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The State Wayne Theater celebrates 70 years.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland approves site plan for Ciena

Senior living facility to cover 76,000 square feet

The Westland City Council approved the final 9.085-acre site plan for Ciena Skilled Nursing Facility, a senior living center at 2209 Newburgh Road.

The facility will be a one-story, 76,000-square-foot building of 32 semi-private rooms, 50 private rooms and six private bariatric rooms with short term rehab and skilled nursing. The building amenities include physical and occupational therapy areas, dining rooms, multi-purpose rooms, kitchen facilities, laundry services, employee lounge, storage and an administration area.



Wild

"The investment is expected to total \$8.4 million and create approximately 60 full-time construction jobs over the anticipated one year construction duration," Mayor William Wild said. "Ciena will employ approximately 120 full and part-time employees once the facility is open."

The project is part of a \$16 million Planned Unit Development (PUD) that will include commercial retail, restaurant and office space on the Ford Road side of the site which will be finalized later this year.

STATE WAYNE CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com

Among the people who worked at the State Wayne Theater over its 70-year history, Samantha Lawfield and her husband David may be unique among the former employees.

Not only did the couple meet while working at the theater in 2001 — she was Samantha Franklin back then — but they actually got married inside the theater in 2010.

"We all went to Wayne Memorial but I didn't know Dave. We meet working here," said Belleville resident Samantha Lawfield, who with her husband were among former employees and customers who turned out to celebrate the theater's 70th birthday.

Along with dinner, free concessions and a showing of a digitally remastered version of *the Godfather*, Phoenix Theaters owner/CEO Cory Jacobson also presented awards to returning employees from each decade.

"I worked at the old theater in 1945-46 (the Wayne) — it was just down the street near the bank. One of the girls from school worked as an usher. They needed someone for the candy counter," said Virginia Dean Lear, who attended Wayne High School. "Then they found out (the second girl) wasn't 16 yet. She said I had to give the job back when she turned 16. And I did."

But Lear, who has lived in Garden City for 58 years, said the theater also needed a cashier and she was hired by owner Walter Shafer, who was later succeeded by his sons, Charles and Martin, known as the Shafer Brothers.

At one time, the family owned 10 theaters and drive-ins. In addition to the State Wayne, the Shafers owned the Quo Vadis, along with the Algiers Drive-in both in Westland; the Shafer-Garden City which was later remodeled into the La Parisien; the Dearborn Theater in Dearborn; and the Dearborn Drive-in which was located in Dearborn Heights. All are gone today, leaving the State Wayne, later sold to the City of Wayne, which operated it for a time until the building was taken over by Phoenix Theaters, and the Ford-Wyoming Drive-in, still owned by 95-year-old Charles Shafer.

"I think it's wonderful that after seven decades, we got 140 (to attend).

See THEATER, Page A2



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Sisters Stephanie Yurich Armes and Joelyn Yurich Stier worked in the box office while in high school, from 1972-74.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Dave and Samantha Lawfield met working at the theater and got married on stage six years ago.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Cory Jacobson of Phoenix Theaters and Shane Vida, general manager of the State Wayne, talk about the history of the theater and honored people who worked there.

Knife-wielding Westland man pleads guilty to robbery

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com

A knife-wielding man who robbed a Canton chiropractor in broad daylight has been returned to prison after he was paroled for a Plymouth Township bank robbery in 2013.

Michael James Stachowski, a 37-year-old Westland man, has been sentenced to five years/six months to 20 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to charges of armed robbery, larceny in a building and being a fourth-degree habitual offender.



Stachowski

Stachowski was sentenced in December by Wayne County Circuit Judge Thomas Cameron for an incident that occurred about 4 p.m. last March 3 inside Village Wellness Center, a chiropractic office on Ford Road, near Haggerty, in the heart of Canton's busiest retail corridor.

Stachowski pulled a knife on owner Sherry Sieber, seized \$187 and ran off, but Canton police captured him a short time later near two hotels across Ford Road.

"I don't think their response could have been more perfect," Sieber said at the time. "They did a great job. They actually gave me my money back immediately."

Stachowski had pleaded guilty in October after a defense attorney was unsuccessful in attempts to have him declared incompetent to stand trial and aid in his own defense. Cameron declared him competent after he underwent a psychiatric evaluation at a state forensic center.

Authorities have said Stachowski already had spent time in prison for bank robbery for an incident that arose in July 2013. He went inside the

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Volume 52 • Number 72

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GUILTY

Continued from Page A1

Bank of America branch at Five Mile and Beck in Plymouth Township and handed a teller a note demanding money.

Stachowski could have faced life in prison for the latest charges out of Canton, but he received a lesser sentence by accepting a plea and averting a trial.

The case had stalled in the court system after Cameron last spring ordered a psychiatric evaluation to determine Stachowski's competency. Af-

ter receiving a psychiatric report, Cameron ruled Aug. 29 that the defendant should, indeed, face court proceedings, court records show.

After the chiropractic office was robbed, Sieber and other witnesses notified police and directed them to an area across Ford Road where the suspect had fled. Police caught up with him near two hotels and fired a Taser gun to subdue him after he allegedly held a knife to his own neck, police have said.

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

THEATER

Continued from Page A1

It's hard to find another business like this that has been around 70 years," said Jacobson, who grew up in the movie business in Wisconsin. "For many people, this was their first job. For many of the people I met, it was a special experience."

It's also a look at a bygone era of movie theaters that would be unfamiliar to people who have spent their lives going to a multiplex. There was an era when many downtown area had their own movie palace — elaborate Egyptian and Chinese decor themes were the rage at one time. It was also a time of a single auditorium that often showed double-features.

Under Jacobson's management, the State Wayne replaced all of its seats for state-of-the-art recliners and fully digitized projection systems along with an upgraded marquee lighting up Michigan Avenue.

"We have 24 screens at three theaters. We just had the most successful years at the State Wayne in 50 years," said Jacobson, who also owns Phoenix Theaters at Laurel Park Mall in Livonia and in Monroe. "I'll never make a million dollars at the State Wayne. It's like my '57 Corvette that I drive in parades."

Charles Shafer had planned to attend the celebration but was a bit under the weather — his brother Martin has passed away. "Charlie Shafer sends his best. He was a bit ill today but in general he is well," Jacobson said.

Shafer's secretary Cheryl Ann Johnson came to accept an award for her boss. "He still manages the Ford-Wyoming (drive-in). He is in



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephanie Rainey and Macey Wolf add a bit of style to the event.

fine shape and will continue to work," said Johnson, adding Shafer still knows the revenues from his theater. "When I give him his award, I'll say, 'You missed a fine party, young man.'"

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



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Virginia Lear Dean, with Cory Jacobson, gets a standing ovation. She worked at the theater in the 1940s.

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK
Published Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Media

Newsroom Contacts:
Joanne Maliszewski, Print Content Editor
Mobile: 248-396-6620; Email: jmaliszews@hometownlife.com
Brad Kadrich, Reporting Coach
Mobile: 586-262-9892; Email: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

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Subscription Rates:
Newsstand price: \$1.50 Sunday
\$5.00 EZ pay per month
\$32.50 six months
\$65.00 per year
\$45.50 six months mail delivery
\$91.00 per year mail delivery

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The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on Saturday, the 28TH day of JANUARY, 2017, at North Redford Towing, 25215 Glendale, Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction date. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to the start of the auction. Check www.nrtowing.com for the current list.

2003	FORD	PU	1FTRX18L93NA48370	F-150	ARREST	1603684	1
1998	GMC	PU	1GTCS19X1W8506265	SONOMA	STOLEN REC	1606314	2
1994	HONDA	4D	1HGCD5654RA116246	ACORD	HAZARD	1607270	3
2005	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WH55K259122133	IMPALA	ARREST	1608152	4
2000	SATURN	4D	1G8JU52F6YY651227	ION	ARREST	1608201	5
1994	FORD	PU	1FDLF47M6REA52630	F350	ABANDONED	1608279	6
2003	SATURN	4D	1G8AL52F33Z112537	ION	ARREST	1608290	7
2009	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ZJ57719F189166	MALIBU	ARREST	1608291	8
2003	PONTIAC	4D	1G2NF52EX3C284240	GRAND AM	ARREST	1608355	9
1995	CHEVROLET	2D	1G1JC1243SM110563	CAVALIER	ARREST	1608361	10
2004	DODGE	SW	1D4H858D14F240455	DURANGO	ABANDONED	1608369	11
2006	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WT578K569140766	IMPALA	STOLEN REC	1608373	12
1997	FORD	4D	1FALP13P8VW314609	ESCORT	ABANDONED	1608404	13
2006	CHEVROLET	4D	1GNNDT13S362352960	TRAILBLAZER	ACCIDENT	1608509	14
2006	CHEVROLET	4D	1GNNDT13S362352960	TRAILBLAZER	ACCIDENT	1608509	14
2007	CHEVROLET	4D	2G1WB58K279104716	SAVANNA	ARREST	1607181	16
2016	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1BE55M3G7286203	CRUZE	ACCIDENT	1608611	17
2002	PONTIAC	SW	1GMDX03E32D157095	TRANSPORT	ARREST	1608650	18
2002	FORD	SW	1FMZU73E 12ZB09637	EXPLORER	ARREST	1608664	19
2009	PONTIAC	4D	1G2ZK36N294270508	G6	ABANDONED	1608691	20
2006	SATURN	4D	1G8AL55F56Z141652	ION	ABANDONED	1608691	21
1997	CHEVROLET	SW	1GBDM19W2VB118540	ASTRO	ACCIDENT	1608697	22
1991	FORD	SW	1FMEE11H6MHA88685	E-150	ARREST	1608789	23
2007	FORD	4D	1FAPP53U87A121273	TAURUS	ACCIDENT	1608827	24
1998	CHEVROLET	SW	1GKGC26J4WJ720992	SUBURBAN	ABANDONED	1608830	25
2006	FORD	4D	1FAPP34N36W106256	FOCUS	ACCIDENT	1608872	26
2007	FORD	SW	2FMZA51687BA19677	FREESTAR	ARREST	1608888	27
1998	HONDA	4D	2HGJE38549WH600891	CIVIC	ABANDONED	1608893	28
1999	PONTIAC	2D	1G2NE52TOXM842145	GRAND AM	ABANDONED	1608898	29
2003	PONTIAC	4D	1G2WP52K53F146109	GRAND PRIX	ABANDONED	1608900	30
1996	CADILLAC	4D	1G6KD52YXTU305843	DEVILLE	ABANDONED	1608903	31
1993	FORD	SW	1FMDU32X3PUC65172	EXPLORER	ABANDONED	1608908	32
2002	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNDS13552530431	TRAILBLAZER	ABANDONED	1608925	33
2002	FORD	PU	1FTRW08L12KB72064	F-150	ABANDONED	1608931	34
2007	MAZDA	4D	1YVHP80CX75M30276	MAZDA 6	FIRE	1608938	35
1997	GEO	4D	1Y1SK5260V1432359	PRIZM	ARREST	1608940	36
2004	FORD	4D	1FMYU03174KB52794	ESCAPE	ARREST	1608946	37
2002	SATURN	SW	1G8JW84RX2Y509957	LW300	ABANDONED	1608978	38
2003	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3NL52E93C125942	ALERO	ABANDONED	1608985	39
2002	GMC	SW	1GKET16S126130059	ENVOY	ABANDONED	1608994	40
1999	BUICK	4D	2G4WS52M5X1596301	CENTURY	ABANDONED	1609004	41
2005	KIA	SW	KNDJD733355391372	SORENTO	ACCIDENT	1609007	42
1999	TOYOTA	4D	1NXBR12EOXZ273127	COROLLA	ABANDONED	1609011	43
1999	TOYOTA	4D	1NXBR12EOXZ273127	COROLLA	ABANDONED	1609011	43
2004	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ND52F44M582443	CLASSIC	ABANDONED	1609012	44
2002	PONTIAC	4D	1G2WP52K02F155122	GRAND PRIX	ABANDONED	1609016	45
2003	FORD	4D	1FAPP55U43G158826	TAURUS	ACCIDENT	1609024	46
1996	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1FP22KIT2126606	CAMARO	ABANDONED	1609064	47
2005	KIA	4D	KNDJD733555361466	SORENTO	ABANDONED	1609067	48
2001	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3WH52H81F254640	INTRIGUE	ABANDONED	1609068	49
2001	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3WH52H81F254640	INTRIGUE	ABANDONED	1609068	49
2003	HYUNDAI	4D	KMHWF35H03A750789	SONATA	ARREST	1609069	50
2000	BUICK	4D	1G4HP54K9Y4113842	LESABRE	ABANDONED	1609089	51
2004	CHEVROLET	4D	1GNEC13Z94R153501	TAHOE	ABANDONED	1609113	52
1999	SATURN	4D	1G8ZK8277XZ120162	Sw2	ABANDONED	1609115	53
2006	PONTIAC	4D	1G2ZH558366134308	G6	ACCIDENT	1609151	54
2006	PONTIAC	4D	2G2WP552361194005	GRAND PRIX	ABANDONED	1700096	55
2005	FORD	4D	1FAPP53205A134126	TAURUS	TITLE VEHICEL	TITLE	56
2006	PONTIAC	4D	1G2ZG558264262008	G6	ACCIDENT	TITLE	57
2002	FORD	4D	1FAPP53U62G1755399	TAURUS	ACCIDENT	TITLE	58
2002	FORD	4D	1FAPP53U62G1755399	TAURUS	ACCIDENT	TITLE	58
2005	BUICK	4D	3G5DA03E955569751	RENDEZVOUS	ACCIDENT	TITLE ORANGE	60
2006	SATURN	4D	1G8AL55F56Z141652	ION	ABANDONED	TITLE	61
2004	DODGE	SW	2D4GP44L84R542306		TITLE TERRY	TITLE	62

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PROPOSED ORDINANCE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD
At the Regular Meeting on January 24, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., the Redford Township Board of Trustees will have the 2nd reading and adoption of proposed Ordinance #344.
ORDINANCE NO. 344
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-258 AND 2-259 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF REDFORD CODE OF ORDINANCES TO DEFINE ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE TOWNSHIP'S GROUP INSURANCE PLAN AND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PLAN
The ordinance can be viewed in its entirety either on-line at www.redfordmi.com on the home page under the section "Ordinances Links" or at the Township Clerk's Office, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, MI, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
GARTH J. CHRISTIE, Clerk
Charter Township of Redford
Publish: January 22, 2017

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Wish you were here



Gordon W. Draper of Livonia, shows his "Livonia Observer" in Revolutionary Square in Havana, Cuba. He is standing in front of Army Headquarters, which shows the image of Che Guevara. Cuba is the 129th country he has visited.



More than 200 people participated in Madonna University's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Candlelight Vigil.

More than 200 attend Madonna's MLK celebration

Despite the chilly, wet and sometimes icy conditions, more than 200 people participated in Madonna University's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Candlelight Vigil on Monday, Jan. 16.

The turnout for this year's event was the largest ever with more than 175 members of the Madonna community, including students, faculty, staff and another 40 guests. Hosted by Terri D. Slaughter, the university's chief diversity

officer, it featured a keynote address by Madonna President Michael Grandillo in which he connected the values of the civil rights movement to the Franciscan values of the institution.

The event included the premiere of a video created by Madonna's Technology Learning Services in which Madonna students recited parts of the famous "I Have a Dream" speech with King's voice in the background.

The celebration ended

on a high note with a rousing and inspirational performance by the Detroit Edison Public School Academy choir and a prayer by Sister Nancy Jamroz, the co-director of Madonna's Center for Catholic Studies and Interfaith Dialogue.

Slaughter said the MLK Celebration and Candlelight Vigil served as an electric kickoff for a week of thought-provoking and inspiring programs and service projects at the University.

CITY OF LIVONIA PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 502 of Act 110 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2006, as amended, and Articles XIX and XXIII of Ordinance #543, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Livonia, as amended, the City Planning Commission of the City of Livonia will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, in the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. on the following item:

Petition 2017-01-01-01 submitted by D S Homes L.L.C. pursuant to Section 23.01 of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance #543, as amended, requesting to rezone the property at 29220 Roycroft Avenue, located on the north side of Roycroft Avenue between Garden Avenue and Middlebelt Road in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 13, from C-2 (General Business) to R-1 (One Family Residential).

The above-mentioned petition will be on file in the City Planning Commission office, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan, during the period of five (5) days immediately preceding the said hearing and may be examined by any and all persons during the normal working hours Monday through Friday.

Ian Wilshaw, Chairman
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: January 22, 2016

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CITY OF LIVONIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (2017-2018) FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM (CDBG)

The City of Livonia will hold two Public Hearings: Thursday, February 2, 2017, 5 p.m.; Wednesday, March 01, 2017, 6 p.m. Both hearings will be held at the Livonia Housing Commission-Office of Community Development, 10800 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48150. The purpose of these public hearings is to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies and other interested parties regarding the preliminary 2017-2018 CDBG budget, identifying homeless and housing needs particularly as they relate to low and moderate income persons and households, while summarizing past program performance. The hearing is required in order for the City of Livonia to receive Community Development Block Grant funds for the program year (July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018).

Written comments regarding proposed activities and past performance issues may be directed to the Livonia Housing Commission, 10800 Farmington Rd, Livonia, MI 48150. Copies of materials to be discussed during the public hearing are available for examination at the Housing Commission-Community Development Office during normal business hours. For additional information please contact the Housing Commission-Community Development Office at (734) 421-6450 ext. 103.

James M. Inglis, Housing Director
Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Publish: January 22, 2017

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Special Observer & Eccentric Reader Offer 2016 Should Be Your Last Year with Back Pain and Sciatica



By: Sam Potter
Health Correspondent

IF YOU suffer from low back pain and sciatica, you are one of over 20 million adults in the USA with this often crippling spinal condition.

Shooting, stabbing and burning pains from the low back, sometimes with additional pain through the buttocks and down the legs are all symptoms of a pinched nerves often called "sciatica".

In severe cases, it can lead to muscle wasting, numbness and constant tingling down to the tip of the toes. Left untreated, the intense pain can rapidly wear you down and drain the joy out of life.

That is, until now...

Recent advances in the treatment of sciatica and lower back pain have led to the development and huge success of Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care.

The excellent results of this treatment have been published in major medical journals. With success rates as high as 90% some back surgeons recommending their patients try this treatment first before having back surgery.

In Livonia, you can try Non-Surgical Re-constructive Spinal Care at the Kramer Chiropractic – the office low back pain and sciatica relief expert Dr. Gregory Kramer.

Gregory and his team of fully trained spinal care specialists have helped over 3,000 patients find relief from their agonising spine based problems.

According to Gregory, "We use a combination of ultra-advanced technology, not found elsewhere in Livonia, for precisely diagnosing the cause of your low back pain and sciatica; and a unique programme for reconstructing the damaged area causing the pain; this means superior long-term results for most people."

Because the treatment is non-surgical, safe and easy, most patients report an almost immediate relief from their pain.

Patient Sister Marie from Dearborn says,

"I could not walk, stand, sit, work, sleep for 7 or 8 months!

I was given various drugs but many I was allergic to and the others only lasted a hour and then pain returns again.

Dr. Kramer has restored my health and allowed me to work and live healthy!

Thank god I called your number It's like a miracle to me.

Your invitation for a comprehensive consultation and examination to pinpoint the cause of your low back pain and sciatica...

The Observer&Eccentric has teamed up with the spine therapy specialists at Kramer Chiropractic, to help readers find relief from their persistent back and sciatic pain.

All you have to do to receive a thorough diagnostic examination with the most advanced technology in the world and a comprehensive easy to understand report on your state of health is call 248-615-1533.

Mention this article (CODE: BOS37SCID5) and Greg will happily reduce his usual consultation fee of \$195 to just \$37. But hurry, due to obvious reasons – this is a time limited offer – with only 100 reader consultations available at this exclusively discounted rate.

My advice, don't suffer a moment longer...

Find out if Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care can help you, book a consultation with Greg and his team now by calling 248-615-1533. they are waiting to take your call today.

They actually treat the cause of your health problem, not just your symptoms.

That's why hundreds of grateful patients tell them "You gave me back my life!"

Over the years, they've treated thousands of patients with back problems and sciatica. The vast majority of them have enjoyed superior, lasting relief. In fact, many who've suffered and have tried other remedies have told them they gave them back their lives!

Call them now and get a full and thorough examination to pinpoint the cause of your problem for just \$37, the normal cost of such an exam is \$195 so you will save \$158!

Don't suffer from the pain and immobility any longer. Discover the natural treatment that can eliminate the cause of your problem and give you the safe, lasting relief you deserve.

Call them now on 248-615-1533 and cut out or tear off this valuable article now and take it to your appointment. You'll be entitled to a comprehensive examination to diagnose the cause of your problem – and you'll be on your way to safe, lasting relief! Don't delay your important diagnosis and treatment another moment!

You can even call on the weekend and leave a message on their answer machine to secure your spot as they promise to return all calls; and during the week they are very busy, so if they don't pick up straight away do leave a message.

All Federal Guidelines Are Followed



Sciatica Relief Expert Greg Kramer, says: In 20 years of practice, I've never seen a treatment as effective as Non-Surgical Re-Constructive Spinal Care for patients with sciatica or lower back pain.

Taxes, benefits, job training top issues in Lansing

Auto insurance reform left over from last year

Kathleen Gray
Detroit Free Press

When lawmakers return to Lansing to begin a new session this week, taxes, workforce training and benefits reform for public employees will top the agenda.

November's election will result in 43 new members joining the 110-member House of Representatives. Their Republican and Democratic leaders in both the House and Senate will have a big role in setting the agenda for the next two years.

And those leaders' ideas fall into several categories: Proposals with lots of bipartisan support, controversial issues that will generate spirited debate, and leftovers from last year that didn't get enough support in the final weeks of the lame duck session.

Areas of agreement

» Proposals to beef up job training, including skilled trades, will have wide bipartisan support. All four leaders — Republican Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof of West Olive and Speaker of the House Tom Leonard of DeWitt and Democratic Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich of Flint and House Minority Leader Sam Singh of East Lansing — as well as Gov. Rick Snyder have put this item at the top of their lists of priorities for the coming year.

"People just don't feel economically secure," Ananich said. "So we have to make sure we give people the opportunities to get a job or get a better job. We have to make those job training programs more affordable and provide more on-the-job training."

One thing that could sidetrack the job training

efforts is one of Meekhof's "bucket list" items, repealing the prevailing wage, which requires that public construction projects pay union-scale wages.

Snyder has promised to veto any such repeal because he fears it could hamper his efforts to boost the number of skilled trades workers in the state. But Meekhof said last week that he looks forward to a revived petition drive that would allow the Legislature to bypass Snyder if enough valid signatures are gathered and repeal the prevailing wage without needing Snyder's signature.

» Another issue expected to get quick, and bipartisan, action is a package of bills reforming the state's parole system that could reduce the prison population by not sending released inmates back to jail for technical violations of their probation. The package passed the Senate last year, but didn't get a hearing in the House of Representatives. But Leonard promised that the House will take action if the package is introduced again this year.

Get ready for a fight

» The House and Senate Republican caucuses want to revive proposals to reform the teacher retirement system and benefits for municipal employees and retirees. Both proposals received massive opposition from Democrats and public sector employees and died during lame duck without a final vote.

The proposals would have required all new teachers to go into a 401(k) type of retirement plan, rather than a pension system. The proposal for municipal employees would end post-retirement health care for new local government workers and generally force existing workers and retirees to pay 20 percent of their post-



KATHLEEN GRAY | DETROIT FREE PRESS

Lawmakers are looking for common ground with 2017 priorities

retirement health care costs.

"One of the top three issues that I've been talking about addressing is our broken teacher retirement system," Leonard said. "We've got a system that's taking 36 percent of our local school districts' payrolls."

On municipal employee benefit reform, Leonard said, it's got to be done, but that he's looking for a more deliberative and thoughtful process of crafting change in the new year.

Democrats aren't expected to roll over on the issue.

"Our caucus will adamantly oppose (teacher retirement changes) or anything that makes people feel insecure in their retirement," Ananich said. "Those kinds of things we'll fight tooth and nail."

» At least one Republican Senator — Jack Brandenburg, R-Harrison Township — will

propose repealing the state's 4.25 percent income tax, which would blow a \$9-billion hole in the state's general fund budget, if it's not coupled with a tax hike in some other area, like the sales tax.

"The goal is that hopefully when people have more of their own money in their pockets, they will spend it in a way that benefits Michigan," Meekhof said. "We'll take a look at it. It would certainly be a game changer."

And while there is some general consensus among Republicans that some kind of tax cut for individuals would be appropriate, Democrats said the income tax repeal proposal is a non-starter.

Lame duck leftovers

Legislators have tried for years to complete some sort of reform to the no-fault auto insurance system, including a last-minute deal that died

in the lame duck session in December. And it remains a top priority for Republicans this year.

It's an issue that insurance companies have lobbied for as they deal with the system's unlimited benefits paid to people who are catastrophically injured in auto accidents. But Democrats and advocates for car crash victims have stymied efforts to reduce benefits without substantial reductions to auto insurance customers' premiums.

"That's something that our caucus is going to have a serious heart-to-heart discussion on and decide whether or not that's an issue we want to continue to tackle," Leonard said. "I think it's something we should do because we have the highest insurance rates in the country. And when you look at Detroit and I talked to Mayor Mike Duggan, he lists this as one of his top three prob-

lems. It is a big priority for me."

New battle lines

Democrats would like to see economic proposals, such as making child care and college more affordable for Michiganders, get a hearing.

"Even though we've seen an uptick in the economy, a lot of folks don't feel a part of that," Ananich said. "I'm seeing firsthand how difficult it is when you're looking for quality child care. I'm fortunate because I have family in my area that can help. But not everyone has that."

Singh said he'd like to see the state fully restore the Earned Income Tax Credit that is available for low-income workers in the state.

But with Republicans holding a 27-11 majority in the Senate and a 63-47 majority in the House of Representatives, those proposals may never get a hearing.

A fresh start

Leonard and Meekhof acknowledged that the new class of members coming into the House will be more conservative than in previous Legislatures and that could have an impact on the upcoming agenda.

"Of the three classes I'm going to serve in, each one has gotten a bit more conservative. And this incoming class is going to be even more conservative," Leonard said. "I haven't shied away from that, and I think it's something we should be proud of."

But Meekhof noted that the new members will also have to learn about the dynamics of Lansing.

"They may very well be more conservative. But often, the governor isn't with us on social issues, and we have to find ways to make things work and get stuff done," he said.

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Value of Education Savings Accounts touted

How would you like to increase education spending by more than \$3,000 per pupil without raising taxes? It is possible. In fact, all of the building blocks needed to make it happen are already in use within innovative schools within our state. All that remains is to offer this revenue opportunity as the norm, not the exception.

Where does the money come from if it is not from taxes? Businesses. No we are not talking about shaking down businesses for higher fees or taxes. In a free market, a customer is willing to give up their hard-earned money in exchange for something they find of equal value.

So what are businesses looking for that could help raise \$3,000 per pupil? Good employees and good information.

Regarding good employees, businesses are eager to fill job openings in Michigan's growing economy. Many are already willing to invest \$7,000 per year per pupil in student-specific accounts called Education Savings Accounts for students in grades 9-12 who are willing to work part time during the school year for as few as five days a month. Businesses get much-needed help. Students get much-needed work experience — work experience that can help bring valuable focus to their future studies and sharpen their resumes for future jobs.

Regarding good information, many businesses are already willing to provide monetary incentives in exchange for information in the form of awards programs. In fact, most of us participate in multiple award programs. Unlike what happens under Common Core, the information collected is not specific to the student, but it is specific to the consumer voluntarily



Sen. Patrick Colbeck
GUEST COLUMNIST

participating in the award. There are award program aggregator businesses that are able to monetize and collect awards from multiple programs and even multiple individuals. Families can direct these awards to groups of students for distribution. It is estimated that more than \$1,000 per pupil per year could be directed to student-specific savings accounts for students of any grade level.

When I applied these figures to the student profile for Detroit Public Schools, these funding sources work out to an additional \$3,086 per pupil per year.

What could parents spend this money on? If we limit the funding of these student accounts to third-party funding sources, parents could spend this money on education-related services provided by public schools (traditional and charter), parochial schools, special education services, extracurricular activities, tutoring services or higher education.

If we were to provide parents with additional control over how this money is spent, we could seed each student account with the state portion of the foundation allowance (roughly \$6,000). If this were to happen, the choices for parents would be effectively limited to public schools. Michigan's so-called Blaine Amendment (Michigan Constitution Article VIII, Section 2) effectively blocks the use of public funds for core education services delivered by non-public

organizations. Additional ways to increase parental control over the specific educational needs of their child would be to allocate federal at-risk and special education dollars directly to the accounts for students who qualify for these designations. These funds could be used to pay for school lunch programs or special education programs.

Why is parental control so important? Accountability. Many lament what is seen as a lack of accountability for the performance of many of our schools. State governments typically respond to such laments with transparency mandates that increase the administrative burden on schools, which in turn diminishes the funding available for teachers in the classroom. We can do better. An important total quality management principle is that "the customer defines what quality is." Parents and students are the customers of education.

In summary, Education Savings Accounts provide us with a rare opportunity to solve a government problem in a manner that benefits everyone's best interest. Educators receive more than \$3,000 more per pupil. Businesses are able to develop good employees. Taxpayers receive improved accountability for their tax dollars. Parents and students are able to customize their education to best suit their needs and interests. ESAs even provide a way to offset the rising costs of higher education. Open minds and innovation can yield some awesome results.

Canton resident Patrick Colbeck represents the state Senate 7th District, which encompasses the cities of Livonia, Northville, Plymouth and Wayne, as well as the townships of Canton, Northville and Plymouth.

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Sealed bids will be received by the City of Livonia, Michigan, as owner, until 2:00 p.m. on, Tuesday, February 7th, 2017 at the City Clerk's Office at the Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154, at which time said bids will be opened and publicly read.

The City of Livonia seeks bids for the following:

REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR THE SETUP AND BREAKDOWN, LABOR, EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND INSURANCE NECESSARY TO OPERATE THE CITY OF LIVONIA'S HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM TO BE HELD ONCE A YEAR ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF APRIL FROM 3:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. AND LAST SATURDAY OF APRIL FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD OF APRIL 2017 THROUGH APRIL 2019.

Instructions to bidders and specifications may be obtained by registering with the Michigan Inter-Governmental Trade Network (MITN) at www.mitn.info

All bids shall be sealed in opaque envelopes, plainly marked with the name of the service bid upon, name of bidder, and shall be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Livonia, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

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

Donald R. Rohraff
Director of Public Works
Dennis K. Wright
Mayor

Published: January 22, 2017

LO-000396439 3/4 5

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LO-000206648

OPINION

Americans in O



As Bill Bresler watched the 2016 presidential campaign, he couldn't help but notice Americans are "a divided people." But Bresler also believes this reality: The U.S. is a big country, with widely divergent ideas.

"This has always been true," said Bresler, a longtime photographer for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. "Even the founding fathers who wrote the Constitution were a mix of contradictions."

In a time of heightened anger and division, Bresler turned to what he knows best — photography — to show that everyone, despite their point of view, is an American. He started posting images on his personal Facebook page Nov. 9 — one a day — until Inauguration Day, 73 in total, to show we are a diverse nation.

The series culminates with an image Bresler made during the inauguration of President Obama as it was shown live on the big screen at the Canton Cinema in 2009.

"We are all Americans," he said. "Whether you're a politician running for president or a prisoner in custody, you're an American."

The people in this series are, Bresler notes, a diverse group. Not just their ethnic backgrounds, but politics, religion and even worldview. But, he insists, they are all Americans.

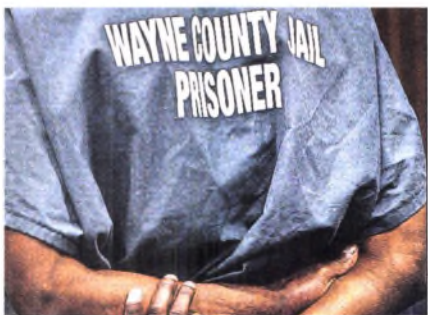
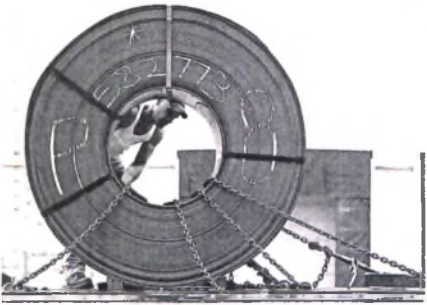
"I hope that people who look at these photos stop and think when they see someone who is different from them," Bresler said. "I hope that they consider what we all have in common."

— Brad Kadrich

The complete gallery is online at <http://www.hometownlife.com/picture-gallery/opinion/2016/12/18/americans-in-our-communities/95588522/>



Our communities



Churches to gather for unity

At 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, four churches will come together for an ecumenical prayer service at Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia in observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Other participating churches include St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Catholic Church, Westland; Timothy Lutheran Church, Livonia; and the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Westland.

Clergy and choirs from the churches will participate in the service. There will be a reception after the service. Those attending are asked to bring a non-perishable food item to share with area families in need.

The Church Unity octave was first observed in January 1908. This prayer movement gradually blossomed into a worldwide observance involving millions of

people and many nations. Traditionally observed the week of Jan. 18-25, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity belongs to all Christians interested in the fulfillment of Christ's prayer "that all may be one."

Participating clergy includes:

- » St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy Catholic Church, Westland; the Rev. Kenneth Mazur, PIME, pastor
- » Timothy Lutheran Church, Livonia; the Rev. Eric Stenson, pastor
- » The Newburg United Methodist Church, Livonia; the Rev. Steven McCoy, lead pastor
- » Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Westland; the Rev. Teodor Petru-tiu, parish priest

The service begins at 7 p.m. at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail. For more information, call 734-422-0149.

Westland police nab theft suspects

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

The suspects wanted by Westland police for stealing items from a parked vehicle have been apprehended.

Westland police announced Thursday the two men accused, 17-year-old Jacob Johnson of Westland and 19-year-old Melvin Adkins of Westland, were arrested a week apart, with Johnson being arrested this past Wednesday.

Police say the two men were accused of entering a vehicle back on Jan. 2 that was parked in the 200 block of Bedford. Surveillance camera footage showed two men entering the parked vehicle and taking items from inside of it.

After an investigation, police executed a search warrant on a home in the



Adkins Johnson

300 block of Hickory and recovered several pieces of stolen property.

Both Adkins and Johnson were charged in Westland's 18th District Court with larceny from auto criminal counts, while Johnson was also charged with receiving and concealing stolen property. Adkins received a \$10,000/10 percent bond, while Johnson received a \$3,000/10 percent bond.

dveselenak@hometownlife.com
734-678-6728
Twitter: @DavidVeselenak

Woman reportedly robbed at gunpoint outside McDonald's

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com

A woman reported being robbed at gunpoint of cash and a cell phone on Monday night as she sat with an acquaintance in a car outside the McDonald's on Grand River east of Inkster Road. No one was hurt.

The victim told police she was sitting in the driver's seat of a Toyota Corolla when a male teenager approached, opened the passenger door behind her and pointed a pistol at her, according to a Redford Township Police Department report.

He reached into the center console, picked up her wallet and took cash from it, and also took her phone, she said. The robber then fled on foot, climbing a wall in the rear of the lot, she said. Her male companion was not robbed, she said.

Later, while investigating the robbery nearby, an officer stopped a male who partially fit the description of the robber. The officer searched him for weapons. None were found, but he was arrested for driving without a license in his possession, police said.

the house left uncured. The break-in occurred between late on Jan. 14 and early Monday, police said.

Van gone
A Chevrolet work van and roughly \$3,000 worth of tools tools in it were reported stolen Tuesday from TFT Motors, an automobile customizing shop on Plymouth Road east of Beech Daly.

The theft occurred shortly before 6 p.m., a police report said. The complainant told police he had left the van unlocked and the keys in the ignition while he was at the shop, and walked out of the building at one point to see the van was not where he had parked it. He then saw the van turning onto eastbound Plymouth Road, he said, but could not see who was driving it.

Police searched the area for the van but did not locate it.

Rental car theft
A car was reported stolen Tuesday morning from outside Art's Collision & Auto Repair on Telegraph north of Five Mile.

The complainant told police her ex-boyfriend had taken the rental car after they drove it together to the shop to pick up another vehicle that had been repaired there. He drove off, she said, while she was waiting for the repaired vehicle to be brought to her.

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

WESTLAND POLICE BRIEFS

Identity stolen

A resident who lives in the 3000 block of Lonnie came to the police station the morning of Jan. 10 to report someone stole her identity.

She said she received a letter from the unemployment office telling her that her application for benefits had been denied, even though she had not filed a claim. She said she was unsure how her information was obtained and contacted the state unemployment office regarding the false claim.

Cable equipment stolen

Westland police were called the morning of Jan. 10 to the 7100 block of Parkcrest Drive on

the report of stolen cable equipment.

Police met with a Comcast employee at the location, which was experiencing cable outages. The employee discovered someone used a prying tool to open an external metal cable box and then stole some of the items inside. The employee believed the theft took place several hours earlier, which is when the outage took place. No suspect information was available.

Larceny from auto

Police were called the evening of Jan. 10 to the 3700 block of Scotsdale Circle on the report of the theft of a catalytic converter.

When police arrived, they spoke to the vehi-

cle's owner, who said he parked his car in the parking lot Jan. 5. He returned to his car the next day and found it was making a loud noise. He took the vehicle into a repair shop and found someone had cut off the catalytic converter from the vehicle.

Wallet taken

A motorist whose vehicle was parked in the 400 block of Ethan Drive came into the police station Jan. 11 to report her wallet had been taken.

She said someone had gotten into her vehicle sometime overnight while it was parked in the driveway. She said someone entered and took her wallet overnight. No damage was

reported and the victim said she had already canceled her debit card. No suspect information was available.

Window damaged

A resident in the 2000 block of Venoy filed a police report Tuesday morning reporting damage to his vehicle's windshield.

The resident same he came out to his vehicle that morning and discovered someone damaged the windshield using what appeared to be, a BB or pellet gun. There were rings in the glass that were the size of a basketball.

Compiled from reports filed with the Westland Police Department.

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Tools, computer taken

Livonia police were called to a residence in the 10000 block of Cavell on Thursday morning on the report of a larceny from auto.

The resident said he got into his vehicle to go to work that morning and discovered several items, including a tool bag, drill and laptop computer, were missing. He said he parked his car in the driveway the night be-

fore and left it there unlocked overnight.

Retail fraud reported

Police were called Thursday evening to Von Maur, 37500 Six Mile, on the report of a retail fraud suspect in custody at the store.

When police arrived, they spoke to the suspect and to store employees. An employee told police the suspect had taken several items, including clothing and purses, and

then took them into the bathroom with her. She concealed several of the items and then tried to leave the store without paying. She was stopped and detained until police arrived and arrested her. She was taken to the police station for processing.

Wheels, tires missing

Police were dispatched Wednesday morning to a home in the 34000 block of Pembroke

after a resident called to tell them wheels and tires had been stolen from her vehicle.

When police arrived, they found the vehicle parked in the driveway with all four wheels and tires missing. The resident said she parked the car in the driveway the night before and her son came out that morning to discover them missing.

Compiled from reports filed with the Livonia Police Department.

WAYNE POLICE BRIEFS

Watch, guns taken

A resident in the 31500 block of Taylor filed a report with police Jan. 11 over the theft of several items from his home.

He said he arrived at the home, which he is in the process of preparing to sell, and discovered several items were missing from inside. He said the garage door

had been unlocked and it appeared someone accessed through that door to take the items. Those items missing included a gold watch, some cash and several firearms. After doing some work, he left the home and filed a police report.

Compiled from reports filed with the Wayne Police Department.

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WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

LIFESPAN trip to Washington

Right to Life-LIFESPAN will host a Youth Bus Trip to Washington, D.C., for the 44th March for Life at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26. Buses leave from San Marino Club Parking Lot in Troy (Big Beaver and John R) and Madonna University in Livonia (Levan and Schoolcraft).

The students travel overnight to participate in the March and make their opposition to abortion heard by legislators. At the Madonna site, the bus should arrive for pickup at 7 p.m. Ask to speak to a bus captain at 248-816-1546.

Camera Club featured

Livonia Arts Commission announces that the Fine Arts Gallery on the second floor of the Bob and Janet Bennett Civic Center Library will feature the Greater Detroit Camera Club Council for the month of February.

GDCC is composed of members from the Grosse Pointe Camera Club, Livonia Camera Club, the Motor City Camera Club located in Bloomfield, the Oakland Camera Club located in Waterford, The Photographic Guild located in Southfield, the Seven Ponds Nature Center Camera Club located in Dryden and the Shutterbug Camera Club located in Detroit, the Toledo Camera Club, the West Oakland Camera Club located in New Hudson, and the Windsor Camera Club. These photography clubs meet on different days and different times but share a common interest: photography.

Each club has competitions in their Electronic Imaging Divisions, including Monochrome, Color, Nature and Color Creative (altered reality). They also have competitions in the two Print Divisions: Monochrome and Color. During the year, all of these clubs will compete against each other in all of the digital division as well as print division. All of the winners from each competition go into the GDCC's End-of-the-Year Print and Digital competition.

This month they celebrate with an end-of-the-year banquet and preparation for the February exhibit.

Garden City Valentine sweetie contest

The Garden City Downtown Development Authority will host a Valentine Sweetheart Photo Contest with first- and second-place winner announced on its Facebook at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Sweet talk your Valentine into posing for a

picture with Willy, the Garden City "Cupig" located in the Commons, at the northwest corner of Middlebelt and Ford, for a chance to win a free Sweetheart Date Night Gift Package. Pictures must be posted to the Downtown Garden City Facebook page at www.facebook.com/downtowngardency by 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8. Pictures must be from 2017; only one entry per couple/group; must be age 18 or older to win.

Friday Night Glow Skate

The Mike Modano Ice Arena in Westland hosts Glow Skate 7-9:20 p.m. each Friday. The cost is \$8 for kids and \$9 for adults. Skate rentals are \$3. Everyone receives a free glow accessory with purchase. The arena is at 6210 Wildwood.

'Hello Dolly!' auditions

The Spotlight Player will host auditions for the musical, "Hello Dolly!" 7-9:30 p.m. Jan. 23-24, at the Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton. Go to the back stage entrance. The show will be presented March 31 through April 2 and April 7-9 in the Village Theater. For rehearsal schedule, character descriptions and information on audition preparation, go to www.spotlightplayersmi.org. It is free to audition.

Pagan office hours

State Rep. Kristy Pagan, D-Canton, will host her monthly coffee hours in January:

The fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at Panera Bread, 41950 Ford Road, Canton.

The fourth Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at Leo's Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, Belleville.

For more information, contact her at KristyPagan@house.mi.gov or call her Lansing office at 517-373-2575.

Guardian Angel dinner

The Italian American Club of Livonia has a unique relationship with the Italian priests of St. Louis Center in Chelsea and members continue to show their commitment to supporting persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the Guardian Angel Dinner Dance, now in its 22nd year.

The IACL Banquet Center is at 39200 Five Mile Road, near I-275, in Livonia. This year's event will be Sunday, Jan. 29, starting with a noon Mass, followed by an Italian buffet dinner at 1 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the band Amici and there will also be a silent auction and a gift raffle. Tickets are \$60 per

person and can be obtained by contacting member Anna Skowronski at 734-437-9067 or PR director Joe Yekulis at St. Louis Center at 734-475-8430.

St. Louis Center is a residential care facility for children and adults with I/DD and has been run by the Servants of Charity Congregation since 1960. Proceeds from this event benefit the transportation program for the residents. For more information about St. Louis Center, go to www.stlouiscenter.org or call 734-475-8430.

St. Mary school open house

The public is invited to attend the St. Mary open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 29, at 34516 W. Michigan Ave. in Wayne. St. Mary offers highly qualified teachers and an exceptional academic program to Catholic and non-Catholic students in a diverse environment. It also provides enrichment programs beyond the basic curriculum such as C.Y.O. sports, spelling bees, academic Olympics, student council, children's vocal and bells choirs, band, Scouting programs and before and after school care.

St. Mary is fully accredited and its students score consistently above average nationwide on the Iowa Standardized Test. Grades 6-8 teachers use the "middle school model" to prepare students for high school. For more information, contact the school at 734-721-1240 or schooloffice@stmarywayne.org or visit StMarySchoolWayne.org.

Auto art workshop featuring truck

The Plymouth Community Arts Council will host an auto art workshop 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, featuring "Old Truck No. 6."

Students will participate in a gallery tour and art-appreciation lesson using the diverse art pieces in the January exhibit. Then, students will create their own 2D version of Tim Tonachella's photograph, "Old Truck No. 6," inspired by the work in the exhibit.

A variety of media will be available for students to use and they will be encouraged to be creative with paint, colored pencils, collage materials and illustration marker. Photos of each piece will be exhibited on the website as part of the Interpretations Exhibit Artists' group. Instruction and all materials provided.

The instructor is Lisa Howard. The program is for ages 7-18. The cost is \$24 per student. To register, call 734-416-4278 or go to www.plymoutharts.com. The PCAC is at 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth.

Jazz at the Elks

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres. Enjoy jazz in a listening room setting close to the entertainers.

On Tuesday, Jan. 31, join The Boogie Woogie Kid Trio with the award-winning singer Emma-Lee Aboukasm, YouTube's viral sensation The Motor City Boogie Woogie Kid and drummer Gary Stevens for a night of piano and song favorites from the swing dancing days of the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. Classics include "Women be Wise," "In the Mood," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Basin Street Blues," "Blue Moon" and many more. For a preview, go to www.boogiewoogiekid.com.

The Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325 is at 41700 Ann Arbor Road. For more information, call 734-453-1780, go to www.plyaa325.com or email jazzattheelks@gmail.com

Livonia used book sale

The Friends of Livonia Civic Center Library will sponsor a three-day Used Book Sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 4; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. There will be many history books, children's books, plus general books as well as religious and humor books. There will be a designated room for collectibles and all good prices on the books. On Sunday, Feb. 5, a bag of books can be purchased for \$5. All proceeds go back into the libraries. The Civic Center Library is at 32777 Five Mile Road. For more information, call the library at 734-466-2495.

Bag book sale

The Friends of Westland Library invite the public to two-day Bag Book Sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12. Both days are \$4 Bag Day only.

Bariatric seminars

The Michigan Bariatric Institute, 3622 Five Mile Road, Suite 202, in Livonia, offers free monthly educational seminars. The public is invited to hear a presentation about laparoscopic bariatric surgery by bariatric surgeon Dr. Tallal Zeni, director of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery at St. Mary Mercy Livonia and Dr. Jacob Roberts, bariatric surgeon at St. Mary Mercy Livonia.

These educational seminars will be held 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2; Monday, Feb. 13; Thursday, March 2; and

Monday, March 13.

This seminar is free, but registration is required. For more information, call the Michigan Bariatric Institute at 877-949-9344.

Weight management program

On March 14, St. Mary Mercy Livonia will host a weight management program titled Weigh Your Options. Registered dietitians will provide information to help individuals begin a weight loss program. Attendees will learn about successful weight management programs, where to find reliable resources and healthy activities in the community and what is needed to develop a healthy lifestyle. Participants will learn how to read food labels, write SMART goals and determine their healthiest weight. The class will take place 6-7:30 p.m. in

St. Mary Mercy's Classroom 2, 36475 Five Mile Road, in Livonia (accessed from the south entrance).

There is a \$5 fee for this class and registration is required. Register at stmarymercy.org and click on "Classes and Events."

Livonia Towne Club

The Livonia Towne Club, a nonprofit women's organization bringing together women for social interaction meets the fourth Thursday of each month from September through May (except in November and December, when it's held the second Thursday) for lunch and a program at different restaurants in Livonia and surrounding areas. The program could be an informative speaker, bingo, fashion show, music entertainment and more. The next luncheon is Jan. 26. Call Vicki at 734-591-3254 for more information.

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Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

BENDICK



JOHN W. age 103, of Regent St. West Bloomfield, passed on January 8, 2017. Born June 13, 1913 and raised in the D, then lived in Allen Park. Beloved husband of the late Anne. Loving father of Bob (Mireille), Jim (Nancy), and Carole Kubitsey (Jerry Witkowski). nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Funeral was January 14 at St. Peter & Paul Orthodox Cathedral in Detroit. Memory Eternal!

CRACCHIOLO

DOMINICK "DOM" January 16, 2017, Age 81. Beloved husband of the late Rose. Loving father of the late Anthony (Sharon). Cherished grandpa of Michael (Melissa) and Christopher (Katie) and five great-grandbabies. Proud National Guard Veteran. Longtime member of the Livonia Civic Chorus. Memorial Mass Monday 9:30 a.m. at St. Aidan Church. Grandsons will greet visitors beginning at 9 a.m. Share memories at jarzembowskifuneralhome.com

GEER



GEORGE R. 71, of Farmington Hills, died January 17, 2017. George was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lynda, in 2001. He is survived by children, Tim Geer, Tammy Koc, Terri (Kelly) Stegman, and Michael (Mary) Grunssner; grandchildren Nichole, Christopher, James, Katelyn, Logan, Austin, Mason; and proud grandfather of three great-grandchildren. Visitation Monday, January 23rd, 10-11 a.m., followed by an 11 a.m. Memorial Service at the Heehey-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Contributions suggested to Residential Hospice. heehey-sundquist.com

COURTNEY



LORETTA MASSARO 81, of Livonia, Michigan, passed away peacefully, on Monday, January 16, 2017 at her son's home in Houston, Texas. Mrs. Courtney was born June 10, 1935 in Salem, Ohio to William and Eva Massaro. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, John F. Courtney; children, Sharon Courtney Walker and husband Mark, Thomas Courtney and wife Sally, Daniel Courtney and wife Thaisla; grandchildren, Andrew, Larissa, Olivia, Samuel, Luke, Dylan, Erik, and Anna. Loretta is also survived by her sister, Marlene Battaglia and husband Dominic. Loretta grew up in Youngstown, Ohio. There she attended Ursuline High School and was Head Majorette in the Band. It was in Ohio that she met the love of her life, John, through the Dominicana club. Loretta and John married and settled in Pittsburgh. John's career moved the family to Livonia, MI where they spent many happy years. It was during these years that Loretta worked as a secretary and raised her three children. She enjoyed traveling with her husband, cooking, working with ceramics, playing bridge, and in recent years, spending time with her grandchildren. She was a member of St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia. Loretta spent her last 8 months in Houston, Texas surrounded by family. Loretta was a kind, loving, and devoted wife, mother and grandmother who was known to her family and friends as a person with an easy going attitude and a calm spirit. She was loved by those who knew her and will be greatly missed. The Courtney family will be present to receive friends Tuesday, January 24, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with the Holy Rosary being recited at 7:00 p.m. at Detting Funeral Home, 14094 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77079. The Funeral Mass will commence Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at Epiphany Of The Lord Catholic Church, 1530 Norwalk Drive, Katy, TX 77450. Mrs. Courtney will be laid to rest in Livonia, Michigan at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributions in Loretta's memory to The Cancer Research Institute. Visit www.DettingFuneral.com to find more service details and leave words of condolence for the family.

KEIER



KAREN ROWLAND January 15, 2017 Age 78. Longtime Birmingham school teacher. Beloved wife of Richard for 48 years. Dear mother of Kathryn Rios (Antonio) and Greg Keier (Lindsay). Cherished grandmother of Antonio, Isabel, Sofia, Simone and Genevieve. Sister of Barbara Martin (Larry) and the late Joan Pugh (the late Joseph). Aunt and great aunt of many nieces and nephews. Memorial services were held at Northbrook Presbyterian Church, 22055 W. 14 Mile Rd., Beverly Hills 48025. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorials to the church, American Cancer Society or Michigan Parkinson Foundation. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-549-0500. View obituary and share memories at AJDesmond.com

Local doc offers winter health tips

Winter is here. Sore throats, sniffles and coughs seem to be everywhere. Despite the season's propensity for the common cold, winter does not have to mean illness. Keep your family well with these easy health tips:

» **Get the flu vaccine.** The flu vaccine is the best way to protect against the flu. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, 80 percent of flu cases occur between January and March. It is not too late for your whole family to get the flu shot. The vaccine is safe and cannot cause the flu.

» **Practice proper hygiene.** It may sound repetitive, but proper hand washing really does prevent many illnesses. Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 15 seconds. Encourage your child to sing the ABCs to ensure they wash their hands long enough. Remember, you should also wash your hands after return-



Dr. Farah Akhdar
GUEST COLUMNIST

ing home from school, day care or work, after using the bathroom and before and after meals. Hand sanitizers work well when soap and water are not available.

» **Teach your child not to touch their eyes or nose.** An unwashed hand is covered with thousands of germs. When someone rubs their eyes or nose, he or she is depositing those germs directly onto mucous membranes, where they are absorbed into the bloodstream and can potentially cause illness.

» **Avoid crowded areas or visiting people who are ill.** Staying away from those who may be ill will help prevent the spread of germs.

» **Help stop the spread of germs.** If you or your child is sick, do not go to school or work. Stay home, rest and

properly sanitize your home so others do not get sick. Wipe down door knobs, counters and other areas touched by the sick individual.

» **Dress appropriately.** Dress in layers. Several thin layers are helpful to keep children dry and warm. Be prepared with warm boots, gloves and a hat. For babies and young children, a good rule of thumb is to dress them with one more layer than an adult would wear in the same conditions.

Despite the best intentions, germs spread and your family might catch a cold. If this happens, call your doctor to see if an appointment is necessary or if extra rest at home will do the trick. Be sure to stay rested and hydrated—children tend to easily become dehydrated when ill. Consider giving your child an electrolyte drink or Popsicles to ensure he or she stays hydrated. For stuffy noses, use a cool mist vaporizer and saline

drops to prevent mucous build-up.

When it comes to over-the-counter medications, there are a lot of options. Before taking anything or giving it to your child, talk to your physician. Every medication has an age recommendation and possible side effects.

If symptoms do not improve or worsen, it is time to see a doctor. Symptoms that should be addressed include a persistent, high fever (more than 100.4 °F), unusual drowsiness, refusal to eat or drink, excessive crying, holding the ears or stomach, wheezing or difficulty breathing.

Finally, do not underestimate your intuition. If you are concerned about your child, contact your doctor.

Dr. Farah Akhdar is a Family Medicine physician with St. Joe's Medical Group and St. Mary Mercy Livonia. She provides preventative and general wellness to children and adults at the St. Joe's Medical Group Redford office.



I am an American We are One Nation

PROMOTING ELECTION DAY HEALING

Seeing a loss of civility, pastor organizes service to foster reconciliation

JOHN BOYLE
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 the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

Among the casualties of the 2016 election, civility — even among Christians — topped the list.

And that deeply bothered the Rev. Rennie Salata, who acknowledged that he found it difficult at times to embody Christ's admonition to love your enemies and bless those who persecute you.

"Jesus does this in a way I only aspire to do," said Salata, the pastor of Acton United Methodist Church in Candler, North Carolina. "He's able to love his enemies while at the same time confronting them where they're supporting injustice or oppression, and I admit I have not figured out how to do that."

But he also refused to give up. As a small step toward reconciliation and healing, Salata, with the help of several other pastors, organized an Election Day Communion service that was open to anyone.

About 40 people attended that evening.

Church member Diana Corbin attended the special service, describing it as "very moving" and sorely needed.

"We need to put our faith in God and believe that he will take care of us, regardless of who is in office," said Corbin, 66.

A native of Louisiana who grew up outside of Knoxville, Tennessee, Salata, 32, earned his divinity degree from Duke University and was ordained in 2015.

His approach involves a "subtle determination" to reach his flock, as Salata puts it. The idea is to hash out different perspectives, and then journey to understand what God is inviting them to see.

"Perhaps it might be neither of the positions that's being offered but a third way, really, that God is calling us into," said Salata, who came to Acton in July



ANGELA WILHELM/USA TODAY NETWORK

The Rev. Rennie Salata is pastor of Acton United Methodist Church in Candler, N.C.

2015 with his wife, Lauren.

He plans to extend that reach to include the Islamic community by bringing in a speaker from that group later this year. With other pastors, Salata also plans to organize a "pilgrimage of reconciliation," the idea being "to put ourselves physically in different context than what we're used to" and get out into parts of the community we're not familiar with.

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.

Q&A WITH THE REV. RENNIE SALATA

What does it mean to you to be an American?

For me, being an American is being part of something that is larger than an individual or even a national interest; it's being part of a larger experiment of democracy. One where even in a country where the majority of the people voted for one candidate, the other candidate who has been declared the winner by our democratic process is going to peacefully transition into power. That's rare and maybe even unprecedented around the world.

What moment touched and motivated you to take part in this effort?

There wasn't any one specific event or statement or altercation that motivated us having this service. But ... as the election season wore on and things became more and more vitriolic and tense and heated, and more and more families were being at odds with one another because of the election options, it seemed like it was even more appropriate to have a time when we could come together and pray and share communion and really remember what it is that unites us.

What gives you hope?

First and foremost, as a Christian and as a pastor, my hope is in Jesus Christ. ... But what gives me hope in the immediate, and perhaps in a concrete way, is the ways in which I've seen members of my congregation who are on diametrically opposed ends of the political spectrum really respect and support one another in the midst of the outcome of the election.

What did you hope to accomplish with that effort?

I hoped and I think we were successful in accomplishing the beginning of dialogue and also an opportunity for people to really look around and find some points of unity in the midst of such division. I hope that this will be a stepping-off point for my congregation and for this community. ... I'd like to explore the possibility of having some public dialogue with a member of the Muslim faith, maybe even in concert with a member of the Jewish community. I've also talked with another pastor about the possibility of doing a sort of reconciliation pilgrimage where we travel to different sites ... and just put ourselves in places where those we may not normally interact with live.

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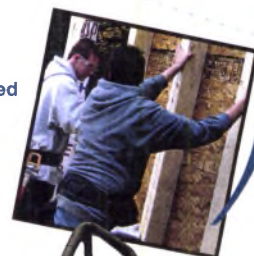
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Retired Lions kicker to speak at Community Prayer Breakfast

Jason Hanson, retired kicker for the Detroit Lions, will deliver the keynote address at the 43rd annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Thursday, May 4 at Burton Manor.

This year's breakfast will be held in Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road, just west of Inksater Road, Livonia.

Hanson, 46, spent his 21-year career playing for the Detroit Lions. He was drafted by the Lions in the second round (56th overall) of the 1992 NFL Draft out of Washington State University. He holds the NFL record for the most games played with one team, as well as multiple kicking and scoring records.

Hanson retired in 2013. He's the first player in NFL history to play 300-plus games with one



Jason Hanson will speak at the prayer breakfast.

the records and all the cheers can't top what his Christian faith gives him - peace."

"In 20 years in the NFL, I've found that there's no peace apart from Jesus Christ," Hanson said.

"There's no performance. There's no paycheck. There's no glory. There's no fame that satisfies. And most of it leaves you empty in the long run. It's only knowing Jesus and being forgiven. There's nothing on the football field that can do that," said Hanson.

A musical performance by a 35-member men's ensemble under the direction of Dr. Jerry Smith is also part of the annual program.

The Livonia Prayer Breakfast is a version of the National Prayer Breakfast held annually

in Washington, D.C. Also on the breakfast program are Old and New Testament scripture readings and other prayer opportunities that reflect the 2017 theme of "Press On Toward the Goal."

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$17 for students. Ticket price includes a full breakfast and program. Tables of 10 are available. For tickets, contact Sally Butler at 248-476-9427. The Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable and religious organization.

For more information and a history of the prayer breakfast go to livoniaprayerbreakfast.com or on Facebook at livoniacommunityprayerbreakfast

Spark Center for Autism recognized

The Behavioral Health Center of Excellence has awarded the Spark Center for Autism the Award of Distinction, recognizing the organization as a top behavioral service provider in the country.

The award celebrates exceptional special-needs providers that excel in the areas of clinical quality, staff satisfaction, and qualifications and consumer satisfaction. These areas are measured via a wide-ranging audit, including interviews with agency clinical leadership, a detailed staff qualification review, an anonymous staff satisfaction survey, and an anonymous consumer satisfaction survey.

"The Spark Center for Autism demonstrates strong organizational and clinical practices that support the creation of robust and comprehensive treatment programs as well as ethical scaling," BHCCE founder

Sara Gershfeld said.

The quality of their treatment programs is substantiated through an adherence to current best practices in the field of Applied Behavior Analysis and high levels of staff and caregiver satisfaction," Gershfeld said. "We are delighted to commend the Clinical Directors, Emily Morris and Reena Naami, and their organization on creating a program that is an integral resource to the Wayne County autism community and beyond."

"At the Spark Center for Autism, we take pride and joy in the behavioral outcomes generated through the services that our passionate and dedicated team is able to provide. Additionally, we are grateful for the support and engagement of our caregivers and our collective dedication to facilitating meaningful skill acquisition," Morris said.

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Ask Dr. Stewart

Dr. James Stewart is a general dentist from Livonia, MI. Today, he answers a question about preserving natural teeth.

How Can I Avoid Needing Dentures in the Future?

Dear Dr. Stewart: What can I do now to avoid needing dentures when I'm older?

Dr. Stewart: Great question! While the risks of tooth loss can increase with age, you may be surprised to find how easily one can help preserve his/her natural teeth. I'm going to talk about four important steps you need to take to help prevent tooth loss:

1. Always brush and floss, properly, each day. When you do this, you limit the risk of gum disease, the leading cause of tooth loss in adults.
2. See your dentist regularly. You should see your dentist at least once a year, no exceptions, for a checkup and cleaning. Most people however, need to have dental appointments much more frequently in order to stay healthy. This can range from twice a year to 3-4 times per year. Potential problem areas can be addressed early this way or existing problem areas can be kept under control.
3. Don't ignore changes in your oral health. If you have an aching tooth or if your gums bleed easily, talk to your dentist. Often, problems that lead to missing teeth can be treated if you just see your dentist in a timely manner.
4. Be mindful of what you eat. Frequent consumption of sugary foods can lead to cavities and acidic foods (mainly soft drinks) can be a source of tooth erosion and sensitivity.

If you have a question about your oral health or would like to schedule a complimentary cosmetic consultation, contact Dr. James Stewart at 734-425-4400 or visit www.jamesstewartdds.com

Calling 734-425-4400 or visit www.jamesstewartdds.com

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BOYS BASKETBALL

Rockets earn stripes against Wayne with 69-65 triumph

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

From the opening tip Friday night, two KLAAs South Division boys basketball rivals went after it at a frenetic pace — to the delight of a standing room crowd at Westland John Glenn. The host Rockets and state-ranked Wayne Memorial didn't cheat the fans, going full tilt for 32 minutes in a game that ultimately went to John

Glenn, 69-65. With the win, the Rockets improved to 9-1 overall and 4-1 in the division, while the Zebras lost a division game for the first time (8-2, 3-1).

It was a statement game for the Rockets, who trailed 49-45 after three quarters, but outscored Wayne 24-16 in the final quarter — hitting 10 consecutive free throws to close out the victory. Making four each were senior guard Christian Agnew (14 points) and

senior center Daijon Parker, who had 23 points and numerous clutch rebounds.

"We don't give up, we play hard. That's all it is," Agnew said as he and teammates walked off the court in triumph. "It's a great thing, it's a rivalry, it's what we like."

Also in double figures for the Rockets were sophomore guard Joe Moon



TOM BEAUDOIN

Westland John Glenn's Kijuan Chandler splits Wayne's Travez Nyx (left) and Napier Bryant.

See ROCKETS, Page B2

PREP GYMNASTICS

Livonia Blue rising to the challenge

Team excels at Lowell Invite, beats division foe Canton in dual meet

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

"Weak" is definitely a position of strength for the Livonia Blue varsity girls gymnastics team — as in senior captain Jessica Weak.

After excelling across the board at the Jan. 14 Lowell Invitational, a key catalyst in the team's second-place finish, Weak registered nines in every event Wednesday as Livonia Blue knocked off KLAAs nemesis Canton 142.275-137.925. For the Chiefs, the defeat snapped a 17-meet winning streak dating back to last season.

"Jessica has worked hard the last four years to get to where she is at now and it shows," Livonia Blue head coach Lisa Broomfield said. "She gives her all

See GYMNASTICS, Page B2



TOM BEAUDOIN

Jessica Weak, shown from a meet last season, continues to excel for Livonia Blue.

BOYS HOCKEY

Annual Showcase puts spotlight on prep teams

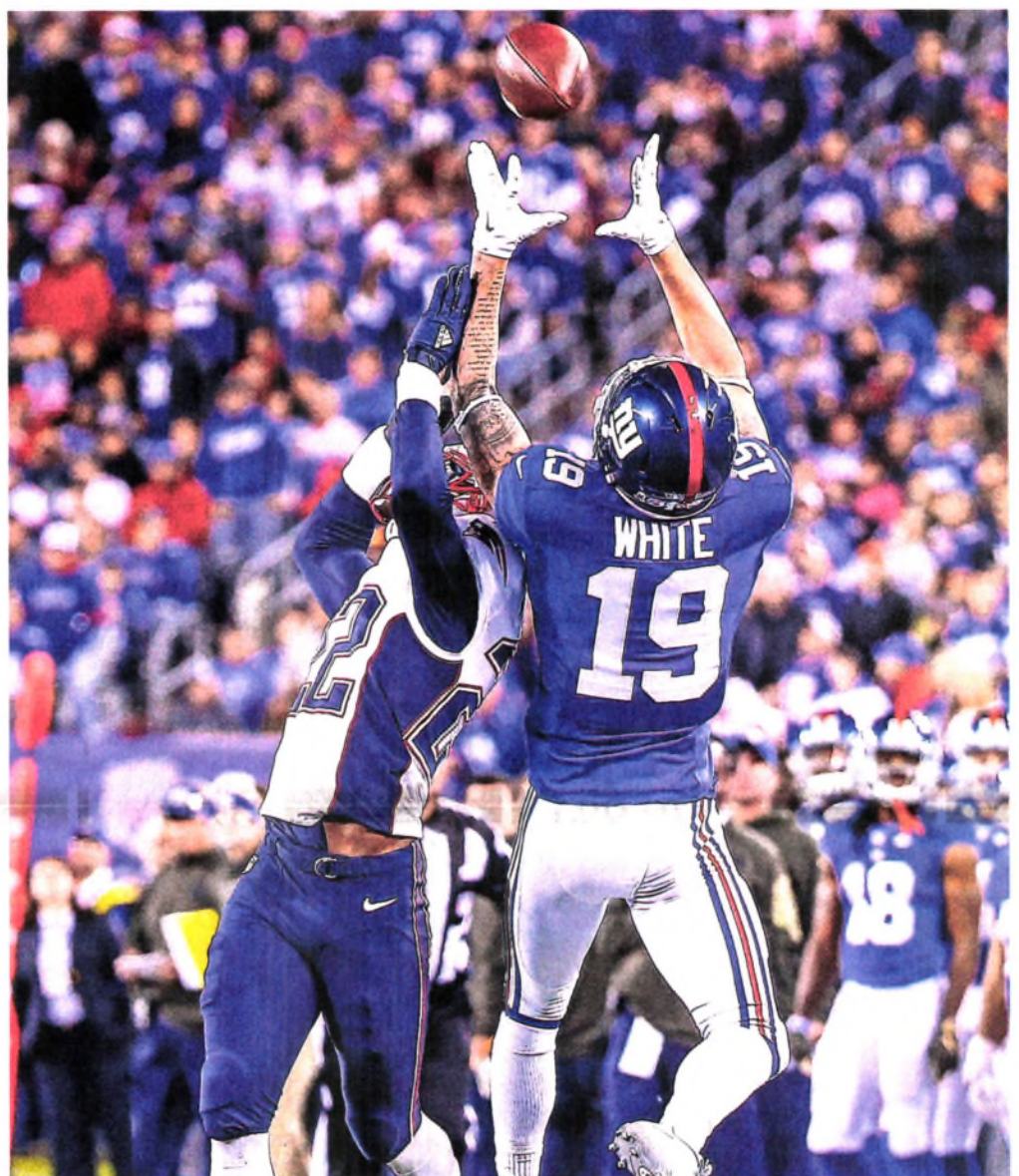
Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

This is the time of year when stakes begin to get raised for varsity boys hockey teams such as Salem, Livonia Churchill and Plymouth.

Those three KLAAs South Division teams are among 52 squads from around the state traveling to the seventh annual Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase, scheduled for Monday through Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Chelsea Arctic Coliseum. Among others from the area making the 40-mile trek

See SHOWCASE, Page B3

PRO FOOTBALL



JIM O'CONNOR | USA TODAY SPORTS

Myles White (right) goes up and makes the catch for the New York Giants in a 2015 game against New England.

TWIN AMBITION

Stevenson graduates Mitchell and Myles White still pursuing dreams to play in the NFL

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Since they led Livonia Stevenson High to a state runner-up finish in 2007, Mitchell and Myles White have embarked on a football odyssey that can only be described from an old Beatles tune as "The Long and Winding Road."

Both will turn 27 on March 30 and both continue their dogged pursuit of making it in the NFL. It certainly has been a "Hard Days Night" at

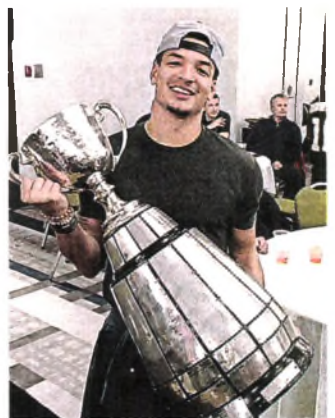
times for the identical twins.

Mitchell, the former high school quarterback, is coming off a Grey Cup championship as a cornerback with the Ottawa Redblacks of the Canadian Football League.

Meanwhile, Myles, the wide receiver, has logged 19 games in the National Football League while finishing this past season on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers practice squad.

They were former teammates,

See TWINS, Page B3



Mitchell White holds the famous Grey Cup after winning the CFL title with the Ottawa Redblacks.



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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Huge first half lifts Canton over Wildcats

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Canton's varsity girls basketball team came out scoring Friday night and didn't let up against crosstown rival Plymouth.

The Chiefs led 20-6 after one quarter and didn't look back, earning a 61-30 KLA South Division victory.

Canton (8-3 overall, 4-1 in the division) built a 30-15 halftime lead thanks to strong shooting (44 percent) from the floor. Leading the Chiefs with 15 points was Erin Hult, with Madison Wolfbauer scoring 10. Other Canton contributors included Shanya Butler (eight points) and Alaina Heitmeyer (seven points).

For Plymouth (4-7, 3-2), Chantal

LeDoux scored 11, while Elle McCaslin and Alexa Ebeling had six and five points, respectively.

Wolfbauer (16 rebounds) had her best game of the season, recording the double-double. Also solid on defense was Raquel Church.

Spartans edge Rocks

Livonia Stevenson defeated Salem, 40-32, Friday night, with Diane Senkowski (11 points, five steals) and Grace Lamerson (nine points, eight steals, three blocks) leading the charge for the Spartans. Helping the cause with eight points was Jackie Green.

For Salem, Jayna Lenders and Darby Scott scored nine and eight points, respectively.

"The game was a battle," Stevenson

head coach Karen Anger said. "Our goal was to push and run non-stop and we did that. Salem played us hard and we didn't do the best at boxing out tonight. We only had 15 team rebounds."

RU downs Thurston

Sisters Johnnae and Johnnia Steele scored 13 and 12 points, respectively, leading Redford Union to a 45-31 Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division win Friday at Redford Thurston (5-5, 2-2).

The Panthers, who led 23-13 at halftime and 35-23 after three quarters, also got 13 steals and four blocks from Angelica Wellons.

Thurston's Naudia Jackson led all scorers with 16 points, while Megan Abela was next with five.

Blazers edged

Julia Kennedy scored 11 points Friday as Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (8-3, 7-2) pulled out a 34-29 Catholic League Central Division victory at Livonia Ladywood (2-10, 1-8).

The Fighting Irish jumped out to a 23-16 halftime lead and held on the second half. Abbey Reppen and Maggie Shirk led the Blazers with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Cougars cage C'ville

In a WWAC Red Division game Friday, host Garden City (5-6, 2-2) got 13 points from Brittany Radtke in a 52-13 win over Livonia Clarenceville (1-10, 0-4). Myla Hoskins-King tallied a team-high eight for the Trojans.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Madonna teams sweep LTU

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Madonna University's men's basketball team enjoyed some home cooking Jan. 14 against Lawrence Technological University, riding the coattails of Salem alum Chris Dierker in an 89-73 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference victory.

Dierker was strong from the start, scoring 19 points and registering nine rebounds, leading Madonna in both categories.

Also in double figures for the Crusaders (9-11, 4-8 in the WHAC) were Austin Johnson (14 points), Khalil Malone (13 points) and Andrew Myers (13 points).

Contributing nine points was Stephan Umfress, while Zel Williams (seven points) and Jaryd Deakin (six points) helped the cause.

For the Blue Devils (3-15, 2-10), Pay-

ton DeWildt scored 31 points, while Robbie Geoghegan added 17.

Madonna built a 44-34 halftime lead and cruised to the win in the final 20 minutes, enjoying a 45-39 scoring edge.

The Crusaders outscored LTU 38-26 in the paint and 19-5 off turnovers.

MU women win

Meanwhile, shortly after Madonna honored coach Carl Graves (for most program wins) and 1,000-point scorer Lindsey Hernden, the women's basketball team posted an 83-78 victory over Lawrence Tech.

The Lady Crusaders (10-7 overall, 6-6 in the WHAC) were led by Michele Hayes, who scored 24 points and dished out 11 assists.

Hernden was held to eight points as she endured a rare rough day shooting (3-of-13), but there was more than enough offense thanks to Hayes, Becca Sabol (18 points) and Kacy Robinson (17



Before the Jan. 14 game at Madonna, 1,000-point scorer Lindsey Hernden (left) and Carl Graves, head coach of the Crusaders women's basketball team, were honored.

points). Madonna trailed 21-15 after one quarter, but came back with a strong second to go ahead at the break, 44-40. For Lawrence Tech (12-7, 8-4), Nicole

Buckingham scored 21 points, while Allison Kitchen chipped in 18.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports



Pulling down a rebound for Westland John Glenn is Khalil Wright.

TOM BEAUDOIN

ROCKETS

Continued from Page B1

and senior forward Khalil Wright, with 18 and 16 points, respectively.

Scoring 28 points for the Zebras was junior guard Rashad Williams, while sophomore guard Isaiah Lewis chipped in 11. Strong defense by the Rockets held Wayne senior guard Keion Epps to 11 points.

"You know what? Our guys step up when the game's on the line," John Glenn head coach Rod Watts said. "Christian Agnew struggled and got in foul trouble early on, but in the second half, he came out a lot more focused. Joe Moon, ice water in his veins.

"Daijon Parker, all those guys really came through for us. ... Daijon Parker's the premier big guy in our conference."

Wayne head coach Nkwane Young lamented what he called selfish play in the fourth quarter, which began with the Zebras up 49-45 following a 20-16 edge in the third. The game was 29-29 at halftime.

"I thought we were the better team, I just thought we played too selfish," Young said. "The ranking and all that stuff, you can kiss it goodbye. We got to get back to playing basketball. Too much one-on-one play."

Starting fast

The Rockets came out firing in the first quarter, with Moon burying a trey and Parker scoring a put-back to

make it 5-0 just 45 seconds into the contest.

That fast and furious pace continued. It was 21-16 John Glenn after one quarter, but an example of how ferociously both teams competed came in the final 10 seconds. John Glenn's Frankie Braxton tallied a layup with six seconds to go, but there still remained plenty of time for Wayne's Myron Burnette to go end-to-end and respond with a basket just before the buzzer sounded.

Both teams found it tougher in the second quarter, as defenses tightened and shots stopped falling. The Zebras ultimately tied the game 29-29 in the final minute of the half on a layup by Travez Nyx (10 points) to cap a late 5-0 run for the visitors.

Still, there were plenty of plays for the highlight reel. Early in the quarter, the Rockets' Wright went strong to the rim for an offensive rebound and put-back to increase Glenn's lead to 24-18.

Nyx showed he had through-the-lane moves for the Zebras, too, flying to the basket for a nifty finger roll to cut Wayne's deficit to 24-22.

Parker, who was a force on the glass for the Rockets, hit a bank shot and the game was 26-22 with 5:30 left.

Wayne rallied late, first with 1:26 left on a circus shot by Rashad Williams, who threw the ball in off the glass while falling backward. He hit the and-one for a three-point play to slice the John Glenn lead to 29-27.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

GYMNASTICS

Continued from Page B1

every day at practice and meets. She is always finding new ways to improve herself and scores.

"I am very proud of her and look forward to watching her improve more."

At the Lowell Invite, Livonia Blue registered a score of 139.5250, edging third-place Lowell (138.2). Taking the championship with 144.9750 was Rockford.

Earning the first-place finish in all-around Division 2 scoring was Weak, with 36.45. She earned first place in uneven parallel bars (9.2250) and vault (9.3), while placing third in floor exercise (9.35).

"Jessica had a great day," Broomfield said about the Lowell Invite. "She is the team captain and someone we can always count on. She come out strong swinging on bars and the rest of the meet followed the trend of great routines."

Teammates also helped the Livonia Blue cause, with Katie Grover finishing eighth in D2 all-around with 33.6.

On D2 floor, Maddie Williams and Megan Lord came in fourth and 10th, respectively, with scores of 9.3 and 8.85.

Williams placed seventh on beam (9.0) and fourth on bars (8.575) to help secure some points for Livonia Blue. Meanwhile, Grover's 8.8 was good for ninth place on D2 vault.

In Division 1 competition, Broomfield's team was bolstered by the versatility of Allison MacMartin, who placed third on floor (9.25), fourth on bars (7.6) and fourth on vault (8.45).



Livonia Blue's varsity gymnastics team celebrates following an impressive third-place finish at the Jan. 14 Lowell Invitational. The team followed that up with Wednesday's dual meet win against Canton.

"Allison MacMartin had a good meet as well placing in the events that she competed," Broomfield said. "She took a fall on bars, but that did not stop her from shining on the other events. Her best event was floor scoring a 9.25."

Broomfield said the way the team competed at Lowell "shows us what we need to improve on and what we are strong on. We have our goals set and we plan on trying to achieve them. We have two move invites coming up and we feel that we will put the best team forward and strive for success."

Stopping the Chiefs

Livonia Blue provided more evidence it intends to be heard from all season with the victory over Canton, which left both teams with a 2-1 record in the Kensington Division.

Chiefs head coach John Cunningham lamented that his team "could never get traction in the meet, taking no firsts or seconds and struggling throughout. Our only nine was Victoria Faber's 9.05 on floor."

Nines were plentiful for Canton's opponent, however.

Leading the way was Weak, with firsts of 9.2 on vault, 9.325 on bars,

9.125 on beam and 9.2 on floor. She shared honors on vault with Anissa Conway and on beam with Megan Lord. Also surpassing the 9-mark was Maddie Williams, with a 9.125 on floor.

Cunningham said Kelsea Kernosek was the best performer for the Chiefs, registering an all-around of 34.575 (vault, 8.9; bars, 8.575; beam, 8.35; floor, 8.75).

There were several other solid performances for Canton, however. Those included Katherine Najduk (vault, 8.9), Annika Wang (beam, 8.4), Katie Dickson (floor, 8.9), Jana Hilditch (floor, 8.8) and Rachel Socha (floor, 8.7).

Livonia Red falls

Junior Erin McCallum earned high scores of 9.35 on both vault and floor exercise Tuesday night as Northville edged host Livonia Red, 140.40-139.80, in a KLA Kensington Division tri-meet at Churchill High School.

In addition to McCallum, the Mustangs' Rachel Robitaille scored a career-high 9.2 on the uneven parallel bars, while Skyler Peppo added a career-best 9.2 on balance beam.

For Livonia Red, Mackenzie Borrmann and Olivia Dillon both had 9.35 on beam to finish in a tie for first place in that event.

Mikaela Hille earned 9.2 on floor and 9.15 on vault, while Dillon had 9.175 on floor. Also performing well for Livonia Red was Saydee Via, who finished with 9.15 on floor and 9.05 on beam. Megan Waters came close, with 8.9 on vault.

Waterford United, plagued by injuries, had only three available gymnasts and scored 66.425.

With the win, Northville improved to 3-1 in the division, while Livonia Red fell to 1-1.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

GIRLS HOCKEY

Ladywood improves to 10-0 with two wins

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com

Unbeaten Livonia Ladywood prepped for its three-game weekend trip to Traverse City with two more victories in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League.

On Jan. 15, CeCe Werner tallied a hat trick and Sydney Pilut chipped in two assists as the Blazers improved to 10-0 overall and 7-0 in the Michigan Metro with a 3-1 win over Walled Lake at Suburban Ice Rink-Farmington Hills.

Brooke Spiegel and Claire Doyle both added an assist for the Blazers, who led 2-1 after two periods following a scoreless opening period.

Goalie Samantha Erickson made 13 saves to post the shutout, while Walled Lake's Victoria Audette finished with 26 saves.

Julie Smith scored the lone goal for the Wild (10-2, 6-2) in the second period, assisted by Becca Williams.

On Jan. 14, Katie Hayward recorded two goals and one assist in leading the host Blazers to an 8-1 Michigan Metro victory over the Ann Arbor Skyron (3-3-1, 2-3-1) in a game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Bridget Folk and Werner both contributed a goal and assist for Ladywood, which led 2-0 after one period and 5-1 after two.

Other Ladywood goal scorers included Spiegel, Mary Breyer, Sydney and Victoria Pilut.

Cristina Rontondo collected two assists, while Adrianna Rugiero added one.

Starter Isabella Lorelli and Erickson combined for 11 saves.

bemons@hometownlife.com

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Victories for Ocelots bowlers, hockey team

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com

Nothing like a tournament championship to boost a team's confidence. Such was the case with the Schoolcraft College men's bowling squad — winner Jan. 13 at the Great Lakes Invitational, hosted by Muskegon Community College.

The Ocelots, coached by Patrick Yelsik, topped the 13-team field with 6,877 total pins in a photo finish. Schoolcraft held off a challenge from Ball State (6,854).

Sparking the Ocelots to victory were Michael Rees (a four-game series of 789), Matthew Gury (767) and Cody Farr (766). Livonia Stevenson graduate Eric Deyonker chipped in a 730 series, featuring a high game of 209 pins.

"This is the best competition that we're going to face until we get to the national tournament," Yelsik said. "So to perform the way that we did was big for our confidence, knowing that not only can we hang with schools like this, but we can beat them."

On the women's side of the tournament, Schoolcraft finished fifth overall with a 2,296 pin count. The top performer was Kayla Jackson, who earned a berth on the all-tournament team with a four-game series of 679.

Salem alum Rachel Boucha and Livonia

Franklin product Ashley Schou followed with respective series of 575 and 573.

Hockey team wins two

Schoolcraft College won a pair of men's club hockey games Jan. 13-14 at Purdue, 8-2 and 5-4.

In the series opener, the Ocelots scored four straight goals in the second period and coasted to the American Collegiate Hockey Association victory.

Lighting the lamp twice during the period was Livonia Stevenson alum Vinnie Glenn, while Sheldon Varhol (Garden City/Cabrini) and Livonia Churchill product Derek Klisz made it 4-0 in the final seconds of the period.

Klitz finished with a hat trick, scoring twice in the third period to keep the rout going for head coach Rob Lindsay's team. Playing well in goal was Matt Monendo.

Also behind the bench for the first time was his son, new associate coach Andrew Lindsay — who the previous week ended his playing career because he is not taking classes. The younger Lindsay worked with the forwards, while Brendan Ryan ran the defense.

The next night, the Ocelots overcame a sluggish start with two third-period goals by Zach Nichols, who tied the game at 4-4 and then scored the winner with 15:29 remaining.

SHOWCASE

Continued from Page B1

are Canton, Novi, Northville, Farmington and Farmington Hills Unified.

Each participating squad is guaranteed two games during the six-day extravaganza. It is becoming a go-to destination for college and junior hockey scouts to see as many teams and players they can over a short time span.

"The Public School Showcase is the biggest high school showcase in the state," Salem head coach Ryan Ossensmacker said. "From a statewide standpoint, it gives the opportunity to get a good collection of teams from all across the state. From an individual team's standpoint, we know we're going to get two competitive games.

"When the schedule's made, it's based on, as much as it can be, strength of teams ... it also provides our guys with an opportunity for increased exposure, a spot where scouts can come and

look at a bunch of teams."

Salem is scheduled to face Escanaba at 5:45 p.m. Thursday on the North Rink; the Rocks will follow that up with a game at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 against East Grand Rapids (also on the North Rink).

Livonia Churchill plays games at 8 p.m. Thursday against Hartland and at 6 p.m. Jan. 28 against Troy, both on the North Rink.

"The Showcase has become an annual part of our schedule," Chargers head coach Jason Reynolds said. "Each year, we've been seeded against very competitive opponents. Given the timing of the event, it serves as a great precursor to the postseason.

"In addition, it's a great opportunity to gain exposure for our players who aspire to play at a higher level after graduation."

Plymouth also will compete twice, at 1:45 p.m. Thursday against Troy (South Rink) and at 4:15 p.m. Jan. 28 against Forest Hills Central (North Rink).

Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento



noted that his team also will take part Feb. 2-4 at the annual Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League Prep Hockey Showcase, at Kennedy Ice Arena in Trenton. Also going to the back-to-back showcase tourneys will be Salem and Churchill.

"Both (events) are a great opportunity for high school teams and players to do exactly what their name states and that is to showcase themselves," Vento said. "It gives scouts and coaches from various junior leagues a unique opportunity to see the talent level that is playing high school hockey, which in turn gives the players a unique opportunity to possibly advance their playing career's after high school."

Vento said this will be his 10th trip to the MIHL Showcase and third to the

Public School Showcase "and what I enjoy most about them is not being so hyper-focused on winning or losing the games, but seeing how my players respond playing in that environment, knowing that several scouts are watching them play. For sure, both showcases are a highlight to our season."

Meanwhile, the Canton Chiefs are scheduled to play at the Chelsea event at 5:45 p.m. Monday against Grand Blanc and at 2:45 p.m. Wednesday against Bloomfield Hills, both on the South Rink.

Farmington and Farmington Hills Unified both play at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday on different rinks — the Falcons on the South Rink against Dearborn, while Unified takes on Lapeer on the North.

For more information about the Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase, go to mphsh.com. The arena is located at 501 Coliseum Drive in Chelsea.

tsmith@hometownlife.com
Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

TWINS

Continued from Page B1

not only at Stevenson, but also at Michigan State before Myles left for his final two collegiate seasons at Louisiana Tech.

And now during the off-season they are reunited once again at their new training home in Houston.

NFL contracts

Myles has re-signed with the New York Jets, after spending the early part of the season on their practice squad. Mitchell, meanwhile, signed last week with the Philadelphia Eagles after a magical and unpredictable season in the CFL that culminated in a 39-33 overtime win over the Calgary Stampeders for the Grey Cup title last November in Toronto.

"I guess the satisfaction I got out of it was that you get paid as a professional to win championships," said Mitchell, who spent his first two seasons in the CFL with Montreal. "And to say that we got the job done after a pretty weak season, that was really satisfying. It was an amazing feeling and I told the guys at Ottawa that I couldn't thank them enough for allowing me to join the organization and help them make that run to get over the hump. The one negative is that I won't be back there initially to help them defend that title."

With the help of his agent Steve Weinberg, Mitchell worked out and received contract offers from the Texans, Bears, Bengals and Jets. Philly showed the most interest in having him compete for a roster spot.

Mitchell played at MSU mostly as a backup and nicker back to future NFL cornerbacks Trae Waynes and Darqueze Dennard. A walk-on who earned a scholarship as a sophomore, White was a key special teams contributor for the Spartans in his four years before earning a tryout as an undrafted free agent with the Oakland Raiders.

Moving day

After being released, he wound up in Montreal for two seasons, where he made 58 tackles and an interception in 28 games for the Alouettes.

"When I got to the CFL, my whole goal was to make the NFL," Mitchell said. "It's hard, because there's relationships that I made with coaches and players (at Ottawa) and I know how much blood, sweat and tears that went into that championship."

Mitchell was in Montreal's training camp last summer, when the rug was pulled from underneath him. Signing a deal in 2016 that called on him to earn \$125,000, nearly \$40,000 higher than the average CFL salary, he was suddenly asked to take a pay cut just five months after agreeing to a contract.

"The reason why I didn't take the pay cut is that I knew I was going to be able to play somewhere else," Mitchell said. "I was willing to take that chance, but I felt if I let them cut my pay, then who's to say they wouldn't do that again? As a professional, that's some-

"I guess the satisfaction I got out of it was that you get paid as a professional to win championships. And to say that we got the job done after a pretty weak season, that was really satisfying. It was an amazing feeling and I told the guys at Ottawa that I couldn't thank them enough ..."

MITCHELL WHITE

"I had a decision and I just decided to go with New York (Jets). They made some changes with the offensive coordinator and the defensive coordinator and a few assistants, but the general manager and head coach are still intact."

MYLES WHITE

thing I can't stand for."

Mitchell sat idle for the first four weeks of the CFL season before the Redblacks called.

"They were actually really excited to sign me," Mitchell said. "I spoke to a guy in personnel office in Ottawa and he said they liked the guys that they had at corner specifically, but if something happens we'll end up giving you a call. Four weeks later, they called me and were excited to bring me up there. I felt like I was a top corner in that league. It was pretty exciting."

Change of plans

In Montreal, the 5-foot-10, 185-pound Mitchell played the boundary-side corner, but with Ottawa he went to the field-side corner, where he felt more at home.

"It was a really good situation for me, because their style of play in Ottawa was an aggressive style of defense," Mitchell said. "So that was tailor-made for me. They started the season 4-0, which made me nervous because when I got to the team, we had a three-game losing streak. They're a really talented team and, offensively, they scored a lot of points and, defensively, they had a lot of man-to-man coverage, so it was a high-risk, high-reward defense. It was just very beneficial."

Mitchell White went on to excel leading the Redblacks in interceptions (three), while adding 38 tackles and making the CFL all-star team for the first time.

The transition of moving between two of Canada's major cities was also an adjustment, but turned out to be a smooth ride.

"I actually loved it," Mitchell said of Ottawa. "What's funny is that I was in Montreal the first two years, real fast-paced. It's like the Las Vegas of Canada, just a lot of stuff going on, a lot of flash and lights. Ottawa is a big city with the population, but it had a small town feel. It was a really beautiful place, in my opinion. And, obviously, winning helped, so that made the city that much more enjoyable. All the fans were nice to you. If you had ask me in 2007 if I'd be in Ottawa, Canada, playing football, I'd have never thought or be able to think that. I feel blessed and fortunate to do that."

Four NFL stops

For Myles, moving from one NFL team to another has been a challenge in itself over the past four years.

An undrafted free agent as well, Myles made an impression in Green Bay's training camp juggling time between the Packers' practice squad and 53-man roster in 2013.

He played in seven games for Green Bay and made one connection that continues to make a lasting impression on his pro career — having played with quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

"Aaron is a unique individual in the aspect of, like, how great he really is," Myles said. "And I just don't say that because of his stats. I think he's one of those players similar to a Michael Jordan effect, where because he's playing at such a high level, the only way you can play with him is to try to see the game as he sees it and understand the offense on how he understands it. And once you do that with him, it's really a smoother part of the game. That's why I commend him at any opportunity I get. He constantly is getting people to play at his level. He's not a real, big vocal guy, but he has a standard and the standard is set and he expects you to be there. And that's what I think is what makes him really great."

After his time in Green Bay, which included another stint on the Packers' practice squad in 2014, Myles was on the move again, landing in 2015 with the New York Giants, where he appeared in 12 games while catching his first NFL touchdown pass.

New York minute

The 6-foot, 190-pound Myles, who has 16 NFL career receptions for 154 yards, returned to the Giants' roster in 2016, but was released during the pre-season.

The New York Jets then signed him to the practice squad before he was picked up and signed to the Bucs' practice squad for the final six weeks, making a connection with another up-and-coming quarterback.

"You see a lot of similarities with (Rodgers) and Jameis Winston," Myles said. "(Winston) has those same core values and he's a little bit more vocal and more of a natural leader, which is

making him and Tampa into a competitive team."

In favor of Tampa Bay, Myles decided to re-sign with the Jets. It seemed to be the best fit for him going forward into 2017.

"I'm very confident," he said. "I loved it there and I think I had a bigger grasp of the offense. I had a decision and I just decided to go with New York (Jets). They made some changes with the offensive coordinator and the defensive coordinator and a few assistants, but the general manager and head coach are still intact."

"Now at this point, whenever I'm on a practice squad, it's about me learning the offense. I don't think it's anything ability-wise cutting into it. These offenses are so intricate, so detail-oriented, that it just takes time to learn them. When you don't have a training camp and you don't have OTA sessions to learn that playbook ... unless you're a guy like (Terrell Owens), Antonio Brown, it's very difficult for you to come in get right into the mix of things as a receiver."

With the average life expectancy of an NFL player less than three years, Myles knows you can be there one day and gone the next.

No guarantees

"The thing about the NFL that a lot of people don't understand or realize is that you're never going to play for just one team," Myles said. "That's what they tell you day one when you get to the NFL. Joe Montana, as great as he was, was let go by San Francisco and played for Kansas City. Look at Steve Smith, the latest example. He's a Hall of Fame receiver and is known as a Carolina Panther, but they let him go and he went to Baltimore. You have to understand and accept that if you play in the NFL, you're going to be on multiple teams and learn multiple offenses."

"For a guy like myself, who was undrafted, I'm always going to work twice as hard to prove what I can do and how I can help a team. Luckily, for my situation, I've been able to stick around because I've had practice squad eligibility. I've been able to take the time to learn offenses and then get bumped up to the active roster and then I'm ready to go."

With both entering their fifth pro season, the White twins cherish their time during the off-season while trying to soak it all in.

Myles hangs out with his with his 4-year-old son Michael as much as possible, while Mitchell preps to make Philly's 53-man roster "and help them win games."

"We've been down here three-and-a-half years training," Mitchell said of being in Houston. "It's the ideal place to train. It makes it easy to get good work in."

And like another famous Beatles tune from the "Revolver" album, when it comes to the White twins, "Tomorrow Never Knows."

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Watch for these employment trends in 2017

BY MATT FERGUSON
CAREERBUILDER

With a divisive election season behind us and a new administration taking over, many job seekers may be wondering how their employment prospects will be affected in the new year. The good news is that employers are entering 2017 watchful yet optimistic, an approach that is reflected in their hiring plans.

According to CareerBuilder's annual job forecast, three out of four employers report that they are in a better financial position than they were a year ago, which is making them more confident about adding people to their payrolls. In turn, the hiring outlook for 2017 is the best the U.S. has seen in a decade, with 40 percent of employers planning to hire full-time, permanent employees this year, up from 36 percent in 2016. Thirty percent of employers expect to increase their number of part-time, permanent employees in 2017, up from 26 percent last year. Temporary and contract hiring is also expected to increase.

This uptick in hiring is the catalyst for other trends identified in the forecast, including the need for employers to offer more competitive wages and reskill and upskill work-



GETTY IMAGES

ers to fill in-demand roles. At the same time, employers expect job seekers to evolve their skills to keep up with the modern workforce.

Here is a closer look at the key employment trends to track in 2017:

Opportunities abound in temporary and contract hiring.

A trend that has emerged over the past several years is the growing demand for temporary labor. This will continue to be strong in 2017 because

it allows employers to have more flexibility with their staff levels. In fact, 51 percent of employers plan to hire temporary or contract workers in 2017, an increase from 47 percent last year.

Temporary hiring also offers job seekers the advantage of flexibility, as it gives them a chance to determine if a position is the right fit without having to make a long-term commitment. At the same time, there will be opportunities for job seekers to turn their temporary or contract job

into a career, as 63 percent of employers plan to transition some temporary or contract workers into permanent roles in 2017, up from 58 percent last year.

Companies are under pressure to pay better.

With more employers planning to hire in 2017, competition to recruit top talent will be fierce, which will ultimately benefit workers' pocketbooks. Two-thirds of employers plan to increase salaries on initial job offers, with 30 percent of all employers increasing salaries by 5 percent or more. Forty-seven percent of employers expect to increase the minimum wage at their organizations, and of those employers, 44 percent will increase it by \$3 or more.

Hard skills alone won't get job seekers hired.

As more functions within organizations become automated, employers are placing a higher value on workers' soft skills (e.g., having a positive attitude, being team-oriented, dependability), which can't be replicated by technology. When evaluating whom they will hire this year, 62 percent of employers rated candidates' soft skills as very important. While the right background and experience may get job seekers in the door, a mix of both hard

and soft skills will more likely get them the job offer.

Workers must be comfortable with social media.

Social media has officially crossed over from a hobby to a professional skill. According to the survey, 63 percent of employers say they expect employees across job functions to have some experience with social media. Employees in today's workforce must be social-media-savvy if they want to stay competitive.

Employers are more open to hiring less experienced workers.

One of the key challenges for companies in 2017 will be bridging talent gaps within their organizations. To do this, employers are reskilling and upskilling workers for difficult-to-fill positions: 55 percent of employers say they will train workers who don't have experience in their field and hire them in 2017.

Job seekers who on paper may not be the right fit for a role but who show potential will have a chance to pursue a better-paying, more fulfilling position.

Matt Ferguson is the CEO of CareerBuilder and co-author of "The Talent Equation" (thetalentequationbook.com).

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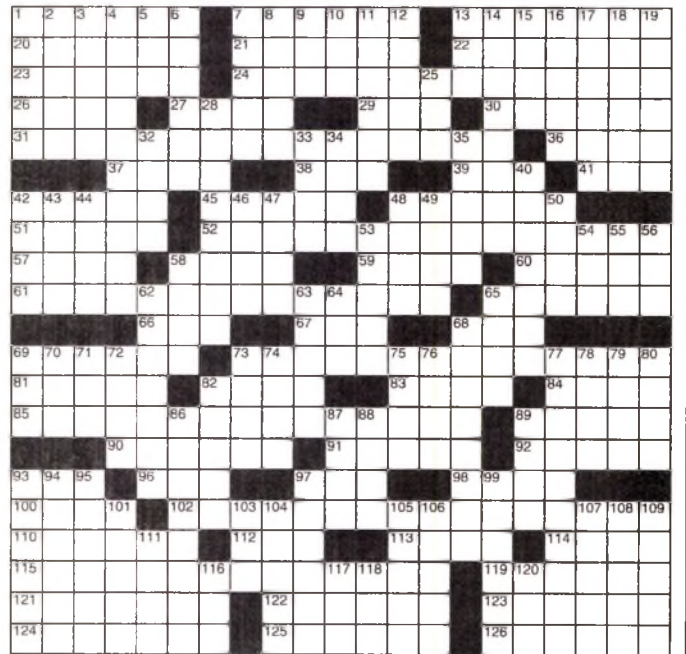
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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Like galaxies and nebulae
 - 7 Cry after a long wait
 - 13 Beef or pork alternative
 - 20 Nabokov novel
 - 21 Obi-wearing companion
 - 22 Volcanic flow
 - 23 Is a hammy actor
 - 24 Start of a riddle
 - 26 Extras for devices
 - 27 See 8-Down
 - 29 — out a win (just prevail)
 - 30 Long Island town with a Triple Crown racetrack
 - 31 Riddle, part 2
 - 36 Corn bread
 - 37 Barracks site (city in O.)
 - 39 Sweet oil
 - 41 Scuff up, e.g.
 - 42 Opposing voters
 - 45 March Madness, with "the"
 - 48 More spiteful
 - 51 Jack up, e.g.
 - 52 Riddle, part 3
 - 57 Brow shape
 - 58 Boxer's prize
 - 59 Astral bear
 - 60 "Robinson Crusoe" novelist
 - 61 Riddle, part 4
 - 65 Banquets
 - 66 "Allie" lyricist
 - 67 Scuba sites, for short
 - 68 Ending for pay
 - 69 Blockhead
 - 73 Riddle, part 5
 - 81 Front wheel convergence
 - 82 Not of the cloth
 - 83 Jed's furry friend
 - 84 Butter lookalike
 - 85 End of the riddle
 - 89 Shrimplike crustacean
 - 90 Exploding water balloon
 - 91 Triple-time dance, in Dijon
 - 92 Ira Levin's "Before Dying"
 - 93 Angry feeling
 - 96 Used a sofa
 - 97 Danson of "Cheers"
 - 98 Trunk growth
 - 100 Seat of Grand County, Utah
 - 102 Start of the riddle's answer
 - 110 Apartment window sign
 - 112 Hover offering, for short
 - 113 Blockhead
 - 114 Go bankrupt
 - 115 End of the riddle's answer
 - 119 Nobel winner
 - 121 Northern French port
 - 122 Prix fixe part
 - 123 Moo makers
 - 124 Arid quality
 - 125 Eternal City citizens
 - 126 Enters, as a PIN
 - 8 With 27-Across, Pavarotti number, e.g.
 - 9 Ignited, as a fire
 - 10 Fire leftover
 - 11 Bedclothes
 - 12 In bad taste
 - 13 "Evita" role
 - 14 Grand Guevara
 - 15 — cost ya' siams, e.g.
 - 16 Put in a vise
 - 17 Blast sound
 - 18 Actress
 - Lynch of four Harry Potter films
 - 19 Talk on and on
 - 25 Playboy founder, familiarly
 - 28 Tool for moving just-baked bread or pizza
 - 32 Publisher
 - 33 Persian king
 - 34 Try, for short
 - 3 Sking locale
 - 4 Mirage
 - 5 Ending for Manhattan
 - 42 Hunter of Moby Dick
 - 43 Screenwriter
 - 44 Nervous twitches
 - 46 Baby cow
 - 47 Entr—
 - 48 Ford make until '11
 - 49 Celtic language
 - 50 Emu cousin
 - 53 "Bring It On" star Kirsten
 - 54 Suppositions
 - 55 Light had
 - 56 "So Fine" (Chiffons hit)
 - 58 Trying lot
 - 62 Lat-building exercises
 - 63 Building pest
 - 64 Get it wrong
 - 65 Clamorous criticism
 - 68 Often-requested Italian song
 - 69 Extreme degree
 - 70 Debtor's note
 - 71 With 99-Down, brunch time, often after clown outfits
 - 73 "It—be!"
 - 74 Bops
 - 75 Prosperity
 - 76 Pointed tools
 - 77 Minimization of job-related hazards
 - 78 Jai follower
 - 79 Hedge plants
 - 80 Father's Day callers
 - 82 Averse (to)
 - 86 Big dishes
 - 87 At any time
 - 88 Dry riverbed
 - 89 Onetime
 - 93 "Someone informed me"
 - 94 Housetop laborer
 - 95 A bit crude
 - 97 Electronic music genre
 - 99 See 71-Down
 - 101 Irish writer
 - 103 Biblical exile
 - 104 Origami need
 - 105 Routinely
 - 106 Pharmacy measures
 - 107 Hook worms
 - 108 Palmer or Lehmann
 - 109 "Juno" star
 - 111 Campbell of "Party of Five"
 - 116 The, to Luc
 - 117 It splits out \$20 bills
 - 118 Big gun gp.
 - 120 File refusal

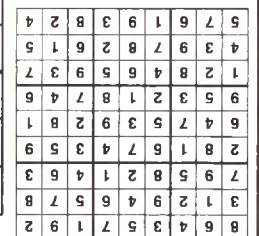


For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702/4247 or smccllellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU



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



TIE THE KNOT WORD SEARCH



WORDS

- ATISLE
- ARBOR
- BANDSTAND
- BAR
- BLISHER
- BOUQUET
- BUDGET
- BUFFET
- CANDLES
- CARDSTOCK
- CATERING
- CELEBRANT
- CHARGER
- CHAUFFEUR
- DINNER
- EMPLOYMENT
- EMCEE
- ENGAGEMENT
- EVENTS
- GARLAND
- GOON
- GUESTS
- MARQUISE
- MARRIAGE
- NOSEGAY
- NUPTIAL
- OFFICIANT
- PARURE
- PLANNER
- RUNNER
- SPOUSE
- STATIONS
- TUXEDO
- VEIL
- VENUE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

Crossword Answers

1 Like galaxies and nebulae: GALAXIES
 7 Cry after a long wait: WAIL
 13 Beef or pork alternative: HAM
 20 Nabokov novel: INVOKED
 21 Obi-wearing companion: YODA
 22 Volcanic flow: LAWA
 23 Is a hammy actor: HOG
 24 Start of a riddle: RIDDLE
 26 Extras for devices: ADD-ONS
 27 See 8-Down: DOWN
 29 — out a win (just prevail): WIN
 30 Long Island town with a Triple Crown racetrack: BELLEVILLE
 31 Riddle, part 2: RIDDLE
 36 Corn bread: CORN
 37 Barracks site (city in O.): CANTON
 39 Sweet oil: OLIVE
 41 Scuff up, e.g.: SCUFF
 42 Opposing voters: OPPOSITES
 45 March Madness, with "the": MADNESS
 48 More spiteful: SPITEFUL
 51 Jack up, e.g.: JACK
 52 Riddle, part 3: RIDDLE
 57 Brow shape: BROW
 58 Boxer's prize: PRIZE
 59 Astral bear: POLARIS
 60 "Robinson Crusoe" novelist: DEFOE
 61 Riddle, part 4: RIDDLE
 65 Banquets: BANQUETS
 66 "Allie" lyricist: ALLIE
 67 Scuba sites, for short: SCUBA
 68 Ending for pay: PAY
 69 Blockhead: BLOCKHEAD
 73 Riddle, part 5: RIDDLE
 81 Front wheel convergence: CONVERGENCE
 82 Not of the cloth: NOT
 83 Jed's furry friend: YODA
 84 Butter lookalike: BUTTER
 85 End of the riddle: RIDDLE
 89 Shrimplike crustacean: SHRIMP
 90 Exploding water balloon: WATER BALLOON
 91 Triple-time dance, in Dijon: WALTZ
 92 Ira Levin's "Before Dying": DYING
 93 Angry feeling: ANGER
 96 Used a sofa: SOFA
 97 Danson of "Cheers": DANSON
 98 Trunk growth: TRUNK
 100 Seat of Grand County, Utah: GRAND
 102 Start of the riddle's answer: RIDDLE
 110 Apartment window sign: SIGN
 112 Hover offering, for short: HOVER
 113 Blockhead: BLOCKHEAD
 114 Go bankrupt: BANKRUPT
 115 End of the riddle's answer: RIDDLE
 119 Nobel winner: NOBEL
 121 Northern French port: PORT
 122 Prix fixe part: PRIX
 123 Moo makers: MOO
 124 Arid quality: ARID
 125 Eternal City citizens: CITIZENS
 126 Enters, as a PIN: PIN
 8 With 27-Across, Pavarotti number, e.g.: PAVAROTTI
 9 Ignited, as a fire: FIRE
 10 Fire leftover: LEFTOVER
 11 Bedclothes: BEDCLOTHES
 12 In bad taste: TASTE
 13 "Evita" role: ROLE
 14 Grand Guevara: GUEVARA
 15 — cost ya' siams, e.g.: SIAM
 16 Put in a vise: VISE
 17 Blast sound: BLAST
 18 Actress: ACTRESS
 Lynch of four Harry Potter films: LYNCH
 19 Talk on and on: TALK
 25 Playboy founder, familiarly: PLAYBOY
 28 Tool for moving just-baked bread or pizza: PIZZA
 32 Publisher: PUBLISHER
 33 Persian king: PERSIAN
 34 Try, for short: TRY
 3 Sking locale: SKIING
 4 Mirage: MIRAGE
 5 Ending for Manhattan: MANHATTAN
 42 Hunter of Moby Dick: HUNTER
 43 Screenwriter: SCREENWRITER

Word Search

ATISLE, ARBOR, BANDSTAND, BAR, BLISHER, BOUQUET, BUDGET, BUFFET, CANDLES, CARDSTOCK, CATERING, CELEBRANT, CHARGER, CHAUFFEUR, DINNER, EMPLOYMENT, EMCEE, ENGAGEMENT, EVENTS, GARLAND, GOON, GUESTS, MARQUISE, MARRIAGE, NOSEGAY, NUPTIAL, OFFICIANT, PARURE, PLANNER, RUNNER, SPOUSE, STATIONS, TUXEDO, VEIL, VENUE

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Car Report

FORD AND FLAT ROCK PLANT WILL GAIN AS COMPANY PIVOTS TO SELF-DRIVEN, EV FUTURE – EVEN WHILE NODDING TO TRUMP



By Dale Buss

On the whole, the North American International Auto Show this week promises more of the same to Metro Detroit residents who've been waiting a year for the next gander at the hottest new sheetmetal and the most robust new engines that the Big Three and their rivals will be rolling out in coming months and years.

But have no doubt: The weight of the show is quickly shifting to showcase developments in electrification, automated driving and mobility services, including the new adjunct to the show this year, AutoMobili-D.

And Detroit's two leading hometown automakers exemplify the shift.

Ford generated its share of excitement at the press preview of the show this week, as usual. It introduced an improved version of the F-150 pickup truck, America's best-selling vehicle. Ford also confirmed that it will be bringing back two iconic nameplates: the Bronco SUV and the Ranger mid-size pickup truck, which are expected to be built in Wayne.

For good measure, Ford is showing off its ear-splitting, \$400,000 Ford GT sports car at NAIAS again this year, demonstrating to those concerned that the auto industry has not lost touch with its performance fans even in the era of quiet, fuel-sipping electric cars that everyone wants to see driven by machines.

And Ford has made clear that it has become an aggressive player in the forming market for ride-sharing, car-sharing and other mobility services as well as self-driving cars. Like other automakers, Ford also is pushing hard for further

electrification of its vehicle fleet so that it can meet stiffening U.S. and California fuel-economy and emissions requirements—and have them available assuming that mainstream demand for EVs eventually picks up.

At the same time, CEO Mark Fields has been tapping the brakes on immediate expectations for Ford, for its sales and prospects for the year ahead.

The company began taking a dimmer view of the near-term future of the U.S. auto market last summer, when it controlled production and kept inventories in check in anticipation that 2016 overall car sales might not match last year's record.

Meanwhile, cross-town rival General Motors took a more optimistic view, with its production figures underscoring that.

Sure, GM has had to close a few small-car plants this month for a week or two. But automotive CEOs at the Detroit auto show seemed to be coalescing around the view now that 2017 US sales could be at least as good as 2016, in which sales came in at a record for the seventh consecutive years, at 17.55 million vehicles.

For its part, Ford is sticking with a rather sober view of 2017. Fields said in a presentation at Deutsche Bank's global automotive conference that he expects lower profitability for Ford's auto operations this year, in part because of investments in new-era services and technologies—as



The new 2018 Ford F-150

well as in 11 new product launches planned globally for this year.

But, Fields said in his presentation. Ford expects its profitability to strengthen in 2018 due to its ongoing efforts to strengthen current product pillars such as its F Series truck line and SUVs, and to optimize weak areas of the business such as the Lincoln brand, and small cars sold abroad.

Meanwhile, General Motors' Maven car-sharing unit is an important arena for the automaker not only to explore and innovate mobility services but also is becoming an important business in its own right, Julia Steyn, who heads Maven for GM, said at NAIAS.

Steyn said that after just a year or so in business, GM decided that Maven "is not just a mobility experiment; we can truly build a business. We're now serving 8,000

residents all over the country."

Among other reasons to believe that Maven is a business with strong potential rather than simply a skunk works, Steyn said, is that "we see the rise of the gig economy, especially with the young workforce who want to work flexible hours" – and so are prime customers for Maven.

And as far as building a startup-type company in Detroit, and under the wing of GM – neither of which have great reputations for fostering that sort of thing – Steyn was enthusiastic.

"It's extremely easy" to recruit the right talent to Maven from anywhere, she said. "People are proud to be part of Detroit. The auto industry is on the cusp of merging technology with the real assets that the automotive industry has created. There's no more exciting industry on the planet."



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