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# ORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# Northville group talks road projects, safety

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There is a room in the Northville Downtown Development Authority headquarters - half-jokingly nicknamed "The War Room" — that is temporarily wallpapered with aerial maps of the city, most of which are brightened represent potential change.

The room's modest group of frequent occupants — all volunteers with an eye on preparing their hometown for the seismic change that will accompany generational development (aka The Downs project) - make up the Northville Mobility Network Team, which has

by curvy, fluorescent-colored lines that been meeting periodically the past several weeks.

Don't let the team's unpaid status fool you. They mean business.

Following an i formation-packed presentation during the Dec. 6 Northville City Council's weekly Zoom meeting, Nancy Darga, who chairs the Northville River Restoration Task Force, emphasized the urgency by which decision-makers must act on the team's five prioritized action sites.

"It's important that the city assemble (a team of consultants) quickly so we can take advantage of safe school funding programs that are available and

See ROADS, Page 4A

## **Commerce** man sent to trial for allegedly killing wife

She worked for Novi schools

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

His competency affirmed, Vincent Vuichard could go to trial to face allegations that he murdered his wife, a popular and beloved Novi Community School District employee.

Novi's 52-1 District Court Judge Robert Bondy sent his case to the higher Oakland County Circuit Court after listening to testimony from a medical examiner and people who visited Vuichard's Commerce Township home after his wife, Tanya, failed to report to

Testimony during the Dec. 14 preliminary examination largely duplicated the summary provided by Oakland County Sheriff's deputies when they sought a warrant for their case.

A medical examiner confirmed that Tanya Vuichard, 59, died from deep, severe wounds to her neck, and a deputy testified that he visited the Vuichard's Chesapeake Circle home the morning of May 17 to find a bundle wrapped in a comforter on the bathroom floor.

According to his testimony, the deputy asked what was inside, and Vuichard said his wife. Deputies removed the blanket, loosened the gar-

"It was a dead body of a female," Deputy John Jacob said. "She was obviously deceased."

See TRIAL, Page 4A

# South Lyon schools add to full-time police staff



South Lyon Police Officer Tim Walton serves as the school resource officer at Millennium Middle School. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

South Lyon Community Schools officials added two more full-time police officers to its buildings in an effort to protect students and staff and aid in preventing a catastrophe like the one that befell Oxford High School Nov. 30 when a shooter gunned down a teacher and 10 students, killing four.

Oakland County Sheriff's Office Depty Sandra Ostrand will join two Lyon Township deputies already assigned to the high schools, alternating her time between South Lyon and South Lyon

Additionally, City of South Lyon Police Officer Tim Walton has been reassigned from road patrol to be the school resource officer for both Centennial and Millennium middle schools, a position that has been missed at the schools for the past few years due to budget cuts.

"I hope this does a couple things," Superintendent Steve Archibald said. "I want to make sure students, staff and parents know that student safety is our priority with the presence of the school resource officers. I hope that our partnership with the police provides comfort and reassurance to students, family and staff. We want people to feel safe in our schools. We want them to not just feel (safe), but to be safe in our schools."

On Dec. 6, less than a week after the Oxford High School shooting in which four students were killed, Archibald called South Lyon Police Chief Chris Sovik and asked for an officer to be placed in the middle schools, both of which are within the city boundaries.

Sovik's response was an immediate

"The safety of our kids in our schools is the South Lyon Police's priority, everything else is secondary," Sovik said. "Our number one priority remains the

See POLICE, Page 2A

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"If and when something does happen, that relationship allows us to be both proactive as well as responsive. ... You can't put a price on it."

Steve Archibald
Superintendent, South Lyon Community Schools

### **Police**

Continued from Page 1A

safety of these kids in school."

Walton will be the full-time middle school resource officer through at least the end of the school year. Archibald wants him in the middle schools next school year, too. But even in the midst of fresh fears over school safety and threats that canceled classes after Oxford, concerns about money and who pays for this protection are already being raised.

During the Dec. 13 South Lyon City Council meeting at which Sovik announced Walton's reassignment to the schools, he said a detective would be moved over to road patrol and other officers would share detective duties as a result. While citizens would not see a decrease in service, Sovik asked for the council to consider adding staff to the department.

In 2008, the department had 18 officers, but one was lost in the downturn, and another to retirement. Now one is needed in the schools.

"For me, it's not about putting a South Lyon officer in the district," Councilwoman Maggie Kurtzweil said. "The issue is financial responsibility, a clash of ideology: whose ledger is responsible for carrying that cost. I've always argued, and will continue to argue, that is a school district line item that comes out of their budget."

Councilmen Steve Kennedy and Glenn Kivell agreed that the cost for a resource officer is a school expendi-

The argument is not a new one. Other Oakland County communities have grappled with who bears the cost of a school liaison officer, particularly when a district is comprised of students who cross borders.

Archibald said he is grateful to have some financial assistance from Lyon Township, which shares the cost for one of the two school resource officers in the high schools.

The cost of the third Oakland County Sheriff's Office deputy now being added will be picked up by the district for now

Archibald said he expects the cost to the district for both additional officers for the remainder of the school year to be about \$115,000, but the peace of mind provided is invaluable and what may be prevented is incalculable.

"It makes us more effective," Archibald said. "If and when something does happen, that relationship allows us to be both proactive as well as responsive. In addition to the expertise, it's important that a school resource officer has a demeanor that fits well in the school environment, and when you have that, the officer is a valuable resource for parents, students and school personnel and viewed as part of the school community. You can't put a price on it."

sbromley@hometownlife.com

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### Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist Mobile: 248-396-3870

Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com
Follow us on Faceboook: @OEHometown

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Wayne Memorial School Resource Officer Jordan Arndt greets freshman Thomas Schroeder on Dec. 8. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# School resource officers strive to connect, keep schools safe

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Sgt. Mike Simpson has been a more visible presence at Birmingham Seaholm High School ever since four students were shot and killed in nearby Oxford.

As a school resource officer working as a liaison between schools and police, he is striving to be a positive, vigilant police presence as this nightmare unfolds.

The full-fledged law enforcer jokes and kids and shares aspects of his own life so students feel comfortable approaching him yet stays serious about practicing safety skills during some scary times.

It's a role that could save lives if Seaholm or other schools in the district ever has an active shooter.

Two weeks after the lives of Oxford's teens were in peril, Simpson is doing his best to re-establish some normalcy on campus. He's on Seaholm's campus more often and he's in closer contact with students, staff and administrators.

"You're starting to see a lot of kids say, 'Hey, thanks for being here today,' which is very nice," Simpson said. "I've developed some relationships here this week with kids. Yeah, I've been in the school before but now they've seen me every single day for the last week or so walking around, in and out of classrooms."

Simpson is an Oxford High School graduate who still lives in his hometown. He was at work in Birmingham when he learned of the school shooting. He has shared that personal detail with students who have questions about Seaholm's safety.

Like other police officers in metro
Detroit, he is working longer hours in
an effort to make his school community feel safe while personally reeling
from a nightmare that truly hit home
for him. Safety, he said, is always a pri-

"You hate to train for these types of things, but you have to. You just have to," he said. "There's evidence that this type of training — like the ALICE training that Oxford did — saved lives.

Most school districts in the Hometown Life area have assigned school resource officers or security for the high schools and sometimes other school buildings, too. Clarenceville School District is the outlier with no assigned SRO.

Completion of the SRO's manifold responsibilities are directly tied to those police officers' relationships with students as school communities navigate the school shootings across the nation and now nearby.

"There's definitely students who are panicked and in fear," Jordan Arndt, Wayne Memorial's school resource officer, said. "I think the good things is — all the ones that I've had contact with understand the seriousness of it and how it's not a joke.

"It kind of hits closer to home because of how close Oxford High School was. It's just something you have to think about. It doesn't matter what school you work at. I don't think this is 100 percent preventable unfortunately. You just have to train and be mentally prepared to stop it as fast as possible."

### Police stationed in schools across the nation

School resource officers have been around for decades.

The National Police Foundation

credits Flint for creating the first schoolbased officer position in 1958 to improve relationships between local police and youth. As more agencies followed Flint's lead, programming shifted toward gang and drug resistance.

Now there is the push for school resource officers to engage with students, parents, school staff and administrators.

School shootings like Columbine in 1999, Sandy Hook in 2012, Marjory Stoneman Douglas in 2018 and now Oxford in 2021 keep altering the learning land-scape and safety protocols.

Oxford's sad, painful, ongoing ordeal has local school resource officers expecting a call for more badged personnel in schools and close reviews of preparedness plans already filled with training, education and lockdown drills.

Their input is invaluable since they are considered a vital link between police departments and school communities. Plus, their presence makes everyone feel safer as they teach, counsel, mentor and watch over students.

Mo Canady, executive director at the National Association of School Resource Officers, said his agency's training, membership services and conference attendance most likely will spike as it did after the 2018 shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

"Most reasonable people knew this was coming because of really the perfect storm of the pandemic and everything else going on in our lives and our society," Canady said. "Any time an incident like that happens, we grieve along with everyone else, but our point is always going to be in that situation that SROs can and do save lives. It appears to have happened in Oxford."

Oxford's high school shooting unfolded in about five minutes. With another sheriff's deputy, the law enforcer assigned to patrol the halls and campus disarmed and arrested Ethan Crumbley, 15.

School resource officers typically are armed and wearing their uniforms. After Columbine, they were instructed that they or the first patrol officers arriving will immediately go after the shooter instead of waiting for a SWAT team.

### Police in school seen as 'valued resource'

Livonia Superintendent Andrea Oquist was a Livonia elementary school principal about 20 years ago when the district welcomed its first school resource officer. Each high school now has one, and they service other schools in the district.

Oquist credits school resource officers as "a valued resource for us within the school community without question."

"The best thing we can provide are well-trained staff, administrators and security personnel," Oquist said. "Thankfully, our district is able to provide all three of those."

This is Northville Township Officer Mike Brown's first year as a school resource officer at the high school. He likes the potential to have an impact on children by being a guest speaker or giving lessons on the Fourth Amendment, which is meant to protect people from unreasonable searches and seizures by the government.

A former high school athlete, he'll try initiating a conversation with those he sees wearing sports jerseys. He also shares information about his own life so children realize police officers are people too

The most important thing about the

school resource officer is building positive relationships with the staff members and the student members," he said.

"If there ever is an issue, they're more likely to approach me and kind of let me know what's going on."

#### Fallout after Oxford shooting

Some school resource officers have been particularly busy since Oxford because of fear, threats, social media and precautions in light of the changed environment. They've been gathering evidence that prosecutors are using to charge children for their threats of violence.

Oakland County Sheriff's deputies investigated a report of shots fired at Walled Lake Central High School in Commerce Township. Two Rochester schools went on lockdown because of a suspicious note. Plymouth-Canton high school students — attending three high schools, each with a school resource officer, on the same campus — were in lockdown mode for hours because a student was seen with a weapon.

"Today, we had a report of a child that had a weapon," Canton Police Chief Chad Baugh said during a Dec. 9 press conference outside police headquarters, about an hour before students

### On the beat

Parkland's tragedy compelled the Milford Police Department to created the school resource officer position that Detective Dan Caldwell has held for a few school years.

He has been investigating social media threats as a detective and as the school resource officer for a middle and two elementary schools in the village's limits.

Because he works with younger students, he can work on educating and having an impact on youngsters.

He sometimes deals with students who are already vaping. Typically, citations are waived if the youngsters complete a diversionary program.

"That's been extremely successful," he said. "That's another benefit to the ties of law enforcement to the school. There's a myth (that) having school resource officers or law enforcement in the school is a direct path to jail. It's actually the complete opposite in my

### Larger presence may be new normal

A former Northville Township school resource officer, Caroline Czelada has been patrolling Silver Springs Elementary School as part of the department's decision to be extra present during arrival and dismissal times since the Oxford shooting.

"I'm getting a lot of waves and (people) mouthing thank you," she said. "It's just community engagement if anything."

As a former school resource officer and mom, she has been reinforcing with her children safety principles, why drills should be taken seriously and what they would feel comfortable doing if their schools had an active shooter.

"Really just giving them permission. Whatever they feel comfortable doing in the moment, they can do," Czelada said. "If they want to run all the way home, they can do it.

"I really feel passionate about school and kids. I want to make sure that they are armed with the knowledge that they need to make good decisions."

svela@hometownlife.com

# A year ago today, father and son killed in rare South Lyon homicide

Susan Vela

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

A year ago today, a gun's blast split the night, killing 17-year-old Dylan Stamper in his South Lyon home.

The homicide on East Liberty Street was the first in decades involving a firearm, and Dylan's death realized a bleak distinction of transforming to a double homicide less than a month later.

Kevin Stamper, Dylan's father, succumbed to his own gunshot injuries. He was 43.

"We haven't had other murders in the city in quite some time," South Lyon Police Chief Chris Sovik said. "We have had child deaths due to abuse, but the difference with the Stampers is that drugs were involved."

Relatives have declined to speak to Hometown Life since the Stampers died. Court testimony so far implicated an intended marijuana deal that devolved into gunfire.

Alleged gunman Fadi Zeineh and his accused Anthony accomplice Marshall Porter face various charges that include murder for Zeineh and armed robbery for Porter. They are scheduled for January pre-trial conferences.

For South Lyon and Lyon Township residents curious about some of the community's more nefarious episodes, here are some details from Hometown Life archives:

Lyon Township mobile home after visiting a

store to find her husband

The Michigan Wom-

en's Justice and Clemen-

cy Project apparently has

shot her drug-addict-

November 1985: A

family argument be-

tween a mother and her

son at an East Lake Street

home resulted in the

mother's death from

Sveska, was arrested and

charged with murdering

16-gauge shotgun used in

the crime. They had wit-

nessed small pieces of

wood apparently from

the gun stock near the body in the kitchen.

was sitting on a couch,

still talking on the tele-

The son apparently

Police confiscated the

his mother Evelyn, 62.

Her then 27-year-old son Kristopher Lynn

"multiple blunt trauma."

ed, abusive husband out

of fear," reads the pro-

fought for leniency.

ject's website.

dead in bed.

December 2006: An 11-month old girl died, and her South Lyon father was accused of mur-

South Lyon police arrested Steven Lindsey McBurney, saying his child abuse killed Madison McBurney.

She suffered a subdural hematoma which caused severe swelling and bleeding of the brain, plus retinal hemorrhaging, which is often found with shaken baby syndrome.

Police said the father confessed to becoming frustrated with his daughter and throwing her into her crib when she wouldn't cease crying. He said her head hit a spindle, causing her to have a seizure.

He called 911. The child's mother, a nurse, was at work when the abuse apparently occurred.

August 2006: Christopher Adam Lucas was accused of beating his girlfriend's mother to death in the living room of her Lyon Township home.

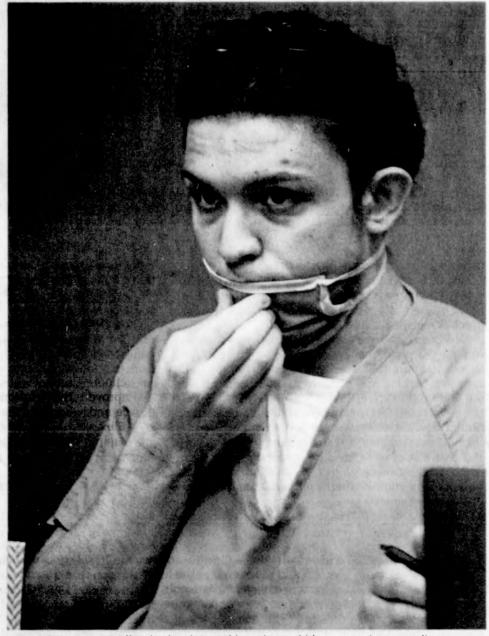
According to police and witnesses, he hit and stomped on Martha Wallace, 44, the day before she died at the hospital.

The South Lyon High School dropout had been living with the Wallace family. He and his girlfriend had an infant daughter.

He had grown up in both Northville and South Lyon. He was convicted on a second-degree murder count.

**December 1995: Tracy** Schafer was accused of fatally shooting her husband Rick in the back of the head. She was convicted of second-degree murder.

According to authorities, she told investigators she returned to their



Alleged gunman Fadi Zeineh, pictured in July, and his accused accomplice Anthony Marshall Porter face various charges that include murder for Zeineh and armed robbery for Porter. They are scheduled for January pre-trial conferences. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

phone to a dispatcher tered the store. when officers arrived.

November 1985: A 59year-old grocery store owner was killed during an apparent robbery attempt at his Country Stop Market on Grand River "In a 1995 argument of Avenue just west of New escalating violence, Tra- Hudson.

> Brian Joubran died at the hospital several hours from a fatal shot to the stomach.

He apparently took the bullet when heeding a scream from a family member and cashier. Two young men, one bearing a 12-gauge shotgun had en-

One of them had walked through the doors about 15 minutes before the shooting and had left only to return with the second man.

Detectives said the gunman shot Joubran without provocation.

The suspects appar ently tried to open the cash register after firing their gun. They ran from the Grand River Avenue store when they set off a shrill alarm.

November 1976: Janet Phillips, a 19-year-old Walled Lake Western

High School student, was found stabbed to death hunters moving through a wooded area near Haas and Twelve Mile roads in Lyon Town-

She was covered in South Lyon father and son - said body parts

were showing. Prosecutors accused a Milford resident, Michael Larry O'Brien, after a private detective reported seeing a parked car along Twelve Mile Road on the Friday Phillips disap-

Zeineh appears in court March 10 because of a 2020

homicide that took the lives of a South Lyon father

and his son. PHOTOS BY SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The shooting took place at the Stampers' home at

347 E. Liberty St. in South Lyon. Dylan, 17, and his

father, Kevin, 43, were both killed.

He had stopped to look inside the car and saw a purse in the front seat and a coat in the back. He documented the license plate number.

Prosecutors said O'Bribranches, bark and en was on parole for a leaves, but the finders - a breaking and entering conviction when he say Phillips of Union Lake hitchhiking after missing

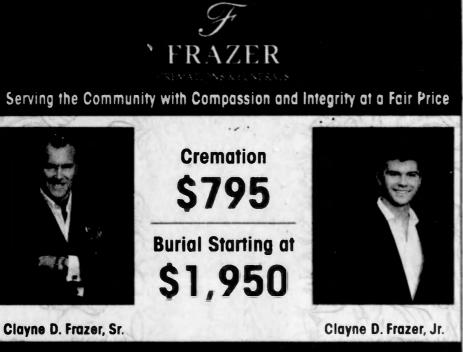
a school bus. He was later convicted on a first-degree murder

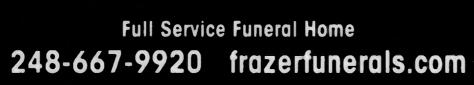
Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.













### Roads

Continued from Page 1A

federal infrastructure funds we're anticipating," Darga said.

The network's initial goals were to outline the challenges the city faces related to safe, walkable streets, effective traffic flow and the creation of connections between city assets, business districts and parks—before prioritizing the projects based on an intense set of criteria.

Now that these goals have been accomplished, the network is requesting the city hire a consulting firm to address solutions for the specific critical action areas.

The Mobility Network consists of a convergence of River Restoration Task Force members and Sustainability Committee members — all of whom share a goal of enhancing the way pedestrian, bike and motor vehicular traffic moves within the city.

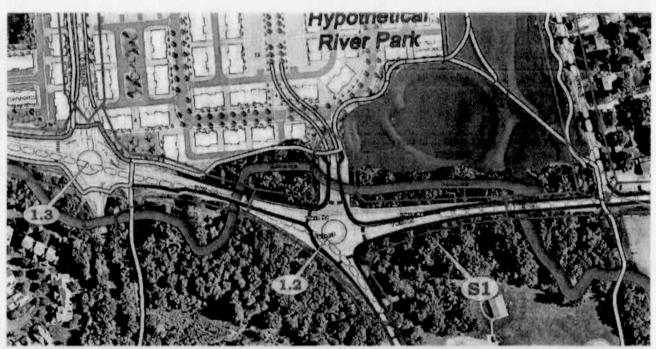
The study identifies a list of five prioritized "action sites" with corresponding data assembled for a professional Mobility Network Consultant to analyze and make recommendations for design solutions to these corridors and intersections of concern.

The five action sites include:

The Seven Mile Road corridor, from Wing Street to Main Street. Two of the biggest challenges with this site are the intersection of Seven Mile and Center streets and the awkward convergence of Seven Mile and Hines Drive, said Darga, who added the team determined both intersections are prime candidates for roundabouts.

"Anyone who has driven through the Seven Mile-Center Street intersection can relate to the challenges that area presents," Darga said. "Not only are there daily traffic backups during high-volume traffic times, the steep hill on Center leading into the city is dangerous when icy conditions exist.

"Additionally, it's a sterile, unwelcoming entrance to the south end of the city for visitors. It's just blah." Darga said the team would like to see dedicated bike



Roundabouts south of downtown Northville were proposed as part of a Northville Mobility Network Study. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE

paths added to the corridor to ramp up its safety.

South Center Street. Landscaping, bike lanes and crosswalk improvements are recommended to address walkability concerns, particularly at the Fairbrook Street-Beal Street intersection.

Old Core (the heart of the city business district). Among the recommendations are Cady Street, from Center to Main, that needs to be evaluated for traffic capacity, parking and pedestrian interface; and Hutton and Church streets, from Main to Cady, that need to be evaluated for capacity, parking layout and direction of flow because they are major connectors from the new development to the business core.

River Street will play a heightened role as a connector to the Downs project, so an evaluation of the type of connection — whether enhanced vehicular or a

multi-use bridge — is needed. The study concluded that an overall improved street cross section that includes two-way traffic, on-street parking and walkways is also needed.

The Doheny safe school passageway under the railroad bridge needs a box culvert opening to allow pedestrian and bike traffic under the tracks separate from the Doheny/S. Main Street vehicular passage, especially considering elementary-aged students who live in the Downs project are projected to be attending Silver Springs Elementary School.

The team encourages that solutions to the action sites should be presented to Wayne County Road Authority for an agreed upon final solution and funding strategy.

eawright@hometownlife.com

### **Trial**

Continued from Page 1A

Before the find, Vuichard allegedly had told deputies his wife was out shopping and running errands.

Vuichard's defense attorney Judith Gracey wanted to know if deputies made Vuichard aware of his Miranda rights before asking him questions about the bundle on the bathroom floor.

Jacob said no, explaining that they visited the home to check on Tanya Vuichard, not to question a suspect.

Gracey asked medical examiner and forensic pathologist Patrick Cho, who performed the autopsy, if Vuichard's wounds could have been self-inflicted.

"It's in the realm of possibility," Cho acknowledged. Tanya Vuichard's coworker Ann Hansen also testified. Hansen, the school district's early childhood and community services director, said she became alarmed when Vuichard didn't report for work the morning of May 17 and she couldn't reach her.

It was a Monday. Co-workers hadn't seen Vuichard for nearly a week because Vuichard had taken some vacation days.

Not only that, Vuichard was described as a dependable, respected employee who typically responded to texts and calls.

And she was married to alman who had started frequently driving by, apparently checking on his wife,

around the start of the school year.

Hansen and a co-worker headed over to the Vuichard residence in the Maple Crossing condominium development northeast of the Beck and Maple roads intersection.

After some knocking, Vuichard answered the door. He had scratches on his face.

"It looked like fingernail scratches," Hansen testified.

Deputies, during the warrant hearing and the Dec. 14 preliminary examination, have said Vuichard told them he and his wife "got into it."

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



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**VOLUME 31, ISSUE 12.4** 

Is Now A BAD TIME TO GET STARTED?

## ARE WE LIVING IN CRAZY TIMES? WHAT IF ALL TIMES ARE CRAZY TIMES? DOES THE BATTLE AGAINST CRAZY EVER END?

HAVE YOU GIVEN UP ON THE FIGHT?

WILL 2022 BE OUR BEST YEAR EVER? folks' suffering make them feel better? the senseless evil of their teaching, would WHY NOT? IS AMERICA OVER?

Over? Did you say "over"? Nothing is over until we decide it is! Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? Hell no!

Where's the spirit? Where's the guts, huh? "Ooh, we're afraid to go with you Bluto, we might get in trouble."

I'm not gonna take this. BLUTO BLUTARSKY, ANIMAL HOUSE, 1978

Well just kiss my ass from now on! Not me!



this anymore!

HOWARD BEALE. NETWORK, 1978

We're not gonna take it No, we ain I gonna take it We're not gonna take it anymore

TWISTED SISTER. WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT. 1984

When the going gets tough, the tough get going! Why accept their judgment? Have

they demonstrated competence? Do they show kindness? Class? Intelligence? Is 1. Some kids get lousy grades. Those kids it really up to "them"? Are you against feel bad about their lousy grades. How do middle class values of thrift, charity, we make the kids feel better? authentic generosity? Should we give up without a fight? It is a free country. You

Remember when you were younger? There was always one obnoxious kid who tried to boss everyone else around. The question for that kid was: "who died C. and left you king? [or queen?]" Seems like those kids all went to Harvard, got fancy degrees, and have not changed a bit. Can't leave well enough alone. Can't shut up. Always talking. Always ruining everything for everyone else. Isn't it time If you answered A, B, or C, you are a to ask: who died and left you in charge? Cause it certainly wasn't us!

Is now a bad time to make good changes? Is it a ridiculous idea to think we can take our country back and joyfully continue the work of keeping the American promise for everyone? Are you against peace, love and understanding? Have we given up on the ideas of Thomas Jefferson and Martin Luther King, Jr.? Have we given up?

LOOK AT OUR LEADERS... IT SEEMS LIKE THE INMATES HAVE TAKEN OVER THE ASYLUM

Do you wonder why our politicians prey ruthlessly on our divisions? Do they all America is, and has always been, evil? for people who abandon self-respect for self-hate? Were they unloved or overindulged? Who told them they were so

Where did they come from?

Is this all Doctor Spock's fault? Actions have consequences. Eliminate low-wage substitutes for American workers. Surprise! More Americans are working than ever. Flood the country with low-wage substitutes for American workers. Amazing! Labor force participation plummets to new lows. Inflate the money supply by trillions of cheap dollars. Shock! Prices for everything skyrocket. Pay people more money to stay home than to work. I'm as mad as hell and Astounding! People stay home instead of I'm not going to take work. Cowardly retreat from honorable commitments. Incredible! Other countries now think we are dishonorable cowards. And act accordingly. Set up a super-secret laboratory in a busy city to research disease viruses moving from animals to humans. Unexpected! An outbreak of

not see.

humans in that same busy city.

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LEADER IN 2022? Take Our 3- Question Quiz!

A. Help and support parents help their kids do the homework so they get better grades.

Hire more staff to tutor the kids to get better grades.

Encourage the kids who get good grades to help the other kids to get better grades.

D. Eliminate grades. Give everybody an

horrible and uncaring person.

If you answered D, you must be a highlypaid consultant. Brilliant!

There are no questions 2 and 3. We don't do math so good. But our selfesteem is top notch!

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

An American statesman recently proclaimed: [1]n addition to honesty, we need sanity.

[T]he wild preachers of unrest and discontent, the wild agitators against the crookedly, whether because of sinister neither know victory nor defeat. design or from mere puzzleheadedness, hate America? Why? Why the gleeful, the men who preach destruction without self-satisfied, smug rush to embrace proposing any substitute for what they Middle-class folks, regular people, every crackpot idea that "proves" intend to destroy, or who propose a ordinary Americans. You show up every substitute which would be far worse than What psychological diagnosis is there the existing evils—all these men are the most dangerous opponents of real reform. If they get their way, they will lead the people into a deeper pit than any into which precious? Who saved them from real they could fall under the present system. If work, blisters, sweat, fatigue? Why did they fail to get their way, they will still do they never learn to build? Why do they incalculable harm by provoking the kind Without victimhood. With charity for all rejoice in destruction? How does other of reaction which, in its revolt against and malice towards none.

enthrone more securely than ever the very evils which their misguided followers believe they are attacking.

Who was this brave, courageous commentator? Who would dare to point



those "wild preachers of unrest discontent"? Surely, he will be banned from Twitter. Facebook, and all other modern forms of communication. Who are the

people that "act crookedly" and "preach destruction"? Hiding their faces with black masks, they "propose a substitute evils..." "do[ing] incalculable harm."

So, who was it that braved the cancel disease viruses moving from animals to culture to tell the truth?

It was Theodore Roosevelt, president There are none so blind as they who will of the United States, on April 14, 1906. One hundred and fifteen years ago. Did Teddy Roosevelt solve the problem of destructive, insane, dishonest "wild agitators"? No.

There is no final victory. With other good- As John F. Kennedy once said, "We do of his day, one hundred and fifteen years because they are hard." Our beloved land has seen these sorts of folks before. We have confronted them. We have beaten them. Again and again. But like the shingles virus, they hide. Then they come back like a painful rash. Biding their time. Persistent. Waiting. Sneaky. When we least expect it. Bang! We cannot yourself?

### FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

IGNORE THE PEANUT GALLERY It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never entire existing order, the men who act be with those cold and timid souls who

Theodore Roosevelt, April 23, 1910

day. You do the right thing. You work hard. You are grateful for blessings. You endure suffering. You see the job through to the end. Satisfaction does not come from false claims of historical persecution. Contentment is recognition of difficult work done well. Without complaining.

We live in complicated times. Government has grown far beyond any monstrosity Teddy Roosevelt could have dreamt in his most horrifying nightmares. This is our challenge. We cannot fight it with blood, sweat and tears alone. We must win on the playing field we did not choose. We must use the legal tools that are available to everyone. Have you given up on winning?

WILL WE LET THEM DESTROY THE MIDDLE-CLASS?

Most folks want to live and enjoy life. Do you want to go broke? Do you aspire to obscene wealth? Is it ridiculous to think that you could work and save, living frugally but comfortably? Are you against passing on some of your surplus to the next generation?

which would be far worse than the existing How can you convince younger people today, that it is worthwhile to work and save? So much seems to be immediate gratification. Fortunes are made professing victimhood. More fortunes are made blaming other people. Still more fortunes are made by merely threatening to accuse innocent people of being the bad people. How can you convince the young that the easy path is not the best path?

hearted Americans, Teddy fought the battle these things not because they are easy, but

Perhaps actions speak louder than words. Would you be viewed as a success if you died a victim of nursing home poverty? If your lifetime of work and savings were gone in a matter of months? If you had no ability to help your loved ones? Or

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Can middle-class people afford skilled nursing care at \$10,000 to \$15,000 per month? Should middle-class taxpayers pay more taxes, so others do not have to work? Is it unfair for middle-class Americans to expect some sort of safety net from all the tax dollars they have paid? Is it wrong for working people to choose a higher level of care over a night gambling at the casino?

Middle-class workers go broke every day through long-term care bills. Others, who did not save, get services without charge. Middle-class folks do not begrudge the less well-off the care that they need. But why can't middle-class folks get the same deal? Why do they have to bankrupt themselves? And their families. And sacrifice generations of patient, pay-itforward toil?

Is it possible for you to enjoy the peace of mind and security you have earned? Does government make it easy? Are you against finding out how to benefit yourself, your spouse, your family?

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Kyle Schang.



Nathan Schang



Aarinan Riminelli.



Miranda Willey

# Six South Lyon students to march in Tournament of Roses Parade

Susan Selasky Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Six students from South Lyon High School will march in the annual Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day 2022 in Pasadena, Calif.

The students auditioned for the prestigious honor and were selected by Music for All to be a member of the Bands of America (BOA) Honor Band.

South Lyon students selected are:
• Emily Berg, senior, sousaphone

- Layne Malek, senior, alto saxophone
- Kyle Schang, senior, tenor saxophone
- Nathan Schang, sophomore, tromhone
- Marianna Riminelli, 2021 graduate, trumpet
- Maranda Willey, 2021 graduate, alto saxophone

The students were chosen from hundreds of applicants across the country to be a part of the more than 300-piece honor band national ensemble that includes winds, percussion and a flag and dance team. The class of 2022 Honor Band members represent 213 schools from 39 states, according to Bands of America.

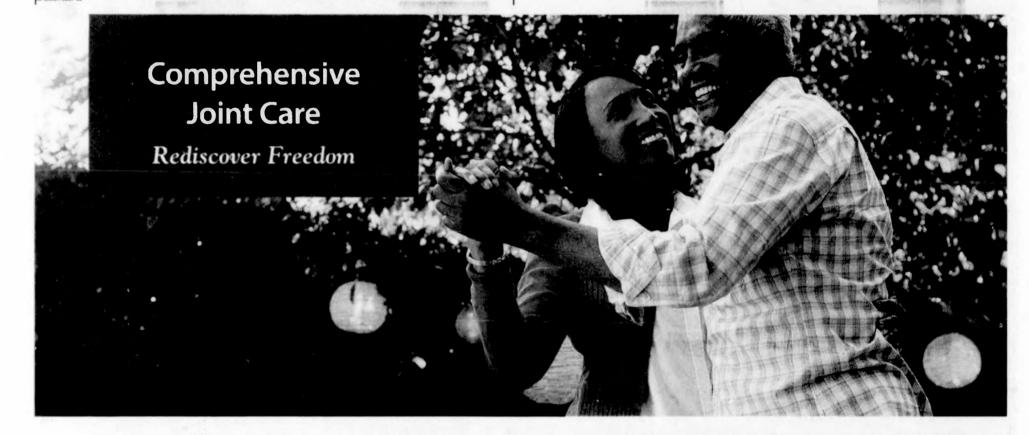
Eight students from other Michigan high schools and a Grand Rapids Community College student were also selected for the 2022 honor band.

Students will spend a week in Southern California ahead of the parade to rehearse, perform at the Tournament of Roses Bandfest and at Disneyland, and participate in special activities, according to a news release.

Richard Saucedo — composer, conductor and retired director of the national champion Carmel (Indiana) High School marching band — is the BOA director.

"To be selected for this opportunity is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for students, and a testimony to their excellence and achievements," Saucedo said in a news release. "The Rose Parade is one of our country's national pageantry treasures. The 2022 Honor Band members are ambassadors of America's scholastic music and arts programs, as well as their schools and communities. Congratulations to Emily, Layne, Kyle, Nathan, Marianna and Maranda on this fantastic accomplishment and recognition."

This is the fifth performance for the Bands of America Honor Band in the parade.



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# Four-unit retail building, drive-thru planned for Hartland Towne Square

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A new four-unit retail building with a drive-thru is expected to be constructed at a key intersection of Hartland Township's main commercial district this spring.

Susan Bowers of Ann Arbor-based architecture and design firm Bowers + Associates presented site plans to the township Planning Commission. The project was greeted by support from planners.

"We actually started this project in 2019, hoping it would come and it kind of died off and then it came back to life this spring," Bowers said during a meeting of the township Planning Commission. "We're pretty excited about it because this parcel has been empty and I think it needs some presence to make it exciting."

The proposed 7,980-square-foot multi-tenant building would be constructed on about 1.7 acres of vacant land on two out-lots in the Hartland Towne Square shopping center, which is anchored by Meijer and Emagine Hartland movie theater.

Hartland Towne Square was originally approved by township officials as a planned development in 2008. Meijer opened in 2009. Emagine Entertainment constructed the 55,000-square-foot movie theater to the south and opened in 2018.

Panda Express opened near Emagine Hartland in 2019. The shopping center also includes a Taco Bell, Big Boy, Belle Tire, Tim Hortons and Culver's.

Bowers said the drive-thru business will be a coffee shop on the southern end of the building. She did not disclose the business

"There are no known or named tenants for this building, so it's just viewed as a retail building at this time," Hartland Township Planner Troy Langer said

The township Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve a site plan for the new retail building, which



An architectural rendering of a four-unit retail building shows how it would be situated in the existing Hartland Towne Square shopping center planned development. PROVIDED BY BOWERS + ASSOCIATES



An aerial photograph shows Hartland Towne Square shopping center on the northeast corner of U.S. 23 and M-59 in Hartland Township.

PROVIDED BY HARTLAND TOWNSHIP

amends the planned development layout of the shopping center. The project will also be considered for a land use permit.

The approximately 1.7 acres slated for

the four-unit retail building is currently two properties with different owners, Flagstar Bank and Ramco RM Hartland SC, LLC., according to township documents.

Real estate investor Tommy Hannawa and his team proposed the four-unit retail building.

Hannawa briefly expressed excitement for the project. He has not responded to requests for further comment.

The building will be constructed with different kinds of brick and other materials and feature black canvas awnings, as shown in architectural renderings that reflect the general look of the building.

Hartland Towne Square still has large and small parcels of available vacant land.

While there has been interest from other developers in large swaths of land west of Meijer, none of those plans have

came to fruition.

Menards Inc. pursued plans on two occasions to construct a 160,000-square-foot store location there, but those plans fell through.

Township officials were also in talks with Redwood Apartment Homes about potentially using some of the land for residential units instead of a big box store. Redwood Apartment Homes has since proposed 148 apartment units a few miles away on the northeastern portion of Hartland Glen Golf Course west of Pleasant Valley Road on the township's east end.

Mike Mitchell, vice chairperson of the township Planning Commission, was pleased with the proposed fourunit retail building.

"I have to say it is, in my opinion, a very desirable multi-tenant building. I'm anxious to see that go up in that corner," Mitchell said.



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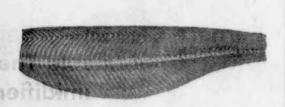
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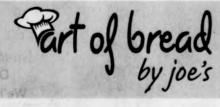
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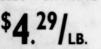
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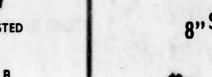
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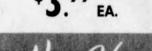
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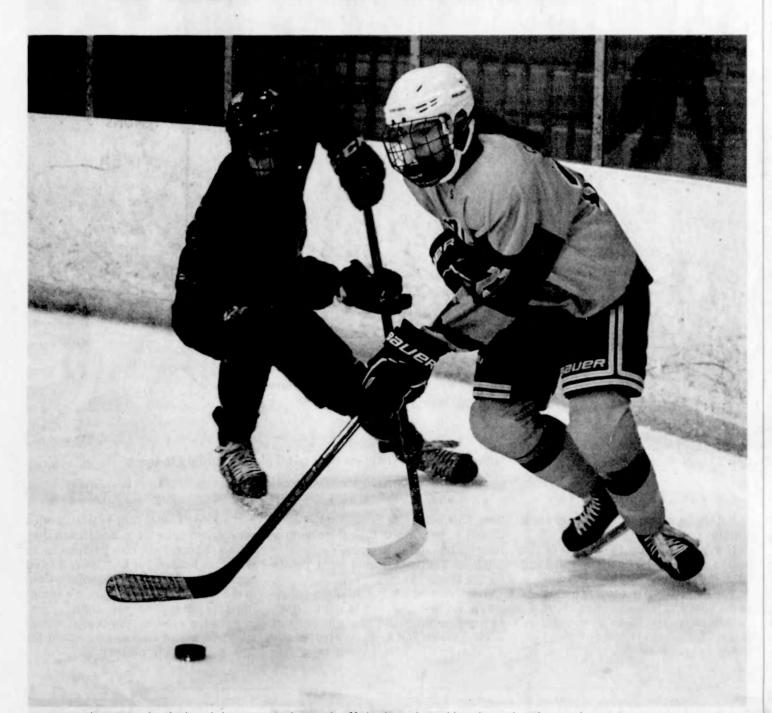
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# **SPORTS**



# FIRST LADY



Stevenson's McKenzie Siroky, right, scoops the puck off the boards and heads to the Plymouth net. Stevenson won, 6-0. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### Stevenson junior first female to score goal in team history

Ben Szilagy Special to Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Standing on the bench overlooking the ice, Livonia Stevenson coach Dave Mitchell has seen a lot of special moments in his 13 years leading the Spar-

He's seen a lot of great players come through the locker room and mentored many more along the way as well. But on Dec. 22, Mitchell saw something he's never seen before in the Spartans' 6-0 victory over Plymouth.

Junior forward McKenzie Siroky became the first female player to score a goal in program history.

"It was a great moment. I'm so proud of her, and happy for her," he said. "McKenzie has set records in the pool and jumped out of it to set a record here. She's just driven to be the best player

she can be. "She's special."

"McKenzie (Siroky) has set records in the pool and jumped out of it to set a record here. She's just driven to be the best player she can be. She's special."

Dave Mitchell Stevenson hockey coach

The moment came when the game was well in hand late in the third period, but it was a moment that was bound to happen in her seventh game.

"The whole game I was like, 'blocker side, blocker side.' It was there. I had a couple of chances earlier in the game," she said. "But in between periods, I was visualizing the goal. I knew it was going to go in one time, but it felt good when it

With 4:55 left to play, junior forward Jeff Rand intercepted the puck in the neutral zone and chipped it ahead to Siroky. She then coasted down into the offensive zone, and fired the shot, blocker side, for a 6-0 lead.

Thanks to the Spartan (9-2) power play, the game was already decided. The unit is coached by assistant Keith Robertson and has been hard to stop.

"Coach Robertson has put in a lot of work with our power-play units," Mitchell said. "He's taken over the coaching there and has done a tremendous job.

"He has that unit playing at a very high level. He's just so diligent with them and goes over video with them. Just finding ways to get them better. When you mix that with great players, success follows."

See FIRST, Page 2B

## Milford basketball hoping to build off first loss

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife,com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Through three weeks, the Milford boys basketball team has played every game close.

Wins over Salem and Walled Lake Northern were decided in overtime, while another was a two-point victory over Detroit Old Redford.

That competitive streak appeared to be ending when Hartland grabbed a 19-point lead over the Mavericks late in the first half of Tuesday's Kensington Lakes Activities Association vs. Lakes Valley Conference showcase at Novi.

"I told them that it's varsity basketball. You've got to come out ready to play every single time," Milford coach David Gilbert said he told his players at halftime. "We didn't in the first, but we came back in the second, and that shows the grit and character of our team.

The Mavericks (3-1) played inspired in a 20-point third quarter, trimming a 30-13 halftime deficit to just five points thanks to a pair of long runs.

They opened the period on an 11-2 run thanks to a pair of jumpers from Samuel Lewis, who scored a teambest 14 points, and then they finished with another 7-0 scoring spree following some baskets down low from both Lewis and Anthony Hutter.

Early in the fourth, Lukas Jaklic (six points) drove through the lane and somehow juggled in a layup that made it a 40-35 score with 5:28 left.

See MILFORD, Page 2B



Milford's Aiden Verhey shoots a 3-pointer Dec. 21 against Hartland. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Northville girls hockey team almost didn't have a season

### Now the Mustangs are undefeated at 6-0

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

Ellie Johnson refused to have hockey taken away from her this winter.

The senior has been a three-year

player for Northville's girls team, but the Mustangs were facing major turnover going into this past off-season.

On paper, they were expected to return just eight players after graduation took away some talent, which included three all-staters in goalie Emma Gniewek, forward Sara Hanson and defenseman Zoe Orlich.

. You can't have a team with only eight skaters. It's just unrealistic from both a competitive and safety standpoint.

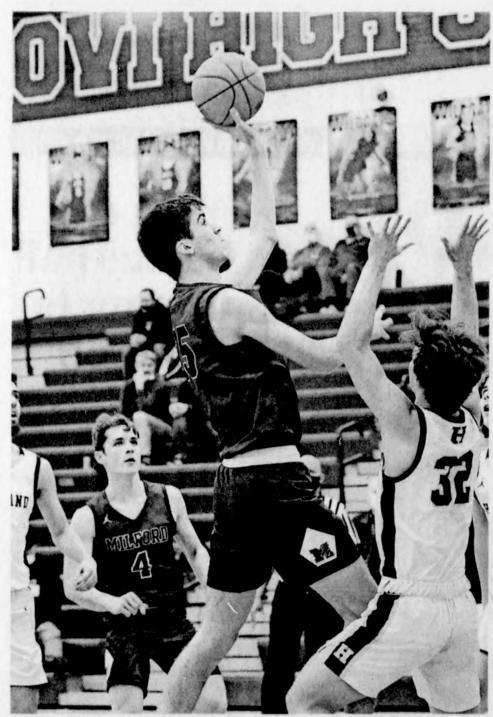
So Johnson, being the captain that she is, started recruiting kids around

The Mustangs managed to enter the season with 11 on their roster, three of whom are new to the sport, but it was enough numbers to make it work.

In fact, following a 6-1 victory last week over Sacred Heart United at Orchard Lake St. Mary's, they improved to

See NORTHVILLE, Page 7B





Milford's Anthony Hutter shoots in traffic Dec. 21 against Hartland. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Milford coach David Gilbert talks to his players during a timeout.

### Milford

Continued from Page 1B

Moments later, Hutter scored down low again to make it a three-point game, the closest it had been since Hartland's Ryan Bohlen (14 points) made the game's second basket.

But that's where Milford's comeback attempt ended.

Hartland went on to score 11 of the next 16 points in the final 3 minutes and ultimately held on for the 51-43 win.

The Eagles (3-1) made five foul shots in the bonus to preserve the victory.

"I think we just woke up and started to play," Gilbert said of the comeback attempt. "I know we have that in us. We have the potential to do that. We've played better in our first three games than we just did right there." bert added. "I know they're (Hartland) a very high-quality team, and I know they have a chance, once they get healthy, to

Lucas Theriault added eight points for the Mavericks.

Hartland, which buried six 3-pointers in the first half, got 14 points from Spencer Bulthuis and nine apiece from Justin Odoms and Anthony Huerta.

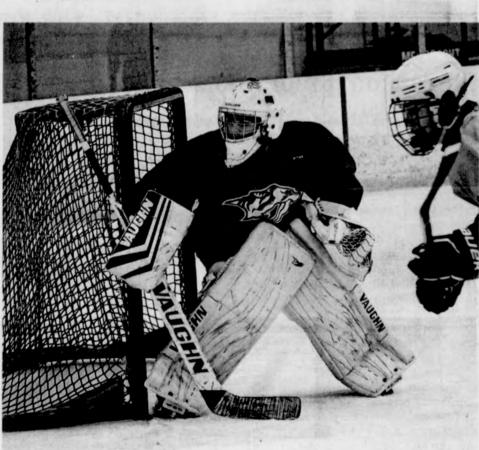
"There's a lot to learn from this," Gil- Life. Twitter: @folsombrandonj.

bert added. "I know they're (Hartland) a very high-quality team, and I know they have a chance, once they get healthy, to win their league. For us to play a good opponent and be able to do what we did in the second half, hopefully, it's something for our guys to learn from."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life Twitter: @folsombrandoni.



The Spartans celebrate Ty Heath's first-period power play goal. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE COM



Wildcat goalie Tanner Olepa keeps an eye on the puck at Eddie Edgar Arena.

### **First**

Continued from Page 1B

The Spartans went 4 for 8 on the night, getting two power-play goals in the first and third periods, respectively. It helped pace the game when the Spartans had a man advantage.

Junior Ty Heath put in a rebound to start the scoring just 4:32 into the first, while senior forward Andrew Elliott put in a long rebound from the point for a 2-0 lead later on in the period.

Junior forward Owen Penny built upon the lead, making it 3-0, 17 seconds into the second with his 10th goal of the season before sophomore Derek Buchanan added a power-play goal. Elliott added another shot from the point for a 5-0 lead midway through the third period (his 12th).

Both Elliott (23 points) and Penny

(24) have paced the Spartans.
"The hockey IQ of Elliott and Penny is just great," Mitchell said. "They play at a

high level, and have great vision. Their ability to see the ice is second to none. They can make plays with their skill set, and both of them are just really good hockey players."

There's a lot to like about this Stevenson team.

It plays hard, is tenacious and is a coachable group. It's similar to Mitchell's past teams.

Although the season is halfway over,

Mitchell knows there's more work to be done to ensure this group's potential. "We talk about having good sticks in play," he said. "When you can get your

"We talk about having good sticks in play," he said. "When you can get your sticks in the right spots, you make things incredibly hard on your opponents. We've been really working on that in practice and fine-tuning the little details to make sure we're controlling all 200 feet when we can.

"This group is extremely coachable.
They listen. They do what is asked of them all the way through, and all the way around. I'm so proud of where they've come, but we have a long way to



The Livonia Stevenson Spartan bench.

# Livingston County's top defensive player of 2021 just wanted to get on football field

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sam Clay wasn't thinking about how cool it would be to intercept nine passes or be mentioned in all-state conversations when he began his junior football season at Hartland.

His concerns were more fundamental — finding a way to get on the field.

He practiced at linebacker, cornerback and safety during the preseason

with the hope he would find his niche somewhere on the Eagles' defense.

If someone told Clay he would have nine interceptions, he said, "I probably wouldn't have believed them, to be honest, without even knowing I

was going to start for a while until the very first game. It was all the team. We just worked together so well. I couldn't have done it without them."

In a fall with several worthy candidates for Livingston County Defensive Player of the Year, Clay won the award by accomplishing something that hasn't been done in these parts in more than a quarter century.

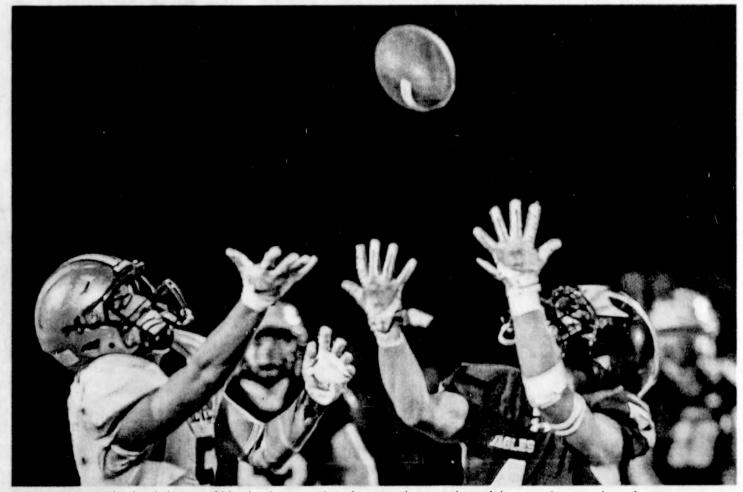
The last Livingston County player to intercept nine passes was Pinckney's Adam Greenman in 1995.

"We knew he would have an impact of some sort," Hartland coach Brian Savage said. "We didn't think he'd have nine interceptions and do all the things he did on offense. We knew he was a good ball player as a sophomore. We really didn't need him. We let him play on JV. He did a lot of those things as a JV player. Obviously, the stage isn't as big."

The Friday night stage wasn't too big for Clay, who announced his presence on opening night by intercepting two passes and returning them 95 and 50 yards, as well as scoring on a 40-yard run.

"I liked just getting to play in front of everybody for the first time in my life, in front of all the kids I grew up with and my family," Clay said. "It was really cool to perform like that."

He didn't let up from there, intercept-



Hartland's Sam Clay hauls in one of his nine interceptions in 2021, the most by a Livingston County player in 26 seasons.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

ing seven more passes while expanding his role.

When starting quarterback Brad Sollom went down with an injury before a Week 5 game against Plymouth, Clay stepped in at quarterback with minimal practice reps and led the Eagles to a 22-0 victory.

He played quarterback the rest of the season, missing the KLAA championship game at Belleville with an injury.

It's rare for a quarterback to play both ways at a large school like Hartland, but Clay would like to give it a shot next season

"Whatever the coaches need from me, I'm down to do," he said. "As of now, I'm probably going to play quarterback, but things can change as the season gets closer.

"I, for sure, would still play safety. It is definitely tiring and a lot of work. If I put in the work in the offseason and get myself prepared for it, I don't think there's any reason why I shouldn't be able to."

It was the second time during the season that Clay stepped up to fill a void because of an injury. He was set to play cornerback in the season opener, but moved to free safety when returning junior Mitchell Cavanaugh was injured.

Playing free safety made it easier for Clay to roam the field to make plays and more difficult for opponents to avoid throwing in his direction. "That's what I like about free safety," Clay said. "It's more of a roaming position. I like reading the quarterback. It's hard to throw it away from a free safety. Their job is pretty much the whole field, which is why it was fun to get to roam the field and read the quarterback."

In addition to his nine interceptions, Clay had 59 tackles to lead all defensive backs in Livingston County.

Free safety has been the position for five of the last nine county Defensive Players of the Year. Clay is Hartland's first Defensive Player of the Year since senior free safety Brett Oliver in 2014.

Clay and Brighton linebacker Clay Riddle (2018) are the only juniors to earn the honor in the last 10 seasons.



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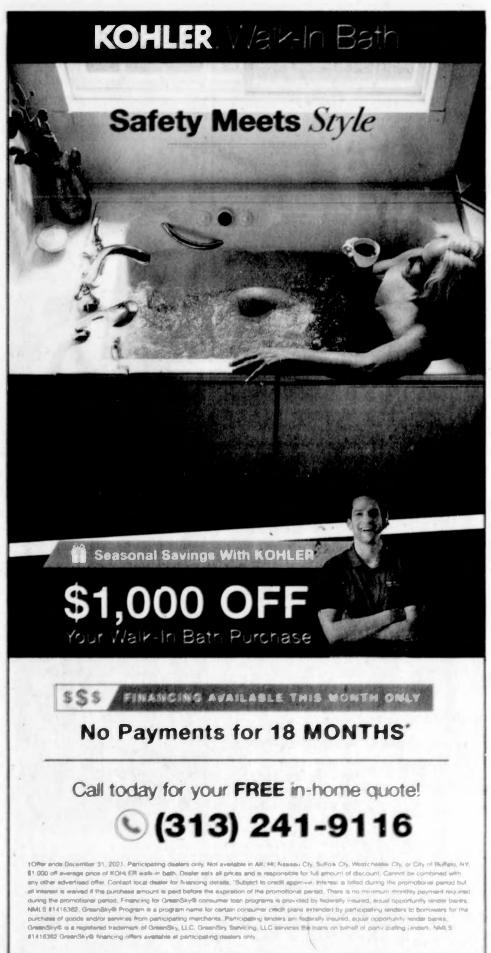


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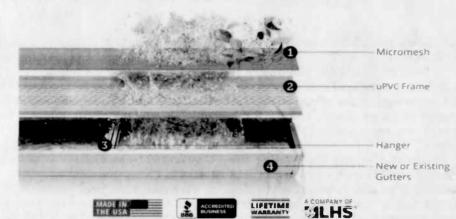
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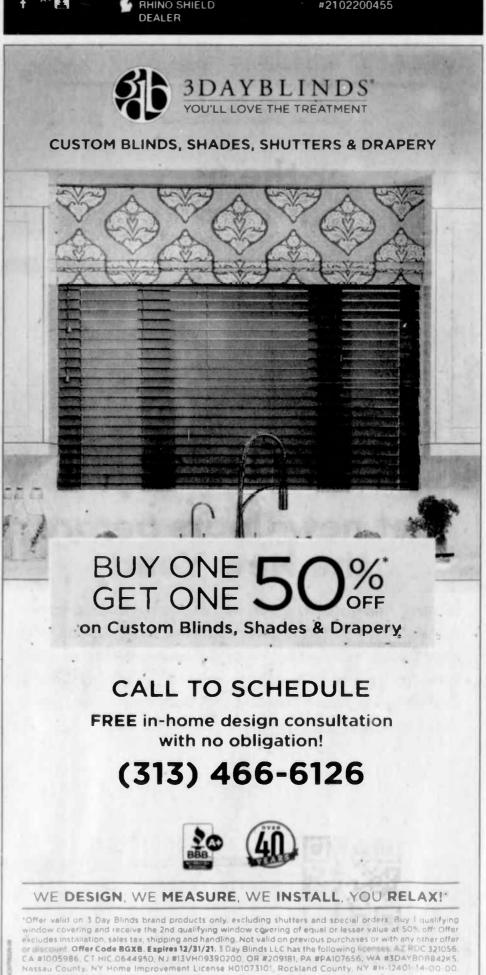
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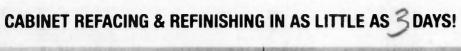
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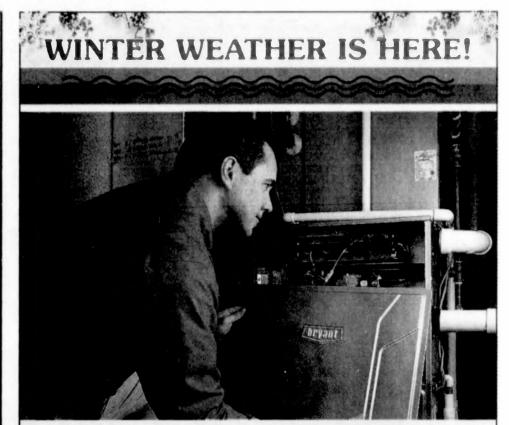
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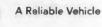
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Wayne Memorial's Mayla Ham, right, gets a rebound away from Renaissance's Imani Johnson on Dec. 15. The Zebras won, 61-44. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Wayne Memorial coach Jarvis Mitchell yells out in frustration after his team didn't get a call in the offensive zone.

## Scrappy defense helps Zebras beat Renaissance in final 4 rematch

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Mayla Ham screamed down the sideline for a loose ball early in the first quarter Dec. 15.

And then the Wayne Memorial junior dove out of bounds to try and keep it in play.

She didn't save the possession and, ultimately, she slid about 5 feet on her backside right into the bleachers.

Ouch. That one was going to leave a mark.

"She's busting her (butt) out there!" one of the Zebras' assistants stood up and yelled to the players sitting on the bench and watching the game. "You all gotta keep up with her!"

And they did.

Paris Bass played gnat-like defense on any of Detroit Renaissance's point guards bringing the ball up the floor.

Time after time, Alexis Halley (10 points) wrestled opponents for jump-ball calls.

Colleena Bryant (nine) wound up on the ground fighting for a loose ball. After winning the possession, she got up and started clapping in the face of the Renaissance player she beat, even getting a warning from a referee.

Davai Matthews (10) jumped a passing lane for a steal that led to a layup.

And then Ham and Bass teamed up to trap another guard against the scorer's table, which led to an eventual over-and-back call.

Ham's effort inspired her teammates to play hardnosed defense during their 61-44 win over the Phoenix. And the shooting guard wouldn't have had it any other way.

She wasn't going to take a possession off, especially after the Zebras lost to Renaissance in the Division 1

semifinals a year ago.

"I made sure my teammates were playing hard at all times," said Ham, who led with 21 points. "This was our game. We had something to prove, we felt like. We felt like we shouldn't have lost last year. We just wanted intensity and needed everybody to play hard. Everybody needed to be on the floor, be talking and saying

something.
"No plays off at all."

After losing to Ypsilanti Arbor Prep in the season opener, the Zebras have ripped off-two straight, as they also defeated Kensington Lakes Activities Association rival Belleville, 75-50, on Dec. 16.

But Wednesday's win didn't look so dominant at the



Davai Matthews races along the baseline.

It was a 15-15 score after the first quarter, and then Renaissance led, 26-25, entering halftime.

Memorial is still trying to sort out its rotation after graduating three college basketball players from last season and bringing in four underclassmen who are averaging about 20 minutes apiece in Halléy, Bryant, Mia Bazzi and Tierra Golden-Patton.

"We're just trying to figure it out, man," coach Jarvis Mitchell said. "Any game is a test. These are little girls. I don't look at any team and say, "This (win) solidifies us. We're good.' I look at the way we play against our competition.

"At the end of the day... It's an adjustment period where we're going to take it day by day."

Led by Ham in the second half, the Zebras shrugged off the slow start, even using a 9-0 run in the third to separate from the Phoenix. A runner from Ham to end the period ensured them a 42-36 lead entering the fourth.

"She has that ability. She definitely has that ability," Mitchell said of Ham's knack to take over games. "With Mayla, you always know what you're going to get. You're always going to get 110%, regardless of the circumstances. I'm really proud of that and appreciative of that. She always continues to give 110% effort."

Ham sank a pair of foul shots to make it a nine-point lead to begin the final quarter.

Halley heaved a long pass to Ham for a transition layup that made it a 13-point game shortly afterward. Renaissance resorted to fouling to stay in the game,



Players from Wayne Memorial and Detroit Renaissance battle for the ball.

but the Zebras scored seven-straight to close out the hight.

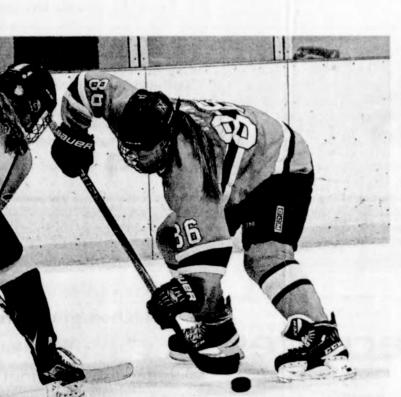
"I think it got us better today," Ham said of the adversity Memorial faced early on. "I think we took it personally because last year we lost in the final four to them. It was just a personal game for all of us, but we felt like we should've won by more because we're a better team. We're just getting better in every game."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



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Northville forward Riley Finn takes a faceoff against Sacred Heart on Dec. 18 at Orchard Lake St. Mary's. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Northville teammates celebrate scoring a goal against Sacred Heart.



Northville defenseman Ellie Johnson gets a break.

### **Northville**

Continued from Page 1B

6-0 overall and have the best record in the state.

They're tied with Livonia United with the most points in the standings (10), have scored the most goals through six games (38) and have allowed the fewest goals among teams that have reported scores (3).

And that last number, goals allowed, is the big one.

Northville entered the school year without a goalie until Johnson successfully recruited one.

Johnson is one of four Mustangs who work at CJ's Brewing Company, the restaurant inside USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth. One day earlier this school year, she started a conversation with her co-worker, Lillie Gregory, and explained how the team was in dire need of players.

of players.

"I was like, 'OK, well, I don't really have a winter sport,' so I thought I'd try it out," said Gregory, who is actually signed with Michigan for rowing. "I missed playing a contact sport, so I

thought, 'Why not?'
"The last contact sport I played was soccer about 3, 4 years ago. In middle school, I played for a travel team called the Rush. But I quit after I got into rowing. But this team needed help, so I was like, 'You know what? That sounds like fun. I think I might like to do that.' And the team really needed a goalie."

That's right. The Mustangs are undefeated and have allowed only three goals with a first-time goalie.

Gregory said she could hardly skate when she joined the team. Now she's working with goalie coaches and alumni players to learn the basics of goaltending. But she's not entirely green. She's relying on the goalie fundamentals she picked up as a middle school soccer player to help her make decisions on the ice.

"Lillie's never played hockey before, let alone goalie, so that's been pretty awesome to watch," said sixth-year coach Conor Sedam, who played on Northville's first hockey team in school history. "I'm fully confident that if she would've started playing as a freshman, she'd be all-state by this year, and she still might be."

Johnson, as well as the other veteran defensemen, have taken it upon themselves to keep Gregory safe. They know it'd be unfair to ask Gregory to play the sport and let her get clobbered by opponents.

Johnson thrives on being Gregory's protector.

"Our biggest thing is Lillie is our goalie, and she's brand new, and I'm a de-

fender, so we want to make her feel safe," Johnson said. "We tell her every game that she's protected and that we're not going to let anything happen to her.

"We want to make sure she feels very safe. In this environment we're in, it's about me having your back and you having mine. We have a lot of trust on this team. We have a very good bond with everyone."

Yes, the bond is strong. While Sedam admits the toughest part of their schedule awaits them after the holiday break, the team is stacked with top-notch players.

Returners from last year include forwards Riley Finn, Stephanie Pyle, Samantha Rivera, Laila Ismail and first-team all-stater Reese Heaton, and defensemen Kylee Sims, Kalliopi Vrahnos and Johnson.

New players include Gregory, sophomore defensemen Avery Peters and Reagan Johnson and sophomore forward Lissie Patterson.

Patterson leads the team in points (14-11-25), followed by Heaton (10-7-17), Finn (8-6-14) and Johnson (5-3-8). Gregory carries a goals-against-average of 0.89 and has pitched three shutouts.

"I know the three sophomores we have, especially Lissie Patterson, have helped the team," Johnson said. "We have a mix of people who just started playing in high school and a mix of people like me who've played all their life. The mix of talent really helps. The new girls who've been playing have put in a lot of work, and they want to get up to the point (experience level) as someone like me.

"It's a very good environment and makes everyone feel comfortable. I didn't expect to, obviously, be undefeated, but I'm very proud of the way we've all worked together, and I hope we continue to have success."

The Mustangs return from winter break by hosting Troy United (0-7-1) at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 5, at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia.

They might have a small roster, but they've made the most of their opportunities on the ice.

"People have had to play different positions," Sedam said. "People who've played D have had to play forward. And vise versa. We've got two out today (against SHU because of holiday plans), so every time you're kind of figuring out what the lineup is that day, and you're making adjustments. The good thing about doing that early in the season is that it gives us a lot of opportunity to see what works well."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



Northville goalie Lillie Gregory watches for a shot.



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- The White House announced that by mid-January, employees of private companies will be able to get health care reimbursement for at-home Covid tests.
- Two courts temporarily blocked President Biden's vaccine mandates; in Louisiana, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has been blocked from enforcing vaccines for healthcare workers, and in Kentucky, the Biden administration has been blocked from enforcing a regulation that requires contractors' employees to get vaccinated.
- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that all private sector employees will be required to implement a vaccine mandate starting December 27. Children between the ages of 5-11 will also be required to show proof of at least one vaccination dose before entering indoor dining, entertainment venues, and more indoor activities.
- According to US health officials and Dr. Anthony Fauci, early information on the coronavirus Omicron variant shows it may be less dangerous than the Del-

- · With the share of American workers voluntarily quitting their jobs each month at a record high, a new trend is emerging. "Quittoks" and Reddit's forum R/antiwork showcase the growing trend of publicizing one's resignation.
- · A global chip shortage is making it harder to purchase smartphones and video game consoles for the holidays.
- Major League Baseball owners unanimously voted to trigger a labor stoppage, the league's first since 1994, in an attempt to sign a new collective bargaining agreement between the MLB and the MLB Players Association (MLB-PA) ahead of the upcoming season. The MLBPA opposes the shutdown arguing that it is unnecessary and imposes a hardship on players, who now cannot sign with new teams or be traded until the lockout ends.
- · Vishal Garg, the CEO of mortgage company Better.com, laid off more than 900 employees (about 9% of its stair) via a Zoom call. He cited efficiency, performance, and productivity as the reasons for the layoff.



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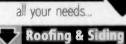
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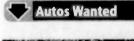
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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## **CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

#### SHADES OF PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo **HISTORY ACROSS** 7 Anti's call 44 Lucy's Arnaz 84 Bracing 54 Convents 100 Highway goo 45 BBQ sides drink 101 End of the 8 Catch 1 Holds inside and abbeys 9 Scrams 50 In present 88 Singers 56 Colored rings riddle sight of 16 Many of irises 106 "Perhaps ... 9 "Goldfinger" times executing 58 About 4.2 ask me about singer Shirley 52 Church quavers millennia 20 Chart of the millimeters, in it later" 10 French thirst topper 89 With 107 Band with the 53 Bishops' vehemence Pacific, e.g. quencher typography hit "Whip It" 11 Electric guitar toppers 90 Genetic ID 21 Eeyore's 61 Footed vase 55 Greg Evans' 92 - chov creator 62 Agnus — 108 — date connection long-running 96 Conclusion 22 "Blue (Mass prayer) (plan for 12 Pointers 97 "Goodness!" comic strip Jasmine" 63 Riddle, part 3 marriage) 13 Actor Everett 66 'This is SO 109 Exuding 14 Customs 57 Isolated 99 Mil. officer Oscar winner 59 Poker IOUs Blanchett frustrating!" testosterone worker 102 Share. 111 Catch sight of 15 Golf bag item 60 Fliers' military as a blog 23 Start of a 69 Beelzebub 70 Tools used in 113 Hobbit hunter 16 Fender branch entry 115 Tide type 64 Neopagan 103 Web-footed 25 Cawing bird fixing flats bender, e.g. 72 Huge fad 119 Exhort wading bird 26 Collate, e.g. 17 Tagged for a practice 104 "Me neither" 76 To date 65 Full of racket 27 Couch 120 Riddle's particular use potatoes 78 Riddle, part 4 answer 18 Plains tribe 67 Autos such 105 Pioneer stare at them 80 Ship's swerve 126 Aspersion 19 Bulletin as Ramblers Boone 109 Maudlin 83 Brow's curve 127 Carry in the fodder and Pacers 28 Maple stuff 29 Thin coins 85 Bygone uterus 24 Iris' layer 68 Half of sentimentality 29 Miles of jazz 110 Guthrie of 30 Prayerful plea Russ. states 128 They could Hispaniola 86 Most speedy 31 Student 71 Tanzanian folk singing starter use a 112 Legendary 34 Designer 87 She won welcome tourist treks transcript no. snow beast Saarinen eight Oscars sight 32 Long-used 73 Must 129 Quick flights 37 Sparks' state for Best adage 74 Pant-length 114 Hacienda Costume **130 Most** 33 Least shallow measure house 39 Riddle, part 2 75 Perfume from 116 "Orinoco 45 Subject for Design bohemian 35 P-shaped 91 "Oops, I Greek letter petals Flow" singer 131 Tilting Dr. Ruth 77 Chevy SUVs 117 Yemeni port 46 "Zip- - - Doo-36 Sculler's tool messed up" Dah" 93 Comic-strip DOWN 38 Promising 79 Chuck Berry 118 "Hey, 47 "... Mac light bulb 1 Milked beasts solemnly title woman over here ..." 120 Org. for club 94 Sliding-open 80 Rural PC?" 2 Dos cubed 39 Illinois city 48 Hostess car option 3 Close by 40 Size assent to swingers 41 "- culpa" 121 No, in Paisley snack cake 95 Like 4 Body image? a woman 5 Moreover 42 Oreck 81 Together, in 122 Part of TGIF 49 Onetime below-zero senator Trent 6 Texting product, for music scores 123 "Just joking!" nos. 82 Bringing to a 124 Lingerie item shorthand for short . — it just 51 Hiccup or charley horse me?" "I think" 43 St. Pat's land conclusion 125 The, in Arles 22 23 24 30 31 32 33 39 40 46 63 80 81 82 101 102 106 108 113 115 116 117 123 124 125 120 121 122 126 127 128 131 129 130

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

### SUDOKU

		7-17	8			9		
		9	6			5		
5	2			9			1	
							4	2
		5				3		
4	7							
	4			2			6	3
		8			1	7		
		7			3			

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!

### PUT IT ON

N	0	R	P	A	H	1	H	M	T	R	A	C	K	S	U	1	T
U	M	W	L	M	R	H	N	w	0	G	L	L	A	В	B	P	R
G	0	S	C	A	R	F	T	P	0	N	C	H	0	0	1	H	A
X	A	Q	s	w	X	0	s	1	Z	T	A	٧	A	R	C	J	1
S	K	1	R	T	G	H	F	X	N	T	G	1	R	D	L	E	N
T	W	N	Z	A	A	D	N	1	1	1	B	A	В	T	W	A	C
0	T	E	Y	W	R	W	J	E	N	T	K	L	P	E	В	N	0
L	F	L	L	E	0	G	P	S	A	U	P	1	0	W	R	S	A
E	S	0	S	G	E	A	L	0	E	S	U	1	В	U	H	E	T
C	S	S	U	T	R	1	C	0	H	E	G	K	V	E	S	T	T
V	R	1	N	K	0	1	R	0	٧	D	R	N	T	R	M	E	U
0	U	M	A	E	T	C	R	E	A	E	H	A	0	L	R	M	N
C	P	A	S	T	T	T	K	C	G	0	S	S	G	R	E	P	1
A	H	C	E	K	S	T	R	1	S	N	N	R	E	N	A	В	C
P	D	P	U	1	Y	Q	1	1	N	K	1	0	E	R	U	S	В
E	0	T	1	L	F	W	E	M	H	G	E	L	M	X	A	D	1
D	J	В	A	T	н	R	0	В	E	S	S	S	C	1	0	L	В
S	K	C	0	S	Y	R	В	L	0	0	M	E	R	S	K	В	F

BALL GOWN BATHROBE BELT BERET BIKINI BLOOMERS BLOUSE BOXERS CAMISOLE CAPE CRAVAT DRESS DUNGAREES FLARES GLOVES GOWN HOSIERY **JEANS** JODHPURS KILT KIMONO LINGERIE PARKA PETTICOAT PONCHO RAINCOAT SARI SARONG SCARF SHIRT SHORTS SKIRT SOCKS STOCKINGS STOLE TIE TOGA TRACKSUIT TUNIC UNIFORM



2 2 6 3 9 7 4

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 7
 7



ADOPT A PET GET
A JOB
FIND A HOUSE BUY
A BOAT FIND
A T REASURE GET
A MASSAGE HIRE
A HANDYMAN

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