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CHECK OUT  
EVENTS  
HAPPENING  
IN THE AREA  
THIS WEEKEND  
LOCAL NEWS, A5

## Malarkey's gets extra time to move

Popular restaurant must find new location due to sale of building

**LeAnne Rogers**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Malarkey's Irish Tavern in Westland will have a little extra time searching for a new location.

The longtime Westland restaurant and watering hole is being forced to move with the sale of the building on Warren, west of Westland Shopping Center. But now the new owner, Garden City Hospital, is allowing a bit more time before Malarkey's will be forced to move out.

"The mayor (William Wild) called to see if we can work with Malarkey's, so we gave them a couple of months extension," Garden City Hospital CEO Saju George said. "So now, they have

six months more."

The extension gives the restaurant and adjoining poker room until the end of June to relocate. Malarkey's owner Domenic Policicchio, who took over the business five years ago, said he is looking for a new location in the area.

"He may move out earlier — he's looking at other options. We try to work with our partners in the community," George said. "But it's not something long term."

Malarkey's has been at that location since 1995. The restaurant is the only tenant remaining in a commercial strip

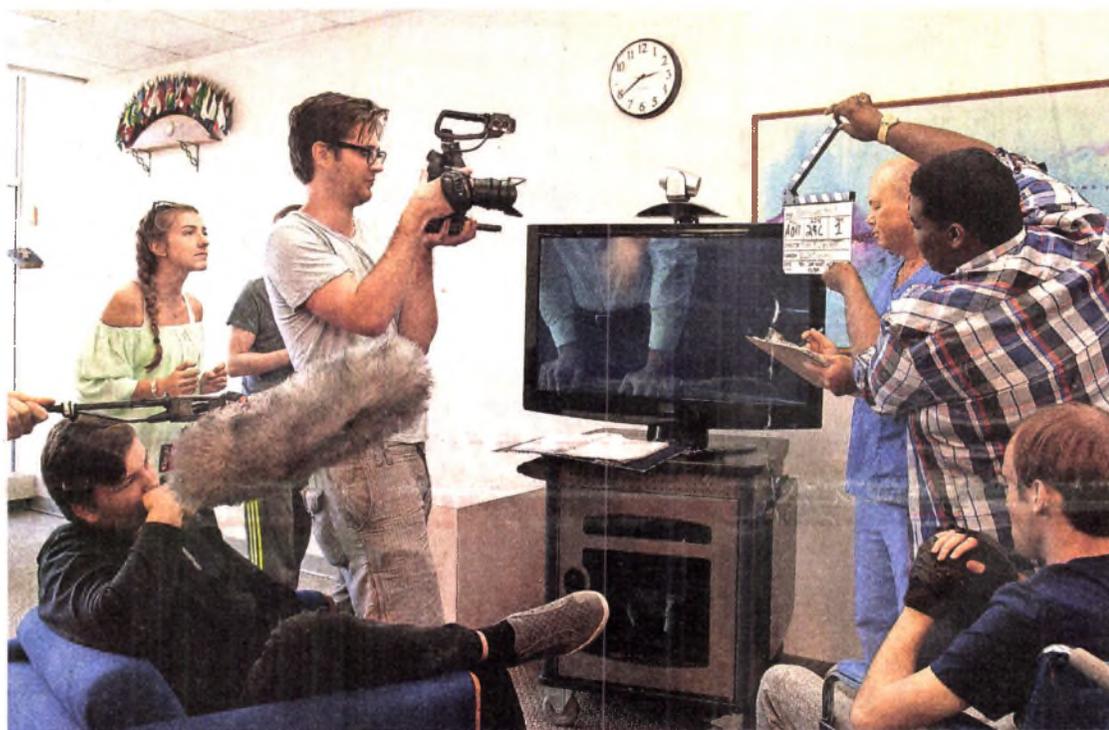


George



Malarkey's Irish Tavern in Westland is being forced to move. FILE PHOTO

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Madonna students working on a set. NANCY BOYD

## Madonna University students creating feature film

From directing to producing, they are all in for December premiere

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

The film credit program in Michigan may have been axed a few years ago, but that hasn't stopped film production. Just ask nine students at Madonna University, who are currently in post-production for a film titled "People Like Me."

The students, all enrolled in a capstone class through the Livonia university's broadcast and cinematic arts department, are working diligently to prepare their feature-length film for a December premiere. And faculty member Chris Nickin insists it's a process that gives them as real an experience as possible.

"We do a full 12-hour day, with a 12-hour turnaround. In this class, the idea is that we try to give them as realistic an experience as possible," said Nickin, a Madonna University alumnus. "These guys take on all the key roles. The students are the producers, the writers, the director, the



Levi Peters composes music for the film. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

director of photography."

The class lasts an entire year, with the students meeting in January, through the summer and continuing until the semester ends before Christmas. Students worked with volunteer actors for a span of three weeks in

August to shoot the film, done on location in communities such as Livonia, Plymouth and Northville. The capstone class has produced a full-length film the last couple of years.

See FILM, Page A3

## Four ways veterans win in Westland

**LeAnne Rogers**  
hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A free movie, haircuts and a discounted fee for pet adoption are being offered for area veterans in advance of Veterans Day on Saturday.

1. State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood is hosting his third annual Free Veterans Day Movie Event 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, in acknowledgment of the tremendous sacrifice and service of America's military veterans.

In cooperation with MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16 and the Westland John Glenn High School JROTC, veterans will see a showing of the film, "Thank You for Your Service," based on the story of a soldier who tries to readjust to civilian life after returning home from the war in Iraq.

The film will be shown at the MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Tickets are limited to two per veteran and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance registration is required.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Hopgood's office at 517-373-7800, email senhhopgood@senate.michigan.gov or go to his Facebook page at facebook.com/SenHopgood.

2. Veterans have the opportunity to be heroes for lucky animals this Veterans Day at the Michigan Humane Society, which is discounting fees for all honorably discharged, active duty, reserve and National Guard personnel at adoption centers in Detroit, Westland, Rochester Hills and Petco in Sterling Heights.

Veteran and animal lover Andy Seltz, MHS vice president of community engagement and field services, has devoted much of his post-military career to animal welfare and knows firsthand the impact pets can have.

"So many studies have shown that companion animals are a key component to helping veterans adjust to civilian life," Seltz said. "The Michigan Humane Society wants to honor the men and women who have fought for our country and provide them with a life-long friend in the process."

The MHS is offering 75 percent off adoption fees on all available dogs, cats, kittens and puppies for qualified adopters. To take advantage of the promotion, adopters must:

» Be honorably discharged from a branch of the United States military or present their military ID to show their current service status;

» Present their DD-214 form at time

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# VETERANS

Continued from Page A1

of adoption (if honorably discharged);  
 » And follow all Michigan Humane Society adoption procedures, including application approval.

Locations and hours for the participating adoption centers can be found at MichiganHumane.org. Find out more about the program by calling 866-MHUMANE for the MHS Animal Resource Center.

3. Get a free haircut on Veterans Day, Saturday, Nov. 11, at Dobozzy's Barber Shop, 244 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The offer is open to male and female veterans.

4. The Westland Veterans Association will be hosting the Veterans Day ceremony at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Veterans Memorial Gar-



Unveiling the central monument at the Westland Veterans Memorial Garden, where a Veterans Day program is set for 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

den of Westland, located behind the William P. Faust Library of Westland on Central City Parkway, north of Ford. Along with honoring all veterans and those

*"So many studies have shown that companion animals are a key component to helping veterans adjust to civilian life."*

**ANDY SELTZ**  
 MHS vice president of community engagement and field services

currently serving, the program will particularly honor Purple Heart recipients during the 100th anniversary of the decoration. The Purple Heart is given to those who

either died or were wounded in battle. Everyone is invited to attend.

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# Five charities competing for \$10,000 award

In celebration of 10 years as a community-focused bank, Level One Bank has launched the 10K Project.

The bank will award \$10,000 to a local nonprofit determined by popular vote to utilize the dollars most impactfully toward its mission. Level One Bank is urging voters to make their charitable choices known - online and in branches - from five finalists spread over four Michigan counties. Listed in alphabetical order they are:

- » Children With Hair Loss (Wayne County)
- » Detroit Dog Rescue (Macomb County)
- » Habitat for Humanity (Oakland County)
- » HAVEN (Oakland County)
- » Kid's Food Basket (Kent County)

The finalists were chosen by Level One Bank employees from a list of nearly 80 charities the bank has supported over the past 10 years.

"All of these nonprofit organizations consist-

tently and effectively display an extraordinary commitment and dedication to those they serve," said Patrick J. Fehring, president and CEO, Level One Bank.

Interested voters can view finalist videos and profiles, which communicate mission, good works and how the \$10,000 would be used at <https://www.levelonebank.com/10kproject> and then register their choice online or at any of Level One Bank's 12 branches statewide. Voting concludes Nov. 24, with a winner to be announced on "Giving Tuesday" Nov. 28.

"Level One Bank has worked with numerous local charities over the past decade whose efforts are more than worthy of these dollars. Our collaborations have been and will continue to be incredibly rewarding," Fehring said. "Unfortunately, there can be only one recipient of this particular award. We wish them all only the best."

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# MALARKEY'S

Continued from Page A1

that once included a long-closed David's Bridal.

The property has been purchased by Garden City Hospital. A hospital spokesperson didn't want to comment on the plans for the building until an official announcement. Policicchio commented that he understood the hospital was planning to remodel the existing building. He is looking to replace about 6,000 square feet of space.

Other than Malarkey's, the property immediately north along Nankin Boulevard is now vacant and being offered for sale by the city of Westland for commercial development. Through the Tax Increment Financing Authority, the property was purchased and a dilapidated long-closed Service Merchandise store was demolished.

The city split off the vacant property after a new Fire Station No. 1 was constructed on the northern portion of the property fronting on

Central City Parkway at Nankin Boulevard.

Westland's Shop and Dine District is seeing other activity, with Anna's House replacing Max & Erma's on Newburgh at Warren Road. Aubree's Pizzeria is expected to take over the former Ruby Tuesday, just west of the intersection.

Also in the Shop and Dine District, Ashley Homestore will be coming to Westland, filling the former Bed, Bath & Beyond on Central City Parkway at Wayne Road. The Bed, Bath & Beyond

store had relocated to Warren Road, across from Westland City Hall, itself a renovated former big box store. The new Crunch Fitness is also located in that strip center with the relocated Bed, Bath & Beyond.

Community Financial Credit Union is constructing on a new branch on Wayne Road, opposite Westland Shopping Center, on part of the former Quo Vadis site.

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# FILM

Continued from Page A1

The film revolves around a 16-year-old girl named Lydia, who checks herself into a facility for treatment for her bulimia. There, she befriends other young people who have adventures as they try to hold an impromptu prom for Lydia, who has missed her's in order to get better.

"They bond over the fact that this 16-year-old had to miss her high school prom in order to get better. They decide to find a way to go around the staff of the hospital and make prom happen in this adolescent ward," said Livonia resident Jordan Cumbo, who came up with the film's concept. "It's all the shenanigans they get themselves into as they try to put on this big event in the hospital."

Students are now in post-production, putting together trailers and getting the film prepared for its premiere in December. Several teaser trailers have been released and a full-length trailer is expected soon on the film's YouTube channel.

### Love of the craft

Despite working long hours getting the film together, none of the students seems discouraged by the work. In fact, many of them said the project solidified their desires to work in the film industry after graduating.

"I woke up every day, ready to go to set, awake and happy," said Davis Clenney of Northville. "I got, like, six hours of sleep, wake up and I'm ready to go."

The students each take a role they would have outside the classroom, including pro-



Working on set. NANCY BOYD



Working on set. NANCY BOYD

*"The students are the producers, the writers, the director, the director of photography."*

**CHRIS NICKIN**  
Madonna faculty member

ducer, director, colorist and even composer.

That last role goes to St. Clair resident Levi Peters, who has written several pieces of music

and violin to add to the music's presence. "I really like the feel of the real instruments," he said. "There's more emotion with that." The film will debut at a local theater in December — the location has not yet been determined — and will play at Madonna University sometime in January. After that, the film may make its way to film festivals across the country.

"We do screenings throughout the year," Nickin said. "The movie doesn't get shown once or twice and disappear."

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Chris Nickin teaches the Capstone class, along with Sue Boyd. Student Hannah Csircsu is reflected in the computer screen. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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# Change proposed for new condos at former swim club

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



The former CB Swim Club is shown last summer in this file photo. The club is located on Lyndon, between Inkster and Harrison. FILE PHOTO

A plan to redevelop an old swim club on the east side of Livonia now has a new look submitted by the developer.

The Livonia City Council reviewed plans to alter the residences planned for the former CB Swim Club, 28200 Lyndon, during its study meeting Nov. 1.

The new plan now calls for six condominium units to be built on the site, which will be named Bishop Estates, all facing Lyndon. The rest of the property would be green space behind the units, owned by the condo association.

"When the petitioner and developer (got) bids

for all the site improvements necessary to develop the homes, including the road, the water, the sanitary sewer, the storm water detention, etc., those costs came back too high for com-

fort, is the way I'd explain it," said Mark Taormina, the city's planning director. "It forced him to take another look at how to design and develop the site."

The original plan

would have added about nine single-family residences in a clustered format to the site on a private road. That plan, Duggan said, proved to be more expensive than expected and the compa-

ny revamped it to the six units that would have access to Lyndon.

The council approved the original plan back in July before considering rescinding it and taking up the new plan Nov. 1.

Councilman Scott Bahr said he wanted to make sure the plan continued to have provisions in it to ensure rodents and other pests that may reside in the former swim club are eradicated when the club is eventually torn down.

"I just want to make sure whatever we do doesn't eliminate that," Bahr said. "I want to make sure that's addressed when that's taken down."

Council Vice President Brandon Kritzman, who was unable to attend the previous meetings when

this project had been discussed, said he was disappointed the development would consist of condos rather than traditional single-family homes.

He asked for the project to go on the council's next regular meeting agenda to discuss it further. That next meeting will take place Nov. 20.

"I really had the expectation that this would be completed as a series of single-family homes," he said. "It surprised me to see this go through as something that had connected homes to it. Admittedly, I'm a little disappointed in the level of detail that's presented in the drawings."

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## LIVONIA POLICE BRIEFS

### Tools taken from trailer

Livonia police were called Nov. 2 to a home in the 27400 block of Meadowbrook on the report of some tools that had been taken from a trailer.

The victim said he parked his truck with the trailer attached in front of his home. When he came back to it the next day, he found the padlocks cut and several power tools missing. He was unsure of exactly how many tools were missing, since he had lent some to a friend recently.

### Retail fraud reported

Police were dispatched Nov. 2 to Home Depot, 13500 Middlebelt, on the report of a retail fraud in progress.

An employee told police the suspect was seen leaving with a power drill he had not paid for. Police approached the suspect and arrested him. An employ-

ee told police he was seen taking the tool out of the box and concealing it in his pants. He then approached a jacket and removed the security tag from it before putting it on. He tried to leave without paying and was stopped. He was taken to the police station for processing.

### Shed broken into

A resident who lives in the 34200 block of Hathaway came into the police station Oct. 31 to report a burglary of his shed that had taken place.

He said he saw his tiller in the back shed Oct. 30 after doing some yard work. He went out to the shed the next day and found it was missing. He said he did not know who would have taken the tiller.

— By David Veselenak

## Suspect arrested in Halloween store burglary

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

investigation and believed he was involved.



Smith

A Redford man faces prison time after Livonia police say he broke into a Halloween store just days before the holiday.

Police say they arrested Jason Darnell Smith, 18, as the primary suspect in a burglary that took place between Oct. 29 and Oct. 30 at the Halloween City at 29577 Five Mile in Livonia. Smith was arrested the afternoon of Oct. 31 near his Redford home.

Smith was identified as a suspect in the break-in after police did some

He was arraigned and charged with breaking and entering a building with intent. He is being held in the Wayne County Jail on a \$50,000 cash or surety bond.

A probable cause conference is scheduled for Thursday and a preliminary examination is scheduled to take place Nov. 16, according to Livonia police. If convicted, he faces up to 10 years in prison.

Police were called to

the store, which opens for a few months out of the year in the shopping center, after employees arrived and discovered some cash missing from the store's safe. A manager saw a back door open with pry marks on it and then found the safe had been tampered with; the plastic combination housing had been ripped off and was on the floor and damaged. Some metal piping that was not there before was also found at the scene.

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# Three events happening around town this weekend

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

It's finally looking like fall the past few weeks around the western suburbs of Detroit.

And while there's plenty of signs that everyone's favorite winter holiday is coming full steam ahead, there's also plenty happening this weekend with the weather finally coming to its senses and the leaves continuing to fall off the trees.

Here are three events happening in the Hometown Life coverage area worth checking out this weekend:

## Veterans Day ceremony in Westland

Saturday's the day we as a nation honor those living veterans who served the United States. What better way to do so than by attending Westland's annual Veterans Day ceremony?

The ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland, located behind the Westland Library at 6123 Central City Parkway, and is open to the public. This year's ceremony will highlight Purple Heart recipients, as the military decoration marks its 100th anniversary since being first awarded. Those who have received the Purple Heart or family members of those who have died who received the decoration are encouraged to attend and be recognized by the Westland Veterans



Vietnam veteran Bob Lamoureux and fellow Vietnam Veterans of America members salute as "Taps" is played for the conclusion of the Veterans Day ceremony in Plymouth in this 2015 file photo. FILE PHOTO

Association.

For more information, call 734-788-7753.

## Santa's arrival at Laurel Park Place

While there's still a month-and-a-half until Christmas, Santa Claus is getting ready in mid-November this year.

The arrival of St. Nicholas will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday at Laurel Park Place, 37700 Six Mile, in Livonia. He'll be positioned where he usually is, by the fireplace near the entrance of the food court. There, he'll be available for youngsters to pass along their Christmas lists and let them know they've behaved this year.

The first 100 children to attend will receive a special goody bag from the mall. More information on the event can be found on the mall's website, laurelparkplace.com

## Girls Night Out in Northville

If you're looking to get a jump-start on holiday shopping or are just looking for a fun time out, check out downtown Northville on Friday night.

That's because the twice yearly Girls Night Out event will take place 5-9 p.m. in the downtown area. Shopping begins at 5 p.m. and there also will be drawings, discounts and special events at many of the 50-plus stores in the downtown area. Several area restaurants will also offer specials, some designed specifically for the evening.

More details on the event can be found at [enjoynorthville.com](http://enjoynorthville.com).

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# Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 23rd, 2017

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---

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## Why is it that can we read the weather, but not read our human condition?

"I bet you didn't stop to marvel at the amazing weather forecasting technology we have when the hurricanes beat down on Houston, then Florida and then Puerto Rico. You probably didn't take time to be amazed that forecasters saw the fronts coming and warned people, perhaps making the devastation and death toll a little less. But when you think about it, the weather forecasting ability we have is truly phenomenal.

Jesus commented once on our incisive ability to read the weather, but then criticized our lack of perceptiveness in reading the human condition. We do well reading the weather, but pretty poorly at reading people,



**Dean Johnson**  
CULTURAL RELEVANCY

the times we live in and our spiritual lives.

In Luke 12, Jesus said, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'It's going to rain' and it does. And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot' and it is. Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?"

It's as true today as it was in the first century. When you first heard about the shooting in Las

Vegas, did you think, "This is a spiritual issue. That man was truly evil. What happened in his surroundings that brought him to do something downright satanic? And I pray for his victims and their families." Or was your immediate response simply political or social or psychological?

Jesus says, "How is it that you can interpret the weather, but you can't figure out why the world is so messed up and why you desperately need what I'm offering?!" There is a place for the political, social and psychological. But our hearts are tainted and we desperately need a relationship with God and for him to begin to make us

new in heart and mind.

How can we look at the march in Charlottesville, Va., the barbarism in Syria, the violence in the streets of Detroit, our indifference toward refugees, the blatant immorality in our movies and TV shows and our addiction to opioids and pornography? How can we look at all that and not say, "This is a spiritual issue and we desperately need God"? The weather app on my phone says it's going to rain tonight, but it occasionally gets it wrong. But my Bible app never does.

*The Rev. Dean Johnson is senior pastor at Lake Pointe Bible Church in Plymouth. Email him at DeanLPBC@sbcglobal.net.*

## Garden City offers health care enrollment help

Open enrollment for the health insurance marketplace is now underway. The city of Garden City continues to be funded by the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services in effort to support individuals and families to enroll in a health insurance plan that is right for them.

It is estimated around 85 percent of both current marketplace consumers and marketplace-eligible uninsured Americans qualify for tax credits that help make coverage more affordable. Professionally trained marketplace navigators will be available at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City to

answer questions people may have about health insurance topics such as tax credits and plan selection. Navigators can help residents with re-enrollment as well.

Open enrollment has been shortened this year, significantly. People can enroll in health insurance on the marketplace only until Dec. 15. For locations and times, go to [localhelp.healthcare.gov](http://localhelp.healthcare.gov) or [getcoveredamerica.org](http://getcoveredamerica.org).

The service is free to all. If you have questions about signing up, want to talk through your options with a trained professional or to make an appointment, call 734-793-1857.



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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Address psych hospital crime

In the Nov. 2 edition there was yet another story about trespassers at the hospital. It is getting to be in the police briefs every week. I along with the other taxpayers of Northville Township think our tax dollars would be better spent if the PD didn't have to spend a lot of their patrol time at the hospital. So far over 400 tickets have been written this year. Enough is enough.

Our political leaders need to get off their rear ends and finally come to a decision about this place. It's been vacant for 25 plus years. Five years ago they wasted our time filling out surveys on what we'd like to see built there. Let's get something done sooner then later.

Craig Knapp  
Northville

#### Time for races to come together

The issue of race relations has been in the news lately, mainly due to the national anthem demonstrations, and to a lesser degree, the Confederate statues issue. I think though, most people ignore the fact that there has always existed some alienation between the races. There are white people who're bigots just as there are black people who're bigots, but in general, the races lack an understanding of each other and possess cultural differences, and this sometimes leads to friction.

Historically speaking, blacks had some gripes such as slavery and repression of civil rights, but much of this has been rectified and it seems counterproductive to live

in the past. It would be more constructive to work toward racial harmony rather than focusing on the flying of the Confederate flag. The fact is, the slavery industry in Africa was perpetuated by black nations against fellow black nations, with the issue being resolved via the American Civil War, wherein the blood of hundreds of thousands of whites was spilled — which is something blacks should be a bit more appreciative of.

The Civil Rights movement of the 1960s corrected some of the problems inherited during the South's reconstruction era. However, you can't legislate morality into people nor can you force them to love one another, and some of the things imposed by government have only further divided the races such as busing/integration and affirmative action. Furthermore, blacks have often done things that have hurt their cause of racial equality, including the nationwide riots during the 1960s (such as the 1967 Detroit riot), and publicly cheering the not guilty verdict in the O.J. Simpson murder trial.

By focusing on things like Blacks Lives Matter and public statues, we're losing focus of the bigger picture — that all human beings have a soul and that God doesn't look on the outward appearance. We saw this dynamic on display recently during disasters like the Texas floods wherein people of all backgrounds helped out their fellow man with no regard to physical exteriors, viewing them only as a brother in need. Does America need to be submerged beneath 20 feet of water before people of different back-

grounds can get along and even perhaps show love and concern to each other? Heed the advice of The Youngbloods in 1967: "Come on people now, smile on your brother, everybody get together, try to love one another right now!"

Leo Weber  
Livonia

#### Fix school funding

One of the biggest problems with the public education system here in Michigan is the way we fund schools. Funding mechanisms for public schools in Michigan, like Proposal A, have left large gaps between individual districts when it comes to per-pupil spending. For our students, our teachers and our future, we must close this funding gap and ensure every child has the best available resources to work with.

Locally, the Wayne-Westland Community Schools get less than \$10,000 in-terms of per-pupil funding for students and teachers in the classroom. Meanwhile, driving just a half hour north of us into Oakland County, we see public school districts like Birmingham and Bloomfield taking in over \$13,000 per-pupil. A student's zip code should never determine the amount of resources available nor the quality of education they receive.

Stating the obvious, less revenue coming into Wayne-Westland schools means less available resources in the classroom for students and teachers. It means fewer pre-K educational programs and less opportunities for students to continue learning after the school day is over. Classrooms won't be filled with the latest technology or the most up-to-

date text books as quickly as they are in districts with greater funding. Attracting the best and brightest teachers to the district is often a more significant challenge for districts like ours. Districts with more per-pupil resources have a greater ability to offer more extra-curricular activities like arts, music programs and sports teams.

To drive greater achievement in the classroom, expand pre-K and after-school learning, attract the best talent and support more extra-curricular activities, I believe that we must close this funding gap between school districts.

Our next group of elected state representatives and senators, along with our next governor, are going to have to take responsibility of this problem and present bold legislative solutions. The solutions from Lansing need to focus not on bringing down the districts that receive the most funding now. Rather, legislative solutions need to focus on reforming the Proposal A funding mechanism and leveling the playing field by increasing funding and resources for districts like Wayne-Westland.

Building a bright future for tomorrow starts with supporting our students and teachers today. As citizens, parents and voters, we must demand change from our elected leaders in Lansing. We must ensure that every child, in every school district across Michigan, has the resources they need for achieving a world-class education.

Mike McDermott  
Westland

#### Tax plan reform a farce

During Paul Ryan's pep rally to announce the GOP tax plan, he kept referring to the \$1,182 cut we would receive. Nowhere in his speech did he mention that the richest of our people would be able to add two or three zeroes to the end of that \$1,182. Further, by abolishing the alternative minimum tax and the estate tax, President Donald Trump and his peers will save billions.

Now, we who are low on the financial totem pole had best look at the deductions we lose before counting on that \$1,182. \$4,050 personal exemption for each family member, gone; Hope scholarship and lifetime learning credits, out; no deducting interest paid on student loans and no deduction for state and local income taxes. These are just some of changes that have been discovered, no telling what's in the fine print.

This monstrosity turns out to be exactly what the Democrats have warned us about. By the way, the Republicans own this plan, nobody from the other side was invited to the table. This is the same old trickle down BS, pennies to the peons and millions to the rich. Watch how Representatives of Michigan's GOP in D.C. vote on this matter, they will follow Trump, like sheep to slaughter.

James Huddleston  
Canton

#### Register to vote

Do you love the U.S.A., but think it could be improved? Here's what to do:

Step #1 - Be sure you are registered to vote. Contact your city/township clerk's office if you

need help to be sure and to find where you go to vote.

Hadyn Notestine  
Canton

#### Tax reform plan concerns

The U.S. House tax reform bill, done in secret by the GOP only and with no public hearings is simply a reverse Robin Hood of stealing from the poor and giving to the rich. The scheme is designed to help President Donald Trump at the expense of the middle class.

By reducing the corporate tax rate from 35% to 20% directly benefits Trump as does elimination of the estate tax. This was designed to benefit Trump at the expense of the middle class. Corporate tax are currently about 17% as a direct result of lobbyist paid for loopholes.

If reduction of corporate tax rates would increase job and put \$4,000 dollars in the pockets of consumers, as claimed by Trump, why has this not already happened with record corporate profits.

The elimination of state and local taxes directly will raise the taxes on the middle class as will eliminate mortgage deductions and medical costs. Student loan interact would no longer be deductible.

As usually, this Trump "cut-cut-cut" only benefits those already wealthy and increases corporate wealth to the estimated of over 70%. The deficit will balloon \$1.5 trillion.

The middle class will directly subsidize the tax cuts for the wealthy as well as bankrupt future generations.

Gerald Maxey  
Farmington Hills

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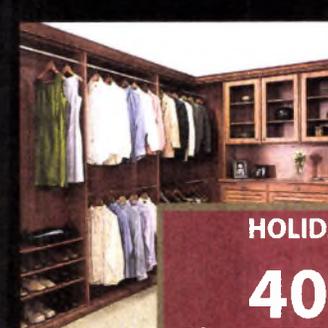


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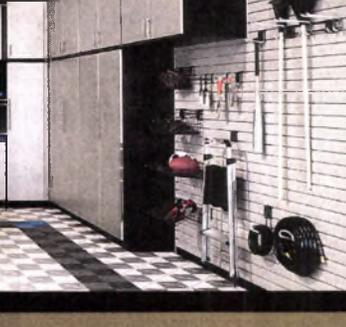
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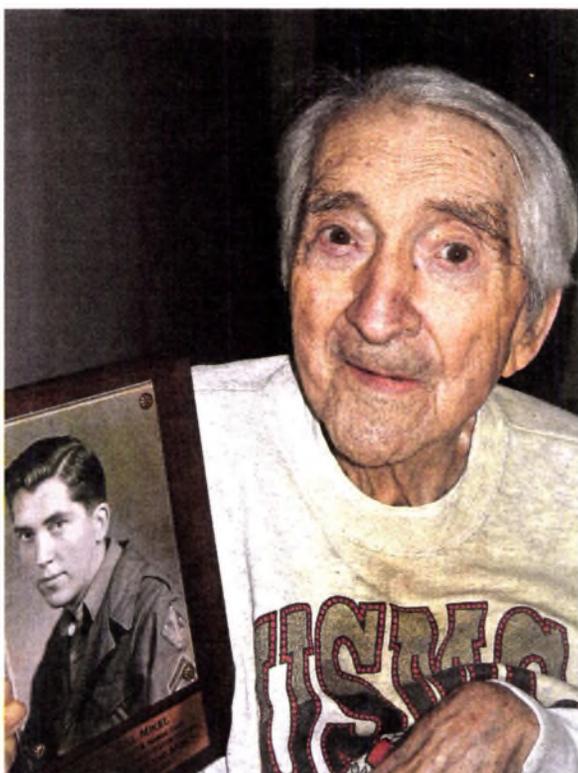
# Mikel honored as November's Veteran of the Month

Bill Mikel, a World War II veteran from Redford, honored as the November 2017 Veteran of the Month by the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 32, of the Myron H. Beals American Legion Post 32 in Livonia.

Mikel served in the U.S. Marine Corp from 1943-46. He was born and raised on Detroit's west side and graduated from Mackenzie High School. On Dec. 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and Mikel knew he would soon be drafted, so he went downtown to the recruitment center near the old train station to sign up. "The lines were huge," he said, "and we were told to come back another time, plus I was married and (was) told they were not taking married men."

But in 1943, things were at a peak in the Pacific and Mikel received his draft notice. He went to the recruitment center, signed in and was sent to a room with recruiters from the army, navy and marines. "I didn't want to be a foot soldier," Mikel said, "and I didn't want to be stuck on a boat, so I signed up with the marines. Little did I know, but I would spend more time on a ship than many sailors." Mikel was sent by train to San Diego, Calif., for boot camp. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines and sent to Camp Elliot, where he was trained on 81 mm mortars.

Mikel and the 1st Marines were off to the Pacific and the invasion of Peleliu Island in September 1944. The commander of the 1st Marine Division, predicted the island would be secured within four days. Howev-



Bill Mikel of Redford, who served during World War II, is the Veteran of the Month for November. SUBMITTED

er, Japan had developed new island-defense tactics and well-crafted fortifications that allowed stiff resistance, extending the battle for more than two months. The National Museum of the Marine Corps called it "the bitterest battle of the war for the Marines."

Mikel's 81 mm mortar platoon rushed inland about 30 yards and started to dig in. In that short distance, they lost three men to shrapnel and 17 were missing. "There were about 12 of us from the 3rd and 4th gun squads," Mikel said. "We had two mortars, but no ammunition, except for our .45-caliber pistols. We realized we were nowhere near the posi-

tion we should have been and we were scared, because there were dead Marines all around."

They didn't know what to do until, suddenly, their lieutenant appeared behind them wearing a blue N.Y. Yankees baseball cap. "He spoke very calmly and told us to pick up our mortars and to follow him," Mikel said. "He started walking toward the ocean and we crawled out of our fox-holes and followed him back to our platoon about 100 yards down the beach. We lost over 800 men on the first day of the invasion. It was fierce fighting and the Japanese fought to the last man."

The U.S. invasion

force consisted of the 1st Marines and the 81st Army Infantry for a total of 47,000 troops against a Japanese force of 10,900. The U.S. lost 2,330 to the Japanese losses of 10,700. In March 1945, they were sent to Okinawa, where Mikel became a gun captain. On Okinawa, the platoon lost 11 killed and 32 wounded. On May 3, while setting up at a new position, they were hit by two Japanese mortars. "Two of our guys were killed instantly and three were wounded," Mikel said. "My assistant gunner had his right foot blown off. We got him on a stretcher and headed for the medics. He asked me to go back and get his foot. I didn't want to at

first, but he begged me, so I went back and found it and put it on his chest."

As they were heading back to their position, Mikel was shot in the ankle and then sprained it as he fell down. "The wound wasn't bad, because it didn't hit the bone, so I decided to stay with my gun squad, but the sprain was very painful." On May 5, Mikel was evacuated to a field hospital, as he was unable to walk. In June, Okinawa was secured and, two months later, the war was over.

"We all thought we were heading home," Mikel said, "but the marines had different plans for us." They were then sent to Tientsin, China. More than 600,000 Japanese military personnel were still in China and in need of repatriation. Since the Chinese government was not up to the task, President Truman sent more than 50,000 marines and the 7th Fleet to northern China, with orders to accept the surrender of the Japanese, repatriate them and help the Chinese Nationalists reassert their control over areas previously held by the Japanese. The marines were not to take sides in the fighting and were only allowed to engage in combat if fired upon first. "I remember it well," Mikel said. "The Chinese were really happy to see us. They were lined up along the road as we drove by and were all waving American flags and shouting. It was quite a show of appreciation for what we were doing."

Mikel earned the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with two battle stars, a Purple Heart, the World War II Combat Medal, two

Presidential Citations and the China Occupation Medal.

In February 1946 Mikel was finally sent home to Detroit. "There was no fanfare when I got back," he said, "but the best welcome I could imagine was my wife and 18-month-old son meeting me at the train station." Mikel went to work at his father's grocery store when he returned home. In 1947, his father died and Mikel and his brother took over the store and managed it until the construction of the Lodge Freeway took over the property and store. Mikel then went to work at Farm Crest Bakery and retired in 1977 after 27 years. He then worked at Bashara Wholesale Groceries for three years and also drove a school bus for Redford Schools for four years. Mikel and his wife Violet live in Redford and have two sons, two daughters, 14 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Mikel was interviewed by members of the S.A.L. Veteran of the Month Committee and a DVD was made and shown at the November membership meeting. A plaque was presented to Mikel from Livonia Trophy with his picture and service information. An additional plaque was also put on display in the vestibule of the American Legion Hall. The S.A.L. invites local residents to attend its monthly meetings to listen to the Veteran of the Month. The public is also encouraged to nominate veterans to be honored at its meetings. Nomination forms can be picked up at the American Legion Hall, 9318 Newburgh Road, in Livonia.

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# Show some real discipline this holiday shopping season

It seems every year I'm writing this column earlier and earlier. Just the other day, I read a story that Amazon, Walmart and other large retailers are already starting their holiday sales. It used to be that holiday shopping started after Thanksgiving — not anymore. Because the holiday shopping season is starting ever earlier, I thought it was appropriate to discuss holiday gift giving.

It is shameful when you hear that many Americans are just now paying off their debts from last year's holiday season. I guarantee you that no one you care about or who cares about you wants you to go into



**Rick Bloom**  
MONEY MATTERS

debt to buy them a holiday gift. The holiday season should be filled with joy and happiness, not anxiety and worry over how you will pay for gifts. Even though retailers want you to spend, spend and spend some more, those who love and care about you are more concerned about your well-being than a gift. It is important that, before you begin your holiday shopping, you set a strategy so that you don't overspend and get yourself into financial diffi-

culty.

There are two main steps you need to take before you embark on holiday shopping. The first is set a budget. You should know before you begin your shopping how much you are going to spend. I can't tell you how much to spend, but I can tell you that, when the holiday bills come due, if you can't afford to write a check and pay it off in its entirety, you are probably spending too much. Yes, we all use charge cards and they are a convenient way to make purchases but charge cards are the worst way to finance a purchase. If you can't afford to pay your bill when it comes due, what

you are doing is adding another 20 percent on to the cost of the gift. Twenty percent is about average of what credit cards charge in interest. The only way to avoid the outrageous interest rate on charge cards is to pay your bill on time.

The second step to being fiscally responsible during the holiday season is to write a list ahead of time. You don't have to buy gifts for every person you know and sometimes gifts can be something you make as opposed to something you buy. If you know who you have to buy gifts for, it will make it easier to stay within your budget.

Even though the economy has improved, the

financial health of the average American family is still poor. That is why families and businesses where gifts are exchanged should get together and put limits on what can be spent. This alleviates much of the financial stress that many people feel during the holiday season. Another consequence is it can result in some very creative gifts. Reducing financial stress during the holiday season allows your family, friends and loved ones to better enjoy the holidays.

The key with setting a budget and making a list ahead of time only works if you have the discipline to stick with your game plan. Remember, never

equate how much you love someone by how much you spend on their gift; it doesn't work that way.

With the holiday shopping season upon us, don't be like the millions of Americans who are still paying for last year's gifts. Be like those who were fiscally responsible and truly able to enjoy the holiday season, knowing they could afford their purchases.

Good luck!

*Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, email [Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:Rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).*

## AREA EVENTS

Send calendar items to [LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com](mailto:LIV-OENewstip@hometownlife.com).

### Hopgood to host coffee hour

State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor, will host a coffee hour at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth Street, Belleville. This will provide an opportunity for citizens to meet Hopgood and share their thoughts about current events in Lansing and the local community. Hopgood represents the 6th District, which includes Belleville, part of Brownstown Township, Flat Rock, Huron Township, Rockwood, Romulus, Sumpter Township, Taylor, Van Buren Township and Westland.

### Free veterans movie showing

State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D-Taylor, is inviting members of the community to his third annual free Veterans Day movie event at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10. In cooperation with MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16 and John Glenn High School JROTC, "Thank You for Your Service" (R) — which is based on the story of a soldier who tries to readjust to civilian life after returning home from the war in Iraq — will be shown at the MJR Westland Grand Cinema 16, 6800 N. Wayne Road.

Tickets are limited to two per veteran and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. RSVP is required. For more information or to RSVP, calling 517-373-7800, email [senhhopgood@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senhhopgood@senate.michigan.gov) or go to Facebook at [facebook.com/SenHopgood](https://www.facebook.com/SenHopgood).

### Westland Veterans Day event

The Westland Veterans Association will be hosting the Veterans Day ceremony at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Veterans Memorial Garden of Westland. The Westland Veterans Association would like to recognize all Westland Purple Heart recipient veterans that will be attending the ceremony.

### Moondusters Ballroom Organization events

Moondusters Ballroom Organization, a nonprofit dance group located in Livonia, has been holding ballroom-style dances to live music each Saturday in the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, for more than 42 years. Doors open at 7 p.m. and dancing runs 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 per person, which includes coffee, tea and snacks, as well as cake and other refreshments during admission at 9 p.m. Pizza parties are held peri-

odically and pizza and salad is included in the cost of admission. At every dance, there is a 50/50 raffle.

The Moondusters will hold their Christmas Dinner Dance on Friday, Dec. 8, at Burton Manor Banquet Hall, 27777 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Music by Tommy James and His Orchestra. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., hors d'oeuvres until dinner at 6:30 p.m. and dancing 7:30-11:30 p.m. Admission \$40 by ticket only. Door prizes, cash bar. Tables of 10. Reserved singles section. Reserve your table by Nov. 10; afterward, tickets at the door with seating as available.

For more information and tickets, call 586-873-3353 or go to [www.moondusters.org](http://www.moondusters.org).

### World War I program at Livonia library

The Friends of the Livonia Library will host Richard VandenBrul, a Livonia resident, who will speak on how "World War I Still Impacts U.S." at 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at the Robert and Janet Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road. VandenBrul is a history major and graduated from Miami (Ohio) University in and earned a J.D. degree from Golden Gate University.

This is a free program. For more information, call 248-466-2495.

### St. Mary School open house

St. Mary Catholic School, 34516 Michigan Ave., Wayne, will host an open house and pancake breakfast from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12. Tour the grade school, meet teachers, see the newest technology updates in action as students perform in-class demonstrations.

The middle school drama class will be performing a skit and the pancake breakfast free. Come for one of the Masses at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. or the Spanish Mass at 2 p.m.

### Veterans Mass at St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel Church of Livonia will host its annual Veterans Day Mass to at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at the church, 11441 Hubbard Road. A free pancake breakfast for all veterans and military personnel will follow in the school cafeteria. All are welcome to join in this special thanks to military and their families.

For more information, call the parish office at 734-261-1455, ext. 200, or go to [www.livoniastmichael.org](http://www.livoniastmichael.org).

### Livonia Cares meeting

The next Livonia Cares meeting is set for 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601

Hubbard Street. This is an invitation to area churches and groups to come join with us as we look for ways to be there for our community. For more information, contact Linda Hollman from Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church at [lindah@christoursavior.org](mailto:lindah@christoursavior.org).

### Citizens for Peace anniversary celebration

The Citizens for Peace will celebrate its 14th anniversary Tuesday, Nov. 14, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Road. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with pizza and an anniversary cake. Entertainment will start at 7:15 p.m. with performances by Kevin (Mr. Peace) Szawala, Joe Kidd and Sheila Burke, Darrin Breil, David Nefesh, 'Nique Love Rhodes and Ryan Castelli.

All attendees will receive a free peace bracelet. Donations are appreciated. For more information, call 734-425-0079 or go to [www.citizens4peace.com](http://www.citizens4peace.com).

### Three Cities Art Club exhibit

Three Cities Art Club is seeking artists to submit artwork and photography for its sixth annual art exhibition at Westland's Gallery at City Hall, 36300 Warren Road. Deadline is for submission is Wednesday, Nov. 15. Original fine art, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, collage, mixed media and photography are what we are looking for. Full details are on the entry form at [www.threecitiesartclub.org](http://www.threecitiesartclub.org).

Approximately 65 pieces will be selected from the entries to be included in the exhibition. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place, plus two honorable mention winners in the categories photography and all others. Mayor William Wild will again select his favorite piece for his personal \$100 "Wild about Art Award."

The public is welcome to attend the free reception 4:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, when many of the artists will be available to talk with attendees. Winning artists will receive their awards at 6 p.m.

To learn more about entering artwork in the exhibition, attending the event or about Three Cities Art Club, contact Marilyn Meredith at 313-231-3939 or via email at [marilynmeredith@wowway.com](mailto:marilynmeredith@wowway.com). The club's website is [www.threecitiesartclub.org](http://www.threecitiesartclub.org).

### Wayne-Westland schools meetings

The Wayne-Westland Community Schools district is asking for participation in a process that will allow students, staff, parents and community

members to provide perspectives on how it will invest in its facilities in the years ahead. This process will include face-to-face meetings and an opportunity to participate through an online format.

The community meetings are scheduled for 5:15 p.m. or 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, or 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, at Dyer Senior Adult Center, 36745 Marquette. Interested persons can also share input by completing the survey at <https://www.wwcsd.net/>

For questions, contact Jim Larson-Shidler at 734-419-2042 or [Larson-shidlerJ@wwcsd.net](mailto:Larson-shidlerJ@wwcsd.net).

### Family Resource Center benefit

The Family Resource Center will host a fundraiser buffet lunch from 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the Cafe Marquette in the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center, 36455 Marquette Road, Westland. Minimum donation is \$10 per person at the door.

Proceeds will go to the Family Resource Center, which assists students and families in need attending Wayne-Westland Community Schools. For further information, contact Amanda Dybus at the Family Resource Center at 734-419-2709, email [dybusa@wwcsd.net](mailto:dybusa@wwcsd.net) or mail a donation to 36745 Marquette, Westland, MI 48185 ATTN: Family Resource Center. Make checks payable to "WWCS Family Resource Center."

### Livonia Neighbors and Friends

Livonia Neighbors and Friends, a women's club, 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 meet year-round.

The club will host Romie Minor, co-author of "Detroit's Thanksgiving Day Parade," at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road.

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

### 'Talking Turkey' at St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel Church is offering a special holiday program called "Talking Turkey" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the school cafeteria, 11441 Hubbard Road, Livonia. Local Catholic author, apologist and family man Gary Michuta will offer practical, hands-on pointers on how to handle those often difficult, sometimes antagonistic "Catholic questions" that inevitably come up at many family

holiday gatherings without causing hard feelings and uncomfortable moments.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 734-261-1455, ext. 200, or go to [www.livoniastmichael.org](http://www.livoniastmichael.org).

### Livonia Fall Marketplace

The Livonia Fall Marketplace, sponsored by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at Laurel Park Place mall. The program will give local consumers a chance to see a mix of Livonia businesses and organizations. Admission is free.

The event kicks off 8-9:30 a.m. with a business breakfast featuring Dr. Lee Meadows, a professor and human re-

sources expert from Walsh College.

There are still a few exhibit spaces available for chamber members and seats available to the breakfast program. For more information, contact Laura Tahmouch at the chamber at [tahmouch@livonia.org](mailto:tahmouch@livonia.org) or 734-427-2122.

### Christmas tea fundraiser

The Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, will host a Christmas tea fundraiser catered by Victoria's Tea Salon at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18. Tickets are \$35 per person or \$240 for a table of eight. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Wayne Public Library.

Tickets are available at the library circulation desk. For more information, call 734-721-7832.

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### Edwards



**John Robert** passed peacefully on Tuesday October 31, 2017, at age 72, in his home in Northville. He was accompanied at the end by his beloved wife, Doris. John is survived by children: Aimee (Bill), Abby (Phil), Adrienne (Deda), and Evan (Laticia). Grandchildren: Olivia, Sofia, Samantha, Brooke, and Lucas. Brother, Terry (Sue), and niece and nephew Jamie and Shawn. John was born in Rochester, New York, and graduated from Gates-Chili High School. He earned his Bachelors of Science from Rochester Institute of Technology, and his Masters in Mechanical Engineering from Wayne State University.

John had a long and distinguished career with Ford Motor Company. After over 40 years with Ford, he retired as an Executive Engineer. After his retirement from Ford, he started a second career with his son, Evan, owning/operating a custom motor cycle shop in Plymouth (Plymouth Cycle and Speed). He had a passion for motorcycles, golf, and working on his cherished 1965 Mustang.

John was involved in many organizations and charities throughout his life, serving on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Republic. John fought a five-year battle with cancer and showed incredible humility, strength, and stubbornness to the very end. True to his nature, he never stopped giving back and has donated his body to Wayne State University for medical research. In-lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in John's name to a cancer organization of your choice. A Memorial Service will be held November 25, 2017, with an Open House from 1-3:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Northville, 200 E Main, Northville, MI.

### Somers



**Marlene A.** November 3, 2017 age 80 of Plymouth. Beloved mother of Peggy (Mark) Copp, Kathleen (Mark) Cotter, Paul, Jeffrey (Krista). Proud grandmother of Corey, Jordan, Ryan, Casey, Jack, and Henry. Preceded in death by her brother Kenneth Kerch, her sister Jean Huber and her nephew Kenneth Kerch. The family will gather with friends Saturday November 11th from 10 AM until the 12 noon Memorial service, at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (between Sheldon and Beck). Memorials may be made to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan or Angela Hospice. To share a memory, please visit [vermeulenfuneralhome.com](http://vermeulenfuneralhome.com)



### Hewlett

**Christie** of Birmingham, MI, daughter of Thomas H. and Freda P. Hewlett, died peacefully at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, on November 1, 2017. A graduate of Kingswood School Cranbrook, Randolph-Macon Women's College, and Wayne State, Chris brought her warmth and substantial administrative skills to management roles at Michigan Bell, later Ameritech. Helping employees advance was her greatest satisfaction. She is survived by her sister, Lillian (Michael) Moats, and nephew, David Moats. A Celebration of her Life is planned for family and friends at a later date. Donations may be made to Detroit Rescue Mission.



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**WAYNE**  
HYPE Recreation Center  
4635 Howe Rd.  
Nov. 6, 20 @ 12 pm  
Dec. 6 @ 12 pm

**CANTON**  
Dairy Queen  
266 N. Canton Center Rd.  
Nov. 7, 14, 28 @ 1:30 pm  
Dec. 5 @ 1:30 pm

**NOVI**  
Novi Civic Center  
45175 Ten Mile Rd.  
Nov. 8, 22 @ 10 am  
Dec. 6 @ 10 am

**WESTLAND**  
Golden Corral  
37101 Warren Rd.  
Nov. 7, 14, 28 @ 9:30 am

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
Costick Activity Center  
28600 W. 11 Mile Rd.  
Nov. 15, 29 @ 10 am

**SOUTHFIELD**  
City of Southfield Parks & Recreation  
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Nov. 16, 30 @ 10 am  
Dec. 7 @ 10 am

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BOYS SOCCER

# Catholic Central ends 39-year title drought

Pierson's late PK decides defensive battle against Walled Lake Central, 1-0

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

It only took one goal, but it was the most important goal in Detroit Catholic Central soccer history.

Senior Ryan Pierson's penalty kick with only 6:49 remaining gave the Shamrocks their first-ever state championship as they defeated Walled Lake Central, 1-0, for the coveted

MHSAA Division 1 title Saturday at Rochester Stoney Creek.

Sixth-year coach Gene Pulice was nearly tongue-tied in describing his feelings afterward as the CC players, students and fans celebrated.

"I guess I really don't know what to say," said Pulice, whose team finished 21-2-4. "It's taken 39 years in the making, right? So I think the first one definitely is historic and impactful. As a coach to be able to be the first coach to lead a team to it, it's impactful, for sure. Everybody put it together, came out here and played hard today."

Pierson, the Shamrocks' top scorer all season, converted his 32nd goal after being taken down inside the 18-yard box on a foul by Central defender Tate Hjorth.

"I thought it was a matter of time before Ryan got pulled down in the box," Pulice said. "They were on him all game. And so, it's one of those things where you just try and stick to your game plan and know that it will work."

Pierson, committed to Saginaw Valley State, then stepped up to the line and grounded a shot under the outstretched



Detroit Catholic Central players posed with the MHSAA Division 1 state championship trophy after a 1-0 win over Walled Lake Central. DAN DEAN

See SOCCER, Page B3

PREP FOOTBALL

# Franklin edges Churchill to win district crown



Franklin's Cal Fournier (right) breaks a tackle by Churchill's Jayvaughn Grissom to score a touchdown. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PREP FOOTBALL

# Chiefs deliver knockout punch against Belleville

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

After an intense week of practice preparing for Friday's Division 1 football district final against top-ranked Belleville, it all came down to a single play for Canton.

And what a wild and crazy play it was. Canton's prevent defense was able to finally bring down Jalen Wallace with nothing but zeroes on the scoreboard to preserve a nerve-racking 28-25 victory against the previously undefeated Tigers.

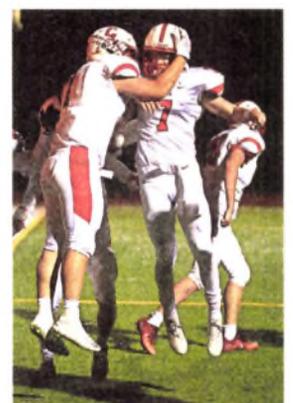
"How many kids on our team would start for them?" jubilant Canton coach Tim Baechler said after the district trophy presentation. "Not very many. Yeah, this was a great win."

Senior running back Colin Troup carried the offense, rushing 24 times for 178 yards and a touchdown. But it was bend-but-don't-break defense that gave the Chiefs the win.

"I was scared to death on that last play," Baechler said. "My god, my heart sank, rose, sank, rose. What a way to end. I'm sick right now."

Baechler could afford to laugh, however, because the Chiefs won their 10th straight game after their Week 1 loss to Muskegon Mona Shores. Canton will move on to the regionals.

See CHIEFS, Page B3



After teaming for a fourth-quarter touchdown pass, Lou Baechler (left) gives props to quarterback Connor Engel.

JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

# Patriots will host regional final against Flushing

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

With just over a minute left and Livonia Franklin clinging to two-point lead against Livonia Churchill, Brad Gibson had a sneaky suspicion that one more pass was headed in his direction.

Call it intuition, but the senior defensive back picked off Drew Alsobrooks's pass at his own 44 to seal the victory for the Patriots, who claimed

the Division 2 football district title with a 21-19 win over the host Chargers.

"The play before, they ran the same hitch route," the 5-foot-9, 170-pound Gibson said. "And I tried to jump it the play before, but I just couldn't make it ... I had a hard hit. I knew they were coming back to it, so when they did, securing the catch was just an unbelievable feeling."

It certainly is an unbelievable feeling for the Patriots, who after two road games, get

to host Flushing (9-2) for the regional title at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10. Flushing advanced with a 28-21 win at Fenton.

The Patriots also avenged a 24-10 loss to Churchill earlier this season.

"I knew we had to make a big stop," Gibson said. "I knew we couldn't give up. It just showed how strong we were and how well we were going to compete with a minute left in the game."

Franklin appeared to have the game won with just over

three minutes left, when Marcus Martin stripped Alsobrooks, Churchill's junior quarterback, of the ball after a 20-yard gain, which was recovered by teammate Keion Harris just inbounds.

"When I saw the ball, I had to go for it because it was either that or they have a chance getting down the field and kicking a field goal, sealing the game, 22-21," Martin said.

Churchill (8-3) was also assessed a 15-yard personal foul following the play, put-

See FRANKLIN, Page B3



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## PREP FOOTBALL

# Divine Child scores early, often in district final

**Tim Smith**

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK —  
MICHIGAN

Dearborn Divine Child's defense was on the field more than its offense Friday, but that didn't matter much as the host Falcons rolled to a 42-6 win in the Division 3 football district final.

The Eagles (10-1) actually ran 56 plays to DC's 36, yet the Falcons broke out to a quick 14-0 lead and never looked back — registering 329 yards to Thurston's 167.

Scoring for Thurston (7-4) was running back Leonard Funches, on a 34-yard run late in the first quarter to trim the Falcons' lead to 14-6. Funches was a bright spot for veteran coach

Bob Snell, with 98 yards in 27 rushing attempts.

Quarterback Zachary Crofford, however, could not quite connect with the passing attack. He hit on just 8-of-23 passes for 53 yards.

Conversely for Divine Child, senior quarterback and Michigan State University commit Theo Day (Canton) was on-target. He connected on 10-of-12 passes for 121 yards and two touchdowns and added 87 yards on the ground.

Day opened the scoring with 8:22 left in the first, on a 49-yard TD toss to Vincent Floro.

About five minutes later, Day teamed with senior Aidan Hutchinson, a Plymouth resident who has verbally committed to Michigan, on a 28-yard

aerial.

Whatever momentum Thurston had thanks to the Funches touchdown was brief. Divine Child scored 21 unanswered points in the second quarter to take a 35-6 halftime lead.

William Duren, Day (on a 53-yarder) and Noah DeGuzman both scored a rushing TD in the second quarter.

The only scoring in the second half was on a 39-yard run by Gregory Robinson.

Spearheading the Divine Child defense with a team-leading 6.5 tackles was Hutchison.

Next for the Falcons is a D3 regional contest against Riverview.

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
Twitter: @TimSmith\_Sports



Thurston's Zachary Crofford (right) tries to break a tackle against Divine Child's Cameron Smith. TOM BEAUDOIN

## PREP FOOTBALL

# Catholic Central offense clicks in win vs. Lakeland

Shamrocks will take on Canton in regional final Friday

**Mike Rosenbaum**

Special to hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK —  
MICHIGAN

A punishing ground game, some timely passes and a defense that improved as the game progressed led Detroit Catholic Central to a 35-12 victory over host White Lake Lakeland in a Division 1 football district championship game Friday.

The Shamrocks (7-4) advance to the regional final this week, where they'll play at Canton (10-1) at 7 p.m. Friday. Lakeland finished its season 7-3.

Here are five takeaways from the contest:

## FAST START

On their first possession, the Eagles didn't look like a team on their way to a three-score loss, as they drove 66 yards on nine plays.

Lakeland gashed the CC defense with four runs of 10 yards or more before Dakota Myers capped the drive with a 4-yard touchdown run.

But Lakeland managed just three more first downs the rest of the half.

CC coach Dan Anderson said he didn't make any defensive adjustments after that first series. Instead, his players just needed some time to adapt to Lakeland's attack.

"It's a tough offense to stop — a lot of counters, a lot of misdirection," Anderson said. "You run it all week in practice, but you run it with scout team guys. You don't run it with their guys. Their guys were very good ... and I think we had to get used to it."

Lakeland coach Joe Woodruff said the Shamrocks "were doing some good things on the defensive line from a technique standpoint. I don't think it was an X's and O's thing."

## MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

Fourth-down success was vital to the Shamrocks early in the contest.

On their first series, trailing 6-0, they faced a fourth-and-one from the Lakeland 14.

Cameron Ryan gained 3 yards for the first down and, three plays later, he scored his first TD of the



Catholic Central's Nate Anderson (right) makes the catch over Lakeland defender Luke Perry. SCOTT CONFER

night on a 3-yard run.

On Lakeland's next possession, Woodruff rolled the dice on fourth-and-one from his own 29, but CC swarmed to the ball and stuffed Robbie Tracy for no gain. That set up a short TD drive that Ryan capped with a 6-yard run to give the Shamrocks a 14-6 lead late in the first quarter.

## AIR POWER

CC quarterback Marco Genrich hadn't completed a pass midway through the second quarter, when he dropped back to throw on third-and-15 from the CC 27.

He hit big tight end Mike Harding with a 33-yard strike to keep the drive alive.

Three plays later, Genrich completed a 38-yard pass to Nate Anderson on third-and-14 to set up Ryan's 2-yard scoring run and help the Shamrocks take a 21-6 lead into halftime.

"We had good coverage on both plays," Woodruff said, "and they won the 50/50 balls. And that was huge."

"A (big) part of our offensive game plan was to throw the ball," Dan Anderson said, "because



Catholic Central's Cameron Ryan tries to break the grasp of Lakeland tackler Sean Cullen (bottom). BRAD EMONS

we know they don't play with safeties."

Indeed, while the Shamrocks didn't throw often, they were deadly when Genrich did air it out, as the junior completed 7-of-9 passes for 141 yards.

His 35-yard scoring pass to Nate Anderson early in the fourth quarter — on fourth-and-nine — basically sealed the victory.

## SPECIAL SUCCESS

Despite having an extra point blocked, Lakeland did enjoy some success on special teams.

Late in the first half, Dylan Kutzleb almost broke a kickoff return, taking it 53 yards to the CC 43.

Shamrocks kicker Ethan Pattinson made the touchdown-saving tackle, which proved to be a key play after the CC defense limited Lakeland to just one first down and eventually forced a punt.

The Eagles had better fortune in the third quarter, when Sean Cullen ran a fake punt 33 yards to the Shamrocks 21, to help set up a 1-yard TD run.

## IRONMAN

Cam Ryan enjoyed another big game for CC, running 30 times for 200 yards and four TDs.

In addition to his three first-half scores, he capped the opening drive of the second half with a 54-yard touchdown dash, giving CC a 28-6 lead.

The bruising runner gained plenty of yards after contact, but also benefited from a strong performance by his blockers. "I thought the offensive line played very well tonight," Dan Anderson said. "They stuck on their blocks, they stayed, and they finished. It was nice to see."

Tracy paced Lakeland's rushing attack with 108 yards on 16 carries.

## PREP FOOTBALL



Roderick Heard scored three times and rushed for 139 yards to help lift Harrison past Warren Woods Tower for the D-3 district title Friday. DAN DEAN

# Harrison sweeps through Warren teams in first two playoff games

**Marty Budner**

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK —  
MICHIGAN

Farmington Harrison continues to march through the Division 3 football state playoffs.

The Hawks conquered their second straight opponent from Warren on Friday, defeating Woods Tower 33-0 in a dominating performance to claim the district championship. In the playoff opener last week, coach John Herrington's squad opened with a convincing 45-14 victory over Warren Fitzgerald.

Against Tower, Harrison exploded to a 13-0 lead after one quarter and scored one touchdown in each of the next three quarters.

Tower, which placed third in the Macomb Area Conference Gold Division, took the opening kick, but was forced to punt. Harrison blocked the punt and needed just three plays to open the scoring, when junior running back Roderick Heard went over from 4 yards out. Harrison missed the two-point conversion, but held the 6-0 lead.

With just five seconds remaining in the opening quarter, Heard scored from 16 yards away. Junior kicker David Hiser made the extra point for a 13-0

lead.

Harrison, the OAA White Division tri-champion with Birmingham Groves and Oak Park, surged ahead 19-0 midway through the second quarter on a 29-yard touchdown run by junior Ben Williams.

Trey Walker put the game away by returning the second-half kickoff 77 yards to pay dirt. The extra point was good and Harrison held a 26-0 lead.

Heard, who finished with 139 yards on 12 carries, mustered the final touchdown on a 46-yard run late in the fourth quarter. Senior quarterback Noah Hendricks completed all four passes he threw for 74 yards.

Defensively, senior end Ovie Oghoufo finished with eight tackles and two sacks. Sophomore teammate Sylvon Brown registered a team-high 14 tackles, including one sack.

Harrison (8-3) will play at Linden (9-2) at 7 p.m. Friday for the Division 3 regional championship. Linden, which placed second to Fenton in the Flint Metro League, advanced to the regional final with a 49-27 triumph over Ortonville Brandon.

Harrison last played for the regional title in 2014, when it stopped Flushing 23-10 to advance to the state semifinal. The Hawks lost in the semifinal, 25-24, to Muskegon Mona Shores.

# FRANKLIN

Continued from Page B1

ting the ball at the Chargers' 16 with 2:43 left. But the Chargers recovered a Jacob Kelbert fumble on the next play after the Franklin sophomore QB was struggling to gain extra yardage on a keeper.

The turnover gave Churchill one more crack to potentially kick the go-ahead field goal.

Churchill running back Darrell Mason Jr. then got loose for a 25-yard gain, but the Patriots' gritty defense held.

"The last two minutes of the game, our D-line did a great," Gibson said. "They got through, they did what they needed to do on the QB. It was unbelievable."

And it was another unbelievable performance by Franklin's workhorse in the backfield, 6-0, 210-pound senior Isaac Moore, who had a game-best 198 yards on 35 carries.

Moore had 104 yards on 13 carries during the first half, followed by a hard-earned 94 yards on 22 attempts in the second.

"That's just his determination," Franklin coach Chris Kelbert said of Moore. "Made a couple of adjustments in blocking things a little bit better. And all around, I think we just played better in the second half than the first half. They were just bringing some pressure with their linebackers off the edge, so we had to make sure we accounted for those guys."

Here are five other takeaways:

### PROUD PAPA

Jacob Kelbert came through with some clutch third-down passes and was 7-of-13 passing on the night for 101 yards and two TDs.

The 10th-grader completed three straight passes on the Patriots' final drive of the first half, resulting in a 20-yard TD pass to Cal Fournier with 58.6 seconds left to make it 14-7.

His other TD pass went to Julius Simmons on a 13-yard wheel route with 1:25 left in third quarter as Franklin increased its lead to 21-13.

"We threw the ball very well today and that was the difference, because they were concentrating on the run," Chris Kelbert said.

Jacob Kelbert was intercepted once and probably would have liked to take back that last Franklin fumble.

"I told him, he did that because he was going for extra yards, wanting to seal the game," Chris Kelbert said. "And he'll learn from that next time. He'll go down after the first couple (yards)



Churchill's Darrell Mason Jr. takes the ball, makes it through a crowd of Patriots and heads for the end zone for a touchdown. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and protect the ball, but very proud of him, as I am everybody else on this team."

### KEY INJURY

Churchill jumped out to a 7-0 lead with 7:21 left in the first quarter on a 6-yard TD pass from Alsobrooks to Joel Forgas.

The score was set up by a 44-yard screen pass from Alsobrooks to the speedy Mason, who went down on the play after being tackled on the sideline.

Mason did not return and missed the entire second quarter with an ankle issue, but came back out for the second half, scoring on a 68-yard TD run just 54 seconds into the third quarter.

Mason had 121 yards on just seven carries.

"He dinged his ankle up and you can see how explosive he is," Churchill coach Bill DeFillippo said. "We got him taped up and he got a little bit of time to rest at the half. And then came out and hit the long run to get us back in and then we missed the extra point, which forced us to go for two and we didn't get it on the second one to try to tie the game up. We had our opportunities and we didn't make the plays at critical times ... that's the way it goes in round two, I guess."

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Trailing 21-13 early in the fourth quarter, Mason blocked a Franklin punt and teammate Quantrez Pittman pounced on it in the end zone for a touchdown.

It was only a week earlier when Churchill's Martell Dooley blocked a short field-goal attempt with just under three minutes left to preserve a 24-23 win at Pinckney.

The Chargers then went for two, but Franklin's Cal Fournier intercepted Alsobrooks after he was flushed out of the pocket.

"When you get to this point, you get penalties and mistakes, turnovers and things like that," DeFillippo said. "I thought it was a great game. I thought both teams played hard. And it was great football game. I just think we ended up on the end of making a few more mistakes."

### BALL CONTROL

The Patriots marched

88 yards in 18 plays, consuming 9:35 off the clock to score their third TD, when Jacob Kelbert hit Simmons out of the backfield on a 13-yarder.

"We scored in a minute-and-a-half in and they got the ball back and took, like, nine minutes off the clock," DeFillippo said. "And then to take the lead. Our kids stepped up and made a lot of big plays and so did their kids. The margin was not much at all tonight. It's a credit to both of our teams and it's kind of neat to have two of the Livonia teams to play each other in round two and put on a heck of a performance for the fans."

Franklin also ran 15 plays and drove 66 yards before getting stopped on fourth-and-four with just over three minutes remaining in the game.

"That was a huge, huge momentum turn for us, keep their offense off the ball," Chris Kelbert said. "They're so explosive and that was our goal for the week, was to do that."

### DEFENSIVE SHOUT-OUT

The Patriots had a break-but-not-bend, mentality as they held Churchill to 281 yards total offense. Franklin, meanwhile, had 338.

"Our defensive staff has done a hell of a job with these guys this year," said Chris Kelbert, who singled out staff members Dusty Hall, Aaron Moran and Kevin Wengert. "The past two years, we've been doing it with offense, kind of outscoring everybody. This year, we've got to do what we can do offensively."

And yet, it took one final defensive stand to thwart the Chargers and it took a team effort.

"We were thinking just screen passes, deep passes as they tried to get into field goal range," Martin said. "We were just trying to save the game. We had a couple of turnovers to seal the victory for us. The fumble recovery (by Harris) at the 30-yard line there and to save the game when they went for that two-point conversion when Cal (Fournier) got an interception there. Honestly, I couldn't have done it without my teammates."

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# SOCCER

Continued from Page B1

arms of Central goalkeeper Brian Osteppanko for the game-winner.

"As soon as he clipped my ankle, I knew I was going to get a PK and I was pretty confident," Pierson said. "I was very confident, I knew as soon as I got up there, I knew we were going to win the game. I'm pretty confident when I take PKs. I take PKs in club and high school and I was very confident that was going to go in."

Central (22-2-2) had yielded only six goals all season and hadn't lost a match season its season opener against Portage Central.

"You look at the faces and that will answer the question for you," Vikings coach Joel Sharpe said. "Their hearts are breaking. No matter how great of a season and how great an accomplishment it is to get to the finals, it's never easy to console these guys for the amount of time they put into it."

It was a physical battle throughout the match as officials let the two teams play without issuing any cards.

But Sharpe wasn't about to blame the loss on the PK decision.

"It looked like it," he said. "When we dive in, you put somebody in the box like a caliber of player that Pierson is, bad things are going to happen."

Here are five other takeaways:

### PIERSON SHADOWED

Catholic Central's top scorer was hawked effectively throughout the match by Central's Karl Tavadia, a 6-

foot-1, 180-pound senior defender.

"I knew they were going to try and throw somebody on me. The coach was screaming at them to stick with me because he lost me a couple of times," Pierson said. "(Tavadia) did a heck of a job shutting me down in the first half. I couldn't get anything going. It was very difficult. But soon as he got hurt, then the other guy came in - and I thought I did a pretty good job against them - we started to create more chances."

### TURNING POINT

Tavadia went down with a knee injury, an apparent partially torn ACL, with 32:30 to play in regulation, forcing Sharpe to juggle his lineup down the stretch.

"He's a rare defender and was able to handle somebody like Pierson," he said. "I took one of my forwards and put him on him. It was probably unfair to do it to Alex Sayeg, but he did a heck of a job up until that point."

CC was able to take advantage of the big defender's absence by stepping up its offensive attack.

"Our whole plan was to try and lure them to us and then play through them after we got them stretched out," Pulice said. "Unfortunately, I feel bad for their guy that got injured. Hopefully he's OK. But they started feeling the pressure, they started creating more fouls and definitely it played into our favor."

### BEST CHANCES

In a match that was devoid of scoring chances, CC made a bid to make it 1-0 with 28:30 remaining in the first half, when Osteppanko went high with one hand to bat away a shot by Luke Willemsen.

On the doorstep with just under a minute left, Central's Ellton Pllum-

baj, from close range in front of CC goalie Kevin Blossfeld, rang a shot off the crossbar after getting a feed from the hard-working Alex Dalou.

"We broke them down the first half, put it on the crossbar and dropped back down on the goal line," Sharp said. "Should have been up 1-0 if we had finished it. I think we should have done a little better job possessing the ball, but they're a good team and it was a back and forth."

### DEFENSIVE KUDOS

The Shamrocks shut out five of their seven state tournament opponents and allowed just 13 goals all season.

As customary, Blossfeld played the first 40 minutes and Andrew Nichol森 went the final 40 to combine for CC's 18th shutout of the year.

"Our plan was to shut down their key players - Alex Dalou and Nick Palofax," CC senior defender Henry Koelling said. "And we did a really good job of that. It was a physical game, but we knew if we locked those guys up, we'd have a great chance of winning and we got it done."

### PARTY TIME

At a school that has captured many state titles in many different sports, this was the first for the soccer program, which was launched in 1978.

"I'm ecstatic right now," said Koelling, a senior captain. "I'm at a loss for words. This was our goal right after our loss to Novi last year. To be able to get it done is fantastic."

It was a day of celebration, for sure.

"Happy we won it. We worked hard for it all season," CC senior midfielder Matthew Park said.

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Catholic Central athletic director Aaron Babicz (left) presents the state championship medal to player Drake Midgley. DAN DEAN

# CHIEFS

Continued from Page B1

With several players lined up 40 yards behind the line of scrimmage, Belleville quarterback Christian Dhue-Reid completed a short pass to Julian Barnett — who then tried to dance around the defenders while avoiding what would be the game-ending tackle.

Barnett flipped the ball to Wallace, who made a bee-line for the sideline trying to turn the corner. But the Chiefs were ready and finally brought him down.

### Tough in the clutch

"This week, we installed a new victory formation, getting some of our tall guys back in the end zone for any jump ball," senior linebacker Chase Meredith said. "We were lined up for that, everyone was

ready. And they threw something short, so we all had to rally to the ball."

Senior Noah Brown, who caught a 25-yard pass from senior quarterback Connor Engel midway through the third quarter to give Canton a 21-6 advantage, said the team "worked all week in our last-second defense and we just got the job done today."

Canton's decisive touchdown came on fourth-and-goal from the 4-yard line while nursing a 21-19 lead with under six minutes left in the contest.

Engel faked a handoff into the line and then sent a perfect pass deep into the end zone, where tight end Lou Baechler made no mistake with his TD catch. That capped a 15-play, 55-yard drive that began late in the third quarter.

"I went on my route and I was open and Connor threw a heck of a pass right on my stom-

ach. I came down with it," Lou Baechler said.

The Tigers responded to cut the deficit to 28-25 on a 7-yard pass from Dhue-Reid to Davion Williams with 3:18 to go, but Canton blocked an extra point for the second time.

Canton then milked the clock for all it was worth, picking up a first down along the way to ensure Belleville (10-1) would not have much time to work with.

Following are several takeaways:

### TIGERS TRICKERY

Late in the second quarter, with the Chiefs up 14-6, Belleville set up to punt the ball. But the Tigers threw on fourth-and-18 instead. Patrick Lupro connected with Jalen Williams for a 20-yard gain and kept the drive going. But Canton's pass defense stiffened from there and Belleville missed on another fourth-down pass attempt.

### OH, THOSE PENALTIES

Canton, at least in the first half, played relatively miscue-free football — at least where penalties were concerned. The Tigers, on the other hand, were whistled for several false starts to stymie any offensive momentum. And a holding call nullified what would have been a 58-yard TD catch-and-run by Williams.

### FULL-SPEED AHEAD

Canton ran the ball most of the time during the opening half, looking to not only gain chunks of yardage, but also take time off the clock. With several running backs getting touches, the Chiefs put together some efficient drives that paid off with a pair of TD runs (by Steven Walker and Troup).

### EVERY POINT COUNTS

The Chiefs blocked a Belleville extra point early in the second quarter. On the flip side, Can-

ton did the job on both first-half PATs, with junior Ben Wright holding for senior Chase Meredith and sophomore Cooper Donlin (one each).

### CLEAN PICKINGS

Canton made enough important plays on defense to keep the run-and-gun Tigers at bay. With the game scoreless in the first quarter, senior defensive back Robert Laird intercepted a Belleville pass in the end zone.

On the first offensive

snap of the second half, a badly overthrown ball went right into the hands of Chiefs senior defensive back Joe Vespaziani.

"We know there were match-up issues, big time, back there," Tim Baechler said. "But they just scrapped, got a couple picks. That's what we said, 'Hey, they're going to make some plays, guys. But we're going to make a couple, too.'"

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## BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

## At muddy MIS, Plymouth's title bid barely misses

Grzymkowski leads defending champion Lakeland to fifth-place finish

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Slushing through mud and dealing with three rain delays Saturday at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, the Plymouth Wildcats came within a puddle or two of capturing their first MHSAA Division 1 state championship in school history.

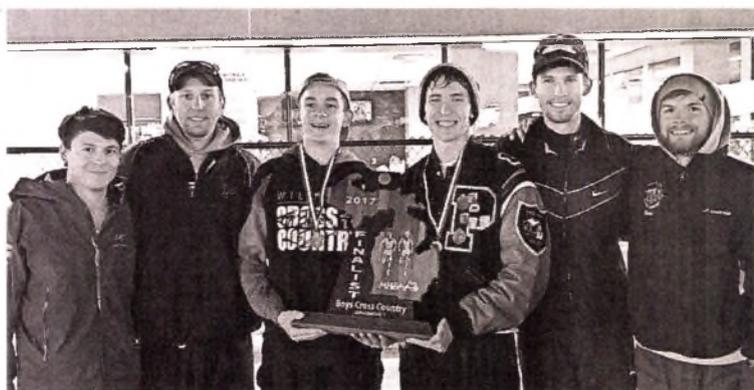
Ann Arbor Pioneer eked out the title, with 107 points, followed by Plymouth (110) and defending champion White Lake Lakeland (130).

The top of the individual leader board also was as cramped as can be.

Earning medalist honors with a time of 15:16.1 was Pioneer junior Nick Foster, but he had Rockford's Cole Johnson (15:18.2) and Lakeland junior Harrison Grzymkowski (15:18.4) hot on his heels.

Finishing the 5,000-meter race in fifth place was Plymouth sophomore Carter Solomon (15:24.2), while Novi senior Gabriel Mudel (sixth, 15:26.2), Lakeland senior Drew Wenger (eighth, 15:27) and Birmingham Seaholm junior George Nummer (10th, 15:35.7) all finished in the top 10.

"It was hard," Solomon said about the tricky



Plymouth's varsity boys cross country team proudly poses with the Division 1 runner-up trophy Saturday at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

terrain. "The mud was terrible. I mean, it was good weather. The rain was good, the cold felt good, but the mud was terrible.

"Well, my team kept saying, 'We're all right, we're all right.' We knew it would affect the other teams, but not us. We kept strong. We kept our poise. We were good."

Plymouth, which captured the Oct. 28 regional at Willow Metropark in New Boston with six finishers in the top nine, was much more spread out at MIS. But the Wildcats still nearly got it done.

In 18th with a time of 15:43.8 was senior Ethan Byrnes; junior Brendan Boyd placed 38th with a mark of 16:10.3. After that, junior Jarrett Warner (45th, 16:13.3), sophomore Tyler Mussen (55th, 16:17.2) and freshman Patrick Byrnes came in 71st (16:24.6).

Solomon and Byrnes were all-state finishers

(top 30) for the second consecutive year.

"Our coach (Jon Mikosz) comes in and all expects anything. Go in and run every single race like it's your last one' and that's what I think we did," Ethan Byrnes said.

About the less than ideal course conditions, Byrnes shrugged them off.

"We ran in these conditions before," he said. "The (Ann Arbor) Gabriel Richard meet was actually worse than this. But it's just that mental mindset of who's tougher and who has the heart to tough through the mud (and) the rain."

The Eagles, making a bid for back-to-back championships, after their first championship, had two finish in the top 10, led by Grzymkowski and senior Drew Wenger (eighth, 15:27). Lakeland's other scorers included Christian Davis (43rd, 16:12.9), Angelo Savich

(67th, 16:22.5) and George Drallos (69th, 16:24.1).

Birmingham Brother Rice took 12th with 356, paced by junior Alec Miracle (21st, 16:08.9), followed by teammates Grant Davey (37th, 16:16.9), Kevan O'Brien (73rd, 16:25.2), Jacob Hannawa (154th, 16:56.5) and Joe Berg (201st, 17:19.2).

Milford (359), one place behind in 13th, was led by junior Evan White (42nd, 16:12.9). Other scorers for the Mavericks included Kazuma Bowring, 104th (16:37.8); Carsen Kettle, 123rd (16:46.1); Grant Ballard, 127th (16:47.3); and Luke Caddell, 142nd (16:53.4).

Novi (385), which placed 16th, had one all-stater in Mudel, followed by Matt Whyte (97th, 16:33.2), Nathaniel Wood (137th, 16:51.1), Trey Mullins (143rd, 16:53.4) and Prateek Bhola (179th, 17:09.2).

Salem (437), 20th overall, was led by seniors



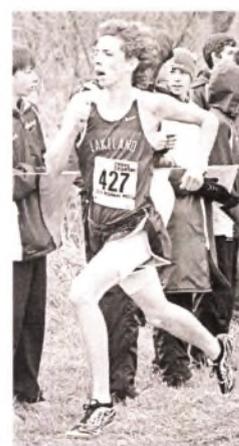
Plymouth senior Ethan Byrnes sparked the Wildcats in the state finals. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Ryan Exell (90th, 16:30.4) and Andrew Beyer (115th, 16:41.9), along with junior Christo Jeffers (116th, 16:43.1). Also scoring for the Rocks were Nolan Teodori (160th, 16:58.7) and Shane McKimmy (163rd, 16:59.6).

Individual qualifiers from area schools to crack the top 30 and earn all-state honors were Farmington senior Nick Trevisan (17th, 15:43.2), Northville junior Nicholas Couyoumjian (25th, 15:51) and Seaholm junior Jakob Sayers (29th, 15:57.1).

Couyoumjian was allowed by the MHSAA to run in the race as an individual, while the rest of the Northville team was disqualified at the Oct. 28 Willow Metropark regional after taking third on an MHSAA rules violation for not wearing the same undergarment colors.

"Given the circumstances last week and with the race being delayed multiple times yesterday, I am really proud of how Nick handled everything," first-year Northville coach Tim Dalton said. "It's his first all-state honor."



Lakeland junior Harrison Grzymkowski placed third overall in the state meet with a time of 15:18.4.

Other area individual finishers included Novi Detroit Catholic Central's Luke Perelli (53rd, 16:16.1) and Livonia Stevenson's Owen Rowader (72nd, 16:24.6).

#### MHSAA DIVISION 1 BOYS CROSS COUNTRY FINALS Nov. 4 at MIS (Brooklyn)

**TEAM RESULTS:** 1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 107 points; 2. Plymouth, 110; 3. Lakeland, 130; 4. Romeo, 142; 5. Saline, 246; 6. Saginaw Heritage, 263; 7. Ann Arbor Skyline, 267; 8. Clarkston, 304; 9. Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, 356; 10. Milford, 359; 16. Novi, 385; 17. Brighton, 405; 20. Salem, 437.

**AREA INDIVIDUAL RESULTS (top 30 All-State):** 1. Nick Foster (Pioneer), 15:16.1; 2. Harrison Grzymkowski (Lakeland), 15:18.4; 3. Carter Solomon (Plymouth), 15:24.2; 4. Gabriel Mudel (Novi), 15:26.2; 5. Zachary Stewart (Brighton), 15:41.8; 6. Nick Trevisan (Farmington), 15:43.2; 7. Ethan Byrnes (Plymouth), 15:43.8; 8. Nicholas Couyoumjian (Northville), 15:51; 9. Jakob Sayers (Seaholm), 15:57.1.

Anthony Odoardi and Brad Emons contributed to this report.

## GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

## Troy edges Northville in D1 finals

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Fresh off a Division 1 girls cross country regional championship, Northville tried to parlay that positive momentum into more hardware Saturday at Michigan International Speedway.

But the Mustangs fell just short in the MHSAA Division 1 state finals with a tally of 132 points — bested only by Troy (127).

Meanwhile, defending D1 champion Milford placed fifth among the field of 27 teams with 234.

Northville freshman Yasmine Mansi (ninth, 17:59.9), junior Nicole Cybul (18th, 18:10.4) and senior Ana Barrott (27th, 18:23.2) were the top performers for the Mustangs.

Mansi and Cybul both posted personal bests, freshman Emily Gordon finished 72nd (19:05.7) while junior Olivia Harp placed 74th (19:07.9) rounded out the Northville scoring contingent. "Our goal was definitely to win and ... we definitely wanted to stay together and stay as close as we could," Cybul said. "And I think we did pretty well at that."

Troy fared better in that area with five finishers completing the 5,000-meter race in less than 19 minutes.

Northville was making a bid for its first state title since 2013, but came up five points short.

"The girls had a remarkable day with a young team," Northville coach Nancy Smith said. "With only one senior on the team (Barrott), she guided this young team to a remarkable season. These girls would not be where they are today without her leadership and experience. This is a



The Northville girls cross country team took Division 1 runner-up honors to Troy. SUBMITTED PHOTO

young team who will now be hungry to win it all next year. Troy had an amazing pack which propelled them to the win. I tried to stress the importance of this all season long and we got better, but not close."

Milford's top finisher was junior Victoria Heilingenthal, with a time of 18:07.3. Other scorers for the Mavericks included Abby Hiipakka, 59th (18:57.6); Regan Lobodzinski, 78th (19:09.7); Paige Saiz, 93rd (19:17.3); and Rebecca Bradsher, 114th (19:29.7).

Birmingham Seaholm (238), which placed seventh, was spearheaded by seniors Rachel McCardell (sixth, 17:51.9) and Emily Rooney (30th, 18:26.2). Other scorers for the Maples included Audrey DaDamio (62nd, 19:00.7), Kati Beckeman (69th, 19:04.9) and Alison Doninni (179th, 20:08.4).

Lakeland junior Madeline Rehm, an individual qualifier, crossed the finish line 10th overall (18:01.1), while the Eagles' two other qualifiers were Olivia Clymer (32nd, 18:30.6) and Rylee Lukes (87th, 19:13.0).

Salem (423) took 18th overall, led by senior Shae Wilson (86th, 19:12.7). Other scorers for the Rocks included Bridget Nelson, 77th (19:30.1), Reagan Justice, 80th (19:37.5); Gabrielle Mancini (153rd, 19:53.4) and Hallie Younglas

(156th, 19:54.2).

Bloomfield Hills (690) placed 27th, led by sophomore Shelby Jenkins (61st, 19:18.1). She was followed by teammates Isadora Halsband, 195th (20:21.8); Delace Jia, 209th (20:38.1); Samantha Yamin, 218th (20:51.0); and Evelyn Sorgenfrei, 228th (20:57.7).

Also earning all-state (top 30) honors was Farmington junior Abby Inch (11th, 18:06.9) as she joined area runners McCardell, Mansi, Rehm, Farmington junior Abby Inch (11th, 18:06.9), Heilingenthal, Cybul, Barrott and Rooney.

Other area finishers included Novi's Katherine Ray (48th, 18:49.1), North Farmington's Whitney Reid (84th, 19:11.6), Livonia Franklin's Erin Seibert (99th, 19:22.7) and Livonia Churchill's Gabrielle Swider (130th, 19:41.1).

#### MHSAA DIVISION 1 GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY FINALS Nov. 4 at MIS (Brooklyn)

**TEAM RESULTS:** 1. Troy, 127 points; 2. Northville, 132; 3. Rockford, 153; 4. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 180; 5. Milford, 234; 6. Traverse City Central, 235; 7. Birmingham Seaholm, 238; 8. Clarkston, 257; 9. Traverse City West, 259; 10. Saline, 277; 12. Brighton, 332; 18. Salem, 423; 27. Bloomfield Hills, 690.

**INDIVIDUAL RESULTS (top 30 All-State):** 1. Erica VanderLende (Rockford), 17:16.8; 2. Rachel McCardell (Seaholm), 17:51.9; 3. Yasmine Mansi (Northville), 17:59.9; 4. Madeline Rehm (Lakeland), 18:01.1; 5. Abby Inch (Farmington), 18:06.9; 6. Victoria Heilingenthal (Milford), 18:07.3; 7. Nicole Cybul (Northville), 18:10.4; 8. Ana Barrott (Northville), 18:23.2.

Anthony Odoardi and Brad Emons contributed to this report.

## BOYS SOCCER



East Lansing's Paul Carney (right) moves with the ball as Farmington Hills Harrison's Jacob Honer closes in during the first half. NICK KING | LANSING STATE JOURNAL

## Harrison knocked out of state tourney, 2-0

Brian Calloway

Lansing State Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Tim Russell sensed it early.

The Farmington Hills Harrison coach knew his team had depth at every position and a lot of players that could get the job done.

And those elements paved the way as the Hawks were able to put together one of their best state tournament runs in school history.

Harrison's run ended in the Division 2 state semifinals with a 2-0 loss Nov. 1 to East Lansing.

But in the aftermath

of that loss, Russell was proud of what the Hawks achieved while reaching the state semifinals for the first time since 1987.

"I was just telling them they made people care about Harrison soccer this year," Russell said. "Traditionally, it's an American football school and they brought all these fans out here tonight and they made everyone respect us. All these top-ranked teams that we played this year, they all knew that we belonged on the field with them. That's what I'm proudest of these guys for, because they earned that. They worked hard to get to that level."

East Lansing scored twice in the final 20 min-

utes to earn a shot at its sixth state title under veteran coach Nick Archer. Almir Celovic's goal with just under 18 minutes broke the scoreless tie, while Mohamed Babale added a goal with 6:50 left for the Trojans, who lost 3-0 to Holland in Saturday's state championship game.

"There were a lot of people that continued to doubt us throughout the season and all, and when we hit our lull, there were even more doubters," Celovic said. "That just motivated us to prove everyone wrong and more importantly prove ourselves right that we're capable of being here."

PREP VOLLEYBALL

# Churchill earns district crown

Tim Smith

hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Livonia Churchill's power point presentation Friday earned the Chargers a promotion to the next level.

Sparked by hard-hitting offense and precision passing, Churchill swept Dearborn 3-0 to win the Class A district championship.

"We had Sarah Dunn and Summer Clark back in the lineup, so our offense was really explosive," said Chargers head coach Kristin Clutter, who defeated the team she coached last season. "We engaged our middle hitters, created lots of one-on-ones on the outside. Grace Vaeth (29 assists) did a fantastic job of distributing the offense."

The 25-19, 25-15, 25-17 triumph advanced Churchill to the Class A regionals for the second consecutive season. The semifinal was scheduled for Tuesday against Trenton at Monroe High School.

Clutter said the Pioneers played a gutsy match and "took some really nice swings and played great defense. We knew that they were going to be ready to battle."

But Dearborn had trouble dealing with Churchill's efficient offense and relentless defense.

"Our passing tonight was spectacular both on serve receive and defensively," Clutter said. "Jessica Maladecki was reading the ball really well and ran down a lot of Dearborn's off-speed shots."

"Our core group of serve receivers (Jessica Maladecki, Sarah Dunn, and Annabelle Dunn) had their best game collectively."

Sarah Dunn and Annabelle Dunn led in kills with 18 and 10, respectively, while Clark chipped in seven.

Maladecki tallied 21 digs, with Sarah Dunn contributing 13. Also helping the cause with three blocks was Mya Grant.

"Overall, the kids

really executed our game plan," Clutter said. "They played with energy and heart. This program has a long-standing history of success in the District bracket and I know that our team is proud of upholding that tradition."

**STEVENSON 3, FRANKLIN 0:** Livonia Stevenson also won a Class A regional Friday with a 23-20, 25-18, 25-17 victory over visiting Livonia Franklin.

Erin Pietruszka and Julia Bice combined for 28 assists, while other key performers included Audrey Lackey (11 digs), Abby Cleaveland (nine kills), Abby Cormier (seven kills), Koryn Parmenter (six kills), Libby Cleaveland and Claire Beaudoin (three solo blocks each).

The Spartans (25-19) move on to Class A regional hosted by Farmington High School. They were scheduled to play Tuesday against Warren Fitzgerald or Detroit Renaissance.

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Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, you who makes me see everything and who showed me the way to reach my ideal. You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and you who are in all instances of my life with me, I, in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory. Amen. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Say for 3 consecutive days without mentioning your petition and your prayer will be answered. Promise to publish this prayer. Also wish to thank Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and St. Jude. Thank you St. Jude for all favors received. J.M.

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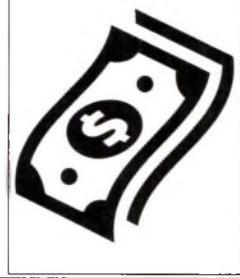
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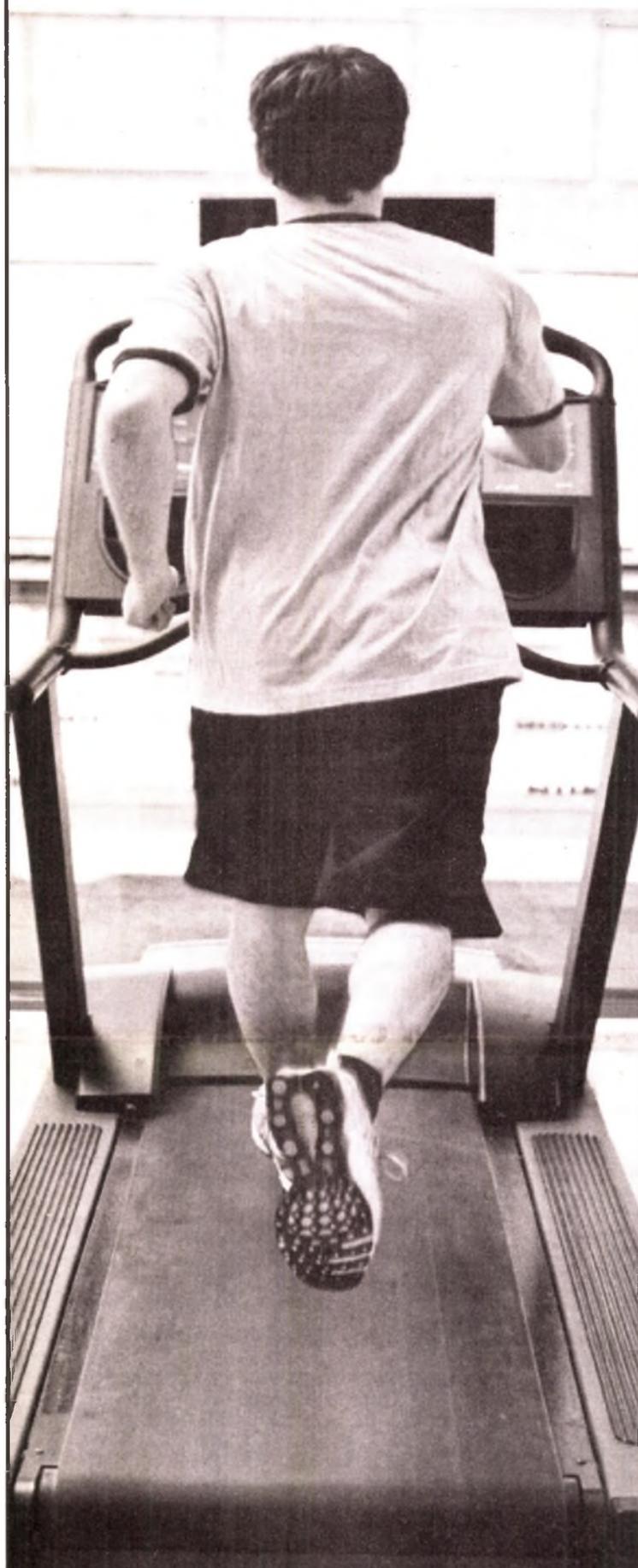
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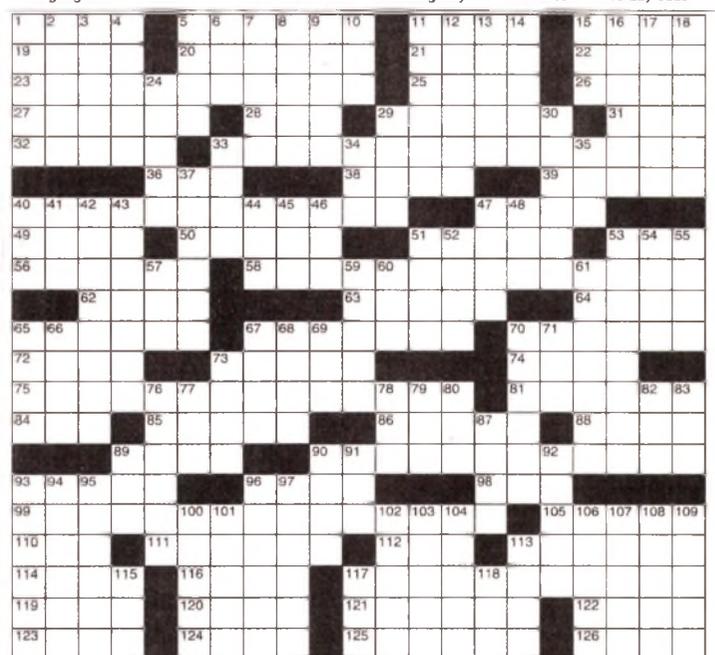
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## THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tropical tree
  - 5 Des — (capital of Iowa)
  - 11 Cartoonist Addams, familiarly
  - 15 Floor mop
  - 19 Berry of a Brazilian
  - 20 Practically no time
  - 21 — Heshena
  - 22 "Relax!"
  - 23 Poker hand of four clubs and one heart, say
  - 25 Itty bit
  - 26 Judicious
  - 27 Old TV's "Remington —"
  - 28 Test for univ. seniors
  - 29 One of the Gandhis
  - 31 Weep noisily
  - 32 Country singer Clark
  - 33 Field of a homebuilder
  - 36 Farm tool
  - 38 No-charge
  - 39 Moisten, as poultry
  - 40 What a patent or copyright might grant
  - 47 "E pluribus —"
  - 49 Wear out
  - 50 Plotting aids
  - 51 Many a critic
  - 53 Org. for Roger Federer
  - 56 Oatmeal bath brand
  - 58 Outback locale
  - 62 Cube creator
  - 63 Post-Kantian philosopher
  - 64 Somewhat Georg
  - 65 Duplicated
  - 67 Beatles song that's an apt alternate title for this puzzle
  - 70 Lower baseball leagues
  - 72 Taylor tyke of old TV
  - 73 Clip, as wool
  - 74 "High Voltage" band
  - 75 Facial feature of Mark Twain
  - 81 Island of Venice
  - 84 Foxlike
  - 85 Haunting one
  - 86 Capital of Jordan
  - 88 Sage guide
  - 89 Smelter junk
  - 90 Luxury airport transport
  - 93 Moses' peak
  - 96 Chachi player Scott
  - 98 "— So Fine" (1963 hit)
  - 99 A shoulder shrug
  - 105 Flunkies' responses
  - 110 Get decayed
  - 111 Amand
  - 112 So-so mark
  - 113 Put in a box
  - 114 Army division
  - 116 Yarn
  - 117 For no particular reason
  - 119 Little bay
  - 120 Added stipulations
  - 121 "The Jeffersons" actress
  - 122 Tread
  - 123 Body part with the ACL
  - 124 Get lippy with
  - 125 Soft caps
  - 126 Female towl
- DOWN**
- 1 Blue Ribbon beer brewer
  - 2 Piercing
  - 3 Cutting beam
  - 4 Priestly hat
  - 5 Formed
  - 6 See 115-Down
  - 7 "Send me!"
  - 8 Island nation in the Pacific
  - 9 Double curves
  - 10 "Zip it up!"
  - 11 Wince
  - 12 Thick, head-hiding top
  - 13 Sean of "50 First Dates"
  - 14 Pottery piece
  - 15 Hem, e.g.
  - 16 Pants parts
  - 17 Put in groups
  - 18 "Ta-ta!"
  - 24 1910s senator
  - 29 Memo start
  - 29 Red-brown
  - 33 King-to-be
  - 34 Uncertain things
  - 35 Neill of film
  - 37 CBS journalist
  - 40 LAX posting
  - 41 VII doubled
  - 42 In a spine-chilling way
  - 43 More guarded
  - 44 By way of
  - 45 Univ. email ender
  - 46 Inits. on a navy vessel
  - 47 Electric or water co.
  - 48 Tch'r.'s gp
  - 51 Spaghetti sauce brand
  - 52 British brews
  - 53 Group that services car owners
  - 54 Alexis I, e.g.
  - 55 High degs.
  - 57 LA-to-MI dir.
  - 59 Actress "American Beauty"
  - 60 TKO caller
  - 61 Cut coverer
  - 65 Dairy beasts
  - 66 Milky gem
  - 67 Ergo
  - 68 Part of SW
  - 69 Grain bit
  - 70 Hitchcock film of 1964
  - 71 Here, to Luc
  - 73 Bad city air
  - 76 More unsightly
  - 77 "— Na Na"
  - 78 GoPro, e.g.
  - 79 Med. group
  - 80 Bird of the 58-Across
  - 82 —TV (cable channel)
  - 83 Suffix with resin or porli
  - 87 Court great
  - 89 Trunk gunk
  - 90 Green fruit
  - 91 Chit letters
  - 92 "Gone" boy band
  - 93 Slapped, e.g.
  - 94 Patch variety
  - 95 Endemic
  - 96 Intensifies
  - 97 Evaluate
  - 100 Scornfully letters
  - 101 First ex of Donald
  - 102 "— me?" ("What'd ya say?")
  - 103 "Dog whisperer" Milan
  - 104 Don't disturb
  - 106 Digital dough
  - 107 Fry a bit
  - 108 Ruhr's chief city
  - 109 Leaks slowly
  - 113 Slippery swimmers
  - 115 With 6-Down, start a round of golf
  - 117 Sloop sail
  - 118 Lay odds



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

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

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!

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

## ADOPTION WORD SEARCH

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

### WORDS

- ADOPTION
- AFFIDAVIT
- AGENCY
- BIRTH MOTHER
- CERTIFICATION
- CHILD
- CLOSED
- CONFIDENTIAL
- CONSENT
- CONSERVATOR
- COOPERATION
- CUSTODY
- DISSOLUTION
- DOSSIER
- FAMILY
- FICTIVE KIN
- FOSTER
- GUARDIAN
- HOMESTUDY
- INDEPENDENT
- INSURANCE
- LEGAL
- MATCHING
- NEGLECT
- OPEN
- ORPHAN
- PARENT
- PATERNITY
- PERMANENCY
- PLACEMENT
- PROFILE
- RECORDS
- SURRENDER
- WAITING

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

### CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

**Crossword Answers**

1. PALM 5. MOHAWK 9. CHAS 13. SWAG  
2. CAT 6. AFLASH 10. ROSH 14. EASY  
3. USTED 7. FLUSH 11. LOTA 15. WISE  
4. TELE 8. GRE 12. INDIRA 16. SOB  
7. TERRIT 17. HOUSING 18. INDUSTRY  
19. MOE 20. FREE 21. BASTE  
22. EXCLUSIVE 23. UNUM  
24. TIRE 25. GRIDS 26. RATER 27. ATP  
28. VEENO 29. AUSTRALIAN 30. BUSH  
31. BERNI 32. HEGEL 33. ATAC  
34. OPPIED 35. TWOCIFUS 36. MINORS  
37. PHLE 38. SHEAR 39. ACDD  
40. ALLRUS 41. MUSTACHE 42. BIALTO  
43. SLY 44. GHOST 45. AMMAN 46. GURU  
47. SLAG 48. LIMOUSINE 49. BUS  
50. SINAI 51. BALO 52. HES  
53. TRAPEZIUM 54. MUSCLE 55. YESES  
56. OT 57. REVISE 58. CEE 59. ENCAUSE  
60. NIT 61. TALE 62. JUSTBECAUSE  
63. LOVE 64. ANDS 65. ISABEL 66. STEP  
67. RE 68. SALS 69. BERETS 70. HENS

**Word Search Answers**

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