

11/17



## Farmington Hills skaters show skills in sectional competition

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## PARC green space saved from development

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The largest expanse of green space remaining in downtown Plymouth has been spared from development by the equivalent of a football "Hail Mary."

The board of directors of the Plymouth Arts & Recreation Complex announced Tuesday that the 10-acre prop-

erty located adjacent to its facility, including the 42-year-old Plymouth-Canton Steelers football stadium and practice fields, is no longer for sale thanks to a collection of donors who have contributed enough money to allow PARC to make major capital improvements on the 100-year-old former Central Middle School and Plymouth High School building.

"I don't know if the (for sale) sign is down yet, but it's definitely coming down," PARC President Don Soenen said. "The process of attracting donations has been ongoing, but eight, nine months ago, the only option we really had to fund the necessary renovations to the building was selling the property."

"We had several attractive offers from developers, but in the end, obvi-

ously, we wanted to preserve the space for the benefit of the community."

Infrastructure work on the PARC building is multi-faceted, including installation of new ceiling tiles on all three floors, LED lighting, paint on the walls and lockers and refurbished flooring, including the original terrazzo floors.

See SPACE, Page 8A

## Thanking those who served



Kennedy Elementary student Rivers Peterson works on a thank-you card in class Nov. 11 that will be sent to a veteran.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Livonia kindergartners send handmade cards to veterans

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kindergartners in Emma Chapman's class at Kennedy Elementary spent the morning Nov. 11 learning about Veterans Day and making cards to say "thank

you" to those who served in the military.

The kids personalized their cards with stickers, drawings and notes that Sami McKay, a mom in the school district, will make sure land in veterans' hands.

"The veterans that are home and

they've served - they can't be forgotten," McKay said. "They need to know that this generation still cares about them and we're thankful."

The project, the latest for McKay's

See CARDS, Page 8A

## Farmington Hills hookah lounge hoping to recover after shooting

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hookah lounge owner Wisam Khudhur was being kind in the early morning hours Nov. 10 when he let a group of people inside because women in the small party were begging to use his bathrooms.

They departed about five minutes later and then began arguing in the parking lot just south of Khudhur's Lush Hookah Lounge business on Orchard Lake Road, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile roads, in Farmington Hills.

Khudhur would learn hours later that the group's dispute erupted in gunfire. One person was injured and was taken to the hospital, where recovery is expected.

Police said the 2 a.m. gunfire damaged other businesses and that the shooting was not random.

"It was a surprise, we have not had any issues like this in the past," Assistant Police Chief Dan Rodriguez wrote in an email. "It's a commercial area of strip malls, restaurants and office buildings."

On Wednesday, Khudhur's business neighbors said they were surprised by news of the shooting.

"Farmington Hills officers checked area businesses and discovered that the shooting occurred in the parking lot of the Lush Hookah Lounge," reads the police department's news release.

Khudhur said he was about to close for the day when the group asked to use his bathroom.

Khudhur likens his lounge to a small library. Patrons can study at the tables, watch TV, buy some snacks and smoke from hookahs - water pipes used for smoking tobacco.

"Lush had nothing to do with this," he said. "It happened in that parking lot. They're not my customers. They didn't smoke a hookah. They didn't do anything here. They didn't even buy one thing. My lounge is a safe lounge."

"If they were sitting for a couple of hours, if they were smoking here, if the argument had started here. ... I would be like, ... 'Yeah.'"

This past week's slower traffic made him nervous about the future.

"I'm going to make it clear to everybody that nothing happened here," Khudhur said.

Other businesses in the strip mall include Jouni Meat, Best Brains Learning Center, Dalia Restaurant, a Mediterranean eatery, and Patel Brothers, an Indian grocery.





# Lands' End opens in Novi shopping center

David Veselenak [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There's a new place to shop for the holidays in Novi this year.

If you're looking to add some warm clothes or other additions to the house for the holidays, Lands' End is ready to help serve you without the need for a website or catalog.

The Wisconsin-based retailer was poised to open its second store in Michigan on Thursday in the West Oaks II shopping center off Novi Road south of 12 Mile. The company selected Novi for the store based on several factors, including that many online orders came from this part of Michigan.

"Novi is very, very important to us," said Claudia Mazo, senior vice president of retail for Lands' End. "We know that is a very loyal community."

The store has been in the works for nearly 18 months, Mazo said, in the storefront previously occupied by the Family Christian Store not far from

Kohl's. The store has been completely remodeled, a process that took several weeks, Mazo said.

The store is the second Lands' End to open in a week in the state, with the other opening last week in Grand Rapids. The two are the first standalone stores for Lands' End in Michigan, though the retailer has had smaller spaces inside Sears stores across the state. That includes the Sears at 29500 W. Seven Mile in Livonia.

But shoppers who frequent Sears for their Lands' End products will have to act fast: Mazo said the company is ending its relationship with Sears at the end of January, leaving Lands' End retail locations the lone place to purchase items in person.

She said the changes at Sears, with lots of stores closing across the country, led Lands' End to search for ways to serve customers in another way.

"What's happening with Sears accelerated our desire to service our customers in our own environment," Mazo said.

"That obviously accelerated our efforts."

The store will hold a two-day grand opening celebration Nov. 23-24. In addition to a ribbon cutting, the store will host the Lands' End Seagoing Duffle Airstream trailer, offer giveaways to customers spending over a certain amount, and have a prize wheel for customers to spin. Light refreshments will be served.

Mazo said while 85 percent of the business's transactions happen online, the company hopes to expand its footprint by bucking the retail trend and opening physical stores across the country. She sees it as a way for customers to have one more experience in purchasing Lands' End apparel that they normally wouldn't have.

"The main reason for us is to really service our customers," she said. "We know the brick-and-mortar expression of the brand is important."

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



A sign in the Lands' End storefront at the West Oaks II shopping center gives information about the new store, which opened Thursday.

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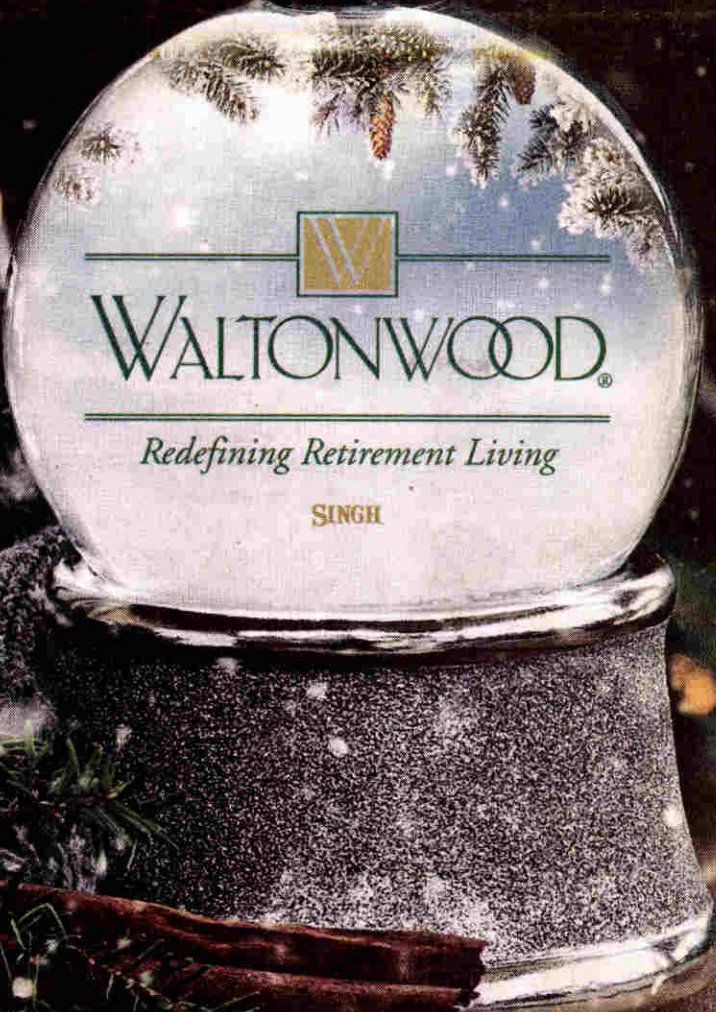
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The new Lands' End store will have a grand-opening celebration Nov. 23-24. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



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# Beaumont opens urgent care center in Farmington Hills

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Another Beaumont Urgent Care has come to Farmington Hills.

On Tuesday, the health system opened its second urgent care center in Farmington Hills in a matter of months. The new center, at 27810 Grand River Ave., joins the center at 29263 Orchard Lake Road that opened in June.

"We're super excited," said Dr. Bernice Sessa, medical director of Beaumont Urgent Care. "We're here to serve the community and we're hoping to be available to the community."

This latest opening is part of Beaumont's plan to open about 30 urgent care facilities in southeast Michigan by the end of 2020. For these facilities, the health system partnered with WellStreet, which specializes in urgent care operations.

"The talented providers and staff at Beaumont Urgent Care are focused on our patients' experience,"

Ron Lavater, Wellstreet's CEO, said in a statement. "It is our goal to have patients in and out within an hour or less. We are thrilled to serve the communities in and around Farmington Hills."

Urgent care facilities are best for patients experiencing symptoms of a cold, rash, the flu, minor lacerations, mild intestinal illness and minor orthopedic injuries. Patients experiencing symptoms of severe ailments, like a heart attack or stroke, should visit an emergency room or call 9-1-1.

"If you can think about something that might require lots of testing like cardiac monitoring, that would be something to go to the ER for," Sessa said.

But the second Farmington Hills location will be equipped with a lab, X-ray and the ability to make fiberglass splints.

The new location can be reached at 248-516-1978 and is open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

# Concerns rise as Amazon's Ring partners with more police agencies

Christina Hall Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Less than five hours. That's all it took Livonia Police to arrest a man caught on video posted on Ring's Neighbors app rummaging through the bed of a pickup in a driveway.

Livonia detectives recognized 60-year-old Jeffrey Couch when they saw the video posted by an app user in mid-August. Within a week, he pleaded no contest in court to two attempted larceny charges and was sentenced to 30 days in jail.

"I truly believe this is the Neighborhood Watch of 2020," said Livonia Police Capt. Ronald Taig, whose force was one of the first in Michigan to partner with the Ring Neighbors app, owned by Amazon.

See CONCERNS, Page 6A

# Canton man admits to carving gang name into teen's chest

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Doniel Heard, a former gang leader from Canton Township, recently confessed to carving his gang's name into the chest of a 15-year-old.

Heard signed a plea agreement in U.S. District Court in late October. It detailed why he will be sentenced in March on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering.

Heard and three others - Talasha Willis, of Flint; Kimberly Perryman, of Mount Morris; and Alina White, of Waterford - kicked, punched and stomped on the 15-year-old for allegedly disrespecting gang members. They also beat him with a broomstick and robbed him of his watch, cash and marijuana.

They then ripped off the victim's T-shirt and Heard sat on his torso while the others held down the 15-year-old.

"Heard produced a large knife and carved the name of the gang, MOB 662, into (the victim's) chest," the plea agreement read. After the carving, "Heard placed video calls via his cellular to fellow gang members, tell-

ing and showing them what they had just done." He asked call recipients to "look at my artwork" and warned that the assault was for messing with his gang, a branch of the national Bloods gang.

Heard is scheduled for a March 4 federal court sentencing. He faces up to 20 years in prison. Perryman and White also are scheduled for sentences that day. Willis has been sentenced and is scheduled for a 2025 release.

MOB 662 was known for engaging in "racketeering activity" involving narcotics distribution in Detroit, Pontiac and Flint.

The federal indictment against Heard and his fellow gang members was unsealed in Flint in June 2018. They were each charged with a count of assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering and a count of interference with commerce by robbery.

"As alleged in the indictment, this was a brutal attack on a 15-year-old boy by a violent street gang," said Matthew Schneider, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, at the time. "We will continue to vigorously prosecute violent street gangs, especially those who target children."

# Canton police identify woman suspected of credit card fraud

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton police have identified the woman they suspect of committing credit card fraud at retail stores in Canton and Westland.

After receiving numerous tips, they pinpointed Kristi Lynn Smith, of Wayne as the main suspect.

She was arraigned on felony charges of stealing a financial transaction device and identity theft, according to Canton police.

A surveillance camera at one of the locations where she used the credit card caught her image.

Anyone with information that could help the Canton Police Department with other cases is asked to call 734-394-5400.



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# Local teens win anti-distracted driving scholarship competition

Ed Wright [HometownLife.com](http://HometownLife.com)  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Western Wayne County teens Olivia Zack and Owen Oszust don't know anyone personally who has been killed in a distracted-driving traffic accident — and they want to keep it that way.

That is one factor that motivated Zack, 19, from Plymouth, and Oszust, 17, from Canton, to enter Michigan Auto Law's annual Kelsey's Law Distracted Driving Awareness scholarship competition — a contest created in memory of Kelsey Raffaele of Sault Ste. Marie, who died in 2010 in a cell phone-related crash at age 17.

Oszust, a senior at Plymouth High School, won a \$1,000 scholarship for his graphic that featured a flat-lining cardiogram with the words: "A look down can change someone's life in a heartbeat. Every heartbeat matters. Stop texting and driving."

Zack, a first-year student at Schoolcraft College,

won a \$500 scholarship for this tweet: "Driving is already one of the most dangerous risks we take every day. Don't let a text increase that risk. Stop driving distracted NOW."

"I know a couple of kids who have gotten into accidents because of distracted driving," Oszust said. "It's a serious issue that needs to be addressed. They show videos of crashes at driver's ed, but that doesn't always stop kids from doing it. I thought the heart line image would hit home."

Zack concurred with Oszust, saying she feels disturbed every time she sees someone texting while driving.

"I have a family member who does it a lot and it bothers me," she said. "I've never had my own experience with it. Neither have my family members, luckily, but I always see it when I'm driving and it kind of makes me annoyed."

Four winners were selected from the 130 entries. James Swanson III, from Iron River, won a \$2,000

scholarship for a video he submitted, while Cameon Wade, of Troy, won a \$1,500 scholarship for his video.

Raffaele's mother, Bonnie, worked relentlessly with the Michigan legislature to enact Kelsey's Law in 2013, which prohibits Level 1 and 2 drivers from using a handheld mobile phone while driving a vehicle.

"We are deeply impressed by the creativity and professionalism of the students' submissions," said Michigan Auto Law President and Attorney Steven Gursten. "Car accidents are the number one killer of teens and texting while driving increases your risk of crashing by 23 times."

"Anything we can do to get the word out and convince teens to put down their phones is crucial. These students have contributed to this endeavor with ingenuity and imagination."

Zack fears the texting-while-driving problem may get worse before it gets better.


See COMPETITION, Page 5A

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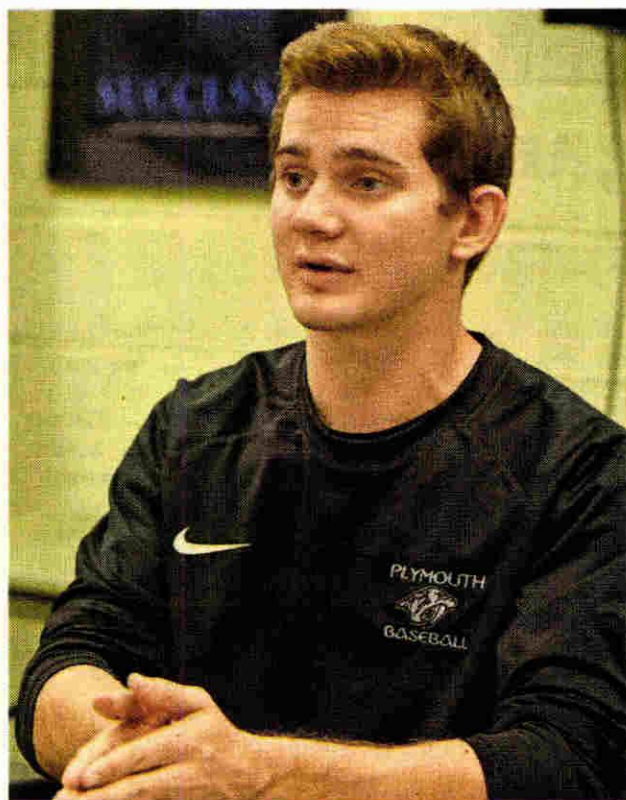
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Olivia Zack won a \$500 scholarship for a Tweet she posted about the need to avoid distracted driving. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Plymouth High student Owen Oszust won a \$1,000 scholarship for his anti-distracted driving graphic.

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A Bulk Foods and Smoothies store will open at 19049 Middlebelt Road in Livonia. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Bulk food store set to open in Livonia in 2020

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Having just opened a store in Westland, Alex Hallani is already working to expand his bulk food empire.

A sign has popped up in the shopping center on the southwestern corner of Seven Mile and Middlebelt stating Bulk Food and Smoothies is coming soon. The Canton resident said the third store in his group came about fast.

"It just kind of happened really quickly," said Hallani, a Canton resident. "So many people said, 'You have to bring one of these stores to Livonia.'"

Hallani operates two Bulk Foods and Smoothies stores: 23151 Michigan Ave., in Dearborn, and 35705 Warren, in Westland, which opened earlier this fall.

He said many customers from Livonia make the drive to Westland, so he began scouting out locations in Livonia.

The store will offer the same products as the other two, including a wide array of food items in a bulk capacity. Customers

can select as much or as little as they want from the bins, be it chocolate, jelly beans or spices. Hallani will also offer Hershey's ice cream by the scoop, as well as smoothies.

"Being next to a gym works better for the smoothie business," he said.

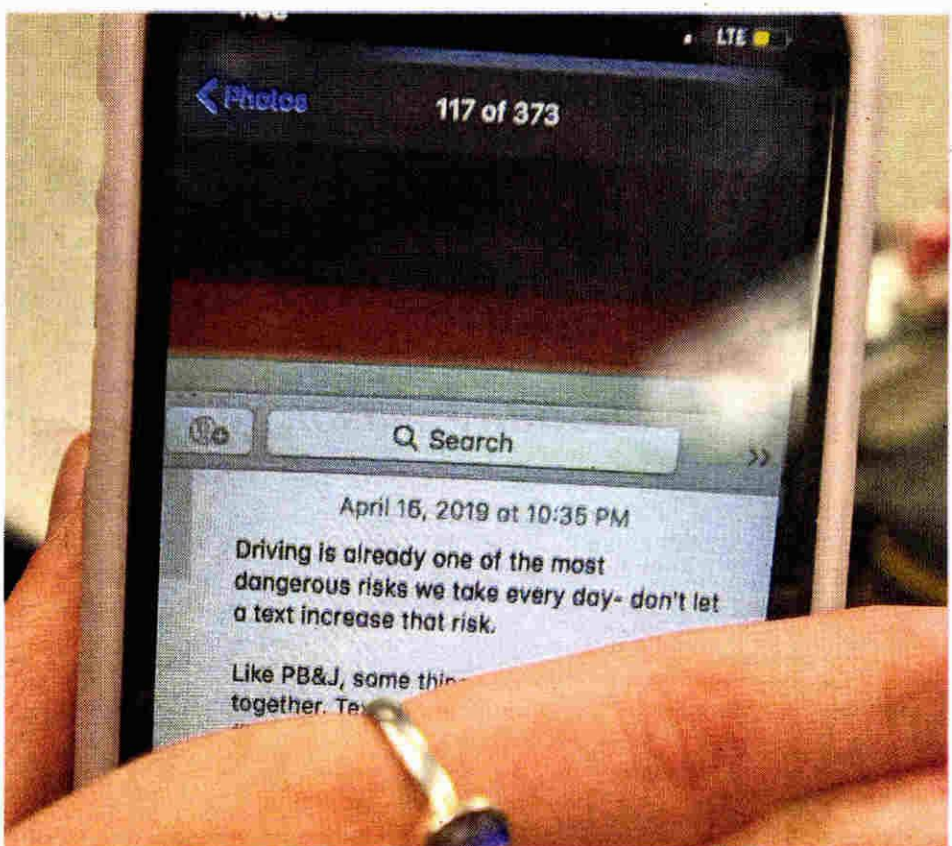
Hallani hopes to open the store in February. It will be a little smaller than the Westland store, but he still plans to fit all his usual products inside.

"It's going to be a beautiful," he said.

Hallani said he's planning on holding off expanding again anytime soon. He said he would eventually like to open a Bulk Foods and Smoothies in Oakland County - he's heard a lot about Southfield from customers - but for now, he's excited about bringing his products to Livonia.

"It just made a lot of financial sense," he said. "At the end of the day, it's Seven and Middlebelt. There's a lot of traffic."

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



Olivia Zack displays the anti-distracted driving post she published on Twitter. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Competition

Continued from Page 4A

"There are so many different forms of texting now - Snapchat, and other notifications for Instagram are coming out - it's not just a quick text anymore," she said. "People will be driving while ... on Instagram, which I think is absurd. I don't understand their thinking."

When asked to make a plea to teens who may text while driving on a regular basis, Oszust's reply was compelling.

"Don't let your decisions impact someone else's life," he said. "If you're going to look down at your phone and then look back up and crash into someone's car and someone dies, that's going to change not only that person's life forever, but their family and friends' lives." Distracted-driving fines in Michigan

are \$100 for a first offense and \$200 for a second offense.

Statistics compiled throughout 2018 by carsurance.com are eye-opening:

■ Driving while texting causes 1.6 million car accidents in the U.S. every year.

■ 21 percent of drivers reported sending emails or texts while on the road.

■ 14 percent of all fatal crashes in the U.S. involved the use of a cell phone.

■ In 2018, the number of deaths related to cell-phone use in car accidents was 4,637 in the U.S. alone.

■ Almost 390,000 injuries occur annually in the U.S. due to texting while driving.

Applications for the 2020 Kelsey's Law Scholarship are open. To learn more, visit the Michigan Auto Law Distracted Driving Scholarship page.

Contact Ed Wright at [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

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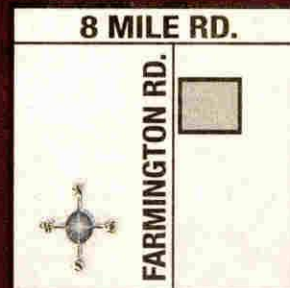
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# Concerns

Continued from Page 3A

Recognizing the growing proliferation of home security cameras, many law enforcement agencies are jumping on the latest tech bandwagon to spot possible crime trends, share safety information and request videos from app users in an effort to stave off and solve crimes.

But the app (and others like it) and the idea of law enforcement joining the "real-time crime and safety alerts" community is raising concerns about what critics see as another step closer to a Big Brother police state.

Among the worries of some critics is video captured by Ring and other security systems being stored online by Amazon and other companies, adding to the mass of personal information being collected from all of us.

"If people wanna have alarm systems, that's fine. A centrally-connected alarm system beyond property and on driveways and streets into Amazon's cloud, that's different than on your property or door," said Chris Gilliard, a Macomb Community College professor.

Gilliard has been critical of Amazon and Ring, but is aware of some of the advantages in its assistance to police.

"Part of where my concern starts is the secretive way this all came about. Amazon did not (initially) tell the number of police across the country they've partnered with. That's no way a public service should operate," he said.

Earlier this month, more than 30 civil rights groups in the U.S. signed a letter with concerns, saying the police partnerships "exemplify the company's willingness to do what it takes to expand their data empire."

In the letter, the groups claim the partnerships "pose a serious threat to civil rights and liberties, especially for black and brown communities already targeted and surveilled by law enforcement."

Ring disputes many of the claims in the letter, saying its mission is to help make neighborhoods safer, including the free app tool that connects communities with law enforcement agencies.

"We have taken care to design these features in a way that keeps users in control and protects their privacy. The Neighbors app has strict community

guidelines, trained moderators, user flagging capabilities and other tools in place to create a safe place for all members of the community to talk about what's happening in their neighborhoods," Ring said in a statement.

Michael Siegel of Detroit is a proponent, having multiple Ring cameras at his west-side home. He bought them "to give me peace of mind" and for "deterrence."

His cameras caught a man who came up his driveway and checked out his vehicle. He said the man looked right at a camera and stared at it.

"It was amazing that he didn't care," Siegel said, but added that he believes the cameras are helpful and beneficial.

More than 400 law enforcement agencies across the country have joined the app as partners, including about 20 in Michigan.

In August, Ring released a map showing law enforcement partners across the country. The map appears to be up to date, with more than a dozen of Michigan's police partners in metro Detroit.

Gilliard said he wasn't aware of any law enforcement agencies across the country that have said no to participating, but a few haven't said yes - yet.

Ring launched the Neighbors app in 2018, and anyone can download and use it, whether or not they have a security system. Law enforcement can join, too, and view comments or video that users post inside and outside of their jurisdiction.

A look at what Taig saw in Livonia showed a video that indicated an unknown man backed into someone's driveway, then went into the yard for an unknown reason and was talking on a cell phone. More than a dozen other situations in the city posted by users were listed as "suspicious," "unknown visitor" and "crime."

Users are identified as Neighbor No., not with a name or exact address. Law enforcement can post alerts and submit video requests to users in their jurisdiction. Law enforcement goes through Ring to make a request and must reference a relevant case and videos within a limited time and area. Ring doesn't provide information about users unless a user chooses to share video with police. Then, the user's email and address are disclosed.

Users can say no and opt out of future requests. Police said they don't have direct access to a user's cameras or sys-



Ring's doorbell camera footage shows Jeffrey Couch rummaging through a pickup parked in a driveway in Livonia. Couch was arrested because of the footage and pleaded no contest in court to two attempted larceny charges.

COURTESY OF THE LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VIA RING APP

tem.

The Free Press couldn't find any examples of law enforcement using a warrant to obtain video from this partnership, but law enforcement would likely have the legal right to do so.

CNET, an online news site covering tech, culture and science, published an article in June that discussed a post by Houston Police and a Ring doorbell camera giveaway that the department posted on NextDoor, another social network for neighborhoods. Among the requirements to win a free Ring doorbell camera were signing up for the Ring video recording plan for \$30 a year or \$3 a month and allowing "HPD to access the cameras when a crime occurs when we request it."

According to the CNET article, "Ring said that it doesn't support this model and that it was reaching out to police partners to make sure this wasn't a requirement for Ring giveaways."

Locally, Livonia Police was giving away Ring doorbell cameras monthly while supplies lasted. Some other departments in the region said they do not participate in such giveaways.

The Free Press asked Ring if deemed necessary, can law enforcement obtain video they believe Ring may have from a user for an investigation?

"Ring will not disclose user videos to law enforcement unless the user expressly consents or if disclosure is required by law, such as to comply with a warrant," Ring said in a statement. "Ring objects to overbroad or otherwise inappropriate legal demands as a matter of course."

### How some departments in metro Detroit are using the app

The Detroit Police Department signed an agreement, which was executed in May, "but that doesn't mean the officers have the authority to use it," Deputy Chief Grant Ha said.

Ha said while some people have been trained on how to use the app, the department is still developing policies and standard operating procedures. Ha said once the policies and procedures have been completed, they will have to be reviewed by himself, the chief and the Board of Police Commissioners.

Ha said the app may be used for serious crimes, such as murder and arson, and may be restricted to those who work in certain units or bureaus, such as homicide. He said it could bring "an additional investigative tool to communi-

See CONCERNS, Page 7A

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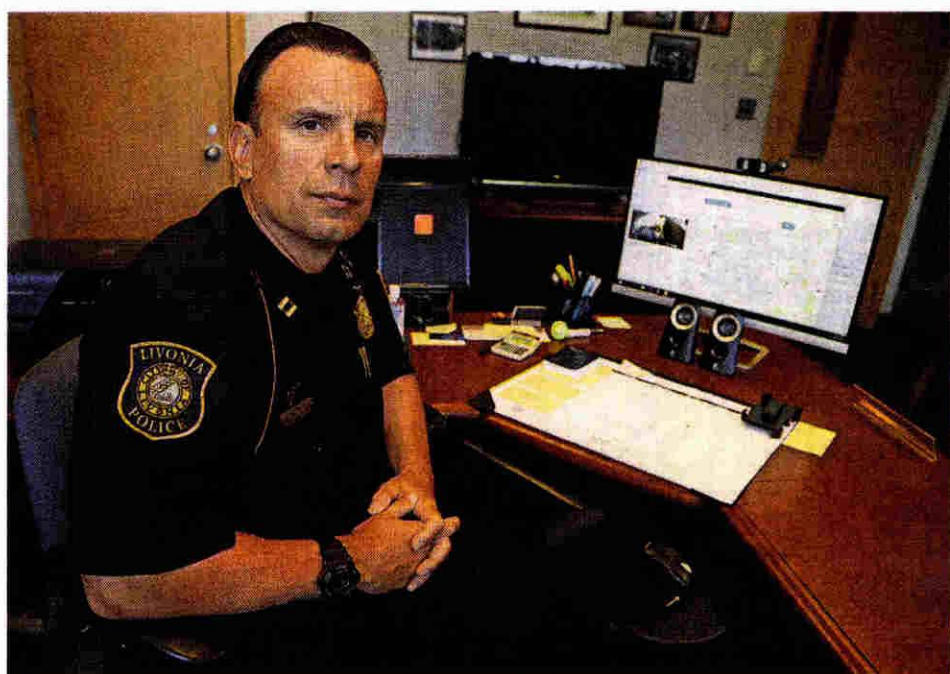
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**Captain Ronald Taig of the Livonia Police Department sits at his desk with the Ring Neighbors app open on his computer screen. His is one of the first departments in the state to use the Ring Neighbors app to get information and video shared by Ring homeowners about crime in the community.**

ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

## Concerns

Continued from Page 6A

cate with the neighbors on crimes and safety, put a finger on it in real time.”

When asked whether an image on a video obtained through the app may be tied into facial recognition technology, Ha said it would depend whether there is a clear enough image on whatever video is posted for a still shot to be taken for facial recognition analysis.

He said it would be no different than seeing something on Facebook – if it’s a particular crime and the image is of a good enough resolution – to analyze.

■ **Ferndale Police** started using the app in mid-September and put out a request for information about a rash of larcenies from several dozen unlocked vehicles. The department received a few responses, but none proved fruitful, Sgt. Baron Brown said.

“We get the environment in which we operate. We’re very careful to live up to the expectations of our community,” Brown said. “We are not gonna use it willy-nilly in a Big Brother aspect. We’re really gonna use it carefully.”

“I get people are worried and I understand that, and we operate kinda keeping them in mind. But we need to use modern technology to do our job.”

One example, had it been available then to Ferndale Police, was the disappearance and murder of Ferndale mom Lily Camara in July. Police could have asked users to check for video in that unsolved case.

“We don’t know, that’s the thing. That’s why we’re using this technology,” Brown said. “It might have given us this type of information. It might give us more information to prevent something like this.”

“We all wanna live in Mayberry, but we don’t.”

■ **Troy Police** Sgt. Meghan Lehman said the department is using the app, but “not very aggressively.”

“This is just another tool for us,” she said. “Like we use social media, but it’s a very specific group.”

Lehman said the department requested video footage related to a home invasion after a person broke into a house at night, touched a sleeping female resident, walked around the house and left. It put out a message to all residents in that particular neighborhood who are on the Neighbors app, she said, but it had not led to an arrest.

“I totally understand people’s concerns” over the Big Brother fears, Lehman said. She also understands what is considered “one person’s suspicious (person) could be another person’s meter reader.”

Lehman said a con of the app is that people could think police are actively monitoring it, “which we’re not. If we were monitoring people’s cameras and had access to people’s cameras, that would be different.”

■ **Auburn Hills Police** have been using the app for three or four months after City Council approved the partnership, Lt. Ryan Gagnon said. He said users can opt out of police contacting them.

Gagnon said the department has used the app less than a handful of times, such as putting out a request for video to a specific geographic location after an unusual daytime home invasion in which items were taken.

“We haven’t yet had a case we solved – a case or a package theft,” he said. “We’re hoping there’s times it may solve something.”

He said eight people out of 52 sworn officers have access to post messages, most of them investigators and lieutenants. Messages requesting video have been focused on areas of the city where the crime occurred.

■ **Clinton Township Police** Detective Jay Anderson said the department started participating in late summer and has used the app several times, such as when an elderly woman was the victim of fraud, but responses haven’t yet solved any crimes.

Anderson said he and two others in the department, all affiliated with the detective bureau, may review and post communications via the app, which is checked daily. For example, if he notices a lot of vehicle break-ins in an area, but only one police report filed, he can reach out to other possible victims and ask them to contact police.

Anderson said he can’t demand video, only request it; and people can choose not to help.

“Some people don’t think something small is big enough to talk with the police about,” he said. “This is like a different Facebook in my opinion. All I’m reviewing is the stuff the community is providing to me.”

■ **At the Livonia Police Department**, Taig said, the partnership has been “nothing but successful for us,” leading to multiple arrests from people sharing video, such as of people stealing packages. He and two command officers running the detective bureau check and post on the app.

Taig said he likes to interact with app users, and he doesn’t believe it feeds into the idea of people thinking there’s more crime in a community than is actually occurring, as some critics have charged.

“At the end of the day, as far as I look at it, if I’m a crime victim, there’s at least a chance to get this person because we have them on video,” he said. “It’s probably not for everybody.”

■ **In Sterling Heights**, Lt. Mario Bastianelli said the department hasn’t proceeded because of other projects, such as building renovations.

■ **Birmingham Police** Commander Scott Grewe said officials had a webinar about the app, but they are “just looking at it right now.”

Grewe said the department has used footage provided by cooperative residents in the past if officers reached out, and it’s had “some success,” but not all the time.

“Just because you have a picture doesn’t mean it’s easy to find out who they are,” he said.

### ‘There is a Big Brother aspect to it’

Peter Henning, a Wayne State University professor and former federal prosecutor, said Ring “plays on people’s fears about home security and so partnering with the police is smart for them. It sends a message, ‘We’re here to help,’ and certainly for the police, anytime they can get video, it’s helpful to them.”

Henning said most citizens will want to provide video to help the police.

The pro for law enforcement is they get access to real-time evidence, he said, “and that’s the greatest benefit to them. They can use that to identify a potential suspect.”

“The con,” Henning said, “is that there’s a certain loss of privacy (for the homeowner). I don’t have to provide it to the police, but if I choose to, I could be called to testify at a trial. ... There is a Big Brother aspect to it.”

The groups critical of the partnership believe Amazon’s technology creates “a seamless and easily automated experience for police to request and access footage without a warrant, and then store it indefinitely,” according to their letter.

They state that they believe the footage could be used by law enforcement to conduct facial recognition searches, target protesters or share with other agencies. They are calling on mayors and city councils to require police to cancel existing partnerships.



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# Space

Continued from Page 1A

A large chunk of work has already been completed, including the replacement and painting of exterior doors, and the replacement of broken and uneven cement leading to the front entrance of the building.

"Next year, the first priority will be the much-needed re-paving of the parking lot," PARC stated in a release. "Some other projects that will be phased in during the next few years include: re-installing full-size windows consistent with the building's original appearance; major upgrades to the pool area, locker rooms and theater; and renovating all of the building's rest rooms."

"All of the foundations who have pledged donations are trustworthy, so getting the money isn't a concern," said Soenen. "An important part of this entire project is that PARC has zero debt – it has borrowed no money – and no taxpayers' money has been used."

"It's been done entirely by donations, which is truly unique for a project of this size."

Soenen couldn't reveal the foundations that provided the vital donations, but he said they would be made public in the near future and that naming rights were part of the agreement.

"I think it's important to remind people that the only reason we put the property up for sale in the first place was be-



The for sale sign mounted at the perimeter of the 10-acre property located behind the PARC facility will be coming down. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

cause we needed funding for the essential infrastructure renovations for the building," Soenen said.

Tuesday's news is especially uplifting for the Steelers' organization, which will be able to continue using the property for practices and games.

Relocation would have been tough, said Steelers President Mike Balow in

August, due to the scarcity of land in Plymouth and Canton.

PARC's confidence in its ability to continue securing funds for building improvements has been bolstered by record facility utilization by arts and recreation nonprofits.

The facility is home to more than 30 organizations, including its newest

tenants like the Plymouth YMCA and Friends of the Rouge.

"Given that PARC is a nonprofit, we will continue to face the ongoing challenge of balancing its annual operating budget," Soenen added.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [edwright@hometownlife.com](mailto:edwright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

# Cards

Continued from Page 1A

D.O. it for Denny Facebook community service page, has brought together students in Livonia, Farmington, Howell and Northville to show gratitude to active-duty military personnel, veterans and new recruits.

Local veterans and Girl Scouts have also gotten involved.

McKay is hoping to collect 11,111 cards for service members throughout November. She'll send the cards through A Million Thanks.

Anyone who wants to lend a hand can contact McKay at her Facebook

page or via [doit4denny@gmail.com](mailto:doit4denny@gmail.com).

"If you're out there and you want to help, let me know," McKay said.

A Million Thanks' guidelines call for the cards to be unsealed, not political, not heavily religious and without glitter, confetti or anything edible.

McKay hopes these small acts of thanks remind the troops and veterans who receive them that they have people rooting for them at home.

"When we think of heroes, it's Superman and Spider-Man," she said. "But these people are the real heroes, and so I think it's important they know that's how we feel about them."

Contact Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Twitter: @shelby\_tankk.



A student in Emma Chapman's class at Kennedy Elementary in Livonia holds up the greeting card she made Nov. 11. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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# Obituaries

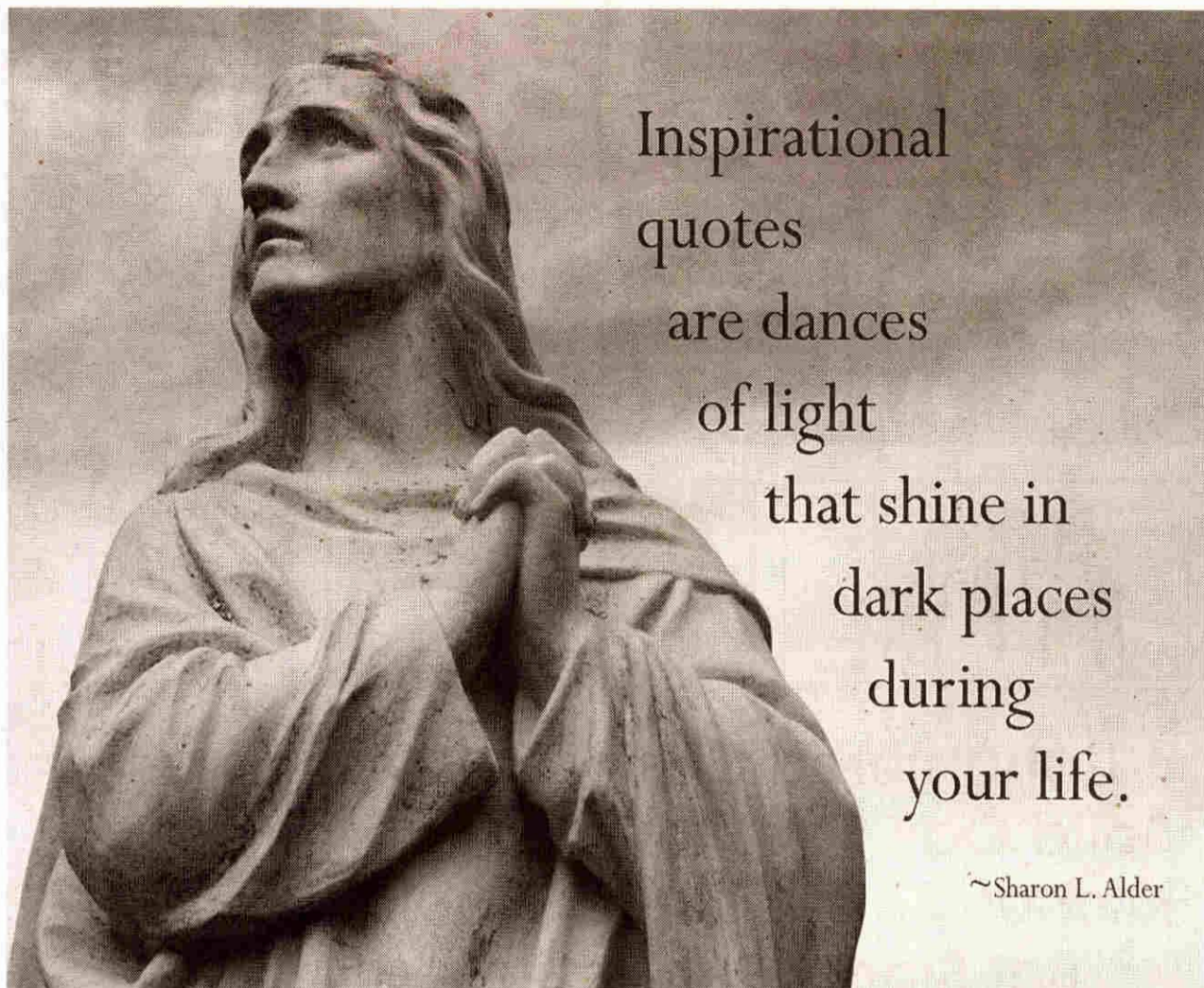
To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit [mideathnotices.com/place.php](http://mideathnotices.com/place.php)

## Marcia A. O'Rilley

-- Age 83, of Bloomfield Hills transitioned to eternal life on November 12, 2019. She was born on November 14, 1935 in Dundalk, Maryland to the late Albert and Esther Nemzek. Beloved wife of the late Wilbert G. ("Bill"). Marcia prided herself on being a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Marcia is survived by her children Mark (fiancée Susan), Ann Welch (James), James (Nancy) and Carol Gargaro (Robert). Cherished grandmother of Shelby, Shannon, Allison, Jack, Robby, Nicholas and great-grandmother of Cash. The family wishes to thank the staff at Sunrise Senior Living of Bloomfield for the wonderful care, support and love they provided. Based on Marcia's wishes Funeral Services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, family suggests memorials to the American Diabetes Association or charity of donor's choice. A.J. Desmond & Sons, 248-362-2500.

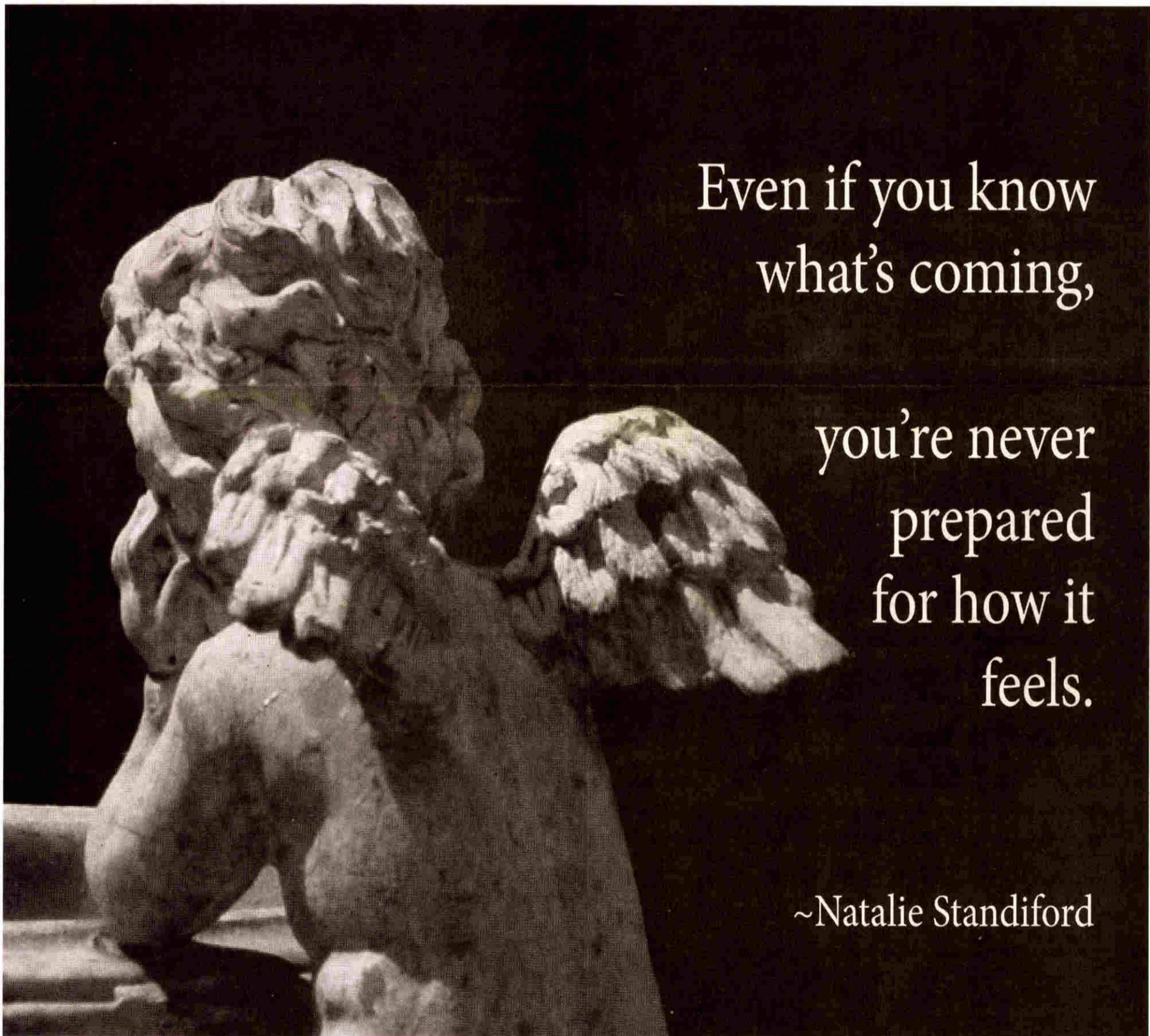


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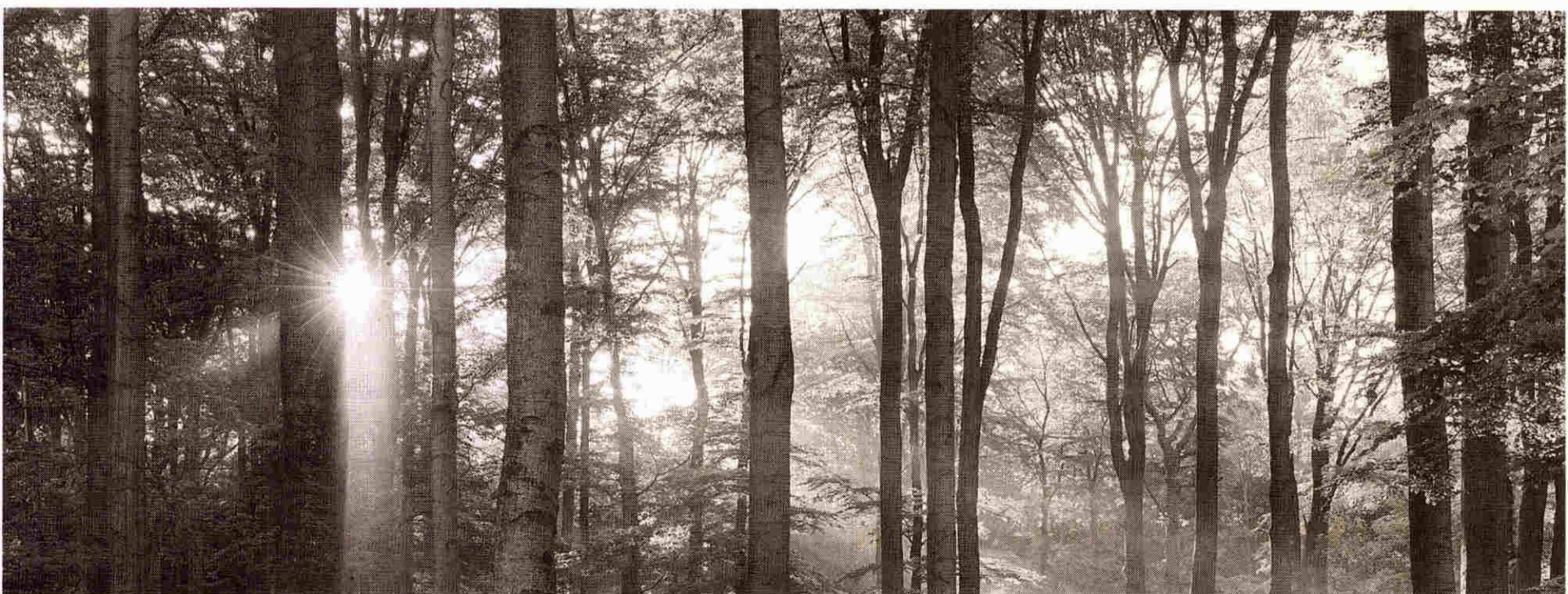
Inspirational quotes are dances of light that shine in dark places during your life.

~Sharon L. Alder



Even if you know what's coming, you're never prepared for how it feels.

~Natalie Standiford





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# Sports

## VOLLEYBALL REGIONAL PLAYOFFS

### Mercy downs Marian in five-set thriller

Colin Gay  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Through the first three games of Farmington Hills Mercy's playoff run, the team was stoic, quickly downing each opponent in three sets like it was no trouble at all.

In the regional semifinal, facing a Bloomfield Hills Marian team that the Marlins were extremely familiar with — having faced the Mustangs six previous times this season — adversity came. And the emotion, the fire came out.

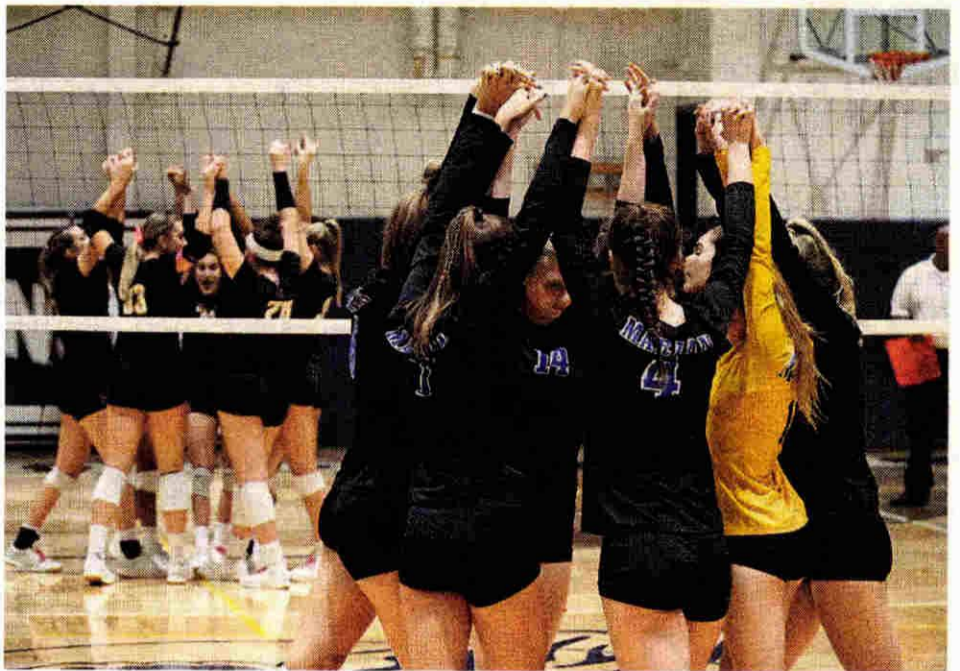
After losing a highly contested fourth

set to Marian, who secured the set victory with a block by senior Christine Audette, Mercy stormed back in the fifth and final set, defeating Marian, 15-6, without allowing the Mustangs to record a run to secure the match victory and a bid in the regional final.

Mercy will take on Cass Tech at Farmington High School in the regional final.

"There's always that point in playoffs where it goes from business as usual to OK, now we have to take things super seriously," Mercy senior Jess Mrusik

See MERCY, Page 2B



The Mercy, left, and Marian teams huddle up before the start of their regional semifinal matchup Tuesday at Farmington High. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## SKATING

### Feeling right at home

Two from Farmington Hills show off skills in sectional competition

Colin Gay  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

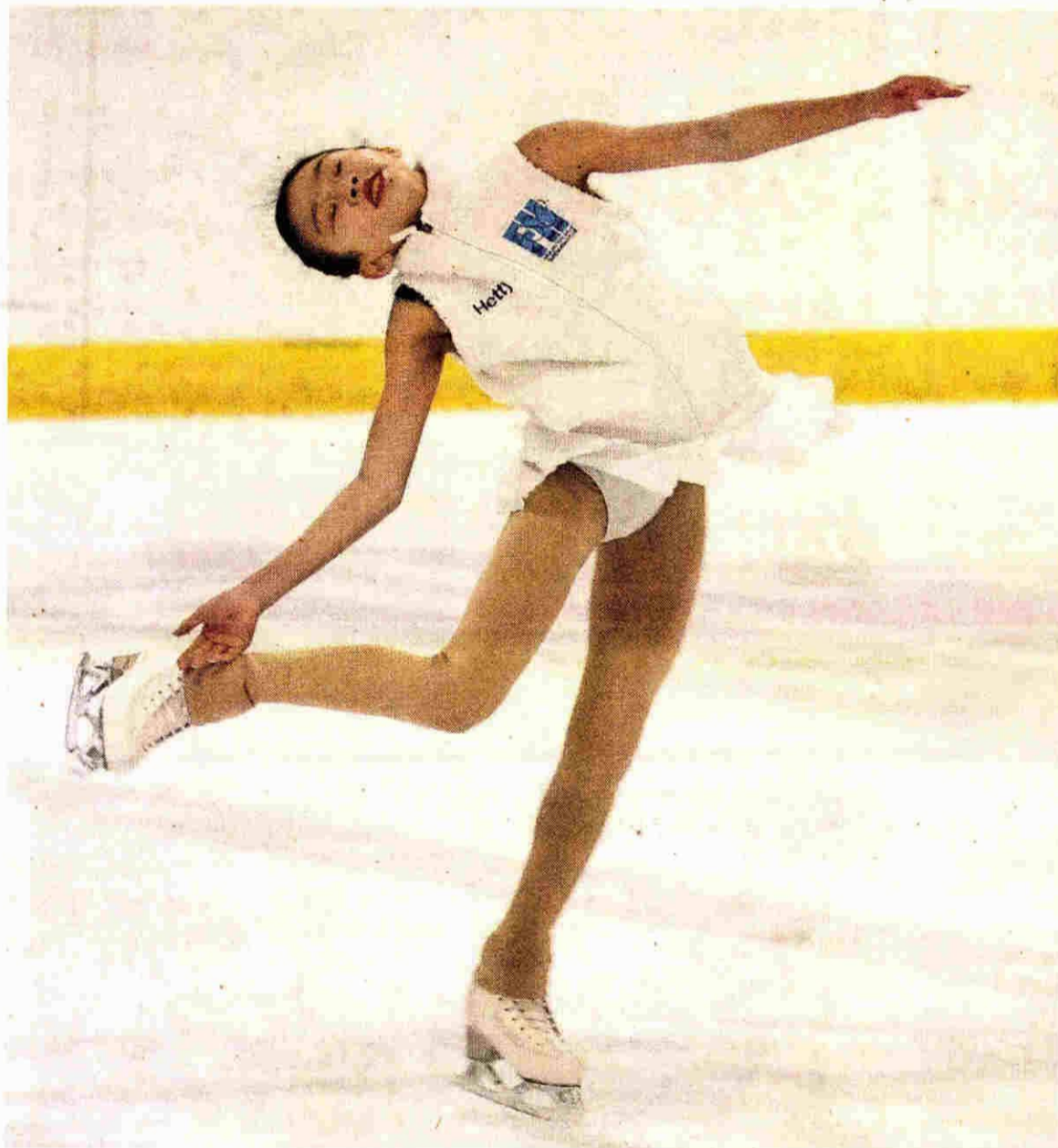
Hetty Shi had no background in skating. No member of her family was familiar with the sport, nor was she a fan of the sport before taking it up herself.

Really, her reasoning for taking up ice skating at the age of 6 was incredibly simple.

"My dad was like, 'Since we live in Michigan, it's so cold here. Why don't you start skating?'" Shi said.

Twelve-year-old Ava Nienus was on the other end of the spectrum. Growing up, learning about her grandmother on the ice and watching her older sister skate, it was only right for Nienus to take it up as well at 4 years old.

See SKATERS, Page 2B



"These two have progressed incredibly fast. They skate a lot, and they are really hard workers. They dedicate a lot of their time to this sport, and they have improved incredibly fast."

Stacy Barber  
Coach at Farmington Hills Skating Club

Hetty Shi spins on the ice during a skate Tuesday in Farmington Hills. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Gavin Brooks fights off the Dexter defense. Livonia Churchill defeats Dexter, 41-39, in the pre-district round of the MHSAA high school football playoffs. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### QB Gavin Brooks has Livonia Churchill on a roll

Colin Gay  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Churchill junior quarterback Gavin Brooks has had his ups and downs throughout the 2019 season. After starting the season 1-4, the Chargers have won each of their last four games, earning a spot in the postseason.

In the pre-district round on the road against Dexter, Brooks shined, completing 20-of-30 pass attempts for 272 yards and four touchdowns, including a

5-yard floater to wide receiver Shane Morelli late in the fourth quarter to give Churchill the lead and the eventual win.

Brooks was named as the Hometown Life Athlete of the Week, gaining 12,012 of the 16,934 total votes cast (70.93%).

Livonia Franklin defensive lineman Jake Swirple received 3,820 votes (22.56%) for second place, while Farmington's Julian Ama finished in third with 633 votes (3.74%).

Plymouth cross-country runner

See BROOKS, Page 3B

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ARCTIC CLASSIC REGATTA



The Cranbrook Kingswood rowing team competed in the mixed 8 event at the Arctic Classic Regatta on Nov. 2 on Kent Lake at Kensington Metro Park. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Northville, Cranbrook Kingswood row

Susan Bromley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

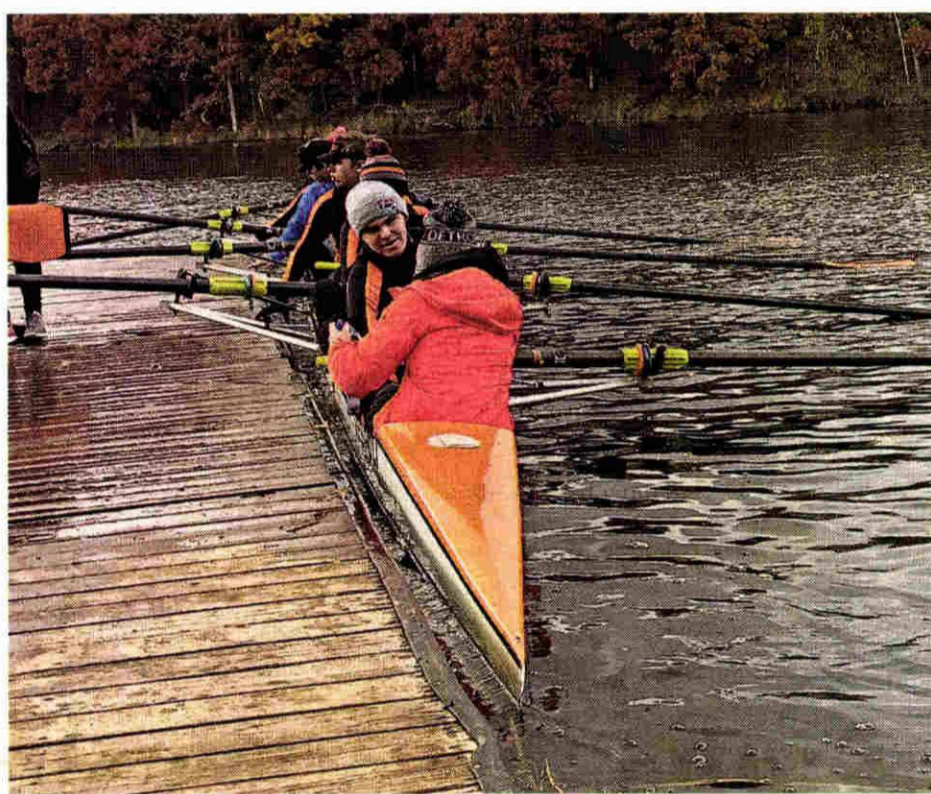
It was 40 degrees with cold, rain, and even hail, but Kent Lake wasn't frozen over, allowing rowing teams one last hurrah in the Arctic Classic Regatta.

The Northville Rowing Club and the Cranbrook Kingswood rowing team competed in a multitude of events against each other, as well as teams from Saline and Rockford Nov. 2 at Kensington Metropark.

Among the events were men's and women's varsity, junior varsity, and novice events, with teams consisting of 1, 2, 4 and 8 members, and some mixed teams.

The 1,800-meter course ranged from the Buno Road bridge to Maple Beach. Northville placed first in several events, including the men's HS Varsity 8+ with a time of 6:23.1 and the women's HS Varsity 8+ with a time of 7:19.8.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Reach her on Twitter at @SusanBromley10.



Northville Rowing Club crew members prepare to leave the dock for an event at the competition.

Mercy

Continued from Page 1B

said. "Every time you step on the court, it could be the last time we play together."

At the start of the first set, things seemed normal for the Marlins. Mercy stormed out to an imposing 21-7 lead, in which Mrusik had already recorded eight kills from the front.

But Marian began to chip away, scoring 15 of the next 19 points — including a 10-0 run — to bring the Mustangs back to within two points.

Despite securing the 25-22 first-set victory, Mercy head coach Loretta Vogel said this was something to be expected from a team that had seen the Marlins many times before.

"At some point, everybody knows each other and I think there is such a big rivalry, and such emotion that takes place," Vogel said. "I thought Marian earned their points, and they played well. We just got to 25 a couple of times quicker than they did."

A 25-12 second-set victory brought Mercy one set shy of its fourth sweep in the playoffs. But Marian did not let that happen.

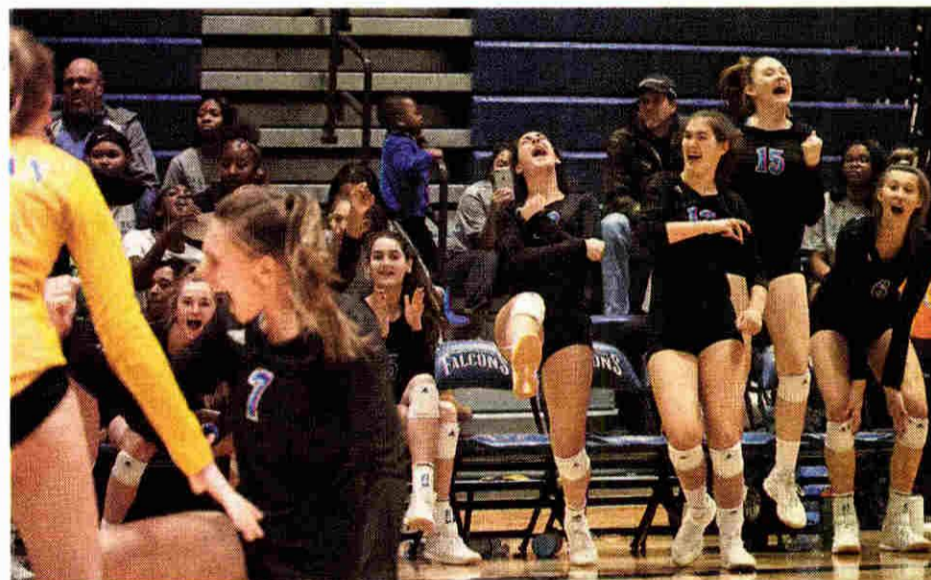
After trading points for the first part of the third set, Marian sophomore Tatum Casper recorded a kill, igniting the Mustangs on a 5-0 run, and leading to a 25-19 third-set victory.

And when the Mustangs were down 12-8 in the fourth set, Marian came storming back again, trading points with Mercy until Audette's block secured the 30-28 set victory.

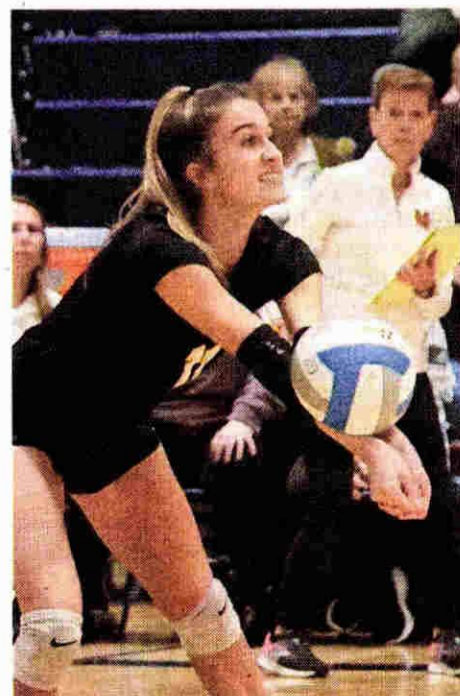
In those two sets, Mrusik did not think Mercy played badly. Instead, she thought they were satisfied with how close the sets were, were convinced they would eventually move on.

That's when the mindset shifted. "Between the fourth and fifth set, we regrouped and we talked about, 'Hey, we can't get complacent,'" Mrusik said. "We have to put the foot on the gas and don't let go until the whistle blows."

And that's what the Marlins did. Starting with a slam from junior Ellie Tisko off the assist from junior Julia



Marian High's bench celebrates with their teammates on the court after a point. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Mercy High player Madi Malecki returns a serve. Mercy took the first two sets but was forced to a fifth.

Bishop, Mercy played like it had in the first three rounds of the playoffs, ruling the front with an intensity that had not previously been shown.

Because, for Mercy, it was not business as usual. It had to fight to stay alive.

And while Marian fell on the losing side to Mercy again, head coach Mayssa Cook saw a glimmer of hope, something she could build off of heading into next season.

With only two seniors graduating, including Audette, a team of many freshmen and sophomores become on year older, especially with, as Cook pointed out, Mercy graduating "a particular person" in Mrusik.

With sophomores Ava Brizard and Sarah Sylvester in the front, and freshman Ava Sarafa setting them up, Cook feels Marian has a bright future ahead of it. And that had just begun with the Mustangs' five-set loss to Mercy.

"Nobody tonight was perfect, and we had moments where it didn't look pretty, but, for the most part, we saw them play at a high level consistently," Cook said. "I believe that each of them can walk off this court feeling like 'I did everything that I could.'"

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Skaters

Continued from Page 1B

Now, as 11- and 12-year-olds, respectively, Shi and Nienus have become extremely successful as members of the Farmington Hills Skating Club, performing well enough to earn a spot in the U.S. Figure Skating mid-western singles sectional in Allen, Texas.

"These two have progressed incredibly fast," Stacy Barber, a coach at the Farmington Hills Skating Club, said. "They skate a lot, and they are really hard workers. They dedicate a lot of their time to this sport, and they have improved incredibly fast."

While progression has been important for Nienus and Shi, both said they felt right at home when they first took to the ice.

For Nienus, she has high expectations, finishing at the top of her rankings, easily qualifying for the sectional, something, she said, her coaches did not tell her to encourage her to continue her progress.

Ahead of the sectional competition, Nienus is already planning ahead, taking the ice every day before school to help get her ready for her 6:15 a.m.



Shi Nienus

skate time in the sectional.

"You get really tired really easily, so it's hard sometimes," Nienus said. "It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun. You know you are doing it for something."

Shi, on the other hand, is nervous. She said she is afraid of the ability of those who are coming across the country to participate in the same competitions she is skating in.

"There's just a lot of good people. They have stuff that I don't," Shi said. "I feel nervous because I don't know if I can do what I need to do."

For her parents — Qingli Xiao and Yufang Shi — Hetty has been an incredibly quick learner, taking to the ice and becoming "advanced" more quickly than other girls at her age.

Xiao said it was the combination of her father's persistence and her coach Nicole Reitz's love of the sport that brought Shi to where she is today.

And while he admitted that his daughter has a level of anxiety, he said she has always been one to like to "do the challenging stuff."

Shi's parents are just there to give support, going alongside their daughter as she goes through the process of competitive ice skating.

"Be herself, showing herself to the people," Xiao said when asked what she wants to see out of Shi in the sectional. "That's all."

While consistency and confidence will both be important learning opportunities for both girls in the competition, Barber said that this process of competitive ice skating will help each long term.

"What they learn doing this, they will carry the rest of their life, that they will take in college and whatever comes after that," Barber said. "Hopefully we give them training, not only on the ice, but we try and focus on life lessons."

The long-term impact is not what Nienus is focused on now. She is focused on showcasing more speed, stronger jumps, a higher component score, consisting of acting and facial expressions and a seamlessness while performing.

Both Shi and Nienus show why they do what they do while they perform, gliding across the ice, performing toe and edge jumps with ease.

That's when Reitz sees what her two skaters have the capability to do.

"It's them wanting to do it and their love for the sport," Reitz said. "Then, I think, talent comes with it."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

**"It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun. You know you are doing it for something."**

Ava Nienus



## FOOTBALL DISTRICT FINAL

## Seaholm surges past Groves, 42-7

Colin Gay  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Jim DeWald's game plan for Birmingham Seaholm is not very difficult to understand. The head coach wants the Maples to run the ball effectively and stop the run defensively.

It was something Seaholm struggled to do against Birmingham Groves earlier this season, losing to the Falcons in its annual rivalry game on Oct. 18.

But this time, the time that mattered most - the district title game - DeWald left the field smiling.

Seaholm (8-3) defeated Groves (8-3), 42-7, advancing to the regional round of the Michigan high school football playoffs for the first time since 2001.

"It's the proverbial monkey off your back," DeWald said. "You sit there and you look at them. They are so well coached, they are such a good team and they do a lot of great things. You have to play very well to beat them, and I feel like we played very well tonight."

The Maples will host Port Huron this weekend.

## Running wild

From the first drive of the game, the Maples set the tone for the rest of its offensive game plan.

Taking just under half of the first quarter, Seaholm ran a nine-play, 63-yard scoring drive, consisting of only one pass play: a 25-yard pass from quarterback Caleb Knoer to William McBride.

After Jackson Vance waltzed into the end zone for the 9-yard score, Seaholm knew it had an opportunity to put points on the board against the Falcons.

"Our O-line really showed up today," Knoer said. "They blew them off the line and they dominated, which we hope to do every week. Our game plan is to get

our running back going and they did a good job of making that happen."

Senior running back Chaz Strecker led the charge, recording 175 yards and three touchdowns on the ground, including an 83-yard run in the second half that allowed the Maples to explode to a three-touchdown lead.

DeWald credited Strecker's performance both offensively and defensively, calling his senior running back a stud.

"He's a tough kid, not very big, but he has the heart of a lion," DeWald said.

Vance proved to be a major part of the offense for the Maples as well, adding a 1-yard touchdown run late in the fourth quarter, his second touchdown of the day, to secure the 35-point win. Vance finished with 105 yards rushing.

With the familiarity of Groves, Strecker said the offense provided some different looks, but stuck to its same mentality for the majority of the win.

"We cleaned up everything, changed up some things on offense and defense, gave them some loops they were not ready for, and just took it to them," Strecker said. "They couldn't stop it."

## Stopping Groves' offense

Trailing 21-0 in the second quarter, the Groves offense looked like it had a bit of juice left in the tank.

Senior quarterback Markis Alexander completed two passes for 46 yards. Senior running back Ralph Donaldson finished the Falcons' first successful drive with a 14-yard touchdown run.

But while the defense failed to stop the running game, the Groves offense failed to gather enough momentum.

Groves had recorded only two first downs leading up to its first, and only, touchdown drive late in the second quarter. And while the success seemed to move forward - with Alexander finding a receiver for 16 yards to start Groves' next



The Birmingham Seaholm bench celebrates a touchdown. The Maples advanced to the regional round of the playoffs for the first time since 2001.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

drive - the senior quarterback shut down, throwing three incompletions leading to a punt.

DeWald said he knew Groves had given the Maples difficulty on third-and-long in the past, so the defensive coaching staff adapted, blitzing the Falcons and showing pressure that made Groves uncomfortable.

Seaholm forced five tackles for loss against Groves, including two sacks.

After starting the game completing 7-of-9 pass attempts, Alexander finished the game completing 11-of-21 pass attempts for 156 yards and an interception.

"My respect level for them has never changed," Groves head coach Brendan Flaherty said. "It was their night. They kicked our butt, and that's it."

After sitting out the first round because of Warren De La Salle forfeiting the remainder of its season, Flaherty said his players had a good week of practices leading up to the Seaholm game, and

said the forfeit had nothing to do with the performance against the Maples.

## Maples move forward

DeWald has never been in this position. He has never coached Seaholm to a regional round of the playoffs. But that does not mean he will change what his team's approach is.

"We really don't change a lot of what we do from week to week," DeWald said. "We will change a pocket scheme here or there, but it's nothing drastic. It's just tightening up the details."

On both sides of the ball, Knoer and Strecker agreed that it was about as close to a "perfect Seaholm game" as they could get, with the Maples running the ball successfully down the throat of its opponents and stopping the run on the other side.

With Groves in their path, many thought that the Maples would not make it past the district round. Strecker said the team thrived off that energy.

"A lot of people don't have much faith in us as a team," Strecker said. "Coming out and proving everyone wrong, it's such a good feeling."

Now, the Maples will take on Port Huron in the regional round on the road.

However, even though the proverbial "monkey" is off DeWald's back, he said he is not aiming to prove everyone wrong.

"We are not trying to prove anything to anyone," DeWald said. "Its day-in, day-out, play for the guy next to you, play this next play for the school, for the community."

But that does not change Seaholm's goal.

"We just have to stay focused," Strecker said. "Our goal is on to Ford Field now."

Reach Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com), 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17.

## FOOTBALL DISTRICT FINAL

## Farmington falls to U-D Jesuit, 11-10

Tom Morelli  
Special to Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One week after knocking out top-ranked North Farmington in the district opener, University of Detroit Jesuit secured its first district title since 2013 beating Farmington, 11-10, a week ago.

It wasn't pretty by any stretch of the imagination, but the Cubs (8-3 overall) took yards where they could get them and made just enough plays to come out on top.

Down by a 7-0 margin at the end of the first quarter, U-D Jesuit began the second deep in Farmington territory.

Faced with a 4th and 3 from the Falcons' 17, the Cubs opted to go for the first down, and quarterback Nathan Brown found Jeffrey Knight in the corner of the end zone for the first touchdown of the night.

U-D Jesuit would double-down on the ensuing play, thanks to an offside penalty against the Falcons on the point-after attempt. Running back Nicholas Johnson (24 carries for 75 yards) broke through the middle of the trenches on the two-point conversion to make it an 8-7 affair with 10:13 until halftime.

"Johnson is a workhorse and has been unbelievable," University of Detroit Jesuit head coach Matt Lewis said. "He's one of the most underrated players in the state and plays both sides of the ball. He's tough as nails and he's gotten it done all year."

The Cubs lost their lead temporarily in the third quarter, only to regain it back with 1:20 remaining on a 25-yard field goal by Xavier Chow in what would turn out to be the game-winning score.

Both squads would trade a trio of three-and-outs in the fourth quarter before U-D managed to secure three first downs on their final drive to preserve the win.

## Points of emphasis

Farmington (8-2 overall) was able to register points on its third possession of the game thanks to a fumble recovery by defensive back Nolan Mohr in Cubs' territory.

Utilizing a series of runs plays by Keion Shaw (12 carries for 71 yards), Max Martin and Stephen Singleton, the Falcons were able to reach the red zone.

Following a run up the gut by Shaw to move the chains, Martin connected with running back Jordan Turner on a 13-yard play-action pass to give Farmington the early lead.

Late in the second quarter, Shaw broke out the longest run of the contest with a 35-yard dart up the left side, but the Falcons would have nothing to show for it after a missed 25-yard field goal attempt.

Any chance for redemption before intermission fell by the wayside, as Farmington and U-D each traded fumbles in the final minutes.

"Our kids are tough," Farmington



Farmington head coach Kory Cioroch addresses his team after losing to U-D Jesuit in the Division 2 district final.

TOM MORELLI/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

head coach Kory Cioroch said. "This was a great football game and it was a battle, just like we said it was going to be. It was a war, just like we said it was going to be. It came down to a couple plays...the two-point conversion, turnovers and mess-ups."

The Falcons produced their final score with 4:51 left in the third quarter on a 34-yard boot by junior kicker Eli Bride.

## Getting defensive

In such a tight, low-scoring game it was the defense that shined the most, as both teams proved to be disruptive toward each other's offense.

"It was a great football game between two really good teams," Lewis said. "We knew it was going to be a defensive slugfest and we were just lucky enough to have one more point than they did."

Farmington finished the contest with

two fumble recoveries, while the Cubs were able to muster up one.

The Falcons also had an edge in sacks, 4-2, with junior linebacker Javen Culpepper accounting for three of them.

## Did you know?

Jesuit has made it to the playoffs in four of the past six seasons and has reached seven wins for the first time since 2013.

The Cubs have also made a noticeable impression on the defensive side of the ball, surrendering 120 points, marking the lowest number of points allowed since the 2002 season (97 points).

"All fall sports are over and we're the only team left," Lewis said. "It's exciting for our kids, it's exciting for our parents, our alums and our school as we try for the regional championship next week."

For Farmington, this marked the second-straight season they have made it to the district final, with the program qualifying for the playoffs in 10 of its last 14 attempts.

"I'm proud of my kids and love my kids," Cioroch said. "It was an amazing year and I absolutely love being the football coach here. It's sad to see these seniors go, but I told them that I'd remember them forever. When they were freshmen, the program wasn't in the best shape, and they've left it in a better place than they found it."

Send game results and stats to [LivSports@hometownlife.com](mailto:LivSports@hometownlife.com).

## Brooks

Continued from Page 1B

Carter Solomon and Novi soccer player Bruce Turner rounded out the top five.

Before Churchill's district final win against Battle Creek Lakeview, we caught up with Brooks to see how momentum has affected the team as a whole, to see what he does in his free time and what his plans are for the future.

**What were your expectations going into the season for Churchill football, and what have you guys done? Has it exceeded expectations?**

"Pretty much going into the year, I was thinking we were definitely going to be a young team and I knew playing such a tough front half of the schedule

that we did, we were going to have some adversity at times. If we stuck together, I thought we were going to be able to win out our second half of the season, which we did. I think we kind of met and exceeded expectations because I don't think anyone expected we would make it out of round one, especially playing a team like Dexter, and we pulled it off. Now we are looking to get a big win for Week 2."

**What was that moment, the turnaround where you thought this team could do something special?**

"I think in the Franklin game, I think it really turned around when we saw like, OK, we made it through the front half of the schedule and we have improved every week. We went toe-to-toe with Franklin. Our younger players really stepped up in that game, and I think that was the point where we thought we

could really ball with everybody."

**Has this season changed your expectation as to what your senior season a Churchill could be like?**

"With how many returning kids we are going to have next year, I think next year, the goal is not only to make it into the playoffs, but to really do something in the playoffs, because I think this year we have already exceeded expectations and I hope next season we are able to do even more."

**What do you like to do when you are not on the football field or not in the classroom?**

"I'm usually with my friends all the time. My best friends are all on the football team, and we pretty much hang out all the time, and we'll do whatever: play video games, hang out. We go up to the rec center a bunch too and mess around up there in the winter."

**Do you have the goal of playing college football?**

"Absolutely. I have been in contact with a lot of schools throughout my whole high school career. I started pretty early in trying to get in contact with schools and going on visits. I'm set up to do some visits for game-day stuff. I'm supposed to go back in the winter for a couple more visits. Hillsdale's been a big one, Davenport and Wayne State has been good too."

**If you are listening to something before a game, what is that? What gets you fired up?**

"Pretty much any type of rap music. I'm a big fan of Travis Scott."

Reach Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com), 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter at @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to [LivSports@hometownlife.com](mailto:LivSports@hometownlife.com).



# A senior moment for the technology boom

Industry evolves to serve the aging population

Jennifer Jolly  
Special to USA TODAY

When you think of tech early adopters, this Brooklyn resident isn't who typically comes to mind. She's 95 years old, can't see or hear very well anymore, and grew up in a time when the hottest new gadgets around were toaster ovens and zippers.

Today? She's not sure what she would do without her Amazon Echo smart speaker.

"Alexa has been a miracle," the spirited senior tells me over the phone. "I ask 'what is the weather,' and get an answer. Alexa turns on my lights, tells me what time it is, and when to take my pills."

She's now one of the 16.7 million older Americans living alone at home. She has the help of her three daughters who live nearby, a part-time caregiver, and a few simple modern tech tools. (Editor's note: We're not using her name at her family's request, to protect her from becoming prey to scammers.)

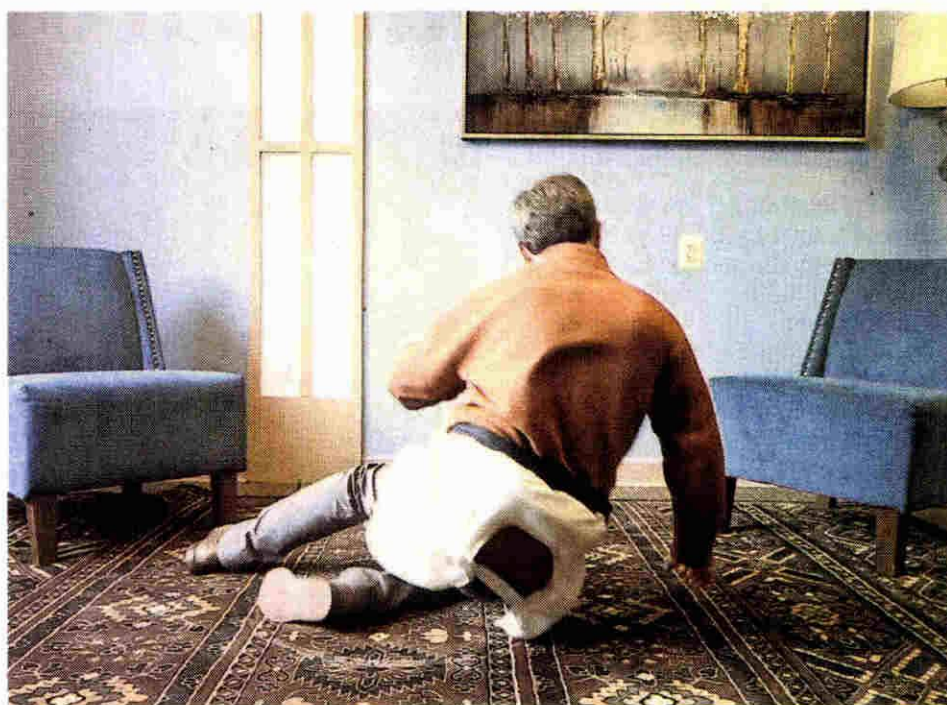
It turns out, this simple digital dose of daily life might soon be just what the doctor orders for both older adults and the people who love them.

## Not your kids' tech boom anymore

There's a major elder-care tech evolution underway. With about 10,000 baby boomers turning 65 in America every day, seniors are expected to outnumber children within the next 15 years. So all those big tech companies cranking out shiny new gadgets? Many are thinking about shifting focus to seniors as the active-aging market is expected to triple to nearly \$30 billion in just three years.

## Why this is so important

For the more than 95% of people ages 65 and older who want to live out the remainder of their lives in the comfort of their own homes, the latest gadgets can help keep them safe and independent. But there's another huge part of the



Tango Belt, a wearable "airbag" belt is designed to protect seniors from hip fractures if they fall. TANGO BELT

population to consider the sandwich generation. Now, 1 in every 8 Americans cares for an aging parent while raising a family of their own. For them, innovative tech tools can provide a watchful eye, constant connection and the comfort of knowing everything's OK.

New technology "provides the very basic things that my mom needs moment to moment," says Dani, the 61-year-old daughter of our teched-out nonagenarian. "She doesn't have to rely on me for every little thing, like to tell her what time it is or to take her medicine."

Dani said it took her about an hour to set up the new gadgets for her mom. She also wrote the word "Alexa" in Sharpie on pieces of paper and put them around the house to remind Mom of the Echo's "wake-up" word. "It's these little things," Dani explains, "it's what makes her feel human, and that's what she should have."

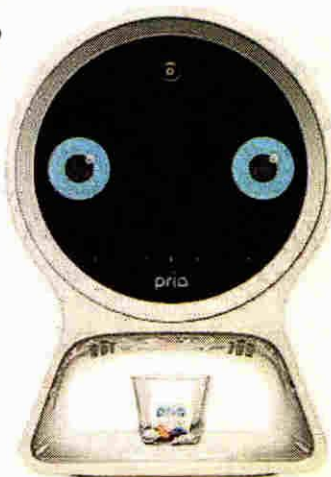
Here are some of the other new gadgets providing turnkey tech support for seniors and the people who love them.

## Sensible sensors

CarePredict's Tempo Series 3 looks

like a stylish smartwatch. It's tiny but powerful, packed with sensors that know when Grandma or Grandpa is sitting, walking, sleeping, eating or even brushing teeth. It can sense critical changes and alert caregivers to poor sleep quality or mobility problems.

A built-in two-way microphone lets seniors contact help whenever they need it, and it even doubles as a door key, making life that much simpler.



Black & Decker's Pria personal medication assistant helps seniors take pills on time and lets caregivers keep in touch. JENNIFER JOLLY

## Furry friends

I gave an Ageless Innovation Joy For All Companion pup to my former mother-in-law who suffers from Alzheimer's, and she absolutely loves it: These animatronic pups and cats feel real. They bark and meow, turn their head at the sound of your voice, respond to touch, and you even feel a heartbeat when you hug it.

Studies show that a furry companion can help you maintain healthy blood pressure and combat feelings of loneliness and social isolation.

## A break from falls

Every 11 seconds, a fall sends a senior to an emergency room, and for those who break a hip, 20% die within a year of the injury.

The Tango belt is easy to wear, unobtrusive and loaded with sophisticated sensors that can detect a fall. It can even deploy personal airbags. The airbags automatically pop out, absorbing the impact and protecting fragile hips. After triggering the soft cushion, the belt sends out alerts to caregivers.

## Pill problems

You don't have to be a senior to know how big of a pain it can be to remember to take medication.

Black & Decker's Pria personal medication assistant is a pint-sized machine that is as if Alexa and Facebook's Portal had a baby. The killer feature here is the built-in "pill wheel" that dispenses meds and chimes reminders so no one misses any doses.

## A virtual stroll down memory lane

Rendever, a virtual reality startup provides all-in-one virtual reality systems to senior living communities. Slip a headset over a senior's eyes, and thanks to Google Maps and 360-degree video, watch them be swept away on a virtual visit to their childhood home, or even attend a grandchild's soccer game through a secure "family engagement portal."

Jennifer Jolly is host of USA TODAY's digital video show TECHNOL.

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The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned in the Township of Redford by the Redford Township Police Department and are to be sold, as is, at open auction on Saturday, the 23rd day of November, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at North Redford Towing, 12719 BEECH DALY Redford, MI 48239. Vehicles can be viewed on the auction dates. Registered owners will be allowed to pick up their vehicles prior to the start of the auction. Check [www.nrtowing.com](http://www.nrtowing.com) for the current list.

Published: November 17, 2019

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### CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

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

**Case #2229C, Final Plan Approval for Proposed Perrinville Residential Condominium Development, Parcel #013-02-0001-000, North of Ann Arbor Trail, South Side of Joy Road, east of Hines Drive, West of Farmington, Infinity Homes & CO. LLC (Rino Soave).**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road, Westland, Michigan at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

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

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman  
Westland Planning Commission

Published: November 17, 2019

LO-000354144 3x2.5



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## How to spot a potential bad boss during an interview

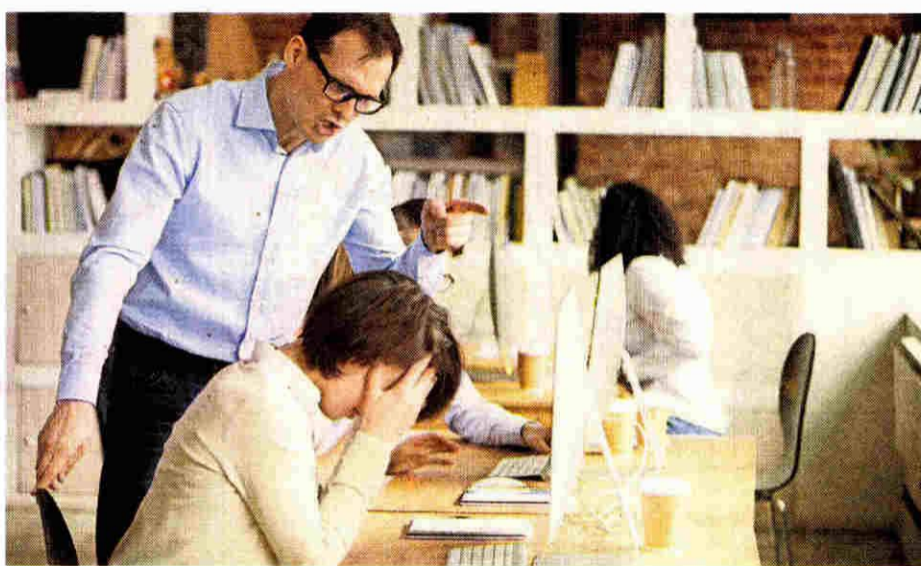
**Eric Titner**  
 thejobnetwork.com

When it comes to job satisfaction, almost nothing derails your ability to be happy at work each day than a bad boss. Sure, bad bosses come in many types and they aren't all created equal, but regardless of the type of bad boss you're dealing with, there's a unique type of dread that comes each morning when you're getting ready to work with someone you can't stand.

Bad bosses can make an otherwise satisfying job a nightmare and leave you exhausted and running for the exit at the end of each workday — not a recipe for professional happiness. Furthermore, one of the greatest predictors of job success is the ability to get along with and work well with your boss. If that isn't happening, you may find yourself stuck in a situation that is keeping you from realizing your true potential.

The tricky thing about a bad boss is that initial impressions can be incredibly deceptive. Often, a potential manager couldn't seem nicer when meeting them for the first time at a job interview. They can be very good at luring you in during the first few conversations, making it seem as if it'll be amazing to work with them. But then comes the sonic boom of unfortunate realization when you discover that this couldn't be further from the truth — and at that point after your foot is in the door, it can be hard to make a quick escape.

That's why it's in your best interest to try and recognize a bad boss as early as possible. Yes, some of them are sneakier than others and are harder to spot early on, but there are some red flags to look out for on interviews to help you avoid a potentially unhappy work situation. The next time you're out on an inter-



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view, keep your senses sharp and look out for the following potential warning signs to help you uncover a potential bad boss.

### Ask questions

Many people forget that job interviews are a collaborative and mutually informative process in which both sides are engaged and learning about the other, all to make a fully informed decision about whether a candidate — or a position — is the right call. Instead of just eagerly waiting to answer questions that are fired at you, make sure to ask targeted questions that can help you root out a bad boss. Questions like "What is the work culture like at [company name]?" or "What are some of the primary challenges that your team faces?" can get to the heart of a boss's leadership style and work philosophy — which can provide

key insight into what it might be like to work for them.

### Observe body language

Keep your eyes open — not just toward potential bosses, but also toward other employees you encounter. Do they get impatient when you ask them questions? Do they seem tense or short-tempered during any part of the process? Are they exhibiting other behaviors or mannerisms that make you uncomfortable? These can be real red flags. Do others seem anxious or nervous around your potential boss? Is the conversational tone between them relaxed and friendly or just the opposite? True, these early indicators may not be fully indicative of what it might be like to work with a potential boss full time, but they also shouldn't be completely ignored either. Instead, use all the infor-

mation you gather during the entire interview process — pros and cons — to help you make an informed decision should a job offer be made.

### Do your research

This one may seem obvious, but you'd be surprised by how many people ignore this step during the interview process. The Internet is your friend when it comes to researching a prospective job opportunity, so take full advantage of it. These days, people leave reviews online about the companies — and bosses — they work for, and if they exist for the companies that you're interviewing for they shouldn't be hard to find. Do your research, but make sure that your first-hand impressions are weighted heavily when forming your opinions.

### Trust your instincts

This is a more elusive concept than the others, but no less important when trying to coax out a bad boss. We all use our instincts to help us figure out a wide variety of people and situations in life, and interviews shouldn't be any different. Do your senses start giving off warning signals when you're on an interview? Are there just some things — either in the mood, the atmosphere, or the environment — that you maybe just can't quite put your finger on but that don't feel quite right? These may be early indicators of a toxic personality or work environment, which often results from a bad boss, and we strongly suggest you pay attention.

*Eric Titner has been an editor and content creator for more than a decade. His primary professional focus has been on education- and career-related topics.*

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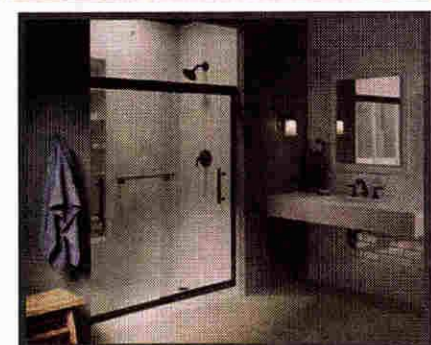
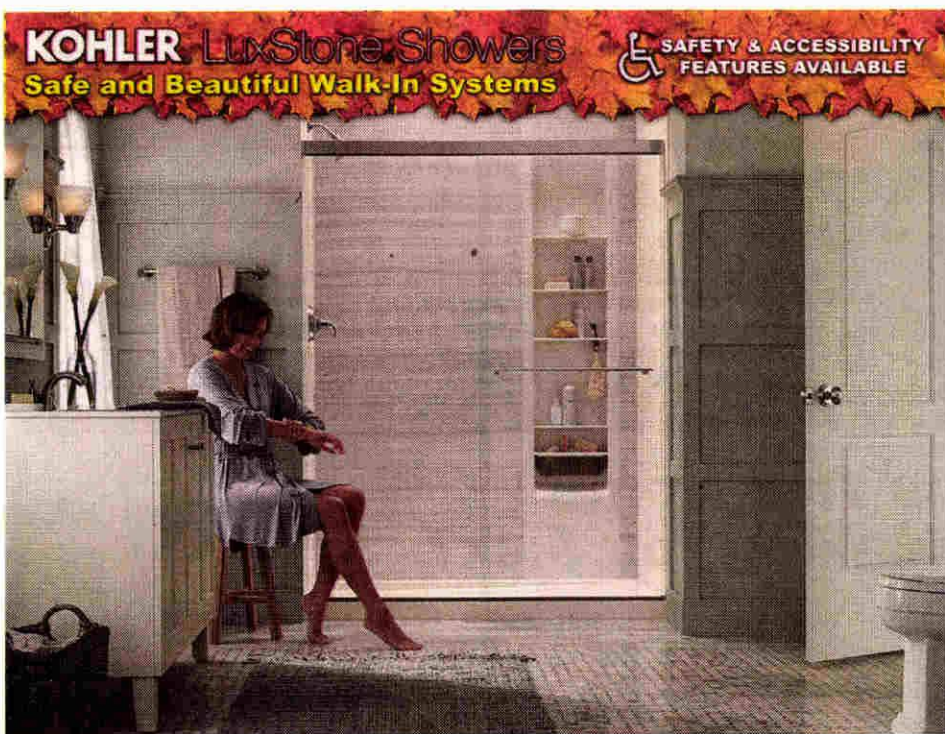
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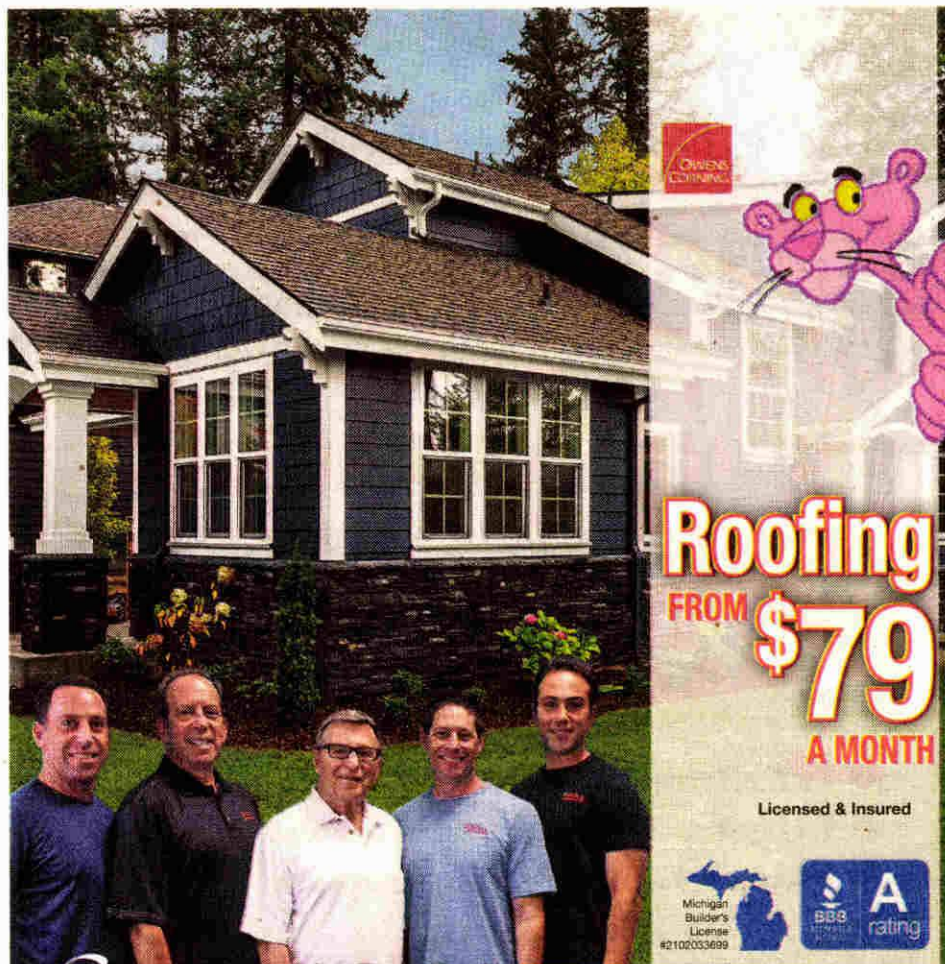
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