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THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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ONLINE COUPONS

Trespassing down at hospital site

Arrests falling as preparations continue for building's demolition

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Arrests at the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital property are down dramatically in recent

months, while preparations are underway there for the demolition of the main hospital building later this year.

Between October and March 9, police issued just 38 citations for trespassing at the nearly 350-acre site on Seven Mile, which is owned by Northville Township and slated for future recreation use. That compares to more than 300 citations issued between January and mid-July

of last year.

Todd Mutchler, the township's public safety director, credits stepped-up enforcement and security measures put in place after township officials last fall signed a \$5.9 million contract for site cleanup, including asbestos remediation, and the razing of the main hospital building.

"It's dropped off significantly and I think it's a combination of our pa-

trols, getting the word out and the demolition that's ongoing," Mutchler said Friday of trespassing.

Mutchler would not detail security measures, but said they include guards on the property. "There's a lot going on out there — people who belong there," he said.

The latest citations were issued the night of Feb. 27, when police in-

See TRESPASSING, Page 2A



A 2016 resurfacing project in Oakland County. Officials in local communities say they'll use additional road money just made available by the state to fund repairs and improvement projects that might otherwise have been postponed. FILE

Lansing to the rescue?

Officials grateful for new state road money, but say more is needed

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Dear Michigan legislators: Thanks for the new road money. Also: It's not enough.

Those are the dual sentiments expressed by local officials over the state Legislature's approval of \$175 million in additional road money in response to a public outcry over pothole-ridden roads that worsen with every thaw.

The package was approved unanimously in both houses of the Legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder is expected to sign it.

"Any additional funding we can get is more than welcome," said David Lear, assistant city engineer in Livonia. "Obviously, our budget for infrastructure repairs is much less than what it should be throughout the state."

"We definitely appreciate the additional money available and we'll put it to good use," said Craig Bryson, spokesman for the Road Commission for Oakland County. But, Bryson added, the county has about 600 miles of primary road that's rated in poor condition and the new money will only go so far.

The new money comes as Michigan's

See ROADS, Page 9A

"Any additional funding we can get is more than welcome. Obviously, our budget for infrastructure repairs is much less than what it should be throughout the state."

David Lear
assistant city engineer in Livonia

Company bringing investment, jobs into township

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A global company that produces rubber and metal parts for the automotive and other industries is moving to Northville Township, investing \$6.9 million and creating about 80 jobs, officials say.

Zhongding USA hopes by late April to begin construction of its two-story, 30,000-square foot North American Technical Center northwest of Five Mile and Beck roads, said Michael Lam, Zhongding's engineer director. The company expects to move in during the first quarter of 2019, he said.

The company plans to house several divisions there, including sales, marketing, engineering, testing and research and development as it shifts from its current location in Monroe.

Zhongding's decision ushers in another component of the Michigan In-

See INVESTMENT, Page 2A



A global company, Zhongding, is moving its North American Technology Center to Northville Township from Monroe. ZHONGDING USA

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ONLINE COUPONS

Prep hockey players reach out to serve

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Man advantage goes to the the Northville High varsity boys hockey team, which has developed quite a power play when it comes to putting on a community service project.

Players and coaches once again made

quite a few new friends Feb. 15 as they partnered with an inner-city school, donating their time, providing a lunch, along with school supplies, for more than 200 students at Neinas Elementary in southwest Detroit.

Over the past several years, the Mustangs have adopted a kindergarten class in the Detroit school district. Team captains Nick Williams and Jack Sargent,

along with assistant captains Noah Ecklerle and Joe Tobon, headed up this year's project, which also included organizing and running a physical education class for third- and fourth-graders.

The effort is self-funded by the players and through family donations.

With support from the Northville

See PLAYERS, Page 2A



Northville hockey's Larry Rife made friends at Detroit's Neinas Elementary. MARK HICKS | WESTSIDE PHOTOGRAPHIC

A THANKLESS TASK



After filling the hole, Daimon Parker tamps down the patch with the back of the shovel blade. He knows the patch is temporary. Michigan's freeze-thaw cycle means that road crews never run out of work. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Meet the workers who try to keep our roads from falling apart

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It's a slow-moving procession, similar to what you'd find during a parade. But this two-vehicle operation doesn't feature candy thrown a float. Just cold patch.

Such is the day of highway maintenance workers assigned to fill potholes across Oakland County in the winter

and spring. Crews are sent out to spend eight hours a day filling those dangerous craters that form along county roads with a combination of freezing, thawing and precipitation.

Crews take a reprieve when snow is all plowed from county roads and use that additional time to head out and fill, not repair, potholes.

"You just know when the snow lets

See POTHOLE, Page 10A

"You just know when the snow lets up, that's usually when the potholes start popping up."

Ron Hoolihan
crew leader for Road Commission for Oakland County

Large crowd checks out weekend gun show

Hasan Dudar
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

As a national debate over gun regulation and school safety rages across the nation following a deadly school shooting in Florida, hundreds packed the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi on Saturday to check out handguns, semi-automatic rifles, antique firearms, knives and ammunition.

The Feb. 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., left 17 people dead and sparked a national student-led movement to intensify gun control.

That same debate has been going on for at least 50 years, said Novi Gun & Knife Show organizer Doug Carl, who was skeptical Saturday whether any law could have stopped what he described as a "deranged" shooter in Florida.

"There's just no way to legislate mental illness, morality, lawlessness," Carl said. "You can't legislate that stuff. If you could, it would've been ... this problem would have been cured a long time ago. And the minute these things happen, everybody starts thinking the wrong direction: what can the government do to help us, what can the government do to fix it. The government can't fix it. There's no way."

There's only one way to solve the problem, Carl said, and that's checking students' books and bags, installing metal detectors and X-ray machines, and having armed guards at schools.

"There's a TSA at the airports, I think there should be a school TSA," said Carl, who estimated 2,000-5,000 people attended the gun and knife show Saturday, which ran through Sunday.

At a White House listening session Feb. 22 with students, teachers and

See GUN SHOW, Page 2A

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Gun show

Continued from Page 1A

parents from Marjory Stoneman Douglas, President Donald Trump hinted at the possibility of arming teachers or coaches at schools as a way to protect students from attacks.

"And this would only be, obviously, for people that are very adept at handling a gun," Trump said in the transcript released on whitehouse.gov. "And it would be — it's called concealed carry, where a teacher would have a concealed gun on them. ... A gun-free zone to a maniac — because they're all cowards — a gun-free zone is, let's go in and let's attack, because bullets aren't coming back at us."

Since the shooting, Trump has taken measures to propose stricter background checks and regulate "bump stock" devices that allow rifles to function as automatic weapons, according to USA Today.

hometownlife.com

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Rick Haynes of Total Firearms, Inc., assists Bethany Katona, 24, of Ypsilanti, who looks at the Taurus Curve 380 during the Novi Gun & Knife Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace. KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL | DETROIT FREE PRESS



Mike Sadley, 64, and his wife, Jennie, 59, both of Wayne, look over different guns during the Novi Gun & Knife Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace. KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL | FREE PRESS

The gun control movement is also impacting the decisions of corporations, including MetLife, United and Delta airlines, which have all dropped their discounts for the National Rifle Association, which has continued to stand for gun rights in the face of recent shootings, the USA Today reports.

At the gun show in Novi, opinions were varied. If guns are banned, Rick Haynes said, then other freedoms are "out the door."

Haynes, a vendor at the Total Fire-

arms, Inc., booth, was selling everything from handguns to lever-action rifles to semi-automatic rifles.

"It's all about control," Haynes said. "They cannot control us if we're armed."

Juan Gildemiester, 51, of Howell, who shoots antique long rifles and owns an AR-15, said some of the recent arguments he's heard after the Florida shooting are "perfectly good measures."

"I have no problems having a waiting period, myself. I have no problems having a much more thorough background

check," Gildemiester said, later adding: "I don't need to buy anything today and have it today."

Gildemiester, who describes his perspective as more "middle of the road," said a lot of the fear is driven by uncertainty which causes people to go "one way or the other, to extremes."

"It's a reaction," Gildemiester said. "People think, right or wrong, 'Oh they're gonna ban this or legislate this.' And then then there's a reaction. It's a natural instinct."

Players

Continued from Page 1A

Public Schools district administration, the morning started with players breaking into small groups, purchasing healthy food snacks and school supply items from a list provided by Susan Evans of Bridgepointe nonprofit in Northville.

With the help of Yolanda Nelson, Sam's Club also stepped up, donating 20 pizzas/bread sticks, 150 juice boxes and cupcakes to feed the students in the school's gymnasium.

The effort was also spearheaded by Northville head coach Clint Robert and his coaching staff, along with Mark Hicks, the team's manager of community relations.



Owen Finkbeiner and his Northville hockey teammates and coaches donated their time, providing a lunch, along with school supplies, for more than 200 students at Neinas Elementary in Detroit. MARK HICKS | WESTSIDE PHOTOGRAPHIC

"It's a great day," Hicks said, "brings tears to your eyes."

Contact Brad Emons at be-
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Qadir to vie for state Senate seat

Dr. Ghulam Qadir of Northville Township, former chief of psychiatry at Oakwood Healthcare System and current CEO of Apex Behavioral Health Dearborn, announced his bid to seek the Democratic nomination for the state Senate 7th District seat. The district, which includes Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne and Canton, Plymouth and Northville townships, is currently represented by Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, who is running for governor.

"Good education, physical and emotional health and hard work are the core ingredients of success and happiness," Qadir said. "Diversity is a key strength for the fabric of the community."

Qadir is no stranger to Lansing. He served as vice chairman of the Con-



Qadir

trolled Substances Advisory Commission for the state of Michigan for four years. He participated in the passage of the Michigan Patient Bill of Rights. He was instrumental in removal of punitive provisions in the Michigan Mental Health Code, which affected the practice of psychiatry, pharmacy and nursing professions.

Outside the workplace, Qadir has been active as a volunteer at the professional and community level.

In 2016, Qadir ran for a seat on the Northville Township Board of Trustees. During his campaign, he stood for neighborhoods and against unfettered development.

He played a significant role in rallying support to stop expansion of the Arbor Hill landfill. He organized the community to persuade the Northville Township board in redesigning the development of the Old Scott Prison area at Beck and

Five Mile roads, according to the desires of the area residents. He convinced the planning commission to abort an unpopular residential development at Ridge and Six Mile roads. He helped prevent the banning of the book "The Bluest Eye," written by Toni Morrison, from a Northville High School advanced placement course.

In recognition for his life's work in community services, Qadir was presented with the Distinguished Life Fellowship award by the American Psychiatric Association. He was honored with the Scholar Award for single-handedly raising money for an endowment fund to perpetually provide 50 scholarships per year to the medical students at his alma mater. And in 2015, the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, a Washington-based think tank, awarded him Philanthropist of the Year.

Home invasion trial delayed

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The trial of a Detroit man facing 18 charges in connection with a violent Northville Township home invasion has been rescheduled — for exactly one year after the crime occurred.

Deamo Lately, 32, had been scheduled for a Wayne County Circuit Court jury trial that was to begin Feb. 12, but it was postponed, at the request of the court, and is now set to begin Monday, April 30, court records show.

That's one year to the day after two men, one with a pistol and the other with a rifle, stole cash, shoes, purses, a Rolex watch and two vehicles from a home in the area of Five Mile and Bradner. Lately is accused of firing a shot from the rifle during the crime; no one was hurt.



Lately

One victim, returning to the home to find the armed men there, was stripped naked and forced into a closet, while another, the woman's boyfriend, was forced to lie on the floor, according to testimony in 35th District Court during Lately's preliminary hearing.

Lately is charged with two counts each of armed robbery and carjacking and one count of unlawful imprisonment, plus single counts of home invasion, assault with a dangerous weapon, discharging a gun in or at a building and being a felon in possession of a gun. He also faces nine counts of using a gun during a felony.

Lately, who has a criminal record that includes guilty pleas to charges of larceny and unarmed robbery, is being held in the Wayne County Jail on a \$1 million bond.

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

NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Man charged with drunken driving

A 25-year-old Livonia man was arrested the night of Feb. 16 on suspicion of drunken driving after crashing a sport-utility vehicle into a shrub at Seven Mile and Northville roads.

The crash occurred around 11:30 p.m. in front of the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, a Northville Township Police Department report said. No injuries were reported.

The report said the man was driving a GMC Terrain west on Seven Mile when he lost control and the SUV went over a curb, struck a traffic sign and then a bush. The airbags deployed and the vehicle sustained heavy front-end damage, police said.

A Datamaster breath-analysis test at the police station later registered his blood-alcohol content at 0.15 percent, police said. That's over the 0.08 level at which a driver is considered intoxicated.

The man was cited for driving under the influence and given a court date of March 7. He was released the next morning on a \$300 bond.

Police: Not-at-fault driver drunk

A 56-year-old West Bloomfield man was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving Feb. 18 after being involved in a fender-bender that was not his fault.

The crash occurred shortly after midnight at Six Mile and Beck roads. The 56-year-old complained of neck pain and was evaluated by Northville Township paramedics, but refused transport to a hospital, a police report said. No other injuries were reported.

Police said the man, driving a Nissan Infiniti Q60, was stopped on northbound Beck for a red light at Six Mile when a Toyota 4Runner slid into his car. The Toyota's driver, a 55-year-old Plymouth Township man, told police he had been trying to stop for the red light in the lane next to the Q60, but slid because of road conditions; police said the road was slick because of recent snow.

The Toyota's driver was ticketed for driving too fast for conditions and having an expired license plate.

Police, however, smelled alcohol on the other driver's breath and a Datamaster test put his blood-alcohol level at 0.09 percent, more than the Michigan

legal limit of 0.08 percent.

He was later released on a \$300 bond and is to appear in court March 7.

Good deed, but no license

A 25-year-old Detroit woman who told police she was driving because her companion was drunk was arrested for doing so with a suspended license early Feb. 18.

An officer pulled over the woman on southbound Haggerty, south of Seven Mile, just after midnight because the headlights on the Dodge Nitro she was driving were off, a police report said.

The car belonged to the passenger, a 30-year-old Dearborn man, who according to the driver had had too much to drink, police said.

Police found the woman had multiple license suspensions and outstanding warrants.

She later posted a \$300 bond and was turned over to police in Livonia on one of the warrants; she is to face the Northville Township suspended-license charge in court March 7.

— By Matt Jachman

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*This four bedroom two and half bathroom Colonial is located on a large wooded lot
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This home features four bedrooms and two and half bathrooms

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Super Talk
Steve Matthews
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Chris Hixson, the athletic director and wrestling coach at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., died Feb. 14. He died racing toward the sound of gunfire because he knew students and staff were in trouble.

He died rushing to help.

He was one of 17 people to die Feb. 14 at that school.

I do not bring up Hixson so that I can talk politics or gun control. Those discussions are important and those topics must be discussed, but they can wait for another time and place.

I bring Hixson up because he repre-

sents the values found in your Novi Community School District staff.

One of the wrestlers on Hixson's varsity wrestling team said that Hixson "made me run when I didn't want to run."

In Novi, our community should be proud of the staff members who work with and support our students. Our staff cares deeply for each student in our district. Our staff believes in the potential of each of our students. Our staff talks about "my students" and "our kids."

Every week, I am in classrooms, lunchrooms and school offices in our district. I see students at evening athletic, musical, dance, theater and extra-curricular events. I have chaperoned eighth-grade students as they travel to Washington, D.C.

When I am in our schools, I see staff members caring, motivating, support-

ing, encouraging, challenging and teaching our children.

They may drive a bus or answer the phone and keep track of attendance and do a hundred other things in an office. They may teach advanced math or science or 3- and 4-year-olds. They may drag computer cables or drive a snowplow. They may direct a staff of more than 100 people or work isolated in an office.

Whatever their jobs, staff members of the Novi district know that everything they do is done to support students. If students need someone to listen, they listen.

If students need someone to make the computers work so they can finish the assignment, they fix the computers. If a student needs someone to take their temperature, they take their temperature. If students need a figurative kick

in the pants to get them motivated to complete a project, they figuratively kick them in the pants to get them moving.

Staff members make mistakes. They forget things, drop the ball, run out of time ... but when they do, they make it right.

May our staff never have to race toward the sound of gunfire like Hixson. I have great confidence that our staff members will do everything within their power to ensure that the students in our district will be safe, successful and honored. They provide our students with the motivation to run, even though they may not want to run.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at steven.matthews@novik12.org.

CRAWFORD HOSTS STATE CHAMPION VOLLEYBALL TEAM



State Rep. Kathy Crawford, R-Nowi, welcomed the three-time state champion Novi High School volleyball team Feb. 22 to the state capitol building. Senior Erin O'Leary received special recognition for being awarded the 2017 Miss Volleyball trophy. She also has been selected as Gatorade's Michigan Volleyball Player of the Year for the second straight year. O'Leary played a part in all three state championships and has committed to the University of Michigan. Also receiving acknowledgment was coach Jennifer Cottrill, a finalist for the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Coach of the Year award. Under Cottrill's guidance, Novi has had an unprecedented era of excellence, compiling a 270-36-3 record during her tenure.

Man gets probation for burglary at Rocky's

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A Detroit man will be on probation until the middle of 2020 after pleading guilty to a felony in connection with the September burglary of a Northville Township restaurant.

Kevin A. Greene, 28, was sentenced last month to two and a half years' probation by Judge Michael Callahan in Wayne County Circuit Court. He had pleaded guilty in November to one count of breaking and entering; a charge of larceny in a building was dis-



missed in a plea agreement. Greene was also assessed \$8,959 in fines and costs, according to court records.

The burglary at Rocky's, on Seven Mile, occurred the morning of Sept. 19. A safe and bottles of liquor were reported stolen. There were no signs of forced entry, but Greene had worked there months earlier as part of a cleanup crew. He was arrested Oct. 5.

Contact Matt Jachman at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

NORTHVILLE MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village is located at 215 Griswold, north of Main Street, near Ford Field. Grounds open daily dawn until dusk. Buildings will re-open each Sunday starting in June 2018. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millracenorthville.org for details.

Upcoming events

Lecture Series: Great Lakes Lighthouse Preservation: 7 p.m. March 28. New School Church at Mill Race Village. No fee. Donations accepted.

Fairy Garden Tea: 1-3:30 p.m. April 21.

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Bouchard installed as new officer for MCSA

The Major County Sheriffs of America recently installed a new group of executive officers who will serve in 2018-19. The installation occurred Feb. 14 at the MCSA winter meeting held in Washington D.C.

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard was selected as the group's vice president for governmental affairs.

He was joined by Grady Judd (president) of Polk County, Fla.; Jim McDonnell (vice president) of Los Angeles County, Calif.; Rich Stanek (vice president, homeland security) of Hennepin County, Minn.; David Mahoney (secretary) of Dane County, Wis.; Bob Gualtieri (treasurer) of Pinellas County, Fla.; and Sandra Hutchens (immediate past



Bouchard

president) of Orange County, Calif.

Vice President of the Major County Sheriffs of America." Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Los Angeles, California

The MCSA is a professional law enforcement association of elected sheriffs representing counties or parishes with 500,000 population or more, dedicated to preserving the highest integrity in law enforcement, corrections and the elected office of the sheriff. The MCSA's membership represents more than 100 million Americans and works to promote a greater understanding of strategies to address future problems and identify law enforcement challenges facing members of the organization.

RCOC invites input for regional roads plan

Have an idea about which county roads should be improved over the next 25 years? If so, the Road Commission for Oakland County, Oakland County Federal Aid Committee and the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments invite you to the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan public input meeting 3-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, at the Oakland County Executive Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Building 41 West, in Waterford. Anyone interested can offer input at any time during the meeting (you don't need to be present the entire time).

At the meeting, RCOC and SEMCOG staff will explain the 2045 regional transportation planning process, which is mandated by state and federal laws, and receive public input. There will not be a formal presentation.

The Regional Transportation Plan, which is updated every five years, is intended to be a "blueprint" for transportation planning in the region. In addition to RCOC roads, the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan also includes capacity projects on eligible roads under the jurisdiction of many Oakland County cities and villages. Federal funds can only be used on road projects listed in the plan.

A map of federal aid eligible roads in Oakland County can be found at

<http://www.rcocweb.org/DocumentCenter/View/2051>

Once RCOC has completed its 2045 road-improvement list, it will be submitted to SEMCOG for approval and will then become part of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan.

"It is critically important that the public participate in this process and help us shape Oakland County's portion of the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan," RCOC Managing Director Dennis Kolar said. "Infrastructure investment is on the national agenda in Washington, so this is a great time to share your input and we want to hear from you."

In addition to attending this public meeting, anyone can offer input into the 2045 Regional Transportation Plan via the website, email, phone call or letter. Further information and an online comment form can be found at <http://www.oaklandFAC.org/rtp>.

Emails and phone calls should be directed to RCOC's Department of Customer Services at dcsmail@rcoc.org or 877-858-4804.

Written comments can also be mailed to: Road Commission for Oakland County, Department of Planning and Environmental Concerns, 31001 Lahser Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025

All comments must be received by RCOC by March 21.

RCOC updates app to report potholes

The Road Commission for Oakland County has added a pothole-reporting option to its app providing citizens with a quick and efficient way to report the pesky holes. The app is free and can be downloaded through the Google and Apple app stores. It can be found by searching "Road Commission for Oakland County."

"RCOC is utilizing technology to provide citizens with a simple option to report road issues throughout Oakland County," RCOC board chairman Eric Wilson said. "We greatly appreciate motorists reporting issues such as potholes

and providing a variety of methods to submit concerns also makes our work more efficient."

The app also provides shortcuts to other information such as road projects, the RCOC Real-Time Traffic Map, careers, press releases, the RCOC alert center for road issues, social media links and other methods to report road issues. The app provides a shortcut to various sections of the RCOC website at www.rcocweb.org.

Road concerns can also be reported by calling 877-858-4804 or through email via dcsmail@rcoc.org.

ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY BRIEFS

Road commission announces weight restrictions

The Road Commission for Oakland County began applying seasonal spring weight restrictions to its non-all-weather roads Feb. 26. The restrictions limit the amount of weight trucks can carry on the roads and are intended to minimize damage to the roads while the ground under the roads is thawing.

Anyone wanting an update on the status of the weight restrictions can call RCOC's weight restrictions hotline at 248-858-4765.

Each spring, in accordance with state law, RCOC reduces the weight limits on its non-all-weather roads as temperatures begin to rise and the ground begins to thaw. "As the road subsurface thaws, the road's ability to carry weight is reduced," RCOC Managing Director Dennis Kolar said. "That means that a weight that wouldn't affect the road under normal conditions might now damage the road. These restrictions help to ensure that our roads last as long as possible, with as few potholes as possible."

ble."

Weight restrictions are enforced by weigh masters employed by the road commission, the state, local communities or the sheriff's department. Violation of the weight restrictions can result in a citation and fine.

David Czerniakowski, director of RCOC's Department of Customer Services, said the timing of this year's weight restrictions is fairly typical. "It is usually in late February or early March that the ground is thawing and we must apply the restrictions," he said.

A "truck operators' map" is available from the road commission that shows which roads have weight restrictions. The map is available by calling 248-858-4835 or by visiting the department's offices at the RCOC facility at 2420 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford Township (office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.).

The map is also available online at www.rcocweb.org and listings of the affected roads are posted on the website as well.

For a statewide listing, go to www.micountyroads.org.

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Local classics rev up for Autorama

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Chris Velfling's 1967 Corvette convertible and Bill Kotula's 1968 AMX represent 50 years of history, while Matt and Karri Beebe are making history — and hoping to turn heads — with twin 1968 Chevelles.

Velfling, Kotula and the Beebes are among more than four dozen area car aficionados with entries in this year's Detroit Autorama, which will feature more than 800 restored, souped-up and tricked-out classics, muscle cars, hot rod and motorcycles. The three-day show begins Friday at Detroit's Cobo Center.

Velfling of Redford Township is bringing the red Corvette Stingray once owned by his late brother Gary, who paid \$3,495 for it in 1969.

"It means a ton to me," Velfling said, adding that he is sometimes offered "ridiculous numbers" for it. "You just can't put a price tag on it."

Kotula of Chelsea owns the AMX used by legendary driver Craig Breedlove to set an endurance speed record — he covered 75 miles at more than 174 mph — in 1968. The feat was a publicity boost for American Motors Corp., which was trying to jazz up its image and compete with other muscle-car brands.

"We're going to put the car back as close as we can to its original Breedlove configuration," said Bill Deringer, an owner at Wrenchers, a Novi restoration shop where Kotula's AMX is being prepped.

The Beebes of Westland have a unique combination: fraternal-twin Chevelles, one of which Karri races at drag strips around the country.

"I like the competitiveness of it. I like the friendly atmosphere at the track," said Karri Beebe, who is known as one of the country's fastest women drag racers in her class. "We've raced all over the place."

Matt Beebe is just putting the finishing touches on his Chevelle, which was in pieces when the couple bought it in 2013. It's nearly identical to Karri's dragster, without the roll cage and other



One look at the hood tells you that a massive engine sits in the engine bay. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



After 20 years in a barn, this Corvette is a survivor. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The Corvette is an iconic American sports car. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Chris Velfling lifts the hood of his 1967 Corvette. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See AUTARAMA, Page 7A



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Cars are the stars at Cobo starting Friday

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Detroit Autorama, one of the longest-running custom car shows in the country, opens Friday at Cobo Center in Detroit.

This year's show, the 66th annual, will feature about 800 hot rods, muscle cars, classics and motorcycles, plus a Saturday afternoon appearance by racer Dale Earnhardt Jr. and an exhibit of five record-breaking vehicles that have run on the Bonneville Salt Flats.

The speedster exhibit will include Speed Demon, billed as the world's fastest piston-engine car, with a 438-mph run on the Salt Flats last year.

The "Rolling Towering Inferno Flame-Throwing Fest," two cars and a truck shooting high flames in front of Cobo, will signal the opening of Autorama at 11:45 a.m. Friday.

Autorama got its start at the University of Detroit fieldhouse as a fundraiser for the Michigan Hot Rod Association. It moved to the Michigan State Fairgrounds and the Detroit Artillery Armory before moving to Cobo, where it

has been held yearly since 1961.

Show cars from Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Life newspapers communities include Northville resident Steve Hough's 1932 Ford Roadster, a 1948 Chevrolet pickup owned by Nate Briggs of South Lyon, Canton Township resident Richard Zezawa's 1937 International pickup and a 1966 Ford Fairlane owned by Charlie and Chris Dochenetz of Livonia.

Autorama will feature a student career day Friday, when more than 3,000 students from high schools and trade schools will be able to see the show and

learn about career opportunities.

Autorama hours are noon to 10 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. Tickets at the gate are \$20 for adults and \$7 for children ages 6-12; no charge for children ages 5 and under.

Discount tickets (\$18 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12) are available at O'Reilly Auto Parts stores.

For more information, go to www.autorama.com.

Contact Matt Jachman at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

Autorama

Continued from Page 6A

safety and racing features.

"It's all updated," he said. "It's a muscle car that looks like a race car, with all the amenities of a brand-new car."

Barn-find 'Vette

Gary Velfling, who died in 2007, bought his 'Vette from Dexter Chevrolet in Detroit 49 years ago this March. "His car payment was, like, \$63 a month," said his brother Chris, who has much of the original paperwork.

Gary later served in the U.S. Navy, got married and had kids. He took the Corvette out now and then, but after it spun a main engine bearing, it sat in a barn in Howell for many years, his brother said.

"He just didn't have the time or the money" to fix it, Velfling said. The car has fewer than 25,000 original miles on it.

Velfling, a service technician at a local auto dealership, bought the car from his sister-in-law in 2010. Covered with junk, it took two hours just to unbury it, he said, and inside mice had deposited mounds of upholstery material that was — thankfully — from an old sofa that was also in the barn, not from the Corvette's seats, he said.

"It was not running," Velfling said. "There was no motor in it."

Velfling put an engine in the Corvette and worked on the brakes, suspension,

transmission and other "just normal stuff that you would do for a car that has sat for 20 years," he said.

With a new paint job, the Corvette looks very like much it did nearly 50 years ago. Even the top is original and the dashboard clock still works, Velfling points out.

"The car just runs and drives like a dream," he said.

Velfling, at age 50 born nearly a generation after his brother, said he has memories of admiring the car as a young boy, passing it when he went into the garage, at his parents' house in Detroit, to fetch his bike.

"You just can't put a price tag on it," he said "I couldn't even think of a scenario where I would let it go."

Breedlove Car No. 1

The AMX at Wrenchers in Novi is similar to the "big V-8" AMX that came off the line at the AMC plant Kenosha, Wis., in 1968, said Deringer, who worked at that factory from 1970-78. There were a few modifications for speed and the car was streamlined to minimize wind resistance, Deringer said.

Breedlove, who is now 80, was on the AMC payroll in 1968, setting records with cars the company loaned him, said Deringer, whose shop specializes in restoring and maintaining classic cars, especially those built for speed.

"AMC at the time was trying to change their image," he said.

The car, used for racing for years after AMC's successful Breedlove publicity

campaign, is called Breedlove Car No. 1.

"You can still see pictures of the car on old Champion Spark Plug advertisements," Deringer said. There was a No. 2, as well, and Breedlove used them to set records at a five-mile circular track in Texas, he said.

Kotula has owned the AMX for more than 30 years.

"It's still a very fast car," Deringer said. "It's a pretty cool car."

Like Velfling's Corvette, the AMX also had to be unburied.

According to Deringer, it was in Breedlove's garage in California years ago during a flood and got swamped with mud; there's mud packed into the frame rails to this day.

'Came with the marriage'

If you had told Karri Beebe, before she married husband Matt, that she would one day be racing cars, "I probably would've thought you were crazy," she said during a recent interview.

An accountant in her non-racing life, Karri definitely goes against type.

"I'm an avid book reader. I quilt and I play the flute, so, no, none of this is anything I would've imagined doing," she said.

Karri not only races, she helps maintain and fine-tune the Chevelle, things she hadn't imagined doing either. She gets help from Beebe Motorsports — herself, her husband and a team of friends.

They're putting back the engine, which had been taken out for maintenance

after her last race, in preparation for Autorama.

She's learned a lot and she's still learning, she said.

"It's my car, so working on it is part of the deal," she said. "Came with the marriage."

Her Chevelle is linked to what she admits is a faulty recollection of a sporty, two-door Chevelle owned by a friend's brother when she was a teenager.

When Matt asked her, years ago, what she would get if she could have any car in the world, she remembered that Chevelle. Her friend has since corrected that memory, she said.

"In reality, it was a \$500, four-door beater of a car that barely ran," she said. "It's crazy because ... I had always told (Matt) about this awesome Chevelle my friend's brother had owned."

Matt Beebe, who will be unveiling his own Chevelle for the first time, said he wants make an impression at Autorama and on the street with the twins.

"It's taken like five years to finish," he said of his car. "It's always been the plan to, when it was done, put them in there side by side."

He envisions a local drag-racing fan experiencing a sort of déjà vu when seeing Karri race.

"When they see Karri's car racing, going down the track, we're hoping people will say, 'I've seen that car driving down Ford Road last week,'" he said.

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

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New development set for West Bloomfield

A new residential development has launched in West Bloomfield, marking it as one of the first in the township in 10 years.

AP Builders, a Bloomfield Hills-based builder and developer co-founded by Steven Perlman and Pete Alshab, recently announced the opening of its newest single-family home community, The Reserve of Beverly Crest.

"We are proud to be building high-quality, beautiful homes in such a prime location as West Bloomfield Township," Perlman said. "It is a rewarding experience to lead in the creation of this new community with homes that will be known for superior style and craftsmanship in a location that is secluded, yet strategically located near popular shopping and dining areas."

The five-acre site, located near Orchard Lake and Maple roads, will feature 11 home sites nestled in a wooded setting.

Prices of the new houses start in the low \$500,000 range and will include amenities such as open concepts, gourmet kitchens and luxurious master suites, as well as many energy-saving features. The community is located on a wooded property, site of the former Orchard Valley Swim & Racquet Club.

West Bloomfield Township's master plan was revised in 2010 to include sig-



AP Builders co-founders Steven Perlman and Pete Alshab announced the opening of The Reserve of Beverly Crest.

nificant efforts to implement a more pedestrian friendly environment in the Orchard Lake and Maple corridor. When complete, it will include landscaped boulevards, benches and architecturally pleasing streetlights, styled to blend in with the recently renovated shopping

facilities in the area and more.

"We invite the public to see the latest in new, single-family residential construction," Alshab said. "Our newest community offers many impeccable housing options for all types of lifestyles. We are thrilled to be developing

high-quality homes in this vibrant area of West Bloomfield."

Perlman and Alshab combined have built more than 500 homes throughout West Bloomfield in the past 20 years. Perlman is former president of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, as well as recipient of many awards, including Michigan Community of the Year, Developer of the Year and Builder of the Year.

Perlman was a founding principal of the prestigious Ivanhoe-Huntley Homes, a land development and top five Michigan home builder that constructed thousands of homes in the Detroit area. As director of new home construction and development for Ivanhoe-Huntley Homes, Alshab oversaw the construction of dozens of new home communities. They merged their talents and established AP Builders in 2014.

AP Builders is currently completing the community of Golf Ridge of Commerce (Township) that featured 13 homes with golf course views (with two home sites remaining) and Forest Edge Reserve, as well as Forest Edge North, located in Northville.

The West Bloomfield and Northville information centers are open from noon to 5 p.m. Thursday to Sunday. For more information, go to <http://www.apbuilders.com>.

Wayne police investigating case of decapitated coyote

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Police in Wayne are investigating a possible animal cruelty case where officers discovered a decapitated coyote body last month.

Police were called the evening of Feb. 2 to the intersection of Glover and Wayne roads on the report of a dog that was laying near in the northeast portion of the intersection with its head cut off. There, police found the animal without a head.

Officers could not locate the head in the nearby area and there was no blood

or cutting instruments nearby. The animal appeared to have open sores on its body and was missing fur along its tail and stomach. The body was frozen.

The remains were taken to an animal shelter, where the animal was determined to be a coyote, not a dog, after testing was done on its remains.

Lt. Ryan Strong of the Wayne Police Department said it's certainly an unusual sight to see in Wayne. If it is determined the coyote was decapitated maliciously, officers could open a criminal investigation.

"Then absolutely we would pursue criminal charges," he said.

Coyotes have been seen all over

southeast Michigan and have been spotted in communities such as Canton, Wayne, Livonia, Southfield and Royal Oak. Coyotes will typically not cause a threat to humans, according to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' website, though can be considered dangerous if they are fed by humans and get accustomed to people.

The DNR recommends the following when dealing with coyotes:

- Never approach or touch a coyote
- Never intentionally feed a coyote
- Eliminate all outside food sources
- Put garbage out the morning of pickup day
- Clear out wood and brush piles;

they are good habitat for rats and mice and may attract coyotes

■ Good husbandry practices, guard animals and coyote control measures can help to protect livestock

■ Do not allow pets to roam free when coyotes are present. Consider keeping pets indoors or accompany them outside, especially at night

Messages left with the DNR asking questions regarding the found coyote in Wayne were not returned.

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

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St. Mary School in Wayne closing in June

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Add one more area Catholic school that will close its doors at the end of the school year in June.

St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., in Wayne announced in a letter to parents last month it would close at the end of the academic year.

The school, which has operated since 1925, cited a decline in enrollment and budgetary issues as the reasons behind the announced closure by the Archdiocese of Detroit. A letter was sent to parents Friday from the school and was provided by the archdiocese.

"The parish carries a debt of almost \$5 million, much of which dates back over many years," wrote Bishop Walter Hurley, an administrator at the school. "It has become clear with the data available that it is not responsible to accept registrations for the 2018-19 school year. Without a continued, substantial infusion of outside resources, the school is simply unable to open its doors."

The letter from Hurley indicates enrollment at the K-8 school is 122 for the current school year. That's down from 157 students in the 2016-17 school year and 243 in the 2010-11 school year. Several grades, including kindergarten, first and sixth, have fewer than 10 students enrolled.

The school projects it would only have between 110 and 113 students in the 2018-19 school year if it were to remain open. Costs for the school were also expected to increase by \$1,000 per child next year, going from \$5,900 to \$6,900 per student. Currently, tuition for one child enrolled at the school is \$4,470 and \$5,200 for students out of parish.

Principal Kathy Sparks wrote in a letter distributed to parents she was thankful for parents and teachers that supported the school, especially in recent years.

"I know many of us were filled with hope during recent years, as we worked to create a positive Catholic culture and a challenging academic program," she said. "I am grateful for the support and



St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne. The K-8 school, which has operated since 1925, announced it would close at the end of this school year. The church will remain open. FILE PHOTO

dedication among teachers, parents, students and parishioners who have worked hard to promote the school.

"As we are disappointed with this decision, and have a deep sense of loss, we must rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance and strength to move us forward."

St. Mary Catholic School has operated since 1925. St. Mary High School operated for 24 years, closing in 1971, according to the school's website. At one point in the 1960s, the schools had an enrollment of more than 1,000 students.

St. Mary joins another Catholic school in western Wayne County that will close later this year. Ladywood High School in Livonia is scheduled to close in June, though there are some parents and alumnae hoping to save the site and keep it operating as a Catholic high school next year.

Hurley wrote in his letter to parents he requested the authority to close the school from the archdiocese after reviewing the situation. Doing so, he said, is never an easy decision to come to.

"Decisions such as these are never easy. In fact these are painful decisions," Hurley wrote. "In a spirit of faith, we must look to a future guided by the Spirit, recognizing that the Lord journeys with us. Please join me in praying for our entire school and parish community, as we walk together through this difficult time."

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

Area man turns lentils into crunchy snack

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

James Atto lives in Birmingham, but spends most days as "mayor" of the crunchy, salty, and savory-flavored realm known as Lentil Land.

"Self-appointed. There's no voting for that," Atto said with a laugh. "People ask me how's it going and I say, 'It's busy in Lentil Land.' My life revolves around lentils, so I consider everything I do in life is Lentil Land. That's my livelihood right now."

Atto reigns over the roasted lentil section of the snack food aisle in more than 100 stores in Michigan. He's the founder and creator of ROSTED Crunchy Lentils, a roasted lentil snack made by his company, Simple Supply Foods. Gluten-free and made with just three ingredients, lentils, olive oil and spice, ROSTED Crunchy Lentils can be eaten out of the bag as a snack, used as a topping or mixed into other foods.

As National Snack Food Month, which was February, comes to a close, Atto talked about reinventing this soup-staple legume.

Q: Are you a snack food lover?

A: I like crunchy, tasty snacks that are strong in flavor. I love snacking and I am guilty as anyone about eating all the wrong food, chips and pretzels, and I decided to try and change it up. The only way it's meant to even loosely resemble junk food is the good strong flavor and crunch.

Q: Is it easy to convince snack food lovers to try roasted lentils?

A: It's not an easy pitch as you might think. The core of our entire marketing strategy has been sampling at events, demos at the grocery stores that we're in, sampling the product so they know what it is. The average snack consumer eating Doritos and pretzel pieces might not even sample it. It can be tough to get people to try something new in general, whether it's healthy or not.

Q: When did you start your business?

A: I want to say it was 2013-14 when I first came up with it. I tried making roasted lentils several times and I kept failing. Before I actually nailed it down, I gave up because I kept burning them or



Get your roasted lentils from James Atto, seen here at Western Market, in Ferndale. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"People ask me how's it going and I say, 'It's busy in Lentil Land.' My life revolves around lentils, so I consider everything I do in life is Lentil Land."

James Atto

it wasn't the temperature I wanted. Then I went to buy it because I was so sure someone had already created this product. I searched for several months and could not find anything like it, so I said maybe I should give this another try. I went back to the drawing board and got it how I envisioned it.

Q: Were you working under Michigan's cottage food law?

A: Yes. We started making a couple of pounds at a time at home. Then we were fortunate enough to be connected with a food incubator kitchen program that Eastern Market sponsored. That was held at the Garden Fresh kitchen in Ferndale. I started doing 40- and 50-pound bags. We did that for less than a year and then Campbell's acquired Garden Fresh and we lost access to that kitchen. We moved to Forgotten Harvest in Oak Park. They were providing production services for food entrepreneurs. That program was shut down ... we had a temporary place in Traverse City and that was shut down. We were really scrambling. We found this really professional, high-capability, high-volume facility in Battle Creek. Now we're doing 2,000-pound batches at a time.

Q: Were you working with lentils full time?

A: I still had my full-time job at the time. I was a customer service director

at CrowdRise. When I got laid off, I pursued entrepreneurship full time.

Q: Are you working on other forms of snack foods or other uses for lentils?

A: We really want to establish ourselves as the first to do this product, the crunchy lentils, because no one else does it. We're experimenting in terms of (research and development), but we want to keep our focus where it is, growing the brand and the product. We have a semi-sweet flavor we've developed, but we can't launch it because we're small and we don't have a lot of financial backing. One thing we are looking for is some potential investors and equity partners that will help us grow, because it's really hard to do when you are just funding it yourself. One of the things I'd like to do, and I can't figure it out yet because I'm not a culinary wizard, is trying to make a lentil cluster.

Q: Are lentils profitable?

A: We sold \$100,000 last year, which was my goal. Now, were we profitable? No. But hey, that was the goal, to get into 100 stores and sell 100 grand.

Q: Before lentils, were you a working musician?

A: Yes, I used to be a singer-songwriter. I played eclectic rock. It was something I did for 10 years out of college. I put out three CDs. Once I got into my 30s, I said it's about time I settle down and find a real job. I worked for GM and then for CrowdRise. Sadly, because I'm so busy, I barely get a chance to pick up the guitar anymore.

Q: Have you ever written a song about lentils?

A: No one has ever asked me that. Most people in my lentil life don't even know I play music. I wouldn't rule out the possibility of writing a jingle. Who better to write it than me, right?

Try ROSTED Crunchy Lentils 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Eastern Market in Detroit. Atto and his product also will be at V313, Detroit's premier Vegan Celebration, 3-9 p.m. Thursday, March 8, at Eastern Market, and at VegFest from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Contact Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Seedlings to hold benefit bowling event

You can give a blind child the gift of literacy by donating to or bowling in Seedlings Braille Books for Children's 31st annual Bowling for Braille Books event March 10 at Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Road. Check-in starts at noon; bowling begins at 1 p.m.

The Livonia nonprofit aims to place 6,000 braille books into the hands of blind children by raising \$60,000 at its biggest fundraiser of the year. To make a donation or register to bowl, go to <https://www.firstgiving.com/seedlings-braille/31st-annual-bowling-for-braille-books>.

Braille literacy is key to a successful, independent life for those who are blind and visually impaired. According to the National Federation of the Blind, blind adults fluent in braille have an 80-percent chance of being employed, compared to a 20-percent chance if they are not.

"Braille books are rare and expensive, sometimes costing more than \$100 each. For every 100 books a sighted child has, a blind child may have just five," Seedlings founder/director Debra Bonde said. "How can a child learn to read without books?"

Seedlings gives nearly 50 percent of its books free to blind children all over the world. The other 50 percent are sold for an average price of only \$10 a book.

Dave Rexroth, chief meteorologist at WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), who lost his left eye in a fireworks accident in 2014, will return as the event's celebrity bowler for the fourth year in a row. Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright will lead attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance before bowling begins and assist in the raffle drawings.

Bowlers are encouraged to register by March 1 so lane assignments can be made. The minimum pledge amount of \$65 includes three games of bowling, shoe rental, T-shirt, goody bag, lunch and one free raffle ticket. You may also attend the event just to bid on auction items donated by area businesses. There will also be raffle drawings. Tickets are \$1 for one, \$5 for six or \$20 for 25.

Headlining sponsors are Alpha USA;



Dave Rexroth, chief meteorologist at WXYZ-TV (Channel 7), who lost an eye in a fireworks accident, will return as celebrity bowler. He is pictured here holding braille reader Avery.



Seedlings produces and distributes free and low-cost braille books to blind children like Layla in 75 countries all over the world.

Bill Brown Ford; Cancillari Construction Inc.; Financial & Portfolio Advisors, Ltd.; Livonia Builders; MASCO, Plymouth Lions; and Valassis.

For more information, go to www.seedlings.org or contact Karen Smith at 734-427-8552, ext. 301, or Seedlink7@ameritech.net.

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Potholes

Continued from Page 1A

up, that's usually when the potholes start popping up," said Ron Hoolihan, a crew leader for the Road Commission for Oakland County, who works out of the garage along Franklin Road in Southfield. "We know we're either going to be patching or plowing snow from December to the beginning of April."

That was the scene earlier this month, as highway maintenance workers Daimon Parker of Oak Park and Alan Beyer of Waterford worked their way east along 10 Mile Road, between Evergreen and Southfield, in Southfield. That was their assigned location Feb. 14, though they could be assigned to fill potholes anywhere between Eight Mile and 14 Mile and Coolidge and Novi roads, one of the most densely populated parts of Oakland County. And plenty of the roads along its southern border are in bad shape.

In fact, potholes have cropped up all across the region earlier than expected. Both Wayne and Oakland counties have reported using more material and manpower to fill potholes earlier this season than previous years. The cause? Dramatic swings in temperatures that form potholes on roads such as Interstate 275, Middlebelt and 10 Mile, to name just a few.

Parker, who's worked at the RCOC the past six months, said their assignment that day was to travel along 10 Mile Road, east toward Greenfield, before making their way back toward Evergreen, a round trip of about four miles.

The procession is slow, with one driving a pickup truck pulling the trailer full of cold patch, another worker walking right behind to spot those "tire-eating" potholes, then a larger county truck behind them to flatten and solidify the cold patch after it fills the hole.

"Once he drives over it, it packs it down," Parker said. "Then the excess stuff comes off and it'll fly."

'I could actually lay down in one'

Throwing his arm up whenever he saw a pothole in need of filling, Parker would then grab his shovel and get to work, scooping up cold patch and dropping it into craters that would make the moon blush. After scraping the excess patch and dropping that into another



The road is a little smoother, for now. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

hole or crevasse that needs filling, the process would begin again.

This is how a day filling potholes goes, unless they get called out to fill a pothole that's big enough to draw a motorist complaint. While those happen, Parker said they'll only get called out to such a pothole perhaps three times a week.

While he's been on the job only a few months, Parker said the largest pothole he's seen came just down the road at the intersection of 10 Mile, Evergreen and Northwestern Highway.

"It was just one and it was real bad," he said. "We were actually working on 12 Mile in Novi (and had to come back)."

But the potholes aren't limited to the eastern side of the county. That stretch of road in Novi, especially near the 12 Mile and Novi roads intersection, has seen better days. Hoolihan said crews were just recently out filling potholes that had gotten so bad, it took several trailers of cold patch to do.

An average crew will use three to six tons of cold patch a day. That intersec-

tion alone, Hoolihan said, used up nearly double that.

"We put about six or eight tons of material down there," he said. "I know it's usually bad, but I was amazed when we got out there."

The worst area, according to 10-year highway maintenance worker Frank Pena, was Greenfield, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile. There, crews would fill that stretch of roadway on a regular basis before it was repaired.

"We were there every single day," he said. "I could actually lay down in one of these holes."

Busy season

It's been quite busy in recent weeks between the snowfall and patching, especially for Beyer, who just begun working for the road commission three weeks earlier.

Beyer, who recently left the U.S. Air Force after serving about five years and joined the RCOC, said the work is a nice break from doing the same thing all the

time, something he experienced as a mechanic while in the service.

"There's always something different every day," he said. "I was an aircraft mechanic, so every day was the same."

The road maintenance work, while it can be taxing, has benefited Parker in other ways. Picking up the skills he's learned out of the RCOC garage, he's applied some of that to work around his house.

"So far, it's helped me at home do different things," he said. "Where I would probably pay somebody, I don't do that anymore. I pick it up and at least try first before I need to get it serviced."

Those who need to report a pothole on Oakland County roads can do so by calling 877-858-4804 or filing a complaint online at rcocweb.com. Potholes in Wayne County can be reported by calling 888-762-3273 or online at waynecounty.com.

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



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Bakowski honored as February's featured veteran

Robert (Bob) Bakowski, a Vietnam War veteran from Canton, was honored as the February 2018 Veteran of the Month by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Bakowski served in the U.S. Army from 1965-68. He was born and raised in Lackawanna, N.Y. He graduated from Lackawanna High School as the war in Vietnam was escalating. In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson called for 50,000 more ground troops to be sent to Vietnam, increasing the draft to 35,000 each month. Bakowski was watching the news in August 1965 as 5,500 marines made the first major offensive in Vietnam known as Operation Starlite or the Battle of Van Tuong. This was the first major offensive regimental size action conducted by a purely U.S. military unit during the Vietnam War.

At the same time, the 1st Cavalry Division was arriving and began using helicopters in combat. Bakowski was 19 and decided it was time to get involved. As a child, he would play army games and always envisioned himself as a paratrooper, like his uncle, so he went down to the recruitment office and enlisted in the U.S. Army.

In December 1965, he was sent to Fort Dix, N.J., for eight weeks of boot camp and then to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., for eight weeks of training. Bakowski had taken a lot of high school classes in industrial arts and, as a result, was assigned as a combat engineer. He let it be known that he had always wanted to be a paratrooper and was surprised when they told him his request had been granted.

He was sent to Ft. Benning, Ga., for four weeks of training as a paratrooper. His next stop, June 7, 1966, he landed in Vietnam just outside of Saigon. He was then sent to Camp Radcliff in the An Khe District of central Vietnam for three weeks of combat training. "We spent the first week learning air assault tactics," he said. "We did a lot of repelling from towers to mimic repelling from helicopters, then more specific combat training."

Bakowski was assigned to the 1st Air Cavalry, 8th Engineering Battalion, A Company, 1st Platoon. His specialty was demolition. Many times he would be sent out with two other engineers to heavily wooded areas to clear the trees so helicopters could land and bring in troops as a temporary base for defense and offense.

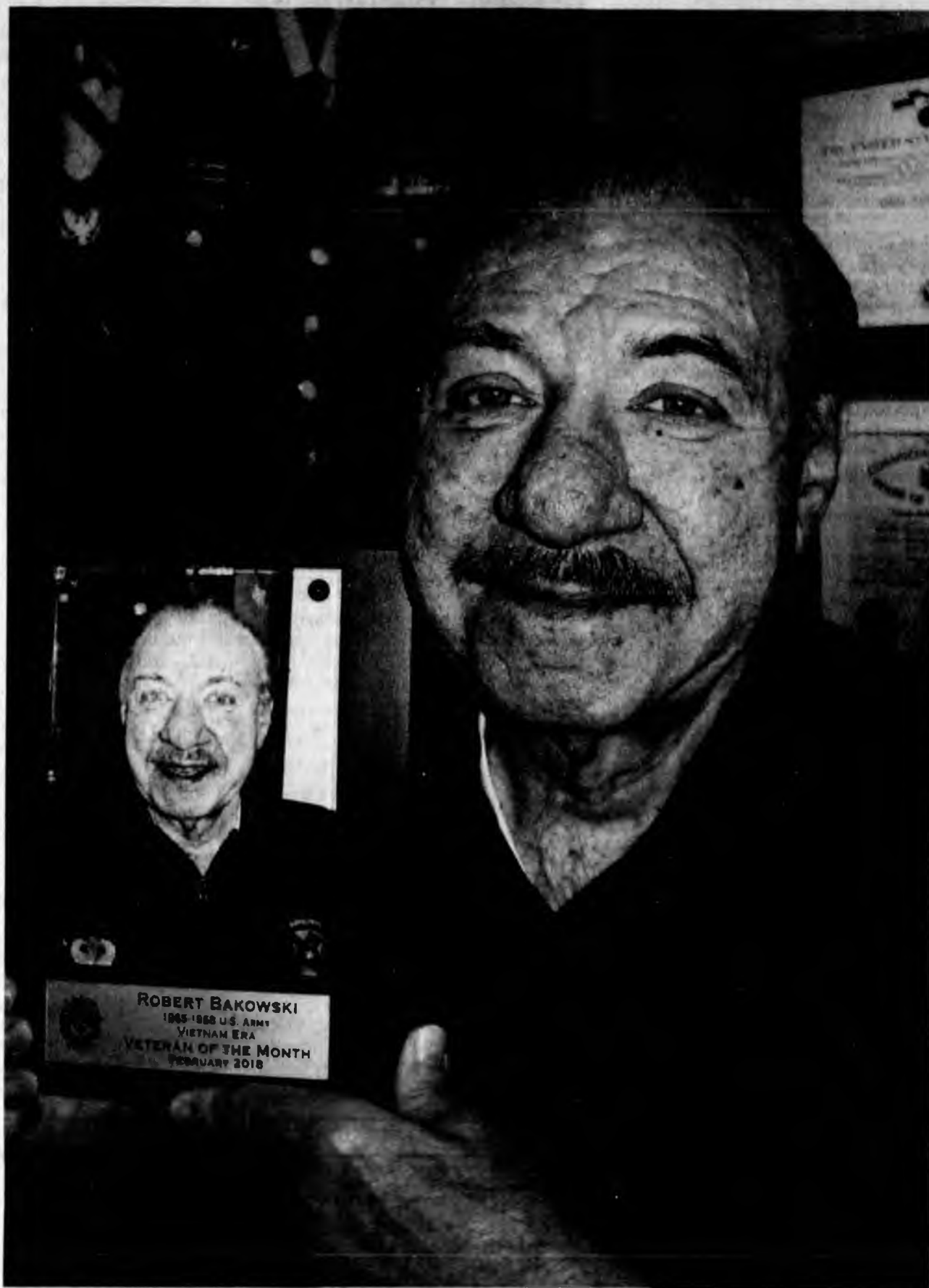
"We were always the first ones on the ground and never knew what we would run into," he said. "We always had to keep on guard. We also had to go into these areas after they were treated with Agent Orange. We had no idea on how it would affect us later in life."

Bakowski was involved in many skirmishes, during which they blew up bridges and tunnels and cleared forest area. "Sometimes we would go for a month or two with no action, then for the next few weeks, there would be no let-up," he said.

When asked if he lost any buddies during his time there, Bakowski lowered his head and said, "Yes, I did." One year from the day he set foot in Vietnam, he boarded a plane for the U.S. "I remember when I got down to a few days before shipping out, I would walk behind other soldiers in their footsteps to make sure I didn't step on something," he said. "I was ready to go home."

He was then sent for nine months to Fort Bragg, N.C., where he was involved in an experimental program to build temporary airstrips. Their goal was to helicopter a crew into a place and build a landing strip capable of handling small planes within 24 hours, transport planes within 48 hours and jets within three days. Bakowski was then sent to Anderson Army Base in Dexheim, Germany, for eight months. In June 1968, Bakowski was sent back to Fort Hamilton, N.J., where he was discharged.

Bakowski went back to his hometown of Lackawanna and civilian life. He met his wife Irene in 1971 and they were married in 1973. Bakowski took a civil service test for the Federal Protection Service and was hired and sent to Albany, N.Y. He was promoted to supervisor and spent four years there. He was then sent to Southern California for five years before being transferred to the Detroit Border Patrol Sector as a border patrol agent in 1982.



Robert Bakowski of Canton is the Veteran of the Month for February at the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32.

"We always had to keep on guard. We also had to go into these areas after they were treated with Agent Orange. We had no idea on how it would affect us later in life."

Robert Bakowski
Vietnam War veteran

der patrol agent in 1982.

He worked his way up to intelligence agent then agent in charge of the Trenton and Grand Rapids office. Bakowski retired in 1999 as assistant chief patrol agent at the Detroit Sector of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Headquarters at Selfridge Air Na-

tional Guard Base. Bob and Irene bought their home in Canton when he was transferred to Detroit and have lived there since. They have a daughter and a son and four granddaughters. He is a long time member of Post 32 in Livonia and has served the past 19 years as the post Santa for the Christmas party.

Bakowski was interviewed by members of S.A.L. and a DVD was made of the interview and shown at the S.A.L. February membership meeting. He and his daughter's family were also present at the meeting. A plaque was presented to him from Livonia Trophy with his picture and service information. An additional plaque was also put on display in the vestibule of the American Legion Hall. The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend their monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month. The public is also encouraged to nominate veterans to be honored at its meetings. Nomination forms can be picked up at the American Legion Hall, 9318 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48150.



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AREA EVENTS

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

AAUW members to read in March

The American Association of University Women-Northville Novi affiliate will celebrate both National Reading Month and National Women's History Month by reading to Northville and Novi K-5 students in March. Member volunteers will read from age-appropriate biographies about women.

To learn more about AAUW-NN, go to www.aauwnn.org.

Spaghetti dinner

The Milford Senior Center, 1050 Atlantic Street, will hold its next spaghetti dinner 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, March 2. Menu includes homemade meat or marinara spaghetti sauce, garlic bread, salad, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$7. Proceeds benefit the Milford Senior Center.

For more information, call Nancy Hinzmann, Milford Senior Center director, at 248-685-9008.

Spring dinner and silent auction

The Milford United Methodist Church, 1200 Atlantic Street, will host its spring dinner and silent auction 4:30-7 p.m. Saturday, March 3. The menu features baked or breaded chicken, potato, vegetable, salad bar, beverage and dessert. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors; children age 5 and under a free.

This event supports the various local and global missions of Milford United Methodist Church, including youth mission trips, United Methodist Children's Home, Campus Ministry at the University of Michigan, Methodist Church of Haiti, clean water projects and Melissa's Hope Orphanage in Haiti.

For more information, call 248-684-2798.

Art House members' exhibition

The Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady Street, announces the 12th annual members' exhibition, showcasing the talents of current member artists through original works of art created in a variety of media and styles. The exhibi-



The Huron Valley Council for the Arts will present *Compañeros de Flamenco* at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11.

tion opens with a reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, March 2, and runs through Saturday, March 24, during Art House hours: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Admission to Art House exhibits is free and open to the public. For more information, call 248-344-0497 or go to www.northvillearthhouse.org.

NYA bowling fundraiser

The Novi Youth Assistance will hold its 36th annual bowling fundraiser 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Road. Check-in is at noon and cost is \$25 per bowler for two games and shoe rental, along with a sub sandwich.

A lane sponsorship costs \$100, while a corporate sponsor can name a lane for \$500 (includes four bowlers and a banner with company name). There will also be a mystery game, a 50/50 drawing and other raffles. Funds raised will be used for the NYA summer teen center camp.

To register a team or for information regarding sponsorship, call 248-347-0410 or go to www.cityofnovi.org.

The NYA will also be holding a benefit raffle, with the winning ticket to be drawn during the bowling fundraiser. Top prize includes four one-day Disney World Park Hopper Passes (\$650), a

Disney gift card (\$600) and a Visa gift card (\$300) for a total value of \$1,550. Tickets are \$20 and the raffle will be limited to 250 tickets. Tickets are available at the NYA office or by calling 248-347-0413. Winner need not be present at the drawing.

Strike Out Hunger fundraiser

Active Faith of South Lyon is holding its annual Strike Out Hunger bowling fundraiser 1-3 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at Pinz Bowling Center, 700 N. Lafayette, in South Lyon. The cost is \$100 per lane for up to five bowlers. The price includes a large pizza, soft drinks and bowling shoes. Walk-ins are welcome.

To sign-up or get more information, call 248-437-9790.

Death and Dying series

St. George's Episcopal Church, 801 E. Commerce St., in Milford is offering a Lenten series that is open and free to the community called Death and Dying: The Practicality and Spirituality of the End of Life. The program begins at noon and will run for about an hour each Sunday during Lent through March 18.

Each session will be facilitated by professionals from a variety of disciplines, including a funeral director, a priest, a hospice chaplain, a financial adviser and an attorney. You may decide to sign up for the whole series or decide to attend sessions that interest you most. The schedule:

■ March 4 – Hospice and spirituality (the Rev. Deacon Jenny Ritter, Angela Hospice)

■ March 11 – Financial matters (Thomas Forbes, Morgan Stanley)

■ March 18 – Estate planning and other legal affairs (Ralph A. Castelli Jr., Kemp Klein Law Firm)

To sign up or for any questions, call 248-684-0495 or email office@stgeorgesmilford.org.

Northville pre-K open houses

The Northville Public Schools district's Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs will hold their pre-K parent open houses 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at each of the four pre-K locations: Main Street School, Ridge Wood Elementary, Thornton Creek Elementary and Winchester Elementary.

The open houses are intended for potential new families (parents/guardians only) to visit classrooms, meet Early Childhood staff and learn more about programs. Call 248-344-3518 to register.

Northville Newcomers and Neighbors

The Northville Newcomers and Neighbors group will host a meet and greet meeting, for those new to the community or just wishing to catch up with old friends. It is scheduled for 10-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 6. Host is Jann Cantelon; RSVP to janicecantelon@aol.com.

Country Garden Club

The Country Garden Club of Northville will hold its next meeting at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 7, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road. There will be a speaker from Leigh-French's Flower Shop discussing unique flower arranging.

Guests are welcome. There is no charge and light snacks will be served. For more information, call Sheryl Signorelli at 248-202-1518.

Vaping 101 at Novi High School

Novi High School officials will host a special presentation about vaping and electronic cigarettes 6-7 p.m. Thursday, March 8, in the school's Fuerst Auditorium, 24062 Taft Road. The Substance Abuse Education and Support team from St. Joseph Mercy Health System will moderate the presentation titled, Vaping 101: What's Important to Know.

The event is intended to be an informative and educational program for adults with their adolescents to learn the facts about vaping. Attendees will learn three things: what a vape is and how it is used; what are the effects of its use; and what are the legal issues surrounding vaping. At Novi High School, the use of and or possession of e-cigarettes/vapes is a violation of the Novi Community School District's code of conduct and is subject to a disciplinary consequence of suspension from school.

The presentation is open to all in the community. Registration is not required.

Health care lecture

Providence Park Hospital will pre-

sent a lecture 9:30-10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 8, on mindfulness, which is meant to not only relieve stress, but also benefit physical health. It can help lower blood pressure, reduce chronic pain and improve sleep. Presenter is Dr. Harold Schubiner, M.D., internal medicine.

The lecture will take place at the Novi Campus, 47601 Grand River Ave., Conference Rooms A & B, in the Outpatient Building.

Crawford to host coffee hour

State Rep. Kathy Crawford, R-Nowi, invites local residents to attend Coffee with Crawford 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 8, at No. VI Coffee & Tea, 47490 Grand River Ave., Novi.

No appointment is necessary. Residents who are unable to meet during the scheduled times listed may contact her Lansing office at 517-373-0827 or email KathyCrawford@house.mi.gov.

Evenings in the Garden

MSU Tollgate Farm will again present its Evenings in the Garden program this season. Cost is \$20 each. The final class 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 8, in the conference center at MSU Tollgate Farm in Novi. Guest speaker is Steven Nikkila – Secret to Beautiful Gardens: Not the Green Thumb but the Right Tools.

Advance registration is required. For more information and to register, go to <https://events.anr.msu.edu/evenings18> winter/. MSU Extension Tollgate Farm & Education Center is at 2815 Meadowbrook Road.

AAUW meetings

The American Association of University Women-Northville Novi affiliate exists to promote equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. The group has a general meeting scheduled with enriching presentations:

■ Friday, March 9: Learn about the Walled Lake Casino where Detroiters once came to dance

For meeting details and reservations, send an email to rlryork03@gmail.com. For information about AAUW-NN and membership, go to www.aauwnn.org.

Poetry Art Night at SHAC

The Village Fine Arts Association invites the public to an evening of art, poetry readings and live music at its 26th annual Poetry Art Night Celebration 6-9 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Suzanne Haskew Art Center, 125 S. Main Street, Suite 700, in Milford. This exhibit pairs original art and poetry that is judged for awards, including a people's choice award that everyone can vote for. Open to the public and free of charge, donations are welcome.

Finger food and beverages will be served and all proceeds benefit programs of the VFPA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The exhibit will also be open through April 24 during SHAC hours. For more information, email contactus@milfordvfaa.org or call 248-797-3060.

Northville Art House young artist fair

The Northville Art House will present its second annual Young Artist Juried Art Fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main Street. More than 30 young artists, in grades 2-12, will showcase their diverse talents and be selling their original artwork. Featured work will include acrylics and watercolor paintings, photography, illustrations and drawing, sculpture, jewelry, fiber art and more.

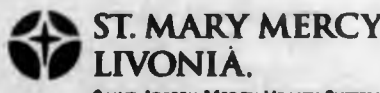
Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase to support the First Presbyterian Youth Group's mission trip to Puerto Rico this July. Suggested donation is \$3 at the door. Children under age 12 get in free.

For more information, call 248-344-0497 or go to www.northvillearthhouse.org.

Flamenco concert at HVCA


The Huron Valley Council for the Arts will present *Compañeros de Flamenco* at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11, guitarist featuring Bill Doub and dancers Holly Matthews and Michelle Millman and showcasing the exciting, rich musical history of Flamenco Espana.

The concert will be held at 205 W. Livingston Road in Highland and also features visual works from local artists. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by visiting the HVCA, by calling 248-889-8660 1-5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday or 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, at Main Street Art, 432 N. Main Street, in Milford or at www.huronvalleyarts.org.



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Jay and Linnea Young on Mt. Etna.



A view of Byzantine mosaics in the nave of the 12th century Norman cathedral in the hillside town of Monreale, near Palermo. The hand of the Christ figure is six feet tall. JAY YOUNG



The most famous structure of the Valley of the Temples near Agrigento and one of the world's best-preserved Doric temples is the Greek Temple of Concordia. JAY YOUNG

Sicily: Land of landscapes and timeless traditions

Jay Young
Special to HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Sicily, the triangular "rock" kicked by the "boot" of Italy, is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. Long known for its association with the Mafia made famous by the movie "The Godfather," Sicily is much, much more as we discovered on a recent two-week trip with Overseas Adventure Travel.

The earliest archaeological evidence of human activity on Sicily dates from as early as 12,000 B.C.E., but the island has experienced waves of conquerors, beginning around 750 B.C.E. with the Phoenicians and Greeks.

They were followed by Romans, Carthaginians, Byzantines, Normans, French and Spanish Bourbons and more. As a result of all these invaders, Sicily enjoys a rich and unique culture with regard to art, music, literature, cuisine and architecture and is home to some of the most important archaeological sites in the world. Sicily eventually became part of Italy in 1860, during the Italian unification campaign led by Giuseppe Garibaldi, whose name is on street signs and piazzas across the island.

We started our adventure in Palermo, the island's capital and largest city, located on the northwest coast of this semi-autonomous region of Italy. The city consists of an eclectic mix of architectural styles, but the 17th and 18th century Baroque period has left the most visible mark on Palermo's civic and religious structures. Intense rebuilding after heavy bombing during World War II has also contributed to the city's chaotic beauty. Palermo is replete with fascinating museums, medieval churches, Byzantine mosaics, a huge opera house, bustling street markets and a creepy catacomb filled with mummified cadavers.

From Palermo, we traveled to Sicily's northern coast to visit Castelbuono, a medieval settlement which boasts an imposing 14th century castle, complete with battlements and towers overlooking the town. We continued to the former fishing village of Cefalù, which takes its name from the Greek word meaning "cape." It is nestled between a natural bay and a towering granite cliff called La Rocca.

Today, the fishing industry has largely disappeared, but the town has remade itself into a tourist destina-

tion that features a Romanesque cathedral built in 1131 for the Norman King Roger II. On the day we visited, the cathedral was filled with flowers for an elaborate wedding, complete with a nervous groom anxiously awaiting the arrival of his bride on the front steps.

One of the trip's highlights was an amazing display of Byzantine art in the 12th century Norman Cathedral of Monreale, in the hills overlooking Palermo. Nearly every surface in the cathedral was covered with intricately-detailed mosaics depicting scenes in rich colors and gold filigree. Our guide said the hundreds of craftsmen who created this incredible artwork sought to relay scenes from the Old and New Testaments, since parishioners were largely illiterate at that time.

We continued southward to Segesta, a region that was home to the ancient Elymians, one of Sicily's indigenous populations. As a reminder of Segesta's ancient Greek heritage, the columns of a beautifully preserved unfinished Doric temple stood proudly at a majestic hilltop location.

Guardino di Costanza, a resort outside the city of Mazara, was our base for the next three days as we visited this city, home to about 3,000 Tunisians who migrated here in the 1950s. We walked through its historic Kasbah quarter and visited a museum built to house the bronze statue of the "Dancing Satyr," dredged up by area fishermen in 1998 after lying on the seabed for 2,000 years.

The next day, we visited the Museo del Sale, a salt museum that describes the age-old tradition of salt production and refining that characterizes this area. Embarking on a boat ride to Mothya Island, settled by Phoenicians some 2,700 years ago, we viewed the remains of their island fortress. Our day concluded with a tasting of the famous wines of the Marsala vineyards.

Our journey continued along Sicily's southern coast to the Valley of Temples, situated outside the city of Agrigento. This is the site of one of the most culturally advanced cities of ancient times, with the stunning archaeological remains of eight Greek temples built between 510 and 430 B.C.E.

Our next stop was Villa Romana del Casale, the extraordinary ruins of a Roman villa, built in the fourth century A.D. as a hunting lodge. It was covered by a landslide in the 12th century, which helped preserve some of the finest examples of Roman mosaics in all of

Europe and contributed to its designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

We journeyed next to Ragusa, one of Sicily's best-preserved old towns. Built on the side of a cliff following an earthquake in 1693 that leveled the original site at the bottom of a gorge, the two sections became one in 1926. Today, a jumble of homes and churches cling to the walls of a steep ravine that once divided the city. The Duomo de San Giorgio dominates the city's piazza.

Perhaps the highlight of the trip was a day spent with a Sicilian family on their farm near Ragusa. We participated as they demonstrated some of the culinary traditions that make Sicily famous, including how to make delicious bread from scratch in a wood-fired oven. We concluded our visit by enjoying an authentic Sicilian lunch provided by our gracious hosts.

Nearing the end of our journey, we visited Syracuse, the birthplace of the famed mathematician Archimedes and once one of the most powerful ports of the ancient world. At 2,700 years old, Syracuse boasts a rich and storied history, exemplified by the Temple of Apollo and the Piazza del Duomo, the beautiful pedestrian square that serves as the heart of the city.

Our final stop was the city of Catania, the second largest in Sicily. While there, we visited a World War II museum dedicated to the Allied landing on the southern coast of the island and built on reclaimed land that once housed sulfur factories. From Catania, we took a day trip to Taormina, the home of a Greco-Roman theater that is one of the most highly regarded ancient sites in Sicily.

Our final day was spent touring the northern slope of nearby Mt. Etna, the tallest active volcano in Europe and the highest mountain in Italy south of the Alps, at more than 10,000 feet. Its rich volcanic soil brings abundant vineyards and orchards to Etna's slopes and quaint alpine villages.

With 3,000 years of history, ancient ruins, elegant architecture, gastronomic delights and friendly people, Sicily is truly a wonderful place of ancient landscapes and timeless traditions.

Jay Young is a retired Livonia Public Schools district staff member. He and his wife have traveled to several countries and provided insight into those trips. He can be reached at jyoungmi@comcast.net.

Zeal Credit Union seeks nominations for Hard Working Spirit Awards

Do you know someone who deserves special recognition for all the hard work they do?

Whether it's someone who works long hours, volunteers time to help those in need, is an unsung hero and more, Zeal Credit Union invites you to nominate the individual online at www.HardWorkingSpiritAwards.com.

"As the credit union for hard-working Americans, Zeal knows that hard work is not often recognized," said Lisa Fawcett, chief marketing officer for Zeal Credit Union. "Last year, we created the Hard Working Spirit Awards to celebrate people who go the extra

mile. There were so many heartwarming stories that we realized how important these awards are."

The deadline to submit a nomination is Wednesday, March 14. The winner does not need to be a member of Zeal Credit Union.

A winner will be selected from each of eight categories, including skilled trades, medical, office, service industry, civil service, education, unsung hero and community superstar.

Winners will receive special recognition and a \$100 VISA gift card Friday, March 23, at Zeal Credit Union's 63rd annual meeting at the Dearborn Inn. In addition,

one lucky winner will be named the Hardest Working Member for 2018 and receive a \$1,000 grand prize.

Regina Lee, winner of last year's Hardest Working Member award, was nominated by her daughter Rogi Banks, who is pursuing a doctorate at Howard University in school psychology. Banks described the sacrifices her mother had made for her, her siblings and cousins that enabled them to have what she never had growing up.

For more information about Zeal Credit Union, go to www.ZealCreditUnion.org or call 800-321-8570.

Pictured Rocks latest park featured on quarter

Kathleen Gray
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Check your pockets and change purse.

Those quarters weighing you down could bear a striking resemblance to a famous Michigan landmark.

The iconic Chapel Rock and the white pine sprouting from it at Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the Upper Peninsula is the latest national treasure to be featured on the U.S. quarter. It's the 41st of 56 scenes from national parks around the country to be featured on the coin.

While the U.S. Mint has already put the Michigan version of the quarter into general circulation with plans to make 430 million of the quarters, officials from the U.S. Mint, Department of Interior, Munising and Pictured Rocks gathered in Munising to officially launch the collector version of the coin.

"It's not many times you can say that where you live is on the back of the quarter," said Kathy Reynolds, executive director of the Alger Chamber of Commerce and the Munising Downtown Development Authority.

Some 100,000 will be made, including a 5-ounce large coin made of silver that will be sold for \$154.

"It's a really neat thing and I think the community is



The Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore quarter officially launched last week in Munising.

BURWELL AND BURWELL
PHOTOGRAPHY

Unum," which translates into "out of many, one."

"That was a fun design. It just amazed me how incredible nature can create an image all its own," Gaudioso said in a video on the making of the coin. "When you're trying to re-create nature, it takes an awful lot of extra skill because you can never match its beauty."

For more information on the collector coins, go to www.usmint.gov.

excited about it," she said. "Some people don't even know the Upper Peninsula even exists. I was at a conference out-of-state and on one of the programs, they didn't even include the Upper Peninsula in a map of Michigan. All I thought was, 'lordy be.'"

The coin, which was sculpted by Michael Gaudioso, features the Chapel Rock and white pine along the shores of Lake Superior, as well as the words, "Pictured Rocks," "Michigan 2018" and "E Pluribus

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Clegg clutch as Wayne wins KLAA crown

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

On a night when Wayne Memorial senior guard Camree Clegg displayed the Midas touch time and time again, the KLAA championship girls basketball game came down to the dirty details Feb. 22.

The Zebras fought and clawed their way to a 50-46 nail-biter over host Howell to win the championship trophy.

Clegg scored 31 points, making clutch jumpers from all over the floor — especially when her team needed them most.

"Pound for pound, if you can find a better player in the state, then show me," Wayne Memorial head coach Jarvis

Mitchell said. "That kid (Clegg) is all heart. I just feel honored and privileged to coach her, because night in and night out, I get her best effort."

But Howell head coach Tim Olszewski wondered might have been had his team made a few more shots than the 29 percent it made (15-of-52, including 5-of-26 from 3-point range) or grabbed a couple of rebounds in the final moments.

After Clegg stopped and popped for a triple from the left wing with 3:30 to go in regulation, giving the Zebras a 45-39 lead, the Highlanders did not allow another field goal.

"No pressure. I just shoot the ball," said Clemson University-bound Clegg, a

See WAYNE, Page 5B



Wayne's Camree Clegg (right) launches a shot over the outstretched arm of Howell's Alexis Miller.
TIMOTHY ARRICK

PREP WRESTLING



Catholic Central repeated as MHSAA Division 1 team wrestling state champion Feb. 24 in Kalamazoo. BRAD EMONS

The dream complete

Shamrocks capture 14th state title in school history with shutout against Brighton

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

This year's Novi Detroit Catholic Central wrestling team has no peers.

The Shamrocks completed an impressive 2017-18 season and MHSAA Division 1 team tournament run Saturday in Kalamazoo with a 57 to minus-1 win against Brighton at the Wings Events Center.

The victory was capped by senior Rory Cox's 3-1 overtime victory over Greyson Stevens at 189 pounds as the Shamrocks finished 29-1 overall while outscoring their seven tourney opponents by a combined total of 468-20 to earn their 14th state title in school history.

"Just a remarkable team, a very enjoyable team to coach," said Catholic Central coach Mitch Hancock, who earned his sixth Division 1 state crown since 2010. "And you

See SHAMROCKS, Page 2B



Catholic Central's Devon Johnsen (left) won by decision over Brighton's Ben Manly at 112 pounds. TOM LANG | DETROIT FREE PRESS

PREP FOOTBALL

Lafata takes reins from Baechler with Canton

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Canton's football future still is in the hands of a hall of famer.

Canton athletics director Vernon Crump announced Friday that Andy Lafata is the new football head coach, taking the reins from longtime coach Tim Baechler.

Both Lafata — an offensive lineman on the 2005 Chiefs team that reached the state finals — and Baechler were part of the first class of Canton High School Hall of Fame inductees, announced late last month.



Lafata

"Andy was my starting center on the 2005 team and the team went to the state championship," Baechler said during a Friday telephone call. "And he's coached with me the last 10 years, so he's been around it pretty much most of his life and he loves Canton football."

Lafata will continue teaching in the Roseville district while taking over Canton's high-profile football job. He was informed Feb. 22 that he had the job.

"It's a big opportunity," Lafata said. "You feel great about it, just to be considered for the job to start and then when you finally get offered the job, you just know the responsibility that comes with the job."

"Our kids are ready to go. I'm excited for them and for our coaches, too, who get to still come along for the ride."

Staying the course

According to Baechler, who retired in November after 20 successful seasons at the helm, the fact that Crump hired Lafata — who in recent years was the team's offensive line coach — is a sign that the program will enjoy continuity into the next era.

"I think it's big, because we've got a

See LAFATA, Page 2B



BOYS BASKETBALL

Maddox powers Novi's big second half against Canton

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It wasn't quite as easy as 1-2-3 for Novi's varsity boys basketball team to knock off Canton during the KLAA tournament semifinal Friday.

But the three players wearing those numbers for the Wildcats — Trenderon Hankerson, Traveon Maddox Jr. and Giovanni Miles — sure put a major hurt on the host Chiefs, roaring back in the second half for a 61-56 victory.

The loss was the first of the season for the Chiefs, who had rolled up 17 wins a row entering the hard-fought, fast and physical contest.

"Man, we were looking for this game for a while," said Maddox, who led all scorers with 25 points. "Coming in, we knew they were 18-0, we knew it was going to be a big game and we knew it was going to be an upset.

"And all practice we've been stressing 'Defense, defense, defense.' It came out on top today."

Novi head coach Brandon Sinawi, whose team improved to 13-7 and will move on to the KLAA final March 1, said Maddox laid out the script for Friday during the previous day's practice.

"He told us yesterday in practice that this was going to be a game he wasn't going to let us lose," Sinawi said. "Forget what the records were and them being



Novi's Traveon Maddox Jr. scores a reverse layup against Canton's Chase Meredith (30) during Friday's KLAA semifinal. TOM BEAUDOIN

undefeated. It doesn't matter, it's a basketball game and these kids love to play, especially Tray."

Hankerson and Miles chipped in 12 and 16 points, respectively, as Novi's big three accounted for all but eight of the team's points.

Shots wouldn't fall

Conversely, Canton stopped connecting and wound up making just 22-

of-67 field-goal attempts (32 percent), including 7-of-27 from beyond the arc.

"We had some tough luck misses tonight, for sure," Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy said. "A lot of in and outs on some threes, some tough misses at the rim with our big guys and our guards. We didn't get to the foul line.

"What really killed us is defensively, if you're going to win and beat good teams, you got to defend and rebound better than we did in the second half. We, obviously, did not."

It didn't help the Chiefs' cause that the normally hot-shooting trio of guards B. Artis White, Vinson Sigmon and Eian Barker were off their game — with a big reason being how quickly Novi defenders got out on them to take away time and space on long field-goal tries.

"Our team is very, very long," said Maddox, who will play Division I basketball at Oakland University. "And when we contest shots, it's hard for teams to shoot over us."

Canton senior forward Chase Meredith, who led the Chiefs with 17 points and eight rebounds, gave props to Maddox. But he is hopeful the teams will get another chance to face each other during Class A districts (which open March 5).

"He's definitely a great player," Meredith said. "We really had to contest him and I would say we didn't do a great job of it. We kind of (got lax) a little bit in the

second half.

"We have a chance to play them later on and I'd definitely say we got to pick it up on them."

Barker and White finished with 11 and 10 points respectively, although both were less than 100 percent. White left the game with an apparent ankle injury in the fourth quarter. Also scoring 10 points was Vinson Sigmon.

Tough turnaround

Canton went up 16-12 after one quarter, with Barker connecting on a buzzer-beater.

The Chiefs built a 37-26 halftime advantage, with last-minute triples by Barker and White keying the attack.

But things turned around in the third quarter and Maddox set the tone for Novi's comeback. He scored on a nifty, reverse layup and moments later powered his way to the basket for a layup.

Canton (17-1) will play a couple of games in the week preceding districts. Reddy is hopeful that the banged up players (Barker, White, Conner Engel) will be ready to go by then.

"Our goal is to get healthy by the time March 5 rolls around, when we open up districts with Catholic Central," Reddy said.

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

Shamrocks

Continued from Page 1B

just got to take your hats off to them. I don't know if it's ever been done, a shut-out in the finals, right? But they just continue to amaze me and I'm just blessed to be their coach. I'm blessed to be at Catholic Central and to be able to have the opportunity to work with such hardworking young men."

Catholic Central, whose only dual loss this season was to nationally-ranked Lakewood (Ohio) St. Edward, 32-15, came in as the top seed, while Brighton was the second seed.

When the two teams met Dec. 22, Catholic Central won 65 to minus-1 and not much changed, as CC captured all 14 weight classes in the rematch.

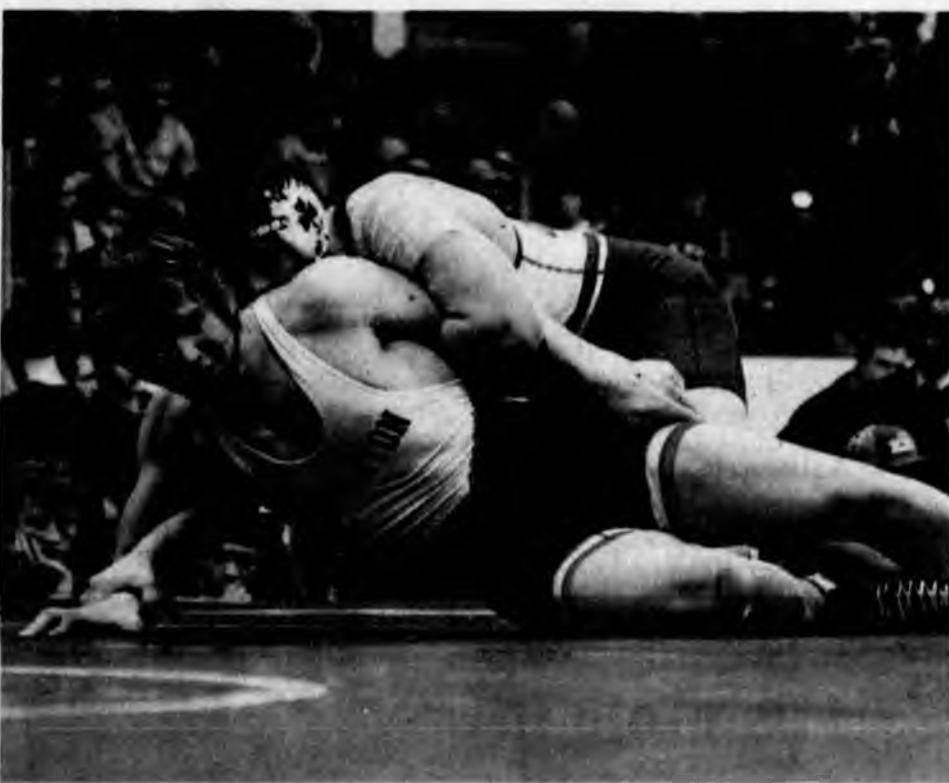
Scoring a pin for CC were Joshua Edmond (130 pounds), Devon Davenport (145) and Aidan Wagh (171), while Ben Kamali (119) and Cameron Amine (160) both won by technical fall.

Major decisions went to Easton Turner (215), Steven Kolcheff (285), while other wins came from Devon Johnsen (112), Dominick Lomazzo (125), Stone Moscovic (130), Derek Gilcher (140), Joe Urso (152) and Cox.

Moscovic, a senior, edged Brighton freshman Zack Johnson, 3-2, in a match that had several injury stoppages.

"I bled a lot in matches, so it's nothing new," said Moscovic, an individual state qualifier who improved to 34-7 overall. "But I knew I had to keep on scoring. I didn't get off to a fast start at the beginning the first period, so I knew I had to keep pushing the pace, pushing the pace and, sooner or later, the other guy would break. It ended up working out for me."

To start the season Dec. 6 in the Shamrocks' annual all-school assembly match against Grand Ledge, Cox was the first on the mat and scored a victory. Ironically, he was last on the mat for the state finals and secured the shutout in OT with a two-point takedown against



Catholic Central's Easton Turner (top) won by major decision over Brighton's Luke Stanton, 12-0. TOM LANG | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Stevens.

"It was fitting for me to do my senior year," said Cox, who improved to 36-5 overall. "It's really impressive because these guys (Brighton) are really good. We had a whole team effort and it was great."

One teammate was confident Cox could get the job done and complete the shutout.

"Rory doesn't quit until the end and he gets what he wants," Amine said.

To add insult to injury, Brighton had a point deducted in the opening match at 215, when Luke Stanton was flagged by officials for unsportsmanlike conduct in a 12-0 loss to Turner.

The negative point was deemed irrelevant, because the gulf between the tourney's top two Division 1 seeds was enormous. The Bulldogs were unable to get a takedown in the 14 matches.

"They're in a league of their own, the entire state, but in Division 1 included," Brighton coach Tony Greathouse said of the Shamrocks. "We did our best; the guys competed hard. It doesn't take anything away from what these guys did this year. I'm extremely proud of them. We've got 11 guys going to state (individual tourney) and we're second in Division 1. It's a pretty amazing season for them."

So does anything separate this Shamrocks squad from the previous five championship teams Hancock has coached?

"I don't know, I think it's a level of talent, a level of depth, just a unity," he said. "If you look at the guys, the coaching staff is remarkable, our parents are great. It's the full equation. I'd really have to sit back and ask myself what separates them from other teams ... but

they work extremely hard and put a lot of time in during the off-season."

But it was a sweet repeat, for sure.

"This one ... it was just more dominant than it was like the last one, but it's kind of the same feeling," said Amine, a junior who is one of CC's three returning state individual champs, along with Kamali and Davenport. "I'm really happy for the team and how they wrestled and stuff. We're all are loyal to each other and we're all like brothers, so that puts the team together. And then we all feed off each other."

The Shamrocks also had fun doing it.

"It's the unity," Moscovic said. "There's no other team that plays wall ball, spike ball, before every practice. We make, like, weird noises before we compete. It's big family. There's no other way to describe it."

MHSAA DIVISION 1 WRESTLING TEAM FINALS Feb. 24 at Wings Events Center DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL 57, BRIGHTON 1

215 pounds: Easton Turner (CC) won by major decision over Luke Stanton, 12-0; 285: Steven Kolcheff (CC) won by major dec. over Colby Ford, 14-3; 103: Daniel Rehfeldt (CC) dec. Mason Schrader, 4-0; 112: Devon Johnsen (CC) dec. Ben Manly, 3-1; 119: Ben Kamali (CC) won by technical fall over Logan Kehres, 21-6; 125: Dominick Lomazzo (CC) dec. Eddie Homrock, 3-1; 130: Stone Moscovic (CC) dec. Zack Johnson, 3-2; 135: Joshua Edmond (CC) pinned Aidan Brown, 1:09; 140: Derek Gilcher (CC) dec. Dane Donabedian, 9-3; 145: Kevon Davenport (CC) p. Victor Grabowski, 3:54; 152: Joe Urso (CC) dec. Nick Bleise, 6-0; 160: Cameron Amine (CC) won by tech. fall over Jack Ireton, 21-6; 171: Aidan Wagh (CC) p. Harley Berne, 1:04; 189: Rory Cox (CC) dec. Greyson Stevens, 3-1 (overtime).

Final dual match records: Detroit CC, 29-1 overall; Brighton, 33-4.

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

Lafata

Continued from Page 1B

winning formula," said Baechler, who remains a teacher at Canton High School. "Everyone wants to talk statistics and things like that, but the biggest statistic in football is how many points are you scoring a game and how many points are you giving up in a game.

"And over 20 years, I think we scored over 35 points a game and only let up 17. You're going to win a lot of games doing that. So the systems are very good high school football systems and now that Andy's got the job, we'll be able to keep five, six, seven assistants."

Lafata also underscored the importance of continuity.

"Our expectations stay the same, what we want out of our kids," Lafata said. "They know who their coaches are and that familiarity helps with this process."

Even with Lafata (a Lake Orion resident) not having a teaching job in the building, Baechler said he could help with the transition in a behind-the-scenes manner. He coaches the football class, for example.

"During football class next year, I know the systems better than anybody," Baechler said. "So I'll be able to watch film with the kids and talk to kids, X and O on the board with the kids.

"There are certain things on film I can help out with during the school day. I will not step foot on that practice field."

The hiring of a new coach took longer than expected, especially compared to how quickly other high school coaches have been hired this off-season. But Baechler said there was a good reason for that.

"Initially, (Crump) was just waiting for more applicants," Baechler said. "I said, 'You're not going to get any.' People know we're not a school of choice, they know we don't have middle school football."

"To be frank, it's not a great program to take over, because we win just shy of nine games a year over the last 20 years. That's not exactly the kind of job you want to come in and have all that pressure on you. That's the expectation, it's going to be pretty difficult to live up to."

Time to work

Yet Lafata wanted the Chiefs job so badly that Baechler said it would have "crushed him" had the job gone to another applicant.

"Of course, it would have just broke his heart," Baechler said. "We were talking about it last night. It would have just crushed him to see it go to somebody else, because he's lived it and he wants it to continue. I'm happy he's got his shot."

Lafata, meanwhile, said it will be great to finally get to work with the players who will comprise the 2018 roster.

"That's the best part, to finally get going, get with the kids," Lafata said. "I

know they were put in a difficult spot when your head coach steps down, but I'm happy for them that they finally have an answer now. We can get moving and start working."

Lafata, a 2006 Canton grad, has a bachelor of arts degree in secondary education from Eastern Michigan University.

In addition to his assistant coach's role since 2008, he was junior varsity head coach in 2015-17.

"He was inducted into the inaugural Canton High School Hall of Fame, as a member of the 2005 state finalist football team and is a proud Canton Chief," a statement read. "In true Chief fashion, Coach LaFata has worked his way through the ranks to earn the position of varsity head coach at Canton High School."

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

PREP WRESTLING

John Glenn denied in D1 quarterfinal

Cardinals go on five-match run to defuse Rockets, 28-25

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Westland John Glenn came close but, once again, it was not close enough.

The Rockets entered as the fourth seed in the MHSAA Division 1 team wrestling quarterfinals Friday at Kalamazoo's Wings Event Center and, for the second straight year, lost by a razor thin margin, this time to perennial state power Davison, 28-25.

Glenn finished its season 25-4 overall, while fifth-seeded Davison improved to 25-5.

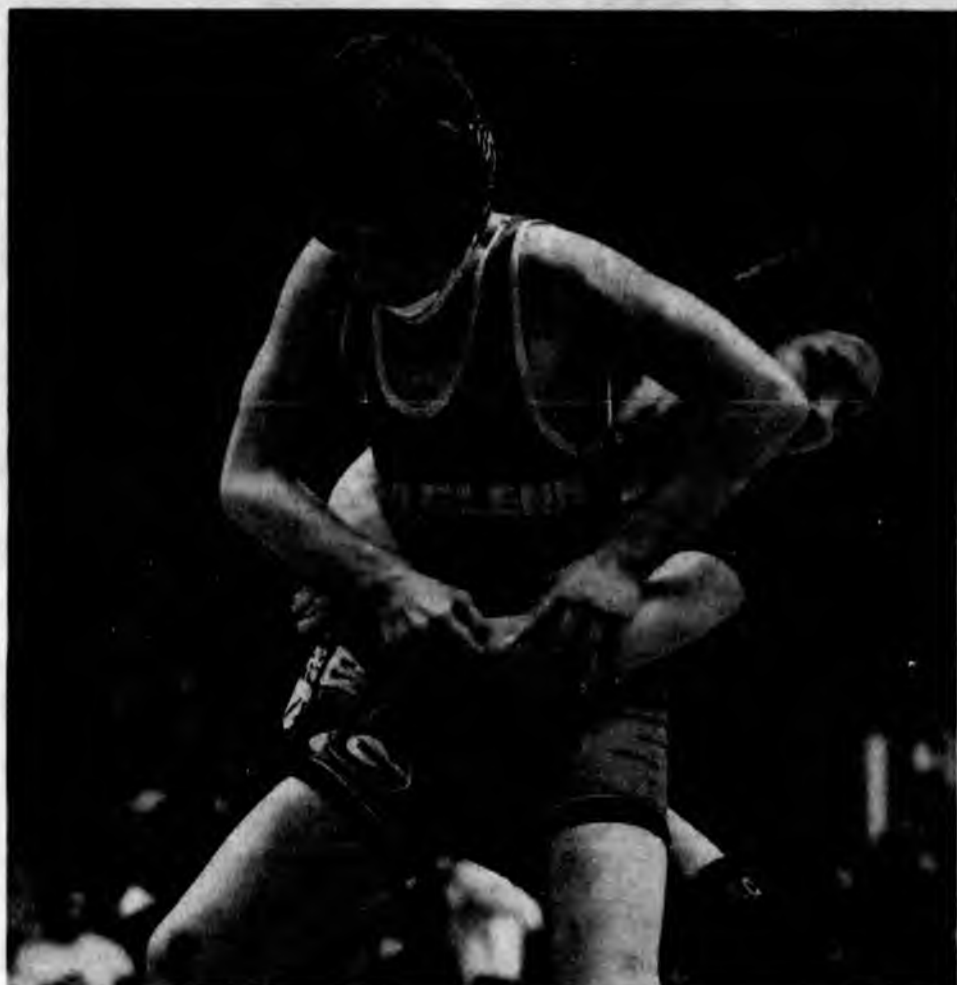
It was only a year ago when Glenn, as the sixth seed, fell 26-25 to third seed Macomb Dakota in the quarterfinals.

"In all reality, it's the best season we've ever had," said Glenn coach Bill Polk, who has guided the Rockets to four team state finals appearances in his 18 seasons. "It's a little disappointing ending, because if we had been on the other side of the bracket, we would have had a better run. I definitely think — in my opinion — Davison is the second best team in the state, so to lose like that to them ..."

Glenn got off to a good start, building a 10-0 lead after getting a four-point major decision from Isaac Lefler (130 pounds) along with three-point decisions from Mikey Mars (135), who improved to 49-0, and Shawn Brown (140).

"You're always hoping for the best and fearing the worst, but they had some real dangerous kids," said Davison coach Roy Hall, who has led the Cardinals to six team state titles and four runner-up finishes. "I thought it was balls for them to go right out, bump up and maybe steal a couple matches to set the tone."

In the featured match-up at 145, Davison's Alex Facundo, an individual state champion last year at 125, upped his season record to 26-0 with a 12-4 major decision over Glenn's Anthony



John Glenn's Ty Cowen (front) scored a 2-0 decision over Davison's Mackenzie Gilbert. TOM HAWLEY

Gibson, who was a state runner-up last year at 135.

Gibson, who is 46-4 overall, lost to Facundo for the second time this season.

"The kid (Gibson) is tougher than heck, but Alex is something else," Hall said. "He showed a lot of guts. His grandma just died Wednesday and we didn't know if we were going to have him. Then we asked him to cut to 145 and that's a lot. And the Gibson kid went up in weight, so that shows the love and respect they have for each other. Very, very good program all the way around."

Facundo's win sparked a 19-0 Davison run that didn't end until Glenn senior JaCorey Scott (215) decisioned Travis

Eads in overtime, 6-4.

The Rockets also got victories from Ty Cowen (103) and Caleb Meekins (119), along with a void to Kyle Borthwell (125) in the final match, but it was too little, too late.

"I can't say enough about John Glenn," Hall said. "They do an amazing job. The kids fight, they love each other and you can see it in the kids and the coaches. They're coached well and they've got good kids."

With two matches to go, Davison's Steven Garty Jr. gave the Cardinals a 28-16 lead with a pin of Ethan Collins in 2:29 at 112 pounds.

The best Glenn could do after that in order to tie was score a pair of pins.

"It pretty much worked out like I had it on paper," Polk said. "I knew we had to wrestle where somebody had to win that was not supposed to to win the dual against them. We actually did win one (Scott) I didn't think we would."

Glenn was seeded one spot ahead of Davison because of a two-point dual match win over the Cardinals last month.

"We beat them 30-28, but they were missing Facundo, which the kid is a star," Polk said. "They had him back in the lineup and that was the difference. So we knew we had to win one along the way and had to get all the match-ups. We got the match-ups we wanted, but just didn't get it done."

After last year's team state finals were held at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, the MHSAA signed a four-year deal to move to Kalamazoo.

"This is incredible, I really like it," Polk said. "They picked a great venue. It's tough we lost, but you don't get a better stage than this with all these great teams. This is the top of the mountain in Michigan, so this pretty cool to be a part of it win or lose."

Hall also liked the new surroundings at the Wings Event Center.

"I like the level platform," he said. "I think it will be cool once it gets going here. I thought it was a great match, great high school event — period. It had a little bit of everything that you look for in a sporting event."

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

MHSAA DIVISION 1

TEAM QUARTERFINAL RESULTS

Feb. 23 at Wings Event Center

DAVISON 28, WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 25

130 pounds: Isaac Lefler (W/G) won by major decision over Raymond Cole, 11-3; 135: Mikey Mars (W/G) dec. Marc Schaeffer, 5-2; 140: Shawn Brown (W/G) dec. Landon Kish, 5-3; 145: Alex Facundo (D) won by major dec. over Anthony Gibson, 12-4; 152: Brian Case (D) won by major dec. over Brenton Polk, 12-2; 160: Jay Nivison (D) won by major dec. over Graden Bowen, 18-4; 171: Trevor McGowan (D) Chase Kasten, 10-2; 189: Cal Stefanko (D) dec. George Schwemle, 6-3; 215: JaCorey Scott (W/G) dec. Travis Eads, 6-4 (overtime); 285: Aaron Gilmore (D) dec. Donald Ferris, 7-1; 103: Ty Cowen (W/G) dec. Mackenzie Gilbert, 2-0; 112: Steven Garty, Jr. (D) pinned Ethan Collins, 2:29; 119: Caleb Meekins (W/G) dec. Andrew Chabal, 11-5; 125: Kyle Borthwell (W/G) won by void.

Dual match records: Davison, 25-5 overall; John Glenn, 25-4 overall.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wayne Memorial finds mojo in nick of time against Hartland

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

After a sluggish first half against Hartland during the KLAA girls basketball tournament semifinal Feb. 19, Wayne Memorial senior guard Camree Clegg had a message for her coach.

Trailing 27-19 at halftime to the pesky Eagles — who over the opening 16 minutes were paced by four treys and 14 points by senior forward Graysen Cockerham — Clegg told Zebras head coach Jarvis Mitchell she wanted to guard Cockerham and shut her down in the second half.

"She came to me (at halftime) and said, 'Jarv, I want her,'" Mitchell said. "When your senior and your leader tells you that's what she wants to do it's, like, 'OK, I trust you.'"

The rest of the game showed that Mitchell's trust wasn't wasted. Clegg, who managed just a single free throw in the first half, went off for 14 points, including a critical trey with 3:11 left to give host Wayne Memorial its first lead since the first quarter.

And Cockerham was blanked the entire second half as the Zebras enjoyed a 26-13 edge after that halftime chat between Clegg and Mitchell.

The clutch Clegg trey — set up by a spectacular, behind-the-back feed from junior guard Jeanae Terry — launched a closing 8-0 run that helped the Zebras post a hard-fought 45-40 victory.

On that sequence, Terry snagged an offensive rebound in a crowded lane and sent the no-look flip to Clegg on the right wing. The perfect finish had the home crowd on its feet.

"I knew she was going to pass it to me, I just didn't know how she was going to pass it me," Clegg said. "So when she threw it behind her back and I caught it, I'm, like, 'Oh yeah, you got to make this one.'"

"And when it went in, everybody just hyped up, 'Let's go, let's go, we got this one.'"

What Mitchell saw between the two players had him shaking his head, but

not because he hasn't seen them work that kind of magic before.

"They've been playing together for three years," he said. "(Terry) knows Cam's spotting up, she knows Cam's getting ready to cock the shot. So I'm glad, because that's something I can't coach."

"That's just something you hope they tie in together and they're synchronized and the synergy and the moon and the stars are all lined up."

Pressure cooker

Hartland head coach Don Palmer, whose team walked into the Wayne Memorial gym in 2017 to win a tourney match-up, said his team battled tooth and nail all night.

But the constant defensive pressure all over the floor finally cost his team a number of turnovers that led to points the other way. Hartland (14-5) made 21 turnovers in the game.

"It's too many for us; we're averaging about 10," Palmer said. "But I just think the pressure is excruciating and, then when you're open, you're still hurrying."

"Some of those were just absolutely forced. Some of those passes you saw just fly over open people's heads out of bounds. Once you get going, sometimes it's hard to stop. And they're kids."

It also didn't help that shots stopped falling for the Eagles. In the first half, Hartland connected on 9-of-22 field-goal attempts (including six triples). The team managed to make just 4-of-19 in the second half (and 0-of-7 in the final quarter).

"In the second half, we couldn't buy a basket," Palmer added.

Clegg led all scorers with 15 points, but the Zebras were bolstered early on by junior guard Sammiyah Hoskin, who scored eight of her team's 10 points in the first quarter (which ended with Hartland up, 11-10). Hoskin finished with 14 points.

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

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PREP BOWLING

Catholic Central first in regional tourney

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Sterling Lanes is the next destination for the MHSAA Division 1 boys bowling state finals as both Detroit Catholic Central and Westland John Glenn punched their tickets after a one-two finish Feb. 23 at the regional tourney at Canton's Super Bowl Lanes.

The Shamrocks, coming off a heart-breaking setback to Warren De La Salle in the Catholic League championship, rebounded to edge Glenn by six pins, 3,970-3,964, while Saline garnered the third qualifying spot with 3,856.

Rounding out the field were Canton (3,744), Northville (3,728), Plymouth (3,698), Belleville (3,663), Salem (3,636), Farmington Harrison (3,617), Wayne Memorial (3,453), Novi (3,452), Ann Arbor Huron (3,411), Ann Arbor Skyline (3,411) and Pinckney (3,261).

CC, which captured the Catholic League regular season title with a 10-0 record, conquered the Kegel Allen oil pattern at Super Bowl with regular games of 920, 1,063 and 908. The Shamrocks were in fifth place after the six Baker games with a total of 1,079, including a high game of 199.

Among CC's top individual scorers were Jacob Smith (243-190), Jaden Thomas (236-191), Andrew Lack (200-209) and freshman Nick Zappia, a recent JV call-up who rolled a 221.

Boys singles

Wayne Memorial junior Anthony Kaminski-Thibodeaux was crowned individual regional champion Feb. 24 at Super Bowl with a six-game total of 1,353, including a high game of 235. Other state qualifiers who placed in the top 10 and made all-region were Jonathon Hall (Salem), 1,262; Bradley Folks (Belleville), 1,233; Dallas Casey (Saline), 1,226; Smith (CC), 1,200; Alan Brown (Plymouth), 1,200; Tyler Brown (John Glenn), 1,193; Nathan Colosimo (Northville), 1,193; Andrew Lack (CC), 1,165; and Dominic Gentry (Canton), 1,160.

Glenn girls triumph

The Rockets were the regional runaway winner Feb. 23 with a total of 3,566, including a 1,015 regular game and 175 Baker, while other state team qualifiers were runner-up Harrison (3,212) and third-place Belleville (3,189). Missing the state team cut were Plymouth (3,181), Salem, 3,178, Northville



Members of the Catholic Central regional championship bowling team are (front row, from left) senior co-captains Andrew Lack and Jacob Smith and (back row, from left) head coach Matt Nugent, Chintan Maheshwari, Nick Zappia, Jaden Thomas, Matt Skarnulls, Ben Ward and assistant coach Scott Kujawa.

(2,916), Canton (2,896), Pinckney (2,880), Novi (2,847), Wayne (2,775), Farmington Hills Mercy (2,630) and Saline (2,433).

Girls singles

Harrison's Rachel Doran led the regional field Feb. 24 at Super Bowl with a

six-game total of 1,135, including a high game of 227. Other state individual singles qualifiers who made the top 10 and all-region were Alyssa Kolb (John Glenn), 1,119; Anna Maxwell (John Glenn), 1,082; Sarah Hayes (John Glenn), 1,068; Madalyn Harden (Plymouth), 1,066; Megan Helisek (Harrison), 1,040; Kayla Thompson (Wayne), 1,016; Alaina Langen (Salem), 1,011; Lexis Silverman (Salem), 1,008; and Jennifer Snow (Salem), 1,003.

Up next

The Division 1 team event starts Friday, March 2, followed by the individual singles tourney the following day, both at Sterling Lanes in Sterling Heights.

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

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT PTSLU18-0001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the representative for Nissan Technical Center, Inc. is requesting a Temporary Special Land Use Permit in accordance with 7.6.2 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance for temporary vehicle parking before occupancy for parcel 50-22-09-176-018, South of West Road and East of Beck Road from January 1, 2018 through May 31, 2018. The property is zoned I-1 (Light Industrial) and the use is contrary to 3.14.1.A of the Novi Zoning Ordinance.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner whose property is located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for a temporary special land use permit.

A public hearing will be held at 11:00am on April 5, 2017 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road in the Mayors Conference Room. All written comments should be directed to Katherine Oppermann and must be received prior to Wednesday April 4, 2018 at 3PM.

Published: March 1, 2018

SYNOPSIS February 15, 2018 – REGULAR MEETING CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Thursday, February 15, 2018

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: 44405 Six Mile Road

CALL TO ORDER: Clerk Hillebrand called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk Symantha Heath, Trustee
Marjorie F. Banner, Treasurer Mindy Herrmann, Trustee
Richard Allen, Trustee Fred Shadko, Trustee

ABSENT: Robert R. Nix II, Supervisor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

1. Agendas:
 - A. Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda Items – Approved
2. Appointments, Presentations, Resolutions & Announcements:
 - A. Appointment of Ann Goolsby to N.Y.A. – Approved
 - B. Resolution 2018-017- Guidelines for Poverty Exemptions – Approved
 - C. Charitable Gaming License – Approved
3. Public Hearing: None
4. Brief Public Comments: None
5. New Business:
 - A. Professional Design Svc – Pathway Maintenance – Approved
 - B. Environmental Testing – Five Mile & Beck – Approved
 - C. Environmental Svc – Seven Mile Property Demo – Approved
 - D. Public Safety – Vehicle Purchase – Approved
 - E. Planning – Temporary Sign Request – Ward Church – Approved
 - F. Unfinished Business: None
6. Ordinances: None
7. Check Registry:
 - A. In the amount of \$ 1,189,293.20 for the period of 1/6/18 to 2/2/18 – Approved
8. Board Communication & Reports:
 - A. Sue Hillebrand, Marjorie Banner, Richard Allen, Symantha Heath, Mindy Herrmann, Fred Shadko, Chip Snider
10. Any other business for the Board of Trustees: None
11. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

A draft of the minutes will be available February 28, 2018.

Respectfully submitted:
Sue A. Hillebrand, M.M.C.

Published: March 1, 2018

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

Communities Served: Cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Novi; Township of Novi, MI On or after 4/3/2018 Charter will start encrypting the Starter, Spectrum Basic, Standard, and Spectrum Select Service Tier offerings on your cable system. If you have a set-top box, digital transport adapter (DTA), or a retail CableCARD device connected to each of your TVs, you should be unaffected by this change. However, if you are currently receiving the Starter, Spectrum Basic, Standard, or Spectrum Select Service Tier offerings on any TV without equipment supplied by Charter, you will lose the ability to view any channels on that TV. If you are affected, you should contact Charter to arrange for the equipment you need to continue receiving your services. In such case, you are entitled to receive equipment at no additional charge or service fee for a limited period of time. The number and type of devices you are entitled to receive and for how long will vary: If you are a Starter or Spectrum Basic Service Tier customer and receive the service on your TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to up to two devices for two years (five years if you also receive Mediacad). If you subscribe to a higher level of service and receive the Standard or Spectrum Select Service Tier offering on a secondary TV without Charter-supplied equipment, you are entitled to one device for one year. You can learn more about this equipment offer and eligibility for Residential at Spectrum.com/digitalnow or by calling 855-222-0102, or for Commercial at Business.Spectrum.com/DigitalNow or by calling 877-424-9248. To qualify for any equipment at no additional charge or service fee, you must request the equipment no later than the 120th day after the date your service is encrypted and satisfy all other eligibility requirements.

Published: March 1, 2018

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene for the Organizational Meeting at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 6th, 2018 in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment appeals in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 12, 13 and 14, 2018.

All appearances before the Board will be by appointment only.

If you or your representatives want to appear in person, the appointment must be made on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, March 9, 2018. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Office or at www.cityofnovi.org

NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Postmarks will not be considered. When submitting a letter of protest for the Board of Review consideration, you must attach a completed petition along with any supporting information.

All agents protesting values on property, other than their own, MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

Persons on fixed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at www.cityofnovi.org

BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE

Monday, March 12, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers
Tuesday, March 13, 2018 - 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Council Chambers
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers
Located in the Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road Novi, MI 48375.
2nd Floor-Assessing Office

Any questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 347-0485.

Cortney Hanson
CITY CLERK

Published: February 15, 22 & March 3, 2018

Wayne

Continued from Page 18

top contender for Miss Basketball honors. "If it goes in, it goes in; if it doesn't, it doesn't. But there's no pressure, there's no pressure."

"They're a great team, very solid. They gave us a run for the money, but we came out with the (win)."

No other Zebras player had more than four points, but sophomore forward Makallah Griggs Zeigler had a key performance off the bench with 12 rebounds. She came up big on a night when junior guard Jeanae Terry was plagued by early foul trouble.

The Highlanders' lineup featured two other Miss Basketball hopefuls in senior Lexi Miller (15 points, five rebounds, five steals) and senior forward Leah Weslock (15 points, 11 rebounds).

"I think we got a little frustrated, missing some shots we usually make," said Miller, who fouled out in the final minute. "I guess our attitude kind of changed with that, but we got to keep going when you miss shots, just keep playing. It was a close game the whole time. We just got to know if we miss shots, we have to go get a rebound, go box out."

A tougher effort in the paint by the Highlanders, at least in the fourth quarter, might have resulted in a different outcome.

The last five Wayne Memorial (16-4) points were free throws (by Clegg, Jasmine Elder and Griggs Zeigler), but there were two times when the Highlanders could not rebound a missed foul shot. That enabled the Zebras to whittle seconds off the clock.

"Let's make no mistake about it, yes, I wanted to win," Olszewski said. "Yes, the kids wanted to win and, yes, we would have liked to have had that trophy as well. But it didn't work out. And we know what we're capable of and, you know, we have to get re-focused."

"We were able to handle their pressure. I thought we did a good job breaking it and getting the shots we wanted. Some didn't fall and that's the game."

"The killer were a couple at the end, where we didn't secure a rebound. They miss and we're only down two or three and twice they came up with the rebound."

The Highlanders got off to a quick start when Martin buried a triple to



Wayne's Jayah Hicks (right) and Howell's Leah Weslock battle for position during Wayne's victory over Howell. TIMOTHY ARRICK

make it 5-0 just two minutes into the contest.

Wayne Memorial built an 18-11 lead after one, with Jayah Hicks taking an inside pass from Terry for a nifty layup and Terry then stealing the ball and scoring another basket.

The Zebras stayed up 25-21 at half-time and took a 35-31 lead into the fourth, but Howell proved to be a tough out — deadlocking the game on a Weslock trey early in the final quarter.

It didn't take long for Wayne Memorial to go up for good, however, when Clegg connected on a jumper.

Following are several takeaways:

COMPARING NOTES

The game featured two hot-shooting guards who are both in the conversation for Miss Basketball in Clegg and Miller.

Each had praise for the other.

"She's good, she lives up to her hype," Clegg said. "She's really good, she can shoot the ball, she can attack. I like her game."

Miller noted that it's "exciting" to go up against a top player such as Clegg.

"We're always looking forward to playing great players and great teams," Miller said. "And it gets us ready for the next game. And when you keep winning, going on and play even better teams, it just prepares us more."

OUTRIGHT WINNERS

Two seasons ago, Wayne Memorial and Howell tied for the KLAA championship, but a snowstorm postponed what would have been the deciding contest.

This time around, however, Mitchell

and the Zebras won the trophy outright.

"I'm completely proud of their performance," Mitchell said. "We came into a situation where it was hostile. But my kids, they were able to fight. I believe a lot of the games that we've had led up to this point."

IF ONLY

Howell's fortunes might have changed with a better performance shooting the basketball.

"The kids played great defense, but when don't shoot well, you can't have miscues," Olszewski said. "We had success getting open looks. It's just a bounce here, a rebound there."

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

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BOYS SWIMMING

Novi upstages Northville for KLAA title

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Last year it was expected, but this year the Novi boys swimming and diving team pulled off the unexpected.

Novi coach Brent Pohlonski called it "a historic weekend" as the Wildcats upset Northville, the state's fifth-ranked Division 1 team, 812-792, to claim its second consecutive Kensington Lakes Activities Association title.

Rounding out the 14-school field were Livonia Stevenson, third (558); Brighton, fourth (466); Canton, fifth (450); Grand Blanc, sixth (449); Howell, seventh (425); Salem, eighth (181); Hartland, ninth (178); Plymouth, 10th (161); Livonia Churchill, 11th (138); Wayne Memorial, 12th (121); Westland John Glenn, 13th (101); and Livonia Franklin, 14th (86).

"We won because each of our boys did something amazing," Novi coach Brent Pohlonski said. "I am so proud of the heart that our team showed this weekend. The fact that our league is one of the toughest in the state, makes it even more special."

The meet scored 18 places for the nine individual events and the top 12 places for each of the three relay events.

The Wildcats' top individual finisher was diver Jack McClure, who placed third, but there was no doubt Novi took advantage of the expanded scoring system and displayed more depth.

"Winning this meet spoke volumes about the character of our team," Pohlonski said. "I have never heard of a team winning a championship meet without taking first place in a single event. None of our relays finished higher than fourth."

Northville, meanwhile, took four wins, led by Travis Nitkiewicz, who captured the 200-yard individual medley (1:54.73) and 100 breaststroke (57.29). He teamed with Arthur Greenlee, Jason Nitkiewicz and Kirk Maibach for first in the 200 medley relay (1:35.27).

Northville's 200 freestyle relay team of Greenlee, Craig Maibach, Trevor DeGroot and Kirk Maibach was also victorious in 1:26.71.

"We had a handful of mental mistakes on Friday that really hurt us and put us behind," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "If that wasn't bad enough, we then had some of our swimmers who swam very well on Friday add



The Novi boys swimming and diving team takes a victory dip after repeating as KLAA champion. JESSICA HARRELL

a bunch of time and lose a bunch of points for us on Saturday. You add all of those mistakes up and there is no way you can win. Everything that could have gone wrong went wrong and it was all our own doing."

Canton's Daniel Mullen was an individual double winner, sweeping the 100 and 200 freestyles in 47.16 and 1:42.40, respectively. He also combined with Tristen Shao, Ethan Shimonos and Derek Goders for a victory in the 400 freestyle relay (3:12.06).

Stevenson's Parker Wasielewski captured the 50 freestyle (21.49) and 100 backstroke (52.44), while teammate Benjamin Rojewski was first in the 500 freestyle (4:38.28).

Other individual winners included Brighton's Cade Hammond (1-meter diving, 477.32 points) and Howell's Henry Bauer (100 butterfly, 51.37).

"Hats off to Novi," Bennetts said. "They were a team. They supported each other, had each other's backs the entire meet. They deserved to win, believed in themselves and their teammates and they got it done."

Meanwhile, Bennetts hopes his team

can rebound for MHSAA Division 1 state finals Friday and Saturday, March 9-10, at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

"We will find out how our state meet kids respond," he said. "We still have a good team. I hope they are as upset as I am about this and turn it into a great state meet performance. Time will tell."

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

KENSINGTON LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING MEET

Feb. 23-24 at Novi H.S.

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Novi, 812 points; 2. Northville, 792; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 558; 4. Canton, 450; 5. Grand Blanc, 449; 6. Howell, 425; 7. Salem, 181; 8. Hartland, 178; 9. Plymouth, 161; 10. Livonia Churchill, 138; 11. Wayne Memorial, 121; 12. Westland John Glenn, 101; 13. Livonia Franklin, 86.

FINAL EVENT RESULTS

200-yard medley relay: 1. Northville (Arthur Greenlee, Travis Nitkiewicz, Jason Nitkiewicz, Kirk Maibach), 1:35.27; 2. Stevenson (Bryan Reppenhausen, Hans Anderson, Parker Wasielewski, Connor Beck), 1:36.93; 3. Brighton (John Loria, Drew Panzl, Anto Essayan, Nathan Kelly), 1:38.94; 4. Novi, 1:39.21; 5. Grand Blanc, 1:40.25; 6. Salem, 1:43.15; 7. Howell, 1:45.16; 8. Plymouth, 1:45.61.

200 freestyle: 1. Daniel Mullen (Canton), 1:42.40; 2. Trevor DeGroot (Northville), 1:43.19; 3. Ben Rojewski (Stevenson), 1:44.13; 4. Derek Goders (Canton), 1:45.36; 5. Max Robbins (Novi), 1:46.61; 6. Henry Bauer (Howell), 1:46.84; 7. Luke Santi (Stevenson), 1:48.25; 8. Michael Alameddine (Northville), 1:50.06.

200 individual medley: 1. T. Nitkiewicz (Northville), 1:54.73; Hunter Gu-

beno (Howell), 1:57.24; 3. Panzl (Brighton), 1:58.04; 4. J. Nitkiewicz (Northville), 1:58.20; 6. Stephan Freitag (Salem), 2:00.17; 7. Erik Halboth (Novi), 2:01.27; 8. Jonah Curtis (GB), 2:01.28.

50 freestyle: 1. Wasielewski (Stevenson), 21.49; 2. K. Maibach (Northville), 21.54; 3. Greenlee (Northville), 21.69; 4. Adam Carozza (Novi), 22.09; 5. Michael Harris (Hartland), 22.30; 6. Connor Beck (Stevenson), 22.35; 7. Braden Gregory (Howell), 22.38; 8. Gabe Curtis (Stevenson), 22.48.

1-meter diving: 1. Cade Hammond (Brighton), 477.32 points; 2. Charles Casey (Canton), 337.00; 3. Jack McClure (Novi), 328.20; 4. Scott Scrivano (Brighton), 323.60; 5. Benjamin Kirchoff (Phy.), 311.00; 6. Tobias Charke-Arman (Canton), 305.95; 7. Gabe Plien (Hartland), 304.35; 8. Tyler Cook (Hartland), 285.85.

100 butterfly: 1. Bauer (Howell), 51.37; 2. Tristen Shao (Canton), 52.44; 3. J. Nitkiewicz (Northville), 52.45; 4. Preston Harrell (Novi), 52.67; 5. Brian Son (Novi), 53.64; 6. Luke Santi (Stevenson), 54.01; 7. Stephen Meagher (Howell), 54.73; 8. Aaron Halboth (Novi), 55.55.

100 freestyle: 1. Mullen (Canton), 47.16; 2. K. Maibach (Northville), 47.48; 3. Goders (Canton), 48.45; 4. Louisa (Brighton), 48.63; 5. Carozza (Novi), 48.65; 6. Harris (Hartland), 48.70; 7. Alexander Yuan (Novi), 48.93; 8. Gregory (Howell), 49.18.

500 freestyle: 1. Rojewski (Stevenson), 4:38.28; 2. Gubeno (Howell), 4:43.05; 3. DeGroot (Northville), 4:46.31; 4. Nathan Sutton (Churchill), 4:47.03; 5. Robbins (Novi), 4:52.27; 6. Remy Fischer (Brighton), 4:53.05; 7. Griffin Curtis (GB), 4:53.85; 8. Alameddine (Northville), 4:54.64.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Northville (Greenlee, Craig Maibach, DeGroot, K. Maibach), 1:26.71; 2. Stevenson (Wasielewski, Curtis, Santi, Beck), 1:27.01; 3. Howell (Tyler Caudy, Gregory, Gubeno, Bauer), 1:27.26; 4. Novi, 1:28.36; 5. Grand Blanc, 1:30.21; 6. Canton, 1:30.96; 7. Brighton, 1:31.50; 8. Plymouth, 1:31.53.

100 backstroke: 1. Wasielewski (Stevenson), 52.44; 2. Shao (Canton), 53.50; 3. Greenlee (Northville), 53.51; 4. Louisa (Brighton), 53.52; 5. J. Curtis (GB), 54.15; 6. E. Halboth (Novi), 54.55; 7. Maxwell Williams (Novi), 54.64; 8. D. Curtis (GB), 54.98.

100 breaststroke: 1. T. Nitkiewicz (Northville), 57.29; 2. Anderson (Stevenson), 59.83; 3. Panzl (Brighton), 1:00.01; 4. Brian Ding (Northville), 1:00.54; 5. Freitag (Salem), 1:01.01; 6. Colin Quinn (Novi), 1:01.16; 7. Devon Bryant (GB), 1:02.01; 8. Alex Li (Novi), 1:02.77.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Canton (Mullen, Shao, Ethan Shimonos, Goders), 3:12.06; 2. Northville (DeGroot, J. Nitkiewicz, C. Maibach, I. Nitkiewicz), 3:12.13; 3. Howell (Gregory, Caudy, Gubeno, Bauer), 3:14.44; 4. Novi, 3:14.73; 5. Brighton, 3:16.02; 6. Stevenson, 3:17.84; 7. Grand Blanc, 3:20.98; 8. Plymouth (disqualified).

BOYS SWIMMING

Bell lifts South Lyon Unified to first in LVC

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Brandon Bell captured a pair of individual events and was a member of a first-place relay, leading South Lyon Unified to the inaugural Lakes Valley Conference boys swimming and diving championship Feb. 24 at Walled Lake Northern.

South Lyon, which seized its first-ever conference title since becoming a unified team under coach John Burch, scored 566 points, followed by Walled Lake Central (296), Milford (293), the host Knights (240), Walled Lake Western (205), White Lake Lakeland (200) and Waterford United (185).

Bell, a senior, captured the 50-yard freestyle (21.81) and 100 breaststroke (59.06), as well as teaming with Logan Boals, Max Topping and Max Kempisty for first in the 200 medley relay (1:36.81).

Kempisty was first in the 200 freestyle (1:42.03) for South Lyon, which finished 6-0 during LVC dual meets.

"This was the first time we have ever won a conference championship, so the boys were very happy to win," Burch said. "Our seniors, especially, showed a lot of desire to win. Max Kempisty, Logan Boals and Brandon Bell had great meets. Logan set new varsity records in the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke and Max lowered his varsity records in the 200 and 500 freestyle, while Brandon had his best-ever times in the 100 breaststroke and the 50 freestyle."

Central's Ian Allen also was a double winner, taking the 200 individual medley (1:55.39) and 100 butterfly (59.03). He also swam the anchor leg on the Vikings' first-place 200 freestyle relay (1:29.86).

Other individual conference winners included Seth Caspers (Waterford), 1-meter diving (391.95 points); Jack Winslow (Lakeland), 100 freestyle (47.90); Eric Hieber (Western), 500 freestyle



The South Lyon Unified boys swimming and diving team took first in the inaugural Lakes Valley Conference meet. JOE LEAHY

"This was the first time we have ever won a conference championship, so the boys were very happy to win."

John Burch
South Lyon Unified coach

(4:32.71); and Kaden Schwaiger (Northville), 100 backstroke (51.54).

In the final race of the meet, Northern's foursome of Danny Buglak, Schwaiger, Zane Rosely and Sean McCann went 3:13.59 in the 400 freestyle relay, while SLU's quartet of Boals, James Perry, Christian Etnyre and Kempisty took runner-up honors in 3:15.41.

"We also had a lot of surprises," Burch said. "Aiden Butler really surprised with his 100 freestyle, while John Abernethy and Jared Keeney continued their exceptional swimming that they have had all year long. Overall, it was a

great meet for us and a very exciting win. After experiencing the win this year, I think they will have a strong desire to repeat next year, even though we are losing nine seniors."

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com.

LAKES VALLEY CONFERENCE
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING MEET

Feb. 24 at Walled Lake Northern

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. South Lyon Unified, 566 points; 2. Walled Lake Central, 296; 3. Milford, 293; 4. Walled Lake Northern, 240; 5. Walled Lake Western, 205; 6. White Lake Lakeland, 200; 7. Waterford United, 185.



South Lyon's Brandon Bell won the 100-yard breaststroke at the Lakes Valley Conference meet.

FINAL EVENT RESULTS

200-yard medley relay: 1. South Lyon (Logan Boals, Max Topping, Max Kempisty, Brandon Bell), 1:36.81; 2. Northern, 1:37.87; 3. Central, 1:41.09; 4. Lakeland, 1:43.58; 5. Milford, 1:46.86; 6. Waterford, 1:51.59.

200 freestyle: 1. Max Kempisty (SLU), 1:42.03; 2. Zane Rosely (WLN), 1:43.04; 3. Eric Hieber (WLN), 1:43.41; 4. Christian Etnyre (SLU), 1:46.80; 5. Mark Vucelic (WLN), 1:47.59; 6. James Perry (SLU), 1:49.32; 7. Danny Buglak (WLN), 1:49.69; 8. Max Brown (MI), 1:55.30.

200 individual medley: 1. Ian Allen (WLC), 1:55.39; 2. Topping (SLU), 2:02.74; 3. Faustus Garbenis (WU), 2:06.01; 4. Eric Perczak (SLU), 2:07.31; 5. Nick Finn (SLU), 2:10.64; 6. Andrew Simonich (MI), 2:11.23; 7. Jonah Walker (WLN), 2:12.67; 8. Jacob Hazleton (WLN), 2:16.82.

50 freestyle: 1. Bell (SLU), 21.81; 2. Sean McCann (WLN), 21.84; 3. Jack Winslow (WLN), 21.86; 4. Cameron Whitfield (WLC), 21.98; 5. Justin May (MI), 22.65; 6. Evan Hughes (WLN), 23.23; 7. Kellen Weeks (SLU), 23.77; 8. Noah Enyeart (MI), 23.83.

1-meter diving: 1. Seth Caspers (WU), 391.95 points; 2. Blake Vaughn (SLU), 338.60; 3. Patrick Kumbinski (WLN), 314.55; 4. Rodney Dailage (SLU), 255.70; 5. Luke Dittman (WLN), 198.90; 6. Trent Hughes (WLC), 187.25; 7. Lukas Jess-Henneger (MI), 181.55; 8. Garrett VanOrtten (SLU), 175.80.

100 butterfly: 1. Allen (WLC), 50.93; 2. Boals (SLU), 51.28; 3. Kaden Schwaiger (WLN), 51.86; 4. Aakash Udipi (WLN), 51.86; 5. Perczak (SLU), 56.03; 6. Vince Adragna (SLU), 56.36; 7. Jared Keeney (SLU), 56.87; 8. Wyatt Wagner (MI), 57.47.

100 freestyle: 1. Winslow (WLN), 47.90; 2. May (MI), 48.71; 3. Whitfield (WLC), 49.05; 4. McCann (WLN), 49.27; 5. Etnyre (SLU), 49.37; 6. Buglak (WLN), 50.19; 7. Enyeart (MI), 51.56; 8. Weeks (SLU), 51.65.

500 freestyle: 1. Hieber (WLN), 4:32.71; 2. Rosely (WLN), 4:39.43; 3. Kempisty (SLU), 4:42.73; 4. Vucelic (WLN), 4:48.87; 5. Andrew Gourov (WLC), 4:58.08; 6. Perry (SLU), 4:59.13; 7. John Abernethy (SLU), 5:10.52; 8. Ben Reynolds (MI), 5:17.92.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Central (Whitfield, Curran Middleton, Gourov, Allen), 1:29.86; 2. South Lyon, 1:30.18; 3. Milford, 1:33.00; 4. Western, 1:33.03; 5. Waterford, 1:36.15; 6. Lakeland, 1:36.80.

100 backstroke: 1. Schwaiger (WLN), 51.54; 2. Boals (SLU), 53.18; 3. Keeney (SLU), 57.23; 4. Brown (MI), 58.75; 5. Nathan Adria (WLC), 1:00.17; 6. Gary Gubacz (SLU), 1:00.83; 7. Wagner (WU), 1:01.07; 8. Walker (WLN), 1:02.10.

100 breaststroke: 1. Bell (SLU), 59.06; 2. Topping (SLU), 1:01.27; 3. Shin Koyama (WLN), 1:02.19; 4. Simonich (MI), 1:02.27; 5. Gourov (SLU), 1:02.79; 6. Hazleton (WLN), 1:05.49; 7. Preston Healy (SLU), 1:06.81.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Northern (Buglak, Schwaiger, Rosely, McCann), 3:13.59; 2. South Lyon, 3:15.41; 3. Western, 3:22.17; 4. Milford, 3:25.79; 5. Waterford, 3:31.14; 6. Central, 3:39.86.

PREP BOWLING

South Lyon girls rule Division 2 regional

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

For the first time in four years, the South Lyon girls bowling team is headed to the state finals.

The Lions secured their spot Feb. 23 by winning the MHSAA Division 2 regional tournament at Westland's Oak Lanes with a total of 3,465 pins, including a 198 high game in the six-game Baker set and an 839 regular game best.

Also earning a spot in the team finals Friday, March 2, at Canton's Super Bowl Lanes were regional runner-up Warren Woods Tower (3,340) and South Lyon East (3,082).

Rounding out the 12-team field were Armada (3,068), Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (2,984), Marysville (2,879), Eastpointe (2,828), Bloomfield Hills Marian (2,798), Center Line (2,775), Livonia Ladywood (2,572), Redford Union (2,504) and Warren Fitzgerald (2,486).

South Lyon was led by a pair of juniors. Olivia Spaller rolled a 561 three-game series, including a high game of 191, while Katelyn Barton added 552, with a high game of 204. Other team members included Kate Riha, Reagan Austin, Makayla Stamper and Jordan Rempert.

"The girls had goal of making it back to states and they wanted the hardware," South Lyon coach Fred Ringose said.

East, coached by Gerald Raymor II, was led by seniors Anna Knechtel and Maddy Guzik, along with Angel VanAmberg, Giselle Hickman, Ashley Barati and Kierra Hamblin.

Girls singles

Barton was the individual singles champion Feb. 24 at Oak Lanes as she posted a 1,061 six-game total, including a high game of 204.

She will be making her second straight state finals singles appearance.

"Katelyn was determined to win the regionals, both team and singles, and worked hard all year to improve," Ringose said. "I was proud how she took hold of the team and made sure they were focused on the task at hand this week."

Also making the cut and earning top 10 all-region honors included Miranda Walker (Tower), 1,055; Guzik (East), 1,042; Theresa Carrier (Notre Dame Prep), 1,042; Melinda Yang (Tower), 1,035; Rachel Smiglewski (Center Line), 1,024; Cassie McCarren (Tower), 1,023; Kate Riha (South Lyon), 1,012; Kayla



The South Lyon East boys and girls bowling teams both qualified for the Division 2 team state finals.



The South Lyon girls bowling team hoists the regional trophy.

Nowicki (Eastpointe), 1,001; and Knechtel (East), 993.

East boys qualify

In the boys regional tourney Feb. 23 at Oak Lanes, Marysville (3,743), South Lyon East (3,735) and Armada (3,639) earned the first three qualifying spots. Rounding out the 14-school field were South Lyon (3,571), Orchard Lake St. Mary's (3,447), Center Line (3,368), Hazel Park (3,329), Warren Woods Tower (3,308), Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (3,305), Ferndale (3,295), Birmingham Brother Rice (3,267), Warren Fitzgerald (3,214), Eastpointe (3,174) and Redford Union (2,839).

East recorded a high regular game of 923, while adding 221 in the Baker game.

The Cougars were led by juniors Ben Stajdl (605 series), Dalton Cherry (563) and Ben Houck (559), along with Luke Erwin, Matt Sroka, Michael Louvar and Kendon Hamblin.

Boys singles

South Lyon junior Garrett Hurt posted high games of 239 and 238 to lead the field with a 1,288 six-game total to earn the individual regional title Feb. 24 at Oak Lanes. Hurt led from the second game on and defeated runner-up Brendan Best of Center Line (1,226) by 62 pins.

Also headed Saturday, March 3, to Canton's Super Bowl are Kylar Martinez (Marysville), 1,211; Angelo Colucci (Ferndale), 1,169; Jack Michael (Brother Rice),

1,167; Dan Madigan (St. Mary's), 1,163; Dylan Jones (Ferndale), 1,160; Marshal DiGiovanni (Marysville), 1,147; Jack Swanson (Notre Dame Prep), 1,145; and Carson Mills (Marysville), 1,140.

Girls D1 regional

In the girls team regional Feb. 24 at 300 Bowl in Waterford, the top three finishers were Holt (3,594), White Lake Lakeland (3,547) and Brighton (3,429) — all making it to the state finals Friday, March 2, at Sterling Lanes in Sterling Heights. Rounding out the 13-team regional girls field were Walled Lake Central (3,352), Hartland (3,352), Waterford Mott (3,328), North Farmington (3,165), Howell (2,952), Grand Ledge (2,947), Waterford Kettering (2,937), Milford (2,937), Walled Lake Northern (2,437) and Bloomfield Hills (2,398).

Mott's Skylin Allard was regional singles champion with a six-game total of 1,235, including a high game of 267.

Others advancing to the finals were runner-up Jenny Pelc (Lakeland), 1,172; Taylor McBride (Lakeland), 1,139; Julia Conway (Hartland), 1,126; Emily Manetz (Howell), 1,115; Abby Deslippe (Central), 1,101; Marisa Bruni (North Farmington), 1,063; Natalie Klein (Brighton), 1,060; Ashley Carr (Howell), 1,060; and Morgan Walters (Holt), 1,058.

Boys D1 regional

Waterford Kettering (3,888) captured the team title Feb. 23 at 300 Bowl with Walled Lake Central and North Farmington placing second and third with 3,860 and 3,833, respectively. Rounding out the 14-school field were Hartland (3,766), Walled Lake Northern (3,751), Waterford Mott (3,713), Holt (3,689), Lakeland (3,631), Howell (3,610), Brighton (3,371), Bloomfield Hills (3,348), Milford (3,291), Grand Ledge (2,963) and Walled Lake Western (2,562).

Kettering's Mark Meade was the individual singles champion Feb. 24 at 300 Bowl with a six-game total of 1,279, including a high game of 236.

Other state qualifiers were Spencer McCallum (North Farmington), 1,274; Nick Casagrande (Central), 1,257; Nathan Billotta (Kettering), 1,222; Carson Davis (Bloomfield Hills), 1,217; Aaron Damron (Kettering), 1,211; Hunter Gates (Kettering), 1,204; Evan Griffin (Hartland), 1,202; Steve Levra (Holt), 1,195; and Aaron Lenz (Lakeland), 1,189.

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Detroit CC falls just short in A-B Division semifinal

Brad Emons
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USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It was the ghost of Jerry West as Warren De La Salle's Justin Fischer turned into "Mr. Clutch" in a 62-59 boys basketball win Feb. 21 over Novi Detroit Catholic Central.

The senior guard scored a game-high 20 points, but more importantly, nailed four straight free throws, coupled with a key late steal — all in the final 33 seconds — as the Pilots pulled out the Catholic League A-B Division semifinal win at Birmingham Marian.

It was the third meeting between the two teams and the Pilots (13-5) were able to make it 3-0 against their Central Division rival.

"Big dog fight. It was a great team win. My teammates believed in me and I believed in them," said Fischer, who scored six fourth-quarter points against the Shamrocks. "I just love these guys and it's fun to play with them."

The Shamrocks (11-6) committed back-to-back turnovers to end the third quarter and the Pilots made them pay on baskets by Keith Larson and Easton Sikorski during the final nine seconds to go up, 53-44.

CC, however, clawed back and tied the game at 55-55 when junior forward Davis Lukowski nailed two free throws with 1:37 remaining.

But just 25 seconds later, De La Salle's Jordan Winowiecki hit a clutch triple from the wing to make it 58-55 after the Pilots went more than five minutes without scoring a point.

CC answered with a basket by Thomas Sylvester and two more free throws by Lukowski, but Fischer kept the Shamrocks at arm's length with four straight free throws in the final 33 sec-

"I was really proud of the effort that we had in terms of fighting back all night."

Bill Dyer
Catholic Central coach

onds and then came up with the critical steal with just over 10 seconds left.

He was immediately fouled, but missed the front end of a one-and-one with 9.7 seconds remaining to give CC one last opportunity.

Lukowski, however, threw up an off-balance shot at the top of the key that missed the mark before the horn sounded and De La Salle was able to hang on.

"I was really proud of the effort that we had in terms of fighting back all night," CC coach Bill Dyer said. "I really thought we showed a lot of heart tonight. At times, I thought, in terms of them having a lot of seniors, they could have finished us off at a point, but we just kept fighting."

For the game, Fischer was 6-of-8 from the foul line, including four straight when it counted the most.

"I've been struggling a little bit lately, but it feels good to make those free throws down the stretch," he said.

In addition to Fischer, Winowiecki added 14 points, while Kole Gjonaj and Luke Pfromm contributed 11 and nine, respectively, for the Pilots, who shot 41 percent from the field (23-of-56).

"We did some not smart things, lost our composure a little bit," De La Salle coach Greg Esler said of the fourth quarter. "But Winowiecki hit that big three and Fischer was fabulous all game long ... made those free throws down the stretch. Seniors are supposed to do that



De La Salle's Justin Fischer

and that was big."

Justin Rukat, who scored 10 first-half points, led CC with 15, while Lukowski and A.J. Abdelnour chipped in 14 and 13, respectively. Sylvester came off to the bench to add eight.

"Catholic Central gave us everything we wanted tonight," Esler said. "I thought it was a very good game. They're getting better, a lot of juniors and Abdelnour played very good. Dyer had them ready. We certainly did not out-coach them tonight, no doubt about it."

Here are some other takeaways:

HANDLING PRESSURE

The Shamrocks committed only 11 turnovers against De La Salle's trapping full-court defense. It was a far cry from the previous two meetings, when they lost 70-57 on the road and 59-58 at home.

"We thought their guards were not going to handle our pressure," Esler said. "The first two games ... they had 21 turnovers the last time we played them at their building and they turned the ball over at our place, but they did a great job handling the ball and kept using the in-bounder and kept bringing guys to the middle. So our press tonight was not effective. They did not turn the ball over like they normally do. Credit to them."

ABLE TO RALLY

The Shamrocks led 17-14 at halftime, but a 19-12 second-quarter run by De La Salle put the Pilots up 34-27 at intermission. De La Salle then outscored CC in the third, 20-15, to go up, 53-44.

"Down nine, it looked like we were in trouble," Dyer said. "But we just kept playing. We made our way to the basket a couple of times, started hitting some free throws and closed that gap. And we had a chance, but just didn't make plays down the stretch."

DIFFERENCE MAKER

Fischer was consistent throughout, scoring four points in the first quarter, four in the second and six in both the third and fourth quarters.

"I don't think we exactly played him correctly with about five or six minutes to go," Dyer said. "We were pressing out on him and he got to the basket on us. He has length and he hurt us around the basket in the fourth, for sure."

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Catholic Central posts impressive semifinal win

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Brendin Yatooma set the tone and his Detroit Catholic Central teammates followed suit.

In the opening match of the MHSAA Division 1 team wrestling state semifinals Saturday morning against Davison, the sophomore scored a one-point escape move against Cal Stefanko and the 1-0 decision catapulted the Shamrocks to a convincing 49-6 victory in at the Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo.

The Shamrocks captured 12 of the 14 matches, including the first 10 against the fifth-seeded Cardinals (25-6), and it was Yatooma who got the ball rolling at 189 pounds.

"I just went out there and did my thing," said Yatooma, an individual state qualifier who improved his record to 34-9 overall. "I got out, then rode him out, stayed tough, kept going, worked hard ... believed in my coaches all year."

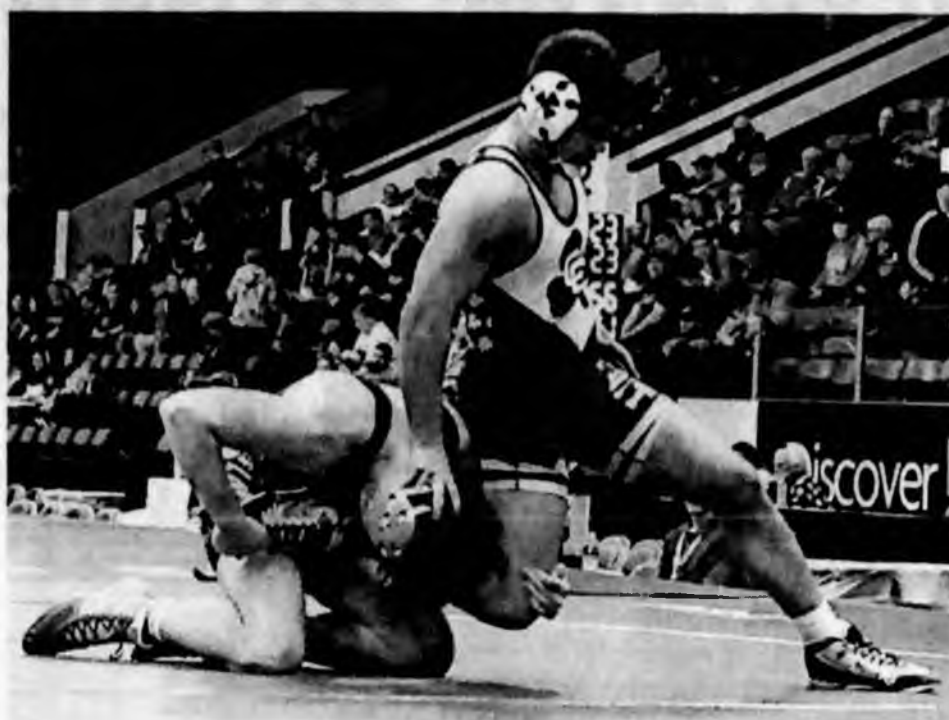
Stefanko came into the match with a stellar 37-3 record.

"I faced him last year and he got the better of me," Yatooma said. "I think he majored me one time and beat me by just a regular decision the other time, so it was pretty nice to get that win. I felt normal. You just got to be ready to go. Can't be nervous, because it's me up."

CC coach Mitch Hancock juggled his lineup to try and get a favorable match-up at 189.

"We went with the weight advantage there," he said. "We had (Rory) Cox also, he's a lighter 189-pounder than Yatooma. (Yatooma) is extremely athletic, he's a sophomore, starting middle line-backer on our football team. We knew the heavier guy would give Stefanko the harder time. He went out there and wrestled his butt off and did a nice job, so a great win for him."

Other winners for CC via pin were



Catholic Central's Aidan Wagh (top) earned a 5-3 overtime win over Davison's Trevor McGowan. BRAD EMONS

Daniel Rehfeldt (103), Ben Kamali (119) and Derek Gilcher (140), while scoring major decisions were Easton Turner (215) and Cameron Amine (160).

Other wins for the Shamrocks came from Steven Kolchey (285), Devon Johnsen (112), Dominick Lomazzo (125), Stone Moscovic (130), Joshua Edmond (135) and Aidan Wagh (171).

Moscovic and Wagh both won in extra time, while Davison freshman Alex Facundo ended CC's 42-point run when he outlasted two-time state champion Kevon Davenport of CC at 145 in an OT defensive battle after it was tied at 1-1 at the end of regulation.

Davison's only other win came at 152 pounds, when Brian Cole decisioned Joe Urso, 5-3.

The Facundo-Davenport meeting was the marquee match-up of the morning. Facundo improved to 26-0 overall, while Davenport slipped to 36-3.

"You've got two (NCAA) Division I wrestlers there," Hancock said. "Two nationally-ranked guys, two top five guys in the country. They have great Fargo (N.D.) experience. It's a bull fight out there. We have to have a little more courage and go out and take a few more chances ... we'd like an opportunity to win those matches, but Kevon is our leader, he'll bounce back."

"Many coaches probably would have worked around that match-up and maybe put (Joe) Urso on him or a back-up on him and avoided that match-up, but that's not who we are and that's not Kevon is. He wanted that match-up as well."

Davison coach Roy Hall also appreciated the fact that two of the state's best were able to lock horns.

"I'm sure the fans liked it and they're both good athletes no doubt, but I think they could have put more points on the

board," said Hall, who has guided the Cardinals to six state titles and four runner-up finishes. "Maybe a little cautious, but they're both great athletes. I'm happy for Alex, but on the same token ... I appreciate the fact that Mitch (Hancock) allowed that match to happen, too, even though they didn't have to put them out there. I give him kudos for that."

Meanwhile, another key victory for CC came at 112 when Johnsen avenged four previous losses to decision Steven Garty, 8-1.

"I got give credit to Devon Johnsen," Hancock said. "Devon is a returning state placer from a year ago, gives up his individual state tournament to focus on the team state tournament to keep his shoulder healthy and goes out there with one arm and beats Garty the way he did ... it was absolutely remarkable. That match, as well as Yatooma's match, just incredibly impressive. So I have to tip my hat off to Devon, I'm incredibly proud of him."

In an earlier meeting Jan. 19 at CC, the Shamrocks prevailed on their senior night, 36-17, but the rematch was more lopsided despite several competitive matches.

"You hope and you wish you can win some tight matches, but they're a little better than us in a lot of places," Hall said. "It's a tough team."

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MHSAA DIVISION 1 TEAM WRESTLING TOURNAMENT SEMIFINAL RESULTS

Feb. 24 at Wings Event Center, DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL 49, DAVISON 6
189 pounds: Brendin Yatooma (CC) decisioned Cal Stefanko, 1-0; 215: Easton Turner (CC) won by major dec. over Travis Eads, 12-0; 285: Steven Kolchey (CC) dec. Aron Gilmore, 3-2; 103: Daniel Rehfeldt (CC) pinned Mackenzie Gilbert, 5-46; 112: Devon Johnsen (CC) dec. Steve Garty, 8-1; 119: Ben Kamali (CC) p. Andrew Charnal, 5-02; 125: Dominick Lomazzo (CC) dec. James Johnston, 7-2; 130: Stone Moscovic (CC) dec. Raymond Cole, 2-2 (UTB); 135: Joshua Edmond (CC) dec. March Schaeffer, 6-2; 140: Derek Gilcher (CC) p. Landon Kish, 10-7; 145: Alex Facundo (D) dec. Kevon Davenport, 2-2 (UTB); 152: Brian Case (D) dec. Joe Urso, 5-3; 160: Cameron Amine (CC) won by major dec. over Jay Nivison, 21-9; 171: Aidan Wagh (CC) dec. Trevor McGowan, 5-3 (SV-1).
Dual match records: Detroit CC, 28-1 overall; Davison, 25-6 overall.

YOUTH WRESTLING



The Matcats came away with a pair of titles at the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association Team Dual State Finals in Kalamazoo. NICOLE HOPKINS

Matcats bring home state titles in two tournaments

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The trip to Petoskey proved to be well worth it Feb. 24 as the Michigan Matcats won 74 percent of their matches and came away with six state championships at the North East Michigan Wrestling Association finals.

Matcats champions were Mason Aluia, Gavin Boller, Carter McGlinch, Aidan Meyers, Travis Richardson and Aidan Smith.

Cole Schwegler, Tayden Plave, Drake Pollins and Anthony Madeffarri all placed runner-up, while Ethan Smith placed third.

"Our leaders came through and helped give our younger wrestlers the confidence they needed to shine when they needed to," Matcats coach Steve Richardson said.

Meanwhile, the Matcats sent three teams Feb. 25 to the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association Team State Finals Dual Tournament at the Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo.

The Matcats girls eighth-grade and under team repeated as champion for the sixth year in a row, going undefeated led by all-tournament MVP Grace Gallop.

"As we grow, our veterans teach our newest the ropes and they earned their way into the lineup, many times becoming state team members," Richardson said. "Always a leader, Grace has sacrificed her personal gain for the team,

moving weight classes and taking a back seat when needed. She went undefeated, claiming her spot as one of the best female wrestlers the Matcats have ever had."

Meanwhile, the Matcats' sixth-grade and under squad also placed first, going undefeated with an 18-0 MYWAY dual match record, capped by a 54-21 win in the finals over Hartland.

"This team is the best sixth-grade and under team we've ever fielded," Richardson said. "We were a bit nervous as we were voiding a weight at 135 pounds. Our kids reminded us that they could more than make up for the loss. At no time during our season or the state finals were we down more than 21 points."

The Matcats third-grade and under team also placed fifth in a field of 14, losing only to Davison in the prelims and Jackson by just one match.

"These young kids worked extremely hard with a lineup that included many new Matcats," Richardson said. "Our future is bright and we're only going to get better as these kids grow and develop."

The Matcats Sabrina Nauss and Nathan Walkowiak both earned all-tournament honors, while Peerlees Schuster was unanimously named Most Valuable Wrestler by his peers and coaches.

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PREP WRESTLING

Catholic Central pins Hudsonville in shutout

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

They call it the elite eight, or the quarterfinals, of the MHSAA's Division 1 team wrestling state tournament.

But by the looks of it after the opening round at Kalamazoo's Wings Event Center, there's only one elite team.

Novi Detroit Catholic Central opened defense of its state championship by scoring seven pins and adding four major decisions in demolishing Hudsonville, 67-0.

Last year, CC won the team title at Central Michigan University's McGuirk Arena and it looks like the Shamrocks are the class of the field once again at the new venue in Kalamazoo.

The Eagles (29-8), who were seeded eighth, proved to be no match for mighty Catholic Central, whose only loss this year is to nationally-ranked Lakewood (Ohio) St. Edward, 32-15.

"I think the overall thought process was to get our starters on the mat at once. I want them feeling this environment," CC coach Mitch Hancock. "It's a new environment, so that's thought process behind that. They all performed well. I saw a lot of bonus points being scored and they looked sharp, so we got to carry that into tomorrow."

Scoring six-point wins on pins for Catholic Central were Joshua Edmond (130 pounds), Logan Sanom (140), Kevon Davenport (145), Cameron Amine (160), Daniel Rehfeldt (103), Devon Johnsen (112) and Ben Kamali (119).

Adding four-point major decisions for CC were Derek Gilcher (135), Aidan Wagh (171), Easton Turner (215) and Stone Moscovic (125).

Among the other winners by decision for the Shamrocks were Joe Urso (152), Rory Cox (189) and Steven Kolchey (285).

"I thought they all wrestled up to their ability," Hancock said. "I thought they all looked really good. Nobody really surprised me. I thought (Derek) Gilcher did a really good job with (Jack) Samuels at 135. That kid is a really, really good kid. He's the No. 1 seed in the west region, so for Gilcher to beat him that soundly, that was a nice performance by him. And then



Catholic Central's Rory Cox (top) won his 189-pound match against Hudsonville's Marcus Kachur. TOM HAWLEY

(Ben) Kamali ... obviously that kid (Kameron Kempker) is the No. 1 seed in that region, so he's a top four seed at the individual state tournament. So his win was pretty dominant."

Cox, a senior captain, won a 5-0 decision against Marcus Kachur.

"It went really well, it's a great atmosphere because we're on an elevated platform this year, it's pretty cool and a great atmosphere overall," said Cox, who improved to 33-5 overall. "I think I did OK. I think I could have done better, scored more bonus points, but it was OK."

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com.

MHSAA DIVISION 1 TEAM WRESTLING QUARTERFINALS

Feb. 24 at Wings Event Center, DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL 67, HUDSONVILLE 0
130 pounds: Joshua Edmond (CC) pinned Tyler West (Hudsonville), 1-00; 135: Derek Gilcher (CC) won by major decision over Jack Samuels, 12-1; 140: Logan Sanom (CC) p. Cameron Ensing, 1-23; 145: Kevon Davenport (CC) p. James Samuels, 2-28; 152: Joe Urso (CC) dec. Westport (CC) p. James Samuels, 2-28; 157: Easton Turner (CC) won by major dec. over Bryce Herrera, 15-7; 160: Cameron Amine (CC) p. Evan Mol, 2-00; 171: Aidan Wagh (CC) won by major dec. over Kyle Scott, 15-3; 215: Easton Turner (CC) won by major dec. over Kyle Scott, 15-3; 285: Steven Kolchey (CC) dec. Seth Moorhead, 7-3; 103: Daniel Rehfeldt (CC) p. Dante Kish, 0-52; 112: Devon Johnsen (CC) p. Christian Dow, 0-57; 119: Ben Kamali (CC) p. Kameron Kempker, 3-00; 125: Stone Moscovic (CC) won by major dec. over Evan Higgs, 13-4.
Dual match records: Detroit CC, 27-1; Hudsonville, 29-8.

Among 70 dead cattle, five survived

Robert Allen
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

About 70 rotting animal carcasses and knee-deep muck surrounded five skeletal cattle found starving last fall across two Livingston County locations.

Now the survivors have a bright future.

"They are phenomenally better than when we got them," said Dorothy Davies, co-owner of the Sanctuary and Safe Haven for Animals, a Manchester farm in Washtenaw County that adopted the cows, along with three rescued pigs.

The grisly discovery, which included many carcasses rotted to bone, was reported in November by the Livingston County Press. At the time, the location of the surviving animals was kept secret because of a pending animal-cruelty case against the properties' owner, Keith Edwin Huck Jr., 61, of Cohoctah Township.

He's to be sentenced March 12 in 53rd District Court after taking a plea deal on four misdemeanor charges (animal abandonment, failing to bury a dead animal, stray dog and unlicensed dog) with a maximum penalty of 93 days in jail. His sentencing had been scheduled for Monday, but it was adjourned; Livingston County Prosecutor William Vaillencourt didn't immediately respond to a voice mail requesting comment on the postponement.

Davies, who's been rescuing animals for more than 30 years, said the cows were in the worst condition she's ever seen when the organization took custody of them Sept. 29. The rescuers arrived to find cows wading through manure, mud and corpses.

"They were extremely bony," she said. "Their ribs looked like you'd cut yourself with your hand, they were so sticking out."

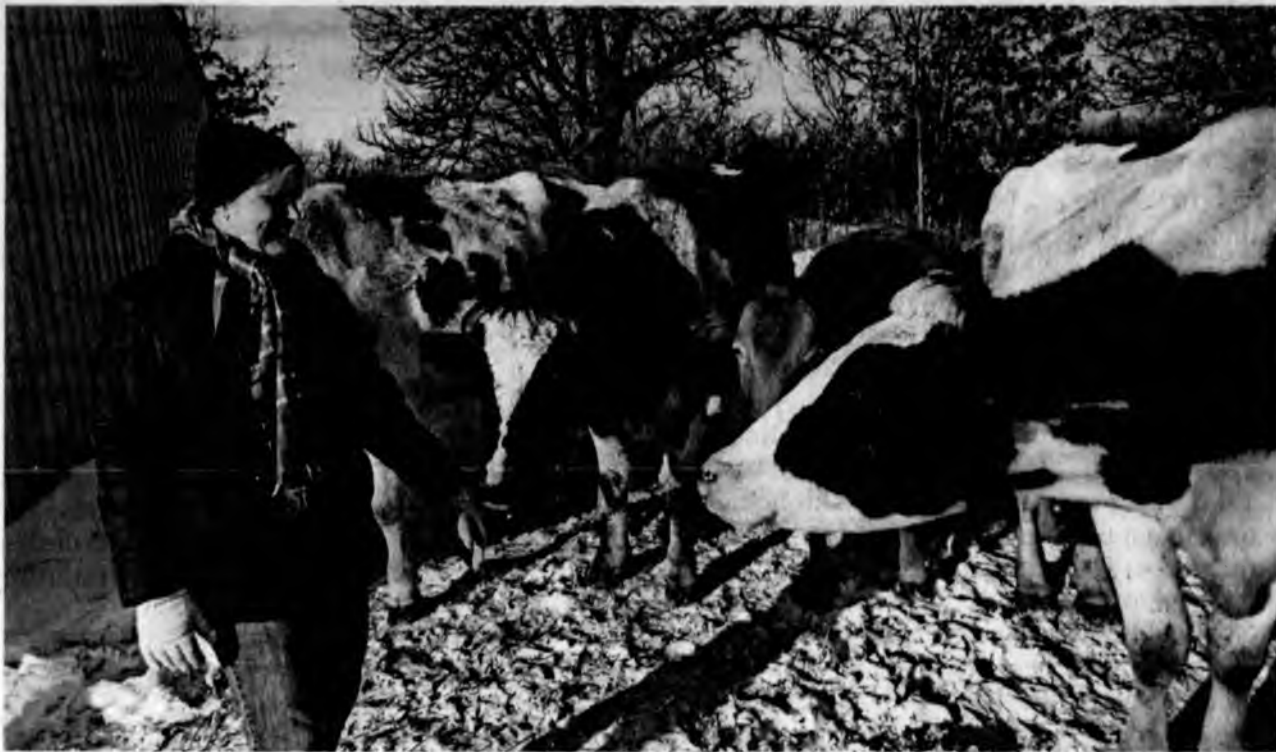
It is unclear how the cows died, the Livingston County Press reported.

"If they die, they're not worth anything," Davies said. "Why would somebody just let them keep dying? It was really bad."

She estimates the cows to be about 5 years old. At Davies' farm, they'll never face slaughter, living perhaps 10 or more years.

"They hang out together, they'll make friends," said Davies, whose farm includes cows, goats, emus and more. "I will suspect these cows will probably stay near each other the rest of their lives."

The Livingston County Press reported that one of



Dorothy Davies, co-owner of Sanctuary and Safe Haven for Animals in Manchester, takes care of five rescued cows. "They are phenomenally better than when we got them. Their ribs looked like you'd cut yourself with your hand, they were so sticking out." ROBERT ALLEN | DETROIT FREE PRESS

the properties was in the 4000 block of West Hayner and the other was identified only by its tax ID number, about a half-mile away.

Davies said four of the cows were at one location and they were standing in muck with four dead animals "floating around in that mess, that had started to sink in."

Hay was within sight, but they couldn't reach it from their pen, she said. At the other property, one cow was isolated among more carcasses.

"The barn floor was totally covered with bones," Davies said. "You really couldn't walk without stepping on someone. There was 'crunch-crunch' the whole way. It was horrible."

She said it appeared the cows went unfed through the summer. She also said that while she disagrees with eating animals, the way these were treated was "just wrong."

"I said to our vet, 'You've probably seen stuff like

this before' and he said, 'No, never this bad,'" Davies said, adding that on a scale of "one-to-five," with "one" being the worst, he said they were a "one."

She said the steers (male cattle) hadn't been properly castrated and they'll need surgery. They need a series of injections and blood work and some of the caked-on muck still needs to be rinsed off their bodies — something she didn't want to do in winter, possibly causing them stress in the cold. Their hooves also need trimming, but otherwise, they're in good health, eating about \$100 worth of hay per day.

"They're happy," she said. "They're a little standoffish still. But they're going to be OK, I think. ... The rest of their life, they will be loved, cared for and fed and, hopefully, they don't have long memories about what their start in life was."

Livingston County Press reporter Laura Colvin contributed to this report.

I-696 road work could turn into nightmare

Christina Hall
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Consider this your two- to three-month warning.

Orange barrel season is right around the corner and this one, particularly in Macomb County, is going to be a doozy. You might want to start planning your new route to work, to the Detroit Zoo or any other place you frequent using major east-west freeway I-696 now.

Here's why: a badly needed, \$90 million reconstruction of I-696 from I-75 to I-94 starts this spring, detouring all westbound traffic, roughly for six months. While eastbound traffic will flow, entrance and exit points will be limited starting in mid-summer.

There's also a \$20 million repair and maintenance fix coming to I-696 between I-75 and I-275 in Oakland County, also starting in the spring. That project will be at night, often with only one lane open, and have weekend work, including 10 full weekend closures somewhere in the county. The schedule is not yet available.

Simply put, you're going to want to avoid using I-696 if you can.

Even before the big overhaul begins on I-696, the Michigan Department of Transportation now is starting \$5 million in emergency repairs — filling potholes, removing loose concrete and improving the road surface — in both directions of the freeway from I-275 to I-94 in an effort to prevent crumbling road material from flying up and hitting windshields.

When the real work gets underway, the closure of the westbound lanes of I-696 in Macomb County means about 75,000 drivers daily (the freeway has about 150,000 vehicles both ways each day) will be finding other ways to get around.

The official MDOT detour will be about 25 miles along freeways into Detroit — westbound I-94 to northbound I-75 to westbound I-696 — clogging already busy stretches, especially during rush hours.

But we know no one, really, is going to take that detour except maybe large trucks or visitors unfamiliar with the area. So what's a local driver to do?

Depending on where you live, one east-west option is Hall Road/M-59 in Macomb and Oakland counties. But a stretch of that thoroughfare in Macomb County — one of the state's busiest commercial corridors with 90,000 vehicles a day — also will be lined with construction barrels.

MDOT will be reconstructing Hall/M-59 from west of Garfield to Romeo Plank roads in Clinton and Macomb townships, with utility work for temporary traffic signals already underway. The work will be near Macomb Community College and the Mall at Partridge Creek.

This is the second phase of a two-year, \$60 million project to rebuild that road, with the first leg completed last year in Sterling Heights, Shelby Township and Utica. Like last year, three lanes of traffic will be open in both directions during the daytime work, with two, 10-day intersection closures at some point each for Garfield and Romeo Plank roads.

This project, combined with the I-696 rebuild, makes for "one of the biggest construction seasons ever in Macomb (County)," MDOT Spokeswoman Diane Cross said.

So what are some other options to get around the I-696 westbound closure?

"We all know what's gonna happen. They're gonna take every east-west route between Eight Mile and 16 Mile," said Walt Schell, a highway engineer with the Macomb County Department of Roads.

That might not be a bad alternative, but many of these local roads already are busy and in bad shape without the additional spillover.

Stretches of the mile roads in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties were listed in poor condition in 2015-16, according to a Southeast Michigan Council of Governments pavement condition map. And there were more roads listed in poor condition in all three counties in 2016-17 compared with 2007, according to SEMCOG.

"That is our concern. The mile roads really bog down on a good day," said Craig Bryson, spokesman for the Road Commission for Oakland County. "I would anticipate they'll be close to or at gridlock during rush-hour times."

"Many of them are in poor condition today," he added. "Traffic makes concrete break down. It's not a good scenario in that respect."

Cross said crews are trying to patch a crumbling Eight Mile "as much as we can," in anticipation of drivers taking that road, which straddles Detroit and its northern neighbors.

Warren Mayor Jim Fouts said that he anticipates 12 Mile will be "ground zero" for drivers seeking an alternate route, severely affecting that road that's already busy with GM Tech Center traffic.

Fouts said he also anticipates the 11 Mile service drive will be "equally a nightmare," with residents living along mile roads possibly facing delays getting in and out of their properties.

"The entire metro area is going to be a definite challenge. It'll be a maze of roadwork," he said. "It's going to be a domino effect."

Jeff Neumann, owner of T.J.'s Barber & Styling Shop on 12 Mile in Warren, said the extra traffic, however, might generate more business.

Schell said Macomb County road officials tried "not to have anything substantial on the parallel routes" during both MDOT road projects in that county.

There is no "single massive project" planned on a mile road by the Road Commission for Oakland County, Bryson said.

However, he said there will be concrete-patching projects in various sections of 10 Mile — the I-696 service drive — in Royal Oak, Hazel Park and Madison Heights.

"That'll be a little unpleasant, to say the least," Bryson said.

Officials in Oakland and Macomb counties said there will be some construction on other roads that drivers might use between I-696 and Hall Road that might impact their commutes.

Dequindre Road, a north-south road on the Troy-Sterling Heights border, will undergo a widening project — from two to five lanes — between 18 Mile and 19 Mile. It's a \$16.5 million project that has been on the books for two to three decades and is now coming to fruition, Bryson said.

He said there also is some concrete slab replace-

ment work planned for Southfield Road north and south of I-696 in Southfield and Lathrup Village that could have some impact on drivers.

"It's going to be a rough year, literally and figuratively, on the roads," Cross said.

Obituaries

Matthew Scott Boyd

CHURUBUSCO, IN - 52, passed away on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, surrounded by his family. He was born on September 20, 1965, the third of four children, to Jim and Sharon (Heller) Boyd in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

Matt graduated from Batesville High School, class of 1983; and from Hanover College, class of 1987, where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and played on the football and golf teams. Matt was an avid sports enthusiast who played throughout his life. His greatest joy was supporting his children in their endeavors, most recently, his son, Cameron's, baseball career at IPFW. Matt was a lifelong Cincinnati Bengals fan and enjoyed cheering them on every Sunday in the fall. He loved going pheasant hunting with his dogs, country music, evenings on the lake, and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

Matt will lovingly be remembered by his family as our "fearless leader." His courage, strength, spontaneity and love of life will be missed dearly.

Matt is survived by his parents, Jim & Sharon Boyd; high school sweetheart and wife of 30 years, Piper (Perdue) Boyd; their daughter, Madison; sons, Chandler and Cameron Boyd; three grandchildren, Miles, Brooks and Jocelyn; and siblings, Kathi (Boyd) Ray, Tim Boyd and Molly Boyd.

Visitation was held Saturday, February 24, 2018 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, Noblesville, IN. Friends and family remembered and celebrated Matt's life at the Fishers American Legion. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Matt's honor to the Leukemia Research Foundation, 191 Waukegan Road, Suite 105, Northfield, IL 60093. Condolences: www.randallroberts.com



Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Lorraine M. DeBoutte

NORTHVILLE - Lorraine M. DeBoutte, age 82, lifelong resident of Northville, passed away on February 18, 2018. She was born August 31, 1935 in Northville, Michigan; daughter of Alexander and Johanna (nee Kurkowski) Funke, Sr. Lorraine met Robert J. DeBoutte, Sr. while working as a waitress at Bohls Restaurant in Northville. They were united in marriage on April 26, 1965; she and Robert spent 52 loving years together until his death on October 17, 2017. Lorraine was a devoted homemaker; she took magnificent care of her family. She also worked outside of the home at many local businesses in Northville; including a cashier at the Dime Store, a waitress at Bohls, and at Northville Downs, as well as working on the line at Burroughs in Plymouth. She was a member of VFW Post 4012 Auxiliary, where she was an active volunteer. Lorraine had a wonderful sense of humor; she was always joking around or had a joke to share. Her personality likened her to Lucille Ball with her best friend, Joanne Gearns as Ethel Mertz. Lorraine loved music and dancing, she danced so much with her children in the front room of her home that they cracked the beams. She was very competitive and enjoyed playing cards, bingo, and pool. She also enjoyed fishing and adored her dogs. Lorraine was incredibly good hearted, and although she was tough, she was thoughtful and put her heart and soul into everything she did. She loved helping people and gave fantastic advice. Lorraine is survived by her loving children, Jimmy (Teresa) Wallace, Johnny (Debbie) Wallace, Carol (Jerry) Cronk, and Bobby DeBoutte, Jr.; her brother, George (Mary) Funke; 12 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, her brothers Alex Funke, Jim Funke, and Walt Nafranowitz, and her sister Marce Herter. The Funeral Service was held Friday, February 23, 2018 at Casterline Funeral Home, Northville. Lorraine was laid to rest next to her husband at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to VFW Post 4012, 438 S. Main St., Northville, MI 48167 or American Legion Post 147, 101 W. Dunlap, Northville, MI 48167. Share condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com.



CASTERLINE
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Henry Everett Combs

HIGHLAND - Henry Everett Combs was born on September 6, 1938 A.D., in Hazard, Kentucky and was called to eternal life on February 23, 2018 in Highland, Michigan at the age of 79 years.

Henry was the auto teacher at Milford High School from 1972 through 1995 and coached many sports over the years. Henry married Paulina (nee Carlson) on August 31, 1963. They were married for 54 years and both were graduates of Milford High School and life long residents.

In addition to his wife, Polly, he is survived by his children, Greg & Jennifer Combs, Stacy Combs & Christopher Conklin, Justin & Bethany Combs and fifteen grandchildren. Also, by his siblings, John (Bonnie) Combs and Mary Van Buskirk. He is also survived by Al, Rich, Jim, Linda, Laurie, Sue and Crystal. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Amy, parents, William and Anna Lee (nee Eversole) Combs, brothers Donald and Wilson, sisters Dorothy and Karen.

Funeral Services were held at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartland on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in his name to Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church or to Milford High School Varsity Hockey.

For further information please phone 248.684.6645 or visit www.LynchandSonsMilford.com



James Stewart McIntosh

MILFORD - James Stewart McIntosh, a long time resident of Milford, died on February 24, 2018 at the age of 87.

Jim is survived by his wife, Sally Walker-McIntosh, his children; Aengus (Shasta) McIntosh, Elizabeth (Jeff) Dalziel, Cameron McIntosh. Her children, William (Donna) Walker III, Kelly Walker, and Tracey Walker; and their grandchildren, Mannon, Callum, Havanna, Vaidden, Durrigen McIntosh, Michael McIntosh, Chloe, William IV, Elanore and Amelia Walker; sisters, Mary (Dean) Kaylor, Bonnie (the late Dick) Palmer, many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his son, Douglas McIntosh, and his brother, Bill McIntosh.

James was a member of the 1956 U.S. Olympic 4-Oared Silver Medal winning rowing team in Sydney, Australia, along with participating and medaling in many other competitive games for the United States. He was retired from the General Motors Proving Ground in Milford, where he worked as an engineer for thirty years. In retirement he attended and graduated from carpenter's trade school and also enjoyed working as a parking attendant at Novi High School.

Memorials may be made in his name to the "Friends of Detroit Rowing," 27551 Packham Dr., Lathrup Village, MI 48076, for the advancement of youth rowing. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchandSonsMilford.com



Catherine Boettcher

- August 21, 1927 - February 15, 2018 Expressions of sympathy may be made to obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com

Rachael Jackson

- May 13, 1953 - February 18, 2018 Expressions of sympathy may be made to obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com

Maria Steur

- December 11, 1924-February 16, 2018 Expressions of sympathy may be made at obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com



Mary Alice Jessop

HOWELL - Jessop, Mary Alice, age 85, of Howell, formerly of Palmetto, Florida, passed Sunday, February 25, 2018 at the Willows of Howell. A funeral mass will be celebrated 11 AM Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at St. Augustine Catholic Church, 6481 Faussett Road, Howell.



Fr. Gregg A. Pleiness celebrant. Mary will be laid to rest with her husband, parents, grandparents, and great great grandparents in St. Augustine Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will take place 4-9 PM Monday at Sharp Funeral Homes, Linden Chapel, 209 East Broad Street, Linden where a rosary will be prayed at 7 PM. Those desiring may make contributions to St. Joseph's Indian School (www.stjo.org) in South Dakota or Livingston Catholic Charities (www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org). Mary was born March 20, 1932 in Lansing, the daughter of Emmett and Florence Marion (Purcell) Conklin. She grew up in Milford, Michigan. Mary was a secretary for General Motors until she started a family. She married Donald Earl Jessop in Milford on October 15, 1955 and he preceded her in death on September 23, 2006. During their marriage of over 50 years they traveled extensively, visiting 49 states. Mary was very proud of her Catholic faith and Irish ancestry. She is survived by her daughter, Terese Gainer of Howell; son, John (Sandra) Jessop of Hamtramck; five grandchildren; two great grandchildren; two step grandchildren; three step great grandchildren; siblings, Patrick (Dolores) Conklin, Robert (Beatrice) Conklin, Dawn Alfes (Tom), Nancy Cason (James), Peggy Prawdzik (Bob); sister in law, Carole Conklin; numerous nieces and nephews. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and her brother, Michael Conklin. Special thanks to the staff of The Willows at Howell Assisted Living and Great Lakes Caring Hospice. Tributes may be shared at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com

Sharp
FUNERAL HOMES

Patricia Sedgewick

NORTHVILLE - Patricia Elizabeth Sedgewick, Northville, Age 87. Patricia Elizabeth Sedgewick's valiant and prolonged battle with Alzheimer's disease came to an end on February 25, 2018. Pat was born March 17, 1930. Until her health condition prevented her from being actively involved in various events, Pat had maintained her relationships with her Redford Union alumni, her Kresge girls and her former North Dearborn Heights neighbors. Pat and her husband, Joe, were active members of Our Lady of Victory Church on the float and entertainment committees and helped with community outreach at their church and neighborhood whenever needed. Pat loved her family, her church and neighborhood. She loved doing the Victorian home tours, and the duck races during the Victorian festivals were never missed. She enjoyed gardening, sewing, crossword puzzles and never missed a chance to share time and travels with her grandchildren. Pat leaves behind her husband and life partner for the past 64 plus years, Joe, her daughters, Jan (John) Lajza, Kathy (Ron) Harkness, Maureen (Tom) Acheson, Joanne (Ron) Schwab and son Bob (Cibele) Sedgewick. All her immediate family, including her 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, extended family and friends will treasure her life and all the memories made and shared of a life well lived. Resting at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, 19091 Northville Road (at 7 mile Rd.) Thursday from 1-8 p.m., with a rosary at 7 p.m. Funeral Friday at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 132 Orchard Dr. (W. of Center) instate at 10 a.m., until time of Mass at 10:30 a.m. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com.



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southlyonfirstunited.org

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www.fumcnorthville.org

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Novi

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What to ask when negotiating a job offer

 BY KATE LOPAZE
THEJOBNETWORK.COM

You have a job offer — awesome! Your work is done, right? After all, you've made it through the resume pile/interview/second interview gauntlet and emerged as the winner. Not so fast, champ ... you still have some work to do. The job offer is just the start of the next phase: negotiating. This is your chance to get as much compensation as you can while you prepare to start this new phase of your career.

Let's review the most important questions to ask as you start to negotiate salary and/or benefits with your new employer:

1. How are employees reviewed, and how is this tied to salary increases?

This question lets you know what you can expect down the line and what you should negotiate up front. If the salary seems low and the company is unlikely to budge very much during this first phase, you can start making your plan — and your case — for an increase later on.

If raises at this company are tied to good performance reviews, you can go in to the job on day one with the goal of achieving an "excellent" (or

whatever the metric is), and can talk with your manager to set specific goals so you'll be in good shape when it comes time to talk about a pay bump.

2. Besides the base pay, are any benefits negotiable?

This gives you a sense of the playing field. If you can't

negotiate time off, insurance coverage or other benefits, there's no point in spending your time and energy on those points.

It also lets you push a bit on the salary, if nothing else is up for discussion. Knowing what's flexible and what's not will help you target your negotiation.

3. What is the fiscal year for this company?

This question is a good one to ask because it'll tell you when your next window for negotiation or a raise will be. If you're starting at the beginning of a year and the company's fiscal year starts in January, then you'll have a straightforward year before an increase.

But if you're starting in January and their fiscal year ends after the first quarter (April), you'll be waiting significantly longer than a year for a potential salary increase. That gives you a bit of leverage to say, "Since it will be more than a year until I'm eligible for a salary review, I'm hoping we can start with a slightly higher initial salary."

4. Can you send me employee benefit costs?

The company should be able to send you a one-pager or a packet outlining the basic benefits offered by the company (insurance, vacation time, etc.) and any related employee contributions/costs. Benefits aren't usually highly negotiable, but you can use this information as part of your proposed salary.

As you get started with the job offer negotiation process, the most important part is having as much information as possible at your disposal. That way, you can make realistic requests and have a good idea of how far you can push with your negotiation — or when you should retreat and live to negotiate another day.

Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.



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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

1 Symphony, e.g.	41 Sequence in heredity	71 marry a cute marsupial? [painter]	124 Draw upon	220 Animal park	72 Black brows
5 Sing like Bing	42 Robber, e.g.	91 Novelist Hermann	125 Fix, as Fido	30 Soup	76 Patriotic
10 Pampers product	43 Bat hangout	94 Waikiki	126 Less-played half of a 45	enhancer	women's gp.
16 Mensa stats	46 Finals, e.g.	necklaces	127 Morales of movies	32 Apiary insect	79 Some Scots
19 Scheme	48 Seven-figure income	95 Rene of "Get Shorty"	128 As stated in	33 Guthrie with a guitar	82 F followers
20 Big artery	earned in a Nebraska city? [actor]	97 Poland's Lech	129 Lorne of "Bonanza"	37 Saying	87 Unoriginal
21 Flowery	54 Scheme	101 Sounded like a kitten	130 A bit off	38 In that case	88 Actress Meyers
22 Almond, e.g.	57 DVD—	105 Pale-colored wall paneling for a room? [writer]	131 Old-time comic Ed	39 "Mr. St. Nick" actress Ortiz	89 Swift sleds
23 31-day period honoring TV's Joy? [actor]	59 Little barks	107 Final, e.g.	DOWN	40 Animator's frame	90 Pale-faced
25 Greek letters	60 "The King—"	108 2004 Chevy debut	1 Sphere	43 — terrier	92 Hoodwinks
26 With	61 Guilty feeling	111 Storm center	2 Childishly silly	44 Roadie's tote member	93 South Carolina river
47-Down, Christmas evergreen	64 One doing penance	112 Demolition stuff	3 Herald, as a new era	45 Hindu trinity	96 Holy Mlle.
27 Fall back into illness	68 Olympic speed skater Eric	113 — cone (icy treat)	4 Shut tightly	47 See	98 Euphoria
28 Place with a lot of refuse-disposal chambers? [swimmer]	70 Ethyl ender	114 Products applied to back-of-the-neck sunburns? [actor]	5 College locales	26-Across	99 Desert of the southwest U.S.
30 Old space station	71 Prohibition of quick insights? [investor]	115 Herald, as a new era	6 Perches	49 Wolflike carnivores	100 — Z (total)
31 Slash	74 Suffix with journal	116 2004 Chevy debut	7 Sarah — Jewett	50 China's Chou En —	101 Botch the job
32 Ovine noise	75 Item in a file cabinet	117 City in north-central California	8 Hitter Mel	51 "And how!"	102 Pretext
34 And others, in a list	77 Ideal conditions	118 Finally!	9 "I'll pass"	52 Ukrainian port city	103 Not as cold
35 Brutes of fantasy	80 Field of study	119 "C" grade ... or what eight answers in this puzzle have?	10 One capful, perhaps	53 Fifteen times six	104 Big bird
36 Smears gunk on rugged mountain ranges? [hockey player]	81 Sikorsky of aviation	120 "Finally!"	11 Often-purple flowers	54 Quick-to-build home	105 Relax
	83 Dir. from N.D. to La.	121 "C" grade ... or what eight answers in this puzzle have?	12 Major worry	55 Poe maiden	106 Disagreeing
	85 "Not — goes by ..."		13 Argentine plain	56 Brunch fare	107 Following
			14 Web biz	58 Line of Apple computers	108 Think a lot of
			15 Relax	62 Actress — Dawn Chong	110 Tickle pink
			16 Apprise	63 Effish sort	115 Snake tooth
			17 Apple or pear relative	65 "Tsk tsk!"	116 To be, to
			18 Emphasis	66 Kabuki sash	Voltaire
			24 Flower cluster	67 "Platoon" site, in brief	117 1,502, in old Rome
				69 Ovum	118 Duck variety
					121 Exec's deg.
					122 Suffix with journal
					123 Cousin

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

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

FROZEN FOOD WORD SEARCH

N M N E Y N R U B F O O D D S P O P P
 Z I M A N U R I E L O O C H O A R B C L U Y A
 O M N R P S O U B R O C C O L I R A S I W
 R S O T O A N U T M P M L I L U L E S I M A
 F E T W Z A K K S K S G F M S A N S V M
 A U S E V Z V G G I O S E N E R R I K I G G A C
 D M N Z N B V K T D O A N A O F F T G G A C
 D S K H M T M C F I L M Y E U A R E A G O
 T R E S E S E D H V S N L U N B S E V B M
 S V A T E S M P E R V A T U R E A M T E R B T M
 W L Y Z T P B N Z V S I U W E F L E S A T
 F G T C E T O R P R E P U E I P R S I T
 S D D C G R O C E R Y O I R C F E E W N
 E T I N Z D L V D T C B U N F A B R I E
 B Y S K B R O N H G E D M V R U A O B P M P R
 U F T M N T S O N F W E W R V A C B S F P R
 C U B F M F K S D E R G T F V M P Z Z H D H F U
 K M A E R C E C I A W P S E K A C N A P P
 S B L I O F M V F A W V I B S O T O P V

WORDS

AISLE
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 BREAKFAST
 BROCCOLI
 BURN
 CONTAINER
 CORN
 CUBES
 DEFROST
 DESSERT
 FLASH
 FOOD
 FROZEN
 FRUIT
 GROCERY
 ICE
 ICE CREAM
 KITCHEN
 LEFTOVERS
 MEALS
 MOISTURE
 PANCAKES
 PIE
 POPS
 PRESERVE
 PROTECT
 SPINACH
 STORAGE
 TEMPERATURE
 WAFFLES

ANSWER KEY

[illegible][illegible]

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

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Car Report

TOYOTA DECLARES SEDAN SEGMENT IS ALIVE AND WELL WITH GREATLY ENHANCED 2018 CAMRY, AND NEW AVALON HYBRID



By Dale Buss

This is an era when consumers are said to be looking down at sedans, as American car buyers have begun favoring sport-utility vehicles and crossovers more than the traditional automobile configuration that built the industry.

But no one's downcast about the sedans at Toyota. At a time when most other automakers are busily remaking themselves around SUV platforms – witness how Hyundai and Ford, for instance, are de-emphasizing cars nowadays – Toyota continues to rely heavily on sedans to maintain its left in the U.S. market.

Those sedans include the new 2018 Toyota Camry and the hybrid version

of the 2018 Toyota Avalon, both of which I've driven recently.

In the substantially overhauled and elegantly executed 2018 Camry, Toyota improved everything from its exterior styling to the longer wheelbase to a revised suspension to traffic-adapting cruise control and other wondrous features of the Toyota Safety Sense-P system, which now comes standard on Camry.

Camry, of course, is an iconic nameplate and has been the best-selling vehicle in America over the last few decades, besides the Ford F-150 truck. But even its sales were taking a hit last year in the overall market slide of sedans.

The 2018 version, which now is available in full volume at Toyota dealers, changed all that. U.S. buyers flocked to the fully redesigned car in the fourth quarter, with Camry posting a second consecutive best-ever monthly sales total and marking the



The 2018 Toyota Camry cuts a new and improved figure on the road.

best-anytime fourth-quarter sales for the nameplate.

It "has reignited the car segment," declared Jack Hollis, group vice president and general manager of the Toyota Division. By "stimulating the mid-size segment, [the new Camry proved] that great sedans still sell."

No wonder. The new Camry is so good that it was one of the three finalists for the North American Car of the Year that was awarded at the Detroit auto show in January. It also received the highest safety award from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

The 2018 Camry is alluring from first glance, with a substantially bulked up design presence that is sleeker and longer at the same time that it appears more substantial, partly because it is lower. Camry's look has come a long way over the decades.

At the same time, the redesign maintained the visibility and headroom required because the seats, hood and

potholes that, quickly glanced, looked to be formidable.

Also a big help was the radar system that anchors Safety Sense P, the suite that also includes automatic emergency braking in case of an imminent forward collision, lane-departure warning and mitigation and auto-dimming LED headlights.

As an incurable leadfoot and tailgater, I was happy to rely on Camry's system in clear weather to keep me safely behind traffic on the highway. But when fog and rain enveloped me on the trip, both going from and coming back to Detroit, I especially appreciated the help – and ultimately, in a way, was counting on the automatic emergency braking if the fog got especially obscuring.

I also drove the Avalon Hybrid recently. I love what Toyota has done with the styling of this smooth, sumptuous, immensely capable full-size sedan. In many ways it has no rival these days in that segment. And now that Toyota has added a hybrid version of Avalon, the nameplate takes on even more allure for a wider range of consumers.

Still, I prefer the gasoline-powered version of Avalon, because I found that the hybrid powertrain was a bit lacking in pickup and produced some droning while accelerating.



Toyota is finding there's still a great market for great sedans.

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