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Invisible mold creates nightmare for family

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Highlighted by well-manicured landscaping and a lush, green front yard, the curb appeal of the Gudith family's Canton Township home is eye-popping.

The interior of the 2,400-square-foot, two-story brick colonial was

equally appealing, decorated with stylish furniture and art.

"Ask anyone who knows us well and they'll tell you we're excessively clean," said Chelsea Gudith. "It's a running joke in our family that Todd (Chelsea's husband) vacuums once a day."

As she spoke Monday afternoon, symbols of a beyond-belief nightmare

sat in the Gudiths' driveway — a pair of portable storage units, one yellow and one white.

"The yellow one is for all the stuff in our house that is not salvageable; the white one is for the stuff we get to keep," she explained, as Todd and the couple's 5-year-old daughter watched.

The white container is one-quarter

the size of the yellow one.

Two weeks ago — and almost one year after Chelsea Gudith and the rest of the family started experiencing a series of unexplained health issues, including a perplexing bout of infertility — a specialist at the Ann Arbor-based Bio

See MOLD, Page 4A



Diane's Dream Brides shop manager Michele Hogrebe takes a look at one of the many dresses for sale at the soon-to-close store in Livonia. The size 2 dress, worth \$1,500, is now available for \$750. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Livonia bridal shop closing after 20 years

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Diane Lucarelli-Ault has made thousands of brides happy with dresses throughout the years. But now, after 20 years of running Diane's Dream Brides in Livonia, she's hanging up her measuring tape for good.

Lucarelli-Ault has decided it's time to retire and will close the shop at 29449 Five Mile in the Mid 5 shopping center at the end of the year, after filling the rest of her orders.

"I felt it was perfect timing because the industry was changing, especially

with online sales," she said. "My husband's been retired for three years, and I wanted to be able to spend more time with my mom and traveling."

She began working at Winkleman's department store years ago before coming upon the shop at Five Mile and Middlebelt and working as a part-time employee. After the store went up for sale in 1999, she decided to buy it, and became her own boss.

It was a move, Lucarelli-Ault said, she never expected she'd make in her life. But she found her calling in it.

See BRIDAL SHOP, Page 3A

"... I found out that I was good at helping brides pick the perfect dress. People say to me all the time, 'I never would have tried that on. And I bought it.'"

Diane Lucarelli-Ault
Owner, Diane's Dream Brides

Westland may allow marijuana businesses

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After months of discussion, Westland City Council is getting ready to vote on whether it wants to allow marijuana businesses — medical and recreational — within the city.

The council introduced an ordinance Monday that would allow and regulate marijuana establishments within the city. Since it's been introduced, council will vote in two weeks whether to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance could be changed before council votes on it.

"I think the city has kind of taken a slow walk on this and we've had the opportunity to see how other communities have handled their ordinances and things that worked well, things that didn't work well and things that turned into litigation," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "So we have probably had the ability to kind of look and see some of the problems other communities have had."

Council has done nine study sessions on the topic, which date back to early June, and has requested input from residents at those meetings. Recaps of those study sessions can be found online in the city's agenda and minutes library.

If residents want a chance to comment publicly on the issue, the next city council meeting Oct. 21 will be their chance to do so.

"The council's diligence on this has been impressive," Wild said. "We've had nine study sessions and I don't remember in my time that we've had nine study sessions on any topic. They've really done a deep dive into this."

The ordinance, if approved, would become Chapter 27 in the Westland City Code. The ordinance allows for retail facilities, processing and secure transport of the substance.

Among other things, the ordinance would keep the establishments in certain parts of the city away from residential zoned areas and the developing City Centre District.

"We don't know what all of the different corporate philosophies are and bars being located near marijuana businesses," Wild said of the City Centre District, noting that marijuana is still illegal at the federal level. "And,

See MARIJUANA, Page 5A



Meet 'the counselor to the living and the dead'

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kristy Robinett, a psychic medium, knows what she does for a living isn't "normal." But, it's her life and always has been.

"I've seen spirits since I was 3, so I don't really remember not having the ability to see spirits," she said. "I see them in the physical form, so they look like you and I. They don't look like Casper the friendly ghost or demons coming out of the woodwork."

Her story started with her grandparents, particularly her grandfather. After his death, Robinett says he became her guardian.

"In the summer of 1978 he was found beaten near death next to his bed in De-

troit," she said. "They took him to the ICU and he kept calling for me but before I could go see him he ended up passing away. So it was at his grave that I saw him standing next to a tree smoking a cigarette like he always did."

Later, her grandfather helped her escape what Robinett thinks may have been the Oakland County Killer.

"I stood up and before I knew it he (a kidnapper) was taking me toward the exit of the mall," she recalls. "I felt my grandfather in back of me. I could smell the cigarette smoke that the kidnapper didn't have and I sensed my grandfather.... He physically pushed me away and I ran. That year was the year the Oakland County Killer was picking up his people."

After years of grappling with her abilities, Robinett decided to seek out some counsel.

"I went to a psychiatrist because I thought I was crazy, I went to a neurologist because I thought maybe I had a brain tumor and I went to my minister and thought he was going to excommunicate me," she said. "The psychiatrist and the neurologist both told me I was a medium and the minister, I ended up giving him what I now know as a reading."

That minister ended up sending her to a medium, who was also a Lutheran minister, and Robinett started to work as a medium professionally.

"At nights I would go and work with him doing sessions and I would work with the police," she said. "We would work on cold cases and missing person cases."

Over the years, she said she's worked with police in metro Detroit cities like Livonia and Westland as well as police forces throughout Ohio and Illinois.

"Some of them like to admit it, some of them don't like to admit it," she joked. "I give them full credit on all of the cases. I'm sort of like the tool that they come to."

As a former Livonia resident, Robinett opened her first business in Livonia, but has since moved her work north to Highland. Over the years, she has also

Kristy Robinett returns to Livonia to talk about haunted Michigan on Oct. 17 at the Civic Center Library.



Robinett, a former Livonia resident, talks about her life as a psychic medium.
SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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authored a number of books, the latest of which is the soon to be released "Born Under A Good Sign."

"It mainly helps with real-life situations like if your boss is a Virgo, how do you deal with that?" Robinett said of the book. "If your mom is a Libra, how do you deal with that?"

Robinett is also a wife, mother, Lutheran and conducts talks. She'll be back in Livonia at the Civic Center Library on Oct. 17 to talk about haunted Michigan.

"I love the Livonia library," she said. "I've been doing the Livonia library for maybe seven or eight years."

But in her everyday work, Robinett aims to bring closure and comfort to her clients by serving as a middle man between them and deceased loved ones on what she calls the other side.

"I actually see whomever wants to be around that person at that time kind of walking with them and assisting them," she said. "Whether you believe it, whether you don't believe it and whether you want them or whether you don't want them: they're there."

Robinett compares these guardians to the bumpers on the sides of a bowling lane. They won't push someone in any one direction, just help them stay on

track.

"I try to bring as much comfort as possible, sometimes as much closure as possible," she said. "I'm sort of a grief counselor in a different context of it."

From what she sees, those on the other side are "living better than we are" and doing things they loved in life.

"I see heaven as a different world, it's the best world that they create," she said. "So if they love horses, their world on the other side is going to be stables and horses... I see them on the other side living a life with the people they reunite with."

But, she knows that talking about those who are no longer with us can be uncomfortable and sad, so she tries to make things comfortable.

"I try make it be the happiest, most cheerful atmosphere because death, something that I talk about all day everyday, is not always the most fun subject," Robinett. "I don't want to add more drear and gloom."

She strays from the tarot cards, "sucks at palm readings" and tries to keep it about the people in the room, seen and unseen.

Reach Shelby at STankersle@HometownLife.com or 248-305-0448. She's on Twitter at [@shelby_tankk](https://twitter.com/shelby_tankk).

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Bridal shop

Continued from Page 1A

"I've always dressed women, and I found out that I was good at helping brides pick the perfect dress," she said. "People say to me all the time, 'I never would have tried that on. And I bought it.'"

She attributes much of her success to the great business climate in the shopping center, as well as the central location, selling to about 10,000 brides from all over Livonia, Redford, Farmington Hills and surrounding communities.

Like many other brick-and-mortar stores, Diane's Dream Brides has seen plenty of competition online. Bridesmaid dresses are being found more online, taking away a crucial part of the business.

Lucarelli-Ault remembers some clients throughout the years, from selling to one of her employees when it came time for her to get married to another woman who came in and needed a dress for her wedding the next day.

"She was crying because she really wanted to wear a dress," she said. "And her mother said, 'If it's meant to be, it'll be.' And they came in and we were able to get a dress that fit her almost perfect, all the accessories to go with it. Called the seamstress, she altered it overnight and the girl was able to have her dress the next day."

"That was the quickest wedding I ever did."

She thinks the store will probably close sometime in December.

Until then, everything in the store, from accessories to dresses, on sale between 25% and 75% off.

The line of work has been one Luca-relli-Ault has enjoyed and found incredibly rewarding.

She said she's never had a woman come in who displayed behavior found on a show like "Bridezillas." She attributes that to her location and the down-to-home feeling harnessed in metro Detroit.

"We've never had that," she said. "Being in a more blue-collar, middle-class area, people are so appreciative and so wonderful with us."

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



Diane's Dream Brides is closing its doors after decades in the bridal business.



Sunflowers add cheer to the counter.



Diane's Dream Brides shop manager Michele Hogrebe looks over some of the Livonia store's remaining inventory.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Mold

Continued from Page 1A

Energy Medical Center informed Gudith that she suspected mold exposure to be the root of Chelsea's extensive list of ailments, which was quickly confirmed by lab tests.

The tests revealed her body had been slowly poisoned by airborne mold, which experts in the field discovered had been living in the unfinished basement and crawl space of the family's home.

"The mold in our basement isn't the black mold that most people are familiar with; rather it's an airborne mold that can only be detected with special monitors," Gudith explained. "You can't see it, can't smell it."

"They're saying I started experiencing my health issues last November because that is when the furnace started coming on. Our furnace is in the unfinished basement, so it was, unknowing to us, pushing the mold into the first and second floors of our home."

"The experts told us this is something that could happen to anyone."

In addition to losing most of their belongings — furniture, bedding and clothes; anything that has fibrous material that can absorb the mold — the Gudiths have been jolted by a cascading avalanche of other life-altering setbacks.

They have been forced to vacate their home for several weeks until the mold is eradicated by one of the few firms in metropolitan Detroit that handles such tasks.

"Thankfully, we have friends and family who have taken us in," Todd Gudith said. "It's probably been toughest on our daughter. As adults, Chelsea and I realize that things can be replaced. But when a little girl loses most of her toys, well ..."

"But just when you think nothing good can come from something like this, you are reminded how kind-hearted people can be," Chelsea Gudith added.

Vague evidence

The first suspicion of a dangerous mold situation surfaced during a visit to a fertility doctor when the Gudiths desperately (and unsuccessfully) wanted to give their only child a sibling.



The Gudith family stands in their living room that was stripped down on the first day of the mold-elimination process.

PHOTOS BY ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"After some testing, the fertility specialist said there's no real rhyme or reason of why things aren't happening, why Chelsea wasn't getting pregnant," Todd Gudith recounted. "He told us he thought it could be something environmental, which threw us for a loop."

"Chelsea went to a lot of specialists to try to find a cause for her mysterious symptoms, but the doctors just wanted to give her medicines to help mask the symptoms; nobody was really trying to find a cure."

That's when Chelsea Gudith took things into her own hands, her husband said.

"She was spending all of her free time doing research on her own, checking out websites and joining groups of people with similar symptoms," he said.

"That's when the topic of mold became a common denominator. When the specialist in Ann Arbor found toxins in Chelsea's lab results, she suggested we have the house tested for mold, and it came back positive."

"When our mold team specialist called and said, 'I haven't gotten on the phone with a client in a very long time, but I need you to understand how toxic and dangerous the level of mold is in your home,' we knew we were dealing with something beyond what we could have ever possibly imagined."

Due to certain unfriendly and unforgiving loopholes in their insurance policy, none of the Gudiths' lost possessions will be covered; nor will the cost of the mold remediation.

They estimate their total financial hit will hover near the \$50,000 mark, which is why a close friend of the family started a GoFundMe.com page.

"To us, it's not about the stuff," Chelsea Gudith said. "It's not about the monetary value of the things we have to throw away. It's the fact that this place that's our safe space was literally killing us and we didn't know it."

And to top off the Gudiths' unthinkable nightmare, Chelsea was informed last week by her employer that she would be terminated from her part-time, in-home sales job.

"They didn't really give me a reason, but it happened just after I went public (with the mold issues)," she said. "Not to sound like I'm boasting, but my (sales) numbers were incredible, so (the termination) was not a performance-based thing."

Two weeks removed from moving out of her house, Chelsea Gudith said she is feeling "significantly better."

"It's like night and day," she said. "But the second I step back in the house, I start coughing and the brain fog comes back immediately."

Startling revelations

Gudith's exhaustive research on toxic mold uncovered some compelling theories.

Men rarely suffer effects from the toxic mold as testosterone acts as a bi-ionic filter of sorts.

"A member of the team that is helping us remediate our mold told us that he's talked to women in households that have been affected by mold and a lot of times they're seriously ill, bed-ridden. At the same time, their husbands can be in the basement — where the mold is located — lifting weights, for instance, and not show any symptoms."

Gudith also discovered a study that originated in Ohio that hinted toward the existence of a strong link between toxic mold and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

"This really hit home for us because we were storing all of our daughter's baby things in our basement — clothes, a crib, things like that — with the hope of using them again if we had another child," she said. "In hindsight, if that would have come to be, our story could have had a much more tragic ending."

In light of his family's recent adversity, Todd Gudith is maintaining a positive outlook.

"Overall, we still feel blessed," he said. "We have a good life. We live in a nice community, we have a lot of great friends and family. We know every family goes through a crisis at some point."

"We're certainly grateful for the outreach everyone has shown us through this."

"We wanted to share our story because that's how Chelsea got her information out there, by sharing her story."

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All of the carpet had to be removed from the Gudiths' home.

Police: Larcenies from autos skyrocketed in summer 2019

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

They may have paid for not locking their car doors over the summer, but social media savvy Livonia residents should also know they helped make some arrests.

Livonia Police Department did a five-year, summer-to-summer comparison of larcenies from automobiles and discovered such incidents more than doubled in 2019, climbing from 55 between June 1 and Sept. 1 of 2018 to 115 for that same period this year.

Arrests for such auto thievery hit a high of 13 in summer 2019.

Lt. Charles Lister credits Facebook and community members participating with police in the Neighbors by Ring app. He said alert residents helped police arrest at least five suspected larcenists.

"When we get a call, and we can get into the area, we can usually have some success in locating these individuals and making an arrest," Lister said. "We do better when the community points us in the right direction."

Livonia police have credited social media smart and savvy residents, especially for their video posts. They have shown the accused trying to open car doors and rummaging through the beds of pickup trucks.

On Tuesday, a video uploaded on the police department's Facebook page showed someone walking around 4:35 a.m. past a vehicle in a driveway near Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads. The

bundled-up person then walked away with a Moose lawn ornament.

Police identified the person within two hours, according to a subsequent Facebook post.

But back to summer. Summer is when car larcenies hit their high marks for the year. The LPD's five-year summer history showed the worst year as 2015, when there were 154 incidents and four arrests.

"Locking the car is the best defense," Lister said before describing the mindset of those who like to break into vehicles. "It's late night hours. Walking the subs, just trying car door handles until you strike gold."

Livonia isn't the only place that deals with car larcenies.

"It's rampant throughout the metropolitan area — trying door handles and breaking into cars late at night," Lister said.

He showed a map that marked the 2019 larcenies for Livonia.

"It's the proverbial needle in a haystack. It's so random as to location," he said. "You can't really say there's a specific area of the city that suffers larcenies from autos more than any."

Insurance companies offer advice like rolling up windows, locking doors, parking in well-lit areas, installing alarm systems and not leaving keys in the cars.

"Opportunity is a huge thing," Lister said.

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

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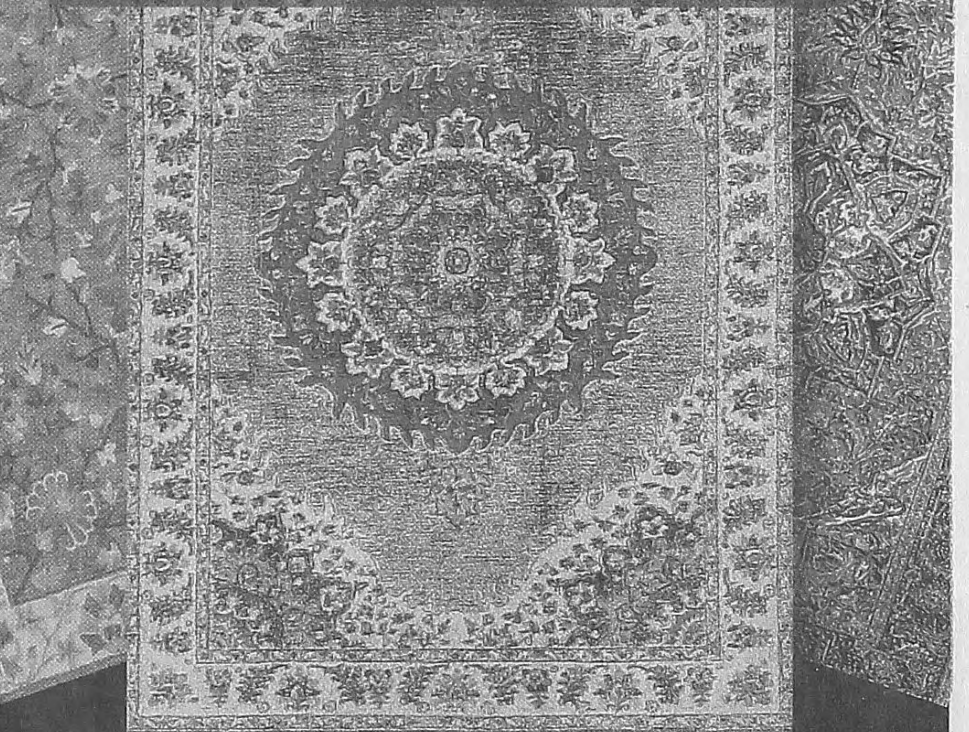
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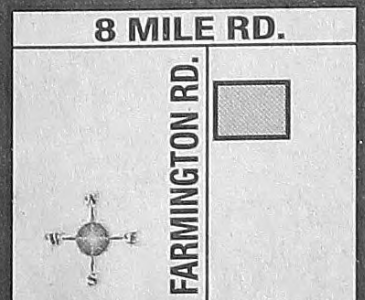


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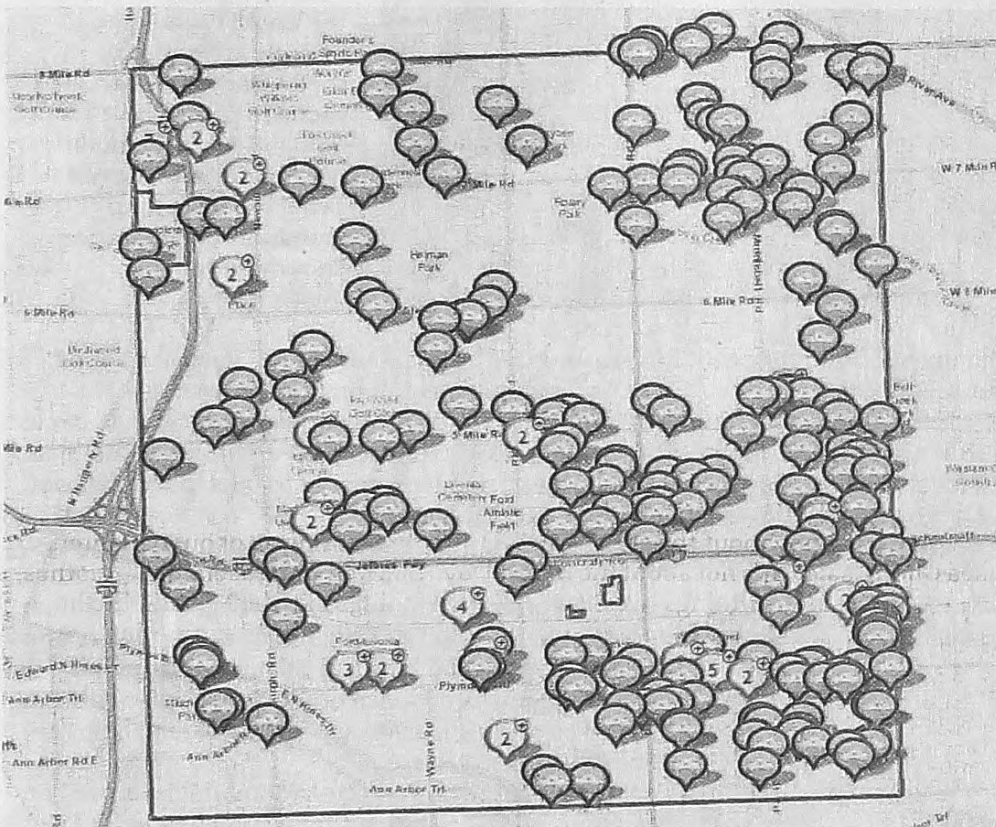
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A map marks the various locations of larcenies from automobiles so far in 2019. COURTESY OF LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Marijuana

Continued from Page 1A

this area is designated as a federal opportunity zone for redevelopment, so we don't want to do anything in that district that's going to maybe lose that designation."

Though the city may pursue fees from businesses to increase public safety efforts, Wild said the city's police force doesn't anticipate many problems if the ordinance is passed.

"Our police chief feels comfortable that, with our ordinance, he's going to be able to handle it," Wild said. "They're not expecting much trouble."

While the businesses themselves would be welcome in the city, consumption facilities, marijuana-centered events and any on-site consumption at retail locations would be prohibited.

The ordinance also details an extensive list of rules that covers everything from security to smell and hours of operation for the businesses.

If the ordinance is approved by council, it would allow for both medical and adult-use facilities. It would also create a three-person Marijuana Business Review Board to accept business applications. Wild said the city may also create an appeals-style board to oversee application approval and any businesses that operate in the city.

"The review board is going to be put in place to review the applications that come in," he said. "There will also be another board potentially put in place for the selection committee. ... We're trying to just set it up that way so there's transparency and, for somebody, to have almost an appeals process."

The mayor also noted that the passing of this ordinance would likely create

some additional revenue for the city.

"There may be a short-term economic advantage for Westland by opting in," he said. "We still have a lot of vacant buildings and certain parcels that maybe need some redevelopment or haven't been developed yet. So we think by opting in that we can create some new taxable value for the city."

But, Wild said his big want is making sure Westland has the ability to create an ordinance that officials and residents "can live with."

"If we don't create an ordinance that we can live with, then more than likely the state is probably going to take that right away from us at some point," he said. "So I think if we get in front of it and at least craft and we can live with, then at least we can defend and try to get it grandfathered in when the state moves forward."

The dearth of communities that actually want marijuana businesses in their towns — only 125 have passed ordinances allowing medical marijuana shops — comes at a time when the recreational market is getting ready to start. Voters approved a ballot proposal in November by a 56%-44% margin that legalizes the use, possession and sale of marijuana for recreational use for anyone 21 and older. People can also grow up to 12 plants in their home for personal use.

Voters in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne also approved the measure by wide margins: 55%-45% in Macomb, 59%-41% in Oakland and 61%-39% in Wayne County.

For medical marijuana, most facilities in metro Detroit are in Wayne County: 26 licensed dispensaries in Detroit, three in River Rouge, one in Inkster and two in Wayne.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.

Memorial honors fallen Iraqi Freedom soldiers

Diane K. Bert
Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It was a somber group of about 250 people who gathered at the Fallen Heroes Memorial dedication on the grounds of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. The memorial honors the 22 soldiers from Oakland County who sacrificed their lives in the Iraqi Freedom campaign. It is part of the Lest They Be Forgotten Memorial Project.

The monument was created by donations of individuals, groups and foundations including American Legion groups, bikers, the Anderson Family Foundation and the UAW Region 1. The Fallen Heroes Memorial Foundation also benefited from donations of materials and services. The Bikers group was especially generous. Many individuals shared their talents and services.

Civil Air Patrol members from the Oakland Composite Squadron led the flag raising.

Honored guests at the ceremony were the Gold Star families who lost loved ones.

Frank Kidd of Milford notes: "My son was a casualty. I feel it is a nice thing to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It is an honor that I can do this for my son."

Tim Moore, another kind and caring guest, described his relationship with Duane J. Dreasky. "He called me Uncle Tim. He was a very outgoing, happy child who wanted to be in the military. He died as a result of burns after an IED explosion." Moore wears a badge with a photo of Dreasky.

"Damian Bushart was a fine cadet with the Civil Air Patrol," remembers Mike Saile. Damian was the son of John "Skip" Bushart who is president of the Fallen Heroes Memorial Foundation and the organizer of the Memorial.

Jerry Grzywinski is a friend of Skip Bushart who is a member of the American Legion which supported the Memorial. He says, "It is appropriate to honor our Oakland County soldiers who died for their country. The Memorial does this."

The ceremony featured patriotic music, bagpipes and speeches by dignitaries. Sheriff Mike Bouchard welcomed people and noted, "This site honors heroes as we show appreciation to Gold Star families showing that we have not forgotten and never will. The Gold Star group is the most revered group that no one wants to become a member of."

Patrick Rich, vice president of the Fallen Heroes Memorial Foundation, distributed beautiful hand embroidered unique plaques to each Gold Star family. The framed plaques featured a patriotic design and the name of the honoree. The families showed deep appreciation for this thoughtful remembrance.

As the moment arrived for the unveiling of the monuments one member of each Gold Star family was in-



Lest They Be Forgotten

The memorial on the grounds of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office honors the following servicemen and women from Oakland County who lost their lives during the Operation: Iraqi Freedom campaign.

- Kevin G. Nave
- Stephen W. Frank
- Ralph J. Harding III
- Justin D. Peterson
- Adam M. Malson
- Douglas C. Stone
- Matthew J. Leach
- Raymond J. Plouhar
- Phillip A. Bocks
- James S. Collins Jr.
- Duane Dreasky
- Kyle B. McClain
- Mark D. Kidd
- Alexander J. Kolasa
- Nicholas J. Manoukian
- Jenna C. Been
- Byron J. Fouty
- Andrew K. Waits
- Dominic J. Ciaramitaro
- Damian S. Bushart
- Joseph A. Miracle

The Lest They Be Forgotten memorial on the Sheriff's Building campus in Pontiac commemorates the sacrifices made by 22 Oakland County soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

DIANE K. BERT

vited forward. The covers were removed from the two monuments and the tributes to each soldier were revealed. Family members were moved by the photos and tributes. The two beautiful monuments were placed on a cement platform adjacent to a flagpole and statue of boots and paraphernalia of a soldier. Dog tags for each soldier hung from the helmet.

Taps were played by two buglers, Paul Roche and Dave Devine. Amazing Grace was played by Kim Johnson on her bagpipes. Skip Bushart gave closing re-

marks and Chaplain James Dewey gave the benediction as the moving ceremony came to a close.

There was a tone of reverence as the guests came forward to look closely at the memorials. Some tears were shed and many expressed thanks that their loved ones had been honored.

Oakland County Executive David Coulter says, "This memorial is a way for us to remember sacrifices made. At the end of the day the privileges and freedom we enjoy are a result of Oakland County soldiers and others whom we can't forget. Today we are polarized. Our real enemy is not each other. These brave soldiers remind us of the ultimate sacrifices made to help preserve our country."

The Lest They Be Forgotten Memorial is located on the grounds of the sheriff's office building at 38 East, County Center Drive in Pontiac. Nearby are other memorials.

"This site honors heroes as we show appreciation to Gold Star families showing that we have not forgotten and never will. The Gold Star group is the most revered group that no one wants to become a member of."

Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard, in remarks during dedication ceremony

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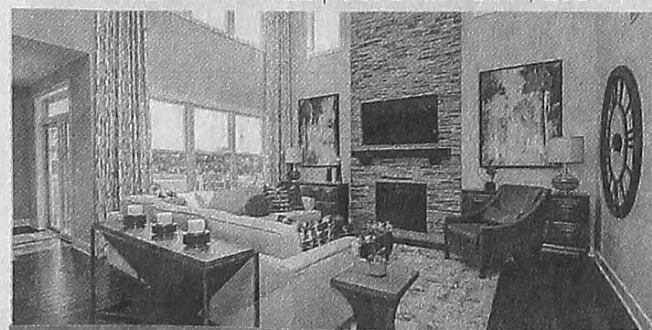
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First Watch brings breakfast to new shopping center

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's been a long time coming, but the newest shopping center in Livonia will soon start seeing business.

The first shop to open in the new Haggerty Center shopping center off Haggerty between Seven Mile and Eight Mile will open later this month. First Watch is a breakfast-and-lunch restaurant that has locations across the country.

The Florida-based restaurant is known for its specialty breakfasts and lunches. It'll open Monday, the first shop in the center to open its doors to the public. It's open from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every day.

"We have a menu that's very portable," said Eleni Kouvatso, a spokeswoman for First Watch. "People are receptive to it all across the board."

The restaurant chain has a location in Shelby Township and two in Troy, including one right on the Troy/Birmingham border at Maple and Coolidge Highway.

The restaurant continues to hire employees. Those interested can apply online at firstwatch.org/careers.

Kouvatso said the company has been serving brunch for several decades, and has started to expand into places like Michigan. Such restaurants have seen an increased presence across the region in recent years, something she attributed to trends in dining.

"I know that the breakfast segment has been growing the past 6-7 years. Consumers are now just grav-



The first business at the new Haggerty Road development will be the breakfast and lunch diner First Watch, which jokingly boasts to prospective employees that there are "no night shifts ever." JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

itating toward the brunch trend," she said. "It's a social occasion in addition to a meal."

Shopping center update

The opening of First Watch begins the first openings at the center that's been discussed for several years.

The first talk of replacing the former technical center with a shopping center came in 2015, though those original plans fell through. A new developer, AF Jonna Development, then came in a made a new proposal for a mixed-use development. That plan was ultimately approved by the city council last year and work has taken place to prepare the site for construction.

Mark Taormina, the city's director of planning, said the plan, the first of its kind in Livonia, is one that fits that area of town, especially as several new medical

developments take place nearby by both Beaumont and the St. Joseph Mercy Health System.

There is going to be a market for this kind of development," he said. "We're confident that there will be demand for this type of housing."

He said he was unsure of what other businesses were planned in the shopping center, but said development of the apartment buildings on the property closer to Interstate 275 would begin soon and continue into 2020.

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

Obituaries

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JoAnn Marie (Andrews) Colliver

SEPTEMBER 24, 1943 – SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 - JoAnn is survived by her husband of 49 years, Don, and their two sons, Don and Dave (Nancy), as well as granddaughters Fiona and Chloe. JoAnn career interests included teaching and designer clothing sales. She was active in the Junior League of Birmingham, serving as president in 1988-1989. She and Don were also very active in their church where JoAnn held several leadership positions. Memorial gifts may be sent to Michigan Humane Society, 30300 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 220, Birmingham Farms, MI 48025 or to Happy Hearts Feline Rescue 10905 E. Pleasant Lake Rd., Manchester, MI 48158. A memorial service was held on Saturday, October 12 at Pilgrim Congregational Church, Bloomfield Hills.

Mary Meakin

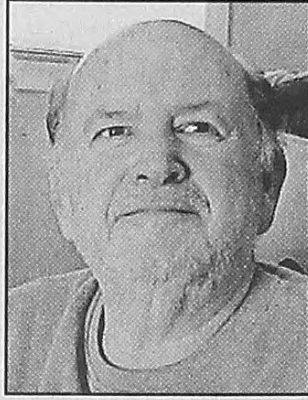
LIVONIA - Mary Meakin born April 30, 1941 passed away October 8, 2019. Loving sister of late Thomas Meakin, John R. (Mary Jo) Meakin and the late Margaret Meakin. Dear aunt of 6 nieces and nephews, great aunt of 11 and great-great aunt of 3. A memorial gathering will be held on Oct. 15, 2019 at 10am until time of service at 11am at St. Genevieve Parish. Memorial contributions can be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes

Donald (Don) Cothran

PETOSKEY - Donald (Don) Cothran, age 72, of Petoskey, Michigan, previously of Garden City, MI.

We heartfully regret to share the passing of Don, he joined many loved ones in Heaven on October 7, 2019. Don passed surrounded by his family, just as he wished.

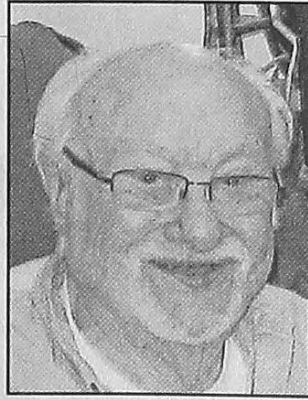


He was married 50 years to his wife Jeanne. He was a proud and loving father to Kimberly (Joseph) Idalski, the late Lori Cothran and Carmen (Dawyne) Jech. He was Pop (grandfather) to Kaleb Cothran, Ashley and Aaron Idalski, Alex (Maranda) Quin and Emily Quin. Also great-grandpa to Knox Quin. Son to the late William and Mary Cothran. Son-in-law to Vincent (deceased) and Elaine Burton of Garden City. Brother to Gloria (Chuck) Anderson and the late Dorothy (Frank) Mytych.

Don loved and cared about his family more than anything, he truly was a kind and loving man, he will be missed by all.

In keeping with his wishes, Don's family will remember him privately. In lieu of any flowers the family would like donations made to Melanoma Cancer Research or a Charity of your choice.

Arrangements are by Gaylord Community Funeral Home & Cremation Service. Please share your memories and personal messages with his family at www.gaylordfuneralhome.com.



Paul Wilbert Neilson

LIVONIA - 9/2/1930 - 9/28/2019

Paul Neilson was born in Berkley, Michigan, and graduated from Berkley High School class of 1949. He later moved to Livonia, MI where he lived for many years.

Paul worked at Ford Motor Company's EEE building in Dearborn, Michigan for 17 years.

In 2012 he relocated to S.W. Florida.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents Thomas Bruce and Marguerite Neilson.

Survived by daughter Dawn (Ken) Mleczo, son Kerry Bruce Neilson (Sue Hart), grandson Erik Joseph Paul Check and sister Shirley Neilson, along with many nieces and nephews.

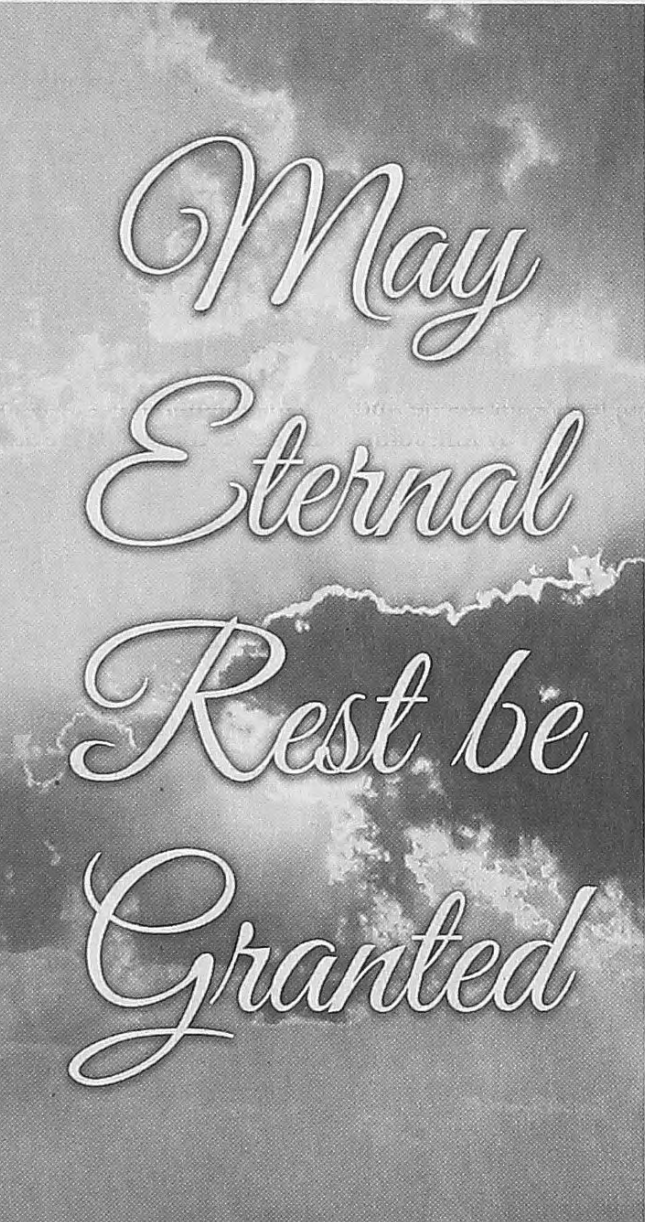
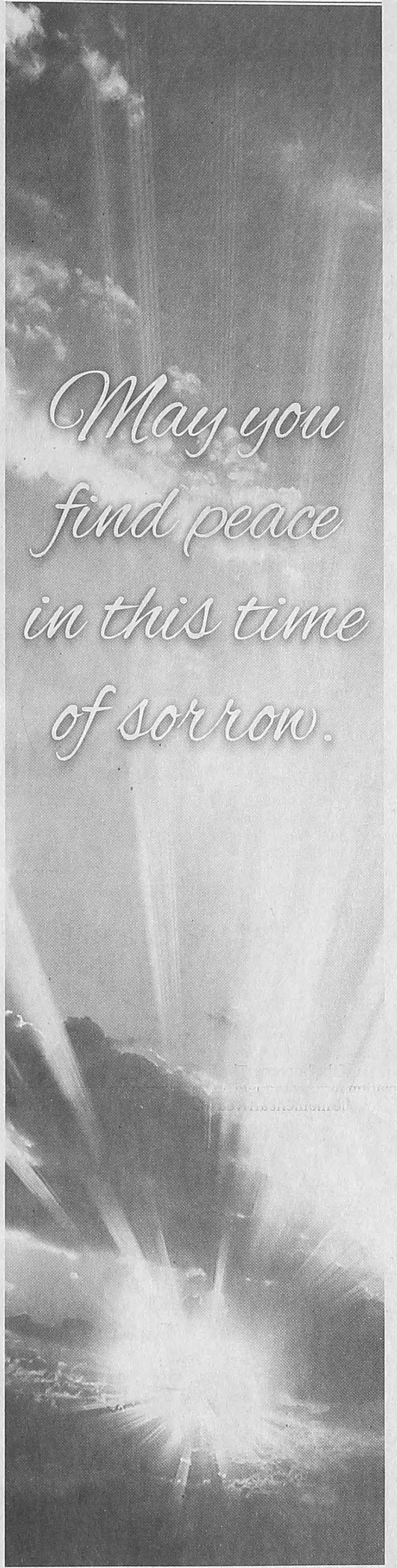
Paul passed peacefully with his son by his side.

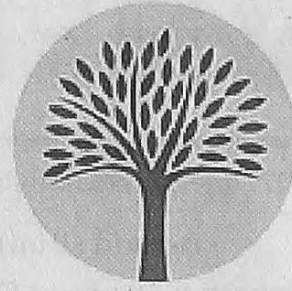


Christina S. Anderson

LIVONIA - Beloved wife of the late Paul R. Anderson. Loving mother of Victoria (Darin) LaFave and Paul E. Anderson. Dear grandmother of Faye Collyer. Sister of Greg (Karen) Harris and Wayne (Kim) Harris. Also survived by nieces and nephews.

Please share a memory of Christina at www.rggharris.com





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Sports

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE



Clarenceville defensive coordinator Jason Sommerville, right, watches the Trojans as they perform drills during practice. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Clarenceville football program rebuild moving forward

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

On the Monday after its 49-8 loss to Pewamo-Westphalia on Oct. 4, the Livonia Clarenceville football team spent the first part of practice conducting grass drills in the end zone.

Up and down each player went, on the command of the particular player leading the drill. After three, each Trojan ran to the 20-yard line and back, starting the drill over when they returned.

This seems typical of a team that had just suffered a 41-point loss on the previous Friday.

But the loss to Pewamo-Westphalia was more than just a normal blowout. It was a measuring stick: a measuring stick for a Clarenceville program that

had to forfeit games, including its homecoming game, in 2018 due to low enrollment, a measuring stick for a program that had won only four games since 2015.

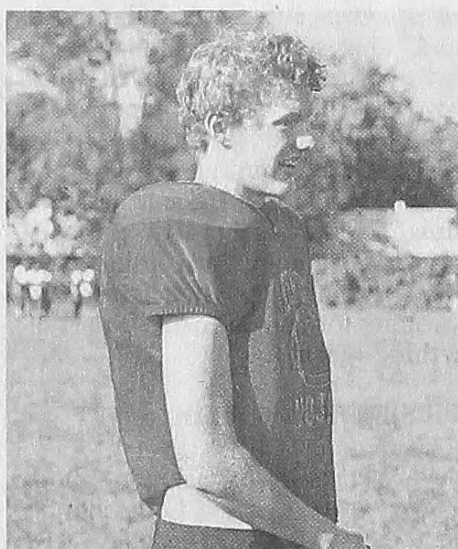
Did Clarenceville measure up pound-for-pound with Pewamo-Westphalia, a team that won the Division 7 state title in 2016 and 2017?

Clarenceville first-year head coach Bob Meyer said no.

"That is championship football," Meyer said. "This is something we are still striving to achieve is to be like Pewamo-Westphalia."

But the Trojans are a lot farther along than Meyer thought they would be after six games. Clarenceville is ahead of schedule in its rebuild.

See CLARENCEVILLE, Page 2B



Clarenceville senior tight end and defensive end Garret Peeler has been with the Trojans for three seasons.

Novi boys win KLAA soccer title against Stevenson

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi had not recorded a shutout since Sept. 29 against Salem, allowing one goal in each of its past five games, which included a 1-0 loss to Brighton.

But with a KLAA championship on the line, with the chance to secure a level of momentum that could prove to be important as districts begin, the Wildcats (15-1-2) stepped up, scoring two first-half goals and keeping Livonia Stevenson (13-2-3) off the scoreboard in a 4-0 win to secure the conference title.

"We gave ourselves everything we needed to lead our side of the division, and we have worked hard all season," senior mid/forward and captain James Ashworth said. "To come out in this manner and play I think the best game we have played all season, to get such a good win is going to help us so much."

Here are three takeaways from Novi's victory against Stevenson on Monday:

Setting the tone

With Stevenson coming off two shutout against Westland John Glenn and Livonia Churchill, Novi head coach Todd Phelffer knew it was going to be an offensive battle from the start.

Which is why he wanted his team to have the upper hand.

"We play so much better when we get that first goal, to start building confidence," Phelffer said. "Right when the whistle blew, they stepped up and put pressure on them right away."

Ashworth hit senior forward Kevin Kaplaj on a cross from the left, and Kaplaj finished easily to give the Wildcats the lead in the first 11 minutes of the game. Senior mid/forward Mason Stroman hit another off a deflection by a Stevenson defender to secure the 2-0 halftime lead.

"We knew it was going to be a battle, but we had to set the tone right from the start, and the guys did a good job," Phelffer said. "Came out, got those two early goals, and kind of set the tone."

Ashworth said it was important for Novi to get the goals early, to get the momentum in favor of the Wildcats, who were playing on the road.

Novi was not done though. Junior mid/forward Shion Soga hit a dagger midfield from 15 yards out in the

See SOCCER, Page 2B

Brother Rice defense collapses in loss to St. Mary's

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming off a 7-3 loss to Detroit Catholic Central, history seemed to favor Brother Rice against Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

The Warriors came in with a two-game win streak against the Eaglets,

each game coming down to one total score. Even though St. Mary's averaged over 35 points per game, the Eaglets had only won their past two games by two points, and they were facing a defense that had allowed 31 points all season.

However, the Eaglet offense prevailed in a way Brother Rice had not seen in a long time, as St. Mary's (6-0)

scored five touchdowns, four of which were on the ground, and defeated the Warriors (4-2) 44-21.

Here are three takeaways from last week's contest:

Defense struggles to stop the run

St. Mary's senior running back An-

thony Anton did what has become the bread-and-butter of the Eaglet offense: pushing through opposing defenses at the line of scrimmage.

The Eaglets scored four of their five total touchdowns in the run game, including three by Anton, who recorded

See BROTHER RICE, Page 2B



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Brother Rice

Continued from Page 1B

146 yards on his three touchdown runs. With control of the play clock through the running game, Anton said it gave St. Mary's the opportunity to open up the pass game a bit as well.

The Eaglets saw that work, as quarterback Grant Henson found wide receiver Anthony Enechukwu streaking down the left sideline, wide open for the easy touchdown.

Anton was not the only back to see the end zone, as Garnett Davis set the tone with the first touchdown, bouncing off a defender to the right to see daylight on the left side for the score.

Brother Rice head coach Adam Korzeniewski said the Warriors' tackling performance was "really bad."

For senior defensive lineman Luke Newman, it came down to a failure of members of the defense, including himself, doing their job. He said the Warrior defense came in with the expectation to stop the established Eaglet offense, but were not as disciplined as the defense had been all season.

"We didn't live up to it," Newman said.

Simply put, Korzeniewski, who also serves as the team's defensive coordinator, thought Brother Rice was punched in the mouth.

"I think they beat us up," Korzeniewski said.

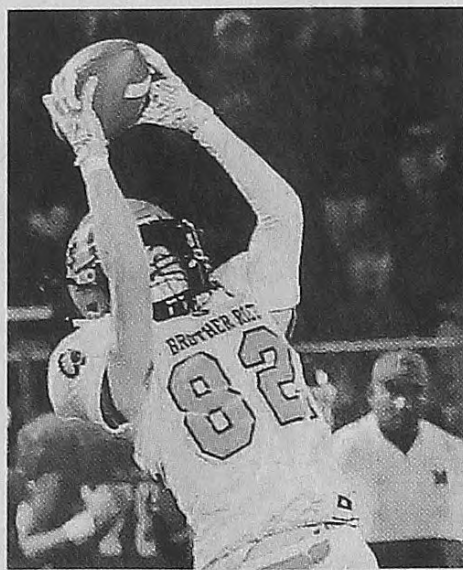
Opposite game for Brother Rice

While the Brother Rice defense allowed 44 points to St. Mary's, the Warriors found a level of consistency offensively they had not seen all season.

Senior quarterback Greg Piscopink shined after throwing three interceptions against Catholic Central two weeks ago, throwing two touchdown passes — one to senior Benn Sacco and one to sophomore Cole Lacanaria — while finding running room in the option game.

"They weren't perfect, but clearly they came out and were a lot more effective, particularly in the passing game," Korzeniewski said. "Gregory was a lot better today with his accuracy and finding some open guys, making some plays with his legs. That's good to see, and we got the ball into the hands of some guys who can do something with it."

The senior quarterback recorded four plays of 30 yards or more, including a 61-yard pass to Lacanaria in the second quarter that led to Piscopink's 23-yard touchdown pass to Sacco.



Brother Rice WR Cole Lacanaria catches a touchdown pass. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"It has been awhile since our offense has clicked like a full high, all the gears running level," Piscopink said.

While the offense performed at a level it had not seen this season, Lacanaria said that he sees an offense that cannot get its foot off the gas pedal, that has to continue to push forward and execute.

Newman, an offensive lineman, said this was a focus in the week leading up to the St. Mary's matchup, saying the offensive gameplan was improving on the practice field.

Korzeniewski was pleased with the offense, knowing that in league play, it would normally lead to a victory.

"Normally in the Catholic League, when you score 21 points, you have a pretty good chance, a pretty good chance of being in there," Korzeniewski said. "Obviously, today, it didn't work."

Two straight losses

Win or loss, Korzeniewski has the 24-hour rule: to celebrate or wallow in defeat for the next day, and then focus on what is next.

For the past two weeks, Brother Rice has suffered its first two losses of the season, with two seemingly opposite performances.

Piscopink said if the two performances against Catholic Central and St. Mary's can be combined, with peak performances both offensively and defensively, then Brother Rice will be dangerous in the future.

"If we get both of them running at the same time, I think we are a really deadly team," Piscopink said. "That just didn't happen tonight."

Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

second half, with the Wildcats adding another with under two minutes left in regulation to secure the victory.

"The high mentality of every person made us successful in this game," Soga said. "If we keep it up, we can achieve as a group."

Stevenson head coach Ken Shingledecker said his team did not feel comfortable from the start, saying the Wildcat offense made his players feel "panicked" from the first whistle.

"We haven't seen a lot of teams like this," Shingledecker said. "This is another kind of good."

Stout defense

While Novi excelled offensively, Stevenson did not get many opportunities offensively.

Phellfer said the Wildcats did an excellent job limiting shots, as both goalkeepers only had to record one save in the 4-0 win.

Novi recorded its seventh shutout of the season, which usually comes in streaks for the Wildcats, who outscored opponents 13-0 from Aug. 22-27 in a three-game stretch.

While he credited the goalkeepers

on their one save and keeping the defenders organized, Phellfer credited his defensive backs, saying they were integral to the team's success in the KLAA title game.

"I think it was important to get a clean sheet today, setting the tone as we go into Thursday," Phellfer said.

Districts

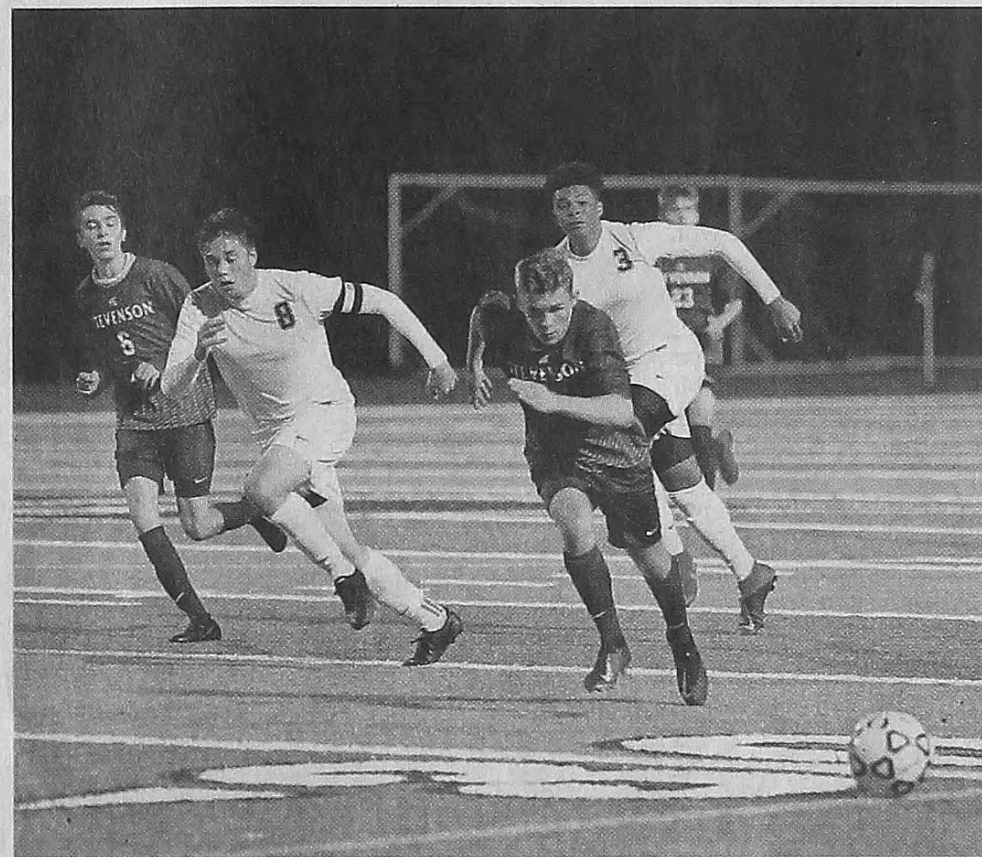
Phellfer called the KLAA championship game a pre-district game; an opportunity to prepare for the state tournament in a game that must be decided, whether it's with overtime or penalty kicks.

The Novi head coach said it was going to be a battle, something his district prepares them for.

"We play in the toughest division in the state, I don't care what anybody else says," Phellfer said. "Nobody plays the schedule like we do. The teams in our division, and on top of that, we have to play everybody twice."

But there are still things the head coach said his team could work on, specifically in finishing prime offensive opportunities, especially those that he saw in the second half against Stevenson.

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



A Stevenson defender chases the ball as Novi forward Bruce Turner and mid/forward Mason Stroman chase him. KATIE MAISONVILLE/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Clarenceville

Continued from Page 1B

Be a part of something special

Meyer came to Clarenceville after spending 14 seasons as the head coach at Walled Lake Central, leading the Vikings to seven playoff appearances, four district titles and a MHSAA Division 2 semifinal appearance in 2010.

He assembled a staff which includes six coaches that had previously coached in a state championship game, and another who had coached in a semifinal.

"We've been there, and we know what it takes to get there," Meyer said. "And what we see isn't good enough to get there."

When Meyer took the job at Clarenceville, he formed a list of goals. It started at the basics: have a team, have a junior-varsity program, have at least 60 kids on the team, seemingly a given for many of the bigger schools in the area.

The coaching staff took to the halls, introducing themselves to the students, especially those who had been on the football season for the last few seasons.

To those who had been on the roster last season, Meyer's message was that he wanted to change the culture of the football program.

He wanted to revive Clarenceville football.

"There were definitely some thoughts about, you know, whether I wanted to come back my senior year," senior quarterback, wing back and four-year Clarenceville football player Zach Jones said. "I put my trust and my faith into this program. I'm going to ride out for it, so I trusted it."

Starting in January, Meyer started a weight-room program — something this school had never put in place — in which 20 freshmen became a part. As the spring semester turned into summer, the football program hosted a camp on the first day of vacation.

Each player who had signed up showed up.

"Whenever we did any kind of camp

or any kind of a weight-room workout, when it was over, the kids stuck around," Meyer said. "They enjoy being with the coaches, they enjoyed what they were learning and they appreciated the opportunity that they had."

As the process continued, from summer 7-on-7 games to Clarenceville's first "Midnight Madness" practice, Meyer had to do less and less recruiting. Players were encouraging their friends to join, calling for people to "be a part of something special."

Rebuilding from scratch

Meyer's check list of goals continued. Along with playing a homecoming game, the first-year head coach wanted to win a game, one game with a roster including players that did not have much experience on the football field.

So Meyer implemented a specific rule-based offense and defense, one that would lead to the best opportunity to be successful, but one that could teach the game of football instead of the "go-out-and-play" approach many on his roster had been used to.

"On many occasions, I had to tell my assistant coaches, 'How you are talking to them, they are not understanding the vernacular,'" Meyer said. "We had to teach it from scratch."

But as the adage states, one does not appreciate what it has until it's gone.

Meyer said the players bought into the scheme and the culture more quickly than he expected. They were practicing with the intent on bringing the football program back for good.

The head coach said the older players began to set an example for the younger players, being blunt and telling them if something is not good enough.

"As the coaches kind of turn over the program, being one of the founding fathers of the team, (I want) to help the program excel in the future, to be better," Jones said.

And Clarenceville was better. After a season-opening loss to Macomb Lutheran North, viewed as a learning curve, but was viewed by many on the team as a winnable game, the victories started to come.

Clarenceville defeated Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes High School, 21-15, for the first win since Sept. 29, 2017.

Garret Peeler, a senior tight end and defensive end who had been with the Clarenceville football program for three seasons, said the energy after the first win was infectious in the school itself.

"We have more people coming to the games," Peeler said. "We have teachers that are coming in the halls, they would stop you in the halls and would shake your hand like, 'You did an amazing job.'"

Winning was infectious in the locker room as well, as the Trojans would go on to win four-straight games, outscoring opponents, 146-28.

For Josh Hood, a junior tight end and defensive end, this was the atmosphere Meyer described when he recruited Hood to join the football team for after a two-year break.

"He was telling me how he was going to change this program around," Hood said, "how we are going to turn this place around and make it a better atmosphere and have better players and win games."

Progress continues

Before Clarenceville's matchup against Pewamo-Westphalia, Peeler felt a nervous energy that he had never really felt before, one that was hard to describe.

"You know how you get butterflies in your stomach?" Peeler said. "You had the moment to make a difference at the school, at this program that we have."

But that moment quickly became an eye-opener for the Trojans, who allowed 14 points in each of the first three quarters, limiting the Pirates to eight points in the fourth quarter when the damage was already done.

Meyer said the loss was something that the Trojans needed, something they can use to build off.

Clarenceville is focused on the future, centered around players like Hood and sophomore quarterback Dylan Stadler, who broke his collarbone in the game against the Pirates.

"With the progress we are making

and the coaching, we can go to the state championship," Stadler said of the future of Clarenceville football. "That's what I'm shooting for."

In other words, Clarenceville becomes Pewamo-Westphalia.

For a player like Peeler, who had been with the program at its lowest, that can be hard to hear. He said he wants to see the program progress, coming back four years from now and seeing his alma mater viewed as a perennial powerhouse.

However, Meyer told the seniors for this feeling to be their rallying cry. While the many freshmen and sophomores on the team build for the future, the future is now for the senior class.

"We are running out of time to make sure your experience is what it should be," Meyer said.

Continuing the check list

Meyer still has things on his list he wants to check off: winning the remainder of the games on Clarenceville's schedule, winning the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference and qualifying for the playoffs.

But that's not the Clarenceville head coach's main focus. It's on the next game, the next opponent. It's continuing to teach the game of football, to continue to lead a group of inexperienced players that have already surpassed all expectations.

"I hope that we do something special in the playoffs because the kids have done everything that we have asked," Meyer said. "They deserve it."

It's a fairy tale, really. A Cinderella story.

And while the ending has not been written, if everything goes right for a team coming off a winless season, a season in which the Trojans had to forfeit four games, Peeler said it will be an emotional one.

"A playoff run? It would be amazing," Peeler said. "It would bring a tear to everybody's eye. Even to people who don't even play football."

Contact Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Oak Park upends Seaholm in OAA White

Andrew Vaillencourt Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After converting on fourth down to start the game, it looked like Birmingham Seaholm would give Oak Park a game Oct. 7.

That feeling didn't last long, as the Knights returned a fumble for a touchdown on the next play and never looked back, beating the Maples 41-21 at Seaholm High School.

It was a huge game in the Oakland Activities Association White Division. Both teams entered the contest unbeaten in league play. Now, Oak Park controls its own destiny thanks to its one-game lead over both Seaholm and Birmingham Groves and the tie-breaker, having beaten both teams.

"It was a big win for us against a team that's really, really good," Oak Park coach Greg Carter said. "They're definitely hard to defend. (Seaholm) Coach (Jim) DeWald does a really good job with this team and at half-time, it was a little bit shaky. Thank goodness our offense was playing up to par today and gave us the chance to expand our lead a little bit. We got a thousand penalties in the first half but we played better in the second half and that's when you need to play better."

Seaholm falls to 4-2 overall and 3-1 in the OAA, while Oak Park improves to 5-1 and 4-0.

Here are three takeaways from the game:

Early mistakes doom Maples

Oak Park jumped out to a 20-7 lead and two of the three touchdowns came immediately after fumble recoveries.

The first came less than three minutes into the game after the converted fourth down by Seaholm. Oak Park's Deon Harper took it back 42 yards for the score.

"It's always tough taking a loss," Seaholm junior quarterback Caleb Knoer said. "They are a good team, but I think we could've won this game. We kind of lost it in the first half, especially me, I feel like I made a lot of mistakes that I shouldn't have made, so it's a tough feeling."

Early in the second quarter, Seaholm was driving when it fumbled the ball on a pitch to the right. The Knights recovered and after a targeting penalty, started at their own 35-yard line. That didn't slow down their offense one bit, as quarterback Frank Black found wide receiver Maliq Carr for a 65-yard touchdown pass and catch on Oak Park's first play with the ball.

"(Black) is a special dude," DeWald said. "It's amazing how he prolongs plays. He doesn't go down easy. He's able to scramble around and when he scrambles, he's able to come out and throw the ball like 60 yards in the air. He's the real deal, he's a good player."

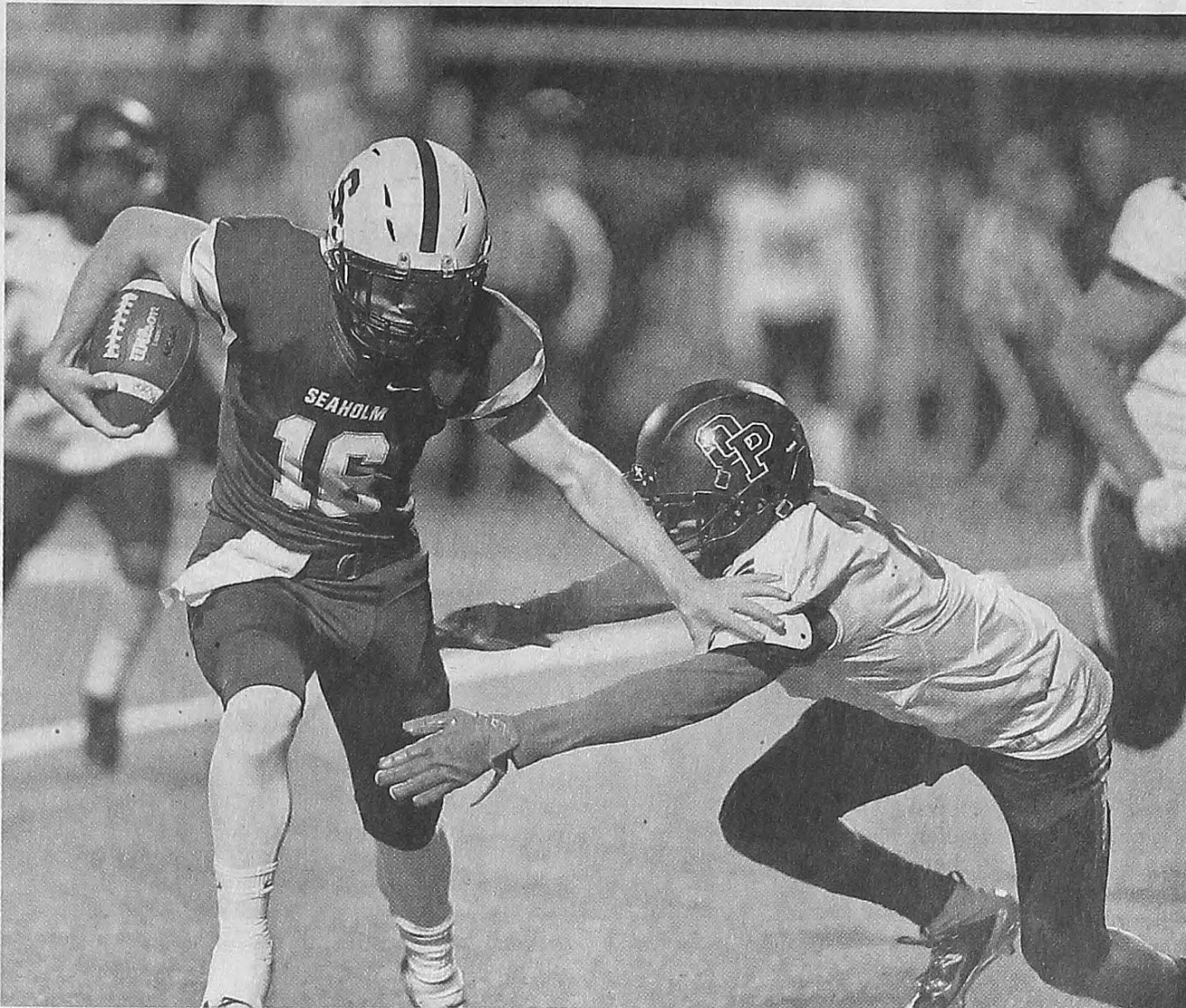
Seaholm needed to respond before the game got out of hand — and it did just that.

Answering back

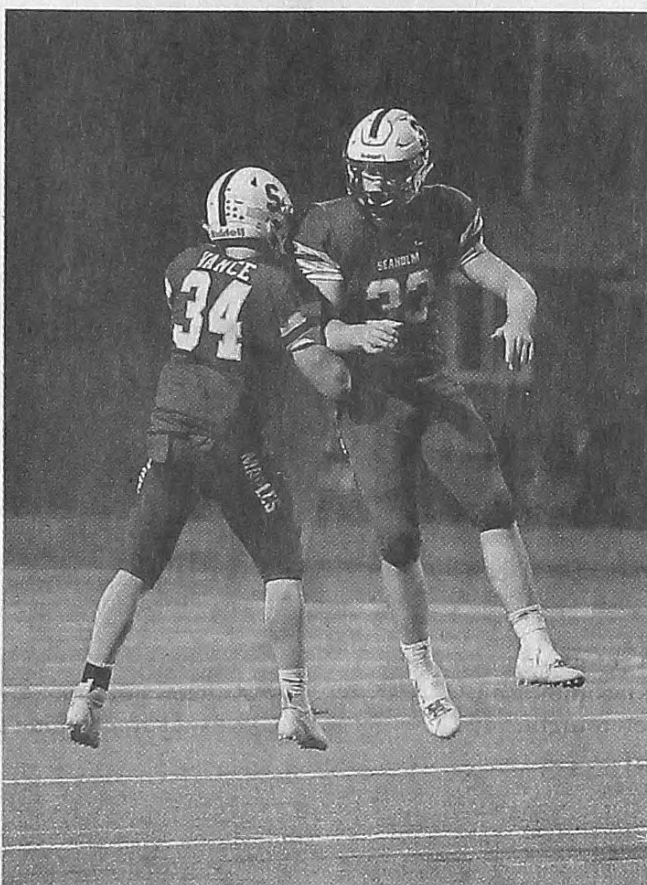
Down 20-7 in the waning minutes of the first half, Seaholm needed to put together a scoring drive. The Maples marched down the field with a good mix of both passing and running plays, effectively used their timeouts and succeeded on reaching the end zone. Senior James DeWald ran it in from one-yard out for the score. That made it 20-14 going into the half.

Oak Park came out strong in the second half though, taking up nearly six full minutes of clock before Black scored his second rushing touchdown of the game from 13 yards out. Seaholm once again had pressure, but the shift quarterback was able to find a seam and break through and into the end zone untouched.

"I thought our kids did better in the second quarter, that was probably our best quarter," Jim DeWald said. "I was not happy with our second half. I was not happy with our execution. I was not happy with putting the ball on the ground. We got a couple of penalties that



Seaholm QB Caleb Knoer escapes a tackle against Oak Park on Oct. 4. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Seaholm's Jackson Vance, left, and James DeWald celebrate a touchdown at the end of the first half.

hurt us too. Hats off to Oak Park, obviously they're a good football team and they have some dudes over there and are well coached."

Taking over

The second half was all Oak Park — Black made sure

of that.

The star quarterback torched the Seaholm defense all night long, throwing for over 100 yards in the first half alone and rushing for more than 100 as well. He had one passing touchdown and three rushing touchdowns.

The dagger came late in the third quarter, when Black took it 56 yards to the house, untouched. Speed on display, the Maples defense couldn't keep up.

"He's really smart," Carter said. "His running ability adds another dimension for us. It's difficult to check our receivers and have to worry about the quarterback running the ball. That dual-threat thing is a really good addition for us and he's done a wonderful job this year."

To make matters worse, the Seaholm offense still had trouble holding onto the ball. On its first play after Black's long touchdown, Seaholm fumbled it back to the Knights who took over in Maples territory.

A few plays later, the Knights scored again, this time Travis Boston on a four-yard run. That made it 41-14.

Knoer said the Maples haven't had a problem with fumbles in their recent games.

"It usually doesn't happen, it hasn't happened in the past so we just have to get back to practice," Knoer said. "I'll talk to my guys and see what happened, but we'll fix it this week in practice and make sure it doesn't happen next week."

The Maples were able to add a garbage time touchdown, a 4-yard run by senior Chaz Strecker, but it wasn't nearly enough.

"We didn't execute on offense, we put the ball on the ground way too many times," Jim DeWald said. "Defensively, they were more physical than us. Second half, especially, they got some misfits and took advantage of it."

Contact Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to LivSports@hometownlife.com.

HS football playoff projections through Week 6

Andrew Vaillencourt Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It sounds crazy to be thinking about the football playoffs already.

Plenty of Hometown Life-area teams will be in the playoffs scattered around the eight divisions, with a majority in either division one or two.

The website snooze2you.com has put together a full projection of what the Michigan high school football playoff field would look like if the season ended after week six.

The site calls its projections "Mapetology." You can follow the site on Twitter at @Snooze2you.

Starting next year, the MHSAA will use a new point system to determine the playoffs, but the 2019 season will be the last one with the current format.

Here's a look at what area teams are in this week's projected bracket.

Regions/districts without area teams will be left out for the time being. Higher seeded teams would be at home. Total points are listed after record.

Division 1

- Region 2**
District 1
1- West Bloomfield (5-1) 94.00 vs. 4- Waterford Mott (3-3) 50.00
2- Lakeland (4-2) 69.50 vs. 3- Detroit Catholic Central (3-3) 58.00
- Region 4**
District 1
1- Plymouth (6-0) 100.00 vs. 4- Ann Arbor Pioneer (4-2) 68.67
2- Belleville (6-0) 93.33 vs. 3- Saline (5-1) 80.56

Division 2

- Region 2**
District 2
1- South Lyon (6-0) 100.00 vs. 4- Dexter (5-1) 72.83
2- North Farmington (6-0) 92.00 vs. 3- Walled Lake Western (5-1) 83.50
- Region 3**
District 1
1- Birmingham Groves (5-1) 86.00 vs. 4- Warren De La Salle (3-3) 50.16
2- Birmingham Seaholm (4-2) 63.83 vs. 3- Sterling Heights (4-2) 61.67
- Region 4**
District 1
1- Farmington (6-0) 93.33 vs. 4- Detroit Renaissance (4-2) 56.86
2- Oak Park (5-1) 90.00 vs. 3- Detroit U-D Jesuit (4-2) 63.50
- District 2**
1- Livonia Franklin (6-0) 94.67 vs. 4- Temperance Bedford (4-2) 61.00
2- Wyandotte Roosevelt (5-1) 76.83 vs. 3- Detroit Martin Luther King (4-2) 69.16

Division 3

- Region 3**
District 2
1- Orchard Lake St. Mary's (6-0) 106.09 vs. 4- Garden City (4-2) 58.33
2- Redford Thurston (5-1) 75.33 vs. 3- Brother Rice (4-2) 72.36

Division 4

- Region 4**
District 2
1- Detroit Country Day (6-0) 90.67 vs. 4- Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood (3-3) 42.50
2- Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (5-1) 76.04 vs. 3- Harper Woods Chandler Park (3-3) 44.67

Division 5

- Region 4**
District 1
1- Dearborn Heights Robichaud (5-1) 69.83 vs. 4- Livonia Clarenceville (4-2) 37.16
2- Detroit Henry Ford (4-2) 54.83 vs. 3- Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard (4-2) 54.16
- Contact Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659.

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YOUR LOCAL JOB LISTING FROM LIVONIA OBSERVER

Tips for managing your seasonal employees this year

Kate Lopaze
thejobnetwork.com

Every year, it seems like the holidays hit retail earlier and earlier — Christmas candy displays mingling with Halloween candy displays, emails reminding us that Black Friday is just around the corner. That means it's never too early to start planning around your holiday staffing needs. If you'll be managing seasonal employees this year, here are some tips to get ahead on your holiday season staffing goals.



GETTY IMAGES

Recruit early

If you wait until the last minute, you'll get the employees who are still available at the last minute. There could be some diamonds in there, but if you really want to reach the best seasonal candidates, you need to get out ahead of the hiring rush. Before your busy season kicks in, get your job ads written, polished, and posted months ahead of time. It may seem like it's too early to start planning for the winter holidays, but experts say that starting that early can really get you access to the best candidate pool.

Starting early also gives you more flexibility in your hiring. You'll have space to properly vet your candidates, find the applicants who will work best on your staff, and train them well. It also gives you time to weed out problematic seasonal employees before you're in a desperate time crunch.

Treat your seasonal employees fairly

Take the time to review the pay and benefits your seasonal employees will be receiving. Will they be making mini-

mum wage per your state or town's regulations? Will they receive overtime if working more than 40 hours per week? Seasonal laborers may not be your standard full-time employees, but they're also not indentured servants, so it's important to make sure you're giving them the same protections and baseline benefits as you're giving to regular employees.

Treat seasonal employees the same as other employees

As someone who made ends meet in school by taking temporary jobs, I can assure you that it kills you a little inside when someone dismisses you as a temp, or somehow less-than because you're not a permanent member of the team. Sure, we all know that the seasonal employees are there to do a job well, then move on. But creating an atmosphere where you have different classes of employees just sets you up for discord and discontent.

Try to avoid scheduling seasonal employees exclusively for unwanted shifts,

or openly giving your regulars perks that aren't available to seasonal employees. It's important to make them feel like valued members of the team while they're there.

Remember that you may not have to deal with these particular seasonal employees again, but you will likely be hiring some seasonal employees — and if word-of-mouth suggests you're a lousy employer, it won't help your organization in the future.

Make sure everyone knows the expectations

Seasonal employment can occasionally be a stepping stone to a more permanent gig, so it's important for seasonal employees to know what they can expect from this role. If this is simply a time-based job with no expectation of permanent hire, make sure they're aware of this — ideally during the hiring process, but at latest before you train them. If there is a chance of being hired on a more permanent basis, make sure they know what the likelihood of that is,

and what the benchmarks will be.

Whenever possible, make it clear how long you expect the job to last by setting a start date and an end date. It may not always be possible to set the end date, but you should still be able to provide an approximate range. Having a lingering, open-ended job may scare off good candidates who can't be available indefinitely, or who want to be able to make other plans after this job is done.

Keep a VIP list of seasonal employees

At the end of a season, it can be hard to say goodbye to great employees, even when circumstances dictate it. If there are seasonal employees you'd like to have back for future openings, make sure to let them know how much you thought of their work and that you'd like to keep them in mind in the future. Get their up-to-date contact information before they go. Make this outreach part of your early seasonal planning, to see if your rock stars from previous years are available and interested. And even if they're not, they may be able to refer potential candidates, putting you ahead in the recruiting game.


Just like it's apparently never too early for holiday cheer in the retail world, it can never hurt to start thinking about your own holiday season as early as possible. Long before the first bits of tinsel and sale ads start going up, the more effort you put into your seasonal recruitment and management plan, the cheerier things will be.

Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Like history
 - 5 Apt. divisions
 - 8 — -Lorraine, France
 - 14 Flatten, informally
 - 19 Long (for)
 - 20 Have an onstage role
 - 21 Coal miners
 - 22 Succinct and meaningful
 - 23 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Victorious
 - 27 Here-there link
 - 28 Skilled forger
 - 29 Largest city in Norway
 - 30 "That's a new — me!"
 - 31 Party mixers
 - 33 Riddle, part 2
 - 37 I-5, e.g.
 - 39 Hat material
 - 40 Adz relatives
 - 41 Big name in razors
 - 44 JVC or Hitachi rival
 - 46 Collection of maps
 - 50 Trailers, e.g.
 - 54 Riddle, part 3
 - 58 Hit the bottle
 - 59 Giant
 - 60 Rink legend Bobby
 - 61 Six-sided state
 - 62 Do the dishes?
 - 63 Relating to a heart part
 - 65 Got 100% on, as a test
 - 68 "Eso —" (Paul Anka hit)
 - 70 Eye, to a bard
 - 71 Riddle, part 4
 - 76 One may cry "Foull!"
 - 77 Tiki or Baal
 - 78 "I came," to Caesar
 - 79 Gives the most votes
 - 81 Celestial hunter
 - 83 Wish
 - 85 Crunches tone them
 - 88 Very angry
 - 89 Island of Alaska
 - 90 Riddle, part 5
 - 94 Cosa — (Mafia affiliate)
 - 96 Coats with element #30
 - 97 Nation north of Mex.
 - 98 "Porgy and —"
 - 99 Shop draw
 - 101 Hamster holder
 - 103 Follower of chi
 - 105 End of the riddle
 - 112 Pastry bag filler
 - 116 Painter
 - 117 Nastase of the court
 - 118 Saudi and Iraqi
 - 120 By means of
 - 121 Bowed
 - 122 Riddle's answer
 - 126 Ordinary
 - 127 Sulky
 - 128 Short history
 - 129 Ex-Dodger Hershiser
 - 130 Insolvent
 - 131 "Knocked Up" director
 - 132 Stitch (up)
 - 133 Funeral heap
 - 8 Boorish sort
 - 9 Driving req.
 - 10 Got to one's feet
 - 11 Something not to be missed
 - 12 Viola's kin
 - 13 Witch on "Bewitched"
 - 14 One doing a parody
 - 15 St. Paul site
 - 16 Give voice to
 - 17 Bamboo unit
 - 18 Sleep: Prefix
 - 24 Hushed
 - 25 Elisabeth of "CSI"
 - 32 Semitic language
 - 34 Smelting refuse
 - 35 Relative of -ess
 - 36 Large public show
 - 38 Display fallibility
 - 41 "— way to go!"
 - 42 Up until that time
 - 43 Puts new parts on, in a way
 - 45 — -Magnon
 - 47 Increase in volume
 - 48 Toward a ship's rear
 - 49 Pokes a hole in
 - 51 Procession of cars
 - 52 Works such as "H.M.S. Pinafore"
 - 53 Ivanjica inhabitant
 - 55 One of the Skywalkers
 - 56 — Sea (Asian lake)
 - 57 "Close call!"
 - 62 "It Takes a Thief" rapper
 - 64 Pioneered
 - 66 Large grotto
 - 67 Lens locale
 - 69 That lass
 - 72 Start of a pirate chant
 - 73 Faint from surprise, in slang
 - 74 Omani money
 - 75 Like exercise that gets the heart going
 - 76 Horse coat pattern
 - 80 Court units
 - 82 Fully extended, as arms
 - 84 Preceder of chi
 - 86 Chesapeake Bay crustaceans
 - 87 Scheme: Abbr.
 - 90 Island near Java
 - 91 "— homo!"
 - 92 "And fast!"
 - 93 Breach
 - 95 With speed
 - 100 Paradox
 - 102 U.S. territory since 1898
 - 104 "Aye aye," in Iberia
 - 105 Cassidy of old pop
 - 106 Succinct
 - 107 How actors should enter
 - 108 Augustus — ("Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" character)
 - 109 Bejeweled headwear
 - 110 Spartan serf
 - 111 Holmes or Couric
 - 113 Elephant tusk stuff
 - 114 NFLer of San Fran
 - 115 Crystal of country
 - 119 Arch above the eye
 - 123 Abbr. in a personal ad
 - 124 "Yuck!"
 - 125 Swiffer product

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									130											131					133

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

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

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

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

ANSWER KEY

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	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	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	121	122	123	124	125	126
127	128	129	130	131	132	133											

WORDS

- AUTUMN
- BUSHEL
- COMMODITY
- CORN
- CRADLE
- CROPS
- CULTIVATE
- EROSION
- FALLOW
- FARM
- FEED
- FLAIL
- FORAGE
- GRANGE
- GRASS
- HARVEST
- HAY
- HUSK
- MANURE
- MILL
- ORCHARD
- PICK
- SOWING
- TILLING

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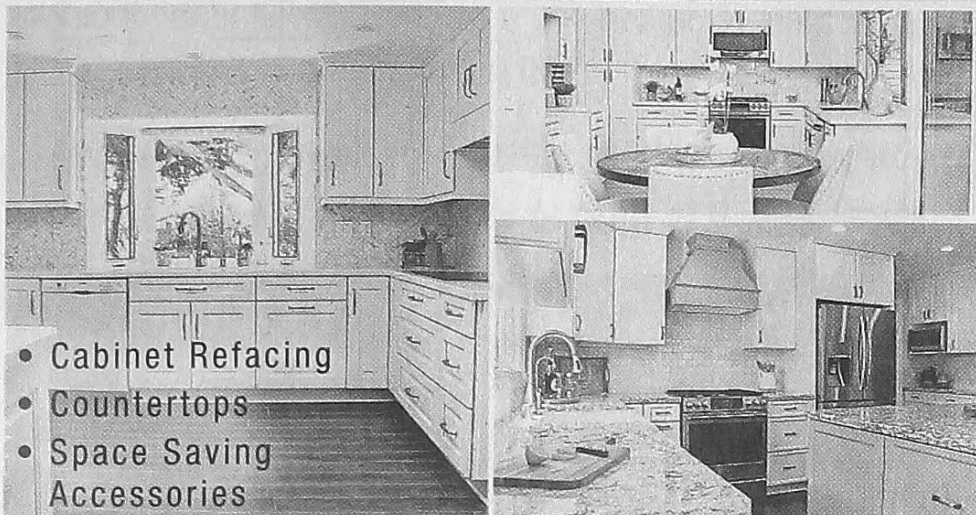
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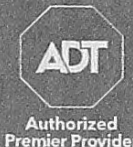
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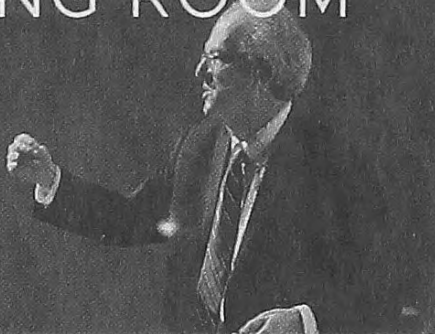
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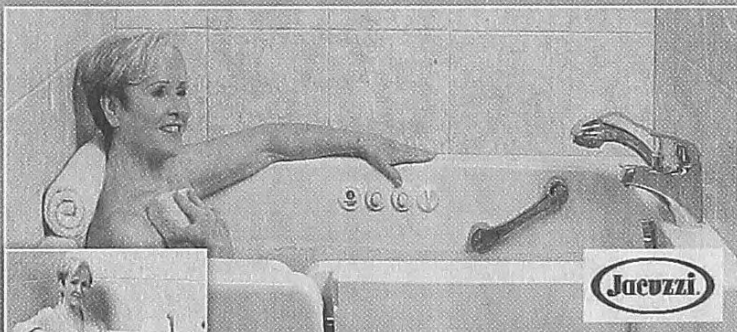
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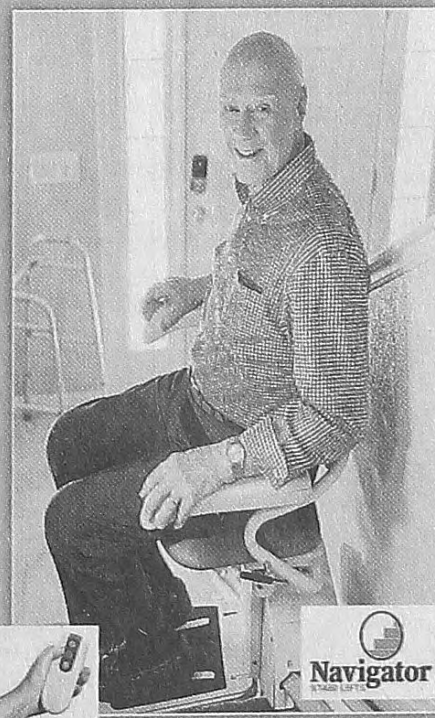
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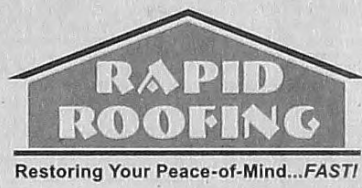
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