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NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Dentist creates toothy Christmas tree

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Leave it to a joy-spreading dentist to design and build the world's first and only Christmas tree made entirely of larger-than-life pearly whites — all cavity-free, of course.

Made up of 1,111 eight-inch plastic molars, the 16-foot-high tree was erected in the front yard of Northville's Preservation Dental office at the intersection of Griswold and Main streets, where Dr. William Demray attempts to take the intimidation factor out of dentistry.

The number 1,111 is widely considered the number of enlightenment, Demray noted, adding the tree was raised on Nov. 11 (11/11) at 11:11 a.m.

Demray, who has created a character for Northville's annual Fourth of July Parade named Betsy Floss, said the world can never have too many light-hearted distractions, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The tree is an attention-grabber," Demray said, chuckling. "(Thursday) while we were putting it up for the first

See TOOTHY, Page 4A



Preservation Dental in Northville has on display a Christmas tree made of oversized plastic molars. The tree will be lit up throughout the holidays. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi reduces school bus service for rest of 2021

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi was "getting by" in the midst of statewide school staffing issues, including a bus driver shortage, this school year.

Until now.

Superintendent Steve Matthews announced students who ride district buses will have to find their own transportation to and from school one day per week until at least January as the district moves to an alternating schedule.

"We've been dealing with a lot of balls in the air, and right now one has dropped to the ground," Matthews said. "One day a week all bus riding students in the district will have to find alternate transportation.... We've created a rolling system. Each day, between four and five runs will not be run that day. What route your child is on will result in what day (the student won't have district transportation)."

Route schedules are detailed in a letter Matthews emailed to families Nov. 10.

The new schedule takes effect Nov. 17, with two exceptions:

- All students who have specialized transportation plans contained in an IEP will still receive transportation and will not see a disruption in their service.
- On Nov. 17 and 18, elementary

See BUS SERVICE, Page 5A

Milford film festival theme addresses immigration in US

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN



Len Radjewski and Sherri Masson hold a flyer for the upcoming Milford Independent Cinema Film Fest. Radjewski's film, "Michoacan to Michigan," will be shown. The festival begins Nov. 21. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Milford's first-ever film festival arrives just in time for Thanksgiving with fitting themes of migration and family. "Finding Home" will unfold with seven films over the course of four days at the Milford Independent Cinema.

"Human migration is the story of people moving away from home," Isaac Perry, secretary for the non-profit Huron Valley Film Organization, said. "They move to escape harsh conditions, to seek new opportunities, to explore unfamiliar worlds, and always to find new homes for themselves and their families. That's the Thanksgiving story, too."

The festival kicks off Nov. 21 with two films, "Michoacan to Michigan" at noon; and "Hamtramck, USA" at 1 p.m.; followed by discussion with the directors of the films, both of whom have deeply personal migration stories.

Retired Huron Valley Schools teacher Len Radjewski directed "Michoacan to Michigan," a 45-minute documentary of his maternal grandparents' 1919 journey to Michigan as they fled their native country during the violent Mexican Revolution.

The Fragas crossed the border with two young children. Nine more children and a life as sharecroppers in the Thumb area followed until Valeriano Fraga purchased his first farm at age 60.

"It was a whole new land and language and all those challenges and struggles," Radjewski said. "It's one family's journey to make a better life for themselves. It resonates with Mexican-American families but also resonates with many immigrants' stories."

See FESTIVAL, Page 4A

"Human migration is the story of people moving away from home. ... That's the Thanksgiving story, too."

Isaac Perry Secretary, Huron Valley Film Organization

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Judge reinstates bond in Jones case

Prosecutors offer plea deal

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Livingston County judge reinstated bond for Rep. Jewell Jones, D-Inkster, on Friday after the representative spent 60 days in the Livingston County Jail. A potential plea deal is also on the table.

Byron Nolan, Jones' attorney, asked Livingston County Circuit Court Judge Michael Hatty to reinstate bond, stating Jones would not violate bond again if given another chance. He said the Rev. Paul Turner, assistant pastor at Spiritual Israel Church and Its Army Temple in Detroit, is willing to take responsibility for Jones.

Turner runs Choice Behavioral Health Management, a behavior and alcohol treatment program in Detroit.

Hatty revoked Jones' bond on Sept. 14 following his third bond violation in connection with a driving under the influence charge stemming from an April 6 incident. Jones has been in jail since.

Hatty agreed to reinstate Jones' bond at \$100,000 personal recognizance in the initial case. His bond for a second incident, in which he is accused of smuggling a handcuff key into the jail, was set at \$100,000, 10%.

"I don't want any excuses. I just want you to follow my orders," he said. "There is a big string there. If you violate that bond, you are on the hook for \$100,000."

Following the bond hearing, the Livingston County Prosecutor's Office put a plea deal on the record, offering to dismiss five of the charges Jones is facing.

As part of the plea agreement, Jones would plead



State Rep. Jewell Jones, D-Inkster, sits prior to a bond hearing Sept. 14. His bond has been reinstated. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

guilty as charged to two counts of resisting and obstructing a police officer, possession of a weapon under the influence of alcohol and operating while intoxicated. He would also plead guilty to added counts of reckless driving and breaking or escaping from lawful custody.

In exchange, prosecutors would dismiss two counts of resisting and obstructing a police officer, operating a motor vehicle with a high blood alcohol content, bringing a weapon into a jail and escape waiting trial for a felony.

Prosecutors also agreed to recommend Holmes Youthful Trainee Act status for the two counts of re-

sisting and obstructing a police officer and possession of a weapon under the influence of alcohol because the initial incident took place before Jones turned 26.

Charges filed under the motor vehicle code and those stemming from incidents after Jones turned 26 are not eligible.

Under HYTA, charged are removed from the court record after an individual successfully completes of the terms of sentencing.

Jones did not accept the proposed plea deal Friday. Nolan said he wanted to be able to discuss the terms with Jones outside of jail. As of 12:30 p.m., Jones was still lodged at the Livingston County Jail according to jail officials. The potential deal expires Dec. 10.

The plea deal comes a month after Nolan filed two motions asking the underlying driving case be dismissed and Jones' blood alcohol testing be suppressed.

The charges should be dropped because they are "fruit of the poisonous tree" because Jones' arrest was unlawful, Nolan stated in the motion.

An evidentiary hearing on the motions is scheduled for Dec. 10.

Turner has known Jones' since birth and is confident in Jones' ability to follow the court orders, he said Friday.

"I have mentored him in many aspects of the direction he has gone in his life," Turner said after the hearing.

As part of his bond conditions Jones is required to have a GPS and alcohol SCRAM tether affixed on his ankle before he is released from jail.

Hatty also imposed a 9 p.m. curfew for the representative but clarified Jones' could stay at the legislature later if needed.

hometownlife.com

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CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the following Boards & Commissions:

- Beautification Commission
- Board of Review
- Historical Commission
- Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee
- Zoning Board of Appeals

If you are a registered voter and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, information about the various Boards and Commissions is available at cityofnovi.org or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (248)347-0456.

The deadline for filing an application is Monday, November 29, 2021. Applicants will be contacted by the City Clerk's Office regarding the date and time of interviews.

Publish: November 18, 2021

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

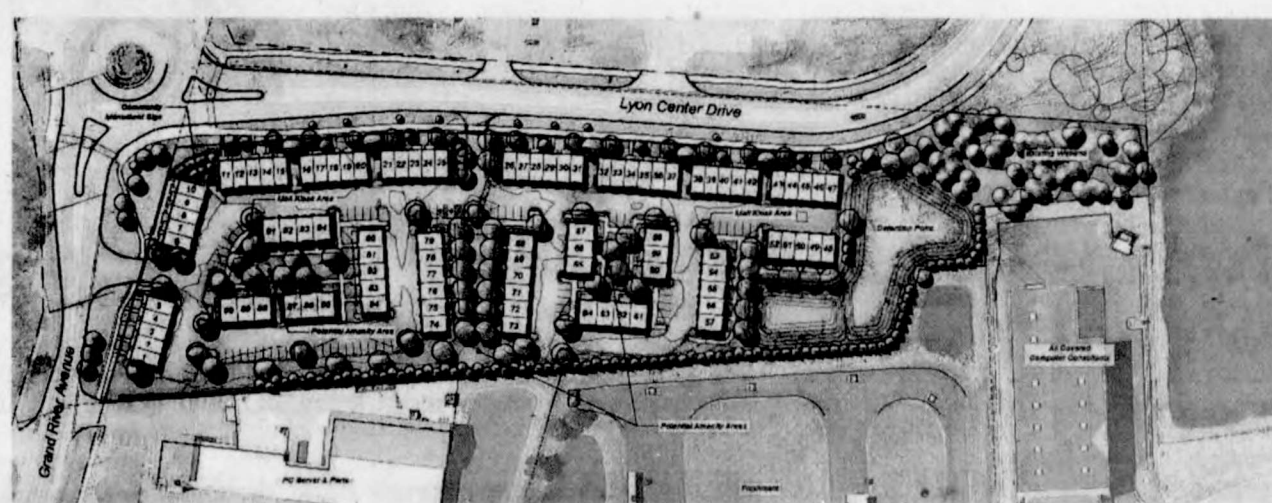
City of Novi Notice of Public Hearing Community Development Block Grant Funds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The Hearing will be held Monday, December 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., EST, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2022 application in the approximate amount of \$133,503 to fund eligible projects.

All interested citizens are requested to attend this Hearing. Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Clerk's Office, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m., December 6, 2021. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance notice. Contact City Clerk, Cortney Hanson at 248-347-0456 for special services.

CORTNEY HANSON,
CITY CLERK

Publish: November 18, 2021



The Hudson Townes development is planned for the northeast corner of the roundabout at Lyon Center Drive and Grand River Avenue, shown in a rendering submitted by Robertson Homes to Lyon Township.

COURTESY OF LYON TOWNSHIP

Town home development fills niche in New Hudson

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Hudson Townes, a 94-home development tucked into 6.73 acres, is coming to New Hudson.

The Lyon Township Board unanimously approved a site plan for the Robertson Homes development at the northeast corner of Lyon Center Drive East and Grand River Avenue, adjacent to the eastern roundabout.

"This is a product type we are encouraging in New Hudson," Township Planner Brian Keesey told the board Nov. 1. "We're getting units to support businesses in the traffic circle."

The project previously received approval from the planning commission and Keesey said there were no open concerns regarding the development.

Tim Loughrin of Robertson Brothers Homes said the town homes act and feel like single family

homes, and fill a niche for missing middle housing.

"Prices of homes are ridiculous and unattainable for most buyers and we are able to provide quality housing with no yard to keep, everything maintained by the HOA," he said.

He added that Robertson Brothers is building two or three of these communities per year.

The Hudson Townes development requires clean-up of a former brownfield site, a benefit to the community. Other benefits include the project's walkability to the nearby retail area.

The town homes will range in size from 1,200 to 1,600 square feet, with 1 or 2-car garages. They will start in the \$250,000 range.

"We can't build a single family home for less than \$400,000," Loughrin said. "It sounds ridiculous, but it's just the way it is today."

Supervisor John Dolan called Hudson Townes "a great little project."

"It's nice to have affordable homes downtown," he said. "It will work real well there, these are the areas where the density should be the most extreme."

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Northville schools announce 'proactive' plans related to Downs development

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

While the timeline and demographics related to residential development of the Northville Downs property is fuzzy, the learning destinations of its future school-aged residents is coming into focus.

Correspondence was delivered to Northville Public School families — and discussion was generated at the Nov. 9 district school board meeting — that preliminary plans call for students who eventually live in The Downs development will attend Silver Springs Elementary School and Meads Mill Middle School.

A request by Hunter Paster Homes for planned unit development eligibility for the 48-acre Northville Downs property was approved — with several conditions attached — Nov. 2 by the Northville Planning Commission.

A preliminary site plan and final site plan still have to be green-lighted by the planning commission and city commission, meaning ground-breaking for the sprawling development may not occur for several more months.

The district's current boundary map has The Downs property in the Amerman Elementary School and Hillside Middle School zone — a plan that was for-

mulated when the population density of the imminent development was expected to be greater based on HPH's initial housing plans.

NPS Superintendent Mary K. Gallagher said shifting The Downs students to Silver Springs and Meads Mill was based on capacity numbers at the four schools involved.

"To address this potential growth in enrollment in a proactive manner, the Northville Board of Education and district officials are proposing an adjustment to the Amerman attendance boundary to assign any future Northville Downs housing development to the Silver Springs Elementary School attendance area," Gallagher explained.

"This would result in a corresponding change in middle school attendance boundaries as well, with the Downs development moving from the Hillside attendance boundary to the Meads Mill attendance boundary. Capacity also exists at Meads Mill Middle School."

Gallagher said the boundary adjustments will not affect existing NPS families.

"We've been keeping an eye on the Downs development for a long period of time so this is proactively preparing us to absorb the additional enrollment when the future development comes," said Gallagher during the Nov. 9 meeting. "This will be a formal agenda item

next week (Nov. 16), so we could make a decision as early as that meeting.

"If additional information is needed by the board, we're certainly not under a compressed timeline to make a decision and we can always wait until later."

Gallagher confirmed that based on the expected population density of the development in the most recent plans, the building of a new school will not be necessary. Transportation costs will not increase, she added.

"The potential for future growth in enrollment is a positive for the school district, and we anticipate having more than adequate space to take on additional enrollment based on our projections," Gallagher stated in an email distributed to the district's families.

Northville resident Ryan Figurski asked the board of education not to rush any decisions related to the Downs development.

"Decisions like this should not be made with incomplete (development) plans in place," Figurski said. "I'm nervous to see that a decision could be made as early as (Nov. 16). If you can make a decision this fast, then you can make the same decision once you see the final plans."

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

Northville to demolish buildings at former psych hospital

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township officials announced the 11 buildings and a tunnel remaining on the former site of the state psychiatric hospital will be demolished as early as the summer.

The hospital was closed in 2003 by then-Gov. John Engler.

During a special meeting in October, the Northville Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved a \$12 million bond sale to fund clearing the site, which is slated to be developed into hiking and biking trails. The hospital's nine-story centerpiece structure was demolished in 2018.

"This action will bring over 96% of the property to a natural state," said township Supervisor Mark J. Abbo. "Once these buildings have been removed, we can begin implementing plans for public use of the land."

The township will repay the bonds with revenue collected by a Brownfield Tax Increment Financing

district. The township's general fund will not be used to pay for the clearing of the 332-acre site, a township spokesperson confirmed.

"The time for action is now," added township Treasurer Jason Rhines. "For reasons including, but not limited to, historically low interest rates and continually rising costs of demolition, this is an opportune time to proceed with this project..."

Rhines is confident that the combination of increasing property values, the prospect of further development on the property adjacent to the property labeled Legacy Park, and careful and resourceful use of available funds, the buildings will be removed "within the next few years."

The township purchased the former hospital property from developer Schostak Brothers & Co. and its partner REI Investment Group Inc. (REIS). REIS still owns the 82-acre development at the southwest corner of Seven Mile and Haggerty roads.

Taxes generated from the REIS development provides the brownfield TIF revenue, which will be used to

repay the bonds, the spokesperson explained.

"This financing method achieves an important township goal without diverting resources from other important services that our residents expect," Abbo said. "The future of this property will enhance the quality of life for future generations."

"This is an exciting time for our community," Trustee Mindy Herrmann said. "For years we have wanted to provide our residents with the opportunity to utilize this property. By taking this action, we are one step closer to making that a reality."

The township acquired the property in 2009 after a millage election. It included 20 buildings, a water tower, a power plant, and other infrastructure. The first buildings were demolished in 2012.

A significant step toward turning the sprawling property into a multi-dimensional park — the blueprint was unveiled in 2012 as the Twenty21 7 Mile Master Plan — unfolded in June 2020 with the opening of a series of beginner-friendly, wooded biking trails on the southeast section of the property.

Project proposes high-end grocery store, residential units in downtown Northville

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Another mixed-use building is planned for downtown Northville.

A three-story building is planned at 456 E. Cady St., with commercial space on the lower level and residential units on part of the first floor, as well as the upper floors.

That commercial space on the outer rim of downtown is expected to be a higher-end grocery store or market, said Jim Long, one of the applicants for the project. That market would occupy about 10,000 square feet on the first level.

"It's not a real big area," he said.

When it comes to environmental remediation at the site, especially given its industrial roots, Long said the petitioners are doing everything they can — including working with the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

"I think we're being pretty straightforward with what we know right now," he said.

The development received preliminary site plan review and special land use from the city's planning commission during its meeting Oct. 19. The 6-2 vote to recommend approval came as commissioners debated over whether they had enough information to move the project along.

Commissioner Carol Maise said the proposal

fit all the conditions and believed there was room to move it forward.

"We know there are bigger-picture things and there's more information to be gathered, but is this special land use request appropriate, consistent with the master plan and consistent with the ordinance?" she said.

Jeff Gaines, one of the two "no" votes, said he had issues with some of the site plan and wanted to review those.

He said the site is one that everyone wants to see developed. But once it

moves forward, he said, there isn't much of an opportunity to request any major changes.

"I have some real reservations about the site plan itself. I'm very supportive of the intent of them trying to redevelop this site. ... but I have some real reservations on how that's being implemented," he said. "Once we give our approval to-night, there really is very little opportunity to request any additional modifications later on, because we'll be on the final site plan."



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PRESS RELEASE FROM THE CITY OF SOUTH LYON WATER DEPARTMENT

The City of South Lyon Water Department's Wellhead Protection Program has a "Call For Artists", an invitation for artists to enter their "logo artwork" for the "2021 South Lyon Art Contest" to design a new Wellhead Protection Program Logo. The Wellhead Protection Program works to conserve and protect the drinking water resources for residents and businesses in the City of South Lyon.

The Contest is open to artists of any age, residing in the United States of America. No Entry Fees! Monetary Awards! Judging by:

Judge Ken Michalik,
Chairman, Cultural Arts Commission of South Lyon.
Judge Dayna Johnston,
Commissioner, Cultural Arts Commission of South Lyon.
Judge Douglas Varney,
Director of the City of South Lyon Water Department.
Judge Ron Beason,
Chief Water Operator of the City of South Lyon Water Department.

Please visit the City of South Lyon website homepage, news for Guidelines, and Entry Form at southlyonmi.org. For more information, please call Suzan Martin at 248-437-4942. Or email Suzan at suzan_mccallum@hotmail.com.

Important Dates

Monday, August 9, 2021. Contest began.
Monday, November 22, 2021. Logo Artwork Entries Due Date.
Monday, December 20, 2021. Awards Announced.

Awards

First Place Award = \$200.00.
Second Place Award = \$100.00.
Third Place Award = \$75.00.

**"SOUTH LYON DRINKING WATER
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Toothy

Continued from Page 1A

time, there was a near collision outside our office. We heard a semi lay on its horn because a driver in front of him had hit its brakes to stop and do a double-take of the tree."

"A couple people asked us if we could keep it up all year; maybe decorate it with hearts for Valentine's Day, eggs for Easter and shamrocks for St. Patrick's Day — they like it that much," added Denise Jenkins, Preservation Dental's business manager. "But deep down, it's only meant to be a Christmas tree."

In 2016, Demray hired Michigan-based SPI Injection Molding to produce 3,333 of the teeth — "They're realistic looking, but cartoon-like at the same time so as not to scare people," Demray explained — to help turn his 1878 Victorian-era office into an art exhibit for Northville's Art Week.

"We formed a display that made it look like these teeth were coming out of our three second-story windows, kind of like waterfalls," Demray said. "The inspiration for the project was a prohibition-era photo shot in Detroit in which police were dumping barrels of whiskey out of the second-story windows of a warehouse."

"We came up with a story that the tooth fairy's living quarters were too small for her expanding business, so she needed a temporary warehouse to store her teeth while she built a new one. We kept the sculptures up a few months and then took them down. We retained them because it was quite an ordeal to have them made and there were so many of them."



Dan Diachenko of Euko Design helps to put together Preservation Dental's toothy Christmas tree Nov. 11 in Northville.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The teeth remained in storage until November 2020 when Demray came up with the idea of the Christmas tree to help inflate the mood of passersby during the heart of the pandemic.

"Last year was fun, but this year

we're taking it to the next level," Demray said. "We've added a computerized light and music show to accompany the tree. It's really going to be spectacular."

Demray, who has added a 13-foot-long candy cane to the display this sea-

son, said the tree will stand until Jan. 6.

A teeth-lighting ceremony is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 19 — shortly after the conclusion of the Northville Christmas Parade.

eawright@hometownlife.com



The Milford Independent Cinema hosts the first-ever Milford Film Festival over four days starting Nov. 21. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Festival

Continued from Page 1A

Radjewski, who taught video production classes at Milford and Lakeland high schools for two decades, started making the film in 1990. The film includes footage that two of his uncles and a cousin had recorded of the grandparents telling their story firsthand.

Nearly 20 years later and more than a decade after Radjewski's retirement, he reworked the film to address some legal aspects. The new "Michoacan to Michigan" film sold out when it premiered in October 2019 at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

"These stories are American stories," Radjewski said. "My grandparents and our family have been over here more than 100 years. We are proud and want to keep our heritage alive. We are health-care workers and teachers, and we're reflective of America."

"Hamtramck, USA," co-directed by Razi Jafri and Justin Feltman, will follow the first film. The directors will also discuss their film which focuses on "life and democracy in America's first Muslim majority city."

Jafri, a Hamtramck resident and University of Michigan graduate student, is both an immigrant and a Muslim, moving to the U.S. from India as a baby, his family sponsored by an uncle working here as a cardiologist. The story is a common one for immigrants in Detroit, he said.

"My parents, like most immigrants who decide to come to the U.S., were thinking about freedom, safety, and opportunity," Jafri said. "Because we came here, I have aunts, uncles and cousins with a changed trajectory. We all went on to college and became physicians, engineers, and business owners."

Jafri and Feltman collaborated on "Hamtramck, USA," which was inspired in large part by the 2016 presidential election campaign of Donald Trump.

"Hamtramck, USA," just 33-minutes in length, strives to combat campaign rhetoric that Jafri called anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant and anti-Mexican, and instead show the beauty of multiculturalism through the beauty of a small town. It debuted at South by Southwest Film Festival in 2020 and has since been shown all over the United States, as well as in Australia, Belgium and Thailand.

Jafri, who is now working toward a master's degree in fine arts, is happy it is coming to Milford, a place where he feels there is not as much immigrant visibility and the conversation around multiculturalism is not as prevalent. He hopes the film takes away stereotypes or preconceived ideas that immigrants care only for themselves and are taking advantage of a social welfare system in the U.S.

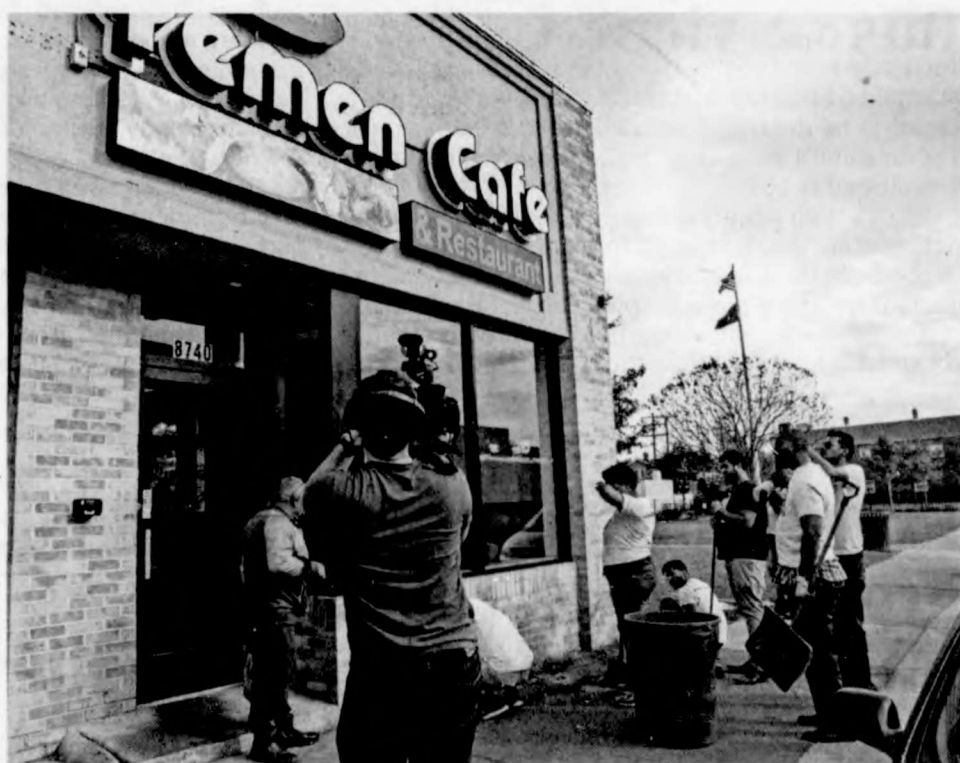
"It's important for people to understand America is changing, culturally and demographically," Jafri said. "America doesn't look like it did 30 or 40 years ago, or even 10 years ago. Hamtramck is more reflective of what America looks like now and what it will look like in the future... I hope our film shows how much immigrant communities care about their civic responsibilities as Americans."

Sherri Masson, a Milford resident who helped organize the film festival, is excited to show these films to the community, as well as:

● 4 p.m., Nov. 22, "Out of Ireland" about a history of Irish immigration and European migration;

● 7 p.m., Nov. 22, "Midnight Traveler" about a unique Afghan family and their difficult journey filmed entirely from the father's cell phone;

● 4 p.m., Nov. 23 "Far East, Deep



Justin Feltman films a scene outside the Yemen Cafe for the documentary "Hamtramck, USA," to be shown Nov. 21 followed by a discussion with Feltman and co-director Razi Jafri. PHOTOS COURTESY OF JUSTIN FELTMAN



Jafri talks about the documentary following filming for a scene on a rooftop.

South" about a Californian family of Chinese descent who travels to Mississippi to trace their roots;

● 7 p.m., Nov. 23, "The Visitor," a fictional feature film seen through the eyes of an American who befriends an African refugee family. A discussion will follow the Nov. 23 films.

● 10:30 a.m., Nov. 27 "An American Tail," an animated feature to wrap up the festival, meant to include children with a fun way to develop compassion.

Live musical performances precedes the showing of the films each day.

"I think it's a chance to come together as a community and by listening to these stories we can come to grips with our common humanity," Masson said. "Family and community are always amplified in our minds during the holiday season, and this will just enrich those traditional celebrations that we have at this time of year."

Tickets are \$5 per film, \$10 per night, or \$25 for a festival pass to see all seven films. For more information, visit www.milfordcinema.org.

sbromley@hometownlife.com

CC loses mighty Shamrock with death of first president

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Those who knew him say the Rev. Richard Elmer has gone to heaven, the place where he always wanted to go.

Detroit Catholic Central High School's former teacher, principal, athletic director and president died Nov. 4. He was 93.

"Oh, gosh! How do you sum up 93 years, six months and one day worth of living," present-day Principal Patrick Fulton said. "That's quite a legacy. That's a pretty darned good run."

"He had his faculties and his health up until the very end. He's gone to where he's always wanted to go."

Elmer, a Detroit native, had been in and out of care facilities and hospice since the spring.

Before then, he was a familiar sight at football games, staking out a cheering place along the sidelines in a motorized cart.

"He certainly was intense about living," Fulton said. "He loved people and really was passionate about Catholic Central and the people who make up Catholic Central."

"He loved it when our school teams win and he also loved winning, especially when it came to sort of advancing and promoting Catholic Central."

Fulton, also a priest, lived with Elmer for about five years and appreciated his stories about the early days at the high school.

With friends, Elmer would travel to Detroit to catch jazz and Motown acts. Also, he liked to talk about digging graves with his brother. On the warmest

days, they would settle into the bottom of a pit, place boards overhead and eat their lunches surrounded by cool earth.

Fulton said his mentor kept his lively ways by surrounding himself with the right people and recognizing that there was work God wanted him to do.

He summed up Elmer's philosophy: "If God wants me around, I'll keep working on behalf of the school and on behalf of him."

The all-male, private college prep school located on Wixom Road in Novi has posted a memorial for Elmer on its website.

It shares the prayer he wrote for his 90th birthday. He thought it was a good one for people needing a focus in life: "The primary purpose for our existence is to get to heaven. The richest nourishment for our journey is the Holy Eucharist. Our special spokesperson is our blessed Mother. Jesus and Mary, please be with us now and at the hour of our death. Amen."

His former students have been posting messages about Elmer's faith, friendship, compassion, discipline, athleticism, sense of humor, infectious smile and other attributes.

According to the posted obituary, Elmer graduated from Detroit Catholic Central High School in 1946. He attended college in Toronto and was ordained in 1957.

He returned to the high school as a teacher and spent 1967-1973 as its principal. He then served as the athletic director until 1978.

Elmer then moved to Washington, D.C., to work as a senior administrator for the National Catholic Educational



Father Richard Elmer died Nov. 4 at age 93. The CC Class of 1946 member was student council president before he became a Basilian Father and then served CC as a teacher, counselor, vice principal, principal, athletic director, director of development and as CC's first president.

COURTESY OF
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Association. He then served as the Dean of Men at the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

He returned to Detroit Catholic Central in 1990 as its development and alumni relations director and became its first president in 2000.

School officials consider him the driving force for securing, as president, the land and donations that allowed construction along Wixom Road.

While serving as president emeritus, he spearheaded a 2008 collaboration to open St. Catherine of Siena, an all-girls private school, in Wixom. Elmer served as its first principal and chaplain.

"(Father) Elmer remained fiercely dedicated to his roles as CC's President

Emeritus and St. Catherine's Chaplain until the time of his passing," the obituary read. "His life serves as testament to the myriad of ways one human being can be of service to others, and his life's story will continue to serve as a beacon of faith, hope, and love for many generations still to come."

His survivors include his brother, Lawrence, and many relatives and extended family members.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Detroit Catholic Central in honor of the Rev. Elmer. Mail checks to 27225 Wixom Road, Novi, MI 48374 or make a secure online gift by visiting www.catholiccentral.net/give. svela@hometownlife.com

Bus service

Continued from Page 1A

students (K-4) will need an alternative means of transportation for the morning. NCSD will transport them home.

Matthews said bus staffing has been an ongoing source of concern. Since the beginning of this school year, the district had 27 drivers on staff, matching the number of routes in the district.

That allows no leeway for absences due to illness, personal issues or any other reason. When bus drivers have called in, other drivers have doubled up on routes and students have been late to school.

The issue came to a head when a private contractor the district uses to take students to a special education program in Bloomfield Hills said they could no longer provide the service, due to its own staffing shortage.

"We would have to make dramatic adjustments next week because of that,

and with winter and flu season coming and COVID continuing we just don't have extra drivers to fill in where we need," Matthews said. "As a result, we have to limit service as we move forward starting on Nov. 17."

The district continues its push to find drivers, including raising starting wages for drivers to about \$18.60 per hour, a \$1.50 raise from the previous offer. Benefits include health insurance and retirement perks, plus "a great environment to work in."

Billboards seeking drivers will be visible to motorists on both I-96 and I-275.

Matthews said district officials will revisit the one day per week cancellation of bus service over the December holiday break with hopes enough drivers have been recruited to ring in a better 2022.

For more information, visit the district website at novi.k12.mi.us.

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

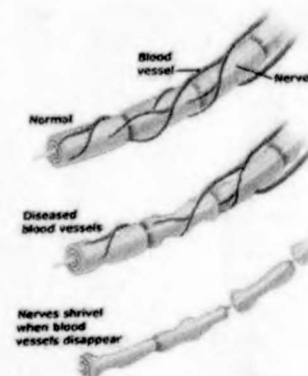


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Northville residents push back on Beck Road plan

Ed Wright hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township residents gave a resounding two-thumbs-down review to "Beck To The Future", a proposal that would widen Beck Road to five lanes on the two-mile stretch the road carves through mostly residential sections of the township.

Citing an increase in large truck traffic, decreasing property values and nightmarish left-turn scenarios, residents used a public comment section toward the latter portion of a two-hour town hall meeting to vent their disapproval of the Beck Road Corridor Improvement Initiative that was spearheaded seven years ago by the cities of Wixom and Novi.

Wixom officials Drew Benson and Tim Sikma explained the motivation for the idea — the reduction of car crashes and easing overall traffic congestion were top issues — during the early stages of the meeting.

But the steadfast contingent of Northville Township residents wasn't buying the rationale for the stretch of road between Six Mile and Eight Mile roads.

"Widening Beck Road to five lanes in that area that has rolling hills and open spaces would ruin it," township resident Cindy Paul said. "Five lanes of traffic would create a barrier, dividing the township into two separate communities."

"I understand there is a problem with backups, but five lanes isn't the solution," said Don Paul, who suggested refining the synchronization of traffic lights and replacing curbs along the two-lane section of Beck with shoulders so emergency vehicles could navigate the area more smoothly."

Northville Township Fire Chief Brent Siegel said the two-lane make-up of Beck Road creates incredible challenges for emergency vehicles trying to transport patients to hospitals.

Siegel added something less than a five-lane makeover would make life easier for his crews.

"A center turn lane on Beck between Six Mile and Eight Mile would likely reduce traffic crashes, improve traffic flow and reduce issues for emergency ser-



The Northville Township meeting room was filled to capacity for the Nov. 8 town hall on a proposal to widen Beck Road to five lanes between Six and Eight Mile roads. ED WRIGHT/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

vices," Siegel noted.

Siegel said Beck Road is used more than ever by the township's emergency services since the opening of Ascension Providence Hospital in Novi in 2008.

Multiple residents said a better plan to make Beck Road more manageable — at least in the township — is to pave parallel north-south roads like Ridge and Napier from Five Mile to Eight Mile roads, reducing the congestion on Beck.

Residents also hammered home the point that it's easier to accept a five-lane widening project in Wixom and Novi because the areas affected are mostly commercial, not residential like Northville Township.

"The reason we're here tonight is to find out how our citizens feel about this," said Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo. "It's still a very fluid plan. We were asked to be supportive of this project, but before we can be supportive of it, we need to find out what it's all about."

When Abbo mentioned that Beck Road is owned by Wayne County, one resident asked him why the county wasn't represented at the townhall meeting.

"Trust us, we'll have no problem communicating what we learned tonight to Wayne County," Abbo said.

Benson said the more communities involved in the Beck Road widening initiative, the more likely the project will receive state and federal grants to help cover the several million dollar price tag.

Township resident Lisa Styers, who lives north of Six Mile Road and west of Beck, said she'd fear for her teenage daughter's safety if Beck's width was extended to five lanes.

"Every time she turns left out of our sub onto Beck Road now with just two lanes, it's scary," Styers said. "It's not fathomable to me to think about her crossing that many lanes safely."

Styers said proof is out there that safety can be attained without major

overhauls of roadways.

"Before they changed the light at Six Mile and Beck (to a green arrow left-turn system), there was accident after accident at that intersection," Styers said. "We begged for years to get it done and now there's rarely accidents at that site."

Several residents who offered public comments agreed the best solution to fix Beck Road's congestion and multitude of traffic crashes is to add a middle turn lane from Six Mile to Eight Mile roads.

Benson estimated the earliest construction would begin on a widening project would be 2024 or 2025, giving decision makers plenty of time to get things right — and hopefully to make sure the residents most affected by any changes are in agreement with the plans.

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

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Birmingham grad takes star turn in 'Hades-town'

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

After a dark year and a half, the spotlights are back on stage. And so is Shea Renne.

The 2010 Birmingham Seaholm graduate scored a role as one of the Fates in the Broadway national tour of "Hades-town" and will perform in the musical from Nov. 23 to Dec. 5 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit.

"Live theater is back, and nothing is more magical," Renne said. "It's a show about humanity, hope, and love; and we could use all that right now."

"Hades-town," which premiered in New York in 2016, tells of two mythological love stories that intertwine young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice and King Hades and his wife Persephone "inviting audiences on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back."

"Spoiler alert, but basically my role is to dictate the fates of humans and gods," Renne said. "I dictate everyone's destinies, goddesses or divine beings. The role is really fun, with power and control and glee."

It was the first role that came her way when auditions resumed earlier this year. Renne's audition was memorable for taking place via Zoom with her singing to a casting crew from her apartment.

The entire show is sung through with 33 songs, and Renne performs in more than half. The Fates' main song is called "When the Chips are Down" and as one of the Fates, she had to learn to play accordion as well as sing in a lower range than she is accustomed.

Renne has always been a singer, but she charted a course toward the stage when her elementary music teacher told her mother she should get voice lessons. Vocal competitions, school musicals and talent shows followed. Renne attended an Interlochen arts summer camp where her love for musicals really bloomed. She graduated with a bachelor of fine arts in musical theater from the University of Michigan in 2014 and moved to New York City that August.

That first year in New York she recalls going to tons of auditions. To pay the rent, Renne worked as a restaurant hostess and spa receptionist, but she



Shea Renne, far left, plays the accordion as one of the three Fates in "Hades-town," which will run Nov. 23 to Dec. 5 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. COURTESY OF BROADWAY IN DETROIT

felt fortunate to work shows pretty quickly, including regional theater gigs.

A year after arriving in New York she landed her first Broadway ensemble role as Betsy in the musical "Allegiance," which starred George Takei. She performed alongside her childhood hero Lea Salonga, the Broadway actress who originally portrayed Kim in "Miss Saigon" and also performed lead roles in "Aladdin" and "Mulan."

"Allegiance" ended two months after Renne joined the show, but she kept working, although not always in New York. She sublet her apartment for several months in 2016 while she performed in "Here Lies Love" in Seattle and also performed in multiple shows at the Fulton Theater in Pennsylvania, including roles as Allie in "Mamma Mia," an urchin in "Little Shop of Horrors" and multiple stints as Liat in "South Pacific."

Her dream role is Eponine in "Les

Miserables."

Being an actor is not for the faint of heart, Renne admitted, but she loves what she does and that love of performing keeps her going.

The "Hades-town" tour has more than 30 stops, and she is under contract for a year and looking forward to every minute of it.

"If the pandemic taught me anything, it's to be grateful, to always be in the moment," she said as she walked to a rehearsal in Washington, D.C., for the tour's next stop in Boston. "I was wishing for this during the pandemic, but now I am overjoyed to have it... I'm so lucky to be performing, I will never take it for granted."

For more information on "Hades-town," showtimes and to get tickets, visit www.broadwayindetroit.com.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.



Shea Renne is a 2010 Birmingham Seaholm High School graduate.

COURTESY OF SHEA RENNE



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Black Label Tavern opens in Milford

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There's a new place to grab a beer and burger in Milford.

Black Label Tavern, 131 S. Milford Road, opened in October after nearly two years of construction on its new space. It's a welcome site to the owners, who say they've been welcomed warmly into the community.

Greg Marselis and Markos Goulas have brought the American bar concept to Milford after years of success in Livonia. They said they're pleased to have finally opened the doors after the community has waited all these months for them to begin serving.

"We're very excited to be a part of this Milford community," said Marselis, whose family has owned other restaurants in Oakland County. "It's a big milestone for our concept."



A Kentucky pineapple and Long Island iced tea from Milford's Black Label Tavern. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

The restaurant occupies the space formerly held by Lou and Ruby's, Mi Zape and El Toro. Crews spent much of the last several months completely re-vamping the space, remodeling it and making it look very similar to the Livonia restaurant on Plymouth Road, which opened in 2017. New stone and a clean look adorn the building both inside and outside. In addition to the bar area — which has been relocated closer to the front door — and dining room, it also has a separate banquet space that can be rented for parties and other special occasions.

Firepits are also on their way for guests to sit outside and enjoy a drink near one of four fires. The patio can fit several dozen patrons.

"I think it's going to be a nice ambiance out there once everything is installed," Marselis said.

The menu at the Milford restaurant is identical to what's found at the Livonia restaurant. Guests can enjoy plenty from the scratch kitchen, including pizzas, salads, pastas, burgers and plenty more.

Locating in Milford was something

the two owners just felt was the right move. Goulas said he had the same feeling about the space then as he did when they located their first Black Label Tavern several years ago.

"It was mostly my gut instinct," Goulas said. "One day I was driving and I saw this place and it recently closed. (It was) the same thing that happened in Livonia."

The restaurant currently has limited hours, opening at 3 p.m. every day and closing at 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 9 p.m. on Sunday. Eventually, Marselis said, the plan is to open for lunch and have extended hours in the future.

More information, including online ordering, can be found at blacklabel-tavern.com.

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

What to consider when offered a voluntary buyout



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Last week Stellantis, formerly known as Fiat Chrysler, announced voluntary buyouts to some of its U.S. salaried employees. (The company has approximately 14,000 U.S. salaried employees). Eligible employees are at least 55 years of age and have been with the company for 30 years, or those who are at least 58 years of age with at least 10 years of employment.

All employees who were offered the voluntary buyout are already eligible to retire. In addition, this buyout offer does not affect union salaried employees. According to the company, the buyouts are being offered to assist the company in its shift toward electric vehicles. That said, the reason for the buyouts is irrele-

vant. What is important is what you should do if you receive a buyout offer from Stellantis, or, in fact, from any company.

Voluntary buyout offers have become mainstream as a way for companies to cut payroll and other types of benefits. If you receive a buyout offer, you should seriously consider what is offered. Keep in mind, this could be your only buyout offer. There is no guarantee that you won't be terminated down the road when there may not be a favorable buyout offer.

After receiving a buyout offer, take time to understand the terms. Not only should you focus on what you will receive in compensation, but also, what benefits you may lose. For example, in some buyouts if you accept the offer, you lose your healthcare, while other buyouts may provide for healthcare.

Not all buyouts are the same and understanding all the terms is important to making an informed decision for your-

self.

After you understand the terms, reflect on your own individual situation. What is good for your next-door neighbor may not be good for you. In some situations, particularly for someone who was planning to retire anyways, accepting a buyout offer can be a slam dunk. On the other hand, someone who was not planning to retire or who could not afford to retire, would look at the buyout offer differently.

Your individual situation is key in determining whether you accept a buyout or not.

If you receive a buyout offer, whether it's from Stellantis or any other company, it is important to take your time and make an informed decision. If you are having difficulty understanding the terms of the offer or how it will affect you, you should never hesitate to seek professional advice. Of course, in seeking professional advice it's important that you deal with a professional, not a

salesman. This is too important of a decision to leave to someone who doesn't have your best interests at heart.

Should you stay or should you go is a tough decision. Not only is it a financial decision, but it also can be very emotional. After all, if you worked for a company for a number of years, your job becomes part of who you are, and it may be difficult to sever those ties.

That is why when you are offered a buyout it is important that you don't delay in reviewing the offer and how it affects your own individual situation.

This is not a decision that you want to rush into, you want to make sure you take your time and that ultimately, you make the best decision for you and your family.

Good luck.

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

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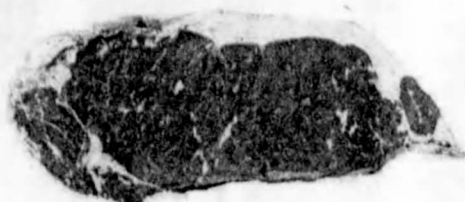
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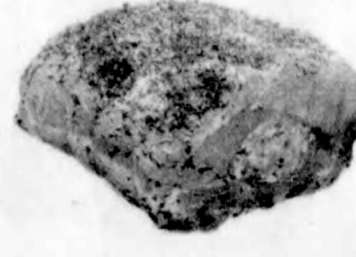
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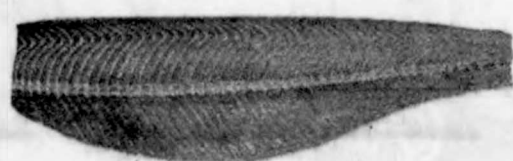
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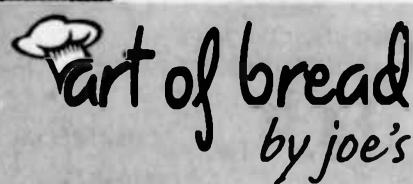
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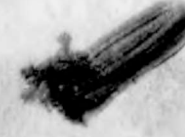
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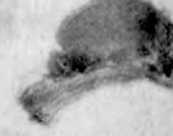
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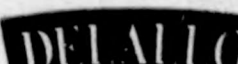


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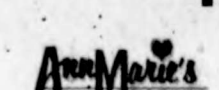
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Lions win 4th regional title ever in OT

Ben Szilagyi Special to Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Division 2 regional title has eluded the South Lyon football team the past three seasons.

The Lions lost district games to Walled Lake Western and Fenton in 2018 and 2019, respectively. A COVID-19 forfeit loss to North Farmington cost them

a berth into the regional final a year ago.

They finally ended that 17-year drought with a thrilling 29-23 overtime win over Portage Central on Friday night.

"It feels great. We all fought to the last whistle," said senior Dakota Blackwell, who made a victory-saving tackle in overtime. "The whole game was just up and down, up and down. We all believed

in one thing this year, and that was going to Ford Field. We were just so mad our season got canceled last year. We had to bounce back."

South Lyon (12-0) faces Traverse City Central (11-1) in the state semifinal.

Portage Central (9-3) took a 23-15 lead late in the fourth quarter. Senior Caleb Schnell capitalized on an interception by finding sophomore receiver

Danny Calhoun for a 7-yard touchdown pass with just under five minutes to play in the game.

"Second half we were our own worst enemy," South Lyon coach Jeff Henson said.

"We had the bad turnover, and on defense we didn't execute that well either.

See LIONS, Page 2B



The Patriots celebrate their last-second interception that sealed their 27-20 victory over Churchill. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

KLAA-East benefits Franklin in playoffs

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Livonia Franklin was one of the four best football teams in Division 2 during the regular season.

And most of us didn't know it because of how tough the Patriots' schedule was.

They're one of the smallest schools in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East. Almost every week they faced a state powerhouse.

They snuck into the playoffs with a 4-5 record. Not many gave them a shot to win games. Yet, they've continued to persevere.

A pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns helped them beat Waterford Mott 43-26 to win a regional title Friday night, qual-

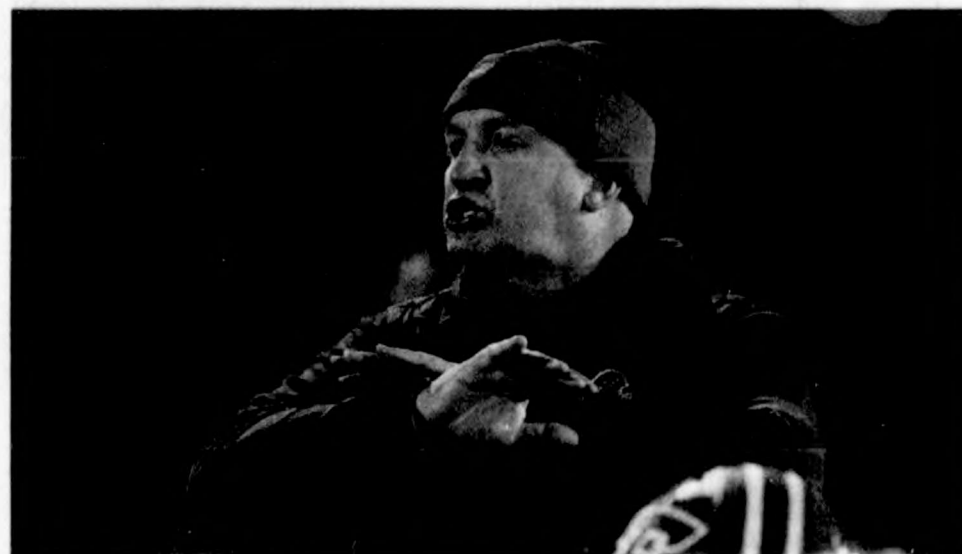
ifying them for their third state semifinal since 2017.

They'll face Warren De La Salle, last year's state runner-ups and the squad that beat them in the 2017 state final, in Saturday's state semifinal at Hazel Park.

"Our division, again, prepares us for the playoffs," coach Chris Kelbert said. "Playing Belleville, Fordson, Dearborn and Churchill week after week, you have to be a good football team to beat those teams, and that prepares us for the playoffs."

Franklin (7-5) carried just a 28-26 lead into the fourth quarter, but Zac Ole-suk pushed the Patriots to the victory with a pair scores late.

See FRANKLIN, Page 2B



Franklin head coach Chris Kelbert addresses his team.

Marian volleyball downs Lake Orion 3-0 to win title

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Not this time.

Once again, that dreaded 9-4 deficit reared its head.

No. 1 Bloomfield Hills Marian was in a five-point hole during the third set of the Nov. 9 Division 1 regional semifinal at Novi.

The ninth-ranked Wildcats extended that lead to 10 points, but the Mustangs clawed their way back. Ava Brizard slammed home a kill to make it a three-point game, but she and her teammates couldn't complete the comeback. They came *this* close to pulling it off and making it a clean sweep of the Wildcats.

It was just the third set they had dropped all season, even though it truly

meant nothing after the fact.

Or did it?

It actually inspired Marian to go extra hard in the next day's practice.

And during the second set of the Nov. 11 regional championship against Lake Orion, they found themselves in a 9-4 deficit again.

When the Dragons bumped their advantage to five points, backup outside

hitter Devin Brunk got so excited celebrating the point, the sophomore knocked over her chair while jumping to her feet to pump her fists.

And that's where the fun stopped for Lake Orion.

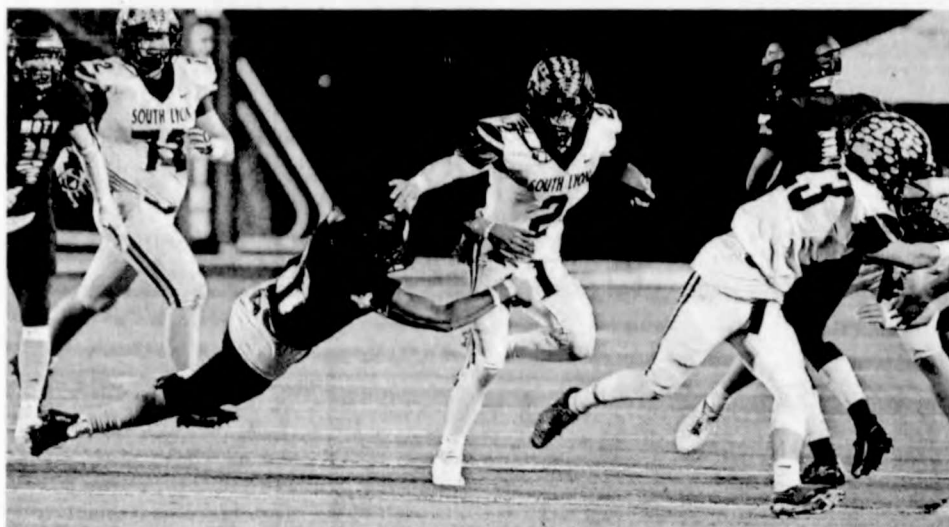
Marian went point for point with the Dragons.

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 7B



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South Lyon's Tommy Donovan shakes off Mott's Eric Davis in October.
TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Our HS football picks for Round 4

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Division 2 state semifinals are here, and it's time for Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom to predict some winners.

There are just two local teams playing in Round 4.

Here's who he likes to win:

South Lyon (12-0) vs. Traverse City Central (11-1), 1 p.m. Saturday at Greenville

The Trojans have played a weak schedule to get here. Their wins over Bay City Western and Brother Rice were impressive, but blowout wins over Big North Conference foes and a school from the Upper Peninsula aren't going to get you battle-tested to play big-boy football in the playoffs.

In their one opportunity to impress, they laid an egg against DeWitt in the season opener at the Big House.

South Lyon is more than a middling program from northern Michigan. The Lions, even while playing with a backup quarterback, have won convincingly against everyone they've faced this year. And they've faced some tough teams. From Lakeland to Milford and Walled Lake Western. From East Lansing to Portage Central in the playoffs.

The only thing that could hold the Lions back is the fact they have to travel for the first time this season, and their trip to Greenville isn't going to be an easy ride. It's well over 2 hours on the bus. If they can hop off the charter and get Quinn Fracassi and Tommy Donovan going quickly, it should be safe for

fans to purchase their state finals tickets by halftime.

Folsom's pick: South Lyon 35, Traverse City Central 21.

Livonia Franklin (7-5) vs. Warren De La Salle (12-0), 1 p.m. Saturday at Hazel Park

The Patriots are more than a Cinderella story. They're more like Cinderella, Mulan, Moana, Ariel and Anna and Elsa all rolled into one. They haven't just defied the odds to get here. They've made it look motion picture-like.

The problem with this David-and-Goliath story is that the Pilots don't have a single chink in their armor. They're battle-tested.

Look at what De La Salle did to Roseville a week ago. It was a 45-14 stomping. And the Panthers are good. They should've been undefeated entering last week's regional final, but they were caught playing an ineligible player early on during their Macomb Area Conference-Gold season.

Even without that player, they're still stacked. They have two of the top recruits in the state in Michigan State commit Tyrell Henry and Maryland pledge Malachi Clark. They also have Amare Snowdown, a three-star with several Division I offers.

Folsom's pick: De La Salle 49, Franklin 13.

Folsom went 1-3 in Round 3 and is 28-15 picking games since joining Hometown Life this fall.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Will Lions be road warriors in football state semifinal?

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

This is it. Win and you're in.

Hometown Life's coverage area still has two local teams alive in the football playoffs and both are playing in Division 2 state semifinal games on Saturday.

A win sends them to the state championship at Ford Field.

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom is here to ask the hard-hitting questions ahead of these two Round 4 games.

How well will the Lions travel?

On paper, it sounds like South Lyon and Traverse City Central should be a battle of two pretty even teams when they meet at 1 p.m. Saturday for the Division 2 state semifinal.

The biggest issue is how well will South Lyon handle traveling to play in Greenville, a high school located about a half-hour trip north of Grand Rapids. It's about 122 miles, give or take, to the stadium.

The Lions (12-0) haven't left Oakland County yet this season. The longest trip they've made was about 35 miles north to Waterford Mott. Their second-longest trip was about 20 miles to White Lake Lakeland.

They've played eight home games, including their first three playoff matchups. So they won't have the creature comfort of either playing at home or riding the bus for a maximum of 30 minutes.

T.C. Central is battle-tested in that regard. The Trojans (11-1) have already played DeWitt at the Big House, traveled to North Farmington for a regular-season game and visited Caledonia for the regional final. All of those trips are well over 2- and 3-hour drives.

Not to mention, they play in the Big North Conference, which routinely has them bussing to places such as Gaylord, Petoskey and Cadillac on a weekly basis. A minimum of 1 hour is expected on the bus unless it's playing crosstown rival Traverse City West. Their trips to face Alpena in league play are 124 miles each way.

What's more, since they're so far away from other Division 1 and 2 schools, they have long trips for their non-conference schedule, too.

In most sports, they routinely play schools such as Marquette, Escanaba and Sault Ste. Marie from the Upper Peninsula, schools from the Bay City and Saginaw areas and teams in metro Detroit such as North Farmington and Brother Rice. Their kids know 1-75,

US-131 and M-32 well.

South Lyon is a great team. But how fast is its offense going to wake up when the players are hopping off the bus with numb butts from sitting for three hours?

Can the Patriots pull off the impossible?

Livonia Franklin (7-5) enters Round 4 of the playoffs as the biggest underdog in the state.

No state semifinal in any division features two opponents with as big of a discrepancy in playoff points as Warren De La Salle (11-0) and the Patriots, who have 27.5 fewer playoff points than the Pilots.

De La Salle has the second-most playoff points in the state among teams still alive. Grand Blanc edges them out with just 0.3 more points, but the Bobcats are a D-1 team. They're supposed to have more points.

What's that mean? The Pilots have played a tough schedule.

They beat powerhouses such as River Rouge and Harper Woods in the regular season.

They blitzed through the Catholic League-Central, which included Brother Rice, Detroit Catholic Central and Orchard Lake St. Mary's, all teams that made it to at least the second round of the postseason.

The past two weeks, they stomped Grosse Pointe South and Roseville, two Macomb Area Conference teams absolutely loaded with Big Ten football recruits.

Plus, the Pilots, the state runner-ups a year ago, entered the season as the media's pick to win it all.

Franklin has a tall task ahead of them, but they've already defied the odds to get to the final four. No team has made it this far into the playoffs with a record as weak as the Patriots', which is a testament to them turning around their season mid-stream.

They snuck into the playoffs with only four wins. Fortunately, the playoff points they garnered from playing in the tough Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East against the likes of Belleville, Dearborn, Fordson and rival Livonia Churchill helped them sneak into the playoffs. They've gone on the road each week in the postseason and have ripped off wins against Temperance, Bedford, Churchill and Mott.

But De La Salle is on the same level as Belleville and Fordson, and both of those teams beat Franklin by 24 points.

It's already been a dream season for the Patriots. Can they keep it going with an unlikely upset win at 1 p.m. Saturday at Hazel Park?

Lions

Continued from Page 1B

We've never been down this year. We've never been in that situation. Luckily, our kids are like goldfish: They have short-term memories. I had complete confidence in them to make the plays when needed."

Quarterback Braden Fracassi gave the Lions new life when he heaved a 48-yard pass to Gavin Limotte on third and 19.

And then Henson called Quinn Fracassi's number to finish the comeback, despite the older brother battling a shoulder injury since before halftime.

"Yeah, it's hurting," the slotback said after the game. "My shoulder has popped out at least 10 times tonight, but I'm just going to go out there and battle. This is my last game on this field. I didn't want to lose. It's the regional championship. You gotta do what you gotta do."

Hensen added: "We've rode (Quinn)

all year long. The ball was going to be in his hands. He's our best player."

Bum shoulder and all, Fracassi ran the ball twice for big gains from the wildcat formation to get South Lyon inside the red zone with 37 seconds left.

From there on, it was just a little backyard football for the Fracassi brothers to tie the score.

"Trust in each other. Trust in my teammates and my coaches," Quinn said. "I know I can make the plays, but we all had to make plays. I just rode the wheel, but we all had to make plays together."

On fourth down, Braden rolled to his left and found Quinn in the corner of the end zone for an 8-yard pass. The next play, Quinn received a pitch and ran with Braden to the far side of the field for the two-point conversion. As he was about to get hit, he optioned the ball to his brother to knot it at 23.

"We're a one-two combo," Quinn added. "We've been doing this our whole lives. It's just a little backyard football."



South Lyon's Quinn Fracassi rushes against Protage Central Nov. 12 during the Division 2 regional final. DAVID DUNOHER/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

In overtime, South Lyon wanted to run the ball.

It took two plays for the Lions to get

in the end zone as running back Tommy Donovan scored from 5 yards out for a 29-23 lead.

Portage Central got the ball to the 1-yard line on a quick pass. On fourth down, though, a stop was needed to seal the game, and that's when Blackwell stepped up.

"Credit to Dakota. He's been plagued by injuries all year long. He stops the guy on the play before, and we sent him on a corner blitz on fourth down," Henson said. "He was able to step in and stop the ball carrier short."

"I'm extremely happy for him. It was a great play."

The win marked South Lyon's fourth regional championship.

Hopefully, for the Lions, they can make the most of this extended playoff run. They've lost two of three state semifinal match ups in the past. They won their final-four game in 1995 but wound up losing in the state championship a week later.

They're wishing this is the season they have success at Ford Field.

Franklin

Continued from Page 1B

He tossed a 12-yard TD pass to Cordell Maybins Jr. for the winning score. Then he scored on a 7-yard run to cap off a night that included 10 carries for 76 yards and three TDs on the ground for the quarterback. He was also 3 of 7 passing for 75 yards and two TDs.

Maybins Jr. did most of the heavy lifting, rushing 20 times for 167 yards.

"The big difference for us was our O-line," Kelbert said of his offense, which totaled 347 yards. "They've been playing very, very, very well these last three playoff games. We've been able to run

the ball.

"We're at our best offensively when we can run the football."

Defensively, Jon J-Anderson came up with another game-saving play for the second week in a row. This time he returned a fumble 33 yards for a TD in the third quarter.

The Patriots did their best to slow down Mott QB Kalieb Osborne, a dual-threat who's already being recruited by the likes of Michigan and other Division I colleges.

The Corsairs (7-5) totaled 363 yards, and Osborne was 13 of 23 passing for 176 yards and three TDs.

"Their QB is a really special player," Kelbert added. "We just hit him as many times as we possibly could. He is tough

as nails. We really put a beating on him, and he kept coming and coming and coming. He took every shot we could give him."

Playoff points-wise, Franklin enters next week's matchup against De La Salle as the biggest underdog in the state. The Pilots have over 27 points more than them.

But that doesn't mean much to Franklin, which has played as the underdog well all postseason. It has played three-straight road games to capture district and regional titles. It's the only team in the history of the MHSAA to qualify for a state semifinal after entering the postseason with a losing record.

"We didn't tell our kids about that," Kelbert said. "As a coaching staff, we've

talked about it. They know it, though, and they saw it on Twitter this week. It was said on there."

"This hasn't been a goal of ours (to be the first in MHSAA history to make it to a final four after having a regular-season losing record), but we knew we had to win. I attribute this to our program, our staff and our kids. When things didn't go well during the season, we didn't give up and pack our bags. We didn't say it wasn't going to be our year."

"We continued to get better. Once you start winning, everybody's attitude changes, and it's a better atmosphere."

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Birmingham begins upgrading high schools' athletic facilities

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Birmingham Public Schools Superintendent Embekka Roberson had a long list of people to thank during a pair of groundbreaking ceremonies. But the biggest thanks went to the residents who live in the Oakland County school district.

"Without you, we would not have had the \$195 million bond that was able to make this happen," she said.

Roberson was speaking of two major projects that will begin construction soon: the addition of an auxiliary gym at Seaholm High School and a pair of new buildings at the football stadium at Groves High School.

The district marked the beginning of the construction with two quick ceremonies held Nov. 2.

In addition to the auxiliary gym at Seaholm, the building at the high school will consist of a concession stand, replacing the current one for the outdoor stadium; add locker rooms; and other features.

It will also add a new classroom, golf simulator, an elevated running track and outdoor balconies. The track and existing tennis courts will be removed to make way for a new track and additional tennis courts, as well.

At Groves, the project consists of removing the building on the north end of the field and replacing it with a new one that will consist of a concession stand and locker rooms.

The building maintenance structure will relocate to the northeast corner of the Groves campus in a building that's currently under construction near the tennis courts.

The work is the first major renovations the high schools have seen in about 20 years, said Anne Cron, the district's executive director of communications and family engagement.

The bond proposal, approved by voters in March 2020, provides the school district with funding to make capital improvements across the district's facilities.



Birmingham School Board members, with Seaholm High faculty, staff and students, celebrate groundbreaking at the school's auxiliary gym Nov. 2.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Some work has already taken place, such as the major renovations at the Groves football stadium and the addition to Pierce Middle School.

Work is essentially scheduled to begin as soon as possible and will take many months to complete, said James Larson-Shidler, the district's assistant superintendent of business services. Work at Groves should take a year and be ready before next football season. The work isn't expected to affect spring sports like soccer that use the outdoor field.

Construction of the new facility at Seaholm will also not affect spring athletics, though that project will take longer to complete: work is expected to wrap up on that sometime in 2023.

More information on the bond projects can be found on the district's website.

Issues stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, Larson-Shidler said, were minimal when it came to beginning bond work.

In fact, because of restrictions, he said it made scheduling meetings with all the appropriate people easier since

they were done virtually.

"When you start a project, you get people together to plan it. So actually with Zoom meetings, you have people from all over," he said. "They don't have to drive over, they just jump on Zoom."

Seaholm principal Kyle Hall said she was happy knowing that students were in attendance at the event to mark the beginning of the work. She said it was her desire to leave the new facilities as a legacy at the high school for years to come.

"This is for you," Hall said. "I know and I've seen and witnessed over the last four-and-a-half years the kinds of things that happen on the fields and on the courts when you play athletics."

"I hope that in the years to come, when you come back and raise your children here in Birmingham that you look at this and say, 'I was there at the groundbreaking ceremony.'"

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

Hartland, Pinckney stars go 1-2 in Meet of Champions

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Riley Hough of Hartland and Caleb Jarema of Pinckney grabbed the top two places in the Michigan Meet of Champions cross country meet in Shepherd.

Hough, the two-time Division 1 state champion, was first out of 89 runners in the boys elite team race in 15 minutes, 8.5 seconds. Jarema, who won the Division 2 state championship, took second in 15:20.4.

Luke Venhuizen of Traverse City Central, the fifth-place finisher in Division 1, took third in 15:25.2.

Parchment's Garrett Winter took fifth in 15:34.2. Winter finished second to Jarema in the Division 2 meet, but was disqualified for shouting an obscenity after crossing the line.

Brighton's Quinn Cullen was 35th in 16:12.0 and teammate Tyler Langley was 63rd in 16:29.4.

The county's top two girls finished within 0.2 seconds of one another, with Howell junior Mackenzie Wright taking 28th in 18:44.3 and Brighton senior Katie Carothers 29th in 18:44.5. Brighton sophomore Carrigan Eberly was 67th in 19:21.3.

Julia Flynn of Traverse City Central was first in 17:17.4, winning by 30 seconds over Madison Foster of Temperance Bedford.



Riley Hough of Hartland won the Michigan Meet of Champions. WRIGHT WILSON/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Keep your eyes on the holiday pies

Sweet potato dessert completes a Southern Thanksgiving

Sharon Rigsby
Special to Tallahassee Democrat
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

My oh my, sweet potato pie! Old-fashioned Southern sweet potato pie tastes like a cool crisp fall day; warm, pungent spices and Thanksgiving all wrapped up in one delicious and decadent bite.

Made with sweetened condensed milk, this classic southern dessert is a make-ahead wonder and can be prepared up to 48 hours ahead.

Chances are, if you are not from the South, you might not have ever had sweet potato pie before. However, with this old-fashioned recipe, like grandma used to make, I hope to change that. Considered "soul food" by many, southern sweet potato pie has long played second fiddle to its more popular cousin, pumpkin pie. But one bite will make a believer out of you.

Oh, and when I say easy, I mean easy! Once you cook the potatoes, this delicious dessert takes only minutes to put together.

This is not only a delicious Southern dessert, but a piece with your coffee in the morning is the breakfast of champions.

Sharon Rigsby is the blogger behind Grits and Pinecones, a southern cooking, and hospitality blog. Browse all of her recipes by visiting gritsandpinecones.com.



This classic southern sweet potato pie is a make-ahead wonder and can be prepared up to 48 hours ahead. SHARON RIGSBY/SPECIAL TO TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Easy Southern sweet potato pie

Serves 10

1 pound sweet potatoes (baked and peeled, about 2 cups mashed)

¼ cup butter (softened)

14 ounces sweetened condensed milk

1 teaspoon orange peel, zested

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1 teaspoon ground nutmeg

2 large eggs (beaten)

¼ teaspoon kosher salt

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 unbaked pie shell (9-inch deep-dish)

Whipped cream (optional for garnish)

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

Cook the sweet potatoes, peel and mash using a fork or potato masher until they are smooth.

Add the sweet potato and butter to a medium-size bowl. Use an electric mixer and blend on medium until everything is combined and their are no

lumps.

Add the sweetened condensed milk, orange zest, cinnamon, nutmeg, eggs, salt, and vanilla extract and mix well.

Pour the sweet potato mixture into the pie crust. Place the pie on a baking sheet and bake for 40 minutes, or until the crust is golden brown and the pie has set.

Place the pie on a wire cooling rack and let cool completely. Garnish with whipped cream if desired.

Sharon's tips

- To cook the potatoes in the microwave, prick them with a fork and microwave for five minutes. Then, turn them over and cook for another five minutes or until the potatoes are very soft when squeezed. Allow to cool for a few minutes, and scoop out and mash the flesh.

- If you prefer to cook your potatoes in the oven, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Bake the potatoes for 60 minutes or until they feel soft and squishy when squeezed.

- You can also boil the potatoes. To boil them, peel and cut the potatoes into small cubes. Place in boiling water and cook for about 15-20 minutes. They are done when you can easily pierce them with a fork. Drain and mash them.

- You can substitute canned sweet potatoes in this recipe. Be sure to drain and rinse them and mash well before adding to the batter. You will need two cups of mashed potatoes.

- For convenience, I use a frozen pre-made deep-dish pie crust in this recipe. Feel free to make your own using your favorite pie crust recipe.

- If you use a purchased crust, don't forget to place the unbaked pie on a cookie sheet before putting it in the oven. By itself, the aluminum pie pan is flimsy and may bend when you put it in or take it out of the oven.

- When the pie is done, the filling will puff up slightly, but once it starts cooling, it will flatten out.

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Twitter Blue hits US, allows customization for subscribers

Terry Collins
USA TODAY

After a year of rumors, waiting and wondering, Twitter is finally launching Blue, a monthly subscription service, in the U.S.

The \$2.99 premium service debuted Tuesday on the social media platform provides more customization features including "undo tweets" and a mode that makes reading those long threads of tweets way easier to follow.

"This is just the beginning of the journey, as we think about what's ahead" creating new features that "power users" want, said Sara Beykpour, Twitter's senior director of product management, during a briefing with reporters on Monday.

The arrival of Blue now in the U.S. (and also in New Zealand for \$4.49 a month) comes after Twitter tested the premium service in Canada and Australia in June, as the platform continues seeking new lines of revenue. Twitter did not disclose how many Blue subscribers it has.

Within the last year, Twitter has introduced features including Spaces, a response to audio chat hit Clubhouse; Tips, which lets users send money directly to their favorite accounts; and Fleets, where users can share text, photos and videos that disappear in 24 hours, similar to Snapchat.

"We're improving personalization, facilitating conversation, delivering relevant news, and finding new ways to help people get paid on Twitter," CEO Jack Dorsey said in a statement when announcing the company's third-quarter earnings on Oct. 26. With 211 million daily average users, Twitter reported revenue growth of 37% from a year earlier to \$1.284 billion.

"This is the greatest opportunity for us in terms of relevance and that drives everything from growth and usage but also to our advertising business," said Dorsey during his earnings call with analysts last month.

Even with all of the alternative reve-



"Undo tweet" is one feature of the Twitter Blue subscription service now offered in the U.S. PROVIDED BY TWITTER

nue streams that Twitter is experimenting with, subscriptions are the one that shows the most promise, said Jasmine Enberg, a senior analyst at research firm eMarketer/Insider Intelligence.

"Subscriptions are a good match for Twitter's use cases, mainly news and current events, and its highly engaged power user base will likely appreciate features that help them organize and follow conversations more easily," Enberg said. "Twitter's value proposition is different from the other major social platforms, so a service like Twitter Blue may be a harder sell elsewhere."

"That said, all of the social platforms are working on ways to augment their ads businesses."

Speaking of ads, Twitter said Blue subscribers also will have ad-free services when visiting select news sites including USA TODAY, The Washington Post, The Atlantic, Rolling Stone, and

The Hollywood Reporter, among its publishing partners.

Tony Haile, Twitter's senior director of product, told reporters as part of the ongoing "commitment to strengthen and support publishers and a free press," a portion of the revenue from Twitter Blue subscription fees will go directly to publishers within its network.

"Our goal is to help each publishing partner make 50% more per person than they would've made from serving ads to that person," Haile said. "A better experience for readers - and more support for the journalism they care about."

Caroline Harris, vice president of digital distribution at Gannett, the parent company of USA TODAY, shares a similar sentiment.

"We at USA TODAY believe in the importance of evolving access to quality journalism for readers, and innovating to meet audiences' preferences," Harris

said in a statement. "Therefore, we're excited to expand our partnership with Twitter and offer our brand and content on Twitter Blue."

While subscriptions are one way that Twitter is attempting to diversify its revenue streams, "advertising will remain its core source of revenue for the foreseeable future," Enberg said.

"We expect Twitter's net U.S. ad revenues, after traffic acquisition costs, to rise by 38.5% to \$2.35 billion in 2021," Enberg added.

Other key features of Twitter Blue include:

Access to Twitter Blue Labs lets subscribers test out and share their thoughts on new features before they're available to all users. For example, subscribers can upload and tweet videos for up to 10 minutes when they post from twitter.com.

Bookmark Folders lets subscribers organize the Tweets they saved by allowing them "manage content so when you need it, you can find it easily and efficiently," Twitter said.

Undo Tweet allows subscribers to set a customizable timer of up to 30 seconds to click 'Undo' before the Tweet, reply, or thread they sent posts to their timeline. "Correct mistakes easily by previewing what your Tweet will look like before the world can see it," Twitter said.

Top Articles lets subscribers see the most-shared articles among who they follow think are important in the last 24 hours. This gives subscribers a new and complementary way of catching up on the latest on Twitter.

Twitter said additional Blue features include customizable app icons for a user's home screen on their device, color themes for the Twitter app, and access to dedicated subscription customer support.

And Twitter said it is introducing "Custom Navigation," as subscribers can choose what appears in their navigation bar to quickly access "the Twitter destinations they care about most."

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Obituaries

James M. Allen

NORTHVILLE - Age 84, a lifelong resident of Northville, passed away November 3, 2021. He was born in Flint, Michigan; son of Austin Malcolm Allen and Inga Henrietta (Staman) Allen. He graduated in 1956 from Northville High School, where he served as class president. Jim was united in marriage to Patricia G. White on February 2, 1957; they spent 64 loving years together as husband and wife.

Following high school graduation, Jim went to work for his father at Allen Monuments in Northville. He continued the Allen legacy of assisting the Northville community when choosing monuments to help memorialize their loved ones. For decades he served as the Sexton at Rural Hill Cemetery, he retired from the position in 2014. Jim sold Allen Monuments in 1993 to dedicate his time as the first full time Fire Chief for the City of Northville. Chief's loyalty to the community was apparent with his service to the city. In 1964 he was hired onto the City of Northville Volunteer Fire Department; he became Assistant Chief in 1973 and Chief in 1978, a position he held until his retirement in 2014. Jim also served as an Auxiliary Police Officer for the City of Northville in the 60's as well as serving in the Army Reserves. His life was devoted to serving the Northville community in many ways.

Jim was a past member of the Northville Rotary Club and a member of the Great Lakes International Antique Fire Apparatus Association. Chief owned a 1935 American LaFrance fire truck and enjoyed the muster competitions at Greenfield Village. His Sundays in the summer were spent with his family at their cottage on Lower Straits Lake. Jim liked to go fishing, golfing, and snowmobiling. He loved being a part of the Northville parades, working festivals for the NCFD, and supporting the downtown Halloween event. Jim was a compassionate, hardworking, and caring husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Allen; his children, Scott (Dana) Allen and Shari Allen; his grandchildren, Heather Allen, Nicole "Nicki" Allen, and Justin Allen; and his furry dog companion, Pippa Rose. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Sharon Allen.

A funeral service was held November 13, 2021 at the Frist Baptist Church of Northville. Mr. Allen will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Explorers Post 1717, 215 West Main Street, Northville, MI 48167. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home.

CASTERLINE
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Cleon Vernon Newton

SALINE, MICHIGAN - Cleon Vernon Newton, age 89, of Saline, Michigan, passed away on November 6, 2021 comfortably at home with his family present. He was born September 1, 1932 in Northville, Michigan.

He was the eldest son of James Vernon and Caroline (Witt) Newton. He married Sara (Sally) Merriam on February 7, 1953, and she preceded him in death in 2018 after 65 years of marriage.

Cleon served in the United States Army during the Korean War stationed in Germany. He earned a degree in Industrial Engineering at Wayne State University, Detroit, where he also attended post graduate engineering studies. The oldest of 6 children, he graduated from Northville High School in 1950 where he played the trumpet in the marching band. He excelled in playing chess and once represented Michigan at a national tournament. He also was a skilled golf player and collected many trophies.

Cleon (aka C.V.) had a professional career that took him from Michigan to Ohio and back as he raised his ever expanding family. He worked as an engineer for several companies in Detroit, Milan, and Ann Arbor, Michigan and Middletown, Dayton, and Cleveland, Ohio. He was ever industrious and spent his early years selling apples and potatoes and helping out on his Uncle Karl's farm in Fowlerville, Michigan. He worked in the steel factory in Ecorse, Michigan while attending college. He was a self-made man and valued the work ethic. Cleon enjoyed building and fixing projects and was adept at making appliances last long after their projected expiration.

He is survived by his children, Marilyn Rice, Beverly (Wayne) Penkalski, Katherine (Ried) Jacobsen, Ronald (Kareen) Newton, and Leila Newton (preceded in death by daughter, Vivian Steel); his grandchildren, Rodney (Rachel Tuttle) Pate, Chance (Kristina) Potter, Emily Potter (Richard Stepp), Julie (T.J.) Ramey, Mitchell (Amber) Rice, Eric Jacobsen, Karen Jacobsen, Sharon (Chris Maraman) Steel, Carolyn (Mark) Wiley, and Naomi Steel; and five great grandsons.

Cleon is also survived by his sister, Cece Grabowski (predeceased by sisters, Alice Newton and Ila Pioch); and brothers, Elvin and Walter.

Services were held on Saturday, November 13, 2021 at Nie Family Funeral Home- Liberty Rd. Chapel starting at 10am, followed by burial at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia, Michigan.

Nie
FAMILY FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE, INC.

The Memories Remain

Catherine Dusablon

Catherine Dusablon a long time resident of Northville passed away October 16th. Devoted wife to Armand. Cherished mother to Duke, Julie, Dan and Jean. Beloved grandmother to seven and great grandmother to two. Rest In Peace

Eternal Rest



Eileen Kindlinger

BANGOR - Eileen Kindlinger, November 18, 1936 to November 4, 2021, passed away at her assisted living home in Bangor, Michigan, attended by angels there, seen and unseen.

Eileen was born in Baltimore, Maryland to Sylvia (Grossman) and Herman Lazarowitz. As a child she moved with her family to Brooklyn, New York, where she lived until her family moved to Detroit, Michigan when she was 16 years old.

She married John Kerr in 1956. He tragically passed away in 1960 at the age of 25 as the result of an auto accident. They had two children together.

Eileen married Peter Kindlinger in 1963, and moved to Milford, Michigan, where they lived for many years. After he passed away in 1996, Eileen moved to South Lyon (Lake Angela) and spent winters in Florida. She moved to the South Haven area 6 years ago to be closer to her daughter.

Eileen was very proud of her work history in her younger years as a telephone switchboard operator and waitress at Stouffer's restaurant at Northland in Detroit. She also volunteered to assist with elections while living in Milford.

Eileen enjoyed music and singing and participated in several stage productions sponsored by the Novi Senior Players. She enjoyed playing cards, watching movies and socializing in general. However, she was known far and wide as the "bingo queen" and never declined an opportunity to play.

Eileen is preceded in death by her parents, her younger siblings, Gerald Lazarowitz, Michael Daniels, Wanda Defer and her niece Ruth Ritzema. She is survived by her daughter, Vicky Kerr, (husband Philip Thompson) of South Haven, Michigan, her son John Kerr of Milford, Michigan and her beloved granddaughter Kasey Kerr (husband Craig Duff) of Linden, Michigan.

Cremation has taken place and a private memorial service for family and friends will be held in the future.

Donations may be made to Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County where her granddaughter is a Senior Director on the website at <https://css-washtenaw.org/donate> or mailed to Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County, 4925 Packard Rd. Ann Arbor, Michigan 48451. Kindly share your thoughts and memories on the family's online guestbook at starksfamilyfh.com.

The family is being helped by Filbrandt Chapel of Starks Family Funeral Homes at 1076 S. Bailey Avenue, South Haven, MI 49090, 269-637-0333.

FILBRANDT
FUNERAL HOME



Hannelore Elfriede Bishop

MILFORD - Hannelore Elfriede Bishop, 80, of Milford, Michigan passed away on Saturday, October 30, 2021.

She was the beloved wife of Joseph for 53 years, loving mother of Anja Mackey (Neil) and Hans Bishop (Jennifer). Proud grandmother of Zoey Mackey, Bryce Mackey, Sabine Bishop, Torsten Bishop, Ellen Combs, and Rachel Knight. Step-mother of Joseph Bishop, Jr., Terry Bishop (Carol), and Laura Cepuran (Larry). Step-grandmother of Christine, Jimmy, and Anna Bishop, Kate and Elly Bishop, and Colin and Claire Cepuran. Hanne was also survived by family back in Germany.

Those wishing to make an expression of sympathy are asked to consider a donation to St. Jude Children's Hospital in memory of Hannelore.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.



Peace

Hartland coach hopes quarterfinal loss humbled team

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HARTLAND — Getting to USA Hockey Arena every March for the final four of the state hockey tournament has become an expectation for Hartland.

But there's a fine line between "expectation" and another "E" word that coach Rick Gadwa hopes has been purged from the Eagles' system.

"I think the biggest thing we wanted to accomplish early as a group is ridding ourselves of any entitlement. We think last year's group might have had a little bit of that when some of our young guys came into a successful program."

Rick Gadwa Hartland hockey coach

ers in all-staters Andrew Larson and Adam Pietila and an all-state goalie in Ryan Piros, but that's nothing new for the Eagles as they have continually reloaded over the past decade.

Hartland's core is a junior class that includes seven players who saw significant action on a team that went 14-3-1 last season. Four seniors are back from last season.

Forwards Ben Pouliot, Nick Halonen, Lucas Henry and Brendan Pietila, along with defensemen Isaac Frantti, Jack L'Esperance and Braden Pietila, played as sophomores last season. Braden Pietila was a rare varsity freshman two years ago.

Senior returners are forwards Trombley, Jordan Haydu and Brady Balagna and goalie Kameron Ragon. Balagna played defense last year, while Ragon backed up Piros.

"It's always nice to have a good group of returners," Gadwa said. "They bring the culture you've established. They're able to roll it over a little bit quicker, so that's nice."

"With that said, a lot of our returning guys are just second-year guys. We were in a COVID year last year where we didn't get to instill a lot of what we normally would in a season. It was game-heavy once we finally got playing. This

2021-22 Hartland hockey schedule

Nov. 19: Livonia Franklin (Eddie Edgar), 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 20: Canton (Hartland Sports Center), 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 24: Livonia Stevenson (Hartland Sports Center), 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 26: Rockford (Kensington Valley Ice House), 2 p.m.

Nov. 27: Kensington Valley Thanksgiving Invitational, TBD

Dec. 3: Calumet (Calumet Colosseum), 7 p.m.

Dec. 4: Houghton (Dee Stadium), 1 p.m.

Dec. 8: Howell (Hartland Sports Center), 7 p.m.

Dec. 11: Trenton (Eddie Edgar), 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 15: Salem (Hartland Sports Center), 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 17: Brother Rice (Oak Park Arena), 6 p.m.

Dec. 21: Northville (Novi Ice Arena), 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 22: Livonia Churchill (Eddie Edgar),

8 p.m.

Jan. 5: Plymouth (Hartland Sports Center), 7 p.m.

Jan. 12: Novi (Novi Ice Arena), 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 15: Brighton (Kensington Valley Ice House), 4 p.m.

Jan. 19: Orchard Lake St. Mary's (Hartland Sports Center), 7 p.m.

Jan. 21: Byron Center (Southside Ice Arena), 7:20 p.m.

Jan. 22: Westside Invitational (Southside Ice Arena), 2 p.m.

Jan. 26: Livonia Stevenson (Eddie Edgar), 6 p.m.

Jan. 29: Flint Powers (Flint Iceland Arenas), 3 p.m.

Feb. 4: MIHL Showcase (Kennedy Recreation Center), TBD

Feb. 5: MIHL Showcase (Kennedy Recreation Center), TBD

Feb. 11: KLAA crossover

Feb. 18: Saginaw Heritage (Saginaw-Bay Ice Arena), 7 p.m.

year, a lot of our second-year guys, most of our returners, haven't even played a full season yet."

Ragon is one of three goalies looking to replace Piros, who was a two-year starter. The others are seniors Owen Pogue and Cole Gumiela. Pogue is new to Hartland, while Gumiela was the junior varsity goalie last season.

"We've got a good problem in net with

three," Gadwa said.

Hartland isn't carrying a full 20-man roster, with 18 players on the varsity. Gadwa said he will probably bring up a JV forward for games.

"There's a lot that goes into it, but the short version is we didn't want to put some other senior in a situation where maybe they were waiting a lot for ice time," Gadwa said.

Volleyball

Continued from Page 1B

Evey Oegema toed the service line and kept the Mustangs' offense humming. She got them within one point with her serves. And then Janiah Jones knotted the score at 16 with a block.

Marian had no trouble the rest of the way. Brizard, Sarah Sylvestre, Sophie Treder, Ava Sarafa and Ella Schomer did the heavy lifting offensively after Jones tied it up. The team went on to win, 25-19.

After securing the comeback, the Mustangs grouped up near the net, and Brizard held up one finger and told her teammates, "One more! One more!"

The defending state champions got that last win, a 25-18 victory in Set 3, thanks to a final kill from Brizard, and

then *their* celebrating started.

The Mustangs, who also won the first set, 25-14, beat the Dragons, 3-0, to win their second-straight regional title.

"We worked really hard in practice yesterday," said Brizard, a 6-foot-1 outside hitter. "We came in with a whole new mentality. That dropped set put everything into perspective for us, and it taught us that we need to take every point seriously. So today we came in with no mercy. We just came in swinging."

"We just remembered the last time (on Tuesday against Novi), and we remember how hard we fought to get out of the last deficit in the last match. We've been there before. So we knew how to do it, and we knew that we could do it. That just gave us the extra push we needed to pull ahead in that second set."

Coach Mayssa Cook didn't call a timeout until the third set in the semi-

finals. She wasted no time in calling one once her Mustangs got down by five in the finals.

"(I told them to) really just to settle down on our ball control," the fourth-year coach said. "We know when we pass well, we can run our true offense. We've been down before, and we've come back."

"Let's just start chipping away a little bit at a time."

Oegema doesn't get a ton of playing time, but the Mustangs use her as their serving specialist.

She rotated in and breathed life into the offense. Her serving run kept Lake Orion's defense on its toes.

"It is very nerve-wracking to come off the bench and have to serve," the junior said. "But I love my job, and I love that I can help the team with my serve. ... That's one way I can help my team. When I can get them out of those holes,

it's really good, and I'm really happy to help in any way that I can."

Similar to Novi one round earlier, Lake Orion just wouldn't go away, despite losing to Marian three times during the regular season.

But the Mustangs are used to getting that type of fight from opponents. Everyone wants to beat the reigning state champions.

"There's so much more pressure, I think, this year," Cook said. "When you don't graduate anybody and you win states, the expectations are there that you're supposed to win, and you're supposed to make it back to Battle Creek. We know most teams all season are going to play us as the underdogs because they've got nothing to lose. We've been consistently getting everybody's best as of late."

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

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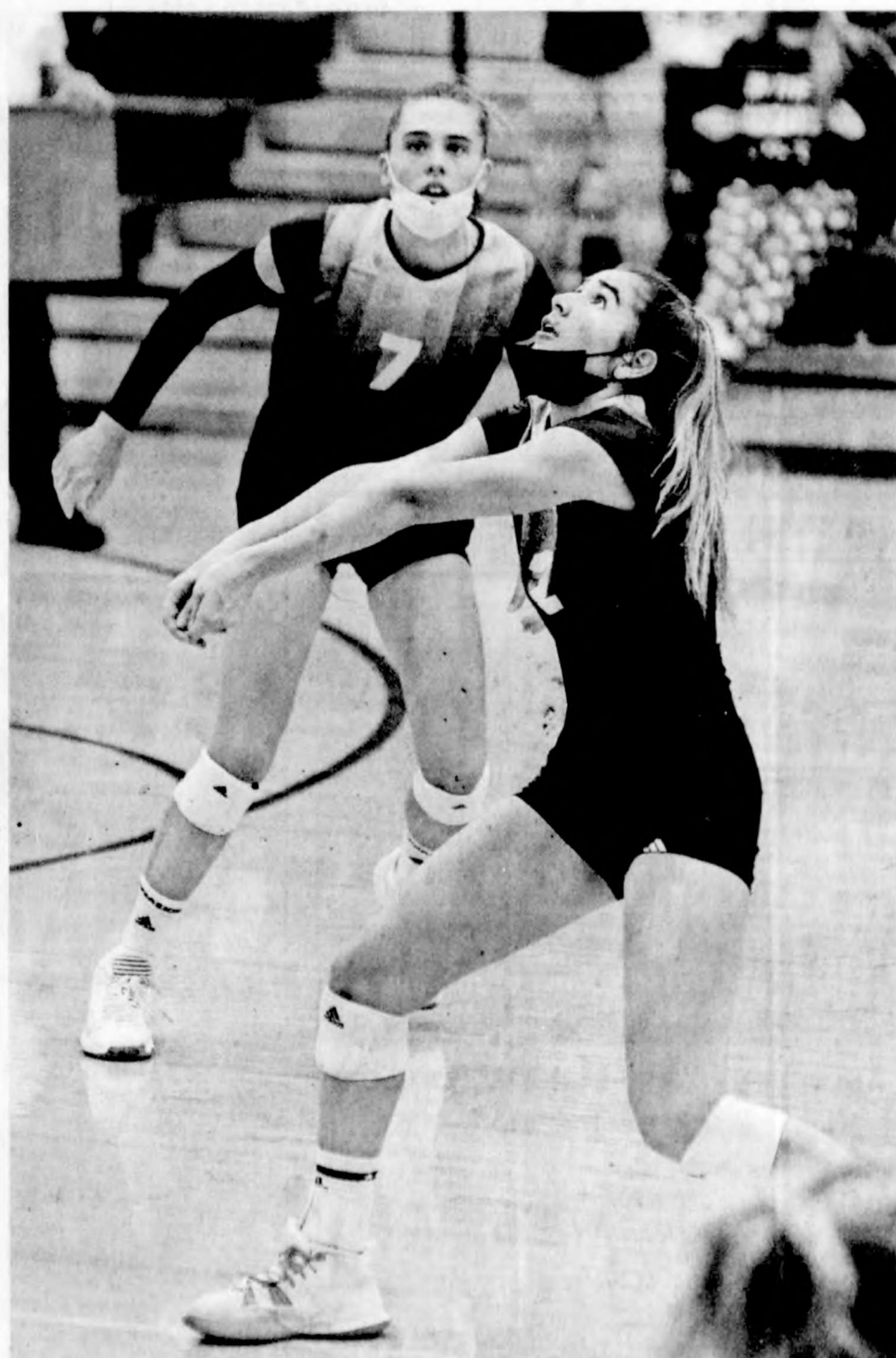
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The Job Market Warmed Up in October, With Still More Fuel in the Tank

By ZipRecruiter.com

Hiring picked up in October as the Delta surge waned, with the vast majority of industries contributing job gains, particularly leisure and hospitality. The jobs report, released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics today, clearly points to a demand-driven recovery where rapid hiring is shrinking the ranks of unemployed workers, especially long-term unemployed workers, but not yet drawing workers who are missing from the labor force back off the sidelines.

The economy added 531k jobs in October, and totals for the prior two months were revised upwards by 235k. Recent wage hikes in leisure and hospitality finally paid off. The industry led the way in the employment gains this month with 164K net new jobs. Almost three quarters of the new jobs in the industry were added by restaurants. This is quite an important step in the path to full recovery since industry still accounts for one third of the lost jobs compared to pre-pandemic levels.

Unemployment fell from 4.8% to 4.6%, and annual wage growth registered 4.9%. Labor force participation remained flat, but with strong wage growth, low unemployment, and COVID conditions improving, that will likely start to change.

The report suggests that job growth



could accelerate in the coming months, for the following reasons:

1. COVID is no longer as severe a drag on the labor market.

The number of Americans who were absent from work due to illness, the number teleworking due to COVID, and the number prevented from seeking work due to COVID all fell as Delta waned. That is an encouraging sign that "missing workers" could return in the coming months, too.

Absent the pandemic, there would be about 5 million more people in the labor force. If pandemic conditions contin-

ue to improve, and the unemployment rate continues to fall, we could see large numbers return, easing labor shortages and hiring constraints.

2. Workers are returning to offices.

The share of workers who teleworked fell from 13.2% to 11.6%. The return of workers to offices could unleash the recovery of businesses like restaurants, cafes, salons, and dry cleaners in central business districts in the coming months.

Hiring in restaurants also picked up significantly with 119K net new jobs, suggesting that workers are not hesi-

tant to take on the jobs that require close contact.

3. Schools still have much catching up to do.

The nation's schools started the school year with 723k fewer staff on payroll than before COVID. That is despite Congress's allocation of almost \$200 billion to public schools in COVID relief bills—far more than typically flows to schools through the federal budget. It's also despite the arguable need for

more staff in schools now to allow for smaller classroom sizes, provide remedial instruction to overcome learning loss, and provide counseling to students who have lost primary caregivers to COVID.

Many schools were blindsided by how difficult it was to fill vacancies at the start of the school year, and will now need to play hiring catch-up in the coming months. While the topline figures in the report pointed to a decline, that was the result of seasonal adjustments. Not seasonally adjusted figures point to a substantial increase across local, state, and private schools.

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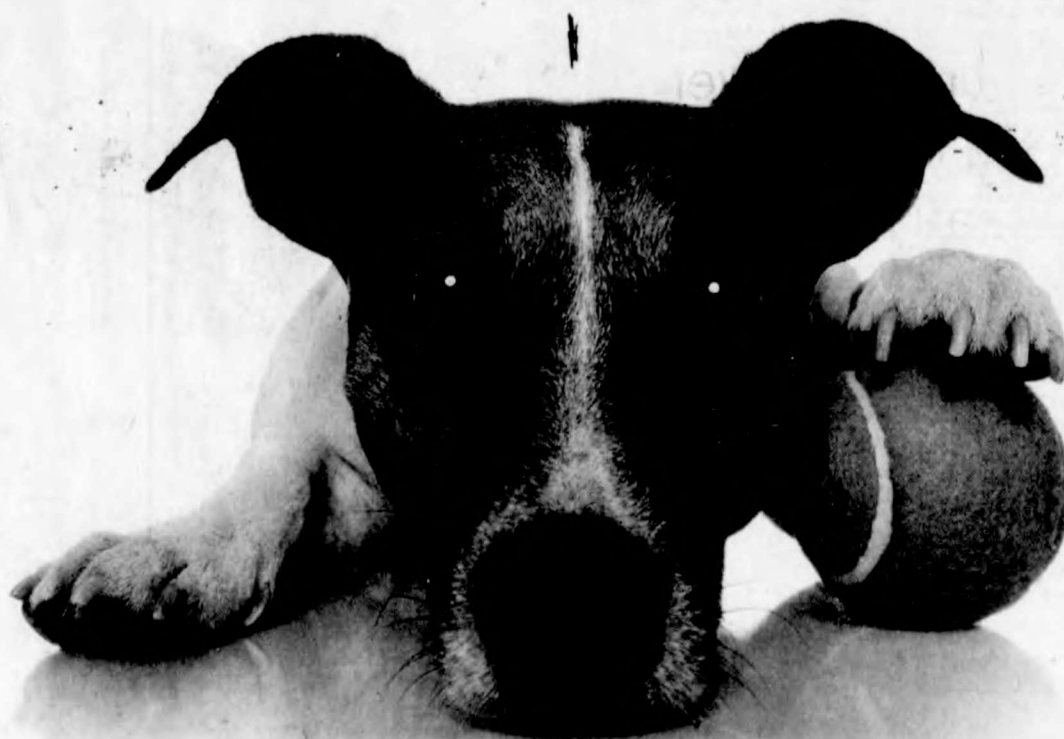
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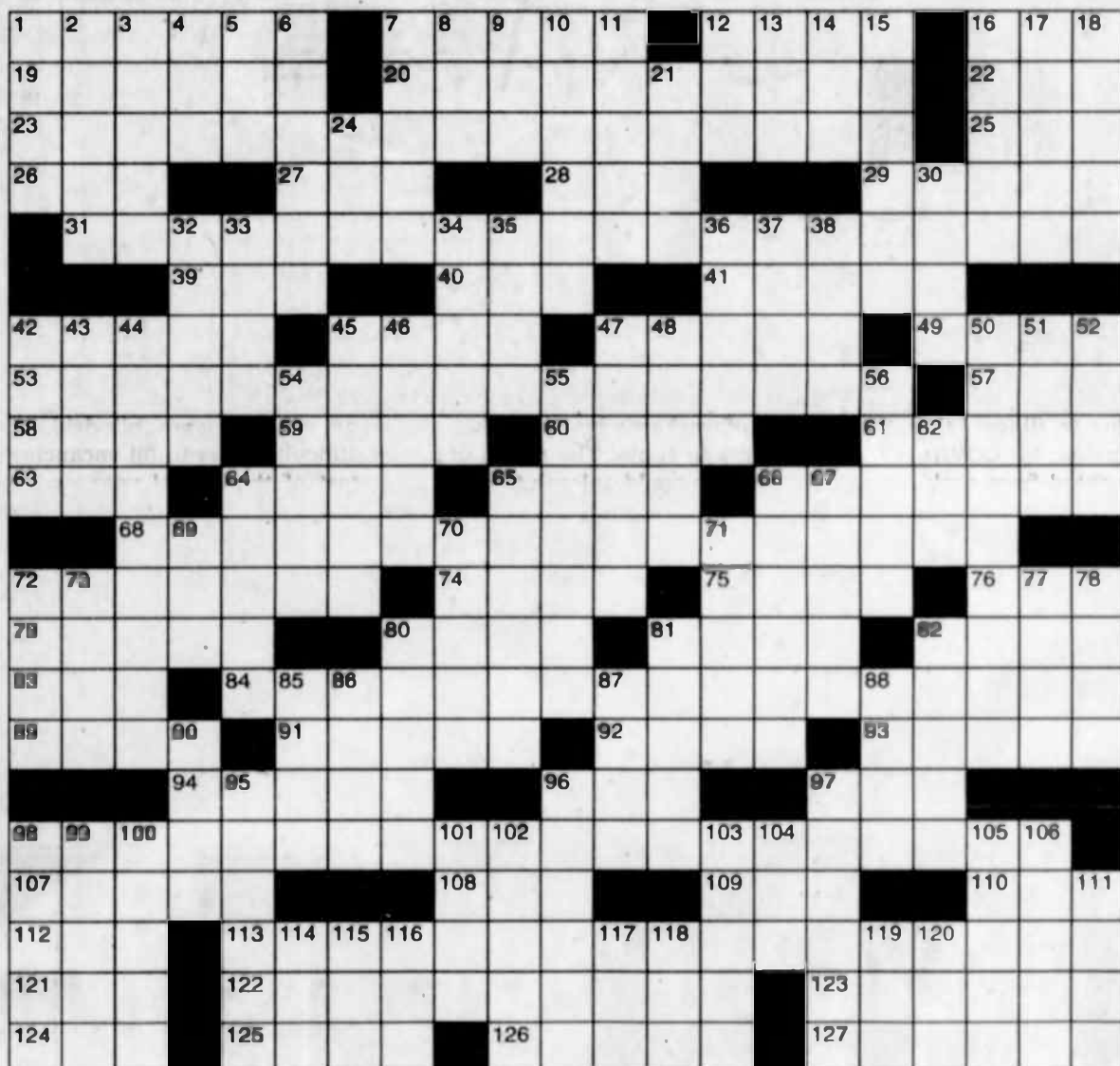
THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

POTENT POULTRY

- ACROSS**
- 1 Durable, lustrous fabric for table linen
7 Babysits, e.g.
12 Heavy burden
16 Machines connected to mice
19 Person expressing viewpoints
20 Do some igniting
22 Syrup source
23 Beginning of a riddle
25 Even a hint of
26 Not so bright
27 Old sporty Pontiac
28 The Palm Treo was one, in brief
29 Arctic home
31 Riddle, part 2
39 "— qué?" ("Why?" to Juanita)
40 Tofu base
41 Contest involving balancing on a floating log
42 Lead-in to bad news
45 "— girl!"
47 Fortunetellers
49 U.S. pres. during the Gulf War
53 Riddle, part 3
- 57 Austrian "a"
58 Hidden valley
59 "—From Muskogee"
60 "Incredible" superhero
61 Bert's Muppet pal
63 "— darn tootin'!"
64 Broad smile
65 Foal's father
66 Mini-carpet
68 Riddle, part 4
72 Woman with will power?
74 Deteriorates
75 Dais' Morse counterparts
76 Pet treat
79 "Tomorrow" musical
80 — d'œuvres
81 Peru's capital
82 "Gotta go!"
83 Muscle jerk
84 Riddle, part 5
89 Tree of Life's garden
91 Boffo reviews
92 Funnywomen Schumer and Poehler
93 Has a go at
94 Have a loan from
96 Lead-in to puncture or pressure
97 Class for U.S. immigrants
98 End of the riddle
- 107 Put back to 0, perhaps
108 NASA "yes"
109 Tolkien meanie
110 Rom- — (film genre)
112 Aussie avian
113 Riddle's answer
121 Diana Ross musical, with "The"
122 Relaxes, informally
123 Shoelace hole
124 Disco — (guy on "The Simpsons")
125 "Yes, yes!" in Yucatán
- DOWN**
- 1 Op-ed columnist Maureen
2 Green garden pest
3 Marlins' city
4 House pest
5 Stitch up
6 Food chain
7 Letter-shaped opening in a machine shop
8 LAX abbr.
9 Certain caucous reply
10 Visit briefly
11 Reading room
12 Two — kind
13 Not a one
14 Website ID
15 Frozen floating brine
16 Church song
17 Tippy craft
18 Observe slyly
21 Put — on (limit)
24 Broadway's Hagen
30 Mapmaker's sci.
32 Home to Barcelona
33 Driver's alert
34 Lauder of perfume
35 Chomsky of linguistics
36 Vacuum cleaner company
37 Actress Petty
38 Rick's love in "Casablanca"
42 Azalea of rap
43 Manicurist's tool
44 From the time that
45 Guitarist Chet
46 Entity
47 Rejects with disdain
48 Trapped morays
50 Much-married English king
51 Nintendo console that debuted in 2012
52 Rare blood type, in brief
54 Pierces
55 Japanese massage technique
56 Ogling looks
62 Old washcloth
64 Say "hi" to
65 Cutoffs, e.g.
66 Hostility
67 Affix a new label to
69 Hexa- halved
70 Recurrent theme
71 Benefit spiritually
72 Dislike a lot
73 "National Velvet" novelist Bagnold
77 Roof's edge
78 Feet have five
80 Widespread destruction
81 Primate of Madagascar
82 Keyboard command for "paste"
85 Rich rocks
86 Vatican's denom.
87 Go quickly
88 Stilted-sounding reply to "Who's there?"
90 G flat, for one
95 — hat (Broom-Hilda costume part)
96 Beginning of a classic JFK quote
97 Artist working on glass
98 Pub offerings
99 Send in, as payment
100 Japanese truck maker
101 "Mighty" trees
102 Yule songs
103 9-Down and 119-Down are opposite ones
104 Bit of a circle
105 GI tract bacterium
106 Tender spots
111 Fictitious tale
114 "Bali —"
115 Officeholders
116 Hi-tech film effects
117 Dove's noise
118 Cobra type
119 Certain caucous reply
120 — Aviv-Yafo



#2,065

Average time of solution: 85 minutes

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

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★★

11/18

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!

IN PAIRS

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

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

ARMS
BOOKENDS
BOOTS
BRACE
GRIFFS
BROGUES
CLOGS
CLONE
COUPLE
DUET
DUNGAREES
DUO
EARRINGS
ELBOWS
EYEBROWS
EYES
FEET
FORCEPS
GLOVES
HANDS
JEANS
KNEES
KNICKERS
LEGS
LENSES
LONGJOHNS
LOVEBIRDS
MITTENS
OVERALLS
PINCERS
PLIERS
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SHOES
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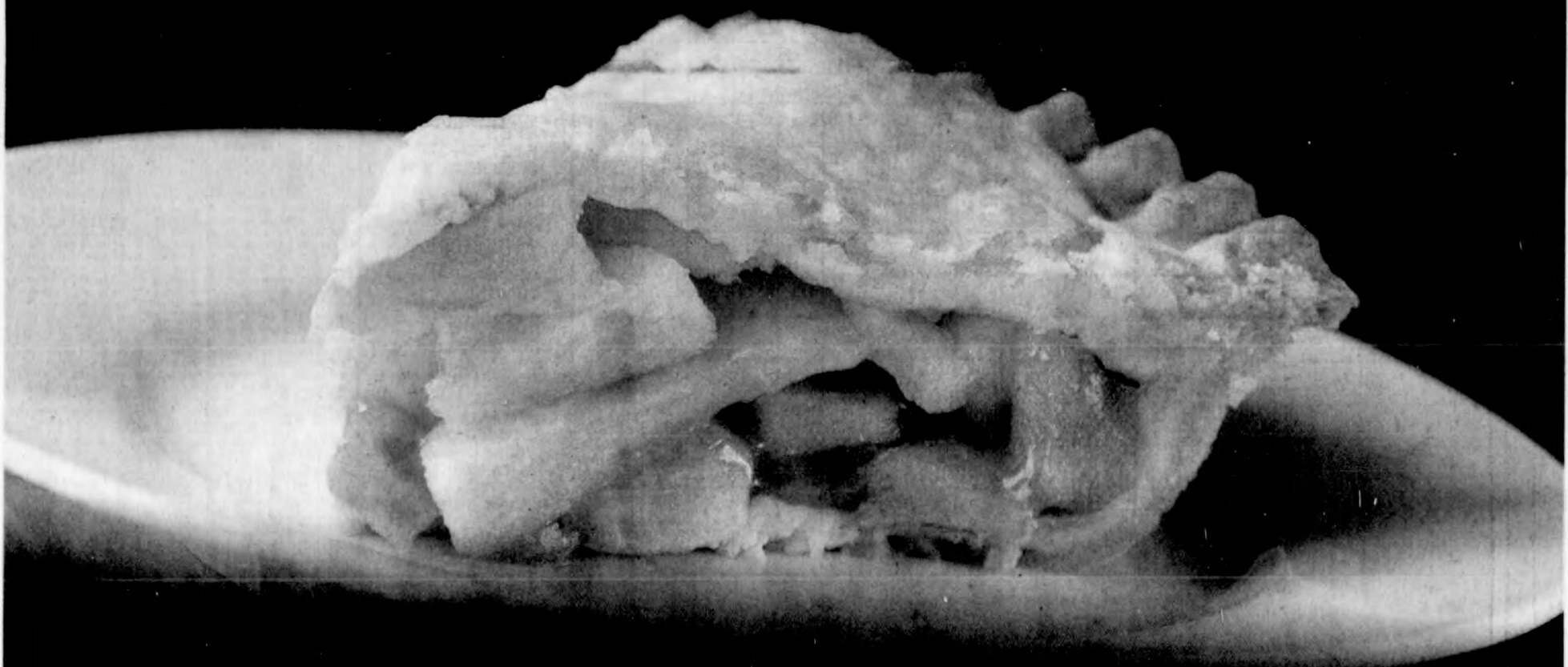
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