RTHVILLE RECORI

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Madonna opens first-ever football season

County plans major road improvements

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MIGHIGAN

This year will be fairly quiet for major road construction in Novi, but 2021 is the calm before the storm.

In a city that carries heavy traffic volume on several major thoroughfares, the project most likely to cause delay for drivers this summer is concrete panel repairs at the Novi and Grand River intersection.

"Novi and Grand River will be a challenge for a lot of people this year, but then it gets pretty hairy for four to five years," DPW Director Jeffrey Herczeg said. "There will be lots of federally funded projects and dollars for Novi."

In 2022, 10 Mile Road will be widened with a continuous center left turn lane from Meadowbrook to Haggerty. The \$4.5 million project is a joint county and city effort, but is paid mostly through county funding, with the city's match

Also new on the docket for next year is construction of a roundabout at the 9 Mile and Taft Road intersection, currently a 4-way stop.

Herczeg said roundabouts improve traffic flow and are safer than normal in-

tersections The \$900,000 project will receive \$600,000 in funding through the

See PROJECTS, Page 6A



Maybury Farm barn animal care supervisor Scott Markwart checks on a trio of merino sheep Feb. 22. All three ewes at the farm are pregnant and expected to each deliver twins by early April. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Maybury Farm expecting 20 animal births for spring

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

Based on the number of animal births expected this spring at Northville's Maybury Farm, social-distancing has not been a high-priority protocol inside the barns.

Northville Community Foundation and Maybury Farm Executive Director Diana Wallace explained that the expected births of 20 four-legged animals

in the coming weeks is about average for we're expecting 19 to 21 births, that the farm and not the byproduct of pandemic boredom among the sheep and

And as far as the animals contracting or transmitting COVID-19, that's not happening, at least as far as most scientific research reports, Wallace con-

"We had about 20 new births in 2020, so we're pretty much right on that number for this spring," Wallace said. "While

doesn't mean we have 21 pregnancies. A lot of the animals have twins and triplets. We come up with the number after ultrasounds are done on the animals.

Science shows that social-distancing is not necessary among farm an in

mals, Wallace said. "From everything we've learned

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Huron Valley staff provides 500K meals

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sara Simmerman had no time to waste when Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced on a Thursday night last March that schools throughout the state were shutting down.

The food and nutrition supervisor for the Huron Valley School District and her staff had hundreds of kids who needed to be fed

Simmerman and her staff sprang into action, never missing a beat. The cafeteria was closed to kids, but the work behind the scenes continued and meals were distributed that Monday.

"We never quit serving meals," Simmerman said. "I knew we were going to feed them... We had a sense this would happen-it was becoming such an issue. People weren't on the streets and

See MEALS, Page 6A

Threats of violence cancel Kensington deer cull

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Royal Oak man who allegedly threatened violence against metroparks employees was issued a misdeself in.

The 71-year-old man made what were deemed as "credible threats" in a phone call to a Huron-Clinton Metroparks receptionist on Feb. 3, the day before a planned deer cull at Kensington Metropark. The cull is part of a deer management program with the goal was for sharpshooters to reduce the herd by about 50 animals.

The cull was canceled

Huron-Clinton Metroparks Police Chief Michael Reese said the Royal Oak man was "generally upset about the deer management program, specifically the cull itself. He made threats to shoot police officers taking part in the deer cull."

An investigation subsequently led to identification of the Royal Oak man, and the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office authorized a misdemeanor warrant out of the 53rd District Court in Howell.

The warrant issued Feb. 23 against the man is for malicious use of a telecommunications service, a misdemeanor punishable by 6 months in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine.

"I've been police chief here for five years and never experienced direct threats toward officers as a result of the deer management program," Reese said. "We've gotten letters in the mail from individuals not agreeing and they have never taken it to this extent."

Metroparks Director Amy McMillan noted in a press release the park system is committed to both transparency and respectful dialogue, but violent threats cross a key line.

"We respect that some have strong feelings about this wildlife management decision and always encourage feedback and two-way dialogue, but we can't stand by when threats of violence endanger park staff, visitors or community," she said. "An in-depth investigation was why we could not share a more specific and transparent

See THREATS, Page 6A



MDOT plans to kick off I-275 project this summer

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

It's time to fix the biggest road running through northwest Wayne County

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will kick off a massive repair of 24 miles of Interstate 275 between Will Carlton Road and 6 Mile Road this summer. The project will span four years and is expected to be completed in sections. The work will run through Wayne County communities including Livonia, Plymouth, Canton and Northville.

The \$270 million in work will include concrete repairs and replacements, bridge repairs, sign replacements, drainage improvements, sidewalk improvements and tree replacements. MDOT will also repair part of the I-275 Metro Trail, which runs alongside the

During the project, I-275 will remain usable at all times. However, some ramps will see temporary closures. Drivers in both directions will always have ac-



State officials said plans to repair 24 miles worth of Interstate 275 will start this summer.

cess to two lanes.

"It allows us to have shoulder width for pull of when necessary as well as emergency access if we needed police and fire," Adam Penzenstadler, a project and

contracts engineer, said of the lane closures.

MDOT planned to start the project in 2020, but delayed to secure more funding and expand the improved area. The project is part of Rebuilding Michigan, a five-year plan to repair the state's busiest roads.

The work will happen in four phases: • 2021: Concrete repair between Will Carlton and Northline roads as well as culvert replacements between Northline and Five Mile roads.

• 2022: Road rebuilding on the southbound lanes between Northline and Five Mile roads.

 2023: Road rebuilding on the northbound lanes between Northline Road and M-14.

• 2024: Road rebuilding on the northbound lanes between M-14 and Five Mile Road.

Because of the lengthy timeline, MDOT does not expect weather delays to have a significant impact.

'Weather delays are always a possibility," Penzenstadler said. "However, with the timeline of this project, there's a lot of time to catch up if there is a delay." stankersle@hometownlife.com

hometownlife.com

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Landfill gases, odors will be recorded at elementary school

Ed Wright

Hometownlife com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

At first glance, the recently-erected mechanism that sits just east of Northville Township's Ridge Wood Elementary School looks like something that just

escaped from a futuris-

tic science lab. The device — decked out with appendages you might find on the Mars rover — is actually a hydrogen sulfide airmonitoring station that was placed near the school by Green For Life (GFL), the new owner of the Arbor Hills Landfill located in Salem Townsihp, less than a mile west of Ridge Wood.

The placement of the station is part of an agreement between Advanced Disposal Ser-United States Environmental Protection Agency — and in accordance with an access agreement with Northville Public Schools — to

help settle compliance violations the landfill's owners have committed over the past several vears.

Designed by Barr Engineering Company, the station will collect air samples and compile data that can be accessed by concerned citizens and authorities on an Arbor Hills monitoring website.

Barr Engineering will operate the station for a minimum of five years, according to the agreement

Wind-blown stench from the landfill has reached such high levels in the past that Ridge Wood decision-makers said they canceled outdoor activities for stu-

ADS was ordered by the EPA in September 2019 to set up the hydrogen sulfide monitoring 10-foot structure and cost roughly \$10,000 to construct.

The cost of construction and all electrical bills generated by the monitor will be paid for by GFL.

Emission testing in January 2020 at the land-

fill registered sulfur dioxide (SO2) levels at 2.16 pounds per hour, more than double the permitted level of 0.9, according to data posted on the website of The Conservancy Initiative, a group of citizens organized to stop expansion of the landfill

During a 2020 Northville Public Schools board of education meeting, school board trustee Angela Jaafar emphasized the placement of a monitoring system at Ridge Wood is long overdue.

"Parents of students at the school have been asking for some type of monitoring system to ensure that we're providing the safest environment for their children," Jaafar

"I think that the owner of the landfill can always do more to ensure the vices (the former owner system, which will be students' safety, especlose proximity to an elementary school."

> Jaafar said that the odors emitted from the landfill are a concerning topic for Ridge Wood par-

"Whenever there are health concerns involved,

it's definitely concerning," she said. "As a parent, I can empathize with them and relate to that. I support the parents and their concerns with regard to odors they find to be disturbing at times."

The monitoring system installed at Ridge Wood provides alerts if the H2S concentration exceeds a minimum concentration considered safe, a GFL website states.

"Specifically, if the average H2S concentration over a 24-hour time period exceeds 72 ppb, the school administration will be notified that the concentration is elevated but poses no immediate danger," the statement continued. "If the H2S concentration exceeds 750 ppb (averaged for a 15-minute time period), school administrators will be notified immediof the landfill) and the protected by a 10-foot by cially given the landfill's ately that the H2S concentration is elevated and precautions should be taken."

> The school district will be distributing an email to Ridge Wood families, explaining the station's purpose and how they can acquire data.

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND CODE OF ORDINANCES

At its regular meeting on March 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., the Northville City Council will consider introducing for first reading the following proposed text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and Code of Ordinances

· Amend Zoning Ordinance, Article 15 Schedule of Regulations pertaining to front open space requirement: Correcting ordinance language to clarify that the front open space requirement, Footnote 26 in Section 15.02 applies to single-family residential lots in all residential zoning districts.

Amend Zoning Ordinance, Article 15 Schedule of Regulations pertaining

to multi-family residential units in the CBD: Text amendments to reduce the minimum floor area for multi-family residential units in the Central Business District (CDB), Footnote 15 in Section 15.02 Amend Zoning Ordinance, Article 17 Parking, pertaining to assignment of

parking credits: Text amendments to modify the number of parking space credits assigned to existing buildings in the Central Business District to be more consistent

with the parking requirements in the Central Business District as provided for in Amend Zoning Ordinance, Article 18 General Provisions, and Article 26 Construction of Language and Definitions pertaining to fence provisions: Text amendments to better coordinate screen wall and fence regulations, to add residential

wall regulations, and to modify existing fence regulations in residential and non-

- Amend Code of Ordinances, Chapter 14 Buildings and Building Regulations, Article X Fences: The Planning Commission has recommended City Council adopt text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance that pertain to fence provisions. If adopted, it is recommended that City Council amendment the Code of Ordinances to delete Article X Fences as this is a duplicate of the fence requirements in the Zoning
- Amend Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42 Historic Preservation, Article 1, Sec. 42-3 Historic District: The proposed amendment reflects the new Historic District boundary as described in the Northville Historic District Study Report, Volume 1 and Volume 2 Final Reports, dated May 23, 2019 and revised January 25, 2021, as recommended by the Local Historic District Study Committee.

Meeting Location and Participation

The meeting will be held via video conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Members of the public body and members of the public participating electronically will be considered present at the meeting and may participate as if physically present at the meeting. The following is a link to attend the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84845665212. US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558

Those needing assistance or accommodations should contact the City Manager's office at 248-449-9905. Log in instructions, electronic meeting information, and a user guide can be found at https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11895963&pageId=135 05469#city OR from the main Home page, click on the Government tab, then Agendas and Minutes, scroll to the City Council section of the webpage, then scroll down to the link for the Council meeting.

The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review on the City's website www. ci.northville.mi.us (go to Government, Governing Documents, and Proposed Ordinance Amendments) or by appointment at the City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-349-1300

Written comments can be submitted by email to mmassel@ci.northville.mi.us by mail to City of Northville Municipal Building, City Manager's Office, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, or by using the City Hall 24-hour drop box

BRENT STRONG, BUILDING OFFICIAL DIANNE MASSA, CITY CLERK

CITY OF NORTHVILLE 2021 BOARD OF REVIEW WAYNE AND OAKLAND COUNTIES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review of the City of Northville, Wayne and Oakland Counties, will meet virtually via Zoom Meeting, for the purpose of reviewing and adjusting the 2021 Assessment Rolls of the City of Northville on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021: TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021:

6:30 p.m. Organizational Meeting (No Appeals) 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM MEETING

Topic: Board of Review Organizational Meeting - NO APPEALS WILL BE HEARD Time: Mar 2, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/i/82898875296?pwd=U24wYkEvSmFXWGVDTm45NitiOXYrdz09 Meeting ID: 828 9887 5296 Passcode: 758524

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Topic: Board of Review - APPEAL HEARING Time: Mar 9, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82804314701?pwd=QlorTE4ycy9qTXZmeDRySU05a2xCdz09 Meeting ID, 828 0431 4701 Passcode: 423983

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Topic: Board of Review - APPEAL HEARING

Time: Mar 10, 2021 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88646265637?pwd=NXQydWxnR2E5dWhoNzN3YkI2b0tNZz09 Meeting ID: 886 4626 5637 Passcode: 172334

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Pursuant to Act 165 of 1971 and based on the proposed changes to assessed values for 2021, the Wayne and Oakland County Equalization Departments have set the following tentative equalization factors relative to the 2020 Real and Personal Property Assessments WAYNE COUNTY - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00. OAKLAND COUNTY - Commercial Real 1.00; Industrial Real 1.00; Residential Real 1.00; All Personal Property 1.00.

Mail-in Petitions must be received by March 10, 2021 before 4:00 p.m. ALL TAXPAYERS wishing to petition their property's taxable value or assessment in person with the Board of Review will be seen by APPOINTMENT ONLY. To ensure every appeal is heard it is requested that appointments be scheduled prior to Tuesday, March 2, 2021. Please contact the City of Northville Tax Department at (248) 449-9901 for an appointment or with any questions you may have regarding your 2021 taxable or assessed value

BOARD OF REVIEW

Publish: March 4, 2021

Birds in the hand at Kensington Metropark

Diane K. Bert Special to Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

"It was a heart-stopping moment. It was so beautiful," Birmingham resident Elisabeth Snyder recalled. "I have never had a bird on my hand before. It was thrilling to feel the little feet curled around my fingers as I held out my hand with sunflower seeds to feed it."

She was at Kensington Metropark on the nature

Jani Gustafson of White Lake is an experienced guest on the nature trails. "I go two to four times a week," she said. "It gives me a feeling of awe that the birds trust you enough to land on your hand. I find that getting outside calms my spirit."

Gustafson advises people coming for the first time to coach children to be patient and stand very still in areas on the trails which have clusters of trees and the sounds of birds singing.

Holding hands outstretched with black sunflower seeds in your palms is the best way of attracting the chickadees, nut hatches, tufted titmouse, and downy woodpecker birds.

Hilary Simmet, media specialist for the metroparks, said visitors to the metroparks pay a vehicle entry fee (\$10 daily or \$40 annual)

"Visitors may not bring dogs. Wildlife animals may not be fed," she added. "Only birds that may land on your hands may be fed. You may want to bring water to

On site at the Kensington Metropark Nature Center is Victoria Taylor Sluder, Western District interpretive services supervisor.

"We have seven miles of trails, on any one of the trails small songbirds can land on your hands," she said. "There are also sandhill cranes and wild turkeys, which should not be approached.

Some people bring huge bags of seed. I recommend small Ziplock bags of seed which are easier to handle. Almost every songbird likes black sunflower seeds. Early on overcast days is the best time to come. We open at 6 a.m."

The nature center building is closed due to CO-VID-19, however restrooms are available.

"Visiting Kensington Metropark is a wonderful, unique opportunity in our area to get close to nature," Dexter Snyder suggested. "Birds tend to be in the clusters of trees. Stand still for five minutes like you are a statue, hold out your hand with seeds, and the birds will come, sharing their lives with you for a few mo-

Jani Gustafson feels that she has gotten to know some of the birds.

"One has a damaged eye and one has a growth on his leg," she noted. "I am always glad to see them again and again and know that they are all right. I enjoy seeing deer in the area, also.

"Sometime the birds land nearby and observe the humans for a few minutes or make trial flights before landing on your hands. It is as if they are checking that you are trustworthy."

Laurie Cooper, a retired Birmingham teacher, had the chance to feed the birds for the first time this past fall. She realized that her former students would be fascinated by the antics of the birds. She took photos and composed a small book and sent it to her students.

"There was a special feeling of serenity there. It was very peaceful in the woods listening to the sounds of the birds. Seeing them up close and perched on my hands was wonderful. I've been back several times since that first visit," says Cooper said.

Kensington Metropark is located at 4570 Huron River Parkway in Milford. Learn more online www.metroparks.com/parks/kensington-metropark.



A tufted titmouse enjoys some sunflower seeds near Wildwing Lake in the at Kensington Metropark. COURTESY OF LAURIE COOPER

Farm

Continued from Page 1A

and read, animals cannot catch COVID," she said. "However, we really emphasize social-distancing among our guests and staff. Once we reopened last year after being shut down by the state mandates, we regulated the wearing of masks at all times

"We also require all of our guests to social dis-

tance at least six feet." pandemic-instore is one way. No more than two separate families are allowed inside a barn at one time, Wallace explains, added.

"Our guests were fantastic about keeping their masks on and distancing last year," Wallace said. "There were times a child's mask would fall off while playing on the playground, but they'd put it right back on."

In an effort to increase safety for its animals, visitors should note that a new fencing system was installed. The white wire on the inside of the animal paddocks has an intermittent, low-voltage current running through it to discourage the animals from destroying the fences, the farm's website



duced rule dictates that Above at left, Maybury Farm's Diana Wallace greets a couple of the farm's ponies all traffic through the Feb. 22. At right, Scott Markwart, the farm's barn animal care supervisor, checks farm's popular general in with one of Maybury Farm's chickens in the coop.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

visitors to interact with the animals at the black

Farm attendance was significantly reduced during 2020 due to the pandemic – a scenario that hurt the 501(c)3 non-

profit's bottom line. "If someone wanted to visit, they had to make a reservation." Wallace said. "Attendance actually picked up in the fall for our corn maze because it was easier to social-dis-

tance people out there. "The decrease in revenue last year really took a toll on what we've been able to do as far as repairs and upkeep. We don't re-

encouraging ceive any money from the federal or state government; we rely totally on donations and the money we receive from admis-

> The farm's annual Eggstravaganza is canceled in accordance with recent guidance by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services on outdoor gathering at events at non-residential venues

Maybury Farm will be open on weekends starting March 6 from noon to

Beginning April 13, the farm will be open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets for 2021 events must be purchased in advance by visiting the website

www.mayburyfarm.org. Contact reporter Ed Wright at eawright@ hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.





City of Novi - Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 8, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. on the Zoom Video Conference electronic meeting platform to consider Proposal for Approval of Resolution authorizing submission of a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant application for "Northwest Park Improvements" to the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The proposed Nature Based park improvements include a nature play area, nature trails, parking area, sidewalk and a prairie restoration. The park is located at 50635 Twelve Mile Road, Novi, MI 48374.

A conceptual plan for the park is available for examination and review at the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services office at 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 Parks. Recreation and Cultural Services at the following email address: imuck@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.

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

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

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

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

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

All interested persons are invited to attend.

Cortney Hanson CITY CLERK

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www.americenters.com

Cedar Point reveals plans for new riverboat ride

Darcie Moran Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Cedar Point plans to be in full swing this year with a full schedule of activities, including a 150th-anniversary celebration that was postponed due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

The amusement park announced a season schedule, including plans to debut a new riverboat ride, celebrate its anniversary with a parade, host a Wild West-themed Frontier Festival, host the Cedar Point Nights evening festival and give away lifetime tickets.

The park expects to release COVID-19 safety information in the coming months, according to a news release Thursday announcing the plans.

During its reopening amid 2020 closures, visitors were required to conduct health screening on the park app, use masks, undergo temperature screenings, and social distance. The park also set up hand sanitizer stations, touchless

screenings, and capacity management. The first of the weekend events will begin May 14 and the Cedar Point Shores Waterpark opens May 29.

"Cedar Point will continue to provide safe family fun in 2021, just as it has since its beginning," said Jason Mc-Clure, vice president and general manager of Cedar Point, according to the release. "The entire team is eager to celebrate the park's postponed 150th anniversary with new entertainment, new dining options, commemorative merchandise, a grea. new family ride and

"Safety is always our top priority. In the current environment, our team will continue to carry out our mission of not only safety but the very reason we've been here for more than 150 years - to make people happy."

Here's the schedule:

Frontier Festival

May 14-16 and May 21-23, then daily May 28-June 13

The Frontier Festival, described as a "Wild West hootenanny," will be the first to return in 2021, according to the park.

There will be themed decor, live music, games, street entertainers and local artisans.

For food and drink, the festival is centered on "a stockpile of cherries amassed during the harvest." More than 20 cherry-inspired foods will be available and, for adults, there will also be more than 100 craft brews, seltzers, ciders and custom cocktails.

The event will continue to partner with the children's cancer foundation Prayers for Maria, and the proceeds from the purchase of merchandise, including ones with Peanuts characters, will go toward the organization, according to the release.

Snake River Expedition debut

May 29 through Labor Day, Sept. 6 Cedar Point's new riverboat ride will be next on the schedule, with families working to smuggle goods around Adventure Island, according to the park. Riders will have to perform secret tasks, encounter some surprises, and avoid "danger" while being led by a cast of characters and experiencing special ef-

"Guests will also see nods to Cedar Point's past attractions like the Western Cruise and Paddlewheel Excursions boat rides," according to the park.

150th Anniversary Celebration

Daily June 26-Aug. 15

fects, according to the park

The 150th anniversary celebration will include a parade, limited-edition merchandise, and the debut of new food

The "Celebrate 150 Spectacular" parade and nighttime party will feature floats, some more than two stories tall, to depict the park's history, along with acrobats, dancers, performers and a grand finale.

The new food options include C.P. Juice Co., with fruit-shaped drink cups like those served at the park years ago, and Taste of the Point food tours, for a sampling of Cedar Point favorites.

Win lifetime tickets

During the 150th anniversary celebration, June 26-Aug. 15

Guests can win free admission, along with three guests, to Cedar Point and Cedar Point Shores Waterpark for the rest of their lives by scanning their mobile devices at guest kiosks during the 150th anniversary celebration.

They will have five chances to win each day and have a chance to upgrade to the CP 150 VIP Club, with several Fast Lane passes, and access to VIP areas and viewings of the parade..

Cedar Point Nights

Aug. 6 through Labor Day, Sept. 6

Cedar Point Nights at the Cedar Point Beach will return to cap the summer season. It will include a new "dining in the dark" experience, beach games, fire pits, live entertainment and rides.

Visitors should visit cedarpoint.com for updates on requirements and safety protocols for the 2021 season, as the guidelines may be revised ahead of the park opening. The park is working with health experts and government officials to maintain safety, according to the re-

Teen performs in virtual Broadway play

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When he was 2 years old, Northville's Anthony Gennaro volunteered to walk on stage at a concert he was attending with his parents and sing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star".

The Meads Mill seventh-grader has been a crowd-pleaser ever since.

In January, Gennaro performed in a live virtual streaming of the Broadway play "Dear Edwina." Out of over 100 kids between the ages of 8 and 14 who auditioned, Gennaro was one of 26 selected-Gennaro is no stranger to the big stage as he has sung the "National Anthem" as a member of a choir at the Indianapolis 500 and performed in large-scale productions including "Aladdin" and "The Greatest Snowman.

"Since 'Dear Edwina was virtual, there were some challenges, but it was fun," said Gennaro. "I really wanted the lead role of Scott, but I'm happy playing the role of Lars, who gets injured in the

'My family helped me when I was reading my lines and it was kind of crazy performing in front of a green screen because it was virtual, but it was exciting."

Originally conceived as a one-hour, staged children's musical, "Dear Edwina" was performed virtually as the first educational production of the the online version. The entire cast were members of the Broadway Artists Alliance of NYC.

Gennaro said he "loved" New York City when he visited with his family.

"Attending my first Broadway play is kind of what inspired me to get into singing and acting," he said.

All rehearsals, filming and editing for the play took place completely remotely. Gennaro and his cast mate, whose hometowns are spread out throughout the United States, congregated on Zoom



Northville's Anthony Gennaro, right, performs in a version of "Bye, Bye Birdie." COURTESY OF ANTHONY GENNARO

for read-throughs, blocking rehearsals and character study.

'The young performers, who are well-versed in performing for the stage after studying previously with Broadway Artists Alliance, have quickly cultivated new skills in acting for the camera and staying on top of detailed filming requirements," a Broadway Alliance representative noted.

In addition to the performing arts, Gennaro's interests include producing claymation videos

And he can still bust out with a crowd-pleasing version of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" at the drop of a

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Oakland County warns of possible scam related to vaccine appointments

Christina Hall Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

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• Make a list of contact information for family members, close friends, health providers or anyone who calls regularly so you know the call is legiti-

• Let a call go to voicemail if you don't recognize a phone number, as scammers rarely leave messages.

• Hang up if a stranger asks for personal or financial information.

Government agencies will identi-

fy themselves. Don't share personal information such as your Social Security number to

anyone over the phone.

South Lyon East tries to plan for senior prom

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com . USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Class of 2020 missed out on a lot of traditional senior celebrations in the pandemic, including school-sponsored

Now as the pandemic comes full-circle with the vaccine rollout, officials in at least one district are trying to plan for a different outcome for the Class of 2021.

South Lyon East High School Principal Karen Fisher confirmed a survey was sent to seniors to gauge their interest in attending a mid-May prom at the Lyon Oaks clubhouse.

Fisher stressed that everything hinges on what COVID-19 gathering restrictions are in place this spring, but planning is a necessity with an event that usually hosts at least 200 students.

"I don't want to give them impression that it is a done deal," Fisher said. "But some staff members are trying to look at options and get an idea of what to plan for. If things change, they want to be

Fisher, who was planning on sending a communication to parents on Thursday afternoon, said she recognized that families have divided opinions about gatherings during the pandemic.

"People are very emotional about it," Fisher said. "There are people who think we should find a way and make it happen and others who are very concerned because we have lost 500,0000 people in this pandemic, and we need to take that seriously. We're not throwing caution to the wind."

Last year, privately held proms and other celebrations were blamed for a COVID-19 outbreak in South Lyon.

While prom hinges on health department mandates, if those should be eased the event will still depend on if there are enough attendees to make booking the Lyon Oaks facility feasible.

Tickets will need to be sold soon. It is unknown whether an invitation will be extended to juniors, who in normal times are able to attend prom, and they have not been surveyed. *

Superintendent 'Steve Archibald agreed that planning is necessary. Prior to the pandemic, reservations and detailed plans for senior events were made well in advance of March. Now, he is expecting like last year

that it will be "contingency plans, on top of contingency plans, upon yet more contingency plans" for events that may, or may not, eventually come to fruition.

Archibald said South Lyon High School administrators are also having conversations about prom, which is typically held at Laurel Manor.

'We are talking about what the possibilities could be," he said. "Even with our best desire to have something, we may be prohibited, but they want to look into it on the off chance we can do something for the students."

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The Michigan Elder Law Reporter™

FEBRUARY 2021

31 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 2.4

LETTERS WE GET LETTERS...

WE GET LOTS AND LOTS OF LETTERS!

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Can I sell my Mother's house as successor trustee of her trust. After she gets approved for [Medicaid]? My mother has dementia & ive been successor trustee 4 years. Her house is in a reverse mortgage & the only item in her trust. I will need to sell it, but how will that affect her [Medicaid]? Can I move the profits into an acct for her medical needs? A sitter or companion at the facility? After her death I'll disburse what's left to her heirs? Or will I have to sign the profits to |Medicaid| at sale?

YOU MUST SELL THE HOUSE... OR BE FORECLOSED!!

If Mother is out of the house for twelve (12) consecutive months the Reverse Mortgage



Lender can foreclose and force a sale. Special COVID rules now delay foreclosure. And since COVID rules mutate faster than a foreign virus, call us for the latest updates. Or. You can sell the house and repay the Reverse Mortgage Lender. How much do you have to repay? Whichever is less of: 95% of the appraised value or whatever is owed on the reverse mortgage. You keep the leftover money. And since you only have to repay 95% of the appraised value, there will likely be leftovers. Which brings up another

THE PROBLEM WHAT TO DO WITH THE LEFTOVER MONEY?



eport the sale

homestead is gone. And that Mother has lots more money. More money than the \$2000 Medicaid lets her keep! So next month, Mother's Medicaid will end. And Mother will have to spend the homestead money until it is all gone. And then Mother may reapply for Medicaid. New Development: January 2021 spend-down rules prohibit Mother (or you) from spending this money to buy furniture or household goods.

SOME SOLUTIONS AND **STRATEGIES**

NOTE #1: Your question involves reverse mortgage





However. These strategies can be used by any amily considering homestead sale. NOTE #2: Death is a factor in solving

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And who knows? There might even be a few bucks left for the kids. EASY, EASY, EASY! THE

POOLED TRUST 1. Sell the house

Right now. As soon as you empty it of family heirlooms, keepsakes, bric-a-brac and your 3rd grade art projects that Mother has kept all these

2. Use a Charitable Pooled Trust.

- a. Deposit the sales proceeds in a pooled
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- c. The nonprofit takes money from many folks on Medicaid and pools it all together. They then invest the pool of
- d. Each person putting money into the pool has a separate account
- e. The Pooled Trust trustee spends Mother's account money for Mother's needs.
- f. No Age Limit!
- g. At Mother's death, the nonprofit charity keeps the leftover money for its charitable purposes.
- 3. Upside/Downside
 - a. Upside: Super Easy. Barely an inconvenience! Pooled Trust trustees tend to be understanding and generous spending Mother's money on Mother.
 - b. Downside: Nothing for the kids.

EASY, EASY! THE MEDICAID PAYBACK TRUST Go to your friendly, neighborhood probate court. Get a court order creating a (d)(4)

(A) Medicaid Payback Trust. Depending on the county, the local probate judge may have a well-

established procedure for this

- 2. Sell the house. Get the money.
- 3. Use the Medicaid Payback Trust. a. Deposit the sales proceeds into the
- Payback Trust account.
- b. You created the Payback Trust. You are
- c. You spend the money for Mother's needs
- d. AGE LIMIT: Must be under 65 years
- e. At Mother's death, Medicaid gets the leftover money as payback.
- 4. Upside/Downside
- a. Upside: Still easy, although you need a lawyer. As trustee, you have complete control so long as you spend the money for Mother
- b. Downside: Must account to probate court. Nothing for the kids.

NOT SO EASY - DELAY, DELAY, DELAY! THIS IS WHERE IT GETS COMPLICATED!



Michigan allows the family to keep the homestead while Mother is on Medicaid. But the reverse mortgage company says sell, sell, sell, and pay

Michigan also says, if the homestead goes through probate. Michigan gets the homestead money to pay back Medicaid. So we must plan to avoid probate. Why? So that

Medicaid does not get all the homestead sale

And that is why we play to delay. The reverse mortgage company must give 12 months. And with COVID, it is longer. In those 12 months, Mother may need additional care or services. Or Mother may die.

WHILE MOTHER LIVES - BEFORE THE SALE

While Mother lives and the homestead is not yet sold how does Mother get additional services? The kids pay for the services. But! Whoever puts up the money gets a promissory note secured by the homestead. The generous kid gets paid back after the reverse mortgage company but before anyone else. We are using the homestead to leverage additional care for

MOTHER STILL LIVES - 12+ MONTHS LATER -

If Mother survives. Now we must sell the homestead. Close on the sale. Reverse mortgage company gets paid. Generous kid gets paid. Leftovers go to Pooled Trust or

MOTHER DIES BEFORE FORCED SALE OF

If Mother has died. Must sell homestead. Avoided probate with trust. Trustee sells homestead. Reverse mortgage company gets paid. Generous kid gets paid. Leftovers divided among all living kids or whomever else Mother chose as beneficiaries

To Infinity!

Are there a bewildering number of choices, options, permutations, and possibilities? Darn tootin'! Confusing? Mebbe! Worth it? Yes, indeedy! By taking the trouble, you have insured that Mother gets the best care possible. You avoided Nursing Home Poverty. You enabled Mother to get a return on the years that she and Father invested. And there will (may) he leftovers for the kids

If it was oh so very easy, everyone would be doing it. It is not easy. Which is why most fail. But not you, not your family.

AND BEYOND!

Applying for benefits does not mean Nursing Home Poverty or silly Spend Down. Learn how to preserve your loved one's lifesavings,

life insurance Thousands of middle-class families have learned and use these techniques Why not yours?

Got Questions?

Get Answers

GET ANSWERS NOW... THE CALL THAT CHANGES YOUR LIFE... COME TO A WORKSHOP ... Live or

On-line... It is INTERACTIVE!

1-800-317-2812



COVID Emergency Expansion is over... you missed it! But the PACE Program goes on ... Whyshould your family miss out on the current opportunity? Don't miss this chance again!

KEEP PICKING UP THE P.A.C.E.! GOOD NEWS FOR MIDDLE CLASS SECURITY

Overwhelming response to our reports about expanded eligibility for PACE benefits. Stay in your home. Services delivered to you.

Reality: keep the cottage, your lifesavings. Get comprehensive, at-home care. Dozens of other families made the call. Folks just like you, except they picked up the phone. Their loved ones will be getting needed care. At home. All with no co-pays, donut holes, or out of pocket expenses. Keep your income.

Many other families are already taking advantage of the PACE benefits. Why not you? The call is free, the information is free, the results can be priceless. CALL THE PACE HOTLINE 1-800-317-2812

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ATTORNEY David L. Carrier

38 Years Practicing Law BA, Notre Dame; JD, Boston University Law Master of Laws, Tax, Georgetown University Law Captain, US Army, JAGC (Veteran)



Holland 12330 James Suite B10 Holland, MI (616) 796-9600

Cedar Point reveals plans for new riverboat ride

Darcie Moran Detroit Free Press **USA TODAY NETWORK**

Cedar Point plans to be in full swing this year with a full schedule of activities, including a 150th-anniversary celebration that was postponed due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

The amusement park announced a season schedule, including plans to debut a new riverboat ride, celebrate its anniversary with a parade, host a Wild West-themed Frontier Festival, host the Cedar Point Nights evening festival and give away lifetime tickets.

The park expects to release COVID-19 safety information in the coming months, according to a news release Thursday announcing the plans.

During its reopening amid 2020 closures, visitors were required to conduct health screening on the park app, use masks, undergo temperature screenings, and social distance. The park also set up hand sanitizer stations, touchless screenings, and capacity management.

The first of the weekend events will begin May 14 and the Cedar Point Shores Waterpark opens May 29.

"Cedar Point will continue to provide safe family fun in 2021, just as it has since its beginning," said Jason Mc-Clure, vice president and general manager of Cedar Point, according to the release. "The entire team is eager to celebrate the park's postponed 150th anniversary with new entertainment, new dining options, commemorative merchandise, a great new family ride and

"Safety is always our top priority. In the current environment, our team will continue to carry out our mission of not only safety but the very reason we've been here for more than 150 years - to make people happy.

Here's the schedule:

Frontier Festival

May 14-16 and May 21-23, then daily **May 28-June 13**

The Frontier Festival, described as a "Wild West hootenanny," will be the first to return in 2021, according to the park.

There will be themed decor, live music, games, street entertainers and local

For food and drink, the festival is centered on "a stockpile of cherries amassed during the harvest." More than 20 cherry-inspired foods will be available and, for adults, there will also be more than 100 craft brews, seltzers, ciders and custom cocktails.

The event will continue to partner with the children's cancer foundation Prayers for Maria, and the proceeds from the purchase of merchandise, including ones with Peanuts characters, will go toward the organization, according to the release.

Snake River Expedition debut

May 29 through Labor Day, Sept. 6 Cedar Point's new riverboat ride will be next on the schedule, with families working to smuggle goods around Adventure Island, according to the park. Riders will have to perform secret tasks, encounter some surprises, and avoid "danger" while being led by a cast of characters and experiencing special effects, according to the park.

"Guests will also see nods to Cedar Point's past attractions like the Western Cruise and Paddlewheel Excursions boat rides," according to the park.

150th Anniversary Celebration

Daily June 26-Aug. 15

The 150th anniversary celebration will include a parade, limited-edition merchandise, and the debut of new food

The "Celebrate 150 Spectacular" parade and nighttime party will feature floats, some more than two stories tall, to depict the park's history, along with acrobats, dancers, performers and a grand finale.

The new food options include C.P. Juice Co., with fruit-shaped drink cups like those served at the park years ago, and Taste of the Point food tours, for a sampling of Cedar Point favorites.

Win lifetime tickets

During the 150th anniversary celebration, June 26-Aug. 15

Guests can win free admission, along with three guests, to Cedar Point and Cedar Point Shores Waterpark for the rest of their lives by scanning their mobile devices at guest kiosks during the 150th anniversary celebration.

They will have five chances to win each day and have a chance to upgrade to the CP 150 VIP Club, with several Fast Lane passes, and access to VIP areas and viewings of the parade..

Cedar Point Nights

Aug. 6 through Labor Day, Sept. 6

Cedar Point Nights at the Cedar Point Beach will return to cap the summer season. It will include a new "dining in the dark" experience, beach games, fire pits, live entertainment and rides.

Visitors should visit cedarpoint.com for updates on requirements and safety protocols for the 2021 season, as the guidelines may be revised ahead of the park opening. The park is working with health experts and government officials to maintain safety, according to the re-

Teen performs in virtual Broadway play

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

When he was 2 years old, Northville's Anthony Gennaro volunteered to walk on stage at a concert he was attending with his parents and sing "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star".

The Meads Mill seventh-grader has been a crowd-pleaser ever since.

In January, Gennaro performed in a live virtual streaming of the Broadway play "Dear Edwina." Out of over 100 kids between the ages of 8 and 14 who auditioned, Gennaro was one of 26 selected-Gennaro is no stranger to the big stage as he has sung the "National Anthem" as a member of a choir at the Indianapolis 500 and performed in large-scale productions including "Aladdin" and "The Greatest Showman.

"Since 'Dear Edwina was virtual, there were some challenges, but it was fun," said Gennaro. "I really wanted the lead role of Scott, but I'm happy playing the role of Lars, who gets injured in the

"My family helped me when I was reading my lines and it was kind of crazy performing in front of a green screen because it was virtual, but it was exciting."

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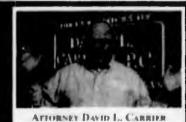
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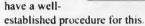
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- b. You created the Payback Trust. You are the trustee
- c. You spend the money for Mother's
- d. AGE LIMIT: Must be under 65 years e. At Mother's death, Medicaid gets the
- leftover money as payback.
- 4. Upside/Downside
 - a. Upside: Still easy, although you need a lawyer. As trustee, you have complete control so long as you spend the money for Mother
 - b. Downside: Must account to probate court. Nothing for the kids.

NOT SO EASY DELAY, DELAY! THIS IS WHERE IT GETS COMPLICATED!



Michigan allows the family to keep the homestead while Mother is on Medicaid. But the reverse mortgage company says sell, sell, sell, and pay us back

Michigan also says, if the homestead goes through probate, Michigan gets the homestead money to pay back Medicaid. So we must plan to avoid probate. Why? So that

Medicaid does not get all the homestead sale money.

And that is why we play to delay. The reverse mortgage company must give 12 months. And with COVID, it is longer. In those 12 months, Mother may need additional care or services. Or Mother may die.

While Mother Lives – Before The Sale

While Mother lives and the homestead is not yet sold how does Mother get additional services? The kids pay for the services. But! Whoever puts up the money gets a promissory note secured by the homestead. The generous kid gets paid back after the reverse mortgage company but before anyone else. We are using the homestead to leverage additional care for

MOTHER STILL LIVES = 12+ MONTHS LATER = MUST SELL

If Mother survives. Now we must sell the homestead. Close on the sale. Reverse mortgage company gets paid. Generous kid gets paid. Leftovers go to Pooled Trust or Payback Trust.

MOTHER DIES BEFORE FORCED SALE OF HOMESTEAD

If Mother has died. Must sell homestead. Avoided probate with trust. Trustee sells homestead Reverse mortgage company gets paid. Generous kid gets paid. Leftovers divided among all living kids or whomever else Mother chose as beneficiaries

TO INFINITY!

Are there a bewildering number of choices, options, permutations, and possibilities? Darn tootin'! Confusing? Mebbe! Worth it? Yes, indeedy! By taking the trouble, you have insured that Mother gets the best care possible. You avoided Nursing Home Poverty. You enabled Mother to get a return on the years that she and Father invested. And there will (may) be leftovers for the kids.

If it was oh so very easy, everyone would be doing it. It is not easy. Which is why most fail. But not you, not your family.

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business, cottage life insurance. Thousands of middle-class families have learned and use these techniques

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Master of Laws, Tax, Georgetown University Law Captain, US Army, JAGC (Veteran)



Meals

Continued from Page 1A

there were food shortages and all of a sudden people were not working. I am a planning the worst-case scenario type person, problem solve for the worst, and we were ready somewhat."

She could not fully anticipate the storm that would hit, but the Huron Valley Food Service team weathered it remarkably well, and just shy of a year into the pandemic, they closed in on a remarkable milestone: nearly a half million meals served to kids in the district. A majority of those meals were distributed outside of the cafeteria, and with many improvisations.

For these efforts, the food service staff was the first to be honored by the school board and administration when formal recognitions returned to the board of education's meetings held virtually since the start of the pandemic.

"Sara Simmerson and her staff have delivered to more food sites than any other district in Oakland County," Geoffrey VanGoethem, assistant superintendent of business and operations, said. "In March 2020, they were one of the first to implement an emergency feeding program... They are frontline heroes and we couldn't be more proud of them and the difference they have made in our communities."

He noted the food service staff worked tirelessly to overcome hurdles and distribution times to deliver to anyone in need of food, regardless of inentrees."

bars."

comes with meals.

The disruption to the food supply

chain, glaringly obvious at grocery

stores, was also impacting school dis-

tricts. Simmerman and her staff scram-

bled, but managed during the slow tran-

sition to the individually wrapped

we'll figure it out later," she said. "Fast

forward to now, we are able to serve in-

house students the way we've always

been able to serve, except no open salad

plan, can get served seven breakfasts

and seven lunches per week. Frozen en-

trees, including grilled cheese, burritos,

mac and cheese and pizza, get sent

home with cooking instructions. Milk

huge need." Simmerman said, noting in

summertime, it was 13,000 meals per

week. "I've never had so many kids

The meals are funded to all kids in

thank me. It's very gratifying."

"Not everyone takes it, but there's a

All students, virtual or in the hybrid

"Everyone was like, feed the kids,

meals suppliers now provide.

Meals paid through federal funds

The district, which serves about 8,600 students, started with meal pickups at Milford and Lakeland high schools and Muir Middle School. Six delivery sites were initially established within the boundaries of the 100-square mile district. But the initial challenge was using up the food on hand, which was not food that could actually be put in bags or easily transportable.

"We had to change what we would serve in school to individually wrapped and prepared meals - we had wrapped pizza, grilled cheese, bowls of cereal vs. scrambled eggs," Simmerman said. "Our whole meal service and menu process changed drastically. And when it changed for us, it changed for every



Gleaners Food Bank volunteers Ryan Toth, left, and Dylan Burke bring out some food to a resident Feb. 24 at Milford High. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

other district. All of a sudden, everyone this pandemic year, regardless of inwants individually wrapped meals and come, thanks to the USDA. The average cost of one meal at the elementary level is \$2.50 and at the secondary level, averages between \$3 and \$3.50.

> With kids in the hybrid plan back in school four days per week, soon to be five, the staff now packages about 7,000 meals per week to be eaten at home by students learning virtually or on weekends for students. Take home meal distributions are on Wednesdays.

Partnering with **Gleaners Food Bank**

Additionally, the district is now also partnering with Gleaners Food Bank and every other Wednesday at Milford High School, families can pick up a box of food for help with dinners. At the first Gleaners distribution late last month, more than 300 boxes were given out.

Simmerman said they are planning on more so that every family who would like a box of food can get one.

Gleaners typically offers this partnership to districts that have more than half of their students income-eligible



food distribution at Milford High.



Thousands of meals per week have been prepackaged by Huron Valley Food Service and sent to students. **COURTESY OF HURON VALLEY SCHOOLS**

for free and reduced meals. However, Simmerman said the non-profit readily lent assistance to Huron Valley, who has only about a third of students that meet that standard.

"We are such a large district. When you have 9,000 kids and are at 30 percent, that's still 3,000 hungry kids," she said. "They want to feed hungry kids."

Simmerman and her food staff join them in that goal, too, as well as the district's bus drivers.

'Let me tell you, we could not do any of this without transportation," she said. "The bus drivers immediately said, 'we're doing this.' Our HVS transportation department, they are awesome."

School Board Vice President Sean Carlson reflected that it is difficult to believe it has been almost a year since the pandemic's arrival in Michigan.

"There were a lot of families that had serious concerns about where their next meal would come from," he said. "We want to thank all the food service workers who stepped up for the families in this community."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.

Projects

Continued from Page 1A

federal Highway Safety Improvement program, with the city picking up the remainder.

The project was originally scheduled for 2023, but was recently moved up to 2022 in order to be done in conjunction with a \$1.1 million Taft Road rehabilitation stretching a mile and a half, from 10 Mile Road to the city limits.

The Taft Road project will receive \$900,000 from the Oakland County Federal Aid Committee (OCFAC) and the city's match is \$230,000.

Another major project will be moved to 2023 as a result — the \$1.6 million rehabilitation of Wixom Road, from Grand River to the south city limits. Federal funding covers \$1.3 million, while the city will pick up the rest.

The OCFAC task force recently met and selected two major 2024 Novi projects based on a points system which takes into consideration factors including traffic volume, road condition and population.

The 2024 Novi projects chosen by the taskforce are both classified as RRR -rehabilitation, restoration and repaving, which will occur on 9 Mile Road, between Meadowbrook and Haggerty; and on Meadowbrook, from 10 Mile to 11

"By the time they rank high enough to beat other projects, they are usually in pretty serious need," Road Commission



The busy intersection of Novi and Grand River will see some road work in 2021, making it a bit easier for commuters to navigate. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

for Oakland County Communications Manager Craig Bryson said. "There is a lot of traffic volume in Novi, which tends to boost ranking of projects there."

The major resurfacing of each section of road will grind out existing asphalt and add 3 to 4 inches of new asphalt, as well as fix drainage problems and extend turn lanes where needed. The construction will take about 3-4 months and should last at least 10-15 years, Bryson said.

The 9 Mile Road work has a price tag of about \$717,000, with \$573,000 covered by federal funding and the remainder by the city. The \$1.164 million Meadowbrook project will receive \$931,000 in federal funding, with the city paying \$233,000.

Bryson noted the road commission also plans a simple resurfacing project this year on 14 Mile Road from Walled Lake Drive to Haggerty, which includes the communities of Walled Lake, Commerce Township and Novi. There is no schedule yet for the project, which is typically 3-4 days of work, at a cost of \$300,000 per mile and is disruptive but, won't prevent thru-traffic.

Other projects in Oakland County this year are the paving of Currie Road in Lyon Township, from 9 Mile to 10 Mile, at a cost of \$2.7 million, with \$1.9 million paid for from federal funding and the re-

mainder shared between the road commission and Lyon Township.

Tree removal is expected to take place this spring, with construction starting in May and completed by the end of October. The road will be shut down during that time period. Next year, Currie will be paved between 8 Mile and 9 Mile roads.

This year in Birmingham, Cranbrook Road gets rehabilitated, restored and repaved between 14 Mile and 15 Mile and will be closed to traffic during construction, which is anticipated to start in June and end in August.

Traffic signal work will continue in October for the \$1.4 million project which is all local funding by Birmingham, Bloomfield Township and the road commission

In Milford Township, the road commission will pay for a roughly \$600,000, 2-mile preservation overlay on W. Commerce Road from Hickory Ridge east to the village limits.

"Amazingly enough, the pandemic had little impact on road projects last year," Bryson said. "Day to day we were not able to do on-site meetings or we were standing six feet apart, but everything got done. This year, we are moving forward, obviously with protocols in place, and normal construction. One of the nice things last year was traffic was so much lighter, which was easier on contractors.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @Susan-Bromley10.

Threats

Continued from Page 1A

update until now. We thank the Royal Oak Police Department and Livingston County Prosecutor's Office for their diligent work on this matter."

The Huron-Clinton Metroparks, which includes 13 parks, started the deer management program in 1999. Annual aerial surveys determine need for deer culls in order to keep herds healthy

Third party wildlife biologists completed health studies on the park deer populations and concluded that, "data indicates herd stress due to lack of nutrition," according to the press release.

To maintain a healthy balance between herbivores and native plants the Michigan Department of Natural Resources recommends a deer population density of 15-20 deer per square mile.

"We want to regularly assess and continually ensure the metroparks is doing everything possible to humanely address overpopulation and ensure a healthy, thriving deer population that also sustains our diverse flora and fauna that play a role in sustaining the entire ecosystem," McMillan said.

In January, parks administrators announced a cull would take place this

month at Kensington, as well as at the Oakwoods/Willow Metropark in New Boston.

Two culls at the latter adjacent parks continued as planned, with the second completed last night, Feb. 25. Between the two culls, the herd of about 210 was reduced by 51 deer.

The Kensington cull could not be rescheduled due to time constraints, according to a press release, which also stated the Huron-Clinton Metroparks plans to reevaluate the deer management program this year, with a review of "best practices and alternative methods across the state and country."

The additional study will be complet-

ed by the end of 2021 and made publicly available, and additional similar reviews are anticipated about every three years hereafter.

"The metroparks team understands and appreciates the wide range of passionate viewpoints this issue evokes," McMillan said. "The science will always guide and drive our decisions on the most effective, most humane way to protect the long-term health and welfare of the deer population as well as the ecosystem which sustains them.'

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @Susan-Bromley10.



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SPORTS



Madonna opens first-ever football season

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Madonna University football has been waiting a long time to take the field for the first time.

Establishing the program in August 2018, the Crusaders hired their first head coach in January 2019 with sights set on starting its first season in fall 2020. But the COVID-19 pandemic

pushed that start date back even further with the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics establishing a spring football season to start in February 2021.

Now, with a new head coach, and another pushed-back start date, Madonna football is on the clock. The Crusaders will open its inaugural season at home Saturday, facing Lawrence Tech at Churchill High School.



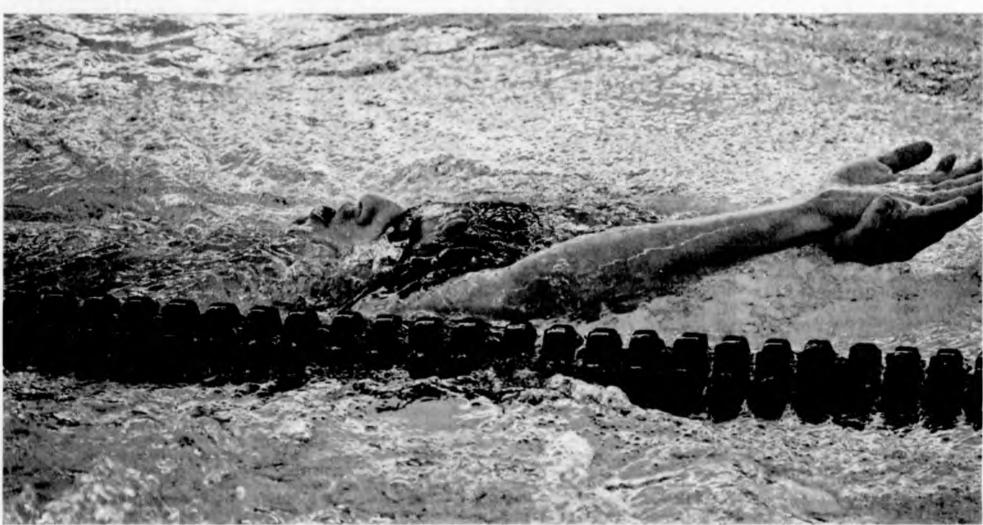
"I think all the guys are excited and ready to play," head coach Herb Haygood, who replaced former head coach Brian Foos Dec. 9, said. "We've had guys who have been

on campus for almost two years now. They are just ready to get out there and show what they came to Madonna for."

Heading into its first season, Madonna has 82 Michigan players on its roster along with freshman kicker/punter Moritz Preuss, who is from Berlin, but played for Groves High School in Bir-

The Crusaders also have 11 players from Ohio, two from Nevada, two from Florida and representatives from South

See FOOTBALL, Page 2B



Detroit Catholic Central's Matthew Kozma practices in the pool at Marian High School on Feb. 4. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE COM

CC swim team remains unbreakable

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Entering the Mercy High School locker room from the pool deck, there's a bell hanging right in front of the door, printed with the word "Navy" in block letters.

In an homage to the Navy Seals, the bell is to be rung when swimmers have had enough or have finished their final

When Detroit Catholic Central found that its 2020 season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Shamrocks' nine seniors rang the bell, exiting the pool for the final time. But it didn't mean as much. To some, it sounded hollow. The race was incomplete, no fault

Approaching the winter season, sitting in the same spot as she did when she found out the 2020 state meet was canceled, Shamrocks head swim coach Jessica Stoddard remembers the significance of the bell. It's more than just something to ring in celebration.

Navigating the 2021 season with only the state meet on the head coach's mind, she anticipates the ring being validation for the work put in, but also a sweet song cutting through the loss and the fights that will not be erased even if they hoist a Division 1 state championship trophy.

Stoddard hopes to use this fuel, this drive in 2021 to push her swimmers past the breaking point.

"You reach that point of pain. When you keep pushing, it actually does go away," Stoddard said. "When you touch the wall, you are going to feel it, and it's going to be awful, but you can get to the

See SWIM TEAM, Page 2B



Catholic Central's Christian Dunaitis during a practice session.

Brother Rice basketball fights off CG comeback

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

For the first two quarters Feb. 24, Brother Rice continued its beat down of rival Detroit Catholic Central from the previous Saturday.

After beating the Shamrocks, 78-37, at home five days prior, the Warriors exploded to a 56-26 halftime lead, using in seven points. But Brother Rice (4-2) the shooting range of sophomore Curtis Williams and sophomore Xavier Thom-

as to create a mismatch. Then the Shamrocks woke up.

Catholic Central outscored Brother Rice, 28-7, in the third quarter, helped by 11 points by freshman point guard Chaz Lewless to bring the Shamrocks to with-

kept Catholic Central (1-5) at enough of an arm's length to secure the 75-67 victory on the road.

"Our immaturity and we let our foot off the gas," Brother Rice head coach Rick Palmer said. "And give credit to CC. This is a huge rivalry game and... it's shocking it took three halves of basket-

ball to wake up. He's got injuries and all that, but that was the type of effort we kind of expect in this rivalry game."

But Brother Rice was short-handed

In the final minute of Monday's practice heading into the CC game, senior

See BASKETBALL, Page 5B



Canton beats Salem for PCEP hockey title

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

Heading into the 2021 season, Canton had one goal in mind: win the Park.

The hockey balance at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park had been heavily skewed toward Salem, a program coming off a regional title and a state quarterfinal loss to Detroit Catholic Central

Canton has not had success against Salem as of late, not beating the Rocks since tying them Jan. 16, 2016. Since then, the Rocks have outscored the Chiefs, 24-4, in six meetings.

But Canton head coach Justin Maedel thought it was his team's turn, firing his team up and telling them to take its first Park title in nine seasons. And Canton rose to the occasion, beating Salem (4-3), 4-1, Friday night at Arctic Edge

"Since my freshman year, all we have wanted to do is win the Park (championship) and beat these teams," Canton senior goalkeeper Michael Renzi said. "We are ecstatic for this win."

The success started with Renzi and the Canton defense.

Facing a Salem offense that was prone to fast starts — scoring 11 goals in six games in the first 17 minutes — Canton shut them down as Renzi recorde 14



puck to his left. Canton beat Salem, 4-1, Friday night at Arctic Edge Arena. JOHN HEIDER/ HOMETOWNLIFE

saves in the first period of play.

For Salem head coach Ryan Ossenmacher, the Rocks offense did not have a lack of chances, saying there was no doubt his team "out-chanced" Canton. But it was finishing that proved to be the difference.

"There are times where we just don't engage," Ossenmacher said. "We line up for a face off and we are not necessarily ready when the puck drops.

"At this point, I feel like we're on a treadmill where we feel like we're moving, but we're not actually accomplishing a lot. You can look at the distance and say, 'Hey we went two miles,' but

you are standing in the same spot."

And while Renzi and the rest of the Canton defense stood stout, the team was rewarded.

As play gets

pretty busy near his net,

Canton goalie

Michael Renzi

tries to keep

an eye on the

Thirty-five seconds into the second period, Canton junior forward and assistant captain Tyler Husted took a feed from senior James Monteith and put the puck past Salem goalkeeper Andre Genereux, opening the floodgates for three goals within 17 minutes.

Canton senior captain Declan O'Hare took a rebound off Genereux's leg and tucked it past him on the left side of the goal for the second goal of the day, while Husted found an opening from junior

forward Joel Fonovic for his second of the day, his team-leading eighth of the season.

Canton senior defender Kunal Kale added an empty net goal late, handing Salem the three-goal loss after Rocks sophomore Logan Marshall recorded his second goal of the year in the third

"We have worked really hard in practice, really hard in the gym and we have worked really hard in games," Maedel said. "We have lost some games, but they are games that the score doesn't reflect what the game is.

"I think the boys have seen it, and I think they have a look at if we can play with what we have... we're right there. We're right there to turn it."

Husted remembers what this team looked like when he first joined.

Joining the team with Maedel prior to the start of the 2019-20 season, the now-senior remembers the team being perceived as struggling, but full of upside. With the talent and the dedication on the roster in 2021, Husted says now that upside is coming to fruition.

"When we put everything together, it shows on the ice, and it shows things are starting to get moving," Husted said.

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

Swim team

Continued from Page 1B

"Being able to train at that next level takes something really special. You are either born with that special or you get it from the people you are around or the experiences you have gone through."

.06 seconds

Matthew Kozma will always remember the 400-yard relay.

It's what gave him the chance to burst onto the scene as a freshman, racing third in the Shamrocks' All-State finishing relay team in 2018. But it also represents what could have been as a

Kozma, who earned two individual All-State times in the 2019 state meet, led off Catholic Central's 400-yard medley relay, losing West Ottawa by .06 seconds and falling short in losing the Division 1 state title to the Panthers by eight

"When we lost that relay his sophomore year, I saw his heart shatter," Stoddard said. "It took awhile for him to shake that off. He definitely wasn't the same person for a while.'

To Kozma, that experience made his team better. It made his team closer. It made his team of one mind, united on the fact that would not happen again in

Stoddard saw a swimmer in Kozma who was preparing to be a state champion as a junior. Twelve hours before the meet, Kozma found that he would not get a chance at redemption, as the Michigan High School Athletic Association canceled the state meet due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It wasn't just last year that we didn't get to swim. It was all the 10 years before that, building up," Kozma said. "To be honest, we had a better chance to win last year than we do this year, but we still have a chance this year, But that was the year to do it.'

Stoddard knows that Catholic Central would have been the 2020 Division 1 state champion. She knows the talent she had on last year's roster.

"There's nobody in this world that can convince anyone of us who was a part of that team last year that anyone was going to beat us," Stoddard said.

"There is absolutely no way." As she led Catholic Central through



Catholic Central swim coach Jessica Stoddard watches her team practice Feb. 4. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE COM

practices early on in the 2021 season, Stoddard says the state meet is the only meet that she's focused on. Until that point, she said, it's about staying healthy and enjoying the journey, waiting for a chance in the grand finale.

To Kozma now a senior be feels the shared experience in the pool has bonded them at a level more than just teammates or classmates.

"To get more united, you need to be broken down beforehand and pick up the pieces," he said.

But as Catholic Central prepared for the 2021 season, with its eyes on the prize of a Division 1 state title trophy, that sense of being broken down was seen outside the pool as well.

Connection through grief

Catholic Central junior Kevin Schwab enjoyed the pool so much he never really wanted to get out.

Swimming was something his family did. He grew up swimming with his sister Katie, starting the sport competitively in middle school.

But it was something that connected Kevin and his father Mark, who took him to each practice, giving advice before he left the car.

"He was like, 'You may not be good at this stroke, but try this event, do this, try this, seek other swimmers' advice," Kevin Schwab said.

Mark Schwab died Sopt. 28 of cancer at age 60, leaving Kevin not only without a ride to practice or meets, but missing a father.

"He was there for me day in and day out, did everything with me," Kevin Schwab said. "He took me to practice every day and just... my rock. My whole world."

Kevin said the entire Catholic Central swim team was there for the funeral to support him in his grief, and that support changed the athletes' relationships with each other moving forward.

Instead of just the surface level conversations, the basic "How's it going?" approach, Kevin Schwab felt like he had a sounding board in his teammates, grouping together with the same people each and every day.

"It wasn't just a one-day thing, I'm in, I'm out," Schwab said. "They didn't just do what they had to do. They texted me, made sure I was OK, they checked up on me. It wasn't just a moral obligation. They went above and beyond.

The connection between Schwab and his teammates grew after his loss. Through the hardships, through the things taken away, the Shamrocks have been united.

"We experienced the same thing, we went through the same thing, so it's not that no one can relate to it," Schwab

"We get through it together, we pull

Fighting together

Each transition in the swimming world proved tough for Sean Egan. From semi-competitive leagues to club, from club to high school, the mental battle became more prominent: "I need to make myself better every day.

But there was one moment in high school where Egan found out he "made

"It was actually this one practice that year when we were doing a 75-set," he said. "I was keeping up with all the top swimmers on the team, just for that one set. Everyone was so shocked and like 'where did this guy come from?"

Egan found himself transitioning from swimming as a hobby to becoming a legitimate member of the team, stepping up when he needed to. He was fired up for the 2020 state meet after the previous Division I final loss, he ended the season heartbroken.

With both the winter season and his spring baseball season canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Egan felt debilitating pain in his left knee during an April training run around the neighborhood For months, the knee kept him sidelined and unable to join the Shamrocks baseball team in summer tournaments despite multiple doctors saying they saw nothing structurally wrong.

But an MRI on his entire leg revealed a blotch of black an inch or two above his knee: osteosarcoma in his left femur.

"It was kind of blunt how (the doctors) said it," Egan recalled. "'Well, it's not good. We're working on limb salvage and I'm sure we'll do good at it, but that's our main goal.'

"I'm like, 'What?' I just thought I had a fracture or a torn something. I wasn't expecting my whole leg to be gone."

Egan had surgery Oct. 5, taking out the section of his femur and replacing it with a cadaver bone, plate and 18 screws, moving his fibula to replace his femur. He said he's hoping to be up and walking in February 2022, admitting the recovery process, including chemotherapy, has been frustrating, but progressing at the same time.

As an athlete, it was devastating, not able to do what he loved to do, including the simple things: taking a walk, a swim in the pool, playing basketball outside.

Egan says his family plays a major role in his recovery — supporting him each step of the way, playing games with him or watching HGTV or Food Network shows with his mother — along with the Catholic Central community as a whole: many holding a prayer vigil for him during his surgery.

But to Egan, the swim team has been at the forefront of his support, going from a couple of guys that come together to swim to a close-knit family. Brothers for life.

Egan had the opportunity to watch the Shamrocks race against U-D Jesuit and Brother Rice in what he viewed the biggest meet of the year except for states. It was a different view for them, but Egan said he had a chance to see in person what the Shamrocks were fighting for both in and outside of the pool.

With this, he remembers the bell, the one hanging just inside the Mercy locker room right off the pool. Last season, it was a very empty ring, he said, a sad moment for the seniors.

But this year, with all that's in front of Catholic Central, uniting together after being broken down, win or loss, that ring will sound different.

"It'll **be** more full," Egan said. "It's like we finished a really hard practice and you're done, you're like, 'Wow, I'm super tired, I'm worn out, I don't think I can do anything else, but I feel very accomplished."

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

Football

Continued from Page 1B

Carolina, Montana, Louisiana, Missis-

sippi and Tennessee on its roster. Since taking over as head coach in December, Haygood said he has established a competitive culture all around the program: from the weight room and practice field to the classroom. Now. with only days until the first game, the head coach is excited to see what they will be able to do together, especially in front of the home crowd

"I think it's only right for us to be

though we can't have more than 250 fans, it still gives the community a chance to participate, whether it's streaming — around campus, it's going to be... lively based on that."

But Madonna is still determining who will take the first snaps this Satur-

Haygood said he has three quarterbacks - freshman Josh DePaulis, freshman Brady Gleason and sophomore Luke Pfomm — competing for the starting job, something the head coach hopes to have set in stone by Thursday or Friday

Madonna had another week to figure out which direction it was going at quarstarting at home," Haygood said, Even terback, The Crusaders' first game

scheduled Feb. 13 against Missouri Baptist, was canceled, and its game against University of Saint Francis Feb. 27 was declared a no-contest due to COVID-19.

Haygood said the game plan has changed slightly, shifting his focus to Lawrence Tech, who the head coach believes will be one of the program's biggest rivals moving forward.

But the overall message for players

"My goal and plan is to have a team that's having fun, that's playing for each other and competing on every down," Haygood said. "It's really that simple."

While he and the rest of the team have been waiting for close for more than two years to take the field for the first time, Haygood said this first game will just be a continuation of what the program's been doing since he took over as head coach in December.

'Yes, there's a game to be played, but I have visualized this moment from the day I started coaching," Haygood said. "You'll see me: I won't get too high, too low. Our staff, same way, and our players will be the same way. We will prepare our guys to do their best and go from there.'

Madonna takes on Lawrence Tech 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Churchill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road in Livo-

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com.



As he holds the Division 1 Michigan Girls Soccer state title trophy in his arms, Novi coach Todd Pheiffer is about to get mobbed by his celebrating team. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

MHSAA pushes back spring sports one week

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan High School Athletic Association announced Monday it would delay the start of the spring sports season by one week to accommodate the end of the winter sports sea-

Spring sports practices will return March 22 with competition set to begin March 26. All spring sport tournament dates will remain as scheduled, wrapping up June 19.

General conditioning will continue to be allowed, while out-of-season training — such as four-player workouts and open gyms/facilities — will continue to be run until March 21.

Here's a look at the playoff schedule for the 2021 spring season:

Baseball

District tournament — June 1, 4, 5 Regional tournament — June 9, 12 MHSAA Semifinals — June 17-18 MHSAA Finals — June 19

Boys golf Regional tournament — May 31-June

MHSAA Finals — June 11-12

Boys lacrosse Regional tournament - May 20-

June 2 MHSAA Quarterfinals — June 4-5 MHSAA Semifinals — June 9 MHSAA Finals — June 12

Girls lacrosse Regional tournament - May 20-June 5

MHSAA Semifinals - June 9 MHSAA Finals -- June 12 Girls soccer

District tournament -- May 26-28 and June 1-5

Regional tournament — June 8-12 MHSAA Semifinals — June 15-16 MHSAA Finals — June 18-19 Softball

District tournament — June 1, 4, 5 Regional tournament — June 12 Quarterfinals -— June 15 MHSAA Semifinals — June 17-18 MHSAA Finals -- June 19

Regional tournament — May 20-22 Regional Entries Due — TBD MHSAA Finals — June 5

Track and field

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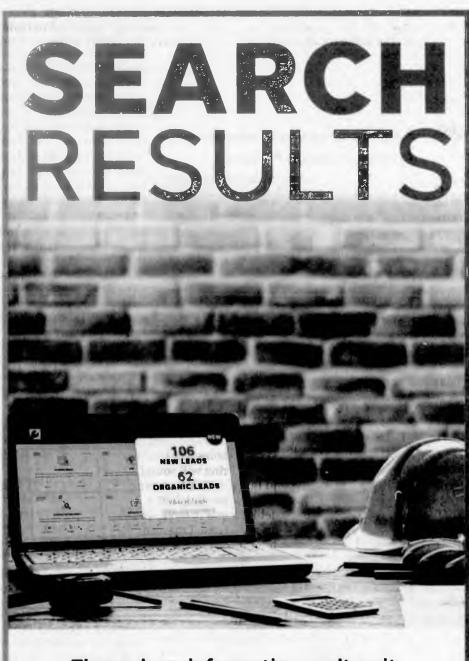
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Seaholm boys swim wins Oakland County title

Colin Gay Hometownlife com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After three-straight wins by Detroit Catholic Central, Seaholm supplanted the Shamrocks in the Oakland County Swim and Dive Championships Saturday, earning the victory by 43 points.

The Maples finished in the top eight 13 times in 10 different events with junior Cami Wilson, senior Tate Chutkow, senior Bryce Liddell and junior Patrick Branch teaming up for a first-place finish in the 200yard medley relay; senior Tom Girdler, Branch, junior Owen O'Neill and Wilson finishing in first place in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and senior Kameron Liberman finishing in first place in one-meter diving.

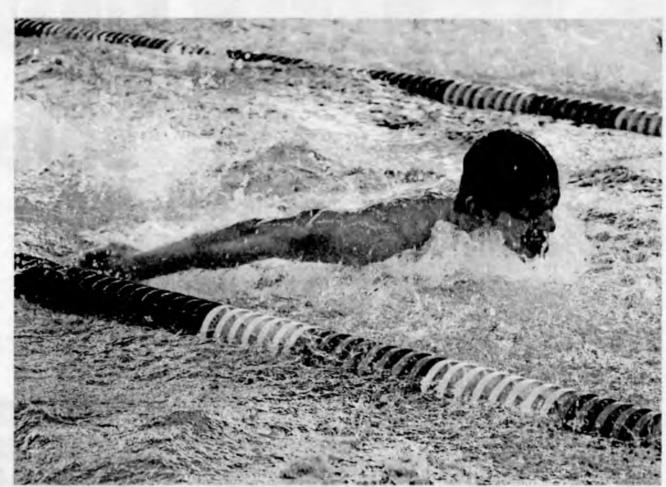
Catholic Central senior Matthew Kozma finished in first place in the 200-yard IM, finishing just over a second ahead of second-place finisher and teammate senior Christian Dunaitis.

Dunaitis earned his own first-place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke, beating Cranbrook Kingswood sophomore Ethan Schwab by 0.23 seconds.

The Shamrocks also finished first in the 400-vard medley relay, with Kozma, junior Killian Bishop, Dunaitis and senior Dallas Fisher finishing two seconds faster than the Maples.

Catholic Central was disqualified in the 200-yard medley relay.

Groves finished in third place with 17 points, while Cranbrook Kingswood placed fourth with 148. Farmington finished fifth with 141 points and Novi placed 10th with 98, leaving the meet with three new statequalifying times.



CC senior Matthew Kozma finished in first place in the 200-yard IM. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Pinckney's Beckwith pulls off rare dual-sport combo

Bill Khan Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Some sports just seem

to pair up nicely. Soccer players, partic-

ularly midfielders, tend to be good cross country runners. Track and field offers an opportunity for foot-

their athletic ability, whether it's as a sprinter, jumper or thrower. It seems every good diver comes from a gym-

ball players to showcase

nastics background. For some reason, hockey players make good golfers. Maybe it's all the summer.

But try to find a football offensive lineman who is also a state-qualifying swimmer.

It would be a difficult task, but not impossible.

That rare two-sport combination exists in the person of Pinckney's Alex Beckwith, a 6-foot-2, 220-pound senior.

Beckwith is an offensive lineman who will continue his football career at Lawrence Tech University after making second-team All-Livingston County in the fall. He was a state qualifier in the

down time during the 50-yard freestyle last season.

> Beckwith said he hasn't run across anyone else who has played offensive line and qualified for the state swim meet. Veteran Pinckney coach Laura Eibler has never coached an athlete with Beckwith's combination of skill sets. Football coach Rod Beaton doesn't recall coaching a lineman

> "He's a big boy," Eibler said. "He's always been big. He's a hard worker. Probably out of all the swimmers I've had, he's probably grown the most

who also swims.



Pinckney swimmer and football offensive lineman Alex Beckwith prepares for swim practice. GILLIS BENEDICT/

as far as work ethic.

"One of the hardest

things when they play football is you're trying to build body mass and be strong, as opposed to a swimmer, who has to have those long, lean muscles. But he's doing it and working hard."

Brighton's JD Ham was a notable athlete who starred in football and swimming, but the 2015 graduate had more of a classic swimmer's build as a defensive back and wide receiver in football. Ham swam at Grand Valley State University.

"Coach Eibler does such a great job getting her kids in the weight

room," Beaton said. "You could definitely see the benefits and payoffs for him. Being a football player, he was able to continue to lift and do those things during the swim season, which was awesome. He's just a super humble kid, works so hard. He's just a good overall athlete; you can see it. He can jump out of the pool and jump onto the football field and back into the pool.

Unlike many of his swimming peers, Beckwith is not a year-round swimmer. He swims only during the high school season, which makes his accomplishments even more remarkable. He qualified for the state Division 2 meet last year with a time of 22.61 seconds in the 50.

"As soon as football season is over, I get right back into the pool and get ready for my swim season," Beckwith said. "It's definitely refreshing. It helps prepare you and not get overloaded with one sport for a long period of time."

Beckwith has been swimming for 14 years, because it was the first sport he tried in which he had some success.

He didn't step onto a football field until he was a freshman in high school after some intense lobbying by Beaton.

'The great head coach, Mr. Beaton, had been beginning me, begging my parents," Beckwith said. "Finally, I asked my parents and they said, 'Yeah, sure.' It boiled down to me just giving it a shot, seeing if I could play football, because I always wanted to play football. It ended up just sticking."

Beckwith missed Pinckney's first two meets of the season because of contract tracing at school before winning the 50 and 100 in his first meet back. He lowered his times to 22.97 in the 50 and 51.82 in the 100 in a quad Saturday at Brigh-

Having chosen to play football in college, there's a sense of purpose for Beckwith as his competitive swimming days are winding down.

"It's definitely making me push myself a lot harder than I would have if this wasn't my last season doing this sport," he

bituaries

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Donald E. Rodda

NORTHVILLE - Donald E. Rodda, age 93, of Northville, passed away on February 22, 2021. He was born June 13, 1927 in Batavia, New York; son of Edward J. and Roslyn (nee Hoskins) Rodda. Donald graduated Amherst Central High School, class of 1945. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Navy proudly serving his country. Donald was united in marriage to Barbara A. Hudson on February 23, 1952; spending 69 years devoted to each other and their family.

After moving from New York, to Birmingham, Michigan and then to Mississauga, Ontario, Can-

ada, Donald made Northville his home in 1978. While building a family he and Barbara lived an adventurous life. After many years in sales, he began Northville Machine Tools, in the early 80's. Donald and his wife ran the business until the 90's when his son took over the company. He never fully retired; he described his job as being a seagull...he would fly in, eat, squawk, and fly away.

He was a member of Oakland Hills Community Church and a member of the American Legion Post 147. Donald loved to ride motorcycles, especially Harleys. Motorcycle riding was a passion that began when he was 65. He was known as Pops to the motorcycle community, a nickname that stuck. Pops rode as often as he could and never wanted to stop riding. Donald also enjoyed golfing and was a great storyteller. He was always fun, friendly, and like being with his family and friends.

Donald is survived by his wife Barbara; his children, Gary (Beth) Rodda and Jane (Mark) Breederland; his daughter-in-law Mitzi van der Harst; and his grandchildren, Lauren, Anna, Sarah, Andy, Daniel, and Joseph. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son Eric Rodda.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 10:30am at Great Lakes National Cemetery, 4200, Belford Road, Holly, MI 48442. Pops' final wish is to take his last ride with his motorcycle club to his final resting place.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorial contributions to the American Legion Post 147, 100 West Dunlap, Northville, MI 48167 or to Oakland Hills Community Church, 37150 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home of Northville.



Lynwood Gordon Perkins

Lynwood Gordon Perkins, age 86, passed away on Monday, February 22, 2021 where he was a resident at the Brighton Manor Memory Care facility. He was born in Commerce Township, Michigan on October 23, 1934 the son of Vern

Edgar Perkins and Patronella (Nelly) Langendam. A 1952 graduate from Walled Lake High School, Lynwood enjoyed being on the football and track teams. He also played the French Horn in the High School band. Lynwood went on to serve in the US Navy on board the USS Waller from 1952 – 1955 and remained a Naval reservist until 1960.

Lynwood was a letter carrier for the Milford Post Office until retiring after 30 years of service. He seemed to know everyone in town which made it difficult for those Perkins kids to get away with anything! From 1984 to 1987 he served as a Council Member for the Village of Milford and was a St. Mary's Knights of Columbus member. He loved the outdoors and enjoyed fishing, hunting, archery, camping, gardening (the best fresh vegetables) and sang in a Barber Shop chorus. His greatest love was his family.

He is survived by his five children Sherry (Robin) Landmann, Vicki (Steve) Rautio, Marty Perkins, Maureen (Chuck) Leight and Stephen (Shelli) Perkins, 13 grandchildren and 19 (+ a bun in the oven) great grandchildren. Brothers Don (Judy) Perkins and Bob (Linda) Perkins along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceded in death by his wife Mary Frances Perkins (Dodson) December 4, 2006.

We will always carry your memory in our hearts.

Rest in internal peace.

Lynwood's family is planning a summer celebration of life memorial.

Frazer Cremations & Funerals 21001 Pontiac Trail South Lyon, MI 48178 248-667-9920

Basketball

Continued from Page 1B

forward Will Shannon - the Warriors' only senior in the starting lineup - suffered a right foot injury, something Palmer said he wouldn't know the severity of until the swelling subsides in a few days.

Facing the Shamrocks, Brother Rice started a lineup of four sophomores and freshman Keithan Gillmore.

In the first 16 minutes, the plan seemed to be working for the Warriors. Williams and Thomas combined for 28 first-half points. Brother Rice out-rebounded the Shamrocks, 28-11 in the first half, including six offensive boards.

Catholic Central head coach Brandon Sinawi knew his team didn't come out to compete against Brother Rice that previous Saturday. So when he saw the same thing happen in the first half of the rematch — being without junior forward Cooper Craggs and junior guard/forward Kam Mayes - Sinawi made sure his message was clear.

"We had a nice, friendly conversation at halftime and got them going, fired them up, let them know what we are capable of doing if they actually came out and played with some pride," Sinawi said. "And they did that."

After Williams opened the third quarter with a jumper, extending Brother Rice's lead to 30, Catholic Central began to chip away.

The Shamrocks recorded a 7-0 run before the Warriors could score another basket, hitting four 3-pointers by four different scorers to cut the deficit to seven points.

Along with Lewless, who Sinawi called a "special player" as a freshman, the head coach said Brady Hewer stepped up big late in the second quarter and in the third quarter, making key plays in transition and on offense to bring the Shamrocks back to within striking distance.

Lawless finished with 25 points - 18 coming in the final 16 minutes - while Landon Lodato finished with 11 and TJ Nadeau, who came of the bench and scored eight points in the third quarter, scored 10 for the Shamrocks.

Catholic Central outscored the Warriors, 41-21, in the second half.

"I've had teams that have been in this position before... that went to the final four," Sinawi said. "We're going to get going at the right time, I have full confidence in that. The guys love each other, we're out there fighting for each other every day in practice. There's no doubt in that locker room, no one is pointing any fingers. They are owning up to things.

"We're going to be trialed and tested with the competition we play and we're going to be better for it come March and early April."



Brother Rice tries to set up an inbounds offensive play against rIval Catholic Central. PHOTOS BY COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

In the fourth quarter Brother Rice kept Catholic Central at bay, recording three 3-pointers, including a dagger late by guard freshman Xavier Bowman to seal the victory.

Williams led the team with 22 points, hitting four 3-pointers, while Thomas added 20 points and 11 rebounds.

Moving forward, Williams said Brother Rice can't come out of the locker room at halftime lackadaisical. Instead, it's pedal to the floor until time expires.

"We can't come out with no defense, no energy," Williams said. "They came out with a lot of energy, came to play in the second half. We just have to come out ready to play."

Palmer will need a full 32 minutes from his players Saturday when the Warriors face undefeated Orchard Lake St. Mary's on the road.

"We played a full game Saturday and 14 great minutes tonight," Palmer said. "When we get away from that, what happened can happen."

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.



Brother Rice huddles in the third quarter against Detroit Catholic Central.

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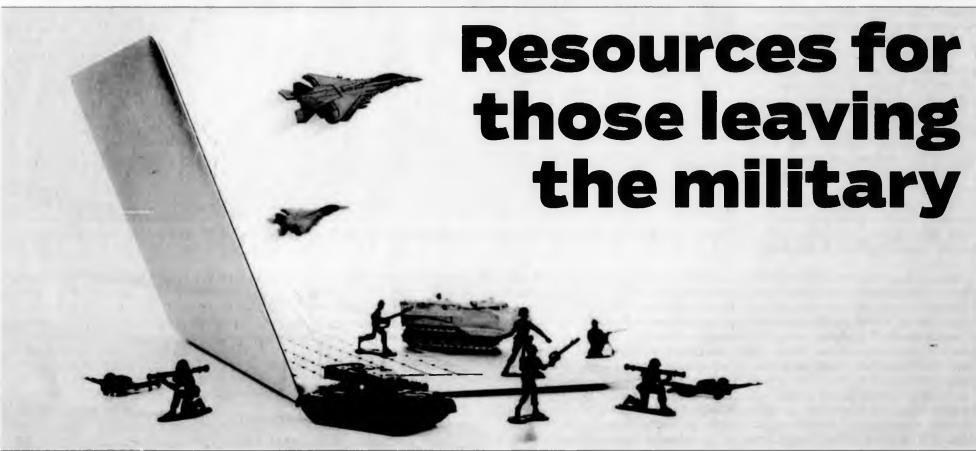
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ZipRecruiter.com

f you've recently been discharged from the military, or are about to be, your service and experience will set you apart from other job seekers: 17% of job postings on ZipRecruiter specifically request veterans to apply, and the number of postings we see on the site that call out "military experience" continues to grow. In addition to posting

your resume and searching for roles on ZipRecruiter, here are some other job search resources available to veterans.

1. SkillBridge

The Career Skills Programs, or Skillbridge, enables separating military members to receive industry training, apprenticeships or internships during the last six months of their service. The program provides members

of the military the opportunity to get hands-on experience while still earning a military salary. Learn more about Skillbridge at dodskillbridge.usalearning.gov.

2. Transition Assistance Program

The Transition Assistance Program was developed by seven government departments and agencies to help with the transition to civilian life. Their employees

are dedicated to making sure that military veterans have jobs once they have completed their service.

They provide workshops, courses, apprenticeships and resources, which you can learn about at dol.gov/agencies/ vets/programs/tap.

3. Departments of **Defense and Labor**

There are many other resources provided by the

Department of Defense and the Department of Labor, aimed at helping translate military courses and experiences into in-demand job skills in the civilian world.

Many of the trainings, on-the-job qualifications, special assignments, detachments and deployments you've completed will have given you skills that employers value.

Find out more at Military.com and CareerOnestop.org.

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Pontiac

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oxygen

answer

125 Sleep loudly

country

128 Axed down

130 Florida city

129 Not wobbling

south of

1 Put a fresh bandage on

3 Frosts over

mind

2 Onto dry land

4 Soundness of

5 Enthusiasm

6 Taco sauce

Broadway

8 According to

Lagasse

10 Threaten

11 Lead-in to

thermal

12 Sophia of

33 |34

42

"Firepower

7 Hagen of

9 Chef

Tampa Bay

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PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo **ACROSS** 62 Liquid-1 Elevates emptying 9 Faithful conduit attendant in 65 Bits of land "Othello" in la mer 15 Maritime 66 Pollute 20 Intensify 68 Target of 21 Quark model Arrid or Sure 119 Shady recess particles 69 Riddle, part 4 121 Riddle's 22 Kagan of 76 Some purple justice flowers 23 Start of a 77 Drifting types 126 Tums out riddle 78 Home of Club 127 Bring back in 25 Deserves Cal Neva 26 Violinists' casino 79 Place side rub-ons 27 Radio's Glass by side for or Flatow contrast 28 Fished for 82 Ayres of "State Fair" morays 30 Jostle (for) 83 Scold 31 In — (mired) 86 - out a living DOWN 87 ID for the IRS 32 Riddle, part 2 37 English diarist 88 Riddle, part 5 Samuel 91 Part of 39 Confuses MCAT 40 Aviary homes 93 Fair-hiring 41 Apple, e.g. abbr. 43 Next yr.'s 94 Irate, with alums "off" 95 "The Office" 45 Look after 49 Riddle, part 3 actor Wilson 56 With 99 Cure provider 59-Across, 103 "Como ---?" **DVD** format (Spanish **59** See greeting) 56-Across 108 End of the 60 Supervises riddle 113 E. -Speedwagon (bacterium) 23 26

50

108 109 110

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For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at

(517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

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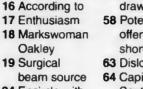
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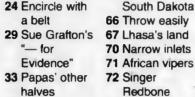
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51 52

UNBRIDLED ENERGY 114 Bagel salmon 13 Doctors in 53 Shah's land 93 Contest 54 Horse noise

ı	13 Doctors in
	training
	14 "Boyfriend"
	singer
	Simpson
	15 "You - have
	worried"
,	16 According to
	17 Enthusiasm
	18 Markswoman
	Oakley





34 Central	7
German river	
35 Deputy: Abbr.	7
36 Oct. clock	7
setting	7
38 Plan detail	8
42 Change (ta)	

3	B Plan detail
4	2 Choose (to)
4	4 Fishing pole
4	6 Asmara
	native
4	7 Midday

	,
	snooze
48	Salon supply
49	"Understood,
	dude"
50	Farm tower
51	Un-, non-,
	pro- and con-

52 Vacation

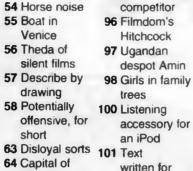
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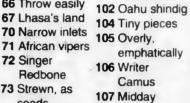
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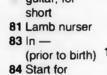
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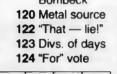
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commercials



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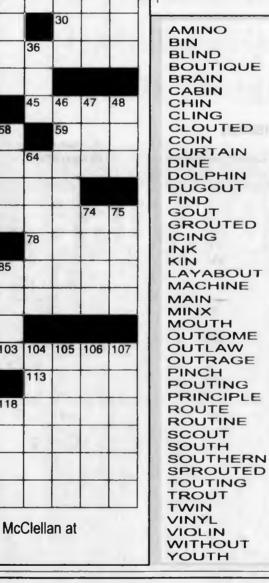


Difficulty Level ★★★

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!

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Н	G	N	1	T	U	0	P	E	N	L	F	A	L	1	N	S
M	0	U	T	Н	C	N	T	Y	P	Н	М	Q	D	N	1	F
X	X	В	1	T	1	U	L	1	C	E	Н	E	T	U	0	F
D	N	S	U	L	0	C	C	N	В	0	U	T	1	Q	U	E
E	1	0	0	R	T	N	1	W	D	٧	N	В	R	A	1	١
T	M	1	G	E	1	P	1	Н	N	E	N	1	Н	C	A	N
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