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Family alleges negligence at senior home

Says Northville center did not notify them relative was tested for COVID-19

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When Alice Chavdarian's family gathered March 25 at Cedarbrook Senior Living Center in Northville Township to say goodbye to their mother and grandmother, they didn't know she was potentially infected with coronavirus.

They say they didn't find out until days later that Chavdarian, who was re-

ceiving hospice care, had been tested for COVID-19 that day after exhibiting symptoms of the disease.

The 92-year-old died March 28 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia because of complications from the coronavirus, one day after test results came back positive.

The family wants answers as to why Cedarbrook failed to notify them Chavdarian had been tested for the virus,

thus exposing others, including Chavdarian's 71-year-old son and a priest from Holy Family Church, to possible infection.

"They had a simple duty to warn us and they did not," said Juliette Daniels, Chavdarian's granddaughter. "They had a simple obligation to keep my father informed of my grandmother's medical

See **NEGLIGENCE**, Page 4A



Alice Chavdarian, 92, died March 28 because of complications from coronavirus. COURTESY OF JULIETTE DANIELS



Father Ed Zaorski gazes toward the altar as he stands in the empty sanctuary at Novi's St. James Catholic Church. The church has embraced new ways to connect with parishioners amid the coronavirus pandemic. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Easter week arrives as churches sit empty

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Easter arrives this week and churches are empty.

The holiest week in the Christian calendar has collided with the rise of the coronavirus pandemic, leaving believers without a church in which to congregate but with faith and services that continue.

"It's a natural thing, to think the

wrath of God is upon us, but in this situation, there are good moments to turn away from ourselves and use our gifts to control this disease and be loving and caring," the Rev. Ed Zaorski of St. James Catholic Church in Novi said. "God didn't all of a sudden decide to give the world coronavirus."

In this time, Zaorski is counting blessings, including thanking God for technology, the church's primary way of staying in contact with parishioners.

St. James Catholic Church, located on 10 Mile, has 3,200 families in the congregation. In the past two weeks, the priest said livestreamed Masses have received almost 1,800 hits at stjamesnovi.org. Church officials have received positive feedback about the recordings done in the familiar church to give the congregation a feeling of connection.

See **EASTER**, Page 8A

SUICIDE AWARENESS

Farmington Hills couple fights stigma

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ken and Katherine Massey have tried to make sense of their son's May 2011 suicide.

He's a Farmington Hills councilman who co-founded Farmington Suicide Awareness for Everyone (SAFE) before Graham E. Smith took his life in those first few hours after Mother's Day.

She is a retired physiologist who woke up to learn her son was gone, despite a positive telephone conversation they shared on her special day, replete with signs that Smith's life in Texas was on the upswing.

They turned to advocacy soon after they lost Smith, 27, on May 9, 2011.

While the number of metro Detroit suicides continues to climb, they share

See **SUICIDE**, Page 5A

Graduations, student equity up in the air for school districts

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The coronavirus pandemic highlights disparities in educational resources among districts, while leaving parents, students and administrators in the dark about the future.

The scheduled end of the school year is still more than two months away, but with national social distancing in place until at least April 30, a return to school buildings is looking more and more improbable.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer was expected to make an announcement regarding the fate of this school year today.

Novi Superintendent Steve Matthews, Huron Valley Superintendent Paul Salah and South Lyon Interim

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 6A

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Where to order Easter dinner this year

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Easter clearly won't be the same this year.

But there are plenty of ways to mark the holiday, and several restaurants are hoping families turn to something special by bringing Easter dinner home.

Among these restaurants is The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township, which had to cancel its traditional Easter buffet for the first time in its history to opt for carryout during the coronavirus pandemic.

"This is the first year we won't have it," said Paul Wegert, general manager. "We didn't want to lose that tradition for those families."

The hotel at 44045 Five Mile is serving up several of its most popular items from its traditional buffet, including roasted prime rib, roasted leg of lamb and grilled vegetable ravioli. All food will be provided to customers the day before Easter and will be easy to re-heat before serving the family.

"We wanted to do things that are the meat and potatoes of the holiday menu," said Eric Djordjevic, director of food and beverage at the inn. "Things that would be easy for the end user to heat for home use without having a chef."

A staple for fine dining experiences across metro Detroit is Andiamo, which is providing its Easter meal to go for the first time.

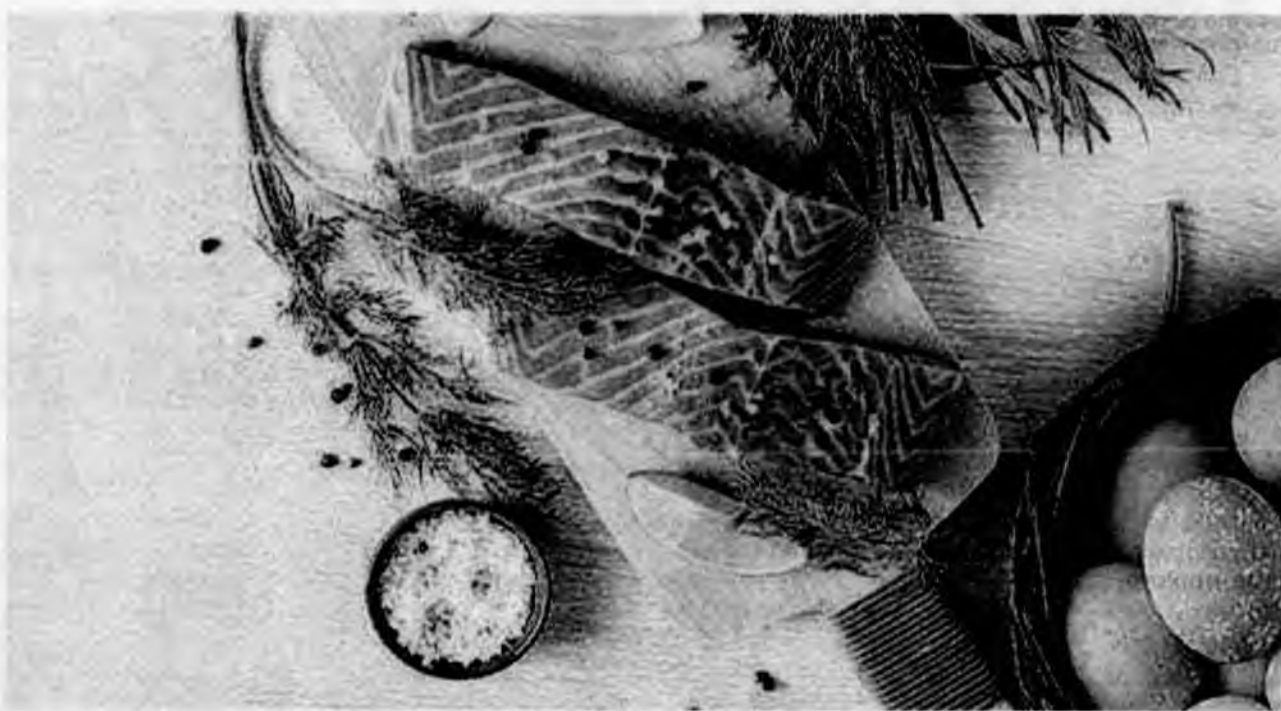
Jim Oppat, the executive chef for the Joe Vicari Restaurant Group, said the restaurants across the region typically serve more than 1,000 hungry patrons each Easter.

"We're used to being the destination place," he said. "It's kind of a need that's out there in the community we're trying to provide for."

Andiamo, which has restaurants locally on Seven Mile in Livonia and on Telegraph in Bloomfield Township, will offer brunch and dinner menus for families in groups of four.

The brunch menu will offer ricotta-filled crepes with raspberry sauce, Dearborn-brand brown sugar glazed ham and potatoes o'brien with sweet bell peppers and onions, among other items. The dinner menu has Dearborn ham, chicken piccata in lemon white wine sauce with capers, and shrimp cocktail.

Oppat said the restaurants have had a good re-



Joe Muer Seafood in Bloomfield Hills is one of many places offering specialty dinners for Easter this year.
COURTESY OF JOE MUER SEAFOOD

sponse to their meal packages.

"We have a ton of orders already," he said. "Most people are ordering the brunch and the dinner."

Joe Muer Seafood, also part of the Joe Vicari Restaurant Group, will offer its Easter brunch and dinners to go from its location on Woodward Avenue in Bloomfield Hills.

While it will have some similar items to the Andiamo menus, dinner will include some of its signature seafood dishes: Atlantic crab-stuffed flounder with grainy mustard beurre blanc and deviled crab balls with stone-ground mustard sauce.

Having such a meal still makes the holiday feel special, even though few things in the world are operating like normal. Celebrating those special events, Oppat said, has always been Andiamo's specialty.

"It's a holiday. People do want to spend on a holiday," he said. "Your loved ones deserve Andiamo."

Those looking for more traditional Easter meals can order from Joe's Produce, 33152 W. Seven Mile in Livonia, which is offering four meals to pick from to celebrate: two traditional dinners, a brunch and a Polish Easter dinner, which includes pierogi, sausage and sauerkraut and cabbage rolls.

Stella's Black Dog Tavern, 860 Fralick in Plymouth, had to refund hundreds of parties their reservations at the restaurant for Easter. Bob Ostendorf, the owner of the tavern and of Stella's Tracksides at 885 Starkweather, said they decided to continue with the Easter tradition and do curbside meals for pickup that day.

"We felt obligated to do that as well," he said. "You can have a decent family Easter dinner ... with one of those."

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

Northville library delays launch of new website

The Northville District Library will not launch its newly-designed website until the library is once again open to the public.

The decision to delay the launch was made in order to give people the opportunity to connect with a librarian in person should they need help navigating the new site.

In the meantime, library staff members are continually adding educational and fun online and virtual activities for kids and teens to the current website. Staff is also updating information about the library during this temporary closure in the NDL Updates section on the website.

Check out the current site to find these new online resources for kids and teens, as well as the broad array of downloading and streaming resources available through the Northville District Library: www.northvillelibrary.org.

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Some restaurants making tough choice to shut down

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

It's been a month since life changed completely for everyone across metro Detroit with the coronavirus pandemic. Some of the most affected businesses include the area's restaurants, which were forced to transition to a carryout-only model just weeks ago when Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered dining rooms to close for several weeks to help stop the virus' spread.

Now, many restaurants are facing a tough decision as the economy feels the pinch: stay open, or close until a semblance of normalcy returns?

Coach's Corner, 36000 W. Seven Mile in Livonia, began serving customers via carryout after the order to close dining areas. After several weeks operating on a takeout basis and with reduced hours, owner Mike George decided to close for April.

"I can't control who's walking in," George said. "There's no value you can put on someone's life."

The bar, which relocated to its current space near the Fox Creek Golf Course last spring, was holding its own financially when the order to close the dining room came in. Coach's Corner had ordered hundreds of pounds of corned beef for St. Patrick's Day and George was worried about selling it. They ended up selling out.

Recent reports regarding the outlook of Michigan restaurants don't show pretty numbers: as many of 33% of restaurants may not survive the closures, according to the Michigan Lodging & Restaurant Association.

Downtowns are doing what they can to promote their local eateries. The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority has launched a contest encouraging people to carry out food; those who spend at least \$50 at Plymouth restaurants can submit their receipts to the DDA at dda@plymouthmi.gov to be entered into a drawing to win a \$25 gift card to use at a local restaurant.

"We're hoping that encourages people to support our local businesses," said Tony Bruscatto, Plymouth DDA executive director. "You have a chance of winning half your money back."

Bruscatto said there have been plenty of changes happening across downtown Plymouth, which the DDA posts about on a regular basis on its website. As the pandemic continues, restaurants are making tough decisions, he said.

"Most of the ones that are now closed tried to do it in the beginning and just couldn't make it go, make it work for them," he said. "It's a tough time. You don't want to expose your employees to coronavirus, but you want to stay open."

Others close after being open

Several others have attempted to stay open, but have since opted to close for the foreseeable future. One such location is Proving Grounds Coffee and Ice Cream, which has locations at 369 N. Main in downtown Milford and a new location at 417 S. Washington in downtown Royal Oak. Both coffee shops closed last weekend after several weeks of trying to stay open.

James Courtney, who owns the shop with his wife, Jodie, said the decision to close factored in the health of the community: While the shops' walk-up windows were the main point-of-sale for the weeks they were open, Courtney said they worried about customers getting too close together as the weather improves.

"If our core value is community, we need to start doing our part," he said. "It was a very tough decision."

While the shops are closed, the company said it would provide free delivery twice a week in Milford and once a week in Royal Oak for those with a hankering for brewing their own Proving Grounds coffee at home. Orders can be placed by emailing proving-groundscoffee@gmail.com. Courtney said delivery is just one way for the shop to stay connected.

"I'm doing it because it keeps me busy. It keeps me in front of the customer," he said. "It's a win-win."

Similarly, A Good Day Cafe, 399 S. Lafayette in South Lyon, decided this past week to shut down after being open for carryout for a few weeks. The shop did not return a request for comment, but posted on Facebook it felt closing was the best decision.

"I am very concerned for everyone's health and safety and I think that it is best if we all just stay home and let this pass sooner than later," the post read. "The support and continued business throughout this week have been tremendous and has made this decision even more difficult. I want to thank every single one of you and wish nothing but good health your way."

'We certainly miss everybody'

In Plymouth, just one of two restaurants that go by the name "Stella" has decided to close its doors. Stella's Tracksides, 885 Starkweather, was open briefly after restaurant dining rooms were ordered closed but closed in mid-March. Still open is Stella's Black Dog Tavern, 860 Fralick, which continues to offer curbside pickup of family meals.

Some adjustments have taken place, including only taking credit cards as payment and a reduction of staff.

"The venue that we're running seems to be working," said Bob Ostendorf, owner of the tavern. "We're doing an OK job. We're going to stay there. We want to make sure people know we care about them."

The pandemic has also gotten restaurant owners serving some important clients: health care workers battling the coronavirus head on. George said he took dozens of meals to St. Mary Mercy Hospital to help feed employees right after Coach's Corner closed, and Ostendorf said he's planning on taking 100 meals to the Livonia hospital later this month.

When it becomes safe again, expect some big-time events at local bars and restaurants. George said perhaps a belated St. Patrick's Day party is in the cards.

Dorothy Twinney, marketing manager for the Stella's restaurants, said seeing regulars is what everyone looks forward to. But she said she knows everyone will be better by the time this pandemic ends.

"We certainly miss everybody," she said. "If anything, at the end of the day, I truly believe we're all going to come out of this stronger."

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

Police take on teacher's role with open businesses

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Metro Detroit police agencies spent late March responding to some complaints about businesses not following Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order closing them.

Many departments took reports, educated employers and employees when they could, and referred them and their cases to the Michigan Attorney General.

Recent complaints to Milford police include concerns about maintaining a six-foot distance between employees, insufficient cleaning supplies, sick employees and businesses with non-essential services remaining open.

"(The employee) alleged the company provided no essential services yet

employees were still there working," read one Milford police report regarding a business on the south side of town.

Police spoke with the business owner, who said he was doing everything to comply with the state's new status quo.

He explained that his business was part of the supply chain for healthcare businesses. A large part of his staff was working from home the day of the report, March 25, and the business was operating with about half its normal on-site staff.

The owner further said he has rearranged his work environment to allow six feet of distance between employees. He also was conducting daily health screens for employees reporting to the warehouse.

To conclude their report, police said the case would remain open pending

the Michigan Attorney General's review.

Officials in other police departments shared similar experiences.

"Regarding business complaints, we have responded to several, but I believe the number is very low and I am unaware of any clear violations discovered," Farmington Hills Police Chief Jeff King wrote in an email.

He added that officers have left an "advertisement form" with businesses dealing with complaints. It has basic information about Whitmer's executive orders and directs attention to an Oakland County website that helps businesses determine appropriate operations and essential staffing.

Northville Township Police Chief Paul Tennies said officers are more keen on public education than enforcement action, since the intent behind the exec-

utive order is to keep people safe.

Common sense also is an overarching goal. For example, he considers a plumber responding to an elderly person's emergency an essential service.

"At this point, we are doing our best to take an educational approach with residents and business owners," Wayne Police Chief Ryan Strong said. "However, we may take a stricter approach as the situation evolves."

"Again, my hope would be that residents follow the order. Doing so is in the best interest of the entire community."

On April 2, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Robert Gordon established civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for violating three of the governor's executive orders.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

Coronavirus adds uncertainty as political filing deadlines near

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For those feeling the urge to represent their communities, the state requires candidates running for non-judicial partisan and nonpartisan offices to file any necessary nominating petitions, fees, and affidavits for the Aug. 4 primary by 4 p.m. April 21.

Election information can be found at www.michigan.gov/sos.

Eric Esshaki of Birmingham filed a federal lawsuit against state officials stating Michigan's shelter-in-place orders prevent him from collecting signatures for nominating petitions to appear on the ballot by the filing deadline. The lawsuit states he wants to run for the Michigan's 11th Congressional District seat and seeks changes that would allow him to appear on the ballot.

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, Wayne County government is temporarily closed and does not have an online list of candidates of who has already filed to run who already filed.

Similarly, Oakland County's election division is closed. Its online list of candidates who already filed was last updated March 23.

Oakland County

Executive

Andy Meisner, Huntington Woods (D)

Prosecuting Attorney

Jessica Cooper, Beverly Hills (D)

Sheriff

Barnett Jones, Lake Orion (D)

Randy Maloney, Waterford (D)

Clerk and Register of Deeds

Lisa Brown, West Bloomfield (D)

Treasurer

Robert Wittenberg, Huntington Woods (D)

Joe Kent, Oxford (R)

Water Resources Commissioner

Robert Buxbaum, Oak Park (R)

Jim Stevens, Rochester Hills (R)

Oakland County Commissioner

1st District

Michelle Bryant, Lake Orion (D)

Michael Gingell, Lake Orion (R)

2nd District

Bob Hoffman, Highland (R)

3rd District

Michelle McClellan, Oxford (D)

Michael Spisz, Oxford (R)

4th District

Karen Joliat, Waterford (R)

5th District

Kristen Nelson, Waterford (D)

6th District

Tarrie Duke, Waterford (D)

Jeffrey Long, White Lake (D)

Eileen Kowall, White Lake (R)

7th District

Karen Adams, Commerce (D)

Christine Long, Commerce (R)

8th District

Phil Weipert, South Lyon (R)

9th District

Gwen Markham, Novi (D)

David Staudt, Novi (R)

11th District

Thomas Kuhn, Troy (R)

12th District

Kelly Dillaha, Birmingham (D)

William Gage, Bloomfield Hills (D)

Chuck Moss, Birmingham (R)

13th District

Sean Thomas, Farmington Hills (D)

15th District

Adam Kochenderfer, Rochester Hills (D)

17th District

Nancy Quarles, Southfield (D)

18th District

Charlie Cavell, Ferndale (D)

Dan Cherrin, Huntington Woods (D)

19th District

Kim Gibbs, Royal Oak (R)

20th District

Gary McGillivray, Madison Heights (D)

Milford Township

Supervisor

Don Green, Milford (R)

Brien Worrell, Milford (R)

Clerk

Holly Brandt, Milford (R)

Treasurer

Cynthia Dagenhardt, Milford (R)

Trustee

Richard George, Milford (R)

William Mazzara, Milford (R)

Dale Wiltse, Milford (R)

Trinity Health plans furloughs

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

As companies are laying off or furloughing employees as a way to combat a decrease in revenue because of the coronavirus pandemic, it appears that even health care providers are not immune.

Trinity Health, whose corporate offices are in Livonia, announced it would begin furloughing employees and reducing some to part-time status as a result of economic challenges due to the impact of the virus.

A spokesperson for the health care company - which has hospital systems across the country and includes the St. Joseph Mercy Health System in southeast Michigan and Mercy Health in western Michigan - said the company will look to furlough up to 2,500 employees across the state.

"This pandemic has created a serious disruption to Trinity Health's operations, colleagues and the people we serve," said Michael Slubowski, president and chief executive officer of Trinity Health, in a statement. "Outpatient and home care services represent

a large portion of health systems' revenues and they are decreasing significantly.

"This is understandable because of orders by state and federal governments to stop elective surgeries - and because many healthy patients are unable to visit the doctor at this time."

The furloughs are expected to impact employees not directly related to battling the coronavirus pandemic.

In addition, senior leadership at the company is taking a 15% to 25% pay cut, and Slubowski is taking a 50% pay cut.

The company employs about 125,000 employees nationwide and locally has hospitals in Livonia, Pontiac, Chelsea, Howell and Superior Township.

Other area temporary layoffs

Other companies in the region that have indicated layoffs as of April 2:

- Ken Garff Automotive
- Paper Source in Birmingham
- Trott Law in Farmington Hills
- Gazelle Sports
- The YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit
- ZF North America
- The Rusty Bucket and Tavern



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Negligence

Continued from Page 1A

status, and they did not. They exposed us, and their community."

When contacted, an attorney for the facility said Cedarbrook was not commenting at the time.

It subsequently released a statement, which said the family had been notified of the COVID-19 test:

"First and most importantly, we extend our condolences to the family on the loss of their mother and grandmother. We have been in very close contact with the family for a number of days working to verify, clarify and share facts about the care provided.

"We know that once medical staff recommended that a COVID-19 test be administered, a test was ordered. A Cedarbrook nurse witnessed the hospice nurse, who was caring for the resident that day, notify the family's representative that a COVID-19 test had been ordered. This fact has been confirmed in writing by the hospice nurse. During the hospice nurse's conversation with the family representative it was recommended that visiting family members should wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

"These are incredibly challenging times for everyone, and we will be working with the family to make sure they have this updated information. While the family is understandably hurting, we are confident Cedarbrook Senior Living took all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of our residents and their families."

Following Chavdarian's death, Daniels said a Cedarbrook manager called her "bawling her eyes out, admitting there was a mistake, that everyone involved at the senior center thought someone else had told us about the symptoms and the test. She asked us to extend them grace."

Chavdarian's primary physician at Cedarbrook, Dr. Subburaman Sivakumar, is an internist affiliated with St. Mary Mercy Hospital, according to the hospital's website. Sivakumar is the doctor who administered the test to Chavdarian, Daniels said.

During her final days at Cedarbrook, Chavdarian was receiving hospice care from Angela Hospice, whose protocol, Daniels said, does not include the au-



Alice Chavdarian poses for a photo with five of her six great-grandchildren in 2015. COURTESY OF JULIETTE DANIELS

thorization of COVID-19 tests.

"Angela Hospice did not order it. It was ordered and administered by Dr. Sivakumar," Daniels said. "In addition, Angela Hospice CEO (Marti) Coplai stated she was under the impression Dr. Sivakumar had informed us of the COVID-19 test and potential for infection before we visited my grandma."

Coplai declined to comment.

Chavdarian was restricted from having visitors beginning March 12, Daniels said.

"Cedarbrook called our family on March 24 and stated that my grandmother was 'actively dying' and we should visit her to say goodbye," Daniels said. "We were never informed that she was a suspected COVID-19 case. Dr. Sivakumar never told us he authorized a COVID-19 test and eight individuals in our family were exposed due to their omission of fact.

"Moreover, upon receiving the posi-

tive COVID-19 test, they finally informed us and immediately removed her from hospice (against Angela Hospice protocol) and sent her to St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia to die."

Chavdarian died one day after being transferred to St. Mary's.

"This is upsetting enough. However, the avoidable exposure to COVID-19 is what I believe warrants explanation," Daniels said. "This is unconscionable."

Daniels said she and her family have not been able to secure prescriptions for COVID-19 tests from their primary-care physicians, so they asked Cedarbrook to provide them with tests.

Citing that the family members are not residents of the Cedarbrook community or patients of Dr. Sivkumar, their request was declined.

"However, as an accommodation to you and your family, should your primary care physician agree to write a prescription, we will reimburse you for

the reasonable cost of such test," Cedarbrook Vice President of Operations Erin Ottenbreit wrote Daniels in an email.

Chavdarian lived an extraordinary life, Daniels said. At age 50, when most people are eyeing retirement, Chavdarian attended the University of Michigan to become a teacher. She taught at Plymouth's Bird Elementary, where her students affectionately called her "Mrs. Chav."

"This is a horrific and unfitting end for a woman who lived her nearly 93 years with strength, passion, excitement and joy," Daniels said. "I always called her Gram. Gram loved her family deeply and desired nothing more than to bring spunk, wit and charm to life's ups and downs.

"Gram was always there for all of us, and I pray she will continue to be."

Contact reporter Ed Wright at edwright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

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Suicide

Continued from Page 1A

their story – the pain, rage, guilt, what-ifs and other mental anguishes that can be an albatross for suicide survivors.

Their goal is to decrease the stigma associated with suicide, which Ken Massey defines as “the terminal end of untreated mental illness.”

He’s encountered suicide survivors who won’t speak the names of those who took their own lives. He’s been to a funeral where the suicide victim’s casket was placed in another room that relatives would not step into.

“If we reach one person, everything we’re doing is good,” said Ken Massey, who remembers his first funeral being for a suicide victim.

Katherine Massey once considered ~~being~~ the psychoanalyst who said Graham wasn’t serious about being suicidal, just to emphasize that he was wrong.

Yet she has been grateful to see people pick up Farmington SAFE flyers and materials.

“Not everybody does want to talk about it,” she said.

Farmington SAFE tries to erase the stigma of suicide through community events like a spaghetti dinner for the Graham E. Smith Memorial Fund. Created by the Masseys, the fund supports Farmington SAFE’s suicide awareness and prevention efforts.

The Masseys have advice for those coping with a loved one’s suicidal tendencies.

“Don’t be afraid to ask tough questions,” Katherine Massey said. “Don’t let them blow you off.”

“Be ready to act on the answers that you get,” Ken Massey advised.

Were there signs?

Katherine Massey had two sons – Graham and Nathan – when she met her second husband at the University of Texas in Dallas.

Ken Massey remembers the brothers being great children. They loved their mother and were willing to call him Dad.

Graham, though, could take life personally. He developed an eating disorder when he was in elementary school.

Years later, Graham and his brother moved to Texas for work. The Masseys learned Graham Smith tried cutting

About this series

Suicide has long been a subject most people avoid talking about publicly, yet suicides in metro Detroit counties have increased in recent years.

This is the second in a series of stories examining the topic.

himself. He agreed to some therapy but then a move prevented him from getting the same service, and he rejected his parents’ offers to help.

The young man was charismatic and charming, once convincing a construction crew to pull his truck out of a ditch and put it back on the road before police came.

He also was volatile.

Saying goodbye

During that last conversation with his mother, Graham ran off, saying he better get moving since the restaurant where he worked was going to be busy for Mother’s Day.

He had been doing well professionally, working for BJ’s Restaurants Inc., traveling to train wait staff and to help open new restaurants in the chain.

The Masseys learned he had been drinking with some colleagues before he headed home in the early morning hours after Mother’s Day.

Police caught him speeding, but Smith refused their requests to pull over. Instead, he led them to his apartment complex, where he lived with his brother.

He apparently ran into their apartment, grabbed a weapon that his brother needed for his job and then departed.

The Masseys learned Graham fatally shot himself. They have learned much more about Graham since then, enough to suspect their son was dealing with bipolar disorder.

While giving others the impression everything was good, Graham Smith had a pile of traffic tickets that he hadn’t paid. His parents couldn’t find evidence of a driver’s license or proper vehicle registration.

“We found out this all later,” Ken Massey said. “He had constructed a house of cards, and he saw being pulled over as a big wind coming through, and it would have taken it all down.”

“When it sounds like your son is doing well, a mom wants to believe that,”



Ken and Katherine Massey stand in their Farmington Hills home with a portrait of Katherine’s late son, Graham E. Smith. The couple founded the Graham E. Smith Memorial Fund to honor him soon after he fatally shot himself on May 9, 2011.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Katherine Massey explained.

Ken Massey knows he remains angry with his son for causing their family pain. On the other hand, he knows Graham probably felt very alone toward the end of his life.

The love he has for Graham shines bright when he hears Jackson Browne’s “Running on Empty.”

He and his wife keep sharing their story because they’re convinced they’re making a difference. They’ve heard sui-

cide in Farmington Hills is down and that more people are seeking help earlier on in their struggles than before.

“Given the programs through Farmington SAFE and Farmington Youth Assistance, I think a lot has been accomplished,” Katherine Massey said. “There still is a lot more to do.”

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


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Schools

Continued from Page 1A

Superintendent George Heitsch spoke on what they are doing now to improve education at home, what they may have to do for graduation, and how the coronavirus pandemic will continue to impact students and teachers next fall.

All three districts plan to continue food distribution programs, providing thousands of meals to students out of school, for as long as necessary.

Unusual, unequal education continues

The superintendents agree online education is lacking in equality, both to those actually able to receive it, and compared to what is learned in a classroom.

"There are huge inequities between school districts," Matthews said. "In Novi, we are fortunate. The vast majority of students have technology and internet access at home, but there are students who don't have that."

The district discovered through a recent survey which students needed devices and then distributed 300 Chromebooks.

In Huron Valley, Salah said data is still being gathered on who needs help with technology. He suspects that in a district with 9,000 students, an estimated 600 to 1,000 may need Chromebooks.

Salah said the district is taking a multi-phased approach, distributing one Chromebook per household in the first phase, and more than one in a second phase. The question of how many are needed is complicated by parents who are working from home and need the computer, children in blended families splitting time between households, and by how many students are in a home and waiting to use a device.

He noted also that beyond those challenges, some students may not have internet access; some students for whom English is a second language; and some students who have special needs and require other accommodations.

"If you had told me two weeks ago, 'We're going to move to online to meet the needs of all children,' I would have said, 'That's impossible!'" Salah said. "But our staff is rising to the occasion and it is remarkable to watch."

"There is tremendous inequity across the state. We know 500,000 students out of 1.5 million have no access to tech. When you talk about just going online, for some communities, that is impossible."

Heitsch said South Lyon families are also being surveyed to find out their needs.

"We have identified 250 families that will need some kind of help," he said. "I suspect we will be using Chromebooks. The district believes we have enough."

They are still working on a plan to distribute the devices and awaiting guidelines from the state to adhere to restrictions on social distancing and opening of buildings to distribute the necessary materials.

In all three districts, educational activities are posted online, and for students without access to technology, learning packets are passed out at food distribution locations.

Once the kids are online, what they see varies by district, as well.

In South Lyon and Huron Valley, content is centralized by early elementary (K-2), upper elementary, middle school and high school. At the secondary level, educational activities are further divided in content.

Some teachers videotape lessons, some use various apps like Google classroom, Dojo, or Seesaw. Some are maintaining contact with students through email or text messaging. The frequency varies.

"It makes it difficult because we don't have common expectations across the county and state, or the same level of expertise across the county or state," Heitsch said. "This first demonstrates how important schools are for the social and emotional health of kids, how diffused it is to get instructional information from a variety of sources, and how hard it is to transition to online learning for kids."

"It holds great promise, but it doesn't replicate what happens in a classroom."

In Huron Valley, content is being pushed out once a week, also by grade span. Salah said in the first week of school closures, the district saw 3,000 hits on the webpage where online activities were offered.

In the event schools are closed for the rest of the year, Salah and Huron Valley staff are preparing a standardized approach for use throughout the district, with learning activities tailor-made for each classroom, as well as additional supports for students with special education needs.



South Lyon High School student Emily Henderson helps out during the March 31 food distribution at Novi High. Henderson heard about the volunteer opportunity and showed up for a few hours to do her part. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Cars wait in line to pick up breakfasts and lunches for Novi High School students.

"The lower you go in grade level, the more complex this is," Salah said. "If we could replicate school through online learning, we would have done it. Schools are equipped to serve all students in interactive ways, with small-group instruction, grouping in collaborative environments, and project-based learning. ... You can't do all that work at home as you can with a highly-skilled teacher."

He also pointed to the difficulty of getting students at any age to sit in front of a computer for hours.

Matthews agreed it is not realistic to have students sit at a computer for seven hours, in contrast to their in-school experience, where they work not only as individuals, but also in small groups, or as a whole class, and take breaks for art, physical education and music.

Currently, Novi teachers are posting a week's worth of online content for students by grade and by department.

There may be teachers who are doing "live" lessons with students, but the majority of educators are videotaping themselves with students able to access the lessons at whatever time works for them.

"Overall, we are pleased with how the educational opportunity is going for kids," Matthews said. "If this persists, we have to adjust to find ways to find more and deeper content for students. Parents, rightly so, don't want to lose the school year, and the last few months are important for kids."

Matthews is holding out a slim hope that there could be a return to school, even if just for a month, before the end of the school year.

"It could bring a sense of closure to whatever grade they are in," he said. "It wouldn't be an abrupt end and a missing piece. My sense is that we probably can't do that right now, as the virus continues to spread. ... Unless there is a high degree of confidence we can return safely, we would not want to risk the health of students or staff."

Coronavirus pandemic upsets year-end celebrations

As districts move into spring, they are normally planning end-of-year

sporting events, concerts for band, choir and orchestra, field days and fun fairs. All of these appear to be on the chopping block, but nothing raises more concern than what happens to final rites of passage for seniors, including senior prom and graduation.

"Graduation is a bigger issue, that is the most important ceremony and celebration and the end point of mandatory schooling for students," Matthews said. "We would like to figure out a way to do that. Instead of May 30 for graduation, maybe we postpone it to July 15, in the middle of summer, if we could. ..."

"Virtually (celebrating) doesn't seem to be a good fit. There is power in coming together and celebrating the end of high school, but we will have to look at new ideas."

Heitsch and Salah are also thinking of what to do about graduation.

"We want to protect as much as possible the experience students want to have," Heitsch said. "I think we're going to have ask the kids what they want for graduation and find a way to get student voice in a situation like that and see what we can and can't do."

Salah said he has received a dozen emails from seniors questioning plans regarding graduation and prom.

"I have enforced how important it is to stay healthy and calm and offered that we will meet with a group of seniors virtually to brainstorm what kind of end-of-year activities are possible and what makes the most sense, rather than me or the administrators trying to figure out (alone) what that looks like," he said. "It can be any number of things, maybe a summer event, something next year, a reunion sooner rather than later."

He added there is "so much ambiguity" surrounding these questions, but he is committed to honoring the work of seniors in finishing their K-12 education.

Long-lasting effects

Salah also used "ambiguity" to describe issues surrounding what next school year will look like.

The superintendents acknowledged the pandemic's effects will be long-lasting and continue next fall, through 2021, and even beyond.

Salah sits on an Oakland Intermediate School District task force currently examining issues as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

He believes Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will offer forgiveness of students not being in school for the required 180 days and 1,098 hours of instructional time, solving an initial funding issue. But he is also hoping additional funding is provided for next year to meet the needs that will arise from education gaps this year.

He also wants pre-assessments of students as they start the 2020-21 school year to discover what content was not mastered as a result of online learning and to rethink the pacing of education.

"Maybe we extend the day – there are any number of possible solutions, but there is a lot more ground to cover," he said. "We might need extra days and hours for tutoring."

Matthews is working on the assumption that the "vast majority" of seniors will graduate and all other students are advancing to the next grade. Possibilities he is considering for next school year include a full month of review of this year's learning, shortening of semesters, and "moving forward" into new learning Oct. 1.

Heitsch said he expects more evaluating and adjusting "over the course of the next two to three years" as a result of school closures from the pandemic.

"The other thing we have to recognize is we need to be there for students and staff for the trauma," he said. "We won't make everything up in eight weeks, it will take awhile to fill gaps in the learning. The younger they are, the longer we have to catch up and we have to be really intentional with 9th, 10th, and 11th graders to make sure you fill gaps in the future."

Lessons learned

In a crisis that future students will likely learn about in history books, the superintendents are already reflecting on their own takeaways.

"My biggest lesson is to not to take things for granted, the service we provide to students, and what the staff does," Heitsch said. "The way we have always done things is not enough going forward. We have to be prepared for significant disruption to the way we do business."

For Salah, the lesson is simple.

"Together we can," he said. "Recognizing that having a high-functioning team that steps up is critical in times of turmoil and crisis."

Matthews believes the lesson is that communities need to be stronger.

"Our families and school staff are learning that being together is an important thing we shouldn't take for granted," he said. "When it's taken away, it's something that you miss."

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

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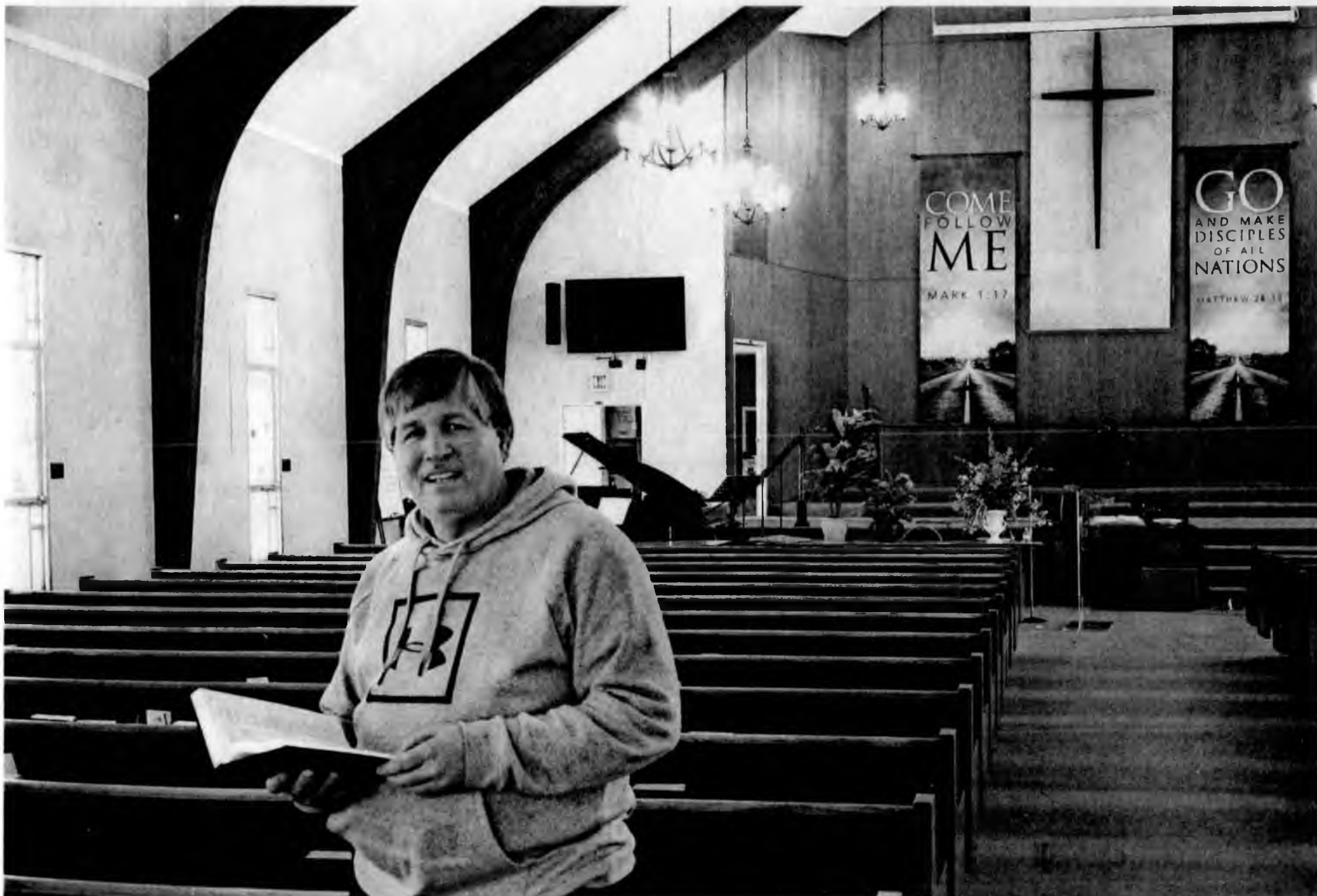
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Associate pastor Randy Weeks stands in the sanctuary of South Lyon's First Baptist Church. The church is looking for a way to have some kind of service for Easter. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Easter

Continued from Page 1A

Still, Zaorski calls it an "awkward experience."

"I am used to seeing a church full of people and now I'm communicating to them through a camera," Zaorski said. "And because our church tradition is so full of symbolism, we have to be creative so people feel comfortable."

This is ministry during the time of coronavirus.

Community Bible Church, which has campuses in South Lyon and Brighton, has combined online services which can be seen on its YouTube channel, but scrapped livestream after the first week due to technical difficulties caused by so many churches trying to go online at the same time.

"Everything is a blur," the Rev. Jon Nagle said. "We are forced during this time to set aside the embodied experience of being a church and using technology so we can have face time while quarantined."

Normally, on any given Sunday, Nagle said there are about 120 people in the South Lyon church on Pontiac Trail south of Nine Mile. The congregation so far, he said, seems to be "weathering the storm pretty well" in terms of their health and financial well-being, and are appreciative of the church using technology to connect in creative ways, including piecing together music from multiple remote locations.

"We are grateful this has happened during a time that we can use technology to have some semblance of community," Nagle said. "If this happened 50 years ago, we wouldn't have that option."

"I think a lot of people are asking where God is during all this. We haven't had a faith crisis, instead, people are asking, 'How can we get involved?' We have to practice social distance, but people are jumping at the bit to step up and help. In times like this, the church is given the chance to be the hands and feet of Christ and tend to those hurting."

'The church isn't a building'

The coronavirus pandemic's arrival in Michigan in March interrupted a 1 Corinthians sermon series at Community Bible Church. Now every sermon has an overarching theme of hope and all church members have been asked to film one-minute videos of their personal testimony of how Jesus has changed their lives, using the hashtag #stories-ofhope.

Randy Weeks, the associate pastor at First Baptist Church of South Lyon, has lost track of the number of in-person services that have been missed, noting that "time runs together."

"We had never closed the doors of the church," he said. "We are trying to comply with what everyone else is doing, it gives a bad taste if Christians or churches are meeting when everyone else is asked to stay at home."



Above, Father Ed Zaorski stands in the sanctuary of Novi's St. James Church, wearing a protective face mask made by a parishioner from an old T-shirt. At right, a volunteer with the St. James Church food bank puts together one of dozens of Easter baskets filled for parishioners in need and for Northville Civic Concern.



"We are trying to comply with what everyone else is doing. It gives a bad taste if Christians or churches are meeting when everyone else is asked to stay at home," said Randy Weeks, associate pastor at First Baptist Church of South Lyon.

Instead, church officials are recording services and hosting online Bible studies at fbcsouthlyon.com and encouraging families to worship at home using Zoom or conference calling, with no excuses, "because you have a lot of time you didn't before."

"The whole crisis allows us to remember the church isn't a building," Weeks said.

He acknowledged the challenge of hands-on ministry, without being able to do hospital or in-house visits, with no hugs or in-person words of encouragement. Instead, there are daily calls to parishioners to check in on their needs

and to provide personal devotions.

"Life is full of trials, but that shouldn't affect your faith," Weeks said. "Life will have crisis and trouble, but the most important thing is Jesus in hearts. Church is not confined to the four walls."

Church ministry certainly looks different, and Zaorski noted there has been an increase in food pantry usage, and cancellation or postponement of ceremonies including weddings, funerals and baptisms.

On Easter Sunday, however, even as the world endures a crisis unprecedented in modern history, he will return to the familiar message of Easter, one of

hope that does not change for Christians who believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

"It is the greatest story ever told, ever written, ever lived," Zaorski said. "And it is a story that continues. God has promised he will not abandon us, he will do his part, and we must do our part as well. Our part is to be loving, caring, and use the talents God has given us to defeat this virus and make this world a better place."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @Susan-Bromley10.



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Northville freshman Emily Roden earned herself a state swimming championship this past season. COURTESY OF BRIAN MCNEFF

Local swimmers adjust to postponement of Olympics

Collin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With sports at the high school, college and professional level at a complete standstill, the Olympics followed suit. The International Olympics Committee announced that the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, hosted every four years, would be postponed to 2021 due to the coronavirus outbreak. According to an announcement made Monday, the Games will be held July 23-Aug. 8 next year in Japan's capital. Three swimmers in the Hometown Life area may be in different spots in their journey — from an Olympic medalist to an Olympic trials rookie to a 2024 hopeful. However, they all have something in common: their Olympic dreams have been pushed back.



Catholic Central's Jonathan Lee was an All-Stater in two events. SUBMITTED

See OLYMPICS, Page 3B

MHSAA officially cancels remainder of season

Andrew Vaillencourt
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) officially canceled the remainder of the 2019-20 sports year. Winter sport playoffs and finals had previously been suspended and spring sports postponed indefinitely, but now, neither will be completed. A press release from the MHSAA said the following: "The MHSAA has canceled the remainder of the 2019-20 Winter and Spring sports seasons, in compliance with the Thursday (April 2) "state of disaster" directive by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer closing school buildings and moving education online for the remainder of the school year to help decrease the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. "This will be the first school year to not see MHSAA Finals played in multiple sports since 1942-43, when World War II led to the elimination of Finals in most sports. "The MHSAA on March 12 suspended its girls and boys basketball, girls gymnastics, boys ice hockey and boys swimming & diving tournaments amid COVID-19 concerns. All activity in all sports was halted March 13. Spring sports to that point had begun practice, but not competition. "The MHSAA's Representative Council approved during its Winter Meeting on March 27 a series of concepts for completing the Winter tournaments and an abbreviated Spring season, contingent on the lifting of a statewide quarantine. The closure of school buildings into June made those possibilities void. "The MHSAA's Executive Committee, comprised of officers of the larger Council, affirmed the decision today (April 3) to cancel the remainder of this school year's activities. "We are heartbroken to not be able to provide these opportunities for Michigan's student-athletes, and especially seniors. We continue to hear from dozens asking us to hold out hope. But safety always must come first, and Governor Whitmer is making

See MHSAA, Page 3B

Plymouth promotes longtime assistant to head football coach

Andrew Vaillencourt
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In a time filled with uncertainty, Plymouth High School opted for a familiar face to run its football program. Athletic Director Ray Miller hired longtime assistant coach Greg Souldourian as Plymouth's next head football coach. The move was made at the beginning of March after former coach Brian Lewis left earlier this year for the same job at Howell High School. Souldourian has been with Plymouth's football program in some capacity for all but one year since 2005, when he was brought in to be on former coach Jay Blaylock's staff. He coached at all three high school levels, including a stint as freshman head coach in 2008 and 2009. In 2010, he left for one season to be a varsity assistant at Ferndale High School, where he taught at the time. He rejoined Plymouth following that season, and has been with the Wildcats ever since. "Coach Souldourian has been an essential part of our Plymouth family for many years as a teacher and coach," Miller said. "He has coached under all three of our former head coaches (Jay

Blaylock, Mike Sawchuk, Brian Lewis), which is beneficial since he was able to see first hand what each of these coaches did to be successful. Greg is an extremely hard worker, builds lifelong relationships with his students, and is dedicated to improving his craft as a lifelong learner. The expectation is for Coach Souldourian to continue the success Plymouth Football has had on and off the field and to maximize each team's potential." For each of the last two seasons under Lewis, Souldourian was the team's

See SOULDURIAN, Page 4B



Greg Souldourian has been with Plymouth football for all but one year since 2005. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE



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Wayne Memorial coach dismissed in crash case

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Wayne Memorial head wrestling coach and PE teacher Andrew Hein was dismissed from the program Feb. 12, according to findings from a Freedom of Information Act request.

Hein did not receive an exit interview prior to his dismissal.

On the date of Hein's dismissal, Wayne Memorial participated in a team wrestling district semifinal at Dearborn High School, in which Hein was not in attendance.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department reopened its investigation of a rollover crash Feb. 8 involving members of the Wayne Memorial Wrestling team

traveling to Howell for the KLAA individual conference tournament.

The case is currently under review by the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office to see if any charges has been made.

Pamela Maas, the chief assistant prosecuting attorney, said she hopes to have information that will lead to a charging decision in the next 30 days.

According to a Feb. 7 email sent by Hein, the Wayne Memorial wrestling coach canceled a bus scheduled to take the team to Howell on that Saturday, saying, "there are only 4 kids going and the parents are driving."

Wayne Memorial athletic director Ja-



Hein

son Malloy was copied on the email.

Hein could not be reached for comment.

A parent told a Detroit television station the wrestlers were told to keep quiet after the accident, leaving the scene of the accident on the bus and later wrestling in the KLAA individual conference tournament later that day.

The crash report from Feb. 8 states the vehicle was on the Interstate 96 exit ramp at the D-19 exit in Howell at 8:18 a.m. when the driver lost control of the vehicle on the curve, going into the gore (area between the highway and the exit ramp) and rolling over.

According to the police report, the driver of the vehicle was going over the 70 miles-per-hour speed limit and the

road surface was covered in snow.

The original report states that the driver was the only occupant of the vehicle at the time of the crash.

Wayne-Westland Community Schools could not be reached for comment.

Hein was hired as the head wrestling coach at Wayne Memorial April 8 after serving as an assistant coach for the John Glenn wrestling team.

In an email sent to the athletic department on Feb. 17 after Hein's dismissal, Malloy stressed the importance of confirming transportation for weekly athletic team travel.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17.

Vaillencourt's Top 10 games of the 2019-20 school year

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Much of the world has come to a halt with the coronavirus pandemic, and that includes Michigan high school sports.

With the remainder of winter sports playoffs and the entire spring sports season canceled, we've decided to take a look back on the 2019-20 school year and pick out some of the best games we've had the opportunity to cover for Hometown Life.

Sports department colleague Colin Gay and I each compiled a list of the 10 best games that we have covered throughout this school year. It's important to note that not all of these games had our local teams come out victorious, but that didn't take away from how great the games were. We each attended different games throughout the year, so our list of games to pick from is completely different.

Here is my list, starting with a trio of honorable mentions:

Honorable Mentions

Livonia Franklin football fights off Stevenson in high-scoring battle

■ This was my first introduction to the high-flying Franklin offense and it did not disappoint. The Patriots won 47-21, but after scoring 21 straight points to start the game, allowed Stevenson back into it. The second half was one of the most explosive halves of football I've seen and featured some wild big plays and turnovers.

Novi soccer beats Detroit Catholic Central to win regional title

■ Coming into this game, Novi hadn't beaten CC in the postseason since 2016. With two second half goals, the Wildcats got it done and won the regional title.

South Lyon East basketball stifles rival South Lyon in OT in district semifinal

■ Coincidentally, this is the final game I covered in the boys basketball playoffs. South Lyon and South Lyon East split the regular season series and needed overtime to decide the playoff winner. It was East that held on, scoring the only three points in OT to secure the win.

Vaillencourt's Top 10

10. Livonia Franklin football shuts down Wyandotte Roosevelt, advances to district final

■ Franklin won this game with its defense, a change-up from what we'd seen from the Patriots all season. They held Roosevelt to seven points and forced two intentional grounding penalties, recorded six sacks and eight tackles for loss. The defense also forced and recovered two fumbles, blocked a punt and tallied a safety.

9. Northville volleyball beats Livonia Churchill in five-set thriller

■ Opening night of KLAA volleyball action saw Churchill take Northville to five sets before the Mustangs pulled out the victory. Churchill's Sarah Dunn had 21 kills and Northville's Jenna Boksha had 15.

8. Novi volleyball defeats Northville in thrilling district final

■ A battle of two powerhouse programs took four sets to decide a winner. Novi won 3-1, but the final three sets all had a two-point differential. With the win, Novi became district champs.

7. Detroit Catholic Central soccer beats South Lyon after PK save to win district title

■ In a one-goal game, CC's goaltender was given a yellow card in the box, giving South Lyon a penalty shot that could tie the game. The Shamrocks had to put in their backup goalie, Erik Dosch, who made the save of a lifetime. The save preserved the win and gave CC the district title.

6. Northville basketball stuns Plymouth with comeback victory

■ In this regular season game, Plymouth took a 13-point lead into half-time before things fell apart in the second half. Northville earned a one-point win after holding off a wild Plymouth push in the game's final minute. Mustang senior Zach Shoemaker had 27 points.

5. Livonia Franklin football falls to Belleville, finishes third in KLAA East Division

■ Facing one of the state's best teams, Franklin was a major underdog coming into this game. Despite losing 39-29, the game was much closer than even the score indicates. Franklin had its chance to secure the upset before one bad play cost it. This was the most well-played, competitive game I saw all year.

4. Traverse City West eliminates Novi soccer in overtime in state semifinals

■ Another game that didn't end well for the local squad, Novi couldn't hold on for a trip to the state title game after losing to Traverse City West in overtime. The weather was nasty, creating a slippery and wild second half, which saw West come back from a 2-0 deficit to upset the Wildcats.

3. Canton basketball advances to KLAA championship game on miracle buzzer beater from behind the basket

■ So far, all but one game in the top 10 is from the fall, but that changes here with three winter events to round it out. Canton was a fun team to watch all year long and would be playing Northville in the district final if the playoffs had not been suspended. In this game against Belleville, Canton saw the Tigers come roaring back to tie the game in the final minute. Luckily for the Chiefs, senior Ben Stestiak was there to save the day, making a miraculous behind the basket shot at the buzzer to win the game.

2. Livonia Stevenson hockey tops Novi in triple overtime to win regional championship

■ In the Division 2 playoffs, upstart Novi gave Stevenson all they could handle before the Spartans won 2-1 in triple OT. Ian Kimble scored the game-winning goal, but it was Novi sophomore goalie Austin Muirhead that stole the spotlight. He made 54 saves to carry the Wildcats.

1. Howell hoops clinches KLAA West with wild triple overtime win over Canton

■ The best game that I covered in the 2019-20 school year was February's KLAA showdown between Howell and Canton. The game had some sloppy moments on both sides, but kept me on the edge of my seat for the entire game as the team's fought to three overtimes. Howell won the game 75-71, but it featured star performances on each side, pitted two of the leagues best coaches against each other and displayed the passion everyone has come to expect from a big high school sporting event.

Gay's Top 10 games of the 2019-20 school year

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coming into the 2019-20 school year, I was unfamiliar with Michigan high school sports, a Houston native and an Ohio State graduate that had never lived in the state before.

Looking back at a year cut short — from all the time spent on the sideline of soccer and football games to talking with coaches after hockey and basketball games — I have seen some memorable moments in my first year as an official Michigander.

Hometown Life sports reporter Andrew Vaillencourt and I have each compiled a list of the 10 best games we have covered this school year. As we wait for high school sports to return to the metro Detroit area, here is a look at what I think are this best games I covered this year.

Honorable Mentions

North Farmington secures first victory despite late Groves surge

■ Coming into the season opener coming off a 2-17 last-place finish, the North Farmington girls basketball team showed progress from the start, holding onto a lead despite a late surge from Birmingham Groves in the fourth quarter.

Groves basketball's collapse against Southfield A&T ends season

■ In a game most Groves fans would like to forget, Southfield A&T stormed back, outscoring the Falcons 38-18 in the final 5:33. Southfield A&T forward Caleb secured the collapse with a four-point swing in the final 10 seconds, prompting a rowdy crowd to storm the Farmington gym at the buzzer.

South Lyon football defeats Lakeland in fourth quarter comeback win

■ Facing a 17-6 deficit late in the fourth quarter, South Lyon peaked at the right time, as quarterback Connor Fracassi found wide receiver Brenden Lach twice for two touchdowns in the comeback win against Lakes Valley Conference rival Lakeland on the road.

Gay's Top 10

10. Seaholm football surges past Groves in district final

■ After losing to Groves during the regular season, Seaholm stepped up and beat its district rival in a dominant 42-7 road win in the district final of the playoffs. In terms of shock value, this game was unexpected to say the least.

9. John Glenn basketball collapses, survives Livonia Stevenson

■ Coming off an eight-point loss to Belleville, John Glenn looked like it had returned to its normal self. However, a 17-4 Stevenson run in the fourth quarter led to one of the most memorable and even dogfights of the year on the basketball court that the Rockets came out on top of.

8. Brother Rice hockey earns revenge against Hartland

■ One of my first experiences with Michigan high school hockey was a chance at revenge for Brother Rice. Two goals against Hartland in the final 5:19 gave the Warriors revenge after falling to the Eagles in the 2019 state semifinal.

7. Livonia Churchill football secures first-round playoff win late against Dexter

■ Livonia Churchill, one of the best stories from the 2019 football season, came back from a 20-6 second-quarter deficit, as quarterback Gavin Brooks and wide receivers Brendan Lowry and Shane Morelli led the Chargers to a first-round playoff win on the road



Groves wide receiver Eli Turner celebrates after scoring the winning touchdown against West Bloomfield.

TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

against Dexter.

6. Mercy volleyball downs Marian in five-set thriller

■ Marian gave Mercy volleyball, the eventual Division 1 state champions, a scare in the regional semifinal. After Mercy amounted to a two-set lead, Marian won the next two, including a 30-28 fourth-set thriller. But the Marlins came back, winning the fifth set and earning enough momentum to earn their first state title.

5. Catholic Central wrestling rolls to first-place finish at CC Invitational

■ I had heard about Detroit Catholic Central wrestling and the dominance the Shamrocks showed each meet. From Josh Edmond's quick first move to Manny Rojas' performance, it was a good representation of what was to come for Catholic Central.

4. North Farmington football wins 'The Jug,' defeats Farmington for league title

■ With all of the preseason hype surrounding the rivalry, the first meeting between North Farmington and Farmington did not disappoint. The Raiders came out on top of a low-scoring, yet highly emotional contest to remain undefeated.

3. Bloomfield Hills boys basketball upsets North Farmington in overtime thriller

■ In what may be the biggest upset I witnessed this year, Bloomfield Hills boys basketball, a team that ended the season with three conference wins, ended a nine-game losing streak with an overtime win against North Farmington.

2. Franklin football secures city championship in triple-overtime win at Churchill

■ Tied at 28 at the end of regulation, the offenses for both Livonia Churchill and Livonia Franklin came to life in overtime, as both teams traded scores until the Patriots took advantage of a missed Chargers extra point in triple overtime to secure the city title.

1. Groves football wins stunner against West Bloomfield

■ This game was cinematic. Colby Taylor fumbled the ball in the endzone, allowing West Bloomfield, the favorite, to tie the game in the fourth quarter. Instead of going to overtime, quarterback Markis Alexander found Eli Turner on a back-shoulder ball to record the upset.

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

Discovery girls basketball team goes 15-1

Andrew Vaillencourt
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Discovery Middle School girls basketball team had its season cut short, but ended up going 15-1 and finishing the year strong.
Coach Dave Van Wagoner said this

year's team bought into a philosophy of toughness and tenacious defense, which allowed them to win the league championship.

The team is made up of: Thaidely Aular, Mya Brandon, Ivy Davis, Stephanie Dunn, Jaeda Estell, Emily Fewer, Sarah Figueroa-Parker, Ella Fournier, Leilah Howard, Jenna Kuzara, Payton Kitchen,

Madison Morson, Ava Murphy, Nora Schley, Hannah Simko, Averie Sughroue, Justice Tramble, Olivia White.

The Discovery girls basketball team's eighth-graders kiss the 'D' at center court after their final home game.
COURTESY OF DAVID VAN WAGONER



Olympics

Continued from Page 1B

The veteran

For Allison Schmitt, it was just another Olympic Games.

Since her debut at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, the Canton High School graduate is an eight-time medalist. At the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, Schmitt received a gold medal in the 200-meter freestyle, the 4x200-meter freestyle relay and the 4x100-meter medley relay. In the 2016 games in Rio, Schmitt earned her fourth gold medal in the 4x200 freestyle relay.

Schmitt has been here before. She knows the gravity of the Olympic Games and has seen it for herself. Even though she knew the pandemic was causing shockwaves around the world, the postmortem proved to be a shock.

"I don't know if it was ever expected," Schmitt said. "The few days leading up to it, it was kind of more and more seemed because of all the news about the pandemic that the world is going through. You really never see it coming."

With the announcement coming just a few months until the trials began, Schmitt said the biggest chunk of her training has been put in.

However, with a plan and training regiment in place, the Olympic veteran's major obstacle with the announcement is adapting to the real-time change in date.

"I think that there isn't one person out there who has an easy transition in this," Schmitt said. "But I do feel like in my position, I am lucky to have this as my problem rather than something bigger that I know a lot of people are going through."

Prior to the lockdown restrictions, Schmitt would still train once per day in a pool, but developed a training program in her backyards, knowing that swimming would soon not be an option.



Allison Schmitt wipes away tears during the medal ceremony after Team USA won gold in the women's 800m freestyle relay at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio.
GETTY IMAGES

For Schmitt, this hits home for her. She knows what it takes to get to the peak of success as an Olympian. And while she knows that, inevitably, COVID-19 will restrict her ability to swim entirely at some point, she keeps those Olympic dreams alive, striving to return to that peak.

"It will take a lot more self-motivation, but at the end of the day, I have my goals," Schmitt said. "Just because the date has changed of the Olympics doesn't mean that my goals have changed."

The rookie

As a four-time all-state swimmer in his time at Catholic Central, Jonathan Lee has made some noise since joining the Michigan State swim and dive team.

In his freshman season, he recorded the sixth-best time in the 200-meter breaststroke and the 10th best time in the 100-meter breaststroke in Spartans history, earning a personal best split in

the 200 medley relay at the Big Ten championships.

Earning his Olympic trial cut last year at a meet at Stanford, Lee achieved something he had been working toward his whole life: an attempt at an Olympic trial.

And he was not going to let COVID-19 stop him.

"I was still training with the intention of going to trials this summer because I had no idea how bad it was going to get," Lee said.

When the pools closed at Michigan State this spring, he moved home to train with his club team in Northville. When the pools with his club team closed shortly after he returned home, he found weights, starting a dry land training program.

MHSAA

Continued from Page 1B

courageous decisions to safeguard the people of our state," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "We understand as much as anyone how much school sports mean to athletes and their communities. We had ideas and hopes for finishing Winter and Spring and helping bring some sort of normalcy after this long break. But this is the correct decision, and we will play our part in bringing schools and communities together again when the time is right."

"For now, we cannot state strongly enough that all students, staffs and others follow the guidelines established to slow the spread of this virus - we all must do our part."

"Because the five Winter sports were not able to conclude with Finals, no champions will be awarded in those sports for 2019-20. However, championships won at earlier rounds of those tournaments (District or Regional) will continue to stand."

"The MHSAA will in coming weeks provide guidelines and other information pertinent to this unusual offseason as attention is turned to preparing for Fall 2020."

Here is a video, provided by the MHSAA from Uyl.

Local coaches react

Lawrence Scheffer would be in the early stages of his first season with the Livonia Churchill baseball program after spending 15 years at John Glenn. Instead, he's been limited to things like the team group chat in order to communicate with his players.

He spoke with Hometown Life shortly after the MHSAA announced its decision to cancel the rest of winter and spring sports.

"It's disheartening for all the seniors at Churchill and throughout the state," Scheffer said. "I totally back the MHSAA in their decision because we have people that are dying and I think that this is the best thing. They're looking out for

our student-athletes."

Churchill has three seniors on its baseball team that now won't get to play their final high school season.

"Once school got let out, I think all the kids really were glued to their phones for news because they knew there was a good chance the season was going to be canceled," Scheffer said. "We just didn't know if they were going to go in 2-4 week increments which they started off at. A lot of the kids are really bummed out."

Scheffer is hopeful that the kids will be able to play summer ball, especially for those juniors and seniors that are hoping to play sports in college.

Two of his three seniors have already committed to play sports in college, but one is still undecided and hopes to have college options.

Brendan Lowry is headed to Central Michigan for baseball, Dylan Curran to Madonna for football while Cam Greener is undecided.

At Detroit Catholic Central, Athletic Director Aaron Babicz addressed his coaches and shared his reaction with Hometown Life.

"I think everybody kind of knew it was coming, as much as we were trying to hold out hope," Babicz said. "I told our kids that we were going to hope for the best, but prepare for the worst, just so there was some sense of honesty to it. I mean, obviously, I'm heartbroken for not only our kids, but for kids across the state, kids across the country regardless of the level, from youth sports all the way up to professional sports and collegiate sports. This is obviously something extremely serious."

"The tough part is that you really have to take a look at why you compete and why you are a part of a team. At least that's the message to the kids, but it's tough to tell high school kids that. There's nothing you can say to make it better. No amount of prayers, no amount of positivity, no amount of love, so you just got to try and wrap your arms around them and try to make things better somehow."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at avaiillenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659.

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Milford hires former volleyball star as coach

Andrew Vaillencourt
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Milford Mavericks brought on a former school star to lead the school's volleyball program.

Milford athletics announced that Annie Malburg has been named the head varsity volleyball coach at Milford High School.

She replaces Nancy McKouen, the Mavericks' head coach the past four seasons.

Malburg began her volleyball career at Milford High as an outside hitter where she also played basketball and ran track. In 2013, she was inducted into the Milford Athletic Hall of Fame. She played collegiate volleyball at Spring Arbor University as an outside hitter while getting degrees in exercise and sport science and secondary ed mathematics.

While teaching math and physical education at Grass Lake High School, she coached 7th grade through JV volleyball before taking over the varsity program. During her tenure at Grass Lake, she took a team that was constantly at the bottom and built the squad into a conference contender.

"I'm excited and honored to accept the role of varsity volleyball coach," Malburg said. "My experiences as a volleyball player and coach have taught me over and over again how significant a sports program can be in the lives of a young athlete. I'm looking forward to meeting the players and families of the Milford volleyball program and begin growing our program in new ways."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Twitter: @AndrewV-court. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Milford has hired former star Annie Malburg as its next volleyball coach.
COURTESY OF JIM MARSALEK

Souldourian

Continued from Page 1B

linebackers coach, special teams coordinator and strength and conditioning coach.

"I want to build off of what the guys did before me," Souldourian said. "The foundation is laid, I just want to keep building on what they've done and compete every year. The goal every year is to compete for our division and compete for the conference and build off that. We've made the playoffs the past two years and made runs in the past, we want to consistently make the playoffs and make runs. Eventually we want to win a state championship, that's everybody's goal."

Last fall, Plymouth went 8-1 in the regular season and won the KLAA West Division before losing to Belleville in the conference title game and West Bloomfield in the state playoffs.

He knows Plymouth may not have the athletes that those two programs

have, but said he hopes to keep building a culture and mindset that will allow the Wildcats to take down opponents like Belleville in the future.

His experience coaching players on both sides of the ball and the prior relationships he already has with current players should allow Plymouth to hit the ground running once social distancing restrictions are lifted.

"Being in the weight room, that's where you build your relationships with the kids," Souldourian said. "The only person that spent as much time with the kids as me the last two years was Coach Lewis because we were in the weight room together. Across the board you get to know the kids on a lot deeper level than a lot of other people because you're seeing them so much more."

Souldourian says he plans to run an offense similar to last season, mixing in some elements of the past 12 years. The defense will have more changes, especially with Lewis still in the conference at Howell. Plymouth plays at Howell in week four of the 2020 season.

Special teams remain an area of emphasis as last season alone demonstrated how critical that unit is. One of Plymouth's biggest victories of the season came in a low-scoring battle against Canton where a blocked punt returned for a touchdown made the difference.

"With special teams, if you can motivate kids to own that part of the game (it's a big advantage)," Souldourian said. "I think each of the past two years, our special teams, as far as conference wise, have been right up there. I think we had four, maybe five, special teams touchdowns this year. I think we take pride in stuff like that. Normally it's tough to get kids to buy into stuff like that."

Off the field, Souldourian takes over as a PE and health teacher at Plymouth High. He has been a special education teacher in the district since 2013. He attended L'Anse High School and played football for the Hall of Fame coach and athlete Jerry Bugni. He attended Northern Michigan University, earning an education degree in social studies, history and physical/health education. While attending Northern, he coached football at Marquette High.

He then went on to coach at Hazel Park High School during his student teaching before being hired at Plymouth in 2005, which was the school's first full varsity team. Souldourian is married to Marisa, and the couple have two children, Max (7) and Stella (5).

"Being a part of the community and a part of Plymouth football for so long, I'm excited to be able to carry on the tradition that I've helped build over time," Souldourian said. "Building relationships with young people is huge to me. At the end of the day, I want our kids to come back and see us and that's something Coach Sawchuk impressed upon me as a young coach. Build those relationships and the success will come. We coach to make a difference and if we can make a difference in one kid's life, that's a huge part. I want our kids to be successful at life, not just football."

"It's a dream come true, I'm fired up for what's to come."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter at @AndrewVcourt.

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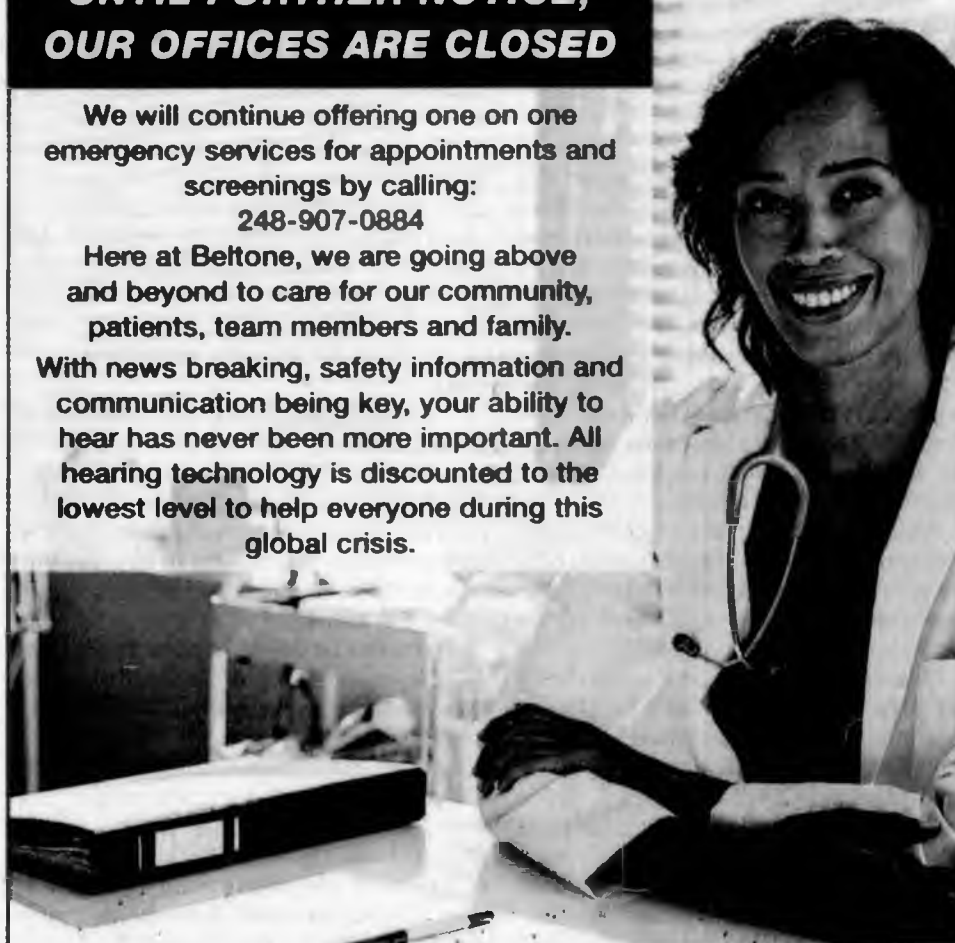
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Marco Polo jumps into the video message pool

Mom and pop app finds a new world of users due to shutdown

Jefferson Graham
USA TODAY

This week, more people downloaded the Marco Polo app from the Apple iOS app store than such long-established household names as Google Chrome, WhatsApp, Skype or Twitter, according to market tracker Apptopia.

This is a big deal for a small app run by a mom and pop who fled Poland and Ukraine to find a better life in the United States. They created the app as a way to better communicate with the folks back home.

The video messaging app was first released in 2014, so it's been around for some time and has always had its fans. But the effect of being homebound during the coronavirus shutdown has had folks looking for novel ways to stay in touch with other people, and word has spread fast about Marco Polo.

"Chat apps are great if you have lots of free time," says Vlada Bortnik, who co-founded Marco Polo with husband Michal and is the CEO. "But if you're like most of us — moms who are homeschooling, running a business and cooking dinner — it's hard to find the time."

Marco Polo's twist on video communication is as simple as the old swimming pool game with the same name. It's a walkie-talkie video message app. You shoot a "Marco" video message and send it to your friend who then responds with a "Polo" response video.

Thus, you've made contact, but you don't have to both be ready to connect live at the same time.

Instead, you respond when you have free time.

If you do want to talk live, you do it differently from a live video app such as Skype or Zoom. You Marco Polo back and forth, but in real time, like video texting.

Marco Polo has plenty of competition. Zoom, the app favored by companies for meetings, has been discovered by the public, which is using it for online learning, to stream worship services and even by folks looking to re-create dinner



Marco Polo CEO Vlada Bortnik, wrote on Twitter, "Seeing faces is so much more connecting than seeing emojis." MARCO POLO

parties and the like online. The app is No. 1 on both the iOS and Google Play Android charts, where other popular video apps include House Party, favored by teens for ground hangout sessions, and Google Duo, which is the company's answer to Apple's FaceTime video chat.

All offer real-time video chat, unlike Marco Polo's back and forth.

The Polo app itself has more than 10 million downloads. And in the past few weeks of the coronavirus crisis, it has experienced a 1,147% increase in new signups and a 145% increase in activity, according to Bortnik.

"It's all been organic and just word of mouth," she says. Especially during these dark days, we all want to reach out to family and friends, and "see what they look like. You ask how they are, and are they truly fine, or coughing up a storm?"

As she said recently, on Twitter: "Now

more than ever, seeing faces is so much more connecting than seeing emojis."

Of course, the Bortniks make it easy to have fun at the same time. Polo video messages can get funny voices added in — including those of a "robot," "macho" tone or a super-high "helium" balloon voice. You also can draw on the image, add text and Instagram like color filters.

Bortnik arrived in America by way of Kansas and began her tech career at Microsoft, where she met Michal and worked on such products as Office, Hotmail and MSN. She and Michal ended up in the San Francisco area, where they started a consulting firm, which led to Joya Communications, the parent company of Marco Polo.

Now they're based in Palo Alto, California, and have a worldwide team of 37 remote workers (in 15 states and three countries) on the app. She says they have not had a hard time keeping up

with the increased traffic.

The big question investors want to know: How does Marco Polo expect to make money one day? The app is ad-free and will always stay that way, she says. They do offer a \$10 premium monthly subscription for fans of the app who want to help support it, and in return, they get access to a full library of their past Polo videos, which disappear from the free model.

Her hope is that, eventually, people will pay "for something they find valuable," as she explores the economic model and final pricing that works with her vision.

Even with all the funny voices and colorful graphics, Marco Polo's audience isn't just kids, she says, but the average is adults, ages 25 to 54, who are just looking for a way to connect on their time.

"All of us want that," she says.

Can my boss make me work during virus?

Experts say no, but the laws aren't so clear-cut

Dalvin Brown
USA TODAY

Michelle Sylvester refuses to go back to work because she doesn't want to risk spreading coronavirus.

Sylvester, a Long Beach, California-based hairstylist, said most of her clients are over 75 years old. The salon she works at remains open, but she is staying home until health agencies say the COVID-19 crisis is over.

"I can't put my life in danger and their lives in danger for a couple of dollars," Sylvester said.

As an independent contractor, she's well within her rights to avoid showing up for work without risking her job. But are you?

As the coronavirus pandemic ramps up, workers might be wondering what rights they have if (or when) their higher-ups request that they return to the office. And with President Donald Trump pressing for the economy to be "opened up and just raring to go by Easter," one of the most pressing questions is: Can your boss actually force you to work during a pandemic?

Experts say the answer is no, but the laws aren't so clear-cut.

"The answer depends on the job you have," said Richard Reice, a lawyer who heads the labor enforcement division at the law firm Michelman & Robinson.

If your local government defines your role as an "essential," you may have to comply with your employer's wishes or risk termination.

"If you are performing an essential job, like a pharmacist at a local CVS, a police officer or sanitation worker, your employer can say to you should come to work," Reice said. "If you don't, that would be insubordination, misconduct or quitting."

Federal guidelines allow state and local authorities to decide which businesses are essential during crises. Generally, grocery store workers, food laborers, medical staff along with utilities and transportation workers are considered essential. Government workers, law enforcement and emergency per-



DDURRICH/GETTY IMAGES

sonnel are also included.

What protections do I have?

And there are general workplace protections for nonessential workers.

If there aren't local mandates for you to show up in the wake of coronavirus, which has killed more than 19,000 people, you're probably within legal grounds to stay home if you're near a hot zone.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has a "General Duty Clause" that requires workplaces to offer environments that are "free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious harm to employees."

"COVID-19 counts as something that is likely to cause serious injury or death," Reice said.

Also, employers are inclined to figure out all other options such as telework and temporary closures before asking people to leave their homes. Otherwise, managers risk losing a huge chunk of their workforce, according to experts.

"Most employers are being very sensitive to this issue right now," said Gary Eidelman, a Baltimore-based employment and labor attorney. "Many are struggling to stay afloat. So they are let-

"It may come to a point where if employees choose not to come to work, they run the risk that there are people waiting in line to take their jobs."

Gary Eidelman

a Baltimore-based employment and labor attorney

ting more people work from home and adding extra safety measures like sanitizing and social distancing where applicable."

It's also costly for employers to fire responsible staffers and find skilled laborers on short notice, though, there's a coronavirus-related caveat.

The spreading respiratory illness has led to a large pool of newly unemployed people looking for jobs as restaurants, movie theaters and hotels close and curb operating hours.

"It may come to a point where if employees choose not to come to work, they run the risk that there are people waiting in line to take their jobs," Eidelman said. And that's a risk some people are willing to take.

John Fryatt, a restaurant manager in Clearwater Beach, Florida, is getting paid for the next four weeks as his job closed its doors temporarily due to coronavirus.

Fryatt said his boss is thoughtful, "but if I were asked to go back in right now, I'd have to say, 'No.' He'd have to lay me off, fire me or just be OK with it."

On March 23, several dozen employees at a Perdue Farm plant in Georgia abruptly walked out, citing coronavirus concerns, according to local media. Perdue issued a statement calling the situation "fluid" and the chicken manufacturer said it has taken to help keep its workers safe.

Does my boss have to tell me if someone at work gets it?

"The general answer is yes," said Edgar Ndjatou, executive director of employee advocacy group Workplace Fairness.

But they cannot legally reveal the infected person's identity without written consent, according to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. HIPAA released guidelines employers and health agencies should follow when it comes to coronavirus contagion.

Only official health agencies like the CDC or health departments may disclose identifiable information without a patient's authorization.

What should I do if my boss doesn't listen?

If your boss is pressuring you to come in and your workplace is at high-risk for coronavirus, you can file a confidential safety and health complaint and request an OSHA inspection.

"You could contact your local government and let them know," Ndjatou said.

You can also leverage social media to raise awareness about your boss' work practices, Ndjatou said.

"In this day and age, everyone has access to the internet," Ndjatou said. "If you feel comfortable, you can alert the public about this employer's bad behavior in the midst of a public health pandemic."

How to keep groceries safe from coronavirus

Susan Selasky
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Living in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic means dashing into the grocery store and grabbing something off the shelf is no longer the norm.

And if you order take-out from restaurants you're not dashing in to pick it up either. Now, most places carry it out to your car. Literally.

But people are worried. Is the food safe? What if someone has the virus and sneezed or coughed on that head of broccoli, the bin of apples or stack of avocados? What about take-out? Is

it safe? Can the virus live on packaging? What about the food itself?

There are plenty of questions swirling around about food safety. But fresh produce and packaging have raised the most questions.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) says there's no evidence of touching food or food packaging associated with transmission of COVID-19.

With restaurant workers, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that: "Anyone handling, preparing and serving food should always follow safe food handling procedures, such as washing

hands and surfaces often."

Felicia Goulet-Miller, an instructor of microbiology at Florida Gulf Coast University, told USA Today that food items, including fresh produce, can spread the disease.

"If the produce is contaminated by a sick person and you touch it and then touch your face, you can become infected," Goulet-Miller said, noting it's another reason not to touch your faces in public and to wash hands after touching things touched by others.

Kevin Kenny, a packaging expert and COO of Decernis, a food safety and regulatory compliance company, said it's highly unlikely the virus will get transferred as part of the initial packaging process because "it's in a very sterile and clean environment."

But at stores, he said, the food had multiple places it sat around: "Your risk is much higher walking through the grocery stores, exposed to the clerk who was exposed to it, the money... it's impossible to eliminate risk."

With takeout, he said, there's some risk that food handlers could be exposed to be the virus. But he's less worried about that scenario. Take a pizza box made of cardboard. What's put inside that is actually fairly safe. After you open the box, you probably want to wash your hands before you remove the food and begin eating it.

We've all heard about coronavirus surviving on certain surfaces for several days: Cardboard for 24 hours, plastic and stainless steel up to 3 days and up to 4 days on glass.

Here's what Harvard's School of Public Health says: "... because of the limited ability of coronavirus to survive on surfaces, the easiest way to

minimize risk of infection from foods purchased at a store or delivered to your home is just let it sit in an out-of-the way place for three days."

Keep in mind, you don't want to do this with foods that need to be immediately refrigerated, fresh produce, dairy, eggs, meat, poultry and seafood or foods that require freezing.

But this won't work for foods that need immediate refrigeration or freezing, and they can be treated like fresh produce.

Although the FDA doesn't provide a guideline for wiping down packages with disinfecting wipes, plenty of people are doing so. You can wipe down the outside of gallons of milk, juice and some packaging with the disinfecting wipes.

What should consumers to do?

A YouTube video by Dr. Jeffrey VanWingen, a Grand Rapids family physician, on how to clean your groceries has gone viral, with more than 12 million views and 11,000 comments.

One the best explanations about the virus that VanWingen describes is to image it as glitter. And all that glitter is on the packages. The goal is to remove all that glitter.

He covers from bringing home groceries to washing to handling. Some things are extreme, but meant to eliminate

risk. Some of what VanWingen recommends contradicts what the FDA recommends doing. For example, he washes apples in soapy water, rinses and then dries it, something the FDA cautions against.

The biggest take away of all with food safety is washing your hands.

Here's why: The virus is spread person to person through droplets from coughing and sneezing and who are within close contact with each other.

How to grocery shop

■ Shop only if you need to, minimizing trips to the store.

■ Wipe down the cart with disinfecting wipes. Use hand sanitizer.

■ Exercise social distancing, staying 6 feet away from others.

■ Know what you want to buy. Don't handle products and put back on the shelf.

What to do when you get groceries home

The FDA recommends these four steps to food safety: Clean, separate, cook and chill. Here are its guidelines:

Clean

■ Wash hands, utensils and all surfaces such as counters and cutting boards. Wash cutting boards, dishes, utensils, and counter tops with

hot, soapy water especially after they've held raw meat, poultry, seafood, or eggs. Wash utensils after each use.

■ Wash hands before, during and after preparing food.

Separate

■ Use separate cutting boards and plates for produce, meat, poultry, seafood and eggs.

■ Use one cutting board for fresh produce or other foods, and another for raw meat, poultry, or seafood.

■ Use separate plates and utensils for cooked and raw foods.

Cook food to a safe temperature

■ Use a food thermometer to be sure your food is safe. When you think your food is done, place the food thermometer in the thickest part of the food, making sure not to touch bone, fat or gristle.

■ Keep food hot 140 degrees after cooking. Do not leave food out more than two hours.

Chill

■ Refrigerate perishable foods within 2 hours.

■ Bacteria that cause food poisoning multiply quickest between 40 and 140 degrees,

■ Freezing does not destroy harmful germs, but it does keep food safe until you can cook it.

Obituaries

Loretta J. Pennala

SOUTH LYON - Loretta J. Pennala passed away Wednesday evening, April 1, 2020 at age 58.

She was born November 6, 1961 in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Chester and Helen Pietila.

On October 6, 1984 she was united in marriage to Donald Pennala

Loretta was preceded in death by her father Chester Pietila and granddaughter Lila Pennala.

Surviving and left to mourn her passing are husband Donny, children Shannon (Kevin) Laakso, Brandon (Leanne) Pennala, Melissa (Brandon) Anderson, Travis (Emily) Pennala, Ross (Jane) Pennala, Brianna (Ben) Kangas. Bradley (Jennifer) Pennala, Laura Pennala, Tyler (Larissa) Pennala, Trent (Abbey) Pennala, Miranda Pennala, Maria Pennala, Sarah Pennala and Alena Pennala; 18 grandchildren, Mother Helen Pietila, siblings Michael (Kathleen) Pietila, Robert (Karen) Pietila, Thomas (Amy) Pietila, Roy (Karen) Pietila, Matthew (Carol) Pietila, Aaron (Sarah) Pietila, Leonard Pietila, Steve (Annemarie) Pietila, Carol (Jim) Halonen, Gordie (Andrea) Pietila, Carl (Gretchen) Pietila. Many aunts and uncles, cousins, in laws, nieces and nephews and brothers and sisters in faith.



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Novi Community School District (NCSD) will receive bids for:

Novi Community School District - 2020 Site Improvements Program

Program consists of west staff parking lot HMA replacement, and Taft Road entry road roadway HMA replacement at Novi High School, various HMA repairs and various concrete sidewalk repairs, and other ancillary project tasks. Work is located at various buildings/sites throughout the district.

2020 Bid Package - Full depth HMA removal and replacement of the west staff lot and 165 lf of approach and Taft Road entry roadway to the south parking lot, and crack sealing of the south lot at Novi High School. Full depth Hot Mix Asphalt patching, crack sealing, and concrete patching at Novi High School, 11 Mile and Taft Complex, Novi Middle School, Deerfield Elementary School, Orchard Hills Elementary School, and Village Oaks Elementary School. Bids will be received until 2:00 pm, local time, April 24, 2020.

Under Executive Order 2020-15, NCSD is under "minimum basic operations" due to the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, all bidders are to submit bids electronically via email to eBuilder at this email address. If any bidder is unable to submit bids electronically, they shall contact Kevin Donnelly at 586-703-1044 for alternative arrangements.

Novi2019BondHighSchoolParkingLot@docs.e-builder.net

Bids are due electronically and will be timestamped at the required date/time to the attention of Jill Minnick. At the time the bid packages are due, all bids will be opened and read aloud remotely via Zoom starting at 2:15 pm: Meeting URL: <https://plantemoran.zoom.us/j/749361647>, or by call-in US: +1-646-876-9923 (749361647#). Bids received after the above stipulated date and time will not be opened, considered, or accepted.

Bid documents can be pre-ordered and purchased at the offices of ARC/Dunn Blue, 1009 W. Maple Road, Clawson, MI 48107 beginning April 2, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Bid Documents can also be ordered online by contacting ARC/Dunn Blue for non-refundable purchase price for each bid package. Use email michigan.troy@e-arc.com with the subject line, "**NCSD 2020 Site Improvements Program**" or call 248-288-5600. Neither the district nor SME will provide documents.

All bidders should be available on Monday April 27, 2020 starting at 2:30 pm for post bid interviews. Interviews will be on an invitation basis only, and will be by conference call or video conference.

Prospective bidders must meet the following minimum standards in order to submit a proposal:

- Must be an established Contractor in Michigan for a minimum of five (5) years
- Has successfully completed a minimum of three (3) educational, institutional or municipal site paving / earthwork / site improvement projects each with construction values in excess of \$250,000.00
- Must be able to provide business and liability insurance, performance and payment bond for work required by the Bid Documents

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by SME for the "**Novi Community School District - 2020 Site Improvements Program**" and be accompanied by a bidder's bond or a certified or cashier's check payable to Novi Community School District for the sum of not less than five (5%) of the bid amount for the BASE BID Package. All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner (bidder) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the NCSD School Board, Administration or Staff. Bidders shall also provide a Sworn Statement of Economic Relationship with the Country of Iran. Bids received without a bidder's bond, certified or cashier's check, sworn and notarized statement of familial disclosure, and Iran Economic Statement **MAY BE REJECTED**.

Novi Community School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein and accept that bid, which best serves the Novi Community School District's interest.

Publish: April 9, 2020

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT - 2020 BOND ATHLETICS BID PACKAGE NO. 1

Project Description: The Novi Community School District's Board of Education is accepting bids to provide construction related work at Novi Middle School (49000 W. 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48374). Proposed work includes track repairs, installation of new scoreboard & sound system, and bleacher repairs.

Architect & Project Contact: Foresite Design, Inc.
3269 Coolidge Highway
Berkley, MI 48072
(248) 547-7757
Michael Sims mike@foresitedesign.com
Questions addressed ONLY to Foresite Design during Bidding Period. Failure to follow instruction may lead to rejection of Bid.

Bid Documents: Bid Documents including Bid Forms may be obtained directly from Foresite Design. Please email Christy O'Berry at christy@foresitedesign.com for access. Bid Documents may also be obtained from local plan rooms (GRBX, CAM, etc.). **Bid Documents will be available on or after Thursday, April 9, 2020.**

Non-Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through: Due to Executive Order 2020-15 there will not be a prebid walk-through. If bidders require a site visit, they shall contact Michael Sims at (248) 547-7757 to make arrangements.

Bid Due Date: **Friday, April 24, 2020 at 10:00 am EST**
Under Executive Order 2020-15, NCSD is under "minimum basic operations" due to the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, all bidders are to submit bids electronically via email to e-Builder at the email address noted below. If any bidder is unable to submit bids electronically, they shall contact Kevin Donnelly at 586-703-1044 for alternative arrangements.

Email Submission Address: **Novi2020AthleticsBP1@docs.e-builder.net**

Public Bid Opening: Bids are due electronically and will be timestamped at the required date/time to the attention of Jill Minnick. At the time the bid packages are due, all bids will be opened and read aloud remotely via Zoom starting on **Friday, April 24, 2020 at 10:15 am (EST)**. Meeting URL: <https://plantemoran.zoom.us/j/640798949>, or by call-in US: 1-646-876-9923 (640798949#).

The Board of Education will not open, consider, nor accept a bid received after the date and time specified. All late bid proposals will be returned to the bidder unopened.

Bid Bond: A Bid Bond executed by a Treasury listed surety company acceptable to the Novi Community School District or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal shall be submitted with Bid. Bid bonds shall be submitted electronically with the bid submission, if a cashier's check is provided submit a photocopy with bid submission followed by hard copy if requested. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

Labor and Material & Performance Bond: Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish satisfactory Performance and Payments Bonds by a Treasury listed surety in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of Bond(s) shall be included in each proposal.

Nonexempt: This project is a non-prevailing wage project and is not tax exempt for State sales tax and/or use tax. All materials and supplies incorporated and used in construction of the work and becoming a permanent part of this project will not be exempt from State Sales Tax and/or Use Tax. All required Sales Tax/Use Tax shall be included in the bid price.

Disclosure Statements: Bids shall be **accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement** disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner and any employee of bidder and any member of the Board of Education or the superintendent. Additionally, bids shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement for the **Iran Economic Sanctions Act Affidavit of Compliance**. Bids not accompanied with these sworn and notarized statements will not be accepted by the Board.

Contract Award: The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids in whole or in part and waive any informality or irregularity therein, or to award the Contract to other than the low bidder, in its sole discretion. The Novi Community School District reserves the right to accept the bid which in its opinion, is in the best interest of the Owner.

Publish: April 9, 2020

Zoom becomes target for hackers

Video app facing downside as use soars

Mike Snider
USA TODAY

A silver lining during the coronavirus crisis for videoconferencing software maker Zoom is that demand for its product is up as millions of Americans staying at home during the coronavirus crisis have relied on the service to stay connected with family, friends, classmates and co-workers.

The downside for that burgeoning growth in users and usage is that Zoom has become a target for wrongdoers and potential hackers.

Uninvited guests who "zoom-bomb" online gatherings on Zoom have become a big enough problem that the FBI is on the case. Zoom had to update its software to prevent it from sending data from iOS device users to Facebook.

Zoom faces two additional security flaws that could be used to hijack a Zoom user's Mac computer and access the webcam and microphone. Patrick Wardle, a former NSA hacker who works with Jamf, an Apple enterprise management software firm, revealed the bugs on his blog, first reported by TechCrunch.

Even though Zoom has become popular and critical, Wardle says, "if you value either your (cyber) security or privacy, you may want to think twice about using (the macOS version of) the app."

This new Mac vulnerability can work similarly to a malicious app uploaded on to your phone to get inside a banking app and control it, says Zack Allen, director of threat intelligence at cybersecurity firm ZeroFOX.

A flaw identified by Matthew Hickey of cybersecurity firm Hacker House and first reported Wednesday by tech site iThnews could let a hacker get credential data and remotely access Windows computers on corporate networks.

Tech news site Motherboard reported Wednesday that Zoom was sharing the email address and photos of thousands of Zoom users who signed up with an email address sharing the same domain.

Zoom did not immediately respond to request for comment on the security



Zoom video conferencing has boomed amid social distancing. ZOOM

flaws.

New York Attorney General Letitia James sent a letter Monday to Zoom with a number of questions to ensure the company takes appropriate steps to ensure users' privacy and security, a spokesman told USA TODAY.

The attorney general's letter came after a lawsuit filed Monday, first reported by Bloomberg, charged Zoom with sharing information about the user, the device, phone carrier and other data. The suit followed Motherboard's analysis of the Zoom iOS app, which found that when the app was used, it sent information from the device to Facebook even if the user didn't have Facebook on the device. Zoom subsequently updated its app to prevent the sending of information, the company told Motherboard.

Zoom has never sold users' data and does not monitor video meetings or their contents, the company said in statement posted Sunday on its blog. "Zoom takes its users' privacy extremely seriously. Zoom collects only the data from individuals using the Zoom platform required to provide the service and ensure it is delivered effectively under a wide variety of settings in which our users may be operating," the company said.

Zoom-bombing disrupts connections

The zoom-bombing situation attract-

ed attention after an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in New York was interrupted by a man hollering misogynistic and anti-Semitic slurs and saying, "Alcohol is sooooo good," Business Insider reported.

In other incidents reported to the FBI, a Massachusetts high school online class was interrupted by a person cursing and shouting the teacher's home address, and in a separate Massachusetts school meeting, a person appeared on video displaying swastika tattoos.

"As large numbers of people turn to video-teleconferencing (VTC) platforms to stay connected in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, reports of VTC hijacking (also called Zoom-bombing) are emerging nationwide," the FBI Boston field office warned.

Zoom updated its default settings, so passwords are required and teachers "are the only ones who can share content in class," the company said in a statement to USA TODAY. "We are deeply upset to hear about the incidents involving this type of attack."

Should you need to report a Zoom intrusion, you can do so on the Zoom website.

As more people across the globe have been told to stay at home to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Zoom has seen its traffic skyrocket. Zoom has been the No. 1 app for most of the month on AppTopia's app store chart, the tracking

firm says. In March, Zoom was downloaded approximately 40 million times worldwide, outpacing social media apps Facebook, Snapchat and TikTok.

During March, daily downloads of Zoom in the USA rose more than 1,000% from 29,802 to 339,701, AppTopia says.

In mid-March, Zoom CEO Eric Yuan lifted time limits on Zoom sessions for all K-12 schools in the USA, Italy and Japan, a move first reported by Forbes. Typically, Zoom's free version limits video sessions to 40 minutes. The company had already lifted limits for China and other countries affected by the coronavirus crisis.

Individuals can upgrade to a Standard Pro account for \$14.99 monthly for unlimited length sessions.

The latest security vulnerabilities should not stop teachers and others from using Zoom, ZeroFox's Allen says. "WFH (working from home) cannot stop. The economy depends on it, so stopping the use of tools like Zoom will be hard for everyday users," he said.

Tips to control your meetings

ZeroFox is working on new capabilities to help companies using Zoom for business, he says. For others, there are some simple ways to reduce risks, from ZeroFox, Zoom and the FBI:

Don't make meetings or classes public. You can require participants to use a password, or the meeting manager can make participants first appear in the waiting room.

Limit screen sharing. Hosts can prevent others from posting video by changing the screen sharing options to "Host Only."

Lock the door. You can close your meeting to newcomers once everyone has arrived.

Cut out the chatter. The host can disable the ability to text chat during the session to prevent the delivery of unwanted messages.

Boot the uninvited. Hosts can remove a participant by putting the mouse over that name and choosing the Remove option. Allen says you can block people from rejoining meetings if they were removed.

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YOUR LOCAL JOB LISTING FROM LIVONIA OBSERVER

Jobs for Baby Boomers who want to stay in workforce

Kate Lopaze
thejobnetwork.com

In the U.S., the average retirement age for workers is 65 for men, and 63 for women. Many assume that workers who are 60+ are lining up at the retirement door. However, with financial uncertainties and other motivations at play, millions of Baby Boomers continue to stay in the workforce. And in fact, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly 40 percent of adults age 55 or older are either working or looking for work.

Still, that doesn't mean that the work landscape stays the same for older workers. Many want to have a "bridge" job that eases the transition from working life to retirement. Others are interested in a second career to learn new skills, stay active, or maintain financial security. Whatever the reasons you might have for hunting for a job instead of retiring, there are a number of great jobs out there that work for people in their 60s or older.

Bookkeeper/accounting clerk

For those with accounting experience or strong math and financial skills, bookkeeping can be a good job opportunity. Bookkeepers and accounting clerks produce financial documents for companies or organizations and audit financial records for accuracy. It's something that can be done on a part-time or freelance basis if you're looking for a job with a flexible schedule.

What you'll need: Basic math and bookkeeping skills, and potentially a certificate or some college education in the field. Strong computer skills (especially with spreadsheets and accounting software) are also a major component of this job.



GETTY IMAGES

What it pays: According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, bookkeepers earn a median salary of \$40,240 per year or \$19.35 per hour.

Project-based consultant

Becoming a consultant in your field is a common "bridge" job for those who have years of seniority or experience but no longer want to be a full-time employ-

ee. Consultants often work on a contract or project-by-project basis, providing services and management.

What you'll need: Industry-specific expertise and experience, particularly in business or technical areas.

What it pays: This can vary widely by industry, level of experience, and contract. PayScale.com estimates that business consultants make an average salary of \$73,512 per year.

Adjunct professor

Even if you don't have a Ph.D., many online schools or community colleges are seeking people with subject matter expertise to teach lower-level courses. Many retirees or other workers seeking part-time jobs find this to be a good fit — you can often teach as many or as few classes as you want.

What you'll need: Teaching experience and expertise in the subject you're teaching are key. Good people skills and organizational skills are also helpful.

What it pays: According to PayScale, full-time adjunct professors earn an average salary of \$34,319. Part-time adjunct professors typically earn a few thousand dollars per class, per semester.

Crossing guard

If you love the idea of working in your community and don't mind being out in the elements occasionally, you might want to consider becoming a crossing guard. These part-time professionals work in high-traffic areas like school zones, downtown streets, or other places where traffic and pedestrian safety are a concern. They manage traffic flow while ensuring that pedestrians are able to cross safely.

What you'll need: There are typically no formal educational requirements, but you'd receive on-the-job training. This job also requires some physical stamina, as well as standing for extended periods of time.

What it pays: According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, crossing guards earn a median salary of \$31,970 per year or \$15.37 per hour.

Real estate agent

If you have a sales background and want to stay in the game, real estate can be a great, flexible option for older workers. Real estate agents connect potential renters and buyers with sellers and landlords, show sites to clients, assist with financial preparation, and negotiate contracts for buyers and sellers.

What you'll need: Most states require real estate agents and brokers to be certified, so you should check your own state's requirements. Real estate agents also need strong sales skills and financial literacy, as well as knowledge of local, state, and federal real estate regulations.

What it pays: According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, real estate agents earn a median salary of \$61,720 per year or \$29.67 per hour.

Whether you're seeking a second act for your career or a way to stay active and engaged in the work world as you create your own retirement, there are some great job options out there that will let you keep working on your own terms.

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

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Software Engineer sought by Harmon Becker Auto Sys, Inc. in Novi, MI. Occasional travel at 10% for trng/crdntn with other grps. Apvly @ lobpostingtoday.com #42961.

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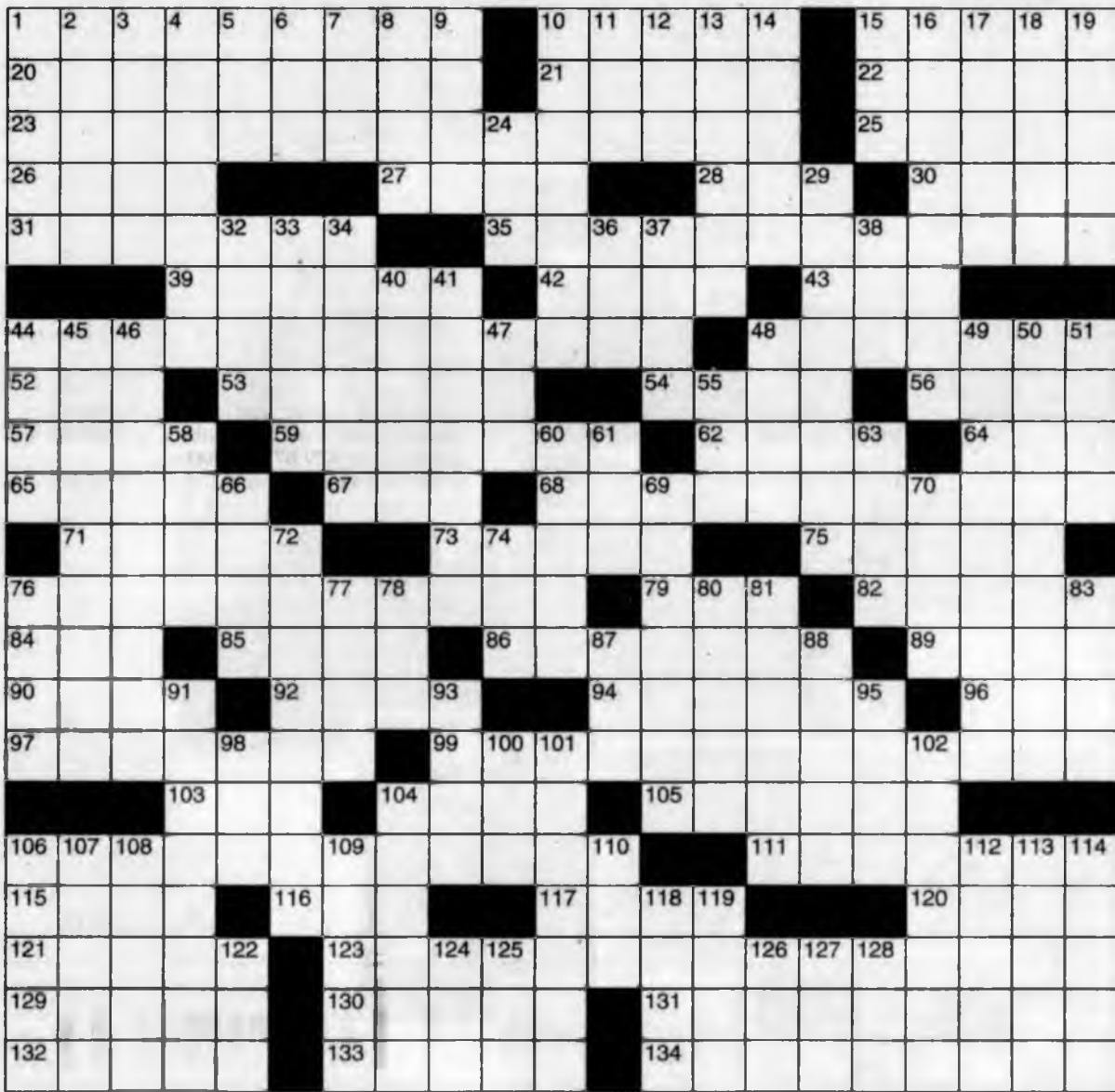
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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

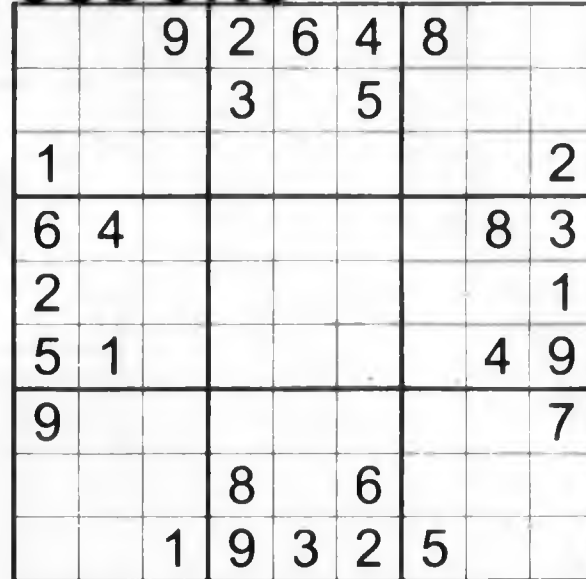
ACROSS

- 1 Shoshone woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark
10 Hebrew holy text
15 Chicago hub
20 Rembrandt painted with them
21 You RSVP to it online
22 Tempus
23 Eton and Hogwarts
25 RAM units
26 Nastase of tennis fame
27 The sun, e.g.
28 Hooded viper
30 Get higher
31 Long-necked beast
35 Companies with cabbies
39 Give the details of
42 Kite's home
43 Suffix with human
44 Skilled thief, slangily
48 Adds on
52 Positive vote in Congress
53 "What's the —?" ("Care to explain that?," slangily)
- 54 Vow
56 Dried up
57 Weightlifting units
59 Cuddle (up)
62 "Stay" singer
64 Teensy
65 Bug B Gon's brand
67 Abbr. on an airport uniform
68 Jacob Bronowski book about human history, with "The"
71 Platoon unit
73 German wine region
75 Equipper of horse hooves
76 Carnival
79 Backpack
82 "Chicago" showgirl
84 — polli
85 "Toodles!"
86 Club get-togethers
89 Bleacher
90 PC brand
92 Part of DJ
94 Plant-based
96 Longtime CBS series
97 10th month, in German
99 Many golf hits onto the green
103 Comic actor
104 Sweetheart
105 Sitting Bull's tribe
106 Hoped-for result of a throw to a receiver
111 Frosty and the like
115 Face defacer
116 Tofu base
117 Negative votes in Congress
120 Green
121 Gut
123 Trip
129 With 6-Down, boxing legend's
130 Devilish grin
131 Native of the Raiders' home
132 Fidgeting
- 133 Literature Nobel
134 Event for unloading household items in an urban area
- 34 — terrible (hellion)
36 Crosses (out)
37 Analogy part
38 Pooh-bah
40 Anklebone
41 Folding craft
44 Poi plant
45 Australian landmark
46 Stayed silent
47 Dress finely, with "out"
48 Oodles
49 Taos locale
50 Most bleak
51 Not hidden
55 Stein quaff
58 Feng —
60 Steer catcher
61 Japan finish?
63 Niels with a Nobel
66 Brewer's kiln
69 Revlon rival
70 Yard third
72 Cul-de-sacs
74 Mil. missions
76 Elaine in Trump's Cabinet
77 Commotion
78 Owns
80 Capital of Yemen
81 Makes glossy, as one's hair
83 Discord deity
87 Street vehicle
88 "Danke —"
- 91 Retina parts associated with monochrome vision
93 D-Day city in France
95 About
98 "Humbug!"
100 Golf norm
101 Shrub shapers
102 Sadie — Day
104 Miami Heat great Wade
106 Small hand drum of India
107 Shark's place
108 Not ignited
109 "— -daisy!"
110 Prefix with payment or partisan
112 Sister of Eva and Zsa Zsa
113 "I Love Lucy" neighbor
114 — Dame
118 I problems?
119 Bleacher feature
122 "Whoopee!"
124 Shark's place
125 Weightlifting unit
126 MGM rival
127 Waitress at Mel's Diner
128 Racing circuit



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

GOING GREEN WORD SEARCH

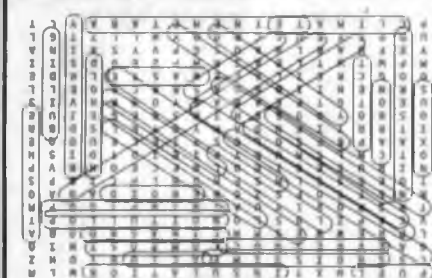
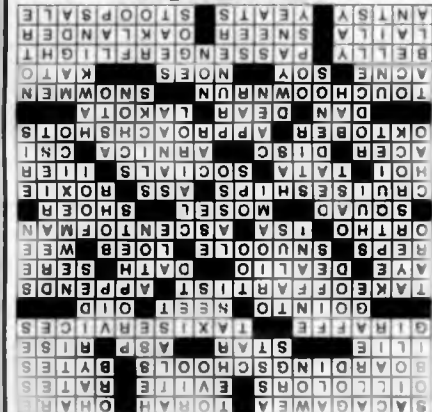
F U E L N X T I N S U L A T I O N W L M
C S S N O I S S I M E A C I D B T D H Z
G A E V R E S N O C C O M P O S T N I O
L P R E W M E I M H C I N A G R O O B A
V C A P Z L D S L Q N O I T U L L O P T
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O T C M L T M U N T F I E I D T O I S H
X A A P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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

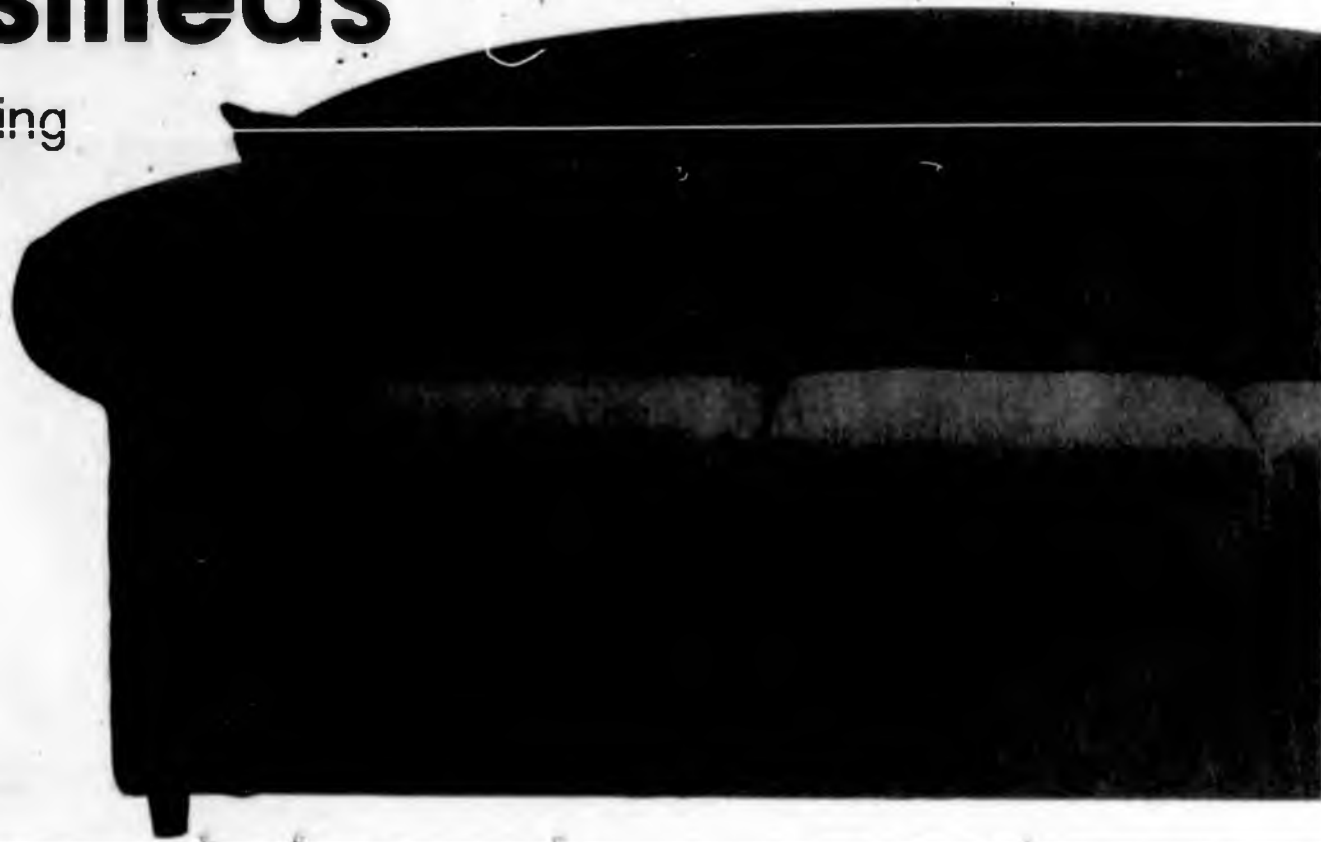
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BIOENERGY
BUILDING
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CONSERVE
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