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Winter sports delayed again

SPORTS, 1B

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Oakland County ramps up vaccine efforts

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi may get a big shot in the arm when it comes to COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

The Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., could be the next destination for those seeking pro-

tection against the virus that has been identified in more than 56,000 Oakland County residents and has killed 1,489 of them in the past 10 months.

Communications Director Bill Mullan confirmed last week that the Oakland County Health Division is in talks with Suburban officials to use the event center's parking lot as a drive-thru loca-

tion for administering vaccinations. He expected to reach an agreement soon.

There is one caveat: Before Suburban can be used for inoculations, the county needs to receive an adequate supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses from the state.

"Our health officer requested 5,000 doses this week, but we were sent the usual 1,950 doses," Mullan said. "If we

had received 5,000 doses, it's possible we would have opened Suburban as early as this weekend."

Five thousand doses were requested because the county thought that was a "reasonable request," Mullan continued, but the health division has the

See VACCINE, Page 6A



Flower Bar employee Cece Alcaraz hands a coffee to a customer waiting outside the drive-up window in Salem Township.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Salem coffee shop adds drive-up window

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Adding a drive-up window was never in the cards for Flower Bar.

After opening the small building in Salem Township to sell coffee and gifts more than three years ago, everyone in the family-owned business never had

conversations about adding a drive-up window.

Then COVID-19 arrived. Commuter traffic between Ann Arbor and South Lyon that would usually stop at the business at 5241 N. Territorial for a morning cup of coffee dissipated. After remaining closed for the first three months of the pandemic, the shop re-

opened over the summer, but without its regular flow of customers.

As the family looked for ways to keep busy and keep customers coming to the shop, they decided the pandemic was reason enough to add a drive-up window to the shop.

See COFFEE SHOP, Page 8A

New Chick-fil-A eyes late January opening

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Fans of chicken sandwiches from a certain fast food chain don't have to wait much longer to get their fix in northwest Wayne County.

Chick-fil-A is putting the finishing

touches on its newest metro Detroit location at 20135 Haggerty in Northville Township and is expected to open its doors later this month.

Justin Lurk, principal development leader for Chick-fil-A, said during a Livonia City Council meeting Jan. 6 that the Northville Township location was

expected to open Jan. 28. That opening, he said, should help give customers another option in the region and assist with long lines of traffic in Novi.

"Northville is opening in two weeks, on the 28th," he told the council.

See CHICK-FIL-A, Page 8A

Milford plans for Winterfest, summer concerts

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Milford is ready to rock and roll after almost a year of cancellations.

The village council tentatively gave approval for some upcoming events, conditioned upon COVID-19 restrictions being lifted by the state.

Winterfest will be the first, set to usher in a return to organized events Feb. 6.

"We are trying to make things happen in light of not being able to have anything last year," Parks and Recreation Chairman Steve Wolfe told the council.

He said organizers would take precautions for the event that features an open ice rink, bonfire and treats. Health department guidelines including social distancing and mask wearing would be followed. There will be capacity limits on the ice rink and around the bonfire.

Hot chocolate would be offered in one-time use cups, while s'more kits would be provided in individually packaged sandwich bags.

The event typically draws no more than 250 people to Central Park, and Wolfe said only about 75-100 people are there at one time.

Attorney Jennifer Elowsky noted that with current state restrictions, only outdoor gatherings of 25 or fewer people are permitted, but Wolfe said he believes that will change.

The council unanimously supported the Winterfest plans with the caveat that whatever state restrictions in place at the time be followed.

They also gave the green light for Wolfe to make plans for other events, including spring and fall picnics, movie nights, and the Concerts in the Park series this summer, for which band bookings are beginning.

The season would kick off June 3, and run Thursday nights through July 29, with rain dates on Aug. 5, 19, and 26.

All plans are subject to change.

One event that will not be held in person this year is the Huron Valley MLK March on Main Street, which was planned for Jan. 17. Organizers told village council officials they hope to hold virtual activities to honor the memory of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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JAN. 29-31
WINE SALE

Sakura Novi plan renewed

Susan Bromley hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Sakura Novi development, originally conceived as an "Asian village," has been reincarnated.

For the sixth time. The Novi City Council approved a rezoning of the property on the north side of Grand River, east of Town Center

Drive and south of 11 Mile Road, as well as a sixth amendment to the purchase of the city-owned parcel by Robert B. Aikens & Associates, LLC and Robertson Brothers Homes.

Both motions, which passed in 5-2 votes, have conditions attached. Council members Justin Fischer and Laura Marie Casey voted no.

"In an extremely difficult time, the developer wants to invest \$60 million," Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Staudt said during the council's Jan. 11 meeting. "These (developments) will be few and far between going forward."

Fischer said he wasn't on the council three years ago when he heard about the project, but was ecstatic at the time for a development.

He is far less so now and didn't support a development in which the latest changes include an additional 14 multi-family residential units and an unclear timeline for return on investment for the city. He noted the city was selling the property for \$3 million, five years after purchasing it for \$2.8 million. He also questioned the tax abatements of at least a 50 percent reduction for several years, the developer will receive.

"Each amendment is a detriment to the original vision and plan," Fischer said.

He added that while he believed retention of One World Market was important, additional apartments was a diminishment of the project.

Council member Andrew Mutch said the tax abatement structure was not clear. But he said he would support the development — for now.

"Cleanup of the pond and the amenities around the pond is what keeps me interested in this," he said.

Warehouses planned at former Ford plant site

David Veselenak hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One of the largest major empty commercial sites in western Oakland County is poised for some major redevelopment.

Plans to construct warehouse and industrial buildings at 104 acres of the former Ford Assembly Plant site off Wixom Road were reviewed Monday by the Wixom Planning Commission. The plans call for the construction of more than 1.5 million square feet of warehouse and industrial space built over several phases. The development would result in an investment of about \$120 million into the site, according to Kansas City, Missouri-based Flint Development, which is working on the project.

No tenants have been identified for use at the site, said Hunter Harris with Flint Development, but he said he expects it won't take long for the buildings to be occupied.

"We understand what needs to take place in order to have a Class A project here," he said. "We're making a major bet financially here that if we build this, they will come."

The development could result in about 750 new jobs in the first phase, he anticipated.

The planning commission unanimously recommended approval for both a preliminary site plan and rezoning request, as well as a special land use after a public hearing Jan. 11 during a special meeting online. No members of the public speak.

The issues will now head to the city council for its review and decision. A final site plan with more detail of the structures, will eventually need to return to the planning commission for its final approval.

Flint Development hopes to receive the final approvals from the planning commission next month with construction beginning in spring. Harris said the plan is to have the first phase constructed and completed by the end of the year.

Additional buildings could come at a later time, but Harris said they want to gauge where the economy is at that point to determine if more demand for such buildings exists.

"We'd like to see how the market reacts to the first plan before committing to the second phase," Harris said. "We have some flexibility in that plan."

The new industrial center would be constructed north of the current retail development at the site, which includes businesses such as At Home and Menards.

The redevelopment comes more than a decade after the last vehicle rolled off the assembly line at the former plant. The assembly plant last manufactured a Ford vehicle in 2007 and the structures on the site were demolished beginning in 2012.

The impact such a development was not lost on commissioners, who peppered representatives for the project with questions regarding several issues during the two-hour meeting.

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

hometownlife.com

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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, January 27, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. on the Zoom Video Conference electronic meeting platform to consider **JSP20-36: KARIM BLVD SURGERY CENTER, FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL.** The subject property totals approximately 3 acres and is Parcel 50-22-24-476-031, which is located west of Karim Boulevard and south of Grand River Avenue (Section 24). The subject property is zoned OS-1 (Office Service District). The applicant is requesting to remove one regulated woodland tree in order to construct a 16,941 square foot surgery center, with a two-story 11,412 square foot office for general office use.

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



Subject Parcel ID's: 50-22-24-476-031

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 January 27, 2021 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/pcomment

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: January 21, 2021

(11-00003808) 3x12

Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign short of \$8M goal

As people everywhere set their New Year's resolutions for a more hopeful 2021, The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit is urging the community to consider its neighbors in need. The nonprofit's annual Red Kettle Campaign is \$1.9 million away from reaching its \$8 million fundraising goal.

Every donation provides help and hope to those in need throughout Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. Donations help those struggling to pay rent, unable to work due to disability, shelter and more.

"This past year has been turbulent and trying, but we made it through. Though 2020 was not very kind to our community, together we can Give Hope to those who need it most in 2021," said Major Timothy Meyer, general secretary, metro Detroit area commander and regional chief operating officer for The

Salvation Army Eastern Michigan Division, in a release. "If you are in a position to give, please give generously. You can make a difference by joining in our Fight for Good to provide critical social services and programs to directly support those in need throughout Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties."

Salvation Army supporters can help support the nonprofit's efforts by: Texting GIFT to 24365; visiting salmich.org, calling 877-SAL-MICH; or sending a check, made payable to The Salvation Army, to 16130 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075.

The campaign ends Jan. 31.

Founded by William and Catherine Booth in London, England in 1865, The Salvation Army is a faith-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to serving people in need without discrimination.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 11, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. on the Zoom Video Conference electronic meeting platform to consider **ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.295 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION: ARTICLE 3.0 ZONING DISTRICTS, SECTION 3.31 "PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS" IN ORDER TO PERMIT STAND-ALONE MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE WITH CONDITIONS AND SUBJECT TO SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL IN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE REGIONAL CENTER DISTRICT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE.**

All interested persons are invited to attend. The proposed text amendment is available for examination and review at the Planning Division of the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., or by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org

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.

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Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: January 21, 2021

(11-00003808) 3x12

Survivor of sexual abuse now advocates for others

Susan Vela
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH

Father as predator

Caitlin Conklin never wanted a tattoo until she found the strength to tell someone her dad had been molesting her for 10 years, beginning when she was 13.

The "still I rise" script on Conklin's right forearm pays homage to Maya Angelou's poem and an insurmountable spirit in the face of life's injustices.

Conklin needed a personal talisman that reminded her of everything she survived.

Conklin, a 25-year-old Plymouth High School graduate and Northville Public Schools special education teacher, is ready to share her own experiences as an advocate for other sexual assault survivors.

She wants to share her survivor's tale by penning a book, starting a podcast or maybe partnering with a nonprofit organization. For now, she's open to listening and sharing and promoting the power of speaking out.

"It was hard," she said of her decision to talk about her dad's visits to her bedroom. "Every time it would happen, I would sit there and say, 'OK. Is today the day?'"

"I didn't want to hurt the family, which is funny because really it was him hurting the family. But I didn't have that mindset. I knew that there would be repercussions."

As she told Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Ulysses Boykin during her father's sentencing, she was an awkward but happy 13-year-old girl wearing braces and with "a horrendous haircut" when her father became her predator. She had just made the cheer team and was looking forward to her freshman year in high school.

"The person who was supposed to protect me from harm and trouble became my predator," she told the judge in a statement.

Conklin admits two things propelled her to tell on her father when he last assaulted her in March 2019. There were the women and girls she had watched reporting on the sexual abuse of Larry Nassar, who violated them under the guise of medical care. There also were two nephews she loved dearly.

She had been living under her father's authority, not knowing what to do with such a powerful secret. Yet enough was enough, especially if it meant keeping her nephews safe from her own abuser.

She told family and the dominoes began to fall.

Her father talked to a therapist. The therapist apparently shared with police what he had to say.

Caitlin Conklin pursued charges, which further tore her family apart, perhaps irreparably. She still doesn't know.



Caitlin Conklin is an advocate for other sexual assault survivors.
COURTESY OF CAITLIN CONKLIN

Daughter vs. father

Larry Conklin, 60, of Canton, pleaded guilty to a first-degree count of criminal sexual conduct and three counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct in September 2019.

He was sentenced to 20-35 years in prison a month later, according to online court records.

His daughter was already tattooed when the proceedings happened.

"I realize that I betrayed you and cheated you out of so much," the father told his daughter during the sentencing. "But please know that I care about you, and I will always love you."

She took her father's statements in court as one more manipulation from a controlling man who once texted her regarding the length of an ice cream date when she didn't return home after two hours. At the time, she was about 20 years old, visiting on a break from Grand Valley State University in Allendale.

And then he and his attorney filed a motion earlier in 2020 asking for a lighter sentence.

"He knows what he did is wrong," she said. "He admitted it. But he doesn't think it's wrong enough for 20 years."

Maria Miller, spokeswoman for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, said prosecutors miscalculated two offense variables regarding aggravated physical abuse and criminal sexual penetration when offering a potential sentencing range to Boykin.

Corrected, the sentencing guidelines to consider are a recommended 9-15 years, less than half the original sentence length.

'Still I rise'

Caitlin Conklin willing to tell her story again to court officials. She predicts the damage is a "life sentence" that will stay with her until the end.

She has trust and abandonment issues, despite being in a loving relationship since soon after pursuing charges against her father. There are other barriers she has tried working through with therapy.

She hopes to share her story in the courtroom Jan. 26, when the hearing regarding a reduced sentence is scheduled. If not permitted, she plans to still "make the public aware of how I feel with whatever happens next."

Second gunman charged in South Lyon teen's death

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Anthony Marshall Porter, a 27-year-old Ann Arbor man, was charged in connection to the armed robbery and shooting death of South Lyon teen Dylan Stamer.

Porter was arraigned Wednesday in Novi's 52-1 District Court on three felony charges of armed robbery and three felony charges of possessing a firearm in the commission of the alleged crime.

Bond was denied, and Porter remains at the Oakland County Jail. Court documents say he is to have no contact with his co-defendant Fadi Zeineh and their victims.

In legal jargon, court officials said Porter did use his firearm for force, violence, assault or to instill fear during a "larceny of money and/or marijuana" the night of the crime.

According to investigators, a woman alerted emergency responders shortly after 9 p.m. Dec. 30, to report that someone had broken into her East Liberty Street home, at the intersection of Reynold Street Parkway. She also said she heard gunshots.

Police and firefighters arrived to find Dylan, 17, and his father Kevin, 43, lying wounded in the living room. Dylan was unresponsive and declared dead. His father was last known to be in critical but stable condition at a local hospital.

Zeineh, 19, of Washtenaw County, apparently was gunman who shot and killed Dylan. He recently was arraigned on 10 felonies including felony murder.

Zeineh is scheduled for a February probable cause conference. Porter is scheduled for a Jan. 20 probable cause conference and a Jan. 27 preliminary exam.

South Lyon police said the vehicle that Zeineh escaped in has been confiscated. It's now being processed at the Oakland County crime lab.

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



Porter

Sister works to prevent drunken driving, two years after fatal crash

Susan Vela
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH

Rana Abbas Taylor let more than 100 people know Thursday that what happened to her sister, brother-in-law and their three children in a drunken driving wreck is "not OK."

The fatal head-on collision happened in the early morning hours of Jan. 6, 2019, along Interstate 75 in Lexington, Kentucky.

Abbas Taylor joined Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, D-Deerborn, and representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving in calling for leg-

islation that would make use of vehicle-installed technology to prevent drunken driving.

Their hearing took place a day after the two-year anniversary of the deaths of attorney and real estate agent Issam Abbas, 42; his wife, Dr. Rima Abbas, 38; and their three children, Ali, 13; Isabella, 12; and Giselle, 7.

The family was returning home from a Florida vacation when the crash occurred. A pickup going the wrong way on northbound I-75 struck their SUV.

The pickup's driver, Joey Bailey, 41, of Georgetown, Kentucky, died as well. His blood-alcohol

level was .306, nearly four times the legal limit, and a coroner ruled Bailey the at-fault driver.

A pending wrongful death lawsuit has been filed in Kentucky's courts against the establishments that served alcohol to Bailey before he got behind the wheel.

Dingell said she plans to reintroduce preventative legislation this year. She told the audience there are ways to incentivize the development and implementation of technologies to prevent the losses that result from drunken driving.

"We recognize that this was preventable," she said.

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Northville facing vital issues heading into 2021

Ed Wright hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

As 2020 sprinted toward its climactic closure, Northville residents could walk to a downtown post office, eat a delicious meal while sitting in the middle of Main Street and boast they live in one of the rare small towns in the world that is home to a harness horse-racing venue.

The lifespans of all three offerings hang in the balance with 2021's arrival.

The best bet to gain traction as the new year rolls on is outdoor dining, which was cooked up in June by Northville's city council as an answer to indoor-dining restrictions.

Sections of Main and Center streets were closed to traffic so that restaurants and retail shops could expand social-distancing capacity for their patrons.

The plan, which will go before city council for an extension in March, has been an eye-opening success, according to diners and business owners.

"It's an experiment that I believe is working," Northville Mayor Brian Turnbull said. "We will be holding a meeting on Jan. 12 so that residents and business owners can voice their opinions about whether or not we should make this a long-term plan."

Turnbull said information about the Jan. 12 meeting on the future of the Social District can be found online.

Stamp of approval?

The future of the downtown Northville post office, located near the intersection of Cady and Wing streets, is out of the city's hands, Turnbull said.

In July 2019, the United States Postal Service, citing a need for more space, let the city know that it was seeking "to pursue a New Construction Owned (NCO) facility consisting of approximately 15,845 gross square feet. We are requesting the city support to locate suitable land within the City of approximately 102,000 (square feet) to relocate the Post Office."

The current building cannot be expanded due to a lack of property.

Potential relocation sites included the Foundry Flask area, a Northville

Township strip mall that runs along Seven Mile Road, and the former McDonald Ford building on Seven Mile.

"I just talked to (U.S. Rep.) Haley Stevens last week and she told me no decision had been made yet regarding the post office," Turnbull said. "At the end of the day, the city doesn't have a say on whether it moves or not. ...

"There's no way the building can be expanded because the property behind it is a dog park and there's no way that's going anywhere."

Turnbull said the post office relocation issue has been pushed to the back burner by the federal government due to the pandemic.

Hold your horses

One thing is clear regarding Northville Downs, the last live horse-racing venue in Michigan: Its sprawling 49 acres will one day be developed into residential properties. The million-dollar question is: When?

The property was sold by owner Mike Carlo to Hunter Pasteur Homes in 2018 and redevelopment appeared imminent. However, plans to build as many as 600 residential units were stalled by Northville city leaders, who demanded the project meet requirements of the city's master plan.

"Our planning commission did an outstanding job of reopening the master plan so the city could get more input (on the redevelopment) from residents," Turnbull said. "They organized a series of informational sessions and small-group discussions, and distributed a survey. A second survey will be sent out in January."

"This gives the city good information to work with so we can work with the developer on the project so it turns into a win-win for everyone."

Turnbull said 2021 will see the continuation of a \$6 million infrastructure improvement project in the city.

"Some of our infrastructure dated back to 1895," he said. "We're getting ready for the next 100 years."

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

Milford 2021 plans include Central Park canoe/kayak launch

Susan Bromley hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Milford Village Manager Christian Wuerth is looking forward to some good things in 2021 following a tough pandemic year.

"We're all tired and at that point where we want things to get back to normal," he said. "As the vaccine rolls out and the weather warms up, we can get back to what we know."

Wuerth is celebrating a gift that arrived right before Christmas: news that the DNR awarded the village a \$43,000 grant for installation of a walking path and canoe/kayak launch at Central Park.

The news was culmination of a grant application the council submitted to the Department of Natural Resources last March and meets goals of the village and DNR, including improving pathways and recreational opportunities while protecting natural resources.

The project will feature a circuitous 6-foot wide aggregate path along the edge of the Huron River in the park, and the launch will be "rustic in nature, resembling a natural beachhead that will supply needed access to the river for recreational opportunities."

There is currently no designated access on the river.

Construction on the project, which must be designed and bid out first, will begin late in the year, Wuerth said.

Also planned for this year are important infrastructure upgrades, some of which will not be as visible as the work at the park.

Construction will begin on a more than \$1.3 million Huron Street project which will include road rehabilitation from River Drive to Mont Eagle Street, but also involves extensive work underground as more than 50-year-old, 4-inch water main pipes are replaced with 8-inch pipes.

The project is kicking off a capital



Milford will hope to stop erosion along the bank of the Huron River in its Central Park when it installs a kayak and canoe launch ramp.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

improvements plan that runs through 2026 and has a significant focus on water and sewers systems and drainage issues.

"We are trying to shift to look at the total picture of infrastructure," Wuerth explained. "There may be projects driven by what is underground, rather than road surfaces or traffic... The water main is undersized and in need of attention."

Wuerth is grateful for a voter-approved local road millage as many projects are unlikely to receive state or federal grants as the village competes for limited funds.

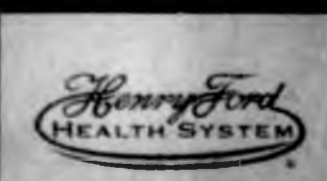
The revenue fallout from COVID-19 is not yet known, he added, although current state fiscal projections are "not as bad as we feared."

Wuerth said Oakland County has been communicating well about CARES Act funding and that has been helpful, particularly to businesses. He is looking forward to the COVID-19 vaccine being made available to critical staff in the village, including police officers and public works employees, which signifies "the light at the end of the tunnel."

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

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Wayne County tells seniors to register for vaccine at hospitals

Wayne County is advising residents 65 and older to register through their online patient portal with their hospital system to receive information on when they might receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The Beaumont, Henry Ford and Ascension St. John hospital systems, as well as St. Mary and Garden City hospitals, will be providing vaccines to seniors, county COVID-19 strategist Dr. Mouhanad Hammami said Tuesday in a meeting with members of the Wayne County Commission Committee on Health & Human Services.

Vaccine information will come to seniors from those hospital systems by mail or email. The Beaumont system is also accepting registrations from seniors not currently part of any health care system, Hammami said.

Wayne County and its health care providers continue to primarily receive the Pfizer vaccine, which requires storage at extremely cold temperatures.

In other COVID-19 news:

- As of Tuesday, 20,022 of the county's 20,475 first-dose vaccines had been given to long-term care patients and health care workers under Phase 1A of

state guidelines. Figures do not include Detroit, which maintains its own set of vaccine statistics.

- Wayne County health officials currently are consulting with RESA, the county's intermediate school district, on vaccination plans for teachers and school staff in public, private and charter schools.

- At present, no troubling vaccine side effects have been reported in Wayne County. Reported vaccine side effects have included muscle soreness and, in some cases, fatigue and fever, but health officials say that is a sign the vaccine is working.

- Health officials advise even vaccinated individuals to continue wearing masks and practicing social distancing to prevent COVID-19 from spreading.

Hammami's presentation can be viewed on the Wayne County Commission's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Additional information on COVID-19, including information on vaccinations, is available on the COVID-19 Resources section of the county website, waynecounty.com/Covid19.



Joan Curry, right, and another worker prepare COVID-19 vaccines inside Novi Fire Station No. 4 on Jan. 12. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Vaccine

Continued from Page 1A

staff and capacity to administer 17,000 doses a week at the five drive-thru locations - mostly fire stations - it has opened across the county.

One of those is Novi Fire Station No. 4 at 49375 10 Mile, at which 280 individuals were vaccinated during a five-hour period Jan. 10, and at which Mullan expected nearly 500 more to be vaccinated by the end of the day Tuesday.

In addition to medical workers that are part of group 1A, health division staff are now also vaccinating individuals in group 1B, which includes teachers, police officers, and people 65 and older.

Vaccinations are by appointment only, but were booked up quickly last week. The state is short on supply as manufacturers of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines alike work to meet worldwide demand.

When the state receives vaccine doses from the federal government, they are distributed to county health departments, but also to hospitals and pharmacies that have contracts to administer vaccines at skilled nursing facilities. Mullan emphasized that the Oakland

County Health Division is administering shots as soon as the vaccines are received. However, if only 1,950 doses are shipped to the department per week, it may be until February before more appointments can be made as second doses of the vaccine must also be scheduled for those who have received the first, about 18 days later.

He said more than 200,000 individuals in Oakland County are 65 and older.

"We have the capacity and are ready to do more if we can get the supply," Mullan said. "Until we do, be patient and know that we are requesting more and putting what limited supply we have into people's arms."

"It is not sitting here, we are administering as soon as we can."

Currently, county officials learn each Monday, about 24 hours before their weekly shipment, how many doses will be arriving.

Visit the newly-established Oakland County Vaccine Hub at www.oakland-countyvaccine.com to reserve a spot for when vaccines become available. Anyone unable to complete the form can call the county's upgraded health hot line at 800-848-5533.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

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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."

FREE BONUS TESTOSTERONE BOOSTER

Every order also gets Dr. Sears testosterone boosting formula *Primal Max Black* for free.

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

HOW TO GET PRIMAL MAX

To secure free bottles of *Primal Max Black* and get the hot, new *Primal Max Red* formula, buyers should contact the Sears Health Hotline at 1-800-443-6881 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 1-800-443-6881 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 NP0121PMAX195 when you call in. Lines are frequently busy, but all calls will be answered.

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The Michigan Elder Law Reporter™

JANUARY 2021

30 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 1.2

THINGS EVERYBODY KNOWS...

EVERYBODY KNOWS: MY TRUST WILL AVOID PROBATE!

REALITY CHECK: YOUR TRUST WILL FAIL...



OUR HERO: JOSH BILLINGS
It ain't ignorance causes so much trouble; it's folks knowing so much that ain't so.

JOSH BILLINGS, 1880's

Some things you really know about. Fishing. Painting. Cross-stitch. Woodwork. Lifetime of experience. You are the expert. Then you hear other folks talk about that thing. And they are wrong. Totally. Thoroughly. Completely.

Welcome back to: Things Everybody Knows. That Just Ain't So! When kids say the darndest things, it is funny!

When grown-ups do, it is not so cute. Regular folks say and believe the darndest things. That waste your time and effort. That cost you money.

That prevent effective action. You found the place where we set the record straight, one issue at a time.

PROBATE PROBLEM: CLEAN UP THE MESS!

You have stuff. Worked a lifetime to earn it. Did not fritter it away. Saved for the rainy day. Your stuff. You own it. You control it. Spend it. Save it. It is yours. No fuss, no muss. Easy.

And then. Stroke. Dementia. Disability. Death. Who is in control now? Not you! Then who? It used to be so easy. Now it is a big mess. When you make a mess, the answer is probate. Guardianship. Conservatorship. Estate Administration.

What if you did not make a mess at all? Let's go back to the "supermarket" from last week's Reporter.



YOU GO TO THE SUPERMARKET

You are toddling through Kroger (or Meijer or Super Walmart or Aldi or Spartan or ?) with a

double armload of groceries. You are in control. Put items down. Pick items up. No problem.

Then. Whoops! Slip and fall. Asparagus in the Air! Soaring Cereal! Bouncing Bread! Fettuccine in Flight! You went from complete control to no control at all. Big mess. Cleanup on Aisle 3... Bring a mop...



PROBATE COURT TO THE RESCUE?

Probate Court is the janitor. Johnny-on-the-Spot to dispose of the debris.

Your will? A mere scrap of paper fluttering among the gallivanting groceries. Golly, I sure do hope the janitor finds that paper! And reads it. And follows it. Let us hope... and pray. That is probate.

HOW TO AVOID PROBATE... DO NOT MAKE A MESS!

Pretty simple. Do not make a mess. No mess? No job for the Probate Cleanup Crew. No probate.



SHOPPING CART TO THE RESCUE!

What if you had put all those groceries in shopping cart? Then you slipped and fell? Wouldn't the groceries stay in the cart? Voila! mess. Nothing janitor Probate Court to do!

YOUR TRUST IS A SHOPPING CART

Your trust is a shopping cart. Put your house, money, insurance, business, cottage, and furniture (but not your IRA!) into your shopping cart trust. Now comes death or disability. Slip and fall! But your stuff is safe in the trust! No mess. No probate. Whee!

WHY MOST TRUSTS, INCLUDING YOURS, WILL FAIL

You have a beautiful, brand new shopping cart. But you did not put your stuff in it. It is empty! You are still carrying around all/most/some of your stuff. If (when) you slip and fall, that stuff is going to make a mess. And that means probate. And your lawyer put a memo in your trust binder that makes it clear: it is all YOUR fault.

I guess you should have read all 567 pages of legalese in that binder... Oh well. Now your kids will have to probate your estate. I wonder if there will be any attorney fees for that...

EVERYBODY ELSE KNOWS YOUR TRUST WILL FAIL

Failure is a given. Your lawyer knows it. Your banker knows it. Your insurance rep knows it. Everybody knows that you will not put your stuff into the trust. And then the "pour-over will" must be probated. Did you know that? No? Hmm. I guess not "everybody" knows your trust will fail. Probate is your destiny! Probate costs are your legacy!

WAKE UP. SMELL THE COFFEE. FACE THE FACTS.

You are not alone. According to one survey, only 4% of trusts are fully funded. That means 96% of trusts will fail when needed.

And even when you try to get your assets into your trust, you will often be misled. How many times have we seen financial advisors claim that accounts have been retitled when only the beneficiary designations were changed? All too common. Does your lawyer know what is going on? Why not ask? Why doesn't your lawyer know?

THE ANSWER: TALK STRAIGHT. DO THE WORK

You need a "funding coach" to help you through the hard work. Perseverance pays! We will help you stick with it. You spent good money to preserve your life choices and protect your legacy. Do not surrender with the finish line in sight.

Why waste the effort you have already spent? Together we will make sure that you did not just throw lawyer fee money out the window. No sugar-coating. No excuses. Results for you and your family.



AMERICAN RENAISSANCE. TIME TO MOVE AHEAD IN 2021.

Last year, the number of regular folks planning their futures dropped. Significantly. Could it be that you had other things on your mind? Riots, nightly violence, capricious decrees, flagrant hypocrisy, obvious media bias and obfuscation. It all takes a toll.

You, Middle-class Michigan, are the foundation for the future. Step by step. Inch by inch. You will pave the way back to normal. Let the chattering classes chatter. There is hard work to be done. And we are just the folks to do it. With integrity. Keeping our promises. Playing by the rules. No cheating. Focused. Undistracted.

Over the last year our Crisis Caseload skyrocketed. Special PACE rules mean more families than ever qualify for immediate help. We are proud to help Middle-class Michigan enjoy what they have earned.

TIME MARCHES ON: DO NOT WASTE ANOTHER YEAR

Last year fewer people focused on planning ahead, yet LifePlanning™ remains essential. Because you matter. Because your family

counts. Because one lost year is too much.

The Carrier Team has been busier than ever, but I fear 2020 was a year of lost opportunity for thousands of regular Michigan families. I am extremely concerned.

Get the information you want. In-person workshops and one-on-one meetings. Recorded and live-streaming webinars. Like you, we have never stopped serving. As you seek out new ways to accomplish your life's work, we are on the same journey. By your side. Making the rules work for the people who play by the rules.

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Sixty minutes that to accelerate your success. An hour to put 2020 in the rear-view mirror. Avoid Nursing Home Poverty. Reject silly Spend Downs. Learn how to preserve your loved one's lifesavings, business, cottage, life insurance. Thousands of middle-class families have learned and use these techniques.

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- Why is an outdated will worse than no plan at all?
- How can I be sure people I trust will make medical and financial decisions for me, if I cannot?
- How can I control the care I get (and do not get) in a medical emergency?
- 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)?

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Residents ask questions on US-23 Flex Route project

Jennifer Timar Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

People had an opportunity to ask state road officials about the planned extension of the US-23 Flex Route to Interstate 96 during a virtual information session on Wednesday.

The Michigan Department of Transportation is seeking public comments through Feb. 4 on preliminary plans for the \$150 million highway construction project, which is set to start in 2023 and wrap up by 2025.

The existing US-23 Flex Route is on nearly nine miles of the highway between M-14 near Ann Arbor to south of M-36 in Green Oak Township.

It allows motorists to drive on the left-hand shoulder on the southbound side of the highway during morning rush hour and the northbound side during evening rush hour and other times when congestion is high. It also features overhead signs that alert motorists to when the flex lane is open and traffic conditions ahead such as crashes and suggested speeds.

MDOT will extend the flex route north through the M-36 interchange to I-96.

Roadwork will also include a series of new roundabouts at the interchanges of M-36 and Silver Lake Road.

Several people who participated in MDOT's virtual meeting had questions about the plan for US-23 between the heavily trafficked Lee Road interchange to I-96 near Brighton.

MDOT traffic engineer Stephanie Palmer said there are things planned to reduce congestion around those major interchanges.

The northbound flex lane — which will be created by widening the left-



MDOT is seeking public comments through Feb. 4 on preliminary plans for the \$150 million US-23 Flex Route extension project. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

hand shoulder — will end between the Lee Road off- and on-ramps, and become an exit-only lane to westbound I-96, Palmer said.

She said it will "let the traffic figure itself out between Lee Road and I-96," and ease congestion.

The southbound flex lane will start between the Lee Road off-ramp and a CSX railroad bridge. A new auxiliary lane will be added north of it, along southbound US-23 between the eastbound I-96 on-ramp and the Lee Road off-ramp.

Three roundabouts are planned for the M-36 interchange at both ramps and at Whitmore Lake Road and M-36.

Two roundabouts are planned at the Silver Lake Road ramps, which will also connect to Whitmore Lake and Fieldcrest roads.

MDOT University Region Planner Kari Martin said there will also be new 10-foot wide sidewalks for pedestrians and bicyclists on M-36 and Silver Lake Road over the highway. The sidewalks will be built on both sides of the roads and through the roundabouts.

Tom Hanf, an environmental and noise supervisor for MDOT, said the flex route extension will have little impact on the local environment.

"It's mostly within the existing MDOT right-of-way," Hanf said.

Roadwork could disturb habitat of federally protected Snuffbox Mussels that live in the Huron River. MDOT will coordinate a plan to minimize habitat disruption with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Hanf said that while MDOT found 17 locations along the route that could benefit from noise barriers, only one barrier is planned near the southbound US-23 ramp on the northwest corner of the I-96 interchange, which is north of where the flex route will end.

He said the other 16 barriers would cost too much. If a barrier is estimated to cost \$49,878 or more, MDOT does not build it, Hanf said.

Some bridge maintenance work is also planned for two overpasses on Grand River Avenue and the Lee Road bridge, and two bridges over the Huron River will be modified, but no overpasses will be replaced.

More information on preliminary plans for the US-23 Flex Route extension will be added to MDOT's website, at <https://bit.ly/3i73gHC>, as it becomes available.

People can share their comments and concerns about MDOT's operational and environmental studies through Feb. 4 by filling out an online comment form at <http://bit.ly/3bz18s6>. Comments can also be emailed to Martin, at martink5@michigan.gov, and MDOT Public Involvement and Hearings Officer Monica Monsma at monsmam@michigan.gov. MDOT is also receiving comments by mail at Michigan DOT-Environmental Services Section, 425 W. Ottawa St., P.O. Box 30050 Lansing, MI 48909.

MDOT also plans to hold more information sessions on the flex route in the future.

How to deal with pensions, 401(k), Social Security at retirement



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

Dear Rick:

My husband and I will be retiring in the spring. We each will receive a pension and will be at full retirement age to receive Social Security.

Thankfully, we paid off our house a few years ago and have no other debt. We are very frugal and since we no longer have a mortgage, we can easily live on one of our pensions. My first question to you is, does it make sense to delay our Social Security until we are 70?

My next question deals with our 401(k). Based upon some of your past articles, we are going to move that to Fidelity upon retirement. Realistically, we will not need this money. Can we do anything to avoid having to take our minimum required distributions at 72?

My last question deals with our estate. We have no children or relatives. Upon our deaths, we are leaving everything to a variety of charitable organizations. Are we under any obligation to inform the charities that they are in our will? We would prefer not to.

Thank you, Julie

Dear Julie:

Congratulations on your retirement. With regards to your Social Security, I agree that it makes sense to delay until

you are 70. By delaying, you will end up earning about 8 percent a year on your money. Eight percent in today's world is a very good rate of return.

With regards to your required minimum distribution at age 72, there is no way to defer that distribution. However, you can choose to donate your required minimum distribution to a charitable organization. By doing this, you are avoiding having to pay tax on your distribution.

Donating required minimum distributions can be a very effective tax-planning strategy for those who no longer itemize their deductions. Other than donating your required minimum distribution to charity, there is no other way to avoid having to take the distribution.

You are under no obligation to inform a charity that you have named them in your will. In fact, you are under no obligation to tell any beneficiary that they are named in your will.

Your will is a private document and only becomes public upon your death. Therefore, you are also free to change your beneficiaries at any time. Your will only becomes irrevocable upon your death.

Good luck in retirement and congratulations on achieving the American Dream.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomadvisors.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please email Rick at rick@bloomadvisors.com.



A customer stops at the drive-up window at the Flower Bar in Salem Township. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Coffee shop

Continued from Page 1A

"It was only COVID driven. We were absolutely not going to do that," said co-owner Laura Huey. "We really like people coming in and chatting with us and shopping."

"We have a lot of fun stuff in here."

The drive-up window opened Jan. 8 after the business extended the front of the building. Customers can pull up to the window from the driveway off Pontiac Trail and place an order. A sign listing some of the more popular items is affixed to the building.

The setup is the best way for the shop

to offer a drive-up service. Crafting a traditional drive-thru like one would see at larger franchises just wasn't an option for the family-owned shop.

"We couldn't feasibly do it around the building," said Cece Alcaraz, Huey's daughter. "We weren't sure how to do this at first and make it look nice and implement it the way we wanted it."

The Flower Bar opened in 2017 after years of work went into the property. A former business run by a woman who used to live in the space and sell flowers in the Washtenaw County community, it's now a unique shop selling local flavor. In addition to coffee, baked goods and other treats, a wide range of art and other household items are for sale in shop.

The drive-up window is perfect for those looking for food, but can be used to pick up anything from the shop. Alcaraz said regulars have pulled up since opening the window and purchased items — such as one customer last weekend who wanted a bird feeder — without entering the store.

"Then they get what they want and they don't have to come in," Huey said. "They wear their mask and we wear our mask."

The shop is open 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

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

Chick-fil-A

Continued from Page 1A

Lurk attended the virtual council meeting in neighboring Livonia, where he was discussing the company's plans for a restaurant at Plymouth and Middlebelt roads that could open later this year if approved.

A spokeswoman for the Atlanta, Georgia-based company would not confirm the date for the Northville Township restaurant provided by Lurk during the Livonia meeting. According to the restaurant's Facebook page, the new location will open in late January.

The restaurant group has slowly begun moving into the area, satisfying the cravings of customers who have long enjoyed the restaurant's food in other parts of the country.

Currently, two freestanding Chick-fil-A restaurants operate in metro Detroit: the location along Novi Road in front of Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi and another in the Fairlane Green shopping center in Allen Park. Others operate inside other buildings: at Detroit Metropolitan Airport in Romulus, the Detroit Medical Center in Detroit and the Somerset Collection mall in Troy.

Plans to open more Chick-fil-A restaurants in the area are coming: in addition to the Livonia location that could be open by the end of 2021, another is planned along Ford Road in Canton.

The restaurant expects to hire about 100 people. Applications are available online at cfanorthville.com or by texting "JOBS" to 248-721-4449. Walk-in interviews will take place every Saturday in January, according to the restaurant's Facebook page.

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



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SPORTS

MLB-sponsored Great Lakes baseball league comes to Milford

Colin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Jet Box Baseball Club has a reputation.

Built off the success of an adult baseball team started in 1969 that went on to win nine regional titles, 10 league titles and three National Amateur Baseball

Federation championships, Sterling Heights-based Jet Box prides itself on teaching and advancing the game, getting players to where they want to be: from the high school varsity locker room to a Division 1 roster.

Tom Trammel knew something was still missing.

His son Tyler is a left-handed pitcher

at the University of Findlay and after his first season was in search of a summer league to stay physically fresh. Many places he looked at were out of state and not easily accessible for the Michigan native.

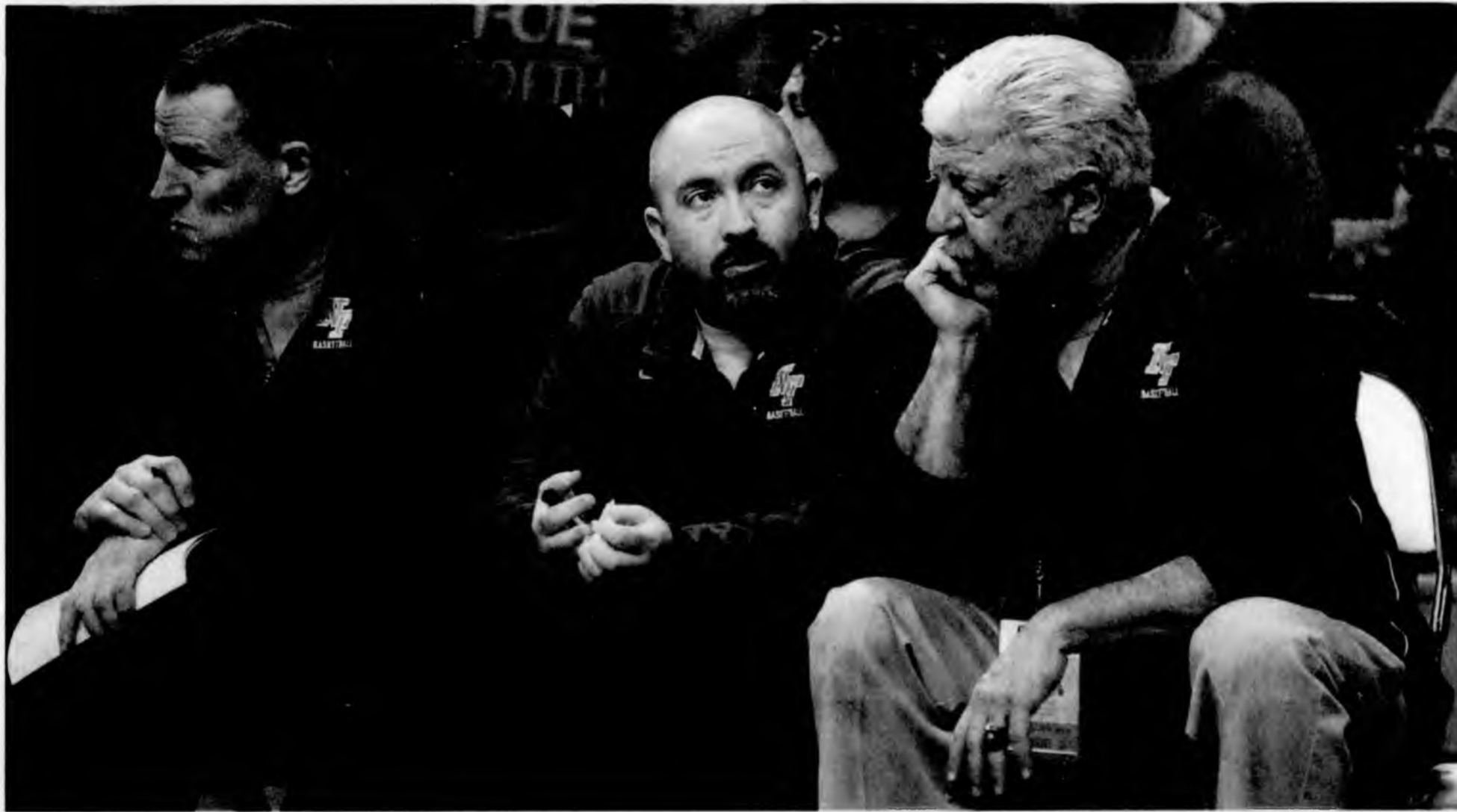
But Tom Trammel knew the talent in the metro Detroit area and made it his mission to give college-age baseball

players a place to play in the summer.

The Jet Box Baseball Club combines its reputation with the reputation of the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, one of five summer baseball leagues sponsored by Major League Baseball.

"When I call the college coaches and I

See **BASEBALL**, Page 3B



"The double standard right now is unfathomable," North Farmington basketball coach Todd Negoshian, center, said of the MHSAA's decision to postpone the season. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Waiting game continues

Latest postponement of season from MHSAA leaves some winter sports cold

Colin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Northville basketball team knew its season was postponed yet again when the players arrived at their afternoon outdoor conditioning session.

Northville head coach Todd Sander addressed it briefly to the group as a

whole at the beginning of the session and then pulled his seniors aside to tell him what he knew: they could practice indoors, but socially distanced while wearing masks, and that its competition schedule was pushed back until at least Feb. 1.

The group of seniors had been through this before, having their junior

season canceled March 12 before the Mustangs were to face Canton in the district final. Now, Sander saw the continued mix of anger, disappointment and frustration among them.

"How many times can you tell kids to stay positive?" Sander said. "We keep dangling these dates in front of them and then we get up to these dates, and

then it changes again. They're upset. They're disappointed.

"They just want to play."

While non-contact winter sports, such as girls gymnastics, bowling and boys swimming has the opportunity to start its season this month, basketball,

See **WAITING**, Page 2B

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Wayne Memorial boys ready to start season with new coach

Colin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Steve Brooks remembers Wayne Memorial basketball in the 1990s.

He remembered the entire town coming out to games during its run of three straight regional titles from 1995-97.

"I knew that they were very successful and were a great program," Brooks

said. "Even when I was a middle school coach in the '90s, Wayne had Lorenzo Guess. They were always in my mind as an upstanding program, representing themselves the right way. Very athletic."

After 18 years coaching basketball teams at Ypsilanti, winning 11 conference titles, eight district titles and three regional championships, Brooks wanted a new challenge, taking the head

coaching job at Wayne Memorial ahead of the 2021 season.

Former Zebras head coach Nkwane Young left the team in October to take a job as an assistant coach with the University of North Dakota women's basketball team, having coached Wayne Memorial to 81 wins, two district titles

See **BROOKS**, Page 5B

"I have a simple philosophy where you can be the best in the world and your shot may not fall that night, man. But good defensive teams, you at least stay in the game and give themselves a good chance to win at the end."

Steve Brooks
Head coach, Wayne Memorial boys basketball



High school basketball, hockey, wrestling halted with latest state order

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and state officials announced that some non-contact sports would be permitted in the latest order Jan. 13, but said that high school winter contact sports would have to wait to return to competition.

Basketball, competitive cheer, ice hockey and wrestling are considered "contact" sports and may begin non-contact practices Jan. 16, per the Michigan High School Athletic Association, with plans to begin the competition schedule Feb. 1.

With the competition schedule being pushed back, the MHSAA plans to adjust its tournament dates for these four sports, which will be announced later this week.

Girls gymnastics, bowling and swimming are considered "non-contact" sports, and could begin.

"We are glad to have three more sports join skiing in returning to full activity, but we understand the disappointment and frustration on the part of our athletes and coaches whose sports are not yet able to restart completely," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said in a statement. "We will continue to



The Northville varsity basketball team stands for the national anthem before a game against Plymouth High. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

adjust schedules to provide all of our winter teams as substantial an experience this season as possible, as part of our greater plan this school year to play all three seasons to conclusion.

"We have shown with our remaining fall sports this month that our schools can participate safely, and we're confident teams will continue to take all the

appropriate precautions as we jump back into indoor Winter activities."

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services director Robert Gordon said that indoor athletes were allowed, but only with distancing and masking. Indoor practices may still happen, but competitions for contact sports, such as wrestling, basketball and hockey, are

not permitted.

"Caution has worked for us in Michigan, and we are staying with our cautious approach today," Gordon said in Wednesday's press conference.

The MHSAA said spring sport teams may be allowed to hold four-player practices and conditioning sessions Jan. 16, but with only non-contact activities.



Salem High School hockey players watch from the bench during a game against Livonia Stevenson. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

MHSAA adjusts winter sports schedules

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After the latest order by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services limiting winter "contact" sports to non-contact activities as of Saturday, but no competition, the Michigan High School Athletic Association released its adjusted dates for basketball, cheer, hockey and wrestling, pushing the finals for each sport into late March and early April.

Spring sports will continue with its original dates, with practices slated to begin March 15. The updated schedule does carry through school's spring breaks.

If permitted by the MDHHS, boys and girls basketball contact practices may begin Feb. 1, with first competitions scheduled for Feb. 4. Cheer and wrestling will begin practices Feb. 1, with competitions starting Feb. 8. Hockey's first practice and first competition date are both Feb. 1.

Michigan state officials announced Jan. 13 that non-professional "contact" sports would still be postponed through the latest order, slated to end Jan. 31.

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

Updated postseason schedule

Boys basketball
Districts: March 23, 25, 27
Regionals: March 30, April 1
Quarterfinals: April 6
Semifinals: April 8
Finals: April 10

Girls basketball
Districts: March 22, 24, 26
Regionals: March 29, 31
Quarterfinals: April 5
Semifinals: April 7
Finals: April 9

Hockey
Regionals: March 15-20
Quarterfinals: March 23
Semifinals: March 25-26
Finals: March 27

Wrestling
Districts: March 15-20
Regionals: March 22-28
Team Finals: March 31
Individual Finals: April 2-3

Competitive cheer
Districts: March 15-20
Regionals: March 22-24
Finals: March 26-27

Waiting

Continued from Page 1B

hockey, cheerleading and wrestling teams will have to wait for a chance to compete.

According to the MHSAA, tournament dates will be pushed back to accommodate the later start. But that does not lessen the frustration.

"The double standard right now is unfathomable," North Farmington head boys basketball coach Todd Negoshian said. "Basketball has been a second-class citizen for years because of football and what they say the amount of money it brings in. Well, the MHSAA, everything right now is bad."

"You can't help but say that the way it looks from the outside looking in — this is just the way it is — they have taken care of football way more than they have ever even tried to get basketball going."

Livonia Stevenson head hockey coach David Mitchell was initially optimistic, like many coaches were. He saw the data released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services saying 99.6% of rapid antigen COVID-19 tests taken by football, volleyball and swimming athletes came back negative.

"We were so thrilled that our student athletes in this fall sports... were taking it so seriously that we thought it would give us some optics to know that high

school student athletes can do this moving forward," Mitchell said.

Detroit Catholic Central head hockey coach Brandon Kaleniecki said he would be lying to say he was optimistic. The team advanced to the state semifinals last March before that season was canceled.

"When the news broke today, your heart sinks a little bit for those kids because if I'm excited as a grown man to get back to it, what about them?" he said. "That's got to be excruciating for these kids."

Despite the competitive schedule being pushed back at least another two weeks, teams will have an opportunity to get back onto the court, the mat or the rink, giving programs time to condition and get physically prepared for a possible season.

Livonia Franklin head boys basketball coach TJ Hurley said the postponement gives his team a chance to do what it wants to do schematically, allowing the coaching staff to teach offensive and defensive sets that they wouldn't have had time for initially with one week separating the first practice and game.

Plymouth girls basketball head coach Ryan Ballard said this was the "bright side" of what proved to be a disappointing day for his athletes: giving them a chance to develop rhythm in both shooting and ball handling.

"We have to focus on the positive of it and try and keep our kids mentally ready," Ballard said. "That's the biggest

thing for me: keep their heads in it where they are focused and want to continue to chase a championship."

Kaleniecki's message to his team with this is similar: while it wasn't what they wanted, it was a step closer to what they wanted.

"Look, this is a step," Kaleniecki said. "This isn't the step that we wanted to be at. We weren't able to take a whole step, but it's a step in the right direction."

However, with the starting and stopping, there is still a level of doubt. There is not the certainty of "we're going to have a season" anymore.

Negoshian said much of that is the MHSAA's fault with its inability to communicate through the process of COVID-19 and its effect on high school athletics.

"The way the MHSAA has handled this, to me, has just been by the seat of their pants in a dumpster fire," Negoshian said. "Like it's just continually pushing dates, publishing dates and getting people's hopes up. All that does is play with people's emotions."

"All you hear the MHSAA talk about was the mental health of people and kids. Dragging people along like that, that's not good for kids' health. It's not. It's sad, but we are going to make the best of it."

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

Milford skiing off to fast start in 2020-21 season

The Milford boys ski team earned three victories in the three races it ran this week, beating Hartland, in a challenging match, West Bloomfield and Walled Lake Western.

The Mavericks beat the Eagles, 30.5-50.5, beat the Lakers, 25-55, and beat the Warriors, 20-76.

Co-captain Carson Chamberlain had a very impressive week, finishing fifth in the slalom and giant slalom. He was joined by Joe Antrim with a ninth and 15th-place finish. Rounding out the field was Jack Hannert at 11th and 45th, Max

Wilkerson, our other co-captain, finished 15th in the giant slalom and a sixth in the slalom, Peyton Chamberlain, who had a stellar first week, finished 16th and 19th, Spencer Blaz finished 30th and 25th and Ben Youngblood placed 31st and 26th.

The girls team has been spinning at a high rate of speed. Maddie Melody has placed first in each of her first five races, something head coach Mary Neighbors said he hopes he can keep up. She is being pressed by teammate Riley Watts, who finished third. While the team is

being anchored by Melody and Watts, Ellie DeYong, Makayla Woolhiser, Kiersten Tokarczyk, Emma Sayles and Bella Woolhiser have each played important supporting roles, according to the head coach.

Next week, the Mavericks will take on Orchard Lake St. Mary's and Lakeland. For the boys team, Neighbors said, this will be a great challenge and will have to bring their "A-game."

For the girls team, he said, it will be another opportunity for strive for perfection.



Milford ski team coach Marty Neighbor, right, talks to a team member on the slopes of Alpine Valley. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Baseball

Continued from Page 1B

mention the Great Lakes League, they know exactly what it is and the type of player we are looking for," Trammel, the team manager, said.

Jet Box was originally slated to join the league in summer 2022, giving Trammel and head coach Steve Herbst time to field a team, fundraise and find a permanent home baseball field. However, the Great Lakes league has put the club on a fast track to begin its first season this June and play the majority of its home games at Milford High School.

Holding the record for most career saves in Eastern Michigan baseball history, Herbst knows the importance of getting high-quality baseball reps in a controlled environment over the summer when players are away from school.

When Herbst began to build his roster, it did not take him long to find players who would fit the mold of Jet Box's first team.

"It was very easy to build that list and all of a sudden have 20, 25 kids in our immediate area that are all playing Division 1 baseball somewhere," Herbst said. "Not too many people realize how many kids that go play baseball Division 1, Division 2 or just college baseball in general, so it's not very hard to fill that roster with local kids."

The Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, consisting of 15 teams across Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, usually



Jet Box Baseball Club President Tom Dimambro, head coach Steve Herbst and general manager Tom Trammel will start a team in the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League this year. COURTESY OF TOM TRAMMEL

catches the attention of first-or-second-year college baseball players from across the country, using college dorms or host families to house players in normal circumstances.

But COVID-19 has narrowed that scope prior to the start of Jet Box's first season, adding only two players from outside the state on its roster.

However, Jet Box has some talent joining the team in its first season, with

Division 1 baseball players such as Ball State right-handed sophomore pitcher Ryan Brown, Eastern Michigan sophomore catcher Ryan Lux and Miami (OH) sophomore shortstop/second baseman William Kopicki.

As a league that is directly associated with the MLB, many view it as a chance to be noticed and scouted years before they are eligible to be drafted.

"It's a very good opportunity for them

to start being seen and be on the radar screen," Herbst said. "They have to be 21 or in their junior year to be drafted by the MLB, so most of our players will be a year or two away from that. It's a great way to start getting exposure."

But the collegiate league team will not only play a major role in developing talent. It will play a role in helping younger players get to where these college players are.

Trammel said his goal for the Jet Box collegiate team is for its players to mentor younger high-school aged players in the club, teaching them despite having to navigate 42 games in 60 days.

"The younger guys want to know how to get there. They want to know what they did to get there," Trammel said. "Me, as an old guy, can tell them all they want. They want to hear it from a kid and it resonates better."

Trammel knows Jet Box has always been a staple for baseball in the mid-west. Ahead of its first season in the Great Lakes Summer Collegiate League, with the talent already acquired, he feels that will remain the same for years to come.

"Steve and I go into every game expecting to win it no matter what the odds are," Trammel said. "Our goal is to go out there and compete like heck, in the end, make playoffs, do well in playoffs if not win the league."

"Will we get there? I don't know, but that's our goal."

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

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Novi wins five-set thriller in state quarterfinal

Colin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Trailing 10-7 in the fifth and final set of the Division 1 state quarterfinal. Novi volleyball head coach Kacy Byron called a timeout. She could sense the game was getting away from her team and in favor of the opponent: Ann Arbor Skyline.

In the huddle, she told her players to breathe and remember what got them here.

"I told them that we got here as a team from believing in each other, working hard and playing hard," Byron said. "Play our game, do what we know how to do and good things would come our way."

"And good things came our way."

Novi senior middle blocker Caleigh Robinson came out immediately and scored a point on a kill, which was quickly answered with a kill by Eagles outside hitter Ayla Dunbar.

Then the Wildcats woke up.

Trailing, 11-8, Robinson recorded a kill and a block, and Novi sophomore outside hitter Sarah Vellucci recorded two service aces to give the Wildcats a one-point fifth-set lead.

But the back-and-forth continued, with Skyline using its powerful outside hitter Harper Murray, who consistently tried to silence the Wildcat faithful in the Ypsilanti Lincoln gym late in the game, including the kill to give the Eagles a 17-16 lead.

However, Robinson and Vellucci stepped up, recording two kills to give Novi (29-4-1) the 18-17 advantage. Junior setter Rachel Karr put on the finishing touches, hitting a ball that grazed the left sideline to secure the 3-2 state-quarterfinal victory over Skyline (24-6) to secure a trip to Battle Creek.

With the five-set state quarterfinal win — 22-25, 29-27, 25-21, 18-25 and 19-17 — Novi was scheduled to face Lowell Friday in the Division 1 state semifinal game. (Due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, results from the semifinals and Saturday's state finals were not available in time for print. Go to hometownlife.com for the latest sports results.)

"I just can't believe it, it was so close," Vellucci said. "I honestly believed, at some point, it would be it, but we really



Novi's Caleigh Robinson, right, spikes the ball toward Skyline's Claire Davis.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pulled together. It was the best feeling to win it that close.

"We've been waiting basically two months to finish this game. We were just like, 'We need to finish this here. This is

our game.'"

When the final point was called and the dog-pile in the middle of the volleyball court commenced, Byron was in shock. She blacked out. She knew the

chances were slim when Novi faced that one-point deficit in an elimination game.

To Byron, it was a game filled with ups and downs: She watched her team explode in the second set to a 15-6 lead, before allowing the Eagles to come back on a 21-10 run and nearly take over before securing the 29-27 second-set win. She watched her team struggle in the fourth set, putting together only one run of three points in a 25-18 set loss.

But for the head coach, Novi showed off its demeanor: not letting one big hit or big mistake deter the players from their goal.

"It just shows how immensely tough our girls are because we had some highs and we had some lows, but we never seemed rattled, we never seemed fazed," Byron said. "I think we kept doing what we need to do on our side of the net."

Throughout the 2020-21 season, Novi had built its success off its team chemistry. It's what gave them the ability to win 33-of-34 sets during Kensington Lakes Activities Association play. It's what gave them the ability to beat rival Northville in five sets in the first round of the playoffs.

However, it was something that was in question after two months out of the gym.

Returning to practices, Karr knew Novi only had a few days in the gym before its date with Skyline, so the focus was on tweaking the little things, the tendencies that the Eagles had — such as their inability to recognize short tips at the net, according to Byron.

To Karr, the one who sealed the victory for the Wildcats and ended up near the bottom of the pile in the celebration, it did not take long for Novi to get its chemistry back, something that showed up Tuesday night.

"This team, I don't know if I can put it into words," she said. "They are absolutely amazing. We all have really good chemistry. We work well together on and off the court. We have so much fun together."

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

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Brooks

Continued from Page 1B

and a conference championship in six seasons.

For the past seven years at Ypsilanti Community, a merging of the former Ypsilanti High School and Willow Run that opened in 2012, Brooks won 117 games with two regional titles – two straight during the 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons before losing to Detroit Western and U-D Jesuit in the state semifinal; both of which ended up winning the state title.

Brooks said he was able to get everything done that he wanted to in Ypsilanti except win a state title. But that was not his main goal as a head coach.

"Most of all, we were just able to really, really mold young men and build a family out there," Brooks said. "We were able to put 57 kids on the next level. That's really kind of what we were really about and really why I got into coaching for."

"Everybody wants to win a championship, but I really got into it to make a difference in young men's lives."

In his final season with the Grizzlies, Brooks led them to a 9-12 record, finishing fifth in the Southeastern Conference White before losing to Ypsilanti Lincoln in the district semifinal.

However, since he arrived at Wayne Memorial, Brooks has not been able to do much.

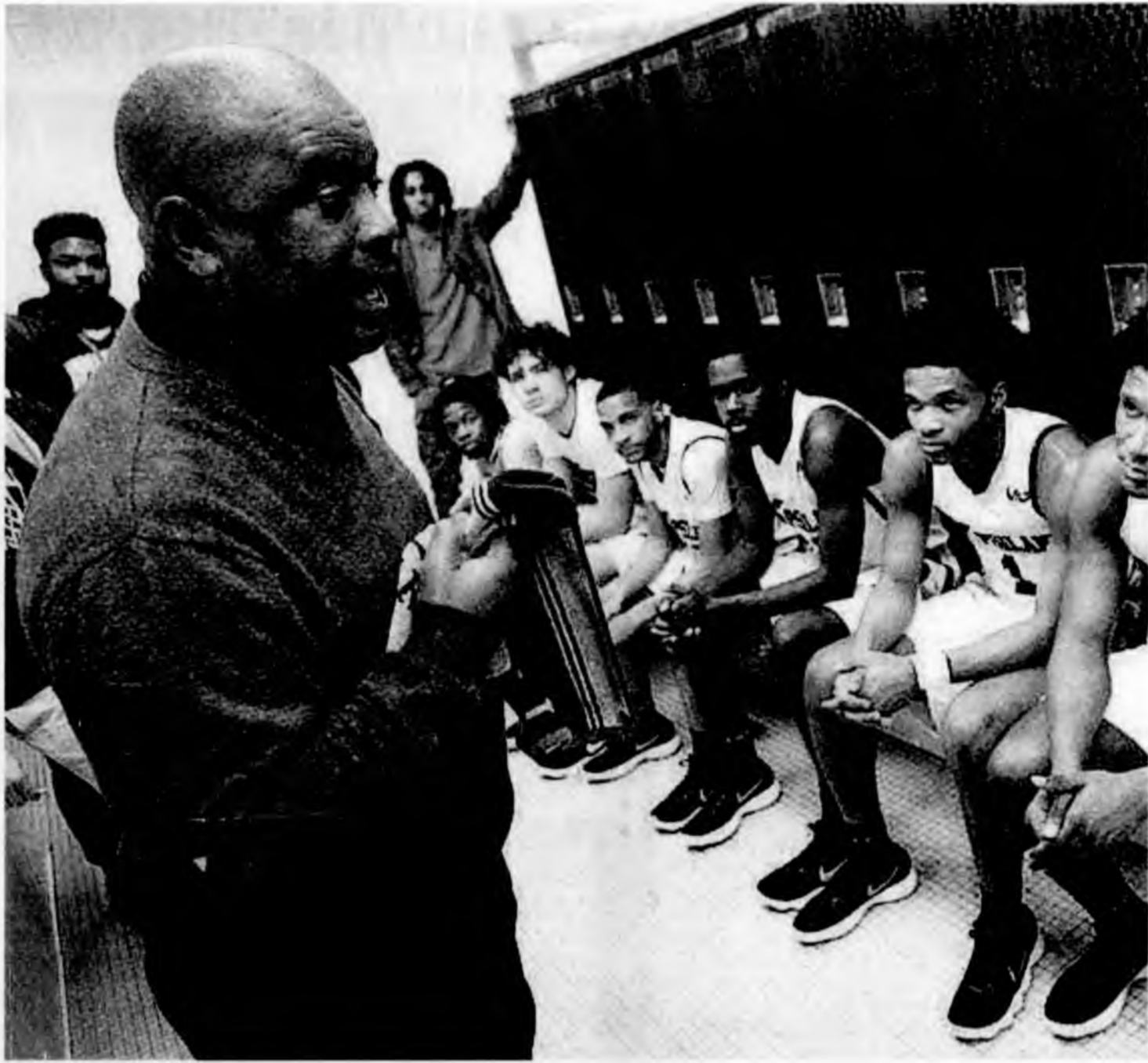
The head coach said he held his first open gym in early October – one of five allowed before the state halted high school athletics in November.

Ahead of his first season with the Zebras, Brooks really does not know what he will be working with yet, not having a chance to hold tryouts to see who makes his first varsity roster.

"We don't know any plays. They don't know my system," he said. "But, hey man, I will say this: the kids that I have met, they are great kids. So when you have great individuals, you can get a lot done."

Last season, Wayne Memorial finished fifth in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association East, winning nine of its 22 games before falling to Dearborn in the district semifinal.

While he does not know what depth he has on his roster, Brooks knows what his team is going to look like when it takes the court, using a defensive-first



Steve Brooks succeeds Nkwane Young as boys basketball head coach at Wayne Memorial after 18 years in Ypsilanti.

COURTESY OF STEVE BROOKS

style dating back to his coaching days at Inkster from 2001-03.

"I have a simple philosophy where you can be the best in the world and your shot may not fall that night, man," Brooks said. "But good defensive teams, you at least stay in the game and give themselves a good chance to win at the end."

He knows that takes a level of conditioning that his team, along with other teams across the state, will not have

time to perfect ahead of the first slate of games.

Brooks realizes that this first season means more to his players than just wins and losses. Heading into his first year at Wayne Memorial, he knows he can help bring the team, the school and the community something that seems more normal than much of the past year.

"Some of these kids, especially this year ... I think they are just going to be happy to play and grateful to play,"

Brooks said. "There has really been a lot going on that their young minds can't really comprehend right now, socially and having them engaged online."

"The goal this year is really to give them some sense of normalcy and then we'll just go from there."

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

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Meet the new owners of the Detroit Popcorn Co.

David Veselenak HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's been a long year for the Detroit Popcorn Company. But its new owners believe they've got the legacy business moving in the right direction and poised to become a major player in everything fun in 2021.

Pontiac-based Harris Financial Group closed on the Redford Township business in early November, completing a sale announced earlier this summer that took several months to complete.

But now that the paperwork is signed, CEO Ken Harris and COO Reggie Kelley are ready to show Michigan — and the rest of the country — the magic of caramel corn and other treats.

"So many people have called and given me a wonderful congratulations, because I'm blessed to know a lot of people," said Harris, who lives in Birmingham. "In their calling, they tell me about how they were kids, they used to come by and get popcorn and sno-cones and cotton candy. It was part of the cycle.

"My vision ... is to recreate that childhood story again."

Harris and Kelley were announced as buyers of the business this summer after it was reacquired by former owner David Farber. Farber took the business back from former owner Evan Singer after Singer made remarks on social media appearing to support police brutality following the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in Minnesota. Farber immediately began looking for minority ownership. Several days later, the company announced that Harris Financial Group was the intended buyer, and negotiations began.

Now that the sale of the business is complete, Harris and Kelley can focus on moving the business forward while simultaneously returning it to its roots: providing quality snack foods. The company, which began in 1923, is known for its sale of popcorn via concession stands, as well as cotton candy and other snacks associated with events.

"For us, the legacy and the tradition, as we see it, is invaluable to us," Kelley said. "We want to build on that legacy."

They hope to make the Detroit Popcorn Co. facility at 14950 Telegraph a destination.

"We're going to set this facility up so there can be actual school visitation," Harris said. "The kids can come and actually walk through, like Better Made Potato Chips."

They hope to grow regionally — including attempting to regain clients such as the Detroit Zoo and Quick-Loans — and to make their brand known nationally.



Detroit Popcorn Co. CEO Ken Harris, left, and COO Reggie Kelley are excited for the future of their business. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

They've even got a new commercial trumpeting the comeback of the brand.

They've also been in talks with groups for charitable causes in places like Canton, Ohio — where Kelley grew up — and in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. There, they've connected with Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Foundation as a way to help educate people about Negro League Baseball and its history. They've also pledged to donate a portion of their profits to the Detroit Public Schools Foundation.

The company's tins of popcorn, a major seller right now as the holidays get closer are filled with caramel, cheese and buttered popcorn and can be shipped anywhere in the continental United States.

"It's starting to pick up," Kelley said.

Those looking to order Detroit Popcorn Company products can do so by visiting the business 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, though hours are subject to change. Online orders are accepted at detroitpopcorn.com.

Harris and Kelley expect to keep the business in Redford for the foreseeable future, especially given the infrastructure already in place, but they hope to someday open a small shop in Detroit to sell their products as well.

Harris said they've managed to keep much of the same staff on board, whose time of service averages between 10 and 20 years. Having that wealth of experience and knowledge, Harris said, helps keep the corn a-poppin'.

"We're going to try to make an atmosphere where it's fun," Harris said. "This is a fun business."

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

Obituaries

Statly turns passion for fishing into college success

Bill Khan LivingstonDaily.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.



George Arthur McIntosh Jr.

VERO BEACH FL. - George Arthur McIntosh Jr., 82, of Vero Beach, FL, passed away on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. He was born on February 13, 1939, and grew up in Rosedale Park in the city of Detroit, MI. He attended Redford High School in Detroit, MI. George served in the United States Army. He retired from General Motors as a skilled trades worker at the Hydramatic Facility in Willow Run, MI.

He was preceded in death by Mother Geraldine McIntosh, Father, George Arthur McIntosh. He is survived by his longtime companion, Iris Zech, and her two daughters; his three children Paulette Smitherman (Danny) of Westland, MI, Georgette Kelley (Don) of Erwin, NC, and George McIntosh III (Magda) of Yokosuka, Kanagawa, Japan; 10 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren. He will be laid to rest this Spring in Acacia Park Cemetery, Beverly Hills, MI.

Fishing was always something Ben Statly did as a hobby. He knew that some people made a living fishing, but he had no idea it was a sport in which he could represent his high school and college.

That changed when Hartland High School added a bass fishing team his sophomore year.

"I jumped at the opportunity when the high school team came about," he said. "I fished all the way through my senior year. I found out about Adrian when I was a junior at Hartland. I started talking with the coach there, found out about the process and that it was a sport in college."

Statly was recruited to the bass fishing team at Adrian College the same way any other athlete is courted to join a college program. Joining the team is what attracted him to Adrian, where he majors in business management. He played football and baseball as a freshman at Hartland before switching over to bass fishing for the school.

"We're a D3 school, so technically there are no scholarships," said Statly, a 2017 Hartland graduate. "They do provide grant money. Fishing is a varsity sport, fully funded. They'll pay for travel, gas money, food, lodging, all that stuff. It definitely takes a lot of pressure off the students."

The Bulldogs traveled to Edgewood, Maryland, in September for a tournament on Chesapeake Bay. Statly teamed with Grant Gallagher of Fremont,



Hartland High School graduate Ben Statly, right, teamed up with Adrian College teammate Grant Gallagher to win a bass fishing tournament in Maryland and qualify for college nationals. COURTESY

"At the start, my dad taught me everything I knew. As I got more heavily involved in it, I started picking up all these techniques that I use today."

Ben Statly

Ohio, to win the tournament and earn a spot in the College Fishing National Championship March 3-5 in Oklahoma.

Statly and Gallagher had a five-bass limit that weighed 18 pounds, 2 ounces. They won by 15 ounces over Adrian teammates Caleb Dachenhaus and Hayden Scott.

"You've got to have some type of chemistry with your partner," said Statly, a senior. "Grant and I tried to fish together when we were sopho-

mores. We had some slight success when we were sophomores and juniors. We've always been really good friends. We've been able to turn that into a good partnership when fishing competitively."

The top 10 two-man teams in Maryland qualified for nationals. Adrian had four teams qualify, including the third-place team of Howell's Zach Manneback and Fenton's Gunner Wilson.

Statly began fishing with his dad when he was

4 years old, despite not growing up on any of the lakes in the area and not having a boat.

"I just grew up fishing banks around Hartland," Statly said. "My love for the sport came through that. I learned from watching YouTube videos and mentors throughout high school to get where I am today."

"At the start, my dad taught me everything I knew. As I got more heavily involved in it, I started picking up all these techniques that I use today. I had a high school coach and a couple fishing partners throughout high school. You pick up little things from each person you fish with. You never really stop learning. I'm still learning today."

While luck might seem like a major factor in fishing, it's only a small part

of the equation, Statly said.

"It's a little bit of both, but mainly skill," he said. "Obviously, some luck is involved with any sport, really. Definitely over the years, you pick up little things you don't notice at first. When I was 4 years old, I had absolutely no idea why fish would bite certain lures. Time on the water is a big thing. It's how you learn techniques and become better at them over the years."

Statly hopes to use the business management degree he'll complete in the spring to get into the fishing industry.

"I've always known I want to do it my whole life," he said. "I want to combine my passion with a career. Connecting with people and the outdoors is what keeps you wanting to come back and do more."

Aspects of airport visits could be contactless

Harriet Baskas
Special to USA TODAY

In addition to cleaning, sanitizing and setting up COVID-19 testing stations, airports are responding to the coronavirus pandemic by finding ways to make the journey through the terminal touch-free.

Before the pandemic, contactless services would have been presented as convenient amenities for travelers. Today, however, they have become an important part of the tool kit for keeping passengers safe, healthy and confident enough to travel.

From touchless airport parking to check-in, bag drop and even robot food delivery, here are some of the ways — and places — your airport experience might be different during your next trip.

1. Touchless airport parking

Before the pandemic, some airports offered travelers the option to reserve and prepay for parking online. An assured spot in the terminal garage during busy times was the attraction, but sometimes perks such as close-in spaces and discounted rates enticed travelers to give the amenity a try.

Now, many more airports are promoting and launching touch-free parking systems that let travelers avoid having to push a button to get a ticket on the way in and bypass the payment kiosk or staffed booth on the way out.

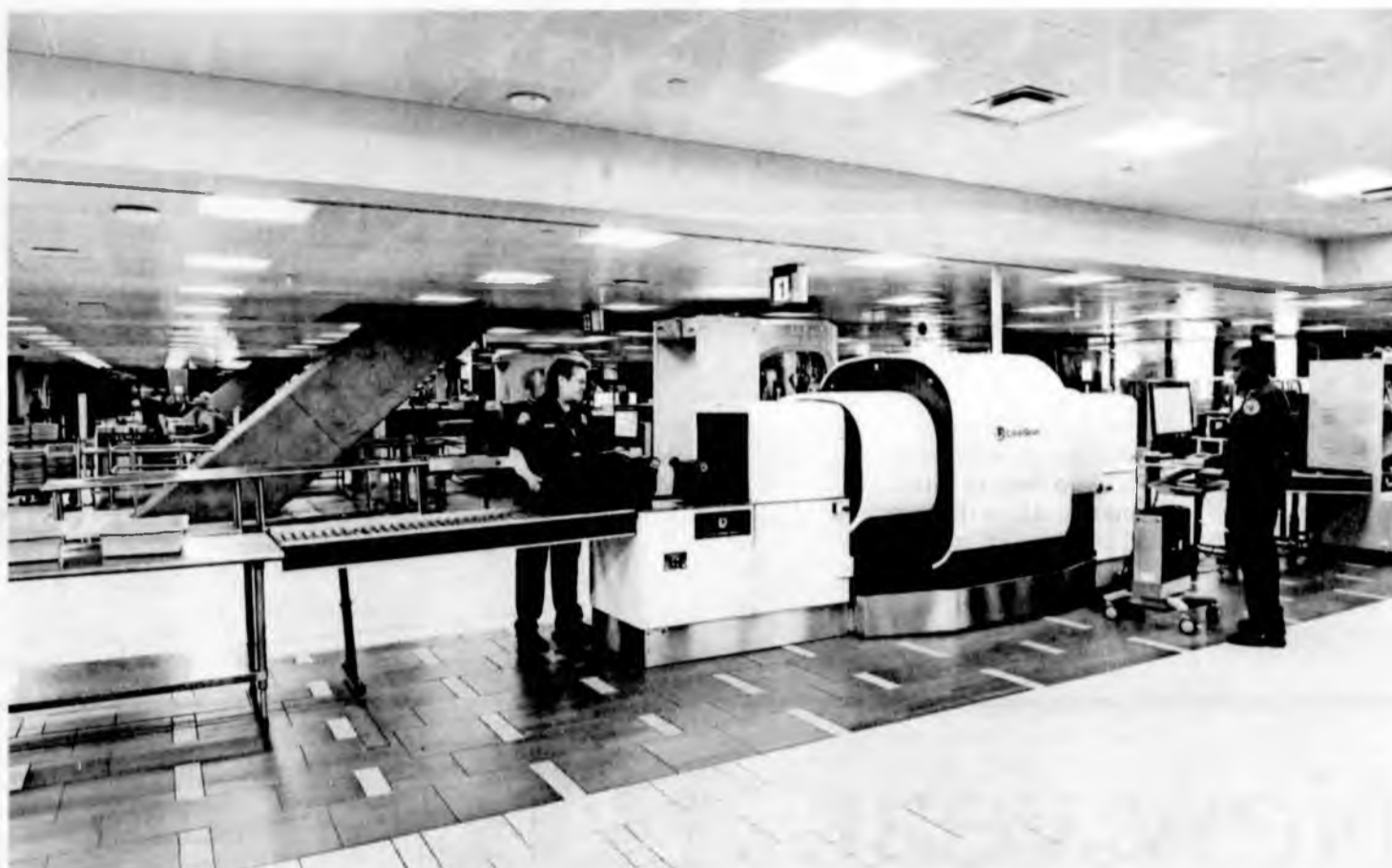
For example, at Raleigh-Durham International Airport in North Carolina, customers who book parking online get a scannable QR code via email that opens the garage gate. A license plate reader recognizes their vehicle when they exit. San Francisco International Airport's new touchless online parking system, rolled out right before Thanksgiving, works with scanned QR codes, as well.

2. Contactless check-in and bag drop, biometric tech

Pre-pandemic, most passengers were familiar with, but didn't always use, online check-in, digital boarding passes and technology that let them print their own luggage tags at home and check in their own bags at the airport. Now those no- or low-contact options are all but mandatory.

Airports and airlines are also piloting and fast-tracking a wide range of biometric technology and other tools that make the airport journey a bit more touch-free.

Aviation technology company SITA and Los Angeles International Airport recently piloted a system that allows passengers to use smartphones to oper-



New computed tomography checkpoint scanners at airports give TSA officers a 3D view of carry-on bags. TSA



Multiple airlines are now testing a digital health passport. THE COMMONS PROJECT

ate check-in kiosks and avoid having to touch the communal screens. SITA's Smart Path biometric touch-free boarding and exit gates are also operating at Orlando International Airport.

And multiple airlines are now testing a digital health passport, called CommonPass, that will store health information needed for travel on a secure, easy-to-update app. This will eliminate the need for passengers to hand over paper copies of COVID-19 test results.

3. The security checkpoint

The Transportation Security Administration has reduced touchpoints

at many airport security checkpoints.

Hundreds of Credential Authentication Technology units that reduce the time needed to confirm a traveler's identity and that allow travelers to put their own IDs into the scanner are now in use at 115 airports. And new computed tomography checkpoint scanners at 267 airports give TSA officers a 3D view of carry-on bags. This decreases the need to open and touch bags and reduces the contact time between agents and passengers.

4. Touchless food ordering and delivery

Before COVID-19, the Grab app let hungry travelers skip lines and use their mobile devices to order meals for pickup from a limited number of restaurants in a limited number of airports.

Avoiding airport lines is more important now. So, airports in Los Angeles, Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul and other cities have partnered with Grab to create more accessible platforms that expand touch-free ordering options and broaden the number of participating concessions.

In a growing number of airports, runners for AtYourGate make in-terminal deliveries of meals and other items ordered via mobile devices.

The service, currently offered at LaGuardia and JFK airports in New York;

in Newark, New Jersey; Denver; Philadelphia; Ontario, Orange County, San Diego and San Jose in California; Boston; Minneapolis-St. Paul; and Portland, Oregon, is about to get even more convenient and contactless with the introduction of robots.

In partnership with Piaggio Fast Forward, AtYourGate delivery teams at JFK, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Denver and San Diego airports will soon be joined in their rounds by small Gita robots. Each follow-along robot has a bin that can carry up to 40 pounds and will be used for contactless delivery of meals and retail items.

5. Virtual information booths

Many airport information desks are also going contactless. At Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport in Kentucky, Los Angeles International Airport, plus in Denver, Baltimore and other airports, passengers now use a touch-free tablet, a kiosk or their own mobile device to connect with customer service agents who answer questions live but from a distance.

Airlines are jumping on this bandwagon, too. Last month, United Airlines debuted its "Agent on Demand" service, which lets customers in the airline's hub airports use a mobile device to call, text or have a live video chat with a customer service agent.

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New year, **2021** new resume

By Kat Boogaard
ZipRecruiter.com

If you're like most people, you hear the word "resume" and let out an exhausted groan. I totally get it — resumes can be a pain. Condensing all of your skills and professional experience into a document that's incredibly scannable and easy to read — without 0.2 margins and size 6 font? Well, let's just say it's a challenge.

However, the key is to not get overwhelmed by your document. How? Well, try getting everything out on paper, and then work on polishing it up. That's much easier than trying to make each line perfect right from the start.

Are you already to the polishing step? Great — the hardest part is over. So, here are four quick things you can do to improve your resume right now.

1. Remove Irrelevant Information

Since you spent your time essentially dumping all of your information onto those pages, it's time to weed through and get rid of all of that stuff that truly doesn't matter. Ideally, you'd like your resume to be one page — meaning you don't have extra

real estate to waste on pointless and irrelevant information.

Your high school extracurricular activities? Get rid of them. That line about your GPA? Delete it. That classic phrase that goes something like, "References available upon request"? Hit the backspace key. Most hiring managers assume that you'll have references to offer if you're asked — so there's no point in wasting page space on that filler line.

You want every single line of your resume to be powerful. So, get rid of anything that doesn't make you seem like an impressive and qualified candidate. Your resume doesn't need to detail your entire life story — it just needs to showcase your professional highlights.

2. Check for quantifiable achievements

It's all too easy to fill your resume with all sorts of buzzwords that hold very little meaning. And, I won't even deny that those keywords are important.

However, you don't want your resume to be all fluff and no substance. This is why it's important to include several quantifiable achievements. So, comb back through your document and look for places where you can add some hard facts and statistics.



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the most important skills they're searching for. Then, take a look at your own resume. Make sure that those keywords are included in your own document. And, those skills? If they're things you actually possess, then you need to make sure that they're adequately emphasized in your document. Highlight them in our "key skills" section, and move any related bullet points toward the top of each job description so that they're spotted first.

These changes seem small — and, in reality, they are! But, they can have a big impact on where your resume ends up in the pile.

4. Do the "skim test"

When you spend so much time agonizing over your resume, you'd love to think that hiring managers spend hours admiring each and every bullet point and sentence. However, that's not the case. In fact, the average hiring manager spends just six seconds scanning your resume before deciding which pile you should be put in.

Needless to say, you need to make sure your resume is not only incredibly easy to read — but easy to skim. Ensure that your name and contact information are in big, bold letters at the top of the document. Next, scan through to confirm that your eyes easily catch on your past employers and job titles. Finally, continue scanning your document to make sure that you can easily spot your education and special skills sections.

These are important portions that nearly every hiring manager will glance for. And, if they aren't easy to spot within those six seconds? Well, you're bound to head straight to the wastebasket.

Instead of saying something soft and vague like, "Worked as a core member of the sales team," you'll want to state something more powerful like, "Grew sales by 25% in the first quarter." Including those numbers makes the statement much more impactful by proving you not only know how to talk the talk — you can also walk the walk.

3. Tailor it

I hate to sound like a total wet blanket, but it's imperative that you tailor your resume for every single position that you apply for. Yes, I know it's a total pain to adjust a document that you've already spent so much time on. But, if you're aiming to seem like the most qualified candidate for the position, then you need to make sure that your resume highlights exactly what the hiring manager is seeking.

This process doesn't need to be anything overly complicated. Start by taking a look at the description of the specific job you're applying for and pull out keywords and

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- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Placed on a roster</p> <p>7 Devoid of junk email</p> <p>15 Zimbalist of "Wait Until Dark"</p> <p>20 See 53-Across</p> <p>21 Place for many piercings</p> <p>22 Demi of the screen</p> <p>23 Start of a riddle</p> <p>25 Hair twist</p> <p>26 Ripped</p> <p>27 Work site welfare org.</p> <p>28 Natural aptitude</p> <p>30 Not divided</p> <p>31 First-aid pro</p> <p>33 Kilt wearers' groups</p> <p>38 Fish with a sucking disk</p> <p>40 Riddle, part 2</p> <p>45 Discuss anew</p> <p>46 Radio word after "Roger"</p> <p>47 Go furtively</p> <p>48 "Oil" author Sinclair</p> <p>51 "Hee" or "yee" follower</p> <p>53 With 20-Across: midsize car from Korea</p> | <p>55 Riddle, part 3</p> <p>66 Apple CEO Cook</p> <p>67 Rower's need</p> <p>68 Ducklike diving birds</p> <p>69 Risk-taker's challenge</p> <p>70 Endanger</p> <p>73 Jimmy of the Daily Planet</p> <p>74 Rushes wildly</p> <p>75 Soprano Mana</p> <p>76 Three, to Gigi</p> <p>77 — room (play place)</p> <p>78 China's Chou En-</p> <p>79 Riddle, part 4</p> <p>84 — number on Florida</p> <p>85 Florida Panthers' gp.</p> <p>86 Really vex</p> <p>87 Open courts</p> <p>92 Cleaning tool</p> <p>96 Choir stands</p> <p>99 End of the riddle</p> <p>105 Old cruise missile with a tribal name</p> <p>106 Work of praise</p> <p>107 It may get stubbed</p> <p>108 Cleaving tool</p> <p>109 More cunning</p> <p>111 Battle</p> <p>114 Curve parts</p> <p>115 Officer over a sarge</p> | <p>116 Riddle's answer</p> <p>123 Whines, as a fretful child</p> <p>124 "Aim High" military branch</p> <p>125 Not too hard to accomplish</p> <p>126 Be too frugal</p> <p>127 Tidy quality</p> <p>128 Carve in relief</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Not covering the ankles, as shoes</p> <p>2 Device with Siri</p> <p>3 More than mono</p> <p>4 Fork prong</p> <p>5 Former Brit. record giant</p> <p>6 The Cowboys, on scoreboards</p> <p>7 —chef</p> <p>8 Promote</p> <p>9 Clip on, e.g. Paris</p> <p>10 Sea, in Paris</p> <p>11 Pt. of TGIF</p> <p>12 Old car inits.</p> <p>13 Water, in Paris</p> <p>14 Once, in old times</p> <p>15 Symbolic logos</p> <p>16 Work site overseer</p> | <p>17 Virginia city</p> <p>18 Asmara's country</p> <p>19 Rx request</p> <p>24 Plenty of, casually</p> <p>29 Biceps' place</p> <p>31 Kate Nelligan title role</p> <p>32 "I'm not impressed"</p> <p>34 A criminal breaks it</p> <p>35 "Do — say!"</p> <p>36 Carolina Panthers' gp.</p> <p>37 Twisted individuals, informally</p> <p>39 Big boat in Genesis</p> <p>41 Seniors' big night out</p> <p>42 Arena staffer</p> <p>43 Burn partly</p> <p>44 T-boie source</p> <p>48 Increase in business activity, e.g.</p> <p>49 Original</p> <p>50 Synagogue</p> <p>52 Roll about in mud</p> <p>54 Offer as evidence</p> <p>56 Talked about, as a rumor</p> <p>57 Missy</p> <p>58 Soldier's denial</p> | <p>59 Totally tires out</p> <p>60 Jake Tapper's channel</p> <p>61 Former Egypt-Syr. alliance</p> <p>62 Old PC screen type</p> <p>63 "Fess up!"</p> <p>64 Gaffer Mark who won the 1998 Masters</p> <p>65 Withstand</p> <p>71 State tree of North Dakota</p> <p>72 LL Cool J's music</p> <p>73 Bobby the Bruin</p> <p>74 Sewing edge</p> <p>76 Start to cry</p> <p>77 Shroud of Turin, e.g.</p> <p>80 Movie prefix with Cop</p> <p>81 "No — traffic"</p> <p>82 Country singer</p> <p>83 Brewery kiln</p> <p>87 Bristlelike grain appendage</p> <p>88 Unfreeze</p> <p>89 Filled pasta envelopes</p> <p>90 Rome resident, to a Paris resident</p> | <p>91 Most pallid</p> <p>93 Ending for Motor</p> <p>94 Work of praise</p> <p>95 One-named "Fear of Flying" singer</p> <p>97 Part-human, part-horse deity</p> <p>98 "Evil Woman" rock gp.</p> <p>100 Weeding tool</p> <p>101 Ablaze</p> <p>102 Big brand of gummy bears</p> <p>103 Stands out</p> <p>104 Jumbled states</p> <p>110 Horse with a speckled coat</p> <p>112 Huge birds of myth</p> <p>113 Gets old</p> <p>114 Pursuer of Moby Dick</p> <p>115 Hi-fi discs</p> <p>117 Game score like 1-1 or 2-2</p> <p>118 La-la lead-in</p> <p>119 Frequently, in poetry</p> <p>120 — Jovi (rock group)</p> <p>121 Fruit beverage</p> <p>122 Toy dog breed, for short</p> |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|

#2,022 Average time of solution: 68 minutes

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/21

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!

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

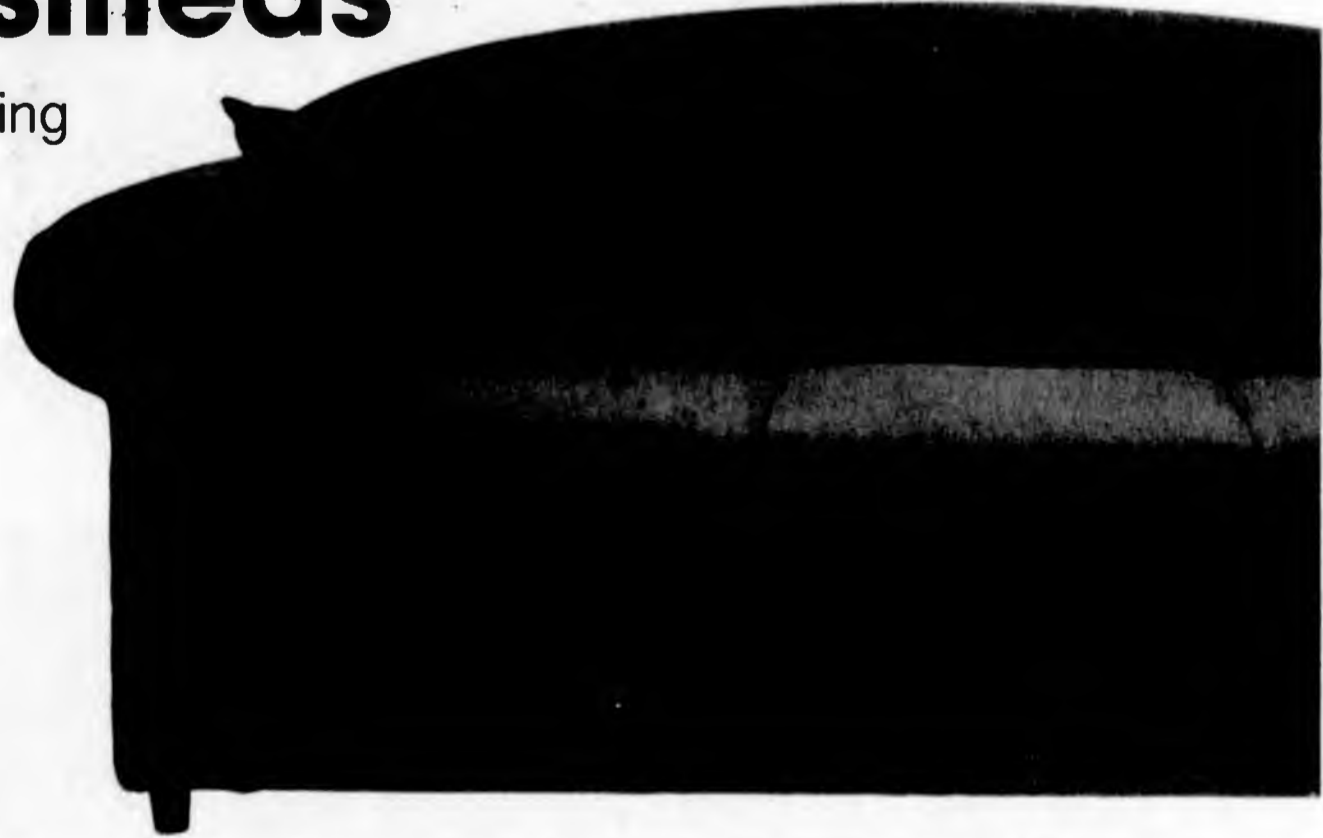
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

- ACE
- ADVANTAGE
- BACKHAND
- BALL
- BREAK POINT
- CENTRE LINE
- CHIP
- CLAY COURT
- COURT
- DEUCE
- DOUBLE FAULT
- DOUBLES
- DROP SHOT
- FAULT
- FOOT FAULT
- FORECOURT
- FOREHAND
- GAME
- GRASS
- HALF-VOLLEY
- LAWN
- LET
- LINE CALL
- LOB
- LOVE
- MATCH
- NET
- RALLY
- RETURN
- SERVER
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