

Livonia Chamber to honor difference-makers

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Nominations are being sought for the annual Livonia Chamber awards that will be handed out at the Chamber's annual Leadership and Awards Celebration, which will take place on Feb. 23. The Chamber is looking for nominations in five categories:

1 The Outstanding Small Business of the Year Award goes to an established Livonia-based business with 49 or fewer employees that has a strong reputation of providing quality goods and services, and a record of supporting community causes and charities.

2 The Outstanding Large Business of the Year Award goes to an established Livonia-based business with 50 or more employees that has a strong reputation within its industry, providing quality goods and services, and a record of supporting community causes and charities.

3 The Community Enhancement Award goes to a Livonia-based business that made a significant investment to its property that enhanced the site and visibly aides the Livonia community.

4 Livonia First Citizen Award honors an adult who uniquely make exceptional contributions to the Livonia

community.

5 Livonia Outstanding Youth Award each honors an teenager who uniquely makes exceptional contributions to the Livonia community.

Nominations can come from consumers or business people. Submit your nomination online at livonia.org. The nomination deadline is 3 p.m. Jan. 19.

Also, the Livonia and Clarenceville school districts' teachers of the year will be honored at the event.

The city's Greenleaf Commission on Sustainability is seeking nominations for itsLivonia Greenleaf Award. For more information and to make a nomination, visit livonia.gov or contact Jim

Baringhaus at jbaringhaus@gmail.com.

The Livonia Human Relations Commission will be presenting a company with the DEIB Changemaker Award. Throughout Livonia, there are many individuals, organizations, and companies who have developed and implemented diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) programs and advocated for policies that will create a more inclusive and welcoming community. This award is presented to an individual, organization, or company that demonstrates an outstanding commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in their industry and/or the Livonia community.

Gym

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"Seeing them being excited about learning and finally getting something is the best part for me."

Jeff Styres, who owns the gym, would like to see Kronk's brand become even more well-known than it already is an impact kids all over the metro Detroit region. The gym is also looking to start a paid boxing program for adults.

Raymond, formerly the chief probation officer for the City of Westland, says one of the ways the gym tries to prepare kids for a future is teaching them to set goals. He likes to get all of the students — even the ones who are just 8 years old — thinking about where they want to be in five years. The gym encourages kids to consider college, trade school or the military.

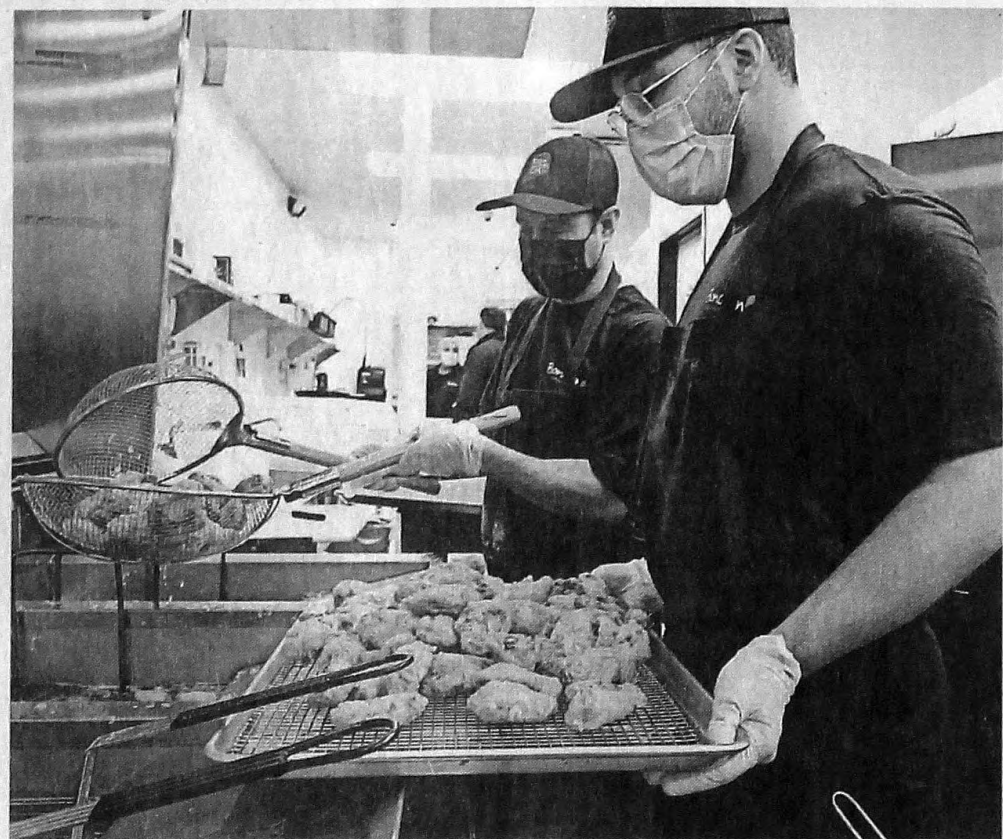
"They need to understand how many choices they have," Raymond said. "A lot of times, if they're not taught to think that way early on then they don't think about their future. It makes life a lot easier if you can goal set."

According to Raymond, those lessons normally translate to more confidence and better grades. Some boxers use the program to get in shape, learn to defend themselves or cross train for another sport.

Many of the program's referrals come from the kids themselves, and it's not hard to see why.

Teens at a variety of skill levels can hop in the ring, duke it out and have fun. A pop in the nose elicits good-spirited laughs from the boxers and their onlookers.

The advanced athletes help out the rookies, and the adult coaches in the room keep things fun and constructive. Kronk looks less like a somewhere people workout and more like a place where friends can gather to do something they love.



Bonchon Chicken employee Kaique Walk, right, preps a batch of chicken for the fryer at the restaurant's Farmington Hills location. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Chicken

Continued from Page 1A

27915 Orchard Lake Road. It's the first of several planned restaurants in the Mitten — the next is set to open in Troy later this year.

The fried chicken wings are a fan favorite at Bonchon, but the restaurant also serves bibimbap, bulgogi, mochi and chicken katsu.

"The fried chicken is always the fan favorite and what most order," Coy said. "However, if someone is looking for something other than fried chicken, our japchae is a delicious alternative with glass noodles, bulgogi meat and vegetables stir fried. It's a traditional Korean dish that our guests love. You also can't go wrong with common Pan-Asian dishes like fried rice."

Bonchon opens daily at 11 a.m. and closes 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, and 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday.

Visit bonchon.com for more.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.



Bill Brown Ford sales representatives celebrate after the Ford Motor Co. named their dealership the No. 1 selling dealership worldwide for 2021. They sold 6,297 new vehicles. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Sales

Continued from Page 1A

in the world last year, coming in second to Brandon Ford of Tampa, Florida.

The distinction won by Bill Brown Ford is believed to be the first time a Michigan dealership has earned that title in several decades, Tashman said.

Dealership leadership said the staff was focused on bringing home the top volume sales award throughout 2021, with every department focusing on the goal.

Tashman said Bill Brown Ford sold 6,297 new vehicles, with many popular models being larger trucks and SUVs. Popular vehicles include the F-150, Edge and Explorer.

Such a distinction is a critical step in showing how metro Detroit continues to be the automobile capital of the world.

"We do things differently at Bill Brown. We're focused on delivering a seamless automotive experience that ensures our customers can move forward on their terms," said Tom Brown, grandson of Bill Brown, in a statement. "That's what drives us. Being named the No. 1 Ford dealership in the world is a huge step forward in our effort to rein-

vent the auto-buying process."

Tashman said the dealership already has its mindset to defend its title in 2022. Doing so requires connections between its workforce and those purchasing vehicles, something the dealership is proud of doing for many, many years.

Having those connections, he said, proved to be invaluable.

"It's relationships between the employees and the customers who put a lot of trust in it," he said. "With all of that, we delivered."

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

System

Continued from Page 1A

being on the same page of music when it comes to information or emergency

management."

The City of Detroit also has started using CodeRED.

CodeRED is intended to deliver time-sensitive messages regarding severe weather, missing persons, police activity, fire emergencies, boil water and evacuation notices and more. Only authorized officials will be able to send CodeRED alerts.

Kahn likes CodeRED's geofencing abilities. If an incident happens in a particular area of Livonia, the city's first responders can notify those in that particular neighborhood.

This CodeRED feature also could be used to send alerts about city workers plowing snow or picking up leaves in certain areas.

"We could even have information about the Spree (festival) every year," he said. "There's just a ton of things that this product can do."

The new system allows more options to issue CodeRED alerts, including



Livonia will be using the CodeRED emergency alert system, which provides residents and businesses emergency updates via telephone, text message, email or social media. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

through a phone call, text message, email or social media.

For more information about the free alert service, residents should visit livonia.gov/136/Livonia-Code-Red. They also can text "LivoniaAlerts" to 99411 or call 866-939-0911, ext. 2.

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Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 10:00 a.m., February 2, 2022. The bid opening will be at 10:00 a.m., February 2, 2022 for the following:

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Maureen Brodie, CMC

City Clerk

City of Plymouth

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‘Jeopardy!’ test part adrenaline rush, part ego-deflater

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Halle Berry, of all people, may have cost me an opportunity to appear as a contestant on “Jeopardy!”

Yes, *that* Halle Berry.
I settled down at my laptop one recent afternoon and signed up for the on-line “Jeopardy!” test — the first step in a journey I hoped would end with a buzzer-in-hand meeting with Ken Jennings, Mayim Bialik or whomever happened to be hosting the game show during my national TV debut.

As a lifelong Detroit Lions fan, I was seriously hoping Aaron Rodgers would be named the show’s permanent host several months ago, giving my favorite (and eternally below average) NFL team a significantly better chance of beating (or at least covering the point spread against) the Green Packers in their twice-a-year encounters.

I’ll take Tough Test for \$200, Ken

Much to my dismay, I learned the test wasn’t a casual mix of true-or-false and multiple-choice questions (true or false: Lincoln is buried in Grant’s Tomb). Instead, test takers are required to type in the answer to 50 questions with a less-than-generous time allowance of 15 seconds per question.

Heck, it took me 14 seconds just to read and digest a few of the questions (**This Victor Hugo work is divided into five sections, including “Marius” and “Jean Valjean”**, for example).

The daunting rules stirred awful memories of high school biology exams, momentarily subduing my excitement and forcing me to contemplate trying out for a less-demanding show like, say, “Wheel of Fortune.”

Heart pounding, adrenaline pumping and palms sweating, I clicked the start button, unleashing the first question, which turned out to be a hanging curve ball for this fast-food aficionado: **Dave Thomas named this chain after his daughter.**

It took me seven seconds to type in *Wendy’s* and advance to question No. 2. This was going to be a breeze, I thought, until the second question burst my confidence bubble: **He was the “Barber of**

Seville” prior to becoming Count Al-vamiva’s Valet.

Nothing like the “Names in Opera” category to halt one’s momentum, eh?

The questions came fast and furious. Many were in my wheelhouse (**Organized crime is the real Corleone family business in this 1972 classic.**); some not so much (**Most human cells contain 46 of these.**)

During one stretch near the middle of the test I was rolling, having successfully answered seven straight. I felt like Steph Curry shooting threes in the comfort of his own driveway.

Who’s your daddy, Ken Jennings? Then Halle Barry wandered along, unknowingly squashing my mojo.

Under the heading “Famous Spouses”, this question filled my monitor: **This actress featured in the X-Men films was formerly married to outfielder David Justice.**

I knew Halle Berry was married to David Justice, I was positive she was in at least one X-Men film and I could picture her face as clear as day ... but I could not think of her name.

My streak snapped, my confident vibe shattered, I struggled over the final 15 or so questions.

Waiting game

Unlike my high school biology tests, I will not find out how I fared on the “Jeopardy!” online test for a while; maybe never.

“If you don’t hear back from us within 12 months of your Anytime Test, it could be for a number of reasons,” a post-test note reveals. “You may not have passed the test. Or, you may have passed, but we were unable to invite everyone who passed to attend an in-person audition.”

I will keep my fingers crossed, but I’m not holding my breath (nor should my Hometown Life colleagues who are hoping to write an article topped by the headline, “Canton man to appear on Jeopardy!”).

If I don’t move on to the next round of testing, I have no one to blame except myself and, oh, one other person.

Who is Halle Berry?
Contact reporter Ed Wright at edwright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.



Ed Wright takes the “Jeopardy!” test in an effort to appear on the game show.
COURTESY OF ED WRIGHT

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Birmingham cemetery may be added to historic list

First Black property owners in city, abolitionist buried there

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Together, freedom seeker George Taylor and abolitionist Elijah Fish may bring more people to Birmingham's Greenwood Cemetery.

They're both buried on the historic Oak Avenue site that could become part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

Birmingham Museum Director Leslie Pielack submitted an application that includes documentation connecting Taylor and Fish to the movement that worked to abolish slavery and move toward freedom for those suffering from its brutalities.

If the application is approved, Greenwood Cemetery would join about 700 sites, programs and research, educational and interpretive centers with a verifiable connection to the Underground Railroad. Pielack could promote the local reference points.

Detroit, Farmington, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti already have listings in the network's national registry. Birmingham seems likely to join those communities.

"Our town also includes the everyday people, the people like the Taylors, who came here to escape enslavement and to find a new life," Pielack said. "The African-American nature of our history has not been adequately told. It has been overlooked or just hasn't been the focus."

"Birmingham has a lot of interesting diversity that we want to celebrate. This is the time. We want to help tell the whole story."

Tubman just small part of Underground Railroad

Diane Miller, the National Park Service's national network to freedom manager, said it could take a few months before Birmingham officials learn whether they can promote Taylor's and Fish's roles in the Underground Railroad.

Miller confirmed that 50-75% of the applicants typically become part of the network. For those that don't make the

cut, administrators offer advice and comments for subsequent submissions.

The network was established in 1998 to achieve a deeper understanding of the inspiring Underground Railroad. Miller said general knowledge of the Underground Railroad is frequently tied to “conductor” Harriet Tubman and Quakers working to help enslaved people get to the free northern states and Canada.

"Both of those things are ... really a small part of the story," she said. "The Underground Railroad was really about the agency of enslaved people who self-liberated and took that journey to freedom. Many of them got assistance. Many of them did not. They made it on their own."

"It really demonstrates the intelligence, creativity, bravery of people who took that audacious step. It really was a challenge to slavery."

When successfully seeking city commissioners' OK to submit an application, Pielack detailed the histories of George Taylor and Elijah Fish.

Birmingham's first Black property owners

Taylor survived a public whipping before he escaped enslavement in Kentucky in 1855 and fled north.

He made it to Canada with the Underground Railroad before he settled in Birmingham. He and his wife, Eliza, later became Birmingham's first Black property owners.

A few years before he died, a Jan. 14, 1898, Birmingham Eccentric article detailed that a brother ferried the escaped Taylor across the river to the Indiana side. He traveled for two weeks using the night sky's North Star as his guide.

Then he decided to travel by daylight because of slow progress. Tired one afternoon, he fell asleep and woke to find two men imprisoning him. He was able to escape but encountered more hardships before finding refuge with an abolitionist.

Upon recovering his strength, he set out again and was attacked two days later by bloodhounds and arrested by their

owners.

"Fortunately, he was taken before a justice whose sympathies were with the abolitionists, and he ordered his release," the article reads. "Finally, after many more thrilling experiences, he reached Niles, from which he was hurried to Detroit and then across the river to Windsor, having been on the road four weeks.

"As soon as it was safe to do so, Mr. Taylor came back."

He married Eliza, who was born into slavery in Tennessee and had to wait until the Civil War's conclusion to gain freedom. She found her mother in Royal Oak after not seeing her for at least two decades, and Eliza married George in 1869.

They died in 1901 and 1902, respectively. George Taylor is believed to have been about 90 when he died, implying he would have been in his mid-40s when he escaped slavery. His wife was about 75 when she died.

Their archived obituaries were discovered in early 2020, which led to their unmarked graves and the exploration of their history.

It's not clear whether Taylor knew Fish, because they were nearly a generation apart.

But, as museum officials learned more about the freedom seeker identified on census documents as “farm laborer,” “farmer” and “day laborer,” they began researching the local abolitionist movement and found out Fish laid some groundwork by helping people understand the abolitionist movement.

"He brought in all sorts of antislavery speakers in to Birmingham when Birmingham was a tiny little village," Pie-lack said. .

Supporting those trying to escape enslavement

Fish was one of the first settlers in the area that became Birmingham. Before he died in 1861, the same year that the Civil War started, he founded the city's First Presbyterian Church and held strong antislavery beliefs.

Politically and financially, he supported people trying to escape enslavement. He worked to organize other abo-

litionists and to raise funds to relocate escapees and provide them housing and supplies in the days before the Civil War. At the time, thousands of freedom seekers were arriving in Michigan via the Underground Railroad.

"This is significant because it is relatively rare to establish such a connection with this degree of certainty," Pielack wrote in her presentation to commissioners. "As a result, the City of Birmingham is in a unique position to bring this history to national attention."

Rochelle Danquah has studied Michigan's Underground Railroad as a doctoral student at Wayne State University and member of the Michigan Freedom Trail Commission. She helped Farmington become part of the network with an application for abolitionist Nathan Power's burial site.

"Oakland County is so important because it was a pivoting point," she said. "When Detroit was clear, they would leave Farmington or areas like Bloomfield or Birmingham and then move downriver into Detroit, or they just continued to send them further north, sending them through Macomb, sending them through St. Clair County."

She considers the abolitionist movement, with its network, a 19th century civil rights movement first and foremost propelled by the freedom seekers and then the "hundreds of other people" who helped along the way.

"It's a movement that involved Black free women, white women, white men, Black men who were free," she said. "It was a very integrated system of the 19th century that's important to being told as an American story."

Pielack is hoping for good news. Residents seem excited about what the museum has been discovering.

"They didn't know there was a Black history of Birmingham," she said. "It's a really great opportunity for us as a museum to tell that story but also to reassure people that there's a lot more that we might still learn. And it is about diversity."

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

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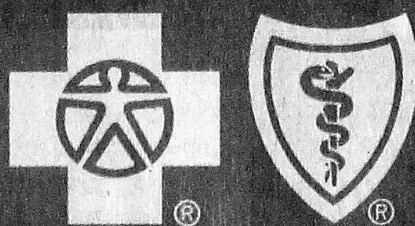
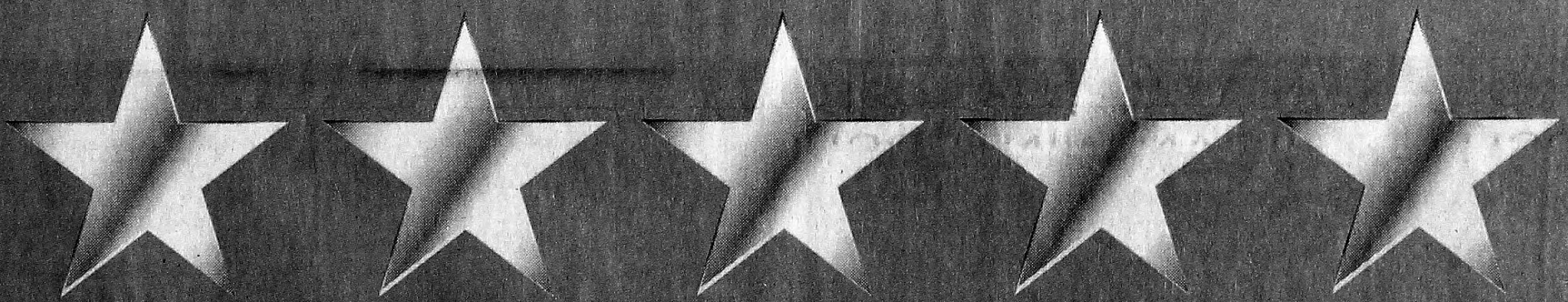

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Community helps family of ER doctor who died

Laura Fitzgerald Port Huron Times Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The community is coming together to support the family of a former Lake Huron Medical Center emergency room physician who died on Christmas Eve. Christian James Mustill, 54, of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 24 after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, according to the Gofundme set up for his family.

Funds raised will help his family recover financially from the loss of their husband, father and sole financial provider. Doru Bali, the Lake Huron medical director at the time of Mustill's employment, said a lapse in Mustill's life insurance is also causing a financial hardship for the family.

As of Thursday morning, the fund had raised \$22,033 of its \$50,000 goal. To donate, visit gofundme.com/f/ease-the-heartache-this-holiday-season.

Bali said Mustill was a hard-working doctor who picked up the most shifts of any physician every month.

He worked on resuscitations on the hospital floor and in the intensive care unit treating COVID-19 and other critically ill patients. It's possible he also re-

sponded to the most resuscitations for COVID-19 patients going into cardiac arrest, Bali said.

"He was really a true front-line hero," he said.

Mustill was a kind, calm doctor with a dry, British sense of humor, Bali said. He was a great colleague beloved by the nursing staff.

"People loved him," Bali said.

Mustill was also a proud family man to his wife and 9-year-old daughter, Bali said. He looked forward to their adventures together and loved boasting about his family.

Lisa Beedon, the hospital's spokeswoman, said Mustill worked at Lake Huron Medical Center from April 2016 to March 2021.

"Dr. Mustill was a devoted emergency department physician who cared for many members of our community while on staff at Lake Huron Medical Center," said Jose Kottoor, the hospital's CEO. "Our hearts are broken for his family, our staff and the community, as this is a tremendous loss to all who knew him."

Bali said the contract between the hospital and the emergency physician group that employed Mustill was terminated, causing his employment to end.



Lake Huron Medical ER physician Christian Mustill with other Lake Huron Medical employees. Mustill died Dec. 24. LAKE HURON MEDICAL CENTER SPOKESWOMAN LISA BEEDON

New Year, new name for downtown Birmingham restaurant

Susan Selasky Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Downtown Birmingham's popular eatery Hazel, Ravines & Downtown is starting out the New Year with a new name.

Co-owners Beth Hussey and Emmele Herrold announced on Monday the restaurant will now be known simply as Hazel's.

Its name change came about because the owners and staff, as well as guests, often called it "Hazel's."

The owners said they've also refreshed the look and feel to match the shorter name.

Known for bringing a rotating, seasonal seafood-centric menu for nearly two years, the restaurant first opened in

2018. It originally was named after three Birmingham neighborhoods that converge at Maple and Woodward, where Hazel's is located. On the menu, each of those neighborhoods was represented with different cuisines.

The idea for a menu centered around seafood, namely lobster and called "Hazel's Lobster Pound," began in summer 2019.

That menu was a hit and had phones ringing off the hook for reservations and its lobster rolls. What followed was Hazel's Crab Trap and the eventual transformation to a focus on bringing in fresh seafood.

Hussey and Herrold first based the seafood-focused menus on their travels to the East Coast as well as connections with purveyors for their raw bar. Hazel's

seasonal lobster and crab promotions proved so popular that the downtown Birmingham eatery decided to focus its menu on fresh seafood year-round.

Hazel's Crab Trap, the eatery's seasonal winter menu, returns Thursday, replacing its Pacific Northwest-themed offerings. The menu of in-season seafood favorites includes fresh-caught stone crab claws to grouper. Stone crab claws are a prized Florida delicacy. The stone crab claw season began in October and runs through May. Stone crabs are sought out only for their claws with meat that is known for being decadent and delicately sweet. When harvesting only one claw is removed from the stone crab and the stone crab is returned to the water where it will regenerate its lost claw.

Other menu items are the grouper Reuben, New Orleans-style barbecue shrimp, conch fritter, alligator bites, and spicy gumbo. Hazel's "Crazy Crabganza" includes a 3-pound mix of crab — stone, king, and snow crab.

Hazel's raw bar will still be fully stocked and its nonseafood menu mainstays, such as the Token burger and fried chicken, will remain on the menu. Its kids menu, "Little Buoys and Gulls" features items like fried coconut shrimp and mac 'n' cheese.

Hazel's, 1 Peabody Street in Birmingham, is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday for dine-in or curbside carryout. Its current website, hrd.kitchen, will eventually redirect to a new website, eatathazels.com.

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Obituaries

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

Claudette Bosscawen

HOLLY - Claudette J. Bosscawen, 84, passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 19, 2021, in Holly, Michigan shortly after time spent with her 4 children. She was born on February 6, 1937, to Claudis Chappel and Adrian (Smith) Chappel in Athens, Ohio. She graduated from Ohio University where she was a member of the Phi Beta Phi sorority. She married Donald Bosscawen in 1957 then lived in Allen Park and Farmington Hills, Michigan where she and Don raised their 4 children. Claudette worked for the Farmington School District until she retired in 1996. They retired to The Villages of Lady Lake, Florida where she entertained with her tap dancing in the "Way-Way Off Broadway" group and played golf with friends. Later, they moved to Boynton Beach, Florida to be closer to son, Bryan. Claudette was preceded in death by her husband Don. She is survived by her 4 children: Lynn (Karl) Braun of Bavon, Virginia; Greg (Sharon) Bosscawen of Benicia, California; Bryan (Gail) Bosscawen of Boynton Beach, Florida; and Michelle (Chris) Maguire of Holly, Michigan. She is also survived by 7 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter. The most important thing to Claudette was family. She cherished spending time together at Christmas and at the family lake house in Weidman, Michigan. She leaves behind a legacy of laughter, love, and the closeness of family. She now rests in the loving arms of her God. Services will be at Hughes-Moquin Funeral Home in Athens, Ohio Saturday, January 8, 2022. Visitation will be from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM with a service at 1:00 PM. Burial will be at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Athens, Ohio. Friends and family may sign the online guestbook or leave a message of sympathy at www.hughesmoquinfuneralhome.com.



Patty Jo (Fischer) Laveroni

HINESVILLE, GA - Patricia Joan "Patty Jo" (Fischer) Laveroni, 89, died Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at her residence.

She was born October 30, 1932 in Coshocton to the late Franklin John and Lucille Jessie (Smith) Fischer.

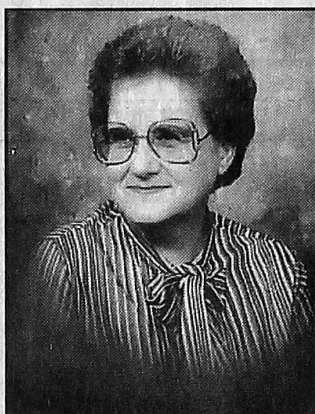
She was a 1950 graduate of Warsaw High School and a retired school teacher.

She is survived by her daughter, Lona Laveroni of Hinesville, GA and a brother, Don E. (Carol) Fischer of Washington Court House, OH, and nieces, nephews, & cousins.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a daughter, Lora Laveroni, and a brother, Lynn R. Fischer.

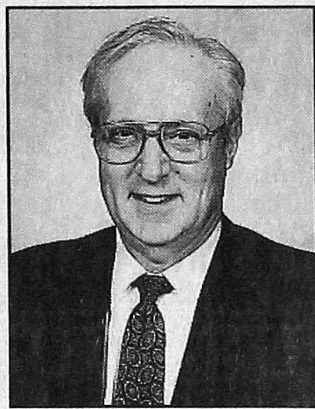
Funeral services will be held Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fischer Funeral Home in Warsaw with Pastor Dairel Kaiser officiating. Burial will follow in the Valley View Cemetery at Warsaw. Visitation is one hour prior to the service on Tuesday. www.fischerfuneralhome.com

The family asks that those attending to please wear masks.



Richard Boeye Fox

FERRYSBURG/SPRING LAKE - Richard Boeye Fox, 86, of Ferrysburg/Spring Lake, MI. Passed away surrounded by his family the evening of December 24, 2021. Son of the late Henry A. Sr and Laura Rooms Fox. Richard leaves behind his loving wife of 60 years, Karen Z. Fox, daughters, Laurabeth (Antonio) Monti and Johanna (Mara) Fox and son Timothy R. (Cristina) Fox, two granddaughters and a great grandson, siblings Mary Joy (Bill) Keane, Tom (Claire) Fox, Henry A Fox, Jr, and predeceased by brother, Patrick G. Fox. After graduating from the University of Notre Dame, Richard joined the E. W. Bliss Company of Salem, Ohio for three years. Then worked at Great Lakes Steel in Detroit. For 37 years, he advanced through the ranks of management there and at the parent company, National Steel. First, he promoted the new high strength steel products to companies across the country. His last role was Director of Corporate Quality Systems where he led all five divisions to their first quality certifications. Upon retirement in 1998 the Foxes moved to the Tri-Cities where Richard started West Shore Quality Associates working as a consultant across the state. Locally he volunteered with many groups including SCORE, Chamber of Commerce (led a manufacturers' think tank), wrote the Mission Statement for the Grand Haven Historical Society, and invented a toolbox to help entrepreneurs start their own businesses. He served on the Ferrysburg Zoning Commission and as its Chair. Richard also wrote the Ship's Log column for the GH Tribune for fourteen years. He collected antique banks, maritime memorabilia, and Coast Guard keepsakes. Richard was a member of the Detroit Maritime Historical Society, Association of Iron and Steel Engineers, Society of Automotive Engineers, ASM International and American Society for Quality. He served on the board of the Muskegon Section of the American Society for Quality, the Kitchel-Lindquist Dune Preserve Committee, and belonged to the Spring Lake Rotary Club. Private Service. In lieu of flowers please make donations to the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN and First Presbyterian Church, Grand Haven, MI. Please visit www.klaassenfuneralhome.com to sign Richard's online guestbook.



Catherine (Cay) M. McCarthy

-- Catherine (Cay) Mary McCarthy, PLEASE NOTE UPDATED SERVICE TIMES. Visitation on Friday, January 7th from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. with a rosary 6:00 p.m. at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 32515 Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak, Michigan. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at Gesu Catholic Church, 17180 Oak Drive, Detroit, Michigan 48221, on Saturday, January 8th at 10:00 a.m. Internment to follow at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, Michigan.

View obituary at AJDesmond.com

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Jennifer Lee Thimm

PLYMOUTH - Jennifer Thimm (Juhnke), age 55, passed away peacefully December 19, 2021. Her husband David, son Aidan (26) and daughter Elana (23) (her little ducks) were by her side holding her when she passed - and she wouldn't have wanted it any other way. To everyone that knew her, it was unfathomable that the person that taught us so much about health and nutrition could be taken from us by cancer. She raised an amazing, strong and healthy family; we are all thankful for the time we shared with her. Jennifer had a fiery side, a passion for her beliefs, but could share a great conversation with anyone as she did for over 37 years with her many clients at Mario-Max and Vanity Salons. Jennifer loved fashion and great style. She truly enjoyed doing the perfect cut, applying just the right color, and creating so many updo's that made her clients feel special. We will all miss Jennifer the most for her smile and laughter. "Good Time Jenny" made us all laugh by breaking into a dance, rocking out a tune and expressing her passion for life in so many ways. She would say "everyone is responsible for your own good time" and she infected us with her joy so that it was impossible not to join in. Jennifer would also lead the charge and announce, "we're going for a walk" and get everyone to join; we're all glad we did. With giving all that energy, Jennifer also enjoyed her downtime. Whether sitting by a fire with a glass of wine; making amazing dinners; hanging out at New Smyrna Beach, FL; reading a good book; or under a blanket watching her favorite comedies. The greatest lesson Jennifer learned and tried to share with many is that there are only two choices; to do something out of fear or love. Always choose LOVE. In lieu of flowers, we ask that tributes be made in her memory to the Michigan Humane Society (michiganhumane.org). Jennifer's little Jackie gave her more joy and kisses than any one dog could give. They're now walking together again. A Celebration of Life will be held on January 9th, 2022, at Zerbo's Bar & Bistro, 3000 E West Maple Rd., Commerce Twp, MI 48390, from 1:00 - 5:00pm. To share a memory, please visit vermeulenfh.com

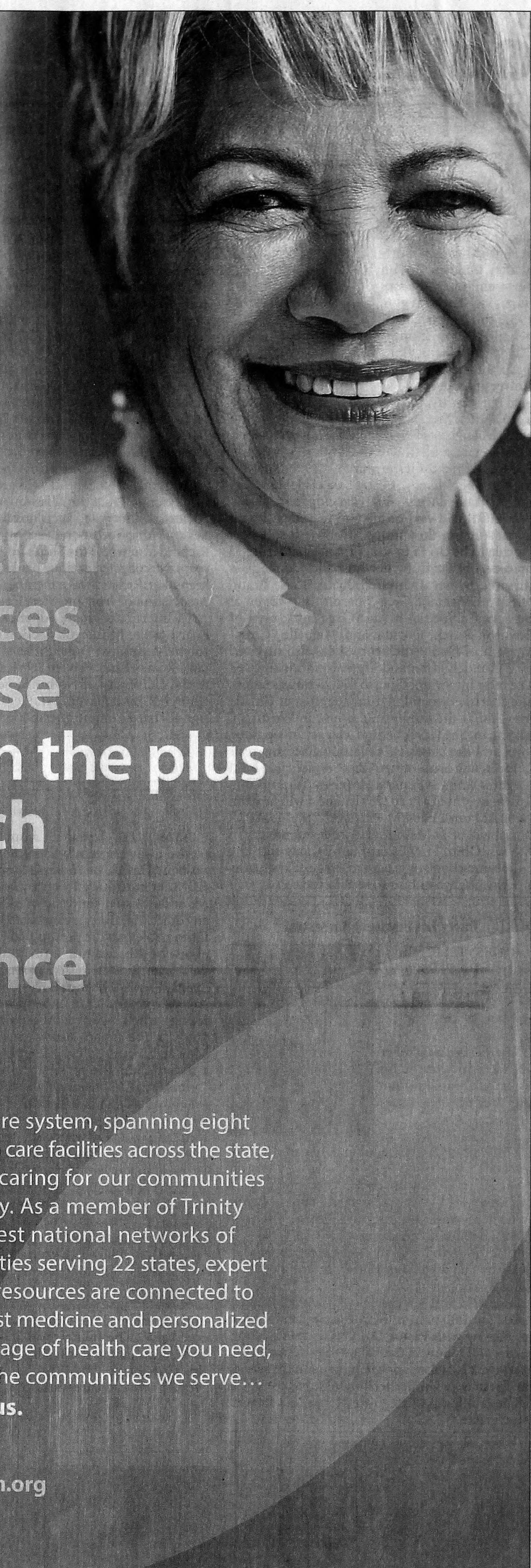
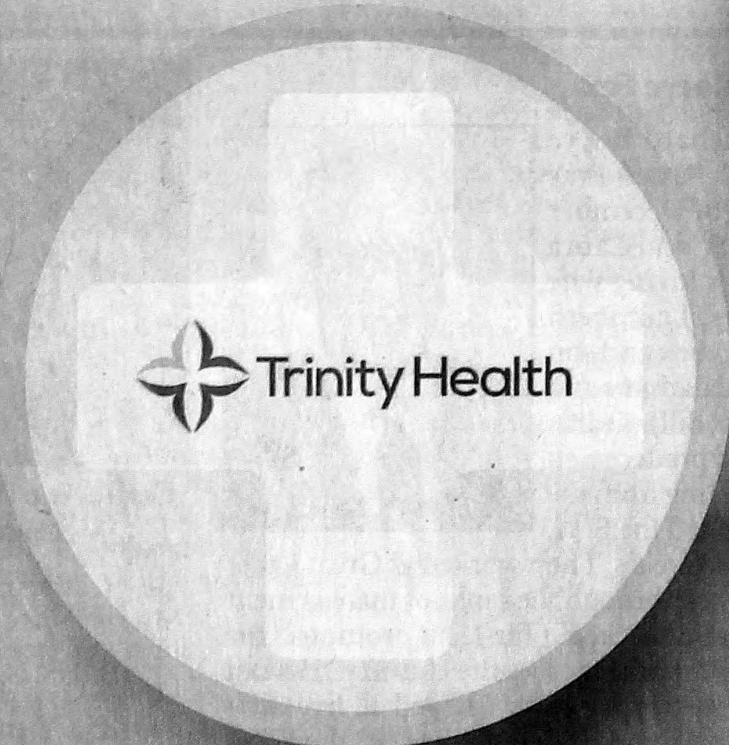


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SPORTS

Sela Lefler plays tough defense as Raiders down Bloomfield Hills, 61-33

The junior scored 22 points as the Raiders faced a Bloomfield Hills squad that was wearing practice uniforms

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Sela Lefler isn't even playing the same sport as the rest of the girls bas-

ketball players.
The North Farmington junior is more like an NFL player.
She looks like former safeties Brian Dawkins or Ed Reed when she reads passing lanes, jumps them and comes

up with takeaways that lead to transition buckets for the Raiders.
Or she can be physical like defensive ends or outside linebackers.
Twice during the Raiders' 61-33 victory over Bloomfield Hills, she got up in the face of a point guard, ripped loose the ball with her brute strength and took off for layups at the other end.

NFL statisticians call those strip-sacks, the same things that have made Michigan defensive linemen Aidan Hutchinson and David Ojabo future top draft picks this spring.
Maybe Lefler should consider trying out for the Raiders' football team.

See RAIDERS, Page 4B



Franklin's Cordel Mabins rushes against Stevenson during a Kensington Lake Activities Association football game on Friday, Oct. 8, 2021. DAVE DONOHER/SPECIAL TO HOMETIMELIFE.COM

Hometown Life's All-Area football team: Who was metro Detroit's best?

The votes are in! See where your favorite player landed on our first-ever fan-voted All-Area team

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

And the votes are in!
Throughout December, Hometown

Life asked its readers to vote for the top football players at each individual position.
Hundreds of players were nominated by area coaches. We have finally tallied the results and broke them down to de-

termine who has made our 2021 All-Hometown Life football team, which features only the best of the best from around metro Detroit.
The top vote-getters earned First Team honors, followed by the second-most vote-getters making the Second Team, the third-most earning Honorable Mention honors and all the rest appearing as Special Mentions.

Note: Don't see players from your favorite team on the team? The following schools did not nominate players for the polls: Birmingham Brother Rice, Birmingham Detroit Country Day, Bloomfield Hills, North Farmington, Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Wayne Memorial and Westland John Glenn.

See FOOTBALL, Page 2B

Farmington limits turnovers, halts Port Huron's comeback attempt

A 15-4 run, which saw Tony Tolbert go 6 of 6 from the foul line, helped the Falcons get past the Big Reds

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Five weeks ago, Farmington coach Derrick McDowell would've been wor-

ried about how his boys basketball team was going to respond.
Port Huron's Conner Rosenau strong-armed a steal loose near halfcourt and then finished at the other end with a hard-fought contested layup with 6:28

left.
Disgusted, McDowell called a timeout to halt a 6-2 run that helped the Big Reds trim their deficit to just 31-24, and Port Huron's bench erupted with cheers as it celebrated Rosenau going into the intermission.
"My message to them was to quit being lackadaisical with the ball and move the ball," McDowell said he told the Fal-

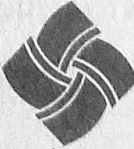
cons in the timeout.
Farmington lost four of its five games in December. Turnovers were the culprit.
Monday night was a chance to change that.
So the Falcons took care of business on offense down the stretch, played

See TURNOVERS, Page 3B

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South Lyon kicker Alex Stoyanovich accounted for the Lions' only points of the first half in a field goal. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Football

Continued from Page 1B

The below list is how our All-Area team shook out for this past season.

First Team Offense

- QB - Dominic Pesci, Farmington (Junior, 6-foot-6, 210 pounds)
- RB - Robert Jones, Salem (Junior, 6-foot-1, 205 pounds)
- WR - Jack Ellis, Lutheran Westland (Senior)
- OT - Owen Hawley, Livonia Franklin (Junior, 6-foot-6, 275 pounds)
- OT - Gavin Miller, Farmington (Junior, 6-foot-4, 280 pounds)
- OG - Lawrence Nash-Martin, Livonia Churchill (Senior, 6-foot-3, 260 pounds)
- OG - Jamire Hall, Redford Union (Junior, 6-foot-2, 285 pounds)
- C - Caleb Lebar, Livonia Churchill (Junior, 6-foot-2, 265 pounds)

First Team Defense

- DT - Terence Williams, Livonia Clarenceville (Senior)
- DE - Dillon Gacki, White Lake Lakeland (Senior, 6-foot-1, 240 pounds)
- DE - Andre Evans, Redford Union (Senior, 6-foot-3, 250 pounds)
- OLB - Colin Goins, South Lyon (Senior, 5-foot-9, 185 pounds)
- OLB - Paul Davenport, Lutheran Westland (Senior, 5-foot-6, 145 pounds)
- MLB - Quincy Salter, Livonia Stevenson (Senior, 6-foot-2, 215 pounds)
- MLB - John Kersh, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (Junior, 6-foot-3, 220 pounds)
- CB - Bryce Lambeth, South Lyon East (Senior, 6-foot-2, 185 pounds)
- CB - Caleb Williams, Canton (Sophomore, 5-foot-11, 165 pounds)
- FS - Drew Moyer, South Lyon East (Junior, 6-foot, 165 pounds)
- SS - Dominic Simpson, Livonia Franklin (Junior, 5-foot-10, 175 pounds)

First Team Special Teams

- KR/PR - Curtis Keels, Redford Union (Senior, 5-foot-9, 160 pounds)
- K - Ryan Kennell, Livonia Churchill (Senior, 6-foot, 175 pounds)

Second Team Offense

- QB - Noah Etnyre, Lutheran Westland (Junior, 6-foot-2, 180 pounds)
- RB - Matthew Gazzarato, Livonia Stevenson (Senior, 5-foot-9, 161 pounds)
- WR - Braeden Tillman-Jones, South Lyon East (Senior, 5-foot-11, 175 pounds)
- OT - Elijah Tripplett, Redford Union (Sophomore, 6-foot-3, 275 pounds)
- OT - Charlie Griesbeck, Milford (Senior, 6-foot-1, 210 pounds)
- OG - Donte Taylor, Milford (Senior, 6-foot-2, 250 pounds)
- OG - Charles Tams, Plymouth (Senior, 6-foot-1, 225 pounds)
- C - Tyler O'Connor, South Lyon (Senior, 5-foot-11, 240 pounds)

Second Team Defense

- DT - Charlie Davidek, Livonia Stevenson (Junior, 6-foot-3, 250 pounds)
- DE - Cal Rutherford, Plymouth (Sophomore)

- DE - Nicholas Briggs, Milford (Senior, 6-foot-2, 215 pounds)
- OLB - Trever Perzcak, Livonia Franklin (Senior, 5-foot-10, 184 pounds)
- OLB - Derek Johnson, White Lake Lakeland (Senior, 6-foot, 180 pounds)
- ILB - Wyatt Lesnew, Milford (Sophomore, 5-foot-11, 225 pounds)
- ILB - Dakota Schultz, White Lake Lakeland (Senior, 6-foot-1, 175 pounds)
- CB - Dakota Blackwell, South Lyon (Senior, 6-foot, 175 pounds)
- CB - Ray Shukeireh, Northville (Senior, 5-foot-9, 168 pounds)
- SS - Julius McElroy, Redford Union (Senior, 5-foot-9, 155 pounds)
- SS - Evan Dundon, Birmingham Groves (Senior, 6-foot-1, 170 pounds)

Second Team Special Teams

- KR/PR - Dylan Fleming, Salem (Senior, 5-foot-7, 145 pounds)
- K - Alex Stoyanovich, South Lyon (Junior, 5-foot-8, 165 pounds)

Honorable Mention Offense

- QB - Dawson Skupin, South Lyon (Senior, 6-foot-4, 175 pounds)
- RB - Cordell Mabins, Livonia Franklin (Junior, 5-foot-11, 190 pounds)
- WR (Slotback) - Reed Jabiro, White Lake Lakeland (Senior, 6-foot-3, 180 pounds)
- OT - Andrew Berg, South Lyon (Junior, 6-foot-2, 240 pounds)
- OT - Tommy Phimster, Nov (Senior, 6-foot-3, 285 pounds)
- OG - Caleb Gardner, Redford Thurston (Senior, 6-foot-1, 340 pounds)
- C/OT - Evan Loisel, Lutheran Westland (Senior)

DEFENSE

- DT - Jaden Mitchell, Redford Union (Junior, 6-foot-2, 400 pounds)
- DE - Caden Calhoun, White Lake Lakeland (Junior, 6-foot-2, 260 pounds)
- DE - Alex Smith, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (Junior, 6-foot-2, 220 pounds)
- OLB - Ty Wagner, Salem (Senior, 5-foot-10, 205 pounds)
- OLB - Kam Kuban, Northville (Senior, 6-foot-3, 200 pounds)
- MLB - Niko Krall, Novi (Junior, 5-foot-8, 196 pounds)
- ILB - Trey Rowley, White Lake Lakeland (Junior, 5-foot-10, 175 pounds)
- CB - Patrick Coughlin, Livonia Stevenson (Senior, 5-foot-8, 165 pounds)
- CB - Gary Morris, Livonia Franklin (Senior, 6-foot-3, 180 pounds)
- SS - Jake Pasuit, Milford (Senior, 6-foot-3, 205 pounds)
- SS - Evan Cosgrove, Plymouth (Junior, 5-foot-11, 195 pounds)

SPECIAL TEAMS

- KR/PR - Jordan Newbill, South Lyon East (Junior, 5-foot-10, 170 pounds)
- K/P - Christos Tzoumakas, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (Junior, 5-foot-8, 170 pounds)

Special Mention

OFFENSE

- QB - Cory Chavis, Redford Union
- QB - Taj Williams, Livonia Churchill



Stevenson's Matthew Gazzarato rushes against Franklin during a Kensington Lake Activities Association football game on Friday, Oct. 8, 2021. DAVE DONOHER/SPECIAL TO HOMETIMELIFE.COM



South Lyon East's Jordan Newbill breaks Paw Paw's Zeyan Davis' tackle during a non-conference football game on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWN LIFE

- QB - Zac Olesuck, Livonia Franklin
- QB - Nathan Wasil, Garden City
- QB/ATH - Ar'Jon Thompson, Livonia Stevenson
- QB - Tate Farquhar, White Lake Lakeland
- QB - Braden Fracassi, South Lyon
- QB - Luke Aurilia, Novi
- QB - Billy Sternberg, Milford
- RB - Evan Percin, White Lake Lakeland
- RB - Jordan Williams, Livonia Clarenceville
- RB - Ryan Allen, Milford
- RB - Dequan Davis, Redford Union
- RB - Tommy Donovan, South Lyon
- RB - Cole Shires, Novi
- RB - Stavros Panos, Birmingham Groves
- RB - Tommy Mandell, Northville
- RB - Wesley Faulkner, Canton
- RB/FB - Zack Badger, Canton
- RB - Boston Clegg Jr., Livonia Churchill
- RB - Ethan Peruski, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook
- RB - Owen McGraw, Garden City
- RB - Dawaune Strickland, Redford Union
- RB - Jacob Sanders, Farmington
- RB - Jeron Bradley, Redford Thurston
- WR (Slot) - Alex Yolles, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook
- WR - Evan Martin, Farmington
- WR - Jalen Silver, Farmington
- WR - Bailey Brooks, Livonia Churchill
- WR - Brandon Reiten, Livonia Franklin
- WR - Mario Cassar, Lutheran Westland
- WR - Noel Deland, Milford
- WR - Brandon Gibson, Milford
- WR - Trey Hayes, Milford
- WR - Kai Saunders, Northville
- WR - Nolan Thomson, Northville
- WR - Kyren Ware, Redford Union
- WR - Quinn Fracassi, South Lyon
- WR - Gavin Limotte, South Lyon
- WR - Jackson Campbell, White Lake Lakeland
- WR (Slot) - McCoy Biagioli, White Lake Lakeland
- TE - Zach Ford, South Lyon
- LT - Matt Landis, Livonia Churchill
- OT - Shaun Shahu, Livonia Stevenson
- LT - Jake Merritt, Northville
- RT - Abraham Altman, Milford
- OT - Tristan Sharp, White Lake Lakeland
- C - Jabari Gaines, Redford Union
- C - Jimmy Holcomb, Birmingham Groves
- C - Thomas Bailey, Livonia Clarenceville
- C/OT - Grant Roslinski, South Lyon

East

DEFENSE

- DT - Henry Everett, Birmingham Groves
- DT - Lucas Tafelski, Canton
- DT - Demarius Gibson-Wells, Livonia Churchill
- DT - Preston Phimster, Novi
- DT - Ryan Fisher, Plymouth
- NG - Luke Kalet, White Lake Lakeland
- DE - Logan Flaherty, Birmingham Groves
- DE - Victor Berger, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook
- DE - Guilin Bodiu, Canton
- DE - Kameron Balhorn, Livonia Churchill
- DE - Chibi Anwunah, Lutheran Westland
- DE - Justin Gross, Milford
- OLB - Julian Lockett, Canton
- OLB - Kaden Williams, Garden City
- OLB - Daniel Moore, Livonia Clarenceville
- OLB - Dontez Robinson, Livonia Clarenceville
- OLB - Malachi Bratton, Livonia Churchill
- OLB - Parker Ladach, Northville
- OLB - Jerimiah Alston, Redford Union
- ILB - Nick Mason, Birmingham Groves
- MLB - Jacob Vance, Birmingham Seaholm
- MLB - Luke Wischmeyer, Birmingham Seaholm
- ILB - Amare Reed, Canton
- ILB - Alex Roberson, Farmington
- MLB - Abe Schueler, Livonia Churchill
- MLB - Spencer Vos, Plymouth
- ILB - Nathen Grooters, South Lyon
- ILB - Simeon Mardossion, South Lyon
- MLB - Damon Powers, Westland John Glenn
- CB - Josh Brown, Livonia Churchill
- CB - Jayden Allen, Livonia Churchill
- CB - Jaden Mangham, Birmingham Groves
- SS - Kyle Robbins, Birmingham Seaholm

SPECIAL TEAMS

- KR/PR - Tyler Patrick, Novi
 - P - Luc Diamini, Plymouth
- Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



Farmington's Deandre Green takes a shot at the basket on Jan. 3, 2022. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Turnovers

Continued from Page 1B

stout defense and made their free throws in the bonus to secure the 46-33 victory.

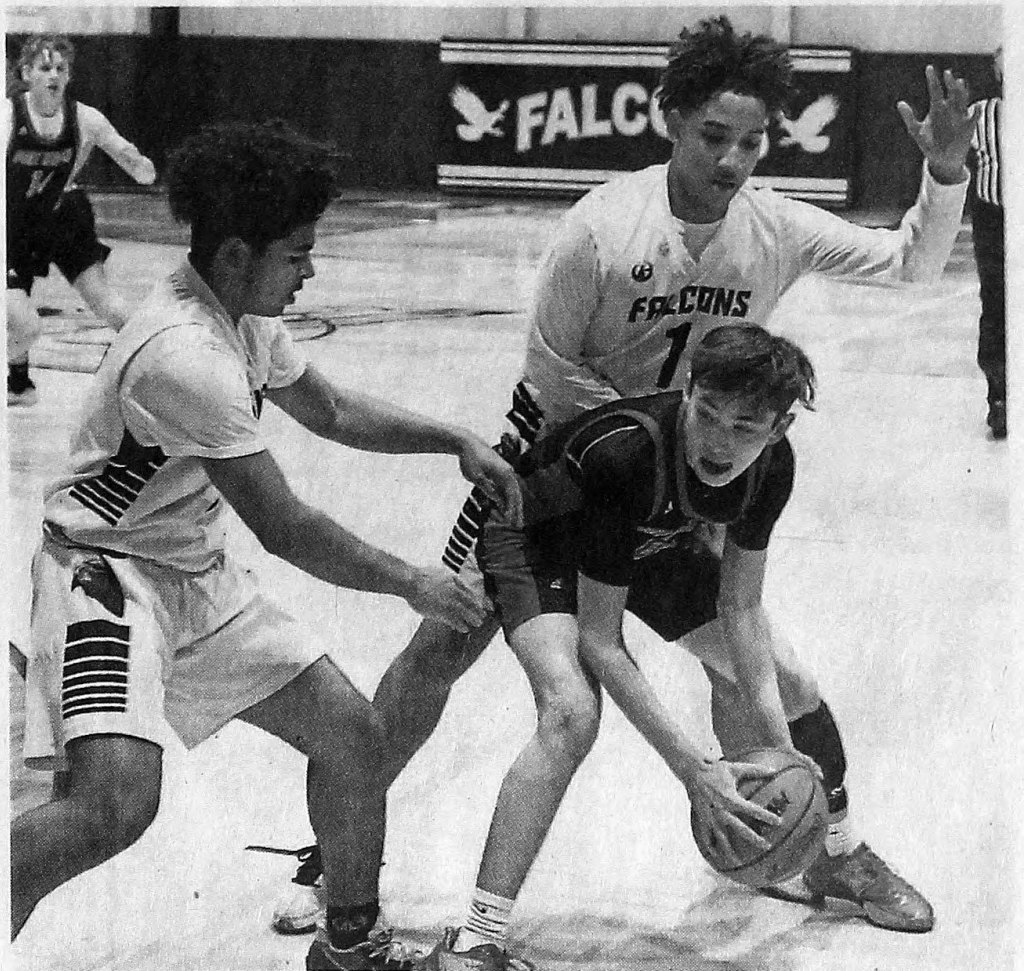
After Rosenau's big steal, Farmington (2-4) went on a 15-4 run that extended its lead to 18 points, which was finally safe enough for McDowell to sub in some bench players.

During that stretch, Port Huron scored on just two of its 12 possessions. What's more, the Falcons went 10 of

10 from the foul line, including Tony Tolbert, who scored a team-best 16 points, going 6 of 6 in the bonus.

"We've been getting better with the turnovers," McDowell added. "I'm a little more at ease as we've been playing (without) turnovers. If it was earlier in the year, I probably would've gotten a little nervous. Since we've been playing better, when they (Port Huron) made their little run, defensively we were doing a good job. I thought our defense and taking care of the ball would hold us until the end, and it did."

Farmington never trailed throughout the evening, as Chris Boyd helped with



Two Farmington Falcons, including Tony Tolbert, right, pressure a Port Huron High player on Jan. 3, 2022. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

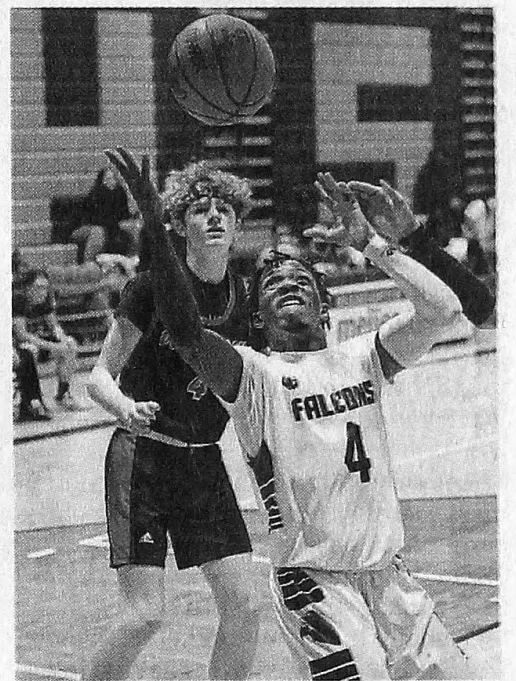
nine points and Deandre Green had seven.

Rosenau led all scorers with 17 points, and Nate Oriel helped the Big Reds (1-4) with five.

The Falcons are hoping the tune-up will prepare them for Oakland Activities Association-Red play. Three of their first four games are against Ferndale, rival North Farmington and Clarkston, a trio of highly-ranked teams.

"We're going into the league now, and the league is extremely tough," McDowell said. "Our goal is to get better every game and kind of not worry about what the record is. If we can get better every game, in the end, we'll start winning some games, but I know this league is going to be tough on us. We've just got to be ready to go."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



Farmington Falcon Jalen Silver grabs a rebound. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Sela Lefler, right, tries for a steal. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



North Farmington High's Penelope Creary, right, swipes at a basket attempt by a Bloomfield High player. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Raiders

Continued from Page 1B

"I like to play on both ends of the floor," said Lefler, who scored a game-high 22 points, despite missing most of the fourth quarter with a sore right leg "I know defense is a big part of how our offense gets buckets. It's a better way to get fast buckets. I always work on my toughness. I know it's a physical sport. I just try to stay strong and play the best I can."

Lefler buried a pair of 3-pointers to open the game and scored eight points early on to ensure the Raiders (4-3) a 23-3 lead entering the second quarter. She had 16 points by halftime.

Three of her six two-point field goals were layups in transition. That included her opening the second quarter with one of those strong-armed strip-sacks. Her other strip-sack came in the fourth when she took off and finished with her opposite hand while jumping through

traffic.

Coach Jeff Simpson said he first saw that bulldog attitude from her during one of his youth camps about five years ago at Warner Middle School.

"She's getting better," the ninth-year coach said. "Back when I first met Sela as a seventh-grader, she didn't want to play the point, which is funny. But then we made her the point guard from there on, and she's gotten better every game when it comes to seeing the floor. You can see her developing. She wanted to play shooting guard back then."

As a sophomore, Lefler had somewhat of a coming-out party. Her early success on the varsity garnered her plenty of accolades, including being named one of the top players in metro Detroit by MLive.

This year she's off to another hot start, except she's getting plenty of help. Jenna Lee (six points), Hannah Hart (six) and Eliza Muller (five) have provided hot shooting away from the basket, while Asiyah Jihad (four) is coming into her own as a post player.

But it's junior Penelope Creary who's been a nice one-two punch alongside Lefler. The two guards feed off each other's energy on both offense and defense.

Lefler buried a trio of 3s in the first half, so when Bloomfield Hills finally rushed out to defend her shot, it left Creary open to drive to the hoop and create and-one opportunities.

The sky's the limit for the duo as they grow closer together on the court.

"That's a nice guard tandem to have," Simpson said. "As long as we stay out of foul trouble. We got into a little foul trouble early tonight, but they're getting better at understanding when they've got to back off a little bit. That's a very nice guard tandem, and they can do some nice things together. They're starting to gel a little bit together, and that's what's kind of nice to see."

Practice (jerseys) make perfect

During pre-game warmups, the head official asked Bloomfield Hills coach

Kristen Massey and Simpson to join him at midcourt so they all could sort it out.

"Explain to him what you said to me," the official said to Massey.

The Black Hawks (2-3) ordered new uniforms at the end of October, but they still haven't arrived in the mail thanks to the pandemic's current supply-chain issues.

Massey knew the jerseys probably wouldn't arrive before the season opener. But she didn't expect them to still be MIA at the start of the new year.

"I knew we'd miss a week or two with them," the second-year coach said. "Not the whole holiday break."

Bloomfield Hills has been playing actual games in their practice uniforms, which would be fine except three of their players are using illegal numbers. Kailyn Allen is wearing No. 6, Thalia Pierre sports No. 8 and Bri Young has on No. 36.

Why are those jersey numbers ille-

See RAIDERS, Page 5B

Sports

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NEWSPAPERS



Bloomfield High's Bri Young wears a her #36 practice jersey which made signalling penalties tough on the game's referees which usually signal penalties using their two hands' fingers (for instance a penalty on a #35 would be signaled by a referee by holding up three fingers with one hand and five with the other). Any number over five doesn't work with that system. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Raiders

Continued from Page 4B

gal? LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Rasheed Wallace, among others, each wore those numbers in the NBA.

Well, it comes down to officiating. When a player commits a foul, a referee must be able to easily signal to the scorers' table who the call was on. Say, for example, No. 35 gets called for a foul. The referee can then signal to the scorers' table all the way from the baseline who the call was on with just his hands. They'll normally hold up three fingers with their left hand and five with their right. So it's impossible to signal No. 36.

"We have no problem officiating the

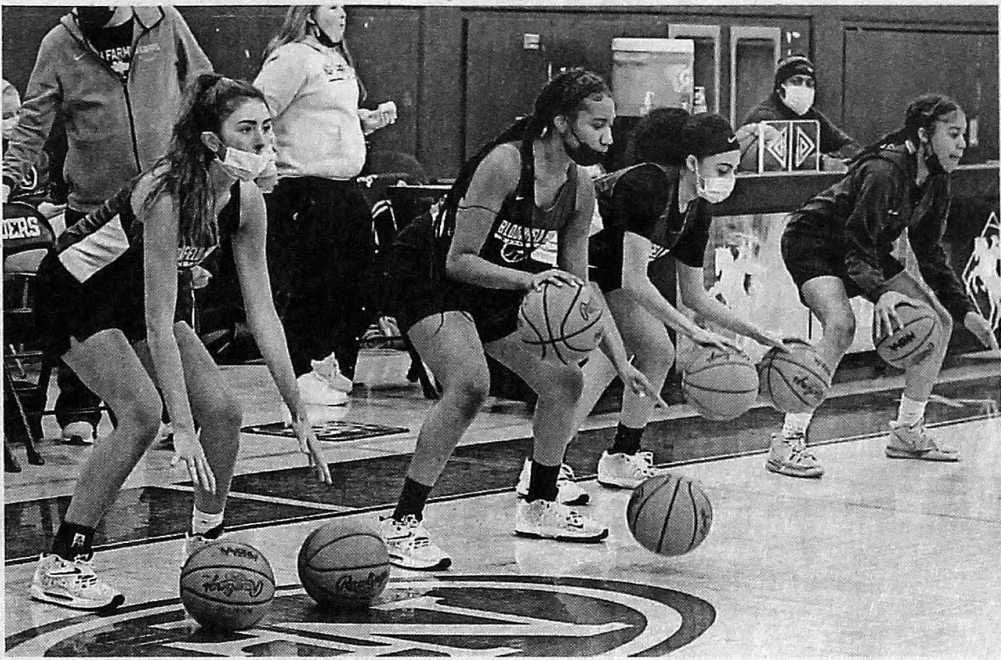
game if you're OK with it," the head official told Simpson.

And so the game was played with three jersey numbers you wouldn't normally see at the high school level.

Much like Bloomfield Hills' game jerseys, its offense was late-arriving against the Raiders.

The Black Hawks had just one field goal in the opening 10 minutes. But then they scored five layups in transition, including Ashley Forner making back-to-back layups to trim their deficit to 17 points, midway through the second quarter.

When they got out in transition and could withstand North Farmington's pressure defense, they looked talented. Which is great news for Massey, who currently has five sophomores in her



Members of the Bloomfield Hills High girls basketball team warm up before their Jan. 4, 2022 game at North Farmington. The team had to wear their practice jerseys as their uniforms were not available at the time of the game. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



North Farmington High's coach Jeff Simpson points to where he wants his players on the court. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

starting lineup.

"We're still figuring out a lot of things as a team," she said. "A lot of people are still finding their identity as basketball players. It's a tough group. They're athletic, and they do run the floor well, but we're still figuring it out and getting it together."

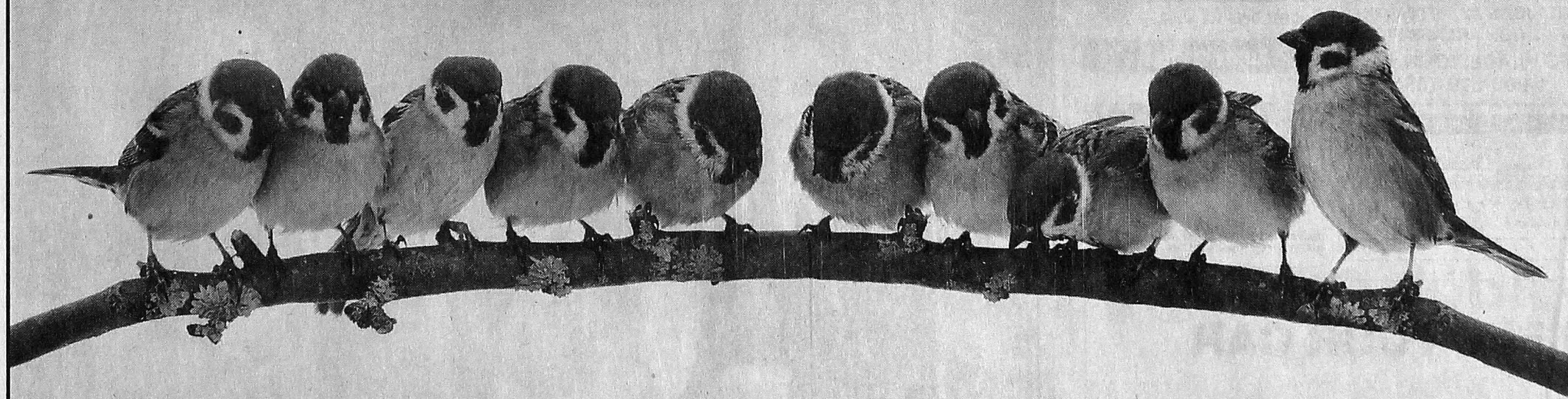
Forner led with 11 points, followed by Young with seven and Michele Barnett and Ruby Smith with five apiece.

"It's been challenging, and we did

this (started five underclassmen) last year," Massey added. "Last year they were freshmen, and it's been tough. But we're doing it. We're just coming out and trying to compete in each game, and we want to get better in each game. We see a lot of good things, but we see a lot of things we want to work on as well."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

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Why You Should Invest in Talent Acquisition ASAP

By ZipRecruiter.com

If you're a hiring manager, you know that recruiting top talent is crucial to the success (financial and otherwise) of your company. But why is it more important than ever right now? Because the pandemic really shifted the way organizations look at the talent they have, the talent they need, and what their talent needs/expects from them.

When companies evaluate the talent they have, they look at the strengths that their existing employees have and whether or not

those help the organization achieve optimum performance. Then, they decide what future skill gaps they'll need to fill, if they already have the talent to fill them, or if they need to hire new talent.

However, there's currently a labor shortage going on. In fact, 42 states have more available jobs than there are people looking for jobs. So if you need to hire new talent, you not only want your job openings to stand out; you also want them to attract the most qualified candidates by meeting or exceeding their needs and expectations. No easy task.

How to Find Top Talent

So how do you find the best, possible talent for your organization? You need a smart source to enhance your search. So how do you find the best, possible talent? You want to lead with your EVP (Employee Value Proposition) —

which is why an employee comes to your organization in the first place. Keep in mind that not every potential employee thinks the same things are valuable. A truly successful EVP is consistent, yet adaptable, to what matters most to the individual candidate.

How to Keep Your Talent Happy

Finding the right talent for your organization is just part of the equation, though. Post-pandemic, job seekers have very different expectations from employers. After working at home for over a year, they're looking for employment that offers better work/life balance. They're even willing to take a pay cut if it means more flexibility in work life and down time.

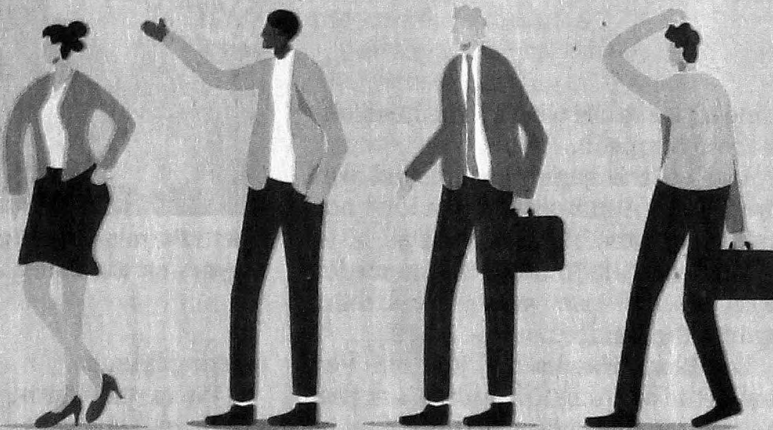
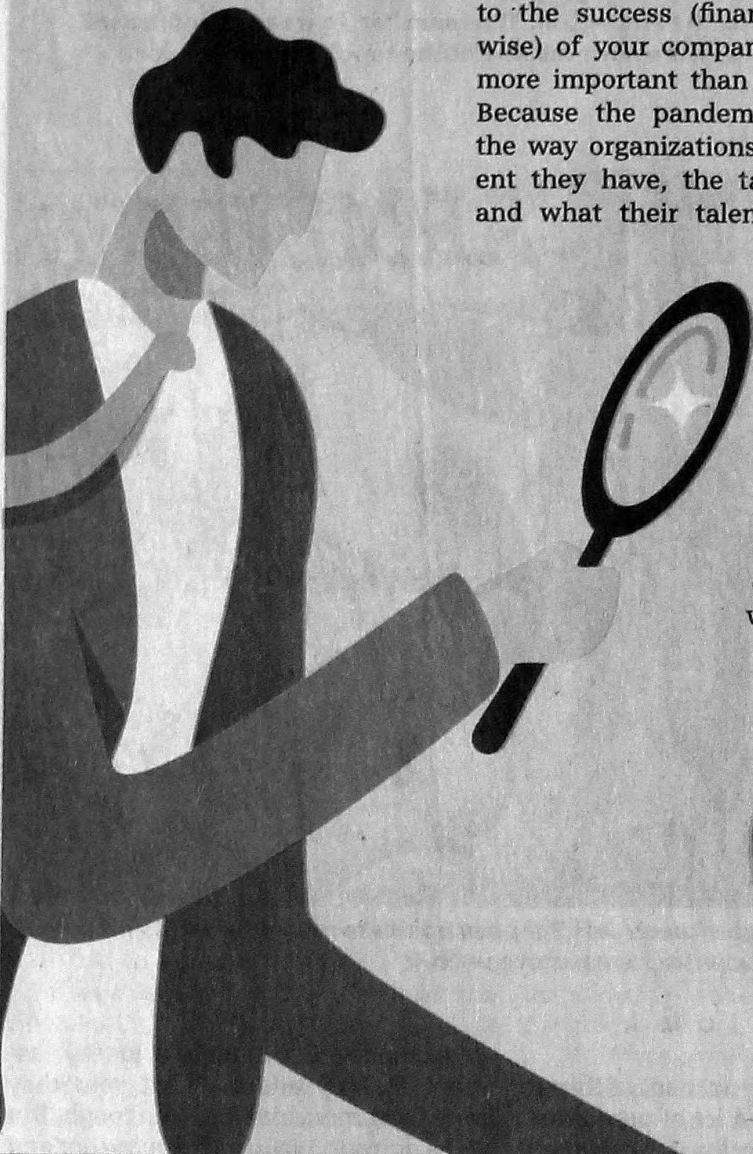
Job seekers also want a more uplifting company culture — i.e. employers who focus on their retention, care, and growth.

Additionally, diversity, equality, and inclusion are also key in retaining the new talent you hire.

Lastly, healthcare and benefits — including self-care benefits and childcare options — weigh heavily in importance for talent retention.

If you can fulfill all of these things, you'll experience smoother sailing in hiring — and you'll have a host of happy, highly-skilled employees for many years to come.

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Super Crossword

ACORN-STASHING
IN THE SKY

ACROSS

- 1 Exchanges for paper money
7 Takes too much, briefly
10 Gp. concerned with birdies
13 Liquid detergent quantity
19 Opere — (in the work already mentioned)
20 International news agency
22 Relaxed
23 "First Blood" actor Richard
24 Pilot Amelia
25 Like magma
26 Start of a riddle
29 930-mile-long Russian river
30 Politico Trent
31 Raw rock
32 Lakers' org.
35 Riddle, part 2
43 Styled like
44 Heir, often
45 Be a rambler
46 "I smell —!"
47 Defunct Russ. state
48 Riddle, part 3
55 Airline seat pull-down

- 57 Dir. from N.M. to Ky.
58 "Play it by ear," e.g.
59 Orem's state
61 Google program for targeted promotions
65 Brother of DDE's follower
66 Big tub
69 Riddle, part 4
74 Facial blinker
75 Caviar base
76 Manors
77 Oklahoma city
78 Livid
80 Actor Stephen
81 Basketball tourney org.
83 Riddle, part 5
90 Turner of song
93 Add to the work force
94 Vientiane is its capital
95 No. on a map
96 Liquor choice
97 End of the riddle
105 Prefix with 17-Down
106 Byrnes who was "Kookie"
107 Wayward Gl

- 108 Family mem.
109 Riddle's answer
117 Mitchell of NBC News
120 Not yet encrypted
121 Is entirely unacceptable
122 Disclose
123 List the particulars of
124 Coop up
125 Officers-to-be
126 Tutu-wearing Muppet
127 D.C. bigwig
128 "— Fideles" (carol)

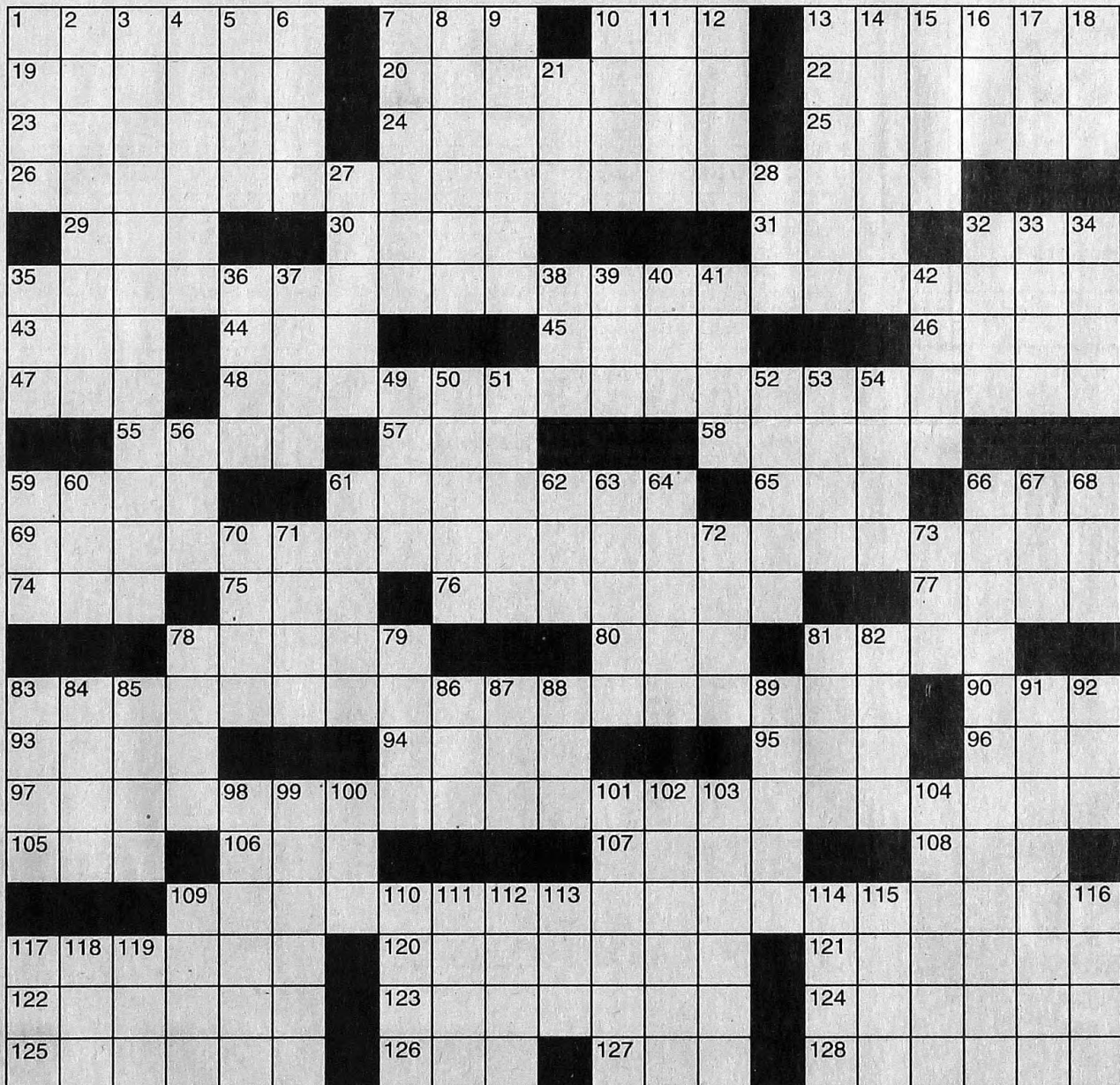
DOWN

- 1 Roman 301
2 Plane wings, e.g.
3 Raw beef dish
4 Disney's Montana
5 Tall Sicilian volcano
6 Fly high
7 Chocolate cookie-flavored Post cereal
8 Shortage
9 Guarantee
10 Bell's ring
11 Mutt's noise
12 Concerning

- 13 SLR, say
14 Makes amends
15 Animal hide
16 Jack Sprat's no-no
17 Function
18 Writer Deighton
21 Jennifer Lopez's "J to — L-O!"
27 Dull
28 Homer Simpson's outburst
32 Cruel Roman emperor
33 Male lover
34 Echidnas eat them
35 Once existed
36 Totally lost
37 Squarish, as a vehicle
38 Four minus one, in Italy
39 Gmail rival
40 Trailing plant
41 — Strauss
42 Wizard of Oz creator
49 Work over
50 Happen next
51 Comes upon
52 "Luther" star Elba
53 Repeated jazz phrase

- 54 Smoker's puff
56 Pi-sigma link
59 Sport- (off-roader)
60 Your, biblically
61 "Billy, Don't Be —" (1974 hit song)
62 Insect egg
63 Beginning
64 Lauder of makeup
66 Seasoned, oily salad dressings
67 French buddy
68 Turner of TV
70 Big coffee dispensers
71 Vincent van —
72 Incline
73 Coffee alternative
78 Suited to —
79 Christmas
81 Court barriers
82 Flight staffers
83 Punch sound
84 Old LP player
85 Crafts' partner
86 Not stringent
87 Lead-in to "And how!"
88 Suffix with lobby
89 High-pitched warble

- 91 Nailed the performance
92 Opposite of 63-Down
98 Nuke, as leftovers
99 Standards
100 NFL six-pointers
101 Legendary Manhattan restaurant
102 Pluck, as brows
103 "Stalag 17" star William
104 With 109-Down, part of a Florida orchard
109 See 104-Down
110 Mini-exam
111 A law — itself
112 Slush Puppie alternative
113 CD- —
114 Female youth org.
115 Incite
116 Subjective loudness unit
117 Circle bit
118 Org. concerned with the three R's
119 Burnable storage device



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

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

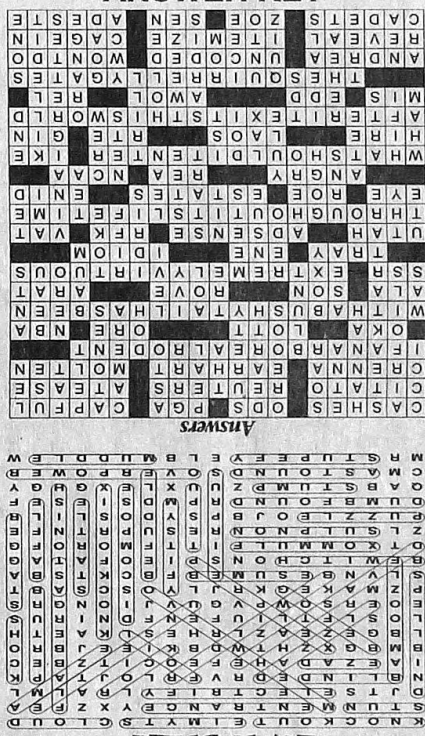
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

IN A DAZE

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.

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

ANSWER KEY



5	4	6	9	2	2	1	8
8	8	2	1	4	9	6	9
2	1	9	6	8	2	9	4
9	6	4	2	2	1	9	8
2	2	8	8	9	4	9	1
1	8	9	8	9	6	2	2
8	9	8	2	6	9	4	1
4	9	1	9	8	2	8	2
6	2	2	4	1	8	9	9

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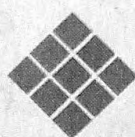
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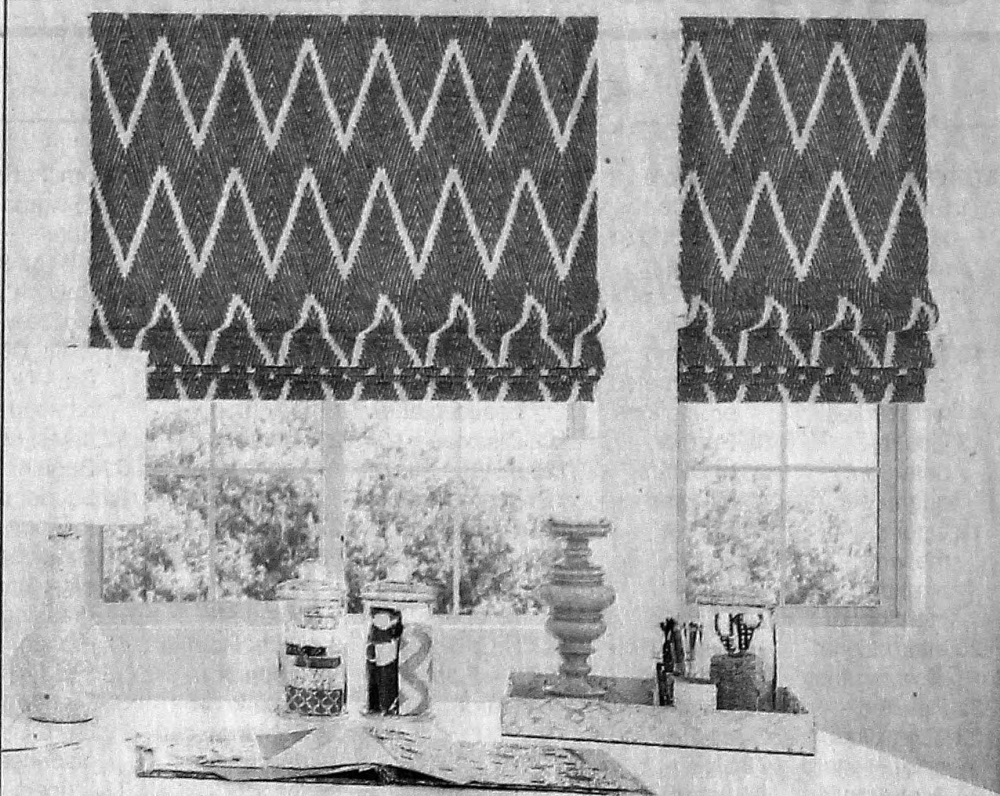
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