



Playing with maturity key for senior-heavy Stevenson hockey

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON

OBSERVER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Wayne County Parks Director Alicia Bradford talks about the upcoming Wayne County Lightfest on Nov. 2 along Edward Hines Drive. Many lighted, animated displays like the one behind Bradford are already set up in preparation for the event. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Wayne County Lightfest ready to mark 27th year

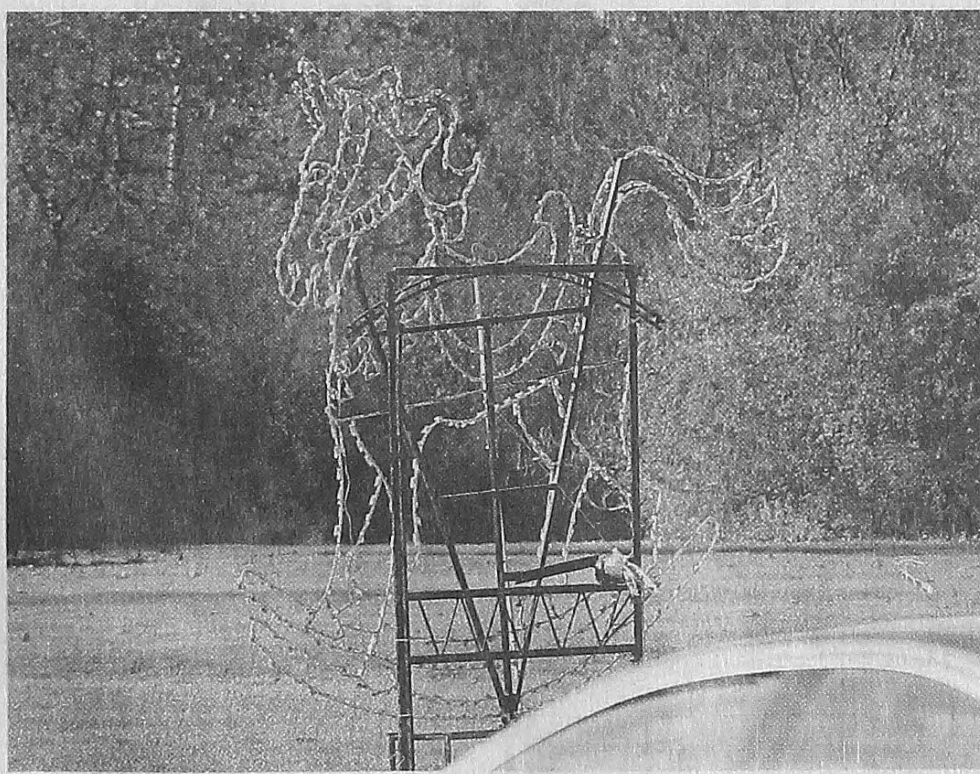
Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Fans of the Wayne County Lightfest can expect for this year's event to be quite similar to the one they know and love.

The festival opens the day before Thanksgiving and runs Wednesdays through Sundays through the end of the year. The event, which most people enjoy from their vehicles, practiced social distancing long before it was cool. Some of the event's people-heavy aspects will take a break this year, however.

"It's going to be a little different, but almost the same," said Alicia Bradford, Wayne County's parks director. "We won't have the pre-events like we typically do with our run, walk and bike through the lights and our official lights-on ceremony. So we won't have those events because of COVID, and we want to make sure it's safe."

See LIGHTFEST, Page 6A



A rocking horse lighted display sits along Edward Hines Drive near Merriman.

Westland clerk: System kept people from voting twice Nov. 3

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A number of voters in Westland showed up to vote in person on Election Day after previously requesting an absentee ballot. Later in the day, three of those people tried to vote absentee, as well.

Clerk Richard LeBlanc is happy to report those attempts were unsuccessful.

The three voters, who all received an absentee ballot, did not bring that ballot to their local precinct to surrender it to election officials.

But, election workers can determine if someone already has a ballot regardless.

"When (election workers) enter the voter's name, whether they scan it or type it, the information within that poll book will verify the voter's status," LeBlanc said. "It may say that they're active and have not received a ballot, it may say that they need to be verified for their signature or citizenship ... and it also would indicate whether or not they

were issued an absentee ballot."

In such cases, poll workers then call the city to confirm whether the absentee ballot has been received.

If it has not, the voter can sign an affidavit approving the city to spoil the absentee ballot so it's not counted even if it

See VOTING, Page 6A

CANTON

Gas station at former farm stand not a fit

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Opinions about the rural feel of western Canton Township and more led the planning commission to recommend denial of a future land use amendment for a proposed gas station at a former farm market.

The commission voted unanimously during its meeting Monday at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill to recommend denial of the proposal for a gas station and convenience store at the former Mary's Farm Market on the southwest corner of Ford and Beck roads.

Several members of the commission and township community planner, Patrick Sloan expressed concern over the development. The reasoning stemmed from the township's master plan that addresses such businesses in that area of Canton.

See GAS STATION, Page 6A

Farmington Hills chief talks 2020 complaints

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two females were in a minor crash earlier this year, and they apparently left the Farmington Hills scene with each other's contact information, agreeing there was no reason to call police.

Then the one with the damaged car texted to say she had received a \$200 estimate to repair a dent and scratches on her vehicle.

When she didn't receive the response she hoped for, she mentioned that her brother is a Farmington Hills police officer.

The police officer tried to reach the second person involved in the crash, calling three times in quick succession without leaving a message.

See COMPLAINTS, Page 6A



Plymouth High employee dies from COVID-19

Ed Wright hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

If Don Lucas had created a start-up company, it would have been called Smiles, Inc.

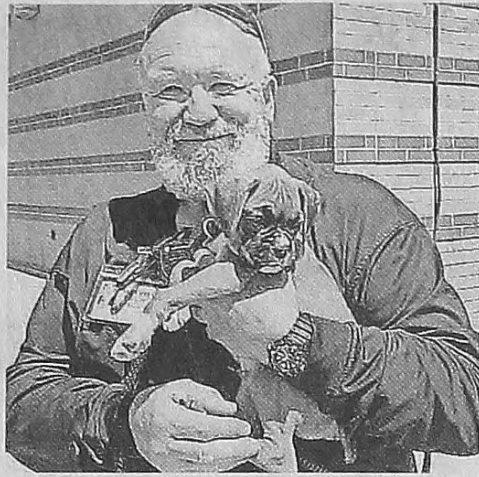
A security guard at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park campus for the past six years – and a full-time substitute teacher at the three PCEP high schools prior to that – Lucas spread joy with his relentless optimism, uplifting presence and daily inspirational speeches in the Plymouth High School cafeteria.

Lucas, 64, died Sunday at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia following a three-week battle with COVID-19.

He is survived by his wife, Lauren; brother, Dennis; and hundreds of PCEP students who he referred to as “his kids.”

“I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support,” Lauren Lucas said. “He never said a harsh word to anybody. His big saying to kids was, ‘Be the change.’ He told the kids they were the sunshine and they needed to shine.”

Lucas said her husband became symptomatic three weeks before his death and the symptoms were harsh from the outset. He was intubated 11 days before his death but continued to battle, making brief comebacks before



Plymouth-Canton Community Schools security guard Don Lucas died Nov. 8 due to complications from COVID-19.

SUBMITTED

the virus ultimately overtook his body.

“The only communication we had during the last several days of his life were he would text me emojis to tell me how much he loved me,” Lucas said. “The hospital is overwhelmed with COVID patients. It’s really, really bad. People need to be careful.”

“We lost a great, kind man.”

Don Lucas excelled in the U.S. Air Force before working at the Robert Scott Correctional facility in Plymouth Town-

ship and the Huron Valley Women’s Prison before his retirement in 2012.

“Of his three college degrees, one was a teaching certificate, so two years after he retired from the prison, he signed up to be a substitute teacher because he wanted to impact kids’ lives,” Lauren Lucas said.

A GoFundMe page set up for Don Lucas was jam-packed with testimonials from students whose lives he affected.

“Don touched every student he interacted with,” one former student wrote. “I’ve been out of high school for three years and I can still remember my first interaction with Don. He told our class the we were all wonderful people and tasked us to do one kind thing for someone else every day.”

“I’ve lived by Don’s mantra every day since. Don’s mission to brighten the day of everyone he touched never fell short. We will miss you, Don.”

Mallory Luttrell said Lucas’s daily inspirational quotes during lunchtime “always made my day.”

“My friends and I wrote down his new quote every day,” Luttrell shared. “Everyone always cheered and clapped when he was done. He lifted the spirits of everyone.”

Justin Rogers said Lucas would “ask me about my day and life every single day. RIP to my friend Don.”

Canton High School instructor Dave Gerlach said Lucas was a spirits-lifter, plain and simple.

“I don’t think I ever saw Don in a bad mood,” Gerlach said. “And his laugh was contagious. It was a Santa Claus laugh. He was such a genuinely nice person.”

“We see all the numbers on TV every night about how many people are infected with COVID and how many are dying, but it doesn’t really sink in until somebody you know and care for like Don is taken from us. It’s just gut-wrenching.”

Plymouth High School instructor Scott Thomas said Lucas was a ray of sunshine in good times and bad.

“The one memory that I will never forget is the day I fell in my classroom last year and I hurt my chest, and as the EMTs were taking me out to the ambulance, (Don) grabbed and squeezed my hand and said, ‘Thomas you got this. Let me know if you need anything,’” Thomas recounted. “Don Lucas was more than a great security guard at Plymouth High School, he was a great caring and compassionate man.”

A celebration of Lucas’s life will be held at a later date, Lauren Lucas said.

“We are truly grateful to the staff at St. Mary’s Hospital,” she said.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

State rolls out app to track virus exposure

Kristen Jordan Shamus detroitfreepress.com
USA TODAY NETWORK

Want to know if you’ve been exposed to the coronavirus? Now, there’s an app for that.

Called MI COVID Alert, the free app for iOS and Android smart devices was rolled out statewide Monday by the state Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

Anyone who has downloaded and enabled the app who has been within 6 feet of another MI COVID Alert user for at least 15 minutes in the last 10 days will be notified with a push alert if that close contact tests positive for the virus.

“We want people to be as safe as they can be at this very dangerous time,” said Robert Gordon, director of the state health department.

“The most important things people can do to protect themselves are wearing masks, particularly when they’re indoors, avoiding crowds indoors, social distancing regularly and rigorously. Those are the most important things,” Gordon said. “But there are other things people can do to protect themselves. And one of them is learn when they’re exposed to others who have COVID. The sooner you know, the sooner you can get tested, the sooner you can quarantine.”

The app could “make a meaningful difference in bringing the virus under control,” said Gordon, explaining that Michigan is now seeing “exponential growth in the number of cases, in hospitalizations and we also see fatalities rising. It is extraordinarily alarming.”

On Monday, the state health department reported a two-day total of 9,010 new cases and 62 deaths.

The seven-day average of new daily confirmed cases — 4,559 — is more than double what it was at the peak of the spring surge. So far in the pandemic, it has recorded 216,804 total confirmed coronavirus cases and 7,640 deaths.

MI COVID Alert was developed by Apple and Google, Gordon said, and is anonymous. It does not share names of those who have gotten positive coronavirus test results or people who’ve been in contact with confirmed coronavirus cases.

It can be downloaded free from Apple or Google Play app stores.

Using Bluetooth technology instead of GPS to ensure privacy, app users can confidentially submit a positive test result with a randomly generated PIN and alert others who’ve recently been close by that they may have also been exposed to the virus.

“Bluetooth works without identifying individual users and nobody captures the information when matches occur,” Gordon said. “Let’s say that I, Robert, start feeling sick. I go get tested. I am positive and I have the app on my phone. Public health will give me a code to enter into the app to say that I tested positive.”

“And at that point, a set of anonymous keys will be uploaded to the cloud. And that will be matched anonymously

against other phones that were in proximity to me prior to my testing positive. And if a match occurs, someone will receive a notification that they were in proximity to someone who tested positive.”

“They will not receive notification that it was me. ... They will just receive a notice that says you should strongly consider getting tested. You should strongly consider quarantining.”

App users who had a coronavirus exposure may be asked to provide a name and phone number to connect them with contact tracers at the local health department and provide information about local testing sites. However, submitting those details is voluntary, Gordon said.

MI COVID Alert also allows users to track their symptoms and will give advice on what to do to protect themselves and the others from the virus, which it has so far infected

The app was piloted in Ingham County and on the Michigan State University Campus in October.

From Oct. 15-Nov. 9, 46,704 people downloaded the app — that’s about 23% of Ingham County residents ages 18-64 and nearly 16% of the total Ingham County population, health officials said.

And more than 40 people in that pilot program have received notifications so far of coronavirus exposures so far, Gordon said.

“This app has the potential to provide the kind of early exposure notification that is critical to preventing the spread of the virus,” said Dr. Norman Beauchamp Jr., MSU’s executive vice president for health sciences, in a statement. “In addition to wearing a mask, social distancing and getting tested, downloading the app is one of the most important steps we can take to help keep our communities safe.”

The hope is that the app will help state and local health officials with the contact tracing COVID-19 cases, which gets increasingly more difficult as new daily case numbers continue to rise.

In some parts of the state, Gordon said, local public health officials are overwhelmed.

“We believe deeply in the human dimension of contact tracing,” Gordon said. “But with so many cases, local health departments just can’t keep up and this becomes a tool to identify contacts when the human contact tracing is overwhelmed.”

“There are places in the state where that is happening.”

Similar coronavirus exposure apps also are being used in Virginia, Arizona, New York, Alabama and New Jersey. MI COVID Alert will be compatible with those apps as well.

“Gov. (Gretchen) Whitmer talked last week on the modeling that shows that if we can’t change course of the spread of this virus, we may well see 100 deaths a day, as we did in the spring,” Gordon said. “It’s a five-alarm fire, and we need to do everything in our power to get the virus under control ... if not for yourself, then for others.”

Michigan small businesses receive nearly \$100 million in COVID-19 grants

Adrienne Roberts detroitfreepress.com
USA TODAY NETWORK

More than 14,000 small businesses in Michigan impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic have received grants of up to \$20,000 for expenses such as payroll, rent and utilities, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced Tuesday.

Overall, the relief totals nearly \$96 million from money made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security, or CARES, Act. The money was sent to Michigan and then distributed to 15 local or nonprofit economic development organizations covering all 83 counties in the state.

“Families across the state depend on small businesses for their livelihood, and these grants, combined with additional COVID-19 business relief efforts” offered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, “have helped to create a strong foundation for Michigan’s long-term economic recovery,” Whitmer said in a news release.

Earlier on in the pandemic, counties rushed to set up the systems to distribute the funds, worried that if they didn’t get money in the hands of local businesses quickly, many wouldn’t stay open.

While there’s no official count of how many businesses in the state have closed, nearly 800 small businesses with a presence on Yelp’s website and mobile app permanently closed their doors in metro Detroit since the start of the pandemic through mid-July, the most recent data available.

Many small businesses that have remained open say they are struggling due to slower demand and the added costs of buying safety equipment.

Of the 14,000 grants, 4,617 went to businesses that reported they were minority-owned, 6,314 reported as woman-owned, and 743 reported as veteran-owned, with some businesses selecting multiple categories.

At least 30% of the funds were required to go to women-owned, minority-owned or veteran-owned businesses as a part of the Michigan Small Business Restart Program.

Whitmer, in the news release, called for more financial support.

“We still need the president and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to work across the aisle on a bipartisan recovery package that will provide support for our families, front-line workers and small businesses,” she said.

A full list of the businesses that received the grants can be found at www.michiganbusiness.org/about-medc/covid19/restart.

More resources for Michigan businesses are listed at www.michiganbusiness.org/covid19.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
PLANNING COMMISSION

PROPOSED ACTION: Special Land Use Consideration
APPLICANT: Mr. Ben Arcenal, Home for Mom and Dad Assisted Living Facility
DATE OF HEARING: Wednesday, December 9, 2020
TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall Offices, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth has received an application requesting Special Land Use consideration and approval on Tax ID No. R-78-028-99-0001-000 and R-78-028-99-0002-000, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No. 99, as amended. The property is generally located on the south side of Plymouth Road, due west of Eckles Road and is zoned the C-2, General Commercial district. Section 13.2 of the Zoning Ordinance permits assisted living facilities as a Special Land Use in the C-2 district.

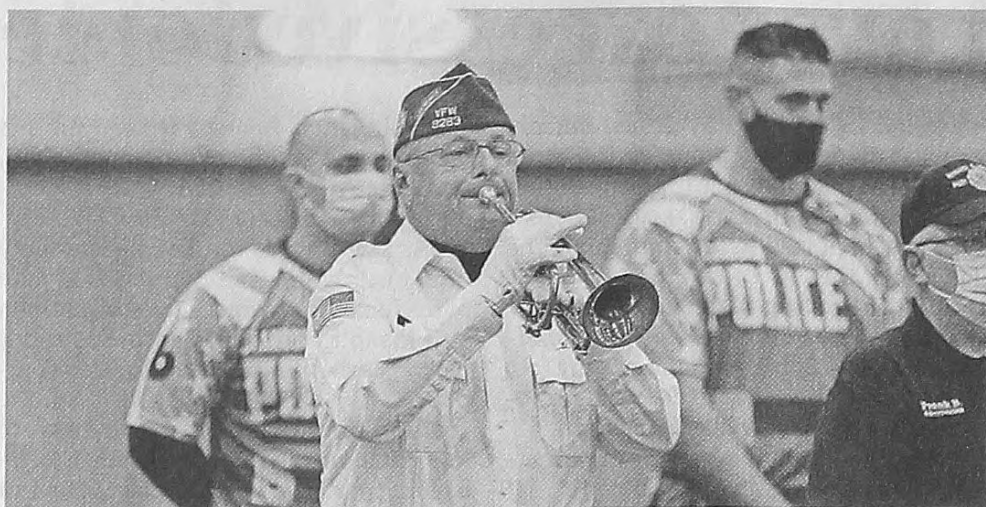
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that persons interested may attend the public hearing and/or send correspondence regarding the application to Plymouth Township Hall, attn.: Carol Martin. Pertinent information relative to the application is on file at the Plymouth Township, Public Services Department (second floor counter) and may be viewed during regular business hours from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the public hearing upon one week’s advance notice by writing or calling the Supervisor’s Office, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170; (734) 354-3201.

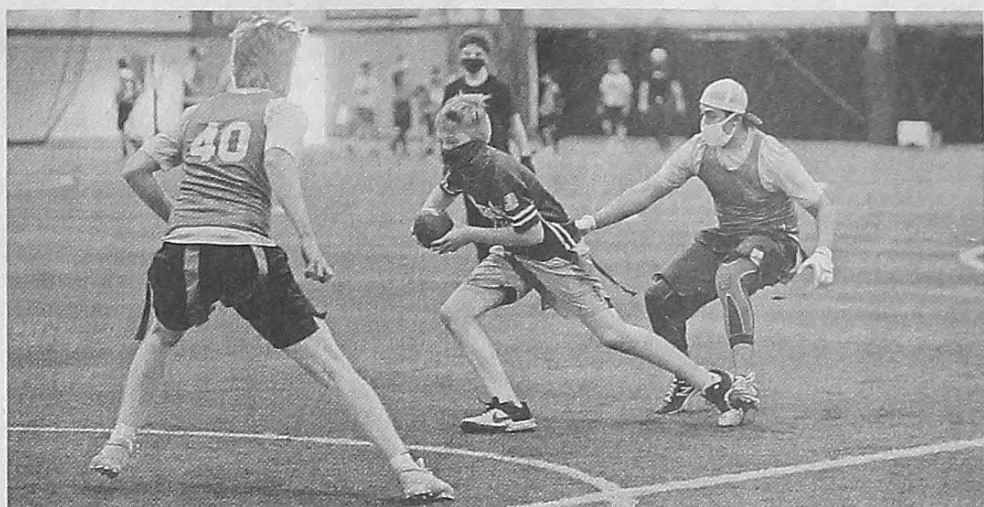
Kendra Barberena,
Secretary, Planning Commission

Publish: November 15, 2020

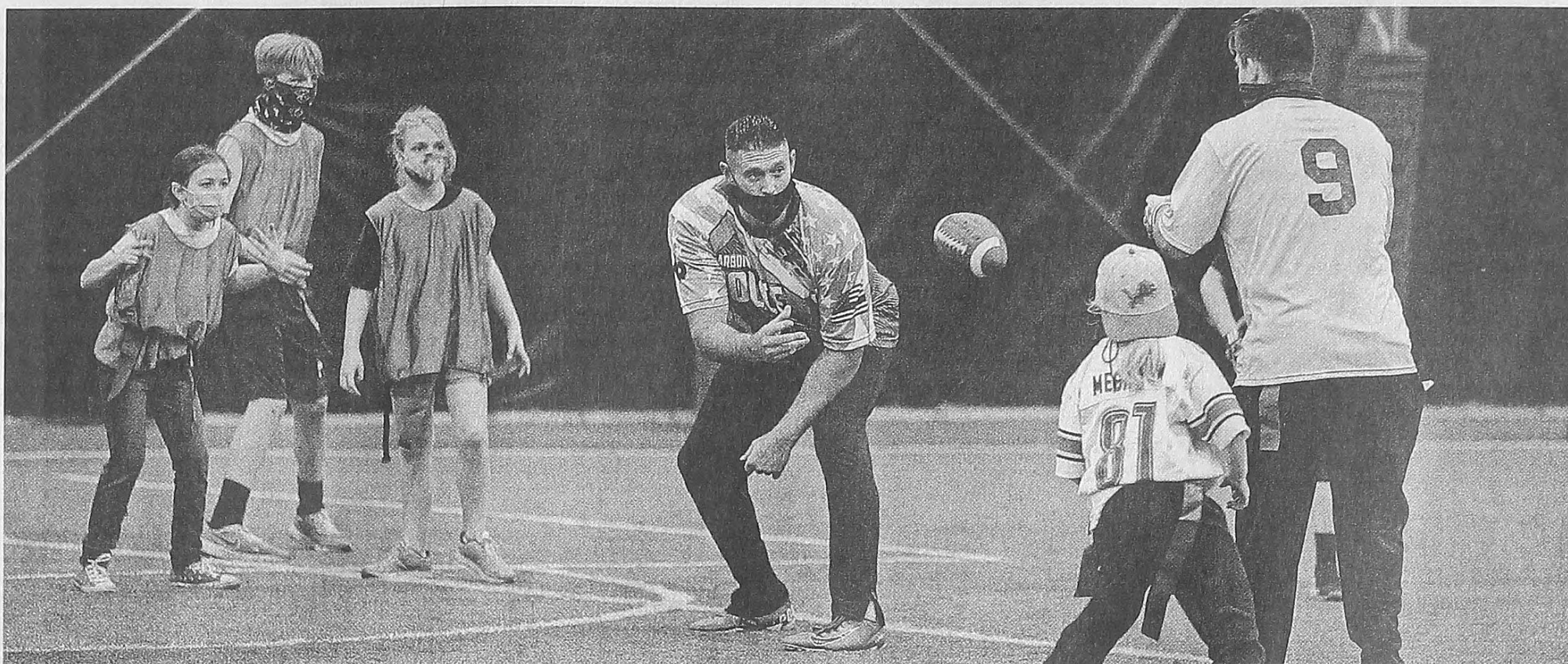
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MercyElite Sports Performance held its fifth annual Justice Bowl on Nov. 7 at Total Sports Wixom. PHOTOS COURTESY OF SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE



This year, teams also adopted some precautions, like masks and some social distancing, because of concerns related to the coronavirus pandemic.



The game brings local law enforcement and veterans together with sixth to tenth grade students for a flag football tournament.

Police, veterans play in youth flag football game

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Who doesn't love a little football in the fall?

In an effort to build positive and healthy community relationships, Mer-

cyElite Sports Performance held its fifth annual Justice Bowl Nov. 7. The game brings local law enforcement and veterans together with sixth- to 10th-grade students for a flag football tournament.

The free event, held around Veterans Day every year, is meant to promote the

values of justice, mercy, courage, stewardship, reverence and integrity among local youth. Six teams play in the tournament, one named after each value. This year, teams also adopted some precautions, like masks and some distancing, because of the pandemic.

MercyElite, part of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, has two Livonia locations — one at 13245 Newburgh and the other in the Kirksey Recreation Center at 15100 Hubbard. However, Saturday's game took place at Total Sports Wixom.

New Michigan bills aim to help veterans find work

Focus on cutting red tape for military members, family after relocating

Paul Egan Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

LANSING — On the eve of Veterans Day, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and lawmakers from both parties announced legislation Tuesday they said will make it easier for military members, veterans and their families to get jobs in Michigan.

The package of bills will make it easier for them to get professional licensing when they move to Michigan from other states, cutting fees and red tape to speed transfers, officials said.

Active military members are transferred frequently and it is often difficult for their spouses or children to quickly get work in a different state after a move.

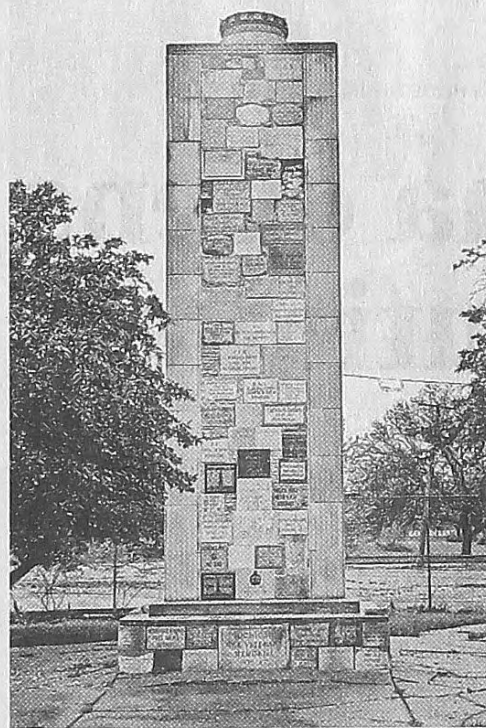
"Spouses that are seeking employment ... are disrupted every time they move," said Major Gen. Paul Rogers, director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and adjutant general of the Michigan National Guard.

The bills will ease such moves to Michigan, affecting doctors, nurses, engineers, accountants, social workers, plumbers, skilled trades people and many others who require professional licensing.

In addition to helping the military, "it will help our economy," Whitmer said.

"I want to thank all the great men and women who have put their lives on the line for others in this state."

Veterans are already eligible for initial license, registration, or application fee waivers for professional occupations regulated under the Occupational Code and the Skilled Trades Regulation Act. This legislation will expand present fee waivers under those acts to include dependents of veterans and those on active duty. Fee waivers will also be extended to health professions licensed under the Public Health Code. A dependent is defined as a spouse or child under the age of 26.



The 30-foot-tall deteriorating Michigan War Veterans Memorial near the now-abandoned State Fairgrounds in Detroit as it looked in 2017.

DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

Also Tuesday, Whitmer asked President Donald Trump to extend federal pay and benefits for the use of Michigan National Guard personnel to assist in the fight against the coronavirus, through March 31.

Currently, federal funding is approved through the end of the year.

"The Michigan National Guard remains a crucial part of the state's emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Guard is vital to our ongoing recovery as well," Whitmer said in a news release.

"Michigan, as in many other states, is experiencing a marked incline in our COVID-19 positive cases across the state. To provide a thorough response, Michigan has been heavily relying on the Michigan National Guard's efforts to perform widespread testing and screening, distributing personal protective equipment, and assisting at numerous food banks across the state."

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Ohio island cops sued over excessive force

Westland resident alleges no warning before body slam

Omar Abdel-Baqi Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

When Westland residents Monica Gullege and Lyle Taylor headed to Put-in-Bay, Ohio, in May, they sought what many do when they go to the village on a Lake Erie island: a fun vacation, said their attorney, Ven Johnson.

Instead, a police officer body-slammed Gullege from behind suddenly and without warning, injuring the petite woman, while he was responding to an unrelated incident, according to a lawsuit filed last week on behalf of the couple in the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Ohio.

Afterward, according to court documents, Taylor was assaulted by an officer and placed under arrest. The couple, who are both Black, is suing three police officers and the Village of Put-in-Bay for excessive use of force, false arrest and assault and battery for the incident that happened on May 24.

The lawsuit is one of two filed last week by Johnson, a Detroit-based attorney, that allege that the Put-in-Bay Po-

lice Department has “a practice of misconduct that gave rise to routinely making false arrests and uses of excessive force” and that the department fails to adequately train and supervise officers.

Put-in-Bay is a village with fewer than 200 residents located on Ohio’s South Bass Island. It is a popular vacation destination for people in Michigan’s Lower Peninsula and Ohio. It’s about 2½ hours from Detroit (including a ferry ride). Cars are scant on the island, and golf carts are a commonly used mode of transportation there.

“The village vigorously denies all allegations of misconduct,” Put-in-Bay Police Chief James Kimble wrote in an email to the Free Press. He declined to comment any further.

In a separate lawsuit filed in federal court, two of the same officers named in the Gullege suit are alleged to have pulled over four vacationing family members and friends from Ohio who were driving a golf cart on June 6. All four plaintiffs are Black.

In that case, officers pointed a gun at the unarmed vacationers, one of whom was in handcuffs, and used a Taser multiple times on two of them, according to the suit.

All four of the plaintiffs — Diamone Wilson, Ryan Hollingshed, Panzie Hunter and Paris Hunter of Sandusky, Ohio — were detained at a point, and Hol-

lingshed was “forced by armed officers to walk to a transport ship on the other side of the island from the police station while in handcuffs and shackles” before being transported to the county jail, the lawsuit states.

“We’ve got to put an end to systemic racism,” Johnson said. “I’m not indicting all police officers, that’s not my job. But it is my job to call out cops that absolutely break the law like these did.”

He added that no weapons or narcotics were involved in either incident.

Johnson said his clients in both suits were either never charged or had charges dismissed by the Ottawa County Prosecutor’s Office.

The situation involving the Ohio group began when officers pulled over a golf cart for failing to stop at a stop sign and for having too many people on the cart.

While writing a citation, one of the officers, Michael Russo, indicated that he saw one vacationer pass an item to Wilson, subsequently placing her in handcuffs.

No illegal item was ever found, according to the complaint.

Wilson’s brother, Hollingshed, asked why his sister was handcuffed and then another officer moved to place him in handcuffs, according to the complaint and video from the incident reviewed by the Free Press.

Hollingshed backed away, put his hands in the air and asked what he did, and Russo rushed over to him and seemingly fell on his way to cuff him.

“As Russo got to his feet, he suddenly took out his firearm, pointed it at (the plaintiffs), threatened to shoot them and inexplicably yelled at them to ‘get back,’” according to the federal complaint.

The plaintiffs “pleaded with Russo to lower his weapon and continued to reassure him that nobody was armed or being aggressive, but Russo refused to do so,” according to the lawsuit.

As backup arrived, two subjects, who both had their hands in the air, were tased, the lawsuit states.

Chief Kimble told the Toledo Blade that none of the officers involved in the lawsuits are currently employed by the department. Russo could not be reached for comment.

The Ohio plaintiffs were brought into a holding cell at the Put-in-Bay Police Department at about 9 p.m. Three were released at 3:30 a.m. without being arraigned or advised of any charges against them. Hollingshed was transferred to mainland Ohio, to the Ottawa County Jail, and later had charges against him dropped, according to the lawsuit.

Defendants in both lawsuits are seeking \$75,000.



The showroom of the new Sleepyhead Mattresses & More in Westland. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

John Glenn alumna opens mattress shop, boutique

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

For Oriana Albrecht, opening two separate stores in one is all about efficiency. Opening up both Sleepyhead Mattresses & More and Dreambox Boutique in the same spot is a unique look but is one that’s worked so far in Westland.

The John Glenn High School alumna and current Plymouth resident shifted from being just an online retailer to having a brick-and-mortar location, opening during the height of shutdown this spring at 37816 Ford Road in Westland inside a former party store.

“I opened this a year ago online and it blew up,” she said of Dreambox Boutique. “We have a website. We have an app now. It’s been nuts.”

The two businesses that operate under one roof sell mattresses, clothing and home decor. The south end of the shop has mattresses ranging in sizes from twin to king for sale, while the north end has clothing racks holding jeans, tops and more. Home decor and seasonal merchandise is also up for sale.

She originally thought of operating two storefronts in the building — located on the north side of Ford Road between Newburgh and Hix — but ultimately decided to go with just one storefront.

“The boutique stuff ended up taking over the house,” she said. “That’s why I ended up here.”

“It works because the people that come in for mattresses see this side and



Sleepyhead Mattresses owner Oriana Albrecht talks about opening up her brick-and-mortar shop after being an online retailer for awhile.

the people that come here see that side. It definitely works.”

She said she’s looked to open such a physical location for about a year. Construction took several months and was completed in the spring, allowing Albrecht to open her doors to the public as much as she could because of restrictions put into place because of COVID-19 in the spring.

Between offering curbside pickup and eventually opening the doors, Albrecht said she kept customers moving in and out from the property until she could open the doors for shopping.

“We were trying whatever we could,” she said. “We were very busy.”

The clothing selection, which is mostly women’s but does include some men’s and children’s, come in small batches and are fairly unique. If a customer sees something they like, Albrecht said, they ought to purchase it.

“I usually only get a minimal quantity and once they’re sold, they’re sold,” she said. “I don’t get it again. We’re not like the typical stores where they get mass quantities.”

The shop is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Those looking to shop online can visit sleepyheadmattresses.com and dreamboxboutique.com.

Giraffe living the high life at Detroit Zoo

Nisa Khan Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Detroit Zoo has a new, tall friend.

Zara the giraffe, a 2-year-old female, came from an Illinois zoo to join the Detroit family this fall. Before Zara could join her fellow giraffes, she had to go through a mandatory and customary quarantine for several weeks.

But now she can stroll and gallop along Mpenzi, Kivuli and Jabari in the zoo’s African Grassland habitat.

Scott Carter, the chief life science officer for the Detroit Zoological Society, said in a news release that Zara has a calm demeanor and “seems eager to learn new things.”

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums Species Survival Program suggested Zara move to the Detroit Zoo on a breeding recommendation. The program’s goal is to ensure healthy, genetically diverse captive animal populations.

The declining number of giraffes prompted the International Union for Conservation of Nature to put the species on the “vulnerable” list in 2016.

Giraffes lost around 40% of their population in the last 30 years.

“There is serious conservation concern with wild giraffe populations due to poaching, loss of habitat, and the effects of war and civil unrest across Africa. We believe the giraffes at the Detroit Zoo are strong ambassadors for their cousins in the wild,” Carter said.

The Detroit Zoo is open to the public by reservation, which is limited to six people per group.



Giraffe Zara peeks around Kivuli in her new home at the Detroit Zoo. COURTESY OF CHRISTINA ROSS

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Love the house. Know the neighborhood.

Complaints

Continued from Page 1A

The female on the other end never picked up and later filed a complaint with the police department. She alleged the other driver was using her police officer brother as leverage so she would pay for the repairs.

"She told me he 'was trying to help,'" the complainant wrote to police. "I felt scared. I was afraid to answer and did not understand why he would need to call me."

The February complaint was deemed unfounded, but internal investigators ruled that the police officer's involvement "does give an improper appearance."

"His action did result in us sitting down and having a conversation with him and explaining the situation that the appearance of impropriety was not something that the Farmington Hills Police Department stands for," Chief Jeff King said during a recent interview, adding that police officers are held to high standards.

He has "unequivocally" condemned the actions of the Minneapolis police officers who killed George Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, in May, prompting protests throughout the nation.

Throughout the department, there have been reiterations of oaths and reminders of the department's duty-to-intervene policy, which demands Farmington Hills' approximately 100 officers take a stand if they witness any law enforcer's misconduct or use of excessive force. There has been the continued push for cultural awareness and sensitivity training.

However, stories of officers versus people of color continue to happen across America.

Police can't please everyone

"None of us are perfect," King said. "There's things that in any profession — doctors, teachers — where there's misconduct or there's criminal behavior.

"The difference is police officers are held to a much higher standard. We take an oath to not only hold others accountable but to live our lives both on-duty and off-duty beyond reproach. We should be serving as the standard. When we don't, it does have a heightened level of scrutiny."



A Farmington Hills police officer conducts a traffic stop near Orchard Lake and 11 Mile roads.

COURTESY OF FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Since summer's protests, Hometown Life has been filing Freedom of Information Act requests with metro Detroit law enforcement agencies to review 2020 civilian complaints.

King, during the recent interview, was responding to four complaints filed and resolved by early September. Partially redacted, they include the Orchard Lake traffic incident and these other complaints:

- A female saying in March a dispatcher's response was "childish, useless and condescending" when she called 911 to say Livonia police had been stalking her for 10 years because of her rape complaint. Formal conclusion: "Upon review there is no unprofessional interactions with the dispatchers. In fact, I was unable to determine what exactly in her 911 calls she was trying to report."

- A male was released from custody in June. Police returned his property but the person leaving custody said his earbuds were missing. Formal conclusion: The earbuds were never taken during the booking process. Some shoelace clips were mistakenly identified and documented as earbuds. "When we confronted him with that information, he retracted the complaint," said King, adding that complaints remain on file after resolution. "Just because the officer didn't do anything wrong, doesn't necessarily mean that we won't have a conversation with them. Just because it doesn't result

in discipline doesn't mean it can't result in improved performance."

- A female filed a July harassment complaint because she claimed a female officer stopped her "without clear reason" near Nine Mile and Farmington roads. "I was not breaking any traffic laws," she wrote. "This officer has been to my home on a few occasions, and I feel this was harassment." According to an investigator's report, the officer had checked on the driver's license plate and learned of an outstanding Detroit warrant before making the traffic stop. An open wine bottle was found in the vehicle. Formal conclusion: "There is no indication at all of any form of harassment. The stop and actions taken by (the officer) were completely justified," a captain wrote. King noted that the officer temporarily removed the complainant's handcuffs because of discomfort, allowed her to make phone calls and only warned her about the open intoxicants. "There were significant efforts on behalf of (the officer) to treat that complainant with the utmost respect," the chief said.

In retrospect

The police department investigated eight complaints, including one internally-generated grievance, in 2018. Two were sustained, including the internal one, which was started by a police supervisor and concluded with a suspension. The other sustained complaint, generated by a citizen, resulted in verbal counseling for the officer.

There were seven complaints, with two internally-generated grievances, in 2019. One of the internal complaints was substantiated that year and the employee was counseled.

King recalled meeting with hundreds of protesters last summer near 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads. Some were screaming and yelling, asking questions and making demands. King said he explained his department's responsibilities and procedures, and most of the crowd seemed appreciative and accepting.

"The majority of the citizenry clearly and overwhelmingly not only support us, but they support and expect us to hold ourselves accountable," King said. "That's what they're looking for and that's what they have here in Farmington Hills."

Voting

Continued from Page 1A

is turned in, a method that is successful most of the time.

In 2018, one Westland resident managed to vote twice in one election, which was later caught by the Michigan Secretary of State office, according to LeBlanc.

LeBlanc said he has faith in Michigan, Wayne County and Westland election officials. Amid some stated public distrust of the country's voting system, LeBlanc said attempts to "game" or "test" the system by trying to vote twice are illegal. He also noted that, uncommon as it may be, some people do manage to cheat the system.

In Michigan, violators can be charged with a felony that can include four years of prison time and a \$2,000 fine. Voter fraud cases are pursued by the Michigan At-

torney General's office, not the city. Presently, the city has not reported the three attempts of voter fraud to the state.

"Someone is always trying to break the system or test it," LeBlanc said. "I think Michigan has an exceptionally good process to process ballots. None of our systems in the state are connected to the internet during that time that actual voting is happening, so you can't hack it that way."

With the protections Michigan has in place, LeBlanc said he thinks it is a safe state in which to vote.

"Elections are safe, they are secure," he said. "The system that we use is proven around the country and, at the same time, it's a human process. Because it's a human process and humans do certain things, there can be an opportunity for something to not go exactly as expected. But, not to the extent that it would compromise the election itself or the process itself."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.



A voter fills out a ballot application card at the Westland Library. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Lightfest

Continued from Page 1A

Though people will miss out on the pre-events, food service and Santa Shelter, they will see some new displays on the four-mile route along Edward Hines Drive, which starts at Merriman Hollow Park in Westland.

"Since Lightfest will be 27 years old this season, there are some older displays that have reached their life's end," Bradford said. "We try to cycle out and replace some displays at least every two years."

County parks staff usually spend six to eight weeks setting up the displays every year. Bradford said the county aims to make the festival something anyone can enjoy.

"It's a fantastic event for families or really anyone to get out and bring on the holiday spirit, and we definitely need it during this pandemic now," she said.

During the coming holiday season, Bradford said the county is expecting big crowds.

"We are actually expecting more people because you can safely stay in your car," she said. "People want to get out. You know, we were on stay-at-home early on and people are still managing staying at home, so something that will allow you to just have a nice, fun evening out, we're thinking, we'll have more attendance."

Starting Nov. 25, the Lightfest's hours will be 7-10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 6-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets cost \$5 per vehicle and can be purchased at 7651 Merriman Road, the route's starting point. It is closed Christmas Day.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.



The Canton Township planning commission has recommended denial of a proposed gas station at the former Mary's Farm Market at the southwest corner of Ford and Beck roads. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Gas station

Continued from Page 1A

The request was to change the classification from medium-low density residential to general commercial. Doing so, Sloan said, would require several steps that appear to be inconsistent with the township's comprehensive plan, including trying to keep the rural character of the western part of Canton.

"Based on those policies, the proposed application to change the site from medium-low density residential to general commercial is not supported by the existing policies," Sloan said.

Mary Hauk, the owner of the property who operated the market for more than 25 years, moved out of Canton after her family farm operated in western Wayne County for nearly 100 years. She decided last year to not reopen the farm market, saying it was not financially viable to do so.

"I don't think it's too far-fetched putting something there to accommodate the neighborhood," she said. "It would be there to service the west side of Canton and the people that are there.

"I was hoping to at least have the ability and open-mindedness."

Several commissioners said the idea was good, but that it did not follow township planning and they did not want to set precedent for making such changes.

"I love the idea. I'm sure there's a big need with all the homes over there now," said Commissioner Alan Okon. "But to me, it just doesn't follow the master plan. When the master plan is looked at again, there could be a need for some of this."

Commission chairman Greg Greene told Hauk to appeal the decision to the township board, which has final say on such matters.

He said the board felt the proposal just did not fit in that area of Canton based on what was already on the books.

"Please understand that this denial is not because we hate the property or we hate you or anything else about it," he said. "It's just that as Patrick as alluded to, the township had a design for the western part of the township and to this point, we haven't seen fit to deviate from that in terms of corner uses. That's where we're at right now."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.

Due to the holiday, our office hours and obituary placement times may vary.

Please contact us at 800-926-8237 or detroitobits@gannett.com for further details.

Obituaries

Edward Paul Ostin

PLYMOUTH - Edward Paul Ostin, of Plymouth, Michigan died November 4, 2020 at the age of 82 after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Edward was married to the love of his life and best friend, Sharon Ostin for over 30 years. Edward and Sharon have five children - Catherine (John) Bishop, Kimberly (Bill) Shaffstall, Edward Ostin, Michael (Renee) Ostin and Matthew Nettie (deceased); six grandchildren, Alison, Kyle, Bradley, Ryan, Edward (EJ) and Cassandra and three great-grandchildren, Crosby, Vivian and Dakota. He is also survived by his dear brother, Eugene Ostin (Liz Wells) of Virginia and sister-in-law, Lorene (Paul) Michalski of Florida. He was preceded in death by his mother, Emmeline and father, Edward Ostin.

Edward proudly served a 40-plus year career in public service with the Birmingham, Michigan Police Department and retiring in the year 2000 as Chief of the Department. Sharon and Ed loved spending time at their home on Torch Lake and their home in Peoria, Arizona. He was an avid outdoorsman who really enjoyed fishing and hunting. Edward had a great sense of humor, had an infectious laugh and was dearly loved by all who knew him.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the U of M Rogel Cancer Center, 1500 East Medical Center Dr., CCGC 6-303, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-0944 or The Birmingham First United Methodist Church - Hunger Mission, 1589 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009.



Harold Turner

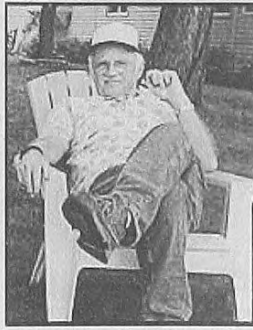
Harold Dan Turner, born June 16, 1937 passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on November 5, 2020 at the age of 83. Coming from a railroad family, Harold worked as an engineer for 40 years based out of Detroit.

Harold and Susie lived in Garden City when they got married in 1957. Starting in 1968, they spent summers at Otsego Lake. After retirement in 1996, Harold and Susie moved permanently to Otsego Lake. This year, they moved to Zeeland, Michigan to be closer to children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

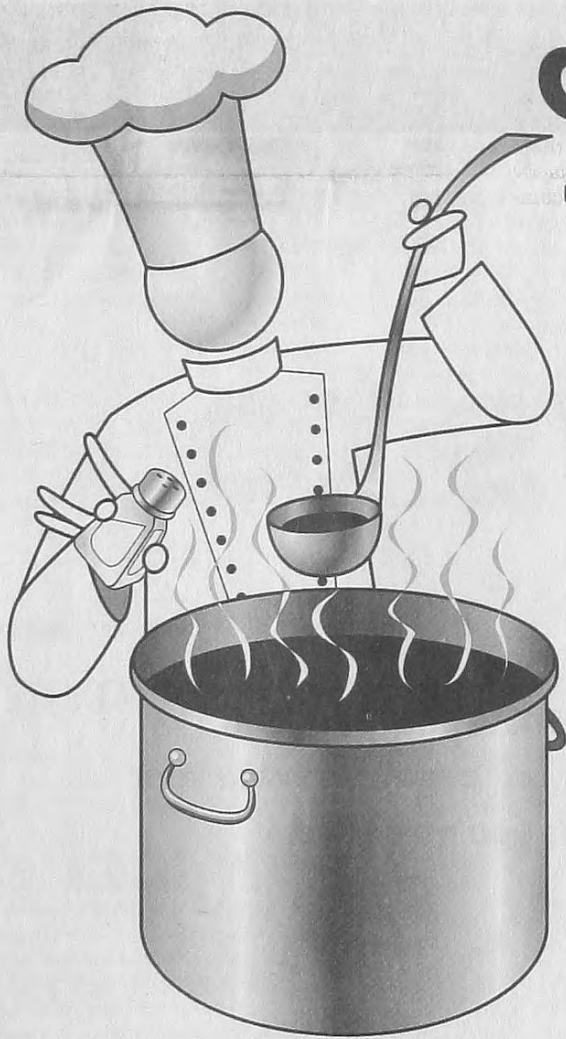
Preceding him in death are his parents, Othel and Florine Turner; sisters, Paulette Groh, Shirley Matevia and his constant companion, his black lab "Buddy Deuce".

Harold is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Agnes "Susie" Turner; son, David Turner; daughter, Dawn (Paul) Stephenson; grandchildren, Amanda (Dan) Stuk; great-grandchildren, Tinley and Maisy Stuk; brothers, Caroll (Candy) Turner, Jerry (Karen) Turner, James (Kathy) Turner; sisters, Mary Ellen (Bobby) Cook, June Pichini, and many close friends.

A celebration of Harold's life and his sister Shirley's is being planned for next summer. Cremation has taken place. Harold was a true animal lover so in lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Harbor Humane Society, 14345 Bagley St. West Olive, MI 49460. Arrangements are by Dykstra Funeral Homes-Downtown Chapel. To sign an on-line registry or leave a memory please visit www.dykstrafuneralhome.com



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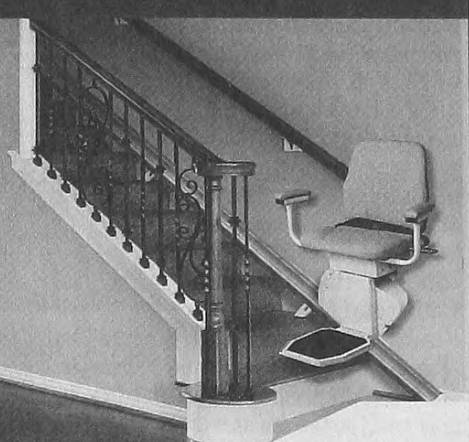
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Customer understands that presentation of this ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE signed by Customer is required and understands that ADT reserves the right to reject any application for reimbursement that does not comply with ALL of the requirements. Photocopies or other reproductions of this Certificate will NOT be accepted. By signing below, Customer certifies to ADT that all of the foregoing requirements have been satisfied. Please mail to: ADT Security Services, Account Management Support Center, Attn: Theft Protection Guarantee Claims, 14200 E. Exposition Avenue, Aurora, CO 80012. **BASIC SYSTEM:** \$99 Installation, 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$1,007.64), 24-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$27.99 per month (\$671.76) for California. Offer applies to homeowners only. Basic system requires landline phone. Offer valid for new ADT Authorized Premier Provider customers only and not on purchases from ADT LLC. Cannot be combined with any other offer. 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SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Groves forfeits postseason after eligibility issue arises

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham Public Schools announced Tuesday that Groves' football season is over after the athletic department "incorrectly interpreted an eligibility rule."
According to the Michigan High

School Athletic Association, Groves was forced to forfeit both of its prior playoff games and its upcoming district final against Warren Mott, scheduled for Friday.
Spokesman Geoff Kimmerly said he is still awaiting word from the MHSAA regarding if Groves will be forced to forfeit any 2020 regular-season contests.
Birmingham Public Schools released

this statement:
"Today, following conversations with MHSAA, it was determined that the Birmingham Groves Athletics Department incorrectly interpreted an eligibility rule. With this knowledge and subsequent conversations with the MHSAA, our governing body for high school sports, Groves varsity football will be forfeiting the next contest with Warren

Mott and the Groves football season will come to an end.
"We are extremely saddened that this has occurred but thank our senior leadership and the dedicated coaching staff for all they have done this season. This is not an ideal way to end the season but we do hope our players can be proud of
See FORFEIT, Page 2B

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

ERASING THE PAIN

Plymouth's Patrick Byrnes pushes through injury, finishes third at Division 1 state meet

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Patrick Byrnes was not 100 percent heading into the final cross country meet of his high school career.

Over the course of his senior season at Plymouth, he suffered through an Achilles strain. And while he was still finding his way near the top of the leaderboard in each race, finishing third at regionals, he knew it was not the way he had pictured ending his career.

But heading into the state meet at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Byrnes knew, no matter what shape he was in, he was going to give it all he had, no matter the cost.

"My physical therapist, he was like 'Go all out as you can,'" Byrnes said. "You will probably re-strain it and make it worse, but we have four months for you to rest and recover until track. It's more than enough time."

The Plymouth senior said his Achilles began to hurt a mile and a half into the race, getting worse and worse each step he took. He ended up losing pace with Ann Arbor Skyline senior Hobbs Kessler.

In the final stretch, Byrnes erased the pain from his mind and pushed.

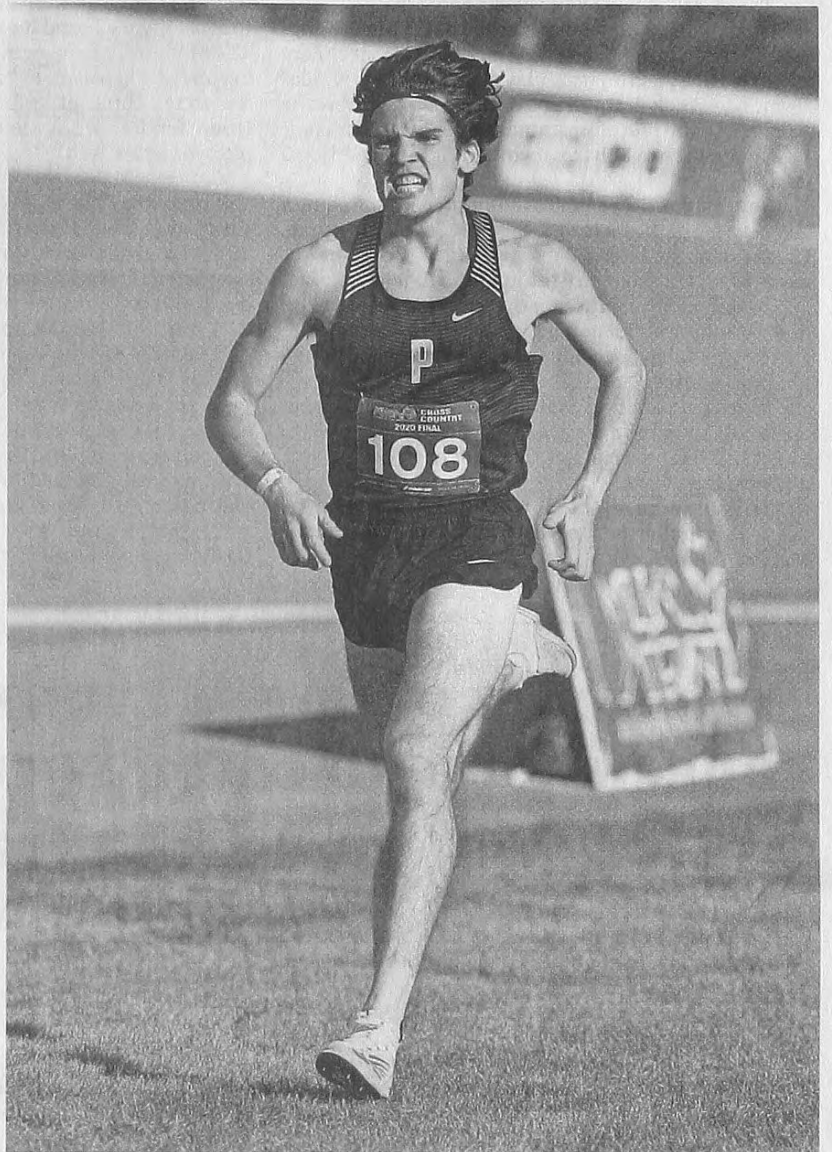
"When I finally decided the pain wasn't that bad - like it was bad, but it wasn't anything that was torn or anything - I continued to push it and go through," Byrnes said. "Especially at the end, I sprinted for the first time for four weeks, five weeks. That was pretty painful at the end."

The Plymouth senior finished third in the Division 1 boys cross country state meet, improving upon his fifth-place finish in 2019 by seven seconds with a time of 15 minutes, 25.66 seconds.

"He could not have done any more than he did today," Plymouth head coach Jonathan Mikosz said. "With not being able to do workouts for the past two weeks, he wasn't going to be able to go with Hobbs. He was out in no-man's land, and that is a hard place to be."

"He could have done one of two things today: he could have done really, really good or really, really bad. I'm glad. This is probably the best we could have expected."

Mikosz said in a program built upon
See BYRNES, Page 2B



Grimacing in pain from an Achilles injury, Plymouth senior Patrick Byrnes finishes third in the MHSAA Division 1 boys cross country state meet Nov. 6 at Michigan International Speedway. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

HOCKEY KLAAS EAST PREVIEW

Playing with maturity key for senior-heavy Stevenson

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan high school hockey season is nearly here.

Teams from around the area are preparing for the 2020-21 season, scheduled to begin Nov. 16, with the goal to make the state finals at USA Hockey Arena in March.

Here's a look at what teams in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association East division look like heading into the 2020-21 season.

Livonia Stevenson

Head coach: David Mitchell, 13th season

2019-20 record: 25-3-1, first in KLAAS East; lost to Trenton, 5-1, in the Division 2 state quarterfinal



Livonia Stevenson senior defenseman Nick Justice will play a major role for the Spartans in 2020-21. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE PHOTO

Season opener: vs. Hartland, 8 p.m. Nov. 25

Key returners: Senior defenseman Nick Justice, senior forward Brenden Heard, senior goalie Brenden Stroble

Season outlook: Livonia Stevenson's goal each season is to win its last game. The Spartans failed to do that during the 2019-20 season, falling to Trenton in the state quarterfinal, 5-1.

But head coach David Mitchell said it has been a long six months since then. And while the Trenton loss remains at the back of the team's mind as motivation, the team has to start from the beginning.

"You have to hit the reset button. You have to go back to fundamentals. You have to go back to your values and your core beliefs," Mitchell said. "And I think we have done that."

In the 2020-21 season, Stevenson will be senior-heavy, returning 13 juniors from last year's KLAAS East first-place finisher, including defenseman and leading scorer Nick Justice and starting goalie Brenden Stroble.

While having so many returners is a

"luxury" for Mitchell, his goal is to look internally, not only at how good this team is, but how good they could be with one more year of development.

"We're going to have to make sure we build and evolve and not continue to do some of the things that we did that put us in some precarious situations last year," Mitchell said. "We're going to have to make sure we play a mature brand of hockey and we play like a mature team."

Salem

Head coach: Ryan Ossennacher, 14th season

2019-20 record: 18-11, second in KLAAS East; lost to Detroit Catholic Central, 6-1, in the Division 1 state quarterfinal

Season opener: at Canton, 7:30 p.m.

See KLAAS EAST, Page 3B

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FOOTBALL

Groves exacts revenge vs. rival Seaholm

Ben Szilagy

Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A month has gone by since Seaholm senior Caleb Knoer stripped Groves senior Jared Mangham on a go-ahead touchdown near the end zone, ultimately resulting in Seaholm's spoil of Groves' homecoming.

The Falcons (5-3) have been stewing on that play, and that moment ever since.

"We messed up in the first game, we know that," Groves senior Myles Mooyoung said. "We just wanted to come out here and focus on being the best Groves team we can be. The rest takes care of itself."

On Nov. 7, Groves left the field feeling much different, beating Seaholm, 30-21, to advance in the MHSAA Division 2 playoffs.

Groves was scheduled to take on Warren Mott in the district finals but forfeited the game Tuesday.

"We were so hurt last year losing to those guys," Groves coach Brendan Flaherty said. "(Seaholm) took it to us last time. There was some Twitter stuff, and other things; we were fired up. We put our sole focus on beating Seaholm this week.

"The guy who wins will always cheer last."

Seaholm (5-3) jumped on Groves early, after Mangham chased down Maples wide receiver Michael Allen, who caught a pass on trick play from behind in similar fashion to Week 4. On the next play, Groves threw the ball behind the line of scrimmage and Seaholm defensive linemen Jake LaBarre recovered it for an early 7-0 lead.

Groves started a defensive affair then after forcing a three-and-out the next series. When Seaholm punted, Groves senior Stavros Panos returned the punt 75-yards to regain the momentum immediately.

Two offside penalties on the extra point led to Flaherty thinking about going for two with a quarterback sneak with Kaleb Garner for a 8-7 lead midway through the first quarter.

"It was a no brainer," Flaherty said. "If you're a yard and a half away from the goal line, you might as well try to get it. Then you can get their offense chasing you, and chasing points."

The game plan after that was just to be as stout as possible on defense. The Falcons wanted to key on the Maples' fullback every play and force Seaholm to run



Groves celebrates its district semifinal win against Seaholm on Nov. 7 - a result that would later be nullified because of Groves' forfeiting its postseason results. BEN SZILAGY/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

into the teeth of the defense or into its backside pursuit.

Seaholm wasn't able to sustain many drives in the first half only getting three first downs before the Groves offense found its stride.

Garner went to work in the second quarter connecting on two big passes to Panos to put the Falcons in the red zone. Three plays later, he found his tight end Orion Kendra over the middle on a 17-yard touchdown pass for a 15-7 lead.

Garner opened the second half with his natural ability to keep plays alive, finding Mangham for a 13-yard pass, three plays after the receiver scampered for 25 yards on a reverse. Garner then capped the seven-play drive, finding Kendra again for a 22-yard touchdown. Panos converted the two-point conversion for a 23-7 lead with 8:06 left in the third quarter.

"We were just trying to stay on schedule, and stay ahead of the chains when we could. Seaholm is a very, very good team. When we can stay ahead of the chains, that helps us out," Flaherty said.

Seaholm's Achilles' heel is it doesn't have an explosive offense. Instead, it's methodical and slowly churns up yards, even though it can be hard to stop.

The Maples were able to score on the next drive as Seaholm marched down the field in 11-plays in over six

minutes before Knoer scored on a four-yard run. The Maples trailed 23-15 with 1:52 left in the third quarter.

The Maples also stopped Groves multiple times, even after the Falcons converted a fake punt deep in its own territory to keep the game alive and pinning Groves deep with good punts. Late in the fourth quarter Seaholm cut back into the lead, 23-21, on a 11-yard sweep by William McBride.

The two-point conversion failed with 2:47 left in the game.

Groves' offense was stopped again and Seaholm had an opportunity to march down the field to take the lead with 1:41 left in the game. But The Falcon's defense wanted to make the Maples uncomfortable, and force them to pass to stall the offense.

"It felt good that (Seaholm) had to finally pass the ball. They bragged so much that they only threw once to beat us last time. It felt good to force them to throw, to get that pick," Mooyoung said.

On third down, Knoer rolled to his left and chucked the ball deep down field into double coverage. Mangham tipped the ball, and Mooyoung completed the interception and returned it 35-yards to seal the game for a 30-21 win with 23 second remaining.

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Remainder of South Lyon's season canceled due to coronavirus

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The South Lyon athletic department announced Wednesday that its football season has been canceled due to the coronavirus.

The Lions were scheduled to host North Farmington in the district final Friday.

"As with many other organizations across the state, our district continues to process cases of persons who tested positive or probable positive for the unprecedented COVID-19 virus," South Lyon Athletic Director Mike Teagan said in a statement. "Working with the Oakland County Health Department, the response to these cases and associated contact tracing can have an unintended impact on students, staff, families, class-

es, programs and activities. Unfortunately, SLHS will not be playing in the football game this Friday."

The Lions were scheduled to host North Farmington in the district final Friday.

North Farmington will advance to its first regional round since 1978, and will take on either Midland or Traverse City Central.

South Lyon finishes the season with a record of 6-3, with a second-place finish in the Lakes Valley Conference, earning playoff wins against Milford and Walled Lake Western.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at [@ColinGay17](https://twitter.com/ColinGay17). Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Forfeit

Continued from Page 1B

the work they put in and the accomplishments they achieved this year."

Birmingham Public Schools Director of Communications and Family Engagement Anne Cron declined to comment on specifics of the ineligibility issue, citing the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Groves Athletic Director Tom Flynn declined to comment for this story. Groves head football coach Brendan Flaherty did not respond to a request for comment.

Groves won each of its two playoff games, against Auburn Hills Avondale and Seaholm, respectively, and finished the regular season in fourth place in the Oakland Activities White division.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at [@ColinGay17](https://twitter.com/ColinGay17). Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Byrnes

Continued from Page 1B

toughness, Byrnes fits in line with the legacy of Plymouth runners before him, learning from Carter Solomon and the Wildcats runners of the past to continue the trend of All-State finishers.

As Byrnes crossed the finish line, his Plymouth cross country career was over. But instead of leaving the finish area, he moved to the side and waited. He had one last thing to do.

As Plymouth sophomore Sean Byrnes finished his first state meet, finishing 31st in 16:17.93, his older brother Patrick was right there waiting for him.

When Sean Byrnes crossed the finish line and saw Patrick, he said it reminded him of when he used to swim in middle school.

"(Patrick) used to come, him and my oldest brother, Ethan, were both timers for it," Sean Byrnes said. "They kept yelling in time with my strokes. So every time that I came out of the water, I heard them yelling for me."

"We actually ended up getting in trouble for that," Patrick Byrnes added. "We didn't stop. They told us to stop. We didn't."

Byrnes did not stop Friday. His Achilles did not stop him from placing third at the state meet. He did what he came to do.

"It's pretty sad," Byrnes said. "It's not the way I dreamed of going out. But with the scenarios, I got in as much training as I could, did everything I could."

Area teams step up at state meet

The Novi high school boys cross country team came into the regular season expecting to place in the top 20 at states. As the season continued, the Wildcats moved up to the top 10.

Novi surpassed even those expectations Nov. 6, finishing fourth in the Division 1 boys race behind Romeo, Caledonia and Rockford with a score of 239.

Novi senior Miles Brown finished in 14th place, in 15:46.63, followed by junior Mihir Gupta in 47th and



Novi, which finished fourth overall, was led by Miles Brown, right, who crossed the finish line in 14th place.

senior Matt Gustitus in 64th.

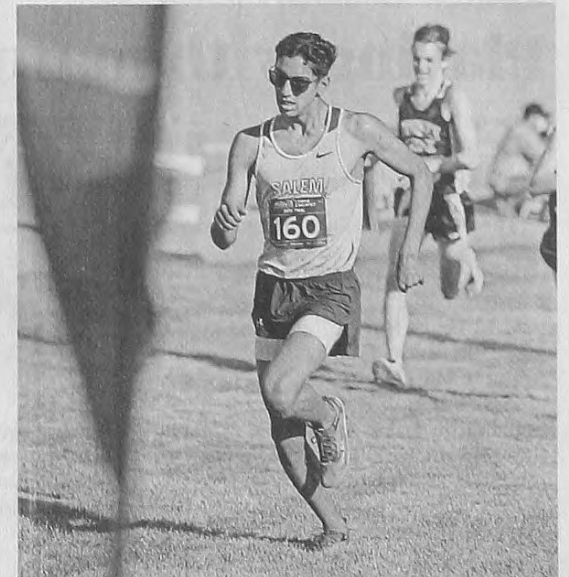
"We had some real good battles," Novi head coach Brad Moore said. "Our league is full of good teams, and we were right there with them, battling. We won a few, lost a few.

"Our goal today was top 10, maybe top five. But fourth, we're really excited."

As teams, Milford placed seventh (273) and Salem eighth (289), while Northville came in 11th (318), Farmington 16th (386) and Plymouth 18th (430).

"I know my guys left it all out there," Northville senior Jacob Meek said. "We had a lot of guys step up in big ways today."

Individually, Farmington senior Peter Baracco placed immediately behind Plymouth's Patrick Byrnes, finishing the race in 15:30.8.



Salem's Talha Syed finished in ninth place, and his team finished in eighth place. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Salem senior Talha Syed had high hopes for his final state meet, but fell to ninth, finishing in 15:41.77.

"I wanted to get a third-place finish. I was in second place in our race coming into the stadium and then my legs started to feel really heavy, couldn't really get a stride going," Syed said. "But first time All-State - last year I kind of got tripped up at states, so I didn't finish as well as I could have. I'm happy with an All-State finish."

Milford senior Kazuma Bowring (14th, 15:46.56) and Detroit Catholic Central junior Brett Leidal (22nd, 15:51.78) also each earned All-State honors.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at [@ColinGay17](https://twitter.com/ColinGay17). Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

KLAA East

Continued from Page 1B

Nov. 25

Key returners: Senior forward Devan Grayshaw, junior goalie Andre Genereaux

Season outlook: A season ago, Salem did something it does not usually do: start hot.

The Rocks won eight of its first 10 games, including road wins against Brighton and Howell and a home win against Novi. Head coach Ryan Ossensmacher bluntly said he did not know if that helped or hurt his team, describing it as a bit surprising.

"One of the quotes I use quite a bit is, 'Success leaves clues,'" Ossensmacher said. "When you are successful, you look back and find out what worked and then repeat it. And then when you fall on tough times, you go back on those clues."

In the 2020-21 season, Salem will have a much younger team, bringing back six seniors, but carrying nine juniors and seven sophomores. But the Rocks bring back senior forward Devin Grayshaw, the only returning Division 1 All-State team member from last season, who scored 20 goals his junior year.

The now-senior hopes to lead his group to the same success as last year, relying on that same structure and hard work as his previous three seasons.

"Just the success I've had, I feel I'd like to help the younger group that's coming in with us to work hard, hopefully can get where I'm at and have a good high school career like I did," Grayshaw said.

Canton

Head coach: Justin Maedel, second season

2019-20 record: 14-12, third in KLAA East; lost to Stevenson, 9-2, in the Division 2 regional semifinal

Season opener: vs. Saline, 5:30 p.m. Nov. 20

Key returners: Senior goalie Ashton Queen, senior forward Lenny Kubitski, senior forward Declan O'Hare

Season outlook: In Justin Maedel's first season as the head coach, Canton shocked some teams in the KLAA. The Chiefs finished third in the KLAA East, outscoring teams, 95-76, in the regular season, including a 14-goal advantage in the third period of games.

Heading into Maedel's second season, he will have a familiar group, bringing back 10 seniors and six juniors, along with a freshman and a sophomore to the team in 2020-21.

"We are going to have a group that works hard and competes each and every night like last year," Maedel said. "We have strong ambitions for this year."

Senior forward Declan O'Hare, who was second on the team with 14 goals as a junior, said each season he has been on the team, he has seen teammates step up.

"Especially this year, just from last year to this year, we have a lot more kids who are eager to get out and give it their all every shift they got because we had a lot of games that we let slip last year," O'Hare said. "This year, I don't think anyone is going to let each other get pushed around and we are all in it for the wins."

Plymouth

Head coach: Darrin Silvester, first year

2019-20 record: 10-15-1, fourth in KLAA East; lost to Livonia Stevenson, 6-3, in the Division 2 regional first round

Season opener: vs. Saline, 7 p.m. Nov. 18

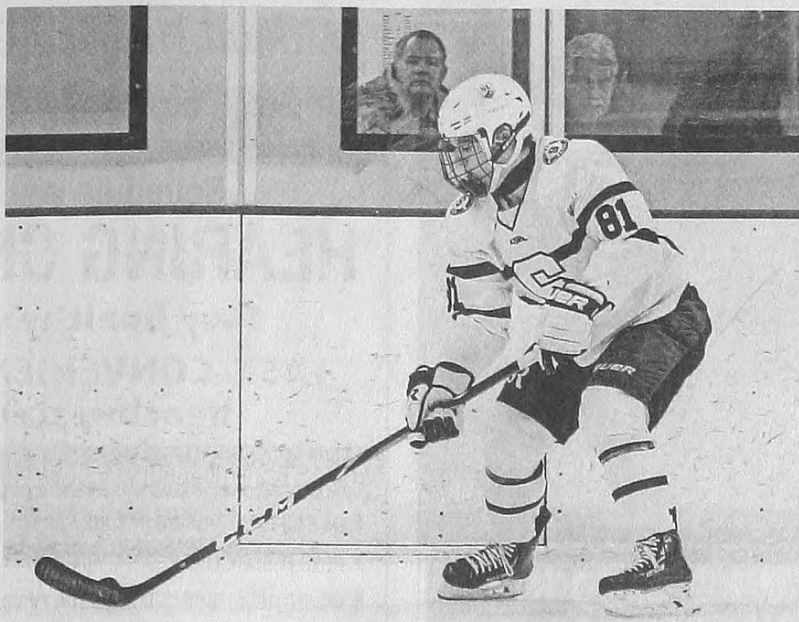
Key returners: Senior defenseman David Brace, senior goalie Aidan Villalobos

Season outlook: Plymouth head coach Darrin Silvester knows his team well, despite coming in as a first-year head coach. He's been with Plymouth's prep team for the last eight years, developing players to make an impact with the Wildcats.

So heading into his first season as the varsity head coach, senior captain David Brace said there has not been much of a transition, saying he's done a great job of understanding the roster and pushing them to the next level.

"He knows us," Brace said. "He knows how we play and I think him pulling it all together, I think he does a great job with it."

Silvester said the team will return many players in 2020-21 that will have increased ice time, along with bringing up six players from the prep team to contribute. The first-year head coach said, no matter the place on the roster, he expects each member of the team to contribute in a major way.



Salem's Devin Grayshaw is the only returning Division 1 first-team All-State player in the state. TIMOTHY ARRICK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Lenny Kubitski, right, is one of 10 returning seniors for Canton.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE PHOTO



Darrin Silvester is entering his first season as the Plymouth varsity head coach. PROVIDED BY DARRIN SILVESTER



Livonia Churchill's Dominic Krupinski, right, was a major force in the Chargers' offense a year ago. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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"Our goal is to surprise people," Silvester said. "Ours is to make sure every kid in our program understands the big expectation or the belief that everyone will contribute and they will be given an opportunity to contribute. There's not going to be a kid sitting there on the fourth line not being able to have an opportunity to play."

Livonia Churchill

Head coach: Jason Reynolds, ninth season

2019-20 record: 13-12-2, fifth in KLAA East; lost to Chelsea, 1-0, in the Division 3 regional final

Season opener: vs. Brighton, 7 p.m. Nov. 18

Key returners: Junior forward Dominic Krupinski, junior forward Nick Liebau, senior goalie Bryant Riley

Season outlook: After the 2019-20 season, Livonia Churchill has some unfinished business left to do.

With eight seniors and seven juniors on the upcoming roster, the Chargers want to build off its late-season success from last year, even using the leadership from a senior class that finished as a Division 3 state runner-up in 2017-18.

"They have an idea of what that commitment and what that journey looks like," head coach Jason Reynolds said. "We're excited to see their influence on our program as the season goes on."

However, one of Churchill's main scoring threats is junior Dominic Krupinski, who led the team with 13 goals and 11 assists last season. Reynolds said he is a quiet leader, but very explosive on the ice.

Heading into the 2020-21 season, Reynolds said he loves the character in his locker room, and that he has high expectations if Churchill hits its stride at the right time.

"I think what we learned last year is if we can endure – no different to years prior to that – if we can endure the bumps and the bruises and the hard lessons that come with a KLAA schedule... If we can endure that journey and we can get healthy by the end of the run, really focus on every lesson that

can be learned along the way, the sky is the limit," Reynolds said.

Livonia Franklin

Head coach: Jim Neve, second season

2019-20 record: 10-17, sixth in KLAA East; lost to Livonia Churchill, 2-0, in the Division 3 regional semifinal

Season opener: vs. Berkley, 8 p.m. Nov. 18

Key returners: Senior forward/defenseman Josh Boze, junior defenseman Luke St. Ledger, senior forward/defenseman Kyle Fugedi, junior goalie Brenden Pederson, junior forward Dustin Fretter

Season outlook: On paper, Livonia Franklin did not start its season well in 2019-20. The Patriots lost 14 of its first 15 games, primarily against KLAA opponents.

But late in the season, the team got hot. Franklin won nine of its last 12 games, earning its first playoff win in the last nine years, showing something head coach Jim Neve had seen in spurts all season.

"We competed every game," Neve said. "I think we shocked a few teams when they saw us because we were taking leads into the third period. We had a chance to beat some teams. Penalty taken here or there probably hurt us a little bit, but then we got on a roll."

"We're the little team that's trying to fight through this. We love it. It made us stronger."

With eight seniors coming back, defense will be a primary focus for the Patriots, with key players like senior forward/defenseman Josh Boze, junior defenseman Luke St. Ledger and senior forward/defenseman Kyle Fugedi, along with junior goalie Brenden Pederson.

One focus will be on discipline late in games. The Patriots allowed 41 third-period goals while scoring only 18, something Neve equates to late-game penalties.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

NFL ANALYSIS

Will Jets actually go 0-16?

Andy Vasquez
USA TODAY

The New York Jets headed into this season hoping to turn some heads by defying expectations and becoming a surprise contender.

Instead, the Jets have somehow been worse than anyone could have imagined. The Jets go into this week's bye at 0-9 and as the NFL's only winless team, a distinction they've owned since late October.

And when they return, the only real drama remaining for this season centers around a dismal question. It's a fair question because through the first nine games the Jets have found every way imaginable to lose.

There are days when 0-16 seems inevitable, when nothing works and the Jets don't even look like a football team; like last month's 24-0 loss to the Dolphins, one of five games the Jets have lost by more than two possessions this season.

There have also been moments when it's hard to imagine the Jets losing the rest of their games; like on Monday night, when they dominated the Patriots for most of the game only to crumble late.

But that's the thing, whether it's early, late or continuously for 60 minutes, the Jets keep faltering in ways that cost them football games.

And they know it. "They played their ass off," Jets coach Adam Gase said after his team's collapse against the Patriots. "We're not finding ways to win."

And really, that's going to be the challenge as the Jets try to avoid joining the 2008 Detroit Lions and the 2017 Cleveland Browns as the only 0-16 teams in NFL history. Will the Jets continue to be able to fight, or will they succumb to the awfulness?

The toll

The Patriots aren't what they once were, but they're far from the worst team in the NFL.

And yet on Monday, the Jets completely controlled the game for the first 50-plus minutes. They had their top three receivers for the first time all season, and the offense looked better than it had all season – even with backup Joe Flacco at quarterback.

So with starting quarterback Sam Darnold likely to return next week against the Chargers, there's every reason to think they'll get several more chances to win and eventually convert on one of them.

It's not that simple, of course. There's no guarantee Darnold or his weapons will remain healthy if they ever get on the field at the same time.

But more importantly, despite doing so many things right, the Jets didn't beat the Patriots. They melted down in the final seven minutes of the game, squandering a 10-point lead. And when you pile a loss like that on top of a bunch of other losses, there's going to impact a team's psyche.

"In this league, you have to play with confidence," Flacco said. "And the more you lose, the harder it is to do that."

Flacco won a Super Bowl with the Ravens, but he also endured a five-win season, so he knows how important a team's mindset is – in both situations.

What happens next?

Close calls don't guarantee future wins, as the Jets have found out firsthand this year.

They squandered a fourth-quarter lead against the Broncos in Week 4, but that didn't help them hold on to half-time lead against the Bills in Week 7. And the experience against the Broncos and Bills didn't make the difference against the Patriots.

And the two teams that have finished 0-16 learned the same lessons.

In 2008, the Lions blew fourth-quarter leads three times on the way to a winless season – including two to the Minnesota Vikings.

The Browns were even more competitive because they nearly beat the Jets early in the season. They also lost overtime games to the Titans and the Packers, blowing a 14-point fourth-quarter lead to Green Bay before succumbing in extra time.

The point of all this: The pressure could start to mount for the Jets because they know they're capable of winning but haven't yet.

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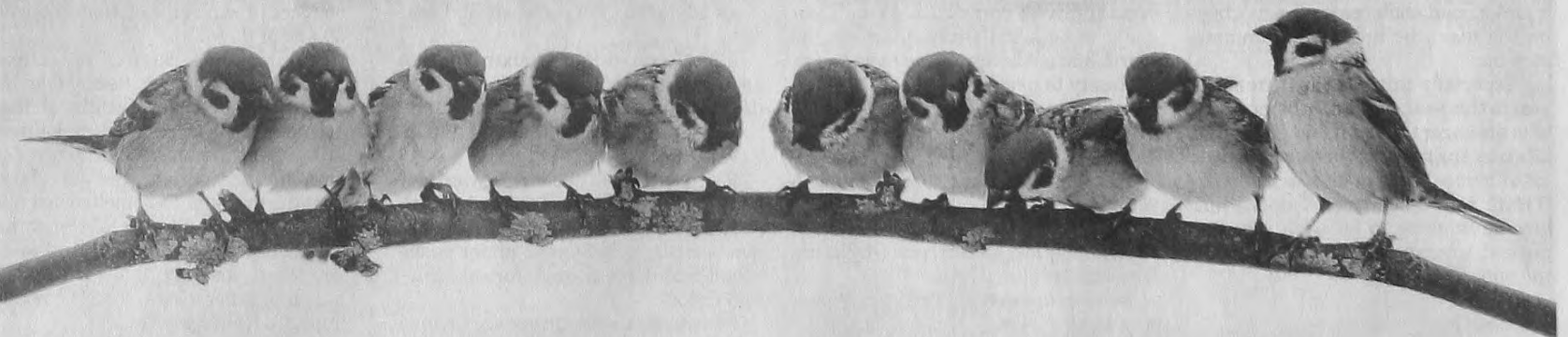


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Tips, tools for networking online

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The old networking playbook included getting some business cards printed, preparing an elevator pitch, and attending industry conferences and mixers. But as ever more in-person events are canceled due to COVID-19, people the world over are shifting to doing most of their professional networking online.

Here are tips to help improve your virtual networking game, and some recommended tools for maximum success.

1. Find thought leaders and influencers

Let's say you want to find a job as an interior designer. The first step is to follow thought leaders and influencers in the industry. You can find them by searching "interior design" on Twitter and Instagram. One way to make your search more strategic, however, is to use a tool like Followerwonk. Search "interior design" + "blogger" or "writer," and you will get a list of people who write about interior design, ranked by their number of followers.

See whom they follow to grow your network. Through the people you follow, you are likely to learn about important industry news, online events, webinars and webcasts. Sign up and participate when interesting ones come along.

2. Start listening

Once you've found the right people to follow, start listening to what they have to say and gathering the latest news and insights in your

industry. Follow them on Twitter, Instagram, Quora, Yelp, Meetup and Listly. Download their podcasts. Put their names in Talkwalker and Newsle so you get emailed when they appear in the news. Subscribe to their newsletters and YouTube channels, or subscribe to their content on Patreon.

3. Build awareness

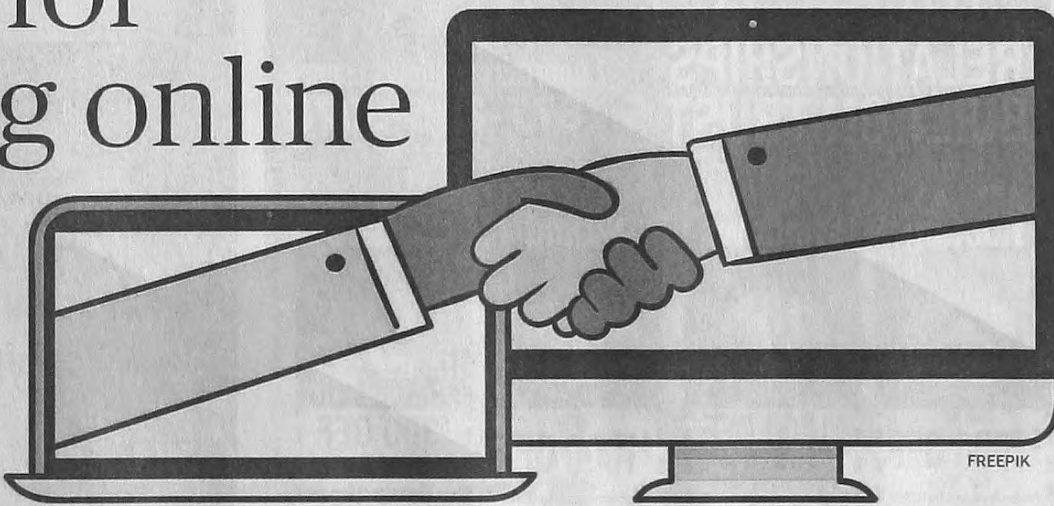
Now that you're aware of them, you can start making them aware of you. The key to successful networking is to create value for others, too. Retweet their content, +1 their posts, share their content on Facebook, comment (insightfully) on their publications and videos, and include their insights in your content (with appropriate attribution, tags and hashtags).

4. Connect

Only then — once you know a little bit about them and have a clue about what's going on in

the industry, and once you've created some value for them through retweets and shares and engagement — should you reach out. Friend-ing them on Facebook will likely come across as creepy because it is more of a personal network. But reaching out on LinkedIn and other professional network platforms is totally appropriate. Lead with a sentence that starts with something like "I loved your article last week about ..." Then let them know what you want ("I've written this ... and would appreciate your advice" or "I'd appreciate the chance to interview you about your career for my blog" or "I'm starting out in the industry and would appreciate your mentorship. Are you available for a quick virtual coffee meeting?")

If you don't hear back, send a quick follow-up message about a week later. After two or three follow-ups, it's time to move on to the next person on your list. But keep the door open by continuing steps 1, 2 and 3. The first secret of success is showing up — even when the room is in Zoom.



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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Talk big
- 6 Generally speaking
- 15 Lhasa — (little dogs)
- 20 Ed of "Gus"
- 21 Small drying item on a bathroom bar
- 22 Obama's successor
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 25 Have a blast
- 26 "Yummy!"
- 27 "Exodus" actor Mineo
- 28 Lyric forgetter's syllables
- 29 "Yippee!"
- 30 "Forbidden" perfume
- 33 Common pet lizard
- 38 Warlike deity
- 39 Riddle, part 2
- 44 India's place
- 46 Brand of contact lens cleaner
- 47 Place to exit
- 48 Riddle, part 3
- 52 Unfurled, e.g.
- 57 Former Disney head
- 58 Uncle, in Spain
- 59 Depict by drawing

- 62 Met maven
- 63 No, in Essen
- 66 — bow (upper lip shape)
- 68 A-list person
- 69 Riddle, part 4
- 73 "Neon" fish in a tank
- 75 Naturally illuminated at dusk
- 76 Duel weapon
- 77 Baldwin of "Andron"
- 78 Morse E's
- 79 Jet grounded in '03
- 81 "— Fideles"
- 86 West Texas city
- 88 Riddle, part 5
- 91 Munchkin
- 95 Farm baby
- 96 Crimson and carmine
- 97 End of the riddle
- 104 Actress Tara
- 105 Write the score to
- 106 Polo of "The Fosters"
- 107 Time of note
- 110 Official seal
- 112 — Na Na
- 115 Lopsided
- 117 Lopsided
- 118 Riddle's answer
- 124 Plow maker
- 125 Consensus

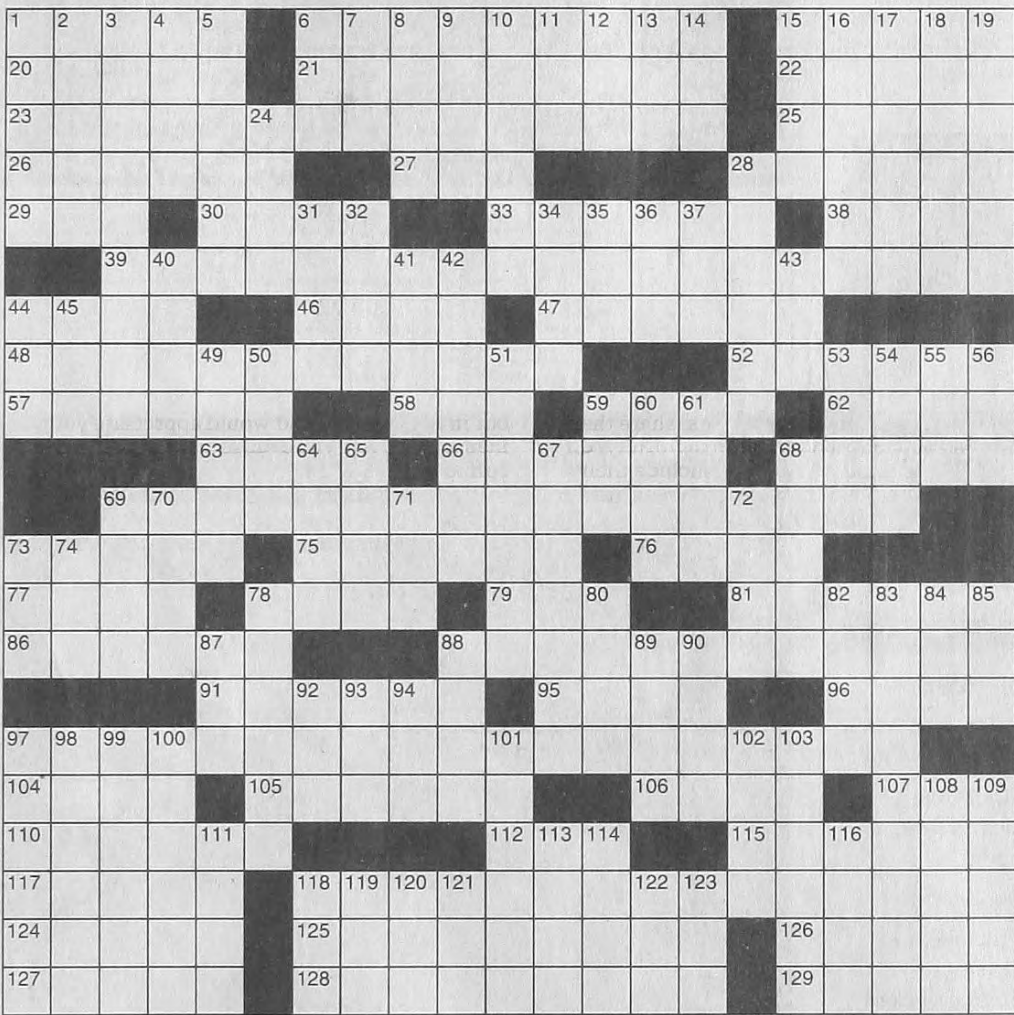
DOWN

- 1 Humorously indecent
- 2 Milo of film
- 3 Study of data patterns
- 4 Alien seekers' program, for short
- 5 Sad, in Nice
- 6 Many a time
- 7 Casual turndown
- 8 Top fighter pilots
- 9 Inferior — cava
- 10 And others, in Latin
- 11 — -com (film category)
- 12 Feeling of amazement
- 13 Prefix with magnetic
- 14 Munchkin
- 15 Gillette shaver brand
- 16 Major for a future D.A.

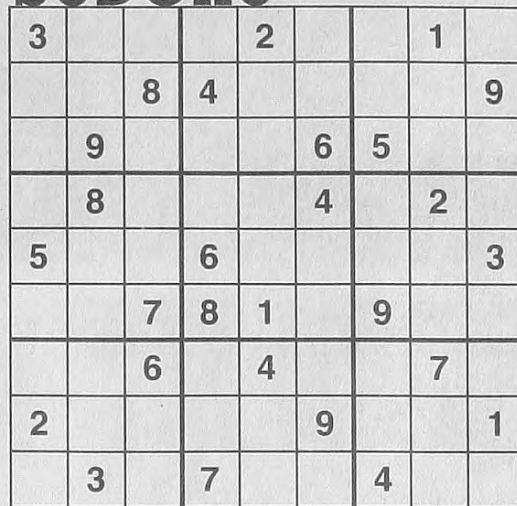
- 17 Actress Mena
- 18 Eggly dish
- 19 Belly flop result
- 24 Fake display
- 28 "The Far Side" cartoonist
- 31 Hamilton dueler Aaron
- 32 Web surfer, say
- 34 Great joy
- 35 Brand of fleecy boots
- 36 — Lingus
- 37 Vegas-to-Helena dir.
- 40 Violin virtuoso
- 41 Hilary
- 41 Having a shot to win
- 42 Shaped like a die
- 43 Purported psychic gift
- 44 Suffix for an enzyme
- 45 Fashion's Anna —
- 49 Skin dye
- 50 State north of Calif.
- 51 Like a boor
- 53 Blissful site
- 54 Aswan's river
- 55 Woman in 53-Down
- 56 Little bit

- 59 Actress Tyler or Ullmann
- 60 Concept, in Calais
- 61 New car sticker fig.
- 64 Words in an analogy
- 65 Food box datum: Abbr.
- 67 Miniature couch for a pooch
- 68 Female college students, outdatedly
- 69 One foot forward
- 70 Two-tone whale
- 71 Part of HRH
- 72 52-week unit
- 73 — Bo (fitness option)
- 74 Certain pipe fitting
- 78 Neglects to
- 80 "How Great — Art"
- 82 To be, in Le Havre
- 83 Vile villainesses
- 84 Danson of "Mad Money"
- 85 Gp. activated by a 911 call
- 87 Snoop (on)
- 88 Whence one wicked witch

- 89 Whence one wicked witch
- 90 Sheltered from the wind
- 92 Immodesty
- 93 Saturated
- 94 Abbr. at LAX
- 97 Pinball parlor
- 98 Hires out
- 99 Wire arch on a croquet course
- 100 Hold fast
- 101 Tabloid monster moniker
- 102 In — (stagnant)
- 103 Karaoke problem
- 108 Fleming of opera
- 109 Spitting nails
- 111 Lambs' mothers
- 113 Many a carol
- 114 See 122-Down
- 116 Within: Prefix
- 118 In the role of (Lat.)
- 119 Dad's bro
- 120 — de cologne
- 121 House pest
- 122 With 114-Down, "Not true!"
- 123 Part of CBS: Abbr.



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!

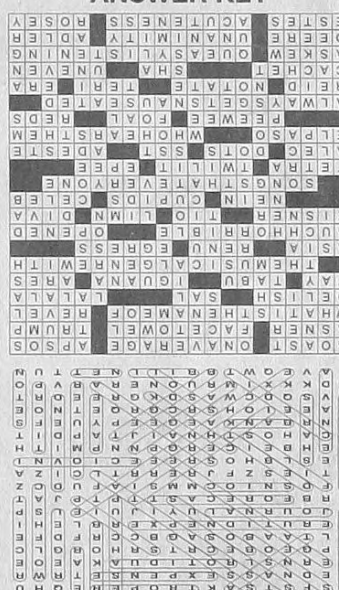
MONEY MATTERS

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

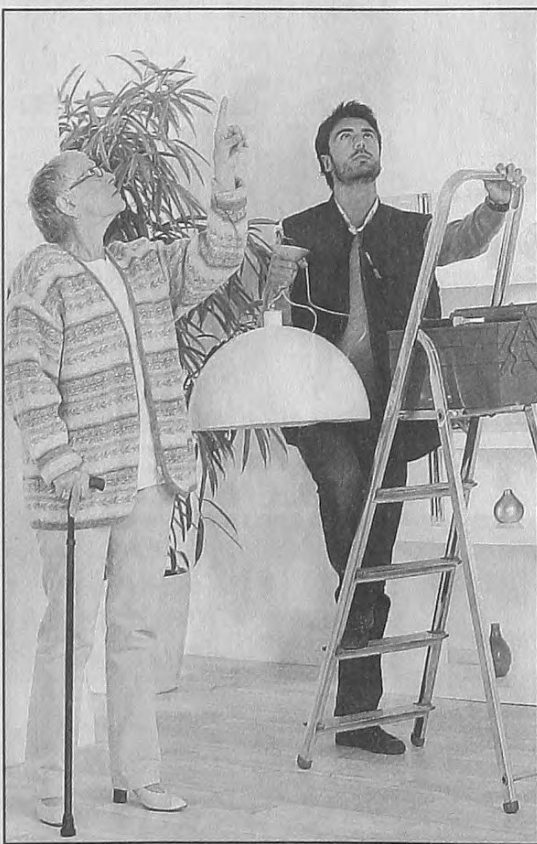


- ACCOUNTS
- ADVANCE
- ARREARS
- ASSET
- AUDITOR
- BANK
- BILL
- BONDS
- BONUS
- BROKER
- BUDGET
- CAPITAL
- CASH FLOW
- CHECK
- COINS
- COMPUTER
- CREDIT
- DEBIT
- DIVIDEND
- EXCHANGE RATE
- EXPENDITURE
- EXPENSE
- FILES
- FORECAST
- GROSS
- INTEREST
- INVOICE
- JOURNAL
- LEDGER
- LOSS
- MARGIN
- NET
- NOTES
- PAYEE
- PAYMENT
- PERCENTAGE
- PROFIT
- PURCHASE RATE
- RECEIPT
- REPORT
- SALES
- SCRIP
- SHARES

ANSWER KEY



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



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