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ONLINE COUPONS

New DPW director is home-grown

Ed Wright
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

No two days are alike in the life of a department of public works director, which is exactly why Loyd Cureton loves his job.

Cureton was named March 5 the city of Northville's new DPW director. He succeeds Jim Gallogly, who retired.

One day, Cureton could be overseeing the planting of trees on a downtown median; the next day, he could be sitting down at a meeting to discuss the long-term planning of the city he is helping develop.

"I love the variety this job offers," said Cureton, a native of Northville who has served DPW directors stints in Walled Lake (18 years) and Ferndale (six years). "I love the interaction with residents

and working with members of the crews. The variety is amazing."

Returning to his hometown to oversee the delivery of essential services makes his newest job even more satisfying than usual.

"I still have a lot of friends and family who live in Northville, so knowing that my decisions may help make their lives

See CURETON, Page 2A



Loyd Cureton is the new Northville Department of Public Works director.



Warehouse manager Shawn Westlund gives a tour to Gov. Rick Snyder, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and others. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

'SUCH GREAT NEWS'

Take a look inside new Amazon fulfillment center

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright remembers when he first heard of the Amazon facility looking to locate to the city during the early part of his term.

"We were so excited, but we had to keep it a secret," he said. "We couldn't talk about it, we couldn't even ask Alexa about it."

"But this was such great news for Livonia."

That secret then blossomed into a 1 million-square-foot fulfillment center for the Seattle-based e-commerce giant, the first of its kind in Michigan. Wright, along with other state, county and business leaders, celebrated the facility March 23 during a grand opening event and tour of the building at 39000

See AMAZON, Page 10A

"We were so excited, but we had to keep it a secret. We couldn't talk about it, we couldn't even ask Alexa about it. But this was such great news for Livonia."

Dennis Wright
Livonia mayor

Superstar Scout Morris earns 138 merit badges

Ed Wright
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Of all the skills Northville's Kevin Morris mastered to become one of the highest-achieving members in the 108-year history of the Boys Scouts of America, the toughest one (for him, at least) had nothing to do with canoeing, hiking or building a camp fire.

"I had to learn to play the bugle," Morris said with a chuckle. "I had played the clarinet a little bit when I was younger, but the bugle is different. It took a lot of work, a lot of practice, but I eventually learned it enough to be my troop's bugler for a couple of months."

There isn't a merit badge for ambition, but Morris would have bagged that one years ago, thanks to a tireless drive that prevents lethargy or laziness from seeping into his lifestyle.

Morris, who attained Eagle Scout status in April 2015, recently earned a distinction only a handful of Scouts have reached when he earned all 137 merit badges available (and another one that has since been eliminated).

The high school senior's incredible accomplishment was recognized in late February, when he was honored at Northville Troop 755's Winter Court of Honor, which was attended not only by his southeast Michigan peers, but by members of the Great Lakes Field Service Council as well.

"If I were to choose one word to describe Kevin, it would be 'humble,'" said Chris McCormick, Morris's scoutmaster. "He didn't pursue these awards for the recognition, but for the pure joy and self-accomplishment they provided."

"Kevin is a dedicated and driven

See SCOUT, Page 2A

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Cureton

Continued from Page 1A

better feels good," he said.

Cureton said he doesn't plan on making any earth-shaking changes immediately.

"The previous director left things in great shape, so I won't be making any quick changes," he said. "I am looking forward to meeting as many residents as I can and get input from them."

Cureton said he considers himself a hands-on director.

"I love getting out of the office and making sure the streets are plowed when it snows and the drains are clear when it rains a lot," he said. "People assume that everything works and it's my job to make sure they do."

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

Northville mayor proclaims April 10 to be Equal Pay Day

Tuesday, April 10, is the symbolic day when women's earnings "catch up" to men's earnings from 2017. To bring attention to the pay inequity between men and women, the American Association of University Women Northville-Novis wrote a proclamation and asked Northville Mayor Ken Roth to declare that day Equal Pay Day in the city of Northville. Roth honored this request and made it official by signing a proclamation and affixing the city seal.

For information and current data on

what the pay gap is in Michigan and across the country, what causes the pay gap, how women of different demographics are affected and what can be done about the pay gap, go to www.aauw.org and download "The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap" (spring 2018 edition).

AAUW Northville-Novis supports Equal Pay Day as part of its mission to promote equity for women and girls. To learn more about it and how to become an active participant, go to www.aauwnn.org.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

Here is a schedule of upcoming American Red Cross blood drives in the area. Donors can call 800-REDCROSS to make an appointment. For more information, go to redcrossblood.org.

Friday, April 6

First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main Street, Northville, noon to 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10

Amerman Elementary, 847 N. Center Street, Northville, 9:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Silver Springs Elementary, 19801 Silver Springs Drive, Northville, 1-7:45 p.m.

Thornton Creek Elementary, 46180 Nine Mile Road, Northville, 1-6:45 p.m.

Thursday, April 26

Ridge Wood Elementary, 49774 Six Mile Road, Northville, 1:30-7:30 p.m.

hometownlife.com

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Scout

Continued from Page 1A

young man who has been successful in academics, sports and scouting and no doubt will be successful in life. The world is lucky to have a young man like Kevin."

Much of Morris's life has fallen into the extraordinary category.

Case in point: His introduction to scouting at age 9 came in Shanghai, China, where he lived briefly while his father Dan was stationed there for his job at Ford.

"Probably the best things about scouting for me have been that it gives me an opportunity to give back to the community through all the charity work we do and it has given me a chance to live out some amazing adventures," he said, noting a dog-sled experience in Ottawa, Canada, and back-packing in Glacier National Park.

A member of Northville High School's National Honor Society and a pole vaulter for the Mustangs track team, Morris was an instigator in gaining varsity status for the Northville ski program, which he captained.

A tireless achiever, Morris's resume is also decorated with the National



Denver Laabs, Great Lakes Field Service Council (left), and former Troop 755 Scoutmaster Chris McCormick flank Kevin Morris.

Medal for Outdoor Achievement — the highest recognition a Boy Scout can earn for exemplary achievement.

He plans to attend either the University of Michigan or the University of Colorado in the fall and major in chemical engineering.

Back to the bugling, he found a practical use for his playing the instrument

when he performed "Reveille" to wake up his parents one morning.

"The good news is, I played it well," he said. "The bad news is, they preferred waking up to an alarm clock, so I only did it once."

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

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Northville library plans to mark National Library Week

National Library Week is April 8-14, a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and library workers and to promote library use and support. From free access to books and online resources for families to library business resources that help support entrepreneurship and retraining, libraries offer opportunity to all. This is a great week to stop by the Northville District Library and see all the library has to offer.

"We try to offer a variety of programs and collections to meet the wide range of needs of the Northville community," said Anne Mannisto, library director. "Libraries are more important than ever in this era of constantly changing technologies. We continue to add more downloadable items and encourage everyone to access our online resources from home or office, including Consumer Reports online, business resources like Value Line and Morningstar and so many more."

This year will mark the 60th anniversary of the first event, sponsored in 1958. This national celebration is sponsored by the American Library Association and observed in libraries across the country each April.

Libraries provide a wide range of opportunities for people with diverse wants and interests, including materials in alternate formats such as large print or audiobooks, technology classes, English as a Second Language conversation groups, local history and genealogy collections and many other programs.

This year's theme for National Library Week is "Libraries Lead." Misty Copeland, the first African-American female principal dancer with the prestigious American Ballet Theatre, is lending her support as National Library Week honorary chair.

National Library Week celebrations include the release of the American Library Association's 2018 "State of Amer-

ica's Libraries Report." The report examines library trends of the past year and will include the highly anticipated "Top Ten List of the Most Challenged Books of 2017."

"We have some exciting — as well as challenging — changes coming in the weeks ahead," Mannisto said. "Construction begins April 16 on our new meeting room, which will provide much needed meeting space for community organizations and groups. We will be introducing a new catalog system, one that will make it easier for patrons to search for items in our collection. Watch for this to go live on May 29. And, as many people are aware, parking for the library has been disrupted during the construction process next door at the Old Village School. We thank our patrons, who are being very patient during this construction."

For more information, call the library at 248.349.3020 or go to www.northvillelibrary.org.

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. Mill Race relies on rentals and memberships to maintain the village. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millracenorthville.org for details.

Upcoming events

Grounds closed for wedding: 12:45-4:15 p.m. and 5-7: p.m. Saturday, April 7, and 12:45-3:45 p.m. Thursday, April 12.

Drop-in volunteer orientation: 1-2 p.m. Sunday, April 15. Interested in volunteering in the gardens or buildings, being a guide or working on our programming and events? Please drop in and hear more about those opportunities and more.

Lecture series: "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 25. New School Church at Mill Race Village. No fee. Donations accepted.

General info

Web: www.millracenorthville.org
Volunteers: The Northville Historical Society at Mill Race Village accepts volunteers in many different areas. We are in special need of Sunday store clerks and help with our fundraising teas. Students, we're happy to verify your volunteer hours with school or scouts. Please contact the office for more information.

Rentals: Call or email the office to rent the Cady Inn or church for a wedding or party. Many dates are available. More information on our website.

Donations: Archives donations accepted from 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday.

Archives: The archives are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

Office: The office is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All other times by appointment only. Call 248-348-1845 or email office@millracenorthville.org.

NORTHVILLE LIBRARY EVENTS

The Northville District Library is at 212 W. Cady Street. Call 248-348-5001 or go to northvillelibrary.org for more information.

Spring Break Movies for Kids

When: Noon to 2 p.m. Friday, April 6
Details: Bring your lunch to the library and enjoy the movie "MOANA" (Disney Pictures. Rated PG for peril. 107 minutes. 2016). Snacks and water bottles provided. All ages welcome. Children ages 4 and younger must attend with a caregiver. Caregivers of children attending independently must remain in the library during the movie. No registration required. Due to space limitations library activities cannot accommodate special groups.

Drop-In Super Saturday Storytime

When: 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 7
Details: Join Miss Julie in the Storytime Room for stories, music and more all about the farm. Best suited for children ages 2-4, but all ages welcome. No registration is required.

Between the Lines Book Discussion

When: 7 p.m. Monday, April 9
Details: Join us for a lively discussion of "Strings Attached" by Joanne Lipman and Melanie Kupchynsky. Just drop in.

Amazing Animals and the Environment

When: 4:15-5 p.m. Wednesday, April 11
Details: Celebrate National Library Week with this fascinating show. Meet a

zoologist, a variety of exciting live animals from around the world and Ruthie the dog with her own special story. All ages welcome. 100 free tickets available five minutes prior to the event. Tickets not available in advance.

App Café: Social Media

When: 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 14
Details: What's trending in apps? Bring your tablet or smart phone and enjoy coffee and snacks while we share best social media apps such as Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest. Our tech librarian will be on hand to answer questions. Meet other users and share your expertise. Tablet or smart phone required. Register online at northvillelibrary.org or call 248-349-3020.

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MLS 218024808 248.363.8300 \$329,900



Beautiful kitchen with gas fireplace, granite countertops, double ovens, backsplash!

*Gorgeous great room with second gas fireplace, 2 story ceilings and loads of natural light
*3 bedrooms, 3.3 baths, which includes a Jack & Jill bath and princess suite on upper level
*Fully finished basement with two separate rooms, full bar and tons of storage

MLS 217099527 248.363.8300 \$470,000



Updated end unit condo with sprawling hardwood floors and neutrally decorated flowing floorplan!

*Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite counters and plenty of cabinetry
*Kitchen opens into a generously sized family room with space for a cozy dining nook
*Two spacious bedrooms upstairs, master bedroom has an ensuite bathroom with standing shower

MLS 218014235 248.363.8300 \$199,900



This magnificent home sits on a .75 acre lot on cul-de-sac in prestigious South Bay Shores sub!

*5 bedroom 4 1/2 bath Cape Cod with open layout kitchen w/ granite counters, hardwood floors
*Extra recreation room in the basement with beautiful bar to entertain family and friends
*Park like backyard, live your best life in this home with lake privileges on popular Duck Lake

MLS 218009637 248.363.8300 \$361,999



One of a kind beautiful home on large secluded natural area of 1280 acre all sports Cass Lake!

*Meticulously designed, open layout, soaring ceilings in great room w/ panoramic 2 story lake views
*Brazilian cherry floors, custom woodwork, custom iron staircase and granite counters
*Elegant spacious master suite, stone bath with shower & tub, walk in closets and tray ceilings

MLS 218004061 248.363.8300 \$1,099,999



Charming home situated on a generously sized lot is move in ready and bursting with improvements!

*Desirable open floor plan features a spacious living/dining area and open kitchen for entertaining
*Private family room sits at the back of the house, a perfect space to cozy up in after a meal
*Spacious master features vaulted ceilings for bright, lofty feel and his/hers closets

MLS 218022638 248.363.8300 \$189,900



Stunning Colonial on 1.14 Acres!

*This four bedroom, four and half bathroom has sunlight drenching every room
*Open floor plan in the dining and living room make it fantastic for entertaining
*Spacious master suite has sitting room, dual walk in closets and generous master bath
*Finished basement with full bathroom, laundry closet and dining area

MLS 218005243 248.684.1065 \$499,000



Don't Miss Out On This One!

*This three bedroom one and half bathroom Colonial, located in desirable Milford Village
*Newly remodeled kitchen has stunning granite countertops with plenty of storage
*Both bedrooms remodeled, expensive great room with gorgeous fireplace
*Beautiful perennials and gorgeous landscaping

MLS 218021764 248.684.1065 \$274,900



Two Story Detached Condo!

*This three bedroom, two and half bathroom has a full finished walkout
*Kitchen has granite counters, stainless steel and sink and newer floor
*You'll love the cozy nook and bay window
*Nice master suite with walk in closet and master bath

MLS 218020171 248.684.1065 \$229,900



Gorgeous Colonial on Over 1 Acre!

*This four bedroom, two and half bathroom Colonial, has a spacious backyard perfect for any sport
*Bright & cherry kitchen with expansive island, granite counters and maple cabinets
*Master suite with sitting area, and huge walk in closet, master bath with soaker tub
*Located just minutes from downtown Milford and Kensington Park

MLS 218005228 248.684.1065 \$469,000



Build The Home Of Your Dreams!

*Pictured is a four bedroom, two and half bathroom, Colonial, on 1.03 acres
*Many floor plans, with natural live floor and hardwood floors
*Brick and stone with covered porch
*Island kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances

MLS 216116498 248.684.1065 \$499,000



Exquisite Home!

*This home features 7,235 of living space and is located on a private 2 acre
*This five bedroom, four and half bathroom home has beautiful wood & marble flooring
*A master oasis suite with fireplace, private balcony, luxurious bathroom and walk in closet
*The lower level offers an entertainment area with a home theatre, wine cellar and gourmet kitchen

MLS 218024670 248.684.1065 \$1,300,000

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Motor City Comic Con unveils cast for 2018

Motor City Comic Con 2018 has revealed its lineup of popular TV stars, film actors and comic writers and illustrators at Michigan's No. 1 pop culture event, scheduled for Friday through Sunday, May 18-20, at the Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, in Novi. Hours are 12:30-7 p.m. Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Fans will be able to meet celebrities from "Arrow," "Game of Thrones," "IT," "The Lost Boys," "Batman Forever," "Toy Story," "Star Trek: Voyager," "Sons of Anarchy," "The Walking Dead," "Boy Meets World" and "The Princess Bride." "We work year-round to host an event that engages fans of all ages in a fun-filled atmosphere bursting with escapism, family-friendly entertainment," promoter Michael Goldman said.

The 20th annual event's guest list includes Jerome Flynn, Lucy Lawless, Stephen Amell, Jason Patric, Alanna Masterson, Wallace Shawn, Summer Glau, Val Kilmer, Ryan Hurst, Will Friedle, Rob Paulsen, Tara Strong, Trish Stratus, Jaeden Lieberher, Frank Quite-ly and John Cassaday, with stars to be added.



Tara Strong, who has done voice work for numerous animations and video games, will appear at this year's Motor City Comic Con.

More than 300 comic creators, writers, illustrators and actors will greet fans, sign autographs, take pictures and participate in panels and Q&A discussions. Cosplayers in disguise as their favorite superhero and comic character can enter a Cosplay Contest with celebrity judges Saturday and attend an evening party with entertainment and refreshments. Sunday's Kid's Day features kid-friendly activities.

For tickets, go to <http://www.motorcitycomiccon.com/tickets-packages-2018/>.

For more information, go to <http://www.motorcitycomiccon.com/>.

Don't just pay extra fees — always ask questions



Money Matters

Rick Bloom
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

In many situations, technology has made our lives easier. We can now bank, shop and pay bills online, which certainly makes life easier. There are also times that technology can create awkward situations.

A few weeks ago, I was at a restaurant and, when the waitress brought the bill, she had one of those mobile units where they swipe your card at the table. What I found upsetting was not that the bill had a box for suggested tip (20 percent, 25 percent and 30 percent), but that the suggested tip box was already checked. I was not only surprised, but irritated to see that the 25-percent tip box was already checked. I don't know if this is the policy of this restaurant or the waitress did it on her own, but I thought it was unprofessional to have the tip box already checked.

We all know that when we go to a full-service restaurant, waiters and waitresses depend on tips. Typically, a food server is paid minimal wages by their employer because the assumption is they will make up the difference in tips. As a patron at a restaurant, it is our obligation to tip. As far as I'm concerned, it is wrong for a restaurant to suggest a 25-percent tip when the norm is more like 15-20 percent.

I've noticed more and more that when you charge something, more businesses are asking for tips. You would think that the rules of tipping etiquette have changed, but they have not. Just because someone asks for a tip doesn't mean you have to give one. In addition, if the boxes on the charge card receipt are 20, 25 or 30 percent, there's nothing to say that you cannot tip a different percentage if you choose.

What made my situation at the res-

taurant a little uncomfortable was that the waitress was standing right there as I was signing on the iPad. I could have easily just signed, despite the 25-percent tip. My typical tip is 20 percent, so the 5 percent is neither here nor there. However, I said something. Despite being in somewhat of an awkward position, I stood my ground. If you find yourself in that situation, you should as well.

In our society, we have become insensitive to fees and other types of costs. It seems that companies add these fees in and, all too often, people are just paying them without questioning them. I am not embarrassed to always question fees. If it only happened once or twice throughout the year, it would be no big deal. However, it seems that on almost every bill we get these days, there are additional fees and costs that get added in. When I get a bill and there is a fee that I am unaware of, I call. I cannot tell you how many times I have gotten the fees waived because, as I was told many times, the fee was voluntary. Of course, the fee is only voluntary if you ask. If you don't ask, you end up paying it. You would be surprised how much money you could save by questioning fees.

I recognize when you question fees, people will accuse you of being cheap. My response is, so what? I've always believed, and you should too, that money looks better in your pocket than it does anywhere else. When you get a bill, whether it's in a restaurant, store or whatever, always review it. If there are fees that you are unaware of, question them. You would be surprised how many of those fees go away.

Good luck!

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

March 29, 2018

Re: Notification of Flood Hazard Mapping Revisions

The City of Novi Community Development Department, in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.79(b)(1), hereby gives notice of the City of Novi's intent to revise the flood hazard information along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C generally located between Eleven Mile Road and a point 1,450 lineal feet downstream of Eleven Mile Road. The flood hazard revisions are being proposed as part of the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) Case No. 18-05-1436R for a proposed project along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C. Fulte Homes of Michigan is proposing to construct the Isabella Way road bridge and associated Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C culverts as part of Oberlin Phase 2 & 3 Site Condominium Development. Once the project has been completed, a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) request should be submitted that will, in part, revise the following flood hazards along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C.

- The floodway will be revised from a point approximately 1,450 lineal feet downstream of Eleven Mile Road to a point approximately 900 lineal feet downstream of Eleven Mile Road along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C.
- Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) will decrease along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C.
- The SFHA will decrease along the Novi-Lyon Drain Tributary C.

Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed at the City of Novi Community Development Office at 45175 Ten Mile Road, City of Novi, MI 48375. Interested persons may call Charles Boulard, Community Development Director at 248-347-0415 for additional information from Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm.

Sincerely,

CITY OF NOVI
Charles Boulard, Community Development Director

Being best you can be theme of Howe's book

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

When hockey fans remember Gordie Howe, they think about things like a sharp elbow into the stomach of an opponent or a snap shot past a helpless goaltender.

They think about how Mr. Hockey would take a number after a cheap shot and go back later to settle the score.

But they remember his off-the-ice persona, too.

The Detroit Red Wings legend and Hockey Hall of Fame member was the epitome of what is good in people. And that is what his youngest son, Murray Howe, wanted to capture in his 2017 book "Nine Lessons I Learned From My Father," which he will discuss at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at Waltonwood Cherry Hill, a senior living community, 42600 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

"He was really a paradox, because the man that was on the ice seemed so ferocious," Howe, 57, said during a recent telephone interview. "And yet he was so gentle and kind off the ice. But really, when you look at his hockey career, it was about being the best version of a hockey player that he could be."

Being "the best version" of a person also is a major theme of Howe's book, which was released last October and shot to No. 3 on the Toronto Globe and Mail best sellers list. It is \$25 and available online and in bookstores.

"They're all equally important in my mind," Howe said about the nine lessons detailed in the book, such as love, patience, toughness, selflessness and generosity. "And I think you can summarize them all by, if you drill down, it's really about embracing your talents and just taking ownership of those talents."

"Not worrying about what anybody has, or who they are, but only focusing on who you are and making yourself the best version you can, using those talents, and sharing those with the world. By doing that, any of us really can make a huge impact."



Howe



This 1960s photo of Gordie Howe with youngest son Murray graces the cover of an inspirational new book, which will be topic of a discussion April 14 at Waltonwood Cherry Hill. MURRAY HOWE

Time for others

Howe said the "hockey people" his dad met during and after his 32-year hockey career (mostly with the Red Wings) always were important to him. There always was time for autographs and a friendly hello.

"He was 100-percent dedicated to everybody around him, especially my mom (the late Colleen) and our family and his friends, but also to every person that he met," Howe said. "He just gave you everything he had in every moment. And again, that's something we can all aspire to and really be better versions of ourselves, which in turn makes the world a better place."

On April 14, Howe will talk about his dad and do readings from his book. He also will sign copies following the presentation. A portion of proceeds from book sales will go to the Alzheimer's Association.

Seeking a cure

Howe said his parents did not have

LESSONS LEARNED FROM GORDIE

What: Murray Howe, the youngest son of Gordie and Colleen Howe, will discuss his new book "Nine Lessons I Learned From My Father."

When: Howe will give his talk and answer audience questions 2-3 p.m. Saturday, April 14.

Where: Waltonwood Cherry Hill, a senior living community, 42600 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

RSVP: Because seating is limited, people interested in attending are urged to reserve a spot as soon as possible by calling Waltonwood at 734-335-1199. Appetizers and desserts will be served.

Book sales: Howe will sign copies of the book immediately following his talk. The book (published Viking) is \$25 (check or cash only) and a portion of sales will go to the Alzheimer's Association.

About Murray Howe: He is head of Sports Medicine Imaging for Toledo Radiological Associates and Promedica Health System's Sports Care program. He is an associate clinic professor at the University of Toledo Medical Center and serves on the University of Michigan Medical School Admissions Committee. He lives in Sylvania, Ohio, with his family.

Fun fact: He did not go into pro hockey like his brothers Marty and Mark, but he still plays drop-in hockey. "I'm the only Howe that's skating on a regular basis," Murray said, laughing. "I'm only 57, so I don't want to give it up yet!"

Alzheimer's, but Gordie and Colleen both battled forms of dementia during their later years.

Colleen suffered from Pick's disease (an incurable neurological disease) and died in 2009 while Gordie, who died in June 2016 at age 88, "had a mixture of things" going on.

"I don't think he had Alzheimer's. I think his was more a traumatic brain injury and vascular dementia, kind of a combination," Howe said. "But we've definitely been personally touched by

dementias."

According to Howe, he would like members of the Waltonwood audience to come away from the discussion feeling inspired to be, like Gordie Howe was, the best person he or she can be.

"The bottom line would be, for each person that's there, to really treasure their own family to treasure all the gifts that they've been given in their lives and to use all those gifts to really make the most impact they can on the world around them," Howe said. "That they seize the day to reach out to others."

Sharing a legacy

Gordie Howe's inspired his son in life and in death. The latter event, just before Father's Day 2016, triggered his desire to share memories of his father with the world.

"On Father's Day, which was a couple days after dad passed away, I woke up that morning and I was just crushed that I couldn't do something for my dad," Howe said. "I couldn't be with him. I always made Father's Day a big deal, because my dad meant so much to me. I would take him out and do something that he loved, go golfing or fishing or whatever it was."

"And just really let him know how much he meant to me and how much I appreciated who he was as a father and as a man. The fact I couldn't do that, it was really weighing heavily on my mind."

It didn't take long for the Ohio radiologist to hatch a plan.

"I thought, 'What can I still do, what can I give him even though he's no longer with me in body?'" he said. "What would be better than to get down on paper everything that he stood for as a father and as a man and share that with the world and carry on his legacy in that manner. That was the genesis for the book."

On April 14, those who want to find out more about what Gordie Howe was all about will have a chance to be in the front row.

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

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County agency will mark Autism Awareness Month

In honor of April as National Autism Awareness Month, Oakland Community Health Network is taking steps to increase understanding and create awareness of autism.

The agency, which offers autism services and applied behavioral analysis

through its provider network, has increased the amount of autism information available on its website at www.oaklandchn.com. The website now includes more details about autism and ABA, a list of service providers, answers to frequently asked questions and

links to other resources.

Autism and autism spectrum disorders are general terms for a group of complex disorders of brain development. Applied behavior analysis is an intensive, behaviorally-based treatment that uses various techniques to bring about

meaningful and positive changes in the communication, social interaction and repetitive/restrictive behaviors that are typical of ASD.

To learn more about autism and ABA services in Oakland County, go to www.oaklandchn.com.

If you could have anything, what would it be?



Cultural Relevancy
Dean Johnson
USA TODAY NETWORK —
MICHIGAN

What would you say if Jesus was standing in front of you and asked, "What do you want me to do for you?" What would you ask for? I guess it comes down to what you want most in life.

Luke, Chapter 18, tells the story of a blind man in the city of Jericho. He's begging, so you assume he wants money. The blind man hears some commotion, so asks what's going on and the crowd tells him "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." The man immediately cries out "Son of David!" The crowd refers to

Jesus by his human name and hometown, but the blind man believes he is the savior sent from God.

The man cries out "Have mercy on me!" Jesus approaches the man and asks, "What do you want me to do for you?" How I wouldn't love to have Jesus ask me that question!

Years ago, my wife and I were walking down a sidewalk in San Francisco when we encountered a blind woman, screaming and wildly swinging her white cane. People were just walking around her, ignoring her. As we got closer, we could hear her yelling, "Help me! Won't somebody help me!" What does she want, we wondered? Should we get involved? We did and it turns out she had just gotten turned around and wanted someone to tell her where she

was. We walked her to the next corner and told her the street names and she was fine.

What does a blind man want? The man in Jericho asked Jesus to heal his eyesight, which Jesus did. And then he follows Jesus. It turns out that that's what he wanted most.

Money isn't bad — we need it to live. And it's not wrong to ask for physical healing. But I suspect we all want something even more than that, something spiritual. I don't want to settle for anything less. You can learn a lot from a blind man.

The Rev. Dean Johnson is senior pastor at Lake Pointe Bible Church in Plymouth. Email him at DeanLPBC@sbcglobal.net.

Busch's makes donations to local food banks

Busch's Fresh Food Market partnered with local organizations, including United Dairy Industry of Michigan and Michigan farmers, to reduce the need for milk within the community and raised 53,611 gallons of milk. These donations will go to Forgotten Harvest, Food Gatherers and other local food banks.

"This was a community-based effort," said Todd Robinson, marketing director. "We're pleased to see such amazing results."

The drive ran March 12-25 at all Busch's locations and any MyWay guest who donated two or more gallons of milk in the same transaction was automatically entered to win a Detroit Pistons gift package, which includes fan gear and four tickets to the game at 7 p.m. Friday, April 6.

Additional store contests were also held among Busch's employees and store managers to encourage associates to beat last year's goals and promote the value of giving back.

"This is over 12 truckloads of milk," said Kathi Eckler, RDN, executive director of marketing and communications for UDIM. "This number is unbelievable and truly going to make a difference."

Busch's Fresh Food Market currently has 17 locations in Ann Arbor, Clinton, Carleton, Canton, Dexter, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Novi, Pinckney, Plymouth-Northville, Rochester Hills, Saline, South Lyon, Tecumseh, West Bloomfield and Brighton. For more information, go to buschs.com.

Michigan Humane Society to conduct online auction

The Michigan Humane Society will debut its first-ever online auction, with proceeds benefiting local animals. This auction will conclude at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 15, during the nonprofit's Purrfect Bow Wow Brunch, a fundraiser presented by Strategic Staffing Solutions at the MGM Grand Detroit.

Bidders can find the Michigan Humane Society's online auction at bidpal.net/bowwow18. Animal lovers donated all the items up for auction to support MHS. These include excursions, luxury items and even pet photo shoots for the official Michigan Humane Society calendar.

Guests will have exclusive access to

four live-auction items available only at the Purrfect Bow Wow Brunch. This event will attract up to 600 people who will mingle among adoptable pets while enjoying a three-course brunch and custom cocktails, like the popular "Bloodhound Mary." The Jonathan Lynn Group will also treat listeners to live jazz during a Meowmosa Reception and silent-auction bidding.

"This year, we will showcase how MHS keeps families together by helping them retain their pets rather than surrender them at shelters," said Matthew Pepper, the charity's president and CEO. "This means we are putting the focus on our work in the community to

provide essentials like food, shelter, medicine, education and a safe return home."

Tickets for the Purrfect Bow Wow Brunch can be purchased at bidpal.net/bowwow18 or by calling 248-283-5662. The cost to attend is \$250 per adult and \$100 per child and includes complementary valet service.

The Purrfect Bow Wow Brunch is presented by Strategic Staffing Solutions, with additional support from DTE Energy Co., the Richard and Jane Manoogian Foundation and the Nancy and James Grosfeld Foundation.

For more information, go to MichiganHumane.org.



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Telegraph in Redford to see construction

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

What's one more road construction project this summer? This time, residents who live in Redford and the west side of Detroit will join in on the construction woes.

The Michigan Department of Transportation says it will mill and resurface 2.7 miles of Telegraph Road this year, between Interstate 96 in Redford and Grand River in Detroit. The work will begin April 9 and run through July.

The state says the project, which costs \$3.1 million, will include work such as concrete patching, repairs to curbs and gutters, improving pavement markings and pedestrian signals and upgrading sidewalks to meet ADA requirements.

As a result of the work, the right lanes

on both northbound and southbound Telegraph between I-96 and Grand River will remain closed through the project, which is expected to wrap up in July. During off-peak times, another lane will close.

During nights and weekends, when paving and patching work is being undertaken, three lanes will close in each direction. MDOT says one lane of traffic will remain open during the work at all times.

Other projects

The work on Telegraph joins a lengthy list of road projects in the region, including work along I-696 throughout Oakland and Macomb counties. While most of the heavy work on that project will take place in Macomb County, which will result in the westbound freeway closing, some work

will extend into Oakland County, including through Farmington Hills and into Novi. There will be 10 weekend closures with detours along the road for work in Oakland County, which will include pavement repair, drainage system repair and minor bridge repairs. A public meeting on that work will take place 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Southfield City Hall, 26000 Evergreen.

In nearby Livonia, no state projects are taking place, but several county projects will move forward this summer. Those include work along Inkster Road, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, on the Livonia/Redford border, as well as the recently-announced Farmington Road project happening just north of Plymouth. That work is one being done by both Wayne County, which maintains the road, and the city of Livonia, which agreed to chip in part of the cost.

City projects in Livonia include work

along Stark, between Schoolcraft and Lyndon, as well as Amrhein, between Levan and Newburgh, in the city's industrial corridor.

In Novi, city work will take place along Taft, between 10 Mile and Grand River, and 13 Mile, between Meadowbrook and Novi roads.

Birmingham will see several projects this summer, including one that's already begun: a quarter-mile of Old Woodward has shut down for a \$7 million project that will run through this summer. MDOT also plans on doing work along Woodward Avenue, between 14 Mile and Big Beaver/Quarton, this summer. That work is expected to finish by mid-August for the Woodward Dream Cruise.

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

Family warns about coyotes after dog is killed

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

There was nothing unusual one recent early morning when the Burke family dogs, Rocky and Guinness, were let outside in the yard of their Farmington Hills home.

But when Guinness barked to be let in, there was no sign of Rocky, a 5-year-old miniature pinscher who was a rescue dog adopted a year earlier.

"We found him in our neighbor's yard. He was barely alive. We rushed him to the emergency veterinarian," Colleen Burke said. "The vet said based on the injuries and the type of wounds, indicated it was a coyote (attack)."

The nine-pound Rocky, who the family chose to adopt after noticing his markings were identical to those on Guinness, didn't survive the attack. The family was very upset at the loss of their pet and shocked that Rocky had been attacked by a coyote at their home in the Meadow Brook Hills subdivision, located



Rocky, a 5-year-old miniature pinscher, was recently killed by a coyote in Farmington Hills.

in the Eight Mile and Halstead area. Burke decided to post a message on the

homeowners association Facebook page to alert neighbors about coyotes in the area and got another surprise.

"I wanted to get the word out. So many people posted that they had seen coyotes. We had never seen them," Burke said. "This was definitely an 'it would never happen to me' moment."

Someone called Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus about the coyote attack and he talked with Burke, although there was no official report made about it.

"It's an unfortunate situation. People know there are coyotes out there, but they think they are at Heritage Park and other wooded areas," he said. "They are sighted all over the city. People shouldn't let small dogs out unattended."

While police get reports of coyote sightings, Nebus said reports of an attack on a pet like this are extremely rare. Nebus said he appreciated Burke's efforts to let people know that coyotes can be anywhere in the city.

Some people mentioned putting out

traps for the coyote, but Burke isn't interested in doing that. "Coyotes are part of the environment. We have to adjust what we do — they're not going anywhere," she said.

The family — Burke and her husband have two children — has removed a bird feeder from the backyard.

"What we liked about these lots were the trees and wildlife — deer, all kinds of birds and squirrels," Burke said. "We didn't realize we were attracting predators. Bird feeders attract mice and squirrels, which attract coyotes, so the bird feeder is gone."

Among the tips provided by the county: never intentionally feed a coyote; eliminate all outside food sources; properly dispose of food waste in trash receptacles; and observe the six-foot leash rule for dogs outside of designated, fenced dog parks.

Contact LeAnne Rogers at lroggers@hometownlife.com or 734-883-9039. Follow her on Twitter: @LRoggersObserver.

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Couple returns to high school for engagement party

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

When Danny DeWater walked into Lauren Cummings's Salem High School classroom in September 2011, the first person he noticed — with a quickening of his heartbeat — was fellow senior Kayla Schmitt.

When Cummings asked the class to partner up and interview each other for ice-breaking introductions, DeWater quickly asked Schmitt to be his partner. As fate would have it, she agreed.

More than six years later, DeWater asked Schmitt to be his partner again — this time in life.

On St. Patrick's Day, standing in the same classroom where they first met, DeWater staged an elaborate engagement event — using Cummings, family and friends and volunteer "students" — and asked Schmitt if she'd marry him. She, of course, said "yes."

"I was a little bit nervous, of course, but it turned out almost exactly how I planned it," said DeWater, a 23-year-old Canton resident. "I've known it was going to be Kayla for a few years. I started picturing where I might do a proposal and nothing made sense but the place where we met. Without that classroom, none of this would be happening."

The idea of getting engaged didn't take Schmitt by surprise; they've been dating since Dec. 6, 2011. Their first day was to see "Happy Feet II," at a theater in Canton. DeWater remembers the couple "scarfing down some popcorn" and, when he asked Schmitt after the movie if she was hungry, she said "not really."

"I told her, well, let's go get some food anyway, because I want to spend more time with you," he said.

Schmitt, 24, remembers feeling the same way.

"Even from the time he walked into the classroom the very first day of school, I was, like, 'Yep, that's him,'" the Canton resident said. "He's caring ... he's funny, he's still like a little kid. He's just very down-to-earth and kind."

More than six years later, DeWater decided it was time. In October, he bought the engagement ring. Then came the planning for the event. He contacted Cummings, who was, of



Danny DeWater slips the engagement ring, which he's had since purchasing it in October, onto Kayla Schmitt's finger. ZACHARY D'AGOSTINO

course, eager to help. He sought out volunteers who could serve as "students" in a fake "classroom" setting in Cummings's classroom.

He had his family, and Schmitt's, hidden away to come in at the last minute. And he got his sister to help lure Schmitt into Salem on the pretext of delivering something she'd forgotten.

While in the classroom, Cummings coaxed DeWater into making a speech "about success," to show the other "students" how it was done. DeWater then launched into a speech about how his own success was connected to Schmitt.

"The way I wanted to make the transition (to the proposal) was to put it on

myself," DeWater said. "The class we met in was public speaking, so I thought it would be fun to have me do an impromptu speech. Mrs. Cummings pulled out the topic 'success.' I talked about 'Success is finding happiness in life' and I found my happiness in Kayla."

DeWater had maneuvered Schmitt into a chair in the middle of the room and that's when it finally dawned on Schmitt.

"Halfway through his speech," Schmitt said of the moment she realized what was happening. "I had no idea the whole day. I thought it was odd that there was a roomful of kids there at 4:30 on a Saturday, but it didn't click at all

until he started talking."

DeWater went to a lot of trouble to set it all up and he said taking Schmitt's feelings into account drove the whole thing. For instance, he knows her favorite movie is Disney's "Beauty and the Beast," so he fashioned an enchanted flower container similar to the one in the movie and used it to deliver the ring.

And he even crafted a video from a variety of pictures of them as a couple to play while he was proposing. Having both families there was another smooth touch.

Schmitt said she was "speechless" and was surprised to find out DeWater had been planning it for so long.

"Everyone did a great job keeping everything secret," Schmitt said. "I had no idea."

Salem freshman Sarah Moss thought the entire event — from the enchanted rose to the video — was "pure magic."

"It's rare that a couple who starts dating in high school stays together for so long," Moss said. "(DeWater) really put a lot of effort into something amazing. I was honored to be there."

Cummings remembered DeWater and Schmitt meeting in her classroom, so when DeWater contacted her over Christmas vacation and told her what he had in mind, she was all for it.

"It was an amazing and memorable experience for everyone involved," she said.

Salem freshman Emily Grant called the proposal "very sweet."

"I could tell that they loved each other very much and are going to be very happy together," Grant said.


The couple hasn't set a date, though DeWater said they were thinking about some time in 2019. For now, DeWater said the classroom setting turned out to be as perfect as he'd hoped. The goal on which he focused was easy: making Schmitt happy.

"What I was most nervous about was just making sure she's as happy as I possibly could," DeWater said. "As much as I was looking forward to the proposal, I know she's been looking forward to it since she was a little girl. I wanted to make it really special to her."


Contact Brad Kadrich at bka-drich@hometownlife.com.

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Debbie Reeves poses with her prom date, James Dean. Debbie lives in Plymouth. Dean's whereabouts are unknown. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Mom Prom for charity sells out

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

When Betsy Crapps originally started the Mom Prom in 2006, the Canton event would typically get a pretty good turnout, often between 120-150 women.

The event became popular enough that Crapps, who trademarked the name, has seen similar proms pop up all over the country (about 100 of them will happen this year).

And the event has become so popular that, for the first time, it sold out, with some 180 women turning out March 24 for the 2018 Mom Prom at Fellows Creek Golf Club in Canton, a change from the previous venue at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church in Canton.

"St. Thomas is a great place, (but) we'd get mostly parishioners or friends of parishioners," said Crapps, a South Lyon resident who serves as director of religious education at the church. "I think women are more comfortable partying somewhere other than a church."

The idea is to have women come out wearing their old prom gowns, wedding dresses, etc., and raise money for charity. While the national groups pick their own charities, the Canton Mom Prom raised money for a charity called Live Like Max.

This year's charity raised more than \$4,000.

Live Like Max was founded by John and Lisa Pardington, who own the popular Holiday Market in Canton and who are heavily involved in the community.



Prom Queen Lynn Shock has the wave perfected. She is from Canton. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The charity is named for their son Max, who died at age 20 in June 2014 from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (an enlarged heart). The charity partners with Beaumont Hospital to provide healthy heart checks.

"Max had so much support and the Pardington family has so much support in Canton, that people wanted to support it," Crapps said. "The Pardingtons do a lot for the community."

Mom Prom is a burgeoning phenomenon that has drawn heavy media interest. ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" came out one year and the group was skewered good-naturedly once during the Weekend Update segment of NBC-TV's "Saturday Night Live."

"Seth Meyers made fun of us on 'Saturday Night Live,'" Crapps said with a chuckle. "That's when we knew we'd made it to the big time."

Contact Brad Kadrich at bkadrich@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @bkadrich.



Betsy Crapps of South Lyon founded the Mom Prom back in 2006 at St. Thomas a'Beckett Catholic Church in Canton. Women wear old prom gowns, bridesmaid dresses, even wedding gowns. This year's charity is the Live Like Max foundation.

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RESOURCE RECOVERY AND RECYCLING AUTHORITY OF SOUTHWEST OAKLAND COUNTY (RRRASOC)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County, a public authority and body corporate, shall hold a public hearing on its proposed budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018 on Thursday, April 26th, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. at the offices of the Authority, 20000 W. 8 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48075. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Authority located at 20000 W. 8 Mile Road, Southfield, MI 48075.

This notice is given on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Authority pursuant to the provisions of Act 43, Public Acts of Michigan, 1963 (Second Extra Session).

MICHAEL J. CSAPO
General Manager

Published: April 5 & 8, 2018

LD-00000001 2/3

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Gov. Rick Snyder speaks with Wayne County Executive Warren Evans. In the background is Livonia Chamber President Dan West. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Amazon

Continued from Page 1A

Amrhein.

The company opened the facility for tours for local officials and members of the media. The building was much more jam-packed with goods than during the last media tour, which took place in July while the facility was under construction. It opened in September and shipped its first product in October.

Gov. Rick Snyder, who was in attendance for the event, said Amazon's arrival in Michigan is part of what he's called "Michigan's comeback." It's gotten to a point though, Snyder said, where that term just doesn't fit anymore.

"We're going to stop that terminology, because we're back," he said. "We should be proud of that. Let's just talk about how we can get to the next level."

Snyder presented the facility's general manager, Shawn Westlund of South Lyon, with plaques from the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and from the Legislature, along with state Rep. Laura Cox, R-Livonia, and state Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, commending the center.

Of course, plaques weren't the only items the state

and local community granted for the facility. The announcement that Amazon would come to Livonia came in December 2016, after it was revealed the company received a \$7.5 million grant from the MEDC to aid in recruitment efforts for the center. In addition, the city of Livonia granted the company an industrial facilities exemption certificate for the center last summer, providing an exemption from ad valorem real and/or personal property taxes on the property.

There are currently more than 1,000 full-time employees at the center, which ships goods bought online.

Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, a self-proclaimed "Amazon freak," said having the facility close by will satisfy his spending habits much more.

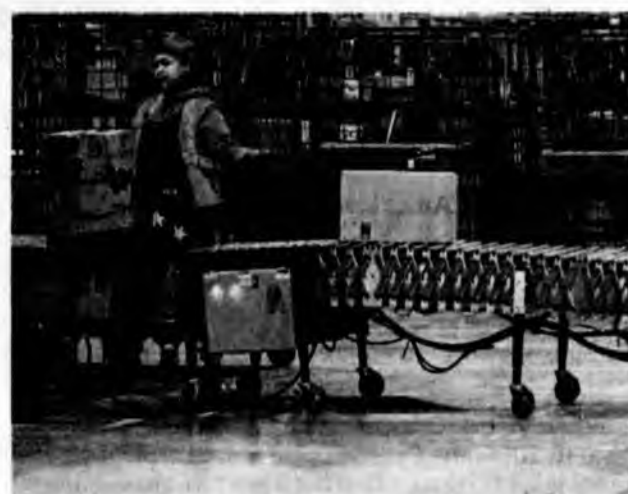
But he also said the work put in by other leaders to secure the facility for Livonia and Wayne County came as a result of working together with officials from the state, county and city.

"These things don't happen unless you have partnerships and partnerships aren't partisan," Evans said. "It's because (Snyder) has decided to put the state first and we've decided to follow as best we can. And Wayne County has turned around."

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



Hydrogen powered forklifts are high-tech, but human power is still needed. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Boxes on the way to the truck. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The forklifts are powered by hydrogen-powered fuel cells. A tank of hydrogen lasts a shift. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Amazon's Livonia warehouse will employ about 1,000 people at peak. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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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.

New Art House exhibit

The Northville Art House will present Art of the Family: Donald, Robert, Susan and William Perrish, featuring paintings and sculptures from a family of award-winning artists. The exhibit opens with a public reception, sponsored by Mark Corbin of Raymond James, 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 6, and runs through Saturday, April 28, during Art House hours: noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

The Northville Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street and is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 248-344-0497 or go to www.northvillearthouse.org.

Steak night at American Legion

Northville American Legion Post 147, 101 W. Dunlap Street, will host a steak night starting at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 6, which is open to the public. Menu selections are steak, pork chops or fish and also include potato, vegetable, salad, dinner roll and dessert. New York strip steak dinners are \$15 and pork chops and fish are \$12.

Spaghetti dinner

The Milford Senior Center, 1050 Atlantic Street, will host a spaghetti dinner, 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, April 6. Cost is \$7 for homemade meat or marinara spaghetti sauce, garlic bread, salad, beverage and dessert. Proceeds benefit the Milford Senior Center. For more information, call Nancy Hinzmann at 248-685-9008.

'Velveteen Rabbit' at Marquis

The Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main Street, in Northville will be presenting the play "Velveteen Rabbit" each weekend through May 6 (except Easter weekend). Tickets for all performances are \$9.

The play is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, April 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29, and May 5-6, as well as

special performances Tuesday through Thursday, April 3-5.

No children under age 3. Group rates and reserved seating are available for groups of 20 or more, as well as birthday parties and Scout days. For more information, call 248-349-8110, email marquistheatre@sbcglobal.net or go to www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.

Northville Genealogical Society

The Northville Genealogical Society will hold its next meeting will be held Sunday, April 8, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady Street. The roundtable discussion "How DNA testing advanced your research" starts at 1:15 p.m. There will have a business meeting at 2:30 p.m., open to the public, followed by Dr. James Sims discussing the topic "I have a DNA result, what comes next?" at 3 p.m.

Noble to host local office hours

State Rep. Jeff Noble, R-Plymouth, will host an open office hour 10:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, April 9, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady Street. No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Noble at 517-373-3816 or via email at JeffNoble@house.mi.gov.

SLAYA recognition program

The South Lyon Area Youth Assistance will hold its 19th annual youth recognition program Monday, May 21, for youths in grades 6-12 in the South Lyon Community Schools district. The group is looking for nominations for this recognition.

Nominees will be selected on the basis of a commitment to volunteer services performed within the past year. Any individual or organization is eligible to submit nominations. SLAYA will receive nominations for consideration through Thursday, April 12. The students and nominators will be invited to attend the youth recognition program.

SLAYA will again be awarding two scholarships for the Julie Berz Outstanding Youth Volunteer to exceptional youth who will be continuing to college or trade school. The Lyon Area Rotary Club will also be awarding two Lyon Area Rotary Scholarships.

The awards from both organizations are reserved for graduating seniors who have exhibited exceptional leadership and character within the area of community service and volunteerism. If you nominate a student for the either the Julie Berz Scholarship or the Lyon Area Rotary Scholarship, you do not need to also nominate them for a Youth Recognition Award.

Volunteers are needed to help with the event. Call the South Lyon Area Youth Assistance office at 248-573-8189 or to request nomination forms.

Tollgate Farm spring classes

MSU Tollgate Farm and Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook Road, in Novi will host spring classes for gardeners of all levels. Regional experts will be in the Conference Center to help solve problems in the garden. The schedule includes:

■ Thursday, April 12 — Nick Zimmer shares his solution to six-legged creatures, such as aphids

■ Thursday, May 31 — Farm manager Roy Prentice offers a glimpse into the history of Tollgate Farm

■ Thursday, June 14 — Mary Gerstenberger leads a class on water

Advance registration is required and space is limited. The cost of each class is just \$20 and supports further adult education programming at Tollgate Farm. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.canr.msu.edu/tollgate/events/evenings-in-the-garden>.

Church to host author

Diana Butler Bass, author of "Gratitude: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks," will be speaking April 13-15 at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook Road, in Novi.

Bass will lecture on "The Surprising Shape of Gratitude" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 13. A wine and cheese afterglow will follow. Tickets are \$25 per person. Her new book will be available for purchase and book signing.

She will present two lectures Saturday, April 14. At 9 a.m. she will discuss "Gratitude in Your Private Life." Her second lecture at 11 a.m. is "Gratitude in Your Public Life." Tickets that include both sessions are \$20. Tickets may be

purchased through the church website at mbccc.org. Bass will also preach at Meadowbrook's 10 a.m. service Sunday, April 15.

Runestad to host coffee hours

State Rep. Jim Runestad, R-White Lake, will host coffee hours Friday, April 13, at the following times and locations:

■ 8-9 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 6845 Highland Road, White Lake

■ 10-11 a.m. at Colasanti's Market, 468 S. Milford Road, Highland

■ Noon to 1 p.m. at Baker's of Milford, 2025 S. Milford Road

No appointment is necessary. Those unable to attend may contact Runestad at 517-373-2616 or via email at JimRunestad@house.mi.gov.

Ninja Warrior fundraiser

Ninja Warrior Family Fun Night, a fundraiser for Five Points of Hope, is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at The Edge Training Center, 3285 Martin Road, Suite 101, in Commerce. Cost is \$20 and The Edge is donating 80 percent of all registration fees to Five Points of Hope, which is based in Milford and helps financially strapped Michigan cancer patients pay their bills.

Participants need to preregister and prepay for this event by clicking on the "events" link at the charity's website, www.fivepointsofhope.com, or by calling The Edge directly at 248-877-1525.

Milford Community Garden

The annual meeting for the Milford Community Garden will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 14, in the Community Room at the Milford Public Library, 330 Family Drive.

Plots, approximately 15 by 15 feet, are still available for \$35. There are a small number of slightly larger plots for \$40. There is a one-time, per plot, cleanup deposit of \$20. Bring a check or cash to the meeting. For more information, go to www.GrowingGreensMilford.org.

Annual creek clean-up

South Lyon's 14th annual creek clean-up will be held from 9 a.m. to 1

See EVENTS, Page 12A



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Events

Continued from Page 11A

p.m. Saturday, April 14. Volunteers meet at 400 McMunn Street (Michigan Seamless Tube and Pipe truck parking lot). They will remove trash and debris from area creeks and streams.

Plan on mud and water. Please bring rubber boots, and gloves. Wear warm clothing, hats and sunscreen. Also needed are pickup trucks to haul trash to dumpster. Sponsored by: Michigan Seamless Tube and Pipe, South Lyon Area Boy Scouts and the city of South Lyon Storm Water Management Planning Program.

Mom to Mom sale

A Mom to Mom sale is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14, at Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road. For more information, call 248-675-3431.

Community Sharing garage sale

Community Sharing's 2018 spring garage sale will be held at its new location at Duck Lake Center, 5061 N. Duck Lake Road, in Highland. The sale is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, April 18-21 (the first day is presale, \$5 fee).

This sale includes furniture, household goods, linens, books, CDs, toys, sports equipment and more. Community Sharing is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that provides food, clothing, emergency services, referrals and advocacy for individuals and families in need within the Huron Valley School District. Ninety cents of every dollar will be used to fill its food pantry.

For more information, go to www.community-sharing.org.

'Euchre for Hope' event

The "Euchre for Hope" tournament, benefiting Milford-based nonprofit Five Points of Hope cancer care fund, is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the American Legion Hall Post 216, 510 W. Commerce Street, Milford.

The tournament features cash prizes, a pizza and salad dinner, a live dessert auction and raffles. Pre-register for \$25 at the charity's website, www.fivepointsofhope.com, or pay \$35

at the door, based upon availability. Dinner only is \$10. Table sponsorships are available for \$150 and include four euchre/dinner tickets and a table named for a business or family.

AAUW Northville-Novu art event

To benefit the community outreach programs of the American Association of University Women Northville-Novu affiliate, artist Joy Huyck will teach a course on how to create paper art 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21, at Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road. Participants will select a background scene, then add paper embellishments to fashion a uniquely personal, multi-dimensional work of art with the theme "a peek at spring."

All ages are welcome. Pasting is the only skill required. To reserve a seat, send a check for \$30 per person to AAUW Northville-Novu, c/o Susan Schanne, P.O. Box 511, Northville MI 48167. You can also pay by credit card at www.aauwnn.org.

Road rally scavenger hunt

The American Legion Auxiliary of Ernest E. Oldenburg Post 216, 510 W. Commerce Road, in Milford is sponsoring a road rally scavenger hunt at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 21. Cost is \$10 per person and includes prizes and dinner. RSVP to 248-684-9919.

Your thyroid and your health

Providence Park Hospital will host a free lecture on thyroid health 6-7 p.m. Thursday, April 26, presented by Suchitra Zambare, M.D., endocrinologist. Learn more about how you can recognize the symptoms of thyroid disorder and how it can be treated.

It will take place at the Novi Campus, 47601 Grand River Ave., in conference rooms A and B in the outpatient building. For more information, call 248-986-0769.

Folk singer to perform at HVCA

Jim Malcolm, known as "the ultimate Scots troubadour," will perform a concert at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 28, at the Huron Valley Council for Arts building, 205 W. Livingston Road, in Highland. He sings traditional Scottish music as well as his own songs.

The concert will also feature visual works from local artists. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by visiting the HVCA, by calling 248-889-8660, at Main Street Art, 432 N. Main Street, in Milford or www.huronvalleyarts.org.

Michigan War Dog Memorial

The Michigan War Dog Memorial will host a K9 veterans day event at noon Saturday, April 28, at the memorial, 25805 Milford Road, in South Lyon. There will be two Vietnam scout dog handlers and a law enforcement handler. For more information, contact Phil Weitlauf at mwdmk9@gmail.com or 248-685-8307.

Bloom for Mom

Melissa Pearce & Associates, PLC, 1100 Corporate Office Drive, Suite 320, in Milford is hosting Bloom for Mom, an event for elementary-aged children and their parents to have the kids create a fun present for moms this Mother's Day. It will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 5.

This event is a free event open to the public. Because there are limited spots, this event requires RSVPs to be emailed to info@melissapearcelaw.com by Friday, April 27, for parents to hold a spot for their children.

VFAA exhibit at library

The Village Fine Arts Association, in partnership with the Milford Public Library, 330 Family Drive, has a rotating exhibit of its member artwork in the library community room. The current exhibit features the artwork of Cindy Rashid. Her artwork will be displayed until the end of May, after which another artist will have a turn.

Artists interested in participating should contact Linda Onderko of the VFAA at 248-842-6789. The free exhibit is open during regular library hours: 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

To learn more about the VFAA and the Suzanne Haskew Arts Center, go to www.milfordvfaa.org.

Operation Injured Soldiers golf outing

Operation Injured Soldiers will be

hosting its ninth annual golf outing Friday, May 18, at the Links of Novi, 50395 W. 10 Mile Road. Operation Injured Soldiers is a nonprofit organization based in South Lyon that provides recreational opportunities to wounded military veterans of all eras.

Golfers and sponsors can register online at www.injuredsoldiers.org/golfouting. For more information, call 248-437-3130.

World Vision 6K run

The 2018 World Vision Global 6K for Water charity run is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, May 19, at Kensington Metropark, 4570 Huron River Parkway, in Milford. Participants will join the fight for global access to clean water — six kilometers is the average distance people in the developing world walk for water.

The cost is \$50, which includes a T-shirt, race medal and race bib with a photo of the child who will receive clean water as a result of the event. For more information, call 888-511-6548, email LRunyan@WorldVision.org or go to <https://www.teamworldvision.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=921>.

Salem Historical Society yard sale

The Salem Area Historical Society will hold a yard sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 19, on the grounds of Jarvis-Stone School Historic District, 7991 North Territorial Road. This will be a community-wide yard sale featuring flea market and resale items. You can buy a space to sell your items or you can donate items to SAHS, with all proceeds from the sale going to SAHS general fund.

Vendors welcome. Reservations will be accepted until May 10. Cost for a 15-by-15-foot space is \$15 for non-members and \$10 for SAHS members. This is for space only; tables and space coverings are not provided. There is no electricity.

For more information, go to www.SAHSHistory.org or email SAHS.YardSale@gmail.com.



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


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Watchmaker takes pride in 'dying art'

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Wael Mokhles leans over his workbench, small tool in his steady hand, and removes the tiny pieces of an aging wristwatch that will be like new when he is done.

He is a watchmaker, a repairman who, at age 49, still uses the skills he learned as a teenager working for his uncle in Saida, Lebanon.

"It's a dying art, but I have a passion for this trade. I love what I do," Mokhles said. "I can take a watch that is rusted, corroded and make it like new, like a heart that is pumping again."

His focus is laser-sharp as a small light illuminates his desk. He uses an eyepiece to magnify the watch pieces. He seems absorbed in his work, unaware as the seconds tick away one spring afternoon, as cars pass by outside the window of On Time Watch Experts, 477 S. Main Street, in downtown Plymouth.

Mokhles has moved to Plymouth after previously owning watch repair shops in Dearborn and Oak Park and working with a big company, Sterling Jewelers, that sent watches to him from 350 stores.

Longtime customer Chris Weinig of Farmington Hills has followed Mokhles to his new shop, where Weinig took a Rolex Daytona, Paul Newman edition, that belonged to his late father-in-law. He hopes to sell the collector's piece for \$45,000.

"I brought it to him because it was in very bad shape and I wanted to present it in the best possible condition," Weinig said. "I know he is an expert watchmaker. He knows the art of fixing watches."

Weinig would never turn a valuable watch over to a stranger, not when Mokhles is in business.

"He is really, really trustworthy and trust is very important in this business," Weinig said. "And he is a very kind person. I'm glad to see him open his own store in Plymouth, but I have told him to please not move any further."

Mokhles was a young teen when he spent summers working with his uncle and grandfather at his uncle's watch repair shop in Lebanon.

"My uncle was a great watchmaker," he said.



Steady hands and a strong magnifier are necessary to repair watches. Wael Mokhles works on a timepiece at his new shop, On Time Watch Experts, in downtown Plymouth. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Mokhles immigrated to the United States in 1989 to escape economic troubles in Lebanon and to pursue his dream to have his own shop. Plymouth City Commissioner Ed Krol said On Time Watch Experts is an asset to downtown Plymouth.

Krol should know. He took a 100-year-old Raymond Weil watch to Mokhles for repairs. He also has an old railroad pocket watch in need of care.

"I'm very satisfied with the work he does," Krol said. "I'm impressed. I'm going back. And this helps me keep my money local."

Mokhles sells watches, watchbands and clocks at his shop, but it is the repair side of his business he loves. He meticulously takes a watch apart, cleans it using an ultrasonic watch-cleaning machine, puts it back together piece by piece, oils it and uses other machines to calibrate it and make sure it is waterproof.

He said a good watchmaker needs two main qualities, "patience and a steady hand."

He uses the same care whether he is repairing a Timex or a Rolex. He has worked on an Audemars Piguet watch worth \$75,000 and is currently repairing a Patek Philippe, more than 100 years old, whose owner inherited it from a grandfather.



Tiny watch parts are among the supplies in the watch repair shop. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

when asked if he has any idea how many watches he has fixed. "Thousands," he said with a shrug.

He has an attachment to certain watches, too. He can be quick to buy a used Rolex, refurbish it and sell it.

"A Rolex is better than gold these days," he said.

Business started off slow, but Mokhles expects his customer base to increase as word of his new shop spreads.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2018-19 BUDGET

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2018-19 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, at the Jeffress Center Board Room, J228, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Glenn Cerny
Glenn Cerny

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Publish: April 1 & 5, 2018

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS April 24, 2018 - 7:00 P.M.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Northville Township Municipal Offices, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan 48168. The Planning Commission will consider the following:

- A Special Land Use request for Dogtopia to permit overnight boarding at 20440 Haggerty Road (3 Generations Plaza).
- Amendments to Chapter 170, Zoning Ordinance, Article 11, Northville Road Mixed Use District (NRMU); Article 12, Local Business District (B-1); Article 13, General Business District (B-3); Article 16, Industrial District (I); Article 17, Consumer Industrial District (CR) and Article 25, Use Specific Standards, to require Special Land Use approval for pet care and/or canine training facilities in the designated zoning districts.

The proposed ordinance amendments may be viewed in the Planning Department at the Northville Township municipal office building during regular business hours from 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

The public is invited to attend this public hearing and express their comments or ask questions. Township office hours are 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. Written comments will be received by the Northville Township Planning Commission at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168.

Eric Lark, Chair
Planning Commission

Publish: April 5, 2018

ADVERTISEMENT FOR FOR THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE

Sealed Bids will be received by the, Clerks Department, Second Floor, Northville Township Hall, on or before **2:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 10, 2018**, for construction of **Northville Hills Golf Club 2018 Road Maintenance Program - Contract 1**. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time.

Work to be done includes the construction of **curb/gutter, sidewalk**, and all related work. Bid documents may be obtained on or after **March 26, 2018** from the office of the Department of Public Services, First Floor, Northville Township Hall, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, Michigan.

A fee of \$50.00 per hard copy set of documents will be charged. An additional fee of \$10.00 will be charged to mail a hard copy set. Contact the Consultant Engineer for an electronic copy set of documents. No fee will be charged for an electronic copy set of documents. No refunds will be given for returned documents.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check, or Bid Bond by a recognized surety, in the amount of 5% of the total of the bid price. A proposal, once submitted, becomes the property of the Charter Township of Northville. In the sole discretion of the Charter Township of Northville, the Charter Township of Northville reserves the right to allow a bidder to reclaim submitted documents provided the documents are requested and retrieved no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled bid opening.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory performance, maintenance, and labor and material bonds in the amount of 100% of the bid price and satisfactory insurance coverage.

After the time of opening, no Bid may be withdrawn for a period of 60 days. The Charter Township of Northville reserves the right to accept any Bid, to reject any or all Bids, to waive irregularities and/or informalities in any Bid, and to make the award in any manner the Charter Township of Northville believes to be in its best interest.

Any further information may be obtained from the Consultant Engineer, Ms. Cheryl Gregory, P.E., (248) 844-5400. Questions regarding the project shall be brought to the attention of the engineer, **Spalding DeDecker**, in writing via email at awambold@ada-ang.com or by fax at 248-844-5404. Questions will not be accepted if received less than 7 calendar days before the bids are due.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

Publish: April 5, 2018

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COLLEGE HOCKEY

Ohio State's Kearney headed to Frozen Four

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Brendon Kearney grew up in a maize and blue household, but he decided wearing a scarlet and grey jersey was his best route in college hockey.

The 2013 Northville High grad, a junior forward with Ohio State, will be

playing in his first Frozen Four when the Buckeyes (26-9-5) take on Minnesota-Duluth (23-16-3) in one national semifinal beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 5, at the Xcel Center in St. Paul, Minn.

Three of the Frozen Four teams come from the Big Ten this season, with Michigan (22-14-3) taking on



Kearney

conference regular season and tourney champion Notre Dame (27-9-2) in the other semifinal.

And in an irony of all ironies, Brendon's parents, Doug and Julie, both attended the University of Michigan.

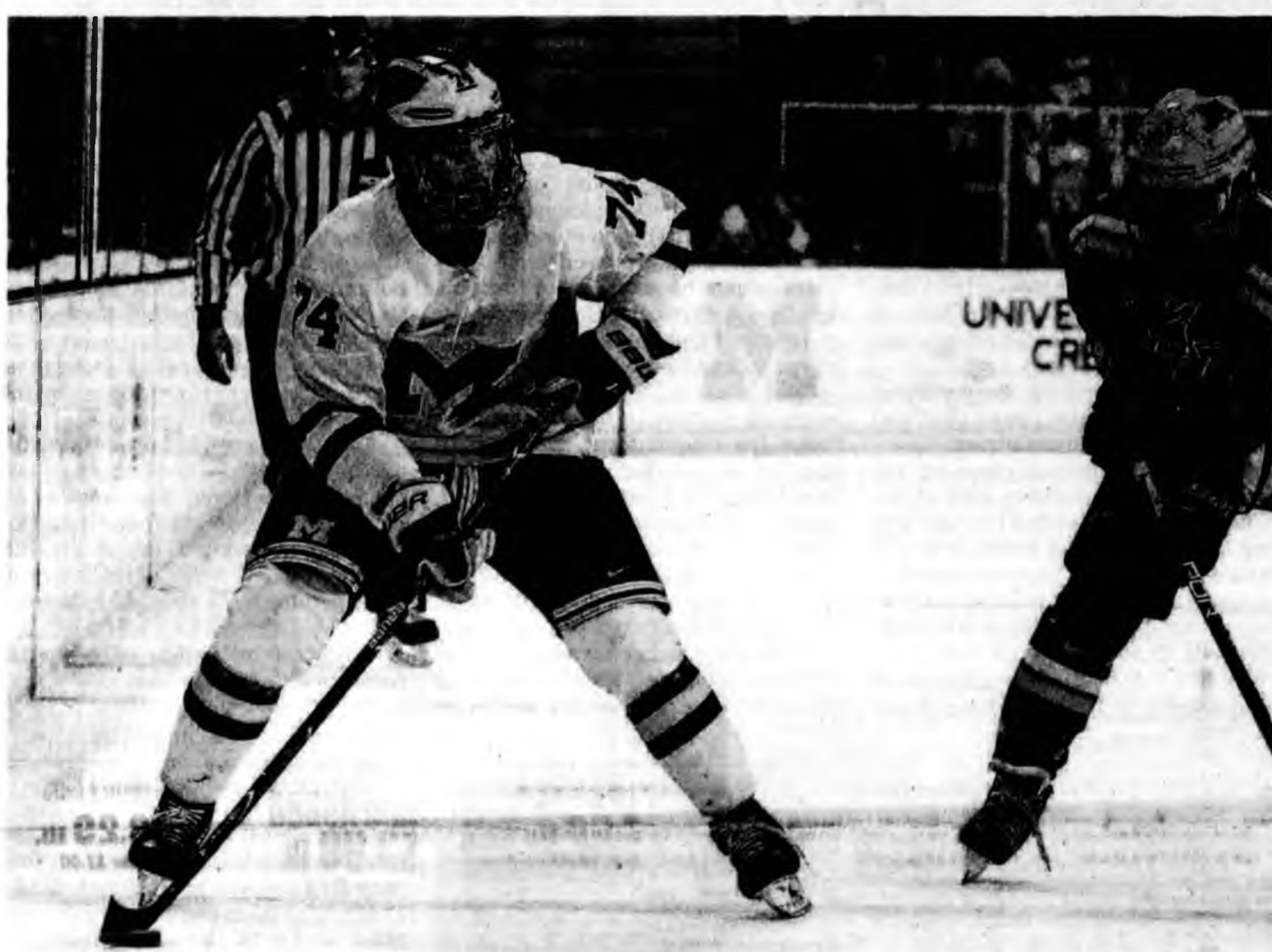
"I had a few options," said Kearney, who has five goals and 14 assists this season. "I think the big thing

for me was just growing up in Michigan, I'd been around Big Ten football my whole life. The hockey conference hadn't been there yet, but when they officially announced the Big Ten was going to hockey, I just felt that's where I wanted to play."

For Kearney, who came out of juniors

See KEARNEY, Page 2B

COLLEGE HOCKEY



Michigan junior defenseman Nicholas Boka (left) makes a pass during a Big Ten game against Minnesota. RENA LAVERTY | MICHIGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

UNLIKELY HERO

Plymouth resident Boka helps Michigan reach Frozen Four

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It was a freeze-frame moment in Nicholas Boka's hockey career at the University of Michigan.

The junior defenseman from Plymouth, who hadn't scored a goal all season, found himself in a two-on-one situation with the Wolverines holding a 4-3 lead late in the third period of the NCAA Northeast Regional against Boston University in Worcester, Mass.

"It was a good time for my first," Boka said. "It's pretty big as far as a big game situation... kind of all the excitement. Dexter (Dancs) made a great pass and I was lucky enough to put it home, so it



Boka

"It's something you dream about growing up, especially ... growing up a Michigan fan."

Nicholas Boka
U-M junior defenseman

was pretty special."

The goal came with 3:42 left as Michigan went on to a 6-3 victory over the Terriers to earn its first Frozen Four berth since 2011.

Michigan head coach Mel Pearson played tongue-in-cheek in describing Boka's third career goal.

"I think I made the comment, 'First of all, what was he doing up there in a one-

goal hockey game?'" the second-year coach said. "And secondly, why Dancs passed him the puck because he had no goals? And Dancs has 12 or 13 goals. So a little surprised, but it's a huge goal in the game. That was really the back-breaker and sealed the win for us."

The Wolverines (22-14-3) will now

See BOKA, Page 2B

AMATEUR HOCKEY

Phantoms' Ellis, Larkin use USHL as springboard

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Max Ellis and John Larkin used Friday night's game against the U.S. National Development Team Program's U-18 hockey team as a measuring stick of sorts.

The 18-year-old Ellis, who hails from Canton, and the 17-year-old Larkin, a Northville resident who is a junior at Novi Detroit Catholic Central High School, helped the Youngstown (Ohio) Phantoms to a 3-2 U.S. Hockey League win over a collection of the nation's best young players at USA Hockey Arena.

"I think tonight was good for us," said Ellis, a speedy 5-foot-10, 150-pound winger. "We battled hard. We were hard on them, didn't give them any respect and I think it means big points in the standings, so it was a good game for us tonight. We got them tomorrow (the U-17), so we want to send a message real quick."

The Phantoms took care of business again Saturday night at the Cervelli Center with a 6-1 win — this time over the U-17 team — as Ellis collected a goal and assist.

See PHANTOMS, Page 3B



The Phantoms' Max Ellis (left) gets tangled up with U-18 goalie Drew DeRidder. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY



Observer & Eccentric
hometownlife.com

Boka

Continued from Page 1B

face top seed Notre Dame (27-9-2) in the national semifinals beginning at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, April 5, at the Xcel Center in St. Paul, Minn. The two teams split their four regular-season meetings.

Boka, who played two seasons with the U.S. National Team Development Program before going to Michigan, recalls watching the 2011 NCAA championship game in St. Paul. That's when Minnesota-Duluth, which will play Ohio State in the other Frozen Four semifinal, defeated Michigan, 3-2, in overtime for the title.

"It's something you dream about growing up, especially being as close as I am to Ann Arbor and growing up a Michigan fan," Boka said of the Frozen Four. "I remember watching that game and wanting to be in that game."

Michigan has won eight of its last nine games and appears to be peaking at the right time.

"I wish I could tell you, but I don't have the magic formula for you," Boka said of the team's late-season surge. "I think around Christmas time was when we really started pulling together, trusting in each other and our systems. I think there's kind of a belief, too, that we had, especially after struggling last year (going 13-19-3). I think we kind of learned from that. It's really hard to be a good team, but I think we put the work in."

In 38 games this season, the 6-foot-1, 200-pound Boka has the one goal and six assists and ranks second on the team with a plus-15 rating.

"He's played, I think, extremely well the second half of the year," Pearson said. "There's a correlation between our team being really good the second half and Nick Boka playing well. And we've had a number of guys, but Nick is one of those guys whose game has really risen to the occasion. Maybe the numbers, the points don't show it, but obviously the plus-minus does. He's a good skater, he can go back, bring the puck out. And you need that against good teams to relieve some pressure and Nick's done a good job."

The 20-year-old Boka, a psychology major in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, was selected 171st overall (sixth round) by the Minnesota



Michigan junior defenseman Nicholas Boka was a sixth-round pick by the Minnesota Wild in the 2015 NHL Draft. RENA LAVERTY | MICHIGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Wild in the 2015 NHL Draft.

Recruited by longtime U-M coach Red Berenson, Boka was an immediate contributor as a freshman, notching 10 assists with a plus-17 rating in 38 games.

As a sophomore, he had two goals and two assists in 34 games as the Michigan players transitioned to a new coaching staff under the direction of Pearson, who had spent the previous six years at Michigan Tech.

Boka said he is getting more opportunities to play on the power play and earning more of Pearson's trust.

"I'm just sticking to my game, playing (as a) two-way, shutdown kind of defenseman and that's what I do best and that's what I'll kind of continue to do," Boka said. "I think I'm a pretty emotional player and I've always been. Mel has helped me a lot to kind of reel it in. There's a time and place for it. In these big games, they're all very emotional, so there's going to be a lot of highs and

there's going to be a lot of lows, so if you stay even keel, it really pays off in the end."

Boka, who played in the Compuware Midget Minor junior ranks before joining the U.S. NTDP, sometimes has to tone down his play to be effective.

He admits he gets his fire from his dad Don, a physical education teacher at Livonia Franklin High School who played college football at Ferris State.

"Nick's all in," Pearson said. "He wears his emotions on his sleeve. Sometimes, the emotions get the better of him, but we've talked about that, quite frankly, and he's been honest enough about it. He wants to win and he's so competitive. Sometimes, you've just got to relax and play the game a little bit and not worry about what I call 'the noise' and worry about things you can't control. But you'd rather have a player like that and calm down a little bit instead of having to kick him in the rear end to get

him going. And Nick has no issues there. He's been a pleasure to have on our team and has been a real good player here the second half."

Last May, Boka's younger brother Lukas, a right wing for the Windsor Spitfires of the Ontario Hockey League, hoisted the coveted 2017 Memorial Cup, Canada's top junior hockey trophy. Lukas, a team captain, had 15 goals and 25 assists in 64 regular-season games this year and is currently involved in the first-round of the OHL playoffs.

And nothing would be more satisfying for Boka than to hoist an NCAA championship trophy next week in St. Paul for another freeze-frame moment.

"I'm really excited, especially with the guys we have here. ... I think we can do something really special," Boka said.

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownnlife.com.

Kearney

Continued from Page 1B

with the Chicago Steel of the USHL, Ohio State was the right fit.

"I just think the first time I stepped in Columbus, it was home," said Kearney, who just turned 23. "The campus was unbelievable, the staff there was something I really jelled with. They understood me as a player and were going to do their best to put me in the right situations. Just a combination of all those factors led me to go to OSU."

Although his parents still have a rooting interest in Michigan, they'll be all in for the Buckeyes in St. Paul. It will be only OSU's second trip to the Frozen Four. The last time the Buckeyes made it was 1998.

"They were behind me 100 percent," Kearney said. "My parents, my family, will root for Ohio State hockey only. It's been good. They know it's been all good for me for the right reasons, academically, athletically, the coaching staff ... it all fit and they couldn't be happier."

Ohio State is 5-0 against Michigan this season and 1-4 against Notre Dame.

"It's weird, because I think a lot of those Notre Dame games could have probably gone the other way," Kearney said. "You could probably say the same with the Michigan games. With those teams, I think all three of us match up really well. It's a bounce here and there and, in a lot of those games, it could have gone either way. It's definitely nice to see them have to battle it out and we like the opportunity to go in against a team in one of the stronger conferences in college hockey and kind of stack up against them."

Ohio State captured the Midwest Regional last weekend Allentown, Pa., against Princeton (4-2) and Denver (5-1). Minnesota-Duluth advanced by upending Minnesota (3-2 in overtime) and Air Force (2-1).

"I just know they have some young, really talented players," Kearney said of Duluth. "I think their style of play is a little bit different than a lot of the Big Ten teams. I haven't dug too deep in how they play or what systems they run, I just know they're talented and like to push the pace up and down the rink."

Ohio State has won nine of its last 10 games and seems to be peaking at the right time.



Northville resident Brendon Kearney has helped lift Ohio State to the Frozen Four in St. Paul, Minn. OHIO STATE ATHLETICS



Brendon Kearney has been a part of five Ohio State wins this year over Michigan. OHIO STATE ATHLETICS

"I think what makes this team special is just how close we are," Kearney said. "I think we've shown we can play with any team, any style. And that's because we trust one another. We know lines one through four, it doesn't matter if we're

matching up against their lines one through four. Anyone on our team can play anyone. There's a trust there that really allows everyone's confidence to grow and maybe to even achieve more as a team."

Kearney has evolved into a Jack-of-all-trades forward for the Buckeyes. As a freshman, he had nine points on four goals and five assists in 27 games. During his sophomore season, he finished with 10 points on three goals and seven assists in 33 games.

"Versatile is the word that comes to mind about Brendon," OSU coach Steve Rohlik said. "We have put him in a lot of different situations this year - left wing, right wing, center. He brings consistency - you always know what you're going to get from him every night."

This season, he is tied for fifth on the team with a plus-14 rating.

"As far as my role, it's pretty much

changed almost fluidly throughout the year," Kearney said. "I think just it goes game by game with my role, technically. That's something I've always done as a player and to be able to do whatever it takes to help the team win and stay in the lineup."

The all-academic Big Ten performer, who is majoring in finance, started skating at age 2. He also played lacrosse and baseball growing up, but decided to concentrate on hockey.

Kearney came up through the Honeybaked program, winning back-to-back national championships in 2010-11. He was captain of Honeybaked's U-18 team in 2012-13 tallying 28 points in 26 regular season games. During his senior year at Northville, he also got a call-up from the U.S. National Team Development Program (19 points in 25 games).

He was an alternate captain for the Chicago Steel in 2014-15, scoring 18 goals and adding 14 assists, before signing with OSU.

In the summer prior to enrolling at OSU, Kearney worked for his uncle's local sign company.

"They needed guys to take apart their old signs, recycle the scraps and help around the shop and office, little, tedious work," Kearney said. "They were kind of getting overwhelmed with some of the orders coming in. It was just more something kind of used to pull in a little extra cash for college. It was heavy labor at times. It almost served as a workout from time to time."

Only three years later, Kearney finds himself just two wins away from an NCAA championship, a Michigan kid growing up and now playing for the Buckeyes.

"Honestly, it's still pretty surreal, like it hasn't had much time to let it sink in," Kearney said. "I kind of almost don't want it to sink in until the end of the year. (I'm) trying to focus on Duluth, but it's something, obviously, every team works for. And the time and effort we've put in this year ... just to be able to see us get this far and, hopefully, even further is tremendous because, in my time here, we've always been a team that's worked hard, maybe haven't gotten to our full potential. But this year, making the Frozen Four, we've definitely reached that and show what we're capable of."

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

PRO BASKETBALL

Salem grad Dierker to play in Vietnam

Zachary Shore
Special to HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Four-year Madonna University men's basketball standout Chris Dierker will continue his playing career overseas after the Salem High grad was selected first overall recently in the Vietnamese Basketball Association draft.

Dierker, whose mother Lien Dierker grew up in Da-Nang, Vietnam, was one of 134 players eligible for the draft and was taken by the 2016 league champion DaNang Dragons.

Dierker is just the third player to be drafted first overall and he couldn't be more excited to land with the Dragons.

"Being able to play pro ball in Vietnam will be a great experience," Dierker said. "A coach from one of the teams in the league has been talking to me for a while now and told me about the opportunity to play overseas and, possibly, join the national team. Getting the chance to play in a country where my mom was born and raised and being able to experience their culture will be awesome."

It provides Dierker, who has never visited his mother's native land, a unique opportunity to not only continue his playing career, but also get to know the country in which his mom grew up.

"Being selected first overall in the draft by DaNang was exciting, especially since that is where my mom grew up," Dierker said. "The coach and some of the members of the team reached out to let me know what their team is about and talked about how beautiful the city is and the fact that it is surrounded by beaches and mountains, which will be cool to live in."

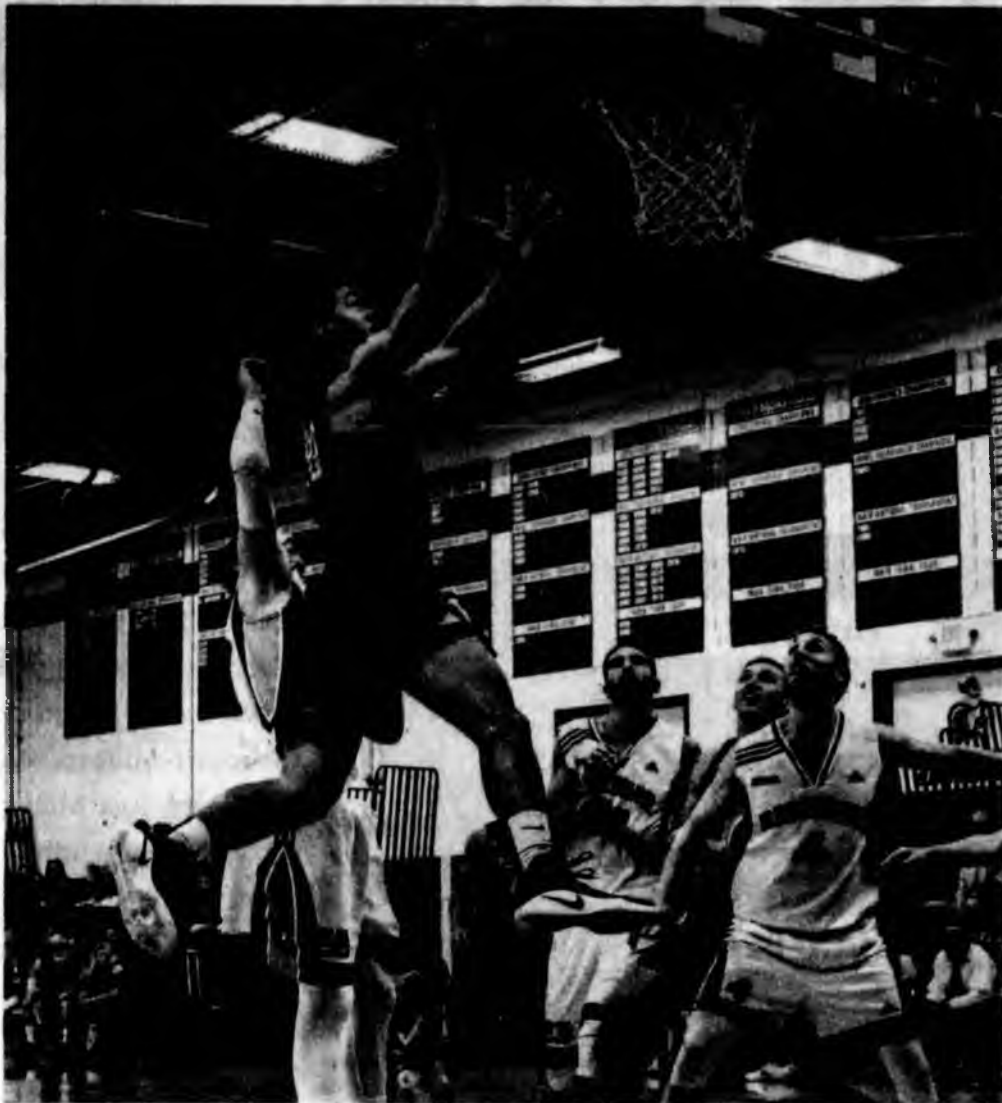
Dierker, who red-shirted his freshman year, spent five seasons on the Madonna campus and will graduate in May with a degree in biology and a minor in chemistry.

Dierker leaves as MU's career leader in rebounds (908), while also ranking first in rebound average (7.4) and offensive (304) and defensive (604) rebounds.

"Playing at Madonna gave me the opportunity to work with many great coaches and a group of guys who were all about getting the most out of everyone, both on and off the court," Dierker said. "I have grown a



Dierker



Chris Dierker was the No. 1 pick overall in the recent Vietnam Basketball Association draft.

KELLY CIESLAK |
KEEPERBYKELLY.COM

lot over the last five years at Madonna and am very grateful for the opportunity they gave me."

He finished his 122-game career with 1,483 career points, which ranks seventh all time. In 2016, he set the single-game record with 19 rebounds and scored a career-high 29 points.

"The entire program is excited for Chris and this op-

portunity before him," MU coach Noel Emehiser said. "I'm proud of what Chris has done, both on and off the court. He's been a great representative of Madonna basketball and he's left a great and lasting impact, not only on our program, but on the school as well. I'm ex-

See DIERKER, Page 4B

Phantoms

Continued from Page 1B

Larkin, meanwhile, also had an assist as the second-place Phantoms improved to 31-18-5-2 in the USHL Eastern Conference.

In 54 USHL games, Ellis has 14 goals and 20 assists for 34 points. He is in his second year with the team.

"I think this season I've taken a step in my confidence," Ellis said. "Just tried to be better than last year and just every day try and improve my game. I think my 200-foot game I've tried to improve on. Playing defense a little more, I think, has been my goal this year. Tried to be a 200-foot player, play in all situations is a big thing for me."

Youngstown coach Brad Patterson has seen Ellis evolve during his second year with Youngstown.

"He's been tremendous for us," Patterson said. "He's always been a very, very good player. And I think that the areas of his game that people really looked at were his offensive instincts, his shot, his skating, all that sort of stuff. I think that stuff has really come around and, specifically this year, is his play away from the puck ... you can really put him in any situation. He competes, he's hard on pucks, he gets his nose above it and he's hard to defend."

End-to-end speed has always been Ellis's forte.

"You have to be able to skate in today's game and Max has always had that," Patterson said. "I'd be lying if I told you that I think we've made him a better skater by any means. He's had that skill set. But he knows how to use that when he's not out there using it 100 percent of the time, because he can pick his spots. He can beat defenders by doing it and it's hard to defend."

Ellis is headed next season to Notre Dame, which is in the Frozen Four this weekend against Michigan, Minnesota-Duluth and Ohio State.

"For Notre Dame, I think it was the tradition, the coaches ... when I went there, everything felt right," Ellis said. "It's going to be an awesome time for them in the Frozen Four."

Ellis, who attended Dearborn Divine Child High before heading to live with a billet family and finishing high school in Youngstown last season, has adapted quite well being away from home.

"It's good. There's not much to do, but it's fun hanging out with the boys," Ellis said. "What led me to Youngstown was the coaches, the atmosphere as well. I tried out for the NDTP and didn't make it. Youngstown was there. It was the best option for me no matter what and it's been the best for my development."

The 6-2, 180-pound Larkin is an affiliate player for the Phantoms who has also played primarily this season with Compuware's U-16 Midget Major AAA team.

He has appeared in 11 USHL games, with a goal and three assists, and will assume a larger role with the Phantoms as they approach the playoffs.

"At one point four weeks ago, we were down to four (defensemen)," Patterson said. "He stepped out of U-16 hockey and you wouldn't have known. He played against Waterloo one series, Omaha the following series — so two of the top teams in the West, if not the entire league, he stepped in. He's physical, he jumps into the play ... everything you want in a defenseman, he's been able to bring to the table in a limited practice and development time for him. He's been in and out with the proximity of his high school being here. But he's fit right into the team and he's done a tremendous job and he's going to be a big piece moving forward."



Youngstown's John Larkin (right) tries to pry away the puck from Patrick Giles of the U-18 team. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

Despite the jump into the USHL, considered the nation's top junior league, Larkin has been able to adjust quickly.

"I was playing U-16 and, obviously, it's not the same speed or skill, so you have to hop in and get your legs moving, get used to the speed," Larkin said. "And once you get used to the speed, you start building confidence and it's a lot easier to play with these guys and make plays that were able to us in U-16 and bring them up to this level."

Larkin took regular shifts on the back line for the Phantoms during Friday night's victory over the U-18 squad, which sits in first place in the USHL Eastern Conference with a 38-17-0-1 record.

"You look at their roster on paper ... you're thinking they're going to dominate you, but once you get out there, you just realize they're just hockey players like you and you play with anybody once you put your mind to it," Larkin said.

Larkin is committed to Ohio State. He also had interest from Western Michigan, Michigan, Harvard and Union (N.Y.) College, but the Buckeyes won out.

"(Ohio State) had interest in me at Youngstown at mini-camp," he said. "They set up a visit for me, went down there and it was just unbelievable. Everything was first class. The coaches ... they just showed me how much they wanted me there. The effort they put into that visit and just everyone there was the right fit and the right place for me to be."

And in two years, Ohio State will be getting a more seasoned and versatile player.

"I like to play a two-way game, just as strong in the offensive zone as the defensive zone," Larkin said. "I feel like the first couple games of the year, you've got to stay back more defensively, stay back a little more, but I've kind of transitioned more into my offensive game that I'm able to play. I'm just a strong two-way defenseman."

Larkin, who carries a 4.0-plus grade-point average, plans to finish the semester at CC before heading to Youngstown full time next season.

"Not only is he a tremendous hockey player, he's a tremendous student," Patterson said. "Here with the Midget schedule, which is very rigorous, you miss a lot of time ... he's done very well. He misses the odd day. I think the school and the teachers, when you have a student like that, you're a little more lenient as far as, 'Hey, as long as your getting your work done' and, obviously, he does that to a 'T.'"

Patterson is not only counting on Larkin next year, but this year as well.

"I think he'll be with us down the stretch here, so we'll be seeing a lot of him now," Patterson said. "Obviously, you look to next year, but I think right now, if you ask him and even though he hasn't been with us a long time, he wants to be a part of us for a long run here this spring."

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

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MILLENNIUM GIRLS CAGERS FINISH UNBEATEN



For the first time in school history, the South Lyon Millennium Middle School seventh-grade girls basketball team capped a perfect 10-0 season with a victory March 14 over previously unbeaten Muir Middle School in Milford. Members of coach Paul Eibler's team were Ashley Jo Hardesty, Ava Miller, Isabella Grant, Clare Loveland, Sophie Propps, Colette Maurer, Rihanna Shimmerhorn, Alyssa Melquist, Anna Sanders, Kennedy Clary, Izzy Soloman, Sienna Daily, Ashley Visneak, Emily Kandet, Katherine Wesner, Jodie Kamdoun, Joyce Kamdoun and Lana Mac.

STEPHANIE HARDESTY

Dierker

Continued from Page 3B

cited for him to be able to continue playing at the professional level after graduating with honors this May. I know he'll make a big impact, not only on his teammates, but also the community of Da-Nang."

Dierker knows there will be some challenges when it comes to playing and living in a new country on the other side of the world, but he's ready to face those challenges head on.

"Going over there is going to bring many new experiences, but it will be in-

teresting getting used to their language and being able to communicate," he said. "It's going to take some time acclimating to a new climate — it's hot and humid over there during the summer — and living across the globe will be an adjustment, but I'm excited to show what I can do."

The VBA was established in 2016 as the first professional basketball league in the country, whose aim is to provide all players of Vietnamese descent with the opportunity to showcase their talent and passion for basketball.

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PREP BASEBALL

Northville opens with windy win against Plymouth

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

With an earlier than usual start to the high school baseball season, Monday's wind-swept contest between Northville and host Plymouth came down to which team showed the least amount of rust.

The Mustangs, last year's Division 1 state runners-up, emerged with a 6-3 victory in a match-up of teams in the newfangled Kensington Lakes Activities Association — Northville is in the Gold Division, while Plymouth is in the Black.

Northville outhit Plymouth, 8-4, and managed to come through with more clutch safeties than the Wildcats could muster. Junior Nicholas Prystash was the Mustangs' spark-plug, going 3-for-4, scoring four times and stealing three bases.

Also big for Northville were senior catcher Billy Flohr (2-for-3, double, three RBIs) and senior Alex Garbacik (2-for-3, two RBIs). Earning the win in relief was senior side-armed Jordan Shaffer.

"We scrimmaged (March 23) in Farmington and today it's actually tropical compared to what it was (then)," Northville coach John Kostrzewa said following his team's regular season opener. "It's good to get a game in. Usually, we don't get games in this time of year. With the league changing our schedule, I had to start before spring break and that's not ordinarily the case."

Plymouth coach Jason Crain, whose team lost March 24 against University of Detroit-Jesuit, 6-2, to open its season, said the Wildcats are "figuring it out, getting some game time in. This is earlier than we ever usually play."

"Normally, we're at two or three weeks of practice before we play a game," Crain said. "We've had one full week of practice and it was 35 degrees. It certainly shows. We're not as sharp as we'll be. We'll be a lot better."

"We're a good baseball team. I'm not worried about it in the long run. It's rust and everyone has it. Not an excuse, just need to be sharper."

For the Wildcats (0-2), outfielder An-



Taking a cut during Monday's game against Plymouth is Northville's Billy Flohr.
BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Northville base-runner Nicholas Prystash (right) is safe ahead of the tag by Plymouth third baseman Logan Dziadzio. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

thony Sharkas went 2-for-3, scored once and drove in a run. The only other hits were by Logan Dziadzio and Evan Good.

Northville got off to a quick 1-0 lead against Plymouth starting pitcher Kai St. Germaine when Garbacik laced a two-out single to center to bring home Prystash, who opened the game with a

base hit.

"It was nice to get a two-out hit by Alex in the first inning," Kostrzewa said.

Garbacik made it a 2-0 game in the third, when he doubled to again score Prystash.

Plymouth scored two unearned runs against Northville starting pitcher Jonathan Michalak. A walk, infield single and wild pitch put runners at second and third with two outs, when Rob Begley lofted a high pop-up between home and the mound.

With the wind whipping, Flohr ventured out in front of the plate and dropped the ball — allowing both runners to score. Kostrzewa then brought in Shaffer, who got the third out of the inning.

"That's the third baseman's ball and Jake (Moody) knows that," said Kostrzewa, in his 14th season as Northville coach. "That's his ball. The fact Billy even got a glove on it is pretty amazing. But that's a real tough error in that situation."

The Mustangs responded in the top

of the fourth, helped by Plymouth miscues.

After one run scored when a ball crossed up Wildcats senior catcher Zach Beadle — playing his first full game after an incredible recovery from a broken leg — Flohr drilled a two-run double to left-center to up the lead to 5-2.

Following are other takeaways:

SORRY, COACH

The Mustangs were lifted by strong relief pitching from Shaffer, who threw three scoreless innings.

Crain shook his head and smiled about Shaffer's showing.

"We just didn't put the bat on the ball enough," Crain said. "They did a nice job. Jordan Shaffer, who happens to play for me in the summer (with MC-9), was their second pitcher and he did a phenomenal job shutting us down."

ZACH IS BACK

Beadle nearly was a Plymouth hero when he lofted a deep fly ball to left-center with two runners on base in the fifth.

But instead of a game-tying blast (which would have made it 5-5), it was the third out of the inning.

Beadle, who broke his right leg during football season, went 0-for-4 at the plate, but he did throw out a runner trying to advance to third base on a ball in the dirt.

"I felt pretty good overall," Beadle said. "It was a little sore after the game, but that's to be expected at this point."

WAY TO WORK IT

Although chances for a late comeback weren't great, Plymouth did make a bit of a splash in the seventh against reliever Ryan Pumper.

Leading off with a single was Nolen Dingeldey, then Crain brought in Kevin O'Farrell to pinch run. After one out, pinch hitter Nick Koski fell behind 0-2, but artfully fouled off tough pitches and ultimately drew a walk.

Despite a run-scoring single to left by Anthony Sharkas, Plymouth could not make it all the way back.

Contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com.

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HOCKEY BENEFIT



Players and coaches unite after the recent benefit hockey game between Schoolcraft College and the Michigan State Police. The contest, won 5-4 by the MSP, took place at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth. RENA LAVERTY

Schoolcraft, MSP team up

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Schoolcraft College hockey coach Rob Lindsay loves it when his team wins a game, particularly if it means a playoff spot or championship.

But all of those things would pale in comparison to what Lindsay and his Ocelots experienced March 3 at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

That afternoon, Schoolcraft faced the Michigan State Police hockey team in a benefit contest for the MSP Fallen Trooper Memorial and Trooper Assistance fund.

And although Schoolcraft lost, 5-4, it was all good because players on the police team included Lindsay's sons Rob Jr. and former Ocelots player Andrew.

"This was actually the highlight of my 27 years of coaching," Lindsay said. "It was more thrilling than any championship my teams have won. No game can compare to this community service event. I am so proud of my two MSP trooper sons and the Michigan State Police."

The second annual benefit game raised about \$3,600 and that money already is being put to the best of uses.

Lindsay cited a few examples of how the dollars are helping the MSP cause: Assisting families with funeral expenses, easing the financial burden for the family of a slain Detroit officer and providing financial help for families of troopers who suffered severe injuries after being shot on duty.

Money also is helping benefit the MSP Training Academy's Fallen Trooper Memorial and contributing to educational efforts to stop bullying in Michigan schools.

"I'm proud of my two boys being troopers," Lindsay said. "And I think that's one of the reasons we're doing this event. Andrew really got it started."

"The MSP says they drew more money from the hockey game than all other events they do."

This was the second benefit game between the Ocelots and MSP; in 2017, an estimated \$6,500 was raised. Andrew Lindsay was an active player for Schoolcraft during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons before leaving to join the MSP academy. He became a trooper in late November.

To the next level

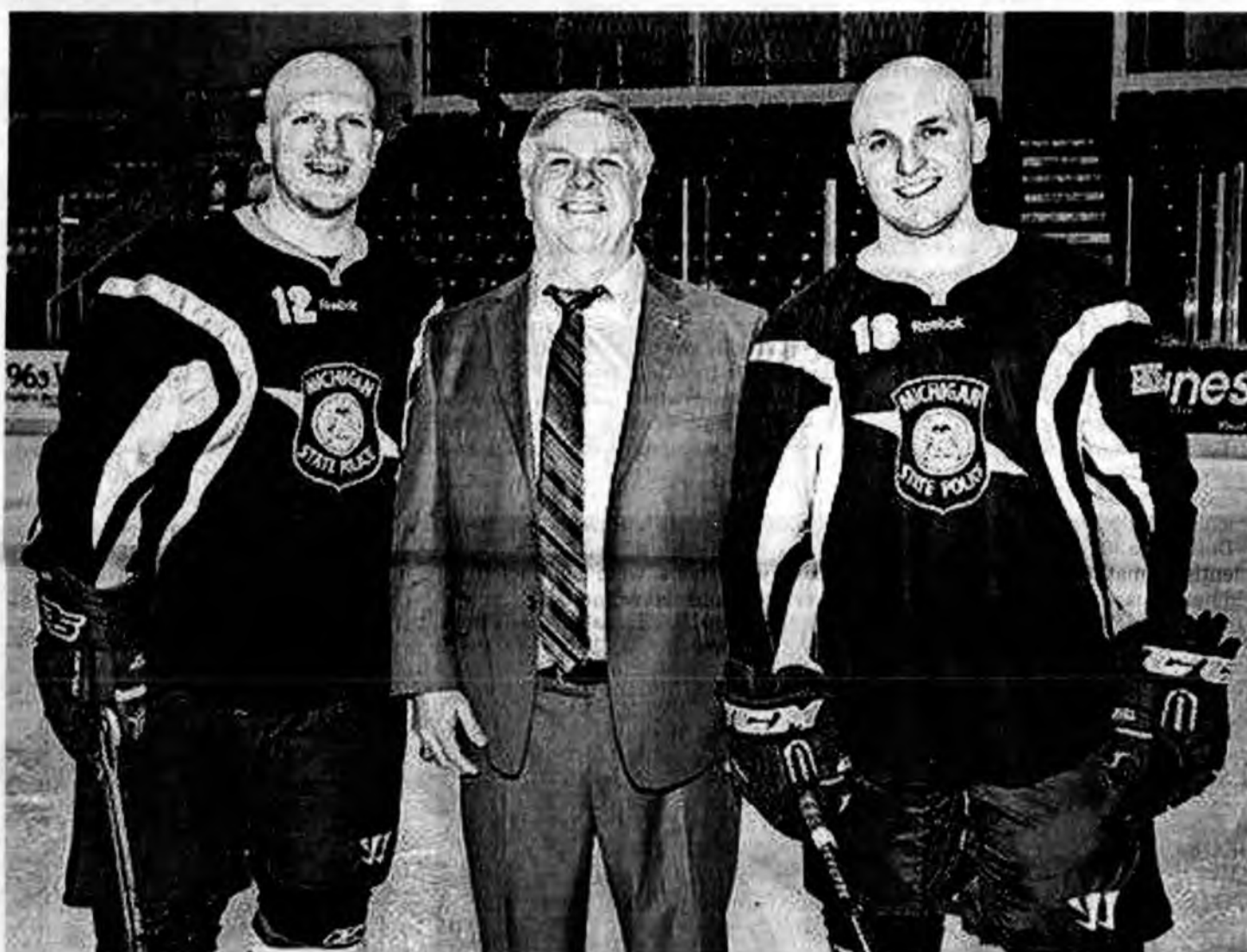
What about year three for the benefit game?

"Our goal for next year, we're going to shoot for \$10,000," Rob Lindsay said. "We're going to go after 10,000 bucks for them."

"The players have to do a better job selling tickets, getting advertisements, fundraising part of it. I think if we can get the (Schoolcraft) criminal justice program involved with it, that would be huge."

"They all want to be cops, right? They really should jump on board, it would look good on their resumes that they helped raise funds for the MSP."

Another boost will come from having MSP trooper Jon Tibaudon on board as a Schoolcraft hockey assistant coach. Tibaudon played with Rob Lindsay Jr. on Saginaw Valley State University's ACHA



Sharing a postgame moment are (from left) Rob Lindsay Jr., Rob Lindsay Sr. and Andrew Lindsay. RENA LAVERTY



Schoolcraft College hockey coach Rob Lindsay (right) embraces son Andrew, who is a Michigan State Police trooper and former Ocelots hockey player. RENA LAVERTY

championship team.

"I love having a guy like that," Lindsay said. "He's got great character and integrity, we know that already."

"And I think that will be good for the players and it will be great for the fundraiser next year because he'll be right with us, he'll be able to talk to the players and tell his side, about what they're

doing with the Michigan State Police."

Team also on rise

Lindsay, a former coach at University of Alabama-Huntsville and a teacher at Trenton High School, also is optimistic about the Schoolcraft hockey program. The Ocelots just finished their third

season, with the team going 17-13 and nearly making the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division III playoffs for the first time. The Ocelots dropped out of a spot in late January.

"In the first year, we had a team we probably had a handful of hockey players at Schoolcraft," Lindsay said. "We got out and started promoting the team and we got a lot more hockey players. We had 35 kids try out two years ago. Last year, we had 45 kids come out."

"Of course, we couldn't take them all. So all those kids actually stayed at Schoolcraft and took classes, so it helped Schoolcraft with enrollment. Our team is getting better every year."

Team leaders included defenseman Andrew Nowak and forward Vinnie Glenn, who were the captain and assistant captain, respectively. Both are Livonia Stevenson alums.

"(Nowak's) a great leader in the locker room and a great leader on the ice," Lindsay said. "He gets a little upset with the players sometimes when they're not listening to him."

"Vinnie Glenn's the same way. Vinnie's very intense, he's a leader at practice, too."

Lindsay would like to see Schoolcraft hockey become an official varsity sport (rather than a club offering), but that might not happen until 2019-20.

A key hurdle is a September millage which, if successful, will enable Schoolcraft's student activities department and led by Todd Stowell (which operates the hockey program) to continue.

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

AAUW workshop introduces STEM to girls

Diane K. Bert
Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

After months of planning, 125 members of the Birmingham branch of the American Association of University Women were ready to welcome almost 500 young women from all over southeast Michigan to the Explorathon the group sponsors at Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School.

At this yearly event, the young women are introduced to STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers.

Thirty women scientists, mathematicians, engineers and health care professionals give their time to conduct hands-on workshops. They also explain the education needed for their work. Each student attends three workshops to learn about STEM careers.

The event is co-sponsored by the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Cranbrook Schools and the Ford Motor Co. Fund, which provides money for scholarships and bus transportation for the day for needy students.

Cranbrook Kingswood Middle School is a welcoming site for the event. Buses begin arriving before 8 a.m., dropping off eager young women who pick up their schedules of three workshops and head to the gym for the keynote speaker.

Kelly Scheer, a remarkably accomplished woman, gave the keynote presentation. She is president of Blossom Collection by Mocer, a senior living company that is developing senior living facilities in five locations. Scheer has 15 years of executive leadership experience in health care and senior living industries.

"I was honored when asked to deliver the keynote," Scheer said. "There is palpable energy in the room. I could see hope and promise in the girls' eyes. This is the second time I have done this. It is my favorite day of the year. I cite my own education, which was mediocre, and little was expected of me. I had no STEM courses.

"One of the concepts I talk about with the students is that luck is when opportunity meets preparation. I also encourage them to read everything. An entire world opens when one reads opinion pieces. It is inspiring for them to hear Michelle Obama's quote: 'There is so much history yet to be made.'"

During the 30 workshops, the women scientists, mathematicians, engineers and health care professionals gave students information about their educa-



Dr. Amy Youn (middle) assists while Layuh Penermon (left) uses the ophthalmoscope to examine the inner eye of Heaven Cobb. The students were attending a workshop to learn about STEM occupations and career opportunities. DIANE K. BERT

tion and hands-on experiences in aspects of their professions.

In animal care sciences and environmental studies, students could learn topics about such as exotic veterinary medicine science or protecting lakes from vampire fish.

Veterinarian Dr. Ann Basile Callahan brought birds and other animals. Students in her workshops saw X-rays of animals and were encouraged to diagnose their problems. They also heard from a vet technician and learned about related jobs in the field.

Forensic anthropology and pharmaceutical drug design workshops were available. Computer game creation was fascinating. Engineering and physical science workshops were also offered. Health care and mathematics workshops completed the selection. All of these workshops were conducted by very accomplished women.

During the "A Day in the Life of a Doc-

tor" session, Dr. Amy Youn provided information about the education of doctors and then gave students actual experiences in using a stethoscope to hear their own heart beat, checking reflexes, seeing tonsils and using an ophthalmoscope to check the reflection of red cells in one another's eyes.

The girls in her workshops were fascinated by these experiences. "We got a chance to act as doctors," one said.

Angela Trepanier, a board-certified genetic counselor and an assistant professor at Wayne State University, said she was "thrilled to talk to students and, hopefully, interest some in this career."

"There is a shortage of people in this field," Trepanier said. "I presented three case studies to the students. Genetic counselors work with cancer patients, cardiovascular patients and in neurogenetics. There are 7,000 known genetic conditions which we help patients and their families deal with."

One of the teachers accompanying students was Ellen McCusker from the Redford Union School District.

"This day opens opportunities and creates huge excitement about possible careers," McCusker said. "We are very grateful for the scholarship money. It is a blessing."

Sally Doty, president of the AAUW Birmingham branch, said she's "proud" that her members are able to break down barriers.

"There is a huge need to get girls interested in STEM careers," Doty said. "We always get positive feedback."

Said one student: "I liked the idea of getting a fleeting insight into possible job/career opportunities."

Diane K. Bert is a Bloomfield Hills resident with a Ph.D. in educational psychology from Wayne State University. She can be reached at dkbert617@gmail.com.

Children's ear problems can derail travel plans

Susan Peck
Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Vacation getaways are some of the best times spent with children, but a child who experiences ear problems during air travel can make things stressful for the whole family.

Most adults have felt the sensation of their ears popping during takeoff and landing on an airplane. For a child, this sensation can become unbearable. Infants and toddlers have the greatest difficulty because of their underdeveloped anatomy, plus cold and flu symptoms can add to the problem.

"When we change altitude in an airplane, our ears react to the change in pressure," said Dr. Robert Standing of Southfield-based Ear, Nose & Throat Consultants. "The eustachian tube leading from the middle ear to the back of the nose and throat tries to equalize the pressure on our eardrums, but in children the tube is smaller, so regulating the pressure is more difficult and can result in severe pain."

Parents can help prevent or relieve that discomfort with some simple measures, but it's best not to wait until boarding a flight to consider the possibilities. Consulting with the child's doctor before the trip will allow parents to set up a travel plan.

Standing suggests these tips for air travel:

■ Swallowing opens the eustachian tubes and relieves ear pressure, so have your child take frequent sips from a bottle or cup during the flight — especially at descent, when the pressure is the greatest. Place a pacifier in your baby or toddler's mouth if they don't want to drink — the sucking motion helps keep their ears clear.

■ Give your child over age 3 gum to chew or a lollipop to suck on when the plane moves away from the gate and during descent. The movement and swallowing help to reduce ear pressure.



Dr. Robert Standing, performing an ear exam. DEANNE MURPHY

■ Wake your child before takeoff and landing. We don't swallow as much while we're asleep and your child will feel less pain if she stays awake when major pressure changes are occurring during the flight.

If you already have evidence from past flights that your child will experience ear problems or there is a mild cold present, you can give ibuprofen or acetaminophen a half-hour before taking off to reduce discomfort. Corticosteroid nasal sprays like Flonase and oral decongestants can help to relieve inflammation and pressure symptoms as well. Talk to your doctor about the right type and dosage for your child.

Consulting a specialist

If there are recurrent ear problems each time your child travels by airplane, it may be an indication that you need to consult with an ear, nose and throat specialist.

"Pronounced pain every time you fly can be a red flag for a condition known as eustachian tube dysfunction," Standing said. "The eustachian tube does the important job of letting fluid drain from the middle ear, but when the tube becomes blocked by congestion or mucus, fluid can build up, causing discomfort, pressure and infection."

The typical treatment for eustachian tube dysfunction that leads to middle

ear infections is a round of antibiotics. Unfortunately, many children don't respond to antibiotic therapy and, after repeated infections, are at risk of hearing loss or speech problems due to constant fluid in the ears. In this case, an ENT specialist will often recommend the placement of ear tubes to restore the middle ear to normal functioning.

"Ear tubes, or tympanostomy tubes, are tiny cylinders placed through a small incision in the ear drum," Standing said. "The tubes reopen and replace the function of the eustachian tube, allowing the removal of fluid from the middle ear and eliminating the pain."

According to the American Academy of Otolaryngology, three or more ear infections in six months or more than four in a year should signal an evaluation for the placement of ear tubes.

"The goal of the tubes is to end the frequent infections that can lead to antibiotic overuse, hearing loss, nerve damage in the ear and face and, although rare, an infection that migrates to the brain," Standing said. "The procedure lasts about 10 minutes, requiring a short general anesthetic, and there is a quick recovery."

Generally, the tubes will fall out on their own after about 12-18 months. In a few instances, however, an ENT specialist must remove them.

"One of the biggest benefits of ear tubes is the reduced use of oral antibiotics," Standing said. "Children with tubes usually get fewer infections and, if they do, we can treat it effectively with just antibiotic ear drops. The upside is an overall greater wellness for your child."

When it comes to planning your family's next dream vacation, it's easy to agree with experts who say traveling with healthy children provides the best opportunity to have happier moments, with memories you can treasure for a lifetime.

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



Matt Reddie of Ferndale tries to get his Siberian husky, Akidoe, to stay on the vibrating platform. Store manager Lauren Blunden lends a hand. SHARON DARGAY

DOGS VIBRATE THEIR WAY TO HEALTH AT PET SUPPLY

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Forest, a Labrador retriever, dives, fetches and barn hunts, but is a novice when it comes to therapeutic vibrating.

The canine from Commerce Township recently dipped his paw into the world of whole body vibration by taking a turn on Premier Pet Supply's new vibration platform, which is available for in-store use at its Beverly Hills location.

The six-year-old calmly sat on the platform accepting treats from his owner, Anna Borovich, while the EquiVibe equipment sent vibrations from his toes to his head.

"I thought this might be good for him. He has never been on this, but he seems to like it," Borovich said, adding that Forest, who has won the Purina Incredible Dog Challenge and has been on television, likely will return for another 10-minute vibration session. "We always come here. This is one of the places that has everything. I saw this (EquiVibe) on their Facebook page and I thought it might be a good idea, because he is an athlete."

According to the store's Facebook post, whole body vibration improves blood flow, which in turn brings more oxygen to tissue, removes toxins and enhances the body's ability to heal itself. The machine is said to help increase bone density — reducing the possibility of injuries — reduce muscle inflammation, alleviate stiffness in arthritic animals and help with ACL tears.

Forest was among approximately two dozen canine customers who gave the equipment a try during its first week in the store.

The platform — which looks similar to a veterinary scale — became available for customer use last week and has gained at least one regular user, according to Samantha Henson, store manager and pet nutritionist.

"A German shepherd mix, is 15, has cancer and had a session and loved it," Henson said, describing the new user.

Premier Pet Supply offers a 10-minute session for \$10, four 10-minute sessions for \$30 and one month of unlimited use for \$99. No appointments are necessary and use of the machine is on a first-come basis.

Dog-sized platform

"I had seen it at a horse show years back and thought it was amazing, but it was enormous," Henson said. "I put it out of my mind until I saw it at a pet expo. The unit for dogs is new. A lot of barns in Michigan have it (for horses), but not a whole lot of places have it for dogs."

Magoo's Pet Outlet in Commerce Township also offers EquiVibe sessions for dogs. Cost is \$20 for 20 minutes.



Anna Borovich of Commerce Township tells dog athlete Forest to stay on the vibrating platform. SHARON DARGAY

Store owner Jason Corbett likens the experience to a massage.

"A massage is something that, when you're done, you feel refreshed," he said. "I don't have any experience with cats on it. It's more geared toward dogs with arthritis. Ours is enclosed by a cage. The dog goes in and it's so soothing for them."

Matt Reddie of Ferndale, who let his Siberian husky, Akidoe, 2½, try the EquiVibe at Premier Pet Supply, says using vibration to lessen pain and inflammation "makes sense."

"I have nerve damage and vibrations actually work to open up the nerve channels and alleviate pain. That relieves inflammation, too," he said.

Henson said customers can step onto the platform with their dogs if they need to quell canine nerves.

Co-manager Lauren Blunden of Farmington Hills said she stood on the platform for five minutes one day last week to shake off a bad headache.

"It was gone," she said. "I do feel a difference when I stand on it, just for my whole body in general. It's a vibration

that goes through your feet and all the way up. I just know it's going to be super beneficial."

How beneficial?

Stephanie Siegrist, a rehabilitation therapy assistant at the Animal Rehab Center of Michigan in Union Lake, said whole body vibration is not used at the center, which offers underwater and on-land treadmills, therapeutic laser, muscle conditioning and core strength and balance exercises.

"We felt it would not be super helpful for us. I know equine vets use it and it has some merit for dogs," she said, adding that some fitness gyms, such as Planet Fitness, also offer whole body vibration to their human clients.

"It's good for healthy (canine) patients," she added. "It can't hurt, but I'd say for any injured or arthritic patients, consult with a doctor first."

Jim Thompson, hospital administrator at Oakland Veterinary Referral Services in Bloomfield Hills, said he spoke with a surgeon about whole body vibra-



Akidoe, 2½, of Ferndale looks relaxed after using the vibration platform at Premier Pet Supply in Beverly Hills. SHARON DARGAY



Forest, a champion dock diver, tries the vibrating EquiVibe platform at Premier Pet Supplies. SHARON DARGAY

tion health claims.

"It is not going to help with ACL tears," he wrote in an email to hometownlife.com.

Hillary Lobar, DVM, works with horses and other farm animals through her veterinary practice in South Lyon, but said she had limited experience using whole body vibration with animals.

"I know it's very popular in high-end sports horses and most horses seem to relax and enjoy the treatment," she wrote in an email to hometownlife.com.

Henson said vibration, which causes muscles to contract, can be used as an alternative to walking outdoors on a frigid winter day or as exercise for dogs that have difficulty walking.

"It works all your muscles," she said. "It's like you've been running 10 minutes without being winded at the end."

Premier Pet Supply is at 31215 Southfield Road in Beverly Hills.

Magoo's Pet Outlet is at 3050 Union Lake Road in Commerce Township.

Contact Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

This spring, clear mediocre credit cards out of wallet

There may be better deals, or maybe your lifestyle has changed. Either way, it's time to re-evaluate

First, reconsider any cards that have an annual fee. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Gregory Karp | NerdWallet

Spring is a great time to declutter a closet full of clothes, a garage full of boxes and a wallet full of inferior credit cards. ■ The average credit-card holder with decent credit has more than four open accounts, and Americans opened 110 million new credit-card accounts in 2016 alone, according to the latest Consumer Financial Protection Bureau study.

With all that plastic in consumer wallets, not all cards are worthy. At least 1 in 5 credit-card customers is carrying the wrong card, usually because fees or rewards are misaligned with their purchasing habits, according to the J.D. Power 2016 U.S. Credit Card Satisfaction Study.

Each credit card should rejustify its place among your payment tools, experts say, for two reasons. First, the credit-card business has changed recently, with the curse of higher interest rates and the blessing of fatter rewards. Secondly, you may have changed — your

credit may have improved and you may qualify for better cards.

"In terms of spring cleaning, ask whether that credit card still works for you. Is it a card you're still taking advantage of, or have your needs changed?" says credit card expert Beverly Harzog, author of *The Debt Escape Plan*.

Gather your cards and ask three questions about each:

■ **Does it charge an annual fee?** For cards with annual fees, the bar for keeping them is higher. "An annual fee in itself isn't a red flag, but you need to re-evaluate whether you're getting your

money's worth," Harzog says.

■ **Do I carry a balance?** If you need breathing room to pay debt without incurring high interest charges, you have options. A lower-interest card is one, especially if your credit has improved since you got your current card. Another short-term strategy is transferring the balance to a new card with a long introductory 0% interest period — many offer more than a year.

■ **Is it a rewards card?** Old cash-back cards pay 1% back on purchases, but today the better ones are paying 1.5% or 2%, potentially doubling your return. And travel rewards cards have become especially lucrative as issuers battle for high-spending customers. Plus, maybe your lifestyle has changed. For example, travel and dining-out cards may have fit your single lifestyle, but a new family life might mean cash back for groceries and gas is a better fit.

Once you've examined each card, use a cleaning checklist represented by the CARDS acronym:

■ **Cancel the card.**

"Is it a card you're still taking advantage of, or have your needs changed?"

Beverly Harzog
Author of *The Debt Escape Plan*

■ **Acquire a new one.**
■ **Renegotiate terms** on your old card.
■ **Decommission** the card by not using it anymore, or
■ **Save it** and make sure you're optimizing it.

Be mindful of your credit scores as you spring-clean credit cards, especially if you're considering canceling them. Scoring formulas reward a lot of open credit lines with unused capacity, along with a long history of on-time payments.

How the new tax law may complicate your divorce

Almee Picchi
Special to USA TODAY

Divorce is stressful enough, but the new tax bill may ramp up the complications and anxieties for couples who are calling it quits.

For more than 70 years, the tax law allowed the higher-earning spouse to deduct the alimony they paid to their exes, while the "receiving" spouse was taxed at a 15% rate. But the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act reverses that long-standing arrangement. Starting in 2019, the higher-income spouse will lose the alimony deduction and must pay federal taxes on it, while the receiving spouse won't have to pay taxes. The new tax bill affects divorce agreements signed after Dec. 31, 2018, while divorces settled before that will be grandfathered in under the old tax bill.

"The big concern is really for people who are the higher-earning, moneyed spouses, because they won't want to pay as much to their exes," said Greg Frank, the CEO of DivorceForce, an online community for people going through divorce.

Those dynamics may result in a tense year of negotiations for couples who are



GETTY IMAGES

splitting apart as higher-earning spouses likely push for a settlement in 2018, allowing them to lock in a tax deduction. Lower-earning spouses may want to delay the settlement until 2019, believing the new tax law will benefit them, he said.

■ **Where to start:** Given the compli-

cated mix of emotion and finances in divorce, it can be helpful to rely on a team of experts, including a divorce attorney, a divorce coach and a financial analyst with expertise in divorce.

"Negotiations are difficult when it's based on sex, money and control," said Laura Bonarrigo, a certified divorce

coach. "A home is family. It's a promise; it's children's birthdays."

Money and taxes can be used as a proxy for those emotions, she noted. Her advice to clients is to reframe how they think about divorce. "I say, 'What a great time to start over, to learn how to say 'no.'"

A detailed financial analysis can help put things in perspective, including how the new tax code will affect spouses, said Marielle Schurig, a certified divorce financial analyst at UBS Financial Services.

■ **Take a step back:** A spouse who wants to argue for lower alimony payments based on the new tax code may want to examine how much their fight will cost in legal fees, Frank says. He said the typical hourly rate for a divorce attorney is \$350; it can be as high as \$1,000 an hour in big cities.

■ **How it affects happily married couples:** Married couples with prenuptial agreements should also pay attention to the new alimony taxation, Schurig said. That's because most of those prenups likely include alimony provisions based on the prior tax law. Her advice: Rework the prenup now.

THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Of Christian ritual
10 Fish also called a "jack"
17 Ship for ETs
20 Work partner
21 Everlasting
22 Edge
23 Start of a riddle
25 Log cutter
26 Reply to "Shall we?"
27 Bruins legend Bobby
28 A dieter may try to lose it
29 Obstruction
30 Riddle, part 2
37 Decline to vote
41 Earsplitting
42 Alleviates
43 Riddle, part 3
49 Cat sound
50 Make fun of
51 Seemly
52 Zig's reverse
55 Archie's sitcom wife
57 Name on an elevator
60 Minor error
61 Bicycled, e.g.
- 62 Rock singer Snider
63 Epitome of easiness
66 3/15 or 4/13, day-wise
68 315 or 413, phone-wise
70 Riddle, part 4
73 Roget's references
76 "Taken" star Neeson
77 China's Lao —
78 "Blue Bloods" airer
81 Cat sound
82 Tide type
84 Scissor cut
86 For only the case at hand
88 Rest house
89 Player getting a goal
91 Hourglass fill
94 Plus
95 Riddle, part 5
99 Part of Iberia
102 Crab part
103 Plush
104 End of the riddle
110 Go offstage
111 Geologic span
112 Lennon's lady
113 Cuisine with tom yum
- 117 Jar coverer
118 Riddle's answer
125 Flying geese formation
126 Stud farm owner, e.g.
127 Waterproof sheet
128 Suffix with govern
129 More lathery
130 Got testy with
- 13 Pasta sauce brand
14 Actress — Aimée
15 U.S.-Can.-Mex. treaty
16 Schnozz suffix
17 Planet with 27 moons
18 Focus one's gaze
19 Final Greek letters
24 Vocal quaver
29 Really rise
30 Sluggish
31 Ripken
31 Raise
32 From scratch
33 British runner Sebastian
34 Jostle
35 Scents
36 Heady brew
37 Really longed
38 Wedding party?
39 "Wake Up Little —" (1957 hit)
40 Trial balloon
44 "O Sole —" (Italian song)
45 High storage room
46 "Memento" director Christopher
47 Soul
- 48 Conical homes
52 Wildlife park
53 Stir in, e.g.
54 "You don't say!"
56 "Funny joke!"
58 Joss or tiki
59 Hauling trucks
61 Panasonic alternative
64 Like pogo sticks
65 Mailer's "via"
67 Arch across
69 Far off the shore
70 ENE's reverse
71 One-named singer with the 2005 hit "Oh"
72 Simple-living sect
73 "I didn't need that level of detail!" in texts
74 Cackling bird
75 Geologic span
78 Savigny of "Kids"
79 Officer over deckhands
80 Actor Wolf
83 Lake fish
85 Golf number
87 "The BFG" author Roald
- 89 Reasonable
90 Depend
92 Twelve p.m.
93 Bamboozle
95 Droop
96 British rule in old India
97 — more (greater than one)
98 Bloke
99 Postpone
100 Fairies
101 Stage actors' whispers
105 India's first prime minister
106 Gluttony, e.g.
107 Records on a cassette
108 Army outfits
109 Like Livy
111 "That's right!"
114 Embraced
115 Korea locale
116 "— that right?"
118 "American Dad!" airer
119 Meanie Amin
120 Singer David — Roth
121 Hound sound
122 Madrid Mrs.
123 Antonym: Abbr.
124 Disparity

SUDOKU

	9	3		8		5	2	
			1		6			
	7			2			3	
	6						7	
3		9				4		1
	2						5	
	1			9			4	
			4		3			
	3	2		6		8	1	

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!

MUSICAL MELODY WORD SEARCH

O J N O N A C B V C L G O N E S B O U F
T H O P I T C H O I G A D A K R K A T D
R M R A Y R F K S C A L E F H J O R A D
O C C E V O C A L S V J I P T D A C Y Y
J M K M P N G L O Y N O M R A H L N N E
A E V C V H D J M H Y F K S B V L M N E
M D N O I T A L U D O M R L R B E H O N
P S U R O H C H H E K C G O T A G T C K
E O T L A R T N O C B L N B M H R Y E N
S O G H G N I N U T E E K M E E O H D F
I F T R O P M E T C T K B Y I V T R P E
R F P T E V J N C P R G L S F T A R I L
P A A K E C S I K F R N E C P O E T J C
E T P U R S N S I Y O I N H O T S U C R
R S V N P B L E A I N G S O T A A R D O
F O D F A R N A D B I N E R L R J A E Y
T P V I O R B D F A M I N D A B G F E T
Y P M L S N P T T U C S B Y U I F J P A
K U O U M U S I C P C J L V K V R H S E
I S B V J L E S F N E C E U N E I S G B

WORDS

ADAGIO
ALLEGRO
ALTO
BASS
BEAT
CADENCE
CANON
CHORD
CHORUS
CLEF
CONTRALTO
DUET
ENCORE
ENSEMBLE
FALSETTO
HARMONY
KEY
MAJOR
MINOR
MODULATION
MUSIC
OCTAVE
PITCH
REPRISE
RHYTHM
SCALE
SINGING
SOLO
SPEED
STAFF
SYMBOLS
TEMPO
TENOR
TUNING
VIBRATO
VOCALS

ANSWER KEY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20									21								22	
23									24								25	
26																		
				30	31	32				33	34	35				36		
37	38	39	40						41								42	
43									44	45				46	47	48		
49					50						51						52	53
55					56				57		58	59		60			61	
62					63	64	65		66		67			68			69	
					70						71						72	
73	74	75							76					77			78	79
81									82		83		84			85		86
88									89				90		91	92	93	94
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99	100	101																
104									105	106	107							
110																		
117																		
125																		
128																		

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

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Car Report

GMC'S FROM-THE-GROUND-UP NEW TERRAIN CROSSOVER GETS THE FORMULA RIGHT IN COMPACT SEGMENT WHERE THE ACTION IS



By Dale Buss

There's no question that General Motors is making hay while the sun shines when it comes to expanding and refining its lineup of sport-utility vehicles and crossovers to take advantage of a strong economy and the flip in the American market to one that is dominated by utilities and trucks instead of sedans.

And specifically, the GMC brand is taking best advantage of that trend of all four GM brands, because all GMC has ever sold is trucks and SUVs. In fact, sales of GMC crossovers in February were up by 19 percent overall, in increasingly competitive segments.

Sales of the new 2018 GMC Terrain were up by 17 percent year-over-year, reflecting both the strength of the brand and the fact that the fully redesigned vehicle has become a more competitive entry in the segment.

Driving the new Terrain for a week, I was thrilled to find it ticked all the important boxes for me when it comes to a small to mid-size SUV: sharp handling that makes you forget you're not driving a sedan; height and visibility from the driver's seat; plenty of interior room and flexibility; and contemporary exterior styling.

It's a plus when those vehicles can deliver exemplary fuel economy — which Terrain also does. And while prices for the upscale Denali version of Terrain can push \$40,000, the nameplate starts at under \$25,000, which makes the new Terrain very competitive in a prolific segment where consumers are getting more



New design for 2018 GMC Terrain features distinctive window treatment.

choices all the time.

The previous generation of Terrain was getting a bit long in the tooth as GMC addressed and upgraded other key nameplates such as the Sierra pickup and Yukon large SUV. So the new version nicely closes the gap to state of the art for its drivability, technology and interior quality.

For instance, there's plenty of head room all around, and the rear seats fold flat with just the pull of a lever. In fact, redesigned from the ground up, the new Terrain sacrificed only about an inch of head and legroom and only a titch of maximum cargo volume while shrinking by just over three inches in length and 400 pounds from the previous generation.

Equipped with a turbocharged, 1.6-liter diesel engine, one of a range of attractive powertrain options, that means the 2018 Terrain can get a smashing 40mpg on the highway. The diesel is paired with a six-speed

automatic transmission.

The standard powertrain is a 1.5-liter gasoline engine with front-wheel-drive, and reviewers say that acceleration is decidedly overwhelming with the standard powertrain.

But the 2018 Terrain also is available with a turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine that yields 252 horsepower and 260 lb.-ft. of torque, as well as dual exhaust tips and larger wheels.

All-wheel drive is an option with all engines, and a knob in so-equipped Terrains allows drivers conveniently to switch between all-wheel and front-wheel drive on the fly.

Interior comfort was a top priority for GMC as it

redesigned Terrain, and the attention paid off in front seats that are very comfortable and supportive, while the cabin keeps wind and road noise levels nearly imperceptible.

I drove the top-of-the-line Denali version of Terrain, and its delights were considerable. There are added luxuries such as ventilated seats, for instance, and unique interior trim and styling cues, as well as 19-inch wheels (versus standard 17- and 18-inch wheels for other versions of the vehicle) and LED headlights.

The Preferred package in the Denali version includes options such as a panoramic sunroof and Driver Alert safety system that boasts active collision-avoidance features.

There were a couple of notable things I didn't like about the new Terrain: the tabs in the front console that you must pull toward you to get the car into and out of gear — very annoying — and how the side design narrows the windows to a tiny strip at the rear of the vehicle. Not only doesn't it look good, it needlessly obstructs the driver's views.



Tabs used for getting in gear.



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LOW COST VET VACCINE WELLNESS CLINIC Highland Food & Supply 217 E. Livingston Rd. Sat April 7th, 10am-1pm DHPP Lepto CV BDT \$51, 3 year Rabies \$17, Heartworm Test \$19 MUST BRING AD. Skin, Ear & Eye exams avail. 313-486-5701

LOW COST VET VACCINE WELLNESS CLINIC The Wild Indoor Pets Supply Pinckney, MI 9540-9544 Chilson Rd Circle Wed April 25th, 3pm-6pm DHPP Lepto CV BDT \$51, 3 year Rabies \$17, Heartworm Test \$19 MUST BRING AD. Skin, Ear & Eye exams avail. 313-486-5701

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