



## Madison Morson leads Salem past Canton to win district title

SPORTS, 1B

# NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Grab a drink under a Model A at this new Novi restaurant

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NOVI – Start your engines and head to the newest restaurant at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk.

Ford's Garage opened its doors Feb. 27 after months of renovation on the space formerly occupied by the Tilted Kilt at 44175 W. 12 Mile Road. It's a concept that pays homage to one of Detroit's most famous brands.

Billy Downs, who owns the Novi location, said he always wanted to bring the concept to the Oakland County city once he opened Michigan's first Ford's Garage back in 2017 in Dearborn.

"We always planned to come to Novi with a restaurant," he said. "Novi's great regionally, because we can attract from far west down (Interstate) 96. It's a regional draw."

Guests who walk in will immediately be greeted with a celebration of Detroit's automobile industry: A Model A vehicle sits above the bar, engine blocks rest between seats and vintage signage is hung all over celebrating the Dearborn automaker's past. Even the handles to the restaurant are made from gas pumps, setting the tone for guests as they enter. Downs added on to the building, a section complete with garage doors that can open during warmer months.

The star of the show, though, is the food, Downs said. Known for its half-pound burgers that rock an assortment of toppings, each burger at the Novi restaurant has a local name attached to it. Those include Novi Mayor Bob Gatt, whose name adorns the mushroom Swiss; Novi High School principal Nicole Carter, whose name is attached to the patty melt; and the Kolb family, who owns the Hines Park Ford dealership in New Hudson. Their name is on the Ford's Signature burger.

"Our No. 1 selling burger is the American Standard, which is a traditional cheeseburger," he said. "Our second is the Ford's Signature. It's a bacon cheeseburger."

The restaurant serves other American dishes, such as meatloaf, grilled salmon and a whole host of appetizers and salads. Dessert is also served, bringing in flavors like key lime pie.

See RESTAURANT, Page 4A



Northville Township resident Dan Beazley carries a 10-foot cross Feb. 8, 2023 through downtown Northville. Beazley travels the country with the cross made of cedar, hoping to spread his message of Christianity and to provide comfort at times of tragedy. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Meet the man who's taken a 10-foot cross to MSU, Oxford, Uvalde

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's not hard to find Dan Beazley at a prayer vigil. Just look to the cross.

The Northville Township resident travels the country, visiting places such as East Lansing, Uvalde and Memphis, hoping to bring comfort to

those in pain. It's his interpretation of Christianity's Great Commission in which Jesus tells his disciples to go out into the world and preach the Gospel.

Accompanying Beazley: a 10-foot cedar cross.

"What's the most amazing thing is, when we go to places, especially where there's been a tragedy, the people that see it, they just break down," he said. "I

can't tell you how many people come up to it, hugging and kissing it. It was exactly what they needed at the time they needed it. You can't explain it."

When Beazley visits these hotspots, he and the cross simply set up in a public location. He's been known to attract a crowd, some people out of sheer

See CROSS, Page 3A

## Prosecutors charge Farmington Hills doctor with more sexual misconduct

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

FARMINGTON HILLS – Dr. Zvi Levran, a Farmington Hills resident accused of sexually assaulting youth hockey players, was arraigned on four more charges last week. Court officials say they expect even more charges brought in the future.

The new charges include two counts of third-degree criminal sexual conduct and two counts of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct. In the 47th District Court of Farmington Hills, Levran is facing 27 counts of

varying degrees of criminal sexual conduct. He's also facing four counts in the 48th District Court of Bloomfield Hills.

Levran is being held at the Oakland County Jail, and his bond exceeds \$2.5 million.

The doctor has a new attorney, Jonathan Jones. Jones was unavailable for comment after Tuesday's arraignment.

Levran, 66, has a urology practice in West Bloomfield and has provided medical services to youth and school hockey organizations in Minnesota and Michigan, including Farmington and Novi, for about 20 years.

See DOCTOR, Page 4A



Dr. Zvi Levran, left, enters a 47th District Court courtroom on Feb. 28. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

\*\*\*\*\*ORIGIN MIXED ADC 480 C000  
SEQ 743 S15 B3  
LIBRARY CMU/CLARKE HIST  
1200 S FRANKLIN ST  
MOUNT PLEASANT, MI 48859-2001

CONTACT US: Call 866-887-2737. Press 1) for Classified, Death Notices; 2) Retail Advertising; 3) Billing, Subscription, Back Copies, Delivery Issues; 4) leave message for newsroom. Send press releases, calendar items to LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com

Volume 153 | No. 32  
Home delivery pricing inside  
©2023 \$1.50





# Plans for 32 townhomes near Main Street in Novi move forward with wetlands compromise

David Veselenak  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NOVI – Plans for new townhomes near Main Street will move forward after a deal was struck between the developer and the city regarding wetlands. Singh Development Co. can remove wetlands to build dozens of residential units nearby, but the company has to replace them elsewhere, according to the conditions of a permit recently approved by city council.

To secure plans for more than 180 units across 32 townhomes on both the south and north side of Main Street, Singh Development successfully proposed providing mitigation on property outside of the city, as well as taking a five-acre wooded property in the company's portfolio located on the south side of Twelve Oaks Mall and protecting it.



Part of the wetlands along Main Street near the downtown Novi area. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"There's a parcel that is owned by Singh and we had proposed to put that under a conservation easement," Singh representative Todd Rankine said. "So it would never be developed on. So it would remain a natural area."

Planning commissioners had denied Singh's wetland permit, when representatives approached city council Feb. 27 with a compromise. The city council voted unanimously to approve the permit with Singh's proposals to replace lost wetlands — which follows the city's ordinance — as well as protect the piece of property near the mall from development.

"They want to buy into a wetland

mitigation bank that exists outside of Oakland County, I think out in the Ann Arbor area," said Thomas Schultz, the city's attorney. "They are proposing to do that because in addition to Novi's regulation of these wetlands, they're regulated by the state. And the state is (the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy)."

"They had suggested to the developer ... that they mitigate in this wetland bank outside of the city."

The Townes of Main Street development is one that's been in the works for many years. The project is one city lead-

ers have said is critical to that part of the city, which has seen challenges over its first decades.

Rankine said after speaking to the state, the amount and quality of the wetlands on the Novi property needing mitigation was low, which is why the company requested the ability to mitigate wetlands elsewhere. The amount of actual wetland in question is about a half-acre.

That additional condition offered to the city by Singh was one that several city council members found satisfactory in striking a deal.

Mayor Bob Gatt said the downtown Main Street development is one project that's lingered ever since he became mayor. Getting the residential component finally figured out is a huge step.

"I get letters from several residents saying it's blight. I don't consider it blight, but it certainly is a part of the city that needs to be developed," he said. "And I would hate to stand in the way of 180 homes being built there over this."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com).

**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

**Newsroom Contacts:**

Stephanie Angel, Executive Editor  
Office: 517-377-101  
[sangel@gannett.com](mailto:sangel@gannett.com)

Follow us on Facebook: @OEHometown

**Subscription Rates:**  
Newsstand price: \$1.50  
\$65 per 12 months home delivery

**Home Delivery:**  
Customer Service: 866-887-2737  
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon  
Afterhours, leave voicemail  
Email: [cserv@dnps.com](mailto:cserv@dnps.com)

**Advertising Policy:**

All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

## Redford Township plans to build \$19M recreation and wellness center

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A \$19.5 million state-of-the-art recreation and wellness center is coming to Redford Township.

And local leaders say it won't cost taxpayers a dime.

The project includes construction of a 30,000-square-foot facility at the township-owned Western Graham Fields in the central part of the township.

The property is on the west side of Beech Daly Road between Five Mile and Schoolcraft roads.

Building plans call for a recreational area, classroom space, therapeutic swimming pool, workout facility, indoor walking track and a fieldhouse with full basketball and pickleball courts.

"This is a very transformative pro-

ject for Redford Township," said township Superintendent Diane Webb. "(Redford) is a working, blue-collar community that just never could afford anything nice like this."

About 80 percent of children in the township qualify for free or reduced-price school meals, Webb said.

Once built, the new center will house the township's Parks & Recreation programs and will also offer space to the community for meetings and events.

**Where's the money coming from?**

On March 2, the Wayne County Commission approved \$6.5 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the new center.

Redford's project was one of nine around the county approved for a total of \$34.25 million in ARPA dollars. Each of the projects is aimed at improving environmental sustainability and provid-

ing economic recovery to disadvantaged areas following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Another \$11 million toward the Redford project will come from the \$22 million in ARPA funds awarded directly to the township. The other \$2 million comes from federal Omnibus Appropriations.

"Redford certainly has nothing like this, and we're going to be able to build it completely without asking residents for a dime," Webb said, noting funds for operating expenses at the new building will come from the township's existing parks and recreation and leisure services budget.

The township will also be looking for sponsorships and naming rights to help reduce the cost of memberships to residents, Webb said.

See REC CENTER, Page 3A

### 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:

- Construction Board of Appeals - Alternate
- Library Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals - Alternate

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](http://cityofnovi.org) or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (248)347-0456.

The deadline for filing an application is Wednesday, March 15, 2023. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: March 9, 2023

LO-000790624 3x3

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing to receive public input on the following variance from the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance. The variance will be considered for premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District on property located at 916 Novi St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-22-34-428-018. The applicant is seeking a variance to build a roof over their front porch slab in the front yard setback. The variance needed is approximately 9.5 feet from the front yard requirement in Sections 3.04 and 15.01. Also, the existing house is non-conforming per Section 22.01, and the project will require expansion of a non-conformity.

The public hearing will be held on April 5, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance requests.

The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, local prevailing time, or on the City website [www.ci.northville.mi.us](http://www.ci.northville.mi.us) (Services, Building and Planning, Board of Zoning Appeals).

Written comments to the BZA pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted no later than 4:30 pm, April 4, 2023, to the City Clerk at the above address, or using the City Hall drop box, or emailed to [msmith@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:msmith@ci.northville.mi.us).

RYAN MCKINDLES, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Publish: March 9, 2023

LO-000790656 3x3.5

## Portillo's asks Livonia for more time

Shelby Tankersley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA – Months after Portillo's originally planned on opening a restaurant in Livonia, the company is asking the city for more time to build.

According to representatives for the fast-casual chain that specializes in Chicago-style food, construction at 13000 Middlebelt Road was paused because of delays with property purchase and inspections.

Livonia's planning commission voted unanimously Feb. 28 to recommend approval of a one-year extension for the company's waiver approvals. City council will make the final determination.

Amanda Schwerin of Texas-based HD Design Group said Portillo's hopes to break ground in late April. If that happens, it's likely the restaurant would open later this year.

Once built, Portillo's would seat over 200 people between its indoor and outdoor options as well as offer a drive-thru window.

### CITY OF NORTHVILLE 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW WAYNE AND OAKLAND COUNTIES

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Board of Review of the City of Northville, Wayne, and Oakland Counties, will meet for the purpose of reviewing and adjusting the 2023 Assessment Rolls of the City of Northville on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023:	4:00 p.m. Organizational Meeting (No Appeals)
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023:	1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023:	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Act 165 of 1971 and based on the proposed changes to assessed values for 2023, the Wayne and Oakland County Equalization Departments have set the following tentative equalization factors relative to the 2023 Real and Personal Property Assessments: **WAYNE COUNTY** - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00. **OAKLAND COUNTY** - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00.

**Mail-in Petitions must be received by March 16, 2023, before 4:00 p.m. ALL TAXPAYERS** wishing to petition their property's taxable value or assessment in person with the Board of Review will be seen by **APPOINTMENT ONLY. To ensure every appeal is heard it is requested that appointments be scheduled prior to Tuesday, March 14, 2023.** Please contact the City of Northville Tax Department at (248) 449-9901 for an appointment or with any questions you may have regarding your 2023 taxable or assessed value.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Publish: February 21st, March 2nd, and March 9th, 2023.

LO-000790612 3x3.5





Northville Township resident Dan Beazley holds a giant cross while praying with Garden City resident Tracy Springer and Northville Township residents Jay and Sherry Towar in downtown Northville. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Cross

Continued from Page 1A

curiosity; others in hopes of divine intervention. Sometimes he walks with the cross. Other times he stands in one place.

Beazley knows the cross says a lot more than he ever could at these moments.

These moments include the days following the shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde, Texas and a shooting at a Walmart in Chesapeake, Virginia; the day after Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin went into cardiac arrest during a Monday Night Football game in Cincinnati, Ohio; and the funeral of Tyre Nichols, who was killed at the hands of police in Memphis in January.

### A calling discovered

Beazley's been traveling with his cross for only a short time. Early in the COVID-19 pandemic, when he was stuck at home with time on his hands, Beazley asked God for his mission in life. He prayed and eagerly awaiting God's answer.

Near the end of 2020, he got it.

He said his wife showed him a video on Facebook of a man in Georgia carrying a large cross.

"I'm like, 'Wow, that's amazing. That is the most amazing thing I've ever seen in my life,'" he said. "I knew instantly what I needed to do right then."

Beazley began constructing the 65-pound cross in the summer of 2021. It took him two months, including adding some padding on the crux for his shoulder as well as some wheels on the bottom to move it more easily.

He originally planned on taking it to

events across metro Detroit. He can regularly be seen carrying it around the region, including along Haggerty Road between Six Mile and Eight Mile on the Northville Township/Livonia border.

His outreach expanded when he took it to a vigil to honor the four students killed at Oxford High School in 2021.

The cross became a focal point in the sea of people holding candles. Photographs that included the cross were featured in the Detroit Free Press and other news outlets.

Beazley then realized his mission was larger: he needed to take his cross across the country.

One of his most recent trips was to East Lansing to mourn the Michigan State University students killed by a lone gunman on Feb. 13. He brought the cross to several campus vigils, offering it as a symbol of hope.

It's not all tragedy with the cross. It makes appearances at other larger events, including the Turkey Trot in downtown Detroit and at the state Capitol in Lansing, where Beazley took it in support of defeating Proposal 3 last fall.

### At work closer to home

The treks have garnered plenty of attention, including from some of his friends. Beazley recently stopped by Epiphany Kitchen in Northville, which his friends Jay and Sherry Towar own.

They hadn't seen the cross in person yet, but said they've seen it featured plenty in photos. Jay Towar said when he heard Beazley was going to build the cross, he told Beazley he had to follow his heart.

"That's some devotion," is what I said," Towar said. "When you get a calling like what he's got, you have to answer the phone."

Typically Beazley sets up the cross in

a prominent space when he travels and then takes it for a walk over his shoulder. Beazley estimates he's walked hundreds of miles carrying the cross.

He also carries smaller crosses in his pocket. They're made from olive wood and come from Bethlehem, the place where Jesus was born. Beazley gives these crosses to people when he shares his message.

Such was the case recently when Beazley was walking with his cross in downtown Northville. Tracy Springer of Garden City stopped in awe. She prayed with Beazley after chatting and receiving one of his pocket crosses.

It was an experience, she said, that came at the right time as she's dealt with some personal challenges.

"I needed that so bad today," she said.

The encounter with Springer, Beazley said, is a common one.

"She's been praying; she didn't know what was going to happen and she sees a cross and the next thing she knows, it just took her over," he said. "The Holy Spirit, this cross just does that."

### 'He wants to bring peace to hurting people'

Beazley doesn't consider himself a religious leader; his day job is in real estate. But he will gladly continue traveling the country spreading God's message.

It's a mission he shares with Christ Fellowship Church in Dawsonville, Georgia. It was man from that church

that Beazley saw in the Facebook video his wife showed him.

Beazley reached out to the church and brought his cross to worship services there.

Since then, they've become close allies in their mission. The Georgia church supports Beazley both spiritually and financially.

"Dan is a loving and kind gentleman. And he wants to bring peace to hurting people," said Pastor Todd Smith, who leads Christ Fellowship Church. "And let them know there's hope. He is a very special man."

That church, located 50 miles northeast of Atlanta, is embedded symbolically in Beazley's cross: he placed a prayer cloth that had been dipped in their baptismal font inside the structure, bringing the church with him wherever he goes.

Having a connection with Beazley's ministry, Smith said, means a lot to him and his congregation.

"It's powerful. It's meaningful," he said.

Beazley said he expects to continue to travel across the country to spots during times of heartache.

"The ultimate goal is for people who don't know the Lord to turn to the cross for their salvation," he said. "And people that say that they know the Lord but are doing nothing to spread the gospel, that it will give them encouragement to step across the line to do something bold to be able to go."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

## Rec center

Continued from Page 2A

### Part of an economic development plan for Redford

Now that funding is secure, Webb expects the design phase to take about a year, followed by a groundbreaking in spring 2024 and a ribbon cutting by the end of 2025, tentatively.

The new building will be located on the south edge of the township's downtown development authority district. Township leaders hope it will serve as an economic development catalyst that brings more people to the area and hence more interest from investors and businesses looking to locate to the area.

"This is the major project kickoff for the transformation we want to make in Redford at Five and Beech," Webb said, noting the township also wants create connectivity between the new building and the walkable downtown it hopes to create around the township's existing civic campus.

The township, she said, is in the process of developing a 20-year master plan.

"One thing at a time, but down the road we'd really like to do an amphitheater there," she said.

At the March 2 meeting with the Wayne County Commission, Redford Township Supervisor Pat McRae said the recreation and wellness center would mean residents no longer need to go to neighboring communities to find such amenities.

"We haven't had anything like this in the township for decades," McRae said. "This gives an opportunity for residents...to do things in our own community, (and for the township to) expand the programs we can offer and enhance the wellness of everybody in the community."

A 2022 Year End Report available on the township website highlights steps the township has taken to determine parameters and requirements for the project, including grant requests, a feasibility study, the gathering of public input and other research.

lcolvin@hometownlife.com

### CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF MARCH 2023 BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the March Board of Review shall convene for the Organizational Meeting at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 7, 2023, in the Mayor's Conference Room/Civic Center at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. The Board of Review will not hear appeals at the Organizational meeting.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment appeals in the Mayor's Conference Room/Civic Center at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 13, 14, and 15, 2023.

If you or your representative want to appeal in person, you are strongly encouraged to come into the assessing department on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, March 10, 2023, in order to schedule an appointment to ensure your time before the Board of Review. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Department or at [www.cityofnovi.org](http://www.cityofnovi.org) > Services > Board of Review Notice. Please bring four (4) copies of the documents to support your contention of True Cash Value to your board appointment.

**NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.**

Written Appeals: Taxpayers may file a protest and petition in writing, instead of appearing in person. Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 3:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, March 14, 2023. Postmarks will not be considered. When submitting a letter of protest for the Board of Review consideration, you must attach a completed petition along with any supporting information.

All agents protesting values on property other than their own MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

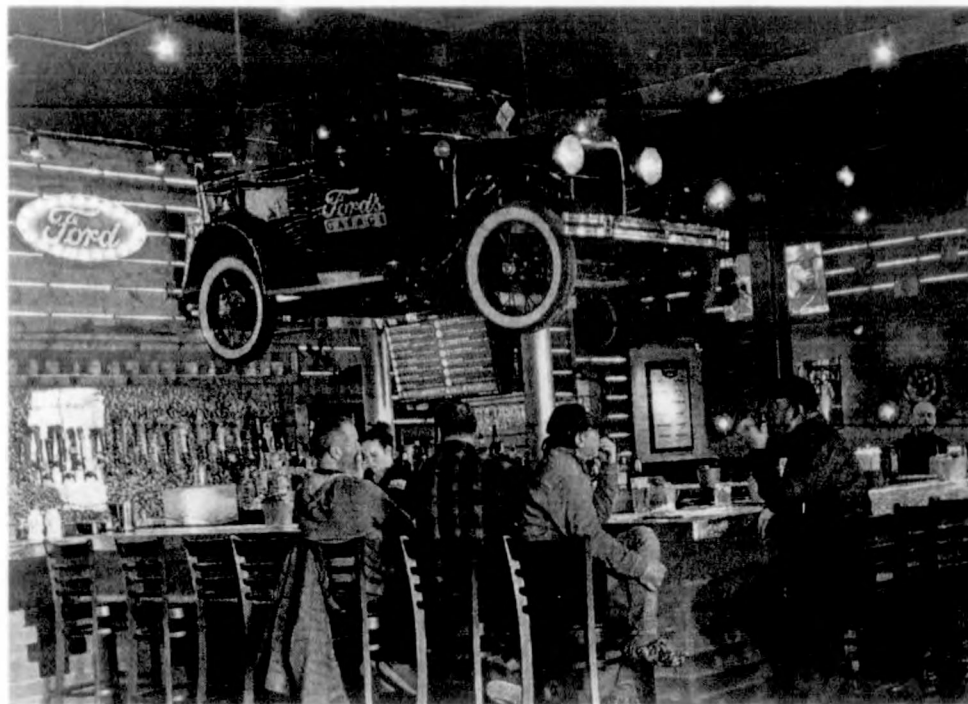
Persons on a limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at [www.cityofnovi.org](http://www.cityofnovi.org). Any questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 347-0485.

### BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE

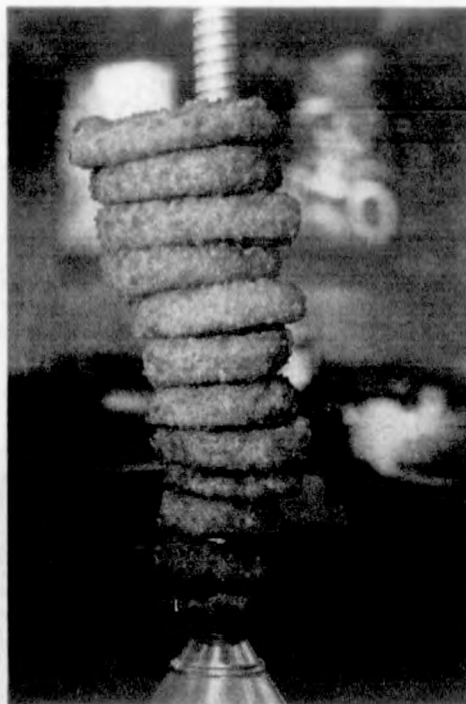
Monday, March 13, 2023 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mayor's Conference Room  
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 - 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mayor's Conference Room  
Wednesday, March 15, 2023 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mayor's Conference Room  
Located in the Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

Courtney Hanson  
CITY CLERK

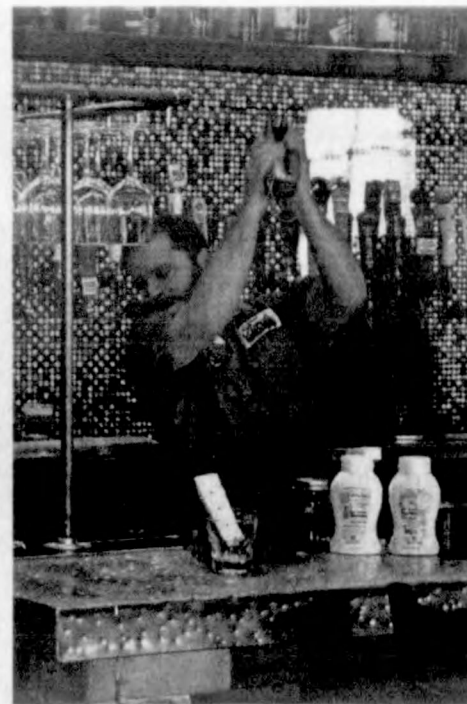




A Model A vehicle rests above the bar at Ford's Garage in Novi.  
PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAC/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



A tower of onion rings at Ford's Garage in Novi.



Ford's Garage employee Greg Musy shakes a drink behind the bar.

## Restaurant

Continued from Page 1A

Brunch is served on Sundays.

Drinks are the other highlight. With more than 40 beers on tap and more than 150 total, there's something for everyone's tastes. They also serve wine and a host of cocktails dubbed Ford Fusions.

Ford's Garage is just the latest restaurant Downs runs in Michigan. He was one of the founders of BD's Mongolian Barbecue in the early '90s. He began working with Ford Motor Co., which licenses its name to the Florida-based restaurant group that has Ford's Garages in multiple states, years ago to bring the concept to Michigan. Other Michigan locations are planned in the

future.

Fountain Walk is the perfect spot for the restaurant, Downs said, especially with the sightline to I-96 to the south. Couple that with the developments taking place at the entertainment center such as the addition of The Hub and other restaurants, and Downs said the plaza is ripe for success.

"We hope that that continues and we love the visibility of the highway," he said. "We've seen the investment the owners are putting into Fountain Walk."

The restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday. More information, including a menu, can be found at [fordsgarageusa.com](http://fordsgarageusa.com).

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



Billy Downs, who owns the two Ford's Garage restaurants in Michigan, points out historic photos from Ford Motor Co., including from the Highland Park Ford Plant in Highland Park.

## Doctor

Continued from Page 1A

The first alleged survivor to come forward was a 19-year-old man.

Judge James Brady, stating he'd al-

ready informed the prosecution, informed Jones he knows Levran through relatives' involvement in local hockey programs. Neither party objected to Brady continuing to oversee the case.

"The defendant has actually taken stitches out of my face from a puck at his house," Brady said.

The doctor is accused of abusing patients at his home office. All of his accusers are connected to youth hockey programs.

Levran is set to appear in court again on April 11 for a preliminary exam.

People with information are encouraged to call the Farmington Hills Police

phone number set up for tips about Levran, 248-871-2610.

Get the latest headlines for metro Detroit every morning in your mailbox by signing up for our daily briefings newsletter.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com).



## COMPASSIONATE CARE WITH YOU IN MIND



Confident in the knowledge that a trained caregiver is always close by, seniors needing memory care services can rely on Anthology of Northville. Whether your loved one is living with Alzheimer's, another form of dementia or cognitive impairment, we provide personalized, proactive care in our beautifully designed neighborhood. Come by today – we'd love to talk with you and your loved one.

**LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR MEMORY CARE NEEDS:  
248-516-2094**

CONTINUE YOUR LIFE STORY WITH US

ANTHOLOGY OF NORTHVILLE

44600 Five Mile Rd. / Northville, MI

Assisted Living / Memory Care

[AnthologyMichigan.com](http://AnthologyMichigan.com)





# Four highlights from Novi's State of the City address

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NOVI - Mayor Bob Gatt has three words to describe the city: Simply the best.

That was the theme of Gatt's State of the City address March 2 at the Suburban Collection Showplace. The mayor gave his annual address, the first since COVID-19's arrival, touching on many aspects of the city over the last few years.

"Novi is as diverse as it is complex," said Gatt, who became mayor in 2011. "Answering how we progress requires consistently making time to revisit where we succeeded and reflect on how we could have done things differently. Together, we've accomplished many great things. Yet, more work remains."

"I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the past few years, and I look forward to what the future holds for our Novi."

Here are four areas the mayor touched on in his address, which can be viewed in its entirety on YouTube.

## City's financial condition

Despite the challenges that come with inflation, Gatt said the city's financial health remains in great shape. While households deal with rising costs, Novi finds itself doing the same, he said.

"The city's budget is not immune to inflation either. And our costs to provide quality services have increased," he said. "That being said, the City of Novi continues to be in excellent financial condition, boasting the highest bond rating possible of AAA."

Despite those challenges, Gatt said the city's general fund balance had increased, going from \$13.7 million in 2021 to nearly \$16.4 million in 2022. That's a result of strong property values across the city, as well as state-shared revenues. Property taxes are expected to increase by about \$941,000 in 2023, a reflection of increasing property values.

State-shared revenue received a one-time adjustment last year due to Novi's fast-growing population over the last 10 years, Gatt said.

"This growth enhances our fiscal



Novi Mayor Bob Gatt gives his State of the City address March 2 at the Suburban Collection Showplace.

health," he said. "This growth occurs because of our fiscal health and other amazing attributes which you will hear about as I continue."

## Economic development

The city has seen plenty of businesses pop up and bring their goods and services to the tune of roughly \$250 million in investment over the past three years, Gatt said. Such examples of investments include money spent by Magna EV, Lineage Logistics and more.

"As vibrant as our large business base is, and it is, we are equally balanced by smaller businesses who choose to make Novi their home," he said.

Businesses that located in Novi in the last few years include Crumbl Cookies, Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, The Hub, Sedona Taphouse and more. Gatt gave a shoutout to the city's newest restaurant, Ford's Garage, which opened Feb. 27 at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk.

While there is plenty that has happened, more is on its way to Novi. Gatt mentioned the two housing developments planned near Grand River Avenue and Novi Road, as well as the Sak-



Audience members look on as Gatt gives his State of the City address.

PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAC/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ura Novi mixed-use Asian village that's expected to break ground later this year.

## Public safety

Crime looks very different from the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Gatt said, with Novi also experiencing changes the last few years. The city has seen a decrease in many crimes in recent years, including a 10% decrease in domestic assaults, 45% decrease in criminal sexual assaults and a 25% decrease in burglaries.

The violent crime rate in the city ranks far below the national average, Gatt said.

"The bottom line is, our neighborhoods are safe and getting safer," he said.

The police department has several new pieces of technology, including drones and, later this year, bodycams.

The city's fire department has seen a decrease of 24% of fires as of last year, Gatt said, though priority runs increased 8%. He said response times for the fire department averaged at about 5 minutes and 50 seconds for the last three years.

## Infrastructure

The city will spend roughly \$22.6 million in 2023 capital improvement projects, Gatt said, that include road, sidewalk, storm sewer and building improvements, to name a few.

The city has recently purchased new plow trucks, a de-icing solution-making system and multifunctional vehicles.

More than 3,900 service requests were done by the city's Department of Public Works, with more than 7,000 work orders involving infrastructure maintenance.

"With these improvements and more, the City of Novi invested more than \$20 million in infrastructure each year for the past three years," he said. "No one loves construction season, but investing in our critical infrastructure, roads and pathways truly sets Novi apart."

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

Get the latest headlines for metro Detroit every morning in your mailbox by signing up for our daily briefings newsletter.

We believe all your healthcare solutions should live where you do.

# WE ARE HENRY

## Introducing the new Henry Ford Medical Center - Plymouth.

Whether you live in Plymouth or nearby, we're proud to bring world-class specialty care closer to you, including orthopaedics, cardiology and neurology. Our facility was built just for you. And it's just minutes down the road.

See a full list of services at [henryford.com/plymouth](https://henryford.com/plymouth)

**Ryan Berger, M.D.**  
Orthopaedic surgeon

# HENRY FORD HEALTH

Corner of Ann Arbor Road and N. Haggerty





## FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated at right. Find the listed words in the grid. They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 23 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

Animals	Eager	Mode	Startle
Balance	Export	Nanny	Storm
Beach	Film	Noise	Tiff
Belongs	Flash	Pets	Tone
Bike	Focus	Pixel	Trophy
Blurred	Friends	Poppy	Uncle
Card	Home	Pose	Unit
Cats	Kids	Print	Valued
Christening	Lamp	Processor	Zoom
Contrast	Lens	Reflections	
Cost	Macro	Shots	
Depth	Mirth	Speed	

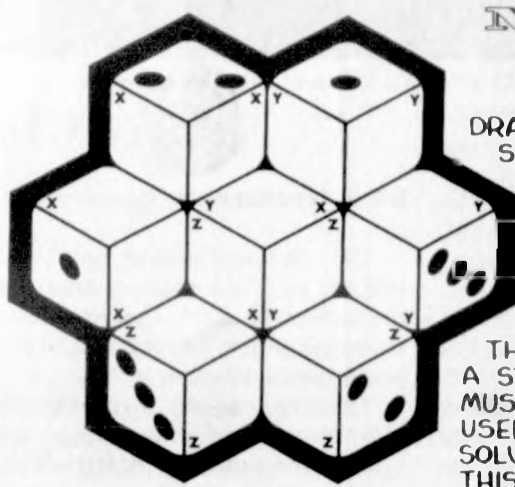
## TODAY'S ANSWER

Family selfies on holidays

## Snap happy

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

## PUZZLES &amp; POSERS



## NEVER SAY DIE

DRAW IN THE MISSING SPOTS ON THE SEVEN DICE AS FOLLOWS:

THE THREE, SIX POINTED STARS X, Y & Z MUST EACH CONTAIN ALL SIX SPOT PATTERNS.

THIS FOLDOUT OF A STANDARD DIE MUST BE USED IN SOLVING THIS PUZZLE.

## SUDOKU | CREATORS

Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: BRONZE

## TODAY'S ANSWER

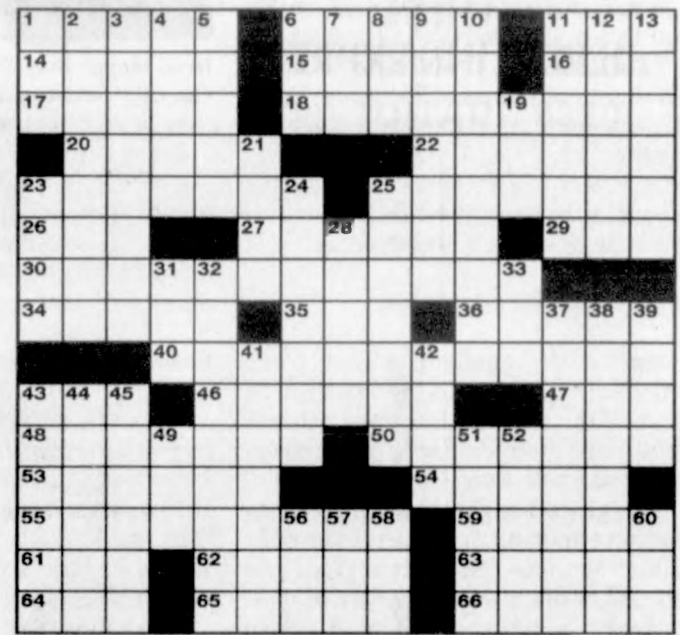
2			9	1		6	7	
	6				3		2	1
8			2			3		5
7	5		3					6
		8				7		
4					8		5	3
6		2			5			4
5	9		6				8	
	8	3		7	9			2

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

## NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

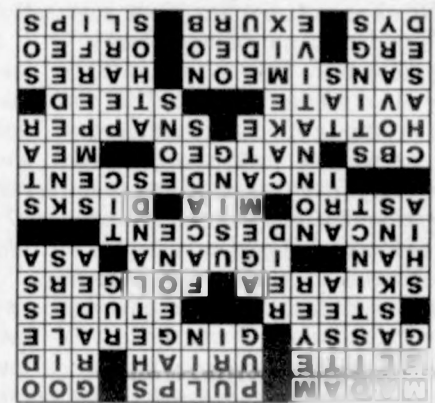
## ACROSS

- 1 Two-way title  
6 Early influence on Asimov  
11 Early word?  
14 Select  
15 Dickensian smarmy sort  
16 Divested  
17 Prone to babbling  
18 Selection from Seagram's  
20 One being driven somewhere  
22 A dozen from Liszt  
23 Many a mountain  
25 It's sung about in "Happy Morning" ads (c. 2006)  
26 "She'll make point five past lightspeed" speaker (1977)  
27 What Mexicans call "tree chicken"  
29 friend  
30 Many Peruvians' ancestry  
34 Telenovela  
39 Down  
35 AA hub  
36 Storage units  
40 Extraordinarily bright  
43 Disco-era on-air fad  
46 A Disney channel  
47 Pronomen Latine  
48 Editorial attention-getter  
50 Digital attention-getter  
53 Ascend  
54 Part of many a war hero statue  
55 Height of a media mogul's ambition  
59 Bucks and does that aren't deer  
61 About 624 gigaelectron-volts  
62 Outmoded rental
- 10 Scottish offshore acres  
11 Prime  
12 Hobbyists' hand tools  
13 1940s home of the Bushes  
19 Prayer  
21 Surname akin to Russo  
23 Most Bahrainis  
24 Basis of comparison re primary school success  
25 Window dressing  
28 With  
31 MLB champ in just its fourth season (2001)  
32 Immigrant, for instance  
33 Eccentric behavior  
37 "First ones in the fight" Trace Adkins tune  
38 Extremely involved  
39 One in the lead
- 41 Bon Appetit's "invention that redefined baking"  
42 Much, much more than a wink  
43 Drove away  
44 Title character of 19th-century French lit  
45 They'll make you smart  
49 Many at MIT avoiding tuition  
51 Title character of 19th-century French lit  
52 Masterpiece metaphor  
56 Conclusion of some presidential addresses  
57 "The days of frost are \_\_\_\_": Tennyson  
58 Word on a Cable Car Museum area map  
60 Homophone of VTB, click-wise



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANLEYWORDS@AOL.COM 3/4/23

## TODAY'S ANSWER



# Save Thousands

## ON YOUR FOX RUN RETIREMENT!

For a limited time, enjoy vibrant senior living in Novi for less! When you reserve an eligible Fox Run apartment home by March 31, 2023, you'll pay NO Monthly Service Package until July\*!

Your Monthly Service Package includes all this, and more:

- Property taxes
- Heating and cooling
- All utilities (except home phone)
- 24-hour security
- Landscaping and snow removal
- Flexible dining at our on-site restaurants
- And so much more!

Call **1-877-211-9301** for your free brochure or to schedule your tour!



**Fox Run**  
BY ERICKSON SENIOR LIVING®

Novi  
FoxRunNovi.com

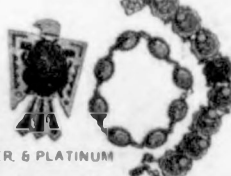
\*To qualify for this offer of a No Monthly Service Package until July 1, 2023 (waived on the first person only), you must be a new resident who reserves an eligible apartment home by March 31, 2023, and settles within 60 days of reservation.





FREE  
EVENT!**ROSEVILLE ROADSHOW****BUYING EVENT****TUESDAY MARCH 14TH - SATURDAY MARCH 18TH****SHOW INFO****5 DAYS ONLY!!!**BRING IN ALL YOUR  
COLLECTIBLES FOR A  
FREE EVALUATION**1-ON-1 EVALUATIONS****WHEN:****MARCH 14TH - MARCH 18TH**  
TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10AM - 6PM  
SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM**WHERE:****HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS****30300 GRATIOT AVE**  
**ROSEVILLE, MI 48066**In Between 12 & 13 Mile  
(Next to Kroger Fuel)**STERLING FLATWARE,  
TEA SETS & SILVER JEWELRY**  
UP TO \$20,000+**CLOCKS**  
ATOMS, LECOULTRE, CHELSEA,  
CARTIER, TIFFANY & MORE**METAL TOYS**  
TIN TOYS, OLD BANKS, CAP GUNS,  
BB GUNS, LIONEL BUDDY, TONKA,  
MARX TOYS**WAR MEMORABILIA**  
HELMETS, UNIFORMS, MEDALS & PATCHES,  
FLAGS, WAR ADVERTISEMENTS & MORE  
UP TO \$50,000+**COMICS****SPORTS MEMORABILIA****.999 FINE SILVER & GOLD****WRIST & POCKET WATCHES**ROLEX, PATEK PHILIPPE, BREITLING,  
ELGIN, HAMILTON, LONGINES,  
WALTHAM, OMEGA & MORE  
(RUNNING or BROKEN)**PAPER CURRENCY**  
PRE-1934**GRADED COINS & COMMEMORATIVES**  
UP TO \$150,000+**MEN'S & WOMEN'S  
CLASS RINGS**  
UP TO \$500+**MORGAN DOLLAR**  
UP TO \$100,000+**ROOSEVELT DIME**  
1964 & OLDER**MERCURY DIME**  
UP TO \$3,400+**FRANKLIN HALF  
DOLLAR**  
UP TO \$3,200+**WALKING LIBERTY HALF  
DOLLAR**  
UP TO \$4,600+**WASHINGTON QUARTER**  
1964 & OLDER UP TO \$600+**SILVER DOLLARS**  
UP TO \$7,500+**KENNEDY HALF  
DOLLAR**  
PRE-1970 UP TO \$400+**BARBER COINS**  
UP TO \$5,000+**LIBERTY NICKEL**  
UP TO \$4,500+**WHEAT PENNIES**  
UP TO \$3,500+**BUFFALO NICKEL**  
UP TO \$4,200+**GOLD COINS**  
UP TO \$300,000+**GOLD COINS FOREIGN**  
UP TO \$300,000+**SCRAP GOLD****JEWELRY**

- ESTATE
- DIAMONDS
- GOLD, SILVER & PLATINUM
- COSTUME
- BROKEN AND UNWANTED

**GUITARS, AMPS,  
& VINTAGE INSTRUMENTS!**

- MARTIN
- GIBSON
- FENDER
- GRETSCH
- SILVERTONE
- AND MANY OTHERS

\*UP TO \$125,000+

**ZIPPO LIGHTERS, POCKET KNIVES,  
ANTIQUE FIREARMS (PRE-1899), & MORE!**Home Appointments Available  
**LARGE COLLECTIONS OF  
GOLD & SILVER ONLY!****FOR SHOW INFO OR DIRECTIONS CALL 418-815-1237****PREMIERGSCVENTSINFO@GMAIL.COM****WWW.PREMIERGOLDANDSILVERANDCOIN.COM**

HOSTED BY PREMIER GSC

Show: \*10am-4:30pm EST

\*Values depend on variety, condition and collector market

JOIN OUR

**St. Paddy's Party****Thursday, March 16****2 - 4:30 pm**Want to learn how to brew your own craft beer? We will be learning  
how to create our own hops - just in time for St. Patrick's Day.  
Come meet like-minded people and tour our charming  
community and popular amenities.*This will be a socially distanced event. Masks required.***SPACE LIMITED. RSVP REQUIRED!****248-513-8515****Continue Your Life Story With Us****ANTHOLOGY OF NOVI**

42400 W. 12 Mile Rd. / Novi, MI

Independent Living / Assisted Living / Memory Care

**AnthologyMichigan.com**



FREE  
EVENT!

# BLOOMFIELD ROADSHOW BUYING EVENT

TUESDAY MARCH 7TH - SATURDAY MARCH 11TH

## SHOW INFO

5 DAYS ONLY!!!

BRING IN ALL YOUR  
COLLECTIBLES FOR A  
FREE EVALUATION

1-ON-1 EVALUATIONS

WHEN:

MARCH 7TH - MARCH 11TH  
TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10AM - 6PM

SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

WHERE:

**HOME2 SUITES**

33098 NORTHWESTERN HWY  
WEST BLOOMFIELD TWP, MI 48322

Off Orchard Lake Rd/14 Mile  
(Across From Whole Foods)



## COMICS



## SPORTS MEMORABILIA



STERLING FLATWARE,  
TEA SETS & SILVER JEWELRY  
UP TO \$20,000\*



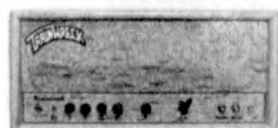
## METAL TOYS

TIN TOYS, OLD BANKS, CAP GUNS, BB  
GUNS, LIONEL BUDDY, TONKA, MARX TOYS

## GUITARS, AMPS, BANJOS & MORE!

- MARTIN
- GIBSON
- FENDER
- GRETSCH
- SILVERTONE
- AND MANY  
MORE

UP TO \$125,000\*



## WRIST & POCKET WATCHES

- ROLEX
- PATEK PHILIPPE
- BREITLING
- ELGIN
- HAMILTON
- LONGINES
- WALTHAM
- OMEGA
- AND MORE

(RUNNING or BROKEN\*)



## MEN'S & WOMEN'S CLASS RINGS

UP TO \$500\*



## PAPER CURRENCY

PRE-1934



## .999 FINE SILVER & GOLD



## CLOCKS

- ATOMS
- LECOULTRE
- CHELSEA
- CARTIER
- TIFFANY
- AND MORE



## WAR MEMORABILIA

HELMETS, UNIFORMS, MEDALS, PATCHES,  
FLAGS, WAR ADVERTISEMENTS, & MORE  
UP TO \$50,000\*



ZIPPO LIGHTERS, POCKET KNIVES, ANTIQU  
FIREARMS (PRE-1899), & MORE!

## JEWELRY

- ESTATE
- DIAMONDS
- GOLD, SILVER, & PLATINUM
- COSTUME
- BROKEN AND UNWANTED!



## SCRAP GOLD

FOR SHOW INFO OR DIRECTIONS CALL 419-615-1237

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm EST

Home Appointments Available  
LARGE COLLECTIONS OF  
GOLD & SILVER ONLY!

PREMIERGSCVENTSINFO@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.PREMIERGOLDSILVERANDCOIN.COM  
HOSTED BY PREMIER GSC

\*Values depend on rarity, condition  
and collector market



## SPORTS

## Rocks win district title



Salem's Madison Morson attacks the basket during the Division 1 district championship March 4 at Canton.  
PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Madison Morson leads Salem past Canton

Brandon Folsom  
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan just named its five finalists for its Miss Basketball honor.

And you could tell that was on Rod Wells' mind when he learned about the kind of damage Madison Morson did during the second half of his team's 44-33 win over rival Canton on March 4 in the Division 1 district championship.

"She outscored them 16-2?" the second-year Salem coach said. "Ooooh, wow! Madison, that should be a Miss Basketball candidate next year. She's one of the best players in the state!"

That 16-2 stat? That can be explained.

Despite sweeping Canton during the regular season, Salem escaped the first half with just a 19-18 lead thanks to point guard Shahd Bakkar (Rochester University) scooting to the rim for a layup just before the buzzer.

The Chiefs, who actually led several times throughout the first half, opened the third with a pair of baskets before Wells finally got the message into Morson's head that the Rocks needed her to play up to her typical level.

The junior sank a jumper that gave the Rocks the lead, 23-22, with 5:02 left in the period. And then they never trailed again. In fact, the small forward singlehandedly outscored Canton 16-2 during a 6-minute run.

See ROCKS, Page 3B



Salem celebrates winning the Division 1 girls basketball district championship.

## Chiefs beat Livonia Franklin, win KLAA title

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hindsight would call it a blessing in disguise.

That is, of course, if you can consider losing the best player in the conference to an ACL injury a blessing. A year ago, Ferris State signee Cole Vickers' high school career was cut short just in time for the most important part of the season.

Canton didn't have him for the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship. And, obviously, he wasn't available for the Division 1 district final 10 days later. Without him, the Chiefs lost the league title to Hartland by three points, and then Northville wound up upsetting them to win their first district tournament in 24 years.

So how is being put through that kind of turmoil a blessing?

Vickers' absence thrust plenty of responsibility onto Canton's two star juniors. On the fly, they developed leadership, learned to be the focal point of their team and had to deal with crushing defeat after crushing defeat.

If you don't think that experience didn't make Omar Suleiman, a Lake Superior State University signee, and Dante Favor better players, buddy, you're clearly mistaken.

Those growing pains carried over to their senior years. Canton lost three straight to open its 2022-23 campaign (though, some of that can be blamed on coach Jimmy Reddy's tough non-conference scheduling). Plus, battling through the KLAA-West was an absolute grind for the Chiefs, who edged Brighton by one game in the standings to even qualify for the KLAA championship.

But, here they are, on a seven-game winning streak during the part of the season where they'd traditionally need Vickers scoring the ball the most. Only this time they don't need the Ferris freshman.

They looked absolutely battle-tested as they rolled Livonia Franklin 51-29 to win the KLAA championship on March 2.

Suleiman buried four jumpers and put Canton ahead 10-3 in the opening few minutes, and then big men Devon Pettus and Favor put any comeback out of reach for Franklin by combining for 10 points in the second quarter.

"It's great for the returning guys to have a moment like this," said Reddy, who was mobbed by handshakes and fist bumps from Canton fans while being interviewed. "Credit Hartland last year, but our team kind of got robbed with losing Cole Vickers. More or less, he was the best player in the league. We just couldn't get over the hump.

See CHIEFS, Page 7B

## 2023 MICHIGAN MR. BASKETBALL

## Stars from North Farmington, Brother Rice among finalists

Mick McCabe

Special to Detroit Free Press

So, you want to be Mr. Basketball, eh? How do you make it happen? Well, this year, it seems to help if you are a guard. If you are not a pure guard, it helps if you can play guard, too.

It also helps to come from a program that repeatedly turns out winning teams, and it is a plus if you play your best basketball in your team's biggest games.

Those are some strategic boxes to check off, and in the case of Kaden Brown of Grand Rapids Catholic Cen-

tral, Ryan Hurst of North Farmington, Port Huron Northern's Tyler Jamison, Curtis Williams of Birmingham Brother Rice and U-D Jesuit's Sonny Wilson, they check every box and then some.

They are the finalists for the 43rd Hal Schram Mr. Basketball award, the most prestigious award a high school male

athlete in Michigan can receive.

The award is named for Hal Schram, the former Free Press sports writer who covered high school athletics for over 40 years. It is given annually to the state's top senior by the Basketball Coaches

See FINALISTS, Page 6B



Get More Sports

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC  
hometownlife.com



# Mercy downs North Farmington, seniors win 4th district championship

Brandon Folsom  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Farmington Hills Mercy girls basketball coach Gary Morris would've been worried had he had a younger team.

But this year's squad is anything but inexperienced. Especially when it comes to big-time matchups.

Yet the Marlins had one of those games in the Catholic League tournament championship two weeks ago.

Offensively, they couldn't keep up with Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard, and away the Irish went, using a 12-0 run in the third quarter, to separate from the Marlins and take home the championship trophy.

Instead of sulking or scrambling for answers, Mercy got right back to work.

It beat Cass Tech in the Operation Friendship game.

It beat Farmington in the Division 1 district semifinal.

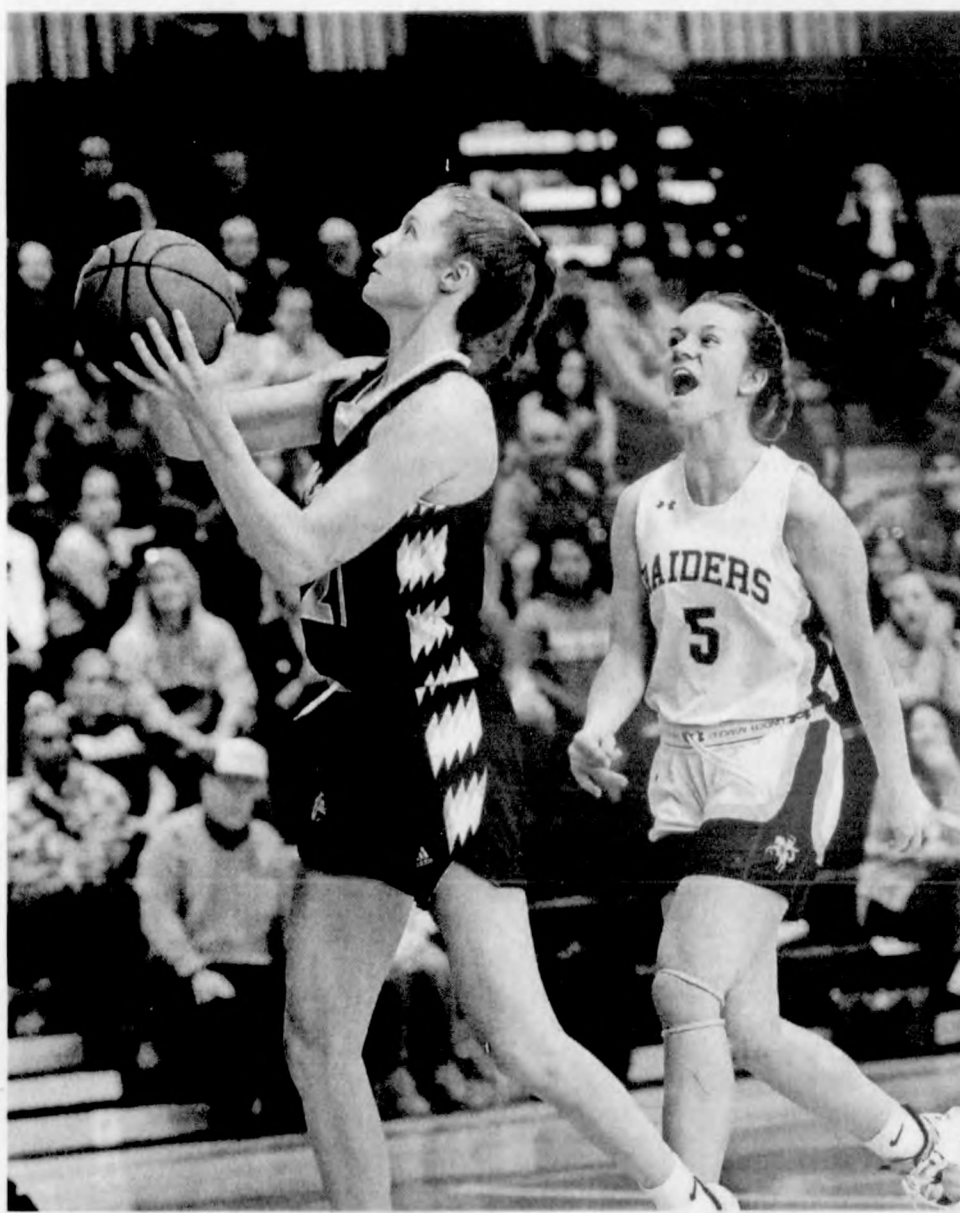
And then, during Saturday's district championship, the Marlins (21-3) enjoyed a moment that proved they have completely erased the woes they endured during the CHSL tournament.

They knocked off unbeaten North Farmington 59-23 to win the district title and earn a berth into Tuesday's regional semifinal against Utica Ford.

Once Grand Valley State University signee Maya White got her hands on the trophy, she threw up four fingers, which represented the number of district championships her senior class has won.

And that was on Morris' mind during his post-game skull session with the media. He sounded like he was at the end-of-season banquet, reading off the accomplishments each of his seniors accomplished throughout their careers. Except, really, all he was doing was listing all the 4-year contributors who ensured the Marlins would bounce back from that heartbreaking loss to FGR in the CHSL tournament.

"We have a veteran group," Morris said. "We have Maya White, who started as a freshman and is a 4-year varsity



Farmington Hills Mercy's Aizlyn Albanese scores in transition during the Division 1 girls basketball district championship Saturday, March 5, 2023, at Farmington. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

player. We have Lauren Smiley, who is a 4-year varsity player. Fran DeNardo, a 4-year varsity player. So these kids have been through a lot of battles, and I think they didn't want the way we played down there (at Detroit Mercy) to be their legacy. They wanted to get that taste out of their mouth."

They certainly did cleanse the palate. They erased a 9-9 tie following the first quarter with a huge effort in the next period.

Emily Walker knocked down a 3-pointer to get them going, and then White scored down low and Smiley hit a shot of her own. The Marlins finished



Farmington Hills Mercy celebrates winning the Division 1 district championship March 5 at Farmington.

their 18-3 run with Aizlyn Albanese scoring in transition.

They carried that spark into the second half, holding the Raiders to just three points in the third.

Having a short-term memory has inspired Mercy since losing to FGR.

"I think as captains, leaders and veteran players, we really looked at the time (against FGR) and were like everybody is 0-0 going into the playoffs," Smiley said. "It doesn't matter what kind of season you had. We had a pretty good season. We just didn't finish the way we wanted to in the Central division. At the end of the day, you've got to move forward. We're 2-0, and we want to keep going."

White, Albanese and Walker each finished with 10 points, while Alison Smiley had eight, DeNardo had seven and Ava Lorraine pitched in six before leaving the game with an injury. It was a

See MERCY, Page 3B

## Marian downs Seaholm, claims district championship

Brandon Folsom  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The group chat finally realized its goal.

As expected, the Bloomfield Hills Marian girls basketball team (10-13) took its lumps this winter.

Longtime coach Mary Cicerone, who led the Mustangs to six state championships, retired. Former player Michelle Lindsey took over the program.

Key starters such as Anna Herberholz and Sarah Sylvester (TCU volleyball) graduated. And there were only four returners from last year's Catholic League tournament championship team. Except only one of them, Butler University commit McKenzie Swanson, saw playing time. And in reality, injuries kept her away from the court, too.

Sure, Molly McLeod, Abby Landa and Charlie Bingham saw the floor from time to time. But they were brand new to the starting lineup when November rolled around.

That's why, following the Mustangs' loss to eventual state champion West Bloomfield in the district championship a year ago, the four created a group chat. It was their time to shine. It was their time to take over the program.

"We just knew we had to step it up after last year," said McLeod, a sophomore. "We all worked together and said, 'Hey, this is our year.' We all made a group chat and said, 'Next year is our year.' It has definitely been a growing experience."

The CHSL-Central schedule was brutal for them. They went on an eight-game losing streak at one point. And the only league foe they beat was Warren Regina in the league opener.

But as time went on, Lindsey and her team started finding their rhythm. Players were developing their roles. Growth was taking place.

And during a 47-35 loss to Dearborn Divine Child, Marian finally hit its stride. It actually opened the game on an 18-2 run before Kennedy Blair and the gang stormed back to give the Falcons the comeback victory.

But that, right there, was the Mustangs' turning point. Being able to hang with a team such as Divine Child, which beat Detroit Voyageur to win a district



Bloomfield Hills Marian's Molly McLeod attacks the basket during the Division 1 girls basketball district championship March 5 at Birmingham Seaholm.

title over the weekend, proved they were finally getting the hang of things.

They ripped off four-straight wins entering the postseason.

And then they upset a tough Birmingham Groves squad in the district semifinal.

And, after four postponements because of Friday's winter storm and an extended power outage throughout the weekend in the greater Bloomfield Hills area, they finally enjoyed a moment that proved everything had paid off.

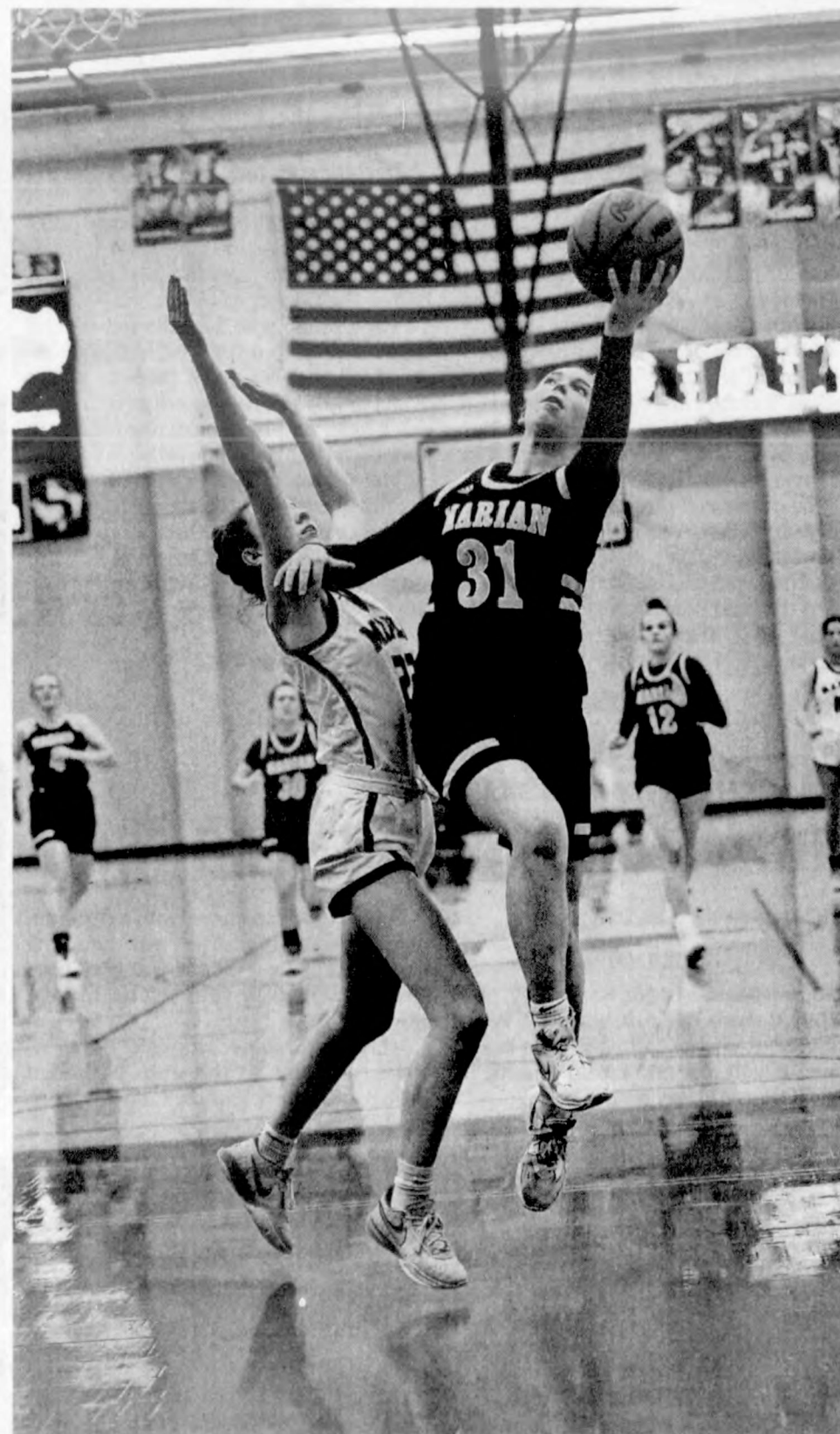
They took down Birmingham Seaholm, 47-31, to capture the Division 1 district title on March 5.

It won't take long before those post-game pictures with the championship trophy make it in the group chat.

"This is what we've worked for all year," said Lindsey, who graduated from Marian in 2009 and worked as an assistant for nine seasons under Cicerone. "I've just got to give it to those kids because it was a very emotional year. Frustrating at times. We had our ups and downs. For those kids to never give up and keep working so hard in practice throughout the season, they deserve it. They deserve it."

The Mustangs are incredibly young. There's only one senior (CC Carter), and Swanson and Landa are the only juniors who see significant playing time. The rest of the contributors are underclassmen such as McLeod, Bingham and

See MARIAN, Page 3B



Bloomfield Hills Marian's Charlie Bingham scores in transition during the Division 1 girls basketball district championship March 5, 2023, at Birmingham Seaholm. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



## Rocks

Continued from Page 1B

Well, it wasn't necessarily single-handedly. Sure, she scored 16 of her game-high 30 points during that stretch. But it was the Rocks' tight defense, a mixture of full-court pressure, 2-3 zone and man-to-man coverage, that led to Morson being able to put the team on her back on the offensive end.

Turnovers and steals led to layups and jumpers.

"Oh man, did she really? Did she really have 16 points in the third quarter?" Wells, who led Ypsilanti Arbor Prep to a state championship in 2016, asked again. "You know what, I told Madi, 'You're the best player on the court. You need to be aggressive. You're settling too much for jump shots. You can't shoot the jump shot, but you need to go to the basket because they can't guard you. If you go to the basket hard, that's going to open up things for everybody else.'"

"I just told her to be more aggressive. I think she was letting them off the hook in the first half by pulling up for 3 in the mid-range, which she can hit. But go all the way, Madi. You're the best player, and this season's on you. Nobody can stop you. The girls are OK with that because that opens up shots for them, too."

It's easy to see why Wells admires



Salem coach Rod Wells celebrates winning the Division 1 district championship March 4 at Canton. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Morson and believes she should be a Miss Basketball finalist next season.

She's a three-level scorer, a scrappy defender and rebounder and an all-state high jumper, which means her athleticism is often unmatched regardless of who the opponent is each night.

The almost 6-footer had somewhat of

a breakout season a year ago. And she'd likely be more known right now had an injury not slowed her down at the beginning of the winter. In fact, her absence is a big reason why the Rocks endured a four-game losing streak in December.

But, with her back in the lineup, they've since won 16 of their last 17 games, upset Wayne Memorial, which has two McDonald's All-American nominees in Mayla Ham (Georgetown University) and Paris Bass (North Dakota), to win the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship, and now they've knocked off rival Canton for a third time to claim their first district championship since 2015.

"We always have a saying that the next quarter's score is 0-0," said Morson of her effort in the third. "Don't worry about what happened in the first two quarters. It's a new game now. We're playing the best we could, but, offensively, it just wasn't the greatest. We were just like, 'OK, we need to pick up the defense. That's how you get turnovers and transition buckets.' So that's just what we were doing to come out of halftime on defense."

Salem (18-6) played Saline in Tuesday's regional semifinal in a game that came after deadline for this edition.

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

## Mercy

Continued from Page 2B

total team effort.

"I think we were all disappointed in that second half down at Calihan, taking nothing away from FGR," Morris said. "But that just wasn't us, especially on the offensive end. So I'm really pleased. After that, we bounced back and have won since then. We played a really good game in the Operation Friendship game against Cass Tech. The other night we came out ready to play (against Farmington) and the same thing tonight. ..."

"We gave a lot of credit to FGR and said, 'This is going to be a good test for us. How are we going to bounce back?' I felt good. If we were a younger group, you'd be more worried about it. But being the veteran team that we are, I kind of figured, hey, let's learn from it, and let's get better. And we knew we lost to a really good team. You look at our three losses, two of them are to FGR. And then we lost to (Detroit) Edison and, obviously, they're a strong team in D-2. I thought we'd learn from that loss and put that game behind us, and we did."

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

## Marian

Continued from Page 2B

Ruby Jansen, who are sophomores, and Swanson's younger sister, Ella, who is a freshman.

"It's definitely been a learning experience, for sure," said McLeod, who buried four 3-pointers to finish with 12 points. "But I think it's definitely been beneficial. As Coach has said, you can't just come into the season and blow out every team. You have to trust the process, and it's obviously paid off, so I trust it."

Mckenzie Swanson and McLeod hit shots late in the first quarter to help Marian separate from Seaholm. Before you knew it, the Mustangs were carrying a 25-9 lead into halftime.

Swanson made four baskets and hit three free throws in the second half to ice the win. She finished with 17 points and 13 rebounds to lead her team.

Seaholm ended its season 7-16 overall, despite Shay Manchester leading the Maples with nine points and Mary Gumbis and Clara Guffey each pitching in six.

Marian faced second-ranked Detroit Renaissance in Tuesday's regional semifinal in game that was after deadline for this edition. That was sure to be a tough challenge, but getting there proves just how much this team has improved.

"It's getting there," Lindsey continued. "The growth these kids have shown from Day 1's game to now is incredible. It's exciting to see what the future holds."



Bloomfield Hills Marian coach Michelle Lindsey hoists the trophy after the Mustangs won the Division 1 district title. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Get it today. Protected for life.

LeafGuard has been awarded the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval for 16 straight years.

### Say goodbye to gutter cleaning for good

No clogging, No cleaning  
No leaking, No water damage  
No ladder accidents

Call now for your free estimate! Financing available

## 248.372.9939

### 20% off total purchase\*

Does not include cost of material.  
Offer expires 3/31/2023

20% Thicker Aluminum   One-Piece System   Liquid Adhesion

**Leafguard**  
Don't leak. Don't clean. Don't worry.

# EMPIRE TODAY

CARPET & FLOORING

We Make Getting Beautiful New Floors Easy

OUR BIGGEST SALE!

**50% OFF\***

Carpet, Hardwood, Tile, Vinyl & Laminate

**50% OFF\***

Padding & Materials

**50% OFF\***

Professional Installation

Select styles.

You Can Save Thousands!

**Schedule a FREE In-Home Estimate!**

Call **888-330-0634**

or visit **EmpireToday.com/newspaper**

\*Discount is applied to the regular price of select styles of carpet, hardwood, tile, vinyl, and laminate, basic installation, standard padding, and materials. Excludes upgrades, stairs, take-up of permanently affixed flooring, non-standard furniture moving, other miscellaneous charges, and prior purchases. Product may not be sold separately from installation. Residential installations only. Not available in all areas. Valid through 04/09/2023. Subject to change. Details at EmpireToday.com.

Sales (except CA, MA, UT) and installation are provided by independent contractors. Licensure at EmpireToday.com. CSLB 1047108

© 2023 Empire Today, LLC

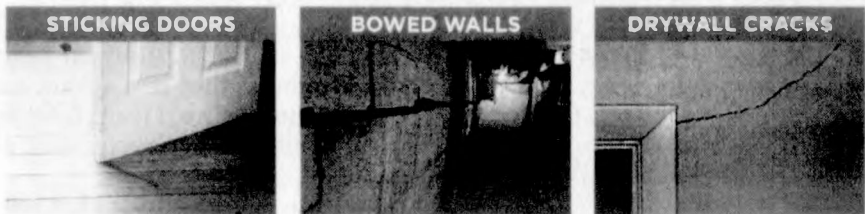


**Colder climates can clash with your home's foundation.**

Repair and protect your home today!



**FSM**  
A Groundworks Company



**EASY FINANCING OFFER!**

**NO PAYMENTS INTEREST** (if paid in full within 12 months)

\*Subject to credit approval. Interest is added during the promotional period. An interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid in full within 12 months. Offer cannot be combined with any other offers. Offer expires 3/31/23.

**YOUR EXPERTS IN**

- FOUNDATION REPAIR
- BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
- CRAWL SPACE REPAIR
- CONCRETE LIFTING

**PROVIDING TRUSTED SERVICE SINCE 2007**



Call for a

**(248) 973-1212**

Experts Since 1980

**HOOVER**

Electric • Plumbing • Heating • Cooling

**Let Hoover Keep You Warm**

**FREE Estimates**



**Senior Citizen Discounts Available**

Drain Clearing	Home Electrical Diagnostic	Plumbing Repair	New Water Heater Installation
<b>\$89*</b>	<b>\$89 Fee Waived</b>	<b>\$45 Off*</b>	<b>\$50 Off*</b>
With coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers.	With coupon. With Repairs	With coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers.	With coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers.
Expires 3/31/23	Expires 3/31/23	Expires 3/31/23	Expires 3/31/23

**Buy A High Efficiency Furnace & A/C, get**

**FREE AIR CLEANER**  
**FREE HUMIDIFIER**  
**FREE WIFI THERMOSTAT**  
**PLUS UP TO \$1000 IN REBATES**

Restrictions Apply Call For Details.

**248-372-9791**

\*Based on approved credit, restrictions apply. Call Hoover for details.



Brighton senior Cru Smith made first-team all-state by placing sixth in giant slalom at the state Division 1 ski meet. BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

## Brighton boys fourth at state

**Bill Khan**  
Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Brighton continued to affirm its status as the top Division 1 boys ski program in lower Michigan by placing fourth in the state meet Monday at Schuss Mountain.

The Bulldogs have finished in the top five in the state meet each of the past seven years, something no other Division 1 boys team south of Traverse City has accomplished. Rochester Adams has done it five times and Clarkston three times since 2017.

Brighton scored 167 points to finish behind traditional powers Traverse City West (52), Traverse City Central (57) and Marquette (106) in the nine-team event.

Brighton senior Cru Smith made first-team all-state for the second time in his career, three years after he did so for the first time, by placing sixth in giant slalom. He was ninth in slalom as a freshman on a Brighton team that finished second in the state by one point. Smith took 24th in slalom Monday.

Senior Hunter Post made second-team all-state with 12th-place finishes in giant slalom and slalom.

John Popov was second-team all-state in slalom, placing 11th. He was also

64th in giant slalom.

Erik DeKeyser was 50th in slalom and 52nd in giant slalom, Evan Calderaro was 63rd in slalom and 67th in giant slalom, and Dylan White was 48th in giant slalom for the Bulldogs.

Howell's Alex Cotton, an individual qualifier, took 52nd in slalom.


In the girls meet, Brighton took seventh with 242 points. Traverse City West won the fifth-skier tiebreaker over Traverse City Central for the championship after each team had 69.5 points.

Isabella Militello had Brighton's top finish, placing 24th in giant slalom. She didn't have a finish in slalom.

Ava Popov was 33rd in giant slalom and 40th in slalom, Abby Storch was 32nd in slalom and 37th in giant slalom, Lia Leffel was 48th in giant slalom and 58th in slalom, Vivian Flynn was 60th in slalom and 67th in giant slalom, CeCe Pruski was 54th in slalom, and Sarah Mayer was 61st in giant slalom for the Bulldogs.

Hartland's Reagan Aylor was 56th in slalom and 60th in giant slalom.

In the Division 2 meet at Boyne Mountain, Charyl Stockwell senior Maddie Lindsey made second-team all-state in both events by placing 12th in slalom and 14th in giant slalom. She was 0.03 seconds from an all-state berth in slalom.



**FLOOR COVERINGS**  
*international*

**The Stars of Flooring<sup>SM</sup>**

**Book a FREE consultation at**  
**947-600-7060 • bookfci.com**

Each Floor Coverings International® business is independently owned and operated.





**A1 GARAGE DOOR SERVICE**  
BEST SERVICE • BEST PARTS • BEST WARRANTY  
**A1 FROM DAY 1**

Incredibly helpful, answered all of our questions and gave us a product that was absolutely better than the competition, both in quality and price. If you need a garage door, you need to look no further.

— Russ Elm Grove, WI

★★★★★



**\$200 OFF\***  
**ANY NEW GARAGE DOOR**

**FINANCING AVAILABLE**

\* Subject to credit approval, restrictions apply call for details.



**5 REASONS TO REPLACE:**

1. Energy efficient doors save you \$\$\$
2. Tighter door security keeps you safe
3. Weather & critter protection
4. Upgraded curb appeal
5. Increase home value

Same Day Service • Evenings & Weekends – No Extra Charge • Emergency Services Available • Military, AAA, Senior, AARP Discounts • Residential • Doing Business Since 1998 • Family Owned & Operated • Lifetime Warranty - Call for Details

**Amarr** **LiftMaster**

**GARAGE DOOR SERVICE SPECIALS**

GARAGE DOOR TUNE UP SPECIAL	\$200 OFF ANY NEW GARAGE DOOR	\$100 OFF REPLACE AN EXISTING OPENER	\$75 OFF SPRING REPLACEMENT
<b>\$59.99*</b> Call Today for Details! <small>*Tie Charge Not Included with this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Expires 3/31/23</small>	<small>With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Expires 3/31/23</small>	<small>With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Expires 3/31/23</small>	<small>With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Expires 3/31/23</small>

SERVICING GREATER MILWAUKEE AREA  
**248-864-5559**

SCAN TO SCHEDULE SERVICE



**Experience clearer hearing**

It's time to take control of your hearing and improve your quality of life and hear clearer today!

With hearing aids starting at \$999 each, we know we have the right product to match your lifestyle.

From listening to music to playing pickleball and more—our devices are designed for you, and we guarantee your hearing satisfaction!

When you schedule an appointment in March you'll receive:

- **COMPLIMENTARY** hearing screening
- **FREE** cleaning and check of your current hearing aids
- **RISK-FREE** hearing device trial\*

**OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND**

Meet the completely-in-canal (CIC) and virtually invisible hearing aid! Small enough to forget you're wearing a hearing device, yet powerful enough to forget you have hearing loss.



**MARCH SPECIALS!**

RECEIVE UP TO  
**\$500 TOWARDS**  
A PAIR OF HEARING AIDS!

**INSURANCE CHECK-UP:**  
You may be eligible to receive hearing aids with \$0 out-of-pocket. Call us to find out!

Receive these offers when you purchase hearing aids in March. Give us a call today!



**Hear Michigan**  
Formerly Belson  
30128 Harper Ave, #1  
St Clair Shores, MI 48082

**Hear Michigan**  
Formerly Belson  
31160 Five Mile Road  
Livonia, MI 48154

**Hear Michigan**  
Formerly Advanced Hearing Instruments  
17425 Fort Street  
Riverview, MI 48193

**248-450-6250**

\*This is a refund of the total purchase price if returned in the first 30 days. \*This limited-time offer may not be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Receive up to \$500 towards a pair of level 50, 70 or 90 technology. \*Actual size may vary depending on the size and shape of the individuals ear canal. Offer expires 3/31/23.

**KOHLER**  
Walk-In Bath & Shower Systems

**NEW BATH**



ASK ABOUT OUR **FREE 3D DESIGN SERVICE**

SEE WHAT IT WILL LOOK LIKE **BEFORE YOU BUY!**

**Designer Showers** **Standard Baths** **Walk-in Baths**

**TIME SPECIAL OFFER**

**\$0 DOWN 0% INTEREST**

**UNTIL 2024!**

**Bonus \$1000 INSTANT REBATE**  
CALL NOW TO SAVE **313-241-9145**

newbathtoday.localconsumerinfo

**31-DAY window & door sale**

This isn't one of those 'limited time' offers that's **not really** limited. We're only offering this window discount and this patio and entry door discount for 31 days!<sup>1</sup>

There are limited appointments available, and you must book yours before **March 31!**

**Sale ends March 31!**

**BUY ONE WINDOW OR DOOR, GET ONE 40% OFF<sup>1</sup>**  
Minimum purchase of four.

**PLUS \$100 OFF EVERY WINDOW AND DOOR<sup>1</sup>**  
No minimum purchase required.

**PLUS \$0 Down 0% Monthly Payments Interest for 1 year<sup>1</sup>**  
Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.

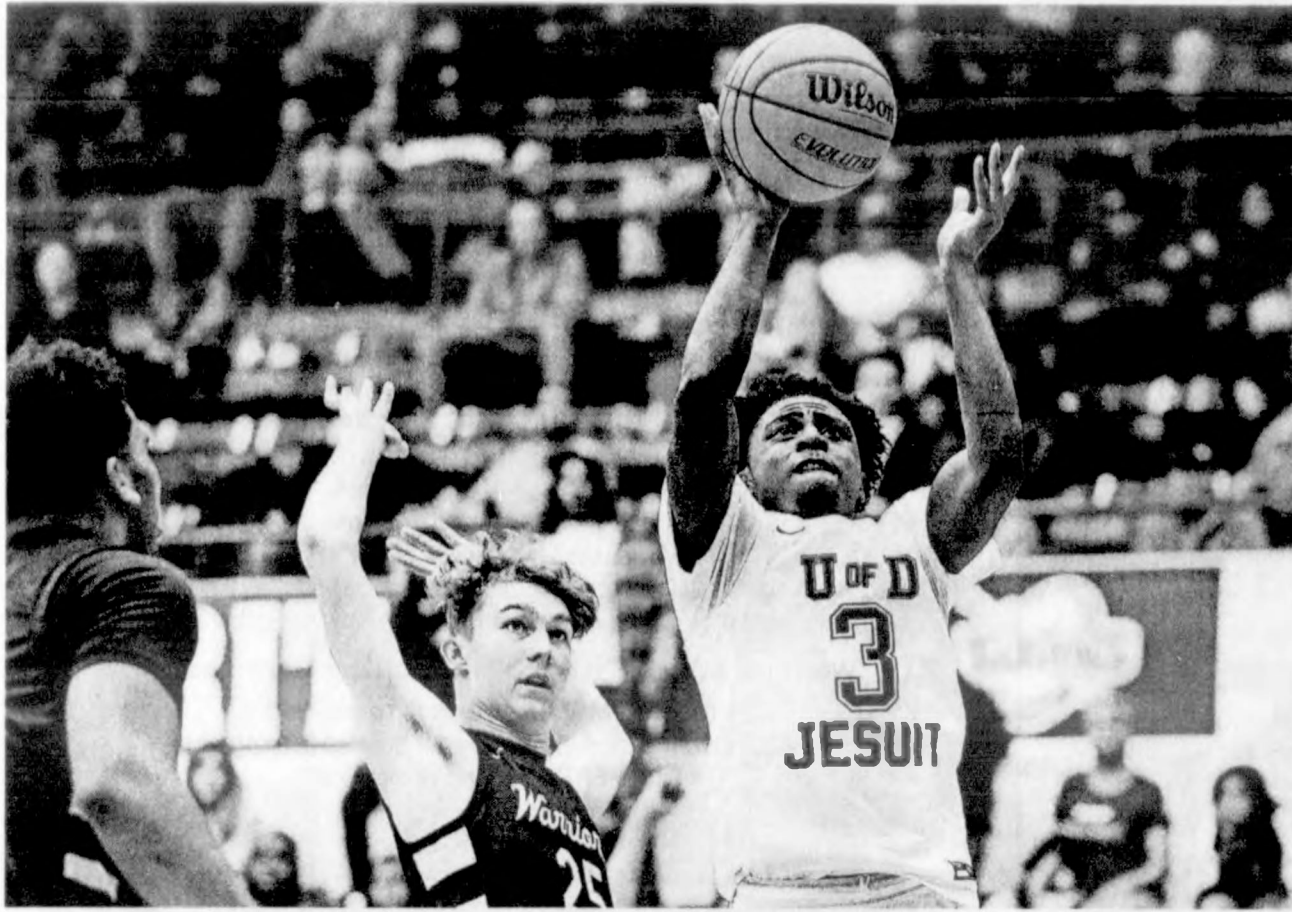
**LESS THAN a month left to book your FREE Window and Door Diagnosis**

**734-335-8036**

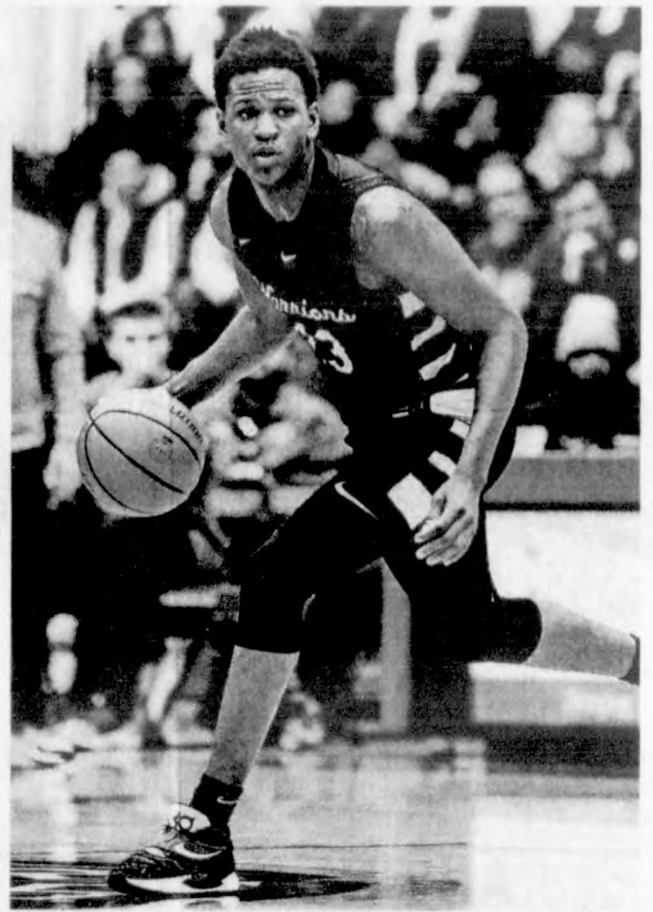
**RENEWAL by ANDERSEN**  
MILITARY DISCOUNT  
ENERGY STAR

\*DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 3/31/2023. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 3/1/2023 and 3/31/2023. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$100 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 3/31/2023. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of their respective owners. ©2023 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2023 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.





U-D Jesuit's Sonny Wilson (3) makes a jump shot against Birmingham Brother Rice during the second half of the Bishop division of CHSL championship game at Calihan Hall in Detroit on Feb. 24, 2023.



Birmingham Brother Rice's Curtis Williams. PHOTOS BY JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

## Finalists

Continued from Page 1B

Association of Michigan in conjunction with the Free Press.

Brown helped CC win the Division 2 state title as a freshman. Hurst has led North Farmington to the best record in school history. Jamison is a 6-foot-5 scoring machine who is also the best passer on the team. Behind Williams' play, Brother Rice captured its first Catholic League title in 34 seasons and Wilson has been the main man at U-D since he walked in the door as a freshman.

"I like how hard they play," said Steve Norgrove, chairperson of the Mr. Basketball award. "It seems like there is a consistent effort among all the candidates and all the candidates considered."

Norgrove began with a working list of about 20 potential finalists for the award and went to work from



The Detroit Free Press and the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan award the 42nd Hal Schram Michigan Mr. Basketball award to Detroit King's Chansey Willis, Jr. on Monday, March 21, 2022 at the Detroit Free Press in Detroit. MANDI WRIGHT

there, searching for a clear breakpoint for the finalists.

After all, there is a difference being an all-state player and being Mr. Basketball.

"I think the proper word is 'arduous,'" Norgrove said. "That's the word that describes that it's a tough process. It's about the players that are on the list. All of the players considered have tremendous value, but we just thought the cutoff was clear and once we got past the five, it just became much more difficult."

"I thought it was difficult this year to really separate players. Where do you draw the line? Yeah, kids have had good careers, but this is not necessarily about just a great career. This is a senior-year list."

Voting for Mr. Basketball is between March 9-13 and only BCAM members are eligible to vote.

The winner will be announced Monday, March 20, at 1 p.m. at the Free Press.

Here is an alphabetical look at the finalists:

### Kaden Brown

Grand Rapids Catholic Central, 6-feet, point guard. College: Wright State.

Averages: 23 points, 3.7 assists, 3.2 steals.

Biggest area of improvement: Rebounding.

Best move: Uses a hesitation dribble to free the defender then shoots a 3-pointer or blows past for a lay-up.

Favorite athlete: Stephen Curry.

Top opponent: Jason Drake Jr., Ferndale.

Favorite book: "The Mamba Mentality: How I Play" by Kobe Bryant.

When my basketball career is finished, I will: "Be a businessman."

Overview: He averaged 24 points as a sophomore when he helped CC win the Division 2 state championship with a game-high 25-point performance in the final. He is the school's all-time leading scorer, with more than 1,500 points. He has a tremendous skill set. He loves to defend and flows from a made bucket by picking up the opposing point guard for 94 feet of pressure.

### Ryan Hurst

North Farmington, 6-3, shooting guard.

College: Detroit Mercy.

Averages: 22.7 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists.

Biggest area of improvement: Scoring at all three levels.

Best move: Pull-up for a mid-range jump shot.

Favorite athlete: Donovan Mitchell.

Top opponent: Trevon Lewis, Ferndale.

Favorite book: "The Diary of a Wimpy Kid" by Jeff Kinney.

When my basketball career is finished, I will: "be a coach at the pro or collegiate level."

Overview: Over the past year, he has lost 30 pounds, which has improved his game immensely. He can now play harder for a longer amount of time. Offensively, he could always shoot and now he is attacking the basket with greater authority and his pull-up jump shot has been terrific.

### Tyler Jamison

Port Huron Northern, 6-5, guard/forward.

College: Fairleigh Dickinson.

Averages: 26.4 points, 11.6 rebounds, 4.4 assists and 3.2 steals.

Biggest area of improvement: Pull-up jump shot.

Best move: Drives to the basket and spins to finish



North Farmington's Ryan Hurst. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

in traffic.

Favorite athlete: Luka Doncic.

Top opponent: Pierre Brooks II, Detroit Douglass (2022 Mr. Basketball).

Favorite book: The Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan.

When my basketball career is finished, I will: "be an investment banker and I'd like to coach."

Overview: He is the leading scorer and best player in school history as well as an amazing student (4.7 GPA on 4.0 scale). He has always been adept at playing inside in the paint, on the wing or being the point guard. He excels at getting his teammates involved in the offense. When he brings the ball downcourt, he is in attack mode, putting pressure on the defense to stop him or one of his teammates.

### Curtis Williams

Birmingham Brother Rice, 6-6, forward.

College: Louisville.

Averages: 16.2 points, 6.5 rebounds, 2.7 assists.

Biggest area of improvement: Getting to the basket and scoring in the post.

Best move: Comes off a screen for a catch-and-shoot score.

Favorite athlete: Kobe Bryant.

Top opponent: Trey McKinney, Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

Favorite book: "The Mamba Mentality: How I Play" by Kobe Bryant.

When my basketball career is finished, I will: "be an entrepreneur and give back to my community."

Overview: A four-year starter, he hits 47% of his 2-point shots and 41% of his 3-pointers. He consistently guards the opposition's best player, regardless of position and takes pride in his defense. Over the course of his career he has improved his passing, which has made Brother Rice a much tougher opponent.

### Sonny Wilson

U-D Jesuit, 6-0, point guard.

College: Toledo.

Biggest area of improvement: Consistency in his scoring and defensive effort.

Best move: Drives to the basket, then takes off on one foot for a floater.

Favorite athlete: Kevin Durant.

Top opponent: Curtis Williams, Brother Rice.

Favorite book: "The Crossover" by Kwame Alexander.

When my basketball career is finished, I will: "be a sports analyst."

Overview: He has been a four-year standout and the moving force behind the Cubs' successful teams. He has been the team's best scorer, so he constantly faced double-teams and traps but was still able to be a dominant scorer and shoot over 50% for his career. Despite the attention, he was able to play with a determination and a toughness and aggressiveness.

Mick McCabe is a former longtime columnist for the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at [mick.mccabe2@gmail.com](mailto:mick.mccabe2@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter @mickmccabel.

## Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit [mideathnotices.com/place.php](http://mideathnotices.com/place.php)



Eugene A. Drafta

Feb. 24, 2023. Age 93. Beloved husband of Mary for 70 years.

Dear father of Bob (Terri), Ron (Eva), Cindy, Sue (Phil) Nowak and the late Michelle Dee.

Proud grandfather of Rick, Kristin, Britney, Allison, Ben, Theresa, Bill, and the late Rachel.

Great grandfather of Everett, Mathias. Kenney, Benji, Ana and Paul.

A Memorial Mass was held a Holy Family Church Novi Monday March 6, 2023.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the University of Michigan Anatomical Donations Program- <https://leader-sandbest.umich.edu/find/#!/give/basket/fund/309835>

Online sympathy messages at [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)



Rayda Warren

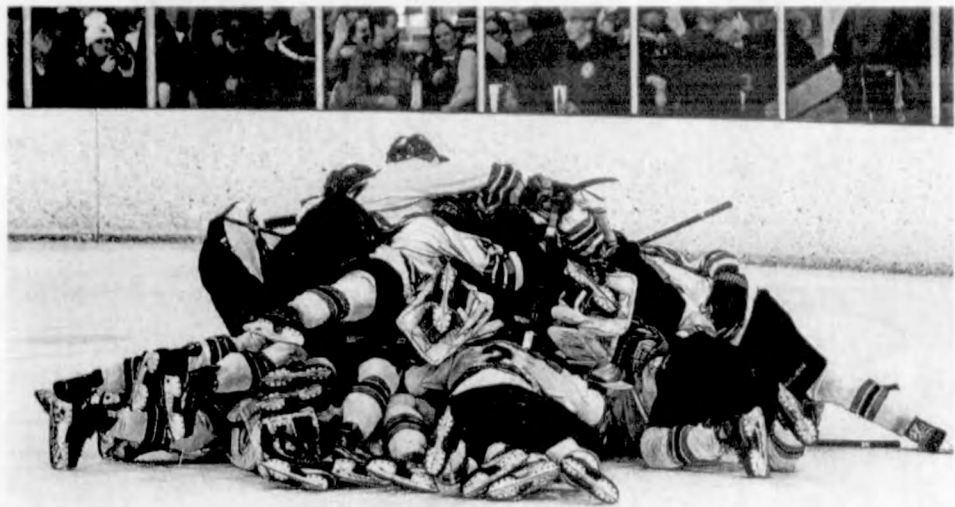
BRADENTON - Formerly of Northville, MI, passed away Feb. 21, 2023 at the age of 94. Beloved wife of the late Donald. Loving mother of Kelly (Pamela) Warren, Devnie (Richard) Theidel, and the late Cydney Francisco. Cherished grandmother of the late Duerk (Lis) Warren, Adrienne (Jim) Cirrincione, Colleen (Tony) Caito, Roxane (Denis) Curran, and Logan (Frankie) Mastrangelo. Proud great-grandmother of Joseph, James, Libby, Sam, Pete, Parker, Cash, and Griffin. Services will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 31450 6 Mi. Rd. on Thurs. March 9 at 11 am. The family invites those attending to arrive 30 mins. prior to the service if you would like to visit and pray respects. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at [griffinfuneralhome.com](http://griffinfuneralhome.com)



May you find comfort in family and friends



# STUFF OF LEGEND



Above, Brighton hockey players celebrate their 3-2 double-overtime victory over Livonia Stevenson in the state Division 1 quarterfinals on Saturday. Below, Brighton's Cameron Duffany goes in on a breakaway that Livonia Stevenson goalie Riley Martin stopped in the second overtime.

PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY



## Brighton junior gets hat trick, OT winner in hockey quarters

**Bill Khan**  
Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

**BRIGHTON** — The Livingston County high school sports scene has been blessed with many memorable moments in recent years that will take on legendary status as time goes by.

Here's a sampling of greatness:

- Nick Nemecek's catch with 50.1 seconds left in the game to put Brighton in the state Division 1 football championship game last year.

- Liv Linden's season-saving 3-point in the quarterfinals during Hartland's run to the state girls basketball championship game last year.

- Ian Kastamo's overtime goal for Hartland in the state Division 2 championship hockey game last season.

- Another overtime goal by Hartland in 2022, this one by Bo Lockwood, to make Hartland the first public school to win the state Division 1 boys lacrosse championship.

Add the performance of Brighton junior Cameron Duffany Saturday in the state Division 1 hockey quarterfinals to the list of classics.

Duffany scored all three of his team's goals, including the winner in the second overtime, to give the third-ranked Bulldogs a 3-2 victory over fifth-ranked Livonia Stevenson at Kensington Valley Ice House.

"Super special player and he stepped up big-time in a big game for us," Brighton coach Kurt Kivisto said. "You expect your best players to be your top players in a game like that. He was amazing today. He played a ton of minutes and scored three goals."

The Bulldogs were less than five minutes from winning in regulation time when Stevenson's Andrew Clark scored with 4:38 remaining in the third period following a Brighton turnover at the far blue line.

Brighton had 2 minutes and 39 seconds of power play time in the first overtime, but couldn't score.

As he had throughout the game, Duffany made the winning goal happen with a great individual effort. He stole the puck from Stevenson defenseman Dillon McCallion in the corner, stepped out into the left circle and put a shot under the crossbar with 2:35 left in the second eight-minute extra period.

"Where momma keeps the cookies, top shelf," Duffany said. "I put it up there. It's a beauty."

"I was surprised it went in. To see the net go up is pretty sweet. Getting dog-

piled by everybody, there's no better feeling."

Duffany's other two goals came in the final 30 seconds of a period.

He intercepted a pass inside the Stevenson blue line, went to the net and scored on a backhand with 27.9 seconds left in the first period to tie the game, 1-1. Owen Hall had given the Spartans a 1-0 lead at 3:00 of the first.

Duffany put the Bulldogs in the lead with 26.6 seconds left in the second period when he took an outlet pass from Dominic Vincent, beat the defenseman one-on-one and swept in his own rebound.

"Scoring in the quarterfinal is incredible," said Duffany, who had a goal and two assists in a 4-1 victory over Salem in last year's quarterfinals. "But to be able to score all three and the OT winner is just something that won't happen again. I love it."

Fans at Kensington Valley were treated to a terrific goaltending duel between Stevenson senior Riley Martin and Brighton junior Levi Pennala. Martin made 43 saves, including a short breakaway by Duffany with 5:45 left in the second overtime.

Pennala made 30 saves, improving his career playoff record to 6-1.

"It's just all that practice and all the time on the ice beforehand," Pennala said. "It just takes over. You realize you're in this moment, but you know you have all that practice and all that hard work behind you and you're ready for it."

"Last year, I was kind of more wrapped up in it, but now I'm more in the moment and not outside looking in. It just helps a lot to have that experience."

And now the fun part — Duffany's overtime goal probably set up a state semifinal matchup between county rivals Brighton and Hartland Friday at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

The MHSAA is seeding the semifinal round this season. Detroit Catholic Central is the overwhelming favorite to be the top seed, while Brighton and Hartland — in any order — look to be the second and third seeds.

"We're just on a revenge tour," said Duffany, who was part of a team that lost to Catholic Central in last year's state championship game. "We want to bring home the trophy. We wouldn't want to play anybody else besides Hartland in the semis. We're ready."

Contact Bill Khan at [wkhan@gannett.com](mailto:wkhan@gannett.com). Follow him on Twitter @BillKhan.



Canton's Omar Suleiman shoots during the Kensington Lakes Activities Association boys basketball championship Thursday, March 2, 2023, at Northville. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Chiefs

Continued from Page 1B

without him. So you feel bad for that team, but now you feel great for the kids who came back and were able to get through this tough division. The KLAA-West was a grind. To be able to get to this game and play the way they did in this game, it was impressive."

That's not to say the growing pains were easy to deal with.

In fact, Suleiman said he placed lots of pressure on himself to carry the team with Vickers now in college. And that pressure hindered how well the 6-foot-5 small forward played earlier in the year.

"I had a tough middle of the season," said Suleiman, who scored 18 points vs. Franklin. "I feel like I had a lot of pressure on me and, yeah, for sure, we had some (unfinished business from last year). We lost a couple of tough ones. We lost the districts to Northville last year, too. I felt like we had to make sure we got some trophies on the board for us this time. But Coach had to pull me aside and tell me to ease into it and to just feel free to play my game. Ever since then, I feel like I've been playing much better."

Added Reddy: "It's been a work in progress. Omar is an ultra-skilled dude and has been since he was a 10th-grader. We're finally seeing it come to fruition for him. He's finally being an alpha dog. It's been a process, but he's getting there. Now he's playing some really good basketball for the last month and a half. He's just a good player, man. His defense has really improved, and that's been the difference for us."

It's not going to get any easier for Canton, though.

They faced either Salem or Ply-



Canton's Dante Favor celebrates winning the championship.

mouth in Wednesday's district semifinal. And they'd likely have to get past Detroit Catholic Central for the district championship.

But that's OK. The Chiefs should be prepared for two more tough matchups. Especially with how well Suleiman and Favor have been playing as seniors. In fact, it was those two who shared a chest bump at midcourt after the final buzzer of the KLAA championship. And it was those two who accepted both the KLAA championship trophy and the West division trophy from Northville athletic director Brian Samulski after the game.

Getting to do that was definitely a blessing.

"Oh yeah, it was," Favor said. "Last year we came up a little short, so this year we're looking to go much further. Last year, when Cole tore his ACL late, me and Omar had to step up. Not only as scorers but as leaders on the team. I feel that's really prepared us for now with us both being team captains."

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

## Community Worship

BRIGHTON	HIGHLAND	NOVI
<b>HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b> <a href="http://www.hsrcc.net">www.hsrcc.net</a> at the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 810-231-9196 Fr. John Rabus, Pastor Weekend Liturgies: Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Please visit our Shrine of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop	<b>Church of the Holy Spirit</b> 3700 Harvey Lake Rd. Highland Saturday Mass 5PM Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM 248-887-5364   <a href="mailto:HolySpiritHighland.com">HolySpiritHighland.com</a> The Holy Spirit is Here - Come Home <b>All are Welcome!</b>	<b>Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church</b> 41415 W Nine Mile Rd • Novi, MI 48375 248-349-0565 Divine Service on Sundays at 10am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45am Rev. Thomas Schroeder <a href="mailto:wetsnow@aol.com">wetsnow@aol.com</a> Come and worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!
NORTHVILLE	SOUTH LYON	WHITMORE LAKE
<b>First United Methodist Church</b> (248) 349-1144 777 West 8 Mile Road (8 Mile and Tenth Road) Northville, Michigan Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor <a href="http://www.firstunitednorthville.org">www.firstunitednorthville.org</a>	<b>'the WAY' - a ministry of Hope Lutheran Church</b> Worship @Abbey Park 28413 Abbey Lane New Hudson, MI Sunday @ 10am, 248-553-7170 <a href="http://www.hope-lutheran-church.com">www.hope-lutheran-church.com</a> Rev. Thomas Scherger	<b>FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.
<b>OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 133 Orchard Dr., Northville WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 348-2621, School 348-3610 Religious Education 348-2558 Rev. Dennis Theroux, Pastor	<b>RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!</b>	<b>RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!</b>

To be included here call Jabril Bryant at (513) 796-7028 or email [JBryant@localiq.com](mailto:JBryant@localiq.com)



# Classifieds

To Advertise, visit our website: [classifieds.hometownlife.com](http://classifieds.hometownlife.com)  
 ■ Public Notices/Legals email: [htwlegals@hometownlife.com](mailto:htwlegals@hometownlife.com)  
 ■ Business & Services email: [servicedirectory@michigan.com](mailto:servicedirectory@michigan.com)  
 ■ To post job openings, visit: [hometownlife.com/jobs](http://hometownlife.com/jobs)



**TO ADVERTISE**  
 Visit Our Website:  
[classifieds.hometownlife.com](http://classifieds.hometownlife.com)

All classified ads are subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from our Advertising Dept. All ads are subject to approval before publication. Detroit - Hometown Weekly reserves the right to edit, refuse, reject, classify or cancel any ad at any time. Errors must be reported in the first day of publication. Detroit - Hometown Weekly shall not be liable for any loss or expense that results from an error in or omission of an advertisement. No refunds for early cancellation of order.

**Professional Service**  
 all your needs...

**Careers Jobs**  
 new beginnings...

**Roofing & Siding**  
 D&R ROOFING  
 Cell Dan: 317-376-2064

**MICHIGAN AD NETWORK**  
 SOLUTIONS CLASSIFIED  
 TO PLACE YOUR AD  
 1-800-579-7355

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
 Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts.  
 Call 1-866-495-1709

**Engineering & IT**  
 Deputy Software Manager sought by Clorion Corporation of America in Northville, MI. 10% Domestic & Int'l travel. Leading a local s/ware eng's team & working w/ a global cross func'l team w/ product, sales & eng's members. Req'd: Bach degree in s/ware Eng's, Comp Eng's, or rel field of study, or foreign deg equiv. 5 yrs exp in a s/ware eng's pos. in auto industry. Exp w/ each of follow'g: Embedded s/ware dvlp typical of auto solutions; manag's s/ware projects & team of s/ware engineers; support'g device selection for key components SoCs, memory (both non-volatile & DRAM); s/ware dvlp standards & req's in one of follow'g: SCRUM, Kanban, or ASPICE; s/ware dvlp tools in one of follow'g: JIRA, Confluence, DOORS, Reclivity, Coverity, Jenkins, Git, SVN or Bitbucket; design & deploy'g continuous build & integration systs. Exp. may be acq'd concurrently. Res to Kelly.Neville@forvia.com (Reg. No. 48678)

**Skilled Trades**  
 Looking for Painters with at least 1 year experience in painting new construction homes. Must know how to putty, caulk, brush and roll. Must have reliable transportation. Pays hourly and is full time with work all year round. Paid every Friday! Jobs are located in the South Lyon/Brighton areas. Serious inquires only! Call (248) 880-7181

**Find your new job HERE!**

**Find your new job HERE!**

## Find your new best friend!

"My human cannot keep hold of his Bouncy-thing. Luckily, I'm here to return it every time he loses it."

Check the classified listings everyday.

## LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

THE NATION'S #1 GUTTER GUARD

INSTALLS ON NEW & EXISTING GUTTERS

**BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

**EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER**

**15% OFF** YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE + **10% OFF** SENIORS & MILITARY ON TOP OF THE 15%!

+ **5% OFF** TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY\*

**FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!\***

**Promo Code: 364**

\*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

1 Micromesh  
 2 uPVC Frame  
 3 Hanger  
 4 New or Existing Gutters

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **734-666-0904**

\*The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2019 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Must present at time of estimate. See Representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. AR #0366820922, CA #1833795, CT #HIC 0649985, FL #CDB058878, IN #RCE 51904, IA #C 127230, LA #559544, Suffolk HIC License #H-52229, MI #2182212886, #220209023, #230209043, #2108212948, MO #BHC111225, MA #176447, MT #226192, MN #00711054, NE #55145, NH #A08683, NJ #13VH0053900, NY #19114, OR #218294, PA #PAD09383, RI #41354, TN #7856, UT #423330, VA #2705168445, WA #LEAFFNW222J, WV #WV058012

## KOHLER. Walk-In Bath

A Bath For All Seasons

**THIS MONTH ONLY**

**\$1,000 OFF**  
 Your KOHLER Walk-In Bath  
 + Low Monthly Payments\*

**PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION INCLUDED** | **LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY**

Call today for your **FREE** in-home quote!  
**(313) 241-9116**

\*Offer ends March 31, 2023. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK, HI, Nassau, City, Suffolk City, Westchester City, or City of Buffalo, NY. \$1,000 off average price of KOHLER walk-in bath. Dealer sets all prices and is responsible for full amount of discount. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact local dealer for financing details.