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SPORTS, 1B

CANTON

OBSERVER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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CSX making steady progress

Complaints are down about blocked crossings

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

CSX Corp. appears to have made strides to ease the problem of blocked railroad crossings, which reached a new threshold in October with a nine-hour delay in Plymouth.

Plymouth and Canton officials say the situation has shown marked improvements following a new round of

talks in late November with CSX representatives.

"Things do seem like they have improved," Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock said. "We do get an occasional complaint, but certainly from where it was a few weeks ago to now is significantly improved."

Sincock cited only one lengthy railroad crossing blockage recently and that occurred in the Old Village area. That compares to problems that had become routine just weeks ago.

Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams said his office has received "zero phone calls" in recent weeks about

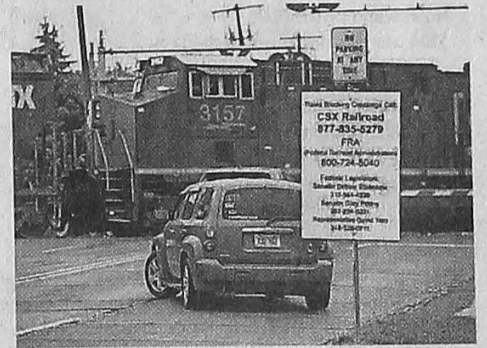
railroad crossing issues.

"It is now a non-issue for us in Canton Township," he said. "CSX is a good corporate citizen again. If we're not getting phone calls, that tells me CSX is doing its job."

Local officials had remained guarded after meeting in late November with CSX officials — a meeting U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow's office arranged amid widespread complaints of blocked railroad crossings.

That session involved officials from Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Can-

See CSX, Page 2A



The problem of blocked railroad crossings has eased in recent weeks, local officials say. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Bagger Dave's has closed its restaurant in Canton. DARRELL CLEM

Bagger Dave's abruptly closes Canton restaurant

Patrons disappointed in short tenure for eatery

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Jonathan Hicks ate 52 cheeseburgers in 52 weeks after Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern opened its Canton restaurant in February 2015.

Hicks and other patrons have had their last meal at the Bagger Dave's on Canton Center, south of Ford, which abruptly closed after the end of business Jan. 14.

Hicks was among the first 50 customers who lined up outside the restaurant when it opened in February 2015. Their reward: One free burger every week for a year.

Hicks is disappointed to see the Canton restaurant close, nearly three years after it opened.

"I'm definitely sad. It's a bummer," he said. "It's a good place."

The latest closing comes after Bagger Dave's earlier shuttered locations in Woodhaven, Ann Arbor, Brighton and Detroit, though several of its Michigan eateries, including one in Novi, remain open. The company had blamed the struggles at its underperforming restaurants on a decline in causal dining.

A message was left Monday with the restaurant's parent company, Southfield-based Diversified Restaurant Holdings, Inc.

Hicks, who works in sales for Motorola, remained a Bagger Dave's customer even after his free burger offer expired. He often took his laptop and worked there.

"It just became part of my routine," he said, adding that he "tried just about everything on the menu."

A sign on the restaurant's door gave few details of the closing.

"Unfortunately, we have decided to

close this Bagger Dave's location. Please know that we greatly appreciated your business and support," it states, urging customers to find other locations.

When Bagger Dave's opened in Canton, company officials said it expected to employ about 80 workers. It wasn't clear how many employees it still had before it closed or whether they were offered jobs at other locations.

Canton Chamber of Commerce President Thomas Paden said it's disappointing to see Bagger Dave's close. The restaurant had participated in chamber events such as the annual Grub Crawl, which lets people dine at several restaurants for one price.

"Any time that we lose a chamber member, or for that matter any member of our business community, it's always something we don't like to see," Paden said.

See BAGGER, Page 2A

New CWW leadership includes Canton's Williams

The Conference of Western Wayne, an association of 18 chief elected local officials in Michigan's largest county, announced that it has selected its new 2018 leadership team.

The CWW 2018 Executive Committee is composed of Chairman LeRoy Burcroff (Romulus mayor), Vice Chairman Robert Nix II (Northville Township supervisor), Secretary Kerreen Conley (Belleville mayor), Treasurer Pat Williams (Canton Township supervisor) and Chair Emeritus Jack O'Reilly (Dearborn mayor), who led the CWW the last year. The committee was sworn in by the Wayne County Circuit Judge Melissa Cox.

"I am truly grateful to serve the 18 communities in western Wayne County that make up this organization," Burcroff said. "Our board has met monthly for over three decades to discuss issues such as state and federal legislation, county matters, transportation, public safety, substance use prevention and community and economic development. Our region is the most populated in the county and we pride ourselves on working together to promote western Wayne."

The CWW is a bipartisan group that works collectively to discuss mutual issues, share information and generally improve the quality of life for the nearly 700,000 residents who live in the region. CWW also serves as the 9-1-1 Service District for western Wayne

See WILLIAMS, Page 2A



The new leadership group of (from left) Jack O'Reilly, LeRoy Burcroff, Robert Nix, Pat Williams and Kerreen Conley are sworn in by Judge Melissa Cox.

CANTON POLICE BRIEFS

Woman battling opioids found slumped in car

A 58-year-old woman battling opioid addiction was found slumped over in her car outside a Canton retail store, according to a police report.

The woman, initially unconscious when authorities arrived, was revived, but remained disoriented after police say she had taken Suboxone, a prescription drug often used to treat addiction.

Witnesses summoned police after they saw the Ypsilanti woman slumped over in the driver's seat of her

Lexus ES in the parking lot of ABC Warehouse at Ford and Morton Taylor roads, the report said.

The incident occurred about 12:35 p.m. Friday. Police found a pill bottle with the Suboxone label on the driver's seat. The woman, who received treatment after the incident, initially didn't even know where she was when police revived her, the report said.

Facebook harassment

A 30-year-old Canton man told police he is being

harassed by his ex-girlfriend on Facebook, prompting him to report it as he plans to seek a personal protection order in court, a report said.

The man, who said his Facebook account has been hacked, said someone has posted comments making it appear the ex-girlfriend is pleading with him to leave her alone and to stop harassing her and her friends. He told police he hasn't contacted her after he ended a brief relationship.

— By Darrell Clem

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50
\$104 per 12 months home delivery

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CSX

Continued from Page 1A

ton, Livonia, Huron Township, CSX and the Federal Railroad Administration. It came as local officials said blocked crossings had delayed emergency response times by police officers, firefighters and paramedics.

Stabenow said CSX provides an important role in Michigan's economy, but vowed that "it can't be at the expense of public safety."

She said she organized the meeting in an attempt to find long-term solutions and "fix this problem once and for all."

CSX has indicated it adjusted schedules and made improvements in equipment and infrastructure, ef-

ports officials say are expected to help the situation.

Residents and officials had become increasingly frustrated because municipal governments have no control over railroads, which are federally regulated.

Local officials had implored federal officials to act. Sincock said he believes the meeting initiated by Stabenow may have helped convince CSX to seek remedies.

Local officials have said that, in past years, CSX had made strides to reduce blocked railroad crossings, only to have the problem resurface. They are hopeful now of a long-term solution.

"I'm always cautiously optimistic with that," Sincock said.

Contact Darrell Clem at dclm@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.

Williams

Continued from Page 1A

County.

The CWW communities include the cities of Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne and Westland and the townships of Canton, Huron, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, Sumpter and Van Buren. The CWW area is 340 square miles, bordered by Washtenaw County to the west, Oakland County to the north, the city of Detroit to the east and Monroe

County to the south.

Despite the diversity of size, economic development and population density, these communities have been working together – working regionally – to enhance this area of Wayne County for more than 38 years.

"All of our 700,000 residents and 340 square miles are impacted by the decisions and laws that are made at the federal, state and county levels," Burcroff said. "It is vital that we continue to collaborate in order to create the best solutions possible to the challenges we face."

The 18 members of CWW selected the leadership at its board meeting Jan. 12 in Plymouth Township.

Bagger

Continued from Page 1A

He urged struggling businesses to reach out to the chamber, which he said has resources to help.

"We would love to try to come to their aid before it

gets to that point of closing," Paden said.

The closing of Bagger Dave's comes two years after Max & Erma's shuttered its nearby restaurant. That has since reopened as an independent restaurant, Spoon's Place.

Contact Darrell Clem at dclm@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.



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LO-GMG000525-02

Masked gunman sought in Canton bank robbery

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Authorities continued their search Monday for a masked gunman who robbed the Huntington Bank branch on Michigan Avenue, east of Beck, in Canton.

Canton Detective Lt. Mike Steckel said no shots were fired and no one was injured as the incident unfolded just after 4 p.m. Jan. 18.

Canton police and the FBI are continuing to investigate after the suspect, described as a white male in his 30s, brandished a gun and demanded money from a teller. Police say he escaped with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Police say the man wore a black hat, black coat, gray pants, sunglasses and a mask made of bandages to disguise his face.

He fled in an unknown direction after the robbery.

Police have released surveillance photos of the suspect. Anyone who has information about him or the robbery is asked to call the Canton Police Department at 734-394-5400 or Crime Stoppers at 800-



Police are asking for the public's help identifying a gunman who robbed a Canton bank. CANTON POLICE

SPEAKUP.

Contact Darrell Clem at dclem@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.

CANTON LIBRARY EVENTS

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. Go to www.cantonpl.org for registration and more information.

to bring your own dice and/or D&D 5th Edition Character Sheet. This program is suggested for ages 9-12.

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. 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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Whitmer speaks to full house in Livonia

David Veselenak
 hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN



Gretchen Whitmer speaks about the Michigan she grew up in and the Michigan her kids are growing up in. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

News that came Jan. 18 of Amazon declining to locate its second headquarters in Detroit because of a lack of talent had Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gretchen Whitmer clamoring to return the state to the days when Michigan had "the best skilled workforce on the planet."

"It's not the fault of people of this state. It's a lack of leadership in our capital," she said. "It is college degrees that used to be funded 75 percent by the state and 25 percent by the student. Now that's reversed, where so few people in our state can afford to get a four-year degree, if that's their path."

Whitmer, a former state senator and representative from East Lansing, spoke Jan. 18 to a fairly full auditorium in the Robert and Janet Bennett Library in Livonia. Brought by the Livonia Democratic Club, Whitmer spoke about infrastructure, education, gun control and various other issues facing the state.

Whitmer, widely believed to be the front-runner for the Democratic nomination later this summer, spoke highly about her desire to keep education funding in the schools and said she would work to keep school aid money from being moved to the general fund.

She said programs such as the industrial arts, in which she learned such skills as how to change a vehicle's oil, are crucial to helping students determine their life goals, whether it's a two- or four-year degree or going into a specific trade.

"These are the experiences that expose us to different paths," she said. "You can make a phenomenal living in almost any community in this state as a plumber, as an electrician, as a drywall-er."

Whitmer was the latest gubernatorial candidate brought by the Livonia Democratic Club, which has also seen speakers such as Abdul El-Sayed and Bill Cobbs come to town to share their campaign goals.

Karl Burnett, president of the Livonia Democratic Club, said using the li-

brary's conference rooms would not work for a candidate with as much support when she came to visit.

"Because of the strength and momentum behind Gretchen's campaign, we anticipated using the conference rooms would not suffice," he said. "She has stated what, I think, truly are the kind of ideas voters look for in a candidate."

He said more than 200 people attended the event.

Whitmer addressed several issues that have risen in recent years, including the tainting of city water in Flint several years ago that still haunts the Genesee County city to this day.

"The Flint water crisis is a prime example of government failing at every level, where people were ignored," she said. "And some people paid the ultimate price in losing their lives, because their government didn't care enough to treat the water."

Voters will go to the polls to vote in the gubernatorial primary Aug. 7. The top candidates in each party will run in the general election Nov. 6 to replace Gov. Rick Snyder, who cannot run again due to term limits.

The Livonia Democratic Club has several other speakers lined up for both statewide and local offices before the August primary. Those dates can be found at the group's website, livoniademocraticclub.com.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

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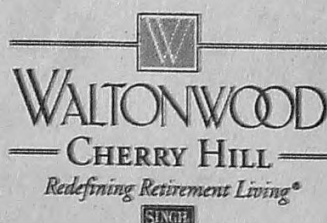
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A Michigan optometrist, Dr. John Jacobi, and other members of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, are using miniaturized binoculars or telescopes to help people who have lost vision from macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy or other eye conditions.

"Often times patients have been told nothing more can be done. They owe it to themselves to seek a second opinion," said Dr. Jacobi, a low vision optometrist who helps visually impaired patients in his Livonia office.

Vision loss is devastating, stealing independence and quality of life.

"We prescribe surgical quality telescopes for sight loss," said Dr. Jacobi. "They are custom focused for simplicity of use and make your eyes see the best possible. Details look bigger, closer and easier to make out."

These hands free devices can be used anywhere, unlike electronic table-top magnifiers.

The next, critical step in improving patients' quality of life," Dr. Jacobi continues, "is to train them how to utilize their devices and remaining vision to achieve the tasks they wish to do, like reading and driving. Seeing again takes practice and I work one-on-one, in-office with each patient until they are successful.

Macular Degeneration is the most common eye disease among seniors. The macula is one small part of the entire retina but it is the most sensitive. When it degenerates, ARMD leaves a blind spot right in the center of vision making it impossible to recognize faces, read a book, or pass DMV's vision test "In Michigan, Bioptic Telescopic Glasses can be used to pass the vision test for driving", says Dr. Jacobi. "This can allow some with conditions like macular degeneration or diabetic retinopathy to continue driving."

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Ethel Stroope, a low vision patient, who suffers from macular degeneration sought help for reading, watching television and movies for seeing street signs at a distance. Bioptic telescopic glasses were prescribed to help Ms. Stroope continue driving. "These glasses have made it very easy for me to continue my activities both at home and on the road with these glasses. I should have done this two years ago," says Ms. Stroope.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where's the diversity

On MLK Day, I read the article "MLK would be 'flabbergasted' about today's society." A few months ago on Facebook, a P-CCS Board Trustee stated to me that among other things such as age and economic, "...it (diversity) includes different home styles and sizes", and that diversity "is not just racial."

And at the recent Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce fundraiser celebrating Plymouth's 150th anniversary of incorporation, where at least two Plymouth City Commissioners, city staff including the city manager, and Plymouth Township supervisor were present, my wife and I witnessed just one African American couple in attendance, at an event which was reported to have a turnout of over 600 folks.

This brought to my mind a recent Plymouth City Commission meeting, in which a woman from a local diversity outreach group was making the rounds by attending western Wayne County city council meetings, bearing invitations to communities to be more open to dialogue on local diversity issues. At that meeting, a City Commissioner re-

sponded by saying the city needs to do better, that it is hurtful to know that Plymouth has an image problem when it comes to racial diversity, and that the city will work to better that image.

Yet what kind of diversity messaging does it convey, when Plymouth City Hall, and the Plymouth City Commission, conducts city business, on MLK day?

Martin Luther King Day, is a national holiday. Most federal government offices and services were closed. The U.S. Patent Office was closed. Wayne County offices, Third Judicial Circuit Court, U.S. Post Office was closed. Most major banks were closed.

Plymouth City Hall, however, was open for business to collect property taxes, and the Plymouth City Commission met on MLK Day. Local governments are disrespectful to the Civil Rights struggle in America by not fully recognizing MLK Day as a national holiday.

Every Plymouth City Commissioner should be concerned about this image problem - especially in a city that has less than 2 percent African American population, far below Wayne County

and neighboring Canton, with numbers of around 39 percent and 9 percent respectively.

The Plymouth community prior to the Civil War, was a major hub of Underground Railroad activity; city leadership should recognize, embrace and celebrate this historic fact.

Plymouth City Hall should correct poor diversity messaging, by recognizing MLK Day as a national holiday. A long-term goal for the Plymouth Community should be to better racial diversity within.

Dan Sabo
Taylor

Many supported outreach

Thank you for the Plymouth Observer's "Area Calendar" announcements about the recent (and still on-going) "Socks and Underwear" Drive to benefit the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Clothing Bank. Through the drop-box in the lobby of Plymouth District Library and hands-on collections on Martin Luther King Day, more than 1,000 pairs of new socks, under-clothing, sweaters, hoodies and other items

were collected.

Volunteers from the Plymouth Democratic Club sorted and transported those goods to the P-CCS Clothing Bank. The drop-box in the lobby of Plymouth District Library will remain there through Jan. 31 for the convenience of those would yet care to donate to this worthy cause.

Martin Friedburg
Plymouth

Blame Republicans

While we're on the topic of s**thole countries, did Republicans ever fix those drinking water pipes in Flint? Is it safe to fish the Kalamazoo river yet after the million-gallon tar sands oil spill? Are our roads smooth? And, ah, under Rick Snyder, DeVos, and the rest of the Republicans, fourth grade math and reading scores went to 13th in the nation before them to 47th and 49th in just 7 short years. Great job guys, you rock.

Mitch Dubanik
Livonia

AREA EVENTS

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

11th District town hall

Constituents of Michigan's 11th Congressional District are invited to discuss the state of the infrastructure in the 11th District and throughout America during a constituent town hall 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, at the West Bloomfield Township Public Library, 4600 Walnut Lake Road.

Hosted by West Bloomfield resident and district constituent Bryan Watson, the town hall will provide a chance for the community to come together to share their thoughts and ideas. Invitations were sent to all of the announced candidates for the open congressional seat, as well as to current U.S. Rep. Dave Trott.

The event is free and open to the pub-

lic. Seating is limited. You can learn more about the town hall and RSVP at Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/events/138750423478112/>) or by contacting Watson by email at mill.townhall@gmail.com.

Music at the Elks

Blues @ The Elks happens 7-10 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 in partnership with the Detroit Blues Society (www.detroitbluesociety.org). There is a \$5 donation at the door and bring your dancing shoes.

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

The Emma Aboukasm Quartet will perform Tuesday, Jan. 30. Joining Aboukasm on vocals will be Scott Gwinnell on keyboard, Pete Siers on drums and Jordan Schug on bass. Go to

www.emmalee-sings.com.

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

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 com-

munity.

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.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
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WELCOME WEEKEND!

Farmington YMCA Open House

JANUARY 27TH 10:00am - 4:00pm

Join the Farmington Family YMCA as we open our doors to the community for our first open house of 2018. Listed below are events that will be going on throughout the day:

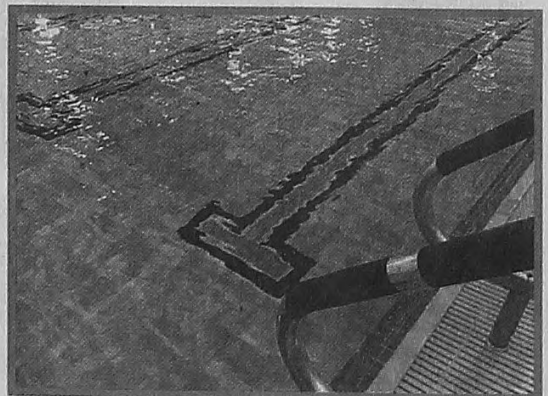
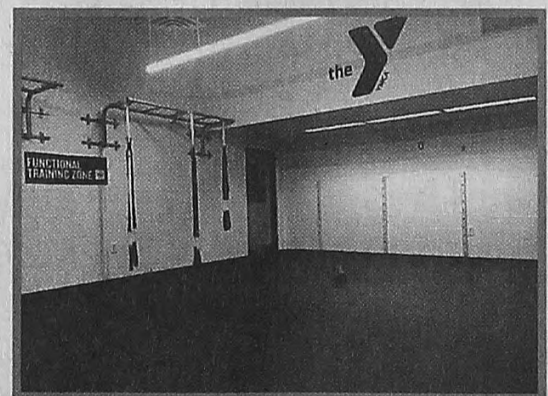
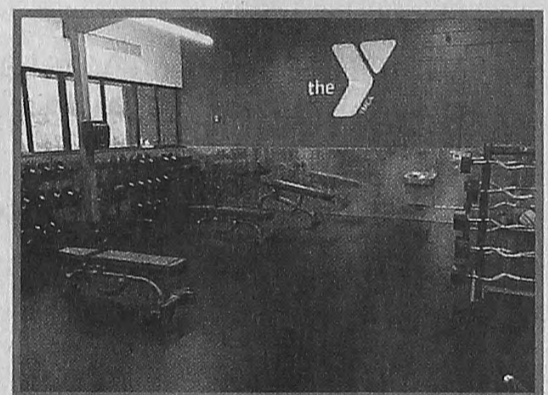
- * Summer Camp Open House - Last Chance for Tier 1 Pricing
- * Family Fifty - Families run 50 laps on our indoor track to promote healthy living as a family unit.
- * Spinathon - 3 hr spinathon to raise money towards scholarships for community members in need. \$100 registration per Bike.

Please stop by the Y this weekend and see our newly renovated Facility. For more information on current YMCA programming call the Farmington Family YMCA today!

Farmington Family YMCA

28100 Farmington Rd

Farmington Hills MI 48335



Staging 'Beauty': AAUW brings Disney classic to stage

"Harry Potter" star Emma Watson brought the Disney classic "Beauty and the Beast" to the big screen last year and now the American Association of University Women Plymouth-Canton branch is bringing it to the stage at Garden City High School.

The AAUW presents "Beauty" Feb. 1-3, with 7 p.m. shows Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. matinee performances Saturday.

"Beauty and the Beast" tells the story of a monstrous-looking prince and a young woman who fall in love. The AAUW production is being directed by Sue Bellows, with Kaytee Bellows starring as Belle and Lisa Gapa as the Prince.

It's the latest presentation by the AAUW Plymouth-Canton chapter, which got its start in 1952. Nationwide, the group started in 1881 and supports more than 170,000 local branches and has some 800 college/university part-

ners. Club officials point out that some 25-35 women turn out to audition either as actors or to work behind the scenes with costumes, sets, lighting, etc. Only women take the acting roles.

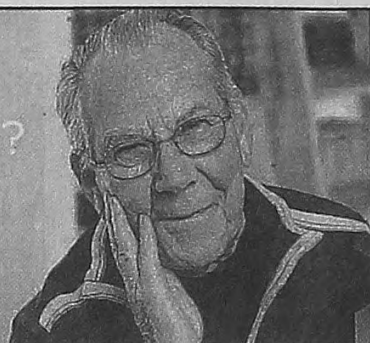
Each year, the club stages the play at Garden City High School for kids. The effort begins with tryouts and plenty of rehearsal as actors memorize their lines. Costumes are made or obtained by club members, as well.

To add more oomph to its traditions, the Plymouth-Canton AAUW has also created a night for Boy and Girl Scouts, who attend programs on theater and learn all of its facets either from club members or the Garden City High School Drama Club. For their attendance, the Scouts earn a patch.

Tickets are \$6 online or \$7 at the door and can be purchased at plymouthcanton-mi.aauw.net. Garden City High School is located at 6500 Middlebelt.

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Obituaries

Patricia M. LaFond

HOWELL - Patricia M. LaFond, age 73 of Howell, passed away Thursday, January 11, 2018. She was born January 7, 1945 in Fresno, California, daughter of the late Robert W. and Rossanna (Beaufait) Cahill. Beloved wife of David C. LaFond. Loving mother of Michele (Kevin Schaffer) Lafond Burke of Highland and Amy (Joy) LaFond Cornista of Georgia; grandmother of Keely, Jack, Quinn, Angel and Jaiden; sister of Robert (Sally) Cahill, Jennifer (James) Shannon and Timothy (Deborah) Cahill. Pat was a 1963 graduate of Our Lady of Sorrows High School in Farmington. She was a former realtor; was known as an artistic person who enjoyed painting water colors, was a very fashionable dresser, enjoyed playing tennis, dancing, taking walks through her neighborhood, spending time at her lake house and especially being with her grandchildren. She was a fun person to be around and her laughter and enormous generosity will be greatly missed. Funeral services were held Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 11:00 A.M. at MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Visitation was Monday, January 15 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimers Association. Please sign the family's online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com (Please send proof and cost to our Funeral Home)



MacDonald's Funeral Home

William Robb Aikens

BIRMINGHAM - 1933 - 2018 William Robb Aikens, 84, died on January 20th. Bill was a Birmingham, MI native. He attended Baldwin High School and graduated from Princeton in the class of '55. After a stint in the US Marines and marriage to Alice Shaw, he graduated from Harvard Law School in 1960. Bill practiced law in NYC with Dewey Ballantine, but soon returned to Birmingham to join his brother Bob's law firm. Bill's adventurous spirit fueled his love for flying. He was especially fond of his numerous float planes, one of which he flew to Alaska to sell. One summer with a crew of 8 he sailed a 58' sailboat across the Atlantic. He enjoyed scuba diving, skiing, wine making, and duck hunting. He loved collecting classic cars and boats. Bill served on the board of the Cranbrook Art Academy for 15 years and was a supporter of Cornerstone Schools in Detroit. He was a founder of the Bank of Birmingham and its first chairman. Bill was also involved in real estate and manufacturing. He was CEO of Whyco Finishing Technologies. He leaves his wife Alice, daughters Susan Post (Nick), Sarah Post (Tom), and son Andrew Robb Aikens (Gina) and 8 grandchildren. A memorial service is planned for 11:00 am at Christ Church Cranbrook on Saturday, May 19th. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the Cranbrook Academy of Art, c/o Cranbrook Academy of Art Development Office, PO Box 801, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303, Attn: Bill Aikens Fund.



Leonard Little

LIVONIA - Age 90, Cherished husband of the late Blanche for 68 years. Loving father of Linda (Kimo) Doole, and Michael Little. Beloved grandfather of Joseph Burford, Monica (Henry) Egan, and Nicholas Little. Dearest great-grandfather of Charles Egan. He also leaves behind many other loving family members and friends. Leonard retired from the Ford Motor Company in 1990. He was a proud member of the Ford Yacht Club for 61 years.

Funeral Services have been held. Share memories at fredwoodfuneralhome.com



Joan F. Helka

BELLEVILLE - Age 78 December 23, 2017. Beloved wife of the late Dan for 60 years. Loving mother of Susan (Tom) Romero and Terri (Tom) Chapman. Cherished grandmother of Steven (Elysia) Chapman, Adam Chapman, Filipina Romero and Alexandria Romero. Great grandmother of Courtney and Nathan Chapman. She was very dearly loved and will be deeply missed. Memorial Service Saturday, January 27, 2018 at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, Garden City (Just South of Ford Rd.) www.santeiufuneralhome.com



James Richardson

FARMINGTON - RICHARDSON, James E., age 92, of Farmington, WW II Army Veteran, died Friday, January 19, 2018. Beloved husband of the late Patricia (d. 2005); loving father of Derrick (Candy), Jim (Debbie), David (Alice), Virginia and the late Renee; devoted grandfather of Rhuta, Wesley, Amelia, Gillian, Jessica, Michael, Kailyn and great grandfather of Allison. Arrangements entrusted to Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington (248) 474-5200. heeney-sundquist.com



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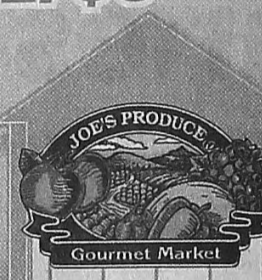
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USDA Choice Beef
USDA Premium Choice Angus Top Round Steak
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Premium Fresh All Natural Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast
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USDA Choice Beef
USDA Premium Choice Angus Ground Beef From Chuck
\$5.49 lb.
save \$1.00

USDA Choice Beef
USDA Premium Choice Angus Eye Round Roast
\$5.49 lb.
save \$3.00

Fresh All Natural Bone-In Center Cut Pork Chop
\$2.99 lb.
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Fresh All Natural Pork Steak
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save \$1.00

Wild Caught Orange Roughy
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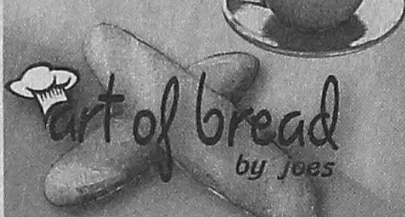
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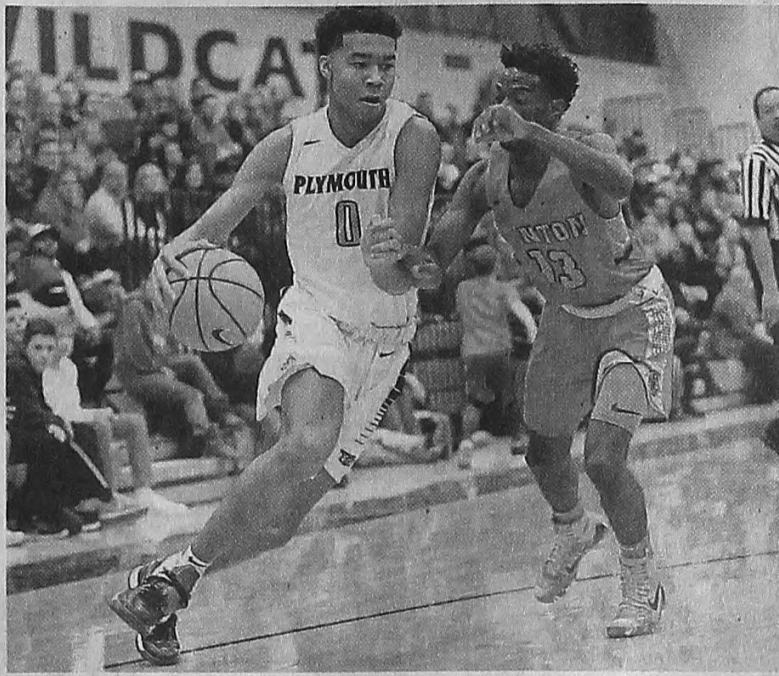


Sports

BOYS BASKETBALL

Canton escapes Plymouth in thriller

Plymouth's Anthony Crump (left) takes Canton defender Vinson Sigmon to the basket. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO



State-ranked Chiefs improve to 10-0 with victory over Wildcats

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Canton is 10-0 at the mid-point of the boys basketball season, but the Chiefs are finding out quickly that they're going to be getting every team's best shot.

Host Plymouth came in locked and loaded Friday, only to come up two points short in its upset bid against the state-ranked Chiefs, who pulled out a 44-42 victory.

To say it was a dogfight throughout the 32-minute battle would be an understatement.

With the game tied at 38-a38 and Plymouth in-bounding just inside half court with 1:38 left, Canton got a clutch steal from Eian Barker, followed by a short put-back from B. Artis White with just 17 seconds left before eventually holding on for the win.

It proved to be the pivotal play of the game.

"I saw it was a loose ball and I had to get to it," Barker said. "I tried to get down and get a bucket for us, but I got blocked (by Anthony Crump). My team came up with the ball ... we pulled out the win. Plymouth came out and battled tonight and we still got to the winner's circle, so I'm happy about that."

White, a junior point guard, finished with a game-high 16 points on a night when Canton shot an uncharacteristic 16-of-41 from the field (39 percent).

See CANTON, Page 3B

WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES

The world awaits



Olympic ice dancers Madison Chock of Novi and Evan Bates will be competing in PyeongChang, South Korea, next month during the 2018 Winter Games. BRAD EMONS

#Team Novi ice dancers Chock and Bates savor PyeongChang sendoff

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

There was a stream of cars backed up on Novi Road trying to turn on to to Nick Lidstrom Drive as ice dancing fans came out in recently to the Novi Ice Arena for

an Olympic sendoff celebration.

Five international ice dancing teams headed to the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympic Games in South Korea, including Novi's own Madison Chock and partner Evan Bates, greeted fans and signed autographs.

It will be Chock and Bates's second

Olympics. They represented the U.S. at the 2014 Sochi Games in Russia, with an eighth-place finish.

The 25-year-old Chock, who graduated from Novi High School in 2010, has become a fixture on the local skating scene, training under the direction of Igor Shpilband and his staff of coaches.

The Novi Ice Arena has become her second home.

See DANCERS, Page 2B

PRO SOCCER

Canton's Krolicki is selected in MLS draft by Impact

Former Michigan State standout goes in third round, 53rd overall

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Former Canton High and Michigan State standout Ken Krolicki was drafted Sunday by the Montreal Impact in the Major League Soccer Super Draft.

The 5-10, 159-pound midfielder, who grew up in Fukuoka, Japan, was the 53rd overall pick, chosen as the seventh player in the third round.



Krolicki reacted on his Twitter feed after his selection: "Thank you @impactMontreal for the amazing opportunity. Never been more excited and ready to work for the amazing fans and club."

The Plymouth resident was the first MSU player picked in the MLS draft since defender Zach Carroll was taken in 2016 as the 38th pick overall drafted by the New York Red Bulls in the second round.

"I am really excited and happy for Ken, his family and the Michigan State program," MSU men's soccer coach Damon Rensing said in a press release. "It's great to see a young man who put four years of hard work into the team and bettering himself get a chance to play in Major League Soccer. Montreal is not only getting a very good soccer player, they are also getting a great person and teammate."

In 2017, Krolicki started all 20 games as MSU finished 13-3-4 and reached its third elite eight berth in the last five seasons. He was a key part of the Spartans' midfield, adding five assists.

Krolicki was named first team All-Big Ten, as well as first team All-Midwest. He also made the All-Big Ten freshman team (2014) and was an all-academic Big Ten selection as well (majoring in applied engineering sciences).

In his four seasons at MSU, Krolicki appeared in 81 games, starting 67. He played more than 5,700 minutes and finished his storied career with seven

See KROLICKI, Page 2B

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

Izzy and U.S. eye spot in U20 World Cup

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

First Salem, then Ohio State — now the world? Women's soccer stalwart Izzy Rodriguez perhaps will follow that prestigious path — hopefully all the way to the 2018 Under-20 Women's World Cup this summer.

Rodriguez, a defender now in her freshman year at Ohio State University, played for Team USA in the CONCACAF Women's U-20 Championship, Jan. 18-28 in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Canton native had a strong rookie year with the Buckeyes, ranking fourth on the team with five assists. She made the all-Big Ten third team and Big Ten all-freshman team.

As part of the U.S. team, Rodriguez played in

games against Nicaragua, Jamaica and Mexico. Winners of the semifinals and the winner of a third-place match-up will each earn a spot in the Women's World Cup set for August in France.

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @Tim-Smith_Sports.



Rodriguez

Dancers

Continued from Page 1B

"It's just so wonderful the whole community has come together to show support of all the teams that train here," she said. "We have such a great group of people that we're training with and it's amazing to have so many teams from one camp going to the Olympic Games. And the fact that our community is recognizing that is pretty special."

Five qualifiers

In addition to Chock and Bates, Shpilband is coaching five other ice dancing teams headed to PyeongChang: Yura Min and Alexander Gamelin (South Korea), Penny Coomes and Nicholas Buckland (Great Britain), Cortney Mansour and Michal Ceska (Czech Republic) and Oleksandra and Maxim Nikitin (Ukraine).

Another #TeamNovi ice dancing team from France could also land one of the 24 qualifying spots, depending on its performance at the upcoming European Championships.

Chock and Bates, coming off a bronze-medal finish at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in San Jose, Calif., will depart Feb. 5 for PyeongChang. They will spend a few days outside the Athletes Olympic Village at an alternate training site while soaking up the Olympic experience.

Last season, they competed in the Four Continents Cup at the Olympic venue in PyeongChang.

"It's a beautiful venue," Chock said. "So far of what we've seen, the site is coming together. Not everything was done, but the rink was done. We were able to compete and it was absolutely beautiful, so we're excited to go back."

Olympic schedule

The ice dancing team competition is Feb. 10-11, while Chock and Bates will hit the ice Feb. 18 (short program) and Feb. 19 (free dance) in search of their first Olympic medal.

"It would be an honor for us to walk in the opening ceremonies, so we definitely plan on doing that," Chock said. "We're just so thrilled to have been named a part of the Olympic team again. There's no greater feeling than to represent your country abroad, especially at the Olympic Games, so we're really fortunate to be on the Olympic team for the second time together and we cannot wait to go to PyeongChang."

Chock and Bates certainly have the credentials to make a run at an Olympic medal. They are two-time World medalists, with a silver in 2015 and a bronze in 2016. They were U.S. champions in 2015 and have been runner-up four times.

The margin of error last week in San Jose was razor-thin as the team of Madison Hubbell (Okemos) and Zachary Hubbell upset two-time defending champions Maia and Alexa Shibutani, 197.12-196.93, for their first U.S. title. (Brother and sister, the Shibutanis train out of the Arctic Edge in Canton.)

Chock and Bates, who posted the best score among all 13 teams in the free dance program, finished a close third with 196.60.

Tight scoring

"I think we were really thrilled with both performances — short and free — and I think they were the best performances we've had all season long," said Bates, an Ann Arbor native who graduated from the University of Michigan. "And that is part of the plan, to peak in February, so I think we're right on a good track."



Novi Ice Arena skating director Micki Freier introduces the five Olympic ice dancing teams headed to PyeongChang during the sendoff celebration. BRAD EMONS

Chock and Bates have captured the free dance program two years in a row at the U.S. Nationals and could be considered for the team competition, but Shpilband has been informed that more likely they will not be under consideration for one of two spots by U.S. Figure Skating selection committee.

"I thought they had two solid performances there. I couldn't ask for a better skate," Shpilband said of the San Jose showing. "They skated the best that they could there. They had a great audience reaction. And it's up to the judges to decide and the calls were very close, with all three teams ending up within a half of a point, which is really tight. Unfortunately, it wasn't in our favor. I felt like they deserved a better score. That's my opinion and I don't want to sound like a sore loser, but it was a tight competition."

Coach confident

"It's obviously a lot of disappointment, but there's a big competition ahead — the Olympics — and this is what they have to focus on," Shpilband said. "They have two solid programs, they're great skaters and I think they're one of the best in the world. They're going to go there and prove it one more time."

Two of Chock's biggest supporters, mother Barbara and father Wes, will be in PyeongChang. They were both at Sochi in 2014.

"It's quite amazing. It's quite a thing to see in person and experience meeting

all the athletes from other countries," Wes Chock said. "I've been to Seoul, on the other side of town, for business, but this is on the other side of the country."

It was Wes and Barbara Chock who made the ultimate life-changing decision to move from California to Novi to help further Madison's skating aspirations.

"We've been here for about 12 years," Wes said. "It's a little bit of a sacrifice, but she's our only daughter, so she's worth it to us to have that opportunity."

Planting the seed

Madison, born in Redondo Beach, Calif., seemed destined to be an Olympian at an early age.

"She wanted to be a skater," Barbara said. "When Michelle Kwan was in the Olympics, she was almost 6 (1998) and started taking skating lessons. And she just took off; she loved it. They did a piece on her at the rink. She was, like, 5 years old and they asked her if she knew who Michelle Kwan was. The lights were bright and she covered her eyes and she goes, 'Ice skater, ice skater.' But she knew right then. We ice skated a lot, so we put it on TV and she asked me, 'Mommy, show me how to do a double axle?' And I'm, like, 'I don't know how to do one.'"

The Chock family arrived in Novi on her 13th birthday and her career took off from there.

"We packed up everything, transferred our jobs and away we came," Bar-

bara said. "And she started ice dance really with Igor. So we just took a chance. When I saw her go across the ice, you could just see something different. She just had a certain way that would glide across the ice that didn't look the same as a lot of the other kids. And I told my husband, 'She has something special, there's something special.' And her coach said she should really try ice dance, her coach in California. And she did."

At the intermediate level, Madison skated with Kurt Ligenfelter and then switched over to Greg Zuerlein. They competed five years at both the junior and senior levels.

After their partnership ended, Bates and Chock teamed up in summer 2011 working under both Shpilband and Marina Zueva.

"(Zuerlein) was a good partner and then he decided he didn't want to skate anymore and she found Evan," Barbara said. "And it was meant to be."

The future for Chock and Bates after they compete in PyeongChang can only be left up to speculation. The 2022 Winter Games will be in Beijing, four years away.

"They have to make that decision themselves," Wes said. "It seems they're looking forward to (more) skating, but you never know."

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

Krolicki

Continued from Page 1B

goals and 14 assists for 28 points. During his junior year, he made second team all-Big Ten.

"The MSU soccer family looks forward to following his career along with the other Spartan pros," Rensing said.

Krolicki also played in the USL's Premier Development League for both the Michigan Bucks and Kitchener-Waterloo (Ontario) United. He was also a midfielder for the U-16 and U-18 Crew Acad-

emy Wolves in 2013 and 2014 under coaches Lars Richters and Brian Doyle.

In 2014, three Spartans signed to play for MLS led by Fatai Alashe (Northville), who was selected fourth overall by the San Jose Earthquakes. Jay Chapman also signed a homegrown contract for Toronto FC, while Adam Montague was

taken in the third round by the Vancouver Whitecaps.

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Farmington fries Ferndale for third straight triumph

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Farmington's boys basketball squad extended its winning streak to three straight Friday.

Veteran head coach Terrance Porter was happy with the offensive balance the host Falcons showed in their 73-63 victory over Ferndale. In fact, it was his team's highest scoring output this season.

However, he was a bit disappointed in his team's defensive effort. It was the fourth time in eight games that an opponent went off for at least 61 points against the Falcons.

Porter, whose team was up by 17 points in the third quarter only to have Ferndale cut it to seven points entering the fourth, believes Farmington needs to focus on its defensive efficiency.

"Offensively, we did a decent job of sharing the ball. My concern is being there for your teammate defensively," said Porter, whose team is now 4-4 overall. "We went up 17 and we allowed them to cut the lead to eight because we lost focus.

"Instead of putting our foot on their neck, we kind of thought the game was over with. The game of basketball is never over with until there are triple zeroes. Even if you are up by 17 points, you still have to continue to play until the end of the game.

"You have to learn how to win games and close teams out and that starts at the defensive end with rebounding," he added. "We didn't do a good job of defensive rebounding tonight. Toughness is shown on the defensive end with defensive rebounding, not on the offensive end."

Ferndale rally falls short

Farmington broke an early 8-8 first-quarter deadlock with a 9-0 run en route to a 17-12 lead at the end of the quarter. The Falcons enjoyed a 35-29 halftime lead and scored 15 of the third quarter's first 20 points to go up 51-34.

At that point, Ferndale went on a run of its own with 12 straight points by causing a few Falcons turnovers. Farmington held a tenuous 53-46 lead after three quarters.

The Falcons surged ahead with another 9-0 run to begin the final eight minutes and had things under control from that point on. Ferndale got within eight points on a couple of occasions, but Farmington was never in danger of losing its lead.



Ferndale's Teonta McKeithen (left) attempts to hide the ball from Farmington defender Christian Smith. MARTY BUDNER

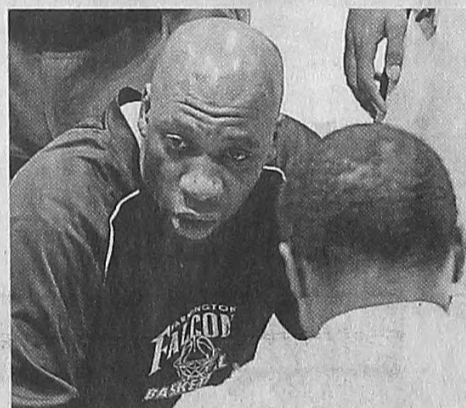
"I thought we had them when we cut the lead to seven. I thought the momentum was on our side, but we missed a couple good shots and they got the lead," said Ferndale head coach Tom Staton, whose team is now 3-6 overall. "We turned them over a whole lot, but they are so tough going to the basket. They are big and strong.

"The one thing about it is that it's always going to be tough winning in Farmington's home," he added. "But the one thing you want to see is that the guys don't quit and they keep going to the end and I thought our guys did that tonight."

Four Falcons reach doubles

Farmington had six players who scored, with four of them reaching double figures.

Senior guard Christian Smith led the way with 19 points, including four treys.



Veteran head coach Terrance Porter led Farmington to its third straight victory Friday over Ferndale. MARTY BUDNER

Senior Ray Bryant and freshman Jaden Akins both finished with 17 points, while senior Russell Norris contributed 10 off the bench.

Bryant also had seven rebounds and four assists, while Norris finished with six rebounds. Senior Austin Anthony had five rebounds and senior Bashar Shalal added four steals.

Ferndale's leading scorers were Keelan Lucas and Teonta McKeithen, in just his second game back after an injury, with 19 points each. They combined for six treys. Brian Pozolo canned three treys and scored a dozen points.

The victory kept Farmington in the chase for the OAA Blue Division title with a 3-2 record. Ferndale fell to 2-3 in the division.

"We've been kind of up and down all year," Porter said. "We're going to take it game-by-game, one step at a time and go through the process. Hopefully, we can put ourselves in position to be able to compete for a division crown."

Contact Marty Budner at mbudner@hometownlife.com.

Canton

Continued from Page 1B

"We didn't play Tuesday, so we had a long week and we talked it being a rivalry game and these guys (Plymouth) are going to be ready," said Canton coach Jim Reddy, whose team also improved to 6-0 in the KLAA Black Division. "Coach (Mike) Soukup does a good job. We tried to tell our guys that this was going to happen. From watching practice, we had a tough time believing it was going to happen. I'm glad it did, because they need a little bit of a wakeup call."

Vinson Sigmon scored a layup with 6:33 left in the second quarter to put Canton up 17-4 and it appeared another rout was on for the Chiefs.

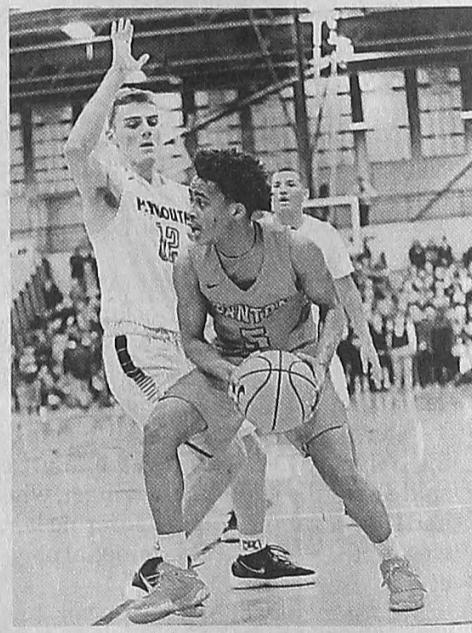
But Plymouth refused to fold and tied it midway through the third quarter on a 3-pointer by senior forward Joey Robb (11 points) to make it 23-23.

The Wildcats (6-4, 4-2) trailed only 30-29 after three quarters, but tied it again at 38-38 with only 2:26 left on a hoop by Justin Reynolds (10 points).

Canton then turned over the ball and Soukup called a timeout with 1:38 remaining, but the drawn up in-bounds play went awry.

"It was right there, we just dropped the ball," Soukup said. "We had them maybe second-guessing themselves at that point and time. But there's about three or four plays a ball game and, in that instance, we had to have all of them go our way and that one just didn't go our way in that instance."

After Canton went up by six on two free throws by White with only 45.8 seconds left, 44-3, the outcome appeared to be all but decided.



Canton's Eian Barker (right) looks for an opening against Plymouth defender Joey Robb. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

But another 3-pointer by Robb cut it to 44-41 and three straight Canton missed free throws gave Plymouth one more opening.

Down three, Robb went to the line with only 3.3 seconds, making the first while intentionally missing the second. But White grabbed the ensuing rebound as the clock ran out.

"My kids battled tonight, as their kids did, too," Soukup said. "(Reddy) had them well-prepared. They're the seventh-best team in the state, so you really have to play well against them and I thought we did."

Here are four other takeaways:

CRUMP SIGHTING

After being limited to three points in

the first half, Plymouth's 6-foot-7 point-forward Anthony Crump, who signed with NCAA Division I UNC-Asheville, came alive during the third quarter, scoring nine of his team-high 14 points.

Crump began to assert himself offensively.

"He took a couple to the basket," Soukup said. "Obviously, he's going to be a focal point every night of everybody we play and I thought he took that challenge on the second half especially well. We're proud of him."

TRANSFER CONTRIBUTES

Canton's Kendall Perkins, a junior transfer from Detroit Cass Tech, played his first game for the Chiefs after sitting out the first semester.

"It felt great, great atmosphere coming back home," Perkins said. "It was great competition. Felt great to get the stops and thank God we got the 'W.'" Perkins contributed seven all-important points off the bench in the low-scoring game.

"He's still trying to figure things out," Reddy said. "He gave a spark to us. He's a good offensive rebounder, he can shoot it a little bit and he's skilled. He's going to help us down the stretch, for sure."

COUNTER-PUNCHING

Plymouth held the Chiefs, who had been averaging 69 points per outing, to their lowest point total of the year.

"They're used to playing in the 80s and so are we, but the game just kind of fell into that pace," Soukup said. "It was almost like a boxing match, for lack of a better term. We were both just kind of exchanging punches and that's just how it fell, I guess. I can play in the 80s, I can play in the 40s. We kind of dictated a little bit of tempo. I thought we were in

control of that piece of the game."

Reddy tried to make some adjustments during the game, but the Wildcats proved to be a stubborn out.

"They did a great job of sagging off and not allowing some of our guards getting to the rim, like they usually do tonight," Reddy said. "We just didn't shoot it well tonight. We had open ones ... I don't know what we were from the free throw line (9-of-14), but I know we didn't shoot it well there, either. We missed some big ones down the stretch."

CORE VALUES

The Canton heroes in last week's impressive 71-44 win over Wayne Memorial, Sigmon and Meredith, both had off-nights, finishing with just five and four points, respectively.

So some others had to pick up the slack for the Chiefs.

"We weren't really playing Canton basketball and we weren't really playing good enough defense," said Barker, who had six points. "And as the score showed, they slowed us down. They really played their game tonight and came out strong. It was a close game, but we still did our thing on the defensive end."

Perkins, meanwhile, made the most of his first action.

"(Reddy) expects me to give it my all, do what I've got to do and make the most of my opportunity," Perkins said. "He said, 'Keep our composure, play as a team and play Canton basketball instead of letting the crowd get to our heads.'"

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

BOYS HOCKEY

Spartans nip Trenton in tourney-like tilt, 4-2

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

In a furious last-minute push Friday by Trenton, Livonia Stevenson goalie Will Tragge's legs were moving like flippers on a pinball machine, keeping pucks out of his net.

And with just under 23 seconds remaining in the tournament-like non-conference match-up of Division 2 standouts at Eddie Edgar Arena, Stevenson senior defenseman Jake Beaune — taking a frantic swipe at a loose puck while falling to the ice — launched it all the way down the ice and into the empty Trenton net to seal a thrilling 4-2 victory.

"It was crazy. We were battling adversity out there and we ended up getting the job done," Beaune said. "I was falling, shot it on the ice and it ended up going in. Nothing better than that, I guess. We finished it off well."

But Beaune might not have had the chance for an insurance goal if not for the clutch performance by Tragge against a fierce Trenton attack, led by senior center Drew Welsch.

"You know what, we lucked out," said Stevenson head coach David Mitchell, whose team improved to 12-2-0. "We kind of got caught cheating a little bit and sending too many guys out there and they had a chance there and Tragge was Tragge."

"We have to clean things up on our end, (we were) lucky to throw one the length of the ice and put it in. It's not the game plan, but sometimes things work out like that. We know we have to pay more attention to detail to be successful in the long run."

Trenton coach Chad Clements said his team (12-3-1) had possession in the Stevenson zone after goalie Joey Cor-



Livonia Stevenson defenseman Jake Beaune (left) stays with his man, Trenton's Nolan Szczepaniak, during Friday's game. TOM BEAUDOIN

mier was pulled for an extra attacker with just over a minute left. But the bounces didn't go in favor of the Trojans.

"We had a shot on net and we had a chance for the rebound," Clements said. "It was a loose puck and, unfortunately, it bounced over our guy's stick and the rest was history."

The two teams could eventually meet again, in what would be a tremendous postseason match-up. But Mitchell wasn't about to get caught looking too far down the road.

"I don't know, you saw our draw," Mitchell said. "We probably have the toughest region and quarterfinal in the state with Plymouth and Canton and Novi."

"Trenton's just a heck of a team; they'll always be there in the end. Well-coached and tradition-rich hockey there. It was a nice win for us, but we got to clean a lot of things up. We can't even think about the playoffs right now."

Stevenson will face Plymouth in a pre-regional opener Feb. 27, in a game pitting the top two teams in Division 2

(based on current rankings).

The Spartans drew first blood with 4:50 to go in the first, when senior forward Jack Williamson knocked in a rebound past Cormier, who had just made a sprawling save on a one-timer.

Before the end of the period, it was a 2-0 lead thanks to senior forward Cole Parkhurst's snipe from the right circle.

But Trenton's Welsch cut that lead in half midway through the second. He let a wrist shot go from between the circles that eluded Tragge.

Less than two minutes later, however, Stevenson got it back with the eventual game-winner. Junior forward Austin Adamic stayed with his rebound and jammed the puck in at the right post with 6:27 remaining in the period.

The 3-1 score remained until Welsch set up linemate Nolan Szczepaniak for a power-play goal at 5:27 of the final period. Szczepaniak drilled a slap shot from the right circle that Tragge had no chance on.

"They've been our best line this year, we rely heavily on them," Clements said. "Especially (Welsch), but he gets his li-

nemates going and they scored both our goals tonight."

Here are several other takeaways:

SINGLE HELPINGS

The Spartans had six players who notched one assist in the victory: Easton Schlatterbeck, Brenden Preiss, Julian Decina, Vinny Decina, Josh Suzio and Seth Lause.

ANSWER TIME

Bodies were flying early in the game. First, Trenton's Donte DiPonio leveled Stevenson's Jack Williamson with an open-ice hit.

Only a half minute later, the tables were turned when Vinny Decina of the Spartans rode James Boyd hard into the boards.

LIKE A PLAYOFF GAME

It remains to be seen whether the two teams will meet again in the postseason, but the intensity on display Friday was much like a playoff contest.

"We've had a nice little rivalry going the last six or so years," Clements said. "Kids are excited, coaches are excited and fans are excited. It was definitely a playoff atmosphere and it gets you prepared. It was a good game, a hard-fought game."

HE'S THE BEST

Mitchell pulled no punches when talking about his goalie and his penchant for performing under pressure.

"Will Tragge's Tragge, he's up for the state player of the year for a reason," Mitchell said. "He's the best goalie in the state, he's earned that title. He is a tireless worker, he pays so much attention to his craft. That kid's going to play hockey for a long time."

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports.

BOYS HOCKEY

Hockey night in Livonia: Churchill tops Franklin

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Livonia Churchill broke out to a fast 3-0 lead Friday and held off a third-period comeback bid by Livonia Franklin, earning a 7-3 boys hockey win at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Scoring two goals each for the Chargers (9-6-1) were senior forwards Carter Swider and Josh Friend, while senior defenseman Seth Kucharczyk (three assists) and freshman forward Jimmy Targosz (goal, assist) also helped the attack.

For the Patriots (7-10-1), senior forward Trevor Van Vliet scored two power-play goals and junior forward Dakota Keaton scored a goal with about 10 minutes remaining to briefly help the young team pull to within 6-3.

Churchill actually enjoyed a 5-0 lead during the second period, before Van Vliet got one on the board, scoring against Chargers freshman goalie Bryant Riley (who played the first two periods before junior Joey Proctor came in for the third).

"We knew (the Patriots) were going to come at us," Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said. "We certainly knew that when we brought a cold goalie in for the third period, Joey Proctor, his first opportunity to get in."

"We wanted to make sure we did right by Joey. At the same time, other teams are going to find opportunity when they know another goalie's coming in."

According to his Franklin counterpart, Dan Phelps, it was a case of too little, too late.

"We played with a little more energy in the third and we played a little more physical," Phelps said. "But give them a lot of credit, they're certainly a powerful team and they came to play tonight."

"I don't think we really did the first period. We came out flat and a good team will take advantage of that. They minimize their mistakes and maximize yours."

Following are several other takeaways:

LIKE A VETERAN

Reynolds said Riley has been outstanding over the past couple of weeks, filling in following a hamstring injury sustained by senior goalie Chris Sergison.

During that span, Riley has backstopped the Chargers to a 2-1-1 record,



Holding the fort during this Livonia Franklin scoring bid is Livonia Churchill freshman goalie Bryant Riley. TOM BEAUDOIN

including wins over Howell and Franklin and a tie against Hartland (the lone loss coming against Brighton).

"Bryant Riley, a freshman, has really had to take the workload for us," Reynolds said. "To his credit, he's been outstanding. It's such an unfair task to ask of a freshman goaltender, to go out and play Brighton, Howell, Hartland and Livonia Franklin over a span of two weeks."

"Having said that, considering how we did over those two weeks, he did a phenomenal job. He took a tremendous amount of shots, he's got a lot of composure for a young man and I can say, honestly, the goaltending situation at Churchill has a bright future with him at the helm."

TWICE AS NICE

In the third period, Friend scored a pair of goals. His first was unassisted at 2:13 against Franklin senior goaltender Will Augustine.

Friend later scored the final goal of the game, finding the rebound of sophomore forward Tyson Wisner's shot and flipping a backhand inside the far corner.

"I had a good shot from my buddy on the point, Wisner," Friend said. "He's a team player, getting shots at the net."

KEEP 'EM COMING

Friend added that a key to the win was maintaining offensive pressure and getting plenty of shots at Augustine. "You just got to put a lot of shots on the net, everybody on our team just peppered him, he played really well," he said.

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports.

BOYS HOCKEY

Canton beginning to turn the corner

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Fueled by some of the KLAA's most prolific scorers, the Canton varsity boys hockey team might be on the cusp of a serious turnaround.

Before the season, first-year head coach John Bartle preached the importance of working hard during every shift in hopes of reversing a team culture that had trended in the wrong direction in recent winters.

Although Canton's record remains sub-par (4-10-1), recent results indicate the best might be yet to come. After hanging tough the previous week against Salem, the Chiefs routed Ann Arbor Huron on Jan. 17 at Arctic Edge Arena, 8-2.

"That was probably the best game of our season," Bartle said. "We came out flying and led 4-0 after the first period."

Spearheading the lopsided win were forwards Paul Maurer (four goals), Hugo Fonovic (two goals, three assists) and Daniel Bourgeois (two goals, assist).

Helping the cause with two assists was freshman forward Declan O'Hare, while goalkeeping duties were divided between freshman Michael Renzi and senior Donald Jardine.

"Our big gun is Hugo, he is averaging almost two points a game," Bartle said about the sophomore winger, who had 17 goals and 28 points entering last weekend. "Hugo is a phenomenal player."

Another key offensive player has been senior forward Sam Reinders, second on the squad with 15 points.

Canton also played a strong game the previous week against campus ri-

val Salem. The game was 1-1 after two periods, but the Rocks had a late surge to win 4-1.

According to Bartle, the win over Huron will hopefully be the catalyst for a strong second-half run, with the mission of finishing at .500 or better and entering postseason play with confidence and momentum.

"We have about 10 games to go and I'm feeling pretty confident we can reach that goal of .500 or better," Bartle noted.

One of Bartle's main objectives for his first season at the Canton helm was to build a winning culture. That seems to be happening.

"It was a struggle getting the boys to skate hard on a consistent basis," Bartle said. "At the end of (December), they started to figure it out. It just seems like we're playing a heck of a lot better and I'm looking forward to the second half of the season."

Regardless of how the rest of the regular season plays out, Canton knows it will have a formidable tourney test. The Chiefs drew a first-round bye in the D2 pre-regional at Eddie Edgar; they will play at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1, against the winner off the Feb. 27 match-up between Plymouth and Stevenson.

"I think we were fortunate to draw the bye, so that it only takes one game for us (to win the pre-regional)," Bartle said. "And on any given day, we feel confident, especially if we play well the next couple weeks. I think we will."

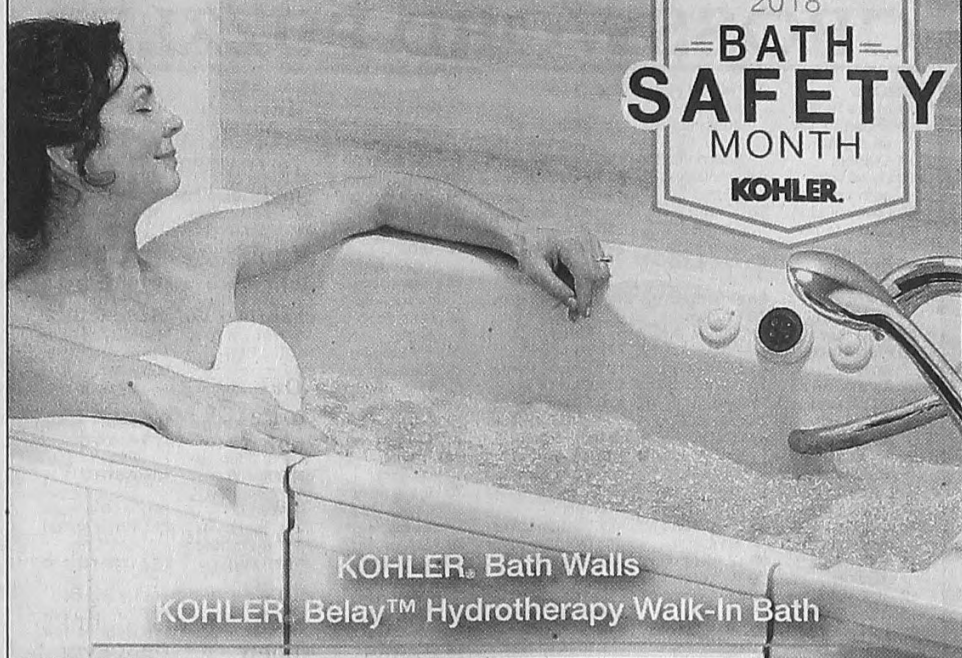
"The culture is definitely changing. You can see the change in the effort on the ice, both in practices and games."

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports.



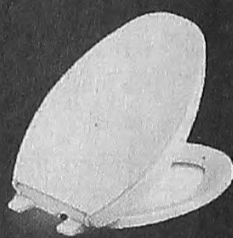
Canton senior forward Paul Maurer against Ann Arbor Huron. He scored four goals in the Chiefs' 8-2 win.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF OPEN ENROLLMENT

New School High, a tuition-free Public School Academy with an academic program for grades 9-12, announces its Open Enrollment period for the 2018-19 school year. The Enrollment Period that began October 2, 2017 will end at 6 pm on Friday, February 23, 2018. Application forms may be obtained and submitted online at www.newschoolhigh.org or obtained and delivered by mail or in person to New School High, 46250 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth MI 48170, Monday through Friday between 8 am and 4:30 pm. For more information contact the school leader at cburnstein@newschoolhigh.org or call the school at (734) 386-6601.

If applications exceed available spaces, a random selection drawing will take place at 6:30 pm on March 5, 2018 at New School High, 46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth MI 48170. If the number of applications submitted during open enrollment does not meet or exceed the number of available spaces, students will be enrolled in the order their completed applications are received until all seats are filled. New School High does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or physical abilities, achievement or aptitude, religion, race, or gender.

Published: January 25, 2018

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CITY OF PLYMOUTH PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED USES OF 2018-2019 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Pursuant to Federal guidelines, the City of Plymouth is announcing its objectives and possible uses for developing projects using Year 2018-2019 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide benefits to senior citizens.
2. To provide benefits directly to persons of low/moderate income and/or areas in which at least 51% of the residents are of low/moderate income.
3. To maintain a high level of performance in the management of all CDBG funded programs

PROPOSED YEAR 2018-2019 PROJECTS:

The City anticipates receiving approximately \$49,754.64 in CDBG funds for the contract year 2018-19, and has identified the following potential projects and corresponding estimated allocations for use of these funds:

1. ADA Sidewalk Improvements	\$32,849.60
2. Public Services- Senior Transportation	\$11,929.58
3. Administration/Planning	\$ 4,975.46
TOTAL	\$49,754.64

PUBLIC HEARING:

Citizens are invited to comment on the proposed projects listed above, and to suggest other projects. All projects must meet one of the Federal CDBG objectives. A public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed uses of 2018-2019 CDBG funds, and additional suggestions for use of said funds, will be held at the Plymouth City Commission Meeting on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Commission Chambers at Plymouth City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

Maureen Brodie, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: Thursday January 25, 2018
Posted at the following locations:

Plymouth Cultural Center- Bulletin Board Main Entrance
Plymouth City Hall- North Entrance and South Entrance
Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Office- Front Window
Observer & Eccentric Newspaper- Published Thursday January 25, 2018

Published: January 25, 2018

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General

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Please send resume to: sales@ovationscleaningservices.com.

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If you are self-motivated, a strong communicator and able to handle a diverse and high volume workload. We want to hear from you. Please email resume to: Jobs@aisequip.com

RN, LPN or MA

Dermatology practice in Ann Arbor/Plymouth area is seeking a motivated Individual Dermatology exp'd, preferred. Salary commensurate w/ experience. Excellent benefit package including 401K. Medical insurance fully funded. No Weekends/No Evenings. a2derm@aol.com

Healthcare-Dental

MEDICAL ASSISTANT FULL TIME Min. 5 years experience for OBGYN. in Oakland County. email resume to wohner9@gmail.com or Call 248-948-1990 Ext 11

Real Estate Condo/Town/Duplex

BY OWNER

39304 Armstrong Ln, Westland, 48185 Condo, 2 bdrm, 2 ba, 1510 sq. ft., built in 1994. 1 bldg.com cost. net \$165,000. (734)890-1361 RE/MODEL BRICK ranch detached condo in a private, wooded community. Very open floor plan with skylight and cathedral ceiling. A MUST SEE! Open House Sat Jan 27th 11-5.

Trucks

2005 Dodge Dakota-Club Cab, V6 w/Cap, Only 36,150 mi, \$6900, 734-772-2787, Great Condition

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Condo/Duplexes/Townhouses Rent

Westland Greenwood Villa The two bedroom family unit waiting list will be open from February 26, 2018 at 9:00am and will be closing on March 2, 2018 at 4:00pm. A lottery drawing will be held to determine the waiting list position. All applications can be accepted via in person, or fax. Phone (734) 261-5200 Fax (734) 261-7140

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BRAND NEW 2-4 bedroom homes! FREE RENT until 3/1/18 Novi, Oakland Glens (248) 624-4200 (EHO), offer expires 1/31/2018

Rooms-Rent

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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Make hostile as a potato
14 Quibble
19 Used with both ears
20 Love, in Lido
21 Like a lamb
22 Eleanor Roosevelt's successor
25 Step foot in
26 Pluralizable word
27 By means of
28 D.C.'s nation
30 "The Cosby Show" actress defeats a jungle beast?
37 Lamb's cry
40 Org. for cavity fillers
41 Suffix with election
42 High volcano in Europe
43 "La La Land" co-star makes an animated fish dooie?
52 First episode
53 Actor Hale
54 "— big girl now"
55 Piece of lifting lingerie
58 "Mixed Nuts" actress successfully wooes a seamer?
65 Ivanisevic of tennis
66 "Cómo —?" (Jorge's greeting)
67 Tiptoed about
68 Smear (on)
70 Female pastor, e.g.
75 Post-Gallagher
76 Deep dislike
78 Battery pole
79 Some iPods
81 "Crazy" singer cuts a gossipy meddler's fingernails?
87 Comedian Schumer
88 Wade's rival
89 Top 40 tunes
90 Big name in tractors
92 "Gidget" star challenges the head of a college?
98 Frozen drink brand
101 Savings plan, for short
102 Holiday in Vietnam
103 Divs. of a ton
104 1980s astronaut irritates a peeress?
113 — light leash
114 Poet's p.m.
115 Ray of McDonald's
116 Brewery kilns
120 "Buttons and Bows" singer
127 Habituate
128 Circus venue
129 Part of PG
130 Franklin's belief in God
131 Burdened
132 "No turning back now!"
11 "See how many there are," informally
12 Be off target
13 Fox's home
14 Sky streaker
15 Declares
16 By means of
17 Know instinctively
18 Classroom instruction
23 Year, to Jorge
24 Hot tub site
29 Gasteyer of "Mean Girls"
31 Roosted
32 Busyness
33 Ho-hum
34 Queen, e.g.
35 Hosp. sites
36 Singer Sayer
37 Queen, e.g.
38 ABA or AMA part: Abbr.
39 Uncertainty of meaning
44 Large four vehicle
45 Sky shiner
46 Loop trains
47 Eastern ideal
48 Actress on NBC's "The Brave"
49 Leaf, Sentra and Maxima
50 Ambulance VIP
51 "Serpico" author Peter
55 1990 Jamie Lea Curtis action thriller
56 Birds of Arabian myth
57 Torah cases
59 WWII female enlistee
60 Got some air
61 Toronto-to-Detroit dir.
62 Midori on ice
63 War zone of the '60s
64 Spoke slowly and solemnly
68 L — (drug treating Parkinson's) Abbr.
69 Actor West
71 Prefix with lateral
72 Actor Silver
73 Pre-F string
74 Vetoing
77 Gore
78 Vidal's Breckinridge
80 Beatty and Buntline
82 Cheat
83 Tell untruths
84 "— be a pleasure!"
85 Exams for some jrs.
86 Yempeni, e.g.
91 Navy off.
92 Salt, in Paris
93 Disposed
94 "... and yet here we —"
95 Burgundy or maroon
96 Kinsman: Abbr.
97 Greek letter #7
98 Prefix with lateral
99 Frank
100 May of film
105 A long time
106 Alter, in a way, as a skirt
107 Seat holders
108 Actress Rich
109 Actress Lindsay
110 — warrior
111 Prescription amounts
112 One-named New Age musician
117 Tennis units
118 Baht earner
119 Sediment
121 Rapa — (Easter Island)
122 TV's Linden
123 Man-mouse linkup
124 Disposed
125 Cheer yell
126 Oof —

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18				
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					130									132							

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU

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

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

8	7	1	8	9	2	6	9	2
6	2	1	9	7	8	8		

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CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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AMOUNT	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	VIN
\$1,375	2001	FORD	EXPLORER	RED	1FMZU62K03ZB08840
\$1,475	2002	MERCURY	GRD. MARQUIS	TAN	2MEFM75W52X608586
\$1,370	2007	HONDA	CIVIC	BLUE	2HGFG12657H530033
\$1,185	2000	TOYOTA	COROLLA	GREEN	2T1BR12E2YC372857
\$905	2004	HYUNDAI	ELANTRA	SILVER	KMHND46D14U720230
\$1,405	1999	FORD	F-250	WHITE	1FTNX20L6XEB32295
\$1,155	1998	HONDA	CIVIC	SILVER	1HGEM22581L085198
\$945	1994	CHEVROLET	CAPRICE	GRAY	1G1BL52W3RR123193
\$865	1998	FORD	ESCORT	BLUE	1FAFP10P8WW191171
\$565	1994	BMW	325	SILVER	WBACB4327RFL16692
\$555	2007	KIA	SPECTRA	BLACK	KNAFE121075427390
\$715	2003	BUICK	RENDEZVOUS	TAN	3G5DA03E33S595632
\$745	2006	FORD	TAURUS	GRAY	1FAFP53U67A180970
\$725	2002	HONDA	PASSPORT	MAROON	4S6DM58W324403061
\$585	1995	CADILLAC	DEVILLE		1G6KD52B7SU206777
\$755	1999	FORD	MUSTANG	BLUE	1FAFP4047XF199402
\$860.50	2002	FORD	EXPLORER	GRAY	1FMZU73K32ZC88706
\$855	1994	BUICK	LASABRE	WHITE	1G4HP52L9RH493254
\$1,105	1984	BOAT	20FT TRAILER	WHITE/BLUE	MC7955LR

Published: January 25, 2018

LO-000037932 4x5

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Accurate Mortgage Solutions	164511	(800) 593-1912	4	0	3.375	0
AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.875	0	3.25	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.875	0	3.25	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4.125	0.25	3.625	0

Above information available as of 1/18/18 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Thursday after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

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AS \$14,682**



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- Automatic Transmission
- 4-wheel antilock disc brakes
- Chevrolet MyLink
- Rear vision camera
- Cruise control
- Previous Courtesy Vehicle

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GM Lease Loyalty

\$99/MO*

HURRY, LIMITED QUANTITY

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AS \$17,560**



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- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- Remote Start
- Rear Vision Camera
- Cruise Control
- Remote Keyless Entry
- 16" Aluminum Wheels

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with
GM Lease Loyalty

\$159/MO*

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MSRP \$27,745
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$21,841**



STOCK #181167

- 1.5L Turbo Engine
- 7" Color Touch Screen Radio
- Rear Vision Camera
- 4 Wheel Anti-Lock Brakes
- Push Button Start
- Blue Tooth for Phone

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down With a
Non-GM Lease

\$168/MO*

2018 Malibu LT

MSRP \$26,060
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$18,885**



STOCK #181127

- 1.5L Turbo Engine
- 6 Speed Auto Transmission
- Color Touch Screen Radio
- Blue Tooth for Phone
- Rear Vision Camera
- Aluminum Wheels
- Power Driver Seat

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with
GM Lease Loyalty

\$179/MO*

2018 Silverado LT 4x4 Double Cab

MSRP \$42,470
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$30,440**



STOCK #180930

- 4.3L V6 Engine
- Spray in Bedliner
- 3.42 Rear Axle Ratio
- Rear Vision Camera
- Locking Tailgate
- 4 Wheel Anti Lock Brakes
- 8" Color Touch Radio with HD Radio

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with
GM Lease Loyalty

\$188/MO*

2018 Silverado Double Cab All-Star 4X4

MSRP \$44,020
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$32,794**



STOCK #180929

- Ecotech 4.3L V6 Engine
- Allstar Package incl:
- Trailing Equipment with Locking Diff
- Power Seat
- LED Fog Lamps & more
- Spray On Bedliner

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with
GM Lease Loyalty

\$209/MO*

2018 Traverse 1LT FWD

MSRP \$35,565
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$28,324**



STOCK #180344

- 3.6L V6 engine with stop/start technology
- 9-speed automatic transmission
- Dual-outlet exhaust
- Rear vision camera
- 7-passenger seating with second-row captain's chairs
- 8-way power driver seat with power lumbar control
- Fog lamps
- Previous Courtesy Vehicle

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down With
GM Lease Loyalty

\$229/MO*

2017 Suburban 4x4 LS

MSRP \$56,675
**STARTING AS LOW
AS \$45,881**



STOCK #173033

- 5.3L V8 Engine
- Rear Back up Camera
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