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# NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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## Farmington Hills and Livonia make moves to encourage electric vehicles

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Dave Edwin doesn't think he'll ever buy another gas-powered vehicle.

The Livonia resident is on his second Tesla and uses it as an everyday car. He

loves the feel of the ride and the savings that come with it.

"They were more exciting to drive," he said. "I was driving an SUV, which was kind of slow and not very sporty. I wanted to get a Tesla because it's like a sports car."

According to the United States De-

partment of Energy, Edwin is among the 80% of electric vehicle owners that mostly charge their cars at home. For Edwin, it's more convenient.

But as the automotive industry continues trending toward electric vehicles, he thinks more chargers in public places would be a good thing.

"There's a possibility now, with the infrastructure as it is, where somebody could be stranded without preplanning," he said. "With planning, I think people are fine. It's not like gas stations, which are everywhere."

See EVS, Page 5A

## Novi road closing for months due to construction

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Those who regularly drive 10 Mile Road in eastern Novi will want to make finding a new route one of their New Year's resolutions.

The Road Commission for Oakland County will close 10 Mile between Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads to traffic going in both directions. The closure, which is to replace two culverts along the road, will remain in place through mid-April. That closure is expected to start Jan. 5.

Once those culverts are replaced, work will continue on the road, including milling and laying down of new asphalt. The work will be a welcome relief to drivers on the road, which has been in disrepair for several years.

"It's been on our target list for a while," said Craig Bryson, public information officer for the Road Commission for Oakland County. "We're pleased we're finally about to get to it."

Once the culverts are replaced and the work on the road is done, traffic traveling eastbound will reopen later this spring. Westbound 10 Mile between Haggerty and Meadowbrook will remain closed until that work is complete, which is expected to run until the end of the year. Other work will include adding features such as a continuous center left-turn lane, extending selected right-turn and deceleration lanes; and widening the road's shoulders. Traffic signals at 10 Mile/Meadowbrook and 10 Mile/Cranbrook also will be modernized.

One of the biggest differences will

See CLOSING, Page 5A



Cheryl Frasier in the main level dining room of Dua Vino in South Lyon. The restaurant and bar will make its long-awaited debut in late February. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## South Lyon's long-anticipated Dua Vino prepares for opening

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

One of the most anticipated South Lyon restaurant openings in recent years is almost here.

Really.

Tom Palushaj, owner of Dua Vino, expects to welcome diners next month

into the new Italian restaurant and bar taking over the old RCA building, 135 E. Lake St.

"We're hoping to open late February," Palushaj said. "We're hiring staff and bringing in furniture. It's been three years in the making."

After numerous delays, caused by the complications of not only a pandemic but by the intricate details of lov-

ingly restoring a 140-year-old building, all indicators point to near completion.

In the first week of the new year, Dua Vino Consultant Cheryl Frasier was conducting interviews in the main floor dining room of the restaurant and was more than happy to offer an impromptu tour.

See DUA VINO, Page 4A

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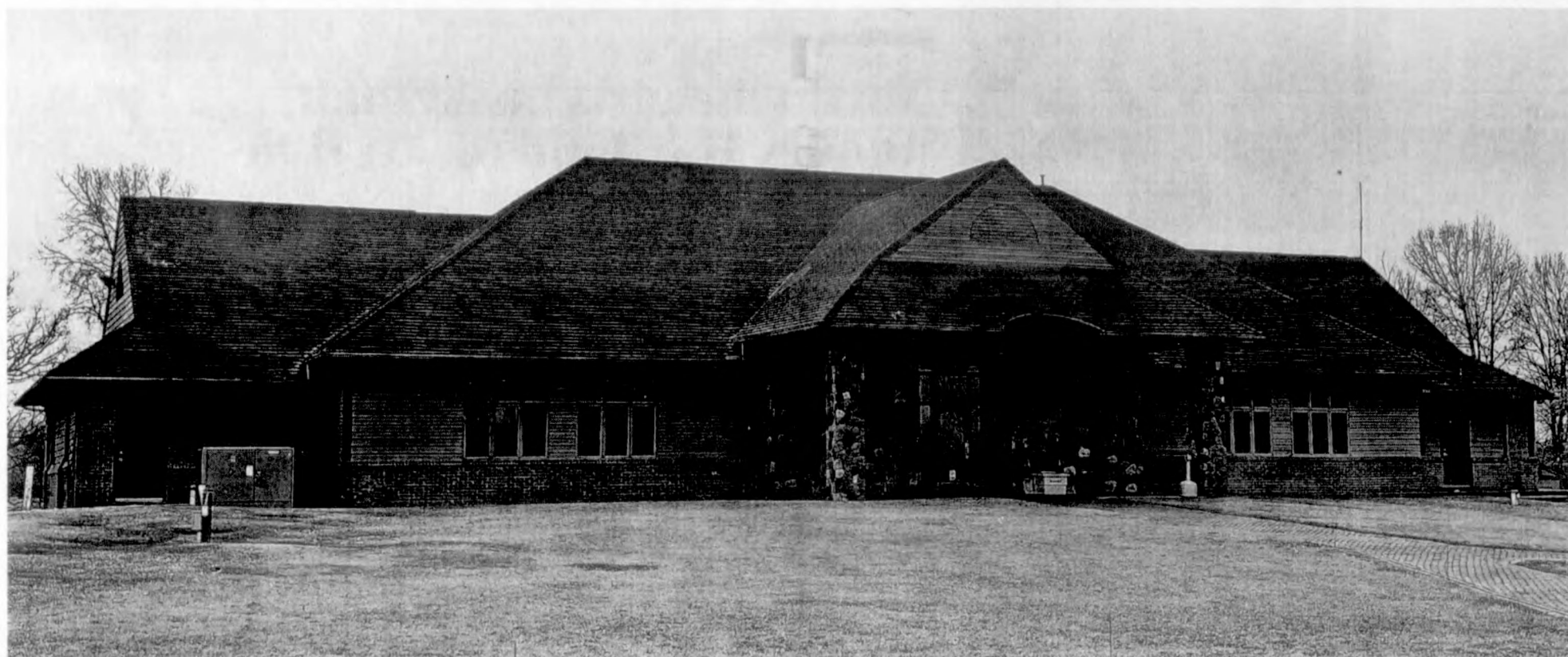


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The Cattails Golf Club clubhouse at 57737 Nine Mile Road in Lyon Township. A 182-home development has been proposed to replace the golf course.  
PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

# 182-home development proposed for Cattails Golf Club in Lyon Township

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

Developers are teeing up plans to turn another Lyon Township golf course into a subdivision of single-family homes.

A conceptual plan to put 182 single-family homes on the 160-acre Cattails Golf Club site was presented to the Lyon Township Board during its first meeting of 2023.

The golf course at 57737 West 9 Mile Road has been a fixture in the community for more than 30 years. Mario Moscone acquired the property in 1989 and opened Cattails two years later, operating it with brothers Frank and Tony.

Now, with the deaths of both his brothers in the past 14 months, Tony Moscone told the board he is the only one left.

"I'm looking at Cattails moving into the next phase," Moscone said. "I want to continue with the original plan — to make the property attractive to a variety of folks ... Cattails Preserve, or Cove, I'm not sure on the name, will go from golf and recreation to a one-of-a-kind development that will benefit Lyon Township for many years to come."

Moscone noted the property, which is located on the south side of 9 Mile Road, east of Griswold, is gorgeous. It is also directly across from the Woodlands of Lyon, a planned 103-home development on 120 acres.

Planner Brian Keesey said township officials had expected changes to the Cattails property for at least 10 years, citing the 2012 master plan.

This is not the first housing development proposed to replace an existing golf course in Lyon Township. Last year, developers proposed a 310-home development on the 201-acre Coyote Golf Club property on the east side of Milford Road, north of 12 Mile Road. This was a reduction from a 2019 proposal of a 477-unit development at that location.

"With the anticipation of golf courses getting redeveloped into single family



Groundskeepers at the Cattails Golf Club walk the course Jan. 4, the day after the township board reviewed a conceptual housing development plan for the land.

properties, it's not a surprise for the township, but what is proposed is 182 single family homes with lots of 55 and 65 feet," Keesey said of the Cattails plan.

While more than half of the land would be preserved as open space in the conceptual plan, the proposed density is more than double what is allowed by ordinance.

"The big question is whether the proposed density is something the township can accommodate," Keesey said, noting the planning commission has already voiced their objections on this point. "81 units is allowed on density, and 182 homes are proposed."

Another major sticking point is the distance between homes. The township ordinances require at least 30 feet in sideyard setbacks. The conceptual plan for the Cattails development calls for a minimum of 15 feet between houses.

MKSK Planner Brad Strader told the township board that density for the project had been reduced by eliminating development on the southwest corner of the property and improving the layout. He said allowing a minimum of 15 feet between houses was necessary to keep the open space behind the homes.

"They (homeowners) don't enjoy side yards, they enjoy the rear yard," Strader said. "We can't get open space if there is 30 feet between units."

He noted he had looked at projects in Novi that had only 10 or 15 feet between units and 25% open space, as well as some developments in West Bloomfield with only 10 feet between buildings.

These were not good selling points to the Lyon Township Board.

Trustee Lise Blades said she cringes when she sees the very narrow setbacks in Novi. She advised the developers to get closer to the 30-foot side yard setback in the township's planned development requirements, and also closer to the density requirement. Trustee Kristofer Enlow said he was "dead set" against the density as proposed, and both he and Trustee Sean O'Neil referred to a target number of 127 units for density.

"Look at that and meet the setback requirements and you're on your way to a good development," Enlow said.

Board members also discussed traffic



While more than half of the land would be preserved as open space in the conceptual plan, the proposed density is more than double what is allowed by ordinance.

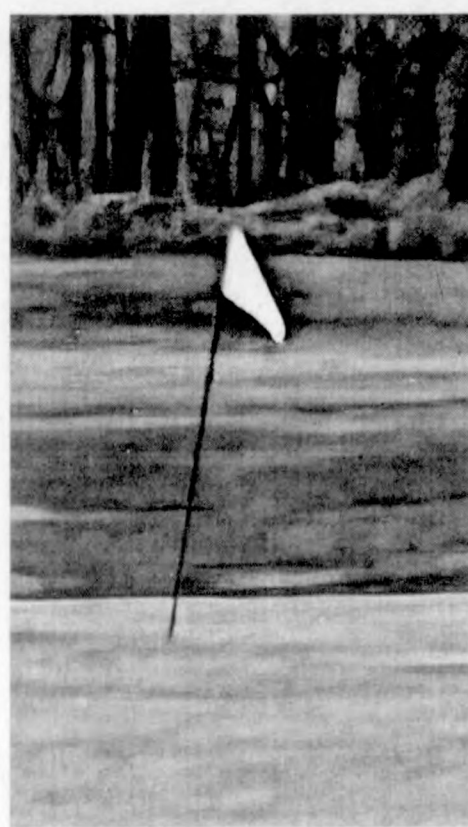
considerations, including paving of 9 Mile along the frontage of the development, curving a long straightaway entrance into the development to reduce speeding, and a street connection to an adjacent development.

Supervisor John Dolan wrapped up the discussion by telling the developers the biggest hurdle he saw was the distance between buildings.

"It makes it look like alleyways," he said. "It's a beautiful golf course, it could be put together very well ... but getting to the end result, we need to get to a point where it works for everybody; 160 to 180 homes would be tough to chew. I'm not sure what you can do to drop density, but that is the takeaway, the biggie. Hopefully that is helpful in moving you forward."

The board does not take action on conceptual plans. Strader said the dialogue was beneficial and they would return with a plan that addresses all or most of the comments.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at [sbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com) or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



A flag on the Cattails Golf Club course.

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# New banquet center opens at former Fire Mountain restaurant in Westland

David Veselenak  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

There's a new place to party in Westland, and Moe Sohoubah believes it's the first of its kind to open in metro Detroit in a very long time.

SoHo Grand Banquet and Event Center, 34615 Warren Road, began hosting events in October.

Where the former Fire Mountain restaurant once stood, the 48,000-square-foot building has several banquet rooms for parties accommodating anywhere from a few dozen to 1,200 people.

The size, Sohoubah said, makes it one of the biggest banquet spaces in the region.

"The grand ballroom is one of the biggest in southeast Michigan," said Sohoubah, one of the partners who runs the facility. "Even the hotels don't have this size. Most hotels have half this size."

He said he believes the banquet facility is the first of its kind to be built from the ground up in metro Detroit in many years.

An opening was originally planned for 2020, two years after Westland City Council gave its approval. Delays stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic prevented that from happening but the new banquet and event center hosted its first event, a recognition ceremony for Garden City High School students, back in October, Sohoubah said.

He strove for a modern look with plenty of architectural elements included to make a reception pop. Sohoubah said he hopes the beauty of the hall inspires those having a wedding to think differently when it comes to decorating. "I tell them, 'Before you book the flo-



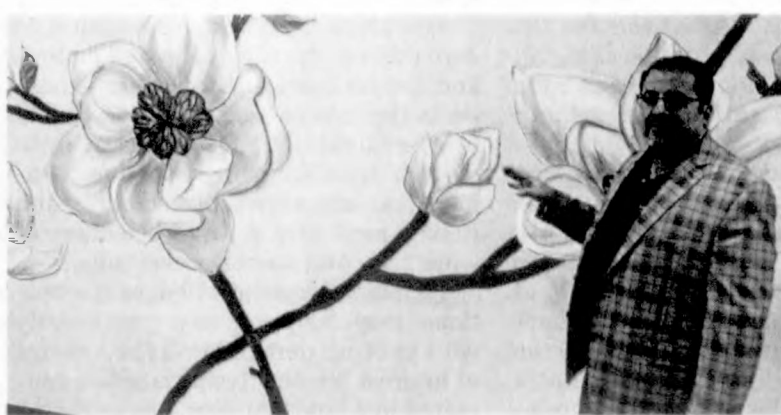
The inside of the grand ballroom at the SoHo Grand Banquet and Event Center in Westland can hold up to 1,200 people seated at tables or 3,000 without tables stadium-style. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

rist and before you book the décor, have them come here," he said. "When you've got this wall here, why would you cover it?"

Fans of the former Fire Mountain will be happy to know some vestiges from the restaurant remain. The front banquet space, dubbed the Magnolia Room for its elegant flower paintings on the walls, is in the building that formerly held the restaurant.

In addition to the rooms, an outdoor

See BANQUET CENTER, Page 3A



Moe Sohoubah points out some of the magnolia murals painted in the building that formerly housed Fire Mountain's restaurant.



Jones Development of Kansas City plans to build nearly 1 million square feet of new warehouse facilities on a 190-acre parcel at the southeast corner of Five Mile Road and Napier Road in the northwest corner of Plymouth Township.

LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

## Developer plans huge warehouse buildings in Plymouth Township

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A Kansas City-based developer is on track to break ground this spring on a huge warehouse project in Plymouth Township.

At a December meeting of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees, a representative from Jones Development said the company's plan is to build three warehouses, totaling nearly 1 million square feet, at the southeast corner of Five Mile and Napier roads.

The property is the last piece of land that still belongs to the city of Detroit as part of the former Detroit House of Corrections prison site known as DeHoCo.

Run by the city of Detroit from the 1920s to the 1980s, DeHoCo later became a state correctional facility and closed permanently at the end of 2004. This site is now part of the Michigan International Technology Center.

Cameron Cooper, development manager for Jones Development, said the company is planning to close on the property during the first quarter of 2023. The 190-acre parcel is listed at \$6.75 million.

Three buildings are in the plan, including one at 670,000 square feet, and two at 158,000 square feet each.

Cooper said no tenants have been identified, but the company will start

the project on spec and pursue build-to-suit opportunities.

"Hopefully by the time we're done with the building, we'll have a tenant," Cooper said.

Jones Development is a national company currently working on projects in 14 states, he said, noting the company has worked with Amazon, FedEx and DHL, as well as light industrial manufacturers, any of which would be suited to the new buildings.

"If a tenant comes to Plymouth Township, our answer is yes," he said. "We can find a home for them."

The smaller buildings can be parceled out down to 30,000 square feet, Cooper explained, or a larger tenant could claim the largest building.

A significant part of the property contains wetlands, which Cooper said will not be disturbed. The company, he said, has worked closely with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy over the past year.

The township board unanimously approved establishing an industrial development district at the southeast corner of Napier and Five Mile roads, which will allow future tenants to seek tax incentives from the township.

The Plymouth Township Planning Commission has granted tentative and final site plan approval for the property.

## More warehouses coming to northwest Plymouth Township

Laura Colvin  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A second warehouse project is in the works for the Five Mile Road corridor in Plymouth Township.

Land has already been cleared for a massive new building to be constructed on the southeast corner of Five Mile and Ridge roads, right down the street from a approved 670,000-square-foot warehouse at the southeast corner of Five Mile and Napier roads.

North Carolina-based Brookwood Capital Partners brought the Ridge Road project to the township for approval last March. A representative from the company did not immediately return a call seeking comment, but Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise said phase-one plans call for a 650,000-square-foot warehouse with an option for two 100,000-square-foot buildings in the future.

Like the project at Napier Road, a tenant has not been publicly identified. Any of the buildings could be used as a distribution facility or for light industrial manufacturing.

Records show the planning commission unanimously approved the

Ridge Road project after it went through a round of revisions.

Approval was granted with the stipulation the developer pay the township for the cost of a five-foot sidewalk running the length of the property along Ridge Road; however, the township will reimburse the developer if Wayne County constructs the sidewalk during an upcoming county road improvement project.

With the combined space of the Ridge Road and Napier Road projects eventually pushing a potential 2 million square feet, Heise said he could envision other opportunities for the buildings.

"We certainly don't want to waste all that roof space," he said. "I've told all the developers and I've told the economic development team at DTE that if people want to install solar panels on these building or other energy-efficient practices, we would be certainly supportive of that."

"We're not going to mandate it, but it's something we would be happy to see if the developers were interested," he added.

Contact reporter Laura Colvin at lcolvin@hometownlife.com or 248-221-8143.



A rendering shows the planned exterior of a new 650,000-square-foot warehouse to be constructed on the southeast corner of Five Mile and Ridge roads in Plymouth Township. COURTESY OF PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP



## Dua Vino

Continued from Page 1A

While the restaurant is devoid of most of the furniture that is being custom made, the extensive work that has been done and the resulting effect is nonetheless stunning.

In the dining room, a highly polished black and white checked floor contrasts with walls that are by turn an eclectic mix of brick with large patches of aqua-green plaster, to slate blue wainscoting contrasting with deep, warm chocolate brown paint. Above the main entrance is stained glass art with "1855" and a lion in which has been incorporated the letters "INHOC." (Palushaj says there is a story there related to a fraternity, but teases that to hear it, one must return to learn it over a glass of wine.)

The lofty ceiling adds an industrial touch, with heating ducts visible, and Edison-style lighting fixtures dangling. The dining room will hold about 50 guests, as will the upstairs bar, which visitors can reach by stairs or elevator. On the way, Frasier proudly shows one of two large RCA signs that were retained.

Keeping as much of the building's history as possible was important to Palushaj. Upstairs in the bar, he and Chef Vilson Keqaj are seated at a table that has been custom-made from old wood flooring.

"We had a complete redo of a building that was old, but wanted to save the character and stone," Palushaj said. "All the tables are old floor joists that were milled and put back together, with an epoxy finish."

He kept an aged look in other areas as well, including base molding that was reclaimed wood, and tin salvaged from a similar era building that is being used as decorative wall pieces. The effect is at once distressed and dazzling. The dark wood of the lengthy bar shines in the light pouring in from the retractable windows that Palushaj opens on a relatively warm January afternoon and then draws down the screen curtains that will keep out mosquitoes this summer.

Palushaj has roots in both Albania and Italy. Born in Montenegro, he lived in a small town in Italy for a time as a child. His family immigrated to the United States from Albania and not long af-



Tom Palushaj, owner of Dua Vino, looks out the open air window of the new bar and restaurant down onto E. Lake Street in South Lyon. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

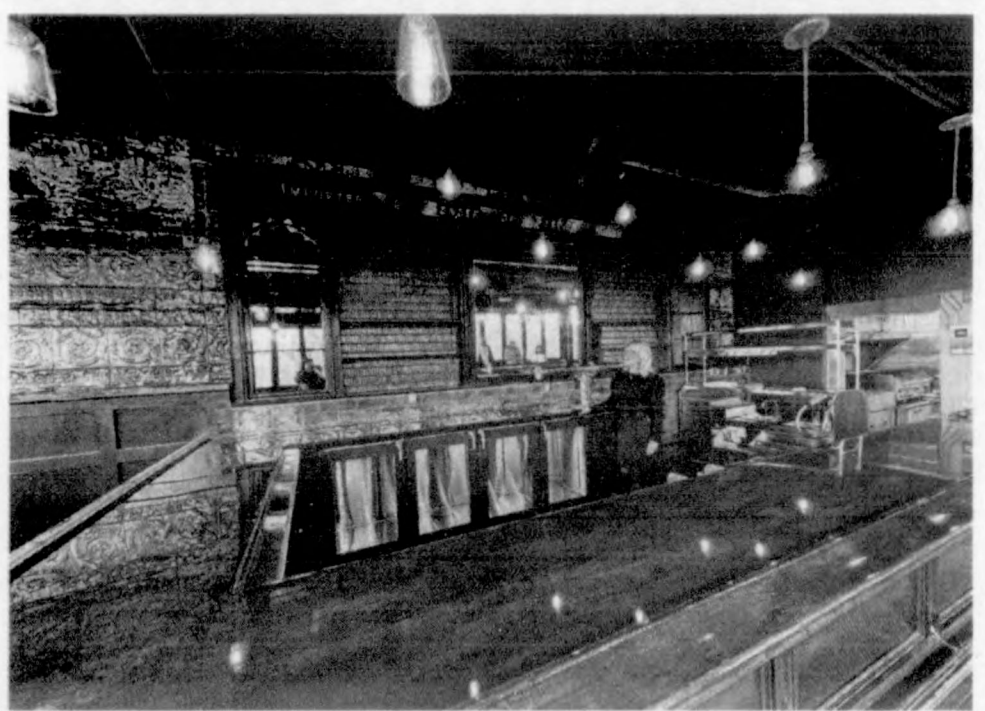
ter, at the age of 12, he got into the restaurant business working in Greek town.

The name Dua Vino, he explains, is derived from the Albanian word for love and the Italian word for wine. He expects there to be plenty of both for his new restaurant. While he is not ready to divulge specific menu selections, Palushaj promises it will feature authentic Italian food and a large selection of wine, beer and specialty cocktails.

Palushaj also acknowledges reservations may be necessary, particularly with pent-up demand and the amount of interest his new restaurant has generated in a city that needs more dining establishments.

"We will make sure you have a great restaurant experience," he said with a smile. "We are excited to welcome South Lyon."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at [sbromley@hometownlife.com](mailto:sbromley@hometownlife.com) or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



Cheryl Frasier shows the upstairs bar at Dua Vino on Jan. 4. The South Lyon restaurant, formerly the RCA building, plans to welcome guests in late February.

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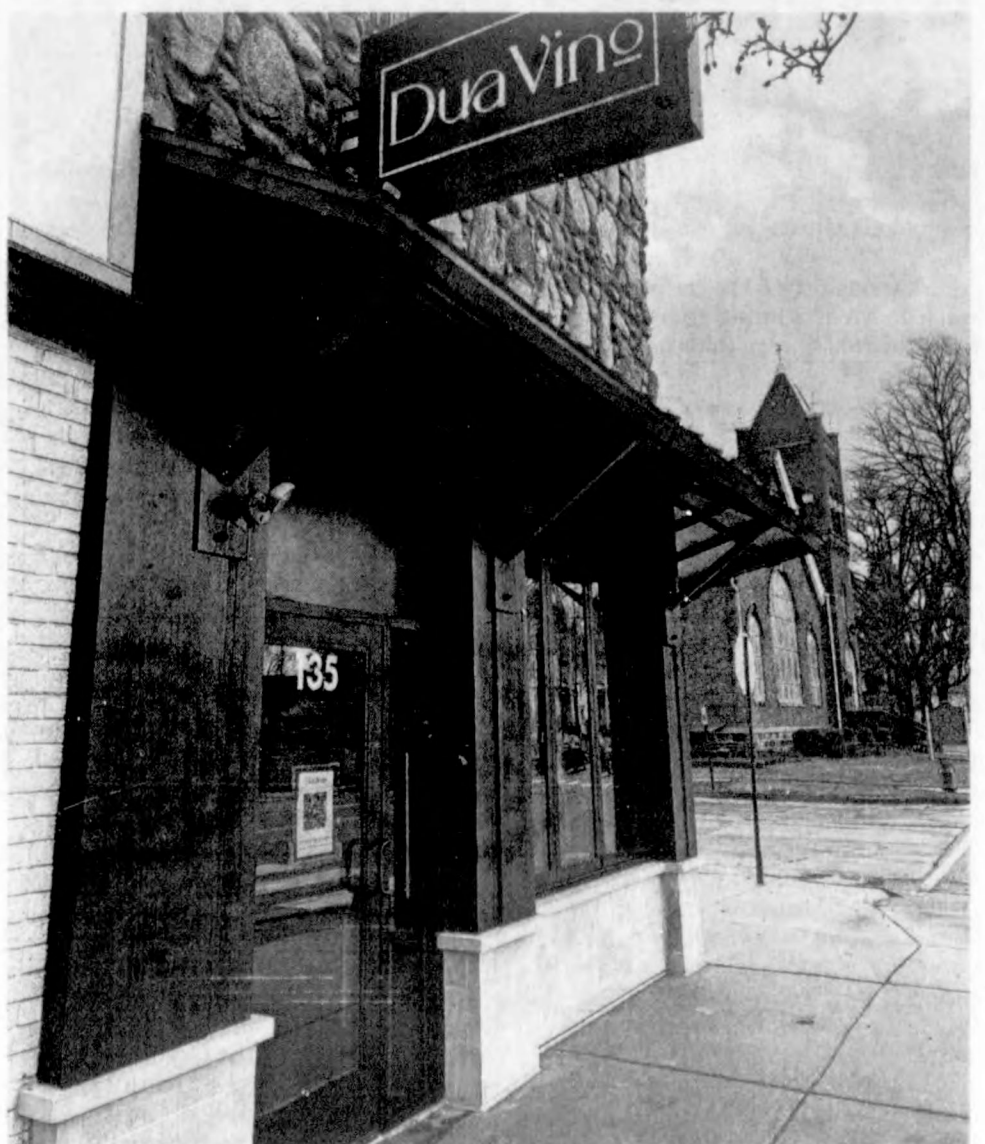
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Frasier shows some of the original touches kept in Dua Vino.



Dua Vino, 135 E. Lake Street in South Lyon, plans to open in late February, to the delight of foodies who have been waiting three years.



## EVs

Continued from Page 1A

As metro Detroit communities see more electric vehicle drivers headed through and living in their cities, some are taking steps to prepare for the day when most people drive an electric vehicle.

### Trying to get ahead of the curve

Cities like Farmington Hills and Livonia expect to see a much higher demand for electric vehicle charging options over the next decade. And it seems they have every reason to anticipate that.

General Motors has plans to offer 30 electric vehicles by the end of 2025. Ford, on the other hand, plans to invest \$50 billion in electric vehicle production through 2026.

"Going forward, we know the production of electric vehicles will be the predominant vehicle in the marketplace," said Joe Valentine, assistant city manager for Farmington Hills. "The infrastructure is going to have to be there for that to be supported."

According to charger tracking websites like ChargeHub and PlugShare, Farmington Hills, Novi and Livonia have the most opportunities for EV drivers to charge up outside the home in Hometown Life's coverage region, which includes western Wayne and Oakland counties.

Valentine said, in Farmington Hills, it's mostly because of the business community, which includes several major auto and technology companies.

One of the largest pockets of electric vehicle charging in the area is at the Nissan Technical Center in Farmington Hills. The campus includes two parking lots equipped with chargers, though some are for employees only.

Farmington Hills also encourages incoming developers to make chargers a

feature of their proposals to the city.

"As new developments are coming forward through the PUD process, the city is encouraging the installation of charging stations as part of those developments," Valentine said.

In Livonia, the city has made efforts to educate residents about what owning an electric vehicle is like. The city's Greenleaf Commission has been promoting education of electric vehicles since 2019 and has held events where residents could ride in a Chevy Volt or Tesla Model 3.

"A lot of people took the opportunity to actually ride in an EV for the first time," Greenleaf Commission Chair Jim Baringhaus said. "To them, it was an eye-opening experience. I was watching people get out of the cars after their test ride, and they were smiling."

Local leaders say there are benefits to getting ahead of the curve and creating electric vehicle infrastructure that makes living in and visiting the area easier.

"You're addressing a demand that can't currently be met," Valentine said. "The demand for electric vehicles is there, but people are predominantly having to charge them at their homes. If you have an environment where people can go out to charge at public and private venues throughout the community, it makes the use of that technology a lot more productive."

According to ChargeHub, nearby communities like Farmington, Plymouth and Northville also have a fair amount of chargers while communities like South Lyon, Westland, Canton and Milford have fewer options.

### Creating publicly-owned charging hubs

Some cities, like Westland, offer chargers on city property. Westland installed a charger with two ports at city hall in 2015 and recently purchased a Ford Lightning for its police department.



A row of electric vehicle charging posts at the Nissan Technical Center in Farmington Hills. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ment. The city doesn't see a large demand for vehicle charging but wants to promote the green aspects of electric vehicles.

"At the end of the day, it's more environmentally sustainable and we're trying to do what we can to help out the environment," said Devin Adams, the city's controller.

Valentine said one of the next steps for Farmington Hills is creating public charging options. The city is undergoing a master planning process, and Valentine expects charging to be part of those discussions.

"You won't have a barrier to use because you won't have a limit to how far you can drive and where you can charge," he said.

The Greenleaf Commission in Livonia is having similar discussions. Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan requested the commission look at EV infrastructure in 2022, and Baringhaus said the group's research is ongoing. Greenleaf can make recommendations to the mayor but does not make decisions.

"I think it would be good for visitors to the city and even residents to a degree," he said. "If you have level two charging, you can basically charge it in 30 minutes to an hour. Let's say you're at the rec center for an hour — that's 30 to 60 miles you can put in your vehicle."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## Closing

Continued from Page 1A

be the new asphalt, which will give the road a new surface.

"That's kind of the big chunk of the job is the resurfacing job," Bryson said.

This stretch of 10 Mile carries 16,000 vehicles a day, according to the Road Commission for Oakland County. The work is the first major work along that stretch of road since 1985, Bryson said.

The detour for the construction will be Novi Road to Grand River Avenue to Haggerty Road before heading back to 10 Mile Road and vice versa.

The project is expected to cost roughly \$6.9 million, with most of the funding coming from the federal government.

Other funding is coming from the City of Novi, the Road Commission for Oakland County and the Oakland County general government through the Tri-Party Program.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com).

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A smaller room design for more intimate gatherings inside the SoHo Grand Banquet and Event Center. PHOTOS BY DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



The Magnolia Room in the new SoHo Grand Banquet and Event Center lives up to its name with a large mural of magnolias on the wall.

## Banquet center

Continued from Page 3A

event space is under the front of the hall. That covered space works perfectly for outdoor events in warmer months, Sohoubah said, even when there's a little rain.

While the center is operational and holding events and dinners, it's still waiting on its liquor license, Sohoubah said. Plans are for a standalone coffeehouse, Qahwah House, operating in a building customers can visit during events or whenever they want a cup of coffee in a nice place.

Construction continues, and Sohoubah said he hopes to open the coffeehouse by early spring.

The hall has had plenty of inquiries for events in the coming months and years, with many area Westland residents excited to see a new place to host events in the city. Such an event will take place Jan. 12, where Westland Mayor William Wild will hold his State of the City address.

Wild said he wanted to showcase the hall as part of his final address before resigning the office he's held for years. Its location near the intersection of Wayne and Warren roads could also help the



The new banquet center has several rooms to accommodate groups both large and small. The center also has a covered outdoor area for gatherings.

main commercial part of the community as well, Wild said.

"It's certainly an anchor now. It's a landmark. It's a destination," he said. "I

think it's going to be an economic driver for the Shop and Dine district, too.

"Everything he did there exceeded all of our expectations."

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

### 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 13 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

Abstract	Ears	Image	Rose
Busy	Enjoy	Lips	Ruby
Carve	Ernst	Luminous	Seaside
Cast	Eyes	Manor	Sell
Cezenne	Free	Miro	Shop
Clay	Glass	Mist	Space
Cloth	Goya	Mouth	Tint
Controversy	Graphic	Music	Tone
Crowded	design	Noian	Tubes
Cyan	Grey	Olis	Umbel
Degas	Hair	Original	View
Dowie	Hals	Participate	Warm
Dusk	Hands	Reds	Weid

TODAY'S ANSWER

Endless talent

### Amazing art

DOWIEECAPSELLN  
SGREYSREVORTNOC  
RCLIPSNNTTGBUSYK  
AEEDGNSLNRGHALS  
EZNCATITRIAOPGDU  
YAJLMSNITPYAERD  
ENOESNASHARDOT  
SNYTIACHLILTSST  
UEBHYLAWMCUIAEC  
MLUCAGSATDMCHAA  
BIRYWNGRCEIITSR  
EERFEEDMISNPUIV  
RNEOLDNISSIOAODE  
CROWDEDVUGUTMET  
ABSTRACTMENSEBUT

### NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

#### ACROSS

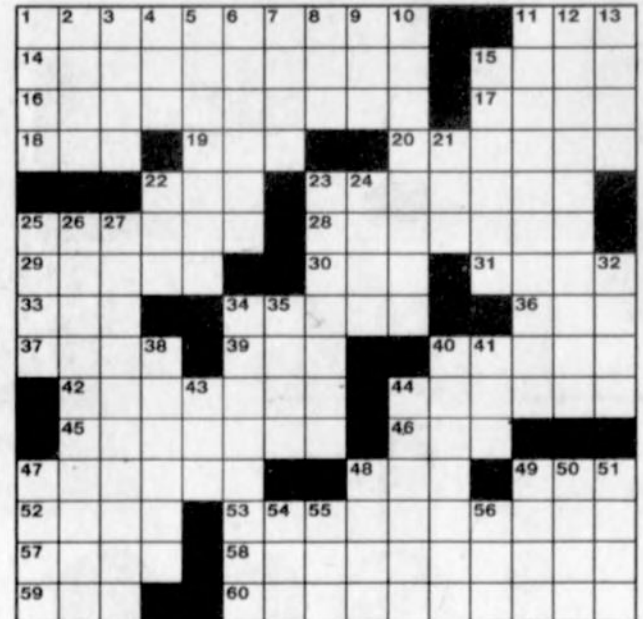
- 1 Trattoria dessert  
11 Muscle car designation  
14 Head scratcher's comment  
15 Antlered animal  
16 "Bohemian Rhapsody" feature  
17 Sinbad, e.g.  
18 EuroBonus points provider  
19 Jedi pilot  
20 Some wedding officials  
22 Keys' place, for short  
23 *Quantum of Solace* introducer  
25 Trailing closely  
28 Short solo  
29 Get close to  
30 Avoid, with "out"  
31 Four-Grammy Nigerian  
33 End of a Tolstoy title  
34 Fictional fantasizer  
36 Had no need to rally  
37 Near  
39 Stock tip  
40 Polyester in paints  
42 Baseball cover  
44 Dramatist whom a Dublin bridge is named for  
45 Second governor of New York  
46 Topiary tree  
47 She was billed above Bogart in *High Sierra*  
48 Banff Nat'l Park setting, sometimes  
49 dash  
52 Hebrew word for "delight"

#### DOWN

- 1 Navigates an obstacle course, maybe  
2 *Café* ingredient  
3 French "wood" in oboe's etymology  
4 Its website offers DIRECTV  
5 What many old oaks are  
6 Maybelline's parent  
7 Minute  
8 "The jig is up!"  
9 Nonexistent  
10 Egregiousness  
11 Tagline for a '30s star's first sound film  
12 Asset in an appraisal  
13 NYC storefront closures of 2010  
15 They're broken when kicked  
21 Miller's Tale refreshment  
22 Small number  
23 Strong grasp  
24 Pluck  
25 "I am an \_\_\_ of things accomplished": Whitman  
26 Hearing necessity  
27 Where to see shooting stars  
32 Sign of drainage  
34 '20s fad just before the crossword craze

#### 35 Sudden flash

- 38 Paste with pitas  
40 Organic chemistry building block  
41 Code component  
43 Erstwhile NASCAR broadcaster  
44 Meat rich in zinc  
47 Spring  
48 It means "transcending"  
49 Focus of a Barcelona museum  
50 GM's former Fiesta competitor  
51 Citronella oil alternative  
54 Job-promoting UN arm  
55 Gist  
56 Beethoven symphonic notation



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANLEYWORDS@AOL.COM 1/7/23

### PUZZLES & POSERS



THERE ARE MANY WORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WHICH HAVE MORE THAN ONE PRONUNCIATION YET HAVE THE SAME MEANING. ~IN THIS PUZZLE YOU MUST FIND A WORD FOR EACH

#### MISSING LINKS 12th EDITION

MIDDLE LINK WHICH NOT ONLY HAS TWO DIFFERENT PRONUNCIATIONS, BUT ALSO HAS TWO DIFFERENT MEANINGS. CLUES FOR EACH WORD ARE FOUND IN THE END LINKS OF EACH CHAIN.



### 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

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

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

#### TODAY'S ANSWER

1. UNDERAGE  
2. COURTESY  
3. POLISH  
4. PUTTING





# Bill Brown Ford of Livonia named company's top dealership in world

Shelby Tankersley  
HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Success sure is sweet.

Bill Brown Ford, a Livonia Ford dealer that's been in business for over 100 years, announced Wednesday that it managed to keep its spot as the world's top Ford dealer.

The dealer first received the distinction in 2021, knocking a dealership in Florida out of the No. 1 spot. In 2022, Bill Brown managed to stay on top.

"Bill Brown's unique approach places employees, family, community and customers first," Tom Brown, grandson of Bill Brown, said in a press release. "It's what drives us forward and has enabled us to build an extraordinary community around the dealership."

"It's one of the main reasons we've been so successful. It's also why we see so many returning customers every year and sell more vehicles to Ford employees and their families than any other



Bill Brown Ford at 32222 Plymouth in Livonia. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

dealership."

Ford uses sales data to determine its top dealer. The company has nearly 3,000 dealers in the United States alone.

Managers at Bill Brown think its Livonia-style community mindset sets it apart. The dealer works to build personal connections with customers and communicates frequently, leading to a high return rate.



Staff at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia. COURTESY OF FORD MOTOR COMPANY

"Ed Brown instills in every employee the importance of supporting our customers and the larger Ford community we're a part of, along with the organizations that are educating and improving the lives of individuals across metro Detroit," Dave Tashman, general manager of Bill Brown, said in press release. "Ed's long-term commitment has helped us build a strong and passionate community for the dealership."

The family-owned dealership moved to Livonia in the 1950s and is known for its large presence along Plymouth Road.

Get the latest headlines for metro Detroit every morning in your mailbox by signing up for our daily briefings newsletter.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at [stankersle@hometownlife.com](mailto:stankersle@hometownlife.com) or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby\_tankk.

## Northville PD offers lateral transfer pay to recruit more officers

David Veselenak  
HometownLife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville hopes a new program will bring its police department back to full strength.

The city recently began offering lateral transfer pay for police officers that apply and begin working in the city after working in other communities.

That would allow applicants to hire in at a higher rate of pay based on their experience working elsewhere. Currently, all hires come in at the lowest rate of pay and work their way up to earning the top rate, regardless of previous experience.

"Basically, this would allow officers from other departments with prior experience to come in at a higher pay, de-

pending on how much prior experience that they have," Northville Police Chief Alan Maciag said.

The department is budgeted to have 13 employees and currently has 11. The department does not have any candidates currently working through a police academy, Maciag said.

The city recently posted a job listing for police officer, with wages beginning at \$61,872 and topping off at \$87,884 after four years of service. Maciag said there are pay incentives for officers that have an associate's or bachelor's degree.

New hires may not be the only beneficiaries to such a program. Part of the deal approved by the city council in December also raises the pay of officers that currently work in the department who had experience before arriving in

Northville.

"The three officers that we have that have prior police experience would also be kicked in if we hired somebody with prior experience and they stayed employed for 30 days," Maciag said. "So we're kind of taking care of our own and trying to get people with experience as well."

The lateral transfer pay program is just one incentive Northville and other area communities, including Livonia, use to entice officers to apply. Many departments have seen challenges in hiring police officers in recent years.

Councilman Andrew Krenz said during the December meeting the plan was a good step to bring top talent to the city, especially as the problem in recruiting is something that's happening all over.

"You need a stable police force for a stable community," he said. "One of my friends is assistant chief over at Woodhaven, he's seeing the same things and it's not like there's a glut of officers and staff out there."

"We need to do what we can to keep and retain the best."

Maciag said he hopes such a plan will incentivize officers to apply, especially younger ones. Given the makeup and feel of Northville, he said the job is an attractive one for officers to connect better with the city.

"I think we have our own little niche here. It's small town community policing," he said. "You're able to do so many things."

Contact reporter David Veselenak at [dveselenak@hometownlife.com](mailto:dveselenak@hometownlife.com).

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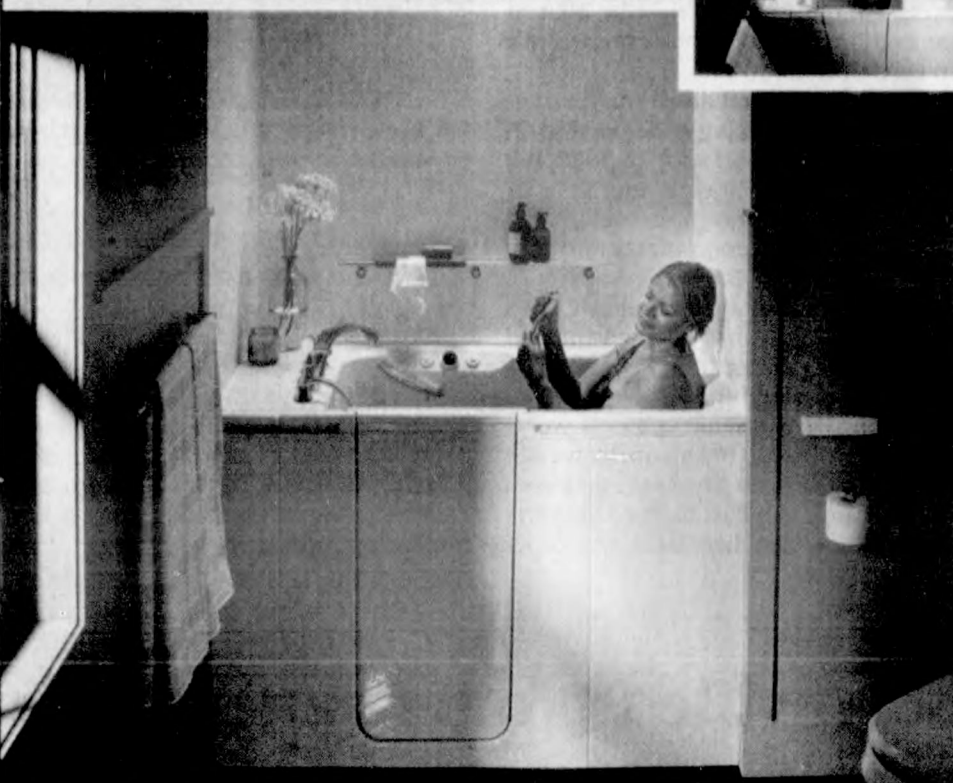
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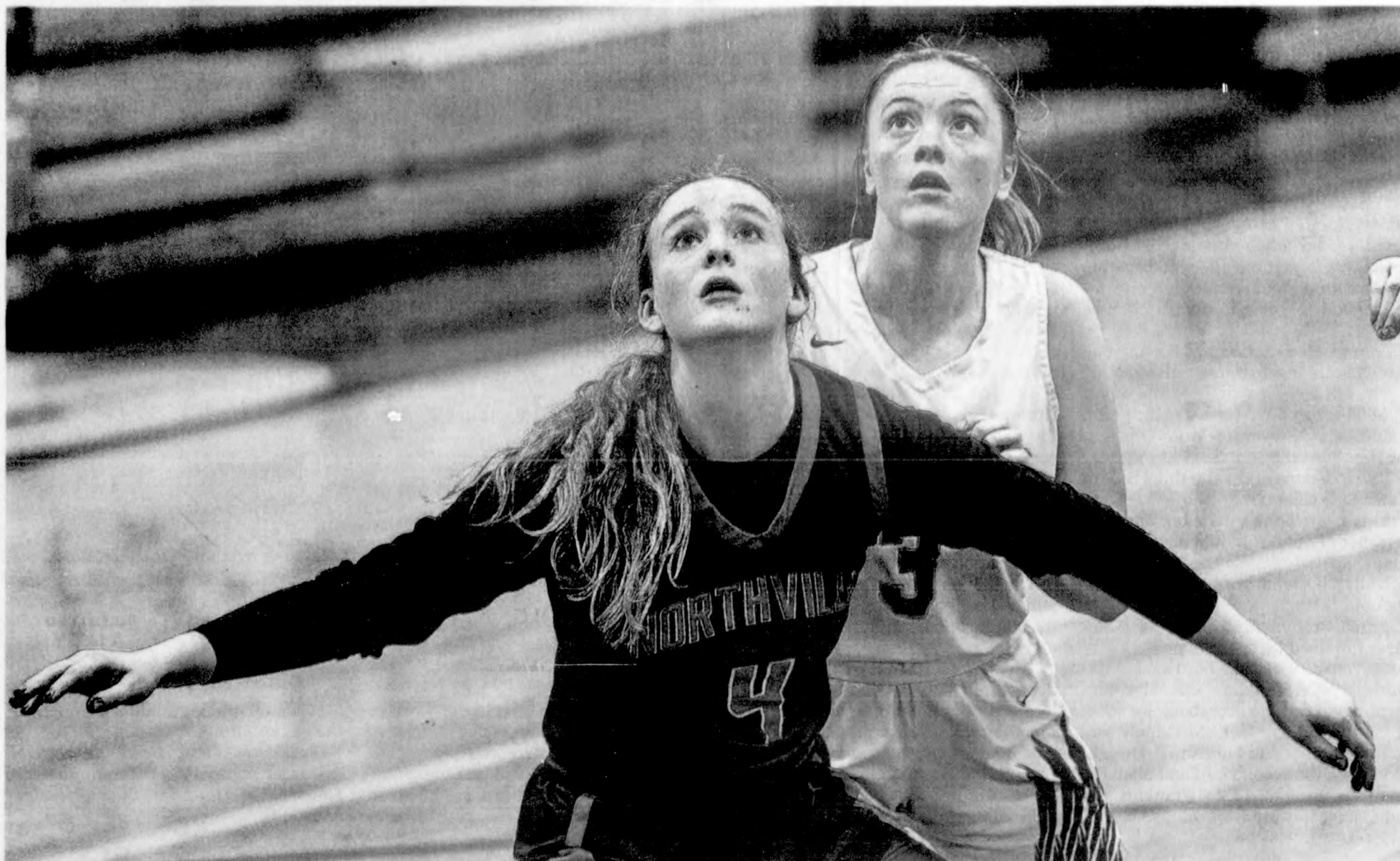
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## SPORTS

## Changing of the guard?



Northville's Sydney Brown, who scored a team-high 15 points, boxes out Hartland's Jaylen Nokovich during the Mustangs' 46-42 victory on Friday. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

## Northville girls basketball topples Hartland for first time

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

**HARTLAND** — For the first two years of Liv Linden's Hartland basketball career, there were really only four games on the KLAA West schedule that required the Eagles' full attention.

Hartland could count on getting tough battles from Livingston County rivals Brighton and Howell, but generally had its way with the other five teams in the division.

Those days are gone — and Linden is fine with that, even at the risk of outcomes like a 46-42 home-court loss to Northville on Jan. 6.

Hartland hadn't lost a division game to an opponent not from Livingston County since falling 42-36 to Grand Blanc on Dec. 15, 2017. The Eagles had won 47 straight division games to teams outside of the county since that night.

Hartland began division play with a huge 58-50 victory over Howell on Dec. 22. In the early going, Northville and

Brighton are tied for the division lead at 2-0, with four teams tied for third at 1-1.

A Livingston County team has won the KLAA West every season since the league formed in 2008-09, with Grand Blanc being the only outside team to get a share in 2010-11 with Hartland.

See **GUARD**, Page 2B

## OL nails game-winner as Stevenson edges Franklin

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

Dylan McGlinch told Chuck Davidek it was the hardest pass he's ever thrown.

Kevin Davis knocked down a 3-pointer with 43.8 seconds remaining on Jan. 6 to help the Livonia Franklin boys basketball team completely erase a 20-point deficit and knot the score at 52 against rival Livonia Stevenson.

Naturally, Spartans coach Eoghann Stephens wanted one of his sharpshooters, Mark Stein or Lucas Young, to attempt the game-winner before the final buzzer. But Franklin's Mitch Cronyn was draped all over Stein in the corner after the screen to get Stein open was set too early.

That forced McGlinch, Stevenson's point guard, to improvise with his dribbles. First, he got around Robbie Wynn and then he evaded a swipe at the ball from Cronyn en route to the basket. Davis stepped up in the post to halt



Livonia Franklin's Mitch Cronyn shoots down low during a game against Livonia Stevenson on Jan. 6. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

McGlinch's drive, which left Davidek wide open on the backside.

See **STEVENSON**, Page 2B

## Yellowjackets' Arico finds confidence as 2-sport athlete

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

The Detroit Country Day girls basketball team briefly got into trouble on Jan. 3.

A Birmingham Groves shot taken just 11 seconds before halftime rimmed out and landed in the hands of a Yellowjacket. Instead of racing back on defense, the Falcons swarmed the rebounder and made it next to impossible to make an outlet pass up the court for a layup.

But then Country Day's Emma Arico worked her way toward the rebounder, putting her body in a position to receive a tough pass. Facing a 10-second backcourt violation, Arico grabbed the ball, weaved through some defenders, crossed halfcourt and then zipped a perfect pass to Peja Liles, whose layup attempt drew a pair of free throws before the buzzer.

That heads-up play was just one of several the junior point guard made



Detroit Country Day's Emma Arico defends Birmingham Groves' Taryn Brown on Jan. 3. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

throughout Country Day's 67-44 victory over its next-door neighbors on 13 Mile

See **ARICO**, Page 2B



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## Stevenson

Continued from Page 1B

McGlinch lasered a two-handed chest pass to Davidek, who finished at the rim with 3.2 seconds left to ensure the Spartans' 54-52 win to kick off Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East play.

Davidek, who stands 6-foot-3 and weighs just under 275 pounds, was definitely the last option on that play. The senior has been one of the most-feared linemen in the KLAA. And the three-time all-conference star should be just as talented when he suits up for Saginaw Valley State's football team next school year. But he's definitely a role player for the basketball team.

But here's the thing: McGlinch's pass had so much velocity on it that Davidek is probably the only one who could've pulled it in to even attempt the winning layup.

"I had my gut to thank for that because it kind of just absorbed the ball," Davidek said while rubbing his belly. "Usually, I'm just out there to be a big body, rebound and set picks. So it's always good to get an opportunity like that."

As expected, Round 1 of the Livonia City Championship did not disappoint.

Though illnesses, injuries and a pair of head-scratching losses to Brighton and Novi had Stevenson stumbling into the New Year, the Spartans were still expected to be one of the top three or four teams in the East.

This is anybody's division, and Stevenson or Franklin should have a say in who wins it.

And that's what we got in the league opener.

Mitch Cronyn (22 points) vs. Mark Stein (16) lived up to the hype.

Stevenson's cast of hard-nosed defenders kept Franklin's offensive juggernauts out of the scorebook for most of the game. In fact, McGlinch and Young combined to bury three-straight 3s to open the second half and push the Spartans' lead to 43-23. Franklin just didn't have any answers offensively.

It took everything Eric Hobson Jr., Cronyn and Davis had to battle back late in the third and early in the fourth.

Cronyn sank a 3 and then flexed while jogging back on defense to start the fourth, and away we went. Franklin scored 10 of the quarter's first 12 points to trim its deficit and ultimately set up Davis, Franklin's big man, with the game-tying shot on a designed play out of a timeout break.

Even with Davis knotting the score, Stevenson didn't flinch, especially knowing it'd had one final possession to win it all.

"We went back to the drawing board over the New Year and revisited the whole defensive aspect," Stephens said. "I think that created a lot of our looks today. A lot of it's about runs. We know that we can hit our runs. It's stopping theirs as quickly as we can. They've got phenomenal players, and we know who they want to get the ball to, so it's about locking down on those guys. A couple of times toward the end, we lost No. 3 (Cronyn), and he hit some big shots against us. It was really just focusing in and trying to lock down on our defensive principles."

Stevenson will be battle-tested when it wraps up its next two division games, as it faces Belleville and Dearborn, two of the other squads expected to compete for the East championship.

But the loss had Franklin coach TJ Hurley shaking his head while he helped the custodians fold chairs from Stevenson's bench area and put them away after the game.

After opening the winter 6-0 overall, the Spartans dropped back-to-back games. And the first one, a 37-point loss to Detroit Loyola, which is ranked No. 10 in The D Zone Top 100 rankings, doesn't sting as badly as losing to your rivals in the league opener in front of your home crowd.

"Good, good," Hurley said. "I hope it does sting. This is going to sting for a long time. It's something we've got to remember when we're preparing for our next team. Obviously, we can't be the City champion anymore, but we can make sure nobody else does. The division championship, we can still com-



Livonia Stevenson's Chuck Davidek scores down low Jan. 6 at Livonia Franklin. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pete for it, but we're going to have to clean some things up. We've just got to come in and reevaluate what we want to do on both ends of the floor."

When the two meet in the rematch on Jan. 31, don't expect Franklin to leave

Stevenson's pulling guard wide open for the game-winner.

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



Hartland's Sarah Rekowski and Northville's Evelyn Deren battle for the opening tip during the Mustangs' 46-42 win Jan. 6. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

## Guard

Continued from Page 1B

"This year is a lot different than previous years," said Linden, who scored a career-high 20 points. "It's going to be a very competitive year, which I'm excited for. I like competitive games. A lot of teams in this conference are going back and forth with each other. It's just going to be a very interesting season."

Northville has been one of the most successful KLAA West programs outside of Livingston County, but had an 0-12 record against Hartland since the league formed. Friday's victory validated the Mustangs' status as preseason favorites in the division.

"Hartland's been dominant for the last 10, 12 years," Northville coach Todd Gudith said. "They've had top-10 teams, DI players. We've had good battles with them over the years. A couple games we had a chance, but usually their talent just overtook us most nights."

It looked like Hartland (6-3) was on its way to a 13th straight victory over Northville, as the Eagles jumped out to leads of 11-2 and 13-4.

But not only did the Mustangs quickly catch up, taking a 19-16 lead with 6:05 left in the second quarter, but they built a 28-20 lead by halftime.

Senior Sydney Brown was the catalyst for Northville, hitting three 3-pointers in about a four-minute span.

"We just had to settle down," said Brown, who scored a team-high 15 points. "We had to start playing our

game. We had to slow the game down. We didn't want them to speed us up."

A key moment during Northville's rally came when Hartland center Sarah Rekowski picked up her second foul with 7:02 left in the second quarter. The Eagles were leading 16-13 at that stage, with Rekowski scoring six points. Rekowski, who finished with 15 points, didn't play the rest of the first half.

"We probably could've kept her in, but offensively we just started making some dumb decisions, and that's obviously not going to help us," Hartland coach Reyna Luplow said. "I don't think many teams are going to have an answer for her this year, but we've just got to find the right moments and the right kind of plays for her to be successful."

Northville built a 36-25 lead, but a basket by Rekowski capped a 6-0 run that got Hartland within 36-31 early in the fourth quarter. The Eagles got within 40-36 with 3:08 left and 41-37 with 2:10 on the clock, but the Mustangs scored the next four points at the free throw line.

Northville (8-1) closed out the game in a manner that would be expected from a team that returned nine players from a district championship squad.

The Eagles are 1-1 in the division with 12 games remaining.

"All our goals are still ahead of us, so we're just going to keep moving forward," Luplow said.

Seniors Lauren Talcott and Susy Heller scored nine points each for Northville.

## Arico

Continued from Page 1B

Road. There was the beautiful skip pass in the lane Arico made to Aysia Yokely. There was the throw in transition she made to Naiya Krispin that went for an easy bucket. And there was a handful of other routine assists that won't be shown on highlight reels but were key to the Yellowjackets' win.

But the reality is Arico probably doesn't make a few of those plays during their run to the Division 2 state semifinal a year ago. Sure, she was a talented player as a sophomore, but she wasn't putting it all on the line yet.

Some newfound confidence has turned her from a rotational player into an absolute floor general. The Yellowjackets are loaded with talent, from Jaidyn Elam to Yokely and Ari'Yana Wiggins, who will all be future college players, to their star freshmen Jayla Jackson and Krispin, who both had Division I offers before making their varsity debuts. And somebody needs to get them the ball. And, so far, that's been Arico.

Arico's running the show now. How many high school players have the wherewithal to cancel out of a sloppy set and reset the offense in the heat of a back-and-forth battle? Not many. But Arico can.

"Honestly, that's all credit to Emma," first-year coach Amber Deane said. "She comes ready to work every day. She gives full effort 100% of the time, whether it's conditioning, workouts, getting shots up in a shootaround or in practice."

So where did that confidence come from?

Arico said part of it has to do with her successful lacrosse career. The all-state midfielder recently committed to Michigan to play the sport at the next level (and we'll tell you why she picked U-M in a minute). But the other part has to do with having so many encouraging teammates.

"I think it's just been a lot of growth," said Arico, who scored 13 points. "This team chemistry, first of all, is just incredible. I think they give me a lot of confidence on and off the court. I think that's what helped me a lot this year. Also, I'm a lacrosse player as well. And I think that the role I've had, just playing that all summer, along with basketball, has just helped me grow into who I am today. Playing midfielder kind of correlates with being a point guard. It's very similar. And that's helped a lot, too."

Yes, if you think her name sounds familiar, you are correct. Arico is the daughter of Michigan women's basketball coach Kim Barnes Arico. So there's no shocker why she wants to play lacrosse for the Wolverines.

She grew up watching her mom's teams chase Big Ten titles and tournament appearances. She got to learn from some of the best college players along the way. Some tips she's even applied to lacrosse.

But while that sounds like Arico was born on third base, especially considering her father, Larry, is an assistant at Country Day, just know that she's had to work for every minute she's earned with the Yellowjackets.

"She's one of the hardest workers I've ever been around, teenager or adult, it doesn't matter," said Deane, whose been around plenty of hard workers as a former college player at Indiana and Dayton. "She works hard, and what's even greater about her is she's just a great person. She's a great teammate to be around, picks up everybody around her and has no ego whatsoever. She doesn't care about her stats or accolades. She just wants everyone around her to succeed, which is great."

Other than Arico's Michigan maize basketball shoes, you wouldn't know she's a "coach's kid," as she likes to call it. She just focuses on the next play. There's no flashiness to her game, though she's a crafty passer. There are no big-play celebrations while running back on defense.

Sure, she wants to prove she hasn't been gift-wrapped her starting role, but she also cares more about hitting Elam across the lane for easy shots down low or kicking out drives to Yokely and Krispin for open 3-pointers.

"It's often said that, 'This girl gets things handed to her,'" Arico said of kids of celebrities. "I want to prove them wrong a lot of the time. When I step on the floor or step on the field, I grind. I just try to become better and prove people wrong for the most part. And my teammates push me in practice, again, and it correlates to games and we all push each other. I honestly just want to be the best for my team."

"...I have so much trust in all of them, and I think it's very easy for me to put them into a position to score. And I think that's my main job, just helping my teammates, helping them score and getting them the ball in the right places. They make my job easy."

The Yellowjackets want to make their third-straight trip to the Breslin Center. Their last two trips ended with losses in the final four. Perhaps this future Wolverine can get them over the hump?



# Benchings open door for Hartland hockey freshman

Bill Khan  
Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HARTLAND — If Jake Pietila left Hartland Sports Center on Jan. 4 night still searching for his first high school hockey goal, it wouldn't be for lack of ice time.

With several of the Eagles' veterans benched for a violation of team policy, opportunity abounded for players like Pietila, a freshman forward who has slowly been acclimating to the high school game.

He took full advantage of the extra playing time, scoring his first, second and third career goals in a 6-1 victory over Northville.

Pietila entered the night with just one assist in nine games.

"I started off slow the whole first half of the year," Pietila said. "I didn't want to keep that on me. I decided I should put a few in today. It definitely helps me get some confidence, for sure."

Hartland played eight forwards and five defensemen. Pietila skated with fellow winger James Storm, while centers Ben Pouliot and Ian Kastamo rotated through three lines.

Nobody who played for the Eagles could complain about ice time.

"Oh, yeah, I got plenty of ice time," Pietila said. "A little shorter at the beginning of the year and I got a lot today."

It's difficult for a freshman to crack the lineup at Hartland, which has won three of the last four Division 2 state championships. Only five ninth-graders have made the team in the past nine seasons, including Pietila and current defenseman Eli Sturos.

"Jake's a guy, he's got some magic in his stick," Hartland coach Rick Gadwa said. "Watching him in some of our pre-season stuff, I saw the way he could bury the puck; you can't have enough of those guys. But then you watch what he did when he didn't have the puck, away from it; he's got a good I.Q. He's a player who could definitely have a bright future here."

A year ago, it was Kastamo who got his initial high school goal as a freshman in the first game after Christmas break. A little more than two months later, Kastamo scored in overtime to give Har-



Hartland's Jake Pietila, who scored three goals, tracks the puck while battling with Northville's Demetri Tsimingras on Jan. 4 in the Bulldogs' 6-1 win at Hartland Sports Center. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

land the state championship.

"Jake's a natural," Gadwa said. "The pucks' natural off his stick. He's got a knack for the net. Early in the season, he's not getting as many looks at the net as we'd hoped for, but that stuff comes. You saw it last year with Ian Kastamo. It wasn't until after the break he scored his first goal. So, this is the kind of thing that can really catapult a young player."

Hartland played without some of its top players, who were in uniform but never took the ice.

"We have team rules," Gadwa said. "You don't follow them, you don't play. I'll leave it at that. The culture part of it's huge. If we can't get guys to follow simple rules, then how are we going to get

them to play a complex hockey game and learn what we want them to learn and, more important, become the type of people we want them to become?"

Pietila opened the scoring just 4:23 into the game when he parked in front of the net and knocked in the rebound of a shot by Ty Kraut.

Kastamo made it 2-0 at the 11:52 mark, but Northville cut the lead in half when Mitch Murdie scored 18 seconds into the second period.

The Eagles (8-3) nursed the one-goal lead for most of the middle stanza until Pietila took an outlet pass from Storm and buried a wrist shot from the right circle with 2:15 left in the second. He got his hat trick 1:39 into the third when he

took the puck from the right boards, cut across the zone and scored on a wrist shot from the left circle.

Kyle Janis, one of three junior varsity players brought up for the game, scored his first varsity goal with 9:50 left in the third period. Defenseman Issac Frantti completed the scoring with 5:48 remaining.

Sophomore goalie Brady Hubenschmidt made 17 saves, improving his record to 3-1 while lowering his goals against average to 1.16. Senior Colin Babcock has started Hartland's biggest games against Detroit Catholic Central, Brighton, Birmingham Brother Rice and Houghton, but the battle to determine the No. 1 goalie for the playoffs is by no means settled.

"That is such a healthy competition at this point," Gadwa said. "You'll see Hubenschmidt get some big games this semester, as well. It's going to be a battle and, obviously, the best guy plays."

The Mustangs evened up the play after scoring early in the second period, but couldn't get the equalizer.

"Obviously, you bring it to one goal, you're feeling pretty good," Northville coach Ryan Ossennmacher said. "It was definitely not our best effort. That's a credit to the way Hartland plays; they're difficult to play against. We didn't match a lot of what they were doing."

Northville fell to 5-7-1 as it prepares for its Upper Peninsula trip Friday at Calumet and Saturday at Hancock.

"Our conversation afterward was pretty simple," Ossennmacher said. "That has to be our worst effort of 2023."

If that's the basement of where we're at for the rest of the season, then I'm OK with that. If it's not, then we're going to have to make some changes with what we're doing. Guys are working hard in practice. We're doing things fairly consistently. I just think that right now we're not applying them consistently enough in games. But it's a long two months and, at the end of the day, we're getting ready for the playoffs; that's the hope."

## Boys basketball

Hartland 55, South Lyon 29  
Michael Kilburg scored 17 points and Cyrus Gray had 12 for Hartland (3-4).



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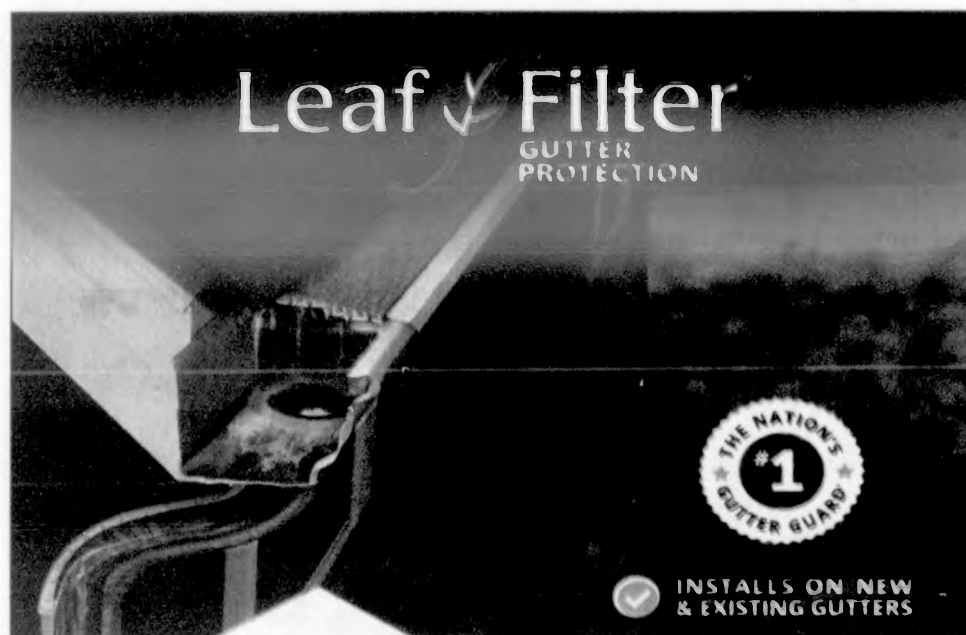


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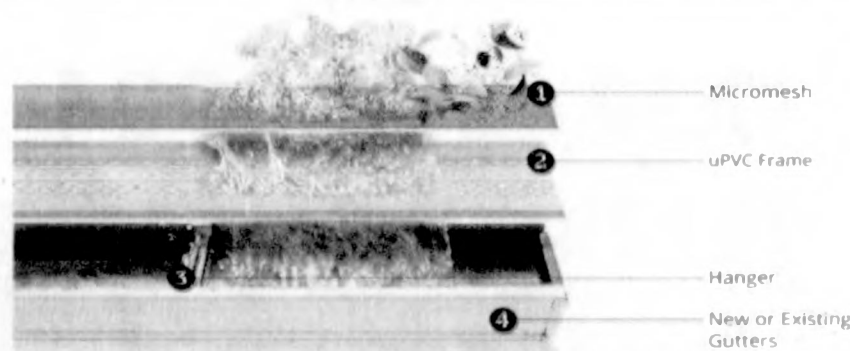
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# North Farmington girls basketball undefeated

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

Just as everyone expected. North Farmington is undefeated and proving to be one of the toughest teams in the Oakland Activities Association.

Wait. No, not that North Farmington team. Not the boys.

Sure, longtime coach Todd Negoshian has the Raiders 7-1 overall and ranked No. 3 in The D Zone Top 100 rankings all while playing arguably the toughest non-conference schedule in Michigan.

But, no, we're actually talking about the girls.

One of the biggest surprises of the winter has been those other Raiders, who are undefeated following their 52-28 victory over Royal Oak on Jan. 5, which makes them 3-0 in the OAA-White with hopes of winning the division outright.

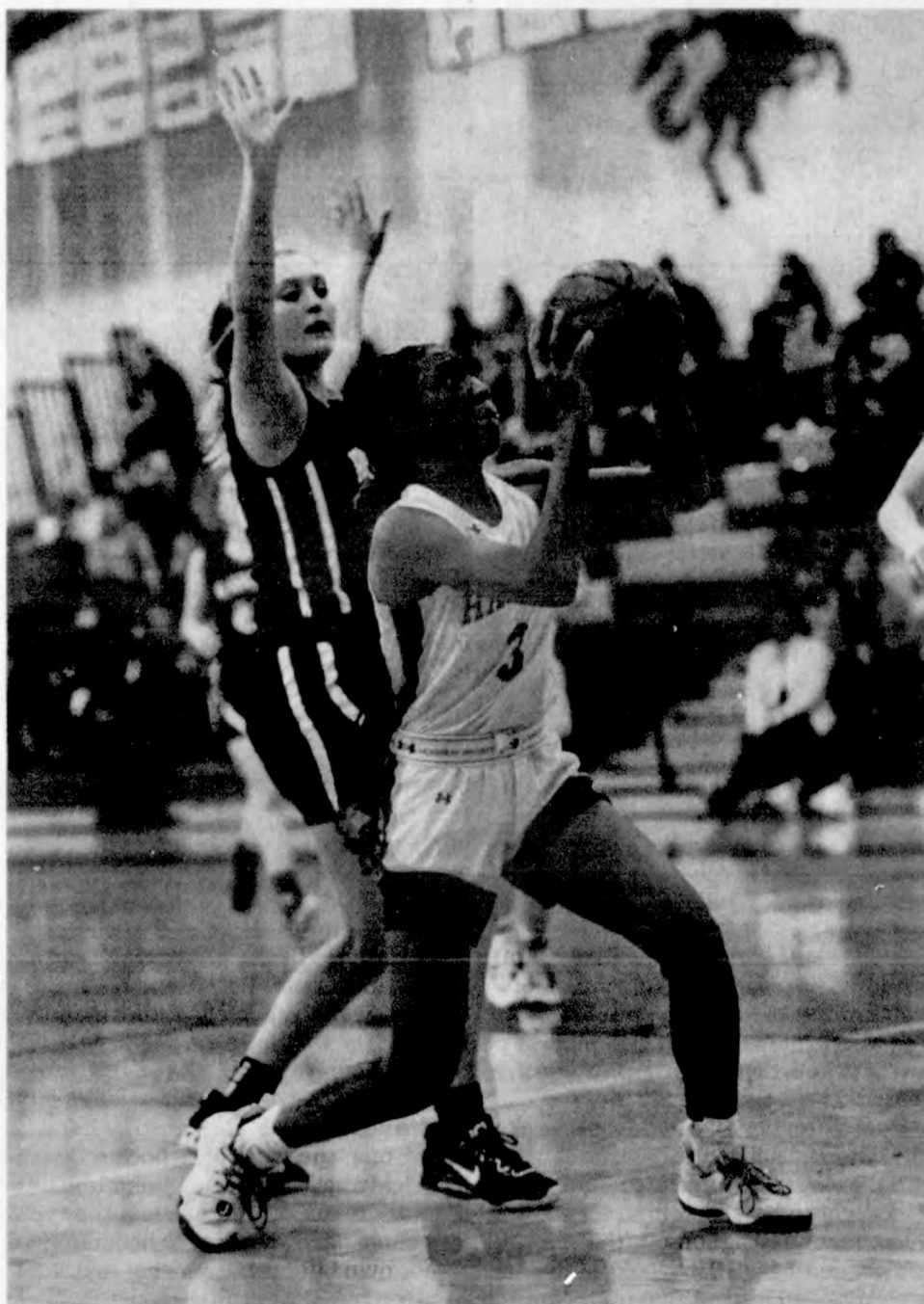
"I knew we'd be competing in it, but I didn't expect us to be 9-0," coach Jeff Simpson said. "We've come out with some good energy and some good attitude. The kids are feeding off of each other and buying into their roles. That's really good to see."

To be fair, the Raiders weren't expected to be a slouch by any means. They return senior guards Sela Lefler and Penelope Creary, arguably one of the top backcourts in Oakland Country. But last year's squad was missing a piece here and there from being something special. One piece was center Halle Rogers, who suffered a season-ending knee injury. Another piece would be the team's confidence — or a lack thereof.

Rogers, a dominant post presence, has rehabilitated her injury and returned to the lineup while a slew of role players have found their confidence. From Eliza Muller and Hannah Hart to Asiyah Jihad and Sydney Williams.

This is no longer just the Lefler-Creary show. The entire rotation is stepping up and pitching in.

"We have a lot of chemistry, and we got really close this year," said Lefler, who scored a game-high 18 points. "Everyone just plays really, really hard. We've been playing together, some of us, since the seventh grade, so we have a



North Farmington's Penelope Creary scores down low during a game against Royal Oak on Jan. 5. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

lot of chemistry. Everyone is knocking down open shots. Our team is getting a lot more confident and playing really aggressively on D. ... I can see the team getting more confident. From last year, a lot of the players, they were just looking for me and Penelope a lot of the time. But this season, everyone is knocking down

shots. Everyone isn't afraid of taking shots. Everyone is attacking the rim."

Since the end of last year's 12-9 campaign, the team has bonded outside of practice. Dinners, hangouts, TikTok dances, you know name it and they probably did it together (except for Call of Duty and Fortnite, according to Cre-

ary). Lefler said that camaraderie carried over into their Greg Grant off-season exhibitions.

With each game, Lefler's confidence in her teammates grew. So much so, in fact, she told Simpson before the season started that she expected the Raiders to win the White.

So far, they're still on track to do that.

"I think we all just really want it," Creary agreed. "I think it's something we all want to show this year, to prove this year. With the boys having such a good team, we've got to show that we work, too. We all want it. Last year, we all got really close as friends outside of basketball. We talk a lot outside of school, and I think we just had a good friendship before basketball even started. I think that's helped a lot."

So how are they getting it done? It's hard-nosed defense, especially with their full-court trap.

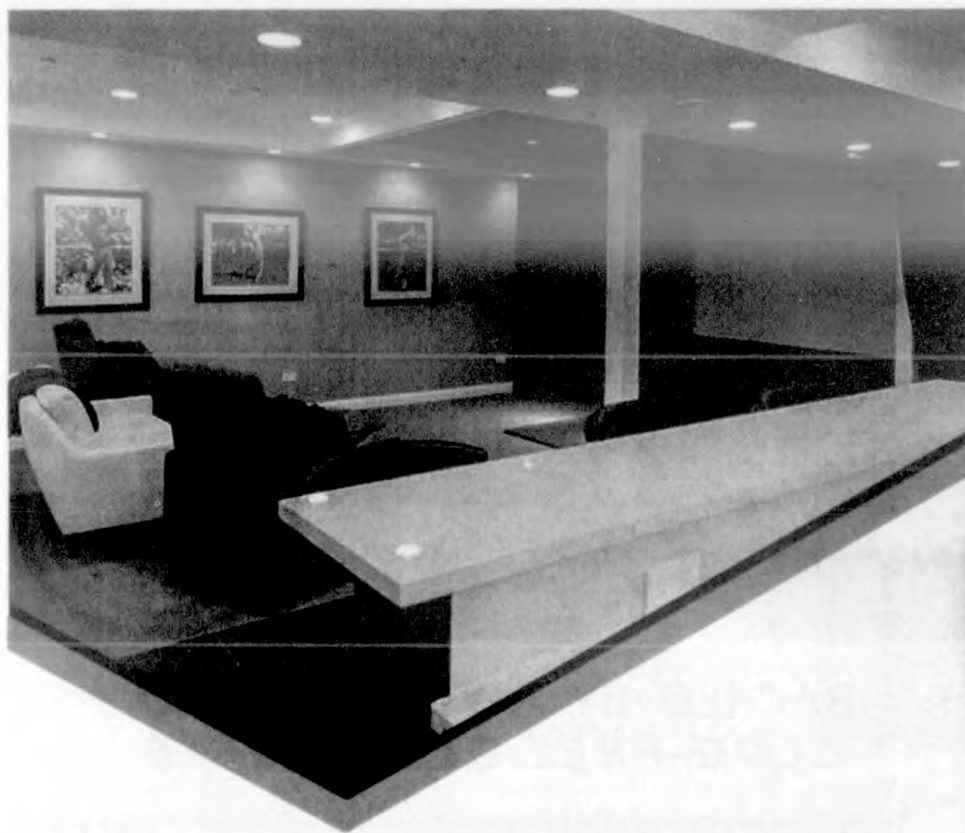
It's Lefler and Creary knocking down shots, Rogers and Jihad battling in the paint and role players such as Muller, Hart and Williams providing just the spark the team needs at just the right time, whether it's a pass in transition, offensive rebound or getting fouled down low.

And, most importantly, it's that newfound confidence guiding them each night.

"That's good. I like that," Simpson said of Lefler and Creary calling North Farmington's shot so early in the season. "We want to compete and try to win in the city over our rival (Farmington), win the division and try and win a district title. Those are always the goals you should have as a program. I always say them, but it's nice when they recognize that, too."

The girls won't be as talked about as the boys this winter. This is one of Negoshian's best teams yet, and it's absolutely loaded with potential all-stars in Ryan Hurst, Lee Hardy, Tyler Spratt, Landon Williams and Prince Jackson. A deep playoff run is expected, and it'd be a disappointment around campus if it doesn't happen.

But Simpson's team is just as exciting to watch as the boys. Negoshian knows that. He's the one who did the scorebook as the Raiders took care of Royal Oak.



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# Novi boys basketball shorthanded but not outmuscled

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi athletic director Don Watchowski performs many roles that go unnoticed around the high school.

And it's not all glamorous stuff either. Sometimes he's putting up signs in the fieldhouse that explain where fans from each school should sit in the bleachers. Other times he's grabbing rosters for the media in attendance.

And Jan. 5 saw the second-year AD perform another task that wasn't on his job description when he was hired. Mere minutes before the boys basketball team's 74-53 victory over Livonia Stevenson, Watchowski was confirming, double-confirming and triple-confirming to the Wildcats' coaching staff just how the fifth-quarter rule works.

Back in 2020, the Michigan High School Athletic Association approved a rule that said a JV player is eligible to also play in the varsity contest afterward as long as they don't exceed five quarters played. So, say, someone competes for three quarters in a JV game, that means they could play in two quarters in the ensuing varsity matchup.

What does all of this have to do with the Wildcats?

Only eight varsity players showed up to their game against Stevenson. Some were sick, others were out of town for the holidays. Regardless, it's tough to play with only three on the bench.

Coach Chris Housey needed some depth, so he added four JV players to his rotation.

And, boy, they were needed.

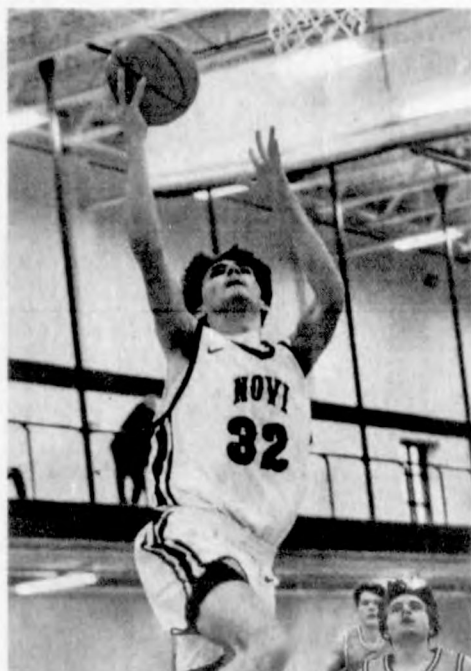
It was a two-point game early on. Captain Luke Aurilia spent most of the evening in foul trouble. And starter Rodney Hackman was one of the missing players.

Not only did Housey need those JV kids, but he needed them to pitch in.

And they did.

Novi separated from Stevenson, which was also missing two players, including 6-foot-4 forward Lucas Young, in the second quarter. JV guard Aaron Lauer buried a pair of 3-pointers in the period while JV center Trey Tesorero made a couple of buckets to ensure the Wildcats a 35-28 halftime lead.

Captain Te' John McGowan, arguably



Above at left, Novi's Trey Tesorero scores in transition against Livonia Stevenson on Dec. 29. Above at right, Novi coach Chris Housey talks to his players.

PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

one of the best playmaking guards in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, took over in the second half, scoring 12 of his game-high 22 points to help the shorthanded Wildcats.

That's right.

Novi beat a varsity basketball team with four JV players playing considerable minutes.

And that, right there, speaks to just how far the Wildcats have improved as a program in the last calendar year.

In fact, Housey tweeted from Novi's official basketball Twitter account afterward that the program ended 2022 with a 16-2 record.

And that's saying something because Novi's varsity lost 11 straight games a year ago before closing out the season winning four of their final six games. The Wildcats are 4-2 to open 2022-23.

Talk about giving yourself a shot in the arm entering the new year.

"It starts with the kids," Housey said. "We've had some really good leaders since I've been here. Eventually, their leadership has taken over. We always preach to the kids to do the right stuff and play the right way, play hard. We have a team that has now adopted that mentality. Not that we didn't have that



before, but it takes a while for the culture to change, and it's the kids. It's all on the kids. We've had great leaders over the years. Since I started here (after former coach Brandon Sinawi left for Detroit Catholic Central in 2018), the captains have been awesome. Their attitude and approach have been infectious over the years. Now it's just how we play."

This Novi squad plays with a chip on its shoulder. As cliché as it sounds, it's true. And it has every right to be mad.

For one, the Wildcats showed up to KLAA Media Day and not one person asked them for an interview. And all of the usual suspects were there, from Hometown Life to the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News.

For two, the coaches in the league picked Novi to finish dead last in the KLAA-West pre-season poll.

You bet Housey has been reminding his players about being overlooked.

Novi is hellbent on earning respect, whether that's from the league, the media or merely fans of the sport.

And it all starts with their leaders.

"I think when I came in this year, I just wanted to be a leader on the court because I knew what I could do, phys-

ically-wise, as far as scoring the ball and making plays," McGowan said. "But I wanted to be a leader and lead them this way. We're buying in as a team, and it's working out."

What's this way?

"It's the next man up," McGowan added. "Our culture changed a long time ago. Our seniors, over the years, even though we weren't too good, kept us accountable, and we've just grown from that point on. They've always just told us what's right and what's not. As a senior now, it's my job to help the younger players and the people below me so next year they can lead and keep it going."

That's what McGowan did against Stevenson with the JV crew.

Housey knew he'd probably need to promote a few JV guys beforehand, but he didn't realize just how shorthanded he'd be entering the game. Though, he alerted guys such as Lauer that they'd probably be getting called up days in advance so they could prepare mentally.

Lauer wound up finishing with nine points after scoring a trio of 3-pointers. And he probably could've helped Novi win by a running clock had he not burned all of his eligibility in the second and third quarters.

McGowan's tutelage has been huge for him and the other underclassmen.

"I played in a couple of games before, so it was nothing new," Lauer said. "It was just the regular routine. But it is a great feeling. Everything we've worked for in the summer, workouts and open gyms, it's just put on display out there. I'm just a sophomore so I've got to work my way up. Nothing is handed to us, so we've got to earn everything."

Just how good is Novi?

Who knows, really? It doesn't matter who's on the floor for them, its next-man-up mentality has each of the Wildcats playing tough.

We'll find out just how good they are when they face Canton, which has the deepest roster, one that's littered with future college basketball and football players, and was also predicted to win the division in the preseason poll.

That game is on Jan. 13. So if you see Watchowski there, pat him on the back for a job well done. You never know what the AD is doing to help the Wildcats win behind the scenes.

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# Varsity basketball newcomer shines for Brighton

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily  
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — Most of the key pieces were already in place for Brighton's boys basketball team before preseason practice even began.

There wasn't much of an opportunity for a newcomer to step in and make an impact on a veteran squad primed for success, but junior guard Trevor Viau has outperformed expectations to give the Bulldogs another key weapon.

Viau scored a season-high 19 points on Jan. 3 in a 67-45 victory over Swartz Creek, shooting 5-for-7 from 3-point range.

He had 11 points by halftime and 17 through three quarters, boosting his season average to 10.0 points per game.

"He's a little ahead of where I expected him to be from last year," Brighton coach Mike Griest said. "It takes some games to get used to varsity. He had a good summer for us and everything. He's a really good athlete. He's just picked up some things a little quicker. He improved his offense over the summer, so he's able to go out and score. He's a pretty good floor general, too. He's got a pretty good I.Q. I'm happy with where he's at."

Viau was given greater responsibility immediately while returning point guard Mason Millhouse missed the first four games healing his body after football season. Viau's role hasn't diminished in the three games since Millhouse returned.

"I think I'm doing pretty good," Viau said. "My teammates have helped me a lot. They're keeping me up in practice, working hard every day."

Going into the season, Viau had no idea what his role would be as a varsity newcomer.

"I figured out the first week of practice it was going to be tough to start," he said.

With the return of seniors Ashton Tomassi and Eddie Millington, last year's top two scorers, Brighton entered the season with high expectations. But the Bulldogs still needed to replace elements that were lost with the graduation of players like Dallas Armstrong and Michael Kramer.

On a night when Tomassi (six points) and Millington (eight) didn't light up the scoreboard, getting 38 points from players who were on the JV last season was an encouraging sign for the Bulldogs.

"You always have holes," Griest said. "Each year, it's a brand new team. But we felt like we had some real solid pieces. The JV's, Trevor's group, coming up had a lot of success at the freshman level, JV level. It doesn't always transfer, but our younger coaches have done a great job with these guys, teaching them how to play defense, understanding what our system is about. They came in ready."

Junior Mitch Rucinski was a surprising source of offense, scoring 14 points off the bench while shooting 4-for-5 from 3-point range. He didn't enter the game until 4:08 left in the second quarter, but hit three consecutive 3-pointers in less than two minutes as part of a 19-0 run that expanded Brighton's lead from 15-11 to 34-11.

Rucinski scored six points in Brighton's first six games.

"He shows it in practice," Griest said. "He's one of our hardest-working kids and has been since I've known him as a ninth-grader. So, it's great to see him get rewarded for his efforts. He doesn't smile a whole lot, just comes in and does his job, plays his butt off. Kids love it when guys like that get rewarded with threes, success in front of his home crowd. I'm real happy for him."

Brighton built a 58-23 lead with 7:51 left in the game before subbing deep into its bench. The backups had trouble with Swartz Creek's bench, getting outscored



Brighton's Trevor Viau shot 5-for-7 from 3-point range in a 67-45 win over Swartz Creek on Tuesday.

TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

17-2 before Griest put Viau back in to help settle things down.

The Bulldogs improved to 6-1, while Swartz Creek fell to 1-5.

"I like how they're playing," Griest said. "It's unselfish. They share the ball. They're playing real hard. They're trying to do what we're asking them to do, so I'm pretty happy."

Swartz Creek coach Kevin Root was impressed by the shooting of the Bulldogs, who were 12-for-24 (.500) from 3-point range and 25-for-56 (.446) for the game.

"Everyone is skilled and poised and under control, except for maybe that last little stint toward the end," Root said. "They run their stuff, they're well-coached. They've got some really good players, some talented players. Honestly, I think that's a good enough team they might make a run in the postseason."

While he didn't have one of his better games putting the ball in the basket, Millington did everything else at a high level by blocking five shots, dishing out seven assists and grabbing six rebounds. Tomassi had four assists.

Providing scoring in the paint for Brighton were Ben Anderson with eight points and Jack Storey with seven. Storey added seven rebounds.

Sophomore Cole Hryckowian scored 12 points for Swartz Creek.

## Swimming and diving

Pinckney 99, Fenton 78  
Senior Connor Trotter had four first-place finishes for Pinckney (3-0). He won the 200-yard individual medley in 2:19.33, the 100 freestyle in 55.88 seconds and was on two winning relays with Dylan Ray, Lucas Mondro and Talon Koppmann. Ray won the 100 butterfly in 58.63 and made a state cut with his second-place time of 1:52.25 in the 200 freestyle. Mondro won the 50 freestyle (23.97) and Koppmann won the 100 backstroke (1:08.41).

## Girls basketball

Plymouth 39, Pinckney 33  
Audrey Wardlow and Kailey Lambert each scored 11 points for Pinckney.

## Boys bowling

Brighton 26, Novi 4  
Jimmy Chmielewski rolled a 199 for Brighton.

## Girls bowling

Brighton 27, Novi 3  
Brighton freshman Natalie Barrett rolled a 159.

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## Obituaries

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### Dale Myers

Dale Myers, a retired industrial sales manager for BrassCraft and a proud Texan who made Novi, Michigan, his longtime home with his family, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, Jan. 3. He was 77.

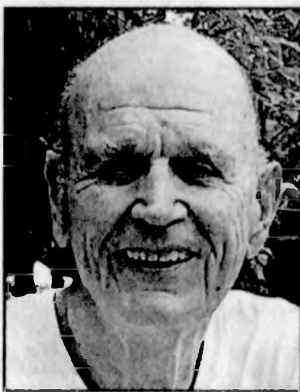
Born on June 5, 1945, in Baytown, Texas, to Dudley and Margaret Myers, Mr. Myers was a 1963 graduate of Robert E. Lee High School in Baytown. At 6-feet, 5-inches tall (or "5-foot-17," as he liked to say), Mr. Myers was a natural athlete, playing on the varsity football team as an offensive lineman and working as a summer lifeguard. He also enjoyed being the tallest in the room at almost every gathering or event.

Mr. Myers received a bachelor's degree in business from then-Texas Technological College in 1968. He received an MBA at Webster College in St. Louis in 1976.

In 1968, during the height of the Vietnam War, Mr. Myers joined the U.S. Navy and was stationed on a base in Hawaii -- where he met the love of his life, Margaret -- and would later be stationed on a base in Antarctica. It was there that he was able to travel to the South Pole, had a penguin break into his warehouse and spent the winter without the sun ever rising.

Filled with wanderlust, Mr. Myers swore that he would never take a full-time job behind a desk. Following his four-year stint in the Navy, Mr. Myers began his career in industrial sales, which afforded him the opportunity to travel the country, often with Margaret; they would visit every state and nearly every Canadian province. Mr. Myers also loved international travel. His mission was to visit every continent; a cruise to Africa he booked for 2023 would have completed his goal.

When not traveling, Mr. Myers and Margaret built a joyous life together. They settled in Novi in 1985 to raise their three children, sons Stephen and Stewart and daughter, Blythe, along with several dogs.



Mr. Myers was a devoted father who was heavily involved in his children's education, serving as president of the Novi Athletic Boosters and as a board member on the Novi Educational Foundation. He also helped with the Volunteers in Public Safety (VIPS) program to assist the Novi police and the community.

He loved woodworking and would find any excuse to hole up in his shop. Through the years he built half of his and Margaret's furniture, multiple pieces of furniture for their children, rubber band guns for their grandsons and either elaborate bowls or 3D tic-tac-toe boards for almost everyone else.

Faith was an integral part of his life. An active member of Orchard Hills Baptist Church, Mr. Myers helped when his church merged with First Baptist of Novi to form Legacy Church. At Legacy Church, he served for years as a deacon and helped with the renovations and upgrades to the church building.

Funny and gregarious, Mr. Myers always made time to help others. His generosity was as big as he was tall and his home was always open to those in need.

Mr. Myers is survived by his wife of 53 years, Margaret, sons Stephen (Erin) Myers and Stewart Myers, daughter, Blythe Tipping; grandsons Isaac and Edmund Tipping and Nathaniel and Benjamin Myers; sister, Carole (Horace) McQueen, in addition to numerous sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, Dudley and Margaret Myers, and son-in-law, Peter Tipping.

A memorial gathering of family and friends is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Ave. in Novi. Additional visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until the funeral service begins at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12, at Legacy Church of Novi, 45301 West 11 Mile Road, Novi. Donations may be made to the Legacy Church of Novi or Pulmonary Hypertension Association. Online condolence to [www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com)



MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL  
BOYS BASKETBALLTop 100  
players in  
the state**Mick McCabe**

Special to Detroit Free Press

Free Press high school guru Mick McCabe gives his list of the top 100 boys players in Michigan for the 2022-23 season:

1. Curtis Williams, 6-5, senior, Birmingham Brother Rice
2. Sonny Wilson, 6-1, senior, U-D Jesuit
3. Durrell Brooks, 6-2, junior, Grand Rapids Catholic Central
4. Malik Olafioye, 6-1, senior, Ecorse
5. John Blackwell, 6-5, senior, Brother Rice
6. Ryan Hurst, 6-3, senior, North Farmington
7. R.J. Taylor, 5-11, senior, Grand Blanc
8. Tyler Jamison, 6-4, senior, Port Huron Northern
9. Anthony Benard, 6-1, senior, Grosse Pointe South
10. Kaden Brown, 6-1, senior, Grand Rapids Catholic Central
11. Xavier Thomas, 6-5, senior, Brother Rice
12. Trey McKinney, 6-4, sophomore, Orchard Lake St. Mary's
13. Amari Allen, 6-4, senior, Hamtramck
14. Darius Acuff, 6-2, sophomore, Detroit Cass Tech
15. Tae Boyd, 6-4, senior, Grand Blanc
16. E.J. Ryans, 6-4, junior, Grand Rapids Northview
17. Chuck Bailey, 6-5, senior, Hamtramck
18. Travis Ambrose, 6-8, sophomore, Muskegon Reeths-Puffer
19. Adam Ayrault, 6-4, senior, Grosse Pointe North
20. Ayden Davis, 6-9, junior, Onsted
21. Dylan Grant, 6-8, junior, Warren Michigan Collegiate
22. Xander Wedlow, 6-9, junior, Detroit University Prep
23. Mike Sulaka, 6-8, senior, Warren De La Salle
24. Grant Gondrezick, 6-2, senior, Benton Harbor
25. Noah Adamczyk, 6-0, senior, Bloomfield Hills

**The next 75 (in alphabetical order)**

- Carlos Adamson, 6-1, junior, Northville
- Kelvin Amoako, 6-10, senior, Plymouth
- Uchenna Amene, 6-2, junior, Novi
- Detroit Catholic Central
- Zavier Banks, 6-6, senior, U-D Jesuit
- Sharod Barnes, 6-3, sophomore, St. Mary's
- Dylan Barnowski, 6-1, senior, Lake Leelanau St. Mary
- Kayden Bird, 6-4, senior, Grand Rapids NorthPointe Christian
- Markus Blackwell, 6-1, sophomore, Warren Lincoln
- Moses Blackwell, 5-7, sophomore, Lincoln
- Trenton Boike, 5-9, senior, Genesee Christian
- JaKobie Boose, 6-1, junior, Flint Hamady
- Jordan Briggs, 6-0, senior, Muskegon
- Joey Cabana, 6-2, junior, Chelsea
- Alex Calcaterra, 6-3, senior, Boyne City
- John Coffey, 6-7, senior, Detroit King
- Travon Cooper, 6-5, senior, Cass Tech
- Jacob DeHaan, 6-2, senior, Grand Rapids South Christian
- Jamison Eklund, 6-5, senior, Pewamo-Westphalia
- Stevie Elam, 5-10, sophomore, Adrian
- Dante Favor, 6-8, senior, Canton
- Keshawn Fisher, 6-6, junior, River Rouge
- JJ Frakes, 6-4, sophomore, St. Clair Shores Lakeshore
- Bryce Garbacz, 6-3, senior, Plymouth
- Davion Goins, 6-6, senior, Cassopolis
- Mohammad Habhab, 6-8, junior, Dearborn Fordson
- Luke Hazelton, 6-7, senior, Maple City Glen Lake
- Eric Hobson, 6-2, senior, Livonia Franklin
- Charlie Howell, 6-4, junior, Cadillac
- Jonny Ingalls, 6-0, junior, St. Ignace
- Jalen Jenkins, 6-2, junior, Belleville
- Graham Junge, 6-1, sophomore, Flat Rock
- Trey Kolakovich, 5-10, senior, Crosswell-Lexington
- Landon Kulawiak, 6-3, senior, Boyne City
- Chase Kuiper, 6-5, junior, Troy
- Bryce Kurnicz, 6-1, junior, DeWitt



Grand Rapids Catholic Central's Kaden Brown moves the ball against Ferndale during the first quarter in the Division 2 state semifinal game in March at the Breslin Center in East Lansing. NICK KING/LANSING STATE JOURNAL



Birmingham Brother Rice's Curtis Williams drives toward the basket as Detroit Catholic Central defends in the Catholic League quarterfinals at Birmingham Marian in February. ERIC SEALS/DETROIT FREE PRESS



Ecorse guard Malik Olafioye makes a layup against Menominee during the first half of an MHSAA Division 3 state semifinal at Breslin Center in East Lansing in March. JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

- Parker LePla, 6-6, sophomore, Goodrich
- Sam Lewis, 6-5, senior, Milford
- Chris Lewless, 6-2, junior, King
- Nassim Mashhour, 6-1, junior, Dearborn
- KJ Morast Jr., 6-0, senior, Ecorse
- Chris McLavish, 5-8, sophomore, Flint Carman-Ainsworth
- TJ Nadeau, 6-5, junior, Novi Detroit Catholic Central
- Wyatt Nausadism, 6-3, senior, Traverse City St. Francis
- Kalieb Osborne, 6-5, junior, Waterford Mott
- Javion Otten, 6-3, senior, Grand Rapids Kenowa Hills
- Jaylan Ouwinga, 6-7, junior, Grand Rapids Christian
- Caden Pokorzynski, 6-6, senior, Rockford
- Jayden Potts, 6-5, senior, Ann Arbor Skyline
- Brady Prieskorn, 6-6, junior, Rochester Adams
- Anthony Ribel, 6-2, junior, Traverse City Central
- Trent Rice, 5-10, senior, Marine City Cardinal Mooney
- Cameron Regnerus, 6-7, junior, Grandville
- Caleb Renfro, 6-3, senior, Ferndale
- Wade Robinson, 6-0, junior, Pontiac Notre Dame Prep
- Jayden Savoury, 6-6, sophomore, St. Mary's
- Donte Scott, 6-2, junior, Romulus Summit Academy North
- Jordan Scott, 6-4, senior, Plymouth Christian
- DaRon Sherman, 6-2, senior, Saginaw
- David Shillinger, 5-9, junior, Ludington
- Nino Smith, 6-1, senior, De La Salle
- Harrison Sorrelle, 6-6, senior, Grand Haven
- Tyler Spratt, 6-4, junior, North Farmington
- Lance Stone, 5-7, sophomore, Detroit Renaissance
- Omar Suleiman, 6-5, senior, Canton
- Anthony Sydnor, 6-2, senior, Muskegon
- Tyan Thomas, 6-4, senior, Grand

- Rapids Northview
- Jakhary Towns, 6-1, senior, Godwin Heights
- Andrew Turnquist, 6-8, senior, Milford Lakeland
- Hutch Ward, 6-8, senior, Kalamazoo Central
- Nate Washburn, 6-8, junior, Macomb Dakota
- Jaxson Whitaker, 6-3, junior, Reeths-Puffer
- Caron Williams, 6-3, senior, Macomb Township L'Anse Creuse
- Chris Williams, 6-5, senior, Ferndale

- James Wright, 6-4, senior, Summit Academy North
- Ryder Zajac, 6-5, senior, Tecumseh

Mick McCabe is a former longtime columnist for the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at [mick.mccabell@gmail.com](mailto:mick.mccabell@gmail.com). Follow him on Twitter @mickmccabell. Order his book, "Mick McCabe's Golden Yearbook: 50 Great Years of Michigan's Best High School Players, Teams & Memories," now at [McCabe.PictorialBook.com](http://McCabe.PictorialBook.com).

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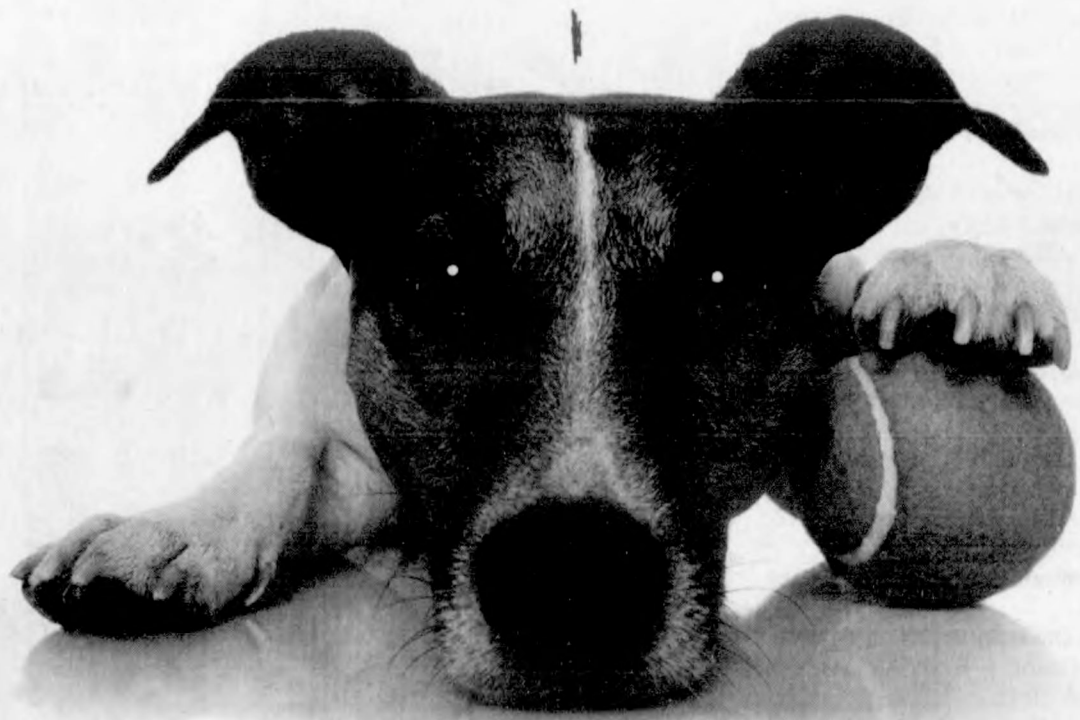
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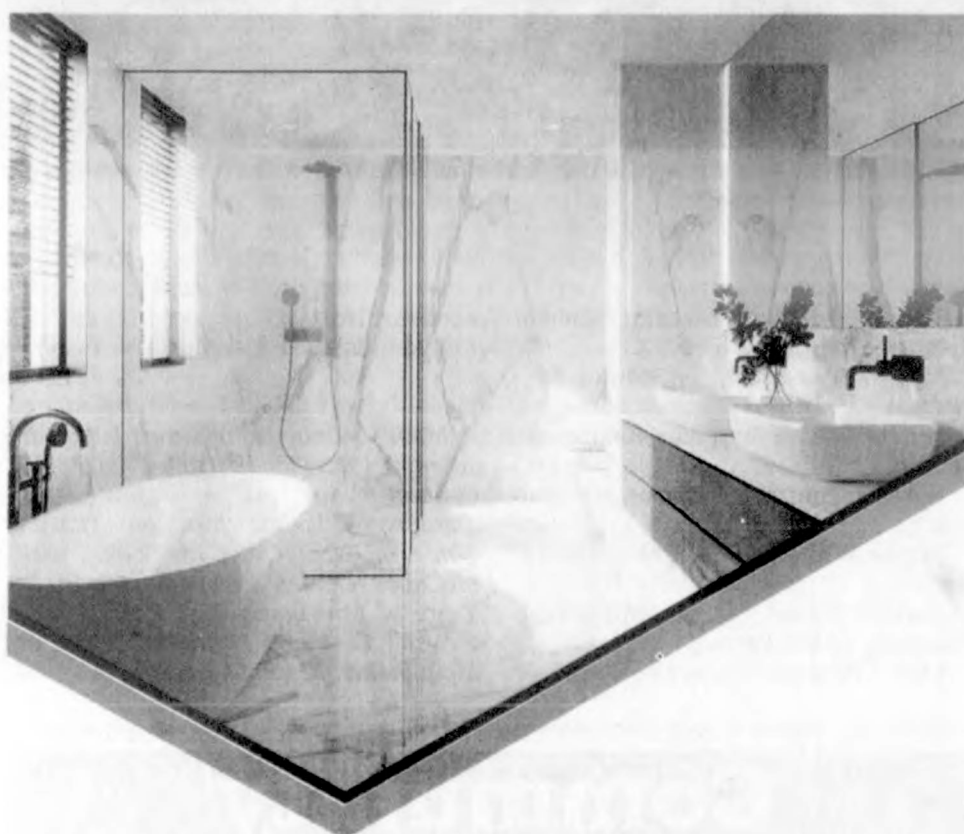
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