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ONLINE COUPONS



# Teacher facing multiple sex charges

## Accused of having sexual relationship with middle-school student 10 years ago

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Make that a total of five first-degree criminal sexual conduct charges against a Northville High School teacher connected to an alleged sexual relationship

with a student 10 years ago.

Jason William Dean, 36, of Livonia was arraigned on the last two counts Jan. 29 in Waterford's 51st District Court. He was arraigned on three CSC counts Jan. 28 in the 52-2 District Court in Clarkston.



Dean

Prosecutors contend Dean was teaching at Cedar Crest Academy, a private K-8 school in Springfield Township, where he also coached soccer and basketball, when he became fixated on a 14-year-old student in 2010.

"The defendant fostered a relationship with the victim at the school be-

cause he was her teacher, as well as her soccer and basketball coach," Assistant Prosecutor Justin Davis said. "He took advantage of her youth and, as I stated, had this sexual relationship with her."

Investigators said the woman told them in January she was sexually assaulted on school grounds, at after-school events and other locations.

See TEACHER, Page 4A



Debra Neil talks about the 3-D screen at The South Lyon Theater in downtown South Lyon. Tickets for 3-D movies there cost just \$2 more than the usual \$5-\$6 rate. The theater, built in 1945, seats 173. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# How small-town movie theaters stay profitable

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There are a lot of questions when it comes to deciding where to go for a night out at the movies.

Which theater has the best popcorn? Which has the best selection? Where do you feel like you're in a theater?

For many, the answers will lead to a major multiple-screen complex such as an Emagine or Regal Cinemas theater. But for others, the smaller, more intimate setting can make the experience all the better.

"The draw is the movie. Secondary is the theater," said Scott Freeman, general manager of the Farmington Civic Theater in downtown Farmington. "There's a lot of people out there that like the smaller theater, that make the conscious choice to see it here."

See THEATERS, Page 6A



Scott Freeman, general manager of Farmington Civic Theater in downtown Farmington, talks about how he and his staff keep the movie theater profitable in the age of online movie streaming.

## Gas company to replace 6 miles of Milford lines

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Consumers Energy is replacing a natural gas pipeline this year including several miles in Milford Township that will affect Kensington Metropark and trail users.

An open house for residents, park users and anyone else wanting to learn more is scheduled for 4-7 p.m. Feb. 10 at the Milford Senior Center, 1050 Atlantic St.

About 6 miles of pipeline will be replaced or rerouted in Milford, from the northern township line south to Maple Road, including 3 miles through Kensington, as part of phase four of the Saginaw Trail Pipeline.

Construction will begin in May as Consumers replaces 12- to 14-inch, 70-year-old pipes with new, 24-inch pipe. Some hiking, biking and equestrian trails will be closed. The primary construction will take place between June and October, with restoration work to follow.

"Some trails will be temporary closures while equipment is crossing," Consumers Energy Spokesman Todd Schulz said. "In other spots, trails will be closed for safety reasons for the duration of construction. We don't take it lightly, we are working with the village and township, thinking about the right way to do it environmentally to minimize dust and keep as much of the park open as possible."

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



Consumers Energy workers replace a gas pipeline in 2013. Pipeline replacement in Milford is set to start in May. COURTESY OF CONSUMERS ENERGY

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# Don't hire members for homeowner association projects



**Robert Meisner**  
Guest columnist

**Q:** We hired a maintenance person for our homeowners association who was also an owner in our subdivision. We had to terminate him, and he is creating all kinds of problems for us. How do we deal with it?

**A:** As I have advised associations for over 45 years, it is not a good idea for the association to hire anyone who has any proprietary interest in a community association as a member/owner in the association. There are also insurance concerns because often these relationships are created informally without contracts, and questions may be raised regarding whether a person is an independent contractor or an employee of the association. Depending on how your insurance documentation is written, there may be wiggle room for denial of coverage in accident claims. You are also faced with the prospect

of having to sue that person for malfeasance should that be the case, even though he is a member of the association. In short, you have to ride the waves for what you have created, deal with it as if it were any other type of adversary with the assistance of your community association attorney.

But please learn your lesson. Even though it might be less expensive for the association in the short run, in the long run, it may be a big headache.

**Q:** We purchased a home with a septic system and were told that it was in good working order. However, after closing we found out that there were serious mechanical problems with the system, and neither the seller nor the seller's Realtor got a required inspection as mandated by the municipality. What can we do?

**A:** Obviously, there has been a breach of the seller's and realtor's duties owed to you as a purchaser to fulfill the muni-

cipal requirements, and you do have recourse against the seller and the Realtor, based upon our firm's experience in similar issues. You will, no doubt, find that the Realtor will stonewall your claim as long as possible, and you should retain an attorney experienced in these matters to assist you in receiving compensation for your damages, inclusive of the fix necessary to the septic system.

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

of having to sue that person for malfeasance should that be the case, even though he is a member of the association. In short, you have to ride the waves for what you have created, deal with it as if it were any other type of adversary with the assistance of your community association attorney.

But please learn your lesson. Even though it might be less expensive for the association in the short run, in the long run, it may be a big headache.

## hometownlife.com

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## Novi Asian village development delayed again

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

It's going to take a little longer before the proposed \$50 million Asian-themed mixed-use development in Novi becomes a reality.

After being delayed in December over concerns regarding the plans for the development along Grand River and 11 Mile near Town Center Drive, the Sakura Novi project came back before the planning commission in January with similar results.

Commissioners echoed much of what they said the month before: there were too many deviations and questions surrounding the property to provide a solid recommendation to the city council.

"You have an outstanding, unique development. And I don't think this can be resolved in five minutes," said planning commissioner Cindy Gronachan. "By looking at all these deviations, I can't support that because I want this project to really succeed."

The Sakura Novi development aims

to bring a massive development anchored by One World Market and several Asian restaurants, along with town homes at the rear of the property.

The pond on the site would be landscaped to become a gathering space, complete with Japanese gardens.

The proposed development was first announced in 2018 and would bring more than 100 residential units to the property.

Some of the concerns brought up by the commissioners stemmed from several problems, including a lack of green space for the proposed townhomes.

Commissioner Brent Ferrell brought up the issue of green space, citing the need for such areas for families instead of just concrete.

"I don't see any place for them, like a park area, for them to hang out," he said. "That's just a concern I have."

Jim Clarke with Robertson Brothers Homes told the commission the feel the company was creating was more urban, rather than the suburban look and feel

felt elsewhere.

"People who will live there will want to be in proximity of the retail and the restaurants," he said. "It's urban by design, which may or may not be what you're looking for."

The planning commission voted unanimously to table making a recommendation to city council on the rezoning for the development, in order to let the petitioner improve the plan and work with city officials to eliminate some of the deviations.

Planning Commission Chairman Mark Pehrson said the delay is to ensure the development becomes the premiere location it aims to be and not just another shopping center.

"We're looking for 'The Thing' in Novi," he said. "Not just another thing in Novi."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

## NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 CITY OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE, please take notice that any qualified elector of the City of Northville who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk; the office of the Wayne or Oakland County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [michigan.gov/vote](http://michigan.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](http://www.expressSOS.com).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Monday, February 24, 2020.**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City of Northville Clerk's office, located at 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 at the following times:

- Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, March 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Election Day, Tuesday, March 10th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The election will be conducted in all voting precincts in the City of Northville for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following office:

Presidential: President of the United States

and voting on the following ballot proposals as presented and listed below:

Authority: RENEWAL OF WAYNE/OAKLAND COUNTY ART INSTITUTE AUTHORITY MILLAGE

School District: NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL. 9519 MILL FOR 5 YEARS

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office.

Dianne Massa, CMC  
City Clerk

Publish: February 6, 2020.

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# Hillside Middle School construction going smoothly

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hillside Middle School's west-side story is unfolding before Northville residents' eyes.

As part of the passage of a \$104.85 million bond in 2017, Hillside is gaining additional square footage on the western end of its existing structure. Once completed sometime later this year, students will experience enhanced building security and more modern learning environments.

Hillside students are operating as normal, except for the sounds of power tools and hammers.

Only the far-west side of the building will be closed during the renovations, with fine arts classes temporarily relocated to other classrooms.

The project's specifics include:

- A two-story academic core addition on the west side of existing school, featuring three smaller grade level learning communities

- New secure front entry/school office on axis with 8 Mile Road bridge

- The addition of flexible furniture throughout to



Work continues on additions to Hillside Middle School in Northville. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

promote teaming and collaboration

- A media center on level two
- Enhanced curriculum spaces
- Outdoor learning studios
- Various athletic-field safety improvements
- Dining space in the main commons area with new server and kitchen

## Firefighters called to Orotex after machine explosion

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

An explosion and black smoke from a chemical reaction inside an Orotex Corp. machine resulted in emergency calls to the Novi Fire Department the night of Jan. 30.

Fire Chief Jeffery Johnson said the calls came in soon after 8 p.m. One caller said they saw flames.

Firefighters arrived to evacuate the 33 employees inside the Venture Drive building and consulted onsite members of the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials Response Team.

Fans ventilated the building, and a sprinkler

system extinguished the machine fire.

Johnson said the business may have suffered the same problem with the same machine several years ago.

"We want to do everything possible so it doesn't happen again,"

said Johnson, who plans to have the city's fire marshal working with Orotex Corp. in the weeks ahead.

Orotex is considered an automotive supplier of rubber vibration reduction materials and soundproofing products. The building is located

north of Nine Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook roads.

Company officials could not be reached for comment.

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



### 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 26, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider the 2020-2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing. The draft Capital Improvement Program documents are available for examination and review by contacting the City Manager's Office, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours. Any written comments for the public hearing must be received by the Community Development Department, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Published February 6, 2020

### CITY OF NORTHVILLE 2020 BOARD OF REVIEW WAYNE AND OAKLAND COUNTIES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review of the City of Northville, Wayne and Oakland Counties, will meet at the City Hall, 215 West Main Street, for the purpose of reviewing and adjusting the 2020 Assessment Rolls of the City of Northville on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020: 6:30 p.m. Organizational Meeting (No Appeals)  
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise specified the dates above are for Public Hearings

Pursuant to Act 165 of 1971 and based on the proposed changes to assessed values for 2020, the Wayne and Oakland County Equalization Departments have set the following tentative equalization factors relative to the 2020 Real and Personal Property Assessments: **WAYNE COUNTY** - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00. **OAKLAND COUNTY** - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00.

Mail-in Petitions must be received by March 11, 2020 before 2:00 p.m. ALL TAXPAYERS wishing to petition their property's taxable value or assessment in person with the Board of Review will be seen by APPOINTMENT ONLY. To ensure every appeal is heard it is requested that appointments be scheduled prior to Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Please contact the City of Northville Tax Department at (248) 449-9901 for an appointment or with any questions you may have regarding your 2020 taxable or assessed value.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Published: February 6, 13, and 20, 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 26, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.292 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ARTICLE 2.0 DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.2 DEFINITIONS, ARTICLE 3.0 ZONING DISTRICTS, SECTION 3.1.21 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT AND ARTICLE 4.0 USE STANDARDS, SECTION 4.62 INSTRUCTIONAL CENTERS, IN ORDER TO INCLUDE INSTRUCTIONAL CENTERS IN OS-1 DISTRICTS AND TO DEFINE VARIOUS TYPES OF EDUCATIONAL USES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

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 26, 2020.

Novi Planning Commission  
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish February 06, 2020

## Lakes Area Citizens Police Academy taking applications

The creation of the Lakes Area Citizens Police Academy nearly 20 years ago affords citizens the opportunity to learn about their local police department and take a behind-the-scenes look at what the criminal justice system is all about.

Participants gain an insider's knowledge of the police agency, enabling them to make informed decisions on issues affecting police and the community.

The Lakes Area Citizens Police Academy is a joint venture between the Novi, Walled Lake, South Lyon, Wolverine Lake, and Wixom police departments.

Applications are currently being accepted online at cityofnovi.org for the free Lakes Area Citizens Police Academy, scheduled to begin March 4.

Participants must be 18 or older and a resident of one of the participating jurisdictions.

"The Citizens Police Academy is a program which increases the understanding, cooperation, and trust between the police and our community members," said Novi's Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police David Molloy. "This education and exposure to the criminal justice system goes along with the relationships established with members of the police department, assists in achieving the ultimate goal of community-oriented policing - the reduction of crime through stronger citizen commitment, and building public trust with our team and the community."

The 30-hour program includes practical demonstrations, hands-on exercises and presentations.

Participants will tour the Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office along with the 52-1 District Court.

They will also view a K-9 demonstration, receive hands-on experience at the Novi Firearms Training Center and have the opportunity to participate in a ride-along with a police officer.

Classes are scheduled from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, March 4 through May 20. The first class will meet at the Novi Police Training Center.

The registration deadline is Feb. 17. For more information visit cityofnovi.org or contact Detective Sgt. Kevin Gilmore at 248- 347-0530.

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020 CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN

#### TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NOVI:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Novi who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk; the office of the County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](http://www.expressSOS.com).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is **Monday, February 24, 2020.**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City of Novi Clerk's office, located at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 at the following times:

- Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 7, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Election Day, Tuesday, March 10th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Novi will be voting for purposes of electing candidates for the following office:

**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES** - 4 YEAR TERM - vote for not more than 1

#### Democratic Party Candidates

Michael Bennet  
Joe Biden  
Michael R. Bloomberg  
Cory Booker  
Pete Buttigieg  
Julian Castro  
John Delaney  
Tulsi Gabbard  
Amy Klobuchar  
Bernie Sanders  
Joe Sestak  
Tom Steyer  
Elizabeth Warren  
Marianne Williamson  
Andrew Yang  
Uncommitted

#### Republican Party Candidates

Mark Sanford  
Donald J. Trump  
Joe Walsh  
Bill Weld  
Uncommitted

#### And the following proposals:

#### Renewal of Oakland County Art Institute Authority Millage (All precincts):

In 2012 the electors of Oakland County approved a 10-year millage to provide County residents with services from the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) through the Oakland County Art Institute Authority.

As a result of the millage, the DIA provides Oakland County residents with free K-12 school field trips including free transportation, free senior group programming with free transportation, and unlimited free general admission. To ensure transparency, the DIA submits to an annual independent audit and posts financial reports online.

To continue to provide revenue to the DIA, which will allow these DIA services for the residents of the County to continue, the Art Institute Authority is permitted by law to seek a renewal of the millage at a rate of no more than the current 0.2 mill (20 cents per \$1,000 taxable value) on all real and personal property in the County. Revenue from this millage will be disbursed to the Art Institute Authority and then transferred to the DIA as permitted by and for the purposes set forth in Public Act 296 of 2010. It is estimated that if approved and levied, this millage renewal would generate approximately \$13,600,000 in 2022.

Do you approve the renewal of the 0.2 mill on all taxable property located within the County for a period of 10 years from 2022 through 2031?

#### NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Precincts 16, 17, 24, and 25):

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL .9519 MILL FOR 5 YEARS.

Full text of the ballot propositions may be obtained at the administrative offices of Northville Public Schools, 405 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167-1582, telephone: (248) 344-3500.

A sample ballot may be viewed at [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote).

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office.

Cortney Hanson, CMC, CMMC  
City Clerk

Publish February 6, 2020



# Northville advises parents, students in wake of arrest

Ed Wright | Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Public Schools is responding to the recent sexual assault charges against high school math teacher Jason Dean by attempting to calm students' and parents' fears with advice and information.

In addition to a thorough update on Dean's legal status and the accusations he is facing, the school district emailed parents a letter highlighted by a seven-step crisis-management checklist applicable to students from all school districts who are facing – or may face in the future – similar circumstances.

The checklist was created as questions and concerns from Northville students surfaced.

Parents are urged to inform their kids that, while it is upsetting to hear that a teacher has been arrested and that there may be information and/or rumors and

speculation circulating, it is important to understand that rumors, conjecture and comments can be deeply hurtful to all involved, including the alleged victim and her family, and the family of the individual charged with the crime.

Dean is married with two children. "This is not a laughing matter or something to joke about," the letter stated. "There is a process in place, in our legal system, as well as in our school system for investigating allegations and reviewing complaints, with laws protecting the rights of potential victims and the rights of individuals against whom allegations have been made. There are laws related to privacy and due process which impact the information that can be shared publicly."

"To make premature judgments, circulate rumors or joke about this serious matter can have long-lasting consequences."

Dean has been placed on administra-

tive leave.

If students are feeling unusually worried, upset, sad or nervous, the letter advises them to speak to their parent, counselor, social worker, student resource officer, teacher and/or a building administrator.

"We ask that you respect the privacy and rights of the individuals involved in this situation," the letter continues. "The best thing you can do may be to keep focused on learning and your activities, being respectful to one another, and always, if you need support, or have any information that you are worried about, please speak to your parent, counselor, social worker, and/or administrator."

The school district strictly prohibits discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, under Title IX, the letter states.

"If you, or someone you know, believes that inappropriate conduct or in-

teraction has occurred, even if in the past, please report it to your parent, counselor, school resource officer, our social worker, and/or your building principals," the letter states.

A tip sheet on how to talk to children and teens from "Stop It Now!" which provides information and resources for families and communities, including information about talking with children about healthy boundaries as well as what to do if they feel that their boundaries have been violated.

Dean has been a teacher at Northville High since 2015.

"We do not have any reason to believe, at this time, that the allegations and charges involve any current or former Northville student," the letter, signed by Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher and Northville High School Principal Tony Koski, states.

ewright@hometownlife.com

## Teacher

Continued from Page 1A

Deputies said they were able to corroborate her allegations.

During the Waterford arraignment, Davis provided specific locations where the woman said the sexual assaults took place between Dean, then in his late 20s, and the teen: the child's home in White Lake Township, inside a van parked outside of a Springfield Township dance, in his classroom, at a hotel, on an airplane, and, for months, at the teacher's secret apartment in the Rivers Edge complex in Waterford Township.

Davis said the teacher, when questioned by detectives, admitted to having a sexual relationship with his former student.

"We're extremely concerned about the defendant being a threat to the community, a threat to children and a threat to others as well as a possible flight risk," concluded Davis, who said there may be additional victims.

Dean remains at Oakland County Jail. His bond was set at \$500,000 for the Waterford cases, the same bond

amount set for the Clarkston cases.

"These are merely allegations at this point," Dean's attorney Steven Schwartz said. "At this point, other than an eight- or nine-year-old allegation, there isn't anything here to suggest whether or not my client is innocent or guilty."

"As far as additional victims, it's the same thing: where's the proof? Eight, nine years have passed and nobody else has come forward except this one individual."

Dean was arrested Jan. 26 because of the criminal sexual conduct investigation and placed on administrative leave by Northville Public Schools.

Northville school officials alerted district families about the arrest in a letter. They said there was no reason to believe the allegations and charges involved a Northville student. A second letter to families after the initial arraignment reiterated that belief.

Dean also was a girls soccer coach for the Michigan Hawks. His name has been removed from the Hawks' online coaching roster.

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



Jason William Dean appeared by video for his arraignment on two sexual assault charges Jan. 30 in Waterford's 51st District Court. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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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](http://RidgeviewVillas.com).

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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

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Toll Brothers, an award-winning 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](http://TollSalesEvent.com/DetNews).

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## Theaters

Continued from Page 1A

While plenty of major movie theaters continue to pop up and expand across metro Detroit, several communities still hold on to the vintage feel of a bygone era. These movie theaters have survived for decades, even as the AMCs and MJRs dot the landscape. Facing a history of challenges including a world war, the advent of home video and the streaming video, several across the region have kept their doors open.

How do these theaters stand the test of time?

### Improvements are key

Most theaters in the area have seen their share of struggles over the years, even facing closure. But through it all – including the 2008 recession – they've found a way to reopen and thrive.

The South Lyon Theater in downtown South Lyon is a prime example. After opening in 1945, the theater at 126 E. Lake St. had several owners before it was foreclosed on for not paying back taxes in 2008. It was then purchased at a sheriff's sale by an investment group that operated it until 2015, when it was purchased by Salem Township residents Debra and David Neil.

The changing demographics in southwest Oakland County are what Debra Neil attributes the theater's recent success: the Lyon area is one of the fastest growing communities in Michigan. Having the South Lyon Theater and its first-run movies is crucial to keeping people in town for a night out.

She's hopeful the transformation happening in downtown South Lyon, with added restaurants and long-vacant buildings being occupied, will bolster the 173-seat theater.

"I think a lot of people who live in this area that have to go out for entertainment and things, if we had the restaurants coming in downtown and we had something here, then they wouldn't have to go somewhere else," she said. "The community here is growing, so we're looking for what the community needs."

The Neils have had new seats installed and are expanding the theater's special uses with events such as private birthday parties. The previous owners



Cory Jacobson, owner of Phoenix Theatres, and Shane Vida, general manager of the State Wayne Theater, talk about the theater's history. The theater had been in business nearly 75 years before falling into disuse when the Farmington Hills-based company with movie houses in Livonia and Monroe and two outside Michigan stepped in. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

put in a digital projection system.

But those systems aren't cheap and can affect a small theater. Freeman said the Farmington Civic Theater installed its upgrades in 2013 at a cost of \$150,000, no small feat for a two-screen theater owned by the city.

While the Farmington theater was able to keep the lights on, he knows that's not always the situation.

"That's what causes a lot of these theaters to fail," he said. "It's a big decision, but it was the only decision if we wanted to survive."

Some theaters are keenly aware of those expenses and don't mince words: they go straight to the public to ask for help. Such is the case at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth, operated by the nonprofit group Friends of the Penn after it was saved by a local group of investors back in 2005.

Ellen Elliott, the group's executive director, said they didn't have room in the

budget for major capital expenditures in recent years, so they've gone to donors to help keep the theater open. A list of donors is maintained on the wall as patrons enter the 402-seat theater that showed its first film just three days before Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941.

"We just wouldn't be able to fix anything," she said.

While most smaller theaters have stayed with the traditional movie theater seating, one local historical movie house has upgraded, a standard the company owning it addressed throughout the theater chain's locations.

Phoenix Theatres purchased the historic State Wayne Theater back in 2014 from the city of Wayne, which operated it for two years. The theater had been in business nearly 75 years before falling into disuse. That's when the Farmington Hills-based theater company with movie houses in Livonia and Monroe and two outside of Michigan stepped in.

In addition to upgrading the projection system, recliners were installed in recent years at the theater, 35310 W. Michigan Ave., to coincide with the work done at other Phoenix Theatres locations.

"People walk in and they don't expect to find that at the State Wayne," said Cory Jacobson, owner of Phoenix Theatres. "It's a nice amenity."

### What to show?

While the theater makes for a great spectacle, as Freeman said, the show itself is the star. The strategy of what to show on the big screen is a challenge for smaller theater owners, especially as studios demand larger cuts of sales.

Freeman said the average share of a ticket price that goes back to the studios in exchange for showing a film in the

See THEATERS, Page 7A

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Ellen Elliott, executive director of the nonprofit group Friends of the Penn, which owns the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth, punches a couple of tickets out of the World War II-era AutoMaticket machine. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Theaters

Continued from Page 6A

theater is roughly 42%. If a movie has been out for a long time and comes from a smaller company, that cut can be as low as 35%. A recent showing of "Frozen II," the sequel to the 2013 Disney movie, commanded 65% of a ticket's price.

That's one reason the Civic shows films that are a month or two old: doing so allows the theater to keep a larger percentage of the revenue. It's how the Civic carved its niche in the market as the place to see a movie a few weeks after it premieres.

"I would say that it's a different approach and you have an audience out there that doesn't mind waiting a little while for a movie, or they've seen a movie once already and they say, 'I'd like to see it again, but I don't want to pay \$10-\$12,'" he said.

The Penn Theater takes the same concept and ups the ante: films showing each weekend at the Penn have typically been out for several months before they arrive to Plymouth. For example, "1917," nominated for Best Picture at this year's Oscars, won't play at the Penn until the first weekend in April.

And if you plan on seeing something at the Penn at its \$3 ticket price, you had best head out the weekend it plays, because it won't come back, even if there are multiple sellouts.

That has become the theater's method of doing business and almost creates its own community of theater-goers, Elliott said. They have some people who show up to the theater each weekend without knowing what's playing, just for the experience. They routinely sell out the theater using this method, having done so for "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "Ford vs. Ferrari."

"I think one reason we sell out the way we do is because people know if you don't come, you're going to miss it," Elliott said. "If we did holdovers and you really weren't sure and we did hold it for two weeks, you might just wait for the second week. That helps us to sell out."

But that strategy doesn't work for all small-town theaters. Neil still opts to be a first-run theater in downtown South Lyon, showing big-budget films such as "The Avengers" or "Star Wars" the first weekend they're available. This weekend, the theater will play "Little Women," also nominated for Best Picture at this weekend's Oscars.

Of course, having bigger films means committing to lengthier runs. "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" played in the theater as soon as it came out, but Neil had to commit to a four-week run where the movie set in a galaxy far, far away was the only thing showing.

"If Disney says you can't have 'Star Wars' unless you have it for four weeks, then I have to make a decision," she said. "It's a risk, because it's the last 'Star Wars.'"

### Evolving with the future

Even though the films are the stars of the experience, plenty of theaters have

had to get creative to stay relevant.

In addition to films, many small-town theaters serve as a gathering space, hosting concerts, candidate forums, or community discussions such as one held last summer at the Penn Theatre to discuss the the Wilcox Mill.

Theaters have always served as community hubs, said Sue Boyd, director of the broadcast and cinematic arts program at Madonna University in Livonia. It's the little things those small theaters offer that can leave a lasting impact.

She recalls taking her daughter to the Milford Cinema Theatre years ago and telling the employees it was her daughter's first time at the movies. She got her popcorn for free that time.

"I think it's the personal touch that those theaters have," said Boyd, a Highland Township resident. "It's kind of like shopping from Amazon instead of your corner store."

Bringing back classic films is always a hit as well. The State Wayne has brought back "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" every month for a night screening. The strategy works at a theater like the State Wayne, as opposed to the Phoenix Theatre at Laurel Park Place in Livonia, where the group originally wanted to show the film, Jacobson said.

"I had remembered this film from 30 years ago. There was a group in town that was into it. They were looking for a place to do it," he said. "It sells out every time we play it."

Concessions can play a big role. The prices for popcorn, pop and candy are typically higher to make up for the money from ticket sales that go to the studio, but the experience has changed. Bigger chains have brought on pizza and nachos and even bars serving mixed drinks, a trend many small theaters have eschewed in favor of the classics.

"When they come here (to the Penn) the first time, a lot of times, it's not the right place for people. They have high expectations for drinking beer and pizzas. We can't accommodate that," Elliott said. "But the fact of the matter is, if you can come and bring your family and not break the bank ... you can't beat that."

Bucking that trend will be the South Lyon Theater, where Debra Neil plans to obtain a liquor license and renovate the concession stand later this year.

"We're always looking to add more things," she said.

When it comes to keeping that small town charm, every theater owner doesn't know what the future will hold.

But one thing all these small-town theater owners agree upon is that the movie-going experience is unlike any other. That strength in community, Freeman said, is what keeps the motion pictures houses alive.

"When you go to a movie theater, people make that choice to get out and have that social environment. You hear people laughing, you hear people crying, that surprise that gets (you) scared at a horror flick. And you can't get that at your house," he said. "I think that's what drives many people, is that fun atmosphere that you can't get watching on a teeny-weeny screen."

"I think there's good life left in small theaters around America."



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Mercy High students play a game in this undated photo from the school. The private all-girls school in Farmington Hills celebrates 75 years of education this year.



Mercy High students learn to use typewriters years ago during class. PHOTOS COURTESY OF MERCY HIGH SCHOOL

## Mercy High School preparing to turn 75

Shelby Tankersley | HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Mercy High School in Farmington Hills will celebrate its 75th anniversary this year, and the more than 15,000 women who have passed through its doors.

"We interview our alums and they always talk about how empowering it was to come here," said Cheryl Kreger, school president. "So you think about every office, every club is headed by girls because there are no boys."

"That makes the experience unique."

Kreger, like all former presidents of the school, is an alumna who graduated in 1966.

She, too, remembers the all-female environment being something special.

"The all-women, all-girl experience makes Mercy special," she said. "The fact that the Sisters of Mercy, who have been educating women for over 200 years, and the spirit of how they do their work is very different."

Mercy's patron saint is Our Lady of Mercy, one of many names for the Virgin Mary. The school also looks up to the Venerable Catherine McAuley, who left a life of luxury to support education.

"She decided that she was going to educate the women of Ireland," Kreger said. "At that time, women and Catholics had no status in Ireland. This is in the late 1700s and 1800s."

"She was an heiress and decided that she was going to use her inheritance to begin this work."

With that in mind, Kreger said the school tries to instill the values of mercy, justice, helping the poor,



Mercy High School students study the day before their fall semester final exams.

service and human dignity in its students.

"We always say success in that worldly sense, but our women are expected to lead from wherever they are," Kreger said. "So, if you are a homemaker, a volunteer, a mother, wherever you serve, you are expected to be a leader. That's kind of how we approach things."

But, alumnae reach success in the "worldly" sense, too. Kreger said among the Mercy High alumnae are six judges, five hospital executives, and a Quicken Loans executive, among many others.

"I always laugh and say that we're everywhere," Kreger said. "And we are, with 15,000 alums. Many of them are successful women."

The school is also known to claim awards in performing arts, music, art, yearbook, journalism and athletics. All of that is led by what Kreger repeatedly called a stellar staff, also mostly female.

Most recently, the Mercy Marlins gained recognition when they won their first state title in volleyball.

Kreger said most of what makes the school special aren't things people can really see from the outside.

She noted one of the strengths in the classroom is diversity.

"We're very diverse, which means not only races, cultures, etc., but we're diverse as far as religion, socioeconomic background," Kreger said.

That vast alumnae network is always stepping up to bat for the current Mercy girls, too.

"They support the school with donations and by supporting events, networking, mentoring our students and more," Kreger said.

Many of those alums will come back to the school for events surrounding its 75th birthday.

Kreger said the school will host reunions, tours of the current facility and of the old one in Detroit, add to a time capsule, celebrate Mass and dedicate an athletic hall of fame.

But it won't all be about the past. In 2020, the school will add an indoor sports facility that can be adapted to any sport, a Catherine McAuley tea room for students to enjoy during free periods and a new spirit store.

"Everybody is always learning and moving forward," Kreger said.

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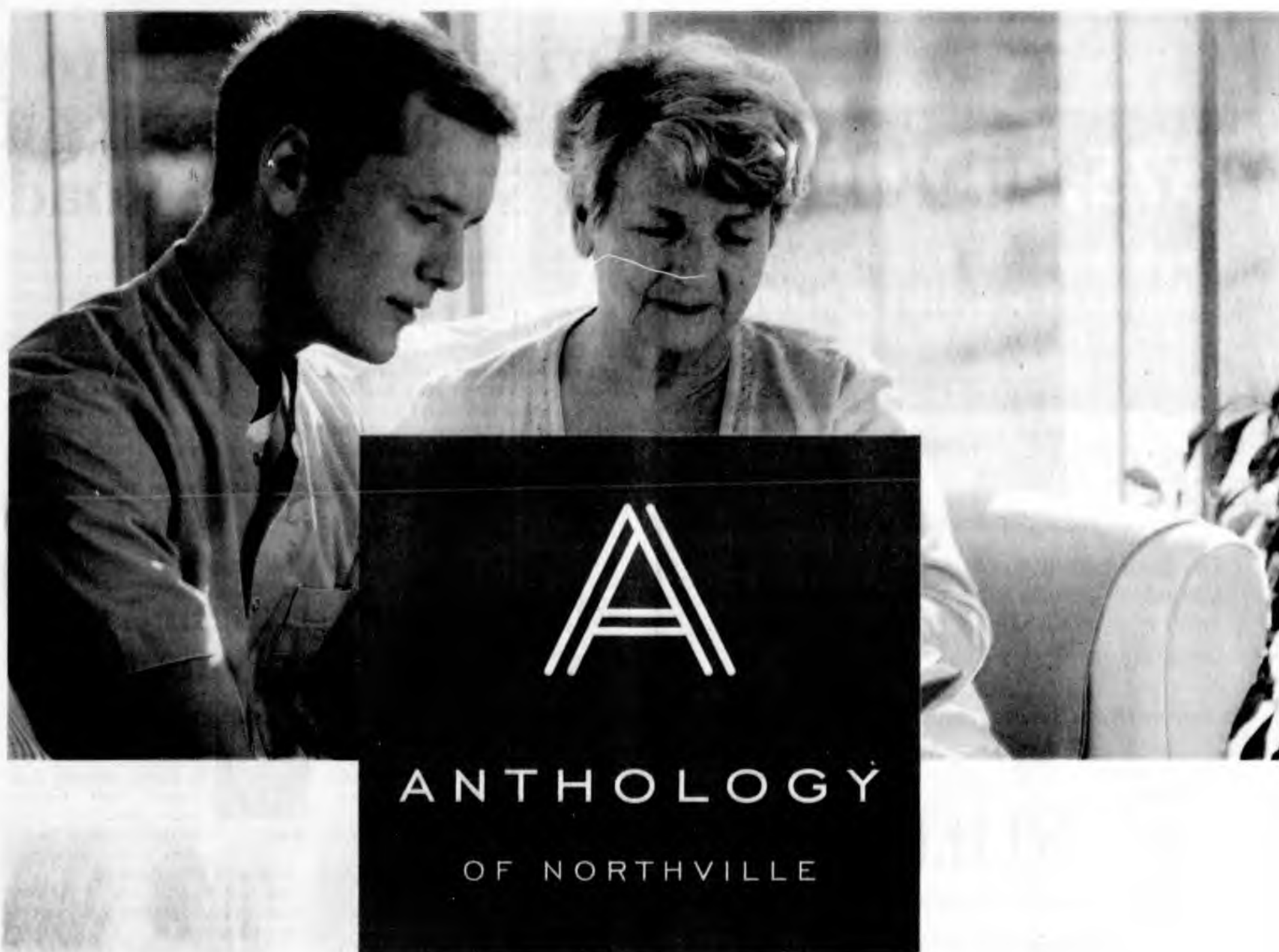
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Mercy players celebrate a point in the 2018 Division 1 state quarterfinal volleyball victory over Sterling Heights Stevenson at St. Clair Shores South Lake High School. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE





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## Driver crashes into home after veering off Silver Lake Road

**Susan Vela** [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 74-year-old Lyon Township driver apparently had a medical issue that caused them to veer off Silver Lake Road and crash into a home, according to Oakland County Sheriff's deputies.

Deputies said in a report the crash happened around 2:55 p.m. Jan. 29. The westbound Toyota Camry left the road and continued through an open field until the vehicle crashed into the side of a home.

The home's gas meter was damaged. Lyon Township firefighters had to extract the driver from the Toyota Camry.

The driver was transported to Ascension Providence Hospital for medical care. Airbags were deployed, and a seat belt was used.

The driver was last listed in stable condition. Alcohol does not seem to be a factor in the crash, deputies said.

Contact reporter **Susan Vela** at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

## Milford man arraigned on sex charges involving minor

**Susan Vela** [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Milford Township man recently arrested after a dramatic getaway was wanted for three counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a minor.

Daren William Muns, 39, has been arraigned on three felony CSC charges associated with a Feb. 18, 2015, incident in South Lyon.

His bond was set at \$500,000, and he is next scheduled for a February probable cause conference.

As of Jan. 28, Muns remained at the Oakland County Jail.

Oakland County sheriff's deputies said he was a wanted man when the fu-



**Muns**

gitive apprehension team spotted him the morning of Jan. 21.

Team members positioned their vehicles around his at a Shell Gas station in Lyon Township. Muns crashed into two vehicles while escaping.

He was arrested later at the Novi Meadows manufactured home community off Napier Road.

Muns was convicted of second-degree criminal sexual conduct in 2008, according to the Michigan Public Sex Offender Registry.

Contact reporter **Susan Vela** at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Twitter: @susanvela.

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1. Hoffman, H. and Bred, D. (2014) Epidemiology of tinnitus. In: Tinnitus: Theory and Management. Lewiston, NY: BC Dever Inc. 18-41. 2. Professional fees may apply. Annual subscription begins the first day of trial. Lyric is not appropriate for all patients. See a Lyric provider to determine if Lyric is right for you. 3. Power, D. (2018) Is Lyric an effective option for tinnitus? Investigating the benefits of a hearing aid that can be worn 24/7 (submitted for pre-review publication).

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## PREP HOCKEY



Stevenson goalie Brenden Stroble keeps the puck tight to his left pad as Salem applies some pressure during game action Jan. 31 at the Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase in Chelsea. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Livonia Stevenson surges past Salem, 5-1

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It didn't look good for Livonia Stevenson early.

In Chelsea for the Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase, the Spartans trailed fellow KLAA powerhouse Salem after one period of action. The second period was a whole different story, as Stevenson took over and surged past Salem to secure a 5-1 win at the Arctic Coliseum.

The win lifts Stevenson to 16-1-1, while Salem falls to 12-7 with the loss.

Stevenson entered the game ranked No. 1 in the state regardless of division by the Michigan High School Hockey



Salem High takes on Livonia Stevenson in tournament play. Stevenson won, 5-1.

See STEVENSON, Page 3B

## Canton finds momentum in hockey win against Birmingham

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton has not been used to low-scoring games. Winning three of their last four games, the Chiefs have averaged five goals in each of those games.

However, facing an opponent in Birmingham Unified who averages 2.4 goals per game and allows only two goals per game, the Chiefs were forced to play the style of game the Falcons were used to.

In the opening game of the Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase Jan. 29 in Chelsea, Canton (8-9) was able to use defense and limited offensive production to its advantage, beating Birmingham Unified (9-5-1), 3-1.

Here are three takeaways from the game:

### Defense reigns supreme

After allowing a combined nine goals in their last two games against Toledo St. Francis De Sales and Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard, the Chiefs went back to the defensive prowess it had against Novi on Jan. 17: the team's only shutout of the season.

In the first period, Canton did not allow a quality area scoring chance for the Birmingham offense.

"I think Birmingham came out at us very strong and I think they compete very hard," Canton head coach Justin Maedel said. "They are just looking for their opportunity and their chance. We just kind of narrowed their chances."

In the second period, the Falcons had three power-play opportunities, something Maedel said the Chiefs have struggled to defend this season.

However, with a rotation of personnel, the head coach gave credit to the Canton defense for stepping up, defending four man advantages in the first two periods.

"It's great our PK is working," Maedel said. "We are keeping everything low and we just get at them and hope they mess up, turn the puck over and get a goal."

And that's what the Chiefs did.

Facing a man-advantage with 3:36 left in the second period, Chiefs senior forward Hugo Fonovic weaved his way through Falcon defenders, putting the puck in the back of the net for the first goal of the game.

However, holding a slim 2-1 lead at the end of the third period, Canton

See CANTON, Page 3B

## Mercy basketball's past hints at future success

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Gary Morris, like many head coaches, is focused on the day-to-day journey of a season. The 15-year head coaching veteran at Mercy High School tries not to dwell on long-term goals or what "could be." The focus is on the next game.

But when looking at his current roster, he can't help but think back on 2013.

Finishing the regular season with a 15-6 record, the Marlins cruised through districts, beating each opponent by double digits. That success continued into the regional semifinals, beating Southfield-Lathrup by 19.

However, a five-point overtime loss to Detroit King in the regional final

thwarted the Marlins' chance of getting to the state semifinals.

But they had another summer.

Morris had no seniors on the team, so coming back in 2014 the squad advanced to the Final Four, losing in the state semifinal to rival and eventual champion Marian.

For Morris, the 2019-20 season is a lot like the 2012-13 season. This season's

team has no seniors, but five returning athletes, four of which are three-year varsity starters: Julia Bishop, Ellie Tisko, Alexis Roberts and Jillian Smith.

And while the journey remains the same, the expectation for this group, according to his head coach, is much higher.

See MERCY, Page 2B

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

# Plymouth girls hoops' Riley hits school record 7 3-pointers

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plymouth basketball sharpshooter Ella Riley won last week's Athlete of the Week award after dominating both the competition and our poll.

Riley hit a school record seven three-pointers in her team's victory against Salem, finishing the game with 23 points. She's been a star for the Wildcats all season and is one of the best shooters in the conference.

She came in first place in our poll by receiving 24,084 votes (72.66 percent). She topped runner-up Bryn Sommerfeldt, a goalie for Farmington United hockey, who received 6,245 votes (18.84 percent). Northville basketball's Grant Mathiesen finished third with 2,660 votes (8.02 percent) while Salem basketball's Charlie Argust placed fourth and Brother Rice basketball's Curtis Williams finished fifth.

We caught up with Riley after winning and asked her some questions:

**You set a school record for threes in a game, how cool was that moment for you, and what has the reaction been from coaches and teammates?**

"It really meant a lot to me to finally accomplish this goal. During the summer, my dad and I always talked about beating the record, so it is great that I can actually say I did it. I continue to put in the extra effort to shoot in the offseason and before our team practices. Right after the end of the game, all of my teammates hyped me up and my coaches as well, which made the moment even better. I could tell Coach Ballard was just as excited, or maybe even more excited than I was."

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

"I don't have a favorite athlete, but I really enjoy watching college basketball; especially, Michigan, other Big Ten schools, Duke, North Carolina and Notre Dame women's basketball. Watching college players compete helps me to develop my game and learn more skills. Also, it has always been a tradition to watch March Madness with my family."

**What is your favorite TV show and why?**

"My favorite TV shows are Keeping up with the Kardashians and Grey's Anatomy. I have always had an interest



Plymouth's Ella Riley hit a school record seven three-pointers in the Wildcats' victory against Salem. MICHAEL VASILNEK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

in the medical field, and I like the actors in Grey's Anatomy."

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

"Outside of basketball, I like to run, travel, spend time with my friends and family. Some of my favorite places I have been to are Chicago, Florida and Maryland. If I could travel anywhere in the world, it would be Ireland or Italy because a lot of my ancestors are from there."

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

"I am a junior in high school and I definitely plan to attend college when I graduate. I have always had an interest in the medical field, so I plan to study biology, to become a physician assistant, and possibly minor in Spanish. My main focus for college is academics, but if I am offered the opportunity, I would love to continue my basketball career into college."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at [avaiillenc@hometownlife.com](mailto:avaiillenc@hometownlife.com) or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to [LivSports@hometownlife.com](mailto:LivSports@hometownlife.com).

## HOMETOWN LIFE FEBRUARY SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Here is a look at how Hometown Life area schools are performing in winter sports such as boys basketball, girls basketball, hockey and wrestling. Please send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com) to keep the scoreboard regularly updated.

### Boys basketball

Jan. 31

Canton 51, Salem 34: Canton out-scored Salem 24-8 in the first and fourth quarters combined, giving the Chiefs the win against park rival Salem.

Plymouth Christian 48, Novi Christian 45: Plymouth Christian overcame a nine-point deficit, upsetting Novi Christian for its fourth win of the season. Plymouth Christian was led by Nathan Etnyre, who led the team with 25 points, and Chibby Anwunah, who recorded eight blocks.

Livonia Stevenson 64, Dearborn 42: Evan Bradford (15), Evan Asante (11) and Luke Merchant (11) led Stevenson to its eighth win of the season and its fifth win in KLA East play against Dearborn.

Hartland 49, Plymouth 48: Despite 18 points for Jake Kuchka, Plymouth lost its seventh game of the season late in the fourth quarter.

### Hockey

Jan. 31

Detroit Catholic Central 7, Cleveland St. Ignace 2: Catholic Central scored three second-period goals to give the Shamrocks their 13th win of the season and their fourth-straight win.

Kaden Hemme recorded two goals for Catholic Central.

Livonia Stevenson 5, Salem 1: Facing a one-goal deficit after one period of play, the No. 1-ranked Spartans scored four second-period goals to earn their 16th win of the season.

### Girls basketball

Jan. 31

Livonia Franklin 55, Belleville 51: Junior forward Erin Young led the Patriots to its fifth win of the season with 19 points. Senior guard Emily Esker added 10 points.

Farmington Hills Mercy 55, Dearborn Divine Child 48: The Marlins returned to the win column with a seven-point win against Divine Child. Julia Bishop recorded 17 points and nine rebounds for the Marlins, while Maya White added nine points and 10 rebounds.

## South Lyon East cheer team breaks school record

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The South Lyon East competitive cheer team has had a number on its mind since 2010: 694.28.

In the history of the team, the Cougars had never recorded a score higher than the one recorded 10 years ago.

However, that changed Saturday.

The South Lyon East competitive

cheer team finished in first place at the Lakeland Invite, recording a score of 728.22.

Head coach Julie Tilt was proud the South Lyon East cheer team not only reached the goal they had set, but exceeded it.

"Day by day they are getting stronger and more competitive," Tilt said. "It's a great time to be East."

[cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com)



The South Lyon East competitive cheer team finished in first place at the Lakeland Invite on Feb. 1. SUBMITTED

## Mercy

Continued from Page 1B

"It's just natural, you are going to think a little bit about if these kids continue to get better. That's the big thing, if they continue to get better, are they going to reach a ceiling?" Morris said. "Definitely, the kids that played last year are definitely better this year, individually and collectively."

Midway through the regular season, experience seems to be in Mercy's favor.

The Marlins have won 11 of 12 games, suffering their first loss of the season Jan. 28 to rival Marian on Jan. 28.

Despite the loss, Mercy basketball feels different. It opened the season with an 11-game win streak, beating the Mustangs for the first time since the 2016-17 season.

Roberts said it's due to knowing the strengths and weaknesses of her teammates.

Morris said improved team chemistry helps, too, allowing the Marlins to share the basketball, leading to seven different leading scorers in the first 11 games of the season.

All in all, it's a comfort that Mercy knows what it has. And, after this season is over, the Marlins will have it again next year.

"You don't have to worry about that



Mercy's Maddie Kenney gets a steal at mid-court and runs it back for a layup against Marian defender Sophia Mancini. ANDREW VAILLIENCOURT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

senior night where you are letting seniors go on to the next chapter of their lives," Bishop said. "It's really great to be able to know that everyone's still going to be coming back and still being able to grow that bond that we have together already, and keep growing that one step at

a time.

"That happens each practice, that little one percent that we get better every time, and we know by the end of next year, who knows."

If Mercy added anything to its roster, it was more talent.

Roberts, a team captain, said this is the deepest Marlins team she has been a part of, giving them an advantage that many area teams do not have.

"You can put anybody out there, we can go out there and compete," Roberts said. "I feel like this is a really big advantage to any team that we play against because not every team can say 'We can play 10 players.'"

That advantage allows different players to step up at different points, from the four three-year varsity players to junior Madeline Kenney, who Bishop calls an "energy booster."

This, according to Roberts, takes the pressure off of every individual player on the roster.

"We don't have to score 15 a night," Roberts said. "We can relax."

Bishop, a team captain, put Mercy's mindset into a succinct statement: this year has potential, but if it doesn't end the way the Marlins want it to, 2020-21 can be just as great, if not better.

To Roberts, that's not pressure. It's a bittersweet opportunity Mercy is ready to take on.

"We're ready," Roberts said. "We have waited this long, and this is our opportunity to take advantage of it. I guess you will see."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Send game results and stats to [LivSports@hometownlife.com](mailto:LivSports@hometownlife.com).







# CC wrestling dominates Observerland Invitational

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Detroit Catholic Central wrestling team is back on top once again after throttling area opponents in the 29th annual Observerland Invitational at Livonia Churchill High School.

The Shamrocks won 11 of the 14 weight classes, and 11 of the 12 classes where they entered a wrestler. All 12 entrants reached their weight class's championship round.

CC finished with a team score of 389, well ahead of runner-up and last year's winner John Glenn, which finished with a team score of 217.

Last year, the Shamrocks only sent its CC White team to the Invitational and placed fifth. It was a different story this time around with its top wrestlers.

The highlight of the day was in the heavyweight final, which featured the state's top two wrestlers: CC's Steven Kolcheff (No. 1) and Livonia Franklin's Jake Swirple (No. 2). Swirple entered the day a perfect 41-0 on the season. Both raced through the bracket and met in the finals where Kolcheff won a 3-2 decision in overtime. There's a strong possibility that those two meet again in the individual state finals.

## Individual winners by weight class

**103:** CC's Drew Heethuis def. Northville's Josh Drake; third place: Canton's Brandon Watkins

**112:** CC's Anthony Walker def. John Glenn's Josh Mars; third place: Utica Eisenhower's Reese Willing

**119:** CC's Dylan Gilcher def. John Glenn's Ty Cowen; third place: Northville's Jack Gattoni

**125:** Rochester's Kavan Troy def. CC's Caleb White; third place: Churchill's Aidan Haupt

**130:** Franklin's Jager Kwiatkowski def. Churchill's Dan Bragiel; third place: John Glenn's Ayden Collins

**135:** Ortonville-Brandon's Bryson Gunn def. Grosse Pointe South's Alex Roth; third place: Churchill's Alex Wilson

**140:** CC's Camden Trupp def. Berkley's Luke Borman; third place: John Glenn's Charlie Kersten



Catholic Central senior Steven Kolcheff pins Brighton's Luke Stanton. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

**145:** CC's Josh Edmond def. Belleville's Connor Williams; third place: Northville's Nick Gattoni

**152:** CC's Marc Schaeffer def. John Glenn's Shawn Brown; third place: Churchill's Mike Bragiel

**160:** CC's Logan Sanom def. Belleville's Blake Williams; third place: Farmington's Raymond Justice

**171:** CC's Derek Gilcher def. John Glenn's Justin Morrison; third place: Rochester's Anthony Picirilli

**189:** CC's Manny Rojas def. John Glenn's Sadiq Sheikhmeeri; third place: Northville's Alex Lakowski

**215:** CC's Brendin Yatooma def. Canton's Guilian Bodiu; third place: Rochester's Josh Smith

**285:** CC's Steven Kolcheff def. Franklin's Jake Swirple; third place: Rochester's Magd Boutany

## Team standings

- 1 Catholic Central 389.00
- 2 Westland John Glenn 217.50
- 3 Northville 114.50
- 4 Rochester 114.00
- 5 Livonia Franklin 113.00
- 6 Livonia Churchill 99.00
- 7 Belleville 86.00
- 8 Canton 76.50
- 9 Plymouth 64.00
- 10 Troy 59.00

- 11 Westland John Glenn B 58.50
- 12 Berkley 56.00
- 13 Ortonville-Brandon 55.00
- 14 Farmington 52.00
- 15 Grosse Pointe South 52.00
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- 17 Waterford Mott 48.50
- 18 Salem 46.50
- 19 Utica Eisenhower 38.00
- 20 Livonia Franklin B 20.00
- 21 Garden City 16.00
- 22 Livonia Stevenson 13.00
- 23 Wayne Memorial 5.00

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at [availlenc@hometownlife.com](mailto:availlenc@hometownlife.com) or 810-923-0659. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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# Northville falls to Howell in showdown for first in KLAA West boys basketball

Bill Khan Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Nick Simon doesn't pigeon-hole his Howell basketball players into a single role, because that role can change in an instant.

An injury or foul trouble can require a player to morph from one role into another.

When Howell's lineup is whole, senior Peyton Ward is a designated defensive stopper, a role for which he's well-suited as someone who played linebacker on the football team.

But the Highlanders weren't whole in the first half Tuesday night, with leading scorer Tony Honkala missing a third game with a concussion and floor leader Bobby Samples on the bench for nearly 12 minutes after getting his second foul.

Enter Peyton Ward version 2.0, the point guard and 3-point specialist.

Ward scored a career-high 11 points, sinking three 3-pointers, in Howell's 40-28 victory at Northville on Jan. 28 in a battle for first place in the KLAA West.

Coming into the game, Ward's highest point total in three seasons on the varsity was nine points against Salem one week earlier. He was averaging 3.6 points per game.

After the first quarter ended in a 12-12 tie, Howell held Northville to 16 points over the final three quarters.

"We've been in a little bit of a tailspin on that end of the floor the last few games," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "Howell's really good. This has kind of turned into a little mini-rivalry over the last few years with us and them. We beat each other up pretty well on both ends of the floor."

"I thought our defense was great; we were happy only giving up 40. They have a number of weapons who all went off at different times. We needed to get almost every single stop the way the game was evolving, the way we were struggling to put the ball in the basket."

Howell scored the first eight points of the second half to take a 26-16 lead. The Mustangs never got closer than eight the rest of the way. Samples scored sev-



Howell's JD Dell scores while guarded by Northville's Jack Huddy on Jan. 28.

en points in the second half to finish with 10.

"A goal of ours wasn't to be leading halfway through; the goal was to win the division," Simon said. "Obviously, it puts us in a good place to reach our goals, but we haven't reached any of our goals yet, we haven't accomplished any of our goals we set. It's a nice start to it, but we have a long ways to go."

"Leading the first half can be a negative, too, because you're going to get every single team's best in the second half. We're going to have to get better each and every day to make sure we can win the division at the end of the year."

Zach Shoemaker scored 14 points and Grant Mathiesen eight for Northville, but the rest of the lineup produced only six points.

The teams will meet again in the final game of division play Feb. 21 at Howell.

"The division is extremely well-coached, with every team that's out there," Sander said. "The further you get into division play, teams are going to be better prepared, everybody's going to be scouted up. We've all been saying when we see each other, there are no easy nights. If you're off a little bit or if somebody surprises you and does something good, anybody can beat anybody."



Northville's Zach Shoemaker dunks the ball for two of his game-high 14 points in a 40-28 loss to Howell on Jan. 28. PHOTOS BY GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

## ASK HUMAN RESOURCES

# Locker-room talk should stay in the locker room



Johnny C. Taylor  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., a human resources expert, is tackling your questions as part of a series for USA TODAY. Taylor is president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management.

The questions are submitted by readers, and Taylor's answers below have been edited for length and clarity.

**Question: My boss and co-worker have inappropriate conversations at work about everything, including sex-related topics. The three of us work in a small space, so it's hard to ignore, nor do they try to hide it. I don't participate or show any interest, but that hasn't helped. I have plenty of specific complaints, but it's just me against them. I'm also concerned that I won't remain anonymous. What can I honestly expect HR to do if I get up the courage to report them? - Anonymous**

**Johnny C. Taylor Jr.:** I understand that voicing your concerns in this situation will take some courage, but I believe the effort is worth it. No one should be subject to a pattern of inappropriate, uncomfortable work conversations. But ignoring it rarely helps.

Before you go to HR, let me suggest another path. Try talking with your co-worker and your boss first, one at a time or together. You could explain, without appearing judgmental, that in your small environment, their conversations make you uncomfortable, and you'd like them to refrain when you are nearby. In many instances, this works and your colleagues become more discrete and respectful of you and the workplace.

But if a direct co-worker conversation doesn't work, you may need to go to a su-

perior uninformed in the conversations, or to human resources. Be sure to follow your organization's complaint or grievance procedures. Every organization has its own standards for professional behavior. You'll find these policies in employee handbooks and union contracts under such headings as Business Conduct, Professional Conduct, Employee Conduct, Work Rules, Codes of Ethics, etc. Every employee, including supervisors, can be held accountable to these policies.

I suspect that the problem will be resolved before you find yourself in HR's office, but once there, you should know that that anonymity is rarely possible when certain complaints are made known. But you can expect that a thorough, good faith investigation.

**Q: We need to hire a Spanish-speaker, and we have received many applications from DACA recipients. What are the rules regarding these candidates? Can we hire any of them? - Anonymous**

**Taylor:** The answer is yes, you can, so long as their work authorization documentation is current.

DACA stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the federal policy that allows qualified individuals who came to the U.S. as undocumented children to apply for a renewable work permit and defer any deportation action for two years. They are required to complete a form I-9 like any other new employee.

DACA recipients are issued an employment work authorization document, which makes them eligible to work until the authorization expires. When it does, the employer can ask the employee to renew his or her status, just like any other employee with an EAD.

The future of the DACA program is uncertain; but for now, the U.S. Citizenship



**No one should be subject to a pattern of inappropriate work conversations. But ignoring it rarely helps.**

and Immigration Services is accepting applications for DACA renewals, although it is not honoring new requests to participate in the program.

A number of DACA cases are awaiting their turn before the Supreme Court in 2020, and their outcome will determine the future of the DACA program and its recipients. If the program is terminated, the government will provide guidance for employers on how to deal with employees covered under the program.

Remember, though, employers should not ask applicants about their specific work authorizations before a contingent offer of employment is made to avoid any claims of discrimination.



# FBI: Man, 19, charged in string of robberies

Tresa Baldas Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Fast food holdups typically aren't the FBI's calling. But to Moses Champion's surprise, the feds made an exception last month, busting him in what they described as a series of fast-food robberies that terrorized multiple suburbs across metro Detroit.

According to a criminal complaint filed Jan. 29, Champion, 19, of Detroit was arrested and jailed on federal charges this week stemming from a string of armed robberies late last year that netted at least \$5,800.

Champion, the FBI says, held up four Taco Bell restaurants, a Starbucks and a Burger King — hiding his face behind a mask in each incident. He hopscotched across metro Detroit, court records show, hitting eateries in Milford, Dearborn Heights, Redford, Livonia, Independence Township and Auburn Hills. He didn't do this solo, but rather had an unnamed accomplice with him, court records show.

In the end, it was his DNA on a ski mask that did him in, court records show.

According to an FBI agent's affidavit filed in U.S. District Court, here is what led the feds to Champion, and what he and his cohort pulled off:

On Nov. 6, Dearborn Heights police responded to a

holdup at a Taco Bell on Telegraph Road.

Police, using K-9 search dogs, recovered evidence from the scene, including a black glove and a ski mask. The items were sent to the Michigan State Police, whose forensic lab took DNA from the ski mask. It led to a hit: Moses Champion.

On Dec. 28, Redford police responded to an armed robbery at a Starbucks on Telegraph Road. Two black males in ski masks entered the store with handguns and demanded the money, shouting: "put the money in the bag" and "hurry the f--- up or I'll shoot you." They fled with \$1,600.

On Dec. 15, Livonia police responded to a robbery at a Taco Bell on Merriman Road, where a man in a ski mask and bubble coat walked behind the counter, and demanded an employee open the safe, stating: "Don't make me shoot you." The suspect fled with \$1,983.

On Dec. 21, another Taco Bell was hit, this time in Independence Township on Sashabaw Road. Two black males in masks entered the store with handguns and demanded cash. One employee was held up against the wall and ordered not to move. Another was grabbed by one of the suspects and pushed to the front of the store. The pair fled with \$1,800.

On Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, a Taco Bell in Milford was hit, again by two black males wearing hoods and ski masks, demanding that the safe be opened. They

fled the scene with \$200.

On Dec. 28, a Burger King in Auburn Hills was held up, only that heist failed. After two black males in masks entered the store and implied they were armed with their actions, an employee ran out of the back of the store and activated the alarm. The suspects fled empty-handed.

Another month would pass before the FBI would get involved.

On Jan. 28, after collecting evidence from numerous police agencies, an FBI-led task force executed a search warrant at Champion's house.

According to the criminal complaint, Champion was home at the time, and detained. During the search, several items of clothing were recovered that matched clothing used in some of the robberies.

Law enforcement interviewed Champion, who according to the complaint, waived his Miranda rights, "admitted to his involvement" in five robberies and one attempted robbery.

According to the affidavit, Champion said that he tossed the .40 caliber handgun into a lake after the botched robbery at the Burger King in Auburn Hills.

Champion was charged with robbery and using a weapon in a crime of violence.

Champion's court-appointed lawyer was not available for comment.

## New Hudson window company plans to expand

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Best friends and business partners Matt Masters and Adrian Beaver hit it off when they were each running their own window and home improvement companies.

They joined forces and founded Pure Energy Window Company in 2014.

The co-owners say their Michigan-based replacement window, door and insulation company's growth over the years left them needing a larger building for their salesroom, warehouse and office headquarters.

Late last year, they purchased the former Brighton Harley-Davidson building at 5942 Whitmore Lake Road.

They are gearing up to remodel the interior of the more than 30,000-square-foot building and plan to open this summer.

"When people shop for replacement windows, it's usually because they are upset with their current, trashy windows and they are looking to upgrade," Masters, of Milford, said.

The company specializes in selling and installing custom-made, high-energy efficient windows, entry doors, storm doors and garage doors. They also do attic insulation installation.

Masters said their trademarked windows — they



Pure Energy Window Company purchased the former Brighton Harley-Davidson. LIVINGSTON DAILY FILE

have them manufactured by Sunrise Windows in Temperance — provide energy efficiency that is "not even close to other companies."

Beaver, of Green Oak Township, said their triple-paned, heavily-insulated windows typically improve a home's energy efficiency by 10 times or more, when compared to builder-grade windows installed in many homes, condos and businesses.

### Steady growth

When they founded the company, which was originally located in Lansing, they had 10 employees.

"We now have over 80 employees," Masters said.

In 2015, they moved the business to its approximately 17,000-square-foot New Hudson location.

"We are currently in a building we are leasing and the lease is up at the end of this year, so we were looking to buy a new location," Masters said.

Then the Brighton Harley-Davidson building was put up for sale. It closed in September.

The motorcycle dealership consolidated with Motor City Harley-Davidson at 24800 Haggerty Road in Farmington Hills. Majority owner of both locations, Tom Celani, purchased the Brighton location in 2013, and expanded the then-17,000-square-foot building, about doubling its size.

"We were drawn to Brighton because of how the business network is here. We wanted to be in Brighton. It wasn't so much about the building but the idea of how people in Brighton support each other," Masters said.

He said they hope to experience "slow growth" at their new location.

In the meanwhile, they will be busy building out the interior. It will feature a nearly 2,000-square-foot sales showroom up front.

## Obituaries

### Sharon K. Allen

**NORTHVILLE** - Age 80. A lifelong resident of Northville, Sharon passed away after a long battle with cancer on January 26, 2020. She was born on May 12, 1939 to Austin Malcolm "Mike" and Inga Henrietta (nee Stamman) Allen. In 1958, she graduated from Northville High School then began a career in retail culminating with her retirement from Kroger. She had an incredibly strong faith in God and was a member of First Baptist Church of Wixom where she taught Sunday School for many years. She loved animals and always had a furry companion or two. She enjoyed being outside in her garden watching the birds and squirrels that she kept well-fed. She was creative, liked crafting with her family, and loved to receive handmade gifts. Sharon was a very jovial, loving, and devoted daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. We will miss her "hi honey" greetings and her capturing family gatherings with her seemingly endless supply endless of disposable cameras.

She is survived by her brother Jim (Pat) Allen, nephew Scott (Dana), niece Shari, great-nieces Heather and Nicole, great nephew Justin, and stepmother Betty. Sharon was preceded in death by her parents and her dear friend Clay.

A graveside service was held last Monday at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. A memorial service will be held at the First Baptist Church of Wixom at a later date. Memorial contributions would be appreciated to the First Baptist Church of Wixom, 620 N. Wixom Road, Wixom, MI 48393 or the Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.



### Sam Hagenian

**NOVI** - Sam Hagenian of Novi, MI, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 92.

Devoted husband of Antoinette (Toni) nee Vogel for 59 years. Loving father to Kathy (Tim McDonald) Hagenian, Michael (Karen) Hagenian, Liz (Jack) Buoscio.

Devoted Grandpa to Sean, Kasey, Luke, Nicole, Alex, Samantha, Olivia, and Ben. Brother of the late Mikel (Beryl) Hagenian.

Sam was born to Dikranhouhi nee Djebidelikian and Missak (Mike) Hagenian on April 22, 1927 in Detroit, MI. He graduated from Cass Technical High School and enlisted in the Navy in 1945. He served proudly on a ship based in Adak, Alaska through the end of World War II and then in the Naval Reserves. After the war, he graduated from Michigan State where he was an active member of Psi Upsilon Fraternity. He spent the majority of his career as a manufacturer's representative in the electronics industry. He was introduced to Toni, the love of his life, by his best friend; at first sight, he said "I'm going to marry her." Sam and Toni spent 26 years raising their family in Lathrup Village, MI before retiring to Scottsdale, AZ. They returned to the metro Detroit area in 2000 to be closer to family, living in South Lyon and then Novi, MI.

Sam was known to all as a thoughtful and generous soul who touched the hearts of many. He never met a stranger and took great joy in helping others, no matter how great or small the task.

A private family service was held on Saturday, January 11. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lewy Body Dementia Association would be appreciated, <https://www.lbda.org/donate>. The family welcomes memories, photos, and messages in their guest book online <https://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Sam-Hagenian/>.



## Bar Louie closes Flint pub, files for bankruptcy

Susan Selasky Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Gastropub chain Bar Louie announced it has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy and closed more than 30 underperforming locations, including at least one in Michigan.

Several locations of the Texas-based chain abruptly closed late last month, The Nation's Restaurant News reported. It appears that only one Michigan location, near Flint, is among those that closed.

The company also is putting itself up for sale, agreeing to allow its lender to purchase them.

According to Bar Louie, it has closed underperforming locations and has commitments from lenders for "debtor-in-possession (DIP) financing."

The financing, Bar Louie said in a statement, allows it to continue operating.

"Bar Louie is a profitable business focused on long-term growth with new investors. The sale through Chapter 11 will help us to focus on our profitable core locations and expand in areas that have a proven track record of success," said CEO Tom Fricke.

A search on the company's website revealed locations in Ann Arbor, Auburn Hills, Clinton Township, Dearborn, Livonia, Novi, Rochester Hills and Royal Oak. On the website, a location at Genesee Valley Center in Flint Township was shown as permanently closed.

Bar Louie in Royal Oak opened in March 2019 and is a franchise location that is locally owned. Managing partner Chad Apap said its location is not impacted by the bankruptcy filing. Calls to other locations were referred to corporate offices.

According to a Facebook post, the Flint Township location's last day of service was last Saturday.

While many commenters on the Facebook post said they were sorry to see the location close, plenty pounced on Bar Louie for not giving its employees notice and abruptly shutting down.

One comment from a worker's parent said they found out when they reported for work the next day and found a note on the door saying the restaurant was closed.

Bar Louie's menu has a mix of craft burgers, salads, bar bites appetizers and main dishes.



## HOW I BECAME A ...

# Culinary star has a taste for hard work

Roman likes the variety her jobs can serve up

**Susannah Hutcheson**  
Special to USA TODAY

Our series "How I became a ..." digs into the stories of accomplished and influential people, finding out how they got to where they are in their careers.

From her beginnings working in the restaurant scene to becoming a cook with viral recipes such as #TheCookies and #TheStew, Alison Roman is quite the culinary jill-of-all-trades. As the bestselling author of cookbooks "Dining In" and "Nothing Fancy" as well as a columnist for New York Times Cooking and Bon Appetit, Roman always has her hands on a keyboard or working on a stovetop.

USA TODAY caught up with the food writer and chef extraordinaire to talk about everything from Joan Didion and oat milk to learning to say no and consistently cultivating staying power in everything she does.

**Question: How did you get your start?**

**Alison Roman:** I started by working in kitchens, working in restaurants as a pastry cook. That looks very different than my life does now, but I was working in restaurants and doing service and coming up with dishes that went on menus, things like that.

It basically all relates to each other. I don't think that I would have been as strong of a writer about food had I not cooked professionally and had that background experience. It also teaches you a ridiculous work ethic that is challenging to find elsewhere.

**Q: What does a typical day look like for you?**

**Roman:** A typical day is super atypical. It really depends – if I'm shooting photos or videos or shopping for those things, or I'm doing neither and I'm writing or traveling or running errands and trying to stay on top of my general life administration. I feel like I do so



Alison Roman started her career by working in kitchens and in restaurants as a pastry chef. NIKOLE HERRIOTT AND MICHAEL GRAYDON

many different things all the time that there truly is no typical day, which makes things very challenging.

**Q: What's your favorite part about your job?**

**Roman:** It's different all the time; it pushes me creatively and intellectually, and I get to have contact with people and teach them things and have an impact on their lives. It's a completely

## Quick hits

**What's your coffee order?**  
Oat milk cortado, iced black, or a regular black.

**What's your favorite book?**  
I'm really bad at favorites, but I'm rereading "Slouching Towards Bethlehem" right now, which is so good.

**What's your favorite song at the moment?**  
I've been listening to a lot of King Princess.

**Who have been your biggest mentors?**  
I've been really lucky to have many mentors in the various stages of my career, but I have two chefs I worked for – Ron Mendoza and William Werner – who really helped shape a lot of my work ethic and basic understanding of pastry, cooking, and baking. As I moved more into editorial, I had a lot of really great champions. Christine Muhlke and Adam Rapoport were both so wonderful at championing me and pursuing my own thing.

**What's the coolest thing you've ever done?**  
My whole life is really cool. I feel very fortunate and happy to have done several cool things. I was actually just thinking that today while we were shooting videos for The New York Times. I find as much joy in that as if I'm recording [a podcast] with NPR or going on a vacation to Mexico. The coolest thing I've done is shape my life to be able to do a bunch of cool things.

cess?

**Roman:** Really hard work, and not letting things that I find challenging deter me. I think that I have come up against a lot of things that I struggled with, but I've never thought that meant I shouldn't be doing what I wanted to be doing.

**Q: How do you balance work, life, and such a busy schedule?**

**Roman:** That's something I'm working on. I think that as I get more secure in my career and more successful, it's much easier for me to kind of say no to things and to make time for myself, my friends, and protect my space and personal life. I find that to be easier and easier, and I think I'm getting there. But, just understanding that I'm not going to be very good at my job or to anyone else if I am feeling run ragged because I haven't set aside any time for myself.

**Q: What have been some career highlights?**

**Roman:** I'll never forget the first time I was published in Bon Appetit, I'll never forget the first time I got a job as a pastry chef, I'll never forget being recognized for the things that I was putting on menus in restaurants, I'll never forget my first column in The New York Times or making The New York Times bestseller's list, or these milestones that I feel like only happen once that truly do feel so, so special.

**Q: What advice would you give to someone who wants to follow in your footsteps?**

**Roman:** Try different things. Always say yes. Push yourself. Just know that it's not going to be easy. Nothing just falls into your lap, and if it does it's not going to last for very long. You have to constantly be thinking about how to make something secure and stable. Things will come your way, and you may achieve a small amount of success by accident, but in order to really keep it and have staying power, you have to actually work at it, and work really hard. It's like a plant that you have to water and feed and take care of.

**Q: To what do you credit your suc-**

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### How Boomers can overcome ageism in the workplace

**Kate Lopaze**  
thejobnetwork.com

Often when we hear about "unconscious bias" in hiring and recruiting it's focused on gender or cultural discrimination. And while those are significant barriers to many job seekers, there's one that can be just as insidious: ageism. Companies may not be intentionally discriminating against mid- or late-career employees, but many people inadvertently internalize stereotypes about older people in general: He's over 60, he'll probably retire soon anyway, so why make the long-term investment? She's probably not very technically savvy...Would he be able to innovate?

To overcome these kinds of stereotypes, many Boomer job seekers feel pressure to appear young and hip, potentially shortchanging the many advantages they bring to any job interview or application: experience and hard-earned skills. So how should you approach the job search in a world of ageist typecasting?

#### Debunk the myths

Older workers are often perceived as less open to change or resistant to new training or methods. You can challenge those supposed "norms" by creating an application package that shows your flexibility — as well as your willingness to embrace change.

One way to accomplish this is by making your resume and cover letter very active. Using powerful action verbs and focusing on ways you've shifted and adapted along the way can help show movement.

For example, in your work experience bullet points, instead of saying things like "responsible for," use words like "in-



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novated," "implemented," or "onboard." If you've been on the cutting edge of anything in your career (a new process, a new system, a new technology), flaunt it.

#### Embrace your experience (and admit it)

Do you know what advantage younger job seekers don't have? The long tail

of experience. If you're worried about appearing overqualified, you have the luxury of editing your job history. You don't need to list every job you've ever had; and in fact, that can be a deterrent to someone who has just a few seconds to read your resume and determines whether to move you forward.

Highlight only the most important and relevant points of your job experience and really make them shine. You

should be aware of creating any "gaps" in your employment history that might seem odd, but by using a header like "Relevant Work History" you can convey to the reader that you're creating a thoughtful, curated list of work experience. (Though you should still be prepared to provide dates, company names, or other details about any other jobs you've had.)

#### Always be learning

One of the most effective ways to overcome stereotypes as an older applicant is to show that you haven't checked out and are still actively engaged in your career path. Taking classes (either traditional or online), adding new tech skills, or publishing fresh professional content on social media shows you're not only keeping on top of things but are also seeking out new knowledge and experiences.

#### Be confident in who you are and the experience you have

In an ideal state of things, no one would have to take extra steps just to show that they can still hack it in today's professional world. But in the world we have, putting some extra care and attention into showcasing your talents and experience can help put you in a better position to fight bias. You bring so much value to the table and remembering that fact can give you an extra confidence boost as you hunt for new opportunities.

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

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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

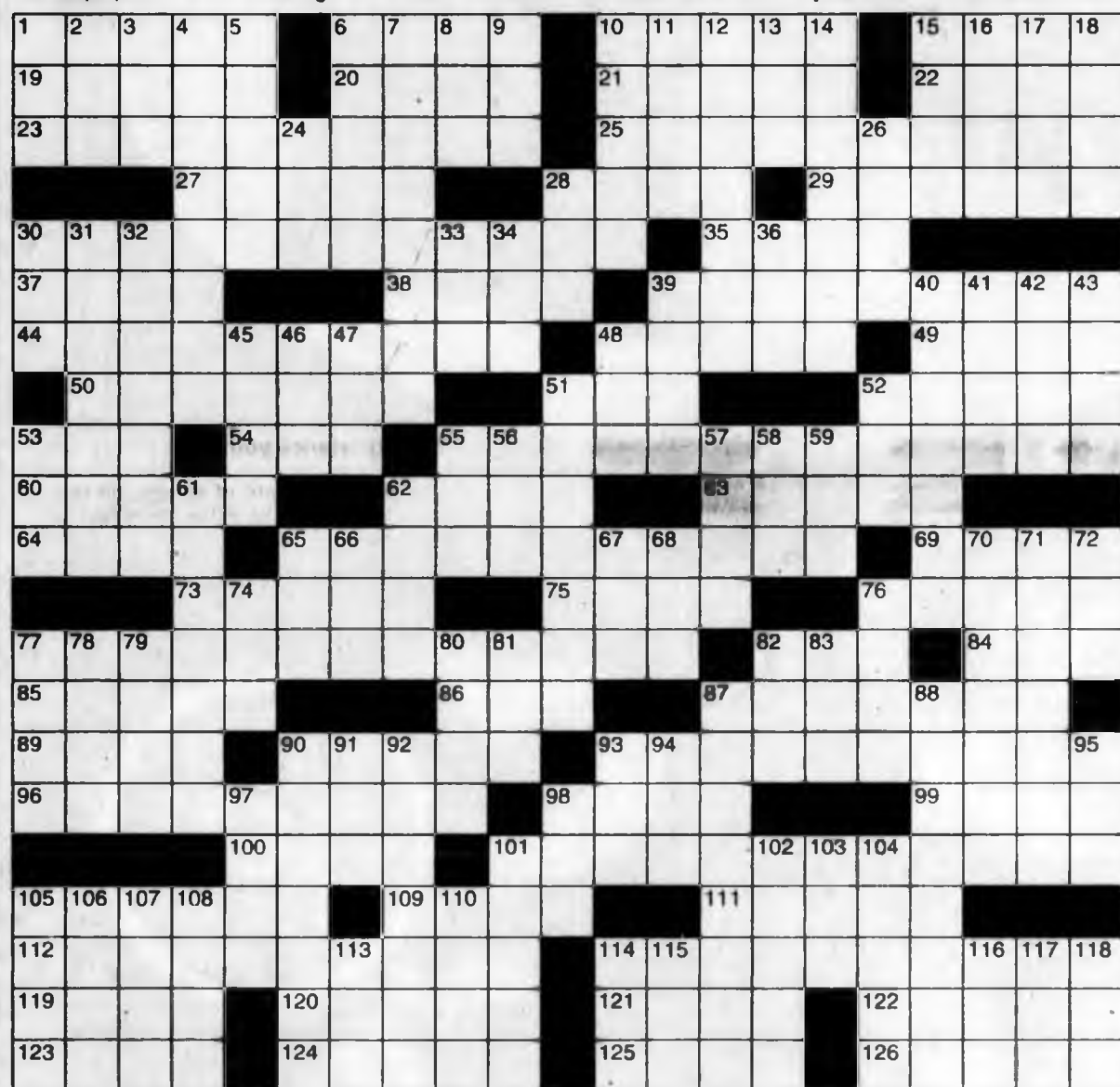
## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

## ACROSS

- 1 Uncertainty  
6 Home to the Taj Mahal  
10 Sporty Mazda  
15 Pats gently  
19 Mistake  
20 Co. bigwigs  
21 Tunesmith Harold  
22 Opera solo  
23 Denim pants that rise up to the navel?  
25 Illusions a postman performs with his letters?  
27 Astrologer Sydney  
28 Small dent  
29 Discusses at length, with "over"  
30 Bet taker who's great with scissors?  
35 Weed-nixing tools  
37 — B'rith  
38 "— afraid of that"  
39 Baffle a lecherous fellow?  
44 Actor Crystal playing a high-ranking policeman?  
48 Ship spars
- 49 Marganne, quaintly  
50 Pants lines  
51 Ump relative  
52 Ridicule  
53 Busy crawler  
54 Phone bug  
55 Violent guys on a Greek island?  
60 "Can — witness?"  
62 Abbr. on a bank door  
63 Eagle's nest  
64 Make anew  
65 Add cornstarch to spiced tea?  
69 Sitanst Shankar  
73 Appeals  
75 Debt memos  
76 Involving warships  
77 Bloated dancer?  
82 Genetic helix  
84 Sugar suffix  
85 Florida Air Force Base  
86 Realty unit  
87 Uses logic  
89 Kingly Norse name  
90 Seismic event  
93 Romantic song sung with an audience watching?
- 96 What might result in an octuple bogey?  
98 Arizona tribe  
99 Oscar — Renta  
100 Currency unit of 11-Down  
101 Solution to rinse partially closed eyes?  
105 Akron native  
109 Sale caveat  
111 Olive-green songbird  
112 Supermarket vehicles within easy reach?  
114 Comic  
119 Longish skirt  
120 Kellogg's waffles  
121 City in central Poland  
122 Beast of Borden  
123 Plumlike fruit  
124 Tending to ooze  
125 Comply with  
126 Ford fiasco
- 4 Cowboys' neck cords  
5 "Go ahead, I'm listening"  
6 Sour-tasting  
7 Transmission lubricants  
8 "Hellboy" star  
9 Beast of burden  
10 First lady Eisenhower  
11 Persia, now  
12 Dismounts from a horse  
13 — Aviv  
14 Patriotic songs  
15 Lectern spot  
16 Shoe part  
17 BMX vehicle  
18 Give lip to  
24 Pantry item  
26 Scraping file  
28 Belittle, informally  
30 Ottawa-based TV network  
31 Disconnect, as a door  
32 Sullied  
33 Barn hooter  
34 Eloise creator  
36 Ump's cry  
39 Ump's cry  
40 Musical period since the 1950s  
41 Balm additive
- 42 Deborah of "Quo Vadis"  
43 Huge spans  
45 Greek cheese  
46 Lamb's call  
47 Bratty kid  
48 Encountered  
51 Proof of purchase  
52 — fi  
53 Make public  
55 Public health agcy.  
56 "Drop Dead Fred" star  
57 Infants' cries  
58 "Isn't — little old for her?"  
59 Jackie's "O"  
61 Best-of list countable on one hand  
62 Closed hand  
65 Actor Danson  
66 Possesses  
67 — Valley, San Francisco  
68 Mongrel dog  
70 "Anne of Green Gables" town  
71 Feudal tenants  
72 Dot in la mer  
74 Actor Carrou  
76 Skylab work  
77 Lowly organ  
78 Aptly named hybrid fruit
- 79 Custard tart  
80 Deer cousins  
81 "Annabel Lee" poet  
82 Wildlife lair  
83 Arrest  
87 Enter hostilely again  
88 Europe, Asia and Africa  
90 Pear relatives  
91 Hagen of the stage  
92 Like fugitives  
93 —wester (storm type)  
94 — Pen  
95 Lah-di-  
97 Talk to God  
98 Command ctrs.  
101 Actress Spacek  
102 Fluster  
103 Previous to  
104 Zellweger of Hollywood  
105 Resistance units  
106 Salute  
107 — -Chinese  
108 Pooch in "Garfield"  
110 Knock off  
113 Get mellow  
114 Slo- — fuse  
115 Knock off  
116 Ar-tee linkup  
117 Fizzle out  
118 Costa — Sol

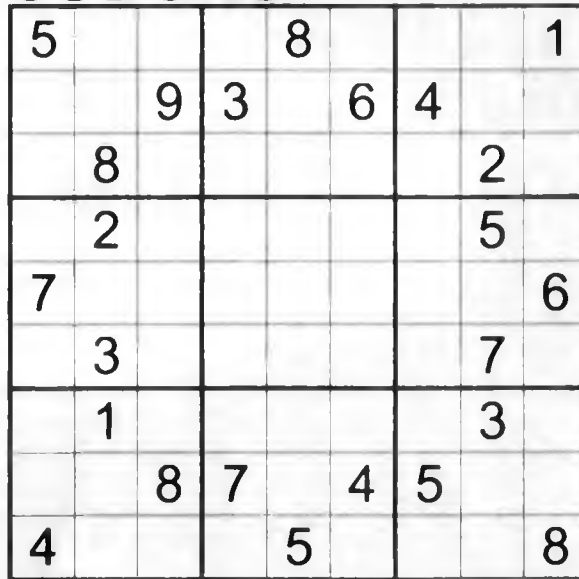
## DOWN

- 1 Cotillion star  
2 Mine metal  
3 Net address



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

## SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

Here's How It Works:

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

## GAMEPLAY WORD SEARCH

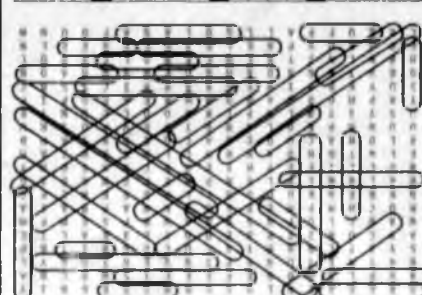
O R G G A C N L O S V B M O D E G B I Y  
A H P L A O O D E F F E C T S W P C B A  
N R T K I T U N E F I N V E N T O R Y L  
S Y I T L N H M T A C U C D G B I T B P  
A Y C U H I T P B E B O Y O I K A L T E  
W A W C L O F N S W N A W M F S E M F M  
M O C H M P M E E S E T N M A M P A I A  
N K R E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

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

## WORDS

ABANDONWARE  
ACTION  
AGGRO  
ALPHA  
ANALOG  
BALANCE  
BIT  
BOARD  
BUFF  
CAMPAIGN  
CHECKPOINT  
CLONE  
CONSOLE  
CONTENT  
CONTROLLER  
DAMAGE  
DEVELOPMENT  
DISPLAY  
EFFECTS  
ELECTRONIC  
FARMING  
FREE  
GAMEPLAY  
GHOST  
GRAPHICS  
HEALTH  
INVENTORY  
LIFE  
MAP  
MOD  
MODE  
PLAYING  
PORT  
RELEASE  
ROLE  
SHOW

## ANSWER KEY



8	1	9	8	9	2	2	6	7
2	6	9	7	1	2	8	9	8
4	8	2	8	6	9	9	1	2
6	2	1	2	9	9	7	8	8
9	7	2	6	8	8	1	9	2
8	9	8	1	2	7	9	2	6
2	2	6	9	7	1	8	9	9
9	8	7	9	2	8	6	2	1
1	9	8	2	8	6	2	7	9

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