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# OBSERVER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2019 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Schoolcraft offering classes on flying drones

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Did Santa Claus leave you a fancy new quadcopter drone under the Christmas tree this year? If so, get ready for some learning before you send that drone flying into the sky alongside St. Nick and his reindeer next year.

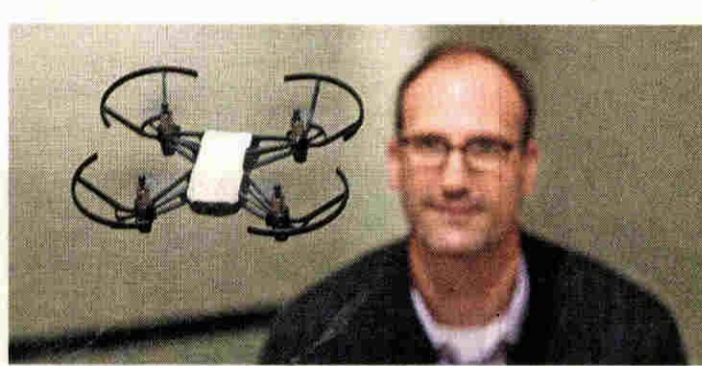
Luckily, there's a way to get all the basics down in 2019 before you begin cap-

turing that footage: head back to college.

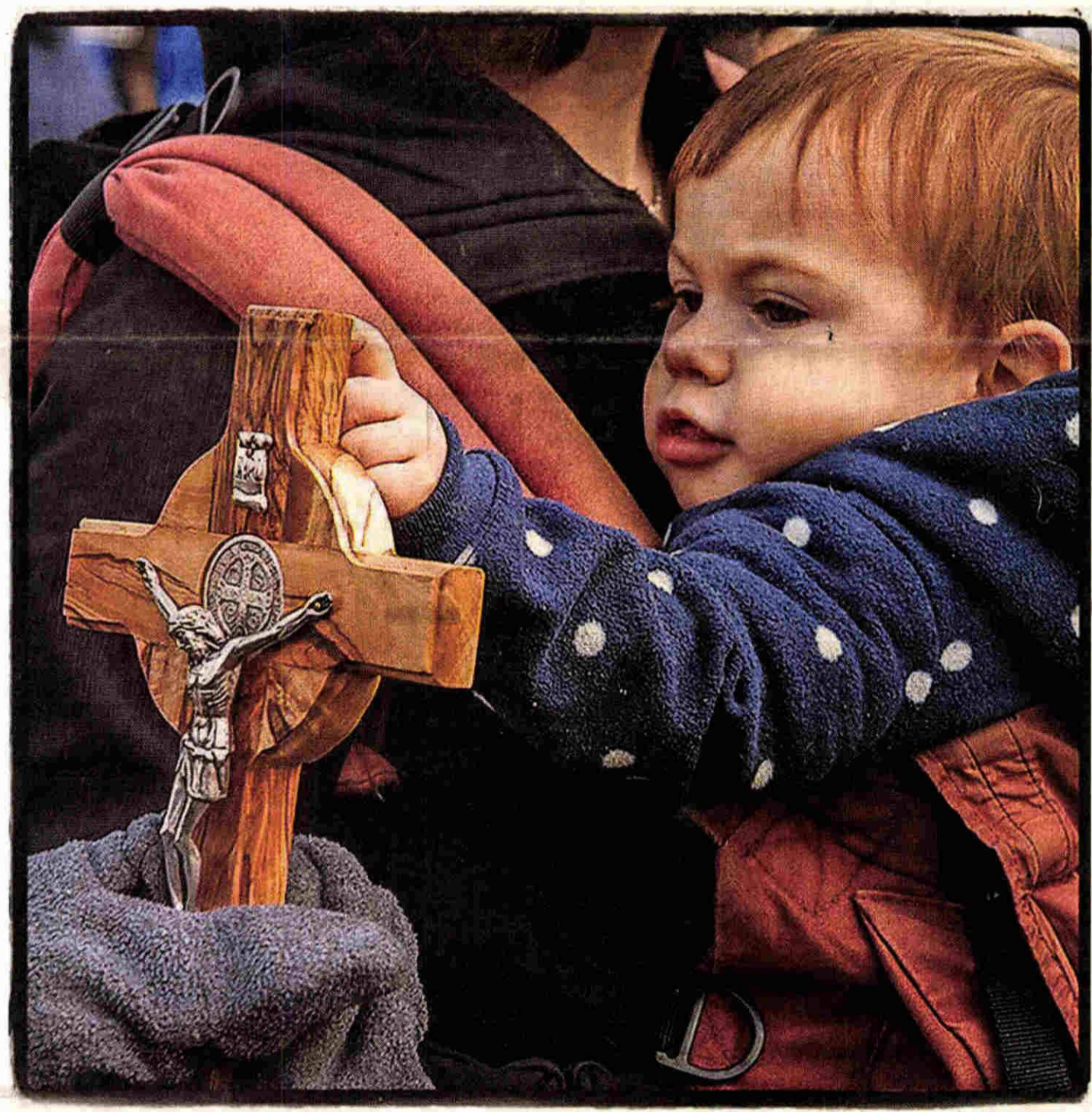
Schoolcraft College will offer two courses in early 2019 for those looking to learn more about flying drones as a hobby or as a potential career path.

"There's a lot of rules for flying it just for fun," said Chris Meyer, a Farmington Hills resident who teaches the class designed for hobbyists looking to have fun

See DRONES, Page 4A



**Chris Meyer flies a small drone indoors. His class is for the drone novice.** BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



One-year-old Eamon Kovacs touches a crucifix held by a Planned Parenthood clinic protester. Eamon is held by his mother, Elizabeth Kovacs. Livonia, Michigan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE

## Hometown Life staffers answer call for early retirements

**Dan Dean**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Eleven journalists with more than 350 years of combined experience are leaving the Hometown Life staff in 2019 as they accepted early retirement offers from Gannett Co., Inc., Hometown's parent company.

That's a lot of experience and passion for journalism leaving Hometown Life, which publishes daily at hometownlife.com and in print with five weekly and five twice-weekly papers.

The change will be hard, for both the retiring journalists and their colleagues who remain at Hometown. New journalists will be hired to replace some of those retiring. The number and timing of those hires is unknown.

"Hometown Life plays an incredible role in the communities it serves," said Stephanie Angel, state editor for the USA TODAY NETWORK — Michigan, which includes Hometown Life. "We'll miss these incredibly talented and dedicated journalists as they move on to their new adventures. At the same time, Hometown will continue to pursue meaningful community journalism."

Familiar and trusted names in local journalism will be missed. Retiring are: photographer Bill Bresler, sports editor Marty Budner, reporter Darrell Clem, reporter Sharon Dargay, content strategist Dan Dean, copy editor Bill Emerick, sports editor Brad Emmons, reporter Matt Jachman, editor Brad Kadrich, reporter Tim Smith and reporter LeAnne Rogers.

While the landscape of journalism and its delivery has been changing for years, what we do has not changed. As the newsroom leader at Hometown Life, I could not be more proud of the work of these dedicated professionals.

From an online perspective, our work over the past 24 months has been incredible. We are delivering more stories people want to read in a more timely fashion. We are leaving with Hometown Life on an upward trajec-

See STAFFERS, Page 6A

## Final Instagram review from Bill Bresler's lens

Staff photographer Bill Bresler uses the Instagram social media app to share his photographs. The photos are posted to Instagram and sometimes shared to his Facebook account. While many of the photos are made on assignment for HometownLife.com and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, he's always

looking for moments and scenes that will work with the app. Some of the photos are made with the iPhone. Others are made with Bresler's professional camera equipment and imported into Instagram.

This is the fourth and final year of publishing Bresler's Instagram Year in

Review. Find more photos online at hometownlife.com.

Bresler has photographed for 39 years for the O&E. He retired this week. To join his Instagram feed, search for bbresler.

See REVIEW, Page 5A

## Ring in 2019 by attending one of these events

**David Veselenak**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

How are those New Year's resolutions holding up?

It's only been a few days, but hopefully you're still hanging on. Whether it's hit the gym more or read a few more books, it's a great time of year to re-evaluate and make adjustments.

Perhaps your resolution is to get out more and see the sights right here at home? Then you've come to the right place. It's still fairly quiet after the holidays, but there are a few events happening this weekend worth checking out. Here are three across the Hometown Life area happening this weekend.

### 100 Days to Health kickoff in Livonia

It has to be the most popular resolution: let's get healthier this year. Thanks to the good folks at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center, you can do just that beginning Sunday.

The annual 100 Days to Health kickoff event takes place at 9 a.m. Sunday at the rec center, 15100 Hubbard, in Livonia. The kickoff event will feature speakers, raffle prizes, refreshments and free workouts for those who attend. Going forward, participants can sign up for the 100 Days to Health program, which includes classes, workout days on Fridays and more.

Participants can also sign up for the weight loss challenge, which takes place over the first 100 days of the year. Those who lose the most can win prizes and more. Last year, participants lost 264 pounds, with the winner losing 21 pounds.

For more information, contact the rec center at 734-466-2900 or livoniaparks.org.

### Bridal show in Novi

If your significant other popped the question over the holidays, it's time to start planning for that dream wedding. Luckily, there's just the event happening this weekend in Novi.

The Novi Bridal Show returns Saturday and Sunday to the Suburban Collec-

tion Showplace, 46100 Grand River, for those looking to plan their ultimate dream nuptials. The show will include fashion shows, exhibits, prizes and plenty more.

The show runs from noon to 5 p.m. both days. Tickets are \$15 at the door, which does not include parking. For more information, go to novibridalexpo.com.

### Group workout party in Westland

If a big group workout is how you'd like to ring in the new year, Westland is the place to be this weekend.

Corey Sims, who owns D-SKO Fitness in Canton, will host a group workout party at Bodies By Wade, 34580 Ford Road, in Westland's Wildwood Plaza. The event, taking place at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, will feature underground music with group fitness, with plenty of hyped-up music.

The event is free, though Sims expects future events, also happening Sunday evenings, to cost a small fee. Those interested and to register for the event at Bodies By Wade or for more on D-SKO Fitness, go to dskofitness.club or call 734-578-5084.

Contact David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @david-veselenak.

## Suspected eyeglasses thief charged in Westland

**Matt Jachman**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Tips from the public led police to a man now accused of snatching a pair of \$2,600 designer eyeglasses from another man's face at a Westland gas station.

Javon Hardy of Detroit was arraigned Dec. 28 in 18th District Court, charged with one count each of unarmed robbery, larceny from a person and larceny over \$1,000. Not-guilty pleas were entered for him and Magistrate David Wiacek set a bond of \$100,000 cash or surety.



Hardy

Hardy, 23, is scheduled for a Thursday, Jan. 10, probable cause conference in district court.

The Nov. 4 theft of the Cartier-brand glasses was captured on a security video at the BP gas station at Wayne and Warren roads.

Video shows a man walking up behind the victim, who was waiting in the station's checkout line, and grabbing at his face; the victim follows and attempts to stop him.

A brief struggle followed the theft, police said, resulting in damage to gas station property. The robber was able to run to a vehicle outside, which left the scene, police said. The victim was not seriously hurt.

Hardy had been identified as a suspect earlier in December after media outlets published the BP security video.

Westland Sgt. Robert Wilkie said police caught up to him when police in Farmington Hills recently conducted an unrelated traffic stop on a vehicle in which Hardy was riding. Hills officers, aware of the incident, detained him, and Westland officers arrested him there, Wilkie said.



Participants get a workout with underground music and club-style lighting with D-SKO Fitness.

### hometownlife.com

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Afterhours, leave voicemail  
Email: [custserv@hometownlife.com](mailto:custserv@hometownlife.com)

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<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><i>Jeppola</i> <b>NUTTY TEFF GRANOLA</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><b>\$6.99</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><small>Reg. \$9.99</small></p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><i>Fage</i> <b>GREEK YOGURT</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><b>8/\$10</b></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;"><small>Reg. \$1.69 / 5.3-7 Oz.</small></p>

# Farmington's Founder Festival to move to park

Sharon Dargay  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Dennis Page is banking on bands, dinner specials and his famed ox roast sandwiches to help draw patrons to his restaurant during Greater Farmington Founders Day Festival, July 18-21.

Drumming up business for Page's Food & Spirits always has been a breeze during the event in previous years since it sits right downtown. But with nearly all of the festival action — from the beer tent to entertainment — moving to Shiawassee Park in 2019, Page is brainstorming ways to keep up momentum.

"In the past years it's been the busiest week of the year for my business," said Page, from his seat at the bar on a recent afternoon. "People would come here to eat before going to the beer tent, after going to the beer tent. If you're going to take it to the park it's obviously not going to help businesses here if it's a mile away in the park.

"My plan is to take care of my business and do what's best for Page's. I'm going to have a big party here on Friday and Saturday night during the festival."

Page, whose restaurant is located on Farmington Road approximately a half-mile to the park, is among business owners who oppose the decision to move the festival from downtown. The Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce, which runs the festival, held children's events and Fido Fest dog activities at Shiawassee Park last year, while maintaining musical entertainment and a beer tent in the parking lot at the Downtown Farmington Center on Grand River Avenue and Farmington Road. Art and crafts vendor booths were stationed on Farmington Road, south of State Street.

Next year all but the parade on Grand River will be held in the park. A section of Shiawassee Road from Power to Farmington Road will be closed.

Farmington City Council unanimously approved the Chamber's special event application earlier this month.

Mary Martin, Chamber president, said the park is "logistically good" for a full festival, including entertainment and a beer tent. She told city officials that the children's activities and canine events were successful last year and that sponsors were interested in con-



Kendra Mantey, co-owner of The Cheese Lady, says the Founders Day Festival didn't generate many customers for her store. SHARON DARGAY | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

centrating all activities at one site, strengthening the festival's exposure. She also noted that public safety costs would decrease with all activities in one place and parking would be freed up in the downtown shopping center. Farmington Road downtown also would remain open.

"Certainly, the beer tent is a draw in the evening, but in the day people are looking for entertainment. People are looking for things to do, not necessarily to buy things," she said, during a recent phone interview.

"Some of our members have closed during the festival because patrons can't park easily. Others are more concerned about the lack of foot traffic. Fresh Thyme is one of our members. The impact to them is significant. They had to cut back on staff and throw out product. They appreciate the fact that moving the festival will open up parking."

## Mixed reaction

At Joe's Headquarters on Farmington Road north of State Street, hairstylist Brandy Gregg voiced her support for moving the festival to Shiawassee Park. She said some of her clients cancelled appointments during the event when it was held downtown because they couldn't find parking in the area.

Joe and Kendra Mantey, owners of The Cheese Lady, located on the east

side of the Downtown Farmington Center, said the festival neither helped nor hurt their business.

"One the one hand you hopefully have some new people come in and that theoretically leads to more business later. But on the other hand there was no place to park. They used up an awful lot of the parking lot to hold the festival," Joe Mantey said.

"It didn't seem like it brought in that much traffic," added Kendra Mantey. "And it's always the hottest weekend of the year. Nobody wants to walk around with cheese. It's just going to melt. They'll come in and taste and say it's too hot to take it. The first year we were here we tried to get involved. We put all the textiles out there — nothing."

Kristy Libby has worked festival weekends at Farmington Center Florist, which is located on the west end of the shopping center. She said the event generated new customers for the store.

"We get a lot of people coming in that didn't know we were here," she said.

Greg Cowley, a former DDA member, former councilman, and owner of John Cowley & Sons Irish Pub & Restaurant, criticized the move in a statement posted on the restaurant website. He wrote that holding the festival in Shiawassee Park would cost downtown businesses revenue and over time would downgrade the event.

## Beer tent

"My biggest objection is restaurants are going to pay the price for the moving of the beer tent to the park. They'll fill the place with food trucks. All that revenue going to food trucks. That is not economic development," he said.

"The founders festival is a brand of the city of Farmington. You don't outsource that to a third party to manage and you don't move it out of the downtown. It's a downtown festival."

He accused the city council and Downtown Development Authority of abdicating their responsibility by allowing the Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with an events production company, to produce the festival.

According to DDA Director Kate Knight, a nonprofit organization ran the festival before the DDA took it on in 2009, handing management to the Chamber in 2014. She said the event became "overwhelming" for her predecessor and DDA staff.

"There are no downtown development authorities that run big events. That's not the way it works any more. It's not part of what DDAs do. Either you're going to do economic development and downtown development, capital projects or you're going to be a party planner," she said.

"Would we host events? Absolutely. Downtowns are an obvious venue for bringing people together. We'll help facilitate. We'll help host. But I can either work on capital projects or I can take applications for peanut vendors."

Knight said the festival is a perfect time for downtown businesses to create their own special activities, such as a sidewalk sale or party tent. Miller encourages restaurants to participate in the park or run shuttle buses from the park to downtown.

"Even if people are coming to Shiawassee Park, they are coming home to Farmington," Knight said. "It's a homecoming tradition. What are you doing to bring them into your business?"

Miller said the Chamber is in discussion with Our Lady of Sorrows and Farmington Public Schools for use of parking lots at the church and Farmington High School. Final plans will be announced closer to the event.

## LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS 15125 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA, MI 48154-5474 (734) 744-2500

The Livonia Public Schools Board of Education is accepting firm prime contractor bids for all labor, material, equipment and all other services to complete:

### Niji-Iro Elementary School - Interior Renovations - Re-Bid (Roofing, Hard Tile and Visual Displays)

Plans and specifications may be obtained electronically via Pipeline Suites through AUCH Construction and are available for review at the office of AUCH Construction, 65 University Drive, Pontiac, MI 48342 248.334.2000, on or after Tuesday, **December 4th, 2018**. The bidding documents consist of plans and specifications as prepared by French Associates. Complete sets of printed documents may be purchased from ARC Document Solutions, 1009 W. Maple St., Clawson, Michigan 248-288-5600 or email michigan.troy@e-arc.com.

The envelope bearing your proposal must identify your company and the proposal being bid and addressed to the attention of Phillip Francis, Director of Operations, Livonia Public Schools Central Office, 15125 Farmington Rd., Livonia, MI 48154. Bids must be delivered no later than **12:00 noon, January 8th, 2019** to the Livonia Public Schools Central Office (address above), Attn: Phillip Francis, Director of Operations. Bids will not be accepted at the AUCH Construction office. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms furnished by the construction manager and must be completed in full. Each proposal shall be sealed in an opaque envelope and marked with the name of the bidder. Livonia Public Schools is not liable for any delivery or postal delays.

A Bid bond executed by a **U.S. Treasury listed surety company** acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Livonia Public Schools shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of \$24,459. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a meeting convened at the Livonia Administrative Offices starting at **12:30pm on January 8th, 2019**.

Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of the Bond shall be included in each proposal.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board or Superintendent of the Avondale School District. All bids must be accompanied by a signed and notarized statement to comply with the Iran Economic Sanctions Act of 2012 and Equal Opportunity Statement. Forms are included in the bid proposals.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract 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 owner.

Phillip Francis, Director of Operations Livonia Public Schools  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48154-5474

**"Niji-Iro - Interior Renovations - Re-Bid"**

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# Drones

Continued from Page 1A

with drones. "In the last eight years, they've really hit the ground running."

The classes, which are offered through the Livonia-based college's continuing education program, began this past fall with great success. Meyer said his hobbyist class had about 50 percent of students who had never touched a drone before.

In addition to the hobby class, the college also offers a prep class for those interested in becoming a commercial drone flier. Anyone flying drones for commercial use — be it for a construction company, wedding videography or more — needs certification from the Federal Aviation Administration. That certification is gained through passing the Part 107 exam, which the class taught by Canton resident Zak Wilson prepares students for.

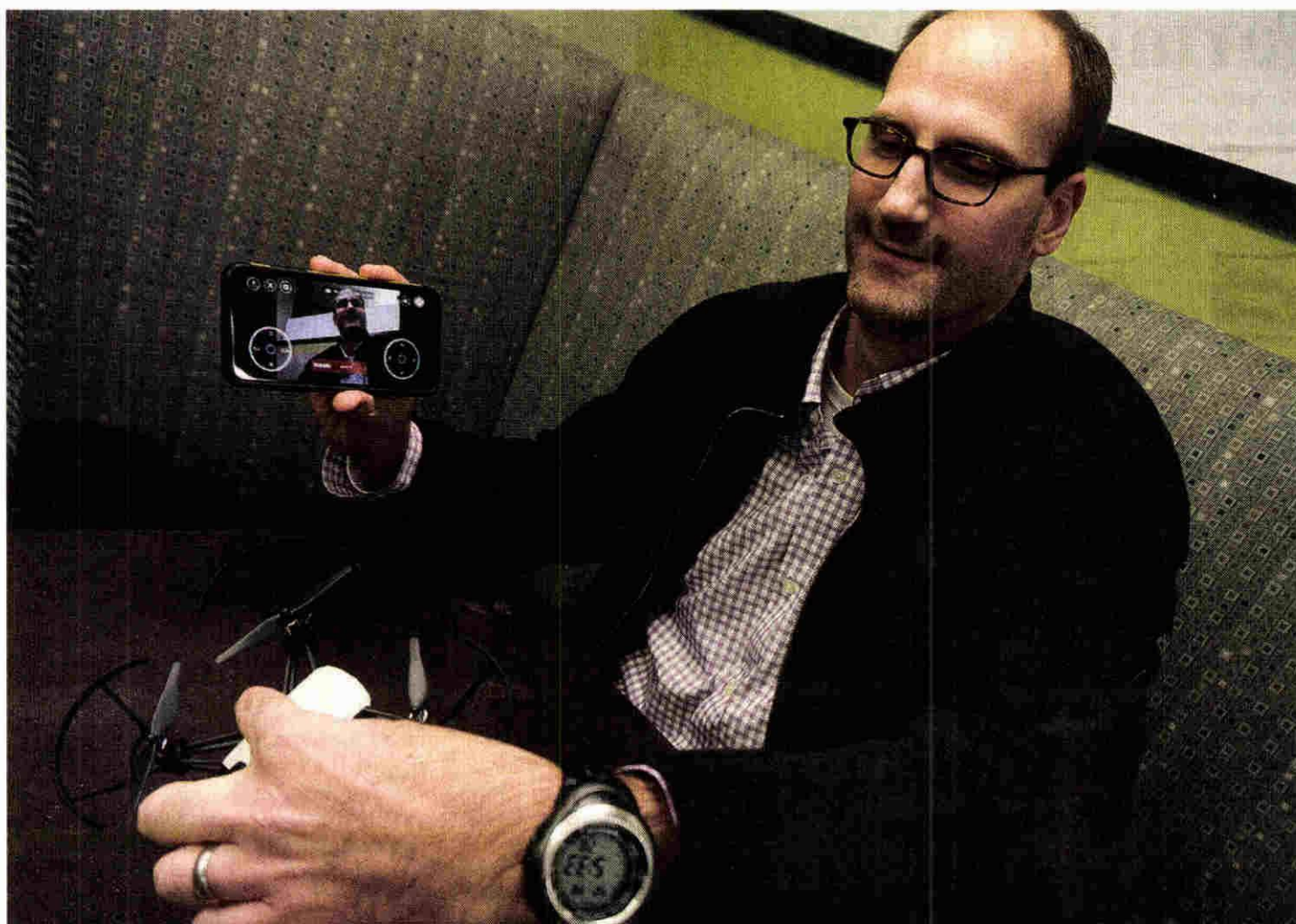
Such classes are worthwhile, Meyer said, because of the drastic spike in the increase of flying such unmanned aircraft in the United States in recent years.

"Before quadcopters, the model aircraft were hard to build, hard to fly, it kind of kept the amount of those in the air down," Meyer said. "Now, everyone can fly and we're seeing an abundance of them."

"The public needs to understand what could happen if they break the rules and how to operate safely."

It's important to follow federal laws and guidelines when it comes to flying drones, Meyer said. Not following all the correct steps can land an unauthorized drone pilot with fines as high as \$27,000.

The two classes offered have gone well enough that Wilson and Meyer hope to expand the courses into a certificate program students can enroll in to



Chris Martin shows the drone camera view on his smartphone app. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

show prospective employers their skills. That program is still a ways away.

"It's just creating a wide-spectrum approach where you can have a student go through and get their base 107 so they know they're legal so they know they have the skills to fly legally and commercially and then allowing them to take other courses that will be accreditations to their proficiency with a UAV," Wilson said. "And then build that into an actual certificate that they can take to a

prospective employer."

The hobbyist course has a section that's full in January, but has opening for its February offering. That course consists of six hours of instruction, sometimes broken up into two, three-hour courses. Registration for that class is \$99 or \$79.20 for seniors.

The Part 107 exam prep course will be offered in March and still has seats open. That course meets for three hours a week for four weeks. The course fee is \$229 or \$183.20 for seniors.

Both classes take place at Schoolcraft College's main campus, off Haggerty in Livonia.

Students looking to jump into the drone hobby get acclimated to everything they need to do once they take the class. But learning it all can be a shock to those who just simply think they can launch an unmanned aircraft into the sky.

"They have no idea," Meyer said. "And they're shocked when I tell them



Zak Wilson's class is oriented to those who want FAA certification to use their drones for commercial applications. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

all the different things they need to think about before you do take it up in the air the first time."

Contact David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

**WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
Study Session  
Record of Attendance  
1/1/2018 - 12/31/2018

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council members at study sessions is published for the year 2018.

Councilperson	No. of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
Tasha L. Green	22	22	100%
James R. Godbout	22	22	100%
Adam Hammons	22	19	86%
Jim Hart	22	22	100%
Peter Herzberg	22	22	100%
Bill Johnson	22	20	91%
Michael Londeau	22	21	95%

Richard LeBlanc  
Westland City Clerk

Publish: January 3, 2019 LO-0000348186 3x3

**WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
Council Meeting  
Record of Attendance  
1/1/2018 - 12/31/2018

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council members at regular and special meetings is published for the year 2018.

Councilperson	No. of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
Tasha L. Green	24	24	100%
James R. Godbout	24	23	96%
Adam Hammons	24	23	96%
Jim Hart	24	24	100%
Peter Herzberg	24	24	100%
Bill Johnson	24	23	96%
Michael Londeau	24	23	96%

Richard LeBlanc  
Westland City Clerk

Publish: January 3, 2019 LO-0000348186 3x3

**Advertisement for Bids**

Wayne Westland Community Schools, will receive competitive sealed bids for:

**DISTRICT NETWORK RENOVATIONS**  
VARIOUS SITES

Bid proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: January 24, 2019  
Time: 3:00 p.m. EST  
Place: Board of Education  
Wayne-Westland Community Schools  
36745 Marquette  
Westland, MI 48185

Attn: Stacy L. Witt, Assistant Superintendent of Business, Maintenance and Operations RFP – District Network Renovations

All project bids should be submitted in accordance with the Owner's written bid specifications.

The bid specifications may be obtained December 21, 2018 or thereafter by contacting the Owner's Technology Consultant, Communications by Design, Inc. ([rszilagy@cbdconsulting.com](mailto:rszilagy@cbdconsulting.com)) or the website of the School and Libraries Division of USAC (<http://www.usac.org/sl/>).

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. The Iran Economic Sanctions Act Compliance Form must be included as well. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include both of these statements, which are included.

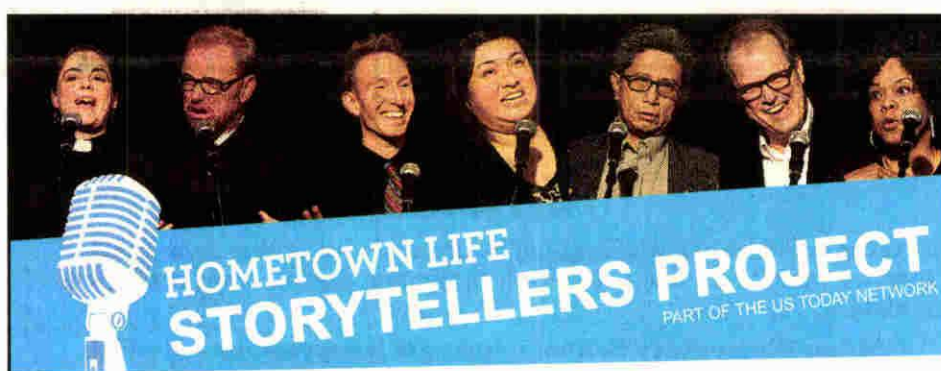
An on-site bidders meeting will be held:

Date: January 10, 2019  
Time: 3:00 p.m. EST  
Place: Board of Education  
Wayne-Westland Community Schools  
36745 Marquette  
Westland, MI 48185

Questions should be directed to Communications by Design, Inc. ([rszilagy@cbdconsulting.com](mailto:rszilagy@cbdconsulting.com)).

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

Publish: January 3, 2019 LO-0000348187 3x5



## "Romance"

Dating in the digital age can be exhausting, exhilarating and downright crazy. Join us as we explore live, first-person stories about dating apps, true love and everything in between.

February 12, 2019 • 6:00 to 8:30pm  
Michigan Beer Company  
42875 Grand River Avenue/Suite 104 in Novi

**Tickets on sale NOW!**

The event is open to the community for \$10 per person in advance; \$12 at the door.

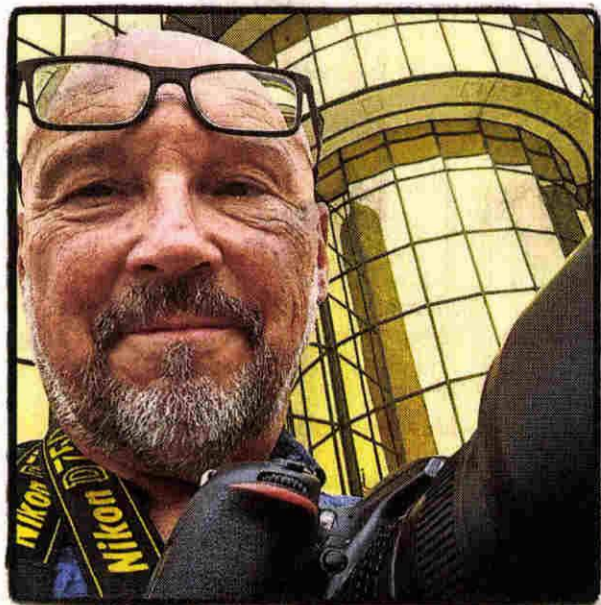
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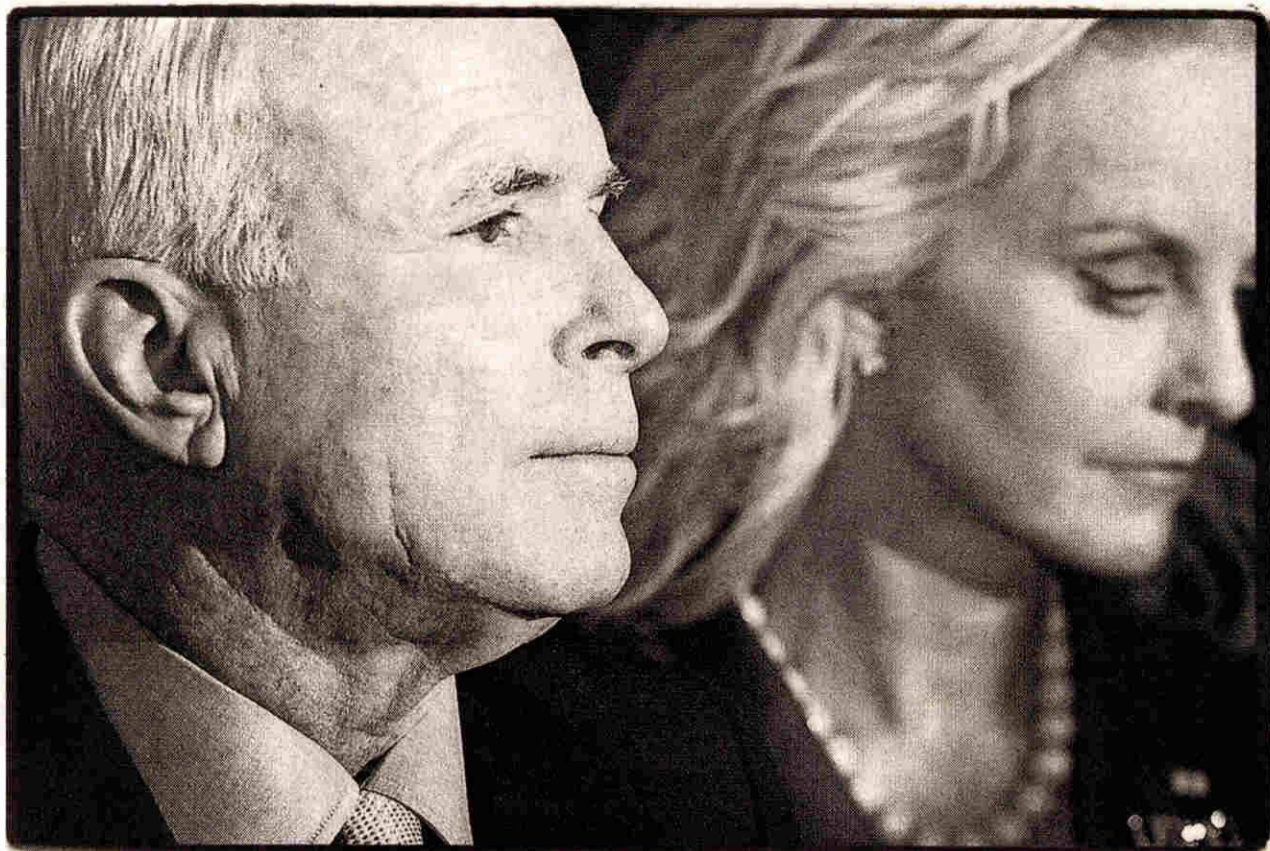
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# Review

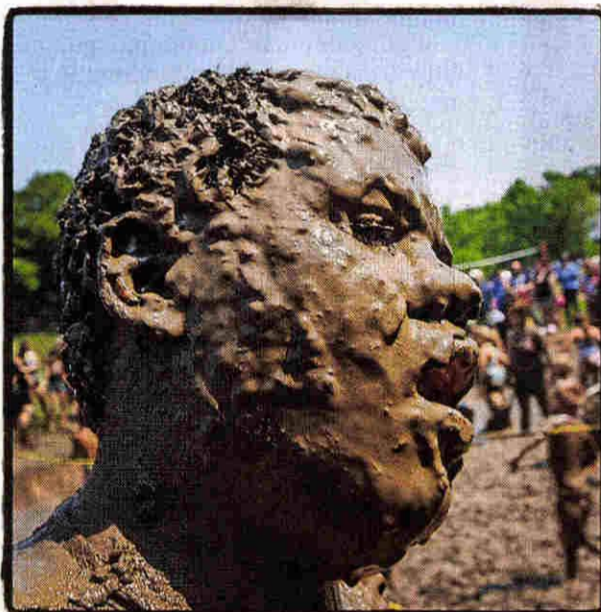
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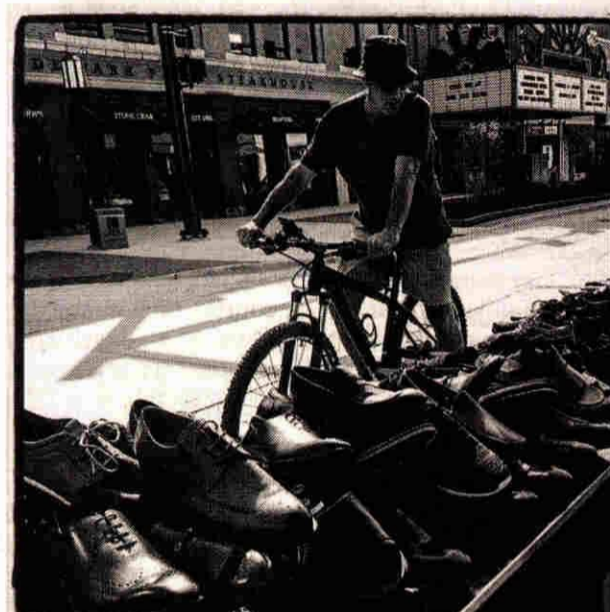
Photographer Bill Bresler, Selfie Day, Livonia, Michigan. This is the last Instagram Year In Review for me. On Jan. 2, 2019, after 39 years at the Observer & Eccentric/Hometownlife.com, I will be leaving to begin a new chapter in my life. Thank you. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



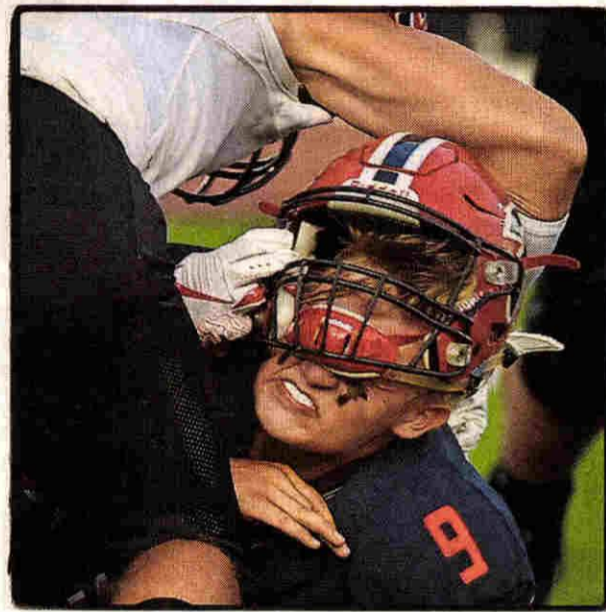
Sen. John McCain died Aug. 25, 2018. Running for president in 2000, McCain and wife Cindy McCain made a stop at Senate Coney Island on Plymouth Road in Livonia. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE



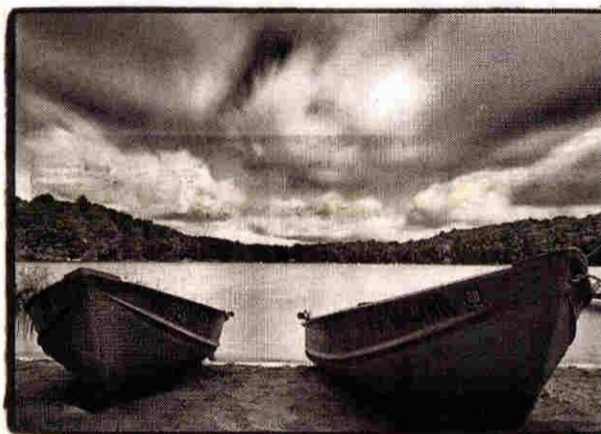
Mud Day, Hines Park, Westland, Michigan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE



Sidewalk sale, Birmingham, Michigan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE



Ball carrier Jacob Robinson almost loses his helmet when hit by Churchill defense. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE



Vacation time, up north, Michigan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE



Tight turn, Livonia, Michigan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE

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Most of the retiring Hometown Life journalists pose with Consumer Experience Director Phil Allmen, who is not retiring. Pictured in front are: Dan Dean and Bill Bresler; standing behind them are LeAnne Rogers (left), Phil Allmen and Bill Emerick; in back are Darrell Clem, Marty Budner, Matt Jachman, Sharon Dargay and Brad Emons. Also retiring but not pictured are Brad Kadrich and Tim Smith. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM, BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Staffers

Continued from Page 1A

tory that I believe will continue with Consumer Experience Director Phil Allmen and reporters Ed Wright and David Veselenak anchoring a new newsroom.

I know I speak for the majority of us that it has been an incredible journey. Some of us will now get to do what we have always joked about — find a real job



Kadrich



Smith

when we grow up. It is hard to believe we got paid all these years to do what we truly loved and believed in.

Thank you to all who have contributed to our success with your advertising dollars, contributions, ideas, support and trust. Support for our future news-

room is as important as ever.

Dan Dean is content strategist for Hometown Life. His last day is Feb. 1. He can be reached until then at [ddean@hometownlife.com](mailto:ddean@hometownlife.com). News tips, letters and press releases should still be sent to [LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com](mailto:LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com).

## AREA EVENTS

Send calendar items to [LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com](mailto:LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com). Items must be received at least two weeks prior to the event.

### Livonia Garden Club

The Livonia Garden Club will hold its next meeting Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The meet and greet is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. The program will include a guest speaker who will talk about protecting, preserving, restoring and enhancing Belle Isle.

### Livonia Neighbors and Friends

The Livonia Neighbors and Friends group will hold its own version of "The Antique Roadshow" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8. Donna, a representative from The Towne Peddler, will be on hand to appraise items brought in by members.

The group is open to women who live/work in Livonia and its surrounding communities. General meetings are held at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month, September through May. Special activity groups continue to meet year round.

For more information, go to <http://livonianighborsandfriends.tripod.com>.

### 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. Jan. 8, 15 and 22 are the next series dates (due to the New Year's Day holiday).

No registration necessary. For more information, contact Karen Bonanno at [kbonanno@livoniasaveouryouth.org](mailto:kbonanno@livoniasaveouryouth.org) or 734-338-9580.

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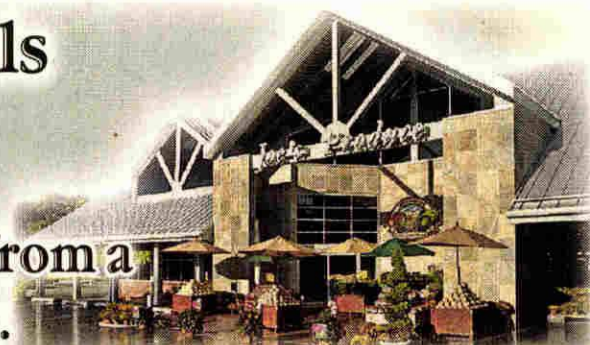


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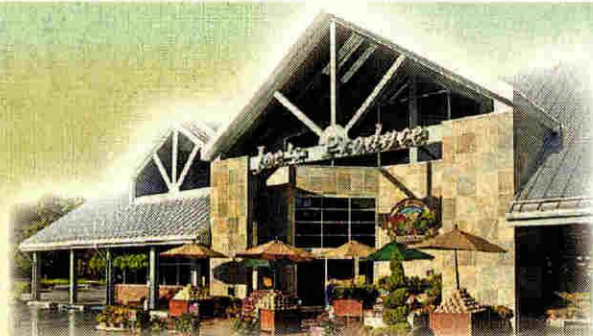


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# Sports



BOYS SWIMMING

## These twins are double trouble

Mustangs' dynamic duo have lofty state meet goals

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When opposing teams hit the pool deck to face the Northville boys swim team, they're usually doing a double take.

It's tough trying pick out one Nitkiewicz brother when there's also another.

Seniors Travis and Jason Nitkiewicz, who happen to be twins, are a big reason Northville continues to be a top 10 program in Division 1.

Not only are the Nitkiewicz twins top-notch swimmers with lofty expectations in the pool, they're also both Eagle Scouts who carry a 4.0 grade-point average.

"They've just been a joy to coach,"

Northville's Rich Bennetts said. "This is their senior year here, they're captains this year leading our team ... they just work hard. They have no issues at all with the work that they're given. Travis is a really hard worker. Jason is the same way. They've got no ego, no attitude, and they just get in the pool and work, so they've been fun to work with."

At birth, Travis was born 45 minutes before Jason. Travis is slightly taller and their personalities are a little bit different. Their mother Peggy is a paralegal and former school teacher, while their dad Patrick is an accountant.

"Jason is a little more shy. I'm a little more outgoing than he is, I'm a little more vocal than he is," Travis said. "We're both genuine people, but we also

See TWINS, Page 2B



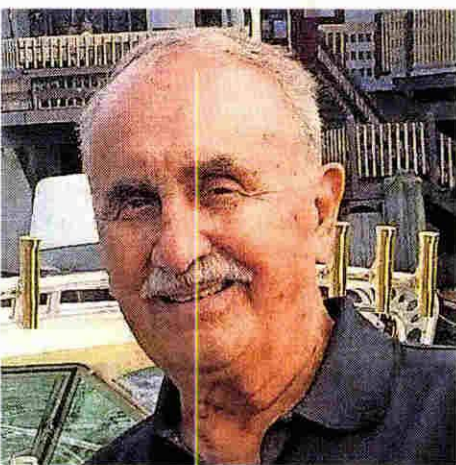
Northville twins Jason (left) and Travis Nitkiewicz enter their senior seasons as two of the team's stalwarts. BRAD EMONS | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

REDFORD TOWNSHIP



Emil Majeski holds up the 1984 MHSAA Class B state championship trophy after a 2-1 victory in the finals over Wyoming Park. MAJESKI FAMILY PHOTO

## Thurston baseball coach Emil Majeski remembered



Emil Majeski, who recently passed away at age 83, guided Redford Thurston to the 1984 Class B state baseball championship. MAJESKI FAMILY PHOTO

Guided Thurston to the Class B state championship in 1984

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Redford Thurston High School lost one of its coaching icons earlier this month when Emil Majeski passed away at the age of 83.

A funeral mass was held for Majeski, a longtime Livonia resident, on Dec. 22 at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia. Majeski died on Dec. 14.

During his 34 years of coaching baseball from 1965-1999 at Thurston, Majeski compiled an overall record of 477-291 capturing 12 league, six MHSAA district and four regional championships.

But he is best remembered for the

1984 baseball season when he took a .500 Thurston team to the coveted Class B state championship with a 2-1 victory over Wyoming Park in the finals at Eastern Michigan University's Oestrike Stadium, his alma mater.

"We still had multiple state championship signs were still in that house," said Majeski's son Matt. "My kids still wear the T-shirts that says, 'State champs, 1984.' He had almost every newspaper clipping for almost 40 years. It was pretty crazy."

During his final baseball season at Thurston in 1999, Majeski guided the Eagles to the Division 2 state semi-

See THURSTON, Page 3B

PREP FOOTBALL

## Chiesa cherishes brief time at North Farmington

**Marty Budner**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

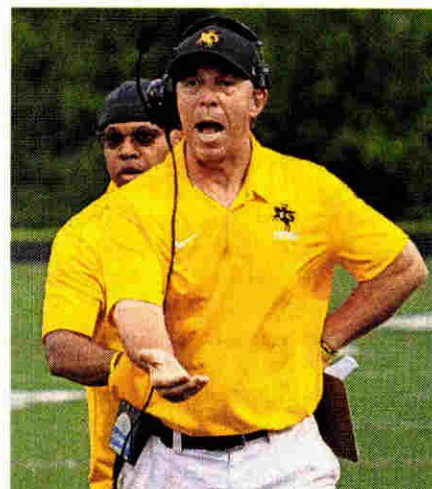
Bob Chiesa spent only two years as North Farmington's football head coach. But, it's a stint he'll always remember.

Jon Herstein, a teacher in the Farmington Public Schools since 2007, was announced as North's new head coach Dec. 17. Herstein was a line coach at the district's soon to be shuttered Harrison High School.

"I will always look very fondly on my experience at North Farmington," said Chiesa. "I thought we were able to get it turned around in a short period of time."

"You know, it was a tough decision for all of them. Some people said 'Why

See RAIDERS, Page 5B



Bob Chiesa is out as North Farmington's head coach, but leaves with fond memories of the Raiders football program. MARTY BUDNER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## COLLEGE SIGNING

## Stevenson catcher Cavin signs letter with OU

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Bobby Cavin, who has been named Livonia Stevenson's baseball captain for 2019, recently signed an NCAA Division I letter of intent to play at Oakland University.

On hand for Cavin's signing ceremony Nov. 30 were Stevenson head coach Rick Berryman and assistants Glenn Scala and Mike Macek, along with athletic director Lori Hyman and his Spartans teammates.

Cavin plans to major in business at OU.

In baseball, he earned all-Kensington Lakes Activities Association and MHSBCA all-district honors the past two seasons. He is a three-year varsity baseball and two-year varsity football player at Stevenson.

During his junior year, Cavin batted .500 with 29 walks and 38 RBIs. The



Stevenson senior catcher Bobby Cavin (seated) recently signed an NCAA Division I letter to play baseball at Oakland University. On hand for the signing ceremony were (top row, from left) head coach Rick Berryman, athletic director Lori Hyman and assistant coaches Mike Macek and Glenn Scala.

catcher threw out 75 percent of base stealers and his pop times range from 1.90-to-1.95.

In addition to playing for Stevenson, Cavin also is a member of the Motor City Hit Dogs, a summer travel team coached by Matt Petry.

Baseball has been an intricate part of Cavin's life and his love for the game began when he was a toddler.

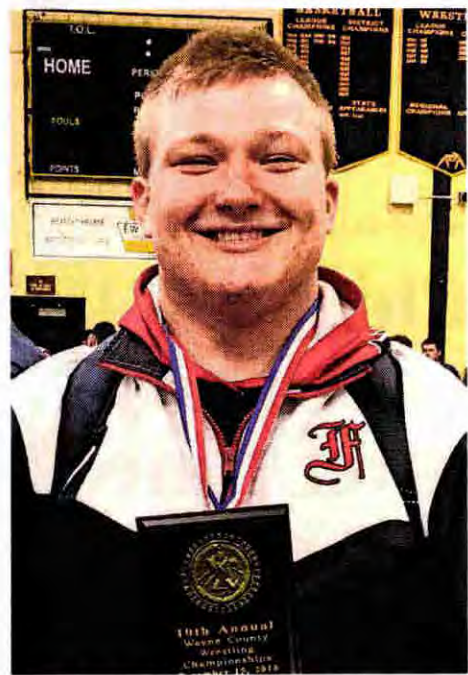
Cavin has played twice in Cooperstown, N.Y., site of the Baseball Hall of Fame. His first experience was at age 10 with the Michigan Wild Cats. His 12-U Warriors Baseball Club of Michigan captured the Cooperstown championship.

With the 14-U Warriors, Cavin was a part of two Perfect Game National Championship runs. He also represented Team Michigan at the PBR-sponsored Futures Game in Indiana, coached by Aaron Wilson.

Contact Brad Emons at [be-mons@hometownlife.com](mailto:be-mons@hometownlife.com). Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons.

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Franklin grappler Swirple voted Athlete of the Week



Franklin junior heavyweight Jake Swirple was the Upper Weights MVP at the Wayne County Championship.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Brad Emons**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A state placer from a year ago, Livonia Franklin wrestler Jake Swirple is picking up right where he's left off from a year ago when he took eighth in the MHSAA Division 1 finals at Detroit's Ford Field.

On Dec. 15, the junior earned the 285-pound title and was selected Upper MVP weights after winning the Wayne County Championship in Wyandotte with a 4-1 victory over Dearborn Fordson's Mahdi Hazime.

Swirple also recorded two pins and his victory clinched the title as the Patriots captured their fourth straight Livonia City Championship on Dec. 12 at Stevenson.

Swirple was also a standout on the Patriots' football team as a two-way lineman earning first-team All-Detroit Free Press West honors after helping the Patriots to a Division 2 district title and a 7-5 record.

For his efforts on the mat, Swirple was voted Hometown Life Prep Athlete of the Week as he garnered a total of 17,673 votes (54.56 percent).

Swirple finished ahead of Salem swimmer Eugene Li, who had 10,359 votes (31.98 percent), along with Birmingham Groves basketball player John Garrett, who had 4,029 votes (12.99 percent).

Here is a closer look at Swirple, who recently responded to a brief Q&A.

**Who is your favorite sports role model?** "J.J. Watt, because he has a never quit motor and is one of the hardest working guys in the NFL. The way he plays is so energetic. He demonstrates true leadership on and off the field."

**What made your performance last week so special?** "What made my performance last week so special is that I placed fourth last season at Wayne County and one of my goals this year was to win the Wayne County tournament. Also, I loved coming up big for my team with a pin in the city meet to clinch our 13th City championship out of the

last 14 years."

**What is your favorite all-time movie?** Gran Torino, because Clint Eastwood is my all-time favorite actor. Also, I like the character Clint Eastwood plays in the movie Walt Kowalski."

**What is your favorite subject in school?** "History, because I have always been a history buff ever since I was a little kid. My Grandpa taught me a lot about history from a young age and I have always had a passion for learning about it ever since."

**What are your plans beyond high school?** "My plans after high school include wanting to go to college on a football scholarship or wrestling scholarship. I want to go to school for Criminal Justice and become a Federal Officer, either become a U.S. Marshall, Border Patrol Agent, DEA, FBI, or Homeland Security."

Contact Brad Emons: [be-mons@hometownlife.com](mailto:be-mons@hometownlife.com). Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons.

## TWINS

Continued from Page 1B

approach problems very differently. But we both like to work hard. What makes us different in swimming the most is that I like breaststroke and I don't like butterfly. And Jason likes butterfly and doesn't like breaststroke."

They aren't quite inseparable, but the two definitely have each other's back.

"We do a lot of things together, but in those individual items, we're very different," Jason said. "So when we both swim together, we're swimming completely different strokes. We usually swam different things our entire swimming careers, so there's never been any sibling rivalry or anything like that."

Travis, who will swim next year at Michigan State, will go down as one of the most accomplished swimmers to come out of Northville.

He owns two school records after placing fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke (56.35) and sixth in the 200 individual medley (1:52.48) at last year's MHSAA Division 1 state finals. Travis also was a part of Northville's fourth-place 200 medley relay state meet team that also broke the school record (1:33.92).

"He's very analytical. He'll watch his races, ask for advice," Jason said. "He's very thorough looking through everything he can improve, where he can be better and all of that."

Prior to the start of the high school season, Travis traveled to Greensboro, N.C., for the 2018 Speedo Winter Junior Nationals, a short course meet, where he posted a personal best 2:00.54 en route to a 10th-place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke, a drop of 2.51 seconds.

"I really trained for that event the most in the off-season and it was really nice to see that big time drop and that nice finish," said Travis, who was representing the Novi Sturgeons Swim Club.

Meanwhile, in early season dual meet Dec. 11 against state power Birmingham Brother Rice, Travis broke the Northville pool record in the 100 breaststroke (57.90).



Northville's Jason Nitkiewicz (bottom) excels in the 100-yard butterfly. WILLIAM GREENLEE

"This year, I'd like to drop time in all of my events," Travis said. "And as a team, we're hoping to win the conference meet. Last year we were pretty close, but we came up a little short. My goals at the state meet are to drop some time and, hopefully, some All-American times and see how I do."

Not to be outdone is Jason, coming off a ninth-place finish in last year's Division 1 state finals with a time of 51.60 (second fastest in school history) in the 100 butterfly. He was also 22nd overall in the 200 IM and posted a season-best 1:58.20.

"I'm hoping I can break our school 100 butterfly record. It will be a little bit of a stretch, but I think be able to pull it off," Jason said.

Both Jason and Travis were also part of the Mustangs' 11th-place 400 free-style relay team (3:10.68) at the state finals.

"As far as we're concerned, anything short of a state championship (for Travis) in the breaststroke would be a disappointment," Bennetts said. "And that's him, that's not me. We expect an All-American swim in that 200 IM as well. And I know Jason is focused on going all-state in both his events, so they're looking to have a big senior year."

The Nitkiewicz twins played multiple sports growing up, including soccer, baseball and flag football, but by age 10 they decided to concentrate on swimming. They had two uncles who also swam in high school at Detroit Catholic Central who eventually got back into swimming later in years with a masters-age team.

The twins gravitated toward competitive club swimming, where they continue to thrive under the coaching of Bob Jenrow and Mark Winter with the Sturgeons.

"A lot of twins have trouble doing the same activities and they often branch totally apart," Travis said. "But we've managed to stay with swimming. We've both been swimming at least through middle school, so that's been a long time to be competing against each other and have everyone else compare us. But we are really close with each other and it helps us that, when one person isn't doing well, we stick with each other and we really care about each other."

Jason said following his senior season he'll continue to swim for the Sturgeons. He hopes to attend Purdue University and study bio-engineering and join the school's club team.

Travis, meanwhile, is leaning toward a curriculum in the STEM field at MSU.



Northville senior Travis Nitkiewicz holds individual school records in the 100-yard breaststroke and 200 IM. WILLIAM GREENLEE

"They don't make you declare a major right away. That's one of the things I liked about Michigan State, because I'm not quite sure what I'd like to study yet," Travis said. "I'm either leaning toward statistics or a combination of engineering and business."

As much as they are alike, the two can be different.

"Travis is a little more outgoing," Bennetts said. "Jason is a little more reserved, a little more laid-back. But when they dive in the pool, you can't tell the difference the way they work. They both work really hard."

"You see more of a team with them. They don't do the same events, which kind of helps a little bit in that regard. I think a lot of times they just pour their energy and competitiveness into the team to make sure everybody is coming along for the ride."

Contact Brad Emons at [be-mons@hometownlife.com](mailto:be-mons@hometownlife.com). Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons.

# Ex-NHL star goalie champions USA Hockey's growth

**Tim Smith**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hockeytown knows all about John Vanbiesbrouck, a Detroit native who played 20 seasons as a goalie in the National Hockey League.

Vanbiesbrouck mostly starred between the pipes with the New York Rangers and Florida Panthers, but now he is in a different kind of key position — with USA Hockey as assistant executive director of hockey operations. He was named to the position following the January 2018 death of Jim Johannson.

The hockey player known as "Beezer"

is based out of western Michigan, but is constantly on the move to stay on top of his many responsibilities. One of those is to keep tabs on how things are going at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

He recently answered some questions for Hometown Life about USA Hockey, the arena, the state of modern goaltending and other issues:

**Q: What is your current title and job duties with USA Hockey and how are those duties evolving in the after-**



**John Vanbiesbrouck**

**math of the death of Jim Johannson?**

A: My title is assistant executive director of hockey operations and ... my role is centered around managing our international hockey program, meaning the teams we put on the ice for international competition in women's, men's and sled hockey. I'm also responsible for oversight of our junior hockey program and working, along with Marc Boxer from our staff, particularly with the USHL and NAHL. I've really enjoyed the job so far and continue to learn and feel more comfortable as every day passes.

**Q: Are you based out of USA Hockey's corporate offices in Colorado**

**Springs? How often do you get to USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth and what are your thoughts on the upgrades since USA Hockey took the building over from Peter Karmanos?**

A: I'm currently living in Michigan on the west side and do a lot of traveling. I've been at USA Hockey Arena a couple of times a week on average, but that frequency changes all the time, depending upon what we have going on. As for the arena itself, the upgrades that have been made are fabulous. Through the branding efforts of the facility, USA Hockey has done a terrific job in show-

See **HOCKEY**, Page 5B

## THURSTON

Continued from Page 1B

nals where he was named Detroit News Metro Baseball Coach of the Year.

In 1991, Majeski was inducted into the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Four times he was awarded with Regional Coach of the Year.

Majeski not only enjoyed success on the baseball diamond, but he also touched many lives along the way.

Deno Syrios, who pitched four years at the University of Detroit, played for Majeski during the late 1960s and has fond memories.

"I wasn't the most coachable kid in the world, but he really always really stuck by me and didn't give up on me," Syrios said. "I produced on the field pretty well, too, but my judgment at other times was a little bit questionable back in those days. One of the things that he kind of taught me was really to give people a shot, stay with them and give them another chance ... that kind of thing."

Majeski, one of nine children, grew up on a farm in Kinde, Michigan and was a three-sport athlete at North Huron H.S. during the early 1950s before joining the Army for a three-year stint. He was stationed in Fort Devens, Mass. where he spent a lot of his time playing baseball and football.

Majeski then headed to EMU as a freshman where he excelled as an undersized defensive back in football. He was also president of the Kappa Phi Alpha fraternity and later earned both a B.A. and M.A. degrees from EMU.

He began his 41-year teaching career at Willow Run H.S. before moving to Thurston where he started out coaching football, but he became a quick study in baseball.

"He was learning on the fly," Syrios said. "As a coach he was one of those guys who would look at the talent and then adapt to the talent, manage it and do a great job with that."

Majeski also enjoyed success as a golf coach for 18 seasons at Thurston going 173-60 overall.

"His class, his temperment and his style was always 'A' plus," Syrios said. "He went the extra mile for all of us, simple things like opening the gym, let us play basketball in the off season. He used to invite us back regularly to play on Friday afternoons, football and baseball players, for years. He did much more than coach baseball."

In 2010, the South Redford School District honored his impact and legacy by naming its Thurston baseball facility Majeski Field.

"Going to high school not too far from Thurston, I would often run into kids who he taught or coached," Matt Majeski said. "It was consistent, they all loved him, athletes or not. In fact, the non-athletes maybe more. More than once,

kids told me that they loved being in his class."

Well beyond his retirement from teaching and coaching, Majeski remained connected with his former players and students, as well as their families.

"He would see in the local papers, like yours, where one of our kids might be playing in a game and he would come out and watch them, just by seeing their last name," said Steve Kreager, who played baseball for Majeski and graduated from Thurston in 1971. "One of my kids was a quarterback at Northville and a captain of the hockey team, and I'd see him there. That's the kind of guy he was, which is pretty rare."

And it was a joy to play for Majeski, who proved to be a father figure for Kreager, who lost his own father and grandfather at an early age as a result of a car accident.

"He created a culture that was pretty top-notch in athletics, especially for younger people," Kreager said. "A lot of the lessons I think, whether they were intended to land in the short term, or eventually they might have been indirect lessons. He created a competitive culture where you could excel, but you respected each other, you respected him, you respected the opponent, you were well prepared ..."

Kreager said Majeski gave much more than he received. He proved to be a selfless coach on many different fronts. "I played for some good guys, guys

with names, their names in lights, and all that stuff, but as far as not looking for any recognition and creating an incredible atmosphere, this guy is about as good as it gets," Kreager said.

Emil Majeski is survived by his daughter Emily (Mark) Whitney and son Matthew (Melissa) Majeski; sisters Genevieve Galka and Delores Kretz; brothers Kenneth and Alfred Majeski; and grandchildren Cameron Whitney, Tyler Whitney, Hannah Whitney, Griffin Majeski, Macie Majeski and Marley Majeski; along with former wife Nancy Majeski.

Emil was preceded in death by four brothers including Eugene, Ralph, Albin and Donald Majeski, along with parents Felix and Agnes Majeski.

"He was just a great father, a great grandfather, he would drop anything for my sister and I, and the grand kids," Matt Majeski said. "I have a boy and two girls. He was out in the backyard teaching them how to properly swing a baseball bat at 2 years-old ... that was just in him. My son grew a love for baseball as a result. It was nice to see that relationship. He would just do anything for his family."

Contributions in Emil's memory can be made to: Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, P.O. Box 414238, Boston, Mass. 022-41.

Contact Brad Emons at [bemons@hometownlife.com](mailto:bemons@hometownlife.com). Follow him on Twitter: @BradEmons1.

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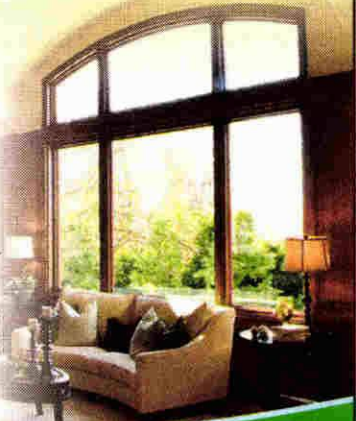
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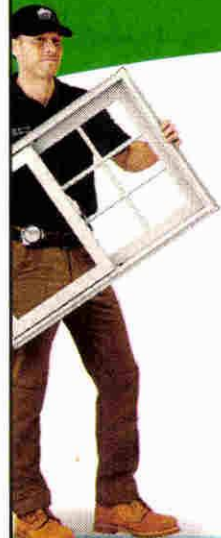
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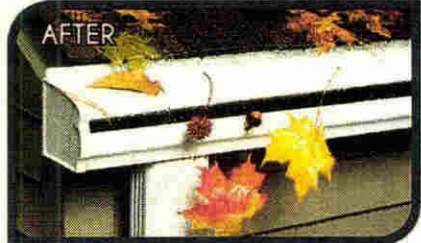
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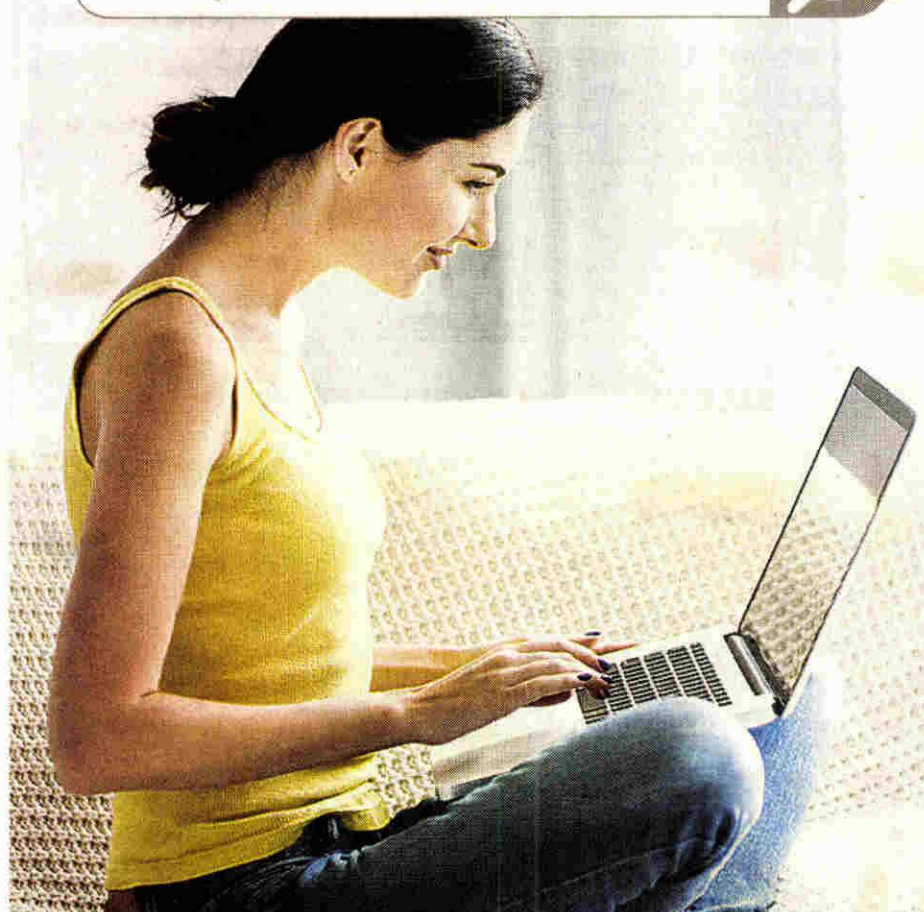
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# HOCKEY

Continued from Page 3B

casing the organization as a whole and the overall look and feel of the building is great.

**Q: With a current roster of players virtually guaranteed to play in the NHL, the spotlight is shining brightly on the NTDP (and on USA Hockey). What are your thoughts about that and can it be sustained?**

A: As someone who loves hockey and believes in the values it brings to families across our country, it is wonderful to see the sport continue to grow at all levels

of the game. The American Development Model has had a positive impact on providing a fun and age-appropriate environment for our players the past decade and that has contributed to both growth and player retention. As for the NTDP, it has had a significant impact on our success on the international stage and certainly in preparing some of our top players for professional hockey and beyond. It is a signature program of our organization, which has also impacted the betterment of junior hockey.

**Q: I have to sneak a couple of goaltending questions in there. Do you still get the itch to put the pads back on and get back out there? The position has changed so much in the past 20 years, do you think it is for better or worse? Are there any NTDP**

**goalies that you really are high on for future NHL stardom?**

A: The itch to play is gone. But I do love watching the position develop. Goaltending has evolved — from the equipment to the size of the players to the style of play. It's really fun to watch. In the end, the game is better and so is the goaltending. We're working hard at USA Hockey to help take goaltending to another level and encourage more kids to try the position. In the end, our goal is to see 51 percent of goaltenders in the NHL and NWHL be American-born by 2030. It's a lofty goal and it's great to have so many passionate people working on our goaltending program. As for NTDP goalies, they're all terrific young players and it's fun to watch them develop.

# RAIDERS

Continued from Page 1B

aren't you more upset.' Well, I am upset. But, on the flip side, I got to be a man of logic. It was a hard decision. The district had to close a school and the powers that be got together and decided this would be the best move.

"I can yell and scream about it, but that's not going to change reality," he said. "I'd rather go out on a high note, and with class and hopefully land of my feet somewhere else again."

## Contractual obligations

Chiesa fell victim to the Farmington Education Association's replacement policies due to the closing of Farmington Harrison High School following the current academic year.

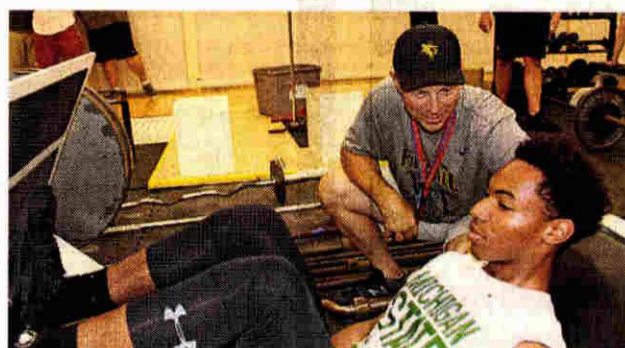
Fall coaching positions were posted internally, allowing current and retired FEA members first rights to those spots. Since Chiesa was not a FPS employee, his duties as head coach were in jeopardy based on the FEA guidelines.

As a result, Herstein, an Adapted Physical Education teacher for six different district schools, was afforded the opportunity to apply for the job. He had his first meeting with his new team on Dec. 19.

"The FEA contract states that if we have qualified bargaining members available to fill vacant positions, they have the first opportunities to fill those positions," said North Farmington Athletic Director Todd Schultz. "Jon is a teacher in the district and had the opportunity to fill that spot over Bob who is a non-FEA member."

"We just had to fulfill our obligation towards the contract and that's what we did," said Schultz. "It's hard. Bob put a lot of time and effort into running the program and we truly appreciate everything he's done."

Chiesa took over as North Farmington's head coach in 2017 after a winless (0-9) Raiders campaign in 2016.



Bob Chiesa oversees a workout session last fall by Raider Andre Ballard in the team's new weight facility which he helped put together. MARTY BUDNER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

A 1980 University of Michigan graduate, Chiesa's plan from the start was to rebuild the program. He elected to play a majority of underclassmen his first year with the hope that the experience would pay off with future success.

The Raiders won two of nine games in his inaugural season and registered three victories this past fall, including a 3-3 mark in the OAA Blue Division. They scored 48 more points and allowed 112 less points in 2018 than they did in 2017.

## Chiesa's only disappointment

Chiesa felt the program was making progress. Chiesa was looking forward to his third season at the helm, and his lone disappointment is that he will not be able to see the rewards of what he believes will be a good team in 2019. He said 19 players — nine who will be three-year starters — are slated to return to next year's squad.

"It's unfortunate that we aren't going to be able to finish the job we've done the past two years," said Chiesa. "We only had four seniors on our first team and that was all gearing up for the upcoming seasons."

"People don't realize we were only losing four play-

ers. They will be loaded next year," he said. "I really think they can be a playoff team next year. If there's one frustration, I would have liked to have shared in the benefits of the sacrifices the team and the program took, coaches as well as players, the past two years."

Chiesa, who grew up in Redford and moved to Livonia, got his start in football with the Lakes Area Hawks youth football program. His first high school job was as an assistant at the old Southfield-Lathrup High School under then head coach Rich Popp.

He also spent time as an assistant at the three Walled Lake schools — Central, Western and Northern — Hartland and Waterford Mott.

## NF was first head coaching job

North Farmington was his first job as a head coach. During his time at North Farmington, Chiesa built the program in terms of numbers (45 his first year to 75 last year), redesigned the Raiders helmets and uniforms, brought the program among the state's top 25 academically and built a new weight room area, among other things.

Chiesa is proud of what he was able to accomplish in 20 months at North Farmington.

"Looking back, I will take great pride in knowing that I helped to start the turnaround process of that school," said Chiesa. "We got the new fields. I was able to redesign the new football helmets. We did a lot."

In the meantime, Chiesa, who calls himself a 'Raider for Life,' will be watching North Farmington's fortunes under the new coaching regime.

"There's no doubt that Jon and the Harrison boys will do a great job," said Chiesa. "I gotta tell you, the North Farmington community is special. I really do consider myself blessed and a better man for having coached there."

"I would have liked to have carried it through to fruition, but when you have a school closing (Harrison), it presents awkward challenges," he said. "But, I really appreciated the opportunity to coach (at North Farmington). I think this year (2019) will be a special year and I'll share it with them."

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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Not meant to be heard by the audience, in a way
  - 8 Blend in
  - 13 Maker of stringed instruments
  - 20 Author Huffington
  - 21 Nary a soul
  - 22 In a group
  - 23 Give a nonnative a smooch?
  - 25 Causes of sudden fear
  - 26 Env. alerter
  - 27 Small drink
  - 28 Make up for
  - 29 Defeat Dorothy's dog decisively?
  - 34 Trip to an underworld river?
  - 39 Singer Buddy
  - 40 Egg
  - 42 Stools, say
  - 43 Actress Mendes
  - 44 Certain Siouan
  - 45 "The Jerk" actor M. — Walsh
  - 47 "Well well!"
  - 48 Use a pool
  - 49 Specialty of Windy City bakeries?
  - 52 Uses Dixie diction
  - 54 Door turner
  - 55 Expire, as a subscription
  - 59 Ballpark fig.
  - 60 New princess of '81
  - 63 One who doesn't succumb to a potent toxin?
  - 68 Clean energy org.
  - 69 Bombard with e-junk
  - 71 "Zip- — -Doo-Dah"
  - 72 Hard wood
  - 73 Glorious state of bliss?
  - 79 Military units
  - 82 Prefix with hazard
  - 83 Achieve
  - 84 Obi-Wan Kenobi, e.g.
  - 85 Rob
  - 88 Desert haven mentioned in the first book of the Bible?
  - 94 Guitars' kin, for short
  - 95 Actor Rob
  - 99 Bits of matter
  - 100 Car for a VIP
  - 101 Mr., in India
  - 102 Have a cow, with "out"
  - 103 Ltr. insert
  - 104 Arrangement
  - 105 Ruler of the Sunflower State?
  - 108 Palpitation?
  - 111 Menu fish
  - 112 Audiotapes' successors
  - 114 Cato's 1,052
  - 115 Main female character
  - 118 Stuff hauled by Beantown trash collectors?
  - 124 Not ceasing
  - 125 Homer work
  - 126 St. — (capital of Loire)
  - 127 Mice and whales, e.g.
  - 128 "The Rose" singer Midler
  - 129 Plunder
- DOWN**
- 1 Hard wood
  - 2 Wk. day
  - 3 Hi- — (old LP players)
  - 4 Moms
  - 5 Notoriety
  - 6 Noted berry farm founder
  - 7 Turn a deaf — (ignore)
  - 8 Musical artist DiFranco
  - 9 Barking pets
  - 10 Doctrine that reality is one organic whole
  - 11 Ham-handed
  - 12 Gen —
  - 13 Certain boxing punch
  - 14 Not firmly implanted
  - 15 Pre-liftoff term
  - 16 Jenna Bush —
  - 17 "Kinda" suffix
  - 18 Ballpark fig.
  - 19 Scale notes
  - 24 Lay to rest
  - 28 Skating leap
  - 29 Ice cream flavor, briefly
  - 30 Writer Philip
  - 31 H.G. Wells race
  - 32 Smart- — (cocky)
  - 33 At an end
  - 35 Fashion inits.
  - 36 Synthpop artist, say
  - 37 Sinister
  - 38 They may be candied
  - 41 Wombs
  - 45 Self-conceit
  - 46 Unruly crowd
  - 47 Social Security fig., e.g.
  - 48 Delhi dress
  - 50 Not only that
  - 51 Vienna loc.
  - 53 Crank (up)
  - 56 — upswing
  - 57 Meat stamp letters
  - 58 Wk. day
  - 60 The, in Paris
  - 61 "The Simpsons" store clerk
  - 62 Work at as a dilettante
  - 63 Breathe hard
  - 64 Leave out
  - 65 Intermission
  - 66 Bullfight cry
  - 67 Apt. units
  - 70 Stew veggie
  - 74 Eye covers
  - 75 Bettor's note
  - 76 Tatty clothes
  - 77 Strive (for)
  - 78 U.N.'s Kofi
  - 80 Hubbub
  - 81 Call placar
  - 84 Actor Parsons
  - 85 Corn cover
  - 86 Stew veggie
  - 87 Part of PIN
  - 89 Carve
  - 90 Somber
  - 91 In — (as found)
  - 92 Don of radio
  - 93 Last year's frosh
  - 96 "Part II" films
  - 97 Tightly strung
  - 98 Squeak (out)
  - 102 Cereal meal
  - 103 Breaks up
  - 104 Add to the batter, say
  - 106 Charge at
  - 107 School, in Nice
  - 109 Writer Horatio
  - 110 Calf catcher
  - 113 ESPN datum
  - 115 — and haw
  - 116 Greek vowel
  - 117 Dream-time acronym
  - 118 Baby's wear
  - 119 Lyric tribute
  - 120 Wanna- — (aspirants)
  - 121 Santa — (hot wind)
  - 122 Big health supplement chain, familiarly
  - 123 "I see mice!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20							21					22									
23							24					25									
			26				27				28										
29	30	31	32				33		34		35					36	37	38			
39							40		41		42						43				
44					45	46					47						48				
49				50						51					52	53					
			54							55		56	57	58		59					
60	61	62					63	64							65			66	67		
68							69	70				71							72		
73			74	75						76	77	78			79	80	81				
			82							83					84						
85	86						87				88				89	90			91	92	93
94							95	96	97	98					99						100
101							102				103										104
105							106				107				108	109	110				
							111				112	113			114						
115	116	117								118		119						120	121	122	123
124										125					126						
127										128					129						

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

## SUDOKU

	4		1		3			
							6	9
	8				9	6		
7	2							6
		8		5		3		
6						5		7
			7	2				4
1	7							
			5		9			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 solve the puzzle!

## CULINARY CREATIONS WORD SEARCH

C C U L D E M I G L A C E I G G O T O D  
Q R F F U C B F T B A D S D H Z E B O I  
P C C R U F O T A A B E R E E P O L H R  
S P I U I Z B L N H A P E T E D M S E Q  
S M K M R T O A L L B I G T A A F A B I F  
D A O U A N T H K I F R N E I F L U I A  
I I A R E S M A G L O T A L A O O C S L  
B N M O G T L N T C A B B L G N R E Q A  
I A G S O A A A S A M V E I R D E Q U E F  
Q C I Z U R S I B T Z Q A U U A N M E E  
K O B I N C M A B O Q O B Z G O N T Z F L S  
K O H R M O Q G O L V C E I L T I L Q S  
I N C Q E A H K E R I G K A F V N T R O  
L B N U G M R C H N D R L Q F R E K S T  
S Z A O K L U I A E I L B E C H A M E L  
E M L I H K U T E P R V H D E G L A Z E  
D U B R D N U T B S Z B I P S U N H T U  
S E E D S S A C E I M A S L D V O C U I  
O D E R F L A D O N H O G A C P A S T A  
S H B Q C E G N I K A B D A I K O N Q N

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

## WORDS

- ABALONE
- ADOBO
- AIGUILLETTE
- AIOLI
- ALFREDO
- BABA
- BAIN-MARIE
- BAKING
- BAKLAVA
- BALSAMIC
- BANGERS
- BECHAMEL
- BISQUE
- BLANCH
- BOIL
- DAIKON
- DEGLAZE
- DEMI-GLACE
- DIM SUM
- DOLMA
- FALAFEL
- FLORENTINE
- FLOUR
- FONDANT
- FRITTATA
- GAZPACHO
- GHEE
- GLUTEN
- HERBS
- PASTA
- SAUCE
- SEEDS
- SMORGASBORD
- STOCK
- TOFU
- TRIBE
- TUMERIC
- VINEGAR

## ANSWER KEY

OFFMIKE ADMIX LUTHIER  
ARIANNA NOONE ENMASSE  
KISSFOREIGNER FRIGHTS  
ATTN SIP ATONE  
CREAMTOTO STYXJOURNEY  
HOLLY OVUM SEATS EVA  
OTOE EMMET ILLBE SWIM  
CHICAGOBREAD DRAWLS  
KNOB RUNOUT ERA  
LADYDI POISONSURVIVOR  
EPA SPAM ADEE ELM  
SUBLIMENIRVANA CADRES  
BIO ATTAIN JEDI  
HOLDUP GENESISISOASIS  
UKES ESTES ATOMS LIMO  
SRI FREAK ENCL SETUP  
KANSASQUEEN HEARTRUSH  
TROUT CDS MLII  
HEROINE BOSTONGARBAGE  
ETERNAL ILIAD ETIENNE  
MAMMALS BETTE RANSACK

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

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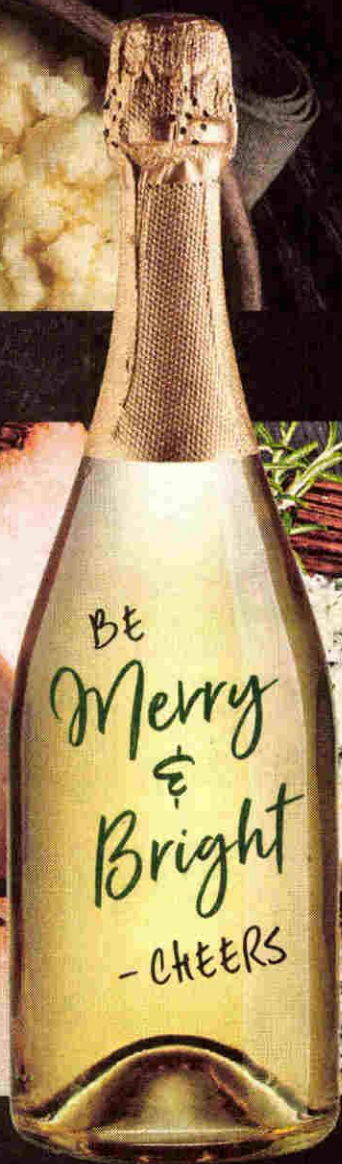


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DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS | LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE  
ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD