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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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807 Doheny Dr. Northville, MI 48167



Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Novi business is celebrating its 80th anniversary next year with a \$1 million makeover.

Guernsey Farms Dairy is planning a facelift to both the interior and exterior of their 28,000-square-foot facility that houses a restaurant, ice cream shop and milk processing plant located on three acres at 21300 Novi Road.

"Changes are coming," Joe Kinville, one of five co-owners of the family business, said. "Next year is our 80th year in business, and as a toast to our generation and to our community and what we have built in the area, we wanted to revamp the experience here at Guernsey's."

The first steps toward those renovation plans came when the Novi City Council unanimously approved a special land use and liquor license for the

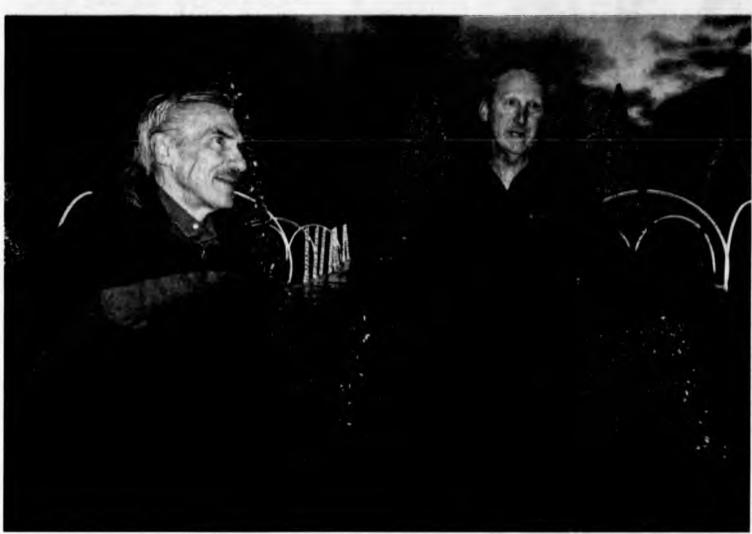
'Thanks to the McGuire family and Guernsey for their continued investment," Councilman Andrew Mutch said, calling the business with origins dating back to before Novi was a city a landmark. "It's great to see this kind of business with a history in Novi rein-

Kinville's grandfather, McGuire, established Guernsey Farms Dairy in 1940 in downtown Northville. In 1966, the business moved to the current Novi location. It's expanded over the years, including a 100-seat restaurant and store in 1985 to serve construction workers building homes in the area.

The renovations, for which local approvals are still needed, will include facade and parking lot improvements to improve curb appeal and access. Kinville said there are still lifelong residents in the area who still don't know there is a restaurant at the Guernsey location.

The restaurant's interior will also change to offer tables and chairs instead of booth seating, which he said can be a problem with larger groups.

See DAIRY, Page 9A



Ken Howse, left, with Livonia Lights, and Lead Pastor Brooks McElhenny of Northville Christian Assembly talk about moving the annual light show to Northville Christian School on Six Mile Road. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Annual light show bigger, better, brighter than ever

Livonia Lights changes name, expands at its new home in Northville

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

After taking a year hiatus, the Howse family's beloved Christmas light show is back and bigger than it was before. Formerly known as Livonia Lights, the Northville Symphony of Lights allowed the Howses to expand their already popular show.

"It just became so big and so successful and we had so many people coming that for the first time in 12 years our neighbors started to complain," Connie Howse said. "They couldn't get into their driveways. We were out every single night during the month of December doing traffic control."

See LIGHTS, Page 8A



The show features a larger-than-life animated, Christmas-themed light display.

Milford Dog Park open, but there's work left to do

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Milford Dog Park is officially open with amenities yet to be installed and some human disapproval, but the canines seem pretty happy.

The park is located adjacent to the Milford Trail and Pet Supplies "Plus" at

750 General Motors Road. According to the Village of Milford, which thanked fundraisers and donors as well as the DDA and DPS for their efforts, the park opened Dec. 5.

A few days earlier, during the Milford Village Council meeting, President Jerry Aubry questioned why wooden posts had been used in fencing the park, rather than chain link fencing.

He noted the posts were not anchored with concrete, some were "really loose," and he wouldn't have approved the dog park had he known it was to be done with wooden posts. He said he believes those posts, along with the farmstyle fencing, will have to be replaced in two or three years.

Village Manager Christian Wuerth responded that the council had approved the fencing contract with wooden posts earlier in the summer.

Wuerth said some permanent signs, benches, a drinking fountain and a few other items will be installed next spring,

See DOG PARK, Page 10A

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225 S. CANTON CENTER RD. - CANTON



Nila Muthusamy, center, won the Hillside Middle School spelling bee. courtesy of Northville Public Schools

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Northville student advances in spelling bee tournament

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

How was "winner" spelled during Northville Hillside Elementary's 2019-20 spelling bee? N-I-L-A.

It took 42 rounds of intense spelling before Nila Muthusamy, an eighth-grade student at Hillside, claimed the top prize in the annual local competition.

More than 300 words were spelled (most correctly) in the 14-student competition.

Muthusamy's winning word: A-C-C-E-S-S-I-B-L-E, which she will most certainly be March 28 when she competes in the regional round of the competi-

tion at the Charles H. Wright Museum in Detroit A victory in Detroit would ensure Muthusamy an opportunity to advance to the Scripps National Spell-

ing Bee in Washington, D.C. Muthusamy will be sponsored at the regional

tournament by WXYZ Channel 7. Hillside sixth-grade science teacher Jessica A.

Harris orchestrated the Hillside spelling bee.

. The runner-up was Vishalakshi Meyyappan. Also competing were: Alyssa Assante, Andrea Diaz, Sarah Khalid, Ishaan Kundapur, Issac Kundapur, Anoosha Malghan, Amogh Mavatoor, Rishabh Mavatoor, Lucy Medley, Jacob Taasan, Keertana Venkatesh and Aryan Vaidya.



Plenty of good comes out of school district

I was Santa Claus once.

My father was responsible for the church Christmas party. They needed a Santa. I was available. Next thing I knew I was dressed in a Santa suit waiting for little children to come and tell me what they wanted for Christmas.

I was 19 years old.

I was, to be honest, a terrible Santa Claus.

But an hour later, 55 children left the church happier than when they came in.

Sometimes things just work out.

But most of the time things work out because good people spend a lot of time making sure that things Here in the Novi Community School District, we

do a lot of good things. We create a wide variety of positive experiences for the students who attend our

During the holiday season that is especially evident. Just over the last month there have been band, choir, dance and orchestra concerts. I have seen programs at the elementary, middle school and high school level.

Within the last month, I have visited over 100 hundred classrooms across the district and watched as teachers have helped keep students focused on the important task of learning. Amidst the excitement generated by Thanksgiving and then the December holidays teachers have done a wonderful job of making sure that students don't forget that the reason they come to school is to learn.

This fall I was a spectator at a wide variety of athletic events. I have been in our high school fitness center and watched as our young men and women do the hard work that is required to get better. And leading them were coaches who challenged and pushed and helped these young people learn and grow as athletes and as people.

Our secretaries, bus drivers, food service workers, technology staff, preschool and CARE staff, and maintenance staff all plan and prepare so that good things can happen every day for our students.

Finally, our community spends a significant amount of time and money to ensure that our district will be among the best in this state and nation. I have seen our parents supporting the marching band, parents at booster clubs, community members and parents at school concerts and events, and parents at PTO meetings. Our community supported two ballot proposals in November that will provide resources to our district. Whether it is doing homework, working hard in class, volunteering in our schools, or supporting our students by coming to events, our community contributes mightily to the success our district en-

Things work out when good people spend time making sure that good things will happen. During this holiday season I am thankful for our community staff, students, parents, and community members who work to make sure our students have a great place to go to school.

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



7:30 p.m. Rev. Dr. Mary E. Biedron, Senior Minister

36520 W. Twelve Mile, Farmington Hills, MI (248) 848-1750 NorthCongregationalChurch.org



Ciena Healthcare opens Westland nursing facility

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

It's been several years since construction began on the Regency of Westland nursing facility on

Newburgh Road. But the building is ready to accept its first customers, and Ciena Healthcare President Mohammad Qazi is ecstatic to finally open its doors.

The center, at 2209

First United Methodist Church of Northville

Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24th

All are welcome!

11 PM Lessons, Carols & Communion *

* Candle lighting at 6, 8 & 11 PM services

Sundays - Dec. 29 & Jan. 5 - One service at 10 am

248-349-1144, www.fumcnorthville.org

4 PM Family Service

777 West Eight Mile Road, Northville

6 PM Contemporary Service *

8 PM Traditional Service *

the-art facility for shortand long-term visits by patients. It'll have private and semi-private rooms, a physical therapy room, a spa, a private dining area and a lounge area.

Newburgh, is a state-of-

The center will serve as a replacement facility, replacing Ciena Healthcare's Camelot Hall Convalescent Center, 35100 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. Patients at Camelot are expected to move into the new facility around Christmas.

"This is a replacement for an older building, Camelot," Qazi said. "The look, the feel, the services, it'll be vastly differ-

ent than Camelot." Qazi said during a grand opening event that the Camelot facility will be going to the Detroit Rescue Mission for their work.

To replace the facility, Qazi said the company could only go a few miles out. They decided to look in Westland, and were happy when they found the land on Newburgh iust south of Ford Road.

"We found this land and this is a good site," he

While the patients are moving from Camelot. there will be room for oth-

Southfield-based Ciena Healthcare operates nursing homes and rehab centers across Michigan.

Canton police, family brought together by case from 1981

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

Kim Larrow was known for running away when she vanished the evening of June 8, 1981.

Then 15, she had a spunky, rebellious spirit that curled around township investigators hoping to find her safe.

However, one investigator blended into the next as leads ran cold over the nearly 40 years that have passed since she was last seen at an ice cream parlor in Canton Township.

The dynamics created by her mysterious disappearance have created a different relationship between police officers and those family members bereft of parting properly with a teenage girl with an infectious laugh.

Detective Joe Keimig said he has numbers for several of Larrow's relatives programmed into his phone.

"Everyone's worst nightmare is your family member disappears and you have no idea what happened to them. You just want answers," he said. "I'd like to get these folks the answers that they deserve, the closure that they deserve, the peace they deserve. Let's do the

"There's no doubt in my mind there's at least one person still alive that knows something that's a missing piece of the puzzle. It might be small. But I want to hear their story and what they have to say. I can figure out whether it's credible or not."

Was she a runaway or was she taken?

Larrow has been described as a bit of a wild child who loved to laugh.

"I kind of think she just raised herself a little bit. (She was) very loving, very caring, ... always wanted to have fun. (She was) always laughing," said Lisa Schmidt, a stepsister whose mother married Larrow's father Arnold.

They lived at their parents' Dundee home together, sharing a room and bed for about a year.

"I think inside she had a lot of pain," Schmidt said. "She didn't want to dwell on the sadness of life. She just wanted to be happy.

"There were a lot of people that loved that child. Her father loved her dearly. Her mother did, too."

Larrow loved being on the go and was known as a runaway. She and a friend once hitchhiked unannounced to Florida.

She ran away from her mother's home twice in 1979 and once in 1980.

Her school grades were suffering when she left her father in Dundee to be with her mother on Beaufort Drive in Canton Township.

Larrow called Schmidt, older by a few years, and

About this series

Crime statisticians warn of a cold case crisis. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the nation has about 250,000 unsolved murders, and the number rises by several thousand each year.

Hometown Life is talking with some of the investigators who are involved in various cold cases in metro Detroit and highlighting some of those files.

asked her to place her clothes in the yard on Tuesday, June 2, 1981. The older stepsister knew Larrow was never entirely happy in Dundee.

"I sat out there that night waiting for her and she never came," Schmidt said. "That's the last I heard

from her. 'We just all thought in the beginning that she ran away and she'll come home when she's good and

ready. Then the months turned into years. "She loved her family. It wasn't like Kim to be gone

and stay gone and not talk or call." "She was never out of mind. We always spoke of her.

We just shook our heads." Schmidt wishes cell phones had been around back then. They could have meant a world of difference in the investigation that started as a runaway report.

Larrow did not have a driver's license or Social Security number when she walked away from an ice cream parlor near Sheldon and Ann Arbor roads.

A friend worked there, and the two girls made plans to meet at Hines Park. Larrow never showed up, according to online reports.

A heartbroken Arnold Larrow once hired a private investigator to find his daughter.

"You could see it in his face," Schmidt said of the now deceased father. "We'd talk about Kim, and he'd just shake his head. He was like the rest of us. He was just bewildered.

She has confidence in the law enforcers working together to find her stepsister.

Investigators alerted her before a Macomb Township dig last summer. Convicted killer Arthur Ream is rumored to have used the location to bury girls who vanished between 1970 and 1982

"I just pray to God we can bring Kim home," Schmidt said. "Do I think she's still alive? No. She would have gotten a hold of somebody by now. She loved too many people."

Active investigation

Over the years, Canton police officers have interviewed relatives, plumbed several working theories, and continued to look at the Art Ream possibility.

"At least a couple of times a week, I'm dealing with phone calls, interviews, scheduling and logistics for the continued investigation," said Keimig, who incor-

porates the case into his daily duties. "In that regard, it's very much active despite the fact that it's a 38year-old case."

He reopened the case about three years ago because of a tip that Larrow was alive and well, living in anoth-

The lead proved to be erroneous but made him familiar with the case.

Technology has changed over the years, but Canton detectives can't use one of the most powerful advancements - DNA technology - without a body or crime scene.

"A rollercoaster is probably the best way to describe it," said Keimig of his experience with the Larrow case. "At the end of the day, any level of heartache or frustration that I feel about it, when something doesn't pan out, is nothing compared to the 38 years that that Kim Larrow's family has been looking for answers.

"It's hard to feel bad about the effort that went into something that didn't pan out when this family has been dealing with this for a long time. This case is important to me so it's worth the extra effort."

A connection

Robert Cooper, tied to Arnold Larrow's family, likens Keimig to a "godsend."

"This guy has worked very, very, very, hard on Kim's case," he said. "He really, really, really put a lot of heart and soul in this.

"If there's one particular thing that gives me solace, it's definitely that they're looking for Kim.

"Prosecution isn't my priority. As far as me personally and a lot of my family members, we just want to bring Kim home and bring the closure of finding her to the end."

The southeast Michigan resident remembers a young Kim Larrow being in frequent conflicts with her parents. She ran with a "tougher crowd" that liked to hang out at Hines Park.

Cooper has been suspicious of an older firefighter that was part of the group, as well as Larrow's mother.

Lucy Larrow could not be found for this story. She once was known to be living in Arizona.

"I'm not sure where she is living but I have reached out on several occasions to speak with her," Keimig said in an email. "I've not spoken to her directly but I hope to have that opportunity when she is ready."

The case quickly grabbed the attention of Sgt. Adam Shulman, who recently returned to detective duties.

"It's close to the heart," he said of the Larrow investigation, "because we all have families. We can't fathom or understand what the Larrow family is going through for the past decades that they have had to go through this."

For those who may be able to help find Larrow, Canton detectives ask that you call 734-394-5400.

Mother spoke to man who says he's her son missing for 25 years

Bisma Parvez

Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

LIVONIA - Twentyfive years after 4-year-old D'Wan Sims disappeared, a man is working with authorities and the boy's mother to determine whether he is the missing

Livonia Police Capt. Ronald Taig confirmed that "an individual came in on Dec. 11, which just happened to be the 25th anniversary of D'Wan being missing. He came in and provided a DNA sample."

Taig said D'Wan's mother, Dewanna Harris, is cooperating with the investigation and told police that she had spoken to the man claiming to be her son.

"She did contact and talk to this person and ask him about some per-

input on two variance requests:

feet from the easterly property line.

sonal information that only her and D'Wan Sims would know, like birthmarks," Taig stated. "He wasn't able to answer those questions, along with the date of birth."

The police department still has DNA samples from D'Wan's father and mother and the new sample has been submitted to the University of Northern Texas for analysis.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold public hearings to receive public

A variance is requested by the property owner of 619 Carpenter Ave., Northville. Michigan, 48167. The applicant is seeking a variance for additional lot coverage to

coverage over the maximum requirement in Section 15.01.

proposed variance requests will also be received at the above address.

retain an existing shed on premises zoned R-1B First Density Residential District. parcel number 48-001-02-0022-301. The variance requested is 4 square feet of lot

A variance is requested by the property owner of 547 W. Main St., Northville, Michigan,

48167. The applicant is seeking a variance to expand a non-conforming garage into

a side yard setback on premises zoned R-1B First Density Residential District, parcel

number 48-003-03-0288-000. The variance requested is 4.18-foot side yard setback variance from Section 18.04 to allow locating two garage additions a minimum of 0.82

The public hearings will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the City

of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public

comment on the variance requests. The variance applications are available for review at

the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until

4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the

Taig was at the department in 1994 when Sims was reported missing from Wonderland Mall in Livonia by his mother, who became a suspect because her son was never seen on security foot-

"D'Wan Sims was never at our mall. We went through every bit of videotape, and all the evidence showed obviously

Dewanna Sims was here but she was by herself," Taig stated. The police department

still has DNA samples from D'Wan's father and mother and the new sample has been submitted to the University of North-

ern Texas for analysis. She maintained her in-

nocence and claimed that she was being treated unfairly during a news conference in 1994 because of the Susan Smith case at the time, where a woman reported that her children were kidnapped in a carjacking but admitted to

drowning them nine days



INVITATION TO BID 2020 INTERIOR RENOVATIONS at MEADS MILL MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of Northville Public Schools is accepting firm prime contractor trade specific bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the interior remodeling work at Meads Mill Middle Schools.

Plans and specifications may be downloaded electronically and are available for review at the office of the AUCH Construction, 65 University, Pontiac, MI $\,$ 48342 $\,$ 248.334.2000, on or after Thursday, December 5th, 2019. Bid Package consists of Instruction to Bidders, Proposal Forms, General and Supplementary Conditions, drawings and pertinent trade specifications. Contact Mitch DeLange or Shawn Debo for download instructions.

Your proposal will be accepted NO LATER THAN 12:00PM NOON, Thursday, January 9th. 2020 attention to: NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION - 405 WEST MAIN STREET, NORTHVILLE, MI 48167. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. Bids must go to Northville Public Schools. Bids will not be accepted at the office of AUCH Construction.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud beginning at 12:30 P.M., January 9th, 2020 at the Northville Board of Education, 405 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for Thursday, December 19th, 2019 beginning at 3:30pm at Meads Mill Middle School (16700 Franklin Rd., Northville, MI 48168). This meeting is not mandatory but highly recommended.

All contracts to be entered into by the Northville Public Schools must and will comply with the equal opportunity laws of the State of Michigan

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet.

All bidders must provide familial disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.1267 and attach this information to the bid proposal. The bid proposal will be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Northville Public Schools, Board of Education or the Northville Public Schools, Superintendent. The District will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

Proposals must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Northville Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each proposal over \$24,924 and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner.

Sarah Prescott, Secretary Northville Public Schools, Board of Education

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Published December 19, 2019

POLICE, KIDS JOIN FORCES TO SHOP

The Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 128 (Stanley Clark Southwestern Oakland County) and the West Bloomfield Police Foundation sponsored the annual Copsn-kids holiday event Dec. 10 at Meijer Wixom.

Those groups worked with Lakes Area Youth Assistance, Huron Valley Youth Assistance, Novi Youth Assistance and the West Bloomfield Youth Assistance to make the event a success.

Forty children were treated to a pizza party and a \$200 gift card, provided by Meijer Wixom.

Children shopped with officers and received holiday stockings filled with goodies.



Oakland County Sheriff's deputies Brent Schroedel and Jason Gregory and West Bloomfield officer Robby Thorisberry shop for boots with Abdov Boyc, of Wixom, and Kaydee Schmitt, of Novi. PHOTOS COURTESY CURTIS DROGMILLER



Local police officers helped kids shop for holiday gifts and enjoyed a pizza party together at the Meijer in Wixom during the Cops-n-kids annual holiday event.



Novi Police Officer Andrew Toth checks out a pair of shoes with Elijah McClellan, 5, of Wixom.



Deputy Charlie Yon, FOP 128 President Alex McLellan, and Adam Romano, 10. of Novi, shop together.

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Hours: Tue - Wed, Fri: 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

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New path for transit unveiled by Legislature

Wayne, Washtenaw, Oakland leaders in; Macomb is out

Omar Abdel-Baqui and Kathleen Gray Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

Regional cooperation in southeast Michigan took a detour when a group of local and state political leaders unveiled the latest plans to kick-start a regional transit plan, but left Macomb County out of the mix.

Instead, officials from Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties, along with the city of Detroit and several state lawmakers, announced their plan to amend the Municipal Partnership Act of 2011 in the state Legislature, with the goal of having a proposal expanding regional transit in several southeast Michigan counties on the November 2020 ballot

The plan came together after the August death of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, a vocal opponent of previous efforts to get a transit proposal on ballots in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties.

Former Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter, an avid supporter of public transit, was appointed to fill out the rest of Patterson's term and said within days of being appointed that he wanted to see transit on the 2020 ballot.

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, who also opposed previous transit proposals, decided to opt out of the latest plan.

He said he has no problem with the other communities going forward with the latest plan and figures it's a way to involve all the communities in each of the counties. Currently, Wayne and Oakland counties have allowed communities to opt out of transit plans, leaving wide swaths of territory with little to no public transportation. When Macomb County residents have approved suburban bus millages, including in 2018, it has included the entire county.

"I don't disagree that there is a need to connect communities, but how do you do that?" Hackel said. "It's going to be a remarkable change in the transit system if all of the communities opt in because there's a tremendous amount of funding that they're not getting that money from those communities."

He's still opposed to a regional transit millage on top of a suburban bus millage that's already being levied.

The latest plan allows for Macomb County and others to join in the future, unlike the original Regional Transit Authority bill.

The reason the Regional Transit Authority hasn't worked as intended, Duggan said, is it calls for all jurisdictions involved — Detroit and Wayne, Macomb, Oakland and Washtenaw counties — to be on board, and if any of those jurisdictions didn't support part of the plan, "the whole region got zero."

The remainder of the so-called Big Four — Coulter, Wayne County Executive Warren Evans and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan — once again enlisted Washtenaw County leaders into the ballot proposal plan.

The local leaders, along with several state lawmakers, announced the new proposal at a news conference at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

The latest plan is one of many that have been floated to try and improve public transit in the region, which has been plagued by slow or nonexistent service, a lack of coordination between the city and suburban bus systems and insufficient equipment.

Previous attempts have failed because someone in political leadership didn't buy into the proposal. Former Gov. John Engler killed one plan on his last day in office in 2003, vetoing legislation that created a regional transit authority. Patterson and Hackel have put the kibosh on other plans and voters have defeated measures too.

The bill amending the Municipal Partnership Act of 2011 would allow for the approval of a municipal partnership levy by a majority vote within a participating jurisdiction, exempt participating governments from the local millage cap and ensure levied revenue is used exclusively for transit, Wayne County Executive Warren Evans said in the news conference.

"This is not a transit plan," Evans said. "This is legislation that can get us to a transit plan."

Sponsoring the proposed bill is state Rep. Jason Sheppard, R-Temperance, who said he wants "this to be a bipartisan effort." He has the support of both Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield, R-Levering, and House Minority Leader



Oakland County Executive David
Coulter announces a new regional
transit initiative in a news conference
at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.
OMAR ABDEL-BAQUI/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Chris Greig, D-Farmington Hills.

Sheppard aims to get the bill on the House floor when the state Legislature convenes in December.

"I don't want this talked about being Republican versus Democrat," he said. "This is a state of Michigan issue that we have to solve."

If the bill is approved in Lansing, a vote by each county's commission could place a transit millage question on the ballot, and it would be up to voters to approve the millage.

Evans said he wants a plan the involved counties can all agree upon drafted by spring 2020, and get the public involved with "significant intensity" to allow it to be placed on the ballot in November 2020.

"For over half a century, southeast Michigan has become one of the most segregated places in America. For over half a century, we've been trying to get fully connected public transportation in our area. For over half a century, we've been cutting ourselves off from a substantial portion of our own talent base because they can't access opportunity," Evans said.

Coulter said he hopes to get support for the new plan throughout Oakland County, where in 2016, a Regional Transit Authority millage was defeated.

Coulter said it was no secret that previous plans didn't have enough resources or incentives for residents in the northern parts of the county to gain enough support.

Better connections from less populous communities to main transit lines is one way of gaining support throughout Oakland County, he said, as no one is going to want to walk a mile to get to a bus stop.

On the flip side, the FAST Woodward bus service, which connects Pontiac and downtown Detroit with stops along Woodward Avenue, is "rocking it," Coulter said

Weekly ridership of FAST Woodward buses has increased 90% since January 2018, he said.

"For me, that's just a glimpse of what future ridership could look like if we created the right regional plan that moves people quickly and efficiently and affordably," Coulter said.

The plan will likely be dealing with a lower millage request and, as a result, less revenue for regional transit, Evans said, but it's not clear at this point what the number will be. The 1.2 mill-proposal failed by about 18,000 votes in 2016.

Officials stressed the economic impact regional transit would provide.

A quarter of residents in the city of Detroit do not own cars, which means their ability to get where they need to is "limited by a transit system that's probably the worst in the country," Duggan

Evans said regional transit will help retain young people in the region and attract businesses, stimulating economic activity.

"Talent is king in the economy, and economic development is becoming as much a part of talent cultivation as it is talent attraction. We're leaving way too much homegrown talent out of the system," Evans said. "This is a key step toward a truly inclusive economy. I, for one, am tired of waiting and believe this is our best shot in getting there, and I hope our friends in Lansing agree."

The right people are involved in the formulation of this plan, Duggan said. As the Detroit mayor voiced his final remarks, he lightheartedly said, "As long as (Rep.) Jason Sheppard gets the bill done, we're going to get a transit system."



NORTHVILLE SPIFFS UP DOWNTOWN FOR HOLIDAY SEASON



The current and past presidents of the Northville Garden Club gathered recently to celebrate their decorating in holiday greens the fountain at Allen Terrace. The fountain was donated to Allen Terrace in 1978 when Barbara O'Brien was club president. From left are: Julie Mantay, Karen Ross, Annie Nichols, Claire Kreher, Evelyn Harper, Suemarie Klimek, Mimi Kibbey and Kathy Galarneau (current president). COURTESY OF NORTHVILLE GARDEN CLUB



Lights in the trees and wreaths and red ribbons on light poles announce the arrival of the holidays downtown.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



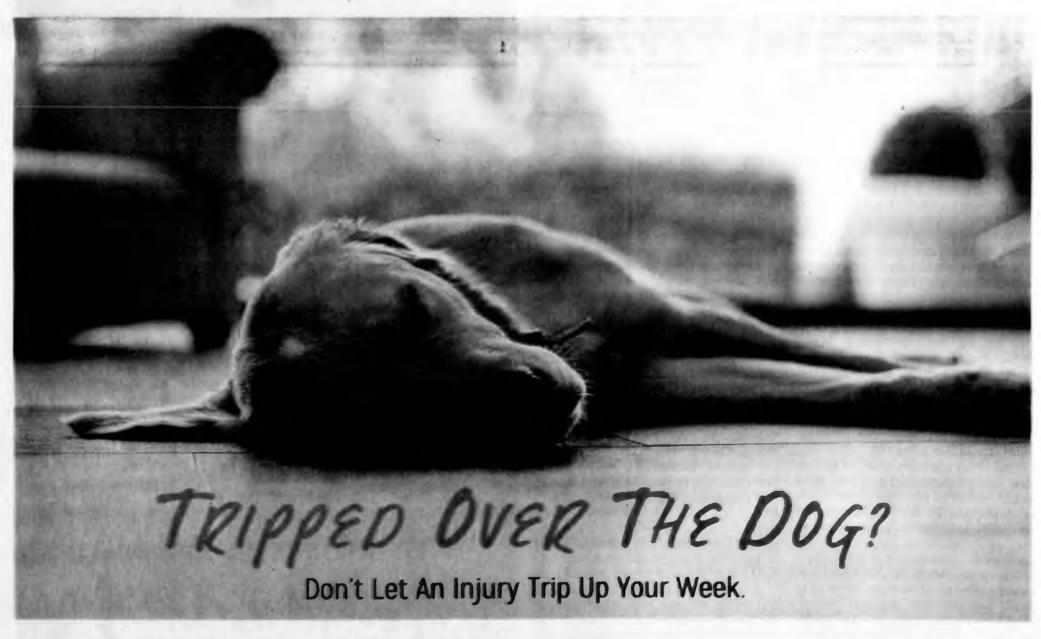
The Main Street clock wears a wreath from the Northville Garden Club.



Shop owners have put a lot of time and money into decorating their windows.



Planters along Main Street contain winter greens and berry red accent plants.



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HOLIDAY DECOR IN NORTHVILLE



A snowman in a colorful planter filled with poinsettia flowers is on display just outside of Northville's Marquis Theatre. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Northville Nail Boutique on Main Street has its front window decked with Christmas decor.



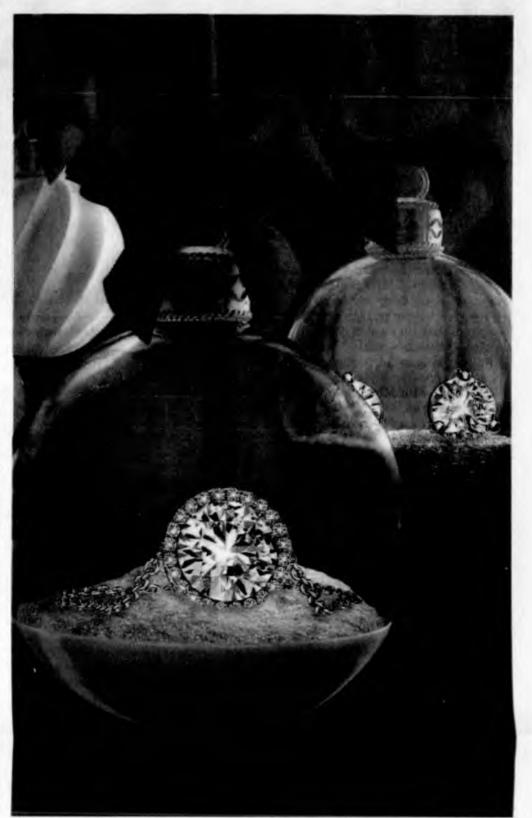
Some colorful decorations brighten the front windows of Adorn Fine Flowers.



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Love on screen led to the real thing for couple

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

Courtney Mathews and Aaron Noble know all too well how art imitates life.

The couple, engaged to be married this spring, met on set of the locally shot independent film "Christmas Coupon," where they play two people who find love.

"It's funny because our first scene ever was the wedding scene," Mathews said. "It was awkward. And, we actually didn't like each other at first. We were annoyed by each other completely. So, it is funny how it ended up flipping the switch.

Director Daniel Knudsen asked the two to help co-write the film before it was shot around Livonia, Plymouth and Detroit last winter.

"We're all very aggressive creative people," he said. "So, she has one idea, l have another idea, I obsess over character building, she says don't worry about the character building. So we're just constantly butting heads.

But. Noble and Mathews eventually forged a friendship and he hit it off well with her four children. They're now figuring out how to be a family of six.

On the screen, Mathews' character Alison Grant and Noble's character Ivan Hall don't have a story that simple.

"They fell in love in high school and had plans that they were going to get married," Mathews said. "You know, they were going to spend their lives together. His character ended up ... taking off and going to the NHL without telling her because he got drafted."

But Hall ends up back home after a knee injury and wins Grant back from her not-so-nice boyfriend.

"It's cute," Noble said. "It's got a lot of good mixes of romance, a lot of Hallmark-esque stuff. That's where it is."



Aaron Noble and his fiancee, Courtney Mathews, talk about meeting on set of the locally-made film "Christmas Coupon." JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Aside from the clean-cut Christmas love story, locals will recognize plenty of people and places. Livonia native 6year-old Brooklyn Wojtyniak, who raises awareness for craniofacial syndrome, and Michigan country singer Drew Jacobs are just two familiar faces that pop up.

"We went to downtown Milford and downtown Rochester, and those were our only two far away," Mathews said. "I would say 80 percent of the film is Livonia and Plymouth, and a little bit of Northville."

Knudsen and the two actors hope the film will give people something positive

to watch during the holidays. "I feel like it's hard in this day and age to find film that's clean, nice, something the whole family can watch but parents can also enjoy," Mathews said.

"Christmas Coupon" can be streamed on YouTube and Hulu or bought online from stores like Target and Walmart.

What laws, tax breaks affect assisting parents?



Money Matters Rick Bloom **Guest columnist**

Dear Rick:

I have a couple questions I hope you can help me with. My situation is that I no longer have a relationship with my parents. We had a falling out about five years ago. My brother, who I do have a relationship with, recently asked if I would be willing to help financially with my parents' care. They are moving into an adult care facility and will need help financially.

My first question to you is, do I have any legal liability to assist my parents? My second question is, if I decide to help my parents, is there any way I can write it off my taxes?

Thank you, Rob

Dear Rob

Whether a child is responsible for an elderly parent's long-term care cost is first dependent on the state that you reside in. Over 25 states have what are known as filial responsibility laws. Basically, these laws can hold adult children responsible for their parents' medical care if the parents can't pay.

However, Michigan does not have filial responsibility laws and thus, you would not be held responsible for any of your parents' long-term care costs.

Filial responsibility laws are rarely enforced, and most low- and middleclass families typically do not have to concern themselves with these laws, as long as their parents apply and qualify for Medicaid. If the parents do not qualify for Medicaid, adult children in states with filial responsibilities laws can potentially have financial responsibility.

Even though children are rarely held responsible for their parents' long-term care costs, adult children may find that they are paying for their parents' longterm care costs through Medicaid estate recovery laws. When Medicaid pays for people's long-term care, Medicaid has the right to recoup funds from their parents' estate through the Medicaid estate recovery process.

Through the Medicaid estate recovery process, it is possible that repayment to Medicaid may come from the proceeds of the sale of your parents' home.

Even though Michigan does not have filial responsibility laws, children can be held responsible for their parents' longterm care costs if the child personally guarantees the obligation of their parents. Therefore, if your parents go into an adult living facility and you sign as a co-signer, personal guarantor and/or responsible party, you can be held re-

sponsible for any unpaid bills. Therefore, you have to be cautious about signing any document when your

parents move into a long-term care facility. If your parents are not in the position to sign, it's important that when you sign the document on their behalf, you have a durable power of attorney and sign the document as agent for your parents. By doing this you won't assume any personal responsibility.

If you choose to financially help your parents, more likely than not, you would not qualify for a deduction. Your parents would not be dependents and thus, you would not be able to deduct any monies used for their care.

For those of you with elder parents, it is important that you help your parents get their legal and financial affairs in order.

For those of you who end up having to assist parents and do not have the right legal documents, you may find that handling your parents' affairs can be more difficult and expensive. Therefore, for those of you lucky enough to have elderly parents, it important that before a crisis develops you help them get their affairs in order to make things as easy as possible for them and ultimately for you.

Good luck!

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

Lights

Continued from Page 1A

The show, now held at Northville Christian School, 41355 Six Mile Road, doesn't look anything like it did in its Livonia heyday. The larger venue allowed for more lights and plenty of room for people to step out of their cars to enjoy the show.

"We kind of wanted to turn Livonia Lights into a community event where people could get hot chocolate, be in an environment where they can take family photos or videos and have it really be something that was really a community event rather than just driving up and watching a couple of songs," said Timothy Howse.

The 20-minute light show, hot chocolate and heating stations are all free to attendees.

"We really look at this light show as our gift to the community," Timothy said. "It's something that we don't charge for and we do it because we really want to give back to the community. We really want to love people because we've been given so much."

Two of the biggest changes are the two 45-foot by 25-foot walls covered in lights. Those massive displays are programmed to accompany music; each song takes between 20 and 25 hours to sequence.

"It's like a TV screen, but it would be low resolution because it's 9,000 lights creating the pictures," said Brooks McElhenny, the lead pastor of the Northville Christian Assembly.

The show also features new music and upgraded technology. Having to start from scratch, the Howse family and the nearly 100 volunteers from Northville Christian Assembly who've joined the production started work back in August.

"It's the whole church's display, it's not our display," said Franklin Howse. "It's a different event now."

The family hopes the event and its new feel will better help remind people of the true meaning of the holiday sea-

"It's a Christmas lights show that's really dedicated to the real meaning of Christmas: the birth of Christ," Timothy said. We live in a culture where the holiday has become so commercialized and a lot of times people forget what Christmas is really supposed to be."

The Northville Symphony of Lights runs every Friday, Saturday and Sunday until Dec. 22. The first six of the 20-minute shows starts at 6 p.m. and the last starts at 8:30 p.m.

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

Can condo association create 'separate but equal' policy?



Robert Meisner Guest columnist

Q: I heard about a recent case where a condo association with many members of the same religion didn't want men and women seeing each other in swimming suits, so the condo association adopted rules that provided for segregated swimming times for men and women in the community pool.

What are your thoughts? A: Yes, in Curto v. A Country Place Condo Ass'n, Inc. (921 F.3d 405), two residents fined by the association for allegedly violating the rules brought an action to challenge the scheduled swimming times under the Fair Housing Act, as well as the New Jersey State anti-discrimination laws. While the U.S. District Court judge ruled in favor of the association, the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals reversed, stating that the swimming rules were discriminatory under

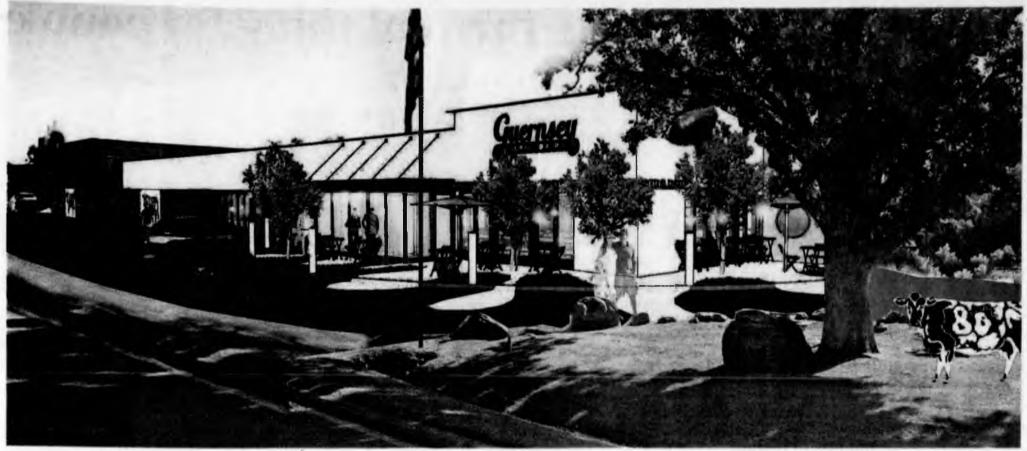
the Fair Housing Act by limiting the "use of privileges, services, or facilities associated with a dwelling because of sex."

The court noted that the question of whether any and all sex-segregated swimming hours would violate the Fair Housing Act was not being considered by the court because the swimming schedule adopted in this case was plainly unequal in its allotment of favorable swimming times. That is, women were allowed to swim for only 3.5 hours after 5 p.m. on weeknights, compared to 16.5 hours for men. The schedule left working women with regular jobs little access to the pool during the work week.

However, in a separate concurring opinion, Judge Fuentes went even further and wrote that such sex-segregated swimming hours are per se discriminatory, meaning that it is impossible to write them in such a way as to avoid discrimination. Judge Fuentes refers to the long-established rejection of "separate but equal" policies in the Supreme Court's decision in Brown v. Board of Education and notes that there can be no difference recognized here between discrimination based on race and discrimination based on sex.

If I were to advise an association considering a similar provision in their pool rules, I would strongly advise forgetting it altogether in the face of this decision. If one exists currently, I would strongly recommend consulting with your experienced community association attorney to ensure that you are not faced with a significant uphill battle in litigation over enforcement of your rules.

Robert M. Meisner, Esq. is the principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group, based in Bingham Farms, which provides legal representation for condominiums, homeowner associations, individual co-owners and developers. His book, Condo Living 2: The Authoritative Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium is available at momentumbooks.com. He can be reached at 248-644-4433 or bmeisner@meisner-law.com. Visit the firm's blog at meisner-law.com/blog.



A rendering shows what the exterior of Guernsey Farms Dairy in Novi will look like upon completion its renovation project. COURTESY OF JOE KINVILLE

Dairy

Continued from Page 1A

Kinville hopes the addition of liquor will enhance the dining experience and attract customers who want an alcoholic beverage with their meals, but he stressed that Guernsey will remain a family-oriented business.

"By no means will this be a sports bar atmosphere," Kinville said. "We are still family friendly and family focused."

He does expect to be Michigan

He does expect to have Michigan craft beer and wine offerings, as well as "boozy milkshakes."

A new menu will have a dairy theme to focus on what Guernsey does best.

That change will include going from broasted chicken to homestyle buttermilk fried chicken, something Kinville noted was scary to change, but was part of their commitment to being dairy specific. The restaurant wants to execute a few things very well instead of being OK at multiple things, he added.

"We have the best buttermilk in the world, shipped to 20 different states," he

"Next year is our 80th year in business, and as a toast to our generation and to our community ... we wanted to revamp the experience here at Guernsey's."

Joe Kinville Co-owner, Guernsey Farms Dairy

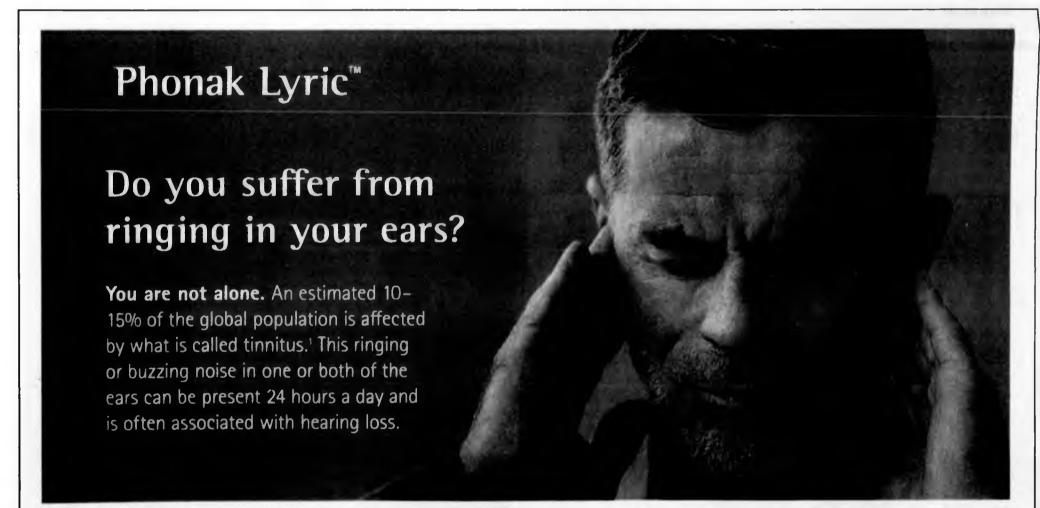
Guernsey gets all of its milk from Walnut Dale Farms in Wayland and that single source partnership will continue.

Ice cream offerings will increase with the renovations, as more freezer space is added. Kinville said service will also improve in the scoop shop and store area as customers will pay after they get their ice cream instead of before, hopefully reducing lines in the summer.

Guernsey is requesting site plan approval from the Novi Planning Commission this month and Kinville hopes for construction to begin early next year, with renovations completed in the spring for an April opening.



Dairy co-owner Joe Kinville checks the store's buttermilk supply Nov. 26. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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PHONAK life is on

A SOTION

Dog park

Continued from Page 1A

after which there will be a grand opening celebration.

On Nov. 26, the park was already being celebrated, by dogs and their people. Matt Huber, a Brighton Township resident, was at the park for the second time already with his boxer Sadie, whom he had also brought two days before for her second birthday.

He watched as Sadie raced across the park with Louis, an 8-month-old Great Dane puppy, who was enjoying his first visit with owner Katie Kobos of Milford.

"He loves other dogs, so this is perfect," Kobos said. "We are excited to meet new people and he can meet new dogs. It's nice to have the community of dog lovers. I take him to Orion Oaks sometimes, but this is close."

It isn't close for Jennifer Raphael of New York City, but she was happy to stop by with Lola, a 3-year-old Boston terrier/French bulldog mix, while the

pair were in the neighborhood. They were visiting with Raphael's mom, Harriet, who lives in Milford, and brought along Gretel, a 4-year-old basset mix.

Far from the big city apartment in which she lives, Lola seemed less impressed with room to run than with the treat just bought for her from the pet store. Harriet Raphael said she would bring her granddog Gretel again, howev-

Jennifer Healy of Milford, who brought Oberon, a 9-year-old shepherd/ chow mix, also plans to return.

"This is our first time, it's a nice park and big," she said. "We have a back yard, but it's not big and he needs to run around."

Huber said he would also be back with Sadie, although without assurance of another 54-degree, sunny day like the one in which she was racing as the park goers faced a quickly approaching winter, "We'll see how the weather holds out."

sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412 Twitter: @SusanBromley10.



Contact reporter Susan Bromley at The Milford Dog Park, located near the intersection of General Motors Road and S. Milford Road is now officially open. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Milford Village Council President Jerry Aubry said he wouldn't have approved the dog park had he known it was fenced off with wooden posts instead of chain link.





Louis Kobos, an 8-month-old Great Dane, can't wait to get into the new dog park.



Katie Kobos of Milford oversees playtime among Louis and new pals Oberon Healy, a 9-year-old shepherd/chow mix, and Sadie Huber, a 2-year-old boxer.



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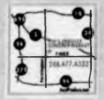


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Stevenson kills nine penalties in win over Trenton

Andrew Vailliencourt

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Over the years, Livonia Stevenson and Trenton have developed quite a rivalry in hockey after repeated meetings in the Division 2 state playoffs.

It was the case again last year, with Trenton knocking the Spartans out in

the state quarterfinals in a one goal

On Saturday, the two squads met again in the MIHL/KLAA Showcase at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia and played to another one goal game, this time, however, it was Stevenson that came out of top with a 2-1 victory.

It was a physical contest, with a combined 14 penalties between the

two teams — nine of them on the Spar-

Stevenson's defense was up to the challenge though, shutting down the Trojans offense completely on the pow-

"We had too many penalties, but give Trenton credit for putting us in those positions," Livonia Stevenson coach David Mitchell said. "We try to emulate

what Trenton does in terms of their community based hockey program. They're so well coached, we have so much respect for them.

'We gave them too many power-play chances, we have to clean up our discipline and we'll work on it. It's nice to get out of here with a W."

See STEVENSON, Page 28



Northville's Nick McInchak charges after the puck during a game against Grosse Pointe South in the annual MIHL/KLAA Hockey Showcase on Saturday at Eddie Edgar Ice Area in Livonia. Northville lost, 5-1. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

KLAA, MIHL play to tie in annual showcase

Colin Gay and Andrew Vailliencourt

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sweat was in the air Saturday at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia.

That's because 11 high profile high school hockey games were played over the course of the day in what's become an annual showcase between the state's two best hockey conferences: the KLAA and MIHL.

The two leagues officially tied 5-5, meaning the MIHL kept possession of the trophy after winning the showcase last season. The showcase's first game of the day did not count towards the final tally because Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard is not a member of the MIHL. It was just filling in so Livonia Franklin would have an opponent, since the KLAA has one more team than the MIHL. It's the third year the showcase has been held.

Here is a breakdown of 10 of the 11 games that took place, excluding the Howell-U-D Jesuit contest (U-D won, 4-1) which didn't feature a team from the Hometown Life region. Full game stories can be found at Hometown-Life.com for the games involving Salem, Livonia Stevenson, Brother Rice and Detroit Catholic Central.

See SHOWCASE, Page 28

Novi, Troy matchup turns boys hoops into family affair

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The basketball court at Troy High School looked like it always did before a game: people filing in, watching the end of the junior varsity game before the main event. But along the wall next to the away team's bench, there was something different: a sign.

The gray lettering on the white poster board matched the black and red Colts logo on the wall, but the message was the item that seemed out of place.

"We love Bryce."

Sharon Fralick, the Troy boys basketball scorebook keeper for the past 26 years with head coach Gary Fralick, her husband, put the sign there, one she made six years ago for her grandson Bryce Lubin.

Lubin made his return Friday to Troy High School, but he was on the opposing side as the starting guard led the Novi basketball team out onto the court. The junior saw the sign hanging there, right next to his bench.

"It was definitely embarrassing at first," Lubin said. "It made it feel a little more like home."

In the first meeting between Lubin and Gary Fralick, grandson and grandfather, a home-like atmosphere was warranted. In a basketball family with split high school basketball allegiances, both the Fralicks and the Lubins came together to watch what they have been anticipating.

"It's like this is something we have been talking about for seven, eight years," Mike Lubin, Bryce's father, said. "We've been looking forward to it for a long time."

Since the beginning of his high school career at Novi, a meeting between the family members was one of Bryce Lubin's main priorities.

During his freshman season, he asked then-varsity coach Brandon Sinawi to put Troy on the Wildcats' schedule.

After Sinawi left in 2018 for Detroit Catholic Central and Chris Housey took over, he continued the tradition, scheduling a home and home for Bryce's junior and senior seasons.

The Fralick and the Lubin clan is a basketball family.

Gary Fralick coached both of his sons, Gary and Tim, while at Troy. Tim Fralick played at Oakland University and married Robyn, head women's basketball coach at Bowling Green State.

See FAMILY, Page 38



Showcase

Continued from Page 1B

Livonia Franklin 3, Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard 2 SO

Rvan Kerr and Noah Cameron each recorded goals for Franklin in regulation, with each goal assisted by Jacob Cox.

With the score tied at 2-2 at the end of regulation, Patriots goalkeeper Brenden Pedersen stopped each shot in the shootout as Kerr and Josh Boze each connected on their shot attempts for Franklin's first win of the season.

Franklin will next take on South Lyon on the road Tuesday.

Canton 4, Port Huron Northern 3

Tied at 3 heading into the final minute of the third period, Canton sophomore forward Joel Fonovic recorded his second goal of the game, giving Canton the 4-3 victory against Port Huron Northern.

The game-winning score was assisted by junior forward Declan O'Hare and sophomore forward Tyler Husted.

With the one-goal win against the Huskies, Canton has won two of its six games played in the 2019-20 season.

The Chiefs will travel to Livonia to take on Churchill Friday.

Livonia Churchill 4, **Grosse Pointe North 0**

After scoring Churchill's only goal in the first two periods, senior forward Ian Wood came alive in the third period with the help of a power play.

Wood recorded two third-period goals, helping the Chargers to the 4-0 win against Grosse Pointe North. Senior forward Michael Mancina added another power-play goal in the third period as well, giving the Chargers their largest win of the season.

Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said that the Chargers, ideally, will have a big body like Wood near the goal, using screens and second-chance efforts to capitalize offensively.

After working on that aspect of the offensive game in practice. Kennedy thought his senior forward reaped the rewards.

'We're incredibly proud of him," Reynolds said. "Couldn't of happened to a nicer kid."

shutouts with junior Bryant Riley at the second period against De La Salle. goal, defeating Livonia Franklin, 2-0, Wednesday.

"Riley's the backbone of our team," Reynolds said. "He's one of our leaders. Can't be more excited and proud of him over the past two games. He brings a lot of positive energy and a sense of security on the back end."

The Churchill head coach also gave credit to his defensemen, saying each of them played steady and saw the newlyfound defensive identity paying off.

Churchill will try for its sixth win of the season on the road against Hartland Wednesday.

Grosse Pointe South 5, Northville 1

Northville was the first KLAA team to lose Saturday, falling 5-1 to Grosse Pointe South.



Canton's Brandon Trela brings the puck up ice toward the Port Huron Northern net during the annual MIHL/KLAA Hockey Showcase on Saturday at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia. Canton won, 4-3. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

It's often the goals at the very beginning and end of periods that can sink a team's chance at victory, and that's what happened to Northville. Grosse Pointe South scored a power play goal two minutes into the first period to take a lead that it never gave up.

The Blue Devils scored again with a minute and a half left in the period to go up two goals before Northville scored its lone goal at the start of the second period. Sophomore Tariq Comai scored the Mustangs goal and was assisted by senior Liam Cooney.

Grosse Pointe South then scored three third period goals to close out the contest, including one that came just 36 seconds into the period.

Grosse Pointe South's goal scorers were Brian McKenna, Aaron Vyletel, Anthony Furicchia, Dean Therriault and John McShane.

Novi 3, De La Salle 1

After two straight games without a Churchill has recorded two-straight score, Novi broke its scoreless streak in

After De La Salle forward Nick Twombley was sent to the penalty box for cross checking — the first penalty for either team - Wildcats forward Tanish Nichanametla connected on their first goal since Dec. 6, giving Novi its first win of the season with a 3-1 victory over De La Salle.

"It's like getting a monkey of our back," Novi head coach Mark Vellucci said. "We've been playing so well lately. We haven't had a lot of puck luck. We needed a a W and the guys played hard."

After Novi defender Max Rallis gave the Wildcats a two-goal lead after an unassisted in the third period, De La Salle cut its deficit in half, with defender Jack Rivera scoring with 3:23 left in the

But Novi junior forward Issac Gibbs secured the Wildcats' first victory, scoring an unassisted goal with 1:53 left in the game.

"Our record does not indicate our team," Vellucci said. "We've been playing so so hard."

Novi will try for its second win of the season Wednesday against Livonia Franklin.

Cranbrook Kingswood 3, Plymouth 2

In the tournament's sixth game of the day, the Plymouth Wildcats took on the Cranbrook Cranes.

The Cranes jumped out to a two-goal lead early, scoring two first period goals. The first was scored by junior defenseman Luke Hellweg less than two minutes into the game. He was assisted by senior Kullen Jahnke and senior Austin Hu.

With 6:15 left in the opening period, junior forward Alex Ceritano fired a shot past the Plymouth net-minder for an unassisted goal.

Cranbrook built on its lead in the second, as junior defenseman Leyton Stenman scored with 10:20 to go in the period on a power play. He was assisted by Ceritano and senior Edward Agamov.

Plymouth didn't quit, however; junior defenseman Brendan Matey got a goal assisted by seniors Ian Smith and Gavin

"They did a nice job of getting us out of our game," Cranbrook coach Brian Felsner said. "I thought we had a good first period, we moved the puck and did some things really well and got most of our production. I thought they outplayed us on special teams, their power play was stronger ... give them credit, they slowly took control of the game. It turned into us retreating and having to defend more in the second two periods."

The Wildcats kept us the pressure throughout the third period, finally scoring a second goal with 5:05 left to play. Roach scored it and was assisted by Smith and Matey. Despite the late push and a couple chances with the goalie pulled, Plymouth couldn't tie it up and the Cranes hung on for the victory.

Salem 3, Orchard Lake St. Mary's 2

Salem extended its win streak with a 3-2 win against Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Saturday.

Dante Doute, Mitchell Patrick and Ethan Granowicz were the goal-scorers for the Rocks, as sophomore goalkeeper Andre Genereaux recorded 19 saves.

Livonia Stevenson 2, Trenton 1

The Spartans got revenge for its loss in last year's state quarterfinals by beating Trenton 2-1 on Saturday.

Stevenson's goals were scored by Ethan Waldo and Ian Kimble. The Spartans successfully killed nine Trenton power plays to secure the win.

Brother Rice 4, Hartland 2

In a rematch of the 2019 state semifinal game, Brother Rice came out on top against Hartland, beating the Eagles 4-2 Saturday.

After a power play goal by senior forward DJ Dixon 39 seconds into the game, the Warriors recorded goals from Dylan McNulty, Max Brown and Nick Marone.

Detroit Catholic Central 7, Brighton 0

CC took care of business against Brighton in dominating fashion.

The Shamrocks scored three goals through the first period and a half before the game was delayed due to poor ice conditions. The teams switched to the other rink in the arena and continued scoring, reaching the seven-goal mark.

Stevenson

Continued from Page 1B

The Spartans will need to play cleaner hockey should the two programs meet again in the postseason. Coming into Saturday, Stevenson was ranked No. 2 in Division 2 and Trenton was ranked No. 4.

Stevenson got the scoring started at the 9:26 mark in the first period. Junior Brendan Heard skated up the left side in a two-on-one situation and passed it to junior Ethan Waldo who fired it into the net for the score.

Down one, Trenton had an opportunity to tie the game up when it went on a 5-on-3 power play near the end of the period. The Spartans defense came up big to keep it 1-0 after one period.

More penalties marked the beginning of the second period. The teams played 4-on-4 before Stevenson received its own chance on a 5-on-3 several minutes later.

Trenton held off Stevenson to gain momentum.

Following a Stevenson turnover in its own zone, the Trojans went on the attack. Junior Bradley Nemeth took advantage of the Spartan miscue and fired it back goaltender Brenden Stroble. It was Stroble's only blemish of the night.

"I felt really confident in our team," Stroble said. "We did really well on the

penalty kill, we blocked shots, cleared it, I made sure I wasn't screened, it was really good. ... It takes a lot of weight off my shoulders knowing that I can trust (my defense) and they are there to clear it out if I let up a bad rebound."

Heading to the third in a tie game, the contest got even more physical. Just over two minutes into the period, Stevenson junior Ian Kimble was able to poke a loose puck into the net despite a scrum of players in front of the goal.

The win was there for the taking, but the Spartans didn't make it easy.

In the final 10 minutes of the game, they took three consecutive penalties, giving Trenton chance after chance to send the game to overtime. The defense stepped up once again to hold off the Trojans.

'Our defense was stellar today," Mitchell said. "Nick Justice and Mark Stefanick, Ayden Adamic and those guys on the back end. Brenden Stroble has been outstanding. To come in this year, not really knowing what our goaltending would be, we didn't have anyone coming back, Stroble has — I'd say exceeded expectations — but we expect a lot of him and he expects a lot of himself, I'm happy for him and very proud of

Contact reporter Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Twitter: @Andrew-Vcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Stevenson's Dominic Glenn skates up the ice against Trenton in the MIHL/KLAA Showcase on Saturday at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia. TIM ARRICK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Family

Continued from Page 1B

When Bryce went to visit his grandparents, he would always watch what Gary was doing, whether it was from the sideline at Troy games or sitting next to him watching film, preparing for the Colts' next opponent.

"Just kind of seeing the way he thought about the game and just how much he loved it and how much more there is to it kind of showed me how much there is to it," Bryce Lubin said.

While growing up playing three sports - football, baseball and basketball — Bryce Lubin gravitated toward the family tradition, inheriting what his mother referred to as a family-wide basketball IQ.

As a basketball player, Gary Fralick thinks his grandson is "very coachable," saying Bryce has picked up many skills through observation and repetitive practice.

And while the Troy head coach would not disclose his game plan against Bryce before the game, he made it clear the junior guard is one of the most important pieces to the Novi offense.

"We're going to do some certain things to shut him down," Gary Fralick said.

As a self-described shooter that teammates look to on kickouts. Bryce Lubin did not seem to be much of a factor in his first game against Troy. With five points, he recorded one 3-point make, driving to the hoop and connecting on his other two points in the first quarter.

After Troy's 62-46 victory Friday, Fralick was extremely complimentary toward Bryce, saying the Colts gave him too many open looks from deep.

"He's getting better and better every time I see him," Fralick said after the game.

However, the game itself will not be what Fralick and Lubin remember from their first matchup.

As Kevin Wiedelman announced the starting lineups for Novi, calling Lubin's name, the junior guard went through

the normal routine. But instead of quickly dapping up the opposing coach and getting back to his teammates, Lubin embraced Fralick at

center court. "It was pretty special," Fralick said.



The Lubin and the Fralick families gather for a photo after the Troy-Novi boys basketball game. On Friday, Troy coach Gary Fralick and team faced Novi, the team on which his grandson, Bryce Lubin, plays. PHOTOS BY COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Fralick hugs Lubin at the Troy-Novi game. "He's getting better and better every time I see him," Fralick said of his grandson's performance. Troy won, 62-46.

"He's a special kid."

Fralick describes his grandson off the court as a very giving and caring person, someone who gets along with everyone

and treats everyone with respect.

He describes Bryce as "one of my favorite people of all time."

Sitting in the stands with their own Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

signs supporting their son, Bryce's parents knew how important the embrace was, not just for the two on the court. but for the entire family.

"It's so special," Jenny Lubin, Bryce's mother, said. "It's such a moment that he will never forget. How many kids get a chance to do that? How many grandfathers get to do that?"

Sharon Fralick got a front-row seat to everything: from the player introductions to Novi struggling to contain Troy's outside opportunities.

As the game continued, Sharon always knew where her loyalties lie.

"You are kind of torn because Bryce is such a special young man, and of course I want Troy to win," Sharon Fralick said. "I wanted Troy to win, but I wanted Bryce to do well."

As the Lubins and Fralicks walked off the court after Troy's win, they took the "We Love Bryce" sign with them.

With another game against Troy scheduled during his senior year, Bryce Lubin is expecting to see it again, hanging up, but from the home bench.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gayl7. Send game results and stats to



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Novi's Alando Williams, left, and Jett Porter wait to see what Northville's Steven Morrissey will do in a KLAA West Division game. Williams had seven points in the second quarter when Novi took on Troy on Friday night, but the Wildcats couldn't stop a string of 3-pointers. Novi lost, 62-46. JOHN KEMSKI/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi struggles to contain Troy shooters

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

For the first half, Novi head boys basketball coach Chris Housey thought his team defended the perimeter shot well. The Wildcats limited Troy to two 3point makes in the first half, leaving for the locker room with two-point deficit.

Then the Colts began to fire. In the third and fourth quarter, no matter how well defended the attempts were, Troy (2-0) consistently connected from 3-point range, handing Novi (1-1) the 62-

46 loss Friday in the Wildcats' first road game of the season.

"I felt like we hung with them despite beating us in transition for the first half," Housey said. "In the second half, came out and they made shots and we didn't."

After leading the team with six firsthalf points, Troy senior forward John Stabinsky connected on three 3-pointers in the third quarter. He finished the game with a team-high 17 points.

Troy guard Brody Parker, an Oakland University commit, was not feeling well according to Colts head coach Gary Fral-

ick. The junior recorded five first-half points.

In the third quarter, Fralick said Parker was like "to heck with it," and contributed nine of the team's 20 third-quarter points, including a 3-point make.

"Offensively, we are not afraid to shoot and we have enough shooters where we can be dangerous against

most anybody," Fralick said.

Trailing 11-7 at the end of the first quarter, Novi came out quickly in the second, taking a two-point lead after a

Wildcats scored 13 points in the second quarter, seven of which came from senior Alando Williams.

Williams ended the game with a team-high 15 points and was the only Novi player with double-digit points.

Facing a two-point deficit out of halftime, Troy quickly took control, outscoring Novi 40-26 in the second half.

"At the end of the day, they were hitting shots and we weren't," Housey said. "Credit to them: they didn't take their

six-point run to start the quarter. The See STRUGGLE, Page 5B







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The Novi swim and dive team celebrates its win at the Fenton Relays on Dec. 7.

Novi starts season with victory at Fenton Relays

kicked off its season Dec. 7 with a domi-

nant performance at the Fenton Relays. The Wildcats won nine of the 10 swimming relays to capture their fourth consecutive Fenton Relays title.

Adam Carozza, Michael Prahin, Jackson Harrell and Max Robbins earned the first state qualifying time of the season in the 200-Freestyle relay. Carozza earned another state cut in the 100 Free-

The Novi boys swim and dive team style while leading off the 400-Freestyle relay.

"This was a great meet to start our season," Novi swim and dive head coach Brent Pohlonski said. "Getting state cuts in the first meet always builds confi-

"I am proud of our guys for keeping their composure and winning races after other teams would jump out to an early lead."

Struggle

Continued from Page 4B

foot off the pedal. They kept running, kept making us guard and it kind of wore us down and made it difficult for us at the end."

Junior guard Bryce Lubin, the grandson of Fralick, scored five points in the first meeting between them with a crowd full of family members.

Even with the familial connection. Fralick was very complimentary of Housey and his team, saying the Wildcats ran their offense well and were very disciplined.

However, the third quarter created the deficit and the momentum toward the home team. Housey said it is something Novi has to get used to: stepping up when its opponent steps up.

With one win and one loss two games into the season, Housey viewed it as a learning experience for his team.

'They are a great team, but so are we and we will be back," Housey said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com.

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Salem coach Ryan Ossenmacher speaks with the team during practice. Salem defeated Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 3-2, on Saturday in the KLAA/MIHL Showcase. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Salem hockey continues win streak

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After a season-opening loss to Pittsburgh Shady Side Academy, the Salem boys hockey team has been on a roll. The Rocks have won five straight, outscoring opponents 22-9 in that stretch.

Facing an Orchard Lake St. Mary's that had lost four of its past five games, Salem continued its run, defeating the Eaglets, 3-2, Saturday in the KLAA/ MIHL Showcase at Eddie Edgar Arena

Salem leaves with a record of 6-1, hile Orchard Lake St. Mary's falls to 3-

While the Eaglets could not convert on their first power play after Salem senior forward Alex Shaumburger earned a two-minute stay in the penalty box, the Rocks did.

With 21 second until Eaglets sophomore defender Matthew Miller returned from the penalty box, Salem took advantage, as junior forward Dante Doute scored the first goal of the day off assists

from sophomore forward Alex Mazzucca and senior defender Luke Schembri. In the second period, the offensive

momentum continued for the Rocks. Salem ruled time of possession, seemingly finding open looks throughout the Eaglets defense, but, with senior Ryan Smith at goal, could not get any-

thing through the net. Instead, it took another power play. Senior forward Mitchell Patrick camped out near goal, taking the puck off a deflected try by Mazzucca, and tucked it into the back of the net for the Rocks' second goal of the game.

With Patrick's goal, Salem had corded more than two goals in each of its past five wins.

Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher called his team's offensive performance "opportunisitic," taking advantage of the opportunities when the Eaglets were down a man to score.

Moving forward, Ossenmacher said the Rocks are going to have to make those offensive opportunities as well.

"I think we still need to do a better job

of getting pucks on net. We have a lot of shot attempts, it seems like, that just don't seem to get to the net, whether they are blocked or miss the nets high," Ossenmacher said. "We are wasting, so it looks like we are generating, but in reality, the puck never gets on net and never has the opportunity to go in."

In the third period, Orchard Lake St. Mary's senior forward Krzysztof Petryla stole the puck, broke away from the defender one-on-one, beating Salem sophomore goalkeeper Andre Genereaux for the first time, cutting the deficit to two goals.

With 1:24 left in the game, the Eaglets beat Genereaux again. With six on offense, senior forward Chris Dundas gave Orchard Lake St. Mary's its second goal of the game, assisted by Petryla and senior forward Tommy Walsh.

Genereaux recorded 19 saves for Salem Saturday.

'We have to keep going in the third and the second," Genereaux said about what Salem learned from its latest win. "Don't let down."

In the third period, Salem senior forward Ethan Granowicz took an open look, 10 feet from goal, and slapped it into the back of the net for the third and deciding goal of the day.

Continuing a six-game win streak, Ossenmacher said Salem's success is based on how hard it works, matching or outworking the Rocks' opponent on a given night.

While Salem has found success as of late, the head coach said there is still work to be done.

"We have come together as a team and realized that it's not about toe drags and the pretty play, but simply about competing for pucks," Ossenmacher said. "I will say we have not played a full 51 minutes yet this year, so I am looking

forward to that." Salem will look for its seventh win of the season Friday at home against Ply-

mouth. Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Catholic Central blows out Brighton at showcase

Andrew Vailliencourt Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

Everything went Detroit Catholic Central's way Saturday night in the MIHL/KLAA Showcase against Brigh-

It didn't seem to matter what Brighton did defensively or even what rink the teams played on as CC blew past the Bulldogs for a 7-0 win at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia.

"It was a great team effort," CC junior Collin Scheuher said. "Everyone top to bottom played well and that's what it's going to take to win. ... (Brighton) is big competition for us, it's a big game. We look forward to it every year."

The wild game even featured a change in rink as the two teams moved from the arena's Rink A to Rink B after there was a delay with 5:41 left in the

second period due to poor ice condition. It didn't faze the Shamrocks, who scored three goals on the first rink and four more on the second.

"I liked that we stuck to the gameplan even after the long delay," Catholic Central coach Brandon Kaleniecki said. "Things like that can be very disruptive and I thought we came out a little slow right after the break, but after we got our legs back we scored the next goal which was always going to be the challenge. At 3-0, if they get the next one things can really turn, fortunately for us we got the next one which allowed us to keep pushing. I like that they were able to stay focused through a difficult time like that."

He added that he's never had a situation quite like the one he experienced Saturday, but said the incident brought



Detroit Catholic Central goalie Louis Finnegan makes a save against Brighton in the MIHL/KLAA Showcase on Saturday. TIM ARRICK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

to mind a game in Flint several years ago that had to be pushed back and involved a change in venue due to a power outage and poor ice conditions.

Senior Blake Salamon scored CC's first goal just under four minutes into the contest. He was assisted by sophomore Kaden Hemme and senior Anthony Dimitrievski.

Scheuher scored the game's next two goals. He picked up assists from senior Brock Swindall on his first tally and seniors Gordie Husted and Kyle Miller on

his second goal.

"We're fortunate, there's no question." Kaleniecki said. "We have a lot of guys that can produce given the chance and Collin produced tonight. That's a difference-maker in the game, especially scoring two of the first three. When you have guys like that all the way through the lineup that are waiting for their opportunity to jump in and produce, it makes the team better."

With the second period winding down following the change in rink, Dimitrievski notched a goal and was assisted by Hemme and Salamon.

The Shamrocks added three more goals in the third period to blow the game wide open. The first came from senior Enzo Tarducci, with an assist by junior Nick Borchardt. The second was scored by Salamon, his second of the game, with an assist by senior Kyle Gaff-

Gaffney then scored the game's final goal himself, unassisted.

On the defensive end, it was senior Louis Finnegan that earned the shutout in net for the Shamrocks. He didn't face an overwhelming amount of shots, but he made the key saves when he needed

"We have two really good goaltenders, Adam (Best) didn't play tonight but Louis did," Kaleniecki said. "We've been fortunate that we can put either in a feel comfortable with what they're able to do. That's always the best thing, to have a goaltender that can play really well, and we have two, it gives you a shot in the arm."

CC's win secured a tie between the two conferences in the showcase. Since the MIHL won the event last year, the conference will keep the trophy another

"It's a great environment, it's great to be able to get all these teams in one rink," Kaleniecki said. "You see the excitement around the arena with two games going on at the same time, great rivalries and a tremendous vibe in the

Contact reporter Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt.



Catholic Central senior guard Ryan Logan goes in for a layup against Carleton Airport on Dec. 9. Catholic Central won, 61-54.



Catholic Central head coach Brandon Sinawi talks to a referee during the game. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Craggs leads CC to season-opening win

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The Detroit Catholic Central boys basketball team had to get the bad taste out of its mouth.

The Shamrocks took the court for the first time in the 2019-20 season, 10 months after its 81-79 regional final loss to Ypsilianti Lincoln. Carrying a roster full of juniors and sophomores with only three seniors, Catholic Central had the opportunity to start its own storyline in the second season under head coach Brandon Sinawi.

The Shamrocks (1-0) started the season Dec. 9 in the right direction, earning a 61-54 win against Carleton Airport (0-1).

Here are three takeaways from Catholic Central's season-opening win against Airport.

Mismatch in the paint

Coming into the game, Sinawi was not entirely sure what the game plan would be for his team.

However, as soon as sophomore forward Cooper Craggs entered the game for the first time early in the first quarter, he knew exactly what it was going to look like.

"As soon as I came in, I saw the mismatch in height," Craggs said. "I told the boys to give me the ball, and they were able to do that and I was able to finish."

Shamrocks senior guard Tyler Martinez said that in the locker room at halftime, Sinawi made sure that that Craggs and the paint was going to be the main point of attack for the rest of the game.

"Coach Sinawi put on the board a big 22-8 and circled it," Martinez said. "This is the points in the paint. Stop jacking up threes. Give it to Coop.' And we gave it to him."

Craggs scored 10 of Catholic Central's 15 points in the third quarter, ending the game with a team-leading 21 points and nine rebounds.

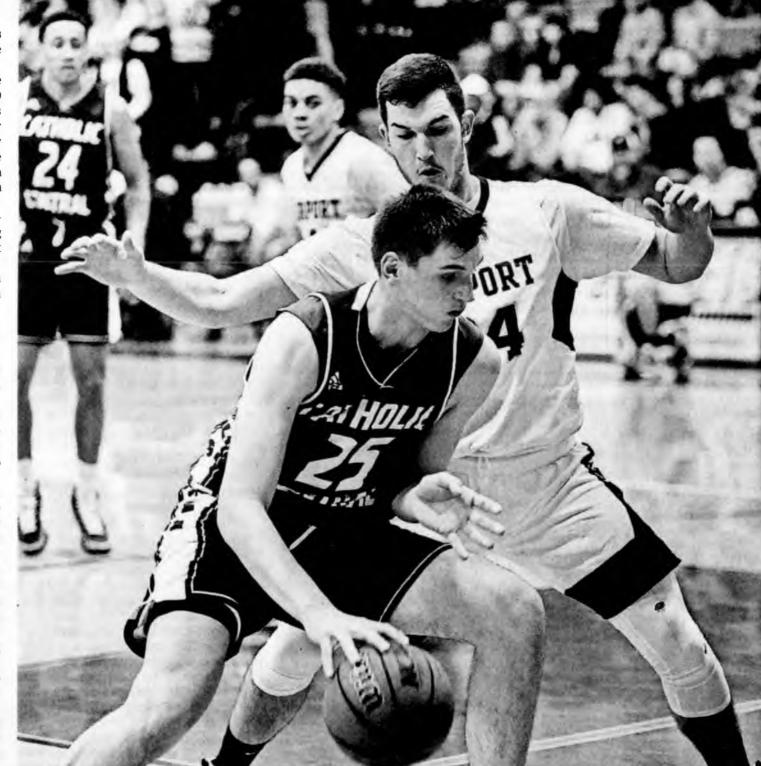
"Cooper did a great job of just being physical," Sinawi said. "Whenever he caught the ball, he was just strong with it. He was at the basket, keeping the ball high when he needed to and just had a really great game."

Craggs was not the only sophomore that Sinawi praised. The Catholic Central head coach raved about guard Kevin Wendt and his ability to defend Airport guard Benjamin Phillips, who scored a team-leading 18 points for the Jets. The head coach said he made every point difficult for Airport's leading scorer.

Starting slow

While the Shamrocks got it going in the second and fourth quarters, Sinawi was not pleased with how his team started the game.

In the first quarter, the Jets started hot, as Phillips hit a corner three, one of two three-point makes in the first quar-



Catholic Central sophomore forward Cooper Craggs is guarded by Airport forward Garrett Gilstorff.

ter for Airport. Both teams traded baskets, leading to a 13-13 tie moving into the second quarter.

While the Shamrocks came out to a seven-point halftime lead with the help of a 9-0 run in the second quarter, Catholic Central watched its lead evaporate in the third quarter.

Airport came out of halftime hot, scoring eight-straight points and taking the 28-27 lead early in the third quarter.

While Craggs found a rhythm in the paint as the third quarter continued, Sinawi said the Shamrocks accounted for 15 points allowed in the first part of the first and third quarters, something that cannot happen moving forward.

"We've started slow in our scrimmages and then we turn it on," Sinawi said. "We just reminded them that the game started at 7:30 not 7:35 and the

second half started with eight minutes on the clock, not six."

Sinawi said starting slow against Airport had to do with it being the first game of the season, but that it has to be a point of emphasis moving forward that the Shamrocks keep it in check at

A brand new start

the start of quarters.

While it was Craggs' dominance that led to the first win of the season, Sinawi knows that this team will have to rely on other aspects of the game and other players if it wants to continue winning games.

"It's going to be a different guy every night," Sinawi said. "It's never going to be the one or two guys that are just going to be consistent for us. We are going to have to have guys step up on different nights. When one guy's off, it's going to be someone else."

To Craggs, a win like the one against Airport gives Catholic Central something to build off of, giving the Shamrocks a few lineups to work with in the coming weeks before Catholic League play.

With the expectation to get back to where the Shamrocks ended their season last year, Martinez said that what he saw on the court is just another step.

"If Coop keeps that Dirk-like stuff going on in the paint, it makes it easier," Martinez said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Former judge Brennan pleads guilty to perjury

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

Former Livingston County District Court Judge Theresa Brennan pleaded guilty to perjury, essentially ending a 17month court drama that included ethics charges, a criminal prosecution and her removal from the bench in June.

The former judge was charged last December with three felonies - perjury, tampering with evidence and common law offenses - by the Michigan Attorney General's office.

She pleaded guilty to a felony count of perjury before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Paul Cusick in a Livingston County courtroom.

As part of a plea agreement, the AG's office agreed to dismiss the remaining

It also agreed to a guidelines range of no jail time to six months in jail on Brennan's minimum sentence. The perjury

charge carries a maximum sentence of duct by failing to recuse herself immedi-15 years in prison. Sentencing is set for

Brennan will be required to notify the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission of her felony conviction, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel said in a news release. That could lead to sanctions on Brennan's law license, including possible disbarment, Nessel wrote.

"This defendant violated the very tenets we as a society hold dear: truth, honor and justice," Nessel said in the release. "She made a mockery of her oath of office and undermined the integrity of the bench.

"I am confident Judge Cusick will sentence her appropriately."

Nessel's office argued Brennan lied about a cell phone that was considered a marital asset during hearings in her own divorce case and that she tampered with evidence.

It also said she committed miscon-

ately from her own divorce case and used the delay to dispose of evidence.

In her 2017 divorce deposition, Brennan told Tom Kizer, her ex-husband's attorney, that she was joking when she asked her staff to research how to delete information from her phone.

"My answer when I said that was I was joking. I was not joking," Brennan told Cusick on Tuesday.

Both Brennan and her attorneys declined to comment.

Brennan's plea comes months after the Michigan Supreme Court removed her from the bench and ordered that she pay costs, fees and expenses incurred by the Judicial Tenure Commission.

Lynn Helland, the Judicial Tenure Commission's examiner previously told the justices Brennan's misconduct can be divided into three distinct areas: deception, abuse of power and conflicts of interest.

"She (Brennan) never acknowledges any wrongdoing. Whenever she has to confront the possibility that she has done something wrong her default position is to conceal, lie," he said.

Helland said Brennan's continual denial of wrongdoing shows her character.

The Judicial Tenure Commission filed a formal complaint against Brennan in June 2018, more than a year after an alleged affair between Brennan and then-Michigan State Police Sgt. Sean Furlong was uncovered through depositions in her divorce case.

Retired judge William Giovan held an evidentiary hearing on the misconduct complaint spanning nine days in October and November 2018.

Giovan concluded that Brennan was in a romantic relationship before and during the Kowalski trial. Brennan has argued the relationship was not romantic during that time, and that the affair began after the trial.

Obituaries

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John Stephen "Steve" Heitert

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of John Stephen "Steve" Heitert on October 7 at home with his family at his side.

Steve was born January 24, 1948 in St. Louis, MO to James Frank and Betty Jean (Miller) Heitert. He graduated from Naperville Community High School class of 1966 and Southern Illinois University with a degree in mechanical engineering in 1972. Steve worked at Ford/Visteon in Dearborn, MI for 31 years while raising his family in Northville, MI. Steve and his family spent many unforgettable summer vacations in Saugatuck, MI.

He had a life-long passion for fixing things around-the-house, all things music, and the Detroit Lions' seemingly endless quest for their first Super Bowl. Throughout his life, he loved his pistachios, White Castle sliders, scrapple, and his wife Nancy's blueberry cheesecake.

He and his wife pursued their love of Maine where they retired in 2004 and built their oceanside retirement home.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Nancy (Stevenson) Heitert; children Catherine (Tom) Kelly of Northville, MI; John Stephen (Molly) Heitert of Broomfield, CO; James Heitert of Longmont, CO; and 7 grandchildren: Allison and Dylan Kelly, Holden, Vail, Ashton, Rowan, and Sam Heitert; and his brother, David Lawrence (Karen) Heitert of Buford, Georgia. He was predeceased by his parents James and Betty Heitert.

Private services will be held in Michigan this

summer.







JORDAN STERNBERG/CEDAR POINT

Cedar Point to give away free admission for life as part of 150th anniversary

Frank Witsil Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

Cedar Point - the Sandusky, Ohiobased mecca for roller-coaster enthusiasts - has big plans for its 150th anniversary next year.

The celebration includes a new boat ride, Snake River Expedition; a cellphone information system that tells you the history of the spot where you're standing, and parades with interactive

But the biggest news: The park said it would give away about 150 special tickets, one a day, starting in February. The tickets allow holders free admission and parking, along with three guests, for the rest of their lives.

It's a ticket you can't buy, the park said. The first one went to a Cedar Point employee through a random drawing.

However, there was no news of a 500-foot-tall roller coaster that had been rumored might be coming.

Park officials made the talk showstyle announcement Wednesday in a live YouTube video broadcast inside the park's Hotel Breakers, as viewers typed in their own commentary and questions.

"It's going to be a really fun year," Cedar Point General Manager Jason Mc-Clure said. "There are all kinds of plans going on now to get ready for next year."

Among them: new eateries, such as French Quarter Confections, with new treats; retro, fruit-shaped juice containers; limited edition commemorative merchandise, including collectible coins, Christmas ornaments, and free buttons that say: "I've been visiting Cedar Point since ..."

The news comes 150 days ahead of Cedar Point's May 9 opening, but just in time for Santa to go online and buy advance tickets as stocking stuffers, and families to start making summer vacation plans.

The plans also seem aimed at capitalizing on the nostalgia of the Midwest destination, with nods to the park's long history and an appeal to visitors to upload Cedar memories - stories, photos and short videos - to the park's website.

The second-oldest operating amusement park in the United States, Cedar Point opened in 1870 near Sandusky, Ohio, and has long been considered the "roller coaster capital of the world." It showcases 18 roller coasters, some of which have claimed records when they

New park features that already have been announced include more food items and souvenirs. The park's river expedition will be a reboot of its paddlewheel attraction, which it had before it closed in 2011, and will incorporate live entertainment.

Last August, the amusement park unveiled its gold pass for 2020, which offered unlimited visits for just \$99, or a \$19 initial payment and 10 more of just \$8. A pre-season ticket to the park is \$45.99, with \$20 for parking.

The platinum pass, which costs \$202, offers the benefits of the gold pass, plus entry to two other amusement parks: Michigan's Adventure in Muskegon and Kings Island in Mason, Ohio, which is north of Cincinnati.

Cedar Point is one of 11 amusement parks owned by Cedar Fair Entertainment Co., a publicly traded company based in Sandusky that goes by the ticker symbol FUN. In October, Cedar Fair reportedly rejected a \$4 billion cashand-stock offer from Six Flags Enter-

Six Flags, which is based in Grand Prairie, Texas, has 26 amusement parks.

The nation's oldest amusement park is Lake Compounce, which opened in Connecticut in 1846 as a picnic area with swimming and concerts more than a decade before the Civil War and was developed to include roller coasters.

Cedar Point, as the story goes, started with an 1867 editorial in the local newspaper calling for "some enterprising person" to make use of the beach on a peninsula that jutted out into Lake Erie. Three years later, Louis Zistel opened a small beer garden, bathhouse and dance floor.

In 1892, the park's first roller coaster opened the Switchback Railway. It was. as the Cedar Point website describes it, "an amazing 25 feet tall and reached an unbelievable top speed of 10 mph." Later, in 1899, the first hotel opened, and in 1911, it was announced a roadway would be built to the resort.

In 1970, Cedar Point's centennial year, the park continued to expand. In 2000, the park debuted the then-tallest, 310 feet, and fastest, 93 mph, roller coaster, Millennium Force; and three years later, it opened the even taller and faster, 420 feet and 120 mph, Top Thrill

In 2013, the park opened GateKeeper, billed as the longest wing roller coaster in the world, and in 2015, the Rougarou, the park's first floorless roller coaster, and a year later, the Valravn, the tallest, fastest and longest dive roller coaster -223 feet, 75 mph and 3,415 feet - in the

Economy will stoke rosy shopping season

Consumers may find 'experiences' in stores



Russ Wiles USA TODAY

This is the type of holiday-shopping season that retailers dream about. The economy is humming amid strong employment and high consumer confidence. Many workers have enjoyed wage gains, and fewer shoppers say they're planning to stick to budgets compared with previous years.

It all adds up to a potentially record retail season.

Consumers said they plan to spend \$1,048 on average including gifts, decorations and holiday food this season, according to a survey of nearly 7,800 adults by the National Retail Federation. That's up from \$1,007 in planned per-capita spending last year.

"It has the makings of a banner year," said Scott Hessell, a retailing professor at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Here are some of this year's themes for the coming weeks and beyond:

Physical stores reinvent themselves

Despite increasing online sales, most people still like to shop in person. Malls, other shopping centers and physical stores will continue to play a significant role this holiday season.

Roughly 90% of retail sales still are conducted in stores, said Hessell, director of the University of Arizona's Terry J. Lundgren Center for Retailing. "People want to come in, feel and try on products and talk to someone," he said.

At the same time, the United States has an overcapacity of physical retail space compared with other nations, he said, which means many stores are downsizing, reconfiguring or emphasizing new uses.

To make stores more relevant, retailers are using them more as places to pick up and return online-ordered merchandise. For example, Kohl's has partnered with Amazon to provide pickups and allow returns of items bought on



PEKIC/GETTY IMAGES

Amazon. Whole Foods offers expedited free delivery for Amazon Prime customers. Walmart and others offer curbside pickup, and Walgreens and others are experimenting with drone deliveries.

Among consumers queried by the National Retail Federation, 48% said they plan to buy merchandise online and pick it up at stores this holiday season. Almost three in four respondents plan to research or buy at least some items using a smartphone or tablet.

Sensory experiences expand

Aided by technology, many stores and shopping centers are offering more

For example, in Arizona, Scottsdale Fashion Square and Chandler Fashion Center, in partnership with HGTV, now feature an immersive "Santa HQ" digital experience this holiday season. The presentation includes a synchronized holiday light show, photo shoots with Santa Claus, a Naughty-or-Nice barometer and a Magic Mirror display that allows visitors to try on elf outfits.

Shoppers who venture into certain stores will find a different feel to many of them, with retailers trying to turn visits into exciting, emotionally fulfilling "sensory experiences," Hessell said.

They're doing so through innovative store layouts, decor, technological displays and in other ways. More are using museum-like product displays, touchscreens that allow shoppers to learn more product details.

A Nike store in New York City allows shoppers to order inventory from the back room and pay for items using their smartphones without dealing with store associates. Customers even can customize shoes and wait while they're being made.

"They're making it more of an engaging experience," Hessell said.

Gift cards reign supreme

If you're looking to give presents that aren't likely to be returned, look no further than gift cards.

These are the most common type of gift cited in the National Retail Federation report, with 59% of respondents planning to buy one or more this holiday season. That beat clothing/accessories, the second most popular choice at 52%, followed by books/media (35%), electronics (29%), home decor (24%) and jewelry (23%).

Gift cards also are the most com-

monly requested item, cited by 59% in the National Retail Federation survey.

Bankrate.com suggests presenting the activation receipt when you give a card. That way, the recipient will find it easier to replace a gift card if it's lost or

Tariffs squeeze retailers, consumers

Consumers might not notice much, but prices for many products have risen due to tariffs slapped on imported products, especially those made in China.

The imposition of tariffs likely explains part of the forecasted increase in overall retail sales. In that sense, the holiday shopping numbers aren't so rosy as they seem.

"If some of the increase in retail sales is a result of the tariffs, it reflects losses to households who are getting fewer goods and services for the amount they are spending," said Steve Horwitz, an economics professor at Ball State University in Indiana.

He cited studies that estimate households pay anywhere from \$1,000 to \$2,000 or so yearly in tariff expenses, though calculating the amount is tricky and depends largely on the assumptions used, he added. Many retailers have adjusted to tariffs for the past couple of years, so the price hikes haven't come as a shock, said Hessell.

Holiday waste piles up

Many people wind up with a lot more trash over the holidays - Americans generate about 25% more waste between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day compared to other times of the

According to Republic Services, much of this trash can be recycled including standard wrapping paper, metal cans (unless they have an insulated coating), hard-plastic containers/jugs and cardboard boxes.

Items that typically can't be recycled include bubble wrap, cellophane, foam packaging, holiday ribbons/bows, batteries, food waste, clothing/shoes, holiday lights and electronics. Sticky gift tags can be recycled if affixed to envelopes, wrapping paper or paper bags.



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Writing a strong cover letter when changing careers

Kate Lopaze thejobnetwork com

Changing careers can be seriously challenging. Once you've made the already tough decision to go for something new, you will likely then have new realities staring you in the face, like a lack of experience or hard skills. But rather than fall prey to the biggest catch-22 of job seeking (you need experience to get a job, and you need a job to get experience), there are plenty of things you can do with your application package to position yourself better.

Your resume is, basically, what it is. You'll group your skills and experience in a way that matches the job description. But the cover letter is your chance to set the narrative tone to let readers know who you are and what you bring.

Let's look at how to construct an ideal letter to let future employers know what you have to offer.

The opening: Avoid clichés

Your cover letter is valuable real es- GETTY IMAGES tate - most recruiters spend mere seconds scanning a letter before they decide to keep going or ignore. A reader's eyes are going to start glazing over the moment they see something like, "I'm the perfect person for this job," or "I am pleased for the opportunity to apply for this position."

Instead, catch their attention fast. Start with a question ("What do you do when you realize that you've been on the wrong career path all along?") or an interesting bit of information about you ("As a lifelong fan of the mime arts, I have decided it's high time to follow my passion."). It doesn't have to be anything crazy but should be something that makes the reader want to keep going.



The pitch: Talk about yourself

Introduce yourself, but make sure to keep it short and sweet. What are the most essential facts about yourself or your career that apply to the job you want? This is not where you go into a detailed history of your career. Because you're changing your career, you want to emphasize what relevant qualities you're bringing to this job.

You should also include a few sentences about why you're changing careers. You don't need to avoid the subject - remember, you're trying to give context for your resume, which may not

have a wealth of experience. Instead, embrace it. Were you a marketer who always wanted to teach art? Did your surfing hobby make you want to manage a beachfront beach wax emporium? This is your chance to open up about your personal connection to the job you're seeking. But again, remember — keep it short and to the point.

And don't apologize. If you're lacking in experience because you're new to the field, apologizing or calling attention to your lack of experience sets an insecure tone. Talking about why you've decided to change, and what you're bringing with you, sets a better tone.

The wind-down: Emphasize your skills

Once you've covered your experience (or your personal origin story as it pertains to your career change), it's time to emphasize the skills you most want the recruiter or hiring manager to see. This is a good place to highlight the soft skills that you're porting over from your past or current career (such as leadership, creativity, or problem-solving). Turn those skills into a bullet-pointed narrative that the reader will consider as they read your resume, making sure to discuss how each is relevant to the new job

The closing: Finish strong

Your closing should reiterate what you bring to this job. Instead of emphasizing that it would be a learning experience for you as a newbie on your changed career path, remind the reader what you already have.

For example, "I look forward to talking with you about how my passion and long experience as an innovator can benefit your team.

Your overall letter should be about a page, tops. Remember: you're trying to catch someone's attention, but also get them to keep reading. Long blocks of unbroken text make the latter unlikely. An upbeat tone, concise writing, and a focus on what you bring to this new job should help you smooth over any concerns about your experience or new-

ness. Good luck! Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 Tribal carving 6 Beatle Ringo 11 Depict with

bias 15 Ellipsoidal 19 Earthy tone.

to a Brit 20 Magazine release 21 Irene of

"Fame" 22 Central point 23 He played Jim Dial on "Murphy Brown'

26 Kazan with three Tonys 27 Carp in a garden pond

28 Football's Manning 29 "- my way!" ("Scram!") 30 Cathedrals'

main areas 31 Necklace of 12-Down 32 Strong product-

selling influence 36 Toon skunk Le Pew 39 Nonstick

cookware brand 41 Ending for priest

42 In-favor vote 43 Partly joking

19

23

27

43

56

62

80

87

92

110

116

122

126

37

72 | 73 | 74

102 103 104 105

38

46 Shabby hotels 51 Striped stone 101 Pod items 52 "Are you —

out?" 53 Currency of Belgium 55 Dormant 56 Able to feel 58 Taking a

rolling pin to 62 Period 63 Add- -(extras) 65 Brings a civil 117 Crossing action 66 Snare loops

67 What the Australian Open is **124** Ho-hum played on 72 Druids, e.g. 75 Burn soother 125 Volunteer's

76 Bruins' Bobby 77 Purpose 80 Black 127 Male tabbies Protestant denom. since 128 Regards as 1821

84 Have coming 87 Green shade 88 Blood-related 89 Daddy **91** Pond

98 Long-headed

39 40

63

antelope

28

44

68

93

buildup 92 Expected saviors 95 Gave a worthy effort 97 — -ray Disc

20

100 Florence's

102 Franz Liszt piano piece in 3/4 time 108 Purpose 110 In regard to 111 Conga

relative 112 Standoffish 113 Animal kept in the house 116 Feudal VIP

during a journey 122 Balladeer Burl 123 Green shade

feeling offer to be sent 126 Disaffirm

> 129 Sequence found in this puzzle's nine longest answers

DOWN 1 Tick follower 2 Eight, in Madrid 3 Bangkok

29

45

70

41

65

95

100

119 120

107

resident 4 Fumble 5 Rumble

32 33

58

69

98

64

75

106

Mexico 7 "For shame!"

8 "Just --suspected!" 9 Bit of hearsay

10 Reprimands 11 Actors Baio and Wolf 12 A Hawaiian Island

13 Work unit, in

physics 14 Sound of a crying baby 15 Ryan of "Love Story"

16 Swedish

vehicle make 17 Ta-ta, to Tati 18 Most minor 24 Aristocratic 25 Numbered hwys.

30 Scholastic sports org. 31 Some turns and jabs 32 Principal 33 Standoffish

34 Tarp material 35 "I didn't know that!" 36 Period 37 Avid 38 First strategy

40 Buddy 44 Viking locale 45 E-address 46 Plaster painting

21

12

34

42

46

35

60

96

108 109

125

129

101

61

6 "Yes, yes!," in 47 Archie 86 Run off to tie Bunker, e.g. the knot 48 Hubbubs 90 Cuzco locale 93 "Likely story!"

94 "Thrilla in

95 Spoke

Manila" boxer

indistinctly

and softly

finger on,

98 "R.I.P." sites

99 City in Alaska

102 Legitimate

103 Superior to

of "Two

Women"

105 Froth-filled

106 Pious song

Thomas

109 Aleppo locale

Sense" writer

reply to "That

107 "Common

112 Possible

so?"

114 Kellogg's

115 Holier-

than- -

117 Blast source

118 - Grande

113 Hungarian

sheepdog

waffle brand

104 Sophia

96 Put one's

49 Model binder **50** U.S. Open units 53 Sewing case 54 Beehive

State college

team 57 Bodily trunk 59 Ed of "Roots" 60 Habituate

61 Negative conjunction 64 Neat piles **67** Visibility reducers

68 DiFranco of song 69 Pre-coll., in education 70 Pluralizable

word 71 Appoint to holy office 72 Oahu tree 73 French gal pal

74 Tiara stones 77 Have a tiff **78** She divorced Donald

79 Intersects 81 Bible book after Micah

82 Tax form pro 83 Went to town 120 Juicy Fruit,

119 Dir. from

22

26

30

85 Plant pouch

Little Rock to Chicago

121 Bullring yell 16

48

49

SUDOKU 3 3 9 4 6 1 5 9 5 6 6 3

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards,

ANORAK ARCTIC BITTER BLANKET **BLUSTERY BOOTS** BRISK CHILL COAT

COLD **DECEMBER** DREARY **EVERGREEN FIREPLACE** FLANNEL FLEECE FRIGID **FROSTBITE** GALE **GLOVES GUSTS HEATER**

ICEBERG ICICLE **JACKET MITTENS** OVERCAST **POLAR SHOVEL** SKI SLED SLEET **SNOW**

SWEATER

WINTER

ZERO

8 9 3 1 6 7 6 8 9 3 6 9 9 9 7 7 9 8 3 Þ 3 9 8 6 21 2 3 9 8 6 Þ 3 6 2 5 6 1 7 1 2 9 9 4 8 7 6 8

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

124

128

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> Novena

Novena to St. Jude-Apostie and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in mirocles, kinsmun of Christ, intercessor of all who invoke your aid in time of need pray to you to use your great God all en acover to ald me in my urgent petition, in return i promise to make you name known. Pray for us who ask your aide St. Jude. Say three Hall Albarys, three Our Fathers and three Glorias. This Novena has never been known to foll. Say Novena for nine days, then promise to publish as soon as favor is granted.

Novena

117 | 118

123

127

PRAYER TO HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Spirit. You who solves all problems, who lights all roads so that i
can attain my soal. You who gives
me the divine glit to forgive and forget all evil against me and that in all
instances of my life You are with me.
I want in this short prayer to thank
You for all things and to confirm once
ogain that I never want to be separated from You, even in spite of all moterial illusion. I wish to be with You
in elernal Glory. Thank You for Your
mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer for three
cansecutive days, the favor recuested
difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the tavor is
granted without mentioning the tavor,
only your initials should appear at the
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