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# OBSERVER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Wayne-Westland schools receive tech grant

**Shelby Tankersley** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

As homework and educational enrichment activities increasingly move online, Wayne-Westland Community Schools wants to make sure all its students have the same opportunities.

The district recently landed a \$3 million technology grant from the Emergency Connectivity Fund — the largest amount awarded in Michigan. The funds are part of the American Rescue Plan stimulus package and will provide devices and internet access to students in need.

In Wayne-Westland, schools will be able to purchase roughly 5,000 iPads and Chromebooks equipped with long-term evolution, commonly called LTE, cellular data packages through Verizon Wireless. As long as a student is somewhere with cell phone service, an internet connection will be available.

“We started seeing a phenomenon this year of kids who might have internet at home, but they aren’t going home somewhere after school,” Superintendent John Dignan said. “They’re going somewhere that doesn’t have internet.”

**See GRANT, Page 6A**

## Livonia man honors dad’s memory with baseball cards

**Ed Wright** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

In the spring of 1982, 7-year-old Matt Fournier purchased a pack of Topps baseball cards, carrying on a family tradition practiced by his dad, Ted.

In late January — 15 months after his 67-year-old father succumbed to lung cancer — Fournier purchased an obscure Kansas City Royals card from a man in New Mexico, completing a 40-year journey to complete the 1982 set.

“After my dad passed away, I was going through some of my old Topps sets and found a box with the 1982 cards,” Fournier, a Livonia resident and teacher at Emerson Middle School, said. “It was missing about 50 cards, so I got on eBay and talked to my friends who are collectors to try to find the ones I was missing.”

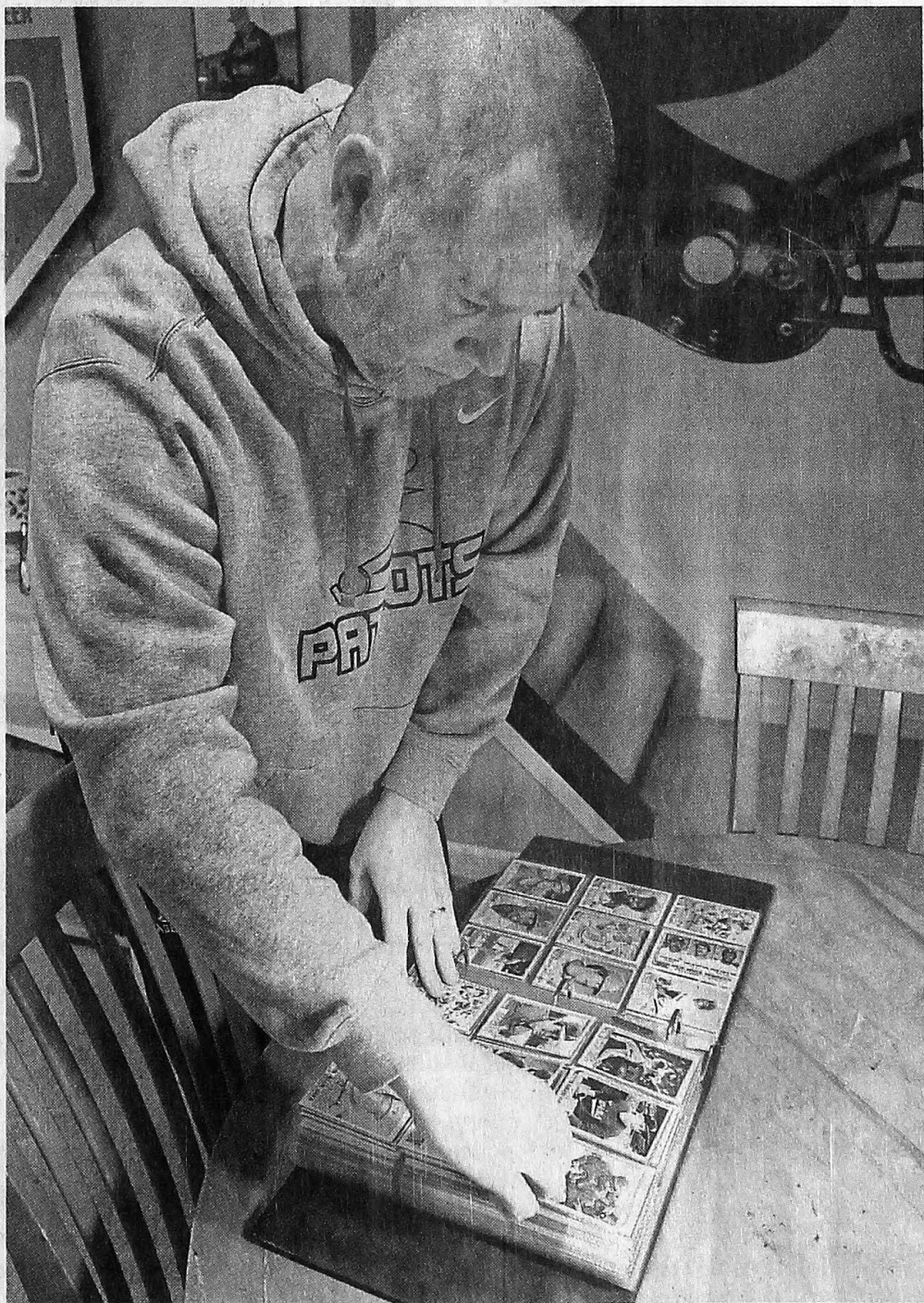
“When the final one came in the mail and I slid it into the slot in the binder, it was a pretty cool feeling. I know my dad would have gotten a kick out of it.”

The final card — bearing the mugshots of Royals George Brett and Larry Gura on the front and the number 96 in the upper-left corner of the back — cost him just over \$2.

“It was a common card, not a rookie card or a card that people wouldn’t be willing to give up. So the actual card cost me about 50 cents, and postage was about \$1.50,” Fournier said. “The fact that it was the last card I needed to complete the set is what made it special.”

Fournier’s passion for card collecting started in the early 1980s when he and his brother would make regular trips to Garden City to visit his dad.

“When the (Detroit) Tigers were home, my dad would take my brother and I to a game,” said Fournier, head baseball coach at Livonia Franklin.



Matt Fournier, of Livonia, checks out the 1982 Topps baseball card collection he began 40 years ago and recently completed. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Farmington Hills boy, 12, performs outside city hall weekly

**Shelby Tankersley** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

It was 7:30 a.m. Friday morning. The roads were still being cleared after a snow storm, it was 9 degrees outside and the sun hadn’t quite risen.

But Oliver Strickfaden was standing by the flag pole, ready to play his saxophone.

The 12-year-old plays the national anthem outside Farmington Hills City Hall, the Farmington Hills Fire Department and the Farmington Hills Police department every Friday morning. He’s done so since early November, no matter the weather.

“I wanted to come out and do something for the community,” he said.

Strickfaden plays a song before the anthem to give anyone inside city facilities the opportunity to come outside and join him. On Feb. 4, he performed portions of “Amazing Grace” and “America the Beautiful” before the national anthem.

The preteen has received recognition from local politicians and law enforcement for his efforts. The Oakland County Sheriff’s office even gave him a ride in a helicopter as a way of saying “thank you.”

Since late November, officers with the Farmington Hills Police Department have joined him when he plays outside their department. Officers stand at attention and salute the flag while Strickfaden plays.

“We wanted to show some appreciation for what he does,” Sgt. Chris

**See PERFORMS, Page 4A**

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**Money Matters**Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

# Proceed with caution when co-signing a mortgage loan

**Dear Rick:**

My wife and I have a dispute that I hope you can help us with. My wife's sister has asked us to co-sign a mortgage. She can't get a mortgage on her own because of her history with money.

My wife thinks buying a house would be good for her sister, but I am not particularly fond of the idea. What is the worst-case scenario if she does not repay her loan? My wife says the worst that could happen is that she loses the home. Is that true, and if not, can anything else happen to us?

JB

**Dear JB:**

Unfortunately, if your sister-in-law defaults on the loan and you are the co-signer, the worst is not that she loses the home but rather, that you can be responsible for the balance of the loan. In addition, if they foreclose on the home, you can be personally responsible for the difference between what the home sold for and the outstanding mortgage.

For example, if the outstanding balance on the loan was \$150,000 and the house went into foreclosure and sold for \$100,000, you could be on the hook personally for the additional \$50,000 (\$150,000 loan - \$100,000 sale proceeds). Furthermore, your credit rating can also take a hit.

If you were held responsible by the bank, you potentially would have a case in court against your sister-in-law; however, we all know how messy and uncomfortable that can be. In addition, if your sister-in-law chose to file for bankruptcy, her obligation to you would be discharged and thus, you would have no course of action against her.

I am frequently asked about co-signing loans for friends and relatives. I always advise people to proceed with caution. Co-signing a loan is the same as loaning someone money.

When it comes to loaning family or friends money, I always recommend that if you expect to be repaid, you need to treat it as a business transaction. In other words, the terms such as interest, when payments are due and what happens upon default, need to be discussed and put in writing.

I think the same applies when you co-sign a loan for someone. This is a legal responsibility and thus, you need to take it seriously.

I recognize that when it comes to family and friends, money is not the most important issue. However, you cannot just dismiss the financial ramifications when you co-sign a loan.

Overall, I would discourage most people from co-signing a loan, particularly a long-term mortgage, because if the bank would not loan them money, why would you?

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is [www.bloomadvisors.com](http://www.bloomadvisors.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, email [rick@bloomadvisors.com](mailto:rick@bloomadvisors.com).

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Westland DPW employee Michael Ackron prepares to start plowing city roads Feb. 3. Ackron is a crew leader with the Water Department but is pulled over to operate plow trucks when heavy snowfall occurs. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## How Westland plow drivers clear roads after a snowstorm

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When snow falls, local department of public works employees are tasked with making sure Michigan's winter wonderlands are still drivable.

Before a storm rolls in, like the one metro Detroit saw Feb. 2-3, drivers are prepping their plow trucks and making sure they have plenty of salt. During and after storms, drivers patrol locally-controlled roads until they're all cleared.

Hometown Life rode along with Westland plow driver Michael Ackron as he cleared and salted neighborhood roads. Drivers like Ackron prioritize routes needed for school buses and garbage trucks to safely travel the city and are in communication with other drivers throughout the day.

Residents can keep track of the city's clearing progress by looking at its plow tracker after a storm.

Drivers like Ackron are not responsible for clearing county roads in the city, including Merriman or Warren roads. Those fall under the jurisdiction of the Wayne County Road Commission.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.



A City of Westland plow truck moves along Merriman on Feb. 3. The front plow blades weigh hundreds of pounds so they can scrape snow and ice from roads.

## Farmington Hills police investigate shooting near 9 Mile, Drake roads

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Farmington Hills police are investigating a Friday shooting at Fairmont Park Apartments, near 9 Mile and Drake roads.

They said in their report that a man was shot inside the apartment building at about 5:54 p.m. when he failed to comply with the shooter's demands during a Feb. 4 attempted robbery.

The victim has told police three males and a female, all wearing ski masks, approached him before one fired their weapon.

They apparently fled in a silver Ford Fusion with heavy rear-end damage and dark tinted windows. The vehicle appears to be a 2013 or more recent model.

Video has captured such a vehicle leaving the property.

An area hospital treated the unnamed victim. Police did not provide his most recent condition.

Investigators said there should be no threat to the general public but the department is increasing pa-



The suspects reportedly fled in a silver Ford Fusion. COURTESY OF FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE

trolls in the area.

Anyone with information is asked to call 248-871-2610.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

## Livonia offering free KN95 masks to residents

Courtesy of Josh Sabo

City of Livonia

Through a program supported by Wayne County, the City of Livonia is offering all residents two free KN95 face masks per person at the following locations during regular business hours:

- Livonia City Hall Clerk's Office (33000 Civic Center Drive)
- Livonia Civic Park Senior Center (15218 Farmington Road)
- Kirksey Recreation Center (15100 Hubbard

Street)

- Bennett Civic Center Library (32777 Five Mile Road)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now recommends masks that offer higher levels of protection, including KN95-quality masks.

"We hope Livonia residents will take advantage of this opportunity to keep themselves and our community protected against COVID-19," Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan said.

"We're grateful to Wayne County for providing these face masks for our residents' use."

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# Owners of longtime Plymouth candy shop are ready to retire

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's a bittersweet time for Cindy and Everett Smith.

The Plymouth Township couple has been in charge of Kemnitz Fine Candies for decades, with Cindy Smith working at the shop for more than half a century. But after the thousands of cherry cordials and other sweet treats, the couple decided it's time to retire.

"It's tough. More on her because she's been at it for 53 years and I've only been at it for 18," Everett Smith said. "I'm a rookie."

Cindy Smith began working at the store as a teenager, preparing and selling all kinds of goodies before she and her husband took over the store in 1999. Since then, they've spend time at the retail location at 896 W. Ann Arbor Trail and their production kitchen in a former church building in Plymouth's Old Village neighborhood. It's there the Christmas treats, nougat and chocolate bunnies are crafted before heading downtown for sale.

George and Betty Kemnitz began the company in the 1950s, making candies in their basement. They moved to the current location in the late 1950s. Another owner purchased the building and the Smiths bought the business in 1999.

The shop has been a longtime staple for candy buyers in the Plymouth area, with the couple getting to know many shoppers over the years. Cindy Smith said many longtime customers have stopped by since the closing announcement was made and expressed sadness they won't be around the shop anymore.

"A little lady came in when I was there and she said, 'Oh, I'm so mad at you,'" she said. "I go, 'I'm sorry.'"

They've grown not only in selling candy in Plymouth but mailing orders across the globe.

"In December, I go to the post office every day, taking packages," he said. "One day, I took one to four different places: one was to South Carolina, one was to Texas, one was to California and one was to Massachusetts."



Everett Smith looks at a vat of melted milk chocolate at Kemnitz Candies.  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Christmas and Easter are their biggest holidays — they make "thousands of bunnies" for Easter, Cindy Smith said — with Valentine's Day mixed in as a busy season, as well. Those looking to buy sweets for their sweet this year will have to make it in before they close Feb. 12.

The hope, though, is that the closure isn't permanent. The couple actively seeks a buyer to take over the business

and keep the legacy going in Plymouth.

Their desire is to sell the business — recipes and all — to a buyer looking to keep the candy shop open. It's all about finding the correct fit, Cindy Smith said.

"I want to make sure it's the right person," she said.

The store is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday until Feb. 12.

# Griffin Claw Brewing Co. uses leftover paczki for new product

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham's biggest brewery is paying homage to a Polish delicacy with its latest limited offering.

Joining the likes of another local vodka maker, Griffin Claw Brewing Company has distilled a small batch of paczki-flavored vodka to accompany its annual release of a paczki-flavored stout. The vodka, Sin/Repent/Repeat — which shares the same name as the stout — came about after staff had leftover paczki from brewing the beer.

Brewers tossed them into a still with some vodka to create a unique blend perfect for celebrating Fat Tuesday in a few weeks.

"It was just like, 'Yeah, why not,'" said Chris Lasher, marketing director for the brewery. "We touched it up with a little flavoring at the end."

The vodka is made with a variety of paczki from Troy's Polish Market, including strawberry, raspberry and prune. Lasher said they did not have a lot of leftover paczki to use, so the flavor is subtle.

"It's pretty good," he said, adding that notes of vanilla are prevalent in the flavor. "It's not overpowering or anything like that."

It's a limited batch of only a few dozen 750 mL bottles. Bottles can be purchased beginning Feb. 15 at the Birmingham taproom at 575 S. Eton or at the Rochester Hills clubhouse at 2265 Crooks. The cost is \$35, Lasher said.

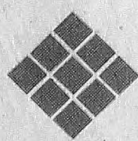
The batch is inspired by another local distillery known for its Paczki Day vodka.

Detroit City Distillery has brought its Paczki Day Vodka back this year for a fifth time to mark the holiday, which falls on March 1 this year. That product has sold out within minutes in recent years of being available.



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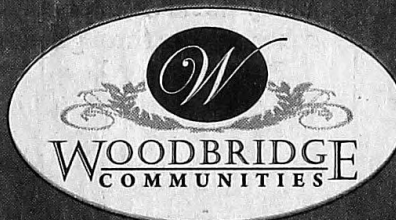


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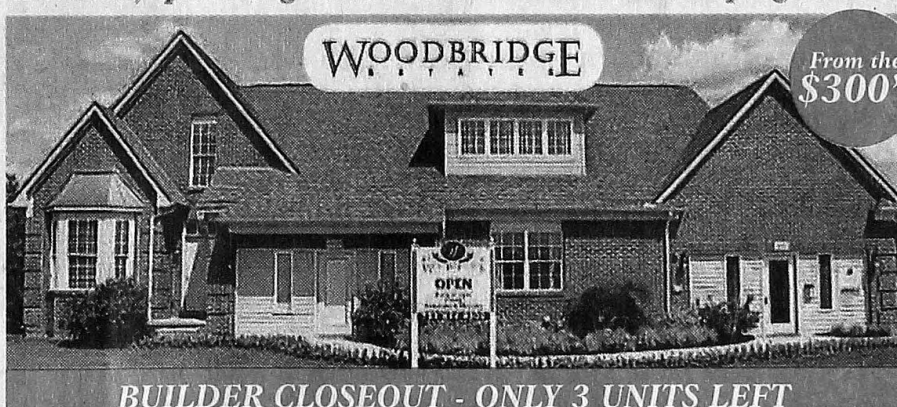
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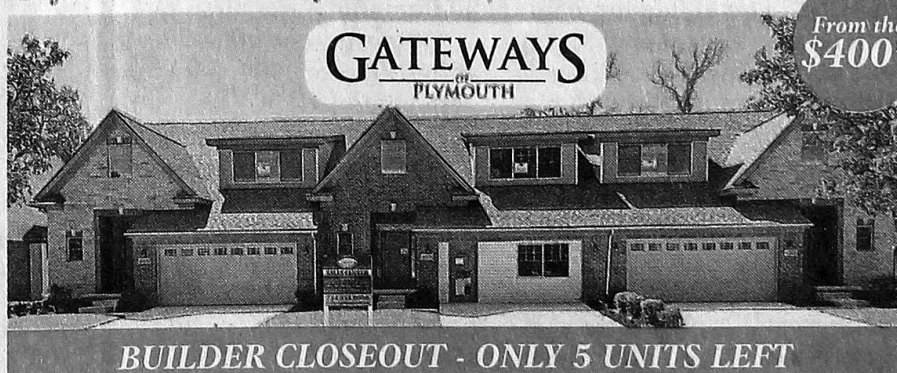
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# Novi eyes Shawood Lake island for \$175K

Susan Bromley [Hometownlife.com](mailto:shbromley@hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Novi City Council is considering buying an island in Shawood Lake for \$175,000.

Eventual plans for the island property are still up in the air, even if local leaders decide to make the purchase. Shawood Lake is a small lake on the north side of Novi that empties into Walled Lake.

City staff has identified three possible uses for the Elm Court property upon acquisition:

- Demolition and removal of the home, returning the island to its natural state and using it as a passive park.
- Return to its natural state and restrict any foot traffic and discourage access.
- Using in a more active way, including adding a fishing pier, canoe/kayak launch, pergola/picnic shelter and/or park benches and tables.

Several residents who live on Shawood or Walled lakes urged demolition of the house, which was built in 1967 and has sat vacant for several years, calling it an eyesore.

Jerry Anderson spoke at the meeting on behalf of several Shawood Lake residents, saying those residents have to stare at a blighted property every day.

“Elm Court is distressed,” Anderson, a Walled Lake resident, said. “It’s one portion of Novi that needs serious attention. I’ve been out here 44 years. We used to laugh that Novi didn’t care about anything north of 12 Mile.

“That has changed with Pavilion Shore Park and the addition to Lake Shore Park. Shawood Lake is the last piece of the puzzle.”

Access to the island is in walking distance from both Novi-owned parks, but the private property may be a secret to most city residents.

Elm Court is a short, single-lane road with a few closely spaced homes. At the end of the public road sits the privately-owned parcel of wooded land that hides



Novi City Council is considering purchasing the land and creating a park at 329 Elm Court, which sits on a small island that juts into Shawood Lake. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

a short pedestrian bridge that leads to the half-acre island taken up mostly by a 1,500-square-foot, four-bedroom home, carport and shed.

Maggie Shaffer, who has lived on Elm Court for two years, was initially excited when she learned the city may be interested in buying the island and its potential park amenities.

“If they build anything, I want a kayak and canoe launch,” Shaffer said, but added that considering how much foot traffic would be coming by her home if access remained via Elm Court gives her pause.

“That might drive me crazy,” she said. She speculated that visitors would park their vehicles at Lake Shore or Pa-

vilion Shore parking lots and walk over, but parking was one of many concerns broached when discussing a possible purchase during the Jan. 24 meeting.

“This is roughly 5 acres of water and a small island,” Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Staudt said. “It’s the kind of purchase our city long-term can be proud of. ... The fear is it would cost millions to fully remediate the lake. If there is money better spent, I don’t know what it is.”

Council members Dave Smith, Ericka Thomas and Laura Marie Casey voiced support for the purchase. Council member Justin Fischer and Mayor Bob Gatt dissented, questioning the value for the majority of Novi’s residents.

Five votes are needed to acquire the

property.

Fischer said he was concerned with unknown costs related to purchasing and developing the property, including ADA compliance, environmental studies and overall safety.

“We are lacking a viable plan and understanding of what we are buying ourselves,” Fischer said. “I have a major concern with potential costs. ... I understand the concern of a dilapidated building, but we can’t buy every dilapidated building in the city. If that is the only reason or the major reason (for purchasing the property), it’s not fair to our other residents to use our money to do this.”

Other potential costs could include dredging the lake, estimated to cost \$1.4 million in the first year, which would be necessary for restoration. Additional dredging on a regular basis would be necessary as well, City Manager Pete Auger acknowledged.

Auger said the body of water is governed by the state and if Novi was going to do something with the lake, they would have to go through a permitting process with EGLE.

“If we don’t buy, are we making a mistake?” Gatt said. “I don’t know. I can’t be in favor for those reasons. It’s not a benefit to those who live elsewhere in the city.”

Staudt maintained that it would be a benefit, and noted the city spent \$6 million on the ITC Trail that most of Novi’s 67,000 residents don’t use.

“This is the first step to get the balance of the 20 percent of the lake that we don’t own,” he said. “The arguments (against the purchase) circumvent the real issue: Are we willing to spend money and invest in a resource that doesn’t provide an immediate return to anyone who sits in this room or perhaps any resident in the city of Novi? What we are looking at is investment in the long-term future of the city.”

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at [shbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:shbromley@hometownlife.com) or 517-281-2412. Twitter: @SusanBromley10.

## Performs

Continued from Page 1A

Steuer said. “In rain or shine, heat or cold, he’s out here.

“He’s got a lot of dedication and we wanted to show our appreciation for that.”

Strickfaden said he plans to keep the tradition going through high school as long as he continues to live and attend school in the area.

Former Farmington Hills Councilman Matthew Strickfaden, Oliver’s uncle, said he’s proud of his nephew’s desire to serve the community and the support local law enforcement has shown him.

“I’m very proud of Oliver and this police department,” he said. “It’s really nice how this has built up some popularity with citizens and council members.

“But, most important to me is the police officers: They don’t have to be here with him, but they are.”

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.



Oliver Strickfaden performs the national anthem on his saxophone Jan. 4 at the Farmington Hills Police Department. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Cards

Continued from Page 1A

“When the Tigers were on the road, my dad would take us to either a (sports) card show, 7-11 or Kmart where my dad worked, we’d buy a box of cards, go through them and organize them.

“My dad had been collecting cards since 1959, so it was a great way for my brother, myself and my dad to kind of bond and share a common hobby.”

Fournier said the internet made his journey to complete the 1982 set easier.

“The way it works now, you can go on eBay, plug in the number and year of the card you’re looking for and usually find someone, somewhere, who has the card and is willing to sell it,” Fournier said. “Before the internet, you’d have to go to a card show where guys would have boxes of cards — both common and valuable ones — and you’d have to dig through the boxes to find what you were looking for.”

Since his dad died, Fournier has also completed the entire 1975 Topps baseball card collection that Ted had begun.

“One of the cards missing from that one was a George Brett rookie card, which I ended up paying about \$60 for,”

Fournier said. “My dad, brother and I have never really been in it to make money. It’s always been more of a nostalgia thing for us.

“I have some stuff that is probably pretty valuable, but I’d never think about selling it.”

While sifting through some of his father’s belongings last year, Fournier found an item that touched him so much he framed it.

“When my dad got remarried — it was either 1986 or 1987 — he and his wife honeymooned in Cooperstown (New York),” Fournier recounted. “He bought a couple postcards with photos of (Tigers greats) Al Kaline and George Kell. He wrote a note on each of them to my brother and I, saying, ‘We’re having a great time. ... I know you’d love it here.’ For whatever reason, he never mailed them.

“When I was going through my dad’s things after he passed, I found the postcards. My brother and I don’t have a lot of hand-written notes from my dad, so those were very special.”

An example of how the power of baseball resonates from the diamond to the heart.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.



Matt Fournier holds a Topps card of the Kansas City Royals’ 1982 batting and pitching leaders (George Brett, 3.14 batting avg., and Larry Gura 2.72 ERA).

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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# MI residents scramble to get last Walking Liberty Rolls

Once Michigan residents got wind that Michigan State Restricted Bank Rolls filled with Silver Walking Liberties dating back to the early 1900's were being handed over, there was a mad dash to get them. That's because some of these U.S. Gov't issued silver coins are already worth hundreds in collector value.

"It's like a run on the banks. The phones are ringing off the hook. That's because everyone is trying to get them before they're all gone," according to officials at the National Mint and Treasury who say they can barely keep up with all the orders.

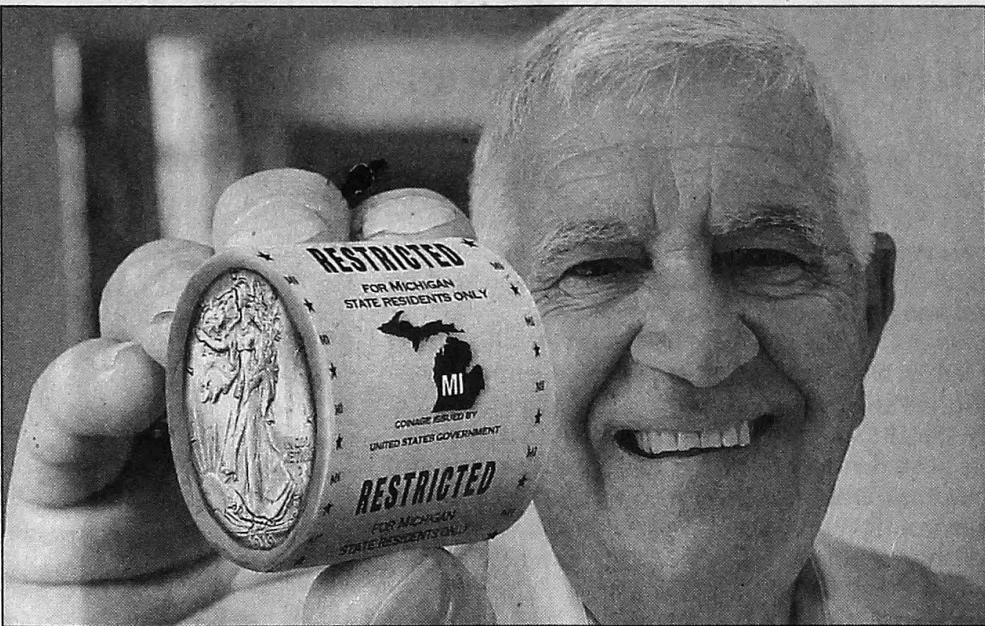
In fact, they had to impose a strict limit of 4 Michigan State Restricted Bank Rolls. So, if you get the chance to get your hands on these State Restricted Bank Rolls you better hurry because hundreds of Michigan residents already have and you don't want

to miss out. You see, the U.S. Gov't stopped minting these Silver Walking Liberties in 1947 and there can never be any more which makes them extremely collectible. And here's the best part. The rolls are unsearched so there's no telling how much they could be worth in collector value.

That's why at just the \$39 state minimum per coin set by National Mint and Treasury it's a deal too good to pass up.

But you better hurry because these Michigan State Restricted Bank Rolls are the only ones known to exist and Michigan residents are grabbing them up as fast as they can.

That's because they make amazing gifts for children, grandchildren and loved ones. Just imagine the look on their face when you hand them one of the State Restricted Rolls — they'll tell everyone they know what you did for them.



■ **GOT 'EM:** Residents all across Michigan who get their hands on these State Restricted Silver Walking Liberty Bank Rolls are definitely showing them off. That's because they are the only ones known to exist. And here's the best part, these Bank Rolls are loaded with U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberty coins some dating back to the early 1900's and worth up to 100 times their face value so everyone wants them.

# Last State Restricted Silver Walking Liberty Bank Rolls go to Michigan residents

*Michigan residents get first dibs on last remaining Bank Rolls loaded with U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberties dating back to the early 1900's some worth up to 100 times their face value for the next 2 days*

► **STATE DISTRIBUTION:** A strict limit of 4 State Restricted Bank Rolls per MI resident has been imposed

"It's a miracle these State Restricted Bank Rolls even exist. That's why Hotline Operators are bracing for the flood of calls," said Laura Lynne, U.S. Coin and Currency Director for the National Mint and Treasury.

For the next 2 days the last remaining State of Michigan Restricted Bank Rolls loaded with rarely seen U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberties are actually being handed over to Michigan residents who call the State Toll-Free Hotlines listed in today's newspaper publication.

"National Mint and Treasury recently spoke with its Chief Professional Numismatist who said 'Very few people have ever actually saw one of these rarely seen Silver Walking Liberties issued by the U.S. Gov't back in the early 1900's. But to actually find them sealed away in State Restricted Bank Rolls is like finding buried treasure. So anyone lucky enough to get their hands on these Bank Rolls had better hold on to them,'" Lynne said.

"Now that the State of Michigan Restricted Bank Rolls are being offered up we won't be surprised if thousands of Michigan residents claim the maximum limit allowed of 4 Bank Rolls per resident before they're all gone," said Lynne.

"That's because after the Bank Rolls were loaded with 15 rarely seen Silver Walking Liberties, each verified to meet a minimum collector grade of very good or above, the dates and mint marks of the U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberty Half Dollars sealed away inside the State of Michigan Restricted Bank Rolls have never been searched. But, we do know that some of these coins date clear back to the early 1900's and are worth up to 100 times their face value, so there is no telling what Michigan residents will find until they sort through all the coins," Lynne went on to say.

And here's the best part. If you are a resident of the state of Michigan you cover only the \$39 per coin state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury; that's fifteen rarely seen U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberties worth up to 100 times their face value for just \$585 which is a real steal because non state residents must pay \$118 per coin which totals \$1,770 if any coins remain after the 2-day deadline.

The only thing Michigan residents need to do is call the State Toll-Free Hotlines printed in today's newspaper publication before the 2-day order deadline ends.

"Rarely seen U.S. Gov't issued silver coins like these are highly sought after, but we've never seen anything like this before. According to The Official Red Book, a Guide Book of United States Coins many Silver Walking Liberty Half Dollars are now worth \$40 - \$825 each in collector value," Lynne said.

"We're guessing thousands of Michigan residents will be taking the maximum limit of 4 Bank Rolls because they make such amazing gifts for any occasion for children, parents, grandparents, friends and loved ones," Lynne continued.

"We know the phones will be ringing off the hook. That's why hundreds of Hotline Operators are standing by to answer the phones beginning at 8:30 am this morning. We're going to do our best, but with just 2 days to answer all the calls it won't be easy. So make sure to tell everyone to keep calling if all lines are busy. We'll do our best to answer them all," Lynne said.

The only thing readers of today's newspaper publication need to do is make sure they are a resident of the state of Michigan and call the National Toll-Free Hotlines before the 2-day deadline ends midnight tomorrow. ■

**SILVER:** ONE OF THE LAST SILVER COINS MINTED FOR CIRCULATION

**LAST REMAINING:** MINTED IN PHILADELPHIA, DENVER & SAN FRANCISCO



**ENLARGED TO SHOW DETAIL:** YEAR VARIES 1916-1947

**RARELY SEEN:** MINTED BY THE U.S. MINT IN THE EARLY 1900'S

## FACTS:

## HOW TO CLAIM THE LAST STATE RESTRICTED BANK ROLLS

If you are a Michigan State Resident read the important information below about claiming the State Silver Bank Rolls, then call the State Toll-Free Hotline at 8:30 am: **1-800-979-3771 EXT: RWB3998**

**Are these Silver Walking Liberties worth more than other half dollars:**

Yes. These U.S. Gov't issued Silver Walking Liberties were minted in the early 1900's and will never be minted again. That makes them extremely collectible. The vast majority of half dollars minted after 1970 have no silver content at all and these Walking Liberties were one of the last silver coins minted for circulation. That's why many of them now command hundreds in collector value so there's no telling how much they could be worth in collector value someday.

**How much are State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Rolls worth:**

It's impossible to say, but some of these U.S Gov't issued Walking Liberties dating back to the early 1900's are worth up to 100 times the face value and there are 15 in each Bank Roll so you better hurry if you want to get your hands on them. Collector values always fluctuate and there are never any guarantees. But we do know they are the only Michigan State Silver Bank Rolls known to exist and Walking Liberties are highly collectible so anyone lucky enough to get their hands on these Silver Bank Rolls should hold onto them because there's no telling how much they could be worth in collector value someday.

**Why are so many Michigan residents claiming them:**

Because they are the only State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Rolls known to exist and everyone wants their share. Each Bank Roll contains a whopping 15 Silver Walking Liberties dating back to the early 1900's some worth up to 100 times their face value. Best of all Michigan residents are guaranteed to get them for the state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury of just \$39 per Silver Walking Liberty for the next two days.

**How do I get the State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Rolls:**

Michigan residents are authorized to claim up to the limit of 4 State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Rolls by calling the State Toll Free Hotline at **1-800-979-3771 Ext. RWB3998** starting at precisely 8:30 am this morning. Everyone who does is getting the only State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Rolls known to exist. That's a full Bank Roll containing 15 Silver Walking Liberties from the early 1900's some worth up to 100 times their face value for just the state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury of just \$39 per Silver Walking Liberty, which is just \$585 for the full Bank Rolls and that's a real steal because non state residents are not permitted to call before 5 pm tomorrow and must pay \$1,770 for each Michigan State Restricted Walking Liberty Silver Bank Roll if any remain.



# Commission tables Northville Downs plan

## Meeting ends with heated words from the developer

Ed Wright [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Controversy reigned Feb. 1 at the conclusion of the Northville Planning Commission meeting focused on The Downs preliminary site plan review.

Following three-and-a-half hours of discussion centered on Hunter Pasteur's plan to develop the 48-acre Northville Downs property, Hunter Pasteur CEO Randy Wertheimer stepped to the podium and delivered a heated message when Planning Commission Chair Donna Tinberg announced the meeting would be tabled until Feb. 15 because the commission's contract with the Northville Community Center, where the meeting was held, expired at 10:30 p.m.

"Our team has put too much energy and too much time into this to have it end with a curfew and no vote," Wertheimer said. "This is an unacceptable outcome tonight. If we have to stay an extra 10 to 15 minutes, we'll pay the overtime to the staff."

"To have no vote at all is absolutely unacceptable. I can't tell you how disappointed I am."

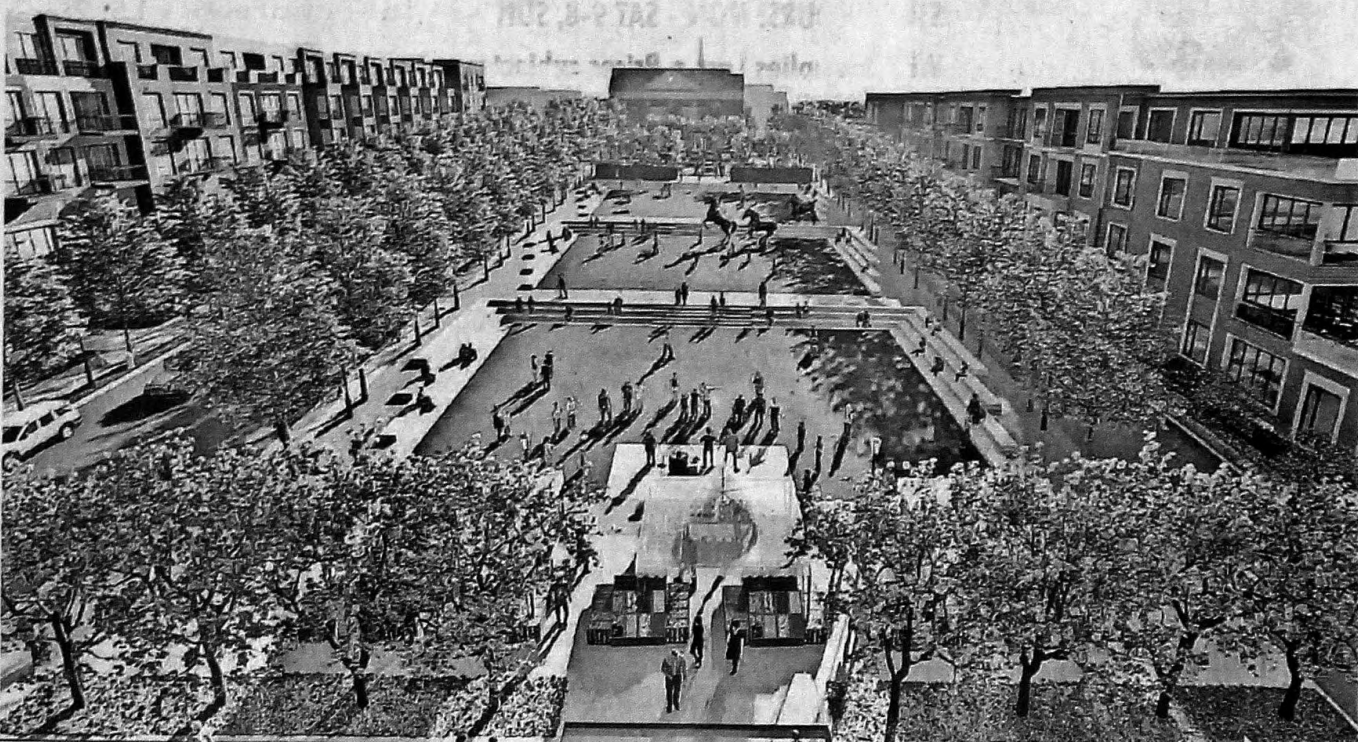
Tinberg countered by saying a vote would not be possible because there was not enough time for further discussion among commissioners.

"Then we'll stay longer," Wertheimer said. "The staff told us before the meeting they'd be willing to stay longer."

Tinberg then asked for a motion to table the discussion until the commission's next meeting Feb. 15.

Commissioner Thomas Barry made the motion, which was supported by Commissioner Carol Maise.

In a roll call vote on the motion to table, six commissioners (Tinberg, Vice Chair Steven Kirk, Barry, Paul DeBono, Maise and AnnaMaryLee Vollick) voted yes



A rendering of the heart of the Downs development project. COURTESY OF HUNTER PASTEUR HOMES

while commissioners Jeff Gaines, David Hay and William Salliotte, Jr. voted no.

The same 6-3 result followed a roll call vote to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting included a 23-minute presentation by city planner Sally Elmiger, an approximately 70-minute site plan presentation by Hunter Pasteur, a 32-minute period when commissioners asked clarifying questions to the developers and roughly 48 minutes of public comment regarding the site plan.

The development process will not move on to the next step — an official public hearing — until the plan-

ning commission votes that the developer's preliminary site plan is "generally complete."

The meeting was held with a hybrid format online via Zoom or in person.

Tinberg explained at the outset of the meeting that commissioners were required to attend the meeting in person, a requirement she said she'd like to see changed given the current spike in COVID-19 cases.

The Downs project was deemed PUD eligible Nov. 2, 2021.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [ewwright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewwright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

## Grant

Continued from Page 1A

Dignan said he's happy the district received such a large grant, and said the award size demonstrates the community's need.

The district expects the devices will especially impact homeless students or students who are in foster care.

Last year, the district started offering mobile internet hotspots on school buses that would move around the district during the day because so many students didn't have internet access.

"We worked with some consultants, and they told us to shoot for the moon," Dignan said. "You know, all they could say is 'no.' I think it's because we did that and because of the needs of our community. Pockets of our kids don't have access to internet."

About 1,700 of the devices bought will be Chromebook laptops for students in the fourth grade or higher. The rest of the funds will go toward iPads for younger students.

Dignan said the district chose iPads for lower grades because they're easier to use.

The district already has a device for each of its 9,500 students. But these new devices — arriving in the fall — will aid students who don't have internet at home. To be on the safe side, Dignan said he'd eventually like to get a LTE device for every student.

"I think online education is here," he said. "You're going to see a lot of intervention and enrichment happening outside the school day. Whether it's homework or practicing academic skills, I think online education is here to stay ... It's all about equity. This will give opportunity and access for all kids."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## Judge: Files of police officers who arrested Jones 'not necessary'

Kayla Daugherty [LivingstonDaily.com](http://LivingstonDaily.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A Livingston County judge ruled Monday that the personnel files of the officers who arrested State Rep. Jewell Jones, D-Inkster, are "not necessary, not germane" to the representative's upcoming drunken driving trial.

Byron Nolan, Jones' attorney, had filed a motion looking to gain access to the personnel files of Michigan State Troopers James Gilmer and Kenneth Harden, but Livingston County Circuit Court Judge Michael Hatty said those files would "add cloudiness" to Jones' trial.

"The jury will be able to determine how these officers and troopers acted at the place and time of the subsequent arrest that led to the trial," he said.

The judge also granted defense requests to exclude previous actions by Jones, and allegations contained in a separate pending case about him trying to take a handcuff key into the jail.

In the case at hand, Jones is charged with four counts of resisting and obstructing a police officer.

Jones, 26, is also charged with misdemeanor counts of operating a motor vehicle with a high blood alcohol content, operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, possession of a weapon while under the influence of alcohol, and reckless driving.

Jones is scheduled to appear in court next week for a final settlement conference prior to trial. He is free on bond. He previously had been jailed for 60 days after violating terms of his original bond.

Jones was arrested after troopers were called to westbound Interstate 96 near Fowlerville Road April 6, 2021, in response to reports of a vehicle that had been driving recklessly, according to police reports. There, police encountered Jones and a woman in a vehicle.

In dashcam video played in court last year, officers can be seen grappling with Jones during the traffic stop. Jones can be heard in the video saying he wants to give police his ID, after previously refusing to multiple times.

He also referred to one of the troopers as the N-word and other expletives.

Police used a shock device twice, and pepper spray, before Jones complied with officers' request for his left arm so they could handcuff him. Jones was handcuffed and placed into a Livingston County Sheriff's Office vehicle.

Jones had a blood alcohol content of at least 0.17%, according to the police complaint, more than twice the 0.08% limit at which a person can be convicted of drunken driving.

Jones was jailed in September after violating his bond conditions for a third time. Then, while being processed into the jail, Livingston County Jail staff said they discovered a handcuff key taped to the bottom of this foot, which resulted in two additional charges — one count each of bringing a weapon into a jail and escape waiting trial for a felony.

The trial on the resisting/drunken driving case will take place first, with a separate trial pertaining to the handcuff key incident slated for a later date.

In a motion hearing Monday, Nolan requested Hatty suppress information about the handcuff key during the traffic stop trial.

Prosecutors "wanted to bring it in for the first case to basically show 'Hey he is a bad guy,' which is not allowable under the law," Nolan said.

He also asked the judge to exclude a 2019 incident in which Jones was ticketed for being asleep behind the wheel in Dearborn.

## Obituaries

To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit [mideathnotices.com/place.php](http://mideathnotices.com/place.php)

### Kazumi (Kay) Fujii

Kazumi (Kay) Fujii passed away on January 30, 2022 in a nursing home. She was 96. Kay was born on November 25, 1925.

She was the daughter of Chiyono Takahashi (mother) and Sanzucki Okimoto (father). Kay was the last surviving sibling of sisters Yuki Okimoto Matsuhiko (John), and Fuki Okimoto Abe (Shiro) and brothers Saburo Okimoto (Mitzi), Shiro Okimoto (Ruby), Roy Okimoto (Miki) and George Okimoto (Alice). Kay was the beloved wife of the late Hideo Fujii and is survived by her sons James (Myung Hee), Robert (Angela) and Mark. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

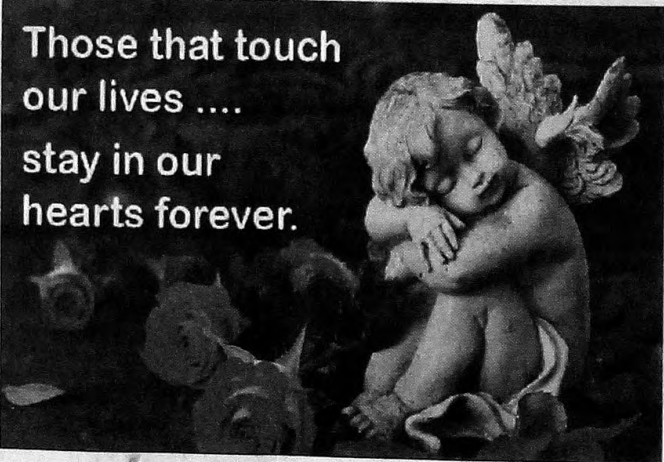


### Janet I. Patterson

FARMINGTON HILLS - Janet I. Patterson, age 95, of Farmington Hills, Michigan passed away peacefully at home on January 30, 2022. Janet is survived by two sons; Richard Patterson of Farmington Hills and James (Barbara) Patterson of Lansdale, PA; two granddaughters, Michelle Patterson of Lansdale, PA and Stephanie Patterson of Fairfax, VA; nephews; Paul (Veronique) Engel, Lloyd (Johanna) Engel, Charles (Paula) Engel; niece Vicki (Dan Gunning) Engel; great niece Sandrine (Francis) Boyer Engel, and brother-in-law David (Sheila) Patterson. Janet was preceded in death by her husband, Jack M. Patterson; sisters, Marguerite Engel and Ellen Imboden and nephew, Ross Engel. A memorial service will be held on Friday, February 11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the Birmingham Unitarian Church at 38651 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304. The family asks that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Birmingham Unitarian Church at [bucmi.org](http://bucmi.org). [www.mccabefuneralhome.com](http://www.mccabefuneralhome.com)



Those that touch  
our lives ....  
stay in our  
hearts forever.







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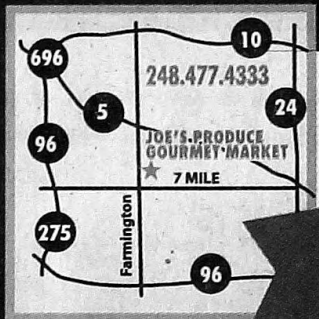
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BAREFOOT  
750 ML  
EXCLUDES "BUBBLY"  
2/\$11

PIKE ROAD  
PINOT NOIR  
\$14.99 EA.

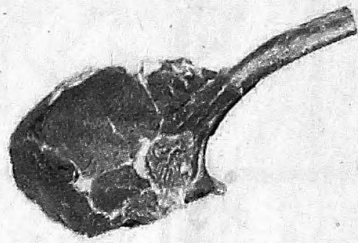
CARNIVOR  
CABERNET  
\$9.99 EA.



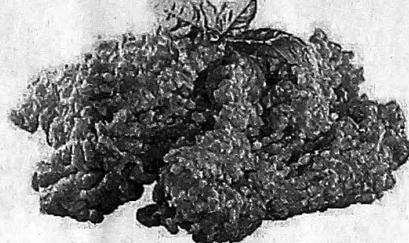
*Meat*

## Joe's Meat & Seafood

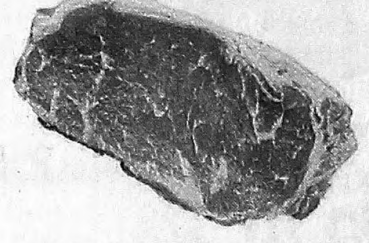
Largest Fresh Meat & Seafood Counter in the Area!  
Butcher-cut and hand ground premium meats. Fresh flown-in fish and seafood daily.



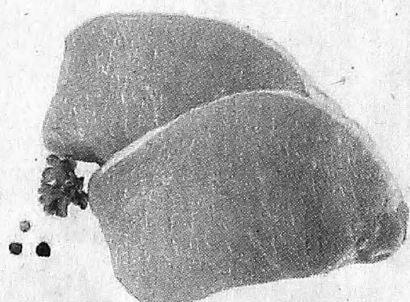
USDA PREMIUM CHOICE  
ANGUS COWBOY  
RIBEYE STEAKS  
\$15.99/LB.



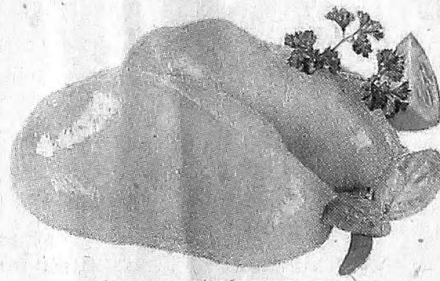
USDA PREMIUM  
CHOICE ANGUS  
GROUND BEEF FROM ROUND  
\$6.49/LB.



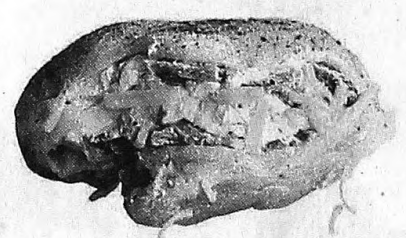
USDA PREMIUM CHOICE  
ANGUS TOP SIRLOIN  
STEAK  
\$8.99/LB.



FRESH ALL NATURAL  
BONELESS PORK  
CHOPS  
\$3.89/LB.

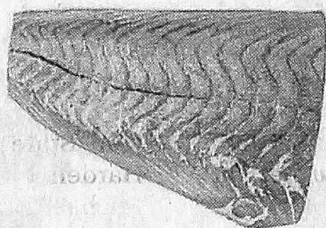


PREMIUM FRESH  
ALL NATURAL BONELESS  
SKINLESS CHICKEN BREASTS  
\$3.99/LB.

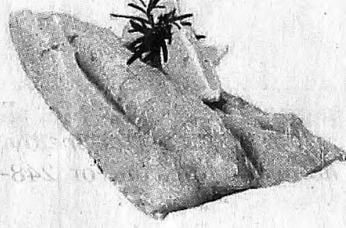


ENTRÉES TO GO  
PREPARED STUFFED CHICKEN  
BREASTS: MUENSTER BACON,  
CORDON BLEU, OR BACON  
CHEDDAR  
\$5.99/LB.

*Seafood*



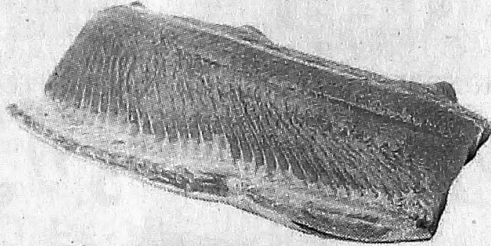
SUPREME  
POLLOCK FILLETS  
\$4.99/LB.



GROUPE  
FILLETS  
\$16.99/LB.



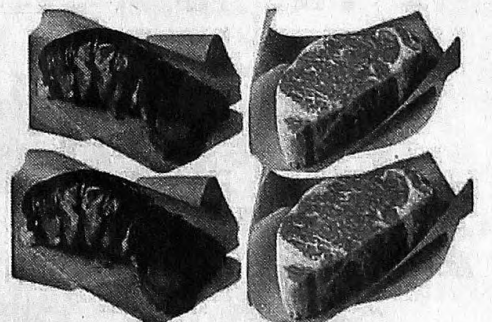
CENSEA EZ PEEL  
SHRIMP 16/20 CT  
\$6.99 EA.



WILD CAUGHT SOCKEYE  
SALMON FILLETS  
\$18.99/LB.



CENSEA COOKED SHRIMP  
31/40 CT  
\$8.99 EA.



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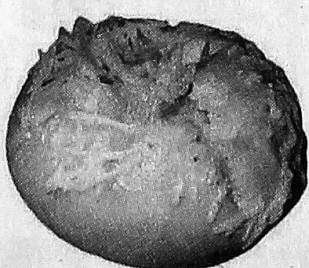
OFFER VALID 2/12-2/13, 2022

*art of bread  
by joe's*

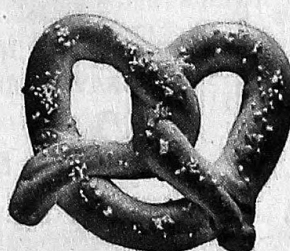
STONE HEARTH BAKED DAILY

248-477-4311

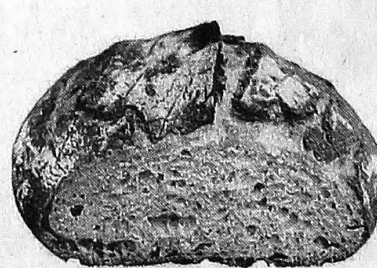
Hours: 9 am - 6 pm, Closed Monday



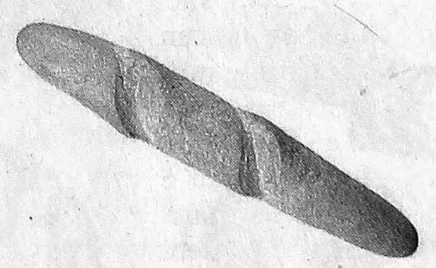
JALEPEÑO CHEDDAR  
BREAD BOWL  
\$4.49 EA.



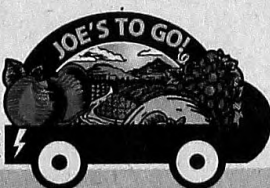
SOFT PRETZELS  
\$1.99 EA.



SOURDOUGH  
\$5.49 EA.



BAGUETTE  
\$2.49 EA.



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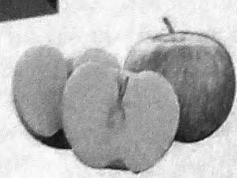
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## Produce

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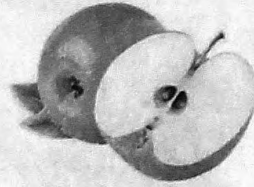
WASHINGTON LUNCH BOX HONEYCRISP APPLES  
**\$2.99/LB.**



CALIFORNIA ROMAINE HEARTS  
**\$2.99 EA.**



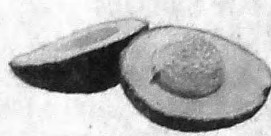
JOE'S FLORIDA FRESH SQUEEZED ORANGE JUICE HALF GALLON  
**\$9.99 EA.**



ORGANIC GALA APPLES  
**\$1.79/LB.**



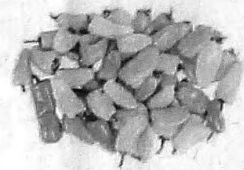
ORGANIC GREEN PEPPERS  
**79¢ EA.**



HAAS AVOCADOS  
**5/\$5**



CALIFORNIA BROCCOLI  
**\$1.99 EA.**



MINI SWEET PEPPERS 1LB PKG  
**\$1.99 EA.**



ORGANIC BABY-CUT CARROTS  
1 LB BAG  
**2/\$3**



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DEARBORN OVEN ROASTED TURKEY  
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HOFFMAN'S HARD SALAMI  
**\$5.99/LB.**



TROYER GREEN ONION CHEESE  
**\$4.49/LB.**



KOWALSKI KIELBASA LOAF  
**\$6.49/LB.**

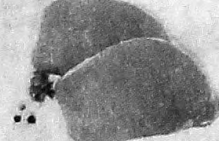
## Meat & Seafood



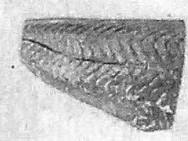
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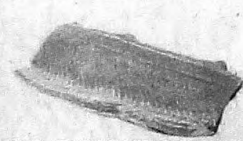
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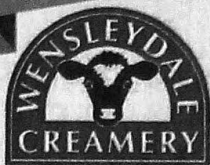


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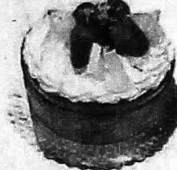


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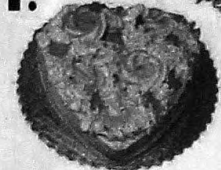
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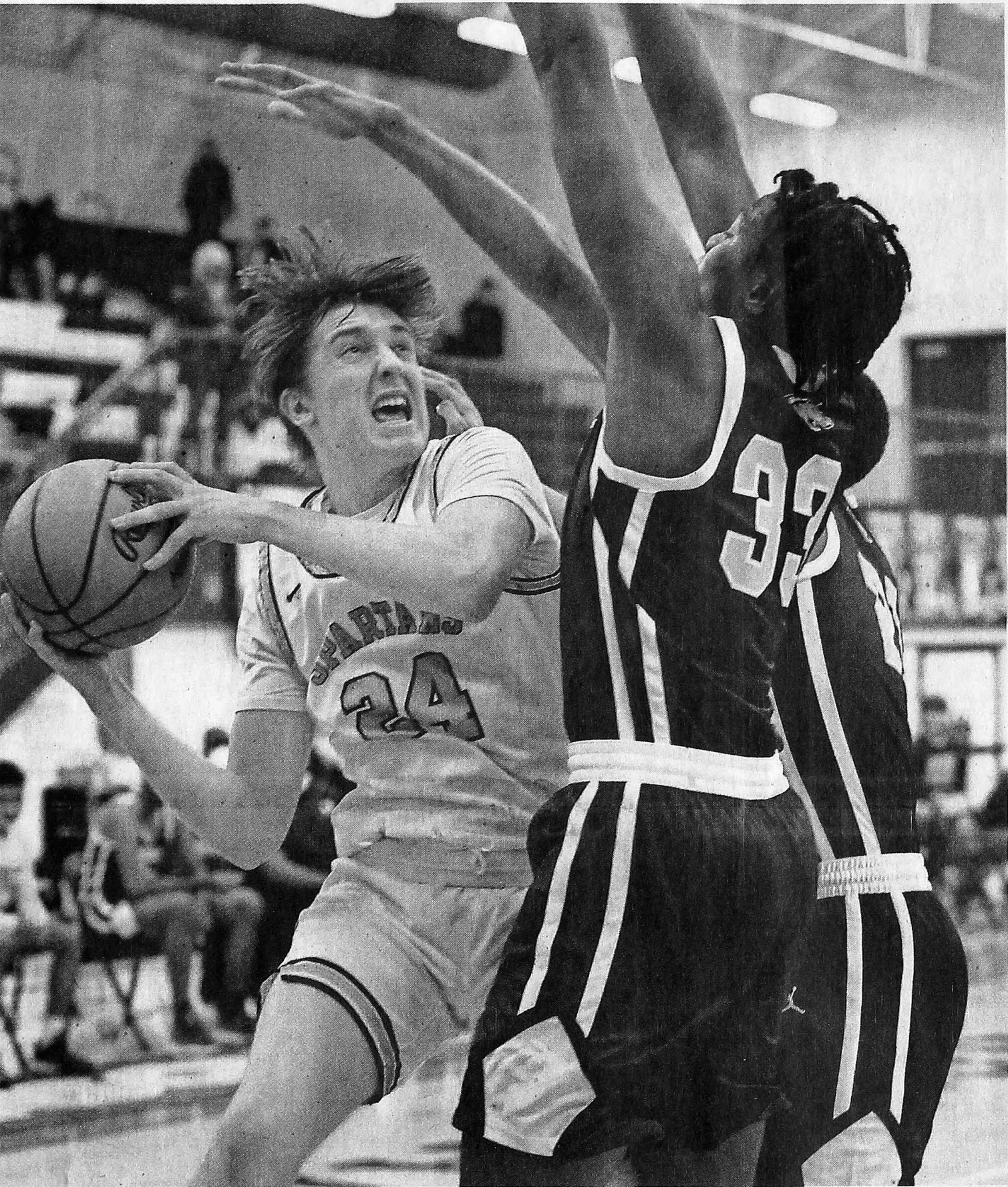
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# SPORTS



Stevenson's Lucas Young looks for an opening against Wayne on "Oxford Strong" night. "It felt like a Friday night," said Stevenson coach Eoghann Stephens, whose Spartans beat Wayne, 62-37. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## 'Oxford Strong' night brings Stevenson community together

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

You would've thought Wayne Memorial was playing a home game with how many spectators sported navy blue and gold shirts, sweatshirts and hats. But these weren't Zebras fans. This was Livonia Stevenson bringing its community together for one special evening.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has designated all of February as "Oxford Strong" month to support the survivors, victims and families who

**Performance online**

Find Ava Smith's national anthem performance at **HometownLife.com**.

were impacted by the Oxford High School school shooting in November.

The Spartans wasted no time in organizing their own "Oxford Strong" night. On Feb. 1 they welcomed Wayne for much more than your typical Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East matchup.

Present was the pompon team with

Oxford gold bows in their hair. The pep band stationed itself in the entire southwest section of the bleachers inside Jay W. Formsma Memorial Gymnasium. More school spirit was shown by the hockey, football and softball teams all making appearances.

The boys basketball team warmed up in navy blue "Oxford Strong" shirts while the coaches wore similar crew-neck sweatshirts.

The national anthem was even sung by Oxford senior Ava Swiss, whose

**See OXFORD STRONG, Page 2B**

## Redford Westfield Prep defense puts them among best

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The fourth-ranked Redford Westfield Prep girls basketball team might have the quickest defense in the state. And the evidence why doesn't come from a stopwatch.

Just know the Warriors are faster than the speed of sound.

Before the public-address announcer of the matchup at Cass Tech was finished declaring the start of the second half, Westfield Prep's Isis Johnson-Musah had intercepted an inbounds pass and took off on a fast-break.

Her layup attempt had already left her fingertips by the time the announcer could finally say the last two syllables of the sentence, "Cass Tech's basketball to start the second half."

Now *THAT* is fast.

And that was just one example of many throughout the Warriors' 82-58 victory.

Their defense has come to play this winter, and Westfield Prep (15-1) hasn't exactly played an easy schedule.

Each night is another battle against a Division 1 powerhouse for the Class B school with an enrollment of just 505 students, according to the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

The Warriors have already beaten Rochester Hills Stoney Creek, East Kentwood, Ann Arbor Pioneer, Grand Blanc, Southfield A&T, Dexter and Kalamazoo Central, among other big schools, including some from outside of the state.

Their lone loss is against Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, a three-point close-call on Jan. 13, and the D-3 Gators are arguably the best team in the state when four-star Texas A&M signee Mya Petticord is on the floor.

The Warriors should turn heads once the D-2 playoffs start. They're battle-tested, and the Technicians were the latest victims of their hard-nosed defense.

"Our main thing is defense, defense," coach Doc Cornell said. "On any night you can have a good offensive night, but there should never be an off defensive night. That's just all heart and effort, so that's what I preach. Our defense is the main thing first and foremost."

Good luck getting the ball inbounded from the baseline.

The Warriors, led by guards Shamyia Ried, Johnson-Musah, Layla Marshall and Asia Cochran, are just too scrappy.


The second a guard catches a pass, they've already swarmed her with a

**See DEFENSE, Page 2B**

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# Defense

Continued from Page 1B

double team. If the guard can manage to get a dribble off before turning it over, consider that a win for the offense. It doesn't happen too often.

"Our defense just looks great because most of these teams are not like on a higher level like most teams," said Johnson-Musah, who scored a team-high 21 points. "Once we play the better teams in the playoffs, we're going to have to tighten up our defense more. But, yeah, it's definitely fun. It's fun when refs don't call fouls a lot. It's definitely fun playing (hard-nosed) like that."

Conditioning has been key for the Warriors, who make wholesale hockey line-like changes to keep their players fresh. There's not a player on their bench who wouldn't start for another smaller school in the state.

Cornell subs in a girl, she plays all-out until she's gassed and then he brings in a fresh replacement.

It's relentless basketball for 32 minutes.

With the regular season coming to a close, he admits it's tough keeping his players committed to running in practice. But he reminds them it'll pay off in March.

"The thing is we want to be in condition because this is the part of the season where you can get lackadaisical," the third-year coach said. "This is the part of the season where you can get bored because of the time in between games. We've just got to keep conditioning and running as much as possible and doing competitive things on the days we're off to keep them in game mode."

"With those big layoffs, you've got to have something to keep them going and keep them in conditioning. That's the main thing is staying in conditioning and staying in shape. That's why we're always mimicking game play in practice to keep their minds (ready)."

Marshall added 20 points for the Warriors, which included making four 3-pointers, while Reid contributed 15 points and Cochran had nine.

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



Redford Westfield Prep's Shamya Reid goes up for a basket against Cass Tech. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Redford Westfield Prep's Layla Marshall scraps for the ball.



Redford Westfield Prep's Isis Johnson Musah shoots Feb. 4 at Cass Tech.



Stevenson's Dylan McGlinch takes a shot off the drive against a Wayne defender. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Spartan Kenoly Jones tries to sneak a basket past two Wayne Memorial players.

# Oxford Strong

Continued from Page 1B

family is from Livonia (find the video of Ava's performance online at hometownlife.com).

There were raffles, merchandise purchases and donations made. The money raised from the event will be donated to the Oxford Memorial and Victims Fund.

Sometimes it takes a tragedy to bring a community closer together. There definitely was a sense of family and brotherhood throughout the night.

"It felt like a Friday night," said Stevenson coach Eoghann Stephens, whose Spartans beat Wayne, 62-37. "We just told them before the game, 'What better place to be? You're here with our team. We've got the Stevenson community here. This is what you dream about when you play basketball. We have a packed house in the stands, and you get

to play in front of them.' So I just told them to not waste the opportunity and show everyone who we are."

It was another second-half surge for the Spartans, who improved to 8-4 overall and 6-2 in the East. Many nights have seen them stumble through the opening half only to storm back with a giant third quarter. Tuesday was no different.

Senior Kenly Jones picked up his third foul just nine minutes into the game, so Stevenson was without its best shooter for almost the entire second quarter.

When the 5-foot-11 guard checked back in after halftime, he helped the offense find its rhythm with a 24-point third quarter.

The Spartans extended a one-point halftime lead with a 20-4 run that saw them bury five 3-pointers, including three from Jones, who scored eight points during the scoring spree. Mark Stein nailed the other two from downtown during the stretch, which included

him making a buzzer-beater that gave his team a 45-31 lead entering the fourth.

"Over the course of different games, I've realized not to let it (foul trouble and slow starts) get to my head," said Jones, who scored 15 of his team-high 16 points in the second half. "I just stayed locked in and helped my teammates by cheering them on. I knew I was going to get back in soon because the coaches kept on telling me that and stuff, so I knew I was good."

Added Stephens: "It's tough (having Jones sit on the bench) because he gets a lot of shots, and he creates a lot of opportunities for other people because of how offensively strong he is. He opens up a lot of other people."

Jones, who also scored the first four points of the fourth, said a conversation with a teammate inspired him to keep his head up while sitting out.

"One of my teammates, Joey Harper, No. 3, just told me, 'Just turn up,' and I

was like, 'Alright,' and I just let it come to a flow," Jones said. "I just started shooting, and they just started going in."

In the waning moments, Nate Curtis scored six-straight to give Stevenson a 27-point lead, its largest of the night.

Stein finished with 11 points for the Spartans, who also got 10 from Radu Iacoban, seven from Dylan McGlinch and six apiece from Curtis and Lucas Young.

Keith Weight, a 6-7 center, led Wayne (2-8, 1-7) with 16 points, most of which came in the paint and under the basket. Travon Stevenson added six points, followed by Zavion Ayler with five.

"The first half was a little iffy, but in the second half, we did show them who we are," Stephens said. "We work them hard in practice, and we talk about how we've got to be able to play every quarter. I think we showed we're not tired. We can battle with anybody."

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



# Our top 5 girls basketball teams: Week 4

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Only three weeks of the regular season are left until the district tournament begins.

Conference races are coming to a close and league tournaments are about to be seeded. It's about to get really fun around the state over the next two months.

Let's take a look at who the best teams are in western metro Detroit as the final days of the season fall off the calendar.

*Note:* These records are based on results from before Feb. 6.

## 1. Redford Westfield Prep (15-1) (Last week: No. 1)

It wouldn't be a surprise if the Warriors win a state title. With Shanya Reid, Isis Johnson-Musah, Laylah Marshall and Asia Cochran, they're pretty great.

But when you factor the talented on the rest of their roster, Westfield Prep looks unstoppable. They've bullied Class A school after Class A school week in and week out.

They're ranked No. 4 by the Associated Press, which is a travesty. But that's likely because they've only been around at an elite level for the past three seasons. They should turn heads in the playoffs in March.

## 2. Farmington Hills Mercy (12-2, 8-1 CHSL-Central) (Last week: No. 2)

Thanks to a snow day, the Marlins played just one league game last week. That means Dearborn Divine Child caught up with them in the Catholic League-Central standings.

So both squads are tied for first place. And both squads have just Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard left on their schedule. And both squads barely got past the Irish in earlier matchups this winter.

Mercy beat Gabriel Richard 34-33 on Jan. 18, while Divine Child beat the Irish 48-43 one week later. The division race is going to be a nail-biter down the stretch.

## 3. Wayne Memorial (13-1, 10-0 KLAA-East) (Last week: No. 3)

The Zebras must win only one of their next four Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East games in the upcoming two weeks to win its sixth-straight division title.

It'll win all four of the games, though, because they were No. 10 in Division 1 in last week's AP poll.

They're battle-tested. They got past their final hurdle on Friday, beating Livonia Franklin on the road, the only true team that stood a chance at beating them.

They just need to keep winning and then wait to see who they draw from the West for the league championship game.

## 4. South Lyon East (11-2, 9-0 LVC) (Last week: No. 4)

Right now, the Cougars can afford to lose two of their next six games and still repeat as the Lakes Valley Conference champions.

That's a good place to be in as we head down the stretch. Why? Injuries or a COVID-19 layoff could arise at any moment.

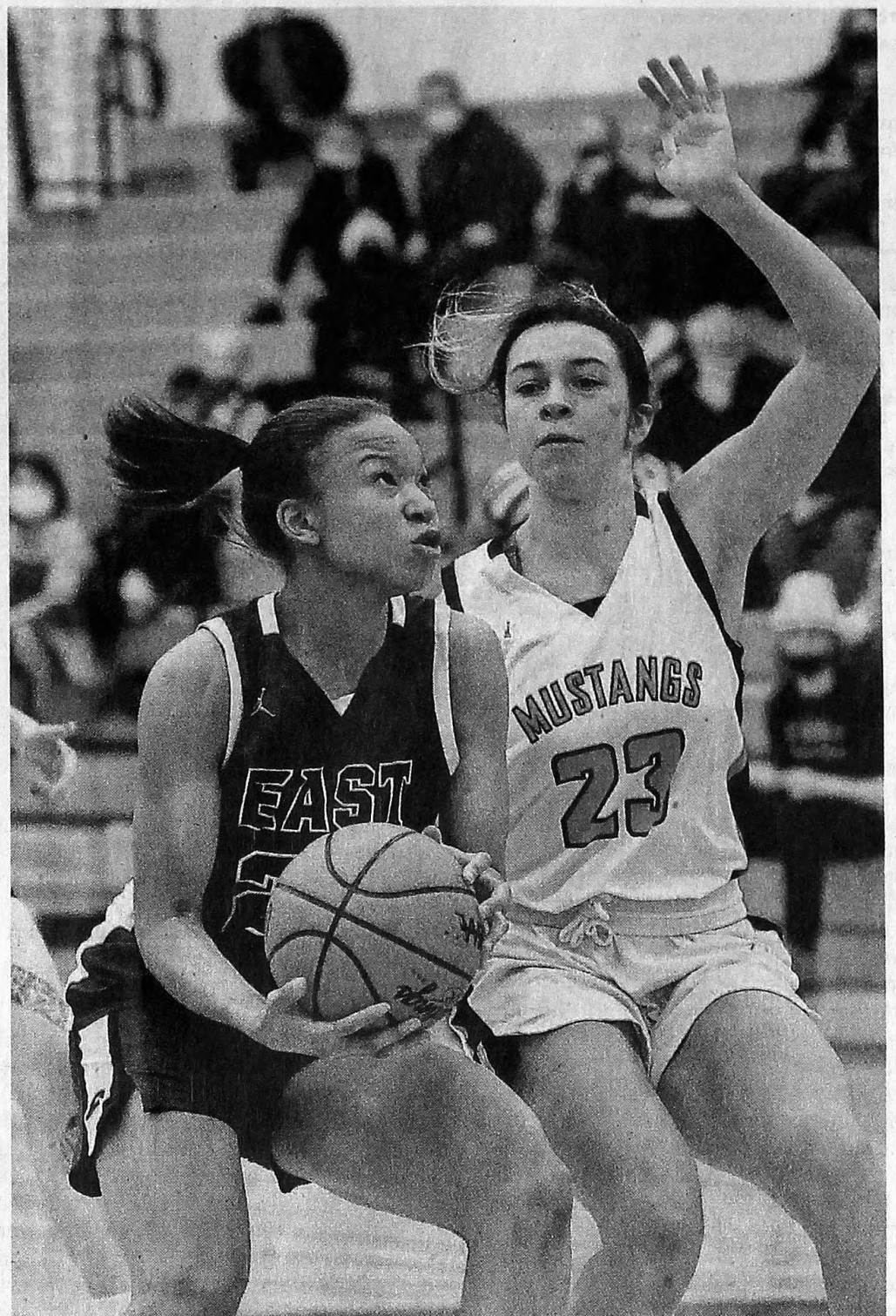
Just ask Ypsilanti Arbor Prep, which just dropped its first game of the season because of these very reasons. East now has breathing room should a setback try to halt their run for another league title.

## 5. Plymouth Christian Academy (12-3, 5-0 MIAC) (Last Week: Unranked)

With Livonia Franklin losing its third KLAA-East game, this No. 5 spot was a coin flip between the Eagles and Birmingham Seaholm, which is 11-3 overall and 9-0 in the Oakland Activities Association-Blue.

But PCA got the nod because its strength of schedule was better, and it's blitzing through its conference as well right now. Plus, there might not be a better senior leader out there than Anna Fernandez, the Eagles' 1,000-career point scorer.

*In the hunt (in no particular order):* Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills Marian, Birmingham Groves Bir-



South Lyon East's Taylor Anderson attacks the basket during Northville's girls basketball holiday tournament Dec. 28. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

mingham Seaholm, Birmingham Detroit Country Day, Livonia Clarenceville, Milford, Northville, Plymouth Christian Academy, Wixom St. Catherine, White Lake Lakeland.

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

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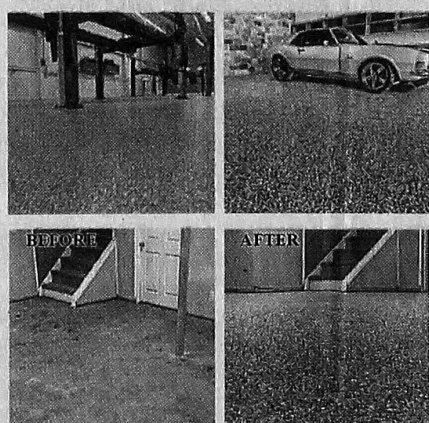
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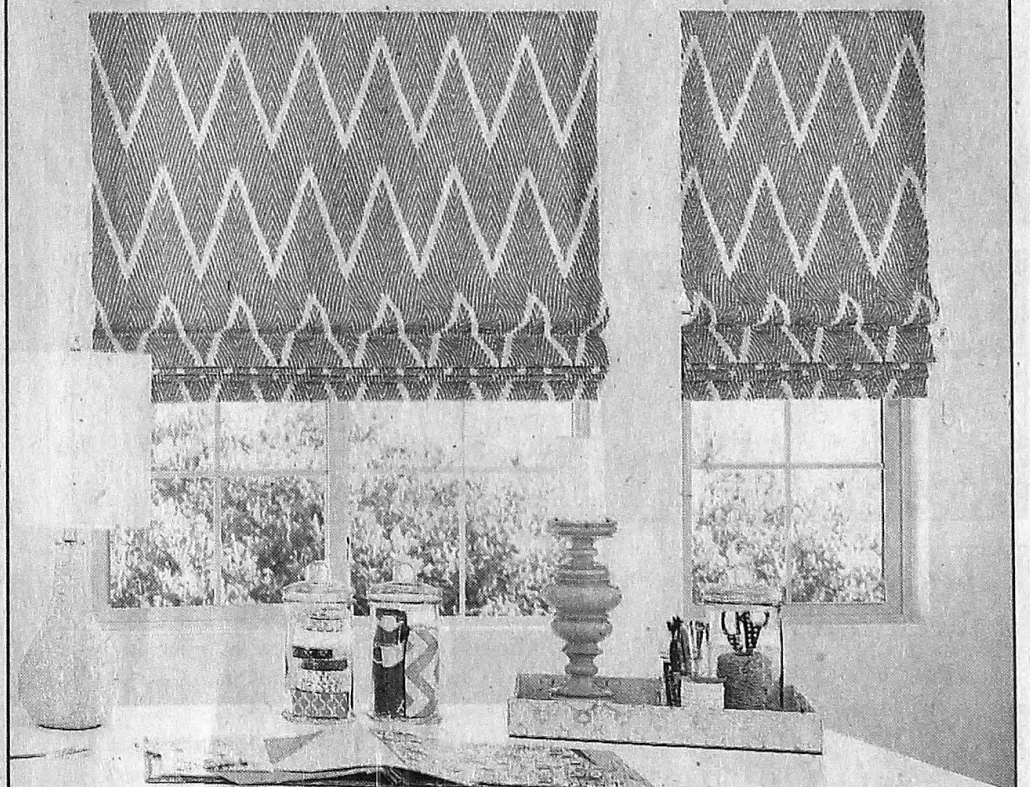
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# Northville hockey finds mojo entering postseason

Brandon Folsom [Hometownlife.com](http://Hometownlife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville hockey team couldn't have picked a better time to return to full strength.

The Mustangs have taken their lumps all winter.

They've had players out because of COVID-19 protocols. Others have missed because of the flu. And, of course, injuries have kept some skaters off the ice as well.

Being shorthanded has kept them under a .500 winning percentage.

Saturday was the first time all season (yes, seriously) Northville had its entire roster available for game day.

And the Mustangs needed it.

They traveled to Mt. Clemens Ice Arena to take on L'Anse Creuse Unified, a squad just one day removed from repeating as the Macomb Area Conference-Red champions.

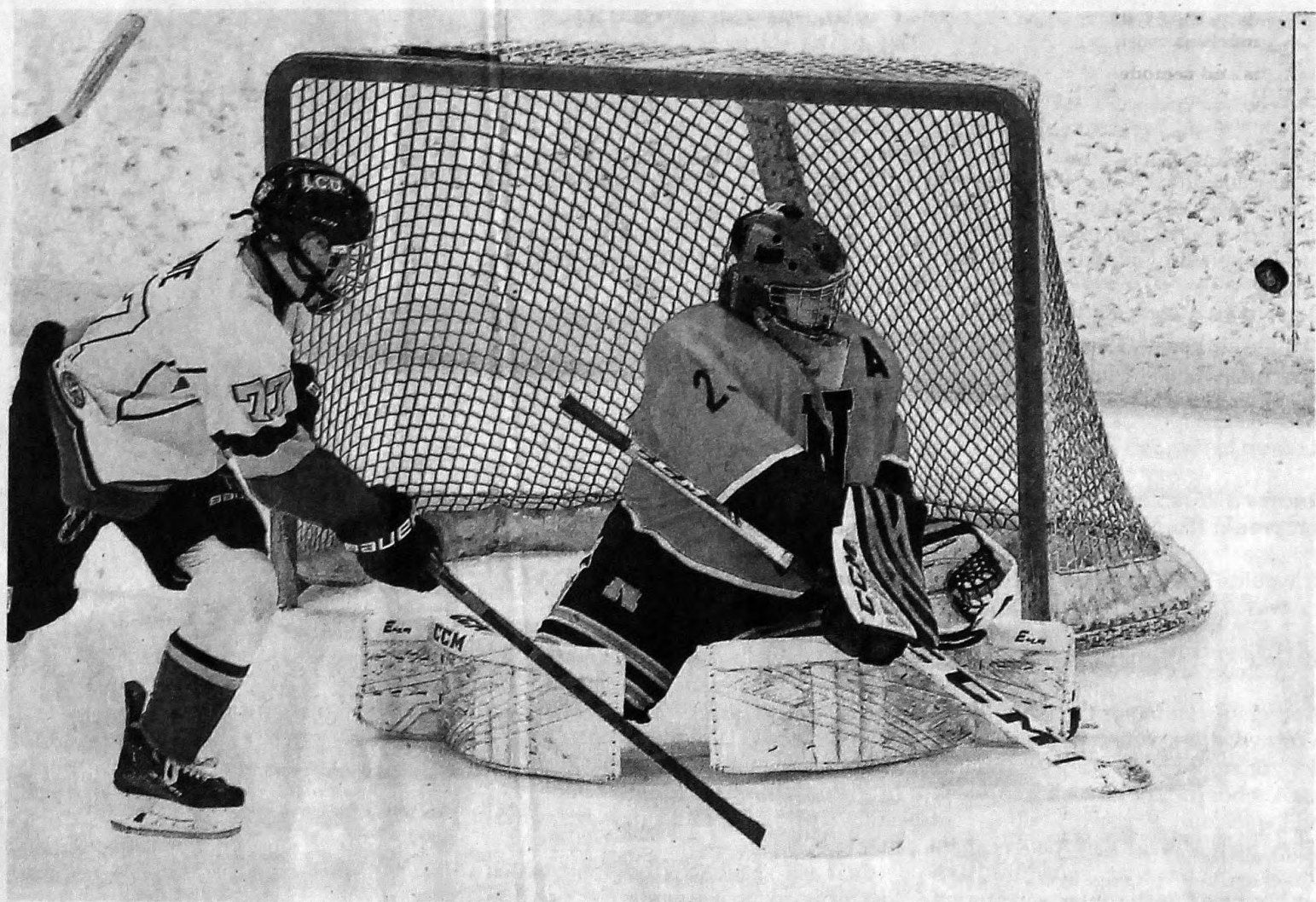
For those unaware, the MAC-Red is the toughest division in all of Macomb County. Yes, Northville benefited from LCU being a little sluggish from celebrating a conference title the night before. Plus, it was senior night at its arena. But LCU didn't back down from the fight. In fact, LCU scored the first two goals, putting the Mustangs in a major hole as the second period was waning.

But, despite the deficit, coach Gordie Brown thought Northville was playing some of its best hockey yet. So the Mustangs kept chipping away until Connor Vissotski pushed in a pair of goals in the third to give them the lead.

And then Zach Holstad sauced in an empty-netter from 100 feet away to ensure them the 5-3 comeback win.

"They're (LCU) probably coming off of being tired, I imagine, and let's be honest: We've got to take advantage of it," Brown said. "They probably played late last night. Senior night. They win everything. They were probably super high (emotionally) last night and didn't sleep well. And now they're back, and we used it against them a little bit."

"But I told our guys that we were playing well. That was probably the most scoring opportunities that we've had in the first period all year. I said we've just got to keep chipping, we've got to keep going and we'll get our op-



Northville goalie Dylan Eliason stops a shot against L'Anse Creuse Unified on Feb. 5 at Mt. Clemens Ice Arena.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

portunities. Don't put your head down and don't take a penalty. They put their head down, and they kept going. That energy, I think you could see, kept us in it during the third."

Tommy Loebach and Matthew Heitzler bookended the end of the second and beginning of the third with goals to knot the score at 2 apiece.

LCU's Cade Ringstad scored his second goal seven minutes into the third to put his team back ahead, 3-2.

And then the Mustangs controlled the play the rest of the evening.

Vissotski somehow pushed in a goal in an absolute scrum off a rebound to tie it at 3 with 8:39 left.

Three minutes later, Vissotski did it again, pushing in another rebound for a score, only this time the scrum was

much larger, despite LCU being a man down because of a penalty.

The scrum was so messy, in fact, that the forward lost his stick in the net after his shot, so he wound up celebrating in the west end of the arena without it.

"We're taught by Coach Gordie to crash the net. It pays off," the sophomore said. "When you crash the net, you've got three guys at the net, and it's hard for the goalie to save it. My line, I just tell them every time, 'Crash the net!' You never know what's going to happen."

Added Brown: "The guys have bought into rebounds at the net. Obviously, they had a really good goalie (Frank Boskovich), and he didn't let anything clean in all night. ... I think we out-heavied them a little more at the net."

It's a little too late for Northville (9-11-1, 1-2-1 KLAA-Gold) to claw back into the division race with only four games left, including just one game against a Gold opponent.

But the Mustangs have won three straight. Plus, they're finally healthy. With the playoffs only three weeks away, they're putting it all together at the right time.

"(We have) a lot of mojo right now," Vissotski said. "We're 5-1 in the last six, so we're turning it around and playing good against good teams. I think we're going to go pretty far if we keep playing like we did today."

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

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SECTION 00 11 13  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 2020 Bond, **BP#EL-2 Additions and Remodeling**, consisting of:

**Additions and remodeling at Miller, Bird, and Smith Elementary Schools**

will be received through Building Connected until **1:00 PM on Thursday, February 24th, 2022.**

1. All proposals shall be submitted electronically through Building Connected: <https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5ae227ade0d395000fd24541> (McCarthy and Smith Plan Room)
2. For instructions on how to submit a bid please go to the following link: <https://buildingconnected.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360010222793-How-to-submit-your-bid-through-BuildingConnected>

Bids submitted after this time and date **will not** be considered or accepted.

Faxed and/or E-mail proposals will not be accepted.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated, beginning at approx. **1:00 PM on Thursday, February 24th.** Bid Opening will be publicly conducted via a Zoom meeting.

The Bid Opening can be view at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87122016942>

This Bid Package will consist of separate sealed bids for the following Bid Divisions:

143: Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Architecture Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the main office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Builder's Exchange, Lansing.

Bidding Documents will be available beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 10th, 2022 via Building Connected.

Site Visits are available upon request.

All bids **must** include the Familial Disclosure Affidavit (Section 004205), the Iran Linked Business Affidavit (Section 004210), and the Criminal Background Check Affidavit (Section 004220).

All Bids **must** be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the Bid, payable to Plymouth Canton Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the Bid is accepted, the School District is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid or failure of the Bidder to enter a Contract for performance. Further, the Bidder will execute the Contract, provide the required insurance certificate(s) and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of Contract but prior to Work commencing.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price.

Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding, and to accept a bid other than the lowest bid.

**END OF SECTION**

Publish: February 10 & 17, 2022

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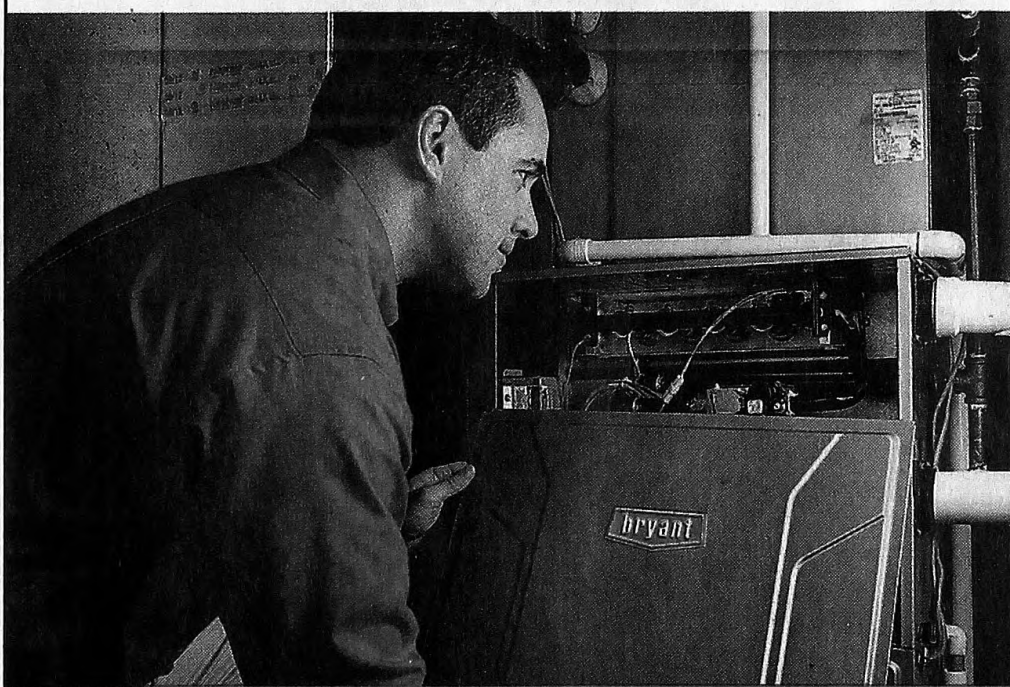


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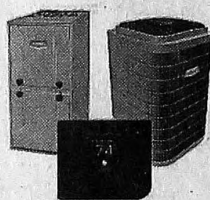
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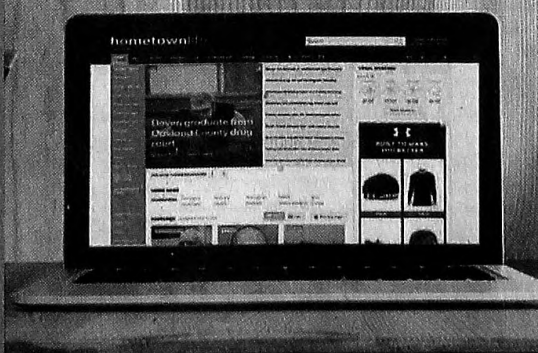
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\*Select Systems Apply, with approved credit. See Hoover for details.

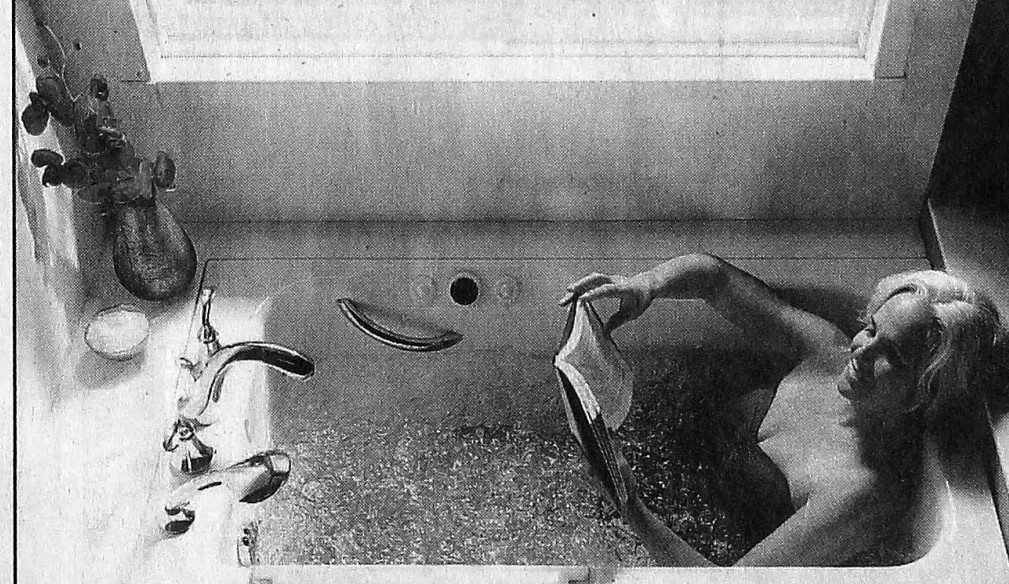
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Novena to St. Jude-Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, kinsman of Christ, intercessor of all who invoke your aid in time of need. I pray to you to use your great God given power to aid me in my urgent petition, in return I promise to make your name known. Pray for us who ask your aide St. Jude. Say three Hail Marys, three Our Fathers and three Glorias. This Novena has never been known to fail. Say Novena for nine days, then promise to publish as soon as favor is granted.  
Thank you St. Jude. V.V.

## Community Announce

announcements, events...

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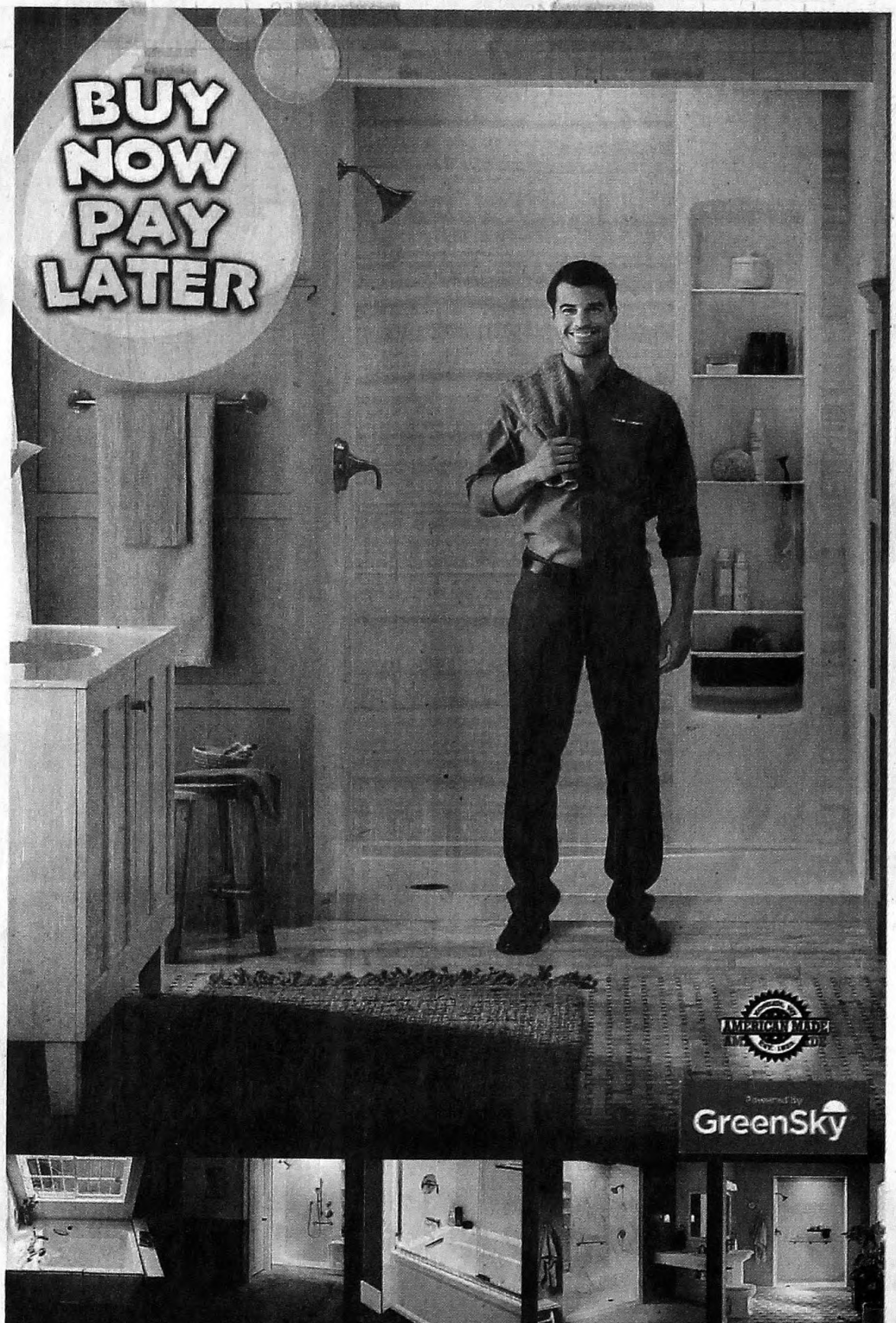
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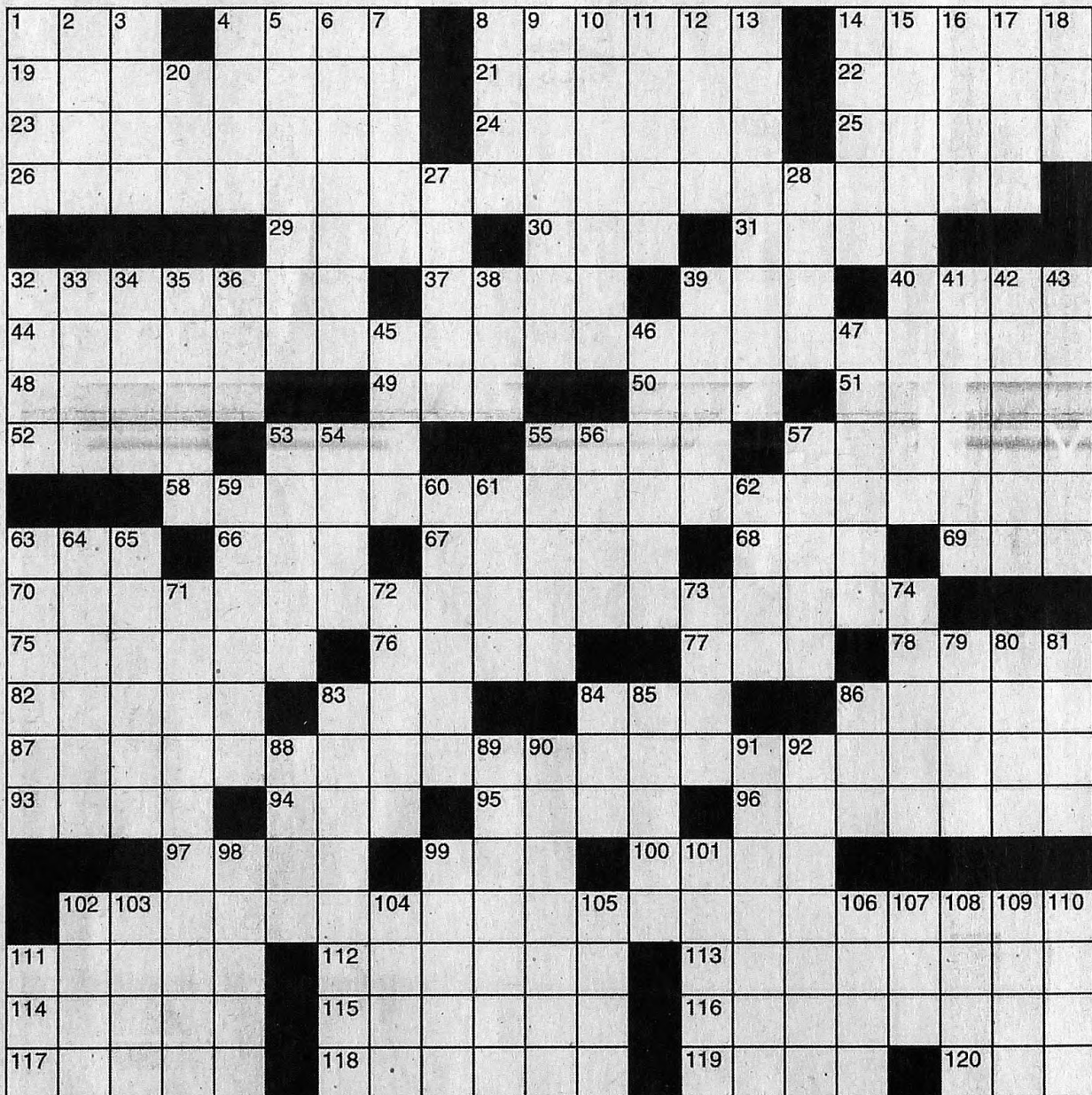
# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

### CALCULATING CHARACTERS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pet doc  
4 "Come again?"  
8 Treats maliciously  
14 Tennis player Borg  
19 Narcissist's problem  
21 Actress Address  
22 Ate, as prey  
23 Football Hall of Famer Bronko  
24 Arrive on wheels  
25 Frankie or Cleo of song  
26 Start of a riddle  
29 Noise in a comic book gunfight  
30 Exotica singer Sumac  
31 "The Human Stain" novelist Philip  
32 Cure-all  
37 Race of people in an H.G. Wells novella  
39 Some sorority letters  
40 Donations to the destitute  
44 Riddle, part 2  
48 Like much greasy food
- 49 See 83-Across  
50 Corp. leader  
51 Skip over, as a vowel  
52 World War II film, when tripled  
53 Charged bit  
55 Place — (be active on eBay, say)  
57 Cheap cigar  
58 Riddle, part 3  
63 Simile middle  
66 Chaney of film  
67 Song-belting Merman  
68 On a pension, maybe: Abbr.  
69 Military draft gp.  
70 Riddle, part 4  
75 ZZ Top album whose name is Spanish for "The Crazy One"  
76 Hamm and Farrow  
77 Neither's partner  
78 Tingly feeling  
82 Totally tired  
83 With 49-Across, touter of green eggs and ham
- 84 "Yes" vote  
86 Early arcade giant  
87 End of the riddle  
93 — -Flush (bathroom brand)  
94 Architect I.M. —  
95 Made angry  
96 Florida fruits  
97 R&B great Marvin  
99 Not at all new  
100 Golf club  
102 Riddle's answer  
111 Stalin-era labor camp  
112 Polecat's kin  
113 Urge against  
114 Muscat native  
115 Do over  
116 Office squawker  
117 Fender dings  
118 Mimics a mad mutt  
119 Helper of Frankenstein  
120 Inventor Whitney
- DOWN**
- 1 "—, vidi, vici"  
2 "The Keep" novelist Jennifer  
3 Forum wear  
4 Angel's instrument  
5 Drunk  
6 Writer Gogol  
7 Third-largest city in Israel  
8 Ride a wave  
9 Eighth-brightest star in the sky  
10 Like a hajji's religion  
11 Second-largest city in Oklahoma  
12 Charles Lamb's alias  
13 Bay Area California city  
14 Equivalent of A sharp  
15 Lee Tracy's "Bombshell" co-star  
16 Like praiseful poetry  
17 Gossipy Barrett  
18 Bakersfield-to-Boise dir.  
20 Letters before 39-Across  
27 Swiss watch brand  
28 Clueless  
32 Fizzle sound  
33 Sleek, informally  
34 Hair removal brand  
35 Top squad  
36 Mooer's mouthful  
38 On the — (fleeing)  
39 "— say more?"  
41 Actresses Vivien and Janet  
42 In — res (mid-plot)  
43 Clay pigeons to be shot, informally  
45 Three x three  
46 Frozen spear  
47 Eats away at  
53 "Were — it all over again ..."  
54 "It can't be!"  
55 One of the Three Musketeers  
56 Nickname for singer Justin, with "the"  
57 Derisive smile  
59 One of the three Furies  
60 R&R alone  
61 "— boy!"  
62 Pisa's river  
63 Nuclear trials, for short  
64 Class of antimicrobial drugs, in the British spelling  
65 Actress Sorkin who once hosted "America's Funniest People"  
71 Like animals that don't roam  
72 So-called "fifth taste"  
73 Apartment near the super's, perhaps  
74 Mesh well  
79 Piquancy  
80 Ontario tribe  
81 Cat's warning  
83 Pittsburgh footballers  
84 "Chances —"  
85 "Catch my drift, bro?"  
86 Pie-mode link  
88 1974 CIA parody film  
89 More lacteal  
90 Not cardinal, as a number  
91 Plundering  
92 Writer Sábato  
98 Patronage  
99 "— Loompa" diameters  
101 Half-Journalist Brit  
103 Zing  
104 Lucy Liu's "Kill Bill" role  
105 Insect traps  
106 Exploiter  
107 Mongrel mutt  
108 Frilly material  
109 Shrine figure  
110 Moore of "G.I. Jane"  
111 Shrine figure



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

## SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

2/10

Here's How It Works:

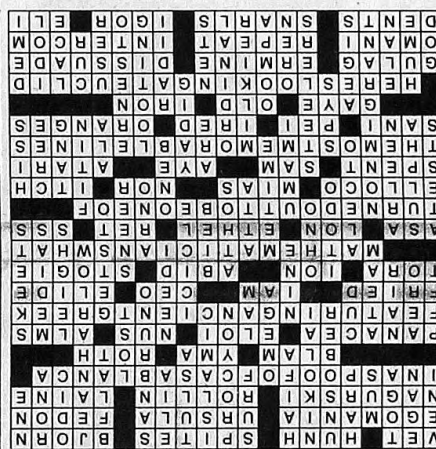
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

## MEDIEVAL TIMES

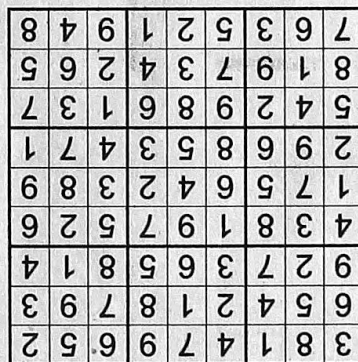
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

ARMOR  
ARMY  
ARROW  
AXE  
BANQUET  
BATTLE  
CASTLE  
CATAPULT  
CHAIN MAIL  
CHIVALRY  
COURT  
CROSSBOW  
CROWN  
DAMSEL  
DRAGON  
DRAWBRIDGE  
DUNGEON  
HALBERD  
HONOR  
JESTER  
JOUST  
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KNAVE  
KNIGHT  
LANCE  
LATIN  
MAIDS  
MINSTRELS  
MOAT  
NOBLES  
PAGE  
PEASANT  
PRINCESS  
QUEEN  
QUEST  
ROYALTY  
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SIEGE  
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boat  
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camera  
dining room  
sports tickets  
garage sale  
new home

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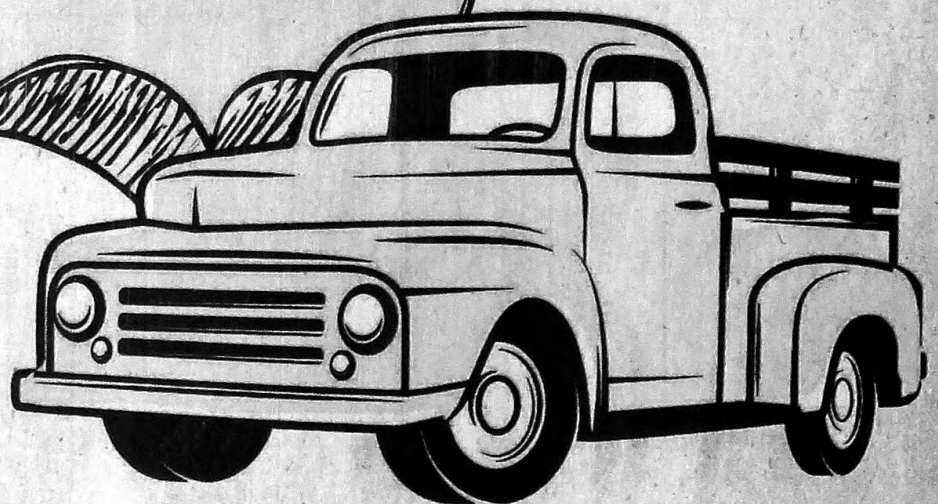


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