 8.75 on balance beam), Nehal Harish (8.525 on vault), Bree Kalinsky (8.45 on floor), Katherine Najduk (8.45 on vault) and Annika Wang (8.45 on beam) had solid showings.

MacDonald lands job with United Shore baseball league

Bloomfield Hills native Scott MacDonald has landed a new job.

MacDonald was recently named the United Shore Professional Baseball League's vice president of marketing and public relations. He will oversee all of the USPBL's marketing and communications initiatives.

"As we continue to progress as a professional baseball league, we wanted to add an executive with leadership and baseball experience, which Scott certainly has," said USPBL owner and CEO Andy Appleby, a resident of Bloomfield Township. "He has an



MacDonald

extensive background in communications and marketing at some outstanding institutions across the country and we are excited that he will be a key part of our team as we prepare for another outstanding season in 2018."

MacDonald heads to the USPBL after a long tenure at Oakland University, where he most recently served as the associate athletics director for public relations. He led the university's athletic communications, marketing, broadcasting and video services programs.

MacDonald began his duties Jan. 2.

PREP ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



TREVOR DEGROOT

**SWIMMING SENIOR
NORTHVILLE MUSTANGS**

Northville senior boys swimmer Trevor DeGroot did what he does best to win the Hometown Life Prep Athlete of the Week poll for the week ending Dec. 15.

He finished strong to outlast staunch competition. Such was the case both in the pool and in the poll -- DeGroot tallied 6,957 votes, more than 49 percent of the total 14,121 votes cast.

DeGroot's main competition entering the final "lap" was Canton senior girls basketball player Carli Vaughan (6,021 votes, 42.6 percent). In third place was Livonia Franklin senior boys basketball player Mark Mettie (1,009 votes, 7.15 percent).

into this one," DeGroot said. "I really tried to focus in on those races and we just had a great team effort all-around." DeGroot said he "just felt good, felt loose in the water. I felt like I had pretty good turns."

PERSPECTIVE: Northville coach Rich Bennetts also stressed to the Mustangs not to get too wrapped up in defeating Brother Rice. "Coach Bennetts told us at the end of the meet that it was an awesome win," DeGroot said.

"But at the end of the day it was just a dual meet. We have bigger goals than that. It really can't be the highlight of our season."

ABOUT WINNING AOW: DeGroot said winning Athlete of the Week is "an honor. I'm happy that people recognized swimming because it's not in the news too often. I'm thankful for that."



TO VOTE FOR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK, GO TO WWW.HOMETOWNLIFE.COM/SPORTS

VOTE ONLINE EVERY WEEK



Vote online every week at hometownlife.com/sports





Share your vote online! Get the word out in the community about these great student athletes!

PREP ROUNDUP

Mercy rips Regina; Groves tops Rochester

Girls basketball

MERCY 51, REGINA 31: Mercy defeated Regina Jan. 5 to win for the seventh time in eight games. The Marlins led 15-3 after one quarter and 26-11 by halftime. They outscored the visiting Saddlelites by a 25-20 second-half margin. "We got off to a good start and played a great first quarter to take a nice lead," said Mercy head coach Garry Morris. "We were a little sluggish in the third quarter and then we played a nice fourth quarter." Mercy had three double-digit scorers in Jenna Schluter (14), Julia Bishop (10) and Bella Dugas (10). Alexis Roberts added eight points. Riley Eobowski paced Regina with 10 points. Mercy is 4-1 in the Catholic League Central Division. Regina is 1-5 and 1-4.

GROVES 43, ROCHESTER 24: Birmingham Groves hiked its overall record to 6-2 (2-1 in OAA White Division play) Jan. 4 with this 19-point victory over visiting Rochester. Sha Carter paced the Groves offense with a game-high 13 points. Mia Yarberry, Sacha Tyler and Lauren Palmer each registered six points for the winners. Kayla Nelson contributed five points. Rochester did not have one player reach double figures.

MERCY 39, SALEM 28: After a close first half, Mercy had a big third quarter to begin the 2018 portion of its season with this 11-point non-league triumph. Salem led 8-7 after the opening quarter and Mercy led 20-18 at halftime. The Marlins put the game away with a 12-4 third-quarter scoring advantage. "I thought there was a bit of rust on our part since we hadn't played a game since Dec. 15," said Mercy head coach Garry Morris. "I thought we played a good third quarter. It was a good game for us since we played every body and started off the new year with a win." Freshman guard Alexis Roberts led the balanced Marlins scoring with eight points. Freshman Julia Bishop, junior Isabelle Miner and senior Bella Dugas netted seven points each while freshman Ellie Tisko contributed six.

COUNTRY DAY 79, BISHOP HARTLEY 60: The teams were separated by just four points, 26-22, after one quarter of play in this high-scoring Roundball Classic game played at Detroit Northwestern over the holidays. However, Country Day used a whopping 25-7 second-quarter scoring outburst to take control and eventually defeat its Columbus (Ohio)-based foe by 19 points. The Yellowjackets had five players reach

double figures -- Kaela Webb (19), Jasmine Powell (19), Adrienne Folks (18), Maxine Moore (13) and Maddie Novak (10). Bishop Hartley's Kennedy Taylor led all scorers with 28 points. Country Day raised its record to 4-1.

KALAMAZOO CENTRAL 45, NORTH FARMINGTON 37: In the Motor City Roundball Classic on Dec. 29, North Farmington fell behind early and never caught up. Sam Cherney led the way with 11 points, eight blocks and eight rebounds. Maya Kelly added 10 points and five rebounds. Khyra King-Ealy (nine points) and Molly Simpson (six points) also contributed to the victory.

Boys basketball

NORTH FARMINGTON 49, CINCINNATI WITHROW 41: Donny Dreshaj hit for a double-double (18 points, 10 rebounds) in this holiday tournament game Dec. 27 at Detroit Renaissance High School. Kevin Edwards added seven points for the Raiders.

FERNDALE 73, HARRISON 64: Harrison had three players reach double figures Jan. 5, but it wasn't enough to get past Ferndale in OAA Blue Division action. "We had too many forced turnovers and we also shot 15-of-29 from the free-

throw line," said Harrison head coach Jarrell Hogan. "It's hard to win any game with those types of stats." Sophomore Eddie Lenton led Harrison with 15 points, nine rebounds and two blocked shots. Senior point guard Sean Nelson, Jr. (10 points, four assists, two steals) and senior Tre Walker (12 points) also had strong games.

Boys hockey

BROTHER RICE 6, DE LA SALLE 1: Dominic DiPonio scored two goals and added an assist Jan. 5 in leading Rice to this five-goal victory over Warren De La Salle at Oak Park Arena. Rice's other goals were netted by Garrett Moore, Chris Andoni, Joe Serra and Nick Marone. De La Salle's Jared LaRue ruined Rice goalie Joe Valascho's shutout bid by scoring the Pilots' only goal.

BROTHER RICE 3, PORT HURON NORTHERN 2 (OT): Chris Andoni netted an unassisted shorthanded goal late in the overtime Jan. 4 to slip past Port Huron Northern. Conor Cadieux (Nick Marone, Luke Halpin) and Ethan Nystrom (unassisted) scored Rice's regulation-time goals. Chris Cook tended goal for Brother Rice.

Kings

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"This has been a lot of fun," said senior captain Jack Muir, in his third varsity season. "We have a big student section and having all of our friends here to support us has meant a lot. And we've been playing really well, so it's been a lot of fun."

"Our coach has put a good system into place. We are all buying into it and everyone is chipping in," he added. "I expected a good season, because we were getting some good new players, but 12-0-1 has definitely exceeded my expectations. Hopefully, we can just keep it going."

'Haven't won anything yet'

While all the exuberance and positive outcomes are providing great vibes, third-year head coach Steve Kruk provides the voice of reason. Kruk is encouraged by the way his team is working hard and buying into his system, but cautions the Kings have not won anything yet.

"There are no secrets at this point. I knew, just on paper coming in, that I was happy with our product," said Kruk, who coached BU's junior varsity team for five years before taking over as head coach. "But if you told me we'd be 12-0-1 after 13 games, I don't know if any coach would have said that."

"There's a lot of buzz about this team this year and we don't want to let anyone down. The student section is buying in, we have more fans and the community seems to have rallied around us. It's a great time to be a part of the program."

"But we can't get complacent. We can't get comfortable. Just going about our business and having a routine is not good enough, because when you go down the stretch and are competing for

a division title and you're competing in state playoff games, it's a dogfight every single night."

"Listen, as much success as we've had the first half of the year, I want people to understand we haven't won anything yet," he added. "We haven't won a thing and that's always been our message to our players. This is just a start. Now granted, I'm thrilled with the start, but it means nothing."

An offensive machine

Birmingham Unified has been a balanced offensive machine through its first 13 games.

The Kings have outscored the opposition by a whopping 81-35 margin, including 19 goals in their last two games. They have six players — the equivalent of two entire lines — averaging more than a point a game. Eight different players scored in Tuesday's 10-2 mercy-rule victory over Oxford-Avondale.

That offense is led by senior forward and alternate captain Matt Bachand with 23 points (11 goals, 12 assists). However, Muir (11 goals, 11 assists) and junior Will Sanders (eight goals, 14 assists) are right behind.

Senior Charlie Michaud (11 goals, nine assists), in his first year of high school hockey after playing previous winters with his junior team, junior Andrew Beggs (12 goals eight assists) and senior alternate captain David Breaugh (seven goals, 10 assists) are BU's other double-digit point scorers.

BU's other seniors are alternate captain Greg Gibson, Brian Paswater, Michael Homer and Dave Hamilton.

"We are definitely very offensively gifted. And we have some defensemen who can create offense," Kruk said. "Our speed and our ability to get pucks to the opponents' net quickly is a definite strength."

"I think our system, the way we play, is a very aggressive, a very north-style

of hockey. I think a lot of times, we find ourselves having pucks 200 feet away from our net. And when you have pucks 200 feet away from your net, typically that's a good recipe for success."

"That's one reason for our success. And I think No. 2 is we have great leadership," he added. "I just don't mean the kids who are wearing the letter. I mean our kids are vocal, they lead by example and I think this is the best leadership core we've had since I've been with the program."

The defense is anchored by starting goalie Gabe Barish, a junior in his second year as a starter who owns a 2.69 goals-against average. Sophomore Sean Piotrowicz got the start and win Tuesday against Oxford-Avondale.

"Gabe Barish has been outstanding," Kruk said. "He is the ultimate competitor. He enjoys winning and hates losing. He hates pucks going in behind him."

"One of the things we've stressed to our goalies this year is just be better than the guy who is 200 feet down the ice from you," he added. "Don't overvalue your save percentage. Don't overvalue your goals-against average. Just be better than the guy across from you."

Big goals lie ahead

BU's regular-season goal is to win its first OAA White Division championship in Kruk's eight years with the program. The Kings currently lead the division with a 5-0 record for 10 points, two points ahead of Clarkston. The Kings defeated Clarkston last month, 7-4, and were scheduled to play them Saturday in Birmingham.

Birmingham Unified placed second in the White Division last year, losing the title in the last game of the season.

"We probably moved down to the White four or five years ago and, since I've been down here, I don't think we've won the division and this is probably our first realistic chance to do that,"

Kruk said. "And if we have aspirations to get back into the OAA Red, you have to win the OAA White."

"That's why our No. 1 goal is to win the division," he added. "It's not just showing up and winning. Our guys have bought into a culture. They truly care. They come to practice every day and want to get better. They are not forced-anything."

Birmingham Unified hopes to end the season strong and make an impact in the Division 1 state tournament. The Kings have never won a regional championship. To do so this year, it would have to most likely get past traditional state power Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood, owner of 17 state championships in its illustrious history.

"We have high goals for our team and, I've been saying this since Halloween time, we want to win a division and go deeper in the playoffs," said Kruk, whose record in his two previous years as head coach is a combined 23-25-3. "Both years that I've coached varsity, we were done in our first pre-regional game."

"For me, if we win 24, 25 games, that's terrific. But if you're sitting on your coach at the end of February, what's it really for? So we have goals to go a lot deeper into the playoffs this year and so far we are proving we can compete with some of the top teams in the state."

"But there are expectations and there are standards and there are things you have to hold yourselves to," he added. "We like the fact we're being talked about very highly, but we also know that a lot more responsibility comes with it as well."

"All four lines are playing well, the goalie is playing well and we just have to keep doing what we are doing," Muir said. "We just have to keep playing as a team."

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Quinn

Continued from Page 1B

mates.

"My outside shot wasn't falling, but (Horvath) was drawing up some good plays, the guys were getting me the ball," Blair said. "I got the best teammates in the world. They know to give it to me if I'm on and I like to facilitate it to them as well."

"I'm thankful the shots went in, but most importantly, we won the game. That's what I care about."

According to Horvath, whose Class B team improved to 5-3 with the non-conference win over the Class D Eagles, his power forward did much more than score points by the bushel.

"He really set the tone defensively," Horvath said. "When he worked hard defensively, it got his offense going."

PCA head coach Matt Windle acknowledged his team (2-4) just didn't have a good response to what Blair and the rest of the Falcons were doing — Divine Child broke out to a 9-0 lead in the opening two minutes and maintained leads of 19-10 after one, 32-22 at halftime and 45-29 after three.

"We knew who (Blair) was and that

he's got a Division I offer at William & Mary," Windle said. "We didn't do a great job of helping our teammates who were guarding Quinn. We didn't have great help-side, we didn't have great deny."

Following are several other takeaways:

SLOW STARTS HURT

There have been a few times this season where PCA got out to terrible starts and Tuesday's game was the latest.

"We were down nine or 10 going into halftime and, if we take away that run to start, it's a different ballgame, a different mentality," Malcolm said.

WELCOME BACK

Divine Child's roster included five Plymouth residents: seniors Jake Pappas and Nicholas Seuryneck and juniors Parker LePage, Kyle Gurney and Aeron Latham. Out of that group, LePage was most dangerous with 13 points. Chipping in 12 points was junior guard Cameron Urbanick.

OFF THE MARK

Plymouth Christian was hampered by some inconsistent shooting from behind the 3-point arc, making just three triples all night. Two of those were from senior guard/forward Matt Malcolm,

who earlier this season tallied the 1,000th point of his PCA career. The other two were scored by senior guard Levi Yakuber.

Malcolm and Yakuber were the top scorers for the Eagles, with 14 and 13 points, respectively.

Helping the PCA cause with six points was senior guard Phillip Morby, while 6-5 senior forward Maximus Okolo scored four.

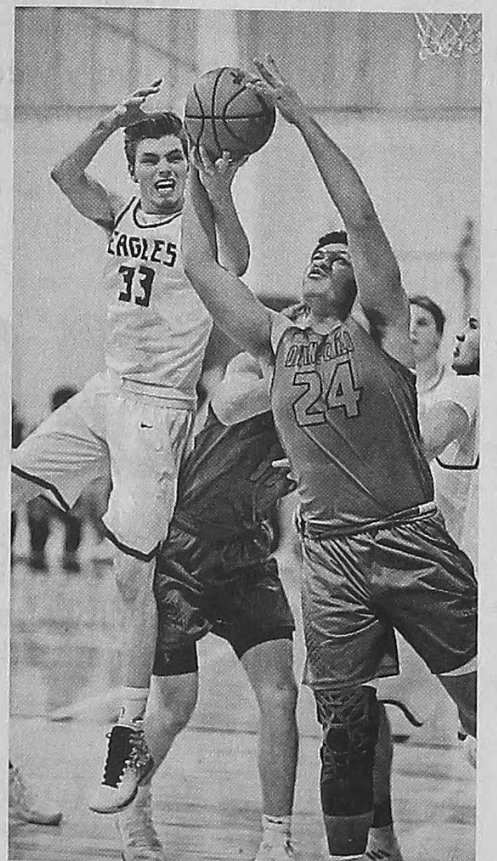
SHRUG IT OFF

Windle (also PCA athletic director) said there is a method to his scheduling madness; so far this year, the Eagles have only played two Class D opponents.

"We could easily be 4-2," Windle said. "We've only played two Class D schools this year. We played Southfield Christian, which is the No. 1 team in Class D, and we played Lansing Christian, who we lost in the regional final last year. We beat them this year."

"We're playing these December, early January games tough for a reason, to prepare for March. We believe we're a top five Class D team in the state."

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Battling for a rebound are Plymouth Christian's Matt Malcolm (left) and Divine Child's Aeron Latham. TOM BEAUDOIN

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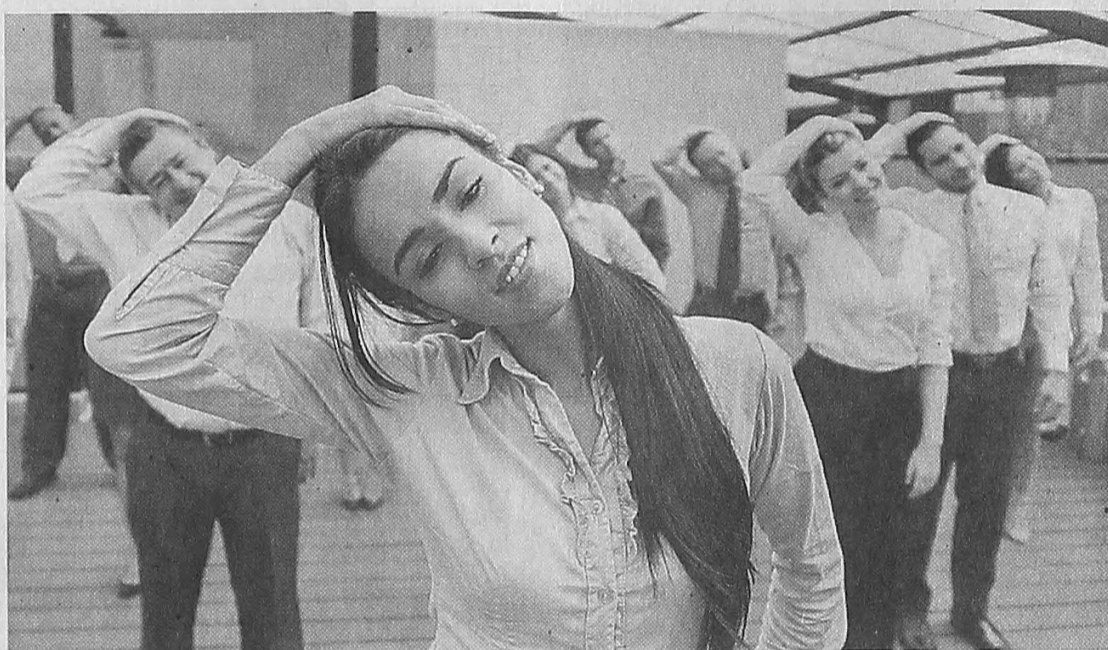
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How exercise can boost work performance

BY ERIC TITNER
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

We're all familiar with the obvious benefits of exercise — regular physical activity can keep us looking and feeling fit and healthy, increase our energy levels and confidence and help us maintain high levels of self-esteem. Staying active can also help us fight off a wealth of potentially life-threatening illnesses.

If you're still not sold, perhaps this will help seal the deal — exercise helps fuel and maintain a healthy body, and it can actually improve your ability to think and retain information.



GETTY IMAGES

a brain benefit regardless of when you decide to exercise, the most promising results typically occur when you do your workout before or even during a cognitive task.

Another big question you might be wondering about is how much exercise you should do in order to receive a cognitive benefit. The same Harvard Medical School report suggests that "standard recommendations advise half an hour of moderate physical activity most days of the week, or 150 minutes a week."

If you're worried that you're simply too busy to exercise or find the very idea of exercise daunting, a great way to take a step forward toward a regular active lifestyle is to start small. Try taking a brief yet brisk walk for 10 to 15 minutes each day, and gradually increase your workout in both length and intensity as time passes.

Now that you know all about the many benefits that exercise will bring to your life, put the excuses aside and get up and get moving toward your successful future!

Eric Titner 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.

WHAT EXERCISE DOES

Recent studies have shown the following cognitive benefits of exercise:

Boosts brainpower: If you're looking to take your brain's ability to the next level, you can't do much better than regular exercise. Studies have shown that exercise can actually increase the volume of key areas in your brain.

Enhances thinking ability: Regular workouts will help kick away the dreaded "brain fog" that keeps you from thinking clearly and keep your mind and thoughts razor

sharp all day long.

Helps you process and remember new information more effectively: If

you're trying to acquire a new skill or task, like learning a new language or tackling a new job responsibility, combining it with regular exercise can help. New research suggests that physical activity can increase the size of the medial temporal and prefrontal cortex of your brain, key areas that regulate and control thinking and memory, so you'll be able to master that new skill faster.

Improves ability on cognitive tasks: Do you have

an important test for work or school coming up? Whatever your mental goals are, exercise will help you succeed on all sorts of cognitive tasks that test your intelligence and brainpower.

Keeps away the negatives: Regular exercise will help keep your mood positive and upbeat, help you achieve more restful sleep at night and help reduce anxiety and stress, ensuring your brain works at its best.

WHEN, WHAT AND HOW MUCH?

Now that you know it works,

let's explore how you can make it work for you.

Although there's some debate regarding the type of exercise that best serves to promote brain function, according to a recent article by Harvard Medical School, "researchers found that regular aerobic exercise, the kind that gets your heart and your sweat glands pumping, appears to boost the size of the hippocampus, the brain area involved in verbal memory and learning. Resistance training, balance and muscle toning exercises did not have the same results."

Research also suggests that although you'll receive

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Car Report

INFINITI MAKES TIMELY LAUNCH OF QX80 SUV, TRYING TO DIFFERENTIATE BY FOCUSING ON FANTASTIC SEATING



By Dale Buss

Infiniti is bidding to continue its strong 2017 sales performance into the new year with a marketing campaign for a timely upgrade to its big QX80 SUV.

Overhauls of large, luxury utility vehicles are busting out all over—Lincoln's Navigator and Lexus's extended RX among them—to take advantage of the robust U.S. market for SUVs in an era of reasonable gasoline prices, a growing economy, and a millennial generation that is forming families and in need for more spacious vehicles.

On the mainstream side, Subaru and Volkswagen are bringing out entirely new vehicles that meet the seven-passenger criterion. So the timing for Infiniti's best-ever version of its QX80 large SUV couldn't be better. And to distinguish the new

QX80 in a segment with growing competition, the Nissan-owned luxury brand has decided to select a particular feature for "Thrones," its first national U.S. TV campaign—its sumptuous seats.

Infiniti has been doing well in the US, through November 2017 selling 14% more vehicles compared with a year earlier. Part of the gain can be attributed to some new products, but also Infiniti seems to have sharpened its brand image more these days than in quite some time. It's readily identifiable again even in an increasingly competitive luxury-car set in the US market.

It's already looking ahead to the North American International Auto Show by teasing a new concept car coming to Detroit, along with its Spring 2018 QX50.

But first, the QX80 new year's "Thrones" campaign, about which I spoke with Phil O'Connor, Infiniti's director of marketing communications and media, about the value proposition and messaging for Infiniti these days:

Infiniti has a lot of momentum



these days. What are you seeing in the U.S. luxury auto sector right now?

The market growth has slowed down, but it's still at a very healthy level. We're still very bullish. We've been among the fastest-growing luxury brands in the last year and moving forward we think that things are only going to get better with a slew of new products. We launched a new Q50 in the fall; now we have the new QX80; and in 2018, there will be the all-new QX50, which will be a compact, five-seat CUV.

What are you trying to accomplish with this QX80 campaign?

With regard to the QX80 we're always trying to do a couple of things. We're trying to launch a new product, in this case a flagship SUV, and do it in a very bold, Infiniti way. We're also always looking to build momentum around our umbrella brand of Infiniti. We're 30 years in the market but relatively new compared with some competitors so we're still trying to clarify what that brand stands for. The best opportunity to do that is when we have new product launch.

How does that approach fit

"Thrones"?

At Infiniti we talk about being "human, daring and forward." We're in touch with our consumers and we're an emotional brand. We're forward-looking, not rooted in the past, and we're daring in that we're trying to make bold moves.

If you look at this spot specifically, in this segment things like cargo and carrying capacity are table stakes. But with QX80 we've got a few things that we believe set us apart: luxuriousness and detail in interior and the styling.

So we wanted to make a statement about those things that differentiate us in an Infiniti way. The spot is talking about the history of thrones and is a nod to human history, and plays on that in an interesting way by making the point that the interior of the QX80 is a luxurious space for a large number of people. This will comfortably seat a large number of people.

There are at least seven seats with the option of a second-row bench seat, which makes it eight. That's one of the reasons why in the end of the spot we have the cast get into the interior, because you can see six

adults. We want to communicate that the third row is a real place to sit, not just a place to put young children.

Customer experience has become a huge focus, especially for luxury brands. What has Infiniti been doing in that regard?

When you look at the progress that Infiniti dealers have made in customer satisfaction, we're among the leaders in every metric. That's a really important part of our success: As we broaden our portfolio and bring customers back for repeat purchases, they're getting the kind service that the luxury buyer expects.



Infiniti's Phil O'Connor



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