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NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Road projects have communities worried

Canton, Northville business owners, residents question construction details

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The distance from the front door of Canton Township's iconic Rusty Nail Lounge to the curb that lines ultra-busy

Ford Road is roughly the length of an indoor shuffleboard table, which worries the business's longtime owner John Johnson.

Johnson isn't planning on placing a gaming table in front of his landmark

venue that has been run by his family since 1976; his concern is rooted in the Michigan Department of Transportation's steadily-approaching Ford Road boulevard project, which will require widening the road's existing footprint.

"What am I going to do if the sidewalk and easement in front of my building is taken (for the widening project)?," Johnson asked. "Will I have to bulldoze the building and sell the property at a

reduced cost than what it'd go for now?"

"This place has survived a lot of adversity — when my dad (Russell Johnson) passed away in 2005, the changing of the smoking laws and everything we've had to deal with since COVID. I hope (the boulevard project) isn't the thing that ultimately does us in."

See PROJECTS, Page 3A

Ichabod, a malamute once destined for dog meat, now at home in Oakland

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ichabod, an Alaskan malamute, could have been dog meat in China two years ago.

But a rescue intercepted the truck containing Ichabod and about 100 other dogs on its way to the slaughterhouse. Now, thanks to No Dogs Left Behind and Gayle Elias, the malamute with a disability has a forever home and a new purpose in Michigan as a therapy dog.

"He gives a message that you can endure something unimaginable, but it doesn't define you," Elias, a White Lake resident and Ichabod's human companion, said. "People and dogs, we heal and life goes on and we can still experience joy and pleasure."

Ichabod's destiny has dramatically changed in the 2 years since Elias first saw photos of him as a dog available for adoption in March 2020 on No Dogs Left Behind, a 501c3 non-profit founded four years before by Jeff Beri and dedicated to rescuing dogs from the illegal dog meat trade in Asia.

COVID-19 was just hitting the U.S. and would turn the globe upside down, but Elias was focused on a furry face across the globe. She had five dogs already, but this brown and white malamute was calling to her.

Elias knew that malamutes are al-

See ICHABOD, Page 3A



Kevin Szawala, Mister Peace, addresses a gathering Jan. 18 at South Lyon's Brummer Elementary. The peace and unity speaker/rapper was brought to the school by the South Lyon Community Coalition. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Mr. Peace comes to South Lyon with positive message for kids

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Maybe now more than ever, peace is needed in a world suffering through a pandemic.

Kevin Szawala sought to bring some

with him to South Lyon children throughout January, speaking and rapping to dozens of elementary students after school this month in an anti-bullying crusade.

The visits from the 2003 South Lyon High School valedictorian known as

"Mr. Peace," coincided with the annual observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Szawala incorporated the slain Civil Rights leader's mantra: "The time is always right to do what is right."

See MR. PEACE, Page 3A

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Volume 152 | No. 26
Home delivery pricing inside
©2022 \$1.50



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Highland Township woman, 75, dies week after crash

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A 75-year-old woman has died from injuries she sustained in a car crash earlier this month in Highland Township.

Oakland County Sheriff's deputies said Lemma Robiadek, 75, was driving a Honda Civic on westbound Highland Road at 12:33 p.m. Jan. 8 when a Chevrolet Equinox driven by a 68-year-old woman left a business near the Highland Park Drive intersection and turned in front of Robiadek's vehicle.

Both Highland Township women were injured and hospitalized because of their injuries. The younger driver was treated and released from the hospital a few days later.

Robiadek died at the hospital on Jan. 15, according to an online obituary through Elton Black and Son Funeral Home.

Deputies said the crash remains under investigation.

Both women were wearing seatbelts.

Factors apparently do not include drugs and alcohol.

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

Canton man sentenced to 19 years in prison on sexual exploitation charge

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Canton man was sentenced to 19 years in a prison on a charge of sexually exploiting a child.

Shailesh Patel, 54, also must pay a \$50,000 fine, according to federal prosecutors, who issued a statement about the Jan. 20 sentencing.

And he still faces a March sentencing in Third Circuit Court in Detroit after also pleading guilty to criminal sexual conduct charges, once again involving children. The girls were ones he knew through a Hindu temple where he volunteered.

Federal prosecutors say Patel admitted that, about 10 years ago, he gave a 10-year-old girl his cellular phone to make a video that qualified as child pornography on at least one occasion.

The victim said this pattern repeated approximately 30 times. Court documents stated he abused the child beginning when she was as young as 5 and continued until she was 12.

The victim, who also is central to the Third Circuit CSC charges, has said the abuse is a "burden that I will carry for the rest of my life, and so will those people in my life who love me the most, my family and friends."

"The victim in this case demonstrat-

ed great courage coming forward with her story, stopping Patel's abuse and likely preventing future victims," US Attorney Dawn N. Ison stated. "The United States Attorney's Office remains dedicated to the safety of children and holding abusers like Patel responsible for their actions."

The Canton Police Department investigated Patel with the help of the FBI's Southeast Michigan Trafficking and Exploitation Crimes Task Force and state and federal prosecutors.

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

Whitmer hosts Canton Twp. women in business roundtable

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The woman who has endured arguably the most turbulent term in the history of Michigan governorships — including surviving an alleged murder and kidnapping plot and leading the state's navigation through a once-in-a-century pandemic — offered and solicited advice with a group of Canton Township-area small business owners Jan. 20.

And Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's appearance at the 45-minute business roundtable held in a Summit on the Park banquet room (although there was no actual roundtable due to pandemic distancing protocols) was greatly appreciated, said Canton businesswoman Tammy Haggerty, who helped organize the event at the request of the governor's office.

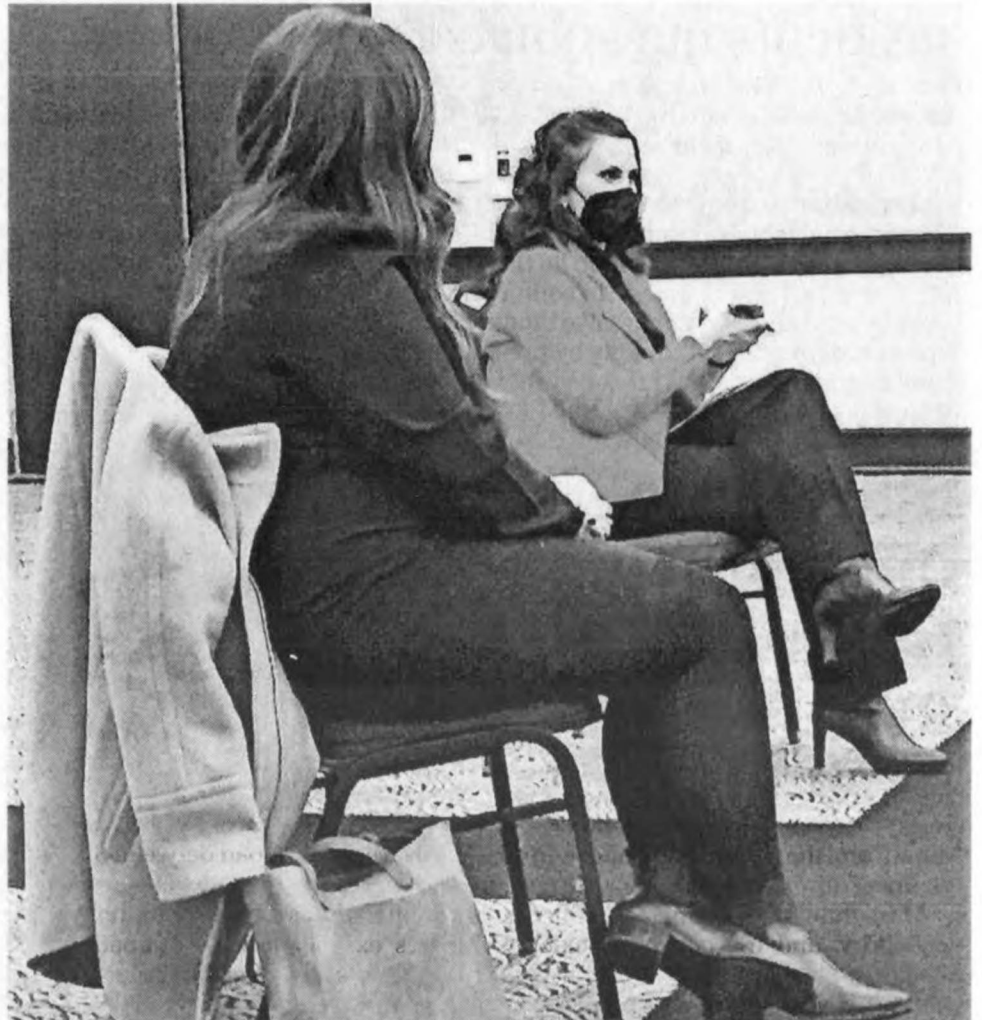
"I thought it went really well," Haggerty, owner of Jacob Matthew Jewellers, said. "It was nice of the governor to sit and listen to us with no political talk."

Whitmer will reportedly sprinkle anecdotes she gathered during her five or six roundtable events across the state into her Jan. 26 State of the State address.

"My term has included a global pandemic, a 40-year flood, calls for racial justice, a divisive legislature and a kidnapping and murder plot, so people naturally ask me: Why do you do this?" Whitmer told the close to a dozen business owners and community leaders during her closing remarks.

"I do it because I love the state of Michigan. Our state isn't always depicted on the national news in flattering terms, but that's not who we are. This is a state of hard-working people, people who care about their families. I want to help solve the problems we're having so that our kids can live a better quality of life than we've always had."

The sharpest point of contention



Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer answers a question during the Jan. 20 women in business roundtable in Canton Township. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

among the attendees — most of whom own their own businesses — was rebuilding their workforce during a stretch when securing employees has been more difficult than ever.

Midway through the discussion, Whitmer asked the attendees if they had any advice they could share that may get the ball rolling on a form of workforce-expanding legislation.

Medina Atchinson of Belleville's Atchinson Ford lamented how the size of her workforce has shrunk dramatically in recent years.

"I'll have potential employees come in, fill out the paperwork, get licensed and trained — all at my expense — and then when it comes to start working, they ghost me," Atchinson said. "They go to the unemployment office and tell them they applied for a job at my business, but I told them no. They're playing the system."

Atchinson said she wants to see the unemployment office work with businesses to determine if someone applying for benefits really followed through with their job search.

"There needs to be a checklist they can run down," she said. "The way it is now, they're taking the unemployed person's word for it."

Other top topics of conversation in-

cluded finding a remedy for high-priced daycare — a hurdle people often cite for not working — and developing a consistent list of COVID-19-related protocols (i.e. mask-wearing and vaccinations).

"The CDC (Center for Disease Control) seems to change its stance on a daily basis regarding mask-wearing and vaccinations related to workplaces," said Lisa Pardington, owner of Canton's Holiday Market. "We need some long-term consistency because COVID isn't going away anytime soon."

Rising costs of supplies is also hindering business owners like Szechuan's Jennifer Brock, who said the cost of a case of chicken has increased from \$30 to \$100 in the past year.

"We have to keep raising the prices of our meals, but how much longer can we do this?" Brock asked.

Whitmer acknowledged there are no easy answers, and Canton isn't unique to the financial and workforce struggles.

"It's a global problem that we're working long hours to fix," she said. "As women-led business owners, community leaders and women who are raising families, your hard work inspires me."

"I look forward to the the post-pandemic days when we can all meet again at one of your places and talk about more pleasant matters."

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Northville Record (USPS# 396880) is published weekly (Thursday) by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 160 W Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226. Periodicals postage is paid at Detroit, MI and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 5830, Augusta, GA 30916

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50

\$65 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737

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

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

- Beautification Commission
- Building Authority
- Economic Development Corporation
- Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee
- Library Board

If you are a registered voter and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, information about the various Boards and Commissions is available at cityofnovi.org or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (248)347-0456.

The deadline for filing an application is Friday, February 18, 2022. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: January 27, 2022

LO-0000361013 3x3

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT PTSLU22-0002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the representative for **Feldman Chevy Novi** is requesting a **Temporary Special Land Use Permit** in accordance with 7.6.2 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance for temporary **parking** at parcel **50-22-14-376-009**, south of Crescent Blvd. and east Town Center Drive from **February 15, 2022 through February 15, 2023**. The property is zoned TC (Town Center) and the use is contrary to 3.27 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner whose property is located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for a temporary special land use permit.

A public hearing will be held at **10:00 am on February 15, 2022** at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road in the **Mayors Conference Room**. All written comments should be directed to Nina Schaffrath and must be received prior to **Monday, February 14, 2022 by 3 P.M.**

Publish: January 27, 2022

LO-0000360992 3x3

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT PTSLU22-0002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the representative for **Toyota Boshoku America** is requesting a **Temporary Special Land Use Permit** in accordance with 7.6.2 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance for temporary **storage** at **45875 Dylan Drive** north of Twelve Mile and east of West Park Drive from **February 15, 2022 through August 15, 2023**. The property is zoned OST (Office Service Technology) and the use is contrary to 3.20 2. D. of the Novi Zoning Ordinance.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner whose property is located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for a temporary special land use permit.

A public hearing will be held at **11:00 am on February 15, 2022** at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road in the **Mayors Conference Room**. All written comments should be directed to Nina Schaffrath and must be received prior to **Monday, February 14, 2022 by 3 P.M.**

Publish: January 27, 2022

LO-0000360991 3x3

Rodent poison caused death of eagle found in Northville

Ed Wright | Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A bald eagle found in a distressed state on a Northville Township bike path Nov. 20, 2021, died the same day from rodenticide poisoning, a Department of Natural Resources necropsy revealed.

"At some point the bird ingested a prey item that was likely poisoned by brodifacoum," said Hannah Schauer, a communications and education coordinator for the DNR's Wildlife Division.

"Brodifacoum, which is a rodenticide, was found in the liver analysis of the bird. The gross examination findings showed the bird had pulmonary congestion and pulmonary edema as well as hemorrhages on the surface of the lungs and the heart, and congestion of the liver and the kidneys."

Schauer said the final diagnosis is labeled brodifacoum toxicosis.

Due to the toxicology results, the bird's carcass was incinerated per the federal Eagle Repository's request, Schauer added.

Normally, once a bald eagle's cause of death is determined, its carcass is transported to the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository in Commerce City, Colorado. Native American communities often submit orders for pairs of wings, tails, heads, pairs of talons or the bird's trunk, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website states.

Because the bird found in Northville Township died from rodenticide poisoning, its body parts cannot be used by Native American communities.

Anticoagulant rodenticides like brodifacoum are a type of rodent poison that kills by preventing blood from clotting normally, resulting in fatal internal hemorrhage or bleeding, according to a wildlife-centered website based in Massachusetts, where two eagles have succumbed to rodenticides since March 2021.

"Birds of prey can be poisoned by anticoagulant rodenticides in two ways: 1) primary poisoning when an animal directly eats the bait and dies several days later; or 2) secondary poisoning when a predator or scavenger eats prey that has consumed the bait," a post on the website said. "While bald eagles primarily eat fish, they are opportunistic foragers and will scavenge or prey on a variety of animals."

Last year, 32 dead bald eagles were turned in from New York alone. A total of 21 birds or bird parts (from both bald and golden eagles) were returned to the state from the federal repository for use by Native Americans for religious/ceremonial purposes.

More than 3,000 orders were filled last year by the repository, and the current backlog for orders exceeds 6,000, the website said.

Northville Township resident Bob Ondrus spotted the distressed bald eagle on a bike path that runs behind his home in the Northville Ridge subdivision, about a half-mile east of the Arbor Hills Landfill at Six Mile and Napier roads in Salem.

"I heard a whoosh sound," Ondrus explained. "When I looked over at the bike path that runs behind our backyard, I saw a bald eagle sitting there. It was very unusual because I've never seen an eagle anywhere close to this area."

"I thought it was odd, too, because eagles usually don't land near humans. It was almost as if she saw me out there and was telling me she needed help."

When Ondrus grabbed his camera and walked over to the spot where the eagle landed, he realized the situation was dire.

"It looked kind of dizzy when I got close to it," Ondrus said. "Then it put its wings out and I knew it was not good. There was no blood visible, but you could tell something wasn't right."

The eagle was transported to the Howell Nature Center before being transferred to the Eaton Rapids-based Wildside Rehabilitation & Education Center, which is capable of testing for lead poisoning in birds of prey. The eagle died a short time after arriving in Eaton Rapids.

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

Ichabod

Continued from Page 1A

ready a difficult breed to place — they are large and shed a huge amount of fur. And this one had additional challenges, as well. Ichabod has luxated patellas, deformed kneecaps which hinders his ability to walk normally. He would also need to be flown to the United States at her expense.

But watching videos of him playing with the other dogs, she thought he seemed very chill. He made her laugh. She didn't know if he could be a therapy dog or if his condition could be corrected surgically, but she felt he could fit in with her pack and she knew she wanted to give him the best life possible.

Due to COVID-19, she began an online relationship with Ichabod for nine months, before meeting him upon his arrival at the JFK Airport in New York on Valentine's Day nearly a year ago.

Upon meeting him, her sense that Ichabod had a great personality and would be a wonderful therapy dog was confirmed.

But while he would need training for that from the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, there was no changing his physical disability. A veterinary orthopedic specialist told Ellias he had never seen knees like Ichabod's in his career. She was advised against having surgical correction attempted on Ichabod, who walks in what she describes as a "permanent yoga squat."

Ellias obtained a custom-made wheelchair for Ichabod, and he shows zero interest in it.

"He just doesn't believe he is disabled and I don't think I'm going to tell him," she said.

Instead, Ichabod, who is about 5-years-old, is perfectly content to be what he was always meant to be: a beloved pet, a member of a pack, a comfort in his new role as a therapy dog.

The malamute who was saved from a horrific end half way around the world has a home here now, and Ellias, an outpatient therapist, hopes the dog saved from suffering now eases pain and gives comfort to others. Ichabod offered solace to Oxford students after their endurance of a shooting tragedy at their high school. On a regular basis, he now serves as a furry pal at the Friendship Circle in West Bloomfield, a non-profit intended to provide every individual with special needs the support friendship and inclusion they deserve.

"Therapy dogs make such a positive difference in the lives of children with special needs," Bessie Shemtov, co-founder of Friendship Circle, said.



Gayle Ellias with her dog, Ichabod, at Bloomfield Township's Bloomer Park. The malamute was rescued from China and is now a certified Alliance of Therapy Dogs volunteer. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"They help with the emotional well being of children as well as being a source for sensory integration. Having Ichabod visit Friendship Circle means so much to our families. Our participants gravitate toward him and enjoy their special time together."

Ellias notes that some children are very afraid of dogs and she is so proud of how Ichabod lies still and wags his tail, sensing what is needed for each child.

"He is good at reading kids," she said. "He is very calm and if someone is excited, he remains calm. Kids make noise or move quickly and gesture and it doesn't phase him. His temperament is really solid."

Ichabod might not be as calm at home when his favorite treat is offered. When a can of sardines is opened, he gets "the zoomies," Ellias laughs.

He also "worms," tilting his head and digging at the ground like a bird, and he tends to get a second wind at 2 in the morning.

His life is good now and Ichabod shows no signs of holding a grudge from the life he came from. Instead, Ichabod simply exemplifies love and perseverance and gives back as good dogs do.

In the spring, Ellias will publish a children's rhyming book she wrote titled, "Ichabod: Where is the Glory?"

Projects

Continued from Page 1A

Northville Township residents who live on Beck Road between Six and Eight Mile roads are facing the same level of anxiety Johnson feels as a project that would potentially widen the two-lane road to five lanes — dubbed "Beck To The Future" — is being proposed by governmental leaders in Wixom and Novi, who would like to see the project extend south to Northville Township.

During an informational meeting hosted by Northville Township in November 2021, several property owners who live along Beck Road lamented the possibility that the value and livability of their longtime homes — some structures already perilously close to the narrow shoulder — would suffer if the widening project was greenlighted.

The daunting part of the roadway-widening projects for residents and business owners is a right called eminent domain: the ability of the government to take private property for fair compensation as long as a legitimate public purpose has been established.

Birmingham, Michigan-based attorney Jerome Pesick, who has specialized in eminent domain cases for over three decades, said property-taking cases are rarely overturned by courts.

"When you're talking about roadway projects like these, it's highly unlikely a court would declare the project isn't for a public purpose and stop it from going forward," Pesick said.

Pesick, whose clients included companies impacted by the upcoming construction of the Gordie Howe Bridge over the Detroit River, said he has seen a range of results from eminent domain cases.

"In the worst-case scenarios, businesses have unfortunately had to relocate when their property was

taken," he said. "At minimum, a lot of businesses lose valuable parking spaces."

Once the design process is completed for roadway reconfiguration projects, government entities will send an appraiser to the affected properties before informing the property owners what they feel is a fair price for the land they need to take.

"One problem is that the government's appraisers don't usually account for loss of future financial gain," Pesick said.

Victims of eminent domain situations are not entirely powerless, Pesick emphasized.

"The first piece of advice I'd offer a business owner or resident is to never accept the government's initial offer," Pesick said. "Secondly, the property owner should have the property appraised by an appraiser of their choosing and hire an attorney."

"The government is required to reimburse the property owner for the cost of the appraisal and attorney fees, which is something few municipalities tell the property owners," he added. "A lot of people feel they don't have the financial means to fight the government, so they accept the initial offer. This doesn't have to happen."

The good news for Johnson, other business owners and the potentially-affected residents along Beck Road is that construction on Ford Road could be years away from starting and the Beck Road widening project is far from a certainty, at least based on the momentous opposition delivered by Northville Townships residents.

But Johnson is still understandably leery about what the future holds for his Canton Township fixture.

"Just the construction alone on Ford Road once the boulevard project starts is capable of creating a recession for businesses along this road," Johnson lamented. "Even if it's five years from now, I don't want to have to end what has been a successful run at this location."

Mr. Peace

Continued from Page 1A

"Darkness can't drive out darkness, only light can, and hate can't drive out hate, only love can," Szawala said. "My other key themes are treat everyone like you treat your best friend, see them for their heart first. Hurt people hurt people — it's a big reason for bullying, but I let them know they can also choose to be healed people that heal people."

Szawala, a Commerce Township resident, preaches positivity and has traveled to more than 20 states, speaking to more than a million people in 1,100 schools across the country.

He has returned close to home to launch his latest presentation, "Look at the Heart First."

Paige George, director of the South Lyon Community Coalition, brought him to the district through grant funds from the Oakland County Health Network.

The program has been a "real eye-opener" for the kids she has watched line up to tell Szawala stories about being uncomfortable on the playground and more.

"My hope is the kids walk away knowing who they are is enough," George said. "Right now in this world,

we need love and kindness and that is what he teaches."

Szawala is far from the initial path he lit out on after his high school graduation — attending the University of Michigan where he majored in economics and later earned a master's in business administration before going to work in the auto industry.

In 2010, he detoured to a road less traveled, becoming a youth motivational speaker who aims to change hearts and minds.

Szawala tailors topics to the audience he is addressing, offering presentations on not only anti-bullying, but also substance abuse prevention, suicide awareness, leadership, diversity, and overcoming limiting beliefs.

He connects with his young audiences through hip-hop and as a spoken word poet and at least equally as important, he listens to their stories and shares them with others to let them know they are not alone.

"That is what unites us," Szawala said. "Kids that are 5 to 7 years old are already going through a lot and they can still choose kindness. Usually you can hear a pin drop, because they really respond."

No matter what his speech, Szawala aims to improve mental health, something he said has been really impacted in the pandemic.

He notes too, that people often carry things with

them for far longer — sometimes decades of not forgetting past hurts. He encourages forgiveness.

"There are a lot of opinions out there, but not all of them matter," he noted. "The biggest thing is to empower these kids."

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

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'Jeopardy!' test part adrenaline rush, part ego-deflater

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Halle Berry, of all people, may have cost me an opportunity to appear as a contestant on "Jeopardy!"

I settled down at my laptop one recent afternoon and signed up for the online "Jeopardy!" test — the first step in a journey I hoped would end with a buzzer-in-hand meeting with Ken Jennings, Mayim Bialik or whomever happened to be hosting the game show during my national TV debut.

As a lifelong Detroit Lions fan, I was seriously hoping Aaron Rodgers would be named the show's permanent host several months ago, giving my favorite (and eternally below average) NFL team a significantly better chance of beating (or at least covering the point spread against) the Green Packers in their twice-a-year encounters.

I'll take Tough Test for \$200, Ken

I learned the test wasn't a casual mix of true-or-false and multiple-choice questions (true or false: Lincoln is buried in Grant's Tomb). Instead, test takers are required to type in the answer to 50 questions with a less-than-generous time allowance of 15 seconds per question. Heck, it took me 14 seconds just to read and digest a few of the questions. (This Victor Hugo work is divided into five sections, including "Marius" and "Jean Valjean", for example).

The daunting rules stirred awful memories of high school biology exams, and forcing me to contemplate trying out for a less-demanding show like, say, "Wheel of Fortune."

Heart pounding, adrenaline pumping and palms sweating, I clicked the start button, unleashing the first question, which turned out to be a hanging curve ball for this fast-food aficionado: **Dave Thomas named this chain after his daughter.**

It took me seven seconds to type in Wendy's and advance to question No. 2. This was going to be a breeze, I thought, until the second question burst my con-

fidence bubble: **He was the "Barber of Seville" prior to becoming Count Almaviva's Valet.**

Nothing like the "Names in Opera" category to halt one's momentum, eh?

The questions came fast and furious. Many were in my wheelhouse (**Organized crime is the real Corleone family business in this 1972 classic.**); some not so much (**Most human cells contain 46 of these.**)

During one stretch near the middle of the test I was rolling, having successfully answered seven straight. I felt like Steph Curry shooting threes in the comfort of his own driveway.

Then Halle Barry wandered along, unknowingly squashing my mojo.

Under the heading "Famous Spouses", this question filled my monitor: **This actress featured in the X-Men films was formerly married to outfielder David Justice.**

I knew Halle Berry was married to David Justice, I was positive she was in at least one X-Men film and I could picture her face as clear as day ... but I could not think of her name.

My streak snapped, I struggled over the final 15 or so questions.

Waiting game

Unlike my high school biology tests, I will not find out how I fared on the "Jeopardy!" online test for a while; maybe never.

"If you don't hear back from us within 12 months of your Anytime Test, it could be for a number of reasons," a post-test note reveals. "You may not have passed the test. Or, you may have passed, but we were unable to invite everyone who passed to attend an in-person audition."

I will keep my fingers crossed, but I'm not holding my breath (nor should my Hometown Life colleagues who are hoping to write an article topped by the headline, "Canton man to appear on Jeopardy!").

If I don't move on to the next round of testing, I have no one to blame except myself and, oh, one other person.

Who is Halle Berry?



Ed Wright takes the "Jeopardy!" test in an effort to appear on the game show. COURTESY OF ED WRIGHT

I learned the test wasn't a casual mix of true-or-false and multiple-choice questions (true or false: Lincoln is buried in Grant's Tomb). Instead, test takers are required to type in the answer to 50 questions with a less-than-generous time allowance of 15 seconds per question.

Three common mistakes when investing for the future



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

I recently did an interview where I was asked to identify the three mistakes that most investors make. I thought I would share my answers with you.

Not having a game plan: Most investors simply invest in what is hot and popular. This is a serious mistake. To be a successful investor, you must develop a plan based upon your goals and objectives. It is your goals and objectives that guide you in how to invest your money.

In addition, investors must know the timeframe they have to achieve their goal. Someone who is retiring 30 years from now would invest differently than someone who is retiring a year from now. I like to analogize it to going on vacation. When you go on a vacation, you do not pack first and then decide where you are going. You only pack once you know your destination, what you're go-

If you're a long-term investor, the stock market in general is not very risky. On the other hand, if you're investing for six months down the road, the stock market is very risky.

ing to do when you arrive and how long you will be gone. It would be a serious mistake to pack first, and then decide to the location.

Investors who start investing before developing a game plan are doing the same thing as packing your suitcase before you know where you're going to go. It is important for all investors to have a game plan before you begin investing.

Not understanding risk: Frequently, I hear people say things like U.S. treasuries and CDs are risk free; unfortunately, that is not the case. As far as I'm

concerned, there is no investment that is risk free. If you invest in a federally insured CD, we all know that when the CD matures, you're going to get your money. However, that doesn't make it risk free.

CDs are accompanied by purchasing power risk. This means that money is not keeping up with the increased cost of living. Particularly in today's world of high inflation, purchasing power risk, if ignored, can cause major problems. Therefore, it's important for investors to identify the risk in an investment before investing, and make sure they're willing to accept that risk.

It is important in understanding risk to remember that risk is a function of time. If you're a long-term investor, the stock market in general is not very risky. On the other hand, if you're investing for six months down the road, the stock market is very risky. The exact opposite applies to CDs. If you're investing for six months down the road, CDs are not very risky. However, if you're a long-term investor, the purchasing power risk in a CD is substantial.

Three common mistakes adults make when investing for the future. Owning five stocks that are all technology-based is not diversification. To be diversified, you must have investments in different areas. For example, to be diversified in the stock market you need exposure to large companies, small companies, and mid-size companies, both domestic and international. In the fixed-income area, you need a variety of fixed-income investments such as corporate bonds, government bonds and international bonds. When you do not diversify, you end up keeping all your eggs in one basket, and that is a mistake for investors.

To be a successful investor, it is important to start with a game plan, understand the risks involved, and maintain a diversified portfolio. Success is certainly not guaranteed by doing these things; however, it will give you the best opportunity to be successful over the long run.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. Email your questions to rick@bloomadvisors.com.



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Portillo's plans Livonia location

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A popular Chicago restaurant will open its second Michigan location in western Wayne County.

Portillo's, known for its Italian beef sandwiches, hot dogs and chocolate cake, plans to locate a restaurant in Livonia. The restaurant is planned for 13000 Middlebelt in the parking lot of the Millennium Park shopping center.

The restaurant would locate in a new out lot created in the center, situated between Outback Steakhouse and Meijer, Mark Taormina, the city's planning and economic development director, said.

"Effectively this would be a fourth new out lot and developed with a full service restaurant with a drive up window," Taormina said.

The proposal calls for a 7,900-square-foot building with 184 indoor seats and 44 outdoor seats on a patio, according to Taormina's report on the project for the planning commission.

Portillo's first came to Michigan last year when it opened a restaurant along Hall Road in Sterling Heights. It's known for its Chicago-style hot dogs and other tasty dishes, such as the Italian Beef Sandwich.

Portillo's declined comment on the proposed development when reached by Hometown Life.

Once the planning commission makes a recommendation, the item will go to the city council, which will make the final decision.

Taormina said representatives from Portillo's were at the planning commission's study meeting, the precursor meeting held before the commission's regular meeting to discuss projects. He said they appear excited to open a restaurant in Livonia and want to get work started as soon as possible. It could potentially open by the end of the year, he said.

"They are super excited about this location," he said. "They can't move quick enough to move this thing."

Birmingham Restaurant Week returns

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham Restaurant Week returns looking a bit more normal this year.

In-person dining returns for the annual celebration of the city's culinary scene this year after COVID-19 restrictions limited in-person dining during last year's event. Restaurant Week technically runs for two weeks, running Jan. 24-28 and Jan. 31 to Feb. 4.

This year, more than 15 restaurants will participate, with many offering special restaurant week menus and some with offerings for different weeks.

"Downtown Birmingham is known regionally as a premier dining destination, offering a variety of restaurants and cuisines. Restaurant Week is a great time to try something new, or visit your local favorites for special menus and pricing," Sean Kammer, executive director of the Birmingham Shopping District, said in a statement. "The atmosphere remains festive this time of year, with thousands of lights lining the downtown streetscape. Plus, in the last few months, several new retailers have opened, so you may want to plan some extra time to walk around and see the shops while you're here."

Restaurants participating in the annual celebration include The French Lady, Streetside Seafood, Phoenicia, Hazel's, Mare Mediterranean and more. A full list of the participating restaurants can be found at allinbirmingham.com. There, customers can also see the special menus for the event posted by the participating restaurants.

The event featured more carryout options last year, since it began when indoor dining was still prohibited by the state in response to high levels of COVID-19 cases. This year, the event returns with no restrictions on indoor dining.

Another change this year is parking in the downtown structures. Unlike last year when the parking structures were free to park in, the structures reverted back to charging depending on how long visitors were parked inside.

But no worries to those who eat quickly: the first two hours of parking in downtown Birmingham remain free.



A dish of shish kafta from Phoenicia's. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Food fresh from the kitchen.



Phoenicia's dining room is one of more than 15 restaurants participating in Birmingham Restaurant Week this year.



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Bird watchers walking in a wing-ter wonderland

Junfu Han Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Standing outside of the nature center at Kensington Metropark in Milford, photographer John Campbell puts bird feed on his palm.

Within seconds, several tufted titmice, black-capped chickadees, and downy woodpeckers have visited and taken food. Some even walked along his arms.

Campbell taught biology at the Plymouth-Canton schools for over 38 years and has been coming to Kensington Metropark for over 20 years.

"It has been great to be outside, connect with nature, do what I like and be safe (from the pandemic)," he said.

There are a lot of fun outdoor activities for winter in Michigan. A popular one in metro Detroit is bird watching at Kensington, which offers almost 4,500 acres of wooded and hilly terrain right off Interstate 96.

Its nature center is surrounded by lakes and miles of hiking trails, where lots of nature lovers come here to hike and photograph birds.

The nature center also runs several educational programs for visitors, including one called Chickadee Chow Down. It runs from late December through February. The hourlong guided walking tour is aimed at helping visitors identify songbirds and learn how to properly feed them.

Victoria Sluder, the western district interpretive supervisor of Huron-Clinton Metroparks, said attracting songbirds with food is tricky.

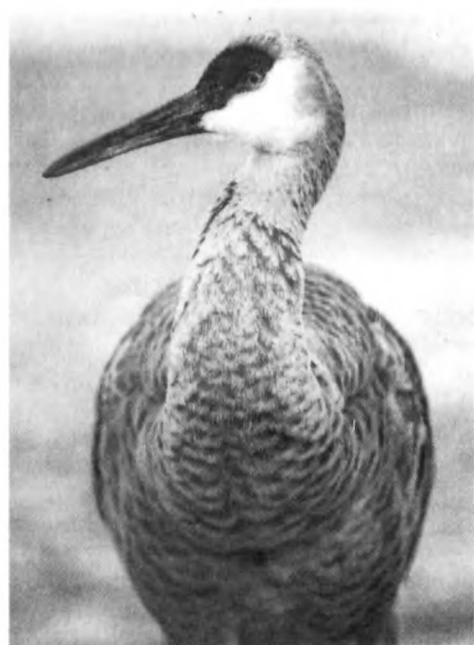
"Aside from black-capped chickadees and downy woodpeckers, other birds that will come in to investigate and potentially land on one's hand for seed include tufted titmice (a relative of the chickadees) and white-breasted nuthatches," Sluder noted. "Occasionally red-bellied woodpeckers and even northern cardinals will come in close, but they rarely land and feed."

Sluder explains, "A songbird, sometimes identified as a passerine, is typically thought of as a perching bird that has a "song," which is why woodpeckers don't actually fit this category. Really, they are seed-eaters that are just small enough to perch on a hand."



Sunset over Kent Lake at the Kensington Metropark in Milford on Jan. 10.

PHOTOS BY JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS



A sandhill crane.



Nature photographer John Campbell of Northville feeds a tufted titmouse from his hand near the nature center.

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Continued from previous page



Canadian geese fly over Huron River at the Kensington Metropark in Milford.



Michelle St. John and her son Donovan, 4, both of Canton, watch a sandhill crane walk by them on the hiking trail.



A red-bellied woodpecker.



Naomi Cataldo, 4, of Highland, next to her mother Beth, feeds a woodpecker from her hand.

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Versatility is key for high school counselors during turbulent times

Ed Wright hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

As Canton High School counselor Erin Demarest helped a student sign in for a routine planning meeting with colleague Barb Lehmann, Lehmann hustled out of the office at an urgent pace, trying to track down a student who was experiencing a social-emotional emergency.

Welcome to the new world of high school counseling, where old-school requirements (making sure seniors have enough credits to graduate, offering guidance on what extra-curricular activities students should try, to name two) now coexist with more-pressing COVID-19/school violence-created anxieties.

"We used to have more control over our days, at least a little bit," Demarest said, harking back to pre-March 2020 times. "Now, there are more times when you try to work on something — getting graduation audits done, going through kids' transcripts — and a student will come in facing a crisis that makes you drop what you're doing and attend to their needs."

"The most important thing we do is work with the kids who are dealing with mental-health issues. I feel like we've been going down this mental-health road for several years now, but it's definitely gotten worse (since March 2020)."

Demarest revealed her daily work apparel reflects the changing times.

"We wear tennis shoes now instead of more dressy shoes because we have to be actively ready in case we have to run to one of the other schools to help a student," she said.

Counselors outnumbered

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park counselors, who serve over 6,000 students on the three-school campus, are assigned approximately 350 students each in the wake of the recent hiring of three additional counselors (one more per school).

The 350-to-1 ratio ranks much better than Michigan's average (671-to-1), according to statistics provided by the American Student Counselor Association, but worse than its recommendation of 250-to-1.

"When we went from over 400 students per counselor to 350, I thought I was going to notice a change," Demarest said. "But honestly, I have not felt a change because even though I have fewer kids, their social-emotional needs are so much greater these days."

Lehmann, a counselor at Canton since 1998, fondly remembers her early years in the field when she was assigned to counsel roughly 250 students.

"It was nice because it was easier to get to know your students," Lehmann said. "For instance, I'd see one of my students waitressing at a restaurant and be able to strike up a conversation. Or when I'd pass one of my students in the hallway I'd hear, 'Hi, Ms. Lehmann! How are you today!' With so many students now, it's more difficult to build those relationships."

"Overall, though, I still love my job and connecting with the students as much as I can. It's more demanding now, but still a very rewarding profession."

Lehmann said the Plymouth-Canton counselors' workload increased once Plymouth High School opened in 2002.

"They relocated counselors from Salem and Canton to Plymouth, but didn't hire replacements (for Salem and Canton)," said Lehmann. "That's when our ratios went up."

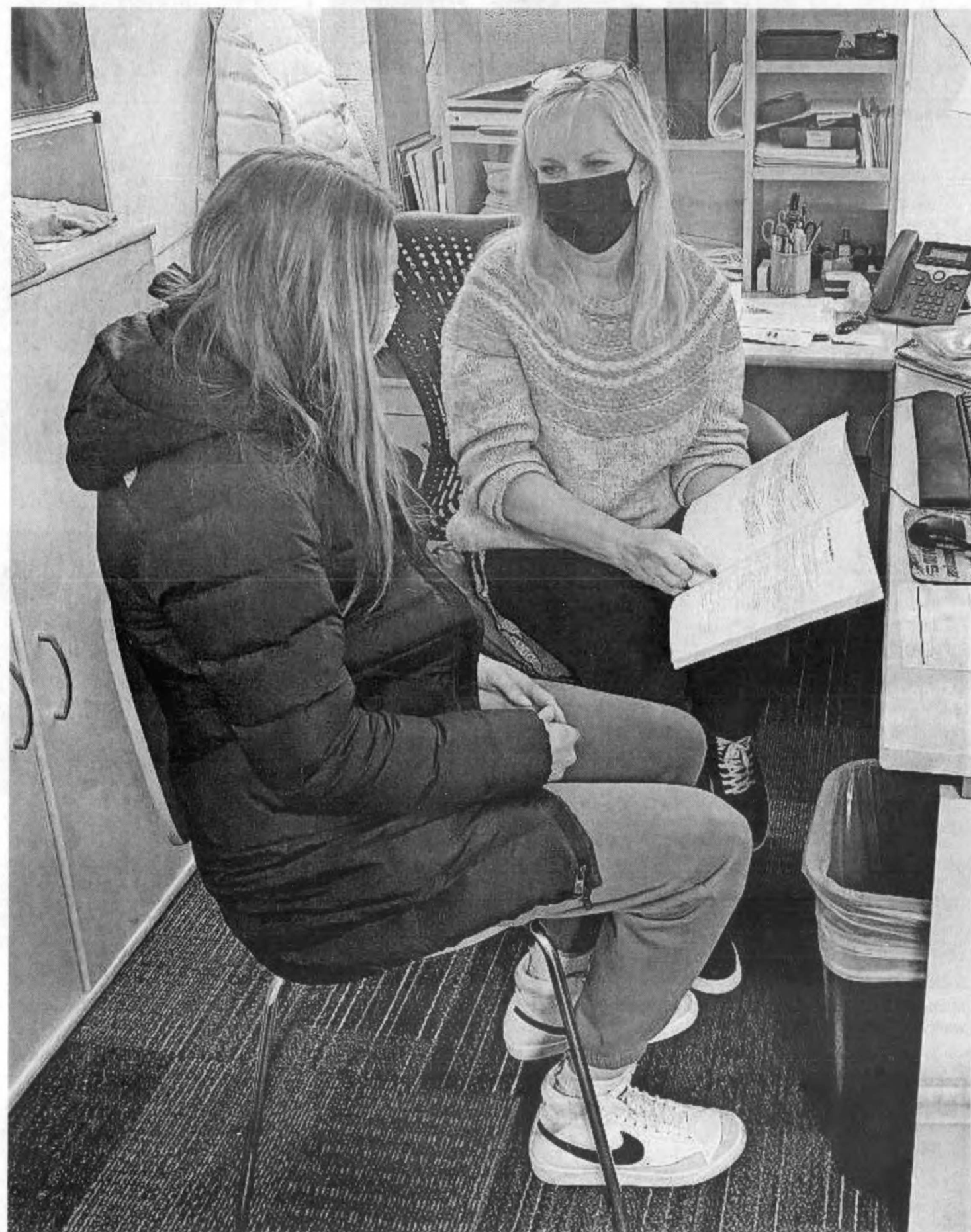
"I love my job," Demarest concurred. "I think we all got into this field to help students, make their lives easier in some way, and we're doing that today more than ever."

Northville may consider adding counselors

Northville Public Schools Board of Education member Lindsey Wilson raised the issue of adding more counselors to Northville High School's staff during the board's Jan. 4 meeting, noting that its ratio of students per counselors was in the 410-to-1 range.

"The national average is 420-to-1, but our district has never settled for being just average," Wilson said, asking for the topic to be added to a future board of education agenda. "Our students have voiced concerns recently that they would like more people to talk to besides teachers and parents."

"There was also a Wall Street Journal



Canton High School counselor Erin Demarest meets with student Brynn Peregorod. PHOTOS BY COURTESY OF ERIN DEMAREST



Canton High School counselor Barb Lehmann meets with a student Jan. 11.



Demarest brings in her specially-trained dog Dani twice a week to offer students and staff a calming influence.

article recently that referred to a National Academy of Science study that suggested higher-achieving districts like ours have a higher demand for counselors. I've heard that it's very hard for our high school students to see a counselor these days."

Demarest said she has met with a few students who have shared school violence-related anxieties since in-person learning resumed at Plymouth-Canton Jan. 3 following a two-week holiday break.

The holiday break was preceded by a one-week return to virtual learning following a multi-hour lockdown on the campus Dec. 9 that was triggered by a student reporting seeing a fellow student armed with a weapon.

A suspect was never named by local

law enforcement nor was a weapon located, but the situation heightened tensions at the campus affectionately known as "The Park."

"Having students away from school for three weeks was a good decision, in my opinion," Demarest said. "It gave them a chance to reset. I think if we would have went right back to in-person following the lockdown, we would have had more students dealing with anxieties related to the lockdown."

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, in general, and Canton High School counselors, specifically, are constantly thinking of new ways to make students' lives more manageable.

Demarest was recently given permission to periodically bring her specially-trained service dog, Dani, into Canton

High School to help calm students' nerves.

"The students' response to the dog has been incredible; you can tell Dani has made a difference in enhancing the lives of the students she interacts with," Demarest said.

Plymouth-Canton also implemented a two-days-a-week, 45-minute advisory period to students' schedules, allowing them a non-graded segment of the day when they can discuss issues with teachers and counselors, or simply give their minds a break from the real-world problems that seem to accumulate on a weekly basis.

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



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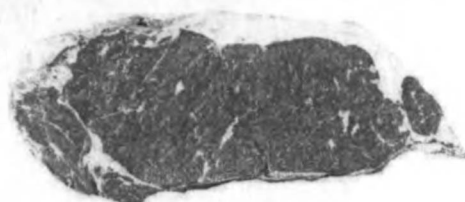
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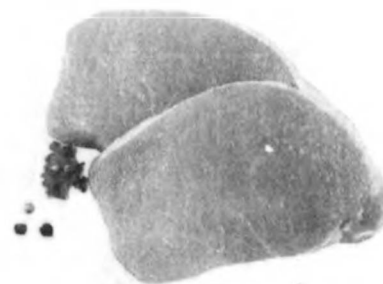
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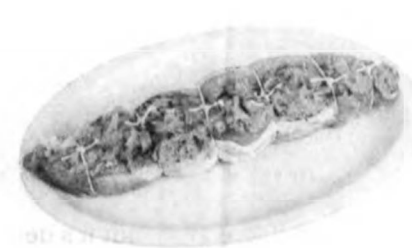
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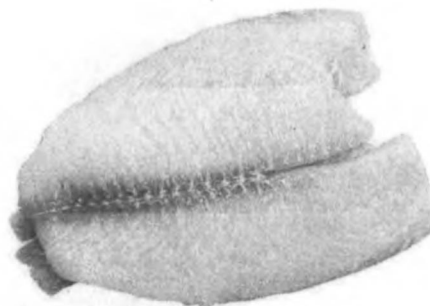
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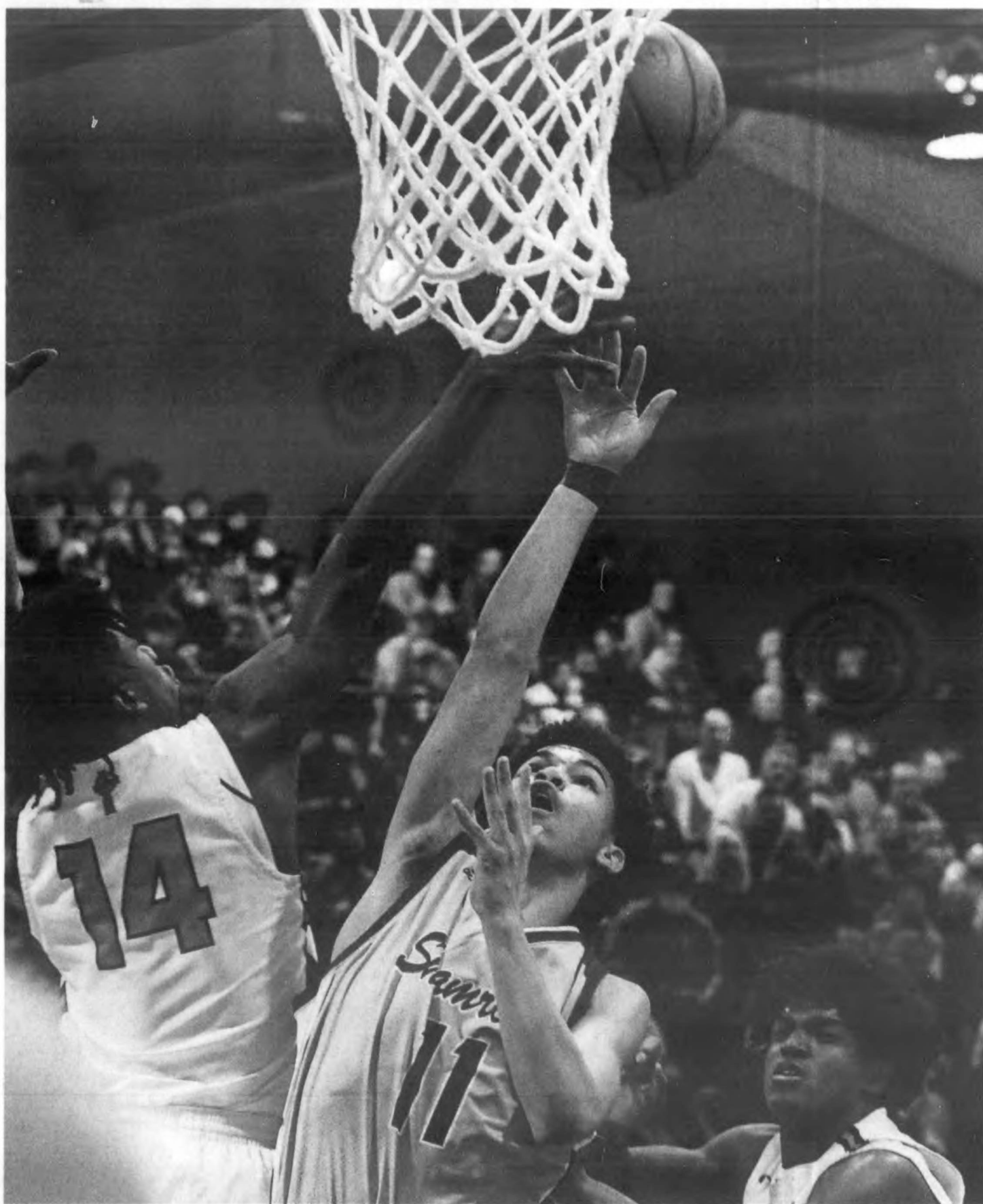
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SPORTS



Detroit Catholic Central's Chas Lewless, center, puts up a shot against Brother Rice. The Shamrocks won, 55-51.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Sophomore ignites CC's comeback at Brother Rice

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Memories of recent missed opportunities surged through Chas Lewless' mind as the Detroit Catholic Central sophomore toed the foul line.

They weren't easy free throws to make. Brother Rice's student section was to his immediate left. And they were hollering at him as he sank the first and then the second to give the Sham-

rocks a 51-50 edge with 1:07 left.

The Warriors attempted to regain the lead, but Josh Ross blocked Johnathan Blackwell's layup. It was clean. And CC secured the rebound.

Rice sent Lewless back to the foul line with 10.5 seconds left.

Once again, the memories returned as he made the first of his two double bonus attempts to secure the eventual 55-51 victory in Catholic League-Central play Jan. 20. He finished with a game-

high 22 points.

And what were those thoughts?

It was about how hard the guard had worked to return to his team. He missed eight weeks of fall ball and pre-season practices with a wrist injury. He sat out the season opener, earning a "DNP" on his stat line.

And he was also thinking about last season.

See COMEBACK, Page 2B

'We've got to get rolling'

Chiefs hockey team prepares for playoffs

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Wednesday night was about getting ready for the postseason.

And what does a playoff team do? It closes out games when it captures a quick lead.

That's what Canton did in its 8-3 victory over Novi at Arctic Edge Ice Arena. But it's not what the Chiefs (10-7, 3-2 KLAA-Black) have been doing as of late.

They entered the Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover losers of three-straight. And their last two losses? They held 2-0 leads but let their foot off the gas too early and ultimately gave away the wins.

Not this time.

Eight minutes into play, Danny Fletcher poked in a rebound on the back side to give the Chiefs the 2-0 lead they've come accustomed to grabbing early in games.

Just over a minute later, Anthony Jariett rifled in a shot from point-blank and then Joel Fonovic pushed in a breakaway goal with 5:22 left in the opening period to ensure Canton a 4-0 lead skating into the locker room.

"We've been struggling the last few games," Canton coach Justin Maedel said. "It was nice to see the guys do some things we've been practicing lately. We also just needed to get rolling again. Regionals is a month away, give or take, so we've got to get rolling. We can't wait until a week before regionals to start playing."

Tyler Husted scored early in the second period to make it 5-0 before Novi got dangerous with the puck.

Cam Kitts put together a five-point nine, netting a hat trick and assisting on a pair of goals, while Fletcher finished with a pair of goals.

Goalie Nate Azarovicz picked up the win.

"Getting a jump in the first and to get up by a couple more than just two helped out our confidence," Maedel added. "It was good we followed through the entire game. We let up some, but, overall, we kept pushing and pushing and pushing, which was good."

"... Novi is tough, regardless of who they've got on the ice. Yeah, they're struggling, but they're still a good squad. Coached really good by (Mark) Velluchi."

Novi (2-12, 0-4 KLAA-Gold) got goals from Jackson Kinter and Joel Sancen in the second period. Alex Czapski netted the Wildcats' final goal 40 seconds into the third period.

Henri Lettman and Kyle Gilger shared time in goal.

Second-quarter drought keeps Cranbrook boys basketball winless

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One bad quarter isn't always a terrible thing.

But this is the Catholic League.

One bad quarter is enough to turn a close matchup into an absolute blow-out.

And that's what almost happened to the Cranbrook boys basketball team Jan. 21 at Keppel Gymnasium.

The Cranes were almost shut out in the second quarter against Marine City Cardinal Mooney. Thankfully for Cooper Gurman's 3-pointer with 52 seconds left before halftime, they weren't held scoreless for the full eight minutes.

But that 30-14 halftime deficit proved to be too much to overcome.

Cranbrook scratched and clawed its way back into the Intersectional 2 matchup in the second half, even trimming its hole to just four points with 45.9 seconds left. But it couldn't pull off the complete comeback in the 60-53 loss.

"I thought our kids fought their tails off to get back in it," Cranes coach Shane Finney said. "But we missed some easy ones. We're going to keep fighting. That's the only thing we know how to do is fight."

Cranbrook (1-6, 0-4) prides itself on

See CRANBROOK, Page 2B



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Cranbrook

Continued from Page 1B

the hard-nosed defense it plays. Yet it gave up bucket after bucket in the first half.

Cardinal Mooney's Trent Rice and Brian Everhart found success driving to the hoop. And Rice and Ryan Trombley had no trouble burying shots from downtown off kick-out passes.

And perhaps the best-looking basket of the night came from Dominic Cattivera, who scored down low after the Cardinals rifled three different passes around the arc to find the big man wide-open in the post on the back side.

"Our margin of error is very slim. And we've got to be better defensively," Finney said. "We've got to have better responsibility and rotation. And when we get just a little bit out of position, it just puts us in a tough spot. We're limited offensively, so we've got to do it on the defensive end."

"You saw when we got back in the game, we turned it up defensively. We put on some pressure. When you don't have pressure, we're going to have some long nights."

A 39-point second half helped the Cranes stay competitive.

Shane Wittenberg got a steal and finished with a tough shot at the rim to close the gap to 47-40 early in the fourth.

Cranbrook and Mooney played back-and-forth basketball until the final minute. And then Charlie Song, who scored his team-high 14 points, all coming in the second half, nailed a runner to make it a five-point score with 59 seconds left.

Fourteen seconds later, Evan Evans, who scored all nine of his points in the second half, too, buried a pair of free throws in the double bonus to make it 55-51, the closest the score had been since midway through the first quarter.

Mooney (7-3, 3-1) closed it out at the foul line down the stretch, though, despite Evans and Gurman getting opportunities to make it a one-possession game in the final 20 seconds.

Rice finished with 15 points for the Cardinals, followed by Everhart and Trombley each with 13 and Cattivera and Quentin Hillaker with 10 apiece.

"We got back in it, but that second quarter hurt us," Finney said. "You can't finish the quarter like that. We've got to work on the details. ..."

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



Cranbrook's Charlie Song dribbles against Marine City Cardinal Mooney on Jan. 21 in Keppel Gymnasium. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Cranbrook's Benjamin McCaskill goes up for a layup.



Cranbrook's John Kersh rebounds.

Comeback

Continued from Page 1B

"I was just really thankful to be there, to be honest. That's just all I've wanted," Lewless said about securing the win at the foul line. "We played them twice last year, 0 for 2, and one was just a blowout. We just got blown out, and the other one we lost by six with a big comeback at halftime. To be up at that position where I could ice the game, that's all I've wanted since we've played them. I was so happy to be there because I knew I was going to knock them down."

That's not cockiness talking. That was his well-earned confidence.

Rice (7-2, 1-2) opened the game on a tear, taking an early 9-0 lead, and it was the usual suspects doing the heavy lifting. It was Curtis Williams and Blackwell from the foul line. Xavier Thomas from 3. And Keithan Gilmore cleaned up the glass and finished with a put-back attempt.

It wasn't until Cooper Craggs drove to the hoop and made a contested shot in traffic with 4:01 remaining in the opening period that CC (7-2, 2-1) finally cracked the scoreboard.

Lewless went on to score seven of the next 14 points, including cashing in on a drive to the hoop at the buzzer, to trim the Shamrocks' deficit to just 14-11.

He inspired a 15-1 run to open the second quarter, including hitting back-to-back 3-pointers to give CC its first lead, 17-16, at the 5:44 mark.

Rice closed out the half with five points to keep it close at 26-22, but CC carried the mojo into the locker room.

"I just saw how we were down big, and I felt like we needed a spark," said Lewless, who finished with four 3s. "I had to provide a spark to get us back into the game."

CC and Rice traded leads and hero moments throughout the second half.

First, it was Craggs, an Oakland University commit, taking over in the third quarter, scoring nine of his 16, mostly from drives to the hoop. That ensured CC a 43-38 lead entering the fourth.

And then it was Blackwell, who buried a trio of 3s in the second half and finished with a team-best 21 points, willing Rice back into the game late in the third



Warrior Xavier Thomas, center. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and early in the fourth. In fact, he scored 16 in the second half, even making two free throws to trim his team's hole to 45-44 with 5:22 remaining.

Two more of his free throws with 1:20 left gave Rice its first lead, 51-50, since the second quarter. But those were the last points the Warriors would get.

Ross wound up blocking Blackwell's potential game-winning layup with 10.5 seconds remaining, and Henry Garrity missed a 3-pointer just before the buzzer that could've also given Rice the win.

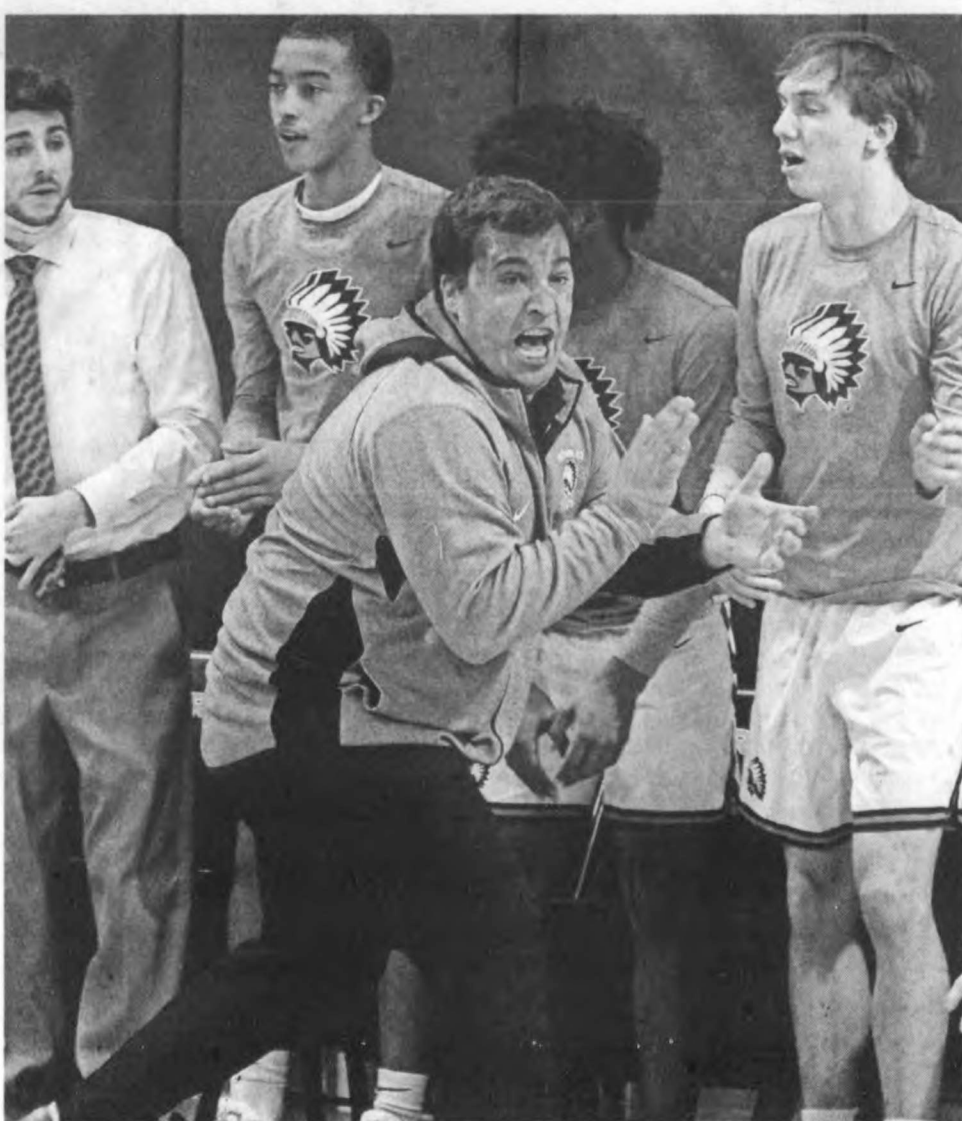
"He's a really good player, and he made some plays," Rice coach Rick Palmer said of his three-star guard. "He made good reads all night."

"Everyone is going to talk about Henry's missed shot at the end, but Johnathan had that layup, and I really liked that look. Josh Ross made a pretty good play defensively. But we're not going to flinch, and we're not going to fold."

Thomas finished with 16 points for Rice, while CC held Williams, a four-star junior, to just 10 points.

Kam Mayes chipped in seven points for the Shamrocks, who exited the game in a first-place tie atop the CHSL-Central standings with Orchard Lake St. Mary's, everyone's pre-season favorite to win the Division 1 state title.

After the crowd cleared the gym, CC's



Brother Rice head coach Rick Palmer applauds his team's defense early in their game against Detroit Catholic Central on Jan. 20.

players made their way to Rice's cafeteria for a post-game meal. Except Lewless was late to the party. He was swamped with media requests.

"Hey, make sure you head in there and get some food before we leave," CC coach Brandon Sinawi said to Lewless, quickly patting the guard on the back with a big smile.

"He lit a fire in the first half, and he was the best player on the floor, and there's some really good basketball players playing on both sides," Sinawi had said about Lewless 15 minutes earlier. "He struggled in the last couple of games, trying to find his shot and us struggling to find him. But he was locked

in, and he's a next-level kid. He had some moxie tonight."

"He and I talked before the game. I told him to let the game come to him and to take what the defense was going to give you. If they're going to go under screens, he's going to lift. (If there are open 3s), he can knock it down. I'm super proud of him, and I couldn't have been any more proud of him to come out here on the road against Rice, a top-five team, and play the way that he did."

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

Salem bounces back with gritty comeback at Novi

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Not this time.

Not again.

Salem's Ryan Peters converted on a tough basket and made the ensuing and-one free throw.

That stopped the bleeding. Those three points ended a 15-0 run by Novi, one that saw the Wildcats erase an 11-point deficit and even take a 46-41 lead with under six minutes left.

Not only did Salem fumble a late lead against Northville, it couldn't stop the Mustangs from taking over the fourth quarter completely and running away with the victory.

Peters' make at the foul line was the type of catalyst the Rocks needed five nights earlier, but it never came. On Jan. 18 at Novi, it came at just the right time.

That three-point play ignited a 15-2 run of their own, which included Pryor Reynolds burying two of his four 3-pointers, putting any chances of a comeback out of reach for the Wildcats in a 60-52 victory.

Reynolds was 8 of 8 from the foul line and finished with a game-high 22 points, 18 of which came in the second half. Peters scored six of his eight points in the fourth quarter.

"We just kept telling the guys to stay focused, believe in each other and believe in what we're trying to do, and they started executing," Salem coach Ryan Nimmerguth said. "Once we got a nice and-one there, it kind of turned the momentum a little bit. That calmed us down. Which was huge by Ryan, and we started taking care of the ball a bit."

It was a back-and-forth affair in the first half, with Novi escaping the first and second quarters with leads of 12-10 and 27-26, respectively.

The second half, though, was a game of runs.

Quite literally.

Reynolds made two foul shots to open the third, and the Rocks proceeded to go on a 15-3 run that gave them an 11-point lead midway through the quarter. Reynolds made a pair of 3s during the scoring spree, which ended with Derik Watson getting fouled on a put-back attempt that also sent him to the line for an and-one free throw.

And then it all went downhill over the next three minutes.

Novi (1-8, 1-5 KLAA-West) scored 10-straight to close out the period and trim its deficit to just 41-40.

The Wildcats scored five straight to begin the fourth to extend that run to 15-0 before Peters finally put an end to it.

Salem (5-2, 2-1 KLAA-West) didn't doubt itself as it went scoreless for six-straight minutes.

"That's a message we just work on all year: 'It's the next play. It's the next play,' and, yeah, we were disappointed," Nimmerguth said. "I was disappointed. I was mad. But we've got to focus on the next play. We can't deal with anything that's gone on from that point. We can only fix what's going forward. We're going to work on the next play."

Novi guard Danny Groechel, who scored a team-best 16 points, made a layup with 1:11 left to halt Salem's late 15-2 run, and then Rodney Hackman (seven points) made a foul shot that made it 56-50 on the next possession.

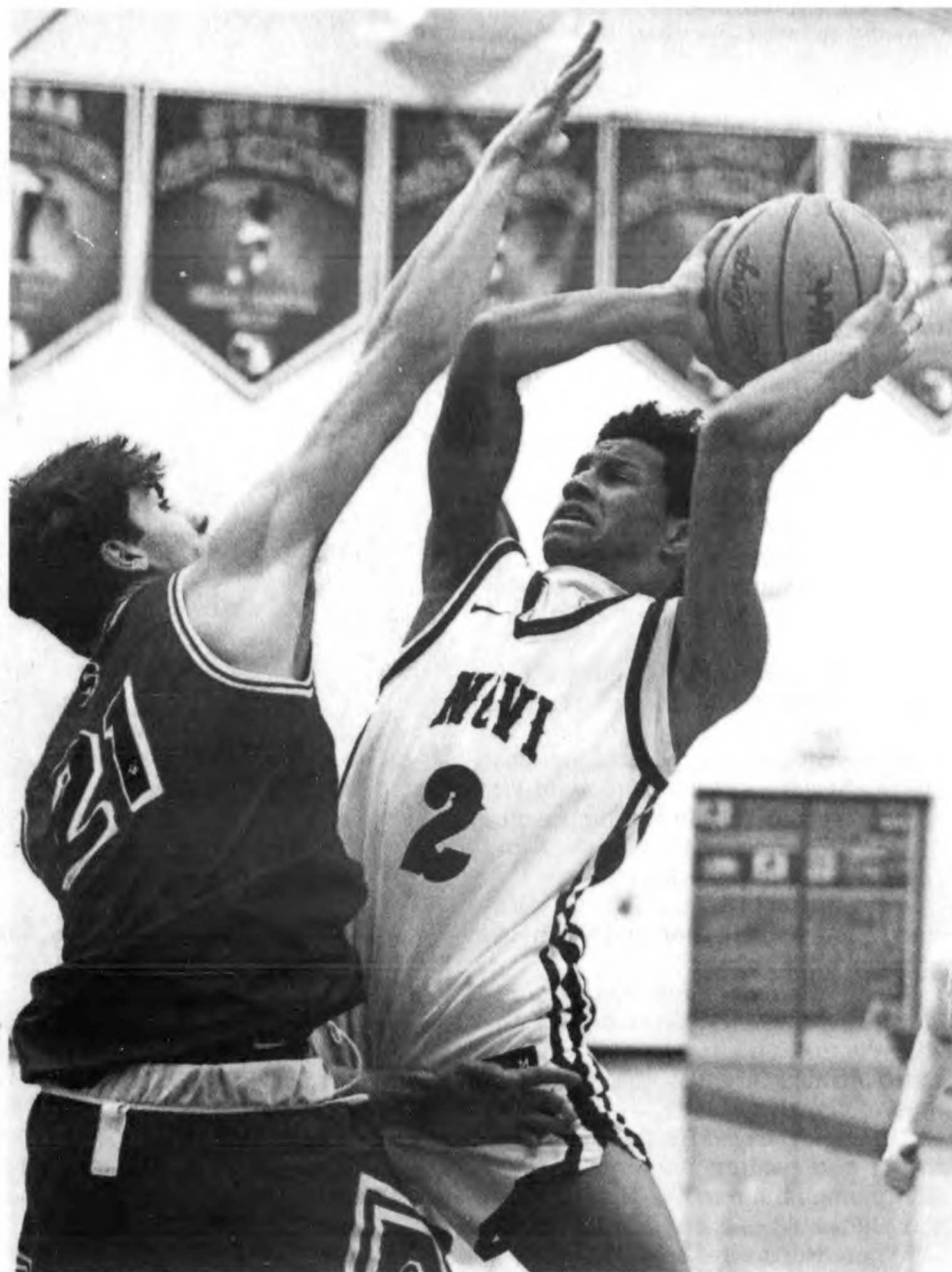
Salem was even called for traveling on the next trip down the court. And the Wildcats got a chance at a layup to make it a four-point game with 22 seconds left, but that gimme missed by that much, which was enough to have Novi coach Chris Housey squat down and slam his hands on the hardwood in disgust.

The Rocks netted four free throws in the bonus to close out the win.

"We started playing good defense together," Housey said. "We were flying around, and we were making some stuff happen. And then everybody kind of settled down. Then we got out of our tempo once that and-one (Peters' big play) went in. We kind of lost our momentum a little bit. That run was great because we were getting after it on D. We've got to keep doing that if we want to be successful. ...

"It was a game of runs, right? We just needed to maintain that momentum, and we couldn't do it. Hats off to them. They played great and brought it to us. They were ready to play tonight, for sure. It took us a little bit to get going. All of the credit goes to them. They're well-coached. They made shots, and we didn't make some shots."

Ashton Wheeler added 12 points for



Novi's Te'John McGowan tries a shot on net against Salem.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the Rocks, while Henry Rummel buried a trio of 3-pointers in the second quarter and finished with nine.

Novi guard Te'John McGowan scored 15 points, including 14 in the first half, and Luke Aurilia had five.

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

It was a back-and-forth affair in the first half, with Novi escaping the first and second quarters with leads of 12-10 and 27-26.



Salem's Ashton Wheeler.



Salem's Ryan Peters, right, is blocked by Novi's Danny Groechel.

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Howell beats Northville, maintains KLAA West lead

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HOWELL — Maybe it benefited Howell's girls basketball team that Brighton and Hartland had already played Northville.

After their performances against two state-ranked Livingston County teams, the Mustangs had the Highlanders' undivided attention when they arrived in Howell.

Northville could not be taken lightly, having separated itself from the other five KLAA West teams that have been dominated in recent years by Livingston County's three powerhouses.

The Mustangs held a high-scoring, second-ranked Hartland team to 39 points in a loss on Dec. 16 before beating a Brighton team that was ranked sixth at the time by the Detroit Free Press on Jan. 7.

"Brighton's always a tough team to beat," Howell senior Maeve St. John said.

Knowing the risk of looking past Northville with a game coming up Friday at Brighton, the Highlanders used a strong defensive effort to win 42-28 and remain alone atop the KLAA West.

Howell is 6-0 in the division, Hartland is 5-1, and Brighton and Northville are each 4-2.

The Highlanders are 10-0 against Northville since the formation of the KLAA in 2008-09, but this victory was more meaningful given the Mustangs' level of play this season.

"How they played Hartland, then going in and beating Brighton, that's a pretty tough thing to do," Howell coach Tim Olszewski said.

When Northville beat Brighton, it ended an 80-game winning streak by Livingston County's three teams against the other five in KLAA West games. Mustangs coach Todd Gudith believes the gap between his team and the traditional division powers has narrowed.

"A little bit," he said. "Don't get me wrong, the three Livingston County teams are certainly the cream of the crop and the ones we certainly know are going to be at the top of the division year in and year out. They've got great programs, they've got great youth pro-



Northville's Evelyn Deren is guarded by Amelia Storm of Howell on Jan. 18. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

grams. Yes, teams do lose kids to graduation, but they just seem to keep reloading, these three schools."

Northville's calling card, like Howell's, has been its defense. The Mustangs have allowed 36.3 points per game, while Howell has given up 31.8 points during a six-game winning streak that followed a 1-3 start.

So, it was no surprise that points were hard to come by early in the game. Howell led 6-4 after one quarter, holding the Mustangs without a field goal until 6:39 left in the second quarter.

"Four of their points in the first quarter were off free throws," St. John said. "We felt we were playing good defense. It was just where our offense was com-

ing from."

After back-to-back baskets by junior Eve Tanaskoska gave Northville an 8-6 lead, sophomore Alexis Le scored consecutive baskets to ignite 10-0 Howell stretch to end the first half. The Highlanders shut out the Mustangs for a 7:03 stretch of the second and third quarters.

"Honestly, I think they just scouted us well," Howell junior Molly Deurloo said. "... We had to be more patient on offense; I think we did."

Howell built a 22-12 lead on a 3-point-er by Caitlyn Rayl with 4:23 left in the third quarter. Northville cut the lead to five points twice before the end of the quarter and trailed 34-28 with five minutes left in the game.

The Highlanders held the Mustangs scoreless over the final 5:46, pulling away by scoring the last eight points.

"We want to try to play a game to about 40 or so," Gudith said. "We're certainly capable of getting to that number most nights. It's just two good defensive teams going after it, so we knew baskets were going to be hard to come by for both teams."

St. John had 14 points and six assists, Amelia Storm had eight points, Sophia Daugard had seven points and six rebounds, and Deurloo had six points for Howell.

Susy Heller led Northville with 11 points, seven coming in the third quarter.

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Our top 5 girls basketball teams: Week 1

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

To coincide with the first Associated Press basketball rankings of the season being released this week, Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom is releasing his first poll.

There are four standout teams, ones that should make big playoff runs in March. And there are several teams that are worthy of Folsom's No. 5 spot. Check back each week to see who's looking good as the regular season winds down.

Note: These records are based on results from before Jan. 17.

1. Redford Westfield Prep (10-1)

The Warriors aren't just one of the best teams in Michigan, they're beating teams across state lines as well. They've played a stacked schedule against Class A and B schools with their talented roster of speedy guards and athletic forwards. Their lone loss? A three-point close-call at Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, which is likely the best team in the state, regardless of division.

2. Wayne Memorial (8-1, 5-0 KLAA-East)

No one in the league is anywhere as talented as the Zebras, who are led by Mayla Ham, Paris Bass, Davai Matthews, three Division I college prospects. Their lone loss? Yep, that was to Arbor Prep in the season opener. As we know, that's nothing to scoff at. Expect Wayne to make a deep playoff run.

3. South Lyon East (7-2, 5-0 LVC)

It'd be lazy to say Central Michigan commit Taylor Anderson is carrying the Cougars. She's not doing it alone. This team is loaded with talent. From forward Anna Lassar to guard Ella Kruschka and everyone in between, these girls are easily one of the 20 best teams in the state. They lost to West Bloomfield early on. Since then, their only other loss? Yep, that was to Arbor Prep.



South Lyon East's Taylor Anderson. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

4. Farmington Hills Mercy (7-2, 3-1 CHSL-Central)

The Marlins won the arm-wrestling match against rival Marian, but it's not going to get any easier for them. Their division has three, possibly four, of the 25 best teams in the state. If they can beat Dearborn Divine Child in the rematch, stave off Marian again and beat Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, they could be dangerous entering the postseason. Junior Maya White has been a star, but

the seniors have really been contributing, too.

5. Livonia Franklin (6-2, 5-2 KLAA-East)

It's going to take a lot to keep the Patriots in the top five because there are several equally-as-talented squads on their heels right now. Anyone from Marian to Detroit Country Day, Northville and Plymouth Christian could be in this final spot. Right now, it's theirs to lose

because they're beating the teams they're supposed to in their division. A loss to Wayne is nothing to be ashamed of.

In the hunt (in no particular order): Bloomfield Hills Marian, Birmingham Seaholm, Detroit Country Day, Livonia Clarenceville, Livonia Stevenson, North Farmington, Northville, Plymouth Christian Academy, White Lake Lakeland.

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



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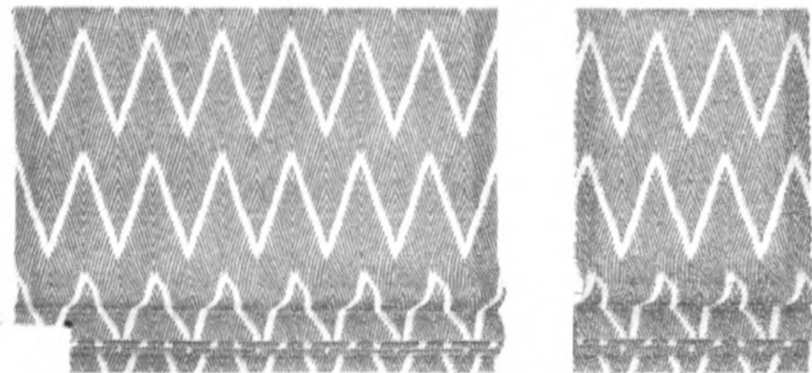
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Rolling 300 game was 'one-of-a-kind feeling' for Hartland senior bowler

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

As a coach, Charles Mitchell didn't want to say something to disrupt the zone Hartland senior Logan Guibord was in last Sunday at Richfield Bowl in Flint.

But, with Guibord on the verge of achieving every bowler's dream, Mitchell ultimately decided it might've been worse to not have a word with him.

Through nine frames, Guibord was perfect, but even perfection can be improved upon.

"I didn't say a word to him until he was ready to step up to the 10th frame, because his ninth strike was a little shaky," Mitchell said. "I was in a limbo area. Do I say something, do I not? If I didn't say something, I was going to regret it."

"I looked at him, told him, 'Make sure you keep it simple. Look at your mark, focus and take a deep breath before you go.' He buried all three of them in the 10th; there was definitely no doubt."

When the final pins fell, Guibord had the first 300 game of his 12-year bowling career in the Flint Metro Bowling Conferences Championships.

"That was amazing," Guibord said. "Just looking back, seeing all the teammates, parents, even other teams just clapping for me. It was a one-of-a-kind feeling."

Guibord's previous high game was a 289 in



Hartland's Logan Guibord bowled a 300 game at a high school tournament at Richfield Bowl in Flint.

COURTESY

2018. The prospect of rolling a 300 didn't enter his mind until after the seventh frame.

"The eighth and ninth, I was really nervous," he said. "Both of my shots went Brooklyn (crossing over to the other side of the head pin), so I was a little bit worried. The 10th came and all the nervousness kind of went away."

In baseball, teammates avoid talking to a pitcher who is in the process of throwing a no-hitter. During the perfect game, it was Guibord who avoided conversations.

"I was less talkative, because I was more in the zone," he said. "I didn't want any of them to be like, 'Oh, you're gonna shoot a 300' and it messes me up."

Guibord is averaging 198.2 during KLAA matches, ranking 18th in the league. His goals are to get the average to 210 and return to the state tournament.

He was 44th out of 60 bowlers during the qualifying rounds at the state tournament last season, averaging 168.5 for his first four games before finishing with games of 226 and 214. The top 16 bowlers advanced to head-to-head matches.

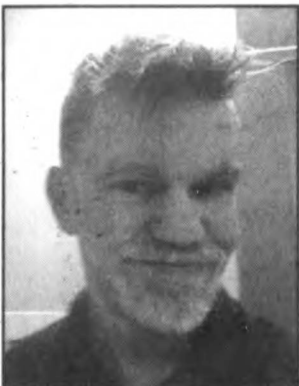
"I didn't do too hot," he said. "The last couple games, I did good, but not enough to carry over into qualifying. I learned it's just another day of bowling. It's a big tournament, but it really doesn't matter. Get out there and throw the ball, bowl, keep it simple."

Obituaries

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Tyler James Hover

NEW HUDSON - Tyler James Hover, age 49 from New Hudson, passed away 12/02/21 from complications of Type 1 Diabetes. He is survived by his parents, James and Beverly Hover, his sister and brother-in-law, Stacy (Hover) Malik and Mark Malik, and his niece and nephew, Sadie and Chase Malik. As well as many friends that were like family to him. Ty had a love for music, volleyball, biking and nature. He spent the last year of his life in his happy place of Marquette, Mi. He had been diabetic for 42 of his 49 years, and unfortunately, it was what ultimately took him from us. One of Ty's biggest passions was the outdoors. Ty used this passion to start up the Ultimate Hike for the Cure. He did this to help raise awareness and money to find a cure for diabetes. Unfortunately he was never able to finish it. His family has decided not to hold a memorial at this time, but if you would like to honor Ty, please consider donating to JDRE (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - JDRE.org) in his memory. His biggest wish in all the world would be a cure for Type 1 Diabetes.



Hudsonville's Emmalyn Costen and Midland Dow's Abby Rey battle for a rebound last April.

JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

MSHAA winter tournaments approach amid uncertainty

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Winter high school sports seasons began on time and without any pauses on a state-wide basis, which is in stark contrast to the chaos of the previous school year induced by the coronavirus.

That has been a welcome change for the Michigan High School Athletic Association, but things can change quickly and that has MHSAA executive director Mark Uyl worried.

The recent Omicron variant's spike has caused some counties and/or school districts to return to the policies of limiting attendance at games, put in place by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services at the start of the pandemic.

There are some school districts, scattered across the state, which have postponed games.

"There's no state-wide orders in place or in effect, and those decisions have fallen to local county health departments and even local school districts," Uyl said. "Some of those district are making some decisions now that case numbers are up again based on their local conditions."

The MHSAA has no direct control over regular-season contests, but winter-sport tournaments, run by the MHSAA, begin in just over a month.

That is why the MHSAA is so interested in recent actions taken by counties.

"What schools are doing for the regular season is going to be their call, but here we're a little more than a month out from winter tournament season," Uyl said. "So we are trying to keep tabs on what local districts are doing, what is going on in different counties because we have to finalize our plans pretty quickly with all sports, when districts start beginning in mid-February when you're talking wrestling."

For months, the MHSAA has had its tournament sites set for every sport.

But what does the MHSAA do if a particular county rules only 100 people can attend an event, similar to a lot of indoor events last year?

The MHSAA took a financial bath for the fall and winter sports seasons a year ago and a repeat of last winter's attendance limitations would be devastating again.

A year ago, many host schools forwarded the MHSAA what little revenue they made with limited attendance, rather than keeping it for their districts.

"We were really hoping," Uyl said, "this school year would kind of be a return to normal where the schools that were hosting could see some revenue again, which was the case in the fall."

As it seems unlikely the MDHHS will issue any state-wide regulations, the MHSAA has some latitude to move hosting sites.

And this is far more than just a basketball issue. The MHSAA also has tournaments scheduled for hockey, boys swimming and diving, wrestling, boys and girls bowling and girls gymnastics.

"We've got to move pretty quickly over the next couple of weeks just to kind of see what the lay of land is going to look like come February," Uyl said. "With a state-wide order, everybody is kind of

working from the same sheet of music.

"When it's really now county by county, that really creates some confusion, because two schools only a handful of miles apart can be under completely different restrictions and expectations."

Uyl pointed out that Ingham County, which includes East Lansing, is limiting the capacity at high school games, while nearby Eaton County has no such restrictions.

If a district or regional hosted in Ingham County has schools from two counties, it would be better to move the district or regional to a school in a less restrictive county.

"Does it then make sense," Uyl asked, "to make sure that that event is going to be held at a place to where not just parents can see it, but brothers, sisters and grandparents and other folks can be there?"

"That's what makes it much more complicated this year."

If you want to talk complicated, take the girls and boys basketball tournaments. The MHSAA needs a combined 256 district sites, 64 regional sites and 32 quarterfinal sites just to get the boys and girls tournaments to reach the semifinals at Michigan State.

Add in all of the other sports — wrestling needs a combined 160 district sites for individual and team tournaments — and you are way past complicated, bordering on convoluted.

That is why Uyl and his staff are paying attention to each move by counties and districts.

"That's something we're going try to get our arms around the next couple of weeks," Uyl said. "That's why we have to know what different counties are doing now, and we're going to try to plan as much in advance."

"The thing we've learned the last two years is that advanced planning becomes impossible. But during January, we have to get a handle on what counties look like and if we need to adjust some host sites come tournament time, we at least need to have the conversation."

MSU added another hurdle this week when it mandated that all fans attending MSU men's and women's basketball games at Breslin Center must have proof of vaccination or a recent negative test in order to be admitted.

That could also be the case for the girls and boys semifinals and finals.

"Whatever it's going to be, I think you need to clearly spell it out to people so everybody knows what to expect," Uyl said. "Come the end of March, will those be the same requirements in place for our fans and spectators?"

That question is unanswerable today. The only thing certain at this point is the uncertainty.

"That's why it's been so hard making decisions," Uyl said. "All during COVID, I don't think anybody's crystal ball has been able to really project out two months from now what exactly the world going to look like, what are going to be the COVID conditions."

"That's what's made being in a decision making position just so challenging."

Mick McCabe is a former longtime columnist for the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at mick.mccabell@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @mickmccabell.

Online buyers await your old devices

There are several ways to unload unwanted tech

Marc Saltzman
Special to USA TODAY

If you unwrapped a brand-new iPhone or Fitbit over the holidays, what are you going to do with your old device?

Or perhaps you treated yourself to a shiny new digital single-lens reflex camera or mirrorless camera on Black Friday and so you no longer need to hold onto your Canon Rebel T5i from 2013.

Understandably, many turn to apps and the web to sell used or unwanted tech.

After all, not only will you help declutter your home by getting rid of gadgets you don't have any use for, but chances are you're able to use that extra cash to pay down the big credit card bills you may be facing later in January.

You've got a few ways to unload your stuff: online classifieds sites (like Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace), peer-to-peer marketplaces (like eBay) and an increasingly popular option is selling to a platform that gives you cash to take tech off your hands and they may resell it to someone looking for a deal. Examples include Declutter and Gazelle for mobile phones and MacBooks and MPB for camera gear.

"Frankly, a lot of people are surprised at the value that they can get out of their used tech, especially photo and video equipment," says Tammy Oler, Head of Brand Marketing for MPB in North America.

"There's often an 'Antiques Roadshow' kind of reaction, where people get their quote back and they're like 'Oh wow, I had no idea it would be worth this much,'" adds Oler. "You're also helping to put this in the hands of someone who could appreciate spending less on your used gear, which we first inspect and guarantee."

The following is a closer look at each of the three main ways to sell your tech online, with tips to maximize your experience on each one:

Online classifieds

Not new, but many turn to online classifieds sites and apps to find a buyer for their unwanted tech.

With platforms like Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace and Kijiji (popular in Canada), you can post your listing for free and hope to find a buyer in your area.

You'll usually meet in person for the transaction, so be careful when doing so; only meet in public places, during the day and perhaps bring a friend along. Obviously, selling larger items, like a TV, is a different story, so make sure other adults are home with you.

Only accept cash, not a check. The buyer will understandably want to inspect what you're selling, so ensure it's all powered up and include as much of the original packaging, documentation and accessories (like charging cables).

For your post, try to make it stand out from the rest. Use some eye-catching words in your headline, perhaps phrases like "REDUCED PRICE" or "MINT QUALITY," as examples. Take good photos of what you're selling and be as descriptive about the product as you can, to avoid any frustration during the selling process, including the model number and condition of the product.

My favorite online classifieds tip is to maximize your reach, which you can do in two (free) ways. One is to post many listings for the same product but in a different category. For example, a Bluetooth speaker can be listed in Audio, Electronics, Smartphone Accessories and Home. Since it's free, simply copy and paste the text and perhaps tweak the headline, description, or photos.

You can also post to different nearby neighborhoods: while you're selecting a specific city to post your listing, also post to a few surrounding suburbs to increase the odds of your ad being seen.

Some online classified sites let you pay a little to bump your listing up higher on the page.

Online marketplaces

Compared to online classified sites, the benefit to a huge marketplace, like eBay, is you're catering to potential buyers across the entire country – or even internationally – opposed to locally.

Once someone buys (or successfully bids on) the gadget you're selling, you'll ship it to them, which you should do shortly after selling it, to ensure the buyer is happy – and will likely give you a good review (if happy with the product too), which helps your seller reputation and hopefully leads to repeat



If you don't have the time or interest to find a seller on your own, some platforms including MPB will buy your photography and videography gear, which is inspected by specialists and then money is deposited into your account. Your used gear may be sold on the same platform. PROVIDED BY MPB

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Specializing in smartphones, tablets and MacBooks, Declutter is one of the most successful sites for selling or trading up your aging consumer electronics – instead of leaving you to find a buyer on your own. PROVIDED BY DECLUTTR.COM

business from the same buyer.

Reviews and star ratings are incredibly important on marketplaces.

As for how much to sell your item, make sure your item is competitively priced as shoppers are comparing your item to others. A tip is to offer free shipping – even if you must increase the product price a bit, you'll likely sell it faster.

When buyers show interest in your product but haven't yet completed the transaction, eBay suggests leveraging its Offer to Buyers tool, which allows you to initiate the negotiation process with potential buyers. You can make an offer to a buyer if they are watching your item or have placed it into their shopping cart but haven't checked out within a few days.

To increase the odds of selling your item quickly, think of the time of year it is and offload things people want. Sell your camping gear in the summer and not in the dead of winter. Christmas items will do better in early December than in March. You get the idea.

Interestingly, eBay says Sunday is the busiest day for purchases, followed by Saturday and Monday.

Sell your tech to a platform

Opposed to a "peer-to-peer" approach, where you need to find a buyer and transact with them, a crop of sites offer to buy your used tech directly, which might be more ideal for those who don't have a lot of time on their hands to sell it directly to someone else (and with classifieds, meet them in person for the transaction).

These same platforms sell used tech to those who might otherwise not be able to afford a brand-new device at retail.

In other words, it's a win-win for both parties, not to mention the "circu-

lar economy" is also a boon for the environment, since it focuses on reusing, repairing, refurbishing and repurposing older or unwanted electronics.

Like Declutter does for smartphones, MacBooks and game consoles, MPB

asks sellers to fill out an online form to get an instant quote on photography and videography gear, before packaging it up and sending to its Brooklyn, New York, facility (via secured Fedex, paid for by MPB).

You'll need to specify the make, model and condition of what you're looking to sell – camera bodies, lenses, filters and accessories – which will then be inspected and verified by a team of camera experts.

MPB, the "world's largest online platform specializing in used photo and video equipment," says Oler, will then deposit the money into the seller's bank account.

"While it's more of an emotional thing, it's important to us that sellers know the gear you may have used and loved and perhaps have done some fantastic work with, is getting into the hands of somebody else who, in turn, is going to do something really interesting with it," adds Oler.

MPB says any used items purchased by others, including trade-ins, are covered by a six-month limited warranty.

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January Job News Roundup

By ZipRecruiter.com

- 21 states and 35 cities and counties kicked off 2022 by raising the minimum wage. An additional four states and 22 cities and counties will do the same through the year.
- Chicago public schools have been closed for four days as a result of an ongoing battle between the Chicago Teachers Union, which is fighting for remote teaching due to the increase in Covid cases, and Mayor Lori Lightfoot's administration, which wants schools to remain in-person.
- The U.S. workforce is projected to grow by 6.5 million workers through 2030, a number much lower than in previous decades. Factors contributing to lower labor force participation include slower population growth, earlier retirements, and less immigration.
- The latest jobs report found that hiring hit an annual record in 2021 despite a December slowdown to just 199,000 jobs added. World food prices jumped 28% in 2021 to their highest level in a decade.
- Spirit Airlines doubled flight attendant pay through January 4 to retain workers and avoid mass flight cancellations. Over 8,000 flights were cancelled over the holidays, largely due to staffing shortages amid a surge in Covid cases.
- Cases of Fluorona, a new term for those infected by coronavirus and influenza at the same time, have popped up across the world, including in the U.S.

Week of January 3, 2022

- Even with supply chain problems, US retail sales rose by 8.5% year-over-year between November 1st and December 24th, 2021. The rise in spending came from early holiday shopping, online purchases, and an increase in foot traffic after many consumers stayed home for the 2020 holiday season.
- All 23 Cal States will now require students to receive a coronavirus booster shot, and are currently negotiating a requirement for all staff.
- President Biden extended the student loan payment pause until May 1, 2022.
- Hospitals that are overworked and understaffed are facing another surge in patients due to the omicron variant. Earlier in the pandemic, hospitals were able to open field hospitals and stockpile equipment, but many no longer have enough working staff to expand their reach. Instead, they are bracing for the likelihood that they'll need to prioritize certain patients over others, as states like Idaho and Alaska did when they activated crisis standards of care.
- Nursing homes, which suffered from staff shortages pre-Covid, are facing an extreme labor shortage as 425,000 employees have departed over the past two years. Workers across the healthcare industry have been quitting in record numbers due to burnout and the

increased chances of getting Covid, but nursing homes have been hit the hardest due to lower wages. The nursing home staff shortage has resulted in larger bottleneck issues across the healthcare industry, as patients waiting for beds in homes are taking up beds in hospital rooms.

- After an 11-week strike, unionized Kellogg workers in Michigan, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee have approved a new five-year contract that includes wage increases, more health care and retirement benefits, and cost-of-living adjustments.
- Broadway shows like *Hamilton* and *The Lion King* canceled performances through Christmas due to coronavirus outbreaks. The President of the Broadway League, Charlotte St. Martin, says there are no plans for another full-Broadway mandated shutdown.



- Facebook's base salaries and equity awards have increased significantly and quicker than its competitors, due to the tight labor market and the company's worsening reputation. Because of recent scandals, the company is now paying employees more to both hire and retain competitive talent.
- There are different factors causing America's labor shortage. Government payments through stimulus checks and child tax credits have helped Americans build and sustain savings, allowing many workers to delay their return to the workforce. Over 1.5 million more people are retired than would have been expected before the pandemic, and child care and fears of the coronavirus have kept many Americans on the sidelines.
- Home sales are projected to reach their highest levels in 15 years, and in 2022 potential homeowners can expect tight inventory and rising prices across the country.
- Food delivery app DoorDash recently relaunched WeDash, a program that requires all employees, even C-suite level, to complete a "dash" food delivery once a month in order to better understand the product. WeDash was paused during the pandemic, and its return has led to anonymous complaints from internal employees.
- More than 5,400 flights were canceled the weekend after Christmas, and an additional 2,000 flights were canceled the following Monday. Cancellations were due to staff calling out sick with coronavirus and bad weather.

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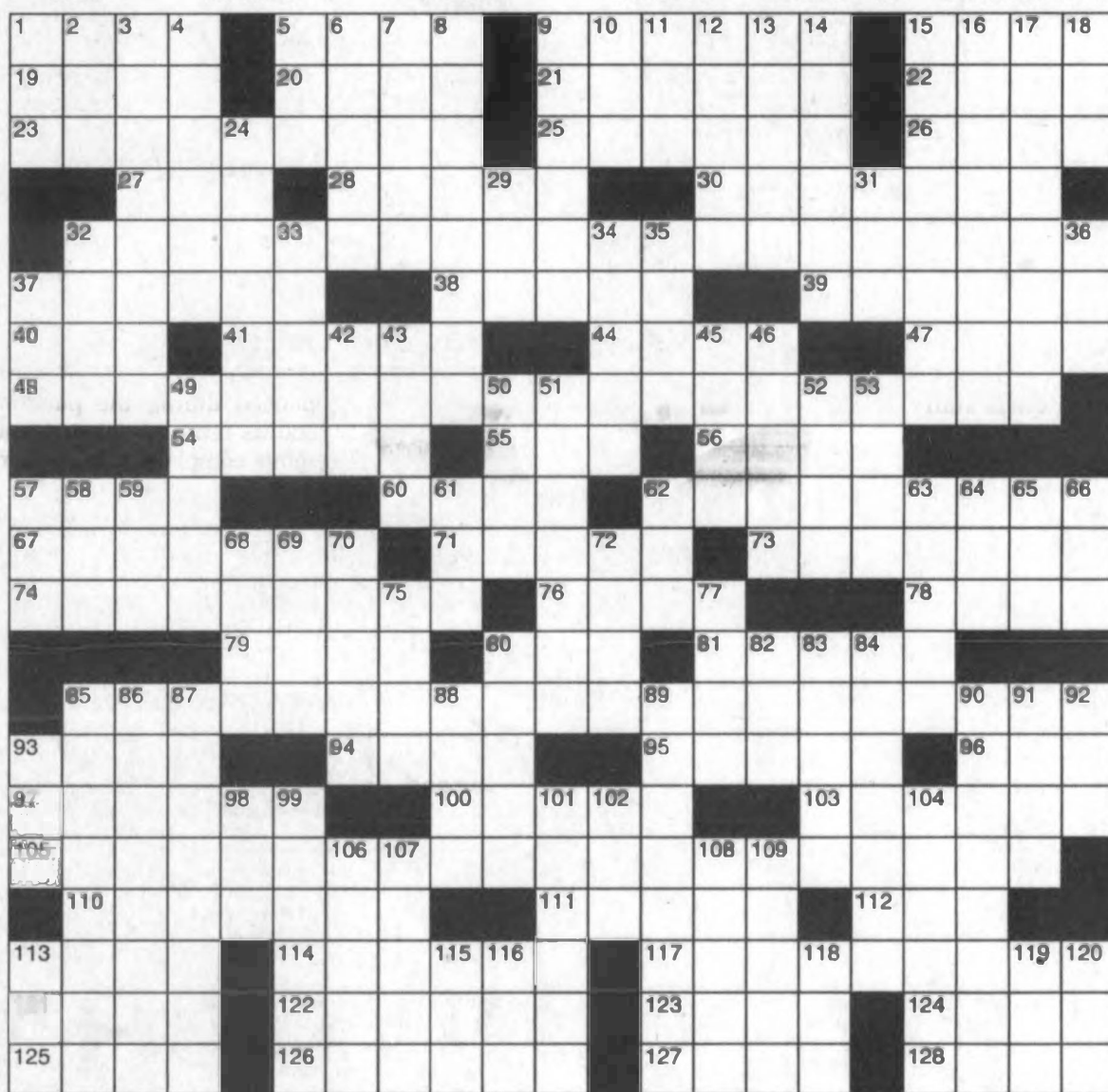
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**MAKING 20
OUT OF 9**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pueblo dweller
5 Sound of an "air kiss"
9 Forensic facility in Quantico, for short
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20 Civil rights leader Parks
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22 Lawn mower brand
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30 Horn blowers
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41 Humongous
44 Foot, in verse
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124 Lasting mark
125 Betting info
126 "Mad" Carroll character
127 Some votes in Congress
128 Those folks
- DOWN**
- 1 Great athletes are enshrined in it: Abbr.
2 Bobby in the Hockey
3 Leguminous side dish
4 Low pelvic bones
5 Hosp. test in a big tube
6 "Mrs. Dalloway" novelist
7 Ed of "Lou Grant"
8 Is trustful
9 Citrusy diet soft drink
10 Idling type
11 Cruel Amin
12 Slower than andante
13 Socially distant
14 Side street
15 Give proof of
16 Novelist Toni
17 Strong-arm
18 Boston Red —
24 This evening
29 Building-blasting stuff
31 Bag-screening org.
32 Gotten sight of
33 Attempter
34 Fibber's admission
35 Cabbage side dish
36 Little hotel
37 Playtex item
42 "Ugly Betty" actress Ortiz
43 Crash-probing agcy.
45 Little plateau
46 Pickle liquid
49 Bubbly mixer
50 Blogging pundit Klein
51 Prescribed diet, say
52 Finishes up
53 Swamp wriggler
57 Round body
58 "Call — taxi"
59 Ocean east of Mass.
61 Inits. on an ambulance
62 Tailor's edge
63 City on the Seine
64 Put — (joke pranks)
65 Knot up
66 Part of a jug
68 Yuletide song
69 Opposer
70 Climbing vine
72 Rigatoni's kin
75 Ingrain
77 Film noir's Kazan
80 Shimmer
82 Goller Ernie
83 Even up
84 Out-of-towner
85 "Shane" star
86 Teased one another playfully
87 International alliances
88 Harbinger
89 Medieval Scandinavian
90 Group's activity in the community
91 Crooner Burl
92 Frowny-faced
93 Suffix with Vietnam
98 Aesthetic interest
99 Sewing unit
101 Bank job
102 "Neroli" musician
104 Least
106 Maui greeting
107 Contrarian's retort
108 Nile capital
109 Come next
113 Short history
115 Park oneself
116 Cooler cubes
118 Divs. of dollars
119 Scot's turndown
120 Give it a whirl



#2,075

Average time of solution: 65 minutes

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

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

1/27

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!

WARFARE

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

AMNESTY
ARMS
ARSENAL
AXE
BATTLE
BEAT
BLITZ
BOMB
CANNON
CASTLE
CHARGE
CONQUER
DEFENSE
DUEL
ENEMY
FIRE
FLEE
FOE
FORT
GUNS
HATCHET
IMPACT
INVADER
KEEP
KNIVES
LEGION
LONGBOW
MAIL
MILITARY
MINE
MOAT
MORTAR
PISTOL
RAM
RANGE
RANK
RIFLE
SALUTE
SAPPER
SHOOT
SOLDIER
SPEAR
SPY
SWORD
TANK
TRENCH
WAR
WOUND



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HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS
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WITH \$25
PURCHASE
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LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE | ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD