



Starbucks unveils its winter goods

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Megan Gougeon carries a child as she participates in an Aug. 21 protest outside Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan headquarters in Detroit. DAVID RODRIGUEZ-MUNOZ/DETROIT FREE PRESS

AG taking aim at biggest health insurer in the state

Kristen Jordan Shamus
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

For years, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan operated an illegal monopoly, violating state and federal antitrust and consumer protection laws to drive up health insurance premiums while limiting reimbursements to medical providers and making it more difficult for Michiganders to access quality health care, state Attorney General Dana Nessel alleges in a new lawsuit.

Calling it “arguably the most consequential antitrust case ever filed by a state against a health insurance company,” Nessel sued Michigan’s largest insurer Thursday, Oct. 8, in U.S. District Court in Detroit.

“Blue Cross of Michigan did everything they could to hide some of the alleged misconduct from the public,” Nessel told the Detroit Free Press, “so, it took a lot of work to uncover some of the actions that were happening in our health insurance markets and their impact. ... I believe we are the first state to

bring these particular claims.”

Court documents lay out a complex scheme that Nessel alleges Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Mutual Insurance Co. used to amass 65% of Michigan’s overall commercial health insurance market – and 79% of the preferred provider organization (PPO) health insurance plans – placing Michigan fourth nationally among states with the least competitive markets.

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Trump takes suit against Clinton to high court

Andrew Chung
REUTERS

President Donald Trump asked the U.S. Supreme Court on Oct. 9 to revive his dismissed lawsuit against his 2016 Democratic rival Hillary Clinton accusing her of conspiring along with former FBI Director James Comey and others to rig that year’s election by linking his campaign to Russia.

The Republican president filed his appeal after a federal judge threw out the case and imposed nearly \$1 million in sanctions against Trump and one of his lawyers for bringing a “frivolous” suit. A federal appeals court subsequently upheld the dismissal and sanctions.

Trump’s lawyers wrote in the appeal that Supreme Court review of the

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Boating incident leaves three dead

Survivor able to swim to shore, trigger 911 call

Christina Hall
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Three people were found dead in a submerged vessel in Lake St. Clair near MacRay Harbor in Harrison Township, the Macomb County Sheriff’s Office said.

Deputies responded to a report of a capsized vessel near the marina about 10:50 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7. A passenger aboard reported being involved in an accident about 8 p.m. and was able to swim to shore, where a resident called 911, the sheriff’s office said in a news release Thursday, Oct. 8.

Marine division deputies and members of the underwater search and rescue team responded to the area and began searching for the remaining people believed to have been onboard.

About 5 a.m. Oct. 8, members of the underwater search and rescue team recovered three people from the submerged vessel. They were pronounced dead at the scene, according to the release.

No additional details were released, including the identities of the individuals, the type of vessel involved or more specifics about the accident and how the vessel became submerged. The investigation is ongoing.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers buoy is located about a mile offshore from Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township and measures water temperature. The buoy indicated the overnight water tem-

perature was about 62-63 degrees, said Trent Frey, a meteorologist on duty with the National Weather Service in White Lake Township.

About 8 p.m. Oct. 7, the wind was coming from the west at 12 mph, visibility was 10 miles and the air temperature was 71.6 degrees at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township, according to the weather service. By about 11 p.m. Oct. 7, there was slightly less wind and the air temperature was 64.4 degrees. The air temperature was 53.6 degrees just before 6 a.m. Oct. 8, according to the weather service.

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