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NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

DTE blames outages on more severe storms

NWS meteorologist agrees this year 'quite a bit above' average

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

DTE has faced significant backlash this year for frequent, and sometimes long-lasting, power outages. Gerald Polk, DTE manager for southwest engineering and planning, acknowledges there has been an increase in power outages over the last five years. He correlated it to an increase in the number of severe storms, specifically

those classified as a catastrophic 2, or Cat 2, storm in which more than 250,000 customers lose power. "The severity is increasing year after year," Polk said. "Traditionally, there are not many Cat 2 storms, but recently, that number has drastically increased. Weather is much more severe." He noted that historically the length of time between storms is at least 20 or more days, but over the course of the past couple months, that average has

been six days between storms, with nine very severe storms during the 70-day period preceding Sept. 1. "Each storm, by the time we clean up the next storm comes around," Polk said. "Before, we had a lot more time to recover. That's not the case this year. We expect we will continue to see this severe weather, and we're preparing infrastructure to handle higher winds."

See OUTAGES, Page 8A



Lights out at the corner of Eight Mile and Center in Northville in August.
 JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon native turns to internet for answers in sister's murder case

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A former South Lyon resident wants her sister's murder mystery solved. Now living in Arizona, Cindy Arthurs took to social media about five years ago, posting and leaving messages about her sister, hoping to learn more about who killed her. She and her sister once shared a room, but memories of their short time together have blurred and vanished over the years. So Arthurs keeps sleuthing and posting and planning a return trip to Michigan to mark the 40th year since her sister's death. Arthurs wants to hang fliers throughout metro Detroit with her sister's name, Kimberly Louiselle, and the year she was killed, 1982. Names of other females missing from and murdered in the area will be included. "I'm planning on a hand in the middle holding a key — as in, 'Do you hold the key?'" Arthurs said. She has grown impatient with police who still haven't charged anyone. Kim, shortly after her 16th birthday, was found slain, strangled and beaten

See MURDER, Page 6A

STILL UNDEFEATED



South Lyon's Dakota Blackwell runs back his second interception against Detroit Country Day. South Lyon won, 31-7. Find coverage of this game and more high school football on Page 1B or at HometownLife.com.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

New frog species named after Northville expert

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

As she led twice-a-year nighttime expeditions through Amazon jungles in search of rare species of frogs, Northville native Marcy Sieggreen was focused and fearless, her father Dwight Sieggreen remembered.

"Marcy would always be in the front of the group leading the way, even though the jungle was dark and you could hear the noises made by the jungle's nocturnal animals and insects," said Dwight Sieggreen, a retired Northville Public Schools life sciences educator who often accompanied his daughter on Amazon adventures. "She loved

what she was doing so much, there was no reluctance on her part to head into a dark jungle." Marcy Sieggreen's dedication to her profession was rewarded Sept. 6 when a species of frog — *Allobates sieggreenae* — was named after her.

See FROG, Page 8A

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U of M pediatric intensive care nurse wins award for excellence

Ed Wright | Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It would not be a stretch to say Northville resident Ann Marie Ramsey was born to care for others.

"If you ask my family, they'd tell you I wanted to be a nurse ever since I was a little kid," said Ramsey, who in September will celebrate her 29th year as a pediatric intensive care nurse at the University of Michigan's Mott Children's Hospital. "I never really wanted to do anything else."

In August Ramsey was one of 12 Michigan nurses named recipients of the Nightingale Award, a 33-year tradition that honors excellence in nursing.

During a Sept. 2 event at the Meadow Brook Amphitheatre in Rochester Hills, Ramsey received a check for \$1,000, a solid bronze statue of Florence Nightingale and a Nightingale ceremonial pin.

While the mementos are appreciated, the honor itself means the most to Ramsey, who was taken by surprise by the August announcement.

"I was honestly blown away when I found out," Ramsey said. "The award requires a nomination from a peer or a family of a patient, so it's very humbling to know someone thinks I was worthy of this."

"I think all nurses work incredibly hard, so to have somebody recognize their hard work is very special."

A nurse practitioner, Ramsey's weeks are split between bedside and clinical work. What never changes in her regular regimen is that she cares for critically-ill babies who are on ventilators — a level of nursing that demands a keen sense of compassion.

"Being a part of a team helps because we can turn to each other for support," Ramsey said, when asked how she manages to thrive in such a challenging environment.

"The illnesses we deal with are so complicated and complex, it takes a lot of people to make sure the patient is getting the best care, especially when you're working with babies."

"Along with nurses and doctors, our team includes social workers, respiratory therapists and pharmacists — all of whom work as part of a multi-disciplinary team. I think it's important to acknowledge how important it is that we are part of a team."

Ramsey said the passion she has for her job has never waned.

"I've never had a day where I look at the clock and think, 'Oh, it's time to go home,'" she said. "Most of the time, when I look at the clock, I think, 'Oh my gosh, I can't believe how the day has gone by so fast.'"

Like most healthcare workers, Ramsey's job was affected dramatically by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"They made the decision to convert

our unit (West Mott) into a COVID unit because it was a newer part of the hospital and it had better ventilation, so we moved all the babies to the pediatric intensive care unit," Ramsey said. "We were displaced for about two months — it was kind of like staying in a hotel, if you will — but we made it work."

"We all understood the decision because it was in the best interest of the adult patients who were suffering from severe COVID. I was proud of our team; we made the best of it and moved back to West Mott once the COVID numbers went down."

Ramsey's two daughters have both followed in their mother's career footsteps, at least when it comes to taking care of others.

"One of my daughters is a clinical social worker and the other is a teacher in a pediatric/child field," said Ramsey, who was raised in Harper Woods. "I'm incredibly proud of them."

hometownlife.com

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Northville resident Ann Marie Ramsey won a Nightingale Award for excellence as a pediatric critical care nurse at the University of Michigan's Mott Children's Hospital. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on October 12, 2021, at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ21-0052 (Northern Sign Company / Crumbl Cookies) 26060 Ingersol Drive, East of Novi Road and North of Eleven Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-14-351-063. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Code of Ordinances Section 28-7(a)(11) for 100% window coverage by utilizing etched vinyl sign graphics. Only 25% of all the glass area of the frontage of the building may be covered by signage by code (variance of 75%). This property is zoned Town Center (TC).

PZ21-0053 (Robert O'Neill) 114 Bernstadt Street, East of West Park Drive and South of South Lake Drive, Parcel 50-22-03-454-019. The applicant is requesting variances from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a side yard setback of 4.75 feet (10 feet minimum required, variance of 5.25 feet) and an aggregate total side yard setback of 13.25 feet (25 feet required, variance of 11.75 feet). Section 4.19.1.E(i) for 1,152 square foot of garage space (maximum of 850 square feet allowed by code, variance of 302 square feet). This variance would accommodate the building of a home addition. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4).

PZ21-0054 (Dana Ziegler and Martin Vallespinos) 48950 Nine Mile Road, East of Garfield Road and North of Nine Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-29-326-021. The applicant is requesting a special approval pursuant to the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 4.19(1)(k) to convert an existing detached accessory building into a home office, by code the use of a detached accessory building in a residential district for use other than use other than the parking and storage of private motor vehicles, tools, recreation equipment or dog houses shall require review and approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals. This property is zoned Residential Acreage (RA).

PZ21-0055 (Harman International) 30001 Cabot Drive, West of Haggerty Road and North of Thirteen Mile, Parcel 50-22-01-400-032. The applicant is requesting a variance from the Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 5.11.2A for the installation of a fence in the exterior side yard. The ordinance states "no fence shall extend into a front or exterior side yard." This property is zoned Office Service Technology (OST).

PZ21-0056 (Joseph Yono) 1401 E Lake Drive, West of Novi Road and South of Fourteen Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-02-329-027. The applicant is requesting a variance from The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.32-10.ii. a. for the building of a proposed 392 square foot shed on the waterfront (100 square feet allowed by code, variance of 292 square feet). The variance would accommodate the building of a new lakefront accessory structure. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4).

PZ21-0057 (Veres Signs / The Springs Apartments) 30995 Springlake Boulevard, East of Beck Road and South of W Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-04-200-011. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Code of Ordinances Section 28-5(a) footnote (3) for a 30 square foot (159" x 27.25") illuminated entranceway sign. By code the maximum height allowed is 5 feet and sign area no larger than 24 sq. ft (variance of an additional 6 square feet of sign area and 1-foot 3-inches in height). This property is zoned low-density multiple family (RM-1).

PZ21-0058 (Matthew Bedikian) 43465 Ellesmere Circle, west of Old Novi Road and North of Twelve Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-10-281-026. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 4.19.1.E(j) for a proposed 984 square feet of total accessory structure space (maximum of 850 square feet allowed by code, variance of 134 square feet). This variance would accommodate the building of a 360 square foot freestanding patio canopy. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4).

PZ21-0059 (Mr. Cool Marine LLC) 40100 Grand River Avenue, West of Haggerty Road and North of Grand River Avenue, Parcel 50-22-24-251-022. The applicant is requesting variances from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.18.D for interior side yard setbacks of 10 feet and 5 feet (20 feet required by code, variances of 10 feet and 15 feet respectively) and Section 3.14.1.B ii for the placement of two storage tanks within the required interior side yard setback. This property is zoned Light Industrial (I-1).

PZ21-0060 (Tappers Fine Jewelry) 20800 Haggerty Road, East of Haggerty Road and North of Eight Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-36-476-003. The applicant is requesting variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 5.4.2 to eliminate the requirement for a loading and unloading zone, a loading zone is required by code. This variance would accommodate the building of a new jewelry store and showroom at the site of the former Big Boy restaurant. This property is zoned Freeway Service (FS).

PZ21-0022 (Dan and Wendi Williams) 1419 W Lake Drive, East of West Park Drive and South of W Pontiac Trail, Parcel 50-22-03-204-021. The applicant is requesting variances from The City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a side yard setback of 5 feet (10 feet minimum required, variance of 5 feet); an aggregate total side yard setback of 17.75 feet (25 feet required, variance of 7.25 feet); and a proposed lot coverage of 32% (25% maximum allowed, variance of 7%). Section 3.32-7 for a proposed deck 13.5 feet from the rear yard property line (17 feet minimum required, variance of 3.5 feet). Section 4.19.1.E(ii) for the construction of a 1,157 square foot garage (maximum of 850 square feet allowed by code, variance of 307 square feet). Section 3.1.5 for a third story, 2.5 stories allowed by code. These variances would accommodate the building of a new home and deck. This property is zoned Single Family Residential (R-4). This case is being re-considered based on the Zoning Board's decision to rehear the case at the August 10, 2021 meeting.

Publish: September 23, 2021

LO-000000000 342.5

Man arrested, accused of robbing driver in Lyon Kroger parking lot

Susan Vela | Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A South Lyon man, 21, is accused of carjacking and robbing \$500 from someone in the Kroger parking lot of Lyon Township.

Oakland County Sheriff's deputies said the victim was sitting in the parking lot near Pontiac Trail and Eight Mile Road the night of Sept. 15 when the crime happened.

He told law enforcers an unknown man approached the driver side door and asked for a ride.

The victim said no, which led the oth-

er man to walk to the passenger-side door, open the door and brandish a pocket knife, deputies said.

The suspect ordered the victim to drive to a nearby credit union so that he could give him \$1,800, to which the victim said he only had \$500 that he could hand over.

The victim provided the money, and, upon orders, drove the suspect to a Novi apartment building.

He then drove to the South Lyon Police Department to make a report that ultimately involved the sheriff's office.

Novi police were contacted and made the arrest.

CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF OFFICIAL PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clerk's Office will conduct a Public Accuracy Test of the Optical Scan tabulating equipment to be used for the Election to be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. The test will be conducted at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program and computer that will be used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law. This test is open to all interested parties. For further information, contact the Novi City Clerk's Office at 248-347-0456.

CORTNEY HANSON, MMC, MiPMC II
CITY CLERK

Publish: September 23, 2021

LO-000000000 342.5

LEGAL NOTICE STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF OAKLAND CITY OF NOVI ORDINANCE NO. 21-188.01

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AT CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS," SECTION 28-1, "DEFINITIONS," SECTION 28-3, "PERMITS," SECTION 28-5, "ALLOWED IN ALL DISTRICTS," SECTION 28-8, "OFF-PREMISES SIGNS," SECTION 28-9, "NON-COMMERICAL MESSAGE PERMITTED; RIGHT-OF-WAY," SECTION 28-10, "PROHIBITED SIGNS," AND SECTION 28-14, "NON-CONFORMING AND ABANDONED SIGNS," IN ORDER TO REMOVE REFERENCES TO ON- AND OFF-PREMISES SIGNS, TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "HIGHWAY SIGN," AND TO MAKE OTHER REVISIONS TO SIGN STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN PERMANENT SIGNS.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, September 13, 2021 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Publish: September 23, 2021

LO-000000000 342.5

Interior designer sets up shop in Northville

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sam Sobh traveled the world before landing in downtown Northville.

The Dearborn resident and interior designer worked locally before heading overseas to work for the royal family in Dubai. After traveling the world and continuing interior design work, he yearned to return to Wayne County to be closer to family.

"I wanted to come back," he said. "I came back here in, because over there, you can't really start a business and do your thing."

Now after several other stints, he's found his way to Northville: Sobh opened Design Du Jour in early August at 184 E. Main St., in the space formerly occupied by Pear-Aphernalia, which relocated across the street earlier this year.

The gallery features several unique and one-of-a-kind pieces, from pillows to bedding to décor and more. It also serves as Sobh's resume, showcasing the type of work he can do for clients interested in his services.

After returning to the United States, Sobh said he worked at RH at Somerset Collection in Troy before opening his own interior design shop in Grosse Pointe Park.

Issues at that property, along with the fact that he was always seeing clients in western Wayne County, made him consider relocating.

"I was locking up the space, filling up my car and driving to my clients," he said. "And I was like, 'What am I doing?'"

He hadn't considered Northville until he stopped downtown to meet someone. That was when he saw the empty storefront and knew it would fit his shop perfectly.

"I was coming to meet a friend for lunch. I walked by the bank, walked across the street and looked over and said, 'What is that?'" he said. "I looked in and said, 'This is kind of made for me.'"

He inquired about and took over the space earlier this summer, prepping it for about two months before opening.

He's made a name for himself, securing some large clients, including the home of former Detroit Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford, where he said he did some interior designing at he and his wife Kelly's home in Bloomfield Township before he was traded to the Los Angeles Rams.

Doing work at their home for their children's rooms was a great experience, Sobh said.



The showroom of Design Du Jour in downtown Northville. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"With me, she was really, really down to earth," Sobh said. "It was cool. He was down to earth, very fun."

The new Northville shop features large pieces such as table and chairs, couches and beds. Smaller pieces include candles, small gifts and décor pieces for all types of styles.

Sobh said Design Du Jour offers something for everyone, even if visitors are looking for one small, simple piece.

"You can get cool accessories without breaking the bank," he said. "I want to curate (the shop) like a home."

Like many other businesses, Sobh said he's seen plenty of activity with Main Street closed down. Lots of foot traffic comes in his store, especially on Friday and Saturday nights, as people look to get out and see what downtown has to offer.

"The walking traffic has been amazing," Sobh said. For more information, visit design-dujour.com.



A sofa, throw blanket, pillows, wall art and sconces from Design Du Jour.

Main Street Tees opens retail shop in downtown Milford

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

After five years without a retail shop, Milford's own Main Street Tees finally has an address along its namesake road.

The T-shirt and printing company opened a storefront in downtown Milford. Located at 338 N. Main St., the shop is a testament to the work owners Aaron and Megan Moorhouse can do when it comes to creating images on shirts and other items.

"We wanted to open a storefront to offer retail selection and also to support businesses and events and stuff like that," he said. "We wanted the foot traffic and the exposure."

The new shop occupies the space formerly held by Hearts and Hands Home Health Care. The shop opened during Milford Memories after the couple completed extensive renovations to the interior. Inside, they sell shirts and other gift items, with most of them being printed by them.

Inside, shoppers can see a range of the type of work the shop does, including on T-shirts, mugs and more. In addition to the premade prints they sell, Aaron Moorhouse said the new shop allows customers to walk right in with an idea and work with them to create custom products that meet their needs.

"A lot of the selection, we try to showcase a lot of different availability of stuff," he said. "People can bring their ideas or a design. If you bring in an idea, I have access to hundreds of thousands of designs I can pick through."

Customers who stop



Main Street Tees can custom print T-shirts, but they also have a good selection of shirts and sweatshirts ready to go. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Main Street Tees in downtown Milford is owned by Aaron and Megan Moorhouse.

by the store looking for seasonal products are also in luck. As the leaves change color, so do the displays at Main Street Tees: transitioning out are celebrations of summer like shirts that say "Lake Life" and in are shirts paying homage to

fall favorites like pumpkins.

"Every holiday and season, we'll switch it," Aaron Moorhouse said.

Despite the local shop, the Moorhouses said they'll continue working with businesses from across the country, as

they've done since they first launched. Customers who find Main Street Tees online can continue to work with the company for creating and shipping orders across the country.

As the Milford shop finds its footing, Aaron

Moorhouse said he hopes to open other shops in the future, especially in walkable downtown vacation communities such as Grand Haven.

"Milford Memories solidified that we need to be in a town that has constant foot traffic," he said.

More information can be found online at mainstreetteesmilford.com.

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



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Sheriff, MSP report more road rage, aggressive driving incidents

Susan Vela HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Rage, anxiety, frustration and other pandemic-inspired emotions are weighing on drivers, leading to a noticeable spike in road-rage incidents.

Two of the state's biggest law enforcement agencies don't have up-to-date numbers, partly because road rage doesn't fall into a single crime category.

But Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard confirmed that deputies are noticing more aggressive behavior in many different settings.

Driving in his unmarked county vehicle, the sheriff has witnessed drivers running red lights and trying to cut off other drivers. One even waved an obscene gesture in his direction.

"I've stopped a number of cars personally in the last few weeks for just outrageous driving behavior," Bouchard said. "For me to stop you, you have to do something pretty, pretty serious or pretty, pretty stupid. I've seen both."

"I had a woman fly by me and then cut me off and so I kind of moved over and came up to the next lane to look at her. Before I even got to the window, she was giving me the bird."

Michigan State Police reported another road rage incident in Livonia the night of Aug. 27. A driver reported another driver shot at him once a road-rage incident began near Interstate 96 and Telegraph Road. The suspect gave a different location of eastbound Interstate 96 and Newburgh Road in Livonia.

"They stated that they and the driver of a red car were road raging when the driver of the red car pointed a shotgun at them and fired," troopers said in their report. "Two shots were allegedly fired as reported by the suspect with one believed to have struck the victim's tire. The first caller has confirmed that his tire was struck by gunfire causing a flat tire."

Lt. Mike Shaw said incidents like this are most definitely higher than last year.

He said his agency is dealing with a handful of calls each day regarding road



Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard recommends practicing kindness to other drivers while on the road. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

rage incidents. Common confrontations involve slamming on brakes, swerving toward other drivers and throwing objects out windows.

He's concerned that anti-police sentiments have drivers wrongly concluding they should take road matters into their own hands.

He advises anyone dealing with a road rager to call 911 immediately so that law enforcers get a chance to stop the aggressive driver's behavior.

"Just because somebody cut you off or didn't use their turn signal, that's not a reason to resort to violence," Shaw said.

Hometown Life has reported on a

handful road-rage incidents in recent months. In Livonia, a driver pointed a gun at a car with eight children inside. Also, in Livonia, a 47-year-old man was arrested for trying to drag another driver out of his vehicle, yanking off one of his shoes and throwing it across Plymouth Road.

There also were a few Plymouth Township M-14 incidents involving guns, albeit one was a BB gun.

Livonia Police Lt. Charles Lister and Plymouth Township Police Chief Thomas Tiderington still consider road rage confrontations rarities for their patrol regions.

The Farmington Hills Police Depart-

ment is participating in Operation Brison, launched by the Detroit Police Department. The effort is named after a 2-year-old fatally shot on Interstate 75. The hope is to increase freeway patrols to prevent road rage incidents.

While increased patrols are always an option, both Shaw and Bouchard reiterated that de-escalation is key.

"Don't sweat the little things," Bouchard said. "So many of these things don't matter. Take a breath and just move on. That would be my advice."

"If you encounter an aggressive driver, you don't know what they're capable of. It's not worth it. If they're driving in an unsafe reckless or dangerous fashion, call the police and let them deal with it."

He advises drivers targeted by road ragers to disengage by not looking at them or slowing down. Drivers also could get off an exit and pop back on to see if the other driver is following.

"(But) don't stop at a parking lot to engage in a discussion. That never has a good outcome," the sheriff said.

He shared that he ended up talking to the woman who flashed him a middle finger.

She told him she was just so upset because she was concerned about being late for an appointment. He was able to calm her down by sharing some advice, for example, about stress, her family and her health. She eventually apologized and agreed that his advice was spot on. He didn't write a ticket.

"She took that breath," Bouchard said. "Understand that so many people - again, not just on the road, but in all settings - have a whole bunch of stressors in their life. They could have somebody sick at home. They could be sick. They could be very afraid of this disease. They could be angry about some of the precautions."

He recommends kindness. And that includes letting other cars into the lane.

"One car length isn't going to keep you from getting to your appointment," he said. "Be kind to each other, and a lot of this stuff just washes away."

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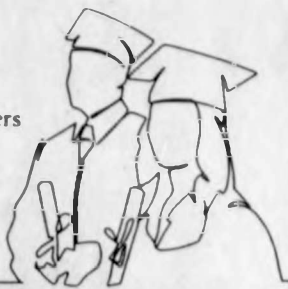
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The Michigan Elder Law Reporter™

SEPTEMBER 2021

31 Years Serving Michigan Seniors

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 9.3

LIKE SANDS THROUGH THE HOURGLASS...

TRUTH: STRANGER THAN FICTION?

SO ARE THE QUESTIONS OF OUR LIVES

Ladies and gentlemen, the stories you are about to read are true. If we knew their names, we would have changed them to protect the innocent.
But we don't, so we didn't. We also did not edit the questions for spelling, grammar, or punctuation. Well, hardly at all.

Can I get a salary in addition to free room and board while caring for a parent who has dementia?

I live with my mother who has dementia. I care for her 9 pm until 9 am every day. I get free room and board and gas. No salary compensation

Night Ranger

Dear Night:

Bad news: Paying a family member for care services is near impossible.

Good news: You may still get the homestead.

HOW TO GET PAID CARING FOR MOM

Ray: I did it all. Not once did I ask "What's in it for me?"

Shoeless Joe: What are you saying, Ray?

Ray: I'm saying "What's in it for me?"

Field of Dreams

BAD NEWS RULES

- NO PAY FOR YOU

Getting paid for caring for your loved one without breaking the rules is complex, confusing, and convoluted. You might even think that the rules are unworkable on purpose.

Here's what you need:

1. Legal contract. Written. Dated. Notarized.
2. Contract first. Services and Payment second.
3. No payment until services are performed.
4. No advance payment for future services or expenses.
5. Mom must live at home. Not in a "nursing facility, adult foster care home (licensed or unlicensed), institution for mental diseases, inpatient hospital, intermediate care facility." Maybe your home.
6. Mom cannot "be eligible for home and



community-based waiver, home health or home help."

7. Mom's doctor must prescribe the services in writing. With a care plan. And certify that without your help, mom would be going to a "residential care or nursing facility" pronto!
8. No pay for "companionship."
9. Mom must sign the contract. Except #10.
10. Mom's court-appointed guardian or conservator, or Patient Advocate or agent under mom's power of attorney, may sign the contract. But the caregiver cannot be the representative.
11. Mom's care plan must get Medicaid's OK.
12. All these arrangements go under the Medicaid Microscope. Medicaid will "review[]" the written instrument between the client and the provider which must show the type, frequency and duration of such services being provided to the client and the amount of consideration (money or property) being received by the provider, or in accordance with a service plan approved by [Medicaid]." Ouch!!

GOOD NEWS RULES

- HOUSE FOR YOU

Normally, mom cannot give you the house. (Unless you are blind or disabled.) without suffering severe penalties.

Here's how it works:

1. Mom transfers the homestead to a child (you).
2. You lived in mom's house for at least two (2) years.
3. Mom will now receive Medicaid long-term care services.
4. You provided care that would otherwise have required long-term care services.
5. Mom's physician (M.D. or D.O.) documented #4.

So, if you are caring for mom at home, and living there too, you can't get paid without penalty, but you can get the house. After 2 years of pretty intense care. While you are actually residing in mom's house. Not next door. Or down the street. Change your driver's license, etc.

STRANGER THAN FICTION LESSON

MOM CANNOT PAY YOU \$10 PER HOUR, BUT MOM CAN GIVE YOU A MILLION-DOLLAR HOUSE

Can a family member kick you out you are their soul [sole?] caregiver and their power of attorney but it's their house and you pay rent

My mom got sick 9 years ago after my dad passed away I sold my house quit my job of 28 years and moved in with her and my grandmother and my son. It is her house we have been here for 9 years

Unappreciated

Dear Unappreciated: As you now know, mom cannot pay you for services, even if she wanted to. As it is, you have no ability to require her to allow you to stay. If mom wants to evict you, she is within her rights. Mom can also revoke the power of attorney.

Three years ago, that was the time to figure out what you and your mom were willing to do for one another. That was the time to make a deal. Of course, you were not thinking of "making a deal" when you rode to the rescue. Which is why folks need to consult with an elder law attorney when making these sorts of life-changing decisions.

Yes, it seems cruel and harsh to suggest that you should "lawyer up" when you are just trying to help in a desperate situation. On the other hand, maybe a brief consultation would avoid the cruelty and harshness of being evicted by your own mom after you made such profound sacrifices for her.

Can a poa act as executor for a mentally incapacitated person named as executor?

I have a family member who claims to have poa for my mentally incapacitated parent. My parent was named as executor and that family member is claiming to be executor because of that alleged poa..

Skeptical

Dear Skeptical: The short answer is No. Your parent's agent is acting for your parent. Only. If you named a close friend to take care of your affairs, would you want a friend of your close

friend to make your decisions? Of course not. It does not work that way.

It can be uncomfortable to challenge the family member's claims. But you must. Do not let the "family member" get away with this sort of thing. Pushing the decision down the road will only make things worse. Much worse. Do not avoid the situation! Confrontation is tough. Be tough. Act now.

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The rich do not need me. Folks without savings. I cannot directly help. (Although a percentage of all gross revenue goes to charities.) That leaves you. Regular folks. The middle-class savers, workers, builders that I can help. You reject nursing home poverty. You choose the path of reasonable optimism, while guarding against the potential downsides. Hope for the Best, Plan for the Worst.

The LifePlan™ approach is the least expensive, most effective solution to the harsh reality of long-term care. Open your eyes to long-term care costs. Accept reality. Seventy percent (70%) of us aged 65 will need these services. Average: 3 years. Twenty percent (20%) of us will need services for more than 5 years. Says the federal government. Refuse to allow your lifesavings evaporate like a snowflake on a hot griddle. Recognize the reality of the caregiver spouse dying first, almost half the time and fix it. Reject nursing home poverty.

NOT CHANCE, YOUR CHOICE

UNCOVER THE ELEPHANT!

There is nothing inevitable about nursing home poverty. Peace of mind and security are waiting for you. Right now. It is a choice. Despite what "everybody else" says. Despite their attempts to disguise the elephants in the room. For over thirty years, people have told me, "I've never heard of this before!" "If this is real, why doesn't everyone do it?" "My lawyer / financial advisor / brother-in-law / accountant / tax person / banker / best friend / fill-in-the-blank never said anything like this..."

Well, here you are. Now you know. No excuses. Get the information, insight, inspiration. It is your turn. Ignore the message? Invite poverty? Or get the freely offered information. To make wise decisions. For you. For your loved ones.

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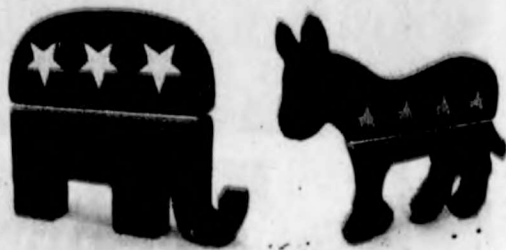
David Carrier

IF THE SHOE FITS...

PARTISAN POLITICS? ME?

Faithful Readers: Like most of you, I believe that cheerfulness, hard work, perseverance, loyalty, openness, and love of others are the path to success. We do not suffer smug, sanctimonious, divisive, destructive, pseudo-intellectuals gladly. Recently, I reacted to a new book that neatly encapsulates the sneering, unearned, assumed superiority, of the incompetent chattering class. You may recall the piece: "They Do Not Hate You; They Despise You."

Well. You and I are willing to "suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." And most of



you were warmly supportive, even enthusiastic. But there was one reaction, profane and obscene... that suggested I was indulging in "partisan politics." How is that possible?

Is it true that support for the American middle class is a "partisan" issue? Not in my experience. I cannot believe it. I do not believe it. Honesty and integrity, respect for others; forthright conversation in the marketplace of ideas. Partisan? How? Is there a party in favor of censorship, suppression, and "holier-than-thou", self-righteous preening?

WEAR IT!

We are committed to helping American working women and men avoid nursing home poverty and secure the best possible future for themselves and their families. We make the rules work for the folks who play by the rules. We do not appreciate deception, snobbery, or phony empathy. Simple as that.

If some folks decide to be on the other side, that is their personal choice, not ours. And we would welcome them back at any time. With open arms! But "partisan"? "politics"? Good grief. No. Not in a million years.

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Livonia pilot crashes glider plane into Lyon Twp. pond

Susan Vela hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

An ultralight glider plane crashed into a Lyon Township pond, severely damaging the aircraft but leaving the Livonia pilot uninjured.

Deputies from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office said they were dispatched to the 2800 block of Oakmonte Circle East at about 7:19 p.m. Sept. 19 because of the reported crash.

The Livonia pilot, 24, was the lone occupant of the aircraft and was pulling his glider out of the water when the report was made.

The pilot told deputies he had taken off from the Oakland/Southwest Airport in New Hudson about 15 minutes before his engine seized, causing him to

force a landing into the pond.

The plane did not require any registration or license.

The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board were contacted but did not visit the scene because of the type of aircraft involved.

The pilot placed the plane into a trailer and removed it from the area.

A single-engine plane crashed into a nearby home on Dakota Drive in January, killing a Northville family returning home.

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



Lyon Township residents rushed to help when an ultralight glider plane crashed into a nearby pond Sept. 19. SUBMITTED

Murder

Continued from Page 1A

in a field in the Island Lake Recreation Area in Livingston County.

"If new information is ever developed it will be followed up on," said Detective Lt. Erik Darling with the Michigan State Police. "Cases this old do present a variety of unique challenges further complicating an already complex problem. People move away, memories fade, evidence degrades, etc."

"We certainly do understand the family's frustration. These cases frustrate us as well. We are certainly willing to invest time and resources into these cases as long as there is some reasonable, tangible lead to pursue. At this point, with this case, we simply don't have that."

Arthurs remembers horseback riding and babysitting with Kim, who wanted to become a nurse. But a strong-willed Kim started skipping school when she became involved with an older boyfriend.

"Up until then, she did good in school," Arthurs said. "She had a lot of friends. She wasn't a partyer. She liked horses. She loved to dance. She liked the beaches."

Kim's body was discovered nearly a

month after she left home on March 18, 1982, to be with her boyfriend, whose family was moving from Redford Township to Detroit. Kim is known to have stayed with the boyfriend's family until March 21, when one of the boyfriend's relatives called Kim's residence to say she would be home soon.

The boyfriend's brother apparently drove her to Eight Mile and Merriman roads, and Kim was last seen walking west toward South Lyon on Eight Mile Road.

Police have said she most likely was picked up by a motorist. Arthurs said she has learned her sister tried to reach at least four people for a ride home that day. Arthurs' haunting point is there may have been others.

"My parents were extremely upset, because the police weren't trying to find her," Arthurs said. "They were just saying, 'She'll show up.' (My parents) kept trying to convince them she's not a runaway. That made it hard. It was a very stressful three weeks for the family."

Arthurs' memories faded after her parents told her police had confirmed Kim's death. Arthurs was 13 years old at the time.

Her parents would take her out of South Lyon schools and enroll her in the Livonia school system for a fresh start. She would try both church and counseling as means of dealing with her sister's



Louise

death.

"I still don't have much memory from before her, before it happened," Arthurs admitted. "I don't know if I ever will. That bothers me bad."

"I'm wondering if that's why I'm so bound and determined. I don't know if it's because I feel guilty that I don't remember a lot of stuff."

Her commitment to filling in the blanks officially began with surfing the Internet. The sheer lack of information about her big sister prompted Arthurs to begin posting and informing social media users. She targeted metro Detroit communities and groups tuned to cold cases.

Arthurs, who has been in contact with investigators, said her sister's boyfriend was ruled out as a suspect.

It's been a while now, but "Already Gone" podcast host Nina Innsted once talked to Arthurs about her sister's unsolved murder.

"Her sister Cindy has been very vocal, on Facebook in particular," Innsted said. "You don't get a lot of teenage girls being brutally murdered and dumped in a public park. When you look at it from that standpoint, it feels like her case should have been solved."

"I think that there were some factors

working against it, one of them being time. She went missing and there were no leads. They were already behind the eight ball when they found her body. I have a ton of sympathy for her sister."

Innsted's podcast episode, "Three Stories," also focused on the cold cases of Anne Doroghazi and Christina Castiglione.

Like Louise's, their murders are reaching the 40-year mark.

The partially-clothed body of Doroghazi, a 20-year-old Camp Dearborn staffer, was found in a Milford ditch, near the camp and off of General Motors Road, the morning of September 29, 1981. Milford police say she was murdered Sept. 27 or 28.

Castiglione, 19, of Redford Township was last seen walking on Five Mile Road, west of Telegraph Road, between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. on March 19, 1983. Sexually assaulted and strangled, her body was found 10 days later in the Oak Grove State Game Area in Livingston County.

Arthurs plans to have the names of Doroghazi and Castiglione on her fliers. She's well aware that her sister's case could still go unsolved.

"Even if it never gets solved, I just need to know that people know she existed, they know what happened to her," Arthurs said.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com.

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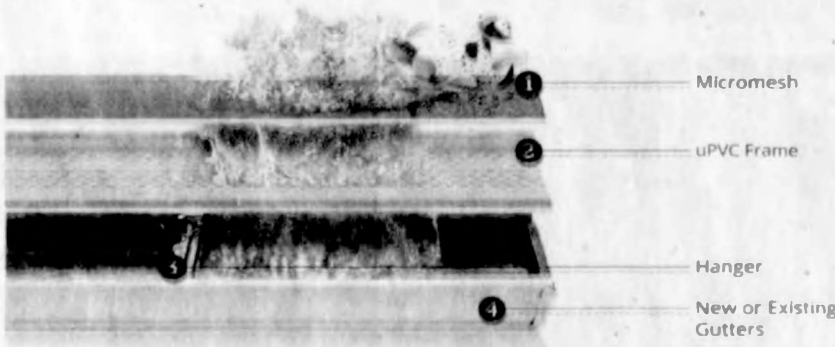
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Karen Belanger, paramedic
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should do it if you're able to.

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Outages

Continued from Page 1A

Trent Frey, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service, agreed that 2021 is far above normal for severe storms in the 17 counties covered by the White Lake station, which includes the thumb and metro Detroit.

Since January, the weather service had issued 136 severe thunderstorm or tornado warnings, just hours ahead of another storm on Sept. 14 that followed a severe thunderstorm less than 24 hours before.

"That places us at this point, the seventh most warnings issued in a year going back to 1986," Frey said.

Over the course of the last 35 years the average for severe storms is in the low 100s, with 2004 being the highest year in that period for storm warnings with 191. Other high scoring years were 2006 and 2007 with 160 each, and 2011 also active with 150 warnings issued.

Over the course of the last 35 years the average for severe storms is in the low 100s, with 2004 being the highest year in that period for storm warnings with 191. Other high scoring years were 2006 and 2007 with 160 each, and 2011 also active with 150 warnings issued.

From 2015 to 2020, he said it has actually been below 100 annually.

"So we had a good six-year stretch, a relatively quiet period," Frey said. "This year is obviously quite a bit above."

He explained that the higher number of severe storms is a function of how the overall weather pattern set up with a

front draping over the region leading to additional storms that persist for more than a day and make for a couple rounds of storms during a given week.

The National Weather Service issues a "severe thunderstorm warning" when conditions are favorable for winds in excess of 58 mph, or a storm capable of producing hail in excess of 1-inch in diameter. For tornadoes, meteorologists consider conditions that create instability in wind shear.

The National Weather Service has implemented a new system this year in which "considerable" or "catastrophic" tags can be attached to warnings. A base warning comes with 58 mph winds, "considerable" is reached with 70 mph winds, and 80 mph is a catastrophic or destructive storm.

On July 24, the considerable tag was given to a storm that reached 70 mph winds in Wayne and Washtenaw, and up to 80 mph with a tornado that touched down in Walled Lake, two miles south of the National Weather Service office.

On Aug. 11, a storm with 80 mph

winds blew through St. Clair, Sanilac, Lapeer and Macomb counties.

These summer storms can't be attributed to climate change until more research is done, Frey said, "but that is the trend we are expecting as the climate warms and changes. This extreme weather will be more common."

The most severe weather is tapering off at this point as the heat and humidity fades and fall weather arrives. This winter will usher in the second La Nina system in a row, which normally means a wetter season, with more rain and snowstorms the typical pattern for the Great Lakes. However, Frey noted that is not what happened last year.

"We had La Nina last winter and didn't see that pattern," he said. "There will be the potential for that, but there are a lot of other variables we have yet to determine."

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

Frog

Continued from Page 1A

"From everything we've learned, it's a very, very rare honor," Dwight Sieggreen said. "When we received the call that this was happening, her mother (Mary) and I shed a few tears. We're incredibly proud, to say the least."

Until the time of her death Sieggreen was a curator of amphibians at the Detroit Zoo. The species of frogs that now bears her name is endemic to the Peruvian Amazonian region where Sieggreen led the DZS's involvement in an assessment of amphibian populations.

Allobates sieggreenae is endemic to the Peruvian Amazonian region where Sieggreen led the DZS's involvement in an assessment of amphibian populations. The project included field surveys to document species living in several sites and testing for chytridiomycosis, a disease that is wiping out amphibian populations throughout South America and other parts of the world.

"Of all the things that would have given Marcy pleasure, this would be her



A new species of frog, *Allobates sieggreenae*, is named after late Northville resident Marcy Sieggreen.
COURTESY OF NOVATAXBLOGSPOT.COM

great joy," Dwight Sieggreen said. "This is a priceless gift and there are no words to express how grateful we are that she is honored in this way. We knew her love for both amphibians and Peru."

"How fortunate it was that she was able to combine the two and contribute to the field. We owe a special thank you to all those who made this recognition possible: the Detroit Zoo family, am-



Northville native Marcy Sieggreen, who died at the age of 43 in 2016, is pictured during a trip to the Amazon.
COURTESY OF THE DETROIT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

phibian scientists and the Peruvian people."

Sieggreen oversaw all programs and operations at the Detroit Zoo's National Amphibian Conservation Center (NACC), including animal care, breeding, conservation programs, guest experiences and research.

Sieggreen also led the DZS's cooperative breeding efforts for many endan-

gered amphibian species, helping to restore populations in wild habitats. She served on the board of the international Amphibian Survival Alliance and on several Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) committees.

Sieggreen also led the Amazonian component of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Amphibian Red List Assessment.

"Marcy was an incredible force in the DZS' work to celebrate and save wildlife. Her passion for amphibians and their conservation was unmatched," said Scott Carter, DZS chief life sciences officer. "This is a beautiful tribute for an extraordinary person."

Sieggreen was working toward a Ph.D. in environmental science through New England's Antioch University. She earned a master's degree in biological science from Wayne State University and bachelor's degrees in Earth Science, Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems and Geography from Eastern Michigan University.

Sieggreen attended Northville's Moraine Elementary School, Meads Mill Middle School and Northville High School.

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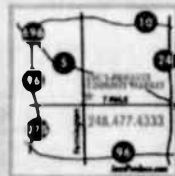


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Moving forward



Livonia Stevenson sophomore pom team member Sophia Bihun poses with head coach Erica Hunter.

Stevenson pom athlete looks to future after losing home in fire

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Erica Hunter's first season with Livonia Stevenson pom team was in 2020. Eleven years of coaching experience was on her side as she inherited a young roster with 14 freshmen.

Sophia Bihun stood out to her right away. She was a skilled pommer, coming from the reigning state champion Livonia Pom team for middle schoolers. She was a hard worker, but quiet.

But the rigorous schedule for high school pom was something Bihun was already accustomed to prior to her arrival at Stevenson through the Livonia Pom program.

"They make you really, truly feel like a family," Kelly Bihun said of her daughter Sophia's time with Livonia Pom. "You are doing a lot of togetherness, you are practicing for that young of an age, three, four days a week, being pushed to your limits."

"When you think you can't do it anymore, you do it one more time."

Pom was Bihun's competitive outlet, transitioning from dance starting in the fifth grade. It was where her social circle was, where she made the transition from middle school to high school. It was where she came out of her shell.

And when the Bihun family's lives changed forever, it's where Sophia found an escape.

Devastating fire

Kelly Bihun will never forget the exact time: 10:39 p.m.

It was a Saturday night in late January. Bihun and her daughter Sophia were on the couch watching TV. Kelly's son Jack was in his bedroom playing video games and her husband was asleep.

She heard a pop.

See **ATHLETE**, Page 48



Bihun's home was destroyed in a fire Jan. 23. PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELLY BIHUN

New AD at Plymouth brings in experience

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Fueled by a series of powerful life experiences, Chaka Johnson feels he is more than ready to lead the Plymouth High School athletic department into the future.

Most recently a special education teacher and assistant athletic director for the Harper Woods School District, the former Division 1 college football player/entrepreneur/banker was hired to succeed Ray Miller, who is transitioning into a traditional assistant principal position at Plymouth.

"I've been training for this position pretty much my entire life," said Johnson, whose hiring was approved Sept. 14 by a unanimous vote of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education. "I was born into a service-oriented community. My dad worked at Chrysler and was the president of our PAL football league in Detroit and my mom was an educator for 30 years for the Detroit Public Schools. They instilled strong values in me."

"When I wake up in the morning, I have a smile on my face when I get out of bed knowing that I have an opportunity to impact the Plymouth-Canton community."

Athletics have been a huge part of Johnson's life since he was young — but his resume reflects someone who has made contributions beyond stadiums and arenas.

Following a stellar high school basketball, football and academic career at Detroit Southwestern High School, Johnson earned a Bachelor of Science degree in communications and played running back at the University of Kansas.

"I was humbled when I first arrived at Kansas and saw athletes my age from Florida who looked like grown men," Johnson said, chuckling. "Playing college football taught me a lot of important life lessons, including the importance of commitment and sacrifice — we'd get up at 6 a.m. for workouts and we had study sessions that stretched into the night. I learned how important camaraderie is."

As a redshirt his first year at Kansas, Johnson watched in awe from the sidelines as a young Oklahoma State running back named Barry Sanders put on a show against the Jayhawks.

"I believe he rushed for 321 yards in the first half," Johnson recounted. "It was the most spectacular performance

See **NEW AD**, Page 28

Undeclared South Lyon silences Detroit Country Day

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Before South Lyon's Week 4 game against Detroit Country Day, senior Dakota Blackwell texted senior teammate Quinn Fracassi.

"I was like, 'Quinn. I know it. I told God. We're going to have a house call and it's going to go all nuts,'" Blackwell

said. "It's going to go crazy."

Teams had been kicking away from Fracassi on kickoffs for each of the past two weeks, not allowing him the opportunity to make a play with the ball in his hands.

In Friday's game, the Lions needed a boost.

Holding onto a 10-0 lead, Detroit Country Day methodically moved the

ball downfield, using a 13-play, 78-yard scoring drive, capped off by a six-yard touchdown run by sophomore Gabe Winowich, to cut its deficit to three points.

"They just drove it right down our throat and we had to do something," Fracassi said.

On the ensuing kickoff, fielding the ball at the 6-yard line Fracassi did something, following his blockers and break-

ing free on the right sideline for a 94-yard touchdown return.

With South Lyon (4-0) setting the tone at the start of the fourth quarter, the reigning Division 4 state champions were unable to close the floodgates as the Lions scored 21 unanswered points in the final quarter to beat Detroit

See **SOUTH LYON**, Page 7B



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Undefeated teams rule Hometown Life's top 10

Colin Gay [Hometownlife.com](#)
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Week 5 is here. Four games into the 2021 regular season, here's a look at the top-10 teams from Hometown Life's coverage area.

1. Livonia Churchill (4-0, Last Week: No. 1)

The Chargers seem to be getting better as the weeks continue, beating Wayne Memorial by 41 points, their largest margin of victory since Oct. 11, 2019. Look for Churchill to remain at the top as long as it continues its win streak.

2. South Lyon (4-0, Last Week: No. 2)

South Lyon continues to make statements with each game played. Hosting reigning Division 4 state champion Detroit Country Day, the Lions scored 21 unanswered points in the fourth quarter, leading to their first 4-0 start since 2019.

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

Lakeland cruised to a victory against Waterford Mott, setting up an undefeated showdown between the Eagles and South Lyon on their home turf.

4. Detroit Catholic Central (3-1, Last Week: No. 6)

Detroit Catholic Central continues its turnaround, beating Detroit U-D Jesuit by 14 at home. The Shamrocks will now try for their seventh-straight win against rival Brother Rice.

5. Brother Rice (3-1, Last Week: No. 4)

Brother Rice nearly squeaked out a win in Week 4 against De La Salle — the second straight season in which the Warriors lost by less than a touchdown to the Pilots. Look for the Warriors' matchup against CC to show how much

staying power this Brother Rice team has.

6. North Farmington (3-1, Last Week: No. 3)

The combination of quarterback Ryan Shelby and wide receivers Aaron Rice and Jasper Beeler were not enough to keep Oak Park from earning its first win of the season in Week 4. The Raiders will try and regroup against two-loss Rochester in Week 5.

7. Detroit Country Day (3-1, Last Week: No. 7)

Detroit Country Day struggled against South Lyon. Instead of using the physical rushing attack the Yellow-jackets are known for, the offense was forced to air it out, leading to rushed passes by quarterback Brandon Mann. Detroit Country Day remains in a position to make a deep run.

8. Novi (3-1, Last Week: No. 8)

Novi could be turning some heads in the KLAA West. Using a high-profile rushing attack headlined by Cole Shires, the Wildcats have won back-to-back contests in which the offense scored four touchdowns or more.

9. Bloomfield Hills (4-0, Last Week: NR)

What is happening in Bloomfield Hills? The Black Hawks are off to their first 4-0 start since 2016, averaging 33.5 points per game on offense, while allowing just over 10 points per game defensively.

10. Canton (2-2, Last Week: NR)

Back-to-back 50-point games have turned Canton's season around, allowing 34 combined points in each of the past two weeks to Plymouth and Northville, respectively.

Send game results and stats to LivSports@hometownlife.com.



South Lyon's Quinn Fracassi, right, comes down with a reception.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

WEEK 5 FOOTBALL PICKS

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.

Game (home team listed first):	Colin Gay	Ben Szilagyi	Phil Allmen	Coin Flip
Dearborn vs. Livonia Churchill	Livonia Churchill	Dearborn	Livonia Churchill	Dearborn
Livonia Franklin vs. Westland John Glenn	Livonia Franklin	Livonia Franklin	Livonia Franklin	Westland John Glenn
Wayne Memorial vs. Livonia Stevenson	Livonia Stevenson	Livonia Stevenson	Wayne Memorial	Livonia Stevenson
Canton vs. Novi	Canton	Canton	Novi	Novi
Brighton vs. Northville	Brighton	Brighton	Brighton	Brighton
Plymouth vs. Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Hartland	Plymouth
Howell vs. Salem	Howell	Howell	Howell	Howell
Detroit Catholic Central vs. Brother Rice	Detroit Catholic Central	Detroit Catholic Central	Brother Rice	Detroit Catholic Central
Milford vs. Walled Lake Western	Milford	Walled Lake Western	Milford	Walled Lake Western
Lakeland vs. South Lyon	South Lyon	South Lyon	Lakeland	Lakeland
South Lyon East vs. Paw Paw	South Lyon East	South Lyon East	South Lyon East	South Lyon East
Groves vs. Oak Park	Oak Park	Oak Park	Oak Park	Groves
Rochester vs. North Farmington	North Farmington	North Farmington	North Farmington	North Farmington
Bloomfield Hills vs. Farmington	Farmington	Farmington	Bloomfield Hills	Bloomfield Hills
Harper Woods vs. Detroit Country Day	Detroit Country Day	Detroit Country Day	Detroit Country Day	Harper Woods

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC [hometownlife.com](#) USA TODAY NETWORK

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Churchill (4-0) 49, Wayne Memorial (0-4) 8
Livonia Franklin at Dearborn Fordson; 7 p.m., Sept. 17
Belleville (3-1) 58, Livonia Stevenson (2-2) 0
Dearborn (3-1) 55, John Glenn (0-4) 13
Canton (2-2) 55, Northville (1-3) 27
Novi (3-1) 28, Brighton (1-3) 16: Novi used 248 rushing yards, including touchdowns from Cole Shires and Luke Aurilia, to get past Brighton at home.
Howell (4-0) 48, Plymouth (0-4) 0: Howell recorded 425 yards of offense compared to Plymouth's 60, handing the Wildcats their fourth loss of the season.
Salem at Hartland; 7 p.m., Sept. 17

Catholic High School League

De La Salle (3-0) 21, Brother Rice (3-1) 16
Detroit Catholic Central (3-1) 28, U-D Jesuit (1-3) 14
Cranbrook Kingswood 43, Madison Heights Bishop Foley 41

Lakes Valley Conference

Milford 28, Walled Lake Central 17
South Lyon (4-0) 31, Detroit Country

Day (3-1) 7
Walled Lake Western (2-2) 21 South Lyon East (1-3) 14
Lakeland (4-0) 35, Waterford Mott (3-1) 28

Oakland Activities Association

Groves (1-3) 21, Seaholm (0-4) 14: Sophomore Caden Hardy threw two touchdown passes as the Falcons earned their first win of the season against rival Seaholm.
Oak Park (1-3) 30, North Farmington (3-1) 24
Bloomfield Hills (4-0) 38, Auburn Hills Avondale (1-3) 6
Troy (4-0) 17, Farmington (0-4) 7

Independent

Livonia Clarenceville (4-0) 37, Macomb Lutheran North (2-2) 30

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Melvindale (3-1) 22, Garden City (1-3) 8
Dearborn Heights Robichaud 34, Redford Thurston 32
Redford Union (3-1) 28, Dearborn Heights Crestwood (2-2) 20; OT

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland (3-1) 31, Whitmore Lake (3-1) 28

New AD

Continued from Page 1B

I've ever seen ... a sign of things to come."

Johnson's best season at Kansas was in 1990 when he averaged 6.5 yards per carry

"I wasn't a speed demon, but I would make a lot of guys miss," he said. "When I was young, sometimes we'd play tackle football on concrete, which gave me incentive not to want to get tackled."

Johnson's post-college life has been anything but dull. He has coached four different sports at various levels, including a stint as an assistant women's basketball coach at University of Detroit Mercy.

"I even coached softball one year at Detroit Central High School," he added.

He has owned his own fitness company, worked in the financial industry as a banker at Chase Bank in Plymouth and served as a director of student development at U of D.

"I'm going to be a very involved athletic director," Johnson said. "No matter the sport, no matter the level — whether

it's football, basketball, tennis or bowling — you'll see me on the sidelines, observing the interaction between coaches and athletes. I'll be evaluating from Day 1. I'm absolutely going to be a hands-on type of athletic director.

"I'm also a big community relations guy. I like to get out in the community, speaking and engaging."

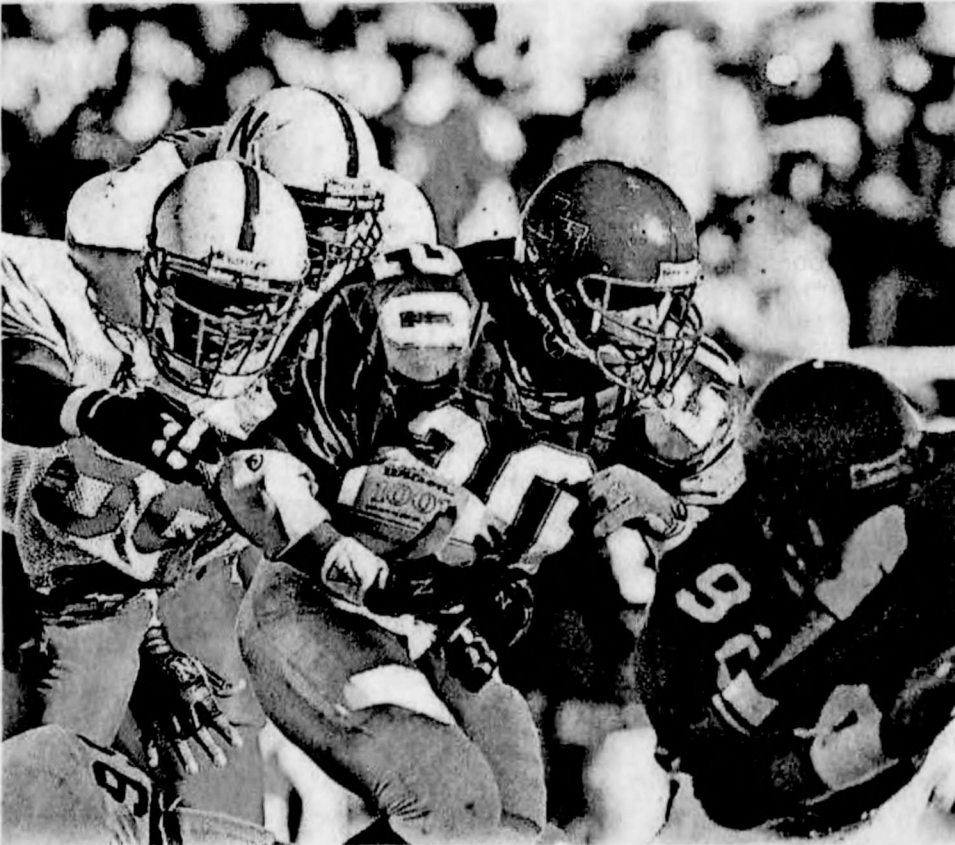
When he is not working, Johnson enjoys boating on Lake St. Clair, working out and spending time with his three children: Letesha, Israel and Jayden.

His circle of good friends includes former University of Michigan and NBA star Jalen Rose, currently an on-air talent at ESPN, and former NFL great Antonio Gates.

Johnson first met Rose while playing basketball at Southwestern for his uncle, legendary coach Perry Watson.

"I can't wait to get started," Johnson said, his enthusiasm reflected in his voice. "I truly believe this is what I was meant to do: impact young athletes' lives in a positive way, both on the field and off."

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



Chaka Johnson was a running back for the University of Kansas following a stellar high school gridiron career at Detroit Southwestern. GETTY IMAGES

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Four questions to ask prior to Week 5

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With four games complete and five more weeks to go in the 2021 regular season, teams are still trying to figure out what their identities are.

Here are four questions to ponder ahead of the start of the fifth week of the campaign.

Will CC beat Brother Rice again?

Brother Rice hasn't beaten Detroit Catholic Central since 2014, when the Warriors advanced to the regional final and lost by a score to De La Salle.

This reign of success in the rivalry for the Shamrocks has mirrored the team's overall play, making at least the regional final in four out of the last six seasons.

That same expectation followed Catholic Central into the 2021 season, but after a massive loss to Chippewa Valley in Week 1, those expectations have seemed to taper off a bit.

Brother Rice suffered its first loss of the season in Week 4 against De La Salle, losing by a touchdown or less.

Like it seemingly does every season, this matchup has huge implications for how the Catholic High School League will shake out.

Can Lakeland get over the hump in the LVC?

Lakeland technically won the Lakes Valley Conference title: finishing the 2020 season undefeated in league play. But in a shortened season, the Eagles got a bit lucky.

Their first three games of the year were against the big dogs of the LVC: Walled Lake Western, Waterford Mott and South Lyon. Since the league's emergence, the Eagles have never beaten all three teams in one season. In 2020, Lakeland finished the regular season undefeated, but faced only teams with either .500 or losing records.

Lakeland didn't get a chance to face Walled Lake Western in 2021. The Eagles' game against the Warriors was a forfeit after Walled Lake Western was short-handed in its Week 2 win against



Davison's Henry Carstarphen III, right, brings down Catholic Central's Mike Downs after Downs intercepted a pass intended for Carstarphen. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Walled Lake Northern.

Lakeland's win streak is still intact, beating Waterford Mott at home. But South Lyon dominated, scoring three touchdowns in the fourth quarter to blast past Detroit Country Day.

This game against the Lions will be key if Lakeland wants a district title.

Can Cole Shires carry Novi's run game?

Novi made a statement at home against Brighton in Week 4.

The Wildcats pounded the running game against the Bulldogs, recording

273 yards on the ground and three touchdowns, averaging nearly six yards per carry.

Cole Shires has been a big part of that success over the past two weeks. Facing Brighton and Salem combined, the running back scored five touchdowns, recording 252 yards on 36 carries, averaging exactly seven yards per carry.

Quarterback Luke Aurilia has been an important cog in Novi's offensive machine too, recording two passing touchdowns and a rushing touchdown in each of the past two weeks. But Novi's bread and butter seems to be Shires four weeks into the season.

Is Canton back?

One season after winning the KLAA West, Canton struggled out of the gate, scoring 44 points combined against Dearborn Fordson and Howell in the first two games of the season.

But the Chiefs seemed to have turned something on in the past two weeks, scoring at least 50 points in back-to-back games for the first time since 2016. Led by running backs Josiah West and Wesley Faulkner, the Canton offense only seems to be gaining steam ahead of its Week 5 meeting with Novi.

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Athlete

Continued from Page 1B

Strange noises were not uncommon in the Bihun household, living right off the Six Mile ramp of Interstate 275 at Newburgh Road in Livonia. Kelly Bihun wasn't fazed, thinking it was just a muffler, until she heard it again seconds later. Closer. Louder.

Kelly and Sophia jumped up from the couch, seeing a dim light from the basement. Thinking it was an intruder, Kelly yelled to Sophia, who was running to her room, "Go call 911." Sophia let both her brother and her father know something was going on before barricading herself in her bedroom.

Even when the smoke alarms went off, Sophia Bihun didn't put it all together, telling the dispatcher it was an intruder. She found out later that Kelly had called 911 from the basement to tell them what was truly going on: a fire, caused by a plugged-in hoverboard in the basement.

"I used to be one of those people who would think, 'How can you not get out of a fire? What's wrong with people?' You hear horror stories, right, until the day that this happened," Kelly Bihun said. "Now I can see how very quick it went from everything being fine to what happened."

Sophia got her brother Jack and ran downstairs, seeing the big black smoke billowing from the basement. Despite some miscommunication veiled in chaos, the Bihun family and their dog made it out.

All Sophia could do was watch from across the street at her neighbor's house.

"It was really hard to see," she said. "You just saw all your memories and everything because I was in that house since birth; we never moved, me or my brother."

After the police and fire department arrived, the fire was seemingly quenched at 2 a.m. Sunday morning before it ignited again through the cool air return vent on the roof.

The Bihuns were able to salvage a few pictures, but most of their possessions were unrecoverable, erased with smoke, fire or water damage, including the plaques, trophies and ribbons Sophie had earned from 3 years old to her freshman year: the irreplaceable things.



The Bihun family poses during a 2021 family vacation. COURTESY OF KELLY BIHUN

"I'm such a safety person," Kelly Bihun said. "Literally, I'm so organized, I don't have things misplaced at all throughout the house... I used to always harp on the kids, 'Don't leave the dryer going if you are not in the house... Don't leave the hoverboard on the charger if we are going to be gone.'"

"Never in a million years would I ever think that it would have been me, that we would lose the house like this."

'It happened the way it was supposed to'

The Bihun family didn't sleep much Saturday night.

Heading into Sunday morning, Kelly Bihun's focus was on her children: what can I do to make their life easier, what do they need to continue to be successful? "This isn't going to change who we

are," she recalls thinking. "It's a big bump in the road, it's all it is."

So she gave both Sophie and Jack the choice on attending school that Monday, knowing what they just had gone through, knowing each would be asked about the fire.

Sophia Bihun needed to get away. She needed normalcy. She said she would push through.

"I just wanted to be with my friends again on Monday," Sophia Bihun said. "I got right back in the swing of things with the support of family, friends, like they literally supplied me with everything."

Sophia Bihun found pom to be her escape, getting out and exercising with her friends, getting away from it all. To Hunter, it was her first example of seeing the pom and Stevenson athletic community in action, helping Sophia

and her family recover with gift cards, clothes, anything they needed.

"She was not fazed," the coach said of Sophia when she came to practice on the Monday after the fire. "I talked with her mom, 'She doesn't have to come, I understand;' obviously it's traumatic. But her mom said, 'No, she wants to come. She wants to be around her friends, she wants to not think about it. She wants to be at practice.'"

Life continued on for the Bihun family. They moved to Sophia's grandparents' house minutes away from their original home. The rebuild for the home is in progress with hopes to have it done by November or December.

But Kelly Bihun remembers the moment that it hit Sophia.

Two weeks after it happened, Sophia and Kelly sat on the couch together watching TV. Her mom started to ask Sophia a few questions about what happened. Kelly saw a blank stare from her daughter before she broke down.

The what-ifs poured out as the tears flowed: What if I wasn't the last one in the basement? What if I hadn't plugged the hoverboard in? Kelly remembers her daughter being so strong for her, stepping up in the immediate two weeks after the fire.

Sophia Bihun had been holding it in. She thought the fire was her fault.

"I said, 'Sophia: you absolutely can't think of it like that. I'm so glad it happened the way it did,'" Kelly Bihun remembers telling her. "It could have been any other day. It happened the way it was supposed to happen because nobody got hurt."

Sophia Bihun and her brother Jack have always been family-oriented kids. Now, even more so, with Kelly saying that the pair have learned not to take things for granted, knowing they can be gone in a minute.

It's changed Sophia's approach in pom. She said she's closer to her teammates, with Hunter describing her as one of the funniest athletes on the roster. She's approachable, and a hard worker.

Sophia Bihun knows what could have happened. While her and her family's life changed, she knows it was supposed to have happened this way.

"We're just happy that everything can be replaced," Sophia Bihun said. "You can't replace a person or something."

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Northville girls golf continues to build environment

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Samantha Coleman knows there's a level of pressure each time Northville's girls golf team reaches its goal.

It's a pressure that keeps the junior up at night, remembering times where she would be up at 2 a.m. texting teammate Haesol Park, "This is what we have to do."

The now-junior golfer just missed the start of Northville's dynasty, winning its first state title in 2018, another in 2019 and yet another in 2020, one of 11 teams in Michigan high school sports history to win three straight state championships and the first since Forest Hills Northern between 2017-19.

It's not a nervous energy, but more motivation to continue the tradition that Coleman inherited.

"That's just how all the girls on the team are," Coleman said. "That's our goal throughout the entire season. That's what we think about. That's what we're working for."

This isn't something Northville head coach Chris Cronin has to teach. It's not something he introduces in a big speech at the beginning of each season, reiterating to his golfers what they are a part of and what the expectations are.

It's not setting the culture. It's maintaining an envi-



Northville High sophomore and state qualifier Samantha Coleman takes a practice swing before a recent round at Northville Hills Golf Club.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ronment, cultivated on what the Mustangs had done before, passed down from the past three classes of golfers. Everything Cronin does is to put his player in a position to win state titles: playing at the hardest courses and making as competitive a schedule as possible.

But it's not about just the varsity team or the immediate state title within reach. It's about the fifth- or sixth-straight championship, the longevity and the possibility of how long Northville's reign could last.

"I can't make a kid want something. They have to see it and kind of fall in love with it and see that it's what they want. Then they will come to me and ask, 'How can you help me get there?'" Cronin said, pointing out that different golfers come to that realization in different ways, whether it's through teammates or on their own.

Coleman is a good example of what to shoot for, but is also an anomaly.

Cronin views the junior as cut from the same cloth as a golfer she didn't cross paths with at Northville: Nicole Whatley — the senior that led the Mustangs to its first state title in 2018.

In Coleman's first two years at Northville, she was an All-State golfer; shooting a 165 as a freshman — fourth best on the Mustangs — and a 75 in the one-day state tournament in 2020, which was the top score for Northville and the sixth-best score in the field.

Over the course of her two seasons with the Mustangs, Coleman said she learned a whole new level of teamwork, developing a desire to win for those around her instead of just herself.

See GOLF, Page 7B

One quick story as I leave Hometown Life



Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After all the stories you all have told me over the past two years, I thought I would tell you one of mine.

I didn't know what the hell I was doing.

It was early August 2019. I was driving on West Park Drive between Walled Lake and Novi

heading to my third apartment tour of the day. One week prior, I had just accepted my first sports reporter job out of college: to cover high school athletics in the northern and western suburbs of Detroit.

I was young and wide-eyed. I was in an area

where I had no family, no friends. I had no knowledge of the area, no idea who the good teams were, who the top athletes were. And in the next week, I was expected to settle down and help take over a sports section that had been defined by distinct voices for decades.

I felt I was immediately expected to know everything, to be the top sports voice from the get go; a weight I loaded on myself even before I stepped foot in the pa-

per's office.

Anxiety and pressure began to build, quickening my breathing. I continued to drive feeling panicked, getting closer to my reality.

My future was here. I was scared.

OK, this is a downer of a goodbye column so far, I know. But this is where I started.

As I reflect on my two years with Hometown Life, all I can say is that it got better.

From my first ever

football practice at North Farmington, I was off, traveling in my trusty Toyota Camry with a Texas license plate from Livonia to Canton, from Birmingham to Wayne, from Novi to South Lyon; following teams to Detroit, East Lansing, Battle Creek and Kalamazoo.

I met all sorts of coaches and players, learning about sports I was not familiar with, gaining their trust to tell their stories,

See STORY, Page 7B

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Churchill at Dearborn; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Livonia Franklin vs. Westland John Glenn; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Livonia Stevenson at Wayne Memorial; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Canton vs. Novi; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Northville at Brighton; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Plymouth vs. Hartland; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Salem at Howell; 7 p.m., Sept. 24

Catholic High School League

Brother Rice at Detroit Catholic Central; 1 p.m., Sept. 26
Cranbrook Kingswood at Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard; 5 p.m., Sept. 24

Lakes Valley Conference

Milford vs. Walled Lake Western; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
South Lyon at Lakeland; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
South Lyon East vs. Paw Paw; 2:30 p.m., Sept. 25

Oakland Activities Association

Groves vs. Oak Park; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
North Farmington at Rochester; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Seaholm at Rochester Adams; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Bloomfield Hills vs. Farmington; 7 p.m., Sept. 24

Independent

Detroit Country Day at Harper Woods; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Livonia Clarenceville vs. Dearborn Advanced Tech Academy; 7 p.m., Sept. 24

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Garden City vs. Romulus; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Redford Thurston vs. Dearborn Heights Annapolis; 7 p.m., Sept. 24
Redford Union vs. Dearborn Heights Robichaud; 7 p.m., Sept. 24

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland vs. Pittsford; 7 p.m., Sept. 24

Obituaries

Charles P. Lapham

Age 87, a lifelong resident of Northville, passed away September 12, 2021 surrounded by his family. He was born September 22, 1933 in Northville, Michigan; son of Maurice J. and Mary E. (nee Ponsford) Lapham. He graduated from Northville High School; Class of 1952. Charles proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He was united in marriage to Maxine V. Clark on February 5, 1955; they spent over 66 years devoted to one another.

Prior to joining the family business, Charles worked for Zayti Trucking as a mechanic and truck driver.

Charles was a true entrepreneur and found great success throughout his life while supporting the Northville community he loved so dearly. In 1910, his grandfather began a shop called Ponsford's, a business that flourished and eventually became Lapham's Men's Shop which sold specialty menswear and tailored suits. He was a forerunner in developing the athletic fit men's suit. The shop closed in 1994 giving him the opportunity to concentrate on many other endeavors. He was instrumental in getting the Comerica walk thru on Main Street, he was a staunch supporter of the Mill Race and Tipping Point Theater. Among the multiple buildings he owned in downtown Northville, his latest acquisition was the Marquis Theater which he hoped to restore it to its former glory and keeping the history of Northville alive. He was also the owner of Estate Storage on Novi Road.

Charles was a devoted member of First Presbyterian Church of Northville since he was a young man. He was very active at the church and supported many of its programs. Charles served on the Northville City Council from 1967-1971. He was a member of the Northville Driving Club at Northville Downs for many years. He loved to fly and purchased his first airplane in 1959. Throughout his life he had many personal aircrafts that seated two to four people. He often made the flight from Northville to Elk Lake to spend time at his cottage relaxing and working on the property. He also had an affinity for boats and liked to drive fast and give fun rides to family and friends.

Charles is survived by his beloved wife, Maxine; his children, Terry (Bart) Taylor and Scott Lapham; his brother Jim (Kathy) Lapham; his grandchildren, Jennifer (Matthew) Hunt, Brandon (Kim) Bueter, Brett (Jenn) Bueter, and Ryan Lapham; and his great grandchildren, Charlie and Trevor Hunt, June and Luke Bueter, Madeline Bueter, and Harper Lapham. He was preceded in death by his parents and his grandson Austin Lapham.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, October 17 at 3pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 East Main Street. Rev. Jacqueline Spycher will officiate the service. He will be laid to rest in the Columbarium of his beloved church.

In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate memorial contributions to the Northville Community Support Fund, 41700 West Six Mile Road, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48168 or the First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

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Candace L. Kritch

Candace L. Kritch, age 65, a longtime resident of Northville, passed away on September 14, 2021. She was born on March 27, 1956, in Ann Arbor, Michigan; daughter of Robert and Donna (Van Daalen) Boshoven. She was united in marriage to Edward George Kritch on September 6, 1980; spending 41 years devoted to one another.

Candace graduated from Northville High School in 1975 and continued her education at Miami University where she received a Bachelor of Education. She began her teaching career in 1980 as a Special Education Teacher at Canton High School. While teaching, Candace acquired her master's degree from Eastern Michigan University. She retired from teaching in 2006 from Plymouth-Canton High School. Candace was a well-respected teacher and was an integral part of many students' lives.

Candy, as many of her friends knew her, was an avid reader, loved swimming and enjoyed going up north to Glen Arbor and the Leelanau Peninsula. She was a loyal member of the Northville Swim Club, serving as secretary for many years. Candy was also an active member of the Northville Mother's Club. She shared an unconditional love for her dogs and cats she owned over the years and adored all animals. Candy liked to watch the birds in her backyard enjoy the weekly meals she supplied them. Animals made her very happy. The most valuable aspect of her life was her family, she was so proud of her daughters. Candy was a strong, loving, and dedicated wife, mother, sister, grandmother, and friend.

She is survived by her husband Ed Kritch; her daughters, Julie Kritch and Jennifer Kritch; her siblings, Jami Boshoven (Bonnie), Lynda Lomangino (Anthony), and Robert Boshoven (Lorie); and her grandchildren, Charlie Kritch and Henry Leight. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial contributions would be appreciated to the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, 7305 Grand River Ave., Suite 100, Brighton, MI 48114.

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Golf

Continued from Page 6B

"I'm very competitive, and when I get to play for my teammates as well, it's a whole different environment," Coleman said.

It's an environment that seemingly sinks into each golfer donning the orange and black no matter if she is with the top team or not. It creates progress, allowing many golfers, including Coleman, Ava Gill and Megha Vallabhaneni to shoot personal bests. But it's also collective, leading to a school record team score of 290 in the Sun Dried Invitational Aug. 27.

"Our sights are set on October and playing our best golf then, but I don't think you can play mediocre golf all year and show up in October and be great," Cronin said.

Each tournament now is not life or death to the Northville head coach. It's a building block to get to what they want. It's an opportunity for experience, getting the Mustangs off the practice course and giving them a glimpse of what could come.

It's something he's instilled in his team's leaders.

"States is the goal, but we know we have to do the grunt work beforehand," Coleman said. "We don't think like, 'If you lose this tournament, you're going to lose states.'"

Cronin knows a state title is not a given. He knows there's programs around

the state vying to stop the Mustangs' run: Plymouth, Okemos, Rochester Adams. He knows Northville will not be able to distance itself until the lights are on in October.

But he sees glimpses of Northville's staying power.

In a KLAA match against Hartland Sept. 8, Cronin's varsity team was already done, beating the Eagles by 20-to-30 strokes. The junior-varsity team was finishing up with one more Mustang to go.

Instead of the varsity team checking out, Cronin watched the varsity team going to the last hole to support their teammate, to watch the growth of the program happen in real time.

"One thing that really helps us is the girls coming in knowing just inherently that they are going to get that support from their teammates," Cronin said. "Whether it's during the season, during the offseason, they decide that they want to be a part of that."

It's why the head coach sees the most growth from those second-team players between Year 1 and Year 2, or Year 2 and Year 3. It's the environment that Coleman has become used to, making it commonplace to text teammates at 2 a.m., wondering how she can get better, how she can help the team continue its dynasty.

"It's just something we all know that we're capable of doing something great," Coleman said. "No matter who's on the team, you want to be a part of that. You just push yourself."

Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com



Northville varsity golfer Meghana Lanka warms up Sept. 9 at Northville Hills Golf Club. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Story

Continued from Page 6B

giving people an idea of what it was like to be and to lead athletes.

I was never an athlete myself. I was that kid in the nosebleeds of Houston Astros games — yes, those Houston Astros — soaking in every aspect of the game: the highest of highs and the true lowest of lows. I left many a game feeling heartbroken, with my parents and brother knowing not to talk to me after a loss.

If I felt like that from the stands, I couldn't imagine what those athletes on the field must have felt.

Those realities came clear to me in the most intimate way in the past two years: approaching coaches and players after hoisting a state title trophy, approaching them after a playoff loss, watching the strength of a student or a coach as he or she gave me answers fighting through tears.

For those moments of bliss to those moments of sorrow, I thank you. I thank you for allowing me to write down what led up to that point, asking what went through your head and what the moment means to you.

These moments furthered my relationship with you, the Hometown Life community.

I leave Hometown Life thankful: for you — the coaches, the players, the parents, the athletic directors, the school administrators — for my coworkers and for local journalism.

I leave Hometown Life feeling I have left it in a good place for its next chapter.



Ready to take notes on the action for Hometownlife.com, sports reporter Colin Gay covers the Sept. 9 varsity soccer game featuring Novi at Canton High. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

And while I'm super excited for what's next, that same anxiety is returning. The pressure to perform, that weight of expectation that I put on myself is back.

I still feel I don't know what the hell I'm doing at times. I'm still the same guy driving on West Park Drive between Walley Lake and Novi.

At least now I have a tangible example to look back on of what it looks like when I can step out of that space and do what I was hired to do: tell stories.

As always, thanks for reading.
Twitter: @ColinGay17



The South Lyon football team runs onto the field at the start of its game against Detroit Country Day. The Lions won, 31-7. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon

Continued from Page 1B

Country Day (3-1), 31-7.

"Our message all week was we have to play tough this week," South Lyon head coach Jeff Henson said. "We really didn't have to battle much since Week 1. We practiced and preached being tough all week and knew they would be a formidable opponent and give us all we could handle. And they did."

Defense shines against reigning state champs

For the first three quarters, South Lyon had to make a statement on defense.

The Lions already knew its defensive backfield was in good shape, returning each of its starters from the 2020 team. The question mark heading into the season was the defensive line: a rotation of six players, none of which started for varsity in 2020.

The defense had worked through the first three games, allowing 41 total points. But facing senior quarterback Brandon Mann and a group of extremely physical running backs, the test was on.

In the first half, South Lyon limited Detroit Country Day to 74 yards of offense, converting two of its six attempts on third down and forcing fourth-down stops twice.

And when the pressure was on Detroit Country Day quarterback Brandon Mann and the passing game, South Lyon stepped up, limiting the senior to two completions on eight attempts in the second half for seven yards and two interceptions: both by Blackwell.

"The defense showed up and we showed out," Fracassi said, who starts

at defensive back with Blackwell said. "I mean, we believe we're one of the best defenses in the state. We showed it tonight."

Offense feeds off momentum

After a three-point first half, scoring on a 33-yard field goal by kicker Alex Stoyanovich, South Lyon started to find the holes it needed in the Yellowjackets defense.

Senior quarterback Dawson Skupin found Fracassi on an eight-yard slant to take a 10-point lead.

After Fracassi's kickoff return at the start of the fourth quarter, though, the Lions broke it open, using generous field position from both of Blackwell's interceptions to lead to two touchdowns: a 49-yard touchdown run by Skupin and an 11-yard touchdown run on fourth down by Fracassi.

"We have established something here at South Lyon," Henson said. "We take a lot of pride in who we are and what we're about. And I think our kids play like it."

Turning heads

Blackwell remembers what people thought of South Lyon heading into 2021, knowing that the Lions brought eight starters back on each side of the ball.

Handing Detroit Country Day its worst loss since its 2019 Division 4 state final loss to Grand Rapids Catholic Central, earning four wins by an average of 31.3 points, South Lyon's making a statement.

"They are going to know where we are and who we are," Fracassi said. "They were the defending champs, and they probably came in cocky and thought they were going to kick our butt."

"We think we can beat anyone anywhere. And I think we're showing it."

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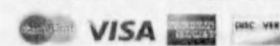
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Get Paid to Work Remote From These U.S. Locations

By Ziprecruiter.com

Remote work has grown dramatically since the pandemic and become more widely accepted, opening up opportunities for both employers and job seekers. A recent ZipRecruiter survey found that 55% of active job seekers would prefer remote work right now, with about 45% preferring to keep that option once the pandemic is over.*

Employers have realized that there is a larger pool of talent to hire from—be it in another city, or even state—while job seekers can apply to more opportunities and have greater flexibility in where they can live.

Many locales have taken notice and are offering incentives to remote workers who can help revitalize towns, bring in skilled workers, support economic development, and more. Here are just some of the incentives that are open to remote workers. Please visit each program's website for details.

West Virginia

Program: Ascend WV
Incentive: \$12,000, outdoor gear rentals, use of a co-working space
Overview: Over the course of this two-year program, the first \$10,000 will be paid out in installments during participants' first year. An additional \$2,000 will be paid after the completion of the second year. Participants also receive free access to outdoor activities like whitewater rafting and downhill skiing, and gear rentals for themselves, family, and friends. Ascend WV also provides a free co-working space, orientation, program events, and access to local business contacts.
Requirements: Work remote (or have the ability to) or are currently self-employed outside of West Virginia; currently live outside of West Virginia full-time; provide evidence of employment and income; relocate within six months of program acceptance; 18+ years old; U.S. citizen or green card holder.

Northwest Arkansas

Program: Life Works Here
Incentive: \$10,000 and a free bicycle or membership to a local arts or cultural institution
Overview: 25% of the incentive will be paid upon signing a lease/purchasing a home. Upon arrival, participants will then receive \$500 per month for 12 months and a final payment of \$1,500.
Requirements: Currently live outside Arkansas; currently hold a full-time job or self-employed; 2+ years of work experience; relocate within six months of acceptance; 24+ years old; eligible to work in the U.S.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Program: Tulsa Remote
Incentive: \$10,000
Overview: After 375 people benefited from the program in 2020, Tulsa is looking to include even more participants this year. In addition to the cash, which is paid out over the course of a year (or upfront if purchasing a home in Tulsa), Tulsa Remote offers coworking space rentals, home rental deals, and community events for members of the program.
Requirements: Currently have a full-time remote job or are self-employed outside of Oklahoma; relocate within 12 months of acceptance; 18+ years old; eligible to work in the U.S.

Topeka, Kansas

Program: Choose Topeka
Incentive: Up to \$15,000 relocation
Overview: The incentive will go towards relocation costs and is open to both participants who can work remote from Topeka, as well as those who secure a local job and work on-site. Visit the site for details on payout amounts and schedule.
Requirements: To work remote: Must have an employer located outside Shawnee County; relocate to Topeka for a full-time position; purchase or rent a primary home in Shawnee County within a year of hire/move; one relocation incentive per household; minimum 3 months waiting period; eligible to work in the U.S.
To work on-site: Must have an employer participating in the program; move to Topeka for a full-time position; purchase or rent a primary home in Shawnee County within a year of hire/move; eligible to work in the U.S.



GETTY IMAGES

Tucson, Arizona

Program: Remote Tucson
Incentive: Up to \$7,600 in cash, goods, and services
Overview: Application will be opening soon for the Fall 2021 cohort. Program participants will receive money and benefits towards relocation, coworking spaces, career support, free internet, housing support, and local attractions.
Requirements: Currently live outside of Tucson; relocate within six months of acceptance; full-time remote employment outside of Tucson and Pima County; income of \$65k+; 18+ years old; eligible to work in the U.S.

Shoals, Alabama

Program: Remote Shoals
Incentive: \$10,000
Overview: Remote Shoals provides 25% of the incentive upfront, another 25% after six months, and the remaining 50% after a year. In addition to the cash incentives, the Shoals promotes a low cost of living, welcoming community, and creative culture focused on music and the arts.
Requirements: Full-time remote employment or self-employed outside Colbert and Lauderdale Counties; relocate within six

months of acceptance; earn \$52k+ per year; 18+ years old; eligible to work in the U.S.

Kansas Rural Opportunity Zones (ROZ)

Program: Kansas Rural Opportunity Zones
Incentive: \$15,000 student loan repayment assistance and/or 100% state income tax credit
Overview: Over 95 counties across Kansas are looking to attract workers by offering a mix of student loan repayments and tax credits for all new full-time residents (no remote job needed). Student loan repayment assistance is paid out over five years.
Requirements: A newly established permanent address in a participating county after the county began participating in the program; complete associate's, bachelor's or post-graduate degree prior to moving; active student loan balance; transcripts with degree dates and student loan balance with distribution dates; proof of domicile in the ROZ County and proof of previous permanent residency.
 *Findings are based on a survey of 2,017 U.S. job seekers who logged into ZipRecruiter job seeker accounts between June 8, 2021 and June 13, 2021.

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Lost



To the person who adopted Toshu, a 1 yr old purebred black/white 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 Toshu to us. I will also cover her umbilical hernia repair if you had the surgery performed. I was planning when Toshu was 1 1/2 yrs. to have her spayed as well as her hernia repair and gastropexy (forced prone to bleed). Also to follow up on her spleen and blood work. Her two cuts had been removed with treatment and HYPER thyroidism 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 Toshu and Eve. The Allergist/immunologist who also misdiagnosed me said the dogs were making my asthma worse. This is why I brought Toshu and Eve to the Humane Society. So excruciating pain!!! I later tested negative for asthma and properly treated. No words to describe how I feel giving up Toshu 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 her to call her. I will give you her number.
 We love Toshu 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 an issue I certainly would not have taken Maize back nor ask for Toshu. I never would have given Toshu and Maize up if I had providers who diagnosed me correctly. Maize had her gastropexy, blood work and spleen exam on 8/9/2021. We have always taken excellent care of our animals and with vet care.
 I hope you will consider my offer for Toshu's return. We love Toshu and are heartbroken.
 Thank you! Respond to: kindshepherd@gmail.com

Assorted Items

all kinds of things...

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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

TAKEN IN
ACROSS

- 1 Alabama city
6 Change to fit
11 Kind of port on a PC
14 Seizes the attention of
19 Follow behind
20 First half of an album
21 Salada drink
22 Roll back to 0
23 "Hitchin' —" (1970 hit)
24 U.S. version of a cue sport
27 Argonauts' quest
29 Screening airport gp.
30 Lead-in for Rooter or tiller
31 Israel's main airline
32 Motorist's 180, slangily
33 Common seabird with black wingtips
36 Doc wielding a penlight
38 Chou En- —
40 "— la vista!"
41 — Aviv
42 Chess piece four squares from the king at the start of the game
47 Alternatives to inns

- 49 Wife's father, e.g.
50 Left on the dinner table
52 Arid African expanse
56 Small drinks
57 Keep — profile
58 Egypt's Anwar
61 Experts
62 Mooing herd
64 Cars move up and down in it
68 Fleur-de- —
69 "Yes, yes!" in Spain
71 Land in the ocean, to Yvette
72 Iraq's locale
73 Group of two
74 Certain injury from an arachnid
78 Gives 10% to the church
80 See 96-Down
81 Dragster fuel
82 Guesses at JFK or SFO
84 Iowa city
86 Printed notice with no pictures
89 Newly capped tire
91 Makes a sock, say
92 Old buddies

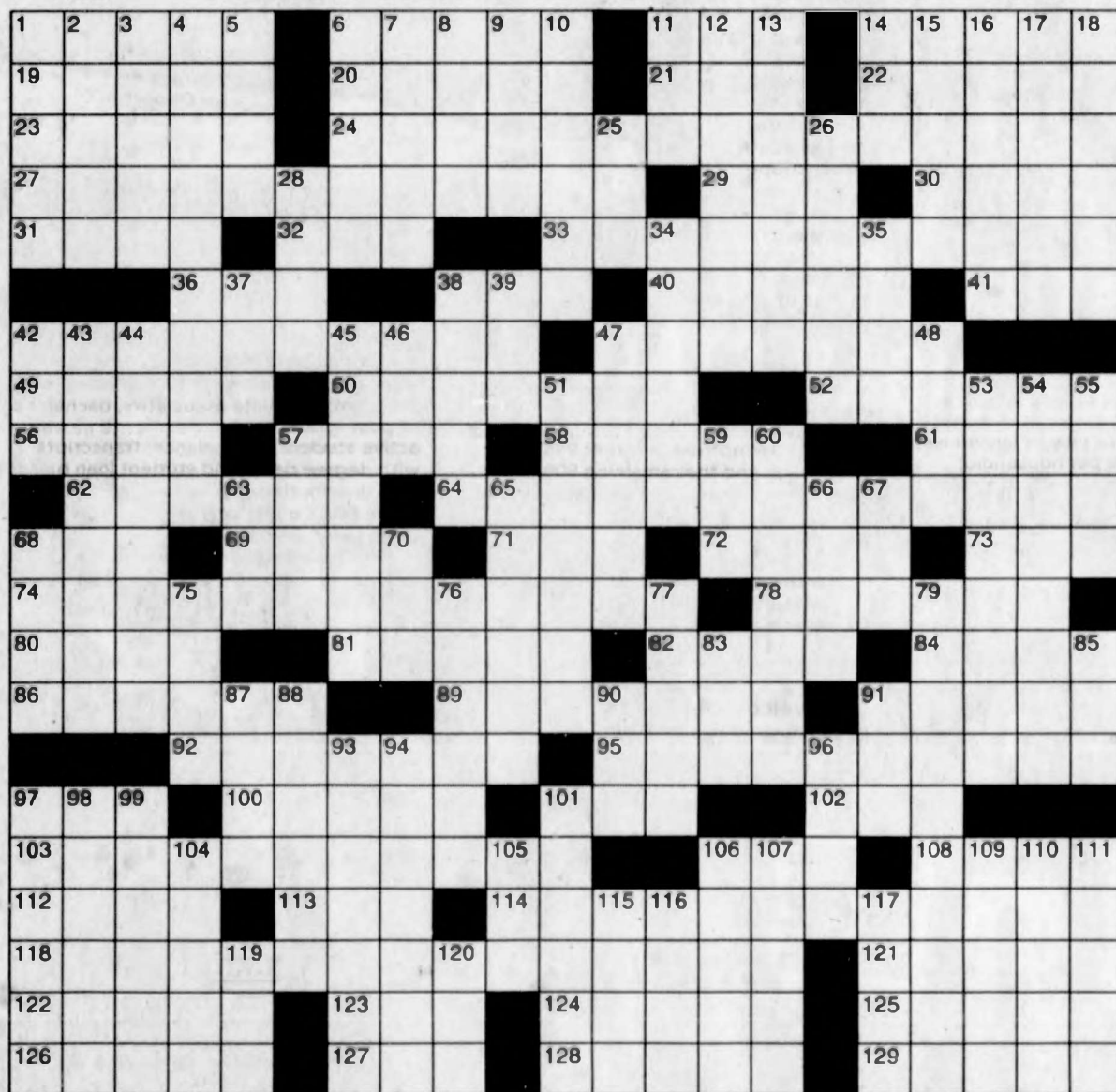
- 95 Inmate who's broken out
97 African cobra
100 Staples Center, e.g.
101 "Aw, shucks!"
102 Pantry pest
103 Baby who doesn't need a pacifier, perhaps
106 Actor Mineo
108 Spoken
112 Sorvino of "Mimic"
113 I love, to Livia
114 It connects to a car engine's water pump
118 People who do what's at the ends of nine answers in this puzzle
121 Barbera's collaborator in cartoons
122 Borden's "spokescow"
123 Actor Romero
124 Common bellybutton
125 Rear- — (car accident)
126 Banana oil or benzoate
127 Secret U.S. govt. group
128 Big name in insurance
129 Deck out

DOWN

- 1 Rocket part
2 Flynn of old Hollywood
3 Boxer Ali
4 Iraq's locale
5 Sheltered from the wind
6 "Have — trip"
7 How faint memories are recalled
8 "Zip- —" "Doo-Dah"
9 Father, in French
10 Chinese calisthenics system
11 Thespian great Hagen
12 Popular Nissans
13 Certain guitar player
14 Miracle- —
15 Corporate shake-up, for short
16 Invite on a date
17 Scarab, e.g.
18 Leisurely walk
25 2.0 grade
26 French edict city of old
28 Granola bits
34 "Help Me, —" (1965 hit)
35 Fancy party
37 Boise-to-Spokane dir.

- 38 Lerner's collaborator in musicals
39 Wanted-poster abbr.
42 Grafton's "— for Quarry"
43 Single-wheeled circus prop
44 U.S.-Mex. border city
45 Gives a judgment about
46 "Dogtown" singer Yoko
47 Paradise
48 Persian king
51 "The Hollow Men" poet
53 Scholastic
54 Simply won't
55 Apropos of
57 Et — (and others)
59 Week- — glance
60 Mexican dish
63 Baking qty.
65 Petrol quantities
66 Jacob of social reform
67 Roasted
68 Exam for future attys.
70 "Here Comes the Hotstepper" singer — Kamoze

- 75 Campus mil. group
76 Hair highlight
77 Gaggle birds
79 Like direct combat
83 Sea- — Airport
85 IRS form info
87 Iraqi, for one
88 Back fish fin
90 Singer Des- —
91 Jeong of "The Hangover"
93 Liselotte of the LPGA
94 Revenues
96 With
80-Across, Silicon Valley city
97 PIN money?
98 Hucksters' helpers
99 Stickler
101 The "g" of e.g.
104 Ike's wife
105 Screw up
106 Glossy fabric
107 Bewildered
109 Concerto part
110 Actor Ed
111 Get versed in
115 Sup stylishly
116 Lacks being
117 Emu relative
119 Slangy suffix with "two"
120 Gp. for tooth drillers



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

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

9/23

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!

ALL OVER THE PLACE

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.

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

ABOVE
ACROSS
ADJACENT
AFAR
AFTER
AGAINST
AHEAD
ALOFT
AMID
AMONG
AROUND
ATOP
BACK
BEFORE
BEGINNING
BEHIND
BELOW
BENEATH
BESIDE
BETWEEN
BEYOND
CENTER
CLOSE
CORNER
DOWN
END
FARTHER
FINISH
FOLLOWING
FROM
HERE
HIGH
LOCALE
LOCALITY
MIDDLE
MIDWAY
NEAR
NEXT
OUTSIDE
OVER
PLACE
POSITION
SITE
SITUATION
SPOT
START
VENUE
WITH



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FIND A TREASURE
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