

Walled Lake Northern soccer playing physical on the pitch

SPORTS, 1B

NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Construction set to begin on Novi's 1st splashpad

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NOVI — Work begins soon to construct Novi's first splashpad that hopes to cool down the community in 2024.

Construction is expected to start this spring on Jessica's Splash Pad, a new water feature planned at Bosco Fields on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Beck. Work will continue throughout the summer, with the splashpad expected to begin shooting water at its first guest next summer.

"I would say by next summer we will be fully operational," said Jeff Muck, the city's parks, recreation and cultural services director. "We're fully anticipating it being operational in 2024"

The splash pad, in the works since 2021, will include several water features across its 4,500 square feet at the park. It's dedicated to Jessica Starr-Rose, a former FOX 2 meteorologist who died in 2018.

Starr-Rose was a Novi resident and her husband Dan and two children Noah and Riley still live in the city. Her mother Carol Starr said the splashpad is being built not just to memorialize her daughter, but as a place for kids, parents, grandparents, and friends to gather and make memories of their own.

Some prep work has already begun at the site, including infrastructure work and prep to get the water lines connected. Work will also include landscaping, adding a pedestrian bridge, shade structures and seating, as well as a restroom and changing fa-

"What's going to take the time is the construction of the restroom facility and all the underground work," Muck said

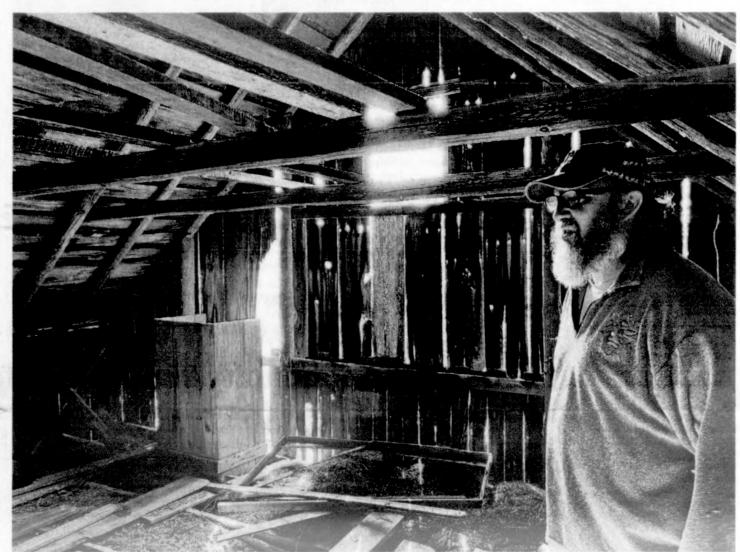
The Novi City Council at its April 3 meeting unanimously approved a contract for \$1.93 million to contract the splashpad with Novi-based DeAngelis Diamond Construction.

Once constructed, Novi will join several other area communities with splash pads, including Farmington Hills, Livonia, Redford Township, West Bloomfield Township and more. Donations are still being collected for the splash pad; those interested can

See SPLASHPAD, Page 7A

SEQ 732
LIBRARY CARU/CLARKE HIST
1200 S FRANKLIN ST
MOUNT PLEASANT, MI 48859-2001

Century-old Salem Twp. barn to be rebuilt in South Lyon



Bill Klein in the loft of a Salem Township barn he is taking down for the South Lyon Historical Society on April 6, 2023. He plans to salvage about a quarter of the 100-year-old structure so that it can be rebuilt at a later time in the historical village at McHattie Park. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Historical society leads plan to salvage structure

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

SALEM TWP. — Bill Klein stood inside and looked around a farmer's barn that has stood next to Pontiac Trail for the past century; moments later, he picked up a Sawzall and got to work taking it all down.

Later this week, the landmark barn will be gone, but with some help, it will rise again just a few miles away in South Lyon.

"Not many are capable of taking down an old barn and rebuilding it. There's a pretty good market for it," Klein said as early April sunshine streamed through barn windows and wood-plank walls. "I am always looking for contractors who want to learn how to do this, because we're a dying breed."

Klein and his wife, Jennifer, have been taking down barns for the past seven years. They are dismantling the small horse barn on the Roper family property on behalf of the South Lyon Area Historical Society, which plans to reconstruct it in the historical village at McHattie Park.

"We are so excited," Linda Ross, SLAHS president, said. "It might take a couple years, but it will have a new home after it comes down."

Saving the barn was first proposed about two years ago, but cost has been a

See BARN, Page 4A

Farmington Hills mailbox has mysterious residents

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Don Powell opened his mailbox one day last August and found, along with the usual mix of bills and pizza coupons, two small dolls sitting on a miniature couch near a tiny table.

The pair and their furniture came with a note: "We've decided to live here. Mary and Shelley."

Powell first thought the homely wooden figurines – a man and a woman – were put in his mailbox by mistake. He wondered if someone in the neighbor-

hood was playing a joke.

"I went around to the other homes on the cul-de-sac to see if anyone else had gotten dolls in their mailbox," the 72year-old said. "No one had. There's a neighbor across the street named

See MAILBOX, Page 7A

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Men recount alleged abuse by Farmington Hills urologist

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

FARMINGTON HILLS — A Farmington Hills judge listened to testimony from II men last week about their alleged sexual assaults by urologist Zvi Levran, who many of the men called

Levran, 66, is accused of sexually assaulting men, some of whom were teens at the time of the alleged abuse, while they were his patients. He's facing 32 counts of criminal sexual conduct and his medical license has been suspend-

Allegations from the men range from unwanted sexual experiences to events that left them feeling confused and uncomfortable. All the men are listed in court documents as John Does. Hometown Life is not naming them because they are alleged victims of sexual as-

"He was my team doctor all through my last two years of hockey," one of the men who met Levran while playing hockey at a Metro Detroit high school testified Tuesday. "I trusted him."

The accusations against Levran date

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to 2016 and the most recent alleged abuse happened last fall. Levran has pleaded not guilty to all charges. He is charged in 47th District Court in Farmington Hills and 48th District Court in Bloomfield Hills.

The men testified Tuesday and Wednesday during a preliminary hearing for Levran. The hearing is to determine if there is enough evidence for him to stand trial

"You don't hear this happening to that many guys," one man testified, adding that he met Levran while playing high school hockey. "I felt really alone."

Men describe pattern of 'grooming'

Most of the men who testified say they met Levran as minors while playing in metro Detroit hockey programs. Many of the alleged survivors say abuse happened after they already had wellestablished relationships with Levran.

"I had a previous track record with him," a man who said he met Levran as a teenage hockey player testified Tuesday. "Our relationship was established, and it really developed when he took care of me when I broke my leg. There was trust there.

Levran was known for organizing Friday night skating events, the men testified, after which they say he would shower with the students. He also held yoga sessions for area hockey players, often held in Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield or Novi, during which boys were, the men testified, encouraged to be shirtless. Multiple men said other adults or coaches were typically not present for these events.

Multiple men also told District Judge James Brady that Levran abused them during individual yoga sessions at the doctor's Farmington Hills home. One man testified Levran performed oral sex

Others alleged Levran abused them



Zvi Levran, right, being escorted into a Farmington Hills courtroom April 11. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

during medical exams, many testifying Levran watched them urinate and others explaining he touched their genitals or anal cavity without wearing gloves.

"He put his finger in my butt and asked me if I knew where the male gspot is," a man who said he met Levran while playing hockey for Livonia Public Schools testified Tuesday. "He said I should tell my girlfriend about it."

Levran described as 'eccentric'

Multiple men testified they initially attributed Levran's alleged behavior as "Doc being Doc." Several said it was common for Levran to inquire about their sex life or comment on the way their genitals looked during an exam.

"There was always an examination of your genitals with Doc," a man who said he met Levran while middle school told Brady Wednesday.

Several men described in testimony that while Levran was "eccentric" and "quirky," the alleged sexual assaults left them in shock.

"I was just kind of in shock, really," a former Metro Detroit high school hockey player testified. He added that Levran abused him during a sports physical in 2018. "I had never had that happen with a doctor. I just of just shut down."

The pretrial exam is scheduled to resume on May 10, according to Brady.

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

Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast set for May 4

Shelby Tankersley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — Detroit Tigers Chaplain Jeff Totten is set to speak at the annual Livonia Community Prayer Breakfast Thursday, May 4.

The popular annual event, entering

its 49th year, begins 7:30 a.m. at the St. Mary Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Road. Livonia's prayer breakfast generally coincides with the National Day of

Totten's speech is titled "Turning Your World Upside Down." The chaplain has previously worked with the Detroit Rockers soccer team, Detroit Fury football team and served as a chaplain at the Olympic Village in 2002.

Prayer, which is May 4 this year.

Contemporary Christian singer Dale

Hicks is set to perform, as well.

The breakfast includes quiche, sausage, potatoes, fruit and pastries. Adult tickets cost \$25, and students pay \$22. Tickets are available at LivoniaPrayer-Breakfast.com or by calling (248) 476-9427. The purchase deadline for tickets is Friday, April 21.

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON RECOMMENDED 2023-2024 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RECOMMENDED CITY 2023-2024 BUDGET at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023 Said hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter, at the Novi Civic Center Council Chamber, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the

The property tax millage rate recommended to be levied to support the recommended budget will also be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the recommended 2023-2024 budget is currently available at the Finance Department in the Novi Civic Center for public inspection, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan and on the website www.cityofnovi.org.

> Cortney Hanson, MMC, MiPMC II City Clerk

NOTICE OF ELECTION CITY OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that a Special Election will be held in the City of Northville, Counties of Oakland and Wayne, on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. The election will be conducted in all polling places in the City of Northville for the purpose of voting on the following ballot proposal as presented and listed below

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$134,400,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Northville Public Schools, 405 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, telephone: (248) 344-3500

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES.

Polling Place Locations Precinct 1 (Wayne County)

Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main St. Amerman Elementary School, 847 N. Center St.

Precinct 2 (Oakland County) The polls open at 7am and remain open until 8pm. Polling places are ADA accessible and each precinct is equipped with Braille and audio voting instructions and ADA compliant voting

Absent Voter Ballot Deadlines

Postmarks not accepted

• Friday, April 28 by 5pm is the last day the City Clerk can mail an absent voter ballot (exceptions apply)

Saturday, April 29 the City Clerk's Office will be open from 8am to 4pm. Voters may obtain an absent voter ballot in-person. · Monday, May 1 by 4pm, absentee ballots are available for voters that are already

registered to vote. The ballot must be voted at City Hall. Tuesday, May 2 by 8pm, absentee ballots must be received at the Clerk's Office

Absent voter ballot applications are available at the City Clerk's office, on the City's website

at www.ci.northyille.mi.us, or by calling 248-449-9904.

MICHAEL SMITH, CMC, CITY CLERK





Mayflower Towing 1179 Starkweather St., Plymouth, MI 48170 734-459-0053 PUBLIC AUCTION APRIL 20, 2023 @ 10AM

VIN	MODEL	MAKE	YEAR
FAHP3FN6BW119647	FOCUS	FORD	2011
MCU9GD2HUA96924	ESCAPE ·	FORD	2017
G11C5SA6GU136627	MALIBU	CHEVY	2016
GNALPEK9C6272709	EQUINOX	CHEVY	2012
4PJMCB6FW660212	CHEROKEE	JEEP	2015
BANF73577CU28657	5 SERIES	BMW	2007
D4PG5FV3AT253167	JOURNEY	DODGE	2010
G1WT57K191200532	IMPALA	CHEVY	2009
FAHP34N07W353387	FOCUS	FORD	2007
9UUA662X8A021553	TL	ACURA	2008
MDK4KC8DBC23672	EDGE	FORD	2013
MELM50U2VG660040	SABLE	MERCURY	1997
M2CU87G39KJ05338	MARINER	MERCURY	2009
4	MARINER		2009 ish: April 20,

Firefighters get 'valuable' training at Maybury State Park

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NORTHVILLE TWP. — That was no campfire burning April 13 at Maybury State Park.

Firefighters from three counties descended on the park for a daylong training session during which they burned the former park headquarters off Beck Road.

"This is an extremely valuable opportunity," Northville Township fire chief Brent Siegel said. "This allows the guys to utilize all the best practices that they learn in the classroom in a real-life scenario."

Crews from Northville Township, Northville, Novi, Plymouth Township, Salem Township, Ferndale and Detroit Metro Airport practiced donning their gear and entering the former office.

"Not only (do firefighters practice techniques), but it offers us the opportunity to work with our mutual aid departments that we don't always get to train with," Siegel said.

The two-story, brick building on the eastern side of the park, which once served as a home for doctors when the park was a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients, was the headquarters for the parks leadership for several decades. After a new office was built off Eight Mile in 2020, the old one sat vacant.

Park manager Traci Sincock said the state attempted to lease the space to a business or sell the building for removal from the property, but had no takers. After researching its historical value — it was built nearly 100 years ago — officials determined it didn't have enough significance to keep.

Sincock then reached out to the local fire department and offered it for training before the building is demolished, something expected to happen in the coming weeks.

"This is bittersweet," she said. "It's coming down in a couple of weeks anyway, so we said, 'Why not offer this to



Fire fills the former Maybury State Park headquarters during a training day for firefighters. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the township?' They've been phenomenal partners of ours."

Firefighters initially set small fires were throughout the building, allowing them the opportunity to practice working in a smoky, unfamiliar building. Such experience is invaluable, said Northville Township firefighter Francis Dreslinski.

He said trainings at places like Schoolcraft College and elsewhere are good, but it's important for firefighters to practice their skills in a new location.

"It's getting you real-life, situational awareness," he said. "We don't always get to practice these things with real, live smoke: What'll be like when it's dark and you can't really see, as well as feeling the heat. So it's very critical and very important."

After training was complete, the departments stacked wood inside and set the structure ablaze, giving those commuting home from work along Beck Road quite the sight. It took a little time for the fire to get going, but eventually the building was engulfed in flames, burning at more than 2,000 degrees.

Sincock said it was a little sad to see the building burn, but she believes if it was beneficial at all to the local fire departments.

"If this training helps save one life because of this training, it's worth it," she said. "We've always been phenomenal partners with the township and this is just another example of that."

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

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

Notice is hereby given that the City of Northville Election Commission will meet on April 24, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., to conduct business related to the May 2, 2023 Special School Election. The Public Accuracy Test for this Election will be conducted as part of this meeting. The public accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record and count the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Election law.

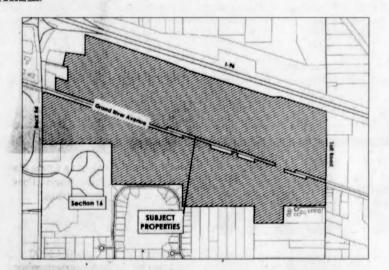
This meeting will be held at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, (248) 349-1300. Interested persons are invited to attend.

MICHAEL SMITH, CMC, CITY CLERK ELECTION COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

Publish: April 20, 2023

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18,296 AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18,741, FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO ESTABLISH A NEW ZONING DISTRICT, CITY WEST DISTRICT, INCLUDING A MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT OPTION, AND TO ADOPT BY REFERENCE THE CITY WEST DESIGN GUIDE, VARIOUS ADDITIONAL SECTIONS OF THE ORDINANCE WOULD ALSO BE AMENDED TO CREATE AND ADD REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROPOSED CW - CITY WEST DISTRICT PROPERTIES TO BE REZONED TO THE CW DISTRICT ARE LOCATED NORTH AND SOUTH OF GRAND RIVER, EAST OF BECK ROAD AND WEST OF TAFT ROAD IN SECTION 16 FROM B-3 GENERAL BUSINESS, RA RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE, OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE, OST OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY, AND 1-1 LIGHT



Draft ordinance language and the Design Guide are available for review at the following web address: www.cityofnovi.org/services/community-development/codes,.ordinances-and-master-plan and scrolling down to "Ordinances Under Development," or by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org

Subject parcel IDs: 50-22-16-151-002, 50-22-16-151-004, 50-22-16-151-005, 50-22-16-151-008, 50-22-16-300-018, 50-22-16-300-094, 50-22-16-151-010, 50-22-16-151-012, 50-22-16-151-013, 50-22-16-151-014, 50-22-16-300-001, 50-22-16-300-023, 50-22-16-300-024, 50-22-16-300-095, 50-22-16-300-045, 50-22-16-300-050, 50-22-16-300-051, 50-22-16-451-001, 50-22-16-451-050, 50-22-16-451-051, 50-22-16-451-040, 50-22-16-451-043, 50-22-16-451-041, 50-22-16-451-044, 50-22-16-451-045, 50-22-16-451-066, 50-22-16-451-067, 50-22-16-451-078, 50-22-16-451-047, 50-22-16-451-008, 50-22-16-451-079, 50-22-16-451-054, 50-22-16-451-055, 50-22-16-176-028, 50-22-16-176-036, 50-22-16-176-017, 50-22-16-176-031, 50-22-16-176-026, 50-22-16-176-032, 50-22-16-176-017, 50-22-16-176-021, 50-22-16-426-001, 50-22-16-426-002, 50-22-16-176-026, 50-22-16-426-002, 50-22-16-176-027, 50-22-16-251-017, 50-22-16-426-003, 50-22-16-426-005, 50-22-16-426-006, 50-22-16-426-007, and 50-22-16-251-024

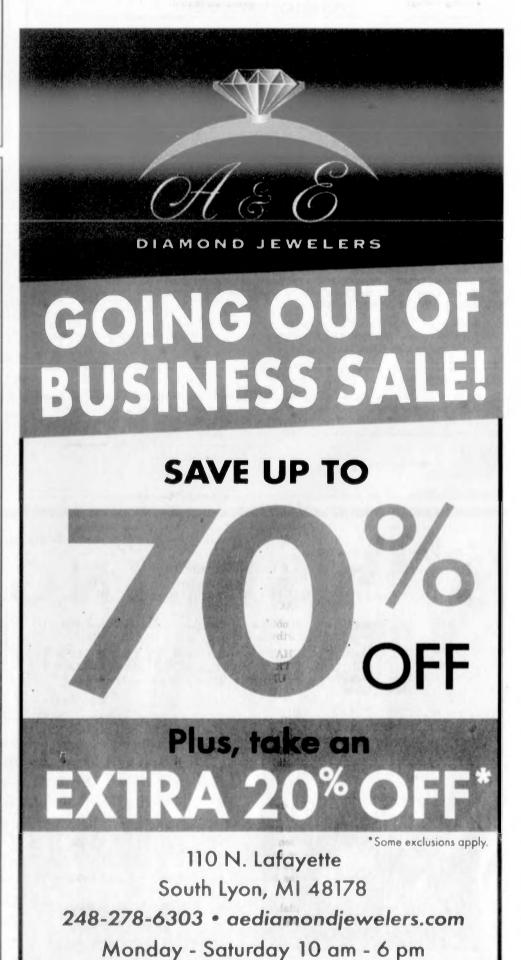
All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: April 20, 2023

Published April 20, 2023 Novi Planning Commission

LC-0008790870 3X8 (





Bill and Jennifer Klein have been commissioned to dismantle this 100-year-old barn at 9530 Pontiac Trail in Salem Township. It is one of dozens of such requests they receive yearly. They are looking to teach others how to do the work. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Bill Klein is saving the wood from horse stalls he is taking apart. The South Lyon Historical Society plans to have the barn reconstructed in the historical village at **McHattie Park**

Barn

Continued from Page 1A

barrier. The project price tag recently fell, thanks to a decision to dismantle the barn rather than move it in one piece.

The Roper family plans to put the property up for sale in about a month; the Kleins will take the barn apart in a week's time.

Klein estimated he would be able to save about 25% of the wood in the 22by-34-foot barn, including some of the oldest timber in the loft.

Local business Michigan Seamless Tube has agreed to allow storage of salvaged wood from the barn for up to two years to provide time to raise an estimated \$80,000 needed to reconstruct the structure with a mix of old and newer materials.

As Klein sawed through existing horse stalls on the main floor he carried the planks over to lean against a wall where the next steps included numbering boards for easier reconstruction.

Whether Klein will be involved in the reconstruction hasn't been determined. The former bricklayer and ironworker is one of the contractors listed in the Michigan Barn Preservation Network and gets hundreds of calls per year and must turn down the vast majority of requests.

He and Jennifer, often assisted by their two children, Logan and Grace, take down about 10 barns per year, frequently at the request of property owners and insurance companies concerned with the liability.

"There are so many barns and not enough people to take them down as fast as they are falling down," Bill said.

He's willing to teach anyone willing to learn, adding there are three tricks to the trade: Equipment, a willingness to work with heights and common sense.

The work can be dangerous; Klein noted he was fortunate to escape injury when the walls of one barn collapsed while he was inside.

"You have to know how to take it down before you start and think 20 steps ahead or risk having a beam come down on you," he said.

Klein said the most common causes of barn deterioration are rotted wood from moisture (most commonly because of failure to maintain a roof) or powder post beetles (insect damage).

Saving Michigan's farm history

Steve Stier was one of the founding members of the Michigan Barn Preservation Network about 25 years ago and is now head of the technical committee for the organization that has a focus on saving barns that predate World War II. He estimates the state averages about 30-40 barns per county, with a much higher number of barns in Oakland, Macomb and Livingston counties.

Many barns have been lost to development or to neglect.

While there are many calls to remove barns, he is now seeing individuals who are looking for alternatives to giving up entirely on structures that may no longer house livestock or agricultural implements. If they can't maintain it, people want to see barns salvaged or perhaps moved.

This one in South Lyon is a good case where we found someone who wants to get rid of a barn and someone who wants it," Stier said. "(SLAHS) have their heart set on this particular barn and it's rare to find those circumstances."

The match made in barn heaven will help educate future generations, and Stier and Klein hope to also pass on the knowledge of how to preserve these structures and history.

"I like the idea this will survive another 100 years," Klein said. "It will if put on a good foundation, weatherproofed and maintained... My grandkids could come and see this. It's kind of neat."

For more information, on the Michigan Barn Preservation Network, visit https://mibarn.net/. To learn how you can assist the South Lyon Area Historical Society, call 248-437-9929 or email Bob Polasky at bobthebrakeman@comcast.net.

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.

NOTICE OF ELECTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN **TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023**

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP:

Notice is hereby given that a Special Election will be held in Northville Township on Tuesday. May 2, 2023. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

At the following locations Precinct 1 & 2

Precinct 3 & 4 Precinct 5 recinct 6 Precinct 8 & 9 Precinct 10 & 11 Precinct 12

Moraine Elementary Northville High School Township Hall Silver Springs Elementary Ridge Wood Elementary

46811 Eight Mile Road 45700 Six Mile Road 44405 Six Mile Road 19801 Silver Springs Drive

49775 Six Mile Road Meads Mill Middle School 16700 Franklin NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$134,400,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Northville Public Schools, 405 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, telephone: (248) 344-3500.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES

A sample of each ballot is available at the Northville Township's Clerk's Department located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville MI 48168. Sample ballots can also be found at the township's website: www.twp.northville.mi.us.

Absentee ballots are available for all elections, registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Cynthia L. Jankowski Northville Township Clerk (248) 348-5825

Publish: April 20, 2023

NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 **NOVI TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN**

To the Qualified Electors of NOVI TOWNSHIP, County of Oakland:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Novi Township will be voting on the following proposals in the special election:

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$134,400,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Northville

IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES.

Novi Township Library Millage

Shall the Township of Novi, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, be authorized to levy .73 mills (\$0.73 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all taxable property in the Township of Novi, said funds to be used for the annual cost of access to library services provided under contract by The City of Novi? It is estimated that this proposal would result in the authorization to collect

Full text of the ballot may be obtained at the Novi Township Clerk's office, 44114 Wyngate Dr., Northville, MI 48167, 248-404-7529. A sample ballot may be viewed at mi.gov/vote.

For assistance in determining the accessibility of the polling place location and the availability of voting instructions in alternative formats such as audio and Braille, please contact the clerk's office. Persons wishing to obtain an absentee ballot may do so by contacting the Novi Twp. Clerk's office. The Clerk will be available on the Tuesday of the election, May 2, 2023, until 8:00 pm, the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot. The polls will be open on May 2, 2023 from 7 am until 8pm.

Janeen Crittenden Novi Twp. Clerk, (248) 404-7529 Polling location, 44114 Wyngate Dr. Northville, MI 48167

Publish: April 20, 2023

44th Annual



\$4 CASH ADMISSION

(GOOD ALL THREE DAYS) 12 & UNDER FREE



Livonia clinic fits Ukrainian soldier with new prosthetic arm

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — Ryan Sheridan has worked with his share of U.S. veterans who have lost limbs in war, but even he was surprised to find himself coming to the aid of a Ukrainian soldier wounded defending his country.

Sheridan and his team at Hanger Clinic, 32975 W. Eight Mile, have been working with 26-year-old Andriy Mazuryk the last several weeks to fit him with a prosthetic left arm. He lost most of his arm fighting with the Ukrainian army in the war against Russia.

"We found out he was coming about two days before he got here," Sheridan, a clinician at Hanger Clinic in Livonia, said. "This is the first time I've worked with a foreign soldier."

Through an interpreter, Mazuryk said he was in France when Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022. He quickly went home and enlisted in the army, serving in the infantry.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said his troops, several hundred thousand in number, invaded Ukraine in a "special military operation" based on the false claim they were "deNazifying" the country. The Russians saw only limited success, failing to take Kviv for instance, and Ukraine has managed to retake some territory with the aid of western nations.

On May 19, 2022, Mazuryk was injured while he was evacuating wounded soldiers in eastern Ukraine.

After losing his arm, several nonprofits, including Brother's Brother and RSUkraine that had been connecting injured soldiers with those who could help them, stepped in to aid him. A person in France who works with Sheridan, and who had worked with Mazuryk while he was being treated in Europe, helped arrange for him to come to the U.S. to be fitted for a prosthetic arm.

"I got really happy," he said of receiving a new arm.

He arrived in Michigan several weeks ago and began the process of having his prosthetic fitted, staying with a host family. The prosthetic limb allows Mazuryk to control a robotic hand using electrodes attached to the remaining part of his arm. He's working on getting the hang of using it for day-to-day activities. It's a process, he said.

Adjusting to a new way of life

Occupational therapist Amy Todd has worked with Mazuryk as he adjusts to the prosthetic and said he's picked up many tasks without much trouble — that's impressive, considering some people take months to relearn tasks.

"His control was so good. It takes people a week or two, maybe three, to just get used to being able to put something in their hand," Todd said. "He did it in like a minute."

Mazuryk said he's enjoyed spending time in the U.S. He's visited several places and seen plenty of parks in the area. He plans on returning to Ukraine soon, taking his new arm with him and continuing to learn how to use it.

Sheridan said he hopes to assist Mazuryk from afar when the soldier returns to Ukraine. If Mazuryk ever finds himself back in the U.S., Sheridan said he's always available.

"If he needs anything in the future and he's able to come back, I'd love to work with him," Sheridan said. "But if that's not an option, I'm happy to help him from a distance."

Mazuryk said he appreciates all the efforts from the U.S. to help Ukraine in the war, including the supplies and funding. He wants people in the U.S. to know the war is real and the consequences are being felt by civilians across his nation.

"There's a lot of innocent people dying and a lot of innocent cities going up in flames," he said. "Russia is a real ter-

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on May 9th, 2023, at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider:

PZ23-0011 (Copper Rock Construction) 29580 Hudson Drive, North of West Road, west of West Park Drive, Parcel 50-22-04-378-004. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance from Section 5.4.3 to allow two truck docks to be located in the exterior side yard off of Desoto Court. This property is zoned Light Industrial (1-1)

PZ23-0012 (Rayburn Properties LLC) 707 South Lake Drive, between West Park Drive and Old Novi Road, North of 12 ¼ Mile Road, Parcel 50-22-03-454-021. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.32(7) for a 16 feet front yard setback. (26 feet to patio required, variance of 10 feet); for a proposed front patio. This property is zoned Single-Family residential (R-4).

PZ23-0013 (Vivek & Preethi Patil) 41935 Woodglen Drive, west of Meadowbrook, south of Ten Mile, Parcel 50-22-26-201-014. The applicant is requesting variances from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a rear yard setback of 27.95 feet (35 feet required, variance of 7.05 feet); for a lot coverage of 27% (25% allowed, variance of 2%) for a proposed covered porch. This property is zoned One-Family Residential (R-4)

PZ23-0014 (Ann Arbor Sunrooms - Robert Clark) 24732 Kings Pointe Drive, north of Ten Mile, west of Meadowbrook Road, Parcel 50-22-23-431-011. The applicant is requesting a variance from the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance Section 3.1.5 for a side yard setback of 7.5 feet (10 feet required, variance of 2.5 feet); for a proposed sunroom addition. This property is zoned One-Family Residential (R-4)

PZ23-0015 (Magna Lighting - Philip Raubinger) 39550 Orchard Hill Place, west of Haggerty Road, north of 8 Mile, Parcel 50-22-36-400-017. The applicant is requesting variances from the City of Novi Sign Ordinance Section 28-5 (f)(1) to allow a monument sign within Road Right of Way; Section 28-7 (b)(2) for a directional sign of 8 feet (3 square feet permitted, variance of 5 feet) This property is zoned Office Service Commercial (OSC)

Publish: April 20, 2023

0-0008790868 314.0

NOTICE OF ELECTION CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN MAY 2, 2023 ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Novi:

Notice is hereby given that a special election will be held in the City of Novi on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the following locations:

16 & 17 Novi Civic Center 24 & 25 St. James Catholic Church

45175 West Ten Mile Road 46325 West Ten Mile Road

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Northville Public Schools will be voting on the following ballot

proposition as presented and listed below:

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL
FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF
NOT TO EXCEED \$134,400,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Northville Public Schools, 405 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, telephone: (248) 344-3500. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES.

A sample ballot may be viewed at mi.gov/vote.

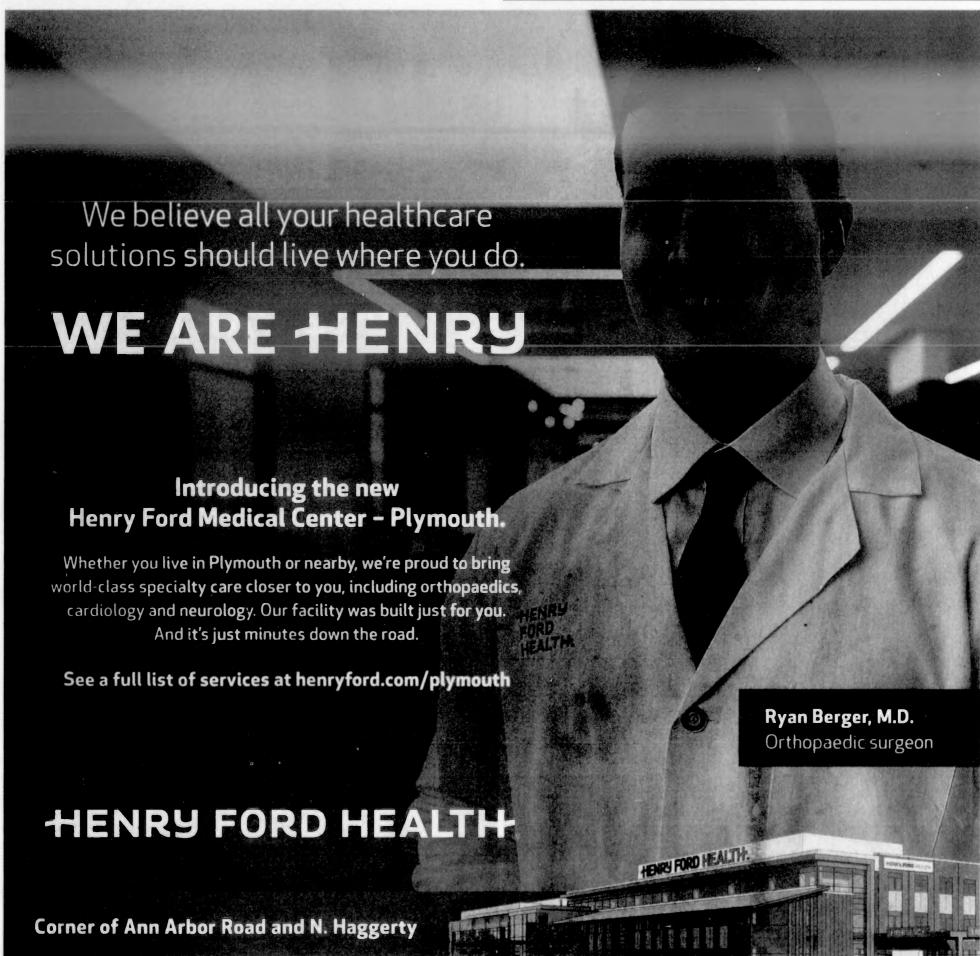
Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the City of Novi Clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Cortney Hanson, MMC, MiPMC II City Clerk, City of Novi (248) 347-0456 cityofnovi.org

Publish: April 20, 2023

LO-0008790833



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

Alone	Emmet	Hope	Port	Swimmin
Balmy	Empty	Hotel	Augusta	hale
Beer	Emis	Ican	Retlef	lank
Bore	Fire	Ills	Rice	Train
Boss	Four wheel	Isolated	Saddle	Tree
Bunda	drive	Koalas	Snaps	Vast
Bush	Fuel	Leaves	Speed	Vehicles
Camp	Guide	Lure	Steep	View
Cart	Hares	Magic	Stop	West
Cedar	Hille	Mulga	Surf	Wines
Drums	Home	Pimba	Sweat	

TODAY'S ANSWER

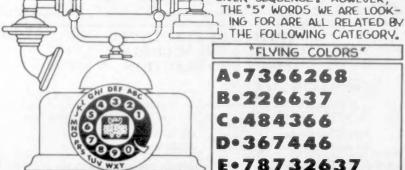
Aussie right of passage

Visiting Uluru

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G	A	R	E	R	1	C	E	T	A	E	W	S	R	L	
P	M	T	R	A	1	N	W	A	S	S	A	G	E	E	

PUZZLES & POSERS

THIS IS A CODED WORD PHONY NUMBERS GAME IN WHICH THE TELE-PHONE IS INSTRUMENTAL IN CONVERTING NUMBERS TO LETTERS. SINCE EACH NUMBER ON THE DIAL STANDS FOR THREE LETTERS, IT IS USUALLY POSSIBLE TO SPELL TWO OR MORE WORDS FROM ANY GIVEN SEQUENCE. HOWEVER, THE "5" WORDS WE ARE LOOK-



FLYING COLORS" A•7366268

B•226637 C•484366

D•367446

E•78732637

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: BRONZE

TODAY'S ANSWER

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NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS Green sauce for osso buco
- 10 Bud with brunch
- bagels 15 Appeared to be
- affected 16 Show with
- projectors 17 Setup in the
- Batcave 18 They'll need to
- be shifted 19 One may be
- crying
 20 Apt rhyme for
- "retrace" 22 Rip off
- 23 Present time
- 25 Troupe group 27 Fool
- 30 Display of brilliance 32 Memorable
- count 33 CookingLight recommends that you
- 36 Occasional sportscast coverage
- king cobras share
- 40 Request to keep
- kingdom
- 43 Tangible

- 48 Send up
- 49 Water source
- western boots are made of 54 Not a full-length
- challenge
- 57 Having no

- **PowerPoint**
- Calibri 62 Potential power
- under the hood 65 Crichton novel
- with diamond hunting 66 Not well fixed
- 67 Plumbers often
- work on them 68 Certain potion's
- purpose
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- the way 2 St. Paul and St. Denis, north of New York
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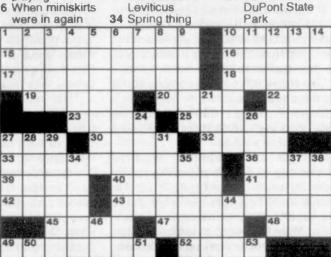
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TODAY'S

ANSWER C. ENSIGN
C. EUDON PENNANT

60



NOITMOS







Mailbox

Continued from Page 1A

Shelly; I knocked on her door and asked if she had done it, but she said no."

A psychologist by trade, Powell is president and CEO of the Farmington Hills-based American Institute for Preventative Medicine, a company that facilitates worksite wellness programs for organizations and hospitals around the country.

He and wife Nancy ordered a custom mailbox after moving into their Orchard Lake home about five years ago.

At 26 inches deep, the mailbox, while purposely not an exact replica, bears a striking resemblance to their home. The box features a spacious interior with an open floor plan and plenty of window to let in natural light. Solar powered ceiling lights illuminate the mailbox at night.

While it is against the law for someone other than the mailbox owner and the mail carrier to put items in a mailbox, Powell could see why a doll family might want to move in.

He was amused, but his first thought was to evict the couple and their belongings into the garbage can. But then, struck by a change of heart, he pushed the couple and their belongings to the back of the mailbox and went about his business

That was just the beginning of the story. When Powell wasn't looking, someone dropped off a dog for the couple living in the mailbox, along with a rug and even some art for the wall. Then came a four-poster bed.

"I thought, 'OK, someone is really playing a joke on me," Powell said, admitting that by this time he was enamored by the situation and wanted to have some fun with it. "I didn't think it was my neighbors.

So he went on Nextdoor, a hyperlocal social networking service for neighbor-

In his first post on Nextdoor, Powell asked whether anyone would fess up and admit they put Mary and Shelley in his mailbox, or if they knew who did. No one came forward, so he posted again, joking that he'd contacted the police and asked them to do extra patrols of his

"The whole thing got rather whimsical," he said. "I have a quirky sense of



Don Powell, an Orchard Lake resident and Farmington Hills business owner, shows off his custom mailbox, where a mystery "family" showed up last August. LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Dolls and furniture have been swapped in and out of Powell's custom mailbox. PHOTOS COURTESY OF DON POWELL



The little family celebrates Christmas in the custom mailbox.

"I'm ... enjoying the mystery. I look forward to new things being added to the mailbox." **Don Powell**

humor."

When Halloween rolled around, Mary and Shelley were mysteriously replaced by two dolls in skeleton costumes. Around Christmas, Mary and Shelley reappeared with miniaturesized gifts for their mailbox home. Powell took pictures and documented it all on Nextdoor.

"The response (on Nextdoor) was just incredible," he said. "People were saying, 'This is so much fun to read, I was ready to get off of Nextdoor, but this makes me want to stay.'

Many posters, he said, were leaving comments and sending Powell messages asking for the next installment.

At some point, a second mystery note appeared, claiming the Mary and Shelley dolls formerly lived in a two-story Dutch-style doll house, but had decided Powell's mailbox house was more ac-

commodating for their cousin Shirley a third figurine with a broken leg - who sometimes visited the couple.

"Then, after the ice storm, I did a post that said the family was locked in the mailbox and couldn't get out," Powell said. "Somebody asked if they lost power, I said 'No, they don't have power to begin with, but they do have a wood burning stove and were working from home.

In the beginning, Powell said, he was worried the mail carrier would stop delivering the mail.

Given the large size of the mailbox, space has not been an issue. Calls to the West Bloomfield Post Office went unanswered.

Meanwhile, his wife, Nancy, said she's been enjoying the saga and likes to see when new things are added to the mailbox - but doesn't get as worked up about it as her husband.

"It's very cute, "she said. "I get a laugh out of it...it's a good positive thing, especially during these crazy times."

Powell said no new furniture or other items have arrived in the last month or so. Still, at this point, he's not sure he's ready to learn the true identity of the person who brought Mary and Shelley

"I'm kind of enjoying the mystery," he said. "I look forward to new things being added to the mailbox."

The author of numerous health-related books, Powell says the experience has given him a new idea.

"I am thinking, given the reaction (on Nextdoor), of writing a children's book," he said. "I think it creates a novel story."

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

Splashpad

Continued from Page 1A

donate at the Novi Parks Foundation website at noviparksfoundation.org/

The splashpad will be the latest added to Bosco Fields, which currently has several athletic fields and parking lot. The park is set for expansion as well after city council approved the purchase of adjacent land. Muck said there are no plans yet for the property, but having it in the city's portfolio gives them the opportunity to begin planning how to use

"It opens plenty of more opportunities in the future. Now that we would own that entire area, it gives us plenty of opportunities too," he said. "We don't



The sign with a rendering of Jessica's Splash Pad at Bosco Fields in Novi. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

have any plans right now, but we'll work down the line."

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

ATTENTION

DEADLINES FOR PUBLISHING NOTICES HAVE NOW CHANGED.

THE UPDATED DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS ARE:

PUBLICATION DAY

Thursday ...

NEW DEADLINE

12pm Wednesday (Week Prior)

Publications include the Northville Record, Novi News, and South Lyon Herald.

The above deadlines are for legal/public notices publishing within the classified section that contain no images, graphs, maps etc. Special design components will require an earlier deadline, please email for additional information or questions.

FOR THE QUICKEST POSSIBLE SERVICE, PLEASE SEND YOUR PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL:

DETLEGALS@GANNETT.COM

Hometown Life



Community Worship

BRIGHTON

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pasto

Libergion Schorday 4:00 Inday 9:05 & 11:00 a.m.

HIGHLAND

Church of the Holy Spirit 3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland Saturday Mass 5PM. Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM 248-887-5364 | HolySpiritHighland.com The Holy Spirit is Here - Come Home

erd Eva ical Lutheran Chu 41415 W Nine Mile Rd • Novi, Mi 48375 248-349-0565 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45em Rev. Thomas Schroeder wetsnovi@aci.com

WHITMORE LAKE

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

10774 Nine Mile Road

Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Vorship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

NOVI

NORTHVILLE

(248) 349-1144 United 777 West 8 Mile Road (8 Mile and Taft Road Northville, Michigan hip Times September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Rev Marsha M. Woolley, Land Panty

OUR LADY OF VICTORY

CATHOLIC CHURCH 133 Orchard Dr., Northville Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 349-2621, School 349-3610 nligious Education 349-2559 Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor

SOUTH LYON

All are Welcome!

'the WAY' - a ministry of Hope Lutheran Church Worship @Abbey Park 28413 Abbay Lane New Hudson, M Sunday @10am, 248-553-7170

YOUR

SPOT

TODAY!

w.hope-lutheran-church_com Rev Thomas Scherger

RESERVE RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

To be included here or to make changes please contact mwsales@localig.com

FREE EVENT!

STERLING HEIGHTS ROADSHOW **BUYING EVENT**

TUESDAY APRIL 18TH - SATURDAY APRIL 22ND

SHOW INFO

BRING IN ALL YOUR COLLECTIBLES FOR A FREE EVALUATION

1-ON-1 EVALUATIONS

WHEN: **APRIL 18TH - APRIL 22ND**

TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10AM - 6PM SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

WHERE:

STAYBRIDGE SUITES

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Off Van Dyke Ave/15 Mile Rd (Across from McDonald's)



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ROOSEVELT DIME 1964 & OLDER



MERCURY DIME UP TO \$3,400*



LIBERTY NICKEL UP TO \$4,500*



WALKING LIBERTY HALF DOLLAR UP TO \$4,600*



FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR UP TO \$3,200*



KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR PRE 1970 UP TO \$400*



GOLD COINS U.S.



GOLD COINS FOREIGN UP TO \$300,000 *



BARBER COINS UP TO \$5,000 *



WHEAT PENNIES UP TO \$3,500*



BUFFALO NICKEL UP TO \$4,200 •



COMICS



SILVER DOLLARS UP TO \$7,500 +



WASHINGTON QUARTER 1964 & OLDER UP TO \$600*



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MEN'S & WOMEN'S CLASS RINGS

UP TO \$500*



.999 FINE SILVER & GOLD



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TIN TOYS, OLD BANKS, CAP GUNS, BB GUNS, LIONEL BUDDY, TONKA, MARX TOYS



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- GIBSON FENDER
- GRETSCH SILVERTONE
- AND MANY MORE

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HAMILTON LONGINES WALTHAM **OMEGA**

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and collector marke

SPORTS

GIRLS SOCCER

Izzy Krause, Walled Lake Northern playing physical

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Monday night was a great example of why Izzy Krause got a gym membership last summer.

As an undersized freshman on the Walled Lake Northern girls soccer team a year ago, the striker took a beating, so it was a no-brainer for her to sign up at the nearby Planet Fitness and try to get bigger, stronger and faster.

And she has. Which has paid off for the Knights (3-0-1) through the first three weeks of the spring.

They knocked off Novi in the opener, got past Walled Lake Central and then played a tough Saline squad to a 0-0 tie. And Krause's toughness was tested

That carried over again during Monday's 5-1 physical victory at next-door rival White Lake Lakeland.

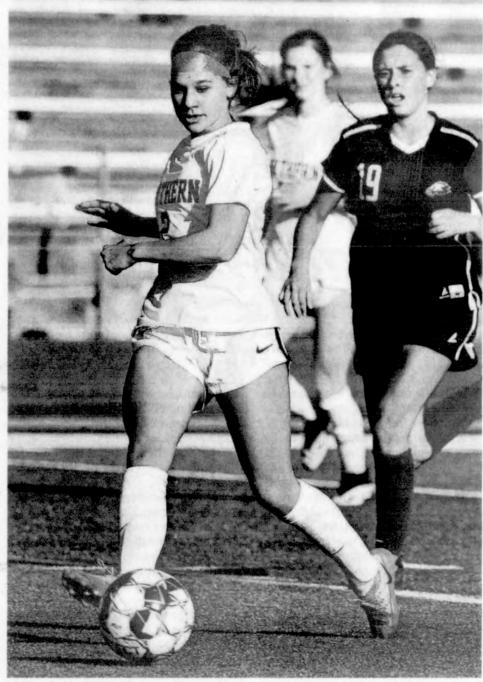
"She's a fighter, man, I tell you what," coach Mitchell Thompson said. "The last game, she got beat up pretty badly, and Saline had a couple of good tackles with her. But, really, she has stepped up huge.

Krause, who plays for the Michigan Jaguars club, made that known from the get-go.

Just 8 minutes into the match, she got the ball near the penalty box with two defenders draped all over her, and she somehow got off a shot while being toppled over. Her attempt snuck inside the left post for the early 1-0 lead.

While that was her lone goal, she had four other solid scoring chances. Two of which were halted by Lakeland's defenders bowling her over.

"I'm very used to the physicality because I'm a bit smaller, and I'm used to playing against these bigger girls and upperclassmen," the sophomore said. "I've also been trying and going to the



Walled Lake Northern's Izzy Krause looks to score during a Lakes Valley Conference girls soccer match Monday, April 10, 2023, at rival White Lake Lakeland. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Owen Weber's pitching debut helped **Canton baseball beat rival Plymouth**

Brandon Folsom

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

The only thing more impressive than Cam Krafft's come-from-behind, basesclearing shot to right field in the sixth inning was Owen Weber's pitching debut Wednesday night.

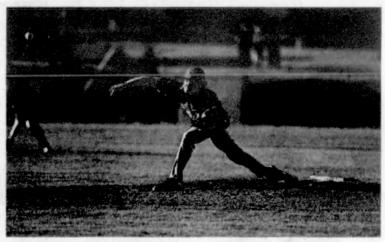
The Canton sophomore struck out three, escaped a jam with two on, gave up no runs and shut the door on rival Plymouth to ensure the 20th-ranked Chiefs' 8-5 road victory.

Weber couldn't have been put in a more stress-inducing situation.

The Wildcats' bats heated up after scoring four runs in the fifth, but Weber pitched his way out of the sixth without giving away a score.

In the final frame, Plymouth put two on and had the tying run in the batter's box with two outs while the Chiefs had Weber's replacement warming up in the bullpen.

But Weber got out of the jam as his infield made a routine play at second



Owen Weber pitches during a **KLAA-West** baseball Wednesday April 12. 2023, at Plymouth. BRANDON FOLSOM/ HOMETOWN LIFE.COM

Canton's

And the craziest part of it all? The rookie had only pitched one inning this spring before taking the mound to try and secure a win against their Park ri-

"To be honest, I didn't even know we had a guy warming up down there. I was that locked in. I was going," Weber said. "I got the call, and I was a little nervous, but once I got out there, it's my home. I See DEBUT, Page 4B

was ready to go. I was just ready to deal, and it was great. Getting the callup always feels good, and being able to deal against a rivalry team is always fun. I'm glad I got the call-up."

So why give an underclassman without varsity experience the nod in

PREP BASEBALL

Northville asserts **KLAA West** dominance

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HARTLAND - Five KLAA West baseball teams were ranked in the top 20 in the state Division 1 preseason poll, but one of those teams already appears to be separating itself from the rest.

Second-ranked Northville continued to assert its early-season dominance Monday by beating seventhranked Hartland, 5-1.

The Mustangs' resume includes victories over No. 5 Grand Blanc and No. 7 Hartland and a sweep of No. 19 Brighton. Northville is 6-0, outscoring six quality opponents 52-23.

"They just kind of proved it to us; we thought we were that team," Hartland coach Brad Guenther said. "They've got a really good team. They had a lot of good two-out hits. They were together. They believed in each other. They didn't have to change who they were to go compete and play the right baseball versus us."

Hartland (2-2) will take another crack at the Mustangs at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at Northville.

'We're gonna keep working hard and keep grinding," Guenther said. "Nothing's really changed. We lost a game and we're gonna get another chance at them. We'd better get better in order to compete with them, because that's who we've got to beat in order to make a run.

The game featured a duel between two pitchers who have committed to Division I universities. Hartland senior Gannon Grundman has signed with Michigan State, while Northville junior Joey Broughton has verbally committed to Pittsburgh.

Grundman pitched out of some early jams, but the Mustangs were able to work the count and push his pitch count to 99 before he was pulled with two outs in the fifth inning. Grundman allowed five hits and three runs, striking out six and walking five.

Broughton kept Hartland's innings short, throwing only 77 pitches in six shutout innings. He gave up only one

hit and one walk while striking out 11. "It begins and ends with the guy on the mound," Northville coach John Kostrzewa said. "Joey did a fantastic job of getting ahead in the count.

See NORTHVILLE, Page 4B



Northville's Joey Broughton struck out 11 batters and allowed only one hit in six innings in a 5-1 victory at Hartland on Monday.

BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY



With Bella Shebib, don't count out the Falcons from winning the OAA

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Yeah, Bella Shebib's goal just 20 minutes into Friday's girls soccer match at South Lyon was a beaut.

The Birmingham Groves senior buried a point-blank shot toward the right post, which ensured the Falcons a 2-0 lead for most of their eventual 3-2, close-call victory.

But, wow - absolutely, wow - washer assist on Camryn Pepper's gamewinner in the second half something worth talking about afterward.

That pass from Shebib proved that she'll not only be one of the standout players throughout the Oakland Activities Association-White schedule but that she should also be up for all-state consideration.

Your average Joe high school player just doesn't make a play like that.

Here's how it went down: A 50-50 ball screamed through the sky toward midfield. Waiting there, amongst a host of South Lyon defenders, was Shebib, who, somehow, some way, headed the ball backward, yes, a no-looker, toward the Lions' net. The ball landed, perfectly, in fact, right in front of Pepper's toes. Pepper proceeded to take the breakaway attempt a solid 30 yards before burying it into the net.

Kaboom. Game-winner.

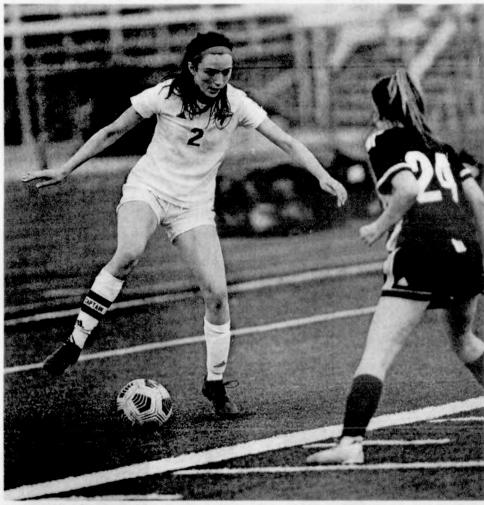
Had it not been a Brian Elliottcoached South Lyon squad, you'd probably say, "So what? Breakaway goals happen all the time." But not like this. South Lyon doesn't give up goals like the one Pepper put in.

Nor do the Lions rarely let strikers such as Shebib make SportsCenter Top-10-like passes.

But Shebib is just that good. And she's one of the reasons the Falcons (3-3-0, 2-1-0) should be considered a darkhorse favorite to win a league title against the likes of rival Birmingham Seaholm and Lake Orion.

"Bella's huge for us," Groves coach Greg DeCourval said. "She's got a ton of speed and tenacity out there, which causes a lot of havoc for the defenses. I can experiment with a few things, and she reads the game really well. We can try out a few different formations, and she's just picking up on it really quickly. Her ability to collect the ball, distribute and read what the defense is giving her is really huge for overall success."

But, come on, Coach DeCourval, be



Birmingham Groves' Bella Shebib makes a move during a non-conference girls soccer match Friday, April 14 at South Lyon. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

honest: Is she one of the best players in the OAA-White?

Because we think she is.

"I 100% agree," he added. "It's really just us getting her the ball in the right spot. When she gets the ball where she wants it, she can be incredibly dangerous, and we're really looking forward to her giving us a lot of points this year, both assisting and scoring the ball."

Shebib is something to watch.

Purchase your tickets to the next Groves match right now.

She's aggressive to the point that she can outmuscle defenders for possession whenever there are balls racing down the sideline.

She's sure-footed. She'll make you miss if you try to strip the ball from her

And she knows what to do when the game's on the line.

Take the final 90 seconds of Groves' match at South Lyon, for example.

With returning all-stater Rhianna

Schermerhorn pushing in a goal with just under 6 minutes left, making it 3-2, the equalizer was within reach for South

And then Shebib called for the ball. She wanted it sent to the northeast corner of the stadium. And there, once she corralled possession near the orange flag where corner kicks occur, she protected it for the remaining 30 seconds. She didn't let it out of her reach until the final whistle blew.

She protected the victory, refusing to let Groves slip up and give away the tying goal.

Shebib has the talent of a low-level Division I or top-tier D-II player. Yet, this is her last hurrah. Shebib doesn't plan on playing in college. In fact, she is going to pilot school. She's going to learn to fly planes.

This is her last go at organized soccer, unless of course, she plays in adult leagues down the road.

So circus-like plays like the one she @folsombrandonj.

made to Pepper are going to be her lasting memories when she walks away from the pitch for good.

"I didn't know where she (Pepper) was on the field, but I have to trust my teammates a little bit to be there," Shebib recounted. "And one big thing with our team is we need to win the ball in the air, and I wanted to be that person to set that apart and set that standard. I saw that ball coming in and I hit it over and trusted my teammate to run onto it, and she did, and we scored."

Trust like that comes from trust in herself, which, until a few years ago, just wasn't there.

During club play a couple of years ago, the former Liverpool Football Club member just wasn't aggressive enough. Even her parents clued her to that fact.

When she took a step back and realized she could be a lot tougher when she's screaming down the field, fighting for possession and trying to set up her running mates with solid scoring attempts, her game changed for the better.

"Definitely, my parents pushed me and told me that if I can really work on my aggressiveness, it can push me to my full potential out there," the captain said. "It started a few years ago, and I progressively got better as my parents and coaches pushed me more and more. With my potential, I got more aggressive, and I saw that it separated me from

In NASCAR, they say rubbing is rac-

When Shebib is jockeying for position on the ball, rubbing can make all the difference. Her high school career, and the Falcons' dreams of winning the OAA-White, depend on her battles to the ball.

BRIEFLY: Falcons force late 1-1 tie with Eagles

In the battle of two winless squads, it looked like Emery Collick's moonball just 5 minutes into Saturday's match was going to be enough to give White Lake Lakeland (0-2-2) its first win of

Not so fast, friends.

Josie Puhl had the perfect response in the second half, as her goal with 15 minutes remaining ensured the winless Farmington Falcons (0-5-1) a 1-1 tie in one of the many OAA-LVC crossovers that occurred over the weekend.

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Lauren Cuson heads Black Hawks past Troy

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Many Bloomfield Hills girls soccer players used spring break as an opportunity to leave Michigan and catch some sunshine down south.

Not Lauren Cuson.

No, the sophomore center-back made the most of her staycation by getting to the Black Hawks' stadium almost daily and working on her craft.

Her father, Michael, would sail corner kicks in front of the net for her to push in. And her brother, Cole, would act as the first line of defense so that she really got her money's worth with each practice attempt.

That extra credit paid off during Thursday's league match.

Bloomfield Hills and Troy played a back-and-forth affair. But, finally, with the score still knotted at 0 and 4:44 remaining, the Black Hawks (3-2, 1-2) drew a corner kick and lasered the ball into the penalty box.

And there was Cuson, who outleapt a whole pack of Troy defenders to head in the winning goal and give the defending Division 1 state champions their first win in the always-tough Oakland Activ-

ities Association-Red. "That's just a lot of practice," Cuson said. "Me and my dad spend a lot of afternoons at the field. We'll do corners a lot. It's just a lot about risking your body, going for it and not caring if someone hits you. Just doing everything in your power to get to the ball. It's just a lot of taking hits and learning that you'll be fine after. The first few times, it knocks you down, and you're iffy about it, but after a while, you just get used to it, learn to hold your own and constantly take hits.



Bloomfield Hills' Lauren Cuson collides with the goalie during an OAA-Red girls soccer match Thursday, April 13, 2023. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

To be fair, Cuson is almost 6 feet tall. And she's likely the strongest player on the squad. She's the closest you'll get to an all-star game MVP linebacker like Ahmad Taylor on the girls soccer team.

So, she's often the one laying the boom.

At one point in the match, she actually steamrolled Troy's goalkeeper in an attempt to score on a breakaway. Fortunately, she steered clear of a yellow card.

"She's good in the air," longtime coach Alan Zakaria said. "We feel like she's a threat in many different facets. I think it was a great service and she got on the end of it, and it was awesome."

The goal was reminiscent of how the Black Hawks won a lot of their games late last spring. En route to Michigan State University for their eventual win over Northville in the state final, they gutted out a lot of wins, especially in

crunch time. Whether that was while playing a man down, winning in overtime or cashing in on penalty kicks.

And Bloomfield Hills' back line was solid a year ago, so Zakaria had Cuson play on the JV during the regular season so that she could develop her skillset and see more playing time.

But when the playoffs rolled around, she was one of a handful of underclassmen who were called up to the varsity to get to experience the Black Hawks' historic run.

Watching all those late-game heroics in the playoffs must have rubbed off on her, judging by her gutsy goal that pushed her team past Troy.

"She was great last year playing JV," Zakarian added. "She's someone we've kept an eye on from the beginning. She's someone we knew was going to be a strong contributor."

Of course, Cuson was also excited about getting the opportunity to contribute on offense.

As a center-back, she spends more time locking in on defense than any-

Any chance she gets to actually shoot the ball, she wants to take it.

"That's my only time to get up there (near the net)," she said. "I love corners." While that was her first varsity goal scored like that, she's scored eight headers off corner kicks for her club

teams over the years, she said And while Thursday night was her first chance to be awarded the Black Hawks' purple post-game MVP necklace, it likely won't be the last time she wears it. Especially with her father and

brother helping her on off days. Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Pinckney pitchers answer questions in sweep of ranked Canton

Livingston Daily **USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN**

PINCKNEY - CeCe Thorington, Alli Novick and a few other hitters were givens, but pitching was a big preseason question mark for Pinckney's softball team

That question mark turned into an emphatic exclamation point Monday, as three pitchers helped the Pirates open the season with a 5-1, 8-3 sweep of a Canton team which received preseason honorable mention in Division 1.

Junior Abby Rauser pitched a complete game in the opener, striking out six while allowing five hits and no walks. She threw 66 strikes in 99 pitches.

Freshman Natally Pease started the nightcap against a team that played in the KLAA championship game last season, striking out six batters in four innings. She allowed five hits, three walks and two earned runs in her high school debut.

Junior Emma Arnold got the save, pitching three scoreless innings. She gave up three hits and no walks.

"We've got three pitchers, and I've got confidence in all of them," Pinckney coach Eric Arnold said. "It was great pitching all around by all three pitchers."

All three will either continue pitching by committee or vying to take over the No. 1 spot from four-year varsity pitcher Sydney Pease, who was a first-team All-Livingston County selection last year



Freshman Natally Pease was one of three Pinckney pitchers who combined to sweep Canton on Monday. BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

and currently pitches for Henry Ford Community College.

"Sydney was not just an amazing pitcher, but a true role model for all of us," Rauser said. "I take after her when I'm on the mound. I think of what Sydney would do. It's really important we fill her shoes, so she feels her job here is complete and she can fully move on to college and focus there."

Rauser and Arnold saw spot action in the circle the last two years. Rauser had four starts and appeared in 14 games as a pitcher, throwing 38 % innings last season. Arnold had six starts in 10 appearances, throwing 34 innings.

"It was amazing, a dream come true really," Rauser said. "It's something I've aimed toward since I came up to high school. Getting to finally do that was amazing.

It wasn't just a run-of-the-mill sweep for the Pirates — it was a statement.

Canton was 27-6 last season, hitting .384 as a team and averaging 8.9 runs per game. The Chiefs returned five of their top eight hitters, earning honorable mention in the preseason rankings. Pinckney, despite a 30-9-1 record last year, didn't receive preseason mention in Division 2.

'They're one of those teams that are a benchmark team," coach Arnold said. "If you can come out and put two losses on them, that says a lot about our team and the way we played and all the effort they put in over the offseason."

Pinckney's biggest offseason news was Thorington's verbal commitment to the University of Michigan, one of the top college softball programs in the nation. She lived up to the hype by going 5-for-6 with six runs and three stolen bases from the lead-off spot.

"We knew coming into this that Canton was good," Thorington said. "We knew they were ranked in D1. I think it set a tone for the season today. I'm excited for what's next."

In the first game, Pinckney broke open a 2-1 lead by scoring twice in the bottom of the fifth inning and once in the sixth. Mallory Dickey was 2-for-4 for the Pirates.

Pinckney jumped out to a 6-1 lead after two innings in the nightcap. The Chiefs got within 6-3 with two runs in the fourth, but Arnold blanked them the rest of the way.

Pinckney's Kylee Douglas had a tworun double in the second inning and scored on a two-run homer by Novick. MacKenzie Burns was 3-for-4 with three RBIs for the Pirates.

Soccer

Continued from Page 1B

gym to get bigger to get used to playing against these bigger girls, so, yes, I'm finally used to these more physical girls."

The Knights are coming off a 9-5-5 campaign in 2022 where their season ended with a close-call loss to Bloomfield Hills, the eventual Division 1 state champions, in the district champion-

Thompson knew this spring's squad ling, but her running mate, Maura

would be a good one. Just look at the roster he has. He's got a strong core in midfielders Emily Gignac and Addyson Keelean, wings Grace Vogt and Mia Czarnowski and defenders Kayla Budziak, Addison Porter and Sophia Lock, among a host of other standouts who see time on the pitch.

But with forward Mia Lanni, Northern's lone all-stater from a year ago, graduating, Thompson was unsure just got good his strikers would be. As it turns out, they're been pretty good.

Not only has that been Krause excel-

McClerren, is pretty good, too.

McClerren won a one-on-one from 15 yards out for a goal against the Eagles. Other highlights included Gignac

taking a breakaway about 45 yards for a score and Annika Mallory heading in a corner kick and booming home a rebound for a pair of goals.

"These girls play at a high level," Thompson added. "I had a feeling this would be a good group, and they'd be able to handle (the adversity of physical matches). They've done exceptionally

Following the win, Gignac hopped

onto the bench, held her phone in her left hand and then motioned with her right for her teammates to file in behind her for a post-game selfie.

To squeeze everyone into the frame, Budziak, Lock and Brooke Scrivo each hoisted teammates on their backs, but as soon as the impromptu photo session concluded, the pileup of Knights nearly

Yet, that close call was about only half as physical as the Battle of Bogie Lake Road wound up being. The Knights are battle-tested.

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Northville

Continued from Page 1B

"A lot of first-pitch strikes, obviously. He really, really got after them early on. It gave us a chance to put some things together in the middle innings to get something on the scoreboard."

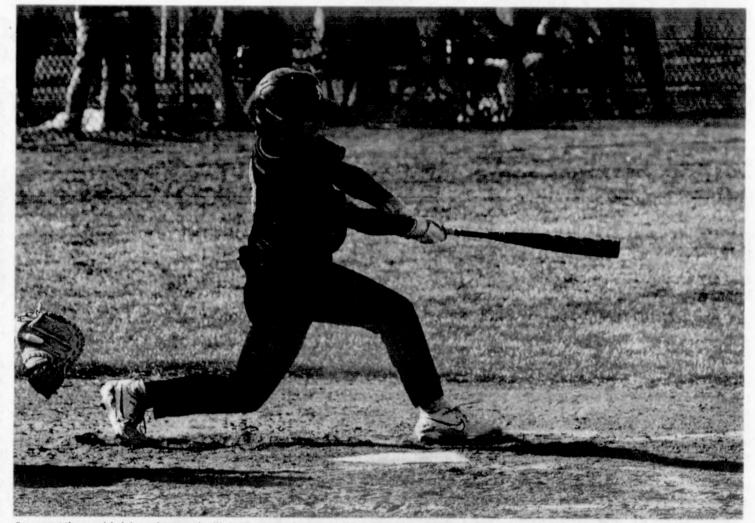
The game was scoreless until Northville scored twice with two outs in the top of the fourth inning. A single on a 3-2 count by Connor Vissotski opened the scoring and a balk brought in the second

Northville tacked on single runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh.

Colton King had both of Hartland's hits, driving in Sam Clay for the Eagles' only run with a triple in the seventh inning.

"Our division as a whole, every Monday and Wednesday, it's gonna be really, really competitive and it's gonna be a grind," Kostrzewa said. "I love our division. It really gets you prepared for the state tournament. With the amount of quality arms in our division alone, it's awesome. It's an awesome experience to be able to go through the gauntlet, so to speak, in our division."

Hartland held Mississippi State commit Dante Nori to an O-for-4 day, but the Mustangs' six through nine hitters were 6-for-11. Vissotski was 3-for-3 from the ninth spot.



Connor Vissotski drives in Northville's first run in a 5-1 victory at Hartland on Monday, April 10, 2023.
BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

Debut

Continued from Page 1B

This is actually the shortest pitching staff coach Mark Blomshield has had in his 15 seasons as Canton's head coach. Normally, he likes to carry 10-12 arms, but this spring he has about eight.

So part of it was Weber was the next man up. The other part is Blomshield believes Weber is good enough to play at the next level.

He wanted to give his youngster some reps to see what his future with the Chiefs will look like.

Intuition like that is probably why Blomshield will be inducted into the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in June and will have his name added to the MHSBCA plaque at Comerica Park.

"We have three senior pitchers, and we're just trying to get a feel for what our bullpen looks like," said Blomshield, who's actually been with the program since 2002. "We're just putting guys in situations to see who can do what. And that was pretty impressive. I couldn't be any happier for him, and he just shut the door. That was awesome."

Blomshield likes Weber's curveball and fastball, which can reach speeds up to 83 mph.

And catcher Will Davidson likes Weber's arm, too. The senior had no doubt the rookie could get the save.

"Yeah, I always trust my teammates, and I know he could do it," Davidson said. "I just told him to go for that outside corner." Of course, Weber doesn't get the opportunity to awe in his debut without Canton's comeback effort on offense.

Trailing 5-2 entering the top of the sixth, the Chiefs loaded the bases. Krafft's single to right field was enough to score one run, but a fielding error allowed two more to cross home plate and give Canton the lead back for the first time since the third frame.

Also helping in the win were Caleb Williams with three hits and a pair of RBIs, Marcus Vince with three hits and two runs scored and Jack Will with two hits and an RBI.

Joey Davis paced Plymouth by driving in two runs on three hits.

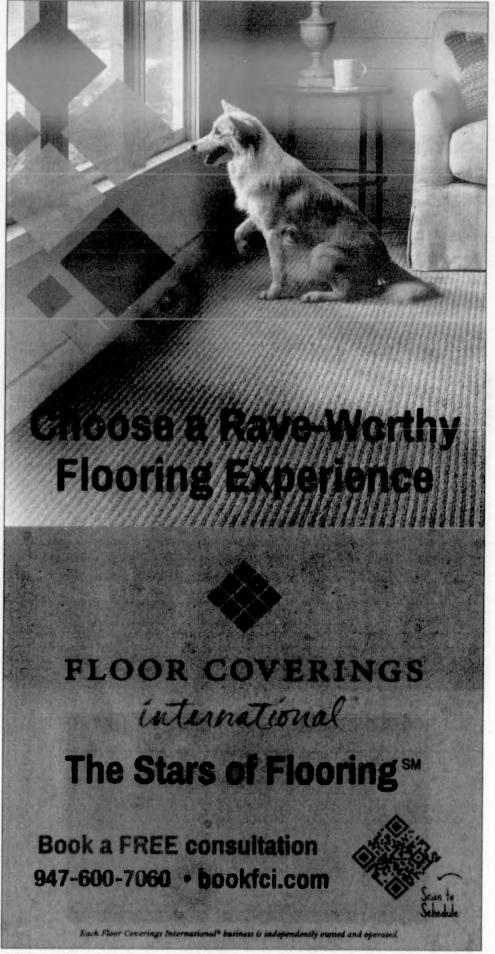
Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsombrandonj.



Canton's Will Davidson celebrates a big defensive inning during a KLAA-West baseball game Wednesday, April 13, 2023, at Plymouth.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM







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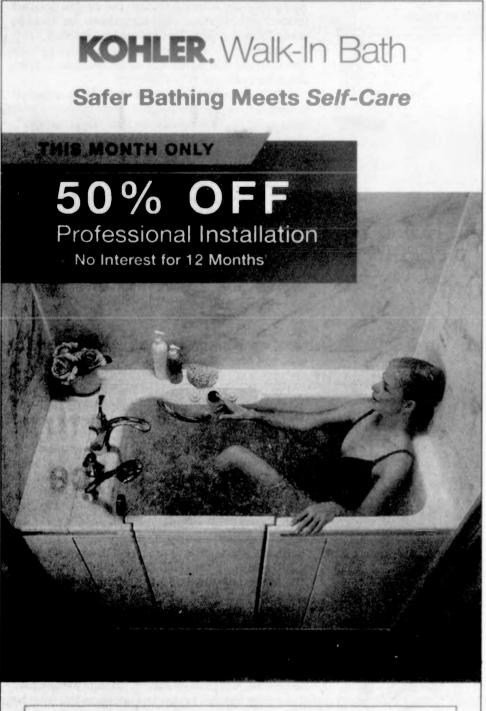


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Obituaries

Pauline Frances (Graham) Tait

June 14, 1926 - April 10, 2023

It is with heavy yet loving hearts that we announce the passing of Pauline Frances Tait on April 10, 2023. She was born on June 14, 1926 in Clawson, Michigan to Oscar and Norma (Andrus) Graham. She moved to Novi as a child, and graduated from Northville High School (class of 1944), making Northville and Lyon Township her home as an adult. She started working at Depositors State Bank in Northville after high school graduation. Her roles within the bank increased as the bank changed from Depositors State Bank to Manufacturers Bank and

finally Comerica Bank. She retired as the Assistant Manager of the Northville

Branch on June 10, 1981.

On January 26, 1980, she married the widower Warren R. Tait and immediately became a mother to Nancy (Jesse) and Donna (Norm) as well as a grandmother to Kevin, Jesse, Jeff, Brian, Caroline, Tony, Rebekah, and Rick. She remained devoted to Warren for over 29 years until his death in 2009.

Pauline was a devout and active Christian since she was a young girl. At Salem Bible Church she taught Sunday School, sang in the choir, and led the Pioneer Girls. She and Warren later were members of First Baptist Church of Wixom, whereas newlyweds they volunteered to lead and organize the Keenagers to serve the senior members of the church. Most recently, she has been a member of the First Baptist Church of Northville since 1988. She opened her heart and her home to many missionaries over the years, and was known for her unconditional faith and love.

Pauline was an avid reader, with the Bible at the top of her reading list. Pauline loved to travel; her most memorable trip was going to Jerusalem. Pauline liked playing all sorts of board games and card games. She was an enthusiastic and dedicated Detroit Tigers fan who rarely missed a game. Pauline loved gardening, especially tending a large plot together with husband Warren. She carried on the family tradition of canning fruits and vegetables. She was a meticulous dresser and kept up with the latest fashion trends. Pauline was gracious and kind, fun and joyful, and always shined brightly with her beautiful smile. She is now rejoicing with the saints at the feet of her Savior in Heaven. She was an incredible lady who was loved and will be missed by all.

She is survived by her daughters, Nancy (Jesse) Grimm and Donna (Norm) Gates; her brother Larry (Berva) Graham; her grandchildren, Dr. Kevin Grimm, Dr. Jesse Grimm, Jeff Gates, Brian Gates, Caroline Londot, Tony Gates, Dr. Rebekah Rajlich, and Rick Gates; 28 great grandchildren; and 14 great-great grandchildren. Pauline was deeply loved by 6 nieces, 2 nephews, and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her sisters, Lucile Martin and Audrey Hines, and her nephew Richard Hines.

A funeral service was held at the First Baptist Church of Northville. Pastor Jonathan Wilkes officiated the service. Memorial contributions would be appreciated to the First Baptist Church, 217 N. Wing, Northville, MI 48167.



Ulinda St. Lawrence

NORTHVILLE - Age 84, a lifelong resident of Northville, passed away suddenly April 5, 2023. She was born on April 24, 1938 in Northville, Michigan at Sessions Hospital; daughter of Charles R. and Margaret (Tank) Ely. Ulinda attended Northville High School, class of 1955. She was united in marriage to William R. St. Lawrence on October 31, 1954; devoted to each other for over 67 years until his death February 25, 2022.

Ulinda was a dedicated homemaker, a job she took seriously. She was constantly there for her family and was always involved in their lives. When her

children were grown, she became a hands-on racehorse owner taking care of everything but training and driving. Over time she successfully owned six harness racehorses that mostly raced at Northville Downs, Hazel Park Raceway, and various State Fairs throughout Michigan. Years ago, she meticulously maintained the property where the Northville Downs horses were boarded and safely orchestrated the horse path from the property to the Downs. Ulinda supported her family anyway she could; helped one of her sons by working at the local Farmer's Markets selling his organic soy skin care products and soy candles. Along with her amazing work ethic, she had an incredible mind for finances. Ulinda was the bookkeeper of Northville Cabinet and Tile in the 1980's. She was also the lead negotiator on the sale of the St. Lawrence property, a credit she deserves.

Ulinda loved to spend time during her favorite season under the hot sun maintaining her beautiful garden beds. She enjoyed watching Fox News and liked sharing her political opinions. Ulinda created gorgeous quilts and sewed curtains and tablecloths for her family. She loved all animals; her family always had a dog in the home. She was a very special "Mama Bear" and was attentive to getting things done. Ulinda was a selfless, dedicated,

and loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. Ulinda is survived by her children, Mike (Dora Purcell) St. Lawrence, Molly St. Lawrence, and Marty (Shari) St. Lawrence; her sister-in-law Phyllis Ely; her grandchildren, Jim Esparza, Rachel Esparza, Anthony Bartek, and William Bartek; and her great grandchildren, Macey, Braden, Margaret, Tyler, and Zachery. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

A memorial service was held at Casterline Funeral Home in Northville. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Starry Skies Equine Rescue and Sanctuary, 8133 West Liberty Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

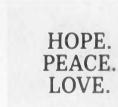


of Belton, Texas, for-27, 2023 in Texas.

After graduating S. in 1986, he worked at many jobs, Mason, metal fabricator, truck driver and Tattoo artist in MI, CA and TX. Mat would enjoy his spare time riding his Harley, taking the boat out fishing and enjoying time with his wife.

Survived are his wife Margie Sterry Rodgers, father James, step mother Rosemary, brother Joseph (Kristin) and Jody & Mark Dombeck aunt & uncle and many other aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Preceded in death are mother Charlotte (Kay) and step father Larry Uhlig, grandparents Julian (Bud) & Helen Rodgers, Roy & Lorriane Richey.

A Celebration of Life will be held on April 8th in Texas.



Strength.





Mathew J. Rodgers, 54, merly of South Lyon, MI and Fallbrooke, CA passed away on March

from South Lyon H.

one-quarter inch.

Brighton pole vaulter joins exclusive 15-foot club

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — Nothing seems to rattle Brighton senior Liam Kinney.

While his fellow competitors in the 110-meter high hurdles were settling into their blocks, Kinney was scrambling to get set before taking his place at the start line.

"I did not know I was running the hurdles until right before," Kinney said.

The disruption in his routine could have messed up Kinney's performance in the hurdles and in the pole vault, where he was about to begin competing.

But when the gun went off, all Kinney did was run a personal best of 15.33 seconds to win the event in a dual meet Tuesday against Howell.

Kinney was just getting started.

He headed back to the pole vault area, where he was just chilling while passing on the early heights. Once he grabbed a pole, he launched himself into an exclusive club by clearing 15 feet for the second of his four first-place finishes.

Kinney shattered his own school record of 14 feet, 2 inches and became only the fourth Livingston County vaulter in the 15-foot club.

Fowlerville's Max Babits is in a class of his own, winning the 2010 state Division 2 championship with a leap of 16 feet, one-half inch. Pinckney vaulters Chris Hohn (2001) and Tyler Grob (2009) share their school record of 15 feet,

"I'd like to take a shot at the Livingston record," Kinney said. "That's my goal for the season."

Kinney had already DAN ZEPPA/ cleared 15 feet in competition, placing third at

the state indoor meet on Feb. 26, but indoor performances don't count as school marks.

Brighton's Liam Kinney

15 feet to win the pole

vault in a track and

field meet against

Howell on Tuesday.

FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

cleared a school-record

"Since I already jumped that at indoor states, I was pretty confident, although the switch between indoor and outdoor can sometimes be troublesome," Kinney said. "But I overcame it today.

Kinney was also on the first-place 400 relay team and won the 300 hurdles in 43.83 seconds, helping Brighton outscore Howell, 93-30.

While Kinney established himself as a recordsetting performer last season, Howell senior Luke Eros gave no indications he had the potential to chase numbers on his school's record board.

Eros' best throw in discus last year was 116 feet, 4 inches. Five times in 11 meets, he didn't break 100 feet. He placed 23rd in the KLAA meet

But Tuesday was an opportunity for Eros to showcase all of the work he put in during the offseason. He unleashed a throw of 144 feet, Il inches, the best by a Howell thrower in seven years

It was good enough to win a challenging battle with Brighton's Hunter Harding, a returning all-stater in the discus, and Cade Riddle. Harding was second at 140-3 and Riddle third at 135-8.

"Just working every day, eating food, lifting weights and just working," Eros said. "I had a coach reach out to me. I could probably go to school for this, so I started working at it to try to get a scholarship."

Eros is beginning his third year as a thrower, joining the team at the urging of coach Chris Gadjev.

Coach G, I was lifting weights one day, he said, 'You should do track,' "Eros said. "I did it. He wanted me to run, but I'm not fast. I threw instead."

Eros is taking aim at the school record of 165-11 set in 2012 by Pete Cender.

The girls meet featured two head-to-head battles between two of the top distance runners in Livingston County, Howell senior Mackenzie Wright and

Brighton junior Carrigan Eberly. Eberly won a kick to the finish in both races, the 3,200 relay and the open 1,600. Eberly reached the line in the 1,600 in 5:25.84, nipping Wright by 0.12 seconds.

With Katie (Carothers) not being here anymore, Nikki (Carothers) and I felt we had to step up to Mackenzie, because she's a phenomenal athlete and a phenomenal person, too," Eberly said.

Eberly split time between soccer and the track last spring, but gave up soccer. An injury while playing soccer last fall prevented her from reaching her potential during cross country.

"I decided to commit full-time to running," Eber-

ly said. "I feel really healthy." Besides Kinney, seniors Joseph Burke and Brady Matuszewski each had two individual victories for Brighton. Burke won the 100 in 11.30 and the 200 in 23.33. Matuszewski won the 1,600 in 4:28.28 and the 800 in 2:02.55

Although Howell's girls lost 78-59 to Brighton, the Highlanders had three multi-event winners in seniors Tianna Bennett, Kaitlyn Ward and Sophie Daugard. Bennett won the 100 in 13.01 and the 200 in 27.12, Ward won the 100 hurdles in 17.75 and the 300 hurdles in 52.73, and Daugard had big earlyseason performances with a 38-8.5 in the shot put and 16-8.5 in the long jump.







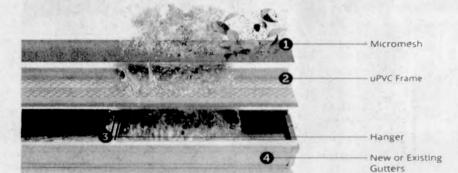
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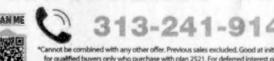
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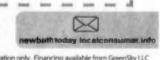


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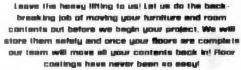


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