# HVILLE 1 NECORD

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# State fair adds fireworks to lineup

This weekend's Michigan State Fair, est example of that," Steve Masters, ex-LLC is excited to announce the biggest addition to the 2019 fair: Fireworks.

The fair runs today through Monday on the grounds of Suburban Collection Showplace, its seventh year at the Novi location, and features the Thursday Night Blast, a pyrotechnics show that will light up the sky above the carnival midway.

The fireworks are expected to start about 9 p.m., weather permitting.

"Each year we look for new ways to improve the fair and this is just the latecutive director for the Michigan State Fair LLC, said. "We are grateful to have a new partner in Tractor Supply that is as excited as we are to bring this new exciting addition to our guests."

The first day of the fair will also feature MEGAJAM on the Ascension Main Stage.

The annual celebration of Michigan songwriters features some of the best in local and regional music talent.

See STATE FAIR, Page 3A



A judge watches as livestock competitors walk a lap around the ring at last year's state fair in Novi. HOMETOWN LIFE.COM FILE

# Novi graduate back home with 'Cats' tour

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Erin Chupinsky has answered two catcalls a decade apart.

After straying far across the country and world in her stage career, the 2002 Novi High grad comes home as part of the national tour of the musical "Cats," performed Sept. 3-15 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit.

It's her encore in the popular Broadway show, and her eighth tour since moving to New York City in fall 2006.

"I've been away more than I have been there," she joked.

In Brooklyn, she has an apartment and a husband, Andrew, a guitarist whom she met in her first stint with "Cats" 10 years ago.

The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical is based on a T.S. Eliot poetry book and tells of a night when a tribe of cats gathers for their annual ball to decide which one will be reborn. The Tony Awardwinning musical premiered in London in 1981, had a 21-year run there, and had an 18-year run on Broadway, the fourth longest-running show in New York as of 2019. This production is a revival, with new choreography, and all new lighting and sound design.

"It's inspiring that it has endured this long," Chupinsky said. "There's not many shows from the '80s being seen now.

Chupinsky could not resist the call of "Cats" again, and when her turn in the musical tour of "Love Never Dies" ended in December in Texas, she caught a plane to New York to audition for the "Cats" national tour starting in January, landing the role of dance captain/swing. As such, she can fill in for six roles when cast members are sick, injured or on vacation. When she is not performing, she is backstage making sure the show runs smoothly.

Chupinsky gets to the theater about 90 minutes before showtime in order to get ready, taking about 30 minutes to do her own makeup, as well as about 20 minutes to curl her hair and pin a wig. Her costumes are easy and comfortable

See 'CATS', Page 5A



Novi graduate Erin Chupinsky is a cast member in the national touring production of "Cats," which comes to the Fisher Theatre from Sept. 3-15. COURTESY ERIN CHUPINSKY

### Restaurant inspections for July are in

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Insects flying around pastries. Spoiled tomatoes found in the fridge. Medication stored next to food prepared for customers.

These are just a few of the issues found by health inspectors during restaurant inspections that took place throughout July in Oakland and Wayne counties

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kuchens to make sure food safety is a

top priority.

Restaurants in the following communities listed "priority" violations, the most serious of violations. Lesser violations include "core" and "priority foundation," which are not listed in the reports.

Priority violations are the ones that can lead to foodborne illness.

Hometown Life requested Oakland County's inspection reports and reviewed the inspection reports in Wayne County for the month of July and found the following priority violations at eating establishments locally:

■ 49 priority violations in the Birmingham/Bloomfield area

27 priority violations in Farming-

ton and Farmington Hills

■ 30 priority violations in Novi ■ 11 priority violations in South Lyon

and Lyon Township ■ 13 priority violations in Milford

and Highland townships

21 priority violations in Northville

and Northville Township • Four priority violations in Ply-

mouth and Plymouth Township

■ 25 priority violations in Canton

■ 23 priority violations in Wayne

and Westland 47 priority violations in Livonia

The full list of July's priority violations, including the locations and details of the violations, can be found at hometownlife.com.

Check back every month to see reports from the previous month's inspections.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

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Volume 150 | No. 4 Home delivery pricing inside





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Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Being a kid is hard enough without having health troubles. So Fleece and Thank You, a nonprofit that recently moved to Farmington Hills, tries to make life a little brighter for kids and teens who have found themselves in the hospital for an extended period of time.

Around 70,000 volunteers team up through the nonprofit every year to make 30,000 blankets for kids and teens staying in hospitals throughout Michigan and northern Ohio. Plus, every blanket comes with a video to introduce the recipient to the smiling faces that made their fleece.

"It's really great for the patient because there's comfort on the bed, something colorful that brightens up the room, a little piece of hope," said Fleece and Thank You's Founder Nicholas Kristock. "Plus, there's the friend in that video message that says, 'I made this for you, I'm here for you and I believe in you."

Kristock launched Fleece and Thank You in 2015 after spending a few years playing professional soccer and working with charities in Australia.

"During the day I was working at these five charities, four of which were helping kids in the hospital," he said. "So I was spending more and more time helping kids in the hospital and it was getting closer and closer to my heart.

"I saw some of the needs of kids in the hospital, the main two ones being color and comfort in the room and guaranteed connection to the outside world."

When Kristock got back to the United States, his twin sister, who works as a pediatric oncology nurse, suggested he make a blanket to donate to a child facing health issues because of its ability to brighten a room and bring some joy. The suggestion ended up sparking a passion.

"They go through these treatment journeys and sometimes it's a couple days, sometimes it's a couple weeks and sometimes it's months, and they start to really lose touch with the world outside their hospital room... we want to remind them that they do still matter to this world," he said.



Leo Burnett employees work on a blanket at Fleece and Thank You's new home, 24715 Crestview Court in Farmington Hills.
PHOTOS BY SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Fleece and Thank You's cause has grown the last four years, and Kristock said he's thankful for the new office, at 24715 Crestview Court in Farmington Hills, and its nearly 5,500 square feet of space. The non-profit previously was based in Novi.

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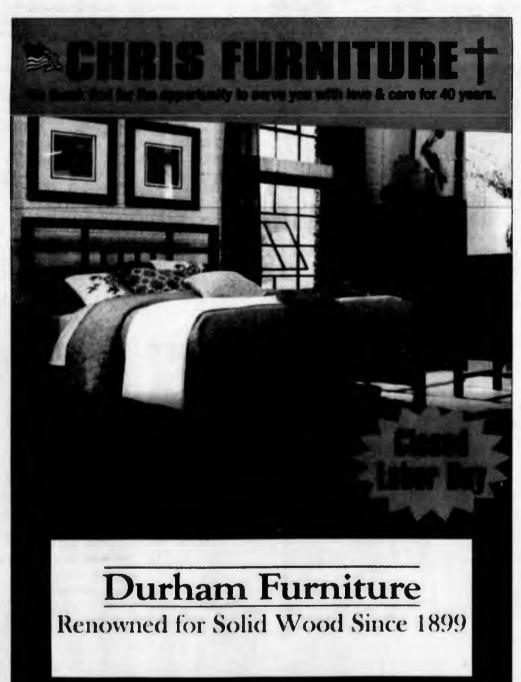
Fleece and Thank You blanket-making parties can be scheduled on the non-profit's website, fleeceandthankyou.org. It also offers opportunities to volunteer or donate.

Fleece and Thank You brings all of the blanket materials to the home or office wishing to host the event and takes care of delivering the finished products.

Contact Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter at @shelby tankk.



Every blanket comes with a video message from the volunteers who made it. Kids can send a video reply.



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USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

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A door jamb had pry marks from a crowbar or screwdriver.

Police talked to people associated with the business and learned from employees someone had slept in his truck in one of the garages but didn't notice anything suspicious.

No other information was available. Contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432.



A developer has proposed 477 housing units on 200 acres at the Coyote Golf Course in Lyon Township. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Developer tees up plan for homes on Lyon Twp. golf course property

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The plan would put 477 housing units on 200 acres currently occupied by the Coyote Golf Course and rivals in density the Cider Mill Village at Erwin Orchards, which the planning commission recently denied

"Erwin's has been at the forefront of everyone's mind," Katherine Des Rochers, planning department coordinator said. "This request is a little more complicated. The applicant is asking the planning commission to reconsider the master plan."

In 13 years with the township, Des Rochers said she could not recall an applicant asking for such an amendment to the master plan, nor for simultaneously requesting a rezoning and special land use permit.

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The master plan currently calls for single family residential development of 1.25 housing units per acre for the property.

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Cousino said while those impacts have not diminished, the need for more housing in the vicinity of New Hudson to support downtown businesses remains. His solution is to retain the Parkside concept, but amend the master plan to shift the density to the golf course property to the south and across from Mill River.

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"The planning commission needs to decide if they agree with the assessment of Lombardo on why it needs to move to the Coyote Golf Course property," she said. "One of the things you hear from residents is stick with the master plan. To outright have an applicant asking for (an amendment), I am not sure how that is going to sit with people."

Brian Keesey, township planner, recommended the planning commission consider any public comment received and discuss the opportunity to initiate the master planning process in order to update the master plan.

"The applicant's proposal has area-wide implications beyond that of the subject parcel," Keesey wrote in a letter to the commission. "Our recommendation is highly dependent upon the planning commission's intent for the master plan and for specific solutions related to traffic impacts in the area."

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometown-life.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

# Council approves Milford dog park fencing contract

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USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The howls are increasing as the dog park in Milford

is within sniffing distance.

The village council approved a contract to Nation-wide Construction Group on Monday night for 1,000 feet of linear fencing at the long-awaited dog park, at a cost not to exceed \$13,700. The park is to be located on an acre at Hubbell Pond Park South behind Pet Sup-

Plies "Plus."

Nationwide was the lowest of three bidders for the project, coming in at \$11,700 for a farm-style welded fence, with posts, installation and cleanup. The council approved \$2,000 over that, for a possible difference in gate design.

The project still came in significantly under budget and will be funded from the nearly \$27,000 raised in a Patronicity campaign.

Officials said the company should be ready for installation in a few weeks, which should last three or four days.

The LaFontaine family has also committed to donating a water fountain that will serve both canines and their humans and will be located due west of the park, near the bike path so travelers there can also access it.

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Other amenities at the park will include signage, benches, and a concrete pad yet to be installed. There will be walkway links from the bike path to the dog



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Vandenbussche started pursuing the idea of a Milford park for canines three years ago after his dog Roxie, a chow-lab mix he had loved for 10 years, died.

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#### State fair

Continued from Page 1A

Today at the fair begins with Readers Round Up featuring multiple Michigan authors of children's books on site signing copies of their work.

It is also Honored Citizens Day, offering free basic entry for all seniors age 65 and older, for all active military service members with ID, and for all Scouts, 4-H and FFA members, in uniform or with a membership card.

The state fair also offers, today only, \$5 off admission at the gate with a donation of three items of non-perishable food, to benefit Gleaners Food Bank.

In addition to Moovin' Thru The Midway 5K set for Sunday and the inaugural Home Brew Competition, the fair also features a high dive act with American champion high diver Dana Kunze, and the addition of new rides to the carnival midway operated by Michigan's own Arnold Amusements, including the Zipper and a Himalaya.

For more information about the Michigan State Fair including vendor information, ticket purchases and prices, visit www.michiganstatefairllc.com.



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Continued from Page 1A

Today at the fair begins with Readers Round Up featuring multiple Michigan authors of children's books on site signing copies of their work.

It is also Honored Citizens Day, offering free basic entry for all seniors age 65 and older, for all active military service members with ID, and for all Scouts, 4-H and FFA members, in uniform or with a membership card

The state fair also offers, today only, \$5 off admission at the gate with a donation of three items of non-perishable food, to benefit Gleaners Food Bank.

In addition to Moovin' Thru The Midway 5K set for Sunday and the inaugural Home Brew Competition, the fair also features a high dive act with American champion high diver Dana Kunze, and the addition of new rides to the carnival midway operated by Michigan's own Arnold Amusements, including the Zipper and a Himalaya.

For more information about the Michigan State Fair including vendor information, ticket purchases and prices, visit www.michiganstatefairllc.com.





From left, Westland Police officers Chaim Kozak and Rodney Donald display the medals that would replace those that were stolen from military veteran Vince Berna.

COURTESY OF WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

# Police officer replaces vet's stolen medals

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Vince Berna may not get a chance to thank personally the Westland police officer who replaced military medals stolen from him a few years ago.

In declining health, the Vietnam War veteran is at an assisted living facility,

where the replacement medals hang on a wall inside a shadow box.

Berna likes seeing them. His wife, Judy, said he was upset when his originals disappeared from Veteran's Haven, the organization they run that helps feed, clothe and house veterans for nearly three decades.

She was touched when Officer Chaim

Kozak presented the replacement medals to her over the summer. She immediately took them to her husband.

"I was surprised that somebody cared enough to do something like that," Judy Berna said. "It wasn't easy. That same day, I took them to him. He was just in shock. He just kept staring at them. He wanted them there hanging in his room."

She's worried about her husband's health. He turns 70 later this month. But she sees him almost daily. She hopes and prays he'll get a chance to return to the outreach center on Wayne Road, which has a motto of "Vets Helping Vets."

If he goes before her, she'll keep the center alive and hang his medals there.

"That's where they belong," Judy Berna said. "He put so much in that place. It's part of him. I would have them there."

Kozak, a Purple Heart Medal recipient, and his fellow community policing Officer Rodney Donald learned Berna's medals were stolen last fall. They have worked diligently ever since to research, find and order replacement medals.

"To see her expression and to see how much it meant to her and knowing how much it was going to mean to him ... It meant the world to me," Kozak said. "Because those medals...There's no money value (to) them, but the sentimental value ... is priceless."

Kozak and Donald asked their commanders if they could commit to replacing the medals – for Berna and his family.

"There was no hesitation," Kozak said. "They said do what you have to do to get these medals replaced. They were 100 percent supportive. They were all for it. From that point on, the journey

began."

They worked with pictures, military documents, Berna's family and their local VFW post to confirm Berna's honors, which Kozak said included the follow-

ing: Army Commendation Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

The project became personal for Kozak. While keeping Berna in mind, he thought about his own life – growing up in Westland, serving in Afghanistan and Iraq as a Marine Corps infantryman, living with scars and other reminders of a detonated roadside bomb, and realizing his family's pride in his own medals.

"Behind each medal, you have a story of what you had to go through with your fellow comrades," the police officer said. "Each medal that he earned, I knew how much it took. I understood it. If I ever had my medals stolen and had someone bring those back to me, it would mean so much."

The police department spent about \$200 to replace the medals. Kozak remains grateful for the support and the opportunity to help a man who founded Veteran's Haven out of his apartment in 1993

"I love my fellow veterans," Kozak said. "I love the fact that I ... have done this for a veteran.

"I can't say this enough. When I and my partner presented this idea, everybody was on board with this. Everybody. It was just, 'Do what you guys need to do. Do what you need to do. And get this done'"

Vince and Judy Berna were high school sweethearts. They were engaged to be married when Vince Berna volun-

His medals remind his wife of all he went through overseas and when he came home, which include his health problems. There also are the memories he won't share.

"It's emotional," she said. "You'd be surprised at how it affects you. I try not to look at them, but I had to hang them on a wall that he sees all the time."

Contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela



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A family snapshot shows Berna, right, the founder of Veteran's Haven in Wayne, and his wife, Judy Berna, at a barbecua whera they were honored for their work. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

## Livonia woman says someone stealing from Little Free Library

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

What started as a neighborhood service and commonality has become a search for an apparent book thief.

Nicole Mehelich opened a Little Free Library in her front yard at 18147 Levan Road four years ago. She and her husband, who have lived in Livonia since 2012, thought it would be a good way to get to know their neighbors.

"I saw an article about them and immediately thought that I had to have this in my yard," Mehelich said. "I thought it would be such a great thing. I'm an avid reader and I also thought it would be great for the kids and for us to meet out neighbors."

The little library became so popular that the original was torn down and re-

placed with a bigger one.

"We knew four times as many neighbors within a week's time," Mehelich said. "It absolutely was a thing that brought our neighborhood together."

But, the library has been emptied or mostly emptied a number of times over the years, and the Mehelichs have seen the same woman do the emptying three times. They've seen the woman driving a black Volvo S60 and a black GMC Envoy.

"We don't know who she is," Mehelich said. "We recognize her and her vehicles, but we don't know her."

Most recently, the woman was seen taking around 50 books from the library on Monday. The family has previously seen the woman at their little library in March and once last year. The woman has also been seen emptying another lit-

tle library not far from the Mehelich's

"It's pretty obvious to everyone that it's a sharing, community thing," Mehelich said. "It's not meant to be cleared out for personal gain. It's frustrating. Not only do my neighbors donate, but I also purchase books myself."

After briefly shutting the library down early last week, Mehelich has opened it back up and is hoping to help police catch the woman.

Police have advised Mehelich to post a set limit for books taken on the library, which has been set at two books per person. If the woman is caught again, police could arrest her on larceny charges. Mehelich said her husband has also asked the woman to stay off their property, so a trespassing charge could be brought as well.



Nicole Mehelich looks through one of the books left in the Little Free Library outside her home on Levan in Livonia. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### 'Cats'

Continued from Page 1A

to wear, don't require any changes during the show and help her feel "in character." She also loves that she can dance in a jazz shoe, rather than in heels.

In the first week of performances in Detroit, she plans to be on stage every day in the role of Rumpleteazer, filling in for a performer who is on vacation.

"As a performer, I like that ("Cats") is an all-encompassing piece," she said. "I have to use my entire skill set: sing the score with a huge range, and the whole show is danced through and you have to act in a way that makes it somewhat believable that you can be a cat. I like that it is such an ensemble piece. We are really a tribe."

Detroit is the 25th city on this national tour, which will have been performed in 36 cities by the end of January.

She has grown accustomed to life on the road, pursuing her dream. The 35year-old Chupinsky, who started dancing when she was 3 and kicked off her musical run at age 7 in "The Wizard of Oz," has now performed in 48 states and 35 countries on five continents.

Her list of credits includes roles off Broadway in "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn,"



as well as tours in "Love Never Dies," "Hello, Dolly!" "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," and "Wonderful Town." Regionally, she has been Ariel in "The Tempest," Babette in "Beauty and the Beast" and has been in "Chicago" and "Victor Victoria."

Her favorite role so far remains her lead role her senior year in Novi High School's production of "Peter Pan."



Erin Chupinsky, at left, and above, in one of her "Cats" costumes, is dance captain/swing, filling various roles in the national tour of the musical.

PHOTOS COURTESY ERIN CHUPINSKY

Being on the move constantly is "fun, but exhausting," Chupinsky said last week by phone from a "gorgeous farmhouse" outside of Hershey, Pennsylvania, another stop on the tour.

She only stays in Airbnbs or with family now, having tired of living in hotels. The show reimburses for accommodations, as well as for food.

When not working, she enjoys sight-

seeing in the cities where she stays, and also runs about 5 miles per day. She has completed 29 marathons in 23 states.

While the challenge is being away from home and constantly traveling, that is also the benefit, as she is afforded the luxury of seeing the world.

"The reward is traveling and getting to see new places and people and getting to do what I love," she said. "We are taking an iconic show around the country for a new generation. Some of the people I saw 10 years ago are now bringing their kids."

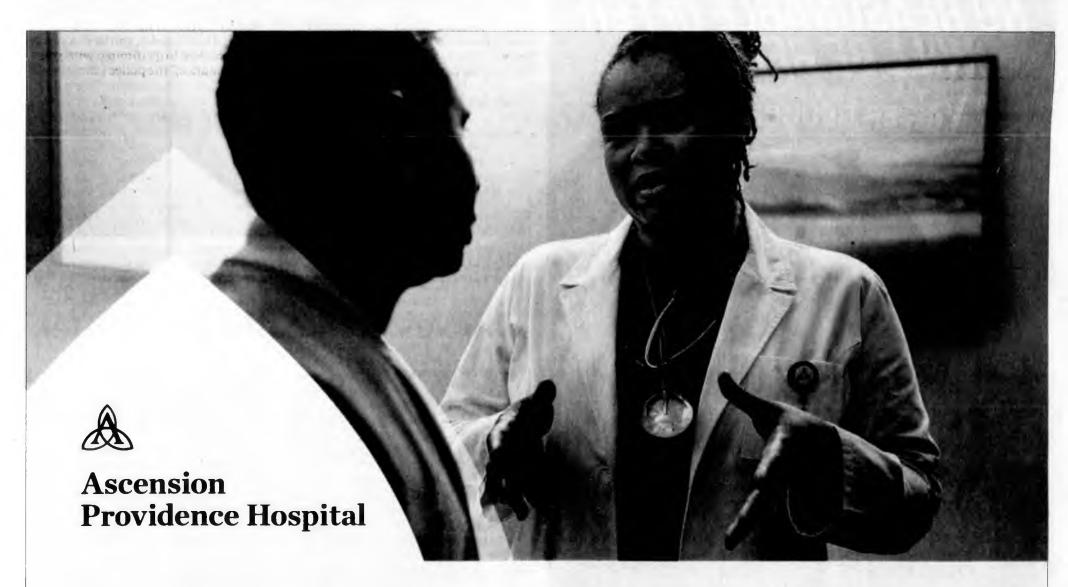
Her dream is to be part of bringing a new show to Broadway, perhaps "Love Never Dies," but long-range, any performer's goal is just to keep working, she said.

"One always needs to have goals, but I am constantly in the practice of being really thankful," she said, and gave a shout-out to her parents, Daniel and Jean Chupinsky:

"Thanks for driving me to dance class Mom and Dad! And for the theater class, it's working out great," she joked.

Cats will be performed at the Fisher Theatre from Sept. 3-15. For more information on times and tickets, visit broadwayindetroit.com.

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



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## State fines South Lyon company whose worker fell into acid

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

A South Lyon company has been fined thousands of dollars after one of its employees died earlier this year after falling in a vat of chemicals.

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration conducted an inspection at Michigan Seamless Tube, 400 Mcmunn St. in South Lyon, this year after 54-year-old Daniel Hill of South Lyon, an employee at the business, died Feb. 9 after falling into a vat of sulfuric acid.

As a result of that incident and following inspections, MIOSHA has levied a \$32,500 fine on the company, according to Erica Quealy, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

Those fines, levied July 31, come as MIOSHA discovered five serious citations, which include 63 instances of violations of Michigan Seamless Tube not following proper procedures for employee entry into permit-required confined spaces.

"The employer did not ensure an employee was wearing chemical-resistant goggles or face shield when handling sulfuric acid, and the employer had no written certification of a hazard assessment for personal protective equipment," the department stated in an email. "Emergency showers were not immediately available at the location where employees retrieve and handle samples of sulfuric acid."

Hill died after his coworkers discovered him in the sulfuric acid back on Feb. 9. It was unknown how long he had



Michigan Seamless Tube and Pipe was fined \$32,500 by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

been in the substance. He was taken to a decontamination area and was taken to University of Michigan Hospital by South Lyon public safety officials, where he later died from his injuries.

A message seeking comment on the fines was left with Michigan Seamless Tube Monday morning. In a statement earlier this year after the incident, the company said it would work with state officials.

"The Company is conducting a comprehensive investigation of the accident and is cooperating with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration," the statement from earlier this year reads.

The company creates boiler tubes, mechanical tubes and pipes, according to its website,

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



Michigan State Police are studying surveillance images of a man and woman walking at the Salem-South Lyon District Library. Library officials discovered plants missing the next day. COURTESY OF SALEM-SOUTH LYON DISTRICT LIBRARY

## Thieves strike library garden

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

It would almost be easier had they stolen books, but instead these thieves stole across the grounds of the Salem-South Lyon District Library to steal plants all patrons could enjoy.

Surveillance cameras show a woman walking toward the library with a flashlight around 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.

She and a man then walk around the gardens tended to by at least 30 volunteer gardeners with a white container.

Jeanette Benson, who manages the library's volunteer gardeners, said they pulled some plants from the ground, dug up some with a hand spade and just kept moseying along for about 45 minutes with their containers.

She learned the next morning they prefer perennials and shrubs.

"They're very particular about what they take," Benson said.

To make matters worse, this is the second consecutive year thieves struck the library gardens. Benson said similar incidents happened on July 25 and July 31, 2018.

Benson noted that the gardeners put time, energy and their emotions into their growing things from April through October, if not longer.

The plots surrounding the 9800 Pontiac Trail library in Salem Township flourish annually because of 500 hours of volunteer time, along with about \$4,000 from the Friends of the Library for plants and supplies.

Library officials have talked to state troopers, and an investigation has begun. They wonder if their recent "garden thieves" are tied to the recent theft and property damage at the Taylor Conservatory & Botanical Gardens, which the Taylor establishment confirmed on its Facebook page

Trooper Jonathan Meyer, who is handling the investigation, could not be reached for comment.

Elaine Crook has been gardening the Salem-South Lyon library plots for several years. Last year, thieves stole five perennial plants. She hasn't replaced all of them since, in some cases, she can't find the right match. This year, she lost some white coneflower and ground cov-

"It's a feeling of violation," Crook

She's both galled and unnerved that someone would visit the gardens at night with a flashlight and then take growing things she nurtured for

"I know my garden really well," she said. "To see someone checking it out like that ... it felt like a violation.'

She equates the library's gardens to an art museum's paintings, and the thieves as some of the crummiest crumbs.

She would like five minutes with them if they're caught, to know why they thought they had a right to visit the library and take plants patrons should be enjoying.

"I'm very upset about it," Crook said. "Why did they covet it? It's like people who steal works of art. It's there for everybody. What gave them the right to decide to take it?" Contact Susan Vela at svela@home-

townlife.com or 248-303-8432.

#### MILFORD CONCERT SERIES WRAPS UP TONIGHT

The Milford Concerts in the Park series at the LaFontaine Family Amphitheater wraps up tonight with Persuasion back in town.

Enjoy the sounds of Motown, classic rock, R&B and top-40 hits 7-9 p.m. at Milford's Central Park on Main Street in downtown Milford.

A free shuttle service is available from Heavner Canoe Rental. Call 248-561-8274 for more information. There will also be pickups at the Milford Senior Center at 6 and 6:30 p.m.

Community groups will be selling food and treats at the concert.





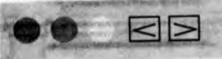


Magic Bus was among the most popular draws this season at the Milford Concerts in the Park series.

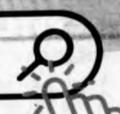
PHOTOS COURTESY OF CURTIS DROGMILLER



Two children enjoy some ice cream treats from Seniors Inc., which was in the park every Thursday to sell goodies to all ages during the concert series.



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# Westland man charged in connection with woman's death

David Veselenak and Susan Vela Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Westland man will face several criminal charges in connection with a 23-year-old Westland woman who was found dead in Hines Park last week.

Anthony Kesteloot, 25, has been charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office with disinterment of a dead body, obstruction of justice, removing a dead body, failure to report a dead body and tampering with evidence in a criminal case.

The charges stem from the discovery of the body of Olivia Rossi, whose remains were located Friday partially submerged in the Rouge River in Hines Park in Westland.

Prosecutors say Kesteloot made contact with Rossi and picked her up at her home around 10 p.m. Aug. 18.

They went back to his home in the



Kesteloot

29100 block of Manchester in Westland, where prosecutors say she died. Prosecutors say Kesteloot took Rossi's body and and placed it in the creek in Hines Park.

Westland police stated in a press release the two knew each other and that "this is not a random act," though they declined to elaborate on other details of the incident when reached Monday. No other details were released Monday morning.

Raquel Rossi, Olivia's twin sister, said the two had been texting, the week prior, but then there was nothing. Raquel Rossi couldn't reach her sister and she didn't know what happened until Friday when police arrived at her door to tell her what happened.

"She had the bubbliest personality,"
Raquel Rossi said. "She was always
there for me. She was just always an all-

around good girl. She was a good sister and the best friend I ever had. I feel like half of me is gone."

She said Kesteloot and her sister went out together a few times.

"She didn't deserve this," Raquel Rossi said.

Kesteloot was arraigned Monday morning in Westland's 18th District Court. A probable cause conference is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Sept. 5 before 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell. The preliminary examination is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Sept. 12 before District Judge Sandra Cicirelli.

Kesteloot was given a \$100,000 cash or surety bond at his arraignment

If convicted, Kesteloot faces up to 10 years in prison.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

#### Death of Lyon Township woman under investigation

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A son found his 58-year-old Lyon Township mother dead when he checked on her Aug. 17.

According to Oakland County deputies, they were dispatched to Jeffrey Court around 3:45 p.m. and discovered the woman obviously deceased.

Her son had not been able to reach her by telephone. When he entered her home, she was lying in the bathroom

She was transported to a local hospital, where a physician provided a time of death.

The son said his mother's door was locked when he arrived, and there were no signs of forced entry or foul play.

# Should I purchase annuity or pay off loans?



Money Matters Rick Bloom

**Dear Rick:** 

My husband and I have been retired since the beginning of the year. His pension, along with both of our Social Security, more than covers our expenses. In fact, we still have been saving money. We do have a nice size portfolio that's

invested in mostly mutual funds be-

tween our IRAs and trust account.

We believe we have more than enough money to last us the rest of our lives. My husband just received an inheritance of a little over \$100,000. We have no debt; however, last year we agreed to pay off our granddaughter's student loans. She owes a little over \$90,000 and the interest rate is about

6½ percent. My thought is that we should use the inheritance and pay off the student loan.

We have also been approached about taking that money and buying a fixed annuity. What that person told us is that we could take a distribution from the annuity every year and use that to pay the student loan.

The salesperson told us in the long run we would be further ahead, and we would save on taxes. You should also know we are conservative investors and we no longer can itemize our deductions. My question – what do you think we should do?

Thank you, Kim

Dear Kim:

I believe your best course of action would be to pay off the student loan. If you pay off the student loan you are getting a 6½ percent return on your money.

I do not see any benefit for you to pur-

chase the annuity. First, the fixed annuity is not going to return 6½ percent after taxes. In fact, your return will probably be closer to 3-4 percent, if not less, and you have to pay tax on that money.

Second, because you would be taking out money on a year-by-year basis, there is no tax benefit whatsoever to the annuity.

When someone receives an inheritance or a bonus, paying down debt is a great use of that money. In fact, in many situations, I tell people paying down debt is much better than investing that money. The key is to look at the debt and see what it's costing you after taxes. Particularly, for someone who is a conservative investor, if your after-tax cost of the debt is anything north of 4 percent, you probably should use the inher-

itance or bonus to pay off the debt. On

the other hand, if someone is more of a

moderate or aggressive investor, invest-

ing the money, particularly if you can invest for the long run, may be a good op-

With an annuity, if you don't touch the money, it does grow tax deferred. However, eventually when the money is withdrawn, it is taxed to you at your ordinary income tax bracket, not the more favorable capital gain rate. Therefore, when you look at annuities, what the salespeople claim is a tax break may actually cost you more money in taxes in the future.

If you are thinking about an annuity, make sure you shop around. If your goal is like mine to have more money in your pocket; if you are thinking about an annuity, you will find by shopping around you'll get better rates of return which means more money stays in your pocket, exactly where it belongs.

Good luck!

rick@bloom asset management.com.

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# Longtime Mercy High principal dies

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

After graduating from Mercy High School in 1956, Sister Regina Marie Doelker spent much of the remainder of her life serving the school that built her.

Doelker, who was the all-girls Catholic school's principal from 1986-2001 and its president from 2002-2010, died on Tuesday, Aug. 20, at the age of 80. At Mercy, Doelker was also a math teacher and ran the school's math department for a time.

Doelker, known as Sister Regina by the ladies of Mercy High, was best known as the kind of educator who could connect with students on a per-

sonal level. According to the school, many of the thousands of ladies she crossed paths with remember her as someone who would always be in their corner and support them.

Professionally, Doelker moved Mercy, now located at 29300 W 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills, into a principal and president administrative model, was instrumental in creating a STEM wing for the school, improving sports facilities and creating scholarships for ladies to attend Mercy.

"Regina dedicated her life to teaching young women and her legacy challenges us to sustain the important work of Mercy High School," Mercy President Cheryl Delaney said in a press release.



"She believed in and lived the words of the Venerable Catherine McAuley who founded the Sisters of Mercy: 'No work of tance to society than the careful education of

young women." According the school, Doelker was a woman of prayer, humor and enthusi-

"My 60-year journey as a Sister of Mercy has truly been a wonderful adventure. I have lived my ring motto, 'Serve the Lord with Gladness,'" Doelker said in 2006. "Our founder, Catherine McAuley, has modeled for me a desire to

teach young women and to be an advocate for the poor. Community life has strengthened my faith, my love for prayer, and my love for my sisters."

Visitation took place at Sacred Heart charity is of more impor- Chapel in the McAuley Life Center, 28750 W. 11 Mile Road, 3-8 p.m., Aug. 23. A vigil service was held at 7 p.m.

On Aug. 24, a Mass of Resurrection took place at Mercy Center Chapel, 28600 W. 11 Mile Road, at 10:30 a.m. Interment followed at the Holy Sepluchre Cemetery in Southfield, 25800 W. 10 Mile Road.

Donations can be made to the Mercy High School Sister Regina Marie Doelker **Endowed Scholarship Fund.** 

stankersle@hometownlife.com

## Hatch chili pepper roasts planned across region

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Andrea Einer couldn't help but have a smile on her face earlier this month outside of Holiday Market in Canton.

The Westland resident who formerly lived in New Mexico couldn't wait to get her hands on some roasted Hatch chili peppers, a pepper only harvested in late summer across parts of the Land of Enchantment. She ended up leaving with five pounds of the roasted green good-

"I lived in New Mexico and you smell this constantly," she said. "People plan their year around the chilies. I would have a full freezer full of chilies."

Holiday Market, located at 520 S. Lilley in Canton, designated Aug. 16 as its Hatch chili roasting day, and broke out a roaster to fill the parking lot with the spicy aroma of roasted chilies.

John Pardington, one of the owners of Holiday Market, said they've sold the Hatch chilies the last few years, but decided this was the year to bring in the roaster for an added benefit.

"It's what we've done for 20 years. It's what we've done to compete against the big chain stores," he said. "We're foo-



Terry Cox loads another box of Hatch chili peppers into his gas-fired roaster outside Canton's Holiday Market on Aug. 16. Customers could buy peppers from mild to hot and then have them roasted for free. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

dies. What we sell here at Holiday Market is good food, interesting food, and this is just another example of that."

The chilies come in a range of heat from mild to hot, and can be used in a wide variety of foods, from eggs to

breads to just on their own.

"They're known to be one of the besttasting chilies, literally, on the planet," Pardington said. "There's a window of

time when they're ripe and beautiful." That attraction to quality is what got Anne Landgraf to drive from her home up north in Saginaw Township to Canton. Einer's cousin, Landgraf said she made the drive downstate for the sole purpose of picking up 10 pounds of Hatch chilies.

"I can them. I think they taste better," she said. "I'll go 100 miles for chilies."

Those who have not gotten a chance or can't make it to Holiday market Friday can head to some of the area Busch's for roasted chiles. Rob Hulwick, sales manager for produce for SpartanNash who brought the chiles to Holiday Market, said they'll have the chiles at the Busch's across the area. They'll be roasting Aug. 30 at the one in West Bloomfield, Sept. 6 in South Lyon and Livonia; and Sept. 13 at the stores in Plymouth, Farmington and Canton, according to the Busch's website.

While the roasting is just a one-day event this year at Holiday Market, Pardington said he hopes to purchase his own roaster in the future in order to roast them all month long.

"We want to make it a tradition," he said. "How can you not want to try

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.



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Linda Erwin checks on the progress of some ginger gold apples at Erwin Orchards on Aug. 13. The orchard on Silver Lake Road, a favorite for families, is now open.

# What it takes to prep a cider mill for fall

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

It takes plenty of work to prepare for the quarter-million visitors Erwin Orchards expects to see this fall.

Work takes place throughout the real bosses decide it's time. year, but it ramps up up around the Fourth of July, with work happening every day of the week at the farm at 61475 Silver Lake Road in Lyon Township. The major work begins, though, when the

"We base it on the apples. It all goes back to the apples," said Linda Erwin, the farm's vice president and retail manager and who owns the farm with her husband, Bill. "When the apples are See CIDER MILL, Page 11A

ready and we think they can be harvested ... when they're ready, we sit down and pick out our dates.

"Right now, we'll be working every



www.soundadviceaud.com

Owner, Audiologist

#### Cider mill

Continued from Page 10A

day until we open up."

The corn maze this year will also return with a new theme, taking patrons to outer space and the moon. Also returning is the hay bale maze, once the hay comes in.

We've got those on order, so those will be there," she said of the hay bale maze. "It'll be different every year."

Hay bale painting is also part of the process, done earlier in August. Families can marvel at this year's hay bale paintings created by South Lyon resident Dayna Johnston, who comes out every year to paint. This year's theme features characters like Woody and Buzz Lightyear from "Toy Story," in honor of the fourth movie in the series that came out earlier this year.

'What a good year to do it,' " Erwin said. Johnston said she spends a few days

painting the bales using spray paint, making them an attraction for families who can see them from Silver Lake Road.

"There's no pattern," she said. "If I see the picture, I just do it out of my head.

"It's kind of fun. It's a fun job."

Returning again this year is the paintball shooting gallery, the indoor maze for children and the small bicycles that will ride along the outside track.

To keep the award-winning cider as fresh as possible before the opening, cider doesn't begin being pressed until this week, Erwin said.

They'll get pressed into 500-gallon tanks before they're bottled into con-

The first batch included an extra treat for those looking to head to the orchard before Labor Day: raspberry cider will be sold until it's gone, which is usually pretty quick.

"After that, it could be gone," Erwin said. "It's not always gone, but we want people not to be disappointed."

The farm escaped most damage to crops from weather this year, though some spotty hail did damage some of the apple crop, as well as some of the deep cold in January affecting the growth of some varieties.

See CIDER MILL, Page 12A

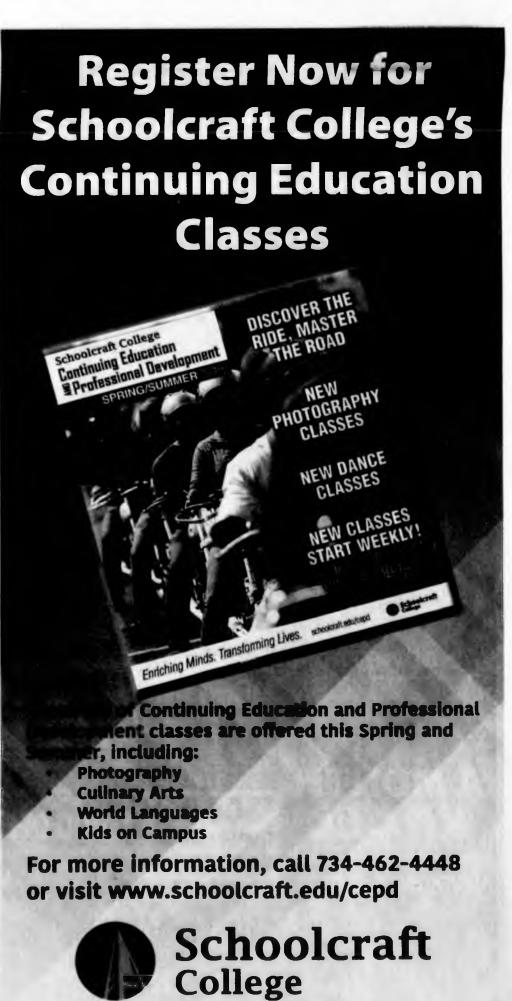


"It just came out so we thought, At left, South Lyon resident Dayna Johnston spray-paints one of a series of "Toy Story" characters onto a hay bale. At right, apples at the orchard were just starting to deepen in color Aug. 13. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Some of this year's apple crop at the farm was damaged by hail, and January's cold affected the growth of a few varieties.







Linda Erwin said she looks forward to seeing the crowds return to Erwin Orchards. She admits there's plenty of intrigue surrounding the future of the orchard. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### Cider mill

Continued from Page 11A

Most of the apples, Erwin said, made it through the season without any prob-

Erwin is looking forward to seeing the crowds return this fall to the orchard. She admits there's plenty of intrigue surrounding the future of the orchard, which can draw some people out to the orchard, run by the family for 99 years, looking to have the classic Erwin Orchards experience.

"We need to retire," she said. "We don't have a next generation. We want it to be a good fit for the community."

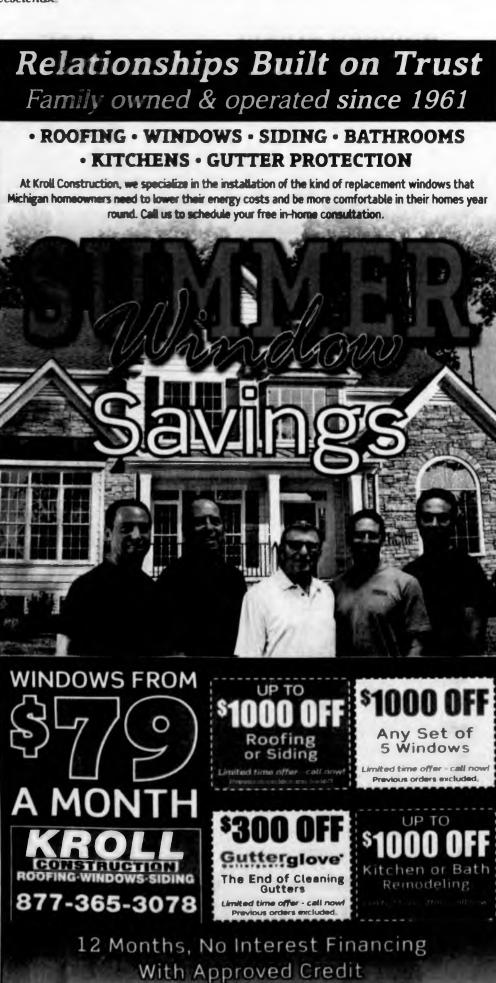
Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometournlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak

#### Area cider mills

- Erwin Orchards, 61475 Silver Lake Road in Lyon Township. Now open.
- Parmenter's Northville Cider Mill, 714 E. Baseline in Northville. Now open.
- Bonadeo Farms, 1215 White Lake Road in Highland Township. No opening date posted.
- Obstbaum Orchards, 9252 Currie in Salem Township. No opening date
- Three Cedars Farm, 7897 Six Mile in Salem Township. Opens Aug. 30.
- Plymouth Orchards and Cider Mill, 10685 Warren in Superior Township. Opens Aug. 31.
- Franklin Cider Mill, 7450 Franklin in Bloomfield Township. Opens Sept. 1.



Dayna Johnston demonstrates one of the newer games for visitors to the farm.







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# What to watch for in KLAA volleyball

Andrew Vailliencourt
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The fall sports season is officially underway, which means it's time for us to take a look at each of the volleyball teams in the KLAA that are from the Hometown Life coverage area.

Northville won the conference last season, beating Livonia Churchill in the KLAA title game.

Canton
Head

The league has an incredible six new head coaches.

Here's a detailed look at all 10 area teams entering the 2019 season:

KLAA West

Head coach: Kayla Springs, first season

Last year's overall record: Unknown

Players to watch: Middle hitter Eliz-

abeth Forney, outside hitter Savannah Nelson, setter Emily Beebe, libero Allison Tanana

Springs' 2019 season outlook: "Adversity, if you allow it to, will fortify you and make you the best you can be."

See KLAA, Page 2B

#### **GAME OF THE WEEK**



Caden Woodall, center, carries the ball for Stevenson while Camden Gould keeps the path clear. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

# Novi at Stevenson leads season opener selections

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Opening games of the high school football season for most area teams are tonight, beginning each team's quest to make it to Ford Field for a chance at a state title in November.

Here is a look at six games to watch for in Week 1, including Hometown Life's Game of the Week. Novi at Stevenson: 7 p.m. today

Both Novi and Stevenson come into the 2019 season after seasons to forget in 2018. The Wildcats finished with a 2-7 record, while the Spartans won one of nine games last season.

However, Stevenson comes into Week 1 with revenge on its mind. The Spartans lost to Novi 24-14 in the final

game of the 2018 season.

The Spartans have veterans that remember that game too, with both Nick Broome and Evan Beck returning to the middle of the defense at linebacker and Caden Woodall taking charge of the backfield at running back.

Novi also has an increased veteran presence heading into 2019 as well.

See FOOTBALL, Page 3B

## What's in store for Lakes Valley Conference volleyball?

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The start of fall means the start of the volleyball season for many teams in the LVC. Here is a look at five teams within the Hometown Life coverage area ahead of the 2019 season.

#### **South Lyon East**

Head coach: Stephanie Zemaitis, third season

Last year's overall record: 28-7-1 (T-2nd in LVC)

Players to watch: Senior right hitter/setter Abby Ragukas, senior libero Emily Hagelthorn, junior outside hitter Sam Deinek, sophomore middle hitter Lanna Lewis, junior outside hitter Liz Formisano

Zemaitis' 2019 season outlook: "This season has a very positive outlook. We have a relatively young team, we are only carrying 3 seniors. But fundamentally we have a very solid overall skill level and great chemistry amongst the girls which we hope will translate to positive energy and dynamic plays on the court. We have high hopes to break some school stat records as well as paving new paths with beating other rival teams that has never been done in the past."

#### South Lyon

Head coach: Rebecca Tincknell, 3rd

Last year's overall record: 35-8-2 (1st in LVC)

(lst in LVC)

Players to watch: DS Kendra Blackie (Sr.), OH/RS Ava Krygier (Sr.), S/RS
Maddy Peters (Sr.)

Tincknell's 2019 season outlook: "Last year we graduated eight seniors who brought a lot of leadership, skills and playing experience. We have seven returners and six new varsity players this season, including 2 freshmen and 1 sophomore. We will be a young team. However, our seven returners know what it takes to be a successful team so we will be relying on their strong leadership skills this season. Many of the players play multiple positions so we have a lot of options for our starting lineup. Even though we are going to be a young team, I think we are a talented team and should be able to compete at a high level this season."

#### Milford

Head coach: Nancy McKouen, sixth season

See LVC, Page 2B



#### **KLAA**

Continued from Page 1B

#### Northville

Head coach: Rick Vander Veer, first season

Last year's overall record: 46-8-1 (Conference champions)

Players to watch: DS Nyia Setla (Sr.), OH Jenna Boksha (Sr.), S Emma Stiles (Sr.)

2019 season outlook: "We have a nice group of underclassmen to compliment our seniors this year. I feel we will be very competitive."

#### Novi

Head coach: Kacy Byron (Moran), second season

Last year's overall record: 40-9-2 Players to watch: S Shannon Jennings (Sr.), L Rachel Jennings (Jr.), OH Gaby Cummings (Jr.), S/RS Rachel Karr (Soph.)

Bryon's 2019 season outlook: "Novi's outlook this season looks to be strong. I would say it will be similar to last season. We will a contender for winning our division, going to the finals in districts again and hopefully this time winning and moving on after districts. We have the majority of our core players coming back. It should be a fun, successful season."

#### **Plymouth**

Head coach: Sheila Weber, third season

Last year's overall record: Un-

Players to watch: OH Gabi Kuchka (Sr.), DS Maddie Kirchkoff (Jr.), DS Angelina Neme (Sr.)

Weber's 2019 season outlook: "I am super excited about our team this year. They have great energy and we are developing a strong chemistry in practice that includes high level communication and all out effort. We aren't the tallest team, but we are scrappy, smart and working on our mental toughness. The pieces are coming together early for this group, and we will definitely be an underdog that may surprise our competitors."

#### Salem

Head coach: Gerald Drouillard, first season

Last year's KLAA record: 7-6
Players to watch: OH Mikai Quan
(Jr.), MH Sophie Paspal (Jr.)

Drouillard's 2019 season outlook: "We have an extraordinary team this year with a very dedicated coaching staff. I hope our hard work, attention to the details and a dash of fun will make this a memorable year for all of us."

#### KLAA East Churchill

Head coach: Claire Urban, first season

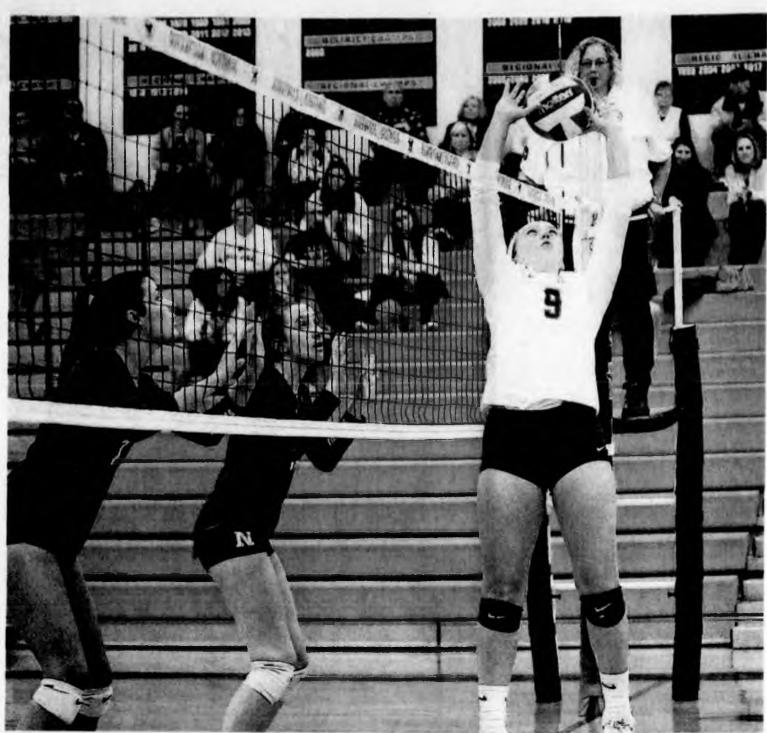
Last year's overall record: 35-13-3,

11-0 in KLAA (Regional champions)
Players to watch: OH Sarah Dunn
(Sr.), L Jessica Maladecki (Sr.), MH Mya
Grant (Sr.)

Urban's 2019 season outlook: "We are very optimistic for the 2019 season, with seven returning seniors and several returning underclassmen who are ready to be competitive and work hard. We are confident in our ability to continue momentum from last season and encompass what is the established volleyball culture at Livonia Churchill High School."

#### Franklin

**Head coach:** Kellsey Poston, fourth season



Canton's Amanda Wilyard, right, makes the set against Novi front row players Caleigh Robinson, left, and Gaby Cummings. COURTESY OF JOHN KEMSKI/EXPRESS PHOTO



Plymouth libero Maddie Kirchoff hits the ball during a game last season. FILE

Last year's KLAA record: 5-6

Players to watch: OH Kaitlyn Merrill, OH Jamia Murray, MB Hannah Rhatigan, S Aly Brumm

Poston's 2019 season outlook: "Our team has a completely different look than last year, and while we are still finding our identity I'm really excited to see what this team can do. I'm putting a lot of pressure on our outsides to really be the leaders of our team and I'm looking forward to seeing how they respond. While we may not be the biggest in the league, our goal every year is to improve from last year and after having the best season in recent school history last year, I'm really excited to challenge my team to do even better in 2019."

#### John Glenn

Head coach: Mike Dest, first season

Last year's KLAA record: 3-10
Players to watch: OH Jessica Florn

(Jr.), OH Mya Tarrance (Jr.), OPP Alexa

Richardson (Jr.)

Dest's 2019 season outlook: "Outlook is bright, we are excited for the season, with a close knit group of girls who are ready to compete and work hard."

#### Stevenson

Head coach: Julian Wargo, fourth

Last year's overall record: 34-11-4 Players to watch: DS Eliza Alushi (Sr.), OH Madison Bennett (Sr.), MB Sedona Coon (Sr.), OH Koryn Parmenter (Sr.), DS Erin Pietruszka (Sr.), S Emma

Prowse (Sr.), OH Katie Rumon (Sr.)
Wargo's 2019 season outlook: "I am
really excited about this season's group
of players. We have a solid group of ex-

perienced seniors and dynamic juniors on the team. I like what I have seen in the gym so far, especially our team chemistry. Unselfish play will be one of our hallmarks. We talk a lot about 'controlling the controllables' as a part of our team's culture. How well we manage pressure, our expectations, and our excitement will go a long way to determine our success. I expect us to compete every time we step onto the court."

#### Wayne Memorial

Head coach: Danielle Robbins, first

season
Last year's overall record: 2-30-3
Players to watch: MH Lindsey Wallace (Jr.), S/OH Kiara McNulty (Soph.),

S/OH Marissa Wandel (Soph.) Robbins' 2019 season outlook: "This season we have a very young and new team. We have a lot of potential to be successful this year. Our girls are very hard working and talented individuals who mesh well together on and off the court. Junior Lindsey Wallace, is returning as our veteran middle hitter. She is coming in this season with a new confidence and fierce attitude at the net. Sophomores Kiara McNulty and Marissa Wandel, are joining the Varsity team as a dynamic duo. They go hand and hand, working together to fulfill the outside and setting positions. These two young players jive great together on the court creating a strong front that the Wayne Volleyball Program hasn't seen in a long time. Our new modified coaching staff has been able to establish skill, commitment, and chemistry that the program has be missing in recent seasons. Our young team is eager to prove themselves and take some victories under our belts. We are excited for the challenges we have in store this season and we are looking forward to contending in this competitive league."

availlienc@hometownlife.com

#### LVC

Continued from Page 1B

Last year's league record: 3-5 (sixth in LVC)

in LVC)

Players to watch: Middle Evan

Hughes (Sr.), Middle Katie Feeley (Sr.)

McKouen's 2019 season outlook: "We are super young. I have four seniors, one junior, eight sophomores and two freshmen on varsity. We were very young last year. Those kids had to play starting roles, a couple of them had to play six rotation. We're looking to develop that a little further. Our freshmen will actually be starting and playing for us again, so we are young. Early season for us is developing and gelling and just to work cohesively. If we do that, we can be dangerous."

#### Lakeland

**Head coach:** Brian Theut, second season

Last year's league record: 4-4 (4th in the LVC)

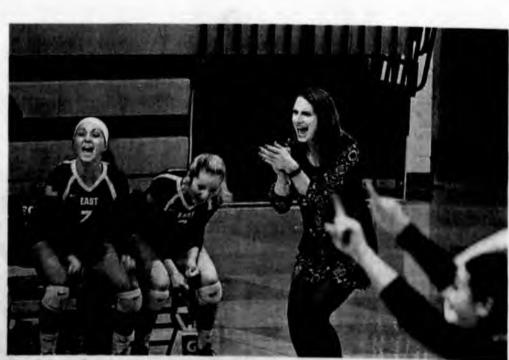
Players to watch: Sophomore Julia Fledderjohn, senior Marissa Hopkins, senior Izzy Sawyer, senior Becca Miche-

Theut's 2019 season outlook: "A lot of other teams in the LVC lost a lot. We lost five seniors last year, but I have five new seniors. I think we definitely need to compete and should compete for the LVC championship and definitely a district title."

Here are the other teams that will be competing in the LVC.

Walled Lake Northern Walled Lake Central Walled Lake Western Waterford Kettering Waterford Mott

la. senior Sarah Daniel



South Lyon East head coach Stephanie Zemaitis has high expectations for her team heading into the 2019 season. COURTESY STEPHANIE ZEMAITIS

#### **Football**

Continued from Page 1B

Head coach Jeff Burnside's team will have senior Josh Erno at quarterback with two junior running backs Gavin Parenti and Malik McGhee, who both also play linebacker.

With Week 1 approaching, both Novi and Stevenson have the opportunity to set the tone in a positive trajectory that both teams did not see in 2018.

Here are other games to watch in Week 1:

#### Seaholm vs. Ferndale: 7 p.m. today

After a strong finish in the OAA Blue division in 2018, Seaholm will try and pick up where it left off in the regular season.

The Maples finished 7-3 last season, but lost in the first round of the playoffs to Groves.

Last season, Seaholm's matchup against Ferndale was not much of a contest, beating the Eagles 53-8 on the road in the second week of the season.

Many players on that Seaholm game will be there for the second game on Aug. 29 including fullback and outside linebacker Will McBride, wide receiver and free safety Alexander Lonze and offensive guard and defensive tackle Nick Thorn.

#### **Canton at Dearborn:** 7 p.m. today

After winning six of nine games in the regular season, Canton came into the first round of the Michigan high school football Division 1 playoffs and had a wake-up call.

The Chiefs lost in the first round to Brother Rice 49-28, ending the 2018 season.

Canton head coach Andrew LaFata comes into his second season with the program with some hope.

He has an experienced quarterback in senior quarterback Ben Stesiak as well as veteran experience on both sides of the ball, including four starters on de-

However, for Stesiak and LaFata to make people forget about the Brother Rice loss in the first game of the season

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Birmingham Groves QB Markis Alexander launches a pass. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

The Chiefs will face Dearborn, a playoff team, which also suffered a firstround exit at the hands of Belleville in the 2018 playoffs.

#### **Churchill vs. Brighton:** 7 p.m. today

Churchill has a tough task at the start of the 2019 season.

After losing to Brother Rice in the first contend with Churchill's captains: Ga-

No Interest

No Payments

round of the 2018 playoffs, the Chargers will have to face KLAA foe Brighton, which also fell in the first round of the playoffs this past season.

Brighton will get a first look at its new quarterback, senior Colby Newburg, who will replace three-year starter Will Jontz with a veteran offense to work

However, the Bulldogs will have to

vin Brooks, Mitch Regan, Josh Barr and Brendan Lowry.

Also, senior wide receiver Shane Morelli will look to be a factor as a senior wide receiver.

#### **Groves vs. Grosse Pointe** South: 4 p.m. Aug. 30 at Wayne State University

Groves comes into the 2019 season with stability and veteran leadership throughout its roster, looking to continue its streak of making the state semifinal in two of the past three sea-

Success starts and ends with senior quarterback Markis Alexander, who returns for his second season as the starting quarterback under head coach Brendan Flaherty.

Along with what Flaherty describes as a balanced offensive attack, Groves also has experience defensively with senior defensive back Ralph Donaldson and defensive lineman Darryl Allen.

Groves will have to prove its veteran leadership will be integral from the very start of the season.

The Falcons will face a Grosse Pointe South team that went 8-2 a season ago, losing in the first round of the playoffs to Fordson.

#### **Detroit Catholic Central** at King: 1 p.m. Aug. 31 at Wayne State University

After ending last season with an overtime second-round loss to West Bloomfield in the 2018 playoffs, things do not get much easier for Catholic Central to start 2019.

The Shamrocks will face the defending Division 3 state champion King, a team that lost two games last season, including a 42-8 loss to Cass Tech in the conference championship game. In the playoffs, King outscored opponents 170-81, winning the program's third state ti-

However, Catholic Central comes in with pieces of its own. The Shamrock offense will be led by junior quarterback Jack Beno, who started four games last season, and running back Cole Price, continuing its tradition of being a runfirst offense.

Contact Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-310-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17.

OF KOHLER





# CC wants powerhouse status in 2019

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When junior quarterback Jack Beno looks ahead to which team Detroit Catholic Central will face in its season opener — King: the four-time and reigning state champion — he is reminded of the team the Shamrocks faced in the 2018 season opener.

Sitting on the sideline as the backup quarterback, Beno said the expectation last season was for Catholic Central to lose its first game to Walled Lake Western in convincing fashion, possibly getting shut out. Instead, the Shamrocks played Shamrock football, as former running back Keegan Kohler rushed for 248 yards, leading the team to a 28-7 victory.

So Beno knows what Catholic Central is up against. But he also knows what the Shamrocks have the capability to do.

"There's no team on this earth that really can't be beat," Beno said. "We're just going in with the same mentality as last year."

Catholic Central views itself as a Michigan high school football power-house. The Shamrocks have been state champions 14 times, last winning a title in 2009. However, since that season, Catholic Central has reached the title contest but lost in those state final games four times, last falling to Cass Tech in 2016.

Now, heading into the 2019 season, the Shamrocks have the schedule to prove their worthiness as a powerhouse.

"We have a very young team and we have a hell of a schedule, so we have to get ready now," Catholic Central head coach Dan Anderson said. "These guys have to grow up yesterday."

Along with the opener against King, Catholic Central will continue its run in the Catholic League, facing rival Brother Rice and state champion De La Salle in back-to-back weeks later in the season.

But Anderson is approaching this season like he does any other. He said the major point of emphasis early on has been on the mental aspect of football

"If you think, you stink," he said. "We believe you have to get mentally in tune



Detroit Catholic Central head coach
Dan Anderson directs his team.
HOMETOWNLIFE COM FILE PHOTOS

with what's going on, mentally tough. The physical part will take care of itself as we progress through two-a-days."

#### Veterans to be important in 2019

Behind center, Anderson has a quarterback that is used to this kind of preparation.

After 2018 starting quarterback Marco Genrich got hurt, Beno started four games as a sophomore. He now heads in to his junior season, as the starting quarterback and the leader of the offense.

"Throughout the offseason, I did a lot of things with my coaches, you know, just trying to get ready, trying to be more prepared," Beno said. "They kind of knew coming in that I was going to be the guy."

Beno is not the only returning player

Steven Kolcheff, a captain, will play both center and defensive tackle next season, while cornerback/wide receiver Jacob Young and linebacker/fullback Brendin Yatooma will continue to play major roles this season.

Even though Anderson admitted this



Detroit Catholic Central QB/LB Cole Price, center, makes it over the goal line while Canton RB/DB Caden Domzalski, left, and Canton TE/DL Darius Robinson hang on.

is a team with relative inexperience, he said the identity of the Shamrocks will stay the same.

"As always, we're going to run the ball and we are going to play good, solid defense," Anderson said. "That's kind of the trademark of us. We're not losing that."

Anderson highlighted senior running back Cole Price as a key player who will help that trademark continue in 2019.

Through the first few practices, Kolcheff said it took awhile for the younger players to get used to the routine and understanding the scheme that was being implemented. However, since then, the camaraderie has been unlike anything he has seen.

"This team, I believe, is a lot closer than we were last year," Kolcheff said. "When we go in that locker room, we are

all family."

Camaraderie is something that will be important as soon as the ball is snapped against King. To Young, the

only way Catholic Central wins its season opener is if the entire team is on the same page.

"We need all of our guys come ready to play," Young said. "We're going to need every single guy on the field, on the sideline ready to play, to be prepared for that game because it's the biggest game of the season."

Beno has seen it happen before. He knows how a season-opening win against a team the Shamrocks are not supposed to beat can set the tone for the rest of the year.

That's the mentality Catholic Central's quarterback is going into the game with, hoping that the rest of his teammates will join him in that.

"I don't think they are expecting what we are going to bring," Beno said.

Catholic Central will open its season on the road against King on Aug. 31.

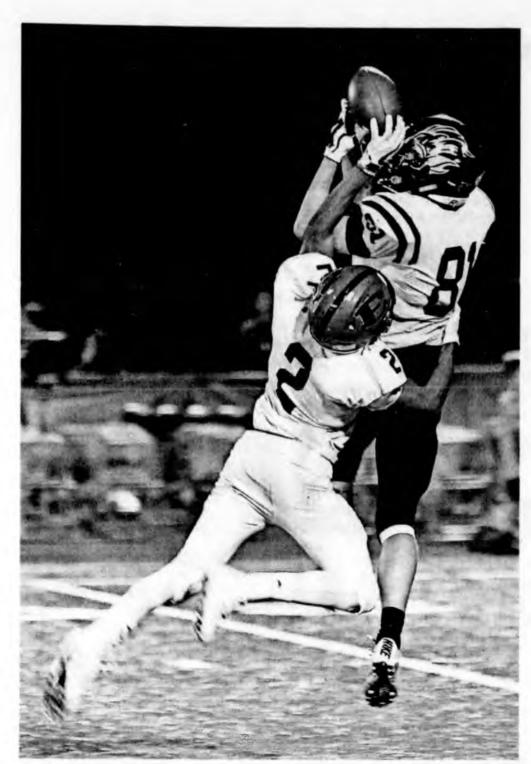
Contact Colin Gay at cgay@home-townlife.com or 248-310-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17.



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South Lyon's Brenden Lach goes up for the grab defended by East's Jon Carter.

# **Hometown Life** picks top 10 HS football teams

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hometown Life Sports is ready for the 2019 high school football season. Each week, we will rank the top 10 teams in our coverage area based on record, strength of schedule, experience and of course, the game results. The ranking will be decided on by our two sports reporters: Andrew Vailliencourt and Colin

Here's our week one top 10:

#### 1. South Lyon

Entering the new year, it seems appropriate to rank the only area team to go undefeated in the regular season at No. 1. The Lions went 10-1 last year, suffering an earlier than anticipated exit 7. Birmingham Seaholm from the Division 2 playoffs, losing to Walled Lake Western in the second round. South Lyon is poised to run the table once again though, with 15 starters returning — including three-year starting quarterback Connor Fracassi and wide receiver Brenden Lach.

#### 2. Birmingham Groves

Another Division 2 state title contender, Groves enters 2019 after going 10-3 a season ago. It reached the semifinals, where the Falcons lost to state champion Warren DeLaSalle. To get to the semifinals, they had to beat the No. 3 team in our rankings, which is why Groves secures the No. 2 spot.

#### 3. Livonia Franklin

Franklin reached the Division 2 state championship game two years ago, and followed that up with another sevenwin season before being eliminated by Groves in the regional finals. Senior and three-year starting quarterback has what it takes to get the Patriots back to the finals.

#### 4. Detroit Catholic Central

After a 7-4 year that saw the Shamrocks beat Canton in the Division 1 playoffs, CC will have a chance to prove it's one of the best teams in the state with a week one matchup against the defending Division 3 champion, Detroit Martin Luther King. It's a tall task, but the Shamrocks are talented.

Canton is back for year two under coach Andrew LaFata. The Chiefs enjoyed a fine season in 2018, but weren't happy with a 6-4 record and first round playoff exit. The Chiefs will have a dynamic running game and an experienced quarterback and are primed to challenge Brighton for the KLAA West Division crown.

#### 6. Brother Rice

The Warriors ended last year with a trip to the Division 2 district finals before losing to Groves. They will look to improve on their 7-4 record from 2018 and should be a factor in the Catholic

Seaholm ended 2018 with a loss it would like to forget against rival Groves in the first round of the playoffs. However, that doesn't take away from the fact that Seaholm had a good season, winning seven games. The Maples will be back ready to go in 2019.

#### 8. Farmington

Loaded with new players from Farmington Hills Harrison, Farmington is primed for a step up this fall. The Falcons went 8-4 last season, losing in the regional finals to DeWitt. The sky is the limit this year. We'll be keeping an eye on North Farmington too, which got a boost with new players from Harrison.

#### 9. Plymouth

After a 6-4 finish and a first round playoff loss, Plymouth is hoping it can be the Plymouth-Canton school to knock off Brighton in the KLAA West. It has some work to do, but there's reason to be excited about the team in coach Brian Lewis' second year.

#### 10. Lakeland

The final spot in this week's rankings came down to Lakeland and Livonia Churchill, but we decided to give the edge to Lakeland, which made it a round further in the Division 1 playoffs. Both schools won seven games last year. Lakeland figures to be one of the two schools that could take down South

#### **HOMETOWN LIFE STAFF FOOTBALL PICKS: WEEK 1**

Games (home team listed first):	Andrew Vailliencourt	Colin Gay	Ed Wright	David .Veselenak	Phil Allmen (coin flip)
		2-1		0.18	
Groves vs. Grosse Pointe South	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves	Groves
	4			2.0	W PIX
Edison Academy vs. Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Farmington
Waterford Mott vs. South Lyon East	South Lyon East	Mott	Mott	Mott	Mott
		M. Services			
Walled Lake Western vs. Lakeland	WL Western	Lakeland	WL Western	WL Western	Lakeland
Livonia Stevenson vs. Novi	Stevenson	Novi	Novi	Stevenson	Stevenson
			100		
Livonia Churchill vs. Brighton	Brighton	Churchill	Brighton	Brighton	Brighton
Dearborn vs. Canton	Canton	Dearborn	Dearborn	Canton	Canton
Belleville vs. Salem	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Salem
	-	-	4.0		
Michigan State vs. Tulsa	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State
Statute of	-	Service (	-		
Auburn vs. Oregon (neutral site)	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Auburn	Auburn
Local March					D-162
Last Week's Record:	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0





Franklin QB Jacob Kelbert moves the ball while Jarred Tarrance and Sedrick Biles are after him. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Lyon from atop the LVC standings after finishing second last year. They return plenty of talent and will hope to get past the district finals this fall.

Football coaches or team representatives are encouraged to reports scores and top performers after games to LIVsports@hometownlife.com sports@freepress.com or call 313-222-

■ The Hometown Life sports (HTL sports) area consists of 28 teams representing Catholic League (Novl Detroit Catholic Central, Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood), Independent (Detroit Country Day), the Oakland Activities Association (Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm, Farmington, North Farmington), the Western Wayne Athletic Conference (Garden City, Redford Thurston, Redford Union), the MIAC (Livonia Clarenceville, Lutheran Westland), the Kensington Lakes Activities Association (Canton, Livonia Stevenson, Salem, Novi, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Plymouth, Northville, Westland John Glenn, Wayne Memorial) and the Lakes Valley Conference (White Lake Lakeland, South Lyon East, South Lyon, Mil-

ford). Contact Andrew Vailliencourt at availlienc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

# South Lyon's Skatzka selected to Hall of Fame

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

South Lyon girls varsity and boys junior varsity golf coach Dan Skatzka has been selected by the Michigan High School Coaches Association for induction into its Hall of Fame.

Skatzka was hired at South Lyon in

1978 after stints coaching football, baseball and track at Alpena High School, Deerfield High School, Kingston High School and Manistique High School.

In his time with the Lions, Skatzka has been a golf coach for the past 41 years, being named Regional Coach of the Year in 2011 and State Coach of the Year in 2014 by the MHSCA.

Skatzka also spent 16 seasons as the head football coach at South Lyon.

Skatzka's Hall of Fame ceremony will be held in the Terrace Room of the Bovee University Center at Central Michigan University at 1 p.m. on Sept. 15.

Contact Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-310-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17



South Lyon girls golf coach Dan Skatzka has been selected for the MHSCA Hall of Fame. COURTESY SOUTH LYON HIGH SCHOOL



Northville's Sean Sullivan goes after the bouncing ball. Closing in are Novi players Gonzalo Sanz Cristobal, left, and Taiga Shiokawa. courtesy of Novi community schools

# What to expect in KLAA boys soccer

Andrew Vailliencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

The fall sports season is underway, which means it's time to take a look at each of the boys soccer teams in the KLAA that are from the Hometown Life coverage area.

Brighton won the conference last season, beating Fordson in the KLAA title game.

Here's a detailed look at all 10 area teams entering the 2019 season:

#### KLAA West Canton

Head coach: Mark Zemanski, seventh season

Last year's overall record: 12-7-5 (District champs)

Players to watch: M/D Carson Parks (Sr.), M Max Scheffler (Sr.), F Shrikar Komanduri (Sr.), M/F Nick Rockafellow (Jr.), D Logan Hammond (Jr.)

Zemanski's 2019 season outlook: "We have one starter back playing in probably the toughest division top to bottom in the state. We will be competitive and go as far as our leaders."

#### Northville

Head coach: Henry Klimes, 29th

Last year's overall record: 10-5-4 Players to watch: GK Robert Damron (Sr.), D Jacob Pichler (Sr.), M Kyle Zaya (Sr.), F Harry Neal (Jr.), M Javier Del Bosque (Jr.)

Klimes' 2019 season outlook: "We expect to challenge for the division and a conference title and have a chance to win districts to advance for state run."

#### Novi

Head coach: Todd Pheiffer, fourth

Last year's overall record: 10-3-7
Players to watch: D Miles Brown
(Jr.), F Kevin Kapllaj (SR.), D Alvin Li
(Sr.), F Blair Mayes (Sr.), M Taiga Shiokawa (Sr.), M Mason Stroman (Sr.), M

Shion Soga (Jr.)

Pheiffer's 2019 season outlook:

"Once again, we will be playing in the most competitive division in the state, the KLAA West. Every game will be an extremely competitive match between teams with state championship aspirations. Additionally, we scheduled three non-conference games against three quality opponents, including opening our season against Ann Arbor Skyline, the defending state champions. There

are no nights off on our schedule.
"We graduated 12 seniors from last



Canton's Srikar Komanduri, left, is chased by Salem's Nolan Chaput.

years team, lost one player to the Wolves Academy and one player that moved back to Japan, so we only return nine players (four starters) from last year's team. Even though we do not have a lot of players coming back with a lot of varsity playing experience, we do have a lot of players who know each other well and work extremely hard both on and off the field. They are a tight-knit group of student-athletes who will compete in every game they play this year."

#### Plymouth

Head coach: Glenn Liguori, first sea-

Last year's overall record: 4-3-10
Players to watch: D Luke Winters
(Sr.), M Kyle Pahl (Sr.), F Eddie White

Liguori's 2019 season outlook: "Every season is a new challenge and this one is no different as this is my first season as the Varsity head coach and we have only eight returning Varsity players having graduated 12 Seniors from last year. The KLAA West is quite possibly the most difficult conference in all of Michigan. Cliche or not, every game is a battle and only prepares the top teams for their district and to make a long run in the tournament. The season is a short

one, and the Wildcats are poised to improve on the 10 ties experienced in 2018. We always look forward to the on-campus rivalries with Canton and Salem which is already shaping up to be four of our toughest games."

#### Salem

Head coach: Kyle Karns, fourth season

Last year's overall record: 14-5-3
Players to watch: M Ethan Harkins
(Sr.), F Luke Benford (Sr.), M Andrew
Schwartz (Jr.), D Nolan Chaput (Jr.)

Karns' 2019 season outlook: "As always, our division within the KLAA will prove to be one of the toughest divisions in the state of Michigan. With that being said, it is our goal to compete for a division title. By playing at a high level all season long in this division, it prepares each team to make a run in the state playoffs. We have very talented players on our roster and plenty of depth. I am looking forward to an exciting season at Salem."

#### KLAA East Churchill

Head coach: Eric Puroll
Puroll could not be reached for com-

ment.

#### Franklin

Head coach: Chris Burnette, second season

Last year's overall record: 5-10-2
Players to watch: M Nick Corona
(Sr.), M Dante Davidson (Soph.) and GK

Eric Polzin (Jr.) Burnette's 2019 season outlook: "This year started off interesting for our program as we graduated 12 seniors last year so we ended up with two smaller rosters for both JV and Varsity but the overall quality I think is good. Varsity has a good mix of technical, hardworking and smart players. I think if we can stay healthy through the year we could do well. I think we will be able to play a better brand of soccer this year, I believe with decent pace and the ability to get to goal with our front players. I felt last year we left a ton of goals on the field and lost games we could have won because of it."

#### John Glenn

Head coach: John Fedulchak, second

Last year's overall record: 6-8-4
Players to watch: F Sadiq Sheikmee-

ri (Sr.), GK Brendan Balko (Sr.)

Fedulchak's 2019 season outlook:
"John Glenn's soccer team returns eight senior starters from last years squad, led by senior captain Alex Salisbury. Glenn's soccer team has dedicated themselves to not being outworked by any team. The pride that this team has displayed in their work ethic will lead to a very competitive 2019 season."

#### Stevenson

Head coach: Ken Shingledecker, eighth season

Last year's overall record: 11-9

Players to watch: M Zach Gacioch (Sr.), F John Evangelista (Sr.), M Griffin Brown (Sr.), F Jake Kaupp (Sr.), F Reece Brown (Soph.), D Ryan Maisonville (Sr.), D Adrian Rakipi (Jr.)

Shingledecker's 2019 season outlook: "This was the most competitive tryout we have had in my eight years at Stevenson. We had some guys come out of the Developmental Academy which will really help us this year. I like our depth all over the field, and this roster top to bottom is one of the strongest we have had."

#### **Wayne Memorial**

Head coach: Brad Dewar

Dewar could not be reached for comment.

# Meet the 760horsepower Shelby GT500 supercar

#### Ford monster comes with dual-clutch transmission

Mark Phelan

**Detroit Free Press Auto Critic USA TODAY** 

The most powerful Ford Mustang ever will use a new transmission with a better, faster, stronger version of the system that got the company in trouble on its Fiesta and Focus cars.

Don't panic. Other than the badge on its hood, the dual-clutch automatic transmission in the 760-horsepower 2020 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500 has more in common with super-sporty gearboxes used by Ferrari, Porsche and the new 2020 Chevrolet Corvette than it does with the troublesome small Fords.

The Shelby GT500 goes on sale this winter. Prices will start at \$73,995. It's the most powerful factory-built Mustang ever, with a supercharged 5.2-liter, 8-cylinder engine and the first dual-clutch transmission in a Mustang.

The technology and the supplier of the Shelby GT500's seven-speed dualclutch transmission are different from the smaller gearboxes the Focus and Fiesta used. Supplier Tremec, which made manual transmissions for supercars like high-output Dodge Vipers, Chevy Corvettes and a previous Shelby GT500 Mustang, developed the new gearbox. Ford says it will shift gears in 80 milliseconds - about a third of the time it takes to blink an eye.

#### Programmed for all kinds of driving

The transmission is a wet-clutch design. That means its most vulnerable parts are bathed in oil, a key to smooth operation and durability.

The Shelby GT500 will have a rotary gear controller in its center console, computer programs for different types of driving and paddle shifters mounted on the steering wheel if the driver wants to take over.

The programmed driving modes will be: normal, sport, drag, track and slip-

#### 5,000 laps on track

The drag setting will slow shifts for maximum power and straight-line acceleration. Conversely, the track mode emphasizes quick, smooth shifts.

A good dual-clutch transmission shifts gears faster and more smoothly than a conventional manual transmission in which the driver uses a pedal to operate the clutch. The clutch is basically an intermediary between a fastspinning crankshaft from the engine and the wheels, which don't have any power till they're connected to the en-

The clutch gradually tightens the connection between those two systems, transferring power from the engine to the wheels. A dual-clutch automatic has electronic controls and two clutches, so it can adjust the connection more quickly and precisely than a human. The result: fast, smooth acceleration. Dual-clutch transmissions, or DCTs, generally have a good record for reliability and durability.

Ford hasn't revealed the performance figures for the Shelby GT500 -0-60 mph acceleration time and top speed - but engineers let slip an intriguing morsel: 10.6 seconds from a standstill to 100 mph and back to zero. There aren't a lot of comparisons handy for that metric, but it's seriously fast and requires excellent brakes as well as monstrous power.

Ford engineers ran more than 5,000 hot laps on race tracks around the country developing the GT500, on top of countless miles at the company's proving grounds.



A bigger opening in the nose helps cool the GT500's 760-hp V8. PHOTOS BY MARK PHELAN/USA TODAY NETWORK



A single person will build each engine from start to finish.



Programmed driving modes will be: normal, sport, drag, track and slippery.

#### Design shifted to help keep it cool

Ford increased the 5.2L, V8's cooling to keep it from melting down when owners run the car hard all day at a race track. The opening in the nose is 50% bigger than the GT350. The GT500's engine will be built by hand in Ford's Romeo, Michigan engine plant, north of Detroit.

A single person will build each engine from start to finish, signing the block when it's finished.

# Doorless Jeep Gladiator isn't just for fun

New pickup has practical side for some off-roading

Joe Wiesenfelder

If you've ever seen a Jeep Wrangler SUV or the new Wrangler-based 2020 Gladiator mid-size pickup truck driving around with no doors, you've probably asked yourself the simple question: What's that about?

Well, there are actually two answers, and one of them is more practical than you might think - though it involves the kind of hardcore off-roading illustrated in Pickuptrucks.com's head-to-head testing between a doorless Gladiator Rubicon and buttoned-up 2019 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 Bison. I'll get to that in a moment.

But first, the common reason people drive doorless: It's fun! All Wranglers and Gladiators are convertibles, though you can't always tell because some have removable hard tops rather than soft

And once you remove those tops, these Jeeps are among the most open-air experiences you can get in a convertible because so much of the surrounding structure is removed - way more than with a Porsche Targa top or Mazda MX-5 Miata retractable fastback, for example.

One exception is the doors, of which the window frames rise to roof level. Some owners mitigate this by purchasing half doors from Mopar or aftermarket companies, but others just take off the full-size ones and stop there. Jeep simplifies all of this by making doors owner-removable by means of just two bolts per door. It's the equivalent of removing the pins from the hinges. (Removing the door from a Colorado, by contrast, would require unbolting the hinges from the doorjambs, which is simply not done.)

The new Wrangler JL generation and Gladiator have aluminum doors, so they're lighter than ever, just 44 pounds apiece for the front and 29 pounds apiece for the rear doors.

Driving with no doors takes the convertible experience to the next level, but it's not without downsides. For one thing, doors represent side-impact pro-



Driving with no doors takes the convertible experience to the next level. CHRISTIAN LANTRY/CARS.COM

tection, and though it's enjoyable, we can't recommend driving doorless on the street. To that end, it's not necessarily legal. When you remove the front doors, the side mirrors go with it, and some states require that the car have either one or both of those. (Aftermarket companies have workarounds for this as well.)

#### The off-roading advantage

You know where you're allowed to drive with no mirrors and where you're unlikely to be T-boned by a driver distracted by rug rats or a smartphone? On an off-road trail like those where we pitted a Rubicon version of the Gladiator against a Colorado ZR2 Bison in the

Pickuptrucks.com off-road comparison. I admit I had second thoughts as we did the sand testing (there's a video clip

somewhere of me coughing for a solid minute), after which we made a point of putting the Jeep in front of the Chevy to

minimize the dust. But when it came to rock crawling, the doorless Gladiator was in a league of its own in one regard: You could lean out where the door would be, look forward past where a side mirror would be and see clearly where the driver-side front wheel was headed. I could even reach up and grab the tubular roof rail and swing out for a better look, front or back, without unbuckling my seat belt. Contrast the ZR2, which has a tall hood and doors. It lacks grab handles overhead,

and oftentimes there's no clearance to open your door anyway.

The Gladiator also had a trail camera that shows a view forward on the touchscreen, but in my opinion the presence of this feature took a distant second to the absence of the doors when sighting an appropriate line.

#### A few downsides

As on the street, doors-off Jeepin' isn't all positive. It took about a half hour to remove the hard top and doors. and of course the reverse is required later. And we did our best with cleaning the Gladiator's interior, but we suspect people will find evidence of our adventure for months or even years to come.

# Car ownership costs can add up

# Monthly payment is merely the beginning

Daniel B. Kline The Motley Fool

Unless you own a boat, chances are that your car is the biggest-ticket item you own after your house. It's a major expense that most people can't avoid, because unless you live in one of a handful of big cities with excellent public transportation or ride-sharing services, you need your own car to get around.

Most Americans finance a car because few have the cash on hand needed to pay for such a major purchase. That payment — which generally includes fairly significant interest — is only part of what is spent on car ownership each month.

In most cases, people also have insurance (a few states don't require it), maintenance costs, gas and maybe a parking expense depending upon where you live. The numbers tend to pile up pretty quickly, but many people don't really consider the full cost when buying a car.

#### What the typical American spends

The average American spends \$653 a month for car payments and car-related expenses, according to a survey of 2,000 U.S. adults done for The Zebra, an insurance-comparison tool. That's a fairly hefty \$7,836 per year to own a car and keep it on the road.

To put that into perspective, the average American makes \$46,800 annually, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data. That means car expenses eat up 17% of the average earner's total income.

Of course, it's possible to spend a lot less. It's probably smarter for most Americans to spend well below this number, but that requires making smart decisions.

#### How to save on a car

When you buy a car, it's important to balance affordability and reliability. It's



**GETTY IMAGES** 

almost never a good value to buy a new car, because cars depreciate by 20% the second you drive them off the lot. Imagine buying a stock that loses 20% in value guaranteed once you buy it, with a near guarantee it will be worth less as time goes on.

You want to be on the right side of the depreciation and, generally, that means buying a 1-year-old car or maybe one slightly older. That's generally the sweet spot for getting something in good condition where someone else has taken the depreciation hit.

Before buying a car, you also should do your homework. Some vehicles have

lower average repair needs and/or costs. Others cost more for even a simple oil change.

Use resources such as Consumer Reports' annual used-car buying guide to see the track record of the vehicle you plan to buy. Cars can be tricky, as traditionally reliable models may have the occasional bad year. You also will want to figure in gas mileage, since vehicles in the same class can vary greatly.

And, when it comes to getting a loan, not all loan sources are created equal. If you have excellent credit, you will generally get better rates, but get offers before going to the dealer. Credit unions

often offer a better deal than traditional financing options, and you're not required to use the dealer's financing (though some dealers may act like you are).

Consider a car a necessary expense, but do what you can to keep those costs in check. That's possible if you're willing to drive the best car for what you need rather than the coolest or newest vehicle you can only sort of afford.

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# Read on and read up for investing advice from pros



Ken Fisher Columnist USA TODAY

Investors often ask who else I read. Actually, few pundits write much that is new, unique and thoughtful. I often sample writers and never read them again.

But some I always read, even those with whom I disagree – exactly because they offer unique angles.

Here is a top-tier smattering of 15 heavyweights always worth considering:

I Kimberley Strassel and Holman Jenkins in The Wall Street Journal rip apart the underbelly of political intrigue and mystery of events like the Mueller investigation better than anyone else.. Somehow, they get inside complexity without getting lost.

John Tamny from RealClearMarkets.com writes caustically but shows why most economic pontificators are looney. His economics is fundamental and never blindsided by fads. Sometimes he misses that other things, like politics, may be more important than economics.

For a guy with a small investment business, Barry Ritholtz of Bloomberg has a huge voice. He is unusually brief and cuts through market nonsense and bad investment management practices. He has a nose for BS. And America's market jabber overflows in BS.

I read Jim Cramer at The Street just because I love the guy and have for a long time. He's fun. Sometimes his off-beat market notions are way off, but other times they are spot on, finding gems in haystacks that most other miss. He has way more common sense than his animated TV antics imply.

Steve Forbes, a multidecade friend, is a fundamental writer on monetary policy. While he often advocates a gold standard – which will happen when hell freezes over – his prognostications are routinely right, robust and insightful.

■ Gillian Tett of The Financial Times dives super deep into banking blunders. If we ever again have 2008-like banking



Don't shy away from reading books written by people you tend to disagree with – they offer unique angles that you might not have considered.

problems, you likely hear it from Gillian long before others. Often too pessimistic because, like most journalists, she seeks problems, her knack for climbing inside banking is second to

Caroline Baum of Marketwatch is surgically precise on things interestrate related and the Federal Reserve. She routinely depicts what is wrong with current consensus thinking and speaks directly to real causes, effects, and the correctness or not of Fed actions. She also opines on politics, but there doesn't say anything unusual

If you can bookend Baum with Jeffrey Gundlach who runs asset management firm, Doubleline. He writes irregularly − but is also cameoed in various print and TV media. Currently the world's much-acclaimed "Bond King", with an ego to match, he is always worth considering because of his outsize opinions, often wrong and often right. Even when you're sure Gundlach is wrong, never underestimate his views.

■ For money-saving tips, Bill Baldwin of Forbes, is tops. (He was my editor there for 10 years.) He is always sniffing out unheralded ways for you to invest better. No nonsense, super experienced, plain-spoken and modest to a fault, Bill's advice can save your retirement nest egg big bucks.

# Prepare to ride out recession

Charisse Jones

Just because the stock market is jittery doesn't mean you have to be.

There is increasing concern about recession in the U.S. This week, the bond market sent a signal that sent stocks tumbling. That combined with other economic and geopolitical disruptions led investors to flee stocks in anticipation of an economic slowdown.

From cutting excess expenses to building up your rainy day fund, here are several financial moves you can make to stay afloat if the economy slows down.

■ Trim the fat. Do you need that bundle package from your cable provider, or to pay a gardener to mow your lawn every week? Now might be a good time to figure out what you can let go.

"Review the family budget to see what could be reduced or cut if there was a sudden drop in monthly income," says Richard Fleming, a certified financial planner based in Colorado Springs, Colorado. "Be prepared to make those reductions (or) cuts as soon as it becomes necessary."

Devin Pope, partner and senior wealth adviser with Albion Financial Group in Salt Lake City, said there are software programs or apps, such as Mint or You Need a Budget, to help you figure out your budget.

"Having a tool that tracks your spending will be very helpful," he says. "This way you know what is available to cut. If you don't track your budget, now is a good time to start."

Increase your emergency fund. If the economy does take a dip, it's a good idea to make sure you've socked away as much as you can for a rainy day. "I think the greatest fear when the economy slows down or goes into a recession is that income will be impacted, either hours cut back or worst case, (your) being laid off," says Kenneth Perine, a certified financial planner with Meritage Wealth Advisory in Liver-

"I think the greatest fear when the economy slows down or goes into a recession is that income will be impacted."

Kenneth Perine, certified financial planner

more, California. "It's times like these that having an emergency fund in place really pays off. Not having to live off credit card debt can keep you out of a hole that can be very difficult to dig out of."

Try to set aside enough money to cover at least three months of expenses. "But expanding that to 12 to 18 months, or even 24 months is not unreasonable if people want to err on the side of caution," says Chuck Failla, a principal with Sovereign Financial Group.

Pare debt, but have a backup. If your income shrinks, you won't want to be on the hook for expensive debt you have to repay. "Pay down those credit card debts and any type of high-interest loans you might have," says Failla.

But Dennis Nolte, a vice president at Seacoast Investment Services in Winter Park, Florida, says that "besides cutting debt, I'd work on ensuring folks have access to credit (and) liquidity. ... No one likes giving you a line of credit if you have no income stream from which you can pay back the loan (or) interest."

Stay on the job. You might not want to start looking for a new gig during a time the economy is stuttering.

"Try not to make a career move right before an economic slowdown," says Aaron Clarke, a wealth adviser with Halpern Financial in Ashburn, Virginia. "It's never good to be the new kid on the block when financial limitations may become strained."

But in case layoffs loom, it's a good idea to be prepared by honing your skills.

# Be sensitive to older workers' needs



Johnny C. Taylor Columnist **USA TODAY** 

Johnny C. Taylor Jr., a human-resources expert, is tackling your questions as part of a series for USA TODAY. Taylor is president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management, the world's largest HR professional soci-

The questions are submitted by readers, and Taylor's answers below have been edited for length and clarity.

Question: We have a 77-year-old employee who has been with us for 18 years. For whatever reason, the person is now unable to retain information and effectively do the job. It is disruptive because the individual continually interrupts others to ask basic questions about tasks on which this person used to have a firm grasp. This individual enjoys working and has no plans to retire anytime soon. We do not want to do progressive discipline, as this would be devastating to the employee. What are our options? - Anonymous

situation, and you should proceed with care. The guidance of your company's attorney or the services of an employee assistance program (EAP) might be warranted.

If you are the individual's manager, talk with the employee about specific performance problems such as inaccuracy, missed deadlines or incomplete work. But know that, in many instances, the Americans with Disabilities Act prohibits employers from asking health-related questions or making statements about an employee's health.

The employee likely has noticed his or her decline. If the individual acknowledges an impairment, a reasonable accommodation can be explored. The employee might have a suggestion for any adjustments or accommodations, such as a schedule change or technology tool, that might be helpful.

You also might consider restructur-



An employer can request that a worker complete a fitness-for-duty evaluation. Make sure a performance review has already been done. RELIF/GETTY IMAGES

Johnny C. Taylor Jr.: This is a delicate ing the employee's job duties or changing his or her assignments. Have you thought about offering the individual a different position that recognizes his or her contributions but requires less critical thought? This accommodation would address performance issues while respecting the employee's desire to keep working.

> Or perhaps, a phased retirement might be a solution. In this case, an employee takes on a less-demanding job or works part time to transition to retirement. Be aware that when a worker is unable to meet the fundamental duties of a job, a company is not required to make an accommodation.

An employer can request that an employee complete a fitness-for-duty evaluation, which determines a person's abilities to safely perform the essential functions of a job without posing a threat to him or herself or others. Before an evaluation is requested, an employer should ensure that a job description for the employee's position exists and a performance review has been done.

Additionally, if you notice true cognitive difficulties, you may refer the person to an EAP. This should be done only after consulting counsel.

With more workers wanting to remain in the workplace beyond the traditional retirement age of 65 or needing to work for financial reasons, this situation likely will become more common. Managers will want to consider how to address such an issue sensitively and with understanding before it arises.

Q: I've banked more than 300 hours of vacation time, and I want to take time off. But every time I ask, my manager says I'm needed or we're busy or "Now's not a good time." Vacation time rolls over from year to year at my company, so my bank of time keeps growing. My manager has OK'd some

Taking time off from work is important. Not only does a vacation allow you to relax and recharge, but it contributes to your performance, morale, wellness and productivity.

time off, but grudgingly. How can I address this? - Anonymous

Taylor: Taking time off from work is important. Not only does a vacation allow you to relax and recharge, but it contributes to your performance, morale, wellness and productivity. From HR's point of view, taking a vacation is im-

It's time for you to have a conversation with your manager. In preparation, consult your company's vacation or leave policy or employee handbook and use it to help guide your manager's decision-making.

Politely point out that you haven't been allowed to use your earned time off. Ask when a good time would be to take a vacation and suggest that you look at a calendar together.

Be specific about dates and ask your manager to commit to the time off. When the two of you have agreed on dates, mark it on your calendar and your manager's calendar.

In some businesses and industries, there are times of the year that are particularly busy and require the presence of staff. Think CPAs and the month of April. Absences during these times are a hardship on employers. So, ask yourself if there are legitimate reasons why your requests are denied and then adjust.

There is no federal law mandating paid vacation time, and state law doesn't require it. But employers voluntarily offer it as part of a competitive benefits package to attract and retain talented employees. And for workers. there's an additional value: It makes them better employees.

# Take advantage of interest rate cuts

#### Adjust borrowing, saving, investing



Interest rates have been declining for most of the past decade, yet the lowrate trend looks like it could persist for quite a while longer.

The Federal Reserve just cut shortterm interest rates amid signs of economic slowing. Consequently, it's not a bad idea to assess your exposure to low rates and your opportunity to capitalize on them, when it comes to borrowing, saving and investing.

Rates on some types of loans are dropping again, and that can make it enticing to go out and borrow more money to purchase all sorts of things - homes, vehicles, appliances or whatever.

#### **Borrowing: Don't overdo it**

Financial adviser Daniel Hill of D.R. Hill Wealth Strategies in Richmond, Virginia, suggests caution. "People tend to overextend themselves, which is what happened" before the Great Recession

about a decade ago, he said. If you must borrow, Hill suggests being careful not to extend your terms. Loans going out six or seven years on vehicles, once unthinkable, have become common. Lengthy payback periods could be a sign you can't afford the item otherwise. Besides, you would be locking in payments for many years on assets, such as cars and trucks, that will lose a substantial amount of value over that time.

Low rates do provide an opportunity to refinance existing debt and even use it to pay off higher-cost loans.

Neal Van Zutphen, a certified financial planner at Intrinsic Wealth Counsel in Tempe, Arizona, cites two common rules for refinancing a mortgage. If you can offset your loan closing costs with lower monthly payments within a year or so, refinancing could be worthwhile. So, too, if you can shave at least half a

#### To generate more yield, you might need to venture into investments that carry at least some principal risk.

percentage point on your interest rate.

The interest rates on mortgages are among the cheapest forms of borrowing and thus can be a shrewd way to pay off more costly loans such as credit-card balances. You just don't want to squander the proceeds on vacations or other unnecessary spending.

#### Saving: Expand into riskier options

Savers have been hurt by the trend toward drastically lower rates over the past decade or so. Nor will they get much help in the form of higher yields anytime soon. In fact, yields on certificates of deposit, money market funds and other short-term instruments have started to ebb in the wake of the Fed's latest rate cut.

To generate more yield, you might need to venture into investments that carry at least some principal risk, such as short-term bonds and bond funds. The longer the term on a bond, the greater the possibility that prices could drop if interest rates rise. Conversely, longer-term bonds will enjoy more capital appreciation if rates fall further.

If you're depending on yield to make ends meet, it might be time to consider stocks and stock funds. Sure, you face volatile prices, but hundreds of stocks now are yielding 2% or more, with dozens in the range of 4% to 5% or higher.

That means these dividends exceed the interest paid on many types of bonds, including federal government bonds and municipal issues sold by cities, counties and state agencies.

Conservative stock holdings, such as dividend-paying companies, are a logical extension along the risk scale that starts with deposit accounts and money-market funds and extends to shortterm bonds and then longer-maturity

"You just need to have different buck-

ets of money" for diversification purposes, said Hill.

Money held in checking accounts. money-market funds and other highly conservative instruments earn the least, but you need some ready cash to meet emergencies.

#### **Dividends: Red flags** for reductions

If you decide on conservative stock holdings, don't get too greedy. An abnormally high dividend yield could signal that a corporation could be getting ready to cut the payout.

Companies don't like to reduce or eliminate dividends but might need to do so. Red flags for an impending dividend cut include declining revenue and cash flow, rising debt and deteriorating business conditions.

Diversifying among high-dividend stocks, in a fund or otherwise, can mute the fallout if one or a couple companies cut their payments.

Van Zutphen likes to focus on the "payout" ratio or size of annual dividend payments in relation to yearly earnings. Payout ratios above 100%, where a corporation spends more on dividends than it generates in net income, represent an unsustainable situation. But even ratios above 70% can be worrisome, he said.

One notable exception are REITs or Real Estate Investment Trusts, which typically pay out nearly all of their cash flow to qualify for an unusual benefit (their income isn't subject to corporate income taxes). No wonder these stocks tend to sport high yields.

Van Zutphen favors companies with a history not just of paying dividends but increasing them. Many of these corporations are included among the "dividend aristocrats" tracked by S&P Dow Jones Indices. All 57 companies on this aristocrats list have boosted their dividends annually for at least 25 years.

Combined, the aristocrats currently pay an average dividend yield of 2.5%. Examples include Cincinnati Financial, Cintas. Medtronic. Air Products & Chemicals, Abbott Laboratories and Procter & Gamble.

#### **Retirement:** Look to ease pressures

Low interest rates also can affect your retirement strategies.

For example, you can increase your monthly cash flow considerably by holding off on Social Security benefits. Once you claim Social Security, you lock in the same income stream for the rest of your life, increased by any COLA or cost-of-living adjustments.

If you haven't yet claimed benefits, you can boost the monthly amount each year you delay, up to age 70.

The trade-off to waiting is that you would be forsaking Social Security payments received at an earlier age. But if you're concerned about outliving your money and expect to live to a fairly old

age, delaying can be a smart strategy. Social Security paid a 2.8% COLA for 2019, but inflation has slowed. The next increase could be closer to 1%, assuming the recent inflation trend persists. The Social Security Administration will announce the new rate in October, following release of relevant inflation numbers: The next COLA will be pegged to the change in CPI-W, the consumer price index for urban wage earners, from the third quarter of 2018 to the same period in 2019.

Persistently low interest rates can be a reason to delay retirement, if you fear cash flow might be a problem.

In fact, remaining in the workforce even an extra year or two could be the biggest step you can take to improve your retirement readiness.

Low interest rates - and low investment returns generally - also are a reason to sock away more cash in workplace 401(k) programs and other retirement accounts.

"You might need to reassess how much more you might need to save to hit your goals," said Van Zutphen. "You might need to save more.'

# Company back with restaurant idea for old Birmingham school bus yard

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Remember the plan to turn a former Birmingham Public Schools bus yard into a restaurant that never came to fruition? Well, it's back.

The owners of popular Metro Detroit eateries such as the Vinsetta Garage in Berkley, the Fenton Fire Hall in Fenton and Gran Castor in Troy have resubmitted plans to transform the property at 2159 E. Lincoln across from the ice arena and Kenning Park into a new restaurant serving American comfort food.

It's a similar concept to what the owners, Union Joints out of Clarkston, proposed in 2017 before pulling out of the project over issues surrounding the city's bistro licenses. This time, the ownership is attempting to joining the economic development zone to secure a liquor license, as opposed to applying for a bistro license like it did in 2017. Those two licenses that year went to Whole Foods and Adachi.

Curt Catallo, one of the owners of Union Joints, said pulling out two years ago and waiting for another opportunity was the right move for his business, especially given the limitations of the bistro license compared to their other restaurants.

"I think the two years just enhanced our resolve and I think what we've been able to do with the property knowing that we were going to go after a full Class C license, that just allowed it to be a different undertaking," he said. "It was a little longer walk, but we think we're in a place that's better for us."

The new restaurant would actually consist of two entities in the building. Lincoln Yard would be a sit-down restaurant with table service, and a smaller service called Little Yard would be more grab-and-go and fast-casual, perfect for those in the area looking for something to take with them.

"Little Yard is definitely designed to be greener and lighter than anything," he said.

No opening date has been determined yet, Catallo said, as that would depend on when Union Joints received the proper approvals.



A rendering shows the Lincoln Yard restaurant, proposed for a former school bus yard in Birmingham.

#### Project lauded by planning board members

The restaurant would follow Union Joint's reputation of taking over buildings not thought of as restaurants and turning them into destination eateries. The Vinsetta Garage was a former auto repair shop, and the Fenton Fire Hall was a former firehouse.

The site plan and special land use permit were reviewed at the city's planning board meeting Aug. 14, though any action was postponed until the application to join the economic development zone could be reviewed by the city. Catallo said the application was submitted the afternoon of Aug. 14, and it's his hope the project can be reviewed at the next planning board meeting.

Even with the postponement, several planning board members lauded the project, saying it was a welcome change to that area of Birmingham. "It's cool. It's unlike anything we've seen," said planning board member Janelle Whipple-Boyce. "The furniture is even different. It's fun, and and I think it's going to bring a lot of people in to say 'What's going on?' in there. We haven't seen anything like it."

Planning board member Robin Boyle said he was in favor of bringing the concept to that area of town. He hoped there would be a way to make the area more pedestrian-friendly for residents wanting to access the business on foot.

"Wouldn't it be great if we could wander through and get to your establishment in some way that didn't mean you had to take a car?" he said. "This, unfortunately, is very car-dependent.

"You can't wander through this area."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@home-townlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

# National retailer Avenue closing all stores

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Add one more national retailer closing up shop, including several stores in the western suburbs of Detroit.

Avenue, a clothing retailer focusing on plus size women's clothing and accessories, announced last week it would close all its stores as a result of filing for bankruptcy.

The closures appear to affect two area stores: the store at 29340 Plymouth in Livonia and the store at 43530 West Oaks Drive, in the West Oaks II shopping center in Novi.

The stores will begin offer discounts on merchandise and clothing, with discounts of between 30% and 50% on items throughout the store.

"Avenue shoppers will be amazed not only by the incredible savings, but also by the great selections and styles available at the closing sale," the company said in a news release. "Given the popularity

of the brand and the seasonal trends, merchandise is sure to sell out quickly.

"We are encouraging consumers to shop early and take advantage of these offers."

There was no word on how soon stores would close

There was no word on how soon stores would close their doors.

The company began in 1983 as Sizes Unlimited, providing clothing in sizes 14-32. It currently operates 222

stores in 33 states.

The closure of Avenue across the region is just the latest national retailer to close its doors in the

Dressbarn announced in May it would close its stores, including those in Farmington, Novi, Canton and Livonia.

And just last month, Charming Charlie announced it would close all its stores as well, including those in Novi and Westland.

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@home-townlife.com or 734-678-6728. Twitter: @david-veselenak.



Avenue, a national women's clothing retailer, announced last week it will close all its stores, including this one in the West Oaks mall.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Obituaries**

Brian George Burke

-- Brian George Burke age 62. August 22, 2019. Beloved husband of Lori for 20 years. Dear father of Daniel Burke, Nicholas Moran, Scott (Emily) Moran, Michael (Lindsay) Burke and Allison Burke.

Proud grandfather of Harrison and Frederick Burke. Brother of David( Allison), Daniel (Sheila)

Allison), Daniel (Sheila). Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

When Brian completed his service in the US Navy he returned home and began his career in the automotive industry. Brian has been involved in Novi since 2008. Brian served as a member of the Novi City Council, Novi Parks Commission, Novi Planning Commission, Novi Parks Foundation and the Novi Police and Fire Benevolent Association.

Brian will be greatly missed and his memories cherished by all who knew him.

A celebration of Brian's life took place on Tuesday August 27, 2019 with Dr. Michael Meyer officiating followed by military honors.

Donations in memory of Brian can be made to the Novi Parks Foundation or the Novi Police and Fire Benevolent Fund.

On line sympathy message at www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

# Man sues Brighton firm for not allowing support dogs

Sean Bradley Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A White Lake man has filed a federal housing discrimination lawsuit against a Brighton-based management company he says refused to rent him an apartment because he has emotional support

Scott Lorms filed the lawsuit last month in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. In the suit, Lorms alleges that T&R Properties and Zahler Management denied an apartment rental in

Pinckney because they do not allow dogs.

Lorms has two dogs trained as emotional support animals that he uses to cope with a mental and emotional disability.

"The landiord was unwilling to make an exception for Mr. Lorms's emotional support animals," said Francyne Stacey, Lorms's Ann Arbor-based attorney. T&R Properties and Zahler Management have not

responded to requests for comment.

The complaint says Lorms explained to the rental agent that he had emotional support dogs, which are

not considered pets under the federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988. Lorms said he had documentation from his doctor regarding his disability and training certificates for

However, the complaint says, Lorms said he was

still denied an application.

Stacey is arguing on behalf of Lorms that his rights under the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 were violated.

Amending the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin in



housing sales, rentals or financing.

Discrimination includes refusing to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services in an attempt to create equality to use the

The refusal took place in November

and Lorms filed a complaint with the Fair Housing Center of Southeast and Mid Michigan. Since that time, Lorms and his family have had to

Since that time, Lorms and his family have had to rent a more expensive apartment that does allow the dogs but is further away from his relatives, friends and employment, Stacey said.

The rental application on the company's website states "pets are not allowed at some properties. Pets must be preapproved. Deposit and fees are required."

Stacey declined to provide more information on the conditions that cause Lorms to need support animals.

The lawsuit is the first of its kind in Livingston County, said Pam Kisch, executive director of the Fair Housing Center of Southeast and Mid Michigan.

She said emotional support animals fall under the "reasonable accommodation" definition of the Fair Housing Act.

"You think of it as a piece of equipment," Kisch said. "It's a doctor's call. It's in their opinion if they need it."

An emotional support animal can be any animal including a dog, cat, turtle, or rabbit, for example, she said.

Many of the fair housing cases the center works on are often settled before a trial occurs. Kisch said.

The case is assigned to Judge Nancy Edmunds.
A response has yet to be filed by attorneys for T&R
Properties and Zahler Management.

# Your phone is key to drive this SUV

Mark Phelan **Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK** 

YOUNTVILLE, Calif. - Lincoln is about to make carrying a key or bulky electronic fob to start your car seem as antiquated as hand-cranking a vehicle

Drivers of the new 2020 Lincoln Aviator SUV can use iPhones, and soon Android phones, for those and a host of other functions that go beyond current smartphone apps for remote start, findmy-car, and lock/unlock. Lincoln calls the feature Phone as a Key.

In addition to exponentially multiplying the level of panic the next time you think you lost your mobile phone because now it is your phone and your car key — the feature allows the phone to start your vehicle, remotely open windows and tailgates, recall the driver's settings and more. Current remotestart apps require you to have a mechanical key to drive away.

The new feature also can unlock the vehicle when the driver touches the door handle and flash greeting lights as you approach the six- or seven-seat

#### A few bugs

I recently spent a day driving Aviators equipped with Phone as a Key. The phone was tucked into an inductive charging pocket in the SUVs' center console. The Aviator started every time and ran fine, though I got occasional warnings that the vehicle had lost contact with the phone. That was probably because I was driving developmental vehicles. Lincoln engineers said the issue should be resolved in the Aviators going

Lincoln will offer Phone as a Key on more vehicles as it introduces new mod-

It's part of the Aviator's \$1,000 convenience package. Only Tesla currently offers a similar feature on its Model 3 sedan. Consumer Reports magazine reported reliability problems when they tested it in the 3.

Other brands aim to offer the feature soon.



Lincoln's "Phone as a Key" can unlock your vehicle, start it and recall the driver's settings. MARK PHELAN/USA TODAY NETWORK

Hyundai expects to have an Androidphone-only version on its upcoming 2020 Sonata sedan.

#### **Bluetooth makes it work**

Lincoln's system uses Bluetooth at ranges up to 30 feet, so it works in places where there's no phone signal, such as underground parking garages. An embedded modem or Wi-Fi handles messages from beyond Bluetooth's range. The Aviator has 11 antennas to receive

The feature works with iPhones running IOS 9 and higher now. It uses the Lincoln Way app. Lincoln expects compatibility with Android devices soon.

You can authorize as many phones as you like to work with a vehicle. Phone as a Key also can activate valet mode. Parking attendants will use a temporary numeric code to lock, unlock and start the vehicle when the driver walks away with their phone.

The owner can disable Phone as a Key and use a backup ignition code that



**2020 Lincoln Aviator LINCOLN** 

they punch into the door-mounted touch pad if they lose their phone or its battery dies. The feature also alerts drivers when they leave their phone in

If a driver still manages to lock the key in their car, they can get in using the touch pad Lincoln owners love.

# Your Invitation to

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www.hsrcc.net the corner of Winans Lake & Musch Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor end Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. ee visit our Shroud of Yurin Display and Book & Gift Shoo

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Pastor Steve Swavze School tell agent 9:45 a.m. . Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. Windramdows 6:00-7:30 p.m. 3 year old thru 8th grade (Sept.-March)



#### **Milford United Methodist Church** 1200 Atlantic St., Milford, 248-684-2798

Sunday Worship: 10 am

www.mllfordumc.net

#### OAKPOINTE | milford 1250 South Hill Rd.

(248) 685-3560 www.opcmifford.org Contemporary Worship Service: 8:30, 10:15, and 11:45.

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www.millordpc.org Sanday Warship: 18:00 a.m. Ichael age 3 fire Sin grada © 10 a.m. oth Group 10 nm - Gradas 5-12 A heritage of area worship since 1836

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All are welcome at all services 95 E. Commerce St. Milford, MI 48381 Sunday Service: 10:30 am Sunday School ages 3-20; 10:30 am Children's room: Wed & Sun services cendary service: 7.30 pm 248-485-7266

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Presbyterian (1)
Churchof Northville www.fpcnorthville.org 200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON

#### Worship, 9:30 am Children's Sunday School, dismissed to classes during worship Adult Sunday School, 10:45 am 248-349-0911

(248) 349-1144 United TTT West B Mile Road (8) Mile and Taft Road NORTHVILLE Northville, Michigan ship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley, Lead Pastor

www.fumcnorthville.org

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Sunday Worship: Sunday School at 9:46 10:30 nm Fellowship/Coff day Bible Study at 7 pm Pastor Andy Whitter

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Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 248-349-2652 www.umcnovi.com oving God, loving each other and living our core value

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Fr. James Houbeck, Associate Partiti Office: 248-349-4847 sweet Judelandsmoot.com ed Shaghard Evangelical Ludwirm Cours

248-349-0565 indey School & Adult Bible Class 8:45am Rev. Thomas Schroeder weisnovi@apl.com

are and worship at Good Shaphard Lutheron Churci

41415 W Nine Mile Rd • Novi. MI 48375

#### ST. JAMES ROMAN **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi. Mt 48374 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday B. 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Msgr John Kasza, Pastor

Parish Office: 347-7778

#### **MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mil 248-348-7757 • www.mbccc.org Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister

## South Lyon

**BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH** Gathering in Jesus Name 52909 10 Mile Rd = South Lyon, MI 48178 Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Mika Ragan, Pastor 734-347-1983 pastor call Not testioned preaching

#### **CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH** 28900 Portiac Trail • South Lyon 248-486-0400

Service Times 0:30cm & 11:00cm 248-560-7507 rhopecc.net

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ds/Youth Connection Sundays 6:30 p.m. Nd-Week Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m. www.fpcsouthlyon.org

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7372 Grand River, Brighton 810-227-225 Sunday Worship: 9:30 A.M. & 11 A.M. www.communitybible.net

#### the WAY' - a ministry of **Hope Lutheran Church** Worship @Abbey Park

28413 Abbey Lane New Hudson, MI Sunday @10am, 248-553-7170 pe-lutheran-church.com Rev Thomas Scherger

For more information regarding this directory, please call Alana Lanctot at 833-790-0914 at email: alanctot@localiq.com

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# the job network

## What are the different types of workplace harassment?

**Kate Lopaze** thejobnetwork.com

As various hashtags and dispiriting headlines have shown in recent years, workplace harassment is unfortunately common — in every industry, at every level, for every type of person. From the highest-paid executive to the newest intern, it's essential for every employee to understand the different kinds of workplace harassment and be able to identify them.

#### What is workplace harassment?

Workplace harassment is any unwelcome conduct that is based on gender, race, color, religion, age, disability, or genetic information. It's a form of discrimination that violates a number of federal laws, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, (ADA). Harassment can occur on different levels in the workplace: between managers and employees or between colleagues who aren't in a managerial relationship. Essentially, if you're at work and are the recipient of unwanted behavior based on those personal qualities, it may be harassment.

Harassment crosses the line into illegal behavior when:

■ The behavior turns the workplace into a hostile, intimidating, or abusive environment

■ The harassment leads to (or is threatened to lead to) a change in employment status or salary

■ The employee has no choice but to endure the harassment if they want to

keep their job States may have individual definitions or additional types of illegal harassment, so it's important to know what your own state's regulations are.

#### What counts as workplace harassment?

Although sexual harassment (for example, a supervisor that promises a promotion in exchange for a date) is typically the most commonly reported kind of workplace harassment, there are a variety of different kinds you should be able to recognize. Any of the following can be considered harassment (or at least problematic):

■ Inappropriate touching of any kind ■ Offensive or suggestive jokes or pic-

- Name-calling or verbal abuse
- Physical threats or violence ■ Verbal intimidation
- Ridicule or insults

And although media and pop culture typically show harassment as coming from bosses or supervisors, harassment can occur between any two people. People in other departments, coworkers on the same status level, contractors or non-employees you may work with anyone you encounter in a professional capacity can be a harasser or affected by harassment.

It's also important to remember that harassment isn't necessarily a one-toone issue. If someone at work tells an offensive joke to a friend but someone else in the room overhears and takes an issue, it doesn't matter that the third person wasn't the intended recipient of

Harassment in the workplace also isn't always cut-and-dried. Here are some examples of gray areas that can qualify as harassment, but might not be obvious at the time.

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■ At a party thrown by the company for employees, Joe makes private comments to a group of colleagues (including both men and women) about how women need to "grow a pair" and act more like men if they want to succeed at the company.

■ Mary, Andrew's supervisor, suggests that they should meet for drinks after hours to talk about his upcoming benormance review.

■ In the break room, Tom tells a joke that makes fun of people in a particular ethnic group. Allan is not a member of that ethnic group but finds it very offen-

■ At lunch in a common area in the office, a group of employees are talking loudly about their sexual conquests. Patty is sitting with the group, and laughs at some of the stories, but feels uncomfortable about the tone and subject of the conversation.

■ Greg's boss Jane wishes Greg a happy birthday and asks how old he is. When he responds, she then makes a comment about how he should start picking a hobby for retirement.

■ Melissa lets her boss know that she's pregnant and will be requiring maternity leave from October to December. Her boss suggests that she clean out her desk when she leaves in October, because "it's never the same when they come back after having a kid."

Any situation that causes personal discomfort in the workplace may qualify as harassment.

#### What to do about workplace harassment

If you know that certain behavior qualifies as harassment (or think it might), the first stop should be your organization's Human Resources department. They're required to provide guidance and resolution in accordance with

Internal resolution is usually the fastest way to stop an issue — especially if the behavior was unintentional on the harasser's part. If you're asked to "keep it quiet" or sign a confidentiality agreement, you should seek advice from an employment attorney to make sure the company is acting lawfully and giving you your full rights as an employee.

If the issue is not resolved, or if there's a fear of reprisal, the government's Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is responsible for enforcing harassment laws. Employees who believe their rights have been violated can file a discrimination charge.

If you experience harassment or see a situation where harassing behavior is occurring at work, you should not feel obligated to "wait and see" or put up with it. No one should be made to feel uncomfortable in the workplace or put up with verbally, physically, or sexually abusive behavior. There are resources available to all employees to make sure that your rights are enforced and you're able to do your job without interference.

Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published.

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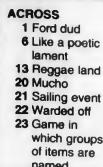
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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## **CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

98 Mass seats DOWN



- 63 Mensa figs. 65 Brunch, e.g. which groups 70 Game containing named 100 tiles 25 Game utilizing 72 Apt word for five dice this puzzle's 26 Liver spread theme, found 27 Part of TGIF by using the
- 28 'That's show -1" that appear 30 Singer Elliot nowhere else 31 Game of in this entire 115 - Lanka bluffing and puzzle's grid 116 - Spumante trivia 73 Game based 117 Game 35 Enraged on jumping 36 Tax doc. pro and capturing 38 Filled cookies 75 Bum a little 39 Autumn mo. 76 Eclectic mix
- 40 Game 78 Greek vowel involving 79 Certain eye picking fruit surgery from trees **80** Notified 45 Boomers' children 86 Glues
- 46 Seal herd 87 Indianan, 47 Part of TGIF 48 Glimpse 90 Game 49 Atop, in poetry negotiation 50 Game having 93 Pt. of PLO a cross-94 Male buds

96 Zodiac cat

shaped

55 Catch sight of 102 Game whose 59 Big arteries players try to 61 Sports squad get rid of all 62 Writer their cards Calvino 105 Taoism's Lao- --106 "The land of 67 TV host Kelly cotton" 107 Acom tree

53 Suggest

- 108 Lean- -(simple huts) 109 Game entailing sinking vessels three letters 111 Actor Scott 114 Lead-in to propyl
  - with an unmatched penalty card 120 Game using rebounding automatons as originally named
- 82 Dogs' jinglers 126 Painter's mixing board informally 127 Geronimo's people featuring war 128 Slur over
  - 129 Veers 130 Toy terriers. for short 131 Lauder of cosmetics

- 1 High trains 2 Medico 3 Office gizmo 4 — Unidos de **América** 5 Espresso
- quaffs 6 Blunder 7 Lower limb 8 Vain person 9 Country star **Brooks**
- 10 Inflammation suffix 11 Polished off 12 North African city citadel
- 13 Rap star married to Beyonce 14 Film director DuVemay
- 15 "Doesn't excite me" 16 Elaborately decorated auto
- 17 Chichén -(Mayan ruins) 18 OK grades 19 Citrus drinks
- profit 29 Sacred cow 31 Be a pugilist 32 "-- you in?" 33 Portal

24 Suffix with

34 "T.N.T." band 35 Center 36 Chuckle

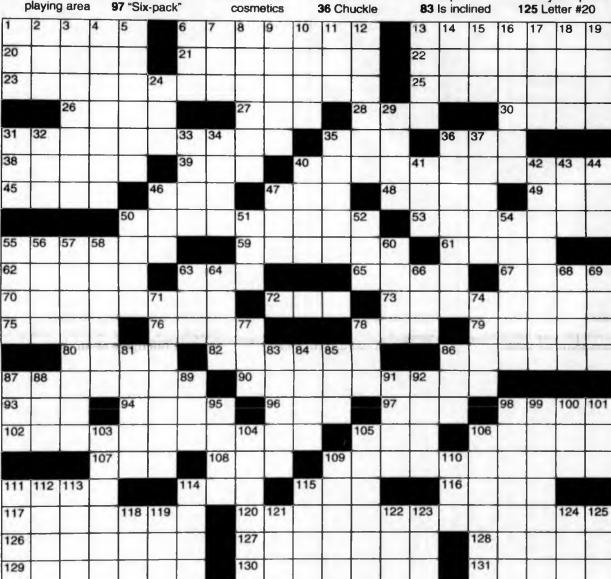
- 37 Black tea **84** Imitates 40 User of 85 Day- colors a certain weeding tool 86 Mac rivals 87 Ad --
- 41 Perp nabber 88 NHL's Bobby 42 Most spacious 89 French "king" 43 With 91 Sail holder
- 52-Down, 92 Help do bad retort to "No 95 Mil. figures you're not!" 98 Small guns 44 Mined matter 99 Demonstrate 100 Nintendo 46 Stipend, say 47 Prefix with system
- 101 Autumn mo. thermal 50 "No --!" 103 Fast car, e.g. 104 "Yippee!" ("Sure!") 105 Meditative 51 Owns 52 See 43-Down martial art
- 106 One-named 54 Arctic coats 55 Frisbee, e.g. singer of the 56 Mark 1994 hit "You permanently Gotta Be" 57 Bay Area city 109 Baseball 58 Light cigars great Lou
- 60 Faith faction 110 Nero's lang. 111 Conks 63 Sick 64 Brit. monarch 112 - unto itself beginning 113 Sit in neutral
- in '52 114 - of March 66 "Caught ya!" 115 Mark **68** — -dieu permanently 118 Safari truck, (kneeler) 69 Inquires in brief
- 74 Pottery need 77 Strange 78 "- Beso" 81 Tripoli is its capital
- 71 "Bolero" star 119 Suffix with Wisconsin 121 NYSE event 122 Bray starter 123 Letter #19 124 Lyrical poem 125 Letter #20

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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!

0



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

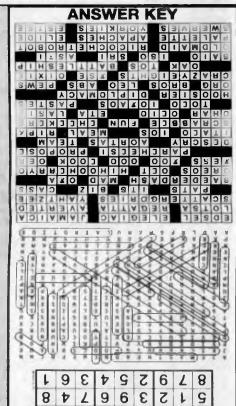
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Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published.

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**ACROSS** 1 Ford dud

6 Like a poetic lament 13 Reggae land

20 Mucho 21 Salling event 22 Warded off 23 Game in which groups

of items are named 25 Game utilizing 72 Apt word for five dice

26 Liver spread 27 Part of TGIF 28 'That's show -- I"

30 Singer Elliot 31 Game of bluffing and trivia

35 Enraged 36 Tax doc. pro 38 Filled cookies

39 Autumn mo. 40 Game involving picking fruit from trees

45 Boomers' children 46 Seal herd 47 Part of TGIF 48 Glimpse

49 Atop, in poetry 50 Game having a crossshaped

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111 112 113

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playing area

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53 Suggest 55 Catch sight of 102 Game whose 59 Big arteries 61 Sports squad 62 Writer

Calvino 63 Mensa figs. 65 Brunch, e.g. 67 TV host Kelly 70 Game containing

100 tiles this puzzle's theme, found by using the three letters that appear nowhere else

puzzle's grid 73 Game based on jumping and capturing 75 Burn a little

in this entire

76 Eclectic mix 78 Greek vowel 79 Certain eye surgery **80** Notified 82 Dogs' jinglers 126 Painter's 86 Glues

87 Indianan informally 90 Game negotiation 93 Pt. of PLO

94 Male buds 96 Zodiac cat 97 "Six-pack"

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98 Mass seats players try to get rid of all their cards

105 Taoism's Lao- --106 "The land of quaffs cotton"

107 Acom tree 108 Lean- -(simple huts) 109 Game entailing

115 - Lanka

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116 — Spumante 117 Game with an unmatched

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120 121

127

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3 Office gizmo 4 — Unidos de América 5 Espresso

6 Blunder 7 Lower limb 8 Vain person 9 Country star Brooks 10 Inflammation

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18 OK grades 19 Citrus drinks 24 Suffix with profit 29 Sacred cow

31 Be a pugilist 32 "-- you in?" 33 Portal 34 "T.N.T." band 35 Center 36 Chuckle

28

105

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109

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48

37 Black tea 40 User of a certain

weeding tool 41 Perp nabber 42 Most spacious

43 With 52-Down. retort to "No you're not!" 44 Mined matter

46 Stipend, say 100 Nintendo 47 Prefix with thermal 50 "No --!"

("Sure!") 51 Owns 52 See 43-Down 54 Arctic coats 55 Frisbee, e.g.

56 Mark

permanently 57 Bay Area city 109 Baseball 58 Light cigars 60 Faith faction 63 Sick

beginning in '52 66 "Caught ya!" 68 — -dieu (kneeler) 69 Inquires

71 "Bolero" star 74 Pottery need 77 Strange 78 "- Beso" 81 Tripoli is its capital

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84 Imitates 85 Day- colors

86 Mac rivals 87 Ad -88 NHL's Bobby 89 French "king" 91 Sail holder 92 Help do bad 95 Mil. figures

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124 Lyrical poem

6 9 4 3 4 6 8 9 4 2 9 3 6

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

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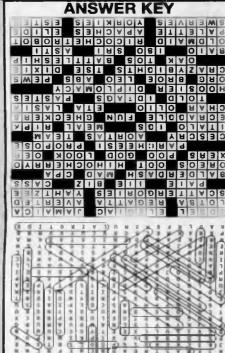
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IE CHEVY 164394 / 13 BUJEK 30435
IE CHEVY 164394 / 13 BUJEK 30437
IF JEEP 19429 / 09 MITSUBISHI 90377
IF JEEP 19429 / 09 MITSUBISHI 90377
IF JEEP 19429 / 09 MITSUBISHI 90377
IF CHEVY 30547 / 92 TOYOTA 238461
IE PONTIAC 138971 / 16 CHEVY 327384
IE TOYOTA 60846 / 89 PONTIAC 138649
IE CHEVY 167584 / 89 PONTIAC 138649
IMAZDA 21847 / 18 FORD A 63899
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