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Vet's remains finally sent home

World War II radioman was killed in Pacific in 1944

Tim Smith
 hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Was Walter E. Mintus an American hero from the same U.S. Navy Torpedo Squadron that future President George Herbert Walker Bush was in during World War II?

Or was he somebody to get into an egg-throwing fight with?

He was both and much more to Westland's Tom Kozak, now in his mid-80s but transported back decades — to childhood's fun and games — when thinking about his Uncle Bert.

"We played with him, he'd come to the (Kozak) farm and we did all kind of games, baseball," Kozak said. "We didn't have a baseball, we rolled up a sock with rags in it and tied it with string."

"Also when we hauled hay in the fall,

we'd stack the barn full of hay and what was left, we piled it up outside the bar. Big piles, they were 15 feet high at least. Then we'd climb up the ladder and slide down. He used to do that with us when he'd come visit."

Just a typical uncle who was having fun with his nephews.

"I didn't tell anyone this, because I didn't want my sisters to know," said Kozak, who has a large family of his own with second wife Bongchae. "But we used to throw eggs at each other. We lived on a farm (in Pennsylvania), so we had a lot of eggs."

Mystery finally solved

And now the 84-year-old Kozak and a host of living relatives all across the country finally have the answer they've sought since July 27, 1944 — when

"Tommy" was just 10 years old.

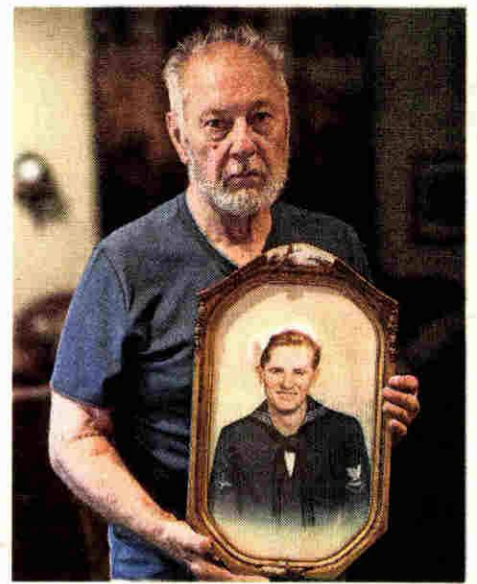
U.S. Navy radioman Mintus was killed during a bombing mission off the shores of Malakal Island in the Republic of Palau.

"We never knew, back when we were kids and he first was missing in action, and they claimed him dead after a while, we never knew how it happened or anything," Kozak said. "They just claimed him dead and the government sent telegrams to my grandparents. But nobody knew how he died or anything until just recently."

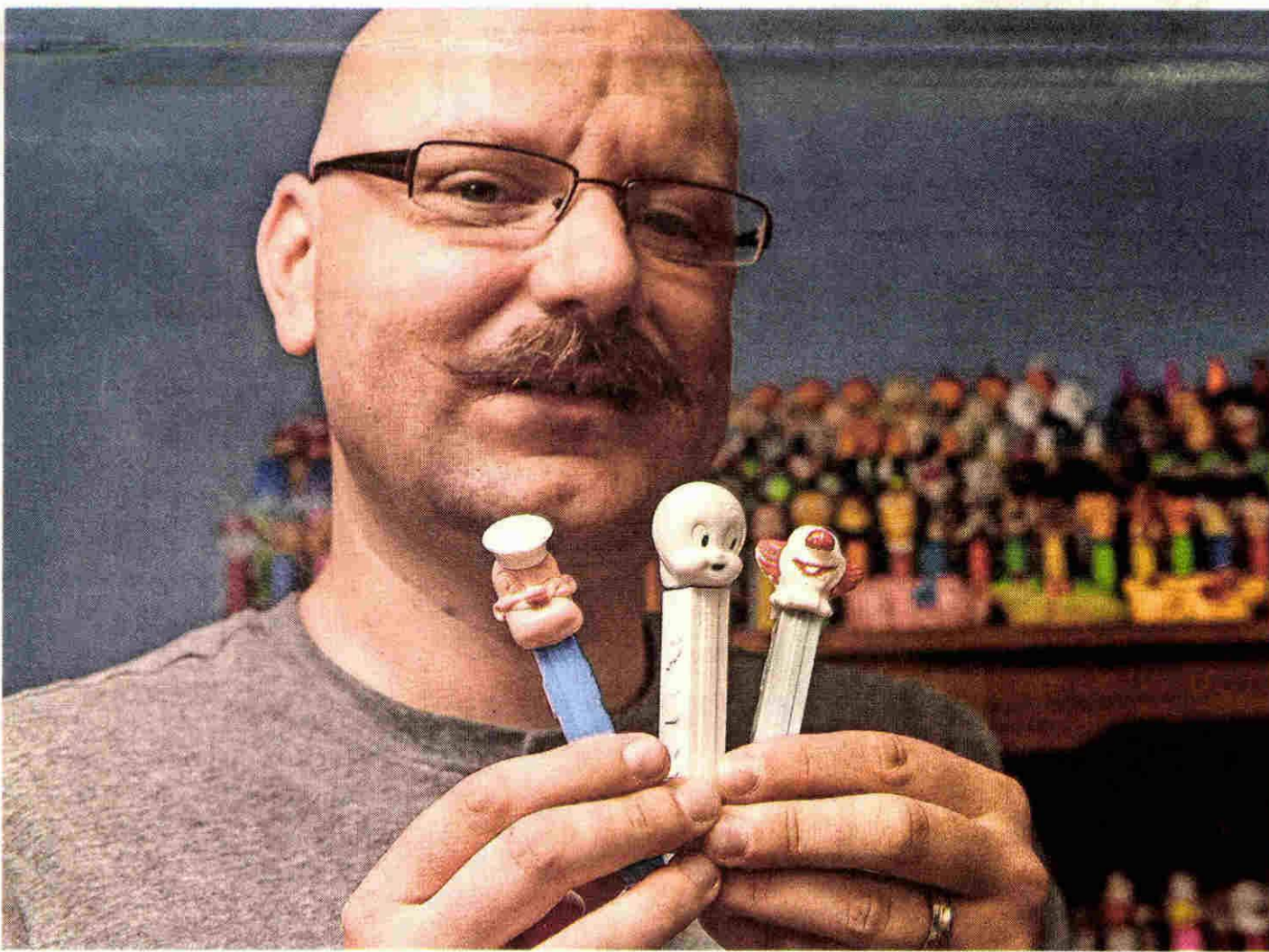
"So all of the 74 years, or whatever it was, my aunts and uncles, they were always hoping that he would be found or that he'd come home. Now we know he's dead. He's one of the people on the plane."

The answer now is definitive, following discovery of the aircraft by sonar just a couple of months ago — followed

See REMAINS, Page 3A



Tom Kozak's Uncle "Bert" Mintus went missing in action during World War II, when Kozak was 10 years old. His uncle's remains are finally coming home. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



John Hicks displays Popeye, Casper the Friendly Ghost and Bozo the Clown, three PEZ dispensers from the 1950s. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

'SO MUCH MORE THAN A TOY'

Annual Pez convention coming to Livonia

David Veselenak
 hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Jon Hicks was always into collections when he was a child.

He'd collect the typical items: coins, sports cards, comic books. It wasn't until he was a little older he'd discover the

accessibility and range that came with collecting those iconic candy dispensers: Pez.

"I had a couple Pez dispensers, but never really collected them. I got a couple in my Easter basket or Christmas stocking and I probably had three laying around my house," he said. "But then, I'd always see them at the grocery store."

"As a kid, I then wanted to start collecting them. And it was easy."

Today, the Canton resident has a guest room in his house dedicated to the

pop culture phenomenon, amassing thousands of different types of Pez dispensers. From Star Trek to Looney Tunes, Harry Potter to every single U.S. president (except for Donald Trump, which Hicks said he hasn't been able to find), he's got it all at his home.

He's excited to bring the hobby he's loved for decades out to Livonia. That's because the third annual Michigan Pez

See PEZ, Page 7A

Hometown Life Storytellers 'Music': Tickets on sale

Join us for our inaugural Hometown Life Storytellers Project, where we will hear live stories of pianos, songwriting, soothing escapes and more on how music has transformed lives. Tickets are on sale now for the Thursday, Sept. 20, event at <http://tickets.hometownlife.com/a/hometown-life-storytellers-music/event>.

This event will feature professionally coached, local storytellers of all ages sharing their best stories. It is open to the community for \$7 per person in advance, \$10 at the door. Doors open for general admission 6:30-7 p.m.

Everyone in the community is welcome; use discount code **EARLY BIRD** to receive \$1 off per ticket if purchasing tickets by midnight Monday, Sept. 3.

The Hometown Life Storytellers Project provides a safe PG-13 environment to be held at the Village Workshop, 455 E. Cady Street, in downtown Northville. With a new cafe serving sandwiches, soup and salads, the workshop is a unique maker and shared work space in a beautiful historical building.

Topics for future events include: Food & Culture, New Beginnings, Tattoo Tales and Glory Days of High School Sports. To submit a story idea or to become a teller at a future event, email ddean@hometownlife.com.

What: Hometown Life Storytellers Project "Music"

When: Thursday, Sept. 20; 6:30 p.m. for general admission; show starts at 7 p.m.

Where: The Village Workshop, downtown Northville.

Who: Everyone is welcome.

Tickets: \$7 in advance; \$10 at the door. For more information, go to Hometown Life on Facebook.

Pair charged with repeat Livonia burglaries

Matt Jachman
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Two men are accused of repeatedly burglarizing a Livonia home and stealing guns, cash, tools and, on their last visit, a sport-utility vehicle they drove around until it ran out of gas.

Nicholas J. Spencer and William J. Price were arrested Aug. 7 in Livonia, hours after a 71-year-old man reported his 2009 Jeep Liberty had been stolen from the driveway of his house on Arden, south of Five Mile.

Spencer initially denied involvement, but later told a detective that he and Price had entered the house early that morning and taken the keys to the Jeep, which they took for a joy ride until they abandoned it, with a flat tire and no



Price **Spencer**

gas, on an I-275 off-ramp, according to a Livonia Police Department report.

An investigation, and the questioning of both men, linked them to three separate burglaries at the house of the victim, who is acquainted with Price, police said. The house appeared to have been left unlocked, police said.

The pair are charged with burglaries that court records say occurred April 13, July 18 and Aug. 7. Things stolen included two pistols, three rifles and a shotgun, cash, a snow blower, a BB gun, a pellet gun and a tool set. The tool set and pellet and BB guns were recovered, police reports said.

The suspects told police the firearms had been sold to someone in Detroit, whom they wouldn't name, for about \$1,000, and the snow blower had been pawned and cash spent, the reports said.

In his statement, Spencer said he had been in the house approximately 20 times, then amended that to say he had been there 50 or more times, police said.

Spencer, 18, of Canton Township is charged with two counts of first-degree home invasion and one count of each of auto theft, receiving and concealing stolen property, the theft of firearms and larceny in a building.

Price, 19, of Livonia is charged with three counts of first-degree home invasion and one count each of auto theft, receiving and concealing stolen property, the theft of firearms and larceny in a building.

Both were arraigned Aug. 10 in 16th District Court by Magistrate Barbara Scherr, who entered not-guilty pleas for them. They were being held Aug. 13 in the Wayne County Jail on \$500,000 cash or surety bonds.

Spencer and Price are scheduled to return to district court Thursday, Aug. 23, for a probable-cause conference.

Contact Matt Jachman at mjachman@hometownlife.com.

WISH YOU WERE HERE



How ironic that Isabella and Cameron Melvin of Livonia would see this sign while visiting their great Uncle Wally and Aunt Linda at their home on one of the finger lakes called Conesus Lake in New York. It is exactly 356 miles from their hometown. Livonia, N.Y., is a small town two miles away. If you have a photo of you on vacation with a copy of the Observer, email LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com. EILEEN MELVIN

hometownlife.com

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Remains

Continued from Page 1A

by a DNA test that eradicated any lingering doubt.

"You know how it is with family, there's always hoping," said Kozak, who worked in the Pennsylvania coal mines as a teenager. "But you kind of start giving up after 74 or 75 years. And in the last couple years, we got really active, trying to find him again."

Kozak said the ultimate family find came about by accident.

"I had a niece in Texas and her husband is a family tree searcher," Kozak said. "He started searching the family tree and, all of a sudden, Mintus came up (prompting questions whether there was a Mintus-Kozak connection). Somehow or another, between the navy and him searching, they realized it's one of our family that was lost. So that's how this all got started again."

"It's kind of, like, taking you back 70 years and you start thinking about it again," he said. "It's, like, a renewal of the whole thing. Yeah, it's painful. It's rewarding, in a way."

Proof that Mintus was on the plane when it was shot down came July 30 in a package that Kozak's brother Richard sent to him in the mail.

"I got a bunch of reports from when my uncle got killed, from the government," Kozak said. "They knew where it was shot down, then the Japanese gave them actual locations, then they went down with the sonar and found the plane on the bottom of the ocean."

"It's not real deep there, because there's an island. One person got out — they never knew who it was — but now they know it was the pilot. Because when they found the remains in the plane, it was my uncle (radioman) and the gunner. The pilot bailed out. I just found this out today."

Pain, relief, sorrow

Mintus's fate was sealed, just one day shy of his 23rd birthday. So was that of aircraft turret gunner Otis E. Ingram. Skeletal remains of both men were located inside the cockpit.

"I heard just recently that they (also) found his dog tags," Kozak said. "But it doesn't say in the report."

The third navy man on that mission,



Walter "Bert" Mintus was in the same squadron as George H.W. Bush. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pilot Roland R. Houle, is still unaccounted for, but presumed dead (as all three were in February 1946).

Thinking back seven-plus decades, Kozak remembered that family gatherings always were solemn affairs, tempered by questions about Uncle Bert and his whereabouts.

There was a phonograph recording with Mintus's voice on it, which family members listened to intently. When Bert talked, full of life and hope for the future, it was like reaching the top of the roller-coaster.

Of course, a few moments later, when reality of the grim situation emerged, their emotions came crashing down yet again.

"Back in the day, they wrote letters. They didn't have cellphones," Kozak said with a chuckle. "And then they would make a record and talk on it and send it to the family and then we would play it on a phonograph."

"It wasn't often, but once in a while, you'd get a record and it was really nice to hear the voice. He sent a record right before he got killed, to his mother and dad. We went and listened to it. It was news for the whole family."

"So we went to my grandma and grandpap's and (they) played the record. It was pretty heartbreaking because they got the record after (Mintus was presumed dead)."

Symbols of service

Symbols of going to battle for the Stars and Stripes were prevalent throughout young Tommy's life. He always wore a U.S. Army hat given to him by one of his seven brothers who served in the military.

And in the windows were banners of blue stars, silver stars and gold stars.

"I don't know if you ever heard this or not, but they had flags on the windows,"

Kozak said. "They had blue stars, silver stars and gold stars. The gold stars was you were dead, silver star was you were missing in action or wounded. The blue star was you was in the service. We had a whole line of them."

"You can't experience it if you don't have it happen to you (a military death). It just takes all the steam out of you and then you have to learn to live with it."

Kozak shook his head as he discussed why he did not serve. It wasn't for a lack of trying.

"There were seven boys in the service and I got drafted in the Korean War," he said. "My mom went to the draft board and said, 'You can't take my son, he's got to stay on the farm, I need him.'"

"So they gave me a 3A classification. That meant I was eligible for the service, but not unless they really needed me."

Three years later, when Kozak was married to his first wife, he received a second draft notice.

"But I was married and had a baby," he said. "You weren't going to go if you had a child, unless they really, really needed you. So I got out the second time for the same reason."

According to Kozak, he "apologized to my brothers many times" in the decades since.

"They were drafting everybody in those days," he added. "You had your brothers go in, sad times. I can remember."

Bush weighs in

Any lingering misgivings about the past now are being tucked aside for a while, what with urgent business to attend to.

Richard Kozak will meet Sept. 2 with U.S. Navy officials to discuss a military burial. Mintus will not be buried in Arlington National Cemetery, however, because the family thought it would be

fitting for his final resting place to be close to his parents.

"They didn't bring him in yet, his remains aren't with us yet," Tom Kozak said. "They're talking to my brother and he's handling it (the funeral and burial). He keeps me in touch."

Kozak didn't know whether the 41st president was informed about the recent discovery.

But he noted that it was pretty certain Bush and Mintus knew each other well and perhaps were even friends during five months together in U.S. Navy squadron VT-51 aboard aircraft carrier U.S.S. San Jacinto.

"When you're in a squadron with each other, everybody knows each other pretty much," Kozak said. "I have a picture of them (squadron members) standing in front of the plane."

From February until July 1944, the San Jacinto carried the Avenger and three other aircraft on the mission to Malakal Island.

Bush, now 94, had long been researching about the lost mission. He exchanged letters about the Avenger and Mintus in 2003 with Kozak's older sister Lilly, Pennsylvania resident Agnes Phillips (who will celebrate her 100th birthday on New Year's Eve).

"Your uncle went on a mission to Palau on 27 July 1944 with Lt. Houle and they never returned," Bush wrote in an April 9, 2003, response to Phillips. "They were both shot down. I was shot down on 2 September 1944 and lost both of my crewmen."

"When I worked at the White House, we tried to locate all living VT-51 squadron members and relatives of the deceased members."

At the end of that letter, written just 17 months after 9/11 during the term of President George W. Bush, the elder Bush wrote that "Barbara and I are most appreciative of your kind words for our son. Please keep him and our brave troops in your prayers."

That letter still means a lot to Tom Kozak, as does the knowledge of where Uncle Bert really is.

"The memories come back," Kozak said. "He was a good uncle. I have good memories of him. I'm really happy that they found him."

If you have a compelling story to tell, contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter @TimSmith_Sports.

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Livonia snags Ill. company, 56 high-tech jobs

Darrell Clem
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

An Illinois company is uprooting after 102 years and moving to Livonia, where it plans to invest \$1.7 million and create 56 high-tech jobs.

Aetna Bearing Co. — a company that designs, manufactures and sells bearings to the aerospace, automotive, agriculture, mining, industrial and military sectors — is moving closer to its expanding customer base, officials said.

Aetna plans to lease a building on Enterprise Drive, in the Livonia industrial corridor northwest of Plymouth and Merriman roads. Barb Gamber, Livonia economic development coordinator, said the move is expected to occur in mid- to late September.

Aetna, purchased in 2016 by the Stratford-Cambridge Group, is moving due to a new strategic focus on expansion and sales growth with an emphasis on research and development, refined product portfolio and hiring the right talent, company officials said.

"Today, we start a new milestone as we relocate our

headquarters to the state of Michigan to further support our growth and better serve our expanding customer base," company President Kal Beidas said in an Aug. 8 statement.

Aetna's move was boosted by a \$385,000 performance-based grant from the Michigan Business Development Program. The company chose Michigan over competing sites in Illinois and South Carolina, officials said.

Gamber said Aetna didn't receive any tax abatements from Livonia, but city staffers are helping the company to ensure a smooth transition.

Gamber said Aetna's move comes as Livonia has witnessed an uptick in economic development. She said the city is a draw to companies because it is located between Detroit and Ann Arbor and is close to Detroit Metro Airport, multiple freeways and CSX railways. She also said Livonia has colleges, a thriving business community, good K-12 schools, an abundance of parks and comparatively low taxes.

"It's just a combination of all that," she said.

The Michigan Economic Development Corp. confirmed Aug. 8 that Aetna and Home Point Financial

Corp. of Ann Arbor Township are creating a total of 106 jobs.

Home Point, which handles multi-national mortgage loans and servicing, has operations in most states and is rapidly expanding its Michigan operations. It is investing \$4 million and creating 50 jobs and has received a \$360,000, performance-based business development grant.

"These projects will lead to new business growth and good jobs for our talented workforce," Jeff Mason, MEDC's chief executive officer, said in a statement. "We're pleased to work with our local partners and support these investments to further build the economy in southeast Michigan."

Beidas, meanwhile, said Aetna is "thrilled to make Michigan our new home" and looks forward to "building our next 100 years in the automotive capital of the world."

Contact Darrell Clem at dclem@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @CantonObserver.

What happens if association board is 'dissolved'?



Condo Living
Robert Meisner
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Q: Our condominium association board recently found out that its corporation has been "dissolved." What does that mean and how can we fix it?

A: This is likely due to a failure to file your nonprofit corporation annual reports for at least the past two or

three years. Those reports are required to be filed with the Corporations Division of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

When a community association is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation, a single person or entity is identified as the "resident agent," who receives notice that the annual reports are due each year. If that person is an owner and, if that person moves away from the association and forgets to ensure that someone else is designated as resident agent, nobody is aware of the requirement, time passes and eventually the corporation is automatically dissolved. To guard against this, many associations will instead designate their attorney or management company as resident agent.

You should move quickly to file past due reports and pay the past due filing fees and penalties for each year, as you want to ensure that the association can function as a legal entity. Otherwise, the usual liability protections for you as a director or officer acting on behalf of the association may not apply, among other risks.

Michigan community associations' resident agents should have recently received notice that the 2018 Nonprofit Corporation Annual Report is due to be filed by Oct. 1. Reports can now be filed online.

Q: I have invested in both Las Vegas and San Diego in terms of a condominium for lease and/or purchase and am wondering whether or not it is a good

time to sell. My condo in Las Vegas is three miles from the Strip, while my condo in San Diego is near Little Italy. What are your thoughts, if you know about the market conditions?

A: Upon a recent visit to both locales, I can tell you that the market is still recovering in Las Vegas. While your leasing may be most profitable, the appreciation of your unit, depending upon what you paid for it and when, is problematic. However, the general outlook for residential real estate in and around Las Vegas is generally favorable as the inclusion of new sports teams in the area will, no doubt, help market conditions. As to San Diego, Little Italy is the hottest place in town for residential construction and/or leasing. If you have a foothold in that area, you may well be advised to keep it, recognizing that rental values are skyrocketing, as well as the cost per square foot of residential housing.

Robert M. Meisner, esq., is principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group, based in Bingham Farms, which provides legal representation for condominiums, homeowner associations, individual co-owners and developers. His book "Condo Living 2: The Authoritative Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium" is available at www.momentumbooks.com. He can be reached at 248-644-4433 or bmeisner@meisner-law.com.

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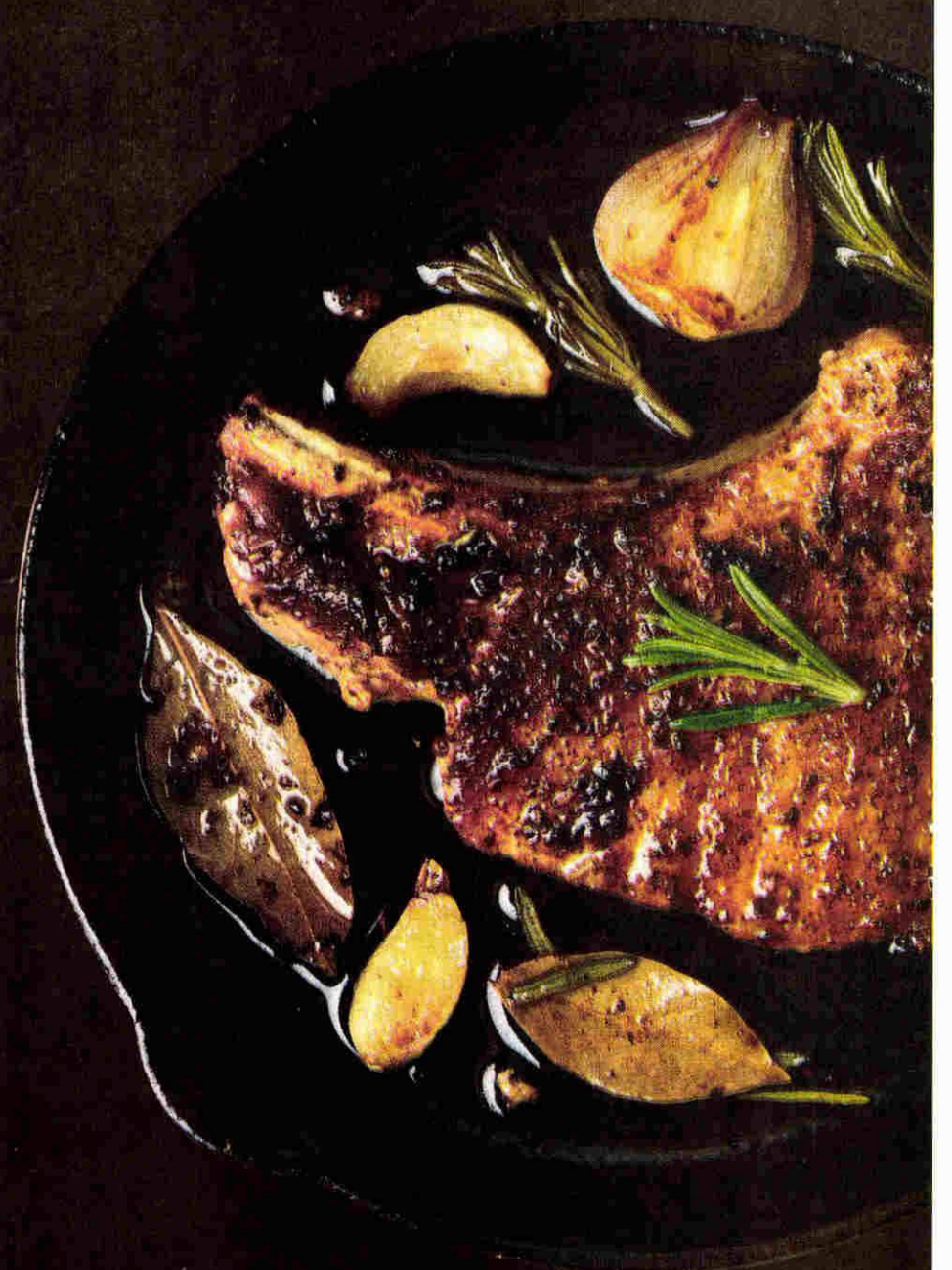
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Myths and facts about filing an amended tax return



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
USA TODAY NETWORK —
MICHIGAN

I recently met with a potential new client and, as I was looking over their tax return, I noticed that there was an obvious mistake. Basically, the client had a side business and filed a Schedule C for the business. Schedule C is a rather simple form that lists income and expenses for a business. What the client did not do was deduct expenses for the business. When I asked the client about it, they looked at me in disbelief and said they had given their tax preparer a list of expenses and they had no idea why they

weren't taken. I told them that they should contact their tax preparer to find out what the deal was.

To make a long story short, they got back to me after a couple of weeks and said the tax preparer admitted that he screwed up and forgot to take the deductions. At that point in time, I asked them if they were planning to file an amended return to correct the situation and they told me no. When I asked why, they said that the tax preparer informed them that if they file an amended return, the IRS is automatically going to

audit you and make your life difficult. I told them they should consider a new tax preparer.

When it comes to taxes, there are many myths and one of them deals with amended returns. Just because you file an amended return does not mean the IRS is going to audit you. Yes, there is a possibility, but it is not automatic. If there is a mistake on your return in your favor and you have the proper documentation, you should have no problem filing an amended return. On the other hand, if you discover a mistake on your return that is not in your favor, I always recommend that you amend your return. You have a much better chance in dealing with

the IRS, particularly when it comes to penalties, if you voluntarily amend your return as opposed to it discovering the error.

When it comes to amending a tax return in your favor, I do recommend that you look at the dollars involved to determine if the money is material to you or not. If by amending your return you will get an additional refund of less than \$100, it's probably not worth the time and energy to amend your return. If by amending the return you're talking about thousands of dollars ending up in your pocket, it's certainly something you should pursue.

Typically, you can file an amended return with-

in three years after the date you filed your original return. The form that you would use is 1040X. A 1040X is not a complicated form and basically has three columns. Column A show the original figures from your return. Column C shows the correct numbers and Column B is the difference between Column A and C. Page 2 of the form is where you explain the changes and the reasons for those changes. It is not a difficult form to complete, but if you typically don't prepare your own tax return, you probably want to use a professional to help you.

Just because your tax preparer may have made a mistake, it does not mean that you should fire

them or anything like that. Mistakes do happen. However, if it is a mistake by the tax preparer, my belief is that they should complete your Form 1040X without charge. If the tax preparer's mistake results in you paying taxes, interest and penalties, my general belief is that the tax preparer should be liable for the penalty, at a minimum.

Something you have to take into consideration is, if you amend your federal return, it may mean you have to also amend your state of Michigan return. Not all amendments to the federal return will affect your state return, but many will. In the case at hand, when they amend their federal return to increase deductions on their Schedule C, it will also have an impact on their Michigan return. In this case, it would lower their Michigan taxes. If the reason you amended your return is because you forgot a deduction such as your property taxes, typically that would not affect your Michigan return. Don't forget that if you do amend your federal return, you at least need to determine the effect on the state of Michigan.

When it comes to taxes, whether it's filing your original return or an amended return, the key is to have the proper documentation. If you have the proper documentation, you have nothing to fear.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Pez

Continued from Page 1A

Convention will take place Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Embassy Suites, 19525 Victor Parkway, bringing together Pez enthusiasts from across the state, country and globe.

It's the first time the convention has taken place in Livonia. It's happened in Troy the past two years and organizers say they needed to move to accommodate the growing event.

"We just kind of grew out of the Troy hotel," said Jim Blaine, a Hartland Township resident and one of the organizers for the convention. "We've heard a lot of great things about Livonia. Livonia is a lot closer to the airport."

"We just thought, hey, this is a great place to host a family event."

The convention will open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and will have more than 20 vendors selling and trading their Pez goodies to the public. Admission is free.

Curious about a rare Pez dispenser? Just want to peruse some common ones for your kids to play with? The show has it all, Blaine said.

"You can see Pez dispensers that are worth 50 cents and you can see some that are worth thousands. It's so family friendly. These dealers, they're there to answer questions about the nostalgia," said Blaine, a collector himself who now has more than 35,000 dispensers. "It almost becomes a family. It's more of a family reunion than a Pez convention."

'It was a blast'

Pez launched in the 1920s in Austria, first as a peppermint candy. U.S. distribution began in the 1950s and dispensers with character heads began appearing shortly after. It eventually grew and became an international craze, with collectors snatching up thousands of the beautiful toys.

Hicks collected on his own for years before getting connected to other Pez enthusiasts about a year ago. He heard about the Michigan Pez Convention while researching a family vacation to the Pez Visitor Center in Connecticut and reached out to its organizers. Now, he's excited to spend three days in Livonia with fellow Pez collectors and share stories. He's even gotten a Pez tattoo on his leg to showcase his devotion to the cause.

He's since gotten close with Blaine and has helped spread the word about the convention, an event he called his highlight in 2017.

"It was a blast. It was probably the most fun thing I did last year," Hicks said. "I've been excited about this year's ever since."

The convention has attracted plenty of guests in previous years, from states including Illinois, Wisconsin, New York and California and countries such as Canada, Belgium, Australia and Japan.

Blaine said the Pez community is dedicated to char-



Jim Blaine of Hartland Township, with some of his 17,000 Pez dispensers. He keeps them on display in a room he has dedicated to his collection. GILLIS BENEDICT | LIVINGSTON DAILY

ity and helping others. The convention will support you'll ever meet," he said. "It's so much more than a Camp Lake Louise, a Christian Camp in Boyne Falls. The convention has committed to sending some children in fatherless homes to summer camp each year.

"It's a helping community. PEZ people are probably some of the most generous, caring charitable people

plastic toy now."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

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AREA EVENTS

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

Church rummage sale

The Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt Road, is having its annual rummage sale Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 16-18. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (bag sale begins at noon). For more information, go to gardencitypresbyterian.org, email gpc5497@sbccglobal.net or call 734-421-7620.

End of summer dog swim

Treat your dog to an end of summer swim 5-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20, at Livonia's two city pools: Botsford Pool, 19444 Lathers, will host large breed dogs, 31 pounds or more. Sheldon Pool, 33123 Van Court, will host small breed dogs, 30 pounds or less. Dogs are invited to take a swim as pools prepare to close for the season.

Rates for Livonia residents are \$3 per dog and non-Livonia residents are \$5.25 per dog. For more information, call 734-466-2900 or go to www.livoniaparks.org.

Yoga on the Labyrinth

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, in Livonia will host its monthly Yoga on the Labyrinth 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23. Enjoy a gentle yoga class and labyrinth walk. Bring a mat. For more information, call 734-427-1414.

Livonia GOP Club speaker series

The Livonia Republican Club has announced its inaugural Summer Night Forums speaking series, featuring current and former elected officials on the federal, state, county and municipal level, as well as policy experts on a variety of topics.

The series will be held at the Livonia Victory Center, 33462 Seven Mile Road. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with programs beginning promptly at 7 p.m. The schedule includes:

■ Thursday, Aug. 23: A local issues forum, with a panel that will feature Livonia Mayor Dennis Wright, Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams, Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix and Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise.

These events are free and open to the public, however you must register for tickets via Eventbrite. A link can be found at www.LivoniaGOP.com.

Music at the Elks

Jazz @ The Elks happens 7-9:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month at the Plymouth Ann Arbor Elks Lodge No. 325. There is a \$10 donation at the door, which includes hors d'oeuvres.

The next show is Tuesday, Aug. 28, featuring the Sean Dobbins Trio with rising star Jibreel Johnson. The trio consists of Dobbins on drums, Corey Kendrick on keyboard and Rob Bickley on bass. Trumpeter Johnson goes to Huron High School in Ann Arbor.

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

Livonia Garden Club

The Livonia Garden Club will host its monthly meeting and potluck dinner Tuesday, Sept. 4, at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. A meet-and-greet is scheduled for 6 p.m., followed by the dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Members are asked to bring a dish to pass. Guests and prospective members are just asked to meet. We will be discussing last month's flower show in addition to the business meeting.

'A Doll's House' auditions

Schoolcraft College is holding open auditions for all roles in its fall production of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House," adapted and directed by Paul Beer, 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 4-5, in the James R. Hartman Theatre at the college, 18600 Haggerty Road, in Livonia. The theater is located in the Liberal Arts building on the south end of campus. Performances will be late October and early November.

For more information, go to www.schoolcraft.edu/theatre or email theatre@schoolcraft.edu.

St. Mary addiction series

St. Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia, 36475 Five Mile Road, in Livonia is offering an ongoing series titled Addic-

tion: What you need to know and what you can do. Classes are scheduled 7-8:30 p.m. the first three Tuesdays of each month, September through May, in Classroom II on the fourth floor. Sept. 4, 11 and 18 are the next series dates.

No registration necessary. For more information, contact Karen Bonanno at kbonanno@livoniasaveouryouth.org or 734-338-9580.

FRIENDS in Wayne

The city of Wayne 2018 FRIENDS (People Helping People) group is looking for volunteers. FRIENDS will take place Saturday, Sept. 8 (rain date, Sept. 15). The goal of this program, which began in 1998, is to help a Wayne resident whose home is in need of some care and they are not able to handle the work due to financial or medical reasons.

The day (usually about six hours) starts at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast at the HYPE Recreation Center. Material, equipment, T-shirts and lunch, plus refreshments, are provided on-site. Youth groups are welcome, with one adult for every five youth volunteers.

If you would like to volunteer or need more information, call the Community Development Department at 734-722-2000 or email Albert Damitio at damitioalb@gmail.com.

Genealogy event

Budding genealogists will have the opportunity to sit with one of 10 members of the Western Wayne Genealogical Society and receive 30 minutes of free one-on-one assistance with their research during an event scheduled for 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 2777 Five Mile Road.

Registration is required and can be found at www.livonia.libcal.com/event/4340521.

Ladywood Class of '78

The Ladywood High School Class of 1978 will celebrate its 40th reunion Saturday, Sept. 8. The event will begin at 5 p.m. with Mass at the Felician Motherhouse Chapel, 36800 Schoolcraft Road. After Mass, dinner is set for 7 p.m. at the Italian American Banquet & Conference Center, 39200 W. Five Mile Road.

For more information and to have a private invitation sent to you, go to "Ladywood Class of 1978 Reunion" on Facebook.

Bishop Borgess Class of '78

The Redford Bishop Borgess High School Class of 1978 will hold a 40th reunion dinner dance buffet at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road, in Livonia. The cost is \$60 per person and includes cash bar with casual dress.

Send a check or money order, payable to Diane Chiola, to 20712 Fairview, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127 or use Pay Pay account <http://PayPal.me/78>.

Westland library book sale

The Friends of the Westland Library will hold the group's next book sale info Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 13-16, at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Hours are 3-6 p.m. Thursday (preview sale), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 3 p.m. Sunday (bag day, \$4 per bag).

Tail Waggers fundraiser

Tail Waggers 1990, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is hosting its inaugural Cruisin' 4 Critters, a motorcycle fundraiser, Sunday, Sept. 16, at Dick Scott's Freedom Powersports, 36534 Plymouth Road, in Livonia. Registration is 9:30-10:45 a.m., with the cruise at 11 a.m. Registration costs \$25 per rider or \$35 with a passenger.

The motorcycles will start and end at Freedom Powersports. The Wayne County Sheriff Department will escort the riders for safety on a ride to last approximately 2½ hours. A brief stop at the turnaround will give riders a chance to refuel, use restrooms and get a drink. While pre-registration for the ride is recommended to ensure proper headcount for the after-party, ride-ins are welcome until 10:45 a.m.

Following the cruise, a picnic-styled after-party will be provided by the Blue Plate Diner of Livonia, featuring a 50/50 drawing, music, vendors and alumni animals. All money raised directly benefits Tail Waggers' animal care services.

For more information or to register for the event, go to www.tailwaggers1990.org or call 734-855-4077. You can also go to www.dickscottpowersports.com for information and to register.

Infant massage classes

The Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, is holding a free five-week series of infant massage classes, beginning 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 27. The series is presented by a certified infant massage educator in cooperation with Starfish Family Services. This is being offered for pre-crawling infants and their caregivers. Expectant parents are welcome to join as well.

Limited space is available on a first-come, first-served basis and participants are asked to attend all five sessions. For questions or to register, contact Claire.mueller@westlandlibrary.org or call 734-326-6123, ext. 2847.

Benedictine High reunion

The Benedictine High School Class of 1973 will hold its 45th reunion at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Italian American Banquet & Conference Center, 39200 W. Five Mile Road, Livonia. Late admission for those not participating in the meal will begin at 8 p.m. A cash bar will be available. Musical entertainment will be provided by the popular band Cat Daddy & the 1320s.

Reservations and payment must be received by no later than Sept. 10. Tickets may be purchased and complete reunion information can be found at www.bennyhigh73.com. Additional information may be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/detroitbennyhigh73; by emailing the committee at bennyhigh73@att.net; or by calling 734-620-1201.

Bentley Class of '68

The Bentley High School Class of 1968 is planning its 50-year reunion, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 29, at Corsi's in Livonia. Anyone interested in details can contact the committee at 1968bentleyreunion@gmail.com.

Heath and wellness fair

Schoolcraft College will host a health

and wellness fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, at the St. Joe's Sports Dome, 18600 Haggerty Road, in Livonia. There will be yoga classes, fitness assessments, hearing/vision tests and more. Community members of all ages will find something that interests them, including fitness centers, specialty gyms, health food stores and resources from physical and mental health care providers.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to <http://www.sjsportsdome.com/2018-health-wellness-fair/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/2060464780881817/>.

Memorial Day parade planning

The Wayne Westland Veterans Parade Council will be holding planning meetings for next year's parade, which will be held Sunday, May 26, 2019. The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the last Wednesday of most months at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road. For more information, go to www.facebook.com/veterans.parade.council or call 313-576-7268 or 734-355-4569.

Food pantry

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard Road, in Livonia sponsors a food pantry 10-11 a.m. the second Saturday of each month. For more information, call 734-421-8451.

Diabetes support group

St. Mary Mercy Livonia will offer a diabetes support group 1:30-2:30 p.m. the third Friday of each month in 2018. The group meets in St. Mary Mercy's Classroom II. The support group will offer participants an opportunity to meet others living diabetes and learn from one another. To learn more about the program, call 734-655-2868.

Obituaries

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

Robert Lorentz Murman

- - Robert Lorentz Murman, loving husband and father, passed away peacefully on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at the age of 93. He was born on August 18, 1924 in Chicago, Illinois to Robert and Mae Murman and was a WWII Veteran having served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. Bob received his mechanical engineering certification and was a respected and valued general sales manager for Detroit Hoist and Machine Company. He then worked as a sales rep for Rail Glide Systems until his retirement in 1988. "Bob knew more about hoists than anyone."



Bob had a passion for golf and was a lifetime Member of Meadowbrook Country Club. He was known for his storytelling, outgoing personality, determination and quick wit.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years Norma (Petite) Murman and is survived by his son Robert (Becky) Murman; daughter Kristin (Fred) Harvey; son Scott (Aoife-deceased) Murman; grandchildren Jessica Harvey, Melissa (Tucker) Rubino, Ciara and Olivia Murman, Andrew Wagner, Eric (Kyla) Wagner and their children Aleida and Mabel; sister Grace (Jack-deceased) DuHasek; niece Jill (Jack) Cahill and nephew Jack DuHasek. A private service will be held by immediate family members. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a hospice of your choice in his memory. Visit www.schoedinger.com to share memories or extend condolences.

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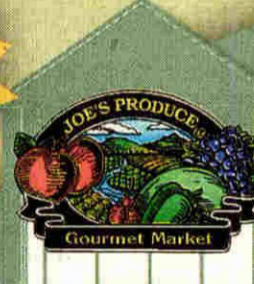
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CC's Beydoun hopes to stay a leg up after injury-plagued seasons

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Samih Beydoun enters his senior football season at Novi Detroit Catholic Central determined to make up for lost time.

And despite suffering a broken left leg during the fourth game of both his junior and sophomore seasons, the 6-foot, 215-pound linebacker and occasional fullback is looking for a full season, "God willing," as the Shamrocks

(8-5), a Division 1 state semifinalist a year ago, opened preseason practice Aug. 6.

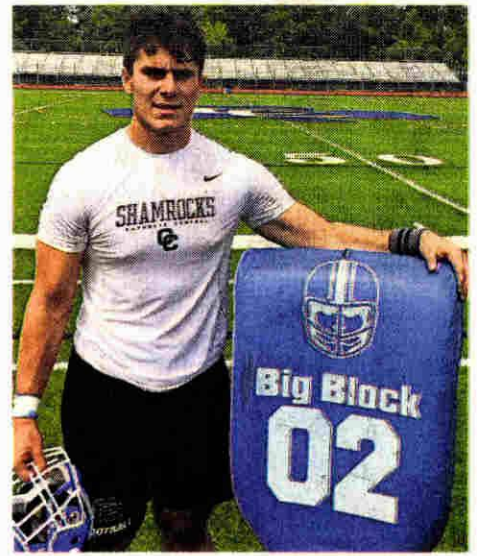
"Personally, I'd like to make this year a good one, lasting memories with all my brothers," said Beydoun, who gobbled down four peanut butter and jelly sandwiches during his lunchtime break. "But for the team, we really want to win a state championship. And I know a lot of teams talk about state championship before the season, but that's truly our goal and I think we're prepared. We trust in our coaches and we trust in the

process the whole off-season, so I think state championship, for sure."

Beydoun, who was named one of CC's five co-captains for the upcoming season, was sorely missed after going down with a broken tibia and fibula in a 38-7 loss last Sept. 15 at Cleveland St. Ignatius.

"It was just a regular play," Beydoun said. "I don't remember what his name was — but he was a pretty highly recruited tackle and he was really good. And

See BEYDOUN, Page 2B



Catholic Central senior Samih Beydoun is back on the field after suffering a broken left leg during his junior and sophomore seasons. BRAD EMONS

PREP CROSS COUNTRY



Novi boys cross country coach Robert Smith gives a pep talk to Scott McPherson, Gabriel Mudel and John and Aric Landy during his final season. FILE PHOTO

Beloved Novi prep coach Smith dies

Coached Wildcats boys to two state titles and seven regional championships

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Robert Smith's favorite quote when he coached high school cross country came from none other than Oprah Winfrey:

"Running is the greatest metaphor for life, because you get out of it what

you put into it."

Smith, who died unexpectedly Aug. 7 at age 62, invested a lot time and effort into his sport and got a lot out of it — and more — during his 36 seasons (1981-2016) of coaching the boys at Novi High School.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Tamara, daughter Samantha (Joel) Hudson, sister Suzanne (Jon) Nykamp and brother Scott Smith, along with two grandchildren and two nieces. Cause of death is to be determined.

His heart definitely bled Novi's school colors of green and white as he guided the Wildcats to back-to-back MHSAA Class A boys cross country

state championships in 1998 and 1999, along with Division 1 runner-up finishes in 2000 and 2006. (His '98 team captured the first MHSAA title of any sport at Novi.)

Novi placed in the top 10 at the state finals 13 times. Smith also led the Wildcats to seven regional and six conference championships, along with one division crown. During his final 19 years, his teams posted a 92-22 dual-meet record.

Thirty-one of his runners also attained all-state honors, including 2001 individual state champion Tim Moore,

See SMITH, Page 5B

PREP FOOTBALL

Lakeland eyes top-division finish in LVC

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Walled Lake Western and Waterford Mott had the honor of sharing the Lakes Valley Conference's first football championship last fall.

The Warriors and Corsairs were both 7-1 to emerge as co-champions in the LVC's debut season. White Lake Lakeland was all alone in third place at 6-2, while Walled Lake Central was a game back at 5-3.

The nine LVC coaches recently gathered for a media day and, if their prognostications hold, there will be co-champions again.

Western and Lakeland were picked to tie for this year's crown, with Mott third and Walled Lake Northern fourth.

Following is a brief preview of the LVC's four hometownlife.com football teams.

White Lake Lakeland

White Lake Lakeland enjoyed its best season in nine years last fall.

The Eagles, with an eight-game slate, finished with a 6-2 regular-season record and qualified for the playoffs for the first time since 2008. Lakeland opened with a win over Walled

Lake Central (53-12) and was eliminated from the playoffs by Detroit Catholic Central (35-12).

Lakeland has a host of returning starters from that squad and head coach Joe Woodruff is looking for another strong season.

"We have a lot of kids coming back and we're going to hang our hat on that," said Woodruff, starting his fourth season as Lakeland's head coach. "And our youth teams — JV and

See LAKELAND, Page 2B



Woodruff

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PREP BASEBALL



The Northville freshman baseball team finished 19-9-1 overall.

Northville frosh team enjoys stellar spring

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Northville High freshman baseball team recently completed a productive spring season under coach Tim Cain with a 19-9-1 overall record.

"Once again, we were a very strong defensive team," Cain said. "Our pitching was solid and, when the other team was able to put the ball in play, our de-

fense made the routine plays. Sturdy defense almost always translates into a successful high school season. When you make the other team's defense handle the ball, you end up getting on base a lot at the freshman level."

The team's top pitchers this season included Adam Harp, Jake Willerer, Oliver Wu, Jacob Henige, Ben Tweadey and Jason Brown, while Josh Lutz, Tweadey, MacDonald and Connor Halberg served as their battery mates be-

hind the plate.

Offensive standouts were Cayden Saunders, Nick Senawi, Willerer, Chris Bogenhagen, Kellen Gonda, Jason Brown and Aidan MacDonald.

Infield defensive standouts included Bogenhagen, Brown, Gonda, Willerer, Harp, Brad Gaynor, Henry Chen, Senawi and Tweadey.

Patrolling the outfield was Nathan Leonard, Henige, Brett Rankin, Saunders and Andrew Burns.

Cain was assisted on the bench once again this season by former pro player Don Deptula

"Having a coach with as much experience as coach Don is a huge benefit to the players and to the baseball program as a whole," Cain said.

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

YOUTH BASEBALL



The Detroit Thunder Baseball Club finished 4-0 in the Late Season Slam at Walled Lake Northern.

Thunder rallies for Late Season Slam title

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Detroit Thunder Baseball Club, a U-8 machine pitch baseball team based in Plymouth-Canton, rallied from a 7-0 first-inning deficit to beat the Plymouth Canton Little League Rumble, 14-10, to capture the Late Season Slam on Aug. 5

at Walled Lake Northern.

The Thunder, who finished 4-0 during the two-day tourney, earned their first tourney title after placing second the previous week in Ypsilanti.

Members of the Thunder, managed by Jake Doby, include Maks Glomski, Travis Kava, Kam Hamilton, Colten Doby, Mason Lariviere, Corbin Knoppe, Jack Lichtman, Joseph Wisniewski,

Nick Hayes, Jake Zajdel, Braeden St. Louis, Evan Jankowski, Evan Cunningham and Max Little.

Other members of the coaching staff include Janet Burns, Kevin Hamilton, Matt Glomski, Ken St. Louis, and Mike Jankowski.

The Thunder return to action in the Saline-Ann Arbor (Aug. 18-19) and Owosso (Sept. 25-26) tournaments.

You can follow the Thunder on Twitter: @thunderdetroit; or on Facebook at Detroit Thunder Baseball Club. For more information, email thunderbaseballdetroit@gmail.com.

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

CLUB SWIMMING

Spartan Aquatic Club caps strong summer

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

The Spartan Aquatic Club of Novi recently capped its 2018 summer season by sending three representatives to the Lake Erie Central Zone 14 and Under Championship held Aug. 2-5 at the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, Ohio.

Against the best of the Midwest, Charlson Teo led the way with seventh in the 200-meter butterfly (2:15.03) and eighth in the 200 individual medley (2:18.98). His other finishes included 14th, 200 backstroke (2:21.38) and 200 breaststroke (2:38.80); 29th, 100 breaststroke (1:16.07). Teo was also on the 13th-place 200 medley relay team.

Meanwhile, Kieron Bezuidenhout placed 20th in the boys 1,500 freestyle (18:04.25).

In the girls, Jimin Son was 19th in the 400 freestyle (4:44.30),

Speedo Sectional

Spartan Aquatic's Marko Vucelic participated in the USA Swimming Sectional Long Course Championship meet, held July 19-22 at Cleveland State University, by taking 14th in the 800-meter freestyle (8:58.68).

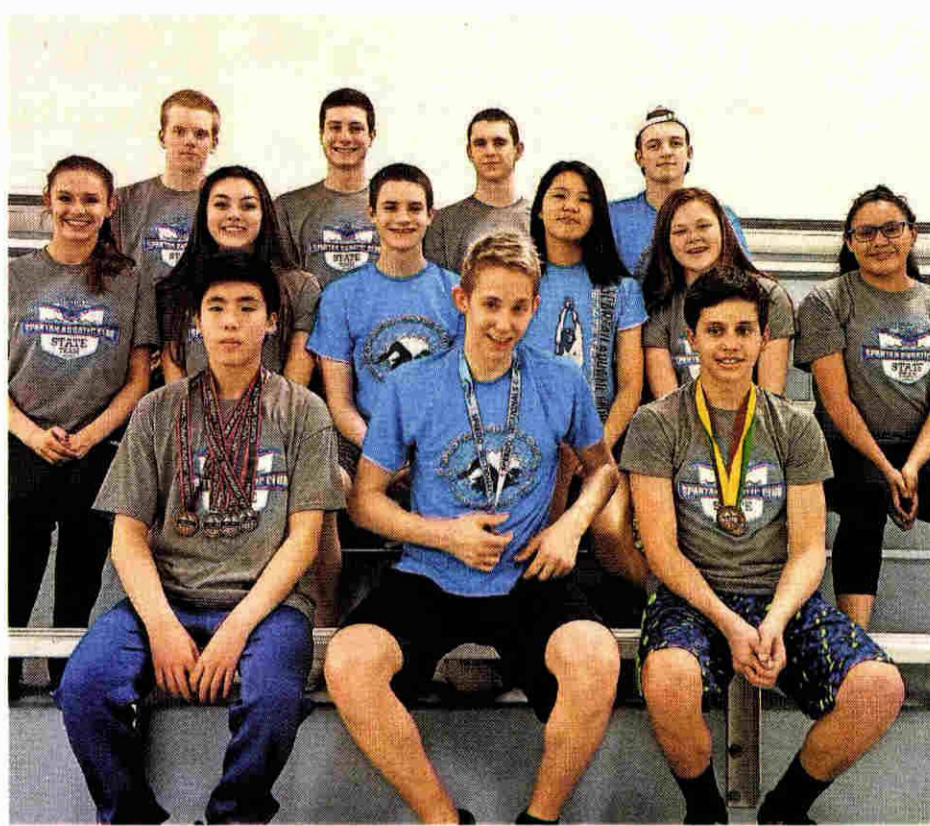
Other finishes for Vucelic included 27th, 400 freestyle (4:17.36); 29th, 400 IM (4:50.94); 47th, 200 freestyle (2:01.46).

13-14 & Long Course

Spartan Aquatic sent a large contingent to the Michigan Swimming 13-14 and Open Long Course State Championships, held July 26-29 at Eastern Michigan University's Jones Natatorium.

In the Boys Open division, Vucelic was runner-up in the 1,500-meter freestyle (16:43.19); third, 800 freestyle (8:48.56); fifth, 400 IM (4:48.96) and 400 freestyle (4:14.96); eighth, 200 freestyle (1:58.95) and 200 butterfly (2:16.34).

Teammate Adam Carozza placed sixth in the 100 butterfly (59.75) and 200 butterfly (2:17.89); 10th, 200 IM (2:19.66); 14th, 100 freestyle (56.33);



The Spartan Aquatic Club of Novi recently completed a successful summer season.

15th, 50 freestyle (25.40); and 23rd, 200 freestyle (2:05.79). He was also fifth in the 400 medley relay and sixth in the 400 freestyle relay.

Max Robbins was fifth in the 400 medley relay and sixth in the 400 freestyle relay. Other places included 19th, 800 freestyle (9:31.59); 20th, 200 freestyle (2:05.44); 23rd, 400 freestyle (4:31.57); 27th, 100 freestyle (57.70); and 32nd, 50 freestyle (26.95).

Connor Johns placed fifth in the 400 medley relay and individually took 14th, 100 backstroke (1:06.34) and 200 backstroke (2:24.70); 15th, 400 IM (5:06.12); and 19th, 200 butterfly (2:25.37).

Teammate Rory Joliff was 18th and 21st, respectively, in the 1,500 (18:32.03) and 800 (9:34.96) freestyles, while Riley Carpenter was 24th (400 IM, 5:11.95) and 27th (200 breaststroke, 2:48.89).

Samuel Stefanak was fifth in the 400 medley relay and sixth in the 400 freestyle relay. Individually he took eighth in the 200 breaststroke (2:38.00); 13th,

100 breaststroke (1:13.52); 20th, 1,500 freestyle (18:55.60); and 22nd, 400 freestyle (4:31.22).

Also in the Open Boys, Austin Zhang took sixth in the 100 breaststroke (1:11.22) and 26th in the 200 breaststroke (2:48.69).

In the Girls Open, Elise Fonda placed 12th in the 400 medley relay and individually was 18th, 100 breaststroke (1:22.96); 20th, 200 breaststroke (3:00.37); and 31st, 100 butterfly (1:15.31). Teammate Ella Ducato placed 21st in the 800 freestyle (10:03.37) and 30th in the 500 freestyle (19:18.75).

For Boys 13-14, Teo led the way with second in the 200 IM (2:18.85) and 200 butterfly (2:13.19); fifth, 100 butterfly (1:01.95); and 11th, 800 freestyle (9:21.99).

Bezuidenhout was sixth, 1,500 freestyle (18:08.97); 14th, 200 butterfly (2:26.55); 16th, 800 freestyle (9:32.58); 18th, 400 freestyle (4:36.72); and 28th, 100 butterfly (1:07.71).

Sean Diffenderfer (Boys 13) placed 20th, 400 IM (5:27.71); 21st, 400 freestyle (4:43.18); 30th, 100 butterfly (1:08.34); 31st, 200 butterfly (2:34.94); 33rd 200 IM (2:35.87); and 34th, 100 freestyle (1:01.93).

Other Boys 13-14 finishers included William Teng, ninth, 100 breaststroke (1:14.55), 18th, 200 breaststroke (2:50.79); along with Kevin Wang, 35th, 100 breaststroke (1:23.76).

In the Girls 13-14, Son was 10th, 400 freestyle (4:45.35); 11th, 800 freestyle (9:55.77); 15th, 200 freestyle (2:18.53); 25th, 100 freestyle (1:04.32); and 27th, 200 IM (2:40.19). She was also 12th in the 400 medley relay.

Anna Fonda took eighth in the 1,500 freestyle (19:02.14); 13th, 400 freestyle (4:49.79); 15th, 800 freestyle (10:05.06); 21st, 200 backstroke (2:38.04); 30th, 200 freestyle (2:19.67); and 33rd 100 backstroke (1:14.47).

Teammate Marisol Garcia placed 10th in the 1,500 freestyle (19:21.26); 12th, 200 butterfly (2:38.85); 15th, 400 IM (5:33.33); 17th, 800 freestyle (10:07.55); and 23rd, 400 freestyle (4:55.79).

Long Course 12-and-under

On July 20-22, Spartan Aquatic Club sent three boys to the Michigan Swimming 12 and Under Long Course State Meet Championship at Holland Community Aquatic Center.

Dominick Ducato led the way 18th-place finishes in the 200-meter butterfly (3:15.22), 400 IM (6:19.63) and 200 backstroke (2:55.71). Other places included 31st (50 backstroke, 38.75) and 34th (200 breaststroke (3:36.82).

Jiaxuan Gong was 18th in the 50 breaststroke (49.48) and 22nd in the 100 breaststroke (1:50.78), while teammate Eduardo Garcia placed 18th in the 400 freestyle (6:35.12).

Swimmers interested in trying out for the Spartan Aquatic Club, a competitive USA Swimming-sanctioned club, can go to www.teamunify.com.

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

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Smith

Continued from Page 1B

who also captured the Foot Locker National Championship and went on to have a distinguished collegiate running career at Notre Dame.

Fourteen of Smith's teams also earned academic all-state honors, including 90 individuals.

"Cross country is not exactly the most glamorous sport, certainly not Friday night football, but he brought a light to it and to a point where Novi was known across the state as being one of the top 10 level schools and much of that is because of Bob and his passion for track and field in the spring," Novi athletic director Brian Gordon said.

The news of Smith's sudden death sent shock waves throughout the Novi running community.

"We never got to give him the party that he so richly deserved," said Brad Moore, a former assistant who succeeded Smith as head coach in 2017. "One comforting thought is that I had a few lunches with him last summer. All of them turned into two- or four-hour discussions and we got to talk a lot about more important issues. I'm really glad we got to do that."

Smith had a profound impact on Moore's coaching career in more ways than one.

"I ran in high school," Moore said. "I spent a lot of time instructing with marching band, working with kids, but the only reason I started coaching track and cross country is because coach Smith sent out kind of a mass email that caught me and I jumped in there and he mentored me for years. The whole reason I'm doing it is because he had such a great program that attracted me to it. To this day, we're trying to live up the heart and soul he put into it."

Aug. 8, ironically, was the first official day of cross country practice at Novi.

On hand was all-state track and cross country runner Gabe Mudel, a 2018 Novi grad who will be running this fall at the University of Michigan.

"I want people to remember that coach Smith left a legacy of creating that program, building it from the ground up," Mudel said. "Not just making us great runners, but teaching us a



Robert Smith, who died at age 62, enjoyed a highly successful career coaching boys cross country for 36 years at Novi High School. LUC PLAETINCK

lot of values, like discipline and respect, that I think I'm going to carry with me for the rest of my life. Coach Smith was the first real coach I had through running out of middle school and he helped developed me in such a way to begin enjoy the sport and care about my body and my success."

Novi senior captain Trey Mullins, who ran for Smith as a freshman and sophomore, said his former coach created a tight bond with all his runners.

"Coach Smith was just a great friend to me," Mullins said. "Ever since the first day he started coaching me, he just really gave me the spirit of running and I think it spread on everyone. He always

cheered me on. I really didn't worry about my times. He was just really there to support me. When I heard the news, I just really couldn't believe it. I just want people to remember that he was a great man and touched so many lives coaching for 36 years. He should be kept in everyone's prayers and remembered as a Novi legend."

Smith also served as Novi's boys track and field coach from 1981 through 2007. In 2010-11, he also coached track at Howell High School with his daughter.

In 2010, Smith retired from teaching as a physical education, business and accounting instructor at Novi.

Smith grew up in Detroit and devel-

oped his love for running as a fifth-grader in the Police Athletic League. He was an accomplished runner at South Lyon High School, where he held school records in distances from the 100 meters through three miles. He was inducted into that school's Hall of Fame in 2005.

Smith was also a two-time NCAA Division II qualifier in the 400-meter dash at Alma College. He earned all-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association honors three straight years and was the MIAA's MVP in 1978. In 2005, Smith was named to the Alma College Hall of Fame.

During his stint with the Wildcats, Smith brought home numerous honors. He was named Coach of the Year by several organizations, including three times (1998-99 and 2000) by the Michigan Interscholastic Track and Cross Country Coaches Association and once by the Michigan High School Coaches Association (2001).

He was also a National Coach of the Year Finalist in 2001 by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association.

At the Oakland County Track and Field Championships in 2017 held at Novi, Smith was recognized as the meet's 58th honoree.

"He was the consummate gentleman, sportsman ... it's a shock," longtime Livonia Churchill boys cross country coach John McGreevy said.

Gordon said a tribute will be planned this fall in honor of Smith during the Wildcats' first varsity home football game.

"There was a rhyme and a reason with everything he did," the Novi A.D. said. "He truly built a culture for distance running that is still instilled in our kids today. There was nothing but respect for him. Through his hard work, he earned every bit of it."

Mr. Smith's funeral ceremony was held Aug. 11 at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church in South Lyon.

Memorial contributions (via check) can be made to Cross of Christ Church Lutheran or the Novi Athletic Department: Men's Cross Country, 24062 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48375.

Contact Brad Emons at be-mons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.



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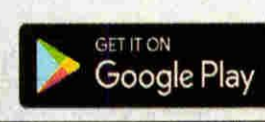


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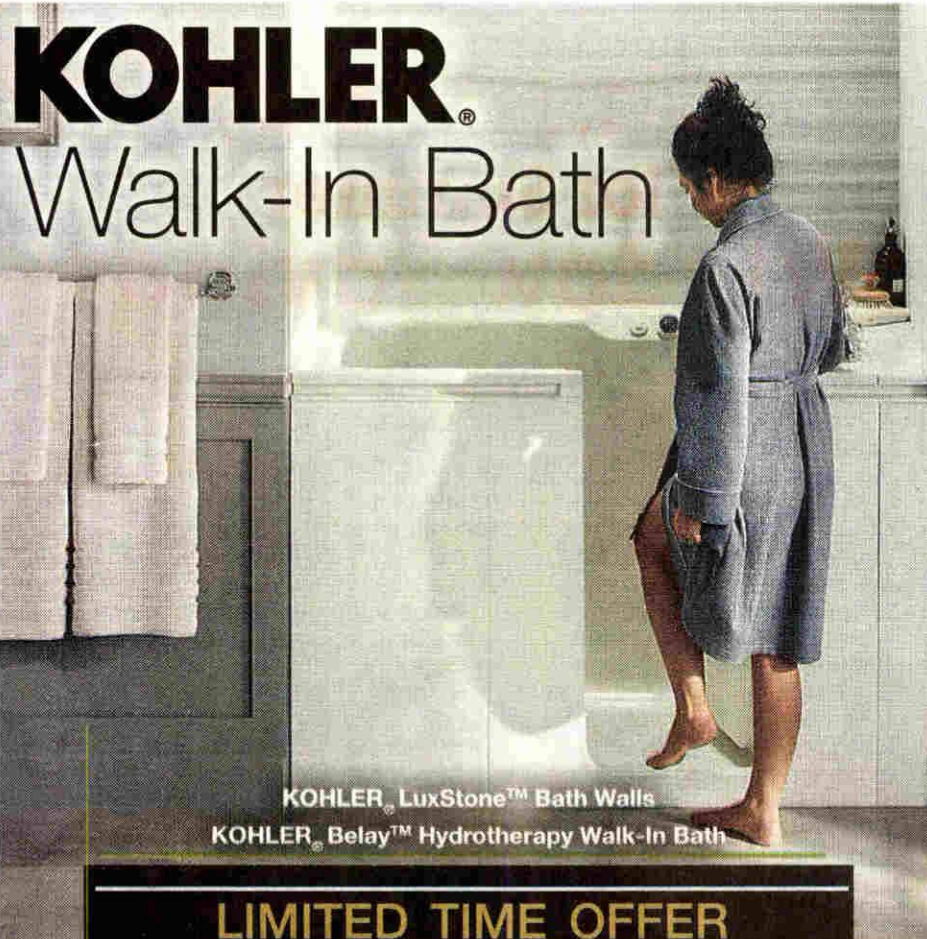
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 - Bid for Senior Ctr. Masonry repair svcs. to Poe Restoration & Waterproofing; amt. \$11,696.36.
 - Bid for Wide Area Network svcs. to 123 Net; amt. \$6,755/month.
 - Purchase of Type 1 F450 ambulance; amt. \$184,500.
 - Purchase of 2018 Ford Explorer; amt. \$38,536.
 - Intro. Ord. 259-A to amend Ch. 26, Art. VIII of the City Code re. yard sales.
 - Intro. Ord. 149-A, to amend Ch. 26, Art. IX by adding Division 3 re. the distribution of unsolicited written materials.
 - Intro. Ord. 192-A-3-D to amend Ch. 22, Art. VI of the City Code by adopting Sec. 22-133 re. portable moving & storage containers.
 - Adopt LD Resolution, PID #061-01-0339-000, SE corner of Schuman & Hively, S. of Cherry Hill.
 - Adopt LD Resolution, PID #033-11-0007-000 & #033-01-0641-001, W. side of Farmington Rd., S. of Warren Rd.
 - Adopt LD Resolution, PID #079-99-0010-000 & -0011-000, E. side of John Hix, N. of Glenwood.
 - Adopted Senior Alliance Annual Implementation Plan Resolution for 2019 FY.
 143: Designated J. Godbout as Council Del. MML Conf. 9/20-22.
 145: Designated M. Londeau as Council Alt. Del. MML Conf. 9/20-22.
 146: Appr. checklist: \$ 8,333,249.21.
 Mtg. adj. at 7:48 p.m.

James Godbout
 Council President

Richard LeBlanc
 City Clerk

Publish: August 16, 2018

LO-0000345316 3x4.5



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ABSTRACT

**WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO.
 2018-23
 AUGUST 7, 2018**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was not held on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at 8:00 p.m. as a Special Meeting was held Monday, August 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. due to the Primary Election.

Matthew K. Miller
 City Clerk

Publish: August 16, 2018

LO-0000345301 2x2

ABSTRACT

**WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO.
 2018-22
 AUGUST 6, 2018**

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held Monday, August 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Rd. MEMBERS PRESENT: Rowe, Miller, Webster, Dowd. MEMBERS ABSENT: Rhaesa, Porter Gabriel APPROVED: agenda with amendments; minutes of regular meeting of July 17; bid to Cutmytreedown.com for tree removal; bid to ProVideo for AV upgrades at City Hall; amend res. #06-18-0189; appoint 9 members to Parks and Trails Committee; fiber removal out to bid with Camtronics; PSA with American's Best Chimney for park pavilion roofs; MOU for JAG grant; TCO #619; consent calendar. Received and filed Communications and Reports. Adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Matthew K. Miller
 City Clerk

Publish: August 16, 2018

LO-0000345302 2x3

**CITY OF WESTLAND
 NOTICE OF MEETING**

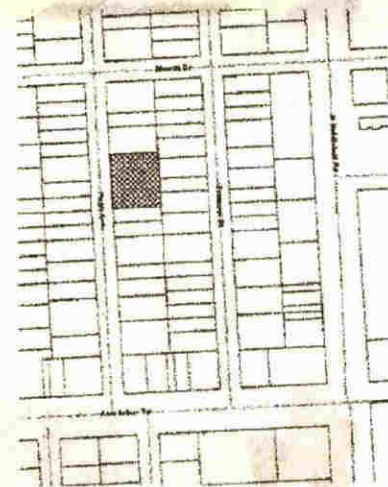
A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #2219, Proposed Land Division, Parcel #005-02-0211-302, East Side of Hugh Street, North of Ann Arbor Trail and West of Middlebelt Road (Angelo Tomei Jr.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
 Westland Planning Commission



Publish: August 16, 2018

LO-0000345345 4x3

**CITY OF WESTLAND
 NOTICE OF MEETING**

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #15591, Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Massage Training School, 6565 N. Wayne Road, Parcel #034-99-0030-003, West Side of Wayne Road, North of Hunter Avenue, Jun Long Zhu

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

Written comments may be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
 Westland Planning Commission



Publish: August 16, 2018

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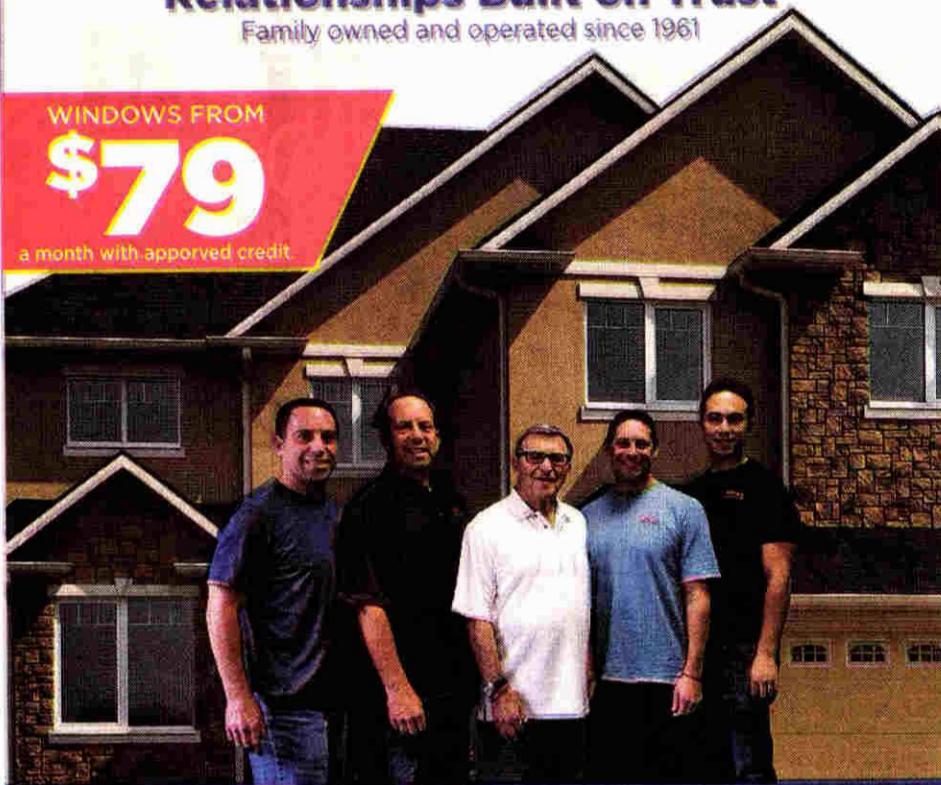
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