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SUNDAY 12.24.17 || HOMETOWNLIFE.COM || PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Police shoot suspect in woman's death

Son arrested in mother's stabbing following pursuit, shootout

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Westland police have arrested a man accused of killing his mother with a knife after police pursued him and fired shots.

Police were called at about 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday to the 6100 block of Walton and discovered a 50-year-old woman that had been stabbed to death. After an investigation, police determined the woman's 22-year-old son was the suspect in the case.

After the incident, Westland police alerted surrounding communities about the suspect. Later that day, a Livonia

police officer located the suspect near Joy and Donna, east of Franklin High School. When the officer approached him, an altercation occurred and shots were fired. He suffered a gunshot wound as a result.

Police arrested the suspect in the 8700 block of Randy after a foot chase. He was taken to an area hospital for treatment and placed under guard pending the investigation.

Capt. Robert Nenciarini of the Livonia

Police Department said no injuries were reported on the officer.

Police closed part of Joy Road for the investigation, though it was opened an hour later.

There was no word on any pending charges that have been filed in the case.

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WISH LISTS

Children share their Christmas hopes with Santa

Children from around the hometownlife.com readership area share their "wish lists" for Santa:

Dear Santa,

Santa, sum qeshds to ask you. 1. How do your reindeer fly? 2. Ware did you get your majik? Cude you give my mom 2 or 3 rings and my dad some crase sos and me lego Harry Potter the video game?

Your friend,

Brennan Boyd

P.S. Save some cookies four Mrs. Claus

Dear Santa,

I love you. Is Mrs. Claus good? How are you Santa? Santa can you please give me a Barbie, top and a toysets. Santa can you please give my mom a cap. Santa can you please give my dad a phone.

Your friend,

Nisha ShaShi Kumer

PS I love Rudolph and you

Dear Santa,

How is your riamdeer? How are you? Can you give my mom som julary? Can you give my dad a new phone and for me can you give me a new barbi doll and a barbi doll houes? can you give my friend Sagi a nintendo set. can you give poor people toys? And I promise I will give the raindeer carrots.

Your friend,

Ananya Gautam

PS You are Roking, you are awsoem.

Dear Santa,

I love you. I love your reindeer. I love Mrs. Claus. My elf on the shelf wold like some clos. My sos wold like some socks with you on it.

My mom wold like a cofr. My dad wold like a new car. I wold like a Barbie.

Your friend,

Morgan Scott

PPS You awesome! I love Rudolph and Santa. You are the best.

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus doing. How are you doing. I want a ipone toht please and I thing my brother wants a xbox. My mom wil want juarly and my dad wont dmeo.

Your friend,

Nicholas Allen



Six-month-old Sofia Longordo and Omar Arzola, 9, pose for a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PS Please giv me a Zomee kitty.

Your friend,

Olivia Hunter

reindeer do good! and can you leve some elves at ur hows. Have a good trip.

Mantra Joshi

Dear Santa,

Can I have a x-box, d-s, puppy, bown for my puppy and puppy food for my puppy. The one thing I want you to get for som one else is the nife gun bar sotr for my puppy. Will you help pepal from all over the wrold with wote thay do not have but they ned?

Wile you ples leve some coclet cip pankak on the tabol of Vdhaysher Bhangu on Crismis Eve?

Lincoln Hicks

Dear Santa,

How's Mrs. Claws? I'd like too know? How are the reindeers? My mom would like some new books. My dad would like some cozy socks. I would like the American Girl doll loft bed. Have a safe trip Santa! Please! I will be a good girl! Please Santa please!

From your friend,

Scarlett Barnes

Dear Santa,

Can I get a dog Santa you ur th best. Oh, can my big broher get a xbox. Wack me up when you come. I will give you hot coklat I will give you a hug, and can you give my mom art splis. It will make her happy and for my dad can you give him a hamrse, can I have hatchamoles and can I have a FYW shoos. I hop your

PPS Please give me hatch a les. Please give me a Mermaid Barbie.

Brynn Klein

Dear Santa,

Can my dad have a wosth and can my mom have new mittens. I would like video gams. I'll leave you chocolate

See LETTERS, Page A11

Livonia package theft suspect caught, takes plea for jail time

David Veselenak
hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A Detroit man will spend Christmas and New Year's Day behind bars after pleading guilty to stealing packages from Livonia doorsteps during the holiday season.

Jermaine Huffman, 23, of Detroit was arrested earlier this month after being located by police as a suspect who stole packages delivered to homes'

doorsteps.

Capt. Robert Nenciarini of the Livonia Police Department said Huffman was a suspect in several package snatchings, including ones in the 9900 block of Arcola, the 29400 block of Grandon, the 33000 block of Scone and the 14000 block of Mayfield.



Huffman

See PACKAGE, Page A2



The packages police saw in the vehicle being driven by Jermaine Huffman. Police say he was involved in taking several packages across the city. LIVONIA POLICE DEPARTMENT



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High school students teach diversity

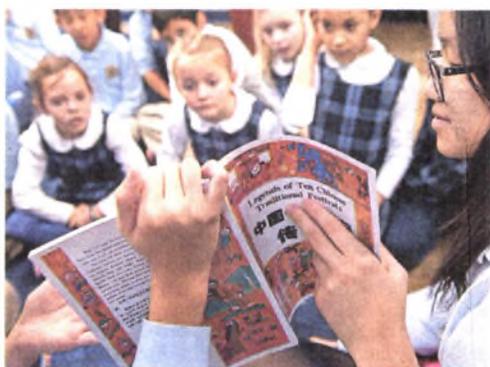
Brad Kadrich

hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Detroit Country Day School officials felt like the holidays were a perfect time to teach younger students about the broad diversity of cultures that will be celebrating this time of year.

That's why DCDS high school students spent time last week with second-graders, helping them understand messages of diversity and hope during the holiday season.

Upper School students shared information about the history and significance of each holiday to younger students, accompanied by a colorful decorative display. This year's display included



Kristina Zheng (right) and Anna Sunspeak teach about Chinese New Year celebrations. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the Chinese New Year, Christmas, Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Ramadan.

While the exhibits are beautiful and festive, they also teach an important global awareness

and appreciation to the students and school community.

Junior Bella Baldwin said she felt it was "important to participate" in the cultural program.

"It really shows the big picture of our diverse world and the importance of respecting and understanding other religions and traditions around the holidays," Baldwin said. "It's amazing to see the second-graders so engaged in learning about other traditions that we all share and it paves the path for a peaceful future."

Baldwin said she thought the second-graders "learned a lot" about how diverse even just



High school students at Detroit Country Day explain holiday celebrations from different cultures to second-graders. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

their group was.

"They saw that many people in their class and grade were from a different religion as them, but recognized that and were eager to learn more, from them and us," Baldwin said.

School officials said the program was designed to help younger students learn about traditions that may be different than their own become more thoughtful, compassionate and open-minded.

That's why freshman Nathan Schechter wanted to get involved. He

said the learning goes both ways.

"I think it is important to participate in this program to teach both the second-graders and the presenters about the possibility of religious pluralism by showing them the different practices of each religion," Schechter said. "Today, the second-graders learned not only about the separate holidays, but also the differences and similarities between them."



Second-grade students hold a vessel used during the month of Ramadan. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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hometownlife.com

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PACKAGE

Continued from Page A1

Police say Huffman was also a suspect in the theft of packages in Westland back on Dec. 6 and an alert was sent out regarding his vehicle.

Livonia police located Huffman's vehicle at Schoolcraft and Inkster

and pulled him over. Inside, police located several packages containing items such as children's clothing, books and other items.

Huffman was arrested and charged with four city misdemeanors. He opted to take a plea deal, police said, and pleaded guilty to two of those charges.

With the plea, Huff-

man agreed to serve 30 days in jail, with credit for seven days after he failed to post bond after his arraignment. Police say he was ordered to pay nearly \$1,600 in fines and costs and was also ordered to serve 18 months of probation.

Huffman is serving the remainder of his jail sentence in the Calhoun County Jail, the facility

Livonia contracts with to house those serving jail time convicted on city misdemeanors.

A message was left with Westland police asking if Huffman was expected to face any charges in Westland.

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Flashlight event lifts spirits in pediatric unit

Sharon Dargay
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A new holiday tradition is taking shape every night this month at Beaumont Hospital's Royal Oak campus.

Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams is a little like a seasonal light show, but with a higher purpose — showing pediatric patients they're not alone.

"This time of year, everyone is busy with their families, doing all kinds of festive things to prepare to celebrate Christmas. These children are in the hospital, so we're here to show our support to them and their families," said the Rev. Jim Smalarz, pastor of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Beverly Hills. "It's a great community event and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church and School is happy to be a part of it."

Smalarz was one of approximately 150-200 well-wishers who braved harsh winter weather this week to attend one of the nightly Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams gatherings.

Well-wishers began arriving shortly after 7:30 p.m. at an outdoor plaza that's visible from



Tom and Beth McMahon and Mike Valante, all members of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Beverly Hills, wave flashlights at Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams. SHARON DARGAY



Patients and family on the pediatric floor of Beaumont Hospital use flashlights to wave to the crowd outside. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the hospital's pediatric department. Some dressed in Santa hats or wore strings of colored lights over their scarves and parkas. Some mingled and chatted, while

others huddled together for protection against the frigid wind. They counted down to an 8 p.m. signal, when pediatric patients waved lights from their hospital

rooms. Members of the crowd, some shouting "Merry Christmas," waved back with their own flashlights and glow sticks.

The entire exchange of lights lasted about five minutes.

Big crowd

"We have close to 200 people every night. It's just beautiful," said Nancy Sovran, a member of the Pediatric Family Advisory Council which, along with the Child Life Services staff, created the nightly event.

The council consists of parents of children who have received services at Beaumont Children's Hospital. They offer suggestions and advice about programs and practices to enhance the pediatric patients' stay in the hospital.

"We take on different initiatives and come together with staff to make things better in the pediatric center," said Sovran, whose daughter Hope was a longtime patient at Beaumont. "One of our members saw that they did this in Boston. She brought the idea to council."

Sovran, director of the nonprofit organization Wish Upon a Teen in Birmingham, invited 15

community members to the event Dec. 11. She registered Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and two Groves High School clubs to participate the following day and she'll return at least one or two times before the program ends Dec. 31.

Beaumont's online registration site filled up fast. According to the hospital's website, there's no need to sign up and anyone may attend any of the Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams events this month.

Birmingham schools

Jennifer Kondak, community service organizer for the Birmingham Public Schools district, attended the event with students from the Groves High School Interact Club. Norman

Hurns Sr., also from Groves, participated with students from African Americans Changing Tomorrow.

"We encouraged our kids to come out tonight and picked a special night to be here. We thought it was really important," Kondak said. "We've been plugging it for about a month. We couldn't be more pleased to be here. I'm wearing my Groves green. Hopefully, they'll find me. I see kids keep drifting in, so I'm excited and encouraged."

Barbara Crowley, a parent, encouraged parents, students and teachers from Covington School in Birmingham to participate in the event.

"Empathy is our char-

See PEDIATRIC, Page A5

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Secret Santa pays off layaways at area Walmart

LeAnne Rogers
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK —
MICHIGAN

He didn't have a white beard and wasn't wearing a red suit, but someone was playing Santa Claus at the New Hudson Walmart store earlier this week.

The unidentified man, described as being in his 40s, paid off about 10 layaways at the store Dec. 11, asking particularly for those accounts that were buying toys.

"I was in tears. The customer service manager called me (Dec. 12) and said, 'Hey Katie, you need to pick up your layaway.' I told her that I still owed about \$100 left and, when she said someone paid it, I just couldn't hardly speak," said Katie Pope, who lives in Green Oak Township. "Money has been so tight. I didn't know how I was going to pay it off without taking out a payday loan."



Crystal White, with kids Cole, 1, and Aubree, 3, in the toy aisle at the New Hudson WalMart. BILL BRESLER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi resident Crystal White had a similar reaction when she got the call that someone had paid \$300 to complete her layaway purchases.

"I started crying. They said he was specifically looking for toys. I just wanted to say thank you so much. You helped out my family so much," White said. "I'm still in shock and can't believe

this happened to me. I just wish I knew this man so I can thank him 1,000 times and this will mean so much to my two kids. Thank you, thank you, thank you again."

Assistant store manager Walt Blackburn didn't want to say how much money the man spent paying off the layaway accounts, but said it was about 10 accounts.

"He came in about 8 p.m. I think he said he got lucky at the casino. He wanted to do a good deed," Blackburn said. "He was looking for toys. He wanted the families to have a nice Christmas."

Employed at the store for more than eight years, Blackburn said Walmart does layaways only at Christmas and it's utilized by a lot of customers. The deadline to pay off the layaways and collect the items is Dec. 15.

"We started calling people, telling them their layaway was paid. It was the first time I've seen this. It makes you feel good," Blackburn said. "It was really something, you know, to want to pay off the layaways. It was pretty cool."

Having talked with the man, who didn't want to be identified, Blackburn said he thought the man was in his 40s. "He was just a regular guy," Blackburn said.

It made for an extraordinary Christmas for the recipients of the man's good fortune.

White, who has a 1-year-old son and a daughter, 3, said her husband Andrew works outside on cell towers. "They do so much work throughout the year, but December is a bad month. There isn't that much work until after the first of the year," said White, a stay-at-home mom who grew up in South Lyon and now lives across Napier in Novi.

In fact, White said she and her husband had been arguing about getting the layaway balance paid — she was worried about losing the nearly \$300 already paid, as well as not getting the presents for her children. Those gifts include a Barbie camper, which White's daughter has been wanting, along with a two-wheel scooter and a four-wheeler for her son.

"There was a ton of stuff. It was almost \$600 and we owed \$300," White said. "I called my husband crying. My husband says we need to pay it forward, too. Nothing like this ever happened to me. It was a total

shock." Pope, mother of daughter Raelynne, 23 months old, used to work at the New Hudson Walmart. Currently, she works for Verizon in sales.

"I've spent the past hour crying (after learning the layaway was paid). I had a layaway with about a \$94 balance on it still at Walmart. Layaway ended on the (Dec.) 11th and I had until this Friday to pick it up," she said. "I've been stressing about this. Whoever did that, you have no clue how much that meant to me."

Last year was Pope's first year doing layaway, she said, due to having her daughter. The toys included a mini mouse electric ride on, an animatronic baby doll, a Playdough set and a shopping cart for the baby doll.

"I am a very blessed one. When I'm able to, I'm going to pay it forward as well," she said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE MINUTES OF REDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the approved minutes for meetings of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Redford for the months of November and December 2017 are posted at the following public places within the Township.

- Community Center, 12121 Hemingway
- Fire Department, 15145 Beech Daly
- Library, 25320 Six Mile Road
- Department of Public Services, 12200 Beech Daly
- Police Department, 25833 Elsinore
- Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly

Approved minutes may also be viewed online at: www.redfordtwp.com

GARTH J. CHRISTIE, MMC, Township Clerk
Charter Township of Redford

Published: December 24, 2017

LO-0000338189 3x2.5

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

City of Wayne, Wayne County, MI

ON THE ADOPTION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING A BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
FOR THE CITY OF WAYNE
PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 381 OF THE
PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OF 1996, AS AMENDED

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT a Public Hearing shall be held before the City of Wayne, City Council on Tuesday the 16th day of January, 2018, at 8:00 p.m. at the Regular City Council meeting to be held at 3355 S. Wayne Rd. Wayne, MI on the adoption of a proposed resolution establishing a Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for the City of Wayne, within the municipal limits of which the Authority shall exercise its powers, all pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended.

Matthew K. Miller
City Clerk

Publish: December 24 & 28, 2017

LO-0000338189 3x3

Ordinance No. 3042

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND AMENDING ARTICLE III OF ORDINANCE NO. 543, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AND CITED AS "THE CITY OF LIVONIA ZONING ORDINANCE" BY ADDING SECTION 3.3951 THERETO.

THE CITY OF LIVONIA ORDAINS:

Section 1. Pursuant to the report of the City Planning Commission, dated September 28, 2016, setting forth its resolution 09-97-2016 recommending approval of Petition 2016-08-01-06, having been considered by the Council, and the Council having conducted a public hearing on November 9, 2016, on said petition, and having concurred in the recommendation of the City Planning Commission, the Council hereby adopts said Petition 2016-08-01-06 to amend the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the City of Livonia and all proceedings heretofore conducted on said petition are hereby approved.

Section 2. Article III of the City of Livonia Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance No. 543, as amended, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

Section 3.3951. Petition 2016-08-01-06 submitted by TNA Enterprises is hereby approved, and the zoning classification of the premises hereinafter described is hereby changed from C-1 to C-2:

530 to 538A Botsford Park, Town 1 South, Range 9 East, as recorded in Liber 53, Page 77, Wayne County Records Lots 530 to 537 including also E 1.50 feet of Lot 538 also S 1/2 adjacent vacated alley, excluding the south 7 feet for Seven Mile Right-of-Way.

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

Section 4. The attached map designated "Amendment No. 967 to the Zoning Map of the City of Livonia" showing all of the amendments and changes made in the foregoing Section 2 of this ordinance is hereby approved, established and made a part hereof.

Section 5. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this ordinance full force and effect.

Section 6. Should any portion of this ordinance be held invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of any of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

BOUNDARY OF DISTRICT AS AMENDED
FROM C-1, LOCAL BUSINESS
TO C-2, GENERAL BUSINESS



PETITION NO. 2016-08-01-06
A PART OF THE S.E. 1/4 OF SECTION 1

AMENDMENT NO. 967 TO THE
ZONING MAP OF THE
CITY OF LIVONIA, MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 3042
Adopted by the City Council on 10/16/17



The above ordinance was passed at the regular meeting of the Council of the City of Livonia held Monday, October 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Susan M. Nash, City Clerk

The foregoing ordinance was authenticated by me on this 17th day of October, 2017.

Dennis K. Wright, Mayor

Approved as to form:
Donald L. Knapp, Jr., City Attorney
Dated: October 17, 2017

Published: December 24, 2017

LO-0000338280 3x8

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Board of Education will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS COURTS REPLACEMENT

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

Date: January 9, 2018
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff
Garden City, MI 48135

Attn: Drew McMechan, Chief Financial Officer

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after December 18, 2017.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ARCHITECTURE, INC., 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; or the CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and reusable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

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

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

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

This project is to comply with the Michigan Prevailing Wage Rate for Wayne County.

END OF SECTION

Published: December 24, 2017

LO-0000338178 3x6.5

WESTLAND LIBRARY EVENTS

Big Drama Kokedama

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3
Details: Basically, kokedama (translation "moss ball") is the practice of removing a root system from its container, surrounding it in a mud cake, then wrapping in moss before winding it in string.

Job Seekers Lab

When: 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25, and 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 8, 22 and 29
Details: Do you need help filing for unemployment, creating an email address or searching job boards and websites? We can help.

Friday Night Movie

When: 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5 and 19
Details: Join us for a Friday night movie. Snacks/refreshments are provided — donations accepted and appreciated.

Hot Reads for Cold Nights

When: Monday, Jan. 8, through Monday, Feb. 19
Details: Win a prize for what you're already doing — reading. For the time period, fill out a raffle slip for each book, eBook or audiobook you read or listen to. Each week, you'll be entered to win a prize.

Intro to Excel

When: 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 8
Details: It is required to know how to use a mouse. Registration encouraged.

Intro to Microsoft PowerPoint

When: 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 9
Details: You may bring a flash drive to

save your work, but it is not required. Registration encouraged

Hearing Loss Association of America Support Group

When: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10
Details: Join Tony Ferack, president of the Hearing Loss Association of America Western Wayne Chapter, each month as he discusses various topics related to the hearing loss community.

What's An App?

When: 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11
Details: Learn all about apps, what they're used for and where to get them.

Meet Mike Wooley

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11
Details: Join Mike Wooley of A to Z comics as he describes his life as a working artist and comic book collector. His time collecting and drawing may inspire you. Wooley will bring comics for purchase.

Writer's Workshop

When: 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11

Intro to Microsoft Word

When: 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16
Details: This class requires basic computer knowledge and the ability to use a mouse. Registration encouraged.

Non-Fiction Book Club

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17
Details: Please join us this month for a discussion of "Stiff: The Curious Life of Human Cadavers" by Mary Roach.

PEDIATRIC

Continued from Page A3

acter education theme this year," Crowley said. "So we really wanted to connect with how these kids are feeling."

Teacher Rick Joseph said he and Warner, who teach fifth and sixth grades at the magnet school, heard about the program from Crowley.

"We jumped all over it and said we'd love to come," Joseph said.

To participate in Moonbeams for Sweet Dreams, arrive by 7:40 p.m. and park in the surface lot just east of the medical building at the campus, located on 13 Mile, just west of Woodward Avenue.

Bring a flashlight or glow stick. Dress in warm clothing and feel free to add battery-operated lights, a glow



Royal Oak police brought a squad car with its flashing lights along with crowds waving flashlights to the patients on the pediatric floor of Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

necklace, Santa hat or other holiday attire. "This is a great way for kids to know they

are not forgotten," Smalarz said. "It's a great witness to let the kids know we're thinking of

them and praying for them."

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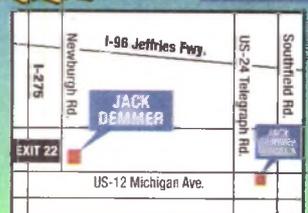
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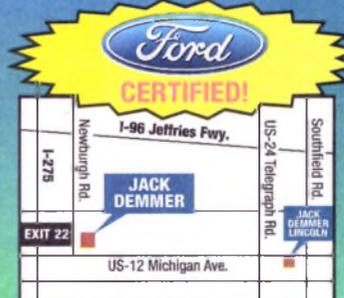
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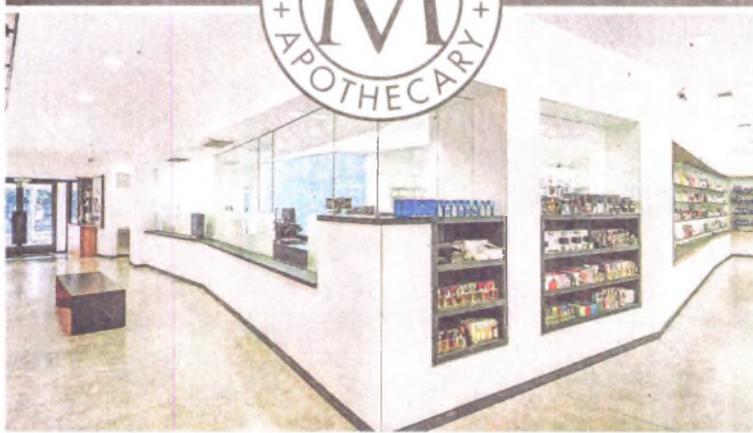
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Hospital chapel breaks ground



At a ceremony in November, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and St. Mary Mercy Livonia celebrated the groundbreaking of the new hospital chapel, which is expected to open in June 2018 (from left): Rob Casalou, regional president and chief executive officer, Saint Joseph Mercy Health System; Jerry Norcia, president and chief operating officer, DTE Energy; Bob Mazur, president, RAM Construction Services; Sara Stauffer, director of development, St. Mary Mercy Livonia; Tom Celani, MotorCity Harley-Davidson, Celani Family Vineyards; Sister Mary Modesta Piwowar, CSSF; David Spivey, president and chief executive officer, St. Mary Mercy Livonia; Sister Janet Marie Adamczyk, CSSF, Felician Provincial Leadership Team; the Rev. Gilbert Sunghera, S.J., director, Liturgical Space Consulting, and associate professor of architecture, University of Detroit-Mercy; David Nantais, director of mission and community benefit, St. Mary Mercy Livonia; and Steve Van Brussel, director of planning, design and construction, St. Mary Mercy Livonia.



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Shortbread cookie recipe a Christmas tradition

Diane K. Bert

Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK —
MICHIGAN

Valerie Derrick explains making Scottish shortbread cookies this way: "It is part of my heritage."

"I remember as a young child helping my grandmother and mother make shortbread cookies," Derrick said. "My grandmother was part of the McGillivray clan. We called her Grannie Mac."

One relative is quoted as saying, "I feel sorry for any man who is not a Scot and any Scot who is not a McGillivray."

Making shortbread is particularly a Christmas tradition, but it is also made on other special occasions. In days past, butter and sugar were luxuries in Scotland, which made it expensive to make the cookies.

There are tips that have been passed along to make perfect cookies with the three ingredients: butter, sugar and flour. In the "Highlanders Cookbook," the following statement is made: "Shortbread is one of the simplest recipes in the world and yet one of the easiest for a poor cook to ruin."

Derrick graciously agreed to give a tutorial lesson in making shortbread to two friends, Allison Friedman and Elizabeth Snyder. At each step of the recipe, she explained how to proceed successfully and men-



Allison Friedman and Elizabeth Snyder observe carefully as Valerie Derrick mixes the dough for Scottish shortbread cookies. Derrick recently taught them the intricacies of successfully making the special holiday treats. DIANE K. BERT



Hot out of the oven, Valerie Derrick shows how the freshly baked shortbread looks. DIANE K. BERT

tioned that it is a very tactile recipe.

The recipe:

» 3 cups flour or more as needed for texture
» 1 pound butter at

room temperature
» 1 cup sugar
» Blend together until thoroughly mixed
» Place in two glass casseroles, pie plates or molds
» Bake at 300°F for 45 minutes to an hour
Here are the detailed suggestions Derrick added as she made the recipe:
» Place all of the butter and sugar in the mixing bowl, just add half of the flour.
» Mix until blended, add remaining flour. Feel the dough. It should be resistant and not feel moist. Add more flour,

perhaps ½ cup. Dough will pull away from the sides of the bowl.
» Grease the glass pie plate, pat down the dough with flour on your hands.
» Prick with a fork.
» Place in the center of the oven.
» Do not double the recipe, begin again with a second batch.
» After 45 minutes in oven, tap with finger. If leaves a dent, bake longer. Top will be golden brown.
» Remove from oven, place on a cooling rack.
» Run knife around edge. After cooling invert on flat surface and

cut into squares.

» After the cookies are cool, place them in an airtight container.

The aroma of baking shortbread is wonderful, making the observers eager to sample the baked masterpieces.

After completing the lesson, both Friedman and Snyder were delighted to learn the basics and the finer points of successfully making the recipe.

"The ingredients are so simple, but the process is complex," Snyder said. "I will definitely try to make shortbread. It is such a treat."

"The whole experience took me back to my own Scottish heritage," Friedman said. "Now I can pass it along to my daughter and sister. I've got the ingredients and I am ready to proceed. It is an art form. Valerie was so gracious in teaching us."

Derrick's oldest son always says, "I'll see you at Christmas and bring shortbread!"

Now perhaps, many more families may benefit from Derrick's kindness and thoroughness in passing along the Scottish tradition of making shortbread cookies.

Diane K. Bert is a Bloomfield Hills resident with a Ph.D. in educational psychology from Wayne State University. She's a regular contributor to the Birmingham Eccentric. She can be reached at dkbert617@gmail.com.

AREA EVENTS

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

New Year's Eve show

Livonia American Legion Post No. 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, presents a New Year's Eve show featuring Sherman Arnold and The Interstate Band from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 31. Tickets are \$25 and includes dinner with dessert, coffee and entertainment. A cash bar will also be available. Call 734-427-5630 for tickets and more information.

Totten to speak at luncheon

Jeff Totten will talk about his career, life and faith at the Compass Christian Business Alliance, Western Wayne, luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 4, at Dave & Buster's, 19375 Victor Parkway, in Livonia. The fee for the lunch is \$20. Totten has a vast portfolio of experiences working with athletes, including serving as chaplain to athletes in Olympic Village at the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

Born and raised in the Detroit area, Totten has worked with the Detroit Rockers and the Detroit Fury, as well as other professional and amateur athletes.

The public is invited to attend all Compass meetings. To sign up for luncheons, go to michigancompass.org/westernwayne. Visit the group on Facebook at compasswesternwayne.

Livonia's 100 Days to Health

Registration is underway for Livonia's 100 Days to Health 2018 at the Kirksey Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard. The community-wide event, which benefits the entire family for the first 100 days of 2018, is presented by Mercy Elite and sponsored in part by Vibe Credit Union, Dick's Sporting Goods, Jimmy John's, Nestle Water,

Sport and Spine Performance Institute, Time to Savor and Oberweis Dairy.

The program offers the opportunity to participate in a range of activities, including exercise classes for all ages, nutrition and wellness seminars, rock climbing, free Friday workouts, open swim and more. Additionally, adults can take part in the 100 Day Weight Loss Fitness Challenge. Register for the challenge and be eligible for monthly prizes. Last year's participants lost a total of 578 pounds, with the winner losing 67 pounds.

The kickoff event will take place at 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 7. The event will feature keynote speakers, raffle prizes, refreshments and free workout and open swim for the day. For more information, call 734-466-2912 or go to www.livoniaparks.org.

Livonia Town Hall speakers

The Livonia Town Hall announces the speakers for its 54th season:

Jan. 17. Chuck Underwood is one of the researchers who did a comprehensive study in the field of generational dynamics and strategies. He is the creator and host of the National-television PBS series which presents life stories of the Silent Boomer, Gen X, and Millennial generations from each era and what the future holds in store for them.

March 21. Elliot Engel, an American author, writer, scholar, lecturer, and playwright will narrate the stories of Cornelius Vanderbilt family from the 18th century to Gloria Vanderbilt and her designer jeans.

Tickets are \$150 for the season which includes lunch and lecture or \$180 for priority seating. Single seats are available for \$55. Programs are held at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Cultural Center 18100 Merriam Road, Livonia. Call 734-751-1898 for tickets between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

St. Mary Mercy weight management classes

St. Mary Mercy Livonia will host a weight management program titled Weigh Your Options. Classes are scheduled for 2:30-4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, and 6:30-8 p.m. both Thursday, March 22, and Thursday, May 24.

Registered dietitians will provide attendees with information to help individuals begin a weight loss program. Attendees will learn about successful weight management programs, where to find reliable resources and healthy activities in the community and what is needed to create a healthy lifestyle. Participants will learn how to read food labels, write SMART goals and how to determine their healthiest weight.

The class will take place in St. Mary Mercy's Classroom 10, 36475 Five Mile Road, Livonia, accessed from the South Entrance. There is a \$5 fee for this class and registration is required. Register online at www.stmarymercy.org and click on "Classes and Events."

Wayne Memorial parents night

Wayne Memorial High School will be hosting an eighth-grade parents night at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6, at the Wayne Memorial High School Stockmeyer Auditorium, 3001 Fourth Street.

This evening is for current eighth-grade students and their families or families interested in getting more information about Wayne Memorial High School for the 2018-19 school year. Students do not have to be currently attending a Wayne-Westland Community School to participate in this event.

Topics covered will include scheduling, graduation requirements, testing out requirements, direct college courses,

AP courses, extracurricular activities and much more. All are welcome to attend and questions are encouraged.

Parking is available in the Glenwood Street parking lot and guests should enter through the front of the auditorium. For questions, contact the Wayne Memorial counseling department at 734-419-2215.

Livonia Towne Club meetings

Livonia Towne Club, a nonprofit women's organization that brings together women for social interaction, meets the fourth Thursday of each month from September through May (except in November and December, when it's the second Thursday).

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

AARP TaxAide looking for volunteers

Every year, AARP provides free income tax preparation services for seniors and other moderate income families from February through April. AARP is looking for new volunteers to become tax counselors. You should know how to use a computer and the internet, and be experienced with income tax preparation.

Training will be provided to learn the tax software and tax law, to prepare you for certification. Training classes in mid-January are being scheduled now. Volunteers are expected to be active about one day per week during the tax season.

You can apply by completing an application online at aarpfoundation.org/taxaide or call 888-227-7669.

Savior Christian neighborhood program

Savior Christian Church of Redford, a mobile ministry, has started a program called "Redford Neighbors Helping Neighbors." It is offering assistance to the elderly and disabled in the community who may need help with taking out their trash and recycling bins. This will not cost any money nor will any donations be accepted.

Elderly Redford neighbors ages 65 and older who are unable to take their new bins to the road or the disabled of any age living in Redford may call 734-469-7910 and ask for Stacey, Savior Christian Church's service minister, to schedule a trash take out. It can also be reached by

email at SaviorChristianChurch@yahoo.com.

Savior Christian Church would love to have volunteers, as well. Residents that are willing to donate one evening a week, for an hour or so, contact Savior Christian Church to sign up to lend a hand.

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.

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

Obits

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

Mary E. Nagy

HARSENS ISLAND - 74, of Harsens Island, MI., and formerly of Livonia, MI November 23, 2017. Dear wife of John J. Beloved mother of Marlana (William) Witt and Regina (Daniel) Steinert. Dear grandmother of Caroline Witt, Gibson Steinert, and Camden Steinert. Funeral mass 11:30 AM Thursday December 28, 2017 in the Our Lady on the River Parish St. Mark's Catholic Church, Harsens Island, MI. Arrangements by the Gilbert Funeral Home, Algonac, MI. www.gilbertfuneralhomeinc.com



I am an American We are One Nation

HELPING SHAPE YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES

Mahal Burr gives students tools to work for social change

DAVID WATERS
MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

Each week, this series has introduced you to an exceptional American who unites, rather than divides, our communities. To read more about the American profiled here and more average Americans doing exceptional things, visit onenation.usatoday.com.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – Mahal Burr had trouble distinguishing right from left. Her mother put mismatched socks on her to help her learn.

Several years later, Burr, whose mother is white and father Filipino, started wearing different colored socks again for another reason.

"I didn't want to be known as the white girl or the Chinese girl or the Filipina girl," Burr said. "I wanted to choose my identity. So I became known as the mismatched socks girl."

Today, Burr helps seemingly mismatched young people in Memphis choose their own identities and understand and value those of others.

Burr, 27, is community action coordinator for BRIDGES, a nonprofit youth leadership program that helps students build relationships and work for social change across racial, ethnic and income divides.

Burr was building bridges long before she began working for an organization named for them in a Mississippi River city defined by them.

Her given name is a sort of bridge. Mahal means "love" in Tagalog, a language spoken by her Filipino father. It's also short for Mahalia, as in Mahalia Jackson, her Mississippi-born mother's favorite gospel singer.

Burr's families span two continents and multiple faiths, including Muslim, Jewish, Baptist, Presbyterian, Catholic and Quaker, as well as atheist and agnostic.

"I often see myself as a bridge," Burr said. "I believe there is God, good and love in everyone."

Everyone includes juveniles who are in jail awaiting trial on charges such as possession of drugs or firearms, assault, rape or murder.

At BRIDGES, Burr and her colleague, Evan Morrison, organized a new and un-



Mahal Burr, 27, works for a Memphis, Tenn., nonprofit that helps students build relationships and work for social change. JIM WEBER/THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

conventional leadership program called Incarcerated Youth Speaking Out for Change.

The program puts youth detainees in front of police officers, political leaders, church groups, students and others to help them understand the root and systemic causes of youth violence.

"We have to listen to the people who are experiencing those problems firsthand, and involve them in repairing the systems that failed them," Burr said.

It's a lesson she learned as a college intern working with struggling single mothers in Chicago, and as a college graduate working with abused teen mothers in Memphis.

"The solutions isn't what we bring," she said. "It's what we find."

MAHAL BURR

Location: Memphis, Tenn.

Age: 27

Profession: Community organizer

Mission: To involve youth in solving systemic problems that affect their lives and futures

Q&A WITH MAHAL BURR

What does it mean to you to be an American?

When I think of being American, I think of shame, struggle and conflict within our country. I think of our country, our government, our identity that claims "American" to mean only the United States and our celebrated patriotic history of white supremacy, genocide and enslavement. And I think of the many people I know, admire and link arms with in fighting systemic racism, sexism, heterosexism, classism, anti-Semitism, ableism as well as other forms of oppression. I think America is still struggling to accept all that it is, and I wonder what American would mean if we embraced Fannie Lou Hamer's quote, "Nobody's free until everybody's free."

What moment touched and motivated you to launch this effort?

I know the precise moment. For an hour, the chief jailer had been listening to 18 incarcerated youth share their insights regarding the causes of youth violence and then brainstorm their own solutions. Then the chief jailer spoke. He said to the group, "I have just learned things from you all that I never would have even thought about otherwise." It was in this moment that everyone in the room realized that not only do these young men have insightful knowledge, but also that their knowledge and insights are necessary to strengthen the systems that failed them.

What gives you hope or what concerns you?

The more I know, the more concerns I have and the more I realize how much needs to be done, if we hope to dismantle systemic oppression that causes so much brokenness in our country: youth being kicked out of schools into prisons; racial hatred and violence; sexual objectification, abuse and discrimination. All of these and more are supported by systems in our society, and we have the responsibility to dismantle them to build something better. What gives me hope is when people come together across experiences, age, socioeconomic class, race and even jails bars and begin listening, valuing and acting on their combined knowledge for a collective good.

What do you hope to accomplish through your efforts?

My hope is to create a mechanism by which we get the insight of firsthand experience at the table to crafting solutions to systems that are oppressing marginalized people in our society. Right now, those in charge of our government, jails, law enforcement and schools are like doctors who do not listen to the voices of their patients. In the words of one of the incarcerated young men as he spoke to the youth of our city, "We need solutions that include the insights and knowledge of people who have experienced the problem firsthand." In my dream world, we would expand the idea of Incarcerated Youth Speaking Out for Change across the country and begin a wave of stronger, more informed and more just government, jails, law enforcement and school systems.

ONE NATION

Nominate an American

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CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA
Zoning Board of Appeals

January 9, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall – Auditorium (1st Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466 2259

APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-09-52 (Tabled on October 24, 2017): TG2, LLC / Motor City Peaks Livonia, east side of Haggerty (20120) between Phillips Road and Eight Mile, seeking to erect one additional wall sign upon a commercial building while maintaining two existing wall signs, resulting in excess number of wall signs and wall sign area.

APPEAL CASE NO. 2017-12-67 (Tabled on December 12, 2017): Jeff and Vanessa Schembri, east side of Wayne (18100) between Curtis and Bennett, seeking to construct a detached garage while maintaining an attached garage, resulting in excess number of garages and garage area.

APPEAL CASE NO. 2018-01-01: Gupta-Livonia, LLC, 13331 Reek, Southgate, MI 48195, on behalf of Lessee Bear Athletics, 48190 Ten Mile, Novi, MI 48374, seeking to operate an indoor recreational facility within an M-2 (General Manufacturing) zoning district, on property located on the south side of Schoolcraft (27495) between Inkster and Middlebelt, which is not allowed.

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 – all comments must include name, address and signature.

Published: Sunday, December 24, 2017 Livonia Observer LO-000633190 3x4.5

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LO-G1M00004150-04

LETTERS

Continued from Page A1

cookies and milk. Merry Christmas!

Your friend,
Keegan Battah

Dear Santa,

How you doing? Did Mrs Claus have a good summer? Santa would you please bring me a new stuffed ankylosaurus the dinosaur? Please be safe as you travel to my house.

Your friend,
Lucas Lem

Dear Santa,

Where did you find Mrs. Closs? When did my elf come? And will you get the por kids toys and love. you are so loveing. Will you wack me up because I want to give you a big hug and are you going to hti the bete.

I love you so so mute and please will you give me some slime that will not melt please and make shor you take care at the dore.

Your friend,
Jillian Cohen

Dear Santa,

Your THE BEST. Tell your randeer I'll love hem or her carits. Oh can you give my dad some stuff for the lohge please. And can I please have some paper and coler pensils. And mabe some video games and a 3DS. And Bulls and can my mom have a neckles. And can have some legos. And mabe a ipone 5 and ipad, hot whels, cool books. Nerf gun, Acsihgtishers, presents, Hatchamoles, elf on the shef, pockemon toys. And cars. And please say that i'm on the good list.

Your friend,
Nolan Dewberry

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus doing. My mom wants jewelry. My dad wants a bike. I want a phone and a hot whells set imaginext DC Super Friends Batman Batbot extreme. My sister wants a barbie movie. I am gowing to leave you some cookies.

Your friend,
Filip Beslagic

Dear Santa,

How are your elves? Santa can you get my dad a mobile and Santa can you get my mom a kitchen set and Santa can you get me a Lego.

Your friend,
Jayaditya Singh

Dear Santa,

This year can I have a lol big surprise ball and For Robert can he have some carss. For dad can you get him some earbubs. For mom and you get TV for Rick can he have a video games.

Love,
Chloe Walker

PS Can I have a dog to! You are awesome! Make sure yoyu wake me up when you get here.

Dear Santa,

You are the best. I love the presents you make! This year please bring me: Kids cleaning tools, a sewing machine and hatchamoles. For my brothers bring Paw potrol toys. My mom would love two blue errins. For my dad bring Nike socks. Oh, and if you come wake me up. I am making presents for you.

Your friend,
Evayla Georgieva

PS Can you bring me a stuff animal cat? Put me on the nice list.

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? How is Rudolph doing? Please bring my sister an iPhone 7. I would like a new controller for my x-box. And Beethoven's Christmas adventure, Battlefield 2. please for Christmas.

Your friend,
**Jackson
Schwartzberger**
PS I love you Santa so

so so much.

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa. How are your reindeers. How is Mrs. Claus. Can you bring me a game. Can you bring me a dall. Can you bring my sister a game like me. Can you bring my mom a jewlery set. Can you bring my dad a pot. You are awesome!! You are cool!!

Please Santa please please please. You are kind and nice. Please Please please plesae. Please Santa.

Your friend,
Purva Sonawane
PS You are very good

Dear Santa,

I love you. Can you pleas give people theat don't have homes very more food. Santa I love you but don't ubawt me car abawt por people. People that don't have stuf.

PS Please drop off a choclit chip cake at my hows.

Noah Silverman

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas Eve? Im very excited for Christmas. I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom would like a shef hat. My dad will like a tol blot. Bobey love a bed and a toy. Cameron will love a ben ten woch and he wants a modsikl.

I want a ben ten woch and bat man vs mr frees. I can't wait until yo uvisit me on Christmas Eve. I will leav some milk and cookies for you.

Love,
Cavin Daniel

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas Eve? How are you doing at the Nroth Pole? I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom would like a ring. My dad would like a running wuch. I really want a new corl and shells I can't wait until you visit me on Christmas Eve. I will leave cookies and milk for you and carrots for the reindeer.

Love,
Ella Kazarian

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas eve? I'm very excited for Christmas! I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom would wot now shos. My dad would wot a new fish pll. My brth would wot a grbche. I would relly wot a hashmlls and skwes. I can't wait until you visit me on Christmas Eve! I will ave some millk and cookies for you and carrots for the reindeer.

Love,
Mackenzie Knierim

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas Eve? Do you hav a pat? I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom rile wost a nes a bacit. My dad nou fising pol. My Druvr wub like a gon. My dog wud like a cocotoe. I wot a rel dog and a marc n grl doll. I can't wait until you visit me on Christmas Eve! I will leave some milk and cookies for you and carrots for the randeer.

Love,
Maisy Lloyd

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas Eve? Santa is the best man. I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom likes lohsin. My dad likes boxing gluv. My sistr likes a newtendo. I like a gron. I can't wait until you visit me on Christmas Ev! I will leave some milk and cookies for you.

Love,
Liam McGuigan

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa! How is Mrs. Claus? I hope you are getting a lot of sleep before the big trip! I am wondering what kind of cooies are your favorite? Have many wishes this

year. Please bring my mom an I phone. Please bring my dad a new watch. Please bring my brother Priyash a toy car. And please bring me a Barbie doll set. Have a great trip!

Prisha Khairate

Dear Santa,

Hi Santa are the elves making toys in shifts? How is your beard big? I have many wig this year. Please bring my Christopher a big nerf gun. Please bring my mom ane I phone. Please bring my dad a skroojriver. Bring me an Elf on the self.

Matthew Campbell

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa! Are the elves making toys? Get a lot of sleep and your rane drer too. Wots your favrit cooke? I have ben wandrng if you are nice?

Did you play flag football? How old are you? How old is Rodof? I love you cos you are nice. I have many wishis thes year. Please bring my mom a par of pink sliers and my dad Mishagin klos. Fish food and dog food for my little brothr Joshua. Ninga stuff for my sistr Avery. A boy bayby aliv doll and fannaile me a dran.

Love,
Drew Vanwashenova

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa! How is Mrs. Claus? What are you going to eat on your trip? I have many wishes. Please bring my mom pink lip stick. Can you please bring a new black ladr for my dad? Bring my sister a jrivrs lisints and new car. Bring a flat screen tv. Bring me a puppy and kittin. Bring my dog a dog toy. Bring my cat a yarn ball.

Sophie Fields

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa! How is Mrs. Claus? Are you feeding Rudolph for the big trip? How are the elves doing are they making toys? What is your favorite kind of ckoee? How log is your berd? How old are you? I have many wishes this year. Can you please give a tv in my room? For Stella can you please give a new cupcake robe and a new phone? For my mom can you please give a new phone and a watch? Can you please give me a real cat?

Lucia McCown

Dear Santa,

Hello Santa! How is Copit? Is copit hethy? You bedr not be eting kuces! How are the horse I men the ran-der? I have many wishes this year. Mom wus glotin fre cukes. Dad was maczings. Brody wus transformrs. Jack food. Noxs suthing that he can noc ovr. Now me I wut a hatchimal.

Avery Snyder

Dear Santa,

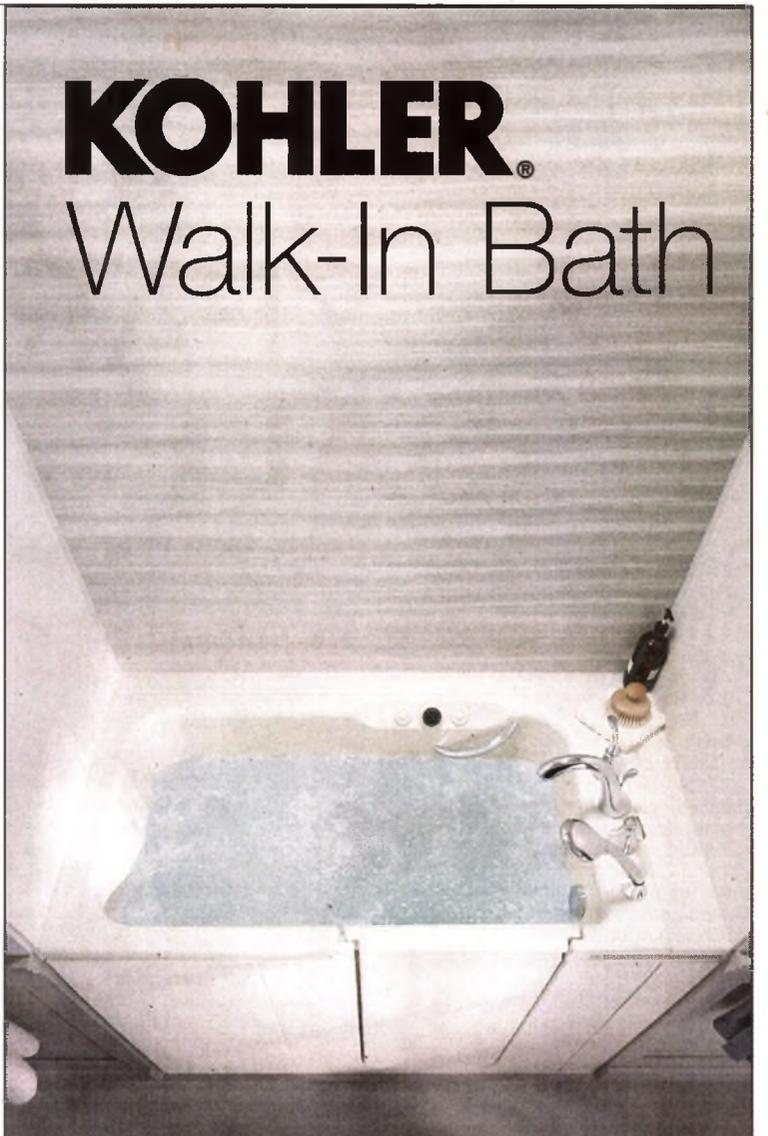
Hi how are you. How is Mrs. Claus? I hope Mrs. Claus is a good girl? How good are you at soccer? I shood no that you are a good goalie because of your beleey! I have many wishes for my family. My mom wat a pair of slipers. My dad will wot a new robe. My brother Avery will wot Teck Deck set and I will wat lots of Hatonimals. Thank you Santa. You are the best.

Payton Myles

Dear Santa,

Hi! Are you getting ready for Christmas Eve? How are you in the north pole? I have a pretty big wish list this year. My mom would really like s shirt with some strips on it. My dad needs a new pair of sports shoes. I really want a pack of colered pencils and a board game. I can't wait until you visit me on Christmas Eve! I will leave some milk and cookies for you and carrots for the raindeer.

Shreya Bettadapur



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COLLEGE SOCCER

National spotlight shines on Ocelots duo

Churchill grad Wynns, Sadler nab NJCAA All-America soccer honors

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Back in the day, Lauren Wynns started kicking a soccer ball somewhere in Livonia.

Around that same time, on Jamican soil, so did Hakeem Sadler.

Neither Wynns nor Sadler could have envisioned the success they would someday have on the soccer pitch, particularly for Schoolcraft College in 2017. Their efforts were instrumental in the women's and men's teams both enjoying mammoth success.

Both recently were named National Junior College Athletic Association All-Americans — with Sadler a first team selection and Livonia Churchill alum Wynns a second team choice.

"I was confused, I saw it on Twitter," the 19-year-old Wynns said about her All-America selection. "I was really

shocked."

The sophomore forward for the Lady Ocelots did give props to Sadler, a midfielder who was a catalyst in the run to the NJCAA Division I championship game.

Meanwhile, Sadler's Ocelots went 18-1-0, capturing Michigan Community College Athletic Association, Region XII and district titles along the way.

"Yeah, Hakeem, he's really good," Wynns said. "I'm really happy he got it."

Lofty praise

Striking a similar tone was Sadler, a sophomore who scored 11 goals in his lone season with the Ocelots after transferring from Owens Community College in Toledo, Ohio.



Wynns



NJCAA first team All-American Hakeem Sadler (right) of Schoolcraft College shows his agility during a game this season. SCHOOLCRAFT ATHLETICS

See NATIONAL, Page B2

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL



Oakland's Nick Daniels (right) battles for a rebound with Michigan State's Kenny Goins during the first half of the College Basketball Showcase. JUNFU HAN | DETROIT FREE PRESS

BOYS HOCKEY

MIHL-KLAA Challenge helps junior scouts find talent

Hockey evaluators come to Livonia for full day of games, discovery

Tim Smith
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

When junior hockey scouts filed into Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena for the debut MIHL-KLAA Challenge Showcase on Dec. 16, they were handed a thick booklet listing all teams and players to watch.

"Heady player with good motor," was the booklet's entry for Salem senior forward Tyler German. An entry about Livonia Stevenson senior goalie Will Tragge called him "a tireless competitor" who "oozes hockey."

Although it's handy to have a quick reference — especially with 10 boys high school games to view, not including a "bonus" morning game between KLAA teams Livonia Franklin and Grand Blanc — scouts such as metro Detroit-based Jon Frantti already are well on the way to having their own chapter and verse about everyone from blue chippers to so-called diamonds in the rough.

Frantti, a scout for the Fairbanks (Alaska) Ice Dogs of the North American Hockey League (a Tier II junior league), said any notes and observations at the showcase would quickly be plugged into his home database.

Work in progress

With that, he can maintain "a running tab" on players throughout the 2017-18 season.

"That's because a particular player could look really good one day and the next time you see him he may not be as good," Frantti said. "You definitely need multiple viewings."

He said he would be looking for players with compete level, first and foremost. Other top traits include hockey IQ, skating ability and good hands.

Concurring was Zack Bargy, a scout for the NAHL's Minnesota Wilderness,



Frantti



Bargy

HE PROVES HE BELONGS

John Glenn alum Daniels makes Golden Grizzlies threat in Horizon League race

Brad Emons
hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Nick Daniels didn't need any help from match.com, but playing basketball for Oakland University has proven to be the perfect marriage for the fifth-year senior guard.

The 6-foot-1, 175-pound lefty earned his seventh start of the season Dec. 16 against No. 2-ranked Michigan State as part of the Hitachi College Basketball Showcase at the new Little Caesars Arena in downtown Detroit.

Daniels played 37 of the 40 minutes for the Golden Grizzlies (6-5) in the highly-charged, highly-competitive meeting against the Spartans (10-1), who broke open a close game down the stretch for an 86-73 win.

Daniels finished with seven points,

six assists and two steals before a record and raucous crowd of 20,695, the largest attended event so far in the brief history of LCA.

"You had a lot of Michigan State fans, but it was a great atmosphere and I was glad to be in that atmosphere," said Daniels, who was announced during the pregame introductions as "Nicky D." "We played hard and it just shows how good we are when we're all clicking on the same page. We played as hard as we can and we didn't give up."

Oakland, getting a game-high 32 points from senior guard Kendrick Nunn, appeared poised to break its 0-15 record against MSU before being outscored 18-5 down the stretch.

The Golden Grizzlies stayed within striking distance by executing a simple game plan against the deeper, bigger and more talented Spartans.

"Just keep boxing out and don't let them get the offensive rebounds," Daniels said. "That was the main thing and pretty much getting stops and valuing the ball."

So far this season, Daniels has averaged a career-best 9.0 points per game and has scored in double figures four times, including a season-high 21

"It's just been amazing being there at Oakland. They've treated me very well. It's been great watching me grow up at Oakland."

NICK DANIELS
Westland John Glenn graduate

(matching his career best) in a win over Texas Southern.

He is shooting 37 percent from 3-point range and 71 percent from the foul line.

"I wanted him to be the sixth man of the year in the league, but he's played so good that I had to put him in the starting lineup and he's playing great for us," OU coach Greg Kampe said. "He's shooting the ball well. He's the heart and soul of our team."

After red-shirting his freshman year due to a broken foot, Daniels has appeared in 108 games for the Golden Grizzlies, starting 38.

See DANIELS, Page B3

See CHALLENGE, Page B2



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BOYS HOCKEY

Birmingham wins again; Farmington United falls in OT

Marty Budner
hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Birmingham Unified skated to a 3-0 first-period lead Dec. 14 and maintained that advantage the rest of the game for a 7-4 victory over Clarkston at the Detroit Skating Club in an OAA White Division match-up.

Andrew Beggs led the way as the Kings' lone multiple scorer. Andrew

Siver, Brett Hutchison, Samuel Googasian, Daniel Zalesin and Will Sanders accounted for the other BU goals.

Nick Lamb, Lucas Bayagich, David Breaugh, Dane Hamilton (two), Matthew Bachand, Beggs and Zalesin were all credited with assists.

Gabriel Barish was the winning goalie.

Clarkston scored twice in both the second and third periods.

MILFORD 3, FARMINGTON UNITED 2

(OT): In non-league action at the Harland Sports Center, host Milford needed overtime to overtake Farmington United.

Milford held a 2-1 lead after the opening period and the Flyers scored once in each of the first two periods. The teams played a scoreless third before the Mavericks won it in the extra session.

Milford's three goal scorers were Tyler Conklin, Mitchell Balaka and Ben

Kozar. Blake Maddalena accounted for both the Flyers' goals.

Hunter Bartholomew played in the net for the Mavericks, while Colin Woods was between the pipes for the Flyers.

Farmington United also recently fell to Rochester and Rochester Hills Stony Creek, both by a 6-3 score.

mbudner@hometownlife.com

NATIONAL

Continued from Page B1

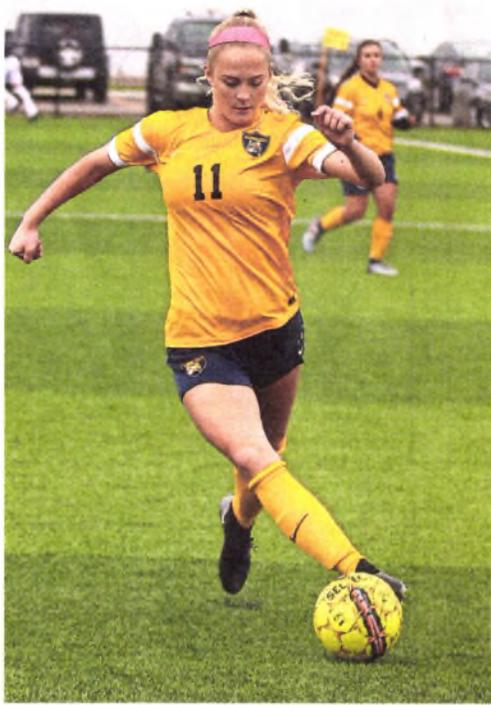
"It was good; congrats to Lauren, also," Sadler said. "It's a cool accomplishment for both me and Lauren and also the school."

The last time both Schoolcraft teams were honored with an All-America player was in 2015. That year, honorees were forwards Victor Contreras and Shae van Gassen (both making the second team).

"Hakeem worked during the season to understand what the expectations of him were and how to actualize his potential," said Rick Larson, veteran head coach of the Schoolcraft men's program. "He influenced this team in so many ways and one of those was to allow his teammates to believe we could."

"Hakeem simply had the best postseason run of any player I've coached here at Schoolcraft College."

Sadler, who lives in Canton, cited a two-goal game Nov. 15 against



Controlling the ball during a game this season is Schoolcraft College sophomore forward Lauren Wynns. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Monroe College, during national tournament pool play, as a personal highlight of the season. That

win lifted the Ocelots into the final four. One of the goals came on a free kick.

"It was good; congrats to Lauren, also. It's a cool accomplishment for both me and Lauren and also the school."

HAKHEEM SADLER, Schoolcraft All-America player

"It was good. I enjoyed the entire season. We came together as a team," Sadler said. "Especially going into the regional finals and we just kept fighting and going after that. That's what brought us to the national finals. Sadly, it didn't end the way we wanted it to."

Getting stronger

Wynns's team nearly matched the men's team step by step. The Lady Ocelots were undefeated in conference play, won Region XII and earned a spot in the national tournament. The team's only losses were in that tournament, finishing with a stellar 13-2-1 record.

"This year, we had to adapt to a lot of changes," Wynns said. "We had a new coach (Joe Carver) and we lost a lot of players last year, so here were a lot of new people."

"But we were stronger because we worked through it all together. It was really nice going to nationals again. A dynasty, kind of."

Although winning is in the DNA of both Schoolcraft programs, with a long track record of major success, new state-of-the-art soccer facilities on campus provided an extra lift.

Moreover, benefits of the pristine St. Joe's Sports Dome and adjacent soccer stadium should provide long-term benefits, they agreed.

"I think the new facilities attract a lot of players, because there's just so high-quality," Wynns said. "It's nice incentive to go to Schoolcraft, getting to play in a nice facility like that."

Sadler said Schoolcraft's facilities "let us work on our craft and get better each and every day. So it was wonderful,

to be honest."

Icing on the cake

The NJCAA All-America honors should help Wynns and Sadler continue their soccer careers; both want to continue playing at a four-year college.

Yet they won't forget the past — how they worked to get to this point of their lives.

Wynns, whose 12 goals was second on the team to Jamila Thombs, first played the sport at age 6 or 7 for the Livonia City Soccer Club.

Then came four seasons with Livonia Churchill. She also played for AC Milan-Detroit, which in June merged with the Michigan Wolves-Hawks Soccer Club.

It all helped her prepare for two big years at Schoolcraft.

"Personally, it's just all my hard work throughout my life in soccer," she said. "I've been playing forever and it's nice to get recognition and that great award."

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CHALLENGE

Continued from Page B1

also based in Michigan.

"I don't think you really ever have a final opinion, to be honest. You have your assumptions," Bargy said. "But every kid's different. I like to watch a kid four or five times before I decide to do anything."

Bargy said he'd be looking for players with key elements in their game such as "speed, skill, puck possession ... players that fit that mold."

If he finds any players that turn his head, he'd look at schedules and make a return trip.

That doesn't necessarily mean only potential "star players" were on Bargy's must-watch list.

"I think a lot of those blue-chip kids, everyone knows about, they're easy to find," Bargy said. "I take pride in finding those third- or fourth-line guys that are going to help us win."

Doing their homework

Scouts might drool over players with Dylan Larkin-like speed. Yet slow and steady apparently wins the recruiting race.

"The good programs, teams, coaches and scouts take the body of work into account," said Kyle Zagata, a scout for the Aberdeen (S.D.) Wings of the NAHL.

"And they watch over time, watch how they develop over time."

"We're not just taking them for how good they are right now, we're projecting how good they can be. You definitely want multiple views of a player."

Wearing two hats during the inaugural event (spearheaded by Livonia Stevenson head coach David Mitchell) was Andrew Whiteside, an assistant coach and director of scouting for the NAHL's Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (Pa.) Knights.



During this MIHL-KLAA Challenge Showcase game, Cranbrook Kingswood's Hugh Lambert (right) takes a shot against Plymouth goalie Brendan Olepa. MICHAEL VASILNEK

Whiteside nodded when asked if the showcase between the two top high school leagues in Michigan might be like being a kid in a candy store.

"For sure, there's definitely some gems in the rough in this Michigan high school league," Whiteside said while watching an early afternoon game between Salem and Trenton. "This is my first time watching this level and I'm excited to be here for the day."

He said scouting events such as the Dec. 16 one are crucial in filling needs; he noted that the Knights will be looking to replenish their roster of forwards ahead of the 2018-19 season.

According to Whiteside, he found out about the MIHL-KLAA Challenge Showcase via the scouting software RinkNet, as well as "word of mouth. Some players from Michigan have had success in our league."

Chance to shine

The stands and corridors of Eddie Edgar Arena were filled with many other hockey scouts, who bounced back and forth from Rink A to Rink B to catch portions of as many games as possible. The starting times were staggered for that reason.

"It's showcasing high school hockey in Michigan and it's an event," Zagata said. "There's a lot of great hockey players in the area and there's a lot of great scouts coming to watch them. At Aberdeen, we've had lots of success with Michigan high school players."

"They've helped our program and we've helped them move on to the next level of college hockey. ... We're happy to see it growing and events like this are great for the game."

Stevenson's Mitchell (whose team dropped a tough 3-2 decision to Orchard Lake St. Ma-

ry's), credited broadcast journalist Sean Baligian (who formerly worked with Pete Krupsky, broadcasting games for the OHL's now-defunct Plymouth Whalers and, later, the U.S. National Team Development Program) for helping the event take root.

"It was something that Sean Baligian and I discussed, doing something like this," Mitchell said. "We threw a date out there and the coaches all got on board with it. It's a collaborative effort."

There was shiny hardware, too. Because MIHL teams enjoyed a 6-4 edge, that league took home the new Challenge Showcase Cup donated by Livonia Trophy.

Mitchell added that the MIHL-KLAA event was put together to supplement the MIHL Prep Hockey Showcase, held each February at Kennedy Ice Arena in Trenton — which he called "our Super Bowl" — to give players another chance to be seen by scouts.

And that extra look could mean the difference between a player finding a future home in the Tier II junior ranks or not — especially if a player has a shaky game the first time around.

"You hope a kid doesn't come out and (have) a poor performance," Zagata said. "You never want to put that pressure on a kid. That's why I think more of these are needed, so kids become used to them, so they don't put all the weight on one game, because the good scouts will find players. The good teams and players are found. If they're a good player, it's not just this game. They will be found."

Viable path

The path many players take from high school to college teams travels through the junior hockey ranks.

The "high, high-end talent goes to the USHL," Frantti said, referring to the (Tier I) United States

Hockey League.

"There's a lot of guys that don't make that league that end up in our league that end up with scholarships," Frantti said. "You can look at the website and the numbers speak for themselves."

With the number of elite high school hockey programs in Michigan continuing to grow (Detroit Catholic Central, Brighton, Hartland, among many others), scouts deciding to spend a full day watching games in Livonia was like a back-door tap-in.

"I think there's a lot of talent here in high school hockey, it's definitely underrated," Bargy said. "It's proven every year that there's players."

The showcase helped scouts write the preface in the stories of many young hockey players. The exciting chapters are yet to be written.

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COLLEGE RECRUITING

Sacred Heart senior to swim at Kentucky

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Caroline Szydowski is a high-caliber competitive swimmer who attends Academy of the Sacred Heart High School in Bloomfield Hills.

Even though Sacred Heart does not sponsor a varsity swim team, Szydowski will attend the University of Kentucky on a swim scholarship.



How in the world did that happen? It's simple. Szydowski is a product of the nationally-renowned Oakland Live Y'ers Swim Club.

The 18-year-old Sacred Heart senior has been in the Live Y'ers program since age 6. She's elevated her talents to the point where Kentucky swim officials, in particular former Olympian and head coach Lars Jorgensen, were excited to recruit the talented long-distance swimmer.

Jeff Cooper, the longtime Live Y'ers head coach, is not surprised. "Caroline is good enough and her potential is definitely an upside," said Cooper, in his 31st year of coaching, the last 23 for the Live Y'ers. "She is a big, strong girl. She's built like a Division I swimmer."

"I've known Lars for years and he was one of the best distance swimmers in the country," he added. "He's a distance-minded coach, so he knows what her potential is going to be at that level. It's really a good fit for her."

Falling for the campus

Szydowski said she went to Kentucky on a visit with her parents between her sophomore and junior years and fell



Caroline Szydowski of the Academy of the Sacred Heart is going to Kentucky on a swim scholarship. DAN DEAN | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

in love with the campus. The Oakland Township resident committed to Kentucky at the beginning of this school year and signed her national letter of intent Nov. 8 at Sacred Heart. She had considered Iowa, Denison (Ohio) University and Miami (Ohio) University, but Lexington was really her heartfelt destination all along.

"I don't know if it was a goal, but I always expected to swim in college, wherever it would be," said Szydowski, who plans to major in pre-med. "Kentucky has a great team with great academics and has a great environment overall. I'm really looking forward to it."

Szydowski said she simply worked hard in academics during the day at Sacred Heart while pursuing her passion for swimming with the Live Y'ers after school hours. She was never bothered by the fact Sacred Heart did not have a swim team.

"I never really paid much attention to it, that we didn't have (a swim team at Sacred Heart) because I was swimming

at OLY all year around," Szydowski said. "It wasn't like I wasn't swimming at all during the high school season."

"OLY is a very elite team, so training with them would very much help me to swim in college," she added. "They work you very hard, so that you're ready for anything."

Improvement in the pool

As a young swimmer, Szydowski started her career at Twin Lakes Country Club, spent time with the Utica-Shelby Swim Club and ultimately earned a roster spot with the Live Y'ers.

She made her first big splash with the Rochester-based club in the 10-under division, when she was a member of two club-record relays teams (200 medley and 200 free), both of which stand to this day.

As Szydowski advanced through the age divisions, she made constant improvement. By the time she entered Sacred Heart, she began to find her niche as a distance freestyler. Szydowski now spe-

cializes in the mile freestyle (66 lengths), 1,000 free (40 lengths) and 500 free (20 lengths). Considered one of the nation's top distance racers, she swim the mile in less than 17 minutes.

"You practice for (the mile) by doing pace. You usually don't think about how long it is," she said. "I usually don't look at the counter until it says, like, 60. I don't mind doing that long of a race at all."

If she competed in high school, Szydowski would be one of the state's top 500-yard freestylers (the longest race on the prep circuit). The high school girls season runs from August through November and includes multiple dual meets, a few invitationals and, ultimately, the state championship meet.

The Live Y'ers, by contrast, have a competitive meet roughly every month, including the MCSA Closed Holiday Invitational recently hosted by the Flint YMCA. She figures to again compete in the nationals next March in Orlando as one of the country's top long-dis-

tance swimmers.

"Caroline was a very good swimmer when she was younger. She wasn't exceptional, but she was good," said Cooper, a former 13-time All-America swimmer and team captain at Oakland University. "When she got to be about a sophomore in high school is when she started to come on the scene. She started to be about a much higher level."

"What was happening is that she was getting stronger, getting bigger through our process by laying a big aerobic foundation when she was younger. All of a sudden, you start swimming faster when you get older. The kids start separating themselves as high-level swimmers and start competing at a high level nationally."

"Her strength is that she has a fantastic aerobic capacity," he added. "Much like a marathon runner, Caroline has a fantastic aerobic engine. A lot of that is natural, but she can just maintain a pretty high aerobic pace for a long time. A lot of kids can't do that. It's just a gift she has."

Prepared by Sacred Heart

Szydowski is not the only Live Y'ers standout who will swim in college next year without having participated on a high school team.

Twins Claire and Lucy Schenden are seniors at Rochester Hills Stoney Creek and will swim next year at Michigan State University. Unlike Szydowski's situation at Sacred Heart, Stoney Creek does have a varsity swim team.

Samantha Ekleberry was not a member of Auburn Hills Avondale's girls swim team, but will take her talents to the University of Toledo.

Justin Glanda, a Rochester resident and 2011 Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood High School graduate, skipped

his first three years of prep swimming while working with OLY. As a senior, Glanda opted to swim for the Cranes and led them to a second-place team finish at the Division 3 state meet, where he was a double individual event (200 free, 100 fly) champion.

"It's very common in our program to have kids go to college who didn't train at a much higher level. "What's unique for us is our program is designed as basically a five- to six-year development process," he added. "When kids are in seventh and eighth grade and they come into our program for the first time, that begins the process of where I try to get them to by the time they are 17 or 18 years old — getting them ready to go off to college."

It was the Oakland Live Y'ers program that prepared Szydowski for college athletics. Sacred Heart provided the excellent academic experience for which she will forever be grateful.

"Sacred Heart is a great school," she said. "It really prepares you for a lot. It's really hard academically and it keeps you busy." Szydowski plans to maintain that same rigorous work ethic she learned at OLY and ASH at Kentucky.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Marian's big fourth quarter is difference in win over rival Mercy

Marty Budner

hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Catholic League powers Marian and Mercy renewed their basketball rivalry Dec. 15 in Bloomfield Hills. Both teams entered with an undefeated record and their first encounter of the season, as usual, featured spirited competition.

The Mustangs, playing their first home game, survived for a 53-46 victory thanks to a ferocious fourth quarter sparked by juniors Megan Kraus and Olivia Moore.

The win kept Marian undefeated at 5-0 overall, 3-0 in the Catholic

League. Mercy fell to 5-1, 3-1 in the league.

"(Both teams) have good kids who work hard and give good efforts," longtime Marian head coach Mary Cicerone said. "It's been a great season for us so far. My kids are working hard and we're 5-0 and who can complain about that?"

"I just think the difference tonight was when Mercy went to a zone in the fourth quarter, we were able to get inside a bit," she added. "My assistant Mike Hawkes drew up a nice play for me in practice and it worked, like, three times in a row. Mercy had to adjust and come out of it and we were able to close

it out."

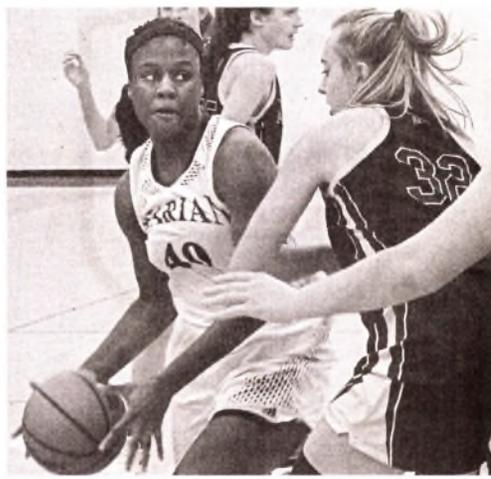
The game was back and forth through the first three quarters, with seven lead changes and five ties. The Marlins held a slim 21-19 halftime lead and, with both teams scoring 11 third-quarter points, maintained that two-point advantage, 32-30, heading into the final eight minutes.

Then the game turned in Marian's favor.

Marian started getting the ball inside against Mercy's zone. The Mustangs scored the first six points of the fourth quarter on down-low baskets from Uche Ike, Kraus and Moore to take a 36-32 lead and never looked back.

The Marlins got within two points twice in the middle part of the quarter, but Marian continued to execute offensively, defensively and at the free-throw line to register the deceiving seven-point triumph.

"It was close all the way and we were up by two points at the half, but I thought we left some points on the board in that first half because we missed some free throws and we had some turnovers that led to some baskets by them," Mercy head coach Garry Morris said. "We had a slow start to the third, but still had a two-point lead. Then we



Marian senior center Uche Ike (left) looks for a good scoring opportunity against Mercy forward Jessica Mruzik. MARTY BUDNER

See MARIAN, Page B4

DANIELS

Continued from Page B1

During his first three seasons, Daniels averaged a consistent 6.3, 6.5 and 6.2 points per game. As a sophomore, he started 24 games and, in his first season (2014-15), made the Horizon League all-freshman team.

"My role is just being me, just being myself, play the game," Daniels said. "Kampe loves my game. He knows I'm a great player, so just be myself, don't do anything out of the extraordinary. Be a leader on the team, a distributor and shoot the ball. I can shoot the ball real well and that's

what I do."

He's a favorite

Daniels has evolved into one of Kampe's favorite players, both on and off the court.

"I would tell you I love Nick Daniels and I might love him more than any other player I've ever coached," said Kampe, in 34th season overall at OU and his 19th since the Golden Grizzlies moved to NCAA Division I. "He just loves the fact that he plays at Oakland. He is what I want every kid to be. He's just a phenomenal kid, but he wears his heart on his sleeve. If somebody said you can't play at Oakland ... he'd probably go home and cry. He just loves being



Oakland guard Nick Daniels is introduced during the first half of the College Basketball Showcase against Michigan State at Little Caesars Arena. JUNFU HAN | DETROIT FREE PRESS

here."

And the feeling is mutual for Daniels, who arrived at Oakland as

Glenn's all-time scoring leader and four-year varsity player. Daniels had offers from a couple

of other Mid-American Conference schools, but settled on OU.

"It's been great," Daniels said. "I've seen the growth that I've had. It's just been amazing being there at Oakland. They've treated me very well. It's been great watching me grow up at Oakland."

Daniels will graduate from OU in May. He is a double major in communication and journalism.

"I want to be a reporter, like you," Daniels said with a laugh. "I don't know where I'll be, haven't thought about it. I just want to win the Horizon League right now."

Kampe has guided the Golden Grizzlies to the

NCAA tournament three times, the last in 2011.

Daniels would like nothing better than going out in style his senior year by winning the all-important Horizon League tournament, set for March 2-6 at Little Caesars Arena.

Getting to the NCAA tournament would be the ultimate match made in heaven.

"Our main focus is the Horizon League," Daniels said. "I wish we could have won (vs. MSU), but we've got to move forward now. We've got to put it behind us and move on."

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PREP ROUNDUP

Canton cruises past Livonia Churchill, 82-28

Coaches and team representatives are invited to send game information and story tips to LIV-sports@hometownlife.com. Game information will be accepted up to 24 hours after the game ends.

Boys basketball

CANTON 86, LIVONIA CHURCHILL 28: To say the Canton Chiefs are off to a hot start this season would be an understatement, especially after a 58-point win Dec. 19 against the visiting Chargers. Canton, 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the KLA Black Division, got out to a 27-4 lead after one quarter and enjoyed a huge 53-11 halftime advantage. Six players reached double figures for the Chiefs, led by B Artis White (16 points), Vinson Sigmon (13 points) and Ben Stesiak (12 points). Helping the cause with 11 points were Chase Meredith and Darius Robinson while Eian Barker scored 10. Livonia Churchill dropped to 2-3 overall and 0-2 in the division. **JOHN GLENN 62, SALEM 46:** A 15-point night by Westland John Glenn's Joe Moon IV sparked the Rockets to this Dec. 19 win. For the Rocks, Jordan Ingram and Amit Tiwari scored 11 and nine points, respectively. **WAYNE 59, PLYMOUTH 50:** The visiting Wildcats trailed 16-6 after one quarter and could not make up the deficit in a KLA Black game played Dec. 19.



Salem's Jenna Sydlowski (left) puts up a shot, while Westland John Glenn's Leah Kennedy tries to thwart the bid. JOHN KEMSKI | EXPRESS PHOTO

Isiah Lewis led the host Zebras with 21 points, while Rashad Williams (13 points) and Va'Shawn Ward (10) helped the Wayne Memorial cause. For Plymouth, Anthony Crump registered 21 points while A.J. Neal scored 10. **STEVENSON 87, HOWELL 66:** After emerging with a 22-20 lead after one

quarter Dec. 19, Livonia Stevenson pulled away to win this KLA Gold Division matchup. For the Spartans (3-0, 2-0), Devin Dunn led the way with 32 points while Parker Graham tallied 19 points (14 in Stevenson's 23-point second quarter). George Ferguson scored 13. Howell (3-1, 1-1) was led by Jack Palo and Johnny Shields, who scored 26 and 20 points, respectively.

Girls basketball

NOVI 44, GRAND BLANC 43: On Dec. 19, senior guard Ellie Mackay had 17 points, seven rebounds and two assists as the host Wildcats (4-2, 1-1) rallied in the final quarter to down the Bobcats (4-4, 1-1) in a KLA Gold Division game. Ireland Whalen and Julia Lalain chipped in nine and seven points, respectively, for Novi. Zada Lacy and Sacha Greene paced Grand Blanc with 16 and 14 points, respectively. **WAYNE 81, PLYMOUTH 59:** Wayne Memorial senior guard Camree Clegg led all scorers with 28 points and junior guard Jeanae Terry contributed 24 points and nine assists to spark the visiting Zebras (3-2, 2-0) to this KLA Black Division win on Dec. 19. For Plymouth (3-2, 0-1), Chantal LeDoux scored 24 points and Rebecca Przybilo added 12. **CANTON 32, CHURCHILL 19:** On Dec. 19 at Livonia Churchill, Ashley Criscen-ti's double-double (11 points, 10 rebounds) was the catalyst for Canton (3-2, 2-0). Helping the Chiefs' cause with seven points and 10 boards was guard Alaina Heitmeyer. Takanta George scored five

points for the Chargers (2-3, 0-2). "We played some pretty solid defense holding Churchill to just five points in the first half," Canton coach Rob Heitmeyer said. Canton led 10-2 after one quarter and 15-5 at halftime. **HOWELL 61, STEVENSON 21:** Alexis Miller scored 41 points to carry Howell to this Dec. 19 victory. For Livonia Stevenson, Sarah Tanderys canned five treys and finished with 17 points. **SALEM 57, JOHN GLENN 51 (2 OT):** The visiting Rocks needed double overtime on Dec. 19 to get past Westland John Glenn. Salem improved to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in the KLA Black Division.

Boys hockey

FRANKLIN 4, GRAND BLANC 1: A four-goal third period Dec. 20 propelled host Livonia Franklin to bounce back from a 1-0 deficit against the Bobcats. Scoring for the Patriots (in succession) were Trevor Van Vleet, Hunter Musser, Trey Ziebel and Dakota Keaton (empty netter). Playing a strong game in net for the victory was Will Augustine. **CHURCHILL 3, SALEM 2 (OT):** On Dec. 20 at Livonia's Eddie Edgar Arena, Jordan Venegoni scored at 5:06 of overtime to give Livonia Churchill the KLA Black Division win. Also scoring for the Chargers were Zack Vendittelli and Adam Sinclair. Helping the cause with 28 stops was goalie Chris Serjison. Garnering both Salem goals was Colin Golemiak. Taking the loss in net was Max Van Wert (25 saves).

HARTLAND 3, NOVI 2: Josh Albring scored the game-winning goal from Jake Behnke and Kiernan Carlile with 11:04 remaining to give the state-ranked Eagles (7-2, 5-0) the KLA Gold Division win Dec. 19 over the host Willocats (4-7, 1-6) at Novi Ice Arena. Brendan Tulpa and Behnke each finished with a goal and assists. Maanas Sharma (from Evan Chippa and Nathan Graff) and Mitchell Gnnshpun (power play from Mike Small and Sharma) countered with goals for Novi. Brett Tome went all the way in goal for Hartland, while Ethan Hunsinger was in net for Novi.

Gymnastics

NORTHVILLE 137.725, LIVONIA RED 129.15: Junior Maria Scavnick posted a 9.1 on beam and captain Grace Jankowski added a 9.05 on the uneven bars as the Mustangs opened their dual meet season with a KLA victory Dec. 19 at Livonia Churchill. **CANTON 133.825, VASSAR 123.6:** Zoe Graves registered firsts on uneven parallel bars (8.65), floor exercise (8.7) and all-around (34) as the visiting Chiefs prevailed on Dec. 16. Also with solid showings for the 3-1 Chiefs were Annika Wang (first on balance beam with a 9.1), Katherine Najduk (first on vault, 8.85) and Rachel Socha, who took second on four events including 8.675 on beam and 8.5 on floor).

Wrestling

REDFORD UNION DUALS: Northville improved to 9-3 overall after sweeping the

field on Dec. 16 with a 5-0 record to win the title including wins over Garden City (66-15), Livonia Clarenceville (63-18), Lutheran High Westland (57-15), Southgate Anderson (52-24) and the host Panthers (42-32). Among those sporting 5-0 records on the day for the Mustangs included sophomore Brandon Liu (103 pounds), sophomore Grant Gattoni (103), senior Adam Lewis (119), sophomore Nick Gattoni (140) and sophomore Demir Tagani (285), the latter whom sealed the championship with a win against RU. Meanwhile, senior Joey Nagy (140) added a 4-1 record as he stepped up in a higher weight class along with teammates Parker Dietrich, Michael Merritt, Adam Zakaria and Frank Cozza.

Bowling

PLYMOUTH'S DWYER ROLLS 300: The third 300 game in Plymouth High School history was registered Dec. 17 by sophomore Chris Dwyer at the annual Lakeside Invitational held at Century Bowl in Waterford. Dwyer threw his perfect game in the second game of qualifying and followed that up with a 256 score to finish with a two-game series of 556. His big day nearly lifted the Wildcats to a tourney championship, but they were edged out by the Brandon Blackhaws. On the girls' side, junior Maddie Harden scored a 266 game and three-game series of 692, becoming the first Plymouth girls bowler to win a tournament high game and series at the same event. Her scoreline was 266-213-213.

MARIAN

Continued from Page B3

had a lot of defensive breakdowns in the fourth quarter.

"They started going inside and I'm not discrediting what they were doing, but that's also on us. We were just making mistakes defensively," he added. "But overall, I thought it was a good game for us. We have a lot of young players and it was a good learning experience. You'd like to learn from a winning game, but we'll just learn from this game and get back to work."

Following are the game's three stars:

MEGAN KRAUS

The 5-foot-11 forward, who did not start, came off the bench to finish with 12 points. All five of her baskets came in the pivotal fourth quarter on layups, including a put-back of her own offensive rebound at the 5:48 mark, which gave Marian a 34-32 lead, an advantage it never relinquished. Kraus, who had her best game of the season, according to Cicerone, had at least three key rebounds in the fourth quarter and a clutch blocked shot with just over two minutes left to keep the Marlins from gaining any type of momentum.

"Megan Kraus played a heck of a game. She rebounded and she was tough," Cicerone said. "She probably weighs 120

pounds, almost six-foot, yet she was tougher than nails in there. Megan was the difference.

"She made some tough shots for us and got a lot of good rebounds and blocked some shots," she added. "She was very good today. I was very proud of her today."

Morris also took note of Kraus's fourth-quarter performance.

"I thought (Kraus) had a huge fourth quarter," Morris said. "She scored, got some great position at times and she got some put backs. I thought coming down the stretch, she was the difference."

OLIVIA MOORE

Marian's talented third-year varsity veteran matched Kraus with a dozen points, all in the

second half. She helped keep the Mustangs in the lead by making five of her six free throws in the final minute, when the Marlins were fouling in hopes of getting back into the game. Moore was a sparkling 8-of-10 from the charity stripe.

In addition, Moore played a key role in breaking Mercy's zone press, which caused a few fourth-quarter problems but never did manage to change the momentum completely. Moore effectively brought the ball upcourt and found open teammates to break down the press.

"They contained Olivia really well, but she did a great job of running the whole offense, her and Sophia (Mancini)," Cice-

rone said. "But she did a lot of good things for us besides scoring points. They put the hammer down on her, but she broke their press, she helped run the offense and she made some nice passes for easy baskets.

"She usually scores a lot of points for us," she added. "They may have taken her points, but she figured out a way to be a big contributor in other ways."

BELLA DUGAS/JENNA SCHULTER

Dugas and Schluter, Mercy's senior captains, led their team in scoring. Dugas finished with a game-high 15 points, including the game's first five points. The 5-foot-11 forward made five baskets and was 5-of-6 from

the free-throw line.

Schluter played her usual grinding game as she finished with seven points. Freshman guard Alexis Roberts hit for eight points and freshman forward Julia Bishop added six.

"Schluter has to have the ball in her hands so many times and she was solid just in terms of that," Morris said. "And Dugas was good, too."

Marian was 17-of-23 from the free-throw line and Mercy was 16-of-26. The teams actually combined to make more free throws (33) than field goals (31).

Mercy is off now until Jan. 3, when it plays a non-league game at Plymouth Salem.

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PREP ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



TREVOR DEGROOT

SWIMMING
SENIOR
NORTHVILLE MUSTANGS

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Share your vote online! Get the word out in the community about these great student athletes!

Northville senior boys swimmer Trevor DeGroot did what he does best to win the Hometown Life Prep Athlete of the Week poll for the week ending Dec. 15.

He finished strong to outlast staunch competition.

Such was the case both in the pool and in the poll -- DeGroot tallied 6,957 votes, more than 49 percent of the total 14,121 votes cast.

DeGroot's main competition entering the final "lap" was Canton senior girls basketball player Carli Vaughan (6,021 votes, 42.6 percent). In third place was Livonia Franklin senior boys basketball player Mark Mettie (1,009 votes, 7.15 percent).

WHAT HE DID: The Mustang won the poll thanks to a big-time effort Dec. 12 against defending Division 1 champion Birmingham Brother Rice. He swept the 200- and 500-yard freestyles in 1:48.49 and 4:59.34, respectively, to spark the fifth-ranked Mustangs to a 94-91 victory over the Warriors, ranked No. 3 in the state. "For the past three years we didn't beat Brother Rice so I was pretty excited heading

into this one," DeGroot said. "I really tried to focus in on those races and we just had a great team effort all-around." DeGroot said he "just felt good, felt loose in the water. I felt like I had pretty good turns."

PERSPECTIVE: Northville coach Rich Bennetts also stressed to the Mustangs not to get too wrapped up in defeating Brother Rice.

"Coach Bennetts told us at the end of the meet that it was an awesome win," DeGroot said.

"But at the end of the day it was just a dual meet. We have bigger goals than that. It really can't be the highlight of our season."

ABOUT WINNING AOW: DeGroot said winning Athlete of the Week is "an honor. I'm happy that people recognized swimming because it's not in the news too often. I'm thankful for that."



TO VOTE FOR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK, GO TO WWW.HOMETOWNLIFE.COM/SPORTS

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the job network

YOUR LOCAL JOB LISTING FROM LIVONIA OBSERVER

You should interview for a job you don't want

BY MICHAEL HOON
 THEJOBNETWORK.COM

Job hunting is a lot of work, whether you're unemployed or looking while working. You put so much effort into revamping your resume, networking and writing cover letters with the hopes of landing something truly great. And then, after weeks or months of hunting, there's a bite — you're offered an interview. But, you're not excited. At all. Maybe you're waiting to hear back from your dream company. Maybe you're just hesitant to accept anything less than awesome before you've really gotten yourself out there.

You might think the best use of your time is to politely decline and wait for something better to come along. But sometimes it's smart to take the interview, even when you already know you don't want the job. Here are some reasons why:

You might find you do want the job.

The job you don't think you want might turn out to be a perfect fit. Part of the interview process is for the company to sell you on the position (not just for you to sell yourself). Go in, see the workplace and let them woo you. Find out about the company culture and meet



GETTY IMAGES

your potential coworkers. On paper, it's difficult to get a sense of what the day-to-day of a job will be like. In person, your perspective might shift.

Practice makes perfect.

The more you get used to putting on your most professional clothes, signing in at an unfamiliar front desk and sitting in front of strangers while they ask you about your professional expertise, the better you will get at the entire process. If you're at the start of your career or haven't been on the market for a while, every interview is excellent practice

for the next one you get. You'll get your anecdotes down pat and start to get a sense of the questions managers in your chosen field ask at your level. You'll want to be as sharp as possible for the interview you'll get for your dream job. Get all the kinks out when the stakes are low and you're not buzzing with nerves.

You might meet someone to connect with down the line.

It's also always possible that you will meet someone in the course of interviewing who can lead you to your dream

job. First, if you get an appointment with a recruiter, they often interview for multiple positions — and sometimes at different companies. You never know what networking wins you might rack up — he or she will keep you in mind for future opportunities.

Second, if you make a great impression but ultimately turn down the position, you now know a face and name at the company. Maybe for your next move you'll want to touch base to see what's open. You can absolutely do so if you rock your interview — even if you don't take the job.

You can use an offer for leverage with other companies.

Say you really want job X, but they're dragging their feet in making decisions or final offers. Maybe you're even on a third or fourth round of interviews. But you've also interviewed for jobs Y and Z — and both have made offers.

Now you can go back to X and tell them other companies are vying for you. Don't be too forceful or demanding; just be truthful.

You can politely tell them you have other offers on the table and ask about their decision timeline. Being in demand is always a desirable trait.

Bottom line: Be careful not to waste your time, especially if you're still working full time and have to leave the office for interviews.

If you know there's no possible way you want to work at a certain company or in a specific position, don't take the interview.

But, in general, keep an open mind — you never know how it might play out.

Michael Hoon is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com, where this article was originally published. He investigates and writes about current strategies, tips and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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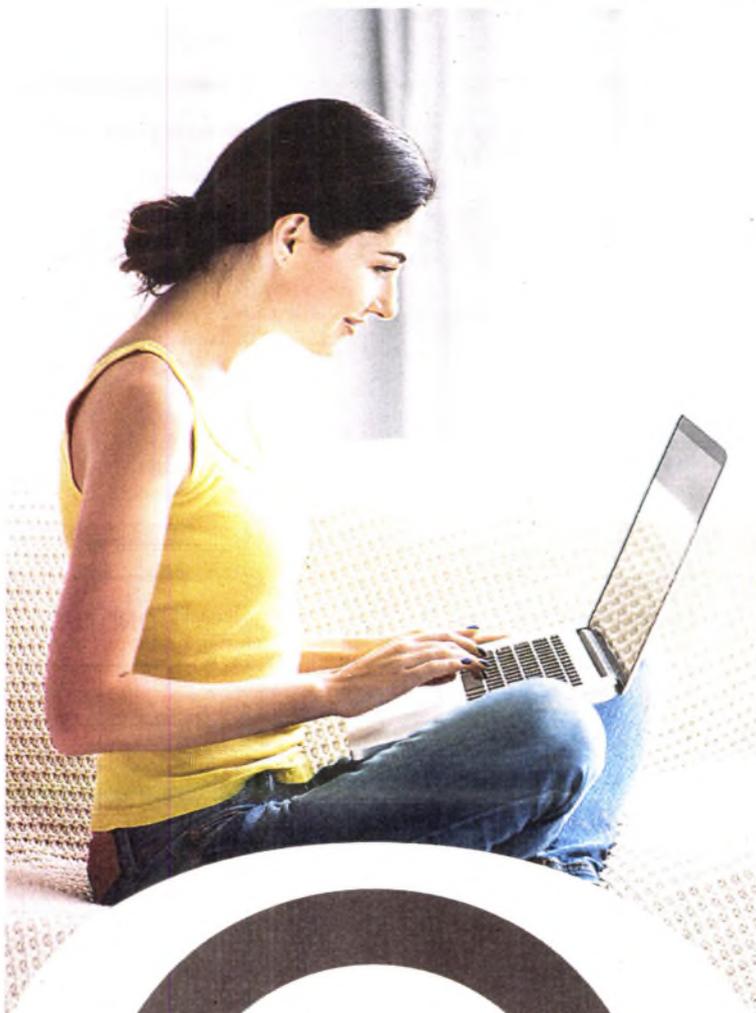


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SUNDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wall St. whiz
 - 4 Capote, informally
 - 7 Milky gemstones
 - 12 'Avatar' actress Zoe
 - 19 1,760-yard footrace
 - 21 Juliet's lover
 - 22 Big name in hair care
 - 23 Puzzled
 - 24 Shy around all of humanity?
 - 26 Adorn big shopping centers?
 - 28 Letters on an ambulance
 - 29 Lavish attention (on)
 - 30 "Bali" —
 - 31 Prefix like "equi-"
 - 32 More recent
 - 33 Transport
 - 43 Middle name of Mozart
 - 44 Yeats' "The Wild Swans at —"
 - 45 Teen's skin woe
 - 46 Brazil's — Paulo
 - 49 Bulletproof vest material
 - 50 Fastener holding a sleigh tinkler in place?
 - 53 Foreman foe
 - 54 Moo —
 - 56 Address with dots in it
 - 57 Tomahawks
 - 58 Takes five
 - 61 Rides that aren't new
 - 67 Debt note
 - 69 Rogers or Acuff playing percussion as a child?
 - 74 Droid
 - 75 Fait accompli
 - 76 Blights
 - 78 Kin of karate
 - 81 Poker player
 - 83 Sow, e.g.
 - 85 See
 - 86 Reason you might give for not buying a china plate?
 - 93 Mother of Rajiv Gandhi
 - 96 Chatter
 - 97 Hurry
 - 98 False front
 - 99 With dignity
 - 100 Vacation in Italy's capital?
 - 103 In accordance with
 - 106 Prof's aides
 - 107 Gigi's "yes"
 - 108 Voting place
 - 109 Fancy carp
 - 110 Earliest tune that singer Billy ever wrote?
 - 119 Far off driving one's Ford pickup?
 - 122 Japanese massage
 - 123 Divided into new districts
 - 124 Hindu maxim collection
 - 125 Bama rival
 - 126 Hypnotic states
 - 127 "Let's roll!"
 - 128 Purview of Gov. Cuomo
 - 129 Dipso
 - DOWN**
 - 1 In — rush
 - 2 Religious act
 - 3 Urban model
 - Chyna
 - 4 Horse gait
 - 5 Likely traffic snarl times
 - 6 Opens, as a tomb
 - 7 Sea predator
 - 8 Billiards
 - 9 — nitrate
 - 10 With additive)
 - 10 With
 - 85-Across, "Dig in!"
 - 11 — Canals
 - 13 Hippy brews
 - 14 Decree
 - 15 Cellphone components
 - 16 Cursor, often
 - 17 "Affliction" star
 - 18 Birch cousin
 - 20 Deer cousin
 - 25 Pianist John
 - 27 Prefix with life or land
 - 31 Big name in frozen drinks
 - 32 Part of NBA: Abbr.
 - 33 Capital of Senegal
 - 34 Brunch dish
 - 35 Luxuriant
 - 36 "Bad" cholesterol, for short
 - 37 Vocal vote
 - 38 Chem., e.g.
 - 39 Multitude
 - 40 Yule drink
 - 41 Not sound
 - 42 Actress Langtry
 - 46 Baseball's Red —
 - 47 Pro —
 - 48 Go-aheads
 - 50 Rightful deserts
 - 51 They show certain transit routes
 - 52 Actress Dern
 - 55 Shanty
 - 59 Tim of football
 - 60 — Poke (candy)
 - 62 "Do Ya" gp.
 - 63 Lion lair
 - 64 B-to-F run
 - 65 Suffix with drunk
 - 66 Wish undone
 - 68 Sun or moon
 - 70 "Yes, that guy!"
 - 71 1,051, to Nero
 - 72 Iroquois tribe
 - 73 Per annum
 - 77 Doesn't exit
 - 79 Yankee land
 - 80 Small dollop
 - 82 Arboreal frogs
 - 84 In the way a lass would
 - 87 2011 Marvel Comics film
 - 88 Problems for 121 "— was saying ..."
 - 89 Snarling mutt
 - 90 Chart buster
 - 91 "Sorta" suffix
 - 92 — wee Herman
 - 94 "— will not!"
 - 95 Clunker
 - 99 Adds abundantly
 - 100 Swear by
 - 101 C-worthy
 - 102 Polloi
 - lead-in
 - 103 In two, say
 - 104 Scatterer of seeds
 - 105 City square
 - 109 Patella locale
 - 110 Certain bolt holder
 - 111 Allitudes: Abbr.
 - 112 Architect Saarinen
 - 113 Drescher of "The Nanny"
 - 114 Lashes (up)
 - 115 Traffic clog
 - 116 Redding of soul
 - 117 Canadian fuel brand
 - 118 Deep desire
 - 120 Company abbr.
 - 121 "— was saying ..."

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19																	
23																	
26																	
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103	104	105															
108																	
119																	
123																	
126																	

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

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

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!

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

RESOLUTIONS WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

- BRAIN
- BUSINESS
- CAREER
- CLEANING
- CLUTTER
- CONCENTRATION
- CONFIDENCE
- DEBT
- DIETING
- DONATION
- EDUCATION
- EXPLORATION
- FINANCES
- FITNESS
- FOODS
- FRIENDS
- GIVING
- HABITS
- HAPPINESS
- HEALTHY
- LIBRARY
- MESSAGE
- MEDITATE
- ORGANIZE
- PROCRASTINATION
- RAISE
- READING
- RELATIONSHIP
- RESOLUTION
- RESUME
- SALARY
- SHAPE
- SOCIALIZE
- STRESS
- TRAVEL
- WORKOUT

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

Crossword Answers

AR	TRU	OPALS	SALDANA
MIL	ERUN	ROMEO	CLAIR
ATA	LOIS	COYOTE	THE WORLD
DE	CH	EM	ALL
HAI	IS	SO	NEWER
DOLLY	YOLD	STN	NICHOLAIS
AMADEUS	COOLE	ZIT	SAO
KEY	LAR	JING	LEBELL
ALLI	SHU	UR	LAKES
RES	US	EDICARS	TOU
THE	ILL	LEID	RUM
BOT	DONE	DEAL	BANES
JUDO	STU	PIG	EAT
ISA	W	THRE	ECHIPS
GAB	RI	TE	GUISE
ROM	E	ORT	H
AS	P	TAS	QUIL
POLL	KOI	THER	FIRST
AWAY	I	N	ARANGER
RE	ZONE	S	UTRAT
TRAI	N	CES	IT

Word Search

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

Car Report

IN FULL-SIZE AVALON, TOYOTA SELLS A SEDAN THAT MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO SWITCH TO A UTILITY VEHICLE



By Dale Buss

It's unfortunate that Americans have been turning away from sedans and turning toward utility vehicles in such a rush over the last few years, because in doing so they may be bypassing great cars like the 2017 Toyota Avalon.

Just like so many sedan nameplates from the subcompact to the full-size like Avalon, this Toyota car flagship has been suffering from consumers' mammoth pivot to crossovers and SUVs. Its sales were down by nearly 28 percent through July compared with a year ago, the worst relative performance across Toyota's sedan lineup.

But what a car folks are missing in the 2017 Avalon. The latest version of the sedan hasn't been updated much since the car was last done over in

2013, but it didn't have to be: Avalon is the optimal vehicle for people who want a large sedan that is going to keep them comfortable, yet in tune to the road, whether they're going on a long-distance road-trip vacation or commuting every day.

Avalon starts at prices of \$33,000, which is on the high end for sedans in its class. But it offers pretty much everything that most folks would want in a vehicle. It's styled far less conservatively than previous versions and even progressively for the boomer target audience.

Avalon sports a powerful 3.5-liter V6-engine that's couple with a six-speed automatic transmission and a well-tuned suspension. It provides 268 horsepower and 248 pound-feet of torque. Yet Avalon is able to get up to freeway speed of 60 mph in just 6.4 seconds.

The car sports a decent 24mpg in combined driving, 21th 21mpg in the city and 30 mpg - very respectable for a big car - on the highway. The EPA's



Avalon's rear seat can make three adults comfortable.

rating of Avalon for fuel economy and greenhouse-gas emissions puts it at a 5 on a 10-point scale, smack dab in the middle.

It's got plenty of room for five adults, including a capacious rear seat. Child seats also fit easily into the rear row. Visibility is great for everyone in the car.

There's also lots of places for interior storage including the center console and side pockets in front and back. Storage cubby holes fit both keys and wallets, and the center console is large. The front section of the console also conveniently acts as a nexus for power cords that pass through a sliding panel for two cellphones and auxiliary and USB connections.

I've always liked Avalon's ample trunk space too, which at 16 cubic feet - with a wide opening and low liftover height on the lip - make it great for loading and holding big and heavy bags, golf clubs, and all manner of other cargo that would be unworkable in most sedans. A ski pass-through and

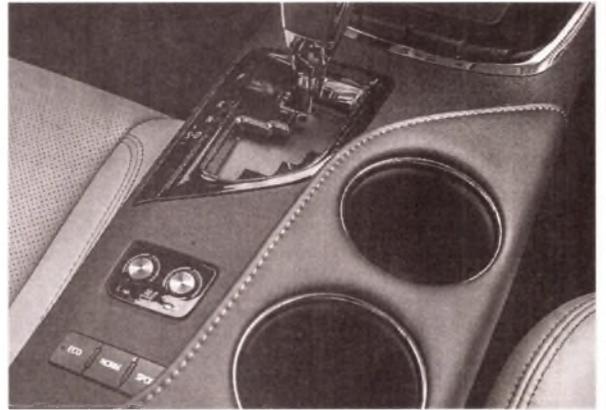
and handles much better than past generations of the car, with a ride that has firmed up yet which is still easy to command. It's also got luxury-level quiet inside the passenger compartment.

And speaking of the interior, Avalon offers high-quality materials and excellent construction as well as the choice of many high-tech features. Now, for example, Toyota's vaunted safety sense is standard on all Avalons, including adaptive cruise control, a lane-departure warning and intervention system, forward collision warning, automatic pre-collision braking and automatic high-beam headlight control.

Still, I recommend checking out the XLE Plus trim version of Avalon. It provides many safety and convenience features - including a sunroof, heated outside mirrors with turn signals, leather-trimmed heated front seats, and so on - but at a reasonable price tag of just \$36,450.



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- 1.5L Turbo Engine
- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- Color touch Screen Radio
- Blue Tooth for Phone
- Rear Vision Camera
- Push Button Start

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with GM Lease Loyalty

\$199/MO*

2018 Malibu LT

MSRP \$26,125
STARTING AS LOW AS \$20,339



STOCK #180745

- 1.5L Turbo Engine
- 6 Speed Auto Transmission
- Color Touch Screen Radio
- Blue Tooth for Phone
- Rear Vision Camera
- Aluminum Wheels
- Power Driver Seat

24 Month Lease with \$999 Down with a NON-GM Lease

\$229/MO*

2017 Tahoe LS 4x4

MSRP \$53,280
STARTING AS LOW AS \$45,568



STOCK #172797

- 5.3L V8 Engine
- 6 Speed Automatic Transmission
- 20" Polished Aluminum Wheels
- Rear Vision Camera
- Remote Vehicle Start
- 8" Chevy My Link Color Touch Radio

36 Month Lease with \$999 Down with GM Lease Loyalty

\$315/MO*

2017 Chevrolet Silverado Crew LT 4x4

MSRP \$49,050
STARTING AS LOW AS \$37,738



STOCK #171803

- 5.3L V8 Engine
- 6 Speed Auto Transmission
- Spray On Bedliner
- Heated Front Bucket Seats
- Wireless Charging
- Trailer Brake Controller
- 18 Bright Machined Aluminum Wheels
- LED Lighting in the Cargo Box

\$11,000 SAVE OVER OFF MSRP

serrachevrolet.com

FIND NEW ROADS



Showroom Hours

Monday	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Tuesday	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Thursday	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

We will be closed Monday December 25th



CHEVROLET

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All payments & pricing require the GM Employee & Family Discount and include the GM Lease or the Non GM Lease Incentive unless noted. All payments are plus tax, title, CVR & DOC Fee's, no security deposit is required, 1st payment due at signing and are with approved A1 or A+ credit through GM Financial and are calculated at 10,000 miles per year. See dealer for final details, photos may not represent actual vehicle, you must take delivery before 12/31/2017.