ST. JOSEPH MERCY OPENS URGENT CARE AT SCHOOLCRAFT LOCAL NEWS, A5

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LOCAL NEWS, A2

THURSDAY 10.05.17 II HOMETOWNLIFE.COM II PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Westland awarded \$42K JAG Grant

Money to be used for instruction and equipment

The Westland City Council will vote Oct. 16 to approve a \$38,000 contract with Quandrant 2 Education for the continued management of the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center Learning Center. Funding for this partnership is provided by a \$42,200 Michigan State Police JAG Grant, which the city was re-

Cently awarded. Quadrant 2 Education pro-vides programming and teach-ers for the JBCVC Learning Center to provide coding instruction and tutoring. The grant will allow the Learning ab to continue its regular house of 4-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and a summer program of enhanced coding events. The additional \$4,200 the grant provides will be used for equipment and city expenses. Westland police officers are

also an integral part of the program, interacting with students on a regular basis

"Having Quadrant 2 as a managing partner has been enriching for many students who have utilized the learning center," Mayor William Wild said. "Last year, the program saw a 35-percent increase from the first year and we

expect the usage to continue to rise

Students ages 10-18 are welcome to participate in the Learning Center. There is no cost to participate.

For more information, contact the Learning Center at sean@quadrant2coaching.com or call the JBCVC at 734-595-0288



Runners from Love Runs ran 20 miles recently in Hines Park. They are raising money to fight human trafficking and preparing to run in the Detroit Free Press marathon. BRIAN CRAIG

Marathon runners fight human trafficking

Darrell Clem hometownlife.com

Just a few dollars can help a human trafficking victim. And hundreds of runners from a NorthRidge Church group, Love Runs, are making huge strides to help. They have raised an aston-

ishing \$949,505 in three years. This year alone, they have raised \$241,000 and counting toward their \$500,000 goal as they again prepare to run Oct. 15 in the Detroit Free Press marathon.

Love Runs director Veronica Coker of Belleville said 431 runners are participating this

vear and raising money for organizations that work to rescue, house and feed human trafficking victims and help them find a road to recovery.

Mark Bacchus of Canton, a Love Runs volunteer leader, said the money raised goes to Detroit-area organizations that fight back against "modern

day slavery" - organizations such as Vista Maria, S.O.A.P., The Salvation Army and All Worthy of Love

Bacchus said young teen girls are the most common victims of human trafficking. whether they run away from home, get involved in drugs or merely try to escape a life of

poverty. He said some are coerced on social media or by their own families and friends. The problem isn't happen-

ing just in big cities. "Surprisingly," Bacchus said, "the issue also thrives commonly within typical sub-

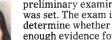
See RUNNERS, Page A3

Next court date scheduled for Livonia woman in manslaughter case

David Veselenak ometownlife.com

A Livonia woman accused





preliminary examination date was set. The exam is used to determine whether there is enough evidence for a case to

late last year in the 9300 block of Iowa after reports of Kleeman not breathing. The boy was taken to the hospital,

between the wall and the mattress If convicted. Neuman faces

up to 15 years in prison. She

of manslaughter will return to court in a few weeks for a preliminary examination.

Leslie Neuman, 33, is scheduled to appear before Judge Kathleen McCann at 11 a.m. Oct. 26 in Livonia's 16th District Court for an exam. She's charged with involuntary manstem from an incident that left

her 5-month-old Neuman son, Connor

Kleeman, dead back on Dec 29

Neuman appeared Sept. 28 before McCann for a probable cause conference, when the

go to trial

A new attorney has been retained and requested more time for discovery and review of documents pertaining to her case. She was originally charged Sept. 18.

Livonia first responders were called to Neuman's home

where he was pronounced dead.

Police say Kleeman's death resulted from Neuman falling asleep in a bed with the infant in it after she had consumed some alcohol. When she woke up the next morning, police say she found the child lodged

remains free on a \$100,000/10 percent bond and is required to do alcohol testing as a condition of her bond.

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LOCAL NEWS

Shake a leg: Sock hops help seniors socialize

Maria Taylor Correspondent

Southeast Michigan seniors love to shake a leg.

leg. Poodle skirts, ponytails and Pink Lady jackets were the outfit du jour last week as some 170 social seniors met up for a "Throwback Thursday" sock hop, held Sept. 21 at the Novi Civic Center.

The bash was the latest in a biannual series hosted by the Senior Socialites, a two-yearlong collaboration among the senior services divisions of Novi, Northville, Farmington Hills, Livonia and South Lyon.

Last year featured a '70s Woodstock throwback called "Senior-Stock," with attendees coming from as far as Wixom, Commerce, Brighton and Milford.

Judy Klein is the recreation programmer for Novi's department of older adult services.

"It's an opportunity for seniors, especially those in retirement communities, to meet a wider group of people," she said. "They like the '50s, like to dance, like to dress up and meet new friends."

Joining the five directors were students from the Madonna University school of nursing, who donned '50s attire to help serve dinner and run the activities.

"We wanted them to see the positive side of

CORRECTION

A story in the Sept. 28 Observer about the planned sale of Livonia Public Schools property to a developer, "Livonia Schools to sell school sites to home builder,"



Edwin Leonard of Farmington Hills dances with his partner. MARIA TAYLOR

aging," said Pam Camer-

on, coordinator of senior

adult services for North-

good times to be had. By the time you're seniors,

ville. "There's a lot of

incorrectly stated the

the lowest bidder. The

buyer, Infinity Homes

bidder for the land, ac-

cording to LPS officials.

Inc., was the highest

property is being sold to

you're not afraid to have fun, to do things that might be a little silly. It's like being a kid again."

Ginger Gillick (left) of Allen Park and Carrie Cavanaugh of South Lyon play a pass-the-dice

Fun and games were aplenty, with activities like a costume contest and hula hooping contest, interspersed with dancing to jams like "Shake, Rattle and Roll" and "Hello, Mary Lou," performed by Motor City Syndicate. There were root beer

floats, creamsicles and a chicken dinner – and, for the brave, a contest to see who could blow the biggest bubble gum bubble and have it measured before the music ran out or the bubble popped. Jeri Alam of Novi, in

Jeri Alam of Novi, in her pink poodle skirt and gauzy pink scarf, ended up going home with a gift basket as the winner of the costume contest. She said she started dancing about five years ago. Her partner couldn't make it that night, so she came with a girlfriend.

"I was a little reluctant to dance without a partner, but then I finally thought, 'What the heck!' and went out on the dance floor," she said.

She's making up for lost time. As a girl in the '50s, her father was pretty strict: "I couldn't even go to my senior prom!" Edwin Leonard of

Farmington Hills came for the music and stayed for the dancing. It's his first time attending one of the Senior Socialite events. "I love the '50s music – you don't hear it anymore," he said. "I'll be coming back."



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Gas station robbed, police search for suspect

David Veselenak hometownlife.com

Livonia police are searching for a man they say robbed a local gas station at gunpoint.

Police say the suspect entered the Sunoco gas station, 29835 Eight Mile, at about 8:40 p.m. Sept. 25. The man purchased some gas and left the shop.

He later came back in wearing a hat and produced a semiautomatic handgun before demanding cash from the clerk. He fled the store with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Police say the man is about 25 years old, stands between 5 feet, 10 inches, and 6 feet tall, light complexion, short black hair and a goatee. He was wearing a white T-shirt, khaki pants, black or brown shoes and a baseball cap with



logo. He's believed to have fled in a darkcolored Cadillac.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Livonia police at

ninfor-734-678-6728 Taged to Twitter: @DavidVeselenak ice at

LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

Retail fraud

Police were called Sept. 28 to Meijer, 13000 Middlebelt, on the report of a retail fraud suspect in custody.

When police arrived, they spoke to an employee, who said they saw the suspect at the self-checkout scanning items. The employee said they saw the suspect scanning items, but placing others that weren't scanned on the checkout onto the belt. She completed the transaction and left without paying for several items. She was stopped by an employee before leaving and was detained. Police arrived and spoke to her and her caretaker, who said she had been starting to "slip." She was issued a citation and released at the scene.

Package missing

A resident who lives in the 27600 block of Perth came into the police station Sept. 26 to report a stolen package.

dveselenak@

hometownlife.com

He said he ordered some rims online and expected a package of rims delivered from UPS. He said he received a notification that the package had been delivered and left at the back door. His wife also returned home, but did not see the package on the back porch. When the man came home, he could not locate it either. He believed it was stolen.

— By David Veselenak



Meet the eight running for Livonia City Council

David Veselenak

Still wanting to hear from the eight candidates running for a seat on the Livonia City Council? Hometownlife.com has you covered.

We asked all eight candidates to come and record a short video speaking to voters about why they should receive your vote this Nov. 7. All eight came in and answered this question: "Why should voters select you for the Livonia City Council?"

The eight candidates running are: Jim Jolly, Brian Meakin, Cathy White, Steve King, James Hooper, Gerald Perez, Laura Toy and Suzan Hyssen. They are running for four open seats on the council, three of which are currently occupied by Meakin, Jolly and White. Councilwoman Maureen Miller Brosnan is term-limited and cannot run again this election cycle.

The top three finishers will each receive a fouryear term on the body, while the fourth-place finisher will receive a two-year term. In addition, the top vote-getter



Candidates for Livonia city council appeared at a League of Women Voters forum last month. DAVID VESELENAK | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

will become the council president and the secondplace finisher will become the council vice president.

Their responses are being posted to hometownlife.com, where voters can check out each of the eight candidates' videos to learn a little more about them. In addition to these videos, be sure to check out our coverage from last month of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County's voter forum, as well as the forum hosted by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to that coverage, the League of Women Voters also has its voters guide online with responses from candidates. Those can be accessed by going to vote411.org and typing in your home address to see the races.

The videos can be found individually at hometownlife.com. Special thanks to Biggby Coffee at 37403 Ann Arbor Road in Livonia for allowing us to shoot these videos in their conference room.

Absentee ballots are currently available for those unable to make it to the polls Election Day, which is Nov. 7. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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

Art tour of Detroit set for Oct. 14

Detroit AM Rotary has scheduled Detroit Contemporary Art Tour, a chauffeured tour of the fabulous art in city, for 1-6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14. Ride on a motor coach from Livonia into the city of Detroit to tour locations of art on the streets. in galleries, indoors and outdoors. At each stop you will meet the artists and they will tell you what inspires them, why they work in Detroit, how their art allows them to express themselves, why art is important to them and more.

The tour will start at the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College on Haggerty Road. There will be wine, beer, water and goodies on the bus. Chef Crystal, 2017 Winner of Food Network TV's "Chopped" TV show, will provide d'oeuvres, savory goodies, salads or desserts throughout the afternoon.

The tour will be make three to five stops. Dress for the weather and for some walking. There will be both indoor and outdoor stops and there will be places to sit along the way. At the end of the day, there will be an opportunity to purchase art; some of the proceeds will benefit Detroit AM Rotary and its projects, including work with The Children's Center, Green Living Science and Threads for Success which your ticket will help to pay for. Tickets, \$100 per per-

Tickets, \$100 per person, are only available online at https://goo.gl/ XTPxSk. There is limited walking at each venue, depending on the venue. The venues are the African Bead Museum, Wasserman Gallery and the Belt. The tour ends at the Chaps Lofts. Each has bathroom facilities. The bus holds 54 and should leave by 1:30 p.m. at the latest. Expected return time is 6 p.m.

For more information, go to www.detroitamrotary.org.



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Money to fight human trafficking in metro Detroit is being raised by runners with Love Runs out of NorthRidge Church. BRIAN CRAI

RUNNERS

Continued from Page A1

urbia settings."

The statistics are disturbing. Every 30 seconds, human trafficking claims its next victim, whether it's a young girl, boy or an adult woman or man.

Coker said the average victim is drawn into human trafficking at age 12-14. She said Michigan ranks among the top 10 states for the problem, with some studies ranking it as high as second in the nation.

"We're among the worst," she said.

Some statistics are difficult to pinpoint, Coker said, partly because so much of human traffick-

.

ing goes unreported. But a little money

Just \$10 can buy food and a hygiene kit; \$14 can cover the cost of housing a human trafficking victim for a night.

Love Runs is making an immeasurable difference as it inches toward the \$1 million mark.

Love Runs is based at NorthRidge, a megachurch in Plymouth Township. However, marathon participants come from multiple churches, while some runners belong to no church, Coker said. Runners this year are coming from as far away as California and one is from Windsor, Canada.

Runners recently finished a 20-mile practice run in Hines Park before they began to scale back their efforts so that they don't tire their bodies out before the marathon, Coker said.

NorthRidge Church has been involved in numerous fundraisers that make a difference. Past runners have raised money to bring clean drinking water to areas of Africa, but Love Runs is keeping the money in the Detroit area.

"We recognized that we also needed to have a local presence," Coker said. "That's very important to us."

For more on Love Runs or to donate, go to http://www.loveruns.org.

dclem@hometownlife.com Twitter: @CantonObserver 734-972-0919 sion of

creating

help visitors find

DIA honors volunteers at annual awards luncheon

The Detroit Institute of Arts honored eight volunteers with service awards Sept. 25 at its annual volunteer luncheon at the museum. From July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, 661 volunteers contrib uted 59,696 service hours. This equates to almost \$1.5 million in economic value to the museum.

"Our dedicated volunteers help us fulfill the



personal meaning in art individually and with each other," said Salvador Salort-Pons, DIA director. "We are happy to honor them and thank them for their valuable service to the DIA and our visitors.

The DIA's Volunteer Council, which celebrates its 55th anniversary this year, comprises six committees serving various areas of the museum. Awards to a volunteer in

each committee went to: » Staff aide — Susan Deacon, Livonia » Detroit Film Thea-ter usher — Steven Da-

vis, Ferndale » Gallery Information

burg

- Susan Jones, Davis-

WESTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

» Gallery Service — Howard Thomas, Royal Oak

» Interpretive Programs volunteer — Mar-jorie Fein, Grosse Pointe Shores

» Museum Shop vol-unteer — Stephanie Yashinsky, Bloomfield Township Two special service

awards were also given. The Luther Chanev Sunshine Award was presented to Louise

Haener of Riverview. The award is named after a former security officer known for exemplary customer service and is granted to a volunteer, who during the current volunteer year, has demonstrated exceptional helpfulness and friendliness to the public inside or outside the museum and to other volunteers and staff. The Distinguished

Service Award went to

Michael Chall of Livonia. It is given to a volunteer who, through long-term service and outstanding dedication, made an exceptional contribution as a member of the volunteer council.

The longest-serving volunteers honored with service pins were Mary Ann Lawlis of Grosse Pointe Woods for 45 years and Diane Kaplan of West Bloomfield for 40 years.

Job Seeker Lab

Monday, Oct. 9, 16, 23 and 30, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 3-5 p.m

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email address or searching job boards and websites? We can help! Dropin.

Explore Your Genealogy

Tuesday, Oct. 10, 17 and 24, 7-8:30 p.m.

This four-part series will take users on journey, exploring genealogy from the basics of how to search to finding organizations and groups to help you grow your study. You will leave this program ready to search out family connections. Computers will be provided for the last three sessions, but feel free to bring your own device. Registration is required.

Chess Club

Thursday, Oct. 12, 19 and 26, 6-8:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, 21

and 28, 1-4:30 p.m. Come to the Westland Chess Group and hang out and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours Novices to chess masters are all welcome.

The Haunted feat. Kristy Robinett

Thursday, Oct. 5, 6-8 p.m. Spiritual adviser and

psychic medium Kristy Robinett will talk about her most haunted encounters and help instruct others going through a haunting.

ESL Weekly Conversations

Friday, Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 10-11:30 a.m. Join us and practice your English skills in a classroom setting with an emphasis on conversation. This 10-week ses-sion will be conducted by Auralie Messenger and will continue through Nov. 17.

Game Day Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, Oct. 7, 1-3

p.m. Prove that you are a top chef! Enter our Chili Cook-Off for a chance to win \$75 and a gift certificate to Qdoba. Selection of the winner will be by popular vote. If you

would like to enter, please fill out and return your entry form by 5 p.m. Sept. 30. You can download an entry form or pick one up in person at the library. During the Cook-Off, we will also have games and a random prize drawing.

Leo's AM Book Discussion

Monday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m. to noon

Join Mary the second Monday of the month at Leo's on Warren for our new morning book club. Get your copy of the book at the Reference Desk a month before the meeting. The October title is "I Remember Nothing" by Nora Ephron.

Computer Basics

Monday, Oct. 9, 2-3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 7-8

p.m. This class is for people with no computer experience. Learn computer terminology, how to properly turn a computer on and off, using

the mouse, and more. Registration encouraged.

Hearing Loss Association of America Support Group

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Join Tony Ferack,

president of the Hearing Loss Association of America Western Wayne Chapter, each month as he discusses various topics related to the hearing loss community. This month: TBA.

DIY Home Movie Help

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 7-8:30 p.m.

Compile family or vacation photos and movies into an edited video with music and effects. Bring your digital files and Patrick Currie, seasoned filmmaker, will walk you through the process using editing software. Meet at the Multimedia Computer in Adult Reference.



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St. Joseph Mercy opens urgent care at Schoolcraft

St. Joseph Mercy Health System has opened a new 6,000square-foot Urgent Care/ Student and Employee Health Center on the corner of the Schoolcraft College campus in Livonia. The site is located on the first floor of the Jeffress Center, 39201 W. Seven Mile, near the corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty roads.

"We are excited to offer health care services to students and employees of Schoolcraft College, as well as everyone living and working in the Livonia and Northville communities." said Dave Spivey, president and CEO of St. Mary Mercy Livonia. "This facility



St. Joseph Mercy Health System has opened a new Urgent Care/Student and Employee Health Center on the Schoolcraft College campus.

will increase access to health care and encourage students, employees and others to live healthier lives.

The new Urgent Care offers non-emergency medical care on a walk-in basis, including treatment for non-life threat-

ening illness and injury. As Schoolcraft's first-ever Student and Employee Health Center, the site also provides students and staff with health and wellness services, such as physicals, pregnancy testing and vaccinations. The facility will be operated by physicians from the St. Joe's Medical

Group. Hours are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday and holidays. "Everything about our work with St. Joseph Mercy Health System makes sense," School-craft College President Conway Jeffress said. Convenient quality health care for our stu-

dents and community is most important, but we also are excited about the synergy that made this project a reality. When two great organizations get together with a common goal, everybody wins

The opening of the new facility is part of a growing partnership between SJMHS and Schoolcraft College. Earlier this year, the health system became a sponsor of the St. Joe's Sports Dome, also located on the school's campus. The dome's opening marked the launch of Schoolcraft College's SC Elite Pro-gram, which includes MercyElite Sports Performance, to provide

health, fitness and nutritional programs to youth and adults in the surrounding area.

As the health sponsor for Schoolcraft College's SC Elite program, SJMHS also offers a number of health initiatives. The health system's MercyElite Sports Performance program provides athletic training and sports performance services to the Michigan Wolves and Hawks youth soccer teams within the St. Joe's Sports Dome. MercyElite also has permanent space inside the dome to provide sports performance training to local teams, including strength and conditioning and speed and agility training.

Novi dancer leaps into select company: Juilliard's Class of '21

Matt Jachman ometownlife.com

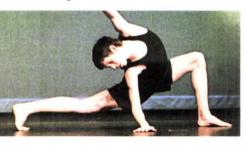
Jack Murphy has been thinking about Juilliard since last summer, but his journey to the storied performing arts school in Manhattan began about

13 years ago. Murphy, of Novi, is a Juilliard freshmen, one of just 24 — out of more than 400 who auditioned in the dance program's Class of '21.

The 19-year-old has been dancing since he

was 6. "When I was young, I tried lots of different things: soccer, gymnastics, horseback riding. All over the place," Murphy said recently. "And then one day, my mom just asked me if I would be interested in taking a hip-hop class. ... That's where it all started."

"He was just going to try dance in his life —



Jack Murphy, now a freshman at Juilliard in New York City, demonstrates his dance flexibility.

and he loved it," said Dori Matkowski, founder of Dance Dynamics Performing Arts Center in Walled Lake, where Mur-phy studied for several years.

Just a year out of high school, Murphy already has two seasons of training with major companies on his resume, first (while completing his senior year) with the American Ballet Theatre

in New York City and, during the 2016-17 season, with the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago.

Even since then, he's completed a two-week 'intensive" at Wayne State University with the

dance company Complexions, plus a four-week internship with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Now, he's getting settled in at Juilliard. Murphy has wanted to

be a dancer for a long time, a goal his family has supported. (Parents Belinda and Mark also have three daughters.)

He is particularly interested in ballet and contemporary dance and is also looking at choreography and teaching. Murphy's favorite classical ballet is Peter Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake" and he was impressed recently by the contemporary Israeli dance company Batsheva.

"Their work is very intense, both physically and emotionally, so that's definitely a performance that I'll always remember," he said.

Murphy said he's drawn to dance as artistic expression and a discipline that means "constantly striving to better vourself as a dancer and

always room to continue growing."

"Jack was always very attentive, hard-working and receptive to getting his talents better and we have continued to help him train and give him opportunities so that he will reach his dream," Matkowski said.

His dance training, plus a home-schooling program for his last three years of high school, kept Murphy plenty busy. But Dance Dynamics gave him many opportunities to perform at competitions, dance conventions, schools and public events.

Murphy is the third student from Matkowski's school, which was established 35 years ago, to study at Juilliard.

"Juilliard has a lot of great information and knowledge and dance

said He auditioned early this year, in Chicago, along with about 70 other applicants. After one round, in ballet, about half the students were dismissed. Next came contemporary and more brutal of cuts

By the time they got to the interview stage, there were only nine applicants left, Murphy among them.

"It was very nervewracking to know that you've spent so much time preparing for this audition and knowing that it could be over at any moment," he said. "So, yeah, there were a bit of nerves, but also I was confident in my training and prepara-tion."

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Two new hotels open in western Wayne County

Darrell Clem hometownlife.com

Two new hotels with a combined 177 guest rooms have opened for business on Canton's east side, as western Wayne County witnesses an uptick in lodging options.

In what marks a \$25 million investment, Fairfield Inn & Suites and TownePlace Suites celebrated their official opening Friday, just west of the Ford Road and Interstate 275 interchange, with a casinothemed party that re-flected owner A&M Hospitality's confidence in betting on Canton.

"We're super excited," Mike Abdulnoor, one of the owners, said. "We look forward to being a staple in the Canton community.

Under the umbrella of Marriott properties, Fairfield and TownPlace became the latest hotels in western Wayne County.

In Livonia, a new Holiday Inn Express has



TownPlace Suites, with 87 rooms, is geared toward quests with longer stays. DARRELL CLEM

opened at Schoolcraft and Inkster and a new Hampton Inn is under construction on School craft, east of Middlebelt. Moreover, the Holiday Inn at Six Mile and I-275 has been knocked down and is being rebult. In Plymouth Town-

ship, the Inn at St. John's is planning to convert a monastery retreat center into a 120-room hotel, doubling the number of guest rooms on the St.

John's site on Five Mile, east of Sheldon, among other changes on the property

Abdulnoor said the area is desirable for new hotels because of its proximity to Detroit Metropolitan Airport, area interstates and large companies, such as Yazaki North America. Inc. He also said the area is close to both Detroit and Ann Arbor. Canton Township Su-



The 90-room Fairfield Inn & Suites is one of two new hotels on Canton's east side. DARRELL CLEM

pervisor Pat Williams said the new Fairfield and TownPlace hotels, both with four floors, also can help accommodate a huge influx of

have to leave Canton for a place to stay," Williams

said The new hotels also are located just east of Michigan's only IKEA, which draws customers from near and far.

The two hotels have been built next to two existing A&M Hospitality lodgings, Comfort Suites and Baymont Inn & Suites, off Ford Road between Haggerty and I-275, creating what regional manager Nada Sitto called a 360-room

"hotel campus." She said the new hotels are complemented by the 66-room Comfort Suites, built a decade ago, and the 117-room Baymont, nearly 30 years old

Said Abdulnoor: "There's a price point for everybody here."

Sitto said the new Fairfield is geared to-ward customers who are staying briefly in Canton, while TownPlace is being marketed to extendedstay guests such as business executives or families who are moving to Canton but taking their time to find the right home. TownPlace has kitchenettes and allows pets.

Sitto smiled as Canton officials, local business people and hotel repre sentatives mingled Friday during the grand opening celebration. "We're really proud of this," she said

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

Toying with nostalgia

I recently heard the news that Toys 'R' Us may be going into bank-ruptcy. Although that doesn't mean that it will cease to exist, it certainly doesn't bode well for the company. I feel that would be a great tragedy and loss if it did go under. 'Toys 'R' Us' has been

an unique and unusual store. It's like a warehouse for Babes In Toyland. Originating in the early 1970s or so, the store has always been a visual feast, especially at Christmastime. In 1975, I

bought a Bobby Hull Hockey Game from the store, and in 1985, I bought a Tudor Electric Football Game from

them. 'Toys 'R' Us' joins a long list of stores like Kmart that have closed previously. Some of these stores were done in by Walmart, while others fell to online shopping such as the Amazon site. Amazon began as a seller of books and drove several great stores out of business, including Wal-den Books, Edward Ham-ilton Bookseller and Media Play.

People really are idiot-

FROM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ic in how they've reacted to online shopping as if it's revolutionary. We've had mail-order shopping around since the 1900s Sears catalog. The same products can be found in brick and mortar' stores, it's just that today's American is so lazy that he can't get up off his darn, fat butt and travel to a store, and he wants instant gratification.

I just feel that this modern, digital genera-tion has lost something by its de-evolutionary descent into a soulless state of mind-numbing blandness. Joni Mitchell know what you got 'til it's gone." It seems that the Baby Boomer generation had the best years of their lives (the wonder years), in the past. Today, there seems to be a lack of a magical sense of

wonder. Back in the 1960s, there was classic TV, classic rock music, and some great stores. We used to have Christmas catalogs from Sears, Ward's, JC Penney's, Spiegal's and Federal's. We once had stores like Ben Franklin's (a five and dime), the downtown Hudson's, the Westland

Woolworth's and Kresgee's. The Westland Mall was a marvel to behold: stores like Ward's, long hallways, fountains, red and blue parrots in cages, Hot Sam pretzel stands. The old Livonia Sear's mall was also fantastic. So much has been lost and can never be regained.

to see the amount of

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Atlanta, GA 30326 or email: mstoll@acenursing.org All written comments should arrive at ACEN by October 6, 2017

Please RSVP to nursing@schoolcraft.edu or call

734-462-4456 by October 6, 2017 if you plan to attend

to all the students that

Livonia

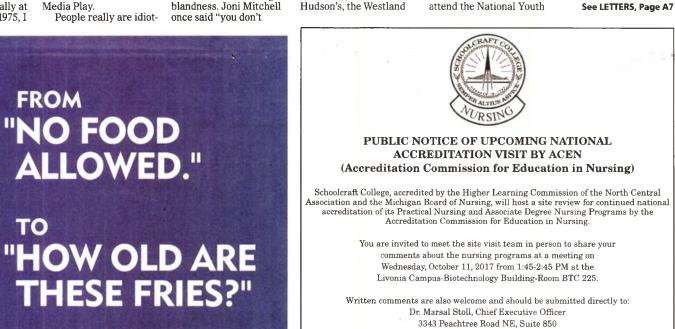
However, this particular camp and other academic opportunities are not available in de-

opportunity to challenge

themselves academically and learn from others in

a field along with empha-

sizing the value of scien-



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visitors to events such as the Canton Cup soccer tournament. It brings in players and supporters from across the Midwest during the Memorial Day weekned. "They will no longer

Science Camp ("Northville Student Attends Prestigious STEM Camp" Aug 23.); all due to the education provided by their school districts and state/government. The kids are awarded an

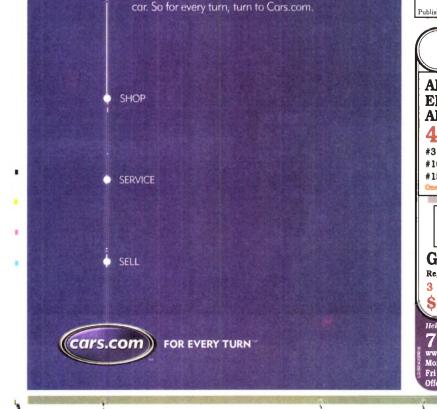
Leo Weber

Support all kids

It is always incredible veloping countries such

tific careers.

See LETTERS, Page A7



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Zonta card making event

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County is hosting a card making meet and greet 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at the Plymouth Library, 223 S Main St. The cost is \$25 per person and includes the cost of materials for 12 unique cards. Refresh ments will be served. Proceeds will help fund our scholarships and service projects. Email rebek10118@aol.com to reserve your spot.

Body Mind Spirit Festival

Enjoy a day of exploration and fun at the Body Mind Spirit Festival set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road.

More than 40 vendors will be showcasing their products that help body, mind, and spirit: aura photography, massage, spiritual coaching, well ness, natural healing, holistic health, meta-physics, natural health products, Reiki, Reflexology, readers, and more

Presentations will be given on how to move through change, connect with energy, heal with sound, and access pets radiant health; in addi-tion, there will be information on the energy of prayer, float therapy, Reiki essential oils, chiropractic medicine and understanding product

labels

Refreshments will be available; there will also be an activity center for kids

Admission is \$5: children under 12 free with an adult.

Citizens for Peace

"How to Prevent Gun Violence" is the topic of the 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, Citizens for Peace meeting at Unity of Livo nia, 28660 Five Mile Road. Scott Nichols, cochair of the MI Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, and a retired state police trooper, will discuss the efforts of the MI Coalition

All are welcome to help solve the problem of gun violence. For more information, call 734-425-0079 or go to websites www.michigancoalition topreventgunviolence. org or www.citizen4peace.com.

Democratic Club

meeting The Livonia Democratic Club will host its monthly meeting 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 33150 Schoolcraft Road, Room 103.

Who Should You Trust?

The State Bar of Michigan will be offering a free program titled "Who Should You Trust? Avoiding Estate Planning Mis-takes" at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, at the HYPE **Recreation Center**, 4635 Howe Road, Wavne, This informal seminar,

hosted by the Wayne

Senior Services, will offer important information for seniors by Michigan licensed lawyers. It will be approximately an hour. There will be a question and answer period. Attendees will also receive a free specially designed folder containing essential estate planning information, forms and other materials for effective estate planning

No registration is required, but preferred. To register or for more information, call Nancy at Wayne Senior Services at 734-721-7460, ext. 7.

Volunteer tutor training sessions

The Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council is a volunteer nonprofit organization aiming to improve con versation literacy skills for adults who speak English as a Second Language. CLC provides free one-on-one tutors and conversation group tutors in the Plymouth-Canton community. Volunteer literacy tutors do not need any prior experience.

Tutors receive comprehensive training before volunteering in a setting of their choice for up to two hours each week. The next training class, which includes 12 hours of instruction spread out over two days, will be held the following dates: 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21. Community Literacy Council charges \$40 for

each tutor to cover the cost of training, materials and food. Advance reservations are required and can be made at www.plymouthcantonliteracy.org or by calling the literacy council at 734-589-0011.

WAYNE COUNTY EVENTS

Church rummage sale

Newburg United Methodist Church's up coming rummage sale is set for 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. to noon Friday, Oct. 6, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 7. The church is located at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia.

Cost is \$2 admission per adult Thursday only; admission is free Friday and Saturday. Saturday will be a half-price sale. For more information, call the church office at 734-422-0149.

Friends of the Livonia Library book sale

The Friends of the Livonia Library will be holding their 90th book sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6-7, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 8.

There will be a huge number of books such as history, mystery, religious, children's fiction, gardening, fiction and non-fiction available, as well as a collector's cor-ner. On Sunday, a bag of books can be purchased for \$5. All proceeds go back into the libraries. The sale will be at the Robert and Janet Ben-

nett's Library, 32777 Five Mile Road. For more information, call the library at 734-466-2495.

Suicide prevention program

"Every Suicide is Tragic: What Can I Do?" is an informational event to take place 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, at St. Thomas a'Becket, 555 S Lilley Road, Canton. This event will provide essential information compressed into fast-paced sessions for both teens and adults, addressing questions such as: What does the church teach about suicide? What can I do to prevent it? How can I help others who may be contemplating suicide?

3D Photography Club meeting

The 3D Photography Club will hold the second meeting of its 2017-18 season 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The meetings are free to attend and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to borrow or

rent The program will be a presentation of the very best stereo images from the recent Ohio Interna tional Stereo Exhibition. After a refreshment break, there will be a 3D image competition among club members with the topic of "Flowers & Gardens

For more information,

otic or a better American.

An American teenager's mind is an independent and beautiful thing. A teenage mind is often more honest than an adult mind at facing our historical mistakes and societal inconsistencies. As a teacher, my basic goal every day is to simply make my students think, not like any specific leader or like me.

Colin Kaepernick was really thinking about our country and our anthem, possibly even more than the average athlete participating. He is also trying to make others think about what we stand for and whether we are living up to our ide-als. The athletes who kneel are not ignoring the anthem, and they are not disrupting it. If you are white and you never fear police brutality happening to you, then you might think kneeling during the anthem is unnecessary. Many Americans don't want to

go to www.Detroit3D.org or call Dennis at 248-398-3591.

Livonia Halloween open house

Join the fun from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15, at the Jack E. Kirksey **Recreation Center Hal**loween open house, 15100 Hubbard. Enjoy the pool, climbing wall and a variety of gym activities. The gyms will be set up for roller hockey, pickleball, volleyball and basketball.

Guests will also have a chance to learn about organizations and business. As a special treat, youths are invited to trick-or-treat at participating organizations and businesses. Costumes are encouraged, but not required.

Admission is free for the day for residents and \$3 per person for nonresidents. For more information, contact the Kirksey Recreation Cen-ter at 734-466-2900.

Fall color walks

Join the Friends of Miller Woods for their annual fall color walks 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15 and 22. Each tour lasts one hour, is free, and will leave the entrance every 30 minutes. No dogs or strollers are allowed and you must be able to walk on uneven paths. For more information, go to millerwoods.com or call Cheryl Bord at 734-459-7666. Meet at entrance of woods on Powell Road, just east of Ridge Road.

ever be challenged to think outside their comfort zone.

Standing for the anthem and singing do not automatically make you a better American. Insisting people all do the same thing during the anthem is a simplistic and shallow understanding of patriotism. It reflects insecurity as a country, not strength

Before we call strangers crude names, before we dictate that someone in a business other than our own should be fired, before we doubt someone else's patriotism, before we get more upset about body language during the anthem than we do about how well we live up to the ideals that we claim and yet often violate, we should just be quiet and look deep inside ourselves to reflect on how well we personally are living up to our precious American ideals

Ann-Nora Hirami Plymouth

she attempted to separate herself from the meaning of the words by America. saying that she didn't write them. She allowed a spokesperson to say her post was not about race, which is just pa-tently dishonest. The language "arrogant, ungrateful, anti-American degenerates" reinforces a belief that the content of the protest is unworthy of constitutional protections, that black lives are less worthy of rights guaranteed by our state and federal Constitutions than lives of

white people. She did not apologize for the words she held out as her beliefs. Rather she apologized to "any-one who was offended," as if her untenable choice was their burden to bear. She failed to recognize that it is her obligation to protect and serve all of the people in Michigan. She undermined her ability to meet her obligation by calling many of those people with whom she is charged to protect, "ingrates who hate America and disrespect our armed forces and veterans" because they, like the "millionaire ingrates" she refers to, are exercising their right to peacefully protest the injustices they see being inflicted on black people in

Etue had a moment. A moment to hear members of the diverse community she is charged to serve and protect say they feel threatened by police violence that disparately affects people of color. She could have been a listener, a convener, a good community leader. Instead, she sacrificed her ability to lead. She made clear that she does not care to protect the rights of those who are are engaging in peaceful protest of actions by the government that they consider unjust if she disagrees with the

form of the protest. Loren Khogali Plymouth

Anthem protest is a right

President Donald Trump went too far in his condemnation of Colin Kaepernick and athletes who kneel during the national anthem. He is our president, not a dictator who gets to pontificate on every subject under the sun.

I write as an American, a public high school U.S. history teacher, the daughter who was expected as a teenager to recite the pledge of allegiance while the U.S. government put my dad, his parents and siblings behind barbed wire in the Manzanar (California) Concentration Camp for Japanese-Americans for 3-1/2 years during

WWII. My classroom during the Pledge of Allegiance mirrors the choices of professional athletes. Some say every word. some listen, some have a hand over their heart some stand. I do not get to fire them from my classroom for their choices. The choice they make in how to participate also does not guarantee who is more patri-

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LETTERS

Continued from Page A6

as Kenya, Uganda and Nepal.

A staggering 263 million children are unable to attend school worldwide, perhaps what is even more disturbing is that 57 million children have never stepped foot in a classroom. If children do have the ability to attend school, it is uncertain if a high standard of education will be met. For example, in some areas, children in secondary school are unable to write in full sentences

Now with the introduction of the House Resolution 466 - Global Partnership for Education, this can become a reality. The Global Partnership for Education allows for the development of effective national education programs that are tailored to each country's needs. As of 2003, approximately 72 million children are in primary school due to the funds raised. By committing \$250 million over two years to the Global Partnership for Educa tion, we can stand with the world's children and

this diverse state do not support the right of people to peacefully protest

racial injustice. It is difficult to know

did not understand the

media. Despite holding

out the meme as repre

sentative of her opinion,

viral nature of social

where to begin with questions she generated about her ability to run a statewide agency. Rather than owning what she did, her first instinct was to separate from her decision. She allowed a spokesperson to say she posted on her personal Facebook page, as if she

ensure that each child is afforded a quality education across the board. In order to receive this funding, each participating country must devote 20% of its gross domestic product to its own education programs.

I am asking U.S Rep Dave Trott to stand with these children and cosponsor the bipartisan House Resolution 466 in order to ensure that the underprivileged children and youth worldwide are given the same opportunities as those at home. Simran Reddy Northville

State police director disappoints

It is clear Michigan State Police Director Kriste Etue does not understand the impact of her position as director of law enforcement officers sworn to protect all people of Michigan. With one choice, she has broadcast her assump tion that the people of

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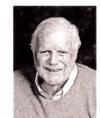
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Mullins



Robert C, Age 88 October 1, 2017. Beloved husband of Eleanor. Dear father of Laine (David) Monks, Sandy (Ken) Haraburda, Daniel (Patti), Laura (Tim) O'Connell and Jennifer (John) Neng, Grandfather of (Lim) O'Connell and Jennifer (John) Ness. Grandfather of Devin, Drew, Kelsey, Emily, Ali, Kristin, Katherine, Connin Cuinn, Matthew, Michael, Meghan, Alyson, Rylee, Molly, Erin, Haley, Katrina and Ethan. Great grandfather of Preston, Brayden, Mackenzie, Tessa and Jayson Brother of Preston, Brayden, Mackenzle, Tessa and Jaxson. Brother of Everett (Joan) Mullins and the late Evelyn Mullins. Funeral Services were held. Family suggests memorials to First United Methodist Church. www.santeiufuneralhome.com



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SPORTS

SECTION B (WGRL) THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2017 **OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEDIA** HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

TIM SMITH, EDITOR TSMITH@HOMETOWNLIFE.COM 248-926-2237

GIRLS GOLF

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

FAST AND FURIOUS

Novi senior Mudel hopes to crack 15-minute 5K barrier for Wildcats

> **Brad Emons** etownlife.co

Gabe Mudel has the sport of cross country running broken down to a science.

The senior from Novi has already captured three races this season, but the one he did not win was probably his most impressive performance so far as he took runner-up honors Sept. 15 at the MSU Spartan Invitational with a personal best time of 15:29.2 (for 5,000 meters)

Only Coldwater's Shuaib Alijabaly recorded a faster time (15:28.1) in the Elite Division on a muggy afternoon at MSU's Forest Akers Golf Course.

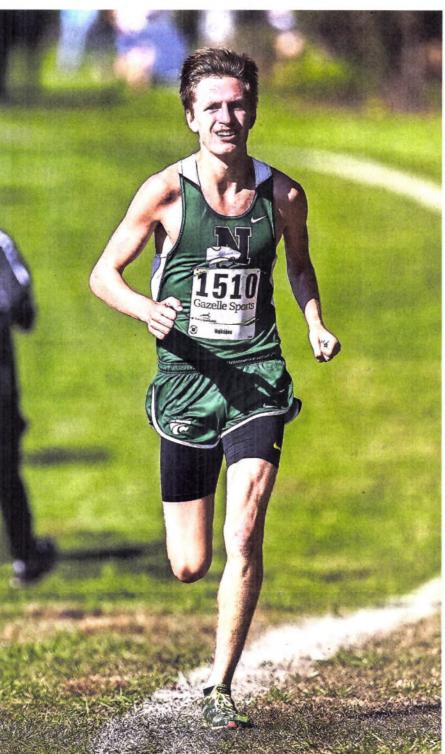
"It was super-hot and my coach (Brad Moore) told all our guys to not tax ourselves on the first mile, because the heat definitely makes an impact on your race," Mudel said. "And you have to plan around that. I kind of took it easy the first mile and I knew Shuaib, who ended up winning, he took it out super-fast and was about eight seconds ahead of the next pack, which I was leading. Basically, I kind of took it easy the first mile and gradually moved up. He had a 15-second lead at one point." Mudel's strong finish came

as no surprise to new Novi coach Brad Moore, who took over the Wildcats' highly successful cross country program this fall from longtime coach Robert Smith, who retired.

"Gabe is very dedicated," Moore said. "He's very smart and he thinks through everything quite a bit. He's analytical, cerebral. We have some real good discussions about the training, racing and all that stuff. He'll challenge you men-tally, which is great." Mudel's ultimate goal is to

crack the 15-minute barrier, which would put him in the same company with former Novi all-state runner Tim Moore, the 2001 MHSAA Divi-

See MUDEL, Page B3

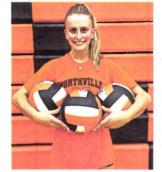


Novi senior Gabe Mudel was runner-up in the Elite Division at the MSU Spartan Invitational DOUGLAS BARGERSTOC

PREP VOLLEYBALL What a Troup-er!

Northville libero Grant in league of her own

Michigan State commit proving to be a defensive stalwart



the state-ranked Mustangs to a 25-5 start.

Grant didn't take up volleyball until she was a seventh-grader at Meads Mill Middle School. She started out as a setter and outside hitter, bu

Stevenson's Vento scoring big as athlete, student

Spartans senior earning medals, academic accolades

Tim Smith

When Anna Vento puts her mind to something, she pur sues it with vigor.

That goes for a variety of pursuits, including Livonia Stevenson varsity golf — where as captain, she is helping lead younger girls just getting started in the sport or acing a mid-term exam.

"With my team being comprised of all first-year varsity players, I have really enjoyed using my experience to help them progress, not only this year, but also for the years so come," said Vento, 17. "The team is full of a lot of potential and, hopefully, it can come together at regionals and we can qualify as a team for states.

"It was such a great experience last year to qualify as a team and, hopefully, I can share that experience with them this year.'

See VENTO, Page B4



Livonia Stevenson girls golf captain Anna Vento is all smiles about how her senior year is going. STEVENSON ATHLETICS



Versatile Canton senior Colin Troup catches quarterback Connor Engel's pass and then takes it to the end zone for an 82-yard touchdown during the Chiefs' 40-28 victory Friday over Livonia Stevenson. For more on the KLAA Black Division match-up, turn to page B2. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Brad Emons hometownlife.com

There's more than one reason Northville's Hannah Grant stands out among the crowd when she's on the volleyball court.

The 5-foot-7 junior not only wears the different colored jersey as the Mustangs' starting libero, but she has also quietly distinguished herself as one of the top defensive players in the state.

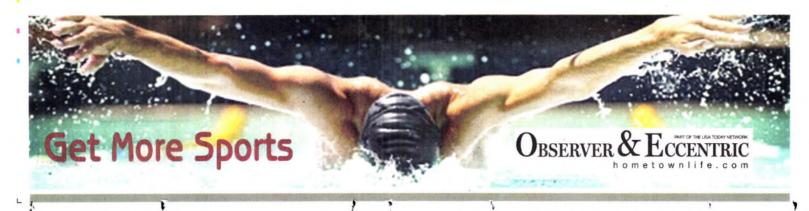
The Michigan State commit continues to thrive in

Michigan State commit Hannah Grant, a libero for Northville, has been a defensive standout this season. BRAD EMONS

only her second year of playing the position while leading moved to libero with her club team (Team Detroit) just prior to her sophomore season at Northville.

'It actually wasn't that hard because, when I was setting, my favorite thing was playing defense," Grant said. "Every-one was kind of confused when I wasn't setting, but it was really an easy transition because you need to be able to have good hands when you're back there. Especially out of system, it makes it easier for

See GRANT, Page B4



PREP FOOTBALL

Canton mixes up attack, rolls to 40-28 victory

Chiefs knock off Stevenson, just one win away from playoffs

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com

It's tough enough to slow down Canton's multi-pronged running attack, but host Livonia Stevenson found out Friday what the Chiefs can do when they throw the football.

Canton senior quarterback Connor Engel threw three touchdown passes in the second quarter, including two to senior Colin Troup. That sparked a 26-point surge, opening up a 33-14 halftime advantage. The Chiefs never looked back, winning 40-28 to spoil Stevenson's senior night.

Troup had another stellar game, with 235 all-purpose yards (100 rushing, 135 receiving), while junior tailback Steven Walker tallied 153 yards rushing in 19 carries and two TDs as Canton moved to the cusp of another state playoff berth at 5-1 overall.

"The key to this game was the offensive line, they really stepped up," Troup said. "They helped me, Steve, Luke (Jouppi), they just helped us really follow through the holes and score touchdowns. Really it's all thanks to them, the big guys."

Canton outgained Stevenson by a 484-339 margin and allowed just 15 first-down conversions by the Spartans.

The KLAA Black Division showdown was 7-7 after the first quarter

PREP FOOTBALL



Shaking off Livonia Stevenson defenders Roman Klenk (right) and Scott Rushlow is Canton running back Colin Troup. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and the Spartans were driving deep into Canton territory to open the second. But Stevenson quarterback Parker Graham just missed hitting Devin Dunn in the end zone on a fourth-down play, turning over the ball to the Chiefs.

ball to the Chiefs. On Canton's next offensive play, Engel threw Troup and he took it to the house for an 82-yard touchdown. That put the Chiefs ahead to stay, although the Spartans did show some life in the second half, when they scored the game's final two touchdowns.

Graham and Dunn (three receptions, 93 yards) hooked up for a second TD, a 17-yarder, late in the third quarter. Canton penalties helped the Spartans complete a 95-yard drive in the fourth, but the Spartans also showed some bigplay capability. After Graham found Dunn for a 47-yard pass play, the quarterback burst through the middle for a 30-yard touchdown run. Stevenson tacked on a two-point conversation to make it 40-28 with five minutes left, but that was all the scoring.

"They just played tough the entire game, they brought it to us," Graham said. "We started figuring it out and get our game plan going in the second half. Just wish we would have gotten it going sooner."

Stevenson head coach Randy Micallef, whose team dropped to 4-2, gave the Chiefs credit for throwing some wrinkles into their usual game.

"They're a good football team," Micalef said. "They did some things defensively, a couple different alignments and moving guys around, that gave us some trouble at times.

"We adjusted and ran some plays that I think we were successful on, but it was just a matter of making sure we were in the right spots."

Following are several takeaways from the contest:

MIX AND MATCH

Canton's outstanding offense usually is powered by the running game, but against Stevenson, quarterback Engel showed there is another side to the attack. In the second quarter, during a 26-yard surge by the Chiefs, Engel threw three TDs, including two to Troup (82, 31 yards) and a 12yard strike to Walker. Engel only completed

4-of-6 passes for the night, but he made them



Livonia Stevenson's Joshua Page (right) catches a pass in the first quarter and then scores on a 70-yard play. Trailing Page is Canton's Noah Brown. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

count.

"Their defense wasn't really set up for it and our guys made some plays and I got it to them," Engel said.

WHO THREW THAT?

The Spartans stopped the Chiefs in the game's first drive, but when the offense came onto the field it was senior George Ferguson behind center (instead of at wide receiver).

The left-handed Ferguson connected over the middle on a pass to senior Joshua Page for a nifty 70-yard catch-andrun into the end zone, to briefly put the Spartans up, 7-0. The usual starting QB, Graham, came out for the next series, however.

ILL-ADVISED

After Canton upped its lead to 27-14 on a 31-yard pass from Engel to Troup, with a minute remaining in the first half, the Spartans tried to force things. Graham's pass into the left flat was picked off by Canton's Nick Polydoras, who returned the ball to the 1-yard line.

PREP FOOTBALL

Punching it in on the next snap was junior running back Luke Jouppi (eight carries, 40 yards) and, just like that, it was a 33-14 contest with 34 seconds left until intermission.

"We had a rough last couple minutes of the first half there, we gave up a touchdown and then threw the pick-six and it ended up being the difference in the game when you look at the final score," Micallef said. "In the second half, we played better, we executed better, we got a couple stops defensively and a turnover. So that helped."

IN THE PINK It was Stevenson's fifth annual Pink Out game to raise awareness about breast cancer. Spartans players wore pink socks and wristbands to salute the worthy cause. A moment of silence was held at halftime to honor those who have lost their lives to the disease.

tsmith@hometownlife.com Twitter: @TimSmith_Sports

Western's defense comes up big in win vs. Lakeland

Late defensive stand gives Warriors 13-11 victory

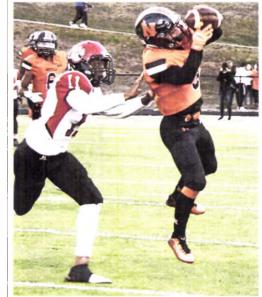
Brad Emons hometownlife.com

Walled Lake Western wanted to eliminate the long ball in its Lakes Valley Conference football showdown Sept. 28 against White Lake Lakeland. The Warriors gave up

The Warriors gave up some singles and doubles, but their defense kept the Eagles' vaunted wing-T offense from hitting the grand slam as they held on for 13-11 win in what could be considered an old pitcher's duel.

Western (5-1, 4-1) gave up 176 yards on the ground, but only one touchdown against a





Northville's Nicholas Prystash (right) makes a leaping grab over Grand Blanc's Jace Parrish. MARTHA MICHALAK

Northville falls 38-30

Lakeland team that came into the game averaging nearly 30 points per outing.

ing. "No home runs," Western coach Mike Zdebski said. "They have 21 50plus touchdown plays and that's what we eliminated tonight. And we were a few tackles away from not even allowing that to get on the board. Our kids did a great job of preparation and un-

derstanding what a wing-T offense is and understanding the strengths of their team and what they're trying to accomplish with everything that they do." The Warriors man-

The Warriors managed just 123 yards total offense, but managed to jump out to a 13-0 firstquarter lead.

Western took just three plays to score its only TD with 10:27 remaining in the opening quarter, as Sam Johnson hit Justin Thomas on a 43-yard TD pass.

À 48-yard punt return

1

Lakeland's Robbie Tracy (left) turns the corner against the Western defense. JERRY REA

by Randall Harris set up a 31-yard field goal by Aidan Jennings, who then followed with another field goal of 39 yards less than two minutes later to give Western a 13-point cushion.

"He's good," Zdebski said of his place kicker. "He's another in the lineage of kickers we've had here. We've had great kickers. He's going to be an all-state dude, too. He kicked two field goals tonight and won the game. He's perfect on extra points this season."

Lakeland (4-2, 4-2) got on the board with 9:20 left in the second quarter, when the snap from center on a Western punt sailed over the head of

See WESTERN, Page B3



Lakeland's C.J. Davis (left) and Matt Fus team for the tackle on Western running back Jakkel Moore-Wells. JERRY REA

despite record boot

Mustangs' Moody kicks school-record 58-yard field goal in 38-30 loss





Moody

Northville coach Matt Ladach said. "There were a lot of times where we had them in third-and-long and we let them out. We had them stopped and had them off the field, missed tackles or let the quarterback escape. It wasn't for a lack of effort. You have to give their kids credit. They made plays and, those instances, we didn't."

Grand Blanc, which improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the KLAA Gold Division, also won in Clint Alexander's return

See NORTHVILLE, Page B3

3

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Just when you think he couldn't top himself, Northville's Jake Moody put on another kicking exhibition for the ages on Friday at Tom Holzer Ford Field.

Moody topped his own school record with a 58-yarder – now tied for the second longest in MHSAA football history – but it still wasn't enough to overcome Grand Blanc's 546 yards total offense as the Bobcats stayed unbeaten with a 38-30 win.

Michigan State and MIT. "Not sure quite where I want to go yet, but I've

narrowed it down a little bit," Mudel said. "I'm

really interested in com-

puter science." During his spare time,

programming math prob-lems, but he also dabbles

in another unusual hobby. "I do that a lot in my

free time and actually

yo-yo in my free time," he said. "I have \$40 yo-

yo, it's pretty fun. I start-

ed when I was in the fifth grade. I saw a guy come

to school my fifth-grade

year and did a yo-yo routine, which was pretty

cool and that's how I got

He placed fourth in that

race a year ago. "He's dangerous," Moore said. "In any way

you can get out-smarted,

he'll try and do it. He's a

contender. We're excit-

The Division 1 state finals will be Saturday,

Nov. 2, at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn. And that could

be the meet where Mudel

attains his ultimate cross

'I think to run under

15, it's going to take just a really good taper and

consistent training

throughout," he said,

I've been doing.

'and pretty much what

And for Mudel, if it

ain't broke, don't fix it.

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will know more tomor-

row, but we are optimis-

tic. He has the heart of a

Boles and Joe Rzeppa

alternated at quarterback to finish the game. "When we lost Brady,

we lost 75 percent of our offense," Joe Woodruff said. "So that tells you

where we had to adjust

lion. All he kept asking

was who won

Twitter: @BradEmons1

country goal.

ed.'

Mudel's next big race is the Oakland County meet Saturday, Oct. 7, at Kensington Metropark.

into it myself."

Mudel can be found on

the website projectoi-

ler.net trying to solve

MUDEL

Continued from Page B1

sion 1 state champion (15:11.3) who later went on to excel at Notre Dame.

Tim Moore was also the 2002 Foot Locker National Champion who ran a 14:50.0. "I do think it's possible

on a great day," Brad Moore said of the 15-



barrier. 'Gabe's having a great sea son and he had a real strong summer. So

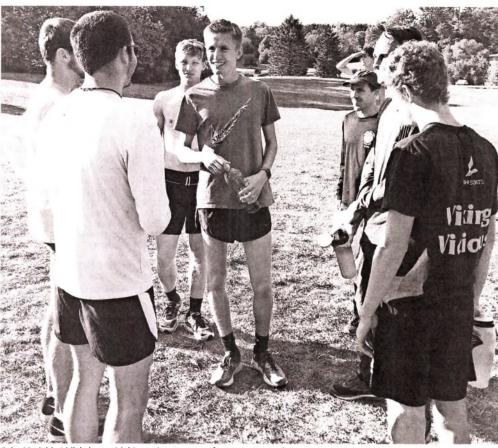
minute

far, so good. Everything is falling into place really well. Our goal for him was top five a couple of Saturdays ago at that big (MSU) Spartan race. He was a second away from winning it and almost caught that guythe end."

Mudel has made consistent strides throughout his running career at Novi.

As a junior, he was regional runner-up and fourth at the KLAA Kensington Conference meet. but slipped to 93rd at the **Division 1 state finals** after suffering a case of vertigo, when he fell twice before hitting the finish line.

As a sophomore, he began to show his immense promise, earning all-state (top 30) honors at the D1 finals with 27th (15:53.6) after placing third in the Kensington Conference and seventh at the regional. Mudel intensified his



Gabe Mudel (middle) chats with his Novi teammates after a recent practice at Cass Benton Park. BRAD EMONS

training regimen heading into the fall cross country season and the earlyseason returns are encouraging.

"Throughout the whole summer, I ran just about every day, only taking a day off only once every three weeks, so it was pretty high mileage," Mudel said. "Also, this is the first summer in which I didn't

"They could have

called a hold on any one

they wanted to, but they

decided to get us on that

it is. We got three points off the deal, but we

should have been up. It

was a great pass, a great

up. We'd been waiting for

thing they were supposed

Western, meanwhile,

ran just nine offensive

half, but held on when

back headed to Central

broke up Boles' intended pass to Cullen on fourth-

and-seven with only 1:09

"My coach said they'd

left to seal the win.

Michigan University,

plays during the second

Harris, the senior corner-

executed play. We set it

it. The kids did every

one," Lakeland coach Joe Woodruff said. "It is what

only do base mileage, but also two workouts every week. It's definitely taxing, but so far I'm pretty happy with where I'm at and that keeps me going throughout the season

As a youngster, Mudel started out as a swimmer, but also played basketball his freshman and sophomore years at Novi 'My running career, I guess, started with a fun

game, but they were

going to run it right at me

5K with my dad (Roman) in third grade," Mudel said. "I think he actually pushed me across the last mile or so. I ended up running around 30 minutes. He was dragging

me. Mudel got the running bug as a seventh-grader at Novi Middle School. "I don't know if I fell in love right away, but once I started seeing how

their final timeout to let their defense mull over and prepare what Lake-land might throw at them

curl route because our said. "So our corner (Harago, when we weren't as more play. But we got that play tonight.'

Western managed just

yard TD pass by Chris-tian Williams to Nicholas Prystash with 1:43 remaining.

Moody then tried the onside kick for the second time in the game, but the ball couldn't be corralled by the Mustangs

much I improved and how much potential I had, I started to like it more," he said. "I'm en-joying it now, for sure."

The 6-foot-2 Mudel, who is of Polish descent, has all the credentials to become a collegiate runner. He carries a 4.0 (unweighted) grade-point average and has had conversations with the coaches from Michigan,

in 123 total yards as Johnson was 5-of-12 passing for 111 yards, while run ning back Jakkel Moore-Wells added 29 yards rushing in nine attempts.

Western had just 12 yards net rushing and six tackles for loss.

"Our defense was phenomenal the way we played," Woodruff said. "We spotted them 13 points out of the gate and it was a shutout from there. Our kids had guts. We played with our guts."

INJURY UPDATE

The Eagles lost junior starting quarterback Brady Woodruff, son the head coach, to an injury during the opening quar-

ter. "Brady is doing OK," Joe Woodruff posted on Facebook. "He had a dislocated hip after a hit in the first quarter, they were able to put it back in place. There is no ligament damage. There is a fracture in the hip. We

204 yards, while the soph-omore Williams, coming on in the final quarter, hit and overcome on offense." **SHARING THE LOAD** Seven different Lake-

land players had at least one rushing attempt.

Lakeland's leading ball carriers were Cullen (11 carries, 62 yards) and Tracy (20 carries, 40 yards).

Another starter in the backfield, Dylan Kutzleb, did not dress after tweaking his knee the week before in a 51-21 win over South Lyon East.

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NORTHVILLE

Continued from Page B2

to Northville, where he spent three seasons as Mustangs head coach from 20

Woods Tower's Doug Kochanski holds the state record with a 59-yarder in 1994.)

"It's so hard because (Moody) is phenomenal," Ladach said after the loss. "It's hard to believe ks the ball through he ki

should have been up 21. I said, 'Let's just be four points better in the sec-

Moody, however, proved he was human, missing a 53-yard attempt wide left on Nor on a critical fourth-andseven play from the Western 48 with just over a minute to go. And their defense guessed right. "We were looking for a

inside (line)backers were coming up hard," Zdebski ris) did a great job sitting on it and making a great play. Randall made a hell of a play there. The ball hit (Cullen) in the hands and (Harris) took it out of his hands. But you've got to make a play to win a game. Couple of weeks fortunate (in a 47-37 loss to Waterford Mott), we couldn't make a play when he had to make one

EAGLES DEFENSE SOARS

8-of-12 for 118 yards. "We've got two because they're both firstyear starters," said Alexander, whose team notched a Division

squad 'We have seven sen-

iors that haven't played since their freshman year that start for us, so we're a pretty young team as far as experi-

ence," Alexander said

36-yard halfback pass by WESTERN Robbie Tracy for the go-ahead TD to Cullen Continued from Page B2 was nullified by a holding

call.

to do

Jennings and through the end zone for a two-point safety to trim the deficit to 13-2

"He's a tall kid, so if the snap isn't too bad, he can get it," Zdebski said "That one ... could have made it to the middle school on that safety."

With just 1:32 left in the first half, Lakeland scored its lone TD on a 1-yard keeper by quarter-back Mitchell Boles. The Eagles went for the twopointer, but got stopped, leaving it a five-point deficit.

The momentum began to change in the third quarter as Lakeland ate up 7:47 of the clock, driv-ing down to the Western 11, but had to settle for a 34-yard field goal by Leo Skupin with 3:13 to go in the quarter

Earlier in the drive, a

be running it right at me, they hadn't the whole

The Warriors burned I bet they felt like they

PIVOTAL MOMENT

ond half.

next play with a pass," Harris said. "I saw the receiver go on a curl route. I saw the quarterback look at him. I broke down on it. I pounced on it real quick and a ripped it out of him for the play. Lakeland tried seven

passes on the night and only completed one for 10 yards.

"Our defensive coordinator put us in the right position to make plays for us," Harris said. "We watched film every single day, hours upon hours. Everybody was at home watching film, so we came into this game really prepared for a defensive stand and we knew it would be a defensive battle with them tonight. And that's what we did — make big plays."

Four other takeaways:

Alexander, in his first season as Bobcats varsity coach, watched Moody put on a first-half clinic

Northville (2-4, 1-4) jumped out to a 7-0 lead with a 10-play, 85-yard drive, capped by Åbe Khoury's 6-yard touch down run with 4:40 left in the first quarter.

But Grand Blanc got two points on the board with 10:21 left in the first half, when a high snap from center over the head of Moody, who is also Northville's punter, went for a safety.

On the ensuing free kick. Moody boomed the ball off the tee more than 80 yards and into the end zone for the touchback. And with just 7:18 left in the half, he drilled the 58-varder, topping his own school record of 57 set in the season opener against Dearborn.

Moody is now tied with former Michigan State kicker John Langeloh, who had a 58-yarder for Utica in 1985. (Warren

the end zone from the 20-vard line. It's a 58-vard field goal and he kicks the ball 90 yards. It's unbelievable. He's a weapon."

After Grand Blanc tied it on Kettrell Ware Jr.'s 1-yard TD run with 5:33 left in half, followed by the two-point con-version to knot the game at 10-10, Moody answered with a 42-yard field goal with 3:43 remaining to put the Mustangs back on

top, 13-10. Grand Blanc, meanwhile, committed four first-half turnovers with three fumbles and one interception, but trailed by only three.

The Bobcats went in at halftime to regroup.

"We said, 'Look, we had about everything go wrong the first half that could," Alexander said. "You got a guy (Moody) that's automatic from 40 in and that's tough. I said we had some big wins holding them to three (points) instead of seven.

ville's first possession of the third quarter. The Bobcats countered with 55-yard TD pass from Rvder Brotebeck to Cameron Cyborowski to make it 16-13 with 5:20 to go.

Northville then marched 74 yards in seven plays scoring with 1:46 left in the third on Khoury's 1-yard TD run to go up 20-16 following Moody's point after. After Grand Blanc

missed a 23-yard field goal attempt 58 seconds into the fourth, the Bobcats went ahead for keeps, 31-20, getting TD runs of 9 and 1 yard from Ware, who led all rushers with 133 yards on 25 carries.

Moody answered with a 36-yard field goal with 4:53 remaining to make it a one-score game again, 31-23, but Colton Alexander's 29-yard pass to Nicholas Erlenbeck with just over two minutes left put the Bobcats in the driver's seat, 38-23 Northville got a 39before going out of bounds.

Here are four other takeaways:

GAME-CHANGER

With Northville trail-ing, 24-20, Grand Blanc's 6-foot-2, 276-pound line-man Tre'Vion Liston came up with a fumble recovery after Mustangs quarterback Jon Michalak was stripped at the goal line at the 1, leading to Ware's TD run.

"We had to have a turnover," Alexander said. "We keep score by turnovers and at halftime and we said we were down 4-0. I said we've got to turn it around and (Liston) made a great play.'

ROTATING QUARTER-BACKS

Grand Blanc's duo of Colton Alexander and Brotebeck were a combined 17-of-22 passing for 261 vards.

Northville also used two signal-callers as Michalak was 12-of-23 for off berth with the win. 'And we've only got two. And if we don't play two and something goes wrong, we're stuck in a situation where a kid is not prepared. At Woodbury (Va.) Forest, we played three and they all went to college. We had three good kids. We had a senior, junior and a freshman and it worked.

COMING BACK

Alexander went 11-17 with one playoff appearance during his three year head coaching stint with the Mustangs. He went on to coach at Woodbury (Va.) Forest before getting the varsity job this season at Grand Blanc.

"It was exciting," Alexander said. "Actually, I had some parents of former players show up and talk to me beforehand. My history department leader came to see me, so it was fun.'

The Bobcats are off to a 6-0 start with a young

MORE MOODY

Up 23-20 with 7:01 left in the final quarter after scoring a TD. Alexander decided to gamble and go for two as Brotebeck ran in for the two-pointer to give the Bobcats a fourpoint cushion.

Alexander wanted to take another potential three-point kick by Moody out of the equa-

tion. "We had to," Alexanders said. "We wanted to put a little more pressure on them. If they get any one big play like a screen (pass) again and they've got an automatic three (points)."

he could only marvel while watching Moody all night. "And we've got a pret-

ty good kicker, but obviously (Moody) is sixth in the nation," he said. "We knew coming in that he was going to tip the field. We have a pretty good return game and he just neutralizes it.'

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BOYS SOCCER

Fourney's hat trick lifts **Canton** past Northville

Chiefs take advantage after Northville red card

Brad Emons

Canton's Jordan Fourney proved to be the tallest player on the soc-cer field Sept. 26 in more ways than one. The 6-foot-3 senior

forward and captain was the difference-maker as he scored a natural hat trick in the second half as the Chiefs defeated host Northville, 4-1, in a key Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover.

"He's our guy that plays up top, but we have some guys who certainly help him," Canton coach Mark Zemanski said the team's goal and assist leader. "But Jordan is big, strong and fast. He's a beast to handle and he works hard." Canton trailed 1-0

early in the second half, but the game quickly changed in the Chiefs' favor after Northville sophomore goalkeeper Robert Damron was sent off with a red card after venturing outside his box to stop a breakaway attempt by Nick Yono.

Damron was called for a deliberate handball foul

On the ensuing free kick from 30 yards out with 35:38 remaining, Fourney scored off a blast that was threaded through a sea players on a redirected shot eluding Northville's backup keep er Reggie Spencer, who had just entered the match.

"It was deflected off the other team, but I'll take it for my own," Fourney said. "The goal really reinvigorated the team and we started playing our game. It was tough, but it was a long time coming. I thought in the first half, I thought we really controlled the game. Then once we got that first one in, I guess they started rolling in."

Fourney followed by scoring twice within a span of 2:21, making it 3-1, with assists credited to Tyler Turko and Brett McGue, respectively. Canton's Jake McGue

put the game out of reach on a laser-like shot that hugged the Tom Holzer

Canton's Luke Lloyd goes on the transition against Northville. JOEL LLOYD

Ford Field turf and past Spencer with 28:07 to go to give the Chiefs a four-

just 7:31.

going," said Fourney, who plans to do track and field in the spring with hopes of attending Michi-gan State next fall. "We had most of the possession in the first half. Missed a few key finishing opportunities, then

put them in second half." Northville played the final 36 minutes a man down because of the red card to Damron, who was consoled afterward and given words of encour-agement by the Canton coach

"Without a doubt, it really put them in a tough situation," Zemanski said. "He's a really good keeper, but it was the right call. He was the last man, he handed the ball and it was a red card."

Northville had a goal disallowed in the first 1:36, but came back and scored just 51 seconds later when Andrew Mitchell made a hard drive down the right flank and sent a cross that fooled Canton keeper David Sadanowicz resulting in a rebound goal by Shane McHugh.

But the momentum slowed shifted back Canton's way as the first half unfolded and into the early stages of the sec-

expect you to make those," Fisette said.

"And it's almost sad be-

cause we expect her to

plays, so when she makes

one we're not always like,

make all these great

'Yeah, nice job!' and

settled down, played job of burying the ball when we had to."

The loss dropped Gold Division leader Northville, ranked fourth in Division 1, to 8-3-1 overall and 6-1-1 in all KLAA crossover matches.

'Canton outplayed us; they deserved to win," Northville coach Henry Klimes said. "We have core players on our team that didn't play to their core levelor what they think they are. So if our better players don't play their best game, we're not going to win games."

Canton, which is 2-0-1 in the KLAA Black and ranked No. 16 in Division 1, improved to 7-2-5 overall and 5-0-4 in the KLAA.

"I still think we have a ways to go as a team, for sure," Zemanski said. "We need to play 80 minutes and we haven't done that yet in a game but, hopefully, we will. We'll need to because we're playing a lot of good teams. Northville is a very good team. If we played again, this score wouldn't be the same, for sure.

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her hits. She'll take that

third ball and hit it over

the net and five out of 10

times she'll score with it.

hitting the ball she knows

where to put. She's got a lot of ball control. She's a

great hitter.'

Even just standing and

VENTO

Continued from Page B1 Vento's golfing and

leadership is paying dividends in a hurry In the clutch

At the recent dual match against Livonia Churchill, Vento was medalist with 35. Her 1-under-par showing helped the Spartans clinch the KLAA South Division

championship. That clutch effort led

tion for

Athlete of the Week

playing for him. Yet her most-cher-

are very important motivators for Vento. They intersected last winter, when she had to decide whether or not to go after a college scholarship to continue playing the

sport she only took up seriously in eighth grade. Valparaiso University came calling, wanting Vento to play Division I

golf next year. "I decided last winter that I wanted to focus

solely on academics, Vento said. "It was a really tough decision. 'My focus right now is to finish the season strong and cap off a memorable four-year career."

Her first tee

For the daughter of Gerry (Plymouth boys hockey varsity coach) and Colleen Vento, the golf aspect of her life began in earnest when she started taking lessons at Fox Hills Golf Course in Plymouth Township. Fox Hills PGA profes-

sionals Brian Cairns and Jordan Young showed her the ropes.

"I really fell in love with the game and spend a good amount of my free time on the course, whether it's practicing or caddying at Meadowbrook Country Club," Vento said. "I really love the mental side of the

and hole creates a new challenge.' At Stevenson, she

continued to hone her golfing skills. Since her sophomore

year, she has earned a spot on the all-KLAA team. In 2016, she was named Stevenson's MVP.

At the Livonia City Golf Tournament, which the Spartans have won the past three years, Vento collected medals each time.

"My team also won regionals last year and I was second with a 75 at it," Vento said.

Even though her big junior season so far has carried over to her senior year, Vento perhaps is most proud of all her various accomplishments away from the golf course.

For the past three years, Vento was a KLAA scholar-athlete. Last year's Stevenson girls golf team earned aca-

demic all-state accolades. And don't forget Vento is captain of Stevenson's Quiz Bowl and debate teams, not to mention president of the National

Honor Society. No matter how one slices it, Vento is finding the bottom of the cup as a golfer, student leader and voung woman.

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Following through on a shot during a recent Livonia Stevenson girls golf match is Anna Vento

But if I really wanted to play at the next level, it would be volleyball. I always tell my dad I might play (basketball) here my senior year.'

After receiving numerous recruiting emails and letters, Grant began

"(MSU coach) Cathy (George) and I talked and I said what a great kid she was and how well she'll fit in at Michigan State," she said. Grant's versatility and

mindset also bode well for her at the collegiate new players. There were seven seniors starting last year. So it was a little harder to come into it this year with all new players and having to learn systems because last year it was just go in there and play. We kind of knew everyone. It was normal, but this year we had to do more fundamentals and working as a team ... getting to know each other and know how each other plays to play around each other. Two of Northville's five losses this season have come against arch-rival and two-time defending Division 1 state champion Novi, which is coached by Jennifer and Rick Cottrill. Ironically, the Cottrills will coach Grant during the offseason for the Legacy Under-18 club team. Novi is ranked No. 4 in the Class A poll and has had Northville's number during Grant's three years on the varsity. But Grant remains optimistic the tables can be turned. "We're going to get Novi some day," she said with a smile.

GRANT

Continued from Page B1

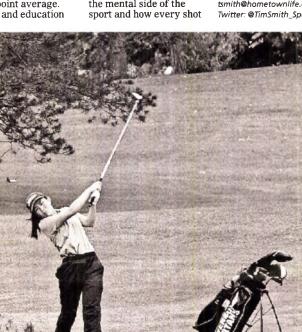
the hitters. One of my coaches were, like, 'You need to be a libero.' It worked out pretty well



honors. She is following up a very successful 2016 season, in which her

averages were 39 for nine holes and 78 for 18. "I owe a lot of thanks to my second-year high school coach Curtis Hay," Vento said. "He has been phenomenal these last couple of years and I really enjoy

ished statistic has nothing to do with golf. It's 4.56, her weighted grade-point average. Golf and education





and I've loved it ever since."

In 30 matches this season, Grant has al-ready racked up 350 digs has shown an innate ability to see the play before it happens. "She reads the ball

well," Northville coach Julie Fisette said. "She's quick, but she's really unassuming. She moves really well and she see things ... I don't even see the ball and it's off before you know it. She can totally read where the ball is going off the hitters' hands, even off the blocker's hands.

Grant performs a lot like former Red Wings Hall of Fame defenseman Nick Lidstrom steady and consistent, while playing on the back line efficiently without much fanfare. "I told her the other

day and I said, 'Hannah, you make phenomenal plays and we don't even say, "Great job Hannah' anymore because we

t

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we're all screaming and yelling because it's just common."

Pardon the pun, but Fisette admits she often takes things for granted. She calls Grant "the best libero I've coached in 25 years."

"I've had some good liberos and Hannah is just that kid," Fisette said. "And really, she's very calm. She doesn't get really excited, really depressed or down. She's a great role model to follow. She hits really well, she's very smart in a lot of different aspects in her game." Grant also has proven

to be an offensive weapon from the service line. accumulating a teambest 49 aces this season.

"She can serve any zone I ask her to serve," Fisette said. "She's very aggressive when she serves and she's very competitive when she serves. She gets very frustrated if she doesn't hit a zone or misses a serve. It's the same with

And when she's patrolling in the back row.

things tend to click. "I love passing," Grant said. "It's like a game to me. You can't let the ball drop anywhere it goes.' Grant dabbled in a

number of sports growing up, playing soccer, softball and baseball. Her dad Steve, a Northville High grad, played basketball at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Mother Andrea (Creighton), a Livonia Ladywood grad, played softball at Madonna Uni-

"I think I like volley-ball a little more," Han-nah said. "I want to play college volleyball and I think I can play at a higher level in college volleyball. I told my varsity (basketball) coach (Todd Gudith) and it was hard because my dad was my basketball coach my whole life. It was hard. but now it worked out for the best of us and every one is happy and proud.

to realize she could play at the next level.

She visited South Carolina and had offers from several Division I schools, including Stanford and North Carolina. She had interest from another Big Ten school before settling on Michigan State, a top 25ranked program nationally.

Grant made her verbal commitment while Northville was playing at MSU's team camp.

"First of all, I love the coaches," said Grant, who likes math and science while carrying a 3.9 grade-point average When I went there to visit, it just felt like home. And it is close to home, which is nice, so I'm not that far. Big Ten - it's the best conference, I believe, in college volleyball, so I really want to play with the best in continuing my career." Fisette believes Grant

has all the attributes to be a Spartan.

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level, according to Fisette.

"Even when the setter is setting the ball, she's there with beautiful hands putting up a great set for our outsides," Fisette said. "She has all aspects of the game covered with little stature. She loves to play up front. She's just a competitive kid. She's a lot of fun, but I think sometimes she's hard on herself. But she wants to get better and she knows when she gets to Michi gan State, she knows she'll have to work for her position, so she's constantly trying to bet-ter herself in all areas."

Grant not only has high expectations of herself, but also for the team as the Mustangs have moved into the No 10 spot in the latest Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Associa-

"This year there's a lot of

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PREP FOOTBALL Churchill rolls in homecoming win vs. Plymouth

Chargers one victory away from players after 41-14 triumph

Tom Morelli

When it comes to football, one of the greatest attributes a team can have is a roster full of versatile players Being

able to

rotate play-

ers in and out across



multiple positions has the Alsobrooks ability to

add the elements of both danger and surprise to any system.

In a game where the end result is based on inches, being able to field a cast of versatile players can be the differencemaker in going from a pretender to a contender.

Livonia Churchill's seemingly never-ending supply of flexible resources was on full dis-play Friday, as the Chargers (5-1 overall, 4-0 KLAA Gold) pieced together five touchdowns in the second half on their way to a 41-14 homecoming win over Plymouth. "Roster-wise we're

down, but I think that depth-wise we have a lot of pretty solid players," Churchill coach Bill De-Fillippo said. "We have a lot of good players that aren't starters and sometimes that can be frustrating, but when those guys get their opportunity, they come and they play hard and do a good job for us.'

Quarterback Drew Alsobrooks played a pivotal part in putting up points for Churchill, using both his hands and feet to get the job done. By the time the final

whistle blew, Alsobrooks found himself all over the stat sheet. Among his scoring escapades, the junior booted two field goals (30 and 28 yards) scored on a two-point conversion and connected with classmate Avery Grenier on an 8-yard touchdown to finish with 143 yards on 5-of-16 pass-ing and 11 rushes for 73

yards. "We started a little slow and didn't have a great first half, kind of like last week," Also-brooks said. "We didn't really finish any drives in the first half and then once we got into the lock

er room, our thing was 'finish, finish, finish.' The first three drives of the second half we scored and finished every one with a touchdown and I'm proud of our guys.'

A wide receiver. Grenier (three catches for 59 yards, three rushes for 113 vards) also showcased his range of talents outside of his normal position, reaching pay dirt on an 84-yard run with 1:32 remaining and sneaking in reps at quarterback.

The Chargers' mo-mentous flurry of offense didn't stop there however, as they had nine different ball carriers on their way to 373 yards rushing.

"The key thing was our offensive line - we struggled a little bit last week, so they had a pretty long week of practice," DeFillippo said. "We challenged them and they played incredible tonight, so that was great to see.

chill players to score a touchdown were running backs Darrell Mason Jr (13 rushes for 85 vards) and Tyrese Williams (eight rushes for 33 yards) in the third quarter, followed by senior quarterback Martin Dooley's 5-yarder with 2:08 to go.

"Our kids responded and we have done that all year," DeFillippo said. 'We have a really good character group and, at times when they let us get after them, they always respond. I'm proud of those guys for the way they came out in the third quarter and finished drives and continued to play well on defense. We had contributions from a lot of guys.'

The game was delayed for about 20 minutes early in the fourth quarter after a horrific leg injury sustained by Plymouth senior quarter-back Zach Beadle. He was carted off by ambulance after suffering a compound fracture.

Finishing the contest at quarterback for the Wildcats was junior Blake Nowicki. Here are four other

takeaways: **BORN TO RUN**

The Wildcats (2-4, 2-2) relied on their running game as their primary strategy to move the ball down the field, throwing only six passes

Junior running back Carson Miller notched a game-high 183 yards on 30 carries, including a 2-yard burst into the end zone to give Plymouth a 7-6 lead just before halftime

The longest run for Miller came on the first play of the final quarter, as he cut through the inside and evaded tack-lers on third down to the tune of 49 yards before being brought down at the Churchill 32.

Plymouth's only other TD came with 1:50 in the fourth on a 61-yard scurry down the right side by running back Logan Walkley. "It's turned into a ri-

valry from 2012 on and it's always a good match-up," Plymouth coach Mike Sawchuk said. "We're very young this year and I thought we played exceptionally well with our young kids in the first half. We played with emotion, we played smart and then we came out in the second half flat against a good time with a bunch of athletes."

GOING THE DISTANCE

Wildcats wide receiver Mike Mathias proved to be a hot commodity on special teams by pulling off a pair of lengthy kick returns

Following an Alsobrooks field goal that made it 3-0, Mathias tested the Chargers' coverage unit by pulling off a 54-yard kickoff return to advance Plymouth just past midfield.

Mathias (four rushes, 29 yards) didn't have to wait long to show off his wheels again, as he went 53 yards in the second quarter following another Alsobrooks make.

A LITTLE EXTRA

In addition to his two field goals, Alsobrooks also connected on his three extra-point attempts before Katherine Ristola took over in the fourth.

A senior, Ristola booted home the point-after following Dooley's touchdown, but had her other attempt partially blocked in the waning moments of the game.

WIN BIG OR GO HOME

With the victory, Churchill matched its win total from last season.

This marks the fourth straight year that the Chargers have notched at least five victories and have now reached that quota in six of the past seven

Of those years, Churchill went to the playoffs on four occasions.

PREP ROUNDUP

Tim Smith hometownlife.com

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com

Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY LEGENDS INVITATION-AL: Senior Ana Barrott posted a personal best 18:07.18 for 5,000 meters as Northville (76 points) upended top-ranked Ann Arbor Pioneer (85) and Troy (95) to win the Ann Arbor Running Compa-ny's Legends Invitational Gold Varsity team title Sept. 30 at Huron Mead-

ows Metropark. Barrott placed fourth overall in the 5,000-meter race followed by team mates Yasmine Yanski, sixth (personal best 18:14.96); Olivia Harp, 11th (season best 18:52.62); Emily Gordon, 18th (personal best 19:11.95); and Kiera

Courtney, 37th (19:47.03). Pioneer's Ann Forsyth was the individual winner in 17:36.61.

In the Blue Varsity race, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (58) took first over East Lansing (102) and Holly (123). Novi was sixth with 168 as Katherni (21st, 20:10.3), Jessica Hughes (22nd, 20:13.0), Claudia Shuler (26th, 20:28.7) and Kiersten McBride (30th, 20:48.2).

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

LEGENDS INVITATION-AL: Plymouth sophomore Carter Solomon placed second overall Sept. 30 with a school record time of 15:32 to lead the Wildcats to the team title at the Ann Arbor Running Company's Legends Invitational Gold Varsity team at Huron Meadows

Metropark. Right on Solomon's heels was Plymouth teammate Ethan Byrnes. who was third with a 15:33 time. Other top performers for the Wildcats (all PRs) included Brandon Boyd (seventh, 16:16). Patrick Byrnes (ninth, 16:24), Tyler Mussen (11th, 16:25), Jarrett Warner (23rd, 16:42) and Adam Stepek (43rd,

Livonia Franklin came in 11th out of 17 teams. **Top Patriot finishers** included Grant Rudd (34th, 17:00), Logan Evan-chuk (44th, 17:12), Jackson Nordbeck (56th 17:31) and Russell Rusnell (60th, 17:33).

Brendan McCoy ran a 39th place time of 17:04.86 for 14th-place Livonia Churchill

Shane McKimmy (16th, 16:54.9) and Nolan Teodori (19th, 16:59.0).

GIRLS SWIMMING NORTHVILLE 121, STEVENSON 65: Lauren Heaven, Lulu Mans and Katelyn McCullough each figured in four firstplace finishes as the Mustangs (4-1, 3-1) rolled to the KLAA Gold Division dual meet victory Sept. 28 at Livonia Stevenson.

Heaven captured firsts in the 200-yard individual medley (2:16.75) and 100 butterfly (1:00.69), while Mans swept the 200- and 500 freestyles in 2:02.78 and 5:25.28, respectively. McCullough won the 50 freestyle (24.88) and 100 backstroke (1:02.09). Paige Jensen also

captured the 1-meter diving (143.62 points) for the Mustangs Northville swept all

three relays including the 200 medley with McCul-lough, Jennifer Ostrowski, Heaven and Meghna Ancha combining for a time of 1:56.85. The 200 freestyle relay team of Heaven, Mia Testani, Ancha and Mans added a first in 1:44.66. The quartet of Mans. Lexi Barritt. Emilie Chen and McCullough took the 400 freestyle relay (3:51.09). Stevenson's individual winners included Sara Thurston (100 freestyle 58.62) and Scout Froney (100 breaststroke (1:15.23)



The Northville girls cross country team captured the Gold Varsity team title at the Legends Invitational

(25-12, 25-17, 25-20). Northville kills leaders on the night included lare McNamara (18) Izzy Guleff (16), Brianna Maccoux (14) and Christina Valentini (12). Setters Rachel Holmes and Gabi Fisette added 46 and 35, assists, respectively. Hannah Grant recorded a team-best 30 digs and seven service aces. Other digs leaders in-cluded Ally Zayan and Maccoux, 16 each; Holmes, 12; McNamara and Fisette. 11 each. **PLYMOUTH 3, JOHN** GLENN 0: On Sept. 26, Kayla Courtney returned from an injury to notch 11 kills as the Wildcats swept host Westland John Glenn. Other solid performers for Plymouth included Annie Tustian (six kills), Kenna White (11 kills, six digs), Lauren Wheeler (35 assists, eight digs), Gabby Diamante (seven digs) and Annie Tustian (six kills).

the teams needed to add scores of fifth and sixth players and still came out leadlocked

Brighton's Annie Pietila and Heather Fortushniak.

Other Northville scorers included Mariella Simoncini (78), Sufna Gill (87) and Paige Molloy (93)

Novi's other three scorers included Leah Kiura (86), Hrishika Gogineni (96) and Despina Alexander (97)

BOYS SOCCER NOVI 2, CANTON 0: On Sept. 27 at Canton, the Chiefs were unable to mount much of an offen-

sive attack against Novi. PLYMOUTH 2, BRIGH-TON 1: Benjamin Tetlow and Justin Wojcik scored as the Wildcats won again on Sept. 27. PLYMOUTH 2, STE-

VENSON 0: On Sept. 26, Benjamin Tetlow and Justin Wojcik scored goals for the Wildcats.

BOYS TENNIS BRIGHTON 7, STEVEN-SON 2: Livonia Stevenson faced a tough opponent Sept. 26, emerging victo-rious only at No. 1 doubles.

The Spartans' wins were posted by Erik Schmidt at 4 singles (a tough, three-setter over Drake Harbrecht) and by the 1 doubles tandem of Kevin Dunne and Josh Maj, winning 7-5, 6-1 over Jack Simpson and Jack



Among the other Chur-

Northville girls, Plymouth boys rule Legends Invite

ine Ray took eighth indi-vidually in 19:52.42.

 Plymouth placed 12th and had two runners eclipse the coveted 20minute mark: Arwa Hararwala (33rd with career best 19:43) and Londyn Swenson (38th with career best 19:58).

 Livonia Franklin finished 13th overall, paced by Erin Seibert (23rd, 19:26.3).

DEWITT INVITATION-AL: Salem captured the DeWitt Invitational on Saturday with 49 points topping the 10-team field.

Top performers for the Rocks were medal winners Shae Wilson (fourth, 18:57.7), Reagan Justice (ninth, 19:07.6), Hallie Younglas (11th, 19:14.7), Olivia Millen (12th, 19:34.8), Bridget Nelson (13th, 19:38.4) Hannah Jeffress (14th. 19:42.1), Sophie Jeffers (16th, 19:50.2), Mamie Waggoner (17th, 19:50.6), Lizzy Lu (19th, 20:03.1), Madison Grant (20th, 20:04.8), Gabrielle Manci-

HANSON'S INVITA-TIONAL: Canton tallied 93 oints Sept. 30 to finish

fifth at the Hanson's Invitational, at Stony Creek

A number of Canton runners enjoyed milestone performances, led by Shane Andrews (season best 16:27, best-ever at Hanson's by a Chief).

Other Chiefs included Grant Hoffmeyer (16:44), Garrett Nagelhout (17:16), Daniel Jimenez (career best 17:20) and Braden Heimbaugh (career best 17:31)

MARAUDER INVITA-TIONAL: Salem edged No. 2-ranked Saline (38 points to 39) Sept. 30 at Lake Erie Metropark in

Brownstown Twp. The Rocks had seven finishers in the top-20, paced by Ryan Exell (third, 16:05.3). He was followed by teammates Luke Haran (sixth, 16:23.1), Andrew Beyer (10th, 16:39.5), Christo Jeffers (12th, 16:43.4) Talha Syed (14th, 16:49.0),

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VOLLEYBALL NORTHVILLE 3,

BRIGHTON 1: Christina Valentini (12), Clare McNamara (11) and Brianna Maccoux (10) reached double figures in kills on Sept. 28 as the Mustangs (25-5) outlasted the host Bulldogs in four sets. 27-25, 19-25, 25-16. 25-13 in a KLAA Gold Division match.

Setters Rachel Holmes and Gabi Fisette added 29 and 12 assists, respectivelv. while Hannah Grant finished with 26 digs followed by Ally Zayan (13) and Jenna Boksha (10)

NORTHVILLE SWEEPS: The Mustangs (24-5)

rolled to a trio of three set KLAA wins Sept. 26 over host Livonia Churchill (25-16, 25-17, 25-15), Franklin (25-14, 25-8, 25-15) and Stevenson

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GIRLS GOLF CANTON 318, NOVI 318: On Sept. 27 at Walnut Creek Country Club,

÷.

Medalist with a 1under 35 was Novi's Abby Livingston.

For Canton (3-9-1), Manasa Potluri led with a 40 while Simi Neeluru shot a 48. The KLAA Conference Tournament will be Tuesday, Oct. 3 at Salem Hills Golf Course.

NORTHVILLE 178, SALEM 210: On Sept. 26, the Mustangs defeated the Rocks despite a 49 score by Salem's Nicole Hahn

SANDER MEMORIAL TOURNEY: Freshman

Nicole Whatley posted a season best even-par 72 as Northville (330) took runner-up honors Sept. 25 in the Jim Sander Memorial at Prestwick Village G.C

Brighton captured the team title with 306 with South Lyon (340) and Novi (351) taking third and fourth, respectively.

Whatley, who carded four birdies, shared individual medalist honors with Novi's Abigail Livingston, along with

NORTHVILLE 9, SA-

LEM 0: The fourthranked Mustangs were in control Sept. 25 in this lopsided victory over the Rocks.

Northville was sparked by 1 singles play-er Janak Mukherji, who won 6-1, 6-0 over Eric Liu (only his second loss of the season). Other Mustang singles winners included Arvind Kalvana (No. 2), Ryan Gallagher (No. 3) and Samir Rajani (No. 4).

The Mustangs also got doubles victories from Matt Freeman and Cameron Mailley (No. 1); Trevor Kelterborn and Nishant Chava (No. 2): Michael Ying and Pranav Doppalapudi (No. 3); Joe Vig and Ilija Jaksic (No. 4); Michail Boksha and Srikar Kesamneni (No. 5).

GRAND BLANC 8, PLYMOUTH 1: The Wild-cats finished their regular season Sept. 25 with this loss to the Bobcats.



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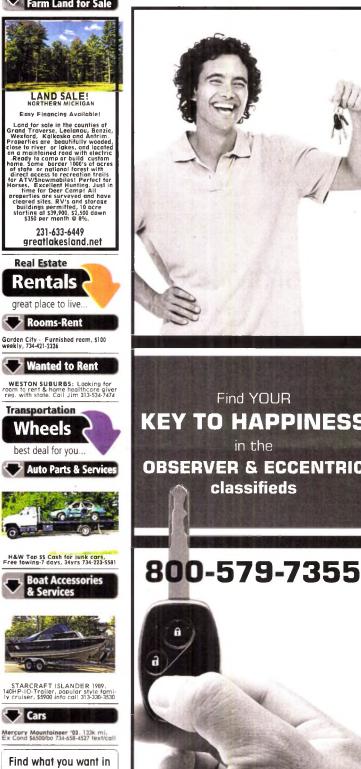
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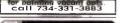






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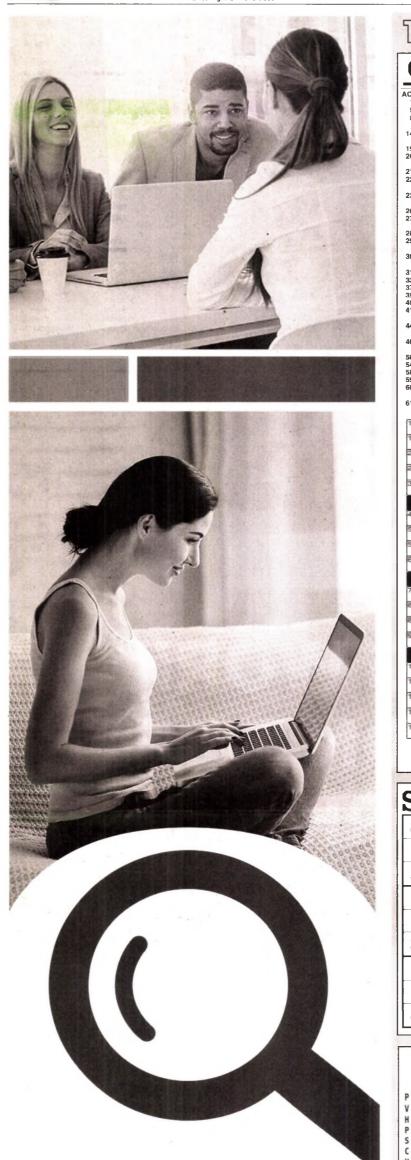
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Crossword Answers

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