

A \$3 million project comes to Wayne

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Downtown Wayne will soon have a new \$3 million project under construction.

The city council recently voted to sell a 2.3-acre parcel on East Michigan Avenue, to the east of the Wayne Police Department, to Tim Judge of Metro Storage for \$1. Judge said his is proposing a 95,000-square-foot self-storage building with 70,000 square feet of rentable space.

"We use limestone panels on the corners. It's a very attractive structure. By the middle of next year, I'd like to be working on it," said Judge, who has similar facilities in Taylor, Dearborn and Oak Park. "The Michigan Avenue visibility was important to us. The way I think is that I want to bring something that looks good, that the community can be proud of."

Judge had proposed a similar facility for the former Hawthorne Valley property on Merriman north of Warren, in Westland. There were other proposals, including an art center, which ultimately

ly didn't receive support from the city council.

While he never received a rejection of his self-storage development, Judge said communication with Westland about the project dried up. Then he received a call from Wayne Economic Development Director Lori Gouin.

"I don't know what was going on there (in Westland). Lori called me. Wayne was so welcoming, so pro business. Lori and (city engineer) Mike Buiten were great to work with," said Judge, who is working on this project with his 19-year-old son Jake. "They

approached me. It was a fantastic initial experience for the city to be so welcoming."

The Michigan Avenue property, which included an old radiator business, had been acquired by the city — one of a number of parcels picked up over years with an eye on future development.

"Basically, this is the one that would be going into Westland. They postponed (Judge's project consideration), so I reached out to him," Gouin said.

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Hamilton Elementary School fourth-grader Kayla Beard is all smiles as she composes her letter to a U.S. Marine.

COURTESY WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS

Students write holiday letters to a U.S. Marine

Some military members can't make it home for the holidays, so the fourth-graders in Lisa Gapa's class at Hamilton Elementary School decided they wanted to spread holiday cheer.

With the help of school social worker Taylor Ezikian, who knows Marines stationed far from home, they started a letter-writing campaign that they hope develops into a pen pal project.

The 33 students are writing letters introducing themselves to Corporal Milton Hirsch of the United States Marines. They wished him a happy holiday, thanked him for serving our country and many included pictures that they drew.

Here are excerpts from some of the letters:



Hamilton fourth-graders William Kotrys and Adrienne Davis work on their letters.

COURTESY WAYNE-WESTLAND SCHOOLS

"Dear Corporal Milton Hirsch, I am writing to you to wish you a happy holiday. You are so awesome! You probably don't know him, but my cousin Justin is stationed in California. Also, I am super excited to be writing to you ... I just want to jump through this

paper and give you a great big hug!"

"Thank you for serving our country and keeping us safe. You are doing good for all of us and our nation.

Also, I hope you can see your family soon. I know what it is like. My dad is in

the military so one year he was away for the holidays."

"Thank you for serving our country. I'm sorry you can't get home for Christmas. If I could make a wish, it would be to let you come home."

Westland classroom creates city map

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

Some might say a select group of second-graders at a Westland elementary school have a better sense of direction about their city than some adults.

That's because the students in Amy DeClercq's second-grade class at Edison Elementary have dug deep in local geography in recent weeks, complete with a tour of several important city locations such as the police department, fire department and city hall.

"This is everywhere we went," said Londyn Ingram, a second-grader in the class, pointing to the key the students made.

To cap off the experience, the students spent a day this month crafting a partial city map of Westland, including landmarks on roads such as Ford, Warren, Newburgh and Wayne. In addition to city buildings, the students added other local places of interest like Westland Shopping Center and MJR Theater. The students painted the map and it's displayed prominent in the hallway of the school at Wildwood and Hunter. While they hadn't added them yet, the students have also learned cardinal directions and how best to navigate around heading north, south, east and west.

Even after the tour, the students had a better sense of where places were in town. One student even thought they needed to add a little bit more.

"We should have put in Kroger's, because that's close to the library," second-grader Isabel Rawlings said.

The section was taught by student teacher Melissa Kleinow, who was wrapping up at the school this past week and graduating from Central Michigan University this weekend. She said the unit is one that brings real-world important places and gets the students to know more about the services these city officials provide, some-

See MAP, Page A2



Isabel Rawlings and Alex Patterson, both second-graders at Edison Elementary, present the city map, as seen by their second-grade class.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Report: Michigan unemployment rate rises for third month

Matthew Dolan
Detroit Free Press

Michigan's unemployment rate increased for the third time in three months in November to 4.9, the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget announced.

That means that Michigan's seasonally adjusted rate is above the national rate at 4.6% by three-tenths of a percentage point, state officials said. November marked the first month in 2016 that Michigan's jobless rate was above the national rate.

Still, the Michigan jobless rate in November 2016 was two-tenths of a percentage point below the November 2015 rate of 5.1%.

"The increase in the number of unemployed over the last several months reflects a sizable entry of individuals into the state's workforce. Most, but not all have found jobs," said Jason Palmer, director of the state's Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives.

Since August, the state's rate moved upward by four-tenths of a percentage point. November's rate matched Michigan's 2016 rate peak registered in January.

For the region, unemployment generally remained higher than the state average. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November for a statistically area known as "Detroit-Warren-Dearborn" increased by four-tenths of a percentage point to 5.6%.

There was better news about the state's growing employment base despite an increase rate of unemployment.

Over the year, construction jobs have displayed the highest percentage gain of any major sector in the state.

From November 2015 to November 2016, total employment rose in Michigan by 2.5 percent while the state's workforce grew by 2.3 percent, which outpaced the national total employment and labor force growth rates of 1.8 and 1.3 percent respectively over the same period, according to state officials.

Among the bright spots? Construction.

Jobs in the sector recorded gains for the last two months. Since September, construction jobs have risen by around 8,000. Over the year, construction jobs have displayed the highest percentage gain - up 6% - of any major sector in the state.

Regardless of rising unemployment, Michigan's governor said he sees his state rebounding.

"Today's jobs report — the last one before the new year — once again shows that more Michiganders have the confidence to join or rejoin the workforce to find new jobs in our state's reinvented economy," Gov. Rick Snyder said in a statement Wednesday. "In the past 12 months, our unemployment rate has been at its lowest rate in 15 years, our labor force has grown, and more Michiganders have found jobs."

Cost of driving in Michigan about to rev upward as fees, gas tax jump

Emma Ockerman
Detroit Free Press

Shiva Ganganithi got a bit of a shock just ahead of his Jan. 3 birthday when the notice for his annual vehicle registration arrived in the mail recently. He owed \$339 in renewal fees, an amount he called "astronomical" compared to the previous rates for his 2011 and 2007 Toyota Priuses.

"I called the (Secretary of State's Office) and I asked what was going on," said Ganganithi, a 25-year-old who works in the finance department for General Motors. "They said I was three days over when the new bill kicks in, but if you pay before the end of December, you'd be grandfathered into the current rate."

The fee hike may be a surprise for some Michigan drivers — Ganganithi found out via a Michigan License Plate Renewal Notice sent to his home last month — but it's been in the works since Gov. Rick Snyder signed a series of bills in

November 2015 as part of a \$1.2-billion road-funding package. Michiganders still have some time left to renew their registration with 2016 prices, if their birthday is within the next six months.

The plan — which will raise an additional \$600 million annually in taxes for transportation purposes — increases annual vehicle registration costs for passenger vehicles and commercial trucks by about 20% and increases the state gas tax by 7.3 cents. Owners of hybrid and all-electric vehicles will pay even more.

The vehicle registration fees alone will account for about \$200 million annually in increased revenue. Because the fiscal year started in October, the total plan will only generate an estimated \$450 million for fiscal year 2017.

The average cost for registration tabs currently runs at about \$120, Michigan Department of State spokeswoman Giselle Dávila Gendreau said. The fees are based

on the value of the vehicle and its year, with additional costs including personalized or fundraising plates, or whether a driver chooses to pay for a recreation passport, which grants access to Michigan's state parks.

Additional registration fees will be added for hybrid and electric vehicles, Dávila Gendreau said.

Electric vehicles, or cars that are not capable of using gasoline and other traditional fuels, will be subject to an annual \$100 surcharge, in addition to a \$35 gasoline tax. Owners of the Chevrolet Spark EV, Bolt or Ford Focus Electric, for example, would experience that estimated \$135 registration fee hike on top of their usual registration fee.

Owner of hybrid vehicles will pay a \$30 surcharge on top of registration fees, plus a \$17 gasoline tax. Hybrids are considered any vehicle "that can be propelled at least in part by electrical energy" while using a battery storage system of "at least four kilowatt-

hours," according to the law's language.

Ganganithi, with two hybrid vehicles, opted to register before the end of the year, saving him about \$130. Next year, he will get socked with the full increase.

Al Fields, 63, of Detroit, renewed his registration on his birthday Friday at the Secretary of State Office on Grand Boulevard. He said he was "glad to have a December birthday" after hearing about the fee hike when the plan passed, as his 2014 Ford Mustang already costs \$147, which includes the recreation passport.

Michigan drivers can renew their vehicle registrations up to six months in advance and will receive a notice from the state 45 days ahead of their renewal deadline. With that notice, registration renewal can be conducted in person at a Secretary of State Office, online or via mail. Without it, drivers will have to renew their registration in person.

MAP

Continued from Page A1

thing they may not have had before.

"It's great to bring real-world things into the classroom that they can relate to and hold onto," she said. "They know the places and they've heard from a police officer and they explained what they do. They heard from a firefighter and they heard about what exactly they do."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Isabel Rawlings shows the key to the city map.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

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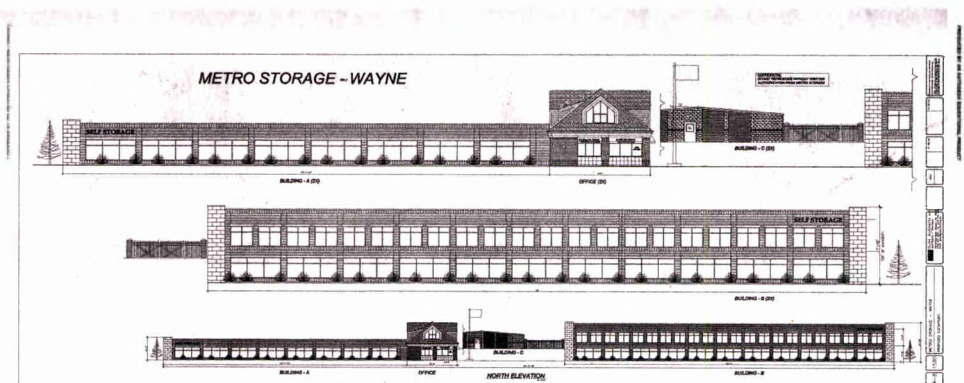
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Drawings of a proposed self-storage facility that would be built on Michigan Avenue in Wayne.

SUBMITTED

PROJECT

Continued from Page A1

There are two small parcels that need to be obtained from Wayne County for the self-storage project. Along with a site plan, the project will require a rezoning from single-family residential to industrial/business.

Assuming the project moves forward — Judge said he'd like to have construction underway by mid-2017 — it will have a significant impact on Wayne. The more than \$3 million project would generate more than \$100,000 in property taxes annually, Gouin said, 90 percent of which would be retained by the Downtown Development

Authority.

Gouin and Judge both agree that the project will likely also have an impact on the downtown area itself.

"It's huge. We've got a new police department, Mark Chevrolet did a ton to their building. Wendy's and Arby's did complete remodels," Gouin said. "I think that other businesses in the area will

have an incentive to spruce up their properties. That's exactly what we are hoping for."

"I think it creates synergy along the corridor. People feel confident about spending money for the capital improvements," Judge said.

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Police: Missing Farmington Hills woman a crime victim

Bill Laitner
Detroit Free Press

Investigators said they've determined that a 28-year-old Farmington Hills woman last seen Dec. 2 was the victim of foul play.

"All available information and evidence leads investigators to believe Danielle Stislicki was the victim of a crime," Farmington Hills police Chief Chuck Nebus said Monday.

In addition to Farmington Hills police, detectives from federal and state agencies, as well as from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, have been "working tirelessly," and "all of us want the Stislicki family and the public to know that we are determined and committed to finding Danielle and solving



FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE Danielle Stislicki, 28, has been missing since Dec. 2.

this case," Nebus said in a statement.

According to police, Stislicki was last seen around 5 p.m. on Dec. 2, a Friday afternoon, leaving her job at the MetLife insurance office building on Telegraph north of 10 Mile in Southfield. Her car, a 2015 Jeep Renegade, was found in front of her apartment building in the Independence Green Apartments complex in

Farmington Hills, where she lived, at about 6 p.m. the next day, police said.

Stislicki, who is 5-foot-5 and weighs 123 pounds, left work wearing jeans, burgundy boots, a black zip-up shirt and a blue Eddie Bauer coat, according to police. Reward money for information leading to an arrest in Stislicki's case has risen to \$125,000, with \$50,000 from the apartment complex, \$50,000 from MetLife and \$25,000 from a family friend's GoFundMe account, according to Nebus' statement.

Tipsters may remain anonymous. Anyone with information may call police at 248-871-2610, anytime.

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Human trafficking legislation sponsored by Cox now law

A three-bill package introduced by state Rep. Laura Cox to make it easier for victims of human trafficking to expunge prostitution violations from their records was signed into law by the governor last week.

"Children, women and men right here in Michigan are being forced into prostitution," said Cox, R-Livonia. "It happens against their will and these individuals shouldn't be held criminally responsible for such tragic violations."

House Bill 5542 allows a person who is convicted of a local municipality's prostitution offense to apply to have their conviction set aside if he or she committed the offense as a direct result of being a victim of human trafficking. The package



Cox

also includes a bill that would set the penalty for human trafficking to 15 years in prison.

"This new law helps allow human trafficking victims to take back their lives," Cox said.

The legislature has already provided victims of human trafficking a process by which they can apply to have their violations of state prostitution-related offenses set aside; this bill package expands it to apply to local prostitution related offenses, as well.

House Bills 5542-5544 are now Public Acts 336-338 of 2016.

WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Vehicle damaged

A resident in the 37800 block of Westwood Circle came to the police station Saturday to report a rear driver-side vehicle window smashed. Police observed the damage on the vehicle, but did not see any other damage.

Speakers taken

Police were dispatched Saturday morning to a residence in the 30500 block of Birchwood on the report of stolen speakers and damage to his vehicle.

The resident went to his vehicle and discovered his subwoofer speakers were

missing from the back of the vehicle. No other items were taken.

Vehicle damaged while driving

A motorist who had been driving near Marquette and Wildwood came into the police station Sunday to report something had been thrown at his vehicle while driving near the intersection.

He said he was driving westbound on Marquette, his vehicle was hit by an item that was thrown from another vehicle heading east. The driver tried to identify a license plate number on the other car, but was unsuccessful.

ful. Police observed the damage, which appeared to be a 1-2 inch impact mark.

License plan taken

A motorist who was visiting her parents in the 28400 block of Joy came into the police station Sunday to report the theft of her temporary license plate. She said her vehicle was parked at the house earlier in the day, but came back later in the night and discovered the plate was missing. No suspect information was available.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Bras, leggings stolen

Livonia police were called Wednesday evening to Von Maur, 37700 Six Mile, on the report of two suspects accused of stealing items from the store.

An employee told police they saw the two in the store select several items at various times, including some leggings, tops, wallets and bras. After a while and after at least one suspect went into a changing room, the two left the store and went into the mall without paying for several items. An employee followed them into the mall and stopped them when they were leaving another store. They were escorted back to the store and kept there until police arrived. Several items were recovered.

Cosmetics taken from store

Police were dispatched Tuesday evening to Walmart, 29555 Plymouth, on the report of a retail fraud suspect in custody.

An employee said to po-

lice they saw the suspect in the store conceal several cosmetics items in her jacket. She was later seen trying to leave the store without paying for them. She was approached by an employee and kept at the store until police arrived and issued her a citation before releasing her at the scene.

Vehicle broken into

A resident who lives in the 29900 block of Norfolk came into the police station Wednesday evening to report her vehicle had been broken into.

She said when she came out to her vehicle that morning, she found one of the side doors open. She said several items were missing, including her cellphone, a cellphone charger and some loose change. She said she reviewed some security footage she had and saw a suspect walk across her yard and enter her vehicle through an unlocked door.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

WAYNE POLICE BRIEFS

Items take from vehicle

A resident in the 3500 block of Swanson filed a report with Wayne police saying several items had been taken from his vehicle while it was parked at his home.

He said several items were taken out of the vehicle after being broken into after midnight. He said items taken include socket wrenches, drills, tools and some cash. The keyhole was also jammed, leaving the car not

able to lock itself. He said multiple break-ins had been reported in the neighborhood and he wanted to file a police report.

— Compiled from reports filed with the Wayne Police Department.

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New year will bring changes, as always

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy and healthy holiday season. Whether you celebrate Christmas or Hanukkah or even just the change of seasons, I hope that you spend time with your loved ones, enjoying their company and remembering what's important in life.

As we celebrate the holidays and look forward to a new year, there is no doubt 2017 will be a year of change and that we will see a fair amount of ups and downs, twists and turns and probably everything in between. In other words, situation normal.

One thing I have been talking about for years is people have to accept that everything is changing and that the pace of change is faster than ever before. Whether we like it or not — and in many situations I don't — we all have to accept the reality of the world that we live in. That being said, it is important to remember that we can't ignore change; we also can't overreact. Overreacting can be just as detrimental to your financial health as putting your head in the sand.

One change that I do believe is on the horizon is tax reform. After Mr. Trump takes office, there will be all sorts of spec-



Rick Bloom
MONEY MATTERS

ulation as to where the tax laws will go. My advice is to never react to the speculation, because it's a fool's game. When it comes to any legislation (and particularly tax laws), you never know what's going to happen until the law is actually passed. Therefore, it doesn't make sense to speculate; the better course of action is to wait until the law actually passes.

Despite all the changes in our society, there are still some things that haven't changed and one is the importance of keeping your financial house in order. Whether you use technology and some of the great new apps to help you keep your personal financial affairs in order or do it the old-fashioned way with paper and pencil, it's a task you cannot afford to ignore. In this ever-changing world that we live in, it's more important than ever to stay on top of your personal financial affairs. At the beginning of the year, I believe everyone should prepare a personal family balance sheet.

A personal family balance sheet lets you know what you have and what you owe. It is important that you take a look periodically at your assets and liabilities. Remember, assets minus liabilities equals net worth. Doing the first family balance sheet is always the most difficult. However, by doing the family balance sheet it lets you know where you are financially and also allows you to compare future years.

Doing a personal family balance sheet is easier this time of year because we all are going to get year-end statements with the balances of our account.

One other thing you can do to help keep your finances in order is a cash flow statement, so you know exactly what is coming in and what's going out. For all investors and, in fact, for all people, it is extremely important to know what it costs you to live a month. It helps in determining how to invest and even if you can afford to retire.

Change is coming and, whether we like it or not, it's import we embrace it.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. If you would like him to respond to questions, email rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

Holiday decorating contest

The All American Holiday Decorating Contest is underway and runs until midnight Saturday, Dec. 24. Residents can visit the city of Westland website to nominate themselves or a friend in one or all of the three categories: Best Traditional Display, Most Creative Display and Over the Top Display. Nominees will be asked to enter a picture with their submission.

You can also enter the contest by posting your picture publicly on Twitter or Instagram, tagging @CityofWestland and using the hashtag #westlandholidaypride. Anyone can go onto the website, view the entries and vote for the holiday decorating display they think should win. Winners will be announced and awarded with prizes at the first council meeting of the New Year on Monday, Jan. 9.

Featured artist

Gwendolyn Roth will be the featured artist at the Livonia Fine Arts Gallery for the month of January. Roth's media is photography.

Roth's passion for photography has led her to creating encouraging viewpoints that consider our world in an uplifting or surprising new light. In her artist statement she states, "There is so much to see and capture, and it's all real, and it is found all around us — we don't have to go far. Through my art I hope to transcend the indifferent and enrich our lives one picture at a time."

Visit the Gallery, located on the second floor of the Civic Center Library at 32777 Five Mile Road, between the Court House and City Hall. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. There is a new artist every month.

Three Cities workshop

The Three Cities Arts Club hosts a glass fusing workshop 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at D&M Art Studio in Canton to learn how to handle, prepare and cut glass to create your own fused dish or night light. Lori Barry will explain the glass fusing process from the type of glass and cutting supplies needed all the way through the kiln temperature schedule. Students will be able to use their own creativity to create their project. Inspirational examples will be



The photography of Gwendolyn Roth will be on display at the Livonia Fine Arts Gallery throughout January.

brought to class. Projects will be taken to be fired and available for delivery a week later.

For those interested in participating to create their own piece, there will be a materials fee of \$25. Registration is required by Dec. 29 by calling Marilyn at 313-231-3939 or emailing marilynmeredith@wowway.com. Fee to be paid the night of the event.

Secondhand Prose closes for renovations

Canton Public Library's Secondhand Prose Bookstore will be closed for renovations from Dec. 23 to Feb. 1.

In December hardcover books and children's book will be sold at reduced prices. A special \$6 Fill-a-Bag Book Sale will take place Dec. 16-19. Friends of the Canton Public Library support the library through advocacy and fundraising for resources beyond the scope of the operating budget.

Wayne Memorial Parent Night

Wayne Memorial High School will host an eighth-grade parent night for those transitioning to ninth grade or interested in getting more information about Wayne Memorial High School for the 2016-2017 school year.

Students do not have to be currently attending a Wayne-Westland Community School to attend. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 8 in the Wayne Memorial High School Stockmeyer Auditorium. Topics covered will include: scheduling, graduation requirements, testing out requirements, direct college courses, AP courses,

extra-curricular activities, and much more.

All are welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Parking is available in the Glenwood Street parking lot and guests should enter through the front of the auditorium. For more information, call the Counseling Department at 734-419-2215.

Free open skate

The Redford Ice Arena offers a free open skate at the Redford Ice Arena or all residents and students from 6:05-7:05 p.m. every Sunday. All residents and Redford students are free. Cost for others is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and children. Skate rental is \$3. The arena is at 12400 Beech Daly Road.

The annual Resident Appreciation Skate is set for 4:30-6:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29. All Redford residents and students are free. Skate rental is free though the number of skates is limited.

The holiday skate schedule is: 1:30-2:50 p.m. Dec. 26-28, 1:30-2:50 p.m. Jan. 3-4, and 1-2:20 p.m. Jan. 5.

All Christmas skates are \$3 per person. Skate rentals are \$3.

Winter Survival Gear Drive for the Homeless

Crossroad Church, 34500 Six Mile, Livonia, will host a drive for the homeless from 10:30-12:30 p.m. through Sunday, Feb. 12. The church is accepting donations of men's new/used work boots, men's new/gently used white socks, ladies new/gently used turtle-necks. For more information, visit www.crossroadsnow.org, email info@crossroadsnow.org or call 734-338-5149.



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LETTERS TO THE WAYNE COUNTY EDITOR

Suffering is an affront

In this holiday season there is a great deal of suffering going on. Needless suffering. It is an affront to our nation.

This year, and this next one, will see an increasing number of children left behind by parents addicted to drugs. At this writing there are tens of thousands of children being thrown into foster-care system all across the nation.

We are seeing a surge in grandparents becoming moms and dads again not through some miracle of science or medicine but through the horrors those unbound technologies have delivered.

“Organic” opioids like heroin have crawled back out of the dark and are leaving tracks in the arms of Americans everywhere. In a bizarre twist, advanced medicine and science have combined to simplify the manufacture of highly complex compounds and allowed large companies to crank out synthetic opioids.

They help many but when they are produced in such quantities that entire truckloads and railcar loads can be “misplaced” there is a problem somewhere.

One of these chemicals is called fentanyl. It is 50 times stronger than heroin. Carfentanil is 100 times more potent than fentanyl and is so powerful that an amount smaller than a poppy seed is deadly. Both fentanyl and carfentanil are problems and have been incorporated into chemical weapons.

What is happening that would cause such a scourge among us? The crime rates are rising even as opposition to law enforcement in-

creases. This is a destabilizing situation. What is going to be done about it?

Alfred Brock
Wayne

Making a difference

Beginning in August 2016 with the publication of an article in the Observer about the renovation of Kellogg Park and the replacement of the fountain, a group of people came together to offer ideas to the City Commission and the Downtown Development Authority.

Dave Rucinski organized a petition drive that requested that the city slow down the process so that additional ideas could be considered. Through the diligent work of Dave and others, more than 800 signatures were collected. As a result of this, a meeting at the Cultural Center was offered where many residents offered their ideas to the city.

The process continued where many attended commission meetings, sent e-mails, made phone calls, wrote letters to the commissioners, wrote letters to the Observer and posted ideas on social media. Another meeting was scheduled in early December where residents could again express their preference for a fountain, before a final vote was taken by the selection committee.

To all of you who took the time to be involved in this process, please know that your voice made a difference. A special thank you to Dave Rucinski, who spent many hours in facilitating this process of citizen involvement.

I think all of us should be proud of our participation in our local government. We made a difference. Let's continue to be active and engaged citizens in

all levels of government.

Jan Dersey
Plymouth

Wolf hunting bill: Contempt for voters

Believe it or not, another wolf hunting bill, SB 1187, has been rushed through the Michigan legislature by Sen. Tom Casperson. This is after voters overturned two of his previous wolf hunting laws, by wide margins, in Michigan's 2014 general election.

And this is after the State Court of Appeals, three weeks ago, declared unconstitutional a third wolf hunting law that was passed in an effort to override the vote of the people. And, again, this is after a federal judge put Great Lakes gray wolves back on the Endangered Species list.

Please call Gov. Snyder as soon as possible at 517-335-7858. Let him know that it is unconscionable that this bill, SB 1187, was even introduced, much less voted on, when the voting majority of Michigan citizens have already said no to wolf hunting, and no to giving authority to designate game species to the unelected Natural Resources Commission, whose decisions cannot be overturned by our votes.

What's even more appalling is that the bill bypassed a Senate committee hearing altogether to be fast-tracked to the Senate floor, then was quietly passed by the House Natural Resources Committee without notifying citizens who would have wanted to offer opposition.

With only an estimated 618 wolves remaining in the state, there is no scientific justification for hunting and trapping them for rec-

reation and reducing this small population of wolves even further. Please respect the wishes of your citizens and VETO SB 1187.

Ann Honhart
Birmingham

Thanks for nothing, Jill Stein

The vote recount in Michigan could cost taxpayers \$5 million and Jill Stein will only have to pay for \$8,000 to \$9,000. She should have her buddy Hillary Clinton pay for the balance with all her ill-gotten gain and billionaire-funded monies. Some may view Jill as a political Don Quixote fighting for the “Little Guy,” but she's no hero in my book for this frivolous sideshow.

Liberals are such crybaby sore losers. Republicans put up with a similar situation in 2000 when Gore had Florida reexamined. Back then, we had protesters at George W's inauguration. This time, we had punks in the streets for several days.

The liberal media is now constantly criticizing Trump. The liberals won't spoil the sweet taste of victory though that Trumpsters feel.

I'd like to end my comments with a view to this most holy time of year and wish everyone a Merry Christmas — yes, even the infernal liberals!

Leo Weber
Livonia

Loepp not a good fellow

As I watched the praise being showered on Daniel J. Loepp, president and CEO of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, during the Thanksgiving Day Parade, I couldn't help but wonder if the host and hostess, along with the president of The Parade Co., were aware

that Dan Loepp and his paid board of directors have elected to eliminate the defined group health care coverage for the approximate 6,000 BCBSM/BCN retirees. He placed them, at great additional expense to the retirees, in the individual market, resulting in outrageous premiums.

These retirees, who have given up to 50 years of dedicated and loyal service to the company and who should be spending their golden years traveling and spending time with their grandchildren, now have to decide whether to put a roof over their head, food on their table and clothes on their back or pay for their health care and prescriptions.

Some retirees will now have to retain employment in order to pay for their health care and prescriptions. Retirees are asked to bear this burden at a time when Dan Loepp received \$9 million in total compensation, including a \$6 million bonus in 2015.

Health insurance is the product of BCBSM/BCN. The auto companies provide discounts to their retirees on their health care and on their vehicles. The elimination or reduction of health care is not a solution; it is merely an excuse. Dan Loepp and his wife Amy Tattre were recently awarded Goodfellows of the Year by the Goodfellows organization. Dan Loepp is no good fellow to the BCBSM/BCN retirees.

Susan Baringer
Canton

Privatizing Medicare bad choice

U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan; Rep. Kevin Brady, chairman, Ways and Means Committee; and Rep. Tom Price, chairman, Budget Com-

mittee, who is President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for Secretary of Health and Human Services, are among the Republican leaders in the U.S. House who support legislation to privatize Medicare by converting it to a “premium support” system. I urge your newspaper to editorialize against their efforts to change Medicare to a “voucher” plan that will raise the cost of health care for seniors.

Just because the Republican Party has majorities in the House and Senate and the president-elect, it is not a mandate to destroy Medicare with a “voucher” plan to pay outright subsidies to insurance companies who make big contributions to many members of Congress.

In April 2011, the Republican majority in the U.S. House of Representatives passed in a 2012 budget blueprint a proposal to replace traditional Medicare with vouchers. This ignited a firestorm of opposition from Congressional Democrats, America's seniors and the general public.

Back then, an analysis of the proposal by the Congressional Budget Office concluded that turning Medicare over to private insurance plans would result in seniors paying twice as much for their care, would raise administrative costs and would not keep medical inflation as low as traditional Medicare has done.

It is astonishing that after the bashing delivered to Republicans on the “voucher” proposal in 2011 that they would be reviving it again.

Derrick Reynolds
Farmington Hills

ADVERTISEMENT FOR
REQUEST FOR BIDS

CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
PURCHASE / TRADE-IN OF SIG SAUER WEAPONS

Sealed bids will be received at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154 until **2:00 P.M., local time on Tuesday, January 10th, 2017** at which time the RFB's will be secured by the City Clerk. Each bid shall be recorded together with the name of the vendor. Bids shall be in accordance with the requirements of this notice in order to be deemed "responsive." Late bids will be returned unopened.

Instructions and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All Addendums will be posted on the MITN website. Any information not obtained from the MITN website should not be relied upon. Each response to the bid must be provided to the City of Livonia electronically in Adobe (PDF) format. Faxed bids in response to this request will not be accepted.

All bids shall be sealed in envelopes, plainly marked with: **CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN PURCHASE / TRADE-IN OF SIG SAUER WEAPONS, name of vendor and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.**

No vendor may withdraw their bid within 120 calendar days after the date set for opening thereof.

The City of Livonia reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in whole or in part and waive any irregularities therein. Acceptance of any bid does not constitute a binding agreement until a written Contract is signed by both parties.

Curtis Caid
Livonia Police Chief

Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Published: December 22, 2016

L.O-0000308036 3x4

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
NOTICE OF PROPOSED STATEMENT OF
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND
PROJECTED USE OF FUNDS

The Charter Township of Redford expects to receive an estimated \$800,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds during the 2017 federal fiscal year. It is anticipated that the Township will also receive an estimated \$250,000 in Program Income funds. Redford Township has a projected CDBG budget of \$1,050,000 during Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Said recommendations will be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (D-HUD).

The Charter Township of Redford has published the Initial Proposed Statement of Community Development Objectives and Projected Use of Funds in the Redford Observer on November 20, 2016. The statement gave notice of a public hearing on November 30, 2016 requesting written views and proposals from interested citizens unable to attend said public hearing. The public hearing was set in order to receive comments on the proposed recommendations for the Year XLIII Submission of the Action Plan for FY 2017-2018.

The Township is making available to the general public the draft of the Action Plan 2017-2018. A copy is available for examination and comment for a 30-day period. Copies of the document will be available for review at the following locations:

- > Redford Township Community Development Dept., 12121 Hemingway, Redford, MI 48239
- > Redford Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI 48239
- > Redford Township Website, www.redfordtwp.com

Comments from the public are welcome and may be submitted to the Community Development Department, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, MI 48239, throughout the thirty-day public comment period, December 22, 2016 through January 20, 2017, until 4:30 P.M.

The Charter Township of Redford does not intend to voluntarily displace any persons as a direct or indirect result of the proposed CDBG funded activities. Notwithstanding the aforementioned statement, the Township has been required by Public Law 98-181 to prepare a Plan for minimizing the displacement of persons as a result of CDBG funded activities and for assisting persons involuntarily displaced as a result of said activities. A copy of this plan is on file and available for review at the Community Development Department, 12121 Hemingway, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

It is anticipated the Redford Township Board of Trustees will take action on the Proposed Statement and Projected Use of Funds at the regular meeting scheduled for January 24, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. at Township Hall, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, Michigan 48239.

Information concerning Community Development Block Grant expenditures is on file at the Community Development Department, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, Michigan 48239 and can be reviewed Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, MMC
Township Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Published: December 22, 2016

L.O-0000308036 3x4

Welcome to
jonna's market
734-667-4420
8631 N Newburgh Rd, Westland

MEATS

**SHRIMP SALE**

Cooked 31-40 Shrimp	\$6.99 lb
Raw EZ Peel and Deveined 26-30	\$5.99 lb
USDA Select Whole Beef Tenderloin	\$7.99 lb
	cut & trimmed
Filet Mignon 8oz Cut-USDA Choice	\$12.99 lb
USDA Fresh Ground Chuck	\$2.49 lb

DELI

Eckrich Oven Roasted Turkey	\$4.99 lb
Sterling Quality Hard Salami	\$2.99 lb
Eckrich Bologna Garlic or Regular	\$2.69 lb
Krakus Polish Ham	\$3.99 lb
American Cheese	\$3.49 lb
LiPari Munster Cheese	\$3.49 lb

BEER & WINE

We stock all popular French & California Champagne at great pricing!

Martini & Rossi Asti	\$10.99
	750mL + tax
Korbel Champagne All Flavors	\$10.99
	+ tax
 Corona 12pk Bottles	\$12.99
	+ tax & deposit
 Heineken 12pk Bottles	\$12.99
	+tax & deposit
 Miller Lite 24pk Cans	\$15.49
	+tax & deposit
 Coors Light 24pk Cans	\$15.49
	+tax & deposit

\$3 OFF \$30 PURCHASE WITH MENTION OF THIS AD
Excludes Tobacco, Lottery & Alcohol

MARTINIS VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER EBT

Expires in 1/1/17

Visit us at hometownlife.com.

Throwing a holiday party? Know your responsibility

We've all been there. You're hosting that special holiday party at your house, everyone is wearing their favorite (or ugliest) Christmas sweater and people are drinking the eggnog like its water.

Everyone loves to have a good time over the holidays, but how do we make sure that our guests are safe and we're not responsible?

In Michigan, dram shop laws may hold a vendor (bar, restaurant, shop) liable for providing alcohol to a minor or a visibly intoxicated person who then goes on to cause an accident. But what about your own private party?

You may not realize it, but as a host, you could be exposed to legal liability if some of



Jordan Acker
GUEST COLUMNIST

your guests consume too much alcohol and are then in an accident after leaving your party. Similar to a vendor, as an event host, many judges could rule that you should have been able to recognize the level of intoxication of your guests and, if they were visibly intoxicated, not allow them to continue drinking and drive. Doing so would be considered reckless and you could be held liable. This is particularly true if you are hosting a party where a minor is served alcohol.

So what can you do to ensure you and your

guests are best protected? There are simple actions to take over the holidays to make sure that this doesn't happen:

» **Put everyone's keys in a basket when they get there.** This is the easiest thing to do to make sure that nobody that you've served alcohol to is driving drunk. When everyone walks in the door, take their keys away. That is the clearest and easiest way to make sure you have no liability for people drunk driving over the holidays.

» **In the email or invite, add a link to install the Uber or Lyft App on your phone.** Make your guests use it.

In the era of smart phones and the ease of Uber (www.uber.com, available on iTunes and Google Play) and Lyft

(www.lyft.com, available on iTunes and Google Play), there is no excuse for someone not to be able to get a ride sharing service. If they're unable to do it, have them bring cash and you order the ride for them. On Christmas and New Year's Eve, when the rates can be double or triple a normal fare, it's still far cheaper than the penalties for drunken driving, which include jail time, losing your license and other penalties.

» **Make plans ahead of time for rides.** New Year's Eve is one of the statistically most dangerous nights for driving, whether you are sober or not. The best thing you could do, if drinking at a friend's house, is spend the

night. Short of that, making your ride as short as possible is always the smart move.

» **Talk to your insurance agent regarding liquor liability coverage provided by your homeowners policy.** Many insurance companies have policies to protect you in these situations, should they arise. If you're unsure if you have such a policy or what kinds of situations your insurance coverage protects you from, don't assume, ask your insurance agent. Many policies are rescinded if you perform certain actions and you don't want to lose your home, your car or your livelihood.

» **Under any circumstances, do not serve alcohol to minors.** Parents frequently think

"at least they're doing it under my roof, so I can see what's going on." This is extremely dangerous. Many teens mix alcohol with pills — a deadly combination — and serving them alcohol could make you responsible if someone gets sick or dies under your roof.

Like most holidays, the best thing you can do is plan ahead — make sure you have rides, places to sleep and engage in safe behaviors. If you don't, as a driver, homeowner or friend, you could end up in a situation where you have a very unhappy 2017.

Jordan Acker is an associate attorney and business development manager for the Southfield law firm Goodman Acker.

Group amps up fight against Pure Michigan campaign

Justin A. Hinkley
Lansing State Journal

A conservative think tank is continuing a public fight with the state's tourism agency over the effectiveness of its popular Pure Michigan tourism campaign.

Midland's Mackinac Center for Public Policy has been a frequent foe of the popular ads — those TV and radio spots with voiceovers from actor Tim Allen — at least since 2010. Lawmakers and Gov. Rick Snyder have ignored the criticism, this fall adding \$1 million to the now \$34 million program, for example.

This year, the Mackinac Center upped the ante on the debate. When the state's long-time consultant on the ads said every \$1 spent on them generated \$5.15 for the state, the Mackinac Center responded with a study of its own that claimed Pure Michigan actually brought back only pennies on the dollar.

The Mackinac Center's report also said the state's numbers couldn't be trusted because the consultant, Toronto-based Longwoods International, refuses to publish all of the methods it used to reach its conclusion. The Mackinac Center invited officials from the state and a private lobbyist group, the Michigan Lodging & Tourism Association, to publicly debate the numbers.

The state denied that request.

"First of all, they're claiming that an annual expenditure of about \$34 million a year produces all sorts of positive benefits, when the transparent information that's available shows the opposite," said Michael LaFaive, fiscal policy director for the Mackinac Center and an author of the report. "This money, invested in infrastructure or across-the-board tax cuts, could probably generate far more economic benefits than the program itself."

Longwoods CEO Bill Siegel said the Mackinac Center's analysis fails to account for other factors — the economy, bad weather, etc. — that can influence travel. The Longwoods study controls for those factors to measure the effectiveness of the campaign.

"It's not surprising they don't come up with anything, it's just not an appropriate methodology," Siegel said. "What

we're dealing with here is not research, it's polemics ... it's ideological research-based."

Siegel noted that his organization and the Pure Michigan campaign was honored in 2011 by the Advertising Research Foundation, which is the standard-bearer on research in advertising.

The Mackinac Center study was based largely on an analysis of data from the federal Census Bureau, Department of Labor, and Bureau of Economic Analysis, along with data from the trade group the U.S. Travel Association. The think tank published the complicated formula it used to reach its conclusion.

The Longwoods study is based on economic data and a survey of 4,000 travelers across the U.S. that measured whether travelers are aware of the campaign and what they think of the state. The consultant then pushes that data through a formula it calls "R.O.Eye" to calculate the return on investment ("ROI" in economists' shorthand).

That formula is the part Longwoods will not reveal publicly. Siegel said he doesn't want his competitors to have it, but the Mackinac Center's report raised concerns that the math is "not open to public scrutiny, even though it is used explicitly to guide public policy decision making."

"We would like some back and forth, but so far the only words we've gotten from the (state) have been vacuous, if not a redirect from the facts at hand," LaFaive said.

Michelle Grinnell, spokeswoman for Travel Michigan, said the state supports Longwoods and is focused on the business of drawing tourists to the state. She referred the Lansing State Journal to a letter Travel Michigan Vice President Dave Lorenz wrote to the Mackinac Center.

"We are always willing to have open dialogue and conversations about the Pure Michigan campaign," Lorenz wrote. "But as your letter and previous posts on the topic clearly illustrate, this invitation is not about expanding knowledge, but rather providing a platform to push a specific position and agenda. As a result, I believe a debate would not be a productive use of our time and resources."

jhinkley@lsj.com

Trying to kick the winter blahs

December is way too early for me to suffer from my usual winter cabin fever. But recent cold, snowy weather has brought on a major case of the blahs. Usually I can get through Christmas before that happens.

Once Christmas is past, I'd just as soon see spring arrive.

I don't like staying home for days on end. I'm just not willing to take a chance slipping on an icy sidewalk or trudging through a snowy parking lot. I've already missed my holiday get-together with my pals from the Monday morning Scrabble group that meets at the Redford Community Center. We've been together a long time. Once made up of only Redford people, we've brought in lovers of this board



Arlene Funke
GUEST COLUMNIST

I don't like staying home for days on end. I'm just not willing to take a chance slipping on an icy sidewalk or trudging through a snowy parking lot.

game from Livonia, Plymouth, Dearborn and Dearborn Heights.

I've always enjoyed the Redford Symphony Orchestra's annual holiday concerts, held each December at a local church. This year's was held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Livonia. This marvelous group holds free concerts several times each

season and has a loyal following with many donors.

The group's spring concerts will be Sunday, March 17 at Coventry Community Church in Redford and Sunday, May 21 at St. Sabina Catholic Church in Dearborn Heights. Concerts begin at 3 p.m.

Each December, I eat my meals on a set of Christmas dishes that I bought several years ago. I enjoy looking at my nativity set and decorative angels. No Christmas tree — my cat topples it.

Members of the Redford Senior Citizens Club love to party. Each year the club holds a gala Christmas luncheon. Everyone dresses up. Local officials attend. The food is good and the prizes plenty. This year's event was scheduled at St. Michael's Orthodox Church, with Stefan's Catering serving the meal.

Despite weather

concerns, I did get out for two breakfast dates with Redford pals Sylvia Foley and Chuck and Andrea Baier. Spending time with friends always renews my spirits. We solve the world's problems over a plate of tasty food. It's cheaper and more fun than visiting a psychiatrist.

When the weather turns cold I want to hibernate. I've already heard the dreaded term polar vortex come up in weather reports. Brrrr.

A famous saying declares that when life hands you lemons, make lemonade. Well, lemonade is a summer drink, according to my tastes. My solution for cabin fever is to make pots of vegetable soup, bake cookies and read books while curled up under a warm blanket.

Winter is just starting. Heaven help me.

Arlene Funke is a former Redford resident and a frequent contributor to the Observer.

CITY OF WAYNE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Wayne Planning Commission has scheduled the following public hearing for:

Tuesday, January 10, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184

to consider an application to vacate the portion of Morris Street and adjacent alleys to as described as Morris Street from the westerly line of Lot 25 extended to its end to the west and the alley from westerly line of Lot 25 extended to its end to the west

The application and proposed map may be examined or written comments submitted to the City Clerk during business hours (Mon.-Thurs. 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.). Members of the public may appear at the public hearing in person or by counsel. Inquiries: Matthew K. Miller, City Clerk (734) 419-0145.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk
LC-0000306488 224.5

Publish: December 22, 2016

CITY OF WAYNE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Wayne Planning Commission has scheduled the following public hearing for:

Tuesday, January 10, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

Wayne City Hall, 3355 South Wayne Road, Wayne, MI 48184

to consider an application to rezone Lots 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Clark Subdivision from R-1C Single Family Residential to IND-B Industrial Business

The application and proposed map may be examined or written comments submitted to the City Clerk during business hours (Mon.-Thurs. 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.). Members of the public may appear at the public hearing in person or by counsel. Inquiries: Matthew K. Miller, City Clerk (734) 419-0145.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk
LC-0000306487 224.5

Publish: December 22, 2016

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On December 27, 2016 the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1996	MERCURY	GRAND MARQUIS	2MELM75W2TX641033
2001	CHEVROLET	CAMARO	2G1FP22G612138050
2005	CHEVROLET	IMPALA	2G1WF52E459196951
1997	FORD	F150	2FTDX172XVCA56604
2004	OLDS	ALERO	1G3NL52E14C166955
1998	FORD	EXPLORER	1FMZU34E9WUA65543
2007	GMC	ARCADIA	1GKEV23757J114418
2003	DODGE	STRATUS	1B3EL36X63N547169
2003	SATURN	ION	1G8AG52F63Z138019
1988	CHEVROLET	PICKUP	2GCD14K9J1169322
2004	FORD	ESCAPE	1FMYU03194KA38523
1995	CHEVROLET	LUMINA	2G1LW52M5S1114476
2004	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NF52E54M534575
2016	CHEVROLET	CRUZE	1G1PE5SBXG7158206
2004	FORD	TAURUS	1FAFP56SXA4186258
2005	DODGE	CARAVAN	2D4GP44L75R148359
2003	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NWE03C293478
2006	PONTIAC	G6	1G2ZF55B964265793
2003	FORD	F150	1FTRX17233NA83561
1998	HONDA	ACCORD	1HGCG5646WA137917
2007	CHEVROLET	MALIBU	1G1ZT58F37F221161
2001	CHEVROLET	CAVALIER	1G1JC124817305782
2000	KIA	SEPHIA	KNABF1212YB5866441
2000	GMC	YUKON	3GKG26UOYOG187781
2004	CHRYSLER	SEBRING	1C3EL46X64N284224
2000	FORD	WINDSTAR	2FMZA5245YBD05906
1987	OLDS	CUTLASS	13GM11A8HP322758

*All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

** The below listed vehicle's ownership is unknown and will be sold at a public auction no sooner than 30 days from this notification if ownership is not determined**

1987 OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS 1G3GM11A8HP322758

Publish: December 22, 2016

LC-0000305785 434.5

Grandview teacher receives award from credit union

Students and teachers at Grandview Elementary in the Clarenceville School District were recently called by Principal Renee Valentine to an assembly in the school gym for a surprise announcement. They learned that fifth-grade teacher Cynthia Gibson was voted the hardest-working teacher in Zeal Credit Union's campaign to recognize teachers in grades K-12 who demonstrate hard work, empathy and passion for teaching.

Loud cheers rang throughout the gym as Valentine made the announcement and the surprised Gibson came forward to receive the award from Tiffany Sweet, youth and community development coordinator for Zeal Credit Union. Gibson was one of 10 finalists selected from more than 250 nominations received throughout metro Detroit. More than 15,000 online votes were cast for the 10 finalists, with Gibson taking the lead.

"There is no doubt that Mrs. Gibson is one of the most deserving people for this recognition from Zeal Credit Union," Valentine said. "She goes above and beyond her job teaching and she does it silently. I call her a hero, because she's always helping students and their families."

Gibson, who has taught at Grandview for 17 years, oversees the school's student council, which participates in community services projects such as Goodfellows Canned Food Drive, Pennies for Pasta, Meals on Wheels and Teacher Appreciation Week. She is also passionate about fundraising for those battling cancer and has set up school



During a school assembly at Grandview Elementary to announce teacher Cynthia Gibson's award as hardest-working teacher, Principal Renee Valentine (right) accepts a check for \$500 from Zeal Credit Union to be used by the school. Making the presentation is Tiffany Sweet (left), youth and community development coordinator for Zeal Credit Union.

events to raise money for the Karmanos Cancer Institute and organized Grandview's Mini Relay for Life to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

According to Valentine, Gibson organized all of this year's holiday gifts for 19 families in need that the school had identified and then helped nine more.

One of the parents who nominated Gibson wrote, "I really don't know how Mrs. Gibson does it sometimes. She is a wife and mother (of four). She always give her school kids hugs, high-fives and listens to

them."

Sweet and team members from Zeal Credit Union presented Gibson with a check for \$500 to be used for her classroom, another \$500 for Grandview Elementary and a fun pizza party for her fifth-graders.

Gibson's husband Joe Alessandrini teaches physical education and health at Clarenceville Middle School and was called earlier in the day to be among the surprise guests at the school assembly. Residents of Livonia, they are parents to three sons and a daughter, ages 9-19.

Also attending the

assembly to honor Gibson were Paul Shepich, superintendent of the Clarenceville school district, and Gibson's sister Lisa Fritz.

"Mrs. Gibson truly exemplifies Zeal Credit Union's values of character, empathy and passion," Sweet said. "It was heartwarming to read all of the nominations received for so many deserving teachers."

"I want to give a huge thank you to all the Grandview students, teachers parents and staff who voted for me," Gibson said. "It's such an honor and means so much."



COURTESY OF JULIE VAN AMEYDE
Members of the Livonia Fire Department helped inspect car seats last week.

Car seat inspections at Livonia fire department

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 75 percent of children are riding in car safety seats that aren't properly installed or don't fit correctly? Proper installation of car seats can greatly reduce injuries to children if a car accident occurs.

On Dec. 15, Livonia Chrysler Jeep partnered with the Livonia Fire Department to provide Car Seat Safety Inspections.

Those from the dealership were happy to partner with the Livonia Fire Department and will be scheduling more of these car safety seat inspections in the future, organizers said.

Livonia business helps collect hundreds of toys

Several hundred toys were donated at a Livonia business during its inaugural event earlier this month.

The first Grains and Trains event took place Dec. 9 at Quality Line Services, 13250 Newburgh in Livonia, an event held to raise money for Forgotten Harvest and collect toys for Toys for Tots. The event saw more than 100 people attend and enjoy food, as well as donate money and toys; and bid on collectible sports frames donated for the cause. Representatives

from several area organizations were in attendance, including a U.S. Marine and a Livonia police officer. Overall, the event brought in more than 500 toys and the equivalent of more than 4,000 meals for Forgotten Harvest.

The event went so well, said co-organizer and Canton resident Kal Hakkani, the company plans on doing another event next December as well.

"Overall, the event was what we had hoped for," he said. "A community coming together to make a difference."



COURTESY OF KAL HAKKANI
Employees of both Quality Lines Services and EZ Run Events with a U.S. Marine at the Grains and Trains event.



COURTESY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Livonia Public Schools was recently notified the district has been placed on the AP District Honor Roll.

Livonia schools' AP growth recognized

Livonia Public Schools announced that the district has been placed on the AP District Honor Roll, a distinguished honor shared by just 23 other school districts in Michigan and 433 throughout the United States and Canada.

To be included on the seventh annual Honor Roll, districts had to, since 2014, increase the number of students participating in Advanced Placement courses while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP exam scores of 3 or higher.

"This is a significant achievement, once again, for Livonia Public Schools and helps validate that our schools are successfully preparing students for their post-secondary pursuits," Livonia Public Schools Superintendent Andrea

Oquist said. "We are proud of all of our program offerings here in Livonia Schools, and are honored to be added to this distinguished AP Honor Roll. Our staff and students work very hard and they deserve this special recognition."

Livonia Public Schools' three high schools offer an array of Advanced Placement courses in math, science, social studies, world languages and English Language Arts for students who demonstrate exceptional comprehension and computation skills throughout elementary and middle school. After taking an AP course in high school, students take the AP exam for the opportunity to "test out" of first-year college courses in that subject area. The AP exam scores directly translate into college

credits for the high school student to utilize upon college admittance.

State Superintendent Brian Whiston said the districts on this list are "successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP."

"In our goal to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years, we need to promote greater access to AP opportunities for all students," Whiston said, noting that AP credits, along with dual enrollment programs, early middle colleges and career/technical education help achieve that goal.

According to the College Board, in 2016, more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, or both, and/or consideration in the admission

process.

"Congratulations to all the teachers and administrators in this district who have worked so tirelessly to both expand access to AP and also to help students succeed on the AP exams," said Trevor Packer, the College Board's head of AP and Instruction. "These teachers and administrators are delivering real opportunity in their schools and classrooms, and students are rising to the challenge."

Inclusion on the seventh annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2014 to 2016, looking across 37 AP exams, including world language and culture. Other area districts to be included on the AP Honor Roll are Bloomfield Hills, Plymouth-Canton and Rochester school districts.

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. for Thursday papers
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BREMER



BETTY ANN age 75, of Livonia, Michigan passed away on December 16, 2016 in Livonia, with her beloved husband of 53 years, Ross, by her side. She was born on March 21, 1941 in Traverse City, Michigan, to the late Gustaf and Hazel (Clark) Hoch. Loving mother of David (Renee) Bremer and John Bremer. Beloved sister of Bonnie Headlee, Violet Yack, and Kathy (Greg) Sheldon, and Ed Hoch. She leaves behind 9 cherished grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and many nieces and nephews. Memorial service will be held Tuesday, December 27, 2016, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills.
www.harrywillfuneralhome.com

SPENCE



CHERYL LYNN Passed away on December 18, 2016. Loving wife of John. Cherished mother of Greg (Brooke) Schermers and Leslie (Tim) Winters. Proud grandma of Anna, Finn, Brayden and Stella. Dear sister of Randy (Margaret) Melville and Bill (Janet) Melville. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends. Visitation Thursday 3-8 p.m. at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd. in Livonia. Funeral Service Friday 11 a.m., with viewing 10 a.m., at the Chapel at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile Rd. in Northville.
www.harrywillfuneralhome.com



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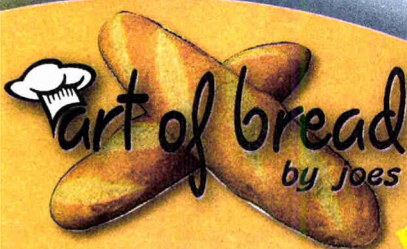
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HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Canton puts clamps on Patriots, 48-41

Franklin lets halftime lead slip away in division opener

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

The door was left open just a crack for Livonia Franklin's varsity boys basketball team to sneak through Tuesday night.

Unfortunately for the Patriots, however, they couldn't take advantage and dropped a 48-41 decision to visiting Canton in the KLAA South Division opener for both teams.

That's because the Chiefs — nursing a single-digit lead in the final minutes — missed the front end of three consecutive one-and-one situations, which

ranked veteran Chiefs head coach Jimmy Reddy.

"That's probably the worst free-throw shooting I've seen in eight years," Reddy said. "And I'm irritated, because we're too good of a shooting team to do that."

"Our coaches just told us (Canton made) four of 14. And we had a chance to seal it, in the last 2-3 minutes we were shooting one-and-ones."

But three times, the Chiefs clanked the shot and the Patriots grabbed the rebound, with another chance for junior center Mark Mettie or senior point guard Johnny Cantrell to drain one from long range and give Franklin a last burst of momentum.

The Patriots, now 2-3 overall and 0-1 in the division, just could not make the shot that could have made the final 30

seconds or so much closer.

"We're learning how to win, we're learning who we are," first-year Franklin coach Jon Djokaj said. "I've thrown a lot at them offensively, and defensively. We're trying to figure out what we're good at and what we want to do in situations like that."

"We'll get better as the season goes on. But yeah, you got to execute plays down the stretch. I felt we got some good looks, but credit to them, they did a nice job of taking away our primary options on a lot of plays."

Reddy said a big factor in the Chiefs being able to leave with a victory was the strong defense played by junior forward Noah Brown in the second half against the 6-8 Mettie —



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Mark Mettie (left) drives against Canton's Noah Brown on Tuesday.

See HOOPS, Page B3

TEAM USA WINTER CHAMPIONS SERIES



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Players from the Livonia Knights 14-and-Under girls hockey team await Saturday's game. Each fan in attendance received a miniature American flag to wave during the action.

BOYS HOCKEY

Livonia teams look to build off weekend

Stevenson playing strong; Churchill routs Lions

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

The going keeps getting more challenging for the Livonia Churchill and Livonia Stevenson varsity boys hockey teams, but coaches can't wait to see how their players do when the stakes get higher.

Consider the Chargers, coming off an 8-0 victory Saturday against South Lyon. Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds is eagerly anticipating what his team can do Wednesday against the No. 1-ranked team in Division 1, Brighton, at Eddie Edgar Arena.

"We have the utmost respect for Brighton's program, and we fully expect Wednesday to be a hard night's work," Reynolds said. "They play a fast, tenacious game and they're very well-coached — we're looking forward to the challenge."

Stevenson, meanwhile, just played Brighton in a tough, hard-fought contest at the Kensington Valley Ice House, dropping a 1-0 decision despite a great night in goal by junior Will Tragge (24 saves).

The only goal of the KLAA Central Division tilt was scored in the third period by Brighton's Jake Crespi.

"It was another outstanding hockey game between two good teams," Spartans head coach David Mitchell said. "I was so very proud and impressed with our team after dropping the last two games, to come out with this effort."

"With that being said, we need to find a way to score some goals. We have players that are capable."

Tragge is "doing his job, we need to find a way to help him out and score some goals. Tough to lose to Brighton, but we know how good they are."

PUCKS AND PATRIOTISM



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A player from Compuware's youth girls hockey program skates before Saturday's game between the U.S. and Canada.

U.S.-Canada women's hockey game gives players from area girls teams chance to cheer for their role models

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

It was a patriotic sight to behold Saturday at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

Sitting in the front row in Section 109 were players such as Lindsay Hunt, Danielle Klee and Megan Mathews, all members of the Livonia Knights 14-and-Under team, a travel squad based out of Eddie Edgar Arena.

They proudly sported their team jerseys and waved miniature replicas of the American flag before and during the women's exhibition game between the United States and Canada. All 3,308 fans in attendance received one as they

entered the arena.

During the game itself, the level of noise grew and grew as the excited, higher-pitched voices of elementary, middle and high school girls screamed "U-S-A! U-S-A!"

"I wanted to be here so I could support America and have a fun time with my teammates," Hunt, 13, of Livonia said following pregame warm-ups. "It means not just boys can do it; girls can do it, too. We can probably beat them if we want to."

Place to be

Klee, 14, makes four two-hour round trips between her

See HOCKEY, Page B2

See ROUNDUP, Page B4

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING

Rockets top 21-team Wayne County field

John Glenn boasts four individual champions

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

Westland John Glenn's wrestling program flexed its muscle at Saturday's Wayne County Championships, hosted by Wyandotte Roosevelt. With a quartet of county

champions leading the way, the Rockets easily topped the 21-team field in the varsity competition with 214 points. Second-place Woodhaven trailed with 169.5 points.

Winning championships for head coach Bill Polk were Mike Mars (119 pounds), Isaac Lefler (125), Anthony Gibson (135) and John Siemasz (145).

The list of champions could have been longer, with Caleb

Meekins (119), Lionel Cornish (189) and JaWuan Peete (285) all losing in the finals in their respective weight classes.

It was the same story in the junior varsity meet, with John Glenn's 224.5 points besting Livonia Franklin (142), Livonia Stevenson (140) and Salem (101.5).

Pacing the JV Rockets

See WRESTLING, Page B4



Westland John Glenn's Anthony Gibson (top), shown from last season, was one of four Rockets to earn individual county championship Saturday.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Rally by Canada spoils fun for U.S.

Team USA unable to cash in on multiple power plays in 5-3 loss

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

With hundreds of jersey-wearing players from local girls hockey teams cheering loudly and waving miniature American flags, the atmosphere was electric Saturday afternoon inside Plymouth's USA Hockey Arena.

Players such as Farmington resident Megan Keller, who played defense for the U.S. Women's National Team against Canada, certainly noticed the buzz and wanted nothing more than for young fans to leave the arena happy.

Unfortunately, Canada spoiled those plans by scoring four unanswered goals and skating to a 5-3 victory in the first of a two-game exhibition series.

"It was pretty cool, I saw a lot of Honeybaked jerseys out there, a lot of Livonia jerseys," Keller said. "Those were two programs I played for growing up, so to be able to see all those younger girls out there was a really cool experience."

"I feel like not too long ago I was them, watching these games on TV. So it's pretty surreal to be able to see them in the stands."

But Canada spoiled the fun for more than 3,300 fans with four unanswered goals to knock off the U.S., 5-3.

"Certainly, it's great for our players to have that energy in the building," U.S. head coach Robb Stauber said. "I'm sure most of them went home disappointed, at least the fans that were cheering for us."

For the first two periods of the Team USA Winter Champions Series, it was all good for the home team (up 3-2 and enjoying a 25-12 edge in shots).

Off the hook

Yet Stauber lamented that his team didn't have a bigger lead going into the final period.

"We can carry some things into the next game (Monday in Sarnia) and we will," Stauber said. "When you're up 3-1 and you got 'em on the hook, we



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
U.S. women's players celebrate a goal during the first period of Saturday's Team USA Winter Champions Series game against Canada.

learned that we got to figure out how to get the job done.

"We were right there. We had a glorious chance on the power play and we didn't take the shot. We have to take advantage of those advantages because, against a team like that, they're not going to come around very often."

Canada tied it and then took the lead 4-3 with two goals 58 seconds apart by Rebecca Johnston (who scored a hat trick) and Natalie Spooner — the latter on a wraparound with 18 minutes left.

The key reason was not taking full advantage of a string of power-play chances, with the U.S. succeeding on only two of 10 opportunities — both in the first period, when goals by Hilary Knight and Brianna Decker erased an early 1-0 deficit and put Stauber's squad up 2-1.

For a stretch of the first period, however, the power play was clicking.

Knight one-timed a shot through the pads of Canada goalie Shannon Szabados, who came on just nine minutes into the game after a hard shot



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Megan Keller (right) of the U.S. moves the puck behind Canada's Blayne Turnbull during Saturday's game at USA Hockey Arena. Keller is from Farmington.

injured starter Ann-Renee Desbiens.

Assisting on the goal were twin sisters Monique and Jocelyne Lamoureux, two of 13 players in this game who competed for the U.S. in the 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Jocelyne Lamoureux also helped set up the second goal, ripping a shot that Szabados blocked but could not control. Decker veered in and chipped the rebound over the goalie's right pad with 2:37 left in the opening period.

Need to jell

After that, the U.S. could not find the mark — twice being thwarted on lengthy five-on-three opportunities — although Szabados benefited from third-period shots hitting the crossbar and post.

"When you have five-on-threes, we got to find a way to bury one," Jocelyne Lamoureux

said. "And I think we're just focusing on getting better every game."

"We just had camp, so we weren't playing together as a unit, but that's no excuse. With five-on-threes, you got to find a way to score."

Decker's second goal made it 3-1 with about 15 minutes left in the middle period to give the many young fans a chance to wave their flags.

Canada started its comeback when Jillian Saulnier intercepted a bad clearing pass in the U.S. zone and snapped a shot from the left circle over the glove of goalie Alex Rigsby (17 saves) with 10:08 left in the period.

Despite Canada's two goals early in the third, the U.S. cheering section remained loud and hopeful.

The equalizer never came, although Decker took a feed from Monique Lamoureux and

wired one off the crossbar.

With "U-S-A" chants still filling the air, Stauber pulled his goalie in the final 90 seconds. Johnston finally sealed Canada's win with an empty-netter at 19:27.

Although disappointed with the outcome, Keller said the game itself was everything she thought it would be.

"It was an awesome atmosphere out there," said Keller, 20, a North Farmington graduate who made the roster following a week-long training camp. "To be able to come back to my hometown and be able to play with Team USA, a bunch of great players out there and one of the biggest rivalries in women's hockey, it was something special to experience here in Plymouth."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

home in Sylvania, Ohio, and Eddie Edgar in order to skate for the Paul Seychel-coached Knights, so it was a no-brainer to accompany teammates to the U.S.-Canada extravaganza.

"We're here supporting the USA team and we're just here to have a fun time and watch some hockey," Klee said, adding that watching players such as Farmington's Megan Keller (who plays defense for the U.S.) will further inspire her to keep working, improving and ultimately also play for the U.S. Women's National Team someday.

According to Mathews, 14, who lives in Oak Park, she was "hyped" to soak it all in, sharing a unique event with her teammates.

The environment inside the arena was something to cherish, but she also just loves hanging out with her friends.

"It's just a really fun experience, because we get to support our country," Mathews said.

Plus, they were able to watch the pregame drills and noticed "how we do some of them and how they do it."

Almost directly across the ice from the Knights were Jillian Petruno, Callie Shanahan and other players from the Honeybaked 14-and-under girls hockey team, based out of Suburban Ice Farmington Hills.

Fun and fast

Their assessment mid-game was the hockey between the national teams was pretty good, too.

"It's really fast; it's really cool," Shanahan, 13, of Commerce Township said following the second period of Canada's 5-3 win. "I'm having an awesome time watching this. It's so fun to see."

Chiming in was teammate Petruno, 13, of Walled Lake. "It's a good game. They're really good. I think it's a little better from what I expected. ... They're faster and they're smart hockey players."

Hundreds of players and parents were at the game from the Livonia Hockey Association



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Awaiting the big game Saturday are players from the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins high school girls team (from left): Grace Balch, Paige Sweet, Piper Keranen, Brooke Gauthier and Alexis Pheneey.



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
{ }
Players from various girls hockey organizations stood at center ice during the Canadian and U.S. national anthems, sung by Northville senior Carly Bins.



JUNFU HAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Players from the Livonia Knights, including Ritchi Aree, Savanna Hopkins, Carly Maliszewski, Abby Christ, Avery Sharma, pose for a pregame photo.

(which the Knights are part of), Honeybaked, USA Hockey Arena-based Compuware and other girls hockey teams.

Before the game, one player from each of those groups stood on the red line for the Canadian and U.S. national anthems.

Among them was Plymouth's Carly Carpenter, 10, of the Honeybaked 10U squad.

"It's really cool for those girls to be out there, on the ice standing right next to their heroes for the anthem," said Carly's dad Larry Carpenter (also coach of the Honeybaked 14U team, which includes two other daughters, Julia and Jenna.)

He said his team played earlier Saturday at the Beck Road arena and had the chance to see Keller and other U.S. players during pregame activities.

"Our girls were coming out (of their room) and the U.S. Women's Team was going from the training center over to their

locker room," Carpenter said. "And our girls were just weak-kneed, just so excited for this to get going."

Teen perspective

There were older players enjoying the atmosphere. The entire Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins high school girls team took the game in.

Senior Alexis Pheneey smiled about the growing anticipation for the rivalry game. "It's pretty cool, to be able to watch girls, some of them our age, playing at this level of hockey, knowing that we could do it, too," she said.

They agreed that the U.S.-Canada game had a chance to make a big impact on younger girls playing the game — or considering it as an athletic pursuit.

"I'm really excited. It's such a great opportunity to get to watch all these girls who are so good at what they do," sophomore Grace Balch said before the contest. "And to be inspired by how far they've come in this sport, how far we could go if we really want to."

Sophomore Brooke Gauthier said she was "really excited to see our role models growing up, girls who play hockey. I like to see them play at a higher, fast pace."

Piper Keranen, another sophomore, said being there with her team made it a fun day, no matter what happened in the game. She added that the event itself is "really important and exciting" for girls and women's hockey.

Concurring was Penguins junior Paige Sweet. "It gives us a chance to see people who have put in a lot of dedication and time into their game, to see how they play. It's exciting. And I get to hang out with my team, so that's fun."

A few minutes later, the Penguins settled down into their section with the rest of the team and listened to the national anthems beautifully sung by Northville High School senior Carly Bins.

The way the entire day played out (other than the final score, of course) was something to sing about.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

RU routs Trojans in WWAC Red matchup

Panthers coast to 68-24 victory

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Even though Redford Union rolled to a resounding 68-24 boys basketball win Tuesday night at Livonia Clarenceville, coach Randall Taylor wasn't giving his team a ringing endorsement.

"We missed layups, and one thing tonight is we missed free throws, and we still turned the ball over 17 times, so that was a negative," said Taylor, whose team improved to 3-2 overall with the WWAC Red Division win. "I think that was part of our kids not being engaged and not focused like we should have been focused tonight."

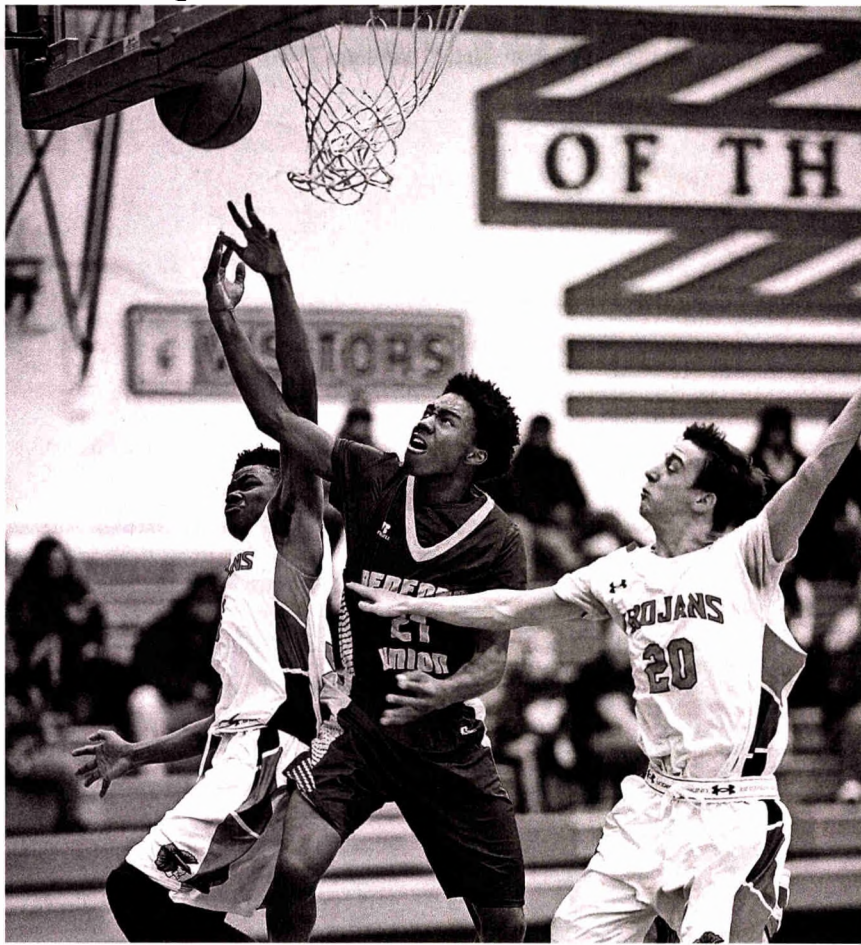
The Panthers took on a struggling Clarenceville team that is trying to find some sort of identity following an 0-3 start. The Trojans were missing a key returning starter, 6-foot-3 senior Kameron MacIver, who has yet to play after suffering a dislocated knee during the soccer season.

"You always look for the positives to build on, even the smallest success that we had tonight," Clarenceville first-year coach Ty Wallace said. "Just focus on the positives and keep focusing on the areas that we've got to improve in, just try and stay upbeat, help them work through the challenges of playing varsity basketball."

Clarenceville turned the ball over 23 times in the opening half and found itself down 38-11.

"Guys came in and got layups right away with a little bit of energy to start," Taylor said. "Our pressure was able to get to them. We forced some turnovers and were able to get layups."

All of RU's players who dressed scored paced by 6-1 senior forward Jacob Gagnon,



THOMAS BEAUDOIN

RU's Amir Huston (middle) goes in the layup against Clarenceville's Rickey Scott (left) and Bradley Trout (right).

who finished with a team-high 10 points. Junior guard Amir Huston came off the bench to score nine, while senior guard Dominik Slaughter and senior forward Justin White also chipped in with seven apiece in reserve.

"Since the start of the year Gagnon and Marcus Evans

have been the two most consistent guys in all five games this year," Taylor said. "They've scored, they've rebound, played defense. Eric McCarter really came on for us last game. We know he's been ready to go and that's going to be huge step for us ... also trying to get Malik Atkins going for us and get our

bench really rolling. If we can do that, we can make a push at this thing for us competing for our league."

After Antonio Boswell made two free throws with 1:34 left in the third quarter to make it a 40-point bulge, 57-17, the running clock started.

But the Trojans, despite 38

turnovers on the night, continued to battle and scrap even though they were out-manned as sophomore Rickey Scott led all scorers with 13 points.

"Rickey is a great athlete, one of our young players, a sophomore," Wallace said. "He's got learn to play the game on both ends of the court, understanding defense and reading a defense, and what point to attack and what point to pull back. It's something he'll gain that knowledge the more he gets game time experience."

The Trojans, who play Thursday at Dearborn Fordson, hope to return to full strength by the turn of the calendar year.

And getting MacIver back will help.

"He was in practice, he kind of tweaked it, aggravated it, so we're just sitting him and make sure he's strong and ready to come back," Wallace said of the senior's knee issue. "We're a young and inexperienced team, and as you saw tonight, it definitely shows. Of the starters, only one has varsity experience at this point. We have a lot of work to do. And we've got a couple of guys that we're dealing with that have academic challenges."

RU, which shot 25-of-62 from the floor (40.3 percent) and 12-of-25 from the foul line (48 percent), doesn't play again until after the calendar year at Mount Clemens Clintondale.

"I always tell the guys play the way we practice," Taylor said. "If we bring our level of play up and our practice up, then we'll be a better team. The two games we've lost it's been turnovers and free throws."

We've lost two games by four points this year. There's some things we need to clean up over Christmas break. We don't play again until Jan. 4, so we have an opportunity to clean things up and get ready."

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GIRLS HOOPS ROUNDUP

Canton attack rolls over Franklin

Tim Smith
Hometownlife.com

There's little Canton varsity girls basketball coach Rob Heitmeyer could complain about after his team thumped visiting Livonia Franklin, 68-20.

On parent night before the KLAAs South Division opener at the Canton gymnasium, parents received balloons, flowers and photos. And then they received perhaps the best gift of all, 32 minutes of excellence from the Chiefs, who built a 33-7 half-time lead.

Leading the way with 11 points was senior Erin Hult, with Brianna Finn and Shanya Butler (nine points each) and Madison Wolfbauer (eight points) all helping to foil the Patriots.

"We had balanced scoring with eight players scoring five or more," Heitmeyer said. "And we limited our turnovers to 10, so that was a positive."

Also chipping in for Canton (5-1, 1-0) were Carli Vaughn (eight points), Samantha Matern and Ashley Criscenti (six points each). Criscenti also led the team with five assists while Wolfbauer and Raquel Church each grabbed six rebounds.

Franklin (0-5, 0-1) was led by Brooke Garbarino, who scored seven points. Adding three for the Patriots was Sydney Stresser.

Stevenson hangs on

In a low-scoring girls basketball game Tuesday night, Livonia Stevenson defeated South Lyon East 28-25 to open KLAAs Central Division play.

"We played another great defensive game," Spartans coach Karen Anger said. "We created a lot of turnovers, not necessarily with steals but with good pressure and making them push the ball."

Sarah Tanderys (nine points), Grace Lamerson (six points), seven rebounds, six blocks), Elisa Lebron (six points, five boards) and Diane Senkowski (five points, five rebounds, five assists) all contributed to the victory as Stevenson improved to 5-1 overall and 1-0 in the division.

"It was our first hard-fought, down-to-the-wire battle and it really showed what the girls can do and are made of," Anger said.



FILE PHOTO

Livonia Stevenson's Grace Lamerson, shown in this undated photo, had a strong game Tuesday for the Spartans.

RU whips Trojans

Haley Hebner tallied a game-high 16 points Tuesday as host Redford Union (3-2, 1-0) opened Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division play with a 53-11 triumph over Clarenceville (1-4, 0-1).

Johnnae Steele added 10 points for the Panthers, who led 36-7 at the half. Myla Hoskins-King scored four for the Trojans.

Garden City edged

Despite 16 points from Kayley Hewer, 10 from Brittany Radtke and nine from Alecia Montgomery, the host Cougars could not overcome a slow start, falling 55-42 to Dearborn Fordson.

The Tractors went up 16-5 after one quarter, and although the Cougars chipped away they could not dig out of that hole. Garden City made seven of 19 free-throw tries while Fordson hit nine of 17 attempts.

Thurston triumphs

On Tuesday, Megan Abela scored a team-best 14 points to

lead Redford Thurston (4-2, 1-0) to a 44-27 WWAC Red Division victory over Dearborn Heights Annapolis (1-5, 0-1).

The Eagles, who led 26-12 at halftime, also got nine points from Naudia Jackson and eight apiece from Bryanna Burton and Gillian Drake. Julia Blevins led the Cougars with six points.

Eagles fly, 39-15

Plymouth Christian Academy improved to 4-1 overall with Tuesday's 39-15 victory over MIAC rival Southfield Christian. Robin Albert keyed the win with 10 points and nine rebounds, while Lydia Chapel (nine points, nine boards) and Aliyah Pries (five points, nine rebounds, three steals) also had solid games.

"Our defense did a great job rebounding the basketball and stepping into passing lanes," PCA head coach Rod Windle said. "Robin Albert did a great job of leading the team at both ends of the floor."

The Eagles led 10-2 after one quarter and padded that edge to 21-7 at halftime.

HOOPS

Continued from Page B1

who scored 14 of his 16 points before the intermission, when Franklin enjoyed a 21-16 edge.

"Noah Brown is a really good defender, he can shut a lot of people down," Reddy said. "I don't know if shut-down's the right word, but we held him (Mettie) in check."

Franklin fell behind 13-7 after one quarter but turned things around thanks to Mettie's hot hand in the second frame. He drained a trey from beyond the top of the arc to cut Canton's lead to 13-12 and later in the quarter hit another triple to put the Pats in front 19-16 with 1:30 remaining.

Before the final buzzer, Mettie went to the rim and hit a high-glasser to pad the Franklin lead.

Canton (3-2, 1-0) took control in the third quarter however, with junior forward Chase Meredith registering nine of his team-leading 13 points to put the Chiefs up 35-31 going into the fourth.

Also stepping up was sophomore guard B. Artis White, who connected on a runner through the lane to snap a 25-25 tie and later buried a trey to put Canton in front 33-29. White finished with seven points.

"He (White) was really good in the second half," Reddy said. "He did a better job of getting his hands and ready to shoot and knocked them down in the third quarter for sure."

A nifty baseline jumper by Franklin's Keyon Brown (nine points) sliced the Canton advantage to 35-33 with 6:41 to play and the Patriots gained possession of a 50/50

ball.

However, Franklin missed on a field-goal try that would have tied the game and the Chiefs came back with buckets by Meredith and junior guard Eian Barker (seven points), the latter hitting a 3-ball from the left corner to open up a 40-33 spread.

Also helping the Chiefs was senior guard Jake Cesarz, with eight points.

Cantrell netted six points (all in the fourth) for the Patriots, while Mettie augmented his scoring with eight rebounds.

THURSTON CLIPPED: Jalal Baydoun's game-high 30 points was the difference Tuesday as host Dearborn Edsel Ford (2-3, 1-0) opened Western Wayne Athletic Conference Blue Division play with a 62-57 victory over Redford Thurston (2-2, 0-1).

Malik Hill scored 15 points for the Eagles, who overcame a 39-23 halftime lead by outscoring the Thunderbirds 23-11 in the third quarter to pull within five, 50-46. But Thurston couldn't get over the hump.

"I thought Edsel Ford took it to us early," Thurston coach Brian Bates said. "They were ready to play. They deserved to win the game. They executed on both sides of the floor. They shot the ball well the first half and got out to a big lead. I'm proud of the kids for giving a great effort in the second half to back into the game. But we need to learn to play four quarters."

RAVENS EDGE RU: Mark "Rocket" Watts led all scorers with 29 points Saturday to give Detroit Old Redford Prep (2-1) a 66-62 non-league win over Redford Union (2-2) in a game played at Hazel Park.

The Ravens, who trailed 27-20 at halftime, stormed back to outscore the Panthers 46-35 during the second half as Bobby Walton and Jawan Snoddy added 14 and 13 points, respectively.

Eric McCarter paced RU with 21 points, while Christian Montgomery, Jacob Gagnon and Marcus Evans each added 11.

JOHN GLENN 73, CHURCHILL 44: On Tuesday at Westland John Glenn, the Rockets never trailed and rolled to a KLAAs South Division boys basketball win.

Leading John Glenn (4-0, 1-0) with 24 points was Christian Agnew, while Dajon Parker (13 points, nine rebounds), Joe Moon IV (12 points, six assists, eight rebounds) and Kijuan Chandler (nine points, six assists) sparked the attack.

Churchill (2-3, 0-1) received 14 points each from Genesis Barnes and Evan Cummins.

NOVI 91, SALEM 64: Cameron Grace and Jordan Ingram scored 13 points each Tuesday for the host Rocks (1-3, 0-1) in the KLAAs Central, but the team could not stop Novi's Travon Maddox (30 points).

Novi (3-2, 1-0) led 20-14 after one quarter and 51-36 at the half.

DEARBORN 65, GARDEN CITY 45: Host Dearborn took care of the Cougars in Tuesday night's WWAC boys basketball matchup. Scoring 13 points for Garden City was Brad Russell, with Avery Emerson adding nine.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Canton's Colin Troup (right) tries to ward off Franklin defender Keyon Brown.

BOYS SWIMMING

Northville rules Plymouth Wildcat Relays

Mustangs win four events, score 343 points

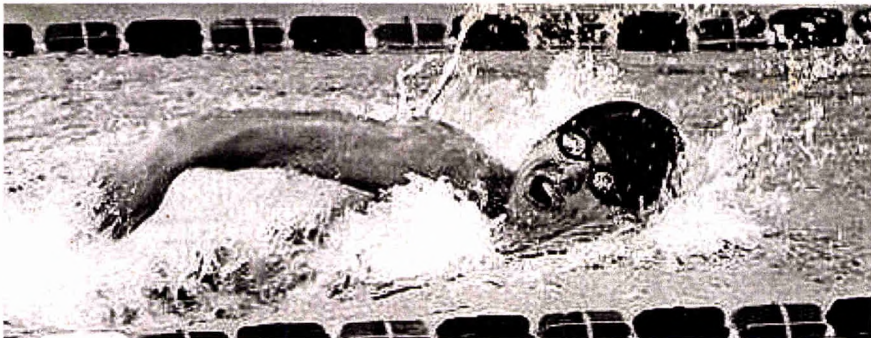
Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Coming off a dual meet loss the previous night against defending MHSAA Division 1state champion Birmingham Brother Rice, the Northville boys swimming and diving team jumped back into the pool Friday at Salem and came away with the Plymouth Wildcat Relays title.

Northville, winning four events, scored 343 points in the all-relay format. The Mustangs were 17 points better than runner-up Chelsea (326).

Rounding out the eight-school field were the host Rocks (290), South Lyon Unified (280), Plymouth (253), Hartland (241), Livonia Churchill (240), Dearborn (188) and Dearborn Edsel Ford.

"It was a fun meet for the guys. We had some decent swims," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "I'm looking forward to the holiday training period, so we can focus on creating good habits for the remainder of the season. We are still getting way too tired at the end of meets and that is something we will have to improve



South Lyon Unified's Christian Etnyre swims a leg in the 400-yard medley relay.

JOSEPH LEAHY

on."

After Chelsea took the 400 freestyle relay (3:25.77), Northville's 400-yard medley team of Arthur Greenlee, Travis Nitkiewicz, Trevor Degroot and Cameron Heaven got things going in the right direction with a first-place time of 3:47.45.

Chelsea then took the 200 butterfly relay (1:40.83) and the 1-meter diving, with Tim Lyons scoring 226.40 points, but the Mustangs reeled off three consecutive wins, starting with the 400 medley team of Jason Nitkiewicz, Degroot, Haotian Jiang and Travis Nitkiewicz (3:55.33).

The Northville foursome of Greenlee, John Duan, Ali Pazooki and Kirk Maibach placed first in the 200 backstroke relay (1:45.59), while the quartet of Nikolai Arton, Jiang, Roman Grossi and Travis Nitkiewicz captured the 200 breaststroke relay (1:58.97).

"I saw some good energy from the boys for most of the meet," Bennetts said. "It is always nice to win, but we really have a long way to go to be any good. It's just going to take a lot of old-fashioned hard work, but this team can get there. I don't know why we

always want to take the path of most resistance, but we can get there."

Salem closed the meet by winning the 500 crescendo relay (4:26.25), while Chelsea was first in the 200 medley and 200 freestyle relays in 1:43.03 and 1:32.69, respectively.

South Lyon's best finish came in the 400 medley, with Logan Boals, Christian Etnyre, Nick Finn and Max Topping taking second (4:03.30).

PLYMOUTH WILDCAT BOYS SWIM RELAYS
Dec. 16 at Salem H.S.
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 343 points; 2.

Chelsea, 326; 3. Salem, 290; 4. South Lyon, 280; 5. Plymouth, 253; 6. Hartland, 241; 7. Livonia Churchill, 240; 8. Dearborn, 188; 9. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 178.

FINAL EVENT RESULTS
400-yard freestyle: 1. Chelsea (Lee Argir, Collin Babyc, Preston Wald, Joey Manger), 3:25.77; 2. Salem (Nathan Budnick, Phillip Collingwood, Stephen Freitag, Eugene Li), 3:28.45; 3. Northville (Taiyo Ichikawa, David Alameddine, John Duan, Jason Nitkiewicz), 3:31.00.

400 medley: 1. Northville (Arthur Greenlee, Travis Nitkiewicz, Trevor Degroot, Cameron Heaven), 3:47.45; 3. Salem (Ryo Hirose, Li Budnick, Collingwood), 3:50.15; 4. South Lyon (Logan Boals, Brandon Bell, Max Kempisty, Christian Etnyre), 3:50.90.

200 butterfly: 1. Chelsea (Wes Wickens, Kurt Jolly, Argir, Manger), 1:40.83; 2. Northville (Duan, Ali Pazooki, J. Nitkiewicz, Kirk Maibach), 1:42.61; 3. South Lyon (Etnyre, Luke Campbell, Boals, Kempisty), 1:43.34.

1-meter diving: 1. Tim Lyons (Chelsea), 226.40 points; 2. Jordan Groves (Ply.), 217.60; 3. Andrew Saltzman (L.C.), 161.65; 4. Nolan Thaxton (N'ville), 156.55.

4 x 100 medley: 1. Northville (I. Nitkiewicz, Degroot, Haotian Jiang, T. Nitkiewicz), 3:55.33; 2. South Lyon (Boals, Etnyre, Nick Finn, Max Topping), 4:03.30; 3. Churchill (Kevin Taylor, Ethan Stack, Tyler Opatky, Nathan Sutton), 4:21.72.

200 backstroke: 1. Northville (Greenlee, Duan, Pazooki, Maibach), 1:45.59; 3. Salem (Miles Angell, Caleb Johnson, Eric Foot, Hirose), 1:57.54; 5. South Lyon (John Abernethy, James Perry, Riley Vaughn, Finn), 2:04.13.

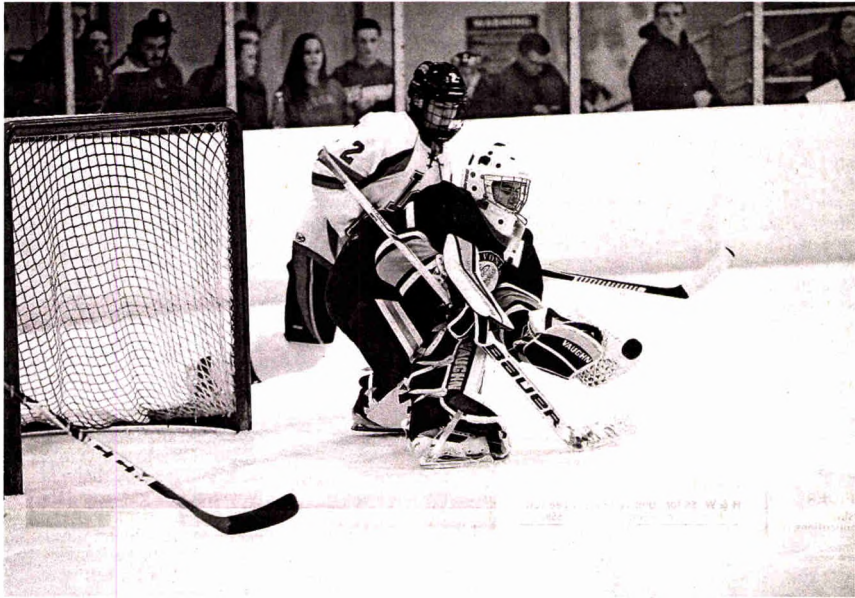
200 breaststroke: 1. Northville (Nikolai Arton, Jiang, Roman Grossi, T. Nitkiewicz), 1:58.97; 3. Salem (Freitag, Lucas Sheedy, Jacob Rumpitz, Li), 1:07.52; 4. South Lyon (Bell, Jared Keeney, Preston Healy), 2:16.17.

500 freestyle crescendo: 1. Salem (Tom Cousino, Collingwood, Budnick, Li), 4:26.25; 2. Northville (Maibach, Heaven, Alameddine, Degroot), 4:29.03; 4. South Lyon (Vaughn, Perry, Etnyre, Kempisty), 4:36.56.

200 medley: 1. Chelsea (Jolly, Zach Lee, Argir, Manger), 1:43.03; 2. Northville (Greenlee, T. Nitkiewicz, J. Nitkiewicz, Heaven), 1:43.44; 3. South Lyon (Boals, Bell, Kempisty, Topping), 1:45.01.

200 freestyle: 1. Chelsea (Babyc, Jolly, Lee, Manger), 1:32.69; 2. Northville (Duan, Arton, Degroot, Maibach), 1:33.94; 4. Salem (Cousino, Abraham Soto, Sheedy, Collingwood), 1:38.02.

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Livonia Stevenson goalie Will Tragge, shown earlier this season against Livonia Churchill, gave the top-ranked Brighton Bulldogs all they could handle Saturday night.

TOM BEAUDOIN

ROUNDUP

Continued from Page B1

The loss dropped Stevenson's record to 5-4-0 overall and 3-3-0 in the division. Brighton improved to 7-1-0, 3-0-0. Next for the Spartans was Tuesday's contest at Orchard Lake St. Mary's (results were not available as of press time).

Full marks

As for the Chargers (7-1-0, 3-0-0 in the KLAA South), a big game by Jordan Venegoni sparked the victory.

Venegoni scored the game's first three goals, all in the opening period, and chipped in with three assists for a six-point night.

Also registering six points was linemate Tyler Haydu, with two goals and four helpers. The third player on the productive line, John Doyle, collected a goal and three assists.

Earning the shutout for Churchill was Drew Broyles. "Jordan Venegoni was exceptional tonight," Reynolds said. "Beyond the points he tallied, I thought he played a really inspired two-way game. "His backchecking was outstanding, and I believe that really energized our bench."

NOTRE DAME PREP 3, FRANKLIN 0: On Saturday at Troy Sports Center, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep scored three goals in the third period (one into an empty net) for the non-league victory.

Taking a tough loss in goal for the Patriots (3-7-0) was Jacob Penny, who made 22 stops. Blanking Franklin was Robert Kowalczyk, who stopped all 21 shots he saw.

NORTHVILLE 3, STEVENSON 1: Daniel McKee tallied a goal and assist Dec. 14 as the Mustangs (4-3, 1-2) notched their first KLAA Central Divi-



Livonia Churchill's John Doyle (No. 11), shown from a recent game against Salem, had a big game against South Lyon along with linemates Jordan Venegoni and Tyler Haydu.

KELLY DOBSON

sion victory with a 3-1 triumph over host Livonia Stevenson at Edgar Arena.

Northville, ranked No. 10 in Division 1, led 1-0 after one period on McKee's power-play goal from Shane Bryans.

Both teams scored in the second period, with Northville's Nick Bonofiglio getting a goal assisted by McKee, while Cody Cieslaga scored from Connor Jakacki and Morgen Gray for the Spartans.

The Mustangs' Alex Iafrate then added an empty-netter to close out the victory.

Northville goaltender Brett Miller made 27 saves, while Stevenson junior goalie Will Tragge stopped 24 shots for the fourth-ranked Spartans (Division 2).

"I thought Northville was outstanding tonight," Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "This is what we talk about when we say 'no nights off in the KLAA.' You saw a team that had a jump early on and took it too us early and forced us to chase the game all night long."

DETROIT CC 4, GROSSE POINTE SOUTH 2: Novi Detroit

Catholic Central (5-3-1) scored all four of its goals during the second period to beat Grosse Pointe South (3-1-1) in a non-league game Dec. 14 at Plymouth's USA Hockey Arena.

After scoreless opening period, CC's Greg McQuade scored 40 seconds into the second period off assists from Zachary Sprys-Tellner and Davis Brown.

Ethan Ervin's goal from Jared Lee and Austin Roel at 8:19 made it 2-0 for the Shamrocks, but the Blue Devils answered on Jack Flynn's goal at 9:08 from Patrick Bourke.

The Shamrocks, ranked No. 2 in Division 1, then scored two more before the period ended as Dylan Montie scored a goal from Mitch Morris and Rylan Clemens at 12:40, followed by Sprys-Tellner's goal with only 16.9 seconds left from McQuade and Brown.

South's Liam Kavanaugh scored at 2:04 from Evan Theoros and Noah Morris, but CC goalie Joe Pernecky (17 saves) made the two-goal lead stand up the rest of the way.

Camden Mills made 14 saves for South, which is ranked No. 5 in Division 2.

WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

were first-place finishers Brandon McCollum, Anthony Hudson, Cole Bagwell and Brandon Careathers.

Cornish was pinned in 3:40 by 189 champion Ethan Shulaw of Plymouth. Shulaw pinned every opponent, earning 24 of his team's 62 points for the day.

Meanwhile, Livonia Franklin senior Nathan Atienza's long unbeaten streak (he was 58-0 in 2015-16) came to a close in the final at 152.

Atienza, who had won his first 10 bouts of this season, dropped a 8-3 decision to Dustin Gross of Dearborn Heights Annapolis.

But Atienza's teammate, Manee Willie, did prevail at 215. Willie won 11-8 over Josh Dodd of Woodhaven.

Among other Observerland teams, Franklin placed fifth with 110.5 points, with Canton coming in eighth (90). In 10th with 73 points was Wayne Memorial.

Plymouth (tied for 12th with 62 points), Salem (14th, 50) and Livonia Churchill (15th, 49) rounded out other area teams.

Several area wrestlers distinguished themselves, by reaching the finals in their weight classes.

Canton's Justin Winnie was brought down in 1:43 by John Glenn's Gibson at 135; Salem's Bruce Haslitt lost 9-1 to Woodhaven's Hunter Grasso at 160.

WAYNE COUNTY MEET
Dec. 17 at Wyandotte Roosevelt
TEAM SCORES: 1. Westland John Glenn, 214 points; 2. Woodhaven, 169.5; 3. Dearborn Fordson, 169; 4. Southgate, 119; 5. Livonia Franklin, 110.5; 6. Wyandotte Roosevelt, 99; 7. Dearborn Edsel Ford, 92; 8. Canton, 90; 9. Dearborn Heights Annapolis, 75.5; 10. Wayne Memorial, 73; 11. Belleville, 66; 12.

(tie) Plymouth, 62; 12. (tie) Riverview, 62; 14. Salem, 50; 15. Livonia Churchill, 49; 16. Dearborn, 43.5; 17. Melvindale, 41; 18. Hamtramck, 34; 19. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 14; 20. Grosse Ile, 12.5; 21. Romulus, 5.

103 pounds: 1st: Aaron Garcia (D), pinned Hamdi Ali (H), 5:28; 3rd: Russ Fussell (LF) won 8-0 major decision over Abdullahi Nassir (EF); 5th: Alahdain Nasser (DF) p. Johanna Palshan (SG), 2:14; 7th: Saleh Said (M) 13-5 maj. dec. over Jake Campbell (WR).

112: 1st: Aseel Almudhala (DF) p. Alec Balogh (SG), 3:06; 3rd: Nicholas Pyle (W) p. Howie Whitaker (LF), 1:37; 5th: Tyler Campbell (P) 11-0 maj. dec. over Kyle Cox (WR); 7th: Ty Wyka (DEF) 8-0 maj. dec. over Ethan Collins (G).

119: 1st: Mike Mars (G) p. Caleb Meekins (G), 2:24; 3rd: Tank Shalhout (DC) 11-2 dec. over Yousef Hamie (DF); 5th: Ethan Englehart (LC) 11-1 maj. dec. over Esam Kasem (H); 7th: Ryan Caccido (SG) 16-2 maj. dec. over Hamzah Ghaleb (M).

125: 1st: Isaac Lefler (G) 10-2 maj. dec. over Logan Palshan (SG); 3rd: Samuel Lyman (B) 4-3 dec. over Josh Mussen (LC); 5th: Mason Grasso (W) 10-2 maj. dec. over Kyle Thompson (RW); 7th: Akash Rai (Salem) won by injury default over Ali Alziyadi (DF).

130: 1st: Xavier Graham (W) 7-4 dec. over Donte Rivera-Garcia (SG); 3rd: Mustafa Aubeidy (M) 3-2 dec. over Nick Daniels (WM); 5th: Johnny DiRonia (LF) 6-4 dec. over Raghib Musthed (EF); 7th: Dylan Neal (WR) p. Brian Walrad (LC), 2:08.

135: 1st: Anthony Gibson (G) p. Justin Winnie (Canton), 1:43; 3rd: Jacob Emery (W) p. Devin Spears (M), 2:13; 5th: Jacob Lanzini (G) 5-1 dec. over Nathan Hawkins (S); 7th: Zachary Schaffner (WR) p. Evan Jaymes (LF), 4:02.

140: 1st: Cam Wyka (EF) 6-1 dec. over Hamzeh Mrech (DF); 3rd: Kyle Emery (W) 5-0 dec. over Colton Thompson (WR); 5th: Bradley Jones (SG) 5-4 dec. over Marcus Mertz (A); 7th: Zack Dehnke (Canton) p. Abdul Abdulaziz (M), 2:38; Cons. A Champ: Dylan Weiss (G) 12-10 dec. over Nathan Lazar (B); Cons. B Champ: Mario Succurro (Canton) won by void.

145: 1st: John Siemasz (G) won by technical fall over Ammar Al-Aboudi (A), 3:36; 3rd: Jason Bury (WR) over Joseph Muzzini (W), DQ; 5th: Essa Ghaleb (DF) 11-3 maj. dec. over Dylan Slowik (Canton); 7th: Kevin McCann (RW) won by forfeit over Robert Laird (Canton).

152: 1st: Dustin Gross (A) 8-3 dec. over Nathan Atienza (LF), 3rd: William Marano (DEF) p. Jeremy Van Berkel (Canton), 0:52; 5th: Zachary Buhiro (B) 9-4 dec. over Zach Warlick (RW); 7th: Brenten Polk (G) p. Jalen Adams (WM), 0:59.

160: 1st: Hunter Grasso (W) 9-1 maj. dec. over Bruce Haslitt (Salem); 3rd: Genaro Acerrano (G) 5-2 dec. over Christopher Little (Canton); 5th: Marc Rodriguez (SG) p. Kyle Nail (RW), 1:25; 7th: Ali Makki (DF) p. Joey Aheam (P), 4:13.

171: 1st: Hiram Robinson (WR) 16-9 dec. over Patrick Burrage (B); 3rd: Michael Bates (EF) 9-4 dec. over Jason Huettner (WM); 5th: Noah Anderson (W) p. Malek Mansour (DF), 4:13; 7th: Artis Jackson (P) 6-1 dec. over Dean Elder (D).

189: 1st: Ethan Shulaw (P) p. Lionel Cornish (G), 3:40; 3rd: Andrew Antolin (B) 7-2 dec. over Kevaghin Henderson (WM); 5th: Amir Nasser (DF) p. Markus Sturgill (W), 2:30; 7th: Nick Dlugos (LC) p. Noah Van Berkel (Canton), 0:39.

215: 1st: Manee Willie (LF) 11-8 dec. over Josh Dodd (W); 3rd: Khalil Makki (DF) p. Quinn Regan (WR), 1:25; 5th: Donovan Richardson (D) 10-6 5-5 over James Torres (A); 7th: George Schwemmer (G) p. Chns Fletcher (WM), 6:29.

289: 1st: Evan Begeman (RW) 5-3 dec. over JaWuan Peete (G); 3rd: Anthony Calloway (WM) p. Jake Giorgi (Salem), 2:49; 5th: Hussein Berro (DF) p. Devin Visnaw (LF), 1:44; 7th: Rigo Silva (A) p. Christian Haddad (LC), 0:23.

BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Redford Union swimmers lose big to Edsel Ford

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Redford Union's Mac Kewandwy earned a pair of first-place finishes Tuesday afternoon, but it wasn't enough to prevent the Panthers from falling to host Dearborn Edsel Ford, 126-54, in a Western Wayne Athletic Conference boys swimming and diving setback.

Kewandwy won the 200-yard freestyle (2:15.12) and the 100 backstroke (1:09.70), but the Thunderbirds captured the other 10 events.

"Edsel Ford had not only depth, but strong swimmers," RU coach Shelly Helwig said. "Edsel was able not only to take first place in all of the relays, but their 'B' team was able to score as well. This led to a large lead that was tough to overcome. We saw some

good things from our senior swimmers and hopefully some of our underclassman will follow their example. This would help us against strong teams with depth."

The Panthers, who slipped to 2-1 overall, also got a second from Ray Samuel in the 500 freestyle (6:12.65) and Jamison Ortiz in 1-meter diving (143.75 points).

RU also got seconds in the 200 medley relay (2:07.31) and 200 freestyle relay (1:44.46).

Earning thirds for the Panthers were Xavier Walters in the 50 freestyle (26.51) and Jackson Allison in the 100 breaststroke (1:24.80).

The Panthers are off for the holiday break until Thursday, Jan. 12 for a dual WWAC meet at Garden City.

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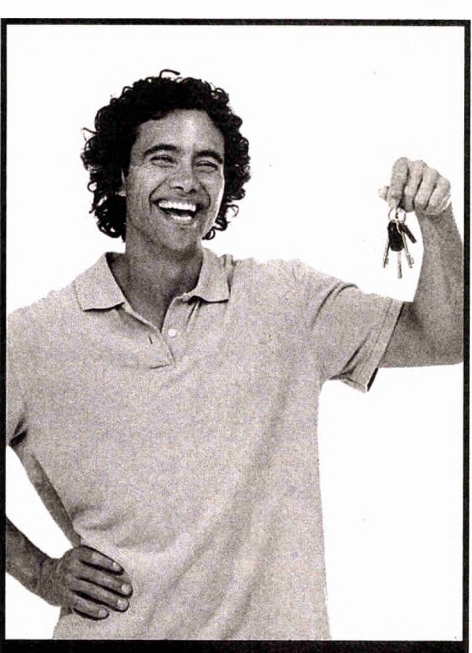
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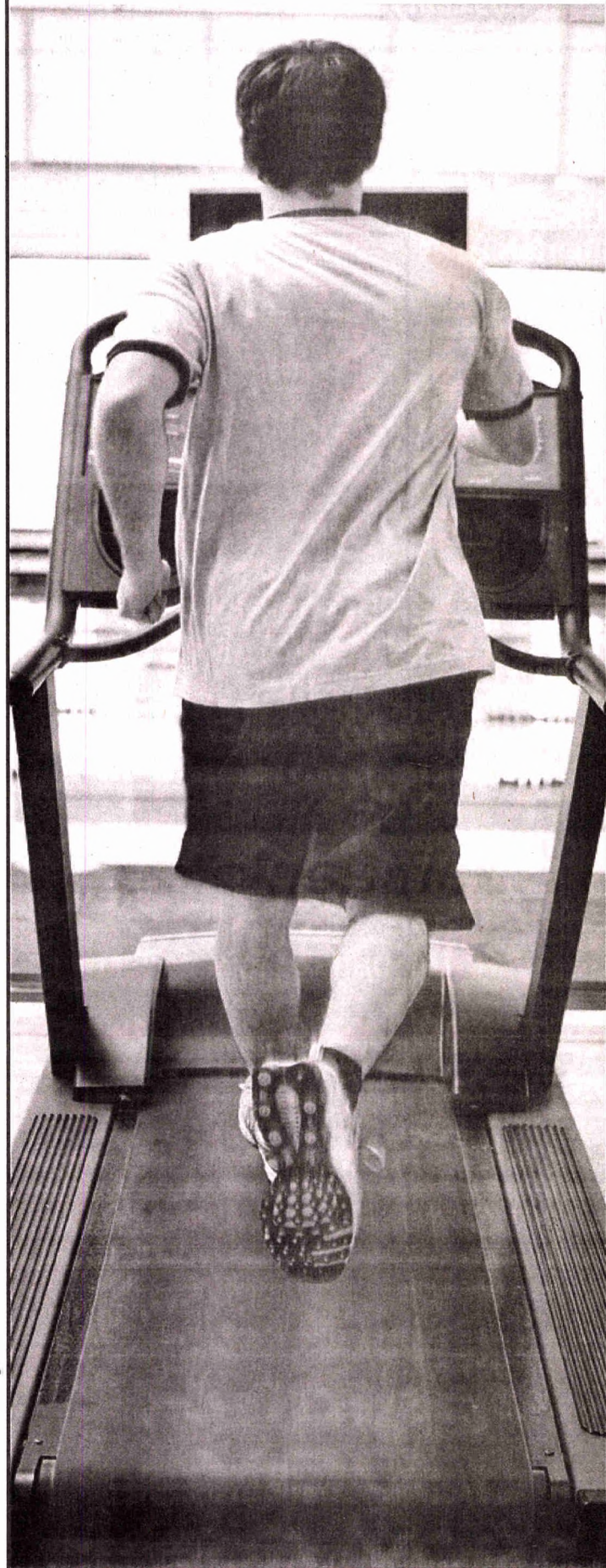
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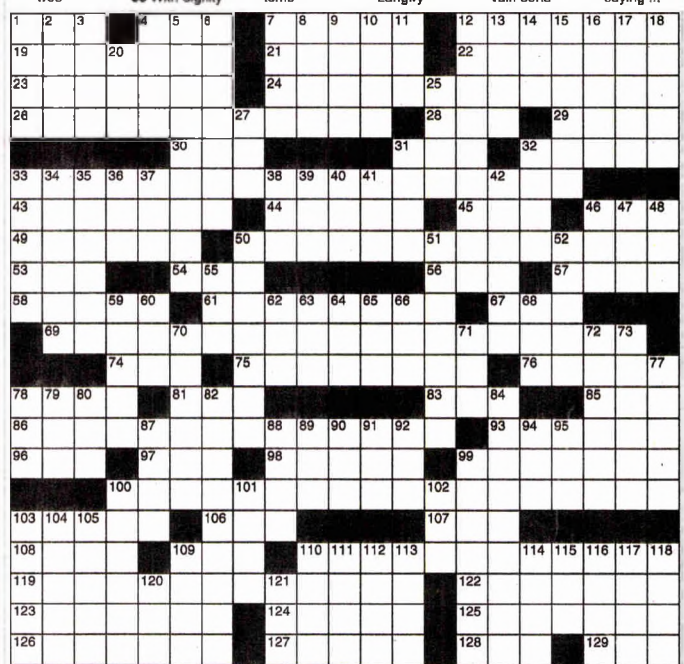
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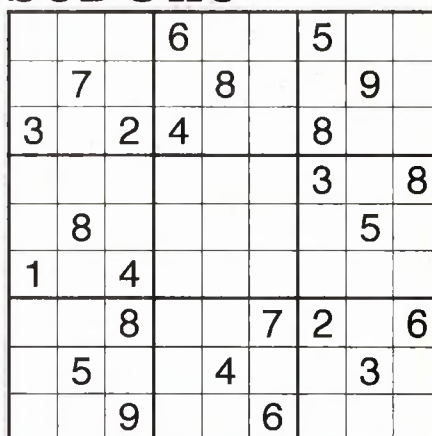
THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wall St. whiz
4 Capote, informally
7 Milky gemstones
12 "Avatar" actress Zoe
19 1,760-yard footrace
21 Juliet's lover
22 Big name in hair care
23 Puzzled
24 Shy around all of humanity?
26 Adorn big shopping centers?
28 Letters on an ambulance
29 Lavish attention (on)
30 "Bali" —
31 Prefix like "equi-"
32 More recent
33 Transport
34 Kriss Kringle on a small, wheeled cart?
43 Middle name of Mozart
44 Yeats' "The Wild Swans at —"
45 Teen's skin woe
- 46 Brazil's — Paulo
49 Bulletproof vest material
50 Fastener holding a sleigh tinkler in place?
53 Foreman foe
54 Moo —
56 Address with dots in it
57 Tomahawks
58 Takes five
61 Rides that aren't new
67 Debt note
69 Rogers or Acuff playing percussion as a child?
74 Droid
75 Fait accompli
76 Blights
78 Kin of karate
81 Poker player
83 Sow, e.g.
85 See
86 Reason you might give for not buying a china plate?
93 Mother of Rajiv Gandhi
96 Chatter
97 Hurry
98 False front
99 With dignity
- 100 Vacation in Italy's capital?
103 In accordance with
106 Profs' aides
107 Glig's "yes"
108 Voting place
109 Fancy carp
110 Earliest tune that singer Billy ever wrote?
119 Far off driving one's Ford pickup?
122 Japanese massage
123 Divided into new districts
124 Hindu maxim collection
125 "Bama rival
128 Hypnotic states
127 "Let's roll!"
128 Purview of Gov. Cuomo
129 Dipso
- 7 Sea predator
8 Billards
9 — nitrate (fuel additive)
10 With
85-Across, "Dig in!"
11 — Canals
12 Gossipy chatterer
13 Hoppy brews
14 Decree
15 Cellphone components
16 Cursor, often
17 "Affliction" star
18 Birch cousin
20 Deer cousin
25 Pianist John
27 Prefix with life or land
31 Big name in frozen drinks
32 Part of NBA: Abbr.
33 Capital of Senegal
34 Brunch dish
35 Luxuriant
36 "Bad" cholesterol, for short
37 Vocal vote
38 Chem., e.g.
39 Multitude
40 Yule drink
41 Not sound
42 Actress
43 Angry
- 46 Baseball's Red —
47 Pro
48 Go-aheads
50 Rightful deserts
51 They show certain transit routes
52 Actress Dem
55 Shanty
59 Tim of football
60 — Poke (candy)
62 "Do Ya" gp.
63 Lion lair
64 B-to-F run
65 Suffix with drunk
66 Wish undone
68 Sun or moon
70 "Yes, that guy!"
71 1,051, to Nero
72 Iroquois tribe
73 Per annum
77 Doesn't exit
78 Irish dance
79 Yankee land
80 Small dollup
82 Arboreal
84 In the way a lass would
87 2011 Marvel Comics film
88 Problems for
89 Snarling mutt
90 Chart buster
91 "Sorta" suffix
92 — -wee
94 "— will not!"
95 Clunker
99 Adds
100 Swear by
101 C-worthy
102 Polio
103 In two, say
104 Scatterer of seeds
105 City square
109 Patella locale
110 Certain bolt holder
111 Altitudes: Abbr.
112 Architect
113 Drescher of "The Nanny"
114 Lashes (up)
115 Traffic clog
116 Redding of soul
117 Canadian fuel brand
118 Deep desire
120 Company abbr.
121 "— was saying ..."



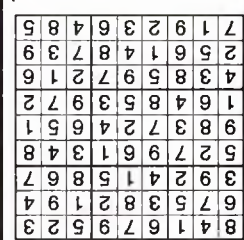
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ASTROLOGY WORD SEARCH



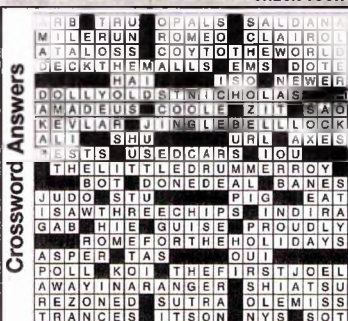
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WORDS

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AQUARIUS
ARIES
ASCENDANT
ASTROLOGY
BIRTH
CALENDAR
CANCER
CAPRICORN
CELESTIAL
CHART
CONFIGURATION
CONSTELLATION
EARTH
ECLIPSE
FIRE
GENI
HOUSE

INTERPRET
LEO
LIBRA
NATAL
PISCES
PROGRESSIONS
RETROGRADE
RISING
SAGITTARIUS
SCORPIO
SIGN
STARS
SYNASTRY
TAURUS
TRANSIT
VIRGO
WATER

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Word Search Answers

