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# IVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## Lyon plans expansion of township hall

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Lyon Township is growing, and officials have their eyes on a large, physical expansion of township hall to keep up. The Lyon Township municipal offices have been closed to the public for the past three months, but officials are look-

ing forward to reopen soon, and, perhaps as early as next year having a much bigger hall at 58000 Grand River.

The planning commission unanimously approved a site plan for a partial renovation of the current 8,140-square-foot township hall, along with a 5,905-square-foot addition, resulting in a building that would be 14,045 square

feet total.

Township officials declined to speculate on the cost of the renovations and additions prior to receiving bids for the project, which will be expected within the next few months, after which the township board's final approval is needed.

"I'm sure it's going to be pricey," Treas-

urer Patty Carcone said. "We just have no more room. We're sitting on top of each other."

Carcone said this is the second renovation to the 20-year-old township hall, but said growth necessitates not only renovations, but the large addition,

See EXPANSION, Page 6A

## Huron Valley school district opening Virtual Academy in fall

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Huron Valley is ahead of the curve for online learning this fall.

The school district is not only planning for multiple education scenarios faced with the uncertainty that comes along with a pandemic, but is launching a K-12 virtual academy that will be in place regardless of what happens with traditional education.

Students, teachers and parents were all thrust into online learning in March without a choice as school buildings closed to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. But for the new school year, some may choose the virtual academy, which will be more refined than this spring's online education.

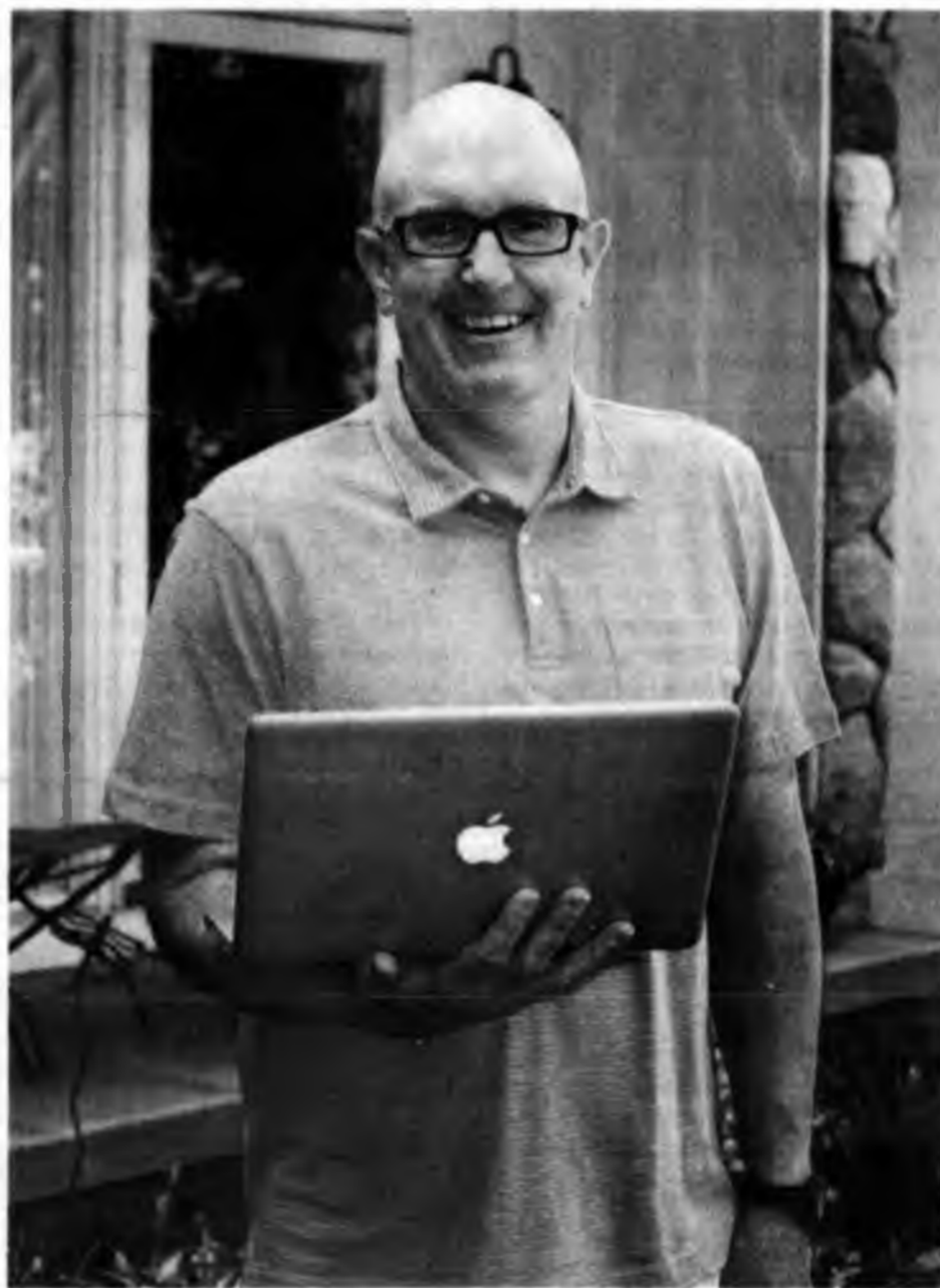
"A lot of parents are asking how it will be different," John Tavernier, assistant superintendent of teaching, learning and technology, said. "The virtual academy will have a much higher rigor and relationships, there is a full curriculum in the academy. When we shut down due to COVID, we had to change quickly."

Now, district administrators are still working out details and hope parents will help determine staffing levels and other needs by answering questions on a survey at the district's website.

A previous survey indicated up to 30 percent of parents in the district that has more than 8,000 students were interested in an online education for their children next year.

Superintendent Paul Salah said while face-to-face instruction is the best scenario, "remaining nimble is important for our school community's success."

See ACADEMY, Page 5A



Brian Howe has taught at Lakeland High for more than 20 years. He is trying to get used to teaching virtually amid the pandemic. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## I-96 corridor shooter seeking to vacate conviction

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Raulie Wayne Casteel, the shooter who scared motorists along the Interstate 96 corridor in 2012, is seeking to have his conviction overturned.

In 2014, the Wixom man was convicted of several felonies, including terrorism, for shooting at vehicles along the I-96 corridor in a series of attacks that had spanned four counties two years earlier.

Court records show Casteel filed a motion in the Livingston County 44th Circuit Court in December.

His trial was handled by the Michigan Attorney General's Office.

A spokesperson for the AG's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

According to the motion, Casteel claims he was denied his right of due process due to his counsel's failure to raise an insanity defense.

Additionally he said his appellate counsel was "ineffective for failing to present a claim of ineffective assistance of trial counsel for counsel's failure to raise an insanity defense."

The Michigan Court of Appeals upheld his conviction in response to previous appeal in 2015.

In that appeal, he alleged he was denied the right to present expert testimony regarding his mental illness.

The appeals court disagreed, saying a diminished capacity defense is not applicable under Michigan law.

The court also refused his argument that evidence in his case was not sufficient to support the jury's conviction on the terrorism charge.

### Insanity defense

Casteel is seeking an appointed attorney, his conviction overturned and a hearing to resolve the issues raised in the motion.

Casteel says in the motion that his

See SHOOTER, Page 6A

## Teens share stories of teacher, former coach charged with sexual assault

Susan Vela HometownLife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Now in the grips of the criminal justice system, a Northville High School math teacher was known by some students as a friend, tutor, mentor and father figure.

For others, he was a touchy, creepy personal space intruder who, once arrested, prompted them to share those experiences with police.

Early this year Northville Township police talked to and heard from several Northville students about their teacher Jason William Dean, who had just been

charged with five counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct in a case alleging a sexual relationship with a student a decade ago.

The 36-year-old Livonia man then was teaching at Cedar Crest Academy,

See TEACHER, Page 5A

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JUNE 22 THRU AUG 2 2020



Cory adds definition to his koi sketch.



Cory's T-Rex art was a neighborhood favorite for all ages. COURTESY OF TIM CORY



Sidewalk artist Tim Cory said he completed this scene of koi in a pond in about two hours. Cory's work has been brightening the streets of his Canton Township subdivision during the pandemic. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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**Ed Wright** Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With a sidewalk as his palette, artist Tim Cory is bringing much-needed joy to his Canton Township neighbors during the coronavirus pandemic.

A creative director for the Channel-Net advertising agency in Dearborn, Cory creates new drawings on his Heritage Road driveway and sidewalk every two to three days, rain or shine, much to the delight of the residents of his southeast Canton subdivision.

"The beauty of this palette is that when rain washes away one drawing, I can start on another," Cory said. "People will tell me, 'Awww, it just rained,' wiping out a drawing. But I'll say, 'That's OK, I'll start another one.'"

Cory's inspiration for his sidewalk art ranges from current events to subjects that evolve from his favorite artistic eras.

This spring alone, he has drawn giant, 20-foot tributes to health-care workers, while mixing in fun-loving images of T-Rexes and Disney characters.

A detailed drawing of koi fish that currently decorates his driveway took roughly two hours to complete, he said, while larger drawings – the T-Rex, for example – can take as long as four hours.

"The T-Rex drawing was a favorite of the neighbors because when you stand in front of it and take a photo, it appears as if you're being chased by the T-Rex," he said. "Kids loved that one, as did adults."

Cory is a huge fan of the Art Deco era, which is reflected in a detailed portrait of a woman on the sidewalk that runs parallel to his Heritage Drive home.

"With a drawing like that one, I have to stretch it to give it perspective," Cory said. "Most people will be looking at it from a 25-degree angle, so everything farther away from them has to be stretched so that it appears three-dimensional."

Once he secures an idea for a drawing, he searches for a photo of the subject matter to use as a guide while he creates a temporary masterpiece.

"My favorite time of the year is probably around Halloween," he said. "One of my neighbors loved the movie 'It,' so I drew a large, 20-foot image of Pennywise on his driveway right before Halloween. It added a nice touch to the atmosphere because we get a lot of trick-or-treaters in this subdivision."

"One of my neighbors has 7-year-old twins, so I drew a series of superhero drawings the day before their birthday, so when they came outside the next day they saw it."

Cory revealed that he doesn't use chalk for his sidewalk art, but bonding agents that can be purchased from anywhere, art stores to Wal-Mart.

"The quality varies, obviously, along with the price," he said. "For instance, the sticks I used for the woman's face were \$4 to \$5 per stick. I also buy sticks in bulk that cost about 20 cents apiece."

Cory said he has been uplifted by the number of people – especially kids – who are picking up the hobby during the COVID-19 crisis.

"I'm reading that there is an increase in this medium going on across the country," he said. "It's a way for people of all ages to express their feelings."

"These drawings are very uplifting for people, especially during the COVID crisis. Everybody is looking for something that can boost their spirits."

Cory said he'll continue to draw late into the fall and early winter, as long as the temperature is at 50 degrees or higher.

"I actually got to do some Christmas drawings this past year because the weather cooperated in December," he said.

Cory said he started his sidewalk art several years ago and will continue to brighten up his property's sidewalk slabs long after the coronavirus pandemic is history.

"Art is not what I do," he said. "It's who I am. I love all art, whether it's chalk art, my advertising, or music. With this kind of art, I can express happiness to my neighbors, and that makes me happy."

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [edwright@hometownlife.com](mailto:edwright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

**NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020 CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN**

**TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NOVI:**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Novi who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk; the office of the County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](http://www.expressSOS.com).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, July 20, 2020.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City of Novi Clerk's office, located at 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 at the following times:

- Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 1, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Election Day, Tuesday, August 4th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Novi will be voting for purposes of electing candidates for the following office:

CONGRESSIONAL: United States Senator and Representative in Congress

LEGISLATIVE: Representative in State Legislature

COUNTY: County Executive, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk and Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Water Resources Commissioner, County Commissioner

JUDICIAL: Judge of the Circuit Court

And for the purpose of electing Delegates to County Convention of the Republican and Democratic Parties

**And the following proposal:**

**SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Precinct 22 and a portion of Precinct 21):**

**SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$98,725,000**

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of South Lyon Community Schools, 345 South Warren, South Lyon, Michigan 48178-1358, telephone: (248) 573-8127.

A sample ballot may be viewed at [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote).

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office.

Courtney Hanson, CMC, MiPMC II  
City Clerk

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# Partnership for Progress tour comes to Livonia

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia resident Sara Overwater did publicly what a lot of other people can't when it comes to race.

She criticized her community, its police officers and herself, exemplifying the kind of vulnerability regional leaders are seeking during a Listening Tour created for change.

As a teen, Overwater and her friends would drive through the city and see someone pulled over.

"You just knew when you drove by you were going to see the driver of that car is a Black person," said Overwater, a 2001 Churchill High School graduate. "It's not that long ago. It's not long enough ago to say we no longer have any kind of racial profiling in Livonia."

She said she learned to "kind of" make fun of and "kind of" laugh off such sightings involving broken taillights and wrong turns, something that now makes her ashamed.

"We have got to change that," Overwater said.

Citizens, police chiefs, elected officials, and other community leaders gathered June 24 at Clarenceville High School in Livonia for the first "Partnership for Progress Listening Tour." Close to 100 people attended.

The Conference of Western Wayne, which brings community leaders together to work on regional issues, organized the event because of recent protests over police brutality and the death of a Black man after a Minneapolis police officer kneeled on his neck for several minutes.

The tour is expected to roll through 18 metro Detroit communities including Wayne, Westland, Northville, Plymouth, and Canton Township.

Goals include sharing experiences, questioning police and elected officials and offering ideas for solutions and change.

Livonia Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan shared some opening remarks for a socially-distanced Clarenceville auditorium audience.

"This is a big event for Livonia," she said. "Early on, when it was discussed, our police Chief Curtis Caid raised his hand quickly and said Livonia would like to be first (to host the tour). When we talk about the issue of systemic racism, this is an issue that clearly as a society, as a nation, as a world, we haven't quite dealt with yet."

"Tonight, we gather as listeners. We gather as learners. We gather as leaders so that we can deal with a story that is our story. Welcome to Livonia. Welcome to the conversation."

Daicia Price, a University of Michigan social work instructor, led the dialogue. She asked audience members to share words they think when seeing a badge. Words like authority and power were common.

In an effort to build trust and transparency, she had a panel of civilians and then a panel of community



Nearly 100 people attended the Partnership for Progress Listening Tour at Clarenceville High on June 24.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Livonia Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan was among the audience members at the Livonia high school.

leaders speak.

"When we talk about this partnership, it's about having people come together and talk about what do people want, what do people need and really trying to move forward," she said.

Everyone heard starkly different experiences from the white and Black civilian panelists, who agreed that everyone should feel safe. An older white man was im-

pressed with a Westland police who pulled him over.

A few Black women also shared positive experiences with police, but those experiences didn't erase memories of police unfairly treating others. One panelist said officers too often demand "hands up" before asking about what's going on. A primary task, some said, should be to help.

The dialogue was considered a great start by Chief Caid and others.

"This was a very progressive conversation," said Jessika Kennedy, a youth advisor for the Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP. "I think it was a very important one."

She would like to hear police chiefs talk more about what they can do to change the status quo for the better.

Caid emphasized that police departments like Livonia's have spent years doing the bias awareness and use-of-force training that protesters are now calling for.

"There's always things you can learn," Caid said. "One of the biggest lessons in what we're going through now are people's experiences and their perception. We need to get better at that. But I felt really good about tonight."

The tour's next scheduled stop is Aug. 13 in Inkster. Visit [www.c-w-w.org](http://www.c-w-w.org) for more information.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

## Mom accused of murdering son ruled competent

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

A Chinese immigrant apparently suffered from suicidal spells starting in late 2018, and they seem to have returned tragically the day before she allegedly killed her 2-year-old son inside their Novi home early this year, a forensic psychologist said.

Novi's 52-1 District Judge Travis Reeds still ruled June 25 that college-educated Chunhui Shi is competent and able to help her attorney build a reasonable defense against prosecutors.

Reeds scheduled the emaciated, handcuffed woman for an Aug. 19 preliminary examination. Several witnesses are possible, and a translator will be by Shi's side, translating as the proceedings happen.

Defense attorney John Holmes Jr. said he respected Reeds' decision.

"There was a huge amount of medical records involved with this," he said. "She is very well educated, very intelligent (and) very good with English."

"The difficulty that I have sometimes is does she really understand just the words or does she understand the meaning and the context behind the words. We'll see."

Forensic psychologist Candace Shields told Reeds that she reviewed Shi's medical records, including those from Chinese hospitalizations, and talked to Shi twice, with translators present.

Shi seemed to understand Shields and her questions about the charges and the potential



Chunhui Shi attends a Zoom court hearing May 20. Shi allegedly killed her 2-year-old son inside their Novi home early this year.

SUSAN VELA/  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

punishment but would occasionally ask for the translator's assistance.

She is facing two felony counts of homicide — one of them alleging a premeditated killing — and a count of first-degree child abuse.

According to Shields, Shi was born in China and married her husband in December 2013.

They moved to the United States in spring 2014. She had an engineering degree. Despite working a decade as a project manager, she was a housewife when police say she killed her son, Mason, with a kitchen knife.

Chinese doctors had started prescribing Shi with antidepressants after a December 2018 hospitalization, but she could not put aside suicidal thoughts.

Her husband signed a petition for involuntary hospitalization on Jan. 2 after an appointment so that she could get proper care.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia sent her home saying that she did

not meet the qualifications for in-hospital care even though doctors had proposed she might be suffering from bipolar disorder.

The next day, her husband returned to the couple's Sevilla Circle home to find his wife and Mason violently injured. She was accused of killing the child with a kitchen knife before harming herself.

After Shi received weeks of hospital care, Oakland County Jail placed her on suicide watch. Staff described her as fearful, anxious and depressed. The watch was lifted as her condition improved with medications.

Holmes confirmed Shi's husband was the man who spoke to her, presumably in Chinese, from one of the courtroom seats on Thursday. She looked at him as a courtroom deputy led her out of the courtroom.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Twitter: @susanvela.



### CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF OFFICIAL PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clerk's Office will conduct a Public Accuracy Test of the Optical Scan tabulating equipment to be used for the Election to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. The test will be conducted at 4:00 PM on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer that will be used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law. This test is open to all interested parties. For further information, contact the Novi City Clerk's Office at 248-347-0456.

CORTNEY HANSON, CMC, MiPMC II  
CITY CLERK

Publish: July 2, 2020

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020 CITY OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE, please take notice that any qualified elector of the City of Northville who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk; the office of the Wayne or Oakland County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at [michigan.gov/vote](http://michigan.gov/vote) and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at [www.expressSOS.com](http://www.expressSOS.com).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, July 20, 2020.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City of Northville Clerk's office, located at 215 W Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 at the following times:

- Regular business hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 1 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Election Day, Tuesday, August 4 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The election will be conducted in all voting precincts in the City of Northville for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices:

Congressional:	US Senator, Representative in Congress
Legislative:	Representative in State Legislature
County:	County Executive (Pct 2 only), Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Clerk, Register of Deeds, Treasurer, Water Resources Commissioner (Pct 2 only), County Commissioner, Delegate to County Convention
Judicial:	Judge of Circuit Court - 3rd Circuit Non-incumbent (Pct 1) Judge of Circuit Court - 6th Circuit Non-incumbent (Pct 2)

and voting on the following ballot proposals as presented and listed below:

County (Pct 1): PROPOSITION O - OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL

PROPOSITION P - PARKS MILLAGE RENEWAL

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's office.

Dianne Massa, CMC  
City Clerk

Published: July 2, 2020



## Teacher

Continued from Page 1A

a private K-8 school near Clarkston. He was coaching soccer and basketball for the school when authorities allege he became fixated on a 14-year-old female student.

She has told investigators she was sexually assaulted on school grounds, at after-school events and at other locations.

A Feb. 5 Northville Township police report indicates his behavior with students was at least questionable at Northville High School and led to prosecutors reviewing evidence for a fourth-degree CSC forcible contact charge.

A partially-redacted police report included statements from several Northville students in Dean's classrooms. Students described the vibe of Dean and the classroom as seemingly welcoming with a genuine concern for the students.

"All the kids were like best friends with him. They would always go to his classroom and talk to him because his room was like a safe space," one student told police.

Students told police the teacher would sometimes buy lunch for female students, let students borrow his car

and would meet them outside class for things like tutoring. One mentioned babysitting for Dean. In those statements, students told police nothing inappropriate ever happened.

Other students painted a less rosy picture.

A student alleged the teacher "groped" her butt "a little bit" as well as traced his finger in a cutout opening in the back of her shirt.

Another student talked about his invading personal space and his comments on student outfits. She said he told her if "she (wore) a nice outfit, he would not mark her tardy."

Dean waived his preliminary examination on three CSC counts in Clarkston's 52-2 District Court and two CSC counts in Waterford's District Court. He is next scheduled to appear in Oakland County Circuit Court on July 9.

### School district responses

Northville Public Schools sent a letter to families Jan. 29 addressing the initial allegations upon Dean's arraignment. He was placed on administrative and unpaid leave and ordered to stay away from school property and events. He also was banned from contact with



Dean

Northville students.

"We do not have any reason to believe, at this time, that the allegations and charges involve any current or former Northville student," Superintendent Mary Gallagher said in the Jan. 29 letter that she shared this week with Hometown Life.

She said in an email response for this story that Dean has been with the district since fall 2015.

"Charges of this nature are deeply troubling," Gallagher said in the email. "The safety and emotional well-being of our students, families and staff is of paramount concern to us as a school district."

Gallagher emphasized that the district notified families of Dean's past and current students and advised them to contact the school district and law enforcement regarding their concerns and anxieties because of Dean's alleged behavior.

A Feb. 19 township police report indicated Gallagher "wishes to go forward with criminal prosecution" because Dean apparently missed the deadline to submit a disclosure form about his arraignment.

A felony warrant was issued, according to Plymouth's 35th District records.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

## Academy

Continued from Page 1A

District officials also recognize that with the ongoing global pandemic, some families "will not be comfortable having students return to school buildings, even with additional safety precautions."

The teachers who will staff the virtual academy are already employed by the district, all highly-qualified HVS educators. Whether they will serve as both online instructors in the virtual academy while also teaching in-person classes remains to be decided.

Students enrolled in the virtual academy will solely receive their education online. Students traditionally enrolled will not become part of the virtual academy if buildings are closed again mid school year due to another outbreak.

Virtual academy students will have daily interactions with their teachers instead of the online learning this spring where lessons or assignments were given once a week, Tavernier said. He anticipates a mix of students meeting with their teachers in real time, as well as watching instructional videos and doing assignments on their own.

There will also be opportunities for students to have large group interaction virtually, as well as many opportunities for small group work with online classmates.

District officials are researching appropriate class sizes in a virtual environment.

"The team at Huron Valley has really come together," Tavernier said. "It's a point of pride and this virtual academy is another example of providing a high quality educational experience for every child."

While this is the pilot year for the virtual academy, Tavernier expects it to be a long-term program.

"There is a demand for virtual learning," he said. "Certainly because of COVID, that demand has greatly increased, but after the pandemic, there will continue to be demand."

Enrollment in the virtual academy is open to all students, including those in schools of choice, in junior kindergarten through grade 12. For more information, visit [www.hvs.org](http://www.hvs.org).

## Inspections

Continued from Page 4A

1. Observed chemical spray bottle stored on the pizza cutting table.

**Lake Street Tavern, 127 E. Lake**

1. Dishwasher using chlorine sanitizer concentration at Oppm.

### Walled Lake

**Dairy Queen, 551 N. Pontiac Trail**

1. Hose connected to three compartment sink without a backflow device or an air gap, creating a cross connection.

**Hungry Howie's, 954 N. Pontiac Trail**

1. Spray bottle of window cleaner stored on shelf above single use pizza boxes.

**Rudy's Pancake House, 674 Pontiac Trail**

1. Raw shell eggs were stored next to peeled onion in the walk-in cooler.

**Tubby's, 976 N. Pontiac Trail**

1. Chicken tenders, crunchy chicken, and raw chicken was holding at 60F in the walk-in freezer for longer than four hours.

### Wixom

**China Garden, 49414 Pontiac Trail**

1. Raw shell eggs were stored above several jugs of fruit juice in the walk-in cooler.

**Dunkin', 47776 Pontiac Trail**

1. Open gallon of milk observed on the counter at 53F for one hour per the employee.

**KFC, 49714 Grand River**

1. Observed employee handling raw chicken container then proceeded to open walk in cooler door and date mark food in the walk in cooler without washing hands.

**Sarokis Pizza, 2167 N. Wixom**

1. Observed chemicals stored on top of the food prep table at the front counter.

**Shaker's Bar and Grill, 49617 Grand River**

1. One (1) case of mozzarella cheese observed past the facility best by date: 4/22/20. Today's date 5/20/20.

2. Large container of ranch dressing observed past the facility use by date of 5/12. Today's date 5/20/20.

**Simply Thai, 47516 Pontiac Trail**

1. The following foods were observed holding out of temperature for less than 2 hours per person in charge: 1)2 large plastic containers of noodles 68-71F 2)Raw eggs 71F 3)Cooked chicken 48F 4)cut tomatoes 70F 5)Bean sprouts 70F.

**Urban Gyro, 2051 N. Wixom**

1. The following food was observed past the facility eat by date: 1)Ranch 5/18 2)hard boiled eggs 5/19 NOTE: Today's date is 5/20/20.

2. Raw bacon stored above ready to eat food in the walk-in cooler.



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## Expansion

Continued from Page 1A

which will include a new conference room, a new kitchen, elevator, more basement space and multiple offices.

The larger building will provide the township space when it hires more employees, she said, including possibly a bookkeeper, elections coordinator, more DPW workers and a full-time in-house township planner.

The expansion will also offer tighter elections security, with a confined, secured, locked room for ballots, as well as a secured outdoor drop box for general use.

"We've had trouble with people trying to jimmy the smaller box," she said.

The current pandemic is also a consideration.

"Our attorneys said if COVID continues, there will not be enough space for employees (for proper social distancing)."

When asked about detrimental effects to the budget from the coronavirus shutdown and anticipated state revenue shortfalls, Carcone said she anticipates the township will almost double revenue sharing when the current Census is completed.

The township had a population of just over 10,000 a decade ago. She expects it to be at least 18,000 in the new count.



Lyon Township Planning Board Commissioner Stephan Hoffman views a rendering of the planned township hall expansion. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Shooter

Continued from Page 1A

trial counsel should have recognized the symptoms of mental illness.

"After his arrest Mr. Casteel expresses his demons or thoughts to counsel and law enforcement alike. His delusions are not the thoughts of a mentally stable person," Casteel's motion says.

A doctor at the Center for Forensic Psychology found Casteel competent to stand trial but concluded he did suffer from mental illness.

"Counsel's failure to raise an insanity defense was not only ineffective assistance of counsel but it deprived his cli-

ent of the treatment he would receive from a mental health facility instead of the limited care he received today in the M.D.O.C.," the motion says.



Casteel

### Three-day shooting spree

Casteel was sentenced in February 2014 to 18-40 years in prison for his three-day shooting spree in which he fired a 9-mm pistol out the window of his vehicle, targeting 23 separate vehicles.

The incidents began Oct. 16, 2012, and stopped Oct. 18 that year, occurring in Livingston, Oakland, Shiawassee and Ingham counties.

An expansive task force was formed to identify the shooter, which was made possible when a motorist in Livingston County provided detailed information about the shooter's license plate.

At trial, Casteel testified that he was not trying to harm people, but was shooting at cars because he was told to by a coded message he received in a Detroit Tigers game and because the long lines of traffic triggered the "demons" in his mind.

His paranoia included believing people were targeting his family and that military aircraft were flying over his home when he lived in Kentucky.

"I saw a long line of traffic, felt fear and anxiety and shot," Casteel testified in January 2014. "I can't testify to the number, but I did fire at cars, yes."

The jury, however, agreed with prosecutors' argument that Casteel's actions were deliberate and premeditated.

In addition to terrorism, the jury convicted Casteel of felonious assault, carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intention, intentional discharge of a firearm from a motor vehicle and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

Casteel also was sentenced in Oakland County to up to 12 years in prison for the shootings that occurred on Wixom Road in Wixom.

His sentence was part of a plea deal with prosecutors, in which Casteel pleaded no contest but mentally ill to nine counts of assault with intent to cause great bodily harm less than murder.

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## New manufacturing building planned in Novi

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A piece of property on the west side of Novi is prepping to go from clubs to crates.

The city's planning commission recently reviewed plans to build an industrial building on the site of the Novi Oaks Golf and Sports Center at 46844 12 Mile. The plans call for a building of more than 98,000 square feet to occupy the site and would be used for industrial, manufacturing or other similar uses.

Who will occupy the building in the future is still unclear, though the tenant will determine what kind of use the building will have once built.

"At this time, we haven't identified a final user for the building but we have several proposals out right now for some very wonderful and exciting companies looking to locate themselves in the Novi community," said Dave Hardin, a project manager with Novi-based Hillside Investments, the petitioner for developing the building. "We will most likely wait until we have a user identified before we start actual construction."

The building — which would be located just east of the Novi/Wixom border



A rendering of the front door of the proposed industrial building planned for 12 Mile Road west of West Park Drive in Novi. COURTESY OF THE CITY OF NOVI

— would sit on 20 acres of land and would have an access point from 12 Mile. The city's master plan calls for that area of the city to be used for indus-

trial or manufacturing in the future. It would have about 28,000 square feet of office space between two floors and 70,000 square feet for light industrial or

warehouse space, Hardin said.

The commission voted unanimously to approve the preliminary site plan during its meeting held June 25 online over Zoom.

Several commissioners spoke in favor of the project, saying it made sense in that part of town and fit the city's long-term goals for development.

Commissioner Cindy Gronachan said she reviewed the documents with the plan thoroughly and was in support of the project. The only issue she may see in the future is what traffic will look like on 12 Mile once the building is up, but admitted it all depends on who occupies it.

"I really think that that's going to be a little premature until we find out exactly what's going to be in the building," she said. "I think the petitioner has addressed most of the concerns."

Commissioner Tony Anthony, who was attending his last meeting as a planning commissioner, said he was overall in support of the project as well.

"What I like about it is the site does fit the future land use plan," he said.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

## State puts Novi coronavirus field hospital on pause

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The second field hospital opened by the State of Michigan to care for COVID-19 patients has closed its doors for the time being.

The state placed the field hospital at the Suburban Collection Showplace, located at 46100 Grand River in Novi, on a temporary hold after the number of coronavirus patients needing hospitalization decreased across the region.

The state last discharged a patient from the facility June 11 and closed it down June 19, said Michelle Grinnell, a state spokeswoman. The center, which cared for 16 patients since it opened in

late April, was staffed by Ascension Michigan staff.

In a statement, the state announced the closure was a result of efforts made to reduce the spread of the coronavirus over the last few months and the lack of needing overflow space to hospitalize those who contracted the coronavirus.

"Ultimately, it is the best scenario possible for Michigan that Stay Home, Stay Safe efforts, the continued practice of social distancing, an economic reopening strategy based on data, and the incredible efforts of our health care providers have ensured as we are in a position to pause the SCS Regional Care Center, even as we remain ready for whatever may come next," the state-

ment read.

Despite not accepting patients at the time, the state said the closure was a pause and could be reactivated if the number of COVID-19 cases grow in the future. The state signed a six-month lease to use the convention center earlier this year that runs through the end of September. The lease is for \$1.1 million per month and can be canceled by the state with a five-day notice.

Hospitalizations across the region for treating patients with the coronavirus have declined significantly. Beaumont Health — which has hospitals in Farmington Hills, Wayne, Royal Oak, Troy, Dearborn, Grosse Pointe and Trenton — reported having 143 hospitalizations of

coronavirus patients as of June 19, which is down from the peak of 1,101 in early April. Combined numbers from the St. Joseph Mercy Health System and Mercy Health — which has hospitals in Livonia, Ann Arbor, Pontiac, Howell, Chelsea, Grand Rapids, Shelby and Muskegon — lists 30 coronavirus patients across the system as of June 18. Of those, there are five confirmed cases at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

The closure of the field hospital comes several weeks after the first such facility was opened by the state: the treatment facility at the TCF Center in downtown Detroit closed in early May.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com).

## What to do with a reverse mortgage if home value drops



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom  
Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

About 15 years ago, my mother did a reverse mortgage on her home. The money went to me for seed money to start my business. Fortunately, the business has done well, and I wanted to pay off the reverse mortgage so my mom would own her home free and clear.

When my mom did the reverse mortgage, her home was worth approximately \$250,000 and she was able to do the reverse mortgage for \$100,000. When I went to pay off the reverse mortgage, I was surprised at how large the outstanding balance was. Because her home has gone down in value, the current value of the reverse mortgage is worth more than the fair market value of the home.

Should I just give the money to my mom outright? I am also curious as to my mom's responsibility for the mortgage, and since I'm her only child, if she passes away with the reverse mortgage outstanding, am I responsible for it?

Thank you, Joe

Dear Joe:

In answering your second question first, the answer is no. Neither you, being the heir to the property, nor your mom will be responsible for the difference between what the house eventually sells for and what the balance is for the outstanding mortgage. If there is a shortfall, that is the responsibility of the lender.

Because the property is worth less than the outstanding mortgage, it would seem to me that it would not be a very good strategy for you to pay off the reverse mortgage. I would think a much better strategy is to give that money to your mother and let her use it during her lifetime to improve the quality of her life. This way, she has full access to the money.

Unlike a traditional mortgage where you make monthly payments on principal and interest, in a reverse mortgage

there are no payments. As long as you live in your home, you never have to pay off the mortgage.

Typically, the reverse mortgage is due either when the homeowners move out of their home or upon death. In the case at hand, if the house is worth less than the balance of the outstanding mortgage at the time of your mother's passing, the lender will take the home. There will be no obligation from the deceased or their family to cover the shortfall. On the other hand, if upon death the home is worth more than the outstanding mortgage balance, the home can be sold, the mortgage paid off, and any excess amounts go to the family.

I have no problem using reverse mortgages in the right situation. My general view is that reverse mortgages should only be used to increase the quality of life of the homeowner. I'm generally not a fan of doing reverse mortgages to use the proceeds to loan money to others.

I probably would not have recommended the reverse mortgage. When you do a reverse mortgage, you are using the equity in your home, and you won't be able to use it in the future. Because we never know how long we're going to live, and we don't know what our cost of living will be in the future, I am very leery about using equity in the home for purposes other than for the homeowner.

For many seniors a reverse mortgage is a lifeline in the fact that it allows them to maintain the quality of their life. It can be a great way to increase cash flow to a senior. I have recommended reverse mortgages for such things as paying off first mortgages, paying off credit card debt and providing additional cash flow.

On the other hand, if you're going to use the proceeds from a reverse mortgage for non-essential items such as vacations or to give or lend to family and friends, think twice. Having equity in your home that you can tap is a great resource in times of need.

Good luck!

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

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Staff at the Phoenix Theatre in Livonia demonstrate what a concession transaction will look like when the theater reopens. Associate managers Bryan Gerathy and Heather Canary, right, sell a tub of popcorn and pop to general manager Ronnie Yount, who is portraying a customer. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Movie theaters prepare for expected reopening

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It took closing down for more than three months for Tearis Reid to realize the magic of movie theater popcorn.

The vice president of operations for Phoenix Theatres said he's gotten so used to being around the salty, buttery smell of the movie theater staple that he doesn't typically notice it. But he said it sparked something in him when the company fired up its poppers for the first time in months.

"I don't even notice the smell of popcorn anymore," he said. "When we fired up that popcorn popper and I smelled it again for the first time in three months, it was amazing."

"I was like, 'I miss the taste, I miss the smell.'"

It's certain Reid isn't alone: for the last three months, movie theaters have been shuttered by the state, closed down to help stop the spread of COVID-19, a virus that has infected more than 59,000 Michiganders. But as summer arrives, many are looking forward to reopening to premiere some of Hollywood's biggest blockbusters.

Theater owners believe they'll be ready for customers in July, though they admit the experience will look very different than it did six months ago. Theaters will be at a reduced occupancy, leaving many seats open. Employees will wear face masks. More options will exist for contact-free ticketing. Such measures are key to bringing back audiences.

"We'll be working hard to bring products they want to see," said Anthony LaVerde, CEO for Imagine Entertainment. "We'll get over this challenge ... and we'll come out stronger on the other side."

Reopening next month will only be possible if the state allows it. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer relaxed restrictions on businesses throughout June, allowing retailers and restaurant dining rooms to open their doors for the general public June 4 and June 8, respectively. Movie theaters are already allowed to reopen in the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula at reduced capacity.

Whitmer says the rest of the state is expected to follow suit in the coming weeks, though there's no timeline as to when that will happen.

For Imagine - which operates theaters in Novi, Canton, Birmingham and Farmington Hills, as well as others across Michigan and the Midwest - the closure has given the chain time to make some changes and work on projects.

One of those includes deep-cleaning all its theaters from top to bottom, even going so far as to remove seats and clean under them, flushing every line at the concession stand and adding cleaning



South Lyon Theater owner Debra Neil said she has been checking out what's working for other small theaters to help her prepare for when she reopens. PHILIP ALLMEN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

procedures for when guests return.

Debra Neil, owner of The South Lyon Theater in downtown South Lyon, said she planned to head to northwest Michigan to see how some of the smaller theaters are reopening.

She said she's getting everything ready in preparation to reopen by the time "Mulan" hits theaters July 24.

"We're doing everything we can to be safe and sanitary," she said. "There's a lot of distancing in the theater."

### What to play?

Perhaps one of the biggest challenges is to figure out what to show in theaters. Hollywood has delayed releases for the blockbusters usually kick off the summer season, including "Black Widow," "Wonder Woman 1984" and "Top Gun: Maverick."

The first major movie planned for release is "Unhinged," starring Russell Crowe. That film comes out July 1, and the Phoenix Theatres hope to have it playing for audiences.

The linchpin of the summer movie season comes weeks after, when "Tenet," a film directed by Christopher Nolan, is scheduled for release. Between "Tenet's" July 17 release date and the release of "Mulan" on July 24, theater officials hope to bring crowds back.

"We're hoping that's a solid date," said John Scanlan, the chief operating officer for Phoenix Theatres, which operates a theater at Laurel Park Place in Livonia and the State Wayne in downtown Wayne. "Those are the big movies we're trying to get."

In the meantime, theaters are experimenting with playing older films to en-

tice viewers to return to the theater.

Imagine recently reopened its lone theater in Wisconsin, in Lake Geneva, and opted to play classics and recent releases such as "Back to the Future," "Wonder Woman" and "The Goonies."

Opening the theater, LaVerde said, gave the company a great gauge for what works and what doesn't as it plans to reopen across the Midwest.

"Our thing is learning proper staffing levels, what lines work, what lines don't," he said. "It was nice to have the Geneva opening as a test market."

Phoenix Theatres owner Cory Jacobson considered bringing in some films originally scheduled for a film festival in Iowa to his other locations in Michigan and Massachusetts. The Julien DuBuque International Film Festival typically takes place in the spring in DuBuque, Iowa, but was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"I think all of this is appropriate for all of our cinemas," he said. "I would rather present films from independent filmmakers right now since we do have the space and do something creative and try something new."

### What customers can expect

Theater-goers will have a very different experience when they return to theaters across the region. Reminders will be present everywhere to keep six feet away from other patrons not in their party, from markers on the ground at the concession stand to seats being roped off inside the theater.

Technology plays a role in connecting theater patrons to the theater, as well. Phoenix Theatres has rolled out as-

signed seating at its theaters so customers can select their seats before arriving. There, spacing will take place to keep patrons distanced from each other.

"The computer's already deleted all the chairs we don't want you to sit in," Jacobson said. "You can only pick up the chairs that are available and the social distancing is done by the computer."

Imagine plans to take the experience to the next level: in addition to selecting seats ahead of time, the company is developing an app that would allow customers to order concessions through their phones and pick up their order at the concession stand or have it brought to them in the theater.

Theater-goers at Imagine will also have a specific way of entering the theater, with aisles limited to one-way to enter and exit the theater, similar to what many grocery stores have done to minimize interactions.

"We're trying to prevent folks crossing in the aisle or crossing in the steps," LaVerde said. "We've provided arrows to basically keep the flow of traffic in one direction."

Cleaning will take place in between each show, which will probably mean fewer showings throughout the day to give employees time to clean. Phoenix Theatres will use a food-grade spray on each chair in between shows that kills viruses and bacteria.

While employees will wear masks, the general public at Phoenix Theatres and Imagine will be encouraged, but not required, to do the same. Those who want a mask at any Imagine theater but forgot one can pick one up from an employee at no charge, LaVerde said.

Neil said she's thankful she thought to rearrange some of the seats at The South Lyon Theater when new ones were installed in 2017. Those arrangements will make it easier to keep parties separate from one another, she said.

"We've been measuring and looking at the distance between the aisles," she said. "I'm really glad we did that."

Her theater in the heart of downtown South Lyon has additional challenges: special events such as school gatherings and birthday parties have all come to a halt. With many disruptions to those schedules, Neil said she's looking to find other types of entertainment to bring into the theater on a regular basis, including trying to attract The Moth to come north from Ann Arbor.

She knows returning to the theater will happen one way or another, and she's ready to invite the community back in for a night of entertainment.

"People in the community are still going to be doing things eventually," Neil said. "We will be there."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728.





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## Northville grad wins college leadership award

**Andrew Vaillancourt**  
 Hometownlife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Former Northville lacrosse player Brennan Sweeney has been honored at the collegiate level.

Sweeney, who graduated this spring from Guilford College (Greensboro, North Carolina), was one of seven student-athletes at the college to receive

the Nereus C. English '26 Athletic Leadership Award, which is the top athletics honor from the school.

The recipients this year included Natalie Conrad, Calyn Davis, Zachary Evens, Abigail Horchar, Carolyn O'Halloran, Christian Ritter and Sweeney.



**Sweeney**

Sweeney appeared in 57 contests with 27 starts as an attacker and midfielder for the Guilford men's lacrosse team. He amassed 76 goals and 78 assists for 154 points in four seasons, plus 61 ground balls and five caused turnovers. This season he led the Quakers with 22 goals and stood second on the team in assists (17) and points (39).

As a junior, he led the squad in points (67), goals (38) and assists (29), all of

which represent career highs. Sweeney leaves with his name etched several times in the program record books as he is 10th in career points, sixth in career assists and tied for fifth in assists in a single game (6).

The exercise and sport sciences and health sciences double major is a seven-time member of the Guilford

See GRAD, Page 2B



Kate Milz poses with her summer running group. "... I may not be able to gather in big groups, but running is still there for me," she said of the pandemic's effect. COURTESY OF KATE MILZ

## Metro Detroit runners adjust to pandemic

**Colin Gay** Hometownlife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For Kate Milz, running is a stress reliever.

Even as an employee of Gazelle Sports in Birmingham, it was her way to escape the stresses of the world, to get out of the house and into a community, a group of people with common interests and common goals in mind.

When the coronavirus pandemic hit

in March, Milz said she had a moment of panic: "What am I going to do now? How am I going to fix this?"

The answer turned out to be the same as before the pandemic: putting on running shoes and going out, only without people around.

"It took a moment, but then I was like, 'I can still run,'" Milz said. "Running's not going anywhere. It may look different: I may not be able to gather in big groups, but running is still there for

me. The pavement is still there, my feet still work, I can still go out there and run every day if I wanted to."

For runners across the metro Detroit area, whether they are high school cross country runners preparing for a potential fall season, or those training for the 2020 Detroit Free Press Marathon scheduled for Oct. 18, the sport has remained the same, but they are being forced to adjust training regimens and event schedules because of COVID-19.

Tim Dalton, the head cross country coach at Northville High School, has already started to lead training sessions with his players, separating them into 10-15 runner pods to adhere to social distancing guidelines mandated by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

"If we're able to have athletics in the fall, cross country has a good chance of

See RUNNERS, Page 3B

## Miles continues hockey journey after decorated CC career

**Colin Gay** Hometownlife.com  
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Detroit Catholic Central does not play a physical brand of hockey.

Instead of a "dump-and-chase" type of approach, the Shamrocks, like many teams vying for a Michigan state hockey title each season, come into each game with a play-driven mentality, one reliant on set-ups and speed.

This is the kind of game Brendan Miles was built for from the time he began skating at age 4, taking the ice with a stick in his hands shortly after.

This is the brand of hockey that brought Miles into the Shamrocks' starting lineup as a junior, helping Catholic Central win the 2019 state title and come two victories away from a repeat in 2020, before the postseason

tournament was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

This is the brand of hockey that helped Miles accumulate accolades, such as being named first-team All State, and earn the high school hockey player of the year award from the Detroit Free Press as a defenseman his senior season.

This is the brand of hockey that caught the attention of the Fairbanks Ice Dogs in the North American Hockey League, where Miles will play starting in September.

For a Catholic Central team head coach Brandon Kaleniecki described as being filled with "gamebreakers," he said Miles had this special ability to shut down opposing offenses and force turnovers, then turn around and set up scorers in transition like Andrew Dooley

and Kyle Gaffney.

"It's, 'What are you going to do to stop it? What is the game plan to stop a player that can do some of those things and influence things that way?'" Kaleniecki said. "Whether they just tried to be physical or whether you tried to play a certain way, he had the ability to still make an impact in whatever the situation was."

### Setting Miles' hockey future

Miles started developing his skills early on, continuing to improve as his love of the game continued.

Miles worked with Kim Muir, a former figure skater, who helped him develop speed on the ice, especially

See MILES, Page 4B



Catholic Central's Brendan Miles, center, celebrates a game-winning goal this past season. THOMAS BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Left to right, Michael Connelley and Robert Stone, alleged victims of Dr. Robert Anderson, talk as lawyer Sarah Klein and Amanda Thomashow, both victims of Larry Nassar at Michigan State, hug after the press conference at the Ann Arbor Marriott Ypsilanti at Eagle Creek in Ypsilanti on March 5. ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

## U-M abuse lawsuits headed to mediation

David Jesse Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The University of Michigan and potentially hundreds of victims of former university doctor Robert Anderson will enter mediation in September, according to discussions held in federal court Tuesday. A federal judge also ordered a law firm hired by U-M to run an independent investigation outside of the lawsuit process to show up in her courtroom to discuss its investigation.

There have been eight days set aside in September for formal mediation. There are currently more than 70 cases filed in federal court. Lawyers for those plaintiffs told U.S. District Court Judge Victoria Roberts there are hundreds of others who have yet to file lawsuits against U-M.

U-M has said it is interested in settling with Anderson's victims but had been pushing for that settlement to occur outside of the federal court system.

The university announced earlier this year that it was investigating allegations of abuse by Anderson, who died in 2008. Numerous men have come forward publicly and in lawsuits to allege that Anderson molested them during medical exams during his decades-long career as a physician for the school's athletic teams and at the university's health service. The university hired an outside firm, WilmerHale, to do the investigation. Stephanie Parker of law firm Jones Day, which represents U-M, told the court U-M said that investigation should be complete before the end of October.

Roberts said she would issue an order banning U-M from making mass outreach to any potential Anderson victims. U-M announced earlier this

month it would send letters to 300,000 alumni asking for anyone who was assaulted by Anderson to contact WilmerHale. Roberts said she wanted to understand more about how the WilmerHale investigation was being conducted at the same time as the federal lawsuit.

The lawyers for those suing U-M said WilmerHale should not be doing anything to interfere with the suits and the whole process should go through the court system. Those lawyers are worried U-M, through WilmerHale, is guiding potential victims away from the lawsuit process.

Attorney Todd Flood asked the court to order U-M to turn over WilmerHale's notes and materials before the group hits mediation.

Roberts agreed she wanted more information about how the lawsuits and the independent investigation are overlapping.

"There's no way on earth what we are doing here can be independent of what WilmerHale is doing," Roberts said.

### Part of the athletic department for decades

Anderson was closely involved in the school's athletic department for decades, including helping famed athletic director Don Canham cut costs by requiring annual physicals and teaming with legendary football coach Bo Schembechler to set up an important drug testing program.

Anderson's sexual assaults were so well known among Michigan athletes, accusers have said, that he earned nicknames — "Dr. Drop Your Drawers" and "Dr. Glove." Anderson was known to give unnecessary rectal and testicular exams to students. He also allegedly

traded sexual favors for letters to Vietnam-era draft boards establishing men as homosexual and thus making them eligible for a draft deferment.

Recent history says any settlement with Anderson's victims could get pricey — Michigan State University paid \$500 million to Larry Nassar survivors, the University of Southern California paid \$215 million to George Tyndall survivors and Penn State University paid \$109 million to Jerry Sandusky survivors. Ohio State University recently reached settlement terms with about half of the Richard Strauss survivors, but terms were not released. Nassar, Tyndall, Strauss and Anderson were all doctors who were accused of sexually assaulting students, including athletes.

U-M has explicitly admitted its former football team doctor sexually assaulted students, but has said in court filings that related lawsuits filed against it must be dismissed for reasons involving university immunity and statute of limitations.

### 'A sad reality' as school reckons with past

In a court filing late Friday, the university said it was coming to grips with the "sad reality that some of its students suffered sexual abuse at the hands of one of its former employees" and is "determined to acknowledge and reckon with that past and, to the extent possible, provide justice — including in the form of monetary relief — to Anderson's survivors."

But that doesn't mean those survivors have standing to sue the university and any relief should come outside of the court system, the filing in U.S. District Court says.

Anderson's abuse came to light when a former wrestler sent a letter to current Athletic Director Warde Manuel in 2018, telling of the abuse.

Once he got the letter, Manuel had a 'responsibility to report it. He did — but not to the right people. "Manuel then forwarded this letter to representatives at the University of Michigan General Counsel Office, who forwarded the letter to (the Office of Institutional Equity)," a police report obtained by the Free Press under a Freedom of Information Act shows.

Manuel's actions were not the correct procedure, according to U-M's policy.

U-M's policy on where reports of sexual misconduct should go is simple and straightforward.

"Responsible employees must immediately report any information they learn about suspected Prohibited Conduct to OIE or the Title IX Coordinator," the policy says. "Failure by a responsible employee to timely report a suspected Prohibited Conduct may subject them to appropriate discipline, up to and including removal from their position."

U-M has said Manuel's action were OK because the letter was sent the same day from the university's lawyers to its Title IX investigators.

In February, U-M President Mark Schlissel apologized to Anderson's victims.

"As a physician, scientist, father and university president, I condemn all sexual misconduct, especially instances that occur under the purview of our public mission. This type of conduct is reprehensible — and whether it takes place now or took place in the past, it is unacceptable," Schlissel said.



The Livonia Wild 14U-Hanson team won the FFAST June Bash Tournament, which was held June 14. COURTESY OF MATT JONES

## Livonia Wild 14U team wins June Bash Tournament

Andrew Vaillencourt  
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Livonia Wild 14U-Hanson fast pitch softball team took home a tournament title in June.

The Wild won the FFAST June Bash Tournament which was held June 14.

Team members are: back row (left to right): Head coach Erik Hanson, Maddie Holman, Grace Holman, assistant coach John Murphy, Meaghan Dick, Ava Champoux, Abby Datson, Lydia Makila,

Erika Tucker and assistant coach Brandon Makila.

Front row (left to right): Payton Prover, Arrianna Jaeger, Paige Hammers, Jazmin Edwards and Joanne Murphy.  
availlenc@hometownlife.com

## Grad

Continued from Page 1B

Student-Athlete Honor Roll and six-time dean's list student. Sweeney is also a three-time Old Dominion Athletic Conference All-Academic honoree and served on Guilford's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

A native of Thomasville, N.C., Nereus C. English graduated from Guilford in 1926 but maintained close contact with the college after graduation. His loyalty and genuine interest in its students led to the creation of the English Endowment Fund and the Nereus C. and Mae Martin English Scholarship Fund in 1965.

With his brother, the late T.R. English, he provided funding for Guilford's English Hall dormitory in 1957. In 1962, Nereus English received the Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Guilford College Alumni Association. Since Guilford first presented the honor in 1977, 237 students have received the English Award.

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at [availlenc@hometownlife.com](mailto:availlenc@hometownlife.com) or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send story ideas to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

## Runners

Continued from Page 1B

competing in some shape, form, some way," Dalton said. "It's obviously going to look different — it's not necessarily going to look like it was in the past — but I'm confident that if we are going to have youth sports, cross country will be able to run in some capacity."

Livonia Franklin cross country and track coach Pat Koelzer said training has been pretty standard ahead of the fall, but that he's keeping runners in smaller groups, sending them in different directions on runs and staggering when and where they start.

"We've been able to do a lot of the same things we normally can, in terms of workouts and running," Koelzer said. "Obviously, when they are running, they are supposed to be six feet apart from each other. That's been a real challenge to get kids used to because normally that's the exact opposite of what we would like. We want them packed in together and working together and everything."

Up to this point, running events that have not been canceled have changed immensely.

Races have become virtual, creating opportunities for fun runs and 5Ks from their own location.

This is something Dalton saw with Northville, as one of their baseball coaches set up a virtual 5K during the quarantine period for the school. The cross country coach said it just was not the same as an in-person event.

But it is something Milz and Gazelle Sports have embraced.

Milz has been in charge of one of the running camps at Birmingham, which has gone primarily virtual. With the help of social media, members are posting things, setting up scavenger hunts and encouraging others to continue training, even if it is not in an in-person group setting.

"This pandemic, you can't control it, you don't know what's going to happen, you don't know what the governor's going to do," Milz said. "This is one thing that you have a little bit of control over."

As the state started its reopening process, the running community began to come back together.

Dalton said, especially for those at the high-school age, this was vital.



Northville cross country runners Josh Hardy, foreground, and Josh Morrissey race against Novi. Their coach, Tim Dalton, has started training sessions that adhere to social distancing guidelines mandated by the MHSAA. COURTESY OF MARK MCCASLIN

"Our cross country team is anywhere from 50 to 60 boys, and to me, those relationships and those friendships that are formed at practice and throughout a season, not only last through their high school years, but into college," Dalton said. "Life-long friends are started at youth sports."

"With losing the spring season, I've noticed both parents and kids were cautious, but ready to get back to some sort of normalcy in those relationships and community of seeing familiar faces and being around other people in the safest way possible."

Even though there is a social distance element to the community, Koelzer said that many of his runners have a new appreciation for the sport, especially with

many missing their spring track season.

"I think there's just an excitement about, 'Cool, I'm probably going to be able to do this sport,'" Koelzer said. "Many of them missed out on a sport last spring, and probably have that much more of an appreciation for being able to do it again."

When Milz saw her group for the first time, she said it took a lot not to run up and hug each of them.

But she also made clear the running clubs are following social distancing rules, running in pods, much like Dalton's Mustangs, and having supplies like hand sanitizer ready to use.

Prior to the start of the quarantine period, Milz was planning to run in the Chicago marathon — her sixth. She said

she expects to see significant changes, such as a rolling start, masks being required before the race, and so on.

However, even if there is not an official in-person race, Milz said she is going to run a marathon no matter what, creating a path in Birmingham that will meet the 26.21-mile requirement.

For her, that is the beauty of running: that it can't be stopped by COVID-19.

Milz still has something to train for.

"You just need a pair of shoes and your legs," Milz said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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## Miles

Continued from Page 1B

backwards skating.

The lessons clicked as Miles improved, practicing each day and showing off what he had learned on the ice with his travel team, switching to AAA after middle school.

And after enrolling at Catholic Central for his freshman year, Miles caught a glimpse of his hockey future.

He attended a Shamrocks hockey game and watched the student section. He could feel the electricity of the building.

To him, it was a different atmosphere altogether.

"A lot of schools, they say they have some sort of brotherhood, but it's just a totally different story at CC," Miles said. "There's really no hating on each other. We're pretty much a big family. We've got each others' backs, and I think that I saw that my freshman year, just going to school.

When Miles joined the hockey team as a sophomore, Kaleniecki gave him an opportunity not many sophomores on a perennial state title contender receive: consistent and big minutes.

But the Catholic Central head coach knew what he was getting when he inserted Miles into the starting lineup.

"He can create an odd-man rush just with his ability to skate, moves his feet so well that he can create space for himself and other players and then he can jump up into a play because of his speed," Kaleniecki said.

The head coach said he saw that instinct, talent and ability from the moment Miles first took the ice.

But what developed over time, and what became so dangerous for opponents was when Miles matched that talent with confidence.

"The three years we had him, you could see him starting to gain the confidence in himself to do that, trusting not only what we are telling him, but trusting his own instincts with it," Kaleniecki said. "Don't necessarily wait for the game to come to you in certain situations with his ability. You got the puck on your stick, you can make something happen, or you see the opportunity to get up the ice the way you skate, trust that is what you should do."

Last season, Miles put up impressive



Catholic Central's Brendan Miles, center, passes the puck past a Rice defenseman. Miles helped the Shamrocks win the 2019 state title and come two victories away from a repeat in 2020 before the coronavirus pandemic shut down sports.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

numbers for a defenseman. He had five goals and 11 assists for the Shamrocks, who finished with a 22-5 record and ended the season awaiting a state semifinal matchup against Byron Center.

But Miles was noticed more for what statistics could not quantify.

"I wouldn't call it freedom, but knowing that we are solid on the back end — we have someone that can influence the game from the back end in that way — certainly was a huge difference," Kaleniecki said.

Miles views himself as a part of a larger machine with CC, coming into each season with the confidence that a state title was possible.

When joining the Shamrocks, that was part of his expectation that he would help bring Catholic Central closer

to its goal at the end of each season.

"You are not going to a high school where it could be up in the air whether you are winning or not," Miles said.

While Miles' focus was on the team in his three years with the program, he did get some personal attention.

He said the Fairbanks Ice Dogs had been impressed with his ability from the beginning, offering him a roster spot as soon as they were able to at the beginning of November.

Although Miles wanted to wait it out to make a decision, he knew the NAHL was going to be the place for him as soon as he was offered.

Now, Miles' goals have shifted, yet stayed the same in a way: He wants to be one of the top guys in the Ice Dogs' lineup in his first year, winning a champi-

onship, just like he would have done with the Shamrocks.

Miles said he has worked hard up to this point to earn the notoriety he has earned in his three years with Catholic Central hockey.

However, he knows his hockey story has just started, even though one chapter may be closing.

"It hasn't really ended. It has, kind of, just begun, in a sense," Miles said. "I have put a lot of work in what I have done, but there also is a lot more of what's to come."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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# 5G could make working from home go smoothly

Yet availability still is lagging in most cities

**Bob O'Donnell**  
Special to USA TODAY

FOSTER CITY, Calif. — Now that so many of us have become accustomed to working from home, one question that might come up is does 5G really matter anymore? After all, most people are probably connecting to the internet, and all of their work colleagues, with their in-home Wi-Fi via a broadband connection such as a cable modem. Why would they need a different type of fast wireless connection?

Well, there are quite a few reasons, though some won't matter much until we venture out a bit more.

5G is starting to become a more viable alternative to cable as a high-speed internet connection source. Thanks to a technology called Fixed Wireless Access (FWA), which is at the heart of Verizon's 5G Home service, you can get a blazing fast 1 Gbps (that's a gigabit per second) connection into your home via 5G.

The problem is the service is limited to a few cities in the USA. Verizon did add Detroit last week, so availability is slowly starting to improve.

AT&T started talking about offering a 5G-based FWA service. T-Mobile is rumored to be doing the same, so there's hope that we could see more options.

## Why 5G may matter

Given that 5G fixed wireless services can match the best download and upload speeds that cable has to offer at relatively comparable prices, 5G could provide a dramatic improvement in work-at-home options.

There has been a fair amount of discussion about using 5G to extend broadband internet services to rural areas and other places that don't have high-speed internet. That would be a huge improvement for residents, and it could draw more people to live and work there.

Some type of broadband connectivity will be an essential requirement for people considering these types of moves, so 5G could extend the geographical locations where people can



5G could provide a dramatic improvement in work-at-home options. REVIEWED.COM

live and work.

Even for those who live in urban areas that theoretically have better broadband coverage, connectivity can be a challenge. It's certainly not unheard of to face issues with the quality of broadband, or even more likely, Wi-Fi congestion issues that severely limit the speed and reliability of internet connections. City dwellers in dense environments clogged with Wi-Fi routers and hotspots often can't get a good connection to the internet.

In those situations, it can make more sense to use a fast 5G cellular network as your primary means of connection, then use the portable hotspot feature on your smartphone (or even purchase a dedicated 5G hotspot piece of hardware) to share that connection over Wi-Fi.

For those who are privacy and security conscious, a cellular connection is generally more secure than Wi-Fi, in part because of the proliferation of Wi-Fi hacking tools. Note that you may pay a premium for using a smartphone-based cellular connection as your primary means of internet access versus other broadband options. That's a trade-off you may need to consider.

## Working 'at-home' away from home

Once people return to their workplaces on a limited basis or just get out to enjoy an outdoor cafe after having been stuck at home for months, a 5G connection starts to take on even more value for most workers. The real beauty of having an always-on cellular connection, even on PCs and tablets, is that you

never have to worry about being disconnected.

A 5G-connected PC lets you do all your work from just about anywhere — from regular email and chats to video calls and other collaborative efforts. You never have to worry about finding the name of the Wi-Fi network, getting the password, worrying about people tapping into the Wi-Fi for nefarious purposes, etc. It's just connected and it works. Speaking personally, once you get used to that kind of connectivity freedom, it's really hard to go back.

## Flexibility of 5G as a backup

The final point worth considering on 5G's work-at-home value is that it offers a second way to connect to the internet. Though that may sound like a completely unnecessary luxury to some, the truth is that our entire work, personal and even educational lives have moved online. Even as the world strives to return to some kind of normal, many of the changes we've experienced are going to stick around for a long time.

The insurance of having another connection that can be tapped into is way more important than it used to be. The number of connected devices in every household is going to go up, so the ability to split the load and have some of those devices use a 5G connection, while others use a broadband connection, isn't as far-fetched as it might appear.

It might seem easy to brush off 5G as relatively unimportant, but our situations are going to change — exactly how and when aren't entirely clear — and with those changes will come different needs. One thing that is certain is that the need for fast, reliable internet connections is going to grow. In that light, it's easy to say yes, 5G can help us work from home.

USA TODAY columnist Bob O'Donnell is the president and chief analyst of *TECHanalysis Research*, a market research and consulting firm that provides strategic consulting and market research services to the technology industry and professional financial community. His clients are major technology firms, including Microsoft, HP, Dell, Samsung and Intel.



It's like a day at the beach with the waves going in and out.

-Patrick L.

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# Mich. GOP offers back-to-school plan

## Proposal calls for more local flexibility and federal funding

Frank Witsil Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

Republican lawmakers in the state House and Senate announced their return-to-school plan on the Capitol steps June 23, which they said aims to give "schools maximum flexibility to empower students and parents in the coming school year."

They blasted how the state handled the end of the academic year in the pandemic, saying local school leaders, parents and schoolchildren deserve an apology because they did not receive adequate guidance from state government.

"Today," House Speaker Lee Chatfield said, "we are going to make that right."

The chairs of the House and Senate education committees — State Rep. Pamela Hornberger, R-Chesterfield Township, and Sen. Lana Theis, R-Brighton — delivered an overview of their plan, which they dubbed Return to Learn, in Lansing.

The GOP legislators said their plan — which they called "smarter, safer" — would provide both safety and funding for schools.

Hornberger, a former teacher and mother of a recent graduate, acknowledged schools will face funding challenges and called for the plan to use federal money to help districts and for more local scheduling and curriculum flexibility.

"Our plan," she said, "urges local districts to partner with their local health departments to develop safety

standards that work for their community."

Legislators also said they aimed to provide a one-time \$500 payment to teachers to compensate them for hazard pay and shifting to online instruction, and additional funding of \$800 per student.

They said they seek to allocate \$75 million to intermediate school districts, although within minutes after the news conference that amount was corrected and increased to \$80 million.

And the plan calls for more flexibility in how attendance is counted and limits the use of snow days to encourage remote instruction when in-person instruction is unsafe or unsuitable.

The legislative plan came nearly a week after Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said Michigan schools could reopen for in-person learning this fall, but likely with fewer students in each classroom and more pandemic precautions.

The lawmakers' plan is among others that have been discussed as students, parents and educators want to know what to expect as the academic year resumes in just a couple of months.

Will students return to classrooms or continue to get instruction online — or both? What about sports, clubs, and other extracurricular activities and events? And will schools, which fear funding shortfalls, have to make cuts?

Educators point out that answers to these questions depend not just on what happens in combatting the novel coronavirus, but also on how much money will be available to schools from their district, the state and even the federal government.

Administrators also are bracing to make cuts to employees, salaries and bus transportation, as they pre-

pare for coronavirus-induced revenue declines and increased costs for personal protective equipment and fewer students per classroom.

But the Republican plan also highlighted how Michigan's governor and Legislature have clashed over not just public health policies, but which branch of state government ultimately has the power to make those decisions.

A judge tossed a lawsuit filed by Republican lawmakers that challenged Whitmer's use of emergency powers to lock down the state amid the pandemic, providing a political win for the governor.

The GOP announcement pre-empted the governor's Return to Learning Advisory Council's plan.

Whitmer responded that day by saying "our students and educators have made incredible sacrifices during the past few months to ensure that the school year could continue as best as possible during the global pandemic."

She said that it is "encouraging to see Republicans in the Legislature acknowledge that education funding and the flexibility" are important, but added the proposal is "a copy" of a one-page plan offered by school-choice advocacy group Great Lakes Education Project, which was founded by U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

School districts across the state have been preparing options, and Whitmer promised to announce more on Tuesday (after press time) after her advisory council — comprised of students, parents, educators, administrators and public health officials — develops its plan.

## Cedar Point sets date for reopening — but not everyone is invited

Chanel Stitt Detroit Free Press | USA TODAY NETWORK

Cedar Point is reopening for the 2020 season, starting with premium pass holders in July.

The amusement park will be open to 2020 Cedar Point Season, Gold, and Platinum pass holders on July 9-10. Starting July 11, Cedar Point will be open to resort guests, along with pass holders.

Reservations are required through the park's app or website.

Pass holders will have first access to reservations, followed by guests with pre-purchased tickets.

All visitors are required to take a health screening on the Cedar Point app 24 hours before arrival. Guests and associates will be required to wear a mask and undergo touchless temperature screening and adhere to social distancing.

Throughout the park, there will be hand sanitizing stations, touchless transactions, and capacity management.



Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, will reopen to certain pass holders July 9-10. COURTESY OF CEDAR POINT

# Obituaries

### Larry Matson

MILFORD - Larry Matson, a long time resident of Milford, passed away on April 30, 2020 at the age of 81 years old.

Larry R. Matson was born in Detroit to parents Raymond and Louise (Gusela) Matson. His family attended Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church. He grew up attending Detroit Public Schools, lettering in diving, tennis and swimming at Eastern High School, from which he graduated in 1957. His positive experience in Detroit schools inspired him to study education at Alma College.

He met his wife, Jeannie, at her church while he was performing with the Alma College A Cappella Choir. They married in 1961 at Calvin Presbyterian Church. He graduated from Alma soon after, with majors in Social Studies and English and minors in Psychology and Education. He went on to teach at Holly High School in Holly, MI as well as Anderson Jr. High School and Berkeley High School in Berkeley, ML.

He moved his wife and three children to Milford in 1969 and remained there, becoming an active member of the Milford Presbyterian Church, serving as an usher and an elder. He was a member of the Milford Masonic Lodge #165 F. & A.M. for fifty years where he was a past master and a Royal Arch Mason. He was also proud to have become a sworn Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy assigned to the mounted division, taking part in many special enforcement activities on horseback.

He believed strongly in hard work, faith, commitment, family, and community. In retirement, he enjoyed driving his van around the country to see his children and grandchildren, whom he loved very much and of whom he was very proud. In his last years after his wife, Jeannie, passed away, he continued to serve his church, his lodge, his family, his friends, and he played a mean game of bridge.

He is missed and survived by his children, Kevin (Cindy) Matson; Lyric (John) Owen; Galen Matson; grandchildren, Alex Matson, Jordan Matson, Josh Matson, Grace Owen, Tyler Matson, and John Owen. Larry is also survived by many close friends and extended family members. He is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Louise Matson, and his wife, Jeannie.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Milford Central Park pavilion on July 5, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. If possible bring lawn chairs in case of crowding at the tables, and an umbrella in case of rain.

Memorials may be made to the Milford Presbyterian Church or the Milford Masonic Lodge #165.



### Bruce E. Griggs

REDFORD TWP. - Age 68. Bruce was a 1970 graduate of Northville High School and was active for many years in the community, from working at Cal's Gulf, to working and volunteering with the Recreation Department, coaching youth baseball and participating in many men's adult recreation leagues.

He also spent many years as a volunteer with the Novi High School football program. After meeting and marrying his beloved wife Ann, he and Ann were docents at the Detroit Zoo and were active with their church, St. John's Episcopal in Royal Oak, and in the Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star. Family members: Beloved husband of the late Ann. Dear brother of Steven (Sue), Cathy Griggs, Clifford (Diane), and Scott (Darlene). Also survived by many nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held Saturday, June 27th at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Northrop-Sassaman Chapel, Northville (248) 348-1233. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com.



GRIFFIN  
L.J. Griffin Funeral Home





# 2020 VW Passat makes a giant leap

Several upgrades help it push ahead of midsize competition

**Mark Phelan**  
Detroit Free Press Auto Critic  
USA TODAY

The 2020 Volkswagen Passat is one of the year's best new cars, though it's not really new. New exterior styling, added features and lower prices transform the Passat into a first-rate competitor for leading family sedans like the Honda Accord, Hyundai Sonata and Toyota Camry.

That's a rare level of improvement for a point in the car's life — the current Passat went on sale as a 2016 model — when most automakers try to keep an aging model relevant with cosmetic changes that create the impression of newness but don't require much financial investment. New lights and wheels, for instance.

VW opened its checkbook for the 2020 Passat. Every body panel but the roof is new, an expensive change that delivers all-new looks in an attractive, understated exterior.

The Passat also gets a power upgrade and price reductions that make it worth a look by anybody shopping for a good sedan.

### How much does the Passat 2020 cost?

Prices for the 2020 Passat begin at \$22,995. That's no change from 2019, despite the Passat's new body, increased power and what VW estimates at \$1,720 worth of added equipment on the base S model.

The mid-level SE, which accounts for a lot of Passat sales, added \$520 in content while its price fell \$450.

All Passats have front-wheel drive, a 174-horsepower 2.0L turbocharged engine that produces 12% more torque than last year's model and a six-speed automatic transmission. The horsepower output is nothing to write home about, but bumping torque from 184 to 206 pound-feet gives the Passat plenty of oomph for jaunts around town, on-ramp acceleration and highway cruising.

I tested a top-of-the-line SEL that stickered at \$31,095, a price that makes it very competitive with loaded competitors.

### VW Passat: Room for people and cargo

VW shelled out for all-new body panels, but the design staff managed to keep its wild child in check, a phrase that may well be VW styling's mission statement. The Passat is a conventional looking sedan, with a classic profile, long hood and short rear deck.

More than one friend mistook it for a Honda Accord. The designer's not likely to put that in bold type on his resume, but there are worse things for a challenger brand than to be confused with one of the perpetual leaders.

The Passat's exterior has a few subtle flourishes including a crisp line running just below the windows and an almost subliminal one just below running from



The 2020 VW Passat SEL PHOTOS BY MARK PHELAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS



The Passat's 2.0L turbocharged engine produces 174 hp and 206 lb-ft of torque.

the taillights along the rear fenders and to the door handles.

The interior is roomy and comfortable. The rear seat, in particular, has lavish leg and headroom.

The front seat is also comfortable, with easy-to-use controls that include a large touch screen for audio and navigation. Frequently used functions like volume, tuning, fan speed and temperature get dials.

The trunk is very roomy, with a large opening that makes it easy to load bulky objects.

Practical dimensions like that are part of the rationale for VW's consistently conservative styling.

### Driving impressions, fuel economy

The 2.0L turbo's output of 174 horsepower is paltry by modern standards, but the Passat makes the most of its output. Its improved torque translates into confident acceleration to highway speed and plenty of zip for running around town. The six-speed automatic transmission is hardly cutting edge — VW's 2020 Atlas midsize SUV gets an eight-speed — but the older transmission shifts smoothly.

The combination delivers EPA ratings of 23 mpg in

### Standard features on Passat test car

- Remote start
- Fender audio
- 18-inch alloy wheels
- LED head, tail and running lights
- Power folding, heated side mirrors
- Power sunroof
- Dual-zone climate control
- Heated front seats
- Power driver seat
- Heated rear outboard seating positions
- Navigation
- Touch screen
- Apple CarPlay
- Bluetooth compatibility
- Leather seating surfaces
- Ambient interior lighting
- Stainless steel pedals

the city, 34 on the highway and 27 combined.

The key combined figure compares poorly with other midsize family sedans. Competitive models of the Chevrolet Malibu, Honda Accord, Hyundai Sonata, Nissan Altima and Toyota Camry got 31 to 34 mpg in combined city/highway driving.

The Passat's other mechanical systems are exemplary: Direct steering, capable brakes, a suspension that muffles bumps but keeps the car steady in quick maneuvers.

Fuel economy excluded, the 2020 Passat is a strong competitor for any midsize family sedan on the market.

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### How to transfer your skills from one industry to next

Eric Titner  
[thejobnetwork.com](http://thejobnetwork.com)

For most of us, our career paths don't go in a single straight line. Instead, there are plenty of twists and turns along the way – some expected and others surprising and unplanned – as we develop, grow, and change over time.

Sometimes a change in jobs also means a change in industries, which, for many, can be a scary and anxiety-filled proposition – especially if the change isn't exactly what you were hoping and is instead the result of a job loss or shifts in your current field.

The truth is, the prospect of "starting over" in a new career field can be daunting, especially if you're fairly established and far along in your current field and are worried that you'll have to completely start over again – but it doesn't have to be.

The "not-so-secret" secret to successfully navigating an industry change during the course of your career is to take full advantage of your transferable skills – those finely-honed abilities that you've acquired thus far in your professional experience that you can put to good use in the next industry you work for. Yes, it's true – many of the skills you currently have are not just helpful at your current job and industry, but rather can help you be effective and successful in your future endeavors as well.

Transferring and leveraging these transferable skills from one industry to the next is the key to being flexible and malleable in today's rapidly evolving and volatile job market – and those who are able to competently do so stand the best chance of staying afloat. Consider using the following strategies to make sure that the skills you've built up during your career continue to serve you



GETTY IMAGES

well as you move from one industry to another.

#### Identify your skills

This shouldn't be a major challenge for you, as it's something you'd inevitably have to do if you were updating your resume or simply looking to transition to a new job in your current industry. This should include skills both large and small – you never fully know what abilities will come in handy when you start a new job, especially if it's in a completely new field or industry. These include both hard skills (things like knowledge of computers or specific programs or instrumentation, an ability to speak a foreign language, any professional certifi-

cations you've earned, and basically any other measurable and quantifiable talent that you've developed) as well as soft skills (more subjective and harder to measure abilities that you possess but that come in handy at work all the time, such as people skills, motivation, leadership, patience, flexibility, and problem-solving). Both your hard skills and soft skills can potentially come in handy in a new industry.

#### Identify the needs of your target industry

Next step is to pinpoint the industry that you're hoping to move into and do your homework to identify its needs. Research carefully and get a good sense

of the successes and pain points in the field and where things are likely to move. Look at the opinions of industry veterans and thought leaders – many of whom are likely leveraging social media to share their ideas. An even better potential strategy would be to identify specific companies in the industry that you'd like to work at and get a sense of their needs – which will help you paint a clear picture of how you can come aboard and be a potentially valuable asset.

#### Make the connection

Now that you have a clear idea of the abilities you bring to the table and what the needs of your target industry are, you can begin to identify the skills you possess that are potentially transferable. Use the information you've been gathering in your research to hone and refine your skills to best suit your new industry. For hard skills like computer knowledge or mastery of specific equipment, see if the tools you've learned are commonly used; if not, see if learning popular industry software and equipment makes sense for you. Soft skills are more easily transferable and are more malleable and adaptable to new fields.

Here's the bottom line – make the most of the skills you currently possess to meet the needs of the industry you're looking to move into, fill in the gaps where appropriate and realistic, and be confident that you're doing all you can to make this transition as successful as possible.

*Eric Titner has been an editor and content creator for more than a decade. His primary professional focus has been on education- and career-related topics. He currently lives in New York City.*

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# THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Jason's ship
  - 5 Categorized
  - 12 Schoolboys
  - 16 Actor Ayres
  - 19 Coffee bit
  - 20 Sea cow
  - 21 "Orinoco Flow" singer
  - 22 Yes, to Yvette
  - 23 Pigeonhole the 16th president?
  - 25 Toy-package span
  - 27 1950s politico Stevenson
  - 28 —CIO
  - 29 Cut all ties with the star of "Our Miss Brooks"?
  - 31 Sniff the singer of "Coca Cola Cowboy"?
  - 35 Barber's stuff
  - 36 Color shade
  - 37 Senator Cruz
  - 38 —bitsy
  - 39 Investigate the director of "Stand by Me"?
  - 43 Barber's stuff
  - 45 Positive vote
  - 46 Writer Blyton
  - 47 Bathe the star of "Caroline in the City"?
  - 53 Didn't include
  - 58 Gate joint
  - 59 Light hit
  - 60 Berg material
  - 62 Bride in "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
  - 63 Hank in the Basketball Hall of Fame
  - 64 Floats in the breeze
  - 67 Make a genetic replica of the star of "The Wolf Man"?
  - 70 Jules Verne captain
  - 72 According to Dawn
  - 73 Dawn goddess
  - 74 Boxer Frazier
  - 75 Muscle jerks
  - 76 Mistreat the director of "Splash"?
  - 79 In districts
  - 81 Holy Fr. woman
  - 82 Broadcaster
  - 83 Rumpus
  - 84 Stable feed
  - 85 Pungent
  - 86 Pizza topping
  - 87 Quaint street lighter
  - 90 Trample the playwright of "Travesties"?
  - 94 "Me neither"
  - 96 "— so sorry!"
  - 97 "— so sorry!"
  - 98 Extort money from the star of "The Europeans"?
  - 103 Rational
  - 105 Prefix related to birds
  - 108 Helps out
  - 109 Whirlpool site
  - 110 Spill hot coffee on baseball's "Iron Man"?
  - 114 Kidnap the star of "Madam Secretary"?
  - 118 Mil. jets' site
  - 119 Indistinct
  - 120 Candy — (hospital helpers)
  - 121 Contradict the inventor of the cotton gin?
  - 125 Certain pipe shape
  - 126 Provided
  - 127 Retired academics
  - 128 Ladder rung
  - 129 Certain pipe shape
  - 130 Mimicked
  - 131 Halter's cousin
  - 132 Former times
- DOWN**
- 1 Something super-fun
  - 2 Software instruction file, often
  - 3 Like houses with pitched roofs
  - 4 Hoops' Shaq
  - 5 Roman 950
  - 6 Chou En- —
  - 7 Yearly records
  - 8 Hit resulting in an out and an RBI
  - 9 Absolut rival, for short
  - 10 Sushi roll fish
  - 11 Forest lairs
  - 12 Do not disturb
  - 13 Resident of "la-la land"
  - 14 Batik worker
  - 15 Gilbert of "The Corners"
  - 16 Soho setting
  - 17 Actor Levy
  - 18 Hot dog
  - 24 Mae West's "Diamond —"
  - 26 Intro painting course, say
  - 30 Self-love
  - 32 Be inclined
  - 33 Tingly feeling
  - 34 1974 CIA spoof flick
  - 40 Lubes again
  - 41 Glass edge
  - 42 Plat of song
  - 43 Phone game, maybe
  - 44 Another time
  - 45 Phone game, maybe
  - 47 Gab, informally
  - 48 African land
  - 49 Infatuates
  - 50 Capital of Canada
  - 51 Moms
  - 52 Sgt., say
  - 54 Flawlessly
  - 55 African land
  - 56 Ballot caster
  - 57 Bedtime hour
  - 61 Delights in
  - 65 Relief sound
  - 66 "Alice" waitress
  - 67 Cape —
  - 68 Era upon era
  - 69 Capital of Canada?
  - 71 Law school beginner
  - 73 Like amatory literature
  - 77 Marvelous
  - 78 Radio spots
  - 79 Electric jolt
  - 80 Dimwit
  - 84 "Let's see ..."
  - 86 "Says You!" broadcaster
  - 88 "Eat — Chikin" (Chick-Fil-A slogan)
  - 89 Pickle or cure
  - 91 Acorn sources
  - 92 Be inclined
  - 93 Finished
  - 95 Levied, as a tax
  - 98 Droopy-eared hound
  - 99 Diminutive
  - 100 Channel swimmer Gertrude
  - 101 Morales of film and TV
  - 102 McKellen of movies
  - 103 "On Language" columnist William
  - 104 Even though
  - 105 A lot like
  - 106 Wood overlay
  - 107 Composed and ready for printing
  - 111 "The Alienist" novelist Carr
  - 112 "As — care!"
  - 113 Crooner Cline
  - 115 Women's Open org.
  - 116 Hurdle
  - 117 "Yeah, right"
  - 122 Tall bird
  - 123 164-nation commerce gp.
  - 124 Au courrant

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

## SUDOKU

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/02

**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!

## SUMMERTIME WORD SEARCH

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

**WORDS**

- BARBECUE
- BEACH
- BIKINI
- BOARDWALK
- BOAT
- COAST
- DIVE
- FAIR
- FIREWORKS
- FROLIC
- PADDLEBOARD
- SANDY
- SCUBA
- SEASIDE
- SNORKEL
- SUNLIGHT
- SUNSCREEN
- SWIMMING
- SWIMSUIT
- TRAVEL
- UMBRELLA
- VACATION
- WARMTH
- WAVES

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