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Developer pitches plan for Lyon Crossing

Susan Bromley Hometownlife com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

After nearly 20 years and plans that didn't work out, the Lyon Crossing development may be nearing completion.

Planning commissioners gave overwhelmingly positive feedback on a proposed 340-unit apartment complex on West, as well as mixed support for an auto dealership on the south side of the

"We still have a piece of Lyon unfinished in its look," said Tony Antone, applicant for the projects. "We looked at a lot. It's been 20 years and with all the changes to the market, I think this is the

the north side of Lyon Center Drive best thing. It's hard to say we waited 20 years for the right thing, but this is the best development for what is across the street and what is to come.

> "It's the finishing touch for what is needed at this Lyon Crossing gateway." Antone, executive vice president of Kojaian Management Corporation, is seeking amendments to the Lyon Cross

ing planned development that would allow the company to see the project com-

Since the planned unit development was finalized in 2002, Antone said he had encountered many hurdles, ranging from various restrictions with Walmart.

See PLAN, Page 6A



Dapper Dog of Milford customer Patti Gadwell washes her English bulldog, Porkchop, in one of the business' self-serve rooms. The dog-grooming service is within walking distance of Milford's dog park. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Northville groomer opens the Dapper Dog of Milford

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

When it came time for Milford resident Natalie Gordanier to find a new place to open a dog grooming business, she didn't have to look far.

Gordanier used to work at Dog-Gone Beautiful on Novi Road in Northville, but left after six years. She then decided to open up shop a little closer to home, and the Dapper Dog of Milford was born.

"The area really needed a fun, safe place to bring their dogs for bathing and grooming services," she said.

The business, located at 131 S. Milford Road in the Village Commons East shopping center, opened last year, specializing in professional and self-serve

See GROOMER, Page 4A



Dog of Milford owner Natalie Gordanier. center, stands with employees Melina Canzano, left, and Kayia Cohen. The business. located at 131 S. Milford Road in the Village **Commons East** shopping center, opened

late last year.

Art and Jake's bar coming to **Northville**

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

An east side staple is moving to Northville Township later this year.

Art and Jake's, a sports bar with locations across Macomb County, will open its first restaurant west of Dequindre Road later this year in the building formerly occupied by Brann's Steakhouse at 39715 Six Mile, just west of Haggerty Road.

The restaurant group has purchased the building and is in the process of removing the old equipment and preparing for a complete remodel.

The building is going to be completely redone, outside and inside," said Victor Trpcevski, owner of Art and Jake's

See BAR, Page 8A

Novi OKs use of \$100K to explore rec center

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

Novi has committed up to \$100,000 to its exploration of bringing a recreation center to the city.

The city council approved spending the money for a recreation center consultant service.

"When I saw this on the (Jan. 6) agenda, at first I was a little taken aback: \$100,000 for a consultant?" Mayor Bob Gatt said, adding that it made "perfect sense" after he talked to city staff. "The recreation center, if it comes to fruition, will be one of the iewels, one of the highlights of Novi.

"And we want to do it right, we need to do a survey to see what residents want, if you want it at all."

See REC CENTER, Page 8A

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Volume 150 | No. 25 Home delivery pricing inside





Esports gaming lounge opens in Livonia

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

A joking suggestion at a family dinner led to the creation of one of Livonia's newest businesses

Matt Pawelski, owner of Respawn Game Lounge, was eating dinner with his parents in their Rosedale Gardens home when discussion turned to the now-closed Rosedale Cleaners, which shut down in 2018.

After Pawelski mentioned a gaming lounge concept, his father, who isn't into video games, began researching the idea and thought it was great. After investigating the property, buying the building and completing a full interior renovation, the Respawn Game Lounge was born.

The idea behind it? Create a gathering space for those whose hobby is playing video games.

"When we came back in college, or now that I live here, we always were wanting something to do," said Pawelski, a Franklin High graduate. "We're a part of that younger generation and that's what we've been seeing. It's a new place for them to hang out."

The lounge - which opened right after Thanksgiving at 31619 Plymouth in Livonia – provides a more public space for gamers to share their hobby. Patrons can visit and rent time on consoles or computers by themselves or with friends.

The stars of the lounge are the seven gaming computers, all equipped with Xbox Game Pass, allowing computer players access to dozens of games such as Metro Exodus, Gears 5 and Forza Horizon 4.

The 1080 Ti computers, made by Corsair, complete with 1080p monitors, are some of the fastest gaming machines out there, Pawelski said.

"This is not something you typically see at someone's home," he said. "If you look on TV and see the million-dollar players, theirs is going to be a little bit above ours, but it's not far."

The average PC user in the lounge plays for three to four hours, Pawelski said. Prices range from \$5 for a halfhour on the computers to \$30 for four hours, while consoles may be rented for



Respawn Game Lounge manager Matt Pawelski plays Halo at the new facility for online gaming and esports in Livonia. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM!

"When we came back in college, or now that I live here, we always were wanting something to do. We're a part of that younger generation and that's what we've been seeing. It's a new place for them to hang out."

Matt Pawelski Manager, Respawn Game Lounge

\$8 for a half-hour up to \$45 for four

Those who stream video games on as Twitch, YouTube or Mixer can find a home at Respawn as well. A dedicated station is set up for streamers, including a microphone, and Pawelski can even add a green screen for those needing a

specific background. For console gamers, Pawelski has one of each of the three main consoles on the market today: the Nintendo Switch, the PS4 Pro and the Xbox One X, all of which display games on one of three big-screen televisions set up in the lounge. Several games are preloaded on the consoles, though visitors can also sign into their personal gaming ac-

counts and play games they own. Seeing people come in to rent time on

a console, ones that many gamers may already own, surprised Pawelski. He said gamers are looking for an experience and to build a community, rather than just interacting with others using a game's voice chat system.

'What we're seeing is, there's a big difference from playing at your house over the voice chat and actually becoming part of the community we're trying to build here," Pawelski said. "That's what we're trying to build."

While the lounge is new, Pawelski said he hopes to make connections in the community, especially reaching out to a few local schools where gaming has grown to a big deal. He's hoping to start a gaming league this sum-

"It's intramural gaming, because they don't have that," he said. "I want to push that as local teams, local kids can come out and play of all ages and we'll have different age groups.

"As we grow, I hope to do a lot of community things.'

The lounge is open from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesday through Friday, noon to 2 a.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays. More information can be found at respawnelounge.com.

Super Talk **Guest columnist**

King was clear: Compassion requires investment

On Jan. 20, the Novi High School club Students Promoting Unity and Diversity invited the community to participate in its annual Unity in the Community event to honor the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Each year we take time to honor King. He left an amazing legacy:

■ Nobel Peace Prize awardee in

■ Public speaker whose "I Have a Dream" speech attracted over 250,000 people to Washington, D.C. in 1963.

Honored by presidents and politi-

But his true legacy was his willingness to support and honor those who often were forgotten by the world. The true genius of King was not the speeches he gave; it was not his association with presidents and leaders.

The true genius of King was his ability to live the words he so eloquently spoke. When he spoke of making a difference, he lived a life that made a difference. He put into action the words he spoke about our hopes and dreams.

The true genius of King was that he not only talked about the importance of supporting one another, but he demonstrated, through his life, that he really did care about other people.

Emblematic of this commitment was King's last recorded speech, given on April 3, 1968, in a church in Memphis, Tennessee, to support the sanitation workers of Memphis. On April 4, 1968, King was shot and killed.

Think about that for a moment. King's last recorded speech was given in a church in Memphis to support garbage men.

King had the power and the social cachet to do and be almost anything. Yet on April 3, 1968, King was in Memphis to speak to and support the people who picked up other people's gar-

Why would he do that?

A clue is contained in the speech he gave that evening.

King talks about the tendency of people - people like you and me - to engage in "compassion by proxy."

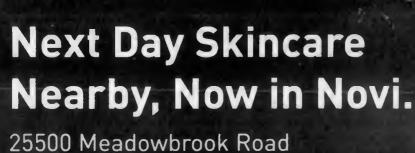
The tendency of people to talk about the importance of helping other people, to recognize the need other people have, to understand intellectually that there is a problem, to actually see a problem - but to not get in-

Compassion by proxy is the belief that we are compassionate if we recognize and talk about the problem.

King said if we believe that we can be compassionate by proxy, we are wrong. King was clear: Compassion requires investment.

Compassion requires getting into the lives of those we seek to help. We cannot be truly compassionate if we refuse to be with those who need our

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



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South Lyon woman loses 135 pounds

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

As many people were making New Year's resolutions to lose weight, Christine Hoke had almost reached her goal.

After a lifetime struggling with her weight and periodically tipping the scales at more than 300 pounds, she has dropped 135 pounds.

"I am thinner than when I got married, and even thinner than I was in high school," said Hoke, a 1986 Brighton graduate.

The 5-foot-7 South Lyon resident was a size 12 in high school, but now she is a size 10 and down to 190 pounds and counting.

Hoke credits Weight Watchers for giving her the tools to finally get her weight under control, a program she began less than two years ago after her doctor told her she was turning diabetic and that because of her excessive weight and her age, her knees were going to give out.

"I thought, 'Holy crap, my mom is in the nursing home and my husband has health problems and I'm taking care of him and I'm having a hard time getting off the couch and my knees hurt,' " she said. " 'Who's going to take care of me?' "

Most of her family is heavyset, but she was by far the heaviest. And finally, she decided no one was going to take care of her but herself.

She had reached 300 pounds a few times over the years, usually in five-year cycles, which was always her tipping point. In 2000, she lost 50 pounds and then gained it back with pregnancy. After she gave birth to her son in 2002, she thought she would lose the weight again, but it stayed. In 2008, she joined Weight Watchers and lost 88 pounds, but gained it back.

"You get down so far, start living life, and think, 'I'm happy with myself,' and you walk away," she said. "But unfortunately, I need that support."

In 2013, she decided to join her husband in getting gastric sleeve surgery, in which a large portion of her stomach was removed. The surgery forces patients to alter their eating habits, from the amount of food that can be consumed to the type of food they need to get essential nutrients.

"I thought, 'We'll be thin together.' I thought the surgery was a basic magic cure-all and end-all, that it would keep me from eating all this food, but it was not," Hoke said.

Time to end the yo-yo dieting

She still craved and consumed sugars and carbs, much of it in liquids, and Hoke felt ill-informed post-surgery about how to handle her cravings. The weight came back, helped from high-calorie drinks and pizza, which she called her downfall.

"Food is an addiction and when you are heavy, you can't get away from the addiction, because you need food to live." she said.

Now she's back with Weight Watchers and said she's not going back to yo-yo dieting ever again. She has a food plan for life.

In her return to Weight Watchers, she lost 11 pounds in the first week just from removing lattes and smoothies from her diet.

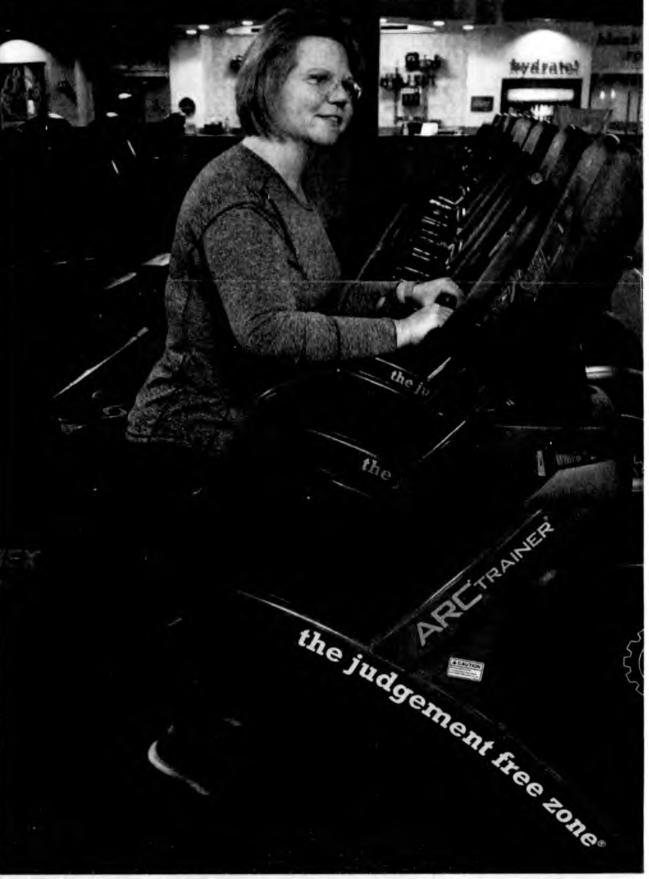
When she hit 85 pounds lost, she was afraid of plateauing, but she flew right past it. And the numbers kept dropping as she shed 125 pounds in a year.

In Weight Watchers, points are calculated for food, and devotees stick to one of three plans that keeps



Hoke at one of her heaviest times in 2018 when she weighed more than 300 pounds. She said she has struggled with losing weight just to gain it all back several times in her life. COURTESY OF CHRISTINE HOKE





Hoke works out at a Planet Fitness in Wixom on Jan. 10. She said her success comes from a desire to be healthy. She joined Weight Watchers for support on her journey toward her goal weight of 180 pounds.

them within their point total. Hoke attends support group meetings once a week at which she weighs in, and she uses a phone app to calculate points.

An accountant, she enjoys the math, but laughed as she said her doctor told her she is the only CPA she knows who has lost weight during tax season.

Changing habits

While there are no forbidden foods in Weight Watchers, Hoke avoids pizza, which she calls her "red light" food: once she starts eating it, she has a hard time stopping, so she just doesn't go there.

She admits liking whiskey and indulged a bit in that and pie over the holidays, but said it's all about portion control and banking points for when a special day is coming up. It's also about not beating yourself up the occasional slip-up.

Weight Watchers emphasizes forgiveness for bad days, she said, as well as self-awareness of underlying issues that may cause weight gain. Hoke said instead of turning her back on stress, she communicates her feelings more now with her husband, her co-workers, and her boss. When something is bothering her, she deals with it rather than reaching for food.

That change now is reflected not only in her appearance and physical health, but in her mentally positive attitude as well.

"People say I'm a different person, there is a light about me, I am radiant, and that is because I dealt with my issues instead of eating them," Hoke said. "You can talk to people and don't have to go home and eat that bowl of ice cream."

Instead, she goes home and has salmon or sushi or a nice, leaf lettuce salad without a serving of guilt and she takes a walk on the trails in South Lyon.

She is hoping to lose 10 more pounds and get down to her ultimate goal weight of 180 for a lifetime.

Her advice to others wanting to lose weight is to find that one thing – your reason why – and write it down. Hers is to be healthy. And now she is, both physically and mentally.

All her vital signs are good, and she is taking care of herself instead of wondering who will take care of her.

"I just feel so much better," Hoke said. "I feel lighter in mind as well as in body. I feel younger, and I am definitely happier."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00 PM. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider the DRAFT SECOND AMENDMENT TO CONSENT JUDGMENT FOR THE OAK POINTE PLAZA IN THE MATTER OF SELECTIVE DEVELOPMENT V CITY OF NOVI. Oak Pointe Plaza consists of four parcels. The subject properties are located on the east side of Novi Road south of Nine Mile Road in Section 35. The amendment is required to allow the use of 'Instructional Center' and 'Public or Private Indoor Recreation Center' as a permitted use for these properties. No other changes to the site are proposed at this time.



Related information is available at Community Development Department

Subject Property Parcel ID's: 50-22-35-101-039, 50-22-35-101-031, 50-22-35-101-038 and 50-22-35-101-033

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 12:00 P.M., Monday, February 10, 2020.

Published January 23, 2020

Groomer

Continued from Page 1A

grooming and bathing services. Selfserve grooming and bathing is gaining steam in the dog-grooming world. Staff can assist those who haven't used such a facility.

The location is the only one Gordanier looked at when she began seeking a new space for her business. In addition to the space she would have in the former clothing shop, the storefront is within view of Milford's new dog park, which also opened late last year.

That proximity to a place where pups are bound to get filthy, especially when the weather warms, made the Village Commons plaza the perfect place for a dog groomer.

"Because I knew the dog park was coming and I knew people would want to take home a clean dog if possible, so it's literally within walking distance of the dog park," she said. "People could literally park here and walk."

"... I knew the dog park was coming and I knew people would want to take home a clean dog if possible. ... People could literally park here and walk."

Natalie Gordanier Owner, the Dapper Dog of Milford

The Dapper Dog of Milford currently has just one self-serve station, though Gordanier is working to expand to four. That space has everything dog owners need to get their pooch looking their best, including several types of shampoo for owners to choose from.

There are spaces for several professional groomers in the main room as

One operates currently, but Gordanier also expects to expand that to four.

See GROOMER, Page 5A



The Dapper Dog stylist Melina Canzano brushes a customer at their Milford location. JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on February 11, 2020 at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ20-0001 (Ron and Roman Inc/Guernsey Farms Dairy) 23100 Novi Road, East of Novi Road and North of Eight Mile Road, Parcel #50-22-35-301-001. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Zoning Code Section 5.3.12 for the absence of end island curbing. By code end islands landscaped with raised curbs are required at the end of all parking bays that abut traffic circulation aisles in off street parking. This property is zoned General Business (B-3).

PZ20-0002 (Allied Signs/Chick-Fil-A) 27750 Novi Road, East of Novi Road and South of Twelve Mile Road, Parcel #50-22-14-100-050. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Code of Ordinances Section 28-5(d)(14) for the addition of two proposed signs, three sign maximum allowed by code. This property is zoned Regional Center (RC)

PZ20-0003 (Joann and Ned Aloe) 1529 W Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive and South of W Pontiac Trail, Parcel #50-22-03-131-004. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Zoning Code Section 4.19(1)b to allow the proposed building of an accessory structure in the front yard, by code Accessory buildings shall not be erected in the front yard or in any required exterior side yard. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4).

Publish January 23, 2020

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

Northville Public Schools will be receiving sealed bids for "Asbestos Abatement for Summer 2020 Renovations at Meads Mill Middle School and Moraine Elementary Schools". These projects will be completed in June and July 2020, prior to building renovation activities and will include the removal and disposal of thermal system insulation including asbestos pipe fitting insulation on fiberglass lines, asbestos straight pipe insulation, non-asbestos carpet, asbestos flooring, asbestos floor tile, asbestos floor tile mastic, asbestos laboratory tabletops, sinks with asbestos undercoating, interior asbestos transite panels, exterior asbestos transite fascia and overhang, door frames with asbestos caulk and asbestos fire doors. Bids will be RECEIVED until 1:30 P.M. local time Tuesday, January 28, 2020. Sealed bids should be mailed or delivered to: Sealed Bid: Asbestos; Asbestos Abatement – Asbestos Abatement for Summer 2020 Renovations at Meads Mill Middle School and Moraine Elementary School; Attn: Mr. Steve Banchero, Director of Operations, Northville Public Schools; 405 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. The OPENING of the bids will take place at that time. Bid documents are available from Arch Environmental Group, 37720 Interchange Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48335, (248) 426-0165, www.archenvgroup.com, starting Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at 5:30 P.M. All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn statement, in accordance with MCL 380.1267, disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner(s) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board of Education of the School District or the Superintendent of the School District. All bids shall be accompanied by a sworn statement, in accordance with MCL 129.313, certifying that the bidder is not an Iran linked business. The Board of Education shall not accept a bid that does not include sworn and notarized copies of the familial relationship disclosure statement and affidavit of compliance with the Iran Sanction Act. Northville Public Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids either in whole or in part or to waive any informalities or irregularities that may be in the best interest of the School District.

Published: January 23, 2020

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

The Board of Education of Northville Public Schools is accepting firm prime contractor trade specific bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services to complete the interior remodeling work at Meads Mill Elementary School for Concrete Flatwork / Polished Concrete, Carpentry & Casework, Gypsum Wall Assemblies, Acoustical Ceilings & Panels, Resilient Tile & Carpet Flooring, Hard Tile & Terrazzo Re-Finishing, and Window Treatments only.

Plans and specifications may be downloaded electronically and are available for review at the office of the AUCH Construction, 65 University, Pontiac, MI 48342 248.334.2000, on or after Thursday, January 10th, 2020. Bid Package consists of Instruction to Bidders, Proposal Forms, General and Supplementary Conditions, drawings and pertinent trade specifications. Contact Mitch DeLange or Shawn Debo for download instructions.

Your proposal will be accepted NO LATER THAN 12:00PM NOON, Tuesday, January 28th, 2020 attention to: NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION - 405 WEST MAIN STREET, NORTHVILLE, MI 48167. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. Bids must go to Northville Public Schools. Bids will not be accepted at the office of AUCH Construction.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud beginning at 12:30 P.M., January 28th, 2020 at the Northville Board of Education, 405 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for Thursday, January 23rd, 2020 beginning at 3:30pm at Meads Mill Middle School (16700 Franklin Rd., Northville, MI 48168). This meeting is not mandatory but highly recommended.

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

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

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

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

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

Sarah Prescott, Secretary Northville Public Schools, Board of Education

Published January 23, 2020

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the following Boards & Commissions:

- Beautification Commission
- . Board of Review
- Construction Board of Appeals
- Historical Commission
- Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee
- Library Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals

If you are a registered voter and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, information about the various Boards and Commissions is available at citvofnovi.org or at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375,

The deadline for filing an application (available online at cityofnovi.org or at the City Clerk's office) is Friday, February 7, 2020. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: January 23, 2020

CITY OF NOVI **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18,288 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 2, "DEFINITIONS"; ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.1.11 "B-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT"; ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.1.12 "B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT"; ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.10 "PLACES OF WORSHIP"; ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.12 "GROUP DAY CARE HOMES, DAY CARE CENTERS, AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS"; ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.27 "RETAIL BUSINESS AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS"; IN ORDER TO ADD DEFINITIONS FOR MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS, ACCESSORY MASSAGE THERAPY, AND SMOKE SHOPS AND TO CLARIFY EXISTING DEFINITIONS FOR RETAIL BUSINESS USES AND RETAIL BUSINESS SERVICE USES, TO CLASSIFY PLACES OF WORSHIP AND THEATERS, ASSEMBLY HALLS, CONCERT HALLS, MUSEUMS AND OTHER PLACES OF ASSEMBLY AS SPECIAL LAND USES IN THE B-2 AND B-3 DISTRICTS TO ADD SMOKE SHOPS, MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS, AND TATTOO PARLORS AS SPECIAL LAND USES IN THE B-3 DISTRICT, TO REMOVE REDUNDANT REFERENCES TO CERTAIN OTHER USES IN THE B-2 AND B-3 DISTRICTS, TO AMEND THE OUTDOOR RECREATION SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR DAY CARE CENTERS AND ADULT DAY CARE CENTERS, TO CLARIFY AND LIST THE DISTRICTS WHERE PLACES OF WORSHIP ARE ALLOWED AS PERMITTED USES OR SPECIAL LAND USE, TO LIST PERSONAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS AS PERMITTED IN THE B-2, B-3, TC, AND TC-1 DISTRICTS, AND TO ADD THEATERS, ASSEMBLY HALLS, CONCERT HALLS, MUSEUMS AND OTHER PLACES OF ASSEMBLY IN THE TC AND TC-1 DISTRICTS, AND TO ALSO ADD A NEW SECTION 4.91, ENTITLED "MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS AND ACCESSORY MASSAGE THERAPY."

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Planning Division of the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Any written comments must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

Novi Planning Commission Michael Lynch, Secretary

Published January 23, 2020

INVITATION TO BID 2020 ROOF REPLACEMENT NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Board of Education of Northville Public Schools is accepting firm prime contractor trade specific bids for all labor, materials, equipment and all other services for two projects - 1 Partial roof replacement at Silver Springs Elementary School and 2. Partial roof replacement

Bid documents will be available on January 15, 2020, online by going to the District's web site, www.northville.k12.mi.us or www.michigan.govsigmavss. For bidding information; contact Matt Gateman mgateman@btaww.com or (313) 673 - 4064. To arrange a site visit contact Steve Banchero bancherost@northvilleschools.org or (248) 231-9879. Your proposal will be accepted NO LATER THAN 11:00AM, Wednesday, January 29,

2020 TO: NORTHVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION - 405 WEST MAIN STREET, NORTHVILLE, MI 48167. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud beginning at 11:00 A.M January 29, 2020 at the Northville Board of Education, 405 West Main Street, Northville,

A pre-bid walk through is scheduled for Monday January 20, 2020 beginning at 10:30AM beginning at Hillside Middle School main entrance lobby, 775 Baseline, Northville, MI 48167. This meeting is not mandatory but highly recommended. We will travel to Silver Springs after.

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

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

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

Proposals must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Northville Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each proposal over \$24,459 and must be submitted on the bid proposal form furnished with the specifications. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

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

Sarah Prescott, Secretary Northville Public Schools, Board of Education

Publish January 23, 2020



The Dapper Dog of Milford sits at 131 S. Milford Road near the dog park. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Groomer

Continued from Page 4A

Moving to Milford meant Gordanier needed employees, and several followed her from Dog-Gone Beautiful to her new business. One of those was Kayla Cohen, a Farmington Hills resident who works as a groomer intern.

"She's loving, she's a great boss. She makes learning interesting," she said. "I love animals and I've always known I wanted to work with them, but I wasn't exactly sure what I wanted to do.

"I started working as a bather at her last business and I'm starting my training to groom, and I'm really excited about that."

It's not just employees that make the drive to use Gordanier's business. She regularly gets clients from Novi, Northville, Plymouth and elsewhere.

One of those was Patti Gadwell, a Livonia resident who brought in her English bulldog, Porkchop.

She said she stops by once every couple of weeks, as she's in the area on a regular basis. Having all the supplies available makes it easy to make sure Porkchop gets the special kind of shampoo he needs.

"It's quick and easy," she said. "I don't have to worry about bringing a bunch of stuff with me."

The Dapper Dog of Milford is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. More information can be found at nataliegordanier.wixsite.com/ dapperdog.

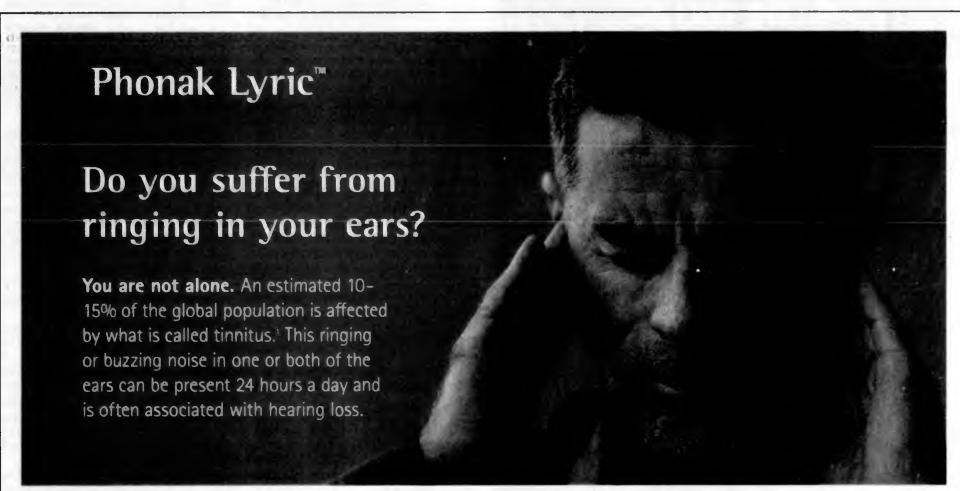
Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



Dapper Dog of Milford employee Kayla Cohen says hello to Porkchop.



Paw prints decorate the ceiling of the new dog bathing and grooming service.



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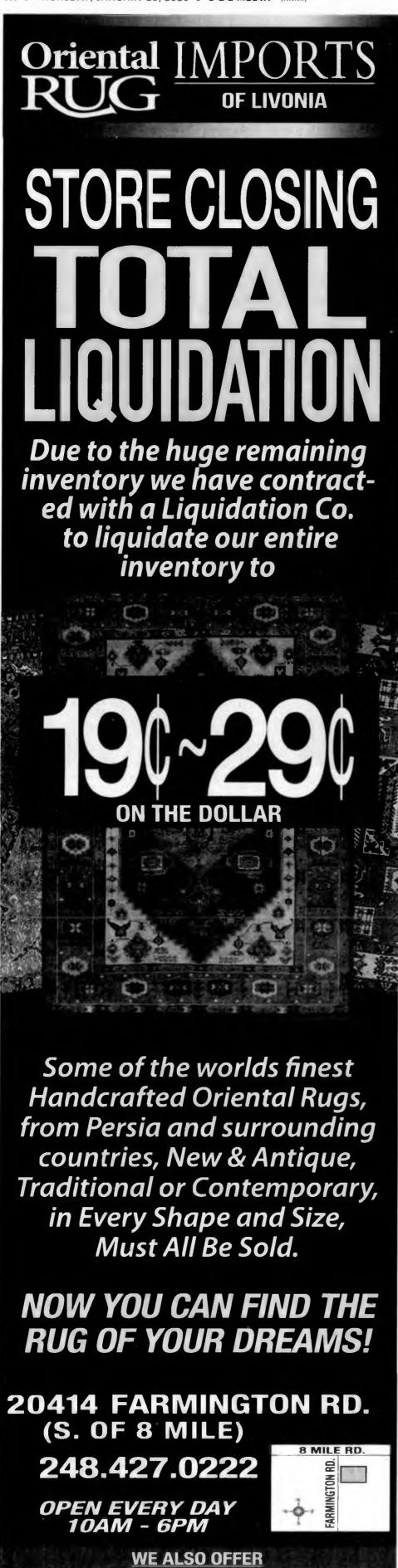
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PROFESSIONAL RUG CLEANING AND REPAIR



Lyon Crossing in Lyon Township might soon welcome new businesses and an apartment complex that will complete the project. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Plan

Continued from Page 1A

the economic downturn around 2008, and the market changing from "big box, brick and mortar to the Amazon world we live in."

What hasn't changed is the desire for a walkable community, a component he believes will also lure in more restaurants. He believes Watermark Residential, which is proposing 17 upscale luxury two- and three-story apartment buildings on a 19.63-acre parcel, as well as Szott Auto's pitch for a Chrysler Jeep dealership on 7.63 acres, can help accomplish that goal.

The planning commission appeared amenable to the initial discussion on the proposals, although no action was taken. Feedback was the goal in a process that requires multiple steps and approvals from the planning commission and the township board.

Big box stores not interested

"We could say it would be nice to have a Kohl's or a Target, but that isn't going to happen," Planning Commission member Jim Chuck said. "This is a good fit, we do want walkable downtowns. This is rooftops and could bring in nice, franchise-type restaurants."

Planning commissioner Patty Carcone, township treasurer, also referenced Target and Kohl's as desperately-wanted businesses, but noted that the economic downturn "took a lot of hopes and dreams away" for the property developers, who had been trying to sell for years. While the apartment complex was not exactly what she said they wanted to see, she liked the product which would feature one- to three-bedroom apartments in a price range of \$1,700-\$2,300 per month for young professionals.

Still, Carcone hoped that the project would be scaled down in density from 17 housing units per acre to 12.

Commission member Ron Pennington also said he would like the project's density reduced, but added that he liked the multi-family residences better in this location "than farther south of town."

Traffic study, solutions still needed

Increased traffic and road infrastructure to support more vehicles in the area are often a concern with new development, but Commissioner Stephan Hoffman noted that 3,000 more cars per day from a new housing development would be preferable to 3,000 cars more an hour from a new retailer.

"The density to me doesn't sound bad," Hoffman said. "For this area, you could have more density looking at trends of urban planning with walkability, less cars, people supporting people. ... This is a win for everyone around them."

Planning Commissioner Carl Towne

"When I first looked at this project, I thought, 'Oh, my gosh,' with the density, but retail has changed so much," he said. "All these malls are failing. ... We could tweak this property to make it really shine."

He noted a traffic study would be done and suggested that perhaps the Road Commission for Oakland County could put a double turn lane on Milford Road, which is backed up with traffic, and address roundabouts and how pedestrians and bicyclists cross the road.

"We want it walkable and right now, cars aren't stopping at the roundabouts at Milford Road and Grand River, and they need to," he said. "There is a traffic island on Milford Road, at the left turn lane going into Walmart. How do you expect them to get across the road? They can't. I cringe when kids on bikes are trying to get across.

"If we can solve that puzzle of the traffic, it's a sure win for everybody."

Joe Andrews, a resident who spoke at the meeting, said traffic is already an issue in the area, noting there are 20 cars continuously lined up at the light at Milford Road and Lyon Drive every morning. If the apartment complex goes through with more than 700 parking spaces in it, he speculated they would be backed up to the roundabout.

Andrews feared asking the road commission for help would be futile based on his previous experiences. He said he tried to get the light at Pontiac Trail and Milford Road extended a year and a half ago, but only one more second was authorized. The blinking left-hand turn signal he also lobbied for took about eight months to go through.

"There will be a traffic jam there every morning unless something can be done about that road and Grand River, too," he said. "People in this township won't like it. They get jammed up now. What will it be like if there are 700 more cars?"

Nicole Wilson, another resident, also had questions.

"We kind of don't have a downtown area. What are we envisioning to walk to?" she said. "I don't necessarily disapprove, but this would have been nice to create a downtown feel, like downtown Birmingham or Northville.

"We can't even sustain a restaurant and it's six miles to get to an ice cream parlor. What are our plans for a downtown area?"

Resident Steve Porter expressed concerns, too, about the density and community benefit of the apartment complex, as well as his doubt about a car dealership being part of a walkable community.

Dealership draws doubts, support

Township Planner Brian Keesey said the dealership would have a recognizable benefit as Szott looks to fill a gap in Jeep coverage. However, he acknowledged that some of the market research done by the Downtown Development Authority shows that dealership use "is not in high demand in downtown."

"That is something we want to look at, to make sure it's a viable opportunity moving forward," he said.

He added that if the Watermark apartment complex moves forward, the dealership would be taking up a lot of land use for other things residents of that complex could potentially use.

Thad Szott, a partner in the Szott Auto Group, emphasized the dealership's excitement at potentially coming to Lyon and the value the company would bring to the community.

Szott operates a Jeep dealership on M-59 in White Lake Township, among others. Szott wouldn't be the first dealership in that area of New Hudson; Feldman Chevrolet and Feldman Hyundai are just east in the Lyon Town Center. Hines Park Ford is a stone's throw away on the north side of Interstate 96.

David Gassen, an architect working on behalf of Szott, said a greenway could reduce the dealership's current proposed 80 percent coverage of the parcel and stressed the group wanted feedback from the commission.

Pennington said he liked the dealership and the idea for incorporating a walkway, calling Lyon Crossing a good spot for the business, but Radke said he was concerned about a car lot between downtown and residential areas.

"I'm thinking 20 years out, is that really what we are trying to accomplish with downtown?" he asked. "I think the restaurants would be a good thing. ... Plymouth has an incredible reputation because of parks. We may never be Plymouth, but we don't want to be really far from that."

There will be plenty more discussion to come as Watermark and Szott bring more detailed plans before the planning commission and township board for approval this year.



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Bankruptcy may be necessary for fresh start



Dear Rick

My New Year's resolution was to get my financial house in order. Plain and simple, it's been a mess.

After reading one of your recent articles, I did a personal balance sheet and a cash flow statement. I must tell you the numbers were shocking. I have a negative net worth, and while I thought it cost me about \$3,000 to \$4,000 a month to live, it appears that it's costing me close to \$6,000. The main reason is the amount of charge card debt I have.

Currently, I have a little over \$75,000 on a variety of charge cards. I have about \$15,000 in other assorted debt.

Do you have any ideas on how I should handle the charge card debt?

Thank you, Barry

Dear Barry:

I think it is a great New Year's resolution to get your financial house in order, even though it is not always the easiest thing to do. That being said, you have a few different options.

One option that you have is to see if you can refinance the charge card debt using lower interest rate charge cards. In your situation, I think it would be difficult to do considering the size of your debt; however, it's not beyond the realm of possibility. If you could potentially reduce your interest rate, the payments may then be more affordable.

Another option is to visit a credit counseling companies. These companies will work with the charge card company to try to restructure your debt. On the whole, I am not a big fan of this because even the reputable companies have a mixed rate of success. It's worth having a conversation to hear what they can do for you. However, in talking with these companies, make sure you find

out exactly what their fees are and how they can improve your situation. Too many of these companies charge high fees and accomplish very little.

The last option, and the one that I think would probably be best for you to consider, is bankruptcy. Bankruptcy would potentially allow you to wipe out your charge card debt and your other debt in its entirety, allowing you to get a fresh start.

I always hesitate to recommend bankruptcy because there can be some adverse consequences, such as it hurting your credit rating. However, the benefit is that you potentially can rid yourself of your debt. I recommend you make an appointment with a bankruptcy attorney.

Bankruptcy can give someone a fresh start and help them get their financial affairs in order. However, if that person doesn't change their spending habits after bankruptcy, they will be in the same situation a few years down the road.

I do not casually recommend going into bankruptcy because there are consequences. However, I do believe when someone is in financial difficulty, bankruptcy is an option they should consider. For individuals who are looking at getting a fresh start, in many situations, bankruptcy is the best alternative.

Bankruptcy doesn't have the same stigma it used to, and many people find that after going into bankruptcy and changing their ways, they significantly improve their financial situation.

Therefore, if you are in dire financial straits, you should not hesitate to explore bankruptcy as an option. It may be the best option to resolve your financial difficulties.

Good luck!

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

Help Salem-South Lyon Library win grant to digitize newspapers

The Salem-South Lyon District Library is competing for a grant to have up to 4,000 pages of the South Lyon Herald immortalized in the Michigan Digital Newspapers Database.

The South Lyon Herald is one of four Michigan newspapers submitted for preservation through the DigMichNews Grant, sponsored by Central Michigan University's Clarke Historical Library.

"Our microfilm is slowly deteriorating, and the grant would ensure that the newspaper is accessible for generations to come," said Amelia Yunker, head of Adult Services. "Recent technology advancements, including an update to our website, have shown the fragility of past efforts to preserve our local history.

"With the help of the Clarke Historical Library, we hope this will be the first step to ensure regular and reliable access for our patrons."

If chosen, pages from historic editions of the South Lyon Herald will be made available at digmichnews. cmich.edu.



Amelia Yunker, head of Adult Services at the Salem-South Lyon Library, at right, says the microfiche in storage is "slowly deteriorating," and digitizing those files will help to preserve the information for many years to come.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

From Jan. 20-25, cast your votes on Twitter by using the hashtag #Dig-SouthLyon. There is no limit to the number of postcards or tweets you can submit



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Rec center

Continued from Page 1A

A committee formed to investigate funding, building and operating a public recreational facility met for the first time last month. They discussed the need to conduct a survey and retain a consultant to assist with the process of making a recommendation on the location, amenities and funding of a recreation center to city council.

Potential consultant services may include a feasibility study, public input meetings, design renderings and other services deemed necessary by the committee, according to parks and recreation staff.

Councilwoman Kelly Breen said she had "sticker shock" when she saw the appropriation amount for consultant services, but added that "we need to get as much public input as possible and see what needs aren't being met. Many cities spend more on consultants, and many spend less."

During a workshop last summer, City Manager Pete Auger estimated an initial cost of at least \$40 million for a city recreation center.

The city hopes to learn from the sur-



A water jungle gym is part of the Kirksey Recreation Center leisure pool in Livonia. Novi is exploring bringing a recreation center to the city that could include a pool. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

vey about what amenities residents might like to see in a recreation center, whether it be a pool, slides, athletic courts, fitness equipment or daycare options, as well as where the facility would be located, and how to finance it.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @Susan-Bromley10.

Bar

Continued from Page 1A

"It's going to be something Northville

hasn't seen yet."

Trpcevski said his goal is to open no later than Aug. 1.

Art and Jake's has operated for nearly 25 years, Trpcevski said. They currently have locations in Sterling Heights, Shelby Township and Washington Township, and in Newnan, Geor-

The focus is foremost on food, Trpcevski said, a difference from other bars. Each location has its own chef, and menu items will rotate regularly.

"The difference between them and us, and our place, is we push food first," he said. "We're a big family tavern."

The restaurant will have specials on weekday nights, including \$5 burgers on Mondays, kids night on Tuesdays

and \$9 ribs on Wednesdays.

Trpcevski said they hope to attract several area sports teams looking for a place to eat after games and other events.

Brann's Steakhouse closed late last summer after 15 years.

While the restaurant focuses first on food, Trpcevski said there are plenty of drink options, including 40 beers on tap and a full selection of wines. The restaurant also serves several craft cocktails.

The expansion in Northville Township is one of several the company hopes to accomplish in the coming years. Trpcevski said his team can't wait to expand and move to another part of metro Detroit.

"We're a sports bar with fine dining flavor," he said. "We're excited to come

to that neighborhood."

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

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

Toll Brothers National Sales Event January 25th-February 17th

This is your moment to get more luxury and value in your dream home for less in Ann Arbor, Canton, Northville, and Novi

Toll Brothers, the nation's leading builder of luxury homes, will be offering new home buyers money-saving community and manufacturer incentives during its National Sales Event Saturday, January 25th through Monday, February 17th at communities in Ann Arbor, Canton, Northville, and Novi.

"New home buyers can select from a variety of housing styles, including townhomes, villas, two-story and first-floor master plans and enjoy special incentives per community as well as select savings on leading brands such as Kohler, Timberlake, DalTile, Whirlpool and more," said Nadia Mekled, Senior Sales Manager for Toll Brothers' Michigan Division. "The exceptional savings allows buyers to add even more luxury to their homes. And, with interest rates still at historic lows, there's never been a better time to build your dream home."

Toll Brothers offers several communities in the metro Detroit area.

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 low \$500,000s. 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 upper \$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.

Final Villa Now Available 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. Residents enjoy lowmaintenance living and paved walking paths leading to The Sports Club of Novi, a dog park,



Learn about limited-time savings during this event that you can use to personalize your dream home.

and Novi Ice Arena. Pricing begins in the mid-\$400,000s. Don't wait one more day - the final home site is now available. For details, call (248) 904-8515 or visit RidgeviewVillas.com.

Luxurious Living in Northville

Now offering two amazing single-family communities in Northville. Toll Brothers at Montcaret is located on the south side of Seven Mile Road, 11/4 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 sites. Prices start from the upper \$700,000s. Call (248) 924-2601 or visit TollBrothersAtMontcaret.com or LiveAtDunbillPark.com for details.

Popular Villas in Ann Arbor

North Oaks of Ann Arbor is the region's premier resortclass 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 from upper \$300,000s in Ann Arbor

Trailwoods of Ann Arbor. a new community of singlefamily 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 the upper \$300,000s and The Parkside Collection is priced from the upper \$400,000s. 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.

Toll Brothers, an awardwinning Fortune 500 Company, was founded in 1967, embraces an unwavering commitment to quality and customer service. Toll Brothers is currently operating in 22 states nationwide and is a publicly owned company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: TOL). For Community Information, visit TollSalesEvent.com/DetNews.

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NATIONAL sales event Jan 25-Feb 17, 2020



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Teens could see new limits if distracted driver bill approved

HB4181 would expand Kelsey's Law

Meredith Spelbring Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

A bill to make it illegal for drivers under 18 to use a mobile device while driving passed the Michigan House in December and now rests with the state Senate as calls increase for tighter laws against distracted driving.

State Rep. Mari Manoogian, D-Birmingham, who sponsored the bill, said 21 states are ahead of Michigan in regard to distracted driving regulations. Manoogian said she is optimistic the bill will pass the Senate.

House Bill 4181 passed the House on Dec. 11 by an "overwhelming majority" and bipartisan support, Manoogian said Thursday at a news conference hosted by StopDistractions.org, a national organization building awareness of distracted driving.

"We know that this is not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue, but a public safety issue," Manoogian said.

The bill is an expansion of Kelsey's Law, a measure passed in 2013 that prohibits drivers with Level 1 and Level 2 licenses from using their cellphones while driving except in the case of an emergency. Cellphone use is defined by the bill as making a call or answering a

A Level 1 license is a learner's permit with the most restrictions in place while a Level 2 license has restrictions on nighttime driving and the number of passengers allowed in the car. Drivers must be 17 with six months of driving with a Level 2 license to qualify for an unrestricted Level 3 license.

Kelsey's Law is named after 17-yearold Kelsey Raffaele of Sault Ste. Marie, who died in 2010 in a distracted driving accident.

Kelsey's mother, Bonnie Raffaele, said she sees young people starting to understand the implications of distracted driving and adults are the ones who need to catch up.

Raffaele said he has only one daughter left and lives in fear that she could lose her to a similar accident.

"I don't want to lose her because of a mistake that one of you make while being on the phone while behind the wheel of a car," Raffaele said, holding back tears. "That is my biggest fear in life right now is that one of you, somebody out there, is going to be on their phone and they're going to kill my only daughter. We have to have a hands-free bill for everyone. Give us some peace of mind, give me some peace of mind."

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer called the issue a "national epidemic" and the No. 1 killer of young drivers and passengers.

"We must work together to get this done, it must be bipartisan so that when it gets to my desk, we know that this is something for everyone across our state - no matter what part of the state you live in, no matter what party you happen to be affiliated with," Whitmer said. "This is a bill that I am very much looking forward to signing"

Jennifer Smith of StopDistractions.org said there is proof these laws are effective. Smith cited a study showing after a hands-free law was enacted in Georgia in July 2018, preliminary estimates for distracted driving fatalities decreased by 10%.

Smith said the problem is no longer limited to texting and talking while driving, but has expanded to social media and streaming services.

"It is almost to the point I wished they only talked and texted anymore. We are up against a monster," Smith said. "This law will get the phone out of the drivers' hands so there is a clear interpretation. there is no more loopholes - if the phone is in your hand, you are in viola-

Manoogian said the bill has been referred to the transportation committee



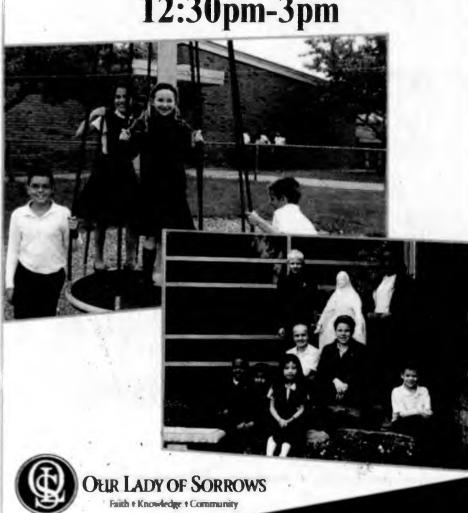
Bonnie Raffaele of Sault Ste. Marie gets emotional when she talks about her late daughter, Kelsey, who died while using her cellphone while driving in 2010. MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS

in the Senate and is optimistic about the opportunity to create a stronger law.

"Kelsey's Law just applies to folks who are 18 years and younger but we do know that distracted driving doesn't discriminate based on age, it is something that needs to be applicable to all drivers," Manoogian told the Free Press. "That's what we'd like to see in our next steps — making sure this is applicable to all drivers, regardless of age."

Meredith Spelbring is a news intern for the Detroit Free Press. Follow her on Twitter @mere0415.

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Pink house in Plymout Is it a protest or tribute?

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

Theories are running rampant in Plymouth over why the owner of the building at 471 W. Ann Arbor Trail painted the lower two-thirds of the structure bright pink (with black polka dots) and scribbled "Picasso Was Here" on a front-yard

Is it a tribute to iconic Spanish artist Pablo Picasso, who died in 1973?

Is it an ode to John Mellencamp of "Pink Houses" fame, or maybe the sing-

Did the painter just run out of paint? Or could it be a silent protest against the City of Plymouth because of a zoning ordinance request that has stretched over a year?

Only the owner knows for sure and he politely declined to comment.

"I don't really mind it," said Laura Molnar, whose Second Time Around Consignment Shop sits next door to the eye-catching structure. "It's actually quite unique. It definitely screams Pi-

"I'm originally from Detroit, where some people use their homes as pieces of art. I think it's lovely. Plus, it goes

hand-in-hand with my store." The front door of Molnar's shop is

"I'll have people walk in my shop and ask what's going on with the pink house," she said. "I tell them I have no idea, but please look around while you're in here."

A couple visiting Plymouth from Virginia said they assumed the building was an in-the-works art studio.

When asked about his thoughts on the hard-to-miss house, Plymouth Mayor Oliver Wolcott said: "it's all a matter of taste.'

"It's odd and interesting at the same time," said Wolcott, who recalled reading about a similar situation out-ofstate that went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court after neighbors complained about a homeowner's choice of house paint. "I'm sure some people love it and others don't, but there's nothing the city can do about it unless there is a personal threat of some sort written on hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.



The house at 471 Ann Arbor Trail has been painted pink, and no one knows why. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the building."

John Buzuvis, Plymouth's community development director, said the house will remain whatever color the owner wants it. "We've had calls from residents ask-

ing us if there is anything we can do about it," Buzuvis said. "But actually there is hot. It's kind of a freedom-ofspeech-type situation.

"The only way the city would have a say over the color is if the house was in the historic district, but it's just outside of that."

The owner first filed for a special land use permit from the city in summer 2018. The owner's plan, according to Buzuvis, is to demolish the existing structure and replace it with a new two-story building that will serve as a residence and business office.

'The process is complicated and takes longer than a lot of people think it should," Buzuvis said. "But there are zoning ordinances the city is required to follow in situations like this.

"The process is moving along and there are just a couple more steps the owner must take. Why he decided to paint it pink, I have no idea."

Contact Ed Wright at eawright@



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Sports



Salem hockey shines in mercy win against Franklin

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Salem hockey head coach Ryan Ossenmacher thought his team did some good things its last time out against Trenton. But he acknowledged that teams are judged based on results, and the result was not good enough, falling to the Trojans, 3-2.

But the Rocks had a chance last Thursday to right the ship against Livonia Franklin, a team that has not won a game since Dec. 14.

And 10 minutes, 38 seconds into game play, the rout began, as the Rocks (11-4) scored four first-period goals, leading to the 8-0 mercy win against Franklin (1-13).

After a scoreless five minutes, Os-

senmacher was thinking that he was in for another "dogfight." However, after the first of two goals by forward Alex Schaumburger, answered shortly by a goal from forward Dylan Enszer 42 seconds later, the Salem head coach knew momentum had shifted.

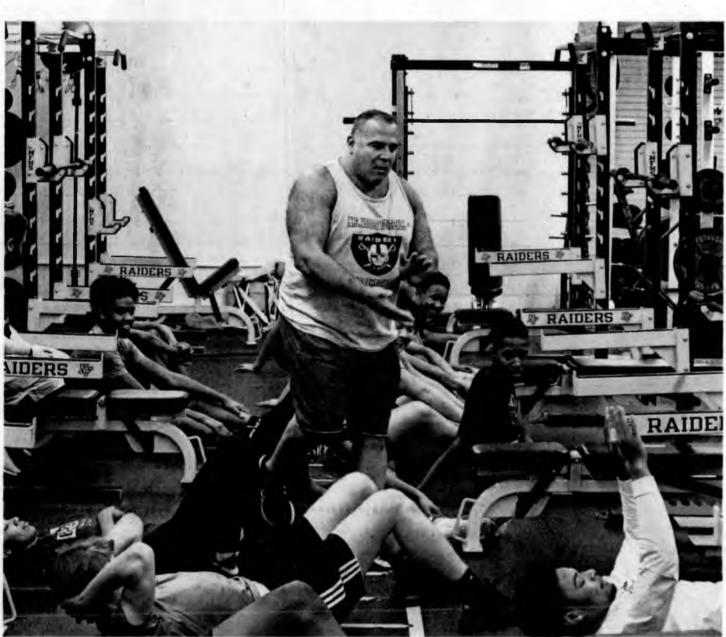
"We have a tendency to score in spurts, so after we put in a couple like that, I think it's a matter of confidence," Ossenmacher said.

Defensively, Salem continued to

Led by sophomore goalkeeper Andre Generaux, the Rocks recorded its third shutout in their past four games and its fifth of the season.

While Ossenmacher said shutouts

See HOCKEY, Page 3B



North Farmington High weightlifting coach Billy Slobin, center, supervises a training session for athletes Jan. 13. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Slobin lifts the culture of North Farmington sports

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

When Billy Slobin entered North Farmington High School on Jan. 4, 2019, he had something he did not have 34 years prior: a plan.

After playing for the Harrison High School football team from 1977-79, Slobin slowly developed a weight-training program for his alma mater as a strength and conditioning coach, growing and growing until it became ingrained into the team's culture.

Todd Negoshian watched this build up from when he was young as his father taught for 35 years in Farmington Public Schools when he was growing up. The current North Farmington head boys basketball coach had known many members of the Harrison football coaching staff for a long time, including Slobin.

When the closing of Harrison led to

See SLOBIN, Page 2B



North Farmington High student Andrew Pooley lifts during a training session.

Northville hoops beats Canton to complete comeback

Andrew Vailliencourt

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Faced with arguably its most challenging opponent yet, the Northville boys basketball team was able to surge past Canton to keep its perfect record intact.

It was Northville's first road game of the season, but that didn't slow down the Mustangs, who beat the Chiefs 60-51 at Canton High School Tuesday night.

Northville goes to 7-0 overall and 3-0 in the KLAA with the win, while Canton drops to 5-2 and 2-1.

"We don't win over there very often," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "We had six in a row at home to start, so this was our first road game. To come out on top, we feel pretty good about ourselves."

Canton had the edge early, taking a 26-16 lead midway through the second quarter, but Northville closed the gap and trailed by one at halftime.

Northville broke out in the third quarter, outscoring the Chiefs 17-5 in the period. That included a buzzer-beating three-pointer by senior guard Grant Mathiesen, who made six triples on the night. He finished with a career high 25 points and grabbed six rebounds.

Mustangs senior Zach Shoemaker added 17 points and eight boards.

"Grant certainly stepped up and answered the challenge," Sander said. "We need other guys to step up. Zach was drawing two or three Canton defenders at times, so that's going to leave opportunities for other guys to

knock down shots."

Canton was led by senior Ben Stesiak, who scored 14 points, and Cole Vickers, who scored 13.

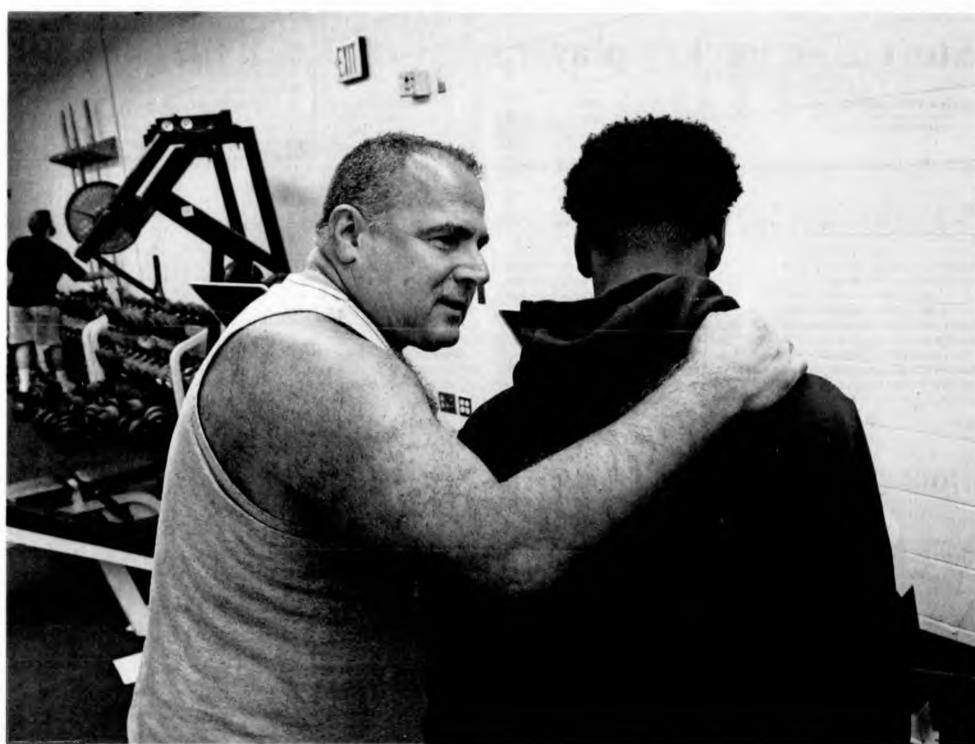
"The way we battled back after getting down 10 in the second quarter to really not get fazed, they punched us pretty good in the mouth," Sander said. "We did a good job responding and answering their run."

Canton's star big man Jake Vickers did not play in the first half, but notched nine points in the second half. Sander felt his team did a good job of limiting the Chiefs in the post.

"We really collapsed our defense and did a better job of keeping them out of the paint through the second half," Sander said. "We rebounded pretty darn well too because they're a good team."

Contact Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com.





North Farmington High weightlifting coach Billy, left, gives some advice to a student-athlete during a Jan.13 training session. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Slobin

Continued from Page 1B

the football staff transitioning to district rival North Farmington, Negoshian had a proposition for Slobin.

"(Negoshian) said, 'Will you train my team?'" Slobin said. "I said, "Hell yeah, bring them."

"Bring me all the kids."

For the first time in his life, Slobin was not wearing green and white, and he was now coaching more than just football players.

But with a loud voice and a white tank top, printed with the brown and gold Raiders logo on it, the expectation remains the same: to never be outworked.

'Listen, do what I say, do it every day with me,'" Slobin tells his athletes. "'I'm going to make you a man, and it doesn't mean what your bench press will be."

Little by little

Jon Brunette remembers that first workout.

Coming off a 3-6 season with the North Farmington football team, the then-junior was in the middle of basketball season.

Slobin had an all-encompassing workout to open his tenure with the Raiders, what Brunette considered as one of the hardest workouts he has ever been a part of.

"The first time I worked out with him was harder than the first three years of my high school, and I had basketball practice after," Brunette said. "At basketball, I couldn't dribble, I couldn't shoot. I was so sore."

Slobin remembers that workout, too.
He said he remembers Brunette saying in the last year of Harrison High School, when the Hawks opened up against the Raiders, he thought North Farmington had a logitimate change.

had a legitimate chance.

From the first play of what ended up being a 41-0 loss for the Raiders, Bru-

nette realized what set Harrison apart.

"(Brunette) goes, 'After the first work
out, we knew why," Slobin said.

In the weight room, Slobin's aim is to

develop a level of explosive strength.

It's focusing on the lower body, not just focusing on the outward results. Slobin uses the example of using the bench press to gain a large chest—something he said North Farmington uses, but it's one of the least important aspects of the training.

In football, Slobin equates it to how he trains and "builds" offensive and defensive linemen, turning 5-foot-11, 180-pound players into, 5-foot-11 205-pound players.

"In the history of Harrison football, you can count on one hand how many Division I-size linemen we ever had," Slobin said. "Other schools seem to have these 6-foot-4, 290-pound guys. Never



North Farmington's Jamal Hayes, center, tries to get past Farmington players.

had hardly any of them. Very few, so we made them."

That mentality translated onto the basketball court.

Brunette said this increased weight training regimen has helped him fit more of the trap defensive approach North Farmington likes to run, allowing him and his teammates to take contact

better in the open floor.

Negoshian said he could see, little-by-little, a physical change in his players, watching as his players became more athletic, coming to the court with increased stamina and a level of physical strength they did not have before.

"It is the first thing that anyone who comes in and notices right now, watches our team play or film that I send to guys to get opinion," Negoshian said. "They say, 'Wow, you guys are a lot stronger. You don't get knocked off the ball, you attack the rim harder."

This is a response that Slobin has been used to getting in his 35 years of

At Harrison, he said coaches would come in to watch him train and work out players, applauding that those recruits come in already knowing how to navigate a weight room.

"'You know what, everybody else's freshmen come in like kittens," Slobin said the coaches would say. "'Yours are lions."

'It's not Texas'

When asked if other schools have caught on to the trend of weight training at the level Harrison and now North Farmington has, Slobin said many schools in the area don't have the resources to do so.

"It's not Texas, it's not a full-time job," Slobin said.

Instead, Slobin said it takes something that he says is unique: adult commitment and continuity.

"It's because you love it and you are

not doing it for the five grand," he said.

But for him, the actual weight training is not what has kept Slobin around for the past 35 years. And it's not winning, even though that has been a major

result of the training.

He said it's the lessons he is able to teach through the weight-training process, the relationships he has created and has continued to foster even when the player's four years with him are complete.

For Slobin, there is a method to his

madness.

First, he said, you have to get a player to believe in himself, teaching him the techniques of how to work out on a regular and consistent basis.

"They lift, they learn and it flows back up," Slobin said. "It goes from that new body they have created to their brain and now they have confidence that they can't be stopped. They are not going to get outhustled."

This is something Negoshian has seen in his basketball team this season, a fierce confidence, a mental upgrade that time in the weight room created.

It's something that the North Farmington head boys basketball coach trusts Slobin to accomplish with his players.

"We don't have to be here to supervise," Negoshian said. "We can just show up every couple times to make sure guys are here. Just be a cheerleader a little bit because Billy handles all of it."

Culture develops

Slobin knows what he does is not normal.

"The day our season ends, whether it was with a state championship or whether it ended how we didn't want it to end, we're in the weight room the next week," Jake Slobin, Billy's son and a Harrison football alumnus, said.

Billy Slobin knows what he expects



North Farmington's Jon Brunette meets a group of U of D Jesuit players during a run.

of players is not normal.

In the transition between Harrison and North Farmington, the best way he could explain the impact he wants to have is through one player: Brunette.

"If Harrison never closed, I would have not had the opportunity to coach Jon Brunette," Slobin said. "There's always a silver lining. We have new chil-

dren."
Slobin said every team should have a player like Brunette, who has a giant heart, great ability and will be someone "I will be talking to until I'm old and dead."

This is what keeps Slobin around.
It's more than just lifts. It's more than

It's more than just lifts. It's more than just getting physically and mentally tougher.

It's the culture that Slobin built with each rep taken, a culture which did not end when Harrison closed its doors.

brain and now they have confidence
that they can't be stopped. They are not
going to get outhustled."
He said the process of "molding men"
does not stop after four years of high
school.

Slobin still talks to Harrison alumni every day, while some come to North Farmington to help current players, giving back to those in their shoes.

ng back to those in their s It's a constant process.

It's the secret sauce Brunette saw from the North Farmington sideline when Harrison defeated the Raiders in the 2018 season opener.

"The culture changed when Billy arrived," Brunette said.

And that's why Slobin said has no in-

tention of stopping anytime soon.

"I will die either printing up a workout, running a workout or with my calculator and phone in hand. I'm not going anywhere," Slobin said. "I love every minute of it."

"What else would you want to do? I

don't want to golf."

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

Stevenson hockey player's hat trick puts him ahead

Andrew Vailliencourt

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

The first Hometown Life Athlete of the Week of 2020 has been crowned.

Stevenson hockey player Seth Lause scored three shorthanded goals recently in a 5-2 victory over defending state champion Hartland. That was more than enough to get him nominated for the poll, where Lause took first place by receiving 17,848 votes (41.65 percent).

He beat out Northville basketball's Brady Withey, who finished second with 13,862 votes (32.35 percent), and Livonia Franklin bowler Ian Wright, who got 7,735 votes (18.05 percent). Mercy basketball's Julia Bishop placed fourth with 1,982 votes and South Lyon basketball's Quinn Fracassi was fifth with 1,428.

We caught up with Lause and asked him some questions:

You did something very few players have ever done, scoring three shorthanded goals in a Lause game, what was the game like for you and how special was

that hat trick? "The game for me was the type of environment that I love to be in. Being able to compete against such a high-end program, like the one Hartland is, is what made the game a blast. It was very eventful up and down the ice and the atmosphere was second to none. ... It was also a very rewarding game because our team was able to come out with the win over one of the best teams in the state. ... The hat trick was obviously a

special moment for me because it's something unique in the game of hockey collectively and being able to share that moment with my teammates made it that much better.'

Who is your favorite athlete to watch (in any sport) and why?

"My favorite athlete to watch would have to be Austin Matthews from the Toronto Maple Leafs. I've always admired the complete 200-foot game he plays as a center. He's dominant all over the ice and his release is one of the best in the National Hockey League. The details and habits he possesses is something I look up to and try to replicate in my game to the best of my ability."

What is your favorite TV show and why?

"My favorite TV show currently would have to be the Netflix original se-

ries YOU. I've always been a fan of any sort of thriller or crime fiction. ... Getting the perspective from the mind of the serial killer, the main character, Joe, is something I found really interesting too.'

Outside of hockey, what are some things you like to do for fun?

"... I like to spend time with family and friends, work out, fish, golf and play video games from time to time."

What year in school are you and what are your future/college plans? Are you hoping to play hockey after high school?

"I am a senior in high school and currently I am undecided. ... I would love to have the opportunity to play juniors after high school. I also want to pursue a career in psychology or study other sorts of medicine.'

Hockey

Continued from Page 1B

start at goal, he said guys up front blocking shots and not allowing second opportunities is a major factor in keeping the opponent scoreless.

To Schaumburger, this is an aspect that Salem is now more committed to.

"A lot of the guys are more committed to blocking shots, getting pucks out, grinding in the corners, doing all the little things," Schaumburger said. "The little things that we are doing well this year is leading up to the big things, which is producing success for us and it's making it more fun to be out there."

With a power-play advantage, Salem scored its third goal of the first period, as Schaumburger attempted a shot from 15 feet outside of goal, with junior forward Matt Rochna tapping the puck in

After capitalizing again with 25.8 seconds left in the first period, Salem left the ice for the first time with a fourgoal advantage, with senior Aiden Powers setting the tone in the second period with a goal of his own.

Ossenmacher's goal is to get to four goals. In each of Salem's losses this season, the Rocks have averaged only two goals per game.

Holding a five-goal lead heading into the third period, Salem put the finishing touches against the struggling Franklin defense

The Rocks added three more goals scores from Schaumburger, senior forward Mitchell Patrick and senior defender Anthony Gattoni, who ended the game with 3:04 left in the third period to secure their 11th victory of the season.

Franklin allowed its first mercy of the season. The Patriots have lost by a shutout in four games this year, averaging 1.6 goals per game

Coming into Saturday's game against Brighton, Salem has outscored KLAA West opponents 20-1 in five games.

Generaux said the mercy win against Franklin will provide the boost the Rocks need to be successful against the

"It's definitely a confidence booster, keeps us rolling into this weekend and more weekends to come," Generaux

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@ hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710.



Salem forward Alex Mazzuca, right, skates in on Franklin goalie Steven Hicks. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Gymnastics gyms battle over clients in lawsuit

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two competing gymnastics facilities are battling in court after one of the owners accused a former coach of conspiring to steal clients.

Jonathan Conrad, owner of Bounce Gymnastics in Hartland, filed a lawsuit against GymTactics' owner, Jason Mortimer, and three former employees in August.

Conrad alleged Mortimer abused his position as a coach at Bounce Gymnastics to sabotage the gym and steal nearly \$200,000 in client fees.

Mortimer said that never happened. In a counterclaim, Mortimer claims Conrad refused to return more than \$100,000 in medications he uses to treat his cystic fibrosis.

Conrad said in his response he never withheld Mortimer's medication and mailed two boxes of medication to Mortimer following his resignation.

The lawsuits

Mortimer started in 2011 as a coach for Bounce. In the lawsuit, Conrad claims Mortimer lied to him in 2016 about gym equipment and flooring for sale that he was asked to inspect.

"Mortimer falsely reported equipment/flooring was not in good condition and instead purchased it for himself," Conrad wrote.

Mortimer told the Livingston Daily he was asked to inspect a spring board but when he called a Linden wrestling coach selling the equipment, the coach wasn't selling a spring board but rather a board of springs used to create 40-foot square spring floor.

Bounce did not have room for another spring floor, Mortimer said, so a gymnastics parent ultimately purchased the flooring for his son to practice on.

When Mortimer decided to open GymTactics, in Highland, three years later the child was no longer active in gymnastics and the father sold Mortimer the flooring.

"The dad bought the floor. I bought it from the dad," Mortimer said.

While still an employee of Bounce, Mortimer signed a lease on behalf of GymTactics six miles from Bounce in April, Conrad claimed in the lawsuit.

Conrad said Mortimer then sent an email to parents to put 30 days notice to terminate contracts with Bounce.

Another gym owner called Conrad in May, telling him Mortimer was buying equipment, something Mortimer denied when confronted, according to the complaint.

Records indicate Mortimer resigned as a coach for Bounce on June 6. Later that month, Conrad said, Mortimer sent an email canceling a week of practices, stating there were no coaches available.

Days later, Conrad alleges, Mortimer used the same list to email all parents and guardians soliciting GymTactics.

Mortimer told the Livingston Daily he used his personal email to communicate with parents, not a corporate account.

According to the lawsuit, 84 gymnasts left Bounce and joined GymTactics, a move that cost Bounce approximately \$197,000 in tuition for the 2019-20 season. Conrad is asking for approximately \$592,000 in damages.

Conrad is accusing Mortimer and GymTactics of statuary and common law conversion, inducement of breach of fiduciary duties, breach of contract, fraudulent misrepresentation and business defamation and slander.

Brittany Smith, Kristopher Reilly and Kelsey Reilly, former coaches at Bounce, are named in the lawsuit and Conrad claims they conspired with Mortimer to sabotage the gym.

All deny the accusations in their responses to the lawsuit and Smith was ultimately dismissed from the case.

Mortimer claims he never signed a contract with Bounce and isn't prevented from opening a gym six miles away, nor recruiting other coaches.

"All of this comes down to the parents made the decision that they did not want to be at Bounce. They, in their own free will, made their decision to leave. I told the parents what I believed the gym should do, and what a coach should do," Mortimer said.





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Do you know how to recognize and respond to bullying?

Ezra Helfand Special to Central Jersey Courier News and Home News Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

ullying touches the lives of at least one out of every four children in the United States. • In this year alone, approximately 13 million youth from pre-K to high school will experience it. Yet, many parents do not even know their child is a victim. One study revealed that as many as 64 percent of youth who were bullied did not tell a parent, teacher or any other adult about it. Will your child be one of them? Would you recognize it and know how to respond? • Bullying can take various forms. While the schoolyard bully who pushes around smaller children or steals their lunch money still exists, the term "bullying" includes several other negative behaviors. Bullying can be physical, verbal, sexual, emotional, cyberbullying or combinations of the five. • In any case, according to Pacer Center's Teens Against Bullying, it's considered bullying if:

The person is being hurt, harmed or humiliated with words or behavior

miliated with words or behavior.

It can be behavior that is repeated, or it

can be a single incident.

It is being done intentionally.

The person being hurt has a hard time defending him/herself from the behavior.

Those who are doing it have more power, meaning, they are older, physically stronger, have a higher social status, or if multiple

youth "gang up" on another child.

Any parent whose child has been the target of bullying knows the pain it can cause. Sometimes the pain is physical, but many times it is emotional agony. In addition to decreased self-confidence and self-esteem, children who are bullied may develop anxiety and depression, increased feelings of sadness and isolation and/or a change in sleeping and eating patterns; they are more likely to miss, skip or drop out of school; these youth are at increased risk of suicide, as well as increased risk for tobacco, alcohol and other drug use. These are devastating effects that can follow a person well into adult-

hood.

Parents need to discuss bullying with their children, to help them understand what it is and what it can do to a person. Young people must also be told: Bullying is never okay. No one deserves to be bullied. All youth have the right to feel and be safe. And everyone deserves to be treated with respect.

If you suspect or know your child is being bullied, here are some steps you can take:

Talk, listen, document: Encourage your child to talk about the situation, then listen without judgement, gathering, then documenting as much information as you can. That way, if it gets to the point where you need to contact school personnel, law enforcement or others to intervene, you have a record to share with them.

Support and empower your child: Let your child know the bullying is not their fault and they are not alone – that you are there for them. But keep in mind that typically, a child who shares their bullying experience with a parent, teacher or other adult isn't looking for that adult to fix it, they're more likely want-

ing support and guidance on creating an ac-

tion plan to help stop the bullying.

Know your child's rights: Different states and school districts within each state have their own policies on bullying. Visit StopBullying.gov to learn about bullying laws in your state; contact your child's school to learn about their individual school policy.

Experts warn parents to resist the urge to directly contact the other parents involved. It typically only makes matters worse. Leave the mediating up to school personnel or law enforcement officers.

Sharing with your child what bullying is and the hurt it can cause is the first step in awareness and prevention. Knowing how to respond if you suspect or know your child is being bullied is essential to their well-being.

There are many resources available to you as a parent. For more information, go to StopBullying.gov.

Ezra Helfand is CEO/Executive Director of the Wellspring Center for Prevention in East Brunswick, N.J. You can reach him at ezra.helfand@wellspringprevention.org.

Even at NASA, security isn't rocket science

Protecting your data and devices can be simple



Tech Talk

Working for NASA is a big job and a true honor. Every day, the talented men and women of NASA must think on a cosmic level because it's not just about space exploration and research. Sometimes it's about planetary safety, such as their plan to destroy Earth-ending asteroids.

Other work involves preventing cyberattacks on Earth or the International Space Station. Like corporations or government agencies, NASA has to protect itself from the most sophisticated hack-

But it raises the question: Do tens of thousands of NASA employees and contractors know how to protect their personal devices at home?

One vulnerable moment on a private server could lead to astronomical problems. So how do NASA employees defend their personal computers and myriad devices? It starts by practicing good habits online.

I recently had the pleasure of giving a keynote speech at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. I discussed essential safety procedures everyone needs to know these days.

I covered three major topics during the event and, while each is important, luckily it's not rocket science. You need to adhere to all three in 2020.

1. Your first line of defense

I get it. No one spends much time thinking about their router. You just want it to work. But for meaningful cybersecurity, your router is your first line of defense for keeping criminals out of your network.

Hackers could have compromised your router already and have complete

access to your data, files, and network. Right out of the box, your router comes with a default username and password. Since these credentials are



Even for people who work at NASA, cybersecurity starts with your router. SIMPSON33 /GETTY IMAGES

available on the internet, amateur hackers know how to break in and do all kinds of damage.

So, the first order of business is to log into your router's administration console and get that generic password changed.

Next, update your router's firmware to the latest version. The exact steps depend on your router brand and model, but all the modern options have an administrator page you can access via browser.

All you have to do is type the default IP address of your particular router on your browser address bar, and that will take you directly to that page.

Once the credentials have been changed and the system is up to date, it's time to adjust a few settings. If you've been using the same router for years and all you see in your security options is WPA or WEP, trust me, it's time to go shopping for a new one.

2. Don't leave home without it

Every time NASA provides a laptop for working remotely, the employee is required to use a VPN. That's precisely why they were created in the first place - to securely connect business networks through the internet to allow secure access from home.

A virtual private network, or VPN, is a layer of protection between your devices and the internet. It hides your IP or MAC address along with your location and encrypts the data that travel from your device to websites you visit.

Most importantly, when you're using public Wi-Fi and not a trusted network, a VPN provides a critical layer of security. They're inexpensive and easy to pro-

If you're on an unsecured network like the one you might find at a coffee shop, airport, library, or other public places, you send queries through cyberspace, and they route through private networks to other computers or servers, exposing you to skilled hackers.

3. Beware the inbox

Phishing attacks are no joke. Scam attempts that come into your email, social media accounts and text messages can be persuasive at first, until you take a closer look.

Phishing scams have become more sophisticated in recent years. Instead of the long-lost uncle leaving you a \$10 million inheritance, scammers pose as real businesses or government agen-

You might get an email that looks like it's from Netflix, saying your account has been compromised, and you need to reset your password. If you click the link from your email, you'll be taken to a website that probably looks like the real thing.

The next type of scam is called spear phishing, and it's a little more personal: Realistic-looking emails from real companies or agencies might include your name, phone number, and even your job title or home address. This information could be culled from social media, or maybe it originated from a data broker.

Phishing attacks could include malicious links or even attachments that can infect your system with malware. That way, they can access what's on that device or worse: infect your entire network and potentially any other device on it.

So don't wait. If these techniques are good enough for NASA, they'll definitely work for you.

If you use wireless internet at home, you probably have several devices connected to your network. It's so easy to keep piling on additional devices, too: your new laptop, another video game console, a new tablet or even your friend's phone.

You may even begin to lose track of everything that's connected, or worse, notice things that don't belong. There even may be users who have tried to connect to your Wi-Fi network without your permission or knowledge.

This is bad news for a few reasons. Someone could be stealing your network bandwidth - or your personal information. Luckily, there are simple ways to determine which devices are connected to your network, and you can prune what should and shouldn't be

Learn about all the latest technology on the Kim Komando Show, the nation's largest weekend radio talk show. Kim takes calls and dispenses advice on today's digital lifestyle, from smartphones and tablets to online privacy and data hacks. For her daily tips, free newsletters and more, visit her website at Komando.com.

Filling out FAFSA form | Boost basic skills and won't get you drafted

Main reason is that there currently is no draft

Aimee Picchi Special to USA TODAY

With rising tensions between the U.S. and Iran this week, some students are fretting that the first step in getting financial aid for college is also the first step in getting drafted.

On social media, some expressed concern that filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which asks men whether they have registered with the Selective Service System, could prioritize them in case of a draft. The Selective Service System's website crashed on Jan. 3 amid a surge in traffic, which the federal agency blamed on the "spread of misinformation."

But filling out the federal aid form won't get you drafted, experts say.

For one, there's currently no draft in place. Secondly, most men between the ages of 18 and 25 — regardless of whether they are applying for college financial aid through the FAFSA — are required to register with the Selective Service System, the government agency that registers eligible men in case of a draft.

"Unless there is a draft, this has no impact on anyone's life. It should not be a reason for not filing your FAFSA as a man."

Charlie Javice founder and CEO of Frank, a company that helps students fill out the FAFSA

Does FAFSA sign you up for the draft?

"Unless there is a draft, this has no impact on anyone's life," says Charlie Javice, the founder and CEO of Frank, a company that helps students fill out the FAF-SA. "It should not be a reason for not filing your FAFSA as a man."

The confusion comes from question

22 on the FAFSA form, which states, "Most male students must register with the Selective Service System to receive federal aid. If you are male, are age 18-25, and have not registered, fill in the circle and we will register you."

Essentially, the FAFSA is checking whether eligible men have registered with the Selective Service System, but it won't increase the chances of getting drafted

However, there's a bigger issue for young men who need assistance to pay for college: If they don't register for the Selective Service, they aren't eligible to receive federal financial aid. And neglecting to register could be the start of a host of challenges, with a USA TODAY story finding that men who don't register by their 26th birthday forever close the door on benefits like student aid, a government job or citizenship.

"It's borne out of the fact that the FAFSA was created for veterans who were coming back" to the U.S. after serving, Javice says. "Part of it is you should be giving back to your country" if you receive federal financial aid.

In a statement to USA TODAY, the Department of Education said, "The Selective Service is separate from the U.S. Department of Education, and their rules exist regardless of whether or not someone applies for federal student

No priority order

The agency pointed to its statements on Twitter for more details, such as the fact there's "no priority order for Selective Service based on the FAFSA form (they use a random lottery number and year of birth)."

In other words, filling out the FAFSA won't bump you to the top of the list in case of a draft.

The FAFSA opened on Oct. 1 to applicants for the 2020-2021 academic year, although many students are still working on their forms given that colleges and universities have rolling deadlines for financial aid. About 21 million people filled out the FAFSA last year, according to the Department of Education.

jump-start your career

Sharpen your focus on details, manage time

Maurie Backman The Motley Fool

Maybe your goal is to land a new job in 2020. Or maybe you're reasonably content where you are and prefer to work your way up the ladder or excel in your current role. No matter the circumstances, boosting your skills can set the stage for career-related success and buy you the job security you're no doubt looking for.

Here are a few specific skills it could pay to focus on in the coming year.

1. Time management

There's a reason so many workers these days run the risk of burning out they don't do a good job of managing their time, and they wind up spending the bulk of their waking hours dealing with job-related tasks. If you'd rather avoid that fate, focus on getting better at time management. That could mean learning to set priorities, mapping out daily or weekly schedules and task lists, or learning how to avoid on-thejob distractions.

management productivity go hand in hand, so once you learn to excel in the former, you're apt to do better with the latter.

2. Communication

Many people think they're strong communicators when, in fact, their skills could use improvement. If you're not good at communicating, joint projects might suffer, your colleagues might grow frustrated, and your manager might question your ability to collaborate with others.

Think about how you communicate with your peers and boss at present, and see where there's room for improvement.

That could mean sharing more details at the right time or learning to consolidate your thoughts when writing emails so you don't wind up rambling or going off on needless tangents.

3. Attention to detail

When you're juggling multiple tasks at once (which tends to be the case for many workers), it can be difficult to take a step back and focus on the smaller details that may not seem all that important. But if you learn to pay better attention to detail, you'll prove that you're the one worthy of leading projects or being trusted with high-profile assignments.

To that end, figure out how to get better at examining your own work, or the work you're tasked with reviewing. That could mean playing around with different environments or getting into the habit of reading reports out loud before submitting them.

4. Problem solving

Becoming a good problem solver doesn't just mean getting creative or trying out different approaches to the challenges that you and your team typically face. It also means having the right attitude - namely, the confidence to tackle work issues head-on with the underlying sentiment that you will, in fact, get to the bottom of things. Learning to be a better problem solver is a good way to line yourself up for a management role. And if that's not your goal, know that it never hurts to secure a reputation as the person who somehow manages to tackle the challenges no one else can.

As you work your way through the coming year, it always helps to improve on the skills that are specific to your job. The above skills, by contrast, are more universal - they apply to almost any job. But if you get better at them, you're apt to benefit in one way or another.

The Motley Fool is a USA TODAY content partner offering financial news, analysis and commentary designed to help people take control of their financial lives. Its content is produced independently of USA TODAY.



It may sound crazy, but you could make the argument that the best time to explore Oregon's outdoors is during the winter. If Yes, it's rainy, snowy and pretty much always cool. But it's those elements, plus the lack of crowds, that make it such a glorious time to travel. Waterfalls are booming or covered in ice. Old-growth forests are at their mossy best. And hot springs feel just a little bit better amid chilled temperatures. If Here are my favorite winter outdoor adventures in Oregon. Weather will vary considerably, so always check roads and conditions before you go and be prepared. If you can't find the right people to ask about conditions, email me at zurness@statesmanjournal.com and I'll do my best to help.

Snowy waterfall hunting

There's something special about a waterfall covered in ice and snow. In Oregon's Cascade Range, there are a handful of waterfall hikes that transform into snowshoe adventure after snow reaches their elevation.

A few favorites include Sahalie and Koosah Falls on the McKenzie River, Proxy Falls up McKenzie Pass Highway, Tamanawas Falls on Mount Hood and Tumalo Falls near Bend.

Santiam Pass sno-parks

Just looking for a quick day in the snow? The Santiam Pass sno-parks, east of Salem and Detroit, have you covered. These portals to ski, snowshoe and snowmobile trails require purchasing an annual permit for \$25 or day pass for \$4

There's a family snow-tubing hill, a snowshoe trip to panoramic mountain views, ski trails through old-growth forest and even a cabin where you can snowshoe in and spend the night.

Coast Range waterfalls

You don't necessarily need snow to make a great a winter adventure. Oregon's smaller mountains, the Coast Range, celebrate everything about the state that's lush and green.

The best hikes in the Coast Range traverse rainforest to giant, booming waterfalls that swell with winter's 100 inches of rain. These hikes are often a challenge to reach, but offer major rewards

Favorite overall hike: Kentucky Falls

Best hike with kids: Sweet Creek
Falls

Closest to Salem: Niagara Falls Most photogenic and easy to access: Golden and Silver Falls

Warner Mountain Lookout

Travel four to 10 miles through the snowy wilderness to this mountaintop Marriott with views of Diamond Peak.

From Nov. 1 to May 15, the 14-by-14 abode is available to rent on Recreation.Gov.

You'll need to carry in all of your supplies, and the trip is entirely uphill, so be prepared for a major challenge here (unless you chose to snowmobile in, which is allowed).

Chilly Oregon hot springs

Travel through the winter forest and then take your clothes off for a dip in the thermal hot springs that bubble to the surface in a few places around western Oregon.

There are a handful of hot springs open to the public all winter long. One favorite is Terwilliger Hot Springs (also known as Cougar) on the McKenzie River east of Eugene.

Some hot springs, at higher elevations, might need to be reached via ski, snowshoe or snowy hike. That often includes Umpqua Hot Springs and occasionally includes Bagby Hot Springs.

Always check conditions in advance.

Trillium Lake ski or snowshoe

Enjoy views of Mount Hood on a ski, snowshoe or fat bike tour around popular Trillium Lake near Government

The trek around this lake, best enjoyed on a weekday when crowds are smaller, is 5 miles. It starts from a small parking lot with a donation box (help offset the cost of grooming trails). The trail then drops steeply downhill on snow-covered roads to the lake, then takes off around it.

Fat bike over the snow in Central Oregon

Few places have embraced fat biking on the snow like Bend and Central Ore-

I rent my bikes from Hutch's Bicycle Store in Bend for \$45 each per day. My favorite place to ride is Wanoga Sno-Park, which has groomed fat bike trails once the season gets rolling, and Dutchman Sno-Park.

Cellphones allowed in Michigan courts

Carol Thompson Lansing State Journal

LANSING - Cellphones and other electronic devices are explicitly allowed in Michigan courthouses and courtrooms, the Michigan Supreme Court announced Wednesday.

Justices adopted amendments to court rules that had previously allowed local courts to enforce varying rules about when phones and electronic devices were allowed in courts. Instead, courts have to allow the public to carry cellphones and to photograph court

records. Courts have to institute the changes by May 1. Explicitly allowing phones and electronic devices removes barriers for people involved in the legal sys-

tem, Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack said.

Opponents of the change had argued phones would disrupt court procedures and risk exposing the identities of jurors, witnesses and undercover officers called to testify

Supporters, who ultimately won the favor of justices, argued increasing access to court records and reducing costs for people involved in the court system outweighed that potential for harm and disruption.

The Supreme Court's decision to amend its rules means phone policies, which vary widely among Michigan courts, will be streamlined.

Specifically, the new policy allows the use of de-

■ Retrieving or storing information, accessing the internet, and sending or receiving text messages as long as the user is silent.

 Reproducing court documents as long as it leaves no marks and does not unreasonably interfere with the operation of the clerk's office.

2020 could be different for proposed LGBTQ law

Advocates hope to expand Mich. civil rights protections

Kathleen Gray Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

A broad coalition of business leaders, politicians and social justice advocates filed language with the state Board of Canvassers on Tuesday to expand Michigan's Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act to include a ban on discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

The Fair and Equal Michigan committee has until May 27 to collect at least 340,047 signatures from valid registered voters in the state to qualify for the 2020 ballot. If it gets the signatures, the question also could go to the Legislature, which could pass the measure and it would automatically become law; offer its own version of the measure, or do nothing and the proposal would head to the ballot.

It's unlikely that the Legislature, where Republicans hold majorities in both the House of Representatives and Senate, would take up that issue.

Bills to expand the Elliott Larsen act to include protections for the LGBTQ community have been proposed in every legislative session for at least two decades and even former Republican Gov. Rick Snyder supported the expansion. But the measures have never gotten a vote in either chamber.

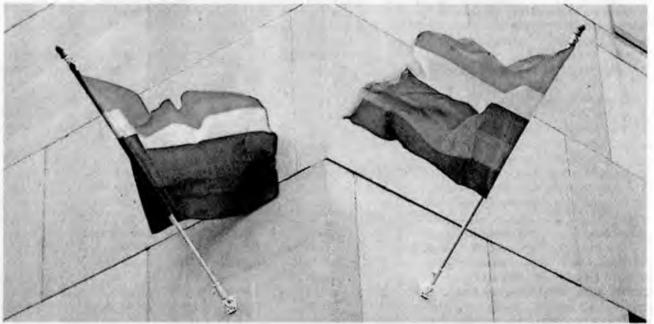
An effort to get a constitutional amendment on the 2016 ballot fizzled after different groups couldn't reach a consensus on the timing of the proposal.

But this year is different, said former state Rep. Mel Larsen. The Oakland County Republican and former chairman of the Michigan Republican Party first sponsored Michigan's civil rights act in 1973 to prohibit discrimination in housing and hiring based upon religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, familial status, or marital status. The bill ultimately passed in 1976.

"It is long past the time to recognize sexual orientation and gender identity," Larsen said. "The Legislature can act at any time to amend the civil rights act. This coalition of Michigan citizens has support across LGBTQ groups, the business and philanthropic sectors, and both sides of the political aisle. There is more that brings us together than forces us apart."

Also on the ballot proposal committee are leaders of DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, the Herman Miller furniture company, the AFL-CIO, Verizon Communications, Dow, Apple and Whirlpool.

"Business leaders know that to stay competitive, we need to support the people we employ, and that means making clear that there is no place for discrimination in the workplace," said Jerry Norcia, president



The campaign to get the issue before voters is the next step in the fight for LGBTQ protections. COURTESY OF GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER'S OFFICE

and chief executive officer at DTE Energy. "Today's top job creators are looking to grow in states and communities that are welcoming to everyone. If Michigan wants to compete, we must take a clear stand against discrimination in any form."

Virtually every LGBTQ advocacy group has signed on to the effort, as have former and current lawmakers and political leaders from both the Republican and **Democratic parties**

"It is my hope and expectation that by banning this kind of discrimination, all Michiganders can lead safer, more productive lives, and our state will be made better for it."said Alanna Maguire, president of Fair Michigan, a statewide LGBTQ and women's advocacy

The campaign to get the issue before Michigan voters is the next step in the protracted fight for LGBTQ protections. With just four days left in office in 2018, Snyder signed an executive order providing protections from some discrimination for the LGBTQ com-

His order to all state departments prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in procurement contracts, as well as loan and grant programs.

But at the same time, Michigan had barred the Michigan Civil Rights Commission from taking calls reporting LGBTO discrimination to its hotline.

That changed after Dana Nessel was elected Michi-

gan's attorney general in 2018. In June 2019, she reversed an opinion from former Attorney General Bill Schuette that stated the commission couldn't investigate civil rights cases that were based on LGBTQ discrimination. The commission now is reviewing cases of reported discrimination.

The group has a head start in soliciting donations for the campaign, said Josh Hovey, a spokesman for

"It costs about \$3 million to put an issue on the ballot with paid circulators collecting signatures," he said. "But the campaign has about half of that committed by individuals and corporate sponsors.'

If it ends up on the ballot in a contentious presidential year, however, the actual campaign could cost much more.

With the current question, the Board of Canvassers will meet at some point in the near future to consider the language on the petition, which reads:

"An initiation of legislation to amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. The initiated law would extend the Act's prohibitions on discriminatory practices, policies, and customs in the exercise of civil rights to prohibit discrimination based upon () sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, or () the religious beliefs of an individual, by defining "sex" to include gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity or expression, and "religion" as including the religious beliefs of an individual."

Obituaries

James DeHaan

LEXINGTON, KY James DeHaan, age 88, passed away on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, in Lexington, KY with his daughter Judy by his side. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan December 30, 1931 to Albert and Frances DeHaan. He graduated high school in Grand Rapids, served in



the Army during the Korean War, then graduated from Michigan State University in 1956. He went on to enjoy a long career with the Federal Government in the Labor Department. After retirement, he served for many years as a supervisor of regional labor union elections.

Jim was a long time resident of Northville, Michigan, and was involved in his community for many years, serving various organizations. He was a world traveller and adventurer, known for varied pursuits, including mountain climbing, hot air ballooning, flying his own plane, bobsledding, dogsledding, bungee jumping, curling, and more. He travelled all over the world, visiting dozens of countries and islands.

He is survived by his daughter and various nieces and nephews. There will be no funeral services, and any donations may be made to the Northville Michigan Public Library.

Senior housing proposed in Hartland Twp.

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Cleveland-based firm is eyeing land in Hartland Township for new housing for people 62 or

PIRHL Developers has proposed Hartland Senior Living, a 146-unit, three-story residential building.

It would be located on nearly 18 acres of vacant land on the north side of M-59/Highland Road between Bullard and Fenton roads.

"This exciting development will provide independent senior housing enriched with services for those of upper and modest incomes in a new senior housing campus," the firm wrote in a project de-

About 60 rental units would be "affordable" for people earning up to 60% of the area's median in-

In Hartland Township, the median household income is higher than average at more than \$75,000. The remaining units would be rented out at an

unrestricted market rate. "Hartland Senior Living will provide luxury amenities at well below comparable market prices in a rapidly growing and affluent area," according to

PIRHL Developers. Kevin Brown of PIRHL Developers discussed an early, conceptual plan at a meeting of the township's Board of Trustees. No formal actions were

taken by the board. "I think the feedback from the planning commission and township board has been very positive," township Planner Director Troy Langer said. "The township is looking to provide a wider variety of housing options in the township. If residents' lives or housing demands change as they get older, they can stay in Hartland and not have to go somewhere

Langer said the proposed Hartland Senior Living would be owned and managed by PIRHL Develop-

He said the residential facility would be different than assisted living.

"It would be a congregate care house," he said.

Compared to assisted-living facility, congregate care facilities for seniors do not offer the same level of day-to-day assistance to residents. However, some assistance would be available to residents.

According to the firm, the facility would have an on-

site home-based health care provider and clinic, an emergency response system and an electronic resident check-in system with motion senors in every Residents living in market rate apartments would

get additional services included in their rent. These include two meals a days, housekeeping services and laundry services.

Below market residents would be able to access those services for an additional fee.

"This would allow for independent living for people of a certain age," Langer said. "If you needed care, you'd have to contract it through them or your own caregiver, but I believe they would help with some things, like help with meds."

The building would feature a one-story commons building with several on-site amenities.

These amenities include a fitness center, theater room, social hub for activities and entertainment, a media center with a library, a bistro, and a hair salon and barber shop. They would also hire a full-time activities coordinator and offer shuttle bus service within a 5-mile radius.

Langer said the firm has applied to rezone the land from agricultural and office use to a planned development. Township officials are expected to consider site plans and a rezoning at future meetings, assuming the firm continues to pursue the project.

"There's one big issue and that is water," Langer said. "They need to be connected to a municipal water system and currently Hartland Township doesn't have municipal water running out that far."

He said the tentative plan is to start construction next fall.

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High tech, high style in store in 2020

Mark Phelan
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

This should be a great year for newcar buyers, fans of new technology and exciting designs.

New vehicles from America's perennial best-seller, the Ford F-150, to luxury SUVs, electric sports cars including the Porsche Taycan and affordable entrylevel models all will go on sale over the next 12 months.

The year's bonanza got an unexpected boost from GM's strike last fall, which pushed sales of the remarkable 2020 Chevrolet Corvette and the CT5, Cadillac's latest swing at the sport sedan market.

Here's a quick survey of some of the best, most interesting and important vehicles going on sale this year.

Cadillac Escalade, CT5 and CT4

This is a huge year for Cadillac. The Escalade SUV, the brand's flagship and by far most profitable vehicle, must show buyers the brand can raise the bar for luxury, design and technology.

There's some reason for optimism.
The new Escalade will offer an independent suspension for a smoother ride and better handling. Adaptive shocks and an air suspension will be available.

The interior must raise the bar for Cadillac, which was embarrassed by the style of Lincoln's Aviator and Navigator SUVs. A big OLED display for instruments, navigation, audio and other functions is a start. The 38-inch screen stretches essentially from the driver's door to the middle of the dashboard.

Cadillac's remarkable Super Cruise system, which allows hands-free driving on limited access roads like interstate highways, will reportedly get an update that allows it to change lanes and pass slower vehicles without the driver doing anything.

While Cadillac can be counted on to pull out all the stops for a new Escalade, there's more skepticism about the CT5 and CT4 sport sedans, which replace the CTS and ATS, respectively.

Nothing in advance information on the pair suggest Cadillac is about to



Cadillac CT5 sport sedan PHOTOS BY MARK
PHELAN/USA TODAY NETWORK

jump ahead of vehicles like the Mercedes C-class or BMW 3-series.

The Escalade should go on sale in late 2020 as a 2021 model. The CT5 arrives early this year. The CT4 is sandwiched in between.

Chevrolet Corvette, Tahoe, Suburban and Trailblazer

Chevrolet aims to have something for everybody, and that's never been more true than in 2020. From a new entry-level SUV to the breathtaking Corvette convertible and massive Suburban, the brand has never reached farther and more ambitiously than it will this year.

The Trailblazer SUV fits between the subcompact Trax and compact Equinox, but it's the price that matters: Starting under \$20,000, it's the answer to people who feared Chevy would abandon entry-level buyers when it stopped selling small cars. Sales should begin this spring.

The Tahoe and Suburban SUVs are anything but small. They're 6.7 inches and 1.3 inches longer, respectively, than the models they replace. More room will be welcome, as long as it doesn't make the pair unmanageable in parking lots. An independent rear suspension improves ride and room for passengers in the third-row seats. Expect it in dealer-ships around midyear.

The Corvette coupe was supposed to hit dealerships late in 2019. The strike

delayed that, an unbearable delay for enthusiasts who have already waited decades for a mid-engine Corvette. The new layout promises better acceleration and the ability to build even more powerful Corvettes going forward, but the launch model's 495 hp 6.2L V8 and sub three-second zero-60-mph time are nothing to sneer at. The Corvette coupe goes on sale early in 2020. The convertible should arrive in spring or summer.

Ford Mustang Mach-E, Bronco and F-150

Ford Motor Co.'s two towering icons, the Mustang and F-150 pickup, both undergo fundamental changes this year. Not to mention a new version of the Bronco, an SUV that became a six-figure collector's item while nobody was watching.

The Mustang Mach-E, an electric SUV with handling developed by the Mustang team, and looks that consciously echo the original pony car, has the makings of a hit, but its production launch will be critical. Its quality, performance and value are Ford's best hope of establishing itself as a leader in the emerging market for electric vehicles.

The F-150 will get its first taste of electrification with a hybrid model this year. There are reports a 4.8L V8 will replace the current 5.0L Coyote engine, producing more power with better fuel economy.

The new Bronco is expected to have square, upright sides and a long hood for a look that recalls the original. Based on the Ranger midsize pickup, expect it to offer a wide range of advanced features including trail control, which manages throttle and brakes in tough off-road conditions so the driver can concentrate on steering.

The Mach-E goes on sale late in 2020. Timings for the F-150 and Bronco are not clear.

Other up-and-comers

■ Genesis GV80 and G80. Hyundai's luxury brand has delivered good vehicles, but not much excitement so far. That needs to change when its first SUV, the midsize GV80, debuts in the spring.

The G80 replaces the sport sedan that's been Genesis's best vehicle so far. Look for features similar to the GV80.

■ Honda Civic and HR-V. Honda is expected to replace two of its best vehicles this year, the Civic compact car and HR-V subcompact SUV. Expect evolutionary changes from the powertrains and styling.

■ Hyundai Tucson. The new Tucson compact SUV, which should arrive in the second half of 2020, is expected to look like the Vision T concept Hyundai revealed at the Los Angeles auto show. A plug-in hybrid model is possible.

■ Kia Optima and Seltos. We haven't seen hide nor hair of Kia's new Optima midsize sedan yet, but you can bet it's coming because its corporate cousin, the Hyundai Sonata, is about to go on sale. Based on the 2020 Sonata, the 2021 Optima will be loaded with features and a good value. The most intriguing question about the Optima will be whether Kia can adapt styling cues from its striking Telluride three-row SUV, which was just named Free Press Utility Vehicle of the Year.

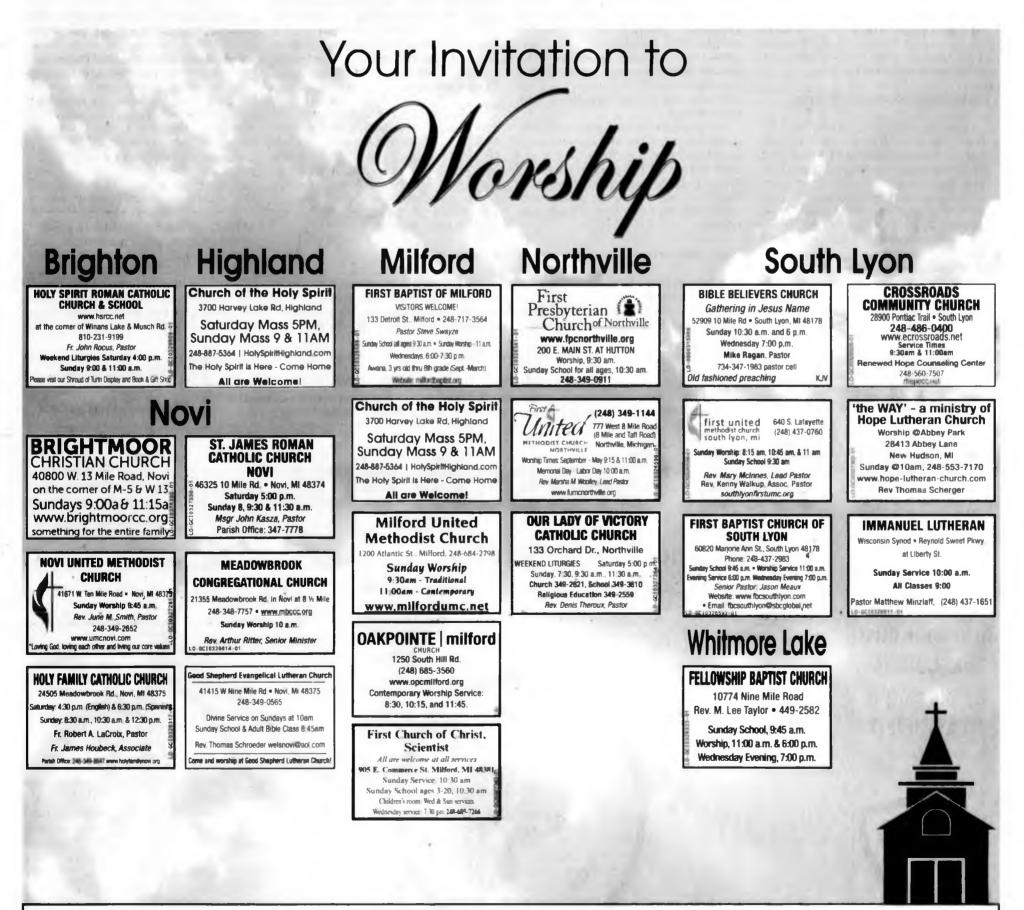
That's an easier task with Kia's new Seltos small SUV, which goes on sale early in 2020. The five-passenger Seltos will have all-wheel-drive models starting at less than \$22,000.

■ Land Rover Defender. The new Defender's appearance is more in line with contemporary models like the Discovery than the boxy original 1948 model. Land Rover will offer two- and four-door models called the Defender 90 and 100, respectively.

Nissan Rogue and Sentra. Nissan will replace its best-selling vehicle, the Rogue five-passenger SUV, this year and add a well-equipped new Sentra compact sedan. The Rogue is likely to raise the bar for standard driver-assist and safety features in a mainstream vehicle.

The Sentra will emphasize value, with standard features including a 7-inch touch screen.

■ Porsche Taycan. Porsche's electric sport sedan, one of the most eagerly awaited vehicles of the decade, has an electric motor on each axle for all-wheel drive. The base model should hit 60 mph in 3.8 seconds and top out at 155 mph.



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the job network

Habits of the highly employable that you can pick up

Kate Lopaze thejobnetwork.com

In a job search, it can be so easy to fall into ruts and passive roles while you wait for things to happen. If you're looking to refresh yourself and your "hireability" in the new year, there are several things that highly employable people do—and you can do too.

Be proactive

This is the big one because it has the most impact on life. If you're waiting around for an opportunity to fall in your lap, chances are it won't. Your old roommate isn't going to call you out of the blue with an interview for your dream job. Your resume isn't magically going to get in front of the hiring manager at that company you've always wanted to work for. That means taking an active role in your job search: looking for new postings, reaching out to people you know who might be able to help, and setting aside regular time to look for jobs or update your application package.

Keep your resume up to date

Even if you're not actively in a job hunt, you should always have a fresh, current resume ready to PDF and send. Why? Because it saves time if you happen upon an opportunity — but it also makes you ready to negotiate for a pay raise or a promotion. If it's been a few months in your job search and you're not getting the kinds of hits you'd like, then don't be afraid to keep updating your resume or to create different resumes for different narratives you may want to present, depending on the job opening or company to which you're applying.



GETTY IMAGES

Know your worth

This is a big one. A strong sense of what skills and experience you have, plus the current market value for those, will make you a more confident job seeker when it's time to show you've got the stuff. A bit of online research will take you far, with sites like Glassdoor or Salary.com telling you what people with comparable levels of education or skill-sets within your location make in simi-

lar positions.

It's also time to think about your personal brand. People who are successful are usually able to express, quickly and succinctly, who they are and what they bring. That elevator pitch will come in handy in interviews or at quick meetand-greets that may lead to job opportunities.

Keep that network up and running

Highly employable people know the value of relationships. Your network isn't just a source of potential job leads—it also can feed you new information

on your field. There's a huge value in keeping up with your network, and it doesn't take up much of your time: an email here, a coffee date there, a few comments back and forth on social media. By strengthening your network and being a solid part of someone else's, you're helping to build a support system for a long time to come.

Take ownership

Successful people take ownership of everything they do, good or bad. It might mean acknowledging mistakes or challenges, or simply stepping up and being responsible for resolving a problem. Employers all want someone who is able to manage themselves effectively but will also be capable of showing leadership when necessary.

Be a good listener

The people that employers want most are those who are able to take in information, examine as many angles as possible, and make intelligent, reasoned decisions — even when there are competing needs or voices. It's important to make yourself heard, but don't forget that active, engaged listening is just as important.

Always be growing

Employers may be hiring to fill a specific role, but that doesn't mean they expect that this person will expand to fit a limited scope and then stay the same forever. Companies want team members who are looking to grow their expertise and meet new goals and challenges every year. Having a growth mindset where you're willing to push yourself out of your usual zones is a vital skill to have when approaching any kind of job search or application process.

Be positive

Yeah, I know. It sounds cheesy. But it's true. If you have a frustrated, negative attitude, it's going to be very difficult to find good things. People who are successful and sought after by employers are ones who know how to focus on the good things at hand. It's not about ignoring the bad completely, but rather spending time and energy to nudge things in a better direction.

things in a better direction.

People who are highly sought by employers are the ones who put time and care into their work. That level of care shines through clearly in every resume or interview, and it's something that all of us can strive for in order to present

ourselves at our most marketable.

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

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conqueror Francisco 28 Natural skill 30 Radio shock jock Don 31 Hog food

32 Ltr. insert 34 Nobelist Wiesel 35 Obama's party: Abbr.

36 Deg. for a Wall Streeter

39 Con's vote 41 Light blows 43 Some small batteries 45 Conan of **TBS**

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47 Dumas' "Le - de Monte-Cristo" 49 Suffix with

polyethyl-50 "Explorer" of kids' TV 51 Daytime nap 52 "- and the

Night Visitors" (Menotti opera) 53 Sonata segment 55 "Well well

well!" 57 Church recesses 58 Cinematic

Streep 59 Give fresh life 60 Final: Abbr.

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familiarly 79 "What's - for 124 Rescue me?" 80 Loretta of

"M"A"S"H" 81 Deep anger 82 Virtuoso 84 Minister's study: Abbr. 86 Big name

scooters 88 Detach, as a badge 90 Pacific Ocean 133 Volcanic stuff nation

in motor

92 -- haw!" 93 Actor Rob 94 Snared with a lasso

95 Like a clear night sky 97 Angry mutt's sound 99 Poetic tribute

100 Arab chiefs 101 Mysterious 102 Great Lakes' - Canals 103 Whirled

104 Actor Neill 73 Adroit humor 105 — kwon do 74 U.S.-Canada 106 Foe of Liston air-watch org. 108 Have the gall 75 Bit of an oval 110 Touch gently

112 A bit wet 115 Cure- -(elixirs)

116 Lawn growth 78 "Selena" star, 118 Ties tightly 120 Casual affair financially

> 126 Even one 127 Former Honda SUV 128 Put under water 129 TV's Jean- —

Picard 130 Serpent stuff 131 Super Bowl stats 132 Ceases

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2 Hazard 3 Alternative to eBay or Etsy 4 Bryn -College

5 Worship 6 Canadian expanse on the border with Alaska

7 Brighton beer 8 Tall and thin 9 Apple media player 10 Kathmandu's country

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For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or

smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles"

books at QuillDriverBooks.com

65

12 "Wham!" 13 Garden pest 14 Major film

studio 15 \$5 bills, slangily

16 Not well 17 Prefix with orthodox 18 First-aid ace 22 Ladies' men

27 Unconcern

33 Kayaks' kin 36 1991 film about a family exiled

from Uganda **37** — noire 38 Santa —

reportage 42 Actor Sean 44 Comic Mort 46 Gym units 47 Attended

48 Brunch order 50 With the current ... or what appears at the starts

answers in this puzzle? 54 Dual-sport Sanders 56 2007 Stanley Cup losers

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64 Up to, in ads

66 Hall & --68 Jackie's #2 70 Less stuffy

71 Fads, e.g.

74 Co-founder of the band 80 Accelerated 83 — avis

85 Brain 29 "So long!" wave tests. in brief 87 Cease 89 Roving types

90 Jrs.' exam 91 Razor name 96 Scold loudly 98 Act like a lion (hot winds)

40 Much tabloid 103 Bagel seed 107 Ain't right? 109 Overzealous 111 Have faith

> 113 Dish lists 114 Pump (up) 115 As well 117 Family of PC

games 119 Plains natives 120 Nero's 605 of eight long 121 "How - ya?"

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chews it 125 Oahu wreath 16

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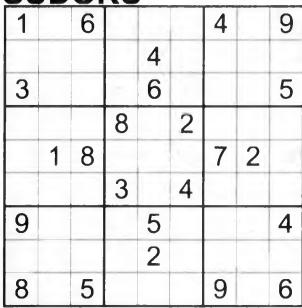
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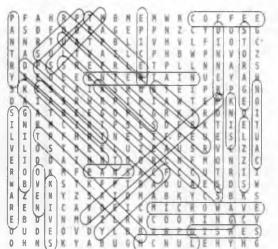
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