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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Bald eagle may have been poisoned

Bird was found injured on Northville bike path

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A normally ho-hum Michigan autumn task — putting away patio furniture for the winter — morphed into a surreal experience for Northville Town-

ship resident Bob Ondrus just after noon Nov. 20.

"I heard a whoosh sound," Ondrus explained. "When I looked over at the bike path that runs behind our backyard, I saw a bald eagle sitting there. It was very unusual because I've never

seen an eagle anywhere close to this area."

Ondrus lives in the Northville Ridge subdivision, about a half-mile east of the Arbor Hills Landfill at Six Mile and Napier roads in Salem.

"I thought it was odd, too, because eagles usually don't land near humans," he said. "It was almost as if she saw me out there and was telling me she needed

help."

When Ondrus grabbed his camera and walked over to the spot where the eagle landed, he realized the situation was dire.

"It looked kind of dizzy when I got close to it," Ondrus said. "Then it put its wings out and I knew it was not good.

See **BALD EAGLE**, Page 2A

Farmington teen phenom sets sights on Team USA

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An Olympic snowboarder competing in big air will fly down a 49-meter ramp that launches him or her into open air. Humans can't fly, but this gets pretty close.

Brian Rice, a 16-year-old from Farmington with Olympic aspirations, says big air is freeing.

"It's like you get a break," he said. "Even though you're spinning as fast as possible or flipping, it's nice to just be up there for that couple seconds and just have real time to think."

See **TEEN**, Page 4A

Brian Rice snowboarding in the United Kingdom in February.
COURTESY OF BRIAN RICE



Company wants to renovate, expand Livonia gas station

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A longtime gas station along Plymouth Road in Livonia may receive a major facelift.

Plans to revamp and remodel parts of the Mobil at 31301 Plymouth Road on the corner of Merriman are working their way through city government. The plans include renovating and expanding the convenience shop and relocating the area for the vehicle servicing area.

"This is the first major renovation to this structure in over 60 years," Mark Taormina, the city's planning and economic development director, said. "They are proposing to convert the existing service bays, which are on the east side of the gas station, to a convenience mart within the existing building and then the addition on the south side would be for servicing vehicles."

The issue was recently reviewed by the city council during its Nov. 22 study meeting at Livonia City Hall. The issue was sent to the council after review and recommendation for approval by the planning commission earlier in November.

Mousaika Issa, who works for the company that owns the station, said the hope to improve the site, especially for those in the area who rely on it.

See **GAS STATION**, Page 2A

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Fresh from the farms, St. Joe's grows health

Kimberly P. Mitchell

Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Saint Joseph Mercy Health System had its grand opening for the second farm location at St. Joe's Oakland in Pontiac earlier this year. After tearing down the north tower on the hospital campus, and checking the land for toxins, the hospital saw an opportunity to expand the farm program to Oakland County.

Serendipitously located where the physicians park, a seed is planted in their mind every day that food is medicine as they walk by the farm on the way into the hospital. Katelyn Smoger, Oakland Farm program manager, says a morning doesn't go by she doesn't have physicians stopping to talk about how they can get this food to their patients. "The food people consume can have a tremendous impact on their overall health and well-being and can help avoid many of the chronic illnesses we see in our offices and here at the hospital," said Fabian Fregoli, chief medical officer of St. Joseph Mercy Oakland. "The farm is a wonderful addition to our hospital campus, one that will give us the ability to connect with patients in an impactful way and give them the tools and support needed to live longer, healthier lives."

In 2020, The Farm at St. Joe's in Ann Arbor donated more than 6,300 pounds of produce to 3,600 health care providers and 1,300 patients from its Produce to Patients program that provides fresh produce from them and local farms. In addition, the Ann Arbor farm distributed 11,500 boxes of Michigan produce to members of the community, including donations to 83 food-insecure families as a part of the farm's Collaborative Farm Share Program.

In addition to encouraging healthier eating, the program also serves as an economic driver for local agriculture, having generated more than \$150,000 for Ann Arbor-area farms in 2020. The Farm's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been simple: 1. Decrease food insecurity in the community by providing fresh produce and 2. Provide a space where providers can come for respite in an outdoor farm oasis. But that's not why the farm was created.

Eleven years ago, the not-for-profit health care organization was looking for a way to think outside the box to improve health and wellness in the community. Rob Casalou, then president and CEO of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System in Ann Arbor, wanted to change the nutrition in the hospital when all he could find in the cafeteria to eat was a cheeseburger in a greasy wrapper and onion rings. Partnering with Lisa Mc-



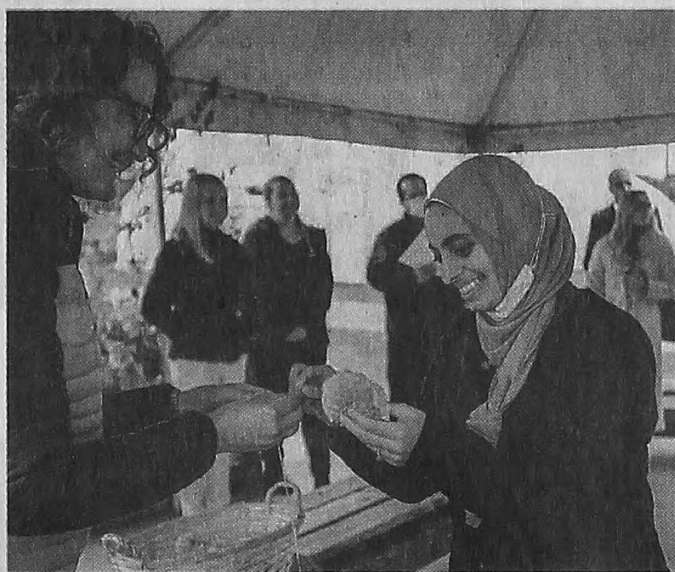
Liz Tylander, program manager, moves crates of fresh produce from The Farm at Saint Joseph Mercy Health System to deliver to the hospital for the Patients to Produce program in Ann Arbor on Oct. 27. PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/DETROIT FREE PRESS



Fresh produce grown on The Farm at St. Joe's is delivered to patients at the Reichert Health Center in Ann Arbor. In 2020, The Farm at St. Joe's in Ann Arbor donated more than 6,300 pounds of produce to 3,600 health care providers and 1,300 patients.



Sushma Jethva, 32, of Rochester Hills, pulls wilting leaves off of kale plants while volunteering with United Wholesale Mortgage at The Farm on Oct. 19.



Niveen Elder, 25, of Canton, a Trinity Health administrative fellow, sews freshly picked marigolds onto a line to make a flower wreath during a tour.

Dowell, then clinical nutritionist, they came up with the idea for the Farm at St. Joe's. "I come back 11 years later, and I cannot believe what people have done," said Casalou, "The only credit I take is providing the resources to get it started, but everything else you see here is because of the great, talented and committed people you see." Access to good food is a basic human need and Casalou said the need is greater than what they can supply and that's why the program is expanding.

Amanda Sweetman, regional director of farming and healthy lifestyles at Trinity Health, said the

farm didn't just expand because the Ann Arbor farm has been so successful, but also because the leadership is committed to it. The hospital went to the community to ask them what they wanted and needed. "And one of the big things that came back was safe, accessible outdoor space, and knowledge on how to eat healthier and access, right?" says Sweetman, "We're in a food ... If you've ever heard the term 'food swamp' as opposed to a 'food desert.' There's plenty of food here. There's McDonald's on the corner. There isn't a grocery store anywhere nearby though."

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Teen

Continued from Page 1A

"It's freeing. You don't have to worry about anything."

Brian has his eyes on the 2026 Olympics, which will primarily take place in Milan. The pandemic got in his way of Team USA's recruitment and the chance to show his face at international events that could have led to a spot on the 2022 team. Brian, who competes at the junior pro level, grabbed second place in a slopestyle competition in Colorado earlier this year and recently traveled to the Netherlands for the European Cup.

"In my perspective, I think getting on the U.S. team is really all about timing and proving your progression," he said. "Right now, I'm making a huge push in my progression and making myself the best snowboarder I can be. I'm taking risks other people aren't willing to take."

When — he says when, not if — he lands on Team USA, Brian will be the first Black American to compete in an Olympic snowboarding event. He primarily competes in slope style and big air events.

He's excited by the personal achievement competing in the Olympics holds, but knows it would also be a way to represent the Black community in a white-dominated sport.

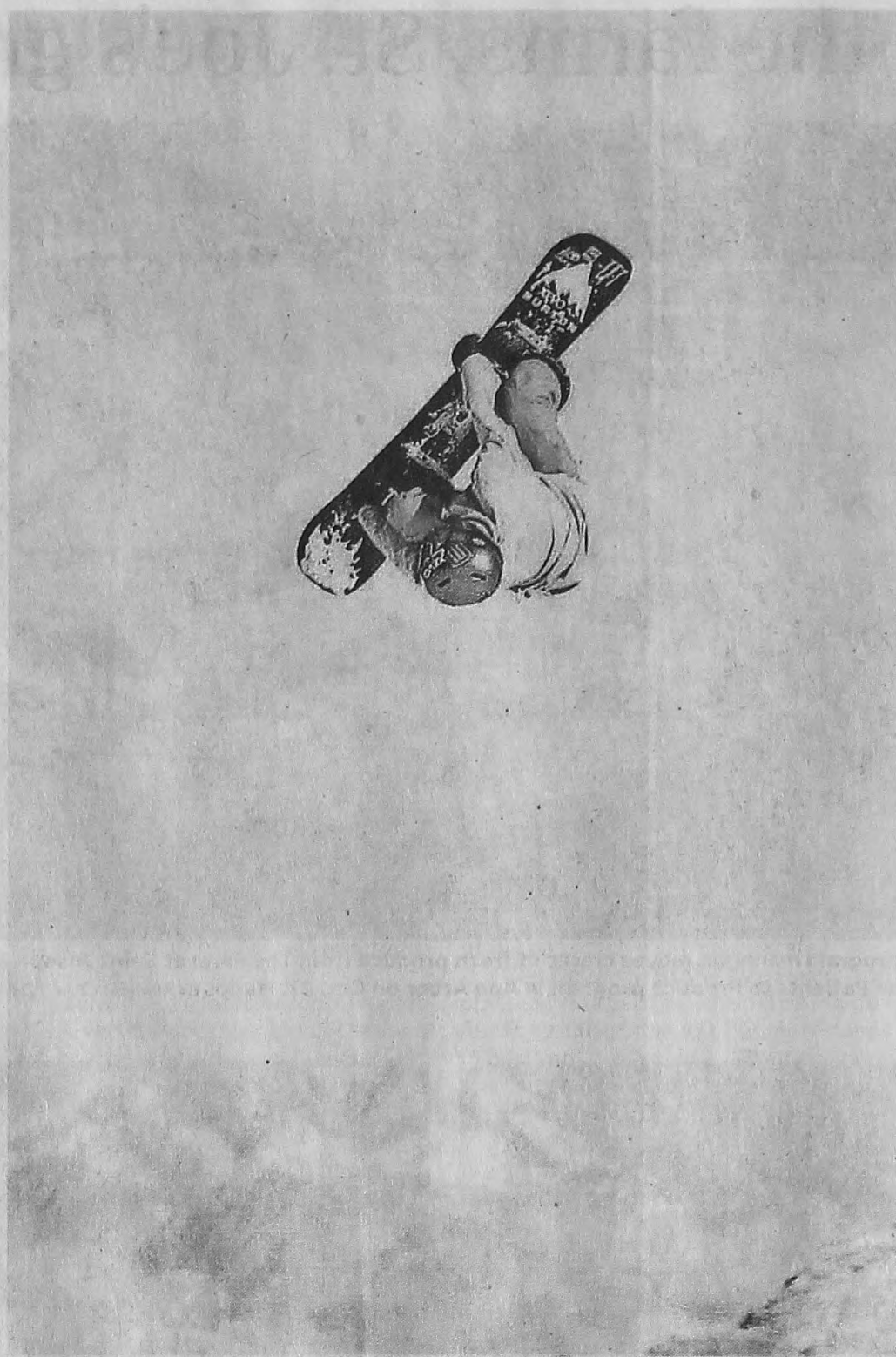
"To me, it's not only a great achievement for myself but it's also one for the culture and people of color," Brian said. "When I make it on the U.S. team, I think it will motivate people in other communities and other cultures to try new things and winter sports."

A snowboard from Walmart on piles of snow in the yard

Brian's introduction to winter sports came in the form of skis when he was 4 years old. His family is filled with active, athletic people, and he spent many winter days outdoors as a child.

"On the weekends, we would take them out to the bunny hill at Alpine (Valley Ski Resort in White Lake)," Brian's mom, Kat Rice, said. "I just thought it was normal to teach my kids, because that's how we grew up. My husband and I would take turns at the top and bottom of the hill, and we'd just let the kids go down."

But then Brian saw a snowboard, and



Brian Rice, 16, of Farmington, snowboards in Switzerland in October.

COURTESY OF BRIAN RICE

it was game over.

"That first season I had seen some really cool dudes going down the hill on snowboards, so that next Christmas I asked for a snowboard," he said.

His parents bought him a starter board from a grocery store that he would take into the yard to slide down ditches and snow piles with. He played other

sports, but snowboarding remained the love of his young life.

Brian competed in his first tournament at age 11, during which time he was still self-taught.

"I had a great first competition and I had a lot of fun," he said. "So, I just kept doing it with regional competitions and stuff that was close to home."

Out-of-state and eventually international competitions led to Brian finding a coach in Nichole Mason, a former Team USA coach. Coaching, invites to recruitment-heavy Project Gold Camp and tougher competition led to Brian getting very good, very fast.

"We truly enjoyed having Brian join us for Project Gold Camps," Mason said. "Not only is he extremely talented on his board but he has a humble, easy-going personality to match it."

'It's his life' making snowboarding priority

Brian, who's known as Flyin' Brian by his snowboarding peers, has spent his teen years competing, gaining sponsorships and improving. He recently stuck a Backside 1,440 Triple Cork and a Triple Cork 1,620, two Olympic-level tricks and became the first Black snowboarder sponsored by a ski resort when Copper Mountain in Colorado brought him on board in November.

In other words, it's starting to happen for Brian. He lives in Colorado part-time and attends schooling online to make the sport a priority.

"It's his life," Kat said.

Brian chats with Team USA in the comments section on Instagram and has met members of the coaching staff. ESPN, NBC News and The New York Times have all come knocking to tell his story, too.

He's the only Black snowboarder competing at his level, and Brian thinks his race helps him stand out. He wants to be his own snowboarder, and his race is part of that.

"I enjoy the freedom," he said. "It's knowing I can go anywhere on the hill; I can do any trick I choose; I can think of something in my head and go perform it. Visualization is a key point in snowboarding for me — It's where most of my creativity comes from."

While he chases the 2026 Olympics, Brian plans to compete throughout Canada, establishing his name internationally. He's going to keep "flyin'" and his dreams will come true soon enough.

"It would be nice to not only compete in the U.S. or occasionally go to Europe, but to be known as a top competitor in another country," he said.

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

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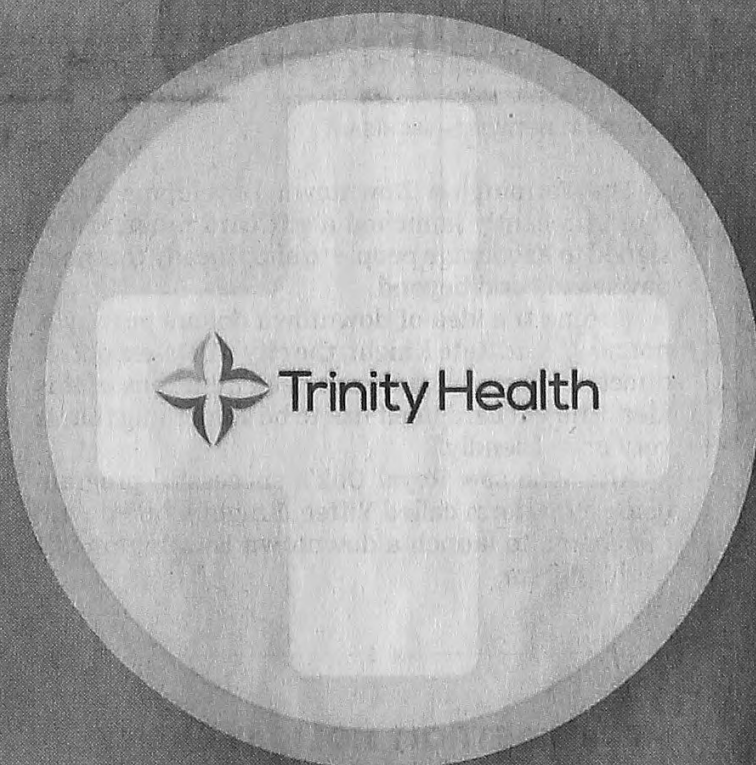
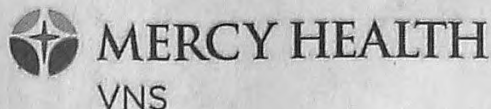
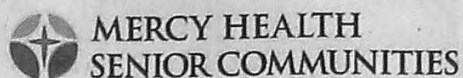
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Milford welcomes back annual Christmas Parade

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hundreds lined Main Street waving, sipping hot chocolate and huddling against each other as they welcomed back Milford's Christmas Parade.

One of Milford's oldest events, going back to the early 1950s, didn't happen last year because of COVID-19.

But these past months of mask wearing, vaccinations and booster shots assured organizers that Santa might once again be safe as the hit star of the annual procession.

"They're out! They're ready to go!" said Andrea Perry of the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce, standing in the cold the morning of Nov. 27 as parade entrants prepared for a festive trip along Commerce and Main streets. "The excitement is high!"

She wore a Twinkle Tour hoodie, promoting the event of bright lights scheduled for that evening.

She also gave kudos to local first responders who provided extra patrols and placed a fire engine at the front and end of the procession, in deference to the recent Waukesha, Wisconsin, tragedy, where a Milwaukee man tore through a Christmas parade, killing six and injuring 60.

Typically, parade organizers place just one fire engine in the holiday string of marchers and vehicles, and the fire engine normally helps lead the pack.

Most folks seemed happy before, during and after the event.

"It went great. It was amazing, a good time," said Matt Flora, attending the parade with his parents, wife and their two young children.

He grew up in Milford and recently moved back after living elsewhere for 15 years. He plans to make the parade an annual tradition for his family, just as it was for him as a boy.

Madeleine Atreo has lived in Milford about 15 years and likes to take her daughter Evelyn, 6, to the parade.

"It's just a tradition to come and get cozy and have fun at the parade and cheer for our friends and neighborhood," Atreo said.

Milford's annual parade normally draws a crowd of 800 to 1,000, which Perry said was the apparent size of the Nov. 27 parade audience.

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

More online

Find more holiday-related photos and event information at HometownLife.com.



Some of Santa's little elves wave to the crowd.



There was more than enough candy for everyone.



Some residents brought their furry friends to the Milford Christmas Parade on Nov. 27.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Obituaries

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Barbara Ruth Kelly

FARMINGTON - Barbara Ruth Kelly of Farmington, Michigan passed away Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at the age of 89. Beloved wife of the late Charles (Dick) Kelly for 62 years; loving mother of Martin (Susan) Kelly, Patricia (Scott) Russell, Lisa (Marty) Brinkman, Cecilia (Dave) Keiser and the late Mark Kelly; cherished grandmother of 11; great grandmother of 13; preceded in death by siblings Orvis Henke, Harold Henke, Joyce Nowels, Eric Henke. Funeral Services have taken place with interment at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorial contributions suggested to the Alzheimer's Association, 25200 Telegraph Rd. Ste. 100, Southfield, MI 48033-7443 or Chelsea Retirement Community Foundation 805 West Middle Street, Chelsea, MI 48118. www.thayer-rock.com

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Forgotten*

Farmington launches gift card program

David Veselenak HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Farmington Downtown Development Authority recently launched a gift card program designed to encourage people to shop locally this holiday season and beyond.

"I think the idea of downtown dollars per say is not new," said Kate Knight, the city's DDA executive director. "There have always been iterations of this idea. The gift card itself has to be something that is very user-friendly."

After she saw Royal Oak's successful program using a platform called Yiftee, Knight worked with merchants to launch a downtown Farmington gift card program.

Those interested in purchasing a card can do so online. There is no physical card; funds are transferred electronically at participating downtown retailers.

The range of businesses participating in the program features a wide array of local shops: Beyond Juicery + Eatery; Tolonen Family Pet Shop; Dearborn Music; Farmington Brewing Company; and Farmington Civic Theater, to name a few.

Knight said many of the businesses she approached about participating in the program were ones that were all-in on the idea.

"They thought it was a no-brainer. It makes it easy," she said. "I think the ease of gifting makes it really appealing."

A full list of retailers, as well as ways to purchase the gift cards, is available via downtownfarmington.org.

METRO DETROIT HOLIDAY EVENTS

The Christmas in **Plymouth** and Mistletoe Market will take place downtown Dec. 2 noon to 9 p.m. Contact Info@downtownplymouthevents.com.

Downtown **Milford** Christmas open house returns 6-9 p.m. Dec. 2 on Main Street. Strolling entertainment, horse-drawn carriage rides, holiday caroling, special promotions and deals at downtown stores and restaurants as well as a visit with Santa Claus in Village Center Mall. Santa arrives at 6 p.m. on a Milford Fire Department fire engine.

Northville's Christmas In The Village event will be 5-8 p.m. Dec. 3 at Mill Race Historical Village. Christmas Market, holiday inflatables, Christmas music and much more.

Fuerst Festive Nights in **Novi** is Dec. 3-5 at Fuerst Park, 45325 W. 10 Mile Road, 6-9 p.m. Friday, 4-8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Enjoy the holiday lights stroll, food vendors, Santa visits, marshmallow roasting, carolers, crafts, and more. Register for Santa visits at cityofnovi.org.

South Lyon's Christmas celebration returns Dec. 4 as the Holiday Spectacular with a lighted parade (6 p.m.), reindeer, ice sculptures, Candy Cane hunt, craft show and more, beginning at 10 a.m.

Holly Days returns to downtown **Farmington** on Dec. 4. Festivities include the tree lighting event at the Governor Warner Mansion at 5:30 p.m. Visitors can take in the decorations, lit-up floats, vehicles, and sleighs traveling along the road downtown.

The **City of Livonia's** holiday parade and tree lighting in back this year. Starting 4 p.m. Dec. 5, community members can gather for a parade from Frost Middle School down Lyndon Road and Farmington Roads, ending in front of Livonia City Hall.

Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan, along with some help from Santa, will light the city's holiday light display after the parade. After the tree lighting, people will be welcome to head to the Civic Center Library for hot chocolate, crafts and a visit with Santa. Learn more at Livonia.gov.

Westland is hosting its annual Holiday Taste Fest 6-8:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road. Tickets are \$25 and will benefit Westland's rotary club and chamber of commerce. Enjoy live music, food from local restaurants and a cash bar. Attendees are encouraged to bring winter items for a clothing drive. For tickets or more information, call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at 734-326-7222.

The **Farmington Hills** tree lighting ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at the city hall campus on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads. In addition to a performance by the Farmington High School Vocal Harmonics, Santa Claus will make his appearance via a fire truck. Hot cocoa and cookies will also be served at the fire department headquarters.

Westland will kick off the holiday season with its annual Deck the City Hall event. The free event starts 5:30 p.m. Dec. 8 at Westland City Hall, 36300 Warren Road. Community members will gather outside city hall to sing Christmas carols and visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. For more information, visit cityofwestland.com.

The **Northville** Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the Handcrafters Tinsel & Treasures Market Dec. 10-12. Highlighted by holiday decor, handmade gifts for everyone on your list will be available. For more information, visit the Northville Chamber of Commerce website.

Farmington's beloved Farmington Community Band will host its free "A Broadway Christmas Carol" concert 3 p.m. Dec. 12 at North Farmington High School. The band will perform a collection of classic holiday songs. For more information, including this season's full concert schedule, visit fcbmusic.org.

Enjoy some holiday music in **Farmington Hills** with a pair of concerts performed by the Farmington Community Chorus on Dec. 17 and 18 at the Hawk community center, 29995 12 Mile. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online on the city's website.



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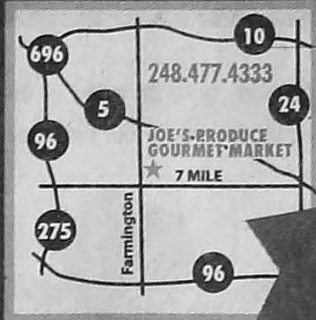
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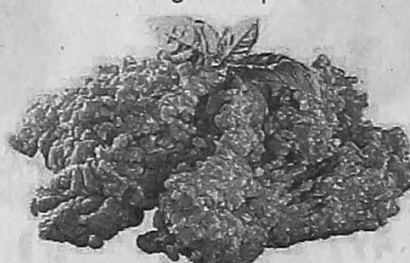
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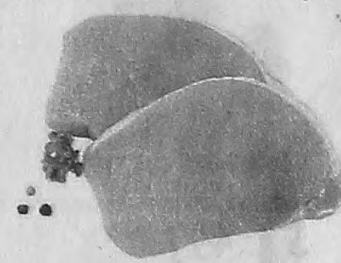
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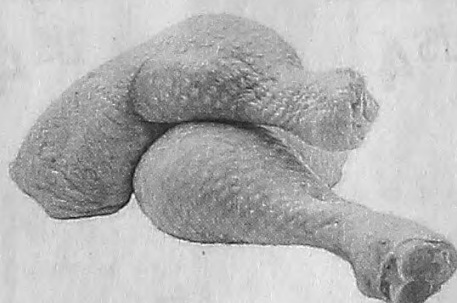


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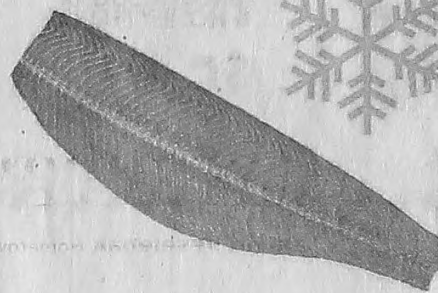
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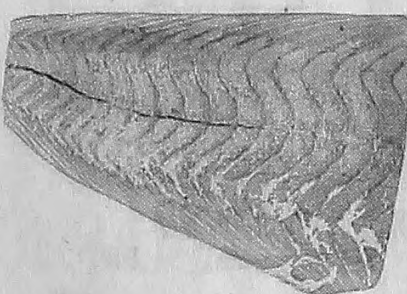
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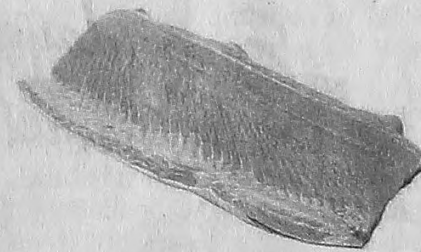
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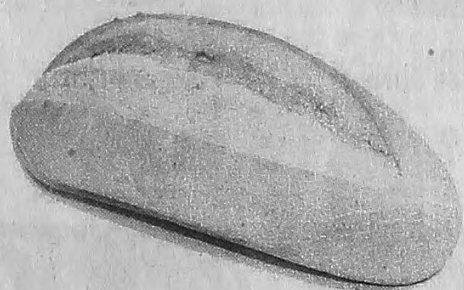
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SPORTS



Novi's Gabe Armstrong, center, looks to poke in a puck against Northville on Nov. 23 at Novi Ice Arena. Northville won, 3-1. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Northville outlasts Novi in early-season rivalry game

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville goalie Dylan Eliason lost sight of the pass.

The senior thought, sure enough, Novi had slapped it in. He had left a good chunk of the net open for a shot. And the Wildcats, along with half the packed crowd at Novi Ice Arena, started celebrating.

Eliason stopped moving, sat stationary in his net and started to shrug off the gaffe. It wasn't that big of a deal, though. Novi was on a 5-on-3 power-play, the first of a pair of two-man advantages. Giving up a goal was almost expected.

Wait, what was that?

A referee behind the net started crossing his arms twice. He was waving off the goal.

And none of the Wildcats realized it. They kept celebrating.

Northville forward Tommy Loebach scooped up the loose puck and screamed down the ice. He even turned around to see if any Wildcats were in pursuit. They weren't.

Surely, the referees were going to blow the play dead. So once he got close to Novi goalie Henri Lettman, he rocketed a shot, and it even went in.

He fell down while celebrating in front of the Northville student section.

But the referees never called the play dead. Loebach's goal, which came nine seconds before the end of the second period, was going to stand.

And it went down as the biggest play of the night. What was essentially a two-goal swing ensured the Mustangs a 3-1 victory Nov. 23 against rival Novi in

Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West play.

"At the time, I saw the ref was kind of waving it off and waving it off," the junior said. "Everyone else was going toward the net. I just saw the puck, and I took it down the ice. I had time to turn around. I turned around and everybody else was still standing around the net, and the whole crowd was screaming. So I just took it. I took the shot, and it went in. Of course, I would fall on the celebration, but it was really a surreal feeling, and it was a great goal for me."

Northville sent 14 to the penalty box throughout the night, seemingly playing shorthanded most of the game.

Loebach's effort made it a 3-0 score. It could've been 2-1 had the refs let

See RIVALRY, Page 3B

TRACK & FIELD

Hartland, Pinckney seniors qualify for nationals

Bill Khan [Livingston Daily](http://LivingstonDaily.com)
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The cross country legacies established by seniors Riley Hough of Hartland and Caleb Jarema of Pinckney aren't complete.

Two of the greatest runners in Livingston County history will officially conclude their high school cross country careers on the biggest stage possible after their performances in the Eastbay Midwest Region Championships Saturday in Kenosha, Wis.

Hough remained undefeated this season, winning the regional race with a time of 14 minutes, 49.5 seconds. Jarema grabbed the 10th and final berth for Eastbay nationals Dec. 11 in San Diego with a time of 15:10.8.

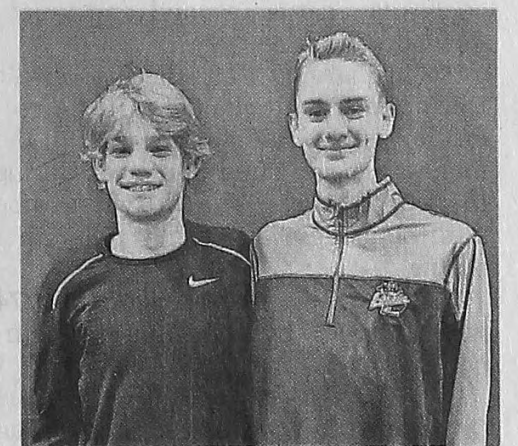
Hough's time is the fifth-fastest ever in the Midwest Region, which has taken place at Wisconsin-Parkside since 1985.

They are the fifth and sixth county runners to ever qualify for the meet formerly known as the Foot Locker Cross Country Championships. Hough won the state Division 1 championship, while Jarema won the Division 2 title three weeks earlier.

Brighton's Pat Hamparian qualified in 1980, home-schooled Sarah Kettel of Brighton qualified in 2014, Zach Stewart of Brighton qualified in 2018 and 2019, and Jack Spamer of Brighton qualified in 2019.

Hough is the only county runner to win the regional, finishing 4.3 seconds ahead of Izaiah Steury of Angola (Ind.) High School. Stewart's fifth-place finish in 2019 was the previous best by a county runner.

See NATIONALS, Page 2B



Pinckney's Caleb Jarema, left, and Hartland's Riley Hough, both seniors, have qualified for the Eastbay Cross Country Championships. COURTESY

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DIVISION 8 STATE FINAL HUDSON 14, BEAL CITY 7

Hudson's stout defense outmuscles Beal City

Wright Wilson Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two teams with a lot of muscle up front and stingy defenses played well within character Friday morning at Ford Field, but Hudson proved to be a bit stronger, winning the Division 8 with a 14-7 win over Beal City.

The Tigers (14-0) owned better field possession throughout the second half and made good on their drive following the game's first takeaway to win their first state championship since 2010.

On the first play of the fourth quarter, Hudson's Nick Kopin jarred the ball loose from a Beal City ball carrier and Easten Strodtman recovered at the 47.

Nine plays later, Kopin barged into the end zone from 2 yards out. The conversion pass was incomplete, leaving Hudson with a 7-point edge.

It was the only time Hudson could convert in the second half against a team that had only allowed 70 points all season entering Friday.

"Their defense was very solid — the second-best in D-8 — they were only giving up about 8 points (per game) coming into this and we knew defensively they were very tough," said Kopin, who had a game-high 131 rushing yards on 25 attempts. "Coach (Jeremy) Beal was on our backs, telling us we needed to run hard, run downhill the whole time, just keep going and keep going. I think that's what we did."

Hudson had three good chances to add to an 8-7 lead in the third quarter, but the Beal City defense refused to yield. The Tigers took their opening possession to the 2-yard line, but defensive lineman Matt Oswald stopped Brendan Akers from punching it in.

Hudson reached the 4 on its follow-up drive, but an illegal procedure call and a fumble pushed the ball back to the 12, where a fourth-down pass from Anthony Arreondo to Ambrose Horwath was incomplete.

Hudson took its first lead, 8-7, in the closing minutes of the first half. Hudson opened up its offense and started running to the outside, gaining big yardage. As a result, the Tigers put together an 11-



Hudson running back Nick Kopin is tackled by Beal City defensive tackle Peyton Sellers on Nov. 26 during the second half of Hudson's 14-7 win in the Division 8 state final at Ford Field. JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

play, 80-yard drive to get on the board 14 seconds before the break, when Kopin followed a block by left tackle Ty Morgan and got into the end zone from 6 yards out.

An illegal procedure call set the ball for the conversion attempt at the 7-yard line, but Anthony Arredondo connected with Ambrose Horwath for the lead, 8-7. Arredondo rolled out right and fired a low pass, but Horwath hauled it in at the goal line, rolling over the pylon.

Beal City (13-1) scored first, with 38 seconds remaining in the opening quarter, after both teams came up empty on their first two possessions.

Quarterback Hunter Miles scrambled

right, had extra time, found two receivers deep and hit the second, Carter Fussman, who hauled in the ball at the 5 and tiptoed up the sideline into the end zone.

But passing isn't really Beal City's forte; the Aggies had rushed for 3,500 yards and 49 touchdowns this season and threw for just 726 yards and eight TDs.

Beal City was forced to air it out down the stretch in order to make up the 7-point deficit, and it backfired on two series.

Bronson Marry ended the first drive when he intercepted an Aggie pass at the 30 and returned it to the Beal City 43

with six minutes to play.

The Aggies had another shot at tying the game with two minutes to play, but four passes fell incomplete, and Hudson was able to get the ball back and run out the clock.

"Field position was big. We had some big turnovers; Bronson had a nice pick for us. Defensively, it was a matter of just trying to not give up the big play, and make them earn every score," Hudson coach Dan Rogers said. "Two great teams, and that's what a state finals should be."

"Hats off to Beal City — that's a mirror image of us — tough kids, and it was a great football game."

DIVISION 4 STATE FINAL CHELSEA 55, HUDSONVILLE UNITY CHRISTIAN 52

Chelsea wins 1st state title with second-half surge

Brad Emons Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ford Field may never see another offensive show like this one.

Capping an unbelievable comeback, Chelsea used Hunter Shaw's 33-yard game-winning field goal as time expired Friday to upend Hudsonville Unity Christian, 55-52, in the highest scoring performance in MHSAA history for the Division 4 championship.

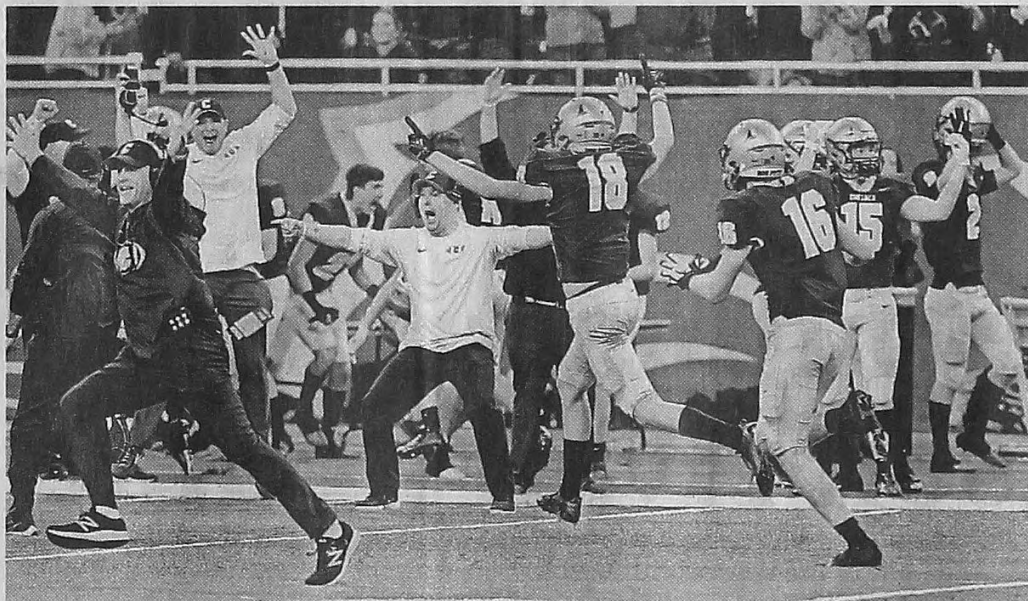
Chelsea, capturing its first title after a pair of runner-up finishes, capped a perfect 14-0 season thanks to the passing of Lucas Dunn, who finished 25-for-36 for 308 yards and six touchdowns. Dunn's favorite target was Lucas Hanifan, who caught nine passes for 135 yards and five TDs. Trenton Hill added 149 yards rushing and one touchdown on 33 carries.

Using its Wing-T attack, Hudsonville Unity Christian broke the MHSAA record for points in a season (803) in the highest scoring state final ever during the second quarter. The Crusaders came into the game averaging 58 points per outing.

The previous points record of 774 was set in 1999 by Division 5 state runner-up Muskegon Orchard View.

But Chelsea was able to match the Crusaders (13-1), whose closest game all season was a 31-point spread. The Bulldogs rallied with 24 fourth quarter points.

"Just staying composed, sticking to what we do, not putting our head down, not folding," Dunn said. "Teams that have played them (Unity) you could see



Chelsea kicker Hunter Shaw (18) celebrates after kicking a last-second field goal for a 55-52 win over Hudsonville Unity Christian and the Division 4 state title. ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

they'd fold and we didn't. We told our guys, 'Just play the game. Don't look at the score. Just play the game and good things will come.' And that's what happened."

In its closest test of the season, by far, Unity Christian went up 52-31 with 10:37 left in the fourth on senior quarterback Cameron Chandler's 35-yard TD run, but Dunn answered with 21- and 29-yard TD passes to Hanifan to cut the deficit to 52-45 with just over 6 minutes remaining.

Chelsea's Braden Watson then recovered a Unity Christian fumble at the Crusaders' 19 with 6:03 to go to send the Ford Field crowd into a frenzy.

And the comeback was made complete with 4:43 remaining when Dunn and Hanifan connected again to make it 52-all on a 16-yard TD toss. It was Hanifan's fifth TD of the game.

"We just kept fighting and our offense is as good as anybody's," Chelsea coach Josh Lucas said. "We proved that tonight. Dunn and Hanifan ... they're two good kids. Those guys were up here all summer long working on stuff. And we kind of found something we liked. The free safety made a heckuva play in the second quarter, but that's what we do all year and we're not going to get away from it. We continued to ride it."

Watson then recovered another Uni-

ty Christian fumble with 2:23 left, only to have the Bulldogs return the favor when Drew Chandler intercepted a Dunn pass with 1:11 to go.

"We were blitzing the gaps, we were doing what we were supposed to do, the ball just happened to be there," said Watson, a 6-foot-5, 210-pound junior defensive end. "We were just playing team 'D.' They started to wear out. They were going both ways. We knew they were running inside. We had to stop it and we did."

Unity Christian gave it right back, though, with a fumble just 25 seconds later, and Chelsea's Regan Plank came up with the ball. A 13-yard pass from Dunn to Hanifan set up the game-winning field goal.

Before Shaw's game-winning kick, Unity Christian called a pair of timeouts to freeze the Chelsea kicker, who split the uprights with room to spare.

"It happened once in the (Freeland) semifinal game — right before halftime they tried to ice me," Shaw said. "And I made that one, too, to give us a chance to win the game. But this was a little more on the line, I'd say. I saw it curve in and I knew it was good and I just started celebrating."

For the game, Drew Chandler rushed for 179 yards on 19 carries, while Cameron Chandler added 103 on 14 carries.

Chelsea only gave up 14 second-half points after allowing 38 in the first half.

"I think number one, our kids had had enough," Lucas said of his team's second-half defensive surge. "And they (Unity Christian) were kind of gassed. You could see it."

Nationals

Continued from Page 1B

After running alone up front all season, Hough didn't take the lead until about halfway through the race.

"This race I feel like was more about qualifying than winning," Hough said. "I always like to win, but if it didn't happen

in this race, it's not a big deal. All I cared about was qualifying.

"It was actually pretty nice (having a close race). It gave me some people to go off and they could also go off me. It just helped to push me through."

Jarema qualified by a 0.2-second margin over 11th-place Krishna Thirunavukkarasu of Westfield, Ind, making up about a 30-yard margin to pass him at the finish line.

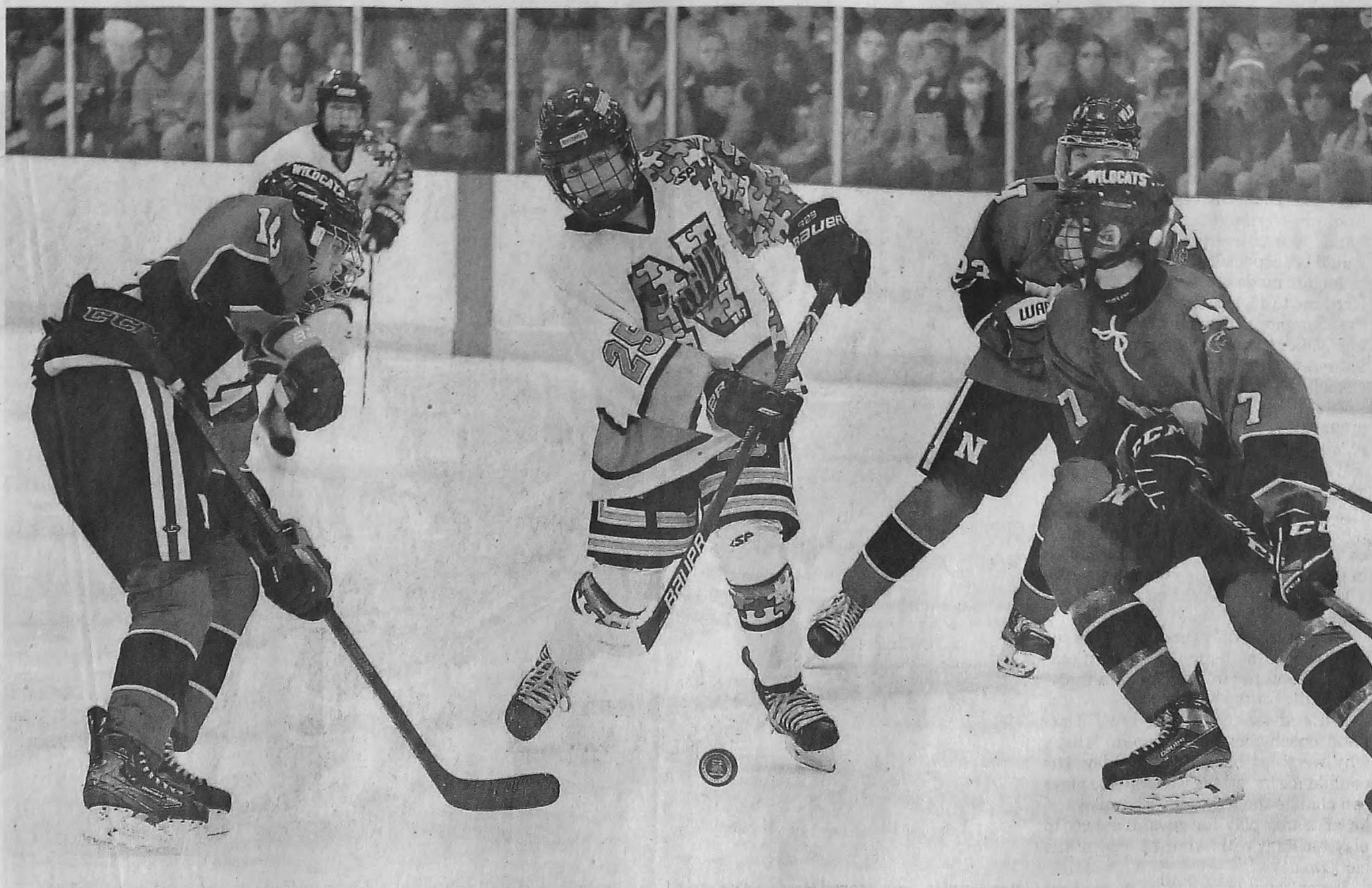
"I started gaining on him a little bit, then I went down the hill and he was turning around to see where I was," Jarema said. "I could tell I was gonna catch him; he's turning around. There's a lot of people yelling, 'That kid's in 10th!' I don't know who it was, but I heard a lot of people cheering me on. Basically, I passed him at the line."

"I don't know if I really expected to pass him. I just knew I was gonna pass

him or pass out trying. Who cares if I get 11th or last? It's pretty much the same to me."

The top five runners broke 15 minutes.

"It was really firm," Jarema said. "I don't think there was really any mud. It was really hilly. There's equal downhills. People were really moving on the downhills. That was a race where it wasn't tactical either."



Northville's Connor Vissotski shoots between Novi defenders Nov. 23 at Novi Ice Arena. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Rivalry

Continued from Page 1B

Novi's original goal stand, it would've been an easy feat for the Wildcats to fight back and knot the score at 2 in the third. The Mustangs needed that insurance.

"From my perspective, it looked like both the ref and the linesman was down there in their positions," Northville coach Gordie Brown said. "They kept looking for a puck. All of a sudden, you see Tommy holding the puck. Obvious-

ly, Novi was cheering, and Tommy goes end to end on a shocker. It was definitely a two-goal swing. You could feel the momentum come back to us because you could feel us losing it at that time. Great job by Tommy for playing until the whistle blows."

Connor Vissotski and William Sherman also scored for the Mustangs.

Novi, which was missing five players due to illness, finally scored on its 12th power play, as Zac Rabinowitz and Nolan Londo set up Isaac Johnson for a goal with 4:45 left.

After the game, the Wildcats were left wondering "what if?" after seeing a

close game turn on a no-goal call.

"That's one of those strange plays in hockey where everyone thought the goal was in," Novi coach Mark Vellucci said. "They didn't hear no whistle. They kind of stopped playing."

"The funny part is the kid who grabbed the puck went down the ice. It's a lesson there that shows you go to the whistle."


Other than that miscue, Eliason played lights out.

Brown named both Eliason and defenseman Matthew Fine, who helped kill most of the 14 penalties, the team MVPs of the night.

"I was really exhausted," Eliason said. "Our team, I had confidence in them killing all the penalties off. You saw us do it. I don't know how many penalties it took for them to finally score. But I was just confident going into each one. ..."

"That's what I'm here for. I bail out the boys when they need someone, and they bail out me. I don't think they really owe me anything. I don't think I owe them anything. I think it was just a team effort to win the game."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for *HomeTown Life*. Twitter: @folsombrandonj.



CITY OF PLYMOUTH
2021 DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Plymouth Board of Review members will be conducting the 2021 December Board of Review and will convene in the City Commission Conference Room, 201 S Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

The regular Board of Review schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 11:30 am to 12:00 pm

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

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

Maureen Brodie, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: December 2, 2021 LO-0000360578 3x2.5

NOTICE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
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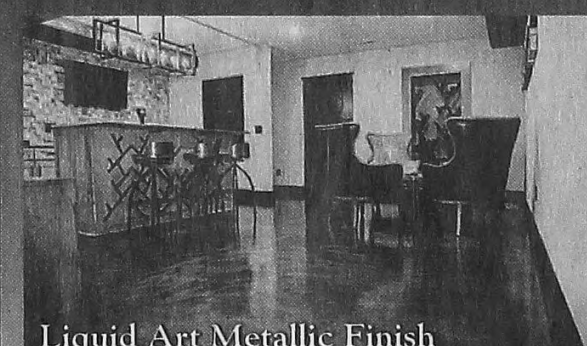
Winter taxes are payable from December 1, 2021, and payable through February 28, 2022, without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. **MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH.** Payments can be mailed, or paid at City Hall during regular working hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. Information on credit card payments is on our web page - www.plymouthmi.gov. After hours, payments can be placed in the drop box located in the City Hall lobby (Church Street entrance) or in the payment drop box next to the book returns behind the library.

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED Thursday, December 23, 2021, and Friday, December 24, 2021, also Thursday, December 30, 2021 and Friday, December 31, 2021. During this holiday season, the Treasurer's office will be **OPEN** on Monday, December 27, 2021, through Wednesday, December 29, 2021, for our taxpayers' convenience.


John Scanlon
City Finance Director / Treasurer

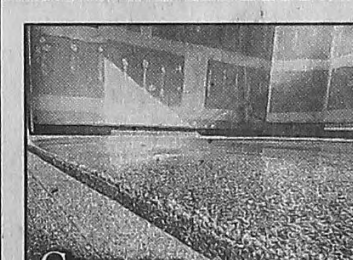
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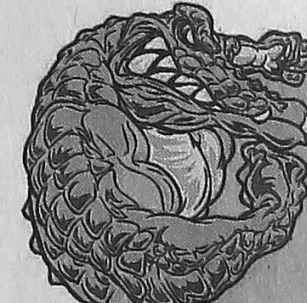
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Hartland hockey extends win streak to win tourney

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — For Kameron Ragon, one of the perks of finally being a starting goaltender is experiencing the Brighton-Hartland hockey rivalry firsthand. It was everything he hoped it would be, especially the result.

Ragon made 27 saves to backstop Hartland to a 3-1 victory over Brighton in the championship game of the Kensington Valley Thanksgiving Invitational Saturday at Kensington Valley Ice House.

"I've always heard the stories about it," Ragon said. "Obviously, a huge rivalry, a lot of fans. It was definitely a surreal experience. Definitely a lot of energy in the building going both ways."

Ragon, a senior, may be entrenching himself as Hartland's primary goaltender after two outstanding performances in the tournament. He made 21 saves in a 3-0 victory over Rockford in the semifinals.

He played in only three games as the backup to all-stater Ryan Piro last season and entered this season in a three-way battle for the No. 1 job.

"He's showing us right now," Hartland coach Rick Gadwa said. "That's why we went back to him today. His confidence in net; the way a goalie plays can change the way your team plays. A lot of teams play for guys. It's easy to play for Kam with what he's done the last two days."

Ragon's performance in net helped Hartland extend its unbeaten streak against Brighton to 10 games since losing 1-0 on Feb. 21, 2015. The Eagles are 8-0-2 against the Bulldogs over the stretch, the previous two games ending in ties.

"It definitely feels good to play in these tight games and to be called on," said Ragon, who was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

The Eagles leaned on Ragon more heavily than they would have preferred because of steady parade to the penalty box. He was Hartland's best penalty killer while Brighton went 0-for-9 on the power play, failing to score during two lengthy five-on-threes early in the second period.

Hartland committed 11 penalties for



Ben Pouliot, who scored Hartland's second goal, is defended by Brighton's Cameron Duffany during the Eagles' 3-1 win.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

22 minutes, while Brighton had six for 23 minutes. Hartland was 0-for-4 on the power play.

"It's definitely tough, especially when a few of those we thought maybe it shouldn't have gone that way," Ragon said.

At the other end of the ice, Brighton sophomore Levi Pennala stopped 20 of 22 shots in his debut in the rivalry. He's been alternating early this season with sophomore Ryan Nickerson.

Pennala, making his second start, stopped Ben Pouliot's breakaway with 4:03 left in the first period after the Eagles had taken a 1-0 lead on Lucas Hen-

ry's wraparound.

"He's looked good in both games," Brighton coach Kurt Kivisto said. "He's got two losses, but I thought he played pretty darn well against two pretty good teams."

Shortly after killing a second five-on-three, Hartland stretched its lead to 2-0 when Pouliot scored on a back-door tap-in off a pass from Jordan Haydu with 12:49 left in the second period.

Brighton's only goal came when Winston Lerch won a faceoff cleanly back to defenseman Mattix McMullen, who scored on a slap shot from the middle of the blue line with 3:26 left in the second.

After the Eagles failed to score during a five-minute power play, they put it away on Ashton Trombley's empty-net goal with 1:24 remaining in the game.

Brighton fell to 2-2, losing two of its three games over Thanksgiving break.

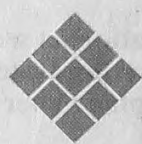
"It's early and we're young," Kivisto said. "The guys are going to be growing. We have a lot of sophomores playing big roles, killing penalties and on the power play. Those guys are going to be better because of it."

Hartland is 4-1, going 2-1 over Thanksgiving. The Eagles lost 4-2 to Livonia Stevenson before winning both games in the tournament.



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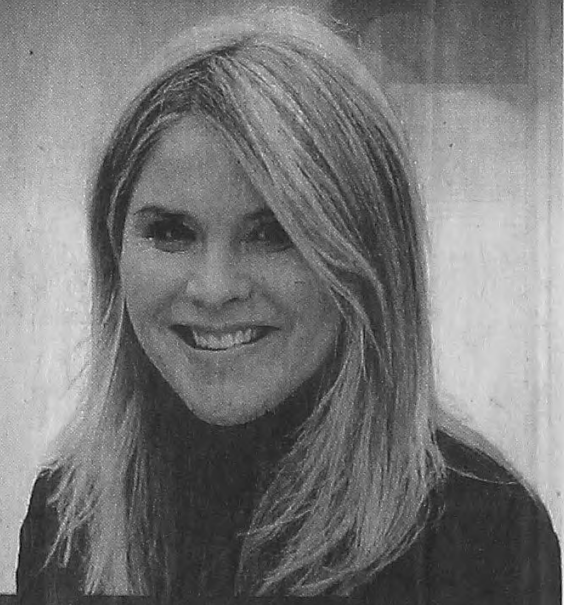
*With the purchase of cabinet refacing. **New projects only. Cannot be combined with additional offers or discounts. Offer includes materials and labor costs. Minimum 100 sq. ft. or refacing purchase required. Does not include demolition, cut-outs or upgrade. Group 1 3CM Granite with Group A details only. Offer expires 12/31/2021



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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

FOLLOWING CONCEPTION

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Vocalist Vaughan | 1 Tanning lotion stat | 38 Move furtively | 80 Yemeni capital |
| 6 Falsely present as genuine | 2 Aids for walking tours | 44 Cry of cheer | 82 Poppa |
| 12 Wizards-Magic matchups, e.g. | 3 Scarlet tanager | 45 Siouan tribe | 83 — -Magnon |
| 20 Brand of spaghetti sauce | 4 Old film critic James | 46 Pos. opposite | 84 Unit of corn |
| 21 Illicit moneylender | 5 Biblical peak identified with Sinai | 47 Safe, in hardball | 89 Source of a purple fruit |
| 22 Legendary lost city of gold | 6 Ending for eye or mouth | 48 Give a convincing argument | 91 Augmenting |
| 23 Carjacking or kidnapping | 7 Fancy word for "kiss" | 49 Brews, as tea | 92 Start to get tiresome |
| 25 Guys playing in central positions in team sports | 8 Little donkey | 52 Pre-coll. exam | 93 Witty Bombeck |
| 26 Whirling, old-style | 9 Round rubber gasket | 53 Itemize, e.g. | 95 Nation within a nation |
| 27 Vase variety | 10 Masc. opposite | 54 Recon data | 96 Golfer Michelle |
| 28 Disgrace | 11 Plaster painting | 57 River of forgetfulness | 97 Hip-hop "Dr." |
| 30 Major Dutch banking corp. | 12 Kathmandu native | 58 Subpar grade | 98 See |
| 31 "I believe," on the internet | 13 Zeppelin, e.g. | 60 Savory taste of MSG | 51-Across |
| 32 Metabolism or reproduction | 14 Not favorable | 61 A beatnik may beat it | 100 Mmes. counterparts |
| 37 Places for petri dishes | 15 Gunky stuff | 62 Partners of poppas | 101 Wood cutter |
| 39 Old Delta rival | 16 Still lifes, e.g. | 63 Disjoin, as a pair of oxen | 102 Software revision, e.g. |
| 40 Actress Anderson | 17 Ike's first lady | 64 Transitioned smoothly | 105 Pack away |
| 41 Haul to court | 18 Utopias | 65 Answers an invite | 106 Violin cousin |
| | 19 Jukebox selections | 70 Honk | 107 Get frosty |
| | 24 Supreme Court's Samuel | 71 Casual shirt for short | 108 Facilitates |
| | 29 Solo of "Solo" | 72 Fun activities, for short | 109 Proportion |
| | 31 "Casablanca" heroine | 75 Airing past midnight, say | 110 Lacking skill |
| | 33 Embrace fully | 76 — Island (Big Apple borough) | 111 Thees and — |
| | 34 Not healthy | 79 Mayberry boy | 117 Em, to Dorothy |
| | 35 Surpass in firepower | | 119 Hurdle for some college srs. |
| | 36 Tabloid VIPs | | 120 "2 funny!!!" |
| | | | 122 Relatives, casually |
| | | | 123 "— a pity!" |
| | | | 124 Casual shirt |

SUDOKU

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/02

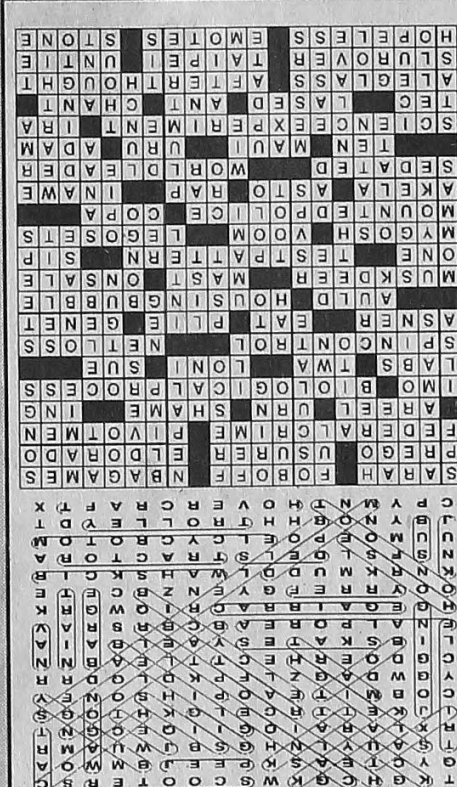
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using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

GETTING ALONG

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.

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

- AEROPLANE
- BALLOON
- BARGE
- BICYCLE
- BOAT
- BUGGY
- BUS
- CANOE
- CARRIAGE
- CART
- COACH
- FERRY
- GIG
- GLIDER
- HELICOPTER
- HORSE
- HOVERCRAFT
- JEEP
- JET
- JOGGING
- JUNK
- KAYAK
- MOPED
- MOTORCYCLE
- ON FOOT
- RAFT
- RICKSHAW
- ROLLERBLADES
- SCOOTER
- SHIP
- SKATES
- SKIS
- SLED
- SLEIGH
- TANK
- TAXI
- TRACTOR
- TRAIN
- TRAM
- TRICYCLE
- TROLLEY
- TRUCK
- VAN
- WAGON



GETTING ALONG

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

#2,067

Average time of solution: 68 minutes

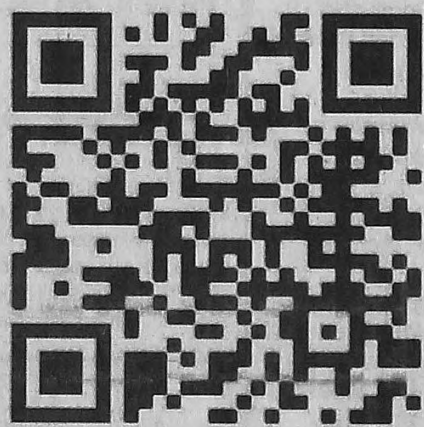
For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smccllellan@michigan.com.

Baking it HOMEMADE

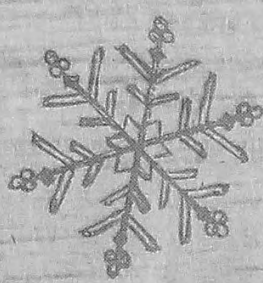
FOR THE HOLIDAYS



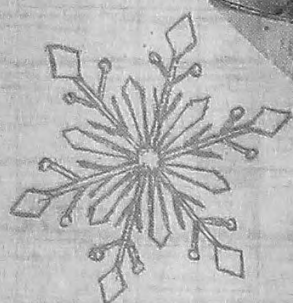
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