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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Planned Parenthood: Livonia clinic to open soon

David Veselenak

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

There's been plenty of talk surrounding the recently purchased building on Farmington Road, north of Five Mile, by Planned Parenthood of Michigan. But the reproductive health organization says despite all that, it's looking forward to opening and servicing the thousands

of clients that have gone elsewhere the past few months.

Ruth Lednicer, director of communications for Planned Parenthood of Michigan, confirmed the organization purchased the building at 15707 Farmington Road in Livonia and plans on opening a health center on the property before the end of the year.

"Our lease was up and we thought it made sense to buy a building," she said.

"It will have exactly the same services."

Lednicer said services offered at the clinic will include exams and pap tests, birth control, emergency contraception, STI testing and treatment, rapid HIV testing and education and pregnancy testing and options information. Lednicer said while some of its clinics across Michigan offer abortions, the Livonia clinic will not. The organization's offering of abortion services is the rea-

son anti-abortion protesters were at the site earlier this month and at the Nov. 7 city council meeting.

Parenthood facility to operate in Livonia. The organization operated a clinic along Ann Arbor Road, west of Newburgh, for more than 17 years before it closed earlier this spring. It offered the

See CLINIC, Page 9A

BABY MAKES THREE



Greg, Megan and Benjamin Neuner of Washington Township enjoy a quiet family moment. On Nov. 21, Ben turned 1. TIM SMITH | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Young couple touts bliss of domestic adoption

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

One Canton woman, named Heather, didn't think she could provide the kind of home her soon-to-be-born son needed. Her previous pregnancy ended in adoption, and her personal life was far from stable enough to welcome a new child.

Some 60 miles away, in Washington Township, newlyweds Megan and Greg Neuner wondered and waited, hoping for a miraculous match that would fulfill their need to have a child of their own.

Megan Neuner couldn't have a baby herself, due to a rare syndrome (MRKH) that attacked her reproductive organs at a young age and rendered that option

See ADOPTION, Page 8A

"We were sitting on a couch watching a movie after 10 months of being married and we said, 'It's kind of quiet in here with just two dogs."

Greg Neuner

Hidden cemeteries hold history

Pamela A. Zinkosky Special to hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Before there were large plots of land dedicated to burials, people sometimes buried their dead on their own land. Other times, community settlers or churches donated land for burials. In some cases, graves or gravestones were moved to accommodate changes in land ownership.

In others, burial grounds were left untended as owners died or moved. Here's a look at five local historic cemeteries you may not know about.

Chubb Cemetery

Located at 38450 Warren Road, Westland: As early as 1825, Glode Chubb, a participant in the Underground Railroad, used to spirit slaves to freedom, purchased the plot of land now known as the Chubb Cemetery. It once housed a church and was used as a burial ground as early as 1849, based on a grave marker for Hannah Chubb, Glode's 4-year-old daughter.

Deeded to the city of Westland in 1968, the burial ground had not been well-maintained, but a pair of Boy Scouts, Sam Berhardt and Jacob McNally, cleaned up the area and built wooden grave markers as part of their Eagle Scout project in 2015. Now the cemetery looks orderly, if not a bit out of place between two private residences, and includes a center walkway and flagpole.

The cemetery houses 30-some marked graves, including those of Glode and Pamelia Chubb, original landowners, and their son Lucius, who died during the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. The latest marked grave is that of one Herman Adler, who is said to have died in 1913 at the nearby Eloise Hospital

Shearer Cemetery

Located at 45452 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth: The oldest cemetery in Plymouth, donated by early settler John Tibbits in 1826, is not easily seen from the road and, in fact, was abandoned and overgrown until Salem High School teacher Darrin Silvester endeavored to clear the land and uncover grave sites in 2005. Now the cemetery, located atop a hill and accessible by a mulch path, is a tree-cov-

See CEMETERIES, Page 2A

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Volume 54 | No. 54 Home delivery pricing inside



Cemeteries

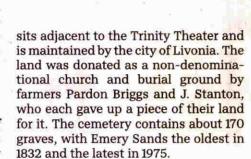
Continued from Page 1A

ered oasis sandwiched between apartments and houses.

Tibbits wrote in an 1889 Plymouth Mail article that Chase was the man first buried there in 1826, but the earliest marked grave there is that of Hiram Jerome Tibbits, son of the land owner, who died at age 9 in 1832. Chase's grave, like others, may have been moved to Plymouth's Riverside Cemetery at some point or the marker may have been moved or destroyed. John Tibbits is also buried there with his wife Pheobe Rhode. The latest known burial occurred in 1915, for Joseph Shearer.

Union Cemetery

Located on Six Mile Road, east of Haggerty, Livonia: Also known as Briggs Cemetery, this burial ground now



Knapp Cemetery is on Nine Mie Road,

east of Novi Road, in Novi. BILL BRESLER |

Knapp Cemetery

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Located at 43005 Nine Mile Road, Novi: The Knapp Cemetery also came about from a farmer, Benajah Aldrich, who designated a half-acre of his land for burials. The first person buried here was Henry Knapp, Aldrich's brother-inlaw, in 1836. More than 100 other burials, including that of Benajah himself, occurred here. The city of Novi maintains the cemetery now. The latest burial was in 1948.

Downer Cemetery

Located at Haggerty and Old Michigan Avenue, Canton: This cemetery was donated by Lucretia Downer, one of the first women to own land in what would become Canton Township, in the early 1830s. Some 140 graves are here, many of them toppled over or damaged, including one for Downer herself, who died in 1854. The first marked grave has a date of 1832, for Janet Dawson, age 57, followed by Louesa Darling, a 1-year-old who died in 1836. Situated in front of a trailer park on a dead end road, it's open to the public for viewing, but the last known burial there was in 1918.

To comment on this article or to suggest ideas for other history articles, contact Pamela A. Zinkosky at pazink@yahoo.com.



Previous unmarked and overgrown graves in the Chubb Cemetery in Westland now include wooden markers created by Eagle Scouts.



Union Cemetery, also known as Briggs Cemetery, is located on the grounds of Trinity House Theater. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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The Westland Goodfellows are holding a toy and food drive. Donations of toys, hats & gloves, and non-perishable food items can be dropped off at any of the following locations. All donated items will be distributed to Westland families this Christmas. Donation boxes available November 1 to December 1, 2018.

Participating Goodfellows' Partners

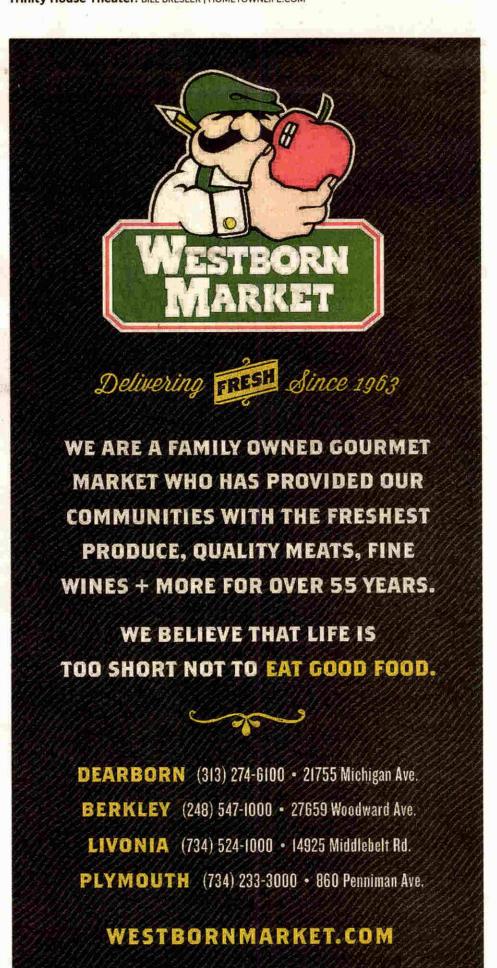
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www.westlandgoodfellows.org 32150 Dorsey St., Westland, MI 48186 734-788-2270





Santa is just about the most important guy around. He greets few of his fans at Lightfest. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Snow welcomes 2018 Lightfest kickoff party

Snow provided a spectacular backdrop at Merriman Hollow Park in Westland to kick off the 2018 Wayne County Lightfest when it officially opened Nov. 15 with the Lights On ceremony.

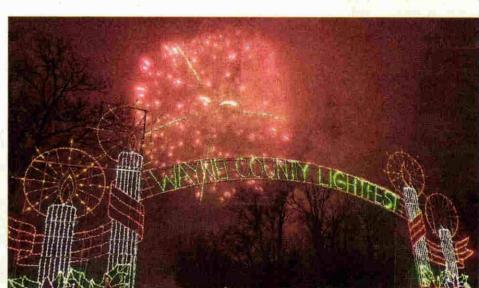
Lightfest is open nightly through Dec. 31. The cost per vehicle is \$5. Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights.

Returning this year is Santa's Workshop through Dec. 23 in Warrendale

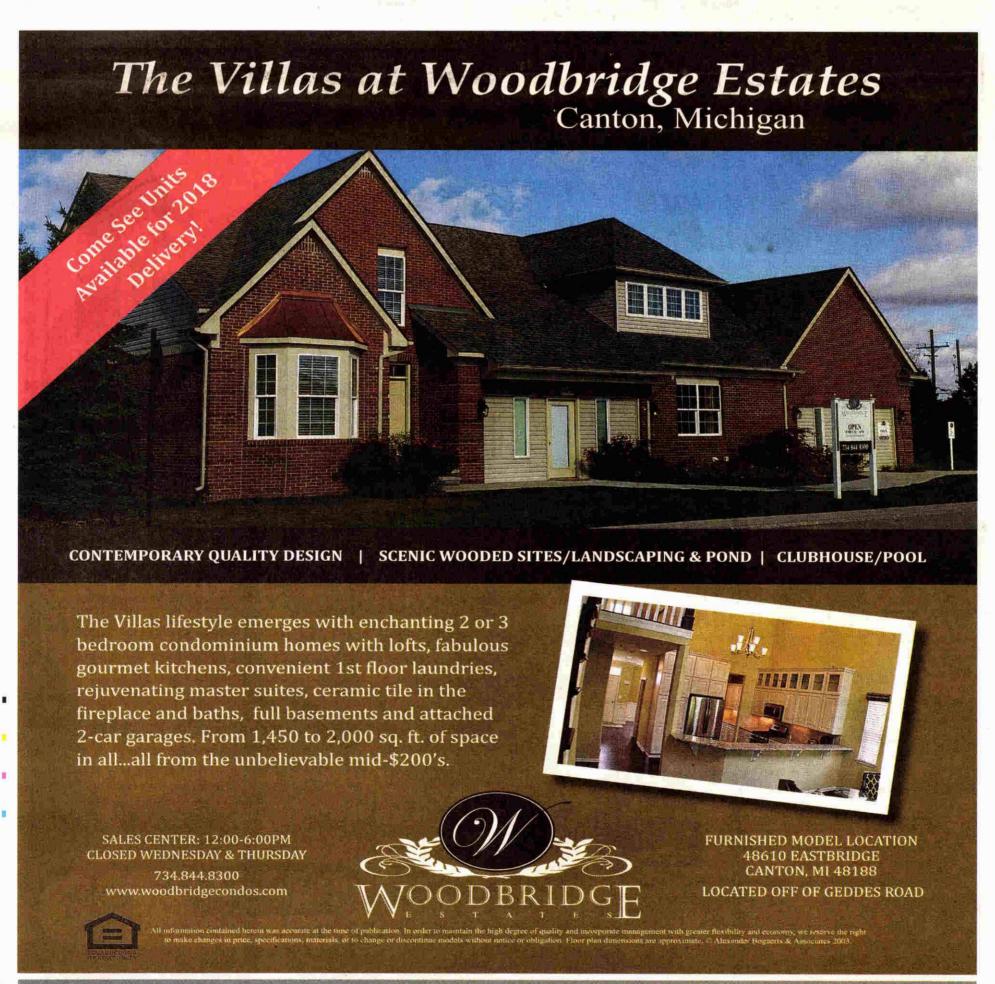
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Park. Families have the option of visiting Santa or dropping off a letter in the giant mailbox. Photos with Santa are available for \$8. Also returning are Toy Nights on Dec. 4, 11 and 18, when visitors can donate a new unwrapped toy in lieu of paying the entrance fee.

Hours are 7-10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 6-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. During Lightfest, Hines Drive closes to traffic at 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and at 5 p.m. each weekend.



Fireworks pierce the foggy sky. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Downtown Detroit Christmas tree has local roots

Ed Wright

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Decorated with a backstory that has all the ingredients of a Hallmark Christmas movie, a towering Plymouth Township pine tree moved from Detroit's suburbs to the heart of the city last week.

Destined for a date with a chainsaw anyway, due to its dangerously-too-close proximity to the Duffina family's Deer Creek subdivision home, a 60-foot-plus Norwegian spruce earned the one-in-a-million distinction of being selected as the first local tree to serve as the official downtown Detroit Christmas tree.

The special tree has historically been shipped in to the longtime Campus Martius Park site from a neighboring state — usually New York — by a company that finds downtown Christmas trees for Boston, New York City and Detroit.

Last year, a Cadillac-area Norwegian spruce was chosen as the first in-state hono(t)ree.

This year, the decision-makers at Downtown Detroit Partnership - the organization that orchestrates logistics for the annual holiday program - chose a tree with local roots, which was just fine with its former owners, Tonya and Curtis Duffina.



"Over the past five years or so, experts advised us to get the tree cut down because it was leaning into our house and the branches were scraping the windows," said Tonya, who along with husband Curtis owns the property the tree formerly graced. "They told us trimming it wouldn't work because it would look too awk-

"We always thought the tree would make a perfect Christmas tree somewhere, so back in February, I Googled 'Campus Martius Christmas Tree' and called the number listed for the Downtown Detroit Partnership."

By chance, Duffina's call was answered by Heather Badrak, who was in charge of the 2018 Christmas tree's selection process.

Before Duffina knew it, a crew of DDP-hired tree experts was in her front yard inspecting the gigantic piece of greenery.

"From what I was told, a lot goes into the selection

of the tree," Duffina said. "It has to be a minimum of 60 feet tall, it has to be a Norway spruce and it has to have the right shape.'

Check, check and check.

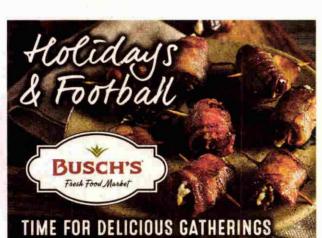
"They came back multiple times to check on the tree and then, in August, we got the word that they had chosen our tree," Duffina said.

Over a two-day stretch last week, the tree was carefully bundled, cut down and loaded onto a flatbed truck.

"The other day, when we went downtown to see the tree standing in Campus Martius, people were coming up to us, thanking us for donating the tree," Duffina said. "We told them, 'No, thank you!' The entire experience has been such a blessing for us."

Contact Ed Wright at eawright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.











Milford student's musical ascension opens eyes, ears

Ed Wright

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

She writes her own songs based on real-life experiences, has wowed crowds and professional talent judges with her soulful voice and has learned to play multiple instruments in a relatively short time.

Sound like anyone you've streamed on your iPhone recently?

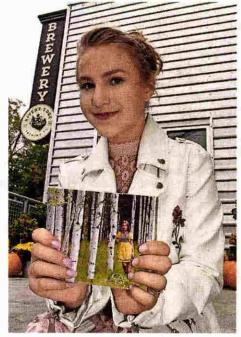
OK, Aspen Jacobsen hasn't quite reached the level of her favorite singer, Taylor Swift, quite yet, but give her time she just turned 14.

A freshman at White Lake's International Academy and a regular performer at downtown Milford's Michigan Rock School, Aspen has displayed a beyondher-years knack for creating beautiful music

With recently released CD "Aspen" already in the books, the future is brighter than a Colorado sunrise for the musician, whose best work is yet to come, according to those with an ear for success.

"Where do I start?" Michigan Rock School owner John Kozicki said, when asked to describe Aspen's robust skills set. "I first met Aspen four years ago at a songwriting workshop I hosted. At first, the lyrical content of her songs was what you'd expect from a 10-year-old, but the way she put her songs together was beyond her years.

"Aspen is not intimidated by anything, which is one reason she has pro-



Aspen Jacobsen proudly displays her music CD during a release event at River's Edge Brewery in Milford.

gressed so far. When I encouraged her to try the bass, she didn't hesitate - even though her main instrument is guitar and she picked it up right away."

Kozicki emphasized that even the most-talented musicians can fail if they're not well-rounded - a requirement that he says Aspen has embraced.

"It's not just about creating music ... you have to hustle, too, and find ways to market yourself," he said. "From what I've seen, Aspen understands this and will do whatever it takes if she decides to make music a career."

Aspen has already compiled a resume longer than a sheet of music.

Performing original music and covers, Aspen was a semifinalist at the 2018 Michigan State Fair's superstar competition held at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. She has also earned several music-related scholarships, including ones from the Great Lakes Music Camp and Folk Alliance Region Midwest.

Aspen sings and plays bass and guitar for Milford-based band Red Couch.

The well-spoken ninth-grader developed a comfort level performing in front of crowds by starting in the theater.

"When I was young, I enjoyed acting, so I was able to overcome any stage fright I may have had by pretending I was the character I was playing," she said. "So when I started singing and performing my music in front of crowds, I wasn't as vulnerable...

'The only CDs I'd listen to when I was elementary school were Taylor Swift's. I loved the way she sang about her life experiences."

Jill Jack, winner of 44 Detroit Music Awards since 1997 and the owner of

Dream Big Inc., a company that consults up-and-coming musicians, has worked with Aspen for the past year.

To say Jack is impressed with the young artist is an understatement.

"The thing that surprised me the most about Aspen is that, for as young as she is, she has a very old soul," said Jack, who has opened for a star-studded list of performers including Bob Seger, John Waite and Emmylou Harris. "Aspen is extremely focused for a teenager. She knows what she wants and is determined to get it - in an assertive way, though, not an aggressive way.

"Everyone has drive at the beginning. The key is sustaining that drive and I sincerely feel that Aspen has what it takes. I can visualize where she'll be in 20 years and it's a good place."

The Jacobsens sent a video of their daughter performing to the producers of NBC's "The Voice" in hopes of Aspen getting selected to audition for a spot on the show during an upcoming event in Detroit.

"I would love to get a job in the music industry some day," she said. "If performing doesn't work out, I'd at least like to teach music."

Contact Ed Wright at eawright@ hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 3075

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 090, OF TITLE 15, CHAPTER 44 (FENCES) OF THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED.

This ordinance corrects Ordinance No. 3049, which inadvertently omitted Paragraph (A)(5).

A true copy of Ordinance No. 3075 may be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk, First Floor, 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

Ordinance No. 3075 was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, September 17, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

Ordinance No. 3075 was authenticated by me on the 18th day of September, 2018.

Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form: Paul A. Bernier, City Attorney



LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154 (734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, Livonia, Michigan, hereby invites the submission of sealed bids for the

purchase of:

Board Room Video/Audio Project Bid

Request for Proposal (RFP) documents can be obtained at the Livonia Public School Website, www.livoniapublicschools.org under the section titled DISTRICT, Purchasing Bids, 2018-19 school year, Open Bids OR the SIGMA Website, www.michigan.gov/SIGMAVSS. Please feel free to include additional pages of information if necessary. For bids to be considered they must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Sealed bids marked Board Room Video/Audio Project Bid will be received until 2:00 p.m on the 5th day December, 2018, in the Operations Office at the Board of Education complex, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan. Mailed bids should be sent to the attention of: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, 48154. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any

The Bid Opening will take place at 2:00 p.m.. on the 5th day of December, 2018, at the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education Complex, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read. No bids will be accepted after the date and time specified and will not be opened. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement of disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner and any employee of the bidder and any member of the Livonia Board of Education, the Livonia Public Schools Superintendent or Director of Finance, any member of the Wayne RESA Board of Education or the Superintendent of Wayne RESA. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and notarized

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Affidavit of Compliance - Iran Economic Sanctions Act. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this sworn and

All bids must be accompanied by the Equal Opportunity Statement. No bid shall be accepted that does not include this statement.

All bids must include a Treasury listed bid bond or certified check made payable to Livonia Public Schools for not less than five percent (5%) of the contract for each bid over \$23,230.00 and must be submitted with the bid forms furnished with specification.

All bids must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid packet and all sheets must be returned for the bid. All proposals shall remain firm for a period of ninety (90) days.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part: to award to other than the low bidder: to waive any irregularities and/or informalities: and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the district, including awarding by line item, with rationale to support such a decision. Livonia Public Schools local preference resolution will be followed for all proposals.

Prices bid are to be F.O.B. Destination. All purchases are to be exempt from all taxes, including state and federal taxes. Exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.

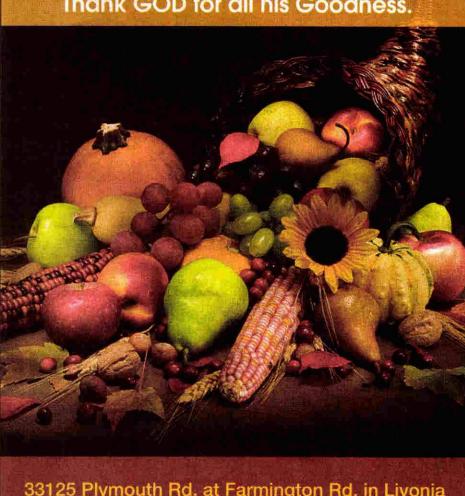
Any bid submitted will be binding for ninety (90) days subsequent to the date of the bid submission. All bids must be submitted on the attached bid form and signed by the bidder. Two (2) signed copies of the bid package are to be addressed to the attention of:

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations Livonia Public Schools 15125 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154-5474 "Board Room Video/Audio Project Bid"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Any questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Harry Lau, Administrator of Facilities and Operations, hlau@livoniapublicschools.org, 734.744.2511, between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. EST. All samples should be sent to Harry Lau, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154.

LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED





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Publish: November 22, 2018

Never hurts to do a quick check for unclaimed cash



Every year or so, I write a column about unclaimed property and I thought it would be a good idea to do one of those columns now. There are literally tens of billions of dollars that owners have forgotten about turned over to the government. These include things such as bank accounts, payroll checks, IRS refund checks, dividends and contents from safe deposit boxes.

For example, when a bank account has no activity for a year or more, banks are required to turn that money over to the state. Another example is where a company sends a dividend check to a shareholder and the check is never cashed. These assets are turned over to the state until they are claimed by the rightful owner. In many situations, the money is never claimed. You may ask why someone wouldn't reclaim their assets; the simple answer is, they either forgot they owned that account or the individual died and the family either forgot or did not know about the assets.

Every state has an unclaimed property division that allows people to reclaim those assets. Every year or so, it makes sense for everyone to check to see if there are any forgotten assets that the state has taken control over.

It would be nice if there was one place you could look to see if there are any assets from anywhere in the country that you have lost. Unfortunately, there is no national registry. Some states have joined with other states to combine their registries; Michigan is not one of them. If you have always lived in Michigan, then the only place you probably need to look is the state of Michigan's registry. If you have lived in other states, you must review those registries individually as well. You can check the Michigan registry online by going to https://unclaimedproperty.michigan. gov/. Another good site to check is www.missingmoney.com. If you find you or a loved one may have an unclaimed pension, you can also check the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.'s website at https://www.pbgc.gov/search/ unclaimed-pensions. When doing a search, don't forget to check under your maiden name if you are married.

If you find there are assets you are entitled to, there is generally no statute of limitation and the procedure to reclaim your assets is not complicated. Typically, all you need to do is complete a form and submit it to the state. However, if the unclaimed property is for a loved one who has died, it then becomes a little more complicated. You have to show that you are the appropriate beneficiary. In some situations, you may have to open a probate to reclaim those

There are many companies that offer services that will search and help you reclaim your assets. These companies are not inexpensive in the fact that they charge a substantial percentage of the assets they reclaim. For the majority of people, particularly those who have lived in only one state, you can do the search yourself and save money in fees.

Unfortunately, not all unclaimed assets will be turned over to the state. For example, there are billions of dollars in life insurance policies that have never been claimed and the proceeds from those policies have not been turned over to the state. Therefore, searching for lost life insurance policies is a little more difficult. In those cases, there is not a national registry, so you must contact every company individually. There is, however, a service that you can use. MIB Inc. (www.mib.com) offers a service for \$75. It will search life insurance applications for you from 420 life insurance companies from January 1996 to the present.

If you haven't checked the Michigan database, you should. In addition, you should also check the database for any state where you have previously lived. It only takes a couple of minutes and you may be surprised to see your name. After all, it's your money and it looks better in your pocket than it does the state's.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloom assetmanagement.com. If you would like him to respond to questions, email Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.





NO. 3076

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 28 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3956 THERETO.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Pursuant to the report of the City Planning Commission, dated December 13, Section 1. 2017, setting forth its resolution 12-78-2017 recommending approval of Petition 2017-10-01-07, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on January 22, 2018, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2017-10-01-07 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

Article III of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

Section 3.3956. Petition 2017-10-01-07 submitted by Feldman Automotive, Inc., is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from M-1 to C-2:

Land situated in the City of Livonia, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, described as

PART OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWN 1 SOUTH, RANGE 9 EAST, DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION, DISTANT NORTH 89 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST, 982.65 FEET FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 28 AND PROCEEDING THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST, 360.16 FEET TO A POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 17 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST, 337.66 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 33 MINUTES 50 SECONDS WEST, 293.91 FEET; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST 697.22 FEET; THENCE NORTH 87 DEGREES 47 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST, 332.20 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, 1008.20 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

and the Southeast 1/4 of Section 28 of the Zoning Map is hereby amended to conform to the changes made in this section.

The attached map designated "Amendment No. 972 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this

The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, October 1, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 2nd day of October, 2018.

Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Paul A. Bernier, City Attorney

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED FROM M-1, LIGHT MANUFACTURING TO C-2, GENERAL BUSINESS



AMENDMENT NO. 972 TO THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN **ORDINANCE NO. 3076** Adopted by the City Council on 10/1/18



Publish: November 22, 2018

Six facts about Black Friday shopping day

Pamela A. Zinkosky Special to hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Are you planning on shopping Black Friday sales? Getting some Cyber Monday deals? It may surprise you to know that the original Black Friday had little to do with bargains. Here are six facts about the origins of the retail holiday we know today.

First time

The first Black Friday was Sept. 24, 1869, and it had nothing to do with holiday shopping. It referred to the U.S. gold market crash that bankrupted so many. A scheme by Jay Gould and Jim Fisk to drive up the price of gold eventually fell flat, sending the market into a tailspin. The economic downturn affected everyone from Wall Street traders to farmers.

Influx of people

A second Black Friday emerged in the 1950s in Philadelphia. The police force called the day after Thanksgiving Black Friday because it meant an influx of people to the city, not only for shopping and tourism, but for attendance at the Army-Navy football game that took place that Saturday annually.

Philadelphia police officers had to work longer shifts and deal with extra chaos in the city, which gave the day a bleak outlook for them. The name stuck in that part of the country, with retailers jumping on the bandwagon and making it into a shopping event.

Thanksgiving move

It might have been the last Friday of November, or the first of December, if not for the Great Depression and Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in 1939 endeavored to move Thanksgiving up a week. President Abraham Lincoln originally designated the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving.

In 1939, President Roosevelt, in an effort to give struggling retailers an extra week of holiday sales, moved Thanksgiving one week up, to the fourth Thursday of November. Roosevelt endured much criticism for moving the holiday



Jill and Linda Willis of Garden City did some Black Friday shopping last year at Westland Shopping Center. BILL BRESLER |

with little notice, with many calling the fourth Thursday "Franksgiving" and much confusion occurring in the following years

However, in 1941, President Roosevelt designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving and Black Friday followed several decades later.

In the red

Retailers are not "in the red" until Black Friday. A story emerged over the years that Black Friday referred to retailers finally being "in the black," or on the profit side, after Black Friday sales, but there's no evidence to support this story. After all, if most businesses made no profit until the 11th month of the year, there wouldn't be many businesses left to shop.

Myth busted

It's not a reference to slavery. Another myth emerged in the last five years or so that Black Friday referred to the price of slaves being lower the day after

Thanksgiving. There's no evidence to support this idea at all.

Going national

The 1980s saw the spread of Black Friday nationwide, as retailers reinvented the day as a retail holiday, with instore early bird sales and, now, Cyber Monday for online deals.

To comment on this article or to suggest ideas for other history articles, contact Pamela A. Zinkosky at pazink@yahoo.com.



Adoption

Continued from Page 1A

moot. They wanted nothing to do with finding a surrogate mother, either.

Through Adoption Associates, Inc., of Farmington Hills, the 20-something couple connected with then 34-year-old Heather — and baby Benjamin became the God-sent answer to a prayer for two different families.

"Since I knew that I couldn't have kids, I kind of felt that it wasn't meant to be for me," said Megan Neuner, 28. "So I always just expected that I never would have kids and that it would just be my husband and I and we would have dogs and travel and everything.

"One day, I was shopping for a baby gift for one of my colleagues and I walked into Babies 'R' Us and it hit me. 'I'm never going to be able to do this, this is never going to be my life.' Ever since that day, we were, like, 'OK, let's figure this out. I want that, I want to be able to enjoy life with kids."

Greg Neuner chimed in that "we were sitting on a couch watching a movie after 10 months of being married and we said, 'It's kind of quiet in here with just two

Best of both worlds

Ben's birth mom also couldn't have asked for a better outcome for the baby she carried and gave birth to Nov. 21, 2017. Heather asked to not have her last name revealed.

"She's like the sister, like a long-lost sister," Heather said about her instant and immediate rapport with Megan. "It's so cute that Ben actually looks like he was born to them (the Neuners). It's cool. I hope that one day, with the help of Ben and me and Megan and Greg, we can help curb the stigma of adoption, because it's a wonderful thing."

Heather is still part of Ben's life, regularly chatting with Megan and joining the Neuners for special occasions such as a first birthday dinner Thanksgiving eve.

"Adoption isn't just some big, scary wolf that you shouldn't touch," Megan Neuner said. "It's something that's beautiful and wonderful and brings families together — and helps both sides.

"We always talk with Heather. She always says she's so blessed and grateful that Ben has us. And we're always, like, 'We're the blessed and grateful ones, because without you, we wouldn't have a child."

Never too early

Not every trip down the adoption road is as smooth as what the Neuners have experienced. There remains a lot of heartache, hidden worries and the bubbling up of insensitivity from unenlightened people who generally mean no harm.

"I never would want him to feel like there's anything wrong or he's less because he was adopted," Megan



said. "So I think that's why it's really important now, for us to teach him how to answer those questions and give him those tools now on how to respond to people that might say something hurtful - or help him teach

Adoption isn't cheap. The Neuners spent something like \$20,000, along with countless hours researching the Internet looking for answers to their ultimate question - would they be able to start a family, other than family pooches Lola and Lucy, of course.

You do put money into an account (with Adoption Associates) to have available for any birth family needs, which we thought was wonderful," Megan said. "Because if there's anything we could help with for a birth family to make this process easier ... we were extremely on board with that."

If ever there was a perfect poster child for adoption, it is the happy-go-lucky Ben. He is healthy and full of boundless energy, grabbing at pieces of paper that are just out of reach, pushing a toy train, flashing a tooth-

"He's doing really good," Megan said. "He's starting to walk, he's passed all his milestones. It's really funny to see how they grow their little personalities."

Message from God

\$15,378.00

Yet the Neuners might not have been so fortunate if not for some soul-searching and selflessness from Heather, who quickly came to grips with her uncertain reality.

Heather could not provide the stability a newborn needed, already having had to have a baby girl adopted by family members because of struggles "with drugs and everything. ... Because of all that happening, I knew that I probably wouldn't be able to keep Ben.'

She entered a methadone clinic, but then "ended up having him a little bit early" and attempted to begin an adoption plan through Children's Protective Services.

"Then about a week and a half later, my mom was, like, 'No, we're just going to go ahead and kind of go behind CPS's back.' And she called an agency and they didn't get back to her fast enough so she called my Aunt Laura," Heather said, talking via cellphone during a morning commute to her job. "(Laura) got her daughter from Adoption Associates and she got their number."

Before long, a case worker for Adoption Associates which director Paula Springer said has handled 40-60 domestic adoptions annually over the past decade was meeting with Heather and other family members. They reviewed profiles (complete with video) that families looking to adopt had supplied.

'My daughter Mary looked at Megan and Greg's profile first, then the (birth) father did, then my mother and I did," Heather said. "After I got done reading it, we all looked at each other and said, 'That's the family we want.' Megan and Greg were notified that we picked them and, the following Monday, we did a meet and greet and signed the (adoption) paperwork. I really think it was God telling us, just how fast it all happened."

Do the research

At the other end of the connection, the Neuners also needed some divine intervention - or, at the very least, solid word of mouth - for their dream to come

"A lot of families try to conceive, find out they can't, try different options that are out there," said Greg, 27, a Fraser High School alum who owns an automotive recycling facility. "And in that time, years can pass. Where we knew right off the get-go that this (adoption) was going to be the main option for us. We jumped right into it."

Megan (who graduated from Utica Eisenhower High School) explained that a "friend of a friend" had a successful encounter with Adoption Associates and provided the contact info that would change the young couple's life.

"She had amazing things to say and they had a great experience, so we said, 'Let's do this,' Megan said. "We set up an initial meeting, we met with (Springer), she was very up front about the woes of it, the positive sides of it, everything. We just knew it was the right way for us to go."

Having initially been told to expect a wait of two years before finding a match, there were still moments of unease.

They were giving us tips like, 'Don't set up a nursery yet on day one of the process," Greg said. "Because you're going to walk past that room and you're going to get discouraged."

Such a gift

Less than three months later, they were bringing Ben home. For that gift, they thank Heather.

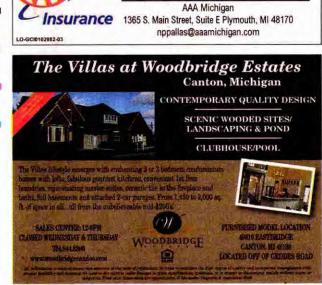
'(Heather) is much stronger than I could ever be," Megan said. "Because I would never be able to take a step back and look at my life and say, 'I know I can't take care of this child so I want more for him.' I really think that side of it is really important to the negative stigma around birth families."

See ADOPTION, Page 9A









GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE AUCTION WILL BE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27TH AT 11:00AM AT 6345 HIX, WESTLAND MI, 48185. THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS IS, STARTING BID IS FOR TOWING AND STORAGE. <u>AM</u> \$86

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FOCUS

Publish: November 22, 2018

2001

FORD

Pharmacy offers access to doctor by phone 24/7

Sharon Dargay hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK —MICHIGAN

You wake up in the middle of the night feeling sick.

Should you go to urgent care or wait it out until morning?

You Google your symptoms, but can't decide. You worry.

Yvonne Gallagher, president of Sav-Mor Pharmacies, wants to put your mind at ease with a new program that gives customers 24/7 phone access to a

doctor for diagnosis and consultation.

"A lot of people have high deductibles," she said. "If you have pink eye or an earache or something like that, you're going to go to the doctor's office and pay \$100. Well, with this plan, you pay \$14.99 and you can call a doctor 30 times or more. There is no limit. Any



Marwan H. Isa, owner of Lincoln Rx
Pharmacy in Oak Park, places a poster
about a new Sav-Mor telehealth
program in his store. SHARON DARGAY |
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

time of the day or night, there is a doctor on call."

Say-Mor, which is headquartered in Southfield, works with independent drug stores and has partnered with My

T Health Plus on the new "telehealth" program.

Customers pay \$14.99 per month for access to a doctor licensed to practice in Michigan. The physician can diagnose, offer medical advice and prescribe medications and call in prescriptions to a pharmacy by phone if needed.

The service covers all family members living under one roof and it renews automatically each month. Customers also may discontinue the program and renew when necessary.

"No controlled substances or narcotics or anything like that," Gallagher said.
"But basic things they can look at on your phone. You take a picture of, say, a burn. You need a cream for it, things like that."

She hopes the service will bring peace of mind to patients who might otherwise check for their symptoms on

various medical websites or simply sit home and worry.

Customers can sign up through Sav-Mor's website or at participating Sav-Mor pharmacies. She expects the program will gain traction in January, when insurance deductibles begin for the new year. Gallagher also hopes employers who can't afford to provide health insurance for their employees will consider buying into My T Health Plus.

The 33 participating Sav-Mor drug stores include Star Sav-Mor Drugs, 1525 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills; Minute Script Pharmacy, 2020 Middlebelt, Suite B, Garden City; Lincoln Rx Pharmacy, 25901 Coolidge, Oak Park; Alliance Pharmacy, 29201 Telegraph, Southfield; and Pontiac Trail Sav-Mor Pharmacy, 620 N. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake.

Contact Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Clinic

Continued from Page 1A

same services planned for the new building. The Ann Arbor Road clinic also did not provide abortions to its clients.

Staying in Livonia, Lednicer said, was important, since the group has so many clients in the region. She said more than 4,000 clients were served last year in Livonia, with 14 percent of

them being men. With the clinic closed since the spring, those who typically went to Livonia were instead rerouted to other clinics in Ann Arbor, Detroit and Ferndale.

"We knew there was a demand in Livonia. We've been there for 17 years," she said. "We try to put ourselves to where people can access us more easily."

The building bought by Planned Parenthood will not need to go through any rezoning hearings or require any permissions from any city board. The building is currently zoned OS-Office Services, which a health clinic is an allowed use under that zoning. All the other required permits are up to date on the building, something protesters asked the city to investigate as a way to keep the clinic from opening.

"At this point, we are moving along well. Our permits have all been above board," Lednicer said. "We're following the law and looking forward to welcoming our patients." The Livonia clinic will be the lone Planned Parenthood clinic in western Wayne County.

Livonia city officials said at the Nov. 7 council meeting that so long as the proper permits are valid, there's nothing the city can do to halt its opening, though several city council members made it clear they were displeased with the clinic opening back up in the city.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.

Adoption

Continued from Page 8A

The Neuners intend on being open and communicative with Ben to help him understand his story enough to respond to insensitive remarks, which undoubtedly will occur.

"I never would want him to feel like there's anything wrong or he's less because he was adopted," said Megan, a former preschool teacher who now teaches online English classes from the comforts of home. "So I think that's why it's really important now, for us to teach him how to answer those questions and give him those tools now."

Looking for families

According to Springer, adoption remains a subject that "people don't really know a lot about. We just want to make sure people know and understand that domestic adoption is something that is still happening.

"Ours is not foster care or relative adoption. It's not international adoption. This is domestic adoption with healthy infants, where birth mothers find themselves pregnant at a time they can't care for this baby ... and they voluntarily choose to release their parental rights. Then they get a chance to pick a family, choose to meet with that family.

"Right now, I think one of the best messages you can get out there is that we need domestic adoptive families," she added. "We don't have enough families in our pool right now. We need more families waiting to adopt babies."

And if adoption costs (which can reach more than \$25,000) scare off some, there is a way for financial relief
— the Federal Adoption Tax Credit. Go
to the Adoption Associates website for a
link.

Of course, all the programs, statistics and brochures won't be enough to sell everybody about wanting to adopt a baby.

But taking a look at always-smiling Benjamin Neuner or listening to his over-the-moon parents might be enough to do the trick.

If you have a compelling story to tell, contact Tim Smith at tsmith@hometownlife.com.



AREA EVENTS

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

Stevenson 10-year reunion

The Livonia Stevenson High School class of 2008 will hold its 10-year reunion 8-11 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23, at Craft Breww City, 27843 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills.

Ticket prices range from \$27.50 (non-alcoholic ticket) to \$52 (open bar included) and are available at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/shs-class-of-2008-10-year-reunion-tickets-48095456806?utm-medium =discovery&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&aff=escb&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing.

Wayne library book sale

The Friends of the Wayne Public Library will host a used book sale from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, at the library, 3737 S. Wayne Road. Books will be sold for \$1 per bag and bags will be provided.

Ballroom dancing at St. Timothy

St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, 16700 Newburgh Road, in Livonia will host ballroom dancing 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24 and Dec. 8. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information, call 586-873-3353.

Railroadiana train show

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club is sponsoring a buy-and-swap Railroadiana Train Show from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, at the church social hall, 32500 Palmer Road, in Westland. There will be approximately 100 dealer tables available.

The cost is \$10 for an eight-foot table. Dealer set up is 9 a.m. the day of the show and complimentary coffee and doughnuts will be available to the dealers until 10:30 a.m. Food also will be available. Admission is \$2 per person and \$4 per family. Parking is free.

For more information or table reservations, call 734-728-1247.

Livonia Swim Club tryouts

The Livonia Community Swim Club is hosting tryouts 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Nov. 26-29, for youths ages 5-18 interested in participating in competitive swimming, at the Kirksey Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. LCSC is a year-round swim team whose mission is to provide a program that develops water safety awareness, personal fitness, swimming technique and racing skills.

LCSC is a member of USA Swimming and participates in competitions at the local, state, regional and national levels. Session II begins Nov. 26 and continues through March 2019. For more information, contact head coach Vince Gallant at vincegallant @gmail.com or go to https://www.teamunify.com/Home.jsp?_tabid_=0&team=milcsc.

Instagram photo contest

Children ages 5-12 who live in the Livonia or Clarenceville school districts are invited to participate in the annual "December is Special to Me Because ..." Instagram photo contest, sponsored by the Save Our Youth Coalition and the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department.

Entries will be divided into four age divisions: 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-12. Each age division winner will receive \$25 and an award. One overall winner will receive \$100 and an award. All winners will be invited to the holiday celebration parade and tree lighting Sunday, Dec. 2, to help Santa light the tree.

All entries must be posted to Instagram @livoniarec using #decemberisspecial18 by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27. For more information, call 734-466-2900 or go to www.livoniaparks.org.

Holiday food, gift drive

Heather Ridge Apartments, 7500 Newburgh Road, in Westland will be accepting donations of new toys and non-perishable food items through Thursday, Nov. 29. Drop off donated items from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Heather Ridge will donate all items to Westland Goodfellows. For more information, call 734-458-0010.

Three Cities Art Club

Three Cities Art Club members will exhibit their art at Westland's Gallery at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, through Nov. 29. The exhibition will include original works done in watercolor, oil, acrylic, pencil, charcoal, pastel, airbrush and photography. This is a free event and everyone is welcome.

The gallery is open whenever city hall is open. For more information, call 313-231-3939, email marilyn meredith@wowway.com or go to www.threecities artclub.org.

Exploring teen suicide

New Life Church, 33III Ford Road, in Garden City will host Exploring Teen Suicide, 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30. This event is designed to promote awareness and discussion on the staggering statistics surrounding teen suicide and offer hope, along with ways it can be reduced and perhaps prevented. RSVP by Nov. 25 by calling Sherri at 248-227-5288.

Livonia library art exhibit

The Bennett Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, in Livonia will host an art exhibit titled Visual Poems in Drawing through Nov. 30 featuring Huaming Wang, an artist, designer and engineer. His artwork has been exhibited nationally and internationally.

The library is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

Goodfellows newspaper sale

The Livonia Goodfellows organization is conducting its annual newspaper sale from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1, to benefit its No Child Without A Christmas program. In 2017, the organization assisted 280 families with 651 children.

The group will be at dozens of business throughout the community selling the holiday papers. For more information, go to livoniagoodfellows.org or call 313-438-0862 (voice mail).

Livonia Christmas Walk

The Friends for the Development of Greemead will host the 30th annual Livonia Christmas Walk from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. Ticket sales begin at 9:30 a.m. All of the homes are decorated by the homeowners, each is unique and special.

The Greenmead gift shop (Eight Mile and Newburgh roads) is open the day of the walk, all walk participants receive a coupon for a free gift and a discount on purchases at the gift shop. In addition the Simmons/Hill house is open for tours that day, cookies and hot chocolate is served to visitors.

All proceeds benefit the development of Greenmead Historical Park. Tickets (\$9 in advance, \$10 day of event) are available at city hall, city libraries, Greenmead office and members of the Friends for the Development of Greenmead.

Holiday craft fair

Celebration Lutheran Church, 39375 Joy Road, in Westland will host a craft fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1. Admission is \$1 or a non-perishable food item donation at the door. There will also be a cafe and bake sale. For more information, call 734-422-

St. Mary addiction series

St. Mary Mercy Hospital Livonia, 36475 Five Mile Road, in Livonia is offering an ongoing series titled Addiction: 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. Dec. 4, II and I8 are the next series dates.

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

Livonia Towne Club meeting

Livonia Towne Club, a nonprofit women's organization that brings together women for social interaction, meets the fourth Thursday of each month from September through May (except in November and December, when it's the second Thursday). The group will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

The club meets for lunch and a program at different restaurants in Livonia and surrounding areas. The program could be an informative speaker, bingo, fashion show, music entertainment and more, plus an occasional local day trip.

Its next luncheon is 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, featuring John Sterbenz, an accordion-keyboard player. For more information, call Vicki at 734-591-3254.

Holiday craft show

Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia will host its annual holiday craft show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7. There will also be a quilt raffle, drawings and refreshments available for purchase, with all proceeds to benefit S.C.A.N. (Senior Citizen Achievement Needs).

Admission is free. For more information, call 734-466-2557.

Detroit Lutheran Singers concert

The Detroit Lutheran Singers group will present Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols" during a concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 W. Seven Mile Road, in Livonia. This collection of Christmas music is based on old English carols and is accompanied by a harp. In addition, there will be wonderful arrangements of traditional songs of the season and the audience will be invited to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Lunch with Santa

The Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, will host its annual Lunch with Santa at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 8. The event includes lunch, crafts and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Tickets are available online at www.livoniaparks.org. For more information, call 734-466-2900.

Breakfast with Santa

The Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, in Westland will host a Breakfast with Santa from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9. A buffet will include breakfast and light lunch items.

All children will have a chance to meet Santa and take a photo and will receive a special gift from Santa. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Advance reservations are required. Call 734-525-3550, email helleniccc@gmail.com or go to http://www.hellenicculturalcenter.com/.

Holiday sing-along with Santa

The William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, in Westland will host a holiday singalong with Santa 6-8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10. Join us for songs, hot cocoa, cookies, crafts and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with a live reindeer. Registration required.

New exhibit at Livonia library

The Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, in Livonia is hosting an exhibit through December on the Potawatomi Nation, Native Americans that populated Livonia and its surrounding areas before the Europeans came. The exhibit was curated by Livonia historian Joe Neussendorfer.

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.

Metro Fibromyalgia & CFS support group

The Metro Fibromyalgia & CFS support group meets 1-3 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman Road, in Garden City. The meetings include speakers and open table talk meetings. Donations are accepted.

For more information, go to www.MetroFibro-Group.com or call 734-981-2519.

VFW euchre tourney

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Livonia Post 3941, 31611 Plymouth Road, will be hosting a euchre tournament at 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday. The fundraiser is to support the post. All are welcome. Entry fee is either \$8 or \$10. For more information, email vfw3941@gmail.com.

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 11. 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

Ann J. Grenier

OHIO - FORMALLY OF LIVONIA - Loving daughter of the late Noble and Delores. Dear sister of Marvin (Irene), Jack (Ron) (Noble Jr), Sr. Cheryl Ann, Louis (Rose), Charles (Jennifer), Robert (Cindy) and the late Carol Ann and Mary. Beloved aunt of many nieces and neph-



ews. Also survived by her almost like sister and brother Kim (Dave) Prickett Albers. She will be missed by many. Ann was heavily in TICA, and cat rescues. She won many prestigious awards in the cat society. She was a very good soul who loved her animals and would do anything for them. She did rescue and showed in Tica. Ann placed many kitties and very much enjoyed showing them. Through the years she helped raise money for many homeless cats. A memorial service will be held next May at Oak Grove Cemetery in Manchester, MI. A celebration of life will be held after at the home of Charles and Jennifer where Ann enjoyed calling out her Bingo game for the kids of all ages! RIP Ann we loved you. In lieu of flowers feel free to donate to your favorite kitty rescue. www.santeiufuneralhome.com.

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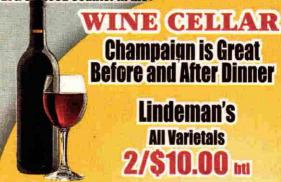
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Sports

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COLLEGE SIGNING

Alsobrooks heading to CMU

Churchill's all-time passing leader picks baseball

Brad Emons

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Drew Alsobrooks leaves Livonia Churchill as one of the school's most prolific passers, but another sport is in the future for the senior quarterback.

The hard-throwing left-hander will cast his lot with the Central Michigan University baseball program after signing an NCAA Division I letter of intent Nov 14. Last season, CMU finished 29-30-1 overall and 16-11 Mid-American Conference under coach Jordan Bischel.

"I really love football, I've played it since I was in the fourth grade, but in the end my biggest opportunities were kind of in baseball, being a left-handed pitcher that throws really hard, that's kind of what Division I coaches really like to see," Alsobrooks said. "That's

what kind of took me that route. I saw that I had to take my talents to the next level and see what I can do there."

Other baseball offers for Alsobrooks came from Bowling Green, Eastern Michigan, Oakland and Wayne State.

"I had some (football) coaches call here and there. I committed pretty early, so nobody really offered me," Alsobrooks said. "I had some contact with coaches, but they kind of just stopped after I committed."

As a junior, Alsobrooks was a member of Churchill's Division 1 district championship baseball team and, during the summer, he played for the Michigan Bulls, where he won his second national championship in a row at the American Amateur Baseball Congress World Series in Waterbury, Conn. The

See ALSOBROOKS, Page 3B



On hand for Drew Alsobrooks' letter of intent signing were Churchill coaches (top row, from left) Bill DeFillippo, Ron Targosz, Jari Brown, Mike Brooks and Andy Wahl.

COLLEGE SIGNING



Canton point guard B. Artis White takes the ball to the basket during a game last year against Wayne Memorial. THOMAS

FATHER KNOWS BEST

Canton's White signs with Western Michigan

Brad Emons

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

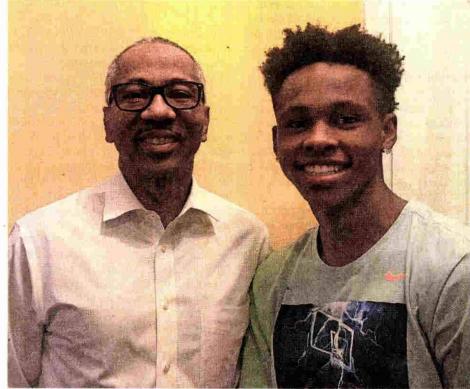
With his father Benny White being a former Michigan State player and a longtime college and high school basketball coach, it only seemed natural that his son B. Artis would follow a similar path.

But the speedy Canton senior point guard, who signed an NCAA Division I letter of intent Nov. 14 with Western Michigan University, had another passion as a youth growing up.

His favorite game was "Call of Duty." Basketball was just an afterthought.

"He's been coaching me in basketball ever since sixth grade," B. Artis said of his father, who recently took the Birmingham Groves High varsity job. "Didn't even really want to play basketball. I love video games, but he kept

See WHITE, Page 2B



Canton senior guard B. Artis White (right), with his father Benny, recently signed a basketball letter of intent with Western Michigan.

CHARITY BASKETBALL
GAME

Harlem Wizards to play Northville faculty Nov. 27

Brad Emons

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Tricks hoops and alley-oops will be coming Tuesday, Nov. 27, to Northville High School as the high-flying Harlem Wizards will provide an evening of basketball entertainment.

The Wizards will take on Northville administrators, faculty and coaches in a fundraising event to benefit the Northville Mustangs Boosters Club.

Game time is 7 p.m. at Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road. Doors open at 6 p.m.

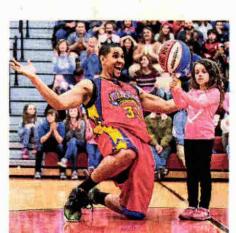
Among those scheduled to play include Northville Principal Tony Koski, who will team up with varsity coaches Matt Ladach (football), John Kostrzewa (baseball), Tim Dalton (cross country/track) and Nancy Smith (cross country)

Founded in 1962 by New York sports promoter Howie Davis and now celebrating their 56th season, the Wizards will put on an interactive show featuring a dazzling show of hoops artistry, including the "Wiz Kids" pregame warm-up, contests, comedy, slam dunks, audience participation, dance extravaganza and merchandise give-aways.

The Wizards feature four different units that travel around the country under the names Broadway, Showtime, Swoop and Rocket. They raised more than \$2 million last season playing in more than 400 U.S. communi-

Among Harlem's most prominent alumni is Basketball Hall of Fame player Connie Hawkins, who spent two

See WIZARDS, Page 2B



The Harlem Wizards will put on a family friendly show Nov. 27 at Northville High School.

HARLEMWIZARDS.COM

KLAA all-conference team unveiled

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Led by overall champion and Division 1 semifinalist Northville, the Kensington Lakes Activities Association recently announced its all-conference team along with its honorable mention squad.

Here are the results.

All-Conference (West)

Northville: Hannah Grant, Sr. libero: Clare McNamara, Jr. middle hitter; Jenna Boksha, Soph. outside hitter; Gabi Fisette, Sr. setter; Novi: Jaeda Porter, Sr. OH; Shannon Jennings, Jr. setter; Rachel Jennings, Soph. libero; Brighton: Celia Cullen, Sr. setter; Analise Berry, Sr. libero; Madison Opre, Sr. OH; Hartland: Megan Acs, Sr. OH; Gabi Skinner, Sr. MH; Salem: Rory McMaster, Sr. setter; Makai Quan, Soph. OH; Howell: Sydney Romanaitis, Sr. libero; Amy Henderson, Sr. OH: Canton: Holly Stefanek, Sr. OH: Plymouth: Kayla Courtney, Sr. MH.

All-Conference (East)

Livonia Churchill: Sarah Dunn, Jr. OH; Grace Vaeth, Sr. setter; Jessica Maladecki, Jr. libero; Summer Clark, Sr. MB; Livonia Stevenson: Abby Cleaveland, Jr. setter; Libby Cleaveland, Jr. MH; Sedona Coon, Jr. MH; Livonia Franklin: Joanie Evans, Sr. libero; Ja-



Churchill junior outside hitter Sarah Dunn was among four Chargers to earn all-KLAA honors. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

mia Murray, Soph. OH; Kaitlyn Merrill, Jr. OH; Belleville: A'nya Griffin, Sr. libero; Maddison Bennett, Sr. setter; Dearborn: Lillian Grantham, Jr. setter; T'yanna Rutherford, Sr. OH; Westland John Glenn: Jessica Florn, Soph. OH; Mya Tarrance, Soph. OH; Dearborn Fordson: Ayah Zaban, Sr. setter; Wayne Memorial: Megan Blair, Sr. libero.

Honorable mention (West)

Northville: Nyia Setla, Jr. DS; Novi: Gaby Cummings, Soph. OH; Brighton: Elaine Halonen, Jr. OH; Hartland: Vera Storm, Jr. libero; Salem: Nakia Quan, Sr. OH; Howell: Marisa Poma, Sr. setter; Canton: Amanda Wilyard, Sr. setter; Plymouth: Hannah Ramer, Sr. OH.

Honorable mention (East)

Churchill: Molly Chantres, Sr. OH; Stevenson: Erin Pietruszka, Jr. libero; Franklin: Abi Atteveld, Sr. MH; Belleville: Jasmine Jones, Jr. MB; Dearborn: Hayley Lindow, Soph. MH; John Glenn: Brieann Bagwell, Sr. libero; Fordson: Jana Chahine, Sr. libero: Wayne: Jade Elder, Sr. MH.

Final standings

West Division: 1. Northville, 11-0 (overall), 7-0 (division); 2. Novi, 9-2, 7-0; 3. Brighton, 9-2, 5-3; 4. Hartland, 7-5, 4-3; 5. Salem, 6-5, 3-4; 6. Howell, 5-6, 2-5; 7. Canton, 4-7, 1-6; 8. Plymouth,

East Division: 1. Churchill, 11-0 (overall), 7-0 (division); 2. Stevenson, 8-3, 6-1; 3. Franklin, 5-6, 5-2; 4. Belleville, 4-7, 4-3; 5. Dearborn, 3-8, 3-4; 6. John Glenn, 2-9, 2-5; 7. Fordson, 1-10, 1-6; 8. Wayne, 0-11, 0-7.

Association champion

Northville.

MHSAA tourney champs

Division 1 regional 5: Northville; Division 1 district: Churchill.

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

Wizards

Continued from Page 1B

years touring with the Wizards during the prime of his career. More than 25 ex-NBA players have worn the Wizards jersey including Nate "Tiny" Archibald, Ray Felix, Mario Ellie and Hawthorne Wingo.

The Wizards have also toured many foreign countries, with 10 tours of China since 2000. Other tours included a USO tour of the Far East, as well as trips to Italy, Belgium, Taiwan, Israel, Malaysia, Brazil, Argentina, Poland and Venezue-

Crowds as large as 10,000-plus have watched the Wizards in soccer stadiums, bull rings and basketball arenas. The Wizards have done numerous char-

itable events at New York City's famed

"We are delighted to host the Wizards," Northville Mustangs Booster Club president Martha Michalak said. "They are superb showmen who deliver fan-

General admission seats are \$10. Reserved seats, in the front row of the bleachers, are \$20. Courtside seats are with the Wizards prior to the the game and discounted souvenirs.

Tickets can be purchased in advance online (prior to 11:59 p.m. Monday, Nov. https://www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets/. Tickets at the door are \$12 per person.

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmonsl.

White

Continued from Page 1B

pushing me. I was crying at the house, but he pushed me and basketball is now the game I love. I can't get away from it, can't stop playing it."

B. Artis, however, hasn't completely given up his No. 1 hobby.

"I for sure still play video games, I play them all," B. Artis said. "I used to skateboard, too. It helped me with my balance, all of that. My dad didn't like it so ... I didn't like it either. But it is what it

Basketball gene

Sometimes dad knows best and who can argue with Benny, a former all-city and all-state guard from Detroit Northern who went on to earn four letters at Michigan State, where he was the team's Most Improved Player (1972-73), a co-captain and assist leader (1975-76).

After graduating from MSU, Benny went into the collegiate coaching ranks, where he made stops at Wayne State, Albion, University of Detroit Mercy (twice), San Jose State and Eastern Michigan (six seasons). He was also the varsity coach at Detroit King for 15 years, carving out at 201-89 record, and also served as an executive assistant to Detroit Mayor Dave Bing.

So is it son like father on the basketball court?

"I think the only thing I see similar would be that he does have the desire to win, he takes pride in taking care of the basketball," Benny said. "But gamewise, he's way more athletic than I was, just because of quickness, speed and jumping ability."

Making strides

Last season, White averaged 16 points, four assists, four rebounds and two steals per game as the Chiefs finished 19-2 and captured the Kensington Lakes Activities Association Black Division title.

But his evolution as a lead guard began as a spindly freshman on the varsity for coach Jim Reddy.

"I think he does a lot of different things," Reddy said. "First, he handles the ball so well, which makes it tough for any team to press us because he can literally break the press himself with his ball-handling ability. His I.Q. is high. He's always been able to shoot it. As a

Madison Square Garden.

tastic all-ages entertainment.'

\$30, which include a meet-and-greet

kind of took him more to AAU practices and made him go more than I did. At the

time, I was coaching college ball, so she

was the one when he didn't want to go,

she was still making him go."

Family ties

Benny and Staci White also have a 5year-old son Beniah, and a daughter Demi, who is a senior nursing major and member of the Michigan State dance

During B. Artis's junior season, Benny took a year off from coaching, so the two were able to bond together a little bit

"I was fortunate enough last year to not have a job and so I was able to spend time with my family, him probably more than the rest of them or my wife," Benny said. "But I was able to spend time with him daily, take him to school, picking him up, going to get something to eat, work out, taking him swimming ... so we spent a lot of time together last year to a point where I don't think I got on his nerves, but it was, like, I was his best friend in a sense. I remember the third day I was picking him up from school and he said, 'Dad, are you going to pick me up every day?' I said, 'Yeah, I'll be here every day."

Because of scheduling conflicts with his new job at Groves, Benny will only be able to see a handful of his son's games this season in person. Benny was unable to attend B. Artis's signing ceremony because he had a scrimmage scheduled that day.

"I feel comfortable where we're at," Benny said. "I think he's good, too, and I don't have to be there every day. I found out we do have some Thursday games, so according to the schedule, that's going to allow me to see eight or nine of his games."

And when he's able to attend as a parent and fan, Benny will sit back and enjoy watching a player with elite speed with the basketball.

"This is my 10th year as coach and he's the quickest and fastest with the ball that we've had," Reddy said.

And when he's off the basketball court, nobody has a quicker trigger.

"During his freshman year, we said, You can't do it. You can play on the weekends' and it's kind of the same pattern now," Benny said of the video habit. "But he still goes at it though."

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmonsl.



On hand for Canton guard B. Artis White's national letter of intent signing day was his mother Staci. BRAD EMONS | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

freshman, he started for us on a team that went 20-0. He averaged 7½ points a game ... he got open threes and he knocked them down. And then he's finally gotten a lot better at finishing at the rim and that comes with maturity. like we talked about. He's taller and he's stronger now. He's a tough cover for anybody and he's still getting better defensively. He was a good defender last year. I see him being a great defender for us this year."

White also had Division I offers from Oakland, Toledo, U-D and Northern Kentucky, but felt most comfortable with WMU head coach Steve Hawkins, now in his 16th season, and his staff of assistants.

The right fit

"The new assistant coach there, (Thomas Kelly), I had a good relationship with him, my dad had a good relationship with him," White said. "They needed a point guard, so I thought I could be the one that could help them be their point guard."

White said he gained five pounds and grew two inches over the summer. He's put on 25 pounds since his freshman

"My official height is 5-foot-11, but you can list me at 6-foot," White said with a smile.

Reddy said White has not only matured physically, but is also stronger

"He's going to have an excellent year," Reddy said. "I don't think there's any way he doesn't. He's been special for us for three years. He's going to be a fouryear starter here and he's going to score over 1,000 points ... hopefully, he'll finish with an outstanding year and I don't see why that wouldn't happen.'

white has tried to expand his repertoire as a point guard going into his senior season.

"Going to the hole, finishing with contact, been struggling with that for many years," White said. "I was real good at it in eighth grade, but now that I'm in high school, there's better competition, but I've been working on that a lot and getting stronger."

Top backcourt

Canton's starting backcourt is in good hands with the return of an equally jet-quick guard in Vinson Sigmon, also a college prospect. The two speedy seniors will be a nightmare for opposing teams to defend this season.

"I would say the most underrated guard in Michigan, no doubt," White said of his running mate. "College coaches have been sleeping on him. I don't know what's taking them so long, but they have to keep an eye on him, for real. He pushes me all the time. Defensively, he really gets on me, pushes me hard, makes me better every day."

Even though he was a coach, Benny White tried not to be an overbearing parent when his son preferred video games and even skateboarding over

"I was disappointed, in a sense, just because I could see he had some ability, but he acted like he didn't want to play, Benny said. "He went out for football, did that for about a week, didn't want to do that. So it was a challenge and I was staying away from him. My wife (Staci)

OAA announces all-stars after big year

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It was a good year for Oakland Activities Association football.

Thirteen of the association's 23 programs finished with a winning record and 12 of them qualified for the Michigan High School Athletic Association's state playoffs. Five of them — Clarkston and West Bloomfield from the OAA Red, Groves and Harrison from the OAA White and Farmington from the OAA Blue — were still alive as the playoffs steamed to the regionals.

The regular-season league champions were Clarkston (Red), Oak Park (White) and Birmingham Seaholm (Blue).

Following is the OAA's 2018 all-OAA report listed by division:

OAA Red Division

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Clarkston 5-1 (7-2 overall); 2. West Bloomfield 4-2 (7-2); 2. Oxford 4-2 (7-2); 4. Rochester Adams 3-3 (6-3); 4. Lake Orion 3-3 (5-4); 6. Southfield A&T 2-4 (3-6); 7. Bloomfield Hills 0-6 (2-7)

ALL-OAA REPORT

CLARKSTON: Jake Billette (senior, running back); Rocco Spindler (sophomore, offensive line); Garrett Dellinger (sophomore, offensive line); Josh Luther (senior, defensive back); Brendan Barker (senior, linebacker); Jake Hoastetter (senior, running back); Keagan King (senior, defensive back); Javiar Suggs (senior, defensive line); Jake Jensen (senior, quarterback)

WEST BLOOMFIELD: Lance Dixon (senior, linebacker/wide receiver); Tre Mosley (senior, wide receiver/free safety); Donovan Edwards (sophomore, running back); Makari Paige (junior, free safety); Cornell Wheeler (junior, middle linebacker); CJ Harris (junior, quarterback); Tyrone Broden (senior, wide receiver); Sterling Miles (junior, defensive end)

OXFORD: Drew Carpenter (junior, quarterback); Thomas Wandrie (senior, linebacker); Austin Schlicht (senior, linebacker); Marcus Hufnagel (senior, linebacker); Trent Myre (senior, running back); Jerome Roberson (senior, defensive line); Evan Brunning (senior, defensive line); Sam Barrott (senior, linebacker)

LAKE ORION: Hunter Chambers (senior, offensive line); Chris Vernon (senior, offensive line); Kobe Manzo (senior, offensive line); Josh Wuensch (senior, linebacker); Chris Brown (senior, defensive back); Isaac Kinnie (junior, linebacker)

ROCHESTER ADAMS: Cole Mitchell (senior, defensive tackle); Reed Vogt



Farmington Harrison's Roderick Heard earned all-OAA honors. DAN DEAN |

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

(senior, defensive end); Reece Collins (senior, defensive back); Nick Kania (senior, defensive back); Carter Farris (junior, quarterback), Anthony Patritto (junior, running back)

SOUTHFIELD A&T: Christian Broaden (senior, slot); Devin Baldwin (senior, defensive end); Bryce Austin (junior, defensive tackle); Anthony Romphf (junior, quarterback)

BLOOMFIELD HILLS: Alec Ward (junior, wide receiver/defensive back); Jacob Gasso (senior, running back); Ethan Polselli (senior, offensive line)

SPECIAL TEAMS: BenPatten (Rochester Adams, kicker); Tristan Mattson (Clarkston, punter)

COACH OF THE YEAR: Bud Rowley (Oxford)

OAA White Division

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Oak Park 6-0 (8-1 overall); 2. Birmingham Groves 5-1 (7-2); 3. Farmington Harrison 4-2 (6-32); 4. Rochester Hills Stoney Creek 2-4 (3-6); 4. Rochester 2-4 (2-7); 6. Troy Athens 1-5 (1-8); 7. Troy 1-5 (2-7)

ALL-OAA REPORT

OAK PARK: D'Wan Mathis (senior, quarterback); Enzo Jennings (junior, defensive back); Justin Rogers (junior, offensive line/defensive line); Dondi Price (junior, offensive line); Marcus Ayers (senior, linebacker); Phil Steward (senior, running back); Torriano Richardson (senior, running back); Shelby Givins (senior, offensive line); Maliq Carr (junior, defensive back)

BIRMINGHAM GROVES: Joel Mitchell (senior, linebacker); Khalil Dawsey (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Damonte McCurdy (senior, running back/defensive back); Henry Van Faussien (senior, linebacker); Josh Salter (senior, running back/defensive back); Charlie Riddle (senior, defensive line); Tyriq Heard (senior, defensive line); Jacob Edelman (senior, defensive line)

FARMINGTON HARRISON: Rod Heard (senior, running back/defensive back); Maverick Hanson (senior, offensive line); Vincent Rawls (senior, running back/linebacker); Xavier Goldsmith (senior, defensive back); Caleb Williams (senior, offensive line/defensive line); Ben Williams (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Andrew Brown (senior, offensive line/defensive line)

ROCHESTER HILLS STONEY CREEK: Frank Potenza III (senior, quarterback); Danny Nixon (senior, offensive line); Adam Quni (senior, defensive back); Andre Demetral (senior, wide receiver); Zach Dena (junior, defensive back); Cam Burford (sophomore, running back)

ROCHESTER: Drake Reid (senior, wide receiver); Nick Grabke (senior, running back); Gabe Szafran (senior, ath); Dean Raciti (senior, offensive line); David Robinson (senior, offensive line); Ryan Noble (senior, defensive line)

TROY ATHENS: Austin Kenan (senior, running back); David Demon (senior, offensive line); AJ Rasa (junior, linebacker); Waides Ashmon (sophomore, linebacker)

TROY: Jake Volek (senior, center/ linebacker); Matt Johansson (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Quest Bigelow (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Cole Hayden (senior, offensive line/defensive line)

SPECIAL TEAMS: Davis Digiovanni (Troy Athens, kicker); Christian Thomas (Groves, punter)

COACH OF THE YEAR: Greg Carter (Oak Park)

OAA Blue Division

FINAL STANDINGS: 1. Birmingham Seaholm 6-0 (7-2 overall); 2. Farmington 5-1 (6-3); 3. Auburn Hills Avondale 4-2 (7-2); 3. Ferndale 4-2 (7-2); 5. Royal Oak 3-3 (5-4); 5. North Farmington 3-3 (3-6); 7. Hazel Park 2-4 (4-5); 8. Berkley 1-5 (2-7); 9. Pontiac 0-6 (1-8)

ALL-OAA REPORT

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM: Chase Mentag (senior, running back); Gray Kinnie (senior, quarterback); Max Schumaker (senior running back/defensive back); James DeWald (junior, linebacker); Will McBride (senior, linebacker); Caden DeWalld (sophomore, offensive line); Paul Jokisch (senior, defensive line); Sathya Siddapureddy (junior, offensive line/defensive line); Alex Oancea (senior, offensive line)

FARMINGTON: Kendall Williams (senior, running back/defensive back); Jordan Turner (junior, tight end/line-backer); Donovan King (senior, offensive line/defensive line); Delmon Sewell (senior, running back/defensive line); Anthony Reaves (senior, quarterback); Engelbera Vela (senior, offensive line/linebacker); Aaron Watson (junior, defensive back); Daivd Palvshaj (junior, offensive line/defensive line)

AUBURN HILLS AVONDALE: Derrick Hinton (senior, running back/defensive back); Kobe Anthony (senior, running back/defensive back); Gatlin Coleman (senior, offensive line/defensive line); Baba Conata (senior, tight end/line-backer); Torey Coleman (junior, running back/linebacker); Chris Sawyers (senior, offensive line/linebacker); Ari Dotan (senior, quarterback/linebacker)

FERNDALE: Torian Belton (senior, offensive line/defensive line); Tre'jon Pickett (junior, running back); Donovan Pitts (senior, running back/linebacker); Angel Deray (junior, offensive line/defensive line); Antoine Brown (sophomore, defensive back); Dylan Martin (junior, linebacker); DeJuan Parkman (senior, defensive line)

ROYAL OAK: Cody Remick (senior, offensive line/defensive line); James Haser (junior, offensive line/defensive line); Joe Binkowski (senior, wide receiver/strong safety); Earle Weaver (junior, running back/defensive back); Connor Jackson (senior, running back/linebacker)

NORTH FARMINGTON: Jon Brunette (junior, inside linebacker/fullback/quarterback); Matt Corporan Cole (senior, free safety/tailback/return); Zach Wiggle (senior, center/nose tackle); Kevin Prabhakar (junior, inside linebacker); Myles Greshamn (junior, defensive back/tailback)

HAZEL PARK: Cam Wyatt (senior, wide receiver/defensive back); Noah Hallek (senior, offensive line/defensive line); RJ Best (senior, defensive line); Romel Smith (senior, defensive line)

BERKLEY: Evan Payne (senior, middle linebacker); Jeremiah Watkins (senior, running back); Justin Anagonye (junior, defensive tackle)

PONTIAC: Rudy Simpson (senior, linebacker/defensive line/running back); Moises DeJesus (senior, corner back/wide receiver); Tarah Hazard (sophomore, defensive line/tight end)

SPECIAL TEAMS: Justin Klotz (Seaholm, kicker); Mark Ardwin (Royal Oak, punter)

COACH OF THE YEAR: Jim DeWald (Birmingham Seaholm)

Contact Marty Budner at mbudner@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @MartyBudner.

Alsobrooks

Continued from Page 1B

year before, the Bulls captured the National Pastime 16-and-under championship in Louisville, Ky.

"We've always had a really, really good team and a lot of talented players," Alsobrooks said.

His fastball topped out at 89 mph last summer and he believes he has a higher ceiling.

"It's getting up there, it's getting there and I hope I can get it up to the 90s (mph) by next spring," said Alsobrooks, who throws four-seam and two-seam fastballs, along with a curveball, slider and a change-up.

Alsobrooks, who carries a 4.0 gradepoint average, is leaning toward something in the business world. He plans to study finance or accounting at CMU.

Meanwhile, his older brother Brian is the starting kicker-punter and a backup quarterback at California (Pa.) University, an NCAA Division II school.

Brian, a red-shirt junior transfer from Eastern Michigan, was named Co-Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Special Teams Player of the Week for Oct. 22 following a 23-0 win over Mercyburst

For the season, Brian made 9-of-13 field-goal attempts, booted 41-of-45 extra points and scored 68 points for the Vulcans (7-4). Just finishing his sophomore season after transferring from EMU, he has two more years of eligibility. (Drew was a kicker and punter for Churchill as well.)

Although two are separated by 330

miles, they remain in regular contact.

"Me and him are constantly talking, we talk about sports," Drew Alsobrooks said. "We talk about football, we talk about baseball, we talk about that stuff



Churchill's Drew Alsobrooks was a three-year starter at quarterback and set records in football, but he's headed to play baseball at Central Michigan University. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

all the time. We're really close. So we're always trying to make each other better,

And much the credit goes to his older brother.

"(Brian) definitely kind of got me to where I am. He was always encouraging me a lot, he was always pushing me and working with me," Drew said. "Even in baseball, he was always being there to play catch, help me hit."

The 6-foot-2, 210-pound Alsobrooks re-wrote some of the Churchill record books as a passer as he helped the Char-

gers to two straight Division 2 playoff berths and 16 wins.

The three-year varsity player threw for 40 career touchdowns and just under 4,000 yards. During his senior year, he passed for 1,846 yards and 20 TDs. He also rushed for more than 1,000 career yards, including 500 this season with six TDs.

Alsobrooks finished his career with 11 career field goals and averaged just shy of 40 yards per punt.

"Drew is one of the best we've had here," Churchill football coach Bill DeFillippo said of the two-year starter. "A talented player, tremendous competitor and great leader. Drew is a 4.0 student and has great character. I feel very fortunate to have coached Drew."

And with one more season of baseball, Churchill coach Ron Targosz is looking forward to seeing what Alsobrooks can bring for his senior season following an injury-plagued junior season due to a back issue.

"He tried to fight through it a little bit.
(I) actually shut him down," Targosz said. "In our regional game against Grosse Pointe South, he actually played the field, but didn't hit, so he played the outfield for us."

The back issue cropped up again during football season, but Alsobrooks was able to fight through it.

"We're hoping over the winter we can get healthy a little bit," Targosz said. "I'm hoping that he can return to form like we expect him to, because he'll be our No. 1 (pitcher) this year. He throws hard, but the main thing we have to do that we've been working on the past couple of winters is to develop a little bit more of an off-speed pitch, because he's got a pretty good fastball and slider. He throws in the mid-80s to high 80s on a good day ... but if we can get that change-up to 80-81 mph range instead of 84, it will make a big difference in keeping kids off-balance a little bit more.

But according to Targosz, there's no doubt that Alsobrooks has a big-time live arm.

"If we can get his control ... something where he's had five-, six-walk games to no-walk games, he's going to be even much better, obviously," he said.

Contact Brad Emons at bemons@hometownlife.com. Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmonsI.

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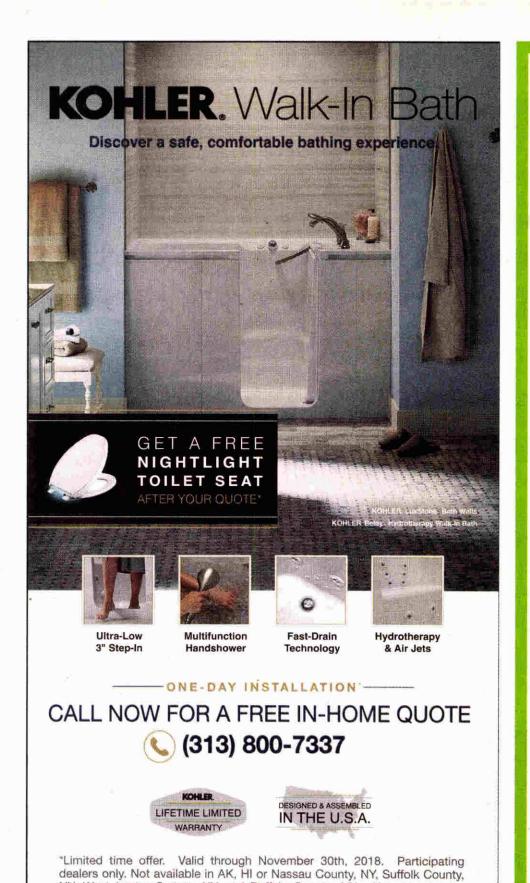
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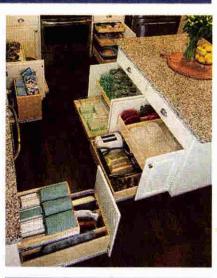


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New Single-family Homes in Ann Arbor with Ann Arbor Schools from \$399,995

National builder Toll Brothers rolls out two-story homes and a first-floor master design

National home builder Toll Brothers is proud to announce the addition of three new home designs starting from \$399,995 in the charming community of Trailwoods in Ann Arbor. Two single-family homes and a first-floor master home are now available and feature 2 to 4 bedrooms, open layouts, fabulous master suites, and well-appointed kitchens. "These designs offer open layouts, flexible space to fit your lifestyle, and comfortable living at an exceptional price," says Nadia Mekled, Regional Sales Manager for Toll Brothers.

first-floor The master design, the Westwood, has 2 to 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, first-floor flex space, and a second floor with a spacious loft, bedroom, and full bath perfect for guests, with 1,955 sq. ft. of living space. Pricing starts at \$419,955. "This design is perfect for those searching for single-level living where all your main rooms and master bedroom are on the first floor," says Ms. Mekled.

two-story homes, the Remington, starting at \$399,995, and the Winona, starting at \$429,995, range

from 2,123 to 2,585 sq. ft., 3 to 4 bedrooms, 2 to 31/2 baths, firstfloor flex space, second floor laundry room, and an open layout with a spacious kitchen with a large island and spacious pantry that opens to the family

taxes, and city water and sewer. Amenities include sidewalks on both sides of the street, a tenacre wooded nature area, and walking paths throughout.

For those searching for immediate or quick occupancy, Trailwoods has several homes



All homes at Trailwoods feature 42" upper cabinetry, granite countertops, Whirlpool stainless steel appliances, ceramic tile in master bath, and handsome trim details. In addition, each home offers hundreds of pre-priced options to personalize at the builder's new Design Studio in Plymouth.

The community is tucked into a gorgeous country setting in Ann Arbor with Ann Arbor schools, low Scio Township available. "If you are ready to move, you must visit and tour our quick occupancy homes you can move into a gorgeous new home in as soon as 60 days," says Ms. Mekled.

Two decorated model homes are open every day from 11 am to 6 pm. The community is located in Ann Arbor, west of Zeeb Road on the north side of Park Road. The address for GPS mapping is 229 S. Staebler Road. For more information on Trailwoods of Ann Arbor,

including floor plans, virtual tours, and directions, visit TrailwoodsOfAnnArbor.com or call (734) 995-5503.

Toll Brothers is also building two other locations in Ann Arbor. Low-Maintenance Resort Living

North Oaks of Ann Arbor is the region's premier resortclass community situated in a stunning 109-acre setting surrounded by towering trees and open meadows. Two collections of low-maintenance homes are available: Townhomes from the upper \$300,000s and Villas from the low \$500,000s. The Villas range from 2,041 to 2,631+ square feet and offer first- or second-floor master suites, island kitchens, open layouts, loft space, and more. The Townhomes range from 1,861 to 2,400+ sq. ft. and include a 2-car garage and the option to add a rooftop deck.

A stunning new three-story clubhouse features a fitness center, yoga room, billiards, great room with fireplace, verandas overlooking the lap and wading pools, locker rooms and a play park. North Oaks is exceptionally located just minutes from the University of

Michigan's north campus, the VA Hospital, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, and downtown Ann Arbor. Children attend acclaimed Ann Arbor Schools with the elementary and middle schools just 3 minutes away. For details, call 734-224-6686 or visit North-Oaks.com.

Last Chance for Villas

Kensington Woods is located on the north side of Scio Church Road, west of Maple Road in Ann Arbor and just minutes from the University of Michigan. A limited number of low maintenance luxury villas are available with an exceptional list of included features and quick occupancy. "We have sold so quickly because buyers love the location and the luxury Villa homes we

are offering," says Ms. Mekled. Six Villas are available and priced from \$470,995. The sales center is located at Toll Brothers' Trailwoods of Ann Arbor community located at 229 S. Staebler Road. For more information and to schedule a home tour, call (734) 995-5503 or visit Kensington-Woods.

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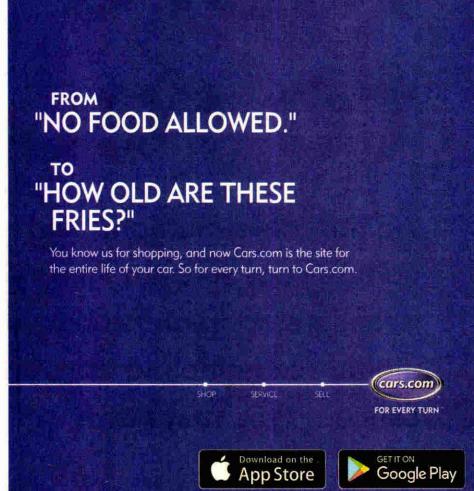
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 63 "Serpico" 10 Wise men 48 Part to play 100 Mean beast 1 "Everwood" actor M. -124 Brit's "Bye!" 11 Air pollution 49 Bullring cries 102 "Doggone!" actor Wolf Walsh 128 Ye -12 Reid and 50 Observe 104 Totally spoil 6 Pigs' home 65 * Jumping Shoppe Lipinski 53 R&D center 105 Century up and down 129 Rendezvous 13 "Seinfeld" gal 9 Dutch brew 54 Song for two divs. 15 - of Mexico on a bouncy 130 Really 14 Nielsen of 58 Singer Dylan 106 Dark 19 * Ship's load succeed (or "Mr. Magoo" stick 59 Opposed to, modern film 69 Comb buzzer what literally 20 Lead-in to 15 Ghana's in dialect genre 60 Theater box 108 Breakdown historic 70 Native suffix appears six former name 21 Durango dish 71 See 8-Down times in this 16 Dickens' — 62 Orderly of social 22 Baseball's 73 * Pairs of puzzle) Heep 64 Floor piece norms consecutive 132 Old Greek 17 "- tell ya!" 109 Long-term Hershiser 66 Tax org. 23 * Subject to letters concert halls 18 Dental string **67** Election inmates 75 Spying setup 133 Shahs, e.g. analyst Silver 112 Download on interpretation 24 It uses 108 25 * Old Greek 134 Shoot (for) 68 FBI guys 77 Likely (to) cards a Kindle 135 Sermon text 29 ln squares 80 Meadow 72 Umps' kin 113 Radner of 26 "Stretch" car 82 Birds building 136 Philosopher (single-file) 74 — Lanka comedy 27 Steak, e.g. 30 Gillette razor 76 Oklahoma homes Immanuel 114 Nash of 28 Prefix with 84 Poster pins 137 Grand home brand tribe comedy 77 "Moby-Dick" 115 "My heart lethal 88 Buzzina 138 Hosp. staff 31 Toon bear 29 * Second skipped home pest 139 Sea vessels 32 Canon captain 117 Weaving U.S. first lady 78 Flow out 91 Large 1940s camera DOWN 31 At a distance computer 34 Compound 79 Fix a flat? frames 1 Union enemy 33 Tattles 93 "Huh?" with nitrogen 81 Height: 118 Driver's lic. 34 * Chum 94 Female kin 2 Arrived 35 '83 Keaton-Abbr. issuer 38 Give slack to 95 Artist's base 3 "Eat -Garr film 83 Former 120 Sicilian 42 Son of Eliel 99 * Suffer a lot eaten" 36 Letter-Swedish car volcano 101 Dog variety Saarinen (survival shaped 85 Toddler, e.g. 121 Night, adage) 86 Buzzing 103 * She 43 * Dr. Evil's airder in Nice directed "The cat in Austin 4 9-to-5er's cry 37 Easy putts, musical toy 122 - dixit Powers films Hurt Locker" of relief informally 87 Is in a huff (assertion 107 - Sea (salt 47 1801-05 5 Dress (up) 39 Weep loudly 89 Source of with no 6 Flatware item warmth on veep Burr lake in Asia) 40 Sooner than, proof) 51 Beatles song 110 Coy 7 Move as if on some trains 124 Song for in poetry on "Let It Be" 111 Revisions wheels 41 Ultimate and ships three 52 Observe 112 * Too much 8 With degree 90 Belly laugh 125 "Waterloo" 55 Song for one self-esteem 71-Across. 44 Health 92 Special FX quartet technology 56 Linguist 116 Beloved of boot camp supplement **126** Lean Chomsky Tristan affirmative 96 Poppa 127 Gets mature store, 57 Political plot 119 * Bay off familiarly 97 Native suffix 130 Rove 9 Run up 45 Jump 61 Knight's Nigeria and — (defer 98 Unit of (about) 131 Flow out glove Togo's coast payment) **46** Pig resistance 10 13 16 20 19 21 22 23 25 26 28 29 30 31 33 35 42 43 45 49 50 52 55 53 56 59 61 78 79 80 86 88 93 94 99 101 104 105 106 102 103 107 108 109 117 118 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131

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

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135

SUDOKU

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

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

S -N S ICSSX H P 0 T U OEMIT

WORDS

ADVANTAGE AGGREGATE BALL **BOX** CLEAR CYCLE DEAD DEFENDER FIELD **GOALKEEPER GOALMOUTH** GUARD HEAD KICK KICKER NATIONAL OFFENDER PENALTY PITCH **PLAYERS** PUNT REFEREE RUNNING SCISSOR SCORE **SCORELINES** SHUTOUT SOCCER

STATISTICS TACKLE TEND

> THREAT TIMEOUT

TRANSFER

UNIFORM

REFEREEH 0 ANSWER KEY

	-	_	_	_		-	-	_	
2	Þ	1	9	ļ	8	9	6	3	
8	9	9	6	5	3	L	Þ	1	
7	3	9	Þ	9	2	6	L	8	1
6	5	8	9	3	L	1	9	Þ	
Þ	9	1	8	1	6	2	3	9	
9	l	2	3	8	Ŀ	Þ	9	6	
3	L	Þ	2	6	9	9	8	L	1
9	8	6	1	7	9	3	L	5	

168/97879

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133

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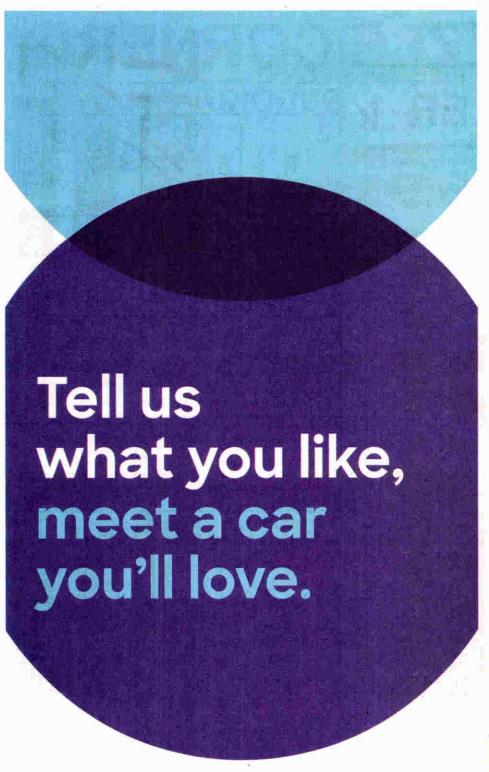
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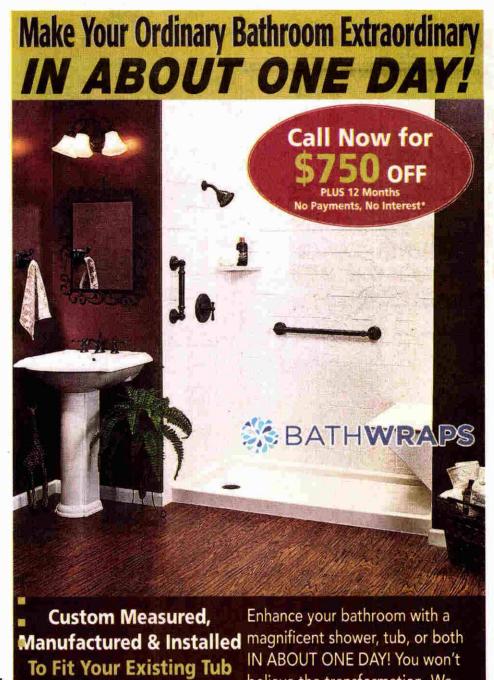
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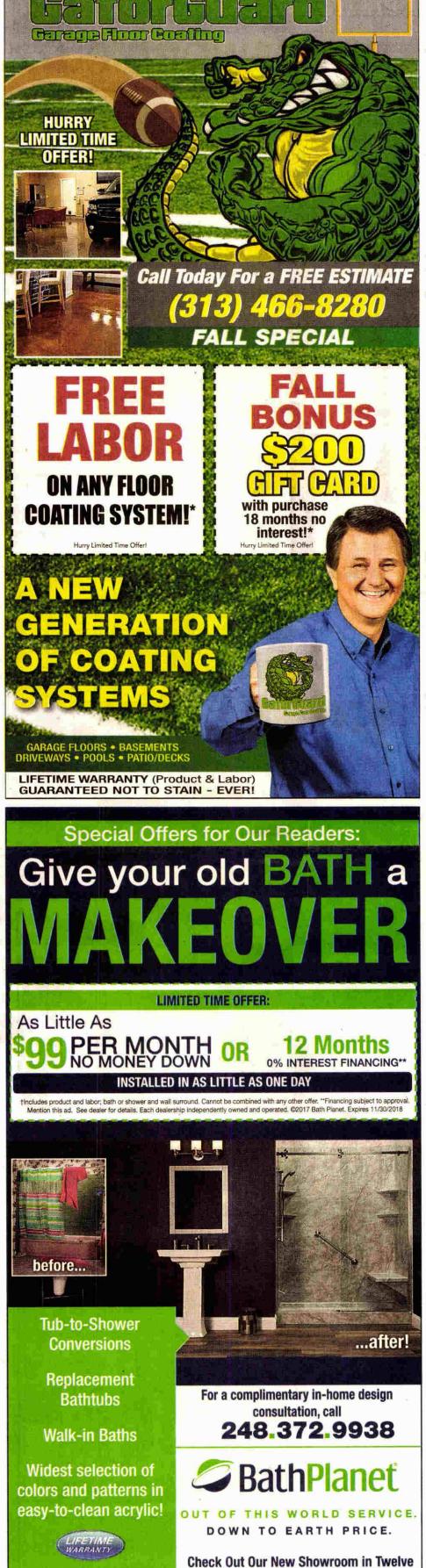
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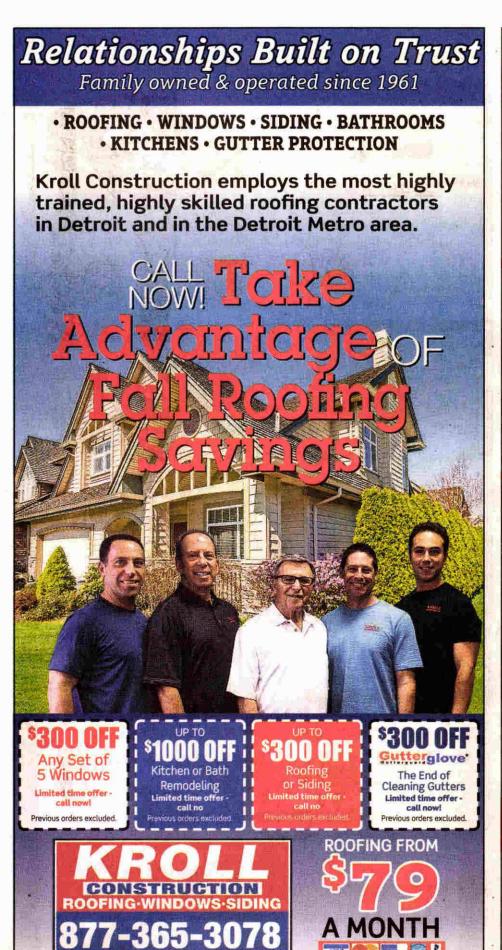
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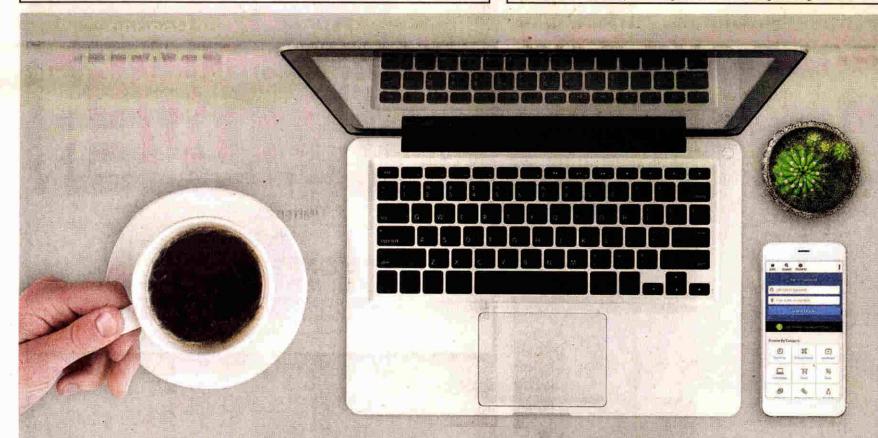
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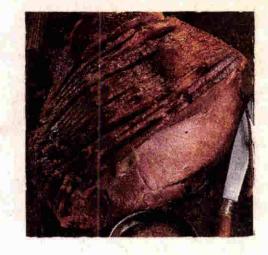


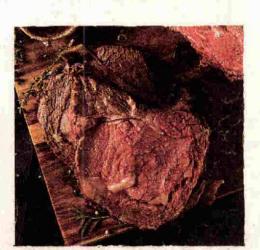


turkey + Ham meals come cooked and ready to heat, in oven-safe containers, with instructions provided.

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- Whipped Sweet Potatoes
- · Cheesy Potatoes
- » Roasted Red Skin Potatoes
- . Roasted Pesto + Kale
- . Red Skin Potatoes
- · Maple Glazed yams
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