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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Novi keeps in-person school as others drop out

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Maintaining, or even starting, in-person instruction has been a problem for a majority of the 28 public school districts in Oakland County during the pandemic.

Locally, there is one exception: Novi. Still, parents want more.

During a Nov. 23 school board meeting, Treasurer Kathy Hood noted most of the comments district officials have received are from parents who support sending students back to school on a full-time basis.

"It is really hard to think about mandating that we bring our kids back full-time, five days a week, eliminating social distancing, when every other public

district is going in the opposite direction," she said. "Many districts around us have gone full virtual for the foreseeable future."

A motion to continue with Superintendent Steve Matthews' recommendation of two days per week in-person instruction until the county's pandemic risk level improves failed by a 4-3 vote at that meeting.

The board was scheduled to meet in a virtual workshop session Tuesday to formulate a plan for next semester.

Continued hybrid plan

Novi started the 2020-21 school year Sept. 8 with a hybrid plan that offers two

See **NOVI**, Page 8A



Children still have opportunities to visit Santa this year, but protocols will be a bit different. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Bring a mask when visiting Santa this year

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Add a face mask to the red suit and floppy hat for ol' Kriss Kringle this year. Despite a world that looks incredibly different this holiday season, Santa Claus will still make himself available across the region to children seeking gift requests this year.

Many of the area malls will bring Santa back this holiday season, though it looks plenty different than years past. Santa's Flight Academy returned to Twelve Oaks Mall with a contactless option Friday a little later than in previous years.

Santa will hold court in his usual spot in the center of the mall and don a face covering when meeting socially-dis-

tanced with visiting boys and girls. Visits are by appointment and can be made online at shoptwelveoaks.com/pages/sfa.

Kelsey Kiefer, marketing specialist for the mall at 27500 Novi Road in Novi, said it was important to find a way to bring Santa to the mall this year.

See **SANTA**, Page 8A

Group aims to reopen Milford Cinema

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A group of Milford-area residents want to bring the movies back to the west Oakland County village.

The Huron Valley Film Organization plans to resurrect the Milford Cinema, which closed during the COVID-19 shut-

down earlier this year, and run it as an independent movie theater.

"We started hearing in March, April that the theater might not be reopening," board member Rich Trice said. "We started looking at it as a nonprofit."

The theater, located in the shopping center at 945 E. Summit, has been in the same space for decades, and the new or-

ganization created this year hopes to keep it there. After discussions among several members of the community, the board formed. Its members meet on a regular basis to talk about reopening the movie theater as the Milford Independent Cinema.

See **CINEMA**, Page 8A

Culver's Restaurant plan moves forward in Lyon Twp.

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Lovers of ButterBurgers and frozen custard may have something more to be grateful for this Thanksgiving season: A Culver's Restaurant could be coming soon to Lyon Township.

The planning commission unanimously approved a site plan Nov. 23 for the fast food restaurant, contingent on a special land use which the commission is recommending to the township board.

If the board approves the special land use needed for the drive-thru applicant Charles Paisley wants, the restaurant will go in at 22700 Pontiac Trail.

The site was chosen last year by Burger King, which abandoned its plan without apparent reason.

Paisley said he appreciated the planning commission entertaining the idea for a Culver's in Lyon Township, which will be his sixth franchise location. He also owns Culver's franchises in Wixom, Howell, Brighton, Ann Arbor and Sterling Heights.

Two Lyon residents who would be neighbors of the restaurant spoke regarding the public hearing portion of the meeting, with Richard Grieves noting the business hours were far better than Burger King. He wanted assurance that ingress and egress would be on Pontiac Trail only, not from Kay Street, and requested a brick masonry wall and additional landscaping to reflect noise to Pontiac Trail rather than residential areas to the rear of the property.

Vaughn Priebe said he was concerned about the noise, as well as other factors possibly affecting his property, including a dumpster that would be a grease trap with accompanying odors; light pollution; and potential for additional crime.

The planning commissioners expressed enthusiasm for Culver's, with several noting they have frequented other locations.

Commissioner Patty Carcone noted the Pontiac Trail property had been

See **CULVER'S**, Page 8A

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Southeast Michigan Auto Show postponed

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Southeast Michigan Auto Show, which held its debut event this past January, will not take place this January as originally planned, according to a news release sent out by the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, which hosts the event.

"The overwhelming enthusiasm for continuing the event and building on last year's great experience was ultimately offset by the current conditions and needing to make sure there was an appropriate amount of time to plan," Blair Bowman, manager of the convention center, said in the release. "We will be considering available options within the event schedule at Suburban Collection Showplace and if we are able to find an open date at a more appropriate time

we are very interested in hosting the 2021 Southeast Michigan Auto Show. If we are unable to do so, we of course are very much looking forward to the 2022 event."

The Southeast Michigan Auto Show is a new car show that featured several makes and models of vehicles and had activities for the family.

The show began in January as a way to continue holding an auto show in metro Detroit in winter: the North American International Auto Show, which is typically held at TCF Center in downtown Detroit, was originally moved to the summer months before also being canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NAIAS is expected to return in Sept. 2021.

If the Southeast Michigan Auto Show does find a way to be held at the Suburban Collection Showplace at 46100



The Southeast Michigan Auto Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace has been postponed. COURTESY OF THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN AUTO SHOW

Grand River, it would have plenty of safety protocols to help keep guests safe, according to the release. An increased area floor plan would allow

greater social distancing with guests and increased sanitation during the day and after each day of the event.

The pandemic has essentially ceased much of the public activity at the convention center the past several months due to restrictions on gatherings of people. Part of the center served as a field hospital to treat COVID-19 patients in the spring when hospitalizations spiked across metro Detroit. That field hospital closed in June after treating 16 patients. The State of Michigan signed another contract this fall to keep the center as a potential field hospital through the end of the year, though it has not been reactivated.

In addition to serving as a COVID-19 field hospital, the convention center also hosted Eric Trump for a campaign rally supporting President Donald Trump's reelection efforts in October.

hometownlife.com

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How to handle large donations



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

I am 62 and divorced. As part of the divorce settlement, I received a portion of my ex-husband's pension which I will begin to receive next year.

I plan to retire in three years. My portion of the pension will cover all my needs and more. Because I won't need the money, I plan to take Social Security when I am 70 and I won't touch my IRA and 401(k) until I'm 72. I have nearly \$750,000 between my 401(k) and IRA. Outside of the IRA, I have about \$50,000.

I would like to make a \$200,000 contribution from my IRA to a charity that has been hurt by the COVID-19 crisis. The woman who does my taxes told me it would cost me a lot in taxes. She recommends that I stagger the distributions over a seven-year period.

What do you think? I'm hoping you can give me a better alternative.

L. H.

Dear L. H.:

Normally, your tax preparer would be correct. The \$200,000 withdraw from your IRA would be fully taxed to you, which would put you in a higher tax bracket. In addition, the amount you can deduct in cash contributions is limited.

However, in March Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The bill contained a variety of measures to combat the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

One of the provisions was designed to encourage individuals and corporations to increase their charitable giving. As a result, for 2020 you can now take a charitable contribution up to 100 percent of your adjusted gross income. Therefore, for this year, you can take cash distribution from your IRA and donate that cash to a charity and have it fully deductible. As a result, you will be able to offset any taxes from the IRA withdrawal.

Under the legislation, a new universal deduction for charitable contributions was also created. This deduction is for taxpayers who do not itemize their deductions, which is about 70 percent of Americans. Under this provision, you can now deduct up to \$300 in cash charitable contributions.

Never give to a charity before you've done your research on the organization. One website I use in doing my research is www.charitynavigator.org.

Be careful, and don't let emotions dictate your actions. Your initial instinct should be to research the charity, so you can make an informed decision, not one based on your emotions. It's up to you and me to make sure scammers are not successful.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor.

Cool Yule, South Lyon Eve canceled

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Cool Yule and South Lyon Eve are the most recent cancellations in a string of COVID-19 event casualties.

South Lyon Downtown Development Authority Director Nathan Mack announced the cancellation of the early December event due to "concern regarding COVID-19 and its growth over the last 30 days."

Mack noted that event organizers were unable to guarantee the health and safety of the community due to "the current situation with the pandemic," even as he recognized the significant impact the cancellation would have on small businesses and city partners that rely on the additional revenue the event normally brings.

South Lyon Eve is also canceled. The New Year's Eve party which featured a lighted ball drop at midnight, as well as live music, drew several hundred people last year.

Cool Yule, typically held the first Saturday in December, includes a lighted parade, tree lighting ceremony, holiday market vendors, Santa and reindeer and much more. About 8,000 people gathered for the event last year.

Mack and the DDA "encourage residents to celebrate the holidays this year by doing so safely."

Mack added that a Snowflake Scavenger Hunt will reward prizes to participants who find snowflakes in the windows of downtown businesses.

"Due to the vaccine and what they are saying with distribution ... we are hoping we can have these events next year," Mack said.

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

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Northville Public Schools - Northville High School 2021 Tennis Court Reconstruction & Baseball Improvements

Project Description: The Northville Public School District's Board of Education is accepting bids to provide renovations to the Northville High School Tennis Courts. Proposed work includes sitework, concrete, baseball equipment, fencing and acrylic surface.

Architect & Project Contact: Foresite Design, Inc.
3269 Coolidge Highway
Berkley, MI 48072
(248) 547-7757
Michael Sims mike@foresitedesign.com
Questions addressed ONLY to Foresite Design during Bidding Period. Failure to follow instruction may lead to rejection of Bid. Use Clarification Form Section 01 2819.

Bid Documents: Bid Documents including Bid Forms will be posted to Buildingconnected.com, use the following link to obtain: <https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5cc9d7f637c1a90018cb55dc>. Bid Documents may also be obtained from local plan rooms (GRBX, CAM, etc.).
Bid Documents will be available on or after November 30, 2020

Non-Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Walkthrough is scheduled for 3:00 pm local time on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at Northville High School starting at the Front Doors.

Bid Due Date: 1:00 pm local time, Thursday December 17, 2020. Sealed bids should be submitted through Buildingconnected.com with the following link: <https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5cc9d7f637c1a90018cb55dc>. No physical bids will be accepted in person or via delivery service. The District will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified for bid submission.

Public Bid Opening: Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read immediately following the close of receiving bids with the following virtual meeting link: meet.google.com/mvf-giwq-ggb. No oral, e-mail, telephonic or telegraphic proposals shall be considered.

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

Bid Bond: A Bid Bond executed by a Treasury listed surety company acceptable to the Northville Public School District or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal shall be submitted with Bid. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days.

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

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

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

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

Publish: December 03, 2020

LO-0000357900 3x10

SECTION 00 1113 - ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

DATE: November 24, 2020
PROJECT: Novi Community School District
Secure Entries and Renovations Technology
Bid Package No. 2
Novi, Michigan
OWNER: Novi Community School District
25345 Taft Road
Novi, Michigan 48374
ENGINEERING/ TECHNOLOGY DESIGNER: Integrated Design Solutions, LLC
Architecture, Engineering, Interiors & Technology
1441 W. Long Lake, Suite 200
Troy, MI 48068
(248) 823-2100
(248) 823-2200 fax
BIDS RECEIVED: Until 2:30 PM local time on Thursday, December 17, 2020 the Owner will receive sealed Bids for the work as set forth in the Bidding Documents at:
Attention: Greg McIntyre
Novi Community School District
25345 Taft Road
Novi, Michigan 48374

On Thursday December 17 at 3:00 pm all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A bid tabulation summary will be available. Due to state-wide COVID-19 restrictions, in-person attendance at the bid opening will be limited to NCSD and IDS staff. Remote attendance will be available via a Zoom meeting accessed at <https://bit.ly/NCSD-19244-1000-BP02-Opening>

The Bidding Documents will be on file on and after Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

The Engineering/Technology Designer will furnish electronic documents to the Bidders. The documents may be downloaded from: <http://cloud.ids-troy.com/bids/bids/novi/SecureEntryRenovations>. Bidders are responsible to check the website from time to time to verify they have all addenda, requests for information and other documents related to the Bid.

The Bid must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Familial Relationship Disclosure Statement. The Board of Education will not accept a Bid that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement.

A pre-bid conference is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 2:00 pm local time. Bidders shall meet online via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/NCSD-19244-1000-BP02-PreBid>. Building walk-through will be conducted on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 8:00 am local time. Bidders shall meet in the parking lot at Village Oaks Elementary School, 23333 Willowbrook, Novi, MI 48375

Additional building walk-throughs, if required, shall be coordinated with the Engineer/Technology Designer.

END OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Publish: December 3, 2020

LO-0000357900 3x10

PCCS educator battles long-term effects of COVID-19

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Before the latter stages of summer arrived, Kate Hondorp was a whirlwind of productive energy.

A highly-respected Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teacher for the past 23 years (the first 20 at Tonda Elementary School, the last three at Pioneer Middle School), Hondorp was a motivating educator, relentless problem-solver and loving caretaker for her family — husband Steve, and sons Ryan and Jack — and the hundreds of students she taught and nurtured.

"I was especially looking forward to this school year because I was going to get a chance to teach a group of eighth-grade students who I had in my class as third-graders at Tonda," she said, sighing.

Downtime was rare for Hondorp, who participated in five-nights-a-week yoga classes, walked and jogged regularly — joyfully finding purpose in every minute of every day.

"I rarely, if ever, watched TV," she added. "I enjoyed cooking for my family when I returned home from school. Before I went to bed, I'd figure out what my lesson plans for the next day would be."

When Hondorp's head hit the pillow each night, she slept well.

On Aug. 29 — five days after first experiencing a series of unusually intense headaches — Hondorp's idyllic life morphed into a nightmare. That was the day she tested positive for COVID-19; a seemingly mild case at the time, minus the troublesome breathing some victims endure, with no hospitalizations required.

"School was getting ready to start, so I figured the headaches were caused by stress," she said. "I thought I could power through them like I have in the past, and that I'd be fine. Reflecting back now, though, I realize they were probably the start of the acute COVID stage."

Little did Hondorp know, the virus had invaded her sharp-as-a-tack brain, leaving the 48-year-old teaching superstar incapable of calculating even the simplest of math equations and limiting her exercise activities to a few steps, before fatigue forced her to rest.

A return to teaching was put on hold.

"At one of my neurology appointments, the doctor



Kate Hondorp is pictured during her tenure as a teacher at Tonda Elementary School in Canton.

SUBMITTED

asked me what 70 minus seven was," Hondorp shared. "I thought to myself, 'Oh, that's easy. Seventy minus five is 65 so 70 minus seven is ...' then I asked the doctor, 'What was the question again?' I couldn't read more than three paragraphs at a time ... it was really bad."

"Physically, I'd get winded just walking down stairs. I couldn't walk to the end of my block any more without having to rest. Just a few weeks before, I was walking and running two miles. A couple of times I considered going to the emergency room because I honestly thought I was having a stroke or a heart attack."

Hondorp's physician limited their interactions to virtual calls due to strict COVID-19 social-distancing protocols in place.

"That was frustrating because I needed her to see my heart rate, take my blood pressure, which would shoot up even when I was sitting down," she said. "I even had my husband sit in on the virtual meetings with me so he could tell the doctor I wasn't exaggerating; I wasn't making this stuff up."

Following six weeks of enduring debilitating symptoms — relentless dizziness, lightheadedness, blurred vision and a serious case of brain fog — a series of medical tests (MRIs, EKGs and a heart echocardiogram) proved Hondorp's post-COVID symptoms were neurological in nature.

"The good news was, I hadn't had a stroke," she said. "The bad news was that the virus had attacked my brain."

"At first, I'd think back to all the things I used to be able to do; then I'd try to set a timetable as to when I was going to return to normal, like, 'Oh, I'll be fine in a couple of weeks.' But my neurologist explained to me that was the worst thing I could do because it taxes the brain. I have to focus on living in the moment, not looking back or ahead."

As of mid-November, there was no quick-fix light at the end of Hondorp's COVID-19 tunnel; only occupational and physical therapy sessions several times a week that doctors hope will retrain her brain so she can return to leading a normal, productive life.

Hondorp has returned to driving following a multi-month hiatus, but the length of her trips is limited.

"My life is like a rollercoaster now; I have good and bad days," she revealed. "Last week was my husband's 50th birthday, so I wanted to do something special for him because he's been my rock through this."

"I decided to drive a few blocks to downtown Plymouth and stop at a few places to pick up some things for his birthday. When I got downtown, I couldn't remember where I was going, so I had to pull into a church parking lot and sit there for a half hour to get my thoughts together."

"I miss the simple things in life: walking more than a block, driving to pick up my kids, going to the grocery store. I miss teaching incredibly. I want to get back in the classroom."

Hondorp became emotional when discussing the support she has received from school colleagues, both present and past.

"I can't tell you how many meals they've made for my family, how many encouraging cards they mail us, the gift cards to restaurants ... it's just overwhelming," she said. "It's heartwarming to know there are so many kind, caring people out there."

COVID-19 Q&A

I tested positive, how long will I be contagious?

Krystal Nurse

Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

If you test positive for COVID-19, how long will you be contagious?

Someone's ability to potentially infect others with the virus varies. It's difficult to measure because people experience symptoms differently, and the onset of symptoms changes a person's contagion level.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention breaks it down for those who have symptoms, and those who don't have symptoms but did test positive.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms

The CDC advises that a person with a positive test who has symptoms can be around others 10 days after the symptoms first appeared as long as they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours and all other COVID-19 symptoms have improved.

For example, if coughing and aches both alleviate, symptoms would be improved, but not if the cough subsides and the aches worsen.

"You are also contagious 48 hours before onset of symptoms ... and will remain contagious throughout the quarantine period," said Linda Vail, Ingham County health officer.

COVID-19 symptoms

The CDC advises that asymptomatic people can be around others 10 days following their positive test.

could include cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, fever, runny nose or congestion, sneezing, sore throat, headache, muscle or body aches, fatigue, vomiting or nausea, diarrhea.

New loss of taste or smell is also a symptom, but the CDC says the return of those senses may take weeks for some people and need not delay resumption of activities.

If you don't have COVID-19 symptoms but tested positive

The CDC advises that asymptomatic people can be around others 10 days following their positive test.

The agency also advises that most health care providers will make recommendations on when to resume daily activities if they are asymptomatic.

Should you test to prove you are negative?

Vail said getting a second test for a negative result is not necessary.

The process of someone testing until they no longer test positive for COVID-19 could use test capacity beyond the limits.

Vail said if people were to excessively test themselves, it would force the county to prioritize testing.

Also, people using the testing system to justify attending gatherings is not effective either.

"There is no way to know if someone tested negative yesterday or the day before," Vail said. "We have to quit wasting our testing resources to test to go to a party, test for a gathering, and to test until you test negative."



NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL VACANCY CITY OF NOVI

Notice is hereby given of a vacancy on the Novi City Council. If you are interested in applying for appointment for the term ending in November 2021, please complete an application for Boards and Commissions at www.cityofnovi.org. Submit your completed application to the City Clerk's office, 45175 Ten Mile, Novi, MI 48375, by email to chanson@cityofnovi.org, or by fax 248-347-0577. The deadline for submission of applications is Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 4 p.m.

Cortney Hanson, CMC, MiPMC II
City Clerk

Publish: December 3, 2020

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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, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. on the Zoom Video Conference electronic meeting platform to consider **LOT 65, VALENCIA ESTATES SOUTH, PWD20-0011 FOR A WOODLAND PERMIT APPROVAL**. The subject property totals approximately 0.30 acres and is located at 47541 Villa Terrace Court, south of Ten Mile Road, west of Beck Road (Section 29). The subject property is zoned R-3 (One-Family Residential) with a PRO Agreement. The applicant is requesting to remove 11 regulated woodland trees in order to construct a single-family residential structure on the lot.

Plans are available for review by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbride@cityofnovi.org



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-29-227-055

Special Instructions for Remote Meeting Procedure:

NOTE: THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, MCL 15.261, ET SEQ. AS AMENDED. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE ELECTRONICALLY AS DESCRIBED BELOW.

In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the City may be utilizing the video/audio conferencing platform ZOOM to conduct the December 9, 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 www.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 unmuted 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 sent prior to 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. The electronic form can be found at: www.cityofnovi.org/pccomment

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: December 3, 2020

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History teacher hunting Bigfoot

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

By day, Jim Sherman deals in facts as a Birmingham Groves High School history teacher.

But in his free time he hunts the elusive, some would say mythical, creature known as Bigfoot.

Sherman, 50, has followed this quest, which often takes him into the forests of the Upper Peninsula, for more than three decades. Now, he is taking it to the next level, with "Bigfoot Hunters," a Roku video blog channel.

"If you are weird, and interested in looking into things that aren't supposed to be out there, other people's experiences with crazy things in the woods that aren't supposed to happen, this is where to look," Sherman said of the channel which currently has five video compilations. "I try to apply as much science to the research as possible."

The path that led to an extraordinary obsession with Sasquatch began when Sherman was still in fourth grade. He was fascinated by not only the idea of Bigfoot, but anything "scary" or supernatural — including ghosts, the Loch Ness monster, and UFOs.

"The funny thing is, it's cool and exciting when you're young, and then you let it go," Sherman said. "I stopped paying attention, because number one — I grew up and thought, 'I should probably go to college.'"

He set aside the childish fantasies, matured and did indeed go off to college. But not far into his higher education, he had an experience he couldn't explain while camping with his father in the Upper Peninsula.

Over the course of three nights, he heard sounds outside the tent of something he identified as big "bipedal," walking on two legs. Having grown up hunting, Sherman said he knew the sounds of critters normally found in the woods, and knows that deer can also sound bipedal, but "this was different."

From inside the tent, Sherman heard things being thrown about outside, and the creature even touched the tent. When he reached up to swat it away, Sherman thought he would be hitting a bear snout, but instead felt what he de-



Jim Sherman has gone into the woods, sometimes in Michigan, with this digital recorder to make recordings of animals that he shares with other groups as they try to determine what may be out there. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

scribed as a "really big hand" which pressed against the side of the tent.

"It made a harrumph noise, and then it walked away," Sherman said. "A bear would have run off like a freight train, but this walked away... I never looked out, I was scared to death."

Sherman said the logical person in him knew it was not a bear, which without opposable thumbs could not throw objects. He reasoned that it had to be a person, but wondered why would someone mess with his tent and throw things?

The mystery continued the next night, getting even stranger. While whatever it was never approached as close to the tent as it did the previous night, it commenced to shaking trees, Sherman said, making "an unbelievable noise." By the third night of this, Sherman told his Dad they had to go.

"It so freaked me out that I was un-

comfortable hunting, I couldn't hunt anymore," he said. "I was just afraid of the woods."

For a dozen years after, Sherman avoided secluded forests where legend has it Bigfoot lurks. But when he was about 30, he decided to face his fears and embrace his natural curiosity. He did that by research—seeking others who had similar experiences.

He also joined the Bigfoot Field Researchers Organization, which was founded in 1995 and whose members have a mission "to resolve the mystery surrounding the bigfoot phenomenon, that is, to derive conclusive documentation of the species' existence," which is done through seeking the large primates in forested regions. According to the group's website, numerous sightings have occurred and are mapped in locations across North America.

Sherman has been leading expedi-

tions in search of Bigfoot (or Bigfeet, as he observes there is multiple in the species) for the past decade, and is "absolutely hooked."

The expeditions feature all the things he normally enjoys—hiking, camping, stories around the campfire, and research.

"Once you get the Bigfoot bug, it's hard to get rid of it, because it is exciting," he said. "There's so much weirdness out there."

As an investigator, Sherman is a contact person for others who have claimed Bigfoot sightings. In his conversations with them, he said he first must "verify they aren't a lunatic," which has ended some conversations early, including those purporting to have seen unicorns.

Sherman says as a high school history teacher, he has a "pretty good BS detector" and can tell if someone is just parroting things they saw on a television show, one of which he has appeared on himself—"Finding Bigfoot" on Animal Planet. He listens to them, putting more trust in those who, like himself, aren't quite sure about what they experienced and have skepticism.

"The idea of a Bigfoot is awesome—an elusive, huge, hairy creature evading people for millennium," Sherman said. "Will I ever find it? I don't know. The idea across cultures, a wild man, is fascinating."

So Sherman leads, or follows, other like-minded individuals into the woods, most often in the Upper Peninsula. He won't disclose an exact location for fear of a stampede of tourists ruining it. Like a favorite fishing spot, it's a secret, he says. On these expeditions, he uses audio recordings and teaches others to identify common woodland noises, such as the sounds made by owls, martens, porcupines and more. He shows people how to cast a footprint they discover without tainting it.

To date, his most convincing personal piece of evidence, apart from the experience in the tent as a child, has been scary growling and howling he has heard and could not identify to anything known to him, and on multiple occasions in the UP, seeing "a single red eye," at a height of about 7 feet, which fled when approached.

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Family Medicine



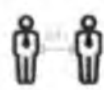
We're pleased to introduce patients to Dr. McKenna

Matthew J. McKenna, MD, is board certified in family medicine. Dr. McKenna attended medical school at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in East Lansing, Michigan. He completed his residency in family medicine at Michigan State University in Flint, Michigan.

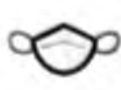
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NOVEMBER 2020

30 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 11.5

YOUR ESTATE PLAN IS DOOMED

WHAT EVERYBODY KNOWS AND NO ONE WILL TELL YOU

WHY YOUR TRUST WILL FAIL

THE SECRET HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT

WHY PEOPLE DO ESTATE PLANNING

Nobody likes estate planning. Estate planning is like castor oil when you were a kid. You had to take it. It was supposed to be good for you. Not sure how or why. But it was unpleasant.

Like insurance, but worse. With insurance, you must have coverage. Just in case. Same with estate planning. You do not want to, you are not sure why you have to, but you must.

If you are like most folks, you do the estate planning because:

1. You have stuff now. House, money, investments.
2. You know you will die. At some point.
3. You think you will have some leftover stuff when you die.
4. You like some people. Spouse. Kids. Friends. Charities.
5. You do not want the government to get your stuff.
6. You want the people you like to get your stuff. Because why not?

Has anyone told you that you are likely to die without stuff? Without leftovers. Has anyone told you that long-term care will drain you dry? If there are no leftovers, why bother? Now you know. Consider yourself told.

DEATH IS NOT THE PROBLEM

Some folks believe we will all pass over the Great Divide to the Other Side. Glorious! Other folks hold that sooner or later the organic metabolism that makes up your consciousness will cease and that will be that. Food for worms and nothing more. There are many variations on this basic theme.

Death is not your main problem. Those who survive you will figure out what to do with your remains. And whatever is left of your stuff. This can be done well or poorly. Mostly poorly.

Great families make great plans. Truth to tell, it is not that hard to do it right. But you are not going to see it anyway. Not really your primary problem.

LIFE IS THE PROBLEM

In the Army, I often heard (and often repeated) that, "There are no problems, just opportunities to excel!" Your life is your opportunity. And middle-class folks like you tend to make the most of the gift. That is great. You are independent. You did the work. You get to make choices. Until you cannot.

If you are like most people, you think that tomorrow will be like today. Pretty much. You handled things today. You will handle things tomorrow. And the next day. And the next. But that is not accurate. For most of us, at some point, we will not be able to carry on as we have. That is the castor-oil reality. And most estate planning has nothing, zero, zip, zilch to help you deal with this new, inevitable situation.

LIFEPLANNING™ IS THE SOLUTION

LifePlanning™ is focused on you here and now. Nobody likes estate planning. Estate may recall last week's Reporter. We remembered getting together with friends at the local diner or coffee house. Renewing the bonds of friendship. Maintaining life-giving relationships. Well, forget about it. COVID continues to disrupt your life. Imagine no Thanksgiving. It's easy if you try. No family with us. Above us only sky. Imagine all the people living all alone. It isn't hard to do. No bowling leagues or sports teams. And no religion too. So here we are. Shutdown impacts you. And not only you, but your neighbors: the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker.



David Carrier

All the small businesses that serve you and yours. And it has been devastating. The big disaster relief money is gone. The Paycheck Protection Program closed in August. A distant summertime memory. Is anybody looking to Congress for help? It is to laugh.

LOOKING FOR LOOSE CHANGE

Have you ever pulled the cushions off the couch looking for loose change? It is that time again. Many county governments throughout the state created Small Business Recovery Programs. Local governments recognize that no community can thrive without small business. Without seed corn there is no harvest. Destroy the economic base and you cannot recover. Much of the money allocated to these programs has already been spent. But like loose change in the couch, it is worth searching. Every little bit helps.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act flooded trillions of dollars across the country. Some money went to city and county governments. Some city and county governments set money aside for small business. Some money is still available. Your tax dollars at work.

WHY?

To quote the Kent County Small Business Recovery Program: *This fund helps businesses that have not been able to access, or have been declined for local, state, or federal relief funds, or need additional support to weather this crisis.*

We are focused on businesses that may be dealing with additional barriers including but not limited to language, general business knowledge, and from underserved communities.

Consistent with the limitations of the CARES Act, these businesses also must have been directly impacted and experienced losses due to business interruption due to COVID-19.

All distributions of funds are subject to the requirements of the CARES Act and Treasury Department guidance on the use of Coronavirus Relief Funds.

LIFEPLANNING™ IS THE SOLUTION

LifePlanning™ is focused on you here and now. How do you maintain your independence? How can you stay in control and in charge for as long as humanly possible? Your freedom is what planning should be all about.

THE SECRET TRUTH: LIFEPLANNING™ IS LIKE HEARING AIDS

Why do folks buy hearing aids? Did you know that the #1 reason has nothing to do with chirping birds or adjusting the TV volume? The real reason is something no one will admit. It is kind of embarrassing. That is how you know it is true. Folks buy hearing aids because if you cannot hear, your kids will believe that you cannot think. And that is the first step to the kids "helping" you to give up your freedom. The first step to "we can't trust mom and dad with the kids."

The real reason for LifePlanning™ is to keep your edge. You do not need lectures. You do not need to hear how nice it is to live at Shady Acres. You do not need another Shady Acres brochure. You want to keep your home. And live there. And you might need some help with that. LifePlanning™ is how to get the help to keep your independence.

YOUR TRUST WILL FAIL

You went the extra mile. Spent the extra dollars. Got the big binder. Got a trust. Everything is all good now, right? Not so fast.

Everybody knows that trusts fail. Almost all the time. Your financial advisor, insurance agent, banker, accountant. They all know that you will not re-title your assets to the trust. Sure, you will get some stuff in there. Maybe. Most folks have very little in the trust. One survey says 96% of trusts do not avoid probate.

The Institute for Continuing Legal Education gives out certificates to attorneys who want to practice estate planning. Including trust planning. Lawyers who want to be certified must take a whole raft of courses to get that piece of paper. When asked recently about the problem of trusts that do not avoid probate, the instructor was clear. "That is what the pour over will be for. No problem."

Think about this. The instructor is a highly qualified and experienced estate planning attorney. Partner in a huge, prestigious multi-state law firm. This person is teaching would-be estate planning attorneys that going through probate is no big deal. Did you think that the whole point of the trust was to avoid probate? Whoops. Besides, probate is not that bad... they say...

YOUR LIFEPLAN™ WILL NOT FAIL

LifePlanning™ means your funding coach works with you to get the job done. To help make sure that your assets are safely in the appropriate trust. It is not easy. It takes time. Two months on average. But there are no shortcuts. No easy way out. And everyone knows it.

LIFEPLANNING™ IS THE SOLUTION

LifePlanning™ is the way you keep your stuff. And at the same time, qualify for the government benefits you have earned. Focused on you here and now. By acting early, rather than waiting until the last minute, you will qualify for benefits that may mean you never need residential long-term care. Let's face it, who can afford the \$9000-\$12,000 per month costs of skilled nursing? Even a little at home care is ruinously expensive at \$25 per hour.

LifePlanning™ gets you what you have earned. Assistance to stay at home. Health care that keeps you healthy, active, engaged with your grandkids. Free to be your best self.

LIFEPLANNING™ PREVENTS TRAGEDY

Nothing is more tragic than one spouse dying while caring for the other. The other spouse now faces institutional care. Which their spouse sacrificed everything to avoid. And that is what happens 40-50% of the time. LifePlanning™ supports the caregiver as well as the disabled spouse. Getting necessary

benefits. Staying home. Maximizing potential. Living life to the full.

I DON'T WANT GOVERNMENT HELP!

Middle-class folks are independent do-it-yourself types. Government hand-out? Perish the thought! Understandable. But

Government demands taxes. You pay taxes. You never thought you would see any of that money again, right? No return on that investment. This is a return on that investment. Unusual times.

That is the LifePlan™ approach to estate planning and elder law. You paid in, why shouldn't you be paid back? If you need it. When you need it? Learn more. You can do this.

SECURE YOUR INDEPENDENCE TODAY... GET STARTED

COVID flaring up again. Isolation for holidays. Merry Christmas? What are we waiting for? Isn't today the best time to plan? Begin by calling the LifePlan™ Hotline: 800-317-2812.

GET INFORMATION YOU NEED: YOUR LIFE, YOU CHOOSE! COVID has not gone away. New challenges arise daily. The risks to your freedom to choose, to your ability to keep what you have earned and built have not gone away. And neither have we. It is your stuff... protect it. And yourself. With complete control. LifePlanning™ means your choices matter, whatever life brings.

How can LifePlanning™ protect your middle-class life savings? How to get this information?

Are you like thousands of Michigan families who played by the rules and earned homes, cottages, farms, lifesavings? Would you like the rules to work for you, for a change? Why wait until it is too late?

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How can I protect my kids' inheritance from divorce, bankruptcy, and their own poor decisions?

How do I avoid heavy taxes from the new law on my retirement plans (like my IRA or 401k)?

CALL OR EMAIL TODAY TO SCHEDULE A LIVE WORKSHOP WITH YOUR COVID CREW!

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NO WILD TURKEY FOR YOU!

THIS WEEK'S SIGN OF THE APOCALYPSE

OLD GRAND DAD, JOHNNY WALKER, & JACK DANIELS, BANNED!

COVID IS REAL

Since you have been paying attention, you are not surprised. A virus is making the rounds. Nasty. Contagious. Very bad. Wash your hands. A lot. Also wear a mask.

Nobody thinks masks filter out COVID. But, if everybody wears masks, then sick people will be wearing masks. When sick people cough or sneeze, the mask will catch their spit. That way, sick people spit will not wind up on you. Wear a mask. Be a good example to the sick people. And if you have been exposed or have symptoms, get tested. Duh.

IT IS NOT JUST HYPOCRISY ANYMORE

Is anyone surprised that politicians do not obey their own rules? Do as I say, not as I do. Just garden variety hypocrisy. From sea to shining sea. Since the dawn of time. Rules for Royalty are different than Rules for Peasants.

California governor attends lobbyist's big ole swingin' birthday bash. At fancy restaurant. New Jersey governor gets called out for big dinner party. At fancy restaurant.



New York governor tells you to eat Thanksgiving alone but invites his own mom to dinner.

You are an awful, no good, very bad person. For going to church. But rallies and riots with a particular political orientation are A-okay! So many photos of the royal good and wise congregating in crowds while ignoring mask mandates! Boring.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

COVID death rates are plunging while COVID infection rates are on the upswing. At last count, Operation Warp

Speed has facilitated three (count 'em, three!) vaccines with greater than 90% effectiveness. COVID therapies keep getting better. Is there a light at the end of that tunnel?

BRINGING THE CRAZY

What is a governor to do? How to stand out? Get some ink? Well, Pennsylvania solved that problem. For fifteen hours. On the most popular drinking day of the year (who knew?). From 5 p.m. on Wednesday to 8 a.m. Thanksgiving Day.

Booze banned from bars and restaurants. You can still get your chicken wings. Or nachos. Or cowboy steak. But nothing to wash it down with. Old Grand Dad stands in the corner with his pals, Johnny Walker, Jim Beam and Jack Daniels. Just watching all the fun.

Fun Fact: Pennsylvania liquor stores are run by the government. Did we mention that those government-run liquor stores will still be open?

Dinner at restaurant: Good.

Glass of wine with dinner at restaurant: Bad.

Bottle of wine from government liquor store: Good.

Confused? Maybe that is the point.

REAL PROBLEMS. REAL ANSWERS.

Most folks eventually need long-term care. Government rules determine whether you keep any of your lifesavings. Government rules determine whether you get care at home or must be institutionalized.

For thirty years, we have protected middle class Michigan from nursing homes and nursing home poverty. Keep your independence. Preserve your life savings. Making the rules work for you, the folks who play by the rules.

Or you can rely on government wisdom and good faith.

Real-world problems. Real-world answers.

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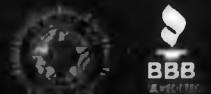
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Master of Laws, Tax, Georgetown University Law
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SKATEBOARDERS ENJOY NEW ADDITION TO FAIRGROUNDS PARK



Cooper VosBurg, 18, gets some air while gliding along a rail in the new Milford Skatepark on Nov. 13. The skate park, located near the village's senior center, is open every day from sunrise to sunset. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Skateboarders line up to take turns on a ramp at the new Milford Skatepark.



A skater comes up to the lip of one of the skate park's ramps.



A visitor to the Milford Skatepark heads down a ramp to start another run.



Rail action at the Milford skate park.



Colin Hayes, 16, jumps along a cement bench at the new Milford Skatepark.



Visitors hit the ramp at the new Milford Skatepark on Nov. 13. The recreational site was completed about a week before.

White Lake launches Operation Santa's Vault to combat thieves

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Whether they're called holiday porch pirates or the sneakiest of Santa's misbehaving elves, they better think twice about trolling White Lake Township neighborhoods for packages.

Township police are patrolling for holiday high jinks, plus inviting residents to have holiday packages - a.k.a. Santa's gifts - sent to their headquarters.

They launched their first-ever Operation Santa's Vault recently to lower the number of packages purchased online and then stolen from their delivery address.

Lt. Matthew Ivory said the "vault" - a secured area of the department's headquarters - was empty in the days prior to Thanksgiving.

Yet if it's filled in the weeks to come, the police department can dedicate more time to more pressing matters. There were a few packages stolen in the weeks prior to the vault officially debuting.

"Anything we can do to help our citizens or our community," Ivory said. "They support us quite a bit. We want to give back."

Township residents wanting a safer delivery point for packages purchased online should include a delivery address as follows: "Recipient Name, c/o Santa's Vault, 7525 Highland Road, White Lake Township, MI 48383." 7525 Highland Road, White Lake Township, MI 48383.

Packages will get logged in upon arrival. The person in the address would show the shipping or delivery confirmation as well as identification to take the package home.

Ivory hopes the idea catches on throughout metro Detroit. The department took inspiration from a Texas agency with a similar endeavor.

"They were very willing to help us out and get it going," Ivory said. "We took it and we used the things that worked for us. We tweaked it a little bit and put it into play."

Some metro Detroit agencies like the Bloomfield Township Police Department are patrolling their subdivisions to prevent package thefts.

Lt. Paul Schwab said his agency responds to stolen package complaints a



White Lake Township police are patrolling for holiday high jinks, such as porch pirates like this one caught on camera in Bloomfield Township.

COURTESY OF BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE

few times a month. Challenges upon investigation include a lack of witnesses and poor-quality images from security cameras.

"A lot of the porch pirates - or these thieves - they'll wait and stake out houses and wait for the Amazon drivers," Schwab said.

Bloomfield Township police took a report last month from a resident claiming she was walking through a wooded lot when she found several opened packages.

"The packages were addressed to several residences in the area, the contents were missing, and the packages appeared to have been exposed to the elements for several days," police said in a report.

Wayne Police Chief Ryan Strong promotes common sense solutions like having packages routed to a secure place if the owner isn't going to be home.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel has offered the following tips:

- Ship to an Amazon Locker, FedEx office or your office, if allowed.
- Keep your porch well lit.
- Make it look like you are home by leaving on lights, music, etc.
- Install a motion-detector or porch camera that you can monitor online or receive notices if there is movement.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Twitter: @susanvela.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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

A newly improved version of America's best-selling male performance enhancer gives 70-year-old men the ability and stamina they enjoyed in their 30's.

America's best-selling sexual performance enhancer just got a lot better.

It's the latest breakthrough for nitric oxide - the molecule that makes E.D. woes fade and restores virility when it counts the most.

Nitric oxide won the Nobel Prize in 1998. It's why "the little blue pill" works. More than 200,000 studies confirm it's the key to superior sexual performance.

And this new discovery increases nitric oxide availability resulting in even quicker, stronger and longer-lasting performance.

One double-blind, placebo-controlled study (the "gold-standard" of research) involved a group of 70-year-old men.

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

But only five minutes after the first dose their blood flow increased 275%, back to levels of a perfectly healthy 31-year-old man! "It's amazing," remarks nitric oxide expert Dr. Al Sears. "That's like giving 70-year-old men the sexual power of 30-year-olds."

WHY SO MUCH EXCITEMENT?

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

They don't always work.

A very distinguished and awarded doctor practicing at a prestigious Massachusetts hospital who has studied Nitric Oxide for over 43 years states a "deficiency of bioactive nitric oxide... leads to impaired 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.' And until now, there's never been a solution.

NEXT GENERATION NITRIC OXIDE FORMULA FLYING OFF SHELVES

Upon further research, America's No. 1 men's health expert Dr. Al Sears discovered certain nutrients fix this "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow.

He's combined those nutrients with proven nitric oxide boosters in a new formula called *Primal Max Red*. In clinical trials, 5,000 mg is required for satisfying



A new discovery that increases nitric oxide availability was recently proven in a clinical trial to boost blood flow 275%

sexual performance. *Primal Max Red* contains a bigger, 9,000 mg per serving dose. It's become so popular, he's having trouble keeping it in stock.

Dr. Sears is the author of more than 500 scientific papers. Thousands of people listened to him speak at the recent Palm Beach Health & Wellness Festival featuring Dr. Oz. NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath recently visited his clinic, the **Sears Institute for Anti-Aging Medicine**.

Primal Max Red has only been available for a few months - but everyone who takes it reports a big difference. "I have the energy to have sex three times in one day. WOW! That has not happened in years. Oh, by the way I am 62," says Jonathan K. from 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 typical 40-year-old man absorbs 50% less nitric oxide. At 50, that drops to 25%. And once you pass 60 just a measly 15% gets through.

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

Primal Max Red is the first formula to tackle both problems. Combining powerful nitric oxide boosters and a proven delivery mechanism that defeats the nitric oxide "glitch" resulting in 275% better blood flow. There's not enough space here to fully explain how it works, so Dr. Sears will send anyone who orders *Primal Max Red* a free special report that explains everything.

MORE CLINICAL RESULTS

Nutrients in *Primal Max Red* have logged impressive results

In a *Journal of Applied Physiology* study, one resulted in a 30 times MORE nitric oxide. And these increased levels lasted up to 12 hours.

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

Then he used ingredients in *Primal Max Red* and, "The results were off the charts. I first woke around 3 a.m. on Tuesday very excited. My nitric oxide levels measured at the top end of the range."

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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 1-800-961-8570 within the next 48 hours. "It's not available in drug stores yet," says Dr. Sears. "The Hotline allows us to ship directly to the customer."

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

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 1-800-961-8570 to secure your limited supply of *Primal Max Red* and free bottles of *Primal Max Black*. You don't need a prescription, and those who call in the first 24 hours qualify for a significant discount. Use Promo Code NP1120PMAX468 when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.

Free 1-year Shipt membership offer for Oakland County seniors

Susan Selasky Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Oakland County seniors now have an opportunity for free delivery of groceries, so they can avoid or limit trips to grocery stores amid the coronavirus pandemic.

With COVID-19 cases increasing heading into winter, Oakland County is providing a free one-year membership to the Shipt shopping delivery service for residents age 60 and older. A one-year membership to Shipt is normally \$99, and gives you free delivery on orders of \$35 or more.

"The number of COVID-19 cases continues to increase locally and we all must do our part to help stop the spread of the virus," Oakland County Executive David Coulter said in a news release. "Many seniors may be reluctant to leave their homes and may not be getting the fresh and healthy foods they need, especially on colder days. This program allows our senior residents to receive essential food and grocery items safely in their homes without risking the possible exposure to the coronavirus and the flu."

With Shipt, a same-day shopping service, customers order online and a Shipt shopper shops for the items they requested and delivers them to their door. If the order is less than \$35, a \$7 delivery fee is added. Participating stores, which vary depending on the ZIP code, include Meijer, Target, Plum Market and Fresh Thyme.

Oakland County sought funding through the CARES Act to purchase the Shipt codes. So far, they've purchased 3,500 codes costing \$173,250 with an option to add 1,500 more, according to Oakland County. The optional codes would cost nearly \$75,000 more.



Shipt is a shopping service that allows customers to order groceries and have them delivered to the door. SHIPT

The county is offering the free membership while supplies last on a first-come, first-served basis. To apply, residents need to sign up by Dec. 10 at oakgov.com/covid/grants/shipt.

Once you are signed up, a registration code will be sent. The code needs to be redeemed by Dec. 20.

Residents will need a credit card for payment of groceries, taxes and, if desired, a tip for the Shipt shopper. Residents who don't have a computer to sign up for the service can have a family member help them register but the account must be in the senior's name with an Oakland county address. The service expires after a year and does not automatically renew.

For assistance in signing up, call the Oakland County Help Hotline at 248-858-1000 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday. Macomb County began offering the same program earlier this month. Resident seniors can sign up until Dec. 1 online at mca.macombgov.org/mca-seniors-shipt. For information on the Macomb County program, call 586-469-5228.

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Novi

Continued from Page 1A

days a week in-person school for all grade levels. The district has kept to that schedule, with the exception of the recent mandated three-week closure of all high schools in the state. That's also in spite of pressure to expand in-person classes, as some other districts did for short spurts.

Novi steadfastness in staying with its original plan is likely the reason why, as the year draws to a close, it is one of the only districts in the county with students still in classrooms.

Matthews wants the district to keep to two days per week until the county reaches level B for risk. The county is currently at the worst risk level: E.

"Social distancing, keeping kids six feet apart in class, two to a table in the lunchroom, we think, and our experiences so far, have kept the kids safe," he said. "We've had some staff and students who tested positive and had to quarantine, but it's not widespread and hasn't impacted our ability to offer in-person instruction.

"From our perspective, staying the course seems appropriate because we have protocols in place, have been successful with social distancing and anticipate we can continue to be successful with in-person instruction."

Other nearby districts who forged ahead with four or five days per week in-person instruction, including South Lyon and Huron Valley, are now offering none after a spike in COVID-19 cases in those communities resulted in massive numbers of students and staff in quarantine. Northville Public Schools will have virtual classes through at least the end of December.

Although the Oakland County Health director said COVID-19 generally is not transmitted within school walls and the classroom is among the safest place for kids during the pandemic, there are a number of other issues impacting the ability of schools to stay in session, including staffing levels and instruction consistency.

Staying the course as others falter

What makes Novi able to stay in school when others have failed?

Distancing is the biggest factor, said Matthews.

Nearly half of the district's students are in this year's all-virtual school option. The density in classrooms was reduced even further by having the half who chose the hybrid plan split into two cohorts. Two days a week means six feet of social distancing is achievable in classrooms, in halls, in lunchrooms, and on buses.

If a student tests positive, assigned seating makes it easily identifiable with whom that student may have had close contact (less than six feet for 15 minutes or more). Often, the answer is no one. The result is not having to quarantine multiple students or staff.

Matthews said teachers have adapted to maintain distance from their students and find ways to use technology in classrooms.

When teachers have contracted COVID-19, the exposures have more often occurred from a son or daughter returning home from college or a spouse contracting it in their work environment, he said.

"Staffing shortages has not become a significant issue — knock on wood," Matthews said. "I know that could change tomorrow."

When teachers test positive for COVID-19 in Novi, they can still teach remotely from home.

Matthews said finding substitute teachers is more difficult this year.

The threshold Novi has set for closing a school would be if 15% or more of that building's staff were quarantined. Novi Middle School has 60 teachers, so if eight to 10 were quarantined, the building would close for two weeks.

Matthews agreed that two days a week is not an ideal scenario, but said students are learning, a good curriculum pace is being maintained, and teachers are engaging with students in meaningful ways. And despite community spread, staff has not been impacted dramatically and student attendance remains strong.

Parents want more

Dozens of parents calling in to the Nov. 23 board meeting expressed their disappointment in a decision to keep high school students remote until January instead of returning them to in-person learning after the state remote learning mandate ends next week. Those critics also shared their impatience with the two days per week plan.

"If the reasoning is to provide consistency, that is futile at this point," Lisa Seal said. "Nothing is consistent about 2020. The most normal thing for a kid is to go to school, I am disappointed you want to extend (remote learning) past the governor's order. All of my family recovered from COVID-19 with mild symptoms, nothing more, which is the most common response to the virus."

She asked the board to provide "normal in a not-so-normal world."

Many requested full-time instruction, citing the mental health of their children and the widening gaps in their education.

Another parent said hybrid learning was supposed to be "temporary."

Matthews' recommendation is that the hybrid plan continue until the country risk level is at "B," at which time students could return to full five days a week in-person instruction.

But the board was split 4-3 against that recommendation, with the majority voicing concerns over how instruction is delivered on remote days.

Teaching models

Secretary Willy Mena said hybrid learning is not working in its current form, but said it's a problem with "how the system is set up."

That syte, has hybrid students in mostly asynchronous learning, or no livestreamed classes, on days when they are not in school.

By contrast, students in the fully virtual program have consistent interaction with their remote teachers.

"My biggest concern is inequity between hybrid and virtual," Mena said. "Kids in virtual get four to five days of face-to-face learning, but that's not

happening in hybrid."

Mena said he wants to see synchronous learning on days when hybrid-plan students are learning virtually. One possibility would involve cameras for students to see the classroom on days they are at home.

However, there are issues with that, including a teacher not being able to fully give attention to either students who are physically present in a classroom or to the ones at home.

Gary Kinzer, assistant superintendent for human resources, said instruction is about community and teachers engaging with students, often moving around the classroom, particularly at the elementary level.

"To think a camera would capture that is not realistic," he said. "We have to be very mindful of where this is useful to the teacher, and where it doesn't add quality to what we are doing."

Novi has more than 420 teachers in the district, he said, and their feelings are diverse as well.

"They are comfortable because of the safety we have built in, and the second we take away those protocols, they will be less comfortable. There is a growing sentiment among teachers that the growing COVID numbers are of concern. How that affects them is paramount. ... They are investing their heart and soul into this and we need to be respectful of that."

Matthews said the two days a week hybrid plan would continue to allow for six feet of social distancing in classrooms if families recommitted in the same numbers for the second semester. Currently, 45 percent of students participate in the hybrid plan.

If more switched to in-person learning, that may not be achievable as only 15-18 students can be in a classroom for proper social distancing.

Trustee Bobbie Murphy said it would also not be equitable among school buildings to say one school building could come back with social distancing, and another couldn't.

"We all agreed five days a week is ideal, but the reality is different than what allows for that," she said.

sbromley@hometownlife.com

Santa

Continued from Page 1A

"When you think of Santa and you think of the holidays, I think a lot of people think of shopping and visiting a shopping center," she said. "I think we obviously want to create that normalcy. (We're) just having to reimagine it a little different this year."

Those who typically see Santa at Laurel Park Place, 37700 Six Mile in Livonia, will have a few options this year. The jolly old elf returned to Livonia Black Friday and will hold court through Christmas Eve. In addition to the in-person, socially-distanced visit in the food court available beginning Friday, parents can instead schedule a virtual visit with St. Nick. Appointments to meet with Santa online can be made through the Laurel Park Place website.

Families heading to Somerset Collection, 2800 W. Big Beaver in Troy, can partake in a few holiday events before seeing Santa at his castle from a safe distance. The mall will offer an experience called "Holiday Wander," an interactive holiday exhibit complete with make-and-take crafts as well as allowing guests to imagine themselves in a festive wonderland. Santa will meet with children who have a reservation at the mall noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

Santa out and about

The mall isn't the only place Santa can be found this holiday season practicing social distancing. He'll make himself available at several community spots, including at least one new experience in a historic village.

Santa will visit with children from the porch of the Alexander Blue House at Livonia's Greenmead Historical Park, 20501 Newburgh. He'll stop by for a few Saturdays in December to meet with children and have photos taken with them.

Ted Davis, the city's superintendent of parks and recreation, said the hope is to eventually turn the historic little village at Eight Mile and Newburgh into a sort of "mini Campus Martius" every year for the holidays. Bringing Santa this year is just the first step toward that vision to continue enhancing the park, which could have its own master plan in the future.

"This year's the first little taste of that," he said. "We can start and kind of get this on people's radars. We think they'll be interested."

Santa will be available 5-8 p.m. on

Dec. 5, 12, 13, 19 and 20 at Greenmead. Visits can be scheduled through the city's parks and recreation website.

Novi will present Santa via drive-thru 5:30-9 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile. For \$5/vehicle, visitors can stop to see Santa from their cars and receive hot chocolate, cookies and a craft. Register for the experience at cityofnovi.org.

The Santa House in Birmingham returns for a new kind of experience in Shain Park. Families who make an appointment can visit with Santa under the pavilion at the park on Merrill Street. Santa returned Nov. 28 and appointments can be made through the Birmingham Shopping District's website.

All visits from Santa could change depending on the current climate surrounding COVID-19.

Private businesses and a few community groups have holiday-related events planned, which may include visits with Santa Claus. Find an area list of activities online at hometownlife.com.

Santa skips Maybury Farm this year

While most places are making some modifications to the typical holiday visits, not every place will bring Santa Claus back this year. Maybury Farm, 50165 Eight Mile in Northville Township, has opted to keep Santa at the North Pole this year as he prepares to deliver gifts.

Diana Wallace, executive director of the farm and the Northville Community Foundation, said they felt the area in the barn where Santa typically greets families wasn't large enough to have enough distance to keep everyone safe.

"We don't have a lot of open floor space," she said. "As much as we didn't like making that decision, we didn't want families to lose that close connectivity with Santa at the farm."

Also canceled at the farm is "A Maybury Farm Country Christmas," a holiday event that would have opened the farm up for two weekends for families to come visit. The recent state health department order limiting gatherings would have left just one weekend available, and Wallace said the board wanted to err on the side of caution, as well as not alienate those who planned on coming the first weekend in December while the order was still in place.

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

Culver's

Continued from Page 1A

zoned for commercial use "for a long time."

"Culver's is more of a family restaurant," she said. "I go to Culver's and I see a lot of older people there because they serve nice ice cream and good food. I like the hours 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and I've visited both the Wixom and Brighton locations and they are im-

maculately clean inside and out."

She added a commercial development of some kind would go in there and she was happy it would be a restaurant. Commissioner Jim Chuck agreed.

"I am excited about it, it's more of a restaurant (than Burger King), with a very nice menu, different entrees, more than hamburgers and French fries," he said. "I've visited those (Culver's) restaurants and the service is wonderful."

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



The nonprofit board hoping to reopen the Milford Cinema poses with a banner. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Cinema

Continued from Page 1A

The concept, once completed, would show popular films known to most, similar to what was already playing before the Milford Cinema closed down in March, Trice said.

"We want to, Wednesday through Sunday, show first-run or very close to first-run films that are oftentimes family oriented," Trice said. "We're going to continue that."

"We still want to honor what the community would like to see us do."

On other days of the week, Trice said they hope to use the space for showing local films or other events.

"We want to give the space a good, thorough cleaning and a good, thorough update, including replacing the chairs and replacing the concessions area and updating the bathrooms," board member Isaac Perry said.

If the theater reopens, it would join several others across the region, in-

cluding ones in Farmington, South Lyon and Plymouth. Those theaters have found ways to bring people back despite challenges from the nearly seven-month shutdown ordered by the state earlier this year.

The Huron Valley Film Organization hopes open the theater by January. They are currently fundraising and accepting donations at several levels. The rewards for donors range from being recognized on the group's website to having the screening room named for them.

The goal for the group is to raise \$150,000. Perry said the campaign to raise funds has been going well since it began this fall.

"We have a strong start," he said. "We've got a good group of volunteers canvassing the community."

More information, including on how to donate, can be found at milfordcinema.org.

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



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Catholic Central junior quarterback Declan Byle has changed the look of the Shamrock offense.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Catholic Central offense finds new life in uncertain season

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Quarterback Declan Byle remembers the first play he learned at his first Detroit Catholic Central football practice freshman year.

The Shamrocks call it the "36 Wham," where the h-back lines up in the slot while the tailback takes his place in the

backfield. When the ball is snapped, the h-back traps the defensive end, allowing the running back to find a hole to get to the second level of the defense.

This style of offense dates back to the mid-1990s when Kevin Glenn was a quarterback for former Catholic High School League school DePorres, which closed in 2005.

He remembers Catholic Central as a

run-first team, specializing in size on the offensive line and at running back.

"In football, wherever your money is, that's what you are going to do, as far as offense is concerned," Glenn said. "They had a lot of great linemen and great running backs, so they ran the ball a lot."

See OFFENSE, Page 2B

Northville girls swim team gets closure despite delay

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville girls swim team had Nov. 21 circled on its calendar before the fall season had even started.

After an eighth-place team finish at the 2019 state meet, the Mustangs had high hopes for the 2020 season, coming out of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association conference meet with 12 state qualifiers, led by reigning 100-yard butterfly state champion Emily Roden.

It wasn't that the coronavirus pandemic had gone away from Northville. It had defined the Mustangs throughout its 2020 season, uniting the girls on a deeper level after enduring the uncertainty of the season even starting.

With a week left until the state meet — the pinnacle of the season — Northville thought it would get to the end, something that many deemed impossible in August and September.

But five days before the state meet was set to begin, the Michigan High School Athletic Association halted its fall postseason schedule, adhering to the state's three-week "pause" in efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Roden knew Northville was ready to go out strong, hearing each day that the team was ready for states, injecting confidence in the state qualifiers. After the conference meet, that's where the players' minds went.

"None of us knew that conferences would be our last meet, so we all were just like, 'Conferences are done. Let's get ready for states,'" Roden said. "That was just hard. It didn't sit well with me."

"I just needed one last swim, know it's the end and just be ready the end is coming one more time."

Northville head coach Brian McNeff gave his team that opportunity: that chance for closure.

While the Michigan high school football and volleyball playoffs were instantly postponed, the MHSAA allowed girls swim and dive teams two more days in the water for practices and time trials.

The Mustangs made a big deal of this final time trial. Teammates surrounded the sides of the Mustangs' decorated home pool to cheer on the 12 competitors — each arriving at the starting line with a predetermined walk-out song.

Before the race, the state team met with the coaching staff.

"No matter what happens today, we

See NORTHVILLE, Page 2B

Area high school hockey teams see season pushed back

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com | USA TODAY
NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Detroit Catholic Central was ready to put March behind them.

With a team of 15 seniors, the Shamrocks ended their season in limbo as the Michigan High School Athletic Association postponed and later canceled the postseason hockey tournament as the coronavirus pandemic began to sweep

the state.

"We have a great group of returning guys from that team that certainly remember that feeling, remember the unfortunate ending, just the way that everything played out," head coach Brandon Kaleniecki said.

"You could see on their faces they were really, really excited to get back out there and put the jersey back on and play for CC again."

Weeks prior to the start of the 2020-21 season, Kaleniecki said with the rising case numbers, he could see something coming down the pipe. He didn't know what the rules or regulations would be or when they would take effect, but he knew they were coming.

One day prior to the official start of the hockey season, the day before Catholic Central was scheduled to open its slate against Hartland, those rules

and regulations arrived.

As the state announced a three-week "pause" in hopes to combat the rising COVID-19 cases, the MHSAA postponed the start of the winter sports season, halting competitions and practices for winter and the remaining fall sports until at least Dec. 9, with competitions not starting until at least Jan. 4.

See HOCKEY, Page 5B



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Northville

Continued from Page 1B

perform to the best of our abilities,” senior Malayna Mancinelli remembers hearing. “Everything happens for a reason.”

For Mancinelli, this was the moment that a home time trial turned into the state meet.

Northville broke pool records, including the 200-yard medley relay with Mancinelli, Roden, Emily Lowman and Laurel Wasiniak, who finished in 1:45.64, which would have placed sixth at the 2019 state finals. Roden recorded a time of 55.99 in the 100-yard butterfly, coming within .56 seconds of her state final finish last season.

As he watched his team race at their peak capability, after having trained for the state meet for the four months prior, McNeff saw a team with the mental capacity to have handled the 2020 season.

“They just want to swim, and swim fast,” McNeff said. “They trained their butts off the whole season, and even with something like this where it wasn’t the state meet — it was at our pool, by ourselves — but they were still ready to go.”

“They knew it was probably their last

time to be able to swim as fast as they could.”

The MHSAA currently has rescheduled its girls swim state finals Dec. 23, but once McNeff heard about the three-week pause, he knew the output of the overall races would not be the same.

With three weeks out of the pool, he said it’s not possible to return to competition after only two weeks of training in the pool and post high-quality times. And while Northville still plans on racing in the state meet if given the chance, McNeff wanted his girls to have a chance to see the work pay off at the level it would have been.

“It was closure in a sense of everything had built up to this final meet and to have it taken away, they wouldn’t have had that chance to see how fast they could go,” McNeff said.

Roden said she would have loved more chances to swim faster, meeting her goals of cutting down her state-champion time from freshman year. But, with the time trial, finishing with her team, having those closest to her cheer her on, there was a level of satisfaction for how the season ended.

“Even though I would love to have a states, I kind of just accepted that the season’s over and it’s time to move on,” Mancinelli said.

cgay@hometownlife.com



The Northville girls swim team had a chance to see what it could do before the season was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. COURTESY OF EMILY RODEN

Offense

Continued from Page 1B

But Glenn’s path favored the passing game.

In his four-year career at Illinois State, Glenn tallied 8,251 career passing yards and 62 passing touchdowns — both second-most in school history. The quarterback later had an 18-year career in the Canadian Football League, passing for 52,867 yards — sixth-most in league history — and 294 passing touchdowns.

Joining the Catholic Central coaching staff in January as offensive coordinator, Glenn, inheriting a young and malleable offense, went to work, helping lead the Shamrocks into the 2020 regional final undefeated and with statistical improvements in nearly every offensive category from a season ago.

During the three-week “pause” of play, waiting for a date against reigning Division 1 state champion Davison, Catholic Central is turning back to how it got here: how it was able to overhaul its struggling offense in 2019 during an unusual offseason and build it to the powerhouse opposing defenses have seen during its playoff run.

The kitchen sink

Even before he knew what he was working with at Catholic Central, Glenn knew what his approach with the team would be.

First, he said, the base of football remains the same: receivers are going to run routes, quarterbacks will pass the ball, running backs will take handoffs and run through what the offensive line gives them.

But with this base, Glenn tries to make sure the opposing defense doesn’t know what’s coming, utilizing pass and route combinations, along with pre-play motions to do so.

“When you can kind of mix the route combinations up and kind of do things that sometimes people haven’t seen, it helps you out to put pressure on the defense... give them something they haven’t seen before,” Glenn said.

“You can line up in six different formations to run the exact same play and they are going to look totally different to the defense.”

The new offensive coordinator instituted an increased use of the run-pass option, allowing the quarterback under center to make the decision on where the play was going without having to relay the decision to anyone except the running back.

Through this, Glenn gives his quarterback freedom to make the call on his own, something he did not have a chance to do until he was a professional quarterback.

Byle, Glenn’s starting quarterback, said this offensive look was a perfect match for the Shamrocks, especially with the offensive personnel he knew the team would have in 2020.

“We have guys who can catch the ball: our running backs are very athletic, we have tight ends that can play inside and block and we have tight ends that can go and split out and play receiver,” Byle said. “So that helps when you have a tight end lined up in the slot, motion to a wing back and you can run an off-tackle play as to what was originally a pass formation.”

Over the course of the offseason, once the team was allowed back on the



Detroit Catholic Central football celebrates its Prep Bowl win against Detroit Loyola. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

football field, Glenn would hold film sessions an hour before each training session, walking his players through what he wanted to see.

Despite some stark differences from what the athletes were accustomed, Glenn did not ease the offense in.

“I don’t like to hold back and say, ‘We are only going to do so much because the guys can’t handle it,’” Glenn said. “Look, we can throw the kitchen sink at them and what they retain is what they retain and that’s what we’ll go with.”

Bigger picture

Owen Semp was thrown into the fire. After living in Germany for the past four years and having not played football for the past two, the junior wide receiver arrived at Detroit Catholic Central for the first time and jumped back to the football lifestyle.

He wanted to be with the Shamrocks. He had heard what Byle was capable of doing in the passing game and what Glenn could do with the offensive play-calling — both extremely compelling for a receiver.

When he began to learn the offense, getting an idea of what Detroit Catholic Central wanted to do on each play, Semp understood the need for changing formations and tinkering play calls each week.

“For me to understand the bigger picture, each week it makes it so much simpler because you understand what’s going on overall,” Semp said. “These smaller changes or the change to formations or certain plays, it’s just a small tweak in what you already know.”

In the offense, Semp’s role is to help opposing defenses to always be aware of a potential pass play: making it look like he’s running a route on each play, even when he’s supposed to run block.

And when defenses are caught off guard by the pass play, Semp has been known to fly past defensive backs, becoming one of Byle’s go-to looks on the deep ball.

To Glenn, this is an example of many on the roster. He said the Shamrocks are full of players who understand the big-

ger picture: dissecting the X’s and O’s aspect of the game and why their specific job is important.

Through his teaching and coaching — even if it was done remotely — Glenn said the players took it as a challenge to overcome.

“They kind of rose to the occasion,” Glenn said.

“A lot of these guys had spent two, three seasons without making one or two passes a game. I think they took it as, ‘Hey man, this is an opportunity. We’re going to take advantage of it.’”

Like Semp returning to the football field, the Detroit Catholic Central offense took a few weeks to click. Glenn said he saw spurts of what he wanted to see from the very start, as the Shamrocks attempted 45 pass attempts in the first two games against Harper Woods and Brother Rice.

But as the games continued, as Byle became comfortable and, later, confident with his instinct in the pocket, as receivers like Semp, senior Sam Dersa and tight ends Connor Cohan and Michael Ramirez stepped up in the passing game, as the Shamrocks found its balance with running back Mohamed Jaffer in the running game, the offense found its groove.

Through nine games, Catholic Central is averaging 192.1 passing yards per game and 114.6 rushing yards per game, upping its average point total from 11.2 in 2019 to 29.8 in 2020.

In three playoff games, Byle and the passing offense have completed 34-of-60 pass attempts for 780 passing yards with seven touchdowns and two interceptions. In those games, Catholic Central has also added nine touchdowns in the ground game, averaging 5.5 yards per rush.

Bright future

With the season paused, Glenn does not want for his offense to be immersed with Davison’s defense too quickly, a group that has allowed only 66 points in nine games this season. Instead, over this period, he has had his players watch practice footage, along with recent

game tape, seeing what worked.

While the Shamrocks’ offensive coordinator is worried about this pause grinding his offense to a halt, he remembers that every other team remaining in the postseason tournament is in the same boat.

Catholic Central seems to be finding a way to adjust.

Byle is still finding a way to the practice field with his receivers, trying to maintain that connection he and the group have built over the course of the season.

“I think if we put in more work than the other team does, because they have to take the same break too, it’s going to affect them,” Byle said. “If we put in more work and stay more crisp, it could work to our advantage.”

While he and his offense preps for the Cardinals, Glenn’s thoughts can’t help but turn toward 2021: what could be a normal offseason, normal preparation, all with a senior quarterback familiar with his play-calling and personnel — a faster, stronger and experienced receiving corps.

With what this group accomplished in the summer of 2020 — installing a brand-new offense despite the ongoing uncertainty of the fall season due to the coronavirus — Glenn can almost picture where this offense is heading.

“It will be a situation where they are out there playing football, but they understand the concepts that we are trying to achieve,” Glenn said. “They will start making plays where, ‘Man, we didn’t even coach him to do that, but they saw something in the defense and they were on the same page.’”

Byle thinks there will be a level of explosiveness with the offense, as the group learns more about itself and Glenn learns more about himself and his group with one season under his belt.

But when Semp was asked about 2021, his focus remained on what was ahead in 2020.

“Once you get onto the field, you already know you can do it,” Semp said. “You just have to go out there and perform.”

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South Lyon senior is Detroit Lions Fan of the Year

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The 2020 Detroit Lions Fan of the Year is a 17-year-old South Lyon High School student.

Anthony Writer was sitting in class when he got the call.

"I'm just glad I answered the phone," said the senior, who recalls his teacher looking confused. "I was quite surprised. It's pretty awesome, I've been a Lions fan for a long time now, I'm a huge fan and it's cool to be recognized as fan of the year."

All 32 NFL teams pick a fan of the year annually, with each club's winner receiving special gear and opportunities to attend player events (albeit virtually in this year of COVID-19).

Writer believes he was chosen because of the YouTube channel he started this year, "WriterWrong," which is dedicated to "all things Lions."

"Even in this tough time of COVID, I built a community where fans can talk about football and about the team we all support," Writer said of the channel he began in April and which has already gained more than 500 subscribers who tune in for game previews, follow-ups on games, and on Sundays, a livestream where people can tune in for "some of the good and bad they are experiencing."

He dedicates about 10 hours a week to the Lions and his channel.

Writer said he became a fan in the 2014 season when he was 11, after his father, Wade, took him to a game in which the Lions defeated the Green Bay Packers, 19-7. The experience left its mark, and the more he watched, the more knowledgeable he became.

Because he is young, Writer said he knows he hasn't suffered as much as some Lions fans, who have gone their entire lifetime without seeing the team win a championship. The Lions last won a championship in 1957. They have never been to the Super Bowl, which began in 1967.

"I haven't been through as much pain as a lot of Lions fans," he said, adding that he was alive for the 2008 season, when the Lions didn't win a single game, going 0-16, but he was only 5, and not yet a fan.



South Lyon High School senior Anthony Writer, 17, was named the Detroit Lions' Fan of the Year.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"Even in this tough time of COVID, I built a community where fans can talk about football and about the team we all support."

Anthony Writer Detroit Lions Fan of the Year

"They are OK with being average and that isn't how you win football games and the Super Bowl. That's my frustration," Writer said. "They need to be aggressive and I think they need to not settle for good, they need to strive to be great."

Writer believes firing Head Coach Matt Patricia might be a step in the right direction, and also predicted — correctly — Patricia would be on the way out if he didn't win on Thanksgiving.

Regardless of the Lions' fumbles, Writer loves his team, and his favorite player is Matthew Stafford, the only quarterback the Lions have had since Writer began following the team.

Writer enjoys watching most football teams play, except for the Lions' rivals. At the college level, he is a fan of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, by proxy since his father is from South Bend. His mom, Betsy, is a fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes.

As a perk of winning Detroit Lion Fan of the Year, Writer recently was able to participate in a Q&A session with NFL



Writer believes he was chosen because of the YouTube channel he started this year, "WriterWrong," which is dedicated to "all things Lions."

Hall of Famer Cris Carter, where he asked the former Viking about his current profession as NFL broadcaster. It is a career that Writer wants to pursue, and he plans to study sports broadcasting at either Adrian College or Trine University next year. Both schools have football teams, and Writer could be in attendance at a game next fall after a season with almost no fans in attendance.

Before he gets there, however, he has

a shot at attending a game that would be extra special in what has already been an extraordinary year.

As the Detroit Lions Fan of the Year, Writer is now up against 31 other fans for the designation of NFL Fan of the Year.

The grand prize? A February trip to Super Bowl LV in Tampa, Florida.

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

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Mayorga shines in two years with South Lyon East

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Maria Mayorga had some lofty goals for her senior season on the South Lyon East girls swim and dive team.

She accomplished quite a lot, but hoped for even more.

She was two seconds away from breaking the school record in the 100-yard breaststroke and 10 seconds away from a school record in the 500-yard freestyle.

But those records would just add on to what Mayorga had already achieved with the Cougars.

Joining the team last year after moving from Illinois, Mayorga earned back-to-back Lakes Valley Conference titles in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 500-yard freestyle — missing the LVC record in the latter by 0.08 seconds — along with qualifying for each even in the Michigan High School Athletic Association state meet.

Mayorga, along with Abby Seybert, Kayla Kosior and Amanda Lees, earned state qualifying times in the 200 medley relay and the 200 free relay.

This helped Mayorga earn Hometown Life's Athlete of the Week award for the week of Nov. 17, earning 5,502 of the 11,751 total votes cast.

Despite the state meet being pushed back to at least Dec. 23, Mayorga was more focused on how she got to this point, looking back at her two years with the Cougars.

"This season was probably my favorite season," Mayorga said. "It was a way for all of us to get closer and, me being a



South Lyon East senior Maria Mayorga achieved a lot in two years with the team.
COURTESY OF MARIA MAYORGA

senior, I tried my best to make sure everyone felt comfortable with the season. I tried to get to know them as much as possible. Overall, I feel like our team was really close and bonded this year."

To Mayorga, this was a completely different approach than her first year with South Lyon East.

In Illinois, Mayorga swam on a club team, with only three other girls on the team, each focused solely on getting better in the pool.

Joining a team of more than 20 swimmers, along with the transition to six classes per day instead of the four she was used to, Mayorga said it took some time for her to make herself

known.

"When I came to the team, I was pretty shy because I didn't know anyone," Mayorga said. "A lot of girls on the team made me come out of my shell, especially coach Kacey (VanBuskirk), an assistant coach. She made sure that I felt comfortable and I came out of my shell. I became the funny one on the team. I started cracking some jokes and everyone started to see me as the cool senior they could talk to easily."

When Mayorga found out about the postponement, she had a long talk with her father. He encouraged her to look at the big picture, to be grateful that she had a chance to swim this season at all.

All Mayorga wants is a chance to show what she can do, continuing to train on her own in the three weeks she is not allowed to be in the pool with her team.

"I want to end my high school career knowing I did my best," Mayorga said. "I know that it's a really big shot to have the state meet and it's a very hard decision to keep myself motivated, knowing that it might get canceled. But the reason why I really want it is because I know how much it meant to my team to go to states."

As the first South Lyon East swimmer to qualify, Mayorga said she spent a two-week training period by herself training. But she saw the fire in those who were trying to get to where she was.

While Mayorga hopes to swim at the next level — currently talking to teams throughout Divisions 1, 2 and 3 — she has learned, in her two years with South Lyon East, to be an encouraging teammate and a friend to her teammates around her.

To those who were remaining with the Cougars next season, she left them something that has helped her swim career.

"If you ever go against the girl that was twice your size or you felt really unconfident going against or or you thought she was better than you, I just told them that 'You are swimming against them. You are not carrying them on your back,'" Mayorga said.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17.

South Lyon East girls swim and dive finishes fourth in LVC

The South Lyon East girls swim and dive team finished fourth in the Lakes Valley Conference tournament Nov. 6 and 7.

The Cougars came out of the weekend with 31 season-best times, recording a 264.5 and finishing behind first-place finishing South Lyon, who recorded a 453, Milford and Walled Lake Western.

Senior Maria Mayorga, who had previously made the state cut for the 500 free and 100 Breast at the OCC meet, was the LVC champion in these two events.

Mayorga, Abby Seybert, Kayla Kosior and Amanda Lees also scored state-qualifying times in the 200 Medley relay and the 200 Free relay.

"I am very proud of the girls for all

they accomplished at the LVC meet," South Lyon East head coach John Burch said. "For us to even have this meet with all that has gone on in the world is a great accomplishment. We swam our best meet of the season and that is what our goal is each and every year. We had numerous best times. It was awesome to see our relays qualify for the state meet."

The girls swim and dive state meet, originally scheduled for Nov. 21 in Grand Rapids, has been postponed after the state and the Michigan High School Athletic Association announced that all fall and upcoming winter sports would be halted due to the increased coronavirus totals in the state.

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Detroit Catholic Central had an "unfortunate ending" to its season, in which its senior-heavy squad and all other teams couldn't play any postseason tournament. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Hockey

Continued from Page 1B

Livonia Stevenson hockey head coach David Mitchell came into preparation for the season knowing a delay could be possible, but led his team on a day-by-day approach: not looking too far ahead and focusing on the task ahead of them.

Heading into his 13th season as the head coach of the Spartans, Mitchell said his main goals for his players do not change when they are not able to be on the ice.

"We have to continue to do the things that are being asked of us, to continually look at development from an individual standpoint that we have been talking about really since this happened back in spring," Mitchell said. "Where the focus would be more on each individual: making sure they need to, number one, stay safe and number two, to develop as an athlete and as a person and to grow as much as they could through these times."

Thrown into the fire

When Farmington United head coach Grant Newton first took the ice with his team for tryout Nov. 3, he was just thankful to be there.

After two years as an assistant coach on the staff, Newton, a former Farmington player, accepted the job of head coach, replacing former head coach Brad Levick.

In his first year on the job, Newton said there has been a learning curve. But due to the coronavirus, every member of the team, from the assistant coaches to the players, are learning on the fly.

"I kind of looked at it as a cool opportunity because this year, I'm really not the new guy," Newton said. "Everyone is going through this 'how do we adapt hockey to be COVID-compliant' at the same time."

Darrin Silvester, who was a former assistant with the Wildcats and with Salem, said he found the perfect opportunity to make the jump to the top job with Plymouth, taking over from Gerry Vento, but did not expect what 2020 had brought.

"It's ridiculous. Let's just be honest:

it's ridiculous. I'm old and I've been coaching a long time My life was perfect. Then there's this opening, and I decided to jump in on it," Silvester said. "Now I've become more of a medical manager of facilities and locker rooms and everything like that."

In the weeks of practices prior to the halt, Newton said he saw a level of drive, leadership and development from his players that he was not sure he would see in the first days. Now, his primary goal is keeping the team connected for however long the pause is.

"Especially for my seniors to go into their final year of high school hockey, to have that kind of put on pause right before we were ever able to play a game, is really hard for a 17-year-old to cope with, especially with the time frame being such a question mark," Newton said. "Like yes, we say three weeks now, but how realistic is that? We don't know."

Any time, anywhere

Mitchell is confident that, with the leadership of the MHSAA, some sort of season will be played.

The Stevenson head coach, who is also a member of the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association Board, said he will do whatever he can to support the MHSAA and possible changes to the season, such as a consolidated schedule or extending the playoffs.

Mitchell said his team will be ready when the time comes.

"We would be ready to go as soon as another team would want to compete with us," Mitchell said. "We understand that this is something that we're all in the same boat, and if that means playing a game two or three days after we get going, I'm all for it."

"The message is 'Any time, anywhere.' Our players have to know that they need to do things on their own. We will be ready to go whenever we are allowed to go."

When the season starts, Kaleniecki has hopes that the Shamrocks will be back in USA Hockey Arena, fighting for what they thought they could accomplish back in March.

No matter when the season starts, he said, he just wants a chance for Catholic Central to finish.

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Mercy's Julia Bishop said, "I don't want the senior year to go by without a single basketball game." HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE PHOTOS

Area basketball teams keep positive attitude during latest pause by MHSAA

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville boys basketball does not technically have a team yet.

As the winter sports season was postponed due to a three-week "pause" instituted by the state in an attempt to curb the spread of the coronavirus, the Mustangs had not yet completed their tryouts for the 2020-21 season.

But head coach Todd Sander's thoughts immediately go to those that experienced this back in March.

Northville, which was holding a six-game win streak, was scheduled to take on Canton in the postseason district finals before the remainder of the winter sports season was postponed, then canceled, due to the pandemic.

"I feel so bad. They continue to keep a good attitude. I think it's getting a little bit harder because everyone went through the two weeks of conditioning, so now you are getting to the most fun part of the season," Sander said. "Now to have it halted again, it's a crazy range of emotions, ups and downs. You just kind of have to stay even-keeled."

This is the main approach basketball teams from around the area are taking with the latest regulations, pushing back practices at least until the end of the three-week period - Dec. 9 - while postponing the start of the regular season until at least Jan. 4.

'They were so hungry'

Julia Bishop plays basketball for the joy of the game.

Already signed to play volleyball at Michigan State, the Mercy senior forward knows that basketball is different than her primary sport due to the amount of contact made on the court. But she is not focused on how much she will get to play. She just wants at least one chance.

"If that means three games a year because of all the crazy stuff happening, that means three games," Bishop said. "I just hope we can do all we can to just be able to stay safe and get on the court because I don't want the senior year to go by without a single basketball game."

Michigan High School Athletic Association Executive Director Mark Uyl remains confident that this will happen for Bishop and other teams throughout the state. Despite the pause in schedule, he stressed that the MHSAA will try in all its power to still have three distinct and complete sports seasons through



Northville boys basketball coach Todd Sander.

the 2020-21 school year.

Along with the revised competition schedules, Uyl said he and the MHSAA Board of Directors will talk about either condensing the regular season schedules or pushing back the state finals to give players a full postseason experience.

While there was increased uncertainty heading into the 2020-21 winter season, Plymouth girls basketball coach Ryan Ballard saw increased fire from his players.

He said, players were at the Ply-

mouth gym as early as 6 a.m., multiple days per week, getting shots up and working, making the six days of practice prior to the postponement.

"They were so hungry," Ballard said. "They are so hungry to be together and to come together as a team. These first six days, the energy was as good as we've ever had it."

New-look basketball

Sander said throughout the fall months numbers were about what they

had always been, but that kids were wearing masks through conditioning sessions and open gyms, getting used to what could be the future of the season.

Kareem Smartt, who takes over the head coaching role for the Livonia Stevenson girls basketball season, said the Spartans have made use of their three-court field house to be able to spread everyone out during practices.

"When you are in meetings, you have to be extra loud because you have a mask in your face and you have to talk though more of the drills that you do," Smartt said. "We want everyone to be separate."

However, the uncertainty brought questions from players: What will this season look like? Will we miss this whole season?

Smartt was forthright with his players, telling them he knew as much as they did. But as teams wait for an answer, he encourages positive thinking and for players to get comfortable playing with a mask on, practicing through heavier and harder breathing to get endurance up.

To Ballard, he has already started to attack the "pause," resorting to Zoom meetings they used through the summer and into the fall to improve team culture. He said his main message is to have his players put the team first, taking care of their business off the court and not putting themselves in situations where they could be exposed.

Sander knows the resilience of his players, even though, he said, this blow will be hard to stomach.

But as they wait to return to the courts as a team, the Northville head coach, who said he has never been through anything like this before in his tenure with the Mustangs, said his focus needs to be on the kids.

"I wasn't real fired up about wearing a mask or having to coach in a mask, and no student sections... it would be such a unique experience and unlike anything I've ever (experienced), an environment I've ever coached in," Sander said. "But at the same time, it would be selfish for me to worry about that because the kids want it so bad, so we desperately want to do anything we can do to give them the experience to have a senior year, a senior sports year."

"We will do anything we have to. I feel we owe it to our kids."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Twitter: @ColinGay17. Send story ideas to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Work-from-home items fill holiday lists

Give the gift of connectivity this year



Talking Tech
Jefferson Graham
USA TODAY

Are you feeling practical?

The holiday shopping season begun despite the persistence of COVID-19. Do you know what you'll be purchasing?

Stephen Baker, a longtime analyst with the NPD Group, which tracks sales of consumer products, says to expect a holiday filled with non-sexy products such as computer monitors, external mice and keyboards and routers.

"You're not going to give a spa certificate or holiday tickets to Bermuda," said Baker. "Instead, we're seeing more tangible gifts like a router. Give your family the gift of better internet connectivity."

This year, the pandemic has put a twist on consumer electronics sales. Shoppers already have pushed huge sales gains for products that make it easier to work and learn from home, Baker said.

Router sales: up 50%. Computer monitors: up 80%. Big-screen TVs: up 35%.

Baker sees that trend continuing for the holiday shopping season, where the next generation video consoles from Sony and Microsoft (PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X and S) are expected to be the hardest to get. New iPhones will be the biggest sellers of the holiday, along with Apple AirPods and other headsets, per Daniel Ives, an analyst with Wedbush Securities.

What else is hot?

- TVs traditionally are the best sellers for the holiday, as consumers opt for the bargain prices. Baker said to expect many 65-inch sets for as low as \$250, and even larger ones to be heavily discounted.

- Computer monitors. Baker said this is the fastest-growing category in consumer electronics. "Kids want a bigger screen when they're doing education at home, parents are adding second or third screens to their home setup for work. Screens are clearly much more important than they've been before."

- Streaming sticks. With virtually every TV being a "smart" TV with built-in streaming now, you could expect sales of the Roku and Amazon Fire TV streaming sticks to take a hit. But no, said Baker. They will continue to be



Standing in line to get an early jump on doorbuster sales is likely to be a thing of the past. TARGET



iPhone 12 Pro Max and Mini APPLE



Streaming sticks, including Roku's, are popular. ROKU



Expect lower prices on big-screen televisions. GETTY IMAGES

among the most popular products. Sales are already up 40%, and for the past several years, Amazon traditionally lists the Fire TV streaming stick as one of its top sellers at holiday time.

What's not hot?

- Smart speakers. Amazon traditionally massively discounts the Echo speaker line during the holidays, but so far this year, Baker hasn't seen a "huge jump" in sales for these products during COVID-19 times.

That said, he expects Apple's HomePod Mini, it's first consumer priced smart speaker, at \$99, to be a big seller, fueled by Apple's marketing muscle. All of Apple's best-selling products, from

iPhones, iPads, Macs and Apple Watches, have seen a boost from pandemic-era customers, the company has said.

- Smart home devices. These products have been heavily touted over the last few years, but getting smart locks and other automation products to work can take some skill. Baker says none of them are particularly strong sellers, except for the video doorbell category, which monitors what's going on outside your front door.

Meanwhile, the Black Friday of your memory, the one of massively discounted TVs that serve as "doorbusters" to bring in hundreds of people was a thing of the past this year.

The Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention classified "shopping at crowded stores just before, on or after Thanksgiving" on a list of higher-risk activities to avoid and in guidance issued ahead of the fall holidays also suggest more online shopping.

Neil Saunders, managing director of the retail consultancy Global Data, said the idea of any retailer driving crowds of people into their stores is a "non-starter."

"No retailer can run the risk of overcrowding, and so all will be looking to balance the need to drive sales with the need to keep people safe," Saunders said.

But have no fear, the lines and doorbusters will be back next year, Baker says.

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Prevent COVID-19 at work

By ZipRecruiter.com

Each year, when cold and flu season comes around, we find ourselves thinking about health, hygiene and germs at work. Preventing illness in the workplace is always part of good workplace etiquette. This year, with the outbreak of COVID-19, staying informed about health and hygiene in the workplace is especially important.

So far, the evidence suggests that COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person contact, especially coughing and sneezing, and possibly from surfaces that have been contaminated from a person carrying the virus. This is similar to other respiratory viruses as well as seasonal influenza strains, and the steps you should take to stay healthy are similar. Both the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization provide guidance on how to manage your personal risk for coronavirus, flu and other illnesses:

- **Stay home if you are sick:** Don't come to the office if you have flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat. You should stay home for at least 24 hours after your symptoms have resolved.
- **Tell your boss or supervisor that you are sick:** You can work together to make accommodations like working from home and calling into meetings that will allow you to stay on top of your work without needing direct contact with others.
- **Keep physical boundaries at work:** According to the CDC, COVID-19 can be spread person-to-person at a distance of up to 6 feet. If you have any symptoms, like coughing or sneezing, try to maintain space between yourself and others.
- **Practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette:** Be sure to cover your nose and mouth with a tissue (or your upper arm) and always wash your hands afterward. This will help prevent spreading the virus through the air or contaminating surfaces in the office.



- **Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly:** When you can't wash your hands with soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Check the label to make sure it contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **Keep surfaces clean:** A flu virus can live on a surface for up to 48 hours, and there are studies that suggest the coronavirus (including COVID-19) can survive on some surfaces up to nine days. Surfaces or items like phones, railings and doorknobs that you or others touch frequently can be a source of contamination. Cleaning these frequently with soap or cleaning agents can help prevent the spread of infection in the office.
- **Reconsider your business travel:** This is one preventative measure that is unique to the coronavirus right now because of infection rates in other

countries. If you frequently travel internationally for your job, especially to countries that have serious outbreaks of COVID-19, make sure you are communicating with your boss about alternative arrangements.

- **Keep yourself informed:** Make sure you know your company policy for taking sick leave and be familiar with state and local laws about sick leave and paid time off. There are no federal requirements for sick leave. Talk to your boss to find out if your company has contingency plans if the outbreak becomes more serious. The CDC is recommending businesses be prepared to implement social distancing measures and other precautions. Find out if your employer has plans in place, such as expanding telework options.

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ACROSS

1 Played golf on the green
7 Baseball card company
12 Indy sponsor
15 Andy's pal
19 Ryan and Tatum
20 Little Mermaid's name
21 Superman's love interest
23 Kitschy lawn adornment (1997)
25 Rotating part in a water pump
26 Chicago-to-Atlanta dir.
27 Fraternal org. with lodges
28 Canine with gray brindled fur (1993)
30 Carnival treat on a stick (1998)
35 Loch monster, informally
36 Shoe parts
37 Piccolo's kin
39 Skin art
43 Retail store's beginning?
44 Rice — (food brand)
46 Iowa college

48 Woman on "Frasier"
49 Plant also called bachelor's button (1958)
53 Glitzy display (1993)
57 Verse tribute
58 Counterpart of masc.
59 Test versions
60 Old — (quaint)
61 Sky, to the U.S. Air Force (2003)
66 Tax-deferred svgs. plan
67 Nestlé movie theater treats
68 Zadora of "Butterfly"
69 "That's a big yes from me!"
73 "Criminal Minds" airer
74 Grassland on the slope of a peak (1998)
78 Pond growth
81 Curt
82 P.O. arrival
83 Hip-hop "Dr."
84 Plant rolled about by the wind (1993)
86 Makeup of many dunes (1998)
90 Deg. for a future exec

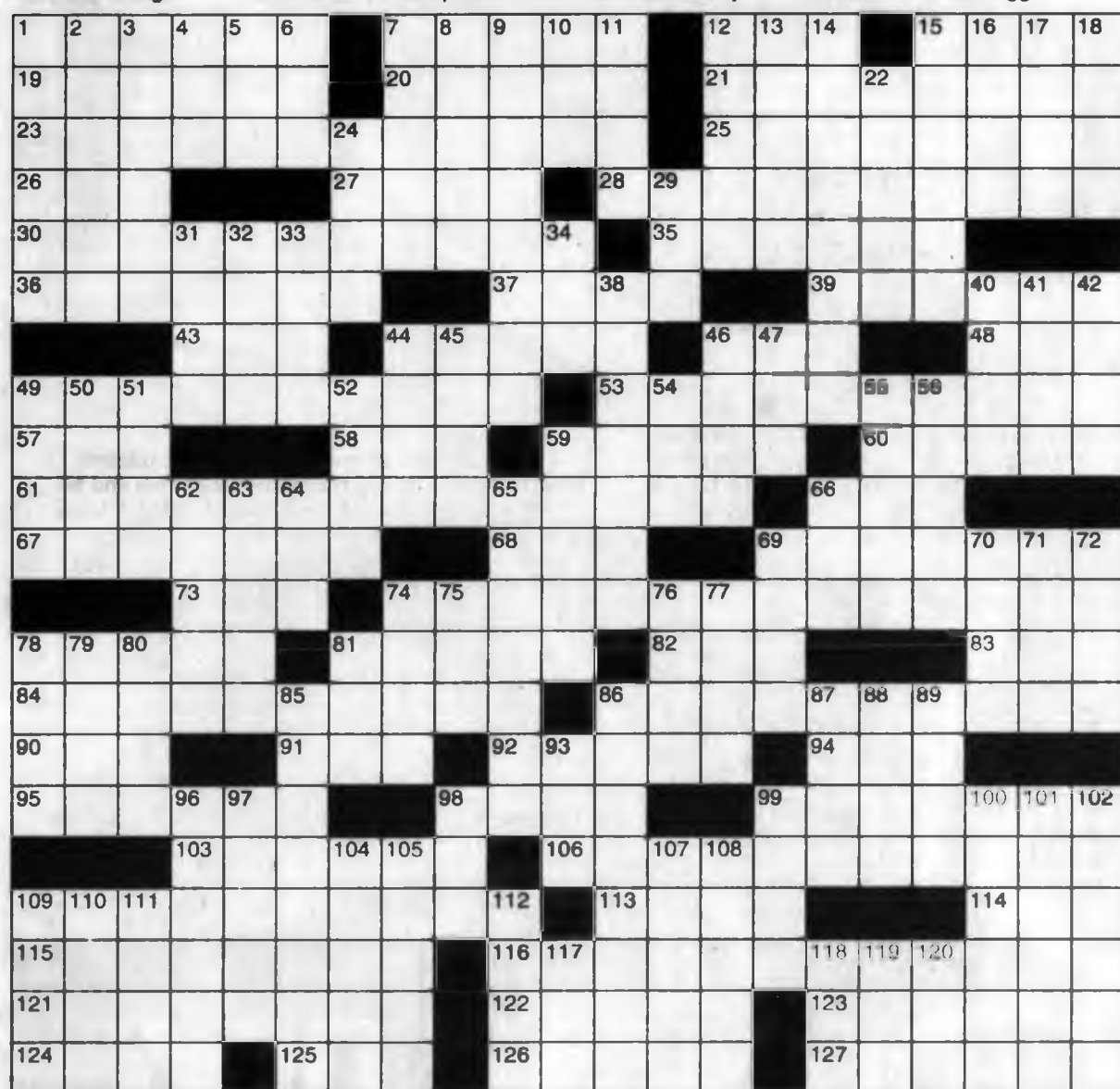
91 Large tank
92 Novelist Jong
94 Often-refined resource
95 Capitol group
98 Life story: Abbr.
99 Gets by
103 Lose all feeling
106 Both pleasant and sad (1958)
109 "The final frontier"
113 See 54-Down
114 Caustic alkali svgs. plan
115 Muscle rotating the forearm to a palm-down position
116 What each of this puzzle's featured answers is (with the year it was introduced)
121 Lily Tomlin's little girl persona
122 Confine
123 Spelunking chamber
124 Pecans, e.g.
125 "Norma —"
126 Hops-drying ovens
127 Sports deals

DOWN

1 "Nova" genre, for short
2 Togetherness
3 Doctrines
4 "... we'll — a cup o' kindness ..."
5 Pixieish sort
6 WWW access inits.
7 Florida port
8 Sky hunter
9 Missed badly
10 Wooden pin
11 Vegas fixture
12 Gloppy stuff
13 Burial places
14 Calumet part
15 100% wrong
16 St. — (French resort)
17 Like Nash's "lama"
18 Feudal slave
22 Opera — (many a Handel work)
24 Basic skills
29 Suffix with hero
31 Smallish city
32 Royal Norse name
33 Little — (Dickens girl)
34 Yang go-with
38 Tried to hit, as a clay target
40 British trolley

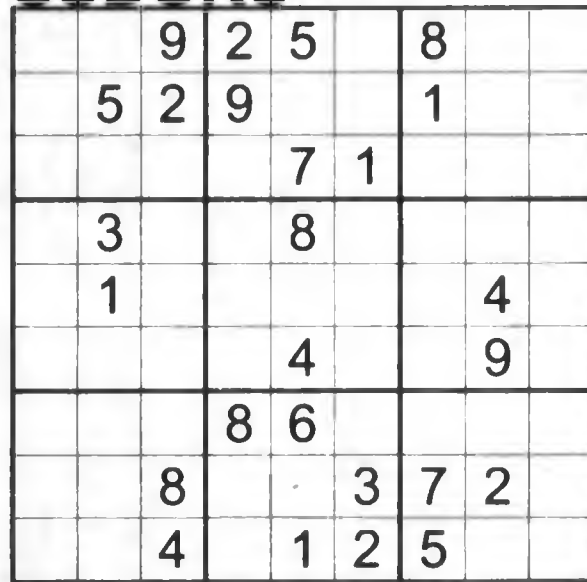
41 Leak slowly
42 Rocker
Osbourne
44 — bit (just slightly)
45 — Martin (cognac)
46 Energy mogul
47 Pound divs.
49 Dairy animals
50 Norse god
51 Move, in Realtor lingo
52 "Just the Two —" (1981 hit)
54 With 113-Across, had some humble pie
55 Based on — story
56 Fancy crown
59 Square in the first bingo-card column
62 Mr. T movie
63 Biblical tower setting
64 Old hi-fi buys
65 "The Da Vinci Code" group
66 Suffix with hero
69 Apropos of
70 Old Icelandic saga
71 Michael who played Worf
72 Had liabilities
74 Confront
75 Often-refined resource

76 Sir Guinness
77 "— boy!"
78 S&L devices
79 Garage job
80 Certain Fed
81 Pan Am rival
85 Planet seen at sunset, old-style
86 Canon or Sony products, for short
87 Wave sound
88 Baking pans
89 Deli dish
93 Steal from
96 Go-between
97 Yeshiva text
98 Telly network
99 Cry feebly
100 Solidified
101 Pal of Pooh
102 Ships' backs
104 "Once — midnight dreary ..."
105 Seine feeder
107 "Taste this"
108 Cel figures
109 Not closed
110 Language of Pakistan
111 "Snap —!"
112 Canyon effect
117 Actor Stephen
118 Be a thespian
119 Road vehicle
120 Eggs



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

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

12/03

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!

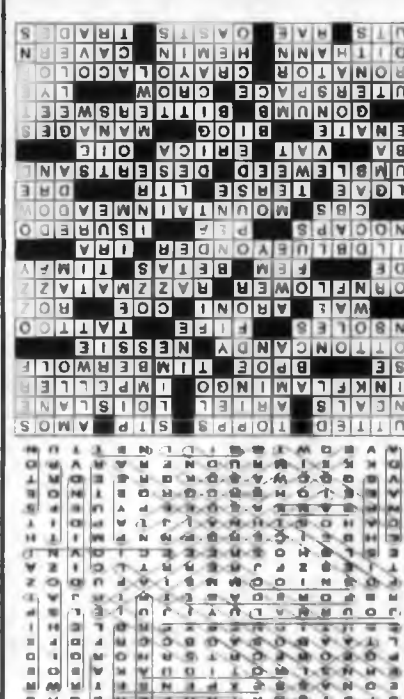
MONEY MATTERS

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

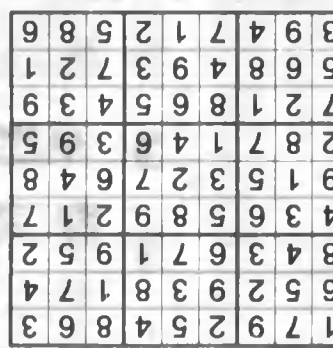
P S F S T S A K T R O P E R E Q H U
A E D N A S S E X P E N S E T R W R
Y E R N S L R O T I D U A K A E O E
M P G E O B E C R T S R H O R G L C
E L T A A B O S A G B C C R F D F E
N E R U T I D N E P X E R B L E H I
T J O U R N A L U Y I J U I E L S P
S R B F O R E C A S T T P T P J A T
S F D S N I O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

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