

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

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## Township cop tackles FBI academy

Burrough among 1 percent who graduate from program

**Matt Jachman**

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Twenty-year police veteran Mike Burrough found himself back in school this year.

Burrough, a lieutenant with the Northville Township Police Department, already has multiple degrees. But he spent a

good part of his summer at the FBI National Academy, a program for law enforcement executives from around the country and the world.

"I'm a pretty good example of a lifelong learner," Burrough said recently in his office at the police station.

The National Academy is an elite program — less than 1 percent of U.S. law enforcement personnel will go through it, according to a township press release. It's held at the FBI



**Burrough**

others, as part of its 269th session.

"The entire experience is so rewarding," Burrough said. "It's like that package that comes together."

Burrough earned the equiv-

Academy on the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Va., outside Washington, D.C. Burrough graduated recently, with more than 220

alent of 17 college credits, most at the graduate level, through the National Academy. He studied constitutional law, employment law, media relations and more.

"They have top-notch instructors. The people there know their material inside-out," he said. Some of the instructors were FBI special agents and lawyers.

The lessons sometimes had

See BURROUGH, Page A2

### NBA tryouts

The Northville Basketball Association will be having travel basketball tryouts for seventh-graders living in Northville School District 6-9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, and 6-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, at the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex (PARC). For details and tryout registration forms, go to <https://m.facebook.com/NvilleBballAssoc/>.

### Toys for Tots

The Corriveau Law Firm, 324 E. Main in downtown Northville, is continuing its annual Toys for Tots participation. Corriveau Law is accepting new, unwrapped toys from now until its final collection date Tuesday, Dec. 12. Marines will be coming to the firm to pick up all toy donations between Dec. 13-15.

### Battle of the Books

The Northville District Library officially kicks off its 12th annual middle school Battle of the Books, a fun reading competition for middle school students who live or go to school in Northville. Books and team registration sheets are available at the library or in school media centers now. Teams must be registered by Jan. 31, 2018.

For more information, go to [northvillelibrary.org/Teen/BattleoftheBooks](http://northvillelibrary.org/Teen/BattleoftheBooks) or call 248-349-3020.

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## Baughman joins district as assistant superintendent

Aaron Baughman has been named assistant superintendent of instruction for the Northville Public Schools district. The Northville Board of Education unanimously approved Baughman's appointment at its Nov. 28 meeting. He succeeds Deanna Barash, who left the district in



**Baughman**

September to take a position with another school district. Baughman comes to Northville Public Schools from Wayne-Westland Community Schools, where he has served for the past five years as executive director of curriculum, overseeing K-12 curriculum for all subject areas district-wide. He joined Wayne-Westland Community Schools fresh out of college in 2001 as a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher. In his 16 years with Wayne-Westland, Baughman has served in a number of roles, including as an elementary and middle school teacher, a middle school assistant principal and principal and the as district's director of professional development.

"Aaron Baughman is known as a passionate educator and lifelong learner who promotes instructional excellence and student learning through collaborative relationships with teachers and administrators, as well as students, families and the community," Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher said. "We are happy to have Aaron joining our Central Office leadership team and are excited about the depth and breadth of experience he will bring to Northville Public Schools."

Baughman has a bachelor of arts, majoring in English and minoring in elementary education, from William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills. He earned his Michigan Elementary Provisional Certificate from Madonna University in Livonia, with endorsements in elementary, K-5 all subjects; K-8 Self-Contained Classroom; and grades 6-8 in English. Baughman also has a master of science in administration specializing in educational leadership from Madonna.

"Northville has a long tradition of excellence and I am ex-

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## Active township woman marks 100th



Marian Roshirt is 100 years old. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Roshirt says "maybe it was the wine' that led to her longevity



Marian and Clayton Roshirt were married in Chicago in 1947 and moved immediately to Highland Park, later to Livonia.

**Matt Jachman**

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

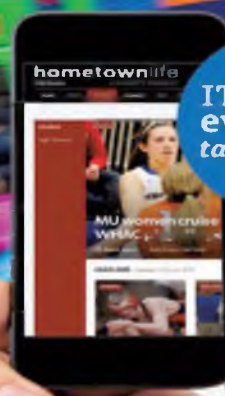
Marian Roshirt has packed a lot of living into 100 years and she isn't ready to slow down yet.

The Northville Township woman survived the hardship and upheaval of the Great Depression and the loss of a young husband during World War II. She's lived in five states, raised three children, sold real estate, spent 35 years of her retirement in Florida and outlived a second husband, a son and five siblings.

But Roshirt, who hit the century mark Nov. 9, remains upbeat and active. She enjoys a

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### NORTHVILLE LIBRARY EVENTS

#### One-on-one help with our tech expert

**When:** 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. each Tuesday; 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. each Thursday

**Details:** Free one-hour session with our Digital Services librarian to help you navigate our downloading services, help with email, Facebook, DropBox and more. Not for computer repair or configuration questions. Register online or in person or call 248-349-3020.

#### Fall TOT Storytime

**When:** Varied, see website

**Details:** Develop your toddler's early literacy skills and preschool readiness in this fun, interactive, small group experience. Please bring only children who are registered for this storytime; babies, siblings may not attend.

#### Fall Storytime

**When:** Varied, see website

**Details:** Stories, music and creative activities. Children must attend independent of a caregiver and have basic cutting skills with craft scissors. Only registered children may attend.

#### ESL Conversation Group

**When:** 10:30-11:30 a.m. each Tuesday

**Details:** Join us for informal conversation to help improve your English. Just drop in.

#### App Café: Best Health & Fitness Apps

**When:** 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9

**Details:** Find out the best apps for health and fitness. Bring your tablet or smart phone and enjoy coffee and doughnuts while we share apps, just in time to keep in shape during the holidays. Our tech librarian will be on hand to answer questions. Register.

#### Teen Sew Crafty: Upcycled Sweater Mittens

**When:** 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12

**Details:** Turn your old sweater into great new mittens, the perfect accessory for any snowball fight or snow day. Bring your own

sweater or use one of ours. For experienced sewers and beginners alike! For teens in grades 6-12. Register.

#### ‘Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer’ Puppet Show

**When:** 4:15-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14

**Details:** Mariah's Amazing Puppets brings to life the classic holiday story of lovable hero, “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.” There will be 100 free tickets at the information desk five minutes prior to event. Tickets not available in advance.

#### Drop-In Little Me Storytime

**When:** 10:30-11:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 15

**Details:** Little one from 10

months to 2 years, along with caregivers, enjoy music, simple stories and playtime with Miss Dorie. Just drop in. Infants and older children also welcome to attend.

#### Drop-In Super Saturday Storytime

**When:** 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 16

**Details:** Join us for frosty winter stories, music and movement. Best for children ages 2-4, but entire families are welcome. Just drop in.

#### Tween Hot Cocoa Cones

**When:** 4:15-5:15 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19

**Details:** For ages 9-12, make delicious hot cocoa cones to share with friends. Limit 30. Register.

## BURROUGH

Continued from Page A1

“up-to-the-minute relevancy,” Burrough said. When Hurricane Harvey struck Texas, for example, the media relations class studied what police in affected communities were doing to reach people on social media. Some of his classmates were from that area.

But it was the rubbing of elbows with other law enforcement professionals that might be the most lasting benefit.

“That’s one of the most rewarding experiences there, just the camaraderie between cops from all over the world,” Burrough said.

He is still keeping up with classmates and now has a huge network of professionals in law enforcement to whom he can turn for advice, he said: “You just find good ideas from all across the country.”

Classmates included an anti-terrorism officer from the Middle East, an assistant U.S. Border Patrol chief and a captain in the New York Police Department’s emergency services division. Nearly all U.S. states and 22 other countries were represented.

“Lt. Burrough’s attendance at the NA further builds upon our valuable relationship and partnership with the FBI; locally through the Detroit Field Office, nationally and internationally through contacts he made with his classmates during his ten-week session,” Todd Mutchler, the township public safety director and a National Academy graduate, wrote in an email. “Our

organization will benefit from his exposure to current best practices in law enforcement management.”

The academy kept Burrough physically as well as academically active.

There were regular workouts, gym facilities at his disposal and weekly fitness challenges. Graduates got to run the Yellow Brick Road, a six-mile course in which the first three miles include obstacles like jumps and rope-climbing. It’s not so much a test as it is a grueling honor, a way to mark one’s accomplishments there.

Burrough did find time for sightseeing. He toured the National Museum of the Marine Corps and the FBI hostage rescue team training site, plus visited Fredericksburg, Va., the site of two Civil War battles. He

also made it home on two weekends to see his wife and daughter.

Burrough, who oversees the police department’s investigative division, has been a Northville Township officer for 12 years. He was promoted to sergeant in 2014 and to lieutenant in 2016. He has a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and a master’s in organizational leadership, plus he graduated from the executive leadership program at Eastern Michigan University’s School of Staff and Command.

Before joining the township force, Burrough spent eight years with the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s Department; he worked as a paramedic before that.

What keeps him motivated?

“I see the good work that our police officers

do here,” he said. “I like the challenge of law enforcement and the constant improvement that we’re always looking

for.”

*mjachman@hometownlife.com*  
*734-678-8432*  
*Twitter: @mattjachman*

## NORTHVILLE RECORD

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### Newsroom Contacts

**Dan Dean, Print Content Editor**  
Mobile: 248-396-0706  
Email: ddean@hometownlife.com

**Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach**  
Mobile: 586-262-9892  
Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com



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## BAUGHMAN

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cited about being part of such an amazing community of learners and educators,” Baughman said.

“I am eager to begin the work of developing and cultivating relationships across the district to benefit the students and staff of Northville Public Schools. I had the opportunity to meet with many stakeholders in the district during the selection process and I can tell that this is a district where great people make great things happen every day. That is an exciting outlook and I can’t wait to dive in and get started.”

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# ROSHIRT

Continued from Page A1

good laugh, crossword puzzles, romance novels and white wine and plays double solitaire every night. She's on Facebook, watches "Ellen" and the "NBC Nightly News" and plays bridge each Friday with a group of lady friends.

She and about 140 friends and relatives celebrated her 100th earlier this month at The Inn at St. John's.

What's the key to her long life?

"People ask me that and I say I have no idea, unless it was a glass of wine a day," she said recently as she reminisced at home.

"We don't really know what it is. We're just happy she has it," said her daughter, Kathy Herring, with whom Roshirt lives.

Roshirt was the middle child of Lillian and Max Whitney's seven children. Max was a painter and decorator and Lillian a full-time homemaker.

The family struggled during the Depression, when Max Whitney's work dried up, and even lived for a time in a rustic cabin in Wisconsin after losing their home. When Marian's brother Dan was born, Max paid the doctor who delivered him by doing painting for him.

Roshirt lived with relatives in Goshen, Ind., during her last three years of high school. The Whitneys eventually settled in Chicago.

She met her first husband while working at a Chicago dime store. Harold Miller worked nearby and used to take his lunch at the store's dining counter, she said.

They had been married about a year when



Marian Roshirt (seated) with her family (standing from left): granddaughter Katie Roshirt with her son, Tanner Sloan, granddaughter Dana Roshirt, daughter-in-law Therese Roshirt, son Paul Roshirt, daughter Kathy Herring, granddaughter Melissa St. John, great-grandson Lucas St. John and son-in-law Chris St. John. FAMILY PHOTO

Harold joined the U.S. Army. The U.S. had not yet entered the war, but it loomed.

"He enlisted without telling me because he knew I'd have a fit — and I did," Roshirt said.

Harold was away in the service for most of their marriage. He was at home on leave when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and had to return to duty shortly thereafter. He was killed in France in July 1944. Her parents, with whom Roshirt was living, were first informed of his death.

"They couldn't tell me, so the minister came to the house to tell me he was gone," Roshirt said.

With her \$10,000 death benefit, she bought a house in Chicago and moved there with her parents. That's where she met her second husband, Clayton Roshirt, to whom she was married for nearly 52 years.

Clayton, who had grown up in Highland Park, graduated from the



Marian Roshirt, then Marian Whitney, graduated from high school in Goshen, Ind. She is pictured here, in her cap and gown, with an aunt.

University of Michigan and served in the U.S. Navy during the war, was working for Motorola in Chicago and rented a room in the Whitney family home. Marian didn't take to him at first.

"He was always trying to fix me up with somebody," she said. "I told him I could take care of that myself."

When Clayton moved back to Highland Park, he told Marian to come see him if she was ever in the area. She had a brother in the Detroit area and, during a visit to him, took the suggestion. She and Clayton were married May 24, 1947, in Chicago and moved to Highland Park the next day.

Clayton found a career with the Ex-Cell-O Corp. in its Pure Pak division — the original maker of the gable-topped milk cardboard cartons. They had three children, Kathy, James and Paul, and moved to Livonia in the early 1950s.

The family loved its vacations, to cabins on Michigan lakes and to relatives back in the Chicago area, and the Roshirt kids enjoyed exploring their part of Livonia, much of which was undeveloped.

Kathy Herring remembers a rope swing that would take them across a creek near their back yard. "That was a different day and time," she said.

Clayton was a voracious reader, especially of history, and kept a journal in which he faithfully recorded family events. "Mother finds herself pregnant," he wrote upon learning that Kathy, their oldest, was on the way. He even

wrote about teaching his new bride to play bridge.

Roshirt later began selling real estate, which she did for 14 years.

"I loved it. I just liked talking to the people," she said.

"They liked her," her daughter said. "She got most of her business on referrals."

The Roshirts retired to Bayonet Point, Fla., about 40 years ago and became friends with a number of other couples at their condominium complex.

"We had a great retirement. We could party without driving," Roshirt said. "We had a good time." Only two friends from that era, both younger, are still alive, she added.

Roshirt also lost her husband, in 1998, and her son James in 2006, the same year Kathy's husband, Arthur Herring, died. Most of her siblings have also died; youngest brother Dan Whitney, 85, lives in the Cincinnati area.

Roshirt seems not to brood on the losses. And she's quick to say she had two good husbands.

"Some people don't have any, but I had two," she said.

Kathy Herring says her mother makes a terrific housemate. They've lived together for about five years.

"She's kind, she's funny. She'd do anything for anybody," the daughter said.

Roshirt's son Paul lives in West Bloomfield; she has three granddaughters, Paul's daughters, Dana and Katie Roshirt, and Kathy's daughter, Melissa St. John; and two great-grandsons, Tanner Sloan, 3, and Lucas St. John, 17.

mjachman@hometownlife.com  
734-678-8432  
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# Any year-end moves left? Now's the time to make them

It is hard to believe that 2018 is just around the corner. Because of that, I wanted to touch upon a couple of issues that may require your attention before the end of the year. Before I mention those items, I would like to address holiday spending again.

I cannot stress enough the importance of not overspending during the holiday season. This time of year, many of us get caught up in the spirit of the holiday and we succumb to endless advertising ploys to get us to spend, spend and spend some more. It is important that we act like adults and stay within our means. You can be fiscally responsible 11 months of the year, but that one month where you let your guard down can cause your finances to implode. It is important to set a budget for your holiday shopping and stay within that budget. The holiday is about spending time with family and friends and enjoying their company, not overspending and causing you financial difficulties. If you charge your holiday gifts and cannot afford to pay them off in full when the bill comes, it's probably a sign you're overspending.

The end of the year creates opportunities that many of us should explore. One of those is to convert an existing traditional IRA into a Roth IRA. The transaction must be completed before the end of the year, so there is not much time left to take advantage of it. The beauty of a Roth conversion is you're taking money that is growing tax-deferred and converting it into money that will grow tax-free. For many, this is an opportunity to take advantage of. It is not for everyone, but there are many who should take advantage of it but don't. It's a good idea to look at your tax situation to determine if a Roth conversion makes sense for you.

Another item that can be a significant tax saver is for those who are over 70½ and by law are required to take a distribution from their retirement account. For those who are charitable in nature and who make charitable contributions, donating all or a portion of your minimum required distribution can be a very good move. Particularly



**Rick Bloom**

MONEY MATTERS

for those who do not itemize deductions, this strategy can result in significant tax savings. Like most dealings with our tax laws, it is important to always dot the I's and cross the T's; this transaction is no different. The money from your IRA must go directly to the charity. If you are going to do this, it is important to contact your IRA custodian as soon as possible to begin the process.

The traditional year-end tax plan strategy is to accelerate your deduction into this year. Although that works for some people, it is not for everyone. I want to remind you that when you hear year-end tax advice, it is important to remember it may not apply to you. Each one of our tax situations is a little different; just because it is a strategy that works for your brother-in-law doesn't mean it will work for you. When it comes to accelerating deductions into this year, if you are itemizing your deductions, it's generally a favorable strategy. If you're taking the standard deduction, the strategy is generally meaningless.

For those who have a flexible spending account through work, make sure you understand the terms of that program to determine whether you must use that money before the end of the year. In some plans, if you don't use the money before the end of the year, you lose it. You work too hard for your money to lose it, that's why it's important you understand the terms.

The holidays are rapidly approaching and there are not that many days left in 2017. If you plan to implement any year-end strategies, the time to act is now.

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to questions, email [Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*



Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth is the setting for the Worldwide Candle Lighting sponsored by the Livonia Chapter of Compassionate Friends. The vigil is set for 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Vigil honors memories of loved ones lost

**Brad Kadrich**

[hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The 21st annual Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting, which unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories of sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and grandchildren who left too soon, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10, in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park.

As candles are lit at 7 p.m., hundreds of thousands of people commemorate and honor all children gone too soon.

Now believed to be the largest mass candle-lighting on the globe, the annual Worldwide Candle Lighting, a gift to the bereavement community from The Compassionate Friends, creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone.

Started in the United States in 1997 as a small Internet observance, the event has since swelled in numbers as word has spread throughout the world of the remembrance.

Hundreds of formal candle-lighting events are held and thousands of informal candle-lightings are conducted

in homes as families gather in quiet remembrance of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

Starting in New Zealand, candles are lit at 7 p.m. local time. As candles burn down in one time zone, they are started in another, creating a virtual 24-hour wave of light as the observance continues around the world.

The local chapter of The Compassionate Friends sponsors the Kellogg Park ceremony. The event will include a candlelight vigil, reading of the children's names, a PowerPoint presentation of the children's names, poetry and songs.

Families will gather near memory trees specially decorated with the names of the children who have died too soon.


Friends and families are invited to the remembrance. For more information or to register a child's name to be included, call 734-778-0800 or email [tefcandlelight@yahoo.com](mailto:tefcandlelight@yahoo.com).

Candles will be provided and an ornament will be placed on the memory trees in the park when you register a child's name. You do not have to attend to register a child.

[bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

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# Home tour marks start of holiday season

There were mothers and daughters starting a tradition, groups of sisters who have attended for years, a limousine full of girlfriends making this an annual event — even a few men made it a special day with their wives or girlfriends.

The 19th annual Northville Holiday Home Tour marked the beginning of the holiday season for many who attended. The Northville Community Foundation's biggest fundraiser of the year, the two-day event was attended by approximately 1,000 people, who were welcomed into five local homes decorated for the holidays.

"The Northville Community Foundation is here to enrich the community," said Colleen McDonald, foundation chairperson. "What I love about the home tour is that it is Northville residents who open their homes and share their personal styles. Each home has a unique architectural design, from tastefully traditional to the distinctively modern. And the holiday décor is exceptional. There is no place else you can get this.

"Many people do not realize that the foundation runs Maybury Farm, coordinates the Northville Independence Day Parade and provides holiday baskets to senior citizens living in assisted living facilities," added McDonald, who in the past has opened her own home as part of the tour. "The money raised during these two fun, festive tour days supports these activities."

Additionally, the foundation provides grants to support nonprofit organizations, schools and community issues in southeast Michigan. The organization also awards scholarships to students who are making a difference in the community through volunteerism.

"We are always amazed at the support we get from local homeowners who allow 1,000 into their homes," said Jessica Striegle, foundation executive director, "and grateful to everyone who takes part in this event. The money raised through ticket sales and sponsorships allows the



The Northville Community Foundation celebrated the 19th annual Holiday Home Tour, its biggest fundraiser of the year. NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Northville residents open their homes and share their personal styles as part of the Holiday Home Tour. NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

foundation to continue its important work in the community."

To find out more about

the Northville Community Foundation, go to [www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org](http://www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org).



Approximately 1,000 people came through the 19th annual Holiday Home Tour, sponsored by the Northville Community Foundation. NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

### Trespassers' reasoning: It's not Halloween

Two Macomb County women were ticketed for trespassing after being discovered at the Northville Psychiatric Hospital property early Nov. 26.

The women, spotted by a police officer while exiting the main hospital

building, told police they thought it was OK to be on the property since it wasn't Halloween, a Northville Township Police Department report said.

It was nearly 2:30 a.m., the report said, when an officer spotted an unoccupied Chevrolet Cruze in a driveway at the complex, parked in front of a

locked gate. A second officer soon discovered the women at the main building, the report said, and they were escorted back to the car.

One is 42 and from Clinton Township, the other 46 and from Shelby Township, the report said. They were released after being given citations and a Dec. 20 date in 35th

District Court.

A trespassing charge can carry a fine of up to \$500.

Township officials, who have been combating trespassing at the hospital site for years, recently announced plans to raze the main building after a lengthy asbestos cleanup project. The nearly 350-acre site is

owned by the township and long-term plans call for it to be used for recreation.

### Pills, no license

A 46-year-old Roseville woman was charged with driving with a suspended license and possession of controlled substances after a traffic stop Nov. 25 on Six Mile.

An officer pulled over the woman, who was driving a Ford Freestar, west of Sheldon Road shortly before 9 p.m. after noticing a light that illuminates the vehicle's license plate was out, a police report said.

The officer discovered that her license had been suspended and that she was wanted on four outstanding warrants, three for failure to appear in court and one for contempt of court. The woman, however, claimed she had taken care of the charges against her.

A search of the car, police said, turned up a pill bottle with various medications in it that did not belong to the driver, plus a bottle of prescription-strength ibuprofen that also was not hers.

The woman was later released on bond with a Dec. 20 court date and warned about the outstanding warrants, police said. Police agencies in the communities from which the warrants had

been issued had declined to pick her up.

### Drunken driving

A tip alerted police to a drunken driver on Haggerty the day after Thanksgiving.

The call came in shortly before 6:30 p.m., a police report said; the silver Jeep Liberty was heading north on Haggerty and was swerving between lanes, striking the curb and traveling 25 mph in a 45 mph zone, the caller told police.

An officer spotted the Liberty south of Seven Mile and pulled it over near the Rusty Bucket restaurant, police said. The front right tire was flat.

The driver, a 69-year-old Plymouth woman, told the officer she'd had "a couple of beers" several hours prior, police said. She performed poorly on field sobriety tests and later, at the police station, two separate tests measured her blood-alcohol content at 0.16 and 0.17 percent, police said. That's about twice the level at which a driver is considered legally drunk.

The woman was released the next morning — after sobering up — on a \$300 bond and with a Dec. 20 court date.

— By Matt Jachman

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Northville High School's holiday concerts, "The Gift of Song," will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, Dec.

The Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street, will host a juried all-media exhibition titled Small Works. The exhibit continues through Dec. 16 during gallery hours of noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday

The Living and Learning Center in downtown Northville is a center that

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority board meetings are held at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call the South Lyon Area Recreation office at 248-437-8105 for directions and confirmation of meeting location. To register for upcoming classes, call or go to [www.slrec.net](http://www.slrec.net).



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# THE BROTHERHOOD OF FIREFIGHTING SHOWS ITS METTLE

Jay Grossman  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Raber Fire Department, with its 17 paid on-call firefighters and two engine trucks, covers a territory of about 110 square miles and the St. Marys River, one of the largest shipping channels in the state.

The department, located at the eastern end of the Upper Peninsula, averages about 15 runs a year.

"We built a new fire hall in 2012 at no expense to the taxpayers," Raber Fire Chief Bruce Johnson said with a touch of pride. "We raised the money ourselves out of raffles ... plus the two snowmobile races we have every year."

The Farmington Hills Fire Department, with its five fully-staffed fire stations, employs 52 career firefighter/paramedics and 70 paid on-call firefighters. The department services a population of just over 81,000 residents and averages around 9,000 calls a year.

Raber has a population of around 450 residents.

"We're mostly wilderness," Johnson said. "I can see Canada from my living room."

Cross the Mackinac Bridge, drive northeast for about an hour and you'll hit Raber Township. Retired Farmington Hills firefighter Denny Hughes traveled that very route two months ago, when he delivered a truckload of firefighting equipment and gear to the Raber Fire Department.

"It was Christmas in October," Hughes said. "I honestly felt like Santa Claus."

It began with a conversation at the Michigan Fire Inspectors Fall Conference in East Lansing. Johnson approached Hughes and asked if he wanted to buy a \$50 raffle ticket.

"I got to tell you, I hear that often," Hughes said. "I'd go flat broke if I bought a raffle ticket every time someone tried to sell me one for a fundraiser."

Hughes, who now works for Belfor Property Restoration, was manning an information table for his company at the conference. The two men had met at previous conferences, but Hughes admits he didn't have the slightest idea where Raber was located. Even so, he asked Johnson what the money was going toward.

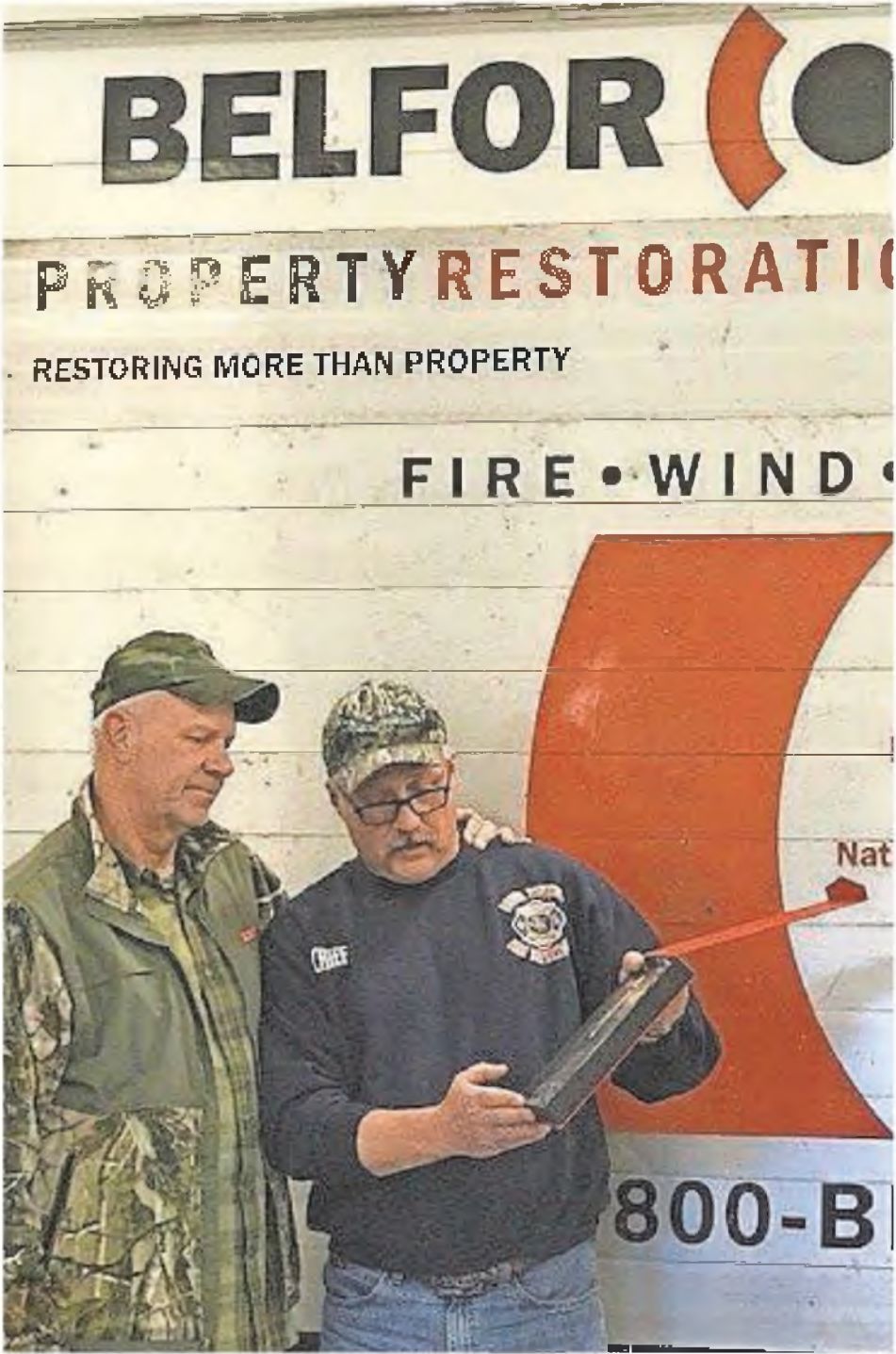
Gloves and boots and helmets, Johnson said. Just plain old gear.

Hughes asked why the township didn't pay for the necessities, which were basic to the job. Not in the budget, he was told. In fact, the Raber Fire Department hadn't updated its gear since it formed 32 years ago.

"That's when I decided to ask around and see what I could collect from the other departments," Hughes said. "We're a brotherhood, so I told him to put together a wish list and not hold back on anything."

## The brotherhood

The collection drive spread quickly through word-of-mouth at the conference and, by the end of the day, Hughes had lined up 20 sets of gear. By the next day, he was up to 40 sets. Departments from Lansing Township to Livonia, Farmington and West Bloomfield and more than a dozen others agreed to donate old air tanks, fire hoses — even thermal imaging



Retired West Bloomfield firefighter Ray Ahonen (left) presents a certificate of appreciation from Belfor Property Restoration to Raber Fire Chief Bruce Johnson. DENNY HUGHES



More than a dozen fire departments throughout southeast Michigan donated gear to the Raber Fire Department in the Upper Peninsula. DENNY HUGHES

cameras.

"Fenton Township donated two sets of Jaws of Life," he said. "That's more than \$30,000 worth of equip-

ment right there. We even had dress uniforms and jackets ... everyone wanted to help out."

Belfor allowed him to use one of

*"They always say the fire department is one big brotherhood and it showed right there how they came together to help us."*

BRUCE JOHNSON  
Raber fire chief

the company's box trucks to haul the equipment. Livonia Fire Marshal Keith Bo joined him on the trip, along with retired West Bloomfield firefighter Ray Ahonen — now with Belfor — and Mike Longnecker, a former firefighter from Jackson who now serves as director for the Great Lakes Burn Camp.

"We pulled up and it was like the whole town was waiting to greet us," Hughes said. "There must have been 90 people there ... and they just rolled out the red carpet for us."

There was a spaghetti dinner and a bonfire and the guys slept on pull-out beds in the fire hall. The next morning, they were treated to a special breakfast at Yooperman Bar & Grill.

"My cousin Donnie owns the place and I asked him if he could open it up early to make us breakfast," Johnson said. "Without Denny, this never would have happened. It's just phenomenal how the whole thing multiplied from one little conversation."

Johnson, 55, was born and raised in Raber. So were his parents. In addition to serving as fire chief, he has a full-time job as a sergeant with the Michigan Department of Corrections.

He helped form the Raber Fire Department in 1985, after a house caught on fire accidentally and burned to the ground. The nearest department at the time was more than 25 miles away in a village called DeTour and couldn't get there in time to save the property.

Quiet is the best word to describe Raber.

"There's no traffic, no neighbors," Johnson said. "You can sit off by yourself, surrounded by woods as far as the eyes can see. I wouldn't trade it for anything."

As far as the gear, Johnson said it's the best equipment the department had since it formed. There was enough left over to share with three neighboring departments.

"They always say the fire department is one big brotherhood and it showed right there how they came together to help us," he said. "I think Denny started something big, because there are lots of other little departments just like us that are starved for equipment. There's just no way they could afford to buy all this stuff."

Hughes said he plans to hold another collection drive in April.

"Who knows how big this can get?" he said. "It's really kind of neat ... everyone who's ever been a firefighter always wants to save a life or deliver a baby, but this was truly amazing. Nothing beats the feeling of helping someone else."

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## PLYMOUTH NURSERY

Christmas in the Country







Officials from Schoolcraft College, the St. Joseph Mercy Health System and the city of Livonia cut the ribbon on the new St. Joe's Urgent Care clinic in the Jeffress Center at Seven Mile and Haggerty in Livonia. DAVID VESELENAK | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Clinic dedicated at Schoolcraft College

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Adding an urgent care clinic to Schoolcraft College's Livonia campus was something President Conway Jeffress had an interest in. So he spoke to several people at the college and worked to get the process in motion.

"With that, I said, 'Get it rolling, do something,'" Jeffress said. "We wanted a health care presence."

Two years later, the campus is home to a St. Joe's Urgent Care clinic, located in the Jeffress Center at Seven Mile and Haggerty on the first floor. The clinic, which opened earlier this fall, was formally dedicated Nov. 30 with a blessing ceremony.

The clinic is open to both students of the college and non-students and features two consultation rooms, six exam rooms, a room for taking X-rays and a procedure room, which can be used for suturing or other smaller medical procedures.

"This is really the first step and a pretty major one for the evolution of the pre-existing partnership (with) Schoolcraft College on this campus," David Spivey, CEO of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, said at the blessing of the facility. "They're very interested in extending health care services here on their campus and this is an important part of that pillar."

The facility offers several services, including physicals, drug and alcohol screening, pregnancy tests and vaccinations. It's open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m.

to 6 p.m. Sunday and holidays. It's open 365 days a year.

The facility, the first urgent care clinic operated under St. Mary Mercy Hospital and leased from the college, was opened for tours after the Rev. Luke Iwuji, a chaplain at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, blessed the facility with holy water.

"Almighty God, you have chosen us for this sacred work of ministering to the sick," he said. "Today, we gather to ask for your blessings upon this new urgent care center."

The new clinic is just the latest new development at Schoolcraft College in the past few years. Masco Corp. opened its new facility earlier this summer and the new St. Joe's Soccer Dome opened for competition last fall.

Jeffress said bringing the clinic continues to add to the college's identity in the area, making it known not only as a place with excellent culinary programs and sports, but as a place one can come if they need basic medical treatment.

Partnering with an organization such as the St. Joseph Mercy Health System, Jeffress said, made the most sense and is a decision that appears to be working.

"What were we going to do that was unique and what were we going to do to develop partnerships to develop? Because we didn't have the money to do these things on our own," he said. "I think this is going to work out very well."

*dveselenak@hometownlife.com*  
734-678-6728 | Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

**City of Novi**  
**NOTICE OF ADOPTION**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 17-187.01**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AT CHAPTER 26, "PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, COMMERCIAL HANDBILLS," SECTION 26.1, "DEFINITIONS," SECTION 26.3, "NON-COMMERCIAL SOLICITATION PERMITS," AND SECTION 26.10, "HOURS OF OPERATION" IN ORDER TO CONFORM EXISTING REGULATIONS RELATING TO CHARITABLE SOLICITATION IN RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO STATE LAW.**

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, November 27th, 2017 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Published: December 7, 2017

LO-00003354/16 3x2.5

**CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**  
**AND**  
**CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR A TAX ABATEMENT**  
**UNDER ACT P.A. 198 OF 1974, AS AMENDED**

Notice is hereby given that Orotex Corporation has submitted a request to the City of Novi for the establishment of an Industrial Development District under the "Plant Rehabilitation and Industrial Development Act P.A. 198 of 1974," and an application for issuance of an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.

The proposed project is part of Parcel ID No. 50-22-26-378-005, located at 22475 Venture Drive, described as follows:

T1N, R8E, SEC 26 HICKORY CORPORATE PARK LOTS 3 & 4, ALSO SLY 98.23 FT OF LOT 5 9-8-92 FR 001, 002 & 401-007

Pursuant to Section 4 (4) of said Act, a public hearing shall be held for the establishment of an Industrial Development District on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Novi City Council Chambers, located at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, during which any property owner within the proposed Industrial Development District, and any resident or taxpayer of the City of Novi may appear and be heard in relation to the consideration of the aforementioned Industrial Development District.

Following the public hearing and approval to establish an Industrial Development District, pursuant to Section 5 (2) of said Act, a hearing shall be held for the issuance of an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate, during which any property owner within the Industrial Development District, and any resident or taxpayer of the City of Novi may appear and be heard in relation to the consideration of the aforementioned Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.

If you have any comments regarding this proposal, they may be presented in writing to the City Clerk's office or at the public hearing.

Cortney Hanson, CMC, CMMC  
City Clerk

Published: December 7, 2017

LO-00003356/17 3x5

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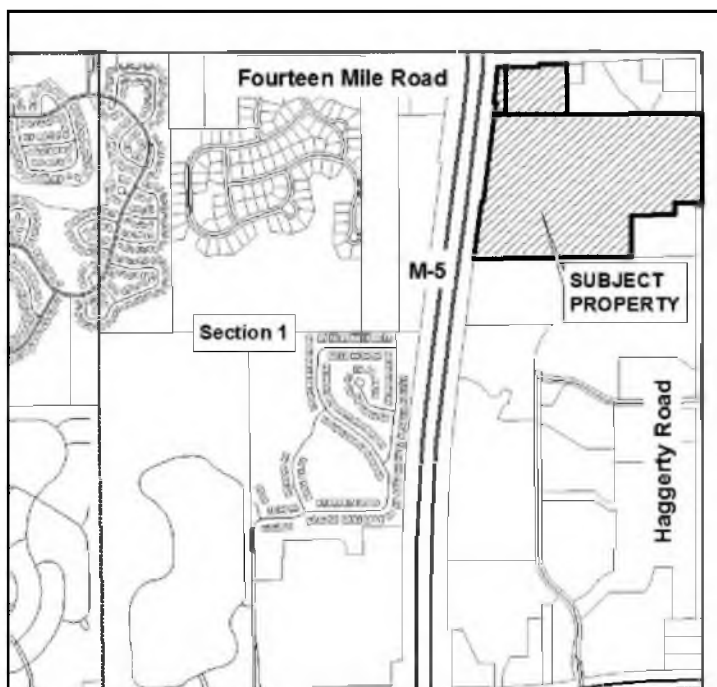
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**CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, **December 13, 2017** at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **BERKSHIRE ESUPPLY JSP17-72 FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WETLANDS PERMIT, WOODLANDS PERMIT, AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY ZONED OST (OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT)**. The subject property is approximately 57.12 acres and is located at the southeast corner of M-5 and W Fourteen Mile Road (Section 1). The applicant is proposing a two story Headquarters office building (11,410 SF) and a single story Fulfillment Center and warehouse with mezzanines (169,640 SF) with associated site improvements such as parking, loading and landscaping.



Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

**Subject Parcel ID's:** 50-22-01-200-026, 50-22-01-200-018, 50-22-01-200-027

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, **December 13, 2017**

Novi Planning  
Commission  
Michael Lynch,  
Secretary

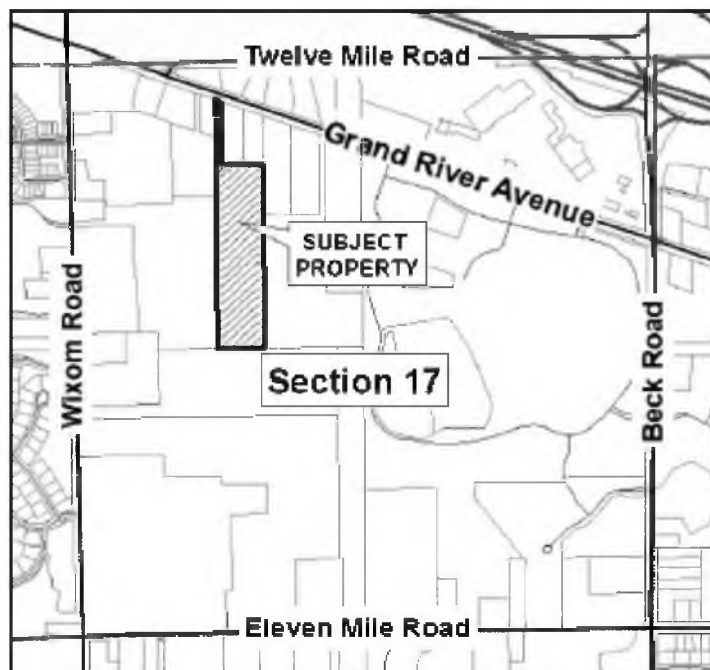
Publish: December 07, 2017

LO-0000335434 3x8

**CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, **December 13, 2017** at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **HADLEY TOWING JSP16-33 FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, PHASING PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY ZONED I-1 (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL) AND I-2 (GENERAL INDUSTRIAL) WITH AN ASSOCIATED PLANNED REZONING OVERLAY (PRO) AGREEMENT.**

The subject property is approximately 17.76 acres and is located on south side of Grand River Avenue between Wixom Road and Beck Road (Section 17). Approximately 5.6 acres of the northerly portion of the property was rezoned from I-1 to I-2 with a PRO agreement. The applicant is proposing to develop the property as an outdoor storage yard to store towed vehicles. The applicant is proposing to develop the property in two phases. The first phase includes construction of 156 parking spaces and the future phase would include 115 spaces (total 271 spaces).



Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

**Subject Parcel ID's:** Part of 50-22-17-101-006

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, **December 13, 2017**

Novi Planning  
Commission  
Michael Lynch,  
Secretary

Publish: December 07, 2017

LO-0000335435 3x

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PREP WRESTLING

Catholic Central returns three state champs

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

If the phrase “Iron Sharpens Iron” doesn’t apply to the Novi Detroit Catholic Central wrestling room, than nothing else does.

Even though they’re facing a beefed up schedule, the Shamrocks should be the prohibitive favorite come Feb. 23-24 in Kalamazoo when the MHSAA Division 1 team state championships will be held for the first time at the Wings Event Center.

The defending champs, who

went 31-1 overall, lost individual state champions Tyler Morland (171 pounds) and Nick Jenkins (285), along with third-place finisher Jackson Ross (215).

But the cupboard remains fully stocked.

“When you have 12 seniors returning and slew of talent – all-staters, state champs – we’ll have a pretty good wrestler at each weight,” 11th-year CC coach Hancock said. “We’re losing, obviously, Jenkins and Morland up top along with Ross, but we have a nice little heavyweight in Steve Kolchey, who is a sophomore.

He’ll fill in nicely there. He’s got to develop there a little bit. I’m excited to see what he’s able to put out there. At 171, taking over for Morland will be Aidan Wagh. He’s a state qualifier and I think he’s going to surprise a lot of people this year. He’s on a mission.”

CC’s returning individual state championship trio are senior Ben Kamali (119), junior Kevon Davenport (145) and Cameron Amine (152-160) – all going for their third straight titles.

Kamali finished 41-13 a year

See WRESTLING, Page B4



Among CC’s contingent of returning wrestlers are (bottom row, from left) individual state champions Ben Kamali, Cameron Amine and Kevon Davenport and (back row, from left) Devon Johnsen, Stone Moscovic, Rhett Newton, Derek Gilcher and Josh Edmond. BRAD EMONS

USA HOCKEY

HOCKEY HOMECOMING



Michigan’s Quinn Hughes, formerly of the U.S. NTDP, gets a jump on Tyler Weiss during Saturday’s game. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Former players return to Plymouth to help Wolverines earn 7-3 victory



Plymouth native Nick Boka was a defensive standout Saturday night for the Michigan Wolverines. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

**Tim Smith**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Saturday night’s game at USA Hockey Arena resembled a homecoming of sorts, with 10 former U.S. National Team Development Program players now on the Michigan Wolverines.

And in front of an enthusiastic crowd of 3,715, the Wolverines seemed right at home, defeating the NTDP U-18 team, 7-3.

“The college games are awesome for us, because they’re so hard, they’re so competitive,” U.S. head coach Seth Appert said. “And it’s

special with Michigan because they’re right here, they’re in our town basically, and half their team is from this program, right? It’s a special game for everyone involved.”

Sparking U-M with a hat trick and assist was winger Tony Calderone. Garnering two goals for the U.S. was forward Patrick Giles.

“It was definitely a little weirder walking in on the visiting side today,” U-M forward Josh Norris (Oxford) said. “I really haven’t been over here too much. But it was a great game and I had a lot of friends out there, but we ap-

See HOCKEY, Page B3

BOYS BASKETBALL

Novi favorite in KLAA Gold Division race

Hankerson foot injury could be setback for Class A regional finalists

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

One of the state’s top-ranked basketball teams will have to hold the fort a while.

During tryouts, Novi lost two-year starting point guard Trendon Hankerson to a broken bone in his foot.

The 6-foot-3 senior, the team’s primary ball-handler, isn’t expected to return until mid-January, so fourth-year Novi coach Brandon Sinawi is going to have to come up with some creative lineups.

The Wildcats, 18-7 year ago, won the KLAA Central Division and reached the Class A regional finals before losing to West Bloomfield on a controversial last-second finish.

Novi returns Oakland University signee Traveon Maddox Jr., a 6-5 senior who averaged 20 points, six rebounds and five assists per game.

Also returning to the starting lineup is the team’s second leading scorer, 6-3 junior swing man Giovanni Miles, who has Division I offers from Central Michigan, the University of Detroit Mercy and North Dakota.

Nik Williams, a 5-10 senior who came off the bench to



Hankerson



Novi’s Traveon Maddox Jr. (right) has signed with Oakland University. FILE PHOTO

See GOLD, Page B2

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BOYS BASKETBALL

# Milford could contend for title in LVC

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

If there was ever a “big three” when it comes to Milford boys basketball, then this must be it. The Mavericks, under fifth-year coach David Gilbert, enter the 2017-18 boys basketball season with three proven scorers: 6-foot-3 senior guard Aiden Warzecha, 6-7 junior forward Gunnar Gustafson and 6-5 senior forward Kyle Soderberg, a transfer.

The trio are just three of the reasons why the Mavericks, coming off a 12-9 season, could be serious contenders to win a title in the inaugural season of the new nine-school Lakes Valley Conference. Warzecha, entering his fourth season in the varsity lineup, was named Class A all-state by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan after averaging 16 points, four rebounds, three assists and two steals per game during his junior year.

“Aidan is an outstanding leader, has tremendous basketball IQ, who has led us in scoring the last two seasons,” Gilbert said of the two-time all-KLAA selection.

Meanwhile, Gustafson is coming off a strong sophomore season when he averaged 11.2 points, seven rebounds and 1.2 blocks per game. “Gunnar is an extremely talented young man who keeps getting



Weidman



Thompson



Milford senior guard Aiden Warzecha averaged 16 points per game last season. JERRY REA

better,” Gilbert said. “He is going to be one of the better big men in the area. He’s a strong interior player with underrated athleticism and has the ability to average a double-double.”

Soderberg, a versatile forward who can play both inside and out, averaged 15 points per game after transferring from Lakeland during mid-semester.

“Kyle is a gamer,” Gilbert said. “He has the knack for the ball and can score in a variety of ways.”

To complement the big three, Gilbert will rely two experienced guards in seniors Nolan Rand and J.T. Sarafa, both whom logged quality minutes on the varsity last season.

“Our juniors that are coming up from JV are buying into their roles nicely,” Gilbert said.

### White Lake Lakeland

The Eagles (7-14) will have a new voice on the bench as Ron Thompson moves a mile down the road from Walled Lake Northern to take the reins from Bob Brugger, who retired after 17 seasons.

Thompson, who guided the Knights to a 15-7 record a year ago, will focus his attack around 6-foot-9 senior center Cass Phillips.

“Having a rim protector like Cass is a big strength to lead our defense and an improved offensive game,” Thompson said.

Also returning from

last year’s squad are senior guards Sean Cullen and Joe Rzeppa, along with 6-2 junior forward Patrick McDonald.

“We will play very hard and tough with everything starting on the defensive end,” Thompson said. “We have a very deep team with the possibility of five or six guys leading us in scoring on any given night and, hopefully, a consistent rotation of nine to 10 players. Getting off to a fast start is key, but will be difficult to learn a whole new system on both sides of the ball. How fast we pick up on concepts will determine how our season goes.”

### South Lyon

The Lions (9-13), who lost in last year’s Class A district final to Howell, hope to make it a smooth transition as junior varsity coach Troy Weidman takes over for Doug Host, who retired following last season.

Although leading scorer Nick Flynn (13 points per game) was lost to graduation, South Lyon returns 6-5 senior center Noah Grimes and 5-10 senior guard Ben Call from the starting lineup.

Both are three-year varsity letter winners who averaged seven points per game a year ago.

They will be joined by senior forwards Coleson White and Brian Averill, along with senior guard-forward Will Kelley.

Meanwhile, 6-6 senior Jared Townsley, who sat last season with an injury, could also give the Lions added boost in their quest for an LVC crown.

### South Lyon East

The Cougars (3-17) are looking for a turnaround season led by all-KLAA

### TEAM CAPSULES

**MILFORD**  
**Head coach:** David Gilbert, fifth season  
**League:** Lakes Valley Conference  
**Last year’s record:** 12-5  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Dominic Dawson (all-KLAA), Reid Sellers  
**Leading returnees:** Aiden Warzecha, 6-3 Sr G; Gunnar Gustafson, 6-7 Jr F; Nolan Rand, 6-0 Jr G; J.T. Sarafa, 6-0 Sr G  
**Promising newcomers:** Kyle Soderberg, 6-5 Sr G-F (transfer from Lakeland)  
**Gilbert’s season outlook:** “Most of the time when you lose nine seniors you are due for a year of growth, but we return a talented core of young men who understand the expectation set forth by the classes before them. Our success this season will be predicated on how well we can gel as a team and play selfless basketball, how we can develop our youth and depth, and how tough we can be on the defensive end. We have a ways to go in all three areas and how early we can get there will determine our overall success. This is a great group of young men who represent our program culture very well.”

**WHITE LAKE LAKELAND**  
**Head coach:** Ron Thompson, first season  
**League:** Lakes Valley Conference  
**Last year’s record:** 7-14  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Joe Tingle, Justin Knox  
**Leading returnees:** Cass Phillips, 6-9 Sr C; Sean Cullen, 5-10 Sr G; Joe Rzeppa, 5-7 Sr G; Patrick McDonald, 6-2, Jr F  
**Promising newcomers:** Trent Farquhar, 5-7 Jr G; Kyle Flowers, 5-10, Jr G; Lucas Theaker, 6-3 Soph F  
**Thompson’s season outlook:** “The first season of the Lakes Valley Conference brings a lot of parity. The race should be wide open with the early league games meaning a lot to set the tone. It will be a grind with 16 league games determining the first champion. Strengths of our team will be experience, with two four-year players, one three-year player and five others that played some varsity last year.”

**SOUTH LYON**  
**Head coach:** Troy Weidman, first season  
**League:** Lakes Valley Conference  
**Last year’s record:** 9-13  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Nick Flynn  
**Leading returnees:** Noah Grimes, 6-5 Sr F; Ben Call, 5-10 Sr G; Coleson White, 6-3 Sr F; Brian Averill, 6-1 Sr F; Will Kelley, 6-0 Sr G-F  
**Promising newcomers:** Jared Townsley, 6-6 Jr F; Owen Deline, 5-11 Jr G; Connor Feliks, 6-4 Jr F; Daniel McDermott, 6-2 Jr F; Luke Gomori, 6-6 Jr C  
**Weidman’s season outlook:** “We’ll be led by two three-year varsity lettermen, Noah Grimes and Ben Call who both averaged seven points per game last season. The Lions’ hope are high complete with aspirations to compete for the conference title as a member of the inaugural season for Lakes Valley Conference.”

**SOUTH LYON EAST**  
**Head coach:** Ron Levin, fifth season  
**League:** Lakes Valley Conference  
**Last year’s record:** 3-17  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Anthony Salter  
**Leading returnees:** Chris Kaminski, 6-2 Jr G; Zack Guietts-Stafford, 5-10 Sr G; Marc Garland, 6-3 Sr F  
**Promising newcomers:** Nick Branton, 6-6 Soph F; Zach Oprisui, 6-2 Jr G; Nate Lewis-Newton, 5-10 Sr G  
**Levin’s season outlook:** “I’m excited for this season to get going. We had a lot of players work hard in the off season to improve as athletes and basketball players. I’m excited for them to see there hard work pay off.”

selection Chris Kaminski, a 6-2 junior guard.

“Chris led the team in almost every statistical category and is expected to step up his game even more this season,” fifth-year East coach Ron Levin said.

Levin will also lean on 6-3 senior forward Marc Garland, 5-10 senior guard Zack Guietts-Stafford, 6-1 junior forward Zach Oprisui and 6-6 sophomore forward Nick Branton, the latter whom is primed to make an immediate impact after missing his entire fresh-

man year with a dislocated shoulder.

“Marc Garland is ready for a big season as well,” Levin said. “Zack Guietts-Staff proved last year he can score in bunches. Sharp shooter Zach Oprisui split time between the JV and varsity last year as a sophomore and is primed for a big junior season.”

bemons@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @BradEmons1

## GOLD

Continued from Page B1

star last year in Novi’s regional semifinal win over Walled Lake Western, will most likely move into the starting lineup.

“If we would have lost Traveon, that would have been pretty bad as well,” Sinawi said. “But losing Trendon, he’s kind of our quarterback, so it’s going to be an adjustment for us. But we haven’t known anything else the last two weeks. We’ve been practicing without him. The kids are adjusting, we’re adjusting and hopefully ready to go by (the opener).”

Once Hankerson returns to the starting lineup, the Wildcats could become a special team, with 6-9 senior center Tariq Woody, a transfer from Plymouth, providing an inside presence as well.

“Being 6-9, he’s going to be able to rebound, hopefully, at will for us, both on the offensive end and defensive end,” Sinawi said. “We’re just, hopefully, going to jumpstart our fast break defensively if we can get some stops and, if he can get some rebounds, we’ll push it up a little quicker.”

Woody, who won’t be able to play until the week of Jan. 15 under a 90-day MHSAA transfer rule, brings plenty of experience to the table as the Wildcats appear to be the clear-cut favorite in the new seven-school Gold Division alignment this season in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, which will also include Northville, Howell, Hartland, Brighton, Livonia Stevenson and Grand Blanc.

“He’s, hopefully, going to be a special player for

us,” Sinawi said. “He can stretch the floor, too. He’s just not somebody that plays inside. There will be times where he’ll be able to leak out a little bit and hit the 3-point shot, which he’s capable of doing having scouted him the last three years over at Plymouth. It’s something he can do and we’re looking forward to having him when he’s ready.”

### Northville

The Mustangs (13-10) are undergoing a major rebuild after losing all five starters to graduation, including leading scorers Jake Justice and Kevin Morrissey.

Despite the heavy losses, 13th-year coach Todd Sander remains optimistic.

“With no starters returning from last year’s team, there is a tremendous amount of opportunity available to everyone on our roster,” Sander said. “Our practices have been intense, with players constantly working hard and fighting for spots and minutes.”

The team’s most experienced returnees are 6-4 senior Mark Grimes and 6-0 senior Niko Barach, along with 6-1 senior Brandon Stevens.

“All three of them are basketball-only student-athletes, so they have worked tirelessly on their strength, conditioning and skill sets,” Sander said. “We will need to grow up fast. As always, defense and rebounding will be key for our team this year. We will need to play fundamental and unselfish on offense to give us the best chance as possible to score points.”

### Catholic Central

The Shamrocks (13-8), under 12th-year coach Bill Dyer, must replace their two top scorers lost



Novi junior Giovanni Miles (left) returns to the starting lineup after an 18-7 season. FILE PHOTO

to graduation: forward C.J. Baird, who earned a walk-on spot at the University of Michigan, and 3-point shooting specialist Gio Genrich.

Catholic Central’s returning front line includes seniors Mike Harding and Christian Girjis, who both stand 6-5, and 6-6 junior David Lukomski. Adding depth in the front court will be 6-4 junior forward Brendan Downs.

A.J. Abdelnour, a 5-9 senior guard, returns in the back court, with 5-9 junior Keegan Kohler also moving up from the JV squad.

“We’ve spent a whole lot of time with each other since last season ended and, although we don’t have a lot of returning experience, we did

play a lot kids last season,” Dyer said.

### Franklin Road Christian

The Warriors (4-18) made a coaching change during the fall, bringing in former Bowling Green State University player Roosevelt Barnes, who guided Redford Bishop Borgess to a Class C state title in 1997 (led by Sam Hoskin and Aaron Jes-sup).

Barnes, who replaced Matt Mikel, also coached at Monroe High, his alma mater, for four seasons, while also serving as assistant at Wayne State (under Ron Hammye) and Detroit Redford High (under Derrick McDowell).

Franklin Road lost two starters to graduation,

### TEAM CAPSULES

**NOVI**  
**Head coach:** Brandon Sinawi, fourth season  
**League:** Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Gold Division)  
**Last year’s record:** 18-7  
**Titles won last year:** KLAA Central Division and Class A district  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Alec Bagers, Jonny Davis, Justin Rodrigues  
**Leading returnees:** Traveon Maddox Jr. 6-5 Sr G-F; Trendon Hankerson, 6-3 Sr G; Giovanni Miles, 6-3 Jr G-F; Nik Williams, 5-10 Sr G; Blake King, 6-3 Sr F  
**Promising newcomers:** Tariq Woody, 6-9 Sr F; Aryan Verma, 5-9 Jr G  
**Sinawi’s outlook:** “We are returning a lot of key guys from last year’s team and I’m really excited to see this group of seniors play out their last year of high school basketball. We have a great mix of talent and our kids really need to buy into their roles, which is going to be the key to our success. There are also a lot of expectations for our team and we have a long way to go if we are going to compete for our division and challenge for our district. With the new setup of the KLAA, there are a lot of good quality players and coaches and every game is going to be a challenge for our kids.”

**NORTHVILLE**  
**Head coach:** Todd Sander, 13th season  
**League:** KLAA (Gold Division)  
**Last year’s record:** 13-10  
**Titles won last year:** Northville Holiday Tournament  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Jake Justice, Kevin Morrissey, Phil Jovanovski, Gustaf Tjernberg  
**Leading returnees:** Mark Grimes, 6-4 Sr F; Niko Barach, 6-0 Sr G; Brandon Stevens, 6-1 Sr G; Tyler Troyer, 6-2 Sr F  
**Promising newcomers:** Steven Morrissey, 6-4 Jr F; Daniel McLaughlin, 6-3 Jr F; Paul Kearis, 6-0 Jr G; Gary Laskowski, 6-4 Jr F; Arvind Ganeshram, 5-8 Jr G; Nolan Knight, 6-4 Jr F  
**Sander’s outlook:** “Our returning players’ game experience is limited, so we will need to grow up fast in order to compete in our difficult division. We have a solid core of returning seniors who are doing a terrific job leading our junior class. Our juniors have played together for a long time, and they are adapting nicely thus far to the varsity level, and they will certainly be in the mix to start and play big minutes. No one can take anything for granted on this team, which is a tremendous problem for a coach.”

**DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL**  
**Head coach:** Bill Dyer, 12th season  
**League:** Detroit Catholic League (Central Division)  
**Last year’s record:** 13-8  
**Notable losses to graduation:** C.J. Baird, Gio Genrich  
**Leading returnees:** A.J. Abdelnour, 5-9 Sr G; Mike Harding, 6-5 Jr F; Christian Girjis, 6-5 Sr C; Davis Lukomski, 6-6 Jr F  
**Promising newcomers:** Keegan Kohler, 5-9 Jr G; Brendan Downs, 6-4 Jr F  
**Dyer’s outlook:** “Our roster is full of a lot of juniors this season. Our kids really want to keep the ball rolling from last season and our kids definitely pull for each other. Some gained even more experience as our rotations changed after we had a few season ending injuries last year.”

**FRANKLIN ROAD CHRISTIAN**  
**Head coach:** Roosevelt Barnes, first season  
**League:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division)  
**Last year’s record:** 4-18  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Maxwell Holleman, Joshua Beck  
**Leading returnees:** Mackenzy Blackwell, 6-5 Soph F; Joshua Lynn, 6-3 Jr F; Jake Schinzing, 5-9 Jr G; Christian Banks, 6-0 Sr G  
**Promising newcomers:** Blake Goodman, 6-3 Fr G-F; Jarred Tate, 6-2 Jr G  
**Barnes’s outlook:** “We’re young. We’ve got two seniors, but we’re going to compete. We’re going to be competitive. That’s all I can promise. Don’t know much about the league. We’re young, lots of juniors and sophomores. The jury is still out. I’m getting to know what capabilities they have. I’m placing some new demands on them. It’s a little more demanding than they’ve experienced before, but they’re responding well and I’m looking forward to a good season.”

along with top scorer Rahmon Scruggs, who transferred to Southfield Christian.

Leading returnees include 6-5 sophomore Mackenzy Blackwell, 5-9 junior Jake Schinzing, 6-3 junior Joshua Lynn and 6-0 senior Christian Banks. They are joined by promising newcomers Jarred Tate, a junior, and Blake Goodman, a freshman.

“The A.D. (Glynn Blackwell) and I are friends,” said Barnes, who hasn’t coached since the 2007-08 season.

“(Blackwell) asked me to come 11 years ago, but I turned him down because I got a daughter who is 20 and she was young. He and I were working together at Faith Christian Academy. He used to come into Borgess and play against my boys. We played a lot together. We have a real good history and I’m familiar with Franklin Road and the mission there. He called me up and asked me, so I came out.”

bemons@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @BradEmons1



BOYS HOCKEY

# Beaune’s hat trick lifts Stevenson past Northville

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Livonia Stevenson’s Jake Beaune continues to prove that football’s loss is hockey’s gain.

The 6-foot-3 senior defenseman is also proving to be an offensive force as he notched a hat trick in the Spartans’ 6-3 victory Friday.

over host Northville at Novi Ice Arena.

Stevenson, ranked No. 1 in Division 2, played its fifth straight state-ranked opponent to improve to 4-1 overall and 2-0 in the KLAAGold Division.

“This team is great,” Beaune said. “Everyone has bought into the process and all of us work hard at practice every day and we’re pretty good right now.”

Nobody could argue Beaune is looking pretty good himself after scoring his second, third and fourth goals of the season.

Beaune’s father Tony, a 1985 Stevenson grad, was a standout defensive end at Wayne State and

had a brief stint in the NFL when he was invited to the Philadelphia Eagles’ training camp under coach Buddy Ryan.

Jake played football through the sixth grade, but then quit to concentrate on hockey.

After a scoreless opening period, Beaune got Stevenson on the board at 5:19 of the second, with Vincent Decina and Brenden Preiss drawing assists, but Northville countered just 10 seconds later on Brendan Lovett’s goal from Alex Garbacik.

Beaune then found himself doubled-over on the bench while getting attention from the trainer after stopping a Northville breakaway attempt. “They had a good chance. I went and skated at it, dove at it and my hand hit me right in the stomach,” he said. “I felt like I was going to throw up. I happened to throw up and come out on the next shift. Had a good shift.”

After Josh Suzio added a goal at 9:26 of the second from Kyle Siroky and Steven Hunt to make it 2-1 for the Spartans, Beaune scored his second just 30 seconds later from the Decina cousins, Vincent and Julian, to make it a two-goal cushion heading into the third.

“The second period, I thought we came out pretty strong,” Beaune said. “Obviously, they scored a little bit, but we bumped right back and popped a couple more. We were looking pretty good in the second.”

Northville (3-1, 1-1 KLAAGold) made things interesting at 2:34 of the final period, when Owen Finkbeiner scored from Jack Sargent and Jimmy Dales to trim the deficit to 3-2.

But the Spartans responded with three straight goals to put it away, including Beaune’s third of the night with just 34 seconds remaining to make it 6-2. Julian Decina and Cole Parkhurst drew assists.

It was Beaune’s second hat trick in as many years. Not too bad for the rangy defenseman.

“Last year, I scored 12. I’m hoping to get a little more this year,” Beaune said.

Here are four other takeaways:

**SPEED KILLS**

The Spartans also got a pair of third-period goals, by Parkhurst on a power play at 5:02 from Julian Decina, followed by another at 10:57 from Preiss and Julian Decina (his fourth assist of the

game).

“We put an emphasis on playing fast and having some team speed,” Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. “And I thought you saw it go down with the goal by Decina, Preiss and Parkhurst – they just went fast. And so we try and do some things quick up the ice. Today we showed it at times, but we’ll definitely need more consistency with that. But it was good at times and good to see. We work on it quite a bit.”

**QUALITY WINS**

Stevenson has now defeated four state-ranked teams: uding Northville, No. 4 in Division 1; Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, No. 5 in Division 1; Birmingham Brother Rice, No. 4 in Division 2; and Livonia Churchill, No. 6 in Division 3.

“It was a good game and we knew Northville was on a roll,” Mitchell said. “They’re senior-heavy and well-coached. First period, it was kind of a back and forth, one of those feeling out processes. But it was good to come away with the win and we’re happy about that.”

The Spartans’ lone loss this season is to defend-

ing Division 1 state champion and top-ranked Brighton, 3-2.

“It’s a tough league (KLAAGold), it’s a tough schedule,” Mitchell said. “There’s no nights off ... Northville, Novi, Hartland and Brighton. Our league is loaded and then our non-conference is loaded. Michigan high school hockey is really healthy right now and it’s in a good place.”

**MUSTANGS CORALLED**

The Mustangs scored their final goal with only 1.5 seconds remaining, when 6-7 senior defenseman Cole Smith ripped a shot just inside the blue line past Stevenson goaltender Will Tragge, who had 18 saves on the night.

Nick Bogenhagen and Lovett assisted on the Smith goal, but it was too little, too late for Northville.

“I felt maybe our guys came out – and I don’t want to say respected Stevenson too much,” Northville coach Clint Robert said. “You should respect a good program like that, but maybe weren’t playing our game and we were on our heels a bit. The second period, I thought we had a good start, 1-1. We made a couple of mistakes at their blue line and on our blue

line and, five or 10 seconds later, the puck is in our net. We can’t do that. That really kind of gave them the momentum a little bit there.”

**HOUSE CLEANING**

The Mustangs were outshot 38-21, including 17-10 during the final period while yielding three goals.

“We’ve got to clean up the turnovers at the blue line,” Robert said. “We’ve got to make sure we’re thinking defensively first. We can’t have any fly-bys by their defenseman without the puck. We just got to think defense and clean up the turnovers.”

Northville goalie Nate Williams was extremely busy during the final two periods. The junior, who played AAA last year for Belle Tire, finished with 32 saves.

“Obviously, Stevenson is well-coached,” Robert said. “They’ve got a lot depth, a lot a speed and just keep coming at you in waves, good forecheck, get back hard in the defensive zone. They do a good job getting bodies in front of the net. They play the game the right way.”

bemons@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @BradEmons1



U.S. goalie Drew DeRidder and defenseman Spencer Stastney react as the puck bounces into the net. At left for Michigan is Josh Norris of Oxford. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

## HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

proached it like any other game and got the win. It was huge.”

The experience and environment also was special for Will Lockwood, a forward from Bloomfield Hills. He enjoyed an extra treat when he scored Michigan’s sixth goal of the game, early in the third period.

“We had a good forecheck there and I was luckily right in front and it popped right out to me,” Lockwood said.

Another former NTDP players to score for Michigan was forward Michael Pastujov, who tallied the night’s last goal midway through the third.

Michigan never trailed, although the U.S. did score three unanswered goals in the middle period to get to within 4-3.

The U.S. had the territorial edge for most of the first five minutes, but could not capitalize. And then the Wolverines struck first, when Calderone flipped a shot over NTDP goalie Drew DeRidder (Fenton).

That hole deepened to 3-0 after one period, although Appert thought his team played better than the score indicated.

“I liked our first period and yet we were down 3-0,” Appert said. “I thought we were good, we had tons of chances. (Hayden) Lavigne made some good saves and they had two goals that bounced in off us.”

Following are several takeaways:

**TAKING NOTES**

One of the players on Team USA, defenseman and Birmingham native Bode Wilde, talked about playing against the Wolverines — the team he will be a member of next season.

“It was pretty cool to play against some of these guys and get a taste of the kind of hockey I’ll be playing next year,” Wilde said.

**TOASTING A TITLE**

Before the game, Michigan and U.S. players gathered at center ice to receive gold medal rings for winning the 2017 IIHF Under-18 World Championship.

The recipients included three current Wolverines and former U.S. players: Quinn Hughes, Michael Pastujov and Norris. Oliver Wahlstrom and Joel Farabee of the U.S. also received their awards.

“I thought it was really neat tonight to see the world championship presentation at the front end,” Appert said. “You have coaching staffs and players on Michigan and players on (the) U.S. coming together and I thought that was a neat moment and what this place is all about — developing great hockey players and putting them on to the next step, which is usually NCAA Division I and then the NHL.”

**BEARY NICE**

Fans waited patiently for the home team to get on the scoreboard so that they could launch teddy bears out onto the ice.

After Michigan built a 4-0 lead, the Teddy Bear Toss moment finally arrived when Wahlstrom snapped a high shot inside the left post with 13:08 remaining in the middle period.

**FAN ZONE**

The large crowd, one of the largest at USA Hockey Arena since it took over the building in 2015 from the Plymouth Whalers, was pretty evenly divided between maize and blue fans and U.S. faithful.

But just having a full building with plenty of buzz and energy was worth it, said Plymouth resident Scott Merryfield, a former Whalers season ticket holder who now has season tickets for USA Hockey.

“It’s great to see a lot of fans here for once. We haven’t seen fans like this for years, except for a couple international games,” Merryfield said. “It’s more excitement, the fans get into it more, so you get a little energy in the building and things like that. We used to have that with the Whalers when they were here.”

Mike and Char Dunn and Jim Gaglead, all of Canton, liked the atmosphere in the building.

“I think Yost is better, but this is cool,” Mike Dunn said. “And I thought it was going to very Michigan-centered. I thought there’d be a lot more Michigan fans. But when USA Hockey scored their last couple goals, the whole crowd’s excited, it’s cool.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

GIRLS BASKETBALL

# New coach looks to help Blazers raise profile

**Tim Smith**

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Coaching has always been in Tom Bushart’s blood, as he has coached Catholic Youth Organization teams for nearly 30 years — primarily at St. Valentine’s and Our Lady of Loretto in Redford Township.

But finally, after several seasons helping coach lower level girls basketball teams at Livonia Ladywood, he is in charge of a varsity program.

Bushart, a high school boys basketball and baseball player at Redford Union in the 1970s, is the Blazers’ new varsity coach. He takes over from Sam Lamb.

Last week, the 12 players on varsity practiced together with Ladywood junior varsity players (coached by Emily Frikken) as the 2017-18 regular season draws near.

“Due to the lack of numbers for the JV, we’re trying to intertwine the knowledge of our offense together so

they can run similar offenses,” Bushart said. “Make it easier for the girls.

“Hopefully, it will be a progression for the following years that they’re going to move up to varsity. They’ll already have an idea of what we got going on and they can improve their skill set upon that.”

Ladywood opened Tuesday at Macomb North and plays Friday, Dec. 8, at home against Regina on Blazer Mania day.

“We’re inviting students from area Catholic League schools to attend,” Bushart said. “Hopefully, it will be a nice crowd.”

Bushart is no stranger to the current varsity players, having coached most of them at the freshman and junior varsity levels.

“The senior group were my freshman girls, all but one,” Bushart said. “They know me and I know them, I’ve watched them improve each year. They are ready to run with it.

“I just got to keep on them to keep the confidence level up. That’s

how I like to coach.” The one player he was referring to was senior forward and returning captain Abbey Reppen, who already was a varsity player when she was a freshman.

Joining Reppen in the starting lineup will be two other seniors that Bushart coached three years ago, point guard Kate Roney and guard/forward Amy Babbon.

The other four players from Bushart’s 2014-15 freshman squad now on the varsity are Natalie Stevenson, Jessie Drennan, Anna Francone and Natasha Strzelewicz.

Ladywood’s two remaining starters are 5-10 junior center Catherine Ambrose and sophomore guard Elle Reppen (Abbey’s sister).

Also expected to contribute will be junior forward Cate Charron and junior guards Bridget Rogers and Emily Pawlik.

“She’s hopefully our 3-point specialist,” Bushart said about Pawlik. “She shoots the ball well.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

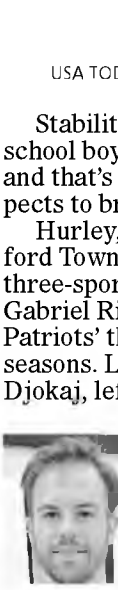


Livonia Ladywood varsity girls basketball players listen to new head coach Tom Bushart during a recent practice. TOM BEAUDOIN



BOYS BASKETBALL

# Hurley hoping to stop the coaching carousel at Franklin



**Tim Smith**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Stability is good for a high school boys basketball program and that's what T.J. Hurley expects to bring to Livonia Franklin. Hurley, who grew up in Redford Township and was a standout three-sport athlete at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, becomes the Patriots' third head coach in three seasons. Last year's coach, Gjon Djokaj, left to take a coaching job at Walled Lake Northern.

Last year, Franklin posted an 11-12 record. The Patriots reached the district final.

“Every year, they’re being taught new things, new offenses, new ways that coaches want them to play defense,” Hurley said. “And it makes it so they never can get comfortable and adapt to a system. You have seniors who are third-year varsity players and this is their third time learning a new system.”

But with a group of resilient athletes, including several who were part of Franklin’s recent drive to the Division 2 football state championship game, Hurley doesn’t anticipating a long-standing problem of players getting acclimated to new coaches and systems.

“I’d like to say it’s going to be shorter than you think, because it’s just how great these guys are,” Hurley said. “They do get along with each other, they are trying to buy in.”

Hurley also is new to the Franklin scene, taking the head coaching spot after serving as an assistant coach at Dearborn Heights Crestwood (where he remains a teacher).

“I can’t really comment on why someone would choose to go one place or another,” Hurley said. “I just went from (being) an assistant at Crestwood, where I loved the kids I coached and was assisting a great dude, a great coach, in Mike Bright.

“And I even chose to leave what I thought was one of the best situations. Guys make decisions trying to do what’s best for them, give themselves new challenges.”

**Grid to gym**

Senior stalwarts include forwards Mark Mettie (6-9), Ryan Celmer and Jacob Mass (6-4), along with Matt Elrod, called the



One of Livonia Franklin’s top senior returnees is Mark Mettie (left), shown battling Canton’s Noah Brown last season. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

team’s best defender.

Mettie “puts the ball on the floor phenomenally, he does a lot of things well. He’s an offensive stud.”

Mass and Elrod missed the first few practices because they were still playing football. Also back from football are senior Roger Carpenter and junior Cal Fournier, both slated for the back court.

But the night Franklin lost to Warren De La Salle at Detroit’s Ford Field, Elrod texted Hurley saying he was “ready to get started” with the basketball team.

According to Hurley, the success enjoyed by the football team could have a positive impact on what transpires on the floor.

“I think success in the football program carries over to just about every sport in the school,” Hurley said. “Not only do those players bring that attitude and that natural culture to a program, but it gets the entire school spirit up to support things like volleyball, things like hockey.

“It gets every sport and all the fans in every sport more involved in the school. I think it always starts with football no matter where you are.”

Franklin also has some juniors who are accomplished varsity players, definitely capable of helping the Patriots string together some victories.

Those juniors include shooting guard Jack Cronyn, point guard Dalton Gaisor and guard Ryan

Hoyer, all key returnees.

Another player to watch is 5-8 guard Chase Krespi, a spark-plug who Hurley said plays bigger than his size.

**Blueprint for success**

Hurley stressed that he will use a very deep rotation, perhaps eight or nine players, because Franklin players will be called upon to leave it all out on the floor.

“If I had to define it (team style) in three words, it would be ‘defend, rebound, run,’” he said. “If you do those three things in that order, you can find a lot of success against teams that are supposed to be better than you, teams that are more talented than you.

“In basketball, it’s about who can bring that special effort every single day.”

And in order for the Patriots to hang around at or near the top of the KLAA Gold Division standings, it will need to be offense by committee.

“We want everyone feeling ready with the ball, confident on the catch,” Hurley said. “Last year, they had a different kid who transferred out and Mark (Mettie), taking a large majority of their shots. We want to get it moving, get everyone involved on both ends.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

COLLEGE RECRUITING



Morgan Overaitis is joined by family members as they celebrate her signing with Michigan. Standing (from left) are her mom Michelle, her brother Tyler and her dad Craig. SALEM ATHLETICS

# Long wait over for Salem’s Overaitis



**Tim Smith**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Morgan Overaitis officially is a Michigan Wolverine and breathing a sigh of relief.

The Salem High School senior recently took advantage of an early signing period and committed to U-M, where she will play NCAA Division I women’s softball.

It has been a stressful few years for Overaitis, just a freshman when she made the verbal commitment to go to the University of Michigan.

“I am so relieved to officially be done with the recruiting process,” said Overaitis, a power hitter who pitches and plays shortstop for the Rocks. “I am beyond thankful to officially be a Wolverine and to represent the block ‘M’ on my chest for the next four years.

“I have been waiting for this day since I first committed my freshman year.”

Family helped her celebrate. She was joined for the ceremony by her parents (Michelle and Craig), brother (Tyler) and grandmother.

Others on hand included Salem softball coach Bonnie Southerland, athletic director Brian Samulski and teammates Hailey Dechalk and Jordan Hazel.

“This signing has been a long time com-



Salem’s Morgan Overaitis, shown during a 2017 game, recently signed to go to Michigan. FILE PHOTO

ing,” Southerland said. “When the verbal commitment to U-M was announced when Morgan was a freshman, it was practically unheard of.

“The last three years, this player has had to live up to some very high expectations and has proven to anyone who has seen her play why Michigan softball was interested in Morgan.”

Southerland said Overaitis “challenges herself daily, she demonstrates outstanding softball skills, has an impeccable work ethic and leadership qualities.”

Three years after verbally committing, Overaitis obviously has no regrets.

“I am 110 percent happy with my choice to go to U-M,” Overaitis said. “I love the coaches, love the facility and I just feel at home when I’m there.

“I’m not sure where I will be playing when I get there. I will be happy to play wherever the team needs me.”

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports

# WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

ago at 112 and moves up a weight class.

“We have a lot of guys returning and the new guys that came in – they’re really good, they’re hard workers,” Kamali said. “Reminds me a lot of last year’s team ... just working hard, having fun and really bonding together. The team state championship is the end goal and everything else just falls in place.”

Davenport goes from 130 up to 145 after finished 43-3 overall.

“I just see a lot of guys with a lot of talent, a lot of talent and a lot of hard workers,” Davenport said. “Like Ben said, it reminds me of lot of last year’s team. We had a lot of really good guys and I think we have the same thing this year. I think we have the ability to do the exact same thing we did last year and beat everybody in the state by 10-15 plus points.”

Amine was the 145 champ last season, finishing 45-3 overall. His brother Jordan, currently out with an injury, is a senior on the University of Michigan team, while his cousins Myles and Malik Amine, are also Wolverines.

“I work with all of them all the time. They’ve gotten me far and pushed me a lot,” Cam Amine said. “I’ve been working

on the small things, find my weaknesses and get up to par where I can be the best guy in the world.”

Also returning off last year’s championship team are three other state placers: junior Rhett Newton (130-135), who finished 36-6 while taking third at 112; sophomore Derek Gilcher (135-140), who finished fourth with a 32-10 record at 119; and senior Devon Johnsen (112), who went 35-12 and placed seventh at 103.

Other state qualifiers returning include senior Stone Moscovic (125-130), junior Joe Urso (145-152) and Wagh (171), a senior.

And as an added bonus, CC’s top newcomer is Orchard Lake St. Mary’s transfer Josh Edmond (140), who finished with a 53-1 record en route to Division 2 runner-up honors last year at 135.

The Shamrocks, who opened their season Wednesday home in the school assembly match against Grandville, have a loaded schedule during the months of December and January.

After competing Dec. 9 in the Westland John Glenn Rockets Duals, Hancock will send a split squad Dec. 16 to both the Oakland County Tournament and the Mishawaka (Ind.) Penn Duals.

The Shamrocks will also wrestle Dec. 22 at home against Brighton and Perrysburg, Ohio, before heading Dec. 29-30 to Ohio for the highly-touted Brecksville In-

TEAM CAPSULES

**DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL**

**Head coach:** Mitch Hancock, 11th year.

**League:** Catholic League (Central Division).

**Last year’s finish:** first, Catholic League; first, Division 1 district, regional and state championships; 31-1 overall.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Tyler Morland (state champion, 171), Nick Jenkins (state champion, 285), Jackson Ross (state qualifier; third place, 215), Dane Flynn (state qualifier).

**Leading returnees:** Ben Kamali, Sr., 119 (state champ at 112); Kevon Davenport, Jr., 145 (state champ at 130); Cameron Amine, Jr., 152-160 (state champ at 145); Devon Johnsen, Sr., 112 (state qualifier; seventh at 103); Rhett Newton, Jr., 130-135 (state qualifier; third at 112); Derek Gilcher, Soph., 135-140 (state qualifier; fourth at 119); Stone Moscovic, Sr., 125-130 (state qualifier); Joe Urso, Jr., 145-152 (state qualifier); Aidan Wagh, Sr., 171 (state qualifier).

**Promising newcomers:** Josh Edmond, Soph., 140 (Division 2 state runner-up, 135); Dom Iomazzo, Fr., 112-119, Cam Trupp, Fr., 125; Steve Kolchelt, Soph., 285

**Hancock’s outlook:** “We have a very deep and talented team coming back. We open the season ranked No. 10 in the country. Our ultimate goal is team state champions. We have an extremely tough, national-type schedule.”

**NORTHVILLE**

**Head coach:** Tyler Schneider, second year.

**League:** Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Gold Division).

**Last year’s finish:** fourth, KLAA Central (2-3); 18th, KLAA tourney.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Conrad Lendis

**Leading returnees:** Nicholas Gettoni, Soph., 140 (regional qualifier); Adam Lewis, Sr., 112; Grant Gettoni, Soph., 103; Joseph Nagy, Sr., 135; Brandon Liu, Soph., 103.

**Promising newcomers:** Demir Tegeni, Soph., 285.

**Schneider’s outlook:** “As tough as the league is, I definitely see us performing better than we have in the past couple of years. This is my third year with the program and the team has advanced a lot over the past couple of years. Yes, we may take our bumps and bruises in a new league with Brighton and Hartland, who are both powerhouses. Grand Blanc is no slouch, either, but we’re definitely going against tough teams. I think we’re to the point now where we are competitive and just not there to be there. We’ll have a wrestler at every weight this year and right now we have 36 on the roster. Two years ago, when I started with the program, we had 12 kids at the end of the year. Last year, we finished with 22. Starting this year with 36 is huge for us.”

**NCUI**

**Head coach:** Joel Smith, fourth season.

**League:** Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Gold Division).

**Last year’s finish:** first, KLAA Central (5-0); 14th, KLAA tourney; 14-6 overall.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Lincoln Cleary (regional qualifier), Corey Grassmyer (regional qualifier).

**Leading returnees:** Chase Sparling, Sr. (captain); Eric Wright, Sr. (captain).

**Promising newcomers:** To be determined.

**Smith’s outlook:** “I’m looking forward to working with this year’s team. We are a young team with a lot of promise. The energy in the room is exciting as the team is hungry and working hard. They are a great group of young athletes. Every year its fun to watch them become better wrestlers and individuals through desire and dedication.”

**WHITE LAKE LAKEFIELD**

**Head coach:** James Tippin, sixth year.

**League:** Lakes Valley Conference.

**Last year’s finish:** fourth, KLAA North (2-3); 10th, KLAA tourney.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Nolan Klapac (state qualifier; eighth at 125), Michael Jacobs.

**Leading returnees:** Miles Hill, Sr., 112; Jake House, Jr., 119; David Thickett, Jr., 160; Brian McGrath, Soph., 140; Ryan Allen, Sr., 285.

vitational.

“We made a few changes this year,” said Hancock, whose team is ranked 10th nationally.

In January, the CC Invitational is set Jan. 6, followed by a dual match Jan. 10 at home against Macomb Dakota, an elite

eight team last year.

Then it’s the CC Super Duals and Alumni Day on Saturday, Jan. 13, at home featuring two national powers from Ohio, St. Paris Graham and Lake-wood St. Edward’s.

CC will also face Davison on Senior Night Fri-

day, Jan. 19, at home in a rematch of last year’s team finals.

Once the state tourney commences Feb. 7, CC will be gunning for its 13th state title in school history and sixth under Hancock.

“We’re excited. We just

got to stay healthy and humble,” he said. “It’s a long, long wrestling season. I know with our guys’ focus, we’ll be right in the picture come February.”

bemons@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @BradEmons1



# Ocelots' NJCAA title bid comes up two goals short

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# St. Joseph Mercy, Mercy Health announce merger

The Trinity Health-owned health systems of St. Joseph Mercy Health System in southeast Michigan and Mercy Health in west Michigan announced they will combine their two systems into one statewide system to create a strong, people-centered care delivery network across Michigan.

Rob Casalou, regional president and CEO of SJMHS, will be president and CEO of the combined Michigan system, effective Jan. 1, 2018. Roger Spoelman, president and CEO of Mercy Health, will serve as senior vice president of strategic and operational integration for Trinity Health, located in Livonia. In this national role, Spoelman will work closely with Mike Slubowski, president and COO of Trinity Health, and Ben Carter, executive vice president and CFO of Trinity Health, and the integration teams to lead selected efforts within Trinity Health to support accelerated development and effective integration efforts.

“Our new statewide system will enable our ministries to integrate our leadership in clinical and business operations throughout Michigan. For the communities we serve, this means it will enhance our clinicians’ ability to share resources and ideas that people need in their care journeys,” Slubowski said. “Roger and Rob have been superb leaders in their regions, and we look forward to their roles in the new structure.”

The new health system in Michigan will include 10 hospitals with a total of 2,357 licensed beds, nine outpatient health centers, 12 urgent care facilities and more than 35 specialty centers. It will employ more than 22,500 people and have a medical staff of nearly 4,000 physicians.

The new statewide structure is part of Trinity Health’s national strategy to integrate teams and resources to serve communities better. Trinity Health

recently combined five hospitals and other facilities in Connecticut and Massachusetts to form Trinity Health of New England.

Spoelman joined Trinity Health in 1981 and has been president and CEO of Trinity Health West Michigan for seven years. The region includes five hospital campuses, more than 60 physician offices, more than 1,300 medical staff physicians, more than 800 hospital beds and 7,200 employees. He also was interim CEO of Mount Carmel Health System in Columbus, Ohio, from 2015-16.

Casalou joined Trinity Health in 2008 as president and CEO of St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor. In 2015, he was named regional president and CEO of SJMHS, which is composed of five hospitals, six cancer centers, five ambulatory care centers, more than 2,700 physicians and 15,300 employees.

## Obituaries

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### Theresa Barbara Byszkowski

VENICE, FL - Theresa Barbara Byszkowski, 92, of Venice, Florida formerly of Milford, Michigan died November 29, 2017. She was a long time member of St. Mary Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church in Milford, Michigan, and the Red Hat Society. A woman who loved bowling aka (Big Bertha), Bingo, Frank Sinatra and Wheel of Fortune. Theresa is survived by her husband Walter, sons Mark (Jan) and Paul (Pamela), sisters Catherine Lukasick and Ann Velcich, brother Francis B. Buchhaas, Son-in-law Daniel Giebel, daughter-in-law Jane Byszkowski, brother-in-law Joseph Patrick, seven grandchildren Jonathan, Jennifer, Andrew, Autumn, Rick, Ashley and Kirstin, five great-grandchildren Kendall, Zakary, Jakub, Abigail and Joanna. She was predeceased by her parents Henry and Mary Buchhaas, daughter Susan Geibel, sons Eugene and Richard, sister Rosemary Patrick and brother Henry B. Buchhaas. A Graveside service will be held Thursday, December 7, 2017, 1:30 PM at Sarasota National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, American Heart Association or a charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated. Toale Brothers Funeral Homes, Ewing Chapel, Venice, Florida is in charge of arrangements.



### Rose Marie Kelly

MUNSTER, IN - Rose Marie Kelly nee (Robertson), age 92 passed away peacefully in her sleep with family by her side on December 1st, 2017, in Munster Indiana. Rose is survived by her children Russell (Ann) Kelly of Northville Michigan; Maureen (Mark) Snedden of Munster Indiana, Marcia (Scott) Evett of Munster Indiana; Tim (Natalie) Kelly of Fairfield California, Bromley Kelly of Parkland Florida and daughter-in-law Stephanie Kelly of Nashville Tennessee. Rose had 18 grandchildren; Tanner, Trey, Hunter, Jenna, Brad, Brian Chelsea, Ashley, Aaron, Trevar, Amanda, Paige, James, Ollie, Elizabeth, Shaun, Matthew and Madison; and 1 great grandchild Louis. Rose was preceded in death by her Husband William H. Kelly of Northville Michigan; son William H. Kelly Jr. of Rapid City Michigan; and her siblings William Robertson, Charles Robertson and MaryBelle Hickey. Rose was born on October 7th, 1925 in Houghton Michigan to the parents of Rose Mary Robertson and William Robertson. Rose was a loving mother and homemaker that raised a family of 6 children in Northville Michigan with her Husband Bill. The couple met while ice skating in Houghton Michigan and were married in Houghton. Rose was a member of Meadowbrook Country Club for over 50 years. She enjoyed playing bridge with friends but her passion was cooking and was known to all for the wonderful creations that came from her kitchen. Rose loved Sundays as it was an opportunity to bring everyone together to attend church, visit with her family and share one of her gourmet meals. Rose’s family and friends will always remember her as kind and gentle person who always had a positive outlook and enjoyed her life to the fullest. A memorial service is planned for Saturday December 9th, 2017 at the Casterline Funeral Home in Northville Michigan. Visitation will be from 10 am to 12 noon. The service will start at noon. Interment will be at the Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville Michigan. All are welcome to attend and celebrate the life of Rose Kelly. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to the Kennedy’s Disease Association for Research. <https://www.kennedysdisease.org/> Rose’s family thanks everyone for all the kindness and warmth they have shown.

### Edna Mae Rudberg

SOUTH LYON - Passed away peacefully on November 08, 2017 at the age of 76. She was born July 10, 1941 in Detroit, daughter of the late Jim and Margaret McDonald. She will always be remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Edna was a primary member in revitalizing the South Lyon High School Hockey program in 1981. Edna is survived by her beloved husband of 54 years, Bill Rudberg; her loving children: Will (Josie) Rudberg, Jim (Kim) Rudberg and Lawrence (Melissa) Rudberg; her grandchildren: Lauren, Allison, Olivia, Bailey, Emily, Lorenzo and Liam. Edna is also survived by her brothers: Jerry (Laura) McDonald, Joe McDonald, and John McDonald. She was proceeded in death by her brother, Jim McDonald, and her sister, Mary Ann Maiorana. A private celebration of life service will be held at a future date. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at [www.phillipsfuneral.com](http://www.phillipsfuneral.com)



### Marjorie Gill

FARMINGTON HILLS - November 22, 1935-November 14, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made at [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### Joan Sage

CANTON - January 23, 1934 - November 24, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made at [obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)

### Kenneth Carpenter

MILFORD - February 3, 1962-November 8, 2017 Expressions of sympathy may be made at [obriensullivanhome.com](http://obriensullivanhome.com)



Paying tribute to the life of your loved one.



### Elizabeth Jean Weisbrod

TRENTON, MI - Elizabeth Jean “Betty” Weisbrod, 93, departed this life peacefully on Friday, November 24, 2017, at home, surrounded by family and her caregiver. Known to all as simply “Mom,” she was preceded in death by her husband, John Arthur Weisbrod; and her three brothers, Karl, James and Robert Schwartz. Born in Fenton, Iowa, Betty graduated from Fenton High School in 1941. She received her degree as a Registered Nurse from the School of Nursing at Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines in 1945. While serving at a veteran’s hospital in New York City that year, she was reunited with a decorated WWII Navy lieutenant from her Iowa hometown. Following his recovery from injuries sustained during the initial assault to retake Iwo Jima, the couple married in 1946. Betty and John moved to Trenton, Michigan, where he was employed as a product designer for Ford Motor Company until his untimely death in 1962. While in Trenton, Betty worked as a private practice nurse. However, her first love was music. She taught piano lessons, served as church organist at Faith Methodist Church and frequently played for musical productions for the Wyandotte Community Theater. She continued to play the piano until a few months before her death. Betty moved to Richmond in 1980 to live with her daughter with whom she stayed for the last 37 years. She is survived by her son, Mark C. Weisbrod (Susan) of Canton, Michigan; her daughter, Mary Louse Linhart (Ted) of Richmond, Virginia; her granddaughter, Samantha Weisbrod; as well as two step-granddaughters and three step-great grandsons. Abiding by her wishes, there will be no visitation. Burial will be private. Betty’s abiding passion was for Barksdale Theatre and all animals, large and small. Accordingly, in lieu of flowers, please consider the Muriel McAuley Fund of Virginia Repertory Theatre or the Richmond SPCA. Online condolences may be made at [www.blileys.com](http://www.blileys.com).



### Nora L. Wilson

MILFORD - Nora L. Wilson, a long time resident of Milford, died in the care of her family at Neighborhoods of White Lake on November 29, 2017 at the age of 84. She is survived by Richard “Dick”, her beloved husband of over sixty-one years; daughters, Kathy (Norman) Baer of Portland OR and Judi (Greg) Chanski of Hudsonville; sons, Rick (Gloria) Wilson of Milford and David (Valentina Stamenova) Wilson of Houston TX; grandchildren: Chris Baer, Meredith (Jon) Wells, Kyle (Sarah) Chanski, Jordan (Gabrielle) Chanski, Miriam (Brian) Bosch, Shannon (Joe) Zimmerman, Katie (Steve) Niebauer, Steve (Jenna) Wilson, Kristi Wilson, and Craig Wilson; great grandchildren: Lilliana, Camelia and Gavin Chanski, Felix Niebauer, and Kiera Wilson; her brother, Wayne Martin; her sister, Enza Bentz, and many extended family members and dear friends. She was preceded in death by siblings, June Hulteen, Lois Ann Spradlin and Harold Martin Jr. A Funeral Service was held at the Milford Presbyterian Church, Milford, Michigan, with burial in Milford Memorial Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to Solid Rock International, PO Box 20867, Indianapolis, IN 46220. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit [www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com)





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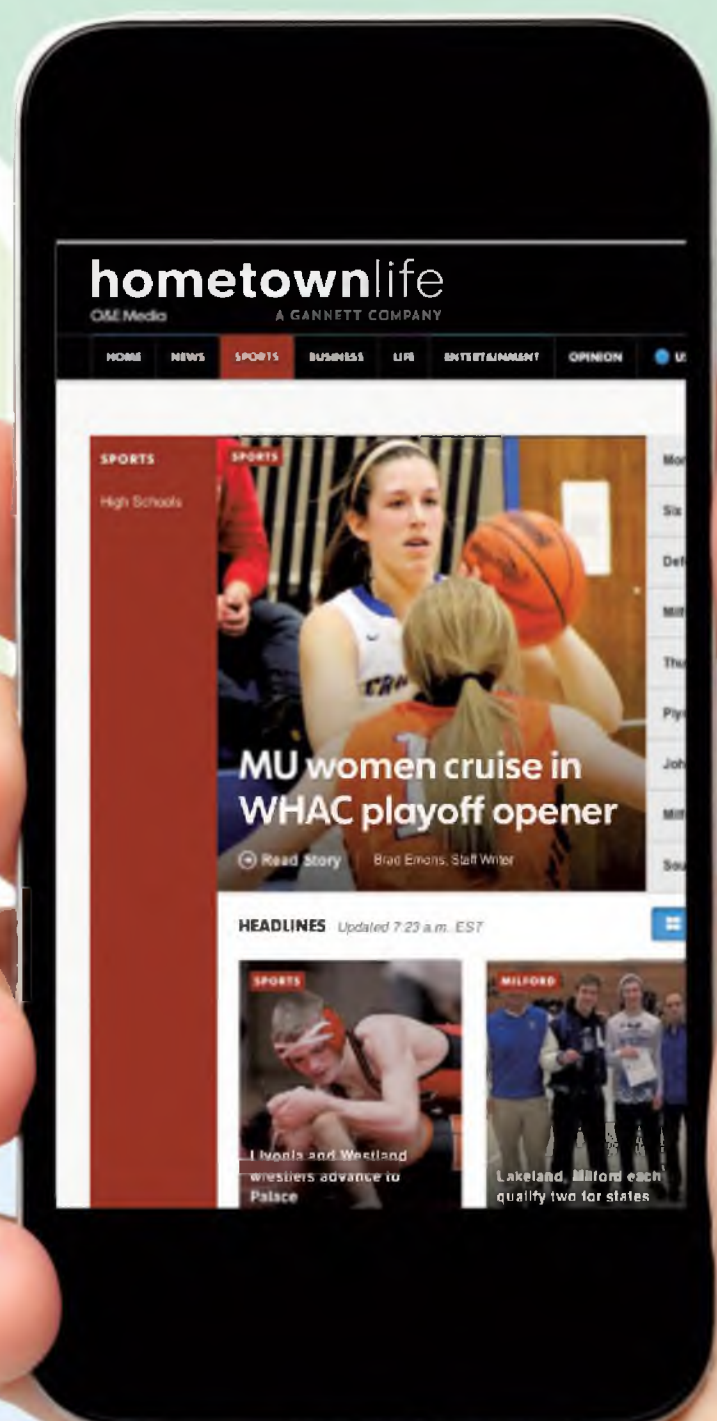
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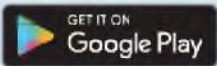
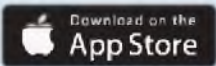
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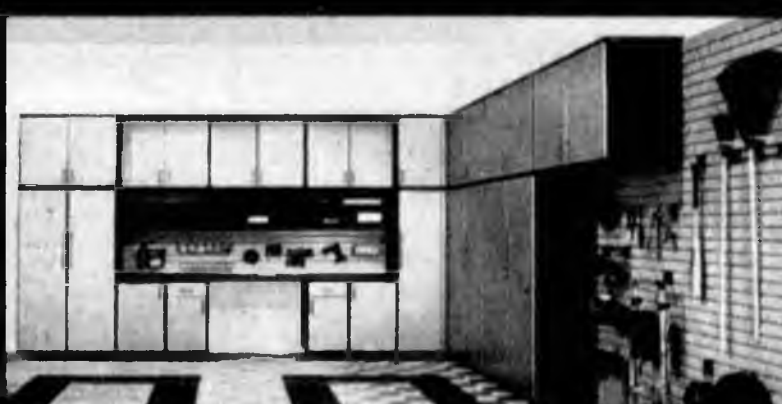
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