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# Emotions raw as South Lyon picks school plan

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

Back-to-school plans in South Lyon are taking some time, much like the school board's latest meeting.

The virtual meeting, which included more than 250 public comments, was nearly eight hours long, running past 2:30 a.m. Aug. 11 as parents, teachers and students expressed fears, concerns and frustrations.

It was a seeming test of patience for all and the final grades aren't in yet, but the board passed a one-month remote start for all students to begin the year and a slow phased-in hybrid plan to follow that begins with the youngest stu-

dents and a half-day in-person once a week by a 6-1 vote.

Superintendent Steve Archibald emphasized the importance of a cautious beginning.

"If we jump in and run before we walk, we will make a mistake," he said. "Phase 4 at 25% allows us to bring students back, social distance, conduct

safety protocols and procedures in a controlled, measured way."

The plan to get kids back in school is complex and varies by grade. It begins with one half-day of in-person learning for Junior Kindergarten through first grades in the fifth week of school.

See SOUTH LYON, Page 8A



Christine Raymond decants some butter olive oil at Spice Merchants in Northville on Aug. 5. The shop, which recently moved locations within town to East Main, sells spices, herbs, teas, olive oils and vinegars. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Downtown Northville** spice shop finds new home

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

Chris and Christine Raymond have inade downtown Northville a little spicier since they opened their shop six years ago. And after a recent move, they've got more space to share their passion for all things tea and spice.

Spice and Tea Merchants reopened in late July at 134 E. Main after closing down and relocating from their former space at 110 N. Center. The new space, which was formerly occupied by Rock on Main clothing shop before it closed earlier this year, is about 700 square feet bigger than the Northville couple's former space.

"We moved the whole place in about 30 days and built it out, too," Chris Raymond said. "And we were only down for a day."

The move has been in the works for several months for the couple, who opened Spice Merchants in downtown

See SHOP, Page 5A

# Huron Valley OKs hybrid plan for school

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

The Huron Valley School Board chose a hybrid plan to gradually return students to in-person learning as an alternative to a fully virtual academy.

The board unanimously approved the plan Aug. 10 in which families who want face-to-face instruction for their students will be able to have it two days per week while the state is in phase 4 of the coronavirus pandemic.

"There's no replacement for faceto-face instruction, but we believe this is a really good compromise," Superintendent Paul Salah said, noting it mixes best practices for instruction while also following safety protocols from the state's return to school road map, particularly social distancing.

Junior kindergarten through 7th grades start this plan immediately, while 8th-12th grades will learn remotely for the first two weeks of school before starting in-person instruction two days per week.

In the hybrid plan, students will be split into two groups, with half attending in-person school together Mondays and Thursdays, and the other half Tuesdays and Fridays. On days when students are not scheduled for in-person learning, they will be remotely learning with live-streamed instruction. with the exception of Wednesday, when they will have recorded lessons from teachers, or other assignments to complete on their own.

On Wednesdays, school buildings will receive a more thorough cleaning, and teachers will be developing lesson

The decision on a hybrid plan came after months of conversations and evolved alongside the COVID-19 pan-

Several parents and staff in the district called in to the virtual meeting to voice their concerns.

Erin Muransky, like many others who had emailed or phoned in comments, said she appreciated the hard work of the board. But the Milford resident and Highland Elementary special education staff member stated that starting face-to-face in any way puts students at a large risk.

,See HURON VALLEY, Page 7A

# New industrial building planned in Novi

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

One of Novi's industrial parks is about to get bigger.

The city's planning commission recently approved plans to build a new,

31,000 square-foot industrial building along Hudson Drive in the Beck North Corporate Park off of West Road. The proposal would see a new warehouse/ office building go up on a piece of vacant land that abuts the City of Wixom to the

The space does not yet have a tenant, though Glenn Jones, director of development for Farmington Hillsbased Dembs Development who is constructing the facility, said they

See BUILDING, Page 8A

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# Two women charged with embezzling from daycare in Hartland

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two former child care workers have been charged with embezzling thousands of dollars from a daycare center in Hartland Township.

Amy Rollins, of Fenton, and Jennifer Turner, of Hartland Township, were charged last month with embezzlement by an agent or trustee between \$1,000 and \$20,000.

The women worked at the Hartland Community Education Child Care Center, which is part of the Hartland public school system, a police officer testified in a hearing that led to charges.

"During an audit it was determined \$42,018 was missing from cash deposits and \$25,579 was missing in checks," the officer testified. "The point of sale vendor for the employee system which the Hartland school uses, named Infinity, was contacted and was able to locate 844 deleted invoices that was done so by Amy Rollins and Jennifer Turner."

The officer said search warrants for Rollins and Turner's bank records were conducted and revealed little activity for Rollins, but located \$23,167 in cash deposits from two separate ATM transactions by Turner at Livingston County banks.

Both women were interviewed by Hartland Consolidated Schools administration.

Turner admitted to stealing cash from the daycare but did not admit to a specific amount, the officer testified.

He said Rollins denied any involvement, but an investigation determined she used her position as a director at the daycare center to give away approximately \$5,191 in free daycare services that she was not authorized to do by the school district.

Rollin's attorney, Marcus Wilcox, declined to comment. Turner's attorney, Bill McCririeCQ, and Hartland schools Superintendent Chuck Hughes did not immediately respond to messages left seeking comment.



Two women are charged with embezzling from the Hartland Community Education Child Care Center.
GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

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Michael Kelly, bottom left, is honored by Rep. Haley Stevens, top right. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# Northville Vietnam veteran finally honored

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Michael Kelly has finally been formally recognized for his sacrifice during the conflict, 45 years after the Vietnam War ended.

Congresswoman Haley Stevens (D-MI-II) held a virtual ceremony for Kelly, a Northville resident, last week to present him with a commemorative lapel pin acknowledging his service.

Kelly served as a sergeant for two years in the United States Army. His father and father-in-law were both veterans, as well.

"(The Vietnam War) taught us to have a better objective in what our end point is in any conflict we engage in," Kelly said. "We should have some pre-planning. Secondly, it taught us about the proper treatment of veterans. I'm glad to see that we now honor veterans for their service."

Stevens was joined by Dr. Ginny Creasman, the Medical Center director for the VA Ann Arbor Health-care System, as well as Zach Rich, a Farmington Public Schools board of education trustee and caseworker on Stevens' staff who handles veteran affairs, for the ceremony.

The congresswoman said it's a joy to honor Vietnam veterans in a way she wishes could have been done sooner.

"Now we have the opportunity to do what we should have done 50 years ago: welcoming our Vietnam veterans home with honor and thanking you and your families for your service and sacrifice," Stevens said.

ns said. Former U.S. President Barack Obama formally be"(The Vietnam War) taught us to have a better objective in what our end point is in any conflict we engage in. We should have some pre-planning. Secondly, it taught us about the proper treatment of veterans. I'm glad to see that we now honor veterans for their service."

Michael Kelly Army veteran

gan the commemoration program in 2012, which was first commissioned in 2008 by Congress. The program will run through 2025, which will be the 50th anniversary of the war's end. Vietnam veterans can receive a commemorative pin honoring their service from their federal representatives for free.

Veterans in Michigan's Ilth congressional district, which includes Northville, Livonia, Birmingham, Canton, Farmington, Novi, Plymouth, South Lyon and Milford, can contact Stevens' office at stevens.house.gov/Vietnam-Veteran-Lapel-Pin.

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

# Making Florida your primary residence



Money Matters

Dear Rick:

My wife and I are in our mid-50s and she just took a buyout from her company. I am planning to work for another 10 years. The company I work for told me that they are not going to reopen their Michigan office, and that moving forward I will be working at home. My wife and I own a condominium in Florida, and since our two children no longer live in state, my wife thought it would be smart to make Florida our residence. She figures that we can save a substantial amount on Michigan income taxes. What do you think? You should know that because both our parents still live in Michigan, we plan on keeping our Michigan home for as long as they are around.

Thank you,

Jerry and Marge

Dear Jerry and Marge:

There is no doubt that spending time in Florida, particularly in the winter, has its benefits. That being said, in order to make Florida your primary residence, one of the major requirements is that you spend at least 183 days per year there. If you don't spend at least 183 days in Florida, you would not be allowed to change your primary residence for tax purposes. Although the residency requirement is the major hurdle to overcome, there are also some minor ones, such as filing a declaration for domicile in the Florida county you intend to become a resident, and to file a

final Michigan state income tax return.

As you know, Florida does not have a state income tax; therefore, from an income tax perspective, the move to Florida will save you what you would have spent on Michigan taxes. However, you must be concerned with property taxes.

Under Michigan law, if Michigan is your primary residence, you are entitled to a homestead exemption on your primary residence. The result of this is a substantial reduction in your real estate taxes. However, once you make Florida your primary residence, you no longer will be able to qualify for the Michigan homestead exemption. Therefore, your property taxes in Michigan will increase substantially. It is not unusual that when you remove your homestead exemption, your property taxes increase by about 40 percent. Of course, you would then qualify for an exemption in Florida; however, it doesn't appear that Florida's homestead exemption is as generous as Michigan's.

My recommendation is that you first calculate the potential increase to your Michigan real estate taxes by losing the homestead exemption and then determine the potential reduction in your Florida property taxes by becoming a Florida resident. If the amount you are paying in State of Michigan income taxes plus what you are saving in Florida property taxes is greater than what your increase in your Michigan property tax bill will be, then claiming Florida as your residence would make sense. On the other hand, if there is no savings then there is no reason to make the change.

Michigan sometimes contests and challenges the move. In order to cement that Florida is your primary residence, in addition to spending at least 183 days in Florida, it is important to complete a declaration of domicile form. Every county in Florida has their own form, and filing this will help change your residence. In addition, it's a good idea to obtain a Florida driver's license and to re-register your cars in Florida. The bottom line – the more you can cut ties with Michigan and establish those new relationships in Florida, the better things will be for you.

One last note, if you become a Florida resident, it is important you have your estate plan looked at, particularly, your medical and durable powers of attorney.

Good luck!
Rick is a fee-only financial adviser. His website is www.bloomassetmanagement.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at rick@bloomassetmanagement.com.



# Michigan DNR to auction 225 properties

**USA TODAY NETWORK** 

Dreaming of owning lovely lakefront property, a beautiful forest, or even a swampy plot? You might just be in luck.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will auction off 225 properties from Sept. 8 through Oct. 5. Each bidding day corresponds to the availability of properties in a specific area or county. From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., bidders will be able to see the current bid for each property and place bids of their

The DNR said that most of the land is being offered because parcels either are far from other state properties or don't offer many public recreation opportunities. Proceeds from the auction will help fund future state projects.

Land is mainly available in the Upper Peninsula as well as central and northern counties in the Lower

The parcels range from less than half of an acre to 40 acres. Starting bids start as low as \$300 and can be as high as \$67,800.

### Here are examples

While one plot of land in Caldwell, in Missaukee County, is less than one-tenth of an acre, it has a beautiful view of Dyer Lake and connects to other plots of land if you're willing to spend the money. Starting bid

for the location is \$9,600. Starting at \$7,770, parcels 405577 and 405603 make up a 3.7-acre lot near Lake Marjory in Otsego

In Lapeer, two plots are situated near Lake Davison as well as a stream. Both are 0.22 acres and have starting bids of \$5,625.

Here's the schedule for the current auction period:

Sept. 8 – Shiawassee County



The view from a lot (DNR parcel #309603, starting bid \$9,600.00 ) on Dyer Lake in Missaukee County. COURTESY OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- Sept. 9 Clare and Gladwin counties
- Sept. 10 Lapeer County
- Sept. 17 Allegan and Ottawa counties
- Sept. 24 Lake and Newaygo counties • Sept. 28 - Kalkaska, Missaukee and Wexford
- Oct. 1 Crawford, Oscoda and Otsego counties
- Oct. 2 Antrim County
- Oct. 3 Bay County
- Oct. 5 Gogebic, Houghton and Schoolcraft coun-

Those interested in bidding should register at https://bit.ly/3avabq7. For detailed information on each property, go to https://bit.ly/2DWxJZ7.





Oakland County Sheriff's deputies say these hooded individuals apparently robbed a Lyon Township ATM before escaping in this stolen truck. COURTESY OF OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# Duo stole at least \$1,000 from Lyon Township ATM

Susan Vela

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH

Two hooded individuals used a stolen truck, chains and crowbar to recently bust into a Lyon Township ATM and escape with at least \$1,000, according to Oakland County Sheriff's depu-

Deputies were dispatched to a Chase Bank location on Ten Mile

Road, near Johns Road, at away.

about 2 a.m. Friday because of a breaking and entering incident, they said in a report.

The caller said an individual wearing a red hoodie and another wearing a blue hoodie exited a white Ford F-250 truck with chains and a crowbar in the truck bed.

They used the tools to break into the ATM before removing some of its drawers and driving

Deputies later located the truck, stolen from a Redford Township property, abandoned on Johns Road. Another deputy, on his way to assist with the abandoned truck, found a black box nearby.

They also found evidence of the ATM's compartments inside the cab of the truck, with about \$1.200 in \$20 bills in and around the vehicle. Two tow hooks were attached

to the truck's trailer

hitch. Thousands of dollars were inside the ATM when the theft hap-

Those with information should call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP. There is a cash reward. Tipsters remain anonymous.

# Tornado siren in **South Lyon damaged**

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

A South Lyon tornado siren was damaged last month, but no one is admitting responsibility.

"It's interesting, frustrating actually," Fire Chief Robert Vogel said. "The county sent a person out to do general maintenance and he noticed (the electronics box) was hanging by one bolt on the pole. He took a ratchet strap and tied it back up. He let his boss know it was really messed up-- it was hit by a truck or bulldozer or something."

The tornado siren, which is located in a cityowned parking lot behind the Lake Street Tavern, is one of several in the city. It is believed the battery box, which is located about 8 to 10 feet up the pole, was damaged by a construction crew or delivery truck some time between July 8-20. Vandalism is not

Vogel said police canvassed the area and questioned nearby construction crews.

"They all said, 'Nope, we didn't do it,' and nobody had a (surveillance) camera," he said.

The siren was tested Aug. 1, the first Saturday of the month, as it always is, and worked. However, Vogel said if the city loses power it will not, since the battery backup was damaged.

The county is currently getting bids for repair and estimates it will cost about \$8,000 to fix, Vogel said. The cost will be borne by the county.

Vogel asks anyone with information on how the siren was damaged to call the South Lyon Police at 248-437-1773.

sbromley@hometownlife.com

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STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, MARATHON COUNTY

Plaintiff(s):

Salander Enterprises, LLC 225 S. Executive Dr. Brookfield WI 53005

Jillian Naujokas and Christopher Leverenz 47228 Curtis Rd Northville MI 48168-9223

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You are being sued by the person(s) named above as Plaintiff(s). A copy of the claim has been sent to you at your address as stated in the caption above. The lawsuit will be heard in the following Small Claims court

Marathon County Courthouse Telephone Number of Clerk of Court! 715-261-1000 Address: 500 Forest Street Wausau, WI 54403

on the following date and time:

Time: 10:00 AM

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You may have the option to Answer without appearing in court on the court date by filing a written Answer with the clerk of court before the court date. You must send a copy of your Answer to the Plaintiff(s) named above at their address. You may contact the clerk of court at the telephone number above to determine if there are other methods to answer a Small Claims complaint in that county.

Electronically Signed by Cynthia A. Duppler Attorney's State Bar Number 1118906 Date 8/12/2020

Dobberstein Law Firm, LLC 225 S. Executive Dr. Suite 201 Brookfield, WL 53005 Plaintiff's/Attorney's Telephone Number 262.641.3715

# PAID ADVERTISEMENT Men's Virility Restored in Clinical Trial; 275% More **Blood Flow in 5 Minutes**

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They didn't exercise. They didn't eat healthy. And researchers reported their "nitric oxide availability was almost compromised," resulting in blood flow less than HALF of a man in peak sexual health.

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# WHY SO MUCH

**EXCITEMENT?** Despite the billions men spend annually on older nitric oxide therapies, there's one well-known problem with them.

don't always They work.

Dr. Joseph Loscalzo explains why. He's studied nitric oxide for over 43 years. He is the physicianin-chief at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He says a "deficiency of bioactive nitric oxide... leads to endothelium-dependent vasorelaxation."

In plain English, these older products may increase levels of nitric oxide. But that's only half the battle. If it's not bioactively available then your body can't absorb it to produce an erection.

Experts simply call it the nitric oxide "glitch." never been a solution.

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Upon further research, America's No. 1 men's health expert Dr. Al nutrients fix this "glitch" blood flow.

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studies confirm it's the A new discovery that increases nitric oxide availability was recently proven in a clinical trial to boost blood flow 275%

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placebo-controlled study of more than 500 scientific papers. Thousands of of research) involved a people listened to him group of 70-year-old-men. speak at the recent Palm Beach Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Anti-Aging Medicine.

> Primal Max Red has a few months — but of the range." everyone who takes it reports a big difference. "I have the energy to have sex three times in one day, WOW! That has Oh, by the way I am 62," says Jonathan K. from Max Black for free. Birmingham, AL.

# **HOW IT WORKS**

Loss of erection power starts with your blood vessels. Specifically, the inside layer called the endothelium where nitric oxide is made.

The problem is various factors THICKEN your blood vessels as you age. This blocks availability causing the nitric oxide "glitch." The result is difficulty in getting and sustaining a healthy erection. How bad is the

problem?

Researcher shows the absorbs 50% less nitric 60 just a measly 15% gets through.

To make matters worse, declining in your 30's. And by 70, nitric oxide production is down an alarming 75%.

And until now, there's first formula to tackle both money back," he says. Combining problems. powerful nitric oxide boosters and a proven delivery mechanism that defeats the nitric oxide resulting in "glitch" 275% better blood flow. There's not enough space 1-800-814-4291 to secure here to fully explain how your limited supply of Sears discovered certain it works, so Dr. Sears Primal Max Red and will send anyone who free bottles of Primal resulting in 275% better orders Primal Max Red Max Black. You don't explains everything.

### **MORE CLINICAL RESULTS**

Nutrients in Primal Max Red have logged impressive results.

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And this new discovery Primal Max Red contains Physiology study, one increases nitric oxide a bigger, 9,000 mg per resulted in a 30 times availability resulting in serving dose. It's become MORE nitric oxide. And even quicker, stronger so popular, he's having these increased levels

"I measured my nitric Dr. Sears is the author oxide levels, you can buy a test kit from Amazon," reports 48-year-old Jeff O. "Monday night I showed depleted.'

Then he Oz. NFL Hall of Fame ingredients in Primal Max quarterback Joe Namath Red and, "The results recently visited his clinic, were off the charts. I the Sears Institute for first woke around 3 a.m. on Tuesday very excited. My nitric oxide levels only been available for measured at the top end

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Every order also gets not happened in years. Dr. Sears testosterone boosting formula Primal

> "If you want passionate 'rip your clothes off' sex you had in your younger days, you need nitric oxide to get your erection going. And testosterone for energy and drive," says Dr. Sears. "You get both with Primal Max Red and Primal Max Black." **HOW TO GET**

### **PRIMAL MAX**

To secure free bottles of Primal Max Black and get the hot, new Primal Max Red formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-814-4291 within the next 48 hours. "It's not impaired typical 40-year-old man available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The oxide. At 50, that drops to Hotline allows us to ship 25%. And once you pass directly to the customer."

Dr. Sears feels so strongly about Primal Max, all orders are backed nitric oxide levels start by a 100% money-back guarantee. "Just send me back the bottle and any unused product within 90 days from purchase date, Primal Max Red is the and I'll send you all your

The Hotline will be open for the next 48 hours. After that, the phone number will be shut down to allow them to restock. Call a free special report that need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Promo Code NP0820PMAX125 when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all

THESE STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THIS PRODUCT IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE OR PREVENT ANY DISEASE, RESULTS MAY VARY

# Northville to start school year with virtual learning plan

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Following close to five hours of oftenemotional discussion earlier this month, the Northville Public Schools Board of Education voted to start school Sept. 8 with "competence-building, healthy" online learning through no later than Oct. 2, before transitioning to blended protocols.

Board member Matthew Wilk, an outspoken advocate of in-person learning, delivered the only dissenting vote regarding the plan.

Families of the district's students will also have the option of a full-time virtual learning program, with a commitment through Jan. 29.

The board also approved plans for each level of schooling that will kick in Oct. 5, contingent on the status of the spread or containment of the coronavi-

Elementary students will return to a Monday-through-Friday small cohort, rotating-teacher scenario, with a fulltime virtual option.

Middle-school students will return to an alternating days of the week scenario that includes 50/50 hybrid learning with core content, with a full-time virtual option.

High-school students will return to a 50/50 in-person/virtual four-day, alternating-week schedule beginning Oct. 5, at the earliest.

An overview of each scenario can be found on the district's website.

The COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan is contingent on Michigan remaining in Phase 4 of its safe start program. A drop to Phase 3 would require 100% virtual learning.

Close to 80 people called in to the Zoom-based meeting, voicing their opinions on whether a return to in-person learning was safe.

Board members and NPS administrators repeatedly emphasized that there eawright@hometownlife.com.

was no 100% right decision to be made given the unusual circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 crisis and the unknown future ahead and that flexibility was a vital skill to embrace moving forward.

Results of a stakeholder re-entry survey sent to the district's families revealed that 43.6% of respondents preferred a full-time in-person start, 29.6% wanted a hybrid 50/50 (combined inperson/virtual) start and 26.8% felt most comfortable with a full-time virtual learning plan.

Among the residents who called in during the meeting was Dr. Samuel Fawaz, a Beaumont Health physician who prefaced his opinion by stating he has assisted with the treatment of approximately 250 patients suffering from CO-

The father of four sons who attend NPS said it is imperative that district leaders rely on "proven science, not fear" when making their re-entry plan decision.

Fawaz told the board that he works daily with health-care professionals in a high-risk environment and that the overwhelming majority of his colleagues have not gotten sick, emphasizing that a return to in-person learning is the right choice as long as proper protocol are followed.

Melissa Stuart said she'd "love for her kids to go back to the classroom" but that the safety of teachers and students should be heavily weighed.

Northville resident Melissa Heinen, who was one of 40 pediatricians who signed a letter sent to the school district advocating for a return to in-person learning, informed the board members that studies have shown that extended virtual learning leads to depression, obesity and even suicide in children and that in-person schooling can be safe if the proper measures are taken. Contact reporter Ed Wright at



Bloomfield Hills voters approved a \$200 million bond measure for schools Aug. 4. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Bloomfield Hills, South Lyon** voters show support for schools

Susan Bromley and Ed Wright Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Voters overwhelmingly gave their support to education in the recent primary election. In Bloomfield Hills, a \$200 million

bond measure for schools was easily approved with 9,161 yes votes to 5,843 no. The bond is required to be paid off

within 30 years and the millage levied in the first year will be 1.90 mills. The district plans to use the funds for a wide variety of needs including additions and remodeling of school build-

ings and athletic facilities, security,

technology, and buses. Voters also approved up to 0.52 mills to be levied for a period of six years in order to fund a library contract with the Baldwin Public Library in Birmingham and provide library services for city residents and employees. The vote was

1.040 to 504. In South Lyon, voters handily passed \$98.7 million in bonds for schools, with 8,946 voting yes to 4,014 voting no.

The bonds will mostly be used for maintenance and improvements to school buildings, but also improvements to security, technology, and academics, arts, and athletics.

Voters in Northville Township approved a new millage proposal to fund a continuation of current services for police, EMS, fire parks, recreation, senior and youth services and administration costs. The 0.5 mill proposal was approved 6,472 to 3,546 by township vot-

In Milford, voters approved 0.70 mills for the library for 10 years, which is earmarked for maintenance, materials and increased hours of service. The vote passed, 3,066 to 1,984.

In Franklin, voters approved a ballot proposal that would allow for the village board to elect a village clerk that would hold office at the will of the council and be subject to the direction of the council. That vote was approved 587-519.

# Shop

Continued from Page 1A

Northville in 2014. Expanding into a new space allows them to carry more products than before: Chris Raymond said they have about 50 new teas and 15 new spices available, as well as doubling the amount of oil and balsamic. They're adding more craft cocktail bitters, as well.

They're also adding some specialty foods, including conservas, a canned seafood delicacy from places like Spain and France.

"That's a very popular thing to do over there," he said.

They began looking for a new space in Northville in May and decided the space was the perfect fit. They moved in and began adding their own touches, including some of the reclaimed wood from homes in Detroit that hung in their previous shop to the walls.

"We wanted to grow," he said. "And if we wanted to grow, we knew we had to move to a bigger space."

There are several Spice and Tea Merchants shops operating in Michigan, including shops in Ann Arbor, Mackinaw City, Marquette and Grand Rapids.

During the month-long move, the couple took many trips walking products down the street to the new store. It garnered plenty of looks, especially from diners enjoying the warm weather downtown.

"You should have seen us," Christine Raymond said. "A wagon and a dolly."

Since relocating, the couple said they've seen an increase in foot traffic in the store, with plenty of new customers not realizing it's the same shop that's been in town for years.

Being right in the heart of downtown has been a big change for the shop as it looks to grow its customer base, Chris Raymond said.

"Being right on Town Square and having rear access to the parking lot, we've seen a lot of people park back there and come right through this door," Chris Raymond said. "I think this has to be one of the best spaces in downtown Northville."

The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday as well as Saturday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. More information can be found



Spice Merchants moved to 134 E. Main St. in Northville from a N. Center location. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"We wanted to grow, and if we wanted to grow, we knew we had to move to a bigger space. ... We didn't want to ' leave Northville."

Chris Raymond Co-owner, Spice Merchants

at spicemerchants.biz/northvillespice-store.

The two have a lot of pride in their hometown: they said they always wanted to remain in Northville, saying the shop is a perfect fit for the downtown. The couple never considered taking the shop somewhere else.

"We're always committed to Northville. We didn't want to leave Northville," Chris Raymond said. "The timing

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



The shop offers dozens of varieties of spices and herbs, displayed on shelves with support columns made of reclaimed wood from homes in the Detroit area.



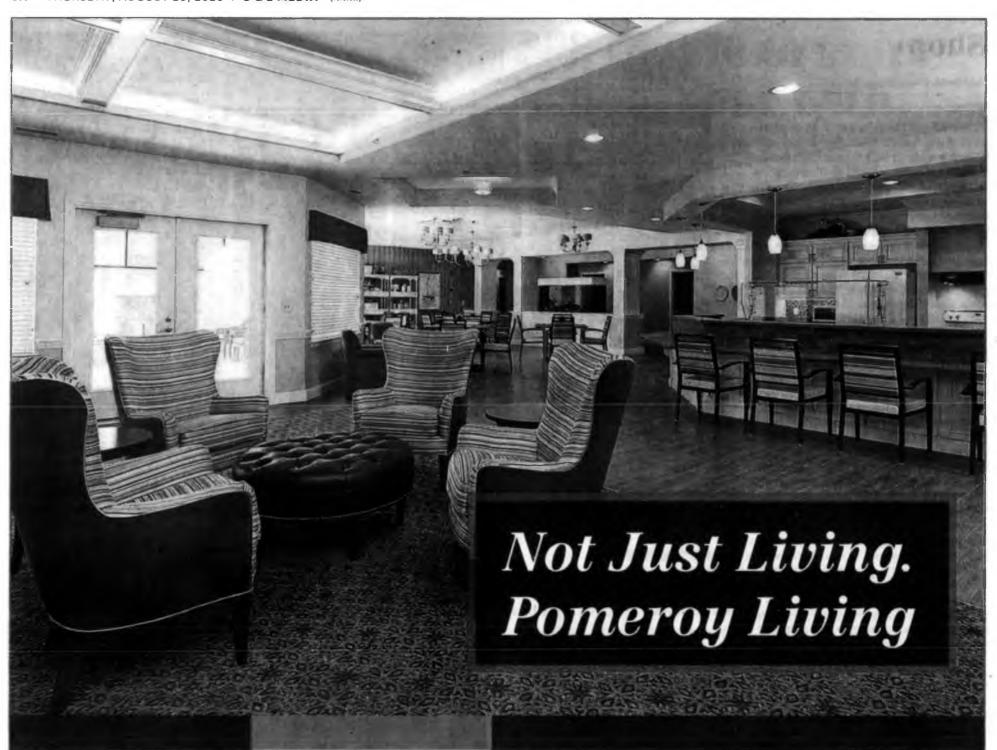
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# **Huron Valley**

Continued from Page 1A

"The (case) numbers have grown since we've been out of school, and yet we're putting students back in an environment where they are exposed to other students and bring it home to family members," she said.

Kristal Tinsler, a mom and also recess and lunch attendant at Oxbow Elementary, disputed an earlier comment in the meeting that students would be able to successfully social distance at

"Kids are very hands on during recess, they do not stay far apart," she said, adding that she finds it difficult to wear a mask for short periods of time at the grocery store and couldn't imagine children wearing theirs for seven hours a day. "It's not normal for kids to wear masks, to carry a shield from class to class, to social distance from friends and they can't hug teachers. It won't feel normal for anybody. I understand trying to give that to kids, but you can't give that to kids right now."

Still, district officials said more than 80 percent of parents wanted face-toface instruction.

Terese Jubenville of Milford advocated in particular for students with special needs.

"Many of these kids face challenges where they can't do virtual learning," she said. "They do not learn well remotely, you need to take in consideration, these are already small classes in size."

Zachary King, who said he is a father of elementary-aged children in Huron Valley and a physician, expressed his frustration "that teachers don't consider themselves essential workers."

"It's a serious condition and we need to treat it seriously, but we're overestimating the dangers for kids," he said.

Emily Crossett noted the challenges of trying to educate children virtually when there is no second parent in home, or both parents work, resulting in a situation where young children attempt to educate themselves.

"We all know this won't end in one or two months, we have to learn to live with this virus that has infiltrated our entire lives," she said. "Our governor has been extremely cautious and if it is not safe, she will not allow them to be in



Muir Middle School teacher Kristin Blanchard, right, leads band class through practice during pre-pandemic life. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

school. Thank you for putting the time in to do what is right."

Board President Tom Wiseman said he has the "utmost faith" in the "balanced" hybrid plan. He noted he has four grandchildren who will attend inperson school in the district this fall and added that while he is concerned about the pandemic, he is also concerned about the emotional well-being of stu-

"This gives students the opportunity to engage with teachers, and teachers with them," he said.

Treasurer Denise Pistana said the board would not make everyone happy, but was trying to do what is best for staff and students.

"More than one person has said, 'I just want my regular life back," she noted. "It's not going to be that. We just have to do what we have to do to get through it."

She believes the pandemic would worsen in October, November and December, accompanied by flu season, and postponing in-person learning would mean a missed opportunity for students and teachers to connect. Instead, she pleaded with parents to do their part.

"It's critical to teach your kids to wear a mask, wash their hands, social distance," Pistana said. "Don't play with the desk partition. You hold the key to keeping everyone safe. If you follow the rules, we make it work. If not, we shut it down... You have three weeks to get kids used to the new normal for as long as it's going to be."

Board Vice-President Sean Carlson, who serves as an Oakland County Deputy Executive, shared that at one point in April, he toured hockey rinks in the county as locations "to put dead bodies because there was no more room in the morgue."

He urged adhering to wearing masks. social distancing and using hand sanitizer, but agreed with the decision to get students back in the classroom, at least

"The mental health of students is important as well and making sure they are having interface with teachers," he said. "I am supporting the hybrid model and the Huron Valley Virtual Academy and encourage families uncomfortable with face-to-face to get their selection of virtual in by Wednesday, close of business this week."

Board Secretary Denise Forrest expressed conflict prior to voting, over safety of students and staff while also acknowledging that not all families have family childcare they can lean on and some people are juggling work and worrying about "where their next meal is coming from."

Reluctantly, she voted in favor of the hybrid plan, adding, "I hope I'm not sor-

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



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# **South Lyon**

Continued from Page 1A

The youngest students would be followed by second through fifth grades about a week later.

The half-day of in-person instruction per week would equate to 25% of students in a classroom at one time. One day per week, all students would be remote.

At an undetermined date, when up to half of students can be allowed to attend in-person school at a time, each group would attend two afternoons a week.

At the secondary level, students will be allowed to attend in-person one full day per week by the sixth week of school, the rest of the days would continue to be remote. The groups are to be determined by last name.

"Over the span of two weeks, students are able to attend in-person for each of their six classes," according to the plan, which shows that the one full day is achieved by two half days of inperson learning.

### Plenty of public comment

The comments submitted by the public, some of which were read by board members, and others which were phoned in, came from parents, students, and staff members alike and ran the gamut:

"As a nurse, I can't imagine how you can avoid COVID. As much as I want to go back to in-person learning, I don't want to risk (students') health and that of the staff."

"Childcare is not an option. Online education does not work for the majority. If we want to send children, we should be able to, we are paying for it."

"I can be a better teacher remotely.
When roads are bad, you call a snow day
for safety. Call a snow day."

"If our athletes can't avoid getting COVID while outside, then they shouldn't be inside (the classroom)."

"If face to face learning begins, it will not be what they expect-- no hugging each other, no high fives, no recess, no lunchtime fun, no excitement about walking to library in hopes of scoring a cool chapter book to read, no giggling at lockers, no assemblies, and students will not receive the love and care they normally get. It breaks my heart virtual

learning will be school again... Have you discussed how they will learn of the death of a teacher, classmate, and whether they will wonder if they were the cause with germs they brought to school?"

"It's astounding the amount of hypocrisy for a board to do virtual meetings, and send kids back to an environment when they can't social distance. Even turning a blind eye to the death of a staff member which will occur, think of a child's death, they are not immune. You can't also ask teachers to be custodial, HAZ mat and mask police."

Nellie Daniels, a South Lyon East High School teacher and type I diabetic, was among those who called in to the meeting, wondering what would happen if she contracted the virus or if her students did and then passed it on to their grandparents.

"If I get it, I will be on a ventilator struggling to survive," she said. "What precautions are taken for teachers like me? I love my job, I love my students, I love teaching, but more than a teacher, I am someone's wife and someone's daughter. The virus doesn't care, but I need you guys to...Please don't ask me to risk my life simply because we wish the virus wasn't here."

The dozens of comments rolled on, including from parents who wondered how they would multi-task with working from home themselves while trying to help kids, or pondered even deeper questions.

"How long will they be in school before they're out again, and they are going to wonder if they are responsible for a parent or grandparent or teacher or friends becoming ill? We can make up missed material, we cant make up the loss of a student's life."

"My wife and I are at work to feed our children. Who is with our 8 year-old? How is this safe and legal?"

The board finally got their chance to speak and ask district administrators about the plan shortly after 1:30 a.m.

Treasurer Craig Dashner sought confirmation that it would be four to six weeks of remote only learning, depending on grade, and then "when the time was right" one day per week in person.

Archibald agreed, saying it would then go to 50% of students in classrooms at a time, and remain there until the state is in phase 5, although he added "forecasting too far is ill-advised. The goal is to get to 50% as quick as we can." Stacy Witt, assistant superintendent for business and finance, said once the district is at 50% of students in the buildings, six feet of social distancing would not be possible in either the hallways or the classrooms. Instead, it could be more like three to four feet between students.

Archibald said the district is not tied down to this plan for the year and districts are trying multiple things.

Dashner pointed out that South Lyon's coronavirus caseload is double that of Novi.

"We are having a local spike, our number went from 25-100 in just a couple days and we are steadily adding two or three cases per day," he said. "That's a big deal. We're between a rock and a hard place."

Trustee Daniel Schwegler asked if the four week delay to in-person school was about getting teachers ready to instruct remotely, or more about waiting to see what the virus was going to do.

Archibald said it was about prepa-

Dashner said the delay, which takes the district to October, might give the board a better idea financially if the budget they passed is good, or if more cuts were needed.

Trustee Jennifer Urtel said the delayed remote start might have another unintended benefit as well — avoiding spread of the virus from people who enjoyed Labor Day festivities.

"If people are going to be sick from those gatherings, let them get it out of their system," she said.

Ultimately, the board voted 6-1 in favor of the plan, with Trustee Randy Clark voting no.

"If we don't start with the hybrid, we are disenfranchising a huge number of our residents," he said. "South Lyon has failed our residents for not preparing better. We are at the tail end of the summer, I'm frustrated we didn't have supplies."

In the board's defense, President Carrie Hanshaw noted they had to hire a new superintendent and Archibald had only been on the job since July 1. She added the district was not unique and other districts weren't returning to in-person learning.

"At this point, this is where we are," she said. "Let's move forward."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.



A rendering of the proposed building planned for a vacant parcel of land off Hudson Drive in the Beck North Corporate Park in Novi.

COURTESY OF THE CITY OF NOVI

# **Building**

Continued from Page 1A

have several companies showing in-

terest in the site.

"We do have several parties interested in it, but no one we can, unfortunately, mention ... right now," he

said.

The commission approved several aspects to the building during its Wednesday virtual meeting, including the preliminary site plan, woodland permit and storm water management

The property has a portion of wetland in the southwest that is part of a protected area, said Lindsay Bell, a planner with the City of Novi.

"The plans will avoid impacts to the wetland area on the site," she said.

Jones said the new building will be another constructed in the corporate park by the company in recent years: he said the Hexagon building nearby was also one of their buildings constructed

The plan received approval with no comments from the public during the public hearing at the meeting, as well as little comment from the planning commission.

"This project is pretty straightforward," said Commissioner John Avdoulos before making a motion for approval. "I think we've got all the departments of the city recommending approval."

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





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# **SPORTS**



# MHSAA moves football season to spring

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

The Michigan High School Athletic Association announced Friday it would move the high school football season to the spring with the remainder of the fall sports continuing as scheduled.

Details for a spring season, including schedules, will be released at a later date, but the MHSAA said it will try and limit overlap between football and traditional spring sports.

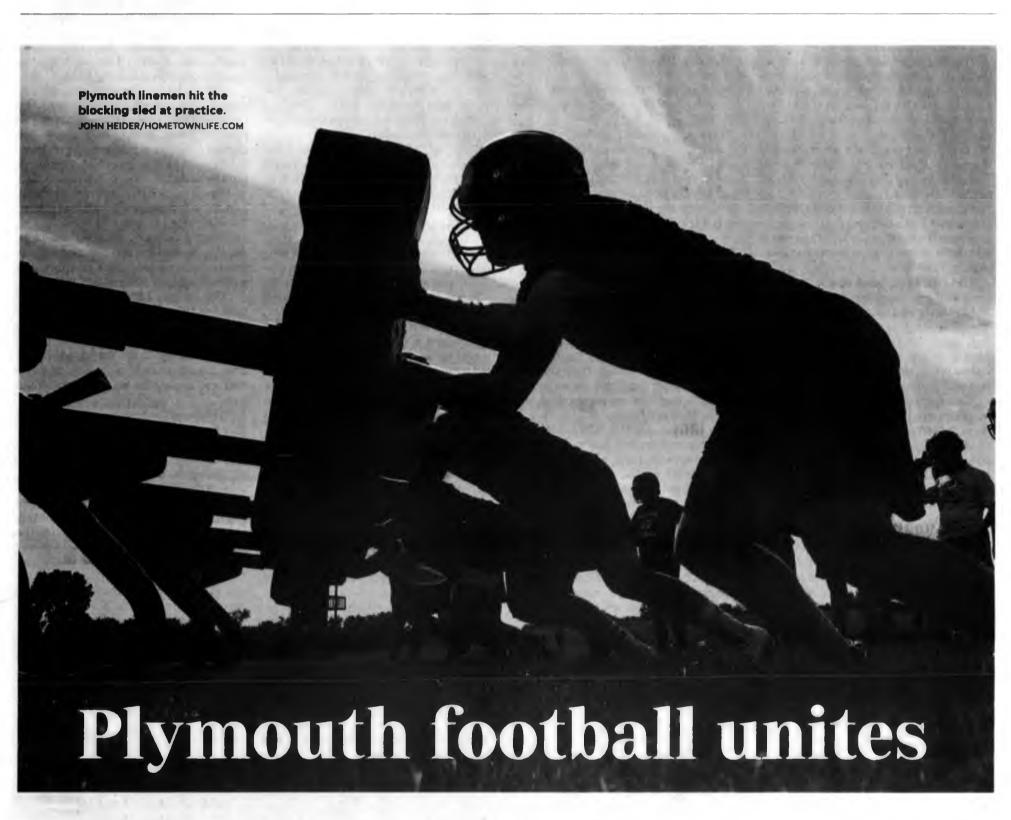
"At the end of the day, we did everything we could to find a path forward for football this fall," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said in the release. "But while continuing to connect with the Governor's office, state health department officials, our member schools' personnel and the Council, there is just too much uncertainty and too many unknowns to play football this fall.

"No one is willing to take the risk of COVID being passed on because of a high-risk sport. Decisions have to be made on our other sports as well, but none of those carry the same close, consistent, and face-to-face contact as football."

The MHSAA said it has decided after surveying member schools after the first four days of practice.

Competition guidelines for volleyball, boys soccer and girls swim and dive was scheduled to be released Aug. 19. Guidance from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office on the use of indoor facilities is expected to be released in the near fu-

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



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

The 2020 season was going to look different for Plymouth football. Head coach Brian Lewis left for Howell with Greg Souldourian taking over the role. But the coronavirus just flipped the Wildcats' season on its head with football delayed to spring.

Offensive and defensive installations were pushed back with Souldourian saying the team is working on things that would have usually been done in late July. Lifting sessions have been pushed outside onto the junior varsity soccer field in the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Players and coaches are wearing gator masks, keeping socially distant through breaks.

remained constant through all the chaos: The Hill.

Right next to the Wildcats' practice field stands a grassy incline with a reputation, one that players from generations past return and say, "I remember that hill."

Souldourian, who has been a part of

But one thing for Plymouth football The Hill as a point of camaraderie, a rallying cry for a group in the midst of uncertainty.

> After the final ascent, players congregated around the head coach, who preached a message of "Why are you here?" to his 2020 varsity team.

No matter if there is a game played

the Plymouth program since 2005, uses See PLYMOUTH, Page 4B

# Nothing seemed normal about football in 2020



Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

High school football in the spring was never meant to happen.

It almost seems as though football

as the leaves changed and the temperature dropped. Football was meant to be played in the times of spooky masks and pumpkin spiced lattes.

Not in 2020.

With the coronavirus turning the world upside down since March, Michigan high school sports were just one measly victim of a sweeping pandemic,

was created for Friday nights in October, shutting down businesses and closing

schools. COVID-19 changed everything.

Even as practices began at the start of August, seemingly pleading for some semblance of normalcy, players and coaches, while doing things they always did — from lifting weights to running appeared to look at it through different

Instead of taking each practice as one step in a long journey to reach the pinnacle of high school football in the state -- hoisting a trophy at the 50-yard line of Ford Field - players and coaches were using language of a fleeting plea-

"We're blessed to say we were able to

See FOOTBALL, Page 5B



# Take an early look at LVC football teams

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

High school football in Michigan has been pushed to spring 2021 due to the coronavirus.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association announced the decision Friday, with decisions on boys soccer and volleyball in the spring still in limbo.

While teams in the Lakes Valley Conference will have to wait longer to see what their teams look like, here is what Lakeland, Milford, South Lyon and South Lyon East could do in the conference come spring.

### Lakeland

Head coach: Joe Woodruff, sixth sea-

2019 record: 7-3, third in LVC Season opener: Aug. 27 vs. Walled

Season outlook: Lakeland has been knocking at the door for the top of the

LVC for the past few seasons under Joe Woodruff. The Eagles won 21 games in each of the past three seasons, allowing less

than 200 points to opposing offenses each of those years, but have finished either third or second in the conference each of those seasons.

"In the last years, we have beaten everyone in the league," Woodruff said. "We just can't figure out a way to do it all at the same time."

But with an offense of mostly returning players and a defense that is eager to continue the tradition of what Lakeland has done in the past, expectations are high to finish first.

The Lakeland head coach said the team will lean on players such as Mike Sherrill, a three-year starter at linebacker and wide receiver; Shane Ells, a fouryear starter at defensive back and running back; and Mark Tingle, a defensive lineman and running back, who Woodruff said had a great off-season.

The Eagles also have its starting quarterback, junior Tate Farquhar, returning next season.

While the off-season has not been a normal one for anyone in the state, Woodruff is preaching to his players there will be a season, there will be football games played. It's not a matter of if,

"We're going to get a chance to play." Woodruff said. "We've got to get as much stuff as we can do now ready, so if icks will have the same 3-3 stack base, they come to us and say, 'We're starting in February,' we've got the majority of our stuff in and we are ready to go.

"We want the season to start more than anyone because we think we can make some noise."



Milford head football coach Garfrey Smith feels like the Mavericks are about ready to break through in his third season at the helm. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

### Milford

Head coach: Garfrey Smith, third

2019 record: 1-8, eighth in LVC Season opener: Aug. 27 vs. Walled Lake Northern

Season outlook: When Garfrey Smith took the head coaching job at Milford, he knew it was going to take some time to find success. Heading into his third season into the rebuilding project, Smith feels like the Mavericks are about ready to break through.

For the first time in Smith's tenure, Milford will have three full-fledged football teams, bringing more than 100 players into summer conditioning.

The varsity team, a group that has only won four games in the past three years, is raring to change the culture.

"They have taken ownership, especially this senior class," Smith said. "They are tired of losing. They are tired of not winning; they have never beaten Lakeland their entire career, and you can see they are tired of it."

On offense, Milford will bring back the same veer look it has used for the past three years, but with more athletic pieces, Smith said, looking to either Billy Sternberg or Brandon Gibson to lead the team at quarterback along with Trevor Lee and Victor Elicerio on the offen-

On defense, Smith said the Maverand will be a key to the team's overall success after allowing more than 300 points to opponents over the past three

seasons. Heading into year three, Smith is beaming with confidence, feeling like Milford should be ready to break through, to surprise the conference.

"To be honest, I feel that we should be more than competitive. We should be able to dominate some games, we should be able to shock the LVC, finally." Smith said. "We wanted to shock them every year. It hasn't happened.

"We feel, with the swagger and the work that our players have put in, we are ready to dominate and be in the top of the LVC."

### South Lyon

Head coach: Jeff Henson, sixth sea-

2019 record: 8-2, second in LVC Season opener: Aug. 27 vs. Walled

Lake Central Season outlook: South Lyon had a

lot of talent in the past two seasons. Led by quarterback Connor Fracassi and wide receiver Brenden Lach, the Lions won 18 of 21 possible games in 2018 and 2019, finishing the season with a

round of the playoffs. "We were very fortunate to have a great group of kids over the last few seasons," South Lyon head coach Jeff Henson said. "Our record indicated it and a lot of those kids moved on to play col-

three-point loss to Fenton in the first

lege football... We had a ton of talent." Henson is excited for whatever the next season looks like He has his whole offensive and defensive lines back, what he refers to as the "nucleus" of the

football team. Henson said he will rely on his linemen — Gus Taylor, Eric and Adam Walrath, Isaac Mccomb and Ryan Schamp - to determine the long-term success of

In terms of skill players, Henson said there are players on offense and defense, such as Evan DeFrank, who will likely play quarterback, Jordan Singleton, the returning starter at running back, and Quinn Fracassi, who have a

Coming off a season where the junior-varsity team won six games and the freshmen team won eight, expectations are still high to sit at the top of the LVC when the season is over.

"We have a lot of really good athletes in our program that we are really excited about and are really improved over the off-season, have grown and have shown really positive and exciting things," Henson said.

### South Lyon East

Head coach: Joe Pesci, seventh sea-

2019 record: 3-6, sixth in LVC Season opener: Aug 27 vs. Waterford

Season outlook: Joe Pesci likes South Lyon East's chances with the amount of players coming back.

After finishing the 2019 season, 3-6, with a sixth-place finish in the LVC, the Cougars have Ayden Oliver returning at running back, Drake Willenborg and Dorian Armstrong returning at wide receiver, and Zander Desenz returning at quarterback.

However, South Lyon East's focus and drive is associated with one player: Trevon Tyler.

Tyler, a junior offensive lineman, died in November after complications from a knee surgery after an injury was suffered against Milford Oct. 2.

"Our seniors especially have a lot to play for this year with the loss of our team member Trevon Tyler back in November," Pesci said. "That's one of the biggest driving forces for our kids right now, for our seniors, to be able to honor him and to play the way that Tre would play.

"They want to have a senior season to play for Tre."

The mindset for Pesci's team is to play as Tyler would have wanted them to: aiming for a league title and to compete in the LVC.

Pesci said the players are focused to get to that point, focused on recording the third non-losing season in the

"They look at the pieces we have, and I think our kids feel pretty good that we are going to be competitive in every game," Pesci said. "We're banking on the right side of the score most of those Friday nights.

cgay@hometownlife.com

# Whether fishing or catching, Michigan is best

**Bill Broderick** 

**Battle Creek Enquirer** 

**USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

With four of the five Great Lakes, rivers, ponds and other bodies of water peppered all over our mitten, there is water seemingly within reach no matter where you cast your line in the state of

Which is why fishing is one of the best things to do in our state and one of my favorite pastimes.

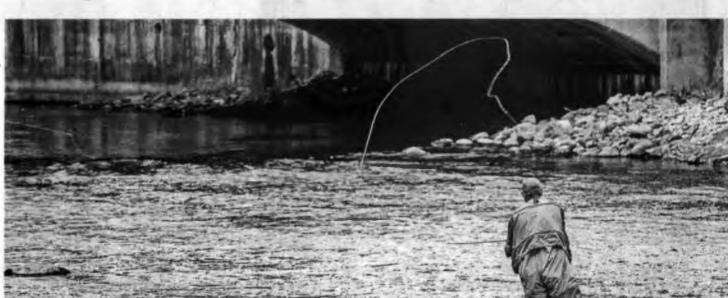
Now, catching is an entirely different thing.

A wise older man on a charter, heading out on Lake Michigan, once told me: "I can promise great fishing today. I didn't say anything about catching."

And that's what keeps anglers throughout the state going out on the water, or standing on the shore, or throwing a bobber and a hook from a bridge. There is always great fishing, and sometimes there is great catching, but those are two very different things. With a rod in your hand and sitting in the boat, you are fishing. But when you actually bring in a fish, then you are catching. But all fans of the activity are always on the prowl for the right combination of both as nothing is promised and nothing is given. Which means the challenge is always there.

Chances are, in this state, fishing and catching will mostly likely go hand in hand. With over 150 species of fish, 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, thousands of miles of rivers and streams and 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan is one of the premier places in the country to fish

Many Michiganders know that, wherever you are in the state, you are never more than six miles from a body of



With over 150 species of fish, 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, thousands of miles of rivers – including the Battle Creek River, shown here - and streams and 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan is one of the premier places in the country for fishing. AL LASSEN/FOR THE ENQUIRER

tackle box and start walking or driving .. chances are you'll be fishing soon.

Growing up, for many of us, it is part of life here. A parent takes a son or daughter out to a local fishing hole, sets their hook for the first time, and shows them how to cast. Then, that young angler has a hobby that they can do for a lifetime and someday, maybe, teach their son or daughter the same thing.

Being from the middle of the state, catching sunfish and bluegill at Graham Lake, or Beadle Lake, as a child is still fresh in my memory. Your lake of choice is probably very similar, a funny-sounding name, plenty of fish to be had, and maybe even more "grass snakes" to get your hook caught on, interrupting your day for a bit while you untangle the

Then, memories race to spending water. So pick a direction, grab your some of my college days killing some

early evening hours after class on the Grand River near Lansing, mostly hooking carp, which didn't help fill the frying pan, but still was fun.

Then there were the best times, after settling in with a family, being on the **Battle Creek River and Kalamazoo River** with my own kids, wondering if they were having even half as much fun fishing as I was watching them.

It was always about enjoying some peace and quality time on the water. But there was always the goal of bringing in that fish that later you can say, I caught one "this big," with hands stretched out wide.

How big? Well several fish caught in Michigan have impressive histories and records that have lasted generations.

According to the state record books, the largest Lake Trout was 61/2 pounds and was hooked in Lake Superior in 1997. The biggest carp was the same 61% pounds and was caught on Wolf Lake in Jackson County. That record has stood since 1974. And there must have been something in the water in 1974, because the record for biggest Lake Sturgeon is 193 pounds, caught on Mullet Lake in Cheboygan County, also in 1974.

I wouldn't expect anything like those fish to come out of the water the next time you throw a line in, but landing a nice 21-inch bass will keep the fish stories going for most of us for a while.

So whether you are fishing, or lucky enough to do some catching, as we play out the rest of the summer and into the fall, be grateful that you get to do both in Michigan - maybe the state best equipped to experience the sport in the

Contact Bill Broderick (269) 966-0678 or bbroderi@battlecreekenquirer.com.

# How does MSU pay for sports without football?

Craig Lyons Lansing State Journal **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

EAST LANSING - Since Michigan State won't play football this fall, the athletics department may be left to find a way to cover some \$80 million in lost revenue.

Football is by far the largest revenue source for MSU athletics, generating upward of \$80 million and accounting for 57% of all the money brought into the department, according to financial disclosures filed with the NCAA for the 2018-19 year.

Indeed, the football program covered its own \$37.3 million budget, leaving another \$42.4 million to fund other athletic programs, records show.

The Big Ten announced Tuesday it will postpone the 2020 football season. citing fears over the spread of the novel coronavirus. The cancellation also affects men's and women's soccer, men's and women's cross country, field hockey, and volleyball.

The Spartan football team just returned to practice last week after a 14day quarantine imposed when athletes and staff tested positive for COVID-19.

Even before the Big Ten canceled the fall playing season, MSU Athletic Director Bill Beekman portended "severe cuts" to athletic programs.

"At this point, we have modeled some fairly severe budget reductions, that probably if we don't play football, we would not be playing most other, maybe all other, sports," Beekman said during a presentation to the Economic Club of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce on Monday. "Men's basketball generates revenue, so I think it becomes an open question."

Decisions are pending, he added.

### Football is MSU's moneymaker

The \$80 million raked in during football season dwarfs the money brought in by other top-earning MSU sports programs. Men's basketball brought in \$26.3 million; women's basketball \$2.1 million; and other sports a combined \$7.2 million. Only football and men's basketball have greater revenue than

An additional roughly \$24.7 million



Michigan State University football players run a drill during their first practice of the season Aug. 1 in East Lansing. AL GOLDIS/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

in revenue is not tied to a particular pro-

Here are the largest sources of the nearly \$80 million in football revenue: • \$34.9 million in media rights from

- the Big Ten Network and other broad-
  - \$19.8 million in ticket sales • \$12 million in contributions to the
- program from donors • \$7.1 million in conference distribu-

tions of bowl-generated revenue MSU athletics ended its 2019 fiscal year with \$4.4 million in surplus funds. MSU is among the Big Ten schools that made money that year, with only Ohio State and Illinois losing money, records

### Football, men's basketball revenues sustain programs

Since football easily covers its own expenses, 53% of the money brought in by football helps support MSU athletics overall, including other sports. Football expenses are 28% of MSU athletics' total operating budget, which is roughly \$135.7 million.

Men's basketball brought in \$26.3

million in 2018-19, covering its \$16.8 million in expenses and contributing \$9.5 million to the department's budget.

And while women's basketball brought in \$2.1 million in revenue, the total program expenses were \$6.3 mil-

The other MSU sports combined generated \$7.2 million in revenue collectively. Those programs cost \$28 million

The NCAA financial filings do not detail revenue for individual sports programs besides football and men's and women's basketball.



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Wildcat running backs practice their footwork during a practice drill Aug.13. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Plymouth High School head football coach Greg Souldourian watches the team.

# **Plymouth**

Continued from Page 1B

this year, the coronavirus has seemingly made this upcoming season more than just snapping or throwing a football.

"It's just a game. At the end of the day, it's just a game," Souldourian said. "Do I want to win? Yeah, I want to win. But we're preparing these guys for once they leave here.

"Belleville is on the clock, and that's important, but, at the end of the day, if we can teach them life lessons through our game, then we are doing our job."

From the first workout, players began to gravitate toward that message. Through outdoor lifting and summer conditioning, a realization hit among players, especially among the senior class, how fragile each and every practice was in 2020

"It kind of makes you realize that we're just all here hanging out with our boys," senior Andrew Uhlian said. "You kind of cherish every practice, every two-a-day, even conditioning on The Hill, you just try to have fun with it because it could get axed. You don't even

know: it could be tomorrow they make an announcement and the season's over."

When senior cornerback Justin McNeil arrived for the first summer conditioning session after a summer of Zoom meetings, his first reaction was one of unbelief

"We were honestly all in awe that there was still a season," McNeil said at the time. "We're blessed to say we were able to play and still see each other and hang out with each other. At first, the first workout, our mindset was down because we knew, 'Wow, our season could be over. This could be it.'

"Day after day, it started getting better and better and we are just all on the same page and getting through it together."

Cenzi Defelici, a senior offensive guard, admitted the "cloud of corona" had been over every lifting session, every offensive walk-through, every run up The Hill.

His mindset, like the rest of the team, had been to slow down, taking it one day at a time, one rep at a time and enjoying it for what it is.

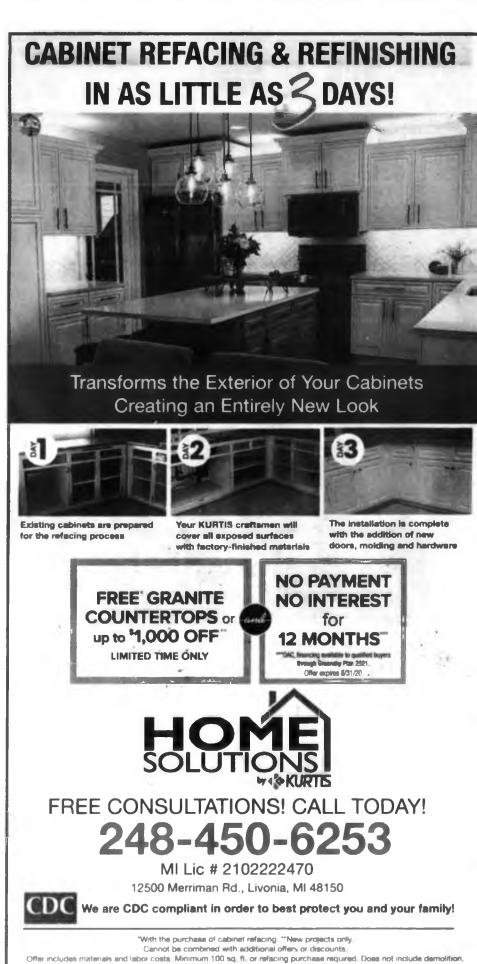
"Being with the football team, there's no bond like that," Defelici said. "When



Plymouth's football team is focused on following up 2019's nine-win season.

you are pushing through hills and conditioning and gassers and lifting, and you do that five days a week all summer, it makes it a lot easier when you have your guys next to you."

Plymouth is focused on what is ahead: following up 2019's nine-win season, considered one of the best in school history, although the team doesn't quite know when that will be.



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Churchill football players begin practice for their hopeful 2020 season Aug. 10. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# **Football**

Continued from Page 1B

play and still see each other and hang out with each other," Plymouth senior cornerback Justin McNeil said.

While the focus on the surface level still seemed to be the standards - getting better each and every day, staying focused on who we will play Week 1 the message was one of reminiscence, one of remembrance.

It's the ideas that come to mind when an alumni returns to their old stomping grounds: remembering the wins, the losses, the friends, the enemies, the speeches heard, the speeches given.

The idea of brotherhood.

Players and coaches saw it coming. They watched as the Big Ten, the Mid-American Conference and the PAC-12 postponed their football seasons. They watched Major League Baseball nearly crumble after coronavirus cases kept teams off the field for weeks.

Players and coaches seemed to be aware that COVID-19 was going to set them back at some point. It seemed inevitable, with some players saying they were surprised to be out on the practice field, to be taking hand offs from quarterbacks.

But the message shifted. The cliche of "treat every practice, every rep like it's your last," became real.

To be honest, high school football in the spring is so unprecedented that I don't see it happening.

There are many questions that remain to be answered:

· Will the virus still factor into football being played in the spring?

 Will athletes who play winter sports be able to play football in a time frame the MHSAA said would be before traditional spring sports begin?

• Is it safe for high school athletes to play a shortened football season in the spring, and then turn around and play a full fall season in 2021 like nothing happened?

I don't know. You don't know. The MHSAA does not know.

It's unprecedented.

Jeff Henson knew those questions would have to be answered. The South Lyon head coach found out the news about the move from fall to spring right as he started the last football practice of the first week of normalcy.

Instead of ending the practice then and there, ending this chapter of the football season and returning the players back to a level of uncertainty, he let them play.

"We thought we would finish up practice today, have a good time with them and then break the news after," Henson said.

Teams across metro Detroit had a chance this week to remember football, to remember those Friday nights in October — this time in the scalding heat of August.

In the spring, if the MHSAA's plan goes without a hitch, players and coaches will have a chance to remember those "Friday nights in October" in March.

High school football was never meant to be played in the spring. But in 2021, I hope it will. cgay@hometownlife.com









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# It's no Dream: Love of cars still real

Spectators, motorists celebrate with 'unofficial' cruise on Woodward Avenue

Adrienne Roberts Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

The 2020 Woodward Dream Cruise may have been canceled, but that didn't stop thousands of spectators and motorists from converging Saturday on Woodward Avenue, from Ferndale to Pontiac, to celebrate cars

Traffic was backed up going north on Woodward in the early afternoon hours with both classic and newer cars, suggesting some attendees were driving along Woodward to observe classics from their own vehicles. Certain areas were filled with spectators, often sitting in the trunks of their cars and in lawn chairs, especially in Royal Oak and Birmingham. Many spectators weren't wearing masks.

Not only was this "unofficial" or "makeshift Dream Cruise," as described by some Twitter users, different because the event was officially canceled. It also became political.

The Oakland County Republican Party said it was holding a MAGA Classic Car Cruise using the Woodward Dream Cruise's normal route from Ferndale to Pontiac.

Oakland County County GOP Chairman Rocky Raczkowski described the event as a way to "make sure that people came out and supported local businesses and infuse a little capital, especially after all the shutdowns and everything that's happened."

He said the event also was intended to show support for local police and fire departments, and the Trump administration.

Not everyone saw it that way.

"It turned into, like, just crazy," said Paul George, coowner of Smoky's Fine Cigars on Woodward in Bloomfield Hills, who was standing outside the shop late Saturday morning, near the start of the MAGA Classic Car Cruise, and where counter-protesters stood.

"It's Trump here, Black Lives Matter here, it's ridiculous," he said. "That's not what it's supposed to be."

In response to the criticism of politicizing the day, Raczkowski said: "Is it illegal for us to put out our First Amendment rights and drive up and down Woodward to support local businesses? We're not trying to take away from the Woodward Dream Cruise."

But he pointed out that the Dream Cruise of years past had become political, using the example of U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., attending the event in prior years.

"That's why you're seeing the people come out and make this political," he said. "Because they've made it political."

A block away from the Oakland County Republican Party's offices, dozens of counter-protesters gathered, holding up anti-Trump signs.

"They took it upon themselves to make it into a political rally instead of a dream cruise that has just been a random, enjoyable event," said Kelsey Oneda, one of the organizers of the MAGA Cruise protest.

But Birmingham Police Chief Mark Clemence said the MAGA rally he was preparing for was "a whole lot of nothing."

"The day could not have gone better," Clemence

said. He had about the same number of police officers out that he would during a normal Dream Cruise, but they didn't end up being needed.

"I'd rather have too many (police officers) than not enough but today went smoother than I thought," he said.



Spectators watch classics and modern vehicles travel on Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

For the most part, spectators did a good job with social distancing, Clemence said, but he would have liked to see more people wearing masks.

"It's not as much as it should be," he said, referring to the percentage of people with masks on.

In Ferndale, there were few spectators sitting on the median compared with the number of people seen at a typical Dream Cruise, said Ferndale Community Engagement Officer Jill Mahlmeister.

"It's a pleasant surprise that there's not a whole lot going on," said Mahlmeister. She expected a crowd this year, although a bit smaller than in previous years. Even that didn't materialize.

"There's only a handful of people out," she said.
For some of those longtime spectators, it was business as usual.

Bob Wolcott and his grandson Ryan McGinnis sat in lawn chairs at their usual spot in front of Pet Supplies Plus along Woodward just north of 12 Mile Road. They've been coming for 26 years, since McGinnis was born.

"You take precautions, wear a face mask and you're outside," said Wolcott, 77. "We try to be safe."

They noticed there was less foot traffic, but thought the traffic and cars seemed similar to years past.

"Not really," said McGinnis in response to a question about if any cars impressed him. "I've seen them all."



Randy Harp of Ferndale poses with his signs as he tries to raise awareness of poverty and fossil fuel consumption on Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak.

# **Obituaries**

## Joanne A. Rackham

RACKHAM JOANNE, A. passed away August 12, 2020 at the age of 89. She was born in Detroit to Harry George and Harriet Amelia (Pagel) Rackham. She was predeceased by her best friend and sister Katherine M. Rackham. She is survived by her cousin Eva (Daniel) Thompson. Joanne resided with her sister in Plymouth, Michigan. She graduated from Northville High School. In the tradition of her great uncle Horace H. Rackham, Joanne proudly served for Ford Motor Company for more than 45 years. Joanne was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Northville and the Order of the Eastern Star 523 Kindness, Redford. She was an avid Michigan Football fan, benefactor of the Detroit Zoological Society, and loved her Chinese Pug, "Winston." In recognition of the dedication, expertise, and compassion of Drs. Alan Sugar and Andrew K. Vine, and in recognition of the University of Michigan's continued dedication to leading-edge scientific research, Joanne established the Joanne A. Rackham and Katherine M. Rackham Visual Science Fund. Services were held Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth. Burial followed at Woodlawn Cemetery, Detroit. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Kellogg Eye Center at -

https://medicine.umich.edu/dept/ophthalmology/giving/ways-give-kellogg-eye-center or make check payable to University of Michigan, The University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center Office of Development, 1000 Wall Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 – 1986



# **Brighton remembers Madison Wegener**

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Brighton is now a little brighter with the addition of a tree and plaque in honor of Madison Wegener.

Madison died in January from pulmonary hypertension. She was 14.

"The Brighton community has been so amazing in lifting us and holding us up. It's comforting for me to know that Madison has a permanent place in the Brighton community," Madison's mother, Cheryl Wegener said.

On Saturday Madison's tree was planted at the Imagination Station, near the Mill Pond, something Cheryl Wegener said Madison would have liked.

"We grew up in the imagination station with the kids for sure," she said.

Several of Madison's friends helped the Wegener family fill in dirt around the newly-planted tree.

Two years ago a tree was planted in honor of a Brighton teen, Darian Locklear, 16, who was killed in a car crash in 2018 on Interstate 96 near Williamston.

Wegener said the community has supported her and her family in the months following Madison's death and came together to purchase Madison's plaque.

She said two Brighton School District teachers, Lisa Geise and Jennifer Parry, spearheaded the effort to raise the \$700 for the plaque.

"A significant amount of teachers donated, some community members... some people, I don't even recognize their names," she said.

Saturday's event was just another example of how the Brighton community rallies and one more step toward closure, Cheryl Wegener said.

"I am just so amazed at what an awesome kid Madison was," she said. "She was so kind to everybody. She advocated for organ donation for years," she said. "I am honored to be her mom."

Cheryl Wegener said Madison saved at least four lives through organ donation.

"I'd like her to be remembered for her kindness, her spirit, her generosity and her smile," she said. "She always eventually found her smile and radiated it to others."



Pastor Brad Tate of the 2|42 Church, left, speaks about Madison Wegener during a tree planting ceremony Aug. 8 near Brighton Mill Pond in honor of the teen, who passed away from pulmonary hypertension in January. Wegener's parents, Cheryl and Robert, stand in the background just past Tate.

GILLIS BENEDICT/
LIVINGSTON DAILY

# Bigger is better in Chevrolet Tahoe

Improvements go beyond size in the 2021 model

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

Big vehicles don't make me nervous. I grew up with them. My father, an engineer, drove a succession of pickups through fields and forests developing agricultural and construction equipment. My mother, 5 feet, 4 inches in heels, was decades ahead of auto industry trends, driving a Suburban - always called it her car, never "the truck" - because of its commanding view of the road.

The Michigan State University School of Journalism asked me to chauffeur visiting editors around campus because I wasn't afraid to drive a 15-passenger Econoline van in a parking structure.

So believe me when I say the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe is big.

Big enough to maintain social distance from the front seats to its newly comfortable third row of seats - more than 6 feet away, by a tape measure stretched nose to nose.

The 2021 Tahoe is 6.7 inches longer than the outgoing model, but size is the tip of the iceberg. Most of the new SUV's improvements are below the surface, including an independent rear suspension that improves the ride, and, more importantly, transforms the third row of seats from an automotive penalty box into a premium perch my passengers wouldn't vacate even after we measured.

The Tahoe - and its even bigger brother, the Suburban – rules the mass-market big SUV market, accounting for nearly 50% of the lucrative segment's sales. Add the upcoming GMC Yukon, and General Motors dominates the segment at around

It's also terrific, establishing itself as the big SUV to beat.

The 2021 Tahoe is arriving in dealerships now.

### **Driving impressions**

I spent a day driving a loaded fourwheel-drive 2021 Tahoe High Country on highways, city streets and country roads. The independent rear suspension provides a remarkably smooth ride. Nicely tuned steering made the massive SUV easy to maneuver.

My top-of-the-line model had an adaptive air suspension and 22-inch alis 8,400 pounds. My 4WD 6.2L was rated loy wheels. It devoured speed bumps like at 8,100. Those ratings use SAE stanbreakfast burritos and was quiet at highway speed.

It was easy to conduct conversations, even with third-row passengers pretending to be in a limo. The comfortable second-row captain's seats make nice foot



2021 Chevrolet Tahoe. MARK PHELAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

rests when folded flat, incidentally. They also slide fore and aft and tip for rear-seat access. Power running boards and adjustable ride height contribute to easy ingress and egress.

The base engine is a 355-horsepower 5.3L V8, but my car had the optional 420hp 6.2L. I had plenty of power for acceleration and cruising.

A smooth, quick 10-speed automatic transmission is standard. The Tahoe uses new shift controls built into the dash at driver's 2 o'clock. Pull-toggles control the commands that set you in motion - reverse and drive - while you press buttons for park and neutral. It's a layout that will probably be second nature in a few days. A rocker switch beneath those controls lets you shift up and

down for trailering, hills, etc. At 14 mpg in the city, 19 mpg on the highway and 16 mpg combined, EPA fuel economy estimates for my 6.2L 4WD High Country trail its direct competitor, a Ford Expedition with a less powerful 375hp twin-turbo V6. GM recommends premium gasoline for spec-sheet power and fuel economy, while Ford's EcoBoost V6 generates its figures with less expensive

The maximum Tahoe towing capacity dards, but I didn't have a chance to tow during my test.

### **Available safety features**

Automatic front and rear braking

- Collision alert
- Pedestrian alert Lane Change alert and assist
- Blind spot and cross-traffic alert
- Parking assist
- Automatic high beams
- Safety alert driver seat

### How much?

Tahoe prices start at \$49,000 for a rear-drive 5.3L model. Adding 4WD raises the tab to \$52,000.

Chevy builds a wide range of models: Six trim levels, three engines and rear- or four-wheel drive. I tested a top of the line High Country. That model starts at \$69,600 for RWD, \$72,600 4WD.

I tested a top of the line 4WD High Country. It stickered at \$80,550.

Tahoe prices compare favorably to the Ford Expedition, its only serious compe-

All prices exclude destination charges. Features on my vehicle included:

- Adaptive cruise control
- Twin rear-seat video/touch screens
- 10-speaker Bose audio Head-up display
- 10.2-inch touch screen
- Navigation
- Voice recognition and Bluetooth
- Apple CarPlay Android Auto
- Wireless charging Wireless CarPlay and Android auto
- 22-inch silver-painted wheels
- Hill descent control Trailering kit

- Panoramic sunroof
- Two-speed transfer case • Adaptive air suspension
- Power running boards
- Sliding center console
- Surround-view cameras
- Digital rearview mirror
- Trailer hitch guidance

### For \$80G, I'd expect real wood

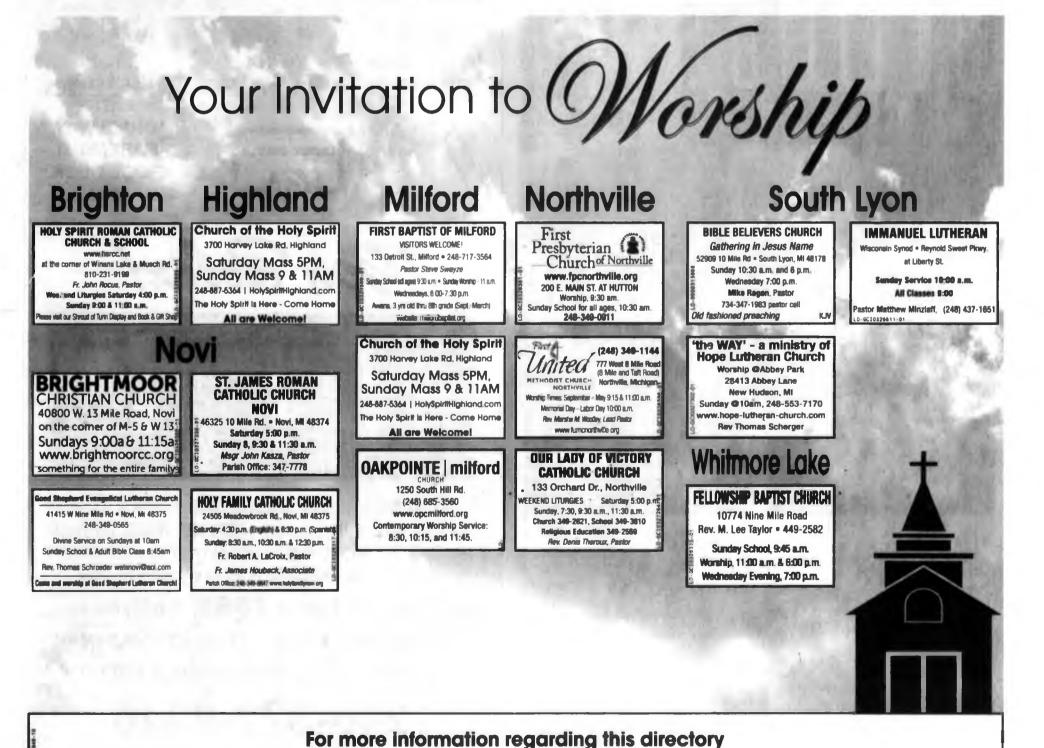
The Tahoe High Country's interior sets a new standard for Chevy trucks, with leather seats, soft materials and industry-leading controls and connectiv-

Climate, audio and navigation controls are refreshingly easy to use, with a combination of voice recognition, 10.2inch touch screen, and most important, buttons and dials for frequently used audio and climate settings.

You might ask what more a person could ask for if you'd never been in Ford Expedition King Ranch or Platinum, or even a Ram Laramie Longhorn pickup. They have unexpected design flourishes, like the Ram's hand-branded wood trim and saddle bag-style map pockets.

In that context, the Tahoe's faux wood trim seems like a glaring omission, undermining the interior's virtues: space, comfort and generally attractive and appealing materials.

The Tahoe's interior does have plenty of appealing features, including a panoramic sun roof and a motorized storage bin in the center console that slides back for access by second-row passengers.



Elizabeth Andolina at EAndolina@gannett.com

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# **CROSSWORD PUZZLER**

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# SUDOKU

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku puzzies 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!

U W 0 U Y H M L A S A C D C R V R O B E R MLASAFIEF

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

# **WORDS**

**AUSTEN** BROWN CHRISTIE DAHL **FAULKNER FITZGERALD GRISHAM HEMINGWAY** KING **KOONTZ** LEE MARTIN **MORRISON NABOKOV** ORWELL **PATTERSON ROBERTS** ROWLING **SEUSS** 

STEEL **STEINBECK** STINE

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