

## THVILLE ECORD

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## **Former Ruby Tuesday to** become new **Novi animal** hospital

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Dogs and cats could be welcomed into the former Ruby Tuesday building in Novi by early next year.

The dining spot that closed nearly a year ago is set to become the Shelter Bay Animal Hospital after the Novi City Council unanimously agreed to allow the site to expand beyond a sitdown restaurant.

While part of the building will be transformed for veterinary uses, new owner Terry McCarthy plans to keep the Ruby Tuesday kitchen intact and bring in a catering business.

"It's a little too big for us right now," said McCarthy. "We thought to cut it in half and put a vet clinic on the front half, make it look fantastic. There's a beautiful million-dollar kitchen in the back of this building we don't have the heart to tear it up. We don't need it, don't need the money. But we'll endeavor to see if someone wants a catering kitchen.

McCarthy and his wife, a veterinarian, own Daridy Acres Animal Hospital in Lyon Township and Easthaven Animal Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Shelter Bay Animal Hospital will be an advanced general practice, specializing in imagery and dentistry, and welcoming mostly dogs and cats, but other domestic pets as well. McCarthy notes the veterinary staff has cared for birds and even a bearded dragon hit by a car.

The hospital will not operate as an after-hours emergency clinic and is expected to have mostly regular business hours.

But McCarthy said they are "always there for trouble" and some emergencies may be taken care of after typical

McCarthy said he is excited about the veterinary practice's new facility, which is about 7,300 square feet on 3.15 acres on the south side of Twelve Mile Road, west of Haggerty Road.

Ruby Tuesday previously had an agreement with SMART to allow buses in the parking lot when not in service, but McCarthy intends to terminate

See ANIMAL HOSPITAL, Page 6A

## From perfection to perspective



South Lyon East senior Natalie Rochon is the school's recipient of the 2022 Perseverance Award for being a student who has overcome personal challenges. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### After losing her brother, South Lyon East senior perseveres

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

When Natalie Rochon's brother Matthew took his own life, he took a part of his sister with him.

"When something crazy happens that shakes up your life, it's something that sticks with you for the rest of your

life," Natalie Rochon said. "I felt I had lost part of my foundation. My brother was a huge role model to me. He was smart, brave, an outgoing guy. Losing him was losing a part of myself and that

foundation." Rochon remembers sitting alone in the funeral home, gazing at her brother's portrait and replaying the October

2020 night when she was awakened by her father to learn her brother was gone.

A deep descent into despair followed, but so did the rise of a new Natalie, one whose will to overcome has won her the 2022 South Lyon East Perseverance Award.

See PERSPECTIVE, Page 4A

## New Hudson shop moves into 1880s church

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Turning one of New Hudson's oldest buildings into a vintage home goods shop was just the move Jody Sherman's business needed.

Jodea Bella Home had been located on Pontiac Trail for years. Not having a lot of visibility, she began to look for another spot.

The store, at 56807 Grand River, sells

Now, she has a space that has the same feel as the items in her collection.

a variety of vintage items, including furniture, clothing, home goods and more. It's located in a former church building, a space that her customers have waited weeks to shop in.

See SHOP, Page 5A

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## Tip sparks criticism, threatens Stislicki case

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Danielle Stislicki's parents have suffered several years not knowing what happened to their daughter while the man charged with her homicide so far has escaped a trial.

Their wounds may deepen depending on the outcome of an ongoing Oakland County Circuit Court hearing that seems focused on a controversial tip that yielded evidence, but not a body, and Floyd Galloway's accusations of government malfeasance.

If a judge agrees with Galloway's attorney, granting his wish to quash evidence from the tip and dismiss the case, the prison inmate and convicted sexual assaulter could fathom release as soon as 2033.

For now, his hopes hinge on the hearing, continuing June 13, that alluded to why Oakland County didn't pursue charges after investigating Stislicki's vanishing in 2016 and the pain to which the Stislickis may be suffering.

On May 3, the first day of the evidentiary hearing, Richard and Ann Stislicki watched defense attorney Ellen Michaels question retired police chiefs from Troy and Farmington Hills, along with Farmington Hills police officers, about a tip that ultimately came from a polygraph operator working for Gallo-

hometownlife.com

**Observer & Eccentric Newspapers** 

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Stislicki has been missing since Dec. 2, 2016. COURTESY OF THE STISLICKI FAMILY

way's attorney. Michaels claims law enforcers "actively obscured" the source of the tip

Michaels pointed toward criticism raised by the Stislickis' former prosecutor Jaimie Powell Horowitz — now a judge in Oak Park's 45th District Court—that Stislicki's case was "grossly mishandled by officials seeking only to protect their own interests."

The hitch is the tip given to Gary Mayer, Troy's police chief, a week after Stislicki's Dec. 2, 2016, vanishing. He then shared the tip with Farmington Hills' Police Chief Chuck Nebus but Mayer protected the polygraph operator's confidential status. That led to Horowitz filing her brief to reveal the name.

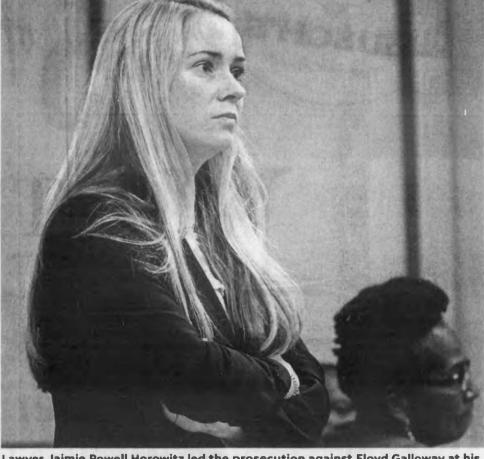
"It was also communicated to the AG (attorney general) that Oakland County had refused the case based on the source of the tip and because Danielle Stislicki's body had not been recovered," Horowitz said in an April 2019 brief, filed a month after Michigan Attorney General Dana Nesselannounced charges against Galloway.

By the time he was charged with Stislicki's death, Galloway was already in prison for attacking a Hines Park runner in Livonia a few months before Stislicki was last seen.

Stislicki, who knew Galloway from her place of work, officially has been declared dead. Her body remains missing.

"The AG had concerns regarding the source, as only the killer could know such details and the possibility of another person assisting in the crime (disposing of evidence – like a body and personal items of the victim) could not be ruled out," Horowitz added in her brief. "The fact that Mayer and the (polygraph) examiner are fighting tooth and nail to prevent disclosure to the defense speaks volumes as to how damaging the information is."

She detailed the tip that came in from a polygraph operator who was Mayer's personal and professional friend. Galloway was a person of interest early in the Stislicki investigation, and the polygraph operator had been working for Galloway's original attorney John Dak-



Lawyer Jaimie Powell Horowitz led the prosecution against Floyd Galloway at his 2019 preliminary exam. She is now a 45th District Court judge in Oak Park.

JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

mak when he called Mayer.

Recently repeated in court, the tip consisted of "the security guard did it, he drove her car from his house in Berkley to her apartment, he then walked to Tim Horton's at 10 and Halsted where he called a Shamrock Cab or something that sounds like Shamrock. He then threw the keys in a grassy area by the freeway while walking to Tim Horton's. The Fitbit should be near the keys. The victim's cell phone was placed in the trash at Tim Horton's and the victim's body is in a beige or brown comforter."

Farmington Hills police only recovered the Fitbit and keys. The items were near the M-5 intersection with Grand River Avenue and Stislicki's home at Independence Green Apartments.

According to Horowitz's brief, a crime lab found evidence of two profiles on the Fitbit, one belonging to Stislicki and an unidentified profile that isn't Galloway's.

Nebus has said during testimony Mayer would not reveal his tipster and Farmington Hills officers have testified they also did not know the tipster's

Dakmak declined requests to comment for this story, as did Michaels. Horowitz did not respond to a request for comment nor did Mayer's attorney. The Stislickis declined to talk about the case

during the recent court hearing.

The Michigan Attorney General's Office sent legal documents previously filed in the case when prompted for comment.

"It is uncontroverted that (the polygraph operator) violated his duty as polygraph examiner by disclosing to a third party information obtained from Mr. Galloway," Assistant Attorney General Danielle Russo Bennetts said in a court document.

While she said Mayer's decision to try to keep the tipster confidential was inappropriate, she said he did not act in bad faith when sharing the tip with Nebus and his decision to protect his tipster's identity does not mean wrongdoing on Farmington Hills' part.

"He alleges unproven malfeasance and misconduct on the part of essentially, all government parties," Bennetts wrote of Galloway. "Put in its simplest forms, the defendant seeks from this court a dismissal of the murder charge, based solely upon the actions of one man, (the polygraph operator). (His) action in disclosing the information does not equate to wrongdoing on the part of People and the Farmington Hills police."

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

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE, COUNTY OF WAYNE,

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF A BROWNFIELD PLAN FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FOUNDRY FLASK PROPERTY PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 381 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN OF 1996, AS AMENDED

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Northville City Council will hold a public hearing on June 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building - Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9905, on the adoption of a Brownfield Plan for the redevelopment of The Foundry Flask Property. The public hearing will have a Zoom public participation option. The Zoom link will be posted on the City Council meeting agenda, and on the City website www.ci.northville.mi.us.

The Brownfield Plan proposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended, the capture of all eligible tax increment revenues generated on the Property for the approved purposes, including from school and local taxing jurisdictions.

The description of the proposed Brownfield property is: Land situated in the City of Northville, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, described as follows:

456 E Cady Street Parcel ID: 48 004 02 0065 000

Legal Description: 03N65 TO 68 92B2 LOTS 65 TO 68 INCL ALSO THAT PART OF LOT 92 DES AS BEG AT THE MOST SLY CORNER OF LOT 66 AND PROCEEDING TH N 34D 13M 10SEC W ALONG THE MOST WLY LINE OF LOT 66 A DISTANCE OF 129.85 FT TO THE S E LINE OF LOT 68 TH S 55D 45M 20SEC W ALONG SAID LINE 45.83 FT. TH S 11D 11M E ALONG THE W LINE OF LOT 92 A DISTANCE OF 141.0 FT TO THE NLY BANK OF RIVER ROUGE TH N ELY ALONG SAID BANK TO THE POB ASSESSORS NORTHVILLE PLAT NO 1 T1SR8E L66 P45 WCR

456 E Cady Street Parcel ID: 48 004 02 0009 005

Legal Description: 03N9A1A 9A2B PART OF LOT 9 BEGINNING N 49D 29M 40SEC W 28.69 FT FROM THE MOST SLY POINT OF LOT9 TH N 49D 29M 40SEC W 234.45 FT TH N 42D04M 12SEC E 78.41 FT TH ALONG A CURVE CONCAVE TO THE RIGHT RADIUS 647.32 FT ARC 241.25 FT TH S 24D 35M 25SEC W 9.61 FT TO POB ASSESSORS NORTHVILLE PLAT NO 1 T1SR8E L66 P45 WCR

E Cady Street Parcel ID: 48 004 02 0069 000

Legal Description: 03N69 LOT 69 ASSESSORS NORTHVILLE PLAT NO 1 T1SR8E L66

The proposed Brownfield plan would allow the developer, and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority or other party, to be reimbursed for eligible costs incurred to prepare the brownfield property for redevelopment. Eligible costs may include environmental and site demolition costs. The Brownfield plan must first be approved by the City of Northville City Council. All aspects of the Brownfield Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing.

This description of the property along with any maps and a description of the Brownfield Plan are available for public inspection at the Northville City Clerk's Office, City of Northville Municipal Building, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, during normal business hours of Monday-Friday, 8am to 4:30pm.

Written comments to City Council pertaining to the proposed Brownfield plan should be submitted to the City Manager's Office at the above address, or using the City Hall 24-hour drop box, or emailed to mmassel@ci.northville.mi.us.

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, MiPMC CITY CLERK

#### Pilot makes emergency landing on U.S. 23

Ken Palmer Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

A 75-year-old pilot was "very calm and collected" after engine trouble forced him to make an emergency landing on U.S. 23 in Green Oak Township Saturday, police said

The pilot, a former U.S. Marine from Plymouth, safely landed the 1946 single-engine aircraft in the median of the freeway between Silver Lake and Lee roads, Green Oak Township police said.

The incident caused traffic backups on the freeway, but no injuries were reported.

The plane was towed from the freeway, and traffic was moving normally by early afternoon, police said.

The flight originated at an airport in Plymouth, police said.

The freeway incident was the second time the pilot had experienced engine failure in the plane, they said.

The first time, he was able to land at a nearby airport. It was unclear when the first incident of engine failure occurred.

Michigan State Police, Michigan Department of Transportation, Livingston County Sheriff's Office, Hamburg Township Police Department and Green Oak Township Fire Department assisted township police.

## 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 June 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., EST, electronically as authorized under the Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.261, ET SEQ., as amended, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2019 reprogramming of funds as follows:

Existing (from) - 2019 Program Year

Activity Number 730283
Activity Description Child Care Services
Amount \$8,618.55

Proposed (to) – 2019 Program Year

Activity Number 730571

Activity Description Emergency Services
Amount \$8,618.55

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., June 20, 2022. Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance notice. Contact the City Clerk, Cortney Hanson at 248-347-0456 for special services.

CORTNEY HANSON CITY CLERK

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Riley Taché says his dad, Oscar Taché, deserves a lot of credit for his success in quarter midget racing.



Riley stands by his race team's trailer. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Farmington Hills boy sees quarter midget racing as pathway to NASCAR

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

Ten-year-old Riley Tache always had a fascination

"The second he could talk, he was talking about cars," Riley's mother, Mindy Tache, said. "I have a funny picture of him when he was about two — we were at the grocery store and he grabbed a car magazine and just took off with it. He's just loved anything that moves."

Riley, a student at Kenbrook Elementary in the Farmington Public Schools district, has a quarter midget car that he races in the Michigan Motorsports Racing Association. The group hosts its races at the Waterford Hills Road Racing track in Waterford.

"I want to be a NASCAR driver someday," Riley said. "I think it would be fun to travel the country and do these races that take two or three hours."

Quarter midget cars — about one fourth the size of a full size midget racer - are a way for kids to get into auto racing. Mindy said the controls in Riley's car are similar to that of a go-kart, but his car has more safety has to dive out of the way." features built in compared to a typical go-kart.

This summer, the Farmington Hills boy hopes to win a few races, break a speed record and graduate from the Rookie class to the Senior Honda class. In Michigan, the racing season starts in April and wraps up in October.

Driving his small car at 35mph was scary at first — Mindy says it's intense to watch, too — and Riley thinks his sport takes a fair amount of bravery. His favorite part of the sport is the race day atmosphere including the competition, concessions, time with friends and watching other events.

"I think it's just to be brave and do it," he said. "You can get up to 35 miles an hour, and that's kind of scary at first. You're going really fast on a tiny little track with like six other cars.'

As with any motorsport, crashing is part of the deal. Racers must be agile enough to keep from driving into

"The big thing for him, I think, is quick reflexes," Mindy said. "If somebody crashes in front of him, he

While Riley brings the driving skills, he said his father, Oscar Taché, plays a major role in any success he has. Oscar reassembled and fixes the car Riley drives while also serving as his crew chief.

"I feel like some people congratulate the driver too much," Riley said. "I think a lot of that congratulations should go to the person who actually built the car. So, that would be my dad.'

According to Mindy, Michigan Motorsports fosters a family-friendly environment and lots of people go out of their way to help others.

When Oscar has been unable to attend races due to commitments for the Tache's younger son, other parents have helped Riley get his car started or make repairs after a crash.

(Riley has) met a bunch of new friends," Mindy said. "Everybody is very involved - it's a very family involved sport. We've met a lot of really nice families."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@ hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## **COVID-19** case tracker for Wayne, Oakland counties

Mike Stucka

**USA TODAY NETWORK** 

Michigan reported far fewer coronavirus cases in the week ending Sunday, adding 19.535 new cases. That's down 24.8% from the previous week's tally of 25,968 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked 22nd among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a perperson basis, a USA TO-DAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows.

In the latest week coronavirus cases in the United States increased 10.9% from the week before, with 770,895 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 2.53% of the country's cases in the last week. Across the country, 22 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

Wayne County reported 3,720 cases and three deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 5,588 cases and 35 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 432,149 cases and 8,019 deaths.

Oakland County reported 3,048 cases and two deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 4,152 cases and 16 deaths. Throughreported 312,684 cases and 3,877 deaths.

Michigan, Across cases fell in 64 counties, with the best declines in Wayne County, with 3,720 cases from 5,588 a week earlier; in Oakland County, with 3,048 cases from 4,152; and in Macomb County, with 1,881 cases from 2,523.

Within Michigan, the worst outbreaks on a perperson basis were in Baraga County with 414 cases per 100,000 per week; Washtenaw County with 345; and Clinton County with 307. The Centers for Disease Control says high levels of community transmission begin at 100 cases per 100,000 per week.

Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 3,720 cases; Oakland County, with 3,048 cases; and Macomb County, with 1,881. Weekly case counts

out the pandemic it has rose in 17 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Clinton, Gratiot and Bara-

ga counties. In Michigan, 50 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 139 people were reported dead.

A total of 2,547,366 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 36,407 people have died from it, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the U.S. 84,762,022 people have tested positive and 1,008,585 people have died.

Note: In the Johns Hopkins University coronavirus data, cases and deaths for the Michigan Department of Corrections and the Federal Correctional Institution separately from Michigan counties.



#### **Novi Community School District 2019 Bond SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed bids for the Novi Community School District, 2019 Bond, Bid Package #10B,

Bid Package #10B - NCSD District Wide Exterior Card Access HS4 will be received

- through Building Connected until 1:00PM on. June 30th, 2022. All proposals shall be submitted electronically through Building Connected: https://app.buildingconnected.com/public/5ae227ade0d395000fd24541
- (McCarthy and Smith Plan Room) For instructions on how to submit a bid please go to the following link: https:// buildingconnected.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360010222793-How-tosubmit-your-bid-through-BuildingConnected-

Bids submitted after this time and date will not be considered or accepted. Faxed and/or E-mail proposals will not be accepted.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated, beginning at approx. 1:00PM on, June 30th, 2022. Bid Opening will be publicly conducted via a

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87581108813?pwd=Ym9iMTJWMFVvd2xxTW5pbVJzQzFi

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Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kpJrnwKUH This Bid Package will consist of separate sealed Bids for the following Bid Division:

113: Access Control

Bidding documents prepared by The Eisen Group, will be available for public inspection at the main office of the Construction Manager, McCarthy & Smith, Inc., 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Builder's Exchange, Lansing.

Bidding Documents will be available beginning on Thursday, June 14th, 2022 via **Building Connected.** 

All bids must include the Familial Disclosure Affidavit (Section 004205), the Iran Linked Business Affidavit (Section 004210), and the Criminal Background Check Affidavit (Section

All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security, in either the form of a bid bond or certified bank check, in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the Bid, payable to Novi Community School District, as a guarantee that if the Bid is accepted, the School District is secured from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid or failure of the Bidder to enter a Contract for performance, Further, the Bidder will execute the Contract, provide the required insurance certificate(s) and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of Contract but prior to Work commencing

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder may be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of the contract price

Novi Community School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids received, to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding, and to accept a bid other than the lowest

#### **Perspective**

Continued from Page 1A

"The Perseverance Award was created for students like Natalie," Rachael Showerman, scholarship committee chair for the South Lyon Educational Foundation, said. "What she has gone through and what she has learned — not only the devastating grief at her brother's loss, but also how she struggled through all the consequences that resulted from that kind of a loss — shows an incredible strength and courage beyond her years."

Stacia Sepulveda, a South Lyon East teacher for the past 11 years, wrote Natalie's letter of recommendation for the award, one of the most important letters she said she'd ever written. In it, she called Rochon the very definition of strength and reveals a deep connection to the family. Not only has she been a teacher and student council advisor for Natalie, but she was the same for Matthew, years earlier.

Sepulveda was heartbroken to learn of Matthew's death. She also feared for the impact the tragedy would have on her "bubbly, sweet, life-loving Natalie."

"I was terrified for her and her mental well-being, and scared that it would drag her down," Sepulveda wrote. "I should have known better."

As a teacher, Sepulveda knew of the deep, long-lasting scars tragedy can leave on students.

"Everybody gets curve balls thrown at them, but it's how you manage it," she said. "Life is going to be hard and there will be surprises. That is not what defines you, but how you react."

Initially, her fears for Natalie Rochon were well-founded.

In Natalie's mind, everything was over. She reflected on the person she was before tragedy struck: a perfectionist, a 4.0 grade point average student, an extrovert who couldn't stop talking.

But in the months that followed Matthew's death, Natalie was failing all six of her classes. She lost all sense of direction. And she sank so low she considered ending her own life.

"I reached a low I never thought was possible," Natalie said. "You hear about people in really dark places and you never know 'til you're in it."

She questioned how she was supposed to go on without her brother.



Natalie Rochon got a tattoo of a butterfly on her arm in recognition of the transformative change she's undergone since her brother, Matthew, died.

Meanwhile, some of the people she thought were her friends questioned why she wasn't over it yet.

As Sepulveda notes, the friends you have in high school aren't always going to be your forever friends. However, she added, that's a lesson made even harder when you're 16, and in a pandemic, and have just suffered the death of a sibling.

Natalie had expected to be asking why this had happened and feeling anger, but instead she felt understanding. Matthew, she said, had depression as long as she could remember, and had tried multiple avenues to fight it, including therapy and medication.

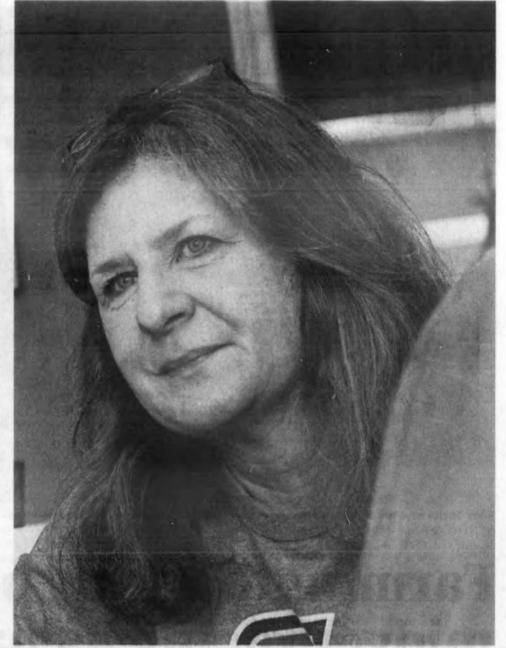
He had put everything he had into his battle, and now, her brother would inspire her to do the same.

She started therapy, which she credits with her recovery.

"I had lots of therapy to bring myself out of it," Natalie said. "I genuinely recommend therapy. It's not easy. It takes work, some weeks I don't want to go, but I realize this is the thing that saved my life and this can potentially save others, too."

With deep reflection, she came to terms with the things she would never do again with her brother, and the things they both would miss, in a future that awaits her, but not him.

Still, she is pressing on with less pressure on herself to be perfect. She is happy again, and although Matthew is not here she sees signs of him everywhere. She shows a butterfly she had tattooed on her arm in his memory, a semi-colon body between the wings representing a pause in her life's story.



Natalie Rochon's mother, Carol, listens to her daughter talk about her experience at their home in Lyon Township. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Natalie is learning to fly again along with her family, which includes her parents Carol and Keith, sister Nicole, and brother Michael.

"She amazes me every day," her mom said, wiping away tears. "She just keeps going... She truly is perseverance."

Natalie Rochon works as a front desk receptionist at a local hair salon and is on the student council and in the National Honor Society. She is carrying a 3.84 grade point average, but not carrying the burden of being "perfect" any-

"My world did end when Matthew died, but he showed me how to build a new one," said Rochon, who heads to Grand Valley State University this fall to study pre-med. "My new world is filled with patience and kindness. My new world allows me to live without constantly setting expectations that are impossible to reach. My new world makes me happy to be on this earth."

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







Jodea Bella Home owner Jody Sherman. PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

### Shop

Continued from Page 1A

"We're thrilled to finally give them what they wanted," she said. "The location is amazing."

Sherman began eyeing the old church about a year ago, but originally decided against the move. After reconsidering, she called to inquire about the 1880s building and discovered it was still vacant.

It took her three months to move everything from one end of Lyon Township to the other, with Sherman opening the shop in early May.

Sherman said she developed a love of all things vintage when she was young visiting family.

"It all goes back to when I was a child. I used to visit my grandma and grandpa's house and everything was old," she said. "They lived on a big farm and there were five out buildings and there were

items in every out building."

Jodea Bella Home is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Not only is the opening good for Sherman and her store, but for the downtown New Hudson area as well, said Amy Allen, executive director of the Lyon Township Downtown Development Authority.

She cited several new developments that have popped up in New Hudson such as Whole Hearted Winery and Jonna's Bar and Grill as helping the region, but having a retail shop takes the Grand River/Milford area to another level.

"We've got so many successful restaurants, we've got the winery, the New Hudson Inn, we've got some commercial businesses ... we've been lacking for retail for this area," she said. "It's exciting to see a business come in and increase foot traffic during the day."

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



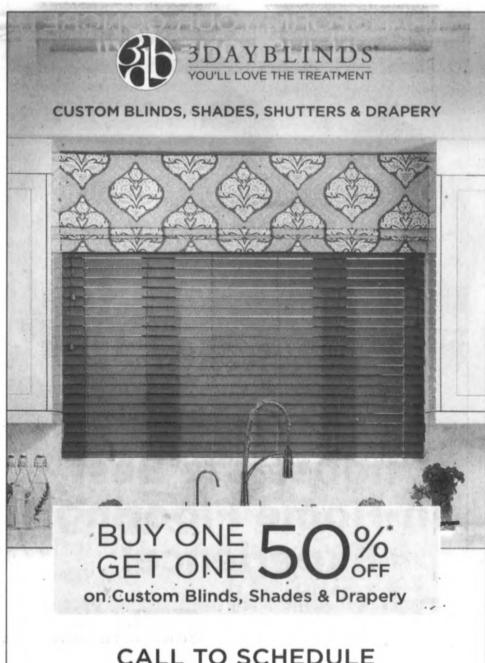
Some of the antique and collectible offerings at the vintage shop.



Jodea Bella Home sits at 56807 Grand River Avenue in New Hudson.



Inside New Hudson's Jodea Bella Home on Grand River Avenue.



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## Livonia councilman's appeal to appear on state House primary ballot fails

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

A Wayne County circuit court judge agreed with Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett's decision to disqualify Livonia Councilman Rob Donovic from a state house primary.

Judge Timothy Kenny denied Donovic's appeal to appear on ballots during the August primary. Donovic, a Republican candidate for District 22 state house seat, was removed from ballots after failing to meet the residency requirement.

Kenny said if Donovic plans to continue his campaign, it will have to be as a write-in candidate.

"There is always the option — however, it might be a longshot — of mounting a write-in campaign," Kenny said during a Tuesday hearing. "That is available."

Candidates for state house in Michigan must live in their district for at least 30 days before filing for office. Donovic lived in the 22nd district for five days before filing for office on April 19, according to a complaint submitted to the Wayne County Clerk's office.

In Garrett and Kenny's views, Donov-

Donovic

Attorney Eric Doster

argued it would have been impossible for Donovic to live in District 22 for more than 30 days be-

ic's brief residency does

not meet what the law re-

cause the new districts took effect March 26, 23 days before the April 19 filing deadline. Doster also noted Donovic has lived in Livonia, a portion of which is in District 22, for far longer than 30

But, Kenny noted that draft maps of

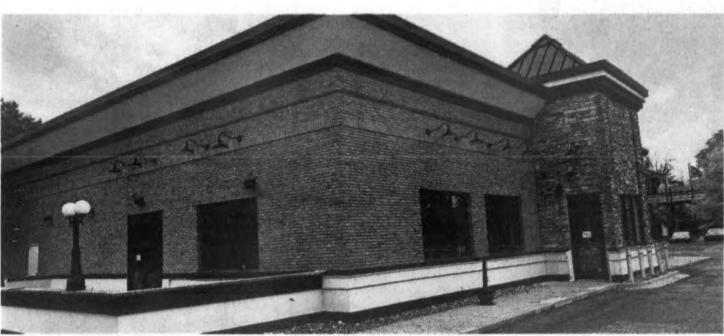
the new districts had been publicly available for months prior to their adoption in March.

"He moved in and registered six days before the filing deadline, and that is not enough," Kenny said. "Living in Livonia

... in this court's view, is not sufficient." Donovic did not respond to a request

Democrat Rep. Matt Koleszar will face Republican Cathryn Neracher in November for the District 22 seat.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Twitter: @shelby\_tankk.



The former Ruby Tuesday restaurant at 39581 W. 12 Mile Road closed during the pandemic. It was purchased last year by the owners of a veterinary practice, who plan to open it as an animal hospital next year. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### **Animal** hospital

Continued from Page 1A

that agreement.

parking lot, which has 210 spaces, is more than what the hospital needs and said he would consult with his architectural firm about what to do with excess pavement to avoid it becoming an eye-

The building has long been a sitdown restaurant under a 1991 agreement that was struck with adjacent gas sta-

Prior to 2005 and Ruby Tuesday moving in, the building operated as Cooker's Bar & Grill.

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

#### Motorcycle driver dies after crash in Wixom

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

A collision between a motorcycle and a pickup truck in Wixom earlier this month led to the death of one driver. Hometown Life filed a Freedom of Information Act request for more information.

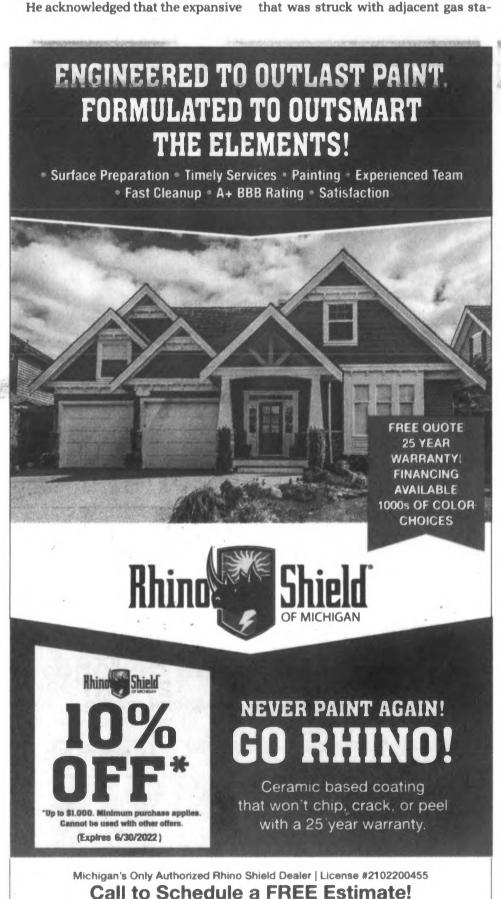
In response, police provided a largely-redacted report that said the collision happened at about 2:30 p.m. May 15 when the driver of the GMC Sierra truck attempted to turn left onto northbound Beck Road.

The motorcycle driver was transported to a hospital.

The pickup driver, who was not injured, stayed on the scene to talk to police. He sent his wife to the hospital to check on the motorcycle driver.

The motorcycle driver died hours

Because of the report redactions, there were no clear details about traffic lights and rights of way. Alcohol and drugs were not apparent factors, police said in the report.



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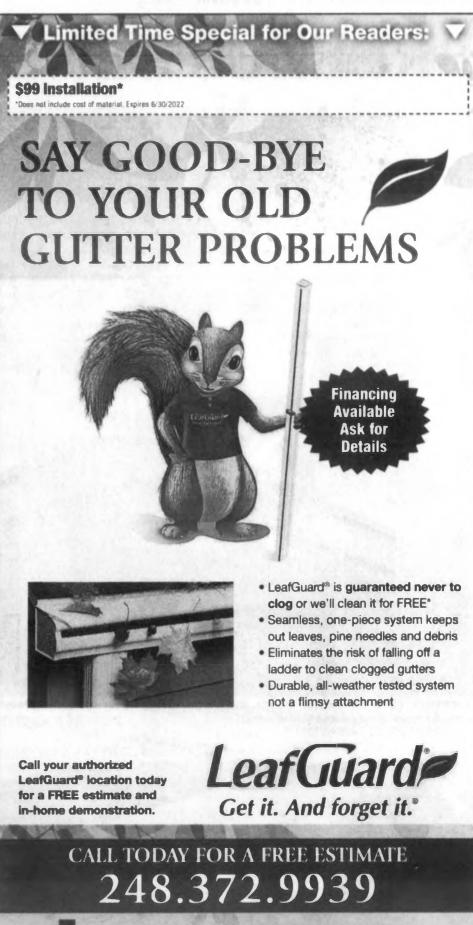
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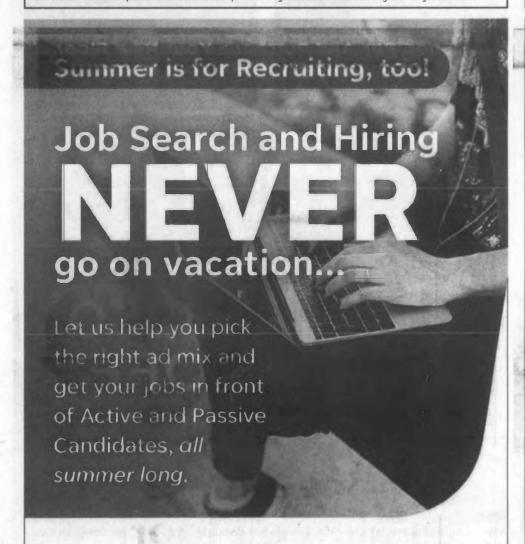
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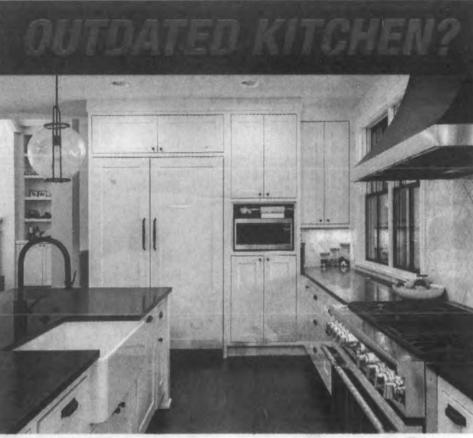
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## BREEZES SEND KITES SAILING



Bruce Hack, 73, of Huntington Woods, and his grandson, 4-year-old Samuel Mayne, of Farmington Hills, fly kites together June 4 at the Lyon Township Kite Festival. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



James Keyton, 4, of Lansing, decorates a kite.



Jaxson Kaim, 4, enjoys cotton candy.



Jon Trennepohl, owner of Kites & Fun Things in Plymouth, flies a kite.



Trennepohl readies a kite for flying. At left, Annie Ritter stands near a rokaku, a Japanese-style kite, that is being prepared for flight by her husband, Sam Ritter.



Maria Loginovskaya, of Clarkston, helps her daughter, Sophia, 2, decorate a kite before flying it.



From left, Phil Weipert, Neal Weipert and Frank Fogarty cook brats and burgers at the South Lyon Kiwanis Club tent.



The Del Rays perform oldies for festival-goers.



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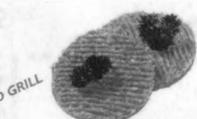
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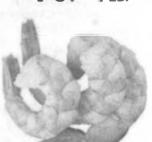
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## **SPORTS**

## DCC senior pushes team to regional title

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Friends, family and opposing coaches and players flocked to congratulate Peter Stassinopoulos, who smiled while standing under a shady tree at Salem Hills Golf Club.

It's likely the Detroit Catholic Central senior already knew he had made the

right there, with the coaches from Brighton and Novi, players from Northville and a handful of the Shamrocks' parents all hovering around him and shaking his hand, proved that all his sacrifices were worth it.

Stassinopoulos called his younger self "an outdoors kid." His parents couldn't get him to come inside. He

right choice years ago. But this moment, loved playing sports. It didn't matter well to playing basketball. That made what it was. But he loved basketball, soccer and, of course, golf. He grew up living at Walnut Creek Golf Club in South Lyon, so, naturally, he picked up the sport at 8 years old.

> With each swing, he fell more in love. He entered tournaments. He improved his game. He got hooked on the sport.

So much so that, at first, he said fare-

him just a two-sport athlete. And when he realized he could go far in golf, he quit soccer as well. He needed to dedicate all his effort to his true passion.

Those were tough sacrifices to make, especially as someone who was entering middle school at the time.

See SENIOR, Page 2B

#### **GIRLS SOCCER**



The Farmington Hills Mercy soccer team celebrates after beating Stevenson on June 2 in the Division 1 girls soccer district final at North Farmington. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Mercy claims 1st district title since 2012

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

fore the season started.

Give Kristina Sikora credit. The first-year Farmington Hills Mercy girls soccer coach called her shot be-

After spending three years leading the JV, she took the opening on varsity, and one of the first things she did was tell her Marlins that they were going to win a Division 1 district title.

That's very, very bold because, for one, Mercy hadn't won a district championship since 2012, and, for two, it was playing in the same tournament as No. 8 Livonia Stevenson, one of the hottest teams in Michigan.

The Spartans won the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East, almost upset top-ranked Northville to win the league title outright and had just two losses in the regular season (the other coming to No. 7 Rochester Hills Stoney Creek in a non-conference matchup).

So with a bold statement like that, it wasn't a surprise that the Marlins (II-5-3) needed a bold play during an intense moment of the game to pull off the upset against Stevenson in the June 2

championship.

The two squads played to a 0-0 tie in

But Mercy striker Kirsten Fitzgerald received a through-ball during the first overtime and managed to sneak one past Stevenson goalkeeper Chase Gregor to give the Marlins a 1-0 advantage.

See MERCY, Page 2B

## Northville 'had to dig deep' in district final win over Salem

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN** 

Jeannine Reddy sighed loudly and then stated the obvious.

"I had pretty crazy high blood pressure for all 40 minutes in the second half," the first-year Northville coach

It's not hard to see why.

much, more than just the Division 1 girls soccer district final.

Two weeks ago, it took everything the Mustangs (14-0-5) had to fight back, score a goal in the final 8 minutes and force a 1-1 tie against Salem.

The stalemate kept Northville's undefeated record intact, ensured the team the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West championship and Thursday's matchup was much, proved its squad was every bit worthy of

its recent No. 1 ranking in D-1.

And the rematch in the district final was no different.

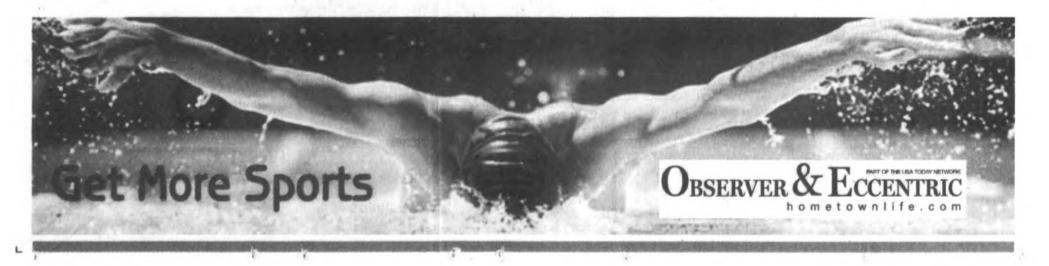
Late in the first half, Lauren Moraitis sailed a corner kick toward Caroline Meloche, who toed in a goal to give Northville - still the top-ranked team in Michigan — a 1-0 advantage.

The Mustangs created more scoring chances in the second half. They just couldn't get any of the shots past Salem See NORTHVILLE, Page 7B

goalkeeper Ava Holloway.

They were forced to sweat out another nail-biter for all 40 minutes of the second half. And they somehow did it, shutting out the 14th-ranked Rocks (II-5-4) and holding on for the 1-0 victory.

So, yeah, that partly explains the high blood pressure for Reddy, who has pushed her team to a regional semifinal





Detroit Catholic Central celebrates winning the Division 1 boys golf regional June 1 at Salem Hills Golf Club. Pictured are, from left: coach Mike Anderson, Neil Zhu, Matthew Mans, Julian Menser, Liam Casey and Peter Stassinopoulos. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### Senior

Continued from Page 1B

And, sure, the "what ifs" have occasionally crept in ever since. He's watched his buddies win district and regional basketball championships at CC. He's seen the hockey team hoist the state championship trophy plenty.

But now, finally, he has proof that sticking it out with golf was all worth it.

During Thursday's Division 1 regional, the Robert Morris signee shot a 3-under-par 69 to become the individual medalist - making him a regional champion.

What's more, the Shamrocks shot 289 as a team to win the team regional title as well, the first time doing so in the four years Stassinopoulos has been on the varsity.

When CC plays in the state championship Friday and Saturday at Katke Golf Course, Stassinopoulos will definitely have an extra pep in his step. He's finally leaving his mark on the program.

"It's got to be this," Stassinopoulos said when asked what his favorite memory of his high school career has been. "We've made states for the last two, three years. But we've never won this. To win regionals, we've been longing for that, so we really wanted this."

Everywhere you look at CC, there are

top-shelf athletes.

Conference contenders. District and regional winners. State champions.

Shooting the best round among a

crowded field that included the likes of Northville's Greg Braun and Ryan Gallagher, White Lake Lakeland's McCoy Biagioli, Waterford United's Richie Kuhn. Canton's Alex Mei, Novi's Harshan Juttu and Plymouth's Brayden Niemiec puts Stassinopoulos among the greats at CC.

All it cost him was the opportunity to play basketball and hockey in high school.

"It's really cool to see them (CC's basketball and hockey players) succeed as well and to see that is really cool," Stassinopoulos said. "But this is kind of my home, and the course is where I belong.

"It feels really nice to be out here." Stassinopoulos birdied four holes, hit par on 13 others and bogeyed only once.

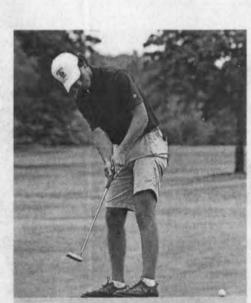
"He's a terrific young man," coach Mike Anderson said. "He's been part of the varsity program since his freshman year. It's no different than anyone else. You just see the boys mature and turn into young men, and that's exactly what happened to Peter. He's always been a good player. Now he's a good player who makes a lot better decisions than he did in his freshman year. He's going to do well in golf. He hits it a long ways, he's strong, he's smart. He's got a good short game. I'm very happy for him."

Stassinopoulos didn't do it alone, of

And Anderson called it the "loweststressed" regional he's ever watched in his 12 years leading the team.

And, yeah, when your team has two players under par and the other three just near it, it's easy to say that.

The only problem is Thursday was Liam Casey went 2-over to tie for 10th, throughout the day."



**Detroit Catholic Central's Peter** Stassinopoulos putts during the Division 1 boys golf regional.

only the second tournament Anderson has had all five of his starters in the lineup at the same time. While most teams play 10 to 15 rounds together before the playoffs, CC has has just one match where everyone showed up. That's almost unheard of, honestly.

But golf is, after all, an individual sport at heart. And each player showed up when it mattered the most.

Helping Stassinopoulos was sophomore Julian Menser, who shot 1-under to tie for second individually with Gallagher, Kuhn, Biagioli and Juttu. Senior

#### **Local golfers** in state competition

#### **Division 1**

#### Teams

**Detroit Catholic Central (Peter** Stassinopoulos, Liam Casey, Neil Zhu, seniors, Matthew Mans, junior, Julian Menser, sophomore)

Northville (Ryan Gailagher, Greg Braun, Mason Sokolowski, Cameron Charles, juniors, Jack Thallman, senior)

#### **Individuals**

McCoy Biagioli, junior, White Lake Lakeland

Harshan Juttu, sophomore, Novi MJ Orlowski, senior, Livonia Franklin

#### **Division 2**

#### Teams

South Lyon East (Ryan Kruschka, sophomore, Kameron Knox, freshman, Chase Temple, Brady Renard, Adam Jagacki, seniors)

Birmingham Brother Rice (Lorenzo Pinili, Marcus Lee, juniors, Leandro Pinili, freshman, Matt Baer, Kyle Gruley, seniors)

Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (Ryan Li, David Schmitt, freshmen, Larrance Xing, David Wu, Duncan Murdock, juniors)

#### Individual

Joseph Fisher, sophomore, Detroit **Country Day** 

#### **Division 4**

#### Individual

Caleb Quick, sophomore, Plymouth Christian Academy

while junior Matthew Mans was 3-over to tie for 12th and senior Neil Zhu carded 4-over to tie with six others for 14th.

Yeah, all five were in the top 15 when

it was all said and done. "We had team dinner last night, and everybody was really comfortable, really calm and focused," Anderson said. "They had played some practice rounds, and they really felt good. They were confident going into this morning, and we got off to a good start. We just kind of held it together all day. I've been part of a lot of regionals, and this is definitely the lowest-stressed regional that we've had. They played so well today. All of them were hanging around par most of the day. ... Six holes into the tournament

we had the lead and just increased it

## Mercy

Continued from Page 1B

"She was speedy and able to get by their defenders," Sikora said. "She got past their goalie, and she just slotted it home. It just looked like your typical easy shot right into the corner."

Except the play was anything but

The goal came in a moment filled with plenty of tension. And it wasn't a walk-off home run either. The Marlins still had to buckle up and run out the clock in the second overtime to secure the 1-0 victory, which, mercifully, they

"It's funny because it's literally a blur right now," Sikora said. "We both wanted the win, and I just think everyone was out there battling. We knew we had to get it done right now. That was our message going into overtime: We need to get this done now. We don't want to go to penalty kicks.

"Penalty kicks is never a great way to either win or lose a game. We needed to get things done now."

"You go in respecting your opponent, but you know what you're capable of doing," Sikora added. "I think we're capable of winning. It's just coming up and playing big in a big game. I told them at the beginning of the season that we'd win the district final and move on. It's just about them believing in themselves...

"That's what it was like going in to play against them (Stevenson). We knew they'd be a tough team to play. We were preparing for that, but it was just a back-and-forth battle. Obviously, it was a little stressful, but we played well, and they were a great opponent."

Right now, Stevenson coach Ken Shingledecker is wondering "what if?" Not "what if the Spartans were better prepared?"

Not "what if they had more experienced players?"

No, he's wondering what if Stevenson (17-3) wasn't so darn exhausted?

During the May 31 district semifinal,

Farmington Hills Mercy's Makenna Sanom (left) hugs teammate Kristen Fitzgerald, who scored the goal to beat Stevenson, 1-0.

Stevenson and Novi played another overtime thriller, with Marlo Lulgjuraj pushing in the game-winner with 7 seconds left, ensuring the Spartans a 4-3

So when the championship went to overtime, Shingledecker knew his girls would be gassed. Especially coming off a game he referred to as an absolute "circus" because three goals were scored in

"We played 100 minutes on Tuesday and then had to turn around and play 100 more today," he said. "It was a lot for our kids. We had to spend a lot of energy to even get to this game. Our kids never quit, but it's a really hard thing to do when you have to turn around in 48

hours and play another game." Shingledecker was hoping the Spartans would have enough left to make one last push at an equalizer in the final OT period and, hopefully, get a chance at winning it all in the waning moments.

"We had a ton of chances to score, and we really just didn't get it done," he said. "Their goalkeeper (Jordan LeVasseur) played really well. We certainly thought we carried the game and generated the most opportunities. ... You've got to overcome it at times, and we weren't able to. We do deserve better than what the result gave us."



Stevenson's Jenna Barbour (right) dribbles away from Farmington Hills Mercy's Olivia Martinez during the Division 1 district final June 2 at North Farmington. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

#### Girls soccer scoreboard

#### **Division 1**

Farmington Hills Mercy 1, Livonia Stevenson 0 (F/OT)

Bloomfield Hills 2, Walled Lake Northern 0 Northville 1, Salem 0

Hartland 3, South Lyon 2

#### **Division 2**

South Lyon East, Pinckney (Friday) Bloomfield Hills Marian 1, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook 0

#### **Division 4**

Plymouth Christian 3, Allen Park **Inter-City Baptist 2** 

# Livonia takes field with empty net vs. Brighton in girls lacrosse regional final

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

NOVI - When Brighton senior Amanda Granader took the field Friday afternoon, nothing seemed out of the

It took one of her opponents to point out the elephant in the stadium.

On one end of the field stood an empty unguarded lacrosse net.

"I literally got on the field and someone who I'm friends with on that team was like, 'Oh, do you notice anything different? I take a look around and I'm like, "You guys have five defenders?" She's like, 'No.'

"I look at the net and there's no goalie. It's definitely something weird to ad-

Pulling the goalie for an extra attacker late in a hockey game is a standard strategy for a team trying to tie a game.

There was nothing standard about Livonia beginning its Division 1 regional championship game against Brighton with its goalie on the sidelines and an extra defender on the field.

The Bulldogs scored five goals into an empty net in the first 5 minutes and 26 seconds of the game before Livonia goalie Allison Breitbach entered the

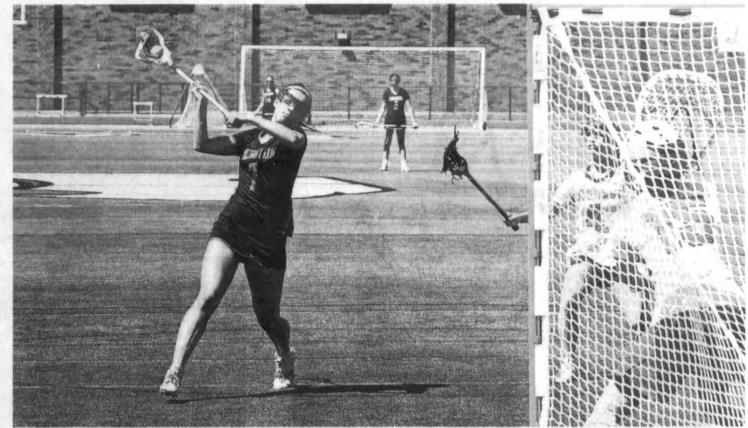
The goals just kept coming for Brighton, which won 24-5 to capture its fourth straight regional championship.

Granader scored two of her five goals and Gabby Mainhardt scored one of her seven goals without being challenged by a goalie.

"It was pretty funny," Mainhardt said. "It was a smart play. I get it. I was not expecting that at all. It was kind of cool, kind of fun to spice things up."

"It doesn't make you feel accomplished if you can shoot it from so far," Granader said. "It's super weird thinking you can shoot from 12 meters and it's going to go in."

For Livonia coach Chris Merucci, it was a case of desperate times requiring desperate measures. Livonia had been blown out three times by Brighton in the last two seasons, including 26-6 in the



Brighton's Gabby Mainhardt scored seven goals during a 24-5 victory over Livonia in a Division 1 regional championship lacrosse game June 3 at Novi. DAN ZEPPA/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

KLAA championship game on May 16.

"I actually consulted a couple of my friends who are D1 lacrosse coaches this morning," Merucci said. "It's a strategy that men employ a lot in the men's game. They call it a 10-man ride. In girls, it would be an II-man ride.

"The theory is really high pressure in the midfield to cause turnovers and keep a spy back for any long passes to the goal. It really has to be executed to a 'T.' It has to be flawless. You have to have the personnel and speed to do it. We gave it a shot. We figured we had nothing to lose."

Brighton coach Ryan Skomial gave a hat tip to Merucci for trying something different.

"It's a bold strategy, so respect," she said. "They made adjustments and tried new things. I've got to respect the

moves. It's definitely interesting. Overall, I'm proud of the girls for making the adjustments they needed to."

The rout of Livonia concluded a regional run in which Brighton won its three games by a combined score of 68-

"In the semifinal, we'll have some challenges," Skomial said. "The girls are going to have to bring their 'A' game. I tell every girl to go into it like it's Rockford. We don't take any team lightly, so I'm hoping they keep that mentality going forward."

Lauren Zaccagni scored three goals and Ella Boose two for Brighton, which initially triggered a running clock by taking an 11-1 lead with 8:17 left in the first half. Livonia got the deficit under 10 goals twice before a goal nine seconds into the second half resulted in the rest

of the game being played with a running

Brighton is one of the traditional powers in Michigan lacrosse, while this is only the third season Livonia (12-8) has had a team. The run to the regional championship game was the fledgling program's deepest after losing to Novi in the regional quarterfinals in 2019 and Brighton in the regional semifinals in

Ava Perrone scored three goals for Li-

"It's a growing process," Merucci said. "Eventually, you keep working hard, you'll get there. Again, an area like Brighton, Hartland and whatnot, the feeders start early in second or third grade. It's a challenge to be in Livonia with no feeder program. They're working hard. They'll get there some day."



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#### **TODAY'S ANSWER**

Watching a Mindil sunset

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#### **TODAY'S ANSWER**

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- 23 Go slow
- 24 The point of anything
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- school 36 Potential asset
- of thriller fiction 41 Trouble spot in many sports
- 44 Aiming to annoy
- 45 Call out
- 46 Back-and-forth 48 Howler
- 49 Howler 51 Couldn't go on
- 53 Restrictive headwear
- 54 State named for its leader
- 55 Achieves
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- here 58 Fun-loving
- Dungeons & Dragons characters
- 59 Middle Eastern diet

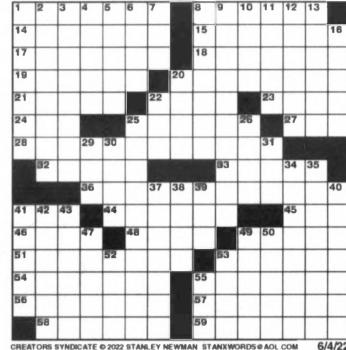
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  - 11 Give a seat to

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- reaching out
- 16 Not going straight
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- brand
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#### TODAY'S **ANSWER**



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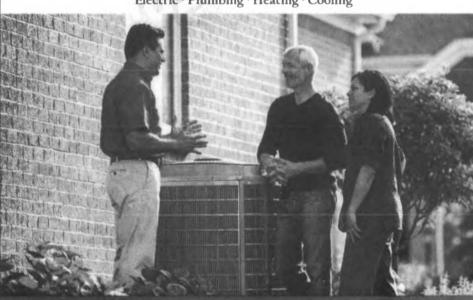
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## Public invited to sign card for retiring Churchill AD

**Brandon Folsom** Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Here's your chance to say farewell to Livonia Churchill athletic director Marc Hage, who is retiring after 26 years at the conclusion of this school year.

Churchill Athletic Patrons is hosting its 21st annual golf outing on Sunday, June 12, at Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Since it'll be Hage's final event leading the Chargers' athletic department, CAP has purchased an 8-foot wide farewell banner to give to him.

CAP encourages anyone who wants to stop by the outing and sign the banner to offer him a farewell message should do so by 1 p.m.

Hage founded CAP 22 years ago. Ever since then, it has awarded more than \$175,000 in scholarships to Churchills' student-athletes.

Nine current athletes will each be awarded \$1,000 scholarships during a dinner presentation station at

For more information about the outing, visit chs-cap.com.

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



Churchill athletic director Marc Hage is retiring after 26 years. DEROCHER/ PHOTOGRAPHIC VISIONS

Livonia

## Hartland senior's hat trick lifts team to district title

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

HOWELL — Hartland proved it can win soccer games without Hannah Kastamo, going 3-1 and scoring 15 goals when she missed the start of her senior season with an injury.

So, maybe the Eagles would have found a way to win a second straight district championship if she hadn't returned, but not having Kastamo on the field isn't a concept anyone at Hartland cares to imagine.

Kastamo scored all three goals for defending state champion Hartland in a 3-2 victory over South Lyon in a Division 1 district final Thursday at Parker Middle School

In a 2-1 victory over Milford Tuesday in the semifinals, Kastamo scored Hartland's first goal and set up the other.

"She's been involved in all five of our goals in districts," Hartland coach Andrew Kartsounes said. "So, I think that really just says how important she is to the team and the program and how nice it is to be getting her back and more match-fit than she's been all year. It's real nice to have her back and playing that way. It really changes what we can do."

Kastamo scored some of Hartland's biggest goals during its run to the state championship last season, finishing with 22 goals to tie for third on the Eagles' single-season list. She had goals in three of the last four games of the post-season, including one with 7:33 left to beat Novi, 1-0, in the regional semifi-

With the graduation of Justina L'Esperance (24 goals) and Julia Pietila (18), Kastamo's goal-scoring ability in big



Hartland's Hannah Kastamo (right) and South Lyon's Mackenzie Buckley track the ball during the district championship game June 2 at Parker Middle School.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

games is even more critical. She has 12 goals and four assists in 12 games this year

"It was exciting, it was good," Kastamo said. "Obviously, it wasn't all me. The teammates set me up for the goals and did all the defending, all the hard work. I was the one to shoot the ball."

Kastamo gave Hartland a 2-0 lead with two early goals and added a third in the second half after the Lions got within 2-1 by halftime.

She opened the scoring 3 minutes

and 33 seconds into the game when she took a long pass from Emma Kastamo and got in behind the defense for a breakaway on the right side, firing a shot inside the far post.

The second goal came with 29:35 left in the first half when Kastamo buried the rebound of a shot by Amanda Roach.

Rhianna Schermerhorn put South Lyon on the board when she scored off a corner kick by Kourtney Farrington with 18:03 left in the first half.

Kastamo restored the two-goal lead

when she put a shot inside the right post with 36:39 left in the game, but South Lyon countered with another goal off a corner kick with 19:38 remaining. This time, Schermerhorn took the corner kick and Maggie MacGregor provided the finish.

"It's an intense game," Kastamo said.
"You just have to make sure that your defense is holding strong, and ours did. They did a good job against a good South Lyon team who finishes their chances and didn't give them too many chances to finish."

South Lyon (12-5-2) was attempting to win its first district championship. After finishing fourth in the Lakes Valley Conference, the Lions beat two tradition-rich programs in Brighton and Okemos to earn a shot at third-ranked Hartland.

"Our girls are warriors," South Lyon coach Brian Elliott said. "If you look at our first game against Brighton, we were down two separate times in the game and battled back and ended up beating them in sort of dramatic fashion toward the end.

"It feels good to have girls like this who truly care about succeeding and about winning, because that's not always the case. There are girls who come out just to have fun. This team really truly were competitors and were fighters. You saw that in the game; they fought all the way to the end."

Hartland (13-2-3) advances to the regional semifinals against unranked Farmington Hills Mercy (11-5-3) at 5 p.m. Tuesday at Novi's Meadows Stadium. Lake Orion and 12th-ranked Bloomfield Hills are in the other semifinal at 7. The championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday at Novi.

## **Obituaries**

#### To place an ad, call 586-826-7171 or visit mideathnotices.com/place.php

#### Karen Prickett Miller

Karen Prickett Miller, formerly of South Lyon, Michigan, found peace on May 26, 2022, with loved ones by her side.

Karen was born on August 25, 1941 (she described sharing a whelping pen with her family's cocker spaniel litter) and grew up in the Midwest. She enjoyed traveling with her salesman father and her mother, who fostered in her a love of the Indianapolis 500 and the Kentucky Derby. After Karen graduated from high school, she was accepted to The Juilliard School as a violinist, but chose to stay in the Midwest and attend the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati.

Upon graduation, Karen's path took an interesting turn when she accepted a job at a prestigious kennel and subsequently obtained her professional dog handler's license. Karen bred and showed sporting dogs for over 50 years. She and her husband Mickey owned the English Springer Spaniel Adamant James, who was named Best in Show at Westminster in consecutive years (the last dog to do so). Later in her career, Karen shifted her focus to English Toy Spaniels and became a respected expert on the breed. Working as a team, she and her husband Jim bred, prepared, and showed English Toy Spaniels throughout the country. Karen conducted seminars both here and abroad. She was always willing to share her love and wisdom of the profession with anyone who wanted to handle or breed dogs seriously.

Karen was so thankful for the dear friends who took care of her, her home, and her animals when she no longer could, especially Henriette, Karen & Diane, Dawn, Ann & Rich, Jake & John, Mark & Karin, Tony & Courtney, and all the others in her "village" who lent a hand when needed. She lives on in the incredible dogs she bred and/or presented, and the people who were fortunate enough to meet, spend time with, and learn from her in the dog show world. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Margaret Kirk Meek, and her husbands, Dr. Milton E. "Mickey" Prickett

and James R. Miller.

Her friends are forever grateful to the amazing staff at Lakewood Alzheimer's Special Care Center who gave Karen such tender, loving, and supportive care during her last months. They saw through her fear and frustration and very quickly earned her trust, her respect, and her love. They can never know

what a profound difference they made for Karen and those who loved her. Out of respect for Karen's wishes, no services will be held. Memorial donations to your charity of choice are greatly appreciated, and we offer the following suggestions: TakeTheLead.org, EnglishToySpanielClubOfAmerica. org, EnglishSpringerFoundation.org.

#### Dr. Max E. Matson

WHITESBORO, TX - Dr. Max E. Matson, formerly of Highland, MI., 89, passed away on May 12, 2022, in Whitesboro, TX., where he had been living for the past three years to be near his son. Max was born to Francis and Velma Matson in Fremont, MI., on Feb. 6, 1933. He spent his first years in White Cloud before the family moved to Newaygo. Max graduated from Newaygo High School where he lettered in all sports. He attended Western Michigan University, and played football all 4 years for the WMU Broncos. Following his graduation, he stayed on at WMU for his Master's degree, and worked as a graduate



assistant in the football program. He was a lifelong member of the "W" (Broncos) Club, and maintained close friendships with his WMU football teammates. He was also in ROTC, and after graduate school served in the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant. Max received his Doctoral degree in Education from Ball State University. Early in his career in education, Max held teaching and coaching positions in Fremont and Cedar Springs before moving to Saginaw, where he became an assistant principal at Douglas McArthur High School. Max later served as principal for Albion High School, Seoul American High School in Seoul, South Korea, and the Escola Graduada de Sao Paulo, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He retired as longtime principal for Milford High School. After retiring from education, Max became CEO and president of Matson Enterprises, a home security business. A devout Christian, Max was actively involved in church activities in every city where he resided. He was a 50 year member of the United Methodist Church of Highland (Thrive Church), where he was involved in church leadership roles, taught adult Sunday school, and participated in many mission trips. His volunteer activities were many, including board member for the WMU Alumni Association, Lions Club, and the Highland Men's Club. He was a devoted husband, grandfather, son, brother, uncle and friend to many. Left to cherish his memory are his children, Troy (Laura) Matson of Sadler, TX.; Lori Matson of Venice, FL., Jodi Matson of Fenton. MI.; grandchildren: Megan, Ryan, Cheyenne, Alek, Justin, Ashley, Ethan and Damion; three great-grandchildren; brother, Hugh (Jackie) Matson; sister, Joelyn Matson Stone (Millard); and a nephew and nieces.

Preceding him in death were his parents; loving wife, Sylvia Matson; infant son, Kurt; son, Jeff Matson; daughter, Juli; grandson, Colt; brother, Bill (Jean) Matson; and Mary Lee Matson, former wife and mother of his children. Arrangements have been made by the Fisher Funeral Home in Dennison, TX. A memorial service will be held on Sat., June 11, at 11:00 a.m., at Thrive Church, 680 W Livingston Rd., Highland, MI. 48357. Those wishing to make a memorial donation, may consider Thrive Church.

## Pinckney falls to South Lyon East in district final

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

PINCKNEY - No girls soccer team could beat Pinckney 11-on-11 over the final 15 games of the season.

It took a shootout for 10th-ranked South Lyon East to eliminate the Pirates, 2-1, in a Division 2 district championship game Friday night at Pinckney.

After a scoreless first half, both teams scored in the second half. Two 10-minute overtime periods couldn't settle the issue, so the title came down to penalty kicks.

Pinckney had one miss on five kicks, while East made all five of its kicks. The Cougars clinched it on a successful kick by Reganne Koskela.

"We played amazing," Pinckney coach Sean Grace said. "They have a couple players that are really, really good. We were able to stop their best player from scoring. Payton (Delongchamp, Pinckney's goalie) ... made three or four saves that I have no idea how she got to it."

Pinckney (13-4-2) entered the game with an 11-game winning streak and a 14-game unbeaten streak in which it went 12-0-2. The Pirates allowed only six goals in their final 15 games.

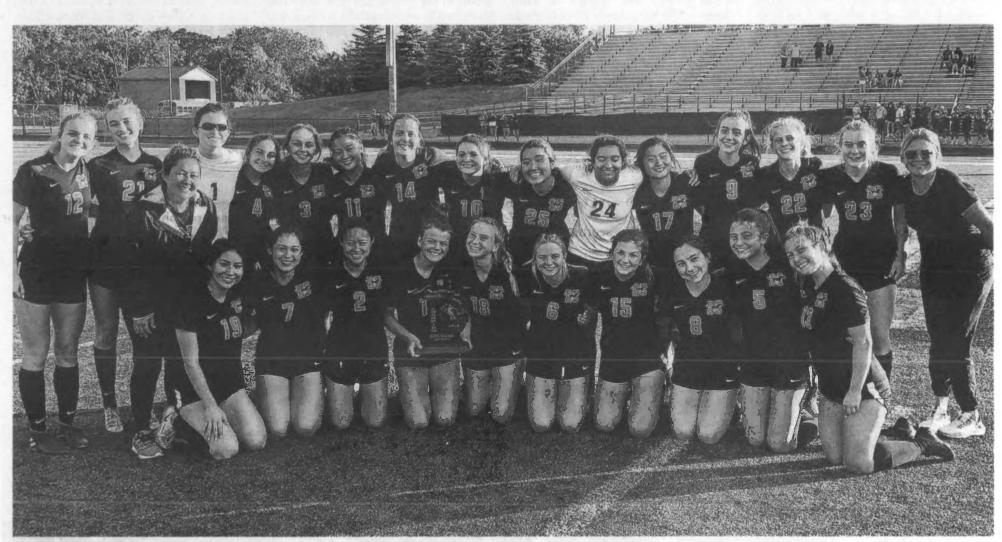
One of those goals came in response to a score early in the second half by Pinckney's Claire Denton, forcing over-

"I thought our season was amazing," Grace said. "The girls played great. We got better throughout the season. They were super unselfish. I really couldn't be more proud of the way the girls handled everything.

"It's just a shame it comes to an end like this, but they're an amazing team. South Lyon East is an amazing team."



Pinckney's Claire Denton (left) gets around South Lyon East's Alexandria Armstrong on June 3 in a Division 2 district final. **BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM** 



The No. 1 Northville girls soccer team edged Salem 1-0 to win the Division 1 district final June 2. COURTESY OF NORTHVILLE ATHLETICS

#### **Northville**

Continued from Page 1B

appearance in just her first year (and we'll talk about the other reason she was stressed during the matchup later).

"That goal was a big turning point for our team," Reddy said. "They were quite nervous. I could feel that before the game started. But that goal helped.

"Salem pressured quite a bit, and we had to fix our formation. At halftime we needed to regroup and adjust to what they were doing. In the second half, we played much better. We didn't score, but we kept them at bay for 40 minutes. We expected quite a bit of energy from the other team, so I had to keep my girls' level-headed.'

Goalie Simran Magnan stood tall in the net to keep the clean sheet for the

The Mustangs had a chance to scout the Rocks before their 4-0 win over Plymouth in the district semifinal, as Salem was playing Canton in its semifinal at the same venue (and it took overtime for the Rocks to win, 3-2).

But many of them just kept to themselves during warm-ups and chose not to watch Salem's close-call victory. That's how locked in Northville needed to be to get through the district tourna-

"A lot of them didn't want to watch it." Reddy added. "They were just focusing on our game. When you're playing a team for the third time, it's never easy. And no one can come out of this one with a draw. Someone has got to win this game, and that's what I was letting them know in practice: No one had won the game yet.

"Obviously, I'm happy with the result, but it was a tough game. We had to dig deep and find a way to win it."

Staying focused was also a challenge for Reddy.

She spent 18 years coaching at Canton before taking the Northville opening. She's incredibly familiar with all three of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park schools.

Both Plymouth and Salem have been rivals to her for years.

It was just her luck that this was the first year in a long time that Northville was thrown int the same district tournament as the P-CEP schools, so she got to face her two biggest rivals three times apiece this spring.

Talk about blood pressure. The win was huge for Northville but it was just as big for its new coach.

'Let's just say the girls are really excited," Reddy said, laughing.

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

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## ZipRecruiter Report Finds Red Hot Job Market for 2022 College Grads

Employers are rolling out the red carpet to grads with signing bonuses, remote work options, and vacation stipends

ZipRecruiter

Today ZipRecruiter released its inaugural report, "The Class of 2022: The Job Market Outlook for Grads" revealing that newly minted college graduates are entering a sizzling job market with two job openings for every unemployed person. Employers are rolling out the red carpet to grads with perks like signing bonuses (nearly 800% growth in recent years), remote work options, help with student loan payments, and vacation stipends.

"Young people spend a large share of their income on food, rent, and gas, so inflation is hitting them hard. But new grads are well-positioned to go after job opportunities now that can set them up for long-term success," said Ian Siegel, ZipRecruiter Co-Founder and CEO. "Fortunately, the class of 2022 is entering a very favorable job market. If you graduate into a slow market, the negative effect on your earnings can last 10-15 years. But if you graduate into a hot job market like we're seeing today, the benefits can last a lifetime."

Report highlights include:

• The Pandemic Has Lowered **Barriers to Entry for Recent Grads** - To combat labor shortages, employers have lowered the experience requirements for millions of roles, making new graduates eligible for jobs that were once out of reach: 9% of job postings in 2022 listing a bachelor's degree requirement vs. 13% in 2018.

• Workplace Benefits Grads Love-and Where to Find Them - The two-thirds of new graduates who borrowed for college have about \$28,400 in student loan debt, on average, and employers are taking note. 90k job postings now offer student loan repayment as a perk.

 Internships: The Missing Rung on the Post-COVID Opportunity **Ladder** - The traditional internship model needs to change in the new world of remote and hybrid work. Currently, 1% of all internships nationwide are remote and many programs remain on hiatus, leaving key learning opportunities for developing job seekers on

• Show Me the Money: Expectations vs. Reality - Those who successfully complete a college degree can expect a wage boost, with new college grads earning 59% more than workers with only high school diplomas. College grads are also underselling them-

selves with the ability to command

\$10k more than they expect to earn.

 What New Graduates Want in a Job - There is a clear generational divide in the workforce, with first-time hires caring substantially more about learning opportunities and diversity and inclusion efforts vs. traditional perks like retirement. Interestingly, 21% of first-time hires said they prioritized finding a low-stress job as part of

 Why Younger Workers Want Remote Work - Working remotely allows young people to save on transportation costs and rent by living at home, or allows them to combine a full-time job with freelance or gig work.

their search efforts.

"More than 6 in 10 job seekers want remote jobs, but only 1 in 10 jobs is remote. So if you're applying for remote

jobs, expect more competition and send more applications. If, on the other hand, you're prepared to work in an office, the odds swing to you."

The report also details the hottest job markets in the U.S. for 2022, top entry level jobs for new grads, most common industries for first-time hires, and what skills are most in demand. "Different parts of the country are best for different kinds of careers. Choose wisely. Starting a career in health care at a top-ranked hospital in Massachusetts, for example, could expose you to best practice and innovation, setting you up for lifelong career success," added Renata Dionello, ZipRecruiter Chief People Officer.

To view the full report, including additional data insights and methodology, visit ziprecruiter.com/grad-report



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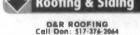
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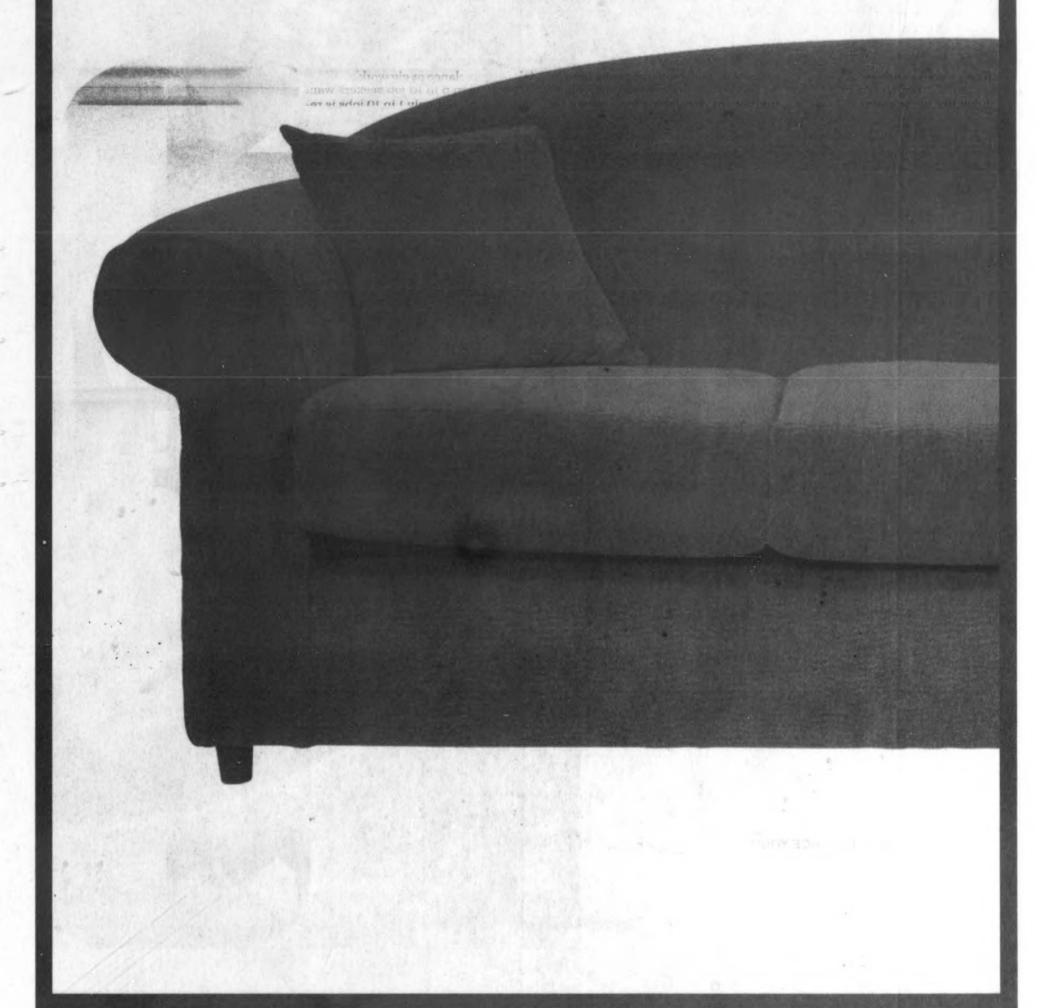
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