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THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Four file for Westland mayor

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The race to be mayor of Westland is already looking crowded.

One week ahead of the filing deadline, four candidates already submitted the proper paperwork to run for the

elected position: William Asper, Daniel Beier, Edward Pruett and Bill Wild. Wild is the city's current mayor and is seeking a fourth term.

According to City Clerk Richard LeBlanc, four candidates is "definitely" more than the race usually sees. Once elected, the mayor serves for four years

and makes \$121,574 annually.

Candidates have until 4 p.m. April 20 to file for mayor or council and can withdraw by 4 p.m. April 23. If the mayor's race continues to have three or more candidates, voters will be asked

See **MAYOR**, Page 2A

Road work throughout Farmington area set to begin soon

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's that time of year again.

Those who live in or drive through Farmington and Farmington Hills can expect a few major road improvement projects as temperatures warm up. Once projects begin in April and May, the road work season generally stretches into November.

Here's what drivers can look out for this construction season:

Farmington Hills

A mild winter and a warm, dry spring allowed Farmington Hills to finish its road improvements ahead of schedule in 2020. The city is hoping for a repeat this year.

"If anything, last year we were able to complete our projects in record time because there weren't any people really using the roadways," said Karen Mondora, the city's director of public services. "We had a great year last year and we're off to an early start again this year so we're optimistic that we'll have success again."

Drivers may have already noticed work on 11 Mile Road between Middlebelt and Inkster. The \$3.4 million project will completely rehabilitate the road and should wrap up in September.

In July, the Road Commission of Oakland County will replace the asphalt on part of 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake. The \$1.75 million project will be mostly covered by federal funds and is expected to go through November. Farmington Hills will pick up 10% of the bill.

"They plan to do a major rehabilitation of that segment," Mondora said.

Some local roads in Farmington Hills will also get some TLC this year:

- Stone Creek and Westlake Subdivision: Concrete replacement and curb repairs will come to Fink Avenue, Tuck Road, Stockton Drive, Ashley Drive, Montclair Drive, Glenmoor Heights and Astor Drive. The work will be done between May and September.
- Indianbrook Subdivision: Crews will lay hot mix asphalt throughout the

See **ROAD WORK**, Page 3A



Skill-ful Designs student Ryan Patrick adds some varnish to a side table. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Students hone DIY skills in pandemic-inspired class

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The workplace readiness skills special needs students at Garfield Community School in Livonia focus on changed during the pandemic. Suddenly, students were unable to learn in work-

places like Meijer or Livonia City Hall as they usually would.

But Amy Munday, a teacher at the school, had an idea: teach students to refurbish old furniture in-house. So the Skill-ful Designs class was born. Students refurbish old furniture that the public can buy online at the Skill-ful De-

signs Facebook page.

"I'm a wannabe Joanna Gaines, like every other suburban woman," Munday said. "My husband and I are big do-it-yourself people, so I had a lot of background information. But it's been

See **SKILLS**, Page 2A

Livonia cancels vaccine appointments over J&J concerns

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Amid federal recommendations that clinics pause use of Johnson & Johnson's coronavirus vaccine, Livonia is canceling some appointments at its city-run clinic.

Residents scheduled to receive a vaccine at the Livonia senior center

Wednesday were originally expected to receive a Johnson & Johnson vaccine, but will receive the first dose of Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine instead. Residents will come back May 5 for their second dose.

The city canceled all appointments for residents scheduled to get a vaccine Friday due to supply shortage. Livonia's clinic is completely dependent on how

much vaccine it receives from Wayne County.

"Those with appointments for Friday will be contacted by email with information about vaccination and scheduling opportunities," a statement from the city reads.

The Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended a pause in

administration of Johnson & Johnson's single-dose vaccine after six cases of "rare and severe" blood clots following vaccination were reported in the United States.

According to the FDA, all six cases were in women aged 18 to 48 and happened between six and 13 days after vaccination.

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COVID-19 cases surge 14 percent in Michigan

Mike Stucka

USA TODAY NETWORK

New coronavirus cases leaped in Michigan in the week ending Sunday, rising 14% as 51,512 cases were reported. The previous week had 45,192 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked first among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week the United States added 490,277 reported cases of coronavirus, an increase of 10.3% from the week before. Across the country, 35 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

Many states did not report cases on Easter. That will make some state-to-state comparisons inaccurate, and also some in-state week-to-week comparisons inaccurate.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in St. Clair, Huron and Sanilac counties. Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 10,198 cases; Oakland County, with 6,452 cases; and Macomb County, with 6,070. Weekly case counts rose in 67 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Wayne, Oakland and Genesee counties.



Seniors wait in line for their turn to receive COVID-19 vaccinations outside the Livonia City Park Senior Center. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Michigan ranked 30th among states in share of people receiving at least one shot, with 35% of its residents at least

partially vaccinated. The national rate is 35.9%, a USA TODAY analysis of CDC data shows.

In the week ending Sunday, Michigan reported administering another 647,780 vaccine doses, compared to 633,463 the week before that. In all, Michigan reported it has administered 5,496,030 doses.

Across Michigan, cases fell in 15 counties, with the best declines in Macomb, Ingham and Monroe counties.

In Michigan, 304 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 212 people were reported dead.

A total of 820,404 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 17,563 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 31,197,873 people have tested positive and 562,066 people have died.

Note: In the Johns Hopkins University coronavirus data, cases and deaths for the Michigan Department of Corrections and the Federal Correctional Institution separately from Michigan counties.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from Johns Hopkins University and the Centers for Disease Control. If you have questions about the data or the story, contact Mike Stucka at mstucka@gannett.com.

Mayor

Continued from Page 1A

to cast ballots in a primary election Aug. 3 to narrow the pool to two candidates before the November vote.

With four open seats in this year's election, the city council race would need nine candidates to require a primary. So far, five people have filed: Angela Anderson, Michael Delph, Jim Godbout, Jon Haddad and Jim Hart. Godbout and Hart are already on council.

The top three finishers will serve four-year terms, and the fourth candidate will serve for two years. Once a new board is seated each cycle, members choose a council president and president pro tem from among themselves. Annually, the president makes \$18,247, the president pro tem makes \$17,802 and the other council members are paid \$17,368.

Some Westland voters will also be asked to vote May 4 on a \$186 million bond proposal requested by Livonia Public Schools. Livonia's district includes part of Westland.

LeBlanc encouraged eligible residents who have not registered to vote to do so as soon as possible.

"There's really no advantage to waiting until the last minute to try and register to vote," he said.

The city is expecting a high volume of absentee ballots this year, and LeBlanc said his office is always looking for election workers. People can apply to be an election worker at cityofwestland.com/234/Election-Workers.

"Most people in Westland who are choosing to vote are voting with an absentee ballot," LeBlanc said. "Our number have never been higher than they are today."

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

hometownlife.com

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Students use the Skill-ful Designs woodworking shop. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Skill-ful Designs student Wolfgang Mueller smiles as he sands a small table at Garfield Community School.

Skills

Continued from Page 1A

great because I've been learning alongside the students."

All proceeds go toward funding events for Garfield students.

"It helps fund our activities," Munday said. "We'll typically go bowling or have events like dances or parties in our building. We usually have those funded through a craft show, so this has been a great way to stay involved in our community."

Garfield, also called the Western Wayne Skill Center, is a program for special needs young adults run by Livonia Public Schools. Young adults across the region take advantage of the program.

Munday said the class is working on several pieces of furniture at anytime and some need more TLC than others. Wolfgang Mueller, a student in the course, said he's enjoyed rebuilding a table the class is currently working on. Yazan Al-Dasouqi, another student, enjoys painting furniture the most.

While the class is a good time for all parties involved, it also centers on giving students independence and workplace skills. Every course at Garfield, 10218 Arthur, keeps that goal in mind.

"Everything that we do has the objective to teach them work skills," Patrick Mies, the school's principal, said. "We're not necessarily teaching them to be woodworkers, but we are teaching them to follow directions, work with others, problem solve and ask for help when they need it."

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

Merriman, Schoolcraft among Livonia road projects

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

This year is going to be a busy one for road work in Livonia.

"There's lots of activity out in Livonia with construction this year," Todd Zilincik, the city's engineer, said.

Local roads, sidewalks and some of the city's busiest roads will receive patching and major repairs this construction season, which usually continues through mid-November.

Here's some of the major projects drivers should look out for this year:

Merriman Road between Plymouth and Joy

Thursday, Wayne County is expected to start a \$780,000 rehabilitation of the busy stretch of Merriman Road between Plymouth and Joy roads. The city will pick up about 9% of that cost.

Construction is expected to wrap up in July, and landscape rehabilitation will finish in August. The road will be accessible to drivers throughout the project's duration, but people can expect lane closures and additional traffic.

"The goal is to have it done by Aug. 31 with restoration before school starts back up in the fall," Zilincik said. "But drivers in that area should seek alternate routes."

Livonia and Wayne County are also looking to add a left turn signal at the Merriman and Joy intersection. The spot has seen many vehicle crashes over



Merriman Road looking north from Joy in Livonia. Road improvements are coming to the intersection, in addition to a dedicated left-turn signal which should reduce collisions at the busy crossing. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the years, and Zilincik said there's a desire to make it safer for the young drivers heading to the nearby Franklin High School.

"The project that's getting done now will not include that signal," Zilincik said. "We're working with Wayne County to improve that intersection and modernize that signal. They're looking to seek some funds from the state to improve that signal. Obviously, we've had numerous concerns about that light."

Zilincik said residents can expect that signal's improvement this fall or early 2022.

Schoolcraft Road between Middlebelt and Inkster

The Great Lakes Water Authority started a water main replacement on Schoolcraft Road last year and will wrap work up this year. This year's work, which is of no cost to the city, is happening between Middlebelt and Inkster roads and will mostly affect westbound drivers.

GLWA already started work in front of Cloverlanes Bowl, which is near Schoolcraft and Merriman. Zilincik said construction will move east toward Ink-

ster and then west toward Middlebelt.

The work also affects drivers in Redford Township, where GLWA is replacing the same water main line between Inkster and Beech Daly roads.

"It started last year and is supposed to be a two-year project," Zilincik said. "They're trying to nip it in the bud on Redford's side and then they'll hopefully finish up with us later this year."

Local road, sidewalk improvements

Livonia will spend \$4.9 million on concrete road improvements and \$3.5 million in asphalt repairs in 2021. Together, those costs will impact 58 local road segments.

The city is also planning to spend \$678,000 on sidewalk improvements this year.

Most of Livonia's busiest roads, however, are under Wayne County's jurisdiction. Zilincik said the city is continually working with the county to bring road dollars to the city. Next year, Zilincik said one of administration's goals is to get work done along Farmington Road.

"This year, we're looking to get a meeting with the county to discuss some locations to help improve our partnership and what we can do to work together to improve our roads," he said.

Residents wanting to stay-up-to-date on lane and road closures can sign up for alerts at livonia.gov/64/Emergency-Alert.

Road work

Continued from Page 1A

subdivision. The city has not determined a timeline for this project yet.

• Warner's Woodland & Farmington Gardens: Residents will see asphalt replacement and driveway repairs. A timeline hasn't been set for this work yet.

• Richland Gardens: Residents will continue to be affected by a watermain replacement that began in February and

should wrap up in June.

• Heritage Hills and Wedgewood Commons Subdivision: During the first of a two-phase project, Heritage Hills Drive, Hitching Post Court, Sutter's Hill Court, Perry's Crossing, Carriage Hill Road, Hunters Whip Lane north of Heritage Hills, and Oak Valley Drive north of Heritage Hills will see concrete replacement. Work will start in May and go through September.

• Parkhill Boulevard: About 3,000 feet of the gravel will be replaced with asphalt. Work will start in June and go through September.

Farmington

The smaller of the two neighboring communities, Farmington plans only one major road project in 2021. Oakland Street between Grand River and Gill will be completely reconstructed between June and November. The project will cost about \$1.2 million.

"That will include water main replacement on the whole length of the street," Chuck Eudy, the city's superintendent of public works, said. "We're going to try and replace the road but keep it looking exactly the way it does

now. It will all just be improved."

Smaller projects include patching on Smithfield Road and on Farmington Road between Oakland and Shiawassee. That section of Farmington will close for about two weeks in May while work happens.

Farmington will also continue sidewalk improvements in neighborhoods and around city hall. The city will spend about \$200,000 on sidewalks this year.

"We're going to continue with sidewalk improvements, primarily in the Warner Farms subdivision area," Eudy said.

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State rep. released from jail pending investigation of accident on I-96

Paul Egan and Kayla Daugherty

Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

LANSING — A state representative was released April 7 after a night in the Livingston County Jail and faces possible charges following a April 6 vehicle accident, a county sheriff's office official said.

Rep. Jewell Jones, 25, D-Inkster, was released "pending additional investigation," following the Tuesday crash on Interstate 96 near Fowlerville, said Undersheriff Jeffrey Warder.

An arraignment was delayed, Warder said.

Michigan State Police confirmed the incident without naming Jones, who was identified by multiple sources.

"I can confirm troopers from the Michigan State Police Brighton Post were dispatched to a crash in Livingston County along I-96 last night, Tuesday, April 6," MSP spokeswoman Lori Dougovito said. "The resulting investigation led to the arrest of a 25-year-old male from Inkster."

"The report has been submitted to the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office for review."

Further details were not immediately available from the Michigan State Police, which made the arrest, or the Liv-



Jones

ingston County Sheriff's Office, which assisted at the scene.

The Livingston County Prosecutor's Office confirmed it is reviewing a file related to Jones.

"The matter is under investigation and it would not be appropriate to provide any further comment," the office said in a prepared statement.

A phone call and an email to the legislative office of Jones, who is in his third term, were not immediately returned.

House Minority Leader Donna Lasinski, D-Scio Township, said her office was still gathering information about

what happened late Wednesday afternoon.

"Given this is an active investigation, we will not be offering further comment until we get additional facts," she said.

In 2018, Jones was pulled over by Michigan State Police on I-94 for speeding, window tint and having an obstructed license plate, the Dearborn Press & Guide reported.

During the traffic stop, troopers found open intoxicants in the car. Neither Jones nor any of his passengers were drunk, but alcohol was open in the car, which is a misdemeanor, MSP spokeswoman Shanon Banner told the newspaper.



Farmington Public Schools' Lewis Schulman Administrative Center on Shiawassee. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Parent of special-needs student files lawsuit against Farmington schools

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A mother is suing the Farmington school district, former Superintendent Robert Herrera and a special education teacher, claiming problems with her son's experiences at Kenbrook Elementary School.

Dana Lambeth-Greer said in the federal complaint filed April 2 that her special needs African-American son has a cognitive impairment and Down syndrome, which put him in the care of a special education teacher in October 2019, when he was in the fourth grade.

The teacher "thought (he) was going to throw a card on the floor, so she grabbed his arm," the suit stated. "Then she walked him to his desk. She continued to dig her fingernails into (his) arm. She refused to let go of (him)."

Lambeth-Greer could not be reached for comment, but her attorney Dionne Webster-Cox emphasized that her client took her son to an urgent care facility immediately after Jordan laid a hand on him. She said medical professionals confirmed that he had scratch marks on his arm.

The lawsuit alleges the child has demonstrated aggression issues ever since the incident with the teacher. He's seen psychologists and psychiatrists for evaluations.

"He's not the same child that he was

prior to the incident," said Webster-Cox, who was retained in January.

Lambeth-Greer is suing on grounds of excessive force, municipal liability, discrimination due to her child's disabilities, discrimination due to his race, gross negligence and assault and battery.

"It's everything," said Webster-Cox, acknowledging that the lawsuit is alleging several different types of transgressions including school policies. "It just isn't right. The problem is it's still going on."

Lambeth-Greer is asking for \$1 million in damages for each of the six counts and for a judge to issue a preliminary injunction that would require the district and the superintendent to forbid corporal punishment.

The lawsuit alleged the teacher's hold on the child left him with raised and peeling skin. It also stated the teacher attempted to wash the boy's arm with soap and warm water and later indicated she was unaware how the student was injured.

District officials declined to comment.

Herrera, who resigned as superintendent effective January citing online and public harassment as reasons, continues working with the school district in an advisory role through June.

The suit included a March 6, 2020, email from Herrera to "Dr. Greer" where-

by he mentioned her concerns after the district investigated the teacher's supervision.

In the lawsuit, Lambeth-Greer claimed Herrera was admitting flaws and needs for change when composing the email.

The lawsuit said her son was suspended twice after the October 2019 incident presented in the lawsuit and now suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Lambeth-Greer blamed the district, Herrera and the teacher for her son's increased challenges and the necessary evaluations. She also said the teacher contributed to the district's suspension rate for African-American special education students.

The plaintiff included a 2019 district report that said the suspension rate for that subgroup has been disproportionate for seven of the previous 11 years.

Webster-Cox said the point of the suit is that the teacher, whether she was poorly trained or just having a bad day, made the special education student part of that disproportionate statistic.

"It's not cool," the attorney said. "It's not the thing to do. Figure out another way. Walk away."

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

Police find barricaded gunman dead in Redford

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A barricaded gunman was found dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound when a Western Wayne County SWAT team entered a Redford Township home.

He had been embroiled in domestic drama for hours, according to a Redford Township police report.

Police said a female visited department headquarters April 11 to say her boyfriend had punched her in the face at about midnight.

He also fired a handgun into the ceiling of the Lucerne Street home northwest of Beech Daly and Plymouth Road before leaving the scene.

The female also reported that she later learned he planned to start her Detroit house on fire. A neighbor and Detroit police confirmed a blaze at the home.

Township police visited Lucerne in hopes of making contact with the unnamed suspect. He was there but warned police not to come inside.

The suspect fired a handgun into the ceiling while officers were on the scene. The SWAT team arrived and attempted negotiations.

They entered after several hours without contact.

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Canton man admits to sexually exploiting child

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Canton resident Shailesh Patel pleaded guilty April 7 to a federal count of sexually exploiting a child.

Patel, 53, agreed in a U.S. District Court Zoom hearing that he was able to get a child to use a cell phone to capture sexually explicit images.

He faces the possibility of decades in prison when he is sentenced July 20.

By that time, he'll also have been sentenced in Wayne County's Third Circuit Court, where he has pleaded guilty to four of 18 criminal sexual conduct charges.

His Third Circuit sentencing date is set for May 28. Patel could spend 15-35 years in prison for a first-degree CSC charge, nine to 15 years for two second-degree CSC charges and probation for a fourth-degree CSC charge.

According to prosecutors, Patel was married to a youth director at BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir temple and sexually abused children visiting their home about 15 years ago.

A young woman has told FBI investigators that she was abused by Patel at his home, in his car and at their temple. According to the temple's website, it has closed because of the pandemic.



Patel

Redford Township couple sentenced in gun incident

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A Redford Township couple must pay a combined \$4,000 in fees and remain on probation for five years because their son shot their daughter.

A Third Circuit judge sentenced Jon-

ceived the same sentence as Melissa Kiser, also 28. They both pleaded guilty to a count of second-degree child abuse. A second count of the same charge was dismissed.

According to police, officers were dispatched to the 26500 block of Plymouth Road, near Southwestern Highway, shortly after 1:30 a.m. July 6 because a

child was accidentally shot.

A bullet apparently grazed the child's head and police then said she should be OK. Her younger brother had found the gun.

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

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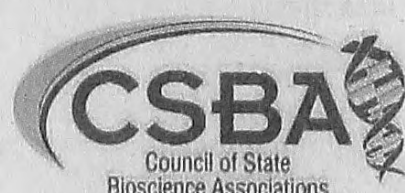
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Lyon family adjusts to life months after plane crash

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Spring 2021 is like no other for the young Mudzwova family.

Instead of planting seeds and watching them take root in their Lyon Township garden, they're moving forward with plans to raze their ruined Dakota Drive domicile.

They want the claws of construction equipment to rip at every sooty, melted or burnt residual reminding them of Jan. 2, the day a plane crashed into their home of nearly a decade, killing a Northville family of three.

From their original basement foundation, they'll rebuild. The long-term project won't come easy.

"It's very stressful," Danielle Mudzwova said. "When you think about building a house, it's usually something that you've been preparing for. You're excited. You've got all these ideas and images and, you know, you're going to have fun with it."

"Building was always an option for us, but that's like five to 10 years down the road. I don't want to think about it right now. I feel like I don't have any energy to give to it at this point. We're being forced to go through it."

A loud plane

The holidays were barely over when Seraphina, 4, and Nyasha, 2, came downstairs from an afternoon nap.

Along with their parents Pride and Danielle, they prepared to cuddle up in the living room to watch "Shrek 2." They had already seen the first fable about the grumpy ogre who falls in love with a princess.

"We were sitting there trying to find the movie and it happened," Danielle Mudzwova said. "I remember hearing the airplane. It was really loud."

They were accustomed to small planes flying overhead since they lived in a subdivision near the Oakland/Southwest Airport. However, this volume caused Mudzwova to turn to her husband, who was sitting to her left.

"There was a big boom," she continued. "A split second later, it was like our dining room exploded into the kitchen. I knew that a plane had crashed, but I thought it had just crashed in our backyard and exploded the windows into the house."

They escaped through a sliding door that led to their back yard. Pride Mudzwova returned briefly to grab the extinguisher under the kitchen sink to put out the giant flames.

Then he obeyed his wife's orders to abandon their home. A small Piper plane was sticking out of the house.

The plane exploded more than once. Neighbors removed the children from the horrific nightmare.

Firefighters swarmed their property to douse the fire.

In time, Pride and Danielle Mudzwova would learn the plane crash killed a family: David Compo, his wife Michele and their son Dawson. They were returning from Georgia.

"I wasn't expecting it to be an entire family. That was really hard," Danielle Mudzwova, a labor and delivery nurse for The University of Michigan, said. "The first initial thought once we were out was, 'I know that there is somebody in that plane that is dying right in front of our eyes.'"

"The whole half of the house was engulfed within seconds. There was no way for anybody to even get close to the house, let alone help them."

She and her husband walked through the wreckage of their home that night. It looked like a volcano exploded. Firefighters would remind Danielle Mudzwova that the belongings she considered taking, like a hairbrush, were health risks because of their smoke damage.

Pictures were gone. Heirlooms were destroyed. Baby stuff, their cat, mementoes of their family vacations ... gone.

The plane's explosions and resulting fire had gobbled up half of the house, leaving the remnants clear for cold winter air.

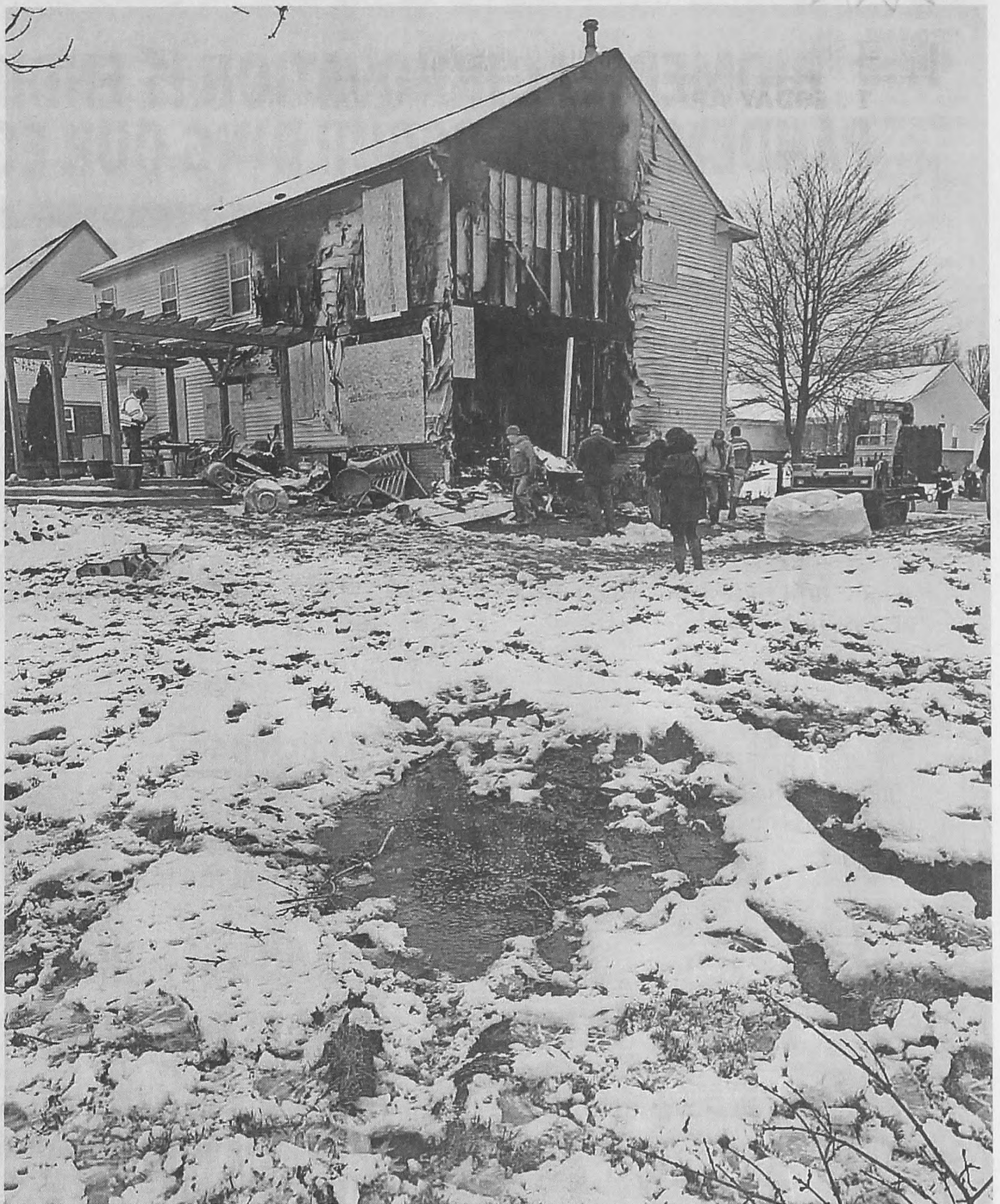
"It was gone. That side of the house is just totally disintegrated almost," Danielle Mudzwova said. "The other side of the house is covered with a thick layer of just black ash and smoke. Everything that could melt is melted. It was so hot, even if it didn't burn, it melted. It was a really hot, fast fire."

Life goes on

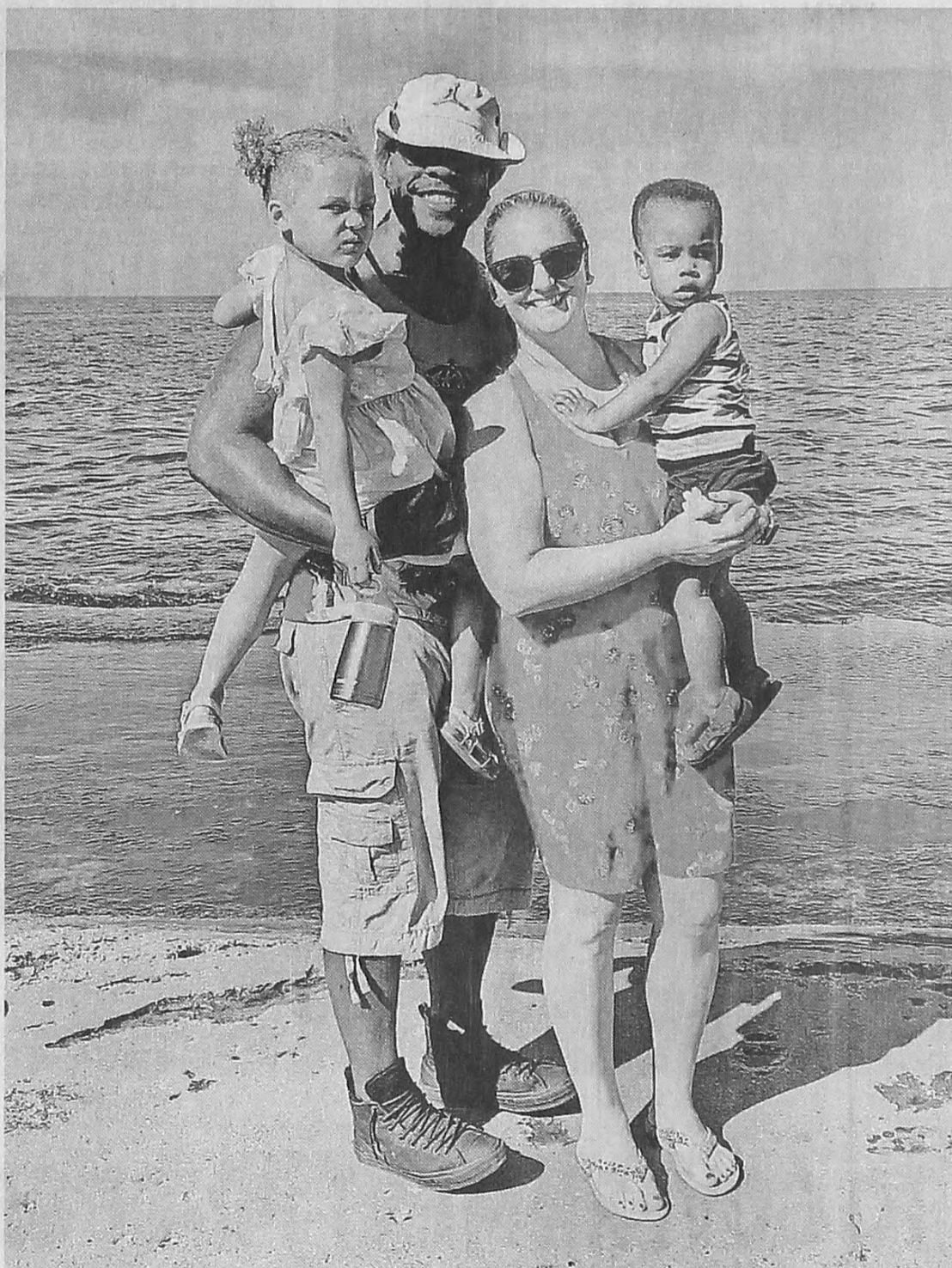
There were things to do, insurance agents to take through the home and therapy to seek, considering the threat that the family survived.

They rented a home in Novi. Three months later, the family has adjusted.

They still miss their home where



Danielle Mudzwova said the plane struck the ground in her neighbor's yard before smashing against her family's home on Dakota Drive in Lyon Township in January. All three people on the plane were killed in the crash. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Pride Mudzwova, left, with his his wife, Danielle, and their children Seraphina, 4, and Nyasha, 2.

Pride Mudzwova had a built a soundproof basement studio for producing music and studying for a doctorate degree in nurse anesthesia.

His wife misses their back yard where the family grew vegetables, including corn. Seraphina liked to visit the garden, munching on spinach, carrots or green beans.

Of course, the children miss their friends. They've made new ones and have filled hours by running back and forth from yard to yard, smiling and

laughing as they navigate an obstacle course of playsets and trampolines.

Their trauma comes to the fore when they talk about the crash, which is often enough to concern their parents.

Nyasha tends to tell people his house is broken and his daddy will fix it. Seraphina watched her home burn from a neighbor's window and likes to revisit with her mother the smoke, colors, noises and other details from the day that changed their lives.

Danielle Mudzwova said she imag-

ines worst-case scenarios - like what would have happened if the children were in another room when the plane crashed or if she had gone back inside to get the cat.

"I've definitely been feeling a lot more anxious," she said. "I've had several panic attacks It's getting easier. (But) it's a struggle."

Rebuilding

The Mudzwovas moved into their Dakota Drive home around the time they married.

It was a nice house in good condition and not too far from where they worked. Their children, the couple knew, would attend good South Lyon schools.

While the residence wasn't their forever home, they could remain comfortable there for quite some time.

Then the decades-old plane crashed. In a preliminary report, the National Transportation Safety Board cited some key decisions and lack of training as possible causes.

Their Dakota Drive neighborhood and their response to the fire inspired the Mudzwovas to consider building a new home on top of their foundation.

"I feel like, before we even talked about it, we kind of just knew that we wanted to rebuild there," Danielle Mudzwova said. "Our neighbors are our best friends. More than just our immediate neighbors...The whole neighborhood just came together and just supported us so much and still are to this day."

"I can't really imagine not rebuilding there right now."

She and her husband have already talked to a builder and architect. They want heavy equipment to tear down their non-salvageable house this summer.

They hope to move into their restored home in a year or two. If they move during the school year, Seraphina won't have to switch schools or make new friends again.

Insurance is supposed to cover the reconstruction costs.

"We're ready to get started," Danielle Mudzwova said. "It just all takes time."

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

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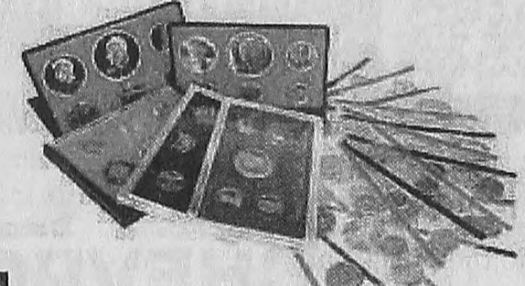
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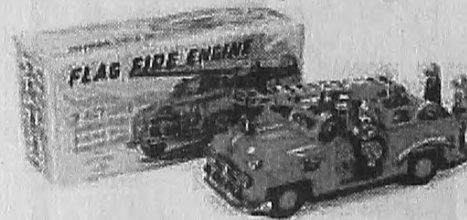


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Car wash planned on long-vacant Westland corner

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One of the most prominent vacant pieces of property along busy Ford Road in Westland could finally see some development.

The city's planning commission reviewed and recommended approval of both a preliminary and final site plan for a new car wash to locate on the southwest corner of Newburgh and Ford roads during its virtual meeting held April 6.

The plan calls for a new car wash constructed on the corner, along with a retail building on the western portion of the property. Mohamed Ayoub, the city's planning director, said the proposed structure, which will be a Tommy's Car Wash, would occupy about 5,200 square feet and have 18 parking spaces dedicated to vacuums.

The additional retail building to the west of the car wash is still being worked on and was not reviewed by the commission during that meeting.

"That is a future development and is not part of the immediate car wash development," he said. "It will happen at a later time and they might need further approvals for that."

The development is a different one that was originally envisioned for the site several years ago. The original planned unit development — approved in 2017 — called for multiple buildings on the site, including a medical building, a restaurant and another development for business.

Some of the buildings on the site have been removed and that plan never came to fruition.

"Obviously, it's been demolished and does not exist today," Ayoub said. "None of that happened, which brings us to today and this proposed car wash."

The other part of the development, the Regency of Westland nursing facility to the south, opened in late 2019.

There was no word on when construction could begin if the project receives all the proper approvals.

The approval came with little conversation among

the planning commissioners, save for Commissioner David Rappaport, who said he felt neutral on the plans.

He said a previous planning commission discussed how the site would essentially serve as a focal point for travelers entering Westland from Canton Township.

"There was a significant conversation about this being one of the gateways to the City of Westland," he said. "We were interested in maintaining the appearance of what was going to go into this particular ... PUD as it would speak to the nature or what people could

expect to see as they came into Westland.

"I don't have strong feelings one way or another for whether this proposal adequately reflects the character of Westland. I will say it reflects much better than an empty lot."

With the recommended approvals, the plans now head to the city council for its review and final determination.

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



A car wash facility has been proposed for this lot at the southwest corner of Ford and Newburgh in Westland. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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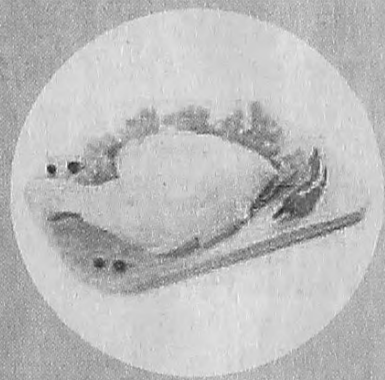
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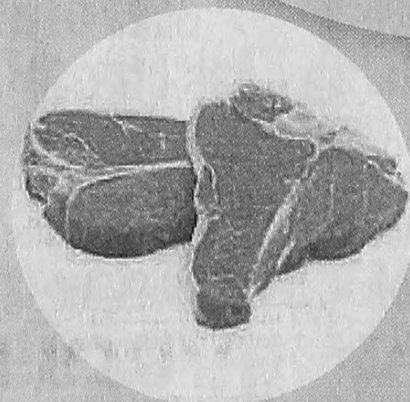
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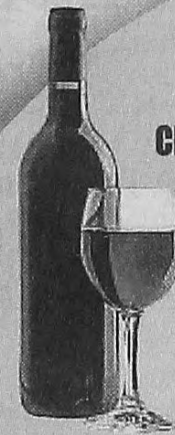
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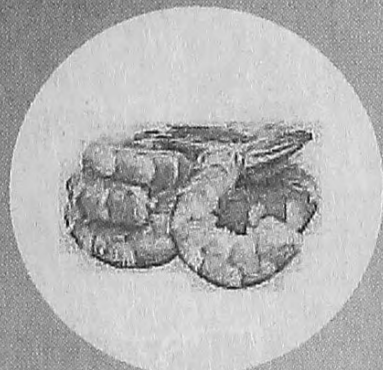
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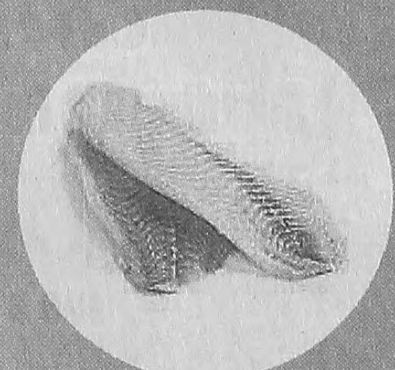


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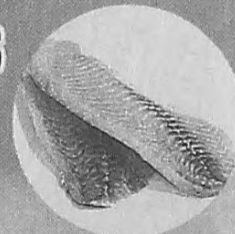
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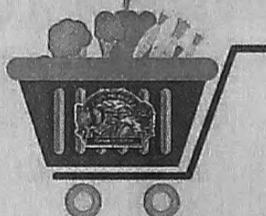
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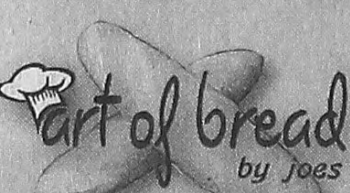
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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Stevenson keeps championship mentality

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Heading into her first doubleheader of the 2021 season — Livonia Stevenson softball's first game in 690 days — Grace Ozog was nervous.

The senior had experience on the team before, playing with the Spartans

as a sophomore. But the first-game jitters had returned, even though she and returners from the 2019 roster had an idea of what they were getting into.

Once she took the field, though, Ozog said it started to feel normal again.

"We were playing as a team, which I haven't felt in so long," Ozog said.

With that normalcy, with that com-

fortability on the softball field came an offensive onslaught in the season-opening doubleheader, as Stevenson won both of its first two games against city rival Livonia Churchill, 12-2 and 16-1, in a combined eight innings of play.

The Spartans combined for 28 runs on 24 hits and seven walks.

"Once we got our foot down, we just

started to find the center of the ball," Stevenson head coach Kevin Hannigan said. "They were relaxed. They were nervous — we had a big crowd here today, which is great. Once the nerves kind of settled down, we were able to grip it and rip it."

See STEVENSON, Page 3B



Mayla Ham brings the ball upcourt for the Zebras. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Wayne Memorial collapses in state semis

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With 2:39 left in the Division 1 state semifinal, Wayne Memorial head coach Jarvis Mitchell took a timeout, holding onto a seven-point lead. At the end of the allotted time on the bench, the players broke the circle with one word: Finish.

Instead, the Zebras (17-3) crumbled, allowing their lead to evaporate and the Phoenix (13-4) to rise from the ashes of the third quarter, leading to a 75-72 win in the state semifinal at the Breslin Center in Lansing.

Renaissance turned to its bread-and-butter — its press defense — in the final moments, using steal after steal to evaporate its deficit to tie the game at 69

with a 3 by senior Kailee Davis.

Four free-throw makes later — something that wasn't given for a Renaissance team that hit only 24-of-46 from the line in the game — the Phoenix took a four-point lead heading into the final seconds, which was cut to one quickly after a bank 3 by Wayne Memorial senior Lachelle Austin.

After two more makes at the line, Da-

vis did not settle and give the Zebras another chance at a 3, which ended both the second and third quarters, switching momentum from Renaissance to Wayne Memorial.

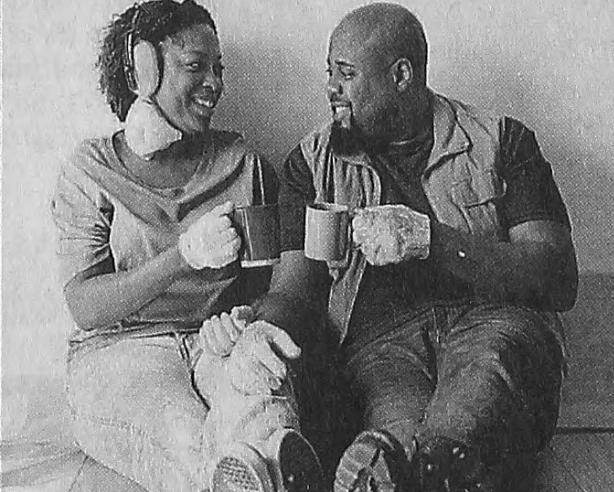
Instead, the Renaissance senior stepped up, recording a steal and possession with 7.3 seconds to go in the


See WAYNE, Page 4B

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Livonia Franklin tennis wins season opener

After the cancellation of the 2020 spring sports season, the Livonia Franklin girls tennis team hadn't played a match in 691 days. The Patriots returned to the courts Wednesday, beating Farmington, 5-4.

All five Franklin doubles flights pulled out victories, while Farmington won all four singles flights in straight sets.

Singles

No. 1 - Katie Miller, Farmington High School defeated Katie Callaghan, Livonia Franklin, 6-4, 6-1

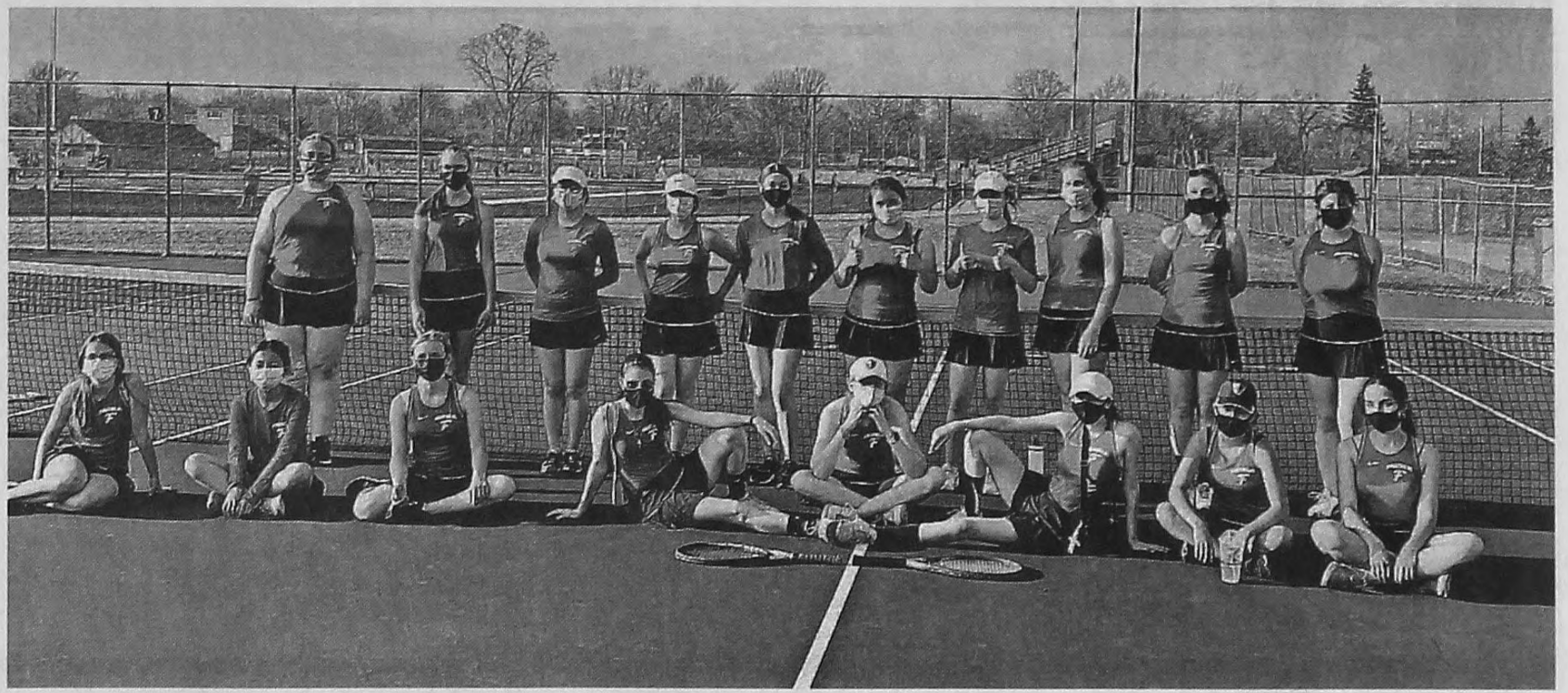
No. 2 - Mary Blossom, Farmington High School defeated Sandrea Cueva, Livonia Franklin, 6-1, 6-3

No. 3 - Scarlet Richter, Farmington High School defeated Gabbie McCoy, Livonia Franklin, 6-0, 6-1

No. 4 - Kareena Nyalakonda, Farmington High School defeated Celing Li, Livonia Franklin, 6-0, 6-4

Doubles

No. 1 - Kelly Engler, Livonia Franklin - Marissa Muller, Livonia Franklin defeated Lilly Schwalm, Farmington High School - Sarah Chappell, Farmington



The Livonia Franklin girls tennis team opened the 2021 season with a win against Farmington. COURTESY OF TOM MULLER

High School, 7-6 (5), 6-1

No. 2 - Daphne Millross, Livonia Franklin - Brittny Winn, Livonia Franklin defeated Isabel Watson, Farmington High School - Nicole Waun, Farmington High School, 6-3, 6-0

No. 3 - Jade Fabian, Livonia Franklin

- Kate Montie, Livonia Franklin defeated Grace O'Connor, Farmington High School - Laxmi Shankar, Farmington High School, 6-0, 6-2

No. 4 - Jasmine Dumitru, Livonia Franklin - Cypress Burns, Livonia Franklin defeated Dhara Patel, Far-

mington High School - Farah Shakir, Farmington High School, 6-1, 4-6, 6-3

No. 5 - Leeda Gharibi, Livonia Franklin - Katie Thiele, Livonia Franklin defeated Sophia Buatti, Farmington High School - Stuti Goel, Farmington High School, 6-1, 6-3

Mercy hoops player reflects on four-year career

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Basketball was not in Alexis Roberts' family growing up. Her father swam and played tennis while her mother played volleyball.

But basketball was one of the first sports Roberts tried, and she quickly found a love for the game, beginning her career as a point guard with the Michigan Monarchs travel team in fourth grade.

"As a kid, my dad would always say... 'Alexis, you're the floor general,'" Roberts said. "You have to know where everybody else is and you have to know what everyone is supposed to do."

"Having that responsibility at such a young age kind of prepared me for the next level and beyond."

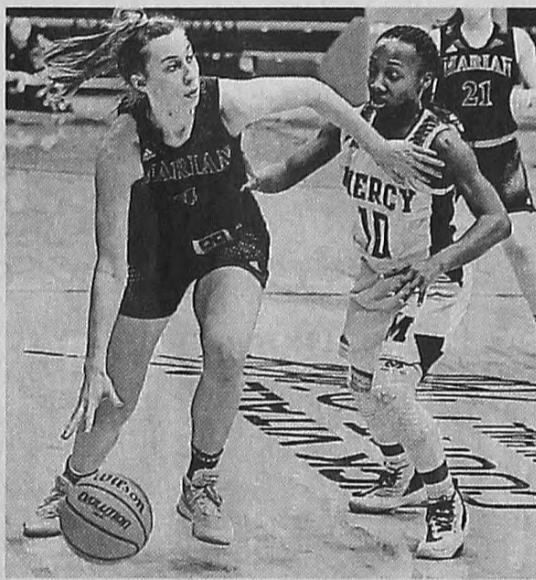
Over the past four years, Roberts bloomed into the floor general for Mercy basketball, serving as the team's starting point guard for the past three seasons after fluctuating in and out of the starting lineup as a freshman for a senior-heavy 2017-18 team.

In four years, Roberts and the rest of the Marlins have won 70 games and three consecutive district titles.

Mercy head coach Gary Morris knows how tough it is to play point guard, yet has high expectations for whoever is in the role.

"You are kind of, generally speaking, the coach on the floor," he said. "The basketball is going to be in your hands quite often, and you have to make the right decisions with the basketball in terms of when to go fast, when to go slow, when to look for your shot, when to think pass first."

When Morris first met Roberts before her freshman year, he noticed her maturity. Putting her on the varsity roster from the moment she stepped onto campus, Roberts learned from senior point guard Jenna Schluter, starting at



Marian forward Sarah Sylvester tries to drive past Mercy guard Alexis Roberts. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

times next to her at shooting guard, but scrimmaging against her at point guard in practices.

For Roberts, it took some time to find her role with the team, but when she came into the gym for her sophomore season she knew she wanted to be more of a leader for the group.

As a junior, the responsibility heightened as Morris challenged his point guard to take charge and be an anchor for the offense, the centerpiece to the team's success.

"If they can't stop you, we won't be stopped," Roberts remembers her head coach telling her.

Roberts' career has an advantage that many other players do not have: to grow her basketball game with many of the same teammates around.

"Not everybody has the opportunity to play with the same girls for three or four years," Roberts said. "I think that gave my class an advantage almost because we got to learn about each other: our strengths, our weaknesses, what are our better parts on the floor, learning

when to pass, when we don't.

"It's brought us together off the court because we have grown this wonderful bond on the court."

Even while the Marlins played without senior Julia Bishop for the majority of the 2021 season — a forward who Roberts said is destined to record a double-double each time she steps on the court. After losing three of its first five games, Mercy won 13-straight games before losing to Detroit Renaissance in the regional semifinal.

Roberts never expected for Mercy's season to end in any place except the state final. To her, the ending was abrupt. Each of the seniors were in awe and in tears on the bench as the realization came to each of them.

"I don't think it really hit me until I got subbed out at the end and I was like, 'Wow, this is it,'" Roberts said. "I watched the clock go down and thought that this is my last high school basketball game."

Roberts' basketball career isn't over. She knows she will be playing basketball somewhere next season, despite not knowing where.

But after playing with a team for four seasons, with many of the same teammates, Roberts is just thankful, imploring her younger teammates to never take a game, a practice or a time with their teammates for granted.

Morris knows Roberts and the rest of the senior class have left more than that one lesson through their play over the past four years.

"If anybody saw us play, all seven of our seniors... they get on the floor, they are going to compete," Morris said. "I think that might be the legacy that Alexis and the seniors leave for our program is the importance of... and it sounds simple to go out and compete, but it's something you don't have happen every year."

Euro Stars gymnasts advance to regional finals

Euro Stars Gymnastics' Ella Chemotti, Nikki Smith and Sophia Reddy took a three-gymnast team and turned it into a state title.

The team finished in first place at the Level 10 state finals March 28. The trio will travel to Cincinnati, OH April 15-16 to participate in the Region 5 finals, competing against gymnasts from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Michigan.

If the team qualifies at regionals, it will compete in nationals at Daytona, FL.

The minimum amount of gymnasts that can qualify as a team is three.

Chemotti, a senior at Canton, is committed to Eastern Michigan on an athletic scholarship.

Smith, a junior at North Farmington, is committed to Michigan State on a full athletic scholarship.

Reddy is a sophomore at Northville, and has not yet decided on a college.



Ella Chemotti, Nikki Smith and Sophia Reddy celebrate their first-place finish at the 2021 Level 10 state finals for EuroStars Gymnastics. COURTESY OF JIM REDDY

GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFF SCOREBOARD

Regionals

Division 1

Regional 5 — Northville

Final

Wayne Memorial (16-2) 68, Saline (18-2) 60

Semifinal

Wayne Memorial (15-2) 51, Plymouth (12-8) 27

Regional 7 — Detroit Renaissance

Final

Detroit Renaissance (11-4) 48, Mercy (15-4) 34

Semifinal

Mercy (15-3) 66, Groves (9-9) 14

Regional 2 — Holly

Final

Hartland (20-0) 51, Marian (13-6) 34

Semifinal

Hartland (18-0) 69, Lakeland (11-7) 31
Marian (13-5) 63, Clarkston (15-4) 50

Division 2

Regional 15 — Livonia Clarenceville

Final

Detroit Country Day (13-2) 76, East-pointe (10-7) 27

Semifinal

Detroit Country Day (12-2) 55, Warren Regina (3-10) 37

Districts

Division 1

District 20 — Livonia Franklin

First round

Livonia Franklin (6-10) 57, Garden City (5-10) 28

District semifinal

Wayne Memorial (13-1) 68, Redford Thurston (6-5) 17

John Glenn (8-7) 45, Livonia Franklin (6-11) 44

District final

Wayne Memorial (14-1) 65, John Glenn (8-8) 46

District 19 — Plymouth

First round

Northville (7-10) 50, Livonia Churchill (1-15) 25

District semifinal

Plymouth (11-7) 62, Salem (2-15) 54
Canton (6-10) 39, Northville (7-11) 31

District final

Plymouth (12-7) 44, Canton (6-11) 33

District 17 — Ann Arbor Skyline

First round

South Lyon (7-6) 41, Ann Arbor Skyline (2-14) 33

District semifinal

South Lyon East (12-6) 58, South Lyon

(7-7) 31

District final

Brighton (15-3) 43, South Lyon East (12-7) 38

District 26 — Royal Oak

First round

Seaholm (5-11) 47, Royal Oak (8-7) 35

District semifinal

Groves (8-8) 48, Southfield Arts and Technology (1-12) 44

Berkley (11-5) 49, Seaholm (5-12) 40

District final

Groves (9-8) 54, Berkley (11-6) 44

District 25 — Novi

First round

North Farmington (5-9) 48, Livonia Stevenson (6-12) 47

District semifinal

Mercy (13-3) 55, Novi (4-13) 38
North Farmington (6-9) 47, Farmington (9-5) 41

District final

Mercy (14-3) 56, North Farmington (6-10) 32

District 7 — Walled Lake Northern

First round

Milford (8-6) 33, Walled Lake Western (3-11) 13

District semifinal

Lakeland (10-6) 30, Walled Lake Central

(9-3) 13

Walled Lake Northern (10-4) 39, Milford (8-7) 31

District final

Lakeland (11-6) 52, Walled Lake Northern (10-5) 34

District 6 — Waterford Mott

First round

Avondale (2-10) 55, Bloomfield Hills (2-11) 53; OT

District semifinal

Marian (11-5) 73, Avondale (2-11) 21

District final

Marian (12-5) 59, Waterford Mott (1-12) 10

Division 2

District 57 — Wixom St. Catherine

District semifinal

Wixom St. Catherine (10-7) 46, Livonia Clarenceville (6-7) 24

District final

Detroit Country Day (11-2) 51, Wixom St. Catherine (10-8)

Division 4

District 122 — Allen Park Inter-City Baptist

District final

Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (7-5) 45, Plymouth Christian Academy (10-4) 32



Stevenson senior Alisyn Collins started game two for the Spartans against city rival Churchill. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Stevenson

Continued from Page 1B

However, Hannigan was not relaxed in the hours leading up to first pitch. He instead was nervous, not knowing if his team would get an opportunity to touch the field.

In a press conference Friday, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recommended that all organized youth sports would be halted for the next two weeks to help decrease the spread of COVID-19. Hannigan didn't know if the start of the season would be able to be played as scheduled, texting his captains to wait for him to tell them if the season would be able to begin.

The Spartans got the go-ahead, with Livonia Public Schools following the lead of many other area school districts in the area: to continue spring sports with their weekly antigen COVID-19

testing protocols and mask wearing.

But with almost losing the start of the 2021 season, Hannigan's approach to the first game was only heightened.

"Every game, every practice, try and act like it's the championship game," Hannigan said. "We might not be able to play again, we don't know. But right now, (it's) Opening Day, and we took it like a championship game."

In game one, the offensive barrage started early, scoring three runs in the first inning off five hits, including three triples by shortstop Kaitlin Trantham, Janie West and Alisyn Collins.

But after senior starter Sophie Bater allowed a two-run home run by Churchill center fielder Paige Proudlock in the top of the fourth inning, the Spartans offense roared for eight more runs on eight hits and two errors, ending the game after four innings.

The offensive success continued into the second game, as Stevenson opened the game with 12-straight baserunners,

chasing Proudlock, Churchill's starting pitcher, out of the game before she was able to record a single out.

Stevenson finished the second game with 16 runs on 11 hits and seven walks.

"We've been hitting great at practice and great in the offseason," Ozog said, who got on base in each of her eight at-bats with five hits, four runs and two RBI. "I'm honestly not surprised about the numbers. I'm just glad we kept the energy going in both games. We didn't die down at all."

Stevenson third baseman McKenzie Cook finished the game with five hits in six at-bats, scoring two runs and four RBI on four singles and a double.

Collins added an RBI triple and an RBI single in game one, along with a two-RBI double in game two. Starting game two on the mound, the senior recorded three hitless innings, striking out two.

"I think we played just as hard today as we did at practice," Collins said. "It's

just become a habit for us to go 100% every single time, and I think that's just showing off."

Ozog doesn't know what's next for Stevenson or how many games the Spartans will be able to play in 2021. She just knows that when the team had the opportunity to play, Stevenson showed up.

"I'm just grateful we actually got a game," Ozog said. "And with a score like that, who can be disappointed in that?"

Along with it being the first game of the season, Stevenson and Churchill teamed up to raise money for Sean Dewitt, Hannigan's cousin who is a sophomore basketball player at U-D Jesuit, who was diagnosed with T-Cell Lymphoma. Those in attendance were able to raise more than \$5,000 for Dewitt and his family.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17.



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Wayne

Continued from Page 1B

game to secure the victory.

"It was just about not giving up," Davis said. "I believed in my teammates and they believed in me. Once they told me to go, I just wanted to win it for them."

After recording eight turnovers in each of the first three quarters, Wayne Memorial turned the ball over 12 times in the final eight minutes, allowing for a Renaissance comeback and, according to Mitchell, a chance for the crowd to see who wanted to advance more.

"Top to bottom, she absolutely willed them to win," Mitchell said of Davis. "Phenomenal. We tried to make her work as much as possible, but at the end of the day, when a kid is resilient and they want to win... I don't think it wasn't that my kids didn't want to win. I think she wanted to win a little bit more."

Wayne Memorial finished the game with 36 turnovers.

Mitchell knew the final moments came down to resiliency. He saw it in his own team earlier in the game.

Trailing by eight late in the second quarter, Wayne Memorial used a 7-0 run, capped off by buzzer 3 by Austin, to go into halftime trailing by one. The momentum continued into the third quarter as Austin and senior forward Alanna Micheaux led the Zebras on a 7-5 run that gave them their first lead with 4:58 left in the third quarter.

At that point, the Phoenix began to collapse, missing nine of its next 12 attempts from the free-throw line, sending junior Shannon Wheeler to the bench due to foul trouble and Micheaux taking over inside the paint, using simple layups to increase Wayne Memorial's lead to as many as 11 with 7:46 left in the game.

But Mitchell saw an opponent that never let up in the fourth quarter, chipping away, turnover after turnover, to switch momentum and silence the Wayne Memorial faithful.

"It's organized chaos," Renaissance head coach Shane Lawal said of his team's approach. "I think to certain people, they are like, 'it's kind of sloppy.' Yeah, that's cool, but we believe we can play at that speed better than you can play at that speed. If we play at that speed long enough and you play at that



Alanna Micheaux puts up a shot in the first half of Wayne Memorial's game against Temperance Bedford.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

speed long enough, eventually you are going to break before us."

Davis led Renaissance with 33 points — 19 of which were scored in the fourth quarter alone — to lead the Phoenix to a chance at a state title.

Micheaux led the way for Wayne Memorial, scoring a team-high 29 points and 17 rebounds, hitting 13-of-20 from the field.

"The kid laid it all on the floor. She's going to be an absolutely amazing player at the University of Minnesota. She absolutely gave her heart," Mitchell said of Micheaux. "I felt so bad for her because, in the locker room, she was inconsolable. That's when you know a kid laid it all out on the line."

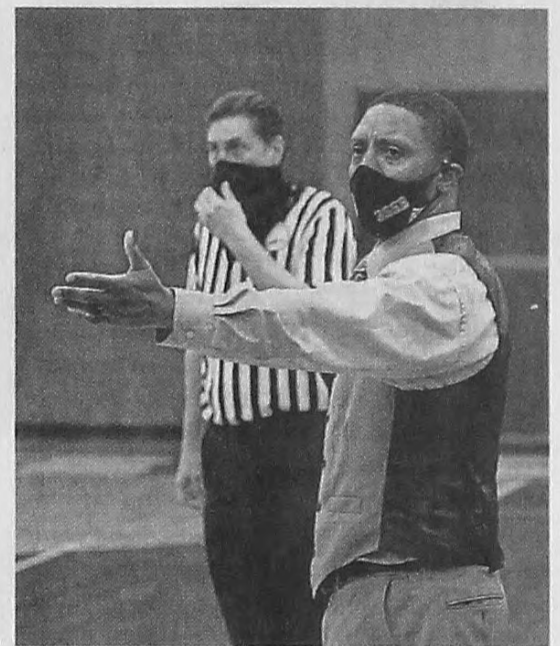
"I'm so proud. If you guys could have seen her four years ago, her maturity, her growth has just been an amazing thing."

Mitchell never thought this team would make it to this point. With only three seniors, he knew the Zebras were not expected to make a run to the final four — Wayne Memorial's third semifinal in the past four years. It makes him confident for next season, returning three starters ready to chip away until the Zebras hoist a state title trophy.

But the Wayne Memorial head coach knows what could have happened with this 2021 team if the turnover total would have been just a little lower.

"To have 36 turnovers and lose by three? I think we're a good basketball team," Mitchell said. "You take three of those possessions away, I think we are having a different conversation."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17.



Wayne Memorial asks the referee a question during a play against Bedford in the state quarterfinal.

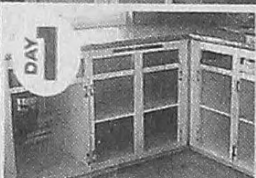
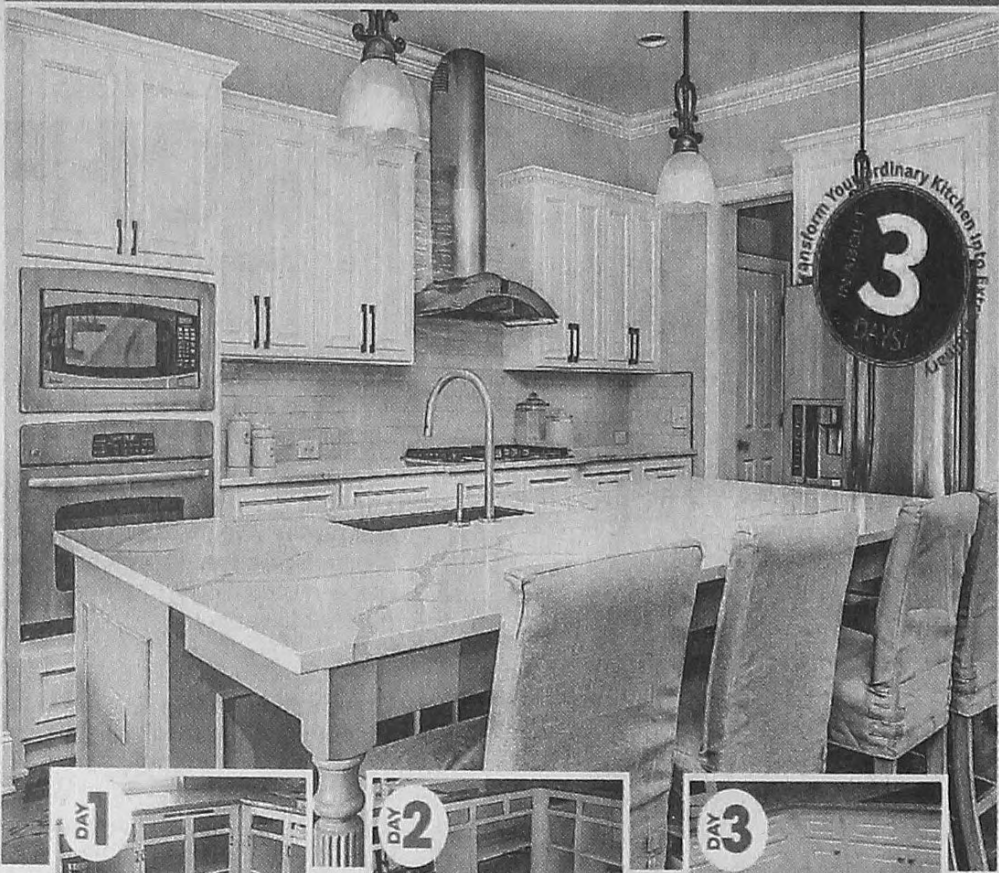
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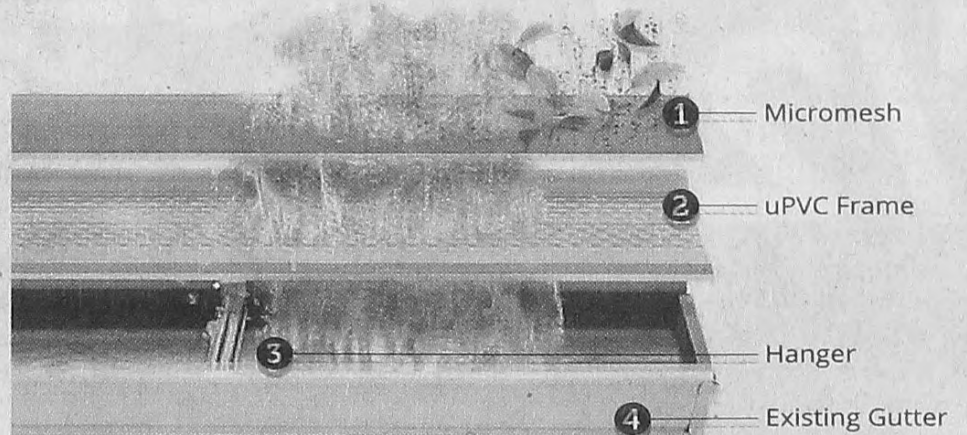
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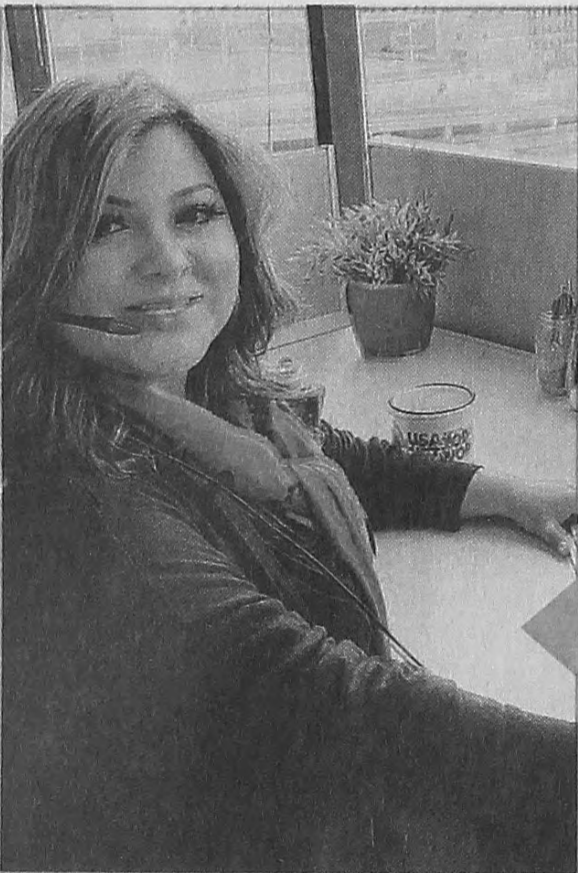
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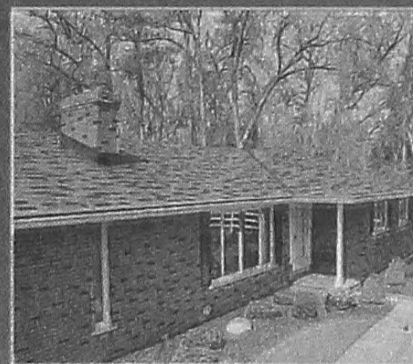
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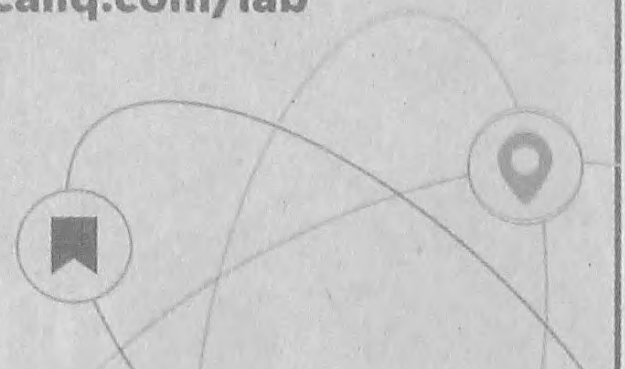
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Link to project: <http://links.pccsk12.com/BMbidopps>

Bid proposals will be received by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools through BuildingConnected.com by **April 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM** local time when they will be publicly opened. The District will not open, consider, or accept any bids received after the date and time specified.

The Bid Proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.127 disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the bidder, or any employee of the bidder, and any member of the Board of Education of the school district or the Superintendent of the school district. Bid proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement will not be considered.

A virtual pre-bid meeting will be held on April 9, 2021 at 1:00 PM at <http://links.pccsk12.com/BMprebidmtg>

The meeting is not mandatory.

The Board of Education reserves the right to: reject any or all bid proposals, either in whole or in part; waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; accept bid alternates; and to award a contract in any manner deemed by the Board of Education, in its sole discretion, to be in their best interests.

Publish: April 8, 11, 15, & 18, 2021

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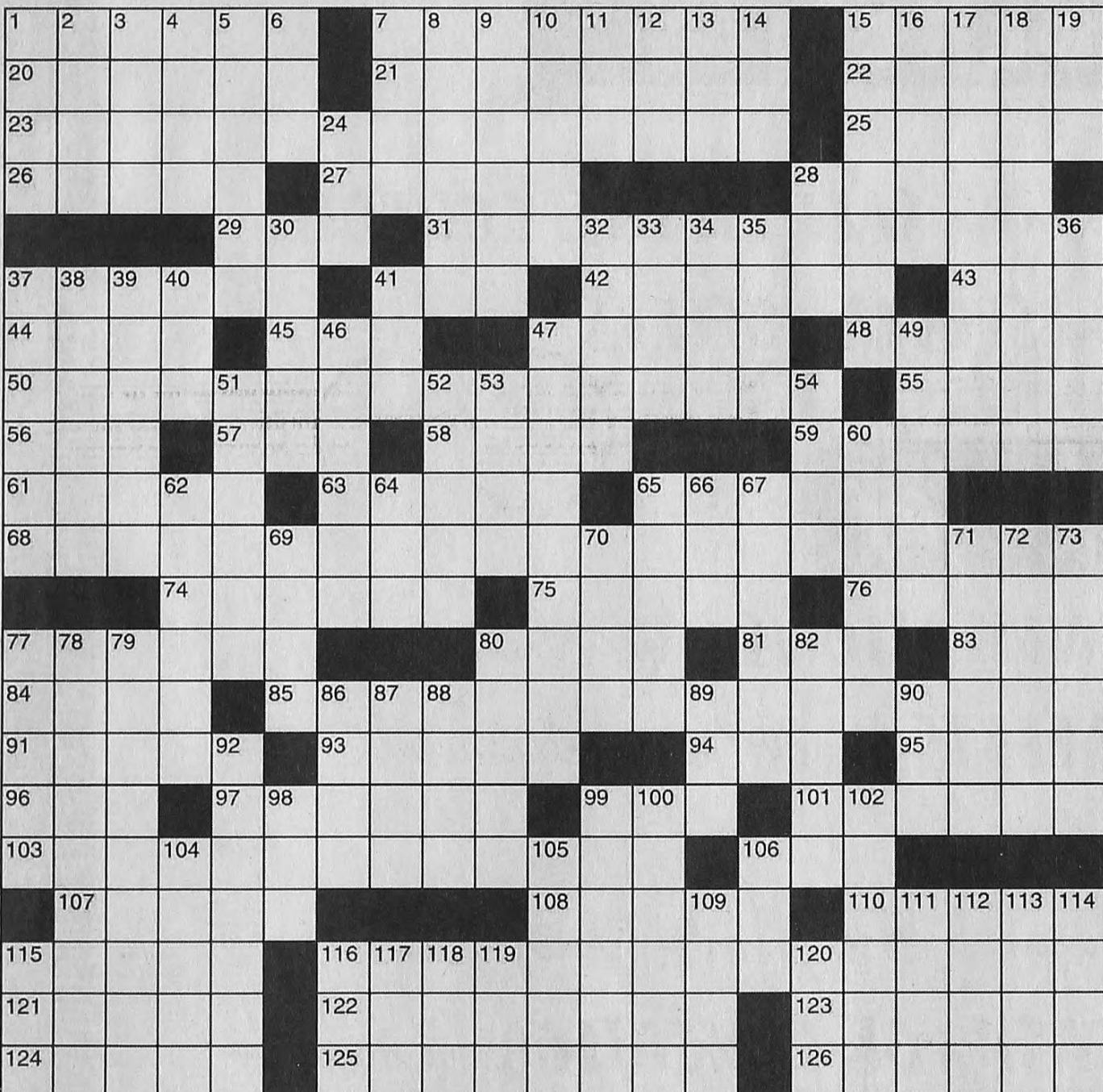
THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

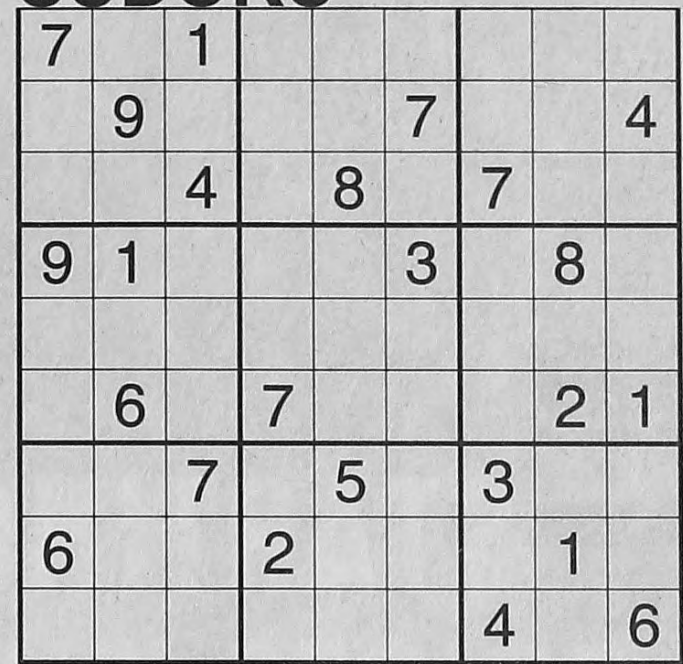
BITE PREVENTION

- | | |
|---|---|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Bases for hair plugs | 1 Constructs clothes |
| 7 Makes out incorrectly, as text | 2 "All the Way" lyricist |
| 15 Acronym for a PC character set | 3 On a cruise |
| 20 Without breaking a sweat | 4 Connection |
| 21 Radio-signal rods | 5 Common toolbox item |
| 22 Flowerless office plants | 6 DOS part |
| 23 Start of a riddle | 7 Bryn — |
| 25 Police actions | 8 Line down a pant leg |
| 26 Serpent | 9 Steps loudly |
| 27 Foam at the top of an espresso | 10 Make a new chart of |
| 28 Low-carb kind of diet | 11 Suffix with acetyl |
| 29 Highway with a no. | 12 Year, in Lisbon |
| 31 Riddle, part 2 | 13 Actor Aykroyd |
| 37 In a new way | 14 Atlanta-to-Tampa dir. |
| 41 Mornings, for short | 15 Many ski chalets |
| 42 Rub away | 16 Rival of Serta |
| 43 To and — | 17 Protested about an injustice |
| 44 Boorish sort | 18 What spinning bikes are intended for |
| 45 Be incorrect | 19 Mag. edition |
| 47 Pigs' places | 24 Killer serve |
| 48 Merit badge earner | 28 Third deg., often |
| 50 Riddle, part 3 | 30 Letter before iota |
| 55 "Silence!" | 32 Boca — |
| 56 Altar vow | 33 Somber paper notice |
| 57 Hoover product, in brief | 34 Territory |
| 58 Second-largest city in Algeria | 35 Wine barrel |
| 59 Wears a grin | 36 Invaders of ancient Rome |
| 61 Lawn pests | 37 Actor Marc of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" |
| 63 Automated PC program that may generate pop-ups | 38 Sweet on |
| 65 Aviating guy, informally | 39 Nureyev of ballet |
| 68 Riddle, part 4 | 40 Guess at JFK or LGA |
| 74 Equine, to kids | 41 Ulna locale |
| 75 Piccolo, e.g. | 46 Summarizes |
| 76 Gomaneci of gymnastics | 47 Big annual Minnesota event |
| 77 Neighbor of Tanzania | 49 Novelist |
| 80 James who played Brian Piccolo | 51 Sitcom, e.g. |
| 81 Letter before upslon | 52 New Orleans sub |
| 83 Two, in Peru | 53 Quick pace |
| 84 As neat as — | 54 Title girl in a Salingler story |
| 85 Riddle, part 5 | 60 — opus (great work) |
| 91 Rattan artisan | 62 Gas in fuel mixtures |
| 93 Iraqi money | 64 "Dr." of hip-hop |
| 94 "—War" (William Shatner novel) | 65 Attacked like a wasp |
| 95 Big name in frozen drinks | 66 Model-building set |
| 96 Noshed | 67 Mimieux of "The Reward" |
| 97 Puts in office | 69 Children's author Carle |
| 99 Ending for Taiwan | 70 Family group |
| 101 Ones running 5,280 feet | 71 Bring forward as evidence |
| 103 End of the riddle | 72 Violent insurgent |
| 106 Party for Biden: Abbr. | 73 Fast races |
| 107 Arab bigwigs | 77 Big parrot |
| 108 Maine university city | 78 Uninterested |
| 110 Texas river to the Rio Grande | 79 Distinctive facial contour |
| 115 Shorthand whiz | 80 Smash-up |
| 116 Riddle's answer | 82 Help desk message |
| 121 Group dialect | 86 Had way too much, for short |
| 122 Outperformed | 87 End of Caesar's boast |
| 123 Online brokerage | 88 Strep-studying docs |
| 124 Eight-item set | 89 Ending with Harlem |
| 125 People feeling hate | 90 Grease |
| 126 Got closer to | 92 North American plant that's a dye source |
| | 98 Fleur-de— |
| | 99 Poland is part of it |
| | 100 Russell — (chocolatier) |
| | 102 Ascribe |
| | 104 Bit of color |
| | 105 Gusto |
| | 106 — good deed |
| | 109 Rorem and Beatty |
| | 111 Poet Pound |
| | 112 Peter the Great, e.g. |
| | 113 Aged, quaintly |
| | 114 Bird feeder tidbit |
| | 115 — -mo |
| | 116 100 cents: Abbr. |
| | 117 Yoko of music and art |
| | 118 Three R's gp. |
| | 119 "Tsk!" |
| | 120 Guys |



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

4/15

Here's How It Works:

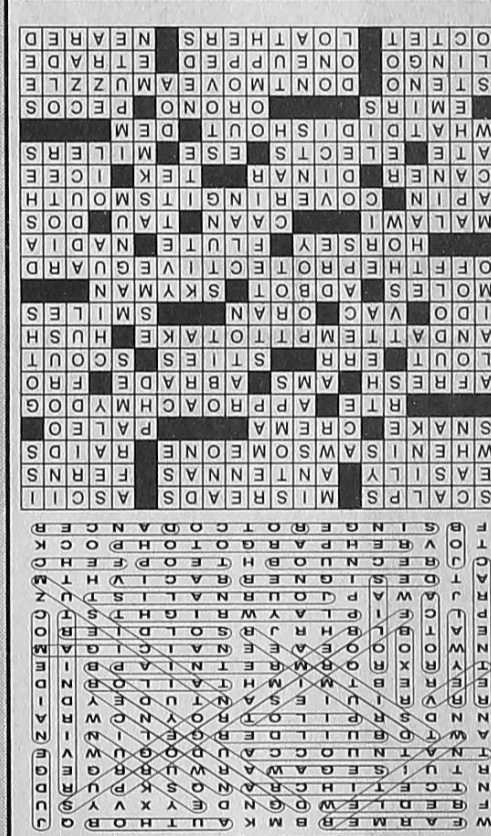
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

WHAT TO BE

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

- ACCOUNTANT
- ACTOR
- ARCHITECT
- ARTIST
- AUTHOR
- BODYGUARD
- BOUNCER
- BOXER
- BUILDER
- CARPENTER
- CHEF
- CLOWN
- COMEDIAN
- DANCER
- DESIGNER
- DOCTOR
- DRUMMER
- FARMER
- FLORIST
- GARDENER
- JOB
- JOURNALIST
- JUDGE
- LAWYER
- MAGICIAN
- MUSICIAN
- NURSE
- PAINTER
- PHOTOGRAPHER
- PILOT
- PLAYWRIGHT
- POET
- PROGRAMMER
- SAILOR
- SINGER
- SOLDIER
- SURGEON
- TAILOR
- TRAIN DRIVER
- VET
- VICAR
- WAGES
- WAITER
- WELDER



- WHAT TO BE**
- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 2 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 |



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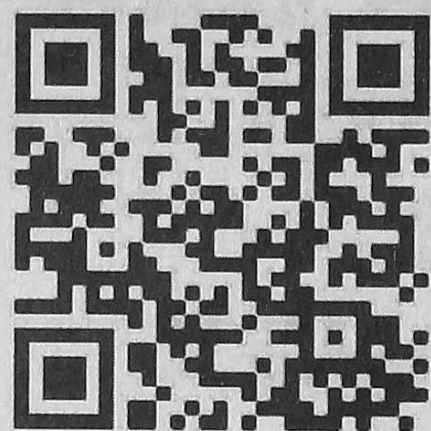
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