



CANTON

# OBSERVER

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Canton unveils Ford Road amenities plan

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Assuring the forthcoming Ford Road boulevard in Canton Township will be anything but drab, a menu of eye-catching amenities for the 1.6-mile lane divider was unveiled during a Tuesday study session.

The No. 1 objective of the boulevard project, according to Michigan Department of Transportation Project Manager Adam Penzenstadler, is to significantly reduce the number of crashes on the road. The boulevard will stretch from just east of Interstate 275 to Sheldon Road.

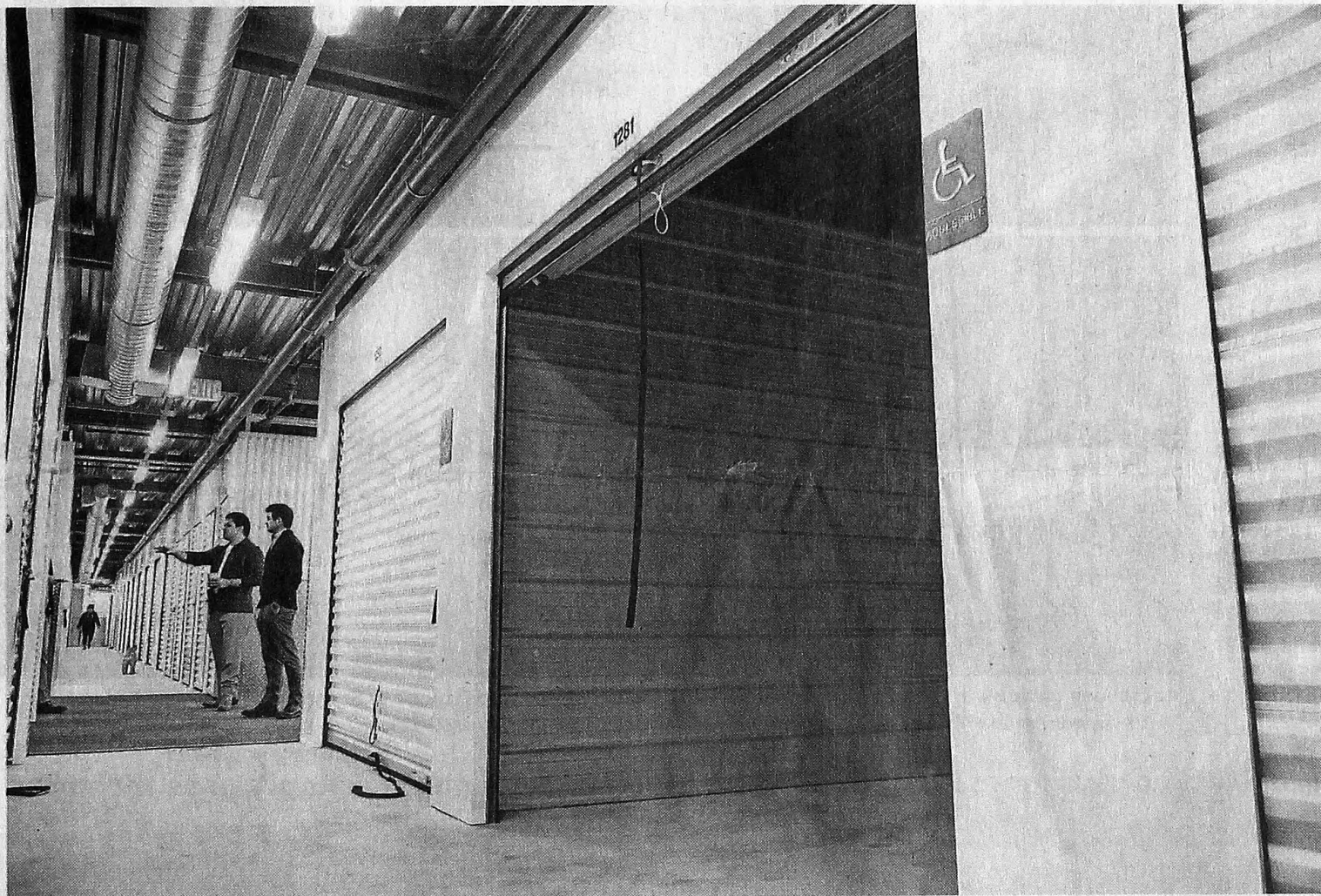
The biggest conversation-igniter

among the potential landscape enhancements were colorful, multi-sized acrylic panels that would add a dose of innovation to the revamped Ford Road corridor, explained OHM representative Ben Weaver, who teamed with members of a boulevard subcommittee to develop the initial design concept.

"We're looking to make the Ford Road

corridor more of a destination than a place people simply pass through," explained Weaver. "The panels provide a nice pop of color and can be tailored to fit each individual block. They could be used to promote the township's way-finding elements."

See **FORD ROAD**, Page 2A



Co-managers and brothers Nino and Tony Ruggirello have converted a former Toys R Us into Livonia Budget Storage, a two-level indoor secured storage facility. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## New Livonia storage facility transforms former Toys R Us

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Looking at the new Livonia Budget Storage building on Seven Mile, it would be difficult to know what it existed as in a previous life.

It's not until you dig deep in a storage locker until you find the last remnant of the building's former self: a shopping cart from the Toys R Us that occupied

the building at 29150 W. Seven Mile.

"Isn't it weird to think that 7-10 years ago you're walking down here picking up teddy bears and toys?" Nino Ruggirello, who runs the facility, said. "We came in and it was vacant. "There was one shopping cart left behind."

The business has several hundred storage units that are exclusively indoors ranging in size. Units begin at 5

feet by 3 feet and increase all the way to 11-by-25 spaces. All units are climate-controlled, which is an important distinction from simply being temperature controlled, said Tony Ruggirello, another family member involved in the business.

"The difference between climate control and temperature control is we

See **STORAGE**, Page 2A

## Commission approves new marijuana business in Westland

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Plans continue to move forward for a marijuana business along Cherry Hill Road in Westland.

Plans for Kinship, a marijuana business which would include both a retail operation and a cultivation center at 37501 and 37505 Cherry Hill, have been in the works since receiving approval to move forward for the business last year.

The plans include a brand-new building on the site west of Newburgh, which is mostly vacant and also contains a two-story house that will get demolished as a part of the redevelopment.

The proposal calls for a new center with a sophisticated look as the goal of the development, said Curt Molino, an owner with the project.

"We want it to be more of a wellness feel anyway," Molino said. "We really want it to be professional and classy."

The plans call for a 6,080-square-foot retail center and a 21,313-square-foot cultivation center. The business would be one of seven allowed under Westland law and one of a maximum of three collocated businesses in the city.

The planning commission reviewed and recommended the plans for approval during its meeting March 2 at Westland City Hall.

It was not the first time the property went before the city's planning commission. The commission discussed a lot split of the property last summer, a

See **BUSINESS**, Page 2A

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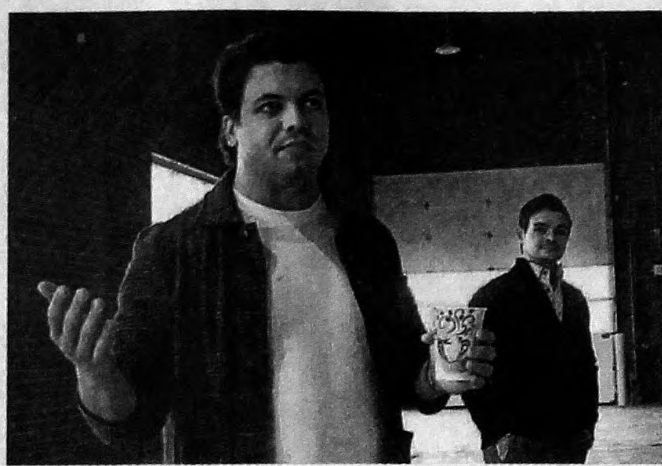
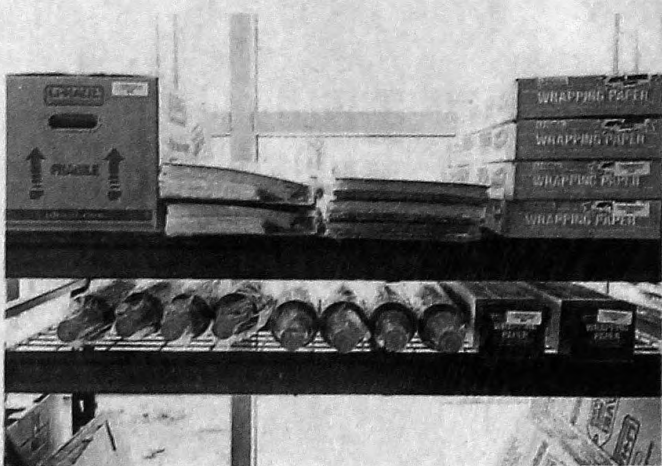
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Above at left, wrapping and packaging supplies at Livonia Budget Storage. At center, co-managers and brothers Nino, left, and Tony Ruggirello talk about converting the facility from a Toys R Us to a storage building. At right, Livonia Budget Storage at 29150 Seven Mile in Livonia. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Storage

Continued from Page 1A

actually control the humidity as well," he said.

The building looks completely different from its time as a toy store, which closed in 2018 after the company went bankrupt and liquidated all its stores. Plans were submitted to the city to renovate the space and turn it into a storage facility back in 2020.

It now has two stories and an elevator to access the second floor. An enclosed bay allows those with units to unload their vehicle without dealing with the elements. The front lobby also sells some moving equipment such as boxes and packaging supplies.

Livonia Budget Storage is the latest facility run by the Novi-based Budget Storage company. Other centers include storage facilities in Brownstown Township, Sterling Heights, Clarkston and Portage.

The center is designed to limit the need for interaction with employees, a trend Nino Ruggirello said is

becoming more the norm in the business.

"Modern trends in storage, a lot of people are going contactless, where you can rent the unit and get into your unit without ever seeing a person," he said.

Further in the future, they also hope to be a place to drop off and pick up U-Haul trucks and trailers.

More information, including how to rent a unit, can be found at [livoniabudgetstorage.com](http://livoniabudgetstorage.com).

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

## Ford Road

Continued from Page 1A

When concerns that the panels may create blind-spot issues for drivers, Weaver said they'd be positioned in a way that they would not be a safety hazard.

Several varieties of plants that could be installed on the sections of the boulevard were discussed as were plans to use different pigments of concrete to give the solid parts of the boulevard a stylish look.

All plants utilized on the boulevard would be native and easy to maintain, Weaver emphasized.

Canton DDA Coordinator Amy Hamilton said the Michigan Department of Transportation revealed the project won't be complete until 2024 or 2025, giving designers plenty of time to tweak Tuesday's initial revelations.

The DDA is responsible for the landscaping aspect of the boulevard, Hamilton said.

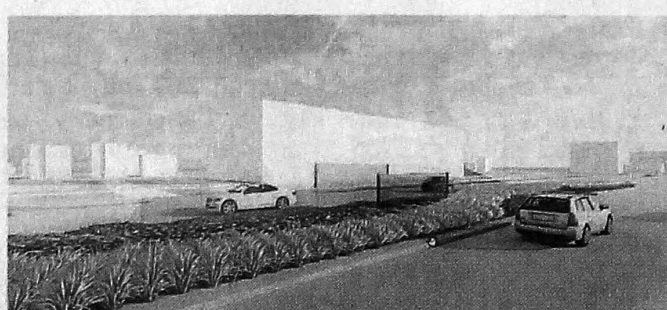
"The acrylic panels are something that can't be found in other cities and townships around here so it would be a distinctive feature that people would identify with Canton," Hamilton said.

Board of Trustees member Sommer Foster said the landscape subcommittee has been working on the design since May 2021.

"Our priorities were for low-maintenance landscaping and to give the Ford Road corridor more of a modern look; we want people to know they're in Canton as soon as they enter the corridor," Foster said. "At first I was concerned with the panels, but I feel they will really work out well and improve the feel of the corridor."

The planting of trees in the area affected by the project must be limited to boulevards that will be installed along Haggerty Road due to MDOT regulations, Weaver said.

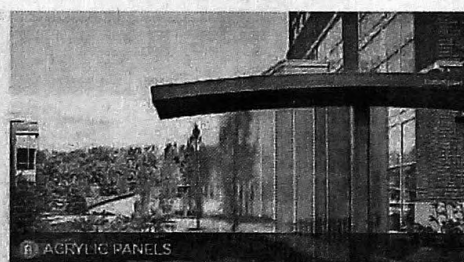
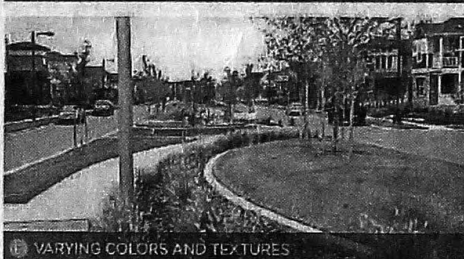
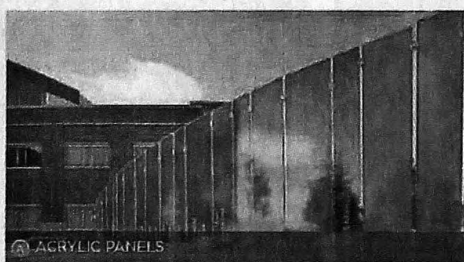
Contact reporter Ed Wright at [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.



A conceptual rendering of how a section of Ford Road boulevard would be decorated with native plants and acrylic tiles. IMAGES COURTESY OF OHM



A conceptual rendering of Haggerty Road looking north from Ford Road.



Accessory options for the Ford Road boulevard. Board of Trustees member Sommer Foster said the landscape subcommittee has been working on the design since May 2021.

**"We're looking to make the Ford Road corridor more of a destination than a place people simply pass through."**

OHM representative Ben Weaver

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A rendering of the proposed Kinship marijuana business in Westland. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF WESTLAND

## Business

Continued from Page 1A

decision made before plans for the marijuana business were finalized.

Several lawsuits were filed against the city last year when the city council moved forward on awarding license to allow for marijuana businesses. Those all seem to have wrapped up, allowing the plans for Kinship to locate within the city to move forward. Mohamed Ayoub, the city's planning director, said there were no current lawsuits pending against the city regarding marijuana businesses.

Commissioner David Rappaport said he was impressed with how the facility looked and stressed

how important it was to keep up the appearance of a new business.

It's a comment he's made regarding other marijuana developments as well: he spoke similarly about the site plan for another dispensary looking to locate on Ford Road during the planning commission's December meeting.

"The proposal, these mockups we have, it looks like a very well planned out, very attractive business proposal. I like the treatment that Westland is giving the opportunities that we're giving to our marijuana providers."

The plans now go to the city council for its review and final determination.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.





# Livonia First Responders Foundation raffles golf cart

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A limited number of raffle tickets are still available for your chance to support the Livonia First Responders Foundation and get a chance to win a beautiful, 2022 Ez-Go Express S4 Cart and other prizes.

Tickets are \$20 each, with the drawing to be held at noon Saturday, March 19, at Livonia Fire Station No. 3, 35000 Seven Mile Road.

All funds raised from the ticket sales will support the First Responder Foundation, which was established "to enable the dedicated Livonia Police and Firefighters to further their mission of service by providing resources and support as needed for its members, their families and needs they identify while serving the community."

Giving first responders the funds to help people in their hour of need was the genesis of the Foundation, according to Chuck Dardas, Foundation board member and CEO at AlphaUSA.

"Our first responders - both police and fire - are very caring people," he said.

Most recently, Foundation funds allowed Livonia firefighters to find temporary shelter and meet immediate needs for a Livonia couple whose home flooded, furnace wasn't working, and were found to be living in their car for heat.

Along with the donated first prize golf cart, second prize is a YETI cooler filled with adult beverages, and third prize is a "Taste of Livonia" gathering of gift cards to various restaurant.

Until sold out, tickets are available by calling the Livonia Chamber of Commerce 734-427-2122, or they can be purchased in person at the Livonia City Treasurer's office. Checks are payable to



The Livonia First Responders Foundation will raffle off a golf cart. All funds raised from ticket sales will support the foundation. COURTESY OF THE LIVONIA FIRST RESPONDERS FOUNDATION

the raffle co-host Livonia Kids & Families, though all funds will go to the First Responder Foundation.

This is the second raffle hosted by the Foundation, with last year's motorcycle raffle raising \$25,000 of seed money for the organization.

Want to see the sparkling, new grand prize? Visit the Livonia Chamber of Commerce's Livonia Home Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at the Kirksey Recreation Center on Hubbard and Five Mile to see it in person. The grand prize winner will also have the sales tax on the cart paid by the donor and get a second set of wheels and a cover for the vehicle.

# Farmington Concert Band to play Michigan-themed show

Courtesy of the Farmington Concert Band

The Farmington Concert Band is celebrating its premier concert at the new Hawk Farmington Hills performing arts center, 29995 West 12 Mile Road, with a concert featuring musical artists who have ties to the state of Michigan.

The show will take place 3 p.m. Sunday, March 20.

The Farmington Concert Band, under the direction of maestro Damien Crutcher, presents a choice selection of contemporary themes by composers who studied and taught at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University including Leonard Falcon, H.

Owen Reed, Roshanne Etezady, H. Robert Reynolds, Adolphus Hailstork, Anthony Barfield and David Maslanka.

Marches include "The Light Fantastic" by Michigan native Leonard B. Smith and "The Pride of the Wolverines" by John Phillip Sousa.

As a special treat, the FCB is honored to welcome guest conductors Edward Quick and H. Robert Reynolds to the podium. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased in advance with reserved seating at fcbmusic.org.

The FCB has been performing in the community for 56 years with a variety of wind ensembles providing a "lifetime of music" for area musicians.

# Wayne County home prices rise

Sean Lahman  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The median sales price for a single-family home in Wayne County during November was \$178,900. That's an increase of 11.1% compared with November 2020, according to a USA TODAY Network localized analysis generated with data from Realtor.com.

The number of houses sold rose by 17.3% from a year earlier. A total of 1,829 houses were sold countywide during the month of November. During the same period a year earlier, 1,559 single-family homes were sold.

Real estate sales can take weeks or months to be recorded and collected. This is the latest data made available through Realtor.com to the USA TODAY Network.

Condominiums and townhomes sold in November had a median sales price of \$218,000. That figure represents a 9% increase year over year. In Wayne County, 275 were sold, up 6.6% from a year earlier.

## How hot is Wayne County's real estate market in Michigan?

Information on your local housing markets is available through the USA TODAY Network, with more data from Realtor.com.

The top 10% of the properties sold had prices of at least \$428,000, up 11.2% from a year before.

In November, 21 properties sold for \$1 million or more: 18 single-family homes, two condominiums or townhomes and



A market-rate housing development is under construction at 175 James St., a former brownfield.

RICK CINCLAIR/TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

one other property.

The median home sale price - the midway point of all the houses or units sold over a period of time - is used in this report instead of the average home sale price because experts say the median offers a more accurate view of what's happening in a market. In finding the average price, all prices of homes sold are added and then divided by the number of homes sold. This measure can be skewed by one low or high price.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from Realtor.com. Localized versions are generated for communities where the data quality and transaction volume meets Realtor.com and USA TODAY Network standards.

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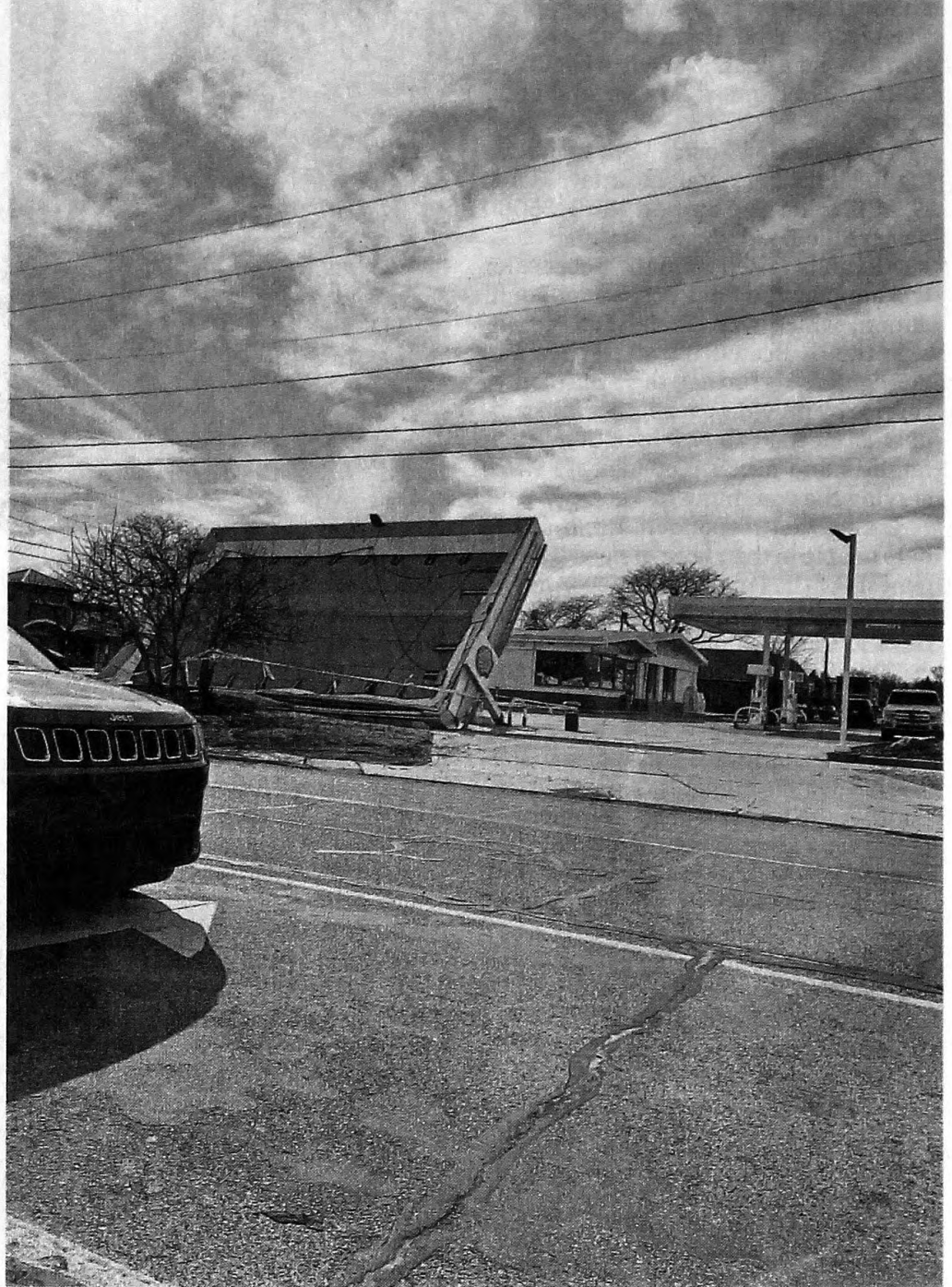
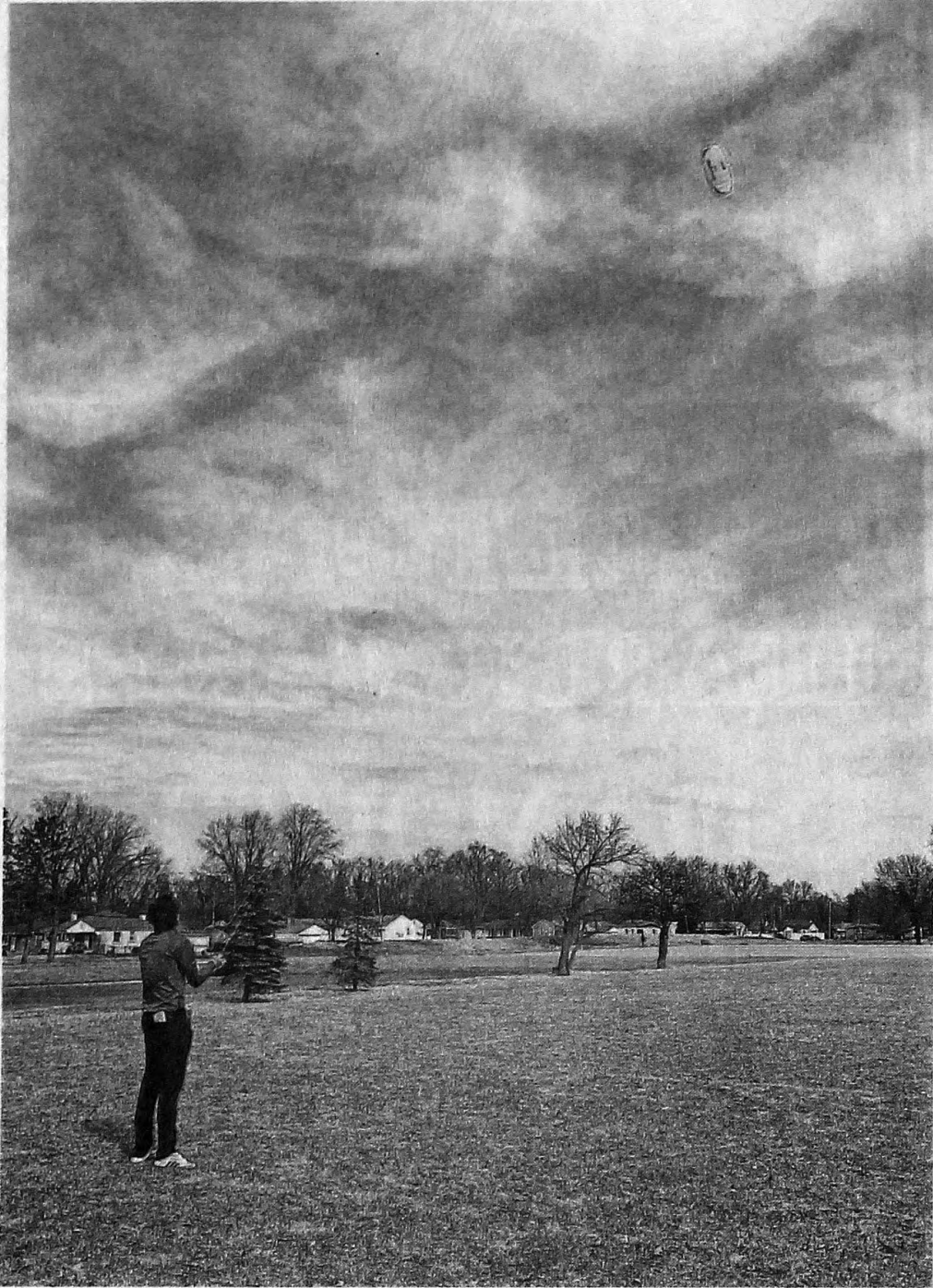
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# WARM, WINDY WEEKEND A GLIMPSE TOWARD SPRING



Above at left, Matt Claysen, 32, of Birmingham, flies a kite at Normandy Oaks Park in Royal Oak on March 6. At right, powerful winds knocked down an awning at the Shell gas station at Five Mile and Newburgh in Livonia. Metro Detroiters enjoyed a sunny and unseasonably warm weekend with temperatures near 60 degrees in most areas. High winds accompanied the warmer temperatures, which made things a bit harrowing for some.


PHOTOS BY LAUREN WETHINGTON/DETROIT FREE PRESS



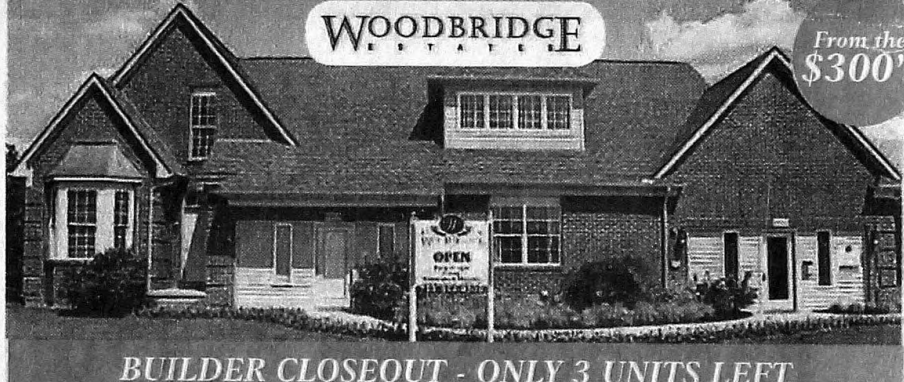
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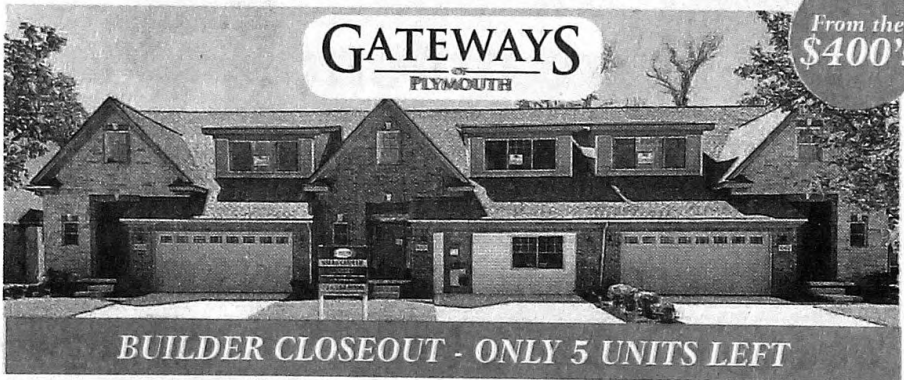
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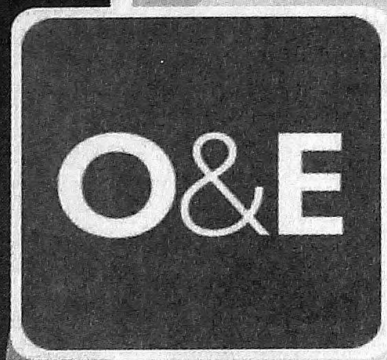
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# Canton man gets 15-35 years in prison

Shailesh Patel charged with criminal sexual conduct with girls he met at temple

Susan Vela [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Wayne County judge nearly doubled a Canton Township man's potential punishment when she sentenced him to up to 35 years in prison on criminal sexual conduct charges.

"No, I'm OK. Thank you," Shailesh Patel said when invited to speak during the March 3 proceeding held online. He mainly kept his head down through the court proceeding.

Patel, a 54-year-old man who paid for his legal defense by selling a Subway franchise, appeared from a federal prison room wearing olive prison garb.

He was sentenced in federal court earlier this year to 19 years behind bars for sexually exploiting a 10-year-old girl by giving her a cellphone to make a

video that qualified as child pornography. Patel pleaded guilty to the federal charge, as he did to the state charges of first-, second- and fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct involving at least two young girls whom he knew through a Hindu temple where he volunteered.

Prosecuting attorney Carley Kocks referenced an impact statement from a "complaining witness."

"It's very indicative of what happened in this case," she said. "Someone whose family was torn apart... her whole life was ruined, yet she's more concerned about her family."

She asked the judge to follow the sentencing agreement, which included dismissals of nearly 15 other charges.

Circuit Court Judge Shannon Walker sentenced Patel to 15-35 years on a first-degree CSC charge, 9-15 years on two

second-degree CSC charges, and probation on the fourth-degree charge, which will be served concurrently with his federal punishment.

"Your actions are unforgivable," Walker said, while acknowledging Patel's letter expressing remorse. "You caused irreparable trauma to both of the victims. Although you did not kill anyone, you robbed two victims of their innocence and their childhood."

His attorney Patrick Barone had uttered a protest. He noted that he submitted a video from Patel's parents and letters from friends, family and community members on behalf of his client.

"He understands what the sentencing agreement is," Barone said. "If I had my druthers, I would say that the sentence is too high. But it is what it is. It's what we agreed to."



Shailesh Patel, 54, mostly kept his head down March 3 during his sentencing on criminal sexual conduct charges. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Ascension data breach may have exposed patient info

Christina Hall [Detroit Free Press](http://DetroitFreePress.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A data breach at Ascension Michigan may have exposed some patients' Social Security numbers and other health information.

The health system said an unauthorized individual inappropriately accessed patient information in its electronic health record between Oct. 15, 2015, and Sept. 8, 2021.

It became aware of suspicious activity in the electronic health record and immediately began an investigation.

On Nov. 30, after an extensive review, the health system said, it determined how long the person accessed patient information. The user's access was immediately ended.

"The information that may have been accessed for the affected individuals (note, not all individuals may have had all information affected): full name, date of birth, address(es), email address(es), phone number(s), health insurance information, health insurance identification number and carrier, dates of service, diagnosis, treatment related information, and, in some cases, Social Security numbers," according to a news release dated Feb. 23 that was provided to the Free Press on Friday.

Some patients received letters in the mail about the breach this week. One of the letters indicated that in some cases, the information was further disclosed to third parties.

Ascension Michigan spokesperson Airielle Taylor provided the Free Press a news release for southeast Michigan patients of Ascension Michigan. It did not specify how many patients were affected or how many had more sensitive personal information, such as Social Se-



An aerial view of University of Michigan Hospital. The health system said an unauthorized individual accessed patient information in its electronic health record between Oct. 15, 2015, and Sept. 8, 2021. PROVIDED BY MICHIGAN MEDICINE

curity numbers and health information, exposed.

Taylor said in an email that the health system was only sharing what was included in the release.

The health system is offering free credit and identity theft protection-monitoring services to the affected patients as well as guidance on how they can protect their information from potential misuse.

It also is recommending that people remain vigilant in responding to anyone who may know their medical information related to care received at an Ascension Michigan facility and to report to the health system anyone trying to contact them regarding medical services or indicating they are partnering

with Ascension to offer services.

Ascension Michigan said it has taken steps to further protect its patient information, including a "review of internal controls and further improvement to the processes intended to safeguard patient information."

The health system reported the breach to law enforcement and said it will cooperate with any investigation.

It also set up a call center from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at 855-568-2066 for anyone who has questions.

This is the second health system in the metro Detroit area this week to release information about a data breach.

Michigan Medicine said Thursday that it was notifying about 2,920 pa-

tients that some of their health information may have been exposed when an employee's email account was compromised Dec. 23. This resulted in a cyber-attacker gaining access to and using the account to send phishing emails, the health system said.

Notices were mailed to the affected patients or their personal representatives starting Thursday. Additional technical safeguards were put in place on the health system's email system and infrastructure.

Last month, Michigan Medicine notified 269 patients about a separate data breach found Jan. 27 in which a newly hired employee accessed patient medical records without a business need between Dec. 1 and Jan. 25.

## Obituaries

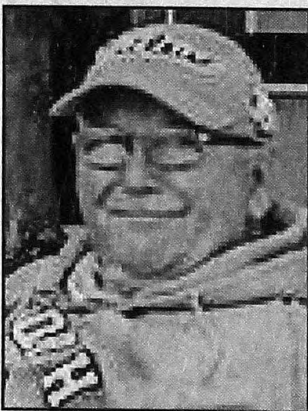
To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit [mideathnotices.com/place.php](http://mideathnotices.com/place.php)

### James Dale Harrington

James Dale Harrington "The Coach" was born January 30, 1939 and passed away at age 83 on February 21, 2022. Beloved husband of Pamela Harrington for 53 wonderful years. Loving father of Kenneth (Cheryl) Harrington and Katherine Riker. Cherished grandfather of Candes and Kyle Harrington and Josh Riker, James was reunited in Heaven with his beloved granddaughter Mary Kate Riker. Dearest brother of the late Sharon Padar, Janice Sylvester and Vince Harrington. Dear uncle of Jennifer, Janice (Genti), Patti (R.I.P.), Jimmy (R.I.P.) (Kelley), Judy (Scott), and Kurt (April).

Visitation, Friday March 11th from 3PM- 7PM at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia. Funeral service, Saturday March 12th at 11AM also at the funeral home. In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Safe Haven Women's Shelter- c/o Mary's Gift: 132 State St., Elkhart, Indiana 46516 or the Wounded Warriors Project.

Harry J Will Funeral Homes



*The  
Memories  
Remain*

## Clarenceville welcomes assistant superintendent, elementary principal

Courtesy of Clarenceville Public Schools

The Clarenceville School District hired a new assistant superintendent for learning services and a new elementary principal.

Melissa Carruth will fill the assistant superintendent role left vacant by the retirement of Renee Valentine.

Carruth completed her undergraduate degree in child development from Michigan State University. She received a master's in educational technology from Marygrove College and her education specialist in leadership from Oakland University.

Carruth has been developing her leadership experiences through being a classroom teacher-leader, a library media specialist, along with her participation in the Oakland Schools Aspiring Principal Academy and the Galileo Leadership Academy.

She has served the last four years as the principal of Grandview Elementary in the Clarenceville School District. All of these experiences have prepared her for this leadership role as the new assistant superintendent of learning services.

"We are excited to welcome Mrs. Carruth to this Central Office administrative position," Paul Shepich, superintendent of the Clarenceville School District, said. "I know she is passionate about the success of our students and our staff."

Over at Grandview, the district has hired James Miller III to take the helm.

Miller completed his master's degree in educational leadership from Eastern Michigan University. He received his bachelor of arts degree in language arts and structured Disciplines from Eastern, as well.

Miller has been developing his leadership experiences through being a classroom teacher-leader, a technology integration specialist at the elementary level, and an elementary and high school assistant principal all in the Monroe Public School District. All of these experiences have prepared him for this leadership role as the principal of Grandview Elementary.

"He is dedicated to student and teacher growth and has the skill sets that will benefit Grandview Elementary," Shepich said. "The hiring process led to a unanimous choice by the interview panel."





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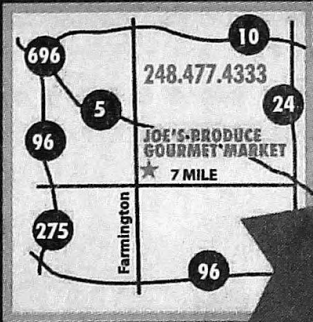
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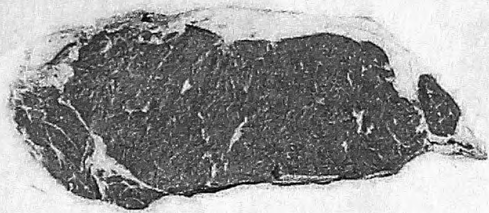
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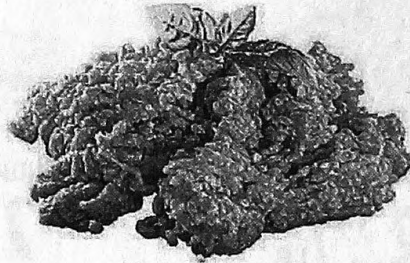
## Meat

## Joe's Meat & Seafood

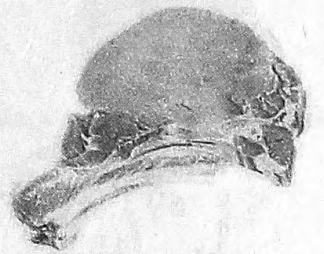
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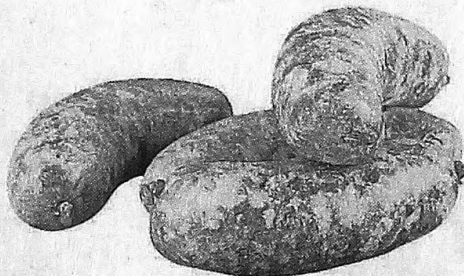
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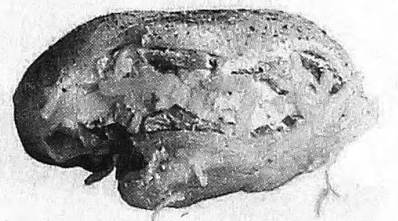
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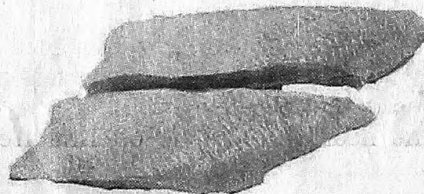


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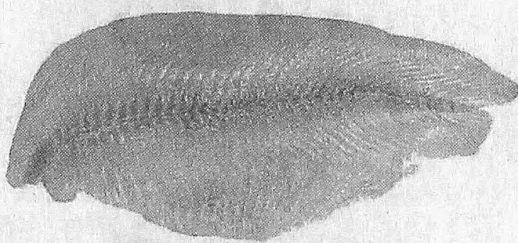
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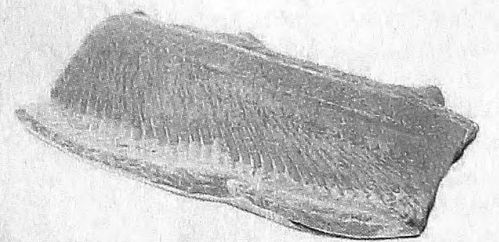
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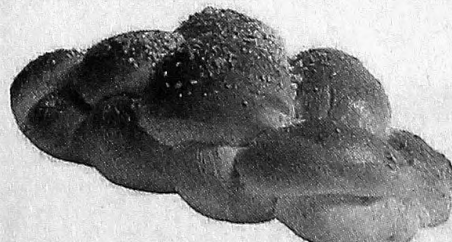
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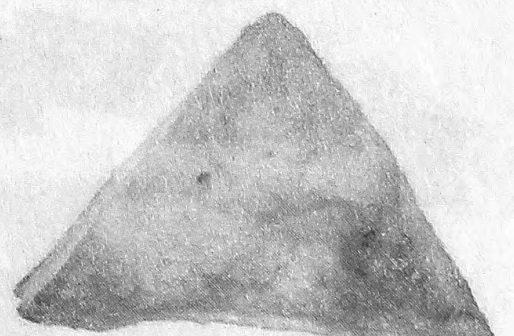
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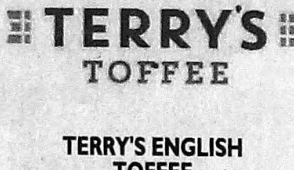
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## Pastry

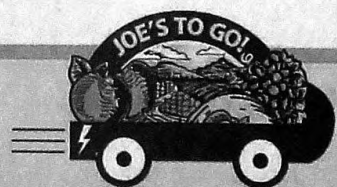
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# SPORTS

## Winning a district title was the best revenge for Marlins



Farmington Hills Mercy celebrates after the Marlins beat Livonia Stevenson in the Division 1 girls basketball district final on Friday, March 4, 2022. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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

The Farmington Hills Mercy girls basketball team wore smiles on the outside since it was a special event. But, deep down, as the Marlins sat in the stands and watched, they couldn't have been any more upset. They had an incredible regular season. They won the Catholic League-Central after sweeping rival Bloomfield Hills Marian, squeaking by pesky Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard and

splitting with Dearborn Divine Child, one of the top teams in the state, which included a three-point victory in the rubber match in late January. They wanted to add to the trophy case by winning the CHSL tournament. Except Marian returned a few injured players, found some team chemistry and upset Mercy in the semifinal. The Marlins looked out of sorts in the first half and couldn't keep pace offensively with their rivals. That put the Mustangs in the championship against Divine Child at

Wayne State's brand new arena. And the worst part about it? The CHSL hands out its season awards during halftime. That meant the Marlins were on hand to watch Marian take down the Falcons and win the tournament title. They were *right there*, only a few rows up, sitting behind Divine Child's bench, taking in the scene as Marian guard Anna Herberholz helped retiring coach Mary Cicerone claim her 20th-career tournament championship.

**See MARLINS, Page 4B**

## Controversial finish helps Canton hockey win 1st regional title ever

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

The east end of Novi Ice Arena was absolutely littered with abandoned sticks, gloves and helmets following an impromptu celebration of a lifetime.

And wading through that mess was Canton hockey coach Justin Maedel, who found himself at the very end of the Chiefs' side of the post-game handshake line. As his guys marched forward to congratulate Livonia Stevenson's players on a game well played, the third-year coach paused to gather his thoughts. First, he squatted down with his palms on his knees. And then he let out a giant sigh of relief. He briefly shook his head, stood back up and then quickly raced forward to join his players in shaking hands.

"I need to go to bed and get a couple of hours of sleep," Maedel later said of the moment.

A night like the Division 2 regional championship March 2 will do that to a coach.

Maedel didn't rest much leading up to the matchup with the Spartans. The week prior, the Chiefs beat Walled Lake Northern in the semifinal. It had been 10 years since they had last won an opening-round playoff game.

They ratcheted up their effort in practices. Players were zeroed in. Scouting reports were finalized. Not a stone was left unturned in preparing for the unlikeliest of opportunities: A chance to win the first regional title in program history.

Of course, Canton entered as the underdogs. It had lost by three goals to Stevenson in the regular season, plus the Spartans were the No. 3-ranked team in D-2, according to Michigan High School Hockey Hub.

Sprinkle in a controversial finish in regulation as well as a game-winner scored by the least likely of goal-scorers in overtime, and there you have the blueprint to building an exhausted head coach.

But Maedel will take the heart race over the heartache.

Just 23 seconds into overtime, Lucas Amos buried a wide-open shot to give Canton the 3-2 upset victory.

"We just brought it today," Maedel said. "We didn't quit, and that was the whole thing. We competed from the

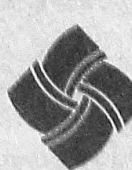
**See HOCKEY, Page 3B**

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# Lions' cheer celebrating one of the best seasons in program history

The Lions kept breaking school records

**Brandon Folsom**

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The South Lyon competitive cheer team saw its season end with a ninth-place finish in the Feb. 26 Division 1 regional meet at Hartland.

But that doesn't mean the Lions haven't had plenty of reasons to celebrate this winter.

In just their second season competing as a D-1 program, they qualified for regionals after breaking three school records during its district meet two weeks ago.

What's more, the trip to Hartland was just their first regional appearance in four seasons.

This is a team on the come-up.

"These athletes are top tier and do not get enough credit for the sport they love," coach Sarah Fierk said in a statement. "And yes, it is a very difficult sport. They show up day in and day out ready to work and break that next barrier down. We have stellar athletes who are all determined and very emotionally and physically engulfed in the sport.

"Our sport is unique. We cannot just throw in another player onto the football field or basketball court. Our three rounds are so calculated and having any changes within them affects each athlete on the mat. Our girls are resilient and have faced every challenge thrown at them this year to look clean, crisp and (like) a force to be reckoned with.

"South Lyon has elite skills, and we manage to perform them in unison with textbook execution."

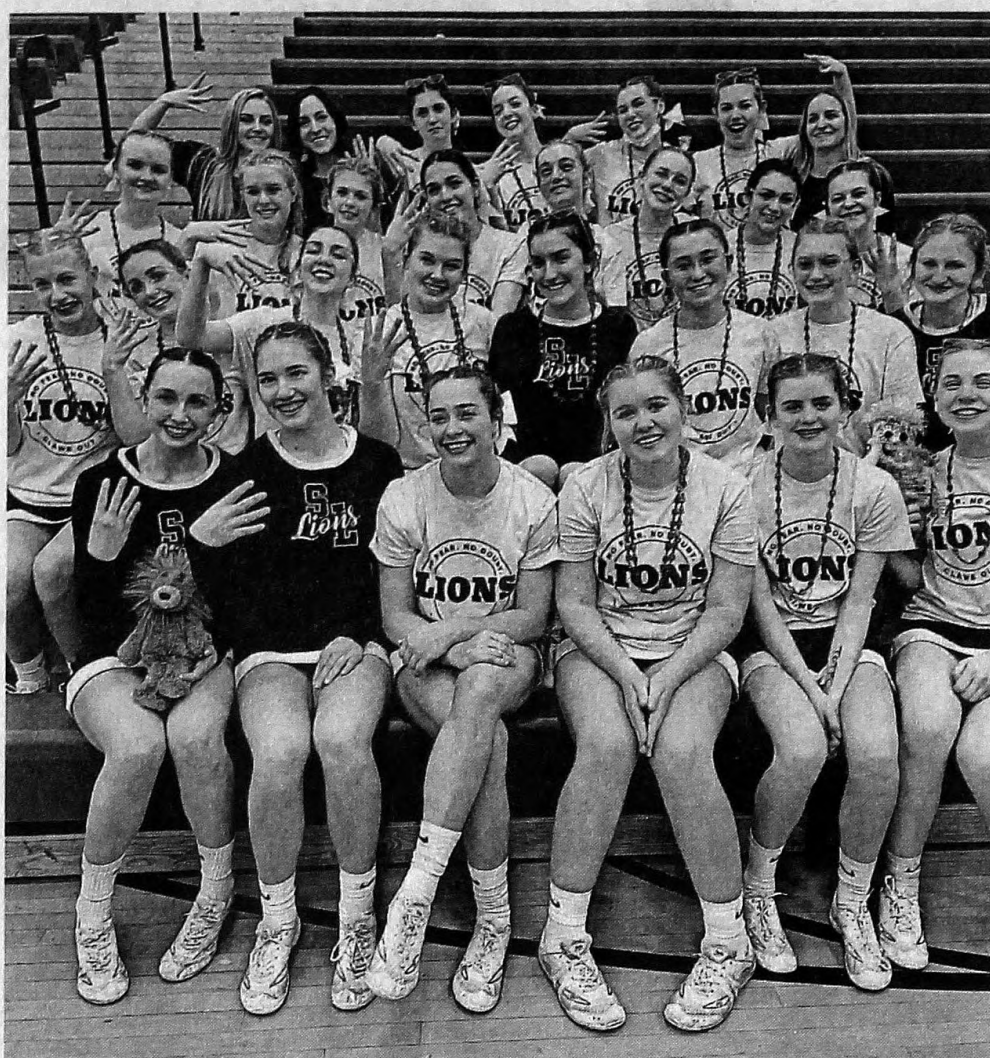
South Lyon's total district score of 765.76 broke a school record as did its individual scores in Round 1 (233.6) and Round 2 (226.94).

The only record it failed to break was the individual Round 3 score, which is still held by the team from 2018 that posted a 318. This year's squad scored a high of 311.5.

The regional saw the Lions post scores of 221.60 in Round 1, 218.64 in Round 2 and 305.30 in Round 3, good enough for a total score of 745.54.

"It seems that each competition we are breaking more school records on a round by round basis," Fierk said.

This year's squad included freshmen Maggie Badrak, Katelyn Benn, Avery Boulrier, Sabrina Cornellier, Kylie Modreski, Leah Plagens, Allison



The South Lyon competitive cheer team just wrapped up one of its best seasons in program history. Pictured are (front) Lauren Keith, Maggie Badrak, Lauren McMahon, Ava Sentz, Allison Savage, Emma Tupa, (second row) Kylie Modreski, Emily Yarbrough, Jenna Neer, Jenna Chaffin, Emily Nagy, Avery Boulrier, Sabrina Cornellier, Reese Retherford, (third row) Leah Radde, Delaine Smith, Sophie Boback, Rianna Gjoka, Lizzy Creech, Leah Plagens, Lilyana Yost, Katelyn Benn, (back) assistant Sydney Stenman, assistant Megan Johnson, Callie Overstreet, Elizabeth Stanley, Brooklynne Adams, Audrey Ford and coach Sarah Fierk. COURTESY PHOTO

Savage, Delaine Smith, Emma Tupa, Emily Yarbrough and Lilyana Yost; sophomores Brooklynne Adams, Sophie Boback, Audrey Ford, Rianna Gjoka, Jenna Neer, Leah Radde and Ava Sentz; juniors Elizabeth Creech, Emily Nagy, Callie Overstreet, Reese Retherford and Elizabeth Stanley; and seniors Jenna Chaffin, Lauren Keith and Lauren McMahon.

Also helping Fierk lead the team were assistants Sydney Stenman and Megan Johnson.

"We have the best coaching staff imaginable, and our three (although crazy at times) different cheer experiences all bring the perfect recipe to our athletes," Fierk added. "This team is special, and I hope they will remember this year for the rest of their lives. We have a very young team, and I can only imagine where they will go year over

year, keeping with them the legacy of our amazing seniors that showed them the way.

"(At districts), we knew we were walking in with a good chance of qualifying, but needed the girls to perform the way we have prepared them to. They stepped it up and put some amazing routines on the floor. We are so incredibly proud of them."

Just one area team, Plymouth, qualified for the cheer state final slated for March 4 at the DelaPlex in Grand Rapids.

The Wildcats took fourth place at the D-1 regional at Troy Athens with rounds of 237.40, 231.16 and 318.60 for a final score of 787.16.

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

# Stevenson's Lori Hyman awarded Women In Sports Leadership MHSAA honor

Courtesy of Geoff Kimmerly

mhsaa.com

Over the last 27 years, Livonia Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman has not only led athletic departments at two of Michigan's larger high schools but also served as a voice of leadership, education and mentorship for her colleagues statewide. To celebrate her contributions to school sports, Hyman was named the 35th recipient of the MHSAA Women In Sports Leadership Award.



Hyman

Each year, the representative council considers the achievements of women coaches, officials and athletic administrators affiliated with the MHSAA who show exemplary leadership capabilities and positive contributions to athletics.

Hyman is in her 22nd year at Stevenson after previously serving her first five as an athletic director at Dexter. She also is a graduate of Stevenson High School and continued her education and basketball careers at Michigan State University, then served as a women's college basketball coach for 17 seasons before transitioning into school sports administration in 1995.

Hyman will receive the Women In Sports Leadership Award during the MHSAA Division 1 Girls Basketball Final on March 19 at Michigan State's Breslin Center.

"Every part of my career I've been happy with, and honored, and just thoroughly enjoyed it," Hyman said. "It's been a passion of mine, every aspect."

"(Playing at Michigan State) was one of the best times, if not the best time, of my life as a youngster. And then being an athletic director has probably been the most rewarding as an adult. And being at Stevenson, coming back home, has been quite an honor and just a very rich experience for me."

Hyman has hosted a multitude of MHSAA tournament events while at both Dexter and Stevenson and has served on the MHSAA's girls tennis, girls basketball and boys basketball committees. She also has served as the girls and boys tennis commissioner of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, of which Stevenson is a member.

She has served as a Leadership Training Institute instructor for the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) and as a presider and speaker at the MIAAA's annual conference. She also has spoken at the MHSAA's Women In Sports Leadership Conference.

Hyman was named her region's Athletic Director of the Year by the MIAAA in 2014 and received its Jack Johnson Distinguished Service Award in 2015.

"Lori has been a leader and pioneer in the world of athletics, and in particular as an advocate for females and girls sports," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "When she left coaching basketball to work as an AD, it was an incredible victory for kids in our state. She's been dependable, loyal and just a model of consistency in running a first-class program."

Hyman is a 1975 graduate of Livonia Stevenson, where she also played softball and competed in track & field. She was named MSU's Outstanding Athlete of the Year for women's basketball in 1979, after serving as co-captain of the team that season but rarely playing because of an injury. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education and health in 1980 and also has a master's in athletic administration from Wayne State University.

Hyman served as a women's basketball graduate assistant at Ferris State University after graduating from MSU and then as head coach at Northwood Institute (now University) from 1981-82 - when she was only 23 years old - through 1985-86.

She then served as an assistant coach at University of Illinois before returning as head coach at Ferris State from 1989-90 through 1994-95.

She received her certified master athletic administrator designation from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) in 2006. In addition to her vast school sports responsibilities and contributions, Hyman has volunteered with Special Olympics, Livonia's Newburg United Methodist Church and Rotary Club.

# Patriots pompon wins Mid American Pompon championship

**Brandon Folsom**

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Franklin has the best pompon team in the state.

Quite literally.

Not only did its varsity squad win the Mid American Pompon state championship on Feb. 13 at Eastern Michigan University but its JV won a state title as well.

This news comes after both squads won the High Kick Championship last November in Saginaw and qualified for the state championship during the ensuing regional meet this past January.

The varsity claimed the Class A/Division I state title after scoring 498 out of 550 points, which was a better score than several college teams present, while the JV earned a D-1 title, too.

It's just the third time Franklin has won a state championship.

Coaching the varsity were Maddie Ruffing, Brooke Argue and Hailey Petrovich, while the JV coaches included Anna Fillar, Jenna Milewski and Hannah Sexton.

This year's varsity squad included senior captains Kayla Petrovich, Haylee Shingler, Sophie Nomides, Kailyn Benson; juniors Grace Makowski and Megan Swystun; sophomores Lauren

Kotrych, Lily Poisson, Alyssa Greis, Savannah Hodges, Lily Szczembara, Isabelle Anderson, Madeline Shiner, Brein Horgan, Davinee Scott and Ava Phan; and freshmen Kaitlyn Fugedi, Emily Young and Maliya Watt.

The JV roster included sophomore Kierra Kelly and freshmen Katarina Benson, Jillian Hardacre, Sophia Marietta, Lilly McKinley, Brooklyn Branham, Brianna Bartz and Madison Brussow.

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



Both the Livonia Franklin varsity and JV pompon squads won state championships Feb. 13 at Eastern Michigan University. Pictured are (front, l-r) Sophie Nomides, Kayla Petrovich, Haylee Shingler, Kailyn Benson, Madison Brussow, Kiera Kelly; (second, l-r) coach Madison Ruffing, Davinee Scott, Grace Makowski, Savannah Hodges, Maliya Watt, Ava Phan, Lily Poisson, Lauren Kotrych, Emily Young, Brooklyn Branham, Jillian Hardacre, Katarina Benson, coach Hannah Sexton; (third, l-r) coach Hailey Petrovich, coach Brooke Argue, Lily Szczembara, Isabelle Anderson, Megan Swystun, Alyssa Greis, Brein Horgan, Kaitlyn Fugedi, Madeline Shiner, Sophia Marietta, Brianna Bartz, Lilly McKinley and coach Anna Fillar. Not pictured: coach Jenna Milewski. COURTESY PHOTO



# Hockey

Continued from Page 1B

drop of the puck in the first, to the second, and to the third and in OT. ... It was a very emotional, hard-fought game for both teams. It was fun to watch. It was a fun game to watch with back-and-forth opportunities."

Emotional is an understatement.

Canton's game-tying goal scored in the third period will be something Stevenson's fans will talk about for decades.

Trailing 2-1 with 1 minute to go, the Chiefs pulled goalie Nate Azarovitz (34 saves) for an extra skater as a last-ditch effort to knot the score and force overtime with a man advantage.

Stevenson almost threw in an empty-netter, which was enough to kill plenty of time.

The Chiefs finally got the puck back into scoring territory and worked it around the net. About 15 seconds remained.

Finally, Nolan Lenon ripped a shot from the blue line. It went wide-right and banged off the glass. About 10 seconds were left.

Matthew Thibodeau corralled the rebound and sent a backhanded shot toward Stevenson goalie Zach Waldo, but it got deflected before it ever reached Waldo. About 3 seconds were on the clock.

Joel Fonovic crashed the net and somehow banged his stick on the puck. The rebound went in, but there was no time remaining.

Quite literally. The scoreboard showed three Os, but the final horn never sounded.

Stevenson's Andrew Elliott pointed up at the scoreboard and then clutched his helmet in disbelief. And then teammate Adam Heard skated toward a referee and pointed at the scoreboard as well.

Spartans coach David Mitchell looked so distraught by the play that he left the bench and walked toward the west end of the arena to regather himself.

The referees met at center ice to make a final decision. They ruled that 0.2 seconds were left. The score would stand.

Canton burst into an immediate celebration.

"The boys were buzzing with 0.2 sec-



The Canton Chiefs hoist their Division 2 championship trophy on March 2, 2022. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

onds left on the clock, and we still fought through it," said Fonovic of his unbelievable goal. "I just knew there was more than a second on the clock. I just went behind the net and tucked it in.

"It's amazing. In my three years on varsity, we've never beaten them. My sophomore year, we lost 10-1 in the playoffs in the first round to them. It feels great to beat them finally."

Overtime was just a thrilling, or gut-wrenching, depending on which side of the bleachers you sat on.

Immediately after the opening face-off, Canton dumped the puck into Stevenson's zone. The Spartans never truly cleared it and a few odd things happened to them.

Owen Penny, who scored both of Stevenson's goals, lost his stick, taking him away from the play and giving Canton an instant man-advantage.

And then Canton's Cam Kitts deked Waldo on a shot that saw the goalie awkwardly slide out of position. But the rebound landed in front of Amos, who initially thought about passing the puck back to Kitts or to Fonovic in the corner. But then the sophomore saw just how wide-open the net was with Waldo scrambling to recover his territory.

So Amos lased a strike to the right side of the net to win it all.

Amos was apprehensive about taking the shot because he had only scored two goals in his two years on varsity. He never expected to take that shot.



Tyler Husted brings the puck up ice. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Canton Chief Daniel Fletcher barrels towards the Livonia net. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"Nah, I was thinking I was going to give it one of them on my line," he said. "It just kind of worked out like that. It's amazing. I don't think we've ever beaten them, so it's pretty amazing."

Maedel almost looked unprepared when athletic director Vern Crump Sr. handed him the regional trophy.

The coach looked it up and down in amazement, handed it to Tyler Husted and Fonovic, two of his eight seniors, and watched as his team celebrated while hoisting the trophy in front of

Canton's student section.


And then he pulled out his phone from his right pants pocket and started organizing the team pictures. He wanted one taken in front of the scoreboard showing the score of the game and another in front of Canton's fans.

It was a lot to organize. Sleep was going to have to wait.

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

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# Marlins

Continued from Page 1B

What's more, Mercy coach Gary Morris was a color analyst on the CHSL's broadcast of the game. Talk about adding insult to injury.

So not once but twice the Marlins saw Marian spoil what was almost a perfect regular season. Clearly, they needed to pick up the pieces, refocus and soldier on from the experience.

"Obviously, that feeling really sucked," senior Sarah Cunningham said. "Nobody wants to go and watch a game they should've been playing in, but we kind of just wanted to put that loss behind us. That was the fire lit underneath our butts to win the district championship, and that's exactly what we did. In practice, we've been working our butts off to do exactly what we did tonight."

That's right. Mercy used that night at WSU as motivation to finish the regular season on a high note and walk into the Division 1 district tournament with one goal in mind: Win the whole dang thing.

And the Marlins (18-4) did just that, taking down Southfield A&T in the semifinal on March 2 and then using a 16-point third quarter to run past visiting Livonia Stevenson 54-31 in the March 4 championship game.

They faced West Bloomfield, the No. 1 team in the Associated Press' final poll, in Tuesday's regional semifinal.

They entered the matchup as the underdog, but that's OK. They already had a chip on their shoulder from watching Marian win the CHSL tournament. There's nothing wrong with having even more motivation.

"You don't want to look back and say we played badly in a game," Morris said. "We didn't play well against Marian, especially in the first half, so we don't want to repeat that in the state tournament."

"We told the kids: That knocked us out of the Catholic League tournament, but the next loss ends our season."

Friday's district final saw Mercy overcome some adversity.

It was a two-point game with a minute left in the first half. But Sophie Dugas buried a 3-pointer, and then Maya White scored a bucket down low just before the buzzer to give the Marlins a 23-16 halftime lead.

They never looked back after that.



Farmington Hills Mercy coach Gary Morris accepts the championship trophy after the Marlins beat Livonia Stevenson in the Division 1 girls basketball district final on Friday, March 4, 2022. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

In the second half, Cunningham and White were a force in the paint. Dugas continued knocking down shots. And contributors such as Lauren Smiley, Aizlyn Albanese and Fran DeNardo, among others, helped push the pace, especially with their team's full-court pressure defense executing well.

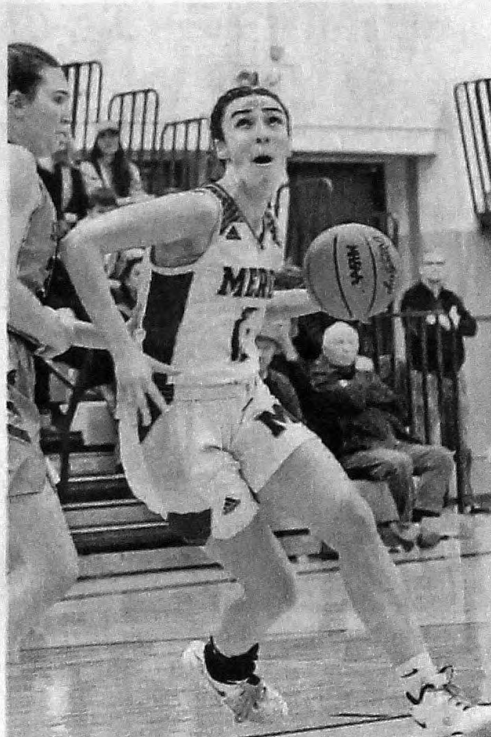
"I think it's good we got a taste of what a loss could feel like in the play-offs," said Dugas, reflecting on the loss to Marian. "That was not very fun, and we don't want to go through that again. So we're working extra hard in practice so we don't lose."

Although senior night was last month, Morris used the end of the evening to pay tribute to Cunningham and Dugas, his only two seniors, aside from third-year manager Bianca Marcon, as the duo officially played in their final home game of their careers.

With 3:15 left, Morris substituted Cunningham out of the game for the last time, and the Marlins' student section gave her a standing ovation as she walked to the bench.

Nineteen seconds later, he did the same for Dugas.

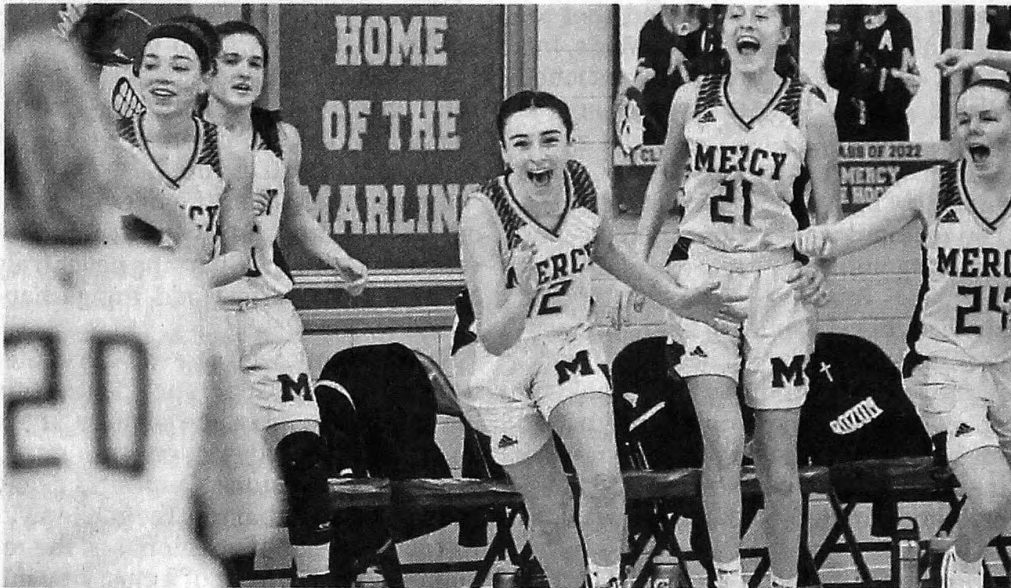
The two watched their teammates



Farmington Hills Mercy's Sarah Cunningham attacks the basket during the Division 1 girls basketball district final against Livonia Stevenson on Friday, March 4, 2022. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Farmington Hills Mercy's Maya White passes during the Division 1 girls basketball district final against Livonia Stevenson on Friday, March 4, 2022. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Farmington Hills Mercy's Sarah Cunningham celebrates after the Marlins beat Livonia Stevenson in the Division 1 girls basketball district final on Friday, March 4, 2022. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

dribble out the final seconds off the scoreboard. When the horn finally buzzed, Cunningham was the first to sprint to half court to celebrate.

The pain from the Marian loss was finally subsiding as Mercy hoisted the

district trophy in the air for yet another year.

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

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The AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School, located at 22001 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, MI, will have "Open Enrollment" from March 11, 2022 - April 8, 2022, between 9 AM to 3 PM, and on Sunday March 20, 2022, from 10 AM to 1 PM. Please note that the school office will be closed from March 28 - April 1, 2022. For further information or special appointments, please call the school at 248.569.2988. Random selection drawing for new applicants will take place at the school on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 10 AM. Families of those selected will be notified.

Publish: March 10 & 13, 2022

LO-0000361616 2x2

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Notice is hereby given that the City of Plymouth, Michigan will accept sealed bids up until 10:15 a.m., Thursday, April 7, 2022. The bid opening will be at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 7, 2022 for the following:

#### PURCHASE OF SOCCER EQUIPMENT FOR THE 2022 / 2023 BUDGET YEAR

Specifications and bid documents are available at the city hall during normal business hours. You may also download a copy of the documentation from the City's web site at:

<http://www.plymouthmi.gov>

The City of Plymouth reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any irregularities.

Maureen Brodie - City Clerk  
City of Plymouth  
201. S. Main  
Plymouth, MI 48170

Publish: March 10, 2022

LO-0000361621 3x2.5

Plymouth Canton Community Schools  
2020 Bond  
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools, 2020 Bond, **BP# HS-2 Plymouth High School Natatorium and Multipurpose Room Addition**, consisting of:

#### BP# HS-2 Plymouth High School Natatorium and Multipurpose Room Addition

The School District requests Bids for the above-referenced Project. Bids will be received through Building Connected until **(1:00) PM on, 3/25/22.**

1. All Bids shall be submitted electronically on or before the Due Date 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 the Due Date will not be opened, considered or accepted by the School District.**

**Faxed and/or E-mail Bids will not be accepted by the Board of Education.**

**Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and tabulated, beginning at approx. (1:00) PM on, 3/25/22. Bid opening will be publicly conducted via a Zoom meeting.** Information regarding joining the Zoom meeting for all Bidders interested in participating is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88225057307>

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

- |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 106: Masonry                    | 117: Acoustical Treatments |
| 107: Steel                      | 120: Painting              |
| 108: Carpentry & General Trades | 136: Telescoping Bleachers |
| 109: Roofing                    | 141: Fire Protection       |
| 115: Metal Studs/Drywall        |                            |

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Architecture** 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; the Builder's Exchange, Lansing and Washtenaw Contractors Association.

Bidding Documents will be available beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Monday, March 7, 2022 via Building Connected.

There will be a **Pre-Bid Meeting on Wednesday, March 16 2022 at 3:30 p.m. at Plymouth High School, located at 8400 N Beck Rd, Canton, MI 48187.** The purpose of the meeting will be to review the Project Bidding Documents & schedule, and to answer any questions Bidders may have.

Following the meeting, the Bidders will have the opportunity to visit the Project site. The pre-Bid meeting is not a mandatory meeting; however, Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.

All Bids must include the following sworn and notarized statements:

- Familial Disclosure Affidavit (Section 004205)
- Iran Linked Business Affidavit (Section 004210)
- Criminal Background Check Affidavit (Section 004220)

The Board of Education will not accept a Bid that does not include these sworn and notarized disclosure statements.

Bids shall be submitted electronically into Building Connected. Bid security by a quality surety in the form of a Bid bond, cashier check, or certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bid shall be submitted with each Bid, payable to School District, 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 the failure of the Bidder to enter into a Contract for performance. All cashier's checks must be scanned and submitted electronically through Building Connected by the Due Date and be delivered to 454 South Harvey Plymouth, MI 48187 to the attention of Deborah J Piesz, within 48 hours of the Due Date. The School District will not consider a Bid that does not include a Bid security. 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.

The School District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bids, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities and irregularities therein, or to award the Contract to other than the Bidder (s) submitting the best financial Bid (low Bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

END OF SECTION

Publish: March 10 & 17, 2022

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