



# NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## COVID-altered Heritage Festival returning to downtown

Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A scaled-down and new-look version of Northville's long-running Heritage Festival is set for this weekend, Sept. 17-19, much to the delight of the event's fans who missed its community-bond-

ing ways in 2020.

Sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce the 2021 Heritage Festival will feature a new parade route and other key logistical alterations.

"I have a deep appreciation for everything about the festival — even more so now that we missed out on it last year," Northville Mayor Brian Turnbull said. "I

think the parade is outstanding, with the third-graders from our elementary schools learning about the history of the city all week then marching in costume on Friday.

The festival officials kicks off 6:30 p.m. Friday with the Victorian Parade that features a new route starting near the intersection of Main and High

streets before heading north on High. The parade will turn west on Dunlap Street, south on Linden, west on Main and south on Rogers before taking a eastward turn on Cady Street for the homestretch.

Friday will also be highlighted by the

See FESTIVAL, Page 2A

## Orchard Crossing ripe to be picked as Erwin Orchard replacement in Lyon

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Despite concerns about orchard operations coming to fruition, the Lyon Township Board granted preliminary approval to the Orchard Crossing development Tuesday, Sept. 7, in a 6-1 vote.

Trustee Kristofer Enlow voted no. "I am constantly suspicious, because with four votes you could have another 161 homes if the apple orchard doesn't come to fruition," Enlow said. "I'm uncomfortable moving forward until we have more than the (planned development) agreement... There are a lot of cool things presented, but it's all with the orchard operations. You could get in and build (housing) units, and then be gone."

Lombardo Homes has proposed building 121 single family homes and 40 duplexes on 77 of the 181 acres currently occupied by Erwin Orchards north and south of Silver Lake Road and west of Pontiac Trail. The plan also includes retention of the existing cider mill and a portion of the orchards on 104 acres, with the additions of a tasting room, event center and restaurant.

Blake's Farm has been in talks with Lombardo to take over orchard operations, but Paul Blake confirmed to the board that no formal agreement has been reached. As plans progress, the Erwins are expected to run the orchard operations in 2022 before handing everything over to someone new.

"There's an opportunity for us to come in at the end of next season and make some improvements," Blake said. "Am I committed by signing a piece of paper yet? No, but we're very

See ORCHARD, Page 2A

## Historic Novi house for sale



The former home of Novi's first Chief of Police Lee BeGole is being sold by the city for \$1 - as long as the new owner moves it as the site is needed to complete the city's ring road. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### Home is selling for \$1, but there are a few catches

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

You can buy a historic home from the City of Novi for \$1 right now, but there's a few catches.

The buyer has to move the two-story house from its current location at 43707 Grand River, where it has stood since 1890.

Also, the home needs extensive work and is currently considered uninhabitable.

inhabitable.

Any takers must move the house at their own risk and expense by Oct. 31, a deadline set by the city so construction of a ring road can be completed at Grand River and Novi roads. The ring road, a \$5 million expansion of Crescent Boulevard, offers a way to get around the busy intersection.

"The ring road comes when we get rid of this house," Assistant City Manager Victor Cardenas said. "If no one buys the house, we will demolish it. For construction of the road, the house has to go."

The city bought the house in February for \$252,400 from the heirs of former Novi Police Chief Lee BeGole, who died at the age of 99 in March 2020.

BeGole was a Detroit resident, Cardenas said, and his Novi house had been vacant for about 20 years.

"We tried purchasing it when he was alive, and he didn't want to get rid of it," Cardenas said. "There was an emotional attachment to it."

The home is not on a national registry, but is listed on the Novi Public Library's website as one of 25 historical sites in the city with an accompanying statement that the house painted "centerline yellow" is a "wonderful example of Queen Anne architecture."

The style was popular in the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Queen Anne features "may in-

See HOUSE, Page 2A

## South Lyon fire chief leaving for Charlotte's top firefighting job

Susan Vela

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

South Lyon Fire Chief Robert Vogel is hoping to shake some sleeplessness by moving closer to his daughter and becoming the top firefighter for Charlotte near Lansing.

The 53-year-old chief announced recently that his last day for South Lyon is Oct. 1.

It's quite the shakeup from a man



Vogel

who swore off job searching when he brought his firefighting expertise to this relatively quiet Oakland County community around the start of 2018.

He then said "this is it for me." Vogel admitted he didn't know then that his daughter would find a good job in the Grand Rapids area and decide with her partner to start a family there.

"My wife has really been bugging to

move," Vogel said. "Going to Charlotte gets us a lot closer. (And) we loved Charlotte."

The decision, though, was not easy. "When they made the offer, I was really torn," he said. "Things are really good in South Lyon, and I'm happy here."

Besides the family factor, the chief conceded Charlotte's full-time firefighters helped draw him toward the

See CHIEF, Page 2A

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Volume 152 | No. 7  
Home delivery pricing inside  
©2021 \$1.50



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## Orchard

Continued from Page 1A

interested, and we know there are concessions we need to make this a viable apple orchard business."

One of the primary needs is for the orchard to be a year-round operation, with the ability to be flexible in seasonal opportunities. Blake spoke of off-season options offered at his Armada orchard, including a skating rink and Easter egg hunt. He said the ability to change to remain relevant was vital despite constrictions of a planned development.

Township Treasurer Patricia Carcone said she had already seen the plan multiple times as a member of the planning commission, which unanimously recommended the development move forward last month.

"What bothers me is this has been the Erwin family farm for a very long time. If we don't do what we need to do to get Blake's to come here, it will be really sad," she said. "Who will take over the orchard? I'm not saying give them whatever they want. I am very excited about the opportunity to work with Blake's; it's really important. What will we do if we don't have an orchard operator?"

"I will make the deal," Anthony Lombardo responded. "The Erwins will continue to own and operate as it is today if the Blakes don't take over."

Bill Erwin, sitting in the audience, chimed in: "I'll be 90 by the time I get done."

The board appeared to hope it doesn't come to that, with Trustee Sean O'Neil noting that the Erwins have the right to sell their property.

The planned development could not be changed in the future without going through the entire approval process again.



Ericka Kruegel and her kids Jackson, 8, and Madelyn, 4, prepare to pick some ginger gold apples at Lyon Township's Erwin Orchards on Sept. 1, 2021. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The board seemed mostly satisfied with answers to questions about side-walks, setbacks, stormwater management and the ever present traffic concerns.

The developer reiterated they will contribute \$150,000 for traffic improvements at the intersection of Kent Lake and Silver Lake roads, which has a current rating of 'F' and which they hope to improve to a 'C' during non-peak season. That will be done at least in part by taper lanes and other improvements at all entrances and a signal for pedestrians to cross Silver Lake Road.

A signalized intersection was determined to be both safer and less expensive than a roundabout.

O'Neil called the Orchard Crossing plan one that was light years ahead of other plans brought before the board that were high in density and unimaginative.

"This is the first time someone showed up with a plan that is thoughtful," he said. "It's not perfect yet, but we can get there... It's consistent with the master plan."

The project still needs final planned development approval, which is expected to come before both the planning commission and township board in coming weeks.

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

## Festival

Continued from Page 1A

first live band performance in the town square since before the COVID-19 pandemic when the Shawn Riley Band kicks out tunes 7-10:30 p.m.

"We are working to include the following in the festival activities: community nonprofit booths, live and street entertainment, crafters, Painting with Paws, history hike, Lions Kid Sight Trailer, petting farm, vintage baseball and the annual duck race," the Chamber of Commerce announced in a release.

Sunday's events will all unfold at the Mill Race Village and presented by the Northville Historical Society. Victorian activities and duck race ticket sales will run noon to 3 p.m.

A complete schedule of activities is available on the Heritage Festival website.

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



Robert Vogel is retiring as South Lyon Fire Chief after a bit more than 3 years in the position and about 33 years in the business. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Chief

Continued from Page 1A

middle of the state.

Ever since he began with South Lyon, he's been reliant on paid, on-call firefighters. He was able to boost his staff to 33 from about 20 through recruitment, retention and social media campaigns.

A lingering nighttime concern is whether there will be enough paid, on-call firefighters who respond to emergency calls. Calls have gone from about 700 during Vogel's first year to today's average of 1,000 a year.

"Currently, we cover every call," he said. "We've never missed a call. We've never had a truck not respond. At night, it could be thin staffed. It makes me very nervous. It will be the big challenge for the future fire chief."

"Knowing that I could sleep at night, knowing that there is always coverage... It kind of helped that ease of making this decision."

While gaining more South Lyon firefighters remains one of his proudest achievements, he also is happy that he was able to secure funding for a new \$1.5 million ladder truck that will replace a 20-year-old model. It should arrive in a year.

And he seems to have worked well with Lyon Township firefighters.

"Chief Vogel was a professional who was a pleasure to work with, and I congratulate him on his opportunity in Charlotte and wish him the best," Lyon Township Fire Chief Ken Van Sparrentak said. "I will work with his successor to continue strengthening response and response time to South Lyon and Lyon Township."

Charlotte will be Vogel's second chief's job. He had 30 years of experience fighting fires with Scio Township, Ann Arbor, Brighton and Green Oak Township before he began with South Lyon.

South Lyon officials are still determining how they'll replace their fire chief. Vogel hopes their replacement process will conclude with his deputy chief Mike Weir becoming the new chief for an easy transition.

"The deputy chief here is a very strong leader, and I think it would be good for the department," Vogel said. "I'm just not sure what his life is and what the thoughts of the city manager are."

The chief shared some last words for South Lyon:

"I really, really enjoyed it. I loved working with the mayor and council, citizens and the staff. The staff is what I'll miss the most by far. It saddens me thinking about leaving because of the the staff But sometimes life... you've got to make some decisions. That's where we're at."

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

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Northville Record (USPS # 396880) is published weekly (Thursday) by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 160 W. Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226. Periodicals postage is paid at Detroit, MI and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Customer Service, PO Box 5830, Augusta, GA 30916.

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#### Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$150  
\$65 per 12 months home delivery

#### Home Delivery:

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## House

Continued from Page 1A

clude an asymmetrical facade; dominant front-facing gable, overhanging eaves, one or more towers, a porch covering part or all of the front facade, a second-story porch or balconies, differing wall textures, such as patterned wood shingles shaped into varying designs (including resembling fish scales), classical columns, spindle work, monumental chimneys, and wooden or slate roofs."

The house has suffered from neglect and would need extensive TLC to restore it to its glory days. Cardenas said the house has nice crown molding, but a recent walk-through showed it was in "rough, rough shape" with drywall missing from walls and ceilings.

Moving the home necessitates a new foundation, which Scott Penoyer, owner of S&W House and Structural Movers, said would cost at least \$100,000, if not more.

Penoyer has relocated many homes as he is currently doing with homes that were in a Midland flood zone, but a two-story home presents its own challenges in avoiding utility infrastructure.

He estimated moving the Novi house



A sign on the former home of Lee BeGole that says "happy birthday and 4th of July Lee". JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

would be at least \$50,000, and that is to just move it "a couple blocks" from its current location.

"You couldn't move it five miles; it would cost too much for wire charges," Penoyer said.

Whether the 1890 house will fall in order to build new houses like a War of 1812 veteran's Novi home did two years ago, or continue to stand the test of time like a pre-Civil War home in Milford which sold for \$1.6 million last year, remains to be seen.

Cardenas said saving the house will be up to an individual who has a passion for historic homes.

"If someone wants to move it and take it elsewhere, we'd be more than happy to have them do that," he said. "It would save the city money if we don't have to demolish it. Our interest is getting the ring road done so we have better ease of transportation around the Grand River area."

Interested buyers may call Cardenas at 248-347-0450 or vcardenas@cityof-novi.org.

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



An interior view of the 1890 historic home at 43707 Grand River in Novi. The city is selling the house "as is" for \$1. The purchaser will have to relocate the house at their own cost. COURTESY OF VICTOR CARDENAS

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on October 6, 2021 at 7:00p.m. to receive public input on several requests in regard to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance:

- To consider three variance requests for three lots zoned R-2, Second Density Residential District, located at 711 N. Center St., lot numbers 48-22-34-377-007 (southern lot - L1), 48-22-34-377-006 (middle lot - L2), and 48-22-34-377-005 (northern lot - L3). The three lots are part of a proposed three-lot residential development where the applicant would like to build a duplex building on each lot. The applicant is seeking a 0.04 FAR variance for lot L1, a 0.06 FAR variance for Lot L2, and a 0.03 FAR variance for Lot L3 from the requirement of Section 15.01 of the Zoning Ordinance, which allows for a maximum 0.36 FAR on a lot with a duplex building. They are also requesting a 7% variance from Section 15.01, Footnote 26 Paved Surface Limitations, which requires 65% of front open space to be free from pavement. Lastly, they are requesting a height variance of 5-feet from the 30-foot maximum requirement in Section 15.01.

#### Meeting Location and Participation

The meeting will be held via video conference as allowed by City Council's Local State of Emergency Declaration due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Members of the public body and members of the public participating electronically will be considered present at the meeting and may participate as if physically present at the meeting. The following are meeting participation links: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4909000480>, US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799, Webinar ID: 849 0900 0480

Those needing assistance or accommodations should contact the City Manager's office at 248-449-9905. Log in instructions, information about electronic meetings, and a user guide can be found at: <https://www.ci.northville.mi.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=11896963&pageId=13505469#zoning>. OR from the main Home page, click on the Government tab, Agendas and Minutes, and scroll to the Board of Zoning Appeals section of the webpage.

#### Application Review and Written Comments

The variance application is available for review at [www.ci.northville.mi.us](http://www.ci.northville.mi.us). From the Home Page, click Services, Building and Planning, Board of Zoning Appeals. It is also available at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Building Department, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167, 248-449-9902, Monday - Friday, 8am to 4:30pm.

Written comments to the BZA pertaining to the proposed variance request must be submitted by 4:30pm October 5, 2021 to City of Northville Municipal Building, City Clerk, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, or use the City Hall drop box, or emailed to [dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us](mailto:dmassa@ci.northville.mi.us)

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Publish: September 16, 2021

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## Salem landfill operators fined \$750,000, obligated to cut emissions

Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK -  
MICHIGAN

A smelly and potentially health-threatening problem emanating over the past several years from Salem Township's Arbor Hills landfill could be capped by a settlement between Arbor Hills Energy, the State of Michigan and the Department of Justice.

On Sept. 9, the company settled with the state and DOJ to significantly reduce sulfur dioxide, or SO<sub>2</sub>, emissions at its landfill gas-to-energy facility just west of Northville Township. SO<sub>2</sub> is a dangerous, foul-smelling pollutant that can cause substantial harm to human health and air quality.

The decision was announced almost a year after a lawsuit was initially filed in October 2020 by Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, following alleged violations of the Clean Air Act and state laws.

The presence of foul-smelling odors became such a regularity at Northville Township's Ridge Wood Elementary School, which sits less than a mile east of the landfill, that an air-monitoring device was installed on the school's ground in December 2020.

The air monitoring station, located on the east side of the parking lot away from the school building, will be operated by a third-party firm (Barr Engineering) until at least December 2025 under a consent agreement and in accordance with an access agreement with Northville Public Schools.

The monitoring results are publicly available on the Arbor Hills Monitoring website along with information about hydrogen sulfide.

"Today, we celebrate a monumental win for both our community and the great state of Michigan," said Rep. Matt Koleszar (D-Plymouth). "This settlement is the culmination of years of community advocacy, grassroots organization and quick responsiveness from Sen. Dayna Polehanki and myself."

"I would like to thank

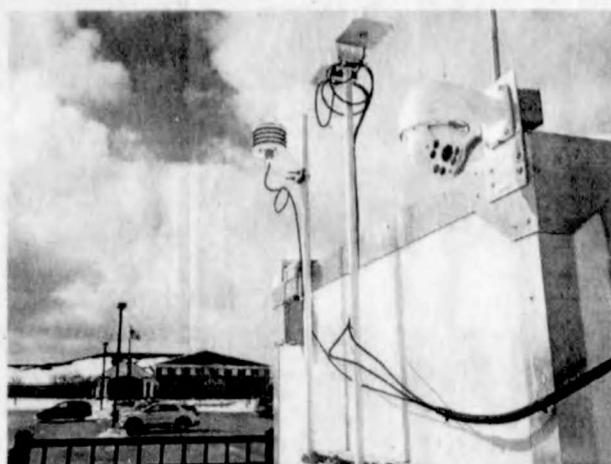


Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel announced the lawsuit against Advanced Disposal Services during a press conference held in October 2020 in a Northville Township park. ED WRIGHT | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

AG Nessel, EGLE, state Sen. Polehanki, Northville residents, the parents of Ridge Wood students and The Conservancy Initiative for coming together and making this settlement a reality. Thanks to their hard work and commitment to holding corporate polluters accountable, we've managed to improve the quality of life and air for those living in close proximity to the landfill."

Sen. Polehanki said the settlement is just the first step in arriving at a resolution to cleanse the air in the communities located near the landfill.

"While I'm pleased to see this settlement agreement and relieved for the residents who worked so hard to bring this issue to light, now is not the time for us to



An air quality monitoring site has been built on the east side of Ridge Wood Elementary School (the school is seen in the background). It will monitor air coming from the nearby GFL landfill at Six and Napier. JOHN HEIDER | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

take our foot off the gas," Polehanki said. "I will continue to work with my fellow state officials on amending the laws that allowed repeat violators, like Arbor Hills, from expanding their physical footprint or continue violating environmental laws."

As part of the settlement, Arbor Hills will also be required to pay a civil penalty of \$750,000, split evenly between the state and federal government,

and construct either a natural gas facility or install a sulfur treatment system. The natural gas facility would turn landfill gas into usable natural gas, eliminating virtually all SO<sub>2</sub> emission, while the sulfur treatment plant would only need to achieve a 64% reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions by a deadline of March 2023.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at [edwright@hometownlife.com](mailto:edwright@hometownlife.com) or 517-375-1113.

## Police say teens committed \$30,000-\$40,000 in damage to Johnson Elementary

Susan Vela

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK -  
MICHIGAN

Milford police are investigating recent property damage to Johnson Elementary School that amounted to \$30,000 to \$40,000 in destruction.

They said in a recent Facebook post that three males, between 14 and 16 years of age, wreaked their havoc on Aug. 29, beginning somewhere between 12:30 and 1:30 a.m.

Their investigation has gleaned that one suspect was a bystander while the others did their damage to the school building, 515 General Motors Road.

Police were able to collect fingerprints and other physical evidence that an Oakland County crime lab is now processing.

They continue to search for suspects whose grainy images were captured on security cameras.

An image shows one

of the suspects wearing dark clothing with light colors at the collar and sleeves and a baseball cap turned backwards.

Another is wearing athletic pants with a long drawstring and striping down the sides. He is wearing a North Face or Adidas hooded sweatshirt with the hood pulled over his head.

The last suspect wore dark-framed, colored glasses, Air Jordan 11 shoes and a winter ski cap with a pom-pom on the top.

Police and school officials were not immediately available for further details.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Dan Caldwell, 248-684-1815. He also can be reached at [dcaldwell@milfordpolice.com](mailto:dcaldwell@milfordpolice.com).

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

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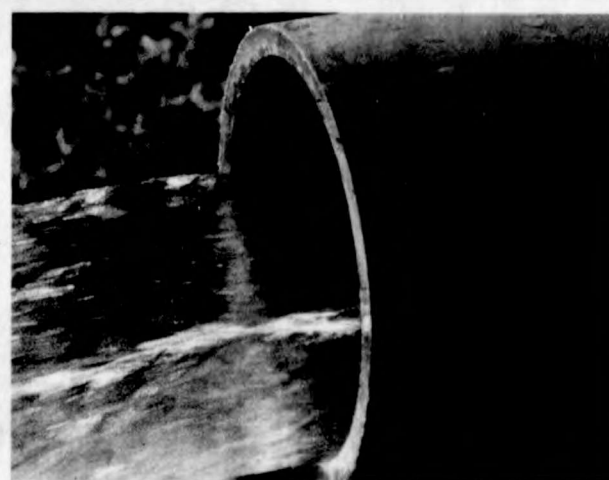
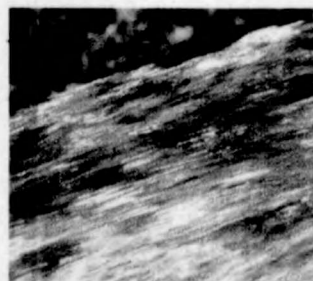
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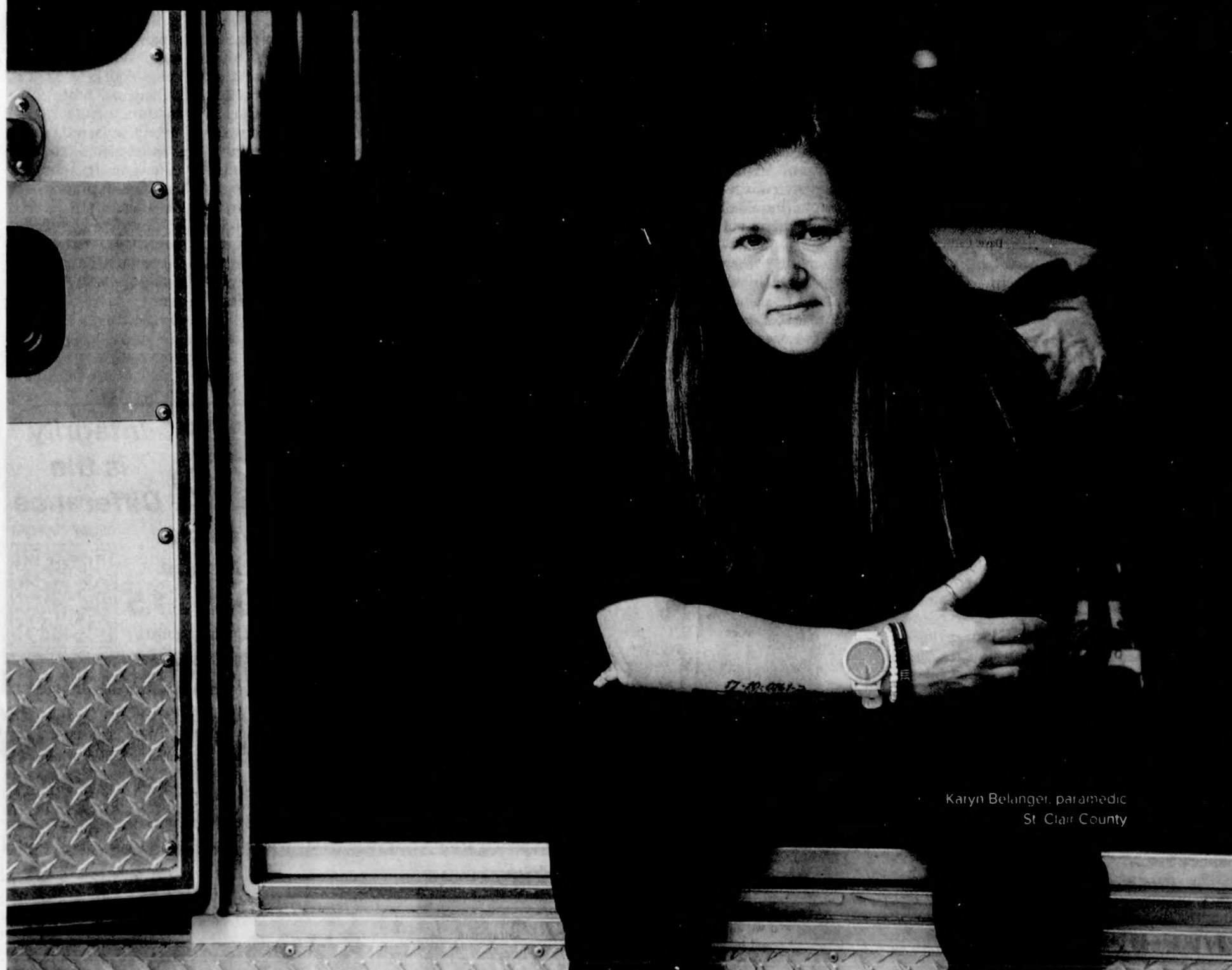
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Karyn Belanger, paramedic  
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## The Michigan Elder Law Reporter™

SEPTEMBER 2021

31 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 9.2

THEY DO NOT HATE YOU; THEY DESPISE YOU

### "CONTEMPTIBLE IDIOTS WHO ARE KIND OF EVIL"

CLOWNS ARE LEADING THE PARADE WHILE YOU DO THE WORK

Ever wonder what elite experts think about you? Probably not. You have a life to live. Bills to pay. Kids to raise. Grandchildren to spoil. You are busy. Lots of stuff going on. And yet. You cannot help noticing that things are not what they should be. Or used to be.



David Carrier

"SOME IDEAS ARE SO STUPID THAT ONLY INTELLECTUALS BELIEVE THEM."

GEORGE ORWELL



You expect politicians to be hypocrites. Tell you to do one thing, while they do the opposite. Wear masks! Except at my fundraiser/birthday party/hairdresser. No riots... stay between the velvet ropes! Unless you are firebombing federal courthouses, shooting commercial fireworks at police officers, or assaulting people in cars. By the way, shoplifting is A-OK! And rent is optional.

Everybody knows university professors are out of touch. Their job is to think Great Thoughts. Re-segregate campuses on racial lines. Tear down, cover up, or suppress politically incorrect art, speech, thought. In Madison, Wisconsin, they are removing a landmark boulder from campus, at great expense, because someone, about a hundred years ago, may have used a racial epithet in referring to that boulder. Harvard's new chaplain is a loud and proud atheist (Let that sink in.). Insist that fairness requires women athletes to compete with "twig and berries" athletes who "identify" otherwise. Even at the Olympics.



Still, you expected more of military leaders, but... Abandon the guys who helped us fight for the last 20 years. Overnight. Slander our foreign allies who lost 70,000 dead. Abandon hundreds of billions of dollars in advanced weaponry, aircraft, ammunition, electronics, and military installations to folks who want to kill us. A/k/a bad guys. The same bad guys who also, by the way, want to subjugate the population. Again. And export terror. Again. Meanwhile, the British and the French (the French!!) rescue their civilians, while the 82nd Airborne is ordered to stand down and leave American citizens to their fate. Stupefying. (Unless you know any British or French soldiers.)

"If YOU WOULD ONLY RECOGNIZE THAT LIFE IS HARD, THINGS WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER FOR YOU."

LOUIS D. BRANDEIS

You and I know that the world is a harsh place. Making the right decisions is a challenge. Follow through is tough. We make mistakes. Do things wrong. Take our lumps. Accept responsibility. Apologize. Fix it. And move on. Do better next time. Results. No excuses. Yes, it is difficult. But you do it anyway because that is what it takes. For you. But not for them.

Some folks rise high in academia, corporate culture, and government. Smart people who punched their tickets at Harvard, Yale, and other prestigious institutions. They did work hard to punch those tickets. Scrambling to the top of the heap is not easy, simple, or fair. And now they never make mistakes. They fell into the trap. They believe what is said about them. Surrounded by an impenetrable cocoon of adoring supporters, reality does not bite, it does not even bark.

Military fiasco? Fire the lieutenants, captains, majors. Give medals to the colonels and generals. Political disaster? No worries! If you are of the correct persuasion, it never happened. If they cannot cover it up, biased media will bend over backwards to make excuses. Educational calamity? Cannot read, write, do math, think? Eliminate honor roll. Close "elite" high schools. Erase standards.

Ever wonder how the people doing these things can live with themselves? Puzzling, isn't it? You do not need me to tell you things are bad. Look out the window. Yes, your news sources are controlled. Directly and indirectly. Mostly by herd instinct. Wrong opinion? Get cancelled. No Tweets for You! No Facebook either. Too bad that some things are too big to cover up entirely. Afghanistan. COVID. January 6. Ongoing riots.

If you failed at your job as enormously as these folks, the "elite experts" fail, you would be on your knees praying for forgiveness. Which is why you never will fail so completely. You have the gift of humility. Humanity.

We all count on one another to grow the food, pump the oil, mine the coal, keep the electricity on, stock the shelves, build the houses, fix the cars, fill the teeth, engineer the bridges, pave the roads, replace the knees, administer the medicine, rehabilitate the sick, research the cures... We work hard, but who's complaining? The people who are better than you. They are complaining. You annoy them. They must put up with you. They do not like it.

Arrogance and blindness. Human frailties. They go together and we all suffer from them. But when arrogance and blindness overwhelm common sense, practicality, and basic decency... well, sometimes you get a book! Like this one:

#### HOW TO TALK TO A SCIENCE DENIER

CONVERSATIONS WITH FLAT EARTHERS, CLIMATE DENIERS AND OTHERS WHO DENY REASON

LEE MCINTYRE, MIT PRESS

Professor McIntyre has a distinguished resume. Harvard. Boston University. Wesleyan University. University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) (of course!), Tufts. A genuine, certificated, credentialed smart person. Deep thinker. Author. Honored intellectual. Candid, too.



Unlike some other experts, he wants to talk to you. Show you the errors of your ways. In his book, he "shows that anyone can fight back against science deniers." Courageous! The professor "use[s] his persuasive powers as a philosopher to convert" you. And he wants to teach like-minded others how to do the same. In his promotional material there is a good bit of blather about dealing with folks like us "calmly and respectfully." A U of M professor who reviewed the work agrees. She thinks he is a champion of "listening respectfully, discussing science patiently, and fostering interpersonal trust." Too bad she did not read the book.

Fortunately, our hero is not content with winking to his audience. He drops the mask in the book. You do not have to wonder what he thinks of you, he tells you:

"When speaking to a contemptible idiot who is kind of evil, don't call them a contemptible idiot who is kind of evil! Many contemptible idiots find that language insulting."

Wow. Way to "foster interpersonal trust"! Just lie to the rubes. They will never notice. Just be polite. Unless you just cannot stand being polite to contemptible idiots who are kind of evil.

"When speaking to them, we should remember that it is an insult to use the word 'anti-vaxxer.'"

One reviewer then counted "109 uses of the term 'anti-vaxx' in the book." Interspersed with calls to civility are his true feelings. Your skepticism? Nothing more than "ridiculous conspiracy theories and partisan nonsense". Thank you, professor!

Professor M did do some real field work. Went to an airport hotel. Spoke with Flat Earth Society members. At their convention. Well.

Out of 330 million Americans, he found the few needles in the haystack who think the world is flat. Or at least claim to think it's flat. Hey, it's a club. Perhaps a little common sense is in order. Don't people join clubs for lots of reasons? I have heard of another club claiming direct descent from the stoneworkers who built the pyramids. George Washington was a member. Quick, get the fact-checkers!

But mostly, the good professor deceives himself, and his chosen audience, by describing absurdly extreme caricatures. He then beats up on those false images. COVID deniers. Anti-vaxxers. Global warming deniers. So much denial! Plus a GMO skeptic. Not sure how he fits in.

It is the sort of thing I remember from freshman year dormitory BS sessions at Notre Dame. Supreme confidence. Argumentative skill. Closed mind. Strawman Fallacy in Technicolor. Or Kodachrome.

You say, so what? Gifters gotta gift. Academic authors must flatter their audience. One more book catering to "intellectuals" invulnerable, insufferable notions of themselves as the good and wise. What else is new?

But Professor M has done us a huge service. Without his candid revelations, you might wonder "Just how do they think about us?" The mystery is over. Case closed. The "Let's talk" psychobabble is an amateurish smokescreen.

This is how the clowns got to lead the parade. We believed what they were saying. But they did not believe it themselves. We were conned. It was always a confidence game. They do not hate you. They do not respect you enough for that. They despise you, you contemptible idiot who is kind of evil.

Look around and see the consequences.

NEVER COMPLAIN AND  
NEVER EXPLAIN

BENJAMIN DISRAELI

The hour is late. There is no time to complain. Professor M would just write another book. But

we are not helpless, and we are not hopeless. Have we faced worse than this? I do not know. What I do know is that it is up to us to make it right, one family, your family, at a time.

What does it have to do with Elder Law? Quite a bit.

The federal government says long-term care awaits 70% of Americans aged 65 or older. Three-year average length of care. And for 1-in-5, that three-year average goes to more than five years. Who pays for this care? You do. You did. Every paycheck. Every health insurance premium payment.

We, the middle class, bear the greatest burden of long-term care. Can you pay \$12,000 per month without strain? Congratulations! I'd call you rich. Is paying \$12,000 per month a joke because you don't have two nickels? Don't worry... we will pay for you.

Does a \$12,000 per month bill make you sick to your stomach because it means losing the security of lifesavings? Don't you wish you had a cottage or cabin to sell. Wouldn't it be nice if there were an extra car or truck to trade for a month of long-term care? But all you have are the CDs and life insurance you managed to scrape out of the grocery, heating, and car bills. And when it is all gone? Now you are broke. Your choices do not matter. You get what they feel like giving you.

Isn't it obvious? Middle class families are targeted by long-term care costs. Savings evaporate. Grandparents helping grandchildren... Prohibited, Penalized.

Professor M has done you an enormous favor. Learn his lesson. You thought you were saving for your own retirement and then to offer a stepstool for the next generation. They have other ideas.

LifePlanning™ keeps the American Dream alive. LifePlanning™ rejects Nursing Home Poverty. LifePlanning™ preserves your hard-earned dollars to serve your spouse, you, and the next generations. You earned it. You paid in. You did the right things.

And now they want you broke. Dispirited. Discredited. Dependent. Why do they want you a beggar? Because beggars are easier to please.

Must you go broke? Can you preserve what you have earned, protect what you value? Yes, you can. LifePlanning™ preserves your savings. LifePlanning™ does not create wealth, you did that. I know it wasn't easy. LifePlanning™ makes the rules work for people who play by the rules. That is you.

Maybe thousands of LifePlanning™ Michigan families are wrong. Perhaps the thousands who have received long-term care benefits while preserving their life's work are mistaken. It is possible that just want to surrender. Give up. Wave the white flag. That is OK. Personal Choice.

Or maybe the hundreds of millions in homes, farms, and other assets protected by LifePlanning™ Michigan families will preserve and strengthen our middle-class values. For you. For the next generation.

Think about it? Not enough. Those who wish to tear down America are acting. So should you. Find out how. Ask questions. Get answers. LifePlan™ Workshops are available on-line and in person. Don't look back with regret. Face the future with hope and confidence.

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## Beware of scammers on various social media sites



**Rick Bloom**  
Columnist

It wasn't too long ago if you said social media most people would have no idea what you were talking about. Fast forward to today, when you talk about social media most people know exactly what you're talking about. Whether it's Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn, more and more of us are using social media.

As more and more people use social media, unfortunately the scam artists are also following suit and have started to use social media as a way to implement their scams.

Over the last few weeks I have read a number of disturbing articles about people who have fallen victim to scams involving social media. These scams include identity theft and investment scams. Whatever the platform, the scam artists have determined that social media is fertile territory for scams. Because of this, when we use social media, we should never forget to keep our guard up.

I wish I could tell you how to avoid scams on social media, but I can't. These scams are taking a number of different

forms, and there is no one thing you can do to avoid them. However, like other types of scams where the crooks use emails or phone calls, being reasonable and using common sense is probably the best way of protecting yourself. One scam that is happening more and more frequently is one that is known as phishing. Phishing is where scam artists do what they can to obtain your private personal information such as social security numbers, passwords and usernames. Once they have this information, they can wreak havoc on your finances.

The latest phishing scam uses Twitter. In this scenario, the scam artist steals a Twitter account and sends a message with a link that sends someone to a Twitter login page. Unfortunately, that Twitter login page is not actually hosted by Twitter, but rather by the scam artist. Therefore, when you enter your information, it doesn't go to Twitter, it goes to the crooks. What makes the scam successful is the fact that the pages you link to look very legitimate; however, they are not.

How do you avoid being taken advantage by a scam such as this? It's difficult; however, the consequences of falling for a scam will make life even more difficult. The bottom line is you have to be very careful as to what you link to. Always remember when it comes to sensitive information, just because someone asks for it doesn't mean you have to give it to them.

Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites are also being used for investment scams. People are putting information on these sites touting all sorts of investments and ways to double or even triple your money without risk. It is amazing how many people fall for these scams.

It doesn't matter whether it's a website, social media or someone at a cocktail party. The bottom line is that when someone starts touting all sorts of fantastic returns on an investment, that's a sign you should walk away. Doing your homework and checking out an investment using multiple sources is a way to protect yourself.

I admit I don't use social media; I am somewhat of a dinosaur. However, the reality is more and more people are using it and eventually I am sure I will as well. My advice if you are going to use social media is to take it for what it is and have fun with it; however, remember when you use it to never let your guard down.

Good luck.  
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is [www.bloomadvisors.com](http://www.bloomadvisors.com). If you would like him to respond to your questions, email [rick@bloomadvisors.com](mailto:rick@bloomadvisors.com).

## Novi man dies in I-96 highway shooting

**Susan Vela**

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Novi man died in an apparent targeted shooting along Interstate 96, near Southfield Freeway, according to Michigan State Police.

State troopers tweeted Sept. 6 that patrolling Detroit police officers located a vehicle pierced with bullet holes that afternoon near I-96 and Greenfield Road, which is east of Southfield Freeway.

Detroit first responders transported the driver, 25, to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

A preliminary investigation involved a witness who heard shots fired on the freeway and then saw the victim exit at Greenfield Road.

No other information is available. Anyone with information should call 734-287-5000.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at [svela@hometownlife.com](mailto:svela@hometownlife.com) or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

## Plans move forward for rooftop deck at Northville bar

**David Veselenak**

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville recently took one more step to having a rooftop deck at one of its most prominent restaurants.

Plans continue to move forward to add a deck atop Exchange Bar & Grill, 157 E. Main St., with recent approvals helping move the project along.

The city's planning commission heard and reviewed the plans during a virtual meeting held Aug. 17 to add a deck to the top of the restaurant on the corner of Main and East Dunlap streets, which could house nearly 50 seats for guests looking to dine outside on the second floor in the open-air concept.

The plans call for stairs to lead up to the rooftop deck once completed. Robb Burroughs, an Ann Arbor-based architect working on the project, said it's planned to have guests go up one set of stairs and down another set to better accommodate the flow of traffic inside the building.

"It's truly intended for single path egress off the roof itself," he said.

The issue of people moving from the lower level to the top level was one Commissioner Steve Kirk wanted to know more about, especially to keep the space at the required number of people by fire code, which is 49.

The bar's owner, Grant Baidas, said he planned on having the entrance steps upstairs next to staff to help keep the rooftop from becoming too full at any one time.

"There will be signage. That's why we had the hostess stand at the access point going upstairs," he said. "We'll have communication and we'll have staffing to make sure that 49 number isn't exceeded."

The planning commission opted to recommend approval on both the preliminary and final site plans during its meetings. Baidas previously told Hometown Life he hoped to begin work on the deck later this year to be ready for the 2022 season.

The restaurant reopened in the spring under the new name of Exchange Bar & Grill. Formerly Poole's Tavern, Baidas purchased the business and made several interior improvements inside before planning to add the rooftop deck.

The project was first reviewed by the planning commission back in March when

it was still under the Poole's Tavern name. The rooftop deck is the second phase of work planned at the restaurant: the first phase remodeled the interior of the restaurant before it opened earlier this spring.

The plans received praise from several members, including Kirk, who reminded Baidas that he originally voted "no" on plans earlier this year. But seeing revisions made to the plan, he said he was happy to see it move forward.

"This plan is even better," he said. "All my questions I had written down ... I have no further comments or concerns."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

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# Escape to the shores to find beauty, adventure, and peace

Alyssa Keown

Battle Creek Enquirer  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An overcast sky is rarely enough to keep Michiganders from enjoying the beaches of their Great Lakes.

As sunlight poked its way through silver clouds in mid-June, the McKinney children chased each other in the sand, scaling rocks that surround South Pierhead Lighthouse in South Haven.

"For us, the lake brings our family together," said their mother, Jasmine Reynolds. "All of them are so different, but the lake allows us all to bond and enjoy our differences while building memories we all can share."

Building Great Lakes memories are a staple of Michigan life. This photo essay, created by USA TODAY Network - Michigan photographers Alyssa Keown, Matthew Dae Smith, Robert Killips, Brian Wells and John Heider is a visual love letter to our salt-less wonders.



Exposed roots of a cottonwood tree lie at the edge of the Lake Erie's water at William C. Sterling State Park in Monroe. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Lake Erie

The Rodney Dangerfield of the Great Lakes, Lake Erie gets no respect. Or at least not as much respect or awe as the other three large bodies of water that border the Mitten.

That's just fine with Erie's devotees. It's the blue collar boy of the Great Lakes: hard-working, basic, gets the job done.

It's appropriately a quick drive from Detroit and its suburbs.

At William C. Sterling State Park near Monroe, visitors can enjoy a day of a sandy beach shaded by giant cottonwood trees, swim in the lake's gently lapping waves along its shore and then fire up a grill for some brats.

## Lake Michigan

"Peace, tranquility, fun, great memories - those words immediately come to mind when asked what the lake means to me," says Jennafer VandeVegte of Kentwood.

She and her husband were married at their family lake house on Scenic Drive overlooking Lake Michigan in North Muskegon 20 years ago.

"There's so many memories here," the Pennsylvania native says. "The lake is a great escape, it's a place to relax and

recharge, and take in the full beauty Michigan has to offer."

## Lake Superior

The beauty of Lake Superior draws in people from all over.

People who want to swim, play, boat or just take in the vistas while walking along its pristine beaches.

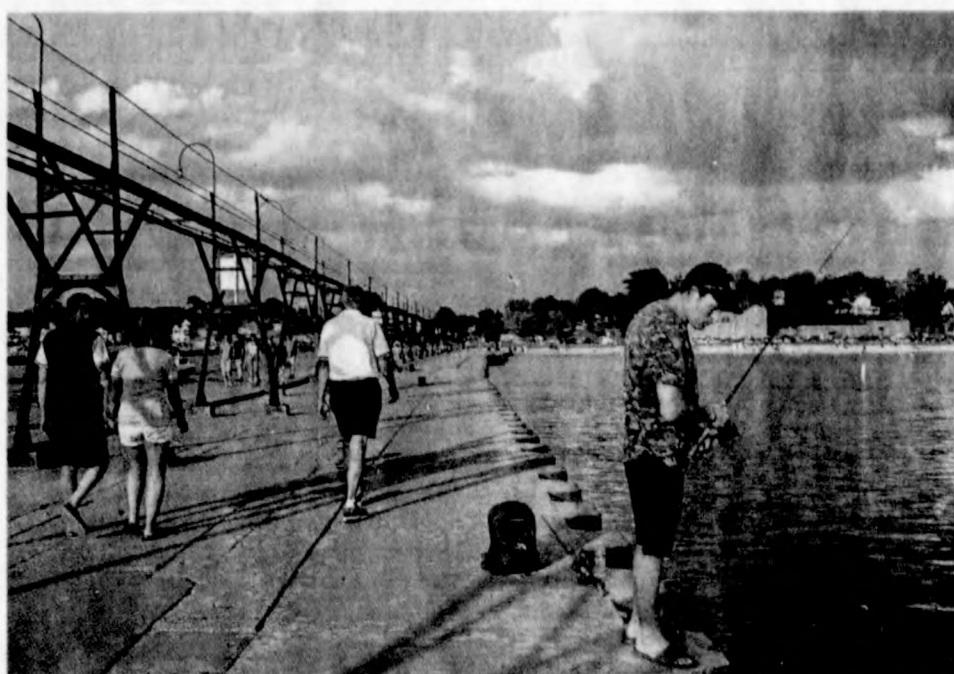
Shannon Morrison of Waterberry, Vermont, her traveling companion Leia, a rescued mixed breed, took a summer camping trip, visiting all of the Great Lakes with Superior being the last one.

## Lake Huron

On any given day during the warmer months, a plethora of different boats can be seen heading to and from Lake Huron on the St. Clair River in Port Huron.

Fishermen can be seen on the blue waters of the lake from the time the sun rises until long after it sets. On a windy day, sailboats with their colorful spinners dot the horizon.

Ah, pure Michigan summer.



Rahman Akrami fishes off the pier in June at South Beach in South Haven, Mich. ALYSSA KEOWN



Amber Bithell and Scott Barkhurst hang out on the shore of Lake Erie at William C. Sterling Park on July 22. Bithell said: "For the past couple of years I've been doing vacations around Michigan, but there's so much beauty right here. We have access to fresh water and great beaches." Barkhurst added: "We both forget about this great place we have here. There's a lot of childhood memories from here and it's a beautiful day, so why not?" JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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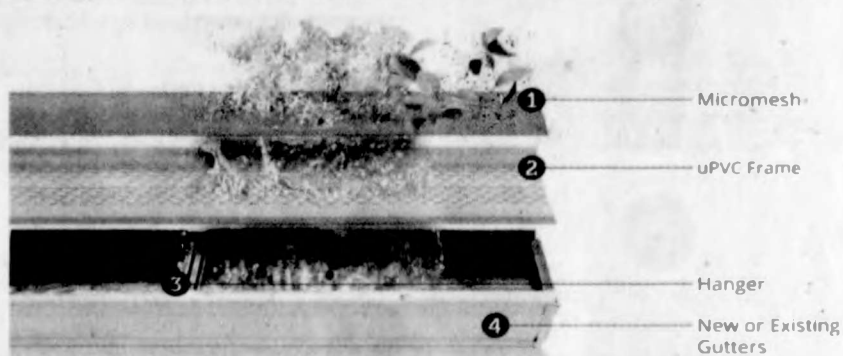
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## Motorcycle shop opens first Michigan store in Novi

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There's a new place to ride to for those needed motorcycle accessories.

Cycle Gear opened its first Michigan location this summer in Novi. Located at 26020 Ingersol Drive, in the Novi Town Center shopping center, it's a space dedicated to all things riding, from dirt bikes to Yamahas.

"They're nationwide. They have been in the process of finding new locations that would be good for us and good for the riders there," said Jonathan Nick, the store manager. "There are plenty of people in Michigan that I've seen and spoken to that never really shopped elsewhere besides Michigan for motorcycles. So they've never really seen anything like this."

The shop occupies the space formerly held by Charming Charlie, which closed after that company closed all of its stores nationwide in 2019.

The California-based company has more than 160 stores across the country, with others in neighboring Midwest states such as Ohio and Iowa. There are plenty of items for all types of riders, including more than 400 styles of helmets on the back wall, safety gear, basic maintenance items and more. They can also do simple tasks, such as mounting and balancing tires, as well as assist with helmet fittings.

"We do a little bit of everything the best we can," Nick said.

Since opening, Nick said they've been received well by riders looking for a store



District manager Greg Wilson picks up a Corsair motorcycle helmet at Novi's Cycle Gear on Aug. 26, 2021. The custom helmet retails for \$899. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

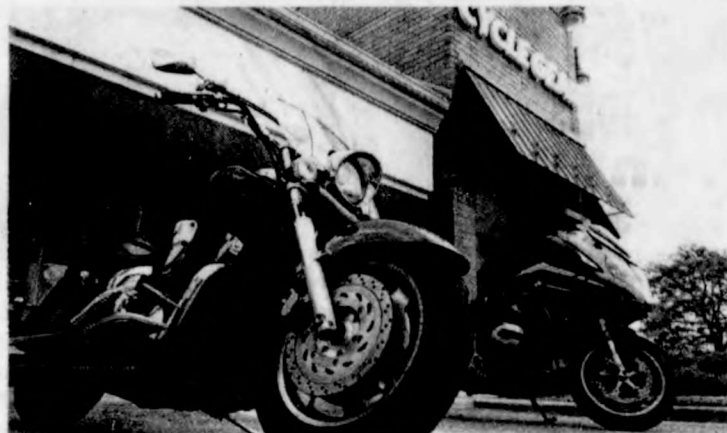
like theirs. Not having a lot of other shops like Cycle Gear in the area, as well as the central location accessible to riders from various communities, has made the shop a destination.

"The welcome has been extremely warm," Nick said. "We've been doing very, very well for ourselves out here."

Nick, who came to Michigan after working at another Cycle Gear in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, said the company had worked for several months to get the store ready to open.

The shop is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the week and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. More information can be found at [cyclegear.com](http://cyclegear.com).

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com) or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



Cycle Gear at 26020 Ingersol Dr. in Novi. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## DTE to spend \$70M more on tree trimming to prevent power outages

Frank Witsell

Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

DTE Energy — which is under fire from customers, consumer groups, municipal leaders, the state attorney general, governor and utility regulators — announced it is spending \$70 million more to remove trees and trim branches to curb power outages.

In addition, DTE President and CEO Jerry Norcia vowed the power company "will do what it takes to protect Michiganders from power outages caused by catastrophic storms and extreme weather patterns."

The announcement comes nearly two weeks after DTE said it "voluntarily issued" \$100 credits as a one-time courtesy to business and residential customers who lost power for several days.

This summer, customers and consumer groups have been demanding better service from the utility, and sharply criticized what it considered high rates and executive compensation, and low reliability.

"For years now, our residential rates have been skyrocketing, eating up more of family budgets, and yet all we get is more blackouts, longer outage times, and less reliability," Bob Allison, deputy director for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said.

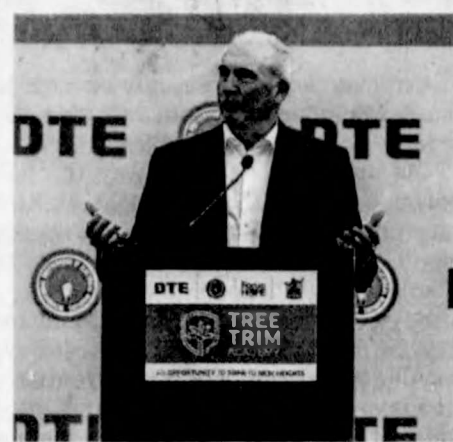
In its announcement, DTE said trees are responsible for almost all of the time DTE customers are without power during extremely high wind events.

But in areas where trees have been trimmed, outages were down, on average, 60%.

Norcia said the company "tripled our tree-trimming effort and doubled our infrastructure upgrades several years ago," when it began to see more severe weather patterns. However, he added, the weather the state faced this summer "is something we have never experienced."

As a result, he said, the company is investing another \$70 million into tree trimming, in addition to the \$190 million budgeted for tree trimming, and it would not affect customers' bills.

DTE has about 2.2 million custom-



Jerry Norcia, president and CEO of DTE Energy, at a June 3, 2021 event unveiling the new Tree Trimming Academy, which is training people for much needed tree trimming jobs. PROVIDED BY DTE

ers across southeast Michigan.

Putting the power lines in the ground is about six times the cost of installing overhead lines, and the cost to bury the thousands of miles of overhead electrical lines would cost \$25 to \$30 billion, according to DTE.

The power company added that this summer, it faced five tornadoes and eight storms with wind gusts of 39-74 mph. The high winds and water led to uprooted trees, which also pulled down wires and poles.

After the Aug. 11 storm alone, DTE said crews replaced 450 broken poles.

But many customers — and some community leaders — have taken to social media to publicly question why DTE has such a poor reliability record, and to complain that when their power goes out for several days, all DTE offers is a paltry \$25 credit.

Novi Mayor Bob Gatt and City Manager Pete Auger, along with other city officials, met on Aug. 23 with representatives from DTE Energy to discuss issues and how to resolve them.

"I think it was good," Auger said of the meeting in which short-term and long-term solutions were discussed. "You can't stop storms. If you try to get in the way of Mother Nature, she'll knock you over. But it's the frequency and duration of these outages we want to fix."

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## Defense gives Novi boys soccer confidence

Holds Canton scoreless

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After holding Canton scoreless through the first 40 minutes of play, Novi's defenders still found something to talk about at halftime.

The Wildcats felt like they allowed too many open looks: a corner kick that Novi ended up saving, a header by junior Riley Genthe off a free kick lob.

Novi head boys soccer coach Todd Pheiffer preaches perfection in the back. The scoring will come by itself, but if the Wildcats can hold teams in the KLAA West scoreless, then they are already on the path of a deep playoff run.

"Our defenders take pride in that," Pheiffer said. "Even when they give up a

scoring opportunity, they are upset by that. They get together. They talk."

Novi (3-0-1) held Canton (4-3-2) scoreless, recording its second-straight shutout: a 2-0 road win for the Wildcats to keep them undefeated early on in 2021.

All of Canton's scoring chances in the second half came either from fouls or corner kicks: all of which were stopped by junior goalkeeper Ryan Zotkovich. None came over the course of natural play.

But the defense had its share of momentum. Novi kept Northville — currently ranked as the No. 1 Division 1 team in the state by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association — scoreless, recording a scoreless draw Sept. 2.

But this is nothing new for Pheiffer.

See SOCCER, Page 2B



Saurav Sett, left, tries to keep Canton Chief Nicholas Hatsios from the ball as he enters Canton's zone.

JOHN HEIDER/  
HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Livonia Churchill football upsets Belleville, makes statement



Livonia Churchill QB Taj Williams still gains some yards even after his helmet was ripped off by a Belleville Tiger. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

This is the game Taj Williams came back to Livonia Churchill for.

The senior quarterback took possession with 2:17 to go in the game, holding on to a one-touchdown lead against Belleville: the No. 1 team in the state. All he needed was a first down.

First snap: Williams handed the ball to senior running back Boston Clegg Jr. Seven yards. Second snap: Williams hands off to Clegg again, breaking through to the left sideline, getting the first down and more, getting enough to ignite pandemonium.

Williams looked relieved, but scattered, not knowing how to react to this jubilee. He took the final kneel and

started running. It seemed aimless, a physical example of where his mind was. Hugging players and coaches, the senior quarterback continued to shake his head.

"This is unreal, man."

All of Churchill's goals became real Friday night. The Chargers (3-0) got over that hump they had sought after for the past three seasons, beating Belleville (2-1), 28-21, at home for their first win against the Tigers in school history.

Head coach Bill DeFillippo sensed a different team at practice this week. It was a team that was focused, focused solely on itself and not who was coming into their home field. It was a team that was ready to go. But DeFillippo still didn't know what that would mean against a Tigers roster filled with

Division 1-bound players.

"I didn't know if it would be enough even if we played our best, but I'm so proud of our guys," DeFillippo said. "Just so many guys battling."

Williams leads revenge tour

Tied 14-all at the end of the first half, Williams had a chance to show what Belleville missed out on.

The Churchill senior quarterback played for the Tigers as a freshman before transferring to Churchill as a sophomore. Taking the ball with 4:10 to go, Williams led the offense slowly and methodically down the field; no real big plays, something DeFillippo said was uncharacteristic of this of-

See FOOTBALL, Page 2B

## Four Michigan high school football questions ahead of Week 4

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan high school football season is in full swing, and certain Hometown Life area teams' season outlooks are beginning to take shape.

But more challenges and questions await in Week 4. Here are a few storylines to watch heading into Friday night.

How will South Lyon respond to its latest test?

South Lyon really hasn't had any trouble early on in 2021.

With loads of experience on both sides of the ball, the Lions have outscored Walled Lake Western, Milford and Walled Lake Central, 142-41. The South Lyon offense, with Dawson Skupin at quarterback and loads of experience at its skill positions, has scored more than 40 points in each of its three games, something it did four times in 2019.

So what will happen when the Lions take on Detroit Country Day, the reigning Division 4 state champion?

The Yellowjackets have allowed eight points all season and have not allowed more than 40 points in a game since their loss to Grand Rapids Catholic Central in the 2019 Division 4 final.

But while South Lyon and Detroit Country Day's paths will not cross again in the playoffs — South Lyon is a Division 2 program — it provides an opportunity to see where the Lions stack up against a team that has reached the mountaintop.

Can Livonia Churchill win the KLAA?

There wasn't much more of a statement that Churchill could make.

Hosting Belleville — the team many view as No. 1 in the state — at home in the third game of the season, the Chargers shut down the Tigers offense, doing just enough to beat them for the first time in school history.

So how does Churchill respond? It should not be too difficult in the next few weeks, facing Wayne Memorial and Dearborn before starting its quest for a city championship against Livonia Franklin. The next true test it seems will be Oct. 8 against Fordson, a team that has shown

See QUESTIONS, Page 2B





# Hometown Life's Michigan high school football picks: Week 4

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

Michigan high school football teams are now in the thick of the 2021 season.

Each week, sports reporter Colin Gay, sports contributor Ben Szilagyi

and editor Phil Allmen pick a handful of high school football games in a given week to see who can be the most correct.

Here's a look at which Hometown Life teams we picked to win in Week 4. *Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.*

## Hometown Life Staff Football Picks: Week 4

Sports reporter Colin Gay, sports contributor Ben Szilagyi and editor Phil Allmen make their weekly picks, battling against the mighty coin flip to see who finishes with the best record.

Games (home team listed first)	Colin Gay	Ben Szilagyi	Phil Allmen	John Heider
Livonia Churchill vs. Wayne Memorial	Livonia Churchill	Livonia Churchill	Livonia Churchill	Livonia Churchill
Dearborn Fordson vs. Livonia Franklin	Dearborn Fordson	Dearborn Fordson	Livonia Franklin	Dearborn Fordson
Belleville vs. Livonia Stevenson	Belleville	Belleville	Belleville	Livonia Stevenson
John Glenn vs. Dearborn	Dearborn	Dearborn	Dearborn	Dearborn
Northville vs. Canton	Canton	Northville	Northville	Canton
Novi vs. Brighton	Brighton	Brighton	Brighton	Novi
Plymouth vs. Howell	Howell	Howell	Howell	Howell
Hartland vs. Salem	Hartland	Hartland	Salem	Hartland
Brother Rice vs. De La Salle	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	Brother Rice	De La Salle
Detroit Catholic Central vs. U-D Jesuit	Detroit Catholic Central	Detroit Catholic Central	Detroit Catholic Central	Detroit Catholic Central
Milford vs. Walled Lake Central	Milford	Milford	Walled Lake Central	Walled Lake Central
South Lyon vs. Detroit Country Day	South Lyon	Detroit Country Day	Detroit Country Day	South Lyon
South Lyon East vs. Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Western	Walled Lake Western	South Lyon East
Lakeland vs. Waterford Mott	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland	Waterford Mott
Seaholm vs. Groves	Groves	Seaholm	Seaholm	Groves
Oak Park vs. North Farmington	North Farmington	North Farmington	North Farmington	Oak Park
Auburn Hills Avondale vs. Bloomfield Hills	Bloomfield Hills	Bloomfield Hills	Bloomfield Hills	Bloomfield Hills
Farmington vs. Troy	Troy	Farmington	Troy	Farmington
Last Week's Record:	15-2	13-4	12-5	10-7
Season Record:	41-12	39-14	34-19	32-21

## Questions

Continued from Page 1B

dominance through the first three games of the year: beating each opponent by at least 15 points.

But will a veteran roster including RB/LB Boston Clegg Jr., CB/WR Joshua Brown and QB Taj Williams be able to lead Churchill to success despite the expectations now? It remains to be seen, but it seems as though this is something head coach Bill DeFillippo and the rest of the Chargers have been building to over the past two seasons.

### Will a rivalry game turn Seaholm, Groves seasons around?

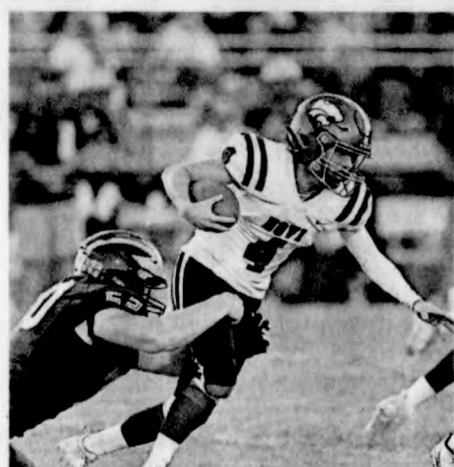
Birmingham public school football has not been good in 2021.

Coming off of three straight winning seasons and playoff appearances, Seaholm has not been able to find its groove, allowing 121 points through its first three games while only scoring 48 in three losses to Byron Center, Clarkston and Rochester.

Groves has been worse, actually, scoring 15 total points against Dexter and Southfield A&T combined before being shutout against North Farmington. In that time, the defense has allowed an average of 40.7 points per game.

Since Groves' seven-game win streak against Seaholm ended in the 2019 district final, the rivalry has been close: splitting the season series in 2020 with each game decided by less than 10 points. It will be interesting to see how much momentum the winner of this rivalry gets from a win.

### Does Novi's early-season success have staying power?



**Hartland's Benathan Deman brings down Novi quarterback Luke Aurilia.**

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The schedule for the start of the Jim Sparks era at Novi has been extremely friendly for the Wildcats.

Both of Novi's first two wins this season were against Wayne Memorial and Salem: two teams that combined for four wins since the 2018 season. But the Wildcats have still delivered, beating both teams by a combined score of 65-12.

However, if you look at the offensive stats further, you can see that trouble could be coming for the Wildcats. Despite earning wins in each game, Novi was out-gained by Salem and Wayne Memorial in each contest, recording only one more first down than the Zebras in the season opener and two less than Salem in Week 3.

The back-to-back weeks of Brighton and Canton should be telling of who Novi is in the long run.

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

## Lakeland football looks to week 4 after Walled Lake Western game canceled

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

After two wins to start the 2021 season, Lakeland football's season was paused heading into Week 3.

The Eagles' third-week matchup with Walled Lake Western was canceled.

The Eagles found out about the cancellation at the start of last week. The Eagles had been rolling, starting the season with

two victories, outscoring Waterford Kettering and Walled Lake Central, 97-33.

After a Week 1 loss to South Lyon, a short-handed Walled Lake Western squeaked out a victory against Walled Lake Northern in Week 2.

Lakeland's next contest is scheduled for Sept. 17 against Waterford Mott, while Walled Lake Western is scheduled to take on South Lyon East on the road in Week 4.

*Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.*

## Football

Continued from Page 1B

fense.

With six seconds left on the clock, Williams found himself with time for something special.

Facing a 2nd-and-Goal from the 6-yard line, the senior threw up a pass that was swatted at the line of scrimmage, but landed in the hands of senior Bailey Brooks at the back of the end zone to take a lead the Chargers never let up.

"We don't care who's on the other side of the ball. It doesn't matter if they are going D1 or not, how many stars they got," Williams said. "If we stick together as a team and a unit, and a brotherhood — what we preach at practice and preached all summer — we can beat anybody. We can go as long as we want."

It was an offense that relied heavily on the run, utilizing the legs of Williams and Clegg to combine for 208 yards on the ground, including two touchdowns for the latter.

All 95 of Williams' pass yards game in the first half along with both passing touchdowns: the six-yard grab by Brooks and 13-yard pass to A'Mareon Jackson.

### Charger defense shuts down Belleville

While Williams had to send a message to the No. 1 team in the state, the Churchill defense had to send a message to the rest of their schedule: watch out.

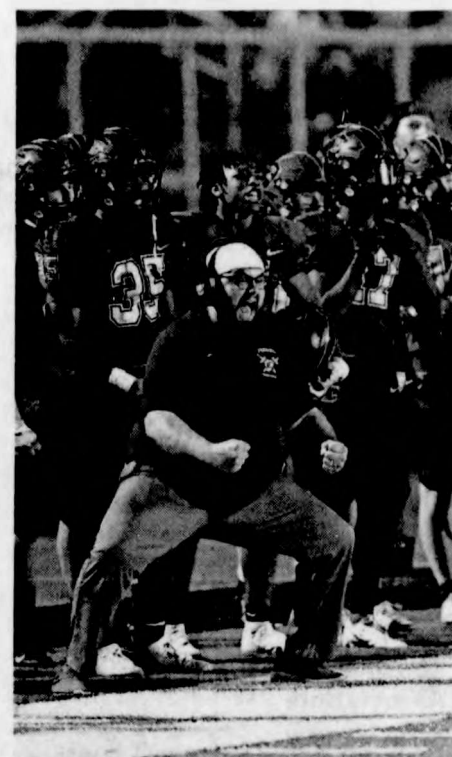
Heading into the game, DeFillippo said that the goal was to swarm Belleville freshman quarterback Bryce Underwood, getting him off balance and making him uncomfortable.

Using a defensive line that had four seniors — three of which are three-year starters — the Chargers did just that: sacking Underwood four times, including twice by junior linebacker Malachi Bratton.

"We had a lot of things we needed to clean up," DeFillippo said of a defensive unit that allowed 54 points in its first two games. "We didn't play well defensively the first few weeks. We moved a couple of guys around and our defensive coaches did a great job tonight."

"But really for us, we tried to turn it into being about us and control whatever we can control: your focus at practice, your effort at practice, how you prepare for the game Sunday through Thursday and get ready to go."

Churchill kept the Belleville offense at bay, allowing 36 yards on the ground total.



**A Churchill coach and the bench celebrates a stop against Belleville late in the game.** JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### It's Churchill's time

Clegg has seen it all.

Starting at running back and line-backer for the Chargers in each the last two seasons, the senior saw the potential. He watched that potential evaporate: a one-score loss to Walled Lake Western in the 2019 regional final, a one-score loss to Oak Park in the 2020 regional final.

Churchill has always been right there.

But as the Chargers celebrated, Clegg looked back at where this program came from, where this group of players that had been playing together for years came from.

Churchill beat the No. 1 team in the state. Churchill now sees itself as one of the teams to beat in the state.

"It was three years in the making," Clegg said. "We definitely thought it was going to be a struggle. But we got it. We did it."

Churchill's first win against Belleville in school history changed the definition of what it means to play Charger football. It's rowdy, it's hype.

It's everything Clegg thought it would be.

Is it a permanent fix? We'll have to wait and see, but Clegg seems to think so.

"Yes sir," Clegg said with a smile and a nod.

Churchill will remain undefeated heading into its senior night matchup against Wayne Memorial.

*Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.*

## Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

This is a program-wide mentality that both Novi's boys and girls teams answer to.

"We figure we're good enough every year and we'll create scoring opportunities," Pfeiffer said. "But the key is holding."

To the head coach, this is normal Novi soccer. The 2020 season wasn't.

Playing through the COVID-19 pandemic, Novi was only able to play nine games before the state tournament, losing to Brighton in the first round of district play.

To senior Miguel Aguirre Del Valle, 2020 was a new experience: fielding a large group of inexperienced juniors with a small group of seniors. Now in 2021, those juniors are seniors and now have more chemistry, more connections and more familiarity with one another.

"I think there was way less confidence last year, but the seniors were still strong and we still got far," Aguirre Del Valle said, who scored Novi's second goal of the game: connecting on a

rebound after a try by sophomore Yuto Shiwa.

"This year, it's just a big group of seniors that we didn't have last year. We're more confident together because we played throughout these four years of high school."

With 13 seniors on the roster — including third-year senior Saurav Setti, who Pfeiffer views as an anchor for the Novi defense, there is a youth movement for the Wildcats as well. Sophomore Nic Russo connected on the first score of the game — the first goal of his varsity career — with 11:21 left in the first half.

But Pfeiffer knows where the leadership is coming from. It's from the seniors. It's from a defense that has allowed two goals in its first four games.

It's from a group that wants people to get back to playing Novi soccer.

"These players that were on the team last year look at that and go, 'That's not how we want to remember playing Novi soccer,'" Pfeiffer said.

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



## Michigan high school football 2021: Week 3 scoreboard

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

Week 3 of the high school football season is here.

Here's a look at what Hometown Life-area teams have in store for the third week of the regular season.

### Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Churchill (3-0) 28, Belleville (2-1) 21  
Dearborn (2-1) 35, Livonia Franklin (1-2) 6  
Livonia Stevenson (2-1) 7, Westland John Glenn (0-3) 0  
Dearborn Fordson (3-0) 43, Wayne Memorial (0-3) 6  
Canton (1-2) 57, Plymouth (0-3) 7: Wesley Faulkner ran for 142 yards, averaging 23.7 yards per carry and scoring three touchdowns, while Josiah West led Canton with 160 yards on the ground and two scores.  
Howell (3-4) 34, Northville (1-2) 0

Novi (2-1) 37, Salem (0-3) 0: Cole Shires scored four of Novi's five touchdowns, recording 110 yards on eight carries to help the Wildcats to its second win of the season.

### Catholic High School League

Brother Rice (3-0) 21, U-D Jesuit (1-2) 0  
Detroit Catholic Central (2-1) 17, Nativille Central (IL) (2-1) 14  
Cranbrook Kingswood (1-2) 35, Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes (0-3) 0

### Lakes Valley Conference

Milford (2-1) 35, Walled Lake Northern (1-2) 10  
South Lyon (3-0) 44, Walled Lake Central (0-3) 7  
Waterford Mott (3-0) 26, South Lyon East (1-2) 14  
Lakeland at Walled Lake Western - Canceled

### Oakland Activities Association

North Farmington (3-0) 49, Groves (0-3) 0  
Rochester (2-1) 41, Seaholm (0-3) 13  
Bloomfield Hills (3-0) 42, Waterford Kettering (0-3) 21  
Troy Athens (3-0) 36, Farmington (0-3) 35 OT

### Independent

Detroit Country Day (3-0) 1, Detroit University Prep Science and Math (0-2); forfeit  
Livonia Clarenceville (3-0) 14, Kalamazoo Loy Norrix (0-3) 8

### Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Dearborn Heights Robichaud (2-1) 22, Garden City (1-2) 18  
Melvindale (2-1) 22, Redford Thurston (0-3) 20  
Redford Union (2-1) 1, Romulus (1-2); forfeit

### Michigan Independent Athletic Conference



Northville wide receiver Kai Saunders gets tripped up by a Stevenson defender. COURTESY OF TOM BEAUDOIN

Lutheran Westland (2-1) 26, Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (1-2) 7

## Michigan high school football 2021: Week 4 schedule

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

### Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Churchill vs. Wayne Memorial; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Livonia Stevenson at Belleville; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
John Glenn vs. Dearborn; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Canton at Northville; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Novi vs. Brighton; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Plymouth vs. Howell; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Salem at Hartland; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

### Catholic High School League

Brother Rice vs. De La Salle; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Detroit Catholic Central vs. U-D Jesuit; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Cranbrook Kingswood vs. Madison Heights Bishop Foley; 1 p.m., Sept. 18

### Lakes Valley Conference

Milford vs. Walled Lake Central; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
South Lyon vs. Detroit Country Day; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
South Lyon East vs. Walled Lake Western; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Lakeland vs. Waterford Mott; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

### Oakland Activities Association

Groves at Seaholm; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
North Farmington at Oak Park; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Bloomfield Hills at Auburn Hills Avondale; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Farmington vs. Troy; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

### Independent

Livonia Clarenceville vs. Macomb Lutheran North; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

### Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Garden City at Melvindale; 7 p.m.,



A trio of Detroit Catholic Shamrocks bring down Davison's AJ Hill John Heider/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Sept. 17  
Redford Thurston at Dearborn Heights Robichaud; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Redford Union vs. Dearborn Heights Crestwood; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

### Michigan Independent Athletic

### Conference

Lutheran Westland at Whitmore Lake; 7 p.m., Sept. 17  
Send game results and stats to LivSports@hometownlife.com.

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## North Farmington football rolls over Groves in OAA White opener

**Ben Szilagy**  
Special to HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Winning your conference is on every team's list to start the season. On Sept. 10, North Farmington opened up OAA White play with a massive statement.

The Raiders dominated Birmingham Groves, 49-0, behind the legs of senior running back Jasper Beeler.

"A win like tonight, it's huge," North Farmington coach Jon Herstein said. "We set the tone to achieve one of our goals (this season). Going out there and getting a win to start off to set you up to accomplish that helps continue that through league play."

The Raider (3-0, 1-0 OAA White) defense had two interceptions by seniors Chase Reed and Landon Canty, while also forcing two fumbles in the shutout. As a unit, North Farmington's defense held Groves to 110 yards all game on 10 possessions.

"We have a very veteran group out there that really understands what we're trying to do. They play really good together, and they trust one another. They just play really good sound team defense," Herstein said of his veteran unit.

### Beeler dominates

While the defense had its way with the Falcons (0-3, 0-1 OAA White), senior running back Jasper Beeler continued to build off his early-season success with a six-touchdown affair.

"My legs are dead. Very dead. But I give all the glory tonight to my offensive line. Without them tonight doesn't happen. Every run there was a great hole to run through. They just made it a lot easier for me," the running back said.

Beeler dominated the first half with five touchdowns.

On the opening drive, he scored on a four-yard run, scampered for a 61 yards on a screen pass from sophomore Ryan Shelby on the second drive before ending the first quarter with another big play with a 50-yard touchdown run.

"He's special. He's an excellent receiver and an excellent tailback. He's worked really hard over the course of his career here at North to really work on his athleticism, get stronger to be able to take this workload," Herstein said.



North Farmington senior running back Jasper Beeler led the Raiders with five touchdowns. COURTESY OF TOM BEAUDOIN

"The plays were there and he had the opportunity to make them. It's a special night, but he had five in the first week too."

Beeler capped the first half with a 26-yard touchdown run and a 40-yard touchdown run before earning a 21-yard touchdown reception in the third quarter.

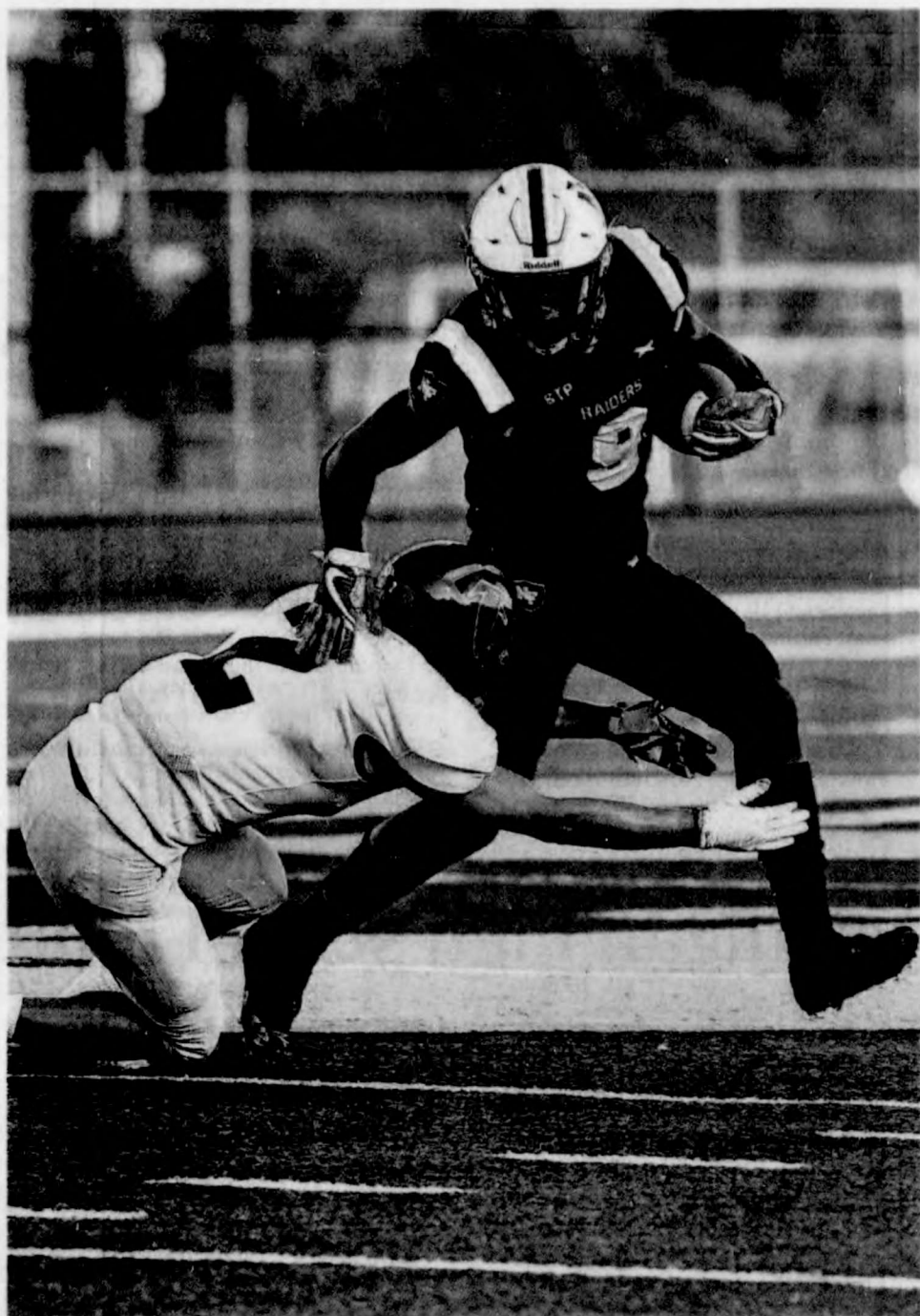
Even though he didn't play the fourth quarter, Beeler's night included 151 rushing yards on eight carries, and three receptions for 104 yards.

North Farmington's back-up QB Josh Henderson had a 21-yard touchdown run late in the fourth quarter as well.

### Groves reeling

While the night wasn't perfect for the Falcons, its defense did stiffen up midway through the second quarter, earning a goal-line stand on fourth down when North Farmington tried to run two quarterback sneaks from the one-foot line.

Victories like that though have been few and far between for Groves and head coach Brendan Flaherty. The Falcons have also been without its star receiver and MSU commit Jaden Mang-



North Farmington's Chase Reed tries to get past Groves' Jackson Crane. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ham who is dealing with an injury.

"We have a lot of inexperienced guys playing football, and we're playing some pretty good teams. You have that, some bad luck, overthinking stuff coaching wise. That's the jist of it, really," he summarized.

"Jaden's hurt, and it's frustrating because he brings so much to our team. He

brings confidence, he can erase plays on both sides. But that's some of the bad luck we're dealing with. He wants to be out there with his teammates more than anybody. But he's hurt, so what are you going to do?"

Send game results and stats to [LivSports@hometownlife.com](mailto:LivSports@hometownlife.com).

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# Finalists are set for Miss Volleyball

**Tom Lang**  
Special to Detroit Free Press  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ten high school players have been named finalists for Miss Volleyball 2021 in Michigan.

Only seniors are considered for the award, sponsored by the Detroit Free Press since 2003.

Finalists are selected by the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association. This year's nominees include, in alphabetical order:

## Josie Bloom



**School:** Pontiac Notre Dame Prep  
**Position:** Libero  
**Breakdown:** In 396 sets played: 1220 digs for 3.2 per set; 194 aces, 238 assists. Bloom, 5 feet 6, is

a two-time All-State selection, rated in PrepVolleyball top 150 in the country and was named All-American at AAU Nationals. The four-year starter has led her program to three Division 2 semifinals. A National Honor Society member with a 4.0 grade-point average.

**College plans:** Virginia Tech

## Alyssa Borellis



**School:** Pontiac Notre Dame Prep  
**Position:** Setter/middle hitter  
**Breakdown:** In 404 sets played: 1,370 kills, 1,976 assists, 216 aces,

1,060 digs. Borellis, 5-11, is a three-time All-Stater and ranked in the PrepVolleyball Top 150. She has helped lead Notre Dame Prep to three state semifinals and carries a 4.116 GPA.

**College plans:** Ole Miss.

## Renee Michelle Brines

**School:** Cadillac  
**Position:** Setter  
**Breakdown:** 558 kills, 3,342 assists (8 per set), 205 aces (98 percent accuracy), 1,377 digs, 121 blocks. Brines, 5-7, is a four-year starter and holds school records for aces in a season (103) and assists in a career (3,342). She was second-team All-Stater last year. Earned all-state in track and field in 2020.

**College plans:** Northwood.

## Ava Brizard



**School:** Birmingham Marian  
**Position:** Outside hitter  
**Breakdown:** 1,536 kills, 1,340 digs, 109 aces, 107 blocks. Brizard, 6-1,

was last year's Michigan Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year and a Free Press Sports Award finalist, leading her team to the Division 1 state title. Twice voted AVCA national player of the week. A member of the National and Spanish Honor Society, with a 4.16 GPA.

**College plans:** North Carolina State.

## Brooklyn Connor

**School:** Grand Rapids Forest Hills

Central (note this school has an interim coach that was only able to provide limited information)

**Position:** Middle blocker.

**Breakdown:** 163 kills, 49 blocks as a junior. Connor, 6-3, made third-team All-State last season, in a league loaded with state finalists. She was an Academic All-Stater with a 4.109 GPA.

**College plans:** Clemson.

## Evelyn Doezeema

**School:** Grand Rapids Christian

**Position:** Outside hitter

**Breakdown:** 855 kills, 61 aces, 189 blocks, 279 digs. Doezeema, 6-3, is a two-time All-Stater who led her team to the last three consecutive Division 2 state titles. She was also All-State honorable mention in basketball and carries a 3.75 GPA.

**College plans:** Michigan State.

## Serena Nyambio



**School:** Birmingham Detroit Country Day  
**Position:** Middle hitter

**Breakdown:** 673 kills, 108 aces, 320 blocks, 276 digs. Nyambio, 6-2, was

first-team All-State selection last season as well as PrepVolleyball All-American honorable mention and top-50 in the nation. She holds three school records for blocks in a season, in a match and in a career. She has a 3.9 GPA.

**College plans:** Michigan.

## Maradith O'Gorman

**School:** Lakewood

**Position:** Outside hitter

**Breakdown:** 1,581 kills, 349 blocks, 249 aces, 1,079 digs. O'Gorman, 6-2, has been Lakewood's go-to player for three consecutive Division 2 state semifinal appearances. She has been named All-State first team three times and was among the Prep Volleyball All-America honorable mention. She carries a 3.4 GPA.

**College plans:** Michigan State.

## Sarah Sylvester



**School:** Birmingham Marian

**Position:** Middle blocker

**Breakdown:** 408 kills, 218 blocks. Sylvester, 6-3, earned second-team All-State last season. She

helped lead the Mustangs to the Division 1 state title last season while carrying a 4.0 GPA.

**College plans:** Texas Christian.

## Sydney Tomiak

**School:** Rochester Stoney Creek

**Position:** Outside hitter

**Breakdown:** In 341 career sets played: 882 kills, 853 digs, 139 aces, 130 blocks. Tomiak, 5-11 and a four-year starter, earned third-team All-State last year, leading her team in kills and digs. A member of the National Honor Society and Summer West Michigan Beach Volleyball 16U Division 2 champions. She has a 4.2 GPA.

**College plans:** Duke.

## New Livonia Stevenson running back forges own path

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

Matthew Gazzarato started playing tackle football at St. Michaels Catholic School in Livonia in fourth grade, starting his experience on the offensive line at left guard and tackle.

Now a senior at Livonia Stevenson, Gazzarato looks back, remembering his 5-foot-6, 125-pound frame walking onto the Spartans' football field for the first time.

"I came to Stevenson and one of my coaches asked me what position I played. I said left guard," Gazzarato said. "He said, 'You're never going to have to worry about playing that position again.'"

Instead, Gazzarato found his home at running back. And with big shoes to fill in his first ever varsity start — taking over the position from graduated senior Caden Woodall — the senior running back began to make his first impression: recording 218 yards and four touchdowns on 21 carries against Northville in the season opener.

Woodall has always cast a large shadow on Gazzarato.

In his final season with the Spartans, the now Harvard running back broke the school's single-season rushing record with 2,238 yards, also setting the school's single-game rushing record three different times.

Even when Gazzarato was on the same track team as Woodall freshman year, he remembers his coach telling him, "Caden's going to be the one person that pushes you through everything," viewing his relationship with the older running back as iron sharpening iron.

While Gazzarato was nervous for his first ever varsity start for the Mustangs, he viewed it as an opportunity to show everyone that he can play too.

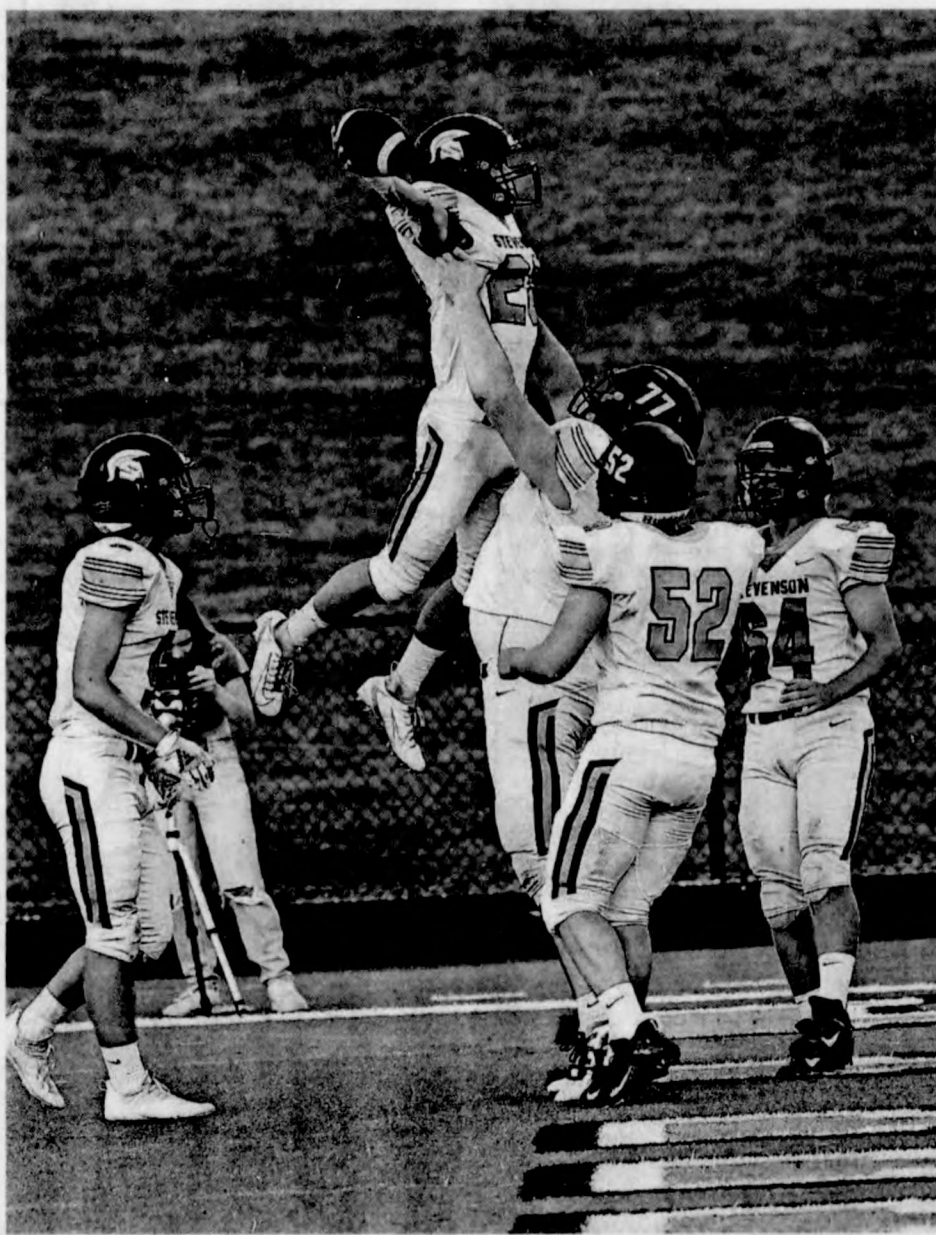
"I'm not just some Caden Woodall replacement or anything like that," Gazzarato said. "I'm my own person. I really wanted to prove to the world that I could do something."

Running back was a position Gazzarato always wanted to play. When the Stevenson coaches made the switch, showing him the basics freshman year, he began to watch videos of backs like Barry Sanders, Walter Payton and Emmitt Smith, trying to find his own style watching the greats.

Despite suffering multiple injuries through his first two years with the team — a broken arm as a freshman and a broken foot as a sophomore — Gazzarato found his way onto varsity his junior year, falling in love with the weight room and finding what it means for him to run the ball tenaciously and with intent.

But after his coming out party Week 1, Gazzarato and the Spartan offense had a wake-up call in Week 2.

Facing Dearborn Fordson, the senior running back was only able to muster 12 yards on eight rushes in the first



Stevenson's Matthew Gazzarato celebrates after scoring a touchdown. COURTESY OF TOM BEAUDOIN

half, breaking free for 61 yards in the second half as the Spartans lost their first game of the year, 47-13.

Gazzarato said the size up front is something the Spartans will have to get used to, knowing the potential of the teams coming up on the schedule.

"Teams like Belleville, Churchill, Franklin, they are all going to have huge up fronts," he said. It's definitely going to be a challenge for our inside zone for us to be able to move around some of those big guys.

"We don't have the same big guys that Fordson does, so it's kind of hard to get a really good look out of our practice squad instead of coming into the game and you have this 6-foot-4, 300-pound nose guard blowing up your whole play."

But Gazzarato still has hope. He sees the rivalry games against Churchill and Franklin at the end of the year, expecting for his team to be peaking when the city championship on the line.

While he has personal aspirations to play running back at the next level just like Woodall, Gazzarato's focus is just to show off what he can do, something he wants his team to buy into.

"No matter what, regardless if we win or lose, I think that our team in general will show that we never back down," Gazzarato said. "I felt like at the end of that (Fordson) game, we were fighting all the way through. It did not matter at what point. We just kept pushing and pushing no matter what happened. Even though their score got pretty high, we always kept pushing."

## Athlete of the Week poll results

Matthew Gazzarato won the Aug. 30 edition of Hometown Life's Athlete of the Week poll, earning 568 of the 1,429 total votes cast (39.75%).

North Farmington football senior Jasper Beeler finished second with 434 votes (30.37%).

South Lyon East swimmer Sophia Lickman finished third, Northville soccer player Andrew Swancutt finished fourth and Plymouth golfer Bridget Boczar finished fifth.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6770. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).



Howell quarterback Nolan Petru runs for one of his two touchdowns in a 34-0 victory over Northville on Friday. COURTESY OF DAN ZEPPA

## Howell shuts out high-scoring Northville

**Bill Khan**  
Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HOWELL — Howell has two shutouts in its first three football games for the first time since 1962 after blanking Northville, 34-0, Friday night.

The Highlanders opened the season with a 38-0 victory over Westland John Glenn before beating Canton, 41-21.

The 1962 Howell team had shutouts in its first two games, then lost 7-0 in Week 3.

This shutout was more impressive than the first, because it came against a Northville team that put up 69 points in its first two games, a 34-33 loss to Livonia Stevenson and a 36-7 victory over Plymouth.

"Northville is pretty good offensively," Howell coach Brian Lewis said. "They've scored some points this year. They do some good things to try to get you to misalign, and they take advantage of that. We did a really good job with our communication tonight. We had a really great, relentless effort on defense tonight. We had a lot of guys getting to the ball."

Brevin Weller and John Lovich had interceptions for Howell.

Howell quarterback Nolan Petru was 3-for-7 for 61 yards and a touchdown, while running 15 times for 60 yards and two scores. His touchdown pass was a 17-yarder to Danny Honkala before halftime, giving Howell a 20-0 lead at the break.

Jackson Kovarik extended the lead to 27-0 when he returned the opening kickoff of the second half 98 yards for a touchdown.

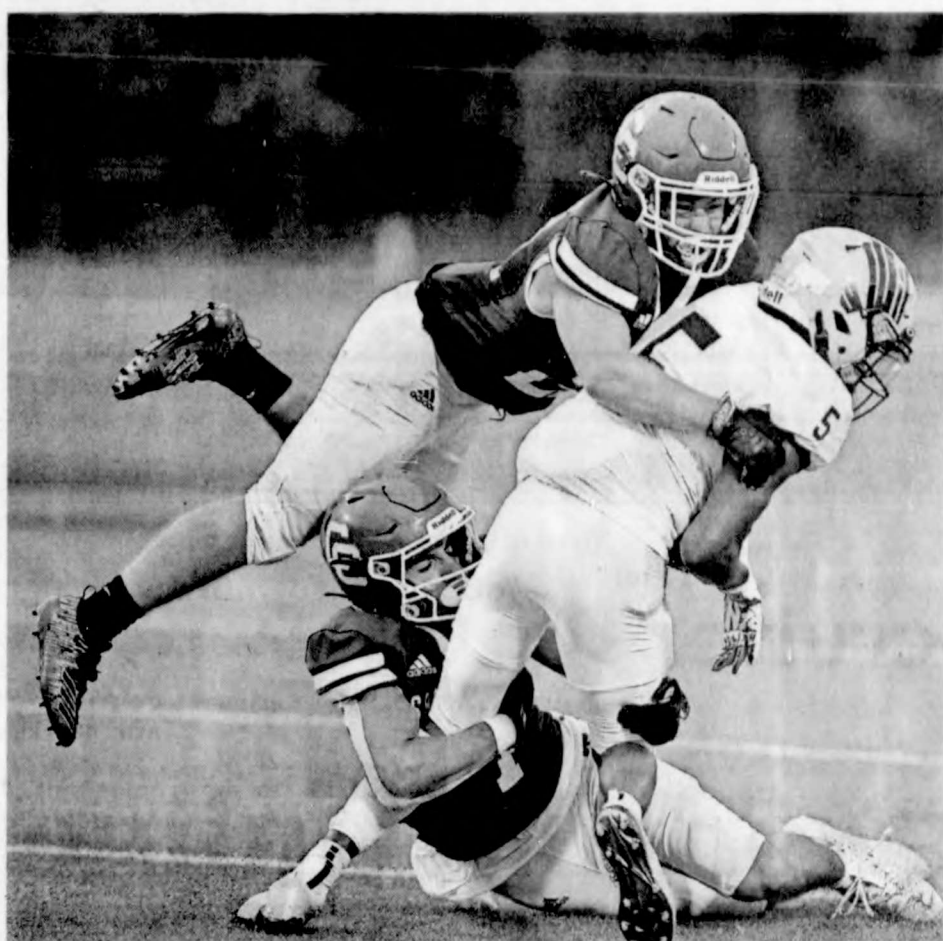
"I thought our kids came out focused," Lewis said. "It really wasn't that pretty early, but we kind of battled through a couple things and just banded together."

Kicking for the first time this season, Nolan Cuellar had field goals of 40 and 39 yards and was 2-for-2 on extra points for the Highlanders. David Johnson, who kicked in the first two games, kicked the final extra point.

Howell will travel to Plymouth next Friday.

Contact Bill Khan at [wkhan@gannett.com](mailto:wkhan@gannett.com).





CC's Mohamed Jaffer leaps onto the back of Davison's Teon Armstrong. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Big plays spark CC's first win of 2021, beats Davison at home

Collin Gay

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Detroit Catholic Central doesn't lose by 25 points. It doesn't allow 45 points to an opponent, especially following up a campaign in which the Shamrocks defense allowed only 101 points in 10 games.

Week 1 against Chippewa Valley was not Shamrock football, something head coach Dan Anderson saw in each practice: a humbled group eager to host its first win of the season.

"The boys were pretty much embarrassed that first week," he said. "They came out to work this week."

But Catholic Central still needed that spark, that juice, that spark for the Shamrocks to return to a culture of winning.

Owen Semp provided two: taking two punt returns to the house, helping Catholic Central (1-1) bounce back against Davison (0-2), 35-14, in a rematch of the 2020 Division 1 regional final.

Holding onto a slim one-touchdown lead in the middle of the second quarter, the Shamrocks senior receiver lined up to return a Davison punt. When he got his hands on the football, Semp said his blockers gave him plenty of time to see where he should go.

"I got to see the field, see some openings, made some cuts, found some space," Semp said. "With the blockers and my speed, it ended up working out."

It nearly didn't. As he raced toward the finish line, Semp dropped the ball, watching it bounce in front of him. But the senior calmly picked it up, cruising into the end zone for the 65-yard score to the pandemonium of the Shamrock faithful.

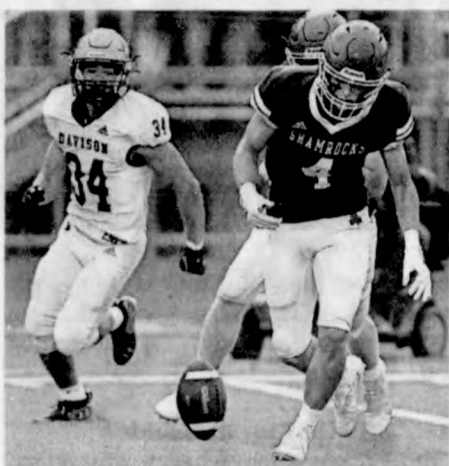
Semp provided the spark, a flame that continued into the ensuing Catholic Central kickoff, leading to a forced fumble by senior Jacob Saucedo and a recovery by junior Evan Haeger, giving the ball to the Shamrocks deep in Davison territory and leading to quarterback Declan Byle's first touchdown of the game: a 14-yard fade to tight end Connor Cohan.

Semp wasn't done. When he got another chance at a punt return in the third quarter, he took it to the house again for 63 yards and the score.

"Huge," Anderson said of Semp. "I can't remember the last time we had a punt return for a touchdown. He had two tonight."

Senior linebacker Brayden Courser knows these big plays are what drives Catholic Central. Doesn't matter if it's the offense, the defense or special teams. Big plays turn games in the Shamrocks' favor.

"You make that big play, everybody



CC's Owen Semp loses the ball temporarily on the punt run back - but then recovers his fumble and runs it in for a touchdown. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

gets hyped," Courser said. "You saw it: the whole sideline gets into it. You need those big plays. You need those four, five big plays just to get everybody going."

The defense kept the energy up on the Shamrocks' sideline, allowing 242 yards of offense with only two plays exceeding 20 yards, two turnovers — a fumbled snap on the second play of the day set up Catholic Central senior running back Mohamed Jaffer's 19-yard touchdown run, and an interception by Mike Downs — and three sacks.

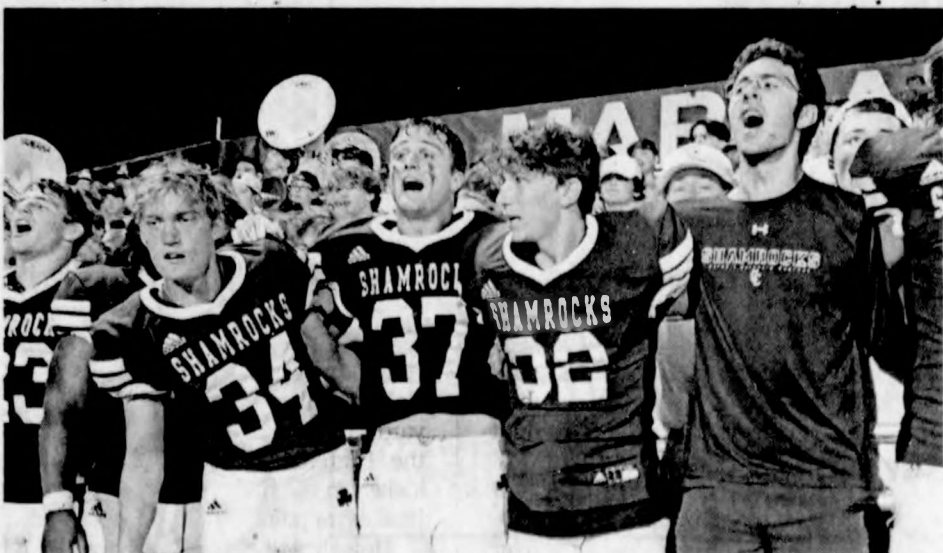
Catholic Central senior quarterback Declan Byle struggled at times to move the ball against the Cardinal defense, completing eight of his 23 pass attempts for 152 yards, throwing two interceptions on back-to-back offensive drives in the second and third quarters. But he found Cohan with 7:52 left for a 27-yard score, giving the Shamrocks enough of a cushion to get their first win of the season.

It wasn't pretty at points. Anderson knows there's work to be done. Still, as Shamrock players took a knee after the clock hit zero, the head coach exclaimed, "Great win."

To Catholic Central, the 2021 season is a process. That first game against Chippewa Valley didn't end their hopes for a deep playoff run. It just showed them what it takes to achieve that same goal.

"I think it really humbled us and showed us stuff to work on and that we're not the best team in the state, and what it takes to get there," Semp said.

Contact reporter Collin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).



Detroit Catholic Central Shamrock football players jump up into the stands to sing Mary Alma Mater after beating Davison 35-14 on Sept. 3, 2021. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Livonia Churchill leads pack in Hometown Life's Week 4 rankings

Collin Gay

Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The 2021 Michigan high school football season rolls on.

With a consistent top 7, the bottom of the list continues to see some changes week after week. See which Hometown Life-area teams made their debut or returned to the list heading into Week 4.

### 1. Livonia Churchill (3-0, Last Week: No. 1)

Upsetting Belleville — a team many viewed as the best in the state heading into Week 3 — Livonia Churchill has put itself in a prime position for a chance at a KLA title, getting over the hump of a top-tier opponent after coming up short multiple times over the past two years. Seems like the veteran experience of the Chargers is paying off so far.

### 2. South Lyon (3-0, Last Week: No. 2)

Speaking of veteran experience, the Lions are using their older group to pound through its early-season Lakes Valley Conference schedule. In three games, quarterback Dawson Skupin, running back Tommy Donovan, wide receiver Quinn Fracassi and company have averaged 47.3 points per game, while allowing 13 points to Walled Lake Central and Milford combined.

### 3. North Farmington (3-0, Last Week: No. 3)

Even with OAA White play beginning, the Raiders seem to be getting stronger. North Farmington has averaged 47.3 points per game, beating Groves, 49-0, in its division opener Week 3. The defense remains strong too, allowing 28 points in three games.

### 4. Brother Rice (3-0, Last Week: No. 5)

As Catholic High School League Central play starts in Week 4, Brother Rice is in a much better spot than initially expected. The Warriors have won each of their first three games by at least two touchdowns, shutting out East Kentwood and U-D Jesuit over the past two weeks.

### 5. Lakeland (3-0, Last Week: No. 4)

Lakeland didn't get a chance to see what it could do in the top tier of the LVC in Week 3, but earned a forfeit vic-

tory against Walled Lake Western. Instead, that test comes Week 4 against an undefeated Waterford Mott before a Week 5 date with South Lyon.

### 6. Detroit Catholic Central (2-1, Last Week: No. 6)

Detroit Catholic Central still has its fair share of things to fix. Of its seven touchdowns over the Shamrocks' last two wins, four were from the actual offense, including a seven-yard pass from quarterback Declan Byle against Naperville Central. The defense has been stout, allowing less than 240 yards and 28 points combined over the past two games.

### 7. Detroit Country Day (3-0, Last Week: No. 7)

The Yellowjackets did not play its Week 3 matchup against Detroit University Prep Science and Math, but still have a streak to uphold, having not lost since Oct. 23, 2020 against Brother Rice. Since then, Detroit Country Day has allowed 44 points in eight games.

### 8. Novi (2-1, Last Week: NR)

Despite a 12-point loss to Hartland in Week 2, Novi's transition into the Jim Sparks era has gone relatively well. The Wildcats have a winning record through their first three games for the first time since 2013.

### 9. Livonia Stevenson (2-1, Last Week: NR)

After allowing 47 points to Dearborn Fordson Week 2, the Spartan defense shut down John Glenn, recording its first shutout since Oct. 4, 2019. But the offense continues to struggle, having scored 20 combined points in its past two games.

### 10. Milford (2-1, Last Week: NR)

Something seems to be going on in Milford. After a one-point victory against New Boston Huron and a beat-down by South Lyon, the Mavericks blasted Walled Lake Northern, 35-10, with four touchdowns by senior QB Billy Sternberg, while allowing 176 yards of offense.

Contact reporter Collin Gay at [cgay@hometownlife.com](mailto:cgay@hometownlife.com) or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to [Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com](mailto:Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com).

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Fr. Robert A. LaCroix, Pastor  
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Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m.  
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For more information regarding this directory, please contact Kadijah Brack-Rowley at [kbrackrowl@localiaq.com](mailto:kbrackrowl@localiaq.com)

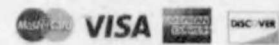
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## The 3 Steps to Networking Online

How you can use social media networks to help your career

By ZipRecruiter.com

Here's a little secret about the job search: employers don't always hire the person with the best resume and qualifications. Sometimes job seekers are hired because they know someone within the organization. That may not seem fair, but there is something you can do about it—networking.

Professional networking has always been integral to career advancement. Social networks are another way to make those connections. It is important to remember that networking is about more than just finding a job. The goal should be to find like-minded people who share your interests and passions, with whom you can build a mutually beneficial relationship. If you do that, when an opportunity for a job comes along, you'll be the first person they think of.

Professional networking through social media may seem intimidating, especially if you don't think you know the right people, but the truth is that you already have everything you need to get started.

### Step 1: Reach Out to Everyone You Know. And Don't Know.

The most important thing you can do to effectively network on social media is to connect with people you don't know well to expand your contacts.

Chances are that you are unlikely to find job opportunities through a close friend or family member because they know a lot of the same people that you do. It's important to connect with them, but you are a lot more likely to get re-

ferred to a job by someone you don't know as well. That is because acquaintances probably have a network of people you don't know, and the ability to make introductions. In fact, finding a job through weak ties can lead to higher pay and satisfaction.

Use multiple social networks to reach out to anyone you have the slightest connection to. Start with extended family, alumni from schools you've attended, employees of companies you have worked for (even if you've never met), thought leaders in your industry, and members of clubs, organizations, or social media groups you are in. It might feel awkward, but it doesn't hurt to ask. The worst that can happen is that your requests aren't accepted—the same place you are now.

### Step 2: Get Involved

To build professional relationships on social networks, engage with the content that your new connections share.

As you add more connections, your social media newsfeeds will be populated with content from a more varied group of people. Take in these new perspectives and get to know the type of content they are putting out there. Then, start engaging.

Like, share, and comment on the posts you see. Doing so signals to the poster that you're a fan of their content, and could even create a positive physical reaction in their brain. When someone receives an interaction on something they share, their brain produces dopamine, a chemical response associated with pleasure. Increasing the number of likes a



VLADIMIR VLADIMIROV/GETTY IMAGES

contact has not only makes them look good to their followers, it makes them feel good, too. And you'll be the source of that feeling.

### Step 3: Share Your Passions

Build professional relationships on social networks by standing out with content that highlights the topics you are passionate about.

Social media is a two-way street. If you see someone's posts, they can likely see yours. This is your chance to let them know about your passions, interests, and who you are as a person. Everybody has multiple interests, hobbies, and perspectives. Being authentic will help you stand out in a crowded newsfeed and attract other people who are interested in the same topics that you are. (Just be sure the content you share is appropriate. Skip topics that you wouldn't discuss in an actual workplace.)

Carefully curated content that makes it look like your life is perfect may look pretty, but it makes for a boring story. Being real about your goals and passions will grow interest as you take your network on a journey with you. Whether you are working on restoring an old car, learning a new language, or on a mission to get healthy, sharing your story will engage followers and turn them into fans who are invested in seeing you achieve your goals. The network of "strangers" you originally connected with, won't feel that way once they see your full personality and share in your progress.

Once you've built out your network on social media, pay attention to the connections who like and comment on the items you post. They likely share your same passions or are just interested in you as a person. Reach out to those people, taking the relationship off a social network and into the real world.

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To the person who adopted Tasha, a 17 old pit-bull black-fon German Shepherd, from the humane society in Ann Arbor at the end of December 2020.

I would like to offer you \$12,000.00 for returning Tasha to us. I will also cover her umbilical hernia repair if you had the surgery performed. I was planning when Tasha was 1 1/2 yrs. to have her spayed as well as her hernia repair and gastropexy (bread to one to slice). Also to follow up on her spleen and blood work. Her two dunks had splenomegaly (had the spleen removed with treatment) and HYPERTHYROIDISM with treatment.

I was misdiagnosed for asthma leaving another condition untreated. (I have since recovered). This led me to believe along with the doctor I had allergies to Tasha and Eve. The Allergist/immunologist who also misdiagnosed me said the dogs were making my asthma worse. This is why I brought Tasha and Eve to the Humane Society. So exasperating point!! I later tested negative for asthma and properly treated. No words to describe how I feel giving up Tasha and Eve was preventable. If I was diagnosed properly, each provider followed the original doctors misdiagnosis. (Medical records available).

The family who adopted Eve returned her to us and she offered for you to call her. I will give you her number.

We love Tasha and Maize (we kept the name the family gave). We would also love to have them reunited and playing together again. My health is back to normal. If it was on issue I certainly would not have taken Maize back her risk for Tasha. I never would have given Tasha and Maize up if I had providers who diagnosed me correctly. Maize had her gastropexy, blood work and spleen exam on 8/20/21. We have always taken excellent care of our animals and with vet care.

I hope you will consider my offer for Tasha's return. We love Tasha and are heartbroken. Thank you! Respond to: [Tinashegards@gmail.com](mailto:Tinashegards@gmail.com)

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PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo FRONT-TO-BACK NINE

**ACROSS**

1 Upside-down-sleeping mammal  
8 Economizes to a fault  
14 Untrustworthy sort  
20 One way to serve apple pie  
21 Very solitary sort  
22 Monkey (with)  
23 Frigid-weather readings  
26 Military missions, in brief  
27 Old Ford div.  
28 Tennis great  
29 Classic Coca-Cola slogan  
39 "Son of," in Arabic names  
40 Thurman of "Kill Bill" films  
41 Volcanic flow  
42 Watershed draining dozens of U.S. states  
53 Busy crawler  
54 Make sport of  
55 Cocktail party spread  
56 School in England's East Midlands

61 The Emerald Isle  
62 Play — in (contribute to)  
63 Heap  
64 Graduate student's position that might include conducting experiments  
74 "Give — ring"  
75 Plantain lily, familiarly  
76 Actress Ward of "Sisters"  
77 Polite cut-in words  
86 Drains of color  
87 Heaps  
88 Tulsa-to-Topeka dir.  
89 Metropolises, e.g.  
94 Climb  
95 — pro nobis  
96 Flight guess, in brief  
97 "In time the reason shall be made clear"  
109 Furnish with new weapons  
110 Mean Roman emperor  
111 Kung — chicken  
112 "The Magic Flute" composer

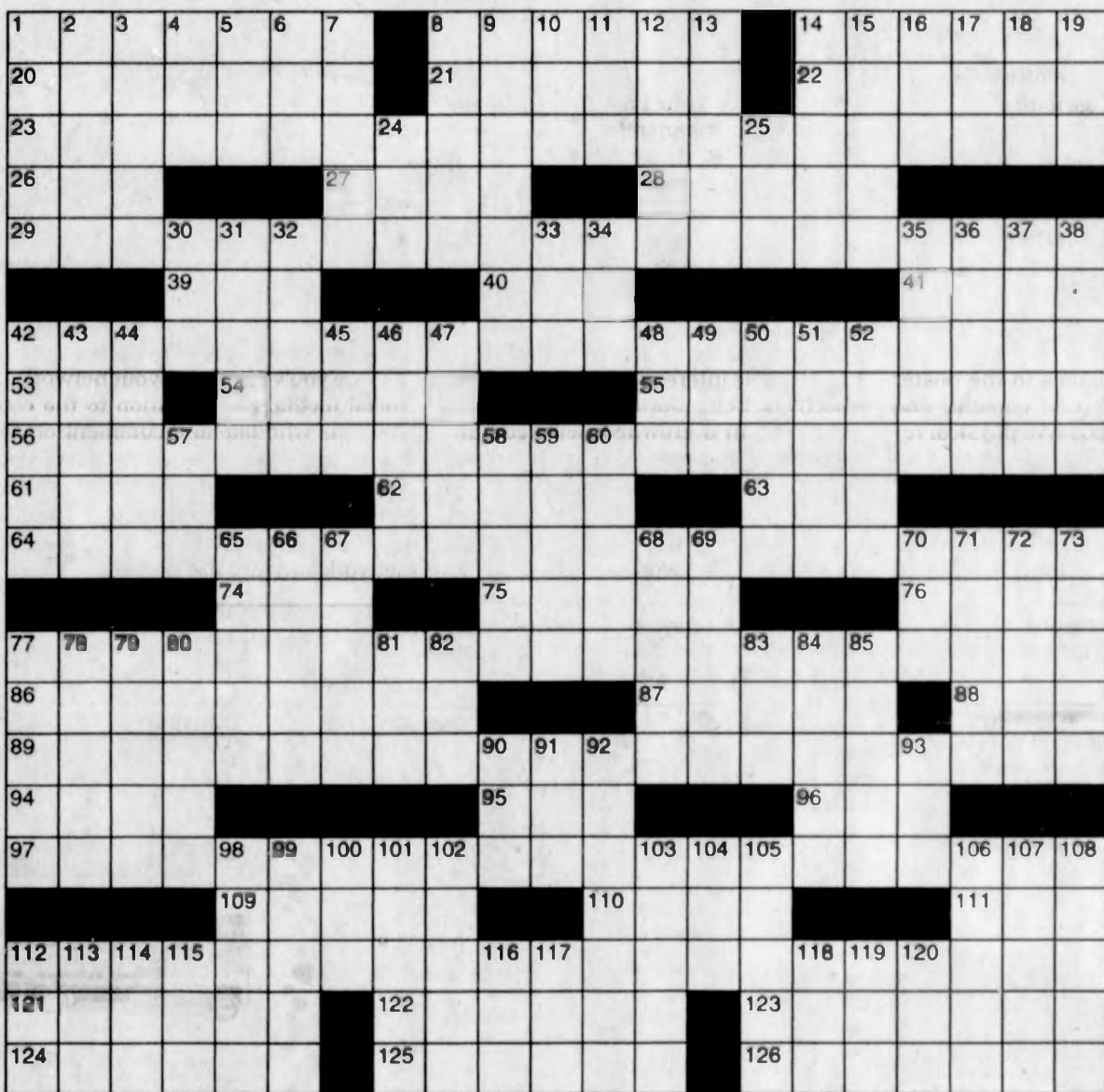
**DOWN**

1 Explorer John or Sebastian  
2 Letter before beth  
3 Triple-time dance, in France  
4 Broody rock subgenre  
5 Bend at a curtain call  
6 Woodworking tool  
7 Swarms (with)  
8 Not at all tall  
9 Mustard alternative  
10 Cholera  
11 "Delicious!"  
12 One of 11 in a Christmas song  
13 Carell of "The Office"  
14 Knighted Ringo  
15 Cappuccino alternative  
16 Ostrich relative

17 Mo. in spring  
18 Final letter  
19 Hosp. triage sites  
24 Riddle-me- —  
25 KO counter  
30 Some sorority letters  
31 Grab — (eat quickly)  
32 Al who won four Indy 500s  
33 French buddy  
34 Driveway-topping goo  
35 Stingy hits  
36 Lays into  
37 Something to RSVP to online  
38 More stable  
42 Longtime Twins catcher  
43 Navel type  
44 Swizzles  
45 Airline to Oslo  
46 Basketball — Thomas  
47 2014 Wimbledon winner  
48 Sickly  
49 Compete (for)  
50 "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" musical

51 Military mission, in brief  
52 Spinner of "Star Trek" films  
57 Neckline shape  
58 Dinosaur in Nintendo games  
59 Actress Kaitlin  
60 Singer with the 2007 hit "1234"  
65 Whac- — (reflex-testing game)  
66 Of kidneys  
67 Slyly spiteful  
68 Engraved stone pillar  
69 Divining card  
70 Old JFK jet  
71 "Die Lorelei" poet Heinrich  
72 Actress Massey  
73 Window segments  
77 Baseballer Martinez  
78 Stayed home for a meal  
79 Washer cycle  
80 Gave two pills to, say  
81 Cool, in jive talk  
82 That, in Peru

83 Singer Carly — Jepsen  
84 A cow milker tugs on it  
85 H.S. juniors' exams  
90 Campaigning pro  
91 Net address  
92 Wash clothes  
93 Untrustworthy sort  
98 Have a spat  
99 Pine (for)  
100 "— Can Cook" (old culinary show)  
101 Brain, for one  
102 Food taste associated with MSG  
103 Must have  
104 Actress Joanne  
105 Red lab dye  
106 Divided  
107 Drug dealer  
108 Overly fond sort  
112 Baby's cry  
113 Yes, to Gigi  
114 British "Inc."  
115 Govt. agent  
116 Of city govt.  
117 Enzyme suffix  
118 L-P center  
119 Frequently, to poets  
120 Suffix meaning "animals"



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

## SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

9/16

### 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!

## FAMILY TREE

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.

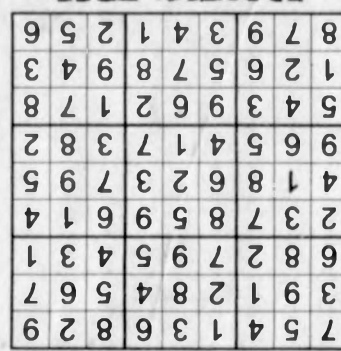
H Y M P S R E C O R D S N I G I R O D  
W R L E E H B S O T W C S Y G S E W Y  
N O I D I F E Q I K H I U T E H T L N  
A T F I R O Y R J R B O S I N T A I A  
L S O G A L M T I L E B N L E R C B S  
C I R R I K G S I T W S E A T I I R T  
C H C E D S T N R N A I C C I B F A Y  
D H I E T E G M G Y R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

### ANCESTORS

BAPTISM  
BIRTHS  
BREED  
CEMETERY  
CENSUS  
CERTIFICATE  
CHRISTENING  
CLAN  
DATES  
DAUGHTER  
DEATHS  
DEEDS  
DIARIES  
DYNASTY  
FATHER  
FOLKS  
GENEALOGY  
GENETICS  
HERITAGE  
HISTORY  
ISSUE  
KIN  
LETTERS  
LIBRARY  
LINEAGE  
LOCALITY  
MICROFILM  
MIGRATION  
MOTHER  
OFFSPRING  
ORIGINS  
PARENTS  
PATERNITY  
PEDIGREE  
PHOTOGRAPHS  
RECORDS  
REGISTERS  
ROOTS  
SIBLINGS  
SIRE  
SON  
TRIBE  
WILLS

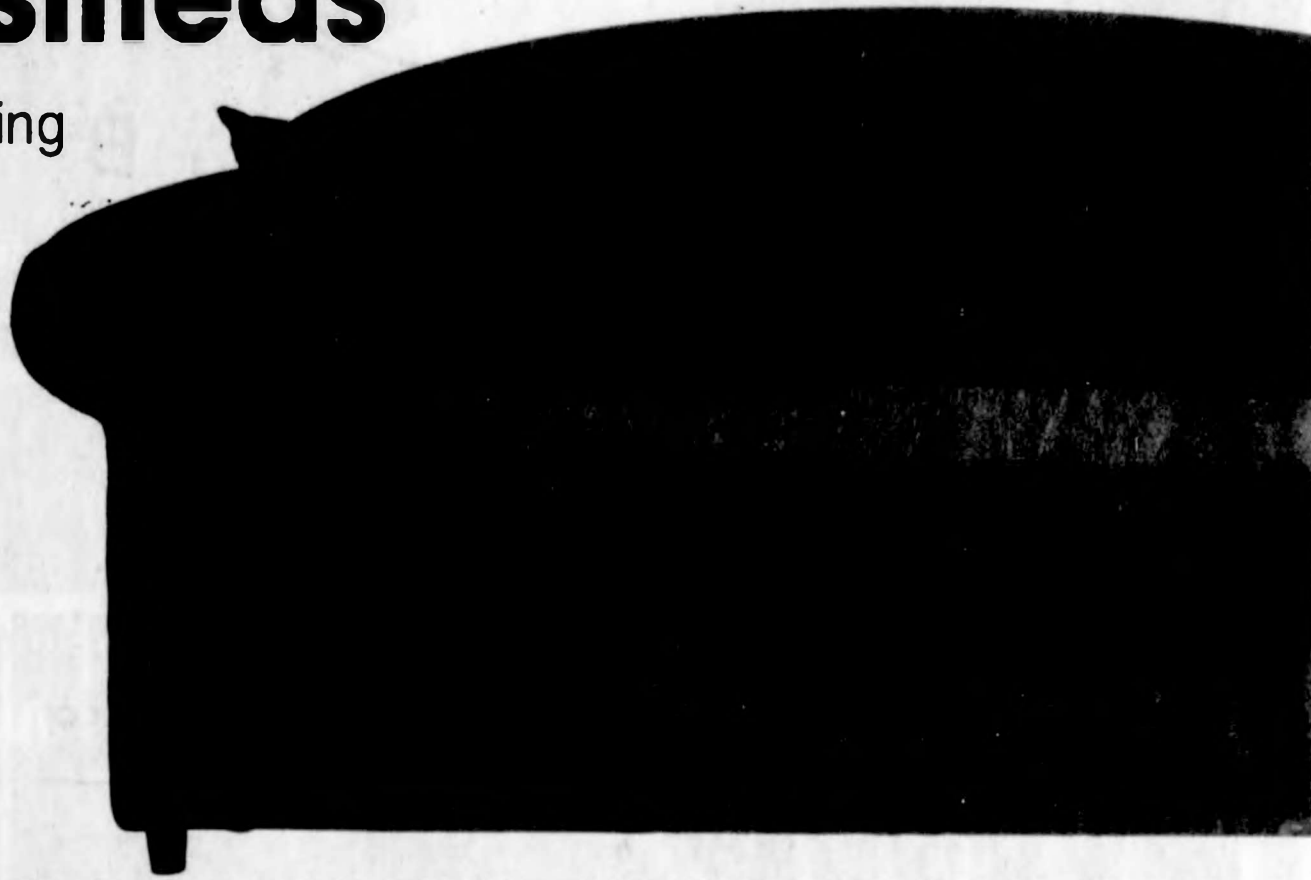


### FAMILY TREE



# The Classifieds

Your source for everything  
new and used in  
your local area.





# TASTY TAILGATING

SOCIAL-ONLY GIVEAWAYS!

9/13-9/19/21:

2 FOOTBALL TICKETS TO  
MICHIGAN VS. MICHIGAN STATE

9/20-9/26/21:

A YETI COOLER

FOLLOW US:



YOUR GAME DAY DESTINATION

ANN ARBOR-MAIN ST. | ANN ARBOR-GREEN RD. | BRIGHTON | CANTON  
CLINTON | DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS | LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY  
PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE | ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD