

John Glenn hoops player masters life with birth defect

SPORTS, 1B

CANTON

OBSERVER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Laura and James Flora stand at their Warren Road home in Canton that they've dubbed the Flora Home. The two-story brick building, built in 1848, may have been used in the Underground Railroad to hide slaves who escaped from the South. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Canton home likely part of Underground Railroad

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The red-brick, two-story house with the unusually expansive (for Canton Township, at least) three-acre yard sitting near the intersection of Warren and Morton-Taylor roads is an eye-catcher simply because it doesn't fit into its surroundings.

It's also a magnet for Civil War-era historians who believe it may be a former Underground Railroad station that temporarily housed runaway Southern slaves whose dangerous multi-state trek to Canada would have been just a two-day journey away if they made it as far as the home.

Bordered by semi-modern subdivisions, an apartment complex and a

See HOME, Page 8A



The interior of the home at 43425 Warren Road maintains its 1800s feel.

Hilltop thriving with new manager

Golf course fares well in year with ADM Ventures

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Despite a historically wet spring and a temporarily dry clubhouse, Plymouth Township's Hilltop Golf Course fared well in its first year under new management firm ADM Ventures, Inc.

That was the consensus of the township's board of trustees after ADM owner Tony Moscone delivered a review of Hilltop's progress in 2019 and a preview of plans for 2020.

"I think Tony Moscone and his team did an outstanding job in their first year," Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said. "Clearly, there were some unexpected hazards, namely the weather, but they invested a lot of their own money in the course and made some significant positive changes."

The board of trustees approved a five-year contract in 2019 with the Troy-based company to operate the financially floundering 18-hole layout.

ADM took the reins from Billy Casper Golf Management, which struggled to make the entity a money-maker for the township.

"No. 1, we made a lot of progress in making the course more playable and more fun to play," Moscone said. "We started out by addressing three core areas: trees, cart paths and drainage. While we made a lot of improvements, we still have a ways to go."

"Last spring was one of the wettest in over 100 years - I believe it rained 20 of the 31 days in May - and we weren't able to secure a license to sell alcohol until late June, but despite those things we still came close to breaking even."

Moscone revealed the course generated just over \$23 per round in 2019 compared to the \$16-per-round average in 2018.

"The raised revenue is a result of improvements on the golf course, we feel," Moscone said. "People are

See HILLTOP, Page 8A

Retiring 15-year judge plans to volunteer in Wayne

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Judge Laura Mack says kindness is the key to being great behind the gavel.

Mack deems working with people and giving them a positive impression of the court a critical part of her job.

But, following over 15 years of service with the Wayne 29th District Court, Mack is bowing out. She officially retires March 1.

"It really was important to me that people get a favorable impression of the court and that they come away with the feeling that the court is fair," Mack said.

"Even if the ruling didn't go their way, (I hope) they understood why it happened."

Mack, who was appointed by former Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2004, has served three elected terms as the 29th District's only judge. Her current term expires in 2024, so Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will appoint her replacement in the short term, with an election expected later this year to select a judge to fill the rest of the term.

Mack said this seemed like the right time to step down, but that she has loved working for Wayne's small court and speaks highly of the staff there.

"It's been just a huge honor and privilege," she said.

Mack said she originally applied to the job with the hope of getting more involved in the community, and that's part of the reason she's stepping down.

She's a director for Families Against Narcotics and the Wayne 100 Club and will step in as president of the Wayne Rotary Club this summer, along with a plethora of other volunteer commitments.

"Everybody tells me that I'll wonder how I found the time to work," she said.

See JUDGE, Page 8A



Judge Laura R. Mack, who has more than 15 years of service with the Wayne 29th District Court, will retire March 1. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Woman injured in hit-and-run

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A vehicle struck a 67-year-old woman Feb. 14, leaving her injured in a Livonia parking, and police want help finding both the vehicle and its driver.

The woman apparently was walking in the Fantastic Sams Cut & Color parking lot near the Five Mile Road and Bainbridge Street intersection around 11:40 a.m. when the vehicle hit her and sped away, Livonia police said in a Facebook post.

The suspect vehicle – a light-colored, four-door sedan – headed east and was last seen heading toward Five Mile Road.

No other information was available. Anyone able to help police is asked to call the Livonia Police Department at 734-466-2470.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by
Observer & Eccentric Media

Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist
Mobile: 248-396-3870

Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com

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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
Afterhours, leave voicemail
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Learn about no-fault auto insurance

Kristan Obeng Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The state has rolled out new resources to help Michigan drivers understand the new no-fault auto insurance law that will take place after July 1.

They include a new website, consumer guides, a call center and email address to educate drivers and allow them to ask questions.

"We are trying different ways to educate people. We are doing outreach to urban areas and are working with legislators with all districts. We are also going to do town halls," said Anita Fox, director of the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services, which is charged with implementing the law on behalf of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration.

The agency's new offerings follow findings on a Michigan Health & Hospital Association-commissioned study, in which showed that 53% of 1,005 insured drivers recently surveyed were not too familiar with the law or had only heard of it. The association represents health care providers.

"That was September data," Fox said. "I was heartened by the fact that about half the people surveyed had some idea of what was going on. We are striking a balance of giving them information now and not giving them too much information too soon."

Both the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and Michigan Health & Hospital Association are planning campaigns to educate drivers about the law.

"We are happy to see DIFS is providing additional information for drivers," said John Karasinski, assistant director of communications for Michigan Health & Hospital Association. "We look forward to coordinating our offices moving forward. But we don't know the details of their plans at this time."

The new Department of Insurance and Financial Services website details changes in the law, new coverage options and shopping tips and helps explain the new reforms and how they will affect auto policies in Michigan.

Speaking to a live person is also



GETTY IMAGES

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■ Online: Visit www.michigan.gov/autoinsurance

■ Talk to a person: Call toll free at 833-ASK-DIFS (275-3437)

■ Email: autoinsurance@michigan.gov

possible at the department's call center.

"You can talk to them about what if you if you forgo (personal injury protections) in favor of health insurance, how their benefits will be impacted and the differences between bodily injury coverage," Fox said. "You can't talk to (agents) about exact pricing because there are more than 100 auto insurance companies doing business in Michigan."

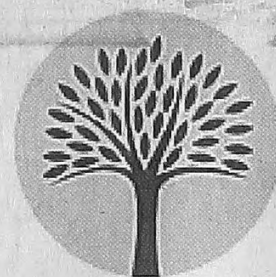
Following the signing of no-fault reform, the department began taking steps to implement the new law. These measures include:

■ **Fraud Investigation Unit:** the Department of Insurance and Financial Services has established a new unit to investigate criminal and fraudulent activity related to the insurance and financial markets and work with Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and law enforcement to prosecute these crimes.

■ **New Consumer Forms on Coverages:** The department developed new forms for insurance companies, agencies and agents to provide to drivers when choosing new coverage options.

■ **Independent Actuaries:** In anticipation of an increase in auto insurance company rate filings, the department's rate review staff is working with independent actuaries to ensure the filings are reviewed and actuarially sound.

■ **Industry Bulletins:** the Department of Insurance and Financial Services has issued more than 10 bulletins to the insurance industry regarding compliance in rate filing, reimbursement rates, and other enforcement issues.



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Soccer shops in Livonia, Bloomfield closing

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming to the Soccer Plus shop in Livonia for several decades has been a way for Kristin Callaway to connect to her family.

The owner of the shop and a Rochester Hills resident, Callaway makes the drive routinely to 37629 Five Mile in Livonia to sell soccer equipment to local players. Her mother, Jan, began the shop 25 years ago, eventually adding another store at 2191 S. Telegraph in Bloomfield Township.

But even a specialty store targeting the growing soccer crowd isn't immune to the challenges facing brick-and-mortar retail: both the Livonia and Bloomfield Township stores will close in the coming weeks as a response to changing habits in the retail world. Even with an additional business — she is also in charge of a business in Livonia that makes jerseys for several of area soccer clubs — profits just haven't kept up.

"The team side of the business has been performing well and has been profitable, but we have had to use a lot of the proceeds from our team sales to support retail," she said. "We're seeing those national trends where people are not supporting as much as they used to."

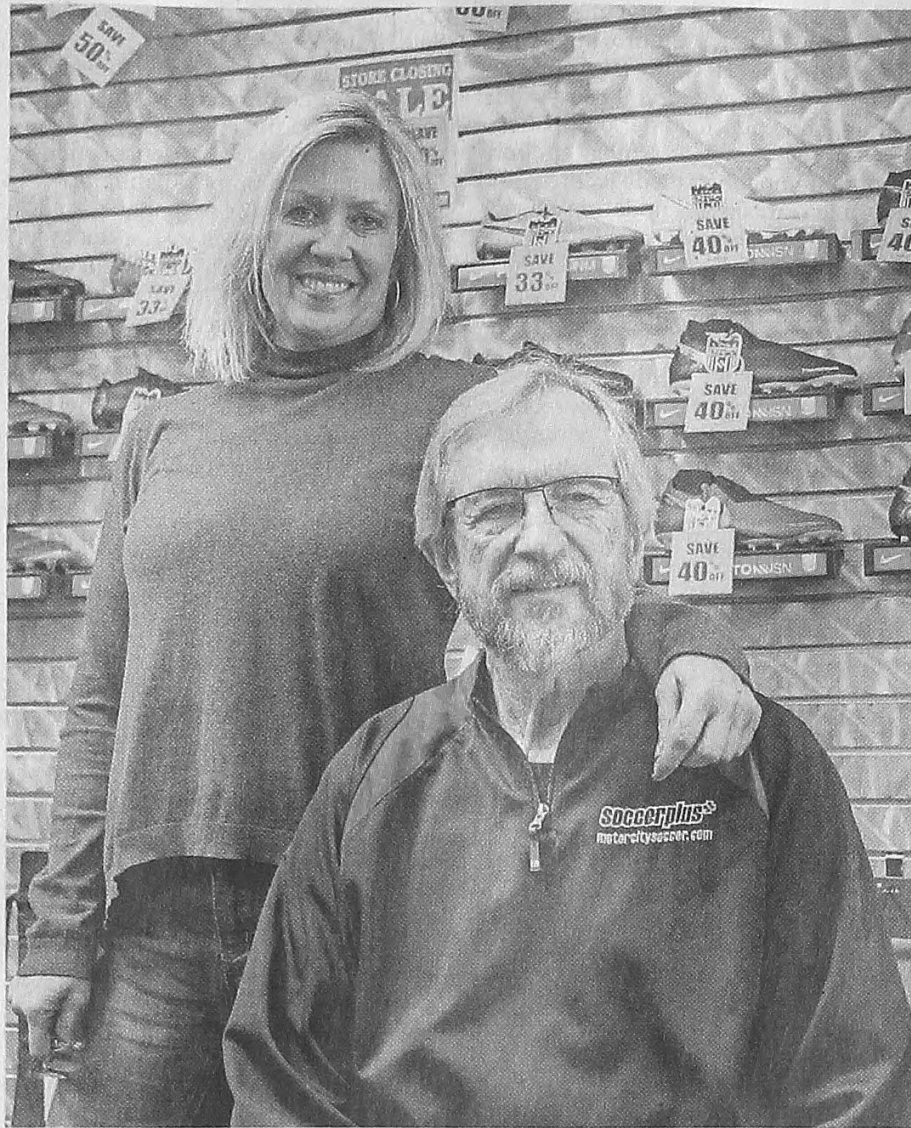
The stores sell all the necessary gear for children and adults, including shin guards, goalkeeper gloves and soccer shoes for indoor and outdoor play, as well as equipment for referees. In addition, the store offers a myriad of replica jerseys from professional and national clubs, including the U.S. National Team and popular European teams such as Manchester City and Chelsea FC.

With the closure, which will happen in early March, merchandise is marked down to as much as 75% off. All sales are final.

The store specializes in soccer, allowing Callaway to focus on bringing in high-quality brands and products that larger sporting goods stores won't stock.

"It's the whole experience," she said. "It's the kids who tell their parents, 'I want to go to the soccer store.'"

Callaway, who grew up in Livonia, will remain in town on a regular basis to run the jersey business, which provides uniforms to the Michigan Jaguars, the



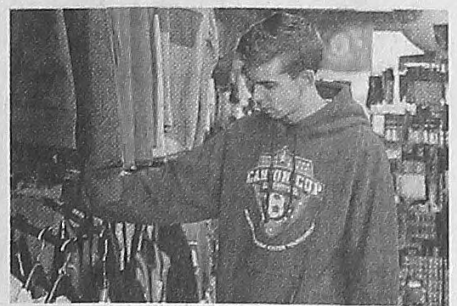
Kristin Callaway and her father, Pat Callaway plan to close their two Soccer Plus locations after decades in business. PHOTOS DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Farmington Soccer Club, Waza FC, Bloomfield Soccer and the Garden City Soccer Club. Its factory, which operates in a 6,000-square-foot facility near Newburgh and Schoolcraft, will continue to serve area clubs.

Callaway said participating in area charitable efforts is just as important as running the business. She recalled a time when the Jaguars played a team from Akron, Ohio, and realized they did not have all the necessary gear. Callaway said they worked with the team to outfit their opponents.

"These boys raised money and we worked with the Michigan Jaguars to donate cleats for every player on their team," she said. "We partner with our customers to give back to local communities and underprivileged abroad."

Despite the closure of the two stores, the family isn't getting out of retail completely: another store under the Motor City Soccer name remains open at 48975 Grand River in Novi, just east of Wixom Road. That store, launched in 2017, will remain open and continue to serve players and their families.



Josh Posuniak, of Canton, an employee at the Soccer Plus store in Livonia, adjusts jerseys for display.



Replica jerseys, like this one from Chelsea FC in the Premier League in England, are on sale at both Soccer Plus stores.



Soccer Plus stores in Livonia and Bloomfield Township will close soon.

That's a part of the business Callaway will still continue to love: Helping families who learn the game by selecting the proper gear to prepare for their first soccer season.

"I had a couple approach me and said, 'Your dad sold me my first pair of soccer cleats,'" she said. "And now, they were bringing their 5-year-old in here to get sized for their cleats."

"We've been here so long that we have sold to generations."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

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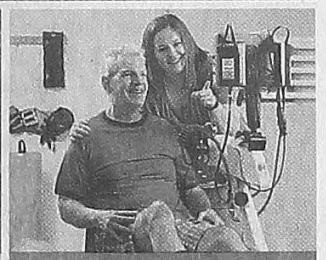
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Garden City schools asking for \$50M bond

The Garden City Public Schools Board of Education has voted unanimously to place a \$50 million bond proposal on the May 5 ballot.

Superintendent Derek Fisher said the primary purpose of the bond election is to remodel, renovate and upgrade Garden City schools and school facilities.

If approved, the bond proposal will address the following areas across the school district:

- Student safety enhancements, including installing security hardware on classroom doors, creating a secure entrance at Garden City Middle School, replacing fire alarm systems, updating PA systems, improving parking lots, and replacing sidewalks.
- Facility updates, including roofing

replacements, upgrading mechanical and HVAC systems, improving energy efficiency, renovating the pool and pool locker rooms, renovating O'Leary Auditorium, and updating interior finishes.

- Improving the learning environment by remodeling media centers and updating furnishings, updating science labs and greenhouses, creating a student commons area to support collaborative learning, creating STEM/maker-spaces, and replacing the music instrument collection.

- Improving athletic facilities, including replacing the gym scoreboard and indoor track, installing a new stadium scoreboard and sound system, installing synthetic turf on the football field, reconstructing the parking lot and driveway approach, replacing fencing,

and improving stadium area/athletic field drainage.

The bond proposal was developed following a comprehensive facility assessment and the engagement of community members to discuss building needs and bond proposal options.

"This process led to a bond proposal that will allow the school district to address both short- and long-term facility needs," Fisher said. "It will also help us enhance student instruction in a safe, secure learning environment."

If the bond proposal is approved, the current tax rate is projected to increase by 1.65 mills. This will cost the average Garden City homeowner an additional \$66 annually.

School Board President Darlene Jablonski said the proposal will sup-

port the school district's mission to provide students with educational opportunities in facilities that encourage student learning.

"That is why communicating about the proposal will be a primary focus during the coming months," she said. "We want voters to understand how the ballot proposal will benefit everyone in the community and to make certain that residents have all their questions answered."

Residents who want more information are invited to go to the school district's website at gardencityschools.com and click on 2020 School Election, call any Garden City school principal, or contact Fisher by phone at 734-762-8300 or by email at fisherd@gardencityschools.com.

Lawsuit accuses Anna's House of discrimination

Meredith Spelbring Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two former Anna's House managers are filing a federal discrimination lawsuit and civil rights complaint against the popular west Michigan-based restaurant franchise, claiming they were fired without warning on the basis of race and religion.

The suit alleges Anna's House owner and operator Josh Beckett fired former employees Alicia Dunlap and Aliou Diao without explanation after trying to enforce policies in a discriminatory manner and even asking one Muslim woman to remove her headscarf, or hijab, during working hours.

Both employees worked at the Westland location. They were fired on June 17, 2019, despite receiving positive reviews and performance feedback, according to the lawsuit.

Dunlap, a Hispanic and Christian woman, worked for the restaurant for nearly two years as manager. Diao, a Senegalese Muslim, worked as kitchen manager since December 2017.

"Anna's House is aware of the lawsuit filed today. We have retained counsel and will defend against these claims in Court," Beckett said in a statement to the Free Press. "Anna's House has and continues to be a place that employs and serves people of all backgrounds and beliefs."

Dawud Walid, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations Michigan, said at a news conference addressing the lawsuit that the term "culture" was weaponized against the two former employees.

"Southeastern Michigan is not a homogeneous region — this is one of the most ethnically and religiously diverse regions in the entire state of Michigan," Walid said. "When we have situations like this, where we have people of color who are being blatantly discriminated against and double standards, this cannot be acceptable at all, but especially here in southeastern Michigan."

The lawsuit alleges Anna's House violated the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discriminatory acts on the basis of race, ethnicity and national origin. Dunlap and Diao seek reinstatement to their former positions or an equivalent, economic and emotional, and punitive damages as well as their legal expenses, according to the suit.



Alicia Dunlap is comforted by Aliou Diao, left, and attorney Channing Robinson-Holmes, right, at a CAIR-MI news conference. Dunlap and Diao are suing Anna's House restaurants for discrimination. MEREDITH SPELBRING/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Anna's House, based in Grand Rapids, has eight locations across Michigan. It focuses on serving all-natural and healthy options.

Michael Pitt, who is representing Dunlap, said the situation at Anna's House that led to Dunlap and Diao's termination is the most outrageous case he has seen in his time as a civil rights attorney.

"Our two clients suffered the most horrific, undignified treatment at the hands of the owner of Anna's House — they were embarrassed, they were humiliated, they were victims of discrimination and I am so honored to represent them because they have the courage and the bravery to fight back," Pitt said.

No colored hair dyes or hijabs

According to the lawsuit, here is how the events unfolded:

The problems started after Beckett learned that two African American servers working for Dunlap had dyed red hair. He later texted Dunlap to remind her staff that colored hair dyes are prohibited by company policy.

Never having seen or heard of the policy beforehand, Dunlap protested enforcing it.

Dunlap alleges she then was pres-

sured by Beckett and Chief Operating Officer Robert Newblatt to fire one of the two African American employees because she was "not the right fit" for the restaurant and "did not properly represent" the 'culture' of Anna's House," according to the lawsuit.

Dunlap believed the employee was targeted for her race and weight.

Dunlap later pushed back against Beckett after he asked her whether one of her employees wore a "jihad." She clarified he was referring to a hijab, a headscarf worn by Muslim women to show modesty.

Beckett later asked the employee, the stepdaughter of Diao, to take off the hijab during work hours.

"Everybody knows that jihad is not the proper term for the Muslim headscarf, it is hijab," said Amy Doukoure, attorney representing Diao with CAIR-Michigan. "Jihad is often a word that is weaponized against Muslims to create an environment and an atmosphere and to create the sense that Muslims are inherently nefarious to the fabric of America. His choice of words we don't believe was an accident."

Once again, Dunlap refused to follow through with Beckett's request, explaining the employee had the right to wear it, according to the lawsuit. Beckett al-

legedly later directed other managers to not hire anyone who wore a hijab.

Once Beckett found out it was Diao's daughter wearing the hijab, he began to inquire whether Diao prayed while at work.

Diao, a practicing Muslim, has a sign on his door asking employees to find another manager if they see him praying in his office during work hours.

Shortly thereafter, Beckett said he was considering "purging Westland."

Diao was called in on his day off and fired.

The suit alleges Beckett has openly taken a discriminatory stance against Muslims, the LGBTQ community and Hispanics on social media platforms, citing tweets such as, "Our way of life is under threat by Radical Islam," and "A nation without borders is not a nation at all. We WILL Make America Safe Again! #AmericaFirst!"

Attempts by the Free Press to find the tweets were unsuccessful.

Recent history of controversy

The lawsuit is not the first time the local restaurant chain has received attention. It took some heat in August 2019 when it came out it donated an extensive amount of money to President Donald Trump's reelection campaign.

A screenshot from the Federal Election Commission (FEC) show an entity named Anna's House Corporate LLC contributed \$5,600 directly to the campaign as well as another \$15,000 indirectly through a PAC named "Trump Victory."

"I am proud to live in a country where we are free to have different opinions and to support a candidate of our choice," Beckett said afterward in a statement to the Free Press. "Embracing (our) differences and respecting each other despite them is what makes our country great."

Just days after, the business drew support from customers after the donations came under fire. About 45 supporters came out to a breakfast event at the restaurant's Plainfield location Aug. 13, encouraged to wear Trump attire to the event.

Doukoure said they believe there are more employees who were fired on the basis of race and religion around the same time as Dunlap and Diao and encourages those with similar stories to reach out.

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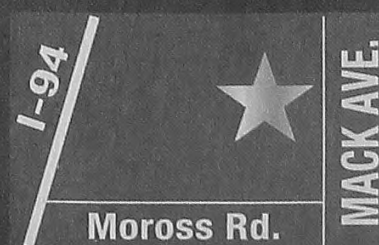
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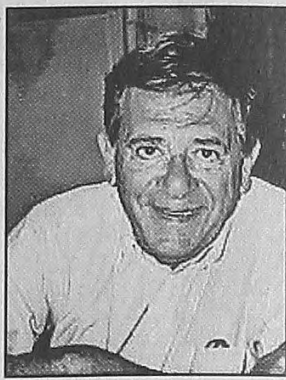
George Nikolas Bageris

LIVONIA - George Nikolas Bageris of Livonia, Michigan was born on March 2, 1933 to the late Assimakis (Sam) and Eugenia Bageris and passed peacefully on February 11, 2020. Cherished husband of Eunice Bageris. Adored stepdad to Sabrina (Joe) Keeley, Alison (Nicholas) Ruffer and Andrea (Jeff) Oquist. Proud grandfather to Megan Keeley, Gabrielle Keeley, Kevin Keeley, Tanner Graham, Trevor Graham, Olivia Oquist and Alexander Oquist. Dearest brother to Plato (Constance) Bageris, Evans (Diane) Bageris and the late Christine and George Dales, and many loving nieces and nephews.

George was a generous, engaging and kind-hearted man who truly enjoyed the company of his loving family, his many friends, the Breakfast Club group and many wonderful colleagues he worked with in Livonia Public Schools while an educator, librarian and administrator in library media. He was a voracious reader, historian and wonderful storyteller. A proud graduate of Cass Tech High School and the University of Michigan, he was an honorable veteran of the United States Army. He will be greatly missed and forever loved.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Livonia Public Schools Education Foundation. <https://lpsfoundation.org/>

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Donald Prince

PLYMOUTH - Age 91, passed away on February 16, 2020. He is survived by his loving wife of almost 72 years to Bonita "Bonnie". Beloved father of Nancy (Larry) Gagnon, Jane (Bruce) Folske and Sarah Prince. Proud grandpa of Richard "Rick" Gagnon, Dawn Gagnon, Scott (Joey) Gagnon and Melissa Schafer. Great grandpa of Rikki Lee, Rebecca, Richard Jr., Jonathan, William, James, Victor and Patrick. Great great grandpa of Arabella, Arbor, Payton, Faith, and one on the way! Caring brother of Carol (Alvin) Prince, Connie O'Brien, Muriel (John) Janisse and Alan (Linda) Prince. Wonderful neighbor of Mark Williams. Donald was preceded in death by his brother Duane Bedell. Don is also survived by many loving cousin and relatives. He was very active in the Boy Scouts, past Master of Plymouth Rock Lodge Number 46 and Odd Fellows. Donald retired from General Motors as a draftsman and proudly served in the U.S. Army. There are no services scheduled at this time. Memorial donations in Donald's memory may be directed to the Shriners Hospital for Children-Spokane, 911 W. 5th Ave., Spokane, WA 99204 or Masonic Pathways, 1200 Wright Ave., Alma, MI 48801. Arrangements entrusted to Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, Plymouth. To share a memory please visit vermeulenhfh.com



VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI
FUNERAL HOMES CREMATION SERVICES

Clifford Leo Smith

FARMINGTON HILLS - Clifford Leo Smith, 81, passed away on 1/30/2020 in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Cliff was born in 1938, at home in Ranger WV, to the late Edith Mable and William Roosevelt Smith. Also preceding him in death, his sister Lois Eileen Lewis and brothers Corbett Eugene, Donald Glenn, Stanley Gerald, and William Roosevelt Jr.

He's survived by his children Barry (Pamela) Lavin, Colleen (William) Harden, Shannon Smith, Corey (Carmelita) Smith; grandchildren Brantley Lavin, Lindsay Lavin, Colin Bothell, Connor Bothell, and Chase Harden. He is also survived by his sisters Doris Garnet Webb, Patricia Fern Macri, Connie Lou Witherington; brothers Wandell Morris, and Ivan Alvery; and an abundance of nieces and nephews.

Cliff was a graduate of Guyan Valley High School. Shortly after, followed in his older brothers footsteps by moving to the Detroit area. There, he worked doing everything from bouncing at a bar, to driving a truck, to insurance sales. He never met a golf ball he didn't like and frequently yelled at the Lions and Wolverines football skills. He loved snowmobiling or dirt biking at the cabin, and snacking on cornbread with buttermilk topped with lots of pepper. He was brought up in the Church of Christ and was baptized later in life, attending at Redford and Farmington Hills Churches of Christ. He enjoyed participating in leading hymns or prayers. But, more than anything, he loved his family and where he came from. He could spend days with his brothers and sisters listening to, playing, and singing bluegrass. He always looked forward to family reunions where everyone had a knee-slapping story or two to tell, and mouthwatering chicken & dumplings with biscuits would be served. He still had a cast iron pan on his stove at the time of his passing.

He is to be cremated followed by a private farewell in Ranger later this year.



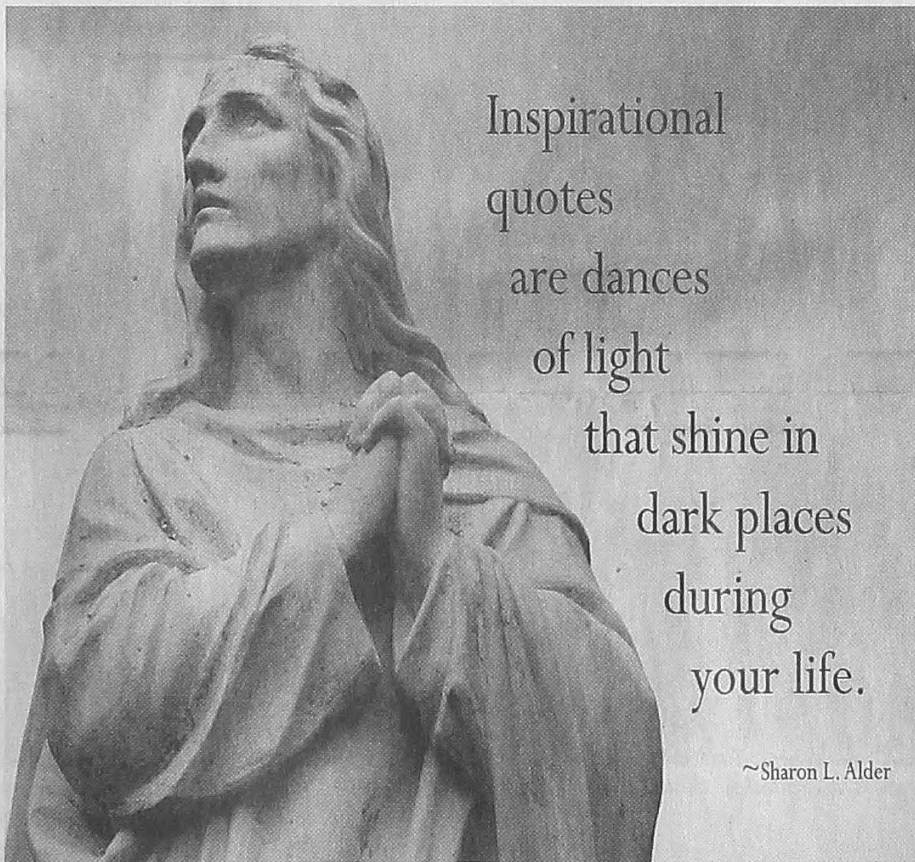
Margrit Brüggmann Getsinger

ORINDA, CA - Margrit Brüggmann Getsinger, age 100, of Orinda, CA formerly of West Bloomfield, MI - 10/8/19 - 2/4/2020.

Preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Getsinger (1995) & son-in-law, Peter Cassidy (1996).

Survived by children, Joan, Pierce & John; granddaughters, Kyna, Brie, Liza & Leah and 6 great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at Christ Church Cranbrook with a tea to follow at the Village Women's Club on June 13th.



Inspirational
quotes
are dances
of light
that shine in
dark places
during
your life.

~Sharon L. Alder

Winifred Wiacek

GARDEN CITY - Wiacek, Winifred (McLeod) of Garden City, was born May 12, 1928, one of seven children to John and Jessie McLeod and died peacefully in her sleep surrounded by her family on February 10, 2020. Beloved wife of Raymond for 70 years. Loving mother to Raymond, Jr.

(Nancy), Diane, David (Sylvia), Joe (Kathy), the late Michael, Nancy White (John) and Patricia Martin. Cherished grandmother of Katie, John (Meredith), Billy and Michael Wiacek; Elizabeth, Mary and Jennifer Drabik; John and Jaclyn White and Jessica Livingstone (Kyle) and Eileen Martin. She is survived by her youngest sister Elsie Potter; four step grandchildren; nine step great-grandchildren; one step great-great grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews. After graduating from Fordson High School, Winnie married her high school sweetheart Ray on October 29, 1949. Early in adulthood she was a devoted stay-at-home mother to her seven children. As her children grew, she began a successful twenty four year career as a top fashion consultant in the menswear department at the J. L. Hudson store in the Westland Mall. In addition, she worked closely with national and local UAW representatives to successfully unionize the employees at that store. After retiring from Hudson's, she worked for the UAW organizing other store locations. In retirement she remained active in local politics and community activities. Winnie was a long-time volunteer and member at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City. Winnie loved her husband, her family and her pet cat Mr. Bob. She enjoyed politics, travel, flower gardening, pinochle, crossword and Sudoku puzzles but her greatest passion in life was her family. A private memorial service will be held. No flowers please. Charitable contributions in her memory to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, 48154, or angelahospice.org/donate/. Interment will be at St. Hedwig Cemetery in the family plot next to her dearly departed son Michael.



GRIFFIN
L.J. Griffin Funeral Home
"Service - A Family Tradition"



Judge

Continued from Page 1A

"But, I am hoping to find some leisure time."

Some of that leisure time will include taking up yoga and spending more time with her grandchildren. With her husband Milt Mack, Mack hopes to continue to volunteer, working with people struggling with substance abuse and people who have mental illnesses. While she's been a judge, Mack has become comfortable telling people when they have a problem and encouraging them to seek help.

"You can see addiction, which is a huge part of the criminal justice system, as is mental illness," she said. "When you see that over and over again every day, it does kind of change your perspective."

Though she plans to stay involved with the 29th District Court in some ways, Mack said she will especially miss the small, accessible feel the court enjoys.

"I really enjoy working with the community," she said, "I had a group of homeschooled kids come here yesterday and the moms in the group said they called like four different courts before anyone called them back. We pride ourselves on being a very open court, a very easy-to-deal-with court."

And to whomever is appointed in her place, she has a word of advice:

"Be pleasant. Be nice to people. Be present, meaning be there on time, and be predictable. Don't do wacky things, I guess. Don't do things out of the ordinary. ... Don't do things like have somebody stand outside with a sign saying, 'I stole a candy bar from the CVS,' you know? Don't humiliate people."

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



Judge Laura R. Mack will retire March 1 after having served 15 years on the bench at the 29th District Court in Wayne. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Hilltop

Continued from Page 1A

willing to pay more for a better product."

Hilltop discontinued a few financially-draining practices Billy Casper allowed, including \$18 greens fees for 18 holes on prime weekend mornings, and allowing shotgun-start outings on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

"There are no golf courses that I know of that do those things and do OK financially," Moscone said.

Township Treasurer Mark Clinton said the feedback he heard from Hilltop players was resoundingly positive.

"Golfers are playing a better course, ADM is running it cheaper and, who knows, if we have a dry spring, revenues should go up," Clinton said. "In terms of playability, people tell me they like that tee times are spread out now from seven to 10 minutes so four-somes aren't getting jammed up once they get to the second or third hole."

Plans for 2020 include looking into ramping up the course's fleet of golf carts, which haven't been replaced since 2008, and continuing to improve the cart paths.

"These carts are tired," Moscone said. "They've taken a beating on these cart paths, too. There were speed bumps and potholes ... it takes a toll on the carts."

ADM's financial projections predict a slight profit for 2020 (weather permitting). Thanks to a profit-sharing agreement in the contract, the township and ADM will split any profits.

The course offered a \$1,000 cash prize for anyone who registered a hole-in-one on the ninth hole, a long par 3. However, no one was able to cash in, course manager Jim Gorney revealed.

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

Home

Continued from Page 1A

7-Eleven, more than century-old structure on the southeast corner of the two busy township roads possesses indicators that many historians believe point toward it being used for the Underground Railroad as a complex and potentially fatally dangerous path to freedom for slaves fleeing to Canada.

Given the Underground Railroad's stealthy-as-possible existence, hard-evidence that the property temporarily sheltered slaves in the mid-1850s appears impossible to find, but the circumstantial clues are pretty convincing.

Longtime owners of the house Jamie and Laura Flora have researched the building enough to believe that their former property at 43425 Warren Road served as a temporary resting place for escaped Southern slaves on the brink of freedom that Canada offered.

Canton historian David Curtis, who has invested roughly 200 research hours into the property, is compelled by the idea that the house was an Underground Railroad stop, but acknowledged that it will probably never be proved to be so beyond a doubt.

"Proving a house was part of the Underground Railroad (UGRR) is difficult because, by its very nature, it was something that was not heavily advertised," Curtis said.

Curtis uncovered tax, census and



The Canton home as it looked in 1940. COURTESY OF JAMIE AND LAURA FLORA

ownership documents dating back to the mid-1850s, none of which were 100% conclusive.

"The property was sold to John Kinyon in 1852 for \$3,000," Curtis said. "This increase in the price of the property indicates major improvements to the property, probably a barn or house were built."

"In 1858, Issacher Hughes purchased the property. Issacher came from an

area in Steuben County where some Quakers did live. In that most Quakers were very much in favor of slaves being set free, this has been the only lead that I have found that the house was involved in the UGRR."

The Floras, who owned the home from 1988-2018, have uncovered documentation that the Godwin family, who owned the home for several years in the 20th century, found Civil War-era newspapers that were used for insulation in the back room of the home.

"The (documentation) also included the barn as a possible refuge for runaway slaves," Laura Flora said.

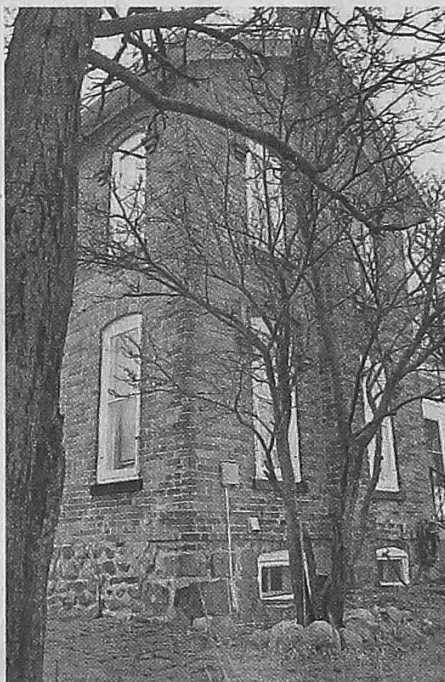
One fascinating feature of the home is a rear-of-the-building crawl space that was designed so that, in theory, fleeing slaves could have entered the home by scaling a short wall and escaped into the night if a posse of bounty hunters entered the home.

A history student from Eastern Michigan University, whom the Floras gave permission to inspect the house, said she believed the remains of stepping stones next to a filled-in well on the west side of the building provides more evidence of the home being used in the Underground Railroad.

"She told us that it was common to use a clover as a symbol of a safe house," Laura Flora noted. "And she identified the corner of (that) area as what could have been a clover."

Harboring runaway slaves was incredibly dangerous for the owners of the safe houses, an overwhelming mountain of evidence suggests.

Property owners who were caught hiding slaves were often executed in high-profile ceremonies that pro-slavery enthusiasts hoped would dissuade others from doing the same.



The home sits on a corner lot.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The Warren Road structure seems to be at most the third-oldest building in Canton, the Floras said.

"We have heard there was an old house that was recently demolished; if that was the first or second oldest home, then this one is among the top-two oldest in the township."

The house still stands in large part because of the Floras' persistence.

In early 1989, just a few months after the Floras purchased the historic building, Laura Flora arrived at the site to find that the 1940s-era windows that her and her husband had recently renovated were boarded up.

Flora quickly discovered that a fast-spreading fire had caused extensive damage inside the home the night before, creating a dilemma as to whether she and her husband would restore the home or demolish it.

"It was a tough call," Laura Flora said. "But we take pride in restoring history, not destroying it, so we made the decision to renovate."

When the Floras' children weren't residing in the home, they rented it to strangers, many of whom they said were drawn to the site's history and potential ties to the Underground Railroad.

"The last four years we owned it, there seemed to be interest in the home from graduate students who were working toward their master's degrees," Laura Flora said. "You could tell they had an appreciation for the historical angle of living in the home."

Flora said she shudders at the thought of the era of slavery in the U.S.

"Just to think of what people would do to other people is just horrifying to me," she said.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at edwright@hometownlife.com.

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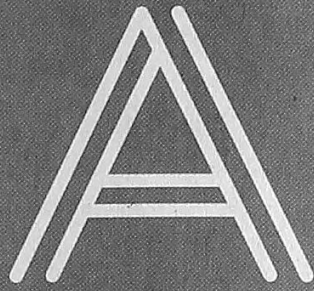
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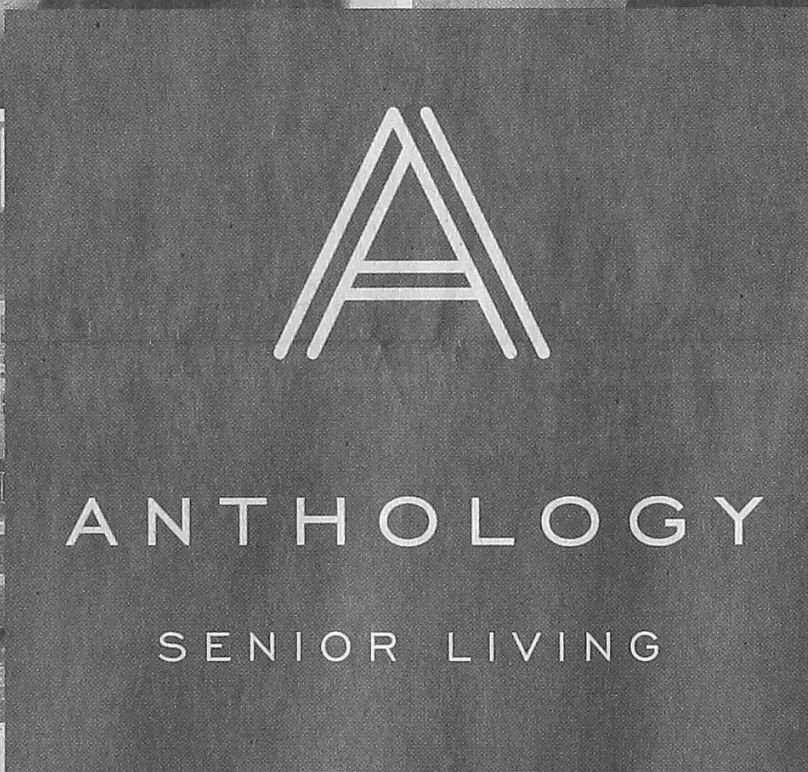
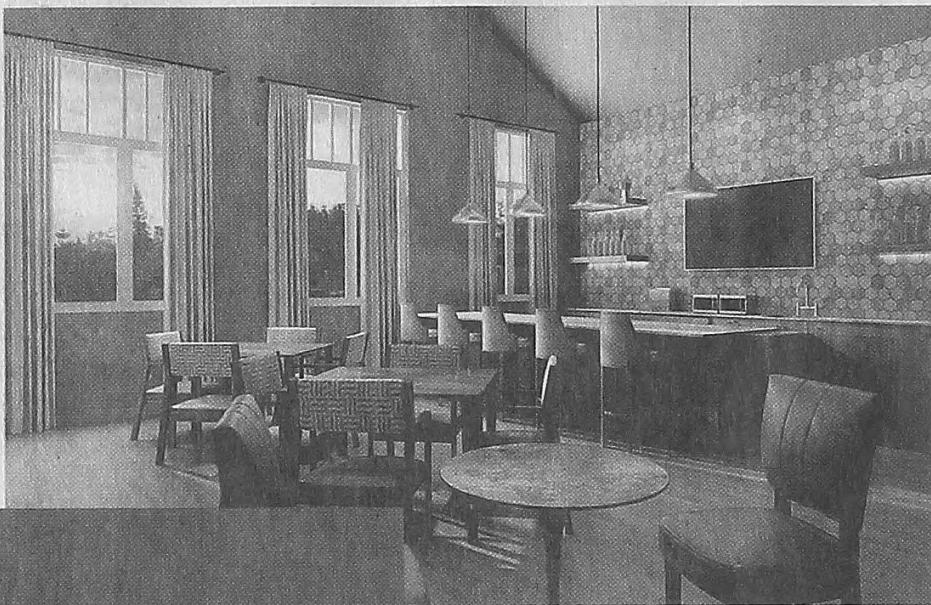
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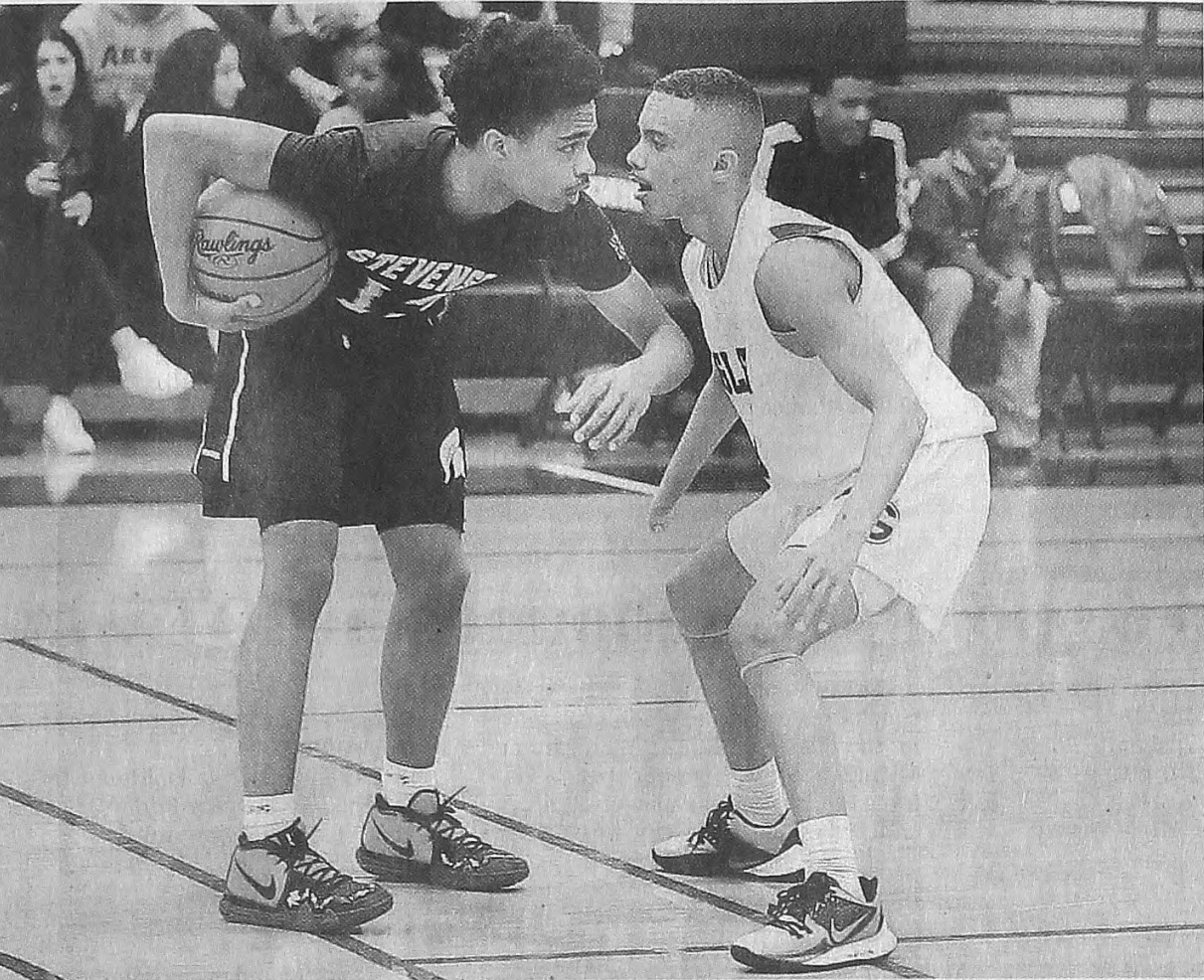
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Sports

BOYS BASKETBALL JOHN GLENN



Isaiah Lawrence, right, who practices six days a week for John Glenn's varsity and the junior varsity teams, steps up defensively against Livonia Stevenson. The junior was born without a right hand due to amniotic band syndrome. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

NO SYMPATHY

Lawrence masters life on, off court despite birth defect

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Isaiah Lawrence knows what it means to play with heart. To him, it's not backing down, it's not being intimidated by the ability of the opponent.

Taking the court for the John Glenn junior varsity team against Livonia Stevenson, the junior point guard was ready to work, ready to run, ready to play with heart.

He set up the first play for the Rockets offense, slowly jogging up the court, dribbling with his right hand and performing one crossover before he reached the half court line, showing opponents he means business.

Every time Lawrence steps out onto the basketball court, he has something to prove.

"Anyone can lose, anyone can win," Lawrence said. "If you work harder than the other opponent, you will win."

For Lawrence, this mantra is not limited to his time on the court, but his time off it as well. He was born with amniotic band syndrome, a condition that left him without a right hand from the moment he was born.

But instead of limiting him, the hand fuels his life's mission: to leave a positive impact wherever he goes, on and off the basketball court, showing people that they can do whatever they set their mind to, one basket at a time.

Learning process

Each time Jill Cronk had an ultrasound, she knew something was different. In each of the pictures, she could not see her son's right hand.

See LAWRENCE, Page 2B

BOYS BASKETBALL
HOWELL 75, CANTON 71 (3 OT)

Highlanders clinch title in KLAA West

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

It took three overtime periods, but the Howell Highlanders clinched the KLAA West Division title Tuesday night in a battle with second place Canton.

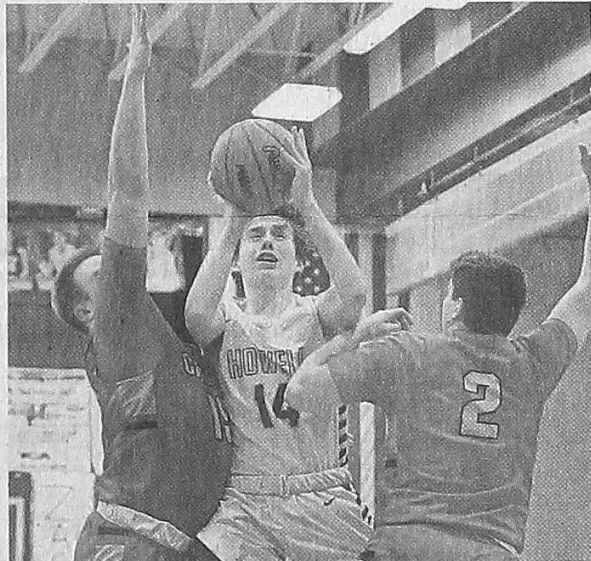
Each team had numerous chances to win the game — but after exciting finishes to the fourth quarter and first two overtimes, Howell won the game with a series of made free throws in the third extra period, securing a 75-71 victory at Howell High School.

Both squads were carried by their stars. Howell senior Bobby Samples had a career-high 31 points and was aided by senior Tony Honkala, who scored 23 points. Canton was led by senior Jake Vickers, who scored 26 points. His younger brother Cole scored 16, and senior Ben Stesiak notched 14.

Howell improves to 14-3 overall and 11-2 in the KLAA. Canton drops to 11-6, 9-4. The Highlanders will take on the No. 2 seed out of the East Division, John Glenn, in this week's conference tournament semifinal. Canton can still be the No. 2 seed in the West with a win this past Friday against Plymouth and a Northville loss to Howell (results came after print deadline). That would pit the Chiefs against top seed Belleville in the other semifinal.

"It's one of the greatest games I've ever coached

See HOWELL, Page 3B



Howell's Bobby Samples, who scored a career-high 31 points, tries to drive between Canton's Jake Vickers, left, and Sean Mullen. COURTESY OF DAN ZEPPE

BASEBALL

Livonia Churchill hires former John Glenn coach

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

After seven years as Westland John Glenn's head baseball coach, Lawrence Scheffer is taking on a new challenge.

Scheffer resigned from his coaching position after June's High School All-Star Game at Comerica Park and was hired by Livonia Churchill in the fall to take over as the program's new coach. Ron Targosz, Churchill's now former head coach, will be staying on as an assistant coach to help make the transition easier for Scheffer.

"I'm really excited to take over at Churchill," Scheffer said. "I hope I can do as good of a job as Coach Targosz has done over the last 16 years. Hopefully I can follow suit and not miss a beat."

Targosz stepped down to spend more time with his family. He has children in both middle school and high

school who are active in sports.

Scheffer spent a total of 15 years with John Glenn and came up through the school himself. The Rockets went 10-4 in the KLAA East Division last season and 12-9 in the conference, good for a close third place finish behind Livonia Franklin and Livonia Stevenson.

"I have nothing bad to say about John Glenn, I have nothing but great memories there," Scheffer said. "My brothers and I all went through the program there, I worked with a lot of great teachers there and the athletic director and administration was good to me. Moving forward, I just think this is a little better situation. All the Livonia schools just last year, we all have the new infield turf for the baseball fields."

The brand new field was certainly a selling point, as was the local baseball talent in Livonia. Scheffer said he hopes to build upon the postseason success Churchill had last season and keep the program on the rise. Churchill finished fourth in the KLAA East, but went on to win a district title.

"We're going to be young: juniors, sophomores, a couple seniors," Scheffer said. "I think we'll be competitive, but you're only as good as your pitching staff. Long term, hopefully we can go as far as we possibly can and make states. That's your ultimate goal."


Scheffer went 117-77 in his seven seasons as head coach at John Glenn. He said he feels bad about leaving behind the senior class, but acknowledged that there's never a good time to leave former players.

James Jordan was hired to replace Scheffer at John Glenn. He is currently the school's freshman boys basketball coach.

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



Scheffer




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GIRLS BASKETBALL HARTLAND 36, BRIGHTON 33

Late 3 from corner breaks tie, lifts Eagles



Hartland senior Madi Moyer launches the game-winning 3-pointer Tuesday.
GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Bill Khan
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Don Palmer doesn't forbid Madi Moyer from taking 3-point shots.

The Hartland girls basketball coach would just prefer to see someone else firing away from long range.

But with the seconds winding down in a tie game with Brighton, this was no time to be selective.

It was Moyer who found herself wide open in the left corner with the ball in her hands. And it was Moyer who drained the 3-pointer that gave the second-ranked Eagles a 36-33 victory over third-ranked Brighton on Tuesday night in a battle for first place in the KLA West.

"Madi, we kind of have a standing joke that, 'I prefer you not to shoot the 3, but you've earned the right to shoot it,'" Palmer said. "I think she shot one be-

fore, then she made one. That would make her like 3-for-17. But I knew it was a wide-open shot. I knew she would get it there. I didn't know it was going to go in. At the worst, you've got overtime, but she saved us."

Moyer, a senior, gets the majority of her points in the dirty areas, driving into the paint or crashing the boards to get a putback. She is the player most likely to get floor burns from battling for loose balls.

"I've hit maybe three or four 3s this season," said Moyer, who had a team-high 11 points. "I've taken more than that, but I'm glad that this is the one that decided to go in. We knew we had time going down on the clock. We knew we had to get a shot off. We really didn't care who shot it."

"It's one of the best feelings I've ever had in my life. It's incredible."

With the score tied 33-33, Brighton had a chance to take the lead when

6-foot-3 Sophie Dziekan missed on a shot near the rim while guarded by 6-4 Whitney Sollom, who hauled in the rebound.

Brighton's Sydney Hetherton nearly stole a long pass from Syd Caddell to Nikki Dompierre, who drove toward the lane, attracting the Brighton defense. Dompierre passed the ball over to Moyer for the winning shot.

After a timeout, the Bulldogs in-bounded the ball with 3.2 seconds left, with Hetherton missing a 3-pointer contested by Sollom at the buzzer.

"Unfortunately, we had a breakdown and gave up a critical 3," Brighton coach Paul Ash said. "That happens, though. The kid made a nice drive, kicked it out. The kid made a shot. You've got to give Hartland credit for making a play. That's what good teams do. They made plays at critical times."

Contact Bill Khan at wkhan@gannett.com.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Emoni Bates puts up 63 points, 21 rebounds in 20T win

Joey Yashinsky
Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

One of the nation's most sought-after high school basketball players dropped

a stat line on Tuesday night that appeared almost fictional.

Emoni Bates, Ypsilanti Lincoln's 6-foot-8 star forward, put up 63 points and 21 rebounds against Chelsea in a 108-102 double-overtime victory.

Just a sophomore, Bates is widely considered to be the nation's top player in the Class of 2022. Michigan and Michigan State will both drive hard for Bates, but national powers Kentucky and Duke also are likely to be in the

mix.

Remarkably, the phenom just turned 16 on Jan. 28.

Bates and the Railsplitters (14-2) were scheduled to play Friday at home against Ypsilanti Community.

Lawrence

Continued from Page 1B

Once Lawrence was born – nine weeks early – amniotic band syndrome, which happens to between one-in-8,000 and one-in-15,000 children at birth, became a reality.

While the cause of the syndrome may be unknown, the condition results from the tearing of the amniotic sac, in which fibers that break off may compromise the blood flow and could cause a loss of limb of a fetus before birth.

As the shock swept over the mother – not knowing for certain that Lawrence had lost his right hand until birth – her family taught her a valuable lesson, one she would take from the hospital bed and give to Lawrence each and every day.

"I was crying, of course, wondering why that would happen," Cronk said. "My sisters were like, 'He's going to be OK, aren't you? Tell her you are going to be OK.'"

"He was only like an hour old, and he just gave me a big smile."

From that moment, Cronk made it her goal to make sure her son was accepted, to raise him in a way that showed him he was not different from anybody else.

She encouraged him, consistently telling Lawrence it was the way God made him.

She made him an example: not allowing him to wear long-sleeve shirts as he grew up, which led him to withdraw and hide his hand.

"I had to teach him that it was his job to educate people because, you know, 'This is how I was born and I'm fine with it, so it shouldn't bother you,'" Cronk said.

Looking back at his formative years, Lawrence said Cronk pushed him, as a mother. She pushed him to not care what people think, to be himself, to create his own identity not based solely on the disability he had.

To Lawrence, that motivation made him who he is today.

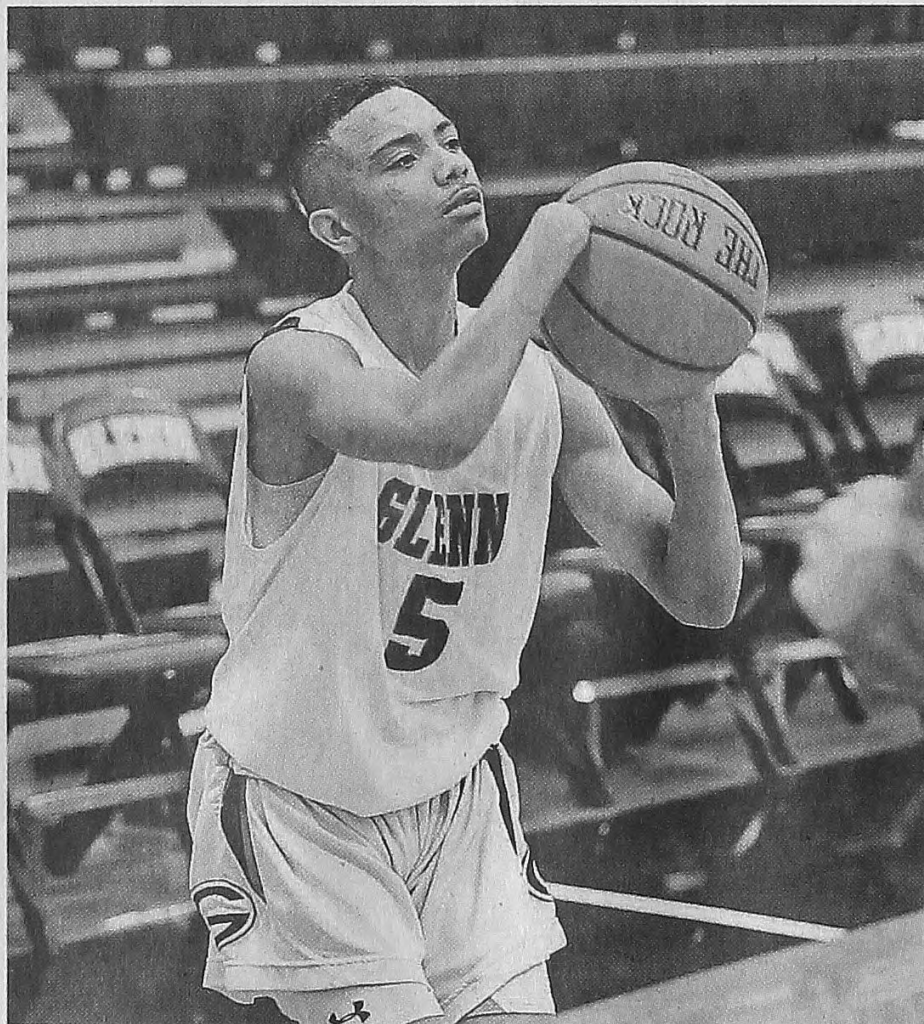
"I feel like I needed that because I was in a place where I just cared too much about what people think and I would let that change my opinion on stuff, change who I wanted to be," Lawrence said. "And her, caring so much to make me feel normal, it just helped extremely."

Finding a way

If Cronk did not know how to teach her son how to do something, she found someone who would. Lawrence mastered simple things, going to therapy to learn how to tie his shoes, tying a jump rope around his wrist and learning to jump rope.

When it came to the game of basketball, Lawrence got drawn in by his brother, Jemeil Jenkins.

Following Jenkins around to AAU practices and playing against him in the back yard, Lawrence would bounce the ball around, learning how to master a game usually played with two hands.



When Isaiah Lawrence comes out onto the basketball court for a game or a practice, he has one simple request: "Guard me just as hard, talk trash to me just like they would anyone else." TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

They would later face off on the backyard court. Jenkins would show no mercy as Lawrence would try to get past him.

While Cronk continually impressed the message: "There's no reason why you can't play" to her son, Lawrence was hesitant. In his seventh grade year at Franklin Middle School, he didn't try out for the team, saying he cared too much about what people thought, how they were going to see him.

Despite hours on the practice courts with his brother, Lawrence didn't feel good enough. He was not confident he would make the team.

Heading into his eighth grade year, his confidence shifted. He bet on himself on the basketball court, and it paid off, making the eighth grade team.

Since arriving at John Glenn, he has not stopped playing basketball since.

Practicing six days a week for both the varsity and the junior varsity teams, Lawrence is always on the basketball court, developing his skills and his relationships with his teammates.

Lawrence said that's what separates basketball from every other sport: the team work, the energy. It's what brings Lawrence life. It's what makes people forget about his birth defect.

When Jerret Smith saw Lawrence for the first time, the first-year John Glenn head coach told the player's mother, Cronk, "That hand doesn't matter to me."

"We treat Isaiah like every other kid. He puts a lot of work in and obviously we

know he has a deficiency without having his right hand, but at the same time, I'm not going to have sympathy for the kid and neither does no one else," Smith said.

"I tell him, 'You better find a way to work on your right. I don't care what the situation is.'"

'Ball is life'

Cronk remembers a time when her son was 13, playing with and against people who were three or four years older than him.

"One time, he was playing basketball for about two hours with the guys, and this kid started jumping around and they thought he had injured himself," Cronk said. "Everybody's like, 'What's wrong? Did you break something? Your foot? What?' And he started screaming because of Isaiah's hand. It was gross to him, he thought."

"You know how (Lawrence) dealt with it? I said, 'You probably (were) embarrassed.' He said, 'Nope. Ball is life. I just hooped out and ignored him.'"

Lawrence has seen it all, from people making fun of him because of his hand to opponents taking it easy on him because of his defect.

Walking into a room, Lawrence stands out and is seen immediately. Instead of that hindering him, the junior guard uses his hand as a platform.

"I have been bullied a lot and it's what hurt me on the inside," Lawrence said. "I

had my brother and my mom supporting me, and I just realized I can't let people get me down in that place."

Coming into the 2019-20 season with varsity experience – moving down to the junior-varsity team to start on a team with a lack of depth because of eligibility issues – freshmen and sophomore teammates flock to Lawrence, looking up to him and knowing he has that experience.

They see, through him, where they would like to be.

The leadership seeps into the varsity roster as well. Lawrence is a regular on the varsity bench during games, giving the players motivation and advice in person and over text every day.

The combination has created this unbreakable bond between Lawrence and the rest of the John Glenn basketball program. Lawrence knows he has his teammates' backs, while feeling confident his teammates have his.

That's the culture and the legacy Lawrence has created for the Rockets.

"I wanted to build a program where no one has to really be shy about their basketball career, not really feeling like someone's going to yell at them or be hard on them," Lawrence said. "We all love and support each other."

'He wants it more'

When Lawrence comes out onto the basketball court for a game or a practice, he has one simple request.

"Guard me just as hard, talk trash to me just like they would anyone else," Lawrence said.

In his freshman year of high school, the guard said he would get opponents that would back off against him, seeing his disability. However, after finding open looks on the outside, passing to the open man even if he was on the other side of the court, his opponents learned quickly that Lawrence was not to be messed with.

John Glenn senior Demetrious Mason, who has known the guard for five years and has described him as a brother, said it's in Lawrence's mentality: He's always on the court and he never stops working.

"He wants it more than everyone else," Mason said. "It's domination he wants."

To Cronk, who grew up teaching him he was not different from anyone else, it's inspiring. That every time he steps onto the court, he has a message to give to those in the gym.

"Love yourself and you can do anything you put your mind to," Cronk said.

Lawrence wants to continue to make that impact, to be that example of the impossible made possible on the basketball court.

But that does not mean Lawrence wants sympathy.

He has never gotten sympathy, from his mother, from his brother. No one.

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

BOYS BASKETBALL JOHN GLENN 57, LIVONIA STEVENSON 49

Rockets remain rooted in 2nd in KLAA East

Colin Gay
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After John Glenn erased a 17-point lead against Belleville on Feb. 13, giving the Tigers the KLAA East regular season title, the Rockets needed a win desperately.

In a rematch of one of its closest wins of the season — a 55-54 nailbiter on Jan. 24 — John Glenn (12-5, 11-2 KLAA East) got what it needed, defeating Livonia Stevenson (11-6, 8-5 KLAA East), 57-49, at home Tuesday.

John Glenn, firmly planted in second place in the KLAA East, has won 11-of-13 games against conference opponents this season, recording its two losses against Belleville by a combined 12 points.

Here are three takeaways from Tuesday night's game:

Offensive composure returns

Trailing 25-21 late in the second quarter, Kyle Holt saw an opportunity to change the game's narrative in favor of the Rockets.

The senior guard found a streaking Sharieff Liddell on a fastbreak, nailing a layup to cut John Glenn's deficit to two. After senior Deonte Pearson recorded a min five-point run for the Rockets to end the quarter, John Glenn never looked back.

Holt made sure that happened in the third quarter.

The senior guard scored 10 of the Rockets' 15 third-quarter points. He finished the game with a team-leading 18 points.

"Really, my role this year has been trying to create shots for my teammates,

but I just happened to get hot in the third quarter, you know," Holt said. "They ended up falling for me, falling my way."

For John Glenn head coach Jerret Smith, Holt, after missing last season due to eligibility issues, has been the lifeblood of the Rockets' success.

"He's been huge. He's been most consistent," Smith said. "The kid's pounding minutes every day. The kid's really playing well."

After Stevenson forward Colin McGlinch brought the Spartans to within three points with a layup, John Glenn senior guard Asonta Hargrove hit back-to-back corner triples to help the Rockets to their second win in their last three games.

Short-handed Stevenson

Heading into a battle between the second- and third-place teams in the KLAA East, the Stevenson bench was quieter than usual.

The Spartans were missing two starters — Luke Merchant and Ethan Young — along with head coach Kareem Smart. All were out with the flu, and are expected to be back for Stevenson's game against Livonia Churchill Friday.

"You have to trust your whole team. You can't expect the starters to win you the game," Stevenson assistant coach Chris Haldane, who was the acting head coach against John Glenn, said. "Subs, seven, eight, all the guys from five to 15, they have to bring the same energy the starters bring and you have to hold that for four quarters."

Focused on revenge

Even as Smith watched his team earn its 11th win against a conference oppo-



John Glenn senior Kyle Holt gets a pass past Stevenson guard Evan Asante.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

nent this season, all he could think about was what could have been: that 17-point lead evaporated to the eventual KLAA East regular season champions.

All Smith wants is to win at this point of the season.

"We let one go against Belleville. We kind of handed them a game: we were up 17 and we blew the lead. We kind of had to bounce back regardless," Smith said. "It doesn't matter how you win. You just have to win."

With one game remaining before the KLAA tournament against Dearborn, Smith, leading a No. 2 seed, said there is

still a lot to learn for this group.

But, as he has repeatedly said about his group in his first season as the John Glenn head coach, expectations are not very high, giving the Rockets an opportunity to make some unexpected noise.

"This is a team that nobody believes in," Smith said. "These kids are learning how to win at the most important time of the year."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at [@ColinGay17](https://twitter.com/ColinGay17). Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Howell

Continued from Page 1B

in, in any sport. The grit by both teams was unbelievable," Howell coach Nick Simon said. "Canton's a heck of a basketball team, they're incredibly well-coached. We just didn't stop fighting."

Here are three takeaways from the game:

Wild finish

The game went back-and-forth all evening long.

Canton jumped out to an early lead before Howell tied the game up after one quarter, and the two teams continued to trade leads heading into the fourth quarter, where Canton held a five-point advantage.

Howell caught fire late, however, and tied the game up in the final minute. That gave the Chiefs a chance to win it on their final possession. Stesiak drove to the hoop, but with six seconds left, was called for a charge. That gave Howell an opportunity to win the game with six seconds left. Samples was unable to hit a three, and the game continued to overtime with the score tied at 52.

The first overtime was low scoring, with each team only netting five points. With less than 30 seconds left, Canton got the ball with another chance to win, but turned it over. Howell then turned it right back over with .3 seconds left. Instead of inbound the ball short, the Chiefs threw it deep to attempt a tip in. Instead, the pass hit the ceiling, giving Howell a golden opportunity once more.

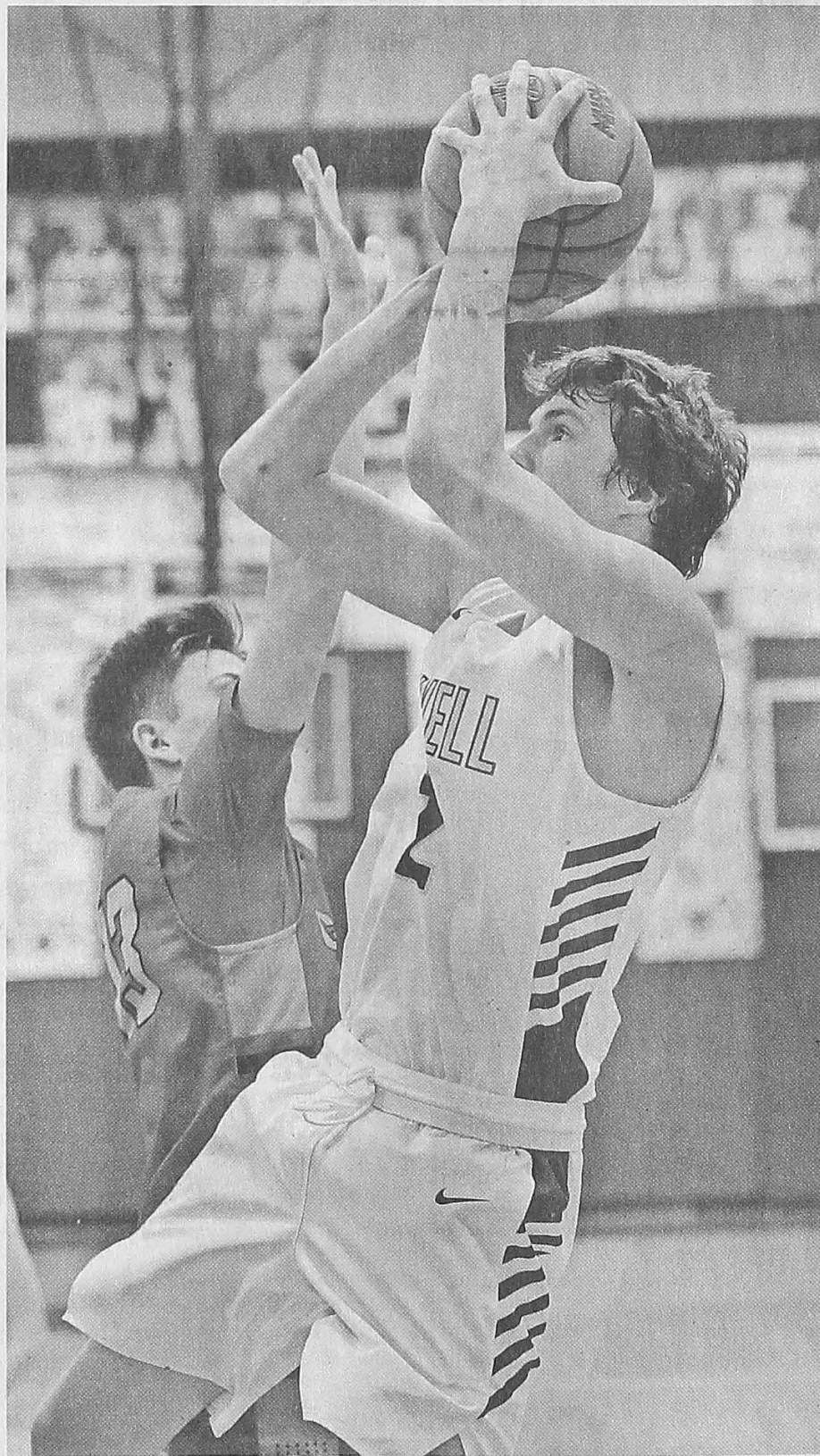
A perfect pass in the lane led to a Honkala shot that just rolled off the rim, sending the game to overtime number two.

In the final seconds, it was Stesiak who again had a chance to win the game. He got into the lane and put up a short jumper, but it was no good. Howell launched a full-court Hail Mary, but that was no good as well, meaning another overtime tied at 66.

Tied at 68 with 1:32 to play, the game was still completely up for grabs. After a Canton miss, Howell took the lead with 46.3 seconds left and never looked back.

Canton brought it to within one point twice, but Samples made a number of free throws to keep his team out front and senior Will Hann finished it off by making a free throw to make it a four-point game.

"It was quirky. A lot of weird things happened," Simon said. "You thought for sure one team had won it, but then they didn't, then the other team thought for sure they won it, but they didn't. Weird things kept happening, guys kept hitting shots that you didn't think were going to go in for both teams, then you



Howell's Tony Honkala, who scored 23 points, has his shot contested by Canton's Jacob Rubis. COURTESY OF DAN ZEPPA

wouldn't hit shots that were good shots. It was all over the place. A lot of credit to them, I think their two or three best players played pretty much the whole game. Ours did too, it was a heck of a game all-around."

Fouls cause depth problems

Canton was forced to play short handed down the stretch after four of its starters fouled out. Two of those came

before the end of regulation, while the other two (Stesiak and Cole Vickers) came in the third overtime.

Howell shot 32 free throws compared to Canton's 19. The disparity left Canton coach Jimmy Reddy unhappy.

"Hard fought battle tonight, I think we should've won the game twice," Reddy said. "I think the officiating plays a role. Thirty-two free throws for those guys, we only shot 19. Four of our guys foul out, zero of their guys foul out. I'm

not happy with how the game was officiated. We know when we come up here, we have to leave no doubt and not let the officials play a part and we didn't do a good enough job."

Canton was already down a usual starter, who was benched with an injury. He only entered the game in overtime once several of his teammates fouled out. Luckily for the Chiefs, Jake Vickers, Cole Vickers and Stesiak were able to play nearly the entire game and put the team in position to win.

"They're super good players," Samples said. "(Stesiak) can get to the rim whenever he wants to, and (Jake) Vickers is just a body down low. We couldn't stop him. That was our goal before the game, to get a body on him and box out, but we didn't do a good job of that."

Samples plays through pain

Late in the game, Samples came up limping after a collision. He appeared to hurt his ankle, which immediately made Simon wonder if he'd need to come out of the game.

Samples would have none of that and stayed in the rest of the game to lead his team to the victory.

"I'm pretty sure he played about 40 minutes," Simon said. "I'm not sure that he came out. He's our captain, and the leadership and toughness he showed, I thought I was going to have to take him out, and the next thing I know he's playing unbelievable defense and making plays. I can't give him enough credit."

Simon said his team's toughness, especially mentally, was the reason the Highlanders were able to come out on top. Now, they are able to turn their attention to their next goal.

"(Winning the Division) was our first goal," Simon said. "It was the first thing on our list of goals to accomplish. We talked before the game, that this was the first time in 11 months that we had an actual opportunity to play a game that was directly related to our goals and I thought our kids showed a heck of a lot of grit and toughness."

Samples said after the game that he was disappointed his three-point shots weren't falling, but he wasn't concerned. It was the first triple overtime game he's ever played in, and joked that he hopes it's his last.

"It was crazy," Samples said. "I think it's a testament to how hard we work in practice. I love these guys, they work extremely hard and that's why we came out with a dub today."

"The mindset is that we refuse to lose. We'll play as hard as we can on defense and whatever happens, happens."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlencourt@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter at [@AndrewVcourt](https://twitter.com/AndrewVcourt). Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Samsung goes big on 5G with Galaxy S20s



Personal Tech
Edward C. Baig
USA TODAY

Samsung is ready for a closer close-up and hoping you're finally ready to embrace 5G.

Its newest offerings in the Galaxy line of 5G phones, announced in San Francisco on Tuesday, come in three variants: the S20, the S20+ and the S20 Ultra, with the chief differences among them coming down to screen size, color, camera and price.

The S20 has a 6.2-inch Quad HD+ display and goes for \$999.99; the S20+ has a 6.7-inch display and is at \$1,199.99 to start, and the S20 Ultra has a 6.9-inch screen and is at \$1,399.99 on up. Pre-orders begin Feb. 21, with the devices in stores March 6.

All three models come with 12GB of RAM (with a 16GB option for the Ultra). Though there are other factors, more RAM lets you return to previously used apps faster. All three have 120Hz displays that promise a seamless mobile gaming experience. And they all have a minimum of 128GB of storage, along with the ability to upgrade via optional microSD cards.

The phones all have sizable batteries, too, with the Ultra having the biggest.

What is the Z Flip?

You might have seen the ad Samsung ran during Sunday's Oscars broadcast, showcasing the foldable "statement" \$1,380 Z Flip that also was unveiled in San Francisco. It comes in gold, purple or black and folds to about half its size like a wallet or unfolds at any angle. It will be available Friday.

You can display content across the completely unfolded or partially folded 6.7-inch "AMOLED" screen on the Z Flip. You also can split the screen to control an app that is displayed in the upper half by interacting with the bottom half.

Among other modes, you can prop the phone on a table, open at a 90-degree angle, to take a hands-free selfie.

With the renewed focus on folding phones, the current market for them is unproven and not yet what most pundits would consider mainstream.

Samsung ran into technical problems with the delayed launch last year of the near \$2,000 Galaxy Fold. Verizon and Walmart are selling the folding \$1,499.99 Moto Razr.

Motorola is hoping the combination of nostalgia, flexible touch screen technology and an iconic brand name will translate into lofty sales. That remains to be seen.

As for Samsung's new foldable, "I believe the Flip will be a market success assuming there aren't any reliability gotchas," says tech analyst Patrick Moorhead of Moor Insights & Strategy.

Samsung Galaxy Buds+

Samsung also unveiled \$149.99 Galaxy Buds+ Bluetooth earbuds. Samsung is claiming improved audio quality over the previous version (which will remain in the lineup) and up to 22 hours of audio playback.

There's an additional microphone, bringing the total to three, for better voice quality, and a one-touch shortcut to Spotify. Samsung made a point that the pair works with iOS, meaning Samsung is obviously trying to compete against Apple's AirPods.

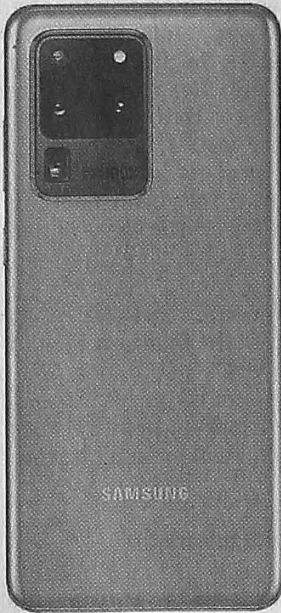
The new buds will be available Feb. 14 online, and in stores March 6.

The Galaxy S20 Ultra camera

The new Galaxy handsets all have large sensors and a camera system fueled in part by artificial intelligence. The S20 and S20+ both have 64-megapixel telephoto cameras and 12MP wide-angle cameras; the Ultra has a 48MP telephoto camera but a 108MP wide-angle camera.

The three phones all have 12MP ultra-wide cameras as well. The quad-camera S20+ and Ultra models add depth vision.

Samsung has introduced a new feature called Single Take. When you tap the shutter in this mode, the phone takes



Samsung S20 Ultra
SAMSUNG

find the Duo icon in the dialer and in your contacts.

What else is new on Samsung S20s

Samsung also added a feature that will help you share your Bluetooth connection with friends who have their own Galaxy devices.

When it unveiled its Galaxy Note 10 phones last summer, Samsung removed the standard headphone jack that was on the Galaxy S10 and previous Samsung smartphones.

The jack also is missing on the S20s, a bummer for users who still rely on corded headphones.

Samsung pushing 5G

Is 5G enough of a reason to upgrade now?

That's still debatable, despite the promise of blisteringly fast speeds.

For all the places where the nation's four major carriers have launched 5G so far — three assuming the T-Mobile-Sprint merger that was approved by a federal judge finally goes through — the networks are hardly everywhere.

Even in markets where 5G exists, there's not necessarily blanket coverage.

That said, 5G is far further along than it was when Samsung unveiled its Galaxy S10 5G handset last year. And Samsung is pushing 5G now as a hedge against the future. That hedge has its limits and depends on which of the S20s you buy.

Most notably, the least expensive of the S20 models won't be sold by Verizon, at least initially, because the particular flavor of 5G that Verizon supports — known in techie circles as mmWave — is incompatible with the device. Verizon says it will have a version of the S20 that will work with its 5G network in the second quarter of the year.

Instead, Verizon customers who want a new device with 5G will have to step up to the S20+ or S20 Ultra models.

You can also buy an unlocked S20 and put a Verizon SIM card in it, but you won't get 5G.

10 seconds to automatically record the scene, and pick out and curate into the gallery what it considers the best photos and videos you've shot. You'll have a couple of video options to choose from: pics taken from different angles or cropped, maybe a boomerang or something in black and white. You can decide after the fact which photos and videos to keep.

Samsung S20 camera's video options

You can also shoot 8K video. For sure, few of us have an 8K television to play back 8K content. Samsung through a partnership with YouTube will let you share what you've shot in 8K on YouTube.

Samsung says it is also partnering with renowned directors to capture content based on Netflix Originals, all to showcase the pro-grade capabilities of the Galaxy cameras.

Among other features: Samsung partnered with Google to integrate Google Duo video chat into the S20 — it's similar to Apple's FaceTime, but available across operating systems. You will



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CITY OF PLYMOUTH 2020 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review will be conducting the 2020 March Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, March 3rd Organizational meeting 12:00 pm

Wednesday, March 4th First meeting 3-9 pm

Thursday, March 5th Second meeting, 9-4 pm

Monday, March 16th Final meeting 9-12 pm

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed. Hearings are by appointments only. COMPLETED 2020 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY, and must be submitted to the Front Office located on the First Floor of City Hall prior to your appointment. The "Deadline" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Monday, March 16, 2020 by 12:00 pm.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative. An agent must have written authority to represent the owner. Written petitions must be received by Monday, March 16th, 2020 by 12:00 p.m. Postmarks are not accepted.

Copies of the notices stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted and published in the local newspaper.

All Board of Review Meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Assessor's Office at (734) 453-1234, ext 252.

Maureen Brodie
City Clerk

Publish: February 23, 27, & March 1, 2020

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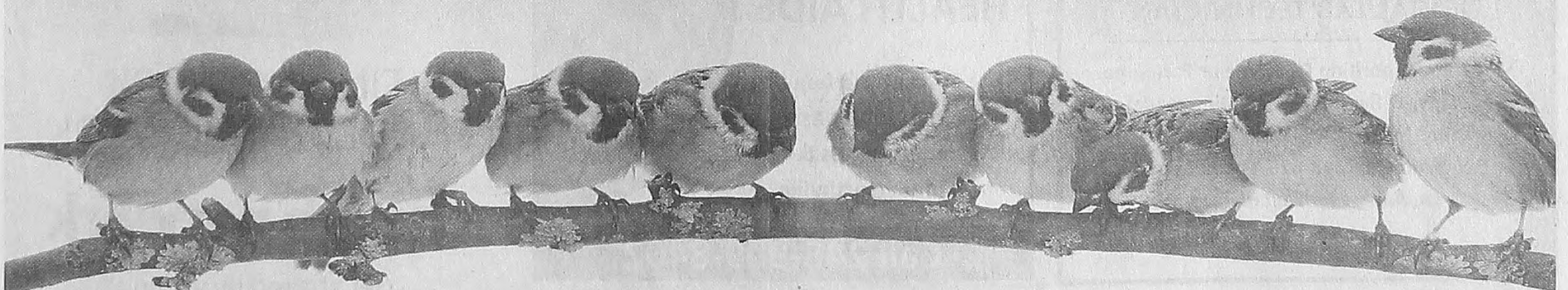
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3 reasons to go back to school if you're over age of 50

 Eric Titner
thejobnetwork.com

Regardless of where we are in life, significant markers of the passage of time – like entering a new decade – remind us that time is a precious commodity that shouldn't be wasted, especially as we get older. At the dawn of a new decade, it can feel as if anything is possible. It's often a time when we reflect on the choices we've made through the years that lay behind us and think about the direction we want our lives to take in the years that lie ahead. This reflection often prompts us to set new goals and challenges for ourselves in an effort to expand our horizons, explore new possibilities, and discover what we're capable of achieving.

A common goal folks set for themselves is to continue their education. Whether it's tied to a specific personal or professional goal, or just to learn something new, going back to school is a popular goal at any stage of life – but it can be an especially wise move for people over 50. If you're in this demographic and are contemplating the idea of getting back into the classroom, or are thinking about making a life change, keep reading and discover a few reasons why this might be the right choice for you.

The chance for new opportunities

In today's rapidly shifting and uncertain economy and work environment, long-term stability is more often the stuff of dreams than reality – and it isn't uncommon for people over 50 to have to face the notion of being back out on the job hunt trail once again, either due to necessity or choice. Although you may be in the enviable position to be able to



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leverage the professional network and experience you've built up over the years, the truth is that age can sometimes be a limiting factor, especially if you're seeking a position at the upper rungs of the career ladder, where opportunities are scarcer.

A good way to open doors to new professional opportunities is to continue your education – either in your current field or in a completely new one that you'd like to pursue. Having a fresh and current set of learning credentials can really help bolster a resume that's full of older dates, experiences, and skillsets, and can absolutely help you stand out from the job-hunting crowd. Rather

than resting on your laurels and past accomplishments, this can also show potential recruiters, HR personnel, and hiring managers that you're willing to do whatever it takes to get ahead. And, you also stand to learn a thing or two in the process – so it's a win-win.

You'll stay viable and current

The truth is, the older we get, the more we have to work at staying relevant – and the work world is certainly no exception. The notion that the world moves fast has never been truer than it is today, with the headwinds of change and innovation ushering in at break-

neck speeds and making it harder than ever before to keep up. After 50, the struggle to stay up to date is real. It can feel like an existential fight just to keep from fading into irrelevancy and obsolescence, especially when you feel younger generations not only catching up but starting to pass you by. Going back to school and learning a new thing or two can help stem the tide and keep you on the cutting edge, which can be a great confidence and morale booster. It can also help you earn the respect and acceptance of the younger generation, which is never a bad feather to have in your cap.

Knowledge is its own reward

As we grow older and superficial cares fade, we're often able to see the things that really matter in life more clearly. It's been said that wisdom is a lifelong pursuit, and as we accumulate new knowledge our ability to appreciate the world and our place in it continues to grow and mature. Perhaps the best reason of all to go back to school is for the joy of expanding our knowledge and personal horizons in the quest for personal growth and self-improvement. The self-confidence and pride that come along with accumulating new information and skills are valuable gifts on their own – even if they're not tied to obvious and immediate career success.

Are you over 50 and contemplating a return to the classroom? If so, then consider using the reasons presented here to help propel you in the right direction. Good luck and happy studying!

Eric Titner has been an editor and content creator for more than a decade. His primary professional focus has been on education- and career-related topics. He currently lives in New York City.

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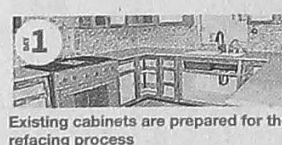
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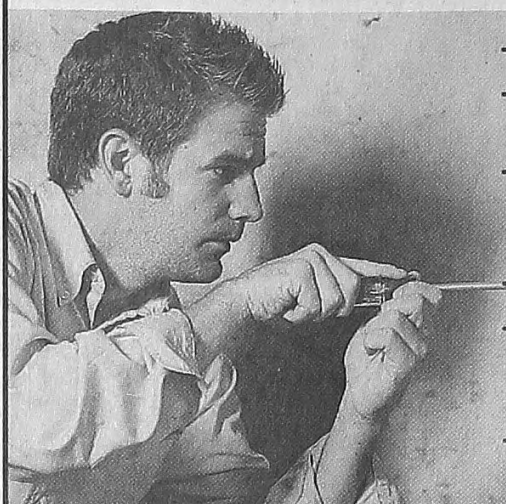
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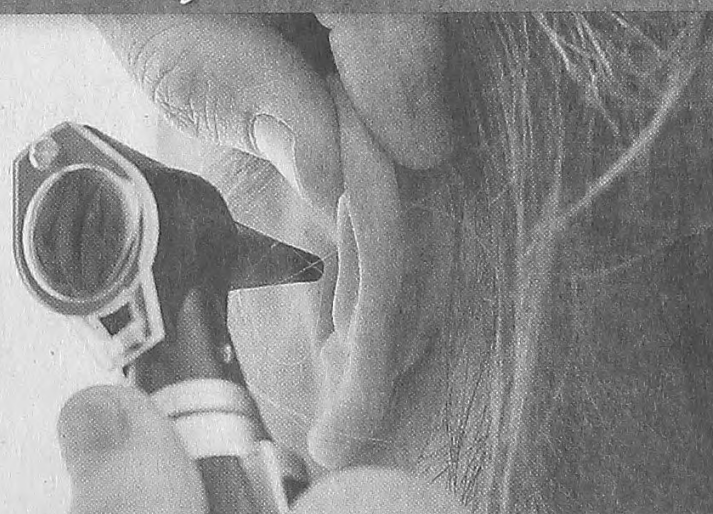
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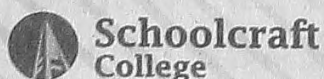
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