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'Sleeping Beauty' at Marquis Theatre

The Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main St., in Northville, will stage a production of "Sleeping Beauty" during the months of December and January. Performances are scheduled for 2:30 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday, through Jan. 28 (except Dec. 23-24 and 30-31), as well as Tuesday through Friday, Dec. 26-29. Tickets for all performances are \$9. No children under age 3. Group rates and reserved seating for groups of 20 or more are available, as well as birthday parties. For more information, call the Marquis Theatre at 248-349-8110, email marquistheatre@sbcglobal.net, go to www.northvillemarquistheatre.com or view on Facebook at [facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI](https://www.facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI).

Garden Club of Northville

The Country Garden Club of Northville will hold its next meeting at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road. The speaker will be Juliana Cerra. Her topic is carpe diem and how this concept can be applied to gardens in ways that increase enjoyment and reduce labor. Guests are welcome. Call Teri Plaunt at 734-751-8619 for more information.

Husband, wife die in house fire

Firefighters find pair in upstairs bedroom

Matt Jachman
 hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

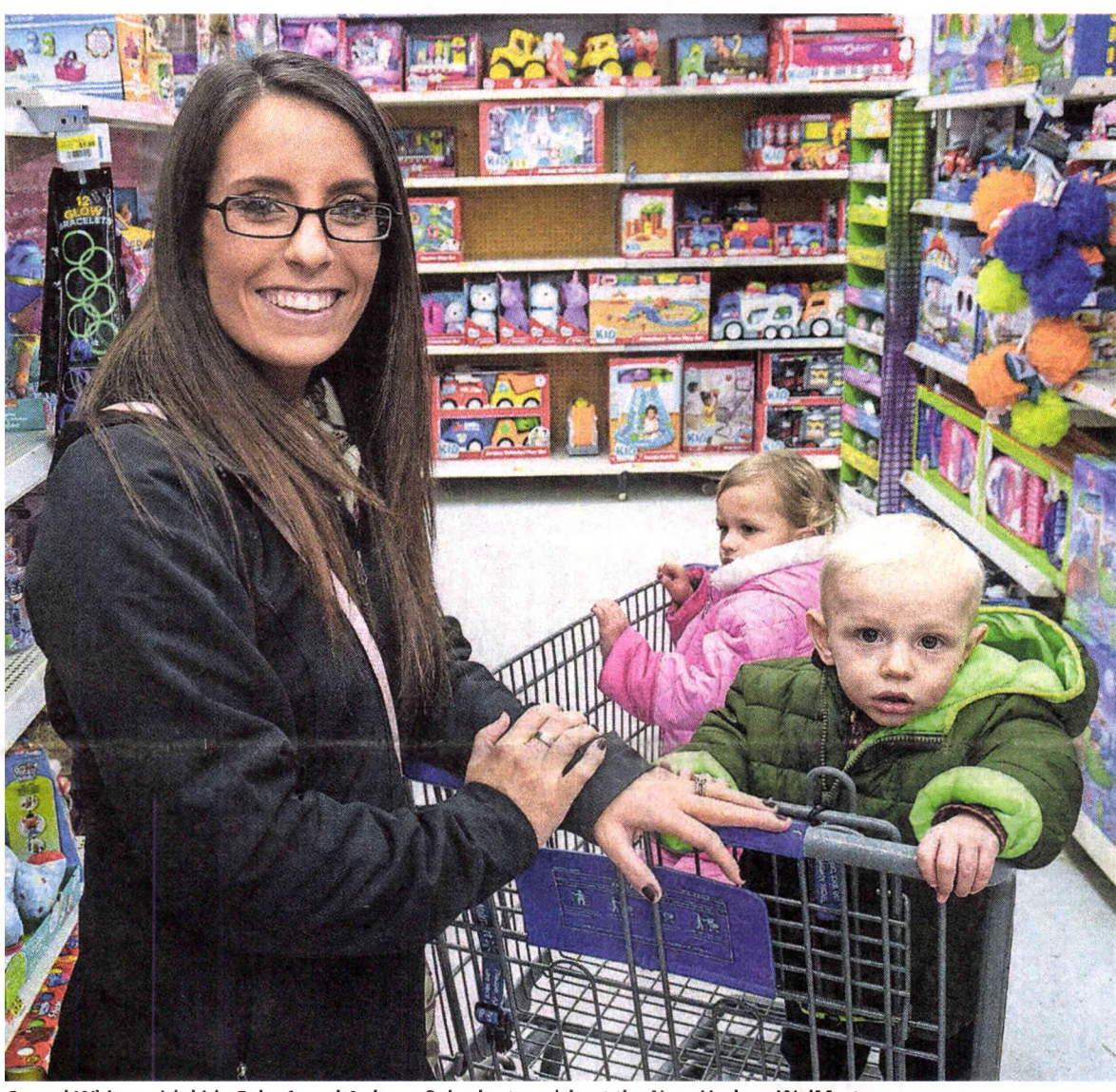
A longtime Walled Lake schools employee and her husband were killed in a Friday fire at their home in Novi. Kenneth and Barbara Garner were found in an upstairs bedroom by firefighters who responded to the fire on East Lake

Drive shortly before 7:30 a.m., according to city officials. Autopsy results were still pending Monday, according to the Oakland County medical examiner's office. The house is on Walled Lake, in the area of 13 Mile and Old Novi roads. Arriving firefighters saw a lot of smoke and flames coming from the house and were told two people may be inside, a statement from the city read. Barbara Garner, 60, was a 26-year Walled Lake Consolidated Schools district employee.

She worked in the district's business office and had earlier worked in the accounts payable and transportation departments. "Everyone's pretty devastated," Judy Evola, the district's community relations and marketing director, said by phone Friday. "Barb was a wonderful, caring, kind, committed friend, co-worker and mother of two adult children and wife," Evola said in a prepared statement. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to Barb's children and family. We are saddened and in

shock." Kenneth Garner, 63, worked at the Dick's Sporting Goods at the Fountain Walk plaza in Novi. A call to the store was referred to Dick's corporate headquarters in Pennsylvania, which did not respond to messages left Friday and Monday. The Garners are survived by a son, Ryan, and a daughter, Dakoi. A Go Fund Me account has been set up to raise money to assist the family. The Garners are also sur-

See FIRE, Page A2



Crystal White, with kids Cole, 1, and Aubree, 3, in the toy aisle at the New Hudson Walmart. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

'He wanted to do a good deed'

Secret Santa pays off layaways at local Walmart

LeAnne Rogers
 hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

He didn't have a white beard and wasn't wearing a red suit, but someone was playing Santa Claus at the New Hudson Walmart store earlier this week. The unidentified man, described as being in his 40s, paid off about 10 layaways at the store Dec. 11, asking particularly for those accounts that were buying toys.

"I was in tears. The customer service manager called me (Dec. 12) and said, 'Hey Katie, you need to pick up your layaway.' I told her that I still owed about \$100 left and, when she said someone paid it, I just couldn't hardly speak," said Katie Pope, who lives in Green Oak Township. "Money has been so tight. I didn't know how I was going to pay it off without taking out a payday loan." Novi resident Crystal White had a similar reaction when she

"I was in tears. ... I just couldn't hardly speak. Money has been so tight. I didn't know how I was going to pay it off without taking out a payday loan."
KATIE POPE
 Green Oak Township resident

See SANTA, Page A6

Students reminded vaping is banned at schools

Maria Taylor
 Special to Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Amidst the growing popularity of e-cigarettes across the country, Novi High School has a message for parents and students: At school, vaping is off-limits. E-cigarettes (short for electronic cigarettes), also called vapes, have been banned by the FDA to anyone under 18 years of age. That hasn't stopped them from getting into the hands of minors. "It's a trend across America in high schools," said Nicole Carter, principal at Novi High. In Michigan, 23 percent of students surveyed in 2016 reported using electronic vapor products at least once during the 30 days before the survey, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. Novi has seen incidents over the last four years, Carter said, "but this fall is when we started to notice an increase." That trend prompted Carter to send out a letter via email, joining schools like Northville High and Livonia Stevenson, in an effort to notify parents of the issue and ask for their support in having a conversation about health risks. Carter's memo, dated Dec. 7, shows photos of four kinds of vapes, all small enough to fit in your pocket. "Vapes are getting smaller and more difficult to detect," she said. "They look like pens, they look like small credit cards, they look like ATM cards — there's so many variations of it." The vapor, which has a tendency to smell fruity, dissipates quickly and there's less of an aroma compared to regular cigarette smoke. That means they're easier for students to hide. Vapes are battery-operated and have a container filled with liquid and a heating mechanism that turns the liquid into a vapor that can be inhaled. They can be

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Local kids get to shop in Cops and Kids event

Santa Claus got an extra hand last week delivering presents prior to the holidays.

The Fraternal Order of Police Stanley Clark Southwestern Oakland Lodge No. 128 MI and Meijer Wixom joined forces to help Santa with the annual Cops and Kids event.

Santa's list was compiled by the Novi Youth Assistance, Lakes Area

Youth Assistance and the Huron Valley Youth Assistance. Some 30 lucky children were selected to receive a shopping adventure with one of their local heroes, a member from the FOP 128.

Children had fun, shopped for clothing and toys and were treated to a box of food so they can have a holiday feast at home.



Lt. Jamie Grabowski of the Plymouth City Police Department, with Novi's Myckel Humphrey-Jennings, was one of the volunteers for the annual Cops and Kids event held at the Meijer in Wixom. CURTIS DROGMILLER



Novi's Zakaria Jallow shops with Wixom Police Service Aid Officer Andrew Tabor. CURTIS DROGMILLER



Wolverine Lake Police Chief John Ellsworth shops with Angel Montoya of Commerce Township. CURTIS DROGMILLER



Adam Romano of Novi shops with West Bloomfield Police Officer David McNealy. CURTIS DROGMILLER

FIRE

Continued from Page A1

vived by Barbara Garner's sister, Cheryl Miller, and

brother, Carl Petersen, and by Kenneth Garner's mother Evelyn, brother Kevin and sister Karen Garner.

Funeral arrangements, planned for the Lynch & Sons Funeral Home in

Walled Lake, were pending Monday.

The Novi Fire Department received automatic mutual aid from the Walled Lake Fire Department in extinguishing the blaze.

The cause of the fire remained under investigation Monday.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman

NOVI NEWS
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Newsroom Contacts
Dan Dean, Managing Editor
 Mobile: 248-396-0706
 Email: ddean@hometownlife.com
Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach
 Mobile: 586-262-9892
 Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

@OEHometown

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DPS work leader named Employee of the Year

Department of Public Services work leader Ryan Trainer understands his interactions with residents typically come during unfortunate times – a water main break, frozen pipes and sewage backups, to name a few.



Trainer

But it's because of his calm demeanor and excellent communication that Trainer makes those difficult times a little easier to handle. Even when it comes to his fellow colleagues in the water and sewer division, Trainer is always accessible and goes above and beyond to ensure the team's success.

It's for those reasons and many others that Trainer was recognized Dec. 8 at the annual Evening of Appreciation as the city of Novi Employee of the Year. Joining him as finalists were Studio No. VI team members Josh Buscher and Damon Parnell, Novi Parks Recreation Supervisor Amelia Purdy-Ketchum, DPS work leader Dean Reid and Novi Police Sgt. Kevin Rhea.

"It's never easy selecting an employee of the year, considering the

tremendous employees we have here in the city, and this year was no different," City Manager Peter E. Auger said. "Ryan is an outstanding choice and sets a great example for others to follow in terms of his work ethic and compassion for residents."

Trainer, who has worked for the city for 19 years, was nominated by a colleague in DPS. In the nomination, it read Trainer "demonstrates outstanding customer service with every resident he comes in contact with" and "goes above and beyond with fellow employees," helping create study guides for exams staff is required to take and spending time prepping them for their Class A and CDL driver's licenses.

"It's been a privilege to have worked with the DPS employees for the last 19 years and an honor to receive this award on behalf of the city," Trainer said.

Novi created the Employee of the Year award as a way to acknowledge exemplary city employees. The award is open to all full-time and permanent part-time city employees. For more information or to submit a nomination, go to cityof-novi.org.



Novi Employee of the Year finalists (from left) Damon Parnell and Josh Buscher, winner Ryan Trainer, finalists Dean Reid, Amelia Purdy-Ketchum and Kevin Rhea were recognized for their accomplishments at the annual Evening of Appreciation.

VAPING

Continued from Page A1

purchased from convenience stores, gas stations, vape shops and online. The liquid comes in a variety of flavors, often sweet and fruity and often containing nicotine.

Carter said her assis-

tant principals have been having ongoing conversations about the issue. Novi school administration has shared examples of vapes at staff meetings, plus vaping and its dangers are covered in high school health classes.

"Students are under a misconception that it's a healthy option, that it's OK to do because it's,

quote, unquote, 'smokeless,'" Carter said. One of her main concerns, raised earlier this month during an opiates panel event at Novi Public Library and a presentation at Novi High School, was the potential for vapes as a gateway to substance abuse.

"The answer was yes, by a licensed physician, several members of law

enforcement and a recovered addict," she wrote in the email.

Using or possessing a vape is a violation of the Novi Community School District's code of conduct. Students caught using vapes on school property will be suspended for at least one and up to 10 days.



*Actual size of the Quartz style vape

School officials sent a letter to parents that included this image. NOVI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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The best holiday gift: Community coming together for children

I have the honor and privilege of visiting schools every week. When I step into a teacher's classrooms, I know I will see something good.



Steve Matthews
SUPER TALK

Visiting schools around the holidays is especially exciting. Students are full of energy. In many instances, students are preparing for special concerts or creating holiday mementos to take home.

When I was in the second grade, my teacher, Mrs. Harriger, helped each of us make a paperweight using baby food jars, marbles and the kiln. For a second-grader, it was pretty exciting stuff. My dad kept that paperweight on his desk for more than 50 years.

While the holidays bring joy, each year for the past five years, my holiday celebration and festivities have been tinged with sadness because of the tragedy that unfolded Dec. 14, 2012. It was that day that a gunman opened fire in Sandy Hook Elementary School, killing staff and students.

Every day, I work to ensure that a tragedy like that will not happen in Novi. Schools are supposed to be places where there is enthusiasm and energy. Students and teachers work together to create an environment that encourages creativity and learning.

Students come to

school without a concern that they will be safe. Parents send their students to school believing that the school is a safe environment. Safety is, thankfully, not an issue that most people worry about in schools.

Over the years, however, schools have slowly lost their innocence. Unfortunately, schools have been the scene of tragedy and violence.

In Novi, we have created one of the safest school environments possible. We have locked doors. We have security cameras. We have emergency plans. We have a supportive police department.

More importantly, we have a staff and a community that cares deeply for students.

During my seven years in Novi, I have witnessed the great compassion our staff has for our students.

From food service workers to secretaries to support staff to bus drivers to teachers and administrators, everyone cares for students.

Additionally, I have heard from and seen our community step forward to ensure that our students have the resources they need to be successful. Whether that

is voting for bonds or volunteering for school events, we have a community that is ready to help our students.

Ultimately, that is what the holiday season is about. The secular and sacred stories that form the heart of this season revolve around the idea that people care for others. We share stories of people giving gifts to others and sacrificing so that someone else can be happy. Giving, not receiving, is at the heart of the holiday season.

As this holiday season continues to unfold, I think it is important for us to remember that we are lucky in Novi. We are a community that has come together for our children. We value and support the children who live here and attend our schools. Whether we work with our students, parent our children or support the school district with our time and talent, we are a community that will continue to care and protect our children.

I cannot think of a greater gift this holiday season.

Steve M. Matthews, Ed.D., is superintendent of the Novi Community School District. He can be reached at steven.matthews@novik12.org.

Moran joins American Cancer Society as executive director

The American Cancer Society has announced the appointment of Blythe Moran of Bloomfield Hills as executive director in Michigan.

As lead executive in the state, Moran's goal is to build relationships and partnerships across Michigan in support of the society's mission to save lives from cancer. Alongside a statewide team of staff and volunteers, Moran leads fundraising, mission and advocacy initiatives and engages local communities across the state. She also is in the process of



Moran

building a new, volunteer leadership board in the state to help implement and drive regional strategic growth initiatives.

Moran brings more than 30 years of community development, volunteer management, event and fundraising experience. Early in her career, she worked in public health for metro Detroit-area health departments and hospitals in a variety of capacities. Most re-

cently, Moran served as head of advancement for Eton Academy in Birmingham.

Moran received her bachelor of science degree from Central Michigan University in public health education. She lives in Bloomfield Hills with her husband.

The American Cancer Society is a global grassroots force of nearly 2 million volunteers dedicated to saving lives, celebrating lives, and leading the fight for a world without cancer. For more information, go to www.cancer.org.

NORTHVILLE MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village is located at 215 Griswold, north of Main Street, near Ford Field. Grounds open daily dawn until dusk. Buildings will re-open each Sunday starting in June 2018. Mill Race relies on rentals and memberships to maintain the village. Consider becoming a member or making a donation today; go to www.millrace-northville.org for details.

Upcoming events

Grounds closed for wedding: 10:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Dec. 31.

The office and the archives will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 21 through Jan. 8.

Lecture Series: When

Amelia Came to Michigan: 7 p.m. Jan. 25. New School Church at Mill Race Village. No fee. Donations accepted.

Winter Tea: 1-3:30 p.m. Feb. 18.

General info

Website: www.millracenorthville.org

Volunteers: The Northville Historical Society at Mill Race Village accepts volunteers in many different areas. We are in special need of Sunday store clerks and help with our fundraising teas. Students, we're happy to verify your volunteer hours with school or scouts. Please contact the office for more information.

Rentals: Call or email

the office to rent the Cady Inn or church for a wedding or party. Many dates are available. More information on our website.

Donations: Archives donations accepted from 9 a.m. to noon each Tuesday.

Archives: The archives are temporarily closed.

Office: The office is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Wednesday. All other times by appointment only. In inclement weather, we follow Northville Public Schools. If it is closed due to snow/ice, the NHS is also closed. Call 248-348-1845 or email office@millrace-northville.org.

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES

The American Red Cross of Southeast Michigan has the following blood drives scheduled for the area. Donors can call 800-733-2767 to make an appointment.

» 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 22, Plymouth Library, 223 S. Main St.

» 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 26, Hilton Garden Inn, 14600 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

» 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton

» 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, Novi library, 45255 W. 10 Mile Road

» Noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, Holiday Inn Express, 3950 S. Lotz, Canton

» 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River, Novi

» Noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, Northville Fire Department, 45745 W. Six Mile

NORTHVILLE POLICE BRIEFS

Scofflaw faces sixth suspended-license charge

A repeat offender from South Lyon was arrested in Northville Township the afternoon of Dec. 5 for driving with a suspended license.

The 38-year-old was stopped by police in the area of Beck Road and Horseshoe Drive, when an officer noticed an expired license plate tag on the trailer he was towing behind a Toyota Tundra, a police report said.

Police found the man's license had been suspended five times previously, the report said.

He was cited for an additional suspended license charge and for having an expired plate and later released, with a court date, on a \$300 bond.

No license acquired

A 24-year-old Belleville man was arrested for driving without a license after being involved in a property damage accident in the township the morning of

Dec. 9. The crash occurred shortly before 9:30 a.m., in the area of Seven Mile and Haggerty, a police report said.

Police found the man, who was driving a 2005 Mercury Sable, had never acquired a license, the report said. He was ticketed for the charge, given a court date and turned over to police in Canton Township, where he was wanted on a warrant on a charge of assault and battery.

— By Matt Jachman

Central Conveyor employees make donations



Employees of Central Conveyor, 52800 Pontiac Trail, in Wixom, contributed to the Central Community Charities Program that promotes goodwill toward those less fortunate a total of \$18,339. This is not company-funded, but employee-funded and the amount nearly doubled last year's contributions. The holiday presents purchased with the funds were delivered to Lighthouse of Oakland County, LACASA, the American Legion Department of Michigan Veterans Serving Veterans, Foster Care of Livingston County, The Lovelady Center, Promise Land Church and Soup Kitchen, Detroit and N.O.A.H.

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COMMUNITY EMIS

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DEVELOPER FEELS 'A DUTY TO SHARE'

He's turning Louisville's historic buildings into affordable homes

SHELDON SHAFER
LOUISVILLE COURIER JOURNAL
USA TODAY NETWORK

Each week, this series will introduce you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

Gregg Rochman is the son of a surgeon and, in his own words, was born with a platinum spoon in his mouth.

"I had everything available to me," said the New York City native. "I grew up in a very affluent area, and I could have done anything I wanted. But, because of that privilege, I have a duty to share" and to give back.

Rochman, who moved to Louisville, Kentucky, 10 years ago, has invested in the city with a vengeance, putting a significant sum as the developer or co-developer into the renovation of about 15 properties in the low-income Portland neighborhood in western Louisville.

The effort has included a variety of nonresidential projects — among them the conversion of one old warehouse into an art gallery and another into an office and roastery for a coffee company.

Rochman for five years has served as the volunteer treasurer of New Roots, a nonprofit based in the Portland neighborhood that he described as a food justice organization that wholesales fresh produce while trying to connect residents directly with farmers.

His latest undertaking is serving as the project manager for Vital Sites, a new nonprofit venture that strives to renovate historic properties into affordable housing.

He works to find lenders to supply money to redevelop the units and to find contractors to develop the properties. He also works with the architects to complete the restorations and coordinates with real estate brokers to sell the sites.

Vital Sites partners with individuals and other groups to redevelop abandoned or neglected spaces.

It has targeted five vacant, historic houses just east of downtown Louisville



Gregg Rochman is renovating historic properties into affordable housing in Louisville, Kentucky. MICHAEL CLEVENGER/LOUISVILLE COURIER JOURNAL

that date to the 1890s for renovation and reuse as affordable housing.

Funds from the sale of the parcels will go into a revolving fund to provide a resource to redevelop additional sites.

"The preservation of old buildings is incredibly important for the history of our city — to keep the fabric of our built environment," he said.

"Vital Sites is taking the talk out of preservation and putting 'doing' into it."

ONE NATION Nominate an American

Who are your American heroes? Share stories and nominees at onenation.usatoday.com or via email to onenation@usatoday.com or post a video submission to Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (no longer than 2 minutes, please) with the hashtags #IAmAnAmerican #WeAreOneNation.

GREGG ROCHMAN

Location: Louisville, Kentucky

Age: 51

Profession: Developer

Mission: "I have a duty to share" and to give back.

Q&A WITH GREGG ROCHMAN

What does it mean to be an American?

An American is inclusive and accepting of others, fortunate, and honored to have the privilege of living in our truly great and abundant country. We have a land with vast resources and a people capable of anything. Our advantages are used for the good of the planet and all its creatures — all people, all living things. Currently, however, Americans are divided from one another. We do not do everything in our power to house the homeless, feed the hungry, clothe the cold, educate the poor and support each other with the goal the betterment of everyone — even though it is all within our reach. We should be ashamed. I am.

What do you hope to get out of your work with Vital Sites?

With the help of our team, I hope to revitalize these five shotgun houses and sell them to people to live in, so that Vital Sites can gather some much-needed funds to continue the important work of preservation. The bigger picture is that I will learn from the experience and talent embodied within the people of Vital Sites to improve my capabilities at historic preservation, in turn feeding my addiction to old structures. Historic preservation maintains the fabric of our past, while connecting us to our future. It activates our history on a human scale. This work is truly fascinating and not for the faint of heart.

What gives you hope or what concerns you?

The music scene in Louisville gives me hope. There are many examples of excellent musicians in numerous different styles. The musicians play with one another, go to see each other's shows and support each other. It's a microcosm of what I wish it was like in America.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

I hope to create five beautiful homes for five beautiful families.

SANTA

Continued from Page A1

got the call that someone had paid \$300 to complete her layaway purchases.

"I started crying. They said he was specifically looking for toys. I just wanted to say thank you so much. You helped out my family so much," White said. "I'm still in shock and can't believe this happened to me. I just wish I knew this man so I can thank him 1,000 times and this will mean so much to my two kids. Thank you, thank you, thank you again."

Assistant store manager Walt Blackburn didn't want to say how much money the man spent paying off the layaway accounts, but said it was about 10 accounts.

"He came in about 8 p.m. I think he said he got lucky at the casino. He wanted to do a good deed," Blackburn said.

"He was looking for toys. He wanted the families to have a nice Christmas."

Employed at the store for more than eight years, Blackburn said Walmart does layaways only at Christmas and it's utilized by a lot of customers. The deadline to pay off the layaways and collect the items is Dec. 15.

"We started calling people, telling them their layaway was paid. It was the first time I've seen this. It makes you feel good," Blackburn said. "It was really something, you know, to want to pay off the layaways. It was pretty cool."

Having talked with the man, who didn't want to be identified, Blackburn said he thought the man was in his 40s. "He was just a regular guy," Blackburn said.

It made for an extraordinary Christmas for the recipients of the man's good fortune.

White, who has a 1-year-old son and a daughter, 3, said her husband Andrew

works outside on cell towers. "They do so much work throughout the year, but December is a bad month. There isn't that much work until after the first of the year," said White, a stay-at-home mom who grew up in South Lyon and now lives across Napier in Novi.

In fact, White said she and her husband had been arguing about getting the layaway balance paid — she was worried about losing the nearly \$300 already paid, as well as not getting the presents for her children. Those gifts include a Barbie camper, which White's daughter has been wanting, along with a two-wheel scooter and a four-wheeler for her son.

"There was a ton of stuff. It was almost \$600 and we owed \$300," White said. "I called my husband crying. My husband says we need to pay it forward, too. Nothing like this ever happened to me. It was a total shock."

Pope, mother of daughter Raelynne,

23 months old, used to work at the New Hudson Walmart. Currently, she works for Verizon in sales.

"I've spent the past hour crying (after learning the layaway was paid). I had a layaway with about a \$94 balance on it still at Walmart. Layaway ended on the (Dec.) 11th and I had until this Friday to pick it up," she said. "I've been stressing about this. Whoever did that, you have no clue how much that meant to me."

Last year was Pope's first year doing layaway, she said, due to having her daughter. The toys included a mini mouse electric ride on, an animatronic baby doll, a Playdough set and a shopping cart for the baby doll.

"I am a very blessed one. When I'm able to, I'm going to pay it forward as well," she said.

irogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039

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Vigil Mass: 5pm Bilingual
- **January 1**
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Wayne Mrdjenovich, guitar teacher and author. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Area man pursues his calling as music teacher

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

When he was 14, Wayne Mrdjenovich remembers his parents asking him what he wanted to do in life.

"I said I wanted to be a full-time musician. Mom and Dad said, 'What do you really want to do?' They wanted me to be a lawyer or a doctor or an engineer - to have a solid career," he recalled. "Since I was 3 years old I knew I loved music."

After studying business for a time, Mrdjenovich said he sought out to get the best music education in Michigan, studying with some excellent teachers and independently.

Early in the 1990s, Mrdjenovich, 53, made the decision to teach music full-time, giving private lessons. Over the years, he moved out of stores or storefronts to providing lessons at students' homes.

"My first piano teacher was an austere woman who scared the pants off me. I make it fun — I'm here for the students, not the other way around," said Mrdjenovich, a South Lyon resident.

During 20 years living in West Bloomfield, he said the in-home lessons were particularly popular with executive families with busy schedules and children involved in a lot of activities.

"There aren't a whole lot of teachers who go to the students. I take a proactive approach to building relationships," Mrdjenovich said. "I have students I taught 10 or 20 years ago who still keep in touch."

With students ranging in age from 6 to 86 years old, he said most tend to be teenagers. Mrdjenovich said he could have gone into a more financially rewarding career.

"It's my life's calling. My needs are met - sometimes with a check at the end of the month," he said. "There is nothing greater than when the light goes on for a student learning a song that they love."

Owner of the Music Studio and Conduire Music Publishing, Mrdjenovich has written three music instruction books since 2014.

all of them are over 200 pages, which he notes is four or five times the length of most similar books.

"I believe it is really important to make well-



Wayne Mrdjenovich's Fender guitar and his four books. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

rounded musicians - the what, when, how and why," Mrdjenovich said. "It's like if you really teach someone to fish, they have fish for a lifetime. My father impressed upon me, if you

are going to do it, do it well and with integrity."

Although he plays piano and drums, Mrdjenovich's primary instrument is guitar - something he fell in love with 40 years ago. Over the years, he said he has played amateur and semi-professional bands.

After working for almost 20 years as a full-time music instructor, Mrdjenovich decided to expand his teaching efforts to reach a wider audience by starting Conduire Music Publishing in 2010. "Conduire means 'to lead' in French.

Along with private lessons, Mrdjenovich offers music theory workshops for songwriters and has been looking into studio space around the South Lyon area. He can be reached at 248-366-8742.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
734-883-9039
Twitter: @LRogersObserver

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

Communities Served: Cities of Farmington Hills, Farmington, Livonia; Townships of Novi, Redford, MI

Good news! Effective on or after January 25, 2018, the following changes will be made to your Spectrum channel lineup with no change in channel position:

The following channels, currently available on Digi Tier 2/TV Gold, will move to TV Select: Nickelodeon, MTV, Comedy Central, BET, Spike, TV Land and VH1. CMT, currently available on Digi Tier 1/TV Silver, will move to TV Select.

In addition, the following channels, currently available on Digi Tier 1/TV Silver, will move to Digi Tier 2/TV Gold: MTV2, MTV Classic, TeenNick, NickToons, Tr3s, Logo, MTV Live, and Nick Music. The following channels, currently available on Digi Tier 1/TV Silver and Digi Tier 2/TV Gold, will only be made available on Digi Tier 2/TV Gold: BET Her, BET Jams and BET Soul.

For a current channel lineup, visit www.spectrum.com/channels. To view this notice online, visit spectrum.net/programmingnotices

Publish: December 21, 2017

LO-000035912 2x3

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Ladywood announces closing, but sisterhood lives, grads say

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Ladywood High School may be closing next spring, but it will live on in the lifelong friendships forged there, local alumnae say.

The all-girls Catholic high school in Livonia will shut down at the end of the year because of declining enrollment. The decision, made by the Felician Sisters of North America, the order of nuns that founded the school in 1950 and continues to oversee it, was announced Monday.

Graduates said they got from Ladywood a top-notch education rooted in faith, room to grow as young women that they may not have had at a co-ed school and close friends for life.

"These women have been an anchor in my life and, without Ladywood, I would not have had those beautiful relationships," said Teri Gorski of Dearborn Heights, a 1978 graduate.

"It's a part of us," said Gorski, who has kept up with a core group of classmates for the nearly 40 years since they left Ladywood. "It's a part of our fabric."

"The sisterhood really doesn't end when you leave high school," said Kathleen Bushart of Redford Township, a 2017 Ladywood graduate and now a freshman at the University of Toledo. "One hundred percent, they'll always be my forever friends."

Gorski, who works in the area as a speech pathologist, lived in Detroit while in high school, but Ladywood drew enough girls from her area that the school bused them in, she said.

Gorski said she and her Ladywood friends get together regularly and have supported each other in good times and bad. Some, she said, are even godmothers to each other's children.

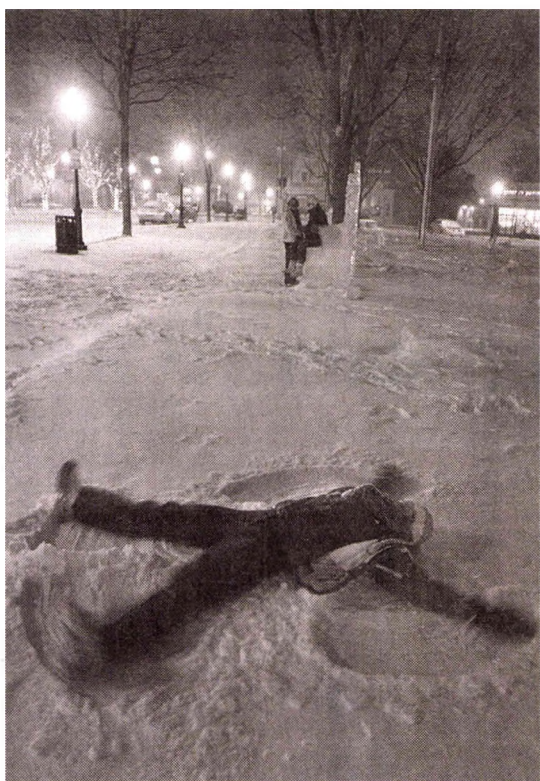
She said she appreciated the Catholic education — she later sent her daughters to a Catholic high school — and the all-female classes. "I think it allowed us to develop certain leadership abilities," Gorski said.

"Being in an all-girls setting, there's an element of safety and appreciation for women," said Kelly Burke of Canton Township, a 2017 graduate and a freshman at the all-women St. Mary's College in Notre Dame, Ind. There was emphasis on learning together, cultivating personal growth and building each other up, she said.

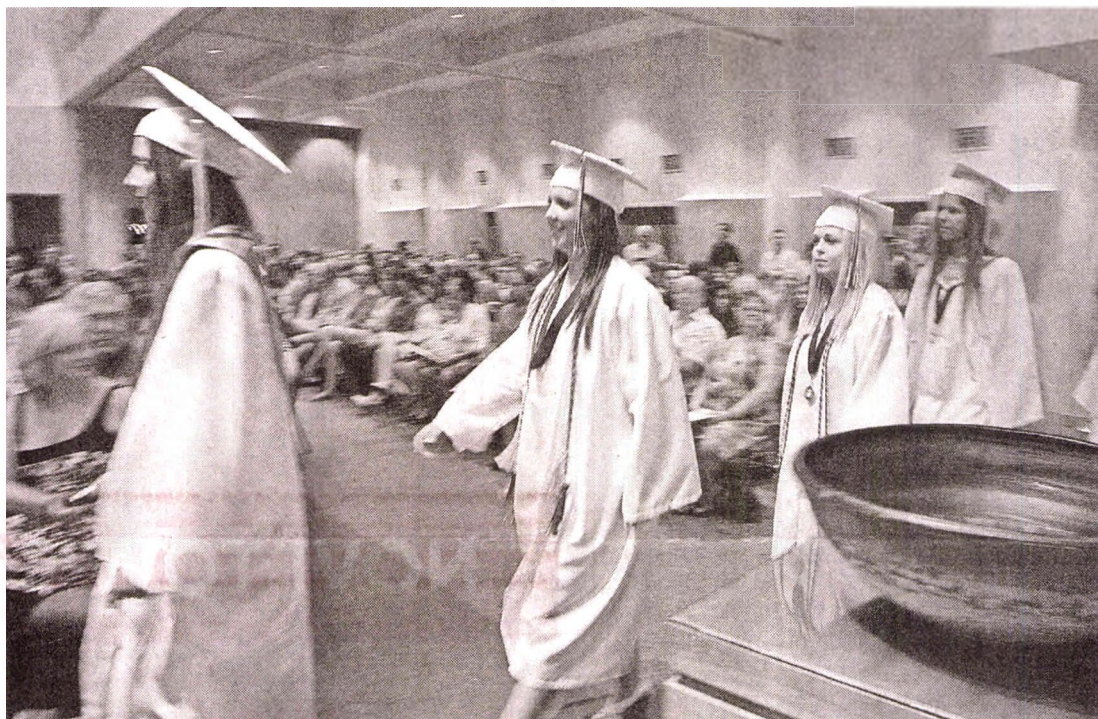
"I was able to really find my identity and become the person I wanted to be," Burke said.

"The all-female environment really helped to build strong friendships," said Meghan Hanley of Livonia, a 1999 graduate who coordinates community outreach and volunteer efforts at a credit union. "I agree with that, that it was a confidence-booster."

The school was academically strong, graduates said. "I feel really prepared at Toledo," said Bushart, who is studying to become a physical



Above, Christina Riga makes snow angels in Plymouth's Kellogg Park during a snowstorm in 2011. Christina, her sister Samantha and friend Elizabeth Rodriguez attended Ladywood High School in Livonia, which had called a snow day. At top right, Kristin Lynn Tarp moves the tassel of her mortarboard to signify that she is now a graduate of Ladywood, during commencement 2011. At right, Ladywood High School parent Michelle Randall looks through a yearbook with Sandy McCrary, graduate of the Class of 1981. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Ladywood High School's 2011 graduating class enters the sanctuary of St. John Neumann Catholic Church for the baccalaureate Mass and commencement. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

therapist. "I'm really excelling at my classes."

"The sisters were amazing. They were well-educated," Gorski said. "They had multiple degrees ... it was amazing. They were all excellent role models."

A look at the faculty roster, however, shows there is only one nun currently on the staff.

Gorski said she feels for Ladywood's current juniors, who will have to graduate from other schools.

"You do a lot of growing up in those years. Not to be able to have that closure — it's a tragedy," she said.

The Ladywood school board is planning to offer help with transfers and the Felicians are pledging \$500 annual scholarships to Ladywood students who enroll at other Catholic high schools.

Bushart, who played basketball all four of her years at Ladywood, said she's talked about the impending closing with Class of '17 friends, as well as with younger former teammates who are still at the school. "Everyone's just really shocked," she said. Bushart's roommate at UT is also a Ladywood graduate.

There were often rumors the school would close, recent graduates said, but nobody took them too seriously.

"It was kind of something that we would just throw around, but we didn't think it would actually (happen)," Burke said.

Burke said she hopes the closing doesn't portend bad news for other all-girls Catholic schools. Other all-girls Catholic schools in the area include Academy of the Sacred

Heart and Marian, both in Bloomfield Hills, Mercy in Farmington Hills and St. Catherine of Siena Academy in Wixom.

"Seeing one less outlet for high school girls to get that (Catholic) education was disappointing to me," Hanley said.

"For parents who desire that all-girls high school experience for their daughters in this area, the inner-ring suburbs of Detroit, there's not that alternative anymore," Gorski said.

"Our high school reunion is going to mean so much more now and I think the legacy of Ladywood will always live on," Burke said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com
734-678-8432
Twitter: @mattjachman

Area Catholic schools react to Ladywood's closure

David Veselenak

hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

As the news spread that Ladywood, Wayne County's last all-girls high school, would close at the end of the year, several other institutions say they're feeling the pain coming out of Livonia.

"We're praying for the Ladywood community and all their families," said Adora Ibrahim, director of public relations at St. Catherine of Siena Academy in Wixom. "I can only imagine what they're going through at this time."

It was announced earlier this week that Ladywood High School would close at the end of the 2017-18 academic year after 68 years, with the Felician Sisters of North America citing low enrollment as a major factor.

Students looking to enroll in another all-girls Catholic school for the 2018-19 school year have five options in the Archdiocese of Detroit: St. Catherine, Mercy High School in Farmington Hills, Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills, Marian High School in Bloomfield Township and Regina High School in Warren.

The Felician Sisters, who run the Livonia school, are reportedly offering a \$500 annual scholarship to students who go on to attend another Catholic high school in the region.

Cheryl Delany Kreger, president of Mercy High School at 11 Mile and Middlebelt roads, said the connections between the two schools run deep and it has been a sad time at the school as students and staff process Ladywood's impending closure.

"At this point, we, at Mercy, are still saddened and processing the announcement in our community as well," she said in a voicemail. "Both Ladywood and Mercy and other all-girl Catholic schools have long, rich traditions in the Catholic League and in Catholic education."

"To lose one of our members is sad for all of us."

A message was left at Marian High School seeking comment.

Kreger said Mercy is more than happy to open its doors to the freshmen, sophomores and juniors from Ladywood if those students and their families are interested in continuing their education there.

Ibrahim said St. Catherine of Siena is also available for students to look into if they decide to continue in that tradition for their education. That includes potential assistance for tuition.

"The same thing would apply to any new students," she said. "We're going to try to make room in the inn for everyone."

She said the entire community is praying for those affected by the closure.

"I would say that as Catholic schools in the Archdiocese in Detroit, we stick together," she said. "Anytime a member of the Body of Christ hurts, we hurt."

dveselenak@hometownlife.com

Washburn signs new three-year pact with Michigan Phil

The Michigan Philharmonic has signed a three-year contract extension with music director and conductor Nan Washburn. Now in her 19th season with the Michigan Philharmonic, Washburn has led the organization's evolution into one of the most innovative and dynamic professional symphony orchestras in the region since her arrival in 1999.

The winner of The American Prize in Orchestral Conducting, professional division, in 2013 and 18 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming from the League of American Orchestras, Washburn is one of the most innovative conductors working in the U.S. today. For her engaging performances and leading-edge approach to concert programming, critics

have hailed her work as having "perspicacity, verve, imagination and all-around savvy." Under her direction, the Michigan Philharmonic has garnered national awards and recognition, winning six ASCAP awards from the League of American Orchestras, as well as first place in the prestigious American Prize for professional orchestras in 2016.

Before being recruited to Michigan from California, Washburn served as artistic director and conductor of the West Hollywood Orchestra for five years and music director of Orchestra Sonoma, the Camellia Symphony and the San Francisco State University Symphony Orchestra.

Washburn first came to national attention as a co-foun-



Washburn

der, artistic director and associate conductor of the San Francisco-based Women's Philharmonic from 1980-90, during which time she became one of the leading authorities on and advocates for orchestral works of women composers. For her pioneering work in this field, Washburn was awarded the WIA - Jeanine C. Rae Award for Advancement of Women's Culture. This award was in recognition for her advancement of women composers by programming more works by women composers than any other orchestra of any size in the U.S.

Washburn has put the Michi-

gan Philharmonic on the map by working with and performing works by many of the leading composers in the U.S. today, including Joseph Schwantner, William Bolcom, Libby Larsen, John Corigliano, Chen Yi, Lou Harrison, Tobias Picker, Michael Daugherty, Jennifer Higdon, Gabriela Lena Frank, Andre Myers and Michael Gilbertson.

"We are thrilled to engage Nan for another three years and the artistic head of our organization," said Beth Stewart, executive director of the Michigan Philharmonic. "Nan brings the background and artistic leadership we need as the organization enters an exciting phase with the possibility of having a performance home for the orchestra."

As the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex, which houses the administrative offices of the Michigan Phil and 36 other arts and recreational organizations, plans to renovate and expand the facility, a new performing arts center is one of the goals of the project.

"Having a performing arts center right in the heart of our hometown of Plymouth would be a dream come true for the Michigan Philharmonic," Washburn said. "It is something we have waited so long for and would be a perfect way to celebrate my two decades with the orchestra."

For more information the Michigan Philharmonic, concert schedules and tickets, go to www.michiganphil.org.

Athlete learning to walk again as disease strikes

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Makenzie Carpenter wanted to play basketball and volleyball in her sophomore year at Canton High School.

Instead, she is learning to walk again.

Makenzie, 15, was sitting on her bed and doing her homework when her legs suddenly went numb Nov. 9.

"I was just really scared, honestly," she said. "I didn't know what was going on."

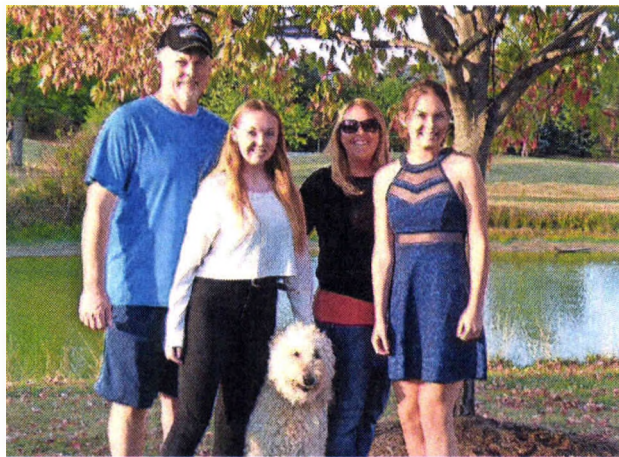
It's the latest of many hurdles she has faced since she was diagnosed in October with dysautonomia, a disorder of the autonomic nervous system.

She feels faint when her blood pressure drops low. She is fatigued. She has what her mother, Lori Carpenter, calls "mental fog." She was diagnosed with a heart murmur. She has fluctuating body temperatures. She can't properly digest food.

"We're in week 10 of vomiting 30-40 times a day," her mother said.

Lori Carpenter and her husband Doug are facing mounting medical bills that prompted friends to set up a GoFundMe account to help Makenzie and her family.

Makenzie has undergone numerous medical tests, spent five days in a hospital and has



Makenzie Carpenter (right) with her father Doug, sister Chelsi, mother Lori and the family dog.

made the rounds in metro Detroit to see a neurologist, a cardiologist, a gastroenterologist and a physical therapist. What she really needs, her mother said, is a dysautonomia clinic, where everything can be handled in one place by doctors who better understand the disease and work as a team to fight it.

The University of Toledo Medical Center has such a clinic, she said, but the family's insurance company has refused, thus far, to pay for Makenzie to go there.

"That's where we would love to have her go," Carpenter said, "but the insurance company is not wanting to help us out."

She said she hasn't received a satisfactory answer for the denial. She didn't want to name the insurance company, because she still is trying to resolve the problem so

Makenzie can be covered in Toledo.

She just wants her daughter to have the best chance possible to overcome a disease that has changed her life. She said some people do grow out of it.

Makenzie, who has a younger sister Chelsi, 13, has always been an active child. She has played soccer since she was age 4 and has been involved with the Canton Soccer Club. This year, she joined the Canton Celtic team that made it to the state finals, but she had to miss some games.

She was playing a game in Indiana this year when her disease forced her off the field.

"She was so dizzy and out of it that she had to be carried off," Carpenter said.

Makenzie — known as "Kenzie" or "Zie" — has kept a good attitude despite her illness.



Makenzie Carpenter is learning to walk again after being diagnosed with dysautonomia.

for her team, briefly losing consciousness during her fall.

"When she came to, she said, 'Sorry, coach, I tried to save it.'" Hughley said. "That will stay with me for however long I coach. She embodies everything it means to be a Canton Chief athlete. I am blessed to have coached her."

Carpenter is hopeful her daughter can get the medical help she needs to fight dysautonomia and beat it. Doctors, she said, "are trying to wake up the nervous system to get the muscles to work."

Carpenter has missed a lot of work at a fitness center where she is employed. Her husband, who works in job recruitment, also has missed some work. Friends who set up the GoFundMe account began with a \$5,000 goal, but the family's medical expenses could be much higher.

Every day, it's frustrating for the family to know that a dysautonomia clinic is as close as Toledo, yet they're still trying to get insurance coverage for it.

Through it all, Carpenter said Makenzie stays positive.

"She is phenomenal," the mother said. "She has definitely always had a positive attitude. She has said she is going to crush this disease. She's an extremely strong kid."

"She's learning to stand and then walk," she added. "Hopefully, one day, she can run."

"I'm really working hard to keep doing good in physical therapy so I can get back on the field," she said, adding that she gets strong support from family and friends. "It keeps me going and keeps me positive. It's really important."

Makenzie is learning to walk again using a walker for short distances, but she uses a wheelchair for longer distances. She can't attend school, but friends bring math packets to her and she can participate in some classes online.

She is missed by the likes of Canton volleyball coach Cricket Hughley, who said Makenzie is "still the most physically, mentally and strongest athlete I have ever coached."

Makenzie was on Hughley's freshman team.

"I'm going into my third year at Canton as a coach. She is still the most committed, passionate athlete I have had the pleasure of coaching," Hughley said.

Hughley recalls Makenzie diving over a set of bleachers to save a ball

dclcm@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @CantonObserver
734-972-0919

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Planning Commission has prepared draft text amendments to the City of Northville Master Plan. The new language amends the Master Plan to permit first floor residential in the "Creative Mixed Use" area of Cady Street; allow the Planning Commission to consider incentives that have commercial/retail/office on the first floor, and residential above in the Cady Street area; and provide guidance regarding residential density in the City's downtown.

The proposed amendments will be considered at a public hearing conducted by the Planning Commission on January 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Lower Level Meeting Room, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposed changes. Written comments may also be mailed to the address above.

The complete text of the draft Master Plan amendments may be reviewed at the City Hall during normal business hours of 8am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, and on the City's website www.ci.northville.mi.us.

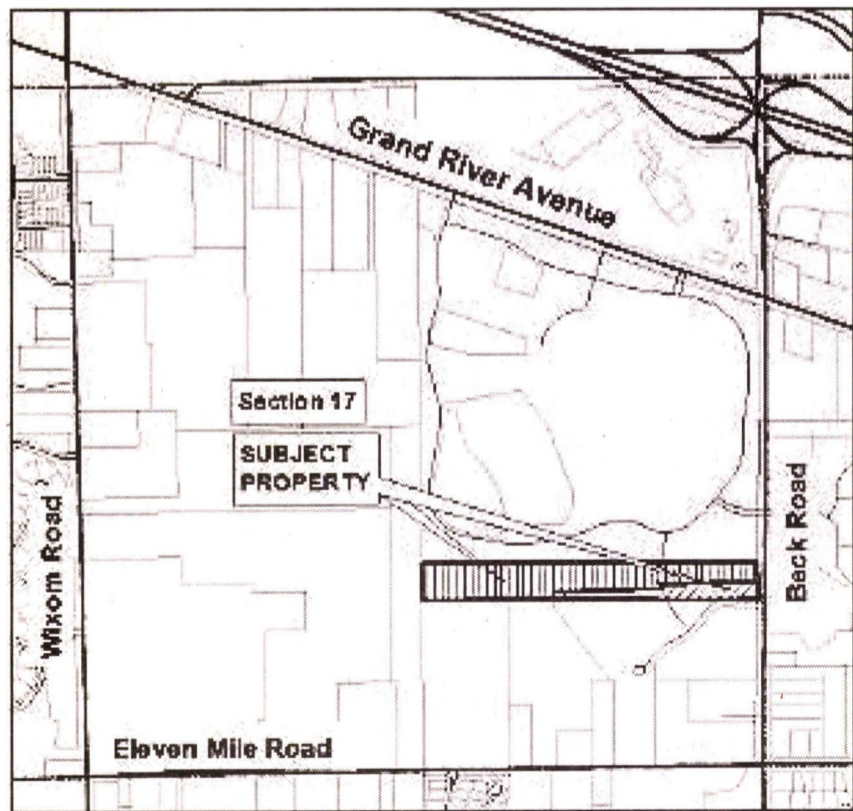
CITY OF NORTHVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

Published: December 21, 2017

LO-0000338037 3x3

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, **January 10, 2018** at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **PROVIDENCE PARK HOSPITAL ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.722 FOR PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT, FROM R-3 (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO OSC (OFFICE SERVICE COMMERCIAL) AND R-3 WITH PSLR OVERLAY (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL WITH PLANNED SUBURBAN LOW-RISE OVERLAY)**. The area proposed to be rezoned is a strip of land that extends along the southern part of the Providence Hospital parcel. Approximately 2.41 acres is being proposed to be rezoned to R-3 with PSLR Overlay to accommodate the existing development and approximately 11.78 acres is proposed to be rezoned to OSC for future development. The property is located on the south side of Grand River Avenue, west of Beck Road (Section 17).



Subject Parcel ID: Part of Parcel 50-22-17-400-046 and part of Parcel 50-22-17-400-043

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, **January 10, 2018**.

Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Published: December 21, 2017

LO-0000338042 3x8

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Progress made on village factory

Brad Kadrich

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

From the outside, it doesn't look like a lot is happening with the Village Arts Factory project being built in Canton's Cherry Hill Village.

Sure, one building has been razed and the roof on another has been replaced. But most of the rest of the work has been on the inside — or in non-tangible area such as grant-writing — as the Canton Partnership for the Arts tries to create a monument to the arts and to veterans in the southwest corner of Canton Township.

So Jill Engel, the partnership's director, can understand why folks who pass by think there isn't much progress being made.

But she also knows they're wrong.

And she recently made a presentation to the Canton Township board, so that trustees — whose support the Partnership will need — know it, too.

"I wanted (trustees) to know all the Partnership did for Canton and not just Canton, but Plymouth-Canton," Engel said. "I think they were just stunned to see ev-



Volunteers painted the rooms in the dormitory, which will be used for programs by the Eisenhower Center of Ann Arbor. CANTON PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ARTS

erything we've done and the things we're still doing."

The Village Arts Factory is being refurbished out of the old Ford property on 14 acres at Ridge and Cherry Hill roads. One building has been razed and the Partnership is currently rehabilitating the other three:

an old World War II dormitory, a factory and a warehouse.

The project is being built on property originally built by Henry Ford to house and help veterans. The Partnership bought it for some \$22,500 in 2012 and has since razed one of the four buildings that were

part of the original layout.

Other things are happening. Work on the veterans dormitory continues, with an elevator and utilities installed. Dry wall has been hung, rooms have been re-painted and are only waiting now for flooring.

Perhaps most importantly, the dormitory has its first tenant. The Ann Arbor-based Eisenhower Center, which specializes in traumatic brain injury care and rehabilitation, will house programs in the dormitory.

The programs, according to Eisenhower Vice President Devin Hutchings, will focus on rehab and therapy for female veterans. Veterans to be helped include those who are part of the center's After the Impact program, which helps athletes who've suffered concussions and veterans suffering PTSD.

Hutchings said the Village Arts Factory is the perfect location for such programs.

"Most of the focus goes on male veterans and not so much for the females. ... Women lead the way in concussions," Hutchings said. "This history of the site ties in to what we're doing. Ford had the insight to make it a place to give back to veterans. It's perfect for us to do the same thing. It gets (veterans) back into the communities and gives them some of the therapies they need."

It looks like dormitory participants will have a parking lot for their cars. The partnership recently secured a \$90,000 grant from the Michigan Council for the

Arts and Culture Affairs. "I literally started crying when I read how much we were getting," Engel said.

Engel said the Ford factory renovations have begun, with structural, mechanical and electrical engineering. The mansard roof was removed and elevator and utility work either has been done or is near being started.

Like with the dormitory, the focus is beginning to shift on finding a tenant for the factory. The Partnership is looking at potential education tenants, who could bring skilled trades programs to the factory.

Schoolcraft College took a brief look, but backed away. Engel said the partnership is now "full-force looking at others."

"These type of vocational programs are needed in our state," Engel said. "They would align more with the original use that Henry Ford started in 1944."

Once a factory tenant is found, the partnership will focus on getting tenants for the warehouse building along Cherry Hill. With housing construction beginning to boom in Cherry Hill Village, the partnership will focus on a food/beverage tenant.

"We're looking at a brew pub or a micro-brewery because that's what people out here want," Engel said. "We want to make it a destination location."

There's a lot of support for what the Partnership is doing. Grants have come from CDBG money (\$75,000), the Ford Fund (\$107,000) and from the state (\$45,000).

Businesses have donated, too, the largest to date coming from Pulte (\$50,000) and Reliable Carriers and Pinnacle (\$35,000 each).

It's the kind of support the project needs, because it'll be good for Canton, according to former Supervisor Tom Yack, who is on the partnership's board.

"Cherry Hill Village would benefit from the completed project, because it would bring greater vitality to the village," Yack said. "People would come to the arts factory not only to take classes and be engaged in studios, but the idea is it would become a destination for tourists."

"The vitality of Cherry Hill Village would be enhanced by people coming to the village, not just during the day, but people from outside the village coming as a destination," Yack added.

Yack said the project will be a win-win. Veterans and others will have a place to explore the arts and Canton gets rid of what he called a "derelict building."

"It's in the top two or three, maybe No. 1, of our buildings that do nothing to enhance the community," Yack said. "What really needs to happen is that it all needs to be rehabbed and it'll take between \$1.5 million and \$2 million to get that accomplished."

"(But) it'll give us a place where people in Canton and outside Canton can experience the arts in a way they may not have been able to do before."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @bkadrich

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.719

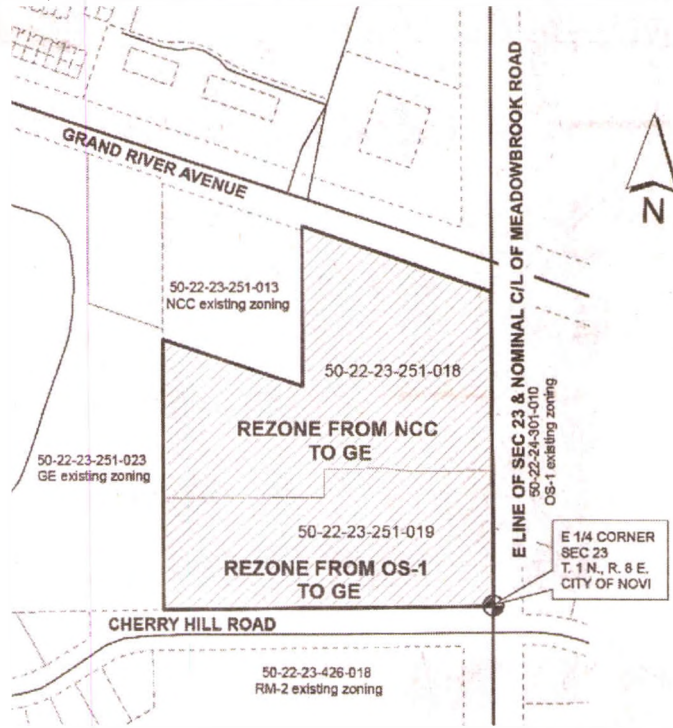
THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.719 attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) days after final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is **December 19, 2017.**

MADE AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Novi, Michigan the **4th** day of **December, 2017.** Copies of the Ordinance Amendment may be purchased or inspected at the Office of the City Clerk, Novi, Michigan, weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, local time.



To rezone a part of the northeast 1/4 of Section 23, T. 1N., R. 8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan being parcels 22-23-251-018 and 22-23-251-019

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

(PER ATA NATIONAL TITLE GROUP COMMITMENT FILE NO. 63-17532017-SCM, EFFECTIVE DATE MAY 03, 2017)

THE LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS COMMITMENT IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: CITY OF NOVI, COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN

PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 23, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN: BEGINNING AT A POINT DISTANT NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST 669.86 FEET AND NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 227.42 FEET FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 321.46 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 70 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 300 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST 321.43 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 70 DEGREES 37 MINUTES 26 SECONDS EAST 407.28 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST 363.23 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 21 SECONDS WEST 167 FEET; THENCE NORTH 83 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST 50.27 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST 125.65 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS WEST 56.43 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 55 SECONDS WEST 327 FEET TO BEGINNING. 5.62 ACRES. AND PART OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4, SECTION 23, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 23 FOR A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 58 MINUTES 54 SECONDS WEST 669.86 FEET ALONG THE EAST AND WEST 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION 23 AND THE NORTHERLY LINE OF MEADOWBROOK GLENS SUBDIVISION NO. 3, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 145 OF PLATS, PAGES 1, 2, 3 AND 4, OAKLAND COUNTY RECORDS; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST, 227.42 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, 327.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 32 MINUTES 05 SECONDS EAST, 56.43 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 55 SECONDS EAST, 125.65 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 83 DEGREES 24 MINUTES 25 SECONDS EAST, 50.27 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 21 SECONDS EAST, 167.00 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 23 AND THE CENTERLINE OF MEADOWBROOK ROAD; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 29 MINUTES 39 SECONDS WEST, 272.63 FEET, ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 23 AND THE CENTERLINE OF SAID MEADOWBROOK ROAD TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. 3.86 ACRES. PARCEL ID: 22-23-251-019

FROM: NON-CENTER COMMERCIAL (NCC) and OFFICE SERVICE (OS-1)

TO: GATEWAY EAST (GE)

ORDINANCE NO. 18.719

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor
Courtney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: 12/21/2017

LO-000336142 3x12

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Legislature skips action on driver fees, guns before break

Kathleen Gray
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

As the state House of Representatives and state Senate crammed dozens of final votes on retiree benefits, the opioid epidemic and measures to ensure that a scandal in unemployment benefits for Michiganders isn't repeated into their last two days of the session for 2017, there were two big and controversial issues that they bypassed.

Eliminating the dreaded and onerous driver responsibility fees was a priority in the House and Senate and an issue that affects the livelihoods and pocketbooks of more than 300,000 Michiganders.

And trying to put some parameters on gun regulations in the state — even if that meant allowing people with concealed weapons permits to carry guns in weapon-free zones, including schools — is an issue that the Legislature has been wrestling with for years.

But neither issue got done before state representatives and senators adjourned for the year Dec. 13.

Jane Domke of Harrison Township has called her state representative, senator and the governor's office urging them to do something to get rid of driver responsibility fees so her two sons can get their driver's licenses reinstated and hold on to a job.

"It's sounding like they're going to sit on it. I don't know what more to do to make them move," she said. "Right now, my two sons have to live outside the law because they have to drive to work. It's such a financial hardship."

She would prefer elec-

tronic tethers or the "blow and go" technology that would permit driving if the person were alcohol-free.

"Just don't take their livelihood away from them or fine them so much that it almost ruins their life," Domke said.

The driver responsibility fees have plagued thousands of Michigan drivers since 2003 and the House and Senate were determined to eliminate the fees and even forgive at least a portion of the \$634 million in outstanding debt held by drivers who have gotten tickets over the last 14 years.

The fees, ranging from \$100 to \$2,000 on drivers who got multiple tickets and points on their license, were passed in 2003 to help fill a budget hole when Michigan's economy faltered. And the money raised — between \$99 million and \$115 million a year — did help the state's general fund. But according to the Michigan Department of Treasury, nearly 350,000 Michigan drivers still owe \$634 million in driver responsibility fees.

Both the House and Senate overwhelmingly passed different versions of the bills and the two chambers must now negotiate a compromise that Gov. Rick Snyder, who is concerned about the impact on the state budget if the fees are eliminated, will also agree to.

"From a policy standpoint, the governor supports it, but we want to make sure from a budget standpoint that we can handle it," said Kurt Weiss, spokesman for the state Department of Management and Budget.

Getting rid of the fees entirely would cost the

state \$30 million in the 2018-19 budget year, which begins Oct. 1. The Senate version of the bill, which would forgive only a portion of the debt, would have a \$15-million impact on the state budget, Weiss said.

The House version ends the driver responsibility fees Oct. 1, 2018, and forgives all the debt owed by drivers. The Senate bills also eliminate the fees Oct. 1, 2018, but only forgive debt that is at least six years old — about \$304.3 million of the \$634 million total that is deemed uncollectible. Driver responsibility fees that are less than six years old would not be forgiven and the Department of Treasury could continue to try to collect those fees through measures such as garnishing income tax refunds.

But drivers, many of whom are clamoring for a solution because they've lost their licenses as a result of the fees, will have to wait for that compromise.

"Those are fees that never should have been implemented in the first place," said state Rep. Lee Chatfield, R-Levering, one of the primary sponsors of the fee elimination. "What the House passed is the best product. But we're living with a process where there will be conversations between the Speaker (of the House), the Senate Majority Leader and the governor. I hope we can come to a consensus to relieve an unwanted and undeserved fee that's been placed on drivers."

Sen. David Hildenbrand, R-Lowell, who sponsored the Senate version of the elimination, said he thinks the solution lies somewhere in between the House and Senate versions of the

ills. "Hopefully, next year we can light a fire under it and get it done," he said. "I assume we'll have some sort of middle ground, but that's still up for negotiations."

Speaker of the House Tom Leonard, R-DeWitt Township, said it's far past time to get rid of the fees.

"We've got over 300,000 of our residents who need to get their driver's licenses back and I believe we've waited long enough," he said. "We just found out that we have \$280 million in lapsed funds, so this is something we can afford. It's the right thing to do."

The other major issue the Legislature failed to resolve involved guns. Competing bills to expand the ability to carry weapons in Michigan were passed in the House and Senate, but neither got a final vote.

The House passed a bill that would allow people to carry concealed weapons without a permit. But the Senate never took it up and Snyder would be unlikely to sign such a bill.

The Senate passed a bill that would allow concealed carry of handguns in places that have traditionally been off-limits to guns, such as schools, churches, day care centers, bars and stadiums.

Under the legislation, concealed pistol license holders could get an endorsement on their licenses exempting them from gun-free zone restrictions if they have taken at least eight hours of additional training or are a certified firearms instructor.

The House had planned on holding hearings on the bill before the end of 2017, but those never took place.

State Rep. Jim Runestad, R-White Lake, is the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee that will consider the Senate gun bills.

"I want to have meetings with the governor to see if he's willing to sign anything like this. And some of the members of the committee have concerns," he said.

There also have been concerns expressed by school officials and gun opponents about the bill and the prospect of having more guns out in society.

"And I want to take that into consideration, too," Runestad said. "The Second Amendment (of the Constitution) is important to the Republican caucuses in the Senate and House. But I think this is going to take some

massaging."

Senate Bills 584-586 wouldn't limit the ability of private property owners to ban guns on their premises. It also wouldn't bar universities from using their constitutional powers to regulate the carrying of guns on their campuses. And it would close a loophole under which concealed pistol license holders could bring guns into schools, provided they carried the guns openly. That section of the bill drew the ire of gun rights' advocates who don't want to lose the ability to openly carry their weapons.

Snyder's spokeswoman, Anna Heaton, said last month that Snyder has concerns about the Senate bill, but will review the final version if it's passed next year.



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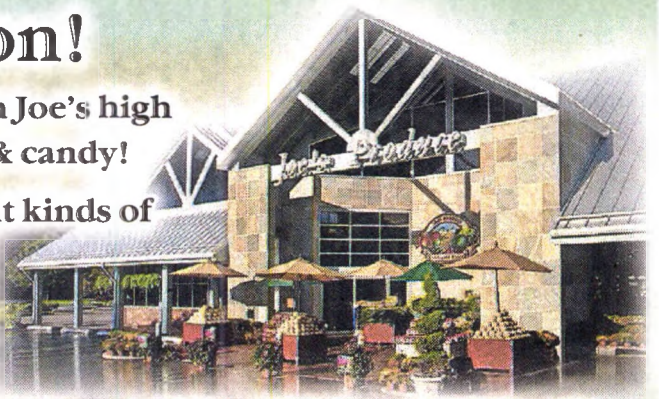
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GIRLS HOCKEY

Inspired Ladywood upends rival Mercy, 4-2

Senior captain Spiegel scores all four goals in emotional triumph

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

There was a flood of emotions that spilled on to the Plymouth Cultural Center ice surface Saturday.

After learning earlier in the week that its school would be closing at the end of the 2017-18 term, Livonia Ladywood's team left it all out on ice with a

stirring 4-2 victory against arch-rival Farmington Hills Mercy, the defending Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League playoff champion.

Bolstered by a huge student cheering section, the Blazers were looking to avenge last year's heartbreaking 3-2 loss in the state final to Mercy.

"We were delivered a lot of big news this week, so it's been

emotional, but we've had all the fans come out and support us," said Ladywood senior forward and captain Brooke Spiegel, who scored all four goals in the win. "We talked about leaving it all out there no matter what and just making up for last year and giving it our all for each other. The comments, the smack talk



See LADYWOOD, Page B3 Ladywood's Brooke Spiegel (left) takes a shot against Mercy. JUDY SPIEGEL

USA HOCKEY

WELCOMING PARTY



Michigan State's Patrick Khodorenko (right), who scored two goals Saturday, vies for skating room against Adam Samuelsson of the U.S. U-18 team. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

COLLEGE RECRUITING

Franklin's Mettie takes aim at Madonna future

Patriots' scoring machine latest KLAA star to sign with Crusaders

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Having a comfort zone is important to Mark Mettie, but don't misinterpret that to think he doesn't get after it.

Mettie, a 6-10 power forward for the Livonia Franklin boys basketball team, recently signed to play at Madonna University — a program already featuring several Kensington Lakes Activities Association alumni on the roster.

"That's a big part of it, obviously, playing against these guys who are there right now, like Ian (Knoph, a Livonia Stevenson grad) and (Plymouth alum) Josh Reynolds," Mettie said.

"Just knowing them and where they come from and just being around them, it's like a family-oriented culture. It was a very big contribution to the decision, just

See METTIE, Page B5

NTDP alums propel Michigan State to 3-0 victory

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Danton Cole now is men's hockey head coach at Michigan State University, but Saturday he paid a little extra attention to the players he used to coach for the U.S. National Team Development Program.

"I probably spent more time than usual watching the other team play," Cole said following his team's 3-0 victory over the U-18 team at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

But Cole also liked the way his team performed, including players with NTDP connections such as forward Patrick Khodorenko (two goals), defenseman Tommy Miller (West Bloomfield) and goaltender Ed Minney (20 saves for the shut-out).

"Patrick has been outstanding all year; he'll end up get-



Following Saturday's game at USA Hockey Arena, U.S. coach Seth Appert (left) congratulates MSU head coach Danton Cole, who coached the past seven years for the NTDP. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

ting drafted (by a NHL team) this year," Cole said. "Tommy Miller will get drafted as well. Ed's been working extremely

hard, John (Lethemon) has been kind of carrying the mail and has done a really good job. But (Minney) deserved to get

in there and it was really good."

Cole also kept mental notes on the opposing goalie — Fenton native Drew DeRidder, who made 19 saves (the third goal was scored into an empty net). DeRidder is a Michigan State commit.

"I thought he looked excellent," Cole said. "I've been seeing Drew for a long time. Pucks hit him, he's real athletic and he always seems to be real square to the puck and work hard. It was fun to watch him play."

According to Khodorenko, it was fun to play in front of a larger crowd (3,244) at USA Hockey Arena than he remembered in 2015-17 and also get two goals.

"A lot more people compared to when we were playing here," Khodorenko said. "It's cool to see a good crowd here tonight."

Khodorenko broke a score-

See MSU, Page B3



Livonia Franklin senior forward Mark Mettie (left) drives around a Dearborn Heights Robichaud player during the Patriots' season opener Dec. 5. Mettie won that game with a slam dunk in the closing seconds of regulation. TOM BEAUDOIN

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BOYS HOCKEY

Trenton's Welsch scores four to upend Rocks

Salem falls 6-4 despite two goals by Goleniak; Plymouth coach Vento wins 100th

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The action was fast and furious as Salem and Trenton battled during Saturday's inaugural MIHL-KLAA Showcase Challenge, held at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia.

Yet the Rocks could not slow down Trenton senior forward Drew Welsch, who scored four goals (including an empty-netter) as the Trojans rallied for a 6-4 varsity boys hockey victory.

Welsch broke a 4-4 tie with 2:03 remaining, weaving into the Salem zone and letting a shot go. The puck hit a leg and caromed back to Welsch, who tapped it past Rocks junior goalie Austin Goleniak.

The goalie had been whistled for a delay of game penalty, having dislodged the post with his skate as he pushed off the post to move across the crease.

"You got to do a better job in the (defensive) zone," Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "If it's not him (Welsch), it's somebody else. A lot of that is us missing opportunities to get pucks out, missing checks, missing assignments.

"But we played a pretty good game. After the first period, the second and third periods I thought we played pretty well."

The Showcase pitted teams from the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League against Kensington Lakes Activities Association squads, considered two of the top high school leagues in Michigan. The MIHL finished the day with a 6-4 edge over the KLAA, taking home the new Showcase Challenge Trophy donated by Livonia Trophy.

He's 'opportunistic'

Salem junior forward Colin Goleniak scored two of the Rocks goals, with others by freshman forward Dante Doute and senior forward Tyler German.

"He's an opportunistic scorer," Ossenmacher said about Goleniak. "He finds seams here and there and he has a knack to score from bad angles."

Goleniak's first goal, just 6:44 into the game, was a high snapper from the right wing that beat Trenton goalie Joey Cormier.

It soon was 2-0 when Doute drilled a shot past Cormier, midway through the period.

Welsch started working his magic when he went top shelf with a backhand at 10:05. His linemates, Nolan Szczepaniak and Justin Litchard, assisted.

Just over a minute later, a centering pass by Szczepaniak was one-timed home by Welsch.

Before the end of the opening period, German wheeled and fired a shot past Cormier.

Striking twice

That 3-2 Salem lead held firm — with the Rocks playing an excellent second period — until the Trojans' Patrick Bazner and Devin Dunn scored twice within 15 seconds early in the third period.

"The first two minutes of the third period, we knew they were going to come. We talked about it and yet we still weren't able to do anything," Ossenmacher said. "They scored two goals and that's the difference in the game."

"It's about learning how to win and we're getting better. But you got to play for 51 minutes and, if you don't, it only takes two minutes for them to get on top and that's what they did."

The Rocks answered to make it 4-4 when Colin Goleniak converted a nice feed from sophomore forward Alex Schaumburger, with about four minutes to go.

Then came the Salem penalty and Welsch made the Rocks pay. He added



Salem's Devan Grayshaw (right) maintains puck possession while Trenton's Richard Boulware loses an edge Saturday at Eddie Edgar Arena in Livonia. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

an empty-netter after Salem put on intense pressure in search of the equalizer.

Asked about winning a Showcase game, Welsch said "It's just another day, another game. You got to win it."

Salem still is looking to find ways to win close games against Grade A opponents. Ossenmacher said his team continues to learn and grow during the early season schedule.

"You lose by a goal to Trenton," Ossenmacher said. "You lose by a goal to Cranbrook, you play Brighton 2-2 five-on-five, you played the No. 10 team in the country in Shadyside (Academy in Pittsburgh, Pa.) and lose by a goal in the last 10 seconds."

"We just have to figure out how to flip the script."

PLYMOUTH 3, CRANBROOK 1: Plymouth skated on the older, B Rink later

in the afternoon against Cranbrook Kingswood and the Wildcats earned a 3-1 victory.

Scoring for Plymouth were Tim Baldwin, Jack Chumley and Drew Garby while goalie Brendan Olepa made 33 stops for the victory.

The win was the 100th for coach Gerry Vento in his tenure with the Wildcats. "Several great players were responsible for those 100 wins and no way it happens without my staff of Tim Pilut, David Sniatacz, Dan West and Lonnie Middaugh,"

texted Vento about the milestone. **LIVONIA CHURCHILL 5, GROSSE POINTE SOUTH 0:** Five different players scored for the Chargers and senior goalie Chris Serigson stopped all 20 shots he faced in a MIHL-KLAA Showcase contest at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Lighting the lamp for Churchill were Jordan Venegoni, Zack Vendittelli (one goal, one assist), Cameron Greener, Josh Friend and Seth Kucharzyk. Adding two assists was Keith Peterson.

CANTON 9, GROSSE POINTE NORTH 7: Canton's Sam Reinders scored three goals and Hugo Fonovic had a five-point game (one goal, four assists) to spark the Chiefs to this win at Saturday's MIHL-KLAA Showcase.

Also big for the Chiefs were Daniel Bourgeois (two goals, two assists), Jack Rumohr (two goals) and Addison Eilers (three assists).

Splitting goalkeeping duties for Canton were Michael Renzi and Jaxon Taylor. **OTHER FINALS:** Novi blanked University of Detroit-Jesuit, 4-0; Livonia Stevenson dropped a tough 3-2 decision to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



Salem players celebrate one of three goals during the first period Saturday against Trenton. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

BOYS HOCKEY

CC blanks defending champ Brighton in Showcase

Montie scores twice in Shamrocks' 3-0 victory over Bulldogs

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

On paper, there hasn't been a consensus when choosing the top Division 1 boys hockey team in the state.

Detroit Catholic Central began the season ranked No. 1, only to be replaced by Brighton after losing its first two games.

With the clarity that comes from taking the match-up from paper to the ice, there is no doubt when assessing the perennial Division 1 powerhouses.

By beating top-ranked Brighton, 3-0, Saturday in the MIHL-KLAA Challenge Showcase at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena, second-ranked CC clearly established itself as the top team in Division 1.

At least for now. Since the Bulldogs and Shamrocks have met in four of the last five state championship games, there's a good possibility



Brighton's Adam Conquest (left) pushes the puck ahead, chased by Catholic Central's Jared Lee. TIMOTHY ARRICK | LIVINGSTON DAILY

that Brighton will get a shot at redemption the second weekend of March at USA Hockey Arena.

"Obviously, they're a really good team," Brighton coach Paul Moggach said. "They're probably the best team in the state; I don't think there's any denying that. We can play with them. We've just got to keep the game

simple and make good plays when we get chances in the offensive zone. You just can't give them easy ones off the rush. Then we made a couple bad plays. Mistakes happen at this age. Hopefully, we get another chance at them."

The loss snapped Brighton's 13-game unbeaten streak going back to last season. Brighton is

6-1-1 this season. Catholic Central improved to 8-2 with its eighth straight victory since opening the season with two losses at Culver (Ind.) Academy. The Shamrocks have five shutouts, including three in a row, during that winning streak.

"It's a good look for what's going to be coming in the playoffs," Brighton senior Adam

Conquest said. "It gives us motivation to be ready for the playoffs. At least it happened now instead of in the playoffs."

The teams were locked in a scoreless battle for more than half the game. Mitch Morris, one of only six Shamrocks who played in last year's state final loss to Brighton, broke the deadlock by scoring with 6:51 left in the second period. Carter Korpi and Dylan Bachalo assisted.

The crusher for Brighton came when Dylan Montie scored with one second left in the period on the power play, giving the Shamrocks a 2-0 cushion going into the third. Assists went to Joe Borthwick and Jared Lee.

CC sealed the victory when Montie scored into an empty net with 32.1 seconds left in the game from Brendan West and Ryan Hausman.

The Shamrocks got 17 saves from goalie Steven Sleva to post the shutout.

The Shamrocks have an 11-3 record in their rivalry with the Bulldogs, but Brighton won both meetings last season.

"Obviously, with the

recent history between the two teams playing in the final quite often, it certainly creates that rivalry feeling," CC coach Brandon Kale-niecki said. "That's great. It creates a great environment, as you saw today, like the state finals. It's always fun hockey."

"I thought we did a good job wearing them down, to be honest, toward the end of the game. They were gasping a little bit. Our depth proved to be the difference for us."

Conquest wouldn't dispute that assessment.

"We got over-ready and psyched up and burned ourselves out in the first five minutes," Conquest said. "That really affected us toward the third and we couldn't get anything on them. They're a really good team and they really played well."

CC victory in the final game of the showcase gave the Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League a 6-4 advantage over the Kensington Lakes Activities Association in the inaugural event.

BOYS SWIMMING

Northville upstages four-time D1 champion Rice

No. 5-ranked Mustangs make splash in season opening victory

Brad Emons

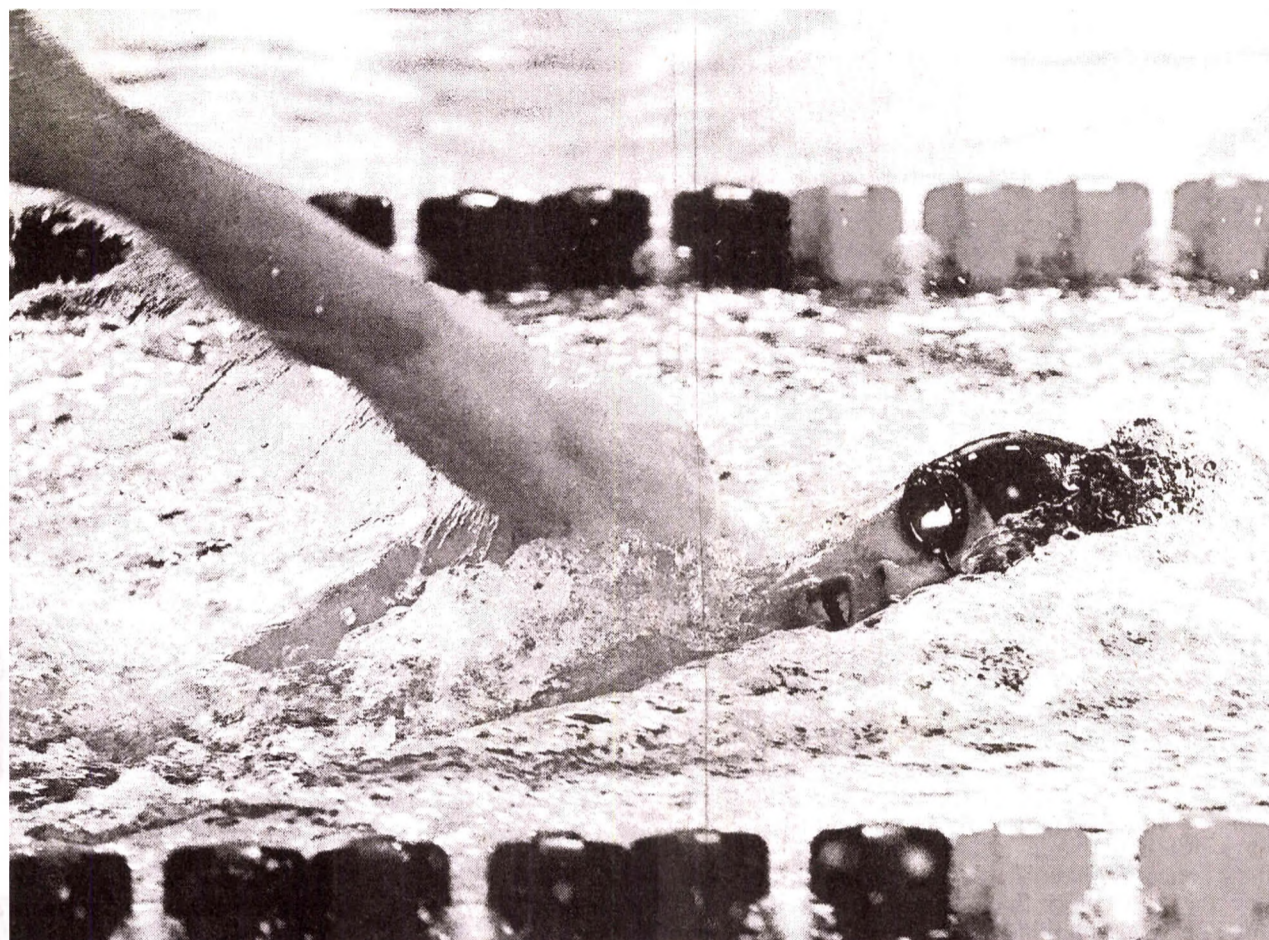
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USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Northville boys swimming and diving team proved it could take a punch and still be standing.

Trevor Degroot swept the 200- and 500-yard freestyles in 1:48.49 and 4:59.34, respectively, as the Mustangs (1-0), ranked No. 5 in Division 1, opened their season Dec. 12 at home with a dual meet victory over No. 3 and four-time defending state champion Birmingham Brother Rice.

"Just a classic heavy-weight fight tonight," Northville coach Rich Bennetts said. "Lots of areas to improve from both teams, but the fight that all of boys showed tonight on both teams shows what these team are all about."

Other first-place finishers for the Mustangs were Travis Nitkiewicz, 200 individual medley (1:57.56); Pranav Katari,



Northville's Trevor Degroot won the 200- and 500-yard freestyles during a 94-91 dual win over Brother Rice.

1-meter diving (184.25 points); Kirk Maibach, 100 freestyle (49.15); and Arthur Greenlee, 100 backstroke (55.82).

The Mustangs' 200 freestyle relay team of Travis Nitkiewicz, Cam-

eron Heaven, Jason Nitkiewicz and Kirk Maibach also claimed first (1:31.04).

"We just kept fighting," Bennetts said. "They are so good, so well-coached, it is just

really hard to beat them. They have been the best team in the entire state of Michigan for the last three to four years and, most of the time, it isn't even close."

Alex Margherio paced

Rice with wins in the 50 freestyle (22.19) and 100 butterfly (53.91). He also teamed with Timmy Page, Jonah Venos and Jake Farr for a victory in the 200 medley relay (1:37.90).

Venos also captured the 100 breaststroke (59.05) and teamed with Farr, Margherio and Page for first in the 400 freestyle relay (3:22.97).

The key moment of the night for Northville occurred during the final event, when Degroot, Jason Nitkiewicz, Jacob Grimmer and Greenlee took not only second in the 400 freestyle relay (3:23.47), but Northville also took the all-important third place as well, led by Nicholas Mouai-kel, Andrew Lane, Ali Pazooki and anchor Craig Maibach (3:36.18).

"I know both myself and coach (Mike) Venos will tell you that we both left some points out there that we feel we could have gotten," Bennetts said. "At the end of the night, we had one more swim than they did and that was Craig Maibach in the last leg of our 'B' relay. What a swim. Our divers helped out tonight and it was just a great night to be a Mustang."

"The only thing I told our boys was that this better not end up being the highlight of our season," Bennetts said. "It's a nice start, but it is just that, a start."

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

LADYWOOD

Continued from Page B1

every day ... we just left it all on the ice. And instead of retaliating, we got it on the scoreboard instead."

With the win, first-place Ladywood improved to 6-2 overall and 5-0 in the Michigan Metro.

"We just needed the win, I think, for the girls and the school to really come together," first-year Ladywood coach Maria Rotondo said. "So it was a big deal for our school to beat Mercy. It's already a rivalry, but with the week that everyone had, I think it lifted up their spirits even more."

The all-girls Catholic high school, founded in 1950, will be shut down at the end of the school year because of declining enrollment after a decision was made Dec. 11 by the Felician Sisters of North America.

The school has enjoyed immense success in athletics during its 67-year history, winning a total of five Michigan High School Athletic Association team state championships: two in basketball, two in volleyball and one in softball.



Ladywood had a loud and enthusiastic cheering section at the Plymouth Cultural Center. JUDY SPIEGEL

And although girls hockey is not an MHSAA sport, it remains one of the most popular at Ladywood.

"They have a very good squad again this year and a tremendous cheering section," second-year Mercy coach Dave Roegner said. "So some of our girls are going to make some announcements at school and say, 'Hey, we got out-cheered, we didn't get outplayed.' There's a lot of emotion there, but I thought it was a very physical game, but very clean. They have a very good squad, very good coaching staff."

Spiegel scored her first goal at 4:44 of the opening period from Maelyn Thayer, but Mercy's Makena Duval tied it at 5:27 off an assist from Grace Reeber.

In the second period, Ladywood went up 3-1 as Spiegel scored at 6:16 from Bridget Folk, followed by her third of the night at 12:32 from Sydney Pilut and Folk.

The Blazers increased their lead to 4-1 at 1:55 of the third on Spiegel's 17th of the year, from Victoria Pilut.

Mercy (3-3, 3-2) then got an unassisted short-handed goal from Libby Bartels at 9:10 to cut the

deficit to two, but Ladywood goalie Isabella Lorelli (15 saves) slammed the door the rest of the way.

"We've always had a really good bond, but with this the girls have come together tremendously," said Rotondo, a Ladywood grad herself. "I've never seen this before in all my years of coaching."

The Ladywood coach called her team's performance "amazing."

"We played as a team and everybody played their positionings, probably one of the best games we've played this year so far," Rotondo



Ladywood's Katie Christiansen (front) carries the puck during a 4-2 win over Mercy. JUDY SPIEGEL

said. The two teams will face off again at 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at Livonia's Edgar Arena, Mercy's home rink.

"That's the first time we've played them and now we see what they've got," Roegner said, "and we will do our best from a coaching standpoint and a playing standpoint to make the next game even closer and maybe come out on top. We'll see."

Two of Spiegel's four goals came on break-aways against Mercy goaltender Zabrina Le-Vasseur.

"I didn't think we did very well in the transition game at the offensive blue line," Roegner said. "When they blocked a shot and they had two girls going, our defense-

men were caught flat-footed and so we weren't really able to pursue ... those are some things we'll work on with our (defense) as well."

The Blazers won't return to action until Wednesday, Jan. 10, when they face host Ann Arbor Pioneer, currently in second place, at Veterans Arena.

"I think we can make it all the way to states and make it all the way to the end, without a doubt," Spiegel said. "That's our goal. We have one goal this year - support each other and leave it all out there."

And the Blazers did just that Saturday.

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

MSU

Continued from Page B1

less tie at 7:23 of the second period, when he banged in feed from Taro Hirose on the power play. DeRidder had no chance on the back-door tap-in.

U.S. head coach Seth Appert said his team played well, but could not cash in on some early chances. And then Minney and the MSU defense got stronger as the game progressed.

"Credit to State, they played hard," Appert said. "They played hard. It'd be easy for their players to be on Christmas break in their mind. It's an exhibition game for them and they won, they played their tails off."

"You can see why they're having success. You can see why they beat Michigan last week. Danton's a great coach and they played really hard tonight."

Here are several take-aways:

MATCH GAME

Two Spartans who formerly played for the U.S., Khodorenko and Minney, knew the U-18 team would come out all fired up - especially with a big crowd.

"We knew we had to come play our game," Khodorenko said. "They're going to be a fast, skilled team and we just got to play our game."

Minney said matching the intensity of the younger team was essential for the Spartans to nab the two points.

"It's kind of the same way every year," Minney said. "You have some young guys that are super-skilled and they get up to play these games. They love playing these games."

"I was there, so I know how it is. ... So the key was to come out and be just as desperate as they were to win this game."



Diving to make a stop Saturday is MSU senior goalie Ed Minney, who played for the U.S. National Team Development Program when it was based at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube. RENA LAVERTY | USA HOCKEY

GLAD TO SEE YOU, PART 1

During a timeout during the first period, Miller was given a warm ovation after it was announced to the crowd that he was a member of last year's U-18 gold medal winning team at the IIHF World Junior Championships.

GLAD TO SEE YOU, PART 2

Also back in Plymouth

were other Spartans with ties to the NTDP: Cole, associate coach Chris Luongo (Novi resident) and goaltender coach Joe Exter.

In addition to Miller, other Spartans players returning to face their former team were Khodorenko and goalie Minney (who played for the NTDP when it was based in Ann Arbor).

UNABLE TO CASH IN

Early in the second period with the game scoreless, the U.S. enjoyed a lengthy five-on-three power play. But the team could not beat Minney on several close-in scoring tries. Moments later, a penalty was called against the U.S. and Michigan State's Khodorenko one-timed a shot past DeRidder.

STARTING A TREND

Both Cole and Appert said it makes sense for USA Hockey Arena to regularly host college teams in coming seasons.

"I think we should collectively try and get five or six schools every year to come down here," Cole said. "This is a big market and there's a lot of kids here that have a lot of options. If they can see how good college hockey is and how much fun it is in a building like this then, hopefully, they'll stay and play college hockey."

Appert, in his first season with the NTDP,

said games such as those against MSU and Michigan (played Dec. 2) present a win-win situation. College teams augment relatively light schedules, while USA Hockey gets to build its brand.

"It's one thing for us to go in their buildings," Appert said. "But to build our brand and let the people in this area know what this is all about, it's really appreciated that Michigan, Michigan State came into our building this year."

Concurring was U.S. defenseman Bode Wilde of Birmingham.

"I hope they continue to play Michigan and Michigan State as the seasons go on," Wilde said. "They're the local schools, and they draw good crowds. It's good publicity for this program (NTDP) and it's always fun because there's always a couple guys committed there."

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

BOYS BASKETBALL

Lakeland turns in lunch pail effort to beat rival Milford, 59-42

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN



Lakeland's Patrick McDonald (left) drives against Milford's Kyle Soderberg. JERRY REA

It was reminiscent of the vintage "Going to Work" Pistons teams. The White Lake Lakeland boys basketball team proved to be scrappy — and then some — during Friday's convincing 59-42 triumph at home against rival Milford in the Lakes Valley Conference opener for both teams.

The Eagles, off to a 3-0 start under first-year coach Ron Thompson, were all over the court creating havoc on both ends.

"All season, coach Thompson has us going fast-paced, full-court defense and that was our plan from the get-go," said Lakeland junior forward Patrick McDonald, who led the Eagles with 15 points. "We executed very well, obviously, and it went good for us."

Lakeland spread the wealth against the Mavericks (1-1, 0-1), who just couldn't get out of their

own way, especially in the third quarter when they made only 1-of-14 shots from field as the Eagles increased a 30-25 halftime advantage to 46-28 after three quarters.

"They can go nine, 10 deep," Milford coach David Gilbert said. "They can play a lot of guys and they can play a faster pace. We have a few guys that can do that, but when you're talking about foul trouble and just the pressure that they can give 94 feet ... it's tough for a great

player like Aiden (Warzecha). He showed those flashes first half, but he got a little tired in the second half, as well as our whole entire team."

Milford got as close as 48-39 on Nolan Rand's third 3-pointer of the fourth quarter with 4:21 left, but Lakeland was able to close it out.

"I thought the shot at the end of the half was pretty telling, it was in and out," Gilbert said. "But it was a tough game. I give a lot of credit to Lakeland. They're a class program and they have a

lot of tough, hard-nosed kids. And I thought they kind of dictated the tempo and everything to-night. It was a rough one for us."

Milford's 6-foot-8 senior center Cass Phillips, who sat out the entire second quarter after picking up his second foul, added 12 points. Senior guard Sean Cullen contributed 10, while junior guard Trent Farquhar came off the bench to nail three triples en route to nine points.

"One through 14 — I'm confident in my teammates," McDonald said. "They can all come in and really make an impact on the game. My teammates got me some good passes. (Joe) Rzepa hit me on the fly. I was feeling good tonight."

Here are four other takeaways:
BLUE COLLAR
The Eagles held Milford to 30.6-percent shooting from the field (15-of-49, while hitting 45.6 percent themselves (21-of-46).
"I don't know how the stat sheet looked tonight,

but so far this year we've had five guys between eight and 12 points consistently," Thompson said. "And it was about the same tonight. These kids like playing with each other and that's what it's all about. There's a lot of chemistry. When I show up and don't have to coach effort, that's a good thing. All I'm coaching is X's and O's and they're bringing the effort. I'm just real proud of this team right now."

MURPHY'S LAW
The Mavericks seemed to encounter a lid on the basket, while making 15 costly turnovers.

"Wasn't a good night for us. Didn't move the ball extremely well and our defense and rebounding has to improve," Gilbert said. "We couldn't even get the ball inside when Cass (Phillips) was out. I thought he played very well the second half. I thought they played great game. Give all the credit to Lakeland."

MORE MILFORD
Rand, a 6-0 junior guard, came off the

bench to score 12 points (all on triples), while 6-7 junior Gunnar Gustafson and Warzecha, the team's top returning scorer from a year ago, added 11 and 10, respectively.

Lakeland transfer Kyle Soderberg, a 6-5 senior forward, struggled offensively, going 1-of-11 from floor against his former teammates. "We did a real nice job on Warzecha, he's a heck of a player," Thompson said. "And the guys that were rotating in on him did a nice job of containing him and controlling him."

BRAGGING RIGHTS
The two teams will meet again Friday, Feb. 9, at Milford in the rematch, but for now the Eagles have temporary bragging rights.

"Very pumped," McDonald said. "They've got a lot of good players. My buddy Aiden (Warzecha) is a heck of a player. But this is a good win and a big win for us, so I'm excited."

bemons@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @BradEmons1

Westland John Glenn first, Salem fifth at county wrestling tournament

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Everyone in the high school wrestling world knows Westland John Glenn is a definite top contender for a Division 1 state championship. The Rockets again showed their skills by finishing first Saturday at the highly competitive Wayne County Tourna-

ment at Wyandotte Roosevelt.

John Glenn tallied 256 points to edge the host Warriors (231.5) for the championship. Spearheading the Rockets were five individual champions: Mikey Mars (7-0 at 130), Caleb Meekins (6-1 at 119), Kyle Borthwell (6-1 at 125), Isaac Lefler (6-1 at 135) and Anthony Gibson (6-1 at 145). Also 6-1 but finishing second was Brent



Henderson

Polk (152). But Salem could be an upstart team with eyes on the podium

come state tournament time. The Rocks finished fifth out of 22 teams with 129 points. In sixth with 125.5 points was Livonia Franklin.

"I thought we could of took third, we were that

close and there were definitely some matches that did not go our way," Henderson said. "And lost a tough match in the finals. He really is becoming a good wrestler and is getting better every week."

Salem's Max Hirvela (130), Ali Kobeissi (135) and JaQuan Baker (171) each went 4-1 to finish in fifth place in their weight classes. Chipping in a 3-2 mark at 125 was DaQuan Baker (sixth place).

"(Giorgi) had to beat a

kid that is ranked ninth in the state to get there," Henderson said. "And lost a tough match in the finals. He really is becoming a good wrestler and is getting better every week."

Salem's Max Hirvela (130), Ali Kobeissi (135) and JaQuan Baker (171) each went 4-1 to finish in fifth place in their weight classes. Chipping in a 3-2 mark at 125 was DaQuan Baker (sixth place).

Livonia Franklin's Russell Rusnell was individual champion at 112, posting a 6-1 record. Also going 6-1 for the Patriots were Johnny DiPonio (second at 140) and Jacob Johnson at 145.

Plymouth's Andrew Atallah enjoyed a 5-1 showing at 189.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
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PREP ROUNDUP

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Girls basketball

CANTON 49, JOHN GLENN 25: A 15-2 first quarter propelled Canton to this Dec. 15 victory.

Carli Vaughan (14 points), Alaina Heitmeyer (10 points), Ashley Criscenti (seven points) and Lauren Grendysa (six points, five rebounds) sparked the Chiefs.

Scoring 11 points for Westland John Glenn was Sharon Woodard.

BRIGHTON 38, PLYMOUTH 24: The host Wildcats led their first game of the season on Dec. 15.

Chantal LeDoux and Kyra Brandon each scored six points for Plymouth (3-1).

HOWELL 69, NOVI 41: Alexis Miller scored 25 points to go along with five rebounds and five assists leading the state-ranked Highlanders (5-0, 1-0) to a KLA Gold Division win Dec. 15 over the visiting Wildcats (3-2, 0-1).

Leah Weslock added 20 points and seven boards as Howell led 27-10 after one quarter.

Senior guard Ellie Mackay led Novi with 16 points, four rebounds and two assists. Jenna Daschke and Anna Biberstein each added seven points.

NORTHVILLE 57, STEVENSON 28: In the KLA Gold Division opener Dec. 15, sophomore Tara Beason led the way with 16 points as the host Mustangs (4-0, 1-0) rolled to a victory over Livonia Stevenson (2-2, 0-1).

Seniors Kendall Dillon and Roan Haines each added nine points, while senior Jasmin Prince contributed seven. The Mustangs were 7-of-16 from the foul line.

Elisa LeBron scored eight for the Spartans, who trailed 27-9 at halftime. Stevenson was 6-of-10 from the foul line.

CANTON 61, NOVI 57: Senior guard Ellie Mackay poured in a game-high 37 points to go along on Dec. 11, but the host Chiefs (1-2, 1-0 KLA Gold) led from start-to-finish to beat the Wildcats (3-1, 0-1 KLA Gold) in a crossover matchup.

Carli Vaughan led Canton with 21 points, while Ashley Criscenti added 20 points and seven rebounds as the Chiefs led 18-6 after one quarter, 28-15 at halftime and 45-41 after three quarters.

Mackay, bound for Michigan Tech, also added four boards and four rebounds. She had 40 points last season in a KLA playoff win over Canton.

NORTHVILLE 33, DEARBORN 20: On Dec. 12, senior guard Kendall Dillon scored 12 points and junior Nicole Martin added six as the host Mustangs (3-0) defeated the Patriots (2-1) in a non-conference game.

Northville led 18-12 at halftime and 24-17 after three quarters before outscoring Dearborn 9-3 in the fourth. The Mustangs made 6-of-10 free throws.

Mya Makled, Sarah Campbell, Mahajer Beydoun each scored five points for Dearborn.

STEVENSON 47, FRANKLIN 36: On Dec. 12 at Livonia Franklin, the Spartans parlayed strong defense and rebounding into a KLA Gold victory.

"Good defense and solid passing got us the win," said Livonia Stevenson head coach Karen Anger, whose team tallied 30 rebounds and 14 steals.

Sophomore Meredith Hage (12 points), senior Sarah Tanderys (11 points, seven rebounds) and freshman Adriana Mroz (10 points) led the Spartans, now 2-1 overall.

For the Patriots (3-1), freshman Hunter Conway scored 17 points.

"We ran into a very athletic and aggressive team tonight," Churchill head coach James McCulloh said. "They jumped on us early and we just weren't able to recover."

PLYMOUTH 59, PCA 57: On Dec. 15 at Plymouth, the Class A Wildcats held off a spirited effort by Class D Plymouth Christian Academy.

Plymouth broke out to a 43-26 halftime lead, but coach Mike Soukup said his squad "struggled in both ends of the floor" after intermission, yet managed to prevail.

The Eagles had a last-second chance to win the game when Matt Malcolm launched a bid for a trey. But the shot rimmed out.

Plymouth's Justin Reynolds led all scorers with 21 points with A.J. Neal (14 points) and Anthony Crump (13 points) helping the cause.

For PCA, Malcolm and Max Okolo scored 16 and 13 points, respectively. Okolo also had 15 rebounds and six blocks while shutting down Division I recruit Crump in the second half (four points).

"Overall, proud of the guys efforts in the

second half," PCA head coach Matt Windle said. "That's the type of basketball we are capable of playing. Playing this tough schedule early on is preparing us for the goals we have set out as a team."

CANTON 61, JOHN GLENN 51: The visiting Chiefs improved to 3-0 with this Dec. 15 win at Westland John Glenn.

Canton was led by 8. Artis White, who tallied 21 points. He was 9-of-10 from the free-throw line. Other Canton contributors included Eian Barker and Vinson Sigmon, with 14 and 10 points, respectively.

For the Rockets, scoring in double digits were Joe Moon (15 points), Franklin Braxton (11 points) and Donovan Long-Johnson (10 points).

WAYNE 63, CHURCHILL 59: Wayne Memorial's fast start Dec. 15 (21-12 lead after one quarter; 36-20 at halftime) helped the Zebras edge Livonia Churchill.

Leading both teams with 19 points was Wayne's Isiah Lewis, with Terrance Williams (18 points) and Va'Shawn Ward (14 points) helping the Zebras (1-1).

For the Chargers (2-2), a balanced attack featured 16 points from Taj Hall and Joel Forgacs with Martel Dooley adding 15. Contributing 10 points and seven rebounds was Luke Jaroszewicz.

"We ran into a very athletic and aggressive team tonight," Churchill head coach James McCulloh said. "They jumped on us early and we just weren't able to recover."

STEVENSON 60, NORTHVILLE 42: Parker Graham (20 points, five rebounds), George Ferguson (14 points, five rebounds) and Chris Fazica (13 points) spearheaded Livonia Stevenson's victory on Dec. 15.

For the Mustangs (0-2), top performers were Mark Grimes and Steven Morrissey, with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

"Tonight's game was much slower paced than our opener against Franklin," said Stevenson assistant coach Chris Haldane, whose team improved to 2-0. "Northville played really good team defense against us in the first half and stayed in the game by slowing down our fast break."

Northville made just six of 15 free-throw attempts, while the Spartans were 10-of-15 from the charity stripe.

FRANKLIN 63, SALEM 54: On Dec. 15 at Livonia Franklin, the Patriots (2-1) got out to a 34-23 halftime lead and defeated the Rocks.

Franklin was paced by Mark Mettie, who registered 34 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks. Dalton Gaiser helped the cause with seven points, six assists and five rebounds.

Salem senior guard Shawn Srivastava led

the Rocks (1-2) with 13 points, while senior guard Jordan Ingram tallied seven points and six assists for Salem.

The Patriots enjoyed a 35-25 edge in rebounding.

NORTHVILLE 68, DEARBORN 53: Paul Kears went 6-of-8 from the foul line on his way to a team-high 13 points as the Mustangs (2-1) won their second straight Dec. 12 against the host Patriots (2-1).

Steven Morrissey added 11 points for Northville, which led 36-21 at the half and by as many as 22. The Mustangs made 15-of-23 free throws.

Ben Clark scored 16 for the Patriots. "I thought we took another step forward tonight," Northville coach Todd Sander said. "We had tremendous energy from the start and really set the tone in the first quarter. This was really a team victory and it was great to see everyone get in on the action."

TROY 81, NOVI 74: Jason Dietz tallied a game-high 32 points, including six 3-pointers, to power the Colts (2-0) to the non-conference win Dec. 12 over the host Wildcats (0-2).

Clay Sebastian added 15 points for Troy, which had five players score in double figures. The Colts went 17-of-24 from the foul line.

Junior guard Giovanni Miles led Novi with 25 points, while Traevon Maddox, Jr. and Nik Williams added 19 and 14, respectively. The Wildcats went 11-of-19 from the free-throw stripe.

CHURCHILL 62, EDSSEL FORD 50: Livonia Churchill's 1-2 punch of Luke Jaroszewicz and Martel Dooley (20 points each) sparked the Chargers (2-1) to this win Dec. 12 over Dearborn Edsel Ford (1-2).

Jaroszewicz (seven rebounds) and Dooley (five steals, six boards) helped the Churchill cause beyond scoring. Chipping in with nine points, seven steals and six rebounds was Taj Hall while Joel Forgacs helped the cause with nine points, eight boards and four steals.

Jalal Baydoun scored 17 for the Thunderbirds.

while Joe Casselton and Michael Smalls also tallied goals for Novi, which outscored the Cubs 3-0 in the final period.

DeLaSALLE 4, NORTHVILLE 2: Jordan Kovacs had a goal and two assists to lead Warren DeLaSalle (4-5) to the KLA-MIHL Showcase victory Dec. 16 over the Mustangs (5-3) at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Vince Torres chipped in with a goal and assist, while Jeremy Coppola and Josh Glimski also tallied goals for the victorious Pilots.

Jimmy Dales and Jack Sargent scored goals for Northville, while Owen Finkbeiner and Nick Williams drew assists. Northville goalie Owen Moruzi made 12 saves.

GRANDVILLE 4, NORTHVILLE 1: Shane Haggerty and Cooper Pratt each tallied a goal and assists to propel the Bulldogs (6-0) past the Mustangs (5-2) in a battle of Division 1 state-ranked teams Dec. 15 at Novi Ice Arena.

Erik Sitar and Patrick Underwood also tallied goals for Grandville, which scored three unanswered goals after being tied 1-1 after the first period.

Noah Eckerle scored Northville's lone goal from Jimmy Dales and Joe Tobon.

Northville goalie Nate Williams made 20 saves.

CHURCHILL 5, NOVI 4: Jordan Venegoni had two goals and one assist as Livonia Churchill (4-3, 2-2 KLA Black) scored three unanswered goals in the second period to beat the host Wildcats (3-6, 1-5) in a crossover Dec. 12 at Novi Ice Arena.

Carter Swider had a goal and assist, while Connor Burnette added two assists for the victorious Chargers, who also got goals from Josh Friend and Zach Flynn. Other assists went to Donovan Young, Matt Gibboney and Keith Peterson.

Nathan Graff and Alec Giragosian each scored power play goals for Novi. Evan Chippa added an empty-netter and assist, while Maanas Sharma had the other goal. Other assists went to Alex Scarozza (two), Chris Martin, Jon Chang and Logan Londo.

Among those sporting 5-0 records on the day for the Mustangs included sophomore Brandon Liu (103 pounds), sophomore Grant Gattoni (103), senior Adam Lewis (119), sophomore Nick Gattoni (140) and sophomore Demir Tagani (285), the latter whom sealed the championship with a win against RU.

Meanwhile, senior Joey Nagy (140) added a 4-1 record as he stepped up in a higher weight class along with teammates Parker Dietrich, Michael Merritt, Adam Zakaria and Frank Cozza.

Boys swimming

NOVI 105, CRANBROOK 80: Max Robbins figured in three first-place finishes leading the Wildcats (3-0) to a dual meet triumph Dec. 12 over defending Division 3 state champion Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook.

Robbins swept the 200- and 500-yard freestyles in 1:50.63 and 5:02.88, respectively. Other Novi firsts came from Jack McClure in 1-meter diving (1:51.50 points) and Maxwell Williams in the 100 backstroke (57.80). Novi's 200 freestyle relay team of Adam Carozza, Williams, Minjae Kim and Alexander Yuan also placed first (1:33.62).

Lucas Misra and Kevin Hao each figured in four firsts for the Cranes.

Misra captured the 50- and 100 freestyles in 22.39 and 49.04, respectively, while Hao took the 200 individual medley (1:57.30) and 100 breaststroke (58.73).

Misra, Hao, Josh Zexter and Nicholas Ludwig won the 200 medley relay (1:41.08), while the foursome of Misra, Zexter, Hao and Gabe Cohen captured the 400 freestyle relay (3:20.53).

Gymnastics

CANTON 136.525, LIVONIA RED 129.525: On Dec. 12, the Chiefs prevailed in a KLA meet at Livonia Churchill.

Canton (1-1) was led by Zoe Graves, who took firsts on uneven parallel bars (9.275) and floor exercise (8.725). Other wins were tallied by Katherine Najduk (vault, 8.8) and Rachel Socha (balance beam, 9.0).

Chiefs head coach John Cunningham said Socha had the strongest all-around performance, adding scores of 8.525 on vault (third), 8.55 on bars (second) and 8.425 on floor (fourth).

Also solid for Canton were Becca Byers, Nehal Harish and Bree Kalinski.

Wrestling

REDFORD UNION DUALS: Northville improved to 9-3 overall after sweeping the field on Dec. 16 with a 5-0 record to win the title including wins over Garden City (66-15), Livonia Clarencville (63-18), Lutheran High Westland (57-15), Southgate Anderson (52-24) and the host Panthers (42-32).

Boys hockey

NOVI 4, U-D JESUIT 0: Alex Scarozza scored a power play and short-handed goal as the Wildcats (4-6) got the shutout from goalie Ethan Hunsinger in a KLA-MIHL Showcase win over University of Detroit Jesuit (5-3) on Dec. 16 at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Alec Giragosian assisted on three goals,

METTIE

Continued from Page B1

knowing who they are and feeling comfortable around them."

Other ex-KLAA players with the Crusaders this season are Canton (and Schoolcraft College) alum Davon Taylor and Salem alums Chris Dierker and Jon Swift.

Mettie also has a connection with Madonna's coaching staff, led by Noel Emehiser, and is geared up for the chance to play a similar style of basketball now in vogue at Franklin (with new coach T.J. Hurley).

"I've been building a relationship with Madonna since my sophomore year of high school," Mettie said. "So these last couple years have been building a strong relationship and I feel like that was probably the main deciding factor. They wanted me to several years."

Getting the opportunity to run the floor and make decisions on the fly also appealed to Mettie. He is now playing a think-on-your-feet style of game with the Patriots and Madonna employs the same type of scheme.

"I think it's great," Mettie said, discussing the new system at Franklin. "It gives everyone

kind of a freedom to what they can do, it's a lot better than just being robots going to the same place every time.

"We can move without the ball and it gives us a lot more spacing on the floor as well."

Student of the game

According to Hurley, the new system he is bringing to the Patriots is something players like Mettie gravitate toward.

"It's more of a read and react offense, allowing players to have more freedom of movement based on the way they can read the defensive player," Hurley said. "Mark does it pretty well right now; after a year moving forward, he'll be tough to guard."

"We are trying to get our players to learn how to read the game and think (the) game, versus just telling them what to do. Because when a game is on the line, the players who can think the best are going to be the players that do the best."

According to Mettie, he likes that style of basketball and has played it on Amateur Athletic Union teams. Over the summer, he played 30-40 games (mostly in tournaments) with the Detroit Spartans.

"Yeah, they explained to me everything before

I committed," Mettie said. "This year is really their (Crusaders') first year of getting to a five-out type of offense. I've done that in the past with AAU teams."

Mettie said another reason he opted to sign with Madonna (instead of waiting for a Division I or Division II opportunity to emerge) was the immediate chance to see playing time and not be red-shirted as a freshman.

But Mettie understands he'll have to work to get minutes his first season with the Crusaders, a team in the National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics conference.

The skills are there, too. Mettie routinely hit double digits in points and rebounds last year, and already has some 30-point games under his belt this season. On Dec. 5, he slammed home a basket in the closing seconds to give the Patriots a victory against Dearborn Heights Robichaud. He tallied 34 points and 12 boards in a Dec. 15 win against Salem.

"It's a great opportunity for him and something that's well-deserved," Hurley said. "Mark puts in a lot of work in the off-season. He's always working on his skills."

"He spent just about

all of July gone with his AAU team, the second he gets back he's willing to get in the gym either with me ... or Reggie Butler, who is a great 'big's' coach for inside moves.

"And it shows. His offensive game is well-rounded at every point. He's getting something that he worked for and it's really well-deserved. More importantly, Madonna's getting a steal."

tsmith@hometownlife
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

THE METTIE FILE

Who: Mark Mettie, 6-10 senior forward at Livonia Franklin.

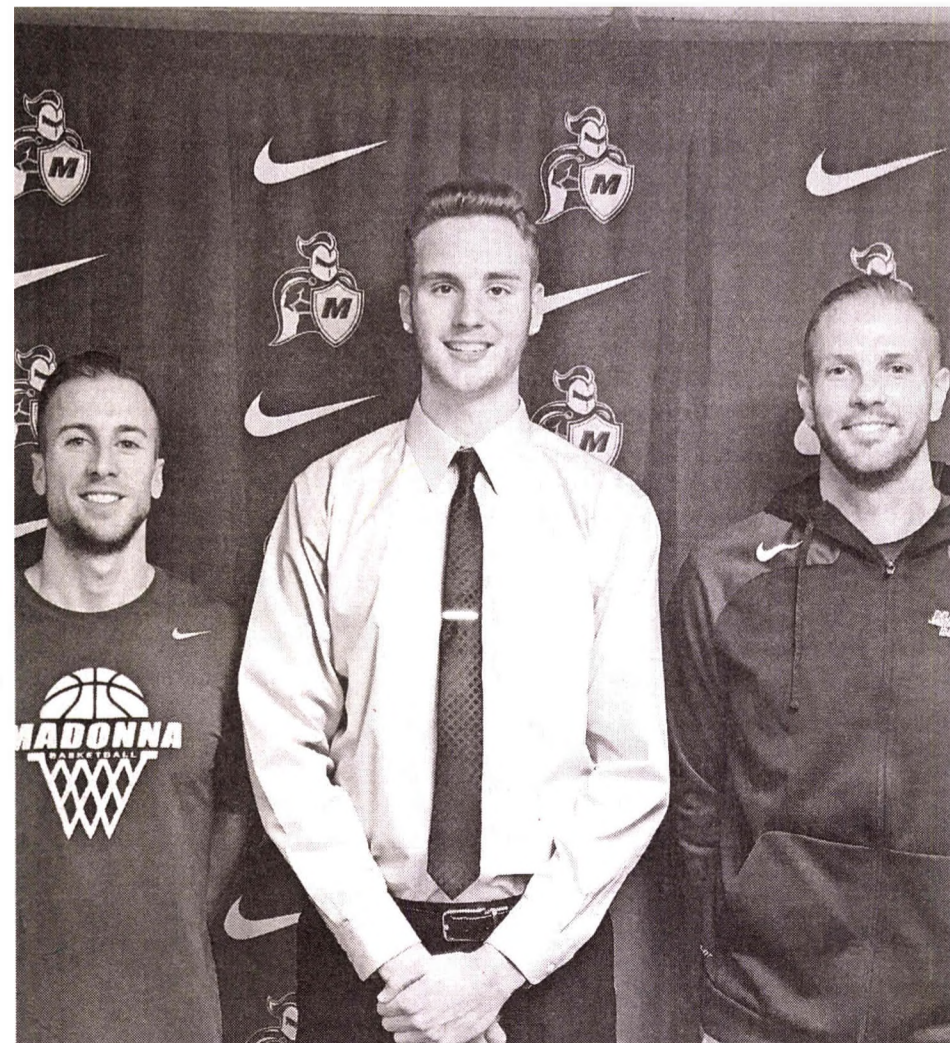
What: He recently signed to play college basketball for Madonna University, an NAIA team in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Bonus points: Mettie, 17, said he'll live on Madonna's Livonia campus, but he will only be a five-minute drive from home. His parents are Julie and Troy Mettie of Livonia.

Stats: Mettie was an all-KLAA team member in 2016-17 after averaging 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Patriots.

Growth spurt: Now in his fourth varsity season, Mettie has grown from 6-4 as a ninth-grader to 6-10 this year. "I guess it's just genetics."

Miscellaneous: Owner of a 3.4 grade-point average, Mettie plans to study sports management at Madonna.



Mark Mettie (center), recently signed to play college basketball at Madonna University. Flanking him on signing day are Crusaders associate coach Adam Kerfoot (left) and head coach Noel Emehiser. FRANKLIN ATHLETICS

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Canton's Village Theater to host circus New Year's Eve

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will welcome The Detroit Circus for a special New Year's Eve performance at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 31.

Spectators will be amazed by this locally-based, animal-free cir-

cus that features performers who specialize in high-flying aerial antics on fabric, trapeze and lyra. Additional acts will include contortion, juggling, feats of mind-bending strength and acrobatics. Past New Year's Eve perfor-

mances of The Detroit Circus have sold out at The Village Theater each year since 2015.

The Detroit Circus is entirely composed of Detroit-area performers who were discovered by founder Micah Adams. During their perfor-

mance, skilled aerialists will dance, weave and flow through the air, while aerial hoop performers display flexibility as they contort and spin with grace, poise and astonishing strength. The Detroit Circus is suitable for all

ages.

Tickets are \$22 and can be purchased at www.cantonvillage.com, in person at the box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday by phone at 734-394-5300. Tickets can be printed at home

or held in will call at no extra charge. If available, they can also be purchased one hour prior to program time.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road, in Canton.

AREA EVENTS

Send calendar items to LIV-OENews@hometownlife.com. Items must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

'Sleeping Beauty' at Marquis Theatre

The Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main St., in Northville, will stage a production of "Sleeping Beauty" during the months of December and January. Performances are scheduled for 2:30 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday, through Jan. 28 (except Dec. 23-24 and 30-31), as well as Tuesday through Friday, Dec. 26-29.

Tickets for all performances are \$9. No children under age 3. Group rates and reserved seating for groups of 20 or more are available, as well as birthday parties and Scout days.

For more information, call the Marquis Theatre at 248-349-8110, email marquistheatre@sbcglobal.net, go to www.northvillemarquistheatre.com or view on Facebook at [Facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI](https://www.facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI).

Garden Club of Northville

The Country Garden Club of Northville will hold its next meeting at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road. The speaker will be Juliana Cerra. Her topic is carpe diem and how this concept can be applied to gardens in ways

that increase enjoyment and reduce labor.

Guests are welcome. Call Teri Plaunt at 734-751-8619 for more information.

Marquis Theatre auditions

Northville's Marquis Theatre will be holding auditions for its next show, "Velveteen Rabbit," at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 7, at the theater, 135 E. Main St., for children ages 8-16.

Those auditioning will be asked to sing "Do-Re-Mi" from the "Sound of Music" (accompanist will be provided) and read a poem or a monologue, no longer than 90 seconds (does not have to be memorized).

For more information, call the Marquis Theatre at 248-349-8110, email marquistheatre@sbcglobal.net, go to www.northvillemarquistheatre.com or view on Facebook at [Facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI](https://www.facebook.com/MarquisTheatreNorthvilleMI).

Salem Historical Society potluck

The Salem Area Historical Society will host a potluck dinner and business meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, at the Salem Township Hall, 9600 Six Mile Road. Bring a dish to share with others, along with your plate, silverware and something to drink.

After the mss Meeting, SAHS will show the 10 episodes of the PBS

documentary "An Uncommon Education - Celebrating 200 Years of the University of Michigan." Each episode will track the evolution of how the institution ignited the sparks necessary for world-changing minds, attitudes and accomplishments from the 19th century through the new millennium.

Human Trafficking 101

A new South Lyon group calling itself Sparrow Freedom Project will host a class concerning human trafficking 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 28, at First United Methodist Church, 640 S. Lafayette, in South Lyon. Guest speaker will be professor David L. Manville of Eastern Michigan University, an expert on human trafficking.

This free community awareness event is open to the public. Monetary and toiletry donations will be collected to assist survivors affected by human trafficking.

Register by Jan. 21 at www.sparrowfreedomproject.org. For more information, email anita@sparrowfreedomproject.org.

Salem Historical Society meeting

The Salem Area Historical Society will be holding its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at the Salem Township Hall, 9600 Six Mile Road. After the

business portion, there will be a presentation by Doug Koop on The Legacy Land Conservancy's Creekshead Preserve.

The Creekshead Preserve is a 27-acre preserve bordering Curtis Road in Salem that Michael H. and Meroe Allen Kaericher donated to the Legacy in 1995. It holds a mature beech-maple-basswood forest and is invasive-free.

Suggested donation is \$2 for non-SAHS members.

Salem Historical Society dinner

The Salem Area Historical Society will host its annual dinner and auction at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at the Fox Hills Golf Course clubhouse, 8768 N. Territorial Road. Tickets are \$40 or \$35 for SASH members if purchased prior to March 1 or \$42 and \$37 after.

Auction items will include tickets to area attractions, sports memorabilia, historical items and restaurant gift certificates. Contact Terry at 248-486-0669 to donate items for auction. All proceeds go to support SAHS.

Reservations can be made at www.sahs.org, via PayPal at www.sahshistory.org or by email at Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com.

Friday and Saturday Night Hangouts

The Living and Learning Center in downtown Northville is a center that specializes in helping teens and adults that are on the autism spectrum learn job and social skills. This center provides a program 6-9 p.m. each Friday and Saturday night that allows their clients to partake in games, art, and creating friendships with their fellow peers and mentors.

Each week, teens and adults learn essential social skills (introducing themselves, carrying a conversation, etc.) while also having a fun night out of the house.

To learn more about this program or to reserve your spot in the program, call 248-308-3592 or go to www.livingandlearningllc@gmail.com.

Adopt-A-Reader

Adopt-A-Reader links volunteers like you with children in kindergarten through second grade in the South Lyon Community Schools district who need extra support with reading and/or writing. This is an opportunity to create a learning bond by working individually with two children. You could make a real difference in their lives. All it takes is a commitment of about an hour a week.

You decide the school you would like to volun-

teer at, the day and time slot during school hours that's convenient for your schedule; we provide the training and materials. Contact Lindsey Jackson at 248-941-1701 or jacksonl@slcs.us for more information.

Indivisible Huron Valley

Indivisible Huron Valley is a local non-partisan group committed to social and economic justice and the protection of our environment. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at 125 S. Main in downtown Milford. Public welcome.

Youth Alpha film series

All teens are invited to the Youth Alpha film series at the Java House Cafe, 25840 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon. A free Java House drink and snack will be provided. Come at 6 p.m. each Thursday. Email any questions to YouthAlpha789@gmail.com or register at wp.holyspiritrcs.org/alpha/.

SL Rec Authority

South Lyon Area Recreation Authority board meetings are held at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month. Call the South Lyon Area Recreation office at 248-437-8105 for directions and confirmation of meeting location. To register for upcoming classes, call or go to www.slrec.net.

Obituaries

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

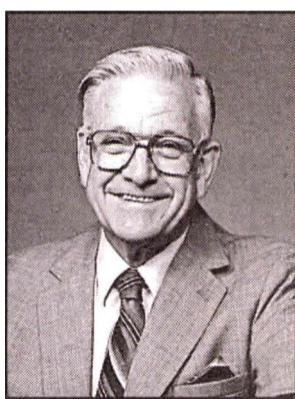
Gerald Duane Leet

HARTLAND - 98, went to bed with his Lord on December 11, 2017 while residing at Village Manor Retirement in Hartland, MI. Gerry was born on September 28, 1919 near Middleton in Gratiot County, MI to James and Ruby (Wood) Leet.

Gerry graduated from Lansing Eastern High School and later graduated from MSU in 1941 with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. His career in the Army included service in WWII until 1946 and active Reserve until he retired as a Lt. Colonel in 1979. In 1946 he started a more than 30-year career as an executive in the oil industry.

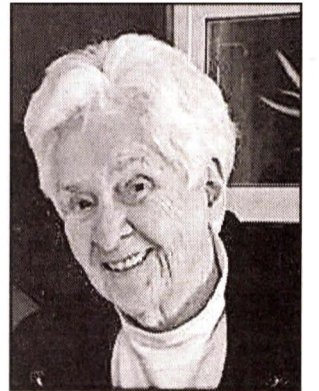
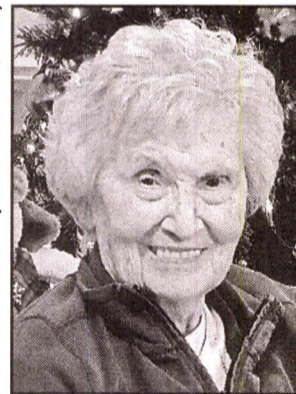
He is survived by two of his children, Dr. Duane (Christine) Leet of Landrum, South Carolina and Linda (David) Luoma of Highland, MI; two stepchildren, Robert (Sue) Foster of Cadillac, MI and JoEllen (Wayne) Foster of Walled Lake, MI; 7 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two of his children, Dr. Douglas (Barbara) Leet and Lawrence Leet; step-daughter, Carol Foster; his wife, Dorothy (1961), Jeanne (2000), Louise (2009) and his two siblings, J. Lynn Leet and Wilma Durkee.

A Memorial Service will be held at Milford Presbyterian Church, 238 N Main St, Milford on December 29, 2017 at 11 AM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Scleroderma Foundation, 300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105, Danvers, MA 01923. For further information visit www.LynchandSonsMilford.com.



Christine E. Neumeyer

NORTHVILLE - Christine E. Neumeyer, 94, of Northville MI, longtime resident of Huntington, NY, passed away peacefully on December 13, 2017. Beloved wife of 60 years to Charles L. Neumeyer until his death in 2004. Loving mother of Charles L. Neumeyer, Jr., the late Kenneth C. Neumeyer, and Joanne N. DeSilva. Dearest mother-in-law of Leslie B. Neumeyer and Peter A. DeSilva. Proud grandmother of Melissa L. Neumeyer, Charles L. Neumeyer III, Eric R. Neumeyer and John C. DeSilva. Christine was born in Brooklyn, NY on September 9, 1923 to recent German immigrants Clara and Conrad Hockman. She was the eldest sibling with sisters Claire and Lillian and brother Henry. She attended St. Monica's Elementary School and Jamaica High School in Queens, NY. She married Charles on January 24, 1944 in Chicago where they arranged a rendezvous while he was off-duty during WWII. She was employed for two years as a secretary at the Bank of Manhattan and for ten years at the NY Telephone Company where she rose to the position of Supervisor in the Business office until leaving to start a family. Charles and Chris' first home was in Hempstead, NY. They moved to Huntington in 1957 where they raised their family. In retirement they enjoyed life in Palm City, Florida, living in a house on a golf course with a pool that the grandchildren loved to visit. She relocated to Northville, MI, near her daughter Joanne, and has been a resident at the Brighton Garden's assisted living facility since 2006. She will be remembered as a person of dignity, kindness, and unwavering commitment to family. As a youngster she was largely responsible for her siblings. While seeing her husband off on his daily commute to NYC and tending to the needs of her children, she also saw to the needs of her aging mother. Family was always her first priority. Burial will take place at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Huntington, NY. Donations in her name may be made to Brighton Gardens of Northville, 15870 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth MI 48170. Please share condolences at www.casterlinefuneralhome.com



Catherine "Elaine" Winterhalter

MILFORD - Died on December 14, 2017 at the age of 90. Elaine is survived by her husband, Norman Winterhalter; her two daughters, Kaye Chartier and Gail Crocker; as well as her sister, Constance Heger. Norman and Elaine raised their family while living in the Village of Milford for 38 years and enjoyed their retirement years in their home on Torch Lake. For the past 3 years, Elaine and Norm were residents of Independence Village in Union Lake. Elaine's life was rich with the love of family and friends. No funeral arrangements will be made at the time, but rather a memorial will be held in the summer of 2018. For further information visit LynchandSonsMilford.com or call 248-684-6645.



BOYS BASKETBALL

Howell takes down Novi in KLAA Gold game

Wildcats fall to 0-3 in loss to Highlanders

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK —
MICHIGAN

Some people might need a little more convincing before becoming true believers in Howell's boys basketball team.

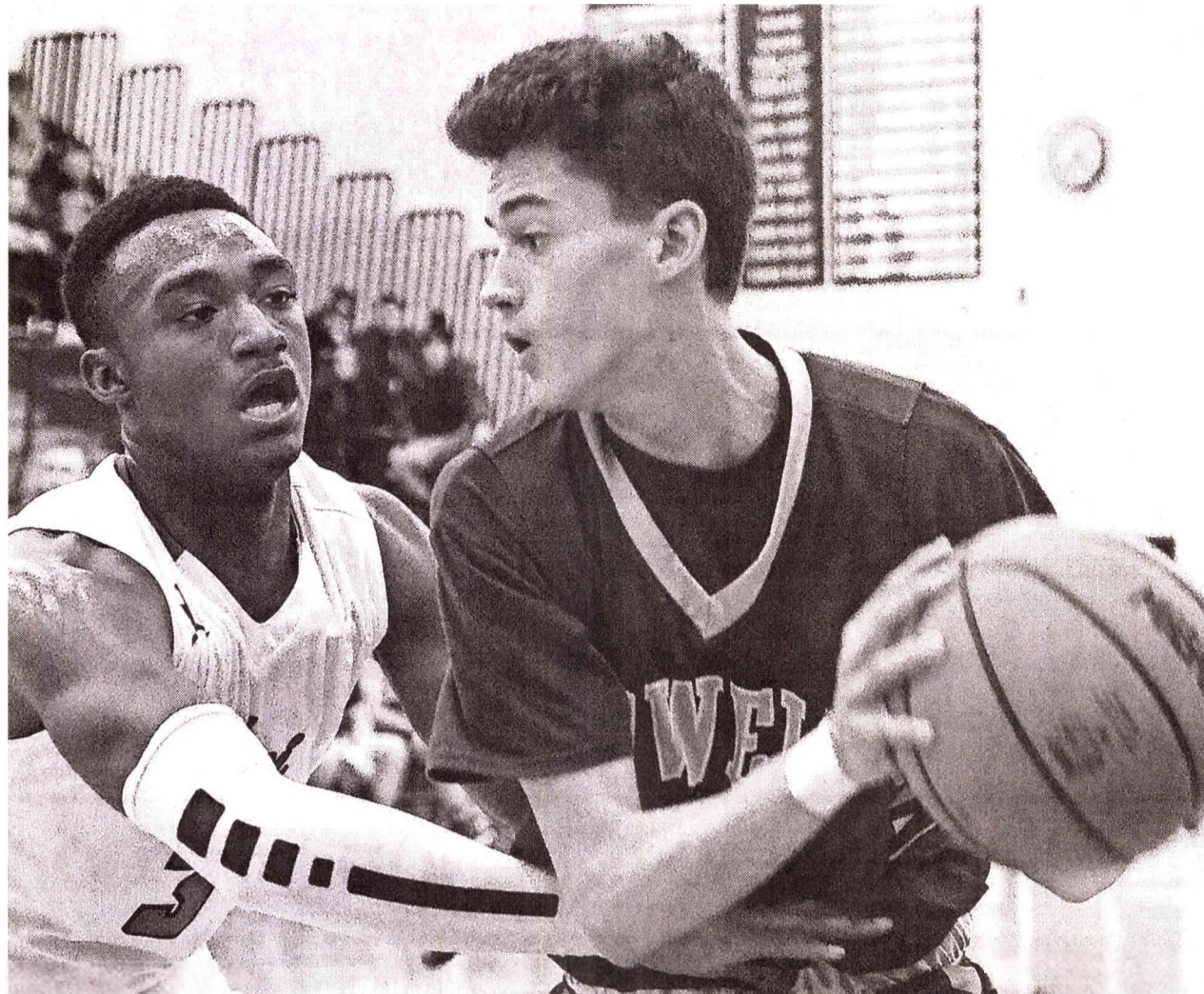
Brandon Sinawi isn't one of them.

"I was reading how they're the underdogs," the Novi coach said Friday after his team lost to Howell, 70-55. "Nope. They came in and showed they're definitely the top dogs in the division right now."

Novi was the team considered the preseason favorite to win the KLAA Gold, even with two of its top players out until mid-January. But while the Wildcats are off to a 0-3 start after losing their division opener, Howell is 3-0 after beating two state-ranked teams three nights apart.

After winning Dec. 12 against Williamston, a Class B regional champion on the last two seasons, Howell had its most complete performance so far against a Novi team that lost in overtime in a Class A regional final last season.

"It's definitely a good boost for us this week," Howell senior Johnny Shields said. "Two big wins, two top-20 teams. Hopefully, we'll get a little more recognition statewide with this. It's just the beginning for us. It's three games out of our whole year. We've got 17 left, plus more for the playoffs. It's a good start,



Novi's Giovanni Miles (left) checks Howell's Kip French. JIM JAGDFELD | LIVINGSTON DAILY

but we've got to keep it up."

Novi was missing two-year starting point guard Trendon Hankerson and 6-foot-8 senior Tariq Woody. Hankerson broke a bone in his left foot during the preseason, while Woody has to sit out the first semester after transferring from Plymouth. Both are expected back by mid-January.

The Wildcats were still able to put two Division I recruits on the floor, which is two more

than Howell had in its lineup. Traveon Maddox Jr., who signed with Oakland University, was held to nine points. Junior Giovanni Miles, who has Division I offers from Central Michigan, Detroit Mercy and North Dakota, was held to four points in the second half after scoring 10 by half-time.

Perhaps Howell junior Josh Palo's profile will increase with college recruiters after his torrid start to the season, but for now he's attracting

interest from smaller colleges. Palo's 24 points Friday were actually his season low, dropping his scoring average to 28.7.

"I like playing against guys like that who are going D-I and stuff like that just to see where I'm at," Palo said. "I thought I played well."

"It's just going to help us more for the playoffs, because the deeper you get in the playoffs, the more guys you're going to see like that," said Howell senior Johnny Shields, who scored 16

points. "It's definitely a good challenge and I think we played very well against both of them."

Shields, the reigning Livingston County Player of the Year, had his best performance so far. He had only two field goals in his first two games, getting most of his points at the free-throw line, but made five against Novi. Shields has been on the court for two weeks after a foot injury sustained over the summer prevented him from practic-

ing until two days before the season opener.

"Johnny's going to be getting his legs back every time he plays," Howell coach Nick Simon said. "We talked about it the other day, to not force anything. He's going to take a couple weeks of practice to really get his legs all the way back underneath him. He got a nice layup in transition. You could see it spark him a little bit. He hit a big three, then from there on out, you saw more flashes of what he was last year and the year before."

The Highlanders never trailed after Palo hit a basket midway through the second quarter to give them a 22-21 lead. They led 33-25 at half-time, had the lead cut to 41-39 with 4:10 left in the third quarter, then created a cushion by going on a 9-0 run.

Kip French scored 14 points for Howell, including 11 in the first half.

"Hat's off to Howell, because they kicked our butts tonight," Sinawi said. "It was close at different times, especially in the second and third quarter, but in my opinion, we're still so far away from where we want to be. We have our players thinking that ... we're going to come out and win every game, because we've got kids that got scholarships. Unfortunately, the ones that have those scholarships aren't playing hard."

Blake King and Mihir Bhadange had 11 points for Novi.

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You should interview for a job you don't want

BY MICHAEL HOON
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

Job hunting is a lot of work, whether you're unemployed or looking while working. You put so much effort into revamping your resume, networking and writing cover letters with the hopes of landing something truly great. And then, after weeks or months of hunting, there's a bite — you're offered an interview. But, you're not excited. At all. Maybe you're waiting to hear back from your dream company. Maybe you're just hesitant to accept anything less than awesome before you've really gotten yourself out there.

You might think the best use of your time is to politely decline and wait for something better to come along. But sometimes it's smart to take the interview, even when you already know you don't want the job. Here are some reasons why:

You might find you do want the job.

The job you don't think you want might turn out to be a perfect fit. Part of the interview process is for the company to sell you on the position (not just for you to sell yourself). Go in, see the workplace and let them woo you. Find out about the company culture and meet



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your potential coworkers. On paper, it's difficult to get a sense of what the day-to-day of a job will be like. In person, your perspective might shift.

Practice makes perfect.

The more you get used to putting on your most professional clothes, signing in at an unfamiliar front desk and sitting in front of strangers while they ask you about your professional expertise, the better you will get at the entire process. If you're at the start of your career or haven't been on the market for a while, every interview is excellent practice

for the next one you get. You'll get your anecdotes down pat and start to get a sense of the questions managers in your chosen field ask at your level. You'll want to be as sharp as possible for the interview you'll get for your dream job. Get all the kinks out when the stakes are low and you're not buzzing with nerves.

You might meet someone to connect with down the line.

It's also always possible that you will meet someone in the course of interviewing who can lead you to your dream

job. First, if you get an appointment with a recruiter, they often interview for multiple positions — and sometimes at different companies. You never know what networking wins you might rack up — he or she will keep you in mind for future opportunities.

Second, if you make a great impression but ultimately turn down the position, you now know a face and name at the company. Maybe for your next move you'll want to touch base to see what's open. You can absolutely do so if you rock your interview — even if you don't take the job.

You can use an offer for leverage with other companies.

Say you really want job X, but they're dragging their feet in making decisions or final offers. Maybe you're even on a third or fourth round of interviews. But you've also interviewed for jobs Y and Z — and both have made offers.

Now you can go back to X and tell them other companies are vying for you. Don't be too forceful or demanding; just be truthful.

You can politely tell them you have other offers on the table and ask about their decision timeline. Being in demand is always a desirable trait.

Bottom line: Be careful not to waste your time, especially if you're still working full time and have to leave the office for interviews.

If you know there's no possible way you want to work at a certain company or in a specific position, don't take the interview.

But, in general, keep an open mind — you never know how it might play out.

Michael Hoon is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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Car Report

IN FULL-SIZE AVALON, TOYOTA SELLS A SEDAN THAT MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO SWITCH TO A UTILITY VEHICLE



By Dale Buss

It's unfortunate that Americans have been turning away from sedans and turning toward utility vehicles in such a rush over the last few years, because in doing so they may be bypassing great cars like the 2017 Toyota Avalon.

Just like so many sedan nameplates from the subcompact to the full-size like Avalon, this Toyota car flagship has been suffering from consumers' mammoth pivot to crossovers and SUVs. Its sales were down by nearly 28 percent through July compared with a year ago, the worst relative performance across Toyota's sedan lineup.

But what a car folks are missing in the 2017 Avalon. The latest version of the sedan hasn't been updated much since the car was last done over in

2013, but it didn't have to be: Avalon is the optimal vehicle for people who want a large sedan that is going to keep them comfortable, yet in tune to the road, whether they're going on a long-distance road-trip vacation or commuting every day.

Avalon starts at prices of \$33,000, which is on the high end for sedans in its class. But it offers pretty much everything that most folks would want in a vehicle. It's styled far less conservatively than previous versions and even progressively for the boomer target audience.

Avalon sports a powerful 3.5-liter V6-engine that's couple with a six-speed automatic transmission and a well-tuned suspension. It provides 268 horsepower and 248 pound-feet of torque. Yet Avalon is able to get up to freeway speed of 60 mph in just 6.4 seconds.

The car sports a decent 24mpg in combined driving, 21th 21mpg in the city and 30 mpg - very respectable for a big car - on the highway. The EPA's



Avalon's rear seat can make three adults comfortable.

rating of Avalon for fuel economy and greenhouse-gas emissions puts it at a 5 on a 10-point scale, smack dab in the middle.

It's got plenty of room for five adults, including a capacious rear seat. Child seats also fit easily into the rear row. Visibility is great for everyone in the car.

There's also lots of places for interior storage including the center console and side pockets in front and back. Storage cubby holes fit both keys and wallets, and the center console is large. The front section of the console also conveniently acts as a nexus for power cords that pass through a sliding panel for two cellphones and auxiliary and USB connections.

I've always liked Avalon's ample trunk space too, which at 16 cubic feet - with a wide opening and low liftover height on the lip - make it great for loading and holding big and heavy bags, golf clubs, and all manner of other cargo that would be unworkable in most sedans. A ski pass-through and

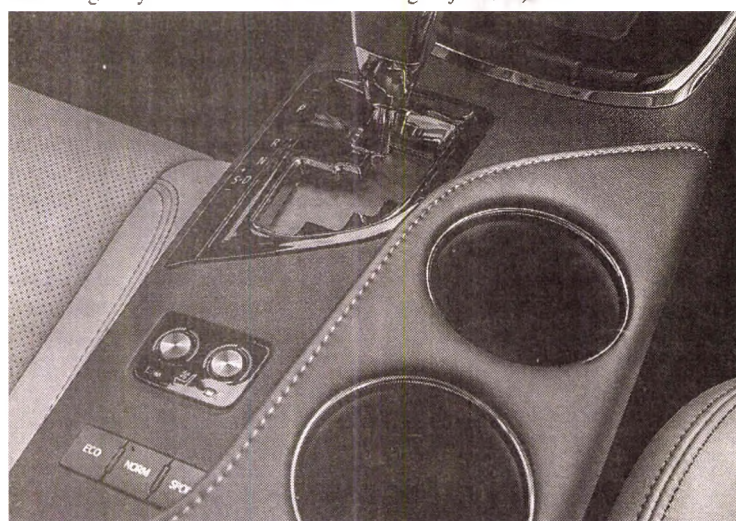
and handles much better than past generations of the car, with a ride that has firmed up yet which is still easy to command. It's also got luxury-level quiet inside the passenger compartment.

And speaking of the interior, Avalon offers high-quality materials and excellent construction as well as the choice of many high-tech features. Now, for example, Toyota's vaunted safety sense is standard on all Avalons, including adaptive cruise control, a lane-departure warning and intervention system, forward collision warning, automatic pre-collision braking and automatic high-beam headlight control.

Still, I recommend checking out the XLE Plus trim version of Avalon. It provides many safety and convenience features - including a sunroof, heated outside mirrors with turn signals, leather-trimmed heated front seats, and so on - but at a reasonable price tag of just \$36,450.

split-folding rear seats are standard. It's not quite got the cargo utility of even a reasonably sized SUV, but Avalon's capacity is nearly as close as any sedan can come to that kind of accommodation.

Avalon is very comfortable on both highways and surface streets



Plenty of cubbies, fine trim work



The Toyota Avalon is handsome and in command on the road

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Waverly—Move In Ready Condo!

*This condo features four bedrooms and two and half bathrooms
*Beautiful hardwood floors, as you walk through the large entry way with stainless steel appliances, dining area with bay window and patio door to the back yard
*Master bedroom with large walk in closet, master bath with ceramic floor

MLS 217105707 248.684.1065 \$230,000



Perfect Ranch!

*This three bedroom, three bathroom newly remolded Ranch, is a must see
*Open floor plan that is great for entertaining
*Granite kitchen has multiple skylights that keeps it sun-drenched all year
*Master suite with private deck, fully finished walkout basement

MLS 217101993 248.684.1065 \$280,000



Gorgeous Colonial, Great Location!

*This home features four bedrooms, three and half bathrooms
*Updated gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, backsplash and new cabinet lighting
*Vaulted master bedroom, great size additional bedrooms with possible 5th bedroom
*Perfect covered patio overlooking 20 unbuildable acres and amazing sunsets

MLS 217093043 248.684.1065 \$429,900



Exquisite One of Kind Lake Sherwood Home!

*This lake front home features five bedrooms, four and half bathrooms with amazing view throughout
*Updated kitchen with delightful breakfast nook and barn wood accent wall
*First floor master suite with lake front views, jetted tub and custom walk in shower
*Spacious finished basement with bedroom and plenty of for entertaining

MLS 217104397 248.684.1065 \$679,900



Gorgeous Custom Built Colonial!

*This home features five bedrooms, four and half bathrooms located on a quiet cul de sac
*Beautiful gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops and hardwood floors
*Great room equipped with temperature controlled wine cellar & cozy bar
*Full finished basement with kitchen, bedroom, full bath and living room

MLS 217080346 248.684.1065 \$498,900



Peaceful 8.23 Wooded Acres!

*This delightful Ranch features three bedrooms and three bathrooms
*Spacious master bedroom with spa like bath including a jetted tub, euro-shower and dual sink
*Beautiful granite gas fireplace is a focal point in the modern living room
*Finished lower level with full bath, second kitchen, large bedroom and family room

MLS 217085126 248.684.1065 \$629,900



Build The Home Of Your Dreams!

*Pictured is a four bedroom, two and half bathroom, Colonial, on 1.03 acres
*Many floor plans, with natural fire place and hardwood floors
*Brick and stone with covered porch
*Island kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances

MLS 216116498 248.684.1065 \$499,000



Beautiful Lake Front Home!

*This five bedroom, three bath, Colonial features incredible views of Lake Sherwood
*Open floor plan with lots of space for entertaining
*Walkout lower level with family room and fireplace, separate bedroom and full bathroom
*Choose to keep this existing home or build the home of your dreams on this amazing waterfront lot

MLS 217049046 248.684.1065 \$499,900



Charming Colonial!

*This home features three bedrooms, two and half bathrooms on 2.1 acres
*Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, Quartz counters and marble backsplash
*Great room with beautiful brick fireplace and crown molding
*First floor laundry, 3 Car garage with shed

MLS 217090562 248.684.1065 \$359,000



Wonderful Four Bedroom!

*This four bedroom, two and half bathroom is located on a large wooded lot in desirable Timber Ridge
*Kitchen with Maple cabinets, granite counters and backsplash
*Amazing three season sun room, with vaulted ceiling, ceiling fan and door to wooded yard
*First floor laundry, super family room and three car garage

MLS 217083592 248.684.1065 \$335,000



Adorable Bungalow with Lake Privileges

*This home features two bedrooms and two bathrooms
*Clean kitchen with concrete counter tops and stainless steel appliances
*Huge upper level master suite and large first floor bedroom
*Expansive fenced in backyard

MLS 217110131 248.684.1065 \$180,000



Gorgeous New Construction Condo!

*Perfect three bedroom, two and half bathroom, Condo
*First floor master suite with balcony provides for beautiful views
*Open floor plan, first floor laundry
*Easy bike paths to Kensington and downtown Milford

MLS 217050469 248.684.1065 \$469,900

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