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THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Info - Coupons


Local businesses that received biggest PPP loans

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Several dozen businesses across local communities were recipients of millions of dollars in funding from the federal Paycheck Protection Program.

The Small Business Administration recently released a list of those busi-

nesses across the country that received funding from the program after originally stating it would not release a list.

Businesses from across the communities Hometown Life covers (Novi, Northville, Northville Township, Lyon Township, South Lyon, Milford, Milford Township, Highland Township) that received loans of at least \$1 million are

listed below.

Overall, more than 100,000 Michigan businesses received funding of some sort from the program, with some businesses receiving less than \$100 and some receiving between \$5 million and \$10 million. Businesses that received \$150,000 or more were named in the data release from the SBA.

Novi

• \$5-10 million received
Miracle Software Systems, 45625 Grand River. Jobs retained: 496
Reliable Software Resources, 22260 Haggerty. Jobs retained: 438

See LOANS, Page 4A



A Texas Roadhouse restaurant location is nearly ready to open at the Adell Center entertainment complex in Novi.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Texas Roadhouse set for Novi opening next month

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi's newest commercial development is poised to begin opening next month after weather delays and the coronavirus pandemic putting a damper on construction.

The first business in the new Adell Center entertainment complex near Novi Road and Interstate 96 to announce an opening date is Texas Roadhouse.

Brian O'Hara, a managing partner for the restaurant at 26730 Adell Center Dr., said the restaurant plans to open for dine-in and curbside pickup Aug. 10.

"We're excited to be the first to open," O'Hara said. "We have the best location, in the center of it."

The restaurant is currently hiring to fill more than 200 part-time and full-time positions.

See ROADHOUSE, Page 4A

New SL superintendent begins in turbulent times

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Steve Archibald's first official day on the job as the South Lyon superintendent of schools was July 1, the day after a statewide plan was released for school in the fall amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"It's a lot to digest," Archibald said. "I think it reinforces that we need to be

able to move out of scenarios depending on what health conditions are."

Archibald was planning to meet with staff and administration to plan the framework around the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap released by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.



Archibald

If schools were to return based on the current status of the outbreak, Archibald cites the first obstacle would be ensuring the district has enough masks and whether students are bringing their own or the district is providing them.

The second would be "making sure folks are wearing them appropriately

See SOUTH LYON, Page 6A

Student mask rule prompts concerns in Huron Valley

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A mask requirement for students returning to school in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic may increase enrollment in the Huron Valley Virtual Academy.

Superintendent Paul Salah is keeping this in mind and continuing to make other plans with the release of the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer last week.

"The good news is we have a plan that will allow us to safely reopen schools," Salah said. "The biggest question for families has been face masks. We surveyed families early on in the process before the second spike across the country and face masks are controversial. Many of our families said they would not be comfortable if they (students) would have to wear face masks, and especially now that they know they will."

Whitmer's plan requires students in grades six through 12 to wear masks throughout the school day. Younger students will not be required to wear masks in the classroom, but will have to wear them on buses, in hallways and in common areas based on the status of the pandemic.

As of last week, more than 500 families had expressed interest in the Huron Valley Virtual Academy, a 100% online school option the district is launching this fall, many citing mask concerns for in-person instruction.

"We will do the best we can and recognize that kids are kids and as hard as we try to make them wear masks in the hallway, a first grader has a hard time and wants to take it off," Salah said. "We are going to do the right thing, put right safety protocols in place and make sure kids are following directions, but we wanted to have options for families."

"No matter what is put in place, it may not be what parents want. Multiple options are critical."

He likes the flexibility of the state plan, particularly in regards to transportation, which was going to be the number one challenge for social distancing reasons.

See HURON VALLEY, Page 6A

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Drive-in movies coming soon to metroparks

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Huron-Clinton Metroparks officials announced a schedule of films to be shown at parks including Kensington, encouraging visitors to view from a vehicle.

Movies begin at dusk.

Here is the schedule:

- July 25: "The Secret Life of Pets 2," Willow Metropark
- Aug. 8: "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker," Kensington Metropark
- Aug. 13: "Field of Dreams," Lake St. Clair Metropark
- Aug. 14: "Toy Story 4," Hudson Mills Metropark
- Aug. 15: "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker," Willow Metropark
- Aug. 22: "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker," Stony Creek Metropark
- Aug. 27: "A League of Their Own," Lake St. Clair Metropark
- Aug. 28: "Frozen 2," Kensington Metropark
- Aug. 29: "Toy Story 4," Willow Metropark
- Sept. 5: "Aladdin," Stony Creek Metropark

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Northville Record (USPS# 396880) is published weekly (Thursday) by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 160 W Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226. Periodicals postage is paid at Detroit, MI and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Northville Record, 160 W Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226.

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Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50
\$65 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon
Afterhours, leave voicemail
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Emagine Novi will air movies in a drive-in setting beginning later this month. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Emagine Novi planning drive-in theater

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Can't wait to return to the movies? Neither can Paul Glantz. That's why the chairman and co-founder of Emagine Entertainment has a plan to bring the movie experience outside.

The theater company received approval from Novi City Council to create a temporary drive-in movie area along the south side of the Emagine Novi theater at 44425 W. 12 Mile in the Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk.

After receiving approval, Glantz said his team will begin setting up the screen, which will cause the removal of the signage on the south side of the building.

Vehicles will be admitted to the parking lot on the south side of the complex for shows and will tune their radio to a frequency to hear the audio. Concessions will be delivered curbside by staff.

Glantz said he hopes to begin showing films later this month.

While the concept of having a drive-



Paul Glantz, chairman and co-founder of Emagine Entertainment. FILE

in theater has been kicked around Emagine's leadership team since April, the idea ramped up in late June, he said.

"I would say that it would come about in Novi pretty quickly," Glantz said. "When the idea was floated recently and we took a look at the available spaces ... it all sort of came together in the last 10 days."

The drive-in concept is a first for Glantz and Emagine Entertainment, which operates theaters in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois.

Closed down by order of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to help stop the spread of coronavirus back in March, movie theaters have not reopened since.

Emagine has also sponsored drive-in events at Canterbury Village in Orion Township for the summer as well.

In looking at installing such a drive-in screen, Glantz said they originally looked at hosting it outside of the Emagine theater in Rochester Hills. An issue popped up there and they decided to try Novi, he said.

There was some hope by some theater chains, including Emagine, that movie-goers could return by the Fourth of July but that has passed with no word

on when theaters could reopen.

Whitmer has shown hesitancy because of an uptick in daily positive coronavirus cases over the last few weeks.

Glantz - who originally planned to hold a Juneteenth film festival at the Emagine Royal Oak last month before being told the theater could not open under Whitmer's executive order - said he's not even guessing on when he might be able to reopen in Michigan, but believes the theaters will survive the impact of the last several months.

"I think I'm done making projections on that," he said. "I do remain optimistic."

"I do believe we'll make it through."

Pricing for the drive-in is still being determined, Glantz said, but would most likely be a rate per vehicle in attendance. Movies that will be shown at first will be ones already released and would carry a G, PG or PG-13 rating.

Once some new releases come later on, those could be aired in the drive-in format as well.

"There's really not much new until the end of the month," Glantz said.

The approval for the drive-in theater came from the city council's Monday meeting, where the concept was approved on the council's consent agenda without any further discussion. Glantz said he needed to confirm some details with the city, but then the work to create the screen would start soon.

If the concept proves successful in Novi, other drive-ins could pop up at Emagine theaters. Glantz said it's possible it could come to the theaters in Rochester Hills and Canton, spaces that have larger parking lots.

There's no definite timeline for how long the outdoor films would air in Novi. Glantz said it all depends on several factors, including what the situation is surrounding the opening of theaters and if there's enough interest from customers.

"I just don't know and it really will be predicated on demand," he said. "If there's consistent demand at least on weekends, I think we'll keep doing it."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on August 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm to receive public input on three variance requests in regard to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance, on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District:

1. On property located at 310 W. Dunlap St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48 002 01 0501 000. The applicant is seeking a variance to construct a second floor addition on the existing house, which sits four-feet from the side lot line. The variance needed is to permit a second-floor expansion of a non-conforming building three (3) feet into the side yard setback. The variance is from the requirements of Section 22.01(5) and Section 15.01.
2. On property located at 335 First St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48 003 01 0302 000. The applicant is seeking a variance to construct a new front porch in the front and side yard setback. The variances needed are 11.75 feet from the front yard requirement, and 2.75 feet from the side yard requirement in Section 15.01.
3. On property located at 43797 Dorisa Ct., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-22-34-476-001. The applicant is seeking a variance to install a decorative fence along Novi Street. The variance needed is to permit 104 lineal feet of four-foot tall decorative fencing ahead of the front building line along Novi Street from the requirements in Section 18.09.

Meeting Location and Participation Information

If the Governor's Executive Order pertaining to temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings is extended, the meeting will take place via Zoom at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85444674844>, +1 646 558 8656 or +1 301 715 8592, Webinar ID: 854 4467 4844. Members of the public body and members of the public participating electronically will be considered present at the meeting and may participate as if physically present at the meeting.

Log in Instructions, Meeting Rules and Tips are available on the City's website at this link: <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13505469#zoning>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Government tab, then Agendas and Minutes, scroll to the Board of Zoning Appeals section of the webpage, and scroll down to the link for this meeting. "Zoom Webinar User Guide for City of Northville Public" is also available on this website page.

If the Governor's Executive Order pertaining to video meetings is not extended, the meeting will take place at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902.

Please monitor the City's website at www.ci.northville.mi.us (from the Home page, click on the Government tab, then Agendas and Minutes, scroll to Board of Zoning Appeals) or the public notice board located in the City Hall 24-hour vestibule to confirm the final meeting location (Zoom or at City Hall).

For either meeting format, all wishing to participate in public comment will be given the opportunity during the public comment periods. Individuals requiring auxiliary aides or services should contact Dianne Massa, the City of Northville Clerk, at dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Application Review and Written Comments

The variance applications are available for review at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Building Department, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167 and on the City's website at this link <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=13642897>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Services tab, then Building and Planning, then Board of Zoning Appeals.

Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted by 4:30pm on August 3, 2020 to City of Northville Municipal Building, City Clerk, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, or use the City Hall drop box, or email to dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us.

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Published July 16, 2020





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Milford cancels Labor Day 30K, citing 'close calls'

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

The Milford Labor Day 30K is canceled after 19 years.

Not just this year, but "forever," says race organizer Doug Klingensmith.

It's the latest event to go by the wayside in 2020 as the world suffers from a pandemic, but when the village council unanimously denied on Monday the 18.6 mile race, the coronavirus was scarcely mentioned.

Instead, Police Chief Tom Lindberg cited safety concerns that centered around close calls between vehicles and runners in recent years in a race that has been continued for 19 years in the village without the closing of streets.

"I know the race organizer thinks I don't like races, but most of my life I've been running races," Lindberg said, noting he has participated in races in both New York and Detroit. "They need to be done safely."

Klingensmith dismissed the chief's safety concerns as "perception."

"Perception is just that," he said. "Nineteen years of over 500 runners and participants proves it is a well-organized race."

The Milford Labor Day 30K includes the 30K bike race that starts from Bakers of Milford, followed 15 minutes later by the 30K run, and then after another 15 minutes, a 10K.

The routes are the same for the 30Ks, an 18.6 mile distance that goes through at least 10 intersections, Lindberg explained, and also includes bicyclists that reach speeds of 20-25 mph.

He said that after receiving complaints the last few years from Milford staff and police officers who have said it is not run safely, he went to the race himself to see what is going on and has "significant concerns" about cars and races intermingling.

"This is the only race where they co-mingle on the roadway," Lindberg said, adding that he saw a near miss with racers and a Jeep at an intersection where kids were also



Runners at the start of the 2017 Labor Day 30K in Milford. After 19 years, the 30K has been canceled because of safety concerns. COURTESY OF DOUG KLINGENSMITH

standing and texting.

This is a scenario he said is found throughout the race course with multiple intersections he said should be closed to vehicular traffic during the race, but aren't. He also witnessed three women jogging northbound on Main Street and within 10 feet of them, a semi-truck with more runners behind the truck.

Lindberg said it would take at least 11 police officers to cover the major intersections for the race to ensure safety, something that wouldn't even be possible for the Labor Day weekend event because the department isn't large enough, and it would also be cost-prohibitive for double time.

He suggested as safer alternatives, running the race through Kensington or Island Lake parks, where there is plenty of room for both vehicles and racers.

"I hope you will not approve the event in the way it is written this year, and take into consideration these suggestions and get it somewhat going next year," Lindberg said.

Village Manager Christian Wuerth agreed,

saying he was not comfortable with the event, and noting "Clearly there are COVID issues that have risen."

Klingensmith compared the 30K race to a Black Lives Matter march last month, an event the police chief supported. While Village Council President Jerry Aubry said the 30K event was different, Klingensmith countered that it wasn't different, it was "an event to promote health and safety."

He also said race participants must sign waivers and are responsible for their own health and safety with the freedom to run on public streets.

Village Attorney Jennifer Elowsky said the waivers do not exempt the village from liability and added that the police chief's "perception" of safety and risk is his job.

Additionally, it falls

under the village's authority "to make sure health, wellness and safety measures are met in its right of way," she said. "Waivers don't make the village immune."

Klingensmith argued "It makes you immune from anything, including this COVID-19," adding that the village council's decision will continue to

impact Milford, including loss of financial benefits created by the bringing racers into town. He called "the cure worse than the disease."

He shot down the idea of hosting the race at Kensington MetroPark, saying it wouldn't bring money to the village.

"I'm perfectly fine with you ending the event.

Fine, close it after 19 years," Klingensmith said. "I'll never do it again."

A virtual race remains an option this year. For further details, visit laborday30k.com.

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

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE ELECTRONIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. on the Zoom Video Conference electronic meeting platform to consider **VIBE CREDIT UNION BRANCH JSP 20-14, FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WETLAND PERMIT, WOODLAND PERMIT, AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 15, THE SOUTH OF TWELVE MILE ROAD, WEST OF CABARET DRIVE, IN THE OST OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY ZONING DISTRICT.** The applicant is proposing to construct a 3,684 square foot financial institution branch with associated site improvements. The parcel is approximately 4.74 acres. Plans are available for review by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-15-126-008

Special Instructions for Remote Meeting Procedure:

In light of the COVID-19 outbreak the City will be utilizing the video/audio conferencing platform ZOOM to conduct the July 22, 2020 Planning Commission meeting.

In order to connect to the meeting through ZOOM a member of the public needs to do the following:

- Install Zoom App on mobile device or phone. A link to download the Zoom App may be found online at Cityofnovi.org
- Click the link provided to join the meeting

Members of the public participating in the public comment via ZOOM will wait in a virtual queue until called during the public comment period.

When public comment is permitted, members of the public will be called one at a time, as would happen during an in-person meeting. A meeting coordinator will determine the order of public speakers. If you want to speak, you must use the "Raise Hand" feature in order for our moderator to know they need to be unmuted. When you are un-muted you will have three (3) minutes to share your comments to the public body. At the conclusion of your comments or your three (3) minutes, you will be re-muted and then removed from the queue.

Participants may also choose to submit comments that can be read into the record. Comments can be submitted via an electronic form on www.cityofnovi.org. Comments shall be done prior to 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The electronic form can be found at: www.cityofnovi.org/pcccomment

In compliance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-132, as of the date of this notice, Planning Commission members are expected to log in to Zoom. There may also be some City personnel at City Hall overseeing this meeting.

Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary
Publish: July 16, 2020

LD-0000368788 3x11



CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land or lots or any other non-subdivided parcel of land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish, to be cut down, destroyed, or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains or any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of such Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction, or removal of same, together with an administrative charge established pursuant to resolution of City Council, will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

Charles Boulard, Building Official
City of Novi

Publish: July 16, 2020

Loans

Continued from Page 1A

● **\$2-5 million received**
CNS Health Care, 24230 Karim Blvd., Suite 100. Jobs retained: 232
Danlaw, Inc., 41131 Vincenti Ct. Jobs retained: 184
Demaria Building Company, 45500 Grand River. Jobs retained: 116
Envision Medical Group, 28100 Cabot Dr., Suite 102. Jobs retained: 227
Eos of North America, Inc., 28970 Cabot Dr. Suite 700. Jobs retained: 155
Michael Sanford (Varsity Lincoln), 49251 Grand River. Jobs retained: 163
Michigan Milk Producers Association, 41310 Bridge St. Jobs retained: 350
Nagle Paving Company, 39525 West 13 Mile Suite 300. Jobs retained: 121
Ox Two, LLC, 22260 Haggerty Suite 365. Jobs retained: 151
Prestolite Electric Incorporated, 30120 Hudson Dr. Jobs retained: N/A
● **\$1-2 million received**
Accurate Technologies, Inc., 26999 Meadowbrook. Jobs retained: 111
Addon Technologies, Inc., 24110 Meadowbrook Suite 100. Jobs retained: 55
Balco Interiors, Inc., 48700 Grand River. Jobs retained: 77
BLM Group USA Corporation, 46850 Cartier Drive. Jobs retained: 102
Commerce Controls, Inc., 41069 Vincenti Ct. Jobs retained: 101
Condor Piping, 24072 Glen Ridge Ct. Jobs retained: N/A
CTI and Associates, Inc, 28001 Cabot Dr. Jobs retained: 102
GL Novi, LLC, 41350 Grand River.



Northville-based PF Michigan Group, which owns several Planet Fitness gyms in the area, is just one business that received several million dollars from the federal Paycheck Protection Program. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Jobs retained: 83
Great Oaks Landscape Associates, Inc., 28025 Samuel Linden Ct. Jobs retained: N/A
Hagopian World of Rugs, 43223 W 12 Mile. Jobs retained: 122
Handelsman, Inc., 42875 Grand River. Jobs retained: 322
Harada Industry of America, 22925 Venture Dr. Jobs retained: N/A
J.H. Bennett and Company, Inc., 22975 Venture Ct. Jobs retained: 68
Kip America, Inc., 39575 W. 13 Mile. Jobs retained: 78
Laser Mechanism, Inc., 25325 Regency Dr. Jobs retained: 85
Marty Feldman Chevrolet, Inc., 42355 Grand River. Jobs retained: 107
Michigan Health and Rehabilitation Services, Inc., 25500 Meadowbrook Suite 255. Jobs retained: 228
National Food Group, Inc. 46820 Magellan Dr. Jobs retained: 113
R.L. Deppmann, 46575 Magellan Dr. Jobs retained: 66

Sidock Group, Inc., 45650 Grand River. Jobs retained: 112
Sunglo Restoration Services, Inc., 42860 W. Nine Mile. Jobs retained: 91
Detroit Catholic Central High School, 27225 Wixom. Jobs retained: 141

New Hudson

● **\$5-10 million received**
Pratter & Miller Engineering and Fabrication, Inc., 29600 William K. Smith Dr. Jobs retained: 325
● **\$2-5 million received**
Exotic Rubber and Plastic Corp., 53500 Grand River. Jobs retained: 186
K Square Holding, Inc., 56558 Pontiac Trail. Jobs retained: 220
● **\$1-2 million received**
Liberty Chevrolet, Inc., 30400 Lyon Center Dr. Jobs retained: 81
Martin Motor Sports, Inc., 55390 Lyon Industrial Dr. Jobs retained: 70
Richard Tool & Die Corporation, 29700 W. K. Smith Dr. Jobs retained: 69

Solomon Plumbing, Inc. 29665 W.K. Smith Dr. Suite A. Jobs retained: 106

Northville

● **\$2-5 million received**
BB&E, 235 E. Main St. Jobs retained: 285
Jack Doheny Company, 777 Doheny Ct. Jobs retained: 199
Neyer Tiseo & Hindo Limited, 41780 Six Mile. Jobs retained: 112
PF Michigan Group, 133 W. Main St. Jobs retained: 20
Second Samuel Transport, 44639 Oak Forest Dr. Jobs retained: N/A

Milford

● **\$1-2 million received**
Ardan, Inc., 3310 W. Commerce. Jobs retained: 131
Legacy LLC, 950 Corporate Office Dr. 200. Jobs retained: N/A
Michigan Scientific Corporation, 730 Bellevue. Jobs retained: N/A
Raymond Merlo, 4964 Technical Dr. Jobs retained: 102
T & M Asphalt Paving, 4755 Old Plank Road. Jobs retained: 57

Highland

● **\$2-5 million received**
LaFontaine Cadillac Buick GMC, Inc., 4000 W. Highland. Jobs retained: 125
● **\$1-2 million received**
Jay Chevrolet, 3372 W. Highland. Jobs retained: 161
Metro H & N, Inc., 4100 Chevron Dr. Jobs retained: 381
Midwest Glass Fabricators, Inc., 100 Transfer Dr. Jobs retained: 155

Roadhouse

Continued from Page 1A

Those interested in applying can do so by visiting apply.texasroadhouse.com.

Texas Roadhouse operates several restaurants in southeast Michigan, including in Westland, Ann Arbor, Madison Heights and Taylor.

O'Hara said the Novi restaurant will have identical menus to other Texas Roadhouse restaurants and will feel the

same inside. The chain is known for steaks, ribs and southern fare.

The restaurant will be open 3-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 3-11 p.m. Friday; noon to 11 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 10 p.m. Sunday.

Several other businesses in the Adell Center appear to be moving toward completion. One is Carvana, an online used car retailer that has constructed a multi-story vehicle storage facility on the property. Signage has been installed on the building, which looks close to being finished.

Kevin Adell, who developed the former

Novi Expo Center site, said he's expecting that business to be one of the first to open there.

Carvana declined to share any information about a proposed opening date when contacted by Hometown Life.

In addition, the Planet Fitness construction is moving along, Adell said.

Also planned for the site is an iFLY indoor skydiving center and two hotels: a Marriott and a Hilton.

The project has seen several delays, including one last year from a wet spring in 2019 that pushed back construction. Then the coronavirus pan-

demie hit earlier this year, halting construction for several weeks. O'Hara said they had originally hoped to open Texas Roadhouse in February, then in April.

Adell said he's excited to finally have businesses open in the center after years of work.

"It's very exciting. I hope people come. You build something and you hope people come and support it," he said. "It's like first night jitters like you're in a play."

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

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Schoolcraft moves manufacturing programs off campus

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Schoolcraft College is moving its manufacturing programs closer to the industries where students hope to get jobs.

When the fall semester starts, manufacturing classes will be conducted at 13001 Merriman Road in Livonia, about 10 minutes from the main campus. The new 48,000-square-foot building will house programs including biomedical engineering, computer aided design, welding, robotics and more.

"We purchased this building on Merriman so we could have room to expand the footprint for all of our manufacturing and engineering program areas," said Amy Jones, the college's associate dean of occupational programs. "It's very nice because it more than doubles that of the current space we have."



A rendering of what a welding lab in Schoolcraft College's new off-campus manufacturing facility will look like.

COURTESY OF AMY JONES

The space currently dedicated to manufacturing programs on Schoolcraft's main campus will be repurposed to accommodate health sciences programs.

"Part of what is appealing about that location is it's really right kind of in the

middle of the industrial area of Livonia," Jones said. "We work with companies in the industrial area all the time, so this puts us right there."

The building will be Schoolcraft's third off-campus facility. The college also has a police and fire facility in Livonia, at 31623 Industrial, and its Radcliff Center, at 1751 Radcliff, in Garden City, that functions as a secondary campus.

The facility will include a 3D printing room, three computer labs and a robotics lab, among other assets. Jones expects the building will expand the college's ability to accommodate apprenticeships, dual enrollment and workforce development courses.

"This new space greatly increases our hands-on space for welding, manufacturing, plastics technology and material science," Jones said. "Most of the (programs) will get greatly increased the lab space."

The new facility will also allow easier access to partnerships with surrounding businesses. Jones said she is excited to be closer to businesses the school already partners with, like NYX Inc. and AlphaUSA.

Though construction is still ongoing, Schoolcraft officials expect the building to be ready for students when the fall semester starts.

"We're starting classes there in the fall, whatever classes we are having on ground," Jones said. "We are actually starting to move some of our programs (now). It's a very active construction site right now, but they are inside putting paint on the walls, putting down floors and it is all really starting to come together."

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

Huron Valley

Continued from Page 1A

Whitmer's plan recommends social distancing of six feet for students, but it does not require it. Students will have to use hand sanitizer before getting on buses.

The purchase of hand sanitizer, as well as disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment, is going to be a major expense.

Salah anticipates spending more

than \$200,000 for disinfectant wipes alone, noting that high school students traveling between classes will be grabbing wipes for their desks for up to six classes per day with 180 days in the school year.

That cost also doesn't include soap dispensers, face masks and shields for teachers and shields for desks. The district is looking at getting desk shields for every desk in classrooms where a social distance of six feet between each person is not achievable.

Besides planning for additional expenses, the district has also budgeted

for dramatic cuts – up to \$550 per pupil – for a \$6.5 million hit in the 2020-21 school year.

The Huron Valley Board of Education adopted a budget last month that reduces the fund balance by \$2.5 million, to a 2.5% fund balance, which will now require them to submit a plan for how they will get back to the 5% fund balance the state requires.

The district is also making cuts, including a reduction of 15 staff positions, which includes laying off seven teachers, with the remainder decreased through retirements and attrition.

There has also been a freeze placed on additional textbook adoptions, conferences and travel expenses.

Salah said the district has also budgeted for an enrollment loss of 200 pupils, based on both a declining birth rate and the pandemic.

"I just want to reassure our families that we will have options based on their comfort level, whether it's virtual or face to face," he said. "Safety is critical and that will be our number one priority – to keep staff and students safe next year."

The first day back to school in Huron Valley is Aug. 31.

South Lyon

Continued from Page 1A

and at the right times and locations."

"Wearing them for any length of time can get uncomfortable and there will be monitoring of their usage," he said. "I've been (an educator) for 30 years and just getting everyone to bring a pencil to class can be challenging. It will be a new routine that we'll have to establish."

Still, Archibald expects that once routines are laid out, staff can count on students to adjust.

He expects social distancing of six feet, currently a recommendation, to be more of a challenge.

"Our goal is to be as in person and normal as we can, that is the school environment we love and understand, and to the extent we can do that and ensure folks are safe and healthy, we will certainly work to do," Archibald said. "At this point, it's not safe to take anything

off the table."

That includes budget cuts. While the district had to approve a budget for the 2020-21 school year last month with devastating cuts of \$500 per pupil and a total estimated reduction of \$4.38 million, further decreases may be coming.

"Without knowing what the actual per-pupil funding will be, unfortunately we have to be prepared for even greater cuts come August, including across the board staffing cuts," Archibald said. "There is no program elimination at this

point. It's always our goal to maintain student programming.

"It's still a lot to digest, but now that the (state road map) has come out, we can formulate and finalize a plan. We trust the community is anxious to know what fall will look like, and we are working on it and will share that info so they are informed and ideally excited for the new school year."

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

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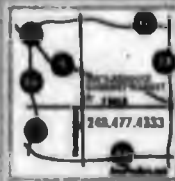
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SPORTS



Novi goalie Austin Muirhead gathers up a shot on goal. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Northville cross country brings high expectations

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

While cross country is one that can be practiced and perfected in quarantine, many Northville runners realized what they did not have as the coronavirus pandemic swept metro Detroit: teamwork.

Training for the upcoming 5K races in the fall, many Mustang runners agreed having others around them while practicing was an advantage, whether it was to motivate and inspire or to distract and take teammates' minds off the long distances.

"Your teammates definitely push you a lot harder," senior Zach Helner said. "On your own, it's a lot easier to say, 'I'm done.' There's no one there to say, 'No you're not. Keep going.'"

Even though there is still uncertainty regarding the 2020 cross country season — from whether it will be held in fall or spring, to what travel meets and state competitions will look like — Northville is preparing as if a regular season will happen, preparing as if the Mustangs will make it to the end of the Michigan cross country schedule.

But for head coach Tim Dalton, that does not mean guidelines are not put in place to keep his runners safe.

As the Mustangs ramp up summer workouts, all runners must be outside, wearing masks when not exercising. All participants must fill out symptom surveys before arrival, keeping socially distanced and in running pods, while using personal equipment assigned to them, such as foam rollers and stretch ropes.

To many runners, especially the seniors, this is a different atmosphere than they are used to, but Dalton said his team is adjusting well.

"The kids have been awesome," Dalton said. "They are excited to be there. I think part of that is that they have not necessarily seen some of their friends in awhile. So they are excited to be there, they are doing a pretty good job."

While most had been running at home, staying in shape for the upcoming season after the spring track season was canceled, summer conditioning proved to be a step in returning to a sense of normalcy.

"I think it was just nice to be able to get back to doing something, a normal aspect of our lives for most of our high school experience," senior runner Jacob Meek said. "It definitely made you appreciate being around your teammates more."

While in quarantine, Dalton had a Zoom meeting with his senior class.

He talked about what the 2020 class went through in their final year, but also mentioned that the

See NORTHVILLE, Page 2B

Winter sports remain in limbo due to COVID-19

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

While much of the attention has been on the status of spring and fall high school sports — will these seasons be switched to protect players during the coronavirus pandemic — winter sports, such as basketball, hockey and wrestling, seem to be kind of stuck in the middle.

Even though the winter season does not start until November, preparation for those sports has already begun. Here is a look at how certain teams are approaching this time prior to the start of the 2020-21 winter season during COVID-19.

Basketball

Ryan Ballard knows basketball is in an unusual spot. With the coronavirus, the Plymouth girls basketball head coach realizes he can't predict what the winter months will look like.

"A couple of months ago, I would have been like, 'Sure, we are going to play,'" Ballard said. "But these last couple of weeks, I've been like, 'I don't know if we are going to have a season.'"

Coming off a 14-9 record in the 2019-

See WINTER, Page 2B



Catholic Central wins its fourth-straight Division 1 team state title. SCOTT CONFER

"You can only do so many Zoom meetings and so many text messages and calls."

Mark Vellucci Novi hockey coach on his team's need to practice

HS baseball, softball programs prepare for possible fall season

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When Livonia Churchill head softball coach Abe Vinitski heard Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer encouraged spring non-contact sports to be moved to the fall during the coronavirus pandemic, his mind immediately went to his

calendar.

"All of a sudden I'm like, 'So is it Feb. 15 right now?'" Vinitski said. "I think about what I was doing on Feb. 15 to prepare for the season: We are conditioning, we are doing optional workouts, four-on-ones."

"And it's like wow, that's crazy to think."

The decision based on Whitmer's recommendation is in the hands of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, and is scheduled to be made some time July 20-25.

But area baseball and softball coaches are already in the midst of preparing for what could be a fall season, even if it may not be their first choice.

'The short end of the stick'

Lakeland head baseball coach Brad Farquhar remembers he heard rumors about a possible season switch as early as May. But those rumors quickly got shut down by the MHSAA.

See PROGRAMS, Page 6B



Northville soccer alum receives Medal of Honor

Andrew Vaillencourt

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

University of Detroit Mercy men's soccer senior Garret Weaver, a Northville High School graduate, earned the highest honor you can receive from the Horizon League as he was announced as the male recipient of the 2019-20 Cecil N. Coleman Medal of Honor.

The Coleman Medal of Honor, first awarded in 1981, is the Horizon League's most prestigious individual honor. The award is presented annually to the top male and female student-athletes who demonstrate outstanding achievement in academics, athletics and extracurricular activities. Weaver was joined in earning the honor by IUPUI senior women's basketball student-athlete Holly Hoopingarner. Weaver is the second consecutive Titan male student-athlete to earn the individual accolade and seventh overall in 39 years.

Weaver, the Athletic Department's male President's Award winner for 2019-20, was a standout on the soccer field for the Titans this past school year, earning Second Team All-Horizon League laurels. The Northville native, who holds a 3.89 GPA in Biology, was a two-time Horizon League All-Academic Team honoree as a junior and senior (2018, 2019) and as a junior was named a Google Cloud CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team member. Earlier in the school year, Weaver was named as one of 30 men's soccer candidates nationally for the Senior Class Award. He was also named to the Second Team All-Decade squad at UDM.

"What a fantastic honor for Garret," UDM men's soccer coach Nicholas Dermen said. "He has shown true dedication for the past four years through his academic and athletic achievements. He's been a model student on and off the field. He represents everything in what a Horizon League student-athlete at the highest caliber should look like."

"Garret became a captain after his



Northville alum Garret Weaver won the 2019-20 Cecil N. Coleman Medal of Honor at the University of Detroit Mercy. COURTESY OF SCOTT CONFER

sophomore season for the soccer team and really exhibited his leadership and ability to communicate with others. He was there to help others in all times of need. He was the perfect teammate and student-athlete for someone to coach. The ability to help his soccer team and his academic teams as well will take him many places in this world, especially with him going into the medical field."

On the field, Weaver was a consistent standout as a defender for the Titans in

2019 and helped spearhead a defense that allowed a league-low seven goals in eight Horizon League matches this past season. He started the final 67 games in his Titan career from the middle of his freshman season and led the team in minutes played in each of the final three seasons in the red, white and blue. During his senior season, he never came off the field, playing all 1,752 minutes for the Titans and had a game-winning goal at Green Bay.

"I am honored and humbled to receive such a prestigious award, as well as proud to represent the Titan family in this Horizon League award," Weaver said. "Being on a list with other Titans who have received this award is a true honor."

During his time as a student on campus, Weaver worked at Detroit Mercy's Student Success Center, which provided student-centered academic support services throughout the school year. For two summers, he was part of the General Motors Student Corps, where he mentored high school students in Detroit, along with executing and creating community service projects around the city. He was part of the service fraternity on campus — Alpha Phi Omega (APO) — as well as the Pre-Med club. He volunteered at nearby Beaumont Hospital assisting in the Emergency Room.

Weaver, who holds a leadership minor, has already scored in the 88th percentile of his MCATs as he gears towards Medical School.

The Titans have had several student-athletes selected for the accolade, including two-straight male student-athletes earn the award after former cross country and track and field standout Ben Kendell was chosen after the 2018-19 school year. Weaver is the second men's soccer student-athlete to receive the award in the past six years as Matt Ybarra earned the laurel for the 2014-15 school year.

Weaver is the seventh Titan overall to receive the Coleman Medal of Honor overall and the fourth in the last six years joining Kendell in 2019, Sara Zawacki (women's soccer) in 2016 and Ybarra in 2015. The other Titans who have earned the accolade include Mary Parker (women's soccer) in 2007, Lori Caloia (softball) in 2000 and Ken Dubois (cross country/track and field) in 1988.

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

Winter

Continued from Page 1B

20 season — finishing fourth in the KLAA West behind Hartland, Brighton and Howell — Ballard said the summer months are huge for development, participating in summer league and team camps, developing underclassmen and seeing what the team could look like come Nov. 30.

However, this offseason and summer has looked different for the Wildcats, with many of the camps and leagues canceled. With gyms closed, Plymouth, like many other teams, are limited in what they can work on off the basketball court.

"There's only so many stationary dribbling drills and everything like that," Ballard said. "There's no decision making happening that I think is key to the success of development of a young person."

For Brother Rice athletic director Jeff Calcaterra, summer preparation has been limited, as well. Instead of time on the court, using those 15 dates to work as a team with the coaching staff for

skill work, the focus has been on strength training outside, increasing fitness not basketball ability.

Ballard does not have the answers to the questions his players have for him. But he said they are adjusting and making due with what they have.

"The morale is great. They are happy to see each other. They missed each other because they are used to spending so much time with each other. I mean, that part is great," Ballard said. "I think they really want to get back into the gym and work and do things. It's great to see that kind of enthusiasm. I feel bad that we can't."

Hockey

Much like Ballard's group, Mark Vellucci knew that the Novi hockey team was dying to get together.

"You can only do so many Zoom meetings and so many text messages and calls," he said.

But unlike other sports where teams can practice outside, the status of hockey solely depends on the status of gyms.

Vellucci said many of his players have not been on the ice since the Wildcats fell to Livonia Stevenson in the regional

final. The head coach said he is hoping for a short two-week summer camp at the end of July, but that it depends on if the state moves to Phase 5, opening gyms.

At this point, Novi is outside on the track, working on cardio, using body weight drills to build up strength for the upcoming season, while also adding yoga to the team's schedule once per week.

Vellucci said the latest he would want to get on the ice prior to the start of the season would be in October, but that if it's at that point, or even later, hockey teams practice more than they play, so adjustments could be made if need be.

Novi comes into the season with a veteran roster with many returning from last year's team, which could prove to be valuable if adjustments need to be made.

"We're possibly going to have 13, 14 returners back from the team. We made a nice run, and most of them are going to be seniors — I think 12 of the 14 are going to be seniors," Vellucci said. "We got JV guys coming up to push them and prep guys. So I think they are looking at it as this is our good shot to go farther than we did last year."

Wrestling

Detroit Catholic Central athletic director Aaron Babicz told his coaches to be ready for possible changes and adjustments from the moment the rumors began to circulate regarding the switch of the fall and spring seasons.

But he knows that wrestling, along with the other spring sports are kind of in limbo.

The reigning Division 1 state champions, Babicz said, are still trying to find creative ways to do their camps, whether it's focusing on shadow wrestling and skill development.

However, with this sport especially, there are many unknowns. But that is not Babicz's focus.

"That's the thing: people talk about fear of the unknown," Babicz said. "It can't be about fear anymore. It is what it is. You have to name it, attack it and get after it. If they say we can't wrestle, then we can't wrestle. We have to find a way to overcome it, adapt and overcome."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game story ideas to LivSports@hometownlife.com.

Northville

Continued from Page 1B

coronavirus will affect their class in some way as well, whether its limited travel, such as the canceling of the Michigan State cross country camp the team attends each summer, to the kind of races they participate in.

Nathan Hayes, a senior runner at Northville, expects to participate in some sort of season, but knows how volatile it could be.

"Looking into the future isn't very right," Hayes said. "We just want a regular season, and we know that's not going to happen, but it's hard to accept that."

Meek has extra motivation, especially after the cancellation of the spring track season.

Coming off of injury issues in the fall, Meek made his way back into shape, hoping to show colleges what he could do in the spring, but not getting the chance.

"I was finally at the point where I felt I could race and be somewhere near the version of myself, and then not to be able to have a season was pretty crushing," Meek said.

Northville, as a whole, comes into the 2020 season with high expectations.

A year out of competing in the state meet, the Mustangs have many returning runners— what Hayes describes as one of the deepest teams in the state — with high goals: to make it back to states and to exceed the 19th place finish in 2019.

"We lost a great group of seniors, but had a core group of juniors and sophomores that will now be upperclassmen, and have a couple promising freshmen joining the team. So I'm excited," Dalton said. "I think this team has great potential, and I know they are excited to get together and accomplish their goals."

And that is what Northville is focused on at this point: not whether or not there will be a season at all, but that if there is one, the Mustangs will be as prepared as they can be to perform well.

"It's definitely made us work harder," Helner said. "We don't know what we are going to be able to do at the end of the season, state finals, regionals. Right now, we are just working as hard as we can to make sure that if it does happen, we will qualify."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Send story ideas to LivSports@hometownlife.com.



Nathan Hayes' goal is to be an All-State runner his senior season at Northville. COURTESY OF NATHAN HAYES

Auburn Hills landmark imploded in a cloud of dust to cheers and shock

Omari Sankofa II Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

It was the site of six championship seasons between the Pistons and Shock, hundreds of regular-season basketball games, dozens of playoff games and some of the greatest moments in Detroit sports history.

It hosted some of the most notable concerts in the state, with performances by Michael Jackson, Sting, Madonna, Prince and dozens of others.

And as of Saturday, it is no more.

The Palace of Auburn Hills was imploded Saturday morning, ending a years-long shuttering process that began when the Pistons moved to downtown Detroit to Little Caesars Arena in 2017.

Spectators gathered across the street to watch the implosion, which occurred at 8 a.m. Explosives brought down what was left of the 32-year-old arena, which consisted of tall columns and a roof following months of demolition that started in March, in a matter of seconds.

The barren arena collapsed in a cloud of dust and drew cheers and reactions of shock from onlookers.

It's unclear what the site will be used for, but Livonia-based developer Schostak Brothers & Co., which purchased the land from Pistons owner Tom Gores last summer, is planning to redevelop the roughly 100-acre property as a mixed-use office park.

"We're very excited about this day," William Hall, project manager at Schostak Brothers & Co., said. "This is the implosion of the roof structure and columns today. Opens up the very exciting future development for surrounding property. This property is going to be redeveloped and bring hundreds of jobs. Very exciting opportunities for southeast Michigan as well as the city of Auburn Hills."

The Palace opened in August of 1988 to great fanfare. Then-Pistons owner Bill Davidson privately financed the arena for \$90 million, around \$200 million in today's dollars.



The Palace at Auburn Hills, the former entertainment arena, is imploded on July 11 by demolition team Schostak Brothers & Company Inc. The empty arena collapsed in a cloud of dust and drew cheers and reactions of shock from onlookers.
KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Thanks to an ahead-of-its-time design that featured 180 luxury suites — one of the first to do so at mid-level — and more than \$100 million in renovations through the years, the Palace was well-maintained through its final days. The Pistons played their last game there April 10, 2017, and the final event held at the venue was a Bob Seger concert Sept. 23, 2017.

In addition to the Pistons and Shock, the arena also played home to the Detroit Vipers of the IHL, who gave Gordie Howe a final shift at age 69 and won a championship in 1997; the Detroit Fury, an Arena Football League team from 2001-04; and the Detroit Neon/Safari, a team in the Continental Indoor Soccer League from 1994-97.

The Pistons maintained their offices at the Palace and continued to use it as a practice facility until last October, when the Henry Ford Detroit Pistons Performance Center opened in midtown.

Homrich, a demolition contractor, was tasked with the demolition and implosion. Scott Homrich, CEO of the company, estimated that it'll take a few months of cleanup before the process is completely finished.

"There's a lot of engineering that goes behind it," he said. "Basically, the explosives are helping gravity along the way. This one is pretty straightforward. You'll have the explosives start off on one side of the building and they'll be about a five-second delay from one side to the other. And then after that five sec-

onds goes off there will be about a three-second pause, and then the charges will actually go off and start from one side to the other. There's been multiple checks of the different wiring and going through the process to make sure everything goes off good today."

Everything went according to plan, and he expressed optimism the new development on the site will serve the Auburn Hills community well.

"The development that's here is going to be incredible for the area," he said. "It's good to see abandoned things not sit abandoned. They've done a good job of using this through its useful life and moving it on and get something else in here that brings in good tax revenue, people's jobs, so on and so forth."

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Eighteen former Art Van stores about to be reborn

Loves Furniture sites may hire 1K, open by late summer

JC Reindl Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Eighteen former Art Van Furniture locations across Michigan will soon reopen under new ownership, a new name and a refreshed approach to selling furniture online and in stores.

Loves Furniture plans to begin opening the locations by late summer, and could ultimately hire about 1,000 store associates, many of them likely former Art Van employees, Loves Furniture CEO Matt Damiani, 39, said in an interview last week.

Customers will find a large selection of furniture in the stores, including beds and mattresses, and a range of price points "that appeal to every budget," he said. They also will see a website designed to make "pre-shopping" easier, and to set up appointments with in-store staff.

"We're investing millions in revamping those store locations," Damiani said. "When customers walk into the store, they are going to know it's a different experience — that it's a Loves Furniture store."

The awkward timing of Loves' debut — in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic — could even be a good thing.

Business consultant Alex Calderone of Birmingham-based Calderone Advisory Group noted how people have spent a lot of time hanging out and working at home since the pandemic hit.

"My gut tells me that initially, the Loves Furniture stores will perform extremely well out of the gate," Calderone said. "I tell you that because there are a lot of cooped up consumers who are spending a lot of time in their houses these days, and they are eager to refurbish their homes — be it for home offices or just furniture that needs to be refreshed."

Loves Furniture was born from a May deal in U.S. Bankruptcy Court that followed the surprise bankruptcy liquidation and abrupt closure in March of Art Van Furniture, the Warren-based company that was once the Midwest's top furniture and mattress retailer.

A Texas-based private equity firm called US Assets Inc. initially purchased 17 former Art Van leased store locations in Michigan, plus 10 other Art Van and Levin and Wolf locations in five other states. That \$6.9 million deal recently grew to include an 18th Michigan store — the former Art Van flagship in Canton.

The Texas firm then created the Loves Furniture company and brand to operate the stores.

"We are on the verge of being able to announce a handful of others, both across the state of Michigan and some of the rest of the Midwest," Damiani said of the new company's store count. "So we are actively growing that footprint."

Loves has yet to announce opening dates, although the Michigan stores will likely open in quick succession rather than all at once, he said.



Loves Furniture Chief Merchant Officer Jennifer Sinha, left, meets with Loves Furniture CEO Matthew Damiani at the company's future Royal Oak store. MANDI WRIGHT/DETROIT FREE PRESS

The Loves name

The Loves Furniture name derives from that of Jeff Love, founder and CEO of US Assets.

It is the first furniture business in US Asset's portfolio. Some of the others include the Penguin Point chicken and burger chain in Indiana, an Arizona dog grooming and boarding business, a chain of urgent care centers and a dirt biking and off-roading park in Texas.

The firm has no relation to the quirky chain of Love's gas stations.

Damiani, who grew up in Troy and received his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University, previously worked at Art Van for about two years as an e-commerce executive, and before that as a supply chain director for Staples.

"This is a really meaningful thing to bring a new brand to the market here," he said.

New merchandise

Loves Furniture will launch with a new inventory of furniture merchandise.

Some of the future Loves stores took part in the recent Art Van Furniture last-chance liquidation sale, which had been delayed by the pandemic. That "total inventory blowout" was put on by American Signa-

ture, the parent company of Value City Furniture and American Signature Furniture.

Damiani said the Loves Furniture shopping experience will be different from that of other furniture retailers, and the website will take orders and also guide people to visit a store and speak with the in-store staff before purchasing.

"We're trying to offer a more customer-centric experience," he said. "What we've tried to do is remove everything that consumers hated about old traditional furniture shopping, like high-pressure sales or unclear pricing."

He declined to give Loves' anticipated breakdown of Internet sales to in-store sales, but said the industry in general is seeing growth in online sales even as most sales still happen in stores.

"But 85% of customers, as just a rough benchmark, are going online and browsing before they come into the store anyway," Damiani said. "So for us, it's less important where your transaction happens and more about this interconnected journey."

Loves Furniture has started hiring sales associates and expects to bring on about 1,000. Job positions are posted on the company's website.

"We have a good mix of former Art Van associates, new associates and diversity from the area and across different industries," he said. "They're going to help bring the brand to life."

Obituaries



Elsie Moe

S. LYON - Age 90. Beloved wife of the late Robert Lee, Sr. Dear mother of Sandra (Robert) Reddeman, Robert Lee, Jr. (Barbara), Nora Lee (Charles) James and the late John Lee, Sr. (Nancy). Loving grandmother of 10, great-grandmother of 17 and great-great-grandmother of 1. Preceded in death by 3 brothers and 1 sister. Survived by several nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., L.J. Griffin Funeral Home, Northrop-Sassaman Chapel, 19091 Northville Rd. (at 7 Mile Rd.). Elsie's final resting place will be at Rural Hill Cemetery. Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at griffinfuneralhome.com.



Informal poll shows sporadic use of masks

Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Jasmine Coutu explained one afternoon last week why she disregarded the sunshine yellow "Customers are required to wear face coverings" sign posted at the entrance of a gas station convenience store near the Canton Township intersection of Ford and Lilley roads.

"I usually wear a mask because I have a 10-month-old son," said Coutu, as she exited the store with two friends during rush hour. "But, honestly, I don't feel like the government is telling us all the information it has about the coronavirus, so I don't feel like (wearing a mask) is always necessary."

During an informal 30-minute observance at the business, just less than half of the customers wore masks, a scenario that was about par for the store's course, according to a masked employee, who asked to remain anonymous.

"Although we have the sign on the door, management has told us not to enforce it because there are too many people getting riled up if they're told they have to wear a mask," the gas station employee said. "I'd say it's about 50-50 whether customers who come in are wearing a mask."

Coutu said she hasn't



The Speedway convenience store located near the super-busy Canton Township intersection of Ford and Lilley roads served as an unknowing petri dish for an unscientific survey on mask-wearing. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

been the target of any verbal abuse when she enters a business without a mask.

"Maybe some mean stares, but that's about it," she said.

Moments after Coutu and her friends pulled out of the parking lot, a mask-wearing man who identified himself as "Jack" admitted he'd like to see 100% compliance with the business's mandate to wear a mask, but he's not going to "get up in anybody's face" about it.

"If I was going to be in a small building for longer than a few minutes with strangers not wearing masks, yes, it'd bother me more," he said. "But with a gas station like this, it's in and out, so it's not a huge deal."

"But I'm still going to wear a mask, even though others don't."

From approximately 4:30-5 p.m. July 8, roughly 52% of the patrons who entered the Speedway wore masks. Roughly two-thirds of the non-mask-wearers were male.

Ronn Torossian, a crisis management expert, recently told USA Today that "people are feeling frustrated" when it comes to whether or not to wear a mask in public buildings.

"Some feel like they aren't in danger, others think they are," Torossian said.

According to a poll conducted by Pew Research, 65% of U.S. adults say that they have personally worn a mask in

stores or other businesses all or most of the time in the past month, while 15% say they did this some of the time.

The poll revealed that relatively small percentages of adults say they hardly ever (9%) or never (7%) wore a mask in the past month, and 4% say they have not gone to these types of places.

Age or race did not appear to be difference-makers during the July 8 observance, although women of all ages adhered to the mask-wearing requirement more often than men.

Those identifiable as landscaping and construction workers who entered the store were 100% non-compliant.

"I work outdoors," said

a landscaper who identified himself as Kevin, "so I don't have a mask in my truck. But I worry about these young people (not wearing masks) who are inside businesses like this a lot."

Among the head-turning scenarios that unfolded was the sight of two elementary school-aged girls walking into and out of the store wearing matching masks. They were accompanied by a man who was unmasked.

One unmasked man parked his car in a spot near the door and exited the vehicle before doing a U-turn just before entering.

Returning to his car to retrieve his mask, right?

Nope. Just his wallet.

Compliance rates in Michigan may change as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer toughened mask-wearing requirements starting Monday.

The executive order:

- Requires any business that is open to the public to refuse entry or service to people who refuse to wear a face covering, with limited exceptions.

- Requires the use of face coverings in crowded outdoor spaces.

- Reiterates that individuals are required to wear a face covering whenever they are in an indoor public space.

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

Programs

Continued from Page 1B

seemingly putting those thoughts to rest.

While he was a bit surprised by the state recommendations, Farquhar said he understands how hard of a decision the MHSAA has to make in the coming weeks.

"It's a weird situation for everybody," Farquhar said. "I trust that the MHSAA will have the kids' best interest in mind when they are making any decision. And that includes all kids, not just baseball, softball, football. All spring sports and all fall sports. I trust that they will do what's right and I trust that they will do their homework and make an educated decision."

But that does not mean Farquhar would be a fan of moving the high school baseball season to the fall.

After his players lost the 2020 spring season due to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Farquhar said there is still no certainty whether a fall season for any sport will happen at all, putting spring sports in a position to possibly lose two seasons in a row.

This aspect has been on the minds of many coaches in the region.

"Here's the deal: if you are a junior and you lost this year for the pandemic, if we switch seasons and for some reason we start and shut back down, that's going to be two seasons that a junior will lose out on," Churchill head baseball coach Lawrence Scheffer said.

Canton baseball head coach Mark Blomshield does not feel as though the risk of moving a season and possibly having to cancel two in a row is worth the potential reward.

Blomshield is not only thinking about this school year, but also the 2021-22 athletic schedule. After playing a potential season in fall 2020, he said that spring sports may have to wait until spring 2022 to play again.

"Either way, I think we are getting the short end of the stick just to maybe get a season in just because it's not safe for football to do that yet," Blomshield said. "That's above my pay grade. I'm glad I'm not making that choice, but I would like to keep it the way it is."

Not perfect, but feasible

While moving seasons may not be the most agreeable option, coaches believe that the switch is feasible. It is actually something that most coaches have been preparing for.

Farquhar said he and his staff have come up with three separate contingency plans based on what the MHSAA decides later this month.

Vinitski said he quickly reached out to the rest of the members of the coaching staff, confirming that this season



Lakeland finished first in the Lakes Valley Conference, winning 23-of-24 conference games and finishing the season 30-4.

COURTESY OF BRAD FARQUHAR



Like many other baseball and softball teams in the state, Livonia Churchill is preparing to possibly play its schedule in the fall. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

switch could be a real possibility.

Without running camps and get to know the members of the freshmen class ahead of the season, Blomshield, who led the Chiefs to a district title a year ago, said teams will be in a time crunch between when the MHSAA makes its announcement and the start of the season.

However, the Canton head coach said scheduling should not be much of an issue, shifting a spring schedule to the fall and responding to any conflicts that may come up.

"It would not be perfect, but it's feasible," Blomshield said. "Definitely the time constraint and not doing it before, it would be new for everybody."

Instead of the normal March to June season, area teams are speculating an August to October season, inherently reversing the normal weather pattern players are used to.

Farquhar is hoping for more of a condensed season, holding the state finals in the last week of October.

"A lot of planning goes into that, but we could get a full schedule in," Farquhar said. "It would just be pretty packed with games as opposed to practices, but I know players would love it."

If the season starts in August, many players would be coming off of summer seasons in which they played as many as four or five games per weekend.

Vinitski said he would come into the

2020 fall season worried about the durability of his players playing back-to-back softball seasons.

"Part of me is like, 'What are we going to get?'" Vinitski said.

Farquhar knows what he expects to get: better baseball.

He said after a competitive baseball season, players are not just coming out of the gym, but are stretched out and are in peak physical shape.

Even though some may feel fatigue is something to worry about, especially late in the season, Scheffer, who is in his first year with the Chargers baseball team, expects players to be itching to return to the baseball diamond.

"I know they would be excited to get back on the baseball field for their high school, and represent their high school," Scheffer said. "I think there would be some extra juice to represent their high school."

Now, players are just waiting to hear if they will represent their high school in the fall or in the spring.

There are many questions that still need to be answered ahead of the start of the 2020 fall season, no matter if baseball and softball are played or not.

To encourage his baseball team, Farquhar continues to preach the message of becoming one percent better each day, on and off the field.

"That really holds true in a time like this," Farquhar said. "You don't know what tomorrow brings, so control today and get one percent better today, wake up the next morning and do it all over again. Take care of that because that's about the only thing that you can control."

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Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.
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Church of the Holy Spirit
3700 Harvey Lake Rd. Highland
Saturday Mass 5PM,
Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM
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All are Welcome!

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VISITORS WELCOME!
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Pastor Steve Sweeney
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Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Awana, 3 yrs old thru 6th grade (Sat.-March)
Website: milfordfb.org

Northville

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
www.fpcnorthville.org
200 E. MAIN ST. AT HUTTON
Worship, 9:30 am.
Sunday School for all ages, 10:30 am.
248-348-0811

South Lyon

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH
Gathering in Jesus Name
52909 10 Mile Rd. • South Lyon, MI 48178
Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
734-347-1883 pastor cell
Old fashioned preaching KJV

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Synod • Reynold Street Pkwy.
at Liberty St.
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
All Classes 9:00
Pastor Matthew Minzloff, (248) 437-1851
EO-BC19328411-01

Novi

BRIGHTMOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH
40800 W. 13 Mile Road, Novi
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Sundays 9:00a & 11:15a
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Msgr. John Kasza, Pastor
Parish Office: 347-7778

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First United Methodist Church of Northville
(248) 348-1144
777 West 8 Mile Road
(8 Mile and Telford Road)
Northville, Michigan
Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Alanna M. Wicks, Lead Pastor
www.fumcnorthville.org

'the WAY' - a ministry of Hope Lutheran Church
Worship @ Abbey Park
28413 Abbey Lane
New Hudson, MI
Sunday @ 10am, 248-553-7170
www.hope-lutheran-church.com
Rev. Thomas Scherger

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
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248-349-0565
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Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45am
Rev. Thomas Schroeder welsnovi@aol.com
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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375
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Fr. Robert A. LaCroix, Pastor
Fr. James Houbbeck, Associate
Parish Office: 248-348-8847 www.holyfamilynovi.org

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1250 South Hill Rd.
(248) 685-3560
www.opcmilford.org
Contemporary Worship Service:
8:30, 10:15, and 11:45.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
133 Orchard Dr., Northville
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Church 348-2821, School 348-3810
Religious Education 348-2558
Rev. Dennis Theroux, Pastor

Whitmore Lake FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
10774 Nine Mile Road
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

For more information regarding this directory, please call
Anthony Dixon at 313-222-2401 or amdixon@gannett.com

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Estate Sales

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Tiffany Style Lamps & Shades.
Furniture, Collectibles,
Showcases, etc.

Garage-Tag Sale

Form Hills, 29504 Shenandoah, Thurs.
7/16 - Sat. 7/18, 9am-3pm. Furniture,
tools, kitchen items & more!

Garage-Tag Sale

Livonia, Yard Sale, 15620 Auburndale
St. Michigan, 48154 Thurs. 9 am-4 pm.
Fri. 9 am-4 pm, Sat. 9 am-4 pm.
TV's, Mini Fridges, Kitchen Items,
Chairs, Lamps, Sewing Machine,
Hitch Mounted Cargo Carrier, Suit
Cases, Girls bedding, & Kids Items.
For Everyone's Safety MASKS MUST
BE WORN Dir. West of Merriman &
North off of 5 Mile Rd.

South Lyon - 939 Westhills Dr., Thur.
7/16, Fri 7/17, 9am-1pm & Sat 7/18,
9am-1pm. NO REASONABLE OFF-
FER REFUSED. Home decor, tax
machine, office supplies, garden
items, kitchen items, vases, seasonal
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for chairs & much more. Rain or
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Affliction
- 7 Really shout
- 13 Wine vessels
- 20 One of the Nixon daughters
- 21 — Vision (eye care chain)
- 22 Weird sort
- 23 Serious crime
- 24 Carol about holiday cheese?
- 26 Strip of weapons
- 27 ... or — thought
- 28 Look as if
- 29 Tickle out
- 30 Guy who can do any interweaving style?
- 35 Ribeye, e.g.
- 36 Particular mag. edition
- 37 Writer Anal's
- 38 With 60-Down, BB gun
- 39 Sorority "T"
- 41 "This tastes way better than coffee, tea or ale?"
- 50 Toon pics
- 53 Suffix with southwest
- 54 Spring month
- 55 Comfortable

- 56 Czar who was not inordinately cruel?
- 62 "Look!" in Latin
- 63 Person being examined
- 64 "What kind of fool —?"
- 65 Set sail
- 68 122-Down officer: Abbr.
- 69 Doughnut filling that's an exchanged commodity?
- 74 Wane
- 77 Easily available
- 79 Petri dish site
- 80 Got totally used up
- 82 Tennis great Nastase
- 84 Politician Gary propping himself up against something?
- 89 Actress Helena — Carter
- 92 Verdi's "— tu"
- 93 Prefix with chic or resort
- 94 2010 Apple debut

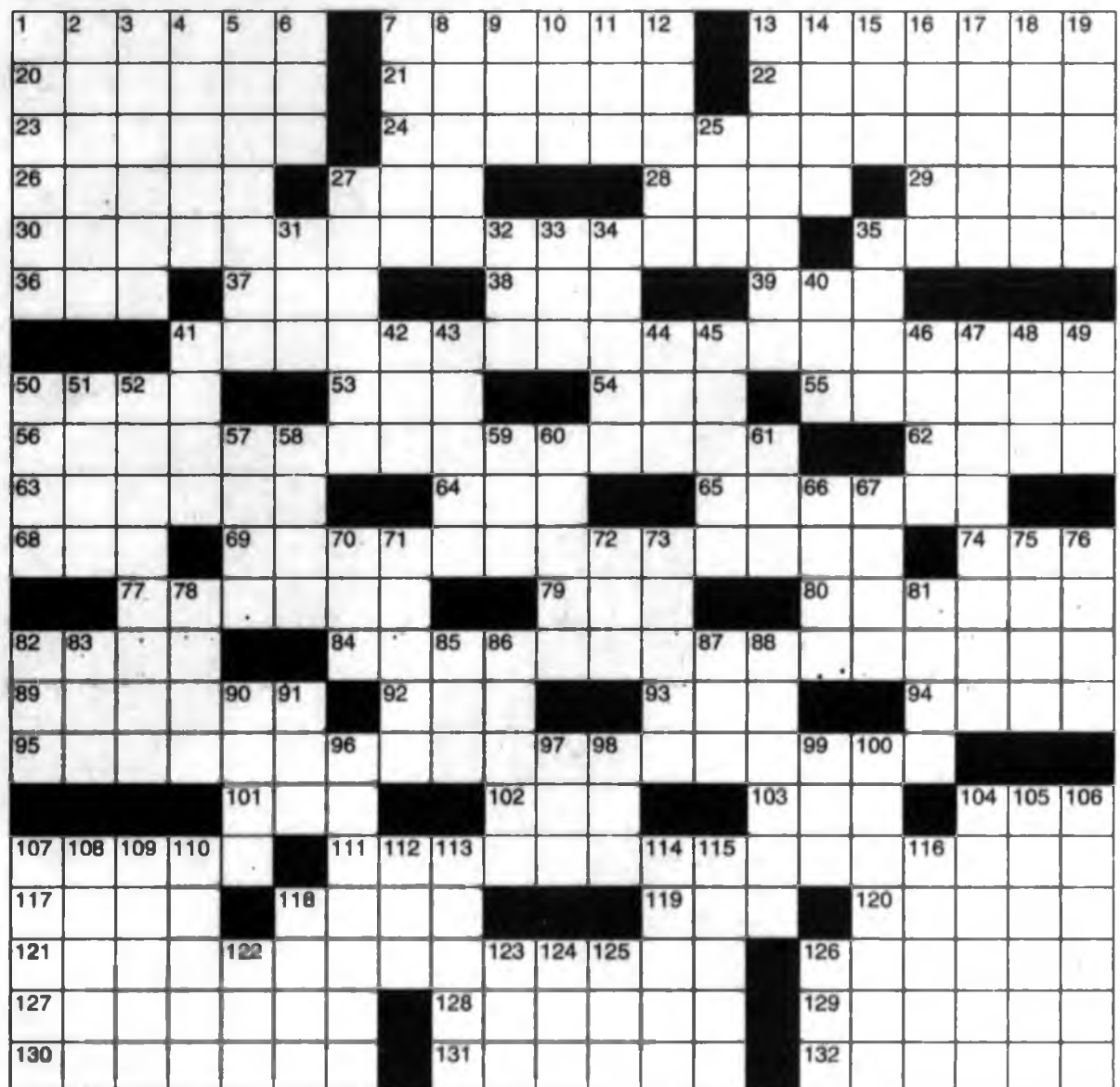
- 95 Enigmatic clohopper casting spells?
- 101 Bride's vow
- 102 Wye follower
- 103 List-curtailling abbr.
- 104 Anna of fashion
- 107 Light lunch, maybe
- 111 People purchasing decorative rolling car parts?
- 117 Israeli carrier
- 118 Touch on
- 119 Talking — (lectures)
- 120 Canine cord
- 121 Tall fence surrounding a pugnacious dog?
- 128 Improvise
- 127 Forms a liking for
- 128 Brezhnev of Russia
- 129 Kazakhstan's capital, until 2019
- 130 "It finally makes sense"
- 131 "The Munsters" actress De Carlo
- 132 Less fresh

DOWN

- 1 Peak near Tokyo: Abbr.
- 2 Concert sites
- 3 Purple flowers
- 4 "Put — in it!"
- 5 Dandle — (dog breed)
- 6 "Hurrah!"
- 7 Tape holder
- 8 Filmdom's — B. DeMille
- 9 "Hurrah!"
- 10 Be off-base
- 11 Boxer Laila
- 12 Soccer star Lionel
- 13 Shows up for
- 14 Actor Sandler
- 15 Aves.
- 16 Main monk
- 17 Denmark's — Islands
- 18 Fictional Doolittle
- 19 Streamlined
- 25 Poet Hughes
- 27 South Carolina river
- 31 Hi — (stereos)
- 32 Tote or duffel
- 33 "— Bravo"
- 34 Nice scent
- 35 Hard fat
- 40 Atty.'s org.
- 41 Has no life
- 42 Eye, to poets
- 43 An hour past midnight
- 44 Pat lightly

- 45 President after Harrison
- 46 Ale relative
- 47 Incurred a lot of, as debt
- 48 Key on a PC
- 49 Tiny
- 50 Quote
- 51 In a dead heat
- 52 Roping in
- 57 High —
- 58 Ares' mother
- 59 Livy's "I love"
- 60 See 38-Across
- 61 Pro at CPR
- 66 Polar hazard
- 67 Bedouin, e.g.
- 70 Doc who may scrape wax
- 71 "Abou Ben —" (Leigh Hunt poem)
- 72 Sheep cry
- 73 "Lit" guy
- 75 La — Tar Pits
- 76 Longtime senator Robert
- 78 Soda brand
- 81 Depilatory brand
- 82 "Big Blue"
- 83 Mauna —
- 85 Suffix with book or trick
- 86 "Totientanz" composer Franz
- 87 Acutely cold

- 88 Coveted annual prizes
- 90 Part of DNA
- 91 Irate
- 96 Illegal punch
- 97 One of 18 on a course
- 98 "So icky!"
- 99 Gambling site, for short
- 100 Optometrist, old-style
- 104 Action hero Steven
- 105 Like grizzlies and kodiaks
- 106 Hoffman/Beatty film
- 107 Three more than quadri-
- 108 Fake name
- 109 Hanukkah potato treat
- 110 Pulitzer winner Edward
- 112 Central point
- 113 Milan's land
- 114 Had a meal at home
- 115 One-named singer of "Royals"
- 116 Gossipy type
- 118 Choir female
- 122 Adm.'s milieu
- 123 Charge (up)
- 124 Aussie leaper
- 125 Resting place
- 126 Had life



SUDOKU

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

Difficulty Level ★★

7/16

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!

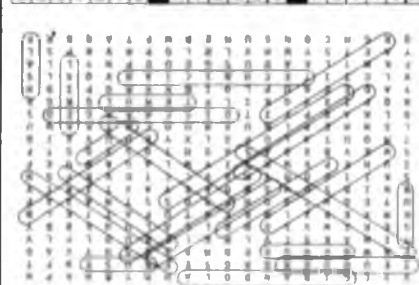
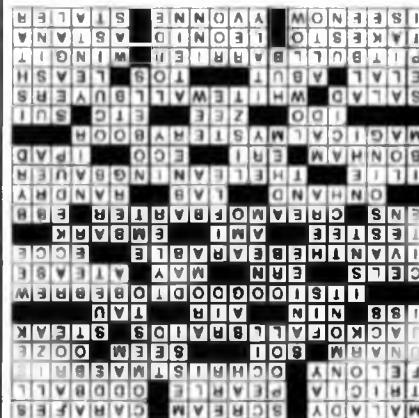
FIREWORKS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- AERIAL
- BARGE
- BARRAGE
- BOUQUET
- BURST
- COMET
- CONSUMER
- DISCHARGED
- DISPLAY
- DUD
- EXPLOSIVES
- FALLOUT
- FINALE
- FIREWORKS
- FLASH
- FOUNTAIN
- FUSE
- GIRANDOLA
- IGNITER
- MORTARS
- POWDER
- SHELLS
- TECHNICIAN
- WHISTLE



1	4	7	6	9	8	7	9
6	9	7	8	9	1	7	9
9	9	8	7	7	6	1	9
9	7	1	9	7	8	9	7
8	6	9	1	7	9	9	7
7	9	7	9	6	1	7	8
7	8	6	7	9	9	7	9
7	7	9	7	1	6	9	9
9	1	9	9	8	7	6	7

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

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