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MDOT plans massive I-275 project for 2020

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is hoping to inform drivers of the department's upcoming Interstate 275 project, which will stretch through the communities of Northville, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton.

MDOT is hosting a public meeting about the project at 4 p.m. Oct. 15 in Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton. The meeting is expected to last about two hours.

The project, which is slated to begin in early 2020 and end in the fall, will be a \$50 million investment by the state to improve the bridges and road between

Ford Road and Six Mile Road.

"(The) road portion mainly consists milling and resurfacing with hot mix asphalt with shoulder widening," said Diane Cross with MDOT's Office of Communications in an email. "Bridge (work) mainly consist of deck patching and overlays."

As the project continues, two north-

bound lanes and two southbound lanes will remain open at all times. But, the work will include ramp closures.

Attendees to the Oct. 15 meeting will hear from MDOT staff, the design team and project consultants.

The meeting will also have time for resident, business owner and city officials' questions.



Regina Varrero, 110, says her secret to longevity is laying off the cigarettes and booze. COURTESY OF THE VARRERO FAMILY

Farmington Hills woman celebrates 110th birthday

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

"How old am I?"
"110."

"Wow. That's a long time."

Born in 1909, Regina Varrero turned 110 on Sept. 28 and is known as a supercentenarian. One of just a few people of her age in the state, Varrero resides at Beaumont Commons in Farmington Hills.

She said her secret of making it all these years is laying off the cigarettes and booze.

"I don't smoke. I don't drink," she said. "I think I drank more when I was young."

She's been a tough lady all her life. Her dad died when she was only 5 or 6 years old and her mother passed away a few years later.

Varrero started taking care of herself when she was 13 years old by getting a

job at a hotel in Rogers City.

"She was 13 years old when she went there," said Pam Pederson, one of her grandchildren. "She heard that they were hiring people and she lied and told them she was 16 so they would give her a job."

"I worked as long as they didn't find out my age, and then I had to leave," Varrero added.

See VARRERO, Page 4A

Westland PD making changes after Taser incidents

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A year ago, protesters were marching outside Westland's City Hall, demanding police reforms and more equitable treatment toward African-Americans.

Their demonstration was at least the third public protest after police officers Tasered two black men - Raymurez Brown and Jerry Shingles - during summer arrests.

They demanded body cameras, which the city already had purchased for each of its 81 sworn officers.

That October, Police Chief Jeff Jedrusic stopped plans for a protest march by gathering elected officials and civil rights leaders together for a news conference introducing the new body cameras to the community.

Since then, police officers have been activating their new recording equipment whenever they're working as law enforcers.

Both sides of the fence say the cameras have made a world of difference. Criticism from the African-American community has waned, and police and civil rights leaders say the cameras probably could have prevented some of the recent uproar in the community.

"Going forward, the officers may act a little differently, and residents will act a little differently, because they know they're being recorded," said Gina Wilson, steward of the NAACP's Western Wayne County Branch. "We're like a year out, and we haven't really had any incidents since that I'm aware of."

"We're going in the right direction."

Do two incidents make a Taser summer?

Westland Police Department's arrests, and therefore its use of Tasers, was on the decline in 2018.

That July, the city council agreed Westland would pay about \$650,000 over five years for 81 body cameras, 60 Tasers and new camera systems for 26 police vehicles. They purchased the equipment from Axon, an Arizona company.

See CHANGES, Page 3A



Should senior pay cash or mortgage on condo?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

I am in my early 60s and retired. My financial situation is very secure. I have no dependents and I am single. My pension more than covers all of my living expenses. I have not touched my Social Security, and don't plan to until I'm 70. I have a nice portfolio in the high six figures. About one-third of that money is in my IRA.

Currently, I own a home worth approximately \$375,000. I own the home free and clear without a mortgage. I would like to move. As opposed to a home, I would like to buy a condo. The condos in the complex I am looking at go for between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

I would like to pay cash for my new condo. I would like your opinion on that.

I want to use the proceeds from the sale of my house to pay for my condo. I would prefer not to have to liquidate any of my investments. Do you have any ideas if I see a condo I like but have not sold my home?

Thank you, Jeremy

Dear Jeremy:

Some people think you should automatically get a mortgage for a home; I'm not one who believes that. Yes, in certain situations, buying a home can have certain tax advantages; however, even with the tax advantages there's still a cost to obtaining a mortgage.

For example, if you did get a mortgage, you could easily pay \$8,000 a year in interest. If you were able to deduct your interest on your tax return it would save you approximately \$2,000. However, the mortgage is still costing you \$6,000. Every year you have the mortgage there would be a significant economic cost no matter what the tax write-offs are.

There are substantial fees and costs that go with the mortgage that you would not have if you paid cash.

When people tell you to get a mortgage, all they're focusing on is the \$2,000 of savings, not the \$6,000 and all the fees and costs. In your situation, I see no problem whatsoever paying cash for your condo.

I believe that when it comes to money too many people let the tax tail wag the dog. You should not make financial decisions based upon taxes alone.

We should never forget that the purpose of money is to buy us comfort and security. The fact that you don't want a mortgage and would feel more comfortable without one should be the prime concern, not taxes.

With regards to the timing issue of seeing a condo that you want before you sold your existing home, you have a couple options. You can take a mortgage or a home equity loan on your current home for the price of the new condo and

use that to pay cash for the condo. Then, when you sell your home, you would use the proceeds to pay off the mortgage. In that way, you would only have a mortgage for a relatively short time.

The key to me is what the cost is of the mortgage or the home equity loan. Choose the one where you have the fewest out-of-pocket costs possible.

Another option would be to take out a mortgage on the new condo and then once your existing home sells, to use those proceeds to pay off the mortgage. In addition, you can go with an adjustable rate mortgage because more likely than not, before you have an adjustment, you would sell your house, paying off the mortgage.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email him at Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50
\$104 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
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Trend pushes condo repairs on individuals



Robert Meisner
Guest columnist

Q: Our condo association wants to change our bylaws to make each co-owner responsible for the repair, painting, upkeep, etc. of their balcony.

If changes are passed by the membership, the balconies will be inspected by the board. Could this be opening a can of worms?

A: Any major shift in responsibility from the association to the individual co-owners or vice versa has its risks. In this case, you might be concerned that co-owners who neglect their new responsibilities will end up affecting not only their own balconies but other balconies and common elements. However, the association's attorney can help mitigate these risks. Hopefully, the proposed bylaw amendment or another section of the bylaws makes

clear that if the individual co-owner does not adequately address their new responsibilities, the association has the ability to do so and assess the cost to the co-owner.

There is a prevailing trend to shift more responsibilities from the association to the individual co-owners, which often makes sense for limited common elements that may experience significant variance in wear and tear from one co-owner to another. That wasn't always the case. In older documents, you might find that fixtures within the unit are the responsibility of the association to repair and replace.

This change has occurred because we in the condominium industry have collectively learned over the years what arrangements tend to work best. Our firm has worked with hundreds of associations to update the maintenance, repair, and replacement provisions of the bylaws to a more modern arrangement. Also, when we work with developers to draft original governing documents, we

are sure to include our best recommended provisions along these lines.

While I can only guess what led your board of directors to propose this bylaw amendment, perhaps they were tired of committing association funds to making major repairs to just a few heavily-used balconies. Maybe they thought that was unfair to the rest of the association members who don't tend to use their balconies as much. Or maybe they wanted to reduce assessments by removing something from the budget.

Regardless, the association should continue regular inspection of limited common elements to ensure that they are being cared for appropriately.

Robert M. Meisner, Esq. is the principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group, based in Bingham Farms, which provides legal representation for condominiums, homeowner associations, individual co-owners and developers. He can be reached at 248-644-4433 or bmeisner@meisner-law.com. Visit the firm's blog at meisner-law.com/blog.

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Changes

Continued from Page 1A

"Currently, the department does not have body worn cameras and the current vehicle cameras and Tasers are outdated (with many being beyond repair) and need to be replaced," wrote Deputy Chief Randy Thivierge in a department proposal bookending what he said was more than a year's worth of research.

Then the night of Aug. 17 happened. Police visited a neighborhood near the Palmer and Venoy roads intersection because of an assault complaint. The caller said Brown, who was her friend's boyfriend, tried to break out her vehicle's windows after she visited to pick up a roasting pan she lent to Brown's girlfriend.

As part of their investigation, police talked to the woman and then visited Brown's home on Alberta Street. A man matching the caller's description for "Ray" was outside.

"The subject was immediately confrontational, visibly intoxicated and started yelling/cursing at (the officers) to get off of his lawn," police said in their report.

Officers threatened an arrest if Brown kept yelling and cursing. He was warned several times.

As the report reads: "Ofc. Furney then advised 'Ray' he was under arrest, at which point he grabbed his two month child as a deterrent for officers to place him in handcuffs. Ofc Scaglione and Ofc Schurig advised 'Ray' to hand his child away, to which he continued to squeeze the child tighter. ... In an effort to prevent the child from becoming injured and place 'Ray' under arrest, Ofc Scaglione deployed his taser (to the) left chest area while Nichole (the girlfriend), Ofc Schurig and I handed the child into Nichole's arms. Suspect/'Ray' was taken to the ground where he continued to pull away and resist officers. Officers were able to muscle 'Ray's' arms behind his back where he was placed in handcuffs."

Protests ensued after a bystander's video showed a woman grabbing the infant after the Taser sounds begin.

Police said the child was not injured. However, the scene became viral across social media, sparking a storm of criticism, which brought forth Shingles, then 29.

"There's two ways to look at it. A body camera is going to protect the officers from false claims. ... On the other hand, it's going to keep our officers in line, too. It's kind of a two-way street."

Jeff Jedrusik Westland Police chief

He said he was tasered several times in the doorway of his house about 2 a.m. June 22.

Police had visited looking for his father regarding a nearby crime. Shingles considered himself polite and cooperative with police.

He suggested police retaliated against him for not letting them search his house without a warrant. He was arrested on outstanding warrants tied to traffic incidents, he said.

Jedrusik has labeled the decision to tase Brown questionable because of the infant in his arms. He ordered a 30-day suspension without pay for the officer using the electroshock weapon.

The chief would not provide this officer's full name. He said the officer ended his employment with the department "but not as result of that case."

Brown could not be reached for this story.

Jedrusik has heard he is talking to well-known attorney Geoffrey Fieger about a lawsuit.

For Shingles' lawsuit, Jedrusik said his understanding is that his department's insurer, the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority, received a positive response from City Council when it offered to close the case for up to \$25,000. The council approved a recommendation to settle over the summer.

City Attorney James Fausone confirmed the Shingles case was settled for \$25,000. It would have cost just as much to fight the lawsuit, he said.

"So it was 'just be done with it,'" Fausone said.

Shingles said his litigation was never about dollars.

"For that to happen to me, it was just like Civil Rights days," he said over the phone. "It was unreal. Most important-ly, I'm glad I had a chance to speak."

Body cameras, a two-way street

Jedrusik wishes his officers had body cameras a decade ago. Westland, he said, is an economically diverse Wayne County city that keeps his officers busy.

"There's two ways to look at it," the chief said. "A body camera is going to protect the officers from false claims. It's going to help us in liability cases. On the other hand, it's going to keep our officers in line, too. It's kind of a two-way street."

His 2014-18 data puts an anti-climactic cast on 2018. According to Jedrusik's numbers, arrests (6,634) and use-of-force incidents (208) peaked in 2015. Those use-of-force incidents included Taser use and other activities that go beyond compliant handcuffing.

Taser deployment peaked in 2016 with 27 occurrences. Taser displays peaked at 34 in 2015. The electroshock weapons are most frequently used in domestic violence incidents. In general, police typically use force when dealing with men and those 25-29 years of age.

Jedrusik rebels against too much attention being placed on the summer 2018 Taser incidents.

"Departments throughout the entire country are constantly using a Taser," he said. "We just had two incidents that an attorney decided to put all over the media. What's really changed for our department is we made an investment into body cameras and a new Taser program."

While the American Census Bureau's most recent estimates say whites (75%) and blacks (25%) make up the bulk of Westland's population, there's a much smaller gap when looking at arrests.

African-Americans made up 45% and whites made up 54% of the police department's use-of-force incidents, which roughly correlated with racial breakdowns of arrests. Jedrusik's data indicate 46% of the department's 2018 arrests involved African-Americans, and 51% of the arrests involved whites.

Jedrusik did not have 2019 data available.

Change overdue

The National Action Network (NAN), a civil rights group, was at the center of the Taser protests when they happened outside the police station and City Hall.

Protesters accused Westland police officers of racial bias and police miscon-

duct and brutality. Gregory Rohl, the attorney who still catches Jedrusik's ire, attended at least one protest because, he said, he saw an obvious race issue that needed to be addressed.

So did Crystal Linton, representing NAN's Inkster/Western Wayne County Chapter. Members had been raising their voices in Westland since December 2017, when William Marshall, an African-American, died after being in police custody at the Westland Jail.

"The body cameras were the main thing. They announced the body cameras (and) it was a victory for us," Linton said. "Body cameras are very expensive, so we know that they took us seriously. Body cameras work in terms of those really bad type incidents."

The chief's body camera announcement prevented NAN from conducting a protest march.

Lines of communication

Jedrusik has ticked off body camera benefits including these: video evidence from homes, businesses, parks, and schools; high-definition up-close views; video evidence for prosecutors, judges and juries; and useful material for the media.

His officers still can use Tasers. They receive annual Taser training that includes the preferred placement of Tasers on the middle of the back.

Jedrusik said the 2018 Taser incidents at least widened the doors of communication between his administration and civil rights leaders. They speak more regularly, and the chief has shared his cell phone number.

"We've created a platform and a forum now where we can all get together and we can talk about community concerns," Jedrusik said. "Our group has a good working relationship with each other and we've built confidence and trust with each other. Between our groups right now, we have a much better working relationship."

Summer Chalfin is a new Westland police officer who recently received body camera training.

"They're very helpful," she said of the equipment. "They definitely help us more than they hurt us. They show what we have to deal with out there. It shows our whole story ... definitely."

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



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Monster-sized musical coming to Inspire Theatre

"Transylvania Mania" is about to take over Inspire Theatre in Westland, when Mel Brooks' hysterical musical comedy, "Young Frankenstein" hits the stage Oct. 18 through Nov. 3.

Eye-popping special effects and show-stopping musical numbers, complete with tap-dancing monsters, make this Inspire's most daring adventure yet.

The electrifying adaptation of Mel Brooks' monstrously funny film will be sure to leave the audiences in stitches.

"Young Frankenstein" is based on the 1974 comedy film of the same name written by Mel Brooks and Gene Wilder, and directed by Brooks, who has described it as his best film.

The stage musical is a parody of the horror film genre, especially the 1931 Universal Pictures adaptation of Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein."

"Young Frankenstein" premiered on Broadway in November 2007 and closed January 2009.

This wild romp of a musical takes us back to Transylvania, where Dr. Frederick Frankenstein (pronounced "Fronk-en-steen"), the reluctant heir to the Frankenstein legacy, finds he has inherited the family business. With the help of a hunchbacked sidekick, Igor, and the leggy lab assistant, Inga, Frederick finds himself in the shoes of his ancestors.

Frederick is played by Canton resident Logan Laflin in his first production at Inspire. As the doctor, he discovers the secret entrance to his grandfather's laboratory, decides to carry on the family experiments, and creates a monster of his own.



The cast of "Young Frankenstein" poses for a photo. The musical adaptation of Mel Brooks' film runs from Oct. 18 through Nov. 3 at Westland's Inspire Theatre. COURTESY OF LEN FISHER

Eventually, of course, the monster escapes and hilarity abounds.

Assisting the mad doctor in his transformation from a bumbling professor, Laflin is joined by Inspire veterans Trevor VanBuren, of Jackson, as Igor; Eliza-

beth Fisher as Inga; and Pat Rodgers, of Novi, portraying the mysterious Frau Blücher.

The role of Elizabeth, Dr. Frankenstein's madcap fiancée, will be played by longtime Inspire member Courtney Nixon. Dave Durham of A Comedy Tonight fame fills the role of Inspector Kemp.

The original Broadway production was nominated for three Tony Awards and a Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album, in addition to winning the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical. The stage version follows the classic movie fairly well.

"The cast is stellar, the sets are campy, the humor is bawdy, the tale is classic. What more could you want in a musical?" said Len Fisher, director and Wayne resident. "Our renovated auditorium will delight our regulars even before the curtain rises, metaphorically speaking. Our musicals typically sell out, so buy your tickets soon!"

"Young Frankenstein" features a book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan, with music and lyrics by Mel Brooks, and is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

Inspire Theatre is located in the Westland Center for the Arts, at 33455 Warren Road in Westland. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 18, 19, 25, 26, Nov. 1 and 2, with matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 3 p.m., Oct. 20, 26, 27, Nov. 2 and 3.

Tickets may be purchased at inspiretheatre.ticketleap.com or by calling the box office at 734.751.7057. Tickets are \$18. The show has a PG-13 suggestion for audiences.

Varrero

Continued from Page 1A

Eventually, a priest found her out and sent her to live with some family he had in Bay City.

She lived there and continued to do so after meeting her first husband, David Fagan, when she was 19 years old. The two were together through the Great Depression and had three kids: Judy, Sandy and Rod.

"When the Great Depression came, the two started a produce route and Grandpa hauled the produce to these camps and they made a lot of money," Pederson said.

Because of that job and a side gig of bootlegging by Fagan, the two didn't want for anything during what was a trying time for many Americans.

"Our grandpa had a lot of interesting connections apparently," Pederson said. "They never wanted for anything."

But, some of Fagan's professional endeavours landed him in jail. Varrero left him when he got out and later remarried.

Though she and her second husband divorced when Varrero was in her 80s, her eight grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren have been her world.

"She made her family her life," Pederson said. "Her grandkids, her children. Her grandkids, oh, my God, her grandkids. They were her life, she was totally devoted to them. I think that's what brought her her happiness."

Pederson said when she and her cousins were growing up, Varrero was at the center of every family gathering.

"She used to have a lot of family dinners on Sunday just to have everyone together," Pederson said. "I don't know how she did it. She'd cook us all a big dinner."

As a grandmother, Pederson said Varrero would always make crafts for her family, make homemade waffles for breakfast and take the kids fishing up on her cottage in Lake City.

Her other interests back in the day included gardening, composting, bingo and following the Detroit Tigers, her favorites of which are Miguel Cabrera, Prince Fielder, Alan Trammell and Willie Horton.

"I just like them because I got to see them once in a while," Varrero said. "If I didn't, I had the radio."

Last week, her family got together to celebrate the supercentenarian's achievement, something only a few hundred living people in the United States have done.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby_tankk.



Above at left, Regina Varrero has long been known in her family as the host of big dinners. Above at right, Varrero got her first job at age 13, but she lied and told the employer she was 16 so she could get the job. PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAM PEDERSON



Five generations of the Varrero family: Regina Varrero, seated at left, and her daughter Sandy Jahner, sits next to her. In the back, from left, are Amy Blauvelt, Brittany Larson, Reese Larson and Michael Blauvelt.

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homes

Toll Brothers to Debut Brand New Model Home on October 17 in Canton Tours, Catered Refreshments, and Entertainment Planned for Grand Opening Event

On Thursday, October 17 from 5 pm to 8 pm, Canton area home seekers are invited to celebrate the grand opening of the brand new, Winona model home at Hamlet Meadows, a popular single-family new home community from Toll Brothers, America's Luxury Home Builder®.

Homebuyers are encouraged to be among the first to tour the new, open-concept, modern design of the Winona, professionally decorated by Mary Cook and Associates of Chicago. On par with the latest design trends, the Winona offers an exciting glimpse into the hundreds of possibilities for personalization in a Toll Brothers home. Join us for this open house event and enjoy live music, catered fare, and refreshments. Complimentary valet parking will also be provided:

Hamlet Meadows, is located within the charming community, The Hamlet, featuring premier luxury homes in the highly-acclaimed Plymouth-Canton school district. Amenities

include a play park, tennis courts, sand volleyball courts, walking trails, and clubhouse that's available to rent for private social gatherings. The Hamlet also offers an exceptional location close to the Ford Road Shopping District, expressways, recreation including Summit on the Park, and the quaint Cherry Hill Village.

The Winona is one of the newest floor plans in the Hamlet Meadows collection offering the ultimate in entertaining space with a beautiful kitchen and large center island open to the spacious family room. The first-floor also features a formal dining room and flex space ideal for a study. The second-floor boasts a convenient laundry room, amazing loft space, and luxurious master retreat. All of this and more exceptionally priced from \$416,995.

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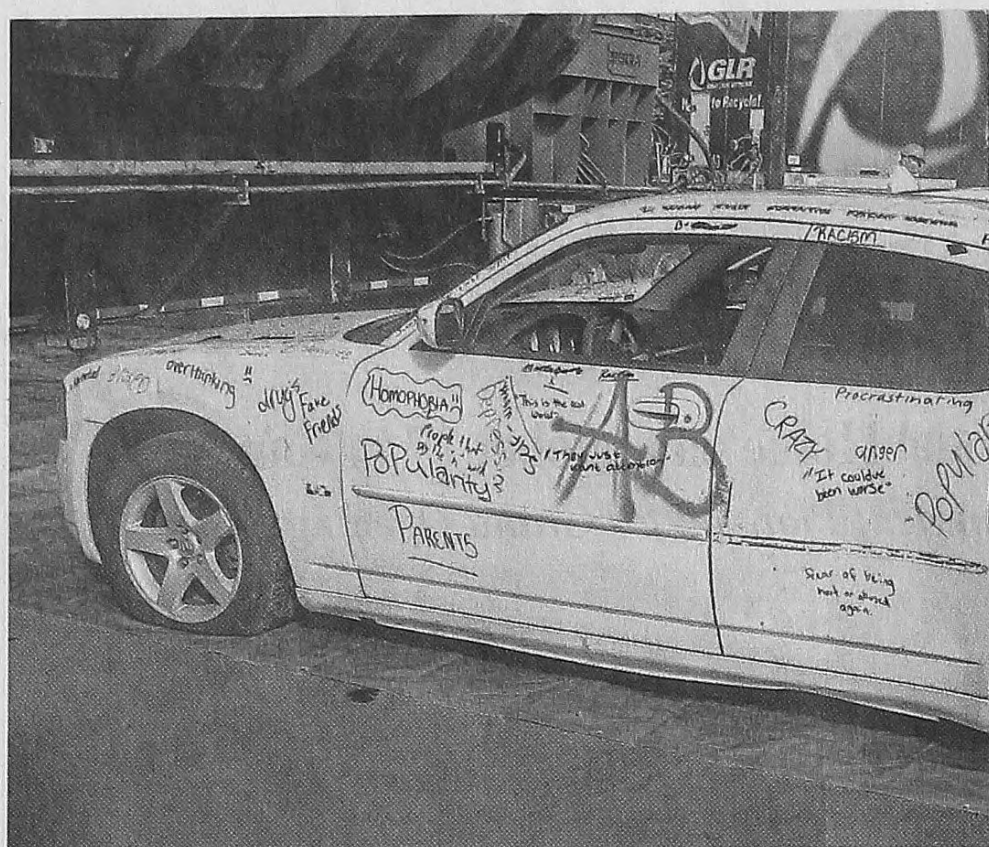
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Above at left, students at Churchill High School wrote words or phrases on a vehicle Oct. 4 that they want to see vanish as part of "Crush the Stigma," an event designed to show teens the importance of talking about mental health issues. Above at right, a vehicle is lifted toward the crushing apparatus during the event. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Cars get crushed at Churchill High School

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's not often half of Churchill High School congregates in the school's parking lot. Of course, it's not nearly as often for the reason the students did Oct. 4.

Students got a rare chance to see two sedans crushed to pieces as a part of a campaign to promote good mental health practices. GLR Recycling, 12600 Stark Road in Livonia, brought several junk vehicles to the Newburgh Road school for students to write the negative things they hear and associated phrases they'd like to see vanish. The cars were covered in words such as "abuse" and "body-shaming."

Then, with the lift of a mechanical arm, GLR Recycling employees picked the cars up, placed them into the crusher and turned them into piles of metal

and plastic.

The event was called, fittingly, "Crush the Stigma" and was designed to metaphorically crush the stigma of mental health and have students realize it's important to talk about.

"I think this has been very powerful for the majority of us," said Paul Mercier, student activity director at the high school, to the students before the cars were crushed.

When it comes to the actual vehicles, the crushed ones will be taken to a facility in Ohio, where they will be shredded and materials sorted through. There, every piece of the car will be recycled and used again, said Don Quarles, the logistics manager for GLR Recycling.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



The first two vehicles crushed by GLR Recycling await transport to a facility in Ohio, where they will be shredded and materials sorted through for reuse.



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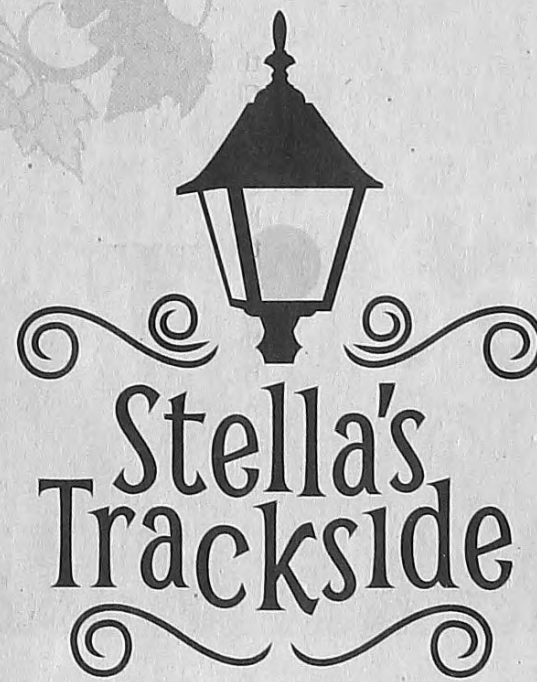
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Vote for your favorite downtown Plymouth scarecrow

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Where else but in downtown Plymouth's Kellogg Park can you find a space where sweet little Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz" can coexist with Pennywise, the evil clown of "It" fame?

Dorothy and Pennywise are just two of the characters featured in the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce's annual Scarecrows in the Park exhibit, an ever-growing program that was expanded to include 101 works of art this fall.

(Good luck finding a crow within eight blocks of Kellogg Park these days!) The exhibit will run until Nov. 1.

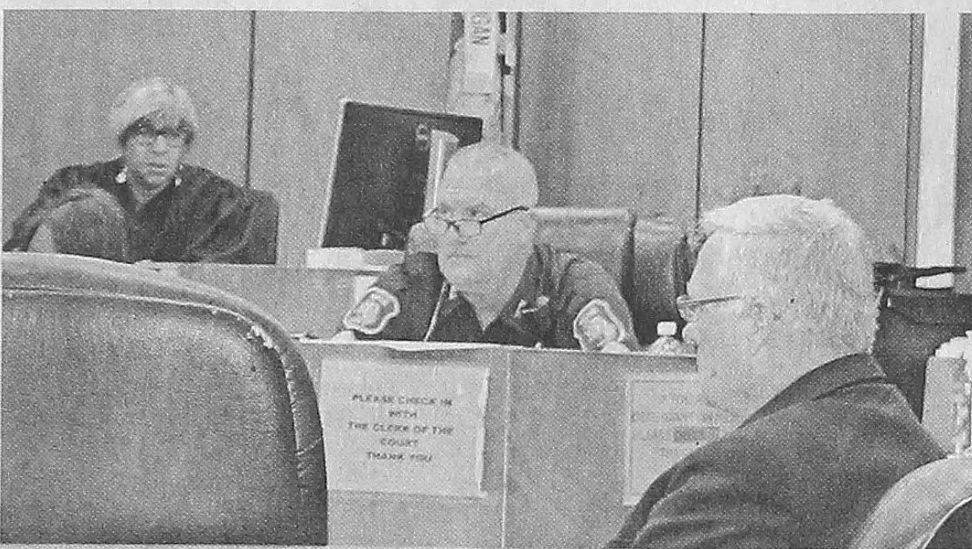
Area businesses and clubs were asked to submit drawings of their scarecrows along with their application in July.

"It's always been a positive attraction that complements our other fall programs," said Plymouth Chamber of Commerce President Wes Graff. "We used to have about 35 scarecrows, but this year we're up to 101."

Contact Ed Wright at ewright@hometownlife.com.



Above from left, the Minions are looking happy in a scarecrow designed by Woodside Bible Church for the annual Plymouth Chamber of Commerce Scarecrows in the Park exhibit; only an ambulance company would design a display like this. PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Former priest Patrick Casey's trial began Oct. 2. He has been charged with felony third-degree criminal sexual conduct. SUAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

CSC trial for former Canton, Westland priest underway

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A former Canton and Westland priest's third-degree criminal sexual conduct trial began Oct. 2 in Detroit.

Patrick Casey, 56, faces up to 15 years in prison if convicted of the felony charge.

"This case turns on one word, (and) that is coercion," prosecuting attorney Danielle Joyce Hagaman-Clark said during opening statements. "You're going to hear a case about the abuse of power, the abuse of position and the abuse of authority."

Ordained in 1997, Casey is accused of engaging in sexual acts, including oral sex, with a man in his 20s at the former St. Theodore of Canterbury Church in Westland.

Casey's alleged crimes apparently were committed in January 2013, about five months after he moved to the Westland church from St. Thomas A Becket Catholic parish in Canton.

An affidavit stated that Casey's victim was a man who sought spiritual guidance. Their sexual encounter in Casey's church office followed, by several weeks, the man's unsuccessful suicide attempt. The man had wrapped a cord around his neck.

"(He) was struggling with a lot of issues," Hagaman-Clark said. "He had some significant mental health issues, including an obsessive compulsive disorder, and high - very high - anxiety. He will tell you that he was struggling with his own faith and his own reality that he lived in being a gay man."

Hagaman-Clark said the man was born and raised as a Lutheran but strayed from those religious tenets. Concerned about what would happen to him and his faith, he reached out to Casey.

They exchanged emails about moral, theological and spiritual issues, and eventually the man wanted to become a Catholic. Simultaneously, he was struggling with Catholic doctrine frowning on same-sex relationships.

He ended a six-year relationship with another man and, telling Casey about the breakup, asked to meet with the priest. The man had been struggling with chastity, lustful thoughts for men and concerns about eternal damnation



Casey

and wanted to confess to a priest.

Another priest had denied this request because the man was not a full-fledged Catholic. Casey agreed to meet on Jan. 17, 2013.

"What does that defendant do, in that position of authority?" Hagaman-Clark asked. "Does he turn him away? No. He doesn't. He performs a sex act on this kid who has said 'I have to live a chaste life.' The defendant uses that to his own advantage by manipulating this young man into a sex act."

Defense attorney Stephen Rabaut acknowledged the friendship between the priest and young man in early 2012. He said they met about every three weeks, but always because the young man "brought about" the meetings.

Rabaut classified their relationship as more friendly than spiritual; their sexual encounter, consensual.

"Early on in the relationship, (he) told Patrick Casey that he was gay," Rabaut told the jury. "Eventually, the conversations between the two of them became more sexualized. Ultimately, in January of 2013, they are together. A sexual encounter occurs between the two. Basically, they end up performing oral sex on one another."

The young man wanted "the sexual relationship to go farther." The priest refused.

"Please don't jump to conclusions after the first witness or the second witness," Rabaut said.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel named Casey as one of five former priests charged with 21 counts of criminal sexual conduct in May.

His jury will be a panel of 14: six men and eight women. Two will be dismissed for the deliberations.

According to the affidavit, Catholic Church officials heard from the young man several years later. The Archdiocese of Detroit conducted a formal investigation and interview with Casey, where Casey admitted to the sexual acts.

Officials recommended Casey's dismissal from the clerical state, and the Archdiocese agreed on Aug. 1, 2018. They said Casey "took advantage of someone who was vulnerable."

Westland man dies after exiting car in traffic on I-696

Micah Walker Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

A 29-year-old man from Westland is dead after getting out of his vehicle in the middle of traffic on I-696 Saturday night, reported Michigan State Police.

At 10:25 p.m., troopers responded to a crash on eastbound I-696 east of Dequindre Road. An investigation found

the man stopped his car on the freeway for an unknown reason.

He then reportedly exited the vehicle in traffic. A second vehicle was unable to stop and struck the man and his car, police said.

The driver of the second vehicle pulled over and stayed at the scene.

MSP does not believe alcohol or drugs were a factor in the accident. An investigation is ongoing.

Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

Gary A. "Girard" Girard

MILFORD - Gary A. "Girard" Girard, a resident of Milford since 1980, 'left the building', surrounded by love on September 30, 2019 after battling cancer since December. He was 68 years old.

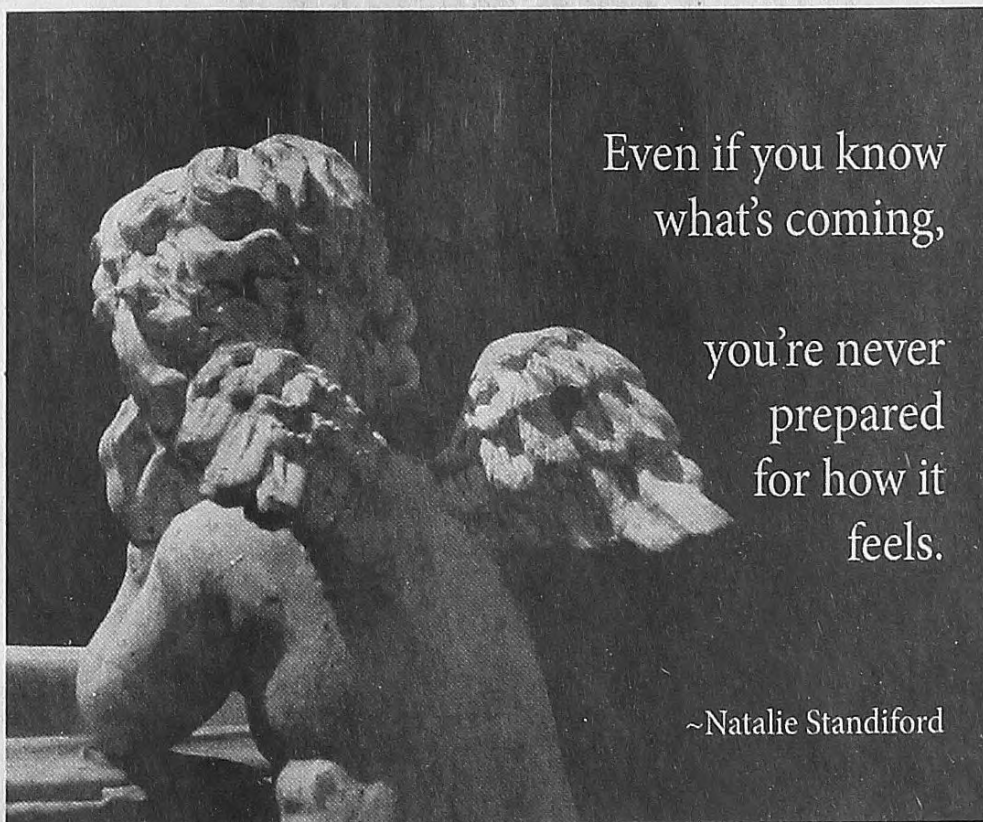
He is survived by Cheryl, his beloved wife of over 47 years; his daughters, Melissa (Tom) Mast and Erin (Patrick) Reynolds; his granddaughter, Emily Mast; sisters, Kim (Dana) Swan and Val (Rick) Jones; sisters and brothers-in-law, Deb (Gary "Clinty") Clinton, Cathy Blaesing, Annette (Norm) Peach, Russ (Marianne) Blaesing and many nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends.

A Memorial Gathering will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty Street, Milford, on Saturday, October 5th, from 5-8 PM.

Memorials may be made in his name to St. Jude Children's Hospital. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchandSonsMilford.com



May you find peace in your time of sorrow.



Even if you know what's coming, you're never prepared for how it feels.

~Natalie Standiford

Meet Aer Head, Mindy Indy's latest comic book

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Since packing her bags for Brooklyn, New York, 2002 Churchill High School alumna Mindy Steffen has been making her way in the world as an independent cartoonist.

Her latest venture, the first comic book in her "Aer Head" series, is currently raising money on Kickstarter.

The cartoonist's pen name for her professional work is Mindy Indy.

She describes the project as a cross between the X-Men and 2002's film "Blue Crush."

The story follows the titular Aer and his friends as they try to save the world, and their home of San Diego, from a life-ending solar flare.

"He predicts an unnatural solar flare is going to wipe out the earth, so he uses his lifeguard skills to try and warn people and round up people," Steffen said.

Along with a few of his friends, Aer, the adopted son of aeronautical sci-

tists, has superpowers.

"Aer Head" is a sci-fi comedy about a teen surfer and lifeguard named Aer. ... He has a power that he can sometimes see the future in his dreams, but not all of the time," Steffen said. "It's very sporadic and he can't control it."

Even though the characters are fighting to save the world as they know it, Steffen describes the project as a science fiction comedy.

Aer is a mostly laid-back surfer guy who is just as concerned about his relationship with his girlfriend as he is with the world's potential ending.

The project, which Steffen has been writing on and off for years, has already surpassed its first Kickstarter goal.

Donors who chip in before the Oct. 10 deadline can get everything from a digital copy to being drawn into the issue, depending on the amount.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby_tankk.



Above at left, the hero, Aer, goes forth to face his fate in Churchill High School graduate Mindy Indy's latest comic book series, "Aer Head." Mindy describes it as a mix between X-Men and "Blue Crush." IMAGES COURTESY OF MINDY INDY



Members of the Volunteers of America team take a silly photo before the new Westland store opens Sept. 27. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Volunteers of America opens thrift shop in old Westland Toys R Us

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's been a long time, but Volunteers of America Michigan has finally brought its thrift shop back into metro Detroit.

And it couldn't come soon enough, said President and CEO Alex Brodrick.

"Our board has always had an interest in bringing this opportunity back here in southeast Michigan," he said. "We were interested in getting back here because we know a lot of our service work is in this area."

"It was important we bring this type of supporting activity here at the same time we're doing the other services."

The thrift shop for the Southfield-based nonprofit opened this past week in the former Toys R Us store at 34800 Warren in the Westland Crossing shopping center.

It's been roughly 30 years since the organization operated a thrift store in the metro Detroit area with the nonprofit instead opting to run them in communities across mid-Michigan such as Lansing, Burton and Corunna.

The location, Brodrick said, couldn't be better.

"Westland is one of those target markets we were looking at. And then we found this Toys R Us," he said. "The timing was perfect for us."

The store was approved earlier this year by the City of Westland, and work took place across the summer to convert the space from a toy store to a thrift shop.

'We're so glad to have you'

Inside, customers can find goods of all kinds, including antiques, clothing, seasonal decorations, furniture and plenty more.

The store's profits will go toward helping Volunteers of America assist

veterans and families in need across the state.

That prompted Westland resident Diane Paris to peruse the shelves during the early morning hours as the store opened Sept. 27.

She said she wasn't looking for anything in particular, but wanted to see how the store would fit in the Westland community.

"Just wanted to browse and see what's going on," she said. "(It's a) nice and clean store."

Westland Mayor William Wild welcomed the store during its grand opening ceremony, saying how happy Westland was to have the new store.

"We're so glad to have you," he said. "We just want you to know this is a big deal to us and we appreciate you coming to town."

This new store, Brodrick said, is a great example of how they plan to use the larger space to their advantage.

"This is a larger store. This is about 47,000 square feet, with about 25,000 square feet of actual shopping area," he said. "We're able to do production in the back here out of the shopping area."

"It flows very well for us." While the store is open, the work is not yet complete.

A new drop-off center will be installed on the side of the building, allowing for donors to bring their cars around and drop items off for donation.

That will come by late November. Brodrick also said the organization hopes to open another store in the region in the next two years.

The store is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays. More information can be found at voami.org.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Twitter: @davidveselenak.



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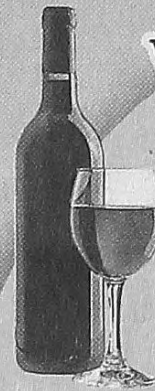
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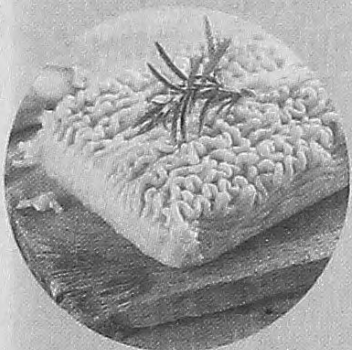
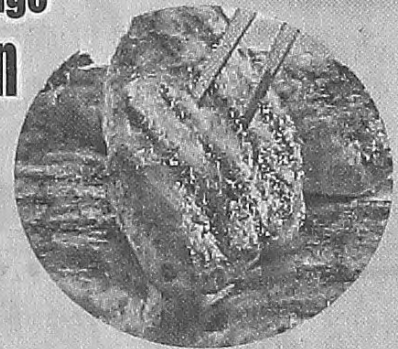
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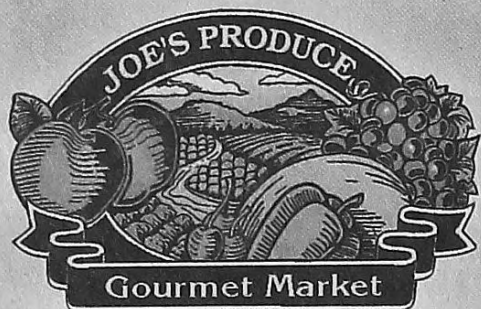
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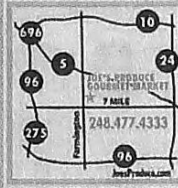
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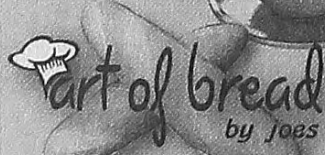
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Sports

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Northville girls CC finishes second at Portage Invite

On Saturday the Northville girls cross country team split its team, sending the Varsity 7 to Portage and the Portage Invite and the Varsity B and the reserves to the Wayne County Invite.

On a day that was perfect running conditions, the Mustangs showed their depth. At the Portage Invite, which brings in the top teams and serves as a preview for the state finals, the Mustangs finished in second place with 148 points behind No. 1 ranked Ann Arbor Pioneer, which had 93 points.

The Mustangs were led by Yasmine Mansi, who finished in fifth place in 18:23, Emily Gordon (19th in 18:51), Keira Courtney (29th in 19:15), Onivas Tupa (38th in 19:32) and Jennie Line (68th in 20:00).

"I was super excited how the girls performed today, throughout the entire race they continued to make moves and gain confidence," Northville girls cross country head coach Nancy Smith said. "This is a great meet which the girls enjoy. The competition is great and it gives them a feel of what the state meet will be like and serves as a training and learning meet for what we need to do over the next three weeks."

At the Wayne County meet, the Mustangs finished in fifth place, with Plymouth winning the meet and Salem placing in second.

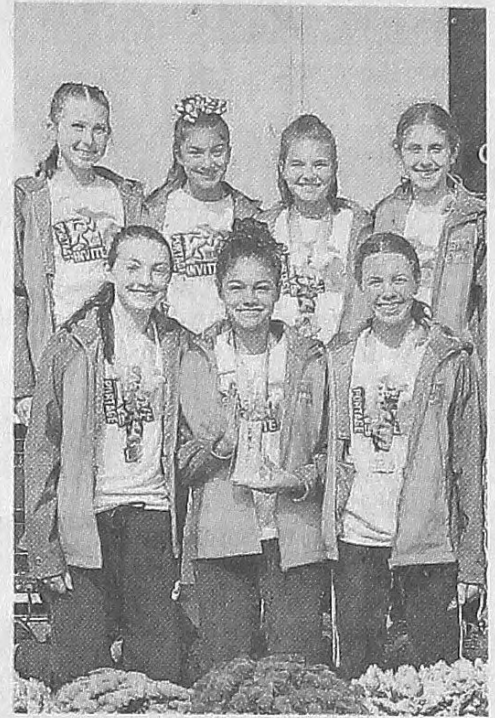
The Mustangs were led by junior Janie DeGroot in a career PR by 30 seconds, finishing 32nd in 20:26 and earned All-

Wayne County. Next in was Elise Jund in 37th in 20:45, Caroline Gillingham (39th in 20:53: a personal record), Jasmine Beltrame (44th in 21:08: a personal record), Samantha Rivera (57th in 21:35: a personal record), Kate Baker (63rd in 21:40) and Lindsay Afsari (72nd in 21:52).

"This group is filled with underclassman which is encouraging for future years," Smith said. "The girls continue to improve each meet which is so exciting, the continue to train hard and it is showing up in their races."

Northville was scheduled to run its last dual meet of the season against Novi on Tuesday at Cass Benton Park.

Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



The Varsity 7 on the Northville girls cross country team finished in second place at the Portage Invite. NANCY SMITH

CC forfeits games after self-reporting ineligible player

Andrew Vaillencourt
 Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Detroit Catholic Central boys soccer team forfeited seven games last week after self-reporting to the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) that the team used an ineligible player.

The Shamrocks, who are considered one of the top teams in the state, were ranked No. 7 overall in the Sept. 30 Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association (MIHSSCA) rankings. Now, their record sits at 5-9-4.

The seven games forfeited span from Aug. 29's game against Brother Rice to Sept. 21's game against Canton. CC had previously won six of the contests and tied one. Opposing teams were credited with a 1-0 win. The seven opponents were: Brother Rice (twice), U-D Jesuit (tied), Portage Central, Fenton, Rochester and Canton.

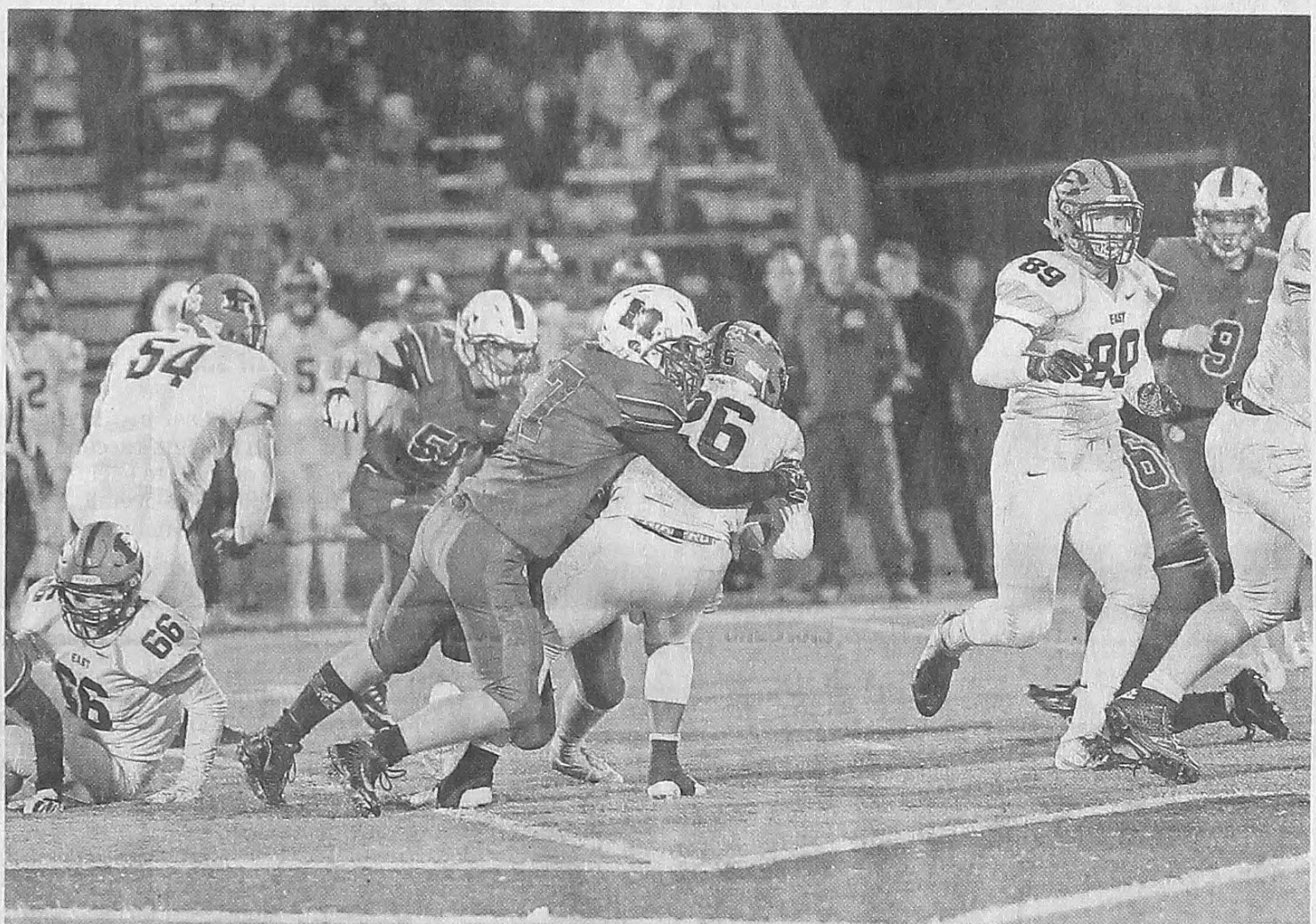
Catholic Central released the following statement to the MHSAA and Hometown Life:

"While conducting a routine review of transcripts, the Catholic Central Administration and Athletic Office uncovered a possible eligibility issue concerning a member of our varsity soccer team. As soon as we had knowledge of a possible violation, the student in question was immediately removed from competition until a full review could be completed.

After a thorough internal review, we determined that the student was not eligible for interscholastic competition. As a result, Detroit Catholic Central self-reported the violation to the MHSAA, which resulted in the forfeiture of seven varsity regular season competitions."

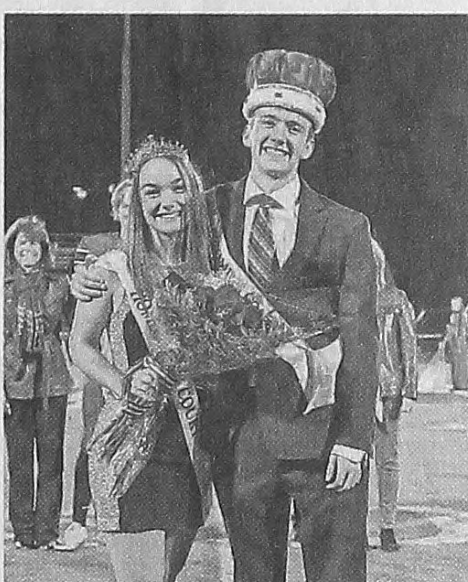
The MHSAA confirmed that CC self-reported the violation and that no further action will be taken following the forfeitures.

Reach Andrew Vaillencourt at avaienci@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Milford's Nick Briggs makes a tackle against South Lyon East. PHOTOS BY JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon East rains on Milford's homecoming



Milford's homecoming king and queen pose during halftime.

Tom Morelli Special to Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With the way South Lyon East's offense moved the ball and scored points in Friday's game at Milford, you could say that it has all the 'Wright' stuff.

That's in large part to senior Donovan Wright, who tallied 163 yards on 21 carries and three touchdowns to spoil Milford's homecoming, 35-14.

"Donovan is a heck of a running back," East head coach Joe Pesci said. "He brings a lot of power and has gotten quicker this off-season. You can see a bit more speed and he's able to run away from guys. He's having a nice year for us and we're going to go as far as he can take us. When it comes down to it, we're going to give the ball to No. 26 as much as we can."

A three-year starter, Wright moved into the running back position this season after spending the previous two at fullback.

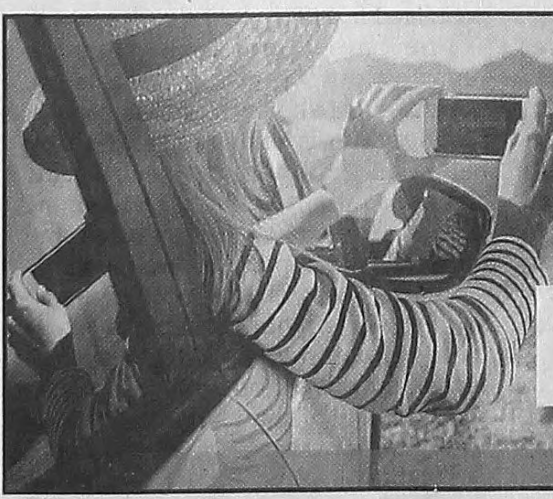
Wright proved that he can still dish out his fair share of punishment, as he pulverized defenders on touchdown runs of 36, 7, and 45 yards in the first half.

To add insult to injury, Wright topped the 100 mark on the last run with 2:21 until halftime.

Wright talked about his last touchdown score, which ended up being the longest play of the contest.

"I credit my line because that's all them," Wright said. "I can't do anything without my line and they did a great job so I could score off of it."

See RAINS, Page 2B



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HOMETOWN LIFE STAFF FOOTBALL PICKS: WEEK 7

Sports reporters Andrew Vaillencourt and Colin Gay, news reporters Ed Wright and David Veselenak, and editor Phil Allmen make their weekly picks.

Games (home team listed first):	Andrew Vaillencourt	Colin Gay	Ed Wright	David Veselenak	Phil Allmen (coin flip)
Troy Athens vs. Seaholm	Seaholm	Seaholm	Seaholm	Seaholm	Troy Athens
Stoney Creek vs. Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves
Walled Lake Western vs. South Lyon	Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Western	South Lyon	Walled Lake Western
South Lyon East vs. Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern	South Lyon East	Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern	Walled Lake Northern
Lakeland vs. Waterford Kettering	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland
Catholic Central vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's	Orchard Lake St. Mary's
Brother Rice vs. Guerin Catholic	Guerin Catholic	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	Brother Rice
Belleville vs. Livonia Stevenson	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Livonia Stevenson
Fordson vs. Livonia Franklin	Franklin	Fordson	Fordson	Franklin	Fordson
Hartland at Novi	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Novi
Northville vs. Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth	Plymouth
Howell vs. Canton	Howell	Canton	Howell	Canton	Canton
Illinois vs. Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
Wisconsin vs. Michigan State	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Wisconsin
Texas vs. Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas
Iowa vs. Penn State	Iowa	Penn State	Penn State	Penn State	Iowa
LSU vs. Florida	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	Florida
Purdue vs. Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland
Minnesota vs. Nebraska	Minnesota	Minnesota	Nebraska	Minnesota	Minnesota
Indiana vs. Rutgers	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana
Last Week's Record:	15-5	16-4	14-6	13-7	8-12
Season Record:	90-29-1	94-25-1	88-31-1	87-32-1	58-61-1

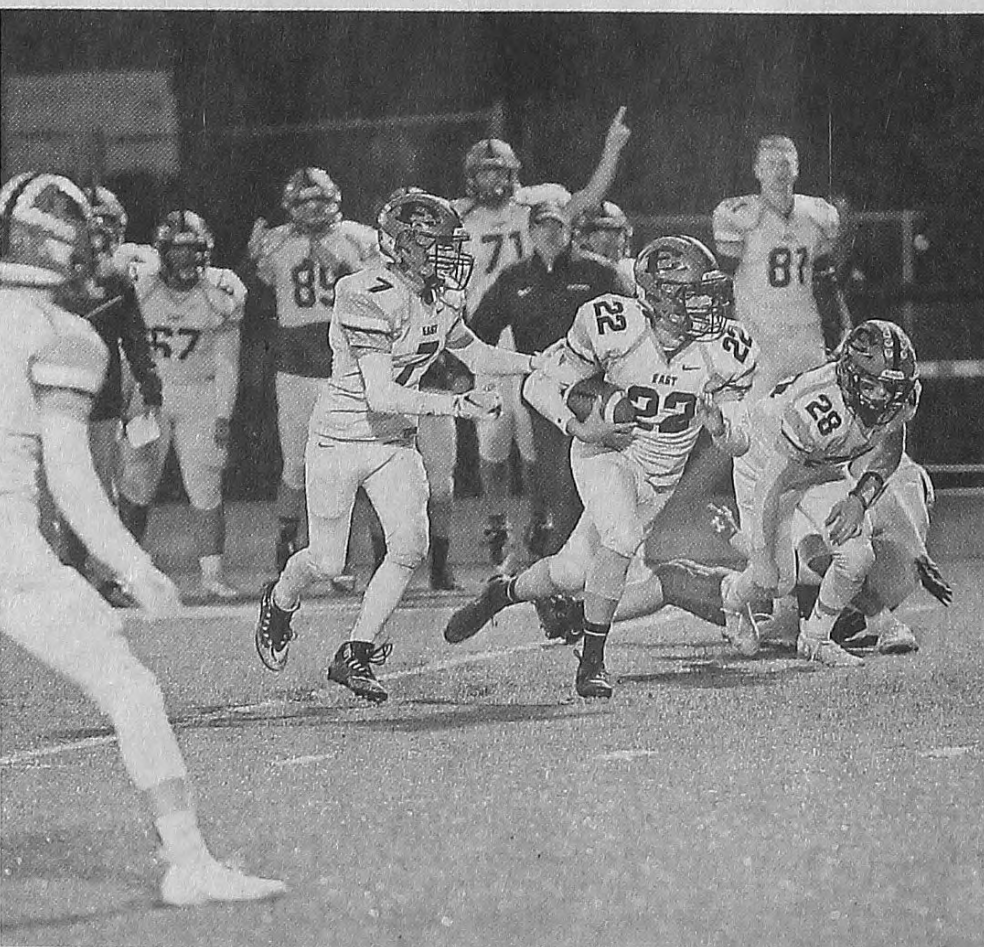
Andrew Vaillencourt Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

We're back for another round of picks after an exciting sixth week of games.

Four of our staff reporters and our editor will be making picks on 20 games each week throughout the season. Games will be a mix of high school, college and pro, with a focus on local contests. Picks can be found below. (If the

chart doesn't show up, wait a few minutes for it to download or try again on a desktop) If you have trouble viewing on Twitter mobile, copy the link and open in your internet browser, then delete the amp at the beginning of the URL.

Reach Andrew Vaillencourt at avai-lienc@hometownlife.com, 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometown-life.com.



South Lyon East's James Patrick returns an interception against Milford.
JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



South Lyon East running back Donovan Wright carries the ball against Milford.
PHOTOS BY JERRY REA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Rains

Continued from Page 1B

If the Cougars (2-4 overall, 2-3 LVC) are able to keep pace like this, they'll have all the 'Wright' moves in place to close out the last three games.

"This is what we've been building up for," Wright said. "We've had a rough season so far and we know that we have to win out these last few games in order to make the playoffs. We came in here not thinking about the past, but focusing on the future and knowing that we be better and sharper and that's just what we did."

Here are three other takeaways from Friday's LVC clash:

Second-Half Surge

After seeing East institute a running clock on Desentz's second touchdown of the evening to begin the third quarter, Milford (1-5 overall, 1-5 LVC) responded immediately to slow the game back down.

Following two big runs by Trey Hayes and Blake Kerwin, the Mavericks found themselves in a first-and-goal situation.

Milford finished their drive using the fumblerooski play from "Little Giants", with junior offensive lineman Caleb Holmes-McGahan putting the Mavericks on the board with a goal-line plunge.

"If we had played the second half like the first half, we'd have been a lot better," Milford head coach Garfrey Smith said. "We're young and we're fixing our mistakes, but overall I think our guys played a really good game. South Lyon East has a great head coach and a good program. I expected a hard fought game and I'm proud of my guys."

On the ensuing kickoff, Milford caught the Cougars off-guard with a squib kick that would be scooped up by Hayes to begin another scoring drive.

While the Mavericks didn't use a trick play to score this time around, they did catch a break as quarterback Hunter Pillera's pass from 12 yards out was tipped by an East defender into the waiting hands of Benjamin Coloske with 9:41 left in the contest.

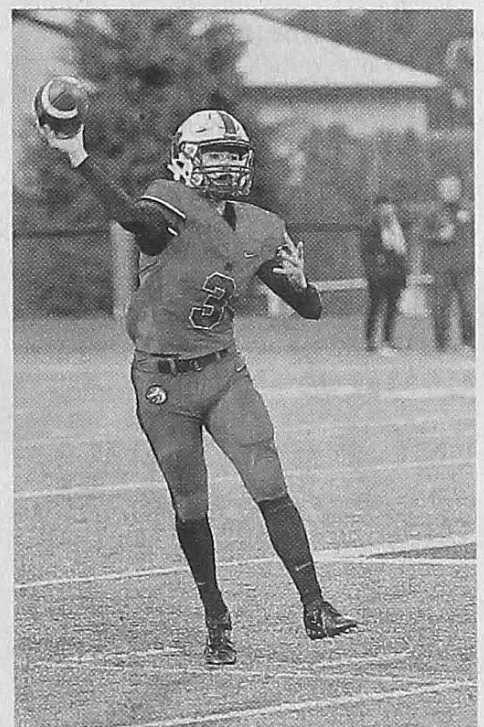
"We have a lot of weapons on offense from Ronnie Savage to Ben Coloske to Erik Kramer and Blake Kerwin," Smith said. "We also have a lot of younger weapons like Trey Hayes. It opens things up a lot and we like what we see coming up. Our back-up quarterback Billy Sternberg went out and played receiver and had two big catches at the end of the game. We're young and we're versatile and we're going to try a couple things to get that offense moving out there."

Going, Going, Gong

South Lyon East's tradition of striking the gong after forcing a turnover was alive and well, as they were able to nab three picks and scoop up a fumble.

"We banged the gong four times and it's always a goal to hit it at least once or twice a game," Pesci said. "When we get those turnovers though, we have to capitalize on the. We were able to score off of two of them, but we wasted a few opportunities there in the second half."

The first two turnovers led to scores, as junior cornerback Aiden Clark ended a Milford drive prema-



Milford's Hunter Pillera throws a pass against South Lyon East.

turally by snagging the ball near the sideline and scampering past defenders for a 33-yard return.

On the first play from scrimmage, junior quarterback Zander Desentz punched it in up the middle from two yards out to give the Cougars a 21-0 advantage.

The next opportunity for East came on a Milford fumble near midfield that was recovered by junior defensive lineman Trevon Tyler.

Two plays later, the Cougars lengthened their lead on Wright's final touchdown run.

The last pair of turnovers came in the fourth quarter, with Clark and sophomore Braeden Tillman-Jones both coming up with their takeaways on third down.

Even with the win, Pesci said that he'd have liked a more textbook performance by his team on both sides of the ball in the second half.

"We just have to clean things up," Pesci said. "We have yet to play a perfect game and haven't played four quarters all season. We have some spurts where we're good like in the first half, and then we tend to have lapses and breakdowns."

Finish Strong

With the MHSAA changing its play-off points system this past off-season, teams no longer qualify for the playoffs automatically by reaching six wins.

Instead, the focus is more of strength of schedule rather than a team's win-loss record.

Under the new regime, East still has a chance to make the post-season as they round out their schedule against Walled Lake Northern, Waterford Kettering, and South Lyon.

Pesci said that the competition within the Lakes Valley Conference doesn't make his squad's road to the promised land any easier.

"We have three tough games to round out our season," Pesci said. "We have Walled Lake Northern and Waterford Kettering is having a heck of a year before finishing with the rivalry game against South Lyon. We're challenging the kids to take it week by week and focus on that opponent coming up."

"In this league if you look at the scores, each game is competitive and can go either way. We just have to take care of ourselves and we hope to be on the right end of the scoreboard for the next couple of weeks."

HTL top 10 high school football teams: Week 7

Andrew Vaillencourt
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Week 6 of the high school football season is complete, and Hometown Life Sports is back with its weekly top-10 teams in the area. Each week, we rank the top 10 teams in our coverage area based on record, strength of schedule, experience and of course, the game results. The ranking will be decided on by our two sports reporters: Andrew Vaillencourt and Colin Gay.

Here is the top 10 for week 7:

1. Livonia Franklin (6-0, Last Week: No. 1)

Another week, another win. After securing head coach Chris Kelbert's 100th career win, the Patriots will face a huge challenge in Dearborn Fordson in Week 7, who only lost by one point to Belleville this past weekend.

2. South Lyon (6-0, Last Week: No. 2)

Since its two one-score wins against Trenton and Lakeland, South Lyon has continued to rule the Lakes Valley Conference, earning dominant wins against Walled Lake Northern and Waterford Mott. This week, however, proves to be a test for the Lions, who will face a Walled Lake Western team whose only loss was to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

3. Plymouth (6-0, Last Week: No. 3)

Led by Mike Mathias in the backfield, Plymouth has not found trouble in KLAA West play, coming into Week 7 as the only undefeated team against conference opponents. That streak should continue into Week 8 as the Wildcats take on a 2-4 Northville team.

4. Birmingham Groves (5-1, Last Week: No. 4)

After its loss to Oak Park, Groves has returned to its dominance, defeating its past two opponents — Troy Athens and Troy — by a combined 92-10. While the Falcons face a Rochester Hills Stoney Creek team with a winning record, the two-game win streak should turn into three, as Stoney Creek has lost both to Birmingham Seaholm and Oak Park.

5. Farmington (6-0, Last Week: No. 5)

Farmington continued its offensive dominance, extending its 50-point streak to two games after the 51-24 win against Avondale this past Friday. The Falcons should extend their streak to seven against Berkley before a likely battle of undefeated rivals in Week 8.

6. North Farmington (6-0, Last Week: No. 6)

The great run continued for the Raiders, beating Royal Oak 42-8. This week they take on Okemos before the ultimate showdown against Farmington.

7. Detroit Country Day (6-0, Last Week: No. 9)

The Yellowjackets keep rolling along and improved to 6-0 with a win over Richland Gull Lake. At this point, they should be labeled as the clear division four favorites to win it all.

8. Detroit Catholic Central (3-3, Last Week: No. 7)

It was a rough week for the Shamrocks, who are quite lucky to still be in these rankings following their 14-3 loss to De La Salle. They stay in though, thanks to losses by Brother Rice and Seaholm. It doesn't get any easier this week, with a tough game against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

9. Lakeland (4-2, Last Week: NR)

Lakeland started the season a little

slow, but has now won three straight games following its one-point loss to South Lyon. Friday, the Eagles put on an impressive performance, beating Divine Child 27-0.

Their only two losses are to South Lyon and Walled Lake Western, two of the better teams in the state.

10. Livonia Churchill (2-4, Last Week: NR)

It feels strange to include a 2-4 team in the top 10, especially with a pair of 4-2 teams in Brother Rice and Seaholm available to slot here, but the record doesn't tell the whole story here.

The Chargers have played one of the most difficult schedules in the entire state, with losses to Brighton (5-1), Belleville (6-0), Fordson (5-1) and Franklin (6-0). The rivalry loss to Franklin coming in triple overtime. Last week, Churchill went on the road and pulled off a big upset, beating Dearborn 16-14. The team still has a lot to prove, but it will have a good opportunity to finish the regular season with three more wins and get into the playoffs.

The Hometown Life sports (HTL sports) area consists of 28 teams representing Catholic League (Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood), Independent (Detroit Country Day), the Oakland Activities Association (Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm, Farmington, North Farmington), the Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Garden City, Redford Thurston, Redford Union), the MIAC (Livonia Clarenceville, Lutheran Westland), the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Canton, Livonia Stevenson, Salem, Novi, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Plymouth, Northville, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial) and the Lakes Valley Conference (White Lake Lakeland, South Lyon East, South Lyon, Milford).

availlenc@hometownlife.com

FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

Here is a look at what the scores look like for Hometown Life area high school teams in the sixth week of the football season.

Friday, Oct. 4

- OAA**
Birmingham Groves (5-1) 49, Troy (0-6) 0
Oak Park (5-1) 41, Birmingham Seaholm (4-2) 21
Lake Orion (5-1) 42, Bloomfield Hills (0-6) 6
Farmington (6-0) 51, Auburn Hills Avondale (3-3) 24
North Farmington (6-0) 42, Royal Oak (1-5) 8
- Lakes Valley Conference**
South Lyon East (2-4) 35, Milford (1-5) 14
South Lyon (6-0) 51, Waterford Mott (3-3) 12
White Lake Lakeland (4-2) 27, Dearborn Divine Child (3-3) 0
- Catholic High School League**
Detroit Loyola (3-3) 16, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingwood (3-3) 0
Warren De La Salle (3-3) 14, Detroit Catholic Central (3-3) 3
- Western Wayne Athletic Conference**
Garden City (4-2) 45, Romulus (1-5) 0
Redford Thurston (5-1) 46, Melvindale (0-6) 0
Redford Union (4-2) 20, Dearborn Heights Robichaud (5-1) 14
- MIAC**
Pewamo-Westphalia (5-0) 49, Livonia Clarenceville (4-2) 8
- KLAA**
Canton (3-3) 28, Novi (1-5) 14
Livonia Churchill (2-4) 16, Dearborn (3-3) 14
Livonia Franklin (6-0) 42, Westland John Glenn (0-6) 7
Livonia Stevenson (3-3) 46, Wayne Memorial (0-6) 0
Brighton (5-1) 34, Northville (2-4) 0
Plymouth (6-0) 35, Hartland (3-3) 13
Howell (3-3) 65, Salem (0-6) 7
Other score of note: Belleville (6-0) 20, Fordson (5-1) 19
- Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

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GAME OF THE WEEK

Franklin at Dearborn Fordson tops must-watch matchups

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan high school football season rolls into Week 7 after an eventful sixth week of the season. Here are six games to watch this week, including Hometown Life's Game of the Week: Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson.

Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

One week after its three-overtime win against Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin got the convincing win it needed — a 42-7 win against Westland John Glenn, which was head coach Chris Kelbert's 100th career win for the Patriots — to remain undefeated.

Now the tough stretch begins. Franklin will take on Dearborn Fordson on the road, a team that has only one loss: a 20-19 home loss to undefeated Belleville, who the Patriots will face in Week 8.

Against KLAA East teams not named Belleville, the Tractors have outscored opponents 177-57, shutting out both John Glenn and Wayne Memorial.

Senior quarterback Jake Kelbert and the Franklin offense, which has scored more than 40 points in each of its six wins this season, despite scoring 28 points in regulation against Churchill, will see if it can keep up with junior quarterback Ali Beydoun and the sound Fordson offense.

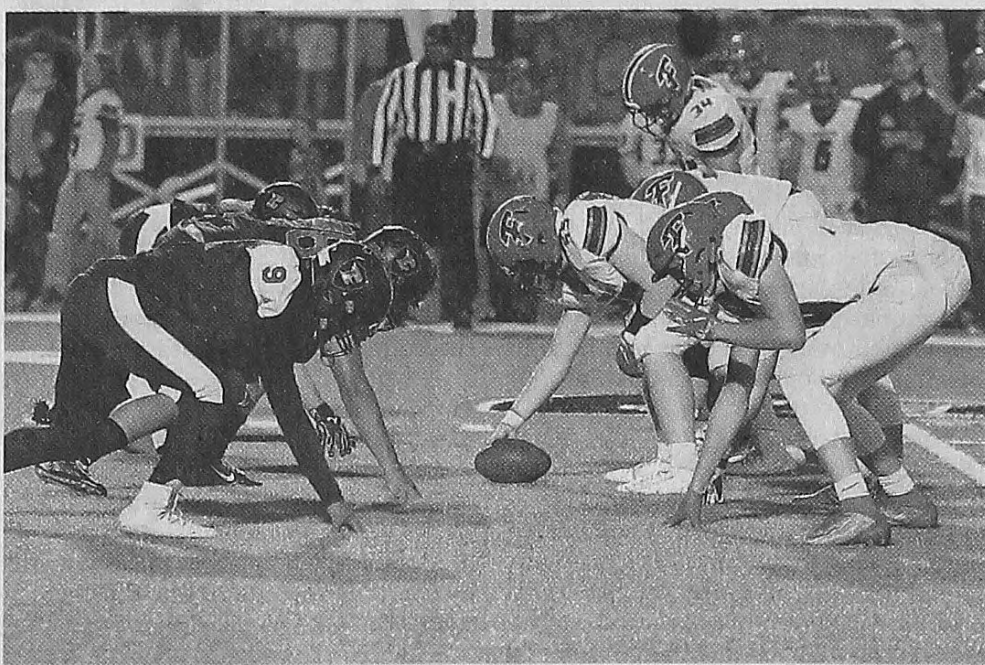
Here are five other games to watch this week:

Detroit Catholic Central vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Orchard Lake St. Mary's did something that not many teams have done against Brother Rice: score 44 points with five touchdowns in Week 6.

Now, the Eaglets' run-heavy offense will take on Detroit Catholic Central, a team that has a letdown of its own this past week. The Shamrocks scored three points, the lowest amount they have recorded all season, in a 14-3 loss to Warren De La Salle.

With a firm hold on second place in



Livonia Churchill and Franklin go head-to-head Sept. 27. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

the Catholic High School League Central, the Shamrocks, if they win, will have a rematch with St. Mary's in the Prep Bowl. If Catholic Central loses, the Shamrocks will have a three-way tie for second place, with the three other teams tied with a record of 1-2.

In the past two weeks, Catholic Central has scored only 10 points, lower than the stretch of two losses against Toledo Whitmer and Toledo Catholic Central in which the Shamrocks scored 13.

The Eaglets defense allowed the Brother Rice passing game to shine, as quarterback Greg Piscopink threw for 320 yards and two touchdowns this past week. The Shamrocks will just have to find a way to stop the St. Mary's running game.

South Lyon at Walled Lake Western, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

After two one-score wins against Trenton and White Lake Lakeland in the second and third weeks of the season, South Lyon has not seen much adversity. The Lions have scored more than 30 points in each of the past three games, beating opponents by at least 13 points in each of the wins.

However, adversity has returned, as South Lyon will face its toughest opponent yet in Walled Lake Western.

The Warriors have scored more than 35 points each game this season, and has only one loss: a three-point loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's on Sept. 20.

Since that game, Walled Lake Western has outscored Waterford Mott and Waterford Kettering 73-10 in the past two games.

With a road game against a team that many consider to be a deep playoff contender, South Lyon will have a chance to prove its undefeated record on Friday night.

Northville vs. Plymouth, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

The 2019 season has not been kind to Northville. After winning their first game of the season against Westland John Glenn, the Mustangs have lost four of their past five games, losing their last time out against Brighton 34-0.

Plymouth has rolled through its first six game of the season. Mike Mathias and Co. had two close wins back-to-back against Canton and Brighton, but remain at the top of the KLAA West.

When facing Plymouth, though,

Northville seems to show up and make it competitive.

Plymouth has won its past two meetings with Northville, but each deficit has been within one score, with the Wildcats beating the Mustangs 17-10 last season.

Birmingham Groves vs. Rochester Hills Stoney Creek, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

After the Sept. 20 loss to Oak Park, Birmingham Groves has gotten back on track, defeating both Troy Athens and Troy by a combined score of 92-10.

Before the battle of second-place teams on Oct. 18 against Birmingham Seaholm, Groves will take on Rochester Stoney Creek, a team that has seemingly won games it has supposed to win.

Stoney Creek's two losses are to Seaholm and Oak Park respectively, both teams above the Cougars in the OAA White. Stoney Creek lost to the Maples by seven points, and fell to Oak Park by 13.

Farmington at Berkley, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Farmington head coach Kory Cioroch was not pleased with the way his team played in the first half against Auburn Hills Avondale, leaving the field with a one-point lead.


The Falcons stepped it up in the second half, defeating Avondale 51-24 in their sixth win of the season. However, to get to where Farmington wants to be when it takes on currently undefeated North Farmington on Oct. 18, he said the team has to start faster.


Senior quarterback Max Martin and the Falcon offense has shown an ability to put points on the board, scoring 50-plus points in each of Farmington's past two full games.

The Falcons will have the opportunity to do that against Berkley on the road Friday, a team that has allowed over 30 points in three of its five losses this season.

Contact Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-310-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

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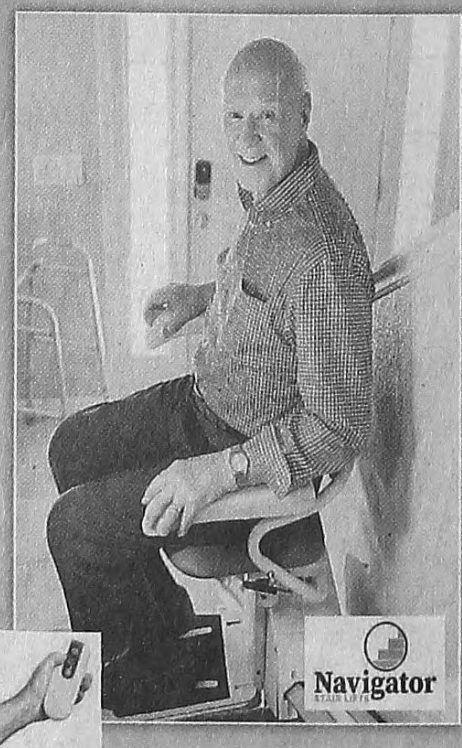
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Plymouth, MI 48170

To the qualified electors of the City of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Public Accuracy Test for the optical scan voting equipment that will be used in all precincts in the City of Plymouth for the GENERAL ELECTION to be held on TUESDAY, November 5, 2019, is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 12:00 noon at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law. Election Source from Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been contracted by the City of Plymouth to conduct the testing to assure the equipment has been programmed appropriately. This is an open testing session and any interested person is encouraged to attend.

If there are any questions, please direct them to the City Clerk's office at 734-453-1234, ext. 234 or 225. The Plymouth Cultural Center is in compliance with the American Disabilities Act and is handicapped accessible.

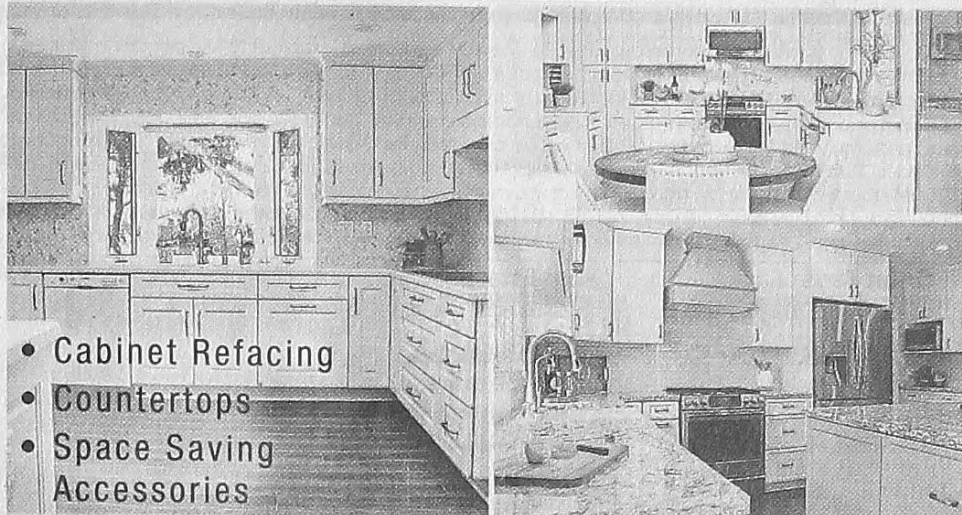
Maureen A. Brodie, City Clerk
City of Plymouth

Publish Observer Newspaper: October 10, 2019

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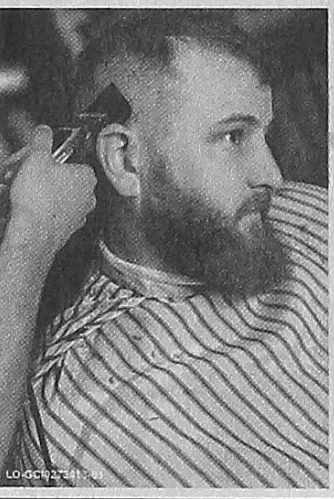
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Verbal quirk from the 43rd U.S. president
- 8 Actor Gabe
- 14 "Go ahead" hand gesture
- 20 Diplomatic agreement
- 21 "Stop already!"
- 22 Workweek ender
- 23 Disturb calm piccolo players?
- 26 Alley —
- 27 Card game with melding
- 28 Chef Emeril
- 29 Rival of Bing
- 33 Singer Wilson with the 1977 hit "Telephone Man"
- 34 Diner patron
- 35 Most agile men of the cloth persevere?
- 42 Moreno of film
- 43 Goddess of dawn
- 44 — Na Na
- 45 Noisy baby toys make an aspiring actress jump?
- 56 Hilo "hello"
- 57 Related to fat, in biochemistry
- 58 Neighbor of a Syrian
- 59 Tiny drink
- 60 Directive to Danno on "Hawaii Five-O"
- 62 French actor Delon
- 63 More sickly-looking buccaneers wander around?
- 71 Tiny bits
- 72 At minimum
- 73 Above, to poets
- 74 It links England and France
- 77 Retina part
- 79 Actor Romero
- 81 Shows where a few food-industry calves are hiding?
- 85 Rage
- 86 Suffix of sugars
- 87 Yale attendees
- 88 Threw away the most rigid filaments?

DOWN

- 101 — pronounce you ..."
- 102 Make certain
- 103 Add to a database
- 106 Munich's state
- 109 Actor Romero
- 110 Doorkeeper's purplish-red uniform ID?
- 115 River through the Carolinas
- 116 Devoted fan
- 117 "Let's do this now"
- 118 Letter-shaped tracks in metalworking
- 119 Softhearted
- 120 Operating room knives
- 1 Enshrouds in haze
- 2 Remove a lasso from, e.g.
- 3 Mental torpor
- 4 "— So Fine" (1963 hit)
- 5 Bank acct. earnings
- 6 Fr. nun, maybe
- 7 Former div. of Ford
- 8 More acute
- 9 Actor Aziz —
- 10 Anson Williams', role on "Happy Days"
- 11 Liza Minnelli's half sister
- 12 Water, in Peru
- 13 Sabres' gp.
- 14 In the recent past
- 15 Diane who played Helen in "Troy"
- 16 Hindu lutes
- 17 May 15, e.g.
- 18 Needlefishes
- 19 Wall Street market inits.
- 24 Exit incline
- 25 Lickable envelope part
- 30 Waist size
- 31 Actress Arcieri or Kenzie
- 32 Punta del —, Uruguay
- 34 To be, to Nero
- 36 Prof's aides
- 37 Alien-seeking proj.
- 38 Recounted
- 39 Dot on an ocean map
- 40 Silverstein of kiddie lit
- 41 Comic actor Jacques
- 45 Filing tool
- 46 Inter — (among others)
- 47 Summits
- 48 Splashes liquid on
- 49 — torch (luau light)
- 50 Mimicker
- 51 Lovey stuff
- 52 Riverbed deposits
- 53 Old Russian autocrats
- 54 Opera tune
- 55 Hindu queen
- 60 Chewed leaf stimulant
- 61 Spoken exams
- 62 Give — of approval
- 64 Fork point
- 65 39-Down off Scotland
- 66 Series of gigs
- 67 Jazz legend Fitzgerald
- 68 Ask, as a question
- 69 Char
- 70 Blows it
- 74 Lit — (univ. course)
- 75 Mr., in Berlin
- 76 Middle layer of the eye
- 77 Arizona city
- 78 Say to be so
- 79 — terrier (Toto, e.g.)
- 80 "It's nobody — business"
- 82 Arty area of NYC
- 83 Doc for pets
- 84 K-12
- 89 Swimsuit brand
- 90 Certain wasp
- 91 Best-of-the-best groups
- 92 Merrill of old movies
- 93 Shift, as attention
- 94 Glossy paint
- 95 1957 Jimmy Dorsey hit
- 96 Mattress size
- 97 Mom's sis
- 98 Saw things while asleep
- 99 Marsh plants
- 103 Pre- (replace)
- 104 Scottish turndowns
- 105 Neutrogena shampoo brand
- 106 Expressed, as a farewell
- 107 Lots
- 108 Blue dye
- 111 Comedy bit
- 112 — loss
- 113 Rival of AOL
- 114 Misc. abbr.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20							21						22					
23							24						25					
26						27							28					
29		30	31	32		33						34						
35						36				37	38					39	40	41
		42								43							44	
45	46	47					48	49	50	51			52	53	54	55		
56							57						58					
59				60	61								62					
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74	75	76						77	78							79	80	
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88		89	90	91	92					93	94	95	96			97	98	99
			100							101				102				
103	104	105								106	107			108				109
110										111				112	113	114		
115										116								117
118										119								120

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

SUDOKU

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

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!

DIET & EXERCISE WORD SEARCH

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

ANSWER KEY

WORDS

- ACTIVITY
- ADIPOSE
- AEROBIC
- BARIATRIC
- BODY MASS INDEX
- BONE
- CALORIE
- CARBOHYDRATE
- CHOLESTEROL
- CONTROL
- DIABETES
- DIET
- DIETICIAN
- ENERGY
- EXERCISE
- EXPENDITURE
- FASTING
- FAT
- FLEXIBILITY
- GAINING
- GLUCOSE
- GRAINS
- GYM
- HYDROGENATED
- MACRONUTRIENT
- METABOLISM
- MUSCLE
- NUTRITION
- OBESITY
- OVERWEIGHT
- PORTION
- SODIUM
- SUGARS
- TISSUE
- TRIGLYCERIDES
- UNSATURATED
- WEIGHTS

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



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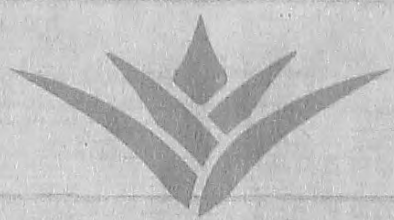
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