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CANTON OBSERVER

THURSDAY 07.20.17 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Ridge Road paving project derailed

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A long-awaited plan to pave a gravel section of Ridge Road on Canton's far west side has been rejected by a township board majority that wants a broader study of local road needs.

Despite pleas from some residents to fix a road they called unsafe, the board has voted 5-2 against using \$1.5 million in county dollars and \$1.2 million in township money to pave the section of Ridge Road between Warren and Hanford.

Clerk Michael Siegrist was among those calling for a township-wide study of road needs rather than addressing problems piecemeal.

"I want to see a plan. I don't want to throw darts at a board and go with my gut on what project I think is the most important," he said.

Trustee Steven Sneiderman took it one step further, suggesting higher taxes are needed to tackle road woes.

"There is no way to fix all our road problems without all of us, each of us, paying more than we do today," he said, adding later, "To be honest,

folks, I think we need our taxes to go up."

Siegrist and Sneiderman voted against the Ridge paving project, along with Trustees Sommer Foster and Anne Marie Graham-Hudak and Treasurer Dian Slavens. Supervisor Pat Williams and John Anthony supported the plan.

"I'm disappointed on the outcome, but the board has voted and our direction is clear," Williams said.

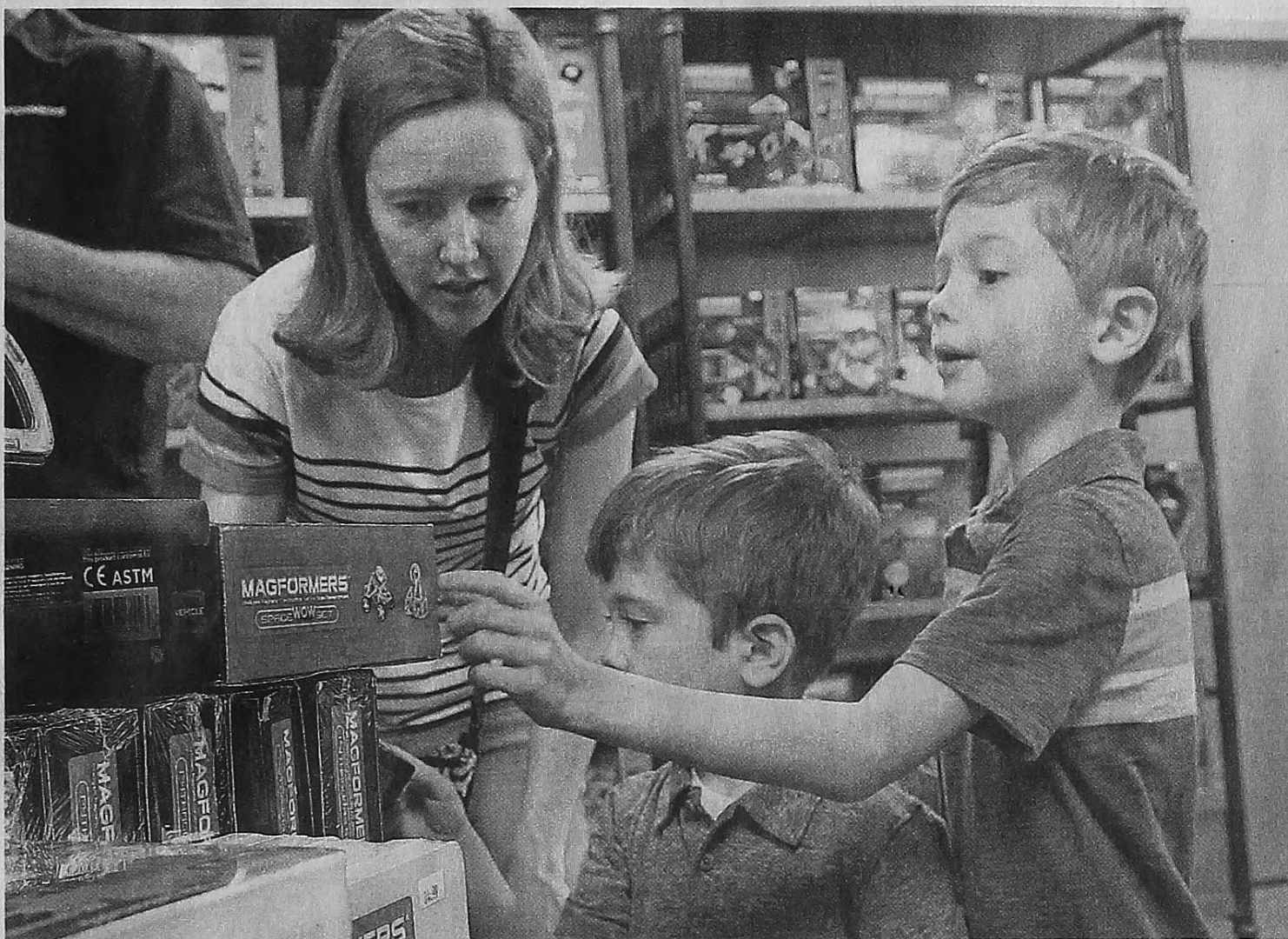
Anthony said the decision cost the township an opportunity to get a share of scarce



BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

A township board majority has opted not to move ahead with a project to pave a portion of Ridge Road on Canton's west side.

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Jill Guinn of Canton helps sons Owen, 4, and Ryan, 7, pick a Magformers set. With the sets, kids and adults can create anything they can imagine.

NEW TOY SHOP A KID MAGNET

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

Children swarmed North America's first Magformers store in Canton, drawn like magnets to a robot mascot and thrilled by magnetic toy pieces they assembled into buildings, animals, balls and cars.

Daniel Etzel, 12, smiled as he stacked colorful magnetic construction pieces to create a tower that stood about 2 feet tall.

"This is awesome," he said. "I like it because you can build whatever you want."

Daniel came from Romulus with sister Cassidy, 9, and grandmother Rhonda Carlington, who had her own reasons to like the Magformers magnetic toy store.

"It gets the kids off their electronics," she said. "It keeps their brain working and it's

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Cassidy Etzel, 9 years old, shows her Magformers creation.

Left-leaning group holds health care town hall in Plymouth

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee believes, as his Democratic colleagues do, that the current pending legislation that would overhaul the United States' health care industry isn't what's needed to improve the health care landscape.

Seeing more than 20 million people without coverage, as the Congressional Budget Office has suggested would happen under the new bills, isn't the way to move forward with any new laws that would alter the Affordable Care Act.

"The problem we have, of course, is this 'Trumpcare,' which is what it is, takes us in the wrong direction," Kildee said. "We have to use the knowledge that we have and the expertise that's out there to point out some of our friends and colleagues ... that this thing is a big step in the wrong direction."

Kildee, D-Flint Township and who represents Michigan's 5th Congressional District, was one of several speakers during a town hall meeting on health care Sunday morning at the Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge #325. The town hall, put on by the left-leaning Indivisible 11, also featured Michigan State House of Representatives Democratic Floor Leader Rep. Christine Greig, D-Farmington Hills, and Charles Gaba, a Democrat who runs the website ACASignups.net.

The town hall, which saw more than 100 people attend, was one of several planned for

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HEALTH

Continued from Page A1

the region, with another taking place Sunday night near Lake Orion. It mostly focused on questions from the audience surrounding the pending health care legislation, which does not appear will see a vote in the U.S. Senate until at least next week, and several Repub-

lican senators have spoken out with concerns regarding the bill.

The Senate health care bill, while changing, would eliminate the individual mandate for possessing insurance, as well as eventually lead to cuts to programs such as Medicaid.

The meeting took place within the 11th Congressional District, which is represented by Dave Trott, R-Birming-

ham and is made up of communities in western Wayne and Oakland counties.

Trott was not in attendance at the town hall Sunday morning. His spokeswoman, Katie Vincentz, said the Congressman, who voted for the House of Representatives' version of the bill, is staying focused on solutions.

"Rep. Trott is focused on doing his job - fighting for the hardworking people of Michigan," she said. "While some seek to play partisan politics, Rep. Trott has and will continue to work towards real solutions for Michigan families."

Could affect the state

Greig said the actions in Washington, D.C., will also see an impact in Lansing, as Michigan. The state put a patients bill of rights together after the ACA, also



TOM BEAUDOIN
The town hall meeting in Plymouth on the future of health care brought out a large group of concerned citizens Sunday morning.

known as "Obamacare," went into effect.

With a repeal of that law, Greig said that patients bill of rights could also be in jeopardy.

"Legislatively, when we did that, we actually put the provisions of the Affordable Care Act in law in Michigan," she said. "So when we talk about the potential of turning back the clock at the federal level, there is

also a lot of work that would need to be done at the state level. This is not just a federal issue."

Jerry Oljace, a board member of the Northville Democratic Club, said he thinks the current discussion surrounding health care is "horrible." His biggest question was why legislators would consider a bill that has seen such low public support.

"They shouldn't be shocked if Senate Republicans come through in the dark of night and pass this bill," he said. "I don't understand the calculations for them to vote for a bill that's so unpopular ... with their constituents."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com | 734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

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Newsroom Contacts

Dan Dean, Managing Editor
Mobile: 248-396-0706; Email: ddean@hometownlife.com

Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach
Mobile: 586-262-9892; Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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MAGNETS

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fun."

By using magnetic pieces of different shapes, sizes and colors, Carlington said Magformers toy sets just might inspire children to pursue professions such as engineering and robotics.

The store drew a steady stream of customers Thursday as it celebrated its grand opening at 44125 Ford Road, east of Sheldon. Toys moved quickly off shelves.

Magformers toy sets can be bought at other retail stores, but company CEO Christopher Tidwell said the Canton location is one of only five stores worldwide dedicated solely to Magformers toys. Others are in Australia, the United Kingdom, China and South Korea.

Moreover, the Canton store houses the company's North American headquarters.

Kerri Held came from Milan with children Clayton, 12, Madilyn, 10, and Avery, 8, who already had some Magformers toys at home.

"They're cool," Avery said.

Children — and the young at heart — can build castles, houses, dinosaurs, robots, sea creatures or pretty much whatever they can imagine. They can buy a variety of box sets, each with booklets that offer suggestions.

They can use a remote to drive a Magformers vehicle and incorporate light and sound into their creations.

Freddie Jordan, marketing manager and Canton resident, said Magformers last year was a finalist for Toy of the Year during a competi-

tion in New York City hosted by the Toy Industry Association. He said there are 170 different toy sets that can be found in 61 countries.

"It's so popular because of the unique construction pieces," Jordan said. "You can build pretty much anything you can imagine."

During the grand opening, some children participated in toy-building competitions, while others looked in awe at a Magformers robot mascot.

Toy sets have themes ranging from ocean life to dinosaurs. Tidwell said the number of pieces in a set can range from 14 to 400.

Tidwell, a Canton resident, said the company chose to locate in Canton after looking for potential sites across metro Detroit. He said Canton had the population base, educational

level and Ford Road retail corridor that made it a good fit.

Magformers is more than a toy store, Tidwell said.

"It's really a lab," he said. "It's a teaching tool."

Magformers started in 2005, but has increased in popularity in recent years. Tidwell said the toys dovetail with lessons in science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM.

"If we can help to inspire a child in elementary school to love mathematics and science," he said.

"I think we have done a good thing for the metro area."

For more on the company, go to www.magformers.com.

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PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE REPORTS

Crash into tree

A 23-year-old man allegedly driving drunk lost control of a 1999 Ford Taurus and crashed into a tree on Halyard, east of Ridge, a police report said.

He was not seriously injured.

Police went to the scene about 10:50 p.m. Sunday after witnesses first reported seeing a man lying in the road, before he got up and started peering into parked vehicles in a nearby mobile home park.

Police quickly learned the Plymouth man had crashed a 1999 Ford Taurus into a tree. He told police he had been drinking at a friend's house in Dearborn Heights and didn't notice the curve on Halyard as he was driving home, the report said.

He became confrontational when police asked him to submit to sobriety tests. He was taken into custody and ticketed for operating while impaired.

Domestic fight

Police found a couple "covered in blood" but alert after responding to a domestic dispute about 3:50 a.m. July 11, a report said.

A 20-year-old man told police his girlfriend, also

20, cut his wrist with a folding box cutter after they got into an argument that escalated.

Police found the man on the front lawn holding a cloth to his left forearm.

Police went inside the home and found a blood-stained bed. The box cutter was found nearby on the floor.

The woman denied she cut him. The man told police he didn't want to press charges and refused to provide a statement. Police nonetheless took the woman into custody for domestic violence. The report didn't indicate what started the argument.

Narrow miss

A drunken motorist narrowly averted being hit by oncoming traffic after he tried to flee the scene of a traffic stop on Interstate 275, just south of M-14, a report said.

Plymouth Township police stopped the 45-year-old Belleville man after noticing he was driving erratically in a black Volkswagen Jetta at about 3 a.m. July 8.

Police handcuffed the driver after he apparently conceded he had been drinking at a friend's house in Redford, but he suddenly tried to run away and crossed the southbound

lanes of I-275, causing one motorist to brake to avoid hitting him, the report said.

The man tripped and fell before he could reach the northbound lanes, allowing police to catch up with him and take him into custody. Police had fired a Tager gun at the man, but it only snagged his pants.

At one point, the man told police he was trying to get hit by a car.

Bye-bye solicitors

Police ordered two solicitors to leave the Carriage House apartment complex, on Haggerty north of Joy, after they tried to get work for a company that produces insulation and roofing, a report said.

They didn't leave peacefully, however, with one of the men hurling an insult at an apartment employee about her weight.

The incident unfolded about 5:20 p.m. July 10. The men already had been to some nearby condominiums before they went to Carriage House, where they had been told by management to stay away.

The report indicated the men had no permit to solicit in Plymouth Township. It wasn't clear if they were ticketed.

GRAVEL

Continued from Page A1

county road dollars.

"We're going to piss away \$1.5 million and I don't like that," he said. "My concern is, if we give this up, we're never going to get anything from Wayne County again."

The decision came after a crowd of residents pleaded to get the road fixed, though some from other subdivisions said the money could be used in other areas such as Sunflower Village, near Hanford and Canton Center.

Residents cited concerns such as health problems from excessive dust, car-damaging potholes, speeding motorists and dangerous driving conditions as reasons for a two-lane paved road.

Julie Grelak said she suffers from asthma that is worsened because of dust stirred up by numerous vehicles, including big trucks, that use Ridge every day.

Resident Lori Barnett, who has lived in the area for 30 years, said her house is caked in dust.

"This road is the worst it has ever been," she said.

Township administration officials have worked for years with the county to get a fix for Ridge. In a separate project, Singh Developments has agreed to pave a

portion of Ridge north of Ford Road to accommodate a new apartment complex.

In between the two paving projects, there still would be a 900-foot stretch of unpaved road — and some said that could make for an even more dangerous situation for motorists unexpectedly going from a paved road to gravel.

Canton Municipal Services Director Tim Faas said it would cost an additional \$600,000 to pave the 900-foot stretch — money that hadn't been budgeted. It would involve extensive work to a culvert.

Sneideman said he wants Ridge Road paved, partly to take some traffic off Ford Road, but he said the township needs to work on "the whole solution." He also said the Ridge project had a price tag that was twice what he expected.

Some residents complained about speeding along the road, prompting Graham-Hudak to suggest the police department step up efforts to ticket drivers who speed.

Siegrist said Canton, like the entire state, has an infrastructure problem that needs a comprehensive plan.

"I would like to see a vision for this township where we take some ownership of our infrastructure," he said.

Slavens agreed and said, "We really need to

focus on where we need to spend our dollars."

Slavens said Canton has many roads, already paved, that need serious attention. She suggested forming a local committee of citizens and business leaders to help compile a list of needs.

Faas said a more formal township-wide study of road needs would encompass 500 miles of roads and streets and could cost as much as \$1 million to complete.

Meanwhile, Williams said he already is initiating new talks with the county in hopes of getting signs posted to reduce the speed limit well below 55 mph. He also hopes to convince the county to install four-way stop signs, rather than the current two-way stops, at the intersections of Ridge-Hanford and Ridge-Warren as a safety measure.

Resident Richard Felcher said he believes the township board failed residents who finally had a solution to fix the road after starting a grassroots movement years ago. He and others fear it could be years now before any work is done.

"I was extremely disappointed," he said, adding that the board let residents down. "They're supposed to represent us."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teen story can inspire

I am the director of a pro-life organization, Citizens for a Pro-life Society headquartered in South Lyon. Founded in 1985 we have helped hundreds of women who, had it not been for our intervention, would have aborted their unborn children.

I read with great interest the story of Kennedy Griest, who when she was a mere 13 years old, became pregnant and in the most adverse of circumstances opted to give life to her baby. She is a person of enormous courage and moral character and your paper's article about her will undoubtedly give great encouragement to other women who may be facing a difficult pregnancy.

I also found the article ironic for me. In the last 2 months I have been helping a young woman who was seeking an abortion. Our group spent thousands of dollars to help this homeless woman get on her feet. Sadly, even with all of our help, two days before I saw the article about Kennedy, we learned the woman we were helping had the abortion anyway.

In my vast experience I have come to know that it is not the financial support that ultimately saves babies from abortion. What saves the baby is the moral conviction of the mother's heart to embrace the life of the developing child and honor the life of the baby. That is the key to everything, and Kennedy had that mother's heart.

The article spent a lot of time discussing teen

pregnancy. Nearly all the women we help conceived out-of-wedlock, and the fathers are absent. Our culture needs a moral shift. We need to regain the idea that sexual activity, that is the total giving of one's body to another, is tied to the total giving of the heart. Sexual activity is marital activity that provides the secure familial bonds of responsibility for the begetting and raising of children. Only this ethic protects the true sexual dignity of men and women.

God bless Kennedy Griest. She is an inspiration and she made a decision she will never regret. Your headline read: "mom aims to beat the odds." She already has.

Monica Migliorino Miller
South Lyon

More on climate issues

Last week Randy Kniebes wrote about the Paris Climate Agreement and climate change. His letter is pretty much taken word for word from a Donald Trump speech. I believe readers deserve to know the truth.

First understand the PCA is pretty much toothless. It's not etched in stone and is non-binding, but not meaningless. We have to start somewhere to address climate change. The targets and goals set by us are voluntary and can be changed any time it suits us as finances and technologies grow or shrink. We don't have to give one penny to poor nations if we don't want. Quitting takes us out of a prime leadership role, opening the door for someone like China to lead.

He says China can't be trusted to do the right

thing and just won't. But actions speak louder than word China took a huge financial hit by stopping construction of 103 coal-fired power plants and have been reducing coal usage every year since 2012 and are a decade ahead of schedule in reducing their carbon emissions goals.

He says the polar ice cap isn't melting but growing. That's opposite of what NOAA and NASA say. Forget about that 100 trillion ton, Delaware-sized ice shelf that just broke off. He says global temps aren't rising and violent hurricanes are pretty much nonexistent in the last dozen years. but according to NOAA and NASA, 16 of the last 17 years have been the warmest in recorded history with 2016 being the warmest and 15 of the top 30 costliest and most destructive hurricanes occurred in the last 20 years.

As for that NERA study, it was paid for by the coal, gas, oil and petrochemical industries. NERA has made quite a name in extreme right wing circles penning favorable studies for some of America's biggest polluters. Politifact.org and scores of real scientists say the study is seriously flawed because they use the most extreme worse case scenarios that'll never play out in real life; biased, misleading, hugely exaggerated is how they described it.

Remember when big tobacco paid for a medical study that said smoking wasn't harmful? The NERA study is like that. Don't take my word for it. Please research this info for yourselves. The right wing disinformation machine is in full swing. We need

an educated and informed citizenry.

Mitch Dubanik
Livonia

Wrong health care debate

"Obamacare" supporters bray from their self-imposed pens without offering any real world fixes for skyrocketing premiums; deductibles (uninsurance barriers to seeking care); physicians opting not to play for puny pay; insurers running from losses.

Insurance is not now and never was the issue. Providing accessible, quality health care at a reasonable cost is.

According to a 1997 World Health Organization study, the U.S. ranks 15th in reaching overall health goals and first in health spending per person. Combining these in WHO's fuzzy methodology, it knocks the U.S. health efficiency rank down to 37th out of 191 countries. With a leap of imagination, some hope that this WHO rank supports universal health care... a leap too far.

Silence from the halls of Congress may result in a single payer health care system as exemplified by the VA health care system. We're from the government and we're here to create waiting lists, skip on new technology and discourage drug innovation. Forget about those 90-day to 6-month waits by Canadians to see a breast cancer specialist. Try not to think about where you will get a high-tech diagnosis and treatment when U.S. equipment becomes outmoded.

Participate in this debate or give up the podium.

Bill Lubaway
Farmington

Appointments appear to be cronyism

Novi Mayor Bob Gatt appears more interested in filling commission seats with his buddies than in finding people willing to do the work. Gatt and his supporters reappointed two people to the Parks and Recreation Commission who have poor attendance records at the meetings since 2014.

According to the City's own documents, one member attended only 19 of 37 meetings: just over 50%. The other attended only 24 of 37 meetings: just 65%. The person Gatt reappointed to the Planning Commission, meanwhile, has only attended 22 of 53 meetings, or 41%, since 2014.

The planning commission is where many of the most important development issues in Novi are addressed. One would hope that only serious candidates committed to performing the roles of the position would be considered, but that does not seem to be the case.

If appointees aren't willing to show up, city council should give their seats to other residents who will. There were nine other people who applied, and they had credentials equivalent to the appointed candidates. This is cronyism at its finest. Also, why is there only one woman on Parks and Rec, and none on the Planning Commission? Is it too much to ask that our city government reflect a diversity of perspectives, interests, and backgrounds in 2017?

Julie Argonis
Novi

Township road crack sealing program to begin

Plymouth Township's 2017 Road Crack Sealing Program begins this summer. Crack sealing is a common and effective preventive maintenance measure to preserve and protect both concrete and asphalt roadways. The work is funded under Wayne County's Local Roads Partnering Initiative Program.

Short traffic stoppages, but no road closures, are anticipated during the project. The work caravan will be a compact, constantly moving operation that should have minimal impact on traffic flow. The township asks that residents refrain from parking vehicles in the street until crack sealing operations have been completed in their area.

Rubbish/recycling pick up and mail deliveries will not be affected by this work.

Work will occur from 7 a.m. to no later than 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The township's engineering consultant, Wade Trim, will manage the project. Residents with questions or issues may contact Wade Trim's field representative Dan Brooks at 734-947-9700 or the township's Division of Public Services at 734-354-3270, ext. 5.

A map highlighting the roads subject to this work is available on the township's website at www.plymouthtwp.org/Notices/PublicNotices/2017RoadCrackSealingMap.pdf or township hall.

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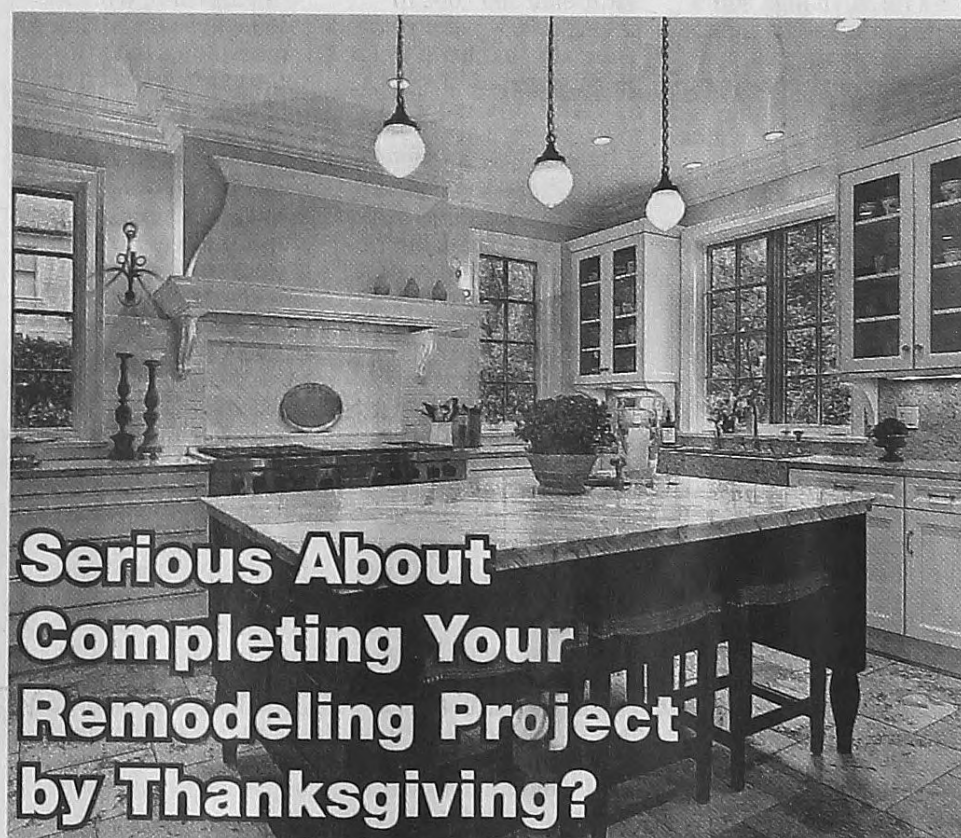
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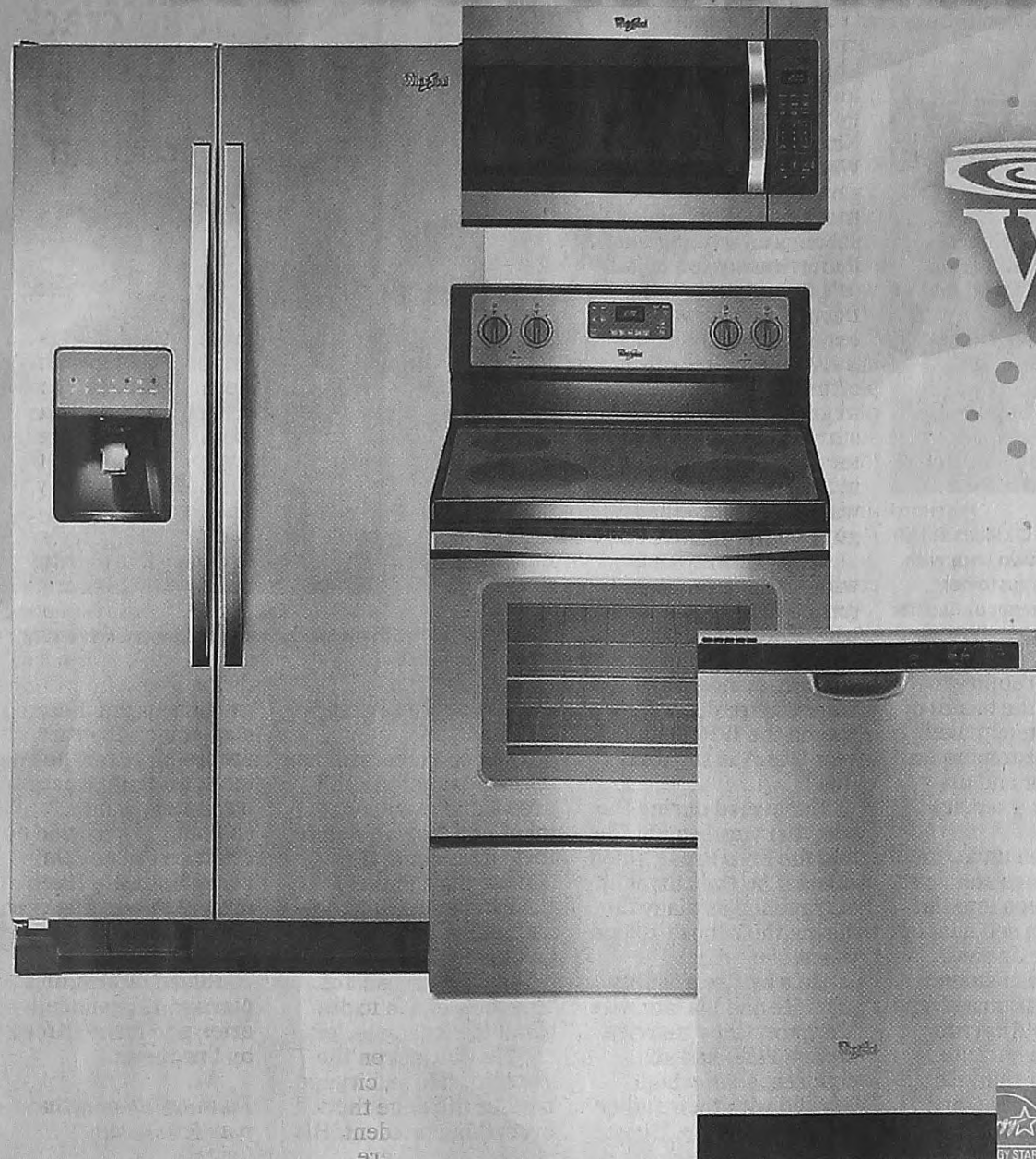
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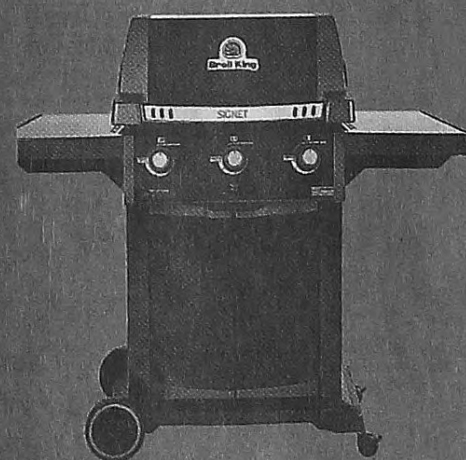


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Pobur 'one of greatest human beings of all time'

Brad Kadrich
hometownlife.com

With a gregarious nature and a grab-life-by-the-throat attitude, Ed Pobur seemed too big to be contained in one simple name.

"Dad" didn't really fit for his kids. "Ed" didn't seem enough for his friends and family.

That's why Pobur was "Big Ed" to nearly everyone who knew and loved him.

"That was one of the greatest human beings of all time," said his daughter, Colleen Pobur, a Plymouth city commissioner. "This guy was an original issue. He had this gigantic personality. He was big and he was hilarious."

That's how Pobur was being remembered this week, after losing a seven-month battle against cancer. Pobur, 84 and a Livonia resident, died July 5.

Pobur spent the majority of his adult life selling cars — Cadillacs, to be exact — working for Massey Cadillac for a long time, then finishing his career at Cadillac of Novi, where his son, Ed Pobur Jr., is general manager.

And he wasn't just average: Pobur was the consummate salesman, having sold more than 12,000 Cadillacs in a prodigious career that started more than 50 years ago.

One of Cadillac's top salesmen for years, Pobur's sales output was more than some dealerships sell in a year. Earlier this year, he told the Detroit Free Press he had no intention of retiring.

"What else would I do?" Pobur asked rhetorically.

How good was he? The company honored him with a trophy as the "GOAT" (Greatest of All Time) displayed next to his casket at the funeral and, upon hearing of his death, lowered the flag over their New York building to half-staff.

To his daughter, Big Ed's passing has been more a celebration of his life than a reason to grieve.

"I've really only cried two times ... when the trophy came and when they lowered that flag," Colleen Pobur said. "That was pride. It wasn't pain."

The secret to his dad's success, Ed Pobur Jr.



FILE PHOTO
Ed Pobur sold Cadillacs for 50 years. He's shown here with Elise Muntian, customer advocacy manager at Cadillac of Novi.

said, was his ability to understand the basics of the sale: Listen, make sure your customers are taken care of and understand it's a service business.

"When you understand all those things and you don't bring ego into the deal, you can sell a lot of cars," Pobur Jr. said. "Always, the customer came first. Almost all the people he sold cars to, those people became friends after that. He was an honorable guy." His salesman days

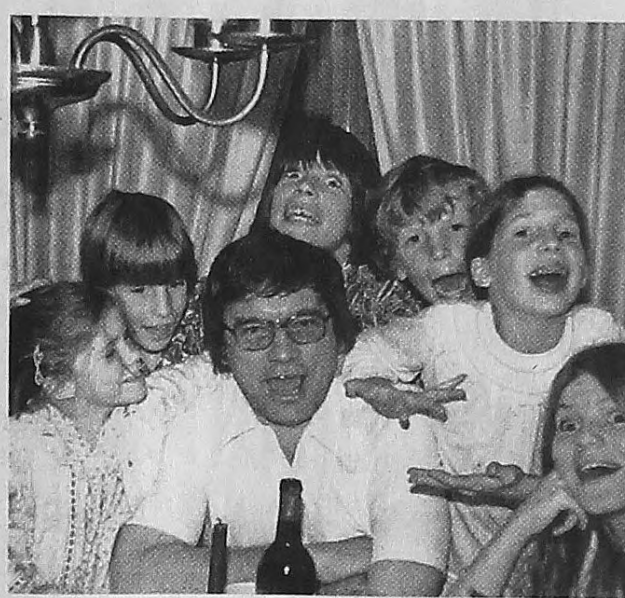
aren't the only interesting aspect to his life. Pobur served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, but his entry into service wasn't exactly traditional. Nabbed for robbery as a young man, Pobur was tossed in jail (it's important to note Pobur's record was later expunged).

When a police officer offered him the chance to join the navy in lieu of staying in jail, his daughter said, Pobur jumped at it. Shortly after that, he was one of more than 50 guys on a minesweeper.

When he was done with his service, he returned to Michigan, where he played football for Duffy Daugherty while attending Michigan State University. Pobur was on the 1956 team that beat UCLA in the Rose Bowl.

"I traveled during the war, that was enough," he told the Free Press, when asked if he ever thought of traveling as many do during their those golden years.

He was also a family man. He and his late wife Margaret (they married in May 1958) had six children, all of whom worked with their father at the dealership. He was



POBUR FAMILY PHOTO
"Big Ed" Pobur with his six children on Christmas Eve 1972.

also "Papa" to 12 grandchildren.

Colleen Pobur said her parents taught the children to "give and not take" and they've spent their lives doing that. Among the children, Colleen pointed out, are athletic, academic and community service successes that are part of "the piles of accolades about the legacy he left."

"He was just so 'big,'" she said. "He had a huge zest for life and grabbed everything he could. His

gregarious, big-hearted, slap-you-on-the-back nature just drew people in. Everything was an adventure to him."

Pobur is survived by children Colleen (Michael Holmes), Hugh (Carin) Pobur, Maureen Rodts, Edward (Kelly), Stephen (Weevis) and Kathleen (Matthew) Garner; 12 grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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Dispensary hopes to pass 'grandma test'

Mark Meisner
Correspondent

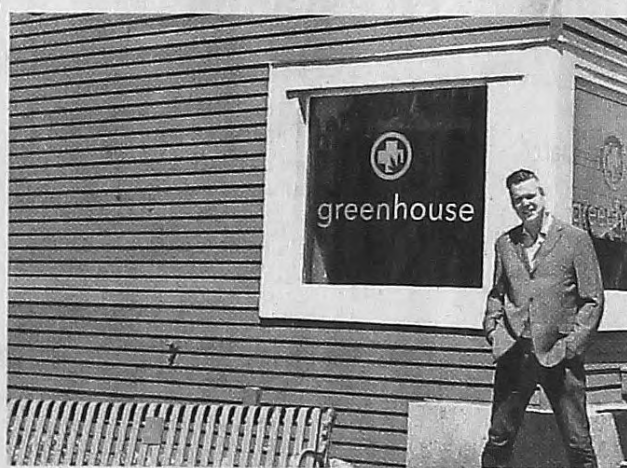
When you think of marijuana dispensaries in the Metro-Detroit area, the thought often turns to bulletproof glass, big bouncers at the door and a lack of the ability to feel comfortable on your way in and out of the facility.

Jerry Millen, owner of the Greenhouse Marijuana Dispensary in Walled Lake, has made it his goal to change that and break the stigma surrounding what is expected from marijuana dispensaries.

Millen has talked about his hopes of creating an environment at his dispensary similar to your good old mom-and-pop corner store.

"I want to ensure that my facility can pass the grandma test," Millen said. "It is incredibly important to me to create an environment where all customers and all passers-by feel comfortable in and around my facility."

Located in Walled Lake, the Greenhouse puts a fresh and positive spin on what we have grown to expect from Metro-Detroit Marijuana dispensaries. When asked about the location, Millen said, "The area is safe and secure, and the neighboring businesses and residences are embracing the big green



SUBMITTED
Jerry Millen hopes to open the Greenhouse in Walled Lake in the fall.

house that we have been renovating on the corner of Walled Lake Road and Pontiac Trail."

Millen is a family man, and considers his greatest accomplishment in life to be his role as a father. Millen has three kids, twin girls and son, and enjoys spending as much time with them and his wife as possible.

Outside of his family and personal life, Millen is an internationally acclaimed TV producer and former on-air talent who now wants to make his mark on the marijuana industry.

One of the great benefits of the Greenhouse location, Millen said, is its close proximity to the most recognized and respected medical marijuana certification clinic

cannabis.

"While others are trying to capitalize financially on medical marijuana, our goal is to help people understand the benefits of the plant and its many uses," said Millen. "Education is the most important issue we are facing as people don't know where to go to get the answers or to find out if they could benefit from marijuana. We are going to offer free classes to educate the public on medical marijuana."

A huge point Millen will be making throughout the launch of the Greenhouse is the important use of medical marijuana for children suffering from debilitating diseases. Marijuana is becoming more and more of a better alternative to opioid drug use and Millen wants people to understand how to continue to use marijuana safely with their children.

At each seminar, there will also be a question and answer segment so attendees can ask personally catered questions about marijuana. Millen is now also looking for suggestions on relevant topics and ideas to be tossed around at each seminar.

Send all questions and suggestions to Jerry Millen at medicalgreenhouse@icloud.com. Visit www.greenhouseofwalledlake.com for more.

Bryce



Olive Madeline age 98, a long-term resident of Southfield and Birmingham, died July 12, 2017, at Fox Run Retirement Community in Novi, where she had lived for the past 13 years. Survived by her children, Marlene (Jim) DeRosia, Sharon (Bill) Hahn and Robert Bryce; five grandsons, Tim DeRosia, Greg DeRosia, Dan Hahn, Bill Hahn and Bob Hahn; seven great grandsons and one great granddaughter. Sadly, Olive was preceded in death by her husband, Donald (d. 1983). Visitation Thursday, July 20, 10 am until the 12 noon funeral service, at the Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Road (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Memorial tributes suggested to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Angela Hospice. heeney-sundquist.com

HEENEY-SUNDQUIST FUNERAL HOME

Gall



Robert, July 14, 2017 age 79 of Plymouth. Loving husband of Therese Reed-Gall. Father of Robert W. (Jeanne) Reed, and William D. Reed. Brother of Gary T. (Karen) Gall, Patricia Jane Gall, and the late Carole Louise Gall. Proud grandpa of Caitlin E. Reed, and Tamsen C. Reed. Uncle "Bob" of David Gall, and Michael (Susan) Gall. Also survived by cousins of the Wolosin family. Bob was a 1961 graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelors Degree in Metallurgical Engineering. He then worked in steel mills in New York and Ohio. He retired from Ford Motor Company after 20 years of service. The family will gather with friends Saturday, August 12th from 10 AM until the Saturday 11 AM Memorial Service at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Memorials may be made to the Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

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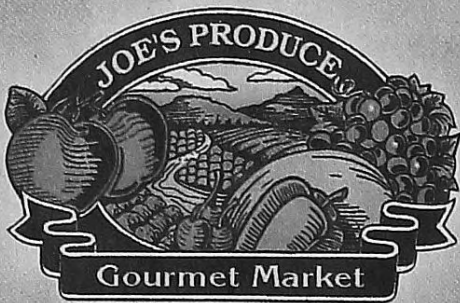
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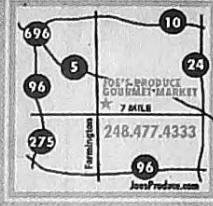
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COLLEGE TRACK

Track star Williams warms up to Mississippi Valley State

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

A'Jani Williams is not a fan of cold-weather running. The 18-year-old track standout won't have to worry any more about racing in chilly, blustery, snowy or rainy conditions, which can often curse the beginning of Michigan's high school track season.

Williams' next school practice will be down south in Mississippi's far warmer climate.

The 2017 North Farmington graduate recently signed a national letter of intent to run track and continue her academic career at Mississippi Valley State University. She's looking forward to running for the Develiettes who compete in the 10-team Southwestern Athletic Conference.

"I've always wanted to run down south," said Williams,

"I ran track in middle school and it was like a test for me to see if I actually wanted to go for it. I didn't know how serious it would be for me until I got to high school."

A'JANI 'A.J.' WILLIAMS

North Farmington grad head to run track at Mississippi Valley State University

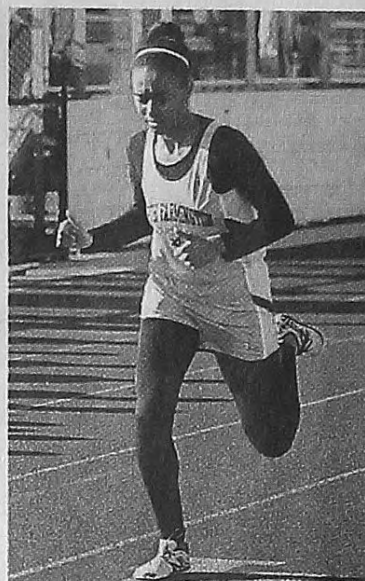
better known as A.J. "It's always hot down there and I don't have to worry about like having to go inside because it's too cold and there's snow on the ground. I like running in the heat.

"I'm really excited to get going down there. It's going to be something new for me because it's down south. I've been down south, but never to Mississippi. I know it's hot down there."

Just 'the right school'

While she had considered Indiana Tech, Mississippi Valley State's track and medical programs — she plans to get into dentistry — are what ultimately attracted her to the school, which is part of the historically black university group with such institutions as Grambling and Jackson State

See WILLIAMS, Page B2



FILE PHOTO

North Farmington graduate A'Jani Williams will take her sprinting talents to Mississippi Valley State University.



Czerniak

Lacrosse Classic

Several area athletes were set to participate at the National Lacrosse Academy and National Lacrosse Classic which concludes this week in Virginia.

Among participants to represent the state of Michigan were Elizabeth Czerniak, a seventh-grader at Meads Mill Middle School in Northville; Rachel Costello, a ninth-grader at Plymouth Christian Academy; Zoe Weber, a ninth-grader at Plymouth High School; and Mallory Brophy, from Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood.

Czerniak, whose parents are Jeff Czerniak and Heidi Zimmer, said her success came from performing on several different teams and organizations, including Northville Parks and Recreation, Triumph Lacrosse and Dwayne Hicks/Total Sports.

The National Lacrosse Academy is a first-of-its-kind lacrosse experience created to provide a curriculum focused on how athletes should develop in order to compete at the high school or collegiate level.

St. Edith CYO

St. Edith Athletics CYO fall sports programs are accepting registrations for girls and boys entering grades 4-8 and are members of the following Catholic parishes: St. Edith, St. Colette, St. Kenneth and St. Aidan.

The season begins in September and continues until mid-October, with offerings including boys soccer, girls soccer, girls volleyball, boys football and girls cheerleading.

To register, go to stedithcyo.com, click on the home tab and then the sports registration link and follow the prompts.

Soccer practices and games will be at Ladywood High School; volleyball practices and games and cheerleading practices will be at St. Edith School; football practices will be at Riley School.

There also will be a Little Eagles freshman soccer program for boys and girls entering grades K-3 this fall. It will be a six-week program beginning Saturday, Sept. 9.

For more information, contact Rich Field at 248-914-8620 or email stedithsoccer@gmail.com.

75-AND-OVER SOFTBALL LEAGUE THRIVES

Livonia seniors still diamond gems

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

You may be floored by what you might see every Monday morning during the summer months at Livonia's Bicentennial Park.

Didn't that infielder just make a back-handed stop in the hole on a short hop and gun down the runner at first? Or did I just see another guy crush a ball over the outfielder's head and watch it bounce once on one hop against the fence?

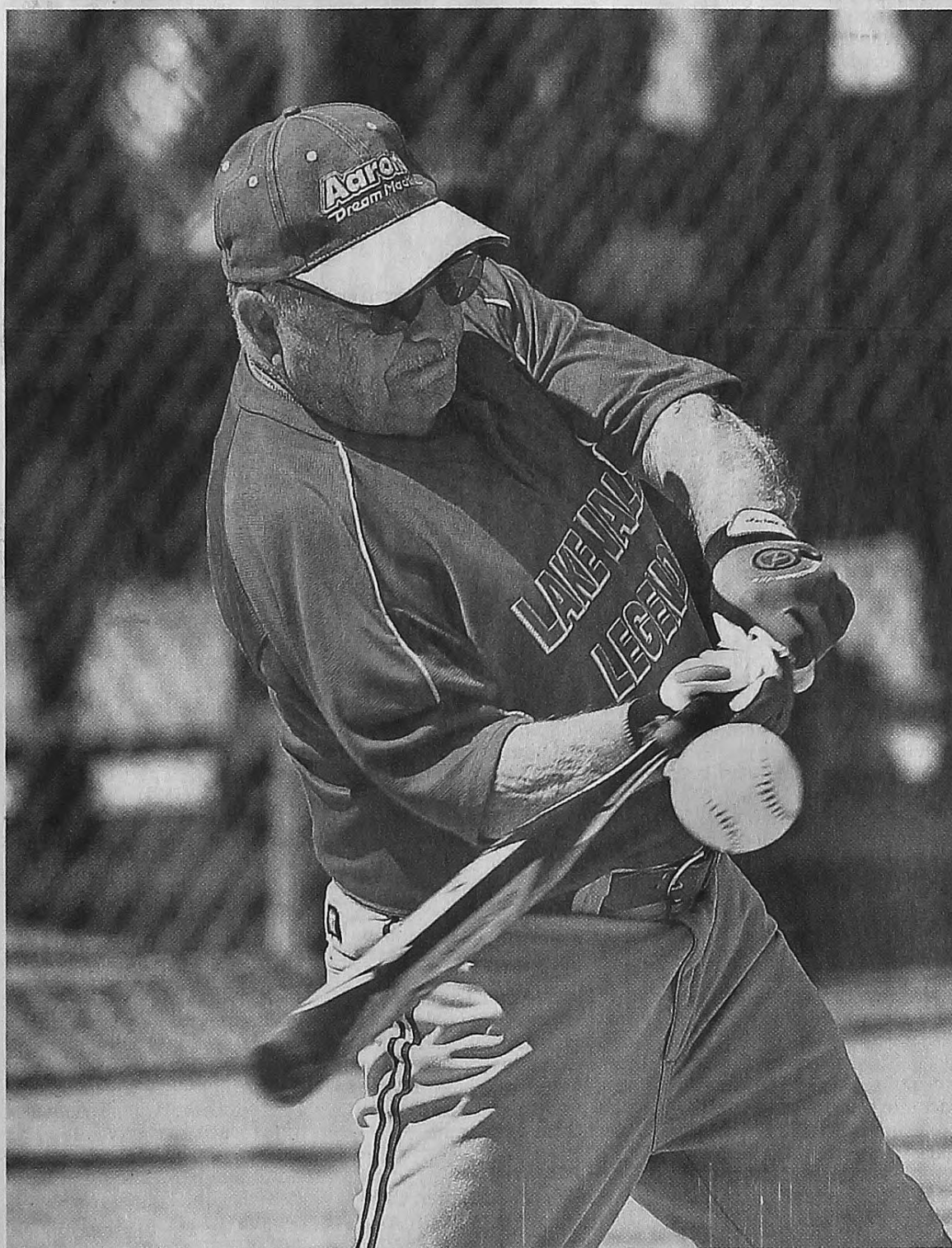
Perhaps they need to double-check a few birth certificates in the newly formed Livonia 75-and-over Senior Softball League.

"I would have liked to have seen some of these guys when they playing ball as 19-year-olds, it's amazing," said Don LeMay, a 75-and-over league member who graduated from Livonia Bentley High School in 1951. "And there's a lot guys here who had never played ball and playing with the seniors. And seeing the progress in them, too, is pretty amazing."

The 84-year-old LeMay, who also plays senior softball during the winter months in Winter Haven, Fla., does take advantage of some of the special senior softball special rules, but on this day he kept his designated courtesy runner busy on the base paths with three hits.

"We're still kids for wanting to play ball," LeMay said. "It's just a lot of fun and everybody has a good time. There's no arguing. Every once in awhile you get a little dispute. Nobody really cares who won and who lost when we go home. And we're doing what we've been doing for our whole lives ... playing ball."

The 75-and-over circuit



JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

See LEAGUE, Page B2 Pete Greenfield, 81, makes contact with a ball during the July 17 senior softball at Livonia's Bicentennial Field.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Push intensifies to launch Livonia girls team

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

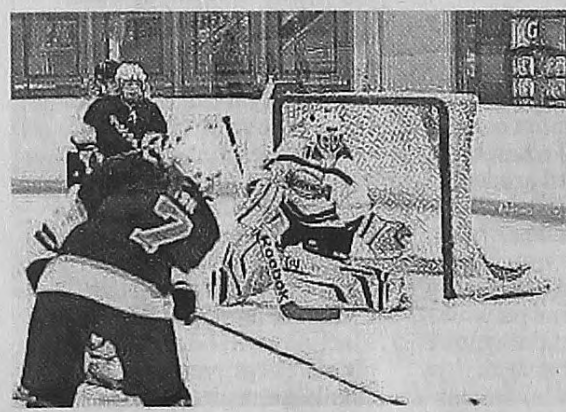
Have ice, Livonia United will travel if that's what it takes for the fledgling high school girls hockey club team to debut in 2017-18.

Janine Martinez — a staunch supporter of girls hockey, as a player and referee over the years — is ready to coach whoever walks through the locker room door when November rolls around.

But so far, she has just eight players and two goalies who attend Livonia Churchill, Franklin or Stevenson high schools committed to play in what would be the first season for the club team.

It would not be a Livonia Public Schools varsity sport because the Michigan High School Athletic Association does not recognize girls hockey as an official offering.

See HOCKEY, Page B2



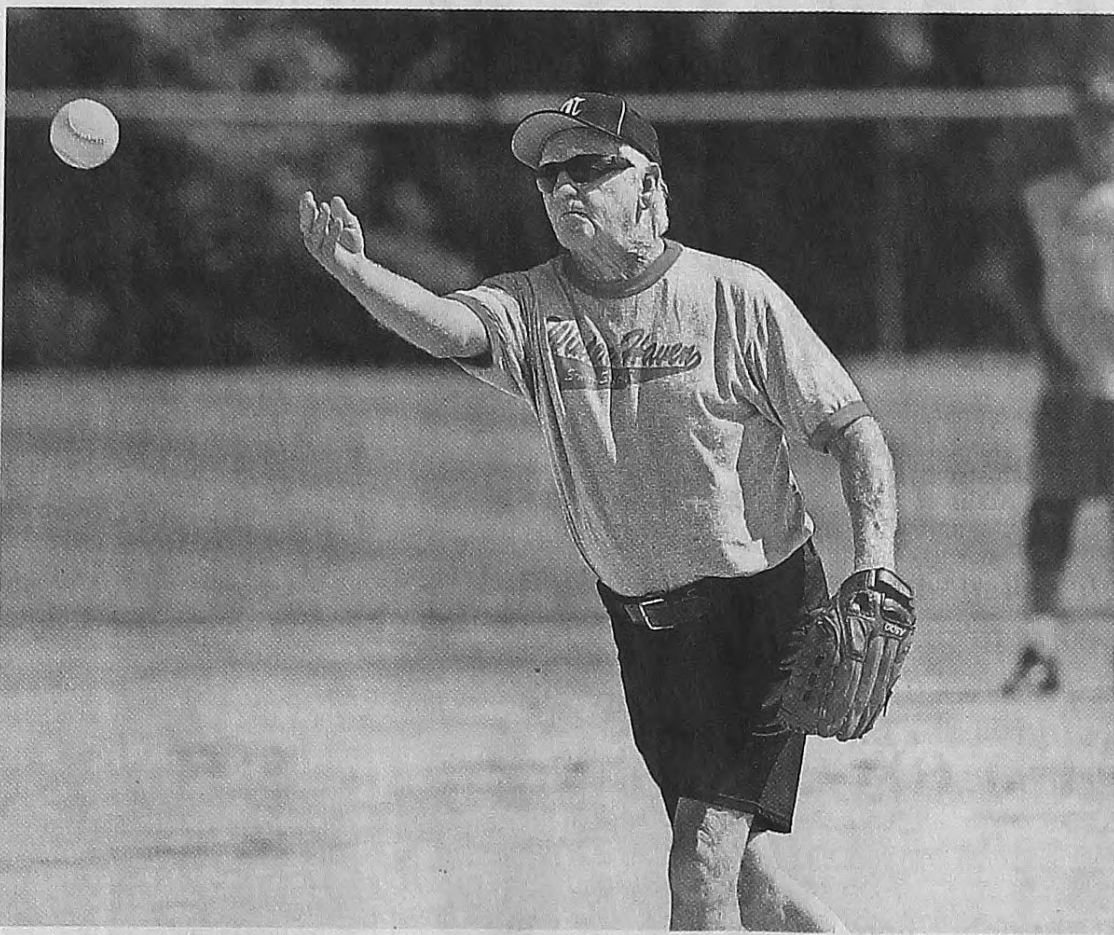
SUBMITTED
Goalie Maddie Marciw, shown making a save for the Suburban Icebreakers girls hockey team in this undated photo, is one of the players committed to the new Livonia United high school squad.

Mercy needs coaches

Farmington Hills Mercy is searching for varsity and junior varsity field hockey coaches for the fall 2017 season.

Previous field hockey coaching experience is preferred. The field hockey season runs from August through November.

All interested parties should email a letter and resume to Mercy Athletic Director Nancy Malinowski at Mercy is an all-girls Catholic high school and a member of the Detroit Catholic High School League.



Ed Kidell pitches for Winter Haven during the July 17 senior slow-pitch softball league at Livonia's Bicentennial Field. JOHN HEIDER

SOFTBALL

Continued from Page B1

fields four teams and has — give-or-take — 60 able bodied players.

"With the 70 league the guys were getting older and starting to get marginalized," said league organizer Jim Andres, a Saginaw native who was the chief accountant for the City of Livonia for 24 years. "There had been talk for a few years about having something for the older guys."

Former New York Met Al Moran called Andres in the fall and said, "Why don't we do something?" Because he knew I had some administrative skills," Andres said. "So the rest is history. A lot of phone calls through the winter, talking to people about what they want. Talking to guys in Florida about how they put it together for the older guys there — and here we are."

The teams wear four sets of different colored jerseys — blue, red, white and green — donated by the Lake Wales Legends in Winter Haven.

Games are generally nine innings, but can be negotiated down to seven "on hot days," Andres said.

The 75-and-over Livonia senior circuit follows the special safety rules that are used in Florida senior softball leagues.

The pitchers must wear either shin guards or throw behind a portable screen. The batting team designates a player to call balls and strikes. The plate is a 3-by-2 piece of white plywood. If the ball hits it without contact, it's a strike.

Bats must be league approved.

Each team has five designated infielders, who must field behind hash marks. The four outfielders have to play

behind designated orange cones. (There are no force outs at second or third base.)

And to avoid collisions at the bags and at home plate, a separate running base is set up outside the regular bases. Batters can also ask for designated runners. Each team is also limited to five runs scored per inning.

"The guys can throw, can hit, but not much on the running," Andres said.

Catcher Lennie Zundel, the oldest player in the league at 85, uses a designated runner. The retired teamster truck driver for 32 years drives all the way in from Chesterfield Township each Monday morning.

Zundel began playing hardball at age 11 at Detroit Northwestern High School field. He pitched in the 16-and-over, and then played in the Class B Federation League where he was a catcher. He crossed paths with former Pittsburgh Pirate center fielder Bill Virdon and had chance to sign a minor league contract.

"I didn't go because I was married and had a kid, and she (Zundel's wife) didn't like baseball," Zundel said. "But it was a dream come true."

After his hardball days, Zundel began playing slow-pitch at age 57 and has stuck with it ever since. (He also was a Hall of Fame bowler with a 300 game to his credit.)

So what keeps him going at age 85?

"The guys," Zundel said. "We joke around and and everything like that. We talk about what we did in the past, tournaments and all that stuff. It gets me going at my age because when I get out of bed think, 'Where am I going?'"

One of the 75-and-over league's most agile and athletic players is 82-year-old Lorenzo Crosby, who worked production line for nine years and

quality control for another 22 years at Chrysler.

"I retired from Chrysler in 1994 and started playing in 1995," said Crosby, who plays outfield and pitches. "I played when I was a kid. I started playing baseball when I was about 12 years-old and then after I retired I got into softball."

Crosby, who plays with a senior team out of Redford, has competed the 14 years in the Senior Olympic Games in St. George, Utah where he has "three bronze, couple of silver and a couple of gold" medal to his credit.

"It's a fun group," said Crosby, who is a minister and church organist each Sunday at Trinity Community Presbyterian in Detroit. "And they like to win and so do I. So we have a lot of fun, and that's the main point. This keeps me going and I like to keep going. I've always been an active person."

And although they may be ageless wonders, the Livonia 75-and-over league loses a player from time-to-time because of a knee, shoulder, hip replacement or arthritis.

"That's the fun part," LeMay said of the aches and pains. "A nap is necessary after the game. It's just a lot of fun. We used to go to the bar and drink beer after, but now we go the restaurant and have a cup coffee and a doughnut."

The Livonia 75-and-over senior softball league, which does have provisions for a couple of 74-year-olds, plays a 16-game schedule.

And the quality of play seems to get better and stronger each week.

"They've got a handle on it," Andres said. "When you play ball for 50 years, you learn a few things."

WILLIAMS

Continued from Page B1

universities.

Mississippi Valley State University's second-year head coach Fermon Tate Jr. has Michigan coaching ties.

In 2002, he led Detroit Benedictine to the Division 4 state championship and also coached Detroit Country Day graduate and current professional runner Kendall Baisden. In addition, Tate's son Fermon was a championship middle distance runner at Farmington Harrison and then at Central Michigan University where he still holds the school's 500-meter run indoor record.

"(Mississippi Valley State) reached out to me and I looked up the school and they have a lot of really good programs I was reaching for in the career I'm trying to go for," Williams said. "Plus, they have a really good track team as well. I feel like it was just the right school to go to. It wasn't too big and it wasn't too small."

Williams ran track in middle school, but did not seriously start training until her freshman year of high school. Her competitive juices started to take over once she got to North Farmington, improving to the point where she earned a college scholarship.

"I ran track in middle school and it was like a test for me to see if I actually wanted to go for it," Williams said. "I didn't know how serious it would be for me until I got to high school. I was always a competitive person, but I never found the sport I wanted to be competitive in."

"I would get first and second places and I found out I was actually good at it. I took the gift that God gave me and put in the work to become really good."

Outstanding work ethic

Bill Pinnell, North Farmington's girls track head coach, believes Williams can make an impact at Mississippi Valley State.

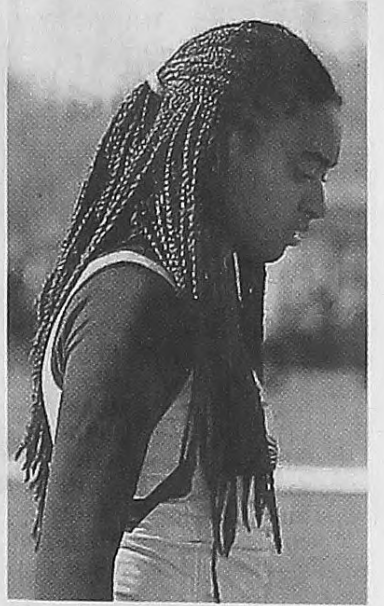
"Through her career at North she has been a hard worker and has been very dedicated to her track and field training," Pinnell said. "She has basically been a workhorse for us. She has improved and been a consistent performer for us all four years."

"With her work ethic and everything, I think she will have a very successful college career down there," he said. Williams' work ethic paid off in championship fashion.

A sprinter, Williams specialized in the 200- and 400-meter open events, plus the 4X200- and 4X400-meter relay teams at North Farmington.

At this year's state meet, she led-off the 4X200 relay which finished fifth and registered all four of the team's points. The Raiders placed seventh in that event at last year's state meet.

In the 400-meter race, Williams was third at the regional and won the OAA Blue Division championship the past two seasons. In the 200-meter, she



FILE PHOTO

A'jani 'AJ' Williams improved throughout her four-year varsity track career at North Farmington and will now showcase her talents at the college level.

captured the OAA Blue title this past spring after placing third in that event as a junior.

Relay record holder

Williams finished no lower than fourth in each of those individual races as a sophomore at the regional and division championship meets. She leaves North Farmington with a school record as a member of the 4X200-meter relay.

"In my freshman year I wasn't all that fast. In my eyes I was basically slow my freshman year, but I was still placing," said Williams, who ran cross country at North Farmington as a sophomore and junior. "So, I knew I had to work harder. I literally grew all of my four years of high school."

"I started off around 30 seconds in the 200 and 65 seconds in the 400. When I was a junior and senior I was down to 25 seconds in the 200 and under a minute in the 400. It was about the training — self-training and self-motivation."

"I was always trying to do something to perfect my times," she said. "It felt good to improve as much as I did over my career at North Farmington. You know, practice makes perfect."

Williams indicated track not only allowed her to develop her athletic acumen, but her social skills as well. She called her time at North Farmington a "life-changing" experience.

"Track helped change my view on other things too," said said. "It taught me about leadership and it taught me of how mental it is. It's all mental to me. I was working on myself a lot, but at the same time track taught me how to be a team player."

"I don't just worry about myself. There's always the next person who might struggle and I would be there to support them. Even when I wasn't running, I would cheer on my teammates or others from different schools. Everyone's in the same shoes; you're not the only one running and the only one going through this."

HOCKEY

Continued from Page B1

That means the families of players would need to foot the bill for ice time and provide their own transportation.

"The biggest thing is just getting the support of the community, the rink," said Martinez, a Livonian. "It's something that's been a long time coming. You've had, probably in the last 12 years, three groups have tried to get a team going for their daughters to play on a Livonia high school hockey team."

"There's always been a roadblock. Finally, I broke down the barrier, and now I just need to continue moving forward."

Quest continues

Martinez is circulating a Livonia United flier as she steps up efforts to find more players — those not already committed to play on a Michigan Amateur Hockey Association team in 2017-18. Dual rostering is not permitted for girls hockey.

"We're trying to get players, we're trying to get support," Martinez said. "I know that

eight players and two goalies have already committed to playing in the fall.

"... It's a work in progress. I've put so much time and effort into this, I don't want it to come up and be like, 'Well, we gave it a good shot, it just wasn't a go' and it falls apart."

In the flier, Martinez (jmartinez1@mi.rr.com; 734-788-8422) said players of all skill levels are welcome to join the team, those who last year skated for Tier 1 or Tier 2 travel or House teams.

One prospective player is her daughter Corrin (entering her sophomore year at Stevenson).

Parents such as Livonians Nicole Marciw and Jeff LaPointe are solidly behind Martinez in her quest to get Livonia United on the ice.

"Giving these girls an opportunity to play hockey for their high school is so important," said Marciw, whose daughter Maddie (a Churchill student) is committed to being one of the Livonia United goalies. "Most of these girls have watched their friends play for their high school hockey teams in our area and have seen the enjoyment that the atmosphere brings to the girls."

"Playing Tier 1 and Tier 2 travel hockey is not always an option for some of these girls for various reasons. That being said they should have a place to play with friends and that's what these girls want."

Still roadblocks

LaPointe's daughter, Caroline, also is a sophomore at Stevenson. She didn't begin playing hockey until she was 10 years old, but has had to skate the past three seasons at Suburban Ice Farmington Hills — a longtime proponent of girls hockey.

The best-case scenario would be if Caroline plays next winter with classmates for Livonia United instead of having to play elsewhere again.

"I'd like to say how proud I am of her for taking hockey up later," LaPointe said. "I wished she would have started younger, but she's staying with it."

"We keep coming into these roadblocks, especially with Livonia. And we had to leave Livonia because there was nothing for her. We had to play up the street at Suburban."

He remains confident that Martinez will be able to complete her two-year quest to finally get a girls high school

hockey team in Livonia.

"If we picked up a couple more girls that would be great," Jeff LaPointe said. "Hopefully there will be some girls out there, when it comes time to lace up their skates they'll jump on board."

Although the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League (which includes Livonia Ladywood, Farmington Hills Mercy and the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Penguins) recently gave Martinez and Livonia United the green light for the upcoming season, she doesn't yet know where the team will practice and play. She must find ice time for seven home games at the very least.

But with three varsity boys hockey teams already set for Eddie Edgar Arena, as well as various other endeavors (Livonia Knights, mens leagues, etc.), Martinez so far is struggling to find a home rink.

"I just want one sheet (of ice) a week, that's all I want," Martinez said. "I can't believe I can't get one sheet a week" whether at Eddie Edgar or Devon Aire in Livonia, both operated by the nonprofit Livonia Civic Arenas organization.

After nearly two years of

struggles — trying to navigate Livonia district rules and red tape; finding an "in" at either of the two ice arenas in the city — Martinez isn't about to give up.

She's even talked about getting ice time at Garden City Arena as a Plan B.

"No later than 8 or 9 o'clock, I don't care what day of the week it is," Martinez noted.

As August looms, the location isn't as important as the certainty that high school girls from Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson finally will get to skate with their classmates.

"Livonia Hockey has a strong youth program and we don't want to see these girls stop playing because their high school doesn't have a team," Marciw said. "Everyone involved wants to see this happen."

LaPointe, meanwhile, said he has no hesitation whatsoever that Martinez is the right person to lead the way — mostly because she isn't about to stop short of her ultimate goal.

"I told Janine, the first one through the door gets the most bloodied," he stressed. "Let's get it going first and then we'll nurture it and let it blossom."

tsmith@hometownlife.com

COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

Michigan Rams closing in on league championship

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

The Michigan Rams are closing in on a league championship following a successful weekend at Ford Field in Livonia.

Coach Rick Berryman's team (22-4) will clinch the Livonia Men's Collegiate Baseball League title with any combination of two victories or two losses by the Michigan Bulls — the second place team

with a 19-7 record.

On Saturday, the Rams earned a doubleheader sweep over the Great Lakes Diamond Kings, winning 7-4 and 3-1.

In the nightcap, pitcher Jack Ferguson threw a two-hitter, striking out six in the process.

The only run he gave up was in the first inning, and his team scored runs in the second and third innings to take a 2-1 lead.

An insurance run was tallied in the fifth.

Delivering key hits in the victory for the home team were Anthony DiPonio (double), Zack Schmidtke (double) and Patrick Downing (RBI single).

The Rams scored four runs to open up Game 1 and never trailed, with strong pitching by starter Addison Pawelek (10 strikeouts) and reliever Gordon Ferguson (two-thirds of an inning for the save).

Downing (2-for-2, three runs), DiPonio (2-for-3, triple, two runs), Tristen Jorah (3-for-4), Gordon Ferguson (2-for-4, RBI) and Trevor MacDonald (double, three RBI) led the attack.

Other hits were collected by Jordyn Finney and Kevin O'Malley.

On Sunday, Brendan Wetmore (Wayne State) pitched the Rams to a 9-0 victory over A Green, giving up one hit and one walk and striking out 16.

Collecting multiple hits for the Rams were DiPonio (2-for-4, RBI, two runs), Jack Ferguson (2-for-4, three RBI), O'Malley (2-for-3, three runs, two RBI), Finney (2-for-2, run) and Gordon Ferguson (2-for-4, two RBI).

Chipping in with a homer was MacDonald, while Alex Nicholson (Salem) and Downing each added hits.

TAEKWONDO

P-CEP United club excels at nationals

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

P-CEP United showed it can kick it under the spotlight.

The first-year taekwondo club, coached by Master Alexander Covert, excelled July 6 at Cobo Center in Detroit during the inaugural U.S. Collegiate Taekwondo Association high school competition.

P-CEP United, comprised of student-athletes from Canton, Plymouth and Salem high schools, finished second in all three events it participated in against teams from Texas, Maryland and Illinois.

"For our first year we came home with three Silver national championships," Covert said. "I couldn't (have) been more proud. It was also great to see all the parents and fellow Michigan taekwondo athletes. We not only represented P-CEP but our entire state."

Sparring events were done in tag team fashion both for the female and male teams while, in the poomsae competition, P-CEP United girls performed in two specified forms events and were scored on a 10-point basis.

"It truly was a great event," Covert continued. "All team members had a great time. Even though we did not win the entire tournament each athlete had a smile on their face and told me they couldn't wait for next year."

The P-CEP participants at Cobo included males Rafael Marquez (Plymouth), Austin Martin (Salem), Lukas Herrmann (Salem), Matthew Knight (Plymouth), Colin McHugh (Plymouth) and William Cothron (Canton); females Lubna Farhat (Salem), Katherine Springer (Plymouth) and Andrea Herrmann (Salem).

"We had athletes step out of their comfort zone," Covert noted. "Katherine Springer, a true poomsae athlete, fought for her first time so we could compete in the female sparring division,

"Lubna Farhat and Andrea Herrmann both returned the favor ... and did poomsae (with Springer), making them the only three girls in the entire country to have ever placed in both the sparring team and poomsae team at a high school team nationals.

"My men's team fought with a lot of heart and that's something you can't teach."

According to Covert, with



The P-CEP United Tae Kwon Do Club finished second in several events at the U.S. Collegiate Taekwondo Association's first-ever high school competition, held July 6 at Cobo Center in Detroit.



Performing in the girls poomsae (forms) event at Cobo Center are (from left) Lubna Farhat, Andrea Herrmann and Katherine Springer.



P-CEP United's Katherine Springer (left) competes in a sparring event July 6 at Cobo Center in Detroit.

the nationals streamed over the Internet, he has since received a wealth of e-mails and text messages about bringing

taekwondo to their schools.

"Taekwondo teams are coming to high schools all over the country and are coming fast,"

he added.

Anybody interested in contacting Covert about perhaps starting a team should email

him at covertkd91@gmail.com.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

JUNIOR BASEBALL

South Farmington Little League team advances to state finals

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

South Farmington Little League's junior baseball team is headed to the state tournament finals.

The South Farmington boys qualified after sweeping Taylor in the best-of-three sectional series held Saturday at Harrison High School. South Farmington excelled in all phases of the game to take down Taylor, winning the first game 11-1 and coming back strong for a 2-0 shutout victory in the second game.

The sectional champs now head to the state tournament scheduled for July 27-30 in Charlevoix. South Farmington will be one of eight teams competing for the state's Ju-

nior Baseball (13-14 years) Little League crown.

"This is the first time since 1975 that any baseball team from our league will be playing for a state championship," head coach Scott Johnson said. "It's amazing. It's probably the biggest thing we've ever done."

"The biggest thing is I feel so happy for the kids because they work so hard. It's just one of those goals we set out to do and we finally accomplished it. We set out to try and put ourselves on the map and stuff like this is definitely going to do it."

"We worked so hard and it's the most surreal feeling to finally get past the step that we've been stuck at for three years. Now we have to see what we can do at the state

tournament."

South Farmington hurler Gabe Smith went the distance and was in total control of the opener as he allowed only three hits in the five-inning game decided by the mercy rule.

Zach Ivanac led the offense with three hits while Tyler Johnson added a pair of hits. Isaac Brendel smacked a clutch third-inning, base-loaded double which plated all three runners to help break open the game.

"Everybody on the team was close to getting a hit, if they didn't all get a hit," said Johnson. "Our bats were just totally alive and we played very well."

In the second game, South Farmington pitchers Michael

Crawley and Eoin Hubbard combined for a one-hitter.

The winners scored what proved the game-winning run in the first inning on a ground out by Vince Hardy which brought home Brendel. South Farmington scored the insurance run in the fourth inning when Ivanac scored on a base hit by Brendel.

"This game was an absolute total defensive game," Johnson said. "They had guys on second and third two innings in a row and we held them. And our pitching was outstanding over the seven innings."

South Farmington advanced to the sectional by winning the District 4 championship July 8 with dominating wins after outscoring its three foes by a

64-3 margin.

The team's other players include Danny Brenner, Ryan Angeliu, Jack Donehue, Steven Ihm, Peter Barraco, Ian Width and Jonah Musial.

The South Farmington Little League's Lady Bombers participated in the Majors (12-under) girls softball state tournament in St. Clair over the weekend. The Lady Bombers dropped their three games in St. Clair, losing to Tecumseh (7-3), to host St. Clair (11-0) and West Branch (7-3).

The girls, coached by Steve Dickson, became the first the SFL softball squad to advance to the state finals. The Lady Bombers qualified for states by winning the District 4 championship with a recent three-game sweep of Holly.

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AFI Financial	2431	(877) 234-0600	3.75	0	3.125	0
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	127931	(248) 740-2323	3.875	0	2.99	0
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	399721	(313) 565-3100	3.75	0	3	0
Fifth Third Bank	403245	(800) 792-8830	4	0	3.25	0
Ross Mortgage	107716	(248) 282-1602	4.125	0	3.5	0
Zeal Credit Union	408356	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.25	0

Above Information available as of 7/13/17 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Thursday after 2:00 P.M. at www.rmcreport.com.

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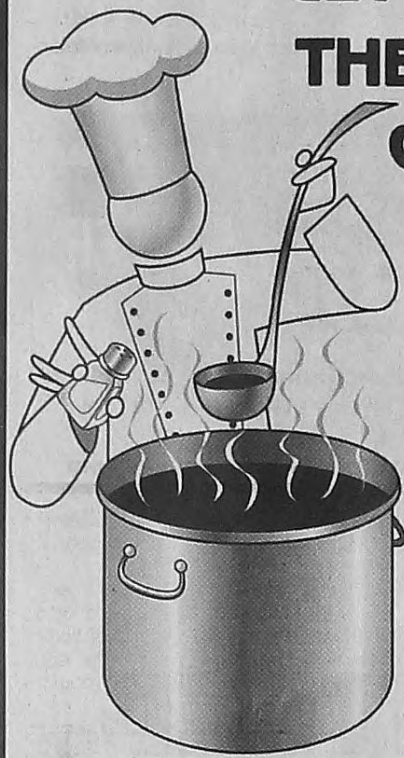
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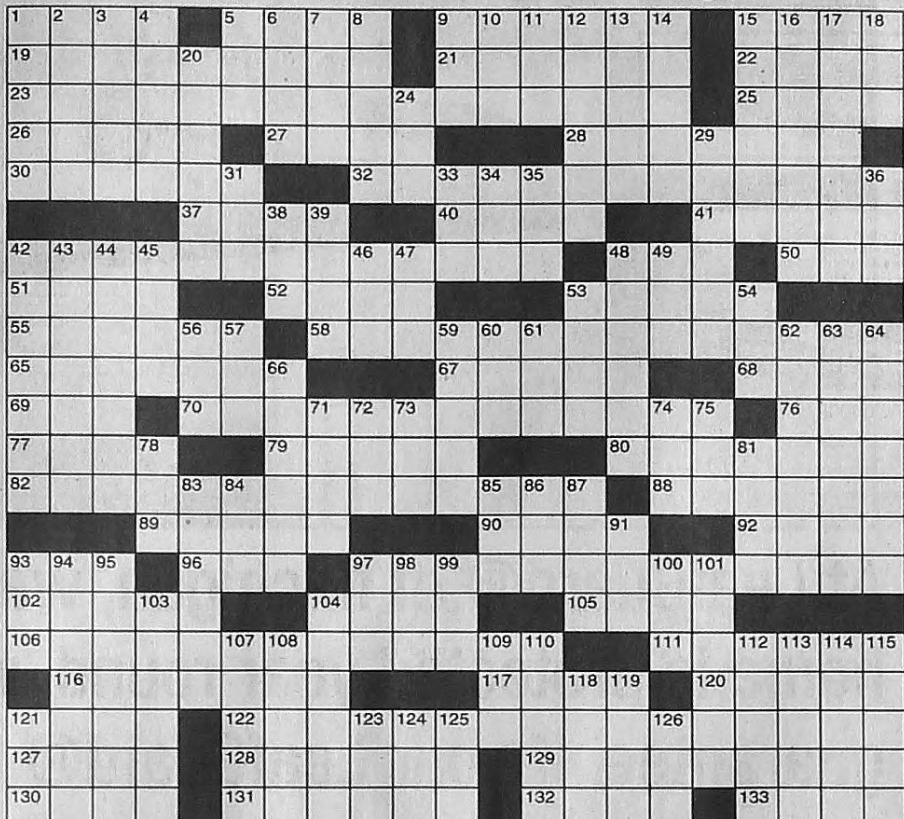
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Inuit vehicle
 - 5 In — (as first placed)
 - 9 Total fan
 - 15 Insolent talk
 - 19 Law enforcer
 - 21 Actress Peet or Pays
 - 22 Andy Taylor's boy
 - 23 Flatfish that was there first?
 - 25 WWII attack time
 - 26 Quality
 - 27 '63 Liz Taylor role
 - 28 Couple taking off to tie the knot
 - 30 Lookout person
 - 32 Product for whitening NASCAR drivers' garb?
 - 37 Kappa precursor
 - 40 Small — (be suspicious)
 - 41 Willing to do
 - 42 Wild horse's boastful talk?
 - 48 Battle milieu
 - 50 "The Waste Land" poet's initials.
- 51 Classic New York City theater**
- 52 Actress Gilbert**
- 53 Vex no end swimmer**
- 55 Single-celled**
- 58 Trajectory of a thrown winter weapon?**
- 65 Place affording a good view**
- 67 Related to kidneys**
- 68 Black bird**
- 69 Ending of pasta names**
- 70 The cry "Hah, I scaled that peak and you didn't!"**
- 76 Be obliged**
- 77 Rose Bowl company**
- 79 Take for one's own use**
- 80 Manufacture of military officers?**
- 88 "Short and stout" vessel**
- 89 His cube became a craze**
- 90 Novelist Hunter**
- 92 Viral net phrase, say**
- 93 Anvil's organ**
- 96 Pill, e.g., briefly**
- 97 Powerful machine that pulverizes car splash guards?**
- 102 Censoring tone**
- 104 Opera part**
- 105 Mavens**
- 106 One who would've taken on Goliath if David had been unavailable?**
- 111 Take stock of**
- 116 Russian ballet for chocolate**
- 117 Tableland**
- 120 Sunni's deity**
- 121 Web app language**
- 122 Narratives recorded on CD?**
- 127 Prayer's end**
- 128 Beatified French lady**
- 129 Put in a different key**
- 130 Minstrel**
- 131 Ecstatic**
- 132 "Auld Lang —"**
- 133 White bird**
- DOWN**
- 1 Notices
 - 2 Peter of "M"
 - 3 González in 2000 news
 - 4 Pinkie, e.g.
 - 5 Capitol fig.
 - 6 Apple type
 - 7 7'0", say
 - 6 In need of nourishment
 - 9 — Zedong
 - 10 — Darya (Asian river)
 - 11 Bread with vindaloo
 - 12 Put right?
 - 13 "A Passage to India" woman
 - 14 Substitute for chocolate
 - 15 Hit a homer
 - 16 It lifts a kite
 - 17 Debacles
 - 18 Comic Tina
 - 20 — acid (lime ingredient)
 - 24 Mauna — Done —
 - 29 Not singular
 - 31 "— hoo!"
 - 33 Sun — -sen
 - 34 Uno + due
 - 35 Rowing need
 - 36 Charles V's realm: Abbr.
 - 38 "Conan" channel
 - 39 "Ah, so sad"
 - 42 Facing with courage
 - 43 Film genre
 - 44 Student at England's oldest university
 - 45 Nikita's "no"
 - 46 Samovar
 - 47 — Paulo
 - 48 Whack hard
 - 49 Justice Dept. raiders
 - 53 Israeli filer
 - 54 Twitch
 - 56 "Socko!"
 - 57 In past time
 - 59 Legal papers
 - 60 Actor Affleck
 - 61 Director Lee
 - 62 Placed into categories
 - 63 "Why?"
 - 64 Woolfer's counterpart
 - 66 Old Greek geometerian
 - 71 Arrow notch
 - 72 "My Mama Me"
 - 73 TV's Kwik-E-Mart clerk
 - 74 Renoir's skill
 - 75 Foot 4-Down
 - 78 — Lingus
 - 81 Accuse
 - 83 Ado
 - 84 "Honest" guy
 - 85 Turner of TV
 - 86 First mate?
 - 87 — avis
 - 91 Network for Jimmy Fallon
 - 93 Recede
 - 94 Part of ASU
 - 95 Salvage
 - 97 Thu, follower
 - 98 A, in Vienna
 - 99 Hound
 - 100 Grazing field
 - 101 Op-eds, e.g.
 - 103 Actress Britt
 - 104 R&B artist
 - 107 Aspect
 - 108 L.A.'s region
 - 109 Rescue squad VIP
 - 110 Takes ten
 - 112 Insults
 - 113 Pipe shape
 - 114 Taco topper
 - 115 Soft luster
 - 118 Nimble
 - 119 Film scorer
 - 121 Menken
 - 121 Quick hit
 - 123 Can.
 - 124 Plains native
 - 125 Beatty of "The Toy"
 - 126 Hex-ender



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

SUDOKU

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

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

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

TRAVEL TIME WORD SEARCH

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

- WORDS**
- ADJOINING
 - AGENCY
 - AIRPORT
 - AVAILABILITY
 - BLACKOUT
 - BOARDING PASS
 - BUSINESS
 - CANCELLATION
 - CHECK-IN
 - CONFIRMATION
 - CONTRACT
 - DELAY
 - DESTINATION
 - DISCOUNT
 - DOMESTIC
 - FARE
 - FIRST CLASS FLIGHT
 - HUB
 - INTERNATIONAL
 - LEISURE
 - LUGGAGE
 - MILEAGE
 - NONSTOP
 - OCCUPANCY
 - PASSENGER
 - PASSPORT
 - PEAK
 - RATE
 - RESTRICTIONS
 - SCHEDULE
 - SUITE
 - TRANSFERABLE
 - TRAVEL
 - VACATION
 - VISA

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Crossword Answers

SLED, SITU, MANIAC, GUFF, POLICEMAN, AMANDA, OPIE, ORIGINAL, FLOUNDER, DDAY, TRAIT, CLEO, ELOPERS, SENTRY, DAYTON, ABLEACH, IOTA, ARAT, UPFOR, BRONCO, BLUSTER, WARTSE, ROXY, SARA, EATAT, AMOEBA, SNOWBALL, FLIGHT, VANTAGE, RENAL, CROW, INT, MOUNTAIN, GLOAT, OWE, NCA, COOPT, PRODUCE, GENERAL, CLUSTER, TEAPOT, RUBIK, EVAN, MEME, EAR, MED, FENDER, BLENDER, LEE, P, ARIA, ACES, BACKUS, SLINGER, ASSESS, BOKSHO, MESA, ALLAH, JAVA, ACCOUNTS, PLAYABLE, AMEN, SAINTS, TRANSPOSE, BARD, RELATED, SYNE, SWAN

Word Search Answers

ADJOINING, AGENCY, AIRPORT, AVAILABILITY, BLACKOUT, BOARDING PASS, BUSINESS, CANCELLATION, CHECK-IN, CONFIRMATION, CONTRACT, DELAY, DESTINATION, DISCOUNT, DOMESTIC, FARE, FIRST CLASS FLIGHT, HUB, INTERNATIONAL, LEISURE, LUGGAGE, MILEAGE, NONSTOP, OCCUPANCY, PASSENGER, PASSPORT, PEAK, RATE, RESTRICTIONS, SCHEDULE, SUITE, TRANSFERABLE, TRAVEL, VACATION, VISA

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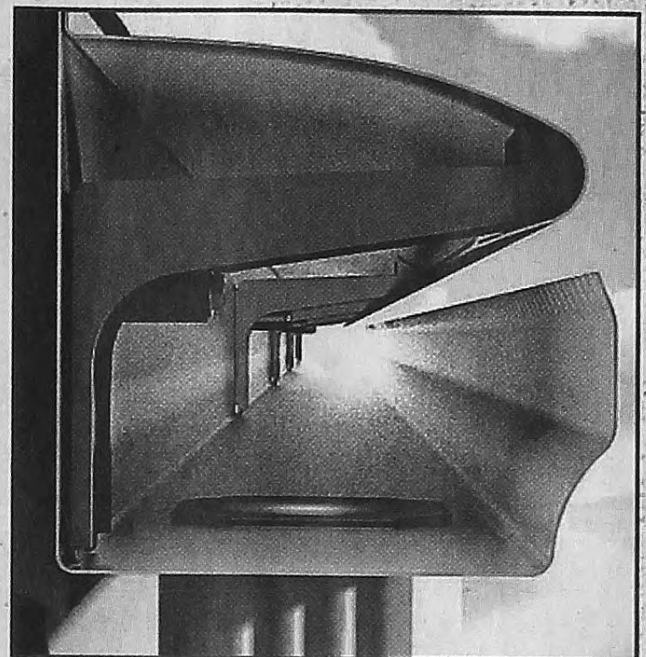
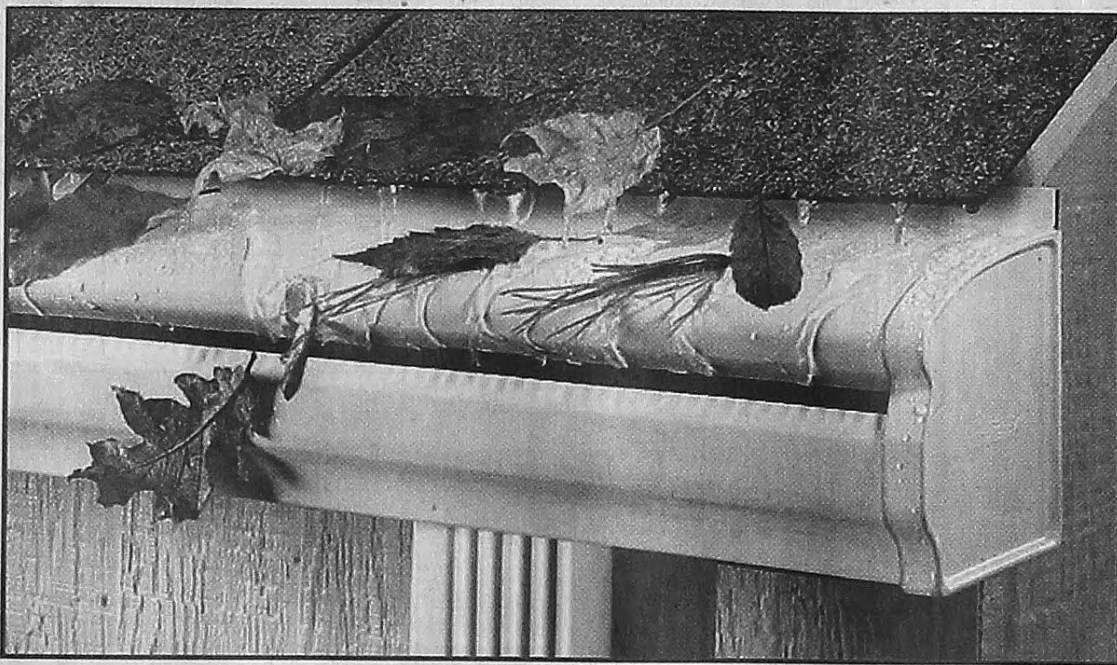
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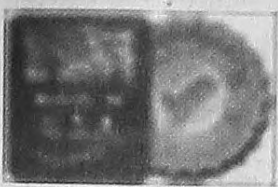


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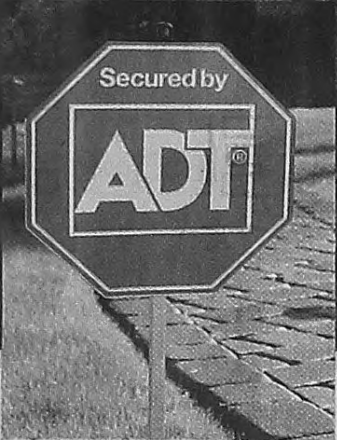
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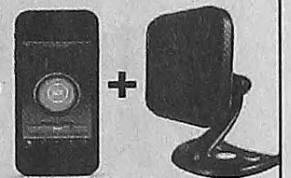


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