CANTON OBSERWER.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Livonia debuts website with police data

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia's top keepers of the peace delivered on some data requests last week, when they debuted a website featuring some of the transparency residents have publicly sought.

The new "Police and Community To-

regarding hotbed issues at the core of Lives. "We're still working to better unrecent protests outside City Hall.

It offers information on policies and procedures; arrest, citation and use-offorce statistics; use of deadly force investigations; and overviews of citizen complaints.

"We think it's a great start," said Delisha Upshaw, representing the group Ligether" online resource has several links vonia Citizens Caring About Black

derstand the statistics that relate to race-based traffic stops. Without the transparency part, you can't really hold people accountable.'

The group organized one of Livonia's larger protests and is in the process of raising thousands of dollars to get more traffic stop data through the use of Freedom of Information Act requests.

They have alleged some Livonia police officers are guilty of conducting race-based traffic stops.

The group also financed a billboard in Redford Township near Interstate 96, that reads: "Driving While Black? Racial profiling just ahead. Welcome to Livo-

See WEBSITE, Page 7A



Pastor Edward Pruett talks to protesters about police-community relations in front of Westland City Hall on June 25.

Pastor leads Westland protesters' call for change

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Pastor Edward Pruett took the microphone at one of Westland's first protests, introducing a voice that united the young crowd.

Beginning with a casual introduction of "Hey, everybody, I'm Pastor Edward," the 38-year-old city resident of just a few years gained momentum and did not stop for the passing drivers who revved their engines and honked their

"What you are making is history," he told the crowd gathered outside police department headquarters to protest racism and police brutality. "It's not one entity. It is injustice as a whole. We must stand up in unity because that is exactly what we're supposed to do.

'We are over the injustices. We are over being treated wrong. We are over standing in a corner just watching it go wrong. Continue to stand for what is right and what is just. Be the answer. Be

See PASTOR, Page 6A

"We are over being treated wrong. We are over standing in a corner just watching it go wrong. Continue to stand for what is right and what is just."

Pastor Edward Pruett During a speech to Westland protesters

Construction cuts through heart of **Plymouth**

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plymouth is undergoing a Main Street makeover for the next few weeks, followed by a road diet that will cost drivers a lane, but reward others with more space to maneuver.

Funded by a roads improvement bond Plymouth residents passed 1,028-728 last November, the ambitious construction project will see milling, fresh paving and restriping of Main Street from Wing to Church streets.

Once completed, Main Street will undergo a road diet that will reduce it from four lanes to three for motorists from Ann Arbor Road to Ann Arbor Trail, with a lane for non-motorized travelers added to the mix.

Milling operations, which remove a road's top level of asphalt, started Monday on Main between Ann Arbor Trail and Penniman.

The landscape-changing work should be finished "in a couple of weeks," according to a message posted on the city's Facebook page.

The road diet restriping will commence once the resurfacing of Main Street is completed later this month. Dedicated bike lanes on the city's main artery will be functional northbound and southbound.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, road diets offer multiple high-value improvements at a low cost when applied to traditional fourlane undivided highways.

In addition to low cost, the FHA claims, the primary benefits of a road diet include "enhanced safety, mobility and access for all road users and a 'complete streets' environment to accommodate a variety of transportation modes."

According to the Kinder Institute for Urban Research, FHA studies of road diet projects have found vehicle crashes decreased between 19 percent and 52 percent as a result of reduced speeds and fewer opportunities for collisions without reducing the number of people who can move along a

Caution is advised throughout the construction zone, city leaders warned, as drivers should expect lane

See CONSTRUCTION, Page 8A

Police looking for tattooed Target shopper

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton Township police are looking for a tattooed woman they suspect stole a wallet from a Target shopping cart and then used a credit card for fraudulent

They said in a report they suspect the woman of committing such crimes the afternoon of May 27 at the Target store on Michigan Avenue.



The suspect has a large tattoo on her left thigh. COURTESY OF CANTON POLICE svela@hometownlife.com.

The female suspect is in her late 20s to early 30s and has several tattoos on her arms and legs, including a large tattoo on her left thigh.

She left the parking lot in an older model white Ford Escape with a male

to call the police department, 734-394-

Anyone who recognizes her is asked

Contact reporter Susan Vela at

Westland police investigate shots fired at shopping center

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Westland police said they are investigating shots fired at the Westland Shopping Center.

No one appeared injured, but police said in a report the shots apparently were the result of up to three males arguing inside a store June 9.

A witness told police one male pulled a handgun and fired two shots at another, before the arguing males fled the mall on foot.

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Newsroom Contacts:

Phil Allmen, Content Strategist

Mobile: 248-396-3870 Email: pallmen@hometownlife.com Follow us on Faceboook: @OEHometown

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Informal poll shows sporadic use of masks

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Jasmine Coutu explained one afternoon last week why she disregarded the "Customers are required to wear face coverings" sign posted at the entrance of a gas station convenience store near the Canton Township intersection of Ford and Lilley roads.

"I usually wear a mask because I have a 10-monthold son," said Coutu. "But, honestly, I don't feel like the government is telling us all the information it has about the coronavirus, so I don't feel like (wearing a mask) is always necessary."

During an informal 30-minute observance at the business, just less than half of the customers wore masks, about par for the store's course according to a masked employee, who asked to remain anonymous.

"Although we have the sign on the door, management has told us not to enforce it because there are too many people getting riled up if they're told they have to wear a mask," the gas station employee said.

Moments after Coutu pulled out of the parking lot, a mask-wearing man who identified himself as "Jack" admitted he'd like to see 100% compliance with the business's mandate to wear a mask, but he's not going to "get up in anybody's face" about it.

If I was going to be in a small building for longer than a few minutes with strangers not wearing masks, yes, it'd bother me more," he said. "... But I'm still going to wear a mask, even though others don't."

From approximately 4:30-5 p.m. July 8, roughly 52% of the patrons who entered the Speedway wore masks. Roughly two-thirds of the non-mask-wearers were male.

Ronn Torossian, a crisis management expert, recently told USA Today that "people are feeling frustrated" when it comes to whether to wear a mask.

"Some feel like they aren't in danger, others think they are," Torossian said.

According to a poll conducted by Pew Research,

65% of U.S. adults say that they have personally worn a mask in stores or other businesses all or most of the time in the past month, while 15% say they did this some of the time.

The poll revealed that relatively small percentages of adults say they hardly ever (9%) or never (7%) wore a mask in the past month, and 4% say they have not gone to these types of places.

Age or race did not appear to be difference-makers during the July 8 observance, although women of all ages adhered to the mask-wearing requirement more often than men.

Those identifiable as landscaping and construction workers who entered the store were 100% non-compli-

"I work outdoors," said a landscaper who identified himself as Kevin, "so I don't have a mask in my truck."

Among the head-turning scenarios that unfolded was the sight of two elementary school-aged girls walking at the store wearing matching masks. They were accompanied by a man who was unmasked.

One unmasked man parked his car in a spot near the door and exited the vehicle before doing a U-turn just before entering.

Returning to his car to retrieve his mask, right? Nope. Just his wallet.

Compliance rates in Michigan may change as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer toughened mask-wearing requirements starting Monday.

The executive order:

- Requires any business that is open to the public to refuse entry or service to people who refuse to wear a face covering, with limited exceptions.
- Requires the use of face coverings in crowded outdoor spaces.
- Reiterates that individuals are required to wear a face covering whenever they are in an indoor public space.

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

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Hometown Life

Local businesses that received the biggest PPP loans

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Several dozen businesses across the Hometown Life communities were recipients of millions of dollars in funding from the federal Paycheck Protection Program.

The Small Business Administration recently released a list of businesses across the country that received funding from the program after originally stating they would not release such a

Businesses from across the communities Hometown Life covers (Livonia, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Westland, Wayne, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton, Redford and Garden City) that received loans of at least \$2 million are listed below, as well as the number of jobs that were retained because of the funding.

Overall, more than 100,000 Michigan businesses received funding from the program. Some businesses received less than \$100 and some received between \$5 million and \$10 million. Businesses that received \$150,000 or more were named in the data release from the SBA.

Livonia

\$5-10 million received

Aristeo Construction Company, 12811 Farmington. Jobs retained: 374

Contractor's Steel Company, 36555 Amrhein. Jobs retained: 431

Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth. Jobs retained: 484 Ram Construction Services of Michigan, Inc., 13800 Eckles. Jobs retained:

TSFR Apple Venture, 17800 N. Laurel Park Dr. Jobs retained: 500

TSFR Burger, 17800 N. Laurel Park Dr. Jobs retained: 500

W.J. O'Neil Company, 35457 Industri-

al Dr. Jobs retained: 355 Watermill-QMC Holdings Corpora-

tion, 28101 Schoolcraft. Jobs retained: \$2-5 million received

Bill Brown Ford, 32222 Plymouth. Jobs retained: 247

Fast Switch - Great Lakes, LLC, 17177 N. Laurel Park Dr. Jobs retained: 256

Jobs retained: 405

Ideal Electric, 12856 Farmington. Highway. Jobs retained: 432 Jobs retained: 207

Infinity Primary Care, 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive #540. Jobs retained: 201

Lajoy Group, 32520 Schoolcraft. Jobs retained: 500

Midwest Pro Painting, 12845 Farmington. Jobs retained: 198

NH Learning Solutions Corporation, 14115 Farmington: Jobs retained: 171 Quest Inc., 36141 Schoolcraft. Jobs re-

SOK Venture, 17800 N. Laurel Park Dr. Jobs retained: 500

Thunderlake Leasing, 12731 Farmington. Jobs retained: 23

Farmington Hills

\$5-10 million received

Ansara Restaurant Group, 23925 Industrial Park Dr. Jobs retained: 500

Burroughs Inc., 38505 Country Club Dr. Jobs retained: 250

Corrigan Worldwide, 23923 Research Dr. Jobs retained: 335

Exhibit Works, Inc., 27777 Inkster Suite 200. Jobs retained: 335

Greenpath, Inc., 36500 Corporate Dr. Jobs retained: 482 Independent Emergency Physicians,

PC, 37000 Grand River Suite 310. Jobs retained: 464

Kyyba, Inc, 28230 Orchard Lake Suite 130. Jobs retained: 474

\$2-5 million received

Aees, Inc., 36555 Corporate Dr. Jobs retained: 141

Ata National Title Group, 31440 Northwestern Highway. Jobs retained:

Buddy's Pizza, 31800 Northwestern Highway, Jobs retained: 250

City Club Apartments, 31700 Middlebelt Suite 140. Jobs retained: 230

Coretek, Inc., 34900 Grand River. Jobs retained: 98

Design Systems, Inc., 38799 W. 12 Mile. Jobs retained: 186

Dignitas, Inc., P.O. Box 3460. Jobs retained: 107

Electro-Matic Ventures, Inc., 23409 Industrial Park Ct. Jobs retained: N/A Friedman Management Company, 34975 W. Twelve Mile. Jobs retained:

Jonna Markets, 30777 Northwestern Hegira Health, 37450 Schoolcaft. Highway, Suite 301. Jobs retained: 500 Judson Center, 30301 Northwestern

Latcha and Associates, L.L.C, 24600 Hallwood Ct. Jobs retained: 215

Lintech Global, Inc., 34119 W. 12 Mile. Jobs retained: 300

PCS Mobile Solutions, 32300 Northwestern Highway. Jobs retained: 250 Roger Zatkoff Company, 23230 In-

dustrial Park Drive. Jobs retained: 185 Star Cutter Co., 23461 Industrial Park Dr. Jobs retained: 317

Tohme Management LLC, 24125 Drake Suite 102. Jobs retained: 500

Trott Law, P.C., 31440 Northwestern Highway Suite 145. Jobs retained: 183

Yochana IT Solutions Inc., 23000 Commerce Dr. Jobs retained: 201

Zausmer, P.C., 32255 Northwestern Highway. Jobs retained: N/A

Westland

\$5-10 million received

GT Technologies, Inc., 5895 E. Executive Dr. Jobs retained: 460

Westland Urgent Care Walk-in Clinic, 1707 N. Wayne. Jobs retained: None \$2-5 million received

Intra Corporation, 885 Manufacturers Dr. Jobs retained: 110

Wayne

\$2-5 million received

Rush Trucking Corporation, 38500 Van Born. Jobs retained: 328

Wimsatt Building Materials Corporation, 36340 Van Born. Jobs retained:

Plymouth

\$5-10 million received

E & E Manufacturing Company, 300 Industrial Dr. Jobs retained: 500

Horizon Global Co., 47912 Halyard Dr. Jobs retained: 468

Link Group, Inc., 43855 Plymouth Oaks Blvd. Jobs retained: 481

Loc Performance Products, 13505 N. Haggerty. Jobs retained: 500

Soil and Materials Engineers, 43980 Plymouth Oaks Blvd. Jobs retained:

Success Mortgage Partners Inc., 1200 S. Sheldon Road, Suite 150. Jobs retained: 467

\$2-5 million received

Alliance Franchise Brands, 47585

Galleon. Jobs retained: 118

B & M Ashman Inc., 8455 Ronda Dr. Jobs retained: 150

Master Automatic Machine Company, Inc., 40485 Schoolcraft. Jobs re-

tained: 100 Master Craft Carpet Service, 15001

Fogg St. Jobs retained: 114 Optimal, Inc., 47802 W. Anchor Ct.

Jobs retained: 198

Perceptron, Inc., 47827 Halyard Dr. Jobs retained: 97

Phillips Service Industries Inc., 14492 N Sheldon Suite 300. Jobs retained: 192 Signal.X Technologies, LLC, 41100 Plymouth Rd. Bldg1, Suite 390. Jobs retained: N/A

Skyway Precision, Inc., 41225 Plymouth. Jobs retained: 144

Superior Controls, 46247 Five Mile.

Jobs retained: 180 Therapy Management, Inc., 851 Pen-

niman. Jobs retained: 260 Verita Telecommunications Corp.,

47059 Five Mile. Jobs retained: 191

Canton

\$5-10 million received

New Star Metals Inc., 6855 Commerce Blvd. Jobs retained: 283

Victory Automotive Group, 46352 Michigan Ave., Suite 200. Jobs retained:

\$2-5 million received

GB Sales & Service, Inc., 6865 Commerce Blvd. Jobs retained: 175

Gil-Mar Manufacturing, 7925 Ronda Dr. Jobs retained: 209

MMS Holdings, Inc., 6880 Commerce Blvd. Jobs retained: 117 Reliable Carriers, Inc., 41555 Kopper-

nick. Jobs retained: 175

Redford

\$2-5 million received

Bayview Electric Company, 12230 Dixie. Jobs retained: 100

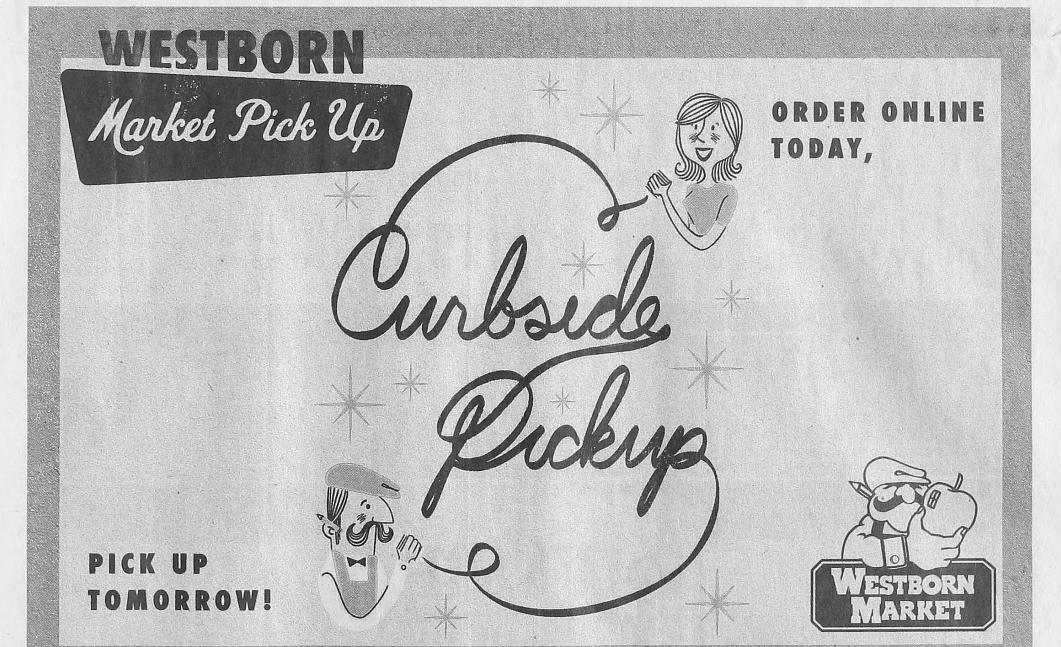
TFI Inc., DBA Alpine Power Systems, Inc., 24355 Capitol. Jobs retained: 156

Garden City

\$2-5 million received

International Extrusions, 32416 Industrial. Jobs retained: 207

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.



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City of Plymouth
Zoning Board of Appeals Notice
Thursday, August 6, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: Kiwanis Park

201 S. Main Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170 Website: www.plymouthmi.gov Phone: (734) 453-1234 ext. 232

A regular meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in Kiwanis Park, 700 Auburn, Plymouth, MI, to consider the following:

Z20-05 Non-Use Variance Request for 271 S. Main Windows facing interior lot line in a side yard setback Zoned: B-2, Central Business District Applicant: Joseph Philips

The rain location shall be City Hall Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI if in-person meetings are permitted or Online Zoom meeting if the State of Michigan Executive Orders are extended.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Maureen Brodie, ADA Coordinator 201 S. Main Street Plymouth, MI 48170, (734) 453-1234, Ext. 234

Publish: July 16, 2020

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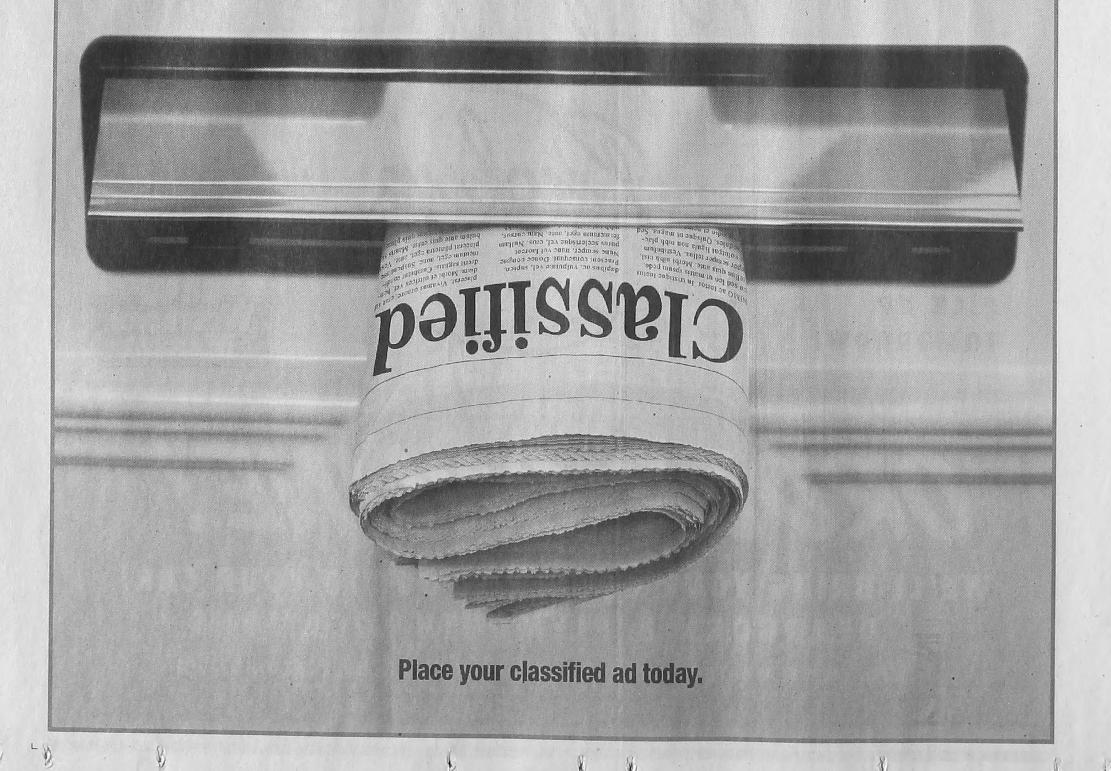
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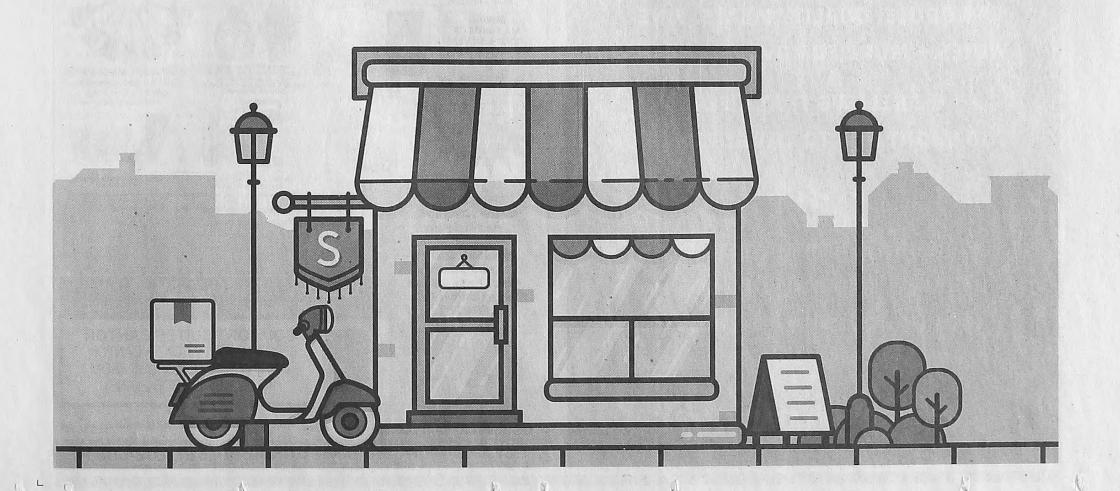
Now is the time to rally behind local business. **USA TODAY's Support Local** initiative is sparking communities across the country to take action and make it happen.



Say 'thank you' to the local businesses you love by purchasing gift cards and online services, or add your own business to our free listings to receive support from your community.

Please visit supportlocal.usatoday.com to join the cause.





Pastor

Continued from Page 1A

the example. You are who God has called you to be."

Raised fists expressed support, as did heads bowed in prayer. Pruett, who is affiliated with a small non-denominational congregation in Livonia, has an insistent message that has led others in marches, email protests and sit-ins. His voice gained him a meeting with Mayor William Wild and other local leaders.

But some people have inferred he's more of an upstart than an agent for change.

Pruett said he wants to make Westland a better place for everyone. Calling himself "God-led," the Detroit native who has lived in Tennessee, Kentucky and Canton Township has a multi-point plan to get it done.

Through his "A Better Westland" initiative, Pruett is asking for a citizens oversight commission, the seating of an ethics commission, more community development south of Cherry Hill Road, community education initiatives and community think tanks to address race and race relations, and a city-employed diversity specialist.

"The mayor really didn't say anything about next steps at all," Pruett said of their meeting. "We left without solutions and the can being kicked down the road, and that was concerning."

Willingness to work

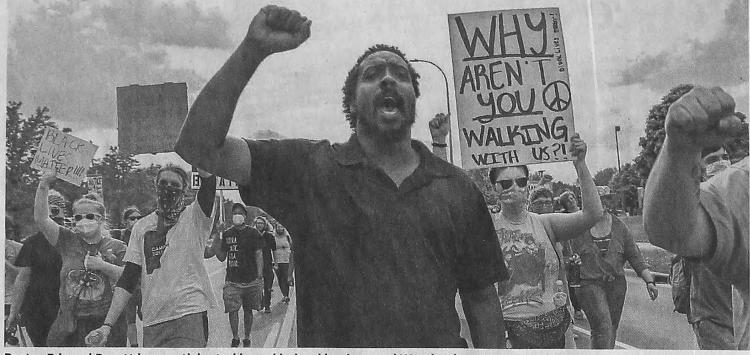
Wild said his decision to meet with Pruett was intended as a means of getting to know each other.

"I thought for the most part we had a pretty good meeting," said Wild, admitting that he and others were taken by surprise when Pruett and his supporters followed their meeting with social media protests.

But Wild said he supports some of Pruett's proposals, such as having a more diverse police force and forming a commission to act as a watchdog for city

New development south of Cherry Hill Road is a challenge, Wild said, because most of the area is developed already. The city probably needs a more detailed economic development strategy for that area of the city, he said.

Wild emphasized that there are com-



Pastor Edward Pruett has participated in and helped lead several Westland protests. COURTESY OF EDWARD PRUETT

munity leaders who have been working in the category of critics who aren't as If you go backwards and you just stay with the city to make progress.

"Certainly, there's an opportunity for Pastor Pruett to be a part of that," Wild

Varied background

Pruett once served as a high school Junior ROTC leader before pursuing college studies at Lane College in Tennessee and Murray State University in Ken-

He said he spent about 15 years in operational management and worked for Boston Market and Comcast before turning his focus to religion.

He offers preaching, ministry training, motivational speaking and vision mapping for churches and businesses through E. Pruett Ministries LLC.

 He pursued religious studies at Rochester College in Rochester Hills. He has been in ministry for a few years and has written a book, "Apostolic Revelations:

It's apparent that he may have upset the normal channels that get things done in Westland.

Wild invited the Rev. John Hearn Jr. of the Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP to their meeting.

Hearn agreed the meeting went well. It was a first encounter for him and Pruett, and Hearn placed the other man

informed as they should be because they have not been engaged in civic discussions.

"He's a rebel without a cause, because a lot of things he's talking about, we've already gone over," Hearn said.

Growing support

Pruett has found a supporter in Councilwoman Tasha Green.

She protested with him in June. She liked that his message addresses the need for change, accountability and reform in police departments.

"I'm really grateful to have him take a proactive stance and a courageous stance," she said.

Pruett's voice carried across the Westland City Hall parking lot June 25, when he began a seven-day "peaceful protest."

He had a few supporters, and they caught the attention of Inkster resident Susan Fisher, a Black woman who was heading inside to pay a bill at the time.

Pruett has protested in Ann Arbor, Canton and Westland, and Fisher said liked that he hasn't stopped messing with the status quo.

"It's awesome," she said. "If you let that light dim, you will never get it back. We have to act now. God gave us this position right now and we have to be in it.

still, nothing is going to happen."

Westland resident Ashley Stevens protested that day with Pruett. She also has supported his "A Better Westland" campaign.

"His message is clear," she said. "He wants accountability and transparency for our government, which I believe in. Police brutality should not be accepted. Racism should not be tolerated in our community.

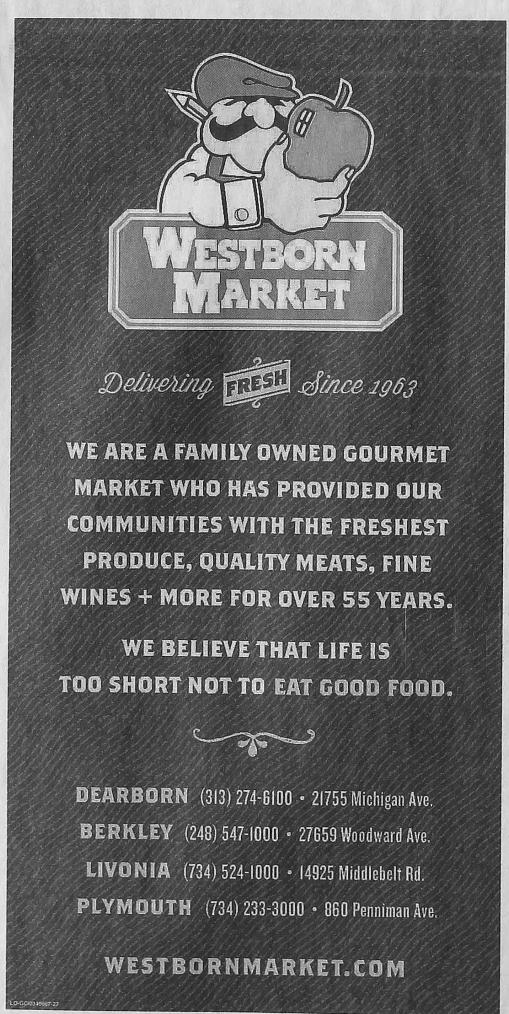
"His message is clear and that is something that I can stand behind.'

Pruett said he has always rooted for the underdog. He read from the New American Standard Bible's Book of Jeremiah to explain his demands for peaceful protests.

'Thus says the Lord, 'Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor. Also do not mistreat or do violence to the stranger, the orphan, or the widow; and do not shed innocent blood in this place.'

'Change is going to happen," said Pruett, who plans to continue ministering to protesters. "People have been my life.

'This is what I was called out to do." Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.





Police defunding: What does it mean?

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Calls for police defunding sprang from recent protests over racism and police brutality, leaving some metro Detroit officials wondering what that might mean for their communities.

Police defunding may mean anything from dissolving a police department to reshaping police responsibilities to redirecting police money to other healthrelated services.

In the largest and smallest communities locally, officials said there are no serious plans or talks to defunding the police. Yet the topic may stay alive as protests continue and "Defunding Police" graffiti has started to appear in Grand Rapids.

To the west

Like other cities across the nation, South Lyon was rattled by late spring headlines suggesting police brutality in other parts of the nation.

Hundreds participated in a Black Lives Matter protest, standing and kneeling in silence along Pontiac Trail.

Despite the small city experiencing the effects of protests across the nation, there have been no official requests for police defunding, according to police.

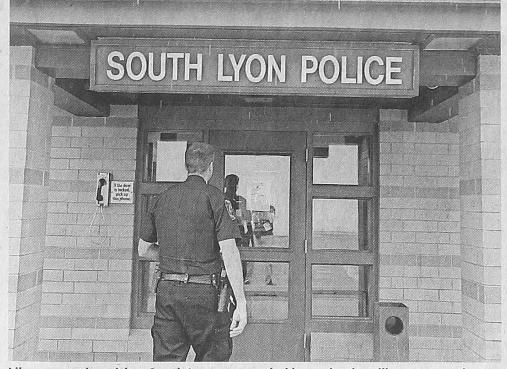
"I think it's just a phrase out there that people are frustrated, and they're mad at the police," Lt. Douglas Baaki said.

"Do I think we should defunding the police? Absolutely not," said Sgt. Jared Baker, a union steward. "It should be quite the opposite to be honest with you. If you want to talk about education and training, I think they need to put more money into that."

How did we get here?

A Black man, George Floyd, died after a Minneapolis police officer kneeled on his neck for nearly nine minutes in May. Floyd, 46, allegedly used counterfeit money at a convenience store.

In the weeks that followed, Minne-



Like many other cities, South Lyon was rattled by spring headlines suggesting police brutality in other parts of the nation. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

apolis City Council members unanimously agreed to push forward a proposal to eliminate the city's police department. Voters will have the final say.

South Lyon and Livonia remain white majority cities, with both having populations comprised of less than 10 percent non-whites.

South Lyon and Livonia police expenses consume about 40 percent of the general funds for their respective cities. South Lyon has 16 sworn officers; Livonia is authorized to have 106 officers but only has 84 because of issues that include recruiting challenges.

"It's hard to compare us to Livonia," Baker said. "We're not like Livonia. We really don't have any issues here. We don't have complaints against the officers.

"We have a real good relationship with our people and our community, and they really support us. They have really supported us during this time, to be honest with you."

Apples to oranges

The activist group Livonia Citizens Caring About Black Lives organized a highly-attended protest in the wake of Floyd's death and put up a billboard in Redford Township.

"Driving while Black?" it asks. "Racial profiling just ahead. Welcome to Livonia."

Livonia's elected officials confirmed they've heard from residents critical of the status quo.

"I know (Police Chief Curtis Caid) and I share a concern about how often police officers respond to domestic disputes, mental health crises and people struggling with addiction and substance abuse," Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan wrote in an email. "When I talk with Livonia residents who support police defunding, what I hear are questions about how we can ensure we are providing more and better services to those experiencing these traumas in a

way that keeps them and the community safe."

She avowed commitment to working with police and her regional partners so there's more access to these services.

"What is possible though is recommitting ourselves to transparency, digging into the data and creating community conversations that help inform our police department's priorities going forward," Brosnan said.

Council President Kathleen McIntyre said she is not aware of any formal defunding requests, but said some people have written to say the police department is overfunded.

Councilman Brandon McCullough is concerned that finding and hiring the best police candidates remains a challenge.

"Defunding the police is not the answer and would have a negative effect on our city," he said. "A few areas of growth opportunities that come to mind are partnerships with mental-health organizations, crisis intervention training, transparency, and collaboration with the city's revamped human relations commission.

"As a leader in our community, I am committed to ensuring we have the best police force, and this will clearly not be accomplished by removing funds."

Debate goes on

Last month, Tristan Taylor, one of Detroit's lead protesters, said he'd like to see Detroit police retire military-style equipment and for the city to redirect some budgeted police money toward conflict resolution and housing.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said:

"I don't believe police should be defunded. What I hear from all of my friends who are part of this moment and who are leading on the front lines is we have a real need for greater investment in communities.

"We need to rebuild and level the playing field through better schools and better transportation and access to health care, and those are all the critical investments that I absolutely support."



Protesters rally in Livonia on June 4. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Website

Continued from Page 1A

The data goes beyond traffic stops. Some 2019 tidbits from its links include:

• Policies and procedures – "Every member of this department shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any bias-based actions by another member."

• Arrest statistics – The Livonia Police Department made about 4,700 arrests. Black and white males made up 3,033 of the arrests. There were 1,810 arrests of black males, compared to 1,223 of white males.

• Citations – Police issued 11,821 citations to black and white males. Traffic stop tickets were issued to 7,211 white males, compared to 4,610 issued to black males. However, black males were cited more frequently for suspected violations like driving with suspended licenses and having no insurance.

• Use of force – The Livonia Police Department managed 59,473 calls for service, 34 of which involved the use of force. Six required mental health intervention, five were for warrant arrests and four involved drunken driving.

• Citizen complaints – Nearly 20, mostly determined unfounded, were detailed. Four involved officers getting disciplined. In a Nov. 9 case, a police officer was disciplined for responding to a reported assault but failing to identify himself or take a report. A secondary or backup officer handled the report.

"A number of community groups have shown they are willing to work in good faith with the Livonia Police Department, requesting data about the work of our officers and support more informed conversations," Livonia Police Chief Curtis Caid in an announcement about livoniapact.org, the new website. "The release of this data is another example of the Livonia Police Department being a leader in our region, setting a high bar for community engagement and transparency."

Conversations between police, the

Conversations between police, the Livonia Human Relations Commission and the Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP led to the website's launch.

Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan said the intended increased transparency that comes with the website should allow data to drive local conversations about policing.

"The numbers are going to guide future policy decisions," Brosnan said. "We will be spending time reviewing them and their impact on our community in the days and weeks ahead. Livonia, like the rest of the nation, has a chance to do better and we will. We always do."

Richard Glover, chair of the city's human relations commission, said he appreciates the decision to release the data.

"Our commission has made a number of requests of the police department, as we will with other departments, and this release of data and department policies is just the start of our trusted partnership to make progress in Livonia," he said.

Sen. Dayna Polehanki commended the city's effort on Facebook:

"Some of the data that has been released related to the Livonia Police Department is troubling, and I am glad that the city will conduct an examination to determine the extent that biased behavior impacts people of color. I look forward to seeing the city's plans to address this issue going forward."

g torward. svela@hometownlife.com

Obituaries

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

Helen Ann Ermete (nee Macdonald)

Born December 25, 1926 to Helen Ann and Lenard James Macdonald in Aberdeen, Scotland. Helen was the oldest of four children (Lenard, Ronald & Flora). She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Sait D. Ermete, her parents, and siblings. Helen lived in Aberdeen until her

family moved to London, England where they resided near an airbase during WWII. Helen's father served as a Royal Air Force pilot and her mother, a firefighter during the war.

After the war, Helen and her family moved to Canada. Helen is loved dearly by her daughter Sheila (Tom) Carey and son Teoman (Rose) Ermete who cared for her deeply. Helen was close to her grandchildren Kendall (Michael) Gulbernat, Kelly (Erik) Eller, Karen Carey, and Kathy (Dave) Zelenock, Marie (David) Creech, Jacob (Jasmine) Ermete, and Joseph Ermete. She adored and was loved immensely by her seven great-grandchildren: Colin, Carter, Paige, Rachel, Brett, Eve and Makayla.

Helen loved to volunteer and over her life gave her time and talents to many organizations including Wayne County Medical Society, Dearborn Heights Garden Club, Interim House and more.

Helen spent the last number of years at Marycrest Heights in Livonia where she enjoyed life with friends and regular visits from her family.

Helen loved to tell stories even until her last days which her family will cherish. She also loved flowers which she said were one of God's greatest gifts to us. Helen loved to write notes to family, friends and the local paper when opinions were needed. Some of her favorite things included painting and sitting by the water side. It always reminded her of her younger years.

A celebration of her life will be held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia on July 20 from

She leaves us rich in love and memories.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes



Judith A. Mines

CANTON - Judith A. Mines, age 71 of Canton, passed away July 11, 2020. She was the beloved wife of Richard for 39 years. Dear sister of Orville Bushman, Janice Parrett and the late Kathleen Hamilton. Visitation Thursday, July 16th, 9 am until time of funeral service, 10:30 am at McCabe Funeral Home, 851 N. Canton Center Rd., Canton. www.mccabefuneralhome.com



Nancy Middleton Simanek

NOVI - Age 87, passed away July 4, 2020. Visit heeney-sundquist.com for complete information.



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Ugly, Cracked, Yellow Toenail? New Research Reveals It Could Cause Serious Health Problems

Stunning new evidence reveals that nail fungus is secretly causing brain fog, fatigue, joint pain and inflammation. Thankfully, scientists have developed a new, all-natural way to kill this health-destroying fungus

Jason Katz Health Reporter

For the millions of Americans plagued by ugly, cracked, yellow nails, there

is finally hope.

Thanks to a surprising scientific discovery about the true, underlying cause of nail fungus, researchers have now developed a breakthrough new way of flushing out stubborn fungal infections.

So, if you're humiliated by cracked, crumbling, and yellow toenails that nothing seems to heal, you can now breathe a sigh of relief.

Because this revolutionary new all-natural pill – called Fungus Flush – is scientifically proven to help eliminate nasty nail infections – leaving your nails healthy, clear, and permanently fungus-free.

By targeting this recently uncovered hidden root cause of fungus infections, Fungus Flush works where all other solutions have failed. What's more, unlike Big Pharma's expensive, side-effect laden drugs, it is 100% natural and only costs a fraction.

Now, with stories of this powerful new solution spreading like wildfire, the manufacturers are struggling to keep up with demand.

"I can't believe this worked! For the past 4 years, I've had disgusting yellow, thick and painful nails on both of my big toes. It was incredibly embarrassing. Fungus Flush worked like magic. Now I can finally wear sandals again."

- Leslie H., Austin, TX

"I've tried every cream and ointment at the drugstore and nothing was working. After just one bottle of Fungus Flush, my toenails have turned clear and the fungus has seemed to disappear. My toes haven't looked this great in over 20 years."

- Richard S., Phoenix, AZ

How Your Cracked, Yellow Toenails Could Be The Sign of A Serious Health Problem

An estimated 35 million Americans suffer from nail fungus.

For years, this has been viewed as a natural side-effect of aging. However, new research reveals this is not the case. In fact, it turns out, your nail fungus may be a sign of something much more serious.

Stunning new evidence shows that yellow, crumbly nails are actually the external symptoms of an internal fungal infection that's running rampant through your body. Even worse, research shows this internal infection does much more than just destroy your toenails.

As bestselling author Dr. Mark Hyman, MD states "[a fungal overgrowth] can result in many chronic illnesses and symptoms including allergies, chronic inflammation, joint problems, mood and brain disorders, digestive symptoms, and more."

Why 93.5% of Topical Treatments Fail To Flush Out Fungus

It turns out, nail fungus is not caused by old-age, humid conditions, or sweaty feet.

As strange as it sounds, the research now shows it's actually caused by airborne fungi particles that you're breathing in every moment of every day. These invisible fungi particles are found everywhere: your home, your car, your bed, everywhere.



REVOLUTIONARY NAIL TRANSFORMATION: Fungus Flush quickly eliminates the infection causing your ugly, cracked, yellow nails – without risky drugs, useless ointments, or expensive laser treatments.

When we're younger, our immune system can flush these toxins from our body with ease (this is why you never see children with nail infections). But, as you age, your immune system's efficiency drops dramatically.

This allows these airborne fungi to infect your body and secretly cause all sorts of harmful side-effects, one of which is discolored, cracked, and infected toenails. This internal build-up of fungus is why topical creams, ointments, and tea tree oil, never work long-term.

Simply put, they're only treating the surface-level symptoms (your nail infection) not the true root cause (internal fungal build-up). This would be the same as trying to eliminate mold from your house by painting over it. Sure, you might not see the mold, but it's still lurking there just below the surface and will surely return.

This is why treatments that target the external symptoms have been shown to have extraordinarily high failure rates.

Fungus Flush Works From The Inside Out

It was specifically formulated to flush out your fungal infection internally.

By doing this, you can finally rid your body of the toxins causing your nails to become yellow, cracked and crumbly. And, after the internal infection is flushed out, you'll quickly see healthy, strong, youthful nails regrowing.

Fungus Flush achieves this through a proprietary blend of all-natural, plant-based ingredients that have been formulated into an easy-to-swallow pill. The scientific evidence shows these ingredients work in perfect harmony to help eradicate fungal infections.

Could Your Yellow Toenail Have Serious Consequences?

Recent studies have revealed that yellow, cracked and crumbling toenails are caused by an internal fungal infection which could be causing several harmful sideeffects, including:

- Fatigue
- Brain Fog
- Mood Disorders
 Digestive Issues
- Digestive Issues
 Inflammation
- InflammationJoint Pain

Here's How It Works:

- First, it hunts down the fungi lying beneath your nail bed, quickly killing the infection and neutralizing the threat.
- Second, it naturally boosts liver production and blood flow so your body can flush out the infection.
- Third, it strengthens your immune system so you're protected from future infections and can remain

fungus-free.

This powerful 3-phase approach is a true breakthrough in the treatment of nail fungus. It is the first solution to target the true, root cause of your nail fungus – not just the surface-level symptoms.

By strengthening your immune system, boosting blood flow, and killing your internal fungus infection, Fungus Flush quickly eliminates your yellow, cracked, ugly nails and restores healthy, youthful nails you're proud of.

What's more, as this internal fungal infection is eradicated, it simultaneously eliminates the brain fog, fatigue, inflammation, and joint pain that internal fungal infections can cause.

Best of all, unlike Big Pharma's overpriced drugs, Fungus Flush works fast, is free from side-effects, and only a fraction of the cost. Just take two pills per day and you'll quickly see your discolored, dying nail disappear – being replaced by a healthy, crystal clear

Demand For Fungus Flush Soars

Since its initial release, demand for this breakthrough new nail fungus solution has been through the roof. And it's not surprising why.

After all, with millions of Americans suffering from toenail fungal infections... with side-effect ridden drugs costing hundreds of dollars and taking 6-12 months to work... with laser treatments costing over \$1,000, Fungus Flush is the first all-natural, low-cost pill that guarantees results.

While many sufferers are struggling to get their hands on Fungus Flush, we've secured a small supply exclusively for readers of this newspaper.

Through our partnership with the manufacturer, we're able to offer you a special discounted supply of Fungus Flush for the next 48-hours only.

Try Fungus Flush 100% Risk-Free

Try Fungus Flush today and if it doesn't completely eradicate your fungal infection and help you regrow healthy, crystal clear nails, you pay absolutely nothing. To take advantage of this exclusive one-time-only discounted offer, call 1-800-449-8085 within the next 48 hours.

Operators are standing by waiting to take your call, so call the TOLL-FREE number now to claim your personal supply of Fungus Flush today. Remember, if it doesn't flush out your fungal infection and eliminate those ugly, humiliating nails – you pay nothing.

WARNING: Due to Fungus Flush's recent media exposure and this exclusive discounted offer, phone lines are often busy. If you call and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back.

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How to find unclaimed property in your name



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

One of my clients recently received an email from a company that claims he is entitled to money that has been forfeited to the state.

The company said that for a fee, they would help him collect his money. They gave him a 100 percent guarantee that the money he would receive would be at least double their fee or he would be entitled to a 100 percent refund. My client asked me my thoughts, and my answer was that it's a scam and he ought to delete the email.

It is not unusual to get texts or emails from companies claiming that there is unclaimed property in your name and that for a fee they will help you retrieve that property. Although there are legitimate companies that will search for unclaimed property for you, most of these companies are scams.

Every state has a process for dealing with properties that have either been abandoned or unclaimed. Unclaimed property can be something like a bank account that had no activity for a period of time. Other types of unclaimed property can be security deposits, uncashed dividends and payroll checks, or the contents of a safety deposit box.

When states receive this money from banks, landlords and other financial institutions, they act as a custodian for this money. In other words, the state takes custody of the property, not ownership. Therefore, even after the property has been turned over to the state, the rightful owner can still claim it.

Searching to see if you have any unclaimed or abandoned property is easy. The key is to check all states where you have lived. For example, those of us in Michigan would go to the Michigan Department of Treasury's Unclaimed

Property Department (unclaimedproperty.michigan.gov). To do a search, all you need is your name, and best of all, it's free.

Unfortunately, the databases are state by state, so if you've lived in more than one state, you have to search that site as well. An easy website to use to get the information about each state's unclaimed property division is the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrator's (NAUPA) website at www.unclaimed.org. NAUPA represents all 50 states when it comes to abandoned or unclaimed property.

As far as I'm concerned, at least once every couple of years, everyone ought to search the state's unclaimed property database for lost property. We live in such a busy world that it's not unusual for someone to forget about a security deposit from a utility company, or a refund check that you forgot to cash. It happens to all of us; we forget about things, and when you think about it, what's the harm to check? It will just take a few minutes to do the search, and you may be surprised to discover that you're entitled to something.

If you find that you are entitled to money, then it is important to follow a state's procedure to claim your property. Typically, you will need to provide some proof of ownership depending upon the property. That being said, the process of claiming your property is relatively easy, and in most states, it can be done online.

Since it appears that many of us will be home for much of the summer, there is no excuse not to do a search. In fact, when you do the search, particularly if you have any elderly relatives; you can do the search for them as well. Remember, when you do the search it pays to do it for all states in which you have lived.

Good lucl

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomasset-management.com. Email Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

School bond concerns

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools retired a long-term bond issue. Debt free with good credit is a good thing. Why borrow more money to build a swimming pool when you don't have the money saved to fix your aging roof?

The residents of your district are stuck with a bond millage on their property tax. Without the new bond, property taxes would have gone down. A new millage at half the amount could have been proposed and voted on. Good fiscal policy is not perpetual borrowing. Think of how much total interest the taxpayer/property owner is going to have to pay over the life of the bond issue. Does that interest go to the district? Nope. The bond holder gets tax-free income at the

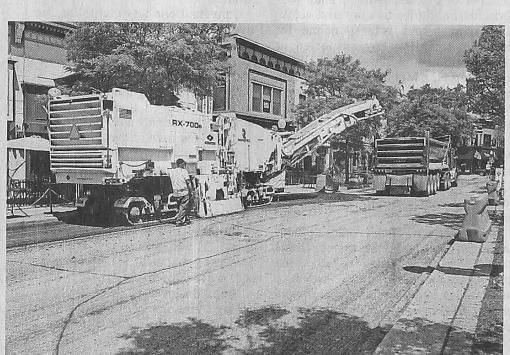
expense of the citizen.

What if the district didn't issue new debt and instead had a new millage of just 2 mills? We wouldn't have to pay interest on a bond. Property taxes would have gone down and the district would have increased its general revenue. You're probably going to come "back to the well" for that anyway.

You prepared a campaign to promote the bond issue as necessary and without alternatives. Is a natatorium a necessity? Is there an alternative to perpetual debt? Is this how you run your personal/family finances?

In my opinion, you should be embarrassed of what you've done to residents of your district.

Paul A Schmidt
Plymouth



A construction crew uses equipment to strip a layer of the road surface on Main Street in downtown Plymouth on July 13. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Construction

Continued from Page 1A

closures, heavy equipment and trucks in the area, possibly through the end of July

Factors including weather, crew scheduling and equipment availability can affect the duration the road construction project moving forward in Ply-

"We clearly have to do something to

stay ahead of what age and weather are going to do (to the roads)," Plymouth resident Dave Workman said after voting for the bond last November. "We need to support this now or we ... won't be able to respond as ably as we can

Updates on the project can be found on the city's website. Residents should direct questions regarding the construction to dms@plymouthmi.gov.

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



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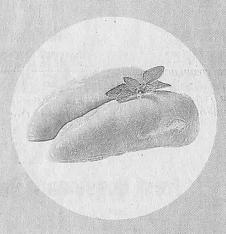
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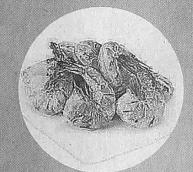
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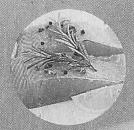
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SPORTS



Novi goalie Austin Muirhead gathers up a shot on goal. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Winter sports remain in limbo due to COVID-19

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

While much of the attention has been on the status of spring and fall high school sports — will these seasons be switched to protect players during the coronavirus pandemic — winter sports, such as basketball, hockey and wrestling, seem to be kind of stuck in the middle.

Even though the winter season does not start until November, preparation for those sports has already begun. Here is a look at how certain teams are approaching this time prior to the start of the 2020-21 winter season during CO-VID-19.

Basketball

Ryan Ballard knows basketball is in an unusual spot. With the coronavirus, the Plymouth girls basketball head coach realizes he can't predict what the winter months will look like.

"A couple of months ago, I would have been like, 'Sure, we are going to play,'" Ballard said. "But these last couple of weeks, I've been like, 'I don't know if we are going to have a season."

Coming off a 14-9 record in the 2019-



Catholic Central wins its fourth-straight Division 1 team state title. SCOTT CONFER

"You can only do so many Zoom meetings and so many text messages and calls."

Mark Vellucci Novi hockey coach on his team's need to practice

See WINTER, Page 2B

Northville cross country brings high expectations

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

While cross country is one that can be practiced and perfected in quarantine, many Northville runners realized what they did not have as the coronavirus pandemic swept metro Detroit: teamwork.

Training for the upcoming 5K races in the fall, many Mustang runners agreed having others around them while practicing was an advantage, whether it was to motivate and inspire or to distract and take teammates' minds off the long distances.

"Your teammates definitely push you a lot harder," senior Zach Helner said. "On your own, it's a lot easier to say, 'I'm done.' There's no one there to say, 'No you're not. Keep going."

Even though there is still uncertainty regarding the 2020 cross country season — from whether it will be held in fall or spring, to what travel meets and state competitions will look like — Northville is preparing as if a regular season will happen, preparing as if the Mustangs will make it to the end of the Michigan cross country schedule.

But for head coach Tim Dalton, that does not mean guidelines are not put in place to keep his runners safe.

As the Mustangs ramp up summer workouts, all runners must be outside, wearing masks when not exercising. All participants must fill out symptom surveys before arrival, keeping socially distanced and in running pods, while using personal equipment assigned to them, such as foam rollers and stretch ropes.

To many runners, especially the seniors, this is a different atmosphere than they are used to, but Dalton said his team is adjusting well.

"The kids have been awesome," Dalton said. "They are excited to be there. I think part of that is that they have not necessarily seen some of their friends in awhile. So they are excited to be there, they are doing a pretty good job."

While most had been running at home, staying in shape for the upcoming season after the spring track season was canceled, summer conditioning proved to be a step in returning to a

sense of normalcy.

"I think it was just nice to be able to get back to doing something, a normal aspect of our lives for most of our high school experience," senior runner Jacob Meek said. "It definitely made you appreciate being around your teammates more."

While in quarantine, Dalton had a Zoom meeting with his senior class.

He talked about what the 2020 class went through in their final year, but also mentioned that the

See NORTHVILLE, Page 2B

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Northville soccer alum receives Medal of Honor

Andrew Vailliencourt

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

University of Detroit Mercy men's soccer senior Garret Weaver, a North-ville High School graduate, earned the highest honor you can receive from the Horizon League as he was announced as the male recipient of the 2019-20 Cecil N. Coleman Medal of Honor.

The Coleman Medal of Honor, first awarded in 1981, is the Horizon League's most prestigious individual honor. The award is presented annually to the top male and female student-athletes who demonstrate outstanding achievement in academics, athletics and extracurricular activities. Weaver was joined in earning the honor by IUPUI senior women's basketball student-athlete Holly Hoopingarner. Weaver is the second consecutive Titan male student-athlete to earn the individual accolade and seventh overall in 39 years.

Weaver, the Athletic Department's male President's Award winner for 2019-20, was a standout on the soccer field for the Titans this past school year, earning Second Team All-Horizon League laurels. The Northville native, who holds a 3.89 GPA in Biology, was a two-time Horizon League All-Academic Team honoree as a junior and senior (2018, 2019) and as a junior was named a Google Cloud CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team member. Earlier in the school year, Weaver was named as one of 30 men's soccer candidates nationally for the Senior Class Award. He was also named to the Second Team All-Decade squad at UDM.

"What a fantastic honor for Garret,"
UDM men's soccer coach Nicholas Deren said. "He has shown true dedication for the past four years through his academic and athletic achievements. He's been a model student on and off the field. He represents everything in what a Horizon League student-athlete at the highest caliber should look like.

"Garret became a captain after his



Northville alum Garret Weaver won the 2019-20 Cecil N. Coleman Medal of Honor at the University of Detroit Mercy. COURTESY OF SCOTT CONFER

sophomore season for the soccer team and really exhibited his leadership and ability to communicate with others. He was there to help others in all times of need. He was the perfect teammate and student-athlete for someone to coach. The ability to help his soccer team and his academic teams as well will take him many places in this world, especially with him going into the medical field."

On the field, Weaver was a consistent standout as a defender for the Titans in

2019 and helped spearhead a defense that allowed a league-low seven goals in eight Horizon League matches this past season. He started the final 67 games in his Titan career from the middle of his freshman season and led the team in minutes played in each of the final three seasons in the red, white and blue. During his senior season, he never came off the field, playing all 1,752 minutes for the Titans and had a game-winning goal at Green Bay.

"I am honored and humbled to receive such a prestigious award, as well as proud to represent the Titan family in this Horizon League award," Weaver said. "Being on a list with other Titans who have received this award is a true honor."

During his time as a student on campus, Weaver worked at Detroit Mercy's Student Success Center, which provided student-centered academic support services throughout the school year. For two summers, he was part of the General Motors Student Corps, where he mentored high school students in Detroit, along with executing and creating community service projects around the city. He was part of the service fraternity on campus — Alpha Phi Omega (APO) — as well as the Pre-Med club. He volunteered at nearby Beaumont Hospital assisting in the Emergency Room.

Weaver, who holds a leadership minor, has already scored in the 88th percentile of his MCATs as he gears towards Medical School.

The Titans have had several student-athletes selected for the accolade, including two-straight male student-athletes earn the award after former cross country and track and field standout Ben Kendell was chosen after the 2018-19 school year. Weaver is the second men's soccer student-athlete to receive the award in the past six years as Matt Ybarra earned the laurel for the 2014-15 school year.

Weaver is the seventh Titan overall to receive the Coleman Medal of Honor overall and the fourth in the last six years joining Kendell in 2019, Sara Zawacki (women's soccer) in 2016 and Ybarra in 2015. The other Titans who have earned the accolade include Mary Parker (women's soccer) in 2007, Lori Caloia (softball) in 2000 and Ken Dubois (cross country/track and field) in 1988.

Contact reporter Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt.

Winter

Continued from Page 1B

20 season — finishing fourth in the KLAA West behind Hartland, Brighton and Howell — Ballard said the summer months are huge for development, participating in summer league and team camps, developing underclassmen and seeing what the team could look like come Nov. 30.

However, this offseason and summer has looked different for the Wildcats, with many of the camps and leagues canceled. With gyms closed, Plymouth, like many other teams, are limited in what they can work on off the basketball court.

"There's only so many stationary dribbling drills and everything like that," Ballard said. "There's no decision making happening that I think is key to the success of development of a young person."

For Brother Rice athletic director Jeff Calcaterra, summer preparation has been limited, as well. Instead of time on the court, using those 15 dates to work as a team with the coaching staff for skill work, the focus has been on strength training outside, increasing fitness not basketball ability.

Ballard does not have the answers to the questions his players have for him. But he said they are adjusting and making due with what they have.

"The morale is great. They are happy to see each other. They missed each other because they are used to spending so much time with each other. I mean, that part is great," Ballard said. "I think they really want to get back into the gym and work and do things. It's great to see that kind of enthusiasm. I feel bad that we can't."

Hockey

Much like Ballard's group, Mark Vellucci knew that the Novi hockey team was dying to get together.

"You can only do so many Zoom meetings and so many text messages and calls," he said.

But unlike other sports where teams can practice outside, the status of hockey solely depends on the status of gyms.

Vellucci said many of his players have not been on the ice since the Wildcats fell to Livonia Stevenson in the regional final. The head coach said he is hoping for a short two-week summer camp at the end of July, but that it depends on if the state moves to Phase 5, opening

At this point, Novi is outside on the track, working on cardio, using body weight drills to build up strength for the upcoming season, while also adding yoga to the team's schedule once per week.

Vellucci said the latest he would want to get on the ice prior to the start of the season would be in October, but that if it's at that point, or even later, hockey teams practice more than they play, so adjustments could be made if need be.

Novi comes into the season with a veteran roster with many returning from last year's team, which could prove to be valuable if adjustments need to be made.

"We're possibly going to have 13, 14 returners back from the team. We made a nice run, and most of them are going to be seniors — I think 12 of the 14 are going to be seniors," Vellucci said. "We got JV guys coming up to push them and prep guys. So I think they are looking at it as this is our good shot to go farther than we did last year."

Wrestling

Detroit Catholic Central athletic director Aaron Babicz told his coaches to be ready for possible changes and adjustments from the moment the rumors began to circulate regarding the switch of the fall and spring seasons.

But he knows that wrestling, along with the other spring sports are kind of in limbo.

The reigning Division 1 state champions, Babicz said, are still trying to find creative ways to do their camps, whether it's focusing on shadow wrestling and skill development.

However, with this sport especially, there are many unknowns. But that is not Babicz's focus.

"That's the thing: people talk about fear of the unknown," Babicz said. "It can't be about fear anymore. It is what it is. You have to name it, attack it and get after it. If they say we can't wrestle, then we can't wrestle. We have to find a way to overcome it, adapt and overcome."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game story ideas to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Northville

Continued from Page 1B

coronavirus will affect their class in some way as well, whether its limited travel, such as the canceling of the Michigan State cross country camp the team attends each summer, to the kind of races they participate in.

Nathan Hayes, a senior runner at Northville, expects to participate in some sort of season, but knows how volatile it could be.

"Looking into the future isn't very right," Hayes said. "We just want a regular season, and we know that's not going to happen, but it's hard to accept that."

Meek has extra motivation, especially after the cancellation of the spring track season.

Coming off of injury issues in the fall, Meek made his way back into shape, hoping to show colleges what he could do in the spring, but not getting the chance.

"I was finally at the point where I felt I could race and be somewhere near the version of myself, and then not to be able to have a season was pretty crushing," Meek said.

Northville, as a whole, comes into the 2020 season with high expectations.

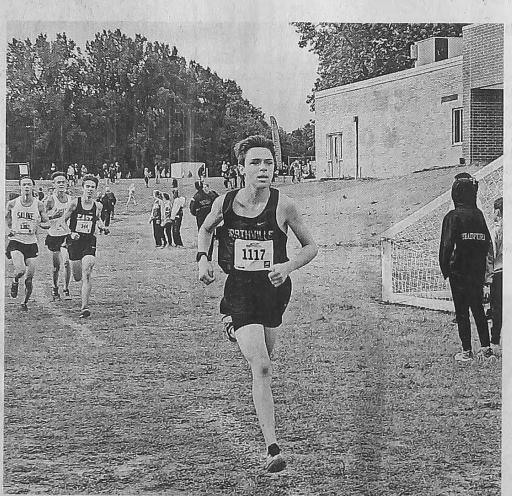
A year out of competing in the state meet, the Mustangs have many returning runners— what Hayes describes as one of the deepest teams in the state—with high goals: to make it back to states and to exceed the 19th place finish in 2019.

"We lost a great group of seniors, but had a core group of juniors and sophomores that will now be upperclassmen, and have a couple promising freshmen joining the team. So I'm excited," Dalton said. "I think this team has great potential, and I know they are excited to get together and accomplish their goals."

And that is what Northville is focused on at this point: not whether or not there will be a season at all, but that if there is one, the Mustangs will be as prepared as they can be to perform well.

"It's definitely made us work harder," Helner said. "We don't know what we are going to be able to do at the end of the season, state finals, regionals. Right now, we are just working as hard as we can to make sure that if it does happen, we will qualify."

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Nathan Hayes' goal is to be an All-State runner his senior season at Northville.
COURTESY OF NATHAN HAYES

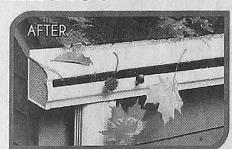
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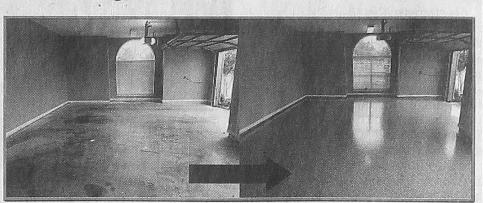


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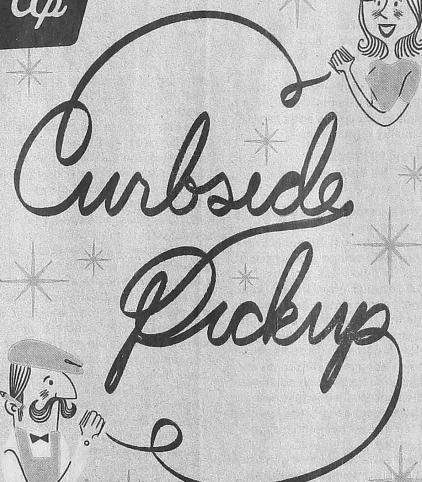
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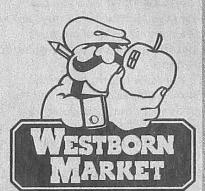
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Auburn Hills landmark imploded in a cloud of dust to cheers and shock

Omari Sankofa II Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

It was the site of six championship seasons between the Pistons and Shock, hundreds of regular-season basketball games, dozens of playoff games and some of the greatest moments in Detroit sports history.

It hosted some of the most notable concerts in the state, with performances by Michael Jackson, Sting, Madonna, Prince and dozens of others.

And as of Saturday, it is no more.

The Palace of Auburn Hills was imploded Saturday morning, ending a years-long shuttering process that began when the Pistons moved to downtown Detroit to Little Caesars Arena in 2017.

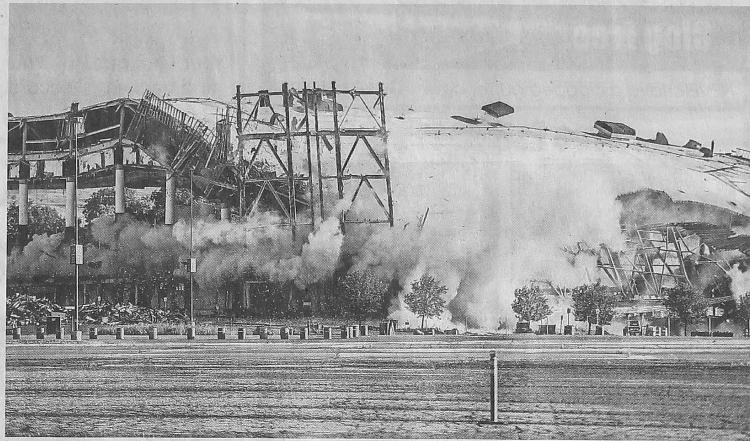
Spectators gathered across the street to watch the implosion, which occurred at 8 a.m. Explosives brought down what was left of the 32-year-old arena, which consisted of tall columns and a roof following months of demolition that started in March, in a matter of seconds.

The barren arena collapsed in a cloud of dust and drew cheers and reactions of shock from onlookers.

It's unclear what the site will be used for, but Livonia-based developer Schostak Brothers & Co., which purchased the land from Pistons owner Tom Gores last summer, is planning to redevelop the roughly 100-acre property as a mixed-use office park.

"We're very excited about this day," William Hall, project manager at Schostak Brothers & Co., said. "This is the implosion of the roof structure and columns today. Opens up the very exciting future development for surrounding property. This property is going to be redeveloped and bring hundreds of jobs. Very exciting opportunities for southeast Michigan as well as the city of Auburn Hills."

The Palace opened in August of 1988 to great fanfare. Then-Pistons owner Bill Davidson privately financed the arena for \$90 million, around \$200 million in today's dollars.



The Palace at Auburn Hills, the former entertainment arena, is imploded on July 11 by demolition team Schostak Brothers & Company Inc. The empty arena collapsed in a cloud of dust and drew cheers and reactions of shock from onlookers.

KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Thanks to an ahead-of-its-time design that featured 180 luxury suites — one of the first to do so at mid-level — and more than \$100 million in renovations through the years, the Palace was well-maintained through its final days. The Pistons played their last game there April 10, 2017, and the final event held at the venue was a Bob Seger concert Sept. 23, 2017.

In addition to the Pistons and Shock, the arena also played home to the Detroit Vipers of the IHL, who gave Gordie Howe a a final shift at age 69 and won a championship in 1997; the Detroit Fury, an Arena Football League team from 2001-04; and the Detroit Neon/Safari, a team in the Continental Indoor Soccer League from 1994-97.

The Pistons maintained their offices at the Palace and continued to use it as a practice facility until last October, when the Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center opened in midtown.

Homrich, a demolition contractor, was tasked with the demolition and implosion. Scott Homrich, CEO of the company, estimated that it'll take a few months of cleanup before the process is completely finished.

"There's a lot of engineering that goes behind it," he said. "Basically, the explosives are helping gravity along the way. This one is pretty straightforward. You'll have the explosives start off on one side of the building and they'll be about a five-second delay from one side to the other. And then after that five sec-

onds goes off there will be about a three-second pause, and then the charges will actually go off and start from one side to the other. There's been multiple checks of the different wiring and going through the process to make sure everything goes off good today."

Everything went according to plan, and he expressed optimism the new development on the site will serve the Auburn Hills community well.

"The development that's here is going to be incredible for the area," he said. "It's good to see abandoned things not sit abandoned. They've done a good job of using this through its useful life and moving it on and get something else in here that brings in good tax revenue, people's jobs, so on and so forth."

Memories made at The Palace of Auburn Hills

Though The Palace of Auburn Hills has been empty since the Pistons moved downtown in 2017, its greatest moments are far from forgotten. Free Press sports writer Carlos Monarrez ranks the top 20 moments at the arena, which opened in 1988, just in time for back-to-back NBA titles:

No. 1: June 15, 2004 — 'Goin' To Work' pays off with an NBA title

The Pistons' Goin' to Work group claimed the organization's third NBA title when they beat the Los Angeles Lakers in Game 5, 100-87.

But it wasn't a surprise to everyone and, least of all, to former Lakers great Magic Johnson.

"We won Game 1 in L.A.," former team president Tom Wilson said in 2017, "and I was talking to him afterward and he said, 'You're going to win the series.' I was, 'I don't know. Why do you say that?' He says, 'Because you guys are a great team and right now our guys aren't getting along and you're going to win this thing.' "

Magic's words were prophetic. The Kobe Bryant, Shaquille O'Neal and Phil Jackson dynasty that had won three straight titles in 2000-02 came to an end. Jackson quit and O'Neal was traded to the Miami Heat the next month. The Lakers showed major fissures early in the series, including their embarrassing 88-68 loss in Game 3. And Game 5 was another romp - the Pistons led by 29 points at one point.

It was the classic David vs. Goliath battle. The Lakers had four future Hall of Famers - Bryant, O'Neal, Karl Malone and Gary Payton - but the Pistons outplayed them with defense and team-

"Our team, we believed," said Rip Hamilton, who led the Pistons with 21 points. "We got three opportunities to win three games at home. We didn't worry about what people were writing in the papers and on the radio and on TV. Coach (Larry) Brown has done a wonderful job of showing the world how team basketball is supposed to be played."

The title also did something else, according Isiah Thomas, who told Hamilton and 2004 NBA Finals MVP Chauncey Billups at the Palace's closing night in

2017 that their title reaffirmed what the Bad Boys had done for the organization in 1988-89.

"Even though our team won back-to-back championships," Thomas said, "their team was the one that really, I thought, put us in that elite class where we were able to keep the winning tradition going, in terms of being thought of us a championship place and championship-quality organization."

No. 2: Nov. 19, 2004 — Malice at The Palace

Shame

One of the darkest moments in U.S. sports history and what the Associated Press called "the most infamous brawl in NBA history" seemed to start out of nothing.

With 45.9 seconds left in an early season game, Pistons center Ben Wallace was under his basketball goal when he took a pass and attempted a lay-up. Pacers forward Ron Artest fouled Wallace with a strong push that sent Wallace to ground. Wallace immediately popped up and pushed Artest, who backed away from a fight. The benches cleared but a brawl between players was prevented.

Artest was restrained by one of his own coaches and laid down at the scorers' table while coaches and officials tried to separate players. A spectator, John Green, threw a plastic cup of liquid at Artest, who ran enraged into the stands and started pummeling people. More Pacers and soon Pistons players entered the stands as bedlam ensued in an all-out melee between fans and players

"That was the ugliest thing I've seen as a coach or a player," Pistons coach Larry Brown said. "I'm embarrassed for our league."

The Palace banned Green and another fan, Charlie Haddad, from attending any events at Palace Sports and Entertainment properties.

Five Pacers, including Artest, and several fans were charged. Green was the only person to receive jail time and was sentenced to 30 days by Judge Lisa Asadoorian, who said fans in the fray would forever be known "as one of the idiots" involved in the brawl.

No. 3: June 3, 1990 — Pistons tame Bulls in Game 7

Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls were on the cusp of greatness. But they would have to wait another year until they began their run of winning three straight championships, thanks to the Pistons' 93-74 victory in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference finals.

The Pistons were still employing the "Jordan rules" by focusing on the Bulls' megastar; the Bulls were trying to counter that with Tex Winters' new triangle offense. But that required contributions from other key players like Scottie Pippen, who was largely ineffective in Game 7 while battling what he called a migraine headache. He finished with two points in 42 minutes. Jordan had 31 points, nine assists and eight rebounds. But he was no match for the deeper Pistons, who controlled the game and got double-digit scoring efforts from five players, including double-doubles from Mark Aguirre and Isiah Thomas, who led the way with 21 points and 11 assists.

The Bulls cut their deficit to as few as 10 points in the third quarter. But an 11-0 Pistons run, ending with a John Salley reverse slam with 2:10 left, started the celebration.

"I still wasn't comfortable with three minutes to go," coach Chuck Daly said. "This was just a great series, everything that I expected it to be."

Daly finally smiled after his news conference, raising his Diet Coke in the air and telling reporters, "I'll see ya later in the finals."

The Pistons beat the Portland Trail Blazers in five games and won their second straight title.

No. 4: March 25, 2000 — MSU locks up a Final Four berth

On its way to winning the NCAA title, No. 1 seed Michigan State faced its toughest test in the Midwest Regional final at the Palace when it beat No. 2 seed Iowa State, 75-64.

The Cyclones had 6-foot-8, 265-pound forward Marcus Fizer, who was the best college player that year not named Kenyon Martin. But the Spartans had an answer for Fizer in Andre Hutson. And they had Morris Peterson.

On the morning of the game, Peterson's grandmother, Clara Mae Spencer, died at 72 after suffering a stroke in February

"My grandmother was right there with me," a teary-eyed Peterson said after the game. "It seemed like somebody was guiding those shots in. When I got the news, it was very emotional. My grandmother was my best friend." With the help of Clara Mae's inspiration, Peterson willed the Spartans to victory by scoring 13 of his 18 points in the second half, helped the Spartans finish on a 23-5 run and brought down the house with a thunderous slam dunk off an alley-oop pass from Mateen Cleaves to give MSU a 64-61 lead with 2:03 left. Hutson held Fizer to 15 points on 6of-15 shooting. He also outrebounded Fizer, 11-4, and added 17 points himself. A.J. Granger also scored 18 points and Cleaves had 10 points. The Spartans beat Wisconsin in the semifinals and Florida in the final to clinch their second NCAA championship.

No. 5: Sept. 16, 2003 — Shock go from worst to first WNBA title

Bill Laimbeer took over as coach in June and predicted the Detroit Shock would go from a WNBA-worst 9-23 record in 2002 to becoming WNBA champions in 2003.

The Bad Boy made good on his predic-

He remodeled the team through the draft and trades and the Shock beat the Los Angeles Sparks in the deciding Game 3, 83-78, before a WNBA Finals record crowd of 22,076 at the Palace. They needed the extra height to slay the mighty two-time defending champion Sparks. The Shock had a great regular season, going 25-9 and clinching the top playoff seed by seven games. But in Game 1 of the Finals in L.A., they lost, 75-63.

The Shock returned to the Palace for Game 2 and staved off elimination with Deanna Nolan's two free throws with 12 seconds left in a 62-61 win. In Game 3, a wild and raucous crowd chanted "Beat L.A.! Beat L.A.!" Finals MVP Ruth Riley scored a career-best 27 points as the Shock lived up to its

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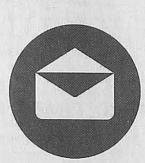
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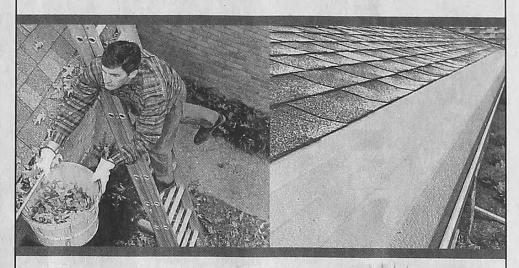
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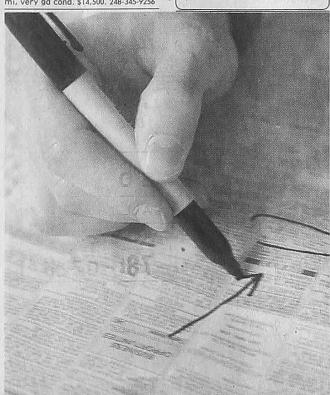
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was not

inordinately

THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 56 Czar who 1 Affliction 7 Really shout 13 Wine vessels cruel? 20 One of 62 "Look!," in the Nixon Latin daughters 21 - Vision (eye care chain) 22 Weird sort 23 Serious crime 24 Carol about holiday cheese?

examined 64 "What kind of 104 Anna of fool --?" 65 Set sail 68 122-Down 69 Doughnut filling 26 Strip of that's an weapons exchanged 74 Wane thought"

28 Look as if 77 Easily 29 Trickle out available 30 Guy who 79 Petri dish can do any site 80 Got totally interweaving style? used up 35 Ribeye, e.g. 36 Particular Nastase mag. edition 84 Politician 37 Writer Anaïs Gary

38 With propping 60-Down, himself up against BB gun 39 Sorority "T" 41 "This tastes 89 Actress Helena way better than coffee, Carter 92 Verdi's "tea or ale"? 50 Toon pics tu" 53 Suffix with 93 Prefix with southwest 54 Spring month

55 Comfortable

20

23

26

30

36

50 51

63

68

117

121

130

52

107 108 109 110

officer: Abbr. 111 People commodity? 82 Tennis great

something? chic or resort 94 2010 Apple

debut

95 Enigmatic clodhopper spells?

101 Bride's vow 102 Wye follower 63 Person being 103 List-curtailing abbr.

fashion 107 Light lunch, 8 Filmdom's maybe B. DeMille purchasing decorative rolling car parts? 117 Israeli carrier

119 Talking- -14 Actor Sandler (lectures) 120 Canine cord 121 Tall fence surrounding a pugnacious dog? 126 Improvise 127 Forms a

118 Touch on

liking for 128 Brezhnev of Russia 129 Kazakhstan's capital, until 130 "It finally makes

sense' 131 "The Munsters" actress De Carlo 132 Less fresh

21

24

42 43

92

111 112 113

128

27

53

70

31

58

37

69

90 91

101

1 Peak near

Tokyo: Abbr. 46 Ale relative 47 Incurred a lot 2 Concert sites 3 Purple flowers

4 "Put - in it!" 50 Quote 5 Dandie -(dog breed) 51 In a dead 6 "Hurray!" heat 7 Tape holder

9 "Hurray!" 10 Be off-base 11 Boxer Laila 12 Soccer star Lionel 13 Shows up for

15 Aves. 16 Main monk 17 Denmark's — Islands 18 Fictional Doolittle 19 Streamlined

25 Poet Hughes 27 South Carolina river 31 Hi- -(stereos) 32 Tote or duffel 81 Depilatory 33 "- Bravo"

34 Nice scent 35 Hard fat 40 Atty.'s org. 41 Has no life 42 Eye, to poets 43 An hour past

midnight

12

28

33

54

38

59 60

86

64

44 Pat lightly

45 President after Harrison 90 Part of DNA

of, as debt 48 Key on a PC 49 Tiny

52 Roping in 57 High-58 Ares' mother

59 Livy's "I love" 60 See 38-Across 61 Pro at CPR 66 Polar hazard 106 Hoffman/ 67 Bedouin, e.g.

scrape wax 71 "Abou Ben -" (Leigh Hunt poem) 72 Sheep cry 73 "Li'l" guy

75 La - Tar Pits 76 Longtime senator Robert 78 Soda brand

brand 82 "Big Blue" 83 Mauna -85 Suffix with cook or trick

86 "Totentanz" composer Franz 87 Acutely cold

29

62

81

116

74 75 76

104 105 106

35

22

39

61

88

103

114 115

65

40

55

80

99

126

129

132

100

120

25

88 Coveted annual prizes

91 Irate 96 Illegal punch 97 One of 18 on a course

98 "So icky!" 99 Gambling site, for short 100 Optometrist, old-style

104 Action hero Steven 105 Like grizzlies and kodiaks

Beatty film 70 Doc who may 107 Three more than quadri-108 Fake name

> potato treat 110 Pulitzer winner Edward 112 Central point

109 Hanukkah

113 Milan's land 114 Had a meal at home 115 One-named

singer of "Royals" 116 Gossipy type 118 Choir female

122 Adm.'s milieu 123 Charge (up) 124 Aussie leaper 125 Resting place 126 Had life

18

Difficulty Level ★★★

Here's How It Works: Sudokupuzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must filleach 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!

LK 0 U S R L MCON S U M E R

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards

WORDS

AERIAL BARGE BARRAGE **BOUOUET** BURST COMET CONSUMER DISCHARGED DISPLAY DUD **EXPLOSIVES FALLOUT** FINALE **FIREWORKS** FLASH **FOUNTAIN** FUSE **GIRANDOLA IGNITER MORTARS**

POWDER

SHELLS

TECHNICIAN WHISTLE

L	Þ	7	6	3	9	8	1	9	1
6	3	7	8	9	L	Þ	9	7	
9	9	8	2	Þ	1	6	1	3	
3	7	L	9	1	8	9	Þ	6	4
8	6	9	L	7	Þ	3	9	1	
1	9	Þ	9	6	3	1	7	8	
Þ	8	6	1	9	9	7	3	L	
2	1	3	Þ	1	6	9	8	9	100
9	L	G	3	8	7	1	6	t	

The Classifieds

123 124 125

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or

smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles"

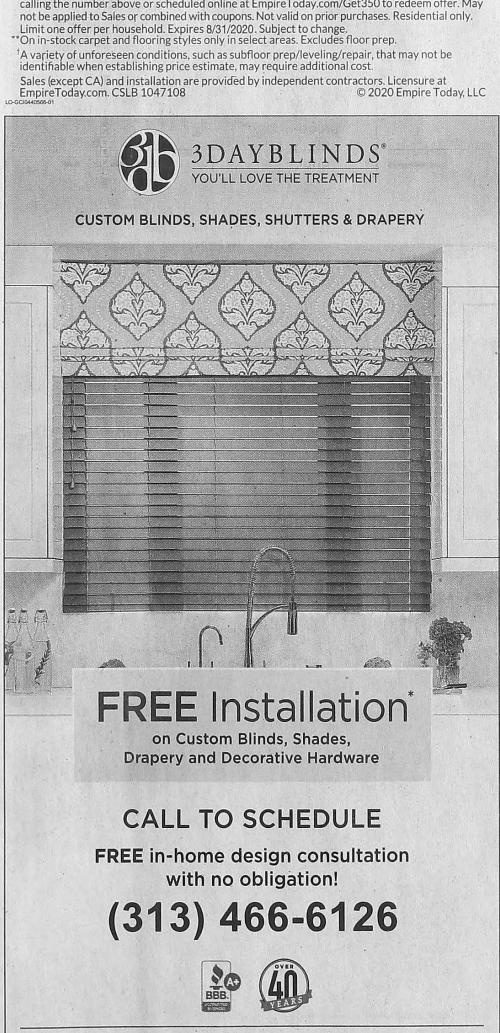
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