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NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Commissioners support plan to develop Erwin Orchards land

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For years, developers have sought to transform the sprawling Erwin Orchards property, but most failed with massive housing proposals that outraged citizens and officials alike.

That changed when the Lyon Town-

ship Planning Commission unanimously moved forward the Orchard Crossing proposal.

The vote is a formal recommendation for approval of the project on property north and south of Silver Lake Road and west of Pontiac Trail to the township board, scheduled for its Sept. 7 meeting.

Construction of 161 homes on 77 acres

and new commercial elements including an event center and restaurant and tasting room on 104 acres, would take place over a 5-year period, starting in 2022.

The existing cider mill and a portion of the orchards would remain with some new trees planted. Lombardo Homes is partnering with Blake's Orchard to run

orchard operations in Lyon Township.

Paul Blake told the commission his family is celebrating their 75th year in business in Armada and would grow apples here and retain the cider mill to control quality. The orchard will also have some year-round operations.

See SUPPORT, Page 3A

Take our ice cream stand tour

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The dog days of summer are here. But that doesn't mean the warm weather activities has to end, right?

Before grabbing that pumpkin spice latte and putting on that hoodie, enjoy the last remnants of summer, arguably one of Michigan's best qualities.

How best to do that? Ice cream.

There's something magical about getting ice cream, no matter where you are. Perhaps it's the memories of childhood or just how it makes you feel after a long, hot day.

It's no different in our communities. Deciding it was important to celebrate this wholesome summer activity, I went on a tour of some of the area's most iconic ice cream stands to sample their wares.

My criteria was simple: I stopped by a stand in each of the areas Hometown Life covers in both Wayne and Oakland counties. I aimed to visit shops/stands that just sold ice cream (though that rule had to be broken for one location; I'll explain why then). And while there's plenty of options such as Dairy Queen, Coldstone Creamery and other national companies with shops in our area, I opted to avoid them for more local names. The smaller shops tend to have nostalgia, so I tried to stay as local as possible.

Without further ado, here's the Hometown Life summer ice cream tour:

See ICE CREAM, Page 4A



Campers exit the barn during the New Hope Center for Grief Support Kids Camp on July 22 at Maybury Farm.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Children learn coping skills at Northville summer camp

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For two gloriously sunny days last month, 77 grieving children ages 5-13 learned how to reduce the heart-wrenching weight of losing a loved one

during the third annual "Grief Is Messy" day camp hosted by Northville-based New Hope Center For Grief Support at Maybury Farm.

Attendees — all of whom had experienced the death of a loved one, some as recently as three months earlier — par-

ticipated in specially-designed games and activities (one involving an obstacle course, five-pound sacks of potatoes and backpacks stuffed with marshmallows) that organizers designed to help

See CAMP, Page 8A

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Take your best shot at selfie museum in Novi

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

In the region's newest museum, you are the attraction.

That's at least the goal Tahira Hannah has for one of the newest businesses to open at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

Hannah recently opened the Detroit Selfie Museum at the mall located at 12 Mile and Novi roads. The space, which occupies the former American Girl shop near Nordstrom, is laid out with dozens of displays with different themes to help capture the perfect selfie.

Current options include a money throne, a Barbie theme, a lifeguard station and a giant bucket of movie popcorn, among others.

"The concept of this is this: you come in and you are your own photographer," Hannah said. "All you need is your phone and/or a camera and we have all of the cool scenes set up for you."

"The point is make you feel part of the scene, not just standing in front of a backdrop."

Hannah, a Lathrup Village resident, has worked in photo booths with a company called Snap Station for several years. Especially as the COVID-19 pandemic went on with fewer events taking place, she began looking for a new way to have people get fun photos.

"Now I have a creative space where people can come to me," she said.

Several of the scenes could change as the seasons change, Hannah said, including fall and perhaps Christmas-themed displays.

She said she always envisioned



The Detroit Selfie Museum has dozens of different scenarios and settings for its visitors to take their selfies in.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Twelve Oaks Mall as the host for her idea. She said she reached out last fall to the mall to inquire about a space and had everything fall into place over the last few months. She opened in early July and has seen plenty of shoppers stop by an inquire about what the space is about.

Hannah said that was always the goal.

"I wanted it to be a destination space but also benefit from the mall traffic at the same time," she said. "I just liked the vibe of the mall."

That vibe has kept up: Hannah said she's seen plenty of guests pay for time in the space, capturing images of all kinds. She said several of the booths are featured in some prominent social media posts on sites such as TikTok and Instagram.

Customers can pay for a half-hour or hour of time to take as many shots as they'd like with as many booths as they like. Guests can also bring in their own photographer, though there is a separate charge for them. If guests see just one display that catches their eye, they can pay for a "money shot" and just have photos from that one scene.

The museum provides a ring light that adds additional lighting as well as acts as a stand to hold a phone.

"They are able to be hands-free snapping pictures," Hannah said. "They do not have to actually hold the phone."

Some of the current scenes are available to view on the Detroit Selfie Museum's Instagram page at [instagram.com/thedetroitselfiemuseum/](https://www.instagram.com/thedetroitselfiemuseum/).

Customers range in age from teenagers and young adults to older adults just looking to try something different.



Tahira Hannah poses in a selfie room that, when photographed normally and rotated 45 degrees, shows its fun intention.

Hannah said she's had makeup artists and professional photographers stop by the space and use the scenes for their work. It's also available to rent for private parties or corporate events.

It's a space that's perfect, Hannah said, for an evening out that's unique to Novi.

"Outside of going to a movie or getting something to eat, name something (to do)," she said. "This is a fun date night. Kids love it."

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

hometownlife.com

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Request for Proposal

The Northville Public Schools (also referred to as the District or NPS in these documents) will accept proposals for:
2021 Fresh Made Pizza for Lunch Service

The Request for Proposals (RFP) specifications and bidding documents will be made available on line at: www.michigan.gov/sigmavss or www.northville.k12.mi.us.

Proposals should be submitted to Michael Zopf, Assistant Superintendent, Northville Public Schools. Proposals are to be submitted no later than 11:00 AM, Monday, August 23, 2021 at the Board of Education Office (Old Village School, 405 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167). The District will not consider or accept an electronic proposal, or a proposal received after the date and time specified for submission.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part, or, for reasons of establishing uniformity, delivery time or preference, the right to waive any irregularity or informality in the RFP process or any Proposal, and the right to award the contract to other than the low bidder.

The contents of this RFP and Bidder's (also referred to as Vendor in these documents) Proposal will become a part of the contractual obligations. Once awarded, this RFP and Vendor's Proposal shall automatically be incorporated into the District's Purchase Order, which shall then be known as the "contract". In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions contained in this RFP and the districts issued Purchase Order, the terms and conditions contained in this RFP shall take precedence. Failure of the Bidder to accept these obligations will result in cancellation of the award.

Each bidder's proposal shall be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the board, or the superintendent of the school district. Additional certifications and acknowledgements are required - including, by law, the Iran Sanctions Affidavit - and the Board shall not accept a bid that does not include these disclosures, certifications and/or acknowledgements.

All proposals shall be firm for at least sixty (60) days from the date of opening of proposals. All proposals submitted must meet or exceed all specifications herein.

Bids are to be submitted on our Bid Proposal Form, signed by the bidder, in a sealed envelope clearly marked. Two (2) copies of the Bid Proposal Form should be addressed to the attention of:

Mr. Michael Zopf
Northville Public Schools
405 W. Main Street
Northville, MI 48167
"2021 Fresh Made Pizza for Lunch Service"

One (1) copy of the bid package should be retained for your files. Questions regarding bid specifications should be referred to Ms. Carrie Morfino, cmorfino@northvilleschools.org, 248-344-3690, between 8 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. EST LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Publish: August 15 & 19, 2021

LD-000059861 5X7

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan

ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE LIBRARY DISTRICT OF THE
NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Northville District Library, County of Wayne, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, the 26th day of August 2021, at 1:00 p.m. to consider the approval and adoption of the operating budget of the Northville District Library for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

The meeting will be held electronically due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and in order to comply with Wayne County and the City of Northville local state of emergency orders. Opportunities for the public to comment will be available during the meeting.

If a member of the public needs an accommodation due to a disability to participate in the meeting, please email us at nortref@northvillielibrary.org

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Copies of the proposed budget are on file with the Library Director, at the Northville District Library, 212 West Cady Street, Northville, Michigan, for inspection during regular library hours. At the public hearing, all citizens, taxpayers and property owners of the Northville District Library District, comprised of the City of Northville and the Charter Township of Northville, shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the budget.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Trustees of the Northville District Library, Counties of Wayne and Oakland, Michigan.

ROBERT SOCHACKI
SECRETARY
NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Any citizen requesting accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact Laura Mancini, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206.

To obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact Laura Mancini, Library Director, at 248-349-3020, Extension 206.

Publish: August 19, 2021

LD-000059864 3x5 S

Former salt miner opens protein shake shop in Milford

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Brian Smarz is in a very different position today than he was just a few years ago.

The Ohio native moved to Michigan after a work opportunity opened up. Before that, he spent several months with a rather unique job: working as a salt miner thousands of feet below Lake Erie.

"I wasn't passionate about it. It wasn't my passion," he said. "It was a job I was doing just because I needed money."

After hearing about an opportunity in Michigan, he packed up his things and headed north.

Today, Smarz is above ground and focusing on a new line of work: owning Milford Nutrition, a meal-replacement shake shop that opened Memorial Day weekend on the south side of the village at 131 S. Milford Suite 900.

After moving to Michigan, the Westland resident began working at Motor City Nutrition, a similar shop along Wayne Road near the Livonia/Westland border. He began saving money, hoping to open a similar shop in the future but wasn't sure where or when. That's when he heard from the owners of Game On Nutrition in Milford, who messaged the store asking if they knew anyone interested in taking over their space.

"I was looking everywhere for one of these to try to buy one or to try to get one started, and I just kept running into struggle after struggle," Smarz said. "I drove out here, looked at it and was like, 'I'll take it.'"

After signing the paperwork to acquire the business earlier this year, Smarz said he took several months to



Milford Nutrition at 131 South Milford Road.

revamp the interior.

The store, which is similar to other shops in places like Farmington Hills and Livonia, serves up teas and protein shakes. They come in a plethora of flavors with varieties like strawberry cheesecake being a popular option in Milford.

He said they've started to see an uptick of business, including repeat customers making the stop into the shop. He said the community has been incredibly supportive of what he's trying to accomplish.

"Everyone's just been super friendly," Smarz said. "It's just like a whole different environment up here. It's very different."

"Everyone's just relaxed and chill."

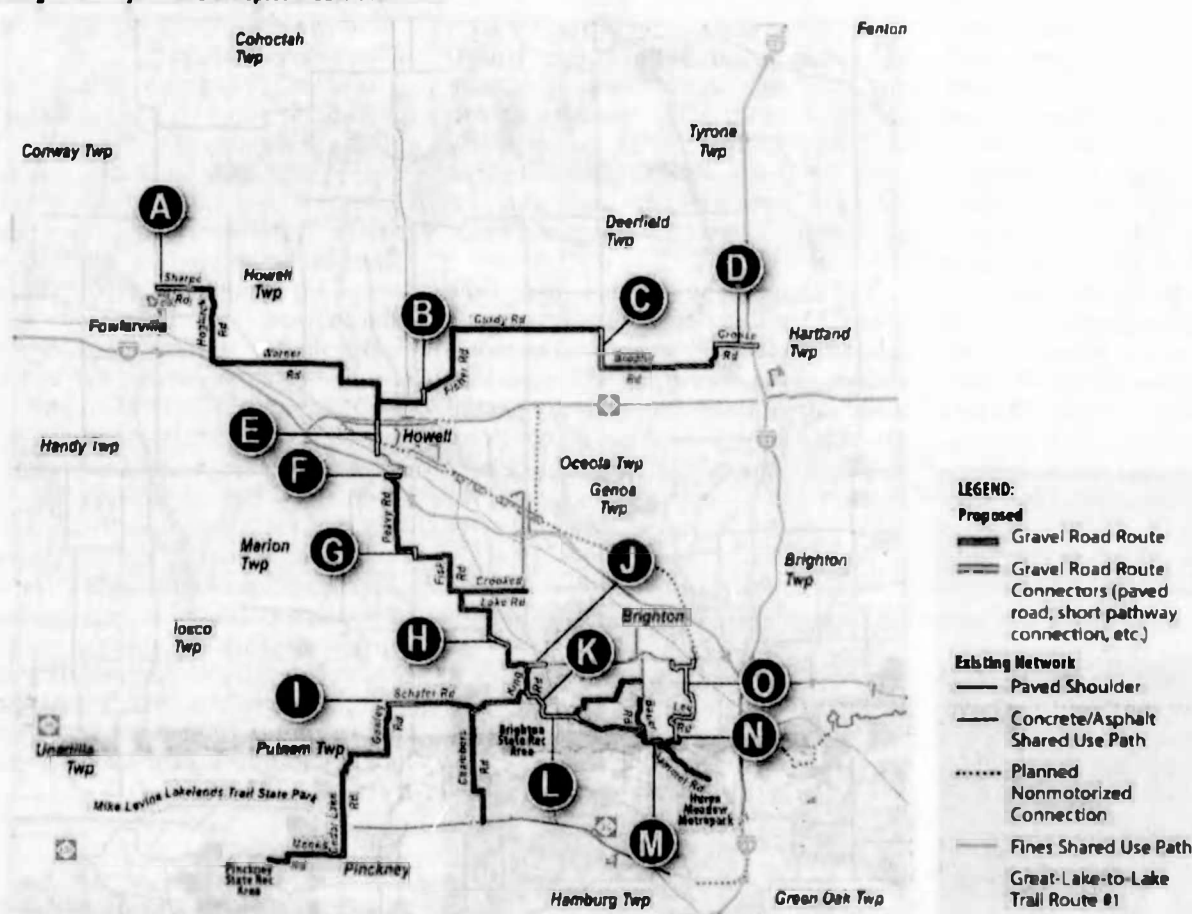
Milford Nutrition is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Milford Nutrition owner Jenna Beers pours a moose tracks shake for a customer.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Livingston County Trails Plan - Proposed Near Term Network



Officials are working to connect trails across the county as part of the Livingston County Trail Plan.
COURTESY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Plan advances to connect metropark trails

Kayla Daugherty
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

A plan to connect five Livingston County parks with additional walking trails is one step closer to fruition.

That's thanks to a \$47,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Legacy Fund.

The money will be spent to hire a design and engineering firm, PEA Group, to consult on pathways between Huron Meadows Metropark, Island Lake Recreation Area and Brighton Recreation Area.

Designing the routes is the first step in a plan to connect those parks as well as Kensington Metropark and Pinckney Recreation Area, which extend into neighboring Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Officials from Livingston County and Huron-Clinton Metroparks commissioned a study last year to analyze trail networks and developed the Livingston County Trails Plan, which aims to build on regional trail systems and improve connections between parks in the area.

They determined route priority based on public input, feasibility and safety, according to the

study.

"We don't have any trail connections whatsoever to Huron Meadows Metropark," said Nina Kelly, chief of planning and development for Huron-Clinton Metroparks. "It's a beautiful park... but you can't get there by foot or by bike. A major desire of ours is to increase the ability for people to access this park."

At the nearest point, Huron Meadows Metropark is less than two

miles from Island Lake Recreation Area and Brighton Recreation Area on either side.

"We don't own all the these lands between these areas," she said. "We have to work with different agencies like the DNR and county and determine who can fund different segments."

One major obstacle between the Huron Meadows and Island Lake parks is US-23. None of the existing over-

passes or underpasses have suitable pathways for pedestrians, bicycles or other non-motorized vehicles.

The first phase of planning must be complete and the grant money spent by April 30, 2022, Kelly said.

"We are the second biggest park system in the state of Michigan behind the state parks, so it's a powerhouse," she said.

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on September 14, 2021, at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ21-0040 (Eric & Susan Colthurst) 1291 E Lake Drive, West of Novi Road and South of Fourteen Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-02-176-016. The applicant is requesting variances from The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a side yard setback of 3.85 feet (10 feet minimum required, variance of 6.15 feet) and an aggregate total side yard setback of 16.55 feet (25 feet required, variance of 8.45 feet). This variance would accommodate the building of a home addition. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4).

PZ21-0050 (Signs by Crannie / Twelve Mile Crossing) 44175 Twelve Mile Road, West of Novi Road and South of Twelve Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-15-200-112. The applicant is requesting variances from The City of Novi Code of Ordinances Section 28-5 and 28-5(a) for 24 square foot sign faces, 84 inches tall. These signs exceed the size and height originally approved by ZBA# 01-045. This property is zoned Regional Center (RC).

PZ21-0040 (Acquira Realty Holdings) 44244 Twelve Mile Road, West of Novi Road and North of Twelve Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-10-400-067. The applicant is requesting variance from The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Sec. 4.19.2.F to allow the placement of two dumpsters in the interior side yard. This property is zoned Office Service (OS-1).

PZ21-0044 (Scott & Lisa Hoag) 21850 Garfield Road, East of Napier Road and South of Nine Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-32-100-017. The applicant is requesting variances from The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.1.E for two lots with less than the required 150-foot minimum lot width (30-foot lot width proposed for each, variance of 120 feet) and 3.6:2.A.i for two flag shaped lots (by code flag shaped lots are not permitted). These variances are for the splitting of an existing 5.97-acre lot into three new lots. This property is zoned Residential Acreage (RA). This case was tabled from the August 10, 2021 meeting.

Published August 19, 2021

LD 0000100000 384.9

Support

Continued from Page 1A

"We know the Erwins and wish them all the joy and happiness in their retirement if that happens," Blake said prior to the opening of a public hearing and vote. "You're right, it's a big project and not an easy undertaking. We need things to make it successful."

During the public hearing, only about a half dozen residents spoke with concerns about the project, mainly regarding stormwater management.

Engineer Leslie Zawada assured those possible issues were addressed.

"We understand high water tables. This is always the most critical component to make sure other neighbors are not flooded," she said, adding that the water drainage from the development will head west, and the developer had spoken to those who would be impacted.

Traffic was cited by one resident, Mark O'Neill, who said a regulated roundabout is needed at Kent Lake and Silver Lake. He took issue with the suggestion that traffic is currently being handled well in the fall, when officials said up to 15,000 cars a day can visit Erwin's, sometimes backing traffic up to the freeway.

"It's a cluster going through there. Traffic is a disaster," he said.

Still, the Road Commission for Oakland County is recommending a signalized intersection, of which the developer plans to contribute \$150,000 for traffic improvements.

Commissioner Carl Towne said he is excited about the development.

"I think it's going to work and I'm willing to work with you to make sure it's done right," he said.

Jim Chuck agreed, saying that after numerous failed proposals, the developer "finally hit the nail on the head."

"You are creating a destination point. This will be great for our community," he said.

"This is truly refreshing," Commissioner and Township Treasurer Patricia Carcone said. "I think Lombardo Homes listened to the people and not just our community. They loved the orchard, and Bill and Linda have brought a lot of pleasure to our community. I understand the Blakes have to make a living... I'm happy they are planting trees; it shows they will be here."

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

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Ice cream

Continued from Page 1A

Wayne County



A peanut butter sundae from Hand-D-Dip Dairy Barn in Livonia.

PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Livonia

Hand-D-Dip Dairy Barn, 32624 Five Mile

Visited: Aug. 5

Purchased: Peanut butter sundae with whipped cream and nuts

Few things mark the beginning of summer each year in Livonia like the opening of the Hand-D-Dip Dairy Barn.

It's as classic a hometown ice cream stand as it could be: it's shaped like a barn with plenty of signage in the window advertising the available goodies. Opting for something a little different, I went with a small peanut butter sundae, topped with whipped cream and nuts. It was everything I could have asked for when it came to a sundae, and had a great price tag on it as well. It's also got many of the standards of an ice cream stand, including cones, flurries, slushes, banana splits, you name it.

The highlight of Hand-D-Dip, though, is its charm. It's got plenty of character, from the trash cans painted to look like ice cream cones to the written-out lyrics of a modified "Old McDonald had a Farm" about the stand in a side window. There's ample seating available, though it's probably best to try and walk or bike to the stand, given the size of the parking lot. A gem of Livonia indeed and worth a visit before the leaves begin to change color.



A banana split cup from Dairy King in Plymouth.

Plymouth

Dairy King, 232 S. Main

Visited: July 20.

Purchased: Banana split cup, made with banana, ice cream, chocolate sauce, pineapple, etc.

Dairy King makes it easy for newcomers to get acquainted with its products: there's space both inside and outside with a window right along Main Street. The menu board is diverse, with both soft serve and hand scooped ice cream, which comes from nearby Guernsey Dairy. There's the usual suspects, including flurries, shakes and malts, but I went with a converted classic easy for sharing: the banana split cup, a smaller version of the classic treat. This came with soft serve and chocolate sauce, along with strawberry and pineapple toppings layers deep in the cup. Top it with whipped cream, sliced banana and a cherry and you're in for a classic American experience that's not quite as heavy as the full thing.

As good as the ice cream was, the best thing about the shop was what I noticed when I left. To help mark off space for social distancing outside, painted orange lines wrapped around the building. On those lines were sayings fitting for a world where COVID-19 is still a reality. My favorite one: "Forms of payment: cash, credit card, Apple Pay, Google Pay & toilet paper." Classic.



A cup of lime Dole Whip at Marv's Dairy Dan in Westland.

Westland

Marv's Dairy Dan, 6950 N. Wayne

Visited: July 22.

Purchased: Cup of lime Dole Whip

Dairy Dan is a popular name in Westland: the western Wayne County community boasts two ice cream stands that don the name. I decided to head to Marv's Dairy Dan, located at 6950 N. Wayne Road in the city's Shop and Dine district.

This space is a popular hangout: in addition to several vehicles wrapped around the parking lot hitting up the drive-thru, people of all ages and backgrounds walked up to the window when I visited one weekday afternoon, which also included three on-duty Westland police officers looking for an afternoon snack.

While there's many of the usual suspects on the menu for a stand like this, several differences stood out. That included some creative names for sundaes, such as Goldmine (a sundae with hot fudge, peanut butter and brownies) and Cookie Dough Monster (a sundae served in a cup that resembles a trash can, cookie dough bites and a candy face). After a few visits elsewhere that involved chocolate, it was time for something a little lighter and different: lime Dole Whip.

For those who haven't had Dole Whip, it's a dairy-free soft-serve that's made with fruit. Pineapple is the most-known flavor, but there are others as well. Marv's Dairy Dan recently posted about the lime Dole Whip on its Facebook page, and it sounded like the perfect escape. It's light, it's fruity and it's great for a hot summer day.



A scoop of cookies and cream ice cream from Carvel in Canton.

Canton

Carvel, 41990 Ford Road

Visited: Aug. 3.

Purchased: cookies and cream hard ice cream in a sugar cone

In searching Canton, I could not find a shop dedicated to just selling ice cream that wasn't part of a larger chain. So I decided I'd bend my rules and visit Carvel, which runs several ice cream spots across the country but just one in Michigan, this one along Ford Road.

Despite its name as a national chain, I felt more of a small-town feel when I

walked into the parlor. Yes, it's attached to a Buffalo Wild Wings, but once inside, it feels like any other small-town ice cream shop. And considering it's been in the Canton community for years, it felt like a natural fit.

Carvel offers both soft serve custard and hand-scooped ice cream, as well as novelties such as sundaes and their Flying Saucer, an ice cream sandwich made with cookies. Opting for a cookies and cream cone, it tasted a bit thicker than ice cream you'd find elsewhere, which was a plus. I sat down on a bench outside the shop where there were several benches and enjoyed the cone. For those looking to avoid hot or inclement weather, there was plenty of seats inside as well.



A vanilla frozen custard topped with sprinkles from Custard Time in Northville.

Northville

Custard Time, 547 W. Seven Mile

Visited: Aug. 2.

Purchased: Small vanilla custard with sprinkles in a cup.

Custard? Ice cream? What's the difference? Apparently a lot, especially in the flavor department.

A quick search indicates custard is made with egg yolk and tends to have less air in the mix, leading to a denser, richer, creamier product. All those were true when I sampled Custard Time's vanilla custard.

Opting for the standard cup with sprinkles, this was a treat well worth the few dollars paid for it. You can enjoy your treats right at the stand, which has several benches and tables near the stand, which is connected to a small strip mall just west of Northville Road. If custard isn't your thing, there are plenty of other options on the menu you'd expect to see at a stand like this, including flurries, sundaes and slushes, to name a few. Be sure to give yourself time when visiting, especially during peak hours: there's quite a queue set up for those looking to line up for a cool summer treat.

Oakland County



An Oreo brownie flurry from Silver Dairy in Farmington.

Farmington

Silver Dairy, 32323 Grand River

Visited: July 19

Purchased: Oreo brownie flurry

See ICE CREAM, Page 7A

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AUGUST 2021

31 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 8.3

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old iron, hot dogs, and old-timey music. It is about strengthening the foundations that hold us all together. And if you and your spouse happen to find that car you took on your first date so many years ago? Hey, so much the better.

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HOW OFTEN DO YOU GET A SECOND CHANCE?

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DEDICATION, DEVOTION

Just a couple weeks ago. A perfect Sunday morning in late summer. Bright sunshine, warm air, colorful flowers, green leaves.

Two women reading the paper. They could have been sisters. Remarkably similar. Children and grandchildren. Both are reliable volunteers for church and school. Both looking forward to their 50th wedding anniversary.

Comfortable homes with well-tended gardens. Paid for. Substantial retirement savings. No debt. (Thanks to coupon clipping and natural thrift!) Extravagant or expensive habits? None. Except spoiling their grandchildren at every opportunity. Good-naturedly, of course.

You know these women. The sort of middle-class people who enrich the world by their simple presence. And generosity of spirit. Authentic kindness.

Now, both are primary caregivers for their husbands. Husbands who, after many years as partner and confidant, father and grandfather, best friend and "accomplice," had fallen victim to Alzheimer's Disease. Heart-breaking. Life-changing. No description necessary.

These women take their wedding vows seriously. Better or worse. Richer or poorer. Sickness and health. They said it. They meant it. They lived it.

Sure, the kids think it is corny. But these women took the words of JFK seriously. "We choose to do these things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." Alzheimer's is hard.

To be sure, the kids have their own families and challenges. They live out of state. They would like to help, but. Now they think it is a good idea for Dad to be "placed." What is it with kids these days?

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

As it happens, on this pleasant Sunday, both women were reading the same article. An account in The Michigan Elder Law Reporter describing the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, known as PACE.

The Reporter claimed that PACE provided free, at-home care. All pharmacy needs with no co-pays, donut holes, delays, or frustrating paperwork. Specialist care. Respite care. Durable medical equipment. Supplies. Occupational and Physical Therapy. The list went on and on. It even claimed that PACE was intended to help folks just like

her. On purpose. Family members caring for loved ones at home. Staying at home.

Most outrageous, though, was the bald statement that their life savings, their home, their cottage, their security, need not be sacrificed to long-term care costs. That a lifetime of shared work could be preserved for themselves, their children, their grandchildren. How could that happen?!

They remembered similar articles in the Reporter... published over the summer and winter of 2020-2021. And the warning that the special COVID rules would expire on November first. Too late. But now comes the news that these rules were extended to April 2021! And yet again the COVID rules that expand eligibility were extended! "Until further notice..." Whatever that means, right?

TWO ROADS DIVERGED IN A WOOD, AND I - I TOOK THE ONE LESS TRAVELED BY...

And this is where the women made different choices.

One said to herself, "Stuff and Nonsense! I pity anyone foolish enough to believe this... Promises, promises! Too good to be true! I didn't believe it last summer and I don't believe it now! Fiddle Faddle!"

The other thought, "I heard of this back in July, then in the fall, and again in the springtime. I still didn't act. Is it possible that I have another chance? Is Someone trying to tell me something? Maybe I should find out more..."

Five years quickly passed.

AND THAT HAS MADE ALL OF THE DIFFERENCE

Another fine August morning. But now these women are not so much alike. They had made different choices. They got different results.

PRIDE GOETH BEFORE A FALL

One was physically exhausted. Twenty-four hours a day. Seven days a week. Constant caregiving was taking a heavy toll. Worse was the mental stress. Facing bankruptcy. She gladly spent the life savings to pay home health care workers. Selling the cottage? No, she didn't mind it. That money was long gone. Days at the lake a distant memory. The grandkids can learn to swim at the Y.

She was still bound and determined that her husband would never wind up in one of "those places." Then the cash ran out. She grinded her teeth and took a loan against the house. Twice. Plus a line of credit. In desperation, she turned to cash advances on the credit cards.



In her pride, she did not share the burden with her friends or children. She chose a solitary journey. Until the inevitable day when the house of cards collapsed. She reached for the phone to call her eldest child. She never imagined living in a senior housing project. Well, at least the bill collectors had stopped calling. Pathetic? Pitiful? Or just sad...

The other woman was at the cottage window watching her grandchildren fish from the dock. The last few years had been tough. Her husband no longer knew her or their children. She was making the best of a bad situation. But. Her health was good. The PACE folks were a blessing. No worries. PACE had installed a wheelchair ramp at their home. Several times a week, expert aides came out to attend to her husband's hygiene. During that coronavirus problem so many years ago, they even helped with her grocery shopping. And housekeeping. In addition to all the medical support. She knew her future was secure. She did not face it alone. Life savings protected. Life choices respected. "Well," she thought, "sometimes 'too good to be true' turns out even better." Sympathy for her tough row to hoe. Tempered by respect for her wise decisions.

I HAVE FINISHED THE COURSE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH

Several months later.

At the first woman's funeral, her friends agreed. It was tragic. Pitiful, even. She had run the race. She had fought the good fight. At the ultimate cost to herself, she did what she believed was necessary. Pouring out the savings and accomplishments of a lifetime in a few short years. But. Is there anything more tragic than needless suffering? Doing very well something that did not have to be done at all? As one mourner observed, "She killed herself with work and worry, all to keep him out of 'those places.'" And

MAKE PACE YOUR POWER!

where is he going now? One of "those places." It is more than sadness that we feel when a good person refuses the helping hand. It is more than regret when refusal leads to unfortunate consequences.

Not far away, at about the same time.

After the preacher's kind words at the cemetery, the other woman turned from her husband's grave. She too had run the race, fought the good fight. She had been there for him to the ultimate end. Hospice at the house. Familiar PACE folks who supplied the hospital bed, Hoyer lift and other necessary equipment and services. Given fair warning, the kids made it in from out of town. It was sad, heart-breaking. But not tragic. Surrounded by family and friends. Secure. Respected. Gracefully accepting sympathy without a hint of pity. At peace. What did the Lord have in store for her now? She did not know. But she looked forward to finding out.

THE DIFFERENCE

Most people, reading this article, will choose the path of the first woman. Most people, faced with long-term care costs, will close their eyes. Hope for the best. And watch their life savings evaporate like a snowflake on a hot griddle. Why does the caregiver spouse die first, almost half of the time? Why do hard-working, prudent, frugal, middle-class folks accept nursing home poverty? Most of the time?

NOT CHANCE, YOUR CHOICE

The Michigan Elder Law Reporter is here to let you know, twice a week, that there is nothing inevitable about losing your home, cottage, business, lifesavings, independence, security. All of that is a choice. Despite what "everybody else" says. For thirty-one years, people have told me, "I've never heard of this before!" "If this is real, why haven't I heard of this before?" "My lawyer/financial advisor/accountant/tax person/banker/best friend fill-in-the-blank never said anything like this."

Well, here you are. Reading The Reporter. So now you know. No excuses. The Reporter is here to provide information, insight, inspiration. Now it is your turn. To ignore the message. Invite poverty. Or get the freely offered information. To make wise decisions about your life. And that of your loved one.

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Milford summer festival gives residents, visitors a chance to make new memories

Susan Bromley [HometownLife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com)
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The merry memory-making started in Milford Friday when the downtown's biggest festival returned.

A celebratory mood was in the air with the return of art, music and food at Milford Memories.

Nancy Fanfair, who has lived in Milford for nearly 50 years, was excited for the return of the event after its cancellation last year due to COVID-19.

"We go to the festival every year and enjoy the creativity of all the vendors and the camaraderie of the nighttime activities," she said, adding she has a particular penchant for the food trucks and elephant ears. "Milford is the place to be."

Laura Ravenna, an Illinois artist, agreed.

This is her 10th year at Milford Memories, and she worked on touching up some wall art and holiday decor at the booth for her business, "Mom's Enterprises."

"I love Michigan and Michigan people," she said. "Last year was hard on artists. I wasn't creative, it was horrible. For my artist brain, I have to be in a good place and a happy place."

Milford Memories is that happy place for her and she was thrilled to be doing work again that she felt was appreciated.

Katie and Jeff Rork, South Lyon residents, were volunteering Friday to help with the event and brought their children, Charlotte and Silas, with them to enjoy the day.

"The turnout is good," Katie said, smiling as she looked around. "Thankfully, the weather is good, too. The artists had a year off and they, and we, are excited to be here. We're having fun."

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



The Rork family of South Lyon – Charlotte, Katie, Silas, and Jeff – explore the Milford Memories festival on Aug. 13.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Liv Kunkle sells hand-made leather hats she created at Milford Memories.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The Katie Hinote Trio performs.



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People dance as B2Wins performs Aug. 13, the first day of the festival.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Logan Brown, 8, swings down after scaling the Oakland County Parks' climbing wall at the festival. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Ice cream

Continued from Page 4A

Silver Dairy is nothing short of your classic ice cream stand, but with a small twist: it has a drive-thru, perfect for those days you want something to go, or if it's raining.

It's got several tables and chairs at its stand at 32323 Grand River on the outskirts of downtown Farmington. Around since 1949, the stand has gone thoroughly modern: in addition to the drive-thru, there's also a QR code on the side of the building to access the shop's menu on a smartphone.

The item of choice this visit was a flurry, blended with Oreo and brownie pieces. It tasted exactly how I expected it would: it blended the soft serve well with plenty of Oreo and brownie chunks.



A cherry pop tart flurry from Dairy Deluxe in Birmingham. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Birmingham

Dairy Deluxe, 33201 Woodward
Visited: July 26

Purchased: Cherry Pop Tart flurry
The sign on the side of Dairy Deluxe simply says "Think ... Memories." That's exactly how I feel when I visited this stand, located on Woodward Avenue just north of 14 Mile in Birmingham. This is the lone ice cream stand on this list I have visited before, though it's been probably close to 20 years. I remember my father taking me and my siblings here after visiting our grandfather in Bloomfield Hills many years ago, so this trip provided plenty of nostalgia.

The first thing one notices visiting Dairy Deluxe is the menu. The entire front of the small building is covered

with lists of items to select from, a daunting task. Looking for something a little more offbeat, I opted for a flurry made with cherry Pop-Tarts, something I hadn't seen elsewhere, and it lived up to its name.

I took my treat and moseyed over to the most logical place to eat it: a traffic barrier on nearby Bird Avenue, which blocks through traffic along the street. Not sure how long that barrier's been there or why it's there, but it's clear that barrier makes that area a safer place to enjoy a cone, especially since there are not any tables or chairs nearby.



A watermelon slushy with vanilla soft serve from Stuart's in Novi.

Novi

Stuart's Ice Cream & Yogurt, 41390 W. 10 Mile

Visited: July 27

Purchased: Watermelon slushy with vanilla soft serve

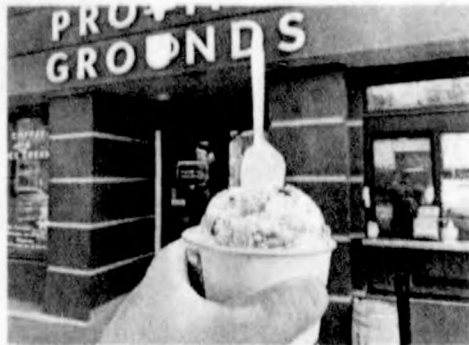
It might be because the stand is covered, but this ice cream place has always intrigued me whenever I drive by. Perhaps it's the green-and-yellow color scheme that draws my eyes, but I was excited to stop by this shop at 10 Mile and Meadowbrook in Novi.

Stuart's is just the latest name for this stand, which has existed for several decades. Formerly Cone Zone and Twist & Shake, Stuart's is named after a Boston terrier adopted by the owners of the stand. The ordering window is enclosed, allowing you to stay out of the elements. There's plenty to pick from, including shakes, malts, flurries, the usual suspects.

Like several other stands, the menu is vast. Displayed on electronic boards inside, it makes it easy for them to change the items, and for a visitor like

me looking at the "most popular" section was exactly what was needed. Craving something different, I went with a watermelon slush with some vanilla soft serve in the middle, a fascinating combination.

Typically soft serve seems all the same, but this version felt a bit firmer and creamier than usual. Couple it with watermelon slush and it hit the spot on a warm summer day. Plenty of outdoor seating is available on both the west and east side of the building, though be warned: the intersection can get pretty loud.



A single of Brown Dog Creamery's Salty Dog ice cream from Proving Grounds Coffee & Ice Cream in Milford.

Milford

Proving Grounds Coffee and Ice Cream, 369 N. Main St.

Visited: Aug. 4

Purchased: Single cup of Brown Dog Salty Dog

There appears to just be one place in downtown Milford to grab ice cream now after Milford House Bar and Grill closed down earlier this month: Proving Grounds Coffee and Ice Cream.

While there's several spaces in the area serving up ice cream — Press and Scoop and Snack Attack in Highland come to mind — but I opted for the most walkable location. There's a small window outside the shop that serves, and customers can also go inside the shop and order.

It's a small selection but hails from Brown Dog Creamery, a local company which operates a restaurant in Northville and soon (again) in Farmington. Several flavors were available the day I stopped by the walk-up window and opted for a single cup of Salty Dog, which Brown Dog claims is its no. 1 seller. It's a salted caramel ice cream made

with pecans, brownies, and caramel sauce. It's tasty, but it's a lot to handle, so be prepared.

A single from Proving Grounds was more than enough, and I struggled to finish it: they're generous with their servings. There are a few tables and benches to sit outside, but honestly, it's almost best to stroll downtown Milford while enjoying the ice cream. There's so much to see and do downtown after easily grabbing a cone or cup at Proving Grounds.



A frozen lemonade from Mickey's Dairy Twist in South Lyon.

South Lyon

Mickey's Dairy Twist, 22912 Pontiac Trail

Visited: July 28

Purchased: Frozen lemonade

For being a small town, there sure are a lot of places to grab ice cream in South Lyon. There are big names like Dairy Queen and TCBY, and smaller names such as the new Curvin's Family Creamery, which recently opened along Pontiac Trail just south of downtown. But for this visit, I opted for traditional: Mickey's Dairy Twist.

This stand anchors the King Plaza on Pontiac Trail, which contains other shops like Toarmina's Pizza and Prefurred Pet Salon. The stand has all the makings of a traditional standalone stand, including plenty of tables to sit down at. As many other stand employees have told me, their popular items include flurries and sundaes. Instead of those, I opted for something I haven't found everywhere: frozen lemonade. It's a perfect, light option for those hot summer days we can expect for another month or so.

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

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Camp

Continued from Page 1A

ease the burdens that accompany unimaginable grief.

"The camp is designed to help the children learn how to better understand grief, learn healthy coping skills and start to grow in their grief journey," explained New Hope Executive Director Jennifer Frush. "As the day goes on, the kids become more receptive to the activities. There are a few tears shed, but tears are a sign of healing."

"Most of the kids have lost someone close to them within the past three to four years, some within the last three or four months. What's nice is that someone who lost a parent three months ago can talk to someone who lost a parent two years ago and the one who suffered loss two years ago can help the other realize that it does get better."

According to the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model, one in 12 children in Michigan 18 or younger will experience the death of a parent or sibling.

"The majority of the kids at this year's camp lost a parent, some from COVID-19," said Frush. "When you look at the statistics, there are, on average, two kids in every school classroom that are experiencing a loss, so it's becoming a bigger concern. Our No. 1 goal is to make sure they know they are not alone."

Camp activities were creative and educational at the same time.

"We have an obstacle course that the kids run through: the first time with a five-pound sack of potatoes on their back and the second time with a backpack filled with marshmallows," Frush said.

"When they carry the potatoes — which represent the grief-related burdens that bring us down — it's heavy, awkward and challenging. Carrying the marshmallows was way easier. We want to teach them how to take the heavy burdens that come with grief and make them marshmallows."

The farm's animals play a significant role in the camp. One activity allows campers to share space with animals who have suffered loss.

"We talk about how animals grieve and through their grief they manage to remain resilient, move forward and even thrive on the farm," Frush said.



Miley Kirby leads a pony around an enclosure during the day camp for guests of Northville's New Hope Center for Grief Support on July 22 at Maybury Farm.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"The kids get to touch and hold the animals, something that gives them a special connection."

Seventeen-year-old Mallory Kirby attended her first "Grief Is Messy" camp three years ago, just months after her mother's sudden death. Kirby, a former resident of Livonia who is entering her senior year at Howell High School, served as a counselor at this year's gathering.

"This camp has been a life-changer for me," Kirby said. "It brings so many people together who have lost someone so important to them. It's an incredible experience because I never imagined there were so many kids going through the same horrible thing as I was."

As a counselor, Kirby said she gained

the most satisfaction from simple conversations with campers.

"I don't ask them too much, because I realize from my own experience how sensitive the topic is," she said. "Everybody reacts to it differently. When I was sitting in a wagon with a few kids and asked them what makes them feel better, it was cool to hear them start to tell stories about the loved ones they lost."

"It's sad to see how young some of the children are who have to go through the same thing I did at a slightly older age (Kirby was 14 when her mom died), but at the same time it's gratifying to know I'm there to help."

Among the 40 volunteers at the camp was Northville Township Public Safety Officer Andrew Domzalski, a two-year



Andrew McCormick participates in the day's horse-themed activities.



Campers and counselors wore T-shirts matching the theme of each day.

veteran of the camp.

"For me, volunteering at this camp is the most gratifying experience ever," Domzalski said. "Having gone through loss myself, I understand grief is a very serious issue and never easy to overcome."

"When you have phenomenal resources like New Hope to help kids, it makes it that much easier to work through the grieving process and move forward with their lives."

David Kirby, Mallory's younger brother, summed up the purpose of the camp perfectly.

"I feel like I'm not alone when I come here," the seventh-grader-to-be said. "I can hang out with kids who know what I'm going through. It's just a good time."

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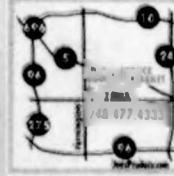
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ONLINE COUPONS

South Lyon wants to continue last season's late run in 2021 campaign

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The clock is ticking. Two weeks until South Lyon football opens its season against Walled Lake Western. And the defense was feeling the pressure.

Throughout Thursday's late afternoon practice, the Lions offense was giving it fits: the option sweep, the post to the middle, the streak down the sideline. With each missed play, head coach Jeff Henson let his unit know: "O-1. O-2. O-3."

As the practice continued, the defense eventually found its rhythm. The quarterback snapped the ball. South Lyon's experienced secondary didn't allow a receiver to get open. The Lions' inexperienced defensive line provided quick pressure, leading to an assistant coach

to call "sack" and Henson to shout an encouraging, "Atta boy D."

This is what South Lyon has been: consistent, on both sides of the ball.

Since 2010, the Lions have been to

See SOUTH LYON, Page 2B

Young boxer, coach forge mentorship at Livonia gym

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Darnell Baldwin had boxing in his blood. But while his grandfather boxed and his uncle earned a bronze medal in the sport, the Detroit native's personal path was a bit more unique.

Baldwin's father ran a martial arts school. He remembers becoming a conglomerate of everything his father taught: kickboxing, boxing, kung fu. His father wanted his son to be versatile, to use his whole body when fighting.

Baldwin's foundation was not traditional, but it was competitive, something he brings to every sparring session, every round in the boxing ring at the MMA House of Champions on Schoolcraft and Inkster in Livonia — a school that showcases the same variety Baldwin was brought up in.

"Even if you want to come in here and don't want to compete, we still teach you like you're competing," Baldwin said. "I'd rather you have it and be able to use it if you need it than me just trying to teach you commercial. I'm still going to give you something you can use."

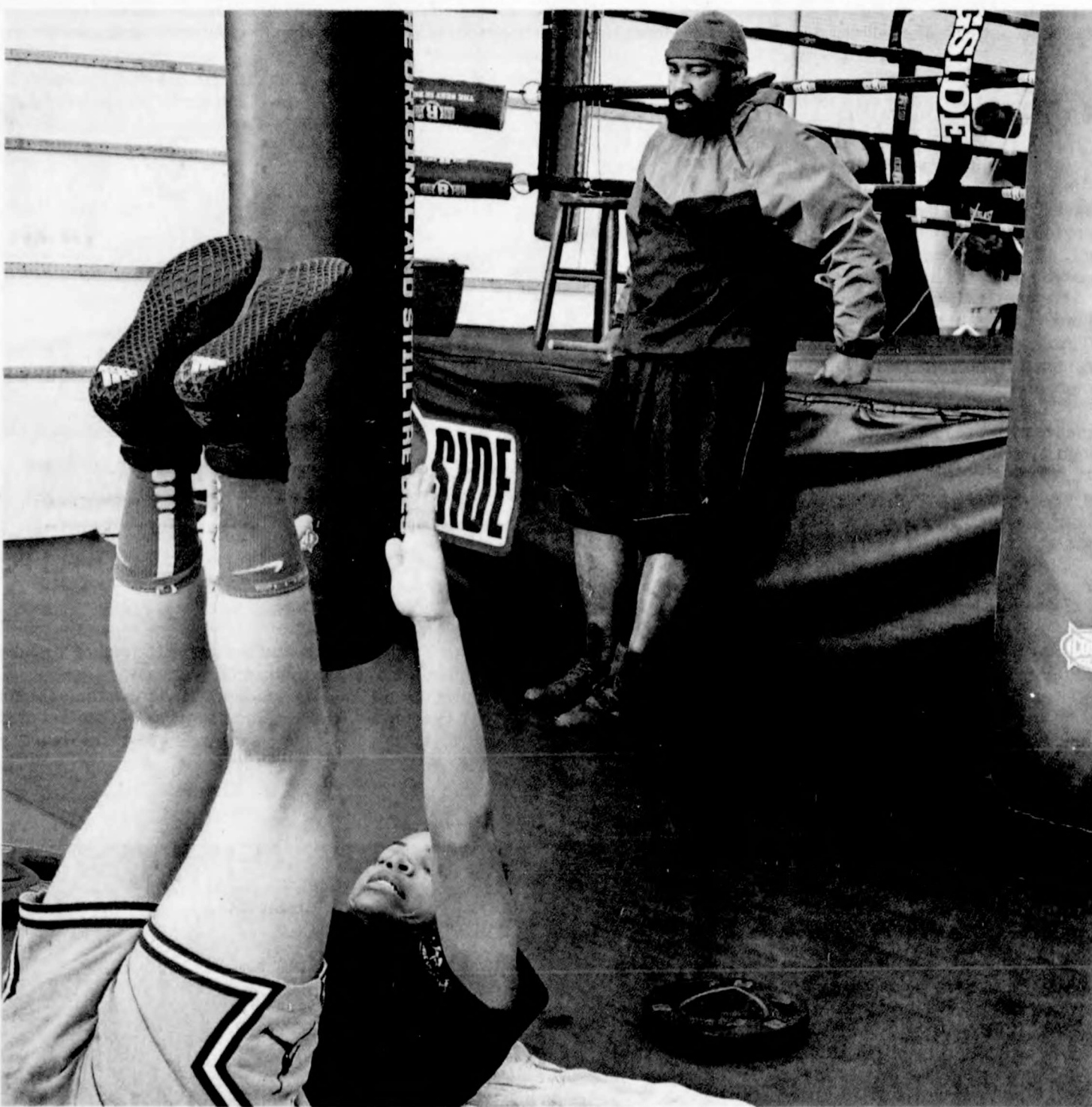
"I learned it as a competitor, I learned it as a fighter, so I have to teach it like that."

Jakari Shepherd is competitive. He's also one of Baldwin's latest projects.

Shepherd remembers meeting his coach at the Crowell Recreation Center in Detroit at 16, dropping the basketball he was using and walking into the boxing gym and falling in love right away.

Now 18, Shepherd's love for the sport has only grown, helped by the simple request of his coach: work. After three fights, that work seems to be showing up as Shepherd has recorded three knockouts, including two at the Detroit Golden Gloves competition to help him earn the Most Outstanding Junior Boxer Award, given to the top novice fighter.

"He's developing good," Baldwin



Trainer Darnell Baldwin, right, works with some students at the MMA House of Champions in Livonia on Aug. 4.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Huge expectations return for Catholic Central football

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After a full morning practice outside officially kicking off preparation for the 2021 campaign, Detroit Catholic Central was forced to make its first change.

Mother Nature would not hold back, sending thunderstorms over the Novi

campus, moving the Shamrocks inside to run through plays with helmets on as the squeak of tennis shoes against the hardwood floor echoed through the gym.

As Catholic Central started the process of emptying its offensive and defensive playbook, preparing for a first-week date with Chippewa Valley, its aspira-

tions hung over them, watching. Twelve state championship banners hung from the rafters, the most recent being from 2009 despite four trips to the title game between 2011-16.

No player in that gym has experienced what previously had been the year-to-year expectation for Catholic Central: earning a spot in the state fi-

nals. But heading into 2021, returning a roster filled with seniors still stewing from the Shamrocks' 13-point loss to Davison in the regional final a season ago, expectations are high.

"If you have one shot to do something, you know you are going to give it

See CATHOLIC CENTRAL, Page 7B



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People practice in the full-sized boxing ring at Mixed Martial Arts Academy in Livonia. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Gym

Continued from Page 18

said. "He wants to do it. It's easy. He's got talent, but he works hard... And he's still a long way away, but a lot of people see the potential in him."

For the last year-and-a-half, Shepherd's goal is not just to be good or to win a few fights. He wants to be the best. A regional champion, a national champion, an Olympian.

"There's just something in me that makes me want to go harder," Shepherd said. "Nobody else. I want to be the top man."

On the mat, Baldwin says Shepherd is extremely aggressive and strong for his size.

But what sets the 18-year-old apart is his mentality. It's his demeanor. He can't be rattled in the ring.

"He's so calm, one of the calmest people I have been around, and that's kind of shocking," Baldwin said. "It's a good asset: nothing shakes him up. I'm pretty tough on him, and nothing shakes him up."



MMA House of Champions on Schoolcraft and Inkster in Livonia.

Shepherd is motivated, though. After he graduated from high school at Bradford Academy in Southfield, he moved out of his parents' house, took a job with Walmart at Middlebelt and Plymouth

roads and dedicated the rest of his time toward boxing.

The dedication began three years ago. Shepherd's 5-year-old brother died in a car crash, and he just ended up in a

gym. It was his outlet to let off steam.

And when he started training consistently, Shepherd said it's become his home.

"When I first started boxing and got in the ring, (Baldwin had) seen something in me. I seen something in myself, too," Shepherd said. "All these other guys here, I'm halfway better than them and I haven't even been here. Just being in the gym, developing my skills, just progressing."

As a coach, it's not about what Baldwin wants Shepherd to do moving forward. It's about guiding Shepherd along, helping him achieve those next steps to become a renowned boxer.

The coach said Shepherd's already almost there. He just needs the experience. If the 18-year-old remains humble and continues to work, Baldwin feels good things will come.

"I don't have to make him do stuff," Baldwin said. "Do you know how many people get up at 1 o'clock in the morning and run? And he asks me so many questions. If he don't know, he's like, 'What do I have to do for this?'"

"You can look at his eyes, it's real genuine."

South Lyon

Continued from Page 18

the playoffs seven times and have finished first in their respective divisions twice: the KLAA Central in 2014 and the LVC in 2018.

But last season, South Lyon didn't end the season on its own terms, forfeiting its district final game against North Farmington due to COVID-19. Henson knew that South Lyon was playing its best football at that point, beating LVC foes Milford and Walled Lake Western for a chance at its first district title since 2004, the year the team advanced to the state semifinals.

"I think we were playing as a true team at that point. I think we were rolling on all cylinders," Henson said.

In 2021, Henson knows he has to start over. Even though he's bringing back eight starters on each side of the ball, he knows that chemistry will not return immediately.

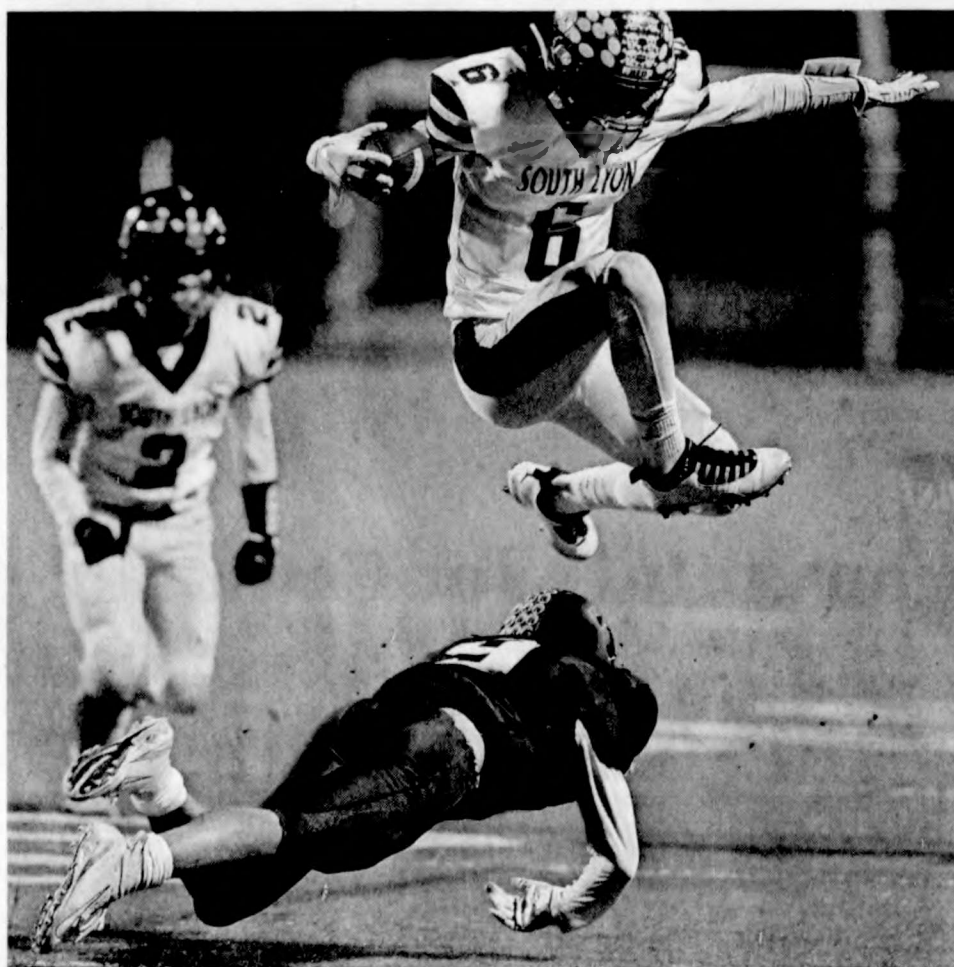
Senior wide receiver and defensive back Quinn Fracassi remembers how that team felt when it was all over in 2020: The Lions were confident. They had swagger.

Now, the players have a chip on their shoulder.

"We couldn't control what happened last year, but now we have an extra chip to show everyone that we're here to be the best and go out and win the district championship this year," Fracassi said.

Offensively, South Lyon has something to build on from 2020.

After taking over for senior quarterback Evan DeFrank two games in, Dawson Skupin came into game as the guy behind center, not throwing his first interception until the Lions' playoff win against the Warriors.



After making a reception, South Lyon's Quinn Fracassi leaps over South Lyon East's Drew Moyer, who had gone for the tackle. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Along with pieces like Fracassi and junior running back Tommy Donovan, South Lyon's offense is looking to improve upon its average of 23 points per game a season ago, eclipsing 30 points only twice.

Fracassi said he and his senior quarterback have already been working, building on the chemistry they started to create a season ago. The receiver said

he's seen drastic improvement from Skupin, from his throws to his ability to dissect coverages.

"It feels like we're already midway through the season with each other," Fracassi said. "We've all played with each other before and just feels normal."

While he may have plenty of skill players on both offense and defense to work with, Henson said South Lyon's

success depends on the development of young linemen, following in the footsteps of Gus Taylor, who anchored both lines as a senior in 2020.

"They have had a really good offseason," Henson said of his linemen, led by senior Tyler O'Connor. "They are physical, tenacious. They are still learning, but at least they have those things that they are not afraid to go after it."

For the Lions' defense, the experience will be opposite what it was in 2020, having a plethora of veterans in the defensive backfield, including senior cornerback Dakota Blackwell, who returned from a team that allowed only 19.5 points per game last year, the lowest since 2014.

Henson has an idea of what he's going to get in 2021. He has experience with many players on his current roster. He just doesn't know how soon it's all going to click, saying last season it didn't happen until four weeks in.

As the first practice neared its end, South Lyon's players lined up in a line. An assistant coach stood at the 30-yard line and Henson blew a whistle. Back-and-forth the players ran, passing the finish line each time.

The Lions don't know when it's all going to click. But during practices, they are aiming for Week 1 against Walled Lake Western.

Fracassi doesn't feel it's too much to ask.

"We just have something about us that's like no one can beat us," the senior said. "We have a swagger that no one can touch. We feel we can beat anyone, anywhere. We're just so confident in ourselves and each other."

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.

Michigan senate bill is targeting transgenders

Brad Emons Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Canadian soccer player Rebecca Quinn made history in August at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics becoming the first openly transgender and nonbinary athlete not only to medal, but also capture gold.

Quinn's gold comes on the heels of New Zealand weightlifter Laurel Hubbard becoming the first trans athlete to compete in an individual Olympic event.

The 43-year-old Hubbard, who finished last in the over 87-kilogram division in Tokyo, transitioned from a man to a woman in 2012 at age 35 after training and competing in male weightlifting competitions since she was a teenager.

Transgender athletes' inclusion — or in other cases exclusion — has wrought debate, not only globally, but locally. In Michigan, a Brighton state senator introduced legislation that would mandate schools to require students to only compete against those assigned the same biological sex at birth. Michigan is one of more than 20 states that has seen such legislation.

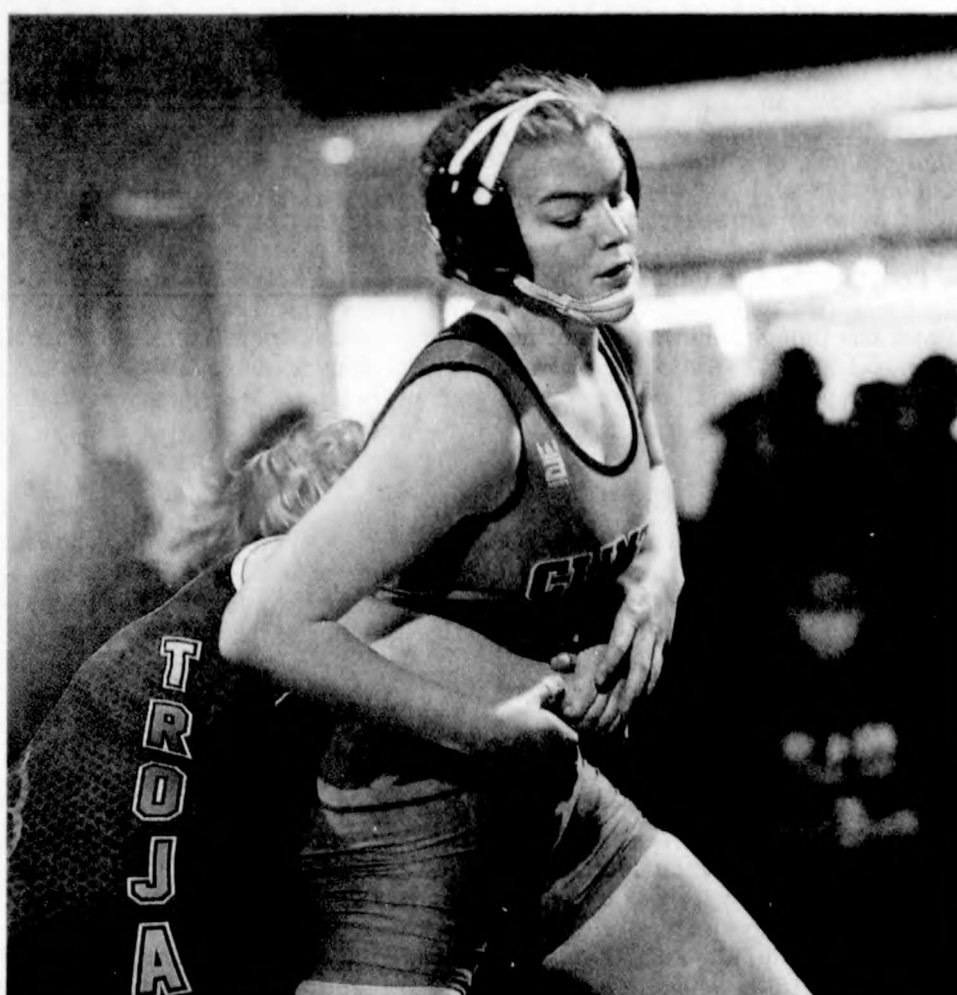
Senate Bill 218, currently sitting in the Education and Career Readiness Committee and introduced by Sen. Lana Theis, has been co-authored by 11 other Michigan Republicans.

The bill would prohibit girls and transgender boys from competing on boys' teams, and boys and transgender girls from competing on girls' teams. However, the Michigan High School Athletic Association, which has a policy to deal with such situations, has called the bill "unnecessary."

The MHSAA currently allows for girls to participate on combined sports teams including football, wrestling, golf, tennis and swimming.

Despite repeated attempts to reach Theis through her administrative staff, she has only issued a statement about her pending legislation through a press statement on her official website.

"As a society, we fought for generations to ensure girls and women, through Title IX, have an equal opportunity to compete in athletics on a level playing field," Theis said. "Sadly, today, identity politics threatens all that was



Taylor Randolph of Clinton escapes from Isabel Worthing of East Jackson in the 138 pound championship match going onto pin her for the win of 2021 Michigan Wrestling Association High School Girls Championships held at Michigan Revolution in Highland. TOM HAWLEY/THE MONROE NEWS

sacrificed and gained. Across our country, biological females are losing opportunities at titles, records, scholarships and, at times, participation itself.

"Something must be done to preserve the legacy of Title IX — a staple of American society. So, very simply, my bill will ensure that, in school sports in Michigan, student athletes will compete against one another according to their biological sex — females against females, and males against males."

It's unclear where this issue has sprouted in the state.

State Sen. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor/Saline) has taken a stance against the bill. He said he has not had any direct discussions with Theis regarding her

trans athlete piece of legislation

"I think it victimizes a lot of kids in our state," Irwin said. "I think it's unfortunate when there are so many important issues for the legislature to talk about — or how we can improve education, how could we take care of our elders, how we can protect our Great Lakes. Instead, you are talking about a bill that accomplishes nothing and one that is already victimizing vulnerable children."

What Theis' law says

Laws banning transgender females from participating in organized sports have been signed in Florida, Tennessee.

Arkansas, Mississippi and Montana

The Theis release goes on to say Senate Bill 218 would require Michigan school districts to establish and maintain a policy that satisfies both of the following:

- If the school designates a team as a girls', women's, or female team, a requirement that each pupil who competes for a position on that team or who is selected to compete on that team must be female based on biological sex; and
- If the school designates a team as a boys', men's, or male team, a requirement that each pupil who competes for a position on that team or who is selected to compete on that team must be male based on biological sex.

The bill defines biological sex as "the physical condition of being male or female as determined by an individual's chromosomes and anatomy as identified at birth."

As of now, if a transgender female student wants to participate on a girls' team, or vice versa, the MHSAA requires documentation indicating the student's listed gender on school or medical forms and whether the student has or is taking hormones or undergone surgery. The MHSAA reviews those records on a case-by-case basis.

"I say high school sports is about being young people that actualize themselves, see themselves in a positive way, build self-esteem, build teamwork and leadership skills," Irwin said. "I think that's what is important to high school sports. I think these bills or this bill are running in the opposite direction of all of that."

The effect on transyouth

Eli Herrmann — a transgender male teenager — doesn't play MHSAA sports but sees athletics, such as the recreational boys' soccer team he plays for, as vital

"The ramifications (of Senate Bill 218) would be 100% negative," said Herrmann, who plans to graduate from Community High School in Ann Arbor next January said. "I cannot think of a way which this law could be positive at

See TRANSGENDERS. Page 4B

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CC sophomore dies after collapsing on practice field

Colin Gay hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Stephen Sylvester died Aug. 7, a statement from the school confirms.

The football player and track and field athlete collapsed on the practice field five days before his death, leading to a prayer request listed on the school's website that he was "experiencing a health challenge."

Catholic Central released this statement:

"We are incredibly saddened by the passing of Stephen. He was a bright young man, and a valued member of our school community."

"At this point we ask for some privacy for the family, our students, our faculty, and our staff while we work to support all of those so intimately impacted by this loss."

Principal Patrick Fulton confirmed the news, tweeting: "Sadly, Mary Alma Mater has brought another one of her Shamrock sons into the loving embrace of our Heavenly Father. Please pray for

the repose of the soul of Stephen Sylvester '24 and for the Sylvester family as they struggle with the loss of their son and brother."

Sylvester threw shot put and discus for the Shamrocks as a freshman.

Sylvester, 15, of Livonia was a long-time member of St. Michael the Archangel Parish.

He was the beloved son of Robert and Marie; loving brother of Thomas and Sarah; cherished grandson of John and Shirley Aerts, and Diane Sylvester; adored nephew of Elizabeth (Steve) Ru-

so, Christine (John) Aerts, Suzanne Gajeski, Angela (Erik) Richards, Fr. John Aerts, Ronald (Iris) Aerts, Gregory (Jeannette) Aerts, Aric Aerts, Peter (Deb) Aerts, and Karen Sylvester.

Neely-Turowski Funeral Home in Livonia handled arrangements. A funeral was held Saturday. Memorial donations may be made to Lifespan as well as Association of the Miraculous Medal.

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

Transgenderers

Continued from Page 3B

all because barring people from the sports that they love, it's harmful."

Shakti Rambarran, advocacy director of the Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health, held a town hall-style meeting this spring in Washtenaw County to discuss the proposed bill.

"Legislators opposed to the bill were showing their frustration and anger to even having this bill in the first place because it is very harmful, especially trans youth to see their identities and their experiences being negotiated ... ultimately what it was it's just not serving anybody," Rambarran said.

"I think it's necessary to spark panic, especially those people most affected by these kinds of bills because it can be terrifying. It's like, 'Holy hell, I'm being vilified again.' Again, this is creating a hostile environment even among trans youth and their peers. They already have high rates of being harassed because of transphobia. And because (special interests groups) weren't successful with the bathroom bills, they went to trans athlete bills."

How this bill can hinder successful wrestling program, female wrestlers

In March of 2022, the MHSAA will implement its inaugural girls individual wrestling finals, but will continue to al-

low females to compete with boys — as they have in the past — during the regular season and in the team tournament.

The MHSAA has allowed girls to play on boys' teams, according to a current policy in place since 2012.

During the 2018-19 MHSAA athletic calendar year, the MHSAA reported more than 800 girls participated on boys' teams. Many of those participants crossed over because the sport wasn't offered for girls, particularly in smaller school districts around the state.

But if Senate Bill 218 is adopted, many of those girls would have no place to play.

Casey Randolph, co-coach of defending MHSAA Division 4 team wrestling champion Clinton, had seven girls on his 2021 squad.

His daughter Taylor, a junior, was 7-0 during the boys' season while also winning Michigan Wrestling Association girls individual title last March at 127 pounds. Randolph, who has served as president of the Michigan Wrestling Coaches Association, called the bill "short-sighted" because it, in effect, takes away athletic opportunities from girls.

"If somebody wants to identify as themselves whether I agree with it or not, it's not my choice," Randolph said. "But when it comes down to giving someone a competitive advantage or a disadvantage, that's where we have to draw the line. If it takes away opportunities for girls by doing that, for example — a lot of schools, especially smaller

schools, depend on those females to fill out a lineup. Some females have qualified for the boys (individual) state finals and they're really good."

About that competitive advantage ...

Politics or public opinion aside, a 2017 study by a group of University of Sydney professors measured strength and flexibility characteristics in hundreds of children and adults.

The researchers collected 12 functional outcome measures — including the 6-minute walk test, vertical jump measurement, timed stairs test and balance and dexterity tests — from 1,000 healthy individuals ages 3-101.

Up until age 12, female and male participants had little difference in gross motor tasks (walking, running, jumping, etc.). These measurables, as expected, increased until adulthood before plateauing and eventually declining.

Balance did not differ between the sexes, but the study found male participants generally performed better at gross motor tasks. Female participants did better with dexterous tasks.

The findings have been used in an effort to make some Australian girls and boys junior sports mixed gender, but stops short of advocating the same at higher levels, "after which the hormonal changes of puberty mean boys tend to perform better in sports and tasks requiring strength and speed," according to an article about the results.

The authors of the study did not respond to additional questions about the research concerning the differences in teenagers.

'A policy in place that works'

According to the MHSAA, there's no need for a law preventing transgender high schoolers from playing in a sport that aligns with the student's identity.

During the last five years, 10 student-athletes have used the association's transgender athlete policy, according to Geoff Kimmerly, the MHSAA's Communications Director. All 10 were found in compliance and allowed to play.

"We believe this legislation is unnecessary — compared to 180,000 high school athletes we have annually, these requests are the tiniest of percentages — and we have a policy in place that works for our schools and has been followed without issue," Kimmerly said in an email.

Even if Senate Bill 218 clears committee hearings and will be introduced before the full chamber of both Michigan houses, it still faces challenges.

Rambarran, like many others, does not expect that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer would sign the law.

"We don't anticipate the legislature will have enough to override (the veto). Even if we expected it to pass, it would go on to the courts," Rambarran said. "Within this debate there's also the consideration of President Biden's executive order combatting trans discrimination and sexual discrimination."

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Wrestling in Olympics 'life-altering experience' for Catholic Central grad

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

No matter what happened in Japan, Myles Amine could always say he was an Olympian.

For some competitors in the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, that was enough. To even qualify for the Olympics is a monumental accomplishment achieved by a minute fraction of the world's population.

But Brighton's Amine has always set the bar incredibly high during his wrestling career at Detroit Catholic Central and the University of Michigan, so he wasn't content just reaching the greatest stage in all of sports.

"One of the reasons I even qualified for the Olympics is because I set my goals really high," Amine said by phone from Tokyo. "It's something I've done my whole life. Sometimes people might find it crazy some of the goals I set. My true goal was to come here and win a gold medal."

That dream ended when he lost to eventual gold medalist David Taylor of the United States in the 86-kilogram freestyle quarterfinals, but he still had an opportunity to come home with a bronze medal when Taylor qualified for the championship match.

He won his next two matches to win the bronze while representing San Marino, the native land of his mother's grandfather.

"Obviously, winning a bronze medal is something to be really proud of," Amine said. "I think the biggest thing running through my head when I was here was you might never be here again; you've got to make the most out of this situation. I want to win a medal here in my first Olympics, so I don't have to worry about, 'Hey, I have to get ready for Paris (2024) or L.A. (2028).'"

"The biggest thing is now I've got that medal out of the way. It sets the bar even higher for future competitions. That's how I like it. I want to keep striving for more. That's my thing, to set the bar to an almost unbelievably high standard."

Amine became only the second Olympic medalist from Livingston County when he beat Deepak Punia of India, 4-2. Debra Ochs of Howell was a bronze medalist in archery at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea.

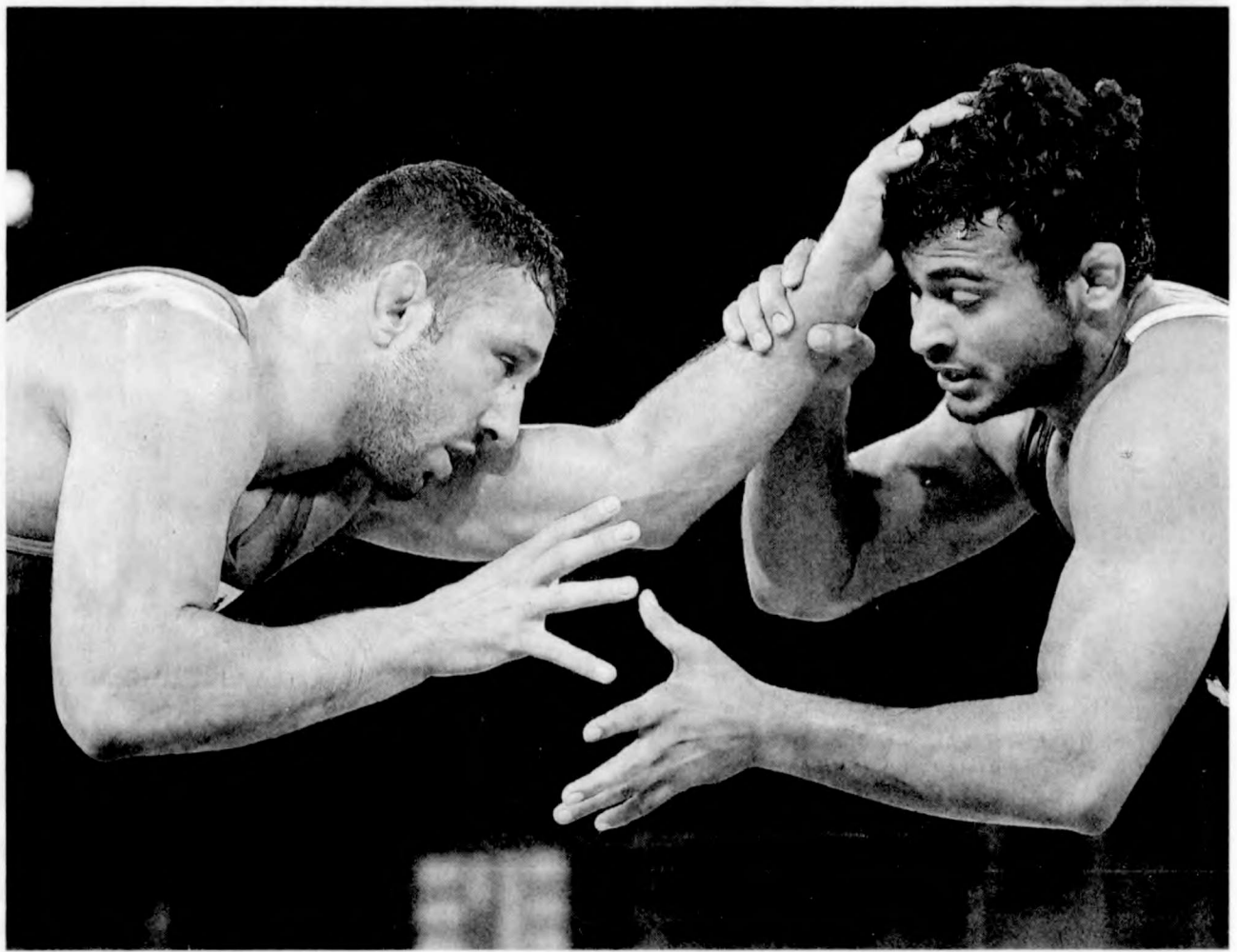
"It was really just an overwhelmingly positive experience, just from start to finish," Amine said. "I tried to take in every moment, from arriving at the village to stepping on the mat and competing in that bronze medal match. It was kind of a life-altering experience."

Bronze buzzer-beater

Amine won the bronze in dramatic fashion.

He trailed 2-0 before getting a point for a step-out late in the first of two periods. Still trailing 2-1 late in the final period, Amine got a takedown with 10 seconds left to take the lead.

"It was obviously a high-pressure situation, but I really just attribute the calmness and confidence I had to get that takedown to my training, being in those situations day in and day out in the practice room. It put



Brighton's Myles Amine (left) of San Marino and India's Deepak Punia compete during a men's 86-kilogram freestyle wrestling bronze medal match at the Summer Olympics on Aug. 5 in Tokyo, Japan. JACK GUEZ/GETTY

me in a situation to find a way to win.

"The only thing running through my mind in the last 30 seconds of the match was, 'I'm not letting this guy take this bronze medal; it's my bronze medal.' I was very, very confident and very honed in on achieving my goal."

Amine couldn't celebrate immediately, because the India coach issued a challenge that Amine was out of bounds when he executed the takedown. If the challenge was successful, Amine would've lost the match. Instead, he was awarded another point because of the unsuccessful challenge, making the final score 4-2.

Unlike so many coaches' challenges in football, this challenge took only about 30 seconds to resolve after reviewing a replay.

"Usually, to be honest, I don't have much energy to celebrate," Amine said. "I try to leave it all on the mat. Having that little 30-second pause at the end gave me a little more time to catch my breath, which is why I was able to celebrate with my coaches and the people in the crowd cheering me on."

Separated from family

The only downside for Amine and other athletes in Japan was the small crowds at Olympic venues did not include family or friends.

Within minutes of winning bronze, Amine got to his cell phone to celebrate with his family back in Brighton.

"To have somebody over Facetime versus having them there is a little bit different," Amine said. "The only thing I wish could be different about the Olympics is for family and friends to be here. I'm only a few days away from coming back home to Michigan. It's not like the celebration isn't there; it's just put on pause a few extra days."

Amine also plans to travel to San Marino for a celebration of the nation's first three Olympic medals. Before Amine won his bronze, Alessandra Perilli won bronze in women's trap shooting and a silver with teammate Gian Marco Berti in the mixed trap team final.

"I was still at training camp watching the Olympics for the first few days in Japan," Amine said. "I wasn't in the village, I wasn't with the other Sammarinese athletes yet. I was watching it from afar. I remember watching and seeing Alessandra and Gian Marco get their medals and put them on. It was an incredible performance. The best part about it is it took the pressure off me and let me go out there and compete. I'm so happy for them. (Thursday) winning another medal for San Marino was icing on the cake."

Connecting with heritage

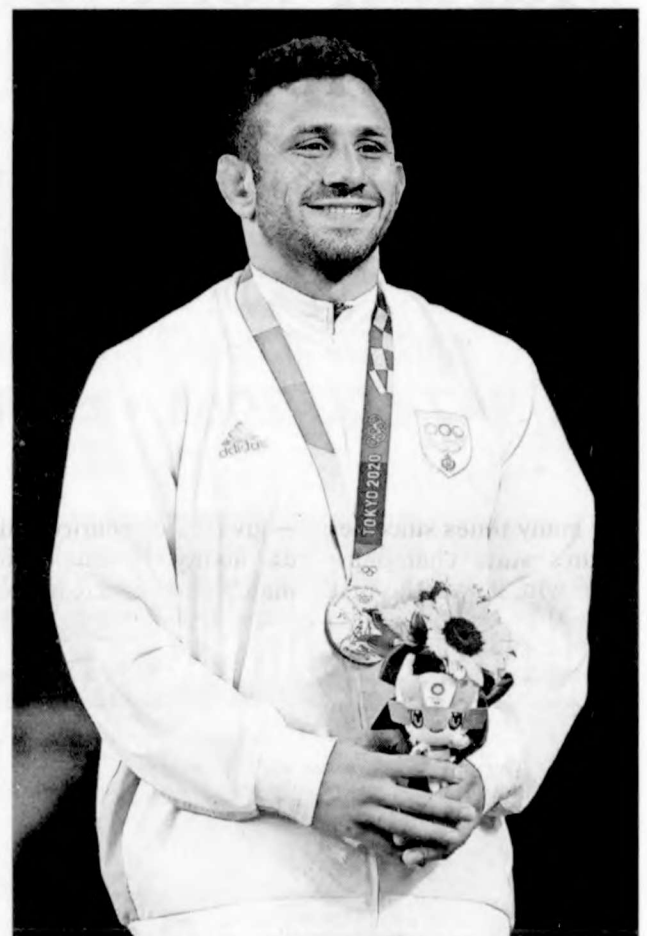
Amine and his brother Malik began wrestling for San Marino in 2019 to qualify for the Olympics. Myles punched his ticket to the Olympics by placing fifth in the 2019 World Championships, while Malik came up just short of qualifying.

The brothers, born and raised in Michigan, have dual citizenship because their mother's grandfather came from San Marino to the United States in the early 1900s. Myles is the first Olympic wrestler for San Marino, a nation of 33,000 contained entirely within the borders of Italy.

Myles said he has learned more about his Sammarinese heritage while traveling to San Marino a few times a year since joining its wrestling program.

"I knew a lot about it," he said. "Obviously, you really don't know a place until you're there and have spent some time there. What I realized quickly, although it's such a small country, is it really takes a lot of pride in being a nation, not just part of Italy. It's a separate entity they take pride in."

"It's a very hard-working region, working-class people. I have a lot of respect for the people. The best part about it is although they're very hard-working, they're also very humble. They were very welcoming to me, even though I spent my whole life in the United



Amine stands on the podium after receiving a bronze medal in wrestling at the Summer Olympic Games. MADDIE MEYER/GETTY

States. They were excited for me to put on a San Marino singlet and compete for them."

Apart from the competition itself, Amine said the greatest experience in Tokyo was being one of the two flag bearers for San Marino in the opening ceremony.

"It was a little bit of a letdown there weren't going to be fans there," Amine said. "Tokyo and the country of Japan really made it so worthwhile for us athletes. Walking out of that tunnel, it almost felt like the stadium was packed; I don't know why. The atmosphere they put on was really spectacular."

"It was almost surreal walking out of the tunnel and, 'Wow, I'm actually the flag bearer for an entire country right now at the Olympic Games.' I had to blink a few times to make sure it was real."

What the future holds

Amine, 24, was one of the youngest wrestlers in his weight class, which was won by the 30-year-old Taylor. Because the Tokyo Olympics were delayed a year because of COVID-19 restrictions, the next Summer Olympics are only three years away.

Amine hasn't committed to continuing his training until the 2024 Paris Olympics or even to taking advantage of one more year of college eligibility, which was granted because of the 2020 COVID shutdown. He joked that if he returns to Michigan, he will be "a senior citizen, not just a senior."

Amine earned his bachelor's in business administration from Michigan in 2020 and is six credits away from earning a masters degree from the School of Kinesiology's sports management program.

"It's still kind of to be determined," he said. "I think I had a great experience here. As long as I can continue to perform at a high level, not just in wrestling, but my body, making sure my body holds up to the training and all that stuff. I love doing that. Making sure my body and head are in the right place and I still love the sport, I don't see why not."

"I'm really enjoying where I'm at right now. I take it day by day. I'll definitely go back home and set some new goals."

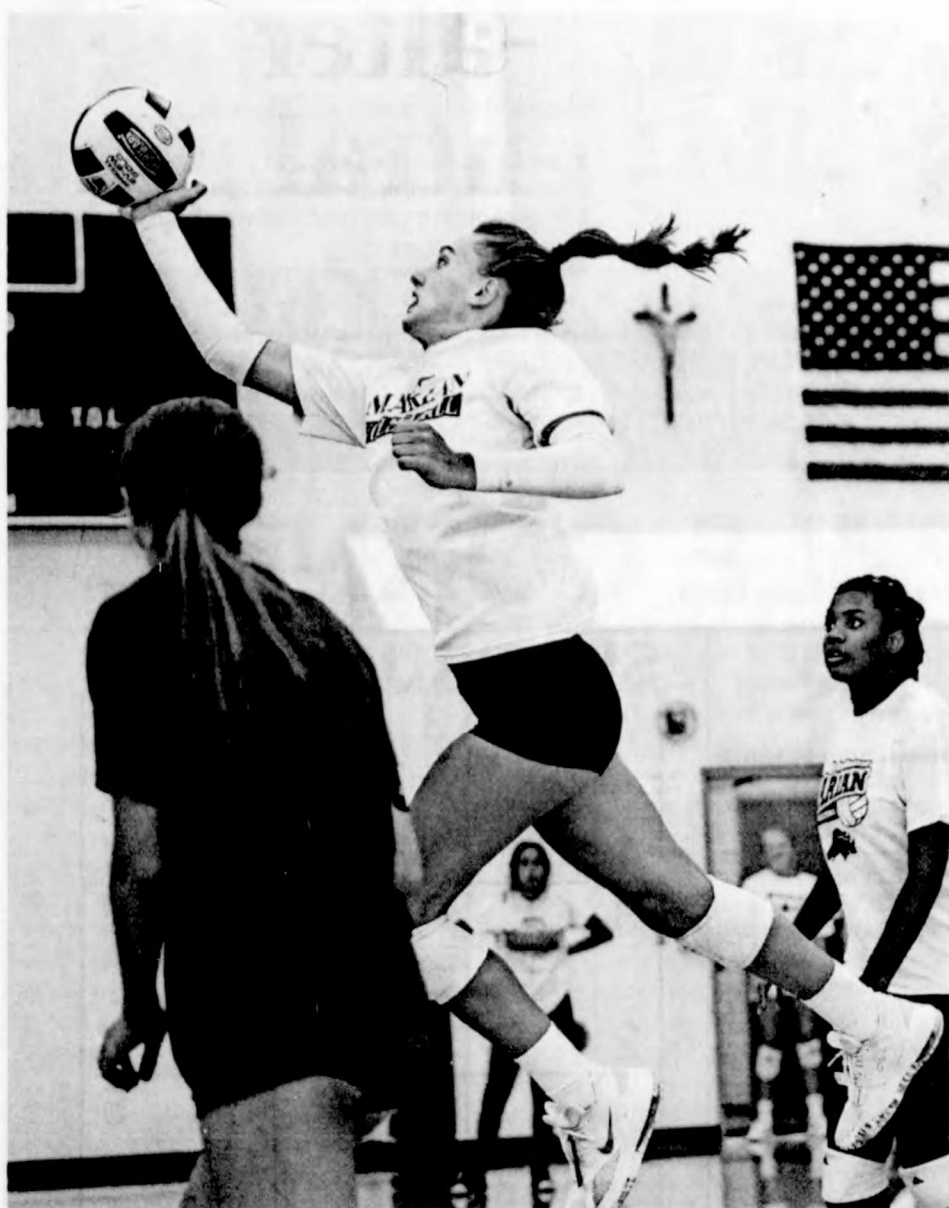
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Richard MacRae Atchison

SPRINGFIELD, VA - Richard MacRae Atchison, Col. USAF (Ret) age 80, of Springfield, VA, passed away peacefully surrounded by family August 4, 2021. As a commissioned officer, he lived out his boyhood dreams as an Electronic Warfare Officer, flying B-52s Crome-Dome missions, OV-10 Broncos (Pave Nail) in Vietnam, and F-4G Wild Weasel missions in Europe. Later in his career, he became the HQ USAF Director of Electronic Combat, eventually becoming the Deputy Director of Intelligence (J2) on the Joint Staff which included temporary duty as US Central Command Deputy Director of Intelligence for Operation Desert Storm. He lived a life of excellence and service. He and his wife Barbara parented with patience, love, and grace over 50 children in the foster care system. He served as the president of the Fairfax County Foster Parents Association as well as president of the Belvoir Bowhunters. Retirement gave him more opportunities to serve and it was his great joy to work with Wounded Warriors, adaptive sports, and the Warrior Transition Battalion of Fort Belvoir. Beloved husband of Barbara Atchison. Cherished father of Anne-Marie (Louis) Mingo, Scott MacRae (Suzanne) Atchison, Scott Michael (Joanna) Atchison, and Tony Stackhouse. Adored grandfather of 6 and great grandfather of 1. Dear brother of Rhonda M. Atchison Rice and Roxanne M. Casterline. Contributions to Archbishop Carroll High School, 4300 Harewood Rd NE, Washington DC 20017 would be appreciated. Share condolences and read the full obituary at www.jeffersonfuneralchapel.com.





Marian High School volleyball captain Ava Brizard leaps for a set during practice Aug. 10. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Marian volleyball state championship team reunites for title run

Colin Gay
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Marian volleyball's first practices for its 2021 season felt more like a family reunion. And while head coach Mayssa Cook had seen her players many times since her team's state championship win, it was the first time they were all home, all in the gym, preparing for a repeat.

The Mustangs have a luxury: all of their players from the team's first state title since back-to-back championships in 2009 and 2010 returned. And to the head coach, all of them have improved, their weaknesses now are strengthened.

But as the final days of tryouts waged on, there wasn't a satisfaction. They knew they won a trophy, but they all know there's room on the shelf for another.

"These personalities and these kids, complacency is not something I fear," Cook said. "They are probably just as hungry if not hungrier this season."

Back to basics

Cook has her players focused as the team starts its journey over, setting its gaze on a 2021 state title trophy. The head coach has returned to the basics, emphasizing consistency in skill development from serves to passes.

Senior outside hitter and reigning Gatorade Michigan Volleyball Player of the Year Ava Brizard said the priority is building up those connections she and her teammates developed last year, especially after spending so much time apart on separate club teams.

"We just have to get used to each other again," Brizard said. "It won't take very long because we're so close together."

In 2020, Cook didn't have much room for error in terms of her bench, having only 10 players at her disposal on the vari-

ty roster, not affording much wiggle room if an injury or a positive COVID-19 case sidelined an athlete. The small roster did its work, though, posting a 37-5 record and losing 17 sets all season.

In 2021, Cook has more to work with — 14 players — giving her security and an ability to mix and match players across the court depending on their skills.

"This is honestly the most talented team I have ever had and the most versatile team I've ever had in terms of players being able to play, not one or two, but three or four positions," Cook said. "The versatility is beautiful and the skill level they have, I feel very spoiled."

Learning process

While the overall team focus is on that second-straight trophy, Marian's four seniors — Brizard, Sophia Treder, Janiah Jones and Sarah Sylvester — are each focused on that personal transition from high school volleyball to college.

This summer, each of these players spread out across the country, learning ways to improve ahead of their final season at Marian. For Brizard, who's committed to NC State, the focus was on a more aggressive serve, turning it into a stronger offensive weapon. For Treder, who will play at Brown University starting in 2022, it's tweaking her arm swing and her passing ability.

But each of these skills are something Brizard feels can be passed on to those teammates who

will eventually go through the same transition.

"We're so close and together that we're OK with coming up to someone like, 'OK, I think you can do this better. Here's how you can get better,'" Brizard said. "And that's the greatest part of this team is that we are so comfortable with each other that we're... constructively critical of each other to get better."

Marian will be primarily junior heavy in 2021, including setter Ava Sarafa, but the Mustangs will also have one freshman in Isabelle Busignani at their disposal.

With those younger players, Brizard said the message she wants to send is to continue the culture the four of them have built of hard work, positive attitudes and a pure love for the game of volleyball.

But Treder knows there's still time to show that off in her home gym.

"We obviously have a target on our back heading into the season," Treder said. "We really want to challenge each other in practice. The drive that we have, push each other as hard as we can and communicate way more than we usually would because we want to win states again."

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

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Catholic Central

Continued from Page 1B

your all," senior quarterback Declan Byle, who has started for the Shamrocks since 2019, said. "I didn't really understand it as a sophomore or junior. It's like, 'We'll get them next year.' There is no next year now."

It's something Dan Anderson clearly sees.

The Shamrocks' fifth-year head coach said he's seen that fire in the way his players have approach summer lifting and conditioning sessions, coming to practice each day ready to work.

"They did not attain the goals they wanted to last year. They are hungry," Anderson said. "The fact you had a lot of these guys playing last year makes it even more that they want to attain that goal."

Experience is a luxury Catholic Central has on both sides of the ball.

The Shamrocks' offense looks similar to a season ago. With Byle under center and weapons like wide receivers Kam Davenport and Owen Semp, Catholic Central, which averaged 27.5 points per game in

2020, is already a step ahead, implementing schemes it didn't have in its arsenal until halfway through last season, according to the senior quarterback.

Up front, Catholic Central has potential, especially with Kaden Strayhorn, a 6-foot-4, 260-pound freshman who already holds eight Division I offers — including from Michigan State, Tennessee and Alabama — before even taking a snap at the high school level.

But the Shamrocks are still young and inexperienced up front, focusing on building chemistry to get around that learning curve before the lights come on at the end of August.

"You can't teach it. They have to experience it," Anderson said. "That's why the offensive line's going to be a little shaky to start, I'm sure. I think we have enough leaders on that team, that offensive team, that's they will be able to pull the other guys in and get them moving and doing what they need to do."

The Catholic Central defense is a group that's experienced those big lights.

The Shamrocks are set to return most of its front seven of a group that allowed an average of just over 10 points per game a

season ago, their best showing since 2010.

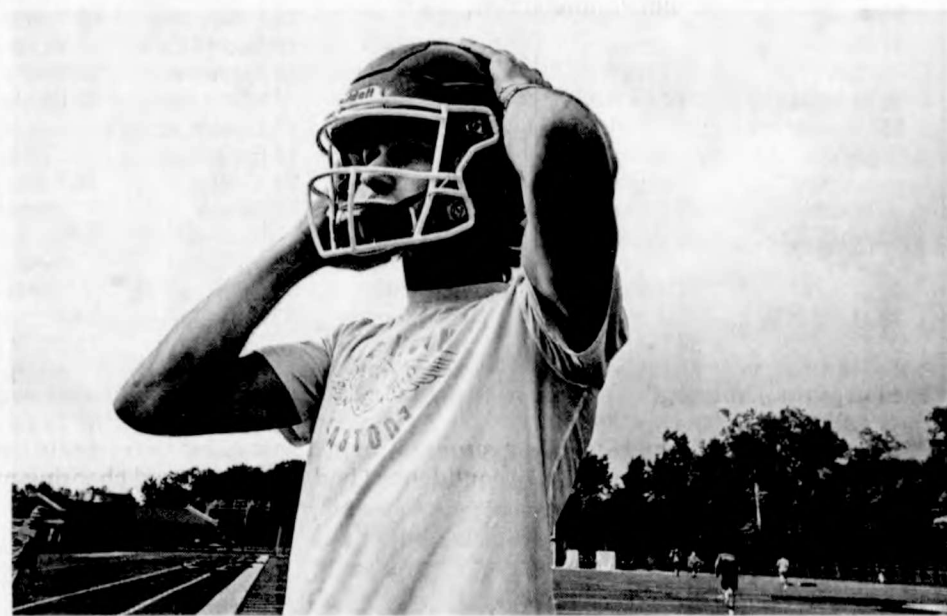
It's a group senior linebacker and captain Sean Field said is putting the finishing touches on what it can do, something he feels is representative of the whole team.

"We're kind of starting where we left off," senior linebacker and captain Sean Field said. "If anything, we are extra excited, maybe a little bit angry with how it ended. That's just going to fuel the fire even more."

Looking back, Byle thought his team was there last year. He still looks at the Davison game as a winnable game. The senior quarterback knows the mistakes he and his teammates made, solving each one over the course of off-season practice sessions.

The Shamrocks now are just wanting to get back out on the field and show what progress looks like. For many, it's the last chance they will have, a reality that hit Byle even as he worked in the gym; helmet on and tennis shoes squeaking against the hardwood.

"You know it's your last shot," he said. "I'm never going to go through two-a-days in high school again after this week. Every moment, you kind of have to take a step back and realize this is my last time doing this."



Detroit Catholic Central quarterback Declan Byle prepares for the first day of team practice Aug. 9. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Worship: First, September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Morning Glory - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.
Rev. Marlene M. Winkley, Lead Pastor
www.unitednorthville.org



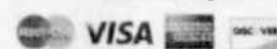
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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

NINE
FLEET

ACROSS

1 By means of
 4 Seizes suddenly
 9 Niche religion
 13 Cousins of rumbas
 19 Noah's craft
 20 Zellweger of "Bee Movie"
 21 Assistant of Frankenstein
 22 Mount where the 19-Across landed
 23 1987 comedy starring Nicolas Cage and Holly Hunter
 26 Set fire to
 27 Streisand musical film
 28 Diner relative
 29 Portion (out)
 31 Part of "GWTW"
 32 Mosque God
 35 Black-and-yellow stinging insect
 39 1993-2004 Chrysler sedan
 43 Thing to fly in the wind
 44 Pertaining to
 45 Seat in a bar
 46 Seat in a church
 48 Things

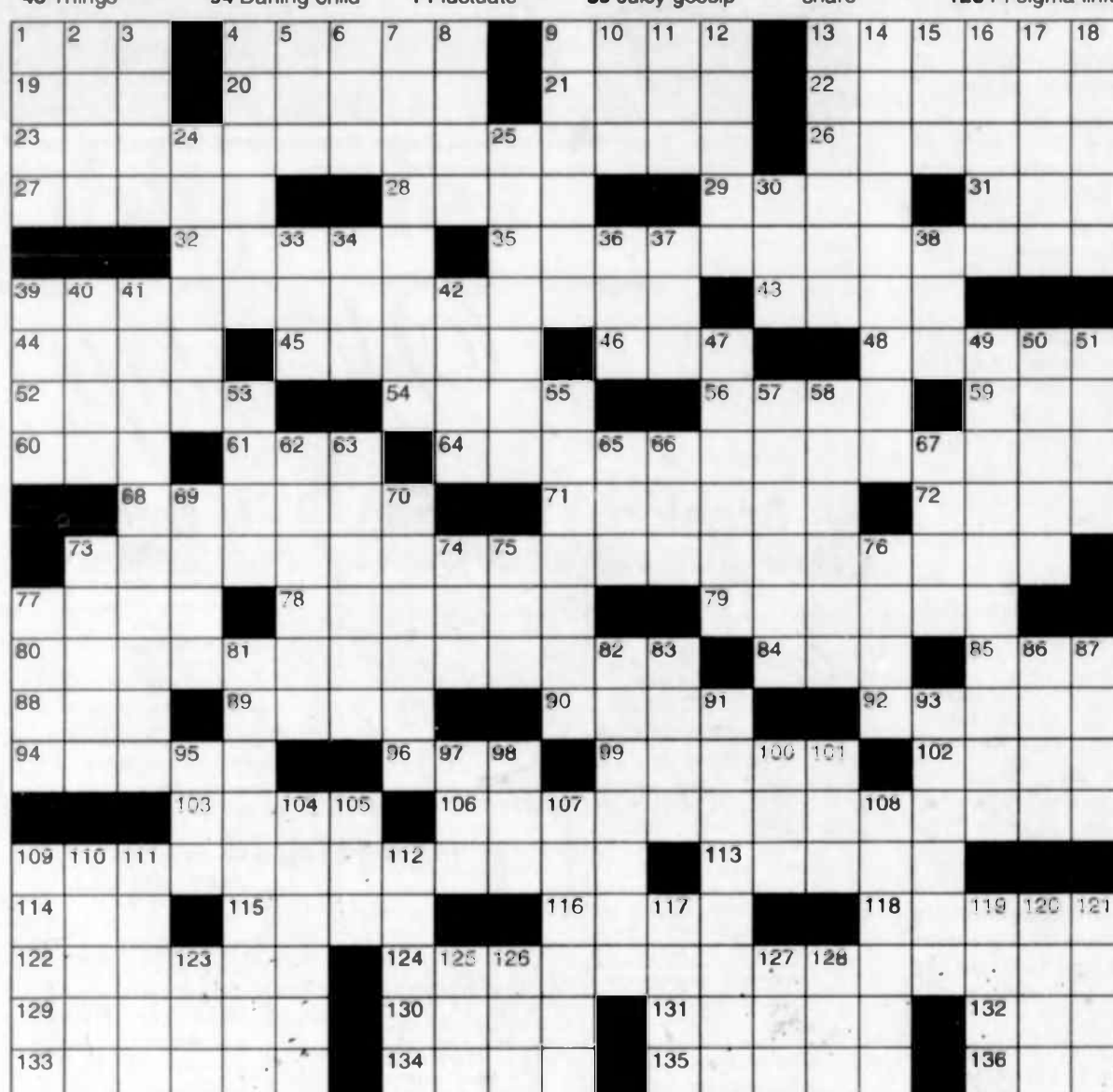
52 Give new weapons to
 54 Fluctuate wildly
 56 Cole — (shoe brand)
 59 Curious pet
 60 Gift label
 61 Pro- — (some tourneys)
 64 Sport fish also known as "little tuna"
 68 "Them's the breaks!"
 71 Title word before "Inferno" or "Peak"
 72 Came to rest
 73 Atlanta daily since 2001
 77 "Game of Thrones" actress
 78 Charlotte — (Virgin Islands capital)
 79 Turning out
 80 Windy City airport
 84 Adobe Acrobat file
 85 "— believer!"
 88 Almond-hued
 89 Actress Olin
 90 Plaintiff
 92 Turns toward
 94 Darling child

96 Perceive
 99 Imitated a sheep
 102 — -pedi
 103 "It's My Turn" singer Diana
 106 Small, floating cephalopod
 109 Device used in cardiology
 113 Actress Eve
 114 Everything
 115 Venus de — shout
 118 Of a junction point
 122 Gazed angrily
 124 Principle of capitalism
 129 Showing on TV
 130 Work to make
 131 Second-largest city of India
 132 — out a win (just prevail)
 133 Distant
 134 Califomie, par exemple
 135 Stellar hunter
 136 Abbr. that can precede nine key words in this puzzle

2 "Dies —" (Mass hymn)
 3 Similar
 4 Car radiator covering
 5 Toon pal of Stimp
 6 "The Ice Storm" director Lee
 7 Plastic pail or shovel, say
 8 Toxin fighters
 9 Form a rough judgment of
 10 Vanity
 11 With
 15-Down, flimflamming guy
 12 "Lady and the —"
 13 Rum cocktail
 14 Evita's land
 15 See 11-Down
 16 Big name in faucet filters
 17 Solemn vows
 18 Expensive
 24 Veteran
 25 Casual statement of sympathy
 30 Comic shriek
 33 Fleur-de- — (iris)
 34 Kitchen pest
 36 Fabric flaw
 37 Bardic verse
 38 Rainy
 39 Juicy gossip

40 Draft-eligible
 41 Coercing
 42 Edifice
 47 "Let's suppose ..."
 49 Like the study of habitats
 50 County in the Bay Area
 51 "Undo" mark
 53 Bryn —, Pennsylvania
 55 Info that's not up to date
 57 Pub spigot
 58 Preposterous
 62 Domestic household
 63 Hit hard, as the brakes
 65 Airline to Copenhagen
 66 Apnea-treating doc
 67 Abel's brother
 69 Blacklisting org. of the 1940s-50s
 70 Petting zoo animals
 73 2008-12 Mets pitcher
 74 Roman 151
 75 Suffix with planet
 76 Petty quarrel
 77 Eight: Prefix
 81 Doled-out share

82 French inn
 83 2021 is one
 86 Diner list
 87 Sale rack caveat
 91 Pursued speedily
 93 Key related to C major
 95 Bungle
 97 Lead-in to center or dermis
 98 Do lunch
 100 Gift for music
 101 Clunker
 104 Wee bit
 105 Note above fa
 107 Very strong
 108 One of a bowler's targets
 109 "Horrible" cartoon
 110 Actress Kemper
 111 Fire alert
 112 Credit card lure
 117 — -Chinese
 119 God, to Gigi
 120 Inquires
 121 Some blue jeans
 123 Brazilian city, in brief
 125 Hamelin pest
 126 Slice of time
 127 Yale attendee
 128 Pi-sigma link



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

SUDOKU



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!

MIAOW

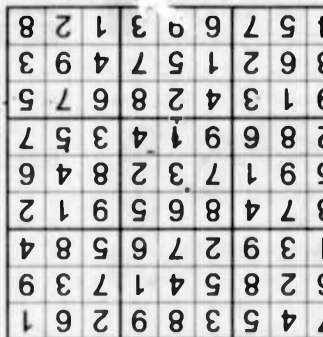
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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

AFGHAN
 BASKET
 BOBCAT
 BURMESE
 CATNAP
 CHEETAH
 CLAWS
 COUGAR
 CREAM
 DOMESTIC
 FELINE
 FUR
 HUNTING
 JAGUAR
 KITTENS
 KITTY
 LEOPARD
 LICK
 LION
 LYNX
 MALTESE
 MANX
 MARMALADE
 MEAT
 MILK
 MOGGIE
 MOUSE
 OCELOT
 PANTHER
 PAWS
 PERSIAN
 PUMA
 PURR
 PUSS
 SCRATCH
 SIAMESE
 SNARL
 STEALTH
 TABBY
 TAIL
 TIGER
 TOM
 TORTOISESHELL
 WHISKERS

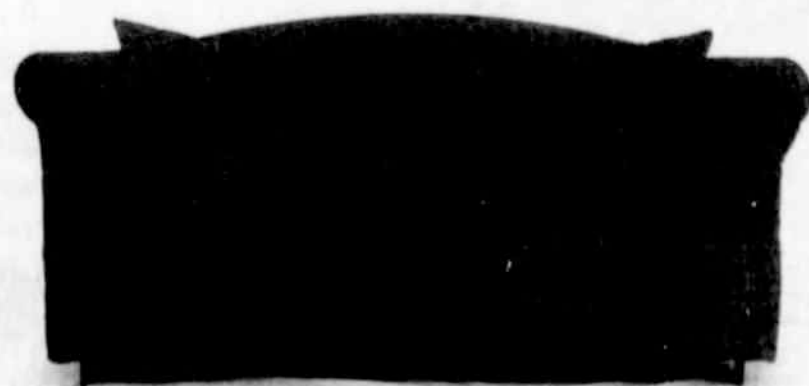


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Should You Apply For That Job?

Here's how to decide if you should submit your resume

We've all been there: You find an exciting job description at an incredible company. It seems like an amazing opportunity to apply to your skills, learn new ones, and advance your career. Then you see the list of "requirements" and you meet some of them. But not all of them. So you let out a deep sigh and move on. Well, that ends today!

Requirements Are Just a Wishlist

There is no such thing as a perfect fit when it comes to job applicants

An important rule of the job search is to never self-disqualify. In most cases, requirements are a list of nice-to-haves. Sure, it would be a hiring manager's dream to find an exact match who can check off every box, but that is highly unlikely. As a general rule, you should apply if you meet at least 40% of that wishlist.

What Jobs Should You Apply For?

Submitting for these types of roles will increase your chances

The list of requirements in a job description are only one part of the factors hiring managers take into account when looking for a candidate. There are many other considerations, most of which you'll never find in the actual description. If you find a job that falls into one of the categories below and you meet at least 40% of requirements, you already have a big advantage.

Jobs That Exactly Match Your Most Recent Job Title

Sites are scanning resumes for exact matches

75% of resumes submitted online are never read by a human. These sites are

programmed to find matches. The easiest way to make sure that happens is to have the exact title they are looking for. If you're currently doing the same job you are applying to but your company has a different title for it, update your resume to reflect the more standard title to make things easier for the site to recognize. Read these tips to find more ways to get your resume past the websites into the hands of an actual recruiter.

Jobs Where You Know Someone at the Company

Companies want to hire a known entity
60% of jobs are found via networking. It's a lot easier to get a foot in the door and secure the job when you know people on the inside. Many companies actively prioritize resumes that come in from internal employees and pay out bonuses if their referrals get hired. The logic makes sense. If companies trust their employees, then they trust their recommendations.

Jobs Where You Love the Company, Product, or Service

Your passion and expertise are an asset to a company

Companies succeed because they have passionate employees who are excited about the work they do. Chances are the person who would be hiring you has enthusiasm for the work they do and will recognize that trait in you. Also, if you are a fan of the organization or what it does, then you're already an expert with skills that will be of benefit to the company.

Jobs That Are Closer to Where You Live

Commuting can be bad for your job

prospects and your marriage

Not having to commute is the top reason many employees love remote work. People hate commuting so much that the happiness associated with cutting an hour off the trip to and from work is equivalent to a \$40,000 raise. On the opposite side of the spectrum, people with long-distance commutes are more likely to get divorced. Living closer to the office is also a benefit to the company. In fact, companies have been found to have biases towards people who live closer to the office.

Jobs That Pay More Than You Currently Make

You can likely earn more by switching jobs than staying where you are

It's a fact that employees can make more money by switching jobs than staying where they are. When a company is willing to pay you more, it could be a sign that they are stable and a good place to commit to spending a few years of your career. Comparing salaries is a good way to see what you are worth in the market. Finding out what you are worth is easy. Have a look at ZipRecruiter's salary page to get a sense of what jobs pay.

Jobs at Direct Competitors of Your Current Employer

It's a risky move but could make you very attractive to the company

We've already established that you can make more money by switching jobs. This is very likely the case when moving to a competitor of your current employer, since they know that you're already up to speed on their industry and know how to do the job. But think hard before you make this

move because it could be risky. In addition to potentially burning bridges with your previous employer, you may have signed a non-compete clause, which could get you in legal trouble. Make sure to check your contract before accepting the new job and never bring your earlier employer's intellectual property with you.

Jobs With Good Anonymous Employee Reviews

Find out what it's really like inside the company

There are many sites where you can read what it is like inside a company before you even interview. ZipRecruiter is one of them. (Check out what it's like to work at ZipRecruiter.) These reviews give you an unfiltered perspective that you may not get from an interview. If a company has good reviews, or the employees talk about an aspect of their work life that excites you, it could be the right place for you. Some watch-outs when reading reviews are that sometimes they are outdated, written by people who haven't worked at those companies for years, and a company with many offices may only have one page, so the experience at one of their locations may not reflect what you will find locally.



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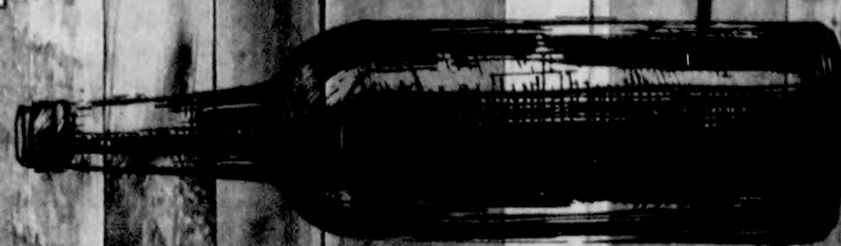
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