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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Six eye-catching Lyon developments in progress

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Developments are springing up around Lyon Township after a lull in the pandemic.

To Planning Department Coordinator Katherine Des Rochers, it feels like back

to normal after coming out of COVID-19. "So much had slowed down," she said. "Lyon has had a lot of growth and development."

Here's some details on five housing developments and one massive industrial building you may have noticed in various stages of construction throughout the township:

Greystone Village

This Pulte planned development that was approved in 2021 consists of 37 single-family homes on just under 30 acres on the east side of Griswold Road, south of 9 Mile Road.

Construction has been moving right along on Greystone Village. A sign on

the last day of August at the busy site shows only 8 homes remaining to be sold in the sub which falls within the South Lyon School District boundaries. The homes start at around \$465,000 and range between 2,391 to 3,257 square feet.

See DEVELOPMENTS, Page 6A

ELECTION COVERAGE

Staudt challenges former council colleague Breen for 21st District House seat

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Democrat Kelly Breen and Republican David Staudt previously served together on the Novi City Council. Now they are facing off against each other in a bid for the 21st District state House seat. Also joining the fray is Libertarian James K. Young.

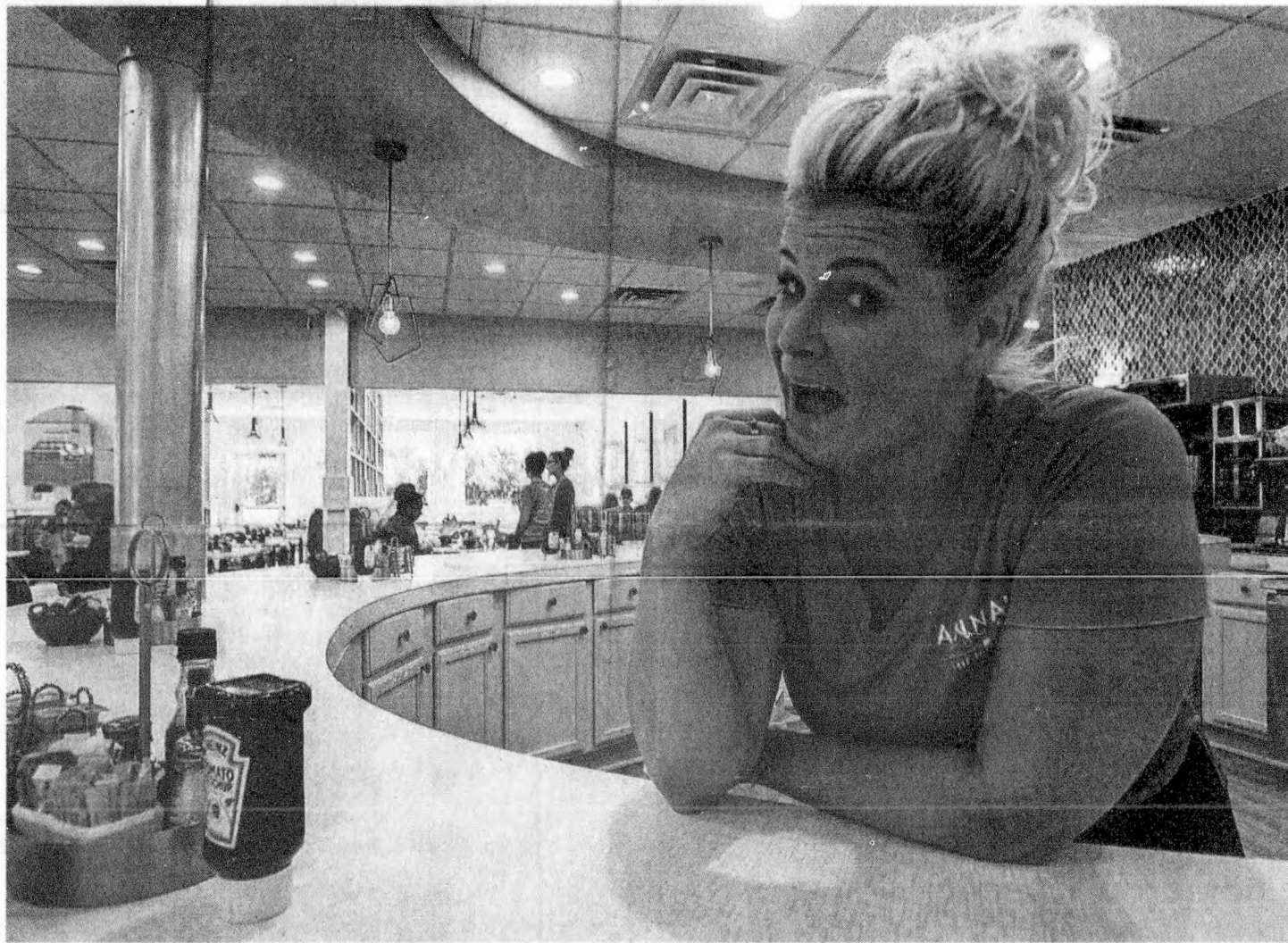
The 21st District represents Novi, western Farmington Hills, and eastern Lyon Township.

Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to all three candidates to learn more about them and their stances on issues. Young did not respond.

Kelly Breen is a 16-year resident of Novi and a graduate of Northville High School, James Madison College at Michigan State University and Wayne Law. She previously worked in a free legal aid clinic, including advocating on behalf of abused or neglected children. Breen has served as state representative in the 38th District for the past two years. Prior to her election to this role, she served on the Novi City Council. She is the mother of two children, Abi and Elliott and married to Matt.

Dave Staudt, a Wisconsin native, has lived in Novi for 29 years and has served on the Novi City Council for 15 years, 11 of them as pro-tem. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in management, is owner of Impact Media Professionals and employed as the

See 21ST DISTRICT, Page 3A



Stephanie Suchala welcomes customers to Anna's House in Westland shortly after its opening in 2017. The breakfast franchise is expanding to Milford. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Anna's House brings delicious breakfast barrage to Milford

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Anna's House is coming to Milford. The popular Michigan restaurant chain known for its breakfasts will open its 10th location in the former Hector & Jimmy's building on the north end of the village early next year.

"When you look at Milford, it looks like a community that will support our brand, and we appreciate having this service as part of their community," Tim Fatum, business practices director for Anna's House, said.

Fatum spoke by phone from Grand Rapids, where the restaurant that also serves breakfast opened in 2003. By 2005, it was purchased by Joshua Beck-

ett, who opened a second Grand Rapids location and in 2012 saw his restaurant named best breakfast joint in Michigan by MLive. In the past eight years, the chain opened eight more restaurants, including ones in Westland and Ann Arbor. A Farmington Hills location closed during the pandemic.

See ANNA'S HOUSE, Page 3A

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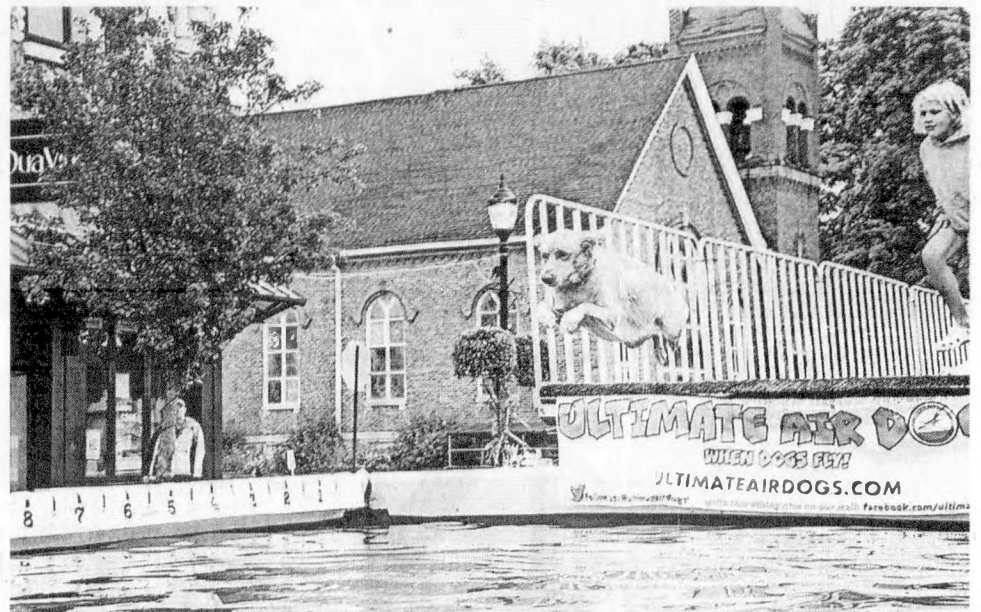
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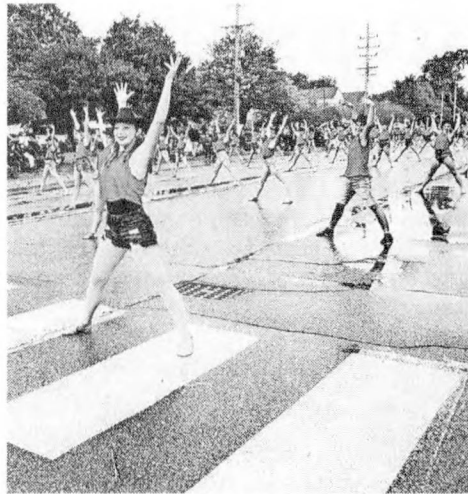
PUMPKINFEST FILLS DOWNTOWN SOUTH LYON



Children play a game at the Boy Scout Troop 228 booth during South Lyon Pumpkinfest on Sept. 24. PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN THOMPSON/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Alie Mcallister watches as her dog Cora takes a giant leap in the Ultimate Air Dog competition.



Dancers from The Studio in the parade.



Isabell Grose cheers with a pink pom pom.



Kids learn some steps at The Dance Centre booth.



The Java House scarecrow.



It was a party of parade watchers: Jane & John O'Brien of South Lyon; Jackie, Murphy, Mickey, and Tim Blake of Chicago; Tim, Terra, Madison, and Mac Criehton of South Haven; Erica, Mike, Elli McCrea of South Lyon; and John Unruh of South Lyon.



Nataliya Kosmyna of Unique Decor shows customer Gretel Hollister of New Hudson one of her hand-made floral products.



London Zawaideh of Birmingham checks out Wonder Jump's inflatable bungee.

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CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF OFFICIAL PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Clerk's Office will conduct a Public Accuracy Test of the Optical Scan tabulating equipment to be used for the Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. The test will be conducted at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

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

CORTNEY HANSON, MMC, MiPMC II
CITY CLERK

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21st District

Continued from Page 1A

comptroller of the Associated Builders and Contractors of SE Michigan and the Southeastern Michigan Construction Academy. He is a member of the Novi Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, BPO Elks and Holy Family K of C. He founded the Novi Parks Foundation and the Canine Advocacy Program. He has been married for 37 years to Jean and is the father of two adult daughters, Rachel and Amber.

Statistics show systemic racism is prevalent in law enforcement, government, health care and economics. Name one tangible action state government could take to help address racism.

Breen: Public education funding must shift to a weighted formula (Michigan Refinance Collaborative Report) and away from focus on property taxes. Children in every community have varying needs (special needs, ESL, age). A weighted statewide funding pool will help all children to receive a quality education based on unique needs.

Education should include an accurate history of our country, in all its complexity, including the contributions of all our people, to help us to fulfill its promise.

Knowing people from different cultures and identities builds relationships, so ensuring there is attainable housing and good public transit will build community wealth.

Staudt: Frankly, I don't necessarily agree with your initial premise that statistics show systemic racism. However, a tangible action the state could pursue is a more comprehensive approach to advancing equity for all and creating greater economic opportunities for communities of color.

How would you grade the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and what, if anything, should the state legislature do next?

Staudt: Grade: F. The legislature needs to address the emergency authority of the governor, fix a very broken and fraud ridden unemployment system, determine how we can better protect the most vulnerable of our citizens, provide additional education resources for those who fell behind during the lockdowns and use the remaining federal COVID funds to address the economic problems of small businesses created by the lockdown.

Breen: B+. Governor Whitmer and her public health team were at the forefront, initially, of promoting measures to protect Michiganders. Even our car companies sought to retrofit production of desperately needed PPA and medical equipment. But we were hamstrung by leaders who denied the dangers of Covid and refused to support preventative measures. We need to listen to the science to determine matters related to Covid and other highly transmissible diseases. State, county, and local health departments need to be provided with adequate funding to better prepare us for future pandemics, and we must recruit and train additional healthcare workers.

What are your thoughts on safety and security of our elections, specifically Michigan's election integrity, and do you accept the results of the 2020 election?

Breen: Michiganders should applaud our dedicated election clerks. Election 2020 was very secure with every court throwing out the baseless claims of fraud. The real danger to democracy are those "crying wolf" to sow doubt to raise funds and change laws to limit voting access and change outcomes they don't like while claiming their own "wins" legitimate.

We must allow clerks to count absentee ballots before election day, train poll challengers, install high-speed tabulators where needed, and vote for other improvements included in the "Promote the Vote" ballot initiative which will protect voting access instead of limiting it.

Staudt: While improvements can always be made and there was likely some fraud, Michigan clerks do an excellent job conducting elections. I accept the results of the 2020 elections, including my own results as a candidate for County Commission.



Kelly Breen



David Staudt

Thinking of the recent school shootings that killed students in Uvalde and Oxford, what recommendations would you make in your effort to prevent similar tragedies in the future?

Staudt: I would support communities provide armed, sworn police officers at the entrance of ALL K-12 schools. I would further limit the number of entrances into school buildings, require all cameras on a school campus be immediately accessible to local and state police and train school personnel how to work with law enforcement.

Breen: The bipartisan School Safety Task Force on which I serve is proposing improvements in building security, increased mental health support and violence prevention, uniform safety protocols, streamlined police communications, and more.

While Americans will always own guns, there are many of us on both sides of the aisle, including gun owners, who support common-sense measures that can make us all safer. These include adopting "Red Flag" laws to remove guns when there are mental health concerns, consistent enforcement of comprehensive background checks, closing "boyfriend" and "gun show" loopholes, and "safe storage."

Do you support amending the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include LGBTQ people? Explain.

Breen: Yes. LGBTQ+ people are under increasing attack. A misguided, reactionary Supreme Court has already signaled that they may go down the path of overturning marriage equality and some of the other hard-won gains toward equality for this community, which includes the fundamental right to privacy for all citizens. We need to do all we can to ensure that all who live in our country are treated with dignity and basic human and civil rights protections.

Staudt: Federal law and federal court decisions provide many of the protections being sought by those supporting amending Elliot-Larsen, however, the federal burden of proof is much greater, the penalties potentially more severe and the cost of bringing a claim much greater in the federal system. This may be best decided by a vote of Michigan residents.

What is an issue facing state government that isn't on Michiganders' radar that should be? What steps would you take to address that issue?

Staudt: A severe shortage of police, fire and paramedic personnel. I would immediately propose a statewide effort to recruit and train police, fire and paramedic personnel using a portion of remaining COVID funds.

Breen: Revenue sharing, which is the method in which the state apportions part of its tax income to other units of government has been on the decline for decades. Notable exceptions were in the past two budgets in which it was increased. Revenue sharing is how municipalities are able to invest in local infrastructure, support public safety, and maintain the local environment: "Pipes, parks & public safety." If we want to "back the blue," fix the dang local roads, and keep our kids healthy, we must fully fund our communities as the revenue sharing formula intended.

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



Anna's House Restaurant started in Grand Rapids but has expanded to metro Detroit. A Milford location is expected to open in early 2023.

HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

Anna's House

Continued from Page 1A

The menu at Anna's House seeks to meet dietary needs for a variety of diners, offering vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten-free items, as well as guiltier pleasures, or what Fatum refers to as "more rich," dishes.

The menu includes items like the "Famous Breakfast Lasagna," an egg casserole layered with sliced tomatoes, fresh spinach and basil, sun-dried tomatoes, mushrooms, turkey sausage and ricotta cheese, topped with melted cheddar and house-made Bechamel sauce; "Hippie Hash," made with a variety of slow-roasted vegetables and brown rice roast with fresh garlic and ginger, served over red-skin potatoes and topped with Monterey Jack cheese and sour cream; and "Candied Pecan & Banana French Toast," layered with Mascarpone cheese and topped with a house made banana rum caramel sauce. New menu items are added with the changing of the seasons, too.

Anna's House, which also serves lunch, provides many items made fresh in house daily and also has a goal of providing all-natural, local ingredients in every dish. All meats are also chemical-free.

The décor is the same in all the restaurants, Fatum said, with a 1950s-1960s retro diner, bright and cheery, look and feel, including music from the era, booths, tables, and a snack bar counter.

Fatum said the company likes to purchase existing buildings and then redo them and it will take Anna's House a few months to renovate its new home at 780 N. Milford Road.

He expects the restaurant to open in the first quarter of 2023, employing about 50, and open 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. seven days a week.

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





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See some of the best haunted houses in metro Detroit

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Who doesn't enjoy a good spook during Halloween season? Well, you don't have to go far from home to get a dose of terror in metro Detroit.

Here are some of our picks for grow-ups to get terrified this Halloween season.

Note that the attractions listed are either specifically for adults or recommend parents leave children under the age of 13 at home.

Find the secret bars at HUSH Haunted Attraction in Westland

HUSH, at 37550 Cherry Hill Road, is shaking things up a little this fall.

Guests can find three secret bars while they traverse the three-story haunted house, taking a break from the terror and enjoying an adult beverage. The bars are named Voodoo Blues, Expedition Base Camp and Von Rose Distillery.

Select crew members will have tokens on hand granting access to the bars ... if you can find them. People can also purchase a \$10 ticket add on for guaranteed access to all three.

Bars are, of course, only available to visitors age 21 or older.

HUSH is also debuting an axe throwing attraction with its own food and drink menu. Both attractions are open on select dates between Sept. 30 and Nov. 6. Tickets start at \$19.99.

Brave Michigan's most famous haunted house in Pontiac: Erebus

Erebus is perhaps the most well-known haunted house in Michigan. The four-story attraction has long been considered one of the largest and best haunted houses in the United States.

The attraction, located at 18 South Perry St. in Pontiac, takes people through a half mile of terror throughout four floors.

Erebus is so scary that it's littered with emergency exits and is not recommended for kids. The first 200 people to make it through every night receive a t-shirt for their bravery.

Erebus is open for the season and for

most days in October. Ticket prices vary between \$20 and \$35 depending on the day.

Take in a haunted version of the Birmingham 8 theater

Instead of screening the horror movies people expect from a movie theater around Halloween, the Birmingham 8 is transforming into a haunted attraction this fall.

The theater at 211 S. Old Woodward is hosting "Ghosts on the Balcony" throughout October. Visitors will trek throughout the building that's been transformed into a haunted house, including to areas that are usually closed to the public.

The day-time version will be friendly to all ages, while nighttime hours will be limited to adults.

"Ghosts on the Balcony" begins Sept. 28 and runs through October. Tickets start at \$20.

Visit the 'relentless' Scream Machine in Taylor

The Scream Machine, located at 23131 Ecorse Road in Taylor, is another asylum-themed haunted house. The attraction also features two five-minute escape rooms.

Visitors can expect about 20 minutes of fright. If the many positive reviews are anything to go by, the Scream Machine is indeed frightening.

Parents are asked to use discretion when bringing children, as visitors who don't complete the attraction do not receive a refund.

Scream Machine is open on weekends Sept. 23 through Nov. 5. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$27 depending on the day.

Experience a scary spin on local history at Eloise Asylum in Westland

The old asylum at 30712 Michigan Avenue in Westland reopened last fall with a new purpose. Visitors can enjoy an asylum-themed haunted attraction, spooky escape rooms, paranormal tours and expeditions as well as historical tours at the building.

Eloise makes itself stick out from the



An actor at the intake window for the Eloise Asylum Haunted Mansion greets visitors to the asylum with a menacing smile. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

competition with a "high-tech horror" approach that affect visitors' senses. The asylum says its haunted house experience is like a scary version of what one might encounter at some Disney World attractions.

Eloise is open most weekends between Sept. 24 and Nov. 5. Tickets for the haunted attraction start at \$44, and escape rooms cost \$250 for a group of up to 10 people.

Have a scary summer camp experience at Deranged in Romulus

Visitors to Deranged, 35560 Goddard Road in Romulus, are immersed into a summer camp trip gone awry.

People can expect to be terrorized by rabid animals, undead campers and whatever else decides to emerge from the woods.

Deranged has indoor and outdoor elements, and visitors who are too terrified to make it all the way through the attraction receive a refund. According to Deranged's website, staff will "do what we can to scare you, within the legal limits."

The haunted house is open every weekend through Oct. 31 with additional days in the week leading up to Halloween. Tickets start at \$22.

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

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Diane Roest, South Lyon's devoted Doll House lady, dies

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Diane Roest loved dolls as a little girl. That childhood passion carried over into adulthood as she shared dolls and her joy for toys with the South Lyon community for more than 30 years as the owner of Diane's Doll House, a downtown anchor.

Roest, who had endured several health issues over the course of her life, died Sept. 17. She was 75.

"I know she doesn't have to suffer anymore," George Roest, her husband of 55 years, said. "She passed away peacefully and she's in heaven. I'm not worried about that."

Diane and George both grew up in Muskegon and met at a drive-in restaurant. He fell in love with the girl he said had a very outgoing personality and was always just easy to talk to. They married in Muskegon, but soon moved to Southfield where George finished school at Lawrence Tech. In 1971, they built their home in South Lyon and their son Kevin was born two years later.

Diane was a stay-at-home mom, but when her son grew up, she found a way to continue being around and bringing joy to children — opening Diane's Doll House in 1989, in a building they purchased at 102 N. Lafayette St.

"She loved all the children, and loved the dolls and the toys, too," George said.

While the business at first focused on collectible dolls, including Madame Alexander, Goetz, Middleton, Steiff and Heimsted, she added toys for a new generation that was not as interested in dolls. Still, she kept the toys traditional, and non-battery operated.

Diane also took an interest in helping with community events, running the craft show Gala Days for a few years, and also resurrecting Pumpkinfest, George said.

When she wasn't running the store or volunteering, Diane enjoyed going to car races with her husband, including the Indianapolis 500 every year, the Formula One Grand Prix, as well as the Water-



Diane Roest, owner of Diane's Doll House, died Sept. 17. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

ford Hills road races.

He's unsure what he will do now, or what the future of the store will be.

"She did everything for me," he said. "We hope to continue having the store open a few days a week or on the weekend. I think Diane would love that."

A visitation is planned for 3-8 p.m., Sept. 30 at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 West Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Oct. 1 at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association or the Arthritis Foundation.

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



Roest ran Gala Days for a few years, and brought back Pumpkinfest. COURTESY OF KEVIN ROEST

Huron Valley students present 'Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.'

Courtesy of Huron Valley Community Theater

Huron Valley Community Theater will present the musical "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." at Milford's Little Theater Oct. 7-9.

The show started as a children's educational Saturday morning cartoon series on television, became a Broadway musical and "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." will soon arrive at the Milford High School Little Theater.

The story follows a young schoolteacher, Tom, worried about his first day of classes. As he tries to relax by watching TV, pieces of his personality emerge, showing him how to win over his students, using his imagination and remarkably catchy music.

"What's amazing is any person who has heard we're putting on this show immediately breaks into song to share their favorite tune," said Director Deb Biondo. "'I'm Just a Bill,' 'Conjunction Junction,' 'A Noun is a Person, Place or Thing' So, no matter how young or old you may be, there will be a few songs in the show that will take you down memory lane. You'll reminisce about being a kid again, sitting in front of the TV and singing along with Schoolhouse Rock."

Local actors, ages five to 18, have been working hard to present "Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr." Each show performance will end with a Schoolhouse Rock sing-along.

The Schoolhouse team also includes Linda Foran, assistant director, Loraine Foster as producer and number Huron Valley Community Theater volunteers.

Nearly all participants are Huron Valley Schools students.

Performances at Milford High School's Little Theatre:

- 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 7
- 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 8
- 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9

Purchase tickets at hvcommunity-theater.org. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors and students, online and the door.

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Developments

Continued from Page 1A

Estates at Hutsfield II

In 2018, a Lombardo development was approved to contain 214 single family homes on nearly 75 acres at the northeast corner of 8 Mile and Griswold roads.

This is the second phase of Estates at Hutsfield, with 130 homes ranging from 1,900 to 2,767 square feet and with starting prices around \$450,000.

Windridge Estates

This Lombardo 102 single-family home development on 85 acres is located on the west side of Napier Road, north of 8 Mile Road.

Windridge Estates was approved in 2016, but construction was delayed as utility work needed to be completed.

Homes ranging in size from 2,723 square feet to 4,561 square feet are now well underway, with prices starting from \$667,990.

Lombardo promotes the homes as offering "low Lyon Township taxes with all of the conveniences of nearby Northville living," which includes Northville Public Schools.

Devonshire

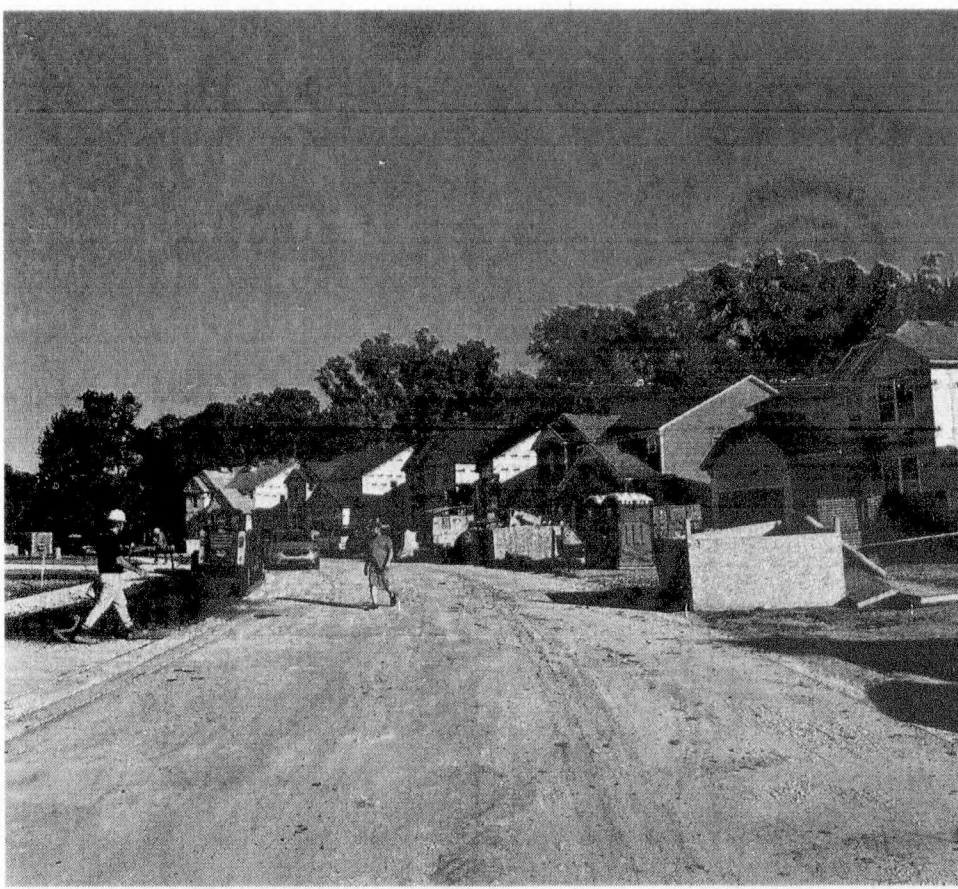
Nearby to Windridge on the north side of 8 Mile Road, west of Napier Road will be 84 single-family homes on 71 acres. But for now, all that can be seen is the Devonshire brick monument sign, a short sidewalk, and a sign advertising homes that will begin north of \$600,000.

The Woodlands of Lyon

Also barely underway and possibly escaping notice with nearby road construction is the Woodlands of Lyon.

The planned development will put 103 single-family homes on 120 acres on the north side of 9 Mile Road, east of Griswold Road.

The homes to be built by Pulte have been nearly a decade in the making, with the original applicant first receiving approval in 2012. The homes are expected to open in early 2023, with prices starting from "the upper \$400,000s."



Greystone Village is on the east side of Griswold Road, south of 9 Mile Road in Lyon Township. The development has 37 single family homes.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

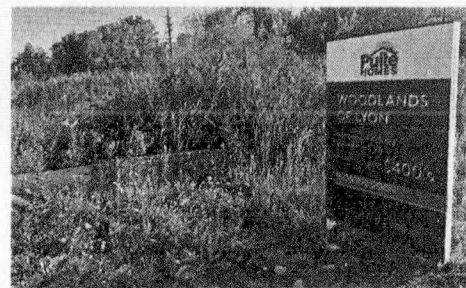


Windridge, a planned development with 102 single family homes, is under construction on the west side of Napier Road, north of 8 Mile Road in Lyon Township.

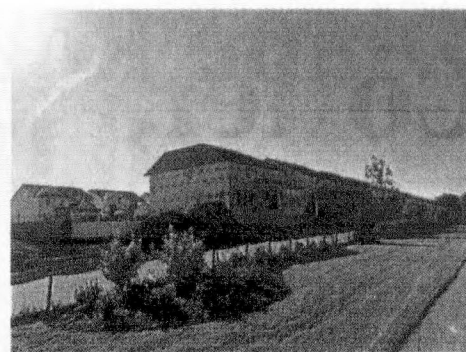
Walbridge Lyon Distribution Center II

While most developments currently underway in the township are residential subdivisions, the largest single building is at 54363 Grand River.

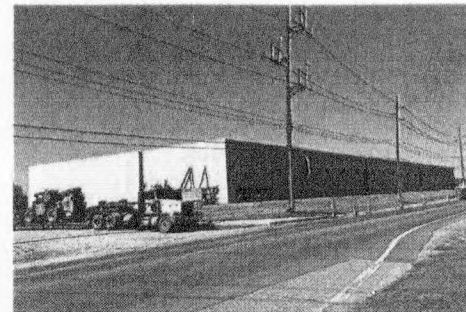
There is no missing the massive 150,000-square-foot industrial Lyon



Construction of 103 single family homes has not yet begun at Woodlands of Lyon, a planned development on the north side of 9 Mile Road, east of Griswold.



The Estates at Hutsfield II is a planned development with 130 homes on the northeast corner of 8 Mile and Griswold roads.



Walbridge's Lyon Distribution Center II is a 150,000 square-foot industrial building under construction at 54363 Grand River in Lyon Township.



Devonshire is a planned 84-home development going in on the north side of 8 Mile Road, west of Napier in Lyon Township.

Distribution Center II which sits on just over 20 acres.

Still unknown is who will eventually occupy the Walbridge development, which could be multiple tenants, or just a single tenant like Walbridge's first Lyon distribution center, now occupied by Webasto.

For Des Rochers, all these develop-

ments and others looming on the Lyon horizon including Hudson Townes and Mojave Cantina, means one thing:

"It feels like we're back to business as usual."

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

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ELECTION COVERAGE

Cotter, Pickering face-off for Huron Valley School Board partial term

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Lindsay Cotter and Shannon Pickering are facing off for a seat on the Huron Valley Schools Board of Education which fills a partial term ending Dec. 31, 2024.

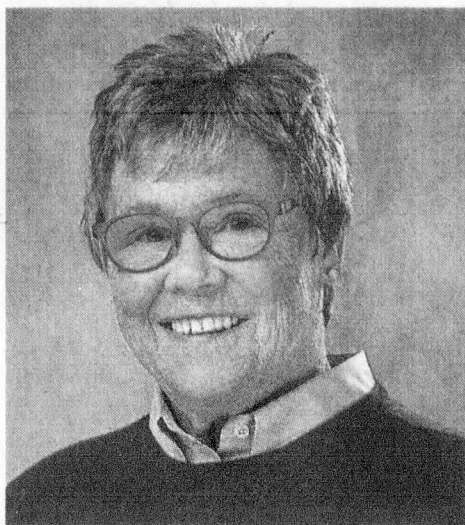
Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to the candidates seeking to learn more about them and their stances on various issues.

Lindsay Cotter is a 20-year Village of Milford resident. She has served for 12 years on the Huron Valley school board and was a kindergarten teacher for 25 years and a building principal for a decade. She has been involved with and supported Blessings in a Backpack, the Huron Valley Educational Foundation, Community Sharing and other community-based projects.

Shannon Pickering is a Highland Township resident and has a blended family of six children with her husband, including two who have graduated from Milford High School. She is a licensed CPA for more than 10 years, performing audits of financial statements.

What makes you qualified to be a school board member and why do you want to hold that position? What do you see as the role of a school board member?

Cotter: As a retired elementary teacher and principal as well as a current school board member, I am dedicated to providing an excellent to education to all HVS students. Effective school board members should be good stewards of the district's financial resources and support its educators and staff as they deliver top-quality learning opportunities for our students. School board members are also responsible for hiring and evaluating the superintendent. Finally, the board has responsibility for adopting and guiding policies of



Lindsay Cotter

the board of education.

Pickering: I have been a parent in the district for over 20 years. I believe the role of a school board member is oversight and support of and for our district.

Are you happy with the overall direction of the district? Why or why not?

Pickering: Yes and no. I believe there are areas our district can improve, including proficiency in reading and math.

Cotter: Yes. While we have always provided a great education, we continue to strive for improvement. A great example is our current, extensive strategic planning effort which allows people (HVS employees, parents and other community leaders) from across our district to participate.

What should the school district's priorities be coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how it spends ARPA funds?

Cotter: It's important that we address the social and emotional needs of



Shannon Pickering

our students, many of whom have been through unprecedented challenges in the past few years. Much available funding is allocated for such things as increased social work support and learning recovery efforts.

Pickering: Support for students and teachers, especially the students that were negatively impacted by the school closures and remote learning.

Issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion are a recurring conversation among students, staff and the community at large. What's one tangible action local districts can make to address diversity, equity and inclusion?

Pickering: Promote/foster an atmosphere of treating everyone equally.

Cotter: Provide opportunities to be heard for as many people as possible as we strive to provide excellent educational opportunities to all students.

School districts saw student enrollment drop dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic to private-, charter-, home- or

non-school options. With school funding tied directly to enrollment, what are your thoughts on schools of choice policies, and how would you attract new, returning students to the district?

Cotter: Hundreds of students whose families were looking for alternatives during COVID-19 enrolled in the HVS Virtual Academy. The Academy is a great example of how HVS sees a need and swiftly addresses it so our students can reach their learning potential. We continue to provide a broad range of learning opportunities such as International Academy West, Harbor High and early childhood programming to meet the unique needs of every student.

Pickering: I believe all parents should be able to choose the learning environment that works best for their child and family. If our district focuses on providing the best education and learning environment, I believe we would be able to attract new and returning students to the district.

What is an issue facing the district that isn't on residents' radar that should be? What steps would you take to address that issue?

Pickering: The long-term effect of the learning loss we currently see in our students. Support for teachers and students to make up for this loss and excel above it.

Cotter: I'm not sure it's off residents' radar because building improvements can be seen if one drives by. But it's important to remember that these changes, funded by the recent bond, will improve educational opportunities and make buildings more secure.

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

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Wayne County, Oakland County COVID-19 tracker

Mike Stucka

USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan reported 16,901 new cases of coronavirus in the week ending Sunday, down 8% from the previous week. The previous week had 18,375 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked eighth among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week coronavirus cases in the United States decreased 0.6% from the week before, with 401,433 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 4.21% of the country's cases in the last week. Across the country, 17 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

Wayne County reported 3,241 cases and 27 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 3,427 cases and 38 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 484,095 cases and 8,400 deaths.

Oakland County reported 2,200 cases and 11 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,485 cases and 22 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 350,951 cases and 4,115 deaths.

Across Michigan, cases fell in 50 counties, with the best declines in Oakland County, with 2,200 cases from 2,485 a week earlier; in Washtenaw County, with 694 cases from 976; and in Wayne County, with 3,241 cases from 3,427.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in Keweenaw County with 331 cases per 100,000 per week; Clinton County with 315; and Dickinson County with 269. 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 3,241 cases; Oakland County, with 2,200 cases; and Macomb County, with 1,758. Weekly case counts rose in 29 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in St. Clair, Grand Traverse and Montcalm counties.



Wenham Public Nurse Mari Beth Ting prepares a patient to receive the COVID-19 vaccine during a vaccine clinic, organized by the Greater Cape Ann Community Collaborative, at the Hamilton-Wenham Senior Center in Hamilton, Massachusetts.

DAVID SOKOL/USA TODAY NETWORK

In Michigan, 147 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 196 people were reported dead.

A total of 2,821,489 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 38,464 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 96,070,980 people have tested positive and 1,056,416 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.

tution separately from Michigan counties.

Michigan's COVID-19 hospital admissions staying flat

USA TODAY analyzed federal hospital data as of Sunday, Sept. 25. Likely COVID patients admitted in the state:

- Last week: 1,227
- The week before that: 1,252
- Four weeks ago: 1,274

Likely COVID patients admitted in the nation:

- Last week: 55,707
- The week before that: 55,506

- Four weeks ago: 64,244

Hospitals in 13 states reported more COVID-19 patients than a week earlier, while hospitals in 20 states had more COVID-19 patients in intensive-care beds. Hospitals in 25 states admitted more COVID-19 patients in the latest week than a week prior, the USA TODAY analysis of U.S. Health and Human Services data shows.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from Johns Hopkins University and the Centers for Disease Control.

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated at right. Find the listed words in the grid. They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 12 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

Alps	Ceduna	Gondola	Maps	Shop
Apartment	Charm	Hike	Maya	Simpson
Ascot	Clity	Hostels	Miner	Skling
Axes	Coach	House	Noosa	Sunny
Ballina	Colo	Idea	North	Theme
Beat	Crab	Jetty	Rare	Town
Bega	Desert	Laze	Rest	Treks
Blyth	Easel	Leisure	Roma	Trip
Bull	Echuca	Leura	Sail	Water
Busy	Eden	Look	Snowy	Weir
Cars	Feed	Lush	Mountains	Whales

TODAY'S ANSWER

Take your pick

Aussie destinations

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

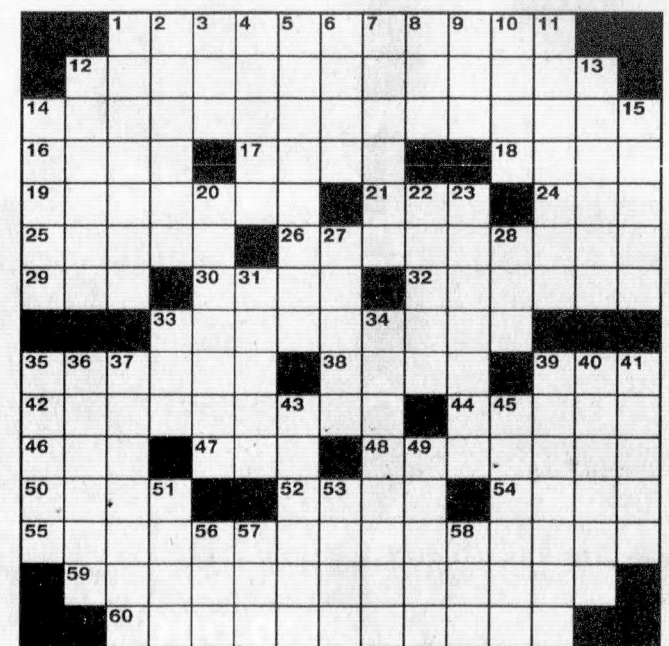
NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Mooch from
- 12 Dance without fancy costumes
- 14 One in hostile pursuit
- 16 Recital rendition
- 17 Sin that sounds like a shortened state
- 18 Genoa's Johnny
- 19 Convenient in the extreme
- 21 Name on Big Easy wines
- 24 Sponsor of Md.'s Cryptologic Museum
- 25 In shabby shape
- 26 Telltale sign
- 29 Terre en la mer
- 30 Twister game name
- 32 What M may stand for
- 33 Box
- 35 Not-so-small scraps
- 38 Run to
- 39 Android analog
- 42 Competitor carrying a compass
- 44 Set of presidents elected from Virginia
- 46 Tea
- 47 For which 574 once denoted AK
- 48 007 film theme performer 10 years before Adele
- 50 Rhineland region
- 52 Census Bureau drink category
- 54 He called like "The best clerk I ever had"
- 55 Fiancée, say?

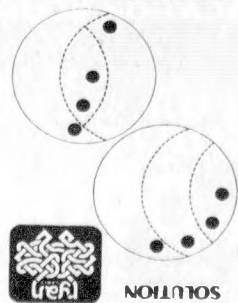
DOWN

- 1 One after another
- 2 Backlash from abstract expressionism
- 3 Starter akin to auri-
- 4 Holes in your head
- 5 Philanthropic activity
- 6 Midrange picture quality designation
- 7 Didn't buck
- 8 Extreme
- 9 Hard Rock Cafe's HQ
- 10 Slightly more than mon-
- 11 Influenced
- 12 Owner of Vichy skincare products
- 13 Something stretched for workouts
- 14 Last words of the Best Song Oscar winner for 1939
- 15 Thunders
- 20 Pupil neighbor
- 22 Some things stretched for comfort
- 23 Beat the bushes for ballplayers
- 27 "Neat, please"
- 28 Any QB throw
- 31 Displays disuse
- 33 Make sure
- 34 They trouble you
- 35 pad
- 36 Word from Old English for "mission"
- 37 Mag space measures
- 39 Passes by
- 40 "Damn it!"
- 41 Not acting natural?
- 43 Hardest human tissue
- 45 I as in ores
- 49 Big leaguer cheered by a green alien mascot
- 51 Net star's nickname
- 53 Apt rhyme for "Brooklynese"
- 56 YWCA student's goal
- 57 Nearing the
- 58 What you may be up to



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/24/22

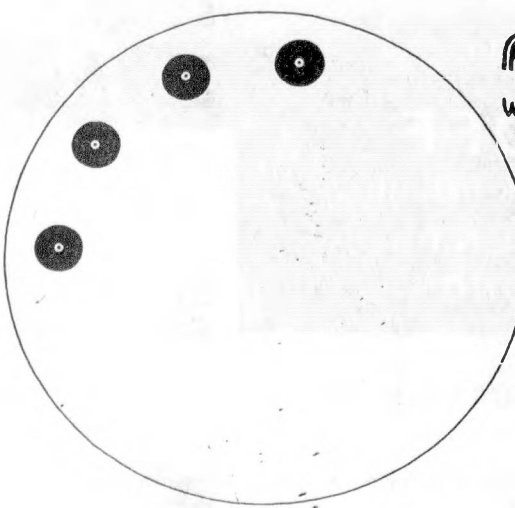
TODAY'S ANSWER



NO LITIOS



PUZZLES & POSERS



FINE CUT

WITH TWO ARCS OF A COMPASS DIVIDE THIS CIRCLE INTO THREE PIECES WHICH CAN BE REASSEMBLED TO FORM A NEW CIRCLE IN WHICH THE FOUR DISKS LIE IN A STRAIGHT LINE.

SUDOKU | CREATORS

Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: SILVER

TODAY'S ANSWER

3	4	2	8	5	1	9	6	7
8	7	6	9	4	3	5	2	1
2	5	1	7	2	6	9	4	8
4	7	6	2	8	1	5	3	9
5	6	8	7	3	9	4	1	2
3	1	2	5	6	4	7	8	9
9	5	1	8	7	2	4	3	6
7	2	8	4	3	1	6	9	5
6	3	7	4	9	5	8	2	1

1			5				3	
7	5		9		3		8	
				7		1		
	8			9			1	3
		4	6		7	8		
9	3			8			7	
		1		2				
	7		3		6		2	1
4				1				7



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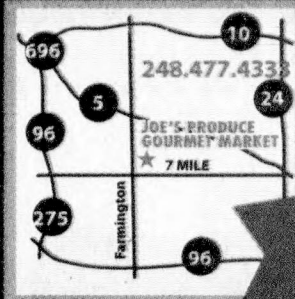
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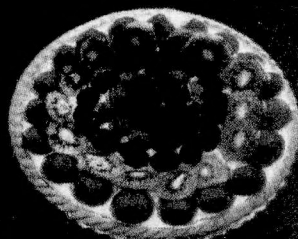
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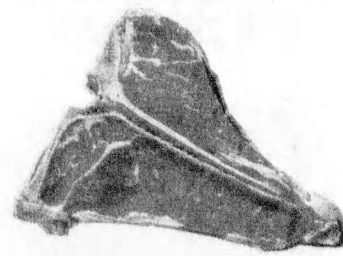
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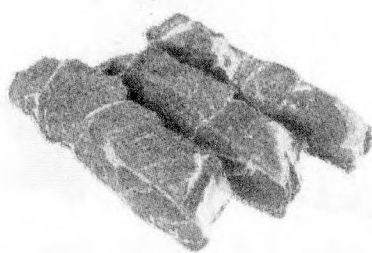
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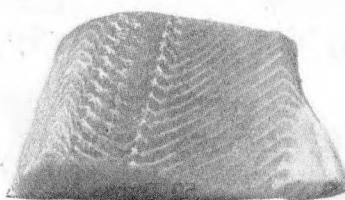
\$3.99/LB.



PREMIUM FRESH
ALL NATURAL
CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS

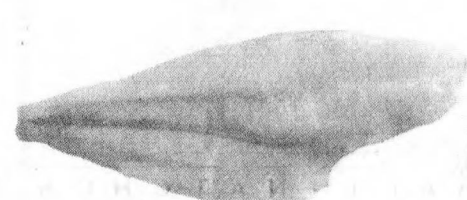
\$1.19/LB.

Seafood



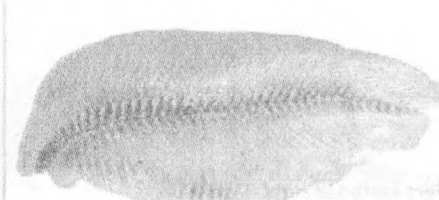
FRESH
ATLANTIC SALMON
FILLETS

\$14.99/LB.



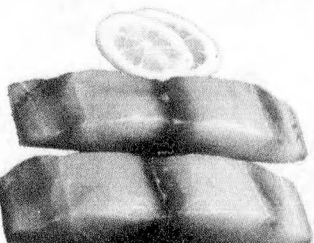
ORANGE
ROUGHY
FILLETS

\$13.99/LB.



FRESH
CATFISH
FILLETS

\$10.99/LB.



MAHI
MAHI
FILLETS

\$11.99/LB.



COOKED
COCKTAIL SHRIMP
31/40 CT.

\$12.99/LB.



RAW
EZ PEEL SHRIMP
16/20 CT.

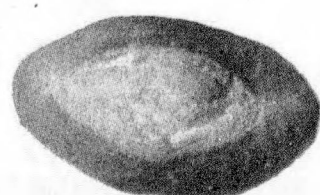
\$12.99/LB.

art of bread
by joe's

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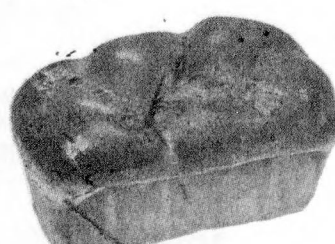
248-477-4311

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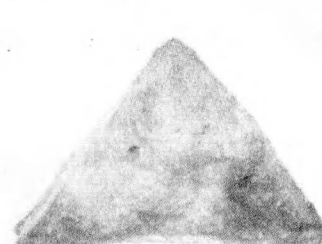
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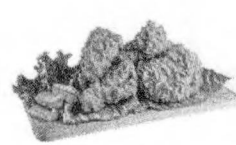
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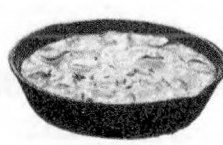
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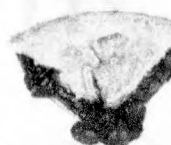
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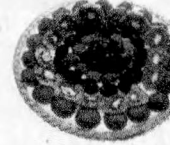
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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Livonia Franklin's Cordell Mabins Jr. rushes during a game Sept. 23 at Westland John Glenn.
PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Franklin trails early against Westland, then rebounds

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It had the makings of a trap game. Sandwiched in between matchups between Livonia Churchill and Livonia Stevenson was a Week 5 trip to Westland John Glenn.

The Livonia Franklin football team entered the week with a 4-0 record, and coach Chris Kelbert had just been recognized as the Detroit Lions' High School Coach of the Week.

The Rockets have been the league's punching bag for a while now. It would have been easy to disregard them and get caught looking ahead to the Spartans, especially with the Livonia City Championship on the line.

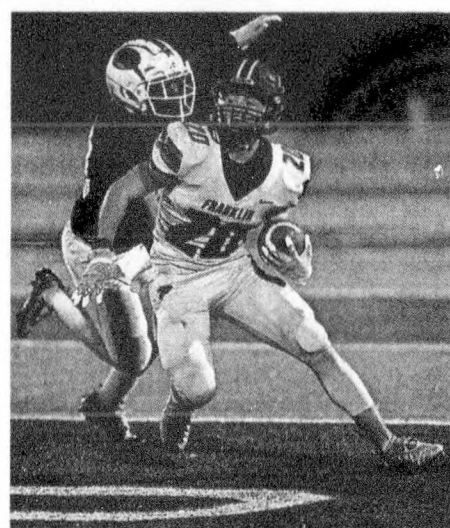
And preparing for John Glenn is a lot like Army or Navy week for college football teams. Former state-champion Ottawa Lake Whiteford coach Jason Mensing has installed his wing-T offense at John Glenn.

You don't see too many Division 1 or 2 schools in Michigan running such an old-school system nowadays. And if a metro Detroit opponent is running the veer, it's usually out of the shotgun a la what Urban Meyer did at Florida and Ohio State.

Coming in unprepared against the Rockets is a surefire way to get punched in the mouth. Just ask Churchill that.

Actually, you could also ask the fourth-ranked Patriots that as well.

See FRANKLIN, Page 2B



Livonia Franklin's Dominic Simpson returns a punt.

Our top-10 rankings for Week 6

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom is back with his weekly top-10 football rankings:

10. Novi (3-2, 3-1 KLAA-West; Last week: Unranked)

The Wildcats got just the bounce-back performance they needed by shutting out Canton in Week 5.

Plymouth should pose more of a test this week, but there's no reason Novi cannot win its next two games and enter its Week 8 matchup against rival Northville with a 5-2 record.

On the line against the Mustangs will be rivalry bragging rights and playoff points, plus we'll figure out just who is the second-best team in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West behind Brighton.

9. South Lyon East (4-1, 3-1 LVC; Last week: Unranked)

The Cougars should win at least two of their next four games, which would tie the program record for most wins in a single season (6), something that hasn't been doing since they went 6-5 and played for a district championship in 2018.

An upset win over Milford or South Lyon, or a Round 1 playoff win, would put them at seven wins and make this year's squad the winningest team in school history. The Cougars started playing football in 2008.

South Lyon East just needs to keep the injury bug away. It has already lost QB Nico Campo. It can't afford to lose any of its other playmakers.

8. Milford (3-2, 2-2 LVC; Last week: No. 6)

The Mavericks battled, just like South Lyon did in Week 1, but they couldn't keep up with fourth-ranked Walled Lake Western's high-scoring offense last week.

Two of their three next games will be just as challenging as they face three-star QB Kalieb Osborne and Waterford Mott this week and South Lyon East in Week 8. But there's no reason they shouldn't win two or three of their final four regular-season games. This team is a playoff qualifier, for sure.

7. Northville (4-1, 3-1 KLAA-West; Last Week: No. 5)

It doesn't matter what happens the

See TOP 10, Page 4B

Novi, Ann Arbor Skyline meet in battle of Miss Volleyball candidates

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

They lined up and waited patiently for their turn to snap a photo with Ann Arbor Skyline senior Harper Murray following Thursday's match.

What little girl wouldn't want their picture taken with the No. 1-ranked volleyball player in the country?

There were elementary players wearing their red St. James CYO uniforms. There were middle school players dressed in green. Even some of the JV players got in line.

And most of them will be future Wildcats.

At the end of the day, the No. 4 Eagles' 3-1 victory at Novi meant nothing. It wasn't for a weekend tournament trophy. There were no league-title implica-

tions. And the win wouldn't determine any district or playoff seeding.

But the match couldn't have been any bigger.

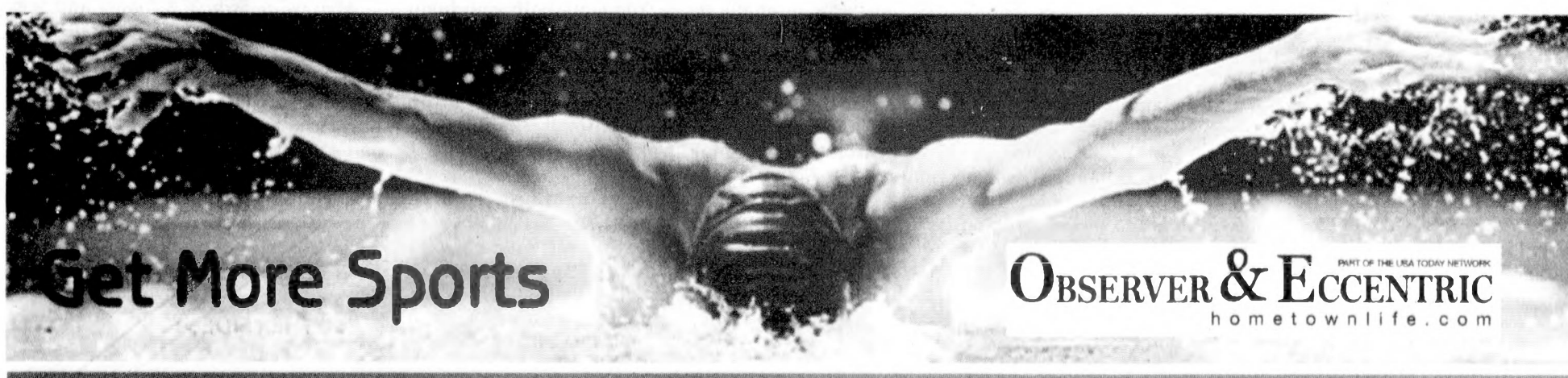
With a packed house, everyone was on hand to see the real show: Murray vs. Sarah Vellucci.

Both will graduate in January to enroll early at their future colleges, as Murray is headed to Nebraska and Vellucci will play at Long Beach State. Both

were teammates for Legacy Volleyball Club. Both have helped their high school teams make final-four trips to Battle Creek. And both were recently named Michigan Miss Volleyball candidates.

It felt more like a regional final or state quarterfinal game than merely a random ho-hum non-conference matchup being played in the middle of

See BATTLE, Page 7B



Get More Sports

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Our HS football picks for Week 6

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom picks the winners from the five biggest matchups of Week 5 of the MHSAA football season. He went 5-0 picking games last week and is 20-5 on the season.

All games kick off at 7 p.m. Sept. 30 unless noted otherwise.

Livonia Stevenson (3-2, 3-1) at Livonia Franklin (5-0, 4-0) (KLAA-East)

As much as I enjoy watching Livonia Stevenson QB ArJon Thompson compete, I don't think the Spartans keep up with rival Livonia Franklin.

The Patriots have been an elite team since going on their Division 2 state semifinal run a year ago.

Running back Cordell Mabins Jr. has been unstoppable. QB JD Bates has been the perfect game manager, and I mean that in a positive sense, not the negative way NFL game managers are talked about. He just doesn't get Franklin into trouble with sacks or interceptions.

Tight end Drew Kelbert is one of the best blockers I've seen at that position, plus he can outrun defenses when given the chance. And Dominic Simpson is one of the most underrated players in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. Whether it's returning kicks, intercepting passes, making tackles, catching deep balls or carrying it on the ground, he's been an incredible asset to his team. He reminds me of former Livonia Churchill receiver Bailey Brooks.

I know I've left out some names from that list. It's not hard to do. Franklin is that talented. Heck, even kicker Griffin Nowack is a four-star recruit.

Congrats to the Patriots. The Livonia City Championship is yours for the first time in three seasons.

Folsom's pick: Livonia Franklin 49, Livonia Stevenson 18.

Waterford Mott (4-1, 3-1) at Milford (3-2, 2-2) (LVC)

The only bad thing you can say about Milford coach Andrew Micovich is this is his first year. He needs a little more time developing the program before the Mavericks can battle the Walled Lake Westerns and South Lyons of the world.

But the Mavericks are flirting with being an elite-level team. And they'll get there as long as he's roaming their sidelines for the foreseeable future.

But how fast they become elite will depend on this matchup against Waterford Mott. A good team finds a way to slow down QB Kalieb Osborne and win the game. A great team shuts down the three-star entirely.

That's my challenge this week to the Mavericks, who have one of my favorite players in linebacker Wyatt Lesnew.

Folsom's pick: Milford 34, Waterford Mott 28

South Lyon East (4-1, 3-1) at Walled Lake Central (1-4) (LVC)

The Vikings are coming off their first victory of the season, but the Cougars should have no problem earning the win in Week 6.

But that's not why I put this game in the picks. I just wanted to make space in the newspaper to congratulate QB Dominic Giovannini on a job well done.

The sophomore had a big ask this past week, and he lived up to the challenge.

South Lyon East lost starting QB Nico Campo to an injury against Walled Lake Western in Week 4. The senior has one of the strongest arms in the Lakes Valley Conference, and he had been playing well early on, even leading the Cougars to a 3-0 start for only the second time in school history.

Coach Jacob Topp tabbed Giovannini as Campo's replacement this past week. And all he did was go 8 of 13 passing for 198 yards and three TDs while also rushing for another score on the ground during a 35-21 win at Paw Paw.

And going on the road against the Red Wolves and winning is no easy feat. Not only did Paw Paw have no trouble beating East a year ago but they also employ a full-house T offense. It's one of the toughest offenses to prepare for in just a week's worth of practice. So it was imperative Giovannini and the offense kept scoring points so the defense wouldn't be playing catch-up with the Red Wolves all afternoon.

Hats off to the rookie. This is a special season for the Cougars.

Folsom's pick: South Lyon East 38, Walled Lake Central 12.

Garden City (3-2, 3-1) at Redford Union (5-0, 4-0) (WWAC), 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30

Garden City could very well be the toughest test the Panthers face until they meet Madison Heights Bishop Foley in the regular-season finale.

The Cougars have some talented players, especially with back Owen McGraw getting it done in several phases of the game. But they're coming off three-straight nailbiters, which featured cardiac comeback wins against Melvindale and Redford Thurston.

Hanging on for dear life and hoping for a close-call victory late won't cut it against Redford Union, which is a cut above the rest of the Western Wayne Athletic Conference.

If Garden City cannot keep up with the Panthers early on, expect Union to cruise to a win and get that much closer to repeating as league champions.

Folsom's pick: Redford Union 42, Garden City 20.

Warren De La Salle (4-1, 1-1) at Detroit Catholic Central (4-1, 1-0) (CHSL-Central), 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2

If the Shamrocks pull off this upset, expect them to win the Catholic League-Central for the first time since 2020 because there's no way they're losing to Orchard Lake St. Mary's in Week 7.

And they should have a strong chance of beating the Pilots in the Boys Bowl.

Except for its rough second half against Chippewa Valley, Detroit Catholic Central has been great on offense, utilizing several different playmakers to beat some of the top teams in Michigan, including Davison and DeWitt. And it did exactly what it needed to do to get past rival Brother Rice last week at Lawrence Tech University.

If linebacker Brayden Courser and his defense can keep Cincinnati QB commit Brady Drogosh out of the end zone, expect a big win for the Shamrocks.

Folsom's pick: Detroit Catholic Central 31, Warren De La Salle 24.
@folsombrandonj

ning that toss pass and opening up with that," Kelbert said. "We knew that was going to be in the playbook somewhere. It was the right call at the right time."

Trailing by five points and with the Rockets picking up momentum, it would have been a good time for Franklin to roll over and die. It would've been a good time to fall victim to the trap game.

The Patriots didn't. There was just too much on the line.

For one, Kelbert and Mensing were teammates at Adrian College back in the day. Plus, two of Kelbert's assistants were on that team. They didn't want to lose to their old college buddy.

For two, Franklin has worked too hard to get to where they're at right now. They're coming off a state semifinal run in 2021.

And for three, well, actually, it'd be easier if Mabins Jr. explained that one to you:

Five must-see matchups for Week 6 HS football

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom breaks down the five biggest matchups taking place during Week 6 of the MHSAA football season.

All games kick off at 7 p.m. Sept. 30 unless noted otherwise.

Livonia Stevenson (3-2, 3-1) at Livonia Franklin (5-0, 4-0) (KLAA-East)

A win for the Patriots gives them the Livonia City Championship and a 6-0 record as the fourth-ranked team in Division 2, according to Mick McCabe at the Detroit Free Press, will look to stay unbeaten when it meets No. 1-ranked Belleville in Week 8.

The Spartans need this victory as well as one over Livonia Churchill on Oct. 14 to claim the City title for themselves. But it's clear they're the underdog in this one.

Led by running back Cordell Mabins Jr., who has 14 rushing touchdowns in five weeks, Livonia Franklin is in that top tier of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association that includes Belleville, Brighton, Dearborn, Hartland and Northville. Livonia Stevenson is somewhere in the middle of the league.

For the Spartans to win this one, it'll be a true upset. But, then again, this is a rivalry game. Anything can happen, so it wouldn't be too surprising if QB ArJon Thompson put Stevenson on his back and carried them to a road victory under incredible duress from the Patriots' defense.

But expect a Franklin win here.

Walled Lake Northern (0-5, 0-5) at White Lake Lakeland (2-3, 2-3) (LVC)

Yeah, the Knights are the worst team in the league. But that doesn't matter when it comes to this rivalry game. Only 2 miles of Bogie Lake Road separate these two schools, and there's a lot on the line.

For the Eagles, they're still rebuilding after graduating so many talented seniors from a year ago. They've been competitive against the middle-of-the-pack teams, but they haven't been able to keep up with the powerhouses such as Walled Lake Western and South Lyon. A win over Walled Lake Northern will give them confidence as they hope to get at least one more win before they close out the season with a tough schedule featuring South Lyon East, Carlson and Milford.

For the Knights, they're yet to win a game, as they've even lost to Waterford Kettering, which has been one of the worst teams in the league since 2014. This game might be their last chance to post a victory in 2022.

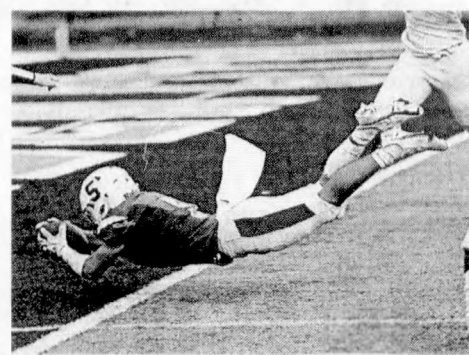
Waterford Mott (4-1, 3-1) at Milford (3-2, 2-2) (LVC)

There's no doubt the Lakes Valley Conference is the "Conference of Quarterbacks."

There's three-star Minnesota commit Drew Viotto at Walled Laked Western, state semifinalist Braden Fracassi at South Lyon and, until a recent injury, strong-armed Nico Campo at South Lyon East, just to name a few.

But both the Mavericks and Corsairs have stellar signal callers as well.

Milford junior Ryan Allen is about as versatile as they come. He can get it done with his arm or even scoot for first downs on the ground and score with his feet. He accounted for three



Garden City's Owen McGraw dives for a TD during a game against Redford Thurston on Sept. 23. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

TDs during last week's 49-35 loss to Western.

And Mott junior Kalieb Osborne is just as good. The three-star dual-threat is the definition of basketball on grass. He already holds offers from Central Michigan University and Toledo, and he'll likely be receiving more recruiting interest once the season wraps up.

Here's hoping the scoreboard operator cracks their fingers and chugs some caffeine before this matchup starts. They're going to be busy tallying all the touchdowns from these two QBs.

Garden City (3-2, 3-1) at Redford Union (5-0, 4-0) (WWAC), 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30

The Cougars are probably the Western Wayne Athletic Conference's last line of defense in stopping Redford Union from repeating as league champions.

Garden City has a dynamic runner in Owen McGraw, who totaled over 300 all-purpose yards and three TDs in a close-call victory against Redford Thurston last week.

The problem is the Panthers have Owen McGraws up and down their roster. Coach Ian Iler has done a great job of developing his players into future college studs. He has several who will play at the next level, including three-star linebacker Jeremiah Alston, who's committed to CMU. Don't be surprised if a few of his offensive skill players end up somewhere at the Division II level, too.

Union is favored big in this one. If Garden City cannot keep up, expect the Panthers to win out to earn another WWAC championship.

Warren De La Salle (4-1, 1-1) at Detroit Catholic Central (4-1, 1-0) (CHSL-Central), 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2

A year ago, the Shamrocks didn't have any offensive answers in their 17-7 loss to Warren De La Salle, the eventual D-2 state champions, despite linebacker Brayden Courser helping Detroit Catholic Central's defense keep Cincinnati QB commit Brady Drogosh in check.

And that type of defensive effort is what it's going to take for the Shamrocks to win the annual Boys Bowl.

Only this time they should have a better time on offense. CC has been scoring in droves since its Week 1 loss to Chippewa Valley, and they've been using all sorts of different options to get it done. From QB Beau Jackson's arm to backup Skyler Hunter's legs and the tough running from Evan Haeger and Jaden Pydyn. From Brady Blakita's heads-up plays downfield to DJ Lee being a tall option for their QBs to find near the end zone.

The Pilots will be the favorite in this one, but don't be shocked if the Shamrocks pull off the upset. They're just a play here and a play there against the Big Reds from being 5-0 entering this matchup.

Franklin

Continued from Page 1B

They got punched in the mouth early on Friday night.

John Glenn's Xavier Spadacini recovered a squib kick to open the game. And then the senior threw a 28-yard halfback pass to Connor LeCourt for a touchdown.

Had Franklin's Cordell Mabins Jr. not responded with a 1-yard rushing TD on the next drive, it might have gotten ugly for the Patriots, who had no answer for the oldest play in the wing-T playbook. Tyler Radley took a simple fullback trap 59 yards to set up QB Nick Wetmore with a 5-yard TD run to the pylon to put the Rockets ahead, 12-7.

"We knew Jason was going to come with something out of the ordinary, run-

"We want to win a state championship," the senior running back said. "We're undefeated right now, and we want to get it going, keep it rolling. We don't like losing. ...

"You wake up early mornings. You have late nights. And you just put the work in. You run hills. You get in the weight room. You work with your team and get team chemistry. It's all off-season, and that showed tonight."

On the ensuing possession, Mabins Jr. broke off a 55-yard run that set up himself for an eventual 1-yard plunge to put Franklin ahead once and for all.

What trap game?

Mabins Jr. went on to rush 25 times for 240 yards and five touchdowns en route to pushing the Patriots to a 51-32 victory over the Rockets.

A pair of interceptions from Dominic Simpson, including a 53-yard pick-six, a 44-yard field goal from four-star kicker

Griffin Nowack and a 40-yard TD run by Michael Wesley iced the win.

"At halftime, we just told the kids that we've got to keep battling," Kelbert said. "Offensively, we were able to move the ball for most of the game. We just had to get a little more physical with them in the second half."

Mabins Jr., who's 5-foot-11 and 200 pounds, also had TD runs of 1, 18 and 7 yards.

"He wears on you," Kelbert said. "Late in the game, when you tackle him, it hurts to come up and tackle him. As the game progresses, it really wears on defenses. And he just gets stronger and stronger as the game goes. He's been tremendous for us all season long."

It's been three seasons since Franklin (5-0, 4-0) last won the City championship outright. A win over visiting Stevenson (3-2, 3-1) snaps that streak this week.

Four questions going into Week 6 HS football

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom asks the important questions entering Week 6 of the Michigan high school football season.

Can the Eagles finally win a game?

Redford Thurston had the game won last Friday night.

The Eagles led Garden City 21-14 and just needed to churn out the final few minutes left on the scoreboard to win their first game in the post-Bob Snell era. Instead, they fumbled the ball, which Garden City's Nic Emond recovered, and gave the Cougars one final opportunity to pull off the comeback win.

And the Cougars did. Owen McGraw scored his third TD of the evening to make it a 21-20 score with 58 seconds left. And then coach Thomas Michalsen called the senior's number again on the two-point conversion attempt.

Garden City won, 22-21. It was the second-straight week Thurston lost a game by that score.

"I feel like we should be 2-3 right now if things would've gone our way," first-year coach Antwain White said. "Had we had the proper off-season, we'd probably be 4-1 right now."

And that right there has been the issue for the 0-5 Eagles.

Snell retired following last school year after 34 seasons leading the program. They didn't replace him with White, a 2002 Thurston graduate and one of Snell's former players, until one week before the season started.

What's more, White entered the fall as the only coach on his staff with varsity experience. Many of his assistants, whom he's thankful to have, didn't have anything higher than JV coaching experience. He hasn't even had time to recruit support staff members such as a stat keeper.

He's put as much focus as he can on developing his players instead.

"We've lost at the last second the last two weeks, which has been unfortunate," White said. "But we look a lot better than we were in Week 1 (during a 56-0 loss to North Branch)."

Thurston has won just two games over the past three years.

So why would White even want this gig?

"A lot of these kids are leaving here having won only one or two games their whole careers," White said. "I hadn't been that close to the program since I graduated from here, but I came back last year as a volunteer. When I heard Snell was leaving, a lot of the alumni guys and people around the program called me up and told me to apply for the job."

And White might be just the guy to turn around the program. He's got an extensive coaching history, which includes developing some of the best college recruits to come out of metro Detroit. He's coached John Kelly Jr. (Tennessee/Cleveland Browns), Lew Nichols (Central Michigan University) and Mike Weber (Ohio State) at his various coaching stops, which include the Detroit Police Athletic League, Sound Mind Sound Body and Belleville. And he specializes in coaching running backs.

"I'm all in. I'm part of the alumni, and I'm here for the long haul," White said. "The future is so bright at Thurston. ..."

"Technically, right now, the season is over, as far as the playoffs, even if we ran the table. But we have tough games with Swartz Creek and that team up north, up the street (Redford Union) coming up. I just want to get as much film as possible for my seniors so I can get them in college if they desire to play at that level. The rest of our focus is really just building the foundation."

Thurston has four games remaining, including winnable matchups against Dearborn Heights Robichaud and Romulus over the next two weeks.

A win Week 8 game against rival Union (5-0, 4-0 WWAC) might be too much of an ask for the Eagles at this point, however.

"We're hoping to capture a couple of wins before that game and go in there with confidence," White said. "Are they leaps and bounds better than us? No. But they are the standard in this league. It'll be a tough task, but we're happy to give them a battle."

"I'm not saying we're going to win, but I'm not saying we're just going to lose either."

What kind of legacy will the Rockets' seniors leave behind?

For over a half-hour following last Friday's loss to Livonia Franklin, first-year Westland John Glenn coach Jason Mensing and QB Nick Wetmore sat on the bench outside the Rockets' locker room and talked.

Hometown Life didn't eavesdrop on the conversation. But it was likely the most-important conversation either will have this entire season.

The Rockets (2-3, 2-2) weren't expected to be much in 2022, despite stealing Mensing from Division 8 powerhouse Ottawa Lake Whiteford. But they've already won two more games than anyone outside the city of Westland expected them to win through five weeks.

And, twice, they've had teams from Livonia on the ropes but were unable to land that final knockout punch.

What were Mensing and Wetmore talking about? Who knows. It doesn't matter. But Wetmore is a consummate leader and one of the best teammates a football player could ask for. He rallies the team on the sideline when the defense is on the field. He congratulates his buddies after big plays. He picks them up after bad ones.

Assuming Mensing stays at John Glenn for the long haul, this year's team will be looked at as the cornerstone, the one that helped the program return to a Chuck Gordon-level of prestige around metro Detroit.

Seniors such as Wetmore, Xavier Spadacini, Dylan Moore and so many others are too proud to let the Rockets stumble through the finish line. They might not make the playoffs, but they're going to give every opponent their best shot. Whether it's a four-win season or a six-loss effort, none of that matters. Only what kind of legacy these seniors leave behind for the future Rockets will matter.

How will the Mustangs respond after losing their first game?

Northville is about to learn more about itself following last week's 17-14 loss to Brighton than it did from its four wins to open the season combined.

Losing how the Mustangs did to the Bulldogs is about as close to real life as it gets.

Northville lost starting QB Luca Prior to injury. But it battled back.

It got in position to knot the score at 17. But the Bulldogs blocked the game-tying field goal attempt.

It's unlikely Brighton loses over the next three weeks. It should represent the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West in the league championship in Week 9.

So what do the Mustangs have left to play for now? Themselves.

It's time for them to pick themselves up off the mat and battle back again. Playoff points still need to be earned. A rivalry win over Novi is a must. It's won eight games in a single season only five times since 2000. That's still on the table.

Which Mustangs team shows up next week against Salem?

Can the Black Hawks send out CJ Jackson in style?

One year after putting together a 9-0 regular season and winning the Oakland Activities Association-Blue, it doesn't look like Bloomfield Hills will make the playoffs.

The Black Hawks (1-4, 1-2) opened 2022 on a four-game losing streak. And they have tough matchups against Southfield A&T (and its three-star QB Isaiah Marshall), Harper Woods and Oxford up next. The wins are going to be hard to come by, though it wouldn't be surprising if they defeated North Farmington (1-4, 1-2 OAA-Blue) in the regular-season finale.

But a 2-7 record isn't how Bloomfield Hills should send out QB CJ Jackson. The senior has meant too much to the program. He's their vocal leader. He's their dual-threat bailing them out of tough third-and-long scenarios. And he's the one helping guys such as Aaron Zekman and Jace Reed score on big plays.

Can the Black Hawks upset a few of these better teams over the next few weeks and give Jackson a more-deserving swan song?

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Top 10

Continued from Page 1B

rest of the season in the Hometown Life region. No team will lose in such a heart-breaking fashion as the Mustangs just did against Brighton.

Starting QB Luca Prior went out with an injury. And their effort to knot the score at 17 was spoiled as well.

Brighton blocked their game-tying field goal attempt in the waning moments and, in the process, stole sole rights to first place in the KLAA-West standings.

Unless the Bulldogs are upset in the next three weeks, Northville has nothing to play for except playoff points and rivalry bragging rights against Novi in Week 8. Their league title hopes are dashed.

6. Detroit Country Day (3-1; Last week: No. 10)

The Yellowjackets should be as fresh as can be entering Week 6, as they're coming off a bye week, the fourth time they've had one on their schedule in the past five seasons.

They welcome Flint Powers Catholic, which shouldn't be too much of a test for Detroit Country Day. Expect the Yellowjackets to pick up a big win and get one more step closer to securing a playoff spot.

5. Birmingham Seaholm (5-0, 2-0 OAA-Blue; Last week: No. 8)

With Farmington losing to Troy a week ago, that means the only team standing in the Maples' way of winning the Oakland Activities Association-Blue are the Colts, who were the division's runner-ups a year ago.

This Week 6 matchup should be a good one. Troy has given up just 38 points through five weeks. Birmingham Seaholm is averaging 37.2 points per game. It'll be interesting to see which side of the ball prevails, the Maples' offense or the Colts' defense?

4. Redford Union (5-0, 4-0 WWAC; Last week: No. 4)

The Panthers need a win this week over Garden City and a win next week against Melvindale to clinch at least a



Detroit Catholic Central's Evan Haeger rushes during a game against Chippewa Valley on Aug. 25. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

share of the Western Wayne Athletic Conference championship. It's likely they'll win both games as well as beat rival Redford Thurston in Week 8 to go undefeated in the league and repeat as WWAC champs.

Though, the Cougars won't be an easy out. Led by do-all back Owen McGraw, Garden City has been playing well. If you see me roaming the sidelines of this one, say hi. Hometown Life is covering this must-see matchup.

3. Livonia Franklin (5-0, 4-0 KLAA-East; Last week: No. 3)

The Patriots should beat Livonia Stevenson and win the Livonia City Championship this week. And they'll have no problem beating rebuilding Dearborn Fordson the following week.

The big question is how will they fare against defending state champion Bellville in Week 8? The Tigers are the top-ranked team in Michigan, regardless of

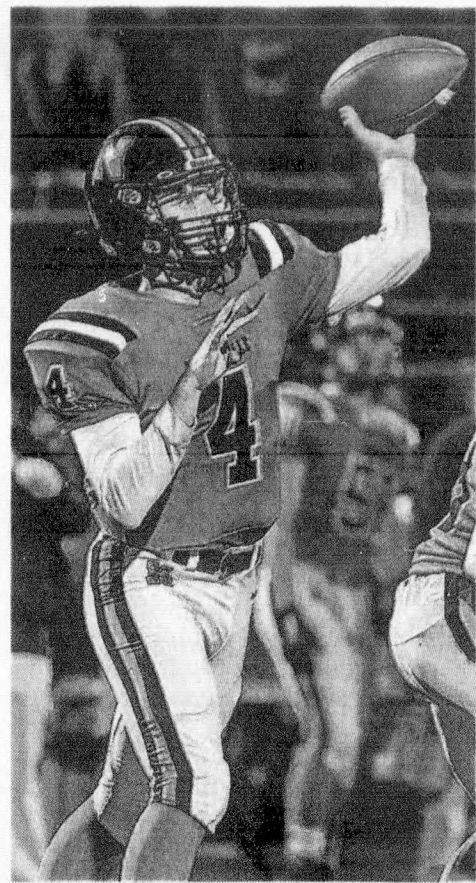
division, and they have the No. 1-rated sophomore QB in the country in Bryce Underwood.

The only team to beat Belleville a year ago was Livonia Churchill, which had its fair share of studs up and down the roster. Well, Livonia Franklin has several studs this season. If the Patriots can pull off the upset, it wouldn't be unthinkable to expect them to compete for a Division 2 state title.

2. South Lyon (4-1, 3-1 LVC; Last week: No. 2)

The Lions' defense shut out White Lake Lakeland a week ago. And they'll likely shut out Waterford Kettering and Walled Lake Northern, the two worst teams in the Lakes Valley Conference, over the next two weeks.

So that's my challenge to the South Lyon defense: Can you post three-straight doughnuts ahead of your Week 8 matchup against Waterford Mott?



Backup quarterback Isaac Pace moved Northville in position for a tying field goal attempt, which was blocked in a 17-14 loss to Brighton on Sept. 23. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

Come on, Simeon Mardossian. Get the boys ready. I want to see this happen.

1. Detroit Catholic Central (4-1, 1-0 CHSL-Central; Last Week: No. 1)

The Boys Bowl will tell us just how good the Shamrocks are this season.

They've posted big wins against Davison and DeWitt. They've taken care of business against Detroit U-D Jesuit and Brother Rice. And they were a scuffed second half away from upsetting Chippewa Valley.

The Detroit Free Press ranked Detroit Catholic Central No. 10 in D-1 this week. If it upsets Warren De La Salle, last year's D-2 state champions, it'll be climbing those rankings relatively quickly.

Out of the top-10 rankings: Farmington (3-2, 2-1 OAA-Blue), Birmingham Groves (3-2, 2-1 OAA-White).

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Lutheran Westland needed this fourth-down stand to beat Parkway

Brandon Folsom

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The Lutheran Westland football team looked about as passive as you could be early on during Saturday afternoon's 20-7 victory.

Sterling Heights Parkway Christian had no trouble marching down the field on its opening drive. Kyler Maiorana scored on a 14-yard off-tackle run, and it looked like it was about to be a long, long day for the Warriors' defense.

But then the Eagles just started making mistake after mistake.

And Lutheran (3-2, 3-1 MIAC) pounced on each one.

Safety Noah Etnyre fell on a fumble in the flats that resulted in him tossing an eventual 17-yard TD pass to Aiden Sexton on the ensuing possession almost 2 minutes later.

And then James Bigelow recovered another fumble when Maiorana couldn't get off a clean wildcat handoff. The Warriors turned that turnover into a 3-yard TD run by Mark McCormick, which ensured them a 12-7 lead entering halftime.

"The kids finally started striking out a little more on defense instead of sitting back and waiting," Lutheran coach Scott Wiemer said. "We became the aggressor, and I think that helped as the game progressed after that first drive."

It definitely helped in the waning moments.

Clinging to a five-point lead with 4:11 remaining, Parkway Christian got into the red zone but couldn't quite punch in the go-ahead score. It wound up facing fourth and goal from the 2.

The Eagles (1-4, 0-1) called a dive play for Maiorana, hoping the running back could break the plane and give his team the comeback victory.

Instead, the Warriors' defensive line stood tall. Maiorana ran into a dogpile and couldn't escape, ultimately turning over the ball on downs right there.

Wiemer credited defensive coordinator Steve Faith with calling the right



Sterling Heights Parkway Christian's Kyler Maiorana rushes during a game against Lutheran Westland on Sept. 24.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

stunts for his D-line to be successful on the goal-line stand.

"Our line just had some grit, and that showed that whole time," said Etnyre, a senior who also starts at QB. "A lot of times, they're (Parkway Christian) obviously a lot bigger than us, and they were pushing us off the ball. But on the goal line, you tighten it up, and they made a high enough pile to stop that wedge."

The game wasn't over just yet, though. The Warriors still needed to kill some clock.

With his feet in the end zone, Etnyre took the first snap following that defensive stop and bowled forward for a 5-yard gain to give Lutheran's offense some breathing room.

On the next play, Etnyre ran the QB keeper again. This time he broke through the pile, got past Parkway Christian's linebackers and raced 95 yards untouched for an insurance touchdown.

"I was just trying to fall forward, and I kind of found a seam, put my head down

and kept going," Etnyre added. "You don't really see much in there. You kind of just keep your feet moving and hope something breaks through, and it did. They did a great job pushing up front."

The Warriors, which won the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference a year ago, face 0-5 Dearborn Heights Star International Academy in Week 6.

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

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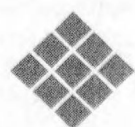


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Top performers in Week 5 HS football

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Week 5 of the Michigan high school football season is in the books.

Let's take a look at the stat leaders around the Hometown Life coverage area.

Is your team missing stat leaders? Encourage your coaches to send stats to sports reporter Brandon Folsom at bfolsom@hometownlife.com.

Catholic League

Detroit Catholic Central 21, Brother Rice 19 (CHSL-Central)

WR Brady Blakita hauled in a 37-yard TD pass from Beau Jackson and returned an interception 100 yards for a score for the Shamrocks (4-1, 1-0). Jaden Pydyn punched in a 1-yard rushing TD.

QB Blake Marrogy threw TD passes to Henry Garrity (25 yards) and Andrew Kulka (10) for the Warriors (2-3, 1-1). Kicker Owen Pardi booted in two field goals, including a 33-yarder, and Ben Eck and Eryx Daugherty each pulled down interceptions.

Cranbrook 21, Ann Arbor Father Gabriel Richard 3 (CHSL-Intersectional 1)

QB Preston Washer was 6 of 14 passing for 118 yards and two TDs for the Cranes (2-3, 1-1). John Kersh rushed for a TD, and brothers Alex and David Yolles each caught TD passes. Kersh led the defense with 15 tackles (one for loss) and an interception, while Alex Smith totaled 10 tackles (four for loss).

Independent

Dearborn Divine Child 15, Livonia Clarenceville 8
RB Miles Ealy rushed 21 times for 124 yards and one TD for the Trojans (3-2). The senior also hauled in 86 yards receiving and converted a two-point conversion.

Detroit Country Day (Open Date)

The Yellowjackets remained 3-1 overall.

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Livonia Stevenson 41, Wayne Memorial 0 (KLAA-East)

QB ArJon Thompson was 5 of 8 passing for 99 yards, one TD and one interception and also rushed four times for 53 yards and two scores. Alex Bowser rushed seven times for 39 yards and a TD, while Aiden Nolan and Luke Evanoff each rushed for TDs. Nolan also caught three passes for 60 yards and a score. Owen Reed led the Spartans (3-2, 3-1) on defense with eight tackles, Dillon Welch had three tackles (one for loss) and two sacks and Chuck Davidek added four tackles (three for loss), one sack and one forced fumble.

QB DeMarus Bird was 3 of 5 passing for 32 yards for the Zebras (0-5, 0-4). Darnell Johnson rushed 19 times for 84 yards, Dwayne Jones added 27 yards and Matt Goudette caught two passes for 31 yards. Jones led the defense with six tackles (two for loss), while Goudette added five tackles and one interception.

Dearborn 38, Livonia Churchill 19 (KLAA-East)

QB Evan Snead was 7 of 12 passing for 52 yards and had TD rushes of 12 and 17 yards for the Chargers (1-4, 0-4). David Anderson rushed three times for 135 yards,



Livonia Franklin's Cordell Mabins Jr. rushes during a game Sept. 23 at Westland John Glenn.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

which included an 88-yard TD, while Jon Lytle-Montgomery carried 16 times for 99 yards and Dylan Wilczynski caught three passes for 32 yards. Malachi Bratton led the defense with nine tackles (five solo, 1.5 for loss) and a sack, Tanner Diaz added 5.5 tackles (five solo, 1.5 for loss) and Wilczynski had five solo tackles.

Livonia Franklin 51, Westland John Glenn 32 (KLAA-East)

QB JD Bates was 7 of 11 passing for 117 yards for the Patriots (5-0, 4-0). Cordell Mabins Jr. rushed 25 times for 240 yards and five TDs, Michael Wesley carried three times for 52 yards and a score and Drew Kelbert caught three passes for 87 yards. Own Pittenger led the defense with six tackles, while Dominic Simpson intercepted two passes and Griffin Nowack buried a 44-yard field goal.

TE Connor LeCourt caught three TD passes for the Rockets (2-3, 2-2). His first was on a 28-yard pass from running back Xavier Spadacini, another was a 32-yard from QB Nick Wetmore and the final was a 20-yarder from back QB Dougie Wicker. Spadacini also rushed for a 4-yard TD and recovered an onside kick. Wetmore scored on a 5-yard rushing play.

Novi 35, Canton 0 (KLAA-West)

QB Caleb Walker was 10 of 20 passing for 196 yards, four TDs and one interception for the Wildcats (3-2, 3-1). Cole Shires rushed nine times for 88 yards, Martez Langford carried twice for 42 yards and a score, Andrew Kummer caught four passes for 90 yards and a TD, Boden Fernsler had four catches for 49 yards and two scores and Lance Gailliard caught a 55-yard TD pass. Niko Krall led the defense with 21 tackles (11 solo,

one for loss), Thaddeus Lawler had 10 tackles (four solo) and Langford intercepted a pass.

RB Devon Pettus rushed 12 times for 77 yards for the Chiefs (1-4, 1-3). Alex Guadagni added 12 carries for 35 yards and Caleb Williams rushed for 30 yards. Dominick Smith led the defense with five tackles (three solo, one for loss) and a half sack. Nathan Levine and Andon Locke totaled four tackles apiece, Zachary Larson had a sack, Nickolas Parker had a half sack and Williams nabbed an interception.

Brighton 17, Northville 14 (KLAA-West)

Backup QB Isaac Pace filled in for starter Luca Prior, who was injured during the game. Caleb Moore scored on a 2-yard TD for the Mustangs (4-1, 3-1), while Angelo Rodriguez caught a 28-yard TD pass from Prior.

Hartland 48, Plymouth 20 (KLAA-West)

QB Sam Plencner was 5 of 10 passing for 60 yards and two interceptions for the Wildcats (1-4, 1-3). Jaxon McCaig rushed 11 times for 78 yards and one TD, while Nathan Gillick added 15 carries for 64 yards and Plencner carried 17 times for 47 yards and a score. Cam Witt caught one pass for 31 yards, while Camden Short and Kamari Pearson each had two receptions. Orlando Daniels led the defense with 6.5 tackles (five solo), Alex Smaoui added four tackles (three solo, one for loss) and Marshall Thorn had 3.5 tackles (two solo). Tyler Harris pulled down an interception.

Howell 43, Salem 10 (KLAA-West)

QB Robert Ahlgren was 11 of 16 passing for 83 yards for the Rocks (0-5, 0-4). Robert Jones carried 32 times

See WEEK 5, Page 7B

Obituaries

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Diane M. Roest

Diane M. Roest, age 75, passed away September 17, 2022. She was born March 26, 1947 in Muskegon, Michigan, daughter of the late Ralph and Olga Videtich. Diane was the owner of Diane's Doll House in downtown South Lyon where she was responsible for making countless children smile and happy with the toys and dolls she sold. Diane was very involved in the South Lyon Community where she could often be found planning Gala Days, Pumpkinfest, and many other downtown events. She was very proud of South Lyon and was happy to do her part in making it a better place to live. She will always be remembered as a loving and devoted wife; mother, sister and friend. Diane is survived by her husband, George, whom she spent 55 wonderful years with; her son, Kevin (Sophie) Roest; her siblings: Connie (Douglas) Smentkowski, Jack Videtich, and James (Dede) Videtich; her brother-in-law, Dell Anderson and many nieces, nephews and loving friends. She was preceded in death by her sister, Marilyn Anderson. Visitation will be held on Friday, September 30 from 3:00PM-8:00PM with a Funeral Service being held on Saturday, October 1, at 11:00AM at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 West Lake Street, South Lyon. She will be laid to rest in East Dalton Oakhill Cemetery in North Muskegon. Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association or the Arthritis Foundation.



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Blocked field goal secures Brighton's win over Northville in clash of unbeatens

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NORTHVILLE — As he rose up from the middle of the line and felt the football hit his hand, Nick Thalacker knew it was over.

"I felt so much relief," Thalacker said. "We won the game."

Just when it looked like overtime might be needed to settle the score in a battle of unbeatens Friday night, Thalacker blocked a 29-yard field goal attempt by Sam Wiest with 26 seconds remaining to preserve Brighton's 17-14 victory over Northville.

"I had a lot of adrenaline," said Thalacker, a senior defensive tackle.

The ball wound up falling into the arms of Brighton linebacker Luke Frisinger at the 6-yard line. He fell to the ground to kill the play, then sprinted toward the sidelines to celebration with jubilant teammates.

Brighton had survived another close call to remain unbeaten at 5-0.

"We've got some strong kids mentally and physically," Brighton coach Brian Lemons said. "These games get close like this, I think we can lean on them."

Just two weeks earlier, the Bulldogs needed a 25-yard field goal from Braeden Chiles with 1:48 left in the game to pull out a 9-7 victory at Hartland.

Chiles kicked the winning field goal once again, though the circumstances weren't nearly as dramatic. His 34-yard field goal with 1:14 remaining in the third quarter broke a 14-14 tie.

"It's just like another rep," Chiles said. "So, you've just got to put it through. Again, snap, hold were really good. It makes my job way easier. I'm just happy to have such good players with me."

It was a game in which much of the drama came on field goal attempts. In addition to the block at the end and Chiles' game-winning kick, Brighton ran a fake with 4:47 left in the game. Holder Colin McKernan, Brighton's starting quarterback, popped up and threw an incomplete pass.

Northville took over at its own 14-yard line with backup quarterback Isaac Pace behind center. Pace, a junior, entered the game on the previous series after senior starter Luca Prior was injured while being

sacked by Griffin Bell early in the third quarter.

"(Prior) took a shot late there," Northville coach Matt Ladach said. "Out of precaution, we held him out. It was the right thing to do. I love all these kids like they're my own. Cody (Zink, trainer) said he wasn't sure; Julia (Palushaj, trainer) said the same. We held him out. Hopefully, he'll be all right and he'll be back next week, but that was tough."

Pace moved the offense with the poise of a veteran, driving the Mustangs from their 14 to the Brighton 12. He was 6-for-9 for 48 yards on the drive.

"We have all the confidence in the world in Isaac, and you can see why," Ladach said. "He gets a ton of reps in practice. We got him some good meaningful reps early in the season. We knew there would be games like this where he'd have to come in and he'd have to lead us. He did everything he could tonight."

With Prior running the offense, Northville scored on its first two possessions to takes leads of 7-0 and 14-7. Prior's 28-yard pass to Angelo Rodriguez with 4:30 left in the first quarter opened the scoring.

After a 4-yard touchdown run by McKernan tied the game with 10:40 left in the second quarter, a 43-yard pass from Prior to Rodriguez sparked a drive that ended on a 2-yard touchdown run by Caleb Moore with 7:20 to go in the first half.

But as sharp as the Mustangs looked coming out of the gate, they wouldn't score again. Brighton tied the game, 14-14, on a 14-yard run by Carson Shrader with 4:42 left before halftime.

Northville's third drive ended with a missed 52-yard field goal with 32 seconds to go in the half.

The Bulldogs' defense set the tone for the second half by making four tackles for losses on Northville's opening drive of the third quarter.

"Whenever you see someone else make a negative play, 'Why can't I do the same?'" said Chiles, who also plays defensive line. "Our defense feeds off each other. We have great energy. We all love each other."

Ladach gave full marks to Brighton for the Mustangs' offensive struggles in the second half.

"First of all, there's an obvious answer to that, and that is that Brighton is a quality football program," he said. "They're a well-coached team. Coach Lemons is doing an awesome job. They've got great players and they play disciplined."

Brighton is the last remaining unbeaten team in the KLAA West with a 4-0 division record.

Week 5

Continued from Page 6B

for 135 yards and a TD, while Nick Mullin caught seven passes for 58 yards. Jaywan Thomas led the defense with seven tackles, and Michael Patsy had seven tackles and one fumble recovery.

Lakes Valley Conference

South Lyon 52, White Lake Lakeland 0 (LVC)

QB Braden Fracassi was 8 of 15 passing for 98 yards and rushed eight times for 60 yards and three TDs for the Lions (4-1, 3-1). Tommy Donovan added 15 carries for 98 yards and two TDs and caught four receptions for 48 yards. Alex Stoyanovich and Andrew Slevin rushed for TDs, and Nicholas Stoyanovich nailed a 31-yard field goal. Ryan Henderson led the defense with five tackles (one for loss), and Alex Stoyanovich came up with two fumbles.

Trey Rowley paced the Eagles (2-3, 2-3) with 11 tackles on defense, followed by Caden Calhoun with seven. Mike Mahaney had six tackles, one sack and rushed for 24 yards. Braxton Godin added 22 yards on the ground.

Walled Lake Western 49, Milford 35 (LVC)

QB Ryan Allen was 11 of 14 passing for 142 yards and one TD as well as rushed 17 times for 101 yards and two scores for the Mavericks (3-2, 2-2). Peyton Chamberlain rushed 24 times for 125 yards and a TD. Noel Deland caught three passes for 44 yards and a score and Josh Tobias had 30 yards receiving. Wyatt Lesnew paced the defense with 12 tackles (two for loss), Danny Sternberg added eight tackles (one for loss) and Tyler Freer totaled seven tackles (two for loss) and had a forced fumble. Brady Collison intercepted two passes.

South Lyon East 35, Paw Paw 21

QB Dominic Giovannini was 8 of 13 passing for 198 yards and three TDs and rushed for another score for the Cougars (4-1, 3-1). Drew Moyer caught four passes for 117 yards and two TDs, Jordan Newbill scored twice and Caleb Gash added one TD. Daedricco Fizer rushed eight times for 61 yards.

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland 20, Sterling Heights Parkway Christian 7 (MIAC)

QB Noah Etnyre rushed for a 95-yard TD and tossed a 20-yard TD to Aiden

Sexton for the Warriors (2-2, 1-1). Mark McCormick rushed for a 3-yard score. Etnyre and James Bigelow each fell on fumbles on defense.

Oakland Activities Association

Bloomfield Hills 25, Oak Park 21 (OAA-White)

QB CJ Jackson rushed for a 17-yard TD and threw TD passes to Aaron Zekman (17 yards) and Jace Reed (7). The Black Hawks (1-4, 1-2) also got a 7-yard TD run from Reed.

Southfield A&T 42, Birmingham Groves 7 (OAA-White)

QB Cayden Hardy was 7 of 16 passing for 66 yards and two interceptions for the Falcons (3-2, 2-1). Jalin Samuel rushed 14 times for 49 yards, while Josh Woods carried seven times for 32 yards and a TD. Max Young led the defense with six tackles.

Birmingham Seaholm 29, North Farmington 22 (OAA-Blue)

RB Kyle Robbins scored on a 55-yard TD run for the Maples (5-0, 2-0), while Sean Emerson pulled down a key third-quarter interception.

QB Thomas Balazovic passed for 177 yards and one TD to Quinn Parpart, who had 89 yards receiving. Duke Blanch helped the Raiders (1-4, 1-2) with 78

yards rushing and two TDs.

Troy 16, Farmington 14 (OAA-Blue)

RB Cam Pettaway rushed for 110 yards for the Falcons (3-2, 2-1), while Keichean Wilson added 76 yards and a TD on the ground.

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

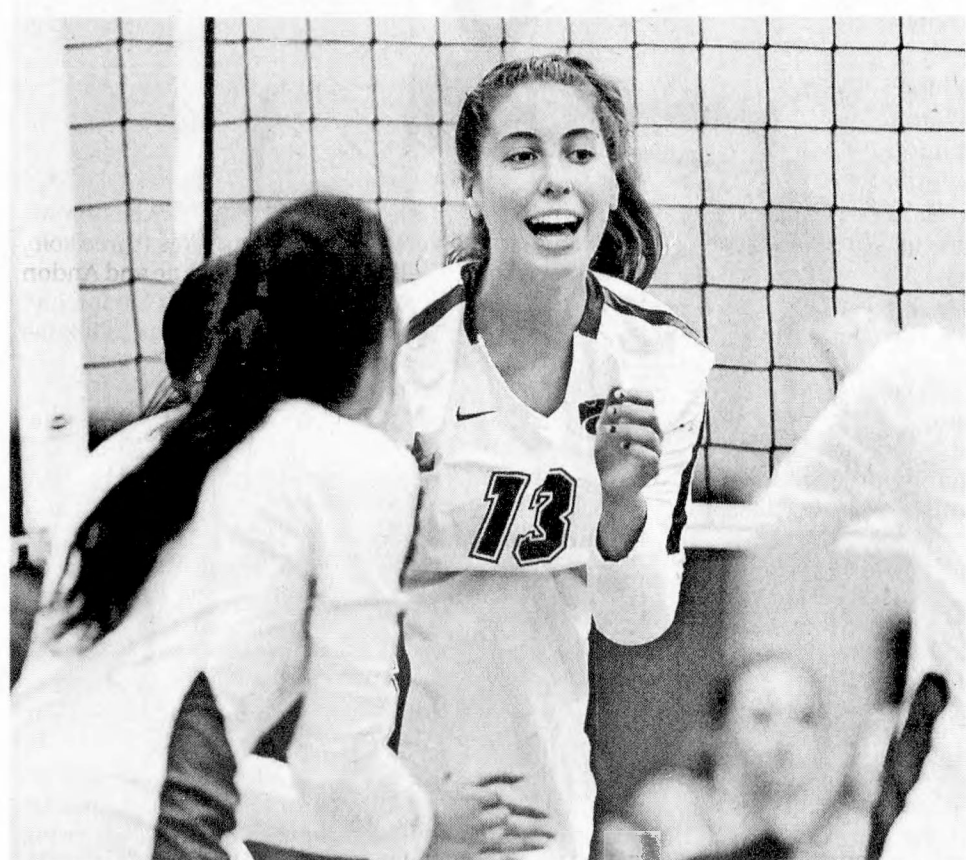
Garden City 22, Redford Thurston 21 (WWAC)

Owen McGraw totaled over 300 all-purpose yards, scored three TDs and converted the winning two-point conversion for the Panthers (3-2, 3-1). Nic Emond and Joshua Sharp-Pelto each fell on loose balls.

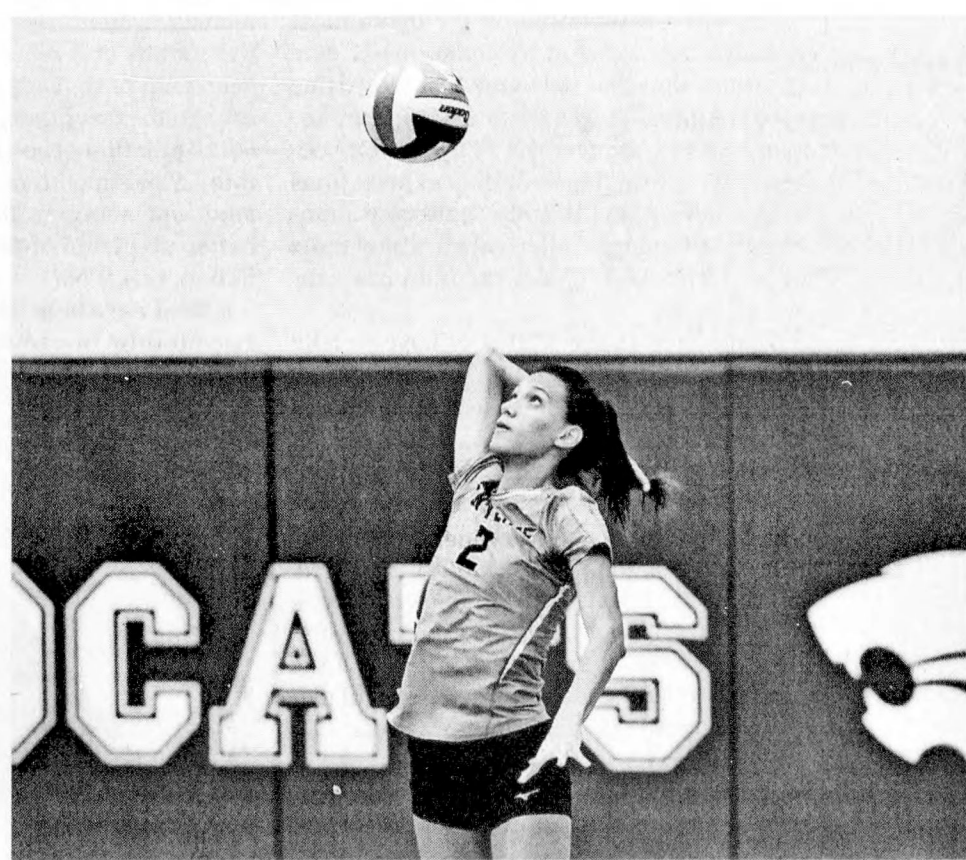
QB Nicholas Warren tossed TD passes of 65 and 50 yards to receiver Chase Wright for the Eagles (0-5, 0-4). Keith Tally rushed for a 2-yard TD.

Redford Union 60, Dearborn Heights Robichaud 0 (WWAC)

QB Cory Chavis was 8 of 9 passing for 205 yards and three TDs. Dawaune Strickland, Daquan Davis, Javerious Shepherd and Deshaun Thornton each rushed for TDs, while Jamel Belcher, Kyren Ware and Dematthew Dixon each had TD receptions. The Panthers (5-0, 4-0) totaled 345 yards of total offense. @folsombrandonj



Novi's Sarah Vellucci celebrates a point during a match against Ann Arbor Skyline on Sept. 22. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Ann Arbor Skyline's Harper Murray serves against Novi. The Eagles won, 3-1.

Battle

Continued from Page 1B

the season. It's what you'd expect from a match that features two of the top-five players in the state, according to PrepDig.com, as well as two players who've been close friends since the sixth grade.

"They've been teammates. They're best friends. They've traveled together," said Novi coach Kacy Byron, who has watched both girls develop into Division I recruits as one of Legacy's coaches. "So you know when they square off, it's not just Novi vs. Skyline. It's a little bit of Harper vs. Sarah. I just think it's really cool that in their final year they're able to compete against each other like this."

Murray guided the Eagles to a 55-4-2 record and an appearance in the Division 1 state championship a year ago. But they lost to Bloomfield Hills Marian in four sets.

Now she's hoping to right that wrong in her final season.

According to the Detroit Free Press, Murray posted 82 aces, 35 blocks, 312 digs and 656 kills as a junior, and she's been adding to those statistics ever since.

The 6-foot-2 outside hitter recently recorded her 2,000th-career kill, and she's in legacy-building mode at Skyline. She's grown as both a leader and a player. Her teammates look up to her. They're poised to make it back to Kellogg Arena. And she soars above the net and hits the ball with the kind of thunder we haven't seen since former U.S. Olympian Alisha Glass was setting state records almost two decades ago at Leland.

"I think losing in that type of atmosphere meant a lot to us," Murray said about last year's loss to Marian. "We wanted to bounce back. We don't want to lose like that again. It's meant a lot (to us) to use the loss as motivation, and we've been working hard."

For the Eagles to capture a state title, there's a chance they'll have to get past Novi in the playoffs.

Assuming the Wildcats can get out of their district, which features second-ranked Northville, and beat No. 3 Farmington Hills Mercy in a likely regional

matchup, they'd face Skyline in the state semifinal.

And Vellucci, one of the most versatile players in Michigan, should be the one leading Novi there.

Two weeks ago, she recorded her 1,000th career dig. And just this past week, she smacked home her 1,000th kill.

And you might say, "Yeah, but a lot of D-I players reach milestones like those. So what?"

Vellucci is doing this out of position.

She's been a career libero on the club circuit, but for the four years she's been on Novi's varsity, Byron has had her play as an outside hitter because she's 6-foot tall. Her height is too much of an asset to not use near the net when it comes to slamming down kills and going up for blocks.

The fact Vellucci has 1,000 digs despite playing 75% of matches at the net speaks to just how great of a player she is. And to have 1,000 kills when she's traditionally a defensive specialist? That's just unheard of.

"Honestly, it's kind of fun because this is the last time I'll ever get to hit," Vellucci said. "You can ask any libero, and they all love to hit. The little times I get to do it, it's a lot of fun. Though, I do miss (playing libero) a little bit."

She said she worked hard to become a better hitter this past summer.

"I got in the gym with a trainer and was like, 'I want to go out with a bang this last season,' and that's really paid off," Vellucci added. "Honestly, I haven't really hit much, but this summer I really worked out a lot."

When Byron became the Wildcats' coach five seasons ago, she first saw Vellucci play as an eighth-grader. She knew right then Vellucci would be playing at the net for her.

But Vellucci likely could've been one of the state's best liberos had Byron kept her at her natural position.

"As a coach, it goes through your mind like, 'I wonder what her numbers would be if she was a libero and in the back row all the time?'" Byron said. "Her hitting that milestone (1,000 digs) is incredible. It just shows that she's so dynamic. She leads our players both offensively and defensively."

"She's a good role model in both of

those positions. Obviously, she's a rock star in the back row, and that's what she's going to college for. But at the high school level, we really need her to play outside for us."

The Wildcats are 2 years removed from making their own run to the final four. That trip saw them beat Northville in the district and Skyline in the quarterfinal. Lowell bested them 3-2 in the semifinal before going on to lose to Marian in the state championship.

Novi has a tough playoff draw to get back there, but it certainly has the roster to do it with the likes of Kaitlyn Hoffman, who was also club teammates with Murray, Charlotte Stoy, Sasha Rus-

kin, Sumire Katsumata, Elena Rinkel and Reganne Bennett, among a few others.

And, of course, Vellucci will be there to help.

While Murray was taking post-game pictures with Novi's up-and-coming players, not far away was Vellucci, who was also snapping a few photos with fans.

After Vellucci took her last picture, she turned around and looked surprised.

Waiting for her was a hug from Murray.

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

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The Discouraging Reacceleration in Core Inflation

ZipRecruiter.com

Most observers expected prices to fall in August after staying flat in July. But they rose +0.1%, despite the 10.6% decline in gas prices, which was offset by increases in the prices of shelter, food, and medical care.

The real action in the report—the focus of the FED's attention, and the figure most synonymous with future inflation—is core inflation. And that delivered a shock, rising +0.6% in August to 6.3% over the year. Recent surveys suggest the FED may be succeeding in bringing inflation expectations under control, but despite significant monetary tightening and hawkish statements about future policy, core inflation has continued to rise.

That suggests the FED may have to hold rates higher for longer to tame inflation, with greater pain for the housing market and labor market along the way.

Here are some highlights of today's report:

• **Gas prices are, once again, the major player behind a slowdown in prices.** Gas prices fell for the second month, and have continued to fall since the data were collected for today's report. But gas prices are volatile and erratic. A jump in gas prices over the winter could take us right back to the higher inflation readings seen earlier this year.

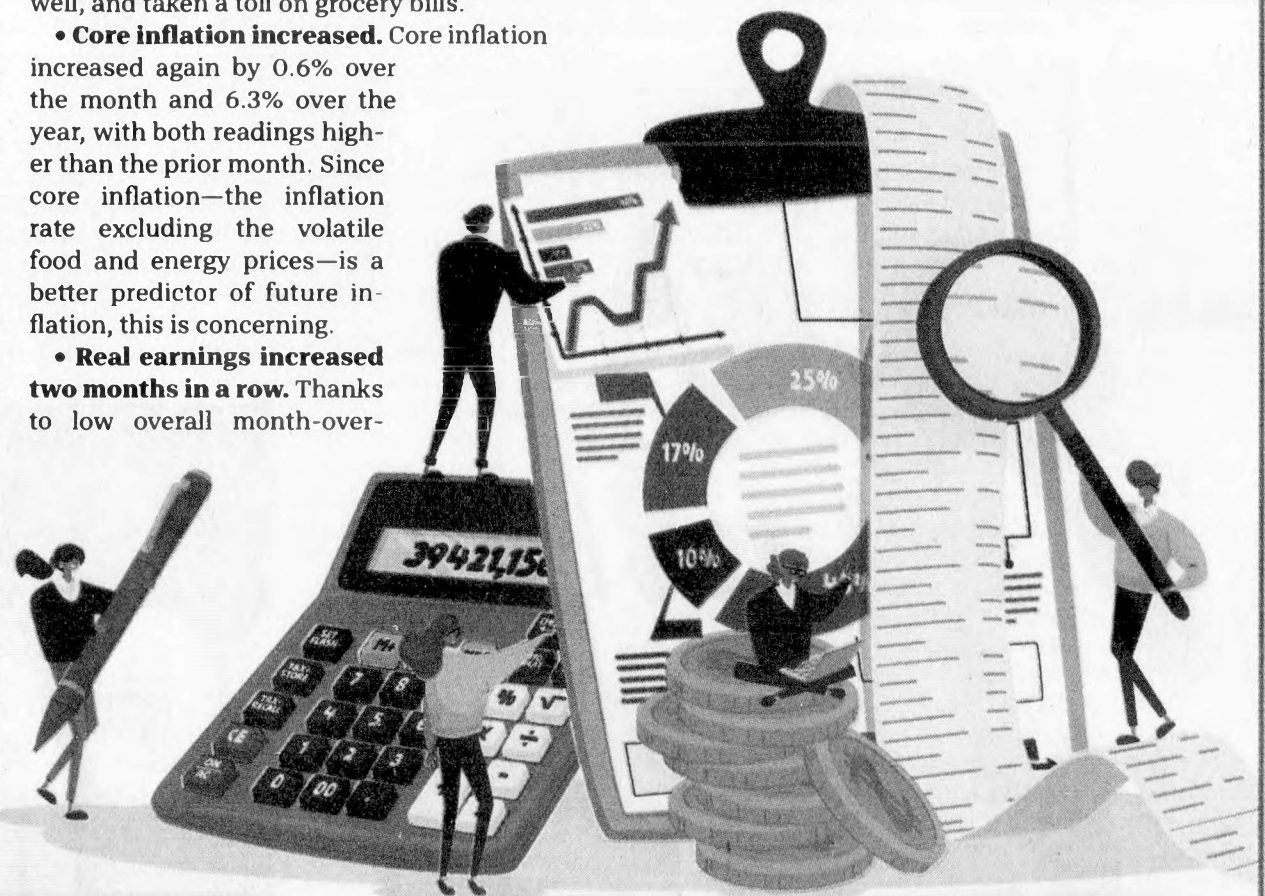
• **Food prices slowed down but remained elevated.** The food index increased 0.8% in August, the

smallest monthly increase since December 2021, but far too high for comfort. In recent months, high gas price inflation is one factor that has contributed to high food prices, but it is not the only one. Supply chain disruptions, shifting consumption patterns, and the war in Ukraine have played their part as well, and taken a toll on grocery bills.

• **Core inflation increased.** Core inflation increased again by 0.6% over the month and 6.3% over the year, with both readings higher than the prior month. Since core inflation—the inflation rate excluding the volatile food and energy prices—is a better predictor of future inflation, this is concerning.

• **Real earnings increased two months in a row.** Thanks to low overall month-over-

month inflation the past two months, the purchasing power of workers' paychecks is increasing. Real average hourly earnings for all employees increased 0.2% from July to August, but that comes on the heels of a substantial decline in purchasing power seen over the last year.



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