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THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Protesters seek Westland boycott

Group calls for action in wake of Taser incident

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Accusing the Westland Police Department of racial bias and police brutality, protesters marched outside the police station Friday afternoon and urged a boycott of the city's businesses.

A crowd of up to about 50 people, with T-shirts that read "Stop police brutality," chants of "No justice, no peace!" and calls for the firing of the officer who recently used a Taser on a black man at his home, walked in a tight circle in front of police headquarters on Ford Road for about a half-hour, prompting some passing motorists to sound horns in support and one or two to jeer.

The protest was organized by local chapter of the National Action Network in response to the use of the Taser, a temporarily disabling electroshock

weapon, on Ray Brown outside his home Aug. 17. Brown, 33, was holding his 2-month-old son Chris at the time. Police say the boy was not injured.

The scene was captured on video by a witness and viewed thousands of times on social media, drawing a storm of social media criticism.

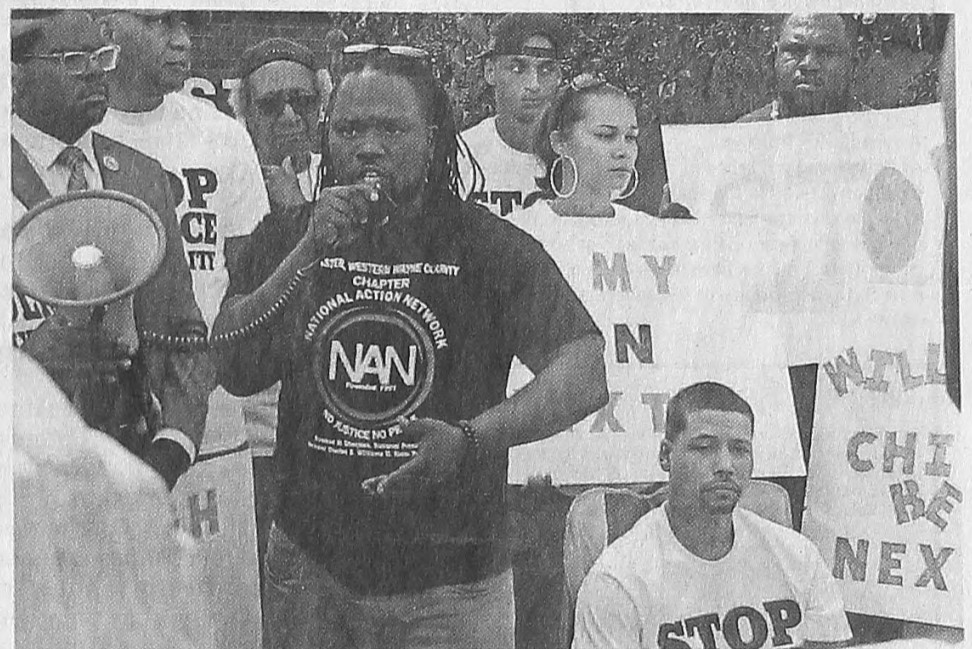
The Rev. Charles Williams II called for the boycott during remarks that followed the march.

"We will not spend our money were we are being disrespected," said Williams, the Michigan NAN chairman and senior pastor at Historic King Solomon Baptist Church in Detroit. "We're going to make them feel our pain by hitting them in the pocket."

Williams called for retraining and reforms in the police department.

"We support the police. We need the

See **BOYCOTT**, Page 4A



Will Miller, president of the Inkster chapter of the National Action Network, speaks to protesters outside the Westland police station Friday. Seated next to him is Ray Brown, who was Tased by police Aug. 17 as he held his 2-month-old son. MATT JACHMAN



Mourners pay their respects to Sgt. Lee Smith and family. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

'HE RAISED THE BAR SO HIGH'

Mourners remember fallen Wayne County Sheriff's sergeant

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Sgt. Lee Smith was remembered Aug. 23 as a big-hearted mentor who gave his all in everything, from his job in law enforcement to his family to the roller skating and motorcycle riding he loved

so much.

The 55-year-old was killed Aug. 14 when he was hit by a vehicle while jogging along Hines Drive in Westland; a 47-year-old man has been charged in the case.

Smith was a Redford Township resident and a 26-year member of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department

and is survived by Simone Lloyd-Smith, his wife of 31 years, and their son Aaron.

"He put a stamp on this department," WCSD Lt. Theodis Sims said during a funeral at Greater Grace Temple in Detroit. "He raised the bar so high that when I say there will never be another Lee, I mean that from



Smith

the bottom of my heart."

Sims and other eulogists called Smith a perfectionist and charismatic role model whose personality and skills towered over others. Smith had trained local law enforcement in firearms use, horsemanship and motorcycle riding; when WCSD Sgt. Rachael Davis asked how many police personnel had been

See **FUNERAL**, Page 3A

Carson's shelves near empty as closing looms

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

With Carson's department store scheduled to close Aug. 29 in Livonia, customers spent the last days sifting through scant merchandise as mall officials worked to find a new tenant. Employees told customers the Laurel Park Place



Display cases were cleared of merchandise at Carson's. DARRELL CLEM | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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store would officially close at 5 p.m. Aug. 29, ending an era that began when Parisian came to the mall in 1994 and later transitioned to Carson's.

Customers have been sifting through a few remaining clothing racks, but found little to buy on near-empty shelves. Merchandise had been marked down as much as 90 percent.

Livonia resident Mona Elghoul has cashed in on liquidation sales a few times and most recently left with \$14 in makeup — marked down 70 percent, with an additional 50 percent off. She earlier found deep discounts on jackets, jeans and other items.

Elghoul wasn't a frequent shopper at Carson's, saying it was a bit pricey. Still, she didn't want to see it close and leave a vacancy in the mall.

"It's kind of sad," she said.

There have been rumors about potential new tenants to replace Carson's — one of the mall's anchor stores — but Melissa Cavanagh, the mall's marketing manager, said nothing has been confirmed.

"That is still in the works," she said. "Our leasing team is working and having conversations (with possible tenants). There is quite a bit of interest, but until we have a lease signed, we can't really talk about the different businesses interested in that space.

"We are very optimistic," she added. "It's a really nice space. We haven't had a space that large to lease in a very long time."

The latest developments come as malls specifically and retail stores in general are facing difficulties amid the increasing shift to online shopping.

Carson's customers even had the option to buy store items such as display cases and clothing racks. Carson's stores in Clinton Township and Rochester Hills shared the same fate as the Livonia location.

The Livonia closing marked the end of an era that began in 1994, when the Parisian store came to the



Men's pants were going for 90-percent off as Carson's prepared to close. DARRELL CLEM | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

mall. It was bought in 2006 by The Bon-Ton Stores, after Belk's briefly owned it, and then it transitioned to the Carson's name about five years ago.

Some employees had worked at both Parisian and Carson's for about 20 years. Now retired, De Haggerty of Dearborn Heights is among those who worked at both stores.

"I'm just sick over this," she told Hometown Life in April, when liquidation efforts began. "I never believed this would happen in a million years."

The closing, however, seemed inevitable after Carson's parent company, The Bon-Ton Stores, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

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

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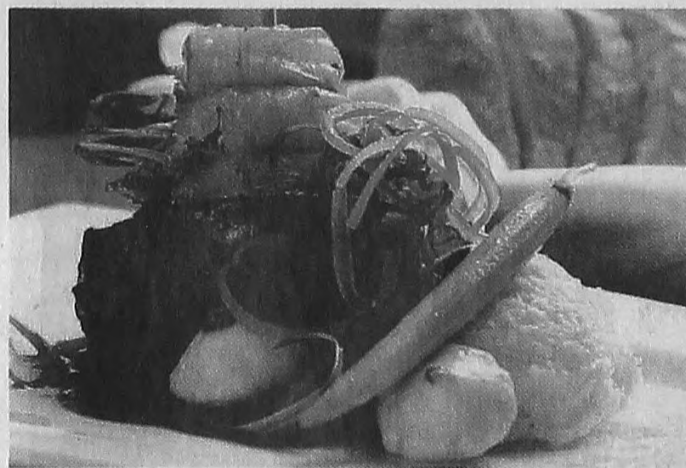
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Funeral

Continued from Page 1A

influenced by him, more than half of the 200-plus uniformed attendees stood up.

God "needed a trainer and He needed the best," Sims said.

"Making a difference in this world was more important than anything" for Smith, Davis said.

Smith was the youngest of six children, a 1982 graduate of Mumford High School and a 2002 graduate of Wayne County Community College. He met his future wife, Simone Lloyd, while roller skating, a sport he loved and practiced for years, according to his obituary. They were married in 1987.

Smith had a variety of assignments while with the sheriff's department, including in the jails, on mounted patrol, with the special response team and on park patrol, on which he'd served since 2009.

A brother, John Smith, recalled difficult circumstances the family had faced while the children were growing up.

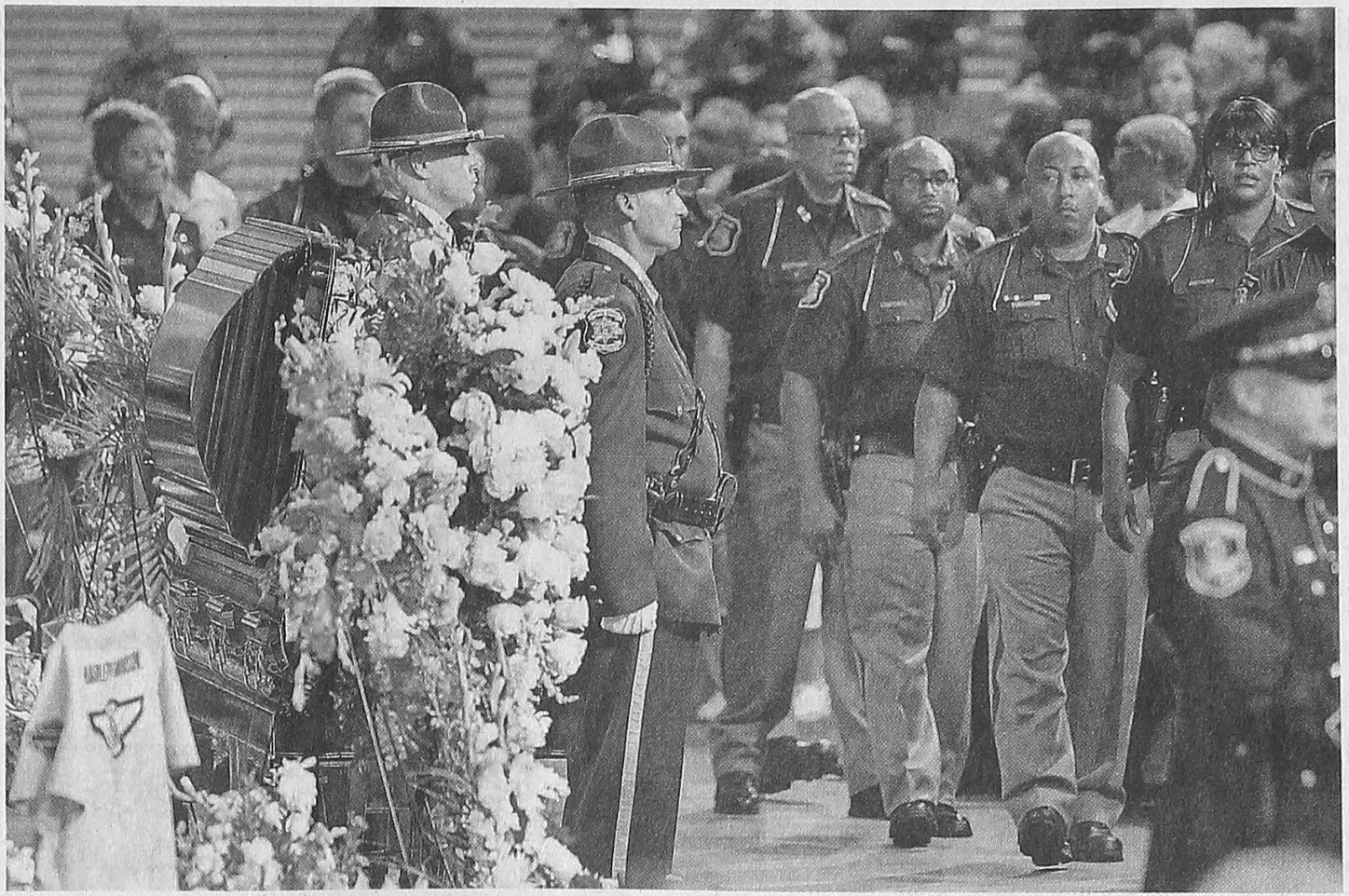
"This guy could've went down the wrong road," he said. "But he turned his anger into success."

Bishop Charles Ellis III, pastor at Greater Grace, said Smith's unexpected death illustrates life's uncertainties and told mourners to be thankful for every day — and to act in the present to make a difference.

"This day is not about him, it's about us," Ellis said. "It's about, what do we do when we leave here?" He added: "Love people while you can, help people while you can."

"Life ain't but a thing that appears for a little while," Ellis added, quoting the Bible's Epistle of James. "All you have is right now. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow is not promised."

The funeral of more than two hours began precisely at 11 a.m. as the Metro Detroit Police & Fire Pipes & Drums, which plays at funeral ceremonies for police officers and firefighters, marched through the sanctuary with a plaintive dirge. The ceremony included a police honor guard, singer Vikeigh Mitchell's performance of two Gospel numbers and a prayer by Bishop Anthony Crawford, who started by reading Psalm 27, which begins, "The Lord is my light and my salvation."



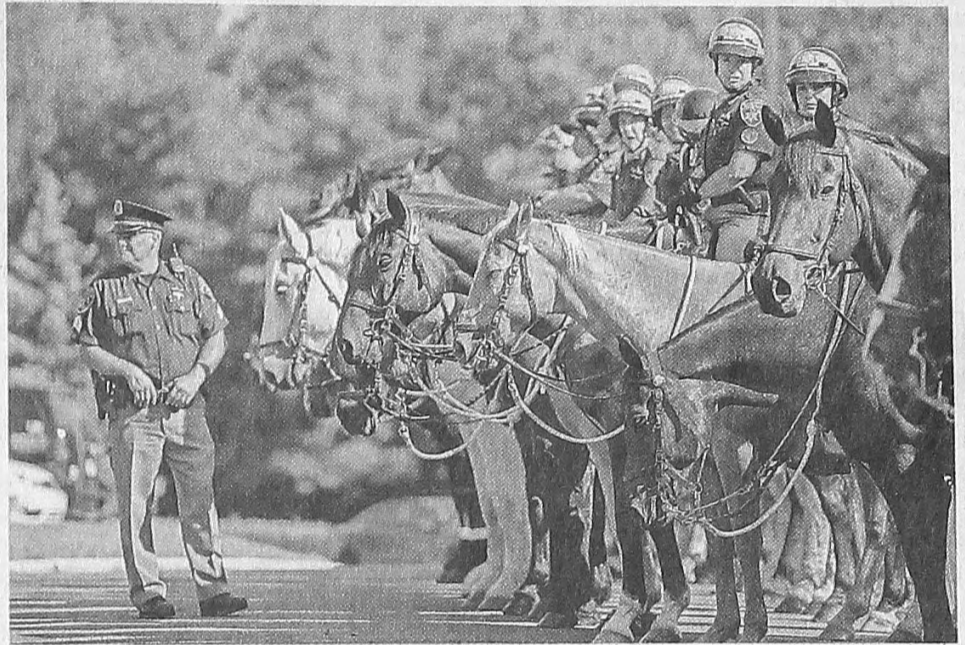
Wayne County Sheriff's deputies file by the casket of Sgt. Lee Smith just before the funeral service begins. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"Life ain't but a thing that appears for a little while. All you have is right now. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow is not promised."

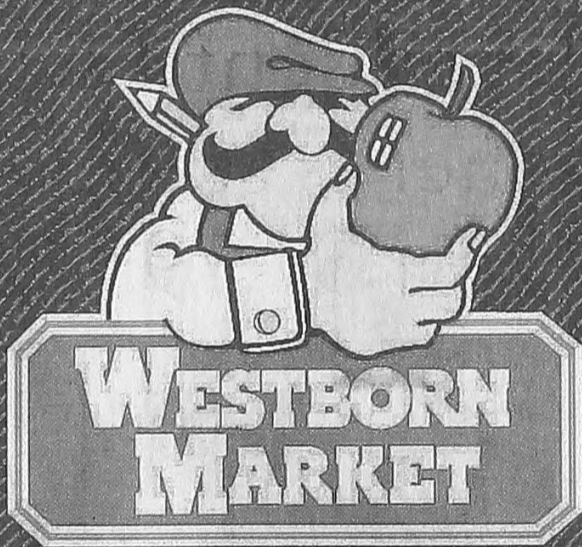
Bishop Charles Ellis III
pastor, Greater Grace Temple

The funeral procession to Detroit Memorial Park West in Redford included a police escort and a large contingent of motorcyclists — both from law enforcement and from the Motown Hogs, a biker club of which Smith was a member.

Contact Matt Jachman at mjachman@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @mattjachman.



The Wayne County Sheriff's Mounted Division waits outside Greater Grace Temple. Sgt. Lee Smith was an accomplished horseman and trained many of those in the mounted division. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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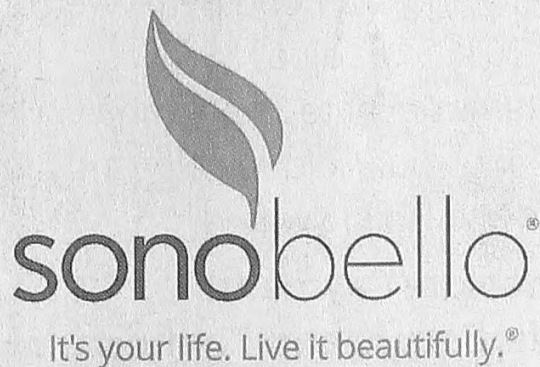
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Boycott

Continued from Page 1A

police," Williams said. "But more importantly, we need good police."

Williams later said police bias toward people of color is "a systemic problem" in Westland and that he knows of other people who say they've been treated unfairly.

Brown, on crutches, arrived to the protest a few minutes late and sat nearby as supporters marched. His attorney, Gregory Rohl, said he suffered knee and ankle injuries upon his arrest and was hit by the Taser six times.

Brown declined to talk about the incident that led to him being Tasered. He said he was grateful for what he called the heartfelt support protesters showed.

"I know justice will prevail," he said.

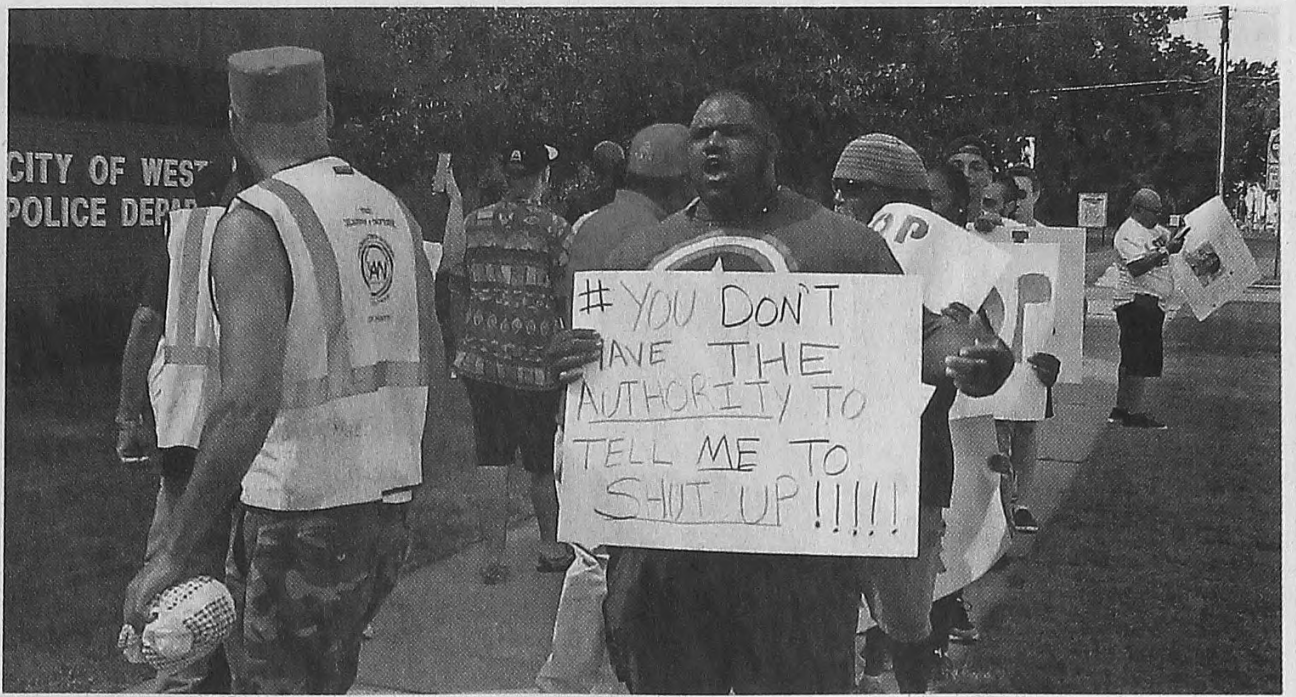
Westland police officials did not immediately respond Friday to requests for comment. Mayor William Wild issued a statement late Friday afternoon that voiced support for NAN.

"I have always had the upmost respect for the National Action Network and the incredible work that they do. I am always available for an open dialogue with them on this issue and any other concerns they may have with our community," the statement read.

The officer who used the Taser, whom police did not name, was suspended for 30 days without pay following an investigation. Chief Jeff Jedrusik called the decision to use the Taser "questionable" under the circumstances.

The incident began when police responded to a neighborhood south of Palmer and west of Venoy the night of Aug. 17 in response to a complaint of vandalism and assault. Police spoke to Brown outside his home, an argument escalated and the Taser was applied as Brown was surrounded by several officers. Police say Brown was argumentative and uncooperative.


The bystander video shows a woman — later said to be the infant's mother — grab the child from Brown just after the sound of the Taser begins. Police later said the way the Taser was applied would not have affected anyone in contact with the person to whom it



The march outside Westland police headquarters Friday drew about 50 people at its peak. MATT JACHMAN



Ray Brown, seated and wearing a baseball cap, at the protest spurred by his confrontation with Westland police Aug. 17. Standing at left is his attorney, Gregory Rohl. MATT JACHMAN



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was applied; Rohl called on police Friday to prove that claim.

"It's rather devastating to have your kid in your hands and essentially be electrocuted," Rohl said.

Police said officers were supporting Brown and the child as the Taser was applied.

Brown was arrested and later charged with seven misdemeanors, including disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer, hindering police and contributing to the neglect of a minor. Free on bond, he is scheduled for a Thursday, Sept. 6, pretrial hearing in

18th District Court.

Rohl contended Brown was not involved in the reported incidents — assault and vandalism — that brought police to his neighborhood that night. He said he plans to have his client take a lie detector test regarding those accusations.

"As I understand it, he had no involvement whatsoever," Rohl said.

Contact Matt Jachman at mjachman@hometown-life.com. Follow him on Twitter: @mattjachman.

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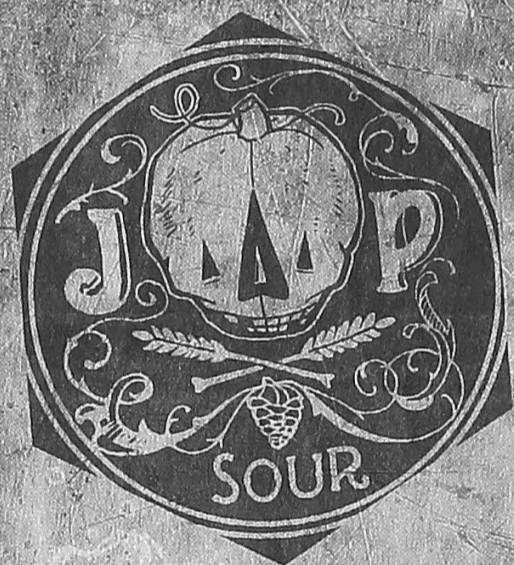
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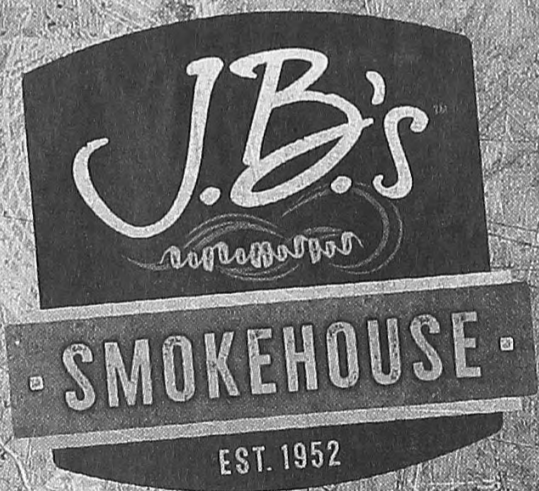
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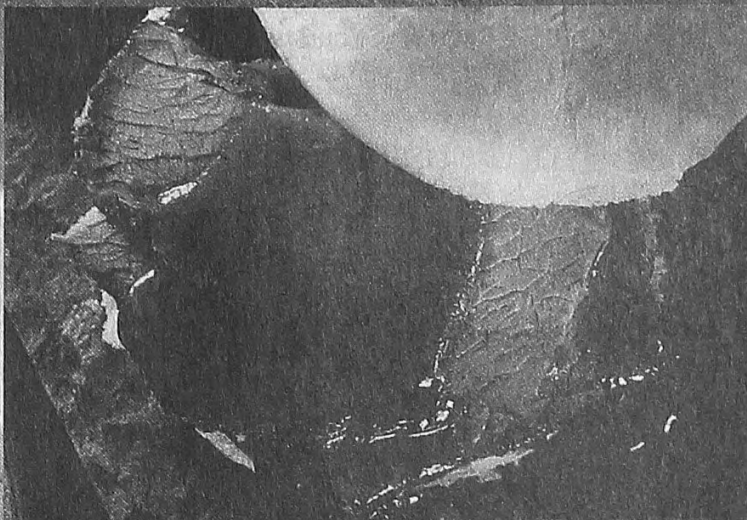
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These campers are taking luxuries on the road

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Thousands of travelers are hitting the road this summer and taking the comforts of home with them. They sleep, cook and entertain in their motor homes, trailers and pop-up campers, at parks, campgrounds, on the beach and in the wilderness.

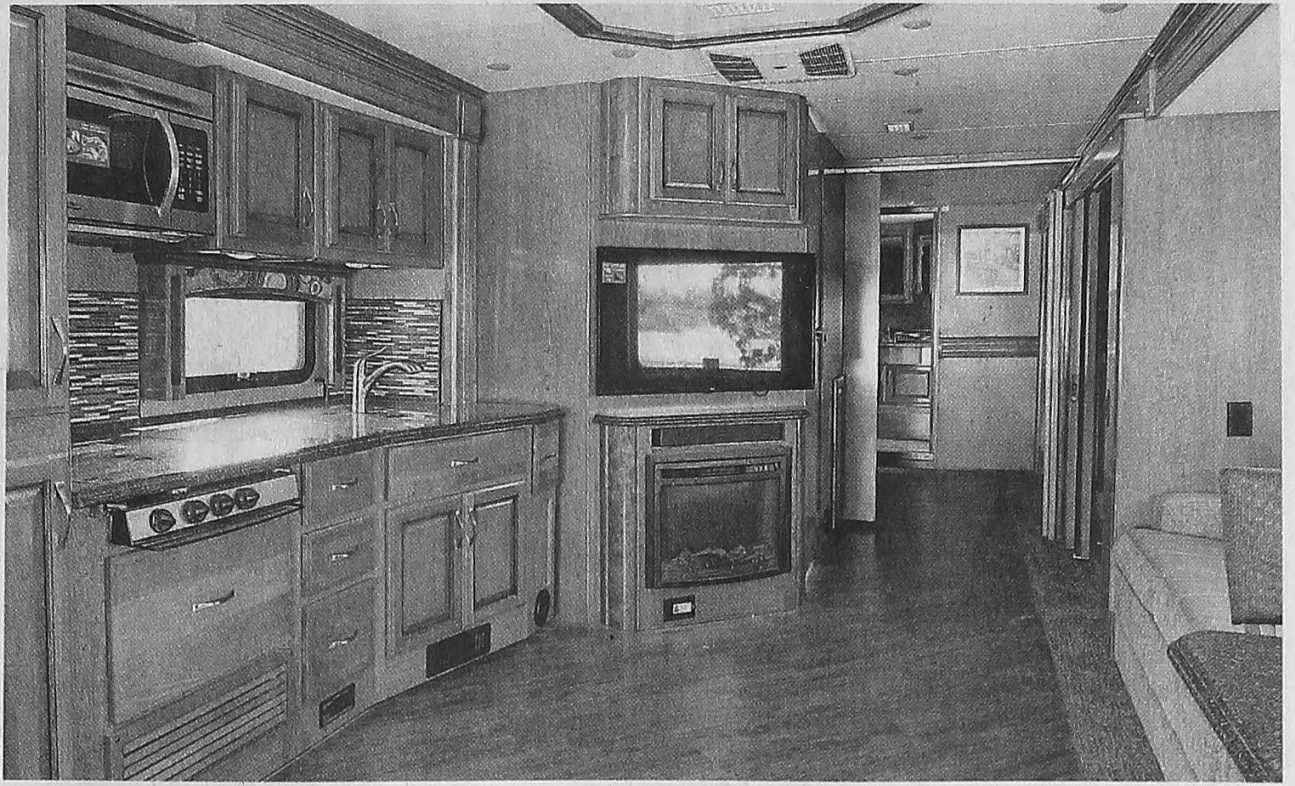
For at least some of them, their induction into the RV lifestyle started at General RV in Wixom. It's the largest family-owned RV dealership in the country, with 12 locations — a 13th will open by the end of the year — in Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Utah, 1,600 employees and sales that top 17,000 RVs annually.

The flagship store and headquarters along Interstate 96 at Wixom Road stocks 500-600 RVs, maintains 40 service bays for repair and sells accessories, furniture and appliances for mobile living.

General RV has come a long way in 65 years. "We started with a gas station in 1953. My grandfather had a gas station in Redford and one on Five Mile and Meyers (in Detroit). He had the opportunity to sell and make a little more money than pumping gas and thought it was a good avenue to get into," said Loren Baidas, General RV president and a Milford Township resident. His uncle now serves as CEO and a brother-in-law and a cousin's husband also are involved in the family business.

"Back then, dealerships did a lot of different things because the RV market was so small. He sold utility trailers and built utility trailers. There's no blueprint that says this is what you need to run an RV dealership. You learn as you go as to what you need."

Baidas's grandfather and his father figured that continual investment in employees and customers would set General RV apart from competitors. That meant upgrading facilities, expanding to new markets, training employees and improving the service side of the dealership. The company has added 200 service bays in the last five years alone.



A bus-sized RV takes on large interior proportions when the bump-outs are extended. This model is built by Pace Arrow. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"I don't think there's another RV dealership in the country that has done that," Baidas said. "If you look around, I think there are a lot of dealers that haven't changed in 10 or 20 years."

Loyal customers

Baidas says most customers that try an RV vacation enjoy the experience. General RV sees generations of customers, two- and three-time buyers, in an increasingly younger market.

"Customers I sold to 15-20 years ago still come back and look for me," he said. "I had a customer yesterday, they bought their third one from us. They bought their first one in 2000. Their kids are grown now, so they are buying one without bunk beds."

Although retirees make up a portion of RV buyers, the largest segment of the market is ages 40-50, according to Baidas.

"What we're seeing now for the last three or four years, as the industry has grown, is that number has gone from the 40s to the 30s," he said. "We're getting younger families starting earlier. That has helped fuel the growth of the industry."

According to a University of Michigan study commissioned by the RV Industry Association in 2011 — a new study will be published this year — approximately 10 million households own an RV. Households headed by 35- to 54-year-olds own the largest share of RVs.

Baidas says young families that are more price-conscious may invest in a smaller trailer, but likely will return in a few years to trade up for something with more elbow room.

Pop-up camping trailers are the least expensive at \$6,000 to \$12,000, but represent a small segment of the industry. Most new pop-up units include a stove, refrigerator, sink and furnace, while more expensive models have bathrooms and air conditioners. Travel trailers cost from \$10,000 to \$50,000, depending on size and amenities, and are the most popular, even among families pinching pennies.

"A lot of people jump right into a travel trailer, where a fold-down might have been their first choice 10-15 years ago," Baidas said. "A travel trailer is very economical for families. It's the most affordable. You're talking about something under \$200 a month."



Many RVs have bump-outs that significantly increase space when parked. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Best sellers

Bill Sheffer, executive director of Michigan Association of Recreational Vehicles and Campgrounds, said RV buyers today "want more space" and find it in a travel trailer.

According to Sheffer, 13,362 new travel trailers were sold in Michigan last year. Fifth-wheel trailers, which are towed by trucks, accounted for 3,762 RV sales and 1,763 new motor homes and 510 new popup trailers were sold. The average price of a motor home sale was \$122,390. The average price of a trailer was \$23,910.

Approximately 35 percent of General RV's sales is in used RVs.

Buying an RV is similar to buying a house, Baidas said. The online photos won't tell the entire story, so potential buyers should "touch it, feel it, walk through it."

"Out of the available brands in this marketplace, we probably carry 80 percent ... so a customer can look at a \$20,000 travel trailer and we'll have four or five different brands for them to look at," he said.

Digital technology has made RVs user-friendly. Awnings expand by touching an electronic panel, lights turn on via smart phone app and slide-outs extend

See CAMPERS, Page 7A

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Burgundy Road closed for repairs

Beginning Monday, Wayne County has closed Burgundy Road at Warren Road as construction continues to mill and resurface Warren Road between Beck and Canton Center roads. The closure of Burgundy is anticipated to last for several weeks. During this time, there will be no access to Warren Road from Burgundy and

motorists are asked to seek alternative routes.

For more information on road projects going on in Canton, go to www.canton-mi.org or follow Canton MSD on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cantonmsd and Twitter at www.twitter.com/cantonmsd.

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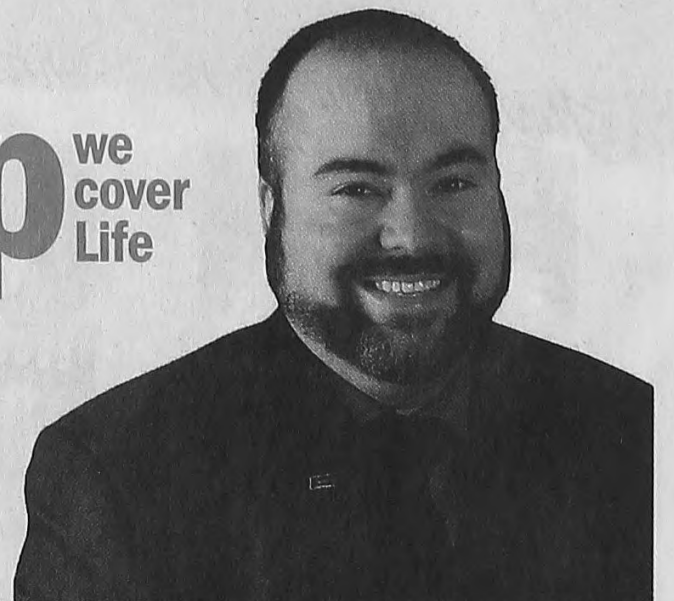
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Check out these events over the weekend

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Did you enjoy summer? We hope so, because this weekend marks its unofficial end.

If you aren't heading out of town this week for the Labor Day holiday, there are a few events worth checking out around town this weekend for those who haven't returned to school yet.

Here are three events happening around town while summer's still here.

Michigan State Fair in Novi

The Suburban Collection Showplace is the place for plenty of fun all year round. This weekend marks one of the biggest events that comes to Novi each year.

The Michigan State Fair returns Thursday through Monday at the convention center, 46100 Grand River. Returning this year are plenty of rides, livestock and the Shrine Circus at the showplace, which now boasts 180,000 more square feet after a recent expansion.

In addition to staples such as the butter cow and the endless cup of chocolate milk from Guernsey Farms Dairy, a nighttime drone show put on by the Great Lakes Drone Co. will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights over the fair.

The fair will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday through Sunday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday. For more information and tickets, go to



The Ford Arts, Beats and Eats festival raises money for local nonprofit organizations. FILE PHOTO

michiganstatefairllc.com.

Arts, Beats and Eats in Royal Oak

If you're closer to eastern Oakland County, be sure to head to this annual festival celebration of art, food and music in downtown Royal Oak.

Arts, Beats and Eats returns this weekend for its annual Labor Day festivities. Now in its 21st year and its ninth year in downtown Royal Oak, the festival will have plenty of art, including drawings, glass, jewelry and more.

Food from more than 40 restaurants will be available, including Famous Dave's BBQ, Bigalora Wood Fired Cucina, Imperial Ferndale, Niko's Gyros and

more. Tickets are for sale at the festival and can be bought to redeem for food.

The musical lineup features a wide range of artists, including the Gin Blossoms, .38 Special, Everclear, Eddie Money, Ben Folds and AWOLNATION.

For more information, including scheduled times for each performer and ticket prices, go to artsbeatseats.com.

Michigan Renaissance Festival in Holly

If you'd prefer to escape to a more primitive era, grab your lance and ride up to Holly for the annual Michigan Renaissance Festival.

A Labor Day weekend tradition, the

festival opened several weeks ago and runs through the end of September. Plenty of entertainers will be on hand to perform during the event and this weekend will feature several events for the themed weekend, High Seas Adventure.

Those events include a beard competition all weekend, a "race for the rattler" that will see babies crawling in a race and a tattoo competition.

For more information, including ticket information and where they can be purchased, go to michrenfest.com.

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

Campers

Continued from Page 6A

walls, creating more space inside a bedroom or dining area.

"TVs are huge now, because we have flat-screen TVs that are affordable. You can put a TV in a wall anywhere," Baidas said. "In the last two to three years, we've started to see outdoor kitchens. They have a stove, refrigerator and sink

built into the sidewall so you don't have to traipse in and out of the RV if you're entertaining outside."

Like home

A quick tour of General RV's service area, where motor homes and trailers are prepped for their new owners, turns up a \$40,000 trailer with an indoor kitchen — including an island — and outdoor kitchen, three slide-outs, a bathroom with shower, master bed-

room, bunks for four and theater-style seating in front of the wall-mounted television set.

In another service bay, a \$120,000, 37-foot motor home includes king- and queen-sized beds, laundry area, three television sets indoors and one hidden by a panel on the outside.

A few bays down, a \$20,000 tear-drop-style trailer that appeals to millennials seems to take a cue from the "tiny house" craze, with barely enough room for a bed, a bathroom and cooking area.

Regardless of their size, RVs help families create memories and make new friends, Baidas said.

"RVs are something different for everybody, but there are so many things they can provide," he said. "That's why they have such a broad appeal. It's a remarkable industry."

Contact Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.



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AREA EVENTS

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International Overdose Awareness Day

Northwest Wayne FAN's Overdose Awareness Day event will take place 6-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31, at Heritage Park, 1080 S. Canton Center Drive, in Canton. Community leaders are scheduled to speak, including Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams, Judge Laura Mack of the 29th District Court in Wayne; Chief Curtis Caid of the Livonia Police Department; and Sgt. Chris Cox of the Northville Township Police Department.

For more information, contact nwwayne@familiesagainstnarcotics.org.

Masini exhibit at Village Theater

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton will host People See; People Do, an exhibit featuring the works of Kay Masini, a Plymouth resident, through Aug. 31.

This current art exhibit is free and open to the public 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 Village Theater Gallery is closed each holiday.

For more information, call 734-394-5300 or go to www.cantonvillage.com.

Canton Newcomers and Neighbors

The Canton Neighbors and Newcomers club invites all area women to the first event of its 47th season, called Rediscover Canton, at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 5, the Hanford Clubhouse, 45800 Hanford Road. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, go to www.cantonwomen.com or contact Nancy Ellenberger at 734-812-4119.

Plymouth Fall Festival Taste Fest

The Plymouth Fall Festival Taste Fest will be 6-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, in the parking lot of Station 885, 885 Starkweather Street, under a giant tent.

Pre-sale tickets are \$15 and kids ages 5-10 are \$5. At the door, prices are \$20 and \$10. Under age 5 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Station 885 or Friday, Aug. 31, at Music in the Air at the Civitan Booth. Pre-sale purchases end at noon Sept. 7.

This event is sponsored by the Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club and hosted by Rob Costanza of Station 885. There will be a cash bar, music and a party afterward. Call 734-459-1896 for more information.

Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn

The ninth annual Brew, Brats & Bands at the Barn fundraising event is scheduled for 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Cady-Boyer Barn, located in Preservation Park at 500 N. Ridge Road in Canton. Proceeds will support the Canton Historical Society.

Sponsors include Canton Leisure Services, Holiday Market, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Canton Brew Works, Beerfests.com, Alphagraphics, Choice Insurance Agency, Edward Jones Investments, Busch's Fresh Food Market, J.B.'s Smokehouse and Kennedy Nemier Insurance Agency, Inc.

Admission includes seven drink tickets each good for a four-ounce beer tasting sample. Attendees will be able to choose from more than 50 different craft and specialty beers that will be available to sample. Brats with all the fixings will also be included with admission, as well as a keepsake beer tasting mug. Musical entertainment will be provided throughout the evening by Standing Room Only.

Tickets are \$25 if purchased before Sept. 1 and \$30 at the door. They can be purchased online at www.beerfests.com. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, as well as the Canton Farmers Market, 500 N. Ridge Road. Designated driver tickets are also available for \$10. Additional beer tasting tickets are available for purchase; receive four additional tickets for \$5.

For more information, go to www.cantonhistoricalsociety.org or call 734-394-5314.

ONESTAGE at Village Theater

TLC Productions is continuing its experimental theater production with the launch of ONESTAGE in September. ONESTAGE is a group of six one-act plays/musicals that will be performed

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8-9, as a single performance in the Biltmore Studio at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

Show times are 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at cantonvillagetheater.org. Tickets are also available by phone at the Village Theater Box Office at 734-394-5300 or 734-394-5460 or in person at the Summit on the Park or at the door. Tickets should be purchased in advance as there are only 80 seats available for each performance. Time for all six plays is approximately one hour, with no intermission.

For more information, go to mi.org/villagetheater or tlcproductions.org.

Palestine Cultural Festival

Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, in Livonia will host a Palestine Cultural Festival from noon to 9 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9. This free event will feature an array of Middle Eastern food, beverages, pastries, live music, cultural exhibits, children's attractions and much more.

For more information, call 248-790-4790 or 248-214-7588 or go to facebook.com/ramallahclubofdetroit.

Canton Do Good Expo

Canton will host its inaugural Do Good Expo 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 11, at the Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, on the National Day of Service and Remembrance, which marks the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Canton Leisure Services will gather dozens of local nonprofit, volunteer and service-based organizations.

All ages are encouraged to attend this free event and take part in a hands-on community service project. Also, the following items will be collected in a special donation drive: canned or pantry food items, new socks, loose change; phone chargers, T-shirts and sweatshirts, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, new toys and art supplies and winter hats and gloves.

For more information, go to www.cantonfun.org or call 734-394-5460.

Mom2Mom sale

The St. John Neumann women's organization is accepting applications for table rental space for its Mom2Mom sale scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 15, at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Road in Canton. Email bnolan6850@gmail.com for an application and more information.

'Oklahoma!' at Village Theater

Spotlight Players will present "Oklahoma!" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton. "Oklahoma!" runs Friday through Sunday, Sept. 14-16 and 21-23. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday performances at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 to \$18 and can be purchased at www.cantonvillagetheater.org, by phone at 734-394-5300, ext. 3, or at the box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each weekday. If any tickets are still available, they can also be purchased one hour prior to show time.

For more information, call 734-480-4945 or go to admin@spotlightplayersmi.org.

Western Wayne Banquet VI

Tom Wilson, chief executive for Olympia Entertainment, will talk about the first year of Little Caesars Arena and the ongoing development for District Detroit at the sixth annual Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 2, at the Ford Motor Co. Conference and Event Center, 1151 Village Road, in Dearborn. The event is the region's premier collaboration experience for hundreds of people involved in business, nonprofit services, and politics.

The Western Wayne Business Leadership Banquet provides an evening of networking that promotes economic development in the region's 18 communities that include Dearborn, Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Romulus, Northville and Westland. The event is coordinated by the Conference of Western Wayne and the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the region's mayors, township supervisors and chamber of commerce leaders.

The event begins 30 minutes earlier this year to provide more networking time at the mixer, during which the region's cities and townships highlight their respective economic development projects. The entire program runs 4:30-8 p.m.

Sponsorships and corporate table packages are now available. For more information, contact the Livonia Chamber of Commerce at www.livonia.org or 734-427-2122.

Michigan Phil at OLGC

The Michigan Philharmonic will perform its season opener, titled "NANiversary" at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at Our Lady of Good Counsel, 47650 N. Territorial Road, in Plymouth. This concert will celebrate Nan Washburn's 20 years with the Michigan Phil as its music director and conductor.

Tickets are available online at www.michiganphil.org or by calling 734-451-2112.

DAR genealogy workshop

The John Sackett Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution will host a genealogy workshop from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. The Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 with the mission of promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. Any woman who can prove her lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible to join.

There is no fee to attend, but reservations are required. Contact Lisa Callaghan at 313-575-5950 or lisacallaghanDAR@gmail.com.

U.S. Air Force Academy Band concert

The U.S. Air Force Academy Band's Stellar Brass combo will perform a free concert at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 15, at The Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton. The concert will feature a mix of music from Americana and patriotic favorites to unique twists on the classical repertoire by this energetic six-piece ensemble.

Ticket will be available beginning Sept. 10 at The Village Theater box office or online at www.cantonvillage.com.

'Hallelujah Girls'

Still Got It Players will perform "The Hallelujah Girls," scheduled for Thurs-

day through Sunday, Oct. 25-28, in the Biltmore Studio at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton, with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets are \$15 to \$18 and can be purchased at www.cantonvillagetheater.org, over the phone at 734-394-5300, ext. 3, or at the box office between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each weekday. If any tickets are still available, they can also be purchased one hour prior to show time.

For more information, contact director Joe Arcel at jarcel670@wow-way.com or 734-812-3325.

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.

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

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.

Food pantry

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard Road, in Livonia sponsors a food pantry 10-11 a.m. the second Saturday of each month. For more information, call 734-421-8451.

Diabetes support group

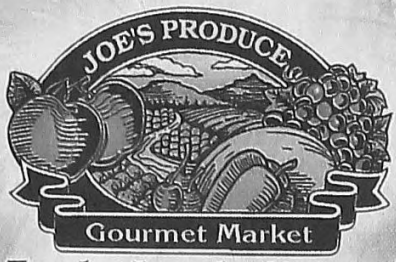
A diabetes support group meets 2-3:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street. Facilitator is Fern Vining, R.N., a diabetes educator. The group is sponsored by the Plymouth Lions Club.



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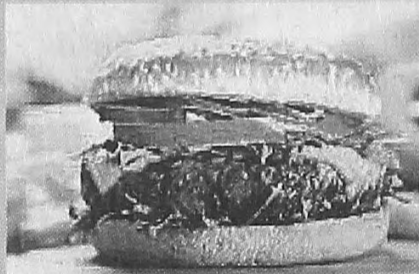
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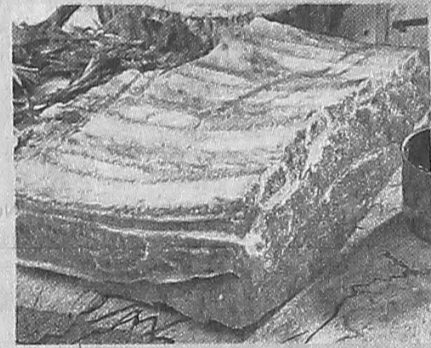
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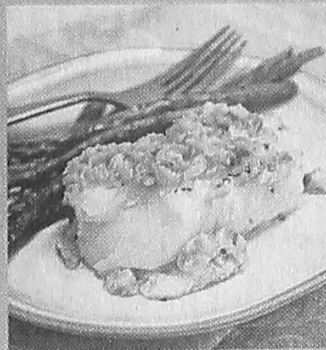
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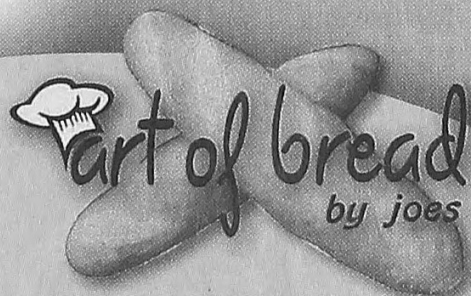
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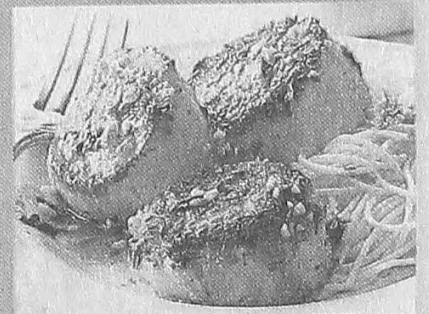
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PREP FOOTBALL

Plymouth rocks the Big House, 35-11

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Before Friday's Battle at the Big House began, Livonia Stevenson wanted to make it Ed Belea's house.

Belea — sidelined for the season by Hodgkin's lymphoma — led the Spartans out of the Michigan Stadium tunnel, hoping to spark his teammates to an emotional victory.

But Plymouth had other ideas, playing a solid two-way game and scoring 35 unanswered points en route to a convincing 35-11 victory to launch the Brian Lewis coaching era in successful fashion.

"This is a very, very neat thing, coming here," said Lewis, a former coaching assistant for the Michigan Wolverines

who's very familiar with the venue. "I told them to embrace it. This is the biggest stadium in the country, embrace this, have fun with it.

"But at the same time, their field is just as big as our turf field at P-CEP. ... Let's just play Plymouth-style football here."

After a sluggish start, the Wildcats (1-0) seemed to quickly regain their footing after an early 21-yard field goal by Stevenson's Ethan Hamm opened the scoring.

Plymouth junior quarterback Nick Downs then orchestrated a 68-yard scoring drive with several clutch extra-effort plays by junior wide receiver Mike Mathias (75 all-purpose yards) and senior running back Carson Miller (21 rush-



Plymouth's Carson Miller (right) tries to elude Stevenson's Lucas Kyle during his 46-yard catch-and-run TD late in the first half. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See PLYMOUTH, Page 2B

PREP FOOTBALL

Harrison's final season gets off on right foot

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Farmington Harrison absolutely rocketed out of the gate in its final season of football.

Playing its home opener against district rival North Farmington, Harrison scored 41 first-half points and rolled to a 41-0 victory. The scoreless second half was punctuated by a running clock.

Harrison scored five of its six touchdowns on the ground, with senior speedster Ben Williams and Vincent Rawls both scoring twice. Roderick Heard accounted for the other rushing touchdown, while quarterback Max Martin connected with receiver Sylvon Brown from 9 yards out to complete the scoring.

Harrison head coach John Herrington was pleased to get the win and simply wants to concentrate on football rather than the fact the program is in its final season.

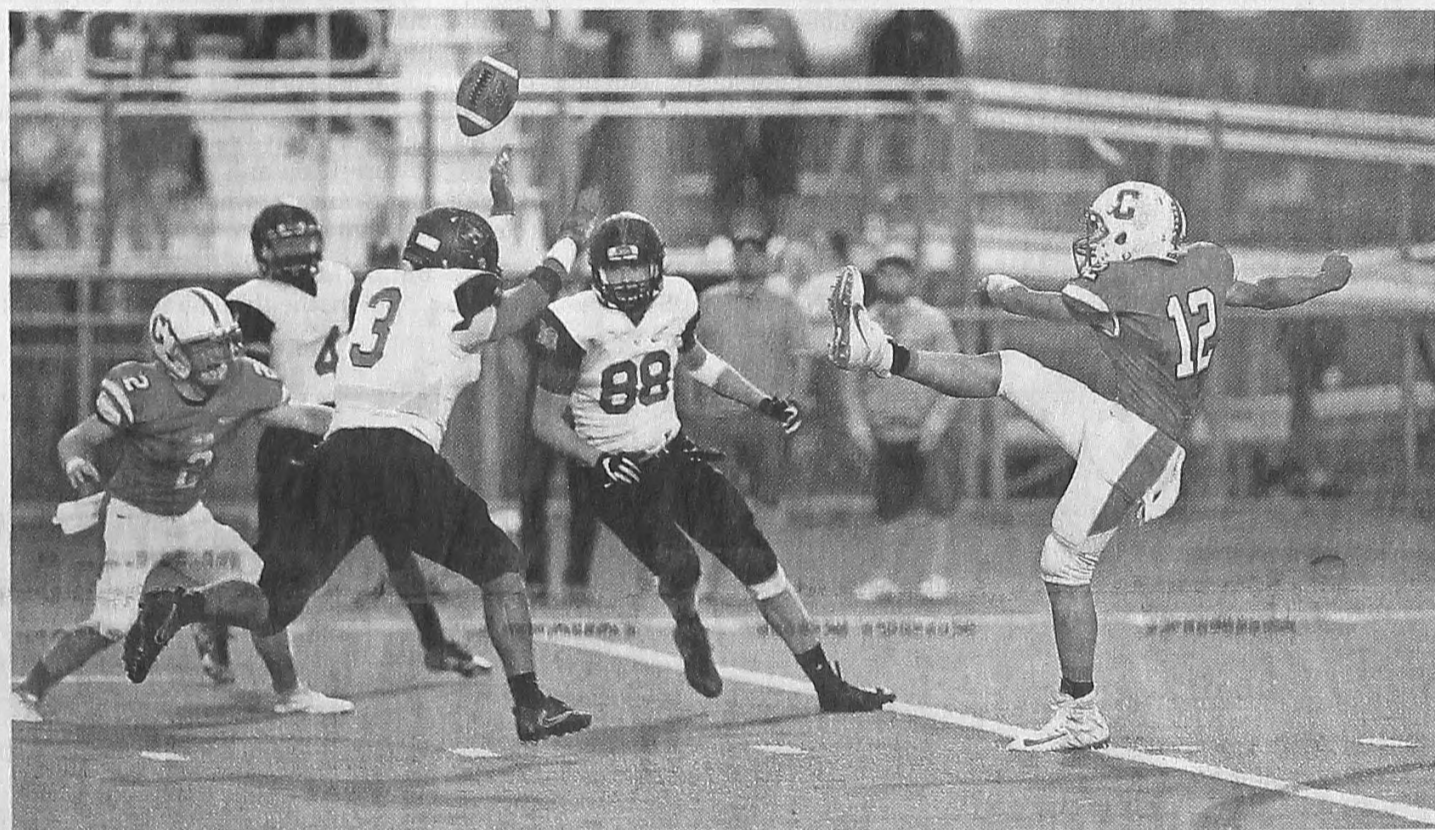
"We had our alumni here tonight and it's going to be like that all year and that's great," said Herrington, the only coach Harrison has had in its 49-year

See HARRISON, Page 2B



Harrison's Ben Williams speeds into the end zone for one of his two first-half touchdowns. MARTY BUDNER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PREP FOOTBALL



Churchill's Desmond Dewberry (3) comes up with the block on a punt attempt by Canton's Ben Stasiak during the second quarter. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Chargers throw block party

Churchill rolls against Canton in opener, 35-21

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Joel Forgacs had a tough time coming up with an answer when he was asked what felt better — blocking two punts or catching a touchdown.

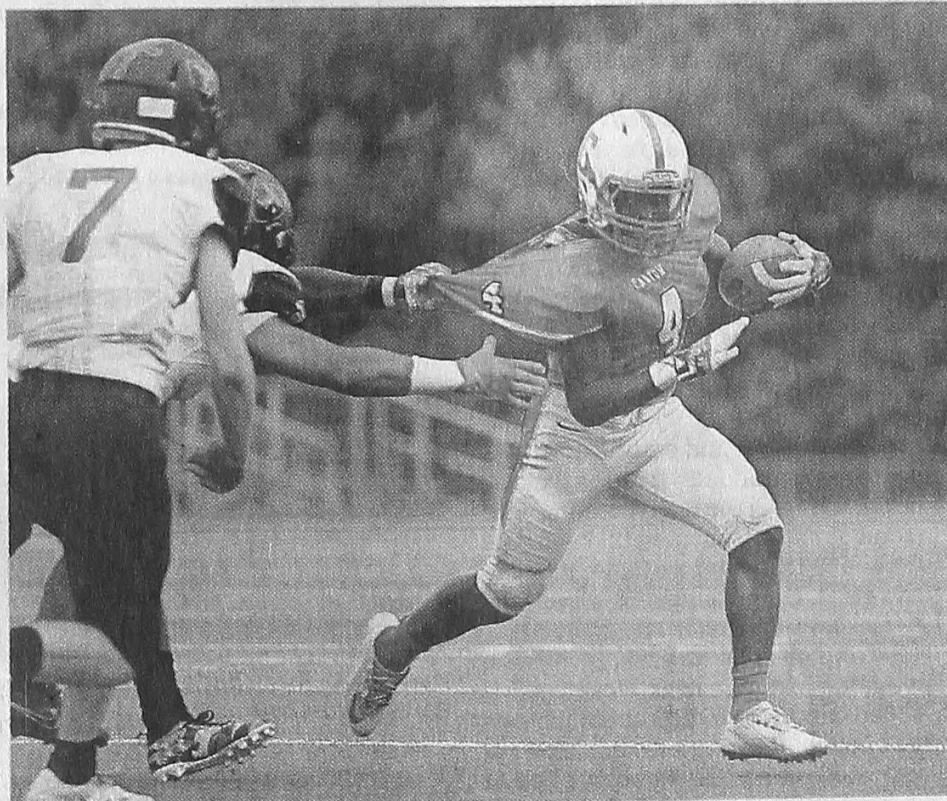
"Probably the touchdown, because I only had one or two last year," said the 6-foot-3, 205-pound senior tight end and defensive end. "The punts were great, too, so ..."

Churchill blocked three of them in the first half to build a 14-0 lead and went on to spoil Andrew LaFata's debut as Canton's head coach in a 35-21 victory on the road.

The Chargers never anticipated getting three turnovers the way they did in the first half.

"We just went with our regular

See CHARGERS, Page 3B



Canton's Steven Walker (right) eludes a tackler as Churchill's Avery Grenier tries to contain. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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Plymouth

Continued from Page 1B

es for 97 yards, one catch for 46 yards and two touchdowns).

Yet perhaps the biggest play of that momentum-turning series was a fourth-and-five pass to junior Jeremy Fuchs, who dodged tacklers for a 12-yard catch. The Wildcats scored four plays later on a 5-yard run by Mathias, with a sweep around left end. After he appeared to be stopped short of the end zone, he fought forward the rest of the way.

Conversely, Stevenson's offense could not get going as sophomore quarterback Coltrane Rubner (5-of-21 passing, 51 yards, two interceptions) struggled in his first varsity start.

"I don't know so much about being nervous, but he just didn't make some good decisions with the ball and it cost us," Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef said.

Mathias added his second TD on an electrifying run down the right sideline from 33 yards out with 1:28 to play in the half, making it 14-3.

The Wildcats then got the ball right back and Miller did the rest, catching a screen pass from Downs and taking it to the house for a 46-yard romp. Following the third of five extra points from Jackson Vacca, the Wildcats enjoyed a comfortable 21-3 halftime advantage.

Miller did it again in the third quarter, this time on a 46-yard run, to close out Plymouth's scoring.

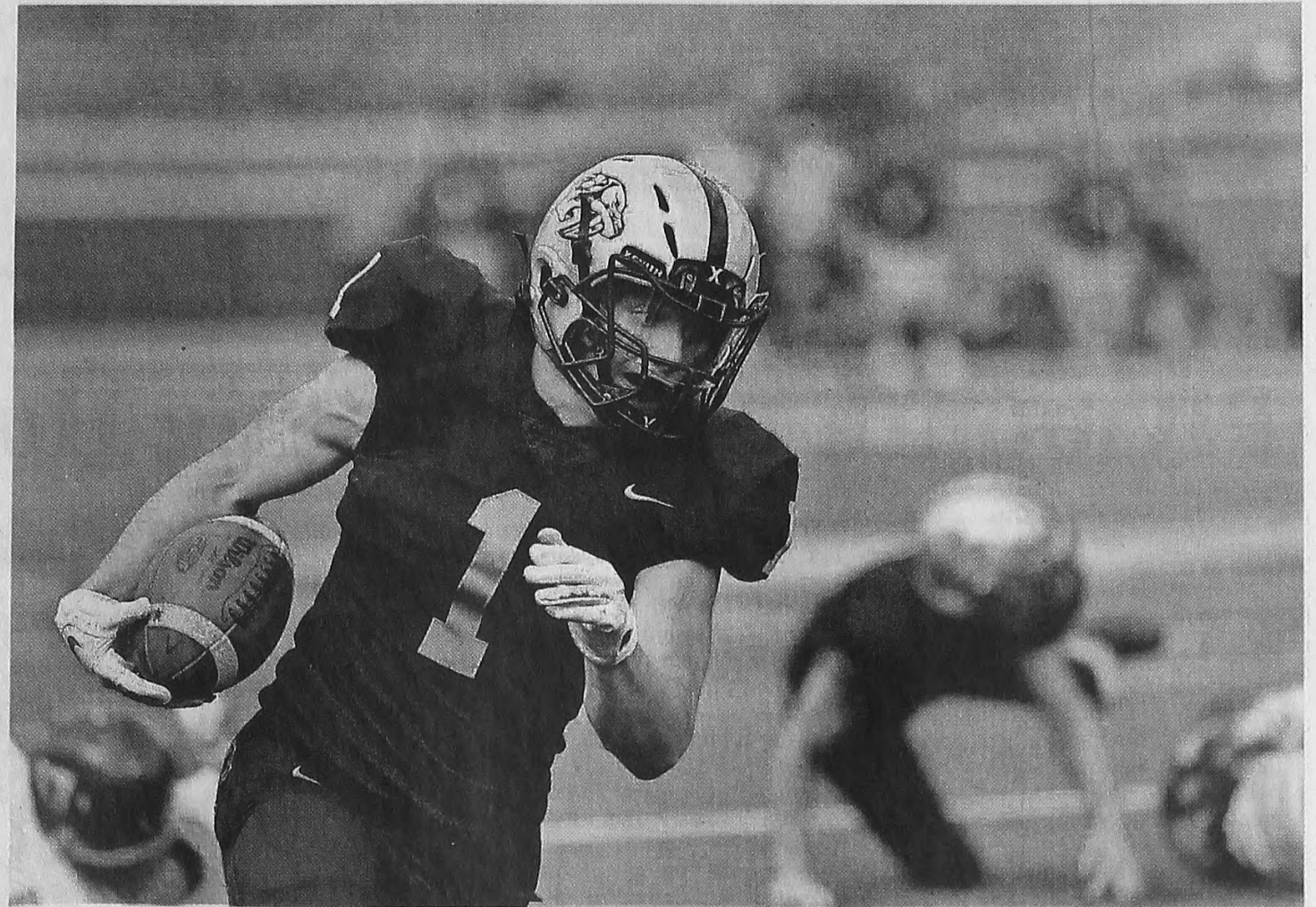
The Spartans (0-1) finally scored their first touchdown of the season midway through the fourth quarter on a short run by sophomore Caden Woodall, who was one of the bright spots for them. Woodall ran for 89 yards in 17 carries.

Following are three other takeaways:

BATTLE OF THE YOUNG QBs

Plymouth's Downs outplayed Stevenson's Rubner, especially during the tone-setting first half.

Downs's scrambling ability was enough to avoid pressure, creating enough time to find a target. In the final minute of the half, he threw a screen



Plymouth's Mike Mathias scampers towards the end zone during the second quarter Friday. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pass to Miller and the running back took it from there for a 46-yard touchdown to open a 21-3 lead.

"We put that play in two days before this game and we wanted to try it out and it worked out perfectly," Miller said. "So I'm really excited that play broke for a TD."

According to Downs, a lot of the credit for Miller's big game was the offensive line's prowess.

"Our O-line blocked their butts off today, they did really good," said Downs, who completed 9-of-12 passes for 100 yards. "They were paving holes and that set up that screen right there. I think (Stevenson) had no idea what was coming."

IVAN'S IN THE 'HOUSE'

The Wildcats also displayed a tough-as-nails defense, putting plenty of heat on Rubner and closing down the Spartans in relatively quick fashion.

Senior defensive end Ivan Davis sacked Rubner for a loss on a fourth-down play inside the Plymouth 20 to stop a promising drive for the Spartans. Plymouth then turned it around and marched 71 yards in 10 plays and scored on Mike Mathias's 33-yard run, giving the Wildcats a 14-3 advantage.

"You saw (Davis) turn it on today," Lewis said. "We've been waiting for him to turn it on and have that 'a ha' moment. You saw what he can do when he has that moment."

BELEA LEADS THE CHARGE

Before the third annual Battle at the

Big House, spirits were high for the Spartans, who were led out of the tunnel by Belea — still an important part of the team, even though his cancer diagnosis has ended his football career.

Belea and his teammates had the chance to cheer early, thanks to a field goal by Hamm just 2:30 into the game.

"It was an exciting moment for him and for our team to have Ed be here and be part of this situation," Micallef said. "Unfortunately, we didn't execute as well as we needed to on the field. And that emotion didn't carry over to what we needed to do in the field of play."

If you have a compelling story to tell, contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter @TimSmith_Sports.

Harrison

Continued from Page 1B

history. "It's going to be that way every week. But I'm mostly just concentrating on what we're doing out here."

Here are four other takeaways:

DYNAMIC DUO SHINES

Williams and Heard are going to be Harrison's dynamic rushing duo all year.

Williams finished with six carries for 98 yards, while Heard had 14 carries for 119 yards.

They aim to lead Harrison to another victory this week, when it hosts Troy Athens before facing a monstrous Week 3 showdown at state-ranked Oak Park.

According to Williams, Harrison is using its first two games as preparation for the huge road showdown.

"I was very satisfied with how we played tonight," Williams said. "But there are still things we need to touch up on. I had a few missed blocks and our third quarter wasn't the greatest."

"But we're going to critique those things and go out against Athens next week and do great. We have two great teams that we play (at the beginning of the season) and we're using those game to propel us up for Oak Park. That's a red letter game and that's the biggest game on our schedule."

"So coming out and putting up 41-0 is huge for us," he added. "It raises the morale and it raises the team bonding. The second game, we should still be on the high end, by the third week, we're going to do great. Once that game is over, the heavens await."

Herrington was satisfied with the first-game rushing attack.

"Ben can fly. Ben did a great job getting outside," Herrington said. "Rod got some good runs in there, too, but he can run better."

"I think we have to improve our quarterback play so we are able to throw the ball a little bit, but the running was good and the line blocked well," he added. "We just had too many penalties."

RAIDERS DIDN'T 'CHECK OUT'

Second-year North Farmington head coach Bob Chiesa knew his young Raiders would face a battle against Harrison.

Chiesa didn't shy away from the encounter, but was hoping the game would be played at North Farmington as possibly the season finale. It ended up as the road opener.

"What can you say? It's their last year and I respect the program and what they've done," Chiesa said. "That's why



Harrison tailback Roderick Heard is stopped at the line by North Farmington defender Justin Bryant. MARTY BUDNER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

I said let's play them. But we can't compete with them — yet.

"I was proud of our team, because we held them to seven points in the first quarter. We were doing what we wanted. But they made adjustments and started rolling all over us. They got 35 points in the second (quarter), but we held them scoreless in the third and fourth."

"We eliminated the turnovers. We're still growing with this offense, but we'll be fine," he added. "I hate to say this, but in years past they would have checked out. Last year, they would have checked out. They didn't check out tonight and that was my message to them. They'll be fine."

THAT '70S BUNCH

Harrison will welcome back alums all year in its final season as a program.

Friday, it was players from the 1970s who showed up. Former players like Larry Sweeney proudly recalled their time helping to establish the Hawks' foundation of success.

"This was a rocky field with a little bit of grass mixed in when I played," said Sweeney, a 1974 graduate who played three years of varsity football. "We'd run a play, get on the ground and pick up the rocks and throw them to the side and run another play and do the same thing."

"After three years of doing that, there were no more rocks out here," he added with a laugh. "We were told we were the foundation of the Harrison legacy. I

think they were just being nice to us. We never went 14-0 and won a state title. We went 5-4 and we were just happy to be able to play."

THE STREAK CONTINUES

With Friday's victory, Harrison owns a 19-5 record in the series against cross-town rival North Farmington.

Although the teams haven't played ever year, the Hawks have won 16 straight games over the Raiders, dating back to 1979. North's last victory came in 1978, 35-0, when it went all the way to the Class A state title game.

Contact Marty Budner at mbudner@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @MartyBudner.

PREP FOOTBALL

Northville edges Franklin; Salem tops Wayne

Saturday, Aug. 25 games

White Lake Lakeland 45, Walled Lake Central 0
Detroit Edison 18, Lutheran Westland 12

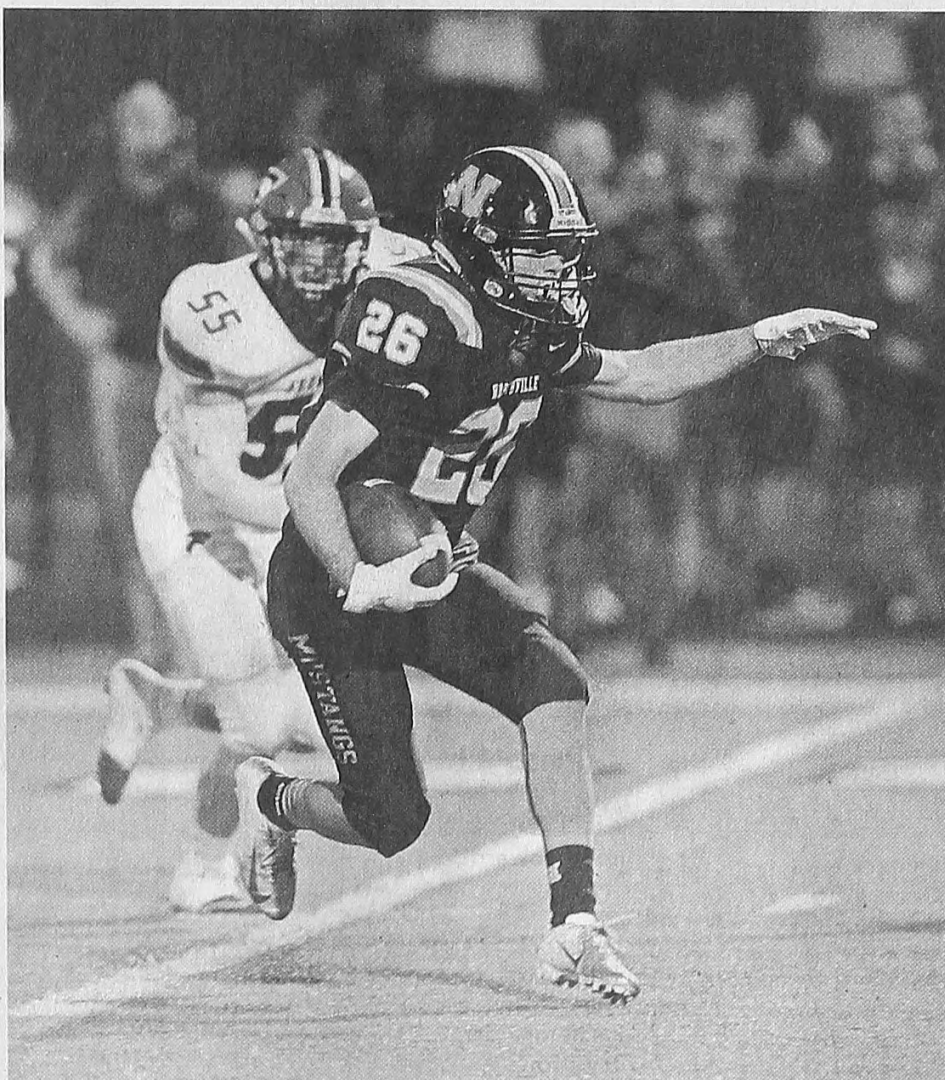
Friday, Aug. 24 games

Northville 28, Franklin 21: Enzo Rodriguez rushed for 93 yards and 16 carries, including a pair of 1-yard TD runs, leading the host Mustangs (1-0) past Livonia Franklin (0-1). Quarterback Nick Lauderback also threw an 11-yard TD pass to Trevor Schornack and scored on a 16-yard run for Northville, which held a 21-0 first-half lead. Jackson Cooney went 4-for-4 on extra points. Junior quarterback Jake Kelbert, who was 8-of-18 passing for 122 yards, got Franklin on the board in the fourth quarter on a 35-yard TD run, followed by an 81-yard TD strike to Fredrick Biles. Adam Saghir and Anthony Montemayor both had five tackles for Northville. Arsell Weary had 10 tackles, including two sacks, while Aidan Pittenger had nine tackles for Franklin.

Salem 23, Wayne 14: Nathan Hunt scored on a 75-yard touchdown run and Tyler Overatits added a 30-yard TD pass to Sheldon Lyall as the Rocks (1-0) won at Wayne Memorial (0-1) in Justin Reed's debut as head coach. Overatits also scored on a 5-yard TD run, while Joshua Gilmour added a 23-yard field goal as Salem led 9-8 at halftime. Jacob Rhien made seven tackles to lead Salem. Wayne junior QB Ricardo Covin threw TD passes of 8 and 40 yards to seniors Chris Bopala and Cartier Muse-Suber, respectively. Sophomore linebacker Isaac Thomas led Wayne's defense with 10 tackles, including six for loss and two sacks. Freshman linebacker Owen Roper Jr. added eight tackles.

John Glenn 26, Novi 14: Senior Chad Stevens threw TD passes of 22 and 66 yards to Jarrad Tarrance and Dante Barthwell added TD runs of 83 and 3 yards, leading Westland John Glenn (1-0) at home against the Wildcats (0-1). Barthwell had 127 yards rushing on 13 carries, while Justin Morrison added 95 on eight attempts for the Rockets, who had 402 yards total offense. Stevens was 8-of-18 passing for 176 yards. Elijah White paced the Glenn defense with eight solo tackles and two assists. Jason Jennings, who rushed for 107 yards on 19 carries, scored on a 38-yard run for Novi. Quarterback Drew O'Connor added a 32-yard TD run. Josh Erno contributed 58 yards rushing and had eight tackles for Novi.

Thurston 20, New Boston Huron 3: Leonard Funchess ran for 102 yards on 15 carries and scored on touchdown runs of 3 and 42 yards for visiting Redford Thurston (1-0). Quarterback Keysean Ware, who was 7-of-10 passing for 123 yards, hit Davon Hedwood with a 35-yard TD pass. Defensive standouts for the Eagles included Xavier Coleman-Patrillo (three solo tackles, six assists);



Northville running back Enzo Rodriguez is chased by Franklin linebacker Ethan Cooper. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

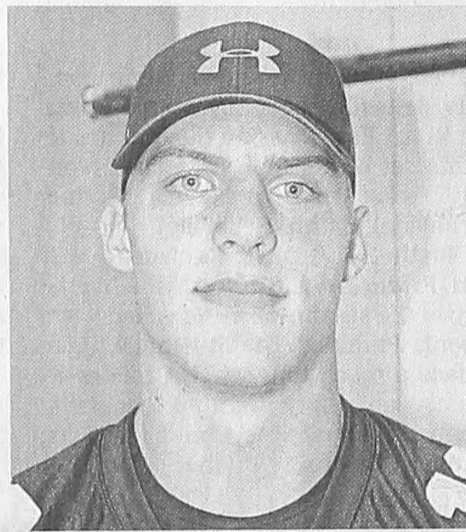


Dancer

Marvus McWright (two solo, six assists, fumble recover), Javonne DuBose (four solo, sack, two assists) and Martez Nabors (interception)

Birmingham Brother Rice 28, Detroit U-D Jesuit 0: Greg Piscopink was 15-for-19 passing for 195 yards and three touchdowns for Birmingham Brother Rice (1-0). Colin Gardner caught nine balls for 133 yards and three touchdowns, of 54, 29 and 18 yards. James Donaldson ran for 80 yards and a 1-yard touchdown on 17 carries.

Farmington 37, Berkley 21: Farming-



Kaminski

ton's Kendall Williams had 15 carries for 176 yards and three touchdowns and added an interception on defense. Anthony Reaves was 4-of-6 passing for 47 yards and a touchdown, while Jayone Fletcher scored on a 70-yard punt return.

Macomb Lutheran North 36, Livonia Clarenceville 22: Angelo Basilisco was 3-for-7 passing for 103 yards and two touchdowns for the Trojans. Basilisco ran for 49 yards and two touchdowns on 10 carries. Jake Mlynarek ran for 39 yards on four carries. Connor Fin-

kel caught three balls for 103 yards and two touchdowns.

Thursday, Aug. 23, games

Birmingham Seaholm 41, Troy Athens 7: Birmingham Seaholm opened the season with a convincing win at Maple Field in an OAA crossover battle. The Maples were led by senior Chase Mentag, a three-year starter, who registered three touchdowns and 109 yards rushing. Senior Max Schumaker gained 119 yards on the ground. Quarterback Gray Kinnie, a senior who missed all of last season with a knee injury, had 97 yards rushing. The victory snapped a seven-game losing streak dating back to Week 2 of last season.

South Lyon East 29, Waterford Kettering 0: East's first victory was a shut-out on its home turf over Kettering. The defense was led by Jon Carter (interception), Colt Kovach (interception) Ayden Oliver, Terry Day, Rashard Ray (interception) and Nick Helfrick (fumble recovery). Quarterback Chris Kaminski paced the offense by completing 11-of-18 passes for 160 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Sean Clary hauled in eight passes for 81 yards and a touchdown. The rushing attack was led by Matt Gilbert, who carried 23 times for 153 yards and a touchdown. Donovan Wright also scored a touchdown while rushing for 83 yards.

South Lyon 22, Walled Lake Northern 21: South Lyon gave its home fans an opening night thriller with the come-from-behind win over Northern. The Lions trailed 21-14 before registering the game's final touchdown and pulling out the win with a successful two-point conversion. The late touchdown was a 15-yard pass from quarterback Brendan Dancer to Brendan Lach. South Lyon's other touchdowns were scored by Jack Schafer (22-yard run) and Michael Dancer (98-yard kickoff return). South Lyon, which finished with 220 yards total offense to Northern's 344, led 14-7 at halftime. Schafer finished with 70 yards rushing on 10 carries, while Michael Dancer had two receptions for 21 yards. Brendan Dancer completed 8-of-20 passes.

Cranbrook Kingswood 13, Redford Union 0: Jack Fairman (3-yard run) and Torrell Williams (28-yard reception) in a successful debut for new coach Scott Steward at Cranbrook (1-0). RU (0-1) was led by Amir Rashed, who finished with 45 yards rushing on nine carries. Carl Ware was the Panthers' leading tackler with 11.

Waterford Mott 41, Milford 0
Bloomfield Hills 39, Utica 14
Flat Rock 15, Garden City 0

Coaches: Call in scores and top performers to 313-222-6660 or email them to sports@freepress.com and liv-sports@hometownlife.com. Have great video? Email us at liv-sports@hometownlife.com to be included in the Hometown Highlights video reel and poll.

Chargers

Continued from Page 1B

scheme," Churchill coach Bill DeFillippo said. "That was them struggling a little bit to get that off. Always early season special teams ... all head coaches, I think, are worried when you've got to play special teams Week 1. We stepped up and got three of them tonight, which helped us a ton first half."

Churchill missed a first-quarter field goal and stalled on two other drives, but got on the board after Forgacs blocked his second punt of the half, putting the ball at the Canton 47 with 8:21 left.

"I think one guy missed his assignment, because I heard one of their coaches yelling, I saw nobody was there to block me, so I just went for it," Forgacs said. "The first one I only got a glance off of it, but the second one I obviously got the full arm, so I was really happy. I was just happy to get it."

The Chargers used 10 plays to score their first touchdown, capped by Darrell Mason Jr.'s 5-yard run up the middle with 5:03 left to make it 7-0.

Churchill's Desmond Dewberry, a senior transfer from Salem, then blocked Ben Stasiak's third punt attempt of the half and Jacob Robertson snagged the ball out of the air at the Chiefs' 14.

"I dove for it and I didn't think I was going to get it," the senior linebacker said, "and all a sudden my left finger I felt this pain and I'm, like, 'Oh, I must have blocked it.'"

The next play, Alsobrooks hit Avery

Grenier on a slant for a TD and the Churchill QB converted the PAT to make it 14-0 with 3:13 left in the second quarter.

"And when I saw my teammate (Robertson) pick it up, I was, like, 'That's a big turn,' because as soon as we blocked that, we scored on that drive," Dewberry said. "It was really nice, a really good feeling. When I was at Salem, I had about four blocked punts in a season, so it's nothing new."

After getting three punts blocked, LaFata had no choice but to go for it on fourth-and-one at his own 37 with just over a minute left in the half as Stasiak converted on a keeper.

And LaFata, in his first game after replacing Hall of Fame coach Tim Baechler, took the blame himself.

"It all comes down to the coach. We didn't have them prepared enough, it's my fault," LaFata said. "It's 100-percent my fault."

Other than runs of 36 and 54 yards by Walker in the opening half, the Canton offense was totally stymied by the interior of the Churchill defensive front.

The first play of the second half, Alsobrooks connected with Grenier, who got behind a Canton defender, for a 74-yard TD bomb to make it 21-0.

"We were practicing that play all week. We knew it could be a big play, because they were running man-to-man," said Alsobrooks, who was 10-of-19 passing for 187 yards. "That's our best receiver right there - Avery Grenier. He did a hell of a job, broke the route. We had it. We knew coming out of the locker room we were going to run that first play. It's just the way it happened. We knew it. I did miss a deep ball earlier that I should

have had, but our team played great today."

Helped by a 15-yard personal foul, the Chiefs traveled 70 yards in 10 plays, which resulted in their first TD, a 2-yard run by Juwan Frazier with 7:43 left in the third.

Churchill, however, was undaunted as Alsobrooks found a tight window on third-and-four and hit Forgacs for a 24-yard TD with 4:53 remaining in the third to make it 28-7.

Taking just five plays in 1:34, Canton scored its second TD on a 1-yard run by Luke Joppi to cut the deficit to 28-14 with 3:18 left in the third.

Grenier then made a big play on the defensive side with an interception of a Stasiak pass at his own 20 with 10:59 left in the game.

Canton, however, made a game of it with another 10-play, 70-yard drive, capped by Marco's Johnson's 21-yard TD run with only 4:56 to go to cut the deficit to 28-21.

"You shoot yourself in the foot a few times - my fault, though - but our kids showed they competed," LaFata said. "They felt what it was like to play a really good football team who is coached up. Those guys are damn good over there. They competed. I'm proud of the way they fought that second half. But coaching-wise, we put them in a bad spot."

The Chargers' Deon Pitchford returned the ensuing kickoff 34 yards and the speedy Mason put it away on the next play when he broke a couple of tackles and cut loose 47 yards for another Churchill TD with 4:40 remaining to make it 35-21.

"Darrell was hurting, too. He rolled

his ankle the drive before, he just manned up and made a huge play," Alsobrooks said. "I love that kid, I'm so proud of him."

Canton finished with 364 yards total offense, including 331 yards on the ground, led by Walker (17 carries, 137 yards) and Stasiak (nine carries, 84 yards). But the Chiefs couldn't dig themselves out of a 21-point hole.

"It's a game of momentum," LaFata said. "Bad things are going to happen. You've got to respond and I'm happy by the way we responded. But then again, (it was) our fault as a staff for allowing that to happen and not have them ready."

Churchill, meanwhile, used a balanced offensive attack with 187 yards passing and 176 rushing, led by Mason, who had 91 yards on 10 carries.

"I thought we were able to mix it up tonight well," DeFillippo said. "We were able to run the ball when we needed to. I thought we were good on offense, we were good on defense and good on specials, getting contributions from so many of our guys. We had a lot of guys make big plays tonight. I'm thrilled for our guys - 1-0. We've got a quick turnaround, because we got to play Belleville next week."

The Chargers were able to set the tone from the start.

"We came out on the first drive and we realized they weren't hitting hard as usual and that we could hit just as hard as them, so we didn't back down at all and that helped us all day," Forgacs said.

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com.

PREP FOOTBALL

Northville heads to Canton in HTL's top game

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The first week of prep football featured some colossal match-ups, with interesting outcomes.

Week 2, again sporting a Thursday-Friday game menu, offers more of the same.

Here are this weekend's marquee match-ups, which our staff will be keeping a close eye on:

5 to Watch

Oak Park (1-0) at Birmingham Groves (0-1), 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30: The good news for Groves is this OAA White Division opener is at Falcons Field. The bad news is the Falcons will be facing one of the state's top teams loaded with Division I talent. Groves is coming off a tough loss to West Bloomfield, while Oak Park took care of Utica Eisenhower in the Prep Kickoff Classic. The teams split their last two meetings, with Oak Park earning a 34-14 victory last season. They were involved in a three-way tie for the OAA White Division title last year with Harrison. Picks: Emons (Oak Park), Budner (Oak Park), Smith (Oak Park).

White Lake Lakeland (1-0) at Waterford Mott (1-0), 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30: Lakeland is coming off a confidence-building shutout victory over Walled Lake Central in its LVC opener. The Eagles face a much tougher battle this week at Mott, which opened the season with an equally-dominating LVC shutout victory over Milford. Lakeland was a preseason favorite to win the LVC title this season, according to league coaches. Coach Chris Fahr's Corsairs won nine games last year and he will have his team ready. Picks: Emons (Lakeland), Budner (Mott), Smith (Lakeland).

Livonia Churchill (1-0) at Belleville (1-0), 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 30: Churchill played a strong game and surprised Canton in the season opener. The Chargers must put in an ever better effort this week in the KLAA East opener against Belleville, led by massive lineman Devontae Dobbs and defensive back Julian



Churchill quarterback Drew Alsobrooks fights for extra yardage as he tries to elude Canton's Victor Mancuso during the season opener. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Barnett — both Michigan State commits. Belleville is hoping to not only win the KLAA East Division title, but has its sights set on its first state championship. Picks: Emons (Belleville), Budner (Belleville), Smith (Belleville).

Northville (1-0) at Canton (0-1), 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31: Northville had its way in the season-opening victory over Livonia Franklin. The Mustangs figure to face a much tougher test this week against an angry Canton team that dropped its opener to Churchill. Picks: Emons (Canton), Budner (Canton),

Smith (Canton).

Rochester Adams (1-0) at Bloomfield Hills (1-0), 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31: Both teams are coming off nice wins last week — Adams by a point over district rival Rochester and Bloomfield Hills by 25 points over Macomb County foe Utica. The Black Hawks must find a way to keep the momentum going against a traditional OAA powerhouse that dealt them a stinging 40-point defeat last year. Picks: Emons (Adams), Budner (Adams), Smith (Bloomfield Hills).

Bonus game

Troy Athens (0-1) at Farmington Harrison (1-0), 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 31: The Hawks were impressive in opening their final season with a big victory over North Farmington. Harrison will use this game as another tuneup for its monumental Week 3 showdown at Oak Park. Picks: Emons (Harrison), Budner (Harrison), Smith (Harrison).

Contact Marty Budner at mbudner@hometownlife.com.

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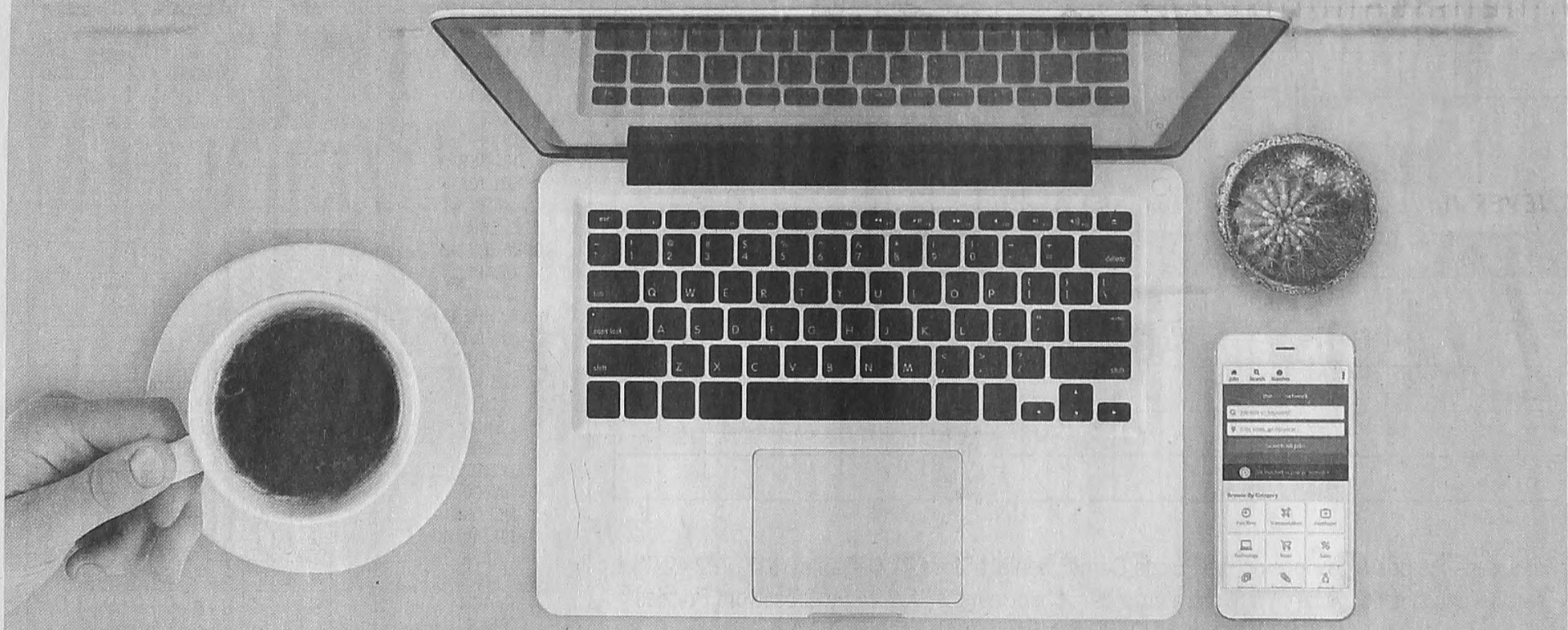
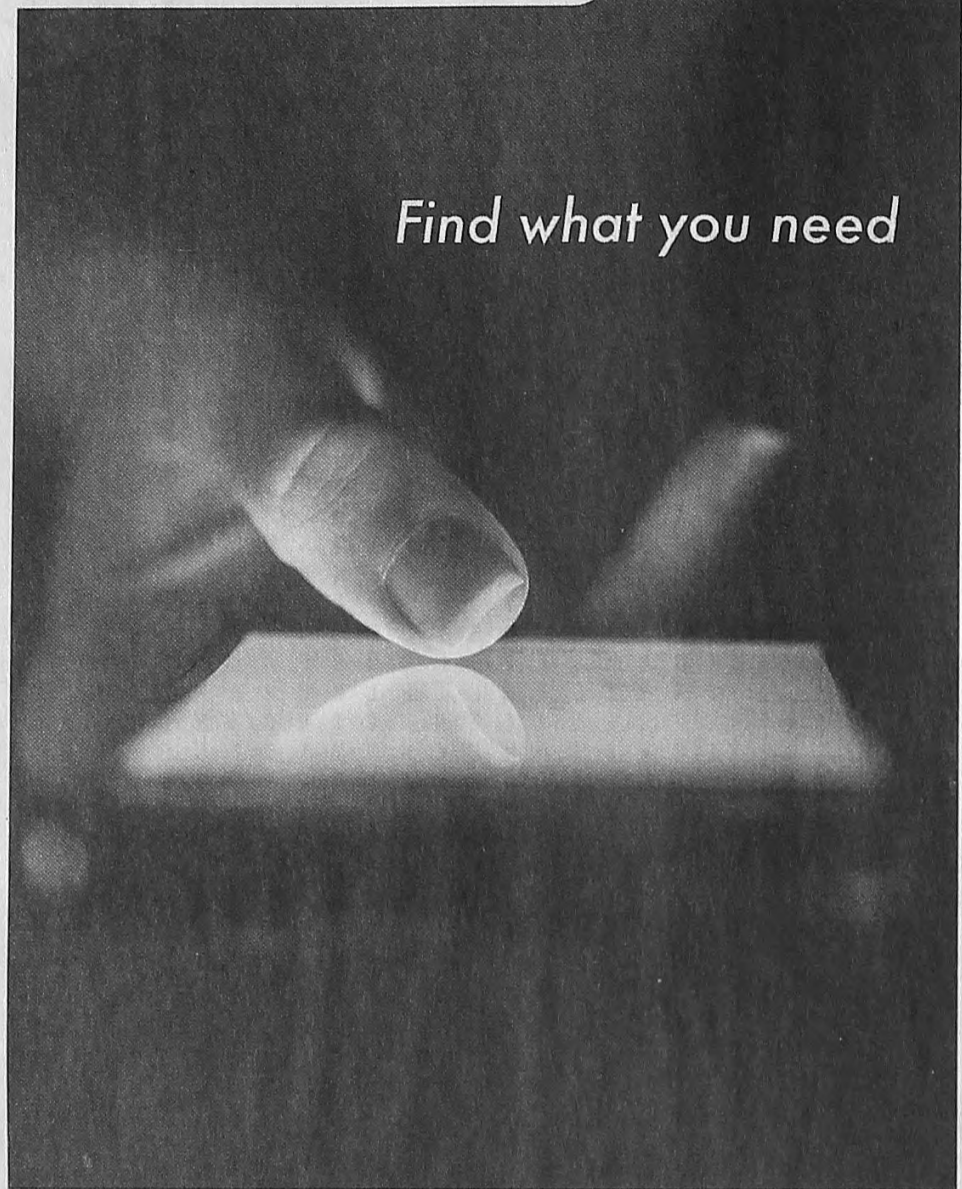
Up To \$1000 OFF A New AC Unit

Coupon must be presented & discounted at the point of sales transaction. All sales are final & no other offers can be combined. Rebates, credits & financing vary by model. Expires 8/31/2018.

*Financing with approved credit. Interest accrues at time of purchase unless paid in full during promotional period. For regular term purchases, APR is based on US prime rate and is subject to change. Monthly payments required.

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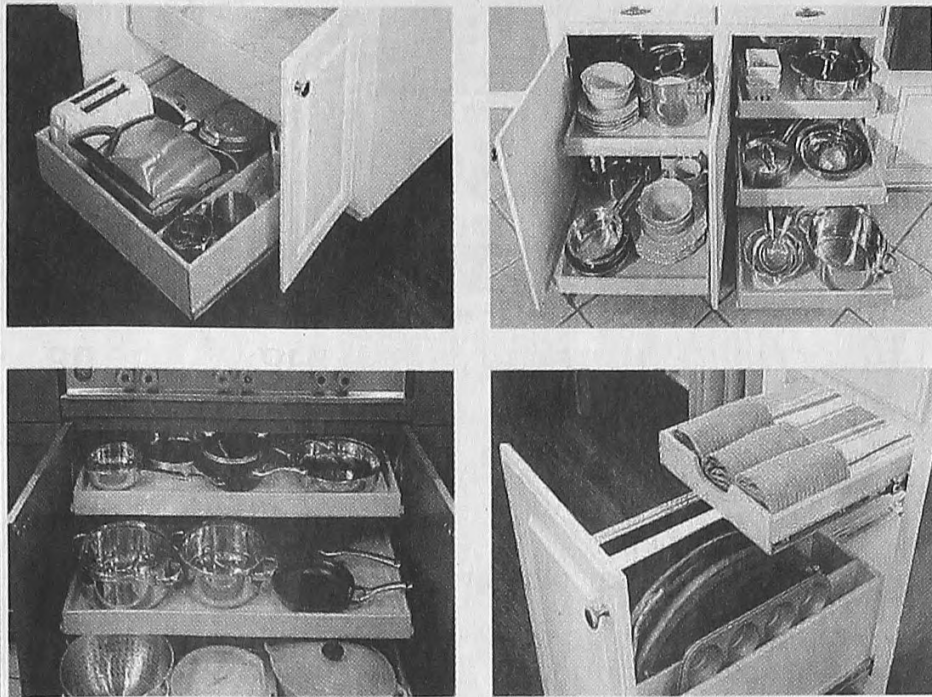
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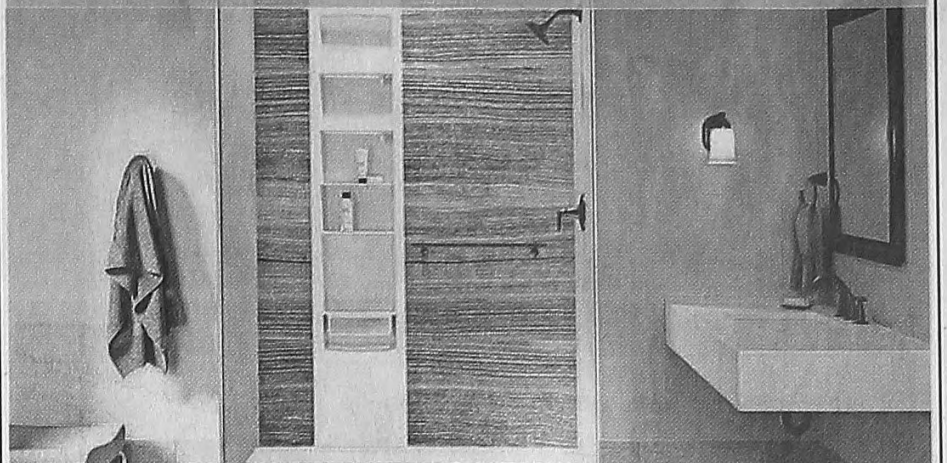
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Schedule your free design consultation

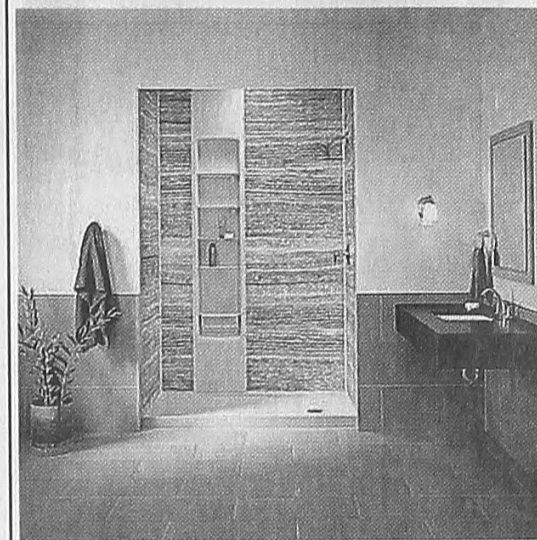
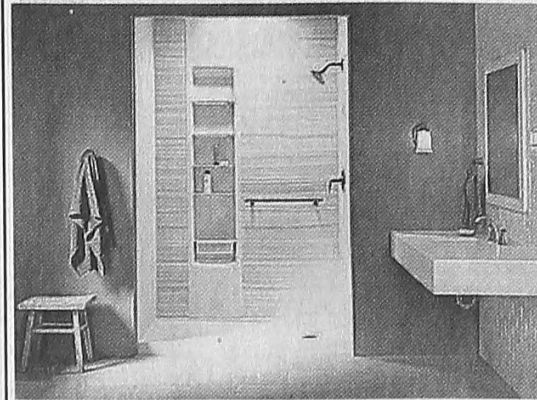
(248) 462-7491

*Limit one offer per household. Applies to purchases of 5 or more Classic or Designer Glide-Out™ shelves. Lifetime warranty valid for Classic or Designer Solutions. Learn more at shelfgenie.com. Expires 9/30/2018

KOHLER LuxStone Showers



UP TO
\$1,000 OFF A KOHLER LUXSTONE SHOWER



- Full wall panels, made from LuxStone™, an exceptionally durable and attractive material that requires minimal maintenance
- Decorative accent wall options that can provide a visual impact and help you achieve the perfect aesthetic appearance for your bathroom
- In-wall storage options, including moveable shelves and hooks that maximize your shower space and enable you to easily organize your bathing accessories

NEW BATH TODAY

313.483.7839

*Limited time offer. All participating dealers only. Not available in AK, HI, or Nassau County, NY, Suffolk County, NY, Westchester County, NY, and Buffalo County, NY. Also may not be available in other areas. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Savings is off of KOHLER LuxStone Shower purchase and installation.

**Not just clog-free...
GUARANTEED
Clog Free.**



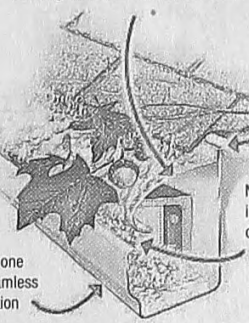
NEVER have a clogged gutter again, GUARANTEED!

ENGLERT LeafGuard®

OF MICHIGAN

Call for your FREE ESTIMATE
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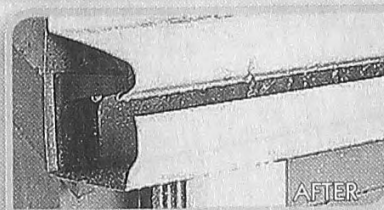
Covered hood deflects debris while allowing rain water to flow into gutter



Protective baffle controls backplash



Narrow opening impedes debris entry



Payments As Low As **\$50**

Patented one piece seamless construction
Financing Available

- The country's #1 recommended gutter
- Lifetime no-clog guarantee
- 20 year paint finish guarantee
- Heavy duty aluminum construction
- 20% thicker than conventional gutters

\$250 OFF
On any 100 ft. or more of gutter installed

Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. Present ad at time of estimate. Expires 8/31/2018

\$500 OFF
On any 200 ft. or more of gutter installed

Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. Present ad at time of estimate. Expires 8/31/2018

\$750 OFF
On any 300 ft. or more of gutter installed

Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. Present ad at time of estimate. Expires 8/31/2018

\$199/month
for a House-full of Marvin Fiberglass Windows**

AUGUST SAVINGS EVENT



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OF EACH
WINDOW OR
DOOR**

INFINITY
from MARVIN
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

MARVIN
Windows and Doors
Built around you.®

CALL TODAY to secure your limited time offer and schedule your FREE in-home consultation

CALL (877) 619-9773

HURRY! EVENT ENDS AUGUST 31ST!

*Certain Restrictions Apply. Can not be combined with other offers. Not valid on previous purchases. Must be presented at time of 1st appointment. FREE window installation must be same or smaller sized window as qualifying purchase. **Special Financing - you must qualify to receive financing. This financing is based on 7.99% APR for 10 years on 12 double-hung insert frame Infinity from Marvin windows, under 80 sq. ft. Greensky code 1203.

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LIMITED TIME OFFER:

60-60-60 SALE!

- ▶ 60% OFF INSTALLATION
- ▶ 60 MONTHS FINANCING
- ▶ FIRST 60 CALLERS \$600 MANUFACTURER REBATE



before...



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- ✓ Installed by mfr. trained & certified technicians
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15% OFF
for a limited time
PLUS NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST UNTIL SUMMER 2019!
CALL before August 31st!



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Disclaimer: *New orders only. With minimum purchase made at initial appointment and approved credit. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Atlas Home Improvement is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Atlas Home Improvement, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. 17.99-26.99% if not paid within 12 months.

Healthy Livonia

Sunday, September 9, 2018
9 a.m. start time

Race begins at St. Mary Mercy Livonia

stmarymercy.org/HealthyLivonia5K

Register Today!

Registration fee - \$35

Online registration closes on Wednesday, September 5 at 11:59 p.m.

On site registration is available at packet pick-up and race day.

Healthy Livonia Partners:

