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Mutchler named Northville Twp. manager

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township has promoted from within to replace retired Township Manager Chip Snyder.

Effective Dec. 14, Todd L. Mutchler is the new township manager after serving in the township's law enforcement wing since May 2016.

Mutchler succeeds Debbie Wilhelm, who served as interim township manager from the time of Snyder's retirement in October until her recent retirement.

Mutchler's resume includes more than 30 years of municipal experience and a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Technology. He has served as both the township's deputy director of police services and director of public safety.

"Todd brings extensive experience and will add the necessary leadership to cohesively manage the changes currently happening in the organization and the community," noted Township Supervisor Robert Nix. "Todd has served the public safety department at all leadership levels and has a breadth of perspective and experience."



Mutchler

Mutchler's first order of business was promoting the township's finance director, Marina Neumaier, to the role of assistant township manager.

Neumaier, a township employee since December 2012, is a certified public accountant with over 30 years of combined private and public municipal finance experience.

Neumaier previously worked as Novi's assistant finance director. Her responsibilities included safeguarding

the fiscal integrity of the city through development and implementation of sound financial policies and practices.

"Together, Todd and Marina have a broad understanding of the current culture of the organization," Nix said. "They will work together to continue to lead Northville Township into the future by building and maintaining strong relationships with the community and continuing to foster the values and principles of the Charter Township of Northville."

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

Novi delays rezoning for Asian village

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Novi Planning Commission members had nothing bad to say during their meeting Dec. 11 about the proposed \$50 million Asian-themed mixed use development pitched along Grand River.

But several outstanding questions led the body to postpone sending a recommendation to the city council on a rezoning request until 2020.

Those points include several clarifications pertaining to the project's phasing plans, reduce the number of deviations, include time for the applicant to revise the plans as submitted earlier in the month and to allow city staff to review the plans as well under the planned unit development, among other reasons.

"I don't think there's anybody in this world that has anything negative to say about this," said Chairman Mark Pehrson. "We just want to reserve the final judgement to get those points clarified."

The project went before the city's planning commission for a rezoning request Dec. 11, proposing to rezone the property along Grand River and 11 Mile east of Town Center Drive in preparation for the Asian-themed mixed use development first publicly pitched in 2018.

That plan, led by Birmingham's Robert B. Aikens & Associates firm, would



Rendering shows the proposed Asian-themed mixed-use development proposed along Grand River. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF NOVI

see One World Market anchor the retail center that would include a market and food hall. Accompanying it would be several authentic Asian restaurants. The development would also include several dozen apartments and incorpo-

rate the existing pond into a focal point with Japanese gardens and a pathway.

Dubbed "Sakura Novi" after the flowering cherry blossom trees, the development would become a unique destination not only for the sizable Asian com-

munity that currently inhabits Novi, but to those interested especially in authentic Asian cuisine from across the state.

Having a place for "foodies" across

See ASIAN, Page 8A

Luxury apts. answer for former race track?

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Following an exhausting few days of trying to find the collective pulse of how Northville residents feel about the much-debated Downs project, Chris Alexander has a strong feeling of why a decent percentage of the city's citizens share a sense of apprehension.

And the No. 1 agitator is not the expected rise in traffic congestion, although that's right up there, said Alexander, a senior development director for

Indianapolis-based Watermark Residential, which is planning to develop the northernmost 9.5 acres of the 50-acre Downs project site with luxury apartments and businesses.

"After talking to a lot of people this week, I'd say the biggest question they have is, 'Is this the right kind of development for this project?'" said Alexander. "I think what they're getting at is, 'Are apartments the right use here?'"

"There is, obviously, a lot of history in

See LUXURY, Page 8A



The property south of Cady Street in Northville is creating conversation between developers, residents and city officials. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Seven brief facts about Milford's beginnings

Pamela A. Zinkosky
Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

How time flies! The Village of Milford turned 150 years old this year, as of March 30. And while the village incorporated in 1869, the township, which surrounds the 2.43-square-mile village, is even older, with settlement in the early 1830s and establishment of a township government in 1835.

While there are plenty of brand new homes and businesses in Milford, both the township and the village hold a wealth of history. Here are some historical facts you might not know about Milford.

1. It was Milford's waters and trees that attracted settlers. In the 1800s, water power was king, and Milford's flowing Huron River provided that power. The first people to live in Milford, brothers Elizur and Stanley Ruggles, were millers by trade, and Milford's waters and surrounding mature trees created a perfect place for them to settle in 1832. Later, several mills joined the Ruggles Mill, including several gristmills, a woolen mill, and the sawmill of Aaron Phelps. Water power provided an industry for Milford's early settlers and distinguished it from local farming communities.

2. The Ruggles brothers weren't the first to stake their claim to the land. The

Ruggles brothers were the first to live in Milford, but before them came Amos Mead, an early Farmington settler, who in 1827, bought a parcel of land for Levi Pettibone, a relative of his wife, and in 1830 bought another tract for himself. While they didn't settle there, they secured the land with hopes of someday harnessing the powers of the Huron that ran through it.

3. Pettibone Creek is named for a man who never settled in Milford. Levi Pettibone, an immigrant from Vermont, was the first landowner in Milford. In fact, Pettibone Creek is named for him as is what was formerly known as the "Pettibone 80," the first land purchased in the township which eventually fell into the hands of Aaron Phelps, Milford's first postmaster. However, Pettibone and his descendants settled in what was then Farmington Township, and is today Farmington Hills.

4. Milford was once part of Farmington Township. Settlers were living in the area now known as Milford as early as 1832, but it wasn't called Milford. The area was originally part of Bloomfield Township. Then it became part of Farmington Township in 1827, and Novi Township in 1833. In April 1835, it became its own township, with Abel Peck as supervisor and many other well-known pioneers, like Elizur Ruggles, John Vincent and Aaron Phelps, serving other offices.



This log cabin replica was built in 1982, the 150th anniversary of Milford's settlement, to show what early pioneer life was like.

PAMELA A. ZINKOSKY/
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

5. The name likely relates to mills and river crossings. Milford's early township records were lost, so there's no way of knowing for sure, but it seems John Vincent, who settled in Milford in 1832 and later donated land for the township's first school, proposed the name. Stories tell us the Ruggles brothers built their mill and dam next to a natural fording, or crossing, place the Indians used, and the words mill and ford were combined to create the name. It's also true that the Ruggles brothers' father was born in New Milford, Connecticut, so there may be some connection there, too.

6. The Village incorporated in 1869. With the development of the Main Street business area came a desire for a different form of government: one that could create ordinances and develop a capable fire department. The village incorporated on March 30, 1869, with hardware dealer Carnot Northrup as the first village president. Located inside the township, Milford Village now encompasses 2.43 square miles bounded roughly by Liddell Road to the north,

Heritage Drive to the south, Milford Road to the west, plus the neighborhoods and Hubbell Pond Park to the west of that, and just inside Burns Road/Wixom Trail to the east.

7. Early businesses included mills, distilleries, woodworkers, dry goods and more. Milford's many mills were, of course, the mainstay of business in the early days, but other early businesses came into existence in the early to mid-1800s. One of the first additions to the mills in 1836 was the Mead and Arms General Store, operated by Ansley Arms and Jabesh Mead and located on present-day Huron and Dean streets.

Calvin Eaton's woodworking shop and cabin also sprang up in the early 1830s, as did Aaron Phelps's saw mill and distillery. Phelps also indirectly gave rise to another business - the Hibbard Tavern on Summit and Main streets, which in 1845 began operations in the 1830s house he built. The house is still standing, today as a private residence, with a historical marker in front of it.

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Northville Township police: Two teens arrested for vehicle break-ins at Meijer

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township police have arrested two teens suspected of breaking into vehicles and stealing valuables from inside.

They responded to a Dec. 7 call at the Meijer at Eight Mile and Haggerty roads.

Officers said two teens had stolen an unlocked car with the keys inside from the parking lot and escaped from the scene, according to township public safety officials in an online report. Police communicated details from surveillance video to a Livonia loss prevention team.

Team members were able to recognize the two suspects later at a Livonia Meijer. They called Livonia police, who arrested two 17-year-old Detroiters.

Township police said they face multiple charges including motor vehicle theft and receiving and concealing stolen property.

They apparently took about \$1,700 worth of goods from vehicles including a laptop and cell phone. The vehicle they allegedly stole from the Meijer parking lot was returned to its owner.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF NOVI
ORDINANCE NO. 18.290**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT ARTICLE 2.0 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.2 DEFINITIONS; ARTICLE 3.0 ZONING DISTRICTS, SECTION 3.1 DISTRICTS ESTABLISHED, TO UPDATE THE HOTEL TERMINOLOGY IN APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF B-2, B-3, C, EXPO, EXO, FS, I-2, I-1, OSC, OST, RC, TC, TC-1 AND PD-2 ZONING DISTRICTS; ARTICLE 4.0 USE STANDARDS, SECTION 4.28 HOTELS, MOTELS AND TRANSIENT LODGING FACILITIES; ARTICLE 5.0 SITE STANDARDS, SECTION 5.2.12 OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF HOTEL, REVISE THE MINIMUM PARKING AND LOADING AREA REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTEL USE;

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, December 9, 2019 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson,
City Clerk

Published: December 26, 2019

**CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The Hearing will be held Tuesday January 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., EST, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2018 reprogramming of funds as follows:

Existing (from) - 2018 Program Year	
Activity Number	732185
Activity Description	Youth Services
Amount	\$8,800

Proposed (to) - 2018 Program Year	
Activity Number	731227
Activity Description	Minor Home Repair
Amount	\$8,800

All interested citizens are requested to attend this Hearing. Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m., January 7, 2020. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance notice. Contact the City Clerk, Cortney Hanson at 248-347-0456 for special services.

CORTNEY HANSON,
CITY CLERK

Published: December 26, 2019

Family brings their stuffed animal HQ home to Livingston

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Livingston County family in the wholesale stuffed animal business has brought their bears, dinosaurs, unicorns and other cuddly creatures home.

The Bear Factory, a build-your-own and custom stuffed animal business, has relocated its company headquarters and North American distribution center to Green Oak Township near Whitmore Lake from its previous location Wixom.

"You always want to be where your roots are," said owner Jerry McLean, of Howell. He founded the company with his late wife, Renee McLean, in 2000.

His daughter, Keia McLean, and her fiancé, Jimmy Banish,, of Hamburg Township help him run the business. His plan is for them to take over when he retires.

Jerry McLean said their new 27,000-square-foot building at 10609 Hi Tech Drive has given them more space to move the nearly 4 million stuffed animals that come through their distribution center on average a year.

Even more stuffed animals are distributed to about 25 countries, from China to England, Brazil to Australia, by distribution companies affiliated with their company.

McLean said the company has competed somewhat with Build-A-Bear Workshop, but their business model is different.

"We saw the concept of build-your-own, and we wanted to go toe-to-toe with Build-A-Bear," McLean said.

But unlike Build-A-Bear, The Bear Factory doesn't operate retail stores.

Instead, they sell plush skins, stuffing and stuffed animal clothing and accessories to retailers, zoos, amusement parks, hotels and resorts, hospitals, schools and many other types of businesses, including Fortune 500 companies.

"For example, we do a lot of resorts

that have children come and it's an activity they can do, hand-stuffing their animals," McLean said.

He said they have "well over 100 different styles of plush and 240 different styles of clothing, and we customize everything."

The Bear Factory sells stuffing machines.

They also sell kits that allow customers to stuff their own plush animals by hand.

"For Kalahari Resorts, we do a four-piece line of their characters and custom-design their boxes," McLean said.

LaFontaine Automotive Group, which owns several automotive dealerships in the state, orders custom-stuffed animals for company parties and giveaways.

Howell Township indoor play business Castaway Play Café features a Create-a-Pal area filled with The Bear Factory products.

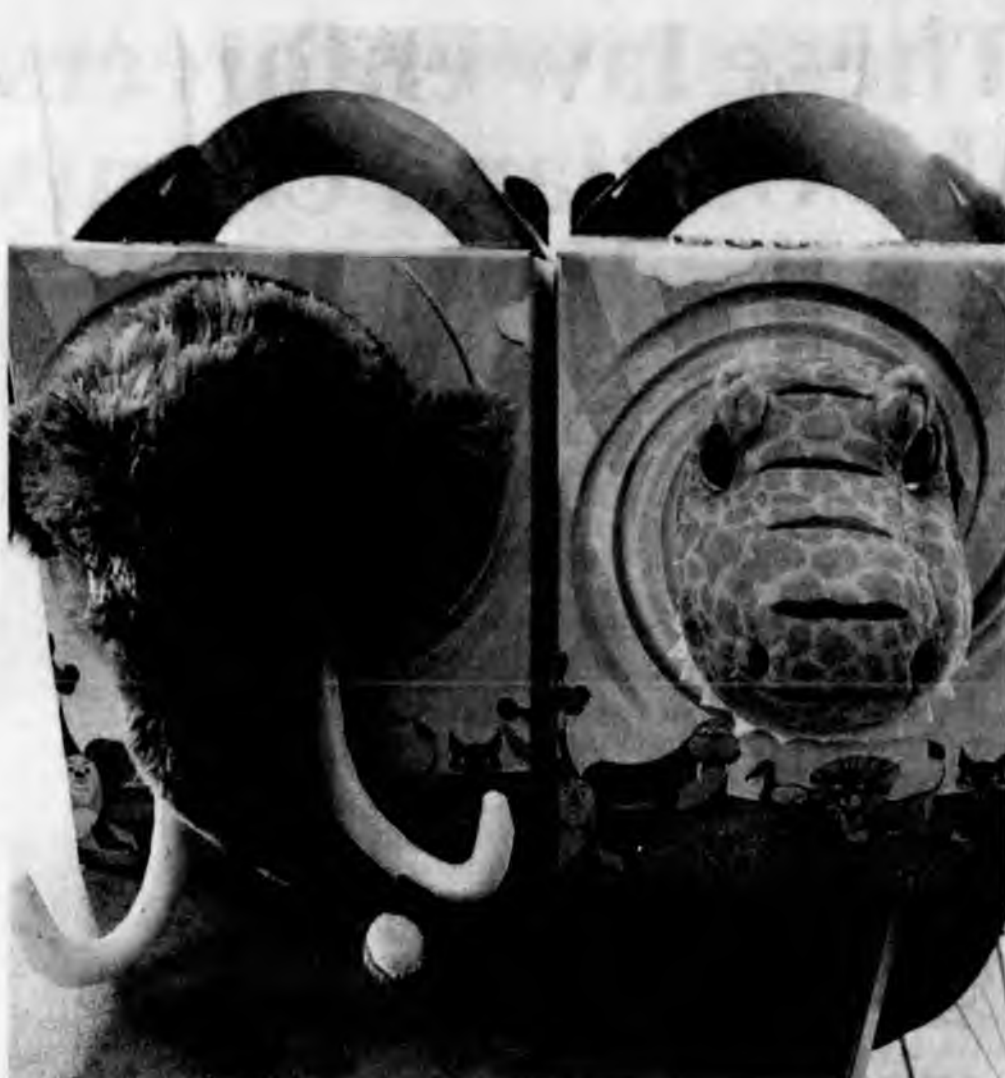
"The kids pick out one of the bears or other animals and they aren't stuffed yet, and then they pick out a heart, star or little angel with sayings or words, like love, peace," said Britney Molnar, the play café's customer service manager. "They do a little dance, make a wish and put it inside their bear. It makes them feel special and is supposed to bring them to life."

Molnar said Castaway Play Café has a stuffing machine that kids crank themselves

"They can choose outfits, Spider-Man. We also have a super bear and a bat bear, princess outfits, sleeping outfits and basically everything you can imagine," she said. "Parents will tell them, if you're good today, you can get one. It's a little reward."

Banish, the company's COO, said one of their international customers is Hamleys, an Indian-owned toy store company originally founded in London more than 250 years ago.

"It's like the Toys 'R' Us of Europe," Banish said.



Plush stuffed animals Woolie the Mammoth, left, and Trey the T-Rex, shown December 5, are among the Bear Buddies offered by The Bear Factory.

Schools also order stuffed animals for fundraisers.

Several libraries use them as reading buddies kids can read to.

They also participate in charity events, including one this fall at Northstar Reach Camp in Unadilla Township, a camp for kids with chronic or life-threatening health issues near Pinckney.

"They bought some and we donated some. Donors would buy a kit and then get an animal to a kid at camp," Banish said.

He said the company is moving toward becoming more environmentally sustainable and also trying to educate children about wildlife conservation.

"For our Operation Conservation initiative, we identified 13 animals in our line that are endangered," he said. "We made cards on recycled stock with information on every animal to start educating kids of this stuff."

He said they are also offering recycled fiber stuffing. For every box of the stuffing they sell, two trees are planted through the National Forest Foundation.

"The big thing we want to incorporate into the company is sustainability," Keia McLean said. "We want to get this company closer to Green Leaf (standards)."

She said she loves the business she's in.

"We get to make kids smile," she said. "That's the biggest part of the business."

She said she fondly remembers times when she sees kids holding their stuffed animals.

"One of the coolest times was we were at Atlantis (Paradise Resort) in the Bahamas, and we would see kids with our stuffed animals at the airport," she said.

Contact Livingston Daily reporter Jennifer Timar at 517-548-7148 or at jtimar@livingstondaily.com.



Left, Keia McLean and her fiancé, Jimmy Banish, hold Trey the T-Rex and Woolie the Mammoth. PHOTOS BY GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

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These law enforcers were boys when the Oakland County Child Killer struck

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Charles Lister has distinct memories of when the Oakland County Child Killer struck one last time.

It was 1977. As the teen prepared for school, Birmingham resident Barry King was on TV, pleading for the return of his young son Timothy.

The 11-year-old had grabbed his skateboard the evening of March 16 and departed for a nearby drugstore to buy some candy.

Barry King wouldn't know of his son's whereabouts again until the child's corpse was found March 22 on Gill Road, just south of Eight Mile Road, in Livonia.

Lt. Charles Lister's own stepfather, already serving the Livonia Police Department, would become part of a Michigan State Police task force delving into the deadly disappearances of King and three other metro Detroit children in a 13-month period.

Now commander of the Livonia Police Department's investigative bureau, Lister watched fear take hold of the region. Stranger danger clouded reality, and rumors swirled about a blue AMC Gremlin being part of King's disappearance.

"It just became part of our daily life," Lister said. "It was the biggest thing in town when it came to criminal justice."

"It's still a huge story and a huge event. It's always been a part of our life. It would be bittersweet to see if there's some resolution that's brought to the case because my dad is not alive to see it."

Tim King was the fourth and last confirmed victim of the Oakland County Child Killer.

The metro Detroit nightmare began Feb. 15, 1976, when Mark Stebbins, 12, disappeared from Ferndale. His corpse was found in Southfield nearly a week later.

Jill Robinson, 12, was reported missing in Royal Oak on Dec. 22. Her body was found a few days later in Troy.

Kristine Mihelich, 10, was reported missing on Jan. 2, 1977, in Berkley. Her body was found about three weeks later in Franklin Village.

The girl's grandfather had been a best friend of Cory Williams' father, who then was investigating the killings for the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

"He called our house and said, 'Hey, my granddaughter is missing,'" said Williams, a retired Livonia police detective who continues to investigate the killings as a consultant for the Michigan State Police. "I never would have guessed, when I was 15 and my dad answered that phone, that I would be sitting here today having worked the case for 15 years."

"I never would have guessed that."



Williams



The four victims of the Oakland County Child Killer: Mark Stebbins, Jill Robinson, Kristine Mihelich and Timmy King. BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Williams said he's grateful Livonia Police Chiefs Bob Stevenson and then Curtis Caid threw support behind the investigation. But, he would love to have his father around to sound out some ideas.

Lister noted his stepfather Sgt. Frederick Benson probably was obsessed with the case until he died. Benson once gave Williams a lead that the younger law enforcer chased for more than a year.

"All the detectives are like that," Lister said. "There are a lot of still-living retired detectives that want closure for this case. It's one of those cases that has been complicated throughout the years. At this point, I think, we're all in a position where everybody has their egos checked at the door. We just want a win and (to) bring some closure for the families."

At one time, approximately 300 people, from law enforcers to volunteers, were trying to solve the deadly whodunit. Over time, there was talk that the children were taken for a suspected pedophile ring.

Five suspects have floated to the top of the suspect pool: Christopher Busch, Gregory Greene, Vince Gun-nels, Ted Lamborgine and Arch Sloan, who were all

tied to pedophile rings that operated throughout southeast Michigan in the 1970s.

"Children of the Snow," a documentary exploring the investigation and its consequences, stars Williams, who, along with Lister, agreed the unsolved Oakland County Child Killer mystery wouldn't happen today because of the latest crime-solving technologies.

"The age of the case is the biggest challenge and the fact that the guys during the original investigation were really limited by technology," Williams said. "They didn't have cell phones. They didn't have computer databases. If the same crimes happened today, I believe they would be solved right away."

Science can help solve mystery

Oakland County Prosecutor Jessica Cooper has said science will solve this whodunit. Several years ago, she announced DNA findings linking a hair found on King with a hair found on Stebbins.

Williams said a hair recovered from Tim's autopsy is one of the best bits of physical evidence at this stage of the investigation. It matched a hair found in Sloan's car. The hair does not match Sloan, a 78-year-old man sentenced to life in prison for first-degree criminal sexual conduct.

The hair from Sloan's car was collected between the autopsies of the two boys, the first and last confirmed victims of the Oakland County Child Killer.

"They all appear to come from the same source," Williams said. "We have identified, located and swabbed associates of Sloan, family members, victims that could have been in that car, people that used to own the car...So far, we have not found the owner of that hair. If we had, this case would be closed."

Liking what he hears about research into nuclear DNA profiles from hair fragments, Williams said he's hopeful about the investigation's future. He has some opinions.

"Arch Sloan would be one of them," Williams said about his short list of suspects. "The hair came out of his car. I would say based on the fact that it would be difficult to control a child (and) keep them for that long a period of time that there's at least two people involved."

Think twice about calling the Oakland County Child Killer mystery a cold case.

"It's actively being investigated," Williams said. "It's not cold. We're working on leads right now. We're hopeful. DNA needs to be collected from some possible suspects so it's active."

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

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Thursday, December 26 2019

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homes

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"What better way to start the New Year than investing in a new home," said Nadia Mekled, Regional Sales Manager for the Toll Brothers Michigan Division. "We offer an impressive collection of open-concept two-story and first-floor master plans at various stages of construction to accommodate buyers with different timetables and budgets. Whether you're looking to build from the ground up or have more immediate needs, we've got a home for you, and during this event, at a spectacular savings."

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Resort-class Amenities in Canton

Westridge Estates is the only new community in Canton offering resort-style amenities, including a clubhouse with fitness room, gathering room, kitchenette, locker rooms, pools, sand volleyball court, children's play park and walking paths. Westridge Estates is located just south of Ford Road west of Ridge Road, and home prices start in the upper \$400,000s. For more information, visit WestridgeofCanton.com or call (734) 844-0279.

Selling Fast in Canton

Hamlet Pointe and Hamlet Meadows are located within the existing community of The Hamlet offering an exceptional location close to Plymouth-Canton schools, the Ford Road Shopping District, expressways, parks and the quaint Cherry Hill Village.

At Hamlet Meadows, pricing starts in the upper \$300,000s. Two-story home designs range from 2,411 sq. ft. to more than 2,842 sq. ft. Brand new, open-concept designs are now available. Hamlet Pointe features large home sites and side-entry garages. Homes are priced from the mid-\$400,000s. Three stunning model homes are now available to tour and quick move in homes are available. For details, visit The-Hamlet.com or call (734) 398-5939.

Low-maintenance Villas in Novi

Located in the heart of Novi on the east side of Novi Rd., just south of Ten Mile Rd. is Ridgeview Villas of Novi. Several luxury villa designs range from 2,041 to 2,676 sq. ft. with first- or second-floor master suite options. Residents enjoy low-maintenance living and paved walking paths leading to The Sports Club of Novi, a dog park, and Novi Ice Arena. Pricing begins in the mid-\$400,000s. The final four home sites have been released so buyers should hurry in for best selection. For details, call (248) 904-8515 or visit RidgeviewVillas.com.



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Luxurious Living in Northville

Now offering two amazing single-family communities in Northville. Toll Brothers at Montcuret is located on the south side of Seven Mile Road, 1½ miles west of Beck Road just minutes from the historic downtown. Toll Brothers at Dunhill Park is on the corner of Beck Road and 8 Mile Road across from Maybury State Park. Both prestigious communities offer a range of home designs with an exceptional list of features on grand oversized home sites. Prices start from the upper \$700,000s. Call (248) 924-2601 or visit TollBrothersAtMontcuret.com or LiveAtDunhillPark.com for

details.

Popular Villas in Ann Arbor

Located on the north side of Scio Church Road, just west of Maple Road, the low-maintenance luxury villas offer an exceptional list of included features in a stunning setting with pricing from the mid \$400,000s. The final opportunity with a first-floor master suite is now available for immediate move-in. For details, call (734) 224-6686 or visit Kensington-woods.com.

North Oaks of Ann Arbor is the region's premier resort-class community situated in a stunning 109-acre setting. Two collections of homes are available. Townhomes from the upper \$300,000s and Villas from

the low \$500,000s.

The Villas range from 2,041 to 2,631+ square feet and offer first- or second-floor master suites, island kitchens, open layouts, loft space, and more. The Townhomes just released new exterior styles and range from 1,861 to 1,890+ sq. ft. and include a 2-car garage, finished lower level, and the option to add a rooftop deck.

A clubhouse with a fitness center, yoga room, billiards, great room with fireplace, verandas overlooking the lap and wading pools, locker rooms and a play park is now open. North Oaks is located minutes from the University of Michigan's north campus, the VA Hospital,

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, and downtown Ann Arbor. Children attend acclaimed Ann Arbor Schools with the elementary and middle schools just 3 minutes away. For details, call (734) 224-6686 or visit North-Oaks.com.

Single-Family Homes in Ann Arbor

Trailwoods of Ann Arbor, a new community of single-family homes tucked into a gorgeous setting with Ann Arbor schools and low Scio Twp taxes is now available. Two collections of homes offer all new open-concept designs with an impressive list of included features. The Village Collection is priced from \$399,995 and The Parkside Collection is priced from \$499,995. Two gorgeous models are available to tour and quick move-in homes are available. For more information, visit TrailwoodsOfAnnArbor.com or call (734) 995-5503.

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Northville architect Greg Presley explains a proposed plan with the Downtown Development Authority economic committee. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Luxury

Continued from Page 1A

Northville and that history is built on investing in the community. People have bought homes here and they've invested a lot of their personal wealth in these homes. They want this to continue and they wonder if it can continue with a multi-family project."

Alexander, whose luxury-apartments firm has built over 40 projects with close to 10,000 units since 2010, was speaking at a Thursday morning Downtown Development Authority committee meeting in Northville's city hall.

The focus of the meeting was to enlighten city officials and residents regarding Watermark's latest mixed-use complex designs for the property fronting Cady Street.

But Alexander also used the platform as a chance to reassure the apprehensive masses that the product his company can deliver, while new to Northville, is trending across the country.

"Luxury apartments are not a bad thing; that's why we're in this business," Alexander said. "I've talked to several Northville residents who want to live in this kind of arrangement, which offers them flexibility, little or no maintenance, while having access to onsite amenities like a workout room, pool and a luxurious clubhouse that those who work from home can work out of."

"Then once the work day is over, they can be within walking distance of a vibrant downtown."

Thumbs up

DDA member Shawn Riley supported Alexander's positive outlook on the future demand in Northville for non-single-family dwellings.

"As a Realtor, I'd love to see more houses (in the project) to sell," Riley said. "But as our population ages, I keep hearing about empty-nesters who want to stay in Northville with walkability to downtown. More and more are looking to get out of home ownership so they don't have to cut the grass, take care of the landscaping."

"Plus, luxury apartments like this can provide a stepping stone of sorts from going from home ownership to an assisted-living facility or something else. Again, Northville doesn't want to hear that because it's not what we've been, but I think it's a reality we have to look at."

Northville resident Jim Long did not want to hear it, saying large-scale rental units "are not in our city's DNA."

"Sally (Elmiger, Northville's planning consultant) is out of touch with this community," Long said, referring to apartment-related data Elmiger shared

at Tuesday's Planning Commission meeting. "She's giving us data from Plymouth and Novi about multi-family this, that and whatever."

"Three hundred units? Is that a good use of this property? The data we've been given on apartments is perceived data, not real data."

Andrew Daily, a Northville resident, business owner and Realtor, said that renters are viewed differently than actual property owners for a number of reasons.

"What do people have against apartments? The answer is very clear," Daily said. "It's a lack of homeowner's pride. What you have are people who don't care if they drop a piece of trash on the floor or in the parking lot ... they'll just continue walking. It's not their condominium, they're a renter. They're a tenant."

"They don't care when they they walk in with dirt on their shoes or if they accidentally bang one of the brick walls with their car. I can go on and on. It's homeowner's pride. The owner is going to be more concerned because when they do something to the building, it's their house."

Daily added that owners are more committed to their community than renters.

"I see owners of buildings shopping downtown and eating in our restaurants all the time," he said. "Tenants generally don't go out to eat or shop in our downtown stores because they're concerned about their budget, otherwise they'd own a \$300,000 to \$400,000 home or condo, not renting."

DDA Director Lori Ward said that thinking was wrong.

"There are a lot of young people coming up who, even if they had the money, wouldn't purchase; it's a lifestyle choice for a number of reasons. Painting all renters with a brush like you just did is unfair."

"Maybe in Dallas or Detroit (rental units) work, but ... I don't think those youthful groups are going to be flocking to Northville," Daily countered.

Changes to the plan

Among the changes Watermark made to its original Cady Street Overlay District plan was the addition of a new north/south street running through the development, a new east street and a connection to Town Square.

It also revealed that its plan included underneath parking for the luxury apartment units.

There was a consensus among the meeting's attendees that road improvements were essential to the area, whether a new development was on the horizon or not.

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

Asian

Continued from Page 1A

the region to come and experience new cuisines was a critical part of the development, said Scott Aikens of Robert B. Aikens & Associates.

"That's the kind of thing we're wanting to bring together," he said.

As for the residential developments, the apartments would be either 1,200 or 1,500 square feet and have either one-car or two-car garages. They would be constructed in several phases, said Tim Loughrin, director of land acquisition for Bloomfield Township-based Robertson Brother Homes.

"We really focus on walkable communities where there's a sense of place," he said.

With the delaying vote, the planning commission won't take up the rezoning

again until January at the earliest. It will then go to the city council for approval. The site plan for the development would also need to be reviewed by the planning commission as well as the city council before work could begin.

Commissioner John Avdoulos said he wasn't at the original meeting where the development was proposed to the commission, but said he was excited at the potential the project had for Novi, which boast a sizable Japanese population.

"It's gonna look to enhance the area of the Grand River corridor that we've been looking to do for a long time," he said. "I think trying to maintain that authenticity to the culture but not really forcing it down anyone's throat is nicely done."

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



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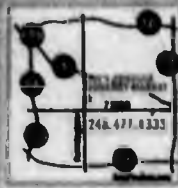
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PCA basketball overcomes the shooting woes, beats Churchill

Andrew Vaillencourt Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In the battle for Joy Road, Plymouth Christian Academy traveled to Livonia Churchill for a non-conference game between the MIAC and KLAA foes.

It left with a 52-41 victory, outscoring the Chargers by 11 in the second half to secure the win Thursday night at Livonia Churchill High School.

The game had some extra meaning for PCA coach Matt Windle, who is also the school's athletic director. He graduated from Churchill and was a member of the school's 2010 conference championship team.

PCA improves to 2-2 with the win, while Churchill falls to 1-3.

"It feels good," PCA junior Nate Etnyre said. "We've been working hard for a long time. We're a smaller school, they're at least 10 times our size so it's nice to come out here and compete with bigger schools."

Here are three takeaways from the game:

Hot starts boost PCA

PCA got off to fast starts in both the first and third quarters to build leads.

The Eagles began the game with a 10-2 run before Churchill closed the gap late in the quarter, ultimately going to the half tied at 23.

The second half though, was all PCA. It started on an 11-1 run that firmly put the Eagles in front. Churchill

See SHOOTING, Page 3B



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

The defensive mindset brings Catholic Central hockey success

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming off a Division 1 hockey state title, its fifth since 2010, Detroit Catholic Central started its season like it was picking up right where it left off. The Shamrocks traveled to Port Huron Northern and crushed the Huskies, 10-0, in the season opener.

Holding the offensive momentum after a dominant 2018-19 season in which the team won 29 of 31 games played, Catholic Central left for Culver, Indiana riding a high.

But the Shamrocks were knocked down quick, losing their next two games against the Culver Military

See HOCKEY, Page 3B

PREP BASKETBALL



South Lyon East forward Nick Branton finishes a dunk. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon East earns first win against Salem

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Returning home after a season-opening overtime loss to Lakes Valley Conference foe Lakeland, South Lyon East handed Salem its first loss of the season.

The Cougars (1-1) beat the Rocks (3-1), 45-36, earning their first win of the season.

Salem will next face Canton at home on Jan. 3, while South Lyon East will continue its season Dec. 28 against Dearborn Heights Annapolis.

"From last year, it really shows that we are coming together," South Lyon East senior forward Nick Branton said. "We're playing like a unit, not like a lot of individuals."

Here are three takeaways from Tuesday's win:

Slow-starting offense

From the start, neither Salem nor South Lyon East could get any offense going.

In the first quarter, the Cougars did not record their first basket until 1:55 into the game, taking a quick 4-0 lead. For the Rocks, it took even longer, getting on the board with 4:32 left on the clock, but igniting a six-point run.

Trailing 6-4 into the final seconds of the first quarter, sophomore guard Adam Jagacki hit a three as time expired, giving South Lyon East a lead it would never give up.

In the season-opening overtime loss to Lakeland, South Lyon East head coach Ron Levin said the Cougars had a difficult time finishing quarters, leading to the loss.

He said Tuesday night was different.

"Today, we finished each quarter in a positive way and it kind of led to us winning the game," Levin said. "We saw improvement."

Knowing that much of his offensive approach is going to be through shooting, Levin said he knows

See FIRST, Page 2B



Catholic Central learns from past, moves ahead

Colin Gay hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Detroit Catholic Central head boys basketball coach Brandon Sinawi has not watched the film from the Shamrocks' loss to Ypsilanti Lincoln in the 2019 regional final. He can't bring himself to.

"I get upset every time I think about it," Sinawi said.

After turning the ball over tied at 79 with 11 seconds left in the game, Lincoln then-freshman forward Emoni Bates tipped a missed shot from a teammate in at the buzzer, ending the Shamrocks season and their quest at their first regional title since 2009.

As soon as the buzzer sounded at Lincoln High School and as fans swarmed the court, Catholic Central forward Tyler Martinez was devastated. He knew all of the work that had been put in with his senior-heavy team and his first-year head coach had evaporated.

But that was not his first thought as he walked off the court.

"We got to do something about this next year," Martinez said.

As one of five seniors on the roster that were returning from the 2018-19 season, Martinez's goal matches the goal for the rest of the Shamrocks' roster: to use the foundation that that team built, and exceed it.

While five returning players may be a typical turnaround for a team like Catholic Central, Sinawi said there is still a level of inexperience on the roster, saying the kids that returned did not play a lot of minutes in 2018-19.

However, those five seniors got the practice, got the same halftime and post game speeches everyone received. Now, Sinawi said the process is going from observing everything to putting it into action.

To the Catholic Central head coach, it's those five seniors' team now.

"They got a taste of what it's like," Sinawi said. They realized what it takes to get there. It wasn't just on an off chance that we got there."

Over the first two games of the 2019-20 season, Catholic Central has played like it is trying to forget how its season ended in March.



Catholic Central senior guard Tyler Martinez goes for the hoop in the paint. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The Shamrocks have allowed 54 and 55 points, respectively through its first two games of the season, beating both Carleton Airport and St. Clair Shores Lake Shore by seven points.

Sophomore forward Cooper Craggs had become a force in the middle for the Shamrocks, scoring 36 of the team's 123 points this season.

Before the season started, Sinawi noted that his team had size in the middle, with Craggs and senior Nick Smulsky, and speed at the guard position.

Sinawi said he will always adapt his play calling to the personnel he has at his disposal.

"There's always something different that you have to manage your style to," Sinawi said. "I'm not one that's going to stick to one thing and just hope that everyone fits that. That doesn't make sense to me. We have to adapt to the players we have on our roster this year."

Senior guard Ryan Logan said, even though preseason practice, the younger players have been coming up, doing what they are asked and contributing at a high level.

And while the senior class is different than the one Catholic Central had last season, Martinez said his class it ready to do its part.

"We saw what had to be done to get to that stage and we know what it takes to get there and what we have to do to build the foundation to keep it," Martinez said. "We changed the culture last year and now we have to keep it up."

With only three games before the new year, Catholic Central does not have much of a chance to show what kind of team it has become.

However, Logan said these three games are important in terms of finding cohesion on the basketball court.

"Just go into these games and just

give it our all every single second," Logan said. "Just come in and make sure we have the win secured. If we are winning by 20, just keep on going, pushing it on them."

The Shamrocks do not need the motivation from the Lincoln loss quite yet. Sinawi said it is not about wins and losses, but when a team wins that it more important.

But it will come.

Even if Sinawi never watches the film of the Bates buzzer-beater, the emotions behind it are ingrained in him and his team.

"It's something we will always think about and try to make sure that it doesn't happen again," Sinawi said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

First

Continued from Page 1B

that three-point based offenses can take awhile to let up, a message he made clear to his team.

"In the beginning, we are going to start slow. It's going to be 12-12 at the end of the quarter," junior guard Bryce Bird said. "That's going to happen, but if we stay strong, we're going to come out with the win."

Jagacki's three as time expired revived a stagnant offense in the second quarter, as South Lyon East scored 19 points, including five by the sophomore guard — eight consecutive points scored after the three-point make in the first quarter.

Salem found its scoring in the second quarter as well, scoring 17 points, with junior guard Tanner Locke leading the way with four points, ending the game with a team-leading 10.

Branton sets tone defensively

Despite allowing 17 points in the second quarter, the South Lyon East defense stepped up for the majority of the game, allowing 19 points in all three other quarters combined.

At the center of it was the 6-foot-8 forward in the middle: Branton.

Finishing with seven points himself, Branton was a force on the defensive end, using his size to secure rebounds disrupt shot attempts near the basket.

This is what Levin looks for in his senior forward.

"He's even more of a presence on defense because he alters so many shots, he blocks shots, he gets all the rebounds," Levin said. "Offense is kind of like a bonus."

Salem head coach Bob Brodie said he has a lot of young players playing consistent minutes at this point into the season, and, in their first road game of the season, the Rocks left a lot to be desired offensively.

"Coming into a territory like this against good teams, South Lyon East has got a great basketball team," Brodie said. "We lost our composure a little bit, and we could not knock shots down. We don't make shots, it's going to happen."

Learning from mistakes

Levin said it was a blessing to have 10



South Lyon East forward Nick Branton blocks a shot from Salem guard Ryan Len. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

days between South Lyon East's loss to Lakeland and the home opener. He said it allowed time to correct any mistakes made and move forward.

While the first win of the season was not perfect, Bird said it was a good starting point.

"I think we learned that we are going to make mistakes and there's going to be

turnovers and stuff, but we have to keep playing, keep battling to get the win," Bird said. Branton was extremely happy with the progress made, from his junior season to his senior year, and thinks that South Lyon East could make some noise in the LVC in 2019-20.

"I'm very happy to see what will happen this year," Branton said. "We still

have a lot of things to fix up, but with that being said, we are still playing great. I think we can really show up this year and surprise a lot of teams."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Hockey

Continued from Page 1B

Academy by a combined score of 8-3. The losing continued when Catholic Central returned to Michigan, falling to Brother Rice, 5-2.

For many on the roster, losing consistently was not something they were used to.

"In year's past, we haven't had a three-game losing streak," senior center and captain Kyle Gaffney said. "I think guys realized that it's CC hockey. We are supposed to win."

With a week between the Shamrocks' loss to Brother Rice and the start of the Catholic High School League Tournament, Catholic Central had an opportu-

nity to regroup, to shift its focus back to what leads to winning hockey.

The Shamrocks shifted their focus to defense. Since then, Catholic Central has not allowed a goal in the month of December.

"I think it just got to our heads that nothing is given to anyone," senior defenseman Eli Brown said. "What we get, we have to work for it and I feel like everyone put that mentality into practice, into games."

The Shamrocks secured the CHSL Tournament title, outscoring teams 15-0, including a 4-0 revenge win against Brother Rice in the final.

Before the tournament, Catholic Central head coach Brandon Kaleniecki said the Shamrocks were cheating on the offensive side: not focusing on keeping the puck out of their own net and relying on

consistent offensive skill.

For Kaleniecki, the first meeting between the Warriors and the Shamrocks was the eye opener.

"It was a reminder that we can't afford to give up chances because we're not taking care of the defensive end of things," Kaleniecki said.

The head coach put it simply: it's about doing your job on the ice. And to him, the job starts on defense.

"You are not going to lose if you don't give up a goal," Kaleniecki said.

The run continued against Port Huron Northern and against Brighton in the KLAA/MIHL Showcase, outscoring teams 14-0 in the Shamrocks' past two games.

The Catholic Central head coach said he could sense a shift in mentality. He said the players were feeling good about

the way they were performing on the ice, building confidence and momentum.

However, Kaleniecki knows that momentum changes extremely quickly. He knows that adversity will come eventually.

But now, it is about what the Shamrocks can control. To Brown, Catholic Central has the continued opportunity to depict itself as a blue-collar, hard working team with the goal of making it to U.S. Hockey Arena in March.

"Win or lose, the mentality is if you give everything you got out on the ice and you leave everything out there," Brown said. "That's all you can do."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Shooting

Continued from Page 1B

scored just one point in the first 6:53 of the third quarter.

"I think the biggest thing in the first and third quarter is we're coming out fresh," Windle said. "That mentality of getting to the rim and having more aggressive tendencies works for us. The second and fourth is where we need to improve because we get a little big gassed. ... We're an athletic team for a small school, so that's really helpful."

PCA was lead offensively by its guard tandem of Etnyre and Nick Scott, both juniors. There are no seniors on the squad.

Etnyre led the team with 16 points, while Scott added 15.

"It all started on defense getting good ball pressure, making plays on defense leads to transition buckets on offense and it can pile up quickly," Etnyre said. "It helped set the tone for the rest of the (second) half."

Churchill was led by freshman Donovan Williams, who came off the bench to score 14 points.

Another key player for the Eagles was sophomore center Chukwubuike An-wunah, who goes by Chibi. At 6-foot-7, he was a complete mismatch for Churchill, who struggled to defend him and get past him in the lane on the other end of the court. He led the game in re-



Plymouth Christian's Mason Houk takes a three-pointer against Livonia Churchill. ANDREW VAILLIENCOURT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

bounds and had a number of blocks. He also added seven points.

"He played JV at the start of last year, but finished the season on varsity," Windle said. "He's playing in big games and getting there, we just need to clean up his game a little bit and have him grow in confidence, he can really be a special player for us. He's a rim protector on defense and he can finish above and at the rim."

Free-throw woes

In a sense, Churchill was lucky to only lose by 11.

PCA went to the free-throw line a whopping 32 times, but only made 15 of those attempts (46.8 percent). That's well below the 70 percent mark that Windle wants his team to be hitting each game.

Etnyre and Scott combined to go 11-for-20 on free throws.

"For kids to improve on free-throws, they have to do it on their own time," Windle said. "That's getting in the gym early and staying in the gym late ... our goal as a team is to shoot 70 percent at the very least. We've hit that once, against Whitmore Lake, but we haven't hit that mark in our other three games so that's one thing we really have to work on."

Program win

PCA is a Class D school of just 164 students, significantly smaller than the Class A Chargers, who have nearly 1,400 students.

While not a traditionally a powerhouse, beating a program of that size is a big achievement for the Eagles, who

want to use this win to keep building up. They took Livonia Franklin to overtime this season and lost a fourth quarter lead against Walled Lake Western, showing that they can be a force in the Division 4 playoffs.

"We play these games so that we can get those wins that we can build off of," Windle said. "We have teams in our league like Southfield Christian that hasn't lost a conference game in eight years. Our goal is to beat them and to beat them more than once, be competitive in the conference and win the first regional championship in school history."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at avaiilienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

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KLAA FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The high school football season has come and gone, meaning it's time to recognize some of the area's standout performers.

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) released its list of the league's All-Conference honorees, many of which are on teams in the Hometown Life coverage region.

Plymouth leads the way with 11 selections as the KLAA West Division winner, Belleville also has 11 selections as the winners of the whole conference and East Division.

From there, the number of players selected for each team largely depends on where the team placed in its division, with higher finishing teams awarded more honorees.

Players are listed in the following format: player, position, school, grade.

KLAA East All-Conference

- Christian Dhue-Reid, QB, Belleville, 11
- Darrell Johnson, WR, Belleville, 11
- Deion Burks, WR, Belleville, 11
- Jamari Buddin, LB, Belleville, 11
- Darian Murray, LB, Belleville, 12
- Damon Payne, DL, Belleville, 11
- Andre Seldon, DB, Belleville, 12
- Myles Rowser, DB, Belleville, 10
- Cameron Wallace, OL, Belleville, 11
- Coleon Smith, OL, Belleville, 12
- Hunter Little, OL, Belleville, 12
- Andrew Holston, WR, Fordson, 12
- James Wheeler Jr., RB, Fordson, 12
- Hassan Mansour, RB/WR, Fordson, 12
- Hassan Chokr, LB, Fordson, 12
- KeyShawn Smith, RB, Fordson, 12
- Yousef Fawaz, DE, Fordson, 12
- Brandon Thomas, CB, Fordson, 12
- Ali Baiz, C, Fordson, 12
- Alihadi Farhat, NT, Fordson, 12
- James Carpenter, RB, Franklin, 12
- Kyle Fugedi, OL, Franklin, 11
- Grant Gibson, LB, Franklin, 12
- Jacob Kelbert, QB, Franklin, 12
- Connor Hatfield, WR, Franklin, 11
- Evan Pittenger, LB, Franklin, 11
- Jake Swirple, DL, Franklin, 12
- Brendan Lowry, DB, Churchill, 12
- Mitchell Regan, DB, Churchill, 12
- Shane Morelli, WR, Churchill, 12

- Jimmy Targosz, DB, Churchill, 11
- Dylan Curran, LB, Churchill, 12
- Khalil Ford, DE, Churchill, 11
- Ali Saad, DT, Dearborn, 12
- Shane Veith, DE, Dearborn, 12
- Ryan Timani, CB, Dearborn, 12
- Jake Tafelski, RB, Dearborn, 12
- Caden Woodall, RB, Livonia Stevenson, 11
- Nick Broome, LB, Livonia Stevenson, 12
- Evan Beck, RB, Livonia Stevenson, 12

- Jordon Mitchell, LB, John Glenn, 12
- Justin Hart, OLB, John Glenn, 11
- Ryan Mihalik, RB, Wayne Memorial, 11

KLAA West All-Conference

- Mike Mathias, RB, Plymouth, 12
- Alec Beshears, DB, Plymouth, 12
- Nathan Janke, DB, Plymouth, 12
- Logan Walkley, RB, Plymouth, 12
- Ivan Davis, DE, Plymouth, 12
- Nick Downs, QB, Plymouth, 12
- Caleb Sadler, DL, Plymouth, 12
- Spenser Korroch, DL, Plymouth, 12
- Sean Britt, OL, Plymouth, 12
- Josh Carver, LB, Plymouth, 12
- Preston Long, DB, Plymouth, 11
- Colby Newburg, QB, Brighton, 12
- Nate Hoffman, OL, Brighton, 12
- Brad Luketic, OL, Brighton, 12
- Ruben Salinas, WR, Brighton, 12
- AJ Lin, WR, Brighton, 12
- Cole Riddle, LB, Brighton, 12
- Luke Stanton, DE, Brighton, 12
- Nate Kwapisz, DT, Brighton, 12
- Matt Jontz, DB, Brighton, 12
- Garret Sisco, DL, Hartland, 12
- Jacob Gizinski, OL, Hartland, 12
- Gage Delanoy, RB, Hartland, 12
- Chase Ekenon, DL, Hartland, 12
- Noah Pointek, LB, Hartland, 12
- Logan Tobel, QB, Hartland, 12
- Colby Spisz, HB, Hartland, 12
- Mason Nelson, OT, Howell, 12
- Jonah Schrock, RB, Howell, 12
- Bryan Greene, RB, Howell, 12
- Philip Pietila, LB, Howell, 12
- Grant Porter, OG, Howell, 11
- Marcus Chidester, LB, Howell, 11
- Jackson Kovarik, DB, Howell, 10
- Jake Vickers, TE, Canton, 12
- Ben Stesiak, QB, Canton, 12
- Aran Parick, LB, Canton, 11
- Caden Domzalski, DB, Canton, 12
- Michael Renzi, LB, Canton, 11
- Marco Johnson, RB, Canton, 11



Livonia Franklin quarterback Jake Kelbert prepares for a pass against Detroit Martin Luther King in the 2019 playoffs. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

- Tim Pennington, LB, Canton, 12
- Adam Saghir, ILB, Northville, 12
- Mitch DeGross, CB, Northville, 12
- Nick Gattoni, OLB, Northville, 12
- Matt Wright, LB, Novi, 12
- Tommy Phimister, OL, Novi, 10
- Josh Williams, DT, Salem, 12

KLAA All-Conference Honorable Mention

East Division

- TyTrayon Lewis, RB, Belleville
- Michael Jenkins, RB, Belleville
- Kobe Langford, RB, Belleville
- Jalen Williams, TE/DE, Belleville
- Malek Alshawabkeh, LB, Fordson
- Ibrahim Ahmed, OG, Fordson
- Antonio Gates Jr., WR, Fordson
- Ali Ajami, OT, Fordson
- Aaron Mass, OL, Franklin
- Dom Ufferman, DB, Franklin
- Brandon Reiten, WR, Franklin
- Trevor Whisman, DB, Franklin
- Josh Barr, OL, Churchill
- Gavin Brooks, QB, Churchill
- Ryan Hutchinson, DB, Churchill
- Boston Clegg, LB, Churchill
- Zein Bazy, OL, Dearborn
- Ronnie Puczkowski, LB, Dearborn
- Ali Hazime, OL, Dearborn

- Al Hussien, LB, Dearborn
- Dylan Johnson, WR, Livonia Stevenson
- Cavan Marcoux, DL, Livonia Stevenson
- Anel Mujovic, DL, Livonia Stevenson
- Jack Micallef, OL, Livonia Stevenson
- Kyle Holt, DB, John Glenn
- Justin Morrison, RB, John Glenn
- Sidney Tatum, ATH, John Glenn
- Kayleb Parker, OT, John Glenn
- Dywon Boyd, OL, Wayne Memorial
- Anthony Morales, LB, Wayne Memorial
- Daveaun Parks, DB, Wayne Memorial
- Jeffrey Madison, OL, Wayne Memorial

West Division

- Van Riley, WR, Plymouth
- Jake Youvon, OL, Plymouth
- Austin Lazanja, OL, Plymouth
- Justin McNeal, DB, Plymouth
- Nick Nemecek, RB, Brighton
- Greyson Stevens, DE, Brighton
- Kyle Duncan, DB, Brighton
- Tegan Kogler, LB, Brighton
- Dylan Strong, DB, Hartland
- Chase Allen, DL, Hartland
- Gavin Wisniewski, OL, Hartland
- Case Winberg, DL, Hartland
- August Johanningsmeier, RB, Howell

- Noah Ramonaitis, LB, Howell
- Ethan Lassitter, OG, Howell
- Danny Honkala, LB, Howell
- Jacob Davis, DL, Canton
- Tyler Milo, DB, Canton
- Jack Cervantes, RB, Canton
- Zach Kubacki, LB, Canton
- Aidan Hayek, S, Northville
- Brett Rankin, ATH, Northville
- John Roland, CB, Northville
- Demir Tagani, OL/DL, Northville
- Josh Erno, QB, Novi
- Tyler Patrick, DB, Novi
- Gavin Parenti, LB, Novi
- Malik McGhee, LB, Novi
- Jack Lukowski, K/P, Salem
- Jeremiah Thomas, RB, Salem
- Tyler Overaitis, WR, Salem
- Ty Wagner, LB, Salem

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



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Northville races past Livonia Stevenson

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
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For the third time in their last seven games dating back to last season, the Northville Mustangs met the Livonia Stevenson Spartans on the hardwood.

Just like each of the previous two games, it was Northville that came out victorious, shutting down the Spartans, 52-41, Dec. 17 night at Northville High School.

The win moves Northville to 2-0 on the season, while Stevenson falls to 2-1.

"It's only our second game of the year," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "We've got a lot of guys that are relatively inexperienced at this level, so we're still figuring out who we are, but they bust their butts every day in practice. I thought we won the game on the defensive end tonight. Stevenson got very few easy or clean looks."

Here are three takeaways from the game:

The Shoemaker show

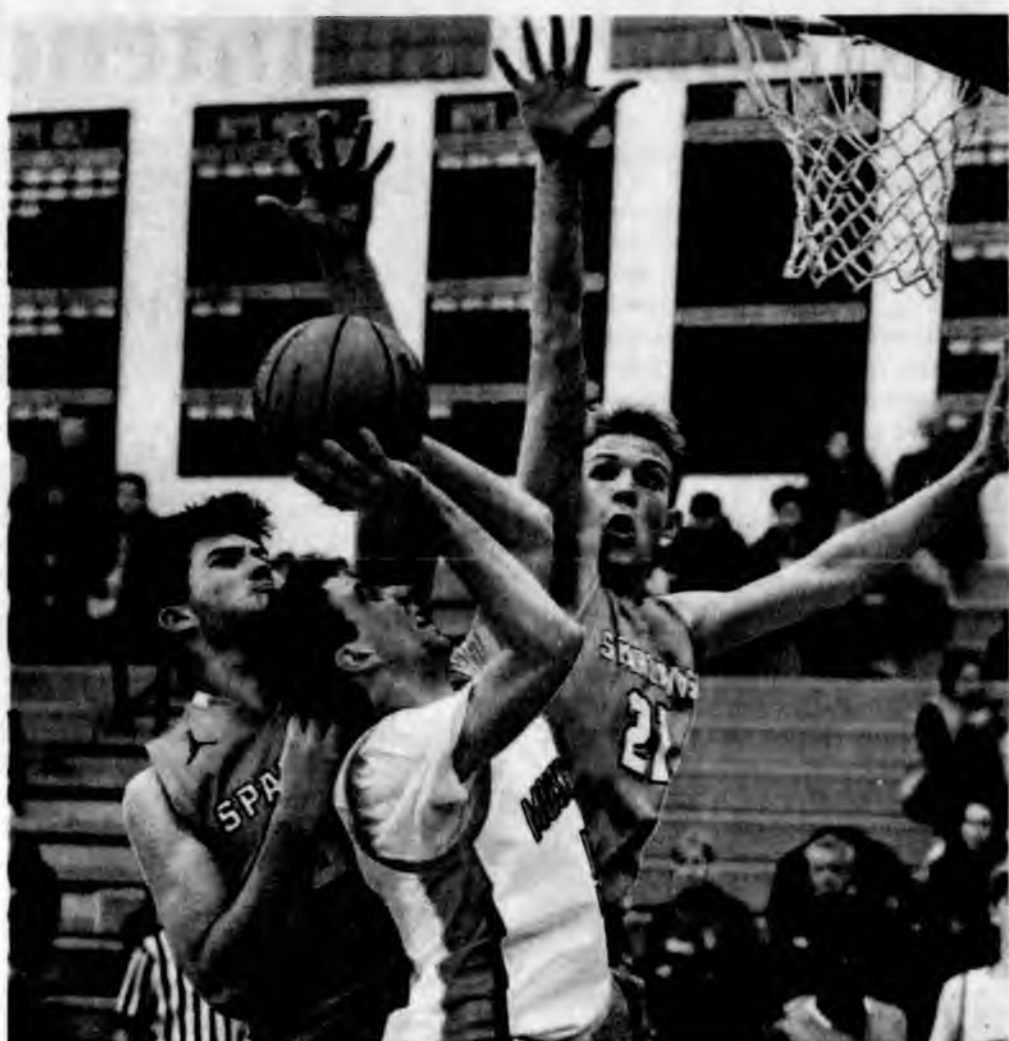
Northville senior forward Zach Shoemaker took a little while to warm up, but once he did, he took over offensively for the Mustangs.

He finished with 19 points to lead all scorers in the contest.

"He's our only returning starter from last year's team," Sander said. "He's the most battle-tested of the guys out there. He didn't have a great start tonight, I thought he was pressing a little early on maybe, but he settled in and took what came to him, he became a distributor at times and did a nice job of attacking their pressure."

Shoemaker scored eight first half points and started off the second half with a three-pointer to set the Mustangs on a 6-0 run to open the third quarter. That made it 29-18 Northville, which never looked back.

"Whenever we go to halftime, we want to win the first four minutes coming out in the third quarter," Sander said. "We gave away a couple chances, they switched their defense to start the second half which took us a couple minutes to figure out and we got a little discombobulated near the end of the quar-



Northville's Grant Mathiesen puts up a shot against Stevenson's Evan Bradford (right) and Nate Waligora (left). TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ter and let them back in the game."

Northville closed out Stevenson with a 14-5 run to open the fourth quarter that included a couple baskets by Shoemaker.

"He had it all," Livonia Stevenson coach Kareem Smartt said. "That's the first time in a couple years that I've seen a guy that can shoot the three, handle the ball, rebound, play defense. It was an adjustment for us because we've never really seen a guy quite like that. We thought we prepared well for him, but he still managed to get shots off."

Defense dominates

Entering the game, Stevenson's offense had been one of the bigger stories of the young season. The Spartans put

up 78 on South Lyon and 66 on Rochester Adams, both wins.

Northville limited Stevenson to a season low 41 and had a lead big enough that both teams pulled their starters with just under three minutes to play.

Stevenson's leading scorer coming into the game was senior forward Evan Bradford. He was held to just four points.

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Stevenson instead was led on offense by junior guard Evan Asante, who scored 12 points to pace the Spartans. He was able to do his best work by driving into the paint.

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On the Northville side, senior Max Barnes scored 11 points and senior Grant Mathiesen had seven.

"It's huge, they're a good team over there, they were undefeated coming in and beat a good South Lyon team and Rochester Adams," Shoemaker said. "They're a high-scoring team so to limit them to 40 points is huge for us."

Physical rivalry

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"We're in different divisions, but they've certainly turned into a rival of ours," Sander said. "Coach Smartt does a great job over there. This is the third time in the last seven games that we've played them dating back to last year, so we've had a couple battles."

Northville seemed to come out with an extra boost of intensity that caught Stevenson off guard. The Spartans will have to match that should the two squads meet again later this season.

"I don't think we did a good job of matching their intensity," Smartt said. "From the get-go they were more physical and hungry, they wanted it more. We came out too lax, two game winning streak, I think the kids maybe got a little bit too big of a head about it."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

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KLAA FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The high school football season has come and gone, meaning it's time to recognize some of the area's standout performers.

The Kensington Lakes Activities Association (KLAA) released its list of the league's All-Conference honorees, many of which are on teams in the Hometown Life coverage region.

Plymouth leads the way with 11 selections as the KLAA West Division winner, Belleville also has 11 selections as the winners of the whole conference and East Division.

From there, the number of players selected for each team largely depends on where the team placed in its division, with higher finishing teams awarded more honorees.

Players are listed in the following format: player, position, school, grade.

KLAA East All-Conference

- Christian Dhue-Reid, QB, Belleville, 11
- Darrell Johnson, WR, Belleville, 11
- Deion Burks, WR, Belleville, 11
- Jamari Buddin, LB, Belleville, 11
- Darian Murray, LB, Belleville, 12
- Damon Payne, DL, Belleville, 11
- Andre Seldon, DB, Belleville, 12
- Myles Rowser, DB, Belleville, 10
- Cameron Wallace, OL, Belleville, 11
- Coleon Smith, OL, Belleville, 12
- Hunter Little, OL, Belleville, 12
- Andrew Holston, WR, Fordson, 12
- James Wheeler Jr., RB, Fordson, 12
- Hassan Mansour, RB/WR, Fordson, 12
- Hassan Chokr, LB, Fordson, 12
- KeyShawn Smith, RB, Fordson, 12
- Yousef Fawaz, DE, Fordson, 12
- Brandon Thomas, CB, Fordson, 12
- Ali Baiz, C, Fordson, 12
- Alihadi Farhat, NT, Fordson, 12
- James Carpenter, RB, Franklin, 12
- Kyle Fugedi, OL, Franklin, 11
- Grant Gibson, LB, Franklin, 12
- Jacob Kelbert, QB, Franklin, 12
- Connor Hatfield, WR, Franklin, 11
- Evan Pittenger, LB, Franklin, 11
- Jake Swirple, DL, Franklin, 12
- Brendan Lowry, DB, Churchill, 12
- Mitchell Regan, DB, Churchill, 12
- Shane Morelli, WR, Churchill, 12

- Jimmy Targosz, DB, Churchill, 11
- Dylan Curran, LB, Churchill, 12
- Khalil Ford, DE, Churchill, 11
- Ali Saad, DT, Dearborn, 12
- Shane Veith, DE, Dearborn, 12
- Ryan Timani, CB, Dearborn, 12
- Jake Tafelski, RB, Dearborn, 12
- Caden Woodall, RB, Livonia Stevenson, 11
- Nick Broome, LB, Livonia Stevenson, 12
- Evan Beck, RB, Livonia Stevenson, 12
- Jordan Mitchell, LB, John Glenn, 12
- Justin Hart, OLB, John Glenn, 11
- Ryan Mihalik, RB, Wayne Memorial, 11

KLAA West All-Conference

- Mike Mathias, RB, Plymouth, 12
- Alec Beshears, DB, Plymouth, 12
- Nathan Janke, DB, Plymouth, 12
- Logan Walkley, RB, Plymouth, 12
- Ivan Davis, DE, Plymouth, 12
- Nick Downs, QB, Plymouth, 12
- Caleb Sadler, DL, Plymouth, 12
- Spenser Korroch, DL, Plymouth, 12
- Sean Britt, OL, Plymouth, 12
- Josh Carver, LB, Plymouth, 12
- Preston Long, DB, Plymouth, 11
- Colby Newburg, QB, Brighton, 12
- Nate Hoffman, OL, Brighton, 12
- Brad Luketic, OL, Brighton, 12
- Ruben Salinas, WR, Brighton, 12
- AJ Lin, WR, Brighton, 12
- Cole Riddle, LB, Brighton, 12
- Luke Stanton, DE, Brighton, 12
- Nate Kwapisz, DT, Brighton, 12
- Matt Jontz, DB, Brighton, 12
- Garret Sisco, DL, Hartland, 12
- Jacob Gizinski, OL, Hartland, 12
- Gage Delanoy, RB, Hartland, 12
- Chase Ekenon, DL, Hartland, 12
- Noah Pointek, LB, Hartland, 12
- Logan Tobel, QB, Hartland, 12
- Colby Spisz, HB, Hartland, 12
- Mason Nelson, OT, Howell, 12
- Jonah Schrock, RB, Howell, 12
- Bryan Greene, RB, Howell, 12
- Philip Pietila, LB, Howell, 12
- Grant Porter, OG, Howell, 11
- Marcus Chidester, LB, Howell, 11
- Jackson Kovarik, DB, Howell, 10
- Jake Vickers, TE, Canton, 12
- Ben Stesiak, QB, Canton, 12
- Aran Parick, LB, Canton, 11
- Caden Domzalski, DB, Canton, 12
- Michael Renzi, LB, Canton, 11
- Marco Johnson, RB, Canton, 11



Livonia Franklin quarterback Jake Kelbert prepares for a pass against Detroit Martin Luther King in the 2019 playoffs. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

- Tim Pennington, LB, Canton, 12
- Adam Saghir, ILB, Northville, 12
- Mitch DeGroff, CB, Northville, 12
- Nick Gattoni, OLB, Northville, 12
- Matt Wright, LB, Novi, 12
- Tommy Phimister, OL, Novi, 10
- Josh Williams, DT, Salem, 12

KLAA All-Conference Honorable Mention

East Division

- TyTrayon Lewis, RB, Belleville
- Michael Jenkins, RB, Belleville
- Kobe Langford, RB, Belleville
- Jalen Williams, TE/DE, Belleville
- Malek Alshawabkeh, LB, Fordson
- Ibrahim Ahmed, OG, Fordson
- Antonio Gates Jr., WR, Fordson
- Ali Ajami, OT, Fordson
- Aaron Mass, OL, Franklin
- Dom Ufferman, DB, Franklin
- Brandon Reiten, WR, Franklin
- Trevor Whisman, DB, Franklin
- Josh Barr, OL, Churchill
- Gavin Brooks, QB, Churchill
- Ryan Hutchinson, DB, Churchill
- Boston Clegg, LB, Churchill
- Zein Bazy, OL, Dearborn
- Ronnie Puczkowski, LB, Dearborn
- Ali Hazime, OL, Dearborn

- Al Hussien, LB, Dearborn
- Dylan Johnson, WR, Livonia Stevenson
- Cavan Marcoux, DL, Livonia Stevenson
- Anel Mujovic, DL, Livonia Stevenson
- Jack Micallef, OL, Livonia Stevenson
- Kyle Holt, DB, John Glenn
- Justin Morrison, RB, John Glenn
- Sidney Tatum, ATH, John Glenn
- Kayleb Parker, OT, John Glenn
- Dywon Boyd, OL, Wayne Memorial
- Anthony Morales, LB, Wayne Memorial
- Davaeun Parks, DB, Wayne Memorial
- Jeffrey Madison, OL, Wayne Memorial

West Division

- Van Riley, WR, Plymouth
- Jake Youvon, OL, Plymouth
- Austin Lazanja, OL, Plymouth
- Justin McNeal, DB, Plymouth
- Nick Nemecek, RB, Brighton
- Greyson Stevens, DE, Brighton
- Kyle Duncan, DB, Brighton
- Tegan Kogler, LB, Brighton
- Dylan Strong, DB, Hartland
- Chase Allen, DL, Hartland
- Gavin Wisniewski, OL, Hartland
- Case Winberg, DL, Hartland
- August Johanningsmeier, RB, Howell

- Noah Ramonaitis, LB, Howell
- Ethan Lassitter, OG, Howell
- Danny Honkala, LB, Howell
- Jacob Davis, DL, Canton
- Tyler Milo, DB, Canton
- Jack Cervantes, RB, Canton
- Zach Kubacki, LB, Canton
- Aidan Hayek, S, Northville
- Brett Rankin, ATH, Northville
- John Roland, CB, Northville
- Demir Tagani, OL/DL, Northville
- Josh Erno, QB, Novi
- Tyler Patrick, DB, Novi
- Gavin Parenti, LB, Novi
- Malik McGhee, LB, Novi
- Jack Lukomski, K/P, Salem
- Jermari Thomas, RB, Salem
- Tyler Overaitis, WR, Salem
- Ty Wagner, LB, Salem

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



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Northville races past Livonia Stevenson

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For the third time in their last seven games dating back to last season, the Northville Mustangs met the Livonia Stevenson Spartans on the hardwood.

Just like each of the previous two games, it was Northville that came out victorious, shutting down the Spartans, 52-41, Dec. 17 night at Northville High School.

The win moves Northville to 2-0 on the season, while Stevenson falls to 2-1.

"It's only our second game of the year," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "We've got a lot of guys that are relatively inexperienced at this level, so we're still figuring out who we are, but they bust their butts every day in practice. I thought we won the game on the defensive end tonight. Stevenson got very few easy or clean looks."

Here are three takeaways from the game:

The Shoemaker show

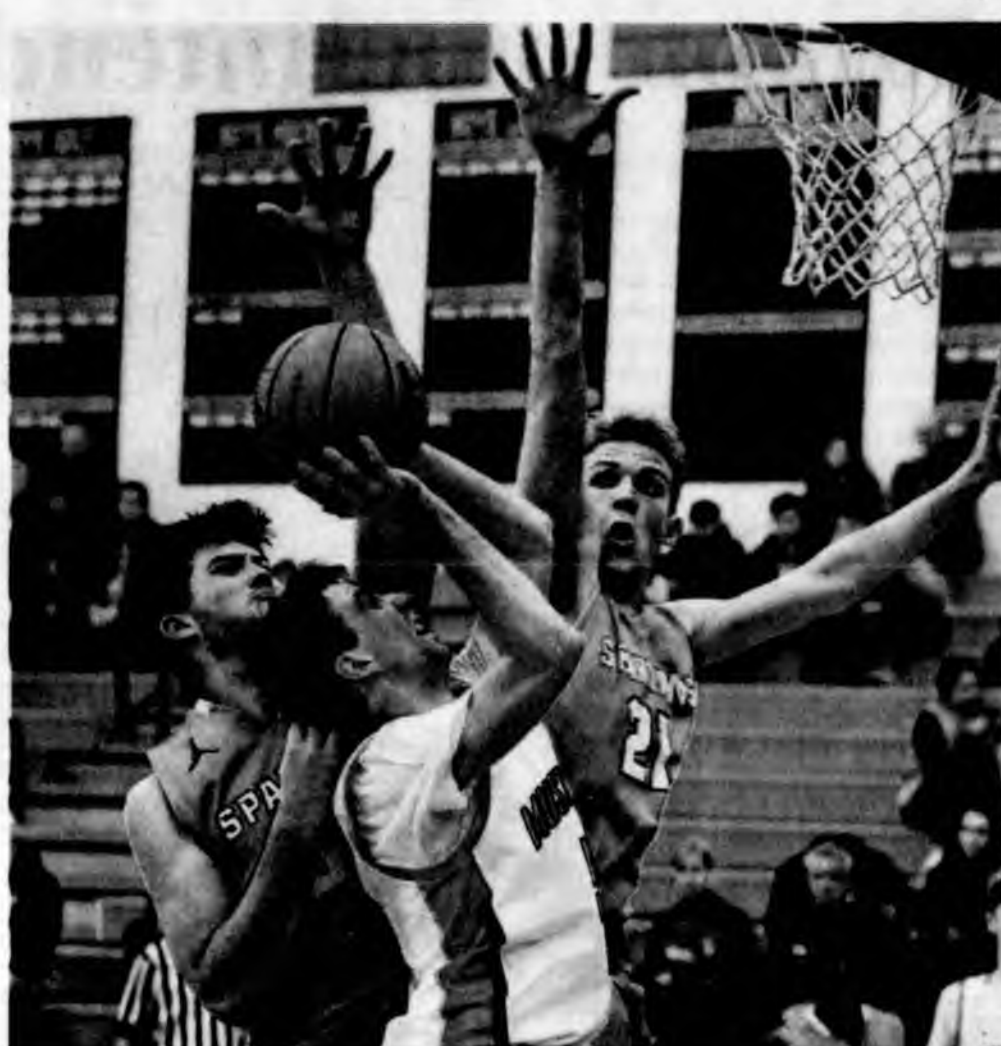
Northville senior forward Zach Shoemaker took a little while to warm up, but once he did, he took over offensively for the Mustangs.

He finished with 19 points to lead all scorers in the contest.

"He's our only returning starter from last year's team," Sander said. "He's the most battle-tested of the guys out there. He didn't have a great start tonight, I thought he was pressing a little early on maybe, but he settled in and took what came to him, he became a distributor at times and did a nice job of attacking their pressure."

Shoemaker scored eight first half points and started off the second half with a three-pointer to set the Mustangs on a 6-0 run to open the third quarter. That made it 29-18 Northville, which never looked back.

"Whenever we go to halftime, we want to win the first four minutes coming out in the third quarter," Sander said. "We gave away a couple chances, they switched their defense to start the second half which took us a couple minutes to figure out and we got a little discombobulated near the end of the quar-



Northville's Grant Mathiesen puts up a shot against Stevenson's Evan Bradford (right) and Nate Waligora (left). TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ter and let them back in the game."

Northville closed out Stevenson with a 14-5 run to open the fourth quarter that included a couple baskets by Shoemaker.

"He had it all," Livonia Stevenson coach Kareem Smartt said. "That's the first time in a couple years that I've seen a guy that can shoot the three, handle the ball, rebound, play defense. It was an adjustment for us because we've never really seen a guy quite like that. We thought we prepared well for him, but he still managed to get shots off."

Defense dominates

Entering the game, Stevenson's offense had been one of the bigger stories of the young season. The Spartans put

up 78 on South Lyon and 66 on Rochester Adams, both wins.

Northville limited Stevenson to a season low 41 and had a lead big enough that both teams pulled their starters with just under three minutes to play.

Stevenson's leading scorer coming into the game was senior forward Evan Bradford. He was held to just four points.

"They're a physical team, we did a good job on help defense and were good on closing out," Shoemaker said. "No. 21 their best player, Evan Bradford, he is a great player and was limited to four points, so that helped. We matched their physicality."

Bradford struggled to get open shots and was completely shut out in the second half.

"He's a really good player, he's going to have a great season this year," Sander said. "He certainly was a focus for us coming into the game. We tried to throw different looks at him, but I thought we made it very difficult to where he had to work for everything that he got."

Stevenson instead was led on offense by junior guard Evan Asante, who scored 12 points to pace the Spartans. He was able to do his best work by driving into the paint.

Only one other Stevenson player had more than four points: junior Devin Way, who had seven.

On the Northville side, senior Max Barnes scored 11 points and senior Grant Mathiesen had seven.

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Physical rivalry

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'Remember the Titans' coach was Plymouth-Canton superintendent's dad

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Superintendent Monica Merritt's father, Herman Boone, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 18, at the age of 84.



Merritt

Boone, the real-life coach of T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Virginia, in 1971, was portrayed by actor Denzel Washington in the hit movie "Remember the Titans."

T.C. Williams was integrated in 1971, the year Boone was named the head coach. Bill Yoast, an assistant coach on the team, passed away earlier this year at the age of 94.

Led by Boone and Yoast, the Titans overcame racial tensions on the team and in the community to lead the team

to team to an undefeated record and state championship.

According to the PCCS website, Merritt was named interim superintendent for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools in December 2015, becoming the 14th person to lead the district.

Merritt, a resident and parent in PCCS, assumed the title while also serving as the district's assistant superintendent for human resources and labor relations.

"We are truly saddened to hear of the death of Coach Herman Boone today," Alexandria Public Schools shared on Boone's tribute page. "ACPS & the Titans community will never forget his contribution to bringing our city together post-segregation. We encourage you to share your stories and memories of him with us."

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



Herman Boone, the real-life coach portrayed by Denzel Washington in the movie "Remember the Titans" and the father of PCCS Superintendent Monica Merritt passed away. USA TODAY

DNR to auction off 147 parcels of public land

Bisma Parvez Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Looking for lake view properties? Maybe river access and winding trails in beautiful Michigan?

Look no further.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is auctioning off prime locations of surplus public land throughout Michigan. The winter land auction is underway, and bids will be accepted until Jan. 8, according to the DNR.

There will be 147 individual parcels available, ranging in size from less than an acre to 160 acres.

"The auction is part of the DNR's strategy to efficiently manage public land while maximizing outdoor recreation opportunities for residents and visitors," the DNR said in a statement.

Most of the land is located in central/northern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

Michael Michalek, DNR real estate



resource specialist, said, "Several of the parcels are forested and have riverside or lake frontage and are better suited for private ownership."

Bid forms and property listings will not be available until Tuesday. Sealed bids will have to be submitted by mail.

"Much of the land offered at this auction is isolated from other DNR-managed property, which creates some management challenges. Other parcels

are included because they offer limited public recreation benefits," said Michael Michalek, DNR real estate resource specialist.

Land auction proceeds will be used in accordance with the DNR's mission to conserve, protect and manage the state's natural and cultural resources. They will help provide future outdoor recreation opportunities for current and future generations.

DNR parcels 129240, 376720 and 1040033 make up the 5.5 acres for sale on Lower Scott Lake in Allegan County. MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Here's how to find out more

Interested buyers can visit Michigan.gov/LandForSale for auction information including minimum bid prices, property descriptions and conditions of sale. They can also request printed property information from:

DNR Real Estate Services Section
P.O. Box 30448
Lansing, MI 48909-7948

Properties are in Allegan, Alpena, Bay, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Delta, Dickinson, Houghton, Iosco, Jackson, Kalkaska, Lake, Mackinac, Midland, Missaukee, Muskegon, Newaygo, Otsego, St. Clair and Van Buren counties.

The largest parcels are in Alpena, Dickinson and Newaygo counties.

Obituaries

Edith Marie Combs

Edith Marie Combs (Morris) age 81, passed away peacefully in her sleep on December 16, 2019 at Prestige Place in Clare, Michigan. She was born in Blairsville, Georgia on May 6, 1938 to Melvin and Elizabeth Morris (Bivens). She was the youngest of six children. After the untimely death of her father when she was 6 months old, she lived with her mother and grandparents for a period of time. She loved to reminisce about her good times there and with her dog, Butch, a faithful German shepherd. Edith moved to Michigan when she was 17 where she met the love of her life, Charles Lewis Combs. They were married on January 18, 1957 and enjoyed 60 years together raising a family of four children. She loved to cook and always made sure everyone had plenty to eat including all the kids in the neighborhood on a daily basis. Edith also loved to sew and made clothes and household furnishings like curtains, bedspreads, pillows and stuffed toys. Edith loved to read the Bible and was a member of the First Baptist Church of South Lyon. She was a good samaritan and loved to help the elderly or sick neighbors and friends with daily chores. Prior to her retirement, Edith was employed for 30 years with the State of Michigan as a cook at Arbor Heights Center in Ann Arbor which is a home for adolescents. Edith is survived by her son, Darrell, her daughter Denise (Danny) Foster, her daughter Diana Combs all who adored her and her quiet and wise mannerisms. She was always a wonderful mother to all. Edith is also survived by her four grandchildren: Christopher Foster, Angela Foster, Cassandra (Joseph) Kosal and Corrine Louiselle; and her three great-grandchildren: Wyatt, Dean and Madison. She will be sadly missed by her family and many good friends and all her caregivers at the assisted living home where she has resided for the past three years. She was preceded in death by her son, Dwayne in 1983, her husband of 60 years, Charles in 2017; her parents; and two brothers and three sisters. She will always be remembered for her kind-hearted, generous and loving spirit. Visitation was held on Friday, December 20 from 11:00AM until the time of the funeral service at 12:00PM at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake Street, South Lyon. Edith was laid to rest beside her husband in South Lyon Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project. www.phillipsfuneral.com



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Janet L. Gardy

Janet L. Gardy formerly of South Lyon; December 14, 2019; age 68; Dear wife of the late Alvin P. Gardy; Loving mother of the late Michael; Mrs. Gardy worked in Food Service at South Lyon Public Schools for over 20 years; A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, December 21, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Riverside Chapel, Simpson-Modetz Funeral Home, 5630 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Saturday 10 a.m. until time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Michigan Humane Society or to the American Diabetes Association. Online guest book www.modetzfurneralhomes.com

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Ellen Marie (Groulx) Kenny

SAINT IGNACE - Ellen Marie (Groulx) Kenny, age 100, passed away peacefully on December 2, 2019, at Castle Rock Retirement Center in Saint Ignace, Michigan.

Ellen was born to the late George J. Groulx and Eva M. (Hall) Groulx on November 6, 1919 in Detroit, Michigan. She spent most of her childhood in the Bay County, Michigan area helping on her family's farm. As a young woman in Bay City and Pontiac, MI, she worked as a switchboard telephone operator.

Ellen resided in Highland Township, Michigan from 1958 until 1999. While living there, she was employed by Huron Valley School District as a school bus driver until her retirement. She really enjoyed her work and made lifelong friends in the area. In 1999 Ellen, along with her sister, Mary Jane Groulx, and eldest daughter, Jeannie M. Kenny, moved to Drummond Island where she lived out the rest of her days peacefully. Drummond Island was very special to her, as her family's ancestors were from one of the original founding families on the island and she had fond memories of vacationing there as a child.

Ellen was very talented seamstress and some her hobbies included knitting, crocheting and embroidery. She loved feeding the many deer on their property and enjoyed doing word search puzzles as the sunshine made diamonds dance on the water of Lake Huron. One of her favorite sayings was, "I love you a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck."

Ellen is survived by her daughter Jeannie M. Kenny of Drummond Island, MI, her Daughter Lori E. Kenny Dailing/Dille (Eric) of Colorado Springs, CO, her son Victor M. Kenny (Pok) of El Paso TX, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband Vernon C. Kenny, son Vernon M. Kenny, as well as her three brothers and three sisters.

She is dearly missed and we are very saddened but we know she is enjoying the beauty, peace and love of heaven. We love you Mom "a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck."

A memorial service will be held in Spring 2020.

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

TRAVEL

7 things to know if your flight is affected by inclement weather

Dawn Gilbertson
USA TODAY

Few words in travel are as maddening as "Your flight's been canceled."

In the winter, it's a phrase airlines utter with regularity, thwarting plans and stressing out passengers and airline employees.

During the busy Thanksgiving travel rush, airlines canceled hundreds of flights in the Northeast and Midwest.

Here's a guide to making weather delays and cancellations less stressful:

1. **Do pay attention to your airline's website, mobile app or Facebook and Twitter accounts at the first hint of weather trouble**, especially if this trip is for a can't-miss event or a delay or cancellation would leave you in a bind with work or other obligations. Airlines routinely issue travel advisories, alerts and waivers (the names vary by carrier) ahead of big storms, allowing travelers to move their flight to an eligible earlier or later date to dodge a weather mess. The best part: You won't pay a change fee or fare difference. You might even luck out and get a better flight than you booked.

2. **Don't head for the airport before checking your flight status and checking for any notifications from your airline.** Unless it's a last-minute delay or cancellation, there's little excuse for not knowing about it. Airlines regularly alert travelers about flight troubles via email, text message, their mobile apps and sometimes even the phone if that's the contact information you provided. Some airlines automatically rebook you on the next available flight if your flight is canceled. This is one of the reasons it's important to provide contact information when booking tickets.

3. **Do check out airline self-service options for rebooking.** The snaking line at the customer service counter or gate and the airline's reservations centers aren't the only way to book a new flight. Many airlines allow you to rebook



A jet passes snow-covered cars parked at Denver International Airport on Nov. 26. A winter storm delayed numerous flights. JOE MAHONEY/GETTY IMAGES

your flight (if they haven't already or you don't like the flight they picked) on their websites and mobile apps. Even if you're not a frequent flyer, download your airline's mobile app. Airlines keep adding more features to the apps, and the information is invaluable at the airport.

4. **Don't take the trip if rebooking is too much of a hassle and the trip is discretionary.** Airlines are required to refund your money if your flight is canceled, even if you bought a nonrefundable ticket (including those basic economy tickets.)

5. **Do not expect the airline to pay for a hotel or food or an extra rental car day if you are stranded coming or**

going due to weather. Screaming at a gate agent or swearing at the airline on Twitter is not going to change the fact that airlines are not required to provide any kind of compensation or accommodations during weather delays and cancellations.

The U.S. Department of Transportation spells it out on the "fly rights" section of its website: "Contrary to popular belief, for domestic itineraries airlines are not required to compensate passengers whose flights are delayed or canceled."

6. **Don't wait until the last minute to book an airport hotel, or you could end up on the terminal floor during a nasty storm.** Airlines often hand out

lists of area hotels to stranded travelers — some offering passengers discounts — after a late flight is canceled. But you can get ahead of the crowd by reserving a room the second the flight is canceled. One app to try: HotelTonight. Pro tip: To reduce costs (see No. 5) look for hotels with a complimentary shuttle and free breakfast.

7. **Do ask hotels and other travel companies for a break if your vacation has been delayed a day (or more) by a canceled flight.** Hotels tend to have more forgiving cancellation policies than airlines, especially during major weather events. Be kind to the person on the phone. They don't owe you anything.

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Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
734-347-1983 pastor cell
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Renewed Hope Counseling Center
248-580-7507
hopecc.net

Novi

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www.fumcnorthville.org

first united methodist church south lyon, mi
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(248) 437-0780
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Sunday School 8:30 am
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southlyonfirstumc.org

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www.hope-lutheran-church.com
Rev Thomas Scherger

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LO: 0000318078

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7 tips for someone who wants to land executive role

Michael Hoon
thejobnetwork.com

It takes many, many desk workers but only a select few executives to make the corporate world spin on its axis. That imbalance may make an executive position seem virtually unattainable for the average employee. But while elevating to the executive suite does require an exceptional amount of ambition, it's not an unachievable goal.

So, what is stopping you from starting that climb up the corporate ladder? Perhaps you're not sure how to begin your own rise. If so, the following 7 tips for evolving from desk grunt to exec can help you know the route to take.

1. Take a look at yourself

Before beginning your quest for that executive position, you need to take a hard look at yourself to determine if you really have what it takes. If you find that you're lacking in any areas — maybe you don't have a firm grasp on corporate culture, or maybe your knowledge of finances is weak — you can start to focus your efforts on attaining the knowledge and skills you need to bring yourself up to speed.

2. Take advantage of being an insider

Executives are not usually hired from some resume slush pile — most are promoted from within a company's existing staff. One key to becoming that select staff member is finding a manager willing to groom and champion you for an executive position. The ideal mentor is nurturing, able to recognize high performers, and willing to reward great work with promotions. If you're working



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under a manager who fits this description, he or she may be willing to give you a leg up the corporate ladder.

3. Look the part

A manager will be more willing to champion you for an executive position if you already look the part. Try re-branding yourself so you fit the executive mold better. If the executives are wearing tailored suits, but you usually show up to work in jeans and "nice" t-shirts, restyle your look so you're more in line with the higher-ups.

4. Make a name for yourself

If you tend to go under the radar in your office, subject yourself to a bold

metamorphosis. Don't be shy about making your ambitions clear. Take an active role in the office. Speak up during meetings and conferences. Contribute to your company's newsletter. Do whatever it takes to make your name known, because you'll never get promoted if no one knows who you are.

5. Know your business

Raising your voice during meetings or contributing articles to your company's newsletter will do you no favors if you have no idea what you're talking about. So before speaking up, you need to study up. Get to know your company inside and out. Study quarterly reports. Find out your company's goals. Knowing your business will help you articu-

late the ways you can help it to profit and grow, which is what you'll be expected to do in that executive position you cov-

6. Welcome responsibility

An exec has a lot of responsibilities, so if you don't have many significant tasks in your current position, you may never be recognized as having the right stuff to make it to the top level. If that's the case, seek out new opportunities to take on more important assignments. Vie for leadership roles in new projects. Volunteer to head a committee. Compile a white paper. If you're successful, upper management may soon recognize your executive potential.

7. Build your network

Merely having a single mentor to champion you or making yourself known to only the people on your team may not be enough to get that executive job. Connecting with current executives, the hiring manager, and other key people at your company will only increase your chances of promotion. Be sure you are always ready to introduce yourself, and always have a business card on hand. Be personable. Get on social media and interact frequently. Always be willing and open to meet new people, tell them about yourself, and take part in all conversations with interest and enthusiasm. You never know who may help you achieve your goal of nabbing that executive position.

Michael Hoon is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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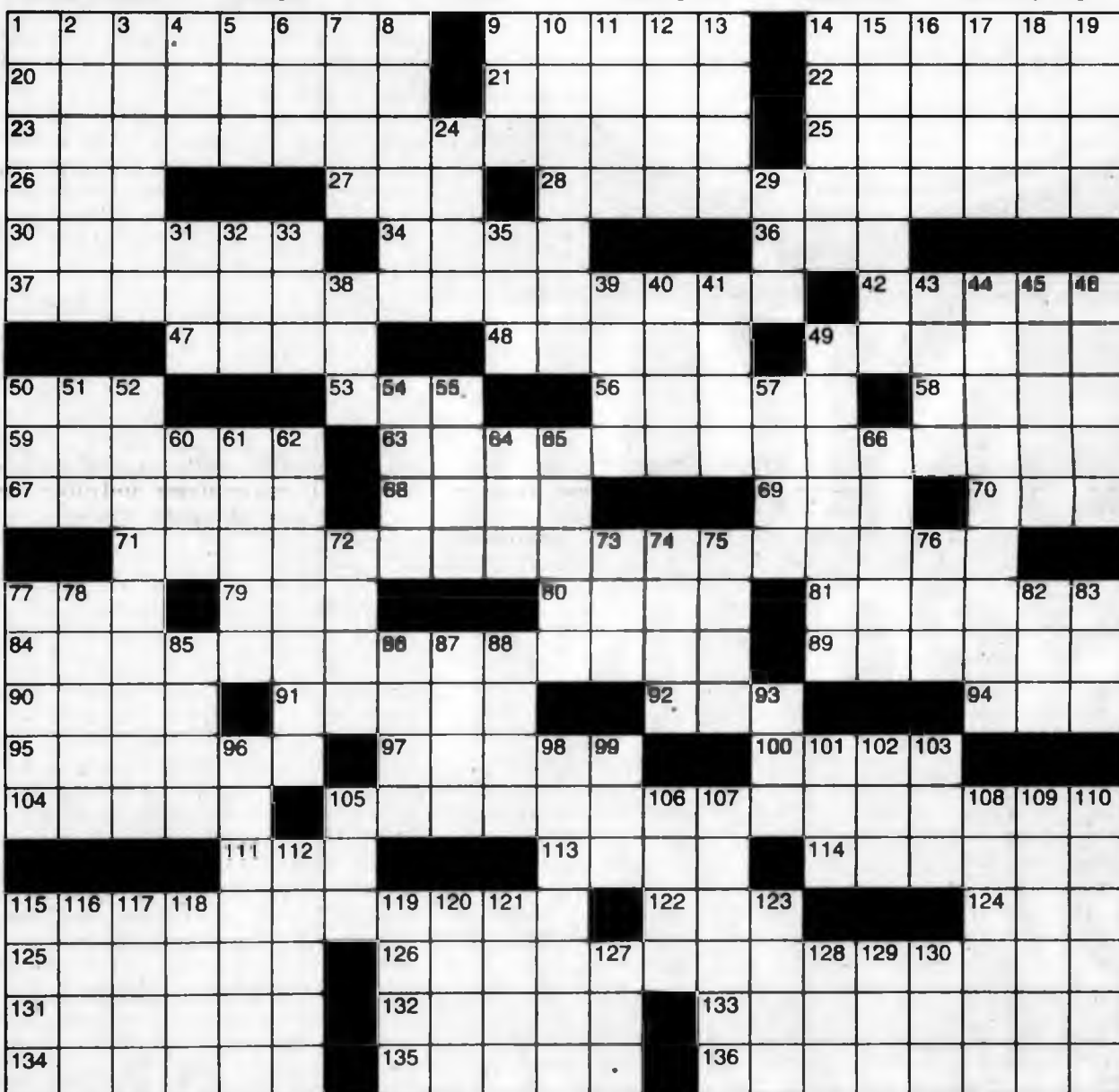
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

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ACROSS

- 1 Examined by touching
9 Smart — (know-it-all)
14 Alphas' opposites
20 All across the region
21 Indian city on the Yamuna River
22 "Gil Blas" novelist Alain-René —
23 Blemish-resistant bar seat?
25 Male flower part
26 Earth lighter
27 Autumn chill
28 Sentry allowing nobody to nap?
30 Monet, say
34 Interstices
36 — roll (hot)
37 Shoulder-hugging, horn-honking driver?
42 Thin and supple
47 Duck cousin
48 Actress Messing
49 More plucky
50 Lt.'s inferior
53 "I see mice!"
56 Ear-related
- 58 Indian city on the Yamuna River
59 Vehicle in a chase scene
63 Decorative pins worn by jockeys?
67 Yellow-and-black bird
68 16-Down, to Jacob
69 Flagged auto
70 Mao — -tung
71 Bit of pasta that's really hard to find?
77 Bodily pouch
79 Spanish for "that"
80 Big pet food brand
81 "Infinite" rapper
84 Have pain from bending forward too sharply?
89 Tire type
90 Tolkien terrorizers
91 Up — (stymied)
92 — Lanka
94 Butter holder
95 More hideous
97 — liver (meat product)
100 Harvestable
104 Work layoff, slangily
- 105 Dive to attack with perfect form?
111 Texter's "I think..."
113 Neeson of "Darkman"
114 GMC pickup
115 Decide on Domino's for dinner?
122 Taylor of "Cleopatra," for short
124 Los Angeles' Playa — Rey
125 Regular practices
126 Botching an April 1 prank?
131 Crops up
132 Ickily sticky
133 Enlarge
134 Quick
135 In any way
136 Power-supplying socket
- 8 Blueprint
9 TV spots
10 "Show me"
11 College town in North Carolina
12 Toy train, when doubled
13 Quantity in a narc's bust
14 Former NFLer Merlin
15 Annual ritzy NYC fundraising event
16 Biblical birthright seller
17 Explorer Vasco da —
18 Antiquing aid
19 Ship off, say
24 Petty quarrel
29 Saldana of the screen
31 "— so you!"
32 Hem, e.g.
33 Lifted syllable
35 Prof's deg.
38 United
39 Israel's Abba
40 Opiate, e.g.
41 Raiment
43 Apple option
44 Close, as a community
45 "— to you!"
46 Rub out
49 Person rubbing it in
- 50 Prefix with warrior
51 And not
52 Final washer phase
54 Noted Deco master
55 Furry fruit
57 Rocket paths
60 Pigeon noise
61 Balm plants
62 Betelgeuse or Antares
64 Clangor
65 How balloons float
66 Trump replaced him
72 Thief's bagful
73 "Ball —"
74 Autos such as Gremlins and Pacers
75 Belgian river
76 Spain's El —
77 Teapot part
78 "I'm so frustrated!"
82 Water, to Gigi
83 Rangers' and Rays' gp.
85 Brunel locale
86 Mean whale
87 High point
88 One-named sports legend
93 Lyric penner Gershwin
96 Lived
98 Ball of mashed chickpeas
99 — -fl movie
101 Electees, say
102 Greek letter
103 She baas
105 Swab
106 Film score composer
107 Iago's wife
108 Hard trial
109 Bully's threat ender
110 Warehouse platform
112 Hardly tidy
115 Cartoonist Addams
116 Celestial instrument
117 Off-Broadway prize
118 French river or department
119 TV actress Swenson
120 — suit (1940s duds)
121 Reverse alphabetical order
123 Bronze metal
127 Olive of "Popeye"
128 Lt.'s inferior
129 "Despicable Me" villain
130 Dewy, e.g.



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

12/26

Here's How It Works:

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

RESOLUTIONS WORD SEARCH

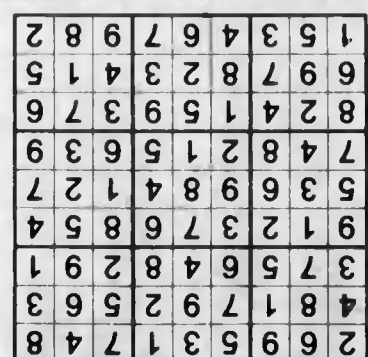
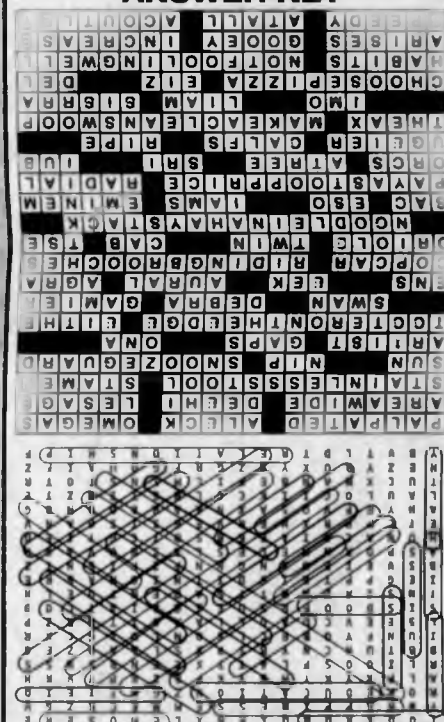


Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

BRAIN
BUSINESS
CAREER
CLEANING
CLUTTER
CONCENTRATION
CONFIDENCE
DEBT
DIETING
DONATION
EDUCATION
EXPLORATION
FINANCES
FITNESS
FOODS
FRIENDS
GIVING
HABITS
HAPPINESS
HEALTHY
LIBRARY
MASSAGE
MEDITATE
ORGANIZE
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