

# OBSERVER

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

# Farmington Hills man found guilty

**See GUILTY, Page 2A**



# Senior playground coming to Bicentennial Park in Livonia

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# FOIA logs from 2021 reveal top concerns

**See FOIA, Page 3A**



\*The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 15 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1" rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. \*\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*\*Must present at time of estimate. See representation for full warranty details. Manufactured in Bloomfield, Michigan and processed at LMT Mergers Group in Ohio.



# Year-long audit reveals student equity concerns at Plymouth-Canton schools

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

A year-long research audit funded by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools revealed wide-ranging student equity gaps throughout the district.

A combination of surveys and other data-collection procedures was conducted by Arlington, Virginia-based research firm Hanover Research. The ongoing study is one of several projects included in a \$105,000 contract the school district has with Hanover, which also works on the district's multi-tiered systems of support programs.

Among the inequities brought to light by the study are that Black/African-American and Hispanic students in Plymouth-Canton schools are underrepresented in student success outcomes compared to the overall general population of the district, while Asian students are overrepresented in this category.

In early-warning outcome categories — including chronic absenteeism, lack of participation in standardized testing and a greater frequency of suspensions — Black, Hispanic, economically disadvantaged and English-learning students are overrepresented while Asian and white students are largely underrepresented, according to a Hanover presentation during the Feb. 22 Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education meeting.

"Hanover finds consistent opportunity gaps in academic and behavioral outcomes among students at P-CCS," the presentation stated.

"This is disconcerting," said Board of Education President Patti McCain, "but not surprising."

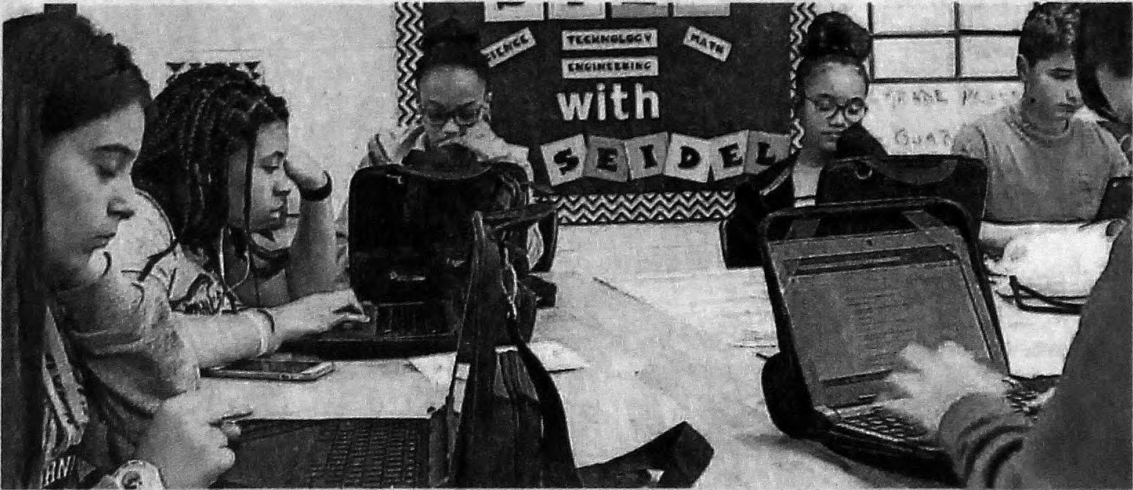
Results of an online survey taken by 5,420 students, 1,873 parents and 431 staff affiliated with Plymouth-Canton Schools suggested that perceptions of how welcome students feel at school tend to vary by group.

For those survey-takers who identify as a gender other than male or female, 57% agree that they feel welcome at school, with fewer agreeing they feel they are part of their school community (45%), are proud of their school (48%), or like their school (39%).

There is also a disparity in opinions based on the survey respondent's role, the survey revealed. Although many parents (79%) and staff (83%) agree that students like school, only 51% of students said the same.

Among other key survey findings were that approximately 75% of respondents agreed that teachers can help all students succeed, although fewer (53%) felt the district's educators adjust lessons to fit students' different learning styles.

A positive revelation from the survey was that respondents generally feel that teachers and students



Plymouth-Canton students participate in a STEM project. COURTESY OF PLYMOUTH-CANTON SCHOOLS

care about and respect students from all backgrounds, the Hanover presentation stated.

Included in a list of recommendations provided by Hanover were:

- Focus academic improvement efforts on early literacy;
- Evaluate curricula and assessments for cultural responsiveness and inclusivity; and
- Ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts include a focus on gender identity.

Information provided by Denise Lilly, district director of diversity, equity and inclusion, shows 66.54% of Plymouth-Canton Schools students are white/European/Middle Eastern, 15.5% are Asian/Far Eastern/Indian/Pakistani, 12.21% are Black/African-American and 5.03% are Hispanic.

Lilly said Hanover's equity and inclusion survey given to parents and guardians of the district's K-12 students and to students in grades 6-12 helped survey-takers share perspectives on climate, experiences and perceptions of inclusion within schools, among other equity-related topics.

"This information is essential in decision-making in all areas within our district," Lilly said in an email to Hometown Life.

Hanover's presentation stated third-grade Black and Hispanic students scored 20 percent lower academically than their third-grade white peers. This statistic was nearly the same (increasing to 21 percent) in eighth grade.

"Very good information that underscores what we've been seeing and hearing in the district," school board member Shawn Wilson said. "One question I have is: 'What does success look like?' Your recommendations are fantastic. If we do those things, then what? How much can we expect to move the needle year over year?"

"It's a great question and one we're seeing our partners really wrestle with," said Hanover K-12 Education Research Director Jill Garrett. "How do we define and measure equity and what does it mean to be a fully equitable district? We try to work with each district, work with the data and try to develop SMARTIE (strategic, measurable, ambitious, realistic, time-bound, inclusive, and equitable) goals from what we're seeing."

"We try to do it in a way that is attainable and realistic. One of the exciting things is that we get to work with your community to define what equity means to be successful and then help the board put actions in place that will get you there."

Lilly said the emergence of diversity, equity and inclusion departments like Plymouth-Canton's are increasing at a steady rate in Michigan and other states.

"In southeastern Michigan specifically, there are departments and/or DEI directors and coordinators in Troy Public Schools, Royal Oak Community Schools, Farmington Public Schools, Livonia Public Schools, Allen Park Public Schools and Detroit Public Schools Community District," she said.

Hanover's presentation sparked a significant question for the district's leadership team: What can we do to increase equity within our buildings' walls?

The next step in the process for the district, Hanover representatives asserted, are to identify root causes and solutions to the discussed equity issues and ensure that any actions or investments it makes in the future are grounded in evidence-based and promising practices.

"Numerous research studies indicate a positive impact of equitable and inclusive practices on students and society, including improved academic outcomes, social-emotional learning and future economic and employment prospects," the presentation concluded. [eawright@hometownlife.com](mailto:eawright@hometownlife.com)

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Published Sunday and Thursday by  
Observer & Eccentric Media

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### Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50  
\$104 per 12 months home delivery

### Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737  
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
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## Guilty

Continued from Page 1A

found her on the patio.

Prosecutors said the teen tried to stage an accidental fall. At the time, he was enrolled in his senior year at the exclusive International Academy West in White Lake Township.

"We have a theory that fits the evidence," prosecuting attorney John Skrzynski said. "He can drag a body about 10 feet from a bathroom to a window."

"The light in the bathroom is on. She was in there doing her makeup just like she does every single day. Why are there no defensive wounds on this highly athletic woman? Why did she not fight? Why not? She was unconscious. We're not making this stuff up. This stuff fits the evidence."

Evidence included early morning phone calls between Muhammad and his father Bassel Altantawi, who was living apart from his family because of the divorce. He also was on a tether after pleading guilty in a medical fraud scandal.

The father called his son at 4:27 a.m. the day Hurnieh was found dead. It was the first of several calls between the two over the course of an hour. Security cameras showed a shadowed body hoisting Hurnieh's corpse out the window that morning.

During the trial, defense attorneys criticized police for not vetting other men who could have killed Hurnieh, who also was mom to Muhammad Altantawi's two younger sisters. One testified against him.

They pointed to a man, who testified about being Hurnieh's friend and casual lover, and a friend of Bassel Altantawi who appeared in the family's Howard Road home less than a month after the murder.

They further accused prosecutors of crediting the teenaged Muhammad with the skills of a professional hitman attempting to get away with an elaborate job.

"What evidence whatsoever is there that connects Muhammed to anything? There's no defensive wounds on her. There's no defensive wounds on him."



Muhammad Altantawi, 20, second from right, on the last day of his trial. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Police arrested Altantawi after a questionable interview successfully challenged by defense attorneys.

There's no signs of a struggle," defense attorney Mike Schiano said. "There's no DNA or fingerprints."

They had asked the jury to avoid guessing and speculating as they considered how to charge the man who once was a teen caught between divorcing parents.

"Muhammad is a conduit. Muhammad is the messenger boy," said Schiano, describing a teen asked by his mother to relay information and sending legal documents and his mother's texts to his father. "He's placed in the middle of this. What did he actually do? What kind of motive does he have to kill his mother? Absolutely none."

Police arrested Altantawi after a questionable interview successfully challenged by defense attorneys.

During the trial, the defendant wore a suit jacket and tie. He occasionally wrote on a piece of paper or situated his tie. When the verdict was announced, he quickly turned his head.

Altantawi has moved from Oakland County's Children's Village to Oakland County Jail while in custody. A sentencing date was not provided after the verdict.

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

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# FOIA

Continued from Page 1A

The Midland-based Mackinac Center made requests to all five cities in 2021 and can be used as one possible resource for people wondering how much money local and school officials in Michigan make.

Some governing bodies charge fees for the resources used in fulfilling a FOIA request, including time and supplies, so often times FOIA coordinators may direct requesters online if the information is already available.

"We are attempting to direct people to online resources if their information they are seeking can be found there to hopefully eliminate repetitive requests," Farmington Hills Clerk Pam Smith said.

Farmington Hills and Westland also received pay-related requests from individuals curious about issues like administrator contracts, pensions and union agreements.

## Elections drew above average interest in 2021

All five communities received an election-related FOIAs from True North Law in 2021, along with multiple requests from individuals. The Missouri-based True North sued Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson in 2020 on behalf of former U.S. President Donald Trump alleging a lack of Republican poll watchers in Detroit. A judge dismissed the lawsuit.

Most communities charged a fee for True North's 2021 requests. The firm did not pay in most cases so those requests have gone unfulfilled. Wayne was the only community that didn't charge a labor fee.

In Livonia, a group of residents requested and paid for over \$17,000 in documents related to 2020 elections in May 2021. The documents were the same ones the Michigan house and senate oversight committees subpoenaed Livonia Clerk Susan Nash for in December 2020. The committees eventually found nothing wrong with Livonia's election processes.

Hometown Life tried repeatedly to contact the Livonia group to no avail. The city eventually reimbursed the requesters about \$1,000 due to less work



Supporters of former President Donald Trump gather at the northeast corner of Eight Mile and Haggerty in July.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The hefty stack of FOIA requests the City of Livonia received in 2021.

SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

than expected to assemble the FOIA.

"Election FOIA requests at the city level almost didn't exist before the 2020 election," Mike Fisher, an attorney in Livonia's law department, said. "I don't remember that being a thing. It's not a huge thing now, but it wasn't really on the map before."

## Actions of local officials are popular request in Westland

One Westland requester asked for emails from Police Chief Jeff Jedrusik referencing Trump, and another requester asked for June 2021 emails sent by Mayor Bill Wild. Westland did not provide information regarding whether those requests were paid for, sent or if the records exist at all.

Hometown Life repeatedly called the

city's FOIA coordinator for follow-up on the requests, and those calls were unreturned. FOIA coordinators in the other four communities did respond to questions.

Officials' emails — as long as personal information like a personal cell phone number has been removed — are eligible items for FOIA requests and can shed light on how public officials interact with each other outside a public meeting environment. For instance, emails between Farmington Public Schools board members obtained by Hometown Life in 2021 highlighted the troubled culture on the board at the time.

## Livonia Planned Parenthood target of many FOIA requests

Two requesters affiliated with anti-abortion groups in Massachusetts filed a litany of police, fire and records requests in 2021 related to the Planned Parenthood clinic in Livonia at the corner of Farmington Road and Rayburn Street.

Fisher said he imagines the requests are similar to ones other communities with Planned Parenthoods.

Requests included emergency medical reports, emails from City Attorney Paul Bernier, emails between Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan and a former city council candidate, mail sent to the city from residents of Rayburn Street and more. Most of these requests in-

clude notes from law department employees that the requested records don't exist.

## Police, inspection reports make up the lion's share

Across the board, most requests come from developers or attorneys wanting to view building inspections or police reports.

Attorneys might ask for vehicle crash or dog bite reports ahead of a lawsuit, and developers ask for things like inspection reports or blueprints for a site they're considering building on. In Livonia, it's also common for residents to request the names of neighbors who reported their property to the inspection department.

"The police department generates the most FOIAs because there's so many things people are interested in there," Fisher said.

Smith said building reports aren't very time-consuming, but they're also not what FOIA laws are there to support.

"The average FOIA is not too time consuming for us as many of our documents are electronic," she said. "However, I will say the majority of our requests ... seem to be more for personal or business use and not what FOIA is intended for. That is, to be transparent in how government operates."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448.



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# This Sunshine Week, I recognize the power of FOIA



**Mike Nichols**  
Guest columnist

When I was asked to write on how we use the Freedom of Information Act as lawyers, I thought of the phrase attributed to Federal Judge Damon Keith: "Democracy dies in darkness."

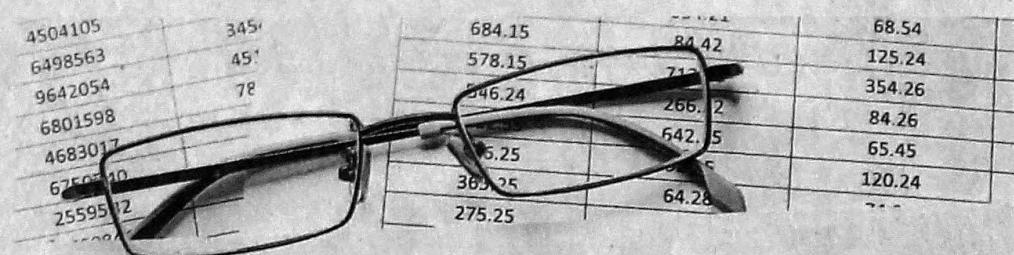
This was the mantra of Bob Woodward, when he and Carl Bernstein doggedly pursued lies and cover-ups by the Nixon administration that forced a sitting president from office 50 years ago.

FOIA is a tool that keeps government accountable to those who are governed. Michigan has some exceptions to FOIA statutes that make no sense — the Legislature is not subject to FOIA, courts are not subject to FOIA, etc.

And yet FOIA is still powerful — I can think of several situations where it was used by lawyers to uncover scandalous conduct in government.

One is from about 10 years ago when attorney Michael Komorn unearthed emails that revealed the Michigan State Police forensic lab officials were cooperating with prosecutors to charge medical marijuana patients with the most serious charges they possibly could.

Another is when lawyers at our firm unearthed discussions about the devices used to analyze the breath of drivers suspected of Operating While In-



## FOIA

The Freedom of Information Act

The federal open-records law is known as the Freedom of Information Act.

GETTY IMAGES

toxicated by alcohol. We worked with another law firm, the Rockind Law Firm in Birmingham, to uncover a cover-up that lead to a scandal that took every single one of the devices out of service in the state of Michigan.

This past week, I settled a lawsuit over a FOIA dispute with the City of East Lansing, in which I was represented by attorney Josh Blanchard of Greenville. I am not a person who likes to sue. However, I am part of a group of lawyers who

have an informal agreement that, if we think a public body is denying information it should at least try to make available for the public, we try to represent each other in litigation to make it right.

The original FOIA request was made when I represented a police officer for the East Lansing Police Department, who I believed was dragged through the mud and unfairly painted with the same brush as Derek Chauvin.

What I was looking for, and will be looking for when we receive the data (almost two years later), is part of my strategy for moving forward with the case.

Many people believe law enforcement agencies should have to reveal every single complaint made against an officer. I know, as an attorney who has faced my fair share of baseless complaints, people who do not like to get arrested will make a formal complaint against law enforcement.

However, any time a department finds an officer should be disciplined, the result of that discipline should be available to the public.

We get the government we deserve. Stay vigilant, promote and use FOIA effectively and let us not let democracy die in darkness.

Mike Nichols is a co-founder and partner at The Nichols Law Firm, PLLC, based in East Lansing. He is a nationally-recognized trial attorney and has devoted his career to exonerating clients all over Michigan.



Early income tax refunds are higher in 2022, according to IRS figures. SUSAN TOMPOR/DETROIT FREE PRESS



**Robert Meisner**  
Guest columnist

## What to do about developer trying to sneak retail business in subdivision

**Question:** I found out that the developer of our subdivision recently attempted to impose some restrictions on our subdivision lots even though he doesn't own those lots any longer. He recorded something with the county register of deeds that supposedly allows for commercial use.

Now there is a commercial enterprise that has bought one of those lots and wants to use it. Do you think we have a basis to stop that undertaking?

**Meisner:** I believe you do, because the developer cannot impose restrictive covenants on subdivision lots after they sell. For example, in a recent Tennessee Supreme Court decision examining similar circumstances, *Phillips v. Hatfield*, 624 S.W.3d 464 (Tenn. 2021), the court noted that the developer did not own the lots when he executed and recorded the declaration, and there was no agreement by lot owners to enter into restrictions.

The court further stated that it made no difference that the developer had reacquired some of the same lots over time. Nor did the facts support a finding of an implied reciprocal negative easement because the developer was no longer acting as a common grantor of a development plan when they recorded the restrictions.

Simply stated, restrictions cannot be acquired retroactively.

I agree with this decision, and although other state courts do not set precedent for Michigan, they can be instructive as to how similar cases may be decided in our state. And just about anyone can recognize that if the case had been decided differently, it may have opened the door for developers to perform "bait and switch" operations where people would have no idea of what kind of neighborhood they are buying into.

In the above case, the business happened to be a store selling "adult novelty items." That must have been quite a surprise.

My suggestion is that you get an attorney to write the lot owner to advise him that the developer did not have the authority to create the commercial use, he is not permitted to operate a commercial enterprise and, if necessary, seek relief with the court.

Robert M. Meisner, Esq. is the principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group. His book, "Condo Living 2: The Authoritative Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium" is available at [momentumbooks.com](http://momentumbooks.com).

## What to do with your tax refund



**Money Matters**  
Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

We are in the middle of tax season as many of us are starting to do our 2021 tax returns. An important decision that doesn't get much attention is regarding what to do with your tax refund.

This year many of us will receive refunds, and as far as I'm concerned it is critical to have a game plan as to what you do with that refund before you receive it. Having a game plan beforehand will help ensure that the money is not wasted.

If you are receiving a large refund, the first question you should ask yourself is why. It may be that you had too much withheld from your paycheck. If that is the case, it makes sense to adjust your withholdings through work.

My philosophy is you do not want to receive large refunds, because what it means is that you've given the government an interest-free loan. For this reason it is ideal to not receive any refund.

On the other hand, you don't want to owe a lot of money because then you may have to pay interest and penalties. The goal is to either receive no refund or a very small refund. This is why after completing your 2021 tax returns is a

great time to adjust your 2022 withholdings.

With rising inflation, many people may need their tax refund to cover the increased cost of living. Using your tax refund to cover those costs is a much better strategy than using your credit card. Therefore, leaving this money in the bank may be appropriate.

If you don't need your refund to cover your current costs, using your refund to pay down debt is another great use of this money, particularly high interest rate credit card debt. Student loans and car loans are also good uses of a tax refund. I believe paying down debt is one of the best investments anyone can make.

After all, if you are like most people, you pay 18.5 percent or more on your outstanding credit card balance. By using your tax refund to pay down your credit card debt, you're essentially guaranteeing yourself at least an 18.5 percent return on your money, tax free. I don't know any investment that can guarantee you that type of return.

If you do not have any debt, I would recommend establishing an emergency fund of money. I believe everyone needs a three-to-six-month emergency fund, particularly, in these uncertain times. Establishing, or replenishing your emergency fund is a fantastic use for your tax refund.

If debt is not a problem and you've

established your emergency fund, consider investing your tax refund. For those eligible for Roth IRAs, it is a great way to save for your retirement. Investing your tax refund and letting that money grow will pay dividends into the future.

Unfortunately, too many Americans will look at a tax refund as a bonus and a way to spoil themselves. Although I do believe it is important to occasionally reward yourself and buy something frivolous, keep in mind, you are rewarding yourself by using your tax refund to pay down debt, set up an emergency fund or invest for the future.

Personal finances keep people up at night and cause all sorts of problems within a family. Obviously, money and resources don't guarantee family happiness. However, I can assure you that life is much easier when your family finances are in order. Therefore, if you are going to receive a tax refund, be productive with it. Use it to improve the quality of your life and trust me, paying down debt and eventually becoming debt free will improve the quality of your life.

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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# Last State Silver Bank Rolls up for grabs

*Fortune of old Silver Coins issued by the U.S. Gov't sealed away in the only State Restricted Bank Rolls known to exist are actually being handed over to Michigan residents*

► **STATE RESTRICTION:** Only residents of MI get the \$19 state minimum - non state residents must pay \$57 per coin

"We're bracing for the flood of calls," said Laura Lynne, U.S. Coin and Currency Director for the National Mint and Treasury.

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

And here's the best part. If you are a resident of the state of Michigan you cover only the \$19 per coin state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury, that's twenty rarely seen Silver clad Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars worth up to 60 times their face value for just \$380 which is a real steal because non state residents must pay \$57 per coin which totals \$1,140 if any coins remain after the 2-day deadline.

"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 Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars minted from 1965 to 1970. But to actually find them sealed away in State Restricted Silver 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 Silver Bank Rolls are being offered up we won't be surprised if thousands of Michigan residents claim the maximum limit allowed of 6 Kennedy Presidential Silver Bank Rolls per resident before they're all gone," said Lynne.

"That's because the dates and mint marks of the U.S. Gov't issued Silver clad Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars sealed away inside the State of Michigan Restricted Silver Bank Rolls have never been searched. But, we do know that these coins were only minted from 1965 to 1970. That means some may be worth up to 60 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.

"Rarely seen 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 Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars minted from 1965 to 1970 like the ones sealed away in these State Restricted Bank Rolls have nearly doubled in collector value in just the last several years," Lynne said.

"We're guessing thousands of Michigan residents will be taking the maximum limit of 6 Bank Rolls because you can only get them rolled this way directly from the National Mint and Treasury and they are the only State Restricted Bank Rolls known to exist," Lynne continued.

"We know the phones will be ringing off the hook. 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 to-morrow. ■



■ **FLYING OUT THE DOOR:** Calls are pouring in from state residents who are trying to get their hands on the last State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls known to exist sealed away in the secured packages pictured above before the deadline ends. That's because residents who beat the 2-day deadline printed in today's publication are cashing in on the lowest ever state minimum price set by the National Mint and Treasury.

## Answering Your Questions



### Q: How to claim the last State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls

A: If you are a Michigan resident read the important information below about claiming the State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls, then call the State Toll-Free Hotline at: **1-800-233-5658 EXT: JFR1867** beginning at precisely 8:30 A.M. this morning.



### Q: Are these Silver Kennedy Half Dollars worth more than other Half Dollars?

A: Yes. These rarely seen Silver Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars were only minted from 1965 to 1970. That makes these silver coins extremely collectible. The vast majority of half dollars minted after 1970 have no silver content at all. In fact, these Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars were the last silver coins minted for circulation. That's why many of them now command collector values of many times their face value so there's no telling how much they could be worth in collector value someday.



### Q: How much are the State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls worth?

A: It's impossible to say, but these Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars issued by the U.S. Gov't from 1965 to 1970 are worth up to 60 times the face value and there are 20 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 Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars are highly collectible so anyone lucky enough to get their hands on these State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls should hold onto them because there's no telling how much they could be worth in collector value someday.



### Q: Why are so many Michigan residents calling to get them?

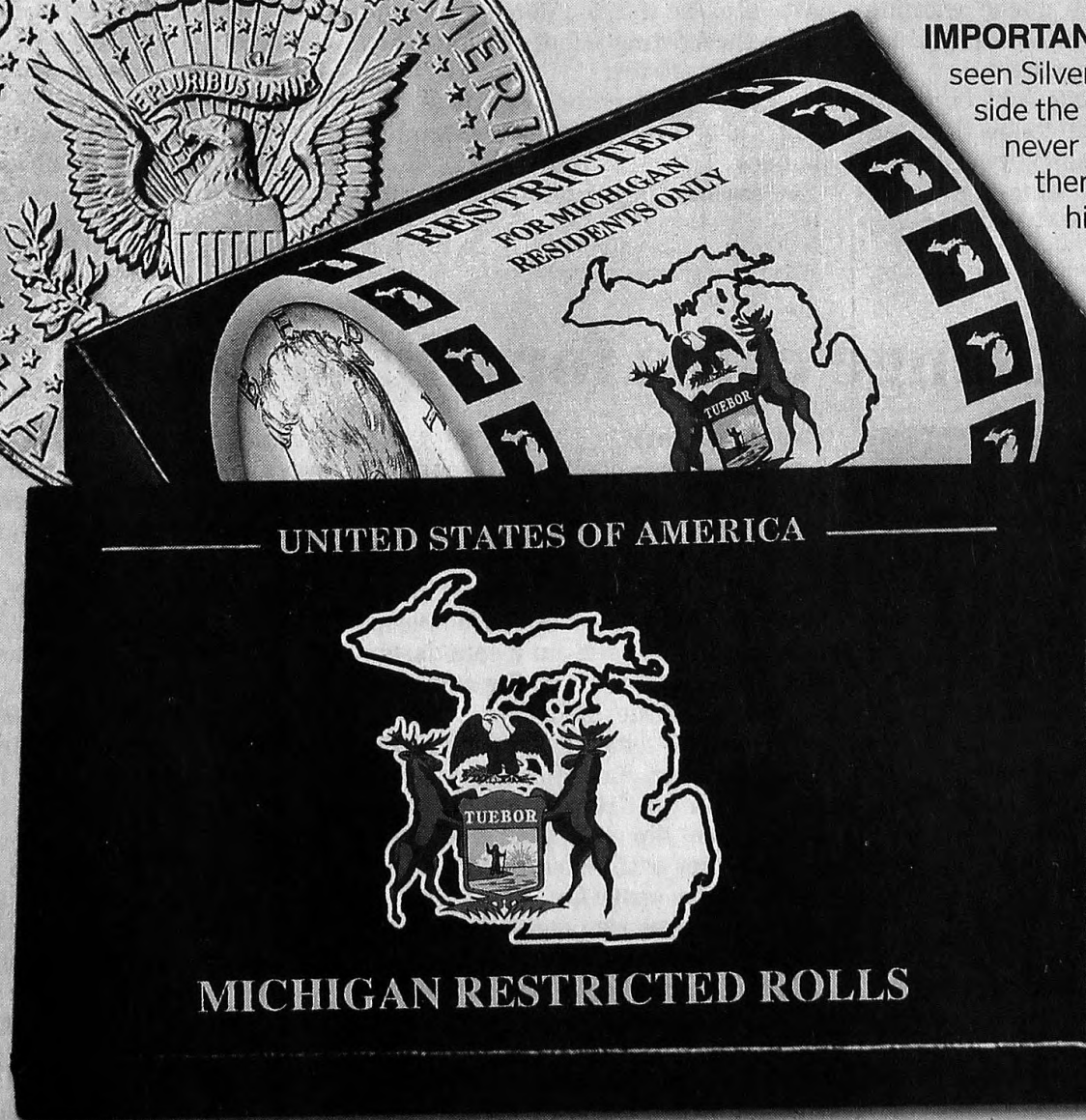
A: Because they are the only State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls known to exist and everyone wants their share. These are not ordinary bank rolls. These are full Bank Rolls containing 20 Silver Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars dating clear back to the mid 1900's some worth up to 60 times their face value. Remember this. Only Michigan residents are guaranteed to get them for just the \$19 per coin state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury for the next two days. Non state residents must pay \$57 per coin.



### Q: How do I get the State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls?

A: The only thing Michigan residents need to do is call the State Toll Free Hotline at **1-800-233-5658 Ext. JFR1867** before the deadline ends. Everyone who does is getting the only State Restricted Silver Bank Rolls known to exist. That's a full Bank Roll of 20 Silver Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars for just the \$19 per coin state minimum set by the National Mint and Treasury, which totals just \$380 for the full Bank Roll. That's a real steal because non state residents are not permitted to call before 5 pm tomorrow and must pay \$1,140 for each Michigan State Restricted Silver Bank Roll if any remain.

**IMPORTANT FACTS:** The dates and mint marks of the rarely seen Silver Kennedy Presidential Half Dollars sealed away inside the State of Michigan Restricted Silver Bank Rolls have never been searched. Coin values always fluctuate and there are never any guarantees, but any rare, scarce or highly collectible coins, regardless of their value that state residents may find inside the sealed Bank Rolls are theirs to keep.





# Farmington Hills meets with cannabis industry

## City to decide on allowing related businesses

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

By the year's end, Farmington Hills will likely decide whether it wants to allow marijuana businesses within city limits.

Cities in Michigan cannot control who grows marijuana in their city for personal use, as long as those growers follow local and state guidelines. But municipalities can choose whether to opt in or out to allowing commercial operations a recreational marijuana retail store. Farmington Hills already has some regulations related to medicinal marijuana operations.

Before Farmington Hills City Council decides if it wants to opt in, the city is doing its homework. One part of that research includes information sessions with marijuana industry representatives. Topics will include retail, growers and events.

"We're trying to gather as much information as we possibly can so council can make an educated decision on what we want to allow in our city," City Manager Gary Mekjian said.

One of the industry representatives the city is hearing from is Jerry Millen, who owns the popular Greenhouse of Walled Lake. Millen opened his shop in 2019 as a medicinal location but since added recreational sales.

Millen said marijuana gets a bad rap and isn't just for "stoners" — he's used it to sleep better and has plenty of customers who use it in place of pharmaceutical drugs. He said Greenhouse's average customer is a 44-year-old wom-

an. The shop is almost always bustling and sees about 1,500 customers daily.

"We cater to seniors and to women," he said. "That's my customer base. Our customers come here because they know we have knowledgeable budtenders and they're going to get the right information. I'm not just trying to make a dollar."

Though Millen said he'd love to open a Greenhouse in Farmington Hills, he said it's important for the city to find businesses that will be good partners. Mekjian also said, if the city does opt-in, he'll want retailers and other businesses that are willing to be community partners.

"I applaud Farmington Hills for doing this whole thing," Millen said. "The biggest key for a city is that the city becomes partners with that business, that retail. I represent the City of Walled Lake and if I mess up it doesn't bode well for the city."

Mekjian said his biggest hope for the informational sessions is that he and council can understand the industry better. The city will also host listening events to hear from other municipalities that allow cannabis businesses and Farmington Hills residents.

"This is an effort by our council to give the industry folks an opportunity to showcase their business and what makes them a legitimate business," Mekjian said. "We want to try to understand what their business is like and how they deal with issues that arise."

Topics the city manager is looking to learn more about include how businesses deal with odor and, since marijuana



**Jerry Millen, owner of Walled Lake's Greenhouse cannabis dispensary at 103 E. Walled Lake Drive, talks about starting operations in the Oakland County town.**  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

businesses mostly deal with cash, preventing theft. Millen said Greenhouse has never had an odor issue and security is a top priority for his staff.

Mekjian also noted there's a range of opinions on council and members are sure to have their own questions and concerns.

When the city does make a decision, the manager expects it will at least create a way for officials to crack down on growers in the city who produce too much odor. The city requires primary medical marijuana caregivers to only

grow in industrial zoned areas.

"We have many, many residents calling for assistance with this," Mekjian said. "They've got these operations in their neighborhood and they don't want them there. We will do everything we can within the power of the city to inform those folks that the legal location for those operations is in an industrial area."

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

# I-96 Flex Route project starts in Oakland County

**Susan Bromley** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Prepare yourselves, motorists.

More than two years of work on the Interstate 96 Flex Route started Monday.

The Michigan Department of Transportation, which is overseeing the massive \$269 million project, advised shouldered would close on both eastbound and westbound I-96 between Kent Lake Road and I-275/I-696/M-5 to allow for tree removal and brush clearing adjacent to the roadways.

Construction on the I-96 Flex Route itself will begin one week later, March 21, MDOT spokeswoman Diane Cross wrote in an email.

While the freeway will remain open, there will be lane closures as well as ramp closures including Kent Lake, Milford and Wixom road ramps, which will be shut down for approximately six months, starting in late May. Cross suggested drivers may want to use local roads instead of the freeway.

The Flex Route traffic management system, which has been implemented on US-23 in Livingston and Washtenaw counties, consists of opening existing shoulders during high traffic volume and ramp metering. For the I-96 Flex Route, ramp metering will occur at eight ramps, with variable speed advisories and traveler information posted on electronic message boards. Median shoulders will be rebuilt as an additional lane to be used not only during rush hours, but also during special events, maintenance



**I-96 eastbound near Beck Road. Roadwork will begin this summer to rehabilitate I-96's breakdown lanes and to eventually add a rush-hour lane near its median.**  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

activities and as a workaround for traffic incidents.

The I-96 Flex Route project's total cost includes:

- Gantries, lane control signs, message boards, cameras, and detection to allow part-time peak-period median shoulder use, provide queue warning and variable speed advisories, and facilitate incident management.
- Ramp metering at eight entrance ramps to help reduce congestion and improve travel time reliability and safety by breaking up entering traffic

groups.

- Seven crash investigation sites along outside shoulders to provide clearance of incidents
- Rebuilding all eastbound and westbound lanes and shoulders from Kent Lake Road to approximately 3,200 feet east into the I-275 interchange, and widen the existing 9-foot outside paved shoulders to 10 feet.
- Rebuilding ramps, except at the Kent Lake, Wixom, Beck road interchanges.
- Pavement repairs for the existing

Wixom and Beck road ramps.

- Improving the Beck Road carpool lot.
- Improving 11 bridges and one box culvert, and building 11 replacement or new box culverts.

"This Flex Route will relieve the daily directional congestion problem by utilizing our existing infrastructure versus expanding/widening the roadway which would add many millions in extra costs," Cross said. "Instead we are taking advantage of wide median shoulders and using them as a Flex lane during peak hours. Flex lane still technically considered a shoulder so it cannot be used as a full-time lane."

She acknowledged that drivers may be frustrated by the inability to use shoulders during non-peak hours and will have to adjust to the different way of using a shoulder. Signage informs motorist when the flex route can and can't be used. A learning curve also exists for the ramp metering which is intended to allow even traffic flow on to the freeway. Instructional videos are available at [drivingoakland.com](http://drivingoakland.com).

Even though adjustments are necessary to driving habits and the work won't be completed until fall 2024, Cross said it will ultimately improve quality of life for motorists.

"It also will increase safety, cut down on travel times during peak periods, and will help with incident management," she said.

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

# Westland police sell challenge coins for trip to honor fallen

**Susan Vela** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The Westland Police Department Honor Guard wants to represent their city during the 2023 National Police Week in Washington, D.C.

Members are selling new \$20 Honor Guard Challenge Coins to raise the approximately \$15,000 needed so they can honor fallen officers and their families in various ways, including a candlelight vigil on the National Mall and memorial service at the U.S. Capitol.

"It's something that the city can be proud to be a part of," Sgt. Joseph Reardon, team leader for the police department's honor guard, said. "Just being there and having our patch — specifically for the City of Westland — being represented and our team there and conversing with politicians from all across the country and letting them know what we represent. We're proud to represent the community."

Westland's presence, he said, will



**The Westland Police Department's Honor Guard is selling Challenge Coins for \$20 each to honor fallen police officers during National Police Week.**  
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

show how much the community supports public safety and how invested police are in the community.

So far, the honor guard has raised about \$10,000 for the trip.

"We thought (the challenge coins) would be a good way of raising some funds," Reardon said. "We've been pret-

ty successful at it."

Often traded, challenge coins typically are designed uniquely for the law enforcement, military and other groups they represent.

Reardon and his assistant honor guard team leader, Sgt. Kameron Sleep, were inspired to seek out a coin design for the honor guard, and the coins became available late last year.

Westland's challenge coins have some patriotic, prideful notes along with the phrase "Honor Earned Never Given." The flip side has a winged, sword bearer with listed qualities that police officers strive for.

Reardon reminds potential purchasers that the coin cost is tax deductible.

If the fundraiser is successful, 2023 would be the honor guard's first trip to perform at National Police Week. The nine members want to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony, stand watch for the fallen and honor fallen officers at the candlelight vigil.

Officer Margie Kelly has visited

Washington for past National Police Week celebrations. "Reverence" is the word she repeated when describing the event honoring officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

As she's done in the past, she plans to ride to Washington in 2023 with thousands of other bicyclists as part of the Police Unity Tour Arrival Ceremony, which is an opening event at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

The plan is to meet her fellow honor guard members there and participate with them.

"Honoring fallen police officers has been something that I've always been passionate about," Kelly said. "It's just always been something that I really take a lot of pride in and want to be a part of."

To purchase a challenge coin, visit [wlpdcommunitypartnership.square.site](http://wlpdcommunitypartnership.square.site).

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

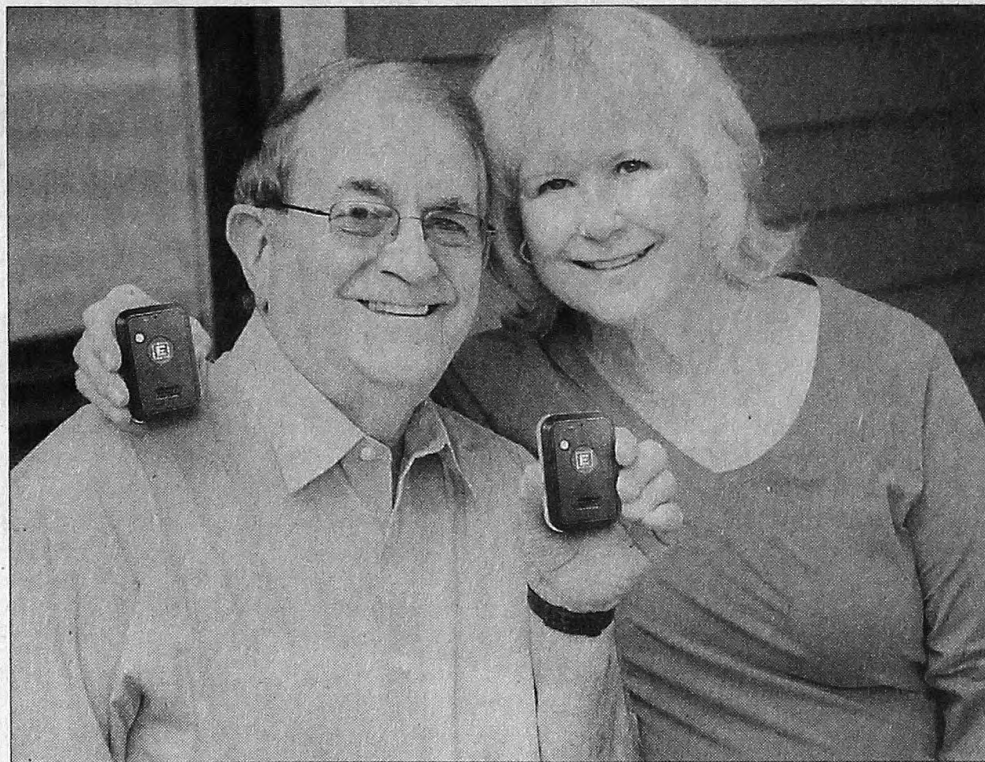


PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# Seniors born before 1956 get big boost

SLEEK NEW MEDICAL ALERT DEVICE IS FLYING OUT THE DOOR

COMES WITH NO CONTRACTS, NO DEPOSITS AND NO MONTHLY BILLS



Seniors get new medical alert device that instantly connects to free unlimited nationwide help with just the push of the 911 button

## Seniors born before 1956 get new medical alert device

Nationwide:  
Demand for new Medical Alert Device soars

The phone lines are ringing off the hook.

That's because for seniors born before 1956, it's a deal too good to pass up.

Starting at precisely 8:30am this morning the Pre-Store Release begins for the sleek new medical alert device that comes with the exclusive FastHelp™ One-Touch E 911 Button that instantly connects you to unlimited nationwide help everywhere cell service is available with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever.

"It's not like old style monitored help buttons that make you talk to a call center, only work when you're at home and come with hefty bills every month. FastHelp comes with state-of-the-art cellular embedded technology. That means it works at home or anywhere, anytime cell service is available whether you're out watering the garden, driving in a car, at church or even hundreds of miles away on a tour or at a casino. You are never alone. With just a single push of the One-Touch E Button you instantly get connected to free unlimited help nationwide with no monthly bills ever," said Jack Lawrence, Executive Director of Product Development for U.S. based Universal Physicians.

"We've never seen anything like it. Consumers absolutely love the sleek new modern design and most of all, the instant rebate that practically pays for it and no monthly bills ever," Lawrence said.

FastHelp is the sleek new medical alert device with the best of combinations: a quality, high-tech engineered device that's also an extremely great value because there are no monthly bills ever. ■

Instantly connects you to free unlimited nationwide help with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever

Comes with new cellular embedded technology that works at home or anywhere you go so you are never alone

All seniors born before 1956 are getting a \$150 rebate and cover just \$149 making this deal too good to pass up

Nothing to hook up. You don't need a land line or cell phone. It's ready to use right out of the box

## Five Star Customer Reviews

See what actual customers are saying about FastHelp

### VERY IMPRESSED

"When I pressed the alert button, I got straight through to help and they answered me immediately. I live out in the country and my cell phone doesn't always get reception... that was not a problem with my FastHelp device."  
- Walter, TN

### LIFESAVER

"When I got my FastHelp I never thought I'd have to use it, but when I fell and broke my hip it saved my life."  
- Harold, OH

### Very appreciative of having FastHelp

"I did have an emergency. Help RESPONDED quickly and came in a few minutes."  
- Irving, PA

### WE LOVE THE PRODUCT

"We bought it outright with no bills ever."  
- Rosemary, NY

### Safe anywhere

"This little FastHelp device is my guardian angel. I'm so glad my daughter-in-law got it for me."  
- Pete, FL

### Everyone should have it

"I've been telling everyone to get one. Thanks to the folks at FastHelp for taking good care of people when they need it."  
- Mark, IA

### Love my unit and feel much safer

"I am a 68 year old recent widow. Standing on a chair to put my tree topper on this Christmas I thought 'What if I fell?' Saw your ad and ordered my FastHelp unit."  
- Megan, CA

Unsolicited consumer feedback from satisfied customers as reported to Universal Physicians. Universal Physicians rated these customer reviews 5 stars

## Doctor urges seniors to get new medical alert device

Seniors snap up new medical alert device that comes with no monthly bills

People don't always do what their doctor says, but when seasoned veteran emergency room physician, Dr. Philip B. Howren says every senior should have a medical alert device, you better listen up.

"Seniors are just one fall away from being put in a nursing home," Dr. Howren said. "With a medical alert device, seniors are never alone. So it keeps them living independently in their own home. That's why seniors and their family members are snapping up a sleek new medical alert device that comes with no monthly bills



ever," he said.

Many seniors refuse to wear old style help buttons because they make them look old. But even worse, those medical alert systems come with

monthly bills.

To solve these problems Universal Physicians, a U.S. company, went to work to develop a new, modern, state-of-the-art medical alert device. It's called "FastHelp™" and it instantly connects you to free unlimited nationwide help everywhere cell service is available with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever.

"This slick new little device is designed to look like the pagers doctors wear every day. Seniors love them, because it actually makes them look important, not old," Dr. Howren said.

FastHelp is expected to hit store shelves later this year. But special newspaper promotional giveaways are slated for seniors in select areas. ■

## No contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever

FastHelp is the only Medical Alert device that won't break the bank. That's because it comes with no contracts, no deposits and no monthly bills ever – which makes FastHelp a great choice for seniors, students and professionals because it connects to one of the largest nationwide networks everywhere cell service is available for free.

And here's the best part. All those who already have an old style monitored medical alert button can immediately eliminate those monthly bills, which is why Universal Physicians is widely advertising this announcement nationwide.

So if you've ever felt a medical alert device was too complicated or expensive, you'll want to get FastHelp, the sleek new

medical alert device with no monthly bills.

The medical alert device slugfest was dominated by two main combatants who both offer old style monitored help buttons that come with a hefty bill every month. But now Universal Physicians, the U.S. based heavyweight, just delivered a knockout blow sending the top rated contenders to the mat with the unveiling of FastHelp. It's the sleek new cellular embedded medical alert device that cuts out the middleman by instantly connecting you directly to highly trained 911 operators all across the U.S. There's absolutely nothing to hook-up or install. You don't need a land line and you don't need a cell phone. Everything is done for you. ■

## The only device that makes you look important, not old

The problem with medical alert devices is, nobody wants to wear them because it makes them look old. Well, that's not the case with FastHelp. That's because it's the first state of the art medical alert device designed to make you look important, not old. Old style monitored help buttons you wear around your neck, or require expensive base station equipment or a landline are the equivalent of a horse and buggy, it's just outdated.

Millions of seniors fall every year and spend hours lying on the floor helpless and all alone with no help.

But seniors who fall and get immediate help are much more likely to avoid getting sent to a nursing home and get to STAY living in their own

home independently.

Yet millions of seniors are still risking their safety by not having a medical alert device. That's because seniors just can't afford to pay the monthly bills that come with old style medical alert devices.

That's why seniors born before 1956 are rushing to cash in the whopping \$150 instant rebate before the 2 day deadline ends.

So there's no need to wait for FastHelp to hit store shelves later this year because seniors born before 1956 can get it now just by using the \$150 instant rebate coupon printed in today's newspaper before the 2-day deadline ends. If lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered. ■

## HOW TO GET IT

► **BORN BEFORE 1956:** Use the rebate coupon to the right and call this Toll-Free Hotline: 1-866-340-4114 EXT. HELP4713

► **BORN AFTER 1956:** You cannot use the rebate coupon to the right and must pay \$299 Call: 1-866-407-2825 EXT. HELP4713

### BOTTOM LINE:

You don't need to shop around. We've done all the leg work, this deal is too good to pass up. FastHelp with the instant rebate is a real steal at just \$149 and shipping and there are no monthly bills ever.

**PROS:** It's the sleek new medical alert device that comes with the exclusive FastHelp One-Touch E 911 Button that instantly connects you to free unlimited nationwide help everywhere cell service is available with no contracts or deposits. It connects you to the vast available network of cellular towers for free and saves seniors a ton of money because there are no monthly bills ever making this deal irresistible. Plus it's the only medical alert device that makes seniors look important, not old.

**CONS:** Consumers can't get FastHelp in stores until later this year. That's why it's so important for seniors born before 1956 to call the National Rebate Center Hotline within the next 2 days. For those who miss that deadline, the sleek little medical alert device will set you back over \$300 bucks.

## REBATE COUPON

**VALID FOR USE**



**2 DAYS ONLY**

Amount of Rebate (AOR)

**1P**

**\$150.00 OFF**



**2Y**

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1 OF 1

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Some of the outdoor exercise equipment at Wildlife Woods Park in Novi, which Bicentennial Park will be modeled after. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Playground

Continued from Page 1A

The installation will cost \$150,000 and should be completed by the end of August.

Livonia sought input from Novi, which opened its own senior playground last year. The playground at Bicentennial, 36000 W. Seven Mile Road, should look somewhat similar to the senior playground at Novi's Wildlife Woods park.

"In my parks and rec experience, I've seen people of all ages using these," Jeff Muck, parks director for the City of Novi, said. "I've seen families using them."

Muck added some people have used Novi's senior playground throughout the winter and he expects it'll be a popular destination for residents this summer.

Livonia parks officials worked with the city's commission on aging to make sure it's a good fit for local seniors. Ted Davis, parks and recreation superintendent, said it's possible Livonia will create more senior playgrounds in the future if Bicentennial's is popular.

"They thought the design was good," Davis said of the commission. "The one thing we really came out of that with was to do classes and orientations after the installation, which I thought was a great idea. That's something we will do."

Davis added people will also be able to use a smartphone app to access instructions for the equipment.

### A brand new children's playground

Though the current play structure at Bicentennial will be torn down in favor of the senior playground, the city will create a new children's play park adjacent to its current spot.

The city is planning a 6,800-square-foot universally accessible play park similar to the popular playground at Rotary Park on Six Mile road. The build will cost \$600,000 and should be completed by the end of October.

"This is larger than the current play area and structure we have at Rotary Park," Davis said. "This includes a wheelchair accessible swing and we also have a merry-go-round feature. This is a universal design."

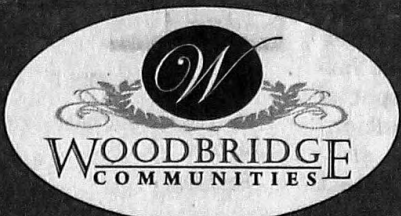
Davis said he expects the park to be a popular destination once it's finished. Bicentennial also has pickleball courts, a nature trail, a dog park and soccer fields.

"This is going to transform that park immensely," Councilman Brandon McCullough said.

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

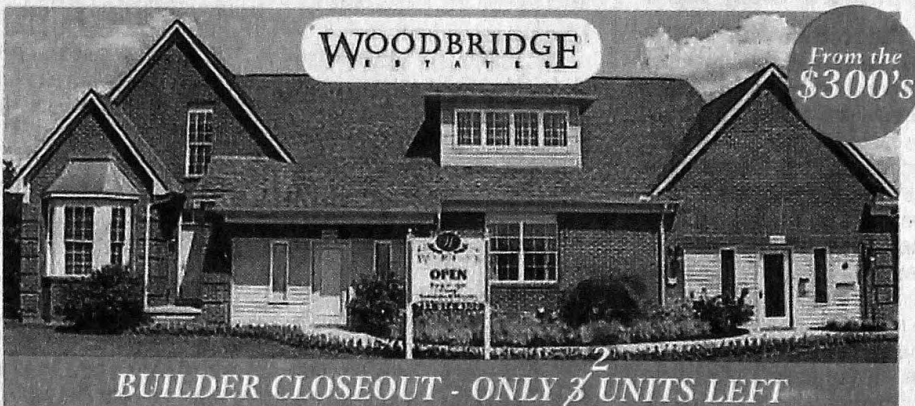


A fitness course at Bicentennial Park.



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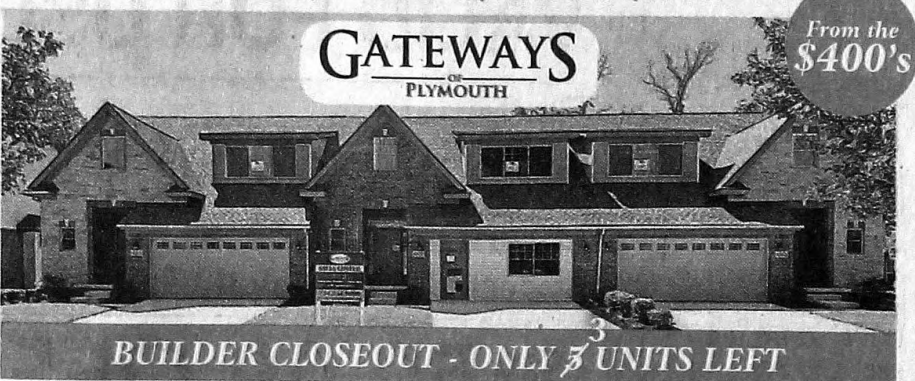
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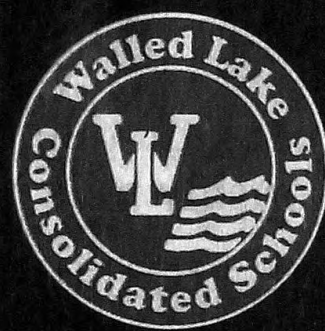


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- Interest on the bonds will be exempt from federal and Michigan income taxes.\*\*
- These bonds are anticipated to be rated by Moody's.
- This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy any of these securities. Any offer to sell will be made only pursuant to the final official statement.

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\* Preliminary; subject to change.

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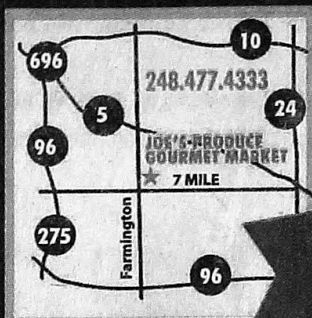
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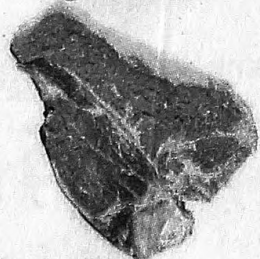
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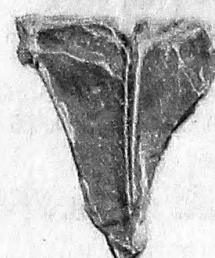
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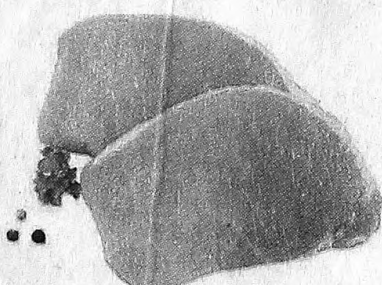
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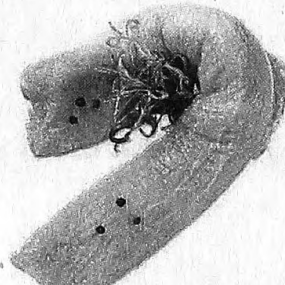
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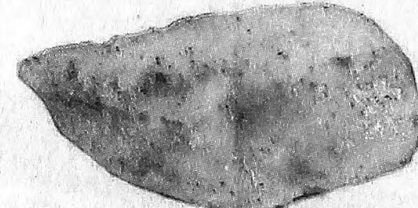
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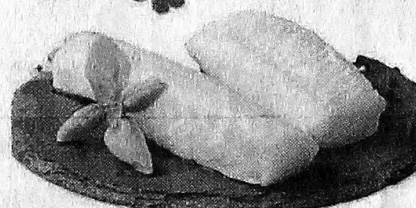


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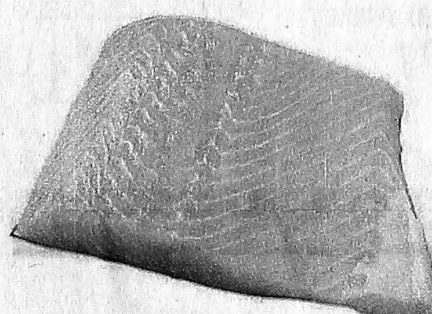


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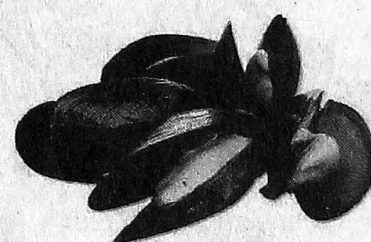
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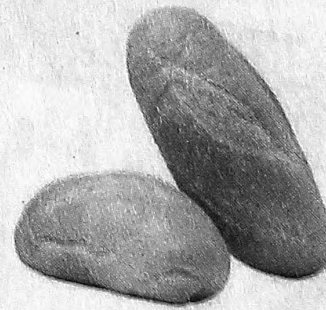
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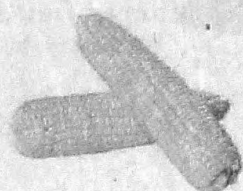
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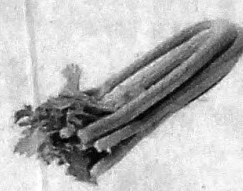
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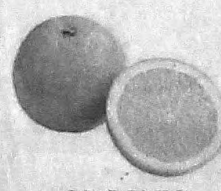
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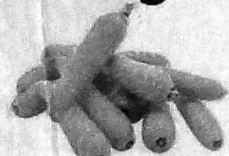
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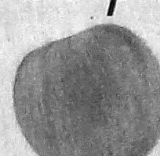
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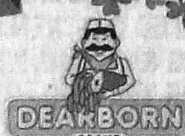


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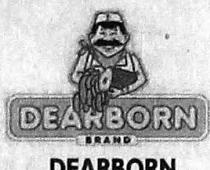
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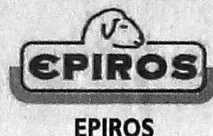


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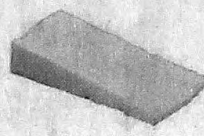
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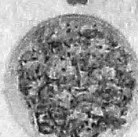


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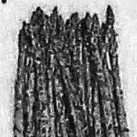
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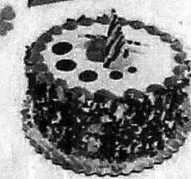


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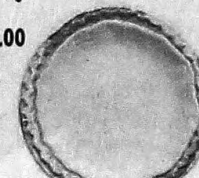
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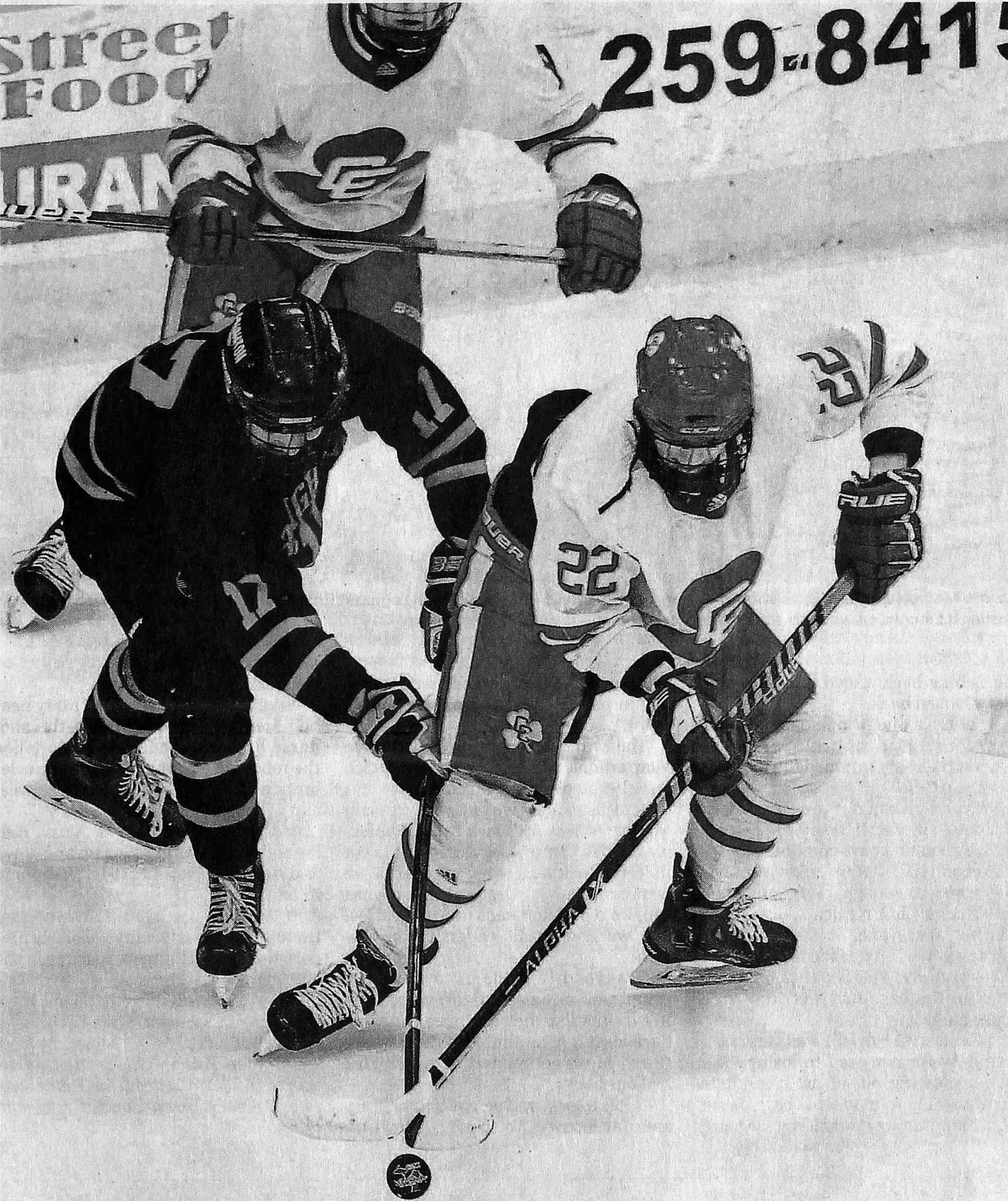
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# SPORTS

## Shamrocks repeat as state champs



Detroit Catholic Central's Parker Jamieson (right) battles for possession against Brighton during the Division 1 hockey state championship March 12 at USA Hockey Arena. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Catholic Central overcomes rare one-goal deficit to beat Brighton

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A wake-up call.  
A reality check.  
Whatever you want to call it, that's what the top-ranked Detroit Catholic Central hockey team got.  
Brighton's Cameron Duffany pushed in the first goal of the March 12 Division 1 state championship at USA Hockey Arena just over 3 minutes into the second period.

What, the Shamrocks, who lost just once to a team from Michigan this winter, were trailing? Leading up to the state finals, they had allowed just one goal throughout the entire postseason. They never play from behind.  
But there it was. A one-goal deficit in quite the back-and-forth affair.  
And it was enough to make the Shamrocks' guts clench.  
Heck, you could even feel the tension among its fans and rowdy student section in the southeast corner of the ice.

"That was kind of an awareness from us to be kind of like, 'Hey, nobody's going to give this to you, right? You've got to earn it,' and we responded really well to that reality check," seventh-year coach Brandon Kalleniecki said.  
"We're always reminding the guys that adversity is going to strike at some point. Whether you're ready for it or not is the key. For us to go down 1-0, we

See SHAMROCKS, Page 3B

## How Canton bounced back after losing KLAA title

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Lake McIntosh somehow missed both free throws.  
And the Canton senior rarely misses. He's one of the best guards in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association.  
But there was Devon Pettus. Right in the perfect spot to corral an offensive board.  
After the 6-foot sophomore secured the rebound, he pivoted and sailed a chest pass back to McIntosh. This time the sharpshooter didn't miss, as McIntosh's fadeaway jumper gave the Chiefs a 17-point lead with 5 minutes left.  
Plymouth immediately called a timeout to stop the bleeding during Wednesday's Division 1 district semifinal.  
Canton's Ryan Tarquinto jolted off the bench and raced to halfcourt to dap up Pettus. And then Canton coach Jimmy Reddy headed to the same spot to bang Pettus on the arm twice with his fist. Reddy was proud of his boys.  
It was one of those signature moments for the Chiefs. *That* play was Canton basketball.  
The fundamentals.  
The wherewithal to do the dirty work under the basket.  
The energy to keep making the right plays down the stretch.  
Canton beat the Wildcats, 70-49, and advanced to Friday's championship against Northville.  
It sure felt a lot different around Bob Blohm Court than it had recently.

The Chiefs (16-5) needed one of those old-school Canton victories, and they got one against their Parc rivals.  
"We focused on what's got us to where we've been," Reddy said. "Why we were in the (KLAA) championship? Because we were playing great defense, rebounding and taking care of the ball. We just put an emphasis on the things we've done all year. The guys did a great job responding in practice, and tonight they did everything we talked about in terms of our keys."  
The Chiefs are playing for a district championship, which is the perfect Band-Aid for the adversity they've faced.

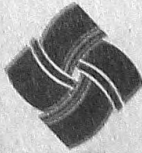
Last month, it took everything they had, including a 15-point explosion in the final four minutes from Ferris State signee Cole Vickers, to squeak past Plymouth by only four points.  
But then Vickers, Canton's top defender and go-to scorer, suffered an ACL injury against Hartland, ending the senior's high school career and taking an important piece off the Chiefs' chessboard.

See CANTON, Page 2B

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# Wayne Memorial motivated after semifinal loss

**Brandon Folsom** [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Wayne Memorial girls basketball coach Jarvis Mitchell is strong in his faith.

Anyone who's ever followed him on Twitter is well aware of that.

And he's a big believer in everything happening for a reason.

That's why it's great the Zebras didn't win the Kensington Lakes Activities Association championship two weeks ago.

Wait, what?

Yeah, Wayne lost by almost 10 points to Howell in the league tournament semifinal. It was only the fourth time in Mitchell's eight years leading the program that the Zebras didn't win the conference outright. They were relegated to playing in a consolation game against Belleville instead of competing for some hardware.

Not only was that loss a wake-up call, but it has motivated them to remain even hungrier this postseason.

They had won four straight since that loss, including winning the Division 1 district championship and beating Northville in the regional opener.

So when they faced adversity against Brighton in Thursday's regional championship at Ypsilanti Lincoln, Mitchell and his players all thought back to that loss to Howell.

They never, ever want to feel the pain of defeat like that again.

"Everything happens in divine order," Mitchell said. "So if that was supposed to happen for us to get to our destiny, I'm fine with that. You never want to lose in any situation. ... It's such a delicate fabric, man. In hindsight, I'm glad I'm here. If that loss got me *HERE*, I'll lose all of them. I'll go 0-20 if that means I can keep playing in March."

That loss to Howell helped Wayne (22-2) learn how to handle high-pressure moments.

And Brighton definitely created a high-pressure moment or two.

The Zebras jumped out to an easy 25-8 lead in the first half, doing everything fans of the sport expected one of the top-ranked teams in the state to do.

And they even carried a 12-point lead into the halftime locker room.

But Brighton didn't lay down and die. In fact, the Bulldogs ratcheted up their intensity in the second half.

They scored the first eight points of the third quarter, limited Wayne to just a pair of baskets (a turnaround jumper from Colleena Bryant and a pull-up jumper from Mayla Ham) and outscored the Zebras 17-4 in the period.

Brighton's Makena Smith made a shot down low that gave her team its first lead of the night, 32-31.

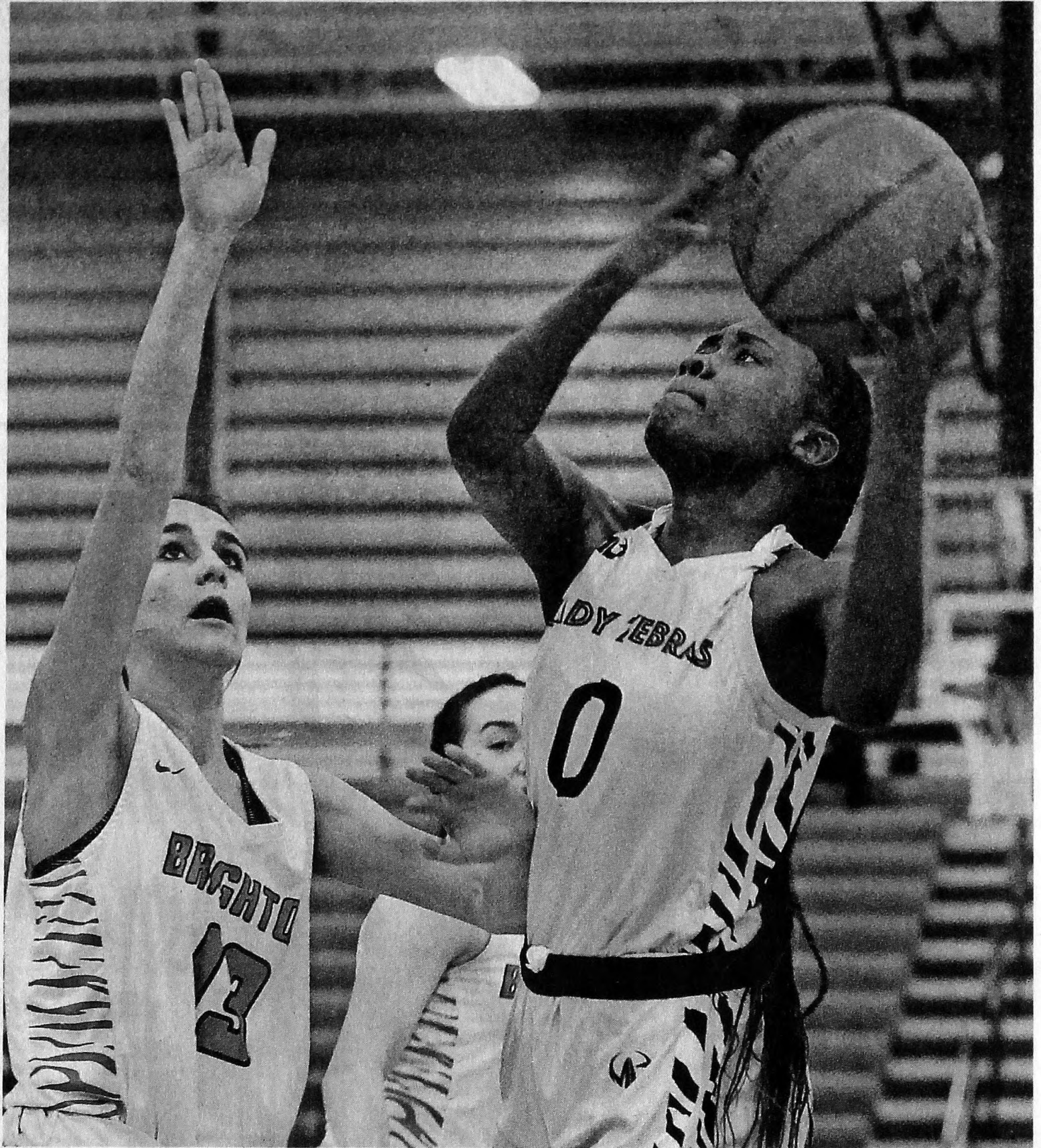
"Meltdown," Mitchell said. "It was a meltdown."

Wayne didn't flinch entering the fourth, though.

It elected to slow down the ball, focusing on making crisp passes and waiting until the best shots opened up.

In turn, that kept Brighton's offense away from its basket.

Ham and Davai Matthews, who finished with 14 and 12 points apiece, made back-to-back buckets down low to put



Wayne Memorial's Paris Bass shoots during the Division 1 girls basketball regional final against Brighton on March 10 at Ypsilanti Lincoln. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the Zebras back ahead, and the team never looked back.

Brighton's Mary Copple drove to the hoop for two points with 23 seconds left, but that only trimmed the Bulldogs' deficit to 37-36.

Wayne finished out the game at the foul line to preserve the 40-36 victory.

"We shouldn't have come out slow (in the second half)," Ham said. "We knew they were going to go on a run. We just had to come back harder. ... So our new mindset was to keep it going, slow the ball down. We just needed to collect ourselves and say, 'This is our game. We've got it in the bag. Just slow down the whole game.'"

"(The loss to Howell) was very motivating. We're not used to losing. That took something out of us. It made us work harder. It made us be a better team, be better teammates and be better

leaders. We've just worked harder every day in practice so we could get to this point."

The win advanced Wayne to state quarterfinals against Riverview, which will also be played at Lincoln.

"I'm just so glad we pulled it out," said Matthews, a Long Beach State (California) signee. "I knew we were going to get it. It just took us a while, even after we went on a run. Usually, after they go on a run, we'd put our heads down, but I feel like we had great leadership in this game."

"Everybody expects us to win every game, and we expect to win every game. But it's not like that. We have wins. We have losses. After that loss (to Howell), Coach Jarvis got on us. Our teammates had our backs."

"After a loss, you've got to pick it up and stay focused. You can't get down on

yourself."

Brighton attempted a Hail Mary near half-court at the buzzer, but the shot missed the mark and Wayne corralled the rebound, and that's where the celebration started, right there in the west end of the arena.

Mitchell saw Paris Bass, Alexis Halley and Matthews jumping up and down and then he gave a heart-felt fist pump in return.

It was a battle, but Wayne got through it. This adversity will likely prepare the Zebras for more to come in the elite eight.

After all, everything happens for a reason.

"We got lucky, we got lucky," he said.

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

## Canton

Continued from Page 1B

They had to retool their lineup without him and find a different kind of team chemistry. And they did just enough, by relying on some hard-nosed defense, to finish the KLAA-West undefeated.

Without Vickers, Canton ripped off wins in its next four games to qualify for the KLAA championship vs. Hartland.

The defense came to play again during the championship, but it struggled to drum up any offense. And the Chiefs suffered their first league loss when McIntosh's 3-point buzzer-beater couldn't send the game to overtime.

It was the Eagles who celebrated winning the KLAA title on Canton's court.

Coming off that loss and still understanding Vickers wasn't available to face Plymouth in the district opener, Canton knew it needed to get back to the basics in practice this past week.

And that attitude was just what it took to beat the Wildcats.

"It's a complete turnaround of showing what we were capable of doing last week," said McIntosh, who scored a team-best 18 points. "We came out way stronger and had a lot more energy. All of our points came from the defensive energy. We just had a lot of energy."

The Chiefs had five players score in double figures.

Pettus posted 10 by banging around



Canton's Lake McIntosh tries to get a shot on net while surrounded by three Plymouth players March 9. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

near the hoop.

Dante Favor scored 11 under the rim and with drives to the basket.

Jaden Williams buried a trio of 3-pointers to finish with 11 points.

And Omar Suleiman came up with clutch basket after clutch basket to total 12.

Canton's defensive effort ensured an early 15-point lead, and the Chiefs didn't

let the Wildcats score their first basket until there was 3:45 left in the opening quarter.

Plymouth's Jace Petree, who scored a game-best 22 points, nailed a half-court buzzer-beater to make sure his team didn't trail by 18 going into the second quarter.

"Defense has been an emphasis of ours all year," Reddy said. "Since Cole's

gone down, we've been playing some pretty good defense. We've been holding teams to low point totals. We've been playing some pretty darn good defense. Minus the Hartland game, we've been doing a great job on the glass and being the first one on the rebound."

Plymouth played so well against Canton earlier in the season and almost upset the Chiefs.

They were excited about playing Canton without Vickers in the lineup.

"We were saying we had a good shot," coach Mike Soukup said. "But it just didn't click at the right time for this squad. ... We spread them out wide. We started attacking the basket a little too late."

With 57 seconds left, Reddy substituted in backups so they could get a taste of playoff basketball.

The last to jog off the court was Pettus, who made rebounding and hustling look routine and commonplace all night.

Reddy walked to the end of the bench to slap five with his bulldog post player he likes to call "Mr. Chuckles." And then Pettus went behind the bench to grab a cup of water.

As Pettus made his way to the orange Gatorade jug, Vickers, who has a brace on his leg following his recent ACL surgery, stretched as long as he could from his seat to pat his teammate on the back.

The loss in the KLAA championship was finally behind them. Canton basketball was back.



# Shamrocks

Continued from Page 1B

really responded quickly.”

CC (26-4) certainly did.

Three minutes after Brighton's goal, Nolan Galda blasted a laser from the top of the left faceoff circle.

PING!

The shot had banged dead-center off the crossbar.

“OHHH!” the entire CC crowd groaned in response, the tension and doubt growing even worse in their bellies.

Fortunately, Parker Jamieson had put himself in a perfect position to corral the rebound and push it in.

It was a tie score. But CC wasn't out of the woods yet.

But, sure enough, about 5 minutes later, Brian Apple slapped in a rebound of his own, slipping a wide-open shot past Brighton goalie Levi Pennala (31 saves) on the power-play.

Not only did the two goals swing the momentum of the game, but it also created a domino effect for CC to pour on three more goals to close out the 5-1 victory and repeat as the state champions.

The championship was CC's 20th, counting the state titles before the Michigan High School Athletic Association started hosting the state tournament. And it was the Shamrocks' 15th since 1994.

“We've been working on that power play all year,” said Apple, a first-year senior for CC. “We've had a lot of ups and downs with it. I just passed it Grondz (Nate Grondzieleski) back door, and I saw that he had the shot. I kinda got good puck-luck there, and it ended up on my stick. But that's my teammates' job right there, opening the lane up for me.

“That's probably the most-exciting goal I've ever scored, I've got to say. I'm speechless right now. Words can't describe how important that goal is for me. I couldn't do it without my teammates. They were the ones cheering me on.”

What's more, Apple's effort put the crowd at ease as they watched Jack Swamba, Justin Hubenschmidt and Landon West rifle in three-unanswered goals in the final period to secure the win.

“After that first goal Brighton scored, we never got down,” Apple said. “We



Detroit Catholic Central's Brian Apple scores the game-winning goal March 12 against Brighton during the Division 1 hockey state championship at USA Hockey Arena. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Brighton's Dylan Hunt (18) battles in front of CC goalie Nick Galda.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

knew that we were going to come back. We just knew we were going to do it.

“After the first goal they scored, we got kind of a reality check. And from right there, we knew we weren't going to be beat. So we just played as team, stayed in our system and it just worked

from there.”

Jamieson's line was the one that was on the ice for Brighton's goal.

Their first shift back, they knotted the score.

Kaleniecki, who won his fourth state title in five tries dating back to 2016, said

he wasn't surprised to see one of his top lines hungry to right their wrongs from moments earlier.

“When you go down, guys are going to grip their sticks a little tighter,” the coach said. “They were a little frustrated from the shift before. For them to respond by coming back their very next shift to get a goal, I think that as a whole pushed our team forward. That made the team like, ‘Yeah we're going to bounce back here. We're going to come back.’ Apple put us ahead 2-1, and I think at that point we really felt like we were in a good spot and were going to keep building chances to score.”

CC says farewell to 20 seniors, a few of whom doused Kaleniecki with water bottles while their coach was doing his post-game TV interview on the ice with Bally Sports.

Shortly afterward, the team sang the alma mater with CC's student section and the few fans left to watch the celebration.

Not an ounce of tension was left in the arena.

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

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LO-GC0841505-01



# South Lyon East sophomore wins state title at 130 pounds

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Tyler Swanigan got bored of just sitting around and watching.  
She wanted to try out the sport for herself.  
Growing up, her brother, Thaddeus, wrestled for the Michigan Matcats Wrestling Program, South Lyon's local youth organization.  
She would go to the practices, watch him train and sit off to the side by herself. And then she would go to the weekend tournaments, watch him compete and sit in the bleachers alone.  
By the time she was 7 years old, she had had enough of the boredom. She had picked up a few techniques and fundamentals from watching her brother vicariously. So she signed up to wrestle.  
She went to practices with him, competed in tournaments and fell in love with the sport. The first time she wrestled, she took second place. It was a life-changing experience, she said.  
Fast forward to today, and the South Lyon East sophomore is now the best 130-pound girls wrestler in the state.

Early this month, she competed in the individual wrestling state finals at Ford Field. It marked the first time the Michigan High School Athletic Association allowed the girls to wrestle alongside the boys.  
Swanigan entered the tournament as the No. 1-ranked wrestler in her weight class after collecting 25 wins throughout the regular season and regionals. Most of her wins came against boys in the Lakes Valley Conference. She didn't face girls until the postseason started.  
She cruised through her first three matches of the state finals, pinning each of her opponents.  
And then she faced Clinton's Faith Blackburn in the championship match.  
Swanigan controlled the opening period, but Blackburn battled back, and then the two went toe to toe. By the time the third and final period ended, the score was knotted at 6. Overtime was needed.  
It took Swanigan earning a two-point takedown during an extra period for her to win 8-6 by sudden victory, claiming the state title just a few moments into the overtime.  
Swanigan got in about 5 seconds



South Lyon East's Tyler Swanigan celebrates winning the 130-pound state title during the MHSAA individual wrestling state finals March 5 at Ford Field with coaches Matt Cepak and Brocky Leidecker. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

worth of celebrating — raising both arms in triumph and smiling to the point where she was nearly crying — before she paused, turned around and looked at Blackburn.  
Blackburn was in absolute tears. Swanigan stopped to embrace Blackburn with a hug and gave words of encouragement.  
Why?  
Swanigan and Blackburn are best friends. They first met at a youth tournament when Swanigan was 7.  
"Wrestling my best friend, it's really crazy," Swanigan said. "It was definitely a tough match. I definitely felt bad, but then I felt better once I realized it was going to be us two at the top of the podium."  
In Swanigan's corner during the match was fourth-year coach Matt Cepak.  
The two also share an inseparable bond.  
When Swanigan originally signed up for the Matcats, Cepak was a coach in

the program.  
When an opportunity to take the varsity job at South Lyon East opened, Cepak made the transition from the club level to high school. Two years later, one of his favorite youth wrestlers, Swanigan, helped round out his starting lineup.  
Now Cepak has her start at the 125- and 130-pound boys weight classes. Of her 29 wins in 2021-22, she recorded 19 pins. He has nothing but faith in her when it comes to collecting points in duals for the Cougars.  
"I've been with her for so long, and she's been on my girls national team," Cepak said. "We've been all over the country together. She's just an amazing young woman. She has a really strong work ethic and is just an amazing girl."  
"I expect to see big things from here. I expect the same thing (winning state titles) from her the next two years and the same thing at the college level. That's one of her ambitions is to wrestle at the college level. I can't wait to see what she

does for the rest of her wrestling career."  
Cepak has three children of his own, all of whom are big into wrestling.  
His oldest, Olivia, wrestled at the University of the Cumberland in Kentucky. His middle child, Matthew, currently wrestles for Siena Heights, and his youngest, Bella, is a budding star with national titles already on her resume.  
But technically he has a fourth child: Swanigan, whose father recently passed away.  
"She calls me dad," Cepak said proudly while fighting tears of joy.  
When asked what his favorite moment of Swanigan's journey this winter has been, he replied, "To be able to be her coach and have her call me dad, too."  
This time he started crying.  
He was as proud of her at that moment as he has been for his own children's success on the mat.  
And it all started when Swanigan joined the Matcats when she was 7 years old.

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# Sophomore helps Northville get past rival Salem

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

One of the hottest teams in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association late in the regular season wasn't league champion Hartland or runner-up Canton, which won 15 of its 16 conference games.

It was actually six-win Novi.

Yes, you've read that correctly.

The Wildcats, who won just once in their first 13 games, which included an 11-game losing streak, gave every team it faced a heck of a battle down the stretch.

They won three of their final five matchups, one of which was a huge two-point overtime win at Northville.

So they entered the postseason with plenty of mojo and swagger.

And they didn't disappoint either. They downed Salem, 70-61, in the Division 1 pre-district March 7.

Northville coach Todd Sander wasn't exactly excited about facing the rival Wildcats in semifinals at Canton, especially with how poorly the Mustangs played them last time.

"Our effort just wasn't what it needed to be," Sander said of the 50-48 loss on Feb. 18. "I don't know if we were just overconfident from having beaten them the first time (60-44 in January). But they killed us on the offensive glass, and they got every loose ball."

And the semifinal was shaping up to be another disappointment for the Mustangs, who allowed Novi guard Te' John McGowan to score nine of his team's 13 points in the opening quarter, giving the Wildcats a six-point lead.

But then McGowan got into foul trouble and sat almost the entire second quarter.

And Northville started finding its groove.

Sam Barnhart cleaned up the glass.

Its defense forced Novi into taking contested shots.

And Matt Gorski, who finished with 12 points, scored all 10 of Northville's points in the period, including sinking a 3-pointer before halftime that ensured both teams entered the locker room tied at 16.

We had a game on our hands.

"It doesn't take much to stay fired up



Northville's Matt Gorski snags a rebound during the Division 1 district semifinal March 9 at Canton. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

with Northville-Nov, Sander said.

Barnhart scored down low off an out-of-bounds play to give Northville its first lead, 25-22, with 1:25 left in the third quarter, a lead it would never relinquish.

In fact, Barnhart made a put-back attempt that put the Mustangs ahead by five early in the fourth.

McGowan helped the Wildcats battle back, but then the unlikely of players stepped up for Northville.

Carlos Adamson buried a 3-pointer to make it a six-point game.

And then, moments later, the sophomore knocked down another one to put Northville ahead by nine.

That final dagger with 2:40 left made put a comeback out of reach for Novi,

which the Mustangs ultimately beat, 42-29.

"Carlos is already a special player, and he's only going to get better with every game and every year," Sander said. "Being a sophomore is hard when your teammates are all older than you. Especially when you're really good, I think sometimes it can be hard to be a little selfish or to think, 'Am I supposed to shoot this shot?' I think he was a little hesitant in the first half, but he obviously stepped up and had the guts to seal the game."

All nine of Adamson's points came in the second half.

"My teammates just constantly tell me to shoot," the guard said. "I didn't

shoot much in the first half, but they gave me the confidence to take the big shots when they were wide open, and I knocked them down."

Adamson knows his role.

He's the youngest. He's still trying to figure out how varsity basketball works.

He knows he's the team's second option on offense, behind Gorski, one of the KLAA's best shooters and a senior who has a knack to rise up during big moments.

But Novi did its best to take Gorski out of the game in the second half. And the Wildcats did.

Those two 3-point opportunities were wide-open for Adamson because Gorski was being double-teamed.

"The way No. 10 (Novi's Nathan Schave) was playing on him tonight, it was rough for him," Adamson said of Gorski. "I'm glad he could draw that guy in and get me open shots."

Northville's defense did well on McGowan and Danny Groechel, who have both lifted the Wildcats' offense during their recent hot streak.

McGowan finished with a game-high 14 points while Groechel had eight.

"Our guys just really committed to guarding No. 2 (McGowan) and No. 3 (Groechel)," Sander said. "They've both been so hot lately that they were really our focus. They made some really tough shots in the first half that you just have to credit them because those are the types of players that they are."

So the Mustangs got past their biggest rival, but Novi isn't going away any time soon.

Coach Chris Housey graduates just one senior starter in Groechel. The rest of his best players are returning.

Next year's two KLAA-West matchups aren't going to be any easier for the Mustangs.

"We're going to use this as a building block and get ready in the off-season for next year," Housey said. "We were tough. There were multiple times this season where we could've folded or given up, but we didn't. We hung tough and hung together. When you have good team chemistry and a good culture, everyone picks each other up, and you can build on that. I think we can build on that and get stronger in the off-season to get ready to come back next year."

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# A hint of green

**Chula King**  
Special to Tallahassee Democrat  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Irish Potato Leek Soup is a crowd-pleasing soup that is perfect for St. Patrick's Day! In fact, it's probably the most delicious Potato Leek Soup that you'll ever taste! What's even better is that this awesome soup equally good served either hot or cold.

Irish Potato Leek Soup is both quick and easy to make. In addition, the ingredients are probably either already on hand or easy to find in the grocery store.

**The vegetables**

Since it's potato leek soup, you shouldn't be surprised to know that you need potatoes and leeks! I like to use russet potatoes in this recipe. The leeks are sautéed in unsalted butter to help tenderize them.

**The liquid**

The addition of chicken broth makes turns the vegetables into a soup. Then milk and cream provide richness. You can make this soup vegetarian by substituting vegetable broth for the chicken broth.

**The secret ingredients**

Dubliner cheese which is an Irish cheddar cheese adds a subtle undertone and thickness to the soup. You can substitute white cheddar cheese for the Dubliner cheese if you like. Frozen green peas don't add flavor to the soup but do provide a green tint. It is for St. Patrick's Day after all!

**The seasonings**

The simple seasonings in this amazing soup are kosher salt and pepper.

Every time I make this soup, my husband comments on how good it is. In fact, he says that I shouldn't change a thing about it and should always have a vat available in the refrigerator – the ultimate compliment.



Irish potato leek soup gets its richness from milk and cream. You can make this soup vegetarian by substituting vegetable broth for the chicken broth. CHULA KING/SPECIAL TO TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

**Irish potato leek soup**

- Serves 6
- 1 Tablespoon butter unsalted
  - 4 cups leeks, sliced, white and green parts (3 to 4 large)
  - 4 cups potatoes, peeled and diced (about 1 ½ pounds)
  - 5 cups low sodium chicken broth
  - 1 ¼ teaspoons kosher salt
  - ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
  - ½ cup frozen green peas (optional – to provide green color for the soup)
  - 1 cup (8-ounces) whole milk
  - ½ cup (4-ounces) heavy cream
  - ½ cup (2-ounces) Dubliner cheese, shredded

Additional cream and minced parsley for garnish (optional)

**Melt butter in Dutch oven** over medium heat. Add leeks; sauté 5 minutes, being careful not to allow the leeks to brown.

Add the potatoes, chicken broth, salt, and pepper.

Bring to a boil; cover and reduce the heat to medium low. Cook 20 to 25 minutes, or until the potatoes are soft.

Once potatoes are soft, add the green peas if desired; cook 2 additional minutes uncovered. Remove Dutch oven from heat; allow soup to cool for 20 minutes.

Purée in batches in blender.

Wipe out Dutch oven. Add puréed soup, milk, cream and cheese. Cook over

medium heat until cheese is melted.

If desired, serve with cream drizzled on top and sprinkled with minced parsley.

**Chula's tips**

- To make this soup vegetarian, substitute vegetable broth for the chicken broth.
- May use white cheddar cheese in place of the Dubliner cheese.
- soup is delicious served both hot and cold.
- Leftovers, if any, can be refrigerated for 3 to 4 days.
- When serving the soup, I like to make it look more festive by drizzling a small amount of cream on the top and then taking a toothpick and swirling it through the cream.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools:

BP# EL-2 Bird, Miller, and Smith Playground Installation

The School District requests Bids for the above-referenced Project. Bids will be received through Building Connected until **(1:00) PM on 3/28/2022.**

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, 3/28/22. 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/82482056652>

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

158A: Playground Installation

Bidding documents prepared by Architect 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 14, 2022 via Building Connected.

There will be a **Pre-Bid Meeting on Wednesday, March 23 at 1:00 p.m. at Bird Elementary, located at 220 Sheldon Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170.** 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 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 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 Street Plymouth, MI 48170 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 17 & 24, 2022

LO-0000361675 3x10.5

Plymouth Canton Community Schools  
2020 Bond  
SECTION 00 11 13  
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.

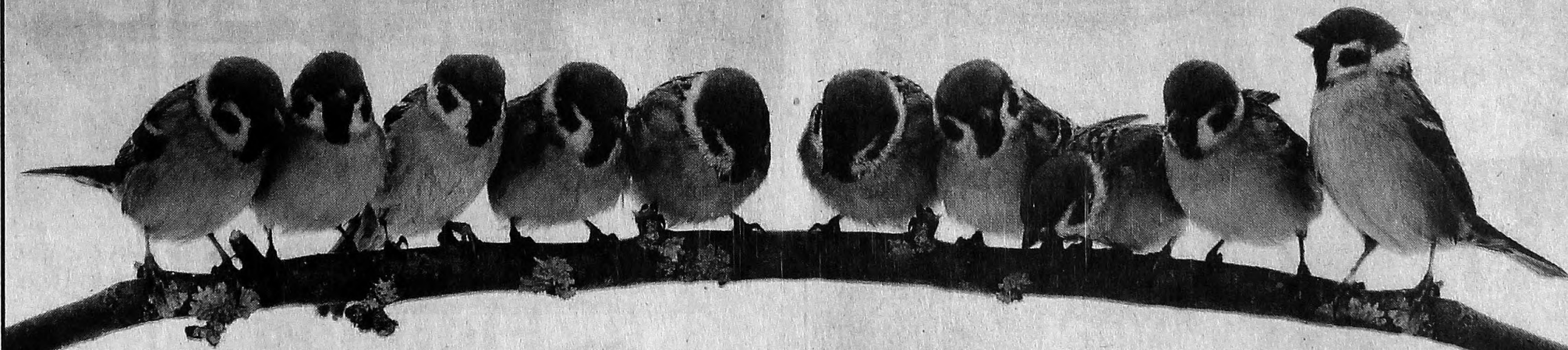
The School District reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bids, either in whole or in part, to waive any informalities and irregularities therein, or to award the Contract to other than the Bidder (s) submitting the best financial Bid (low Bidder), in its sole and absolute discretion.

END OF SECTION

Publish: March 10 & 17, 2022

LO-0000361617 3x10.5

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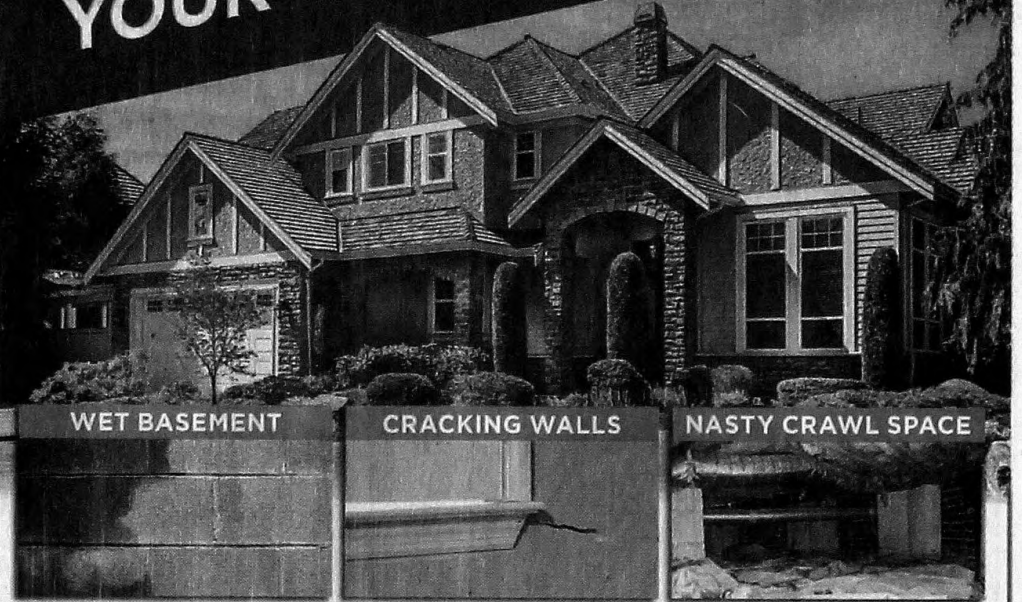
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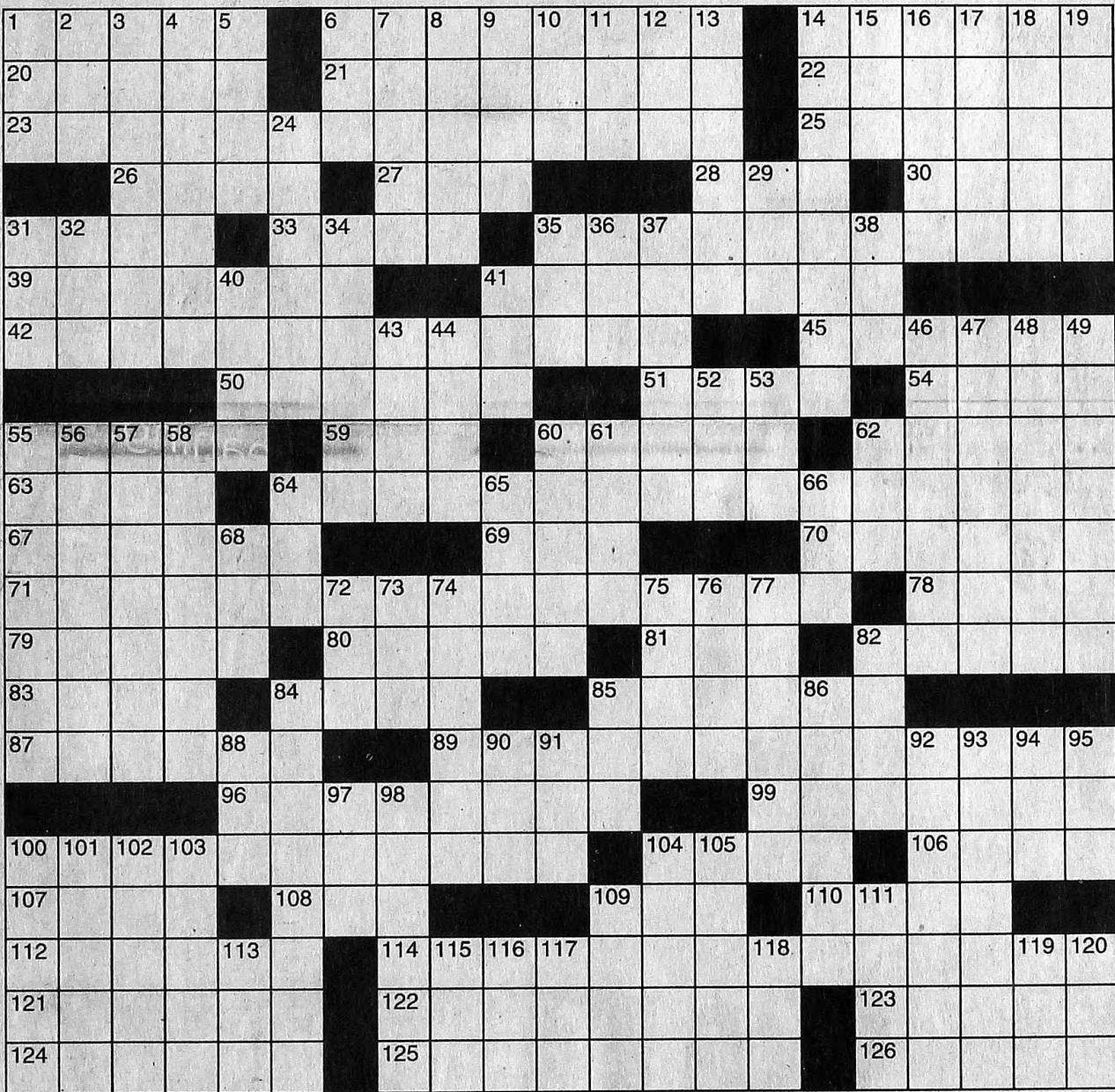


# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

### Super Crossword CONFORMITY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Competitor  
6 Least hilly  
14 Spring birds  
20 Adult insect stage  
21 Irish moss or nori  
22 Insect's egg capsule  
23 Steady job, say  
25 Money, slangily  
26 Egg on  
27 See 110-Across  
28 One — kind  
30 Israeli politician Weizman  
31 Waikiki locale  
33 Catholic liturgy  
35 Steak/lobster combo dish  
39 Leave behind  
41 Aquarium shop supply  
42 Endowing organization  
45 Didn't allow to pass, as a bill  
50 Swimmer Gertrude  
51 "— the night before ..."  
54 Novelist — Stanley Gardner
- 55 Pass, as a bill  
59 "Lady Love" singer Rawls  
60 Really hate  
62 Jeans brand  
63 Recline lazily  
64 Regulating system  
67 Main nun  
69 Nest egg abbr.  
70 Estevez of "Tex"  
71 Attractive  
78 Tesla's Musk  
79 Volley starter  
80 Flora and fauna  
81 GPS display  
82 Vogue thing  
83 Uruguay's Punta del —  
84 Good buds  
85 Campout fuel  
87 Suffer from hunger  
89 Like an attention-grabbing actor  
96 Unrefined petroleum  
99 Eppie who's known as Ann Landers  
100 Home-state candidate  
104 Skillful feat  
106 Clodhopper
- 107 Pitcher Hershiser  
108 Grassy tract  
109 Deceive  
110 With 27-Across, makeshift sheds  
112 Theater area  
114 What the starts of seven answers in this puzzle might do?  
121 California beach city  
122 Online merchants  
123 Sharpens  
124 Appraise  
125 Sign on a dead-end street  
126 Start
- DOWN**
- 1 Grafton's "— for Ricochet"  
2 "If u ask me ..."  
3 Singer Sarah  
4 Bad way for a ship to run  
5 "Livin' La Vida —" (1999 #1 hit)  
6 Swing to and —  
7 Some jabs in the ring  
8 "Ciao!" in Chihuahua  
9 Gets bronze  
10 Special attention, for short  
11 Conceit  
12 Singer Cooke  
13 Start a golf hole  
14 Longtime Russian dynasty members  
15 Large gametes  
16 "Carmen" composer Georges  
17 D-Max pickup truck maker  
18 Appellation bestower  
19 Neck warmer  
24 Halley of Halley's comet  
29 — Schwarz (toy store)  
31 Clodhopper  
32 — Dhabi  
34 San — (Texas city near Abilene)  
35 Ungodliness  
36 The Trojans of the NCAA  
37 Musical beat  
38 1950s prez  
40 Losing effort?  
41 Add-on charge  
43 Cal's twin in "East of Eden"  
44 Fill to excess  
46 More itty-bitty  
47 Redenbacher of popcorn  
48 Omission of a syllable  
49 Archbishop Tutu  
52 Affliction  
53 Projectile path  
55 Slips by  
56 Most majestic  
57 Calgary locale  
58 Meat cutter  
60 Large artery  
61 Ho-hum  
62 Hasty escape  
64 2000-15 CBS drama  
65 Prison melee  
66 Laugh half  
68 ND-to-LA dir.  
72 Rockets' gp.  
73 Actor Gerard  
74 Chucks out  
75 Art Deco artist  
76 Summers, in Somme  
77 Dr. Seuss' title turtle  
82 Warty hopper  
84 Very risky  
85 Hit sketch show since '75  
86 Tattooing tool  
88 Outmoded TV adjunct  
90 Aviary sound  
91 A, in Berlin  
92 Classic Chrysler  
93 Heat-attached patches  
94 Prefix with natal  
95 Mutt's threat  
97 Adaptable truck, in brief  
98 Stun with sound  
100 Pro — (perfunctory)  
101 Opera songs  
102 Osso buco meats  
103 "Kukla, Fran and —"  
104 Carpentry peg  
105 — nous  
109 Stallion-to-be  
111 Iterate  
113 Samantha Bee's station  
115 Southern Sioux  
116 Thai tongue of TV's "Elementary"  
118 1940s prez  
119 Really little  
120 July hrs.



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

## SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

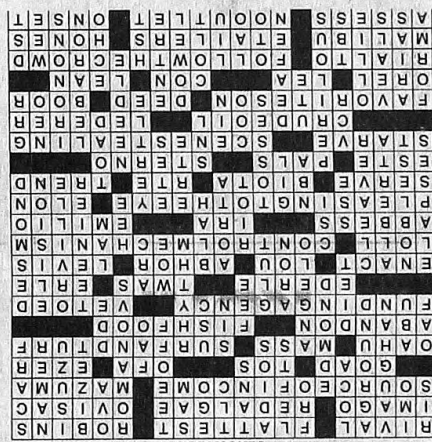
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues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

## SMELL IT?

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.

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

AMMONIA  
APPLES  
BACON  
BREAD  
CEDAR  
CHOCOLATE  
CIGAR  
CLEMATIS  
CLOVES  
COFFEE  
DAPHNE  
FISH  
FREESIA  
GARLIC  
GINGER  
GRASS  
HAY  
HYACINTH  
JASMINE  
LEATHER  
LEMON  
LILAC  
LILIES  
LIME  
OLD BOOKS  
ONIONS  
ORANGES  
PEPPERMINT  
PERFUME  
PINE  
ROSES  
RUBBER  
RUM  
SAGE  
SEAWEED  
SHAMPOO  
SMOKE  
SOAP  
SOCKS  
SPICES  
TEA  
THYME  
VINEGAR  
VIOLETS



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

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